Visitor Comments About Montana: 2009-2010 Nonresident Survey

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Visitor Comments about Montana:
2009-2010 Nonresident Survey

Prepared by

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Executive Summary

Visitor comments were collected through the Nonresident Visitor Survey of Q3 & Q4 2009 and Q1 & Q2 2010. Of the 9,021 visitors who were surveyed, 2,101 (23%) agreed to an option mail back survey upon completion of their trip. Of this 2,101 mail back respondents, 1,286 (61%) expressed comments in the mail back survey. These are free-flowing comments and therefore represent what was on the mind of the visitor at the time of their writing.

Content analysis of the data was conducted to assess common themes within the data set. These 1,286 visitors expressed 3,457 different comments which were categorized into eight general themes: (1) general positive comments, (2) travel issues, (3) general negative comments, (4) activities - urban and outdoor, (5) public and private land use management, (6) attractions, (7) specific purpose, and (8) comments about living in Montana.

- “General positive comments” represented 50% of the total comments and comprised of comments that had a generally positive statement in the comment about Montana.
- “Travel issues” represented 13% of the total comments. These comments pertain to various aspects of travel in Montana.
- “General negative comments” represented 12% of the total comments and were comprised of comments that had a generally negative statement about their experience.
- “Activities” represented 9% of the comments, with “urban activities” representing 60% and “outdoor activities” 40% of the activities comments.
- “Public and Private Land Use Management” represented 8% of the total comments. These comments pertain to issues such as environmental stewardship and Montana’s management of public land.
- “Attractions” represented 3% of the total comments. This section was divided into comments about tourist attractions/open space and historical attractions.
- “Specific Purpose” represented 3% of the total comments and contained statements regarding trips to Montana for purposes other than vacationing.
- “Comments about living in Montana” represented 3% of the total comments. These comments pertain to nonresident visitors who have lived/or expressed interest to live in Montana.

Overall, the majority of the comments were about positive experiences nonresidents had while in Montana. Positive statements included various aspects of the travel experience, (e.g. friendly people, beautiful scenery, hospitable feeling). Nonresident visitors who had negative comments about their trip mentioned the lack of recycling as well as site specific issues that concerned the visitor. However because open ended questions are not answered by all respondents, it cannot be said that these themes represent the view of all nonresident visitors to Montana. Nevertheless this is a good overview of what visitors to Montana think about our state and good ideas for suggested improvements.
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<td>2009 Quarter 3 Visitor Comments</td>
<td>90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009 Quarter 4 Visitor Comments</td>
<td>121</td>
</tr>
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</table>
Introduction

The Montana Nonresident Visitor Survey has been conducted approximately every five years since 1988. Beginning in July 2009 it has been administered annually. Results for data from 2009 and forward are accessible as a report builder on the ITRR website at: http://www.tourismresearchmt.org/ where visitors to the site can run their own data analysis on numerous variables. However, written comments by visitors are not available on the website and need to be provided in a report format.

Written comments provide insight into what the visitor is thinking at the time of completing the survey. In the 2009 survey and forward, visitors were asked their level of satisfaction on a variety of questions mostly related to Geotourism characteristics of Montana. The visitor was then asked: Please provide any comments about your level of satisfaction regarding the above items.

Purpose

The purpose of this report was to analyze nonresident traveler comments about their level of satisfaction with aspects of Montana in order to provide future planning, policy, and marketing ideas for the travel and tourism industry.

Methods

Data for this report was obtained from the 2009 (quarters 3 & 4) and 2010 (quarters 1 & 2) Nonresident Visitor Survey. The complete methodology and survey instrument is available at http://www.itrr.umt.edu/nonresNNQNR.htm#QNR. In Q3 & Q4, 2009 and Q1 & Q2, 2010, 9,021 visitor groups participated in the Nonresident Travel Survey. From this sample 2,101 (23%) nonresident visitors completed an optional follow-up survey.

At the end of the survey, nonresidents were given the opportunity to provide comments about their level of satisfaction. Sixty-one percent (1,286) made comments regarding their travel experience and are provided in this report (Table 1).

Table 1: Comments per Quarter

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Nonresident Comments per Quarter</th>
<th>2010</th>
<th>2010</th>
<th>2009</th>
<th>2009</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Quarter 1</td>
<td>185 (14%)</td>
<td>316(25%)</td>
<td>577(45%)</td>
<td>208(16%)</td>
<td>1,286</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quarter 2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quarter 3</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quarter 4</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Nonresident visitor responses were coded by two data-entry personnel in two separate documents. These researchers made 66 categories based on 3,457 visitor comments in the open-ended responses. A visitor’s response could be coded in multiple categories.
The two documents were then merged together to analyze the differences in coding. A final decision was made to keep or discard a response in a specific category by a third researcher. The final document represents input and decision making by three researchers providing a valid and reliable analysis of visitor comments.

While respondents were asked to comment on their level of satisfaction in regards to the Geotourism characteristics of Montana, many wrote about their satisfaction (or lack of) in general. Therefore, the resulting themes that emerged do not always follow a Geotourism premise.

Results

Results are reported in three categories: 1) Traveler characteristics & residence; 2) Emerging theme summaries; 3) Themes and sub-themes by quarter. Appendix A incorporates all comments provided in each quarter.

**Traveler Characteristics and Residence**

The 1,286 respondents who replied with comments in the survey also indicated their primary purpose for visiting Montana; whether they were a first-time visitor or a repeat visitor, and their place of residency. In this section, the results of these indicators are described.

In quarter 3 and quarter 4 of 2009, forty-six percent of respondents indicated that a vacation was their primary purpose for visiting Montana. In quarter 1 and quarter 2 of 2010, the top purpose for visiting Montana was visiting friends and relatives (VFR) (Table 2).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Purpose of Trip</th>
<th>Q3 &amp; Q4 2009</th>
<th># of Respondents</th>
<th>%</th>
<th>Q1 &amp; Q2 2010 Purpose of Trip</th>
<th># of Respondents</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Vacation</td>
<td></td>
<td>363</td>
<td>46%</td>
<td>Vacation</td>
<td>146</td>
<td>29%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VFR</td>
<td></td>
<td>193</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>VFR</td>
<td>173</td>
<td>34%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Passing Through</td>
<td></td>
<td>113</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>Passing Through</td>
<td>101</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Business</td>
<td></td>
<td>76</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>Business</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shopping</td>
<td></td>
<td>9</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>Shopping</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td></td>
<td>45</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>Other</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

During 2009 and 2010, almost three fourths (73% and 71%) of respondents who were traveling in Montana were repeat visitors to the state. Respondents who were visiting Montana for the first time represented twenty-seven percent in 2009 and twenty-nine percent in 2010 (Table 3).
Table 3: First Time or Repeat Visitor

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Visitor</th>
<th>Q3 &amp; Q4 2009 # of Respondents</th>
<th>%</th>
<th>Q1 &amp; Q2 2010 # of Respondents</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>First-time visitor to Montana</td>
<td>212</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>First-time visitor to Montana</td>
<td>150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Repeat visitor to Montana</td>
<td>585</td>
<td>73%</td>
<td>Repeat visitor to Montana</td>
<td>362</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Type of visitor unclear on survey</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>Type of visitor unclear on survey</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In 2009, forty-nine US states and nine countries were represented by respondents who commented on their trip to Montana. Washington represented the highest percent of respondents with eleven percent. In 2010, forty-four US states and nine countries were represented by the respondents who commented on their trip to Montana. In these quarters, California represented the highest percentage of respondents with ten percent (Table 4).

Table 4: Residence

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State/Province/Country</th>
<th>Q3 &amp; Q4 2009 # of Respondents</th>
<th>%</th>
<th>Q1 &amp; Q2 2010 # of Respondents</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Washington</td>
<td>84</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>California</td>
<td>51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>California</td>
<td>77</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>Washington</td>
<td>47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Idaho</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>Alberta, CA</td>
<td>47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alberta, CA</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>Idaho</td>
<td>44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colorado</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>Minnesota</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Utah</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>Wyoming</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Emerging Theme Summaries

Content analysis was conducted to reduce the overall number of comments into a workable group of common themes. Eight major themes emerged from the data (Table 5) with 1 to 7 subthemes within each major theme (Figure 1).

Table 5: Eight Emerging Themes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Theme</th>
<th>% of Comments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. General Positive</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Travel Issues in MT</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. General Negative</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Activities</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outdoor (10%); Urban (14%)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Public and Private Land Use and Management</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Attractions</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Specific Purpose</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Comments about Living in Montana</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Figure 1: Themes and Sub-themes

2009-10 Nonresident Visitor Comments about Montana

8 Main Categories – Multiple Sub-Categories

- General Positive Comments (50%)
  - Nondescript
  - Friendly People
  - Site Specific
  - Reoccurring Visit
  - Return Visit
  - Character of MT

- General Negative Comments (12%)
  - Recycling
  - Site Specific
  - Suggestive
  - Other

- Activities (9%)
  - Urban
  - Outdoor

- Public and Private Land Use Management (8%)
  - Glacier
  - Yellowstone
  - Land Access
  - Enviro. Stewardship
  - Wildlife
  - Land

- Attractions (3%)
  - General
  - Retirement
  - Real Estate
  - Relocation
  - Prior Resident

- Living in Montana (3%)
  - Information
  - Signage
  - Road Cond.
  - Passing Thru.
  - Rest Areas
  - Airport/Flight
  - Weather

- Travel Issues (13%)
  - Business
  - VFR. Others

- Specific Purpose Trips (3%)
  - Business
**Theme 1: General Positive Comments**

The “General Positive Comments” category consists of six sub-categories including: nondescript statements, friendly people, site specific, reoccurring visit, return visit, and character of Montana. In this category, 1712 comments were placed into this category, or 50% of all comments.

- Nonresident visitors enjoyed their visit to Montana whether it was their first time in the state or a returning visit.
- Friendly people, site specific comments, and reoccurring visits were often mentioned as positive comments.
- Example comment: “I thoroughly love Montana, the beautiful scenery and wonderful parks. The people are so friendly and want you to enjoy what Montana has to offer.”
- Example comment: “Montana is a "model" state; other states could use their techniques.”
- Example comment: “As always the level of service and welcome in Montana is second to none. It’s the main reason I keep coming back. It’s the place I feel most at home.”

**Thoughts:** Positive remarks pertaining to nonresidents visiting Montana represented the largest percentage of comments and a wide array of observations from respondents. From a marketing standpoint, these comments can be used to promote advertising for Montana. Although many of the comments are not very specific, they can be used to enhance the overall positive feeling that many visitors have about the state.

**Theme 2: Travel Issues in Montana**

The “Travel Issues” category consists of many sub-categories which include: information/information needed, signage, road conditions/construction/traffic issues, passing through, rest areas/gas stations, airport flights, and weather. This category contains 458 of 3,457 total comments, or 13% of all comments.

- Nonresident visitors commonly visited Montana because they were passing through to another destination.
- Nonresident visitors expressed the need for signage on Montana roads.
- Nonresident visitors from 3rd quarter commented on road conditions/constructions/traffic issues much more than in other quarters.
- Example comment: “We have found Montana to be a very scenic and clean state. Very good signage to let you know where you’re going and where you are!”
• Example comment: “This particular trip was "just passing through". We are frequent visitors to the state. We hike and bike and generally enjoy the outdoors. We have always been welcomed by the folks of Montana - They are our "good neighbors".

• Example comment: “I love Montana and visit at least twice each year. The only suggestion for improvement is highway sign maintenance. I noticed several of the speed limit signs were on the ground between the border and Dutton.”

**Thoughts:** Because of Montana’s beautiful scenery, historical features, and varied activities, travelers may be encouraged to stay a bit longer as they pass through Montana. Mobile phone technology could be that tool which shows these features and activities to passer-bys to make them stop. In addition, a number of visitors suggested more frequent visitor and information centers. Providing more information to travelers could lengthen their stay in Montana and entice them to return for a future visit.

**Theme 3: General Negative Comments**

The ‘General Negative” category consists of sub-categories that depict negative nonresident comments. These sub-categories include recycling, site specific, suggestive comments, and other. This category contains 402 of the 3,457 total comments, or 12% of all comments.

• Nonresident visitors expressed alarm at the lack of recycling in Montana.

• General negative comments primarily consisted of site specific complaints and suggestive comments by visitors.

• Example comment: “I love Montana. However, I am disappointed in the lack of recycling efforts in Montana. I spend time in Billings (largest city) and it seems way behind other state's recycling programs.”

• Example comment: “I think there is too much outward development in Bozeman. It is killing the views. Stinky trucks! Not always bike friendly, more bike lanes would clear up roads.”

• Example comment: “Don't let the gambling take over the pristine quality of the towns/restaurants/stores, etc.”

**Thoughts:** Many nonresident visitors articulated their disappointment in recycling options in Montana. The tourism industry has an opportunity to step forward as a leader in recycling throughout the state. As a state with a Geotourism charter that promotes to visitors with geotouristic characteristics, the travel industry needs to make sure that what is promoted and promised is what the visitors find upon arrival.

**Theme 4: Activities**

The “Activity” category contains 308 of 3,457 total comments, or 9% of all comments. It is made up of two sub categories which include outdoor and urban activities. Within the two sub-categories are types of activities non-resident visitors participated in while they were in Montana or had made statements regarding the specific activity. The “Urban” sub-category
contains 185 comments and includes activities such as dining, gambling, and shopping. The “Outdoor” sub-category contains 123 comments and consists of activities such as hiking, mountain biking, rafting, and horseback riding.

- Nonresident visitors enjoyed the shopping, lodging and dining in Montana on their trip.
- Nonresident visitors want to support the local products and community events when on their trip to Montana.
- Nonresident visitors expressed that casinos take away the beauty of the local communities.
- Nonresident visitors took part in a wide variety of outdoor activities throughout the state, such as mountain biking, hiking, fishing, skiing and golfing.
- Example comment: “Love it here. It is very relaxing. The shopping is great, people very friendly.”
- Example comment: “Casinos are an eye sore and cheapen the experience of Montana as we remember it growing up.”
- Example comment: “Montana is a very beautiful state, especially love going river rafting with my family and enjoying nature.”
- Example comment: “My son and I came paddle fishing at the intake on the Yellowstone River. We were both successful and had an enjoyable time.”

**Thoughts:** A number of visitors who commented on urban activities expressed the desire for restaurants to carry more local food and products at their business. Montana needs to keep integrating the use of local products and promoting local events. Shopping is an important urban activity for many visitors and providing them the ability to support local businesses is vital. Comments concerning casinos were generally negative. Many visitors described casinos as an “eye sore” or that it ruined the integrity of the local communities. Perhaps some Montana promotions and web pages could ‘poke fun’ at the casino laden landscape providing a humorous way to let nonresidents know there are casinos in Montana. Promoting Montana’s scenic qualities is continually important in attracting visitors to the state for recreation. Montana is known to be a prime spot for outdoor activities. It is obvious that the tourism industry should persist with their active outdoor promotions.

**Theme 5: Public and Private Land Management**

The “Public and Private Land Use and Management” category consists of six sub-categories which are Glacier and Yellowstone National Park, Public Land Access, Environmental Stewardship, Wildlife, and Private and Public Land Stewardship. This category contained 271 of the 3,457 total comments, or 8% of all comments.

- National Parks (Glacier and Yellowstone) and public land access are important aspects of a visit to Montana.
- Private and public land stewardship is of concern to nonresident visitors. Visitors expect and believe that Montanans will continue to take care of their land.
• Example comment: “Montana and Yellowstone National Park has been our favorite vacation spots since the 1950's. It is never a disappointment. Our advice to friends is to visit Montana and the National Parks.”

• Example comment: “Montana is a big state yet in some ways lacks respect by the locals in cleanliness. Private property is a shambles it seems by those who live here in this beautiful state and disrespect it...”

• Example comment: “Montana is a great state that allows everyone to have access to and fully enjoy their natural resources—Always impressed with quality of fly fishing and access to do so.”

**Thoughts:** Encouraging local residents and nonresident visitors to have a strong stewardship of Montana’s lands is vital in preserving the condition of the landscape, the view shed, and wildlife. This type of land stewardship will help perpetuate the reason people live in the state and why others visit the state.

**Theme 6: Attractions**

The “Attractions” category is comprised of visitor comments about various attractions in Montana from open space to historical sites. This category contains 98 of the 3,457 total comments, or 3% of all comments.

• Nonresident visitors enjoyed attending a various array of attractions throughout the state, such as farmers markets, museums, Native-American culture and historical sites.

• Open space was an important “attraction” for nonresident visitors when commenting about their experience in Montana.

• Example comment: “Had a great time on my way to Missoula—stopped to see Lewis and Clark murals. On my way back to Bozeman took a scenic highway and was delighted by Phillipsburg and Anaconda. Bozeman has a great public library with great Montana brochures.”

• Example comment: “This was my first visit. I definitely plan to come back next summer and stay longer. I would like to see more historical Montana, especially forts and ghost towns, also the Native-American culture.”

**Thoughts:** The variety of things that attract visitors to Montana is endless...from open space to historical sites; from Native American culture to national parks; from highways to small towns. The list is infinite. Visitors continue to comment on their love for Montana’s open space. It is the antidote to city life. The program, Travelers for Open Lands, is a good example of tying visitors to what they love about Montana. The travel industry and organizations like Travelers for Open Lands could reach out to one another for partnership opportunities. Promoting Montana for what it truly is will entice visitors who have a desire to experience what Montana has to offer. This creates satisfied visitors.
**Theme 7: Specific Purpose**

The “Specific Purpose” category consists of two sub-categories of business trips and visiting family, friends or relatives. This category contains 110 of the 3,457 total comments, or 3% of all comments.

- Business trips and visiting family/friends/relatives were the most frequent specific purpose trips taken by nonresident visitors.
- Nonresident visitors were able to enjoy Montana as a vacation destination during their specific purpose trip.
- Example comment: “It is always a treat to come to Montana. I visit my son, grandchildren, and extended family here and we always go out for hikes, birding, floating, and fishing. It is so nice to get out into the clean outdoors and breathe the clear mountain air!”
- Example comment: “Started coming to MT as a child and now come once a month on business plus a couple times a year for vacation. Always enjoy my time in MT.”

**Thoughts:** Comments from people visiting for specific purposes (visiting friends/relatives or business trips) show that people come to Montana for a variety of reasons and many people treat the trip as a vacation at the same time. The tourism industry should continue the “Get Lost in Montana” campaign as this provides ideas to locals for weekend trips or one-day getaways with their visiting friends/relatives. In addition, this campaign can inadvertently reach frontline employees (hotel, restaurant, retail sales, convenience store clerks, etc.) who may suggest some of these outings to visitors whether here on vacation, business, or VFR.

**Theme 8: Comments about Living in Montana**

The “Comments About Living in Montana” category contains four sub-categories of comments about living in Montana that include retirement, real estate/second home, relocating to Montana, and prior residents. Of 3,457 total comments, 98 comments were in this category, or 3% of all comments.

- A number of nonresident visitors expressed the desire to relocate/retire/ or own a second home in Montana.
- Former Montana residents who have relocated to a different residence enjoy their return visits to Montana.
- Example comment: “Hope to move to Montana in the next couple of years. We love the outdoors- and Montana offers the best of everything! Open spaces, beautiful vistas, lots of wildlife, friendly people!”
- Example comment: “I am a native Montanan. I was in the state for a family wedding so on this visit I was only in Missoula. I LOVE coming home to my state of Montana where I was born and raised for 40 years!”
• Example comment: “Only came because my friend lives here, but I’m so amazed with the state that I’m actually considering moving here. I love it here.”

**Thoughts:** As the comments portray, many nonresident visitors would love to live in Montana. While many cannot move here for obvious reasons, turning these visitors into return visitors is an excellent. In addition, measuring the “return factor” of the first time visitor could be an interesting research study which could provide insight into the visitor industry for future promotions and planning. Finally, advertising to markets that are not well represented in the Nonresident Visitor Survey is an important step in bringing first-time visitors to Montana who will likely become return visitors.

### Themes and sub-themes by quarter

This section provides more detail by quarter with added example comments within each subtheme. While all comments are not provided here, the examples reflect the subtheme.

#### General Positive

The “General positive comments” consists of eight sub-categories which are nondescript, friendly people, site specific, reoccurring visit, return visit, and character of Montana.

#### Nondescript Positive Statements

This category consists of statements ranging from how non-resident visitors “enjoy the scenery in Montana” to “how satisfied” visitors were with their trip to Montana. In this category, 729 of the 1,712 general positive comments were placed into a nondescript category.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Nonresident Visitor Comments Nondescript Positive</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>’10 Quarter 1</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of comments/quarter</td>
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</table>

#### Quarter 1

I love it anytime I can spend in Montana. What a beautiful place.

In our experience over the many years we have been to Montana, we feel that Montana has kept their integrity. We hope you continue to do so in the future.
I thoroughly love Montana, the beautiful scenery and wonderful parks. The people are so friendly and want you to enjoy what Montana has to offer.

We had an awesome time; everyone was so nice to us. We all can’t wait to go back. It was my 48th state I’ve been to. Thank you so much.

**Quarter 2**

Montana is a “model” state; other states could use their techniques.

Montana has a place in my heart and I will always return each year as part of my outdoor travel plans.

We travel from Canada to the U.S. several times a year for recreation (golfing, hiking, sightseeing, cross country skiing) and for shopping. We are always treated well and enjoy our time in Montana. People are friendly and courteous and have treated us well as foreign travelers!

It is always a treat to come to Montana, I visit my family here, son and children and we always go out for hikes, birding, floating, fishing. It is so nice to get out into the clean outdoors and breathe the clear mountain air!

**Quarter 3**

Montana is a beautiful state. My wife and I love it here. This is the first time we’ve traveled it south to north. Great scenery, great people, great places.

Enjoyed our first visit very much and are in hopes of returning.

Montana is a very beautiful and welcoming state, with endless opportunities for recreation and fascinating historical sites. Thoroughly enjoyed visit (next time I hope I don’t sprain anything hiking.)

**Quarter 4**

We loved Montana. Great roads, beautiful scenery, friendly people.

I was surprised at the amount of interesting places Montana has to offer we could spend many vacations in Montana.

Montana is an absolutely, beautiful countryside. This survey was interesting. We have visited Montana many times from British Columbia, Canada. It is our kind of place for a holiday. At our present time of life, we are winter visitors to Arizona.
I have never had an unpleasant experience in Montana.

Friendly People
The category “Friendly people” includes non-resident visitor statements on the views of Montana residents. There were 204 comments out of the 1,712 positive comments about friendly people.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Nonresident Visitor Comments Friendly People</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Quarter 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Number of comments/quarter</td>
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</table>

Quarter 1
Generally Montanans are very warm and friendly people. Dining was great. They are very helpful people. I don't regret my trip. It was wonderful overall.

What I noticed most about Montana were the people, how genuinely good people seemed to be everywhere. And it's beautiful.

We had an awesome time, everyone was so nice to us. We all can't wait to go back. It was my 48th state I've been to. Thank you so much.

Quarter 2
We travel to Montana 2-3 times a year. Because of its beauty we love to walk down the streets in all of the towns/cities they have the small town feel. Everyone is so friendly. It's like there are no strangers in Montana. Montana rocks!

Our visit was focused on visiting family and as such we spent little time "vacationing". We enjoy Bozeman and Montana. Find folks to be friendly and helpful.

Although we were only passing through, we always find Montana a very friendly state. Thanks!

As always the level of service and welcome in Montana is second to none. It's the main reason I keep coming back. It's the place I feel most at home!

Quarter 3
It was a very nice trip. Nice people
The people of Montana were the highlight of my trip as they were kind and always looking to go the extra mile before they were asked for assistance.

Montana is a great place to visit- people very friendly, although it is hard to get from the east (i.e. expensive). Wife and I will definitely consider another visit.

Nowhere in the US are people any kinder than here in NW Montana.

My husband and I love Montana. If my family did not reside in Louisiana I would definitely move to Montana. The people are so hospitable and make you feel at home. Your state is absolutely fascinating from our point of view. We would love to see more! Thank you so much!

**Quarter 4**

We'll be back. The people are fantastic.

Enjoyed the friendly Montanans!

I dearly love and miss Montana. After being away for several years, I cannot believe how friendly people are in Montana. A smile and wave or nod from a roadside passer is an amazing thing.

Montana is a lovely state to visit. The people are so friendly and down to earth personalities. The people are kind and laid back and always seem so happy with whatever job they are doing!

**Site specific**

The site specific category includes places in Montana that non-resident visitors commented on. These comments ranged from specific places, highways, national parks, restaurants, hotels, and historic stops. There were 331 comments of the 1,712 positive comments that fit this category.

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<tr>
<th>Nonresident Visitor Comments-Site Specific</th>
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<td><strong>’10 Quarter 1</strong></td>
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<td>Number of comments/quarter</td>
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**Quarter 1**

This was about the 100th trip across Montana. My first time was in 1946. My first driving was 1958. I have many relatives in Seattle area and have always enjoyed my trips across Montana. My favorite stop is the Speedway Vase and Howdy Hotel in Forsythe, MT.
We have been to Missoula six times in the last three years. We return for the following reasons in order of importance: 1) Friendliness of people 2) Dining opportunities 3) Diverse cultural experiences 4) Local artisans 5) Nature. Thank you for the opportunity to share our experiences.

**Quarter 2**

Our trip through Montana was rushed but we really enjoyed everything that we did and saw, Billings is a very pretty city with lots to do. We want to see more of Montana in the future.

I feel like Bozeman is a second home for me. My husband and I have been coming here for 15 years now. We love cross-country and downhill skiing, fly fishing, the wonderful coffee houses, beef and bean restaurants- Our children are artists, musicians in the town. I have a child in Chicago so we will not move here but we’ll continue to visit.

I visit three or four times a year from Alberta, and then to travel to various parts of the state from the Custer battlefield to Helena to Glacier/ Lewis and Clark National forest. Always enjoy everything about Montana- shopping and food. I spend between $700 and $400 per trip.

**Quarter 3**

I live in the Dominican Republic. I just went into Montana to "look" into it, but would like to come back for more. I drove up from Cooke City to Red Lodge and down again to Wyoming, so I cannot answer much. But I know there is so much to see and I certainly will be back. I want to see the Glacier National Park and more.

We did little outside of the Triple Creek Ranch but were very happy with our overall Montana experience.

We came through Montana from the Badlands, S.D. Primarily to visit Yellowstone N.P. and we were very pleasantly surprised by how beautiful and diverse the scenery and wildlife of Montana turned out to be. We have traveled all over the country, and the RV Park in Garryowen (7th Ranch) was the nicest we have been in.

Gallatin Valley is so beautiful, I’d like to come back to vacation and see the sights. I missed too much on this trip. The trip was mainly to attend a memorial service for a cousin and research family history.

**Quarter 4**

We have always enjoyed Montana. We will happily return in the future- a clean city (Great Falls) unlike the Midwest. Keep it up.
We fell in love with Whitefish and Missoula & look forward to exploring the state and spending more time in Montana. We hope to buy a vacation home after a bit of exploring to get out of Florida!

You do not promote the Health Mine's Boulder & Basin places to heal. Check it out.

I stayed with my parents who are exposed to great variability of recycling bins when they visit me in Oregon and my brother in WA. They always comment and I notice a much lower availability in Billings.

Recurring Visit
The “reoccurring visit” category includes statements from travel groups that indicated they return to Montana often for travel, business, vacation, or just passing through. There were 202 of the 1,712 positive comments that fit this category.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Nonresident Visitor Comments - Recurring Visit</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>‘10 Quarter 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Number of comments/quarter</td>
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</table>

Quarter 1
Montana is a great state and I enjoy my annual visit with friends.

This trip was only 3 days but I do come to Montana over the summer, this summer being my 4th. I love Montana, my second home!

We travel to Montana all year long, from ice fishing at Fort Peck to riding motorcycle in Glacier National Park (awesome). Love the open spaces, friendly people and small towns.

We love Montana and will be returning at least 4 times a year. We usually have extra friends with us when we go.

Quarter 2
This was my third trip to visit Montana. Enjoyed all the trips.

Over the last 40-50 years we have traveled throughout Montana. We love the state. More recently we have only passed thru on I-15
Every time I come to Montana I find its beauty spectacular. I have talked to many people from New England to see Montana and Yellowstone and Glacier. They came once and then decided to go again.

I have traveled in Montana about eight times before and have enjoyed it every time.

**Quarter 3**

Hoping to still explore and enjoy more of Montana. Little Big Horn Battlefield, Lewis and Clark, Glacier Park, and Yellowstone Park, have been visited previously but all need more visits to fully appreciate the great state of Montana and Big Sky country.

This is our 7th visit to Montana. We love the beauty, space, cultures, and peoples.

Visit MT.com is a great website! We found almost everything we needed for our trip there. This is my second time visiting your beautiful state, and my husband's family is from Choteau. We will most certainly be back. Please keep Montana's emphasis on small town living and space, both for agricultural purposes and natural resources. It's why we'll keep coming back. Thank you!

**Quarter 4**

Only road conditions and weather were a problem on this particular visit over the Christmas holiday. My other visits as a tourist have been very good.

I have been coming to the Whitefish area for 20 years and I love it!! Over the years I have introduced friends and family to the area and now they are frequent travelers as well. Keep up the GREAT work!

I have been to Montana several times to visit my daughter - She has resided in Whitefish, Kalispell, and now Columbia Falls where she purchased a home. People are very friendly and my husband & I are drawn to the area & consider relocating here ourselves from Wisconsin.

Our family has been to Montana a lot, to parks, guided fishing, and I've hunted here a lot when I was young. We have always had a great time and fun and enjoyed the people and outdoor activates thanks.
Return Visit
The “return visit” category includes statements from non-resident visitors that indicated they were making a return visit or would like to return to Montana. There were 211 comments of the 1,712 positive comments that fit this category.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Nonresident Visitor Comments: Return Visit</th>
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<td>‘10 Quarter 1  ‘10 Quarter 2  ‘09 Quarter 3  ‘09 Quarter 4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Number of comments/quarter</td>
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<td>26</td>
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<td>42</td>
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<td>116</td>
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<td>27</td>
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</table>

**Quarter 1**

I was very satisfied with my stay in MT, with the exception of the limited time I was there. I will return in the future during warmer seasons to allow for much exploration.

My parents retired and moved to Montana 28 years ago (after visiting my brother at the U of M), and I fell in love with Montana on my first trip out. My parents loved "showing off" their Montana. We took many side trips throughout Big Sky Country: my parents knew everything about Lewis and Clark and were instrumental in the 'Traveler's Rest' Museum in Lolo. My 3 girls took many vacations to Big Sky. My brother and his wife bought my parents' home and our family will always be going out to Montana. My sister and her husband bought land in Florence and will be breaking ground soon. I fell in love with Montana and go out as often as I can.

Montana is a beautiful state and we love the scenic drive. We have made three trips from Idaho Falls to Great Falls in the past six months, and one trip across the southern roads to visit the Badlands. We hope to see more of Montana this coming year.

It's a great place, will come back soon. Keep it wild!

**Quarter 2**

I had wonderful stay. It was too short; I would like to return for an extended stay.

I loved Montana. It is very beautiful state. I plan on visiting often very soon.

We thoroughly enjoyed our family vacation. We look forward to returning for many more visits.
Quarter 3

Our trip was wonderful, and we look forward to returning. Montana is beautiful and the people are very warm and friendly.

We travel from Alberta through Montana about 3 or 4 times a year and are satisfied with all.

First time in Montana- wish we could have stayed longer. Look forward to visiting again.

We have been to Montana many times and love it and return regularly.

Quarter 4

I think Montana is beautiful and I am always impressed with the outdoor recreation opportunities available I plan to visit again.

I have visited many times and love Montana. God Bless Big Sky country!

I love Montana and can't wait to come back!

Character of Montana

This category includes 35 of the 1,712 positive comments that fit this category. This category contained many comments about the cultural heritage of Montana.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Nonresident Visitor Comments- Character of Montana</th>
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<tr>
<td>’10 Quarter 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Number of comment/quarter</td>
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</table>

Quarter 1

Montana is like a second home. We live in Calgary and we have traveled Montana many times and many locations. This trip unfortunately was just passing thru to Arizona. The history, heritage, and environmental diversity are fantastic and very enjoyable. The Montana people are always friendly and helpful.

My husband and I were born and raised in Michigan in rural farming communities. The strongest pull to live in Montana was the natural unspoiled beauty. Our jobs (construction) have caused us to move from Montana. What we miss the most are the people of Montana. For the most part they have several common denominators: common, sensible, fiercely
independent, charitable, hard working, live and let live attitude without the close cousin of "anything goes". God bless whoever reads this & keep you strong.

**Quarter 2**

The character of Montana: The government of Montana has become very liberal. This is a disappointment for me, who was born and raised in the mountain west. The liberalism does not represent the historical western foundation of Montana and its pioneers. I would choose to live and move my business to Montana if it were out for the liberal government.

The town of Missoula was very welcoming and had character of people akin to Canada.

Love the scenery. Dislike the lack of helmets for motorcyclists and the problem with alcohol in the culture. Bars seem to be focal points for socializing. Dislike loud motorcycles running thru town—well, everywhere.

**Quarter 3**

Montana’s are very proud of their state and its culture and heritage. It reflects in their social discourse and hospitality. I have visited all 50 states and the only other state equal is Alaska.

As we only passed through, I don't have a solid opinion. Like all places in the U.S., White culture, colonialism and capitalism are present here. I would prefer more open access to land and less racism.

Whitefish, MT does reflect local heritage. Love their weekly farmers market! Love the clean air, atmosphere, friendliness and mountains and rivers and lakes.

Missoula and Whitefish were among one of the most "charactered" cities I've been to!

**Quarter 4**

We always enjoy driving through Montana, especially the "character" of this state and its people, far from the crowds of the North East coast wall to wall cities where we also travel. San Francisco, L.A., San Diego, Seattle for example. People are not in such a rush. Have time to smile. Friendly woman who gave us this survey, thank you.

I'm from Las Cruces, NM and it is a genuine representation of South-Western "western/cowboy, native American/Hispanic culture" just as Montana gives a high level of satisfaction re: authenticity and western feel in general. I also feel that Montana in general and Whitefish/Flathead area specifically is cutting edge regarding 21st century model of living and lifestyle offering great restaurants and recreation.
Very satisfied with the atmosphere in Montana

**Activities**
The “Activity” category is made up of two sub categories which include outdoor and urban activities. Within these two sub-categories are types of activities non-resident visitors participated in while they were in Montana or had made statements regarding the specific activity.

**Outdoor**
The outdoor category contained 123 of the 308 activity comments that fit this category. It consisted of activities such as hiking, mountain biking, rafting, and horseback riding.

**Comments about Outdoor Activities**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Nonresident Visitor Comments-Hiking</th>
<th>‘10 Quarter 1</th>
<th>‘10 Quarter 2</th>
<th>‘09 Quarter 3</th>
<th>‘09 Quarter 4</th>
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<tr>
<td>Number of comment/quarter</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>11</td>
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**Quarter 1**
We liked the ski conditions of Big Sky. It’s a friendly place.

...Elk hunting has become boring because of the elk disappearing where I hunt. I have only got one elk in about 12 tries, but I don't care how many I get if I can just see a couple. Other than that, luckily I enjoy hiking in the mountains.

We love Red Lodge for skiing, but are always disappointed that there is no snowmobiling. Our family takes 2-3 trips a year for winter sports.

**Quarter 2**
Since I’ve hiked the CDT I am very satisfied with scenic views, and the I15 and some of I-90 parts of the CDT. I’ve been driving thru MT for over forty years and have then some of the highways and gravel roads, such as from Clark reservoir to Salmon.

I love Montana and wish I could get a job there and move back. I am originally from there. Mountains are beautiful, Gallatin rafting was great, and the people are always nice!
Quarter 3

I love Red Lodge and the hiking in the Beartooth Mountains!

We love visiting Montana-fishing and golfing and visiting friends. If we did not have a 2nd home near children we’d have one in Hamilton or Whitefish!

Hi, you folks have a great state. It has lots of history. I have been traveling on my bike to Montana every summer for at least 4 years. Lot of construction this year but I suppose it’s due to the economy. God willing I'll be doing it again next year. Good luck with your survey.

Quarter 4

I travel to MT often from my home in Cody - usually to shop in Billings or ski in Red Lodge. Sometimes visit friends in Bozeman or Helena.

...Plan to return during the winter to snowboard at Red Lodge.

Fishing/Ice fishing

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Nonresident Visitor Comments Fishing/Ice Fishing</th>
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<td>'10 Quarter 1  '10 Quarter 2  '09 Quarter 3  '09 Quarter 4</td>
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<td>Number of comments/quarter</td>
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Quarter 2

My son and I came paddle fishing at the intake on the Yellowstone River. We were both successful and had an enjoyable time.

I have been coming to Montana for over 30 years, first on two-three week fishing trips until 1991. From 1991-Present have spent 1 month to 7 months per year and have owned a home since 1999.

Quarter 3

I would like to bring the trailer and make a month of touring around Montana to go fishing and more of the country. I enjoy the scenery and the people are so helpful and friendly.

I primarily came to Montana to fly fish for trout-having never fly fished I had no idea where to look-I was expecting to learn more at the rest stop/welcome center. When I entered the state
from Wyoming, but the closest one was in Hardin and by the time I had visited the Little Big Horn battlefield was too tired to stop, a small unmanned, info/rest stop site as soon as soon as you cross the border would have enticed me.

Trip was for business on Friday and stay for fishing on Sat., exit on Sunday.

Our group of 16 males all arrived and departed from Logan Airport, Billings. We used a combination of Frontier, United and Delta airlines. We had a total of four rental vehicles, driving only from Billings to Fort Smith and return. We stayed at Big Horn Trout Shop in Fort Smith. It was my 20th year in a row of fishing the Big Horn River. Outstanding fishery.

I spend 1 week in Sept with 4 friends fly fishing Rock Creek with friends mostly around Gilles Bridge (15 miles south of Philipsburg.)

My biggest dissatisfied point was that there were no more options for a fishing license. I purchased a day (48 hour) for $25.00. The next step was a 10 day. I was there longer than 10 days, but knew I couldn't fish that much, a 3 or 4 day license for a reasonable fee would be nice. The price of a 10 day or a animal pass wasn't justified for the amount of time I had. My main reason of being in Montana is to take care of my parents place and even a 2 day pass only let me fish for 6 or 8 hours out of the 48. Other than that I enjoyed my trip and will be back.

Quarter 4

As we were visiting our daughter and the weather was bad (snowing) we didn't do any sightseeing. Did a little fishing before the weather turned bad. I have enjoyed many state parks in the past. It is a beautiful state to visit.

Urban

The urban category contains 185 of the 308 activity comments and included activities such as dining, gambling, and shopping.

Restaurants

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<tr>
<th>Nonresident Visitor Comments-Restaurants</th>
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<td>’10 Quarter 1</td>
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<td>Number of comments/ quarter</td>
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Quarter 1

We enjoyed our trip to Red Lodge Clayworks workshop. The town looked prosperous and clean, our meals were priced reasonably and the food good. Look forward to coming again. Many thanks to everyone in Red Lodge.

Cafe Dolce is a great eatery - will return there for sure.

I couldn't find recycling bins anywhere and the number of restaurants/etc. that use Styrofoam for beverages and take-out was appalling. I love this part of the country and hope people who live there appreciate it enough to take care of it.

Quarter 2

Food was terrible everywhere we ate in W. Yellowstone, so we cancelled last night and went to Flagg Ranch so we could eat at Lake Lodge and spend night closer toward Jackson.

Well maintained roads. There was lack of customer service in Great Falls (lodging, restaurants). Scenic drive though Billings, great city.

You should include specific questions about restaurants - where and how much. The Shack-Great! Thai Restaurant-Great!, Big Dipper-Great!, Sisters Catering-Great!, Hotel (Sunday Brunch)!

As a through traveler I feel like there aren't enough restaurants/food purchasing options along the highway - especially east of Billings. The food that is available is of low/cheap quality and doesn't really reflect any "local Montana" character. As I am a "foodie" sort of tourist, this definitely disarrays me from travelling through, even though Montana has a great Cowboy food heritage.

Quarter 3

More real local restaurants, less fast food!

Customer service in the restaurants in smaller towns was lacking (food was good).

Food options should be increased.

In Missoula, the cost of a meal in a restaurant is big city prices but the taste/quality are not matched; very disappointed.
Quarter 4

I have come to MT a lot over the last 15 years. I love it here. It has rural character but all the high quality amenities. I had an awesome meal at Pearls-Missoula. I always feel welcome (starts at airport) and enjoy my trips.

Shopping

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<th>Nonresident Visitor Comments Shopping</th>
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<tr>
<td>Number of comments/quarter</td>
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Quarter 1

I didn't expect anything better than for an enjoyable trip. I went shopping for wood burning cooker, wanting to see showroom displays.

Quarter 2

...The shopping was decent.

I have been traveling to Montana for 20 years and always enjoy the people, the food, and the shopping.

I think most of the smaller towns are not handicapped accessible as my husband is in a wheelchair. We could not go to most shops and stores.

Quarter 3

Love it here. It is very relaxing. The shopping is great, people very friendly.

We love Montana-especially the drive through the Missouri River Canyon (Great Falls-Helena.) We love to shop for great deals and love no sales tax. We used to mostly drive through on way to another state- now we live 20 minutes from the state and visit to shop even sometimes for the day. We love it.

We live in Alberta and have visited Montana for many years. Overall, we have always been happy with our visits/shopping. We really enjoy Logan Pass. Thank you.
I mainly come to Montana to shop in Billings, or to fly out of the Billings airport. Your state is
beautiful and unspoiled by humans. A place I always enjoy visiting or driving thru.

I always return to find the "real" Montana- and it disappoints me to find high-style shops,
goods, etc. The small towns like Joilet are what I’m looking for.

Quarter 4

We live in Powell, WY. Going to Red Lodge and Billings for fun and shopping is just part of our
monthly things to do.

Gambling/Casinos

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<tr>
<th>Nonresident Visitor Comments Gambling/Casinos</th>
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<tr>
<td>’10 Quarter 1</td>
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<td>Number of comments/quarter</td>
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Quarter 1

Gambling is a problem; get rid of it...

Since moving from Billings in 2007, the city seems to have a more 'Las Vegas' feel rather than
the 'good-air-Montana' feel it used to promote. Tacky casinos lit up like the strip litter the
western side of the city and spill over into the once-peaceful country side. We hope this is good
for the economy because it ruins the landscape.

Quarter 2

Too many casinos and bars- has to have a negative impact on family environment.

Casinos are an eye sore and cheapen the experience of Montana- as we remember it growing
up.

Gambling has ruined Missoula; I cannot believe how trashy this town looks because of casinos.

Don’t let the gambling take over the pristine quality of the towns/restaurants/stores, etc.
Quarter 3

...We do not like all of the advertisements for casino's and gambling throughout the state. Montana’s gambling and casinos provide the wrong atmosphere for your beautiful state. Montana's biggest detractions are the number of casinos and public businesses that are smoke filled.

We do not like what gambling has done to MT. I grew up in Helena. What blight on the entire state. You can't escape it...

Quarter 4

Although the casinos may generate revenue for residents of the reservations, it seems to be more detrimental to local culture & society as a whole. Observing the people who commonly visit these locations, I wouldn't want my kids to hang out there.

I just drove through your state; I most definitely would have stayed and gambled in your casino's but as an American I am not allowed to smoke in any indoor structure in your state. So I obeyed your law and when I got to free America I gambled and smoked my cigar inside of a casino where the idiot politicians have not passed a law against smoking. If your state government is really interested in health, they should outlaw all tobacco, salt, and alcohol. You will be safe and healthy!

Lodging

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Nonresident Visitor Comments-Lodging</th>
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<td>’10 Quarter 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Number of comment/quarter</td>
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</table>

Quarter 1

Although not an owner of property in Montana, I'm more of a second home type of visitor than of vacation. Our daughter and family live here. I was here for three weeks. It was our second visit since December 2009. The local motel owner allowed us to stay in the motel even while they were closed for the season.

The lodging locations are plentiful.
Hotel stay was very accommodating to our needs to find food/airport to hospital and hotel.

**Quarter 2**

All motel rooms should be equipped with recycling trash cans.

We stayed twice Great Falls and had a very warm welcome, very nice stay and friendly people. We definitely will be back. We loved it. We can really recommend the wonderful hotel O'Haire in Great Falls. Great food! The rooms were wonderful and very accommodating of our 2 days. The staff was very knowledgeable about the area very nice.

Lewistown could use another choice for overnight accommodations. The Yogo is pretty sad.

Found lodging somewhat expensive.

The circle R motel in Glacier was great, excellent accommodations. The Western motel in Browning was among the worst I have encountered in my life.

**Quarter 3**

We enjoyed our visit and our accommodations. You've a beautiful state.

... Need more lodging choices (affordable) in West Yellowstone (under $50 a night).

On a couple of occasions we stayed in ok accommodations, acceptable but not uplifting. On both occasions we found there were very good lodges which were attractive and we would have centrally stayed in them. They were not listed in the AAA (CA) book so we missed them. We did not have easy access to the internet when looking for accommodations. Is it possible there lodges don’t pay AAA? It was a truly great visit despite part of the highway to the sun being closed, a real bummer.

We had a hard time finding a nice place to stay. Once we were there we saw a lot of nice places, they are just hard to find on the internet.

**Quarter 4**

Travel through Montana a lot, but because we now have children we need to stop over-night. The accommodations were great, as well as the many rest areas we stopped at. Would definitely stop again soon!
**Other**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Nonresident Visitor Comments-Local Events</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>‘10 Quarter 1</td>
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<td>Number of comments/quarter</td>
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</table>

**Quarter 1**

I expected local restaurants to have local products and produce.

Bigfork is our favorite place for the concerts and shops of art. We were just passing thru this time for a holiday south in Arizona

**Quarter 2**

Downtown Missoula has really come along-I especially enjoyed the "Made Fair" and was impressed with the local artisans. My son enjoyed the state park but it needs more supervision. Too many shops carry items made out of the USA.

**Quarter 3**

Stores should sell crafts made by Americans, preferably American Indians, and not Chinese or Mexican imports.

**Quarter 4**

I think MT does a good job of promoting "Montana made" products and I also enjoy the variety of catteries, where you can even usually find a great homemade meal in a local bar...

**Public and Private Land Use and Management**

The “Public and private land use and management” category consists of six sub-categories which are Glacier and Yellowstone National Park, Public Land Access, Environmental Stewardship, Wildlife, and Private and Public Land Stewardship.
Glacier

The “Glacier” category contains 56 of the 271 public and private land use and management comments which represent experiences and feelings towards Glacier National Park.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Nonresident Visitor Comments-Glacier</th>
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<td>'10 Quarter 1</td>
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<td>Number of comments/quarter</td>
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Quarter 2

Love Montana! Love buffalo rangers. Love Glacier Park. I might move to Montana because I love it so much!

...Obstructed and overgrown views at scenic pullouts in Glacier National Park.

...I didn't like so much the area around Glacier N.P, dirty and neglected.

A wonderful opportunity to meet the people of Montana, including members of the Blackfeet tribe, and to see the incredible beauty of the Glacier National Park and the area of Paws Up resort and Missoula.

We really enjoyed visiting Montana. It is a beautiful state. We especially enjoyed Glacier National Park even though the going to the sun road wasn't completely open yet. We stayed in Whitefish and thought it was a lovely place. We took a wrong turn and lost some time we feel due to confusing signage.

Quarter 3

GNP is now my favorite national park (my 38th) what a treasure.

...GNP very crowded, but NW corner of state was quiet and beautiful- will return

We enjoyed Montana's beautiful Glacier Park. We found that we were 1-2 weeks late in the season as many businesses and lodging were closing. However, smaller numbers of tourists pleased us.

Overall it was a good trip. There could possibly be more roads in Glacier, and easier access. Road delays and construction was a problem. More parking in Glacier.
Quarter 4

Our summer trip to Montana (Glacier National park, Whitefish) was every bit as impressive as this winter ski trip. We look forward to more time spent in this beautiful part of the U. S.

Yellowstone

The “Yellowstone” category contains 50 of the 271 public and private land use and management comments relating to experiences and feelings towards Yellowstone National Park.

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<tr>
<th>Nonresident Visitor Comments Yellowstone</th>
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<td>’10 Quarter 1  ’10 Quarter 2  ’09 Quarter 3  ’09 Quarter 4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Number of comment/quarter</td>
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<td>4  18  23  5</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Quarter 1

We need more public roads in Yellowstone.

I will try to make this simple: We (my wife and I) are in Montana to visit Glacier N.P. and Yellowstone N.P. for approx. 3 weeks- two places we love and have visited 6 times in the last 25 years. We always camp in the parks and either camp privately or stay in motels when driving. We tend to buy 95% of our food and supplies outside the parks as needed. As long as these parks are open, we will come to Montana. If these parks are closed or commercialized any more than they already are, it is very unlikely we would ever come to Montana again (except for passing through).

Quarter 2

Beautiful state. We enjoyed our visit very much! Yellowstone was breath taking.

Yellowstone National Park is Awesome!

Quarter 3

This was a one day trip for our work in Yellowstone Park. We have visited a number of sites, museums, etc. on previous multi-day visits and enjoyed immensely. One sad note is the move of the Museum of the Plains Indians from Browning to Cody, WY (Buffalo Bill Heritage Center). It is a great facility, it’s sad to see the MT Community lose this.

We love Yellowstone Park. We come here every September and October.
Montana and Yellowstone National Park has been our favorite vacation spots since the 1950's. It is never a disappointment. Our advice to friends is to visit Montana and the National Parks.

**Quarter 4**

We loved Yellowstone, it was breathtaking. And going to Red Lodge and Repelling.

**Public Land Access**

Twelve of the 271 public and private land use and management comments were land access.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Nonresident Visitor Comments Public Land Access</th>
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<td>‘10 Quarter 1</td>
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**Quarter 1**

Montana is a wild and beautiful place. Stream access is still a problem in some areas. Measures should be continued to keep Montana wild free.

**Quarter 2**

Montana is a great state that allows everyone to have access to and fully enjoy their natural resources-Always impressed with quality of fly fishing and access to do so.

**Quarter 3**

What a beautiful state! Keep up the availability of being able to access your natural resources (i.e. public spaces) to all of reasonable prices.

**Quarter 4**

Access to public lands is restricted to ATV’s, this is a bad thing. Allowing predators like wolves, lions, and bears to eat all of your game animals shows a horrific lack of stewardship of the land.

**Environmental Stewardship**

The category “Environmental Stewardship” includes comments about nonresidents’ feelings about Montana’s environmental stewardship. There were 59 of the 271 public and private land use and management comments were in this stewardship category.
Quarter 2

Saw some environmental damage from mining, otherwise, very beautiful.

I feel sad that the trees are dying around Helena.

I was very happy with our trip to Montana! The only thing I notices was all the dead pine trees...other than that it is a beautiful state!

Treat the landscape before wildfire continues too. The over stacked stands, implement fuel reduction projects. Get ahead of the curve on fire mgmt, rather than reactive.

I was amazed at the number of dead pine trees around the Helena and Butte areas die to the pine beetle infestation. It seems no one is taking much action to stop their spread. Montana is losing a beautiful natural resource.

Quarter 3

The landscape was beautiful and clean. Air was fresh and clear.

We were disappointed to find very few opportunities to recycle all three (plastic/cans/glass) in West Yellowstone or the Park. Although trails, picnic areas and lodge areas were clean-recyclables went in the trash. Montana is such a beautiful state that attracts tourists interested in the outdoor recreation/sightseeing- we hope to find recycling added when we return. In West Yellowstone we were told "It’s too expensive to recycle".

Where are the wind turbines? Address mine reclamation issues; Butte area. I appreciated your free detailed highway roadmap. More enforcement of speed limits needed.

Between Butte and Helena trees are dying, not very impressive.

Quarter 4

Be careful of your water resources!

Very disappointed in how "un-green" places like Missoula and Whitefish were...
Pine Bark Beetle damage to trees is widespread and ugly.

Small streams through ranches have poor riparian areas.

**Wildlife**
The “Wildlife” category contains 40 of the 271 public and private land use and management comments.

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<th>Nonresident Visitor Comments-Wildlife</th>
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**Quarter 1**

I did not see much wildlife in West Yellowstone.

The reintroduction of wolves has decimated the elk and deer populations and is destroying Montana's proud hunting heritage! We had originally planned to move to Montana and build a home on the property that we purchased in the Bitterroot valley in 2002. However, based on the continued decline of elk and deer population we are now considering selling out property. As a Montana native I am deeply disappointed in Montana's wolf management situation. The Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, of which I am a life member, should be astounded and all Montana's should be embarrassed.

**Quarter 2**

We visit the park yearly, generally spring to see the newborns and opportunity to see grizzlies, bears in general are great.

Enjoyed the wildlife! Saw a moose and some elk. Had fun, if I would have had more time would have stayed a lot longer. Thanks.

Excellent stay with lots of wildlife and a great impact

I entered on the train from Minneapolis, MN. I saw horses, cattle, and deer. We stopped at Havre and East GNP for a short time.

...The small towns were quaint, sights wonderful, wildlife wonderful.
**Quarter 3**

I was very surprised at lack of wildlife. Saw no deer, elk, etc. Lots of bugs...

...Regarding the wildlife- we were unlucky in Yellowstone Park and saw much less wildlife than on a previous visit 5 years ago. However, Montana is fabulous and we will be back!

Mostly ok. Bad publicity in both Montana and Idaho are plans to hunt wolves. I protect this kind of action. Wolves and grizzly’s need care, not killing. If Montana kills wolves I will boycott anything there and urge friends to do the same. Wildlife and wilderness are precious.

**Quarter 4**

...I think the wolf population is too high and should be reduced. In the Yellowstone ecosystem the number of wolves has a detrimental effect on wildlife populations and greatly diminishes the wildlife viewing experience in and around the park. I also feel the grizzly population should be managed through controlled hunting. I continue to read with greater frequency of bear/human conflicts resulting in attacks on hunters and hikers.

Need to continue preserving and enhancing wildlife habitat for birds.

I saw lots of deer, elk, and antelope!

**Private Land Stewardship**

The category “Private Land Stewardship” depicts nonresident attitudes towards private land stewardship in Montana. There were 54 of the 271 public and private land use and management comments in this category.

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<tr>
<th>Nonresident Visitor Comments-Private Land Stewardship</th>
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<td>‘10 Quarter 1</td>
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**Quarter 1**

Towns along the way looked cluttered with ruined buildings and junk from cars and old equipment setting all over. Run down, houses looked in poor shape.
Quarter 2

Only negative comment would be the condition that private property owners kept their property in small towns along the route. A good clean up of junk lying around was very unsightly and unnecessary. People should show more pride in their front yard appearance. We enjoyed participating in your survey.

Montana is a big state yet in some ways lacks respect by the locals in cleanliness. Private property is a shambles it seems by those who live here in this beautiful state and disrespect it...

Montana is a beautiful state when it comes to nature. It is a shame so many people ruin the appearance of the state with rusted and old junk buildings, trashed possessions, etc, on their property. It screams lack of pride, in their state, towns and love of nature.

Our travels & stops were mostly in rural towns. Towns were making a conscious effort to look clean, neat, well cared for...welcoming. They appear to have community pride...

Quarter 3

Very sad to see the state of the native reserve along the I-90 corridor in Wyoming right to Billings, Montana! Burned out cars and truck and trailers really don't belong anywhere that people live.

Re stewardship of the land- The Crow Reservation had poor housing and was littered with old cars and trucks. This was the only reservation we saw and it made a sad impression.

...Some areas of private ownership and small towns need to haul old equipment to a central site, can it be recycled? Indian reservations’ towns need general clean-up at least pick up trash to let "nature" show through!

The National Parks are perfectly organized. Montana seems to be divided into a richer southern and poorer northern part.

Montana was beautiful. Grazing on BLM land along Missouri was disappointing- trees, chokecherry, and native plants have disappeared due to grazing. The scenic river way should not be grazed by livestock.

Attractions

The “Attractions” category consists of 98 (3%) comments about nonresident experiences and attitudes about tourist attractions and open space in Montana. The comments discussed a
variety of attractions from open space to historical sites. Due to the variety of comments, no sub-categories were developed. Comments are listed as general comments about attractions.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Nonresident Visitor Comments</th>
<th>Attractions</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>'10 Quarter 1</td>
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<td>Number of comments/quarter</td>
<td>12</td>
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</table>

**Quarter 1**

I mostly enjoy the open spaces in Montana. I'm from a state that doesn’t really respect open space; they would rather sell open space land for housing developments. Do everything you can in Montana to prevent this!

...The history, heritage, and environmental diversity are fantastic and very enjoyable. The Montana people are always friendly and helpful. One thing, if a campground is closed for some reason, please put a closed sign over their signage on the highway.

I came in the winter, so it is hard to judge some items. I would like to return in spring/summer to see more local outdoor stores/farmer’s markets. Nice state - like the openness and mountains.

**Quarter 2**

I enjoyed my stay in Missoula very much. It is very scenic and the people are friendly.

Montana gives an overall feeling of being a part of the land. It’s so large and open, and for the most part like it has been reserved for us to see without being "modernized" too much. It is beautiful country. Thank you.

I just loved the open space, mountains, wildlife, and feeling of serenity.

We were very impressed with the countryside and the beauty. We did not realize that Montana was so beautiful. It was fun watching the wildlife. It was such a pleasure. We are eager to return.
Quarter 3

The people are very friendly and helpful all the time! Note: Havre is our closest for shopping, so we treat Montana as our home, however, we also act as tourists. I regularly visit the farmers market and take in local attractions.

We met some interesting people. Saw many interesting and intriguing places. Refreshed our minds on a lot of the history, most of what we studied in grade school. We were able to see the actual place of this history...

This was my first visit. I definitely plan to come back next summer and stay longer. I would like to see more historical Montana, especially forts and ghost towns, also the Native-American culture.

Had a great time on my way to Missoula-stopped to see Lewis and Clark murals. On my way back to Bozeman took a scenic highway and was delighted by Phillipsburg and Anaconda. Bozeman has a great public library with great Montana brochures.

Quarter 4

...We loved the scenery, Montana experience and the wealth of activities! Your state pride shines! Thank you.

This was our first visit west of South Dakota and very beautiful. I spent all spare time traveling to see all the sites.

I have always enjoyed visiting or traveling through Montana. The scenery, mountains, wildlife, and sports, rodeos, Metra at Billings entertainment, places to eat etc. It's a bigger city than where I'm from but it still seems country and not so "Big city". It is still connected (retained) to the agriculture and life styles we really used to retain in America. I've been to MT, several times, Helena to Montana Branch office, Great Falls to Interpretive Center, Lewis and Clark and Charles M. Russell Museum. Dinosaur Museum in Bozeman plus several other cities in Montana east and west.

General Negative

The ‘General Negative” category consists of four sub-categories that depict negative nonresident comments. These categories include site specific, business/housing development, suggestive comments, and too expensive.
Recycling
The “Recycling” category contains comments regarding recycling in Montana. There were 71 of the 402 general negative comments related to recycling.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Nonresident Visitor Comments-Recycling</th>
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**Quarter 1**

Recycling needs to be a bigger priority. There is no facility to recycle glass in the Flathead valley. Restaurants throw away recycle material along with garbage.

...Need more free community recycling bins on the streets!

Very surprised at the near non-existent recycling awareness or receptacles for a state which prides itself on its natural beauty.

Would like to see more opportunity to recycle cardboard, glass and plastic at camp grounds...

**Quarter 2**

I cannot believe you do not recycle in your beautiful state. In Ohio, we recycle everything. We won’t save the planet if we won’t take care of it. I hope on my next visit I will see recycling in Montana.

All motel rooms should be equipped with recycling trash cans.

I can't believe a town like Bozeman has no recycling policy. The land and water is so important to this area. Take care of it.

Please be a leader for the U.S. in green practices and green living. Conserving and protecting natural world and resources.

**Quarter 3**

Visiting from the UK we find it strange that no provision is made for recycling of newspapers and brochures, cans, bottle etc., but this is the case across the USA...

Big Sky needs better recycling options. A- better/more convenient sites. B- Glass recycling
I travel to the area every year. Given the emphasis on natural beauty and preservation, it always astounds me that there is not the same importance placed on recycling. Even if one goes to the trouble of taking refuse to the W. Yellowstone dump, there is no longer an option for recycling glass. That’s my major gripe-otherwise, I love Montana.

Disappointed in lack of recycle bins at rest areas- love Montana's Big Sky!

**Quarter 4**

Recycling containers are not available at hotel. Recycling containers should be at the garbage drop...

No glass recycling in Missoula

Recycling? Why no recycling? This is 2010. MT will look like any other place if trash & recycling practices aren't implemented!

I stayed with my mother, so lodging wasn’t an issue. But she said recycling wasn't available for glass unless she drove to Livingston.

**Site specific**

The “Site specific” category contains 164 of the 402 general negative comments.

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<tr>
<th>Nonresident Visitor Comments Site Specific</th>
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**Quarter 1**

World Museum of Mining- closed on holiday weekends. Should be opened! (Butte) Discovery map Butte - most things closed on weekend and in winter. Shouldn’t visit Montana in the winter months - all places of interest are closed! We noticed that 4 other vehicles drove up and away from the mining museum in Butte while we were contemplating our next move. We noticed that two other vehicles drove up and away in Deer Lodge.

I love Montana. However, I am disappointed in the lack of recycling efforts in Montana. I spend time in Billings (largest city) and it seems way behind other state's recycling programs.
Montana needs to be conscientious of "green," and needs to recycling paper, glass, metal, plastic, etc. in all areas. Also, it would be nice to have more healthy restaurants and no Styrofoam. The pickle barrel did not even have glass bowls for soup- they use only Styrofoam- yikes! So bad! Let's keep MT beautiful. Born and raised here. I would like it to stay beautiful.

With Missoula being as ecologically focused as it claims to be, it saddens me the lack of recycling that’s not being done here. With the closure of the mill, I would love to see a recycling plant and or some other environmentally friendly focused business go in.

More public recycling please-I-90 needs work over Lookout Pass. Go Cats!

**Quarter 2**

...We stayed in Cutbank overnight. Decided to abort our trip and return to Florida. Worst thing about the trip thru Montana was the truckers on Hwy 15 and 191. Pulling a 36’ RV in the wind, snow/rain isn't easy and we found a lot of drivers (truckers and cars) were very rude and careless. There were a lot of speeders, no police in sight. Also found a lot of the advertised RV parks were not as they claimed to be.

**Quarter 3**

On Pinter Scene route, would like to see at least 2 small areas for picnic table.

One disappointment was when we tried to visit Devil’s Canyon outback in Bighorn Canyon at 4pm August 13. They were resurfacing the road and wouldn’t let cars enter. We drove away because it would take 2 hours before roads would be open. Had to alter our plans and drive all the way back to our hotel in Sheridan and then next day drove all the way to Devil’s Canyon again. A warning sign would be helpful.

...The entrance on the west side of GNP was pretty schlocky or tacky with bear adventures and not really impressed with West Yellowstone as we exited Yellowstone National Park teepees.

**Quarter 4**

Cooke City is a convenient location to YNP, but it needs help. Drinking water is contaminated and there are very few, if any, dining choices. Gardiner is much better.

Missoula is a crazy town to drive in. The turn-a-rounds are not always "calming"
Suggestive comments
The “Suggestive comments” category had a total of 133 of the 402 general negative comments. The category included various suggestive remarks ranging from raising speed limits to availability of recycling in Montana.

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<tr>
<th>Nonresident Visitor Comments-Suggestive comments</th>
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Quarter 1

More gas stations on the routes of travel (off main highway) would help. The people in Montana seem very friendly. The road signs are helpful and never confusing.

Please keep the environmentalists out of Montana. They really do not care about the wildlife and nature; all they want to do is line their pockets with gold. The real people who are stewards of the land are the farmers and ranchers; they have no hidden agenda and truly take care of the land. The wolves were already migrating naturally on their own; we did not need to spend millions of tax payer dollars on something that was already happening.

I love Montana and the open space! What a great state. Wintertime - the roads are not so good but understandable. Summertime - during the daylight raise your speed limits again. That’s my only suggestion for what it’s worth.

Quarter 2

...My son enjoyed the state park but it needs more supervision.

I love Montana-and have for over 40 years! Since our children are now here, we plan to get here to be a part of this great state. But PLEASE don’t get like California, New York and other large crowded states! Don’t make laws and regulations that will eventually take the quality of Montana living away-people come here because Montana is open and welcoming, not restrictive and oppressive. Keep Montana Free.

Don’t let the gambling take over the pristine quality of the towns/restaurants/stores, etc.

Quarter 3

Kick Conoco out of Billings. Highway rest areas would be better if there was Wi-Fi.
You need bear-resistant trash cans at pull-outs, rest stops, etc. You need a few more on 87/187, particularly south of town and north of Great Falls.

**Quarter 4**

I would like more lighting in the evenings on the highways.

I would appreciate businesses taking my Canadian coins

**Other General Negative Comments**

The “other” category is a potpourri of comments. There were 34 of the 402 general negative comments placed in the ‘other’ category.

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<th>Nonresident Visitor Comments</th>
<th>Other General Negative</th>
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<td>’09 Quarter 3</td>
<td>’09 Quarter 4</td>
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**Quarter 1**

We found hotels to be quite expensive in northern Montana, compared to other states we’ve visited. Montana is a beautiful state and everyone is really friendly and helpful.

On a national level, hotel/motel prices are 20% too high.

**Quarter 2**

I think there is too much outward development in Bozeman. It is killing the views. Stinky trucks! Not always bike friendly, more bike lanes would clear up roads

Hotels are somewhat 'pricier' than Utah or Nevada.

**Quarter 3**

Prices for the room in Glacier National Park seemed to be very high...

There are too many "trophy" homes going up in scenic/forested areas- too little zoning. Destruction of natural beauty by urban/suburban sprawl and factories/industry placed indiscriminately without apparent forethought. Price of goods/services pretty high...

Everything was overpriced at hotels, but the area was beautiful.
Quarter 4

Please, please, please stop the sprawl. Conserve your land for wildlife, small farms- don’t be short sighted as you have in the past- money now does not mean livability in the future!

Living in Montana
This category contains four sub-categories of comments about living in Montana that include retirement, real estate/second home, relocating to Montana, and prior residents.

Retirement
The “Retirement” category contains various nonresident comments about retiring in Montana. These comments ranged from statements about how nonresidents would like to retire here to nonresidents purchasing homes for retirement in the future. There were 10 remarks about retirement out of the 98 comments about living in Montana.

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<tr>
<th>Nonresident Visitor Comments Retirement</th>
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<td>‘10 Quarter 1</td>
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<td>Number of comments/quarter</td>
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Quarter 1
I have enjoyed traveling to Montana from PA for 12 years now! My husband and I have driven here & I have flown here. We love it so much we are purchasing property here for our retirement. We will become "Montanans" then!

We love Montana; place to retire for our future.

Quarter 2
We loved looking at the mountains and trees. Also, we enjoyed the cool weather and rain. It was pleasant driving as there was no traffic! We hope to move to Montana when we retire.

We live in Alaska now but Montana remains home. We hope to return and retire here.

Quarter 3
...Montana is on our short list of potential retirement locations.
Beautiful state, friendly people, I love it, thinking of retirement in Montana (summer and fall).

**Quarter 4**

I could retire here.

**Real Estate/Second Home**

The ‘real estate/second home” category contains 21 of the 98 ‘living in Montana’ comments. These folks wrote about having a second home in Montana or looking at buying a second home in Montana.

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<tr>
<th>Nonresident Visitor Comments-Real Estate/Second Home</th>
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<td>’10 Quarter 1</td>
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**Quarter 1**

We have a home in Big Sky and we ski from Christmas till mid March. We fish gold and hike for 2 1/2 months in Sammon.

I have a second home for vacation purposes in Montana. There is a lot of natural beauty in Montana.

**Quarter 2**

We are return visitors to Montana who come to use our cabin on the Gallatin National Forest. We support the local economy of West Yellowstone and enjoy Montana and all that it has to offer. We support multiple uses at our forests.

We love Montana and its scenic beauty & people. It is one of the reasons we bought a cabin in this state...

I have been coming to Montana for over 30 years. I first came on two-three week fishing trips until 1991. From 1991-Present have spent 1 month to 7 months per year and have owned a home since 1999.

We love driving through your beautiful state 4-6 times a year. We own a second home in Victor, Idaho. We do enjoy Yellowstone Park and the Bozeman, Big Sky area. We wish we had more time to spend in your state. We love it.
Quarter 3

We have been coming to Montana winter and summer for seven years with kids. Plan to retire there. Own 2 condos and property in Big Sky. Love it!

Quarter 4

We just closed on a condo/vacation home in Somers because we love Montana.

We bought a house this week because we love Montana so much.

...We have a condo at Meadow Lake golf resort and we love it there.

Relocating to Montana

The “Relocating to Montana” category contains statements nonresidents made about relocating to Montana or wanting to relocate to the region. This category had 21 of the 98 ‘living in Montana’ comments.

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<th>Nonresident Visitor Comments-Relocating to Montana</th>
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Quarter 1

...My wife and I (and six children) are planning to move to Montana this summer because of the "character", authenticity, and it is spacious. We ski, road bike, and hike. No better place than Montana. Just like the old tag line from tourism commercials for Montana, “My heart sings when in Montana.”

Hope to move to Montana in the next couple of years. We love the outdoors- and Montana offers the best of everything! Open spaces, beautiful vistas, lots of wildlife, friendly people!

Quarter 2

I was highly satisfied over my trip to MT. I had heard from family and friends that my boyfriend and I should to go this state. We were looking for something that would take our breath away and it did. The wildlife, mountains and even the people surprised me. How amazing and welcoming it was. I was away from home and still felt at home in MT. So much that my
boyfriend and I would love to visit again and maybe even re-locate and make it our new home. Thank you.

...We are looking to relocate and spend this time vacationing in areas we would consider living.

Planning on moving to Hamilton or other town close by in next year!

We just bought a house in Livingston and this trip was pre-move to take care of some house-related business. So, it should be obvious that we are very happy with the area and cannot wait to be permanent residents. The land and the people/culture were the main reasons we chose Montana over anywhere else in the country.

**Quarter 3**

Montana is a very beautiful, welcoming, and uncrowded state which is why I have come here and made an offer to buy property for my retirement home.

I love Montana! I was born in South Korea, raised in Oklahoma, and survived Los Angeles, CA. I have traveled a lot and have found the beautiful state of Montana to be the best in the U.S. I'm back here to make it my home.

Only came because my friend lives here, but I'm so amazed with the state that I'm actually considering moving here. I love it here.

Love MT. I travel one to two times per year to MT, since leaving in 1985. I plan to relocate to MT in 5 years.

**Quarter 4**

Small businesses need more support. We are looking to move to Kalispell to be closer to our daughter and help her with her ranch and business. Big Sky Country is awesome! Need more venues to sell local products. Thanks for asking!

I love Montana so much I am moving here!

Plan to move to Montana.

**Prior Residents**

The “Used to live in Montana” category represents nonresidents who at one time lived in Montana. There were 46 of the 98 ‘living in Montana’ comments placed in this category.
Nonresident Visitor Comments: Used to live in Montana

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<th>Number of comments/quarter</th>
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</table>

**Quarter 1**

As someone who grew up in MT and returned to visit family and friends, I wonder if my participation is particularly useful. As someone who now lives on the west coast, it’s always a wonderful feeling to be back in MT. People are so much more authentic and friendly.

We miss living in Montana. Need better paying jobs and we’d be back. Come visit us in Wilson, WY!

I grew up in Montana and enjoy going back there from Texas to visit. I do like it better in the summer as I have no use for the snow conditions but my trip was great. We will definitely come again.

**Quarter 2**

I was born and raised in MT.

I am a native Montanan. I was in the state for a family wedding so on this visit I was only in Missoula. I LOVE coming home to my state of Montana where I was born and raised for 40 years!

I love Montana and wish I could get a job here and move back. I am originally from Montana. Mountains are beautiful, Gallatin rafting was great, and the people are always nice!

We are Montana natives who have moved to Washington so we return very often to visit our children—we love Montana!

**Quarter 3**

We lived in MT 16 years before moving to Florida. We come back in the summer for a month. Always enjoy staying at Hebgen Lake in Billings.

I was raised in Montana, but I never traveled too far from my home town. But I married someone from Indiana. So he is interested in history and when I came home to Montana he made it a part of his interests. He now reads and likes to see the area of historical Montana; as
well as the Parks. So when we travel I see it thru his eyes and find all the things I missed when growing up here. I have a better appreciation for my home state of Montana.

I grew up in Montana- wonderful state- especially to experience childhood. A lot of your questions do not apply to my current reason for visiting which are family business needs and aging parent issues.

I was raised in MT so love the state. Everything is growing so much. Overall I was impressed with state. As a motorcyclist I did not like the "tar snake" highway repairs. Also thought having 18 miles of hwy 93 N of Missoula torn up at one time was a bit much.

**Quarter 4**

I grew up in Montana, it is so beautiful!

Former Billings residents visiting relatives.

I love coming home to the beautiful scenery and wonderful people! Montana holds my heart.

My wife and I were born and raised in Montana. We have traveled quite extensively and always find Montana to hold our interest. We have traveled all main roads and many country roads as well as trails and cow paths. We have hunted, fished, river rafted, horse backed, 4-wheeled and personally flown our "home state."

**Travel Issues**

This category contains seven subthemes related to travel: information, signage, road conditions, passing through, rest areas, airports/flights, and weather.

**Information/Information Needed**

The “Information/information needed” category includes statements from travel groups that remarked they needed more information while traveling in Montana or utilized information from residents, highway information signs, billboards, and brochures. This category had 42 remarks out of the 458 travel issue comments.

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<tr>
<th>Nonresident Visitor Comments</th>
<th>Information/Information Needed</th>
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<tr>
<td>'10 Quarter 1</td>
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Quarter 2

We thought your visitor centers were great. The employees whether civilian or back rangers were extremely helpful and seemed to go out of their way to point out highlights we shouldn’t have missed.

I feel like more travel info should be placed on more locations for travelers.

I would have appreciated more "green" practices in my lodging-more recycling, composting, and use of local water in something other than a water bottle. I would have liked to know what opportunities for walking tours for me in Missoula to see the river, restaurants, native sites, etc.

This trip was to Yellowstone, but past trips to Glacier National Park. Accommodations were great. We sent for Montana tourist information which was great. We used it and it was very helpful.

It would have been nice to have a few more travel information centers at point of entry into the state. Otherwise Montana was great and we will be back.

There should be more camping along highway 2. It would be nice to have information about the historic sites without having to step to read the signs (a pamphlet for hwy 2)

Quarter 3

We have been through here several times and are always impressed how beautiful it is. We are RV'ers so our main information comes from rest areas and camp ground hosts. We recently moved to South Dakota from Michigan. Maybe we should have made it Montana. We'll keep that in mind.

Traveling highway 2 there was no information available.

The Custer count guide though it had typos and misspellings provided a lot of info prior to our trip. Thanks.

Brochures on scenic drives would be nice- along with some type of virtual tour guide for it- a pod cast, cell phone number to call, download for a DVD, etc...

Quarter 4

We would prefer a Montana Visitor Center, but we found none. A visitor center would be great to get information about everything in Montana. It was great to find anywhere the Montana Road Maps.
**Signage**

The “Signage” category consists of statements from nonresidents regarding signage in Montana. This category had 61 remarks out of the 458 travel issue comments. Many remarks were how there is a lack of signage or how helpful roads signs were while traveling.

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<th>Nonresident Visitor Comments-Signage</th>
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**Quarter 1**

Road signs and information was very helpful the scenery is beautiful.

We have found Montana to be a very scenic and clean state. Very good signage to let you know where you’re going and where you are!

I wish there were more road signs indicating scenic attractions.

I spent month in Glacier and Toole counties, very dissatisfied at the lack of signage on rural roads. During the 3 weeks in frozen fog and blowing snow we did not have many intersection signs, which did prove hazardous to two of our vehicles. I could not see the curves or "T" intersections. Signs to alert would be greatly appreciated. Also "street" lights at major intersections off HWY2 would alert a driver to upcoming turn-offs.

**Quarter 2**

I love Montana and visit at least twice each year. The only suggestion for improvement is highway sign maintenance. I noticed several of the speed limit signs were on the ground between the border and Dutton.

Historical markers along roadside need map to show their locations and any information about them. Really enjoyed our visited to Montana and would love to come back again.

**Quarter 3**

This was our third trip to Montana. Our previous two trips were for spring skiing. We love Montana, especially being away from the hustle and bustle. We do notice that some signage is too close to upcoming turns so a driver must be alert. Great holiday!
Sometimes road signs for major exits (Junctions) came up to quickly, not leaving enough time in between the sign and the turn off to exit safely. I would like to see way more recycling opportunities in hotels, parking lots, parks, and rest areas. We will be coming back to explore Montana more!

The one thing most important to us is the importance of large clear signs. Not just on the freeways but street signs in towns and cities. Also, when trying to find a specific address on a business especially it is extremely frustrating to not be able to read or see the store number. This is talked about very often with our peers 55+. Most will not return to areas where this is poor signage. Also, many times signs are covered by tree limbs or shrubs-you cannot see them until you’re past them. Also, people in the tourism places should not give direction like they would a local. We don’t know the corner of Shorty’s place.

Road signage at construction sites poor- example Route 3 North of Billings by the airport.

**Quarter 4**

You need bigger signs for us old farts! With no lights at night you pass the road before you see the sign even into the airport.

The roundabout at the Billings airport needs better signage.

**Road conditions/construction/traffic issues**

The category “Road conditions/construction/traffic issues” contained various comments about nonresident travelers’ experiences while driving through Montana. This category had 137 remarks out of the 458 travel issue comments

| Nonresident Visitor Comments Road Conditions/ Construction/Traffic Issues |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| ’10 Quarter 1 | ’10 Quarter 2 | ’09 Quarter 3 | ’09 Quarter 4 |
| Number of comment/quarter | 14 | 27 | 72 | 24 |

**Quarter 1**

I was well satisfied with all concerning Montana. Road system is great.

Have enjoyed the people and places of Montana every visit and there have been several. Only real criticism is road shoulders on HWY 232 extremely dangerous. No way to escape traffic or enter ditch without extreme danger.

Road from Malta to Havre has needed attention for 20 years, and still hasn’t received it. While appreciating the need for and presence of construction from Great Falls to Helena. The 55 speed and the presence of long trucks make the work area very dangerous portion of road. We love Montana and have been vacationing here once or twice a year since 1984-26 years!

**Quarter 2**

Road between Missoula and Hamilton was crappy! Fix it fast.

Snowbird from Canada- Road travel in winter can be treacherous- Roads (I15) often is not sanded or salted. When I return to Canada in the spring the roads are good,

Montana is very beautiful. Roads when you enter Montana are really bumpy.

The roads were clean and well marked; it was a pleasure to drive the trip. We’ll recommend the trip to anyone.

**Quarter 3**

The road from St. Mary to East Glacier had short gravel sections which were quite in need of grading and repaving. Large potholes could challenge the tie rod ends etc.

Highways are in good shape.

Road conditions: Route 93 North of Missoula was in poor condition (construction had torn up the entire width of the 4-lane road in places), and no one seemed to be present anywhere in the construction zone working on the road. Recycling bins: On several occasions, only 1 type of bin was present (i.e. paper, aluminum, or plastic) so we had to throw some of our recyclables into the regular trash.

Too much road construction during park tourist season.

Snow plow drivers need training on interstate. If they are clearing a blizzard to blow back across both lanes, they need to stop occasionally and give motorists a chance to get by without killing themselves and others.
Quarter 4

Although there was snow unusually early, road conditions remained more than adequate. The unusual weather did cut into other activities though.

While traveling through Montana, I’ve noticed excellent snow removal from I-15 and I-90 freeways. Thank you.

On October 15, 2009, a gentleman gave us this form to fill out and we put it in our glove box. Just found it today as here it is. I have to say, my wife and I always enjoy Montana. The roads are really good; even back roads that we like to travel on. Keep up the good work!

Could not believe how clean the roads were of trash. Great job Montana, keep it up. Biggest disappointment: finding breakfast (restaurants open) before 7AM. Overall visit excellent (love to live there).

Passing through

The “Passing through” category contains comments that indicate nonresidents were just passing through Montana to get to another destination. This category had 101 remarks out of the 458 travel issue comments

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<tr>
<th>Nonresident Visitor Comments-Passing through</th>
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Quarter 1

This particular trip was "just passing through". We are frequent visitors to the state. In particular, we have visited Glacier National Park and The Flathead Valley. We hike and bike and generally enjoy the outdoors. We have always been welcomed by the folks of Montana - They are our "good neighbors".

It is always a pleasure visiting Montana. We only pass through now - When our kids were young we spent vacations here.

I pass through Montana frequently for work but rarely work here, have never had a problem with people or accommodations.
We drove to Billings from Wyoming to catch a flight to Hawaii; returned to Billings 10 days later and drove straight home.

**Quarter 2**

Although we were only passing through, always find Montana a very friendly state. Thanks!

We travel from California to Alberta and enjoy the scenic drive through Montana. On previous travels we have stayed overnight in Helena and Great Falls, and have enjoyed those places. They have interesting and fascinating history.

This was a quick trip through to visit family on west coast. Post visits where we spent more time—visitor centers were very helpful, as were local folks we met. We look forward to our next visit.

We have been here many times for recreational purposes and always leave satisfied. This time we were on the way south and on the way home.

**Quarter 3**

We were just traveling through so a lot of info did not affect us. Good luck on survey. Would love to come back and shop in Great Falls.

We only drove through a few miles of Montana, but it was beautiful and we hope to return again.

We have traveled through MT many times, often stopping along the way. We have always found it a delightful portion of our trips cross country.

I was driving through Montana and loved the scenery. I had a couple extra days so I turned off I-90 got lost, and had the time of my life. I will be back soon.

**Quarter 4**

We mostly travel through but would like to spend time sightseeing parks, history & museums. Once we have time and more information, we would like to take a special trip. Recreation shopping is a bonus - if on sale & no sales tax.

Although this was a transition through your beautiful state, it was not the first and will not be the last. I would indeed enjoy more time to explore Montana and see more of its natural beauty.
This trip was to use airport, in & out. Have visited Montana on other occasions as guest of local ranchers or as tourists. It is a very interesting view of "rancher" lifestyle for me as a foreign national; the real rancher/cowboy & not Hollywood version. I will visit these places again apart from using the Billings airport and shopping.

This trip was only to get us on to Phoenix. Have visited the state many other times on vacation and always loved everything about it. Since we live nearly on the Canadian border of Idaho, we find N.W. Montana a great place to vacation with our guests and show them what Idaho and Montana have to offer in any season.

**Highway Rest Areas/Gas Stations**

The category “Highway rest areas/gas stations” contains comments regarding nonresident opinions and experiences with highway rest areas and gas stations in Montana. This category had 56 remarks out of the 458 travel issue comments

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<th>Nonresident Visitor Comments: Highway Rest Areas/Gas Stations</th>
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**Quarter 1**

Montana could use more rest areas with spots for a pickup and camper on Route 2.

Enjoyed our trip although Montana. We usually travel in January or February, and sometimes rest areas are closed, sometimes no bathroom facilities are available.

Rest stop restrooms should be modernized and include soap. Love to come here as much as possible, daughter attends U of M.

**Quarter 2**

Great State-Had trouble finding rest stops-had to use the auto double door method for rest rooms. This survey is a great idea to enhance tourism

I would have like to see some vending machines at the rest area and could have used some state maps available and other information. Like in ND rest areas.
Not enough, if any restrooms on the way, especially from Dillon, MT down to exit 143, turn-ins on St. 33. No space for pull offs on #33. Too far between Dillon and say Rexberg to find restrooms.

**Quarter 3**

More rest stops on highway. Welcome centers should be located at state borders.

I was most impressed with how clean your roadways and rest stops and campgrounds were. How do you do it?

We were disappointed in the availability of road side rest areas (meaning toilets). They are important to travelers in cars and especially with elderly or children. I like the use of plain white crosses to signify a road death, especially the road from Big Sky to Bozeman. Lots of crosses make drivers more aware of dangers in that area.

**Quarter 4**

Rest stop between Mission and Missoula was horrible. Summer stops have been ok, but it was so unbearable my kids would have rather gone in a honey bucket!

Montana is a very good place to travel through, to shop in, spend time or vacation. We have done them all to a certain degree. We sure love your rest areas for travelling comfort. Thanks.

Rest areas could be solar heated and solar lighted

**Airport/Flights**
The “Airport/Flights” category had 22 remarks out of the 458 travel issue comments which concern availability of direct flights to Montana as well as service nonresidents had received at the airports.

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<th>Nonresident Visitor Comments Airport/Flights</th>
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**Quarter 1**

I came from Chicago, the world’s second busiest airport, and could not find a direct flight to any city in Montana. You should really work on that.
Quarter 2

Would like to see more emphasis on availability of air travel to and from MT. Limited number of flights and expense of flights discourage the time I spend in Montana.

Quarter 3

We love Montana, especially Missoula and Glacier. We would like to see more direct flights from Northern California to Missoula. We flew into Spokane and rented a car. Thanks!

Bozeman airport and Alamo rental car were totally lacking in hospitality and make no effort to treat people with honesty and integrity. Bozeman airport had about 25 security people with nothing to do but be rude and unhelpful. They had no airport personnel or customer service reps. No management either. Our flight was canceled after a 3 hour delay and then all the United Airline representatives disappeared. Alamo thinks they will make us pay for a chip that was already in window.

Your airport in Billings needs to get free internet. Most airports large/small/medium has it. The airport also needs better restaurants past the security point.

River and surrounding areas in Missoula were clean and beautiful. Everyone was very friendly. The Missoula airport contains the best airport gift shop I have ever seen and I have been to over fifty airports globally.

Quarter 4

We spent little time in Montana, but I most appreciated the friendliness of all the people at the airport in Billings.

Weather

The “Weather” category contains various statements from nonresidents about weather related issues. These comments ranged from how icy roads were to how visitors love the four seasons of Montana. This category had 39 remarks out of the 458 travel issue comments.

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<th>Nonresident Visitor Comments-Weather</th>
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57
**Quarter 1**

Flathead Valley is a warmth (relative to MN) low altitude, and amazing amount of water was a complete surprise, pleasant. Fog was a bad surprise.

Roads were snow covered and icy. Rest area west bound on I-90 was closed.

**Quarter 2**

I said to someone "You have some pretty harsh winters don't you." and they said "Yes, we like it that way. It keeps the people away."

Every time we have went through Butte fall or spring always storm and snow. There were bad roads and no snow plows or sand trucks.

We drove in Montana on a sunny day, after a snowstorm the scenery was awesome.

**Quarter 3**

I could live in MT from May to October, but don't think I could handle the winters. I love this state.

This summer will have spent 12 weeks in Montana. Enjoy the visits each summer- even rain and snow in June!

Got to love Montana with the two seasons: winter and road construction! Thanks Big Sky!

**Quarter 4**

We were in snow and blizzard conditions from Billings to Missoula (10/9/09). It was hard to see out of the car- far less enjoyable scenery. Not like the lovely week in June I enjoyed in Bozeman and surrounding day trips. It was never more beautiful.

Only road conditions and weather were a problem on this particular visit over the Christmas holiday. My other visits as a tourist have been very good.

Too much snow and wind in Montana.
Specific Purpose

Business trip
The “Business trip” category includes comments about travel groups coming into or through Montana for the purpose of a business trip. There were 31 of the 110 comments in this category.

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<th>Nonresident Visitor Comments-Business Trip</th>
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Quarter 1
Bozeman is such a quiet and charming town, I love coming here for my business trips. It is actually like a break from the big city, rather than work. Love this town. Very high quality of life and love the people.

I traveled for work. I flew in from ID at 7pm on Tuesday night. Got a rental car, drove to the hotel, woke up the next morning, drove to work (St. Patrick’s Hospital), spent about 1.5 hours on site then drove back to the airport to get home. Would love to visit MT for recreation; my job doesn't allow much free time. Beautiful mountains, I've never seen such mountains before!

Quarter 2
I came to Missoula for work. There is nothing offered anywhere to tell you about things to see or do around town other than to visit the stores. I'd like to know about walking and hiking paths, sites in driving distance. If I'm done at 2 in the afternoon what can I do outdoors to fill time? I didn't even know the University was here until I left for home and saw banner in the airport. Missoula has a very pretty setting for a town.

It's a beautiful state. Love to work and travel here.

We had a very enjoyable 10 days in Bozeman. Even though the main purpose of our trip was business, we found interesting things to do and had time to relax. Bozeman is in a very scenic location. We will go back.
Quarter 3

Started coming to MT as a child and now come once a month on business plus a couple times a year for vacation. Always enjoy my time in MT.

I came to Montana on business. I will return on vacation the scenery is breathtaking.

I always enjoy coming to Montana. Unfortunately I only came for business. I am waiting for the trip that will allow me to enjoy more of Montana.

I love Montana! It is a beautiful state. This trip was very short and only in Billings on business. I have traveled here many times on business and driven all over the state in 3 to 5 day segments. I've visited museums, shops, read historical signs, took a lot of pictures, and used visitor info (pamphlets, maps, etc), but not in this shorter trip.

Quarter 4

Here only for business-but have been to MT many times and we love it here, thanks.

I always like coming to MT. I mostly come for work, but I am planning a vacation in 2010

Montana is a scenic and enjoyable state to visit. I have and will continue to visit Montana for business and vacations.

I've only been to Montana on business; however I would like to vacation here sometime in the future.

Visiting Friends and Relative

The category “Visiting friends and relatives” includes comments from traveling groups that were specifically visiting Montana to see family and friends. There were 79 of the 110 comments in this category.

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<th>Nonresident Visitor Comments-Visiting Friends and Relatives</th>
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Quarter 1

Had a very pleasant trip visiting family in Missoula and friends in Alberta.
I am from NM and was visiting my daughter who lives in Roberts. I think Montana is beautiful! I love all the open space, the wildlife, the sense of calm, peacefulness that envelops the land. It's February, so everything was covered with snow, but I will definitely be back in the spring!

**Quarter 2**

I went to my nephew's graduation in Thompson Falls. The drive from Missoula was gorgeous. People working at restaurants, hotels and airport were friendly, courteous and helpful. Wish I could have stayed longer to hike and sightsee.

It is always a treat to come to Montana. I visit my son, grandchildren, and extended family here and we always go out for hikes, birding, floating, and fishing. It is so nice to get out into the clean outdoors and breathe the clear mountain air!

We have been to Montana three times within the last year, because son-in-law is at Montana Tech. We are amazed at Montana's beauty and all it has to offer. We look forward to more visits. We are always looking at brochures and magazines for things to see and do. Your freeways and roads are great, we are from Southern California. Love the air and cleanliness.

Missoula is a great place for my four grandchildren to be brought up! I love the family environment in school activities.

**Quarter 3**

We come to Missoula every year to visit our son and his family. We think Missoula is a wonderful place to raise a family because there are so many wonderful activities for families to participate in. Summer weather is wonderful and scenery is splendid. We have been to Glacier, Flathead and Yellowstone and other areas in past years—wonderful trips, we'll be back, our son works in the Forestry Department at UM.

We enjoyed our visit. We came to Montana to visit friends. We hope to return again to enjoy the many sites and beauties.

This was a combined vacation to see sights, friends and family. A week of travel in Montana—one word: Wow! We had a great time. P.S. Will try to return soon!

We love Montana and enjoy all the outdoor activities as well as visiting family. It’s nice to be able to combine vacation and family visits.
Quarter 4

We visit our children and grandchildren once or twice a year and we always enjoy the visit to "Big Sky" country with its many attributes, beautiful scenery, and friendly attribute of most people we meet. It would be great to win 2 airline tickets for our next visit from Pittsburgh, PA. We are a retired couple.

We came to visit family but enjoyed much more. We saw a lot of wildlife, went golfing and fishing, and visited historical towns. Montanans were very friendly and welcoming. We would like to come back to Montana, but only to visit vacation sites like Yellowstone, and other sites to really explore Montana with family. We had a great time!

We travel a lot in the winter to go snowmobiling at Cooke City and Lookout Pass. We visit relatives all summer in Missoula and Great Falls. We participate in the annual summer celebration at Fort Benton and Carter.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Love Montana!</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>We love Montana - it is our next-door state (from Alberta). We traveled to Great Falls and Helena many times over the past 38 years. We’d love to fly into Montana. Thank You.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I would like to have the knowledge of how to access more tour information about Montana, i.e. Advertisements for a chance to call or get mail information about Montana mailed to my address.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Very nice state. Too bad I haven't traveled it in the summer.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>We are snowbirds one item that we would like changed is the duty free access at sweetgrass. We were in a lineup of about 1 mile. People are trying to get around the lineup by going off to the duty free shop. We watched numerous people take the duty free access road turn around and then try to push into the lineup. It would be nice if these people would be forced back to the end of the line. We have seen many arguments. There would be no issue if these people actually purchased duty free items, however they want to avoid the lineup.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Travel information - used internet at hotel to check road conditions.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In our experience over the many years we have been to Montana, we feel that Montana has kept their integrity. We hope to continue to do so in the future.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Always a pleasure visiting Montana. We only pass through now – When our kids were young we spent vacations here.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Condition of natural environment ranked lower due to the amount of gas/oil wells and the smell of H2S not appealing and detracted from the enjoyment of the scenery. I did not see any public recycling bins and the home I stayed at had no recycling either. It’s quite shocking that there is very little being done. Roads were in great condition and many restaurants had local foods- very nice. The stewardship of the land seemed well as there was no drifting soil and no burning of stubble but could not determine if the soil was good.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I was well satisfied with all concerning Montana. Road system is great.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Always enjoy traveling in Montana.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>There could be more rest areas. No recycling noted. Is there access to the statue of Mary in Butte? Travel is enjoyable due to the incredible landscape!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Did not see much wildlife in West Yellowstone.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No hobby shop in Bozeman?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bozeman is such a quiet and charming town, I love coming here for my business trips. It is actually like a break from the big city, rather than work. Love this town. Very high quality of life and love the people.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Missoula has lots of nice folks. Everyone I met in Kalispell was a jerk! Need more free community recycling bins on the streets! Many road signs covered in ice. All together, a beautiful and life changing experience. Please give me tickets to return!

We visit Montana golfing or just passing through

I traveled to Bozeman to teach a 3 day course for the Dept. of Homeland Security. And then I left town.

We no longer live full time there, but Montana is still home.


Only spent a couple hours in Montana, driving from Billings airport to Wyoming, and upon return to airport. Extra time allowed a lot of shopping.

Recycling needs to be a bigger priority. There is no facility to recycle glass in the Flathead valley. Restaurants throw away recycle material along with garbage.

Too many people here now!

Love "Big Sky Country"!

Our vacation was a package deal. Motel, snow coach, and snowmobiles with clothing provided. Everyone was great, we had an excellent time. We will be back.

Great Place, great trip, very satisfied.

I have been to Montana almost twice a year my entire life. Everywhere I live I rate the snow removal on a comparison to Montana's (Montana being the best) Montana has the best rest areas of any state I've been to. My wife and I (and six children) are planning to move to Montana this summer because of the "character", authenticity, and it is spacious. We ski, road bike, and hike. No better place than Montana. Just like the old tag line from tourism commercials for Montana, "My heart sings when in Montana."

I plan on hopefully being able to spend a lot more time in the future driving through and visiting/seeing a lot more of Montana. I've always been fascinated by this state. I've only been to Yellowstone once before most of my time is spent in my car driving through Montana alone. I have taken the Amtrak train twice through Montana to Chicago and that is a spectacular way to see Montana when you can see it in daylight and not night train travel.

We also visit Big Sky every year to ski. We Love Montana.

Montana is a beautiful state and we love the scenic drive. We have made three trips from Idaho Falls to Great Falls in the past six months, and one trip across the southern roads to visit the Badlands. We hope to see more of Montana this coming year.

Please keep the environmentalists out of Montana. They really do not care about the wildlife and nature; all they want to do is line their pockets with gold. The real people who are stewards of the land are the farmers and ranchers; they have no hidden agenda and truly take care of the land. The wolves were already migrating naturally on their own; we did not need to spend millions of tax payer dollars on something that was already happening.

I am a MT native on a short trip to visit family in Missoula and a very old aunt in a Dillon rest home.
I love Montana. My daughter graduated from UM in 2004 and moved to Missoula permanently. She loves Montana too.

Gambling is a problem; get rid of it. Rest areas are needed, even in winter. Do towns recycle? Where?

We didn't do a lot of those things; we went to spend Christmas and New Years with our kids.

World Museum of Mining - closed on holiday weekends. Should be opened! (Butte) Discovery map. Butte - most things closed on weekend and in winter. Shouldn't visit Montana in the winter months - all places of interest are closed! We noticed that 4 other vehicles drove up and away from the mining museum in Butte while we were contemplating our next move. We noticed that two other vehicles drove up and away in Deer Lodge.

We had an awesome time, everyone was so nice to us. We all can't wait to go back. It was my 48th state I've been to. Thank you so much.

Could use more rest areas with spots for a pickup and camper on Route 2.

Thanks for asking. I'll be back!

We will return.

Wonderful place to vacation!

Montana is a great state and I enjoy my annual visit with friends.

Although this trip was medically limited and very family oriented on other trips we have always enjoyed Montana and we are pleased our children and grandchildren chose to live here.

Beautiful area.

I visit Montana often. Visiting family, hunting, and snowboarding. We are really disappointed in Yellowstone's snowmobile laws as I could not afford to take my family into the park! Elk hunting has become boring because of the elk disappearing where I hunt. I have only got one elk in about 12 trys, but I don't care how many I get if I can just see a couple. Other than that, luckily I enjoy hiking in the mountains.

Road signs and information was very helpful. The scenery is beautiful.

The sprawl surrounding Bozeman, Helena is shocking! The boutiques in both cities downtown are a shame, basic grocers, meats, dry goods; drug stores should be on every main street! The Museum of the Rockies was wonderful!

My family newly relocated to Montana has been welcomed in more ways than I could have imagined. Thank you!


This was about the 100th trip across Montana. My first time was in 1946. My first driving was 1958. I have many relative in Seattle area and have always enjoyed my trips across Montana. My favorite stop is the Speedway Vase and Howdy Hotel in Forsythe, MT.

We love Red Lodge for skiing, but are always disappointed that there is no snowmobiling. Our family takes 2-3 trips a year for winter sports.
Great place to live or visit!

My parents retired and moved to Montana 28 years ago (after visiting my brother at the U of M), and I fell in love with Montana on my first trip out. My parents loved "showing off" their Montana. We took many side trips throughout Big Sky Country: my parents knew everything about Lewis and Clark and were instrumental in the ‘Traveler's Best’ Museum in Lolo. My 3 girls took many vacations to Big Sky. My brother and his wife bought my parents' home and our family will always be going out to Montana. My sister and her husband bought land in Florence and will be breaking ground soon. I fell in love with Montana.

Generally Montanans are very warm and friendly people. Dining was great. They are very helpful people. I don't regret my trip. It was wonderful overall.

Would very much like to visit again in summer months or check out the hunting. There are so many historic sites I would like to see.

Beautiful state to visit - very accommodating.

Beautiful scenery. Our favorite state

Sorry I didn't answer more. We traveled I-15 and there were many beautiful sights. I-15 is a great road. Being from Saskatchewan. They could use your help. Thanks for a great trip and we will see you in Montana next December.

We have found Montana to be a very scenic and clean state. Very good signage to let you know where you're going and where you are!

Had a very pleasant trip visiting family in Missoula and friends in Alberta.

In Montana to visit parents. Didn't venture out to do anything except a little shopping. I drive to Montana 5-6 times per year so I'm already familiar with everything.

We would one day like to have a home here. Beautiful.

We love Montana! It is a beautiful state. We have been here many times and always enjoyed it. Just passed through on this trip though.

Please stop rampant development!

Montana is a wild and beautiful place. Stream access is still a problem in some areas. Measures should be continued to keep Montana wild free.

Very surprised at the near non-existent recycling awareness or receptacles for a state which prides itself on its natural beauty.

Just love Montana!

Hope to move to Montana in the next couple of years. We love the outdoors and Montana offers the best of everything! Open spaces, beautiful vistas, lots of wildlife, friendly people!

I am planning to hike the Continental Divide Trail this summer, so while visiting relatives; we also visited Forest Service Ranger stations in Helena, Dillon, and Butte.

Would love to come back in the summer with my husband and children. More than I imagined. Montana is an amazing, wild, natural and free place.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>We liked the ski conditions of Big Sky. It's a friendly place.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>It's a great place, will come back soon. Keep it wild!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I like Montana - my daughter, her husband, and grandchildren live here. I enjoy Montana, its scenic beauty, its people. I have a bit of a problem with the western gun culture, but overall I like Montana.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>We enjoyed our trip to Red Lodge Clayworks workshop. The town looked prosperous and clean, our meals were priced reasonably and the food good. Look forward to coming again. Many thanks to everyone in Red Lodge.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Since we lived in Montana for 34 years, we love the state. Only moved to Wyoming to be closer to children.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I didn't get the towns in order when I was going to northwest transition to Canada</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>On a national level, hotel/motel prices are 20% to high</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Great vistas in western Montana! Highway is very good!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Would like to see more opportunity to recycle cardboard, glass and plastic at camp grounds. Radio stations that provide road conditions including road works would be useful, especially when winter weather is possible.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enjoyed our trip all through Montana. We usually travel in January or February, and sometimes rest areas are closed, sometimes no bathroom facilities are available.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>We come here a lot. Sorry this was a very short trip for the survey. But we still had lots of fun!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>This particular trip was &quot;just passing through&quot;. We are frequent visitors to the state. In particular, Glacier National Park and the Flathead Valley. We hike and bike and generally enjoy the outdoors. We have always been welcomed by the folks of Montana - They are our &quot;good neighbors&quot;.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I'm sorry I didn't have more of an opportunity to explore your state. I did get to visit Yellowstone in 1990...totally amazing!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I thoroughly love Montana, the beautiful scenery and wonderful parks. The people are so friendly and want you to enjoy what Montana has to offer.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>This trip was only 3 days but I do come to Montana over the summer. This summer being my 4th. I love Montana, my second home!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Love Big Sky country! Would love to see more of the state.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Since moving from Billings in 2007, the city seems to have a more 'Las Vegas' feel rather than the 'good-air-Montana' feel it used to promote. Tacky casinos lit up like the strip litter the western side of the city and spill over into the once-peaceful country side. We hope this is good for the economy because it ruins the landscape.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beautiful state. We've been through a few times before, stayed longer and did a few more things.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rest stop restrooms should be modernized and include soap. Love to come here as much as possible, daughter attends U of M.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All aspects of this vacation were arranged by Montana relatives. We did not have much need or opportunity to explore on our own.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sorry- we aren't the best subjects for survey... we are from MT/ND but have lived in CA for 6 years. We may be a bit bias about how great MT is :)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
- Cafe Dolce is a great eatery - will return there for sure.
- Although not an owner of property in Montana, I'm more of a second home type of visitor than of vacation. Our daughter and family live here. I was here for three weeks. It was our second visit since December 2009. The local motel owner allowed us to stay in the motel even while they were closed for the season.
- We will be back!
- Montana is a wonderful and peaceful escape from my hectic city life.
- People were warm, friendly, and helpful. We always enjoy our stay and trip skiing and snowboarding. We especially like the lack of crowds. Aloha!
- There were many fires (I assume to get rid of undergrowth) which caused lots of smoke, making breathing difficult. I realize this is necessary, our timing was just unfortunate.
- I pass through Montana frequently for work but rarely work here, have never had a problem with people or accommodations.
- I love Montana and I would love to move back someday.
- We love Montana and will be returning at least 4 times a year. We usually have extra friends with us when we go.
- Montana’s awesome.
- I visit Montana a lot- family and friends
- What a great place to be! Love the beauty and relaxed nature of the state.
- I've always liked Montana; maybe someday hope to have a cabin somewhere.
- I came from Chicago, the world's second busiest airport, and could not find a direct flight to any city in Montana. You should really work on that.
- We have been to Missoula six times in the last three years. We return for the following reasons in order of importance: 1) Friendliness of people 2) Dining opportunities 3) Diverse cultural experiences 4) Local artisans 5) Nature. Thank you for the opportunity to share our experiences with you!
- Big Sky gave no ability to recycle. We rented a large cabin at Powder Ridge, Big Sky for eight days and could have used recycling bins or something to encourage recycling.
- Love Montana! Will be back for many years to come!
- It was a good trip.
- We found hotels to be quite expensive in northern Montana, compared to other states we've visited. Montana is a beautiful state and everyone is really friendly and helpful.
- Promote recycling.
- The only or worst part of my visit was waiting for taxis. I will never take a yellow cab again only white cab. I wasted two hours for a yellow cab my second night here.
The lodging locations are plentiful.

Need more pet exercise areas at rest areas or better marking

More gas stations on the routes of travel (off main highway) would help. The people in Montana seem very friendly. The road signs are helpful and never confusing.

I am from NM and was visiting my daughter who lives in Roberts. I think Montana is beautiful! I love all the open space, the wildlife, the sense of calm, peacefulness that envelops the land. It's February, so everything was covered with snow, but I will definitely be back in the Spring!

We have a home in Big Sky we ski from Christmas till mid March. We fish gold and hike for 2 1/2 months in Sammon.

Flathead valley is a warmth (relative to MN) low altitude, and amazing amount of water was a complete surprise, pleasant. Fog was a bad surprise.

God's country

Super 8 Motel had no recycling bins. Park along Whitefish Lake was closed due to snow I think.

Was visiting my son at Montana Academy, so not really an opportunity for "vacation/recreation" type events. Montana is a beautiful and noble place and I hope to visit someday in different circumstances. For now, it is an amazing place to heal and grow.

I traveled for work. Flew in from ID at 7pm on Tuesday night. Got a rental car, drove to the hotel, woke up the next morning, drove to work (St. Patrick's), spent about 1.5 hours on site then drove back to the airport to get home. Would love to visit MT for recreation; my job doesn't allow much free time. Beautiful mountains. I've never seen such mountains before!

Towns along the way looked cluttered with ruined buildings and junk from cars and old equipment setting all over. Run down, houses looked in poor shape.

Too many ugly casinos.

Have enjoyed the people and places of Montana every visit and there have been several. Only real criticism is road shoulders on HWY 232 extremely dangerous. No way to escape traffic or enter ditch without extreme danger.

Had a great time snowmobiling. Will come back again.

The reintroduction of wolves has decimated the elk and deer populations and is destroying Montana's proud hunting heritage! We had originally planned to move to Montana and build a home on the property that we purchased in the Bitterroot valley in 2002. However, based on the continued decline of elk and deer population we are now considering selling out property. As a Montana native I am deeply disappointed in Montana's wolf management situation. The Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, of which I am a life member, should be astounded and all Montana's should be embarrassed.

I love Montana and the open space! What a great state. Wintertime - the roads are not so good but understandable. Summertime - during the daylight raise your speed limits again. That's my only suggestion for what it's worth.

Have driven many times.

I would love to come back and visit in the summer.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>I most enjoy the open spaces in Montana. I'm from a state that doesn't really respect open space - they would rather sell open space land for housing developments. Do everything you can in Montana to prevent this!</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Can't wait to ski and visit Philipsburg next year (2011). Folks at Discovery basin and Gables couldn't have been more helpful. You are featuring Discovery right? Damn if it isn't better in Utah.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Expecting local restaurants to have local products and produce.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thank you.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>We enjoyed our trip</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grew up in Montana. None of above applied on this trip though.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Don't really care about any of the items marked N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>We thought Montana was beautiful and wished we could have spent more time there. We hope to come back and make Montana our destination vacation as this trip we were there briefly on our way to Yellowstone.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>We love Montana; place to retire for our future</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>We travel to Montana all year long, from ice fishing at Fort Peck to riding motorcycle in Glacier National Park (awesome). Love the open spaces, friendly people and small towns.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>We miss living in Montana. Need better paying jobs and we'd be back. Come visit us in Wilson, WY!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Love Red Lodge!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gravel chipped our windshield on route 90. Highway rest areas that were open were fine.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>This trip was mainly to help my folks in assisted living, so I answered the questions based on this trip. Usually, I do a lot more outside Billings, love your state!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>There is so much to see in Montana. Two weeks is not enough. We will definitely be coming back. Several more times to explore this beautiful state. WE are not skiers, so our travel will be in summer. What a beautiful state.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I wish there were more road signs indicating scenic attractions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roads were snow covered and icy. Rest area west bound on I-90 was closed.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spent month in Glacier and Toole counties, very dissatisfied at the lack of signage on rural roads. During the 3 weeks in frozen fog and blowing snow we did not have many intersection signs, which did prove hazardous to two of our vehicles. Could not see the curves or &quot;T&quot; intersections. Signs to alert would be greatly appreciated. Also &quot;street&quot; lights at major intersections off HWY2 would alert a driver to upcoming turn-offs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>More road conditions signs to update you on current conditions from point A to point B on major interstates. We have skied Big Sky several times in the past. We have visited Yellowstone several times in the summer.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recycling needs to be bigger part of local community - paper, plastic, metals and glass. Too much was just tossed into garbage. We love Montana!</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

70
We loved the natural beauty of Montana. The people and the culture are outstanding. Skiing and snowboarding are great as well.

Very friendly people, everyone waves at you and is courteous

As someone who grew up in MT and returned to visit family and friends, I wonder if my participation is particularly useful. As someone who now lives on the west coast, It's always a wonderful feeling to be back in MT. People are so much more authentic and friendly.

I have enjoyed traveling to Montana from PA for 12 years now! My husband and I have driven here & I have flown here. We love it so much we are purchasing property here for our retirement. We will become "Montanans" then!

We enjoyed out stay...and look forward to visiting Montana again very soon!

I grew up in Montana and enjoy going back there from Texas to visit. I do like it better in the summer as I have no use for the snow conditions but my trip was great. Will definitely come again.

With Missoula being as ecologically focused as it claims to be, it saddens me the lack of recycling that’s not being done here. With the closure of the mill, I would love to see a recycling plant and or some other environmentally friendly focused business go in.

I have a second home for vacation purposes in Montana. There is a lot of natural beauty in Montana.

Came in the winter, so hard to judge some items. Would like to return in spring/summer to see more local outdoor stores/farmer’s markets. Nice state - like the openness and mountains.

Your rest areas are nice. The one south of Hardin is only open during summer.

What I noticed most about Montana were the people. How genuinely good people seemed to be everywhere. And it's beautiful.

Montana should keep rest areas open at all times

Montana is like a second home. We live in Calgary and we have traveled Montana many times and many locations. This trip unfortunately was just passing thru to Arizona. The history, heritage, and environmental diversity are fantastic and very enjoyable. The Montana people are always friendly and helpful. One thing, if a campground is closed for some reason, please has then put a closed sign over their signage on the highway.

Montana is the best

We stayed at the Hampton Inn in Great Falls. It was very good and hospitality excellent. Roads travelling south were not plowed of snow as good as other years. We stopped in Dillon to gas up., always handy. We owned property in Whitefish for 15 years and still visit the Flathead Valley often. Bigfork is our favorite place for the concerts and shops of art. We were just passing thru this time for a holiday south in Arizona

I love it anytime I can spend in Montana. What a beautiful place.

I drove in from Gibsonville, ID (110 miles south of Missoula) to fly to AZ. So, much of this survey does not apply.

Road from Malta to Havre has needed attention for 20 years, and still hasn't received it. While appreciating the need for and presence of construction from Great Falls to Helena. The 55 speed and the presence of long trucks make the work area very dangerous portion of road. We love Montana and have been vacationing here once or twice a year since 1984-26 years!
Montana needs to be conscientious of "green." Recycling paper, glass, metal, plastic, etc. in all areas. Also, it would be nice to have more healthy restaurants and no Styrofoam. The XXX restaurant did not even have glass bowls for soup- they use only Styrofoam- yikes! So bad! Let's keep MT beautiful. Born and raised here. Would like it to stay beautiful.

Went to Red Lodge and back to ski.

I couldn't find recycling bins anywhere and the number of restaurants/etc. that use Styrofoam for beverages and take-out was appalling. I love this part of the country and hope people who live there appreciate it enough to take care of it.

I love Montana. However, I am disappointed in the lack of recycling efforts in Montana. I spend time in Billings (largest city) and it seems way behind other state's recycling programs.

I remain mystified by the lack of snow plowing (and by that I mean cleaning all of the snow all the way down to the pavement) and by the lack of salting, especially in parking lots of businesses. I do love how drivers wait and allow pedestrians to cross streets. Even if I didn't have family here, I would come back.

My husband and I were born and raised in Michigan in rural farming communities. The strongest pull to live in Montana was the natural unspoiled beauty. Our jobs (construction) have caused us to move from Montana. What we miss the most are the people of Montana. For the most part they have several common denominators: common, sensible, fiercely independent, charitable, hard working, live and let live attitude without the close cousin of "anything goes". God bless whoever reads this & keep you strong.

Stupid survey

3 nights fly in/out work visit. No touring. Work at U of M.

Hotel staff very accommodating to our needs to find food/airport to hospital and hotel.

Friends moved to Florence in 1992 and we have been visiting every year except for about 3 years. Love it and would love to live by my friends eventually.

Business, medical sales. All locals encountered were very nice, polite and helpful

This was a quick (34 hours) in and out just for a family event.

Was only there for two days, but would return there for a vacation.

We spent all of our time in Yellowstone - great trip and town.

I really enjoyed my trip.

We drove to Billings from Wyoming to catch a flight to Hawaii; returned to Billings 10 days later and drove straight home.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2010 Quarter 2 Visitor Comments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I think there is too much outward development in Bozeman. Killing the views. Stinky trucks! Not always bike friendly, more bike lanes would clear up roads.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>We travel from Canada to the U.S. several times a year for recreation (golfing, hiking, sightseeing, cross country skiing) and for shopping. We are always treated well and enjoy our time in Montana. People are friendly and courteous and have treated us well as foreign travelers!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I didn't have a chance to experience most of these things since I was in the state for less than 24 hours, and spent most of that time on the campus of MSU, and traveled only between the airport and the town of Bozeman. However, I got the sense that most if not all of these things would've been very satisfactory if I'd been able to participate in them.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I thought the roads are far superior to many other states. Roads could use more signs for directions. It is easy to get lost or drive many miles not knowing where you are. I know this isn't a question but better cell service would be helpful. We came upon a motorcycle accident and had to send two travelers 10 + miles in either direction to get help while the man lay in the road. Police/EMS did not arrive for almost 1 hour. I think this survey is a great idea and is a good way for visitors to pass on information. Thank you.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>We took this trip on our motorcycles, where we often travel into Montana. One thing I noticed was at the historical stops and scenic stops there were no garbage bins available. Especially when traveling light, it is nice to be able to throw garbage away in a bin!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Love Montana... of all places in USA...would return anytime. Great vacation...Augusta, Montana (the highlight of our trip). Felt like being at home. People friendly, helpful and great to know and be part of very fine local art galleries and bars</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No recycle in hotels/homes. Etc. Awesome graduation ceremonies at MSU. Wonderful H.S. Band concert at Glacier High School in Kalispell</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Downtown Missoula has really come along-I especially enjoyed the &quot;Made Fair&quot; and was impressed with the local artisans. My son enjoyed the state park but it needs more supervision.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I was very satisfied with my stay in MT, with the exception of the limited time I was there. I will return in the future during warmer seasons to allow for much exploration.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Road between Missoula and Hamilton was crappy! Fix it fast.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I enjoyed my stay in Missoula very much. It is very scenic and the people are friendly.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Montana is a great place—we always enjoy driving thru.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not long enough stay, would like to come back. Horse was hurt during stay, spent a good portion of time at vet clinic.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A wonderful opportunity to meet the people of Montana, including members of the Blackfeet tribe, and to see the incredible beauty of the Glacier National Park and the area of Paws Up resort and Missoula.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Uncrowded is a positive for me. Beautiful</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I love Montana!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The character of Montana: The government of Montana has become very liberal. This is a disappointment for me, who was born and raised in the mountain west. The liberalism does not represent the historical western foundation of Montana and its pioneers. I would choose to live and move my business to Montana if it were out for the liberal government.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
I had had a machine malfunction and not print a voucher. Three repairman could not get there by the time we left. The next night the $20 was not available. I was very pleased, however, that after a telephone call Bruce thought the general manager of Santa Fe Red’s. Made a point to return my $20 as promptly as he could.

Had wonderful stay. Too short, would like to return for an extended stay.

Loved Montana. Very beautiful state. Plan on visiting often very soon.

Overall I usually have a pleasant experience in Montana.

I will visit Montana again I hope. It was such a refreshing and pleasant experience. The clean air, the views, the wildlife and peace and quiet are rare and precious things and I hope Montana continues to preserve these assets of America.

Road ditches seem awfully narrow and there were trees close to the interstate. Isn’t that a safety concern? Also, for some reason I had a hard time finding trash cans around the hotel.

The town of Missoula was very welcoming and had character of people akin to Canada(imo).

Beautiful state. We enjoyed our visit very much! Yellowstone was breath taking.

I said to someone "You have some pretty harsh winters don't you." and they said "Yes, we like it that way. It keeps the people away." Oh nice.

Some of the best parts of a visit to MT is finding unexpected things, too much signage and conspicuous information plagues, etc. I would encourage a light touch on those things.

We travel to Montana 2-3 times a year. Because of its beauty we love to walk down the streets in all of the towns/cities they have the small town feel. Everyone is so friendly. It’s like there are no strangers/out of towners in Montana. Montana rocks.

I cannot believe you do not recycle in your beautiful state. In Ohio, we recycle everything. We won't save the planet if we won't take care of it. I hope on my next visit I will see recycling in Montana.

Downtown Missoula was very beautiful and historic. The citizens could not have been nicer. I wish I had the means to see more of Montana.

Went to my nephew's graduation in Thompson Falls. The drive from Missoula was gorgeous. People working at restaurants, hotels and airport were friendly, courteous and helpful. Wish I could have stayed longer to hike and sightsee.

Food was terrible everywhere we ate in W. Yellowstone, so we cancelled last night and went to Flagg Ranch so we could eat at Lake Lodge and spend night closer toward Jackson.

We thoroughly enjoyed our family vacation. We look forward to returning for many more visits.

Trip was to attend graduation from MSU of our son, grandson and also visit Bozeman again and sight see!

Love Montana! Love buffalo rangers. Love Glacier Park. I might move to Montana because I love it so much!

This was my third trip to visit Montana. Enjoyed all the trips.

Came to Missoula for work. There is nothing offered anywhere to tell you about things to see/do around town other than to visit the stores. I'd like to know about walking/hiking paths. Things in driving distance. If I'm done at 2 in the afternoon what can I do outdoors to fill time? I didn't even know the University was here until I left.
for home and saw banner in the airport. Very pretty setting for town.

Our visit was focused on visiting family and as such we spent little time "vacationing". We enjoy Bozeman and Montana. Find folks to be friendly and helpful.

Signs advertising "tourist info" would often get you part way, then if you were to try to figure it out.

Montana has a place in my heart and I will always return each year as part of my outdoor travel plans.

A beautiful landscape, with variance & spectacular scenery. P.S- The gentlemen suggested that mileage amounts need to be included on the signs, example: glacier park how many miles is it from the point you see the sign.

We loved our visit to Montana and hope to return some day. We first visited in 1992 and were anxious to get back. Most people don't think that there is a lot to do in Montana but there really is-don't know how to play that up more though :(

On other trips to Montana, we have traveled to Flathead Lake, Glacier, National Bison Range, Little Big Horn, Badlands and Lolo Pass. This trip was with our grandson, and all time was spent in Yellowstone Park with exception of 1 day to Jackson Hole. West Yellowstone was delightful!

The roads were wonderful-but could have been better marked. We used our Garmin for sure!

I had a good trip and like to come back to do more hiking. Thank you-

It is always a treat to come to Montana, I visit my family here, son and children and we always go out for hikes, birding, floating, fishing. It is so nice to get out into the clean outdoors and breathe the clear mountain air!

Too many casinos and bars-has to have a negative impact on family environment.

We have been to Montana three times within the last year, because son-in-law is at Montana Tech. We are amazed at Montana's beauty and all it has to offer. We look forward to more visits. We are always looking at brochures and magazines for things to see and do. Your freeways and roads are great, we are from Southern California. Love the air and cleanliness

Our trip through Montana was rushed but we really enjoyed everything that we did and saw, Billings is a very pretty city with lots to do. We want to see more of Montana in the future.

I love Montana!!

I enjoy the state because it allows me to relax from the fast-paced Los Angeles. However, I was frustrated with his lack of recycling bins and energy conservation. Yet, I did like the open space and seeing family. The shopping was decent.

We live in Alaska now but Montana remains home. We hope to return and retire here.

Love it! Big Sky country for sure! Keep it that way!

I love Montana! Someday we will move back!

Montana gives an overall feeling of being a part of the land. It's so large and open, and for the most part like it has been reserved for us to see without being "modernized" too much. A beautiful country. Thank You.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Keep the public trails open to everyone including ATVs.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Residents should be charged to clean up property. Of cars, farm equipment, and junk.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Great Falls visitor info was closed Thursday 20 middle of the afternoon.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>This trip was all about the grandkid. Previously we have enjoyed sightseeing and spent lots of money in many trip to Montana!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>You need more highway rest stops with bathrooms on the route we followed. Our GPS chose Highway 3 to 12 to 191 on the route to Great Falls from Billings. We really enjoyed this route and will do it again. We pass through Montana on our way to Florida and returning back to Canada. We hope to spend some time visiting your state in the summer and seeing the attractions.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>We are return visitors to Montana who come to use our cabin on the Gallatin National Forest. We support the local economy of West Yellowstone and enjoy Montana and all that it has to offer. We support multiple uses at our forests.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Billings has always been a joy to visit. My sister and I were there for only a day but we were able to visit several sites that brought back good memories of the area. We were visiting this time as our mother passed away April 27th in Missouri and we were bringing her ashes back to Billings to be buried next to our father. Montana will always hold a special place in our hearts.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I was invited with my son and wife to go camping and fishing also we looked for 5 acre land to build a vacation house. This trip was my fifth time.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>We have made many trips to Montana in previous years and enjoyed more leisurely trip than this one! this is not a typical trip as we headed to Alaska.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I love Montana-and have for over 40 years! Since our children are now here, we plan to get here to be a part of this great state. But PLEASE don't get like California, New York and other large crowded states! Don't make laws and regulations that will eventually take the quality of Montana living away-people come here because Montana is open and welcoming, not restrictive and oppressive. Keep Montana Free.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I have been traveling to Montana for 20 years and always enjoy the people, the food, and the shopping.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All motel rooms should be equipped with recycling trash cans.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I love Montana and visit at least twice each year. The only suggestion for improvement is highway sign maintenance. I noticed several of the speed limit signs were on the ground between the border and Dutton.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Casinos are an eye sore and cheapen the experience of Montana- as we remember it growing up.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>We visit the park yearly, generally spring to see the newborns and opportunity to see grizzlies, bears in general are great.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Everyone we meet was very friendly and more than happy to help out us Canadians.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Love the state-my wife and I drive over for dinner at times. It is only a 5 1/2 hour drive to Missoula or Kalispell from my home in Ephrata, Washington. Great People.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>This was a quick family trip for a graduation weekend. Our extraneous sightseeing and &quot;traveling around&quot; was most limited, by design.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Too many shops carry items made out of the USA.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
I can't believe a town like Bozeman has no recycling policy. The land and water is so important to this area. Take care of it.

Although we were only passing through, we always find Montana a very friendly state. Thanks!

My wife and I have traveled to Montana is the past and have always enjoyed the state.

I have always enjoyed coming to Montana.

Historical markers along roadside need map to show their locations and any information about them. Really enjoyed our visited to Montana and would love to come back again.

Over the last 40-50 years we have traveled throughout Montana. We love the state. More recently we have only passed thru on I 15

The amount of growth in Billings is amazing. Just hope it does not offer the natural beauty I love about Montana! Looking forward to my next visit.

Some of your items are vague.

We have been here many times for recreational purposes and always leave satisfied. this time we were on the way south and on the way home.

The folks in Montana are so friendly. Everywhere we went we were treated very welcome. I think some of the roads like 212 and the road from Billings to Belfry have too high of a speed limit- 70 mph. I was not comfortable driving that fast on a single lane road. I think most of the smaller towns are not handicapped accessible as my husband is in a wheelchair. Could not go to most shops and stores.

Forest service roads were well marked and maintained. Obstructed and overgrown views at scenic pullouts in Glacier National Park. We enjoyed the towns and tourist destinations, especially Lewis and Clark prints in the Bitterroot Valley.

Every time I come to Montana I find its beauty spectacular. I have talked to many people for New England to see Montana and Yellowstone and Glacier. They came once and then decided to go again.

Enjoy my visits-always happy to come back. I love Montana

We flew directly into Missoula to visit the university. The shuttle to our hotel was friendly and efficient. Everyone in town was welcoming. A top choice for school in a couple years.

Beautiful part of the country, I hope to return with my wife and do backpacking.

Loved Billings and can't wait to go back!

The weather was very comfortable but too early to see lots of places, will come back! Beautiful- Flathead Valley gorgeous site of the Rockies with snow cap.

As always the level of service and welcome in Montana is second to none. It's the main reason I keep coming back. It's the place I feel most at home!

We stayed twice Great Falls and had a very warm welcome, very nice stay. Friendly people. We definitely will be back. We loved it. We can really recommend the wonderful hotel O'Haire in Great Falls. Great food! Wonderful rooms and very accommodating of our 2 days. Staff was very knowledgeable about the area very nice.

Just loved the open space, mountains, wildlife, and feeling of serenity.
Yellowstone National Park is Awesome!

We loved many towns, enjoyed them all.

We thought your visitor centers were great. The employees whether civilian or back rangers were extremely helpful and seemed to go out of their way to point out highlights we shouldn't have missed.

I feel like Bozeman is a second home for me. My husband and I have been coming here for 15 years now. We love cross-country and downhill skiing, fly fishing, the wonderful coffee houses, beef and bean restaurants. Our children are artists, musicians in the town. I have a child in Chicago so we will not move here but we'll continue to visit. Love the hot springs, Chico-son lives in Livingston. Love Hy-life -camp there-

If we were not satisfied with the majority of your questions, we would not have a home here.

Love coming to Montana. Always a pleasurable experience.

Very much enjoyed our week in Montana.

Love the scenery. Dislike the lack of helmets for motorcyclists and the problem with alcohol in the culture. Bars seem to be focal points for socializing. Dislike loud motorcycles running thru town. Well, everywhere.

Montana and her citizens are wonderful!

All Good

Enjoyed the wildlife! Saw a moose and some elk. Had fun. If I would have had more time would have stayed a lot longer. Thanks.

Thank You!

Thanks. Great place to visit.

Montana is nearly the same that I had imagined from the source that I had in Italy. I appreciate the people, the kindness of all that I met. I didn't like so much the area around Glacier N.P, dirty and neglected.

I have been to Montana before but first time for husband and we love it.

Stop housing developments/growth.

Every time we have went through Butte fall or spring always storm and snow. Bad roads and no snow plows or sand truck.

I would have like to see some vending machines at the rest area and used some state maps available and other information. Like in ND rest areas.

More focus on road biking and acceptance.

We were very impressed with the countryside and the beauty. We did not realize that Montana was so beautiful. It was fun watching the wildlife. It was such a pleasure. We are eager to return.
Did very little sightseeing, stopped at Little Big Horn Battle ground briefly. In Montana for graduations of two
granddaughters, one from high school, one from college, in Billings. Rooms were cabins at something hub in
Billings, very pleasant.

One hotel put every slice of bread in its own baggie, wasteful. We like Cracker Barrel, Montana Wheat.

Really enjoyed this quick trip into Billings. I am planning a driving trip later this year and plan on staying in Red
Lodge, seeing the Bear Tooth Mountains and then stay in Gardiner.

Big Sky was awesome. Montana is beautiful.

I feel like if stated my true feelings about racism and bigotry and homophobes, I might get shot and buried in
someone's ranch. It seems to be a closed minded state, not everyone but most.

I was only in MT for one weekend and came for a specific purpose. I would like to return and spend more time
at some point so I can sightsee and really see the points of interest in the state.

My son and I came paddle fishing at the intake on the Yellowstone River. We were both successful and had an
enjoyable time.

Beautiful State! Thanks

We need more public roads in Yellowstone.

Send plane tickets to

Under the circumstances, we had a nice trip and plan to come back to really enjoy the trip and time we have to
spend in Montana. Thank you. Russ and Sandra

I was highly satisfied over my trip to MT. I had heard from family and friends that my boyfriend and I should to
go this state. We were looking for something that would take our breath away and it did. The wildlife,
mountains and even the people surprised me. How amazing and welcoming it was. I was away from home and
still felt at home in MT. So much that my boyfriend and I would love to visit again and maybe even re-locate and
make it our new home. Thank you

I love this state and will raise my kids here.

We went to my mother's (95 yrs old) sister's funeral (98 yrs) in Livingston and burial in Chico. It was a fast trip to
prevent her being over tired and sick.

I feel like more travel info should be placed on more locations for travelers.

Some attractions aren't as advertised. We are looking to relocate and spend this time vacationing in areas we
would consider living. Great Falls was a huge disappointment, very unfriendly. Red Lodge was very welcoming,
people were friendly and helpful/ We love the wide open spaces.

Recycle opportunities minimal in Red Lodge. Signage for Chief Joseph Scenic Byway was not found.

We were just traveling through, only one day really. Half day, then stopped in Glasgow then went to border. Not
much for us to answer vacation questions. We love Montana. The roads are good. Like it better when green,
but... it's the time of the year. Love the antelope.

We love Montana and its scenic beauty & people. That is one of the reasons we bought a cabin in this state. One
thing that bothers is the amount of cans, bottles, etc. in the ditches along highway & even in the back country. I
think Montana should consider a deposit on bottles and cans so people will not throw these items out and if
they do other people will pick them up to get a refund on returned items. Also garbage containers in campsites & along the highway. We take our stuff back to Canada with us so they can be recycled.

We love Montana, But me have little travel time, so we were only able to pass through this time.

I have traveled in Montana about eight times before and have enjoyed it every time.

Lewistown could use another choice for overnight accommodations. The XXX motel is pretty sad.

I was motorcycling, passed through twice. Southbound I went through Yellowstone, Northbound, and I stayed on the highway.

Found lodging somewhat expensive.

Well maintained roads. Lack of customer service in Great Falls (lodging, restaurants). Scenic drive. Thought Billings was a great city.

Only negative comment would be the condition that private property owners kept their property in small towns along the route. A good clean up of junk lying around was very unsightly and unnecessary. People should show more pride in their front yard appearance. Enjoyed participating in your survey.

Good state to travel through.

It's a beautiful state. Love to work and travel here.

Hotels are somewhat 'pricier' than Utah or Nevada.

Snowbird from Canada- Road travel in water can be treacherous- Roads (I15) often is not sanded or salted. Return to Canada in spring-roads are good,

I was born and raised in MT.

We were going through Montana to Canada/ Alaska. Because of high winds and weather we stopped in Big Timber for a few days. Beautiful place would go back there anytime. We traveled on to Shelby/Cutbank because of weather. We stayed in Cutbank over night. Decided to abort our trip and return to Florida. Worst thing about the trip thru Montana was the truckers on Hwy 15 and 191. Pulling a 36' RV in the wind, snow/rain isn't easy and we found a lot of drivers (truckers and cars) were very rude and careless. Lots of speeders, no police in sight. Also found a lot of the advertised RV parks were not as they claimed to be.

Overall, Montana is an open, beautiful, incredible state with a lot to offer!!! With such beautiful/scenic country it is a shame so many gaudy advertising billboards. More recycling

We love Montana.

All we cared about was getting, we had been on the road for 12 hours. We have both been to Montana numerous times and have enjoyed it thoroughly. My sister lived in Polson and Plains and we spent a lot of time in both places. This trip we went to Zion, Antelope Canyon, the Grand Canyon, and Sedona. They were wonderful.

Beautiful state

Not enough, if any restrooms on the way. Especially from Dillon, MT down to exit 143, turn ins on St. 33. No space for pull offs on #33. Too far between Dillon and say Rexberg to find restrooms.
The Governor of Montana led a movement to ban the import of Canadian beef. This does not bide well for Sask./Montana relations.

While stationed in Great Falls Maelstrom AFB, I met and married my children’s mother. I have been wanting to return to live since 1965.

Always get rock chips in windshield in MT. Used to live in MT, love it in Missoula!

We wish we could have filled out this form on some of our other Montana trips and been more helpful to your survey like last year when we stayed in a rented cabin for a week in Yellowstone with our family and Glacier- we’ve enjoyed the Lewis & Clark interpretive center and we’ve hiked and backpacked in Montana- wonderful state- thanks

Montana is a "model" state; other states could use their techniques.

Montana, I wish you were closer to Salt Lake City, Utah

Montana is our home state and is one of our favorite places. It is the home of many relatives and many memories. Go Bobcats!

I have been coming to Montana for over 30 years. First on two-three week fishing trips until 1991. From 1991-Present have spent 1 month to 7 months per year and have owned a home since 1999.

excellent stay with lots of wildlife and a great impact

It was very disappointing to see roads once covered by red rock pavement being "fixed' with generic black asphalt. I miss the red roads, and I encourage Montana to find an effective red option that better fits the character of Montana. Also, the road between Babb and Many Glacier is in very bad condition, signage for Hwy 2 west of Columbia Falls can be missed or at least I missed it. Hwy 49 between Kiona and Two Medicine junction was "closed", but the notice of closure appeared AFTER the turn off in Kiona. Further, though there could have been overnight snow, the road appeared very passable, and the signs did little to it.

Planning on moving to Hamilton or other town close by in next year!

We absolutely loved part of Montana and will continue to come back for years to come!

Gambling has ruined Missoula, I cannot believe how trashy this town looks because of casinos.

I am from Minnesota, which has a very extensive recycling program at your home. Wish it were that easy in all of Montana. I have been coming on a regular basis, for 10 years and love it.

I would have appreciated more "green" practices in my lodging-more recycling, composting, and use of local water in something other than a water bottle. I would have liked to know what opportunities for walking tours for me in Missoula to see the river, restaurants, native sites, etc.

Montana is a big state yet in some ways lacks respect by the locals in cleanliness. Private property is a shambles it seems by those who live here in this beautiful state and disrespect it. On the other hand those who buy homes here from out of state do not take care of property and charge huge rent. Where is the Health Dept? There has to be legislation regulating the outrageous prices for living in a state owned by greedy people. There is no need for casinos. That is not a Christian way to bring in revenue. What you need is businesses and industry that provides good jobs. I would like to have industry and start a business

We 1st visited Montana on family vacations in 40's, 50's, 60's and 70's and loved it. Our daughter and her family moved to Missoula in 2001. Shortly thereafter, my husband and I rented a condo and continue to do so. We divide our time between Missoula and Dauphin Island, We spend approx. 1/3 of the year in Missoula and
Alabama, do so on the pre-planned schedule/We usually fly, but try to drive out at least a couple of times a year!

The roads are very bumpy. Need to be re-paved.

More public recycling please-1-90 needs work over Lookout Pass. Go Cats!

We'll be traveling through again this summer. This was our 2nd trip out of 3 trips. Our 1st trip was north to south and east to Yellowstone. We how beautiful Montana is. Next trip Glacier National Park! We picked up travel info in Shelby for that for friends of ours also coming through this summer.

My son attends school at the University of Montana, Missoula and we like visiting Missoula almost as much as seeing him! We love Montana, and we live in beautiful Idaho.

Saw some environmental damage from mining, otherwise, very beautiful.

I am a native Montanan. I was in the state for a family wedding so on this visit I was only in Missoula. I LOVE coming home to my state of Montana where I was born and raised for 40 years!

I feel sad that the trees are dying around Helena.

Accessibility isn't over mentioned!

A great place for my four grandchildren to be brought up! Missoula. I love family environment in school activities.

Plan on elk hunting in Montana this fall. Would know more about state after hunt.

MT is a great place to visit. I have been to MT three times and love it! Not seeing skyscrapers and people everywhere is great.

You should include specific questions about restaurants where and how much. The Shack- Great!, Thai Restaurant-Great!, Big Dipper-Great!, Sisters Catering-Great!, Hotel (Sunday Brunch)!

Goodtime!

Please please please be a leader for the U.S. in green practices and green living. Conserving and protecting natural world and resources.

We came to a pre-arranged golf event at Paws Up. So much of this doesn't apply. Sorry.

Great place to visit. Sun came out today which was great.

We had a great vacation in Montana. We should have planned a longer stay. I wish we could retire there.

Would like to see more emphasis on availability of air travel to/from MT. Limited # of flights and expense of flights discourage the time I spend in Montana.

We really enjoyed visiting Montana. It is a beautiful state. We especially enjoyed Glacier National Park even though the going to the sun road wasn't completely open yet. We stayed in Whitefish and thought it was a lovely place. We took a wrong turn and lost some time we feel due to confusing signage.

I would like to see greater effort made with recycling collection with emphasis on incentives and convenience. My only other complaint is the noticeable lack of code enforcement on property owners for not maintaining
properties and cleaning up junk and debris. This has considerable impact on tourists and their perception of the state while traveling here—that takes away from the natural beauty.

Roads need to be upgraded. Not enough signage. I love this state in summer, but not in winter.

Great State—Had trouble finding rest stops—Had to use the auto double door method for rest rooms. This survey is a great idea to enhance tourism.

This information is based on two trips to Kalispell. The first was with my wife and our dog Sadie in 2009. This trip was test out our travel trailer and look at property. I was by myself and Montana is just fabulous.

Was only there for two days, but would return there for a vacation.

Enjoyed stay and will be returning.

This is why we have a second home here!

Beautiful state enjoyed it very much. Plan on a trip next year, Thanks for sharing.

Beautiful area.

Due to season, all but I road in Yellowstone was closed for cars.

Beautiful state, we enjoyed our vacation time here? We hope to come back soon.

I was satisfied with all the items above! Great satisfaction!

We just bought a house in Livingston and this trip was pre-move to take care of some house-related business. So, it should be obvious that we are very happy with the area and cannot wait to be permanent residents. The land and the people/culture were the main reasons we chose Montana over anywhere else in the country.

Montana is a beautiful state when it comes to nature. It is a shame so many people ruin the appearance of the state with rusted and old junk buildings, trashed possessions, etc, on their property. It screams lack of pride, in their state, towns and love of nature.

It was a business trip. There was no time for sightseeing.

Montana is a magnificent place. I am lucky to have a daughter who has lived here for twelve years. Has traveled the state extensively and hence, we enjoy the abundant parks, marshes, and places to bird hunt.

My brother has live in Montana for 20 years and I have been here many times. I love Montana!

Very relaxing!

The circle R motel in Glacier was great, excellent accommodations. A motel in Browning was among the worst I have encountered in my life.

This trip was to Yellowstone, but past trips to Glacier National Park. Accommodations were great. We sent for Montana tourist information which was great. We used it and it was very helpful.

Would be wonderful if National parks would provide a couple of hiking trails designated for dog walking only. Many people RV with dogs and providing a few short trails just for visitors to walk their dogs. Rest stops just do
not provide energy exercise for dogs. Of course dogs waste would still require pick-up on the trail. Yellowstone is awesome and the people here are very friendly and helpful.

I travel to Montana several times a year and sometimes stay for a week or more. I have spent a lot of time in all parts of Montana, both in hotels/motels, and with family and friends. I also travel through Montana enroute to other states at least once or twice a year. I have always loved Montana.

Would have liked to have seen more recycle bins along the way. We had to toss out a lot of cans/bottles, etc. On another note- I needed to go to the ER while in Montana (Cut Bank) and was VERY pleased with the care I received and how welcomed I was made to feel. Thank you.

I notice you don't mention local radio information which is appropriate: The few times I checked only the Public Radio stations had any reasonable weather information, despite the road signs announcing "local" information (the blue ones). Maybe an "old school comment, eh?

I entered on the train from Minneapolis, MN. I saw horses, cattle, and deer. We stopped at Havre and East GNP for a short time.

Nice to be in Montana.

Bad character Bismarck, North Dakota Super 8-only place that had rooms-we drove straight thru instead of staying

MT is a pleasant state. Good people, much like WY but more populated.

The roads were clean and well marked; It was a pleasure to drive the trip. We'll recommend the trip to anyone.

Good Folks!

We travel from California to Alberta and enjoy the scenic drive through Montana! On previous travels we have stayed overnight in Helena and Great Falls, and have enjoyed those places. They have interesting and fascinating history.

Radio along the drive becomes scarce at times in more remote areas in eastern Montana.

Very nice that there is no sales tax. A little difficult to buy fishing license on line.

Roadside rest areas closed! Not good. People don't get tired or need facilities in winter? People now vacation year around-not just in the summer!

Montana is very beautiful. Roads when you enter Montana are really bumpy.

Our travels & stops were mostly in rural towns. Towns were making a conscious effort to look clean, neat, well cared for...welcoming. They appear to have community pride. Personal appearance of people (on the streets, at local ball games, care of vehicles) appeared to be not well groomed, nor well educated (speech & manners) and possibly in economic need. Ft. Peck Theater performance was a real winner. Chico Hot springs another one. MT State Parks would serve a wider clientele if they had electricity. RV's are made for it. Thanks for asking.

On this trip, Wednesday, April 29, 2010, We traveled thru Montana for a curling trip to Park City, Utah. We usually spend a week or two every year in Kalispell and Whitefish as we really enjoy this area.

I was very happy with our trip to Montana! The only thing I notices was all the dead pine trees...other than that it is a beautiful state!

Our trip was great. We will be back to your state for more trips in the future.
Wyoming has MT beat with free wifi at rest stops.

We have been visiting Bozeman since 1985. Yearly since family settled there in 1992. We love the state and friendly people.

As a through traveler I feel like there aren't enough restaurants/food purchasing options along the highway - especially east of Billings. The food that is available is of low/cheap quality and doesn't really reflect any "local Montana" character. As I am a "foodies" sort of tourist, this definitely disarrays me from travelling through, even though Montana has a great Cowboy food heritage.

Since this survey only reflects this trip I didn't provide more information. I usually travel to Montana 5-6 times a year.

More pay-at-the-pump gas pumps at smaller stops along the interstate would have been nice

We have in the past, when we were younger, spent many days skiing and playing golf in the Whitefish area.

Drawing in June 2011?

Would have been nice to have a few more travel information centers at point of entry into the state. Otherwise Montana was great and we will be back.

Treat the landscape before wildfire continues too. The overstocked stands, implement fuel reduction projects. Get ahead of the curve on fire mgmt, rather than reactive.

We were just passing through and only saw I-90 and a couple of gas stations.

Montana has two places in my mind. Primarily it is an extensive obstacle in my trip to and from MN-WA. I mean that only in the sense that it is so huge. I do very much enjoy being in Montana and have always had it in the back of my mind to live there someday. My main concern is that when driving through, invariably, I will be in the middle of the state in the middle of the night, where accommodations are scarce. Stopped in Miles City and the whole town was dark, couldn't even get gas!

Since I've hiked the CDT I am very satisfied with scenic views, and the I15 and some of I-90 parks of the CDT. I've been driving thru MT for over forty years and have then some of the highways and gravel roads, such as from Clark reservoir to Salmon.

While this has been a short visit we find that no where can the big clean sky of Montana find its match. Landscape, forests are a match. The mountains are spectacular. We are drawn here again and again from beautiful Virginia. We specially commend the well kept forests, campgrounds, which we like to pick. You do better than anybody else. Thanks for a great time.

We had a very enjoyable 10 days in Bozeman. Even though the main purpose of our trip was business, we found interesting things to do and had time to relax. Bozeman is in a very scenic location. We will go back.

We have been to Montana several times in the last 5 years and this year's trip was mainly to go to Little Bighorn Nat'l Monument. Prior years spent more time going up from Yellowstone to Bozeman, Great Falls and then over to the Bitterroot River. On earlier trips we covered other like Glacier, so the latest trip was aimed at the Little Bighorn, which takes a special effort since, from Arizona, it is not on the way to much of anywhere. Anyway, the effort was well worth it.

Keep the country country!!!

Wonderful
A great state that allows everyone to have access to and fully enjoy their natural resources—Always impressed with quality of fly fishing and access to do so.

We love Montana, a very friendly, clean, wide open state.

Beautiful state.

I love your state!

Montana is a beautiful state.

Don't let the gambling take over the pristine quality of the towns/restaurants/stores, etc.

The lady who provided this survey was very nice. Have a great day.

It was so good to see the water ways and lakes full again! The prairies were green for the second year in a row. All praise to our father above for his precious gifts. The only thing I don't miss about MT is the wind.

I love Montana and wish I could get a job there a move back. Am originally from there. Mountains are beautiful, Gallatin rafting was great, and the people are always nice!

Had a good time, will return.

Nice drive across Montana.

Could not find glass recycling in Big Sky.

This is by far the best state in the nation. We love the land, history, animals and geography. Saying Montana is beautiful is a gross understatement.

We were very frustrated that, although the internet indicated Yellowstone was open at Cooke City, the 5 mile in Montana approaching Cooke City from the south and east were not planned open. All of the mountain roads in Wyoming were cleared and dry. Only as we attempted to cross over into Montana were we stopped by uncleared roads and forced not only to back track the 60 miles approaching Cook City, but to drive and additional 150+ miles to go all the way north to Laurel and Route 90 to loop around. We were very frustrated with Montana.

This was our first trip to Montana. Loved every single day. We traveled with two large German shepherds, so the opportunity of being able to let them out occasionally was very welcoming. Beautiful state and people, friendly and helpful! We will be back.

I have been coming to Montana for 9 years. Mainly for business but had the pleasure on previous trips to do some site seeing, wonderful state. Will be coming back for many years. Regards.

I love visiting Montana.

I visit three or four times a year from Alberta, and then to travel to various parts of the state from the Custer battlefield to Helena to Glacier/Lewis and Clark National forest. Always enjoy everything about Montana—shopping. Food. I spend between $700 and $400 per trip.

We were traveling for six months in the United States. We are on our way to go home in Quebec. It is the last week we have to visit the United States, that's why we can't stay for visiting Montana. We are just passing through. Maybe another time we will have time to visit more. It is may 6 and 7 and it's raining and snowing all
time, not good weather to stop and enjoy! Next time!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Stayed at East-West Resorts (Moonlight Basin-Big Sky) Had no access to recycle of aluminum cans, glass bottle, and plastic bottles. Told by resort to just throw out.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>We love driving through your beautiful state 4-6 times a year. We own a second home in Victor, Idaho. We do enjoy Yellowstone Park and the Bozeman, Big Sky area. We wish we had more time to spend in your state. We love it.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>This was a quick trip through to visit family on west coast. Post visits where we spent more time-visitor centers were very helpful, as were local folks we met. We look forward to our next visit.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>We come into Montana often- I am from Havre and have family there. It was strange to check “passing through” We were called to ND for a funeral and on our return trip we stayed in Glendive (a first) and we stopped at Pompey’s Pillar which I’ve wanted to see for quite some time (very nice- the renovation was well done) and as a former museum educator, I appreciated the interpretation and interactive components as well. We also stopped in Billings to pick up a few things as we headed home to Cody, Wyoming. I’m proud of the state I grew up in.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>This was a very short, to the point trip. However I’ve traveled Montana many times as far north as Glacier Park and south Yellowstone Park, east to North Dakota border. I love the scenery and the friendliness of the people. The entire area in and around Roundup appeared to be very dreary and unkempt. Local residents have too much junk i.e. old cars. Etc. in their yards. This appearance lowers our opinion of Montana and decreases our desire to return.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Montana is a great state. I am looking forward to my next visit.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I live in Alaska and the presence of billboards severely degrades the feeling of authenticity and openness. I love Montana I have spent many years of my life here. I worry about weeds, sprawl, and economics. I see these problems when I travel.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I was amazed at the number of dead pine trees around the Helena and Butte areas die to the pine beetle infestation. It seems no one is taking much action to stop their spread. Montana is losing a beautiful natural resource.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>We came for a youth soccer tournament and had only a little time between games to do anything else.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>We were just passing through! So we didn't get to see a whole lot.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Billings is a great City in a beautiful state!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>We loved Montana. Enjoyed Little Bighorn and plan to return soon to Glacier Park.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I had a very pleasant trip. Driving in Billings and Great Falls was scary because people do not yield or stop.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Every trip I make to Montana, this is my third, make me want to come back and spend more time there. This trip we were exposed to the Nordstrom brothers “Montana Tunesmith.” They are great musical ambassadors for the state.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wanted to visit Glacier National Park but too much snow in May.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beautiful state and people.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
I was amazed on this visit how friendly all the people were. They didn't know I was from another state, but still were very friendly.

We loved looking at the mountains and trees. Also, we enjoyed the cool weather and rain. It was pleasant driving as there was no traffic! We hope to move to Montana when we retire.

It was great to be home again. Everybody was friendly, I could relax and NO SALES TAX!

Beautiful State!

I was born in Lewistown and come back to that area at least once a year.

We were driving through. We had a pleasant drive. The people were friendly and helpful.

We drove in Montana on a sunny day, after a snow the scenery was awesome.

We are Montana natives who have moved to Washington so return vary often to visit our children-we love Montana!

Montana is beautiful, loved all the open spaces, lots of undeveloped land, Yellowstone is a "gem". Keep Montana the way it is-Rural.

Every time we come there is construction. Very green! We usually come over in November. Hwy 200 nice roads, but sucks that it is only two lanes.

Great state: Very good lodging, lots of friendly people, beautiful, clean country.

Great Day

Thanks

1. Road conditions can be enhanced. 2. Directional road signage unclear at some points. 3. Environmental practices and accommodations. 4. Highway rest areas could be more inviting, they seem more desolate. 5. Availability of recycling bin the concept and practice seemed irreversible. 6. Condition of natural environment, the gift of natural environment, (which you have an abundance of could seem undermanaged/underutilized. 6. Stewardship of the land, federal lands appeared to be well managed 7. Better marketing of whets unique in Montana.

Development around Bozeman is discouraging. Too many cheaply constructed houses. Traffic congestion is building down town. Park facilities are great. Clouds and open space are great! We really love this area!

Rain made a few plans less perfect, but it didn't stop any plans (just part of traveling.)

P.O Box 178. Long Sands, Ont. K0C1PO, Canada

Been to Montana on several trips, this trip (survey) does not express our full appreciation of Montana. That said, Idaho is exemplary for our van/rv travels to family and friends in both states, camping and rest areas, etc.

Been to Montana many times-great place and great people.

Montana is beautiful and the people are very friendly. We stayed just outside Montana in Idaho but traveled to Montana every day. Our campsite was the closest we could find to Montana and Yellowstone.
This is our second trip back to Montana in 5 years. Very enjoyable to see beauty of state and enjoy many diverse activities to do as a tourist.

More camping along highway 2. It would be nice to have information about the historic sites without having to step to read the signs (a pamphlet for hwy 2)

Parking area toilets had bad odor, may need chemicals or emptied more often.

Montana is beautiful, people are wonderful and you feel like you belong.

Dissatisfied with number of recycling bins. We found them in Glacier Park but had trouble finding other ones. For the route we took, we did not find much local arts and crafts except in Columbia Falls. Overall had a very pleasant experience in Montana.

Would like to explore more.

I did not get to do any site seeing this trip due to helping my daughter with a small child while her husband was out on a business trip. I did get to on my previous trip and I loved Montana. My husband and I traveled to Montana on our motorcycle and it was a beautiful trip.

FYI, I only flew in and out of MT en route to a dude ranch in WY. Choose the ranch because of its close proximity to Yellowstone. Billings's most accessible airport for me from Hartford, CT.

Beautiful state! I can't wait to return and see more of the central and northern parts.

I helped my younger son start a small trucking business in 2005. While I was working a full-time job. Needless to say the economy turned down and he just about lost everything, but we held on. Out of the clear blue sky a gentleman called me that owns an entertainment business and asked if I could haul a climbing wall to Big Sky, MT. My wife of 38 years was so happy when she found out about me that I couldn't say no. Montana is a beautiful part of our country. My wife Srina wants to move there, that is if we can sell our house to our son! Bozeman. Montana. We were there in June 2010. We love your state.

Great time!

Thank you Montana, your beautiful!

Was surprised the amount of open space and countryside. For me Montana offered a huge amount of USA history and it was good to see how it has been preserved.

Always Love Montana.

Montana is an easy and comfortable place to travel. Need to cut down on the beetle infested trees!
# 2009 Quarter 3 Visitor Comments

We are on a 12 day coach holiday traveling from Chicago to Los Angeles. Due to a large fire in Yellowstone we had to detour through Montana. What I saw of Montana seems a nice place. Maybe somewhere to come to in the future.

Enjoyed our stay and plan on returning 2010. Thanks.

Hi, you folks have a great state. Lots of history. I have been traveling on my bike to Montana every summer for at least 4 years. Lot of construction this year but I suppose it’s due to the economy. God willing I'll be doing it again next year. Good luck with your survey.

Re stewardship of the land- The XXXX Reservation had poor housing and was littered with old cars and trucks. This was the only reservation we saw and it made a sad impression.

I loved MT and would definitely come back.

Very nice trip. Nice people

We are a family from the Netherlands, Europe, vacationing in Canada and the USA. Our main destination in the USA was Yellowstone. Coming and going we camped at public campgrounds (which we prefer to private campgrounds) in Washington and Montana. I would have loved to have a brochure on the public campground facilities to help me decide where to stay.

This was our third trip to Montana. Our previous two trips were for spring skiing. We love Montana! Away from the hustle and bustle. We do notice that some signage is too close to upcoming turns so a driver must be alert. Great holiday!

Very surprised at lack of wildlife. Saw no deer, elk, etc. Lots of bugs. Not a great selection of quality food at restaurants. People at KOA very friendly and helpful. Others not so much. Enough of Lewis & Clark!!

Love it here. Very relaxing. Shopping great, people very friendly

Just found in my travel 'stuff.' So sorry for delay

Road conditions very good. You have a lack of big casinos in North Montana. Should be non-smoking in small casinos. People are very friendly and helpful!

I was satisfied during the trip.

I just came in to run a race. Usually I go to Glacier National Park to camp, hike and see wildlife.

Visiting from the UK we find it strange that no provision is made for recycling of newspapers and brochures, cans, bottle etc., but this is the case across the USA. Regarding the wildlife- we were unlucky in Yellowstone Park and saw much less wildlife than on a previous visit 5 years ago. However, Montana is fabulous and we will be back!

On Pinter Scene route, would like to see at least 2 small area for picnic table.

It was not easy to find lodging accommodations, certainly not compared to Yosemite’s via the internet. As inhabitants of the Netherlands we were dependent on the internet to find accommodations near Yellowstone.
More real local restaurants, less fast food!

What a beautiful state! Keep up the availability of being able to access your natural resources (i.e. public spaces) to all of reasonable prices.

Beautiful State!

Very sad to see the state of the native reserve along the I-90 corridor in Wyoming right to Billings, Montana! Burned out cars and truck and trailers really don't belong anywhere that people live.

The road from St. Mary to East Glacier had short gravel sections which were quite in need of grading and repaving. Large potholes could challenge the tie rod ends etc.

My issue- relied on road map which missed a bus camping opportunity. But did not note trails. GNP very crowded, but NW corner of state was quiet and beautiful- will return.

Enjoyed our brief visit.

General comment about the survey, sorry, just traveling through Montana, from Denver to Calgary, on this trip, with no intent to really visit. Have visited Montana on many previous trips to see the various sights.

we travel from Alberta through Montana about 3 or 4 times a year and are satisfied with all.

One disappointment was when we tried to visit Devil’s Canyon outback in Bighorn Canyon at 4pm August 13. They were resurfacing the road and wouldn't let cars enter. We drove away because it would take 2 hours before roads would be open. Had to alter our plans and drive all the way back to our hotel in Sheridan and then next day drove all the way to Devil’s Canyon again. A warning sign would be helpful.

I live in the Dominican Republic. I just went into Montana to "look" into it, but would like to come back for more. I drove up from Cooke City to Red Lodge and down again to Wyoming, so I cannot answer much. But I know there is so much to see and I certainly will be back. I want to see the Glacier National Park and more.

We were just traveling though so a lot of info did not affect us. Good luck on survey. Would love to come back and shop in Great Falls.

Sometimes road signs for major exits (Junctions) came up to quickly, not leaving enough time in between the sign and the turn off to exit safely. Would like to see way more recycling opportunities in hotels, parking lots, parks, and rest areas. We will be coming back to explore Montana more!

Hoping to still explore and enjoy more of Montana. Little Bighorn Battlefield, Lewis and Clark; Glacier Park, Yellowstone Park. All have been visited previously but all need more visits to fully appreciate the great state of Montana and Big Sky country.

We met some interesting people. Seen many interesting and intriguing places. Refreshed our minds on a lot of the history, most of what we studied in grade school. We were able to see the actual place of this history. The scenery is likened to Alberta with a lot of open prairie land whereas we have much more farming land. We were relatively satisfied with our lodging except when we got to West Yellowstone. Did not appreciate the rude way we were treated at the Holiday Inn. Even thou we had made our reservations well in advance. The weather was great-well worth a return trip. Thank you.

Not only is MT beautiful and friendly, it seems to have all one could want. Even on my retired/limited income I felt my money was well spent. Go Griz!

I came to Montana on business. I will return on vacation the scenery is breathtaking.

Innocent until proven guilty! Why does state gov't allow gas stations to force payment of fuel before it is pumped? What an insulting and barbaric practice.

91
The people of Montana were the highlight of my trip as they were kind and always looking to go the extra mile before they were asked for assistance.

We were just traveling through Montana, but hope to spend some time exploring the state at some future time.

Second time in Montana. Would like to spend more time there, but this was a fast trip. The first time in Montana was longer and enjoyed it very much. Next year will be going through Montana again and will be spending more time there to visit more landmarks and maybe doing some fishing. We will be visiting Yellowstone Park next time would like to see it and more sites. Could you send some info by email or mail?

We love Montana-especially the drive through the Missouri River Canyon (Great Falls-Helena.) We love to shop for great deals and love no sales tax. We used to mostly drive through on way to another state- now we live 20 minutes from the state and visit to shop even sometimes for the day. We love it.

I would like to bring the trailer or just make a month of touring around Montana to go fishing and more of the country. I enjoy the scenery and the peoples are so helpful and friendly.

Thank you, your state is very friendly and extremely clean. Montana would definitely warrant future visits. Please keep up your excellent practices and hospitality.

We loved Montana! Everyone is so friendly here and hospitable. You always hear what Canadians are the friendly ones but I would disagree on that now. We will definitely be back again, hopefully soon!

We live in Alberta and have visited Montana for many years. Overall, we have always been happy with our visits/shopping. We really enjoy Logan Pass. Thank you.

The people are very friendly and helpful all the time! Note: Havre is our closest for shopping, so we treat Montana as our home, however, we also act as tourists. I regularly visit the farmers market and take in local attractions.

I simply went to Shelby for automotive products. Prices are far better than in Coutts, Alberta where I live. I do it all the time.

Highways are in good shape

Looking forward to come back with family for camping trip. I love the National park/ state and all you have to offer the most "extraordinary." People are friendly and help if you search for info, or where to go visit, most interesting state. Cities with a lot of heritage/history. Very nice trip I will come back.

Beautiful

I'm a recycling freak, so I just hated to throw away pop cans and bottles even if there were bins at gas stations, that'd be good.

The best way to serve me is to stay out of my business

We were in Montana for less than 24 hours. I will try to spend a little more time here in the future.

The entrance on the west side of GNP was pretty shloky or tacky with bear adventures and teepees. But the park itself is a wonder! We did not have a lot of opportunity to go to Main St. Montana. Where is it? We loved Montana!

I will try to make this simple: We (my wife and I) are in Montana to visit Glacier N.P. and Yellowstone N.P. for approx. 3 weeks- two places we love and have visited 6 times in the last 25 years. We always camp in the parks and either camp privately or stay in motels when driving. We tend to buy 95% of our food and supplies outside the parks as needed. As long as these parks are open, we will come to Montana. If these parks are closed or commercialized any more than they already are, it is very unlikely we would ever come to Montana again (except for passing through). I should add that all of our visits have been auto tra
We stay with family and always have a great time

Montanans are very proud of their state and its culture and heritage. It reflects in their social discourse and hospitality. I have visited all 50 states and the only other state equal is Alaska.

We visited five new states on our trip, WY, MT, ID, WA, and OR and I think Montana was our favorite or possibly tied with Oregon. I had a small medical problem while in Livingston and the manager of the Comfort Inn helped us get an appointment with her eye doctor. At the CM Russell Art Museum we arrived half hour before closing due to error in AAA book and the lady at the desk was so welcoming by letting us in for free. Also the air seemed so clear and sparkly. Also we came upon a cattle drive and the cowboys were glad to have their picture. Going to the Sun road amazing of course.

First time in Montana- wish we could have stayed longer. Look forward to visiting again.

We have been to Montana many times and love it and return regularly

Enjoyed our first visit very much and are in hopes of returning.

Kick Conoco out of Billings. Highway rest areas would be better if there was Wi-Fi.

Montana is a beautiful state. My wife and I love it here. This is the first time we've traveled it south to north. Great scenery, great people, great places.

Lodging/camping hard to come by driving north at points, but it is a wonderful state.

Had a great trip

I primarily came to Montana to fly fish for trout. Having never fly fished I had no idea where to look-I was expecting to learn more at the rest stop/welcome center. When I entered the state from Wyoming, but the closest one was in Hardin and by the time I had visited the Little Big Horn battlefield was too tired to stop, a small unmanned, info/rest stop site as soon as you cross the border would have enticed me.

Montana is a very beautiful and welcoming and uncrowded state which is why I have come here and made an offer to buy property for my retirement home.

I was disappointed that the owners of our rental house had no accommodations for recycling. We felt guilty throwing our bottles and plastics in the regular garbage.

We stayed at Triple Creek Ranch and had an amazing visit. Montana is quite beautiful, we will be back

Have been coming to Montana winter and summer for seven years with kids. Plan to retire there. Own 2 condos and property in Big Sky. Love it!

We did little outside of the Triple Creek Ranch but were very happy with our overall Montana experience

Great trip through. Glad I decided to go this route. (was on a motorbike headed to Canada)

Have been enjoying the scenery and lifestyle that my Montana can provide for 13 years now. Visit once or twice a year as possible

We came through Montana from the Badlands, S.D. Primarily to visit Yellowstone N.P. and we were very pleasantly surprised by how beautiful and diverse the scenery and wildlife of Montana turned out to be. We have traveled all over the country, and the RV park in carry owns (7th Ranch) was the nicest we have been in.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>People were extremely friendly. Landscape beautiful and clean. Air was fresh and clear. Stores had interesting book and items pertaining to the history of this area. The airport at Bozeman was welcoming and gave a feeling of the state. We plan to return next year!</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>This was our 3rd trip to Montana. In the past we visited Glendive, Shelby, Red Lodge, West Yellowstone and Bozeman. Montana is a beautiful state with great people. We enjoy visiting and touring around your state very much. PS. Perhaps survey question (on 2) about number of visits (i.e. previous visits) would be good.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clear out and other excessive logging practices near the countryside.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>We had a great vacation. One improvement - allow whitewater suggested kayaking in Yellowstone Park near Gardiner.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Had a great time. Hope to be back!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Road signage at construction sites poor- example Rt 3 North of Billings by the airport (August 2009)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Montana is a beautiful state. I would like to return and see more.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Advertise on the internet using PPC &amp; SEO. Advertise in the magazines on hotel shelves. Advertise on magnet calendars - they last all year.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I spent one hour in the Missoula airport; Three and a half hours each way driving to and from Shoup, ID. The scenery along the way was awesome for most parts.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>We were short in time. Would have driven across rt.2 or down 89 but our van fuel pump was acting up ( had to keep it 5/8 full to avoid fuel delivery problem) from Williamsport, PA.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Great State.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Very beautiful and welcoming state, with endless opportunities for recreation and fascinating historical sites. Thoroughly enjoyed visit ( next time I hope I don't sprain anything hiking)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A great place to visit- people very friendly. Although hard to get from the east (i.e. expensive). Wife and I will definitely consider another visit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Will definitely be back.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>We only drove through a few miles of Montana, but it was beautiful and hope to return again</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>What is &quot;A feeling of authenticity&quot;? Authentic to Native American Culture? Cowboy culture? Agrarian culture?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>This is our 7th visit to Montana. We love the beauty, space, cultures, and peoples.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not really impressed with West Yellowstone as we exited Yellowstone National Park</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Our trip was wonderful, and we look forward to returning. Montana is beautiful and the people are very warm and friendly.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOO MUCH development going on. Too much road work going on at peak hours, causing lengthy delays. Not enough access to backcountry trails in Yellowstone. Park rangers not abiding by yard boundaries from wildlife/peoples totally arbitrary and unnecessarily restrictive when tourists are following wildlife boundary rules.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not satisfied with Forest Management. When a fire starts, put it out. I fire in Stevensville burned 30 days, 450 Acres. 1 fire in Saffhives. Why let trees burn but won't let people harvest.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>We Took tours and the lodges in Glacier Park.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Road conditions: Route 93 North of Missoula was in poor condition (construction had torn up the entire width of the 4-lane road in places), and no one seemed to be present anywhere in the construction zone working on the road. Recycling bins: On several occasions, only 1 type of bin was present (i.e. paper, aluminum, or plastic) so we had to throw some of our recyclables into the regular trash. To much road construction during park tourist season.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nowhere in the US are people any kinder than here in NW Montana</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Visit MT.com is a great website! We found almost everything we needed for our trip there. This is my second time visiting your beautiful state, and my husband's family is from Choteau. We will most certainly be back. Please keep Montana's emphasis on small town living and space, both for agricultural purposes and natural resources. It's why we'll keep coming back. Thank you!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Great state, we'll definitely be back again someday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trip was for business on Friday and stay for fishing on Sat., exit on Sunday.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>We were disappointed to find very few opportunities to recycle all three (plastic/cans/glass) in West Yellowstone or the Park. Although trails, picnic areas and lodge areas were clean, recyclables went in the trash. Montana is such a beautiful state that attracts tourists interested in the outdoor recreation/sightseeing we hope to find recycling added when we return. In West Yellowstone we were told &quot;It's too expensive to recycle&quot;. Not enough places to pull off road. Enjoy the country store in Glacier!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>People and landscape are amazing!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>More rest stops on highway. Welcome centers should be located at state borders.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I love MT!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stayed at Triple Creek Ranch, Loved it!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>This was my second visit to MT, and I look forward to visiting again! I hope to head north to Glacier next.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wonderful experience!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rafting along Yellowstone River from Livingston down would work. Bozeman is a great small town and lots of tourists. Clean towns - Great falls really felt comfortable staying and visiting. I think this is correct, where I was given the survey. Alberta, Canada RT 40 is wonderland for outdoor traveler. SO much free parking-pay camp sites. HEAVEN. Have a look at facilities!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I loved Montana the beauty is astounding. When I came home (SC) I told my husband about the open spaces and the pleasantness of every person I met. It made me wish that I was a Montanan! GNP is now my favorite national park (my 38th) What a treasure.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
We loved Montana! This was our first time and we were awe stricken. The small towns were quaint, sights wonderful, wildlife wonderful. Horseback riding at reasonable rates, canoeing, wild and pristine rivers was great. Glacier Park is a true gem. Golf courses were great. Please give us a free trip, we want to come back.

A trip of a lifetime, memories million-pictures will not provide a full feel of color, vastness, spectacular scenery and wonderful feeling while outdoors in such an awe inspiring place. Some parts of Yellowstone(i.e. Roosevelt Tower area) closed Sept. 7th disappointed as it reduced availability of favorite restaurant, horseback trails, and options-with fall being such a lovely season-felt it could and should remain open until Sept. 15th (do understand need to prepare for winter, but other areas remained open).

Enjoyed very much. We will visit again.

Lovely trip

Our group of 16 males all arrived and departed from Logan Airport, Billings. Used a combination of Frontier, United and Delta airlines. We had a total of four rental vehicles, driving only from Billings to Fort Smith and return. We stayed at Big Horn Trout Shop in Fort Smith. My 20th year in a row of fishing the Big Horn River. Outstanding fishery.

My husband and I can't wait to come back just for a Montana trip only! Awesome state.

I could live in MT from May to October, but don't think I could handle the winters. I love this state.

This was our first visit to Montana, but it won't be our last. We loved everything about your beautiful state. We had planned to just "pass thru" but stayed as long as we could. Breathe taking views-friendly people- We will be back and spend more time.

Provide more affordable hunting options for non-residents.

We had a great visit to Montana and hope to come back soon.

The people of Montana were extremely friendly

My daughter is living and working in Missoula. She is getting married in Seely Lake in 6/10. We are excited about the event! We will have zoo family and friends in attendance from Florida, Wyoming, Oregon, and Montana.

Beautiful state, friendly people, I love it, thinking of retirement in Montana ( summer and fall).

Some roads were excellent & some were horrid. Most of the time we found recycling bins hard to find. We didn't buy much because we refuse to buy Chinese products. We come to Montana every 4 to 5 years because we love it!

Beautiful scenery, vast open spaces. animal life, glittering streams, friendly, helpful people.

I was most impressed with how clean your roadways and rest stops and campgrounds were. How do you do it?

Loved every day!

I-90 west of Missoula could use some repaving
We come to Missoula every year to visit our son and his family. We think M is a wonderful place to raise a family—there are so many wonderful activities for families. Summer weather is wonderful and scenery is splendid. We have been to Glacier, Flathead and Yellowstone and other areas in past years—wonderful trips, we’ll be back. Our son works in the Forestry Department at UM.

Gallatin Valley is so beautiful, I’d like to come back to vacation and see the sights. I missed too much on this trip. The trip was mainly to attend a memorial service for a cousin and research family history.

No road repairs needed, but condition of travel in Hghy 93 construction zones really bad for motor home travel.

Montana could benefit from a welcome station in the south. Some areas of private ownership and small towns need to haul old equipment to a central site, can it be recycled? Indian reservations’ towns need general clean-up at least pick up trash to let “nature” show through!

We enjoyed Montana’s beautiful Glacier Park. We found that we were 1-2 weeks late in the season as many businesses and lodging were closing. However, smaller numbers of tourists pleased us.

Four lane US Hwy 1 or add emergency turnouts, Havre recycling bins at all rest areas (National Park gets an “A+”), Label agricultural crops.

Montana is a beautiful state, but we were disappointed because we didn’t see a lot of wildlife. Maybe wrong time of year.

Some questions are not well thought out. Visitors (like us) can’t answer with assurance questions in section 4. Letting foliage grow in front of signage to airport is unacceptable! Clearly identifying road turns as “next left” or “next turn”. I turned too early twice! What are you using as your base line?

The purpose of our trip (of 18 persons) was a mission trip to First Baptist Church, Ft. Belknap we fed the Assiniboine children lunch for five days and built an addition on the church personage. Excluding flight costs, our group spent in excess of $20,000 for our stay, meals, supplies, etc. We loved the trip and the state of Montana.

Difficult to answer some questions since we only came to Montana to hike in Glacier National Park.

Extensive road construction on 93 north of Missoula

Most of accommodations need help. 1. Cabins run by koa are overpriced. 2. Internet not functionally available. 3. Laundry: Change machines, and some laundry washers/dryers broken. Change note available @ main lobby/store. Soaped not available in washing area. This area heavily used must be maintained.

This was my second trip to Missoula and I was just as pleased this time as I was when I visited back in December 2006.

Not as many restaurants as we have in TN, but you don’t need all our fast food restaurants.

Customer service in the restaurants in smaller towns was lacking (food was good).

We lived in MT 16 years before moving to Florida. We come back in the summer for a month. Always enjoy staying at Hebgen Lake an Billings.

Bozeman airport and XXX rental car were totally lacking in hospitality and make no effort to treat people with honesty and integrity. Bozeman airport had about 25 security people with nothing to do but be rude and unhelpful. They had no airport personnel or customer service reps. No management either. Our flight was canceled after a 3 hour delay and then all the United reps disappeared. Rental car company thinks they will make us pay for a chip that was already in window.

Road Conditions: Overall the roads were great. However, construction on Hwy 93 south of Saint Ignatius was dangerous while motorcycling 14 miles of gravel/mud/bumps.
Natural wonders are well showcased and accessible.

We really enjoy the scenic beauty of the National Parks and find the land interesting.

Everyone here welcomes you as if they have known you forever.

I loved it. I cannot wait to come back next year and see more of this beautiful state.

Overall a good trip. Possibly more roads in Glacier. Easier access. Road delays - construction a problem - more parking in Glacier.

There is no excuse for not recycling glass and plastic. Please take care of Montana!

Would encourage all to visit.

Hoping to return. Daughter interested in college and parks. History and communications.

Our main purpose in coming to Montana was Glacier National Park. Which we loved! We really didn't spend much time elsewhere in the state, but what we saw outside of Glacier was very satisfactory. Beautiful!

My third trip, every time we'll get to see more of Montana back roads-I like what I see better each time, I love Montana, I will be back next summer.( maybe all summer)

Love it! Would come back again!

We loved visiting Montana and hope to return someday.

Combined vacation to see sights, friends and family. A week of travel in Montana- One word: Wow! Great time. P.S. Will try to return soon!

The roads were in repair but in a seemingly hodgepodge unordered way.

Need more garbage cans in town of West Yellowstone. More recycling containers throughout state. Extreme decline of wildlife around Hebgon Lake West Yellowstone area since the last 5-10 years or so.

Everyone from Montana was very helpful and made new friends from Montana. I thank you very much I will be back. I have been coming to Glacier Park after Sturgis since 1995 on my Harley.

I have been to Montana 3 times this year so far. I plan to return as often as possible.

I was raised in Montana, but I never traveled too far from my home town. But I married someone from Indiana. So he is interested in history and when I came home to Montana he made it a part of his interests. He now reads and likes to see the area of historical Montana; as well as the Parks. So when we travel I see it thru his eyes and find all the things I missed when growing up here. I have a better appreciation for my home state of Montana.

Family funeral, Malta, MT.

Cans, bottles a lot on roadways-Bottle deposit. Public land-BLM-not very well posted. Private land next to BLM not posted either by owners-very easy to be on the wrong side of the fence.
Great trip, loved it. Will return!

We especially enjoyed the town of Red Lodge and felt very welcome. We will travel back to this area to see more in the future! Little Bighorn Battlefield was awe-inspiring.

Need areas for turnaround for missing turns large enough for truck with trailers in tow

Great- but disappointed in Missoula area- very hazy both times thru

Road conditions- There appears to be no preplanning in construction zones to provide for routing of traffic other than stopping (flagman) or driving with the construction equipment. West of Lewistown (US97) 10 mile construction they were watering down the already muddy dirt construction area which got packed under and all over my pick-up truck and camper, including drive train, suspension, and brakes. Fortunately, there was a car wash available in Lewistown. It took an hour and considerable expense to get my vehicle back to a safe driving condition. Also as a non-resident, I didn’t appreciate the signs which described

Love your state. Can’t wait to visit again. This was our 7th visit.

Prices for the room in Glacier National Park seemed to be very high. Lack of directional signs in Missoula at that cost us 45-60 minutes to find hotel.

We love Montana and travel through this great state often and enjoy what it has to offer.

No civic pride in Billings- looks rundown and beat up!

We have traveled through MT many times, often stopping along the way, and we have always found it a delightful portion of our trips cross country.

Exit! Where you are coming on to interstate and when coming off the interstate have them mark a lot clearer

Nice friendly folks, beautiful national parks, appropriate speed limits, what is this huckleberry thing(?) anyway, will return again sometime.

People are great! You need more campsites at Bigfork. You need a paved or oil road at Hungry Horse East and more campsites. The state park at Whitefish should lower their camping price due to trains all PM.

Gal passing this out to us and taking preliminary survey was just great! Both our grandsons from Minneapolis graduated from Bozeman

Roads could be improved. Especially 93 North-Missoula/Kalispell

Feeling welcome- Pulled into a gas station next to my brother (Montana resident) my brother filled his gas tank, my pump did not work, and no one said anything over the loud speaker, just left me fiddling with the pump. Finally went inside and was told you have to pre-pay-I had out of state license plates.

This was first trip in awhile and we went to both new and familiar areas. I am pleased that despite some growth and moving forward the Montana we visited still retained both its grandeur and its welcome. It’s always awe inspiring. (My dad was raised in Red Lodge so it’s a little piece of home for me even though I never lived there.)

We enjoyed the trip to Kalispell. Traffic on highway 2 was not a problem. Add some passing lanes to #2 would help getting around trucks.

The National Parks are perfectly organized. Montana seems to be divided into a richer southern and poorer northern part.
Most of the time just passed through Montana, although been to Glacier National Park twice backpacking, camping, and have always enjoyed visiting and being when in Montana.

The lodging facilities at West and East Glacier park were not good and I recommend they might need to be investigated.

The purpose of this vacation was to relax and do a lot of nothing. I didn't look for a lot to do but I have been here before (from Montana) and I know there is a lot to see and do. Thanks and good luck.

A clean highway system. Wish there was more recycling bins. Dogs should not ride in bed of truck - they can easily be killed.

We had a good time visiting Montana. For the most part the road construction was better than our state.

We covered a lot of country on horseback in the wilderness area NE of Jardine. We saw and glossed a large elk on elk sign-only wolf tracks and a grizzly bear. Water and grass, perfect habitat?

We love Montana! Gorgeous state and wonderful people. We would love to live there someday.

I enjoy the awesome rights more than anything. It is always a breath of fresh air seeing the mountains. I love Wisconsin- as broken up as it is by the glaciers, Montana is big-the break ups end up being mountains as opposed to the kettles, moraines, etc. of Wisconsin

We love Montana! We had traveled in New Zealand and really liked their availability of Class B RV rentals in scenic areas. Also liked camping that provided central shared kitchen area w/ several sinks, refrigerators, hot water. Roads between E Glacier and St Marys had many discarded beer containers on side. Nat'l park staff was friendly and provided outstanding service!

Beautiful

We love Montana. Highway rest areas were nice to sleep at, good lighting-felt safe.

Not happy about allowance of cattle on roads, or the dirty roadside rest stop toilets, especially on I94 West of Butte. Liked the 75mph speed limit.

It was a great 8 day trip, thanks!

We were disappointed in the availability of road side rest areas (meaning toilets). They are important to travelers in cars and especially with elderly or children. I like the use of plain white crosses to signify a road death. Especially the road from Big Sky to Bozeman. Lots of crosses make drivers more aware of dangers in that area.

I enjoy traveling to off-the-beaten path sights. Montana offers many. Although National Parks tend to be crowded, much of Montana is not and that's a plus.

Please don't close wayside rest. We love to travel by vehicle. Thanks for sharing your state.

Loved the forested mountains or hills, the horses, and the streams. Saw one cowboy, yea! Nice drive through your state.

Love Your State.

Recycling bins unavailable, no clear direction on what to recycle or how to do it.
Very pleased with all of Montana. Thank you.

Montana was a wonderful state to drive through. The pass coming down from Wyoming made me feel like a Formula 1 driver. The views were great! Red Lodge looks like a cool place to live and best of all I never saw a single cop the whole time.

Speed limit at 70 is too high for the road conditions

( The person handing out survey was polite. )

We have come to Montana for the last 14 years of vacation.

Bozeman's traffic control is terrible! Maybe the college campus adds to this, but I will never go into town in Bozeman again.

I love driving beartooth pass! WE have been going to Red Lodge almost every year since I could ski, love the town. Everyone that I have met in Montana has been very welcoming. Every trip is satisfying.

As we only passed through, I don't have a solid opinion. Like all places in the U.S., White culture, colonialism and capitalism are present here. I would prefer more open access to land and less racism

The one thing most important to us is the importance of large clear signs. Not just on the freeways but street signs in towns and cities. Also, when trying to find a specific address on a business especially it is extremely frustrating to not be able to read or see the store number. This is talked about very often with our peers 55+. Most will not return to areas where this is poor signage. Also, many times signs are covered by tree limbs or shrubs-you cannot see them until your past them. Also, people in the tourism places should not give direction like they would a local. We don't know the corner of Shorty's place.

I am always pleased when I travel Montana. This time I was able to see the greatness of the grain production which renews my connectedness with the earth. Having traveled many times through Montana, I enjoyed the diversity most this time. I'll be back in the future - there is much to enjoy!

Where are the wind turbines? Address mine reclamation issues; Butte area. Appreciated your free detailed highway roadmap. More enforcement of speed limits needed.

Price of goods/services pretty high. Laundromat in St. Mary in poor working order. Liked the way traffic was handled in Glacier park. Especially the shuttles and no RV's on the going to sun road

Not enough time.

We have been coming out every summer for forty years and consider it our second home. We have traveled all over the state but this summer just "stayed put/"

Pretty good job on all

I love Montana, wish I could come more often.

We drove through Canada on our trip from Minnesota to Glacier Park because we wanted to visit Canadian museums (T-Rex Dinosaur, Smashed in Head Buffalo jump, Remington Carriage), and because it is very easy to find campgrounds in Alberta and Saskatchewan. Even small city campgrounds are well marked.

I wish motels would offer recycling bins for our use. I do not like the idea that the XXX gas station in Billings, MT is allowed to reset the gas pumps before the customer can see how much gas they pumped or what we owe. Other than that, I love Montana!
Montana's a beautiful state

This was a one day trip for our work in Yellowstone Park. We have visited a # of sites, museums, etc. on previous multi-day visits and enjoyed immensely. One sad note is the move of the Museum of the Plains Indians from Browning to Cody, WY (Buffalo Bill Heritage Center). It is a great facility, it's sad to see the MT Community lose this.

We have been through here several times and are always impressed how beautiful it is. We are RV'ers so our main information comes from rest areas and camp ground hosts. We recently moved to South Dakota from Michigan. Maybe we should have made it Montana. We'll keep that in mind.

Montana is a very friendly, beautiful state.

Started coming to MT as a child and now come once a month on business plus a couple times a year for vacation. Always enjoy my time in MT.

Some road construction which was to be expected but a little harder for wear and tear on vehicle and camper. We had an extra ordinary time! It was awesome! Thank you.

Glacier Park is very beautiful and we enjoyed it very much.

Montana is a beautiful state. My family and I always enjoy traveling thru. while we have not had the opportunity to spend a lot of time there we hope to vacation there within the next couple of years.

In Glendive, the McDonalds billboard on the interstate needs to be removed. The gas station attendant said they get many people asking about it and the restaurant has been closed for over 2 years. Roads are a little wavy and Beartooth Pass was beautiful.

Rest stops: filthy, really.

Our trip through Montana was to get from point A to point B. However, traveling through was a pleasurable experience. The scenery was beautiful and roads and weather were good. Thank you.

Very beautiful country.

We enjoyed our time in Montana and would be happy to vacation there again.

Highway 2 no information available.

Have visited Montana many times. Have seen so many of the attractions and activities listed on previous trips. This trip is primarily to visit family and fly fish the Clark Fork River. We always enjoy our visits to Montana.

Is there any more that can be done to warn travelers how far apart gas stations are on the east side of the state along 94 - and on Sundays some of these stations are closed. As far as welcomed - in town - Bozeman people were not friendly until you got out to the trans or rivers - the only service type people who were nice were the older folks at the Bozeman visitor center and they were exceptionally nice- give them a bonus. And, people at the Museum of the Rockies were very nice. Vendors in West Yellowstone were not nice, the ones who owned the businesses, they did not say thank you and complained to each other about visitors.

Beautiful place!

We have been to Montana many times over the years. We have camped most of the time • this time we took Amtrak and stayed in the Lodge in East Glacier. The Park is as beautiful as ever; the staff great but sorry to see the glacier receding so quickly. Big difference since we were there 16 years ago.
Had a great time. Saw the wiener dog races in Lakeside, MT on Saturday, ran the Two Bear marathon on Sunday. Spent a relaxing day at the Mineral hot springs resort in Quinns. Beautiful, clear sky at night.

I was born in Bozeman, have many relatives and friends in the state. I am always glad to come back home to visit.

One learns quickly that the fuel tank needs to be kept full as the gas stations are few and far between, especially on the interstates.

Need more turn out areas. Need better directional signs in Glacier. Signs are too far ahead before the street to turn on - missed our turn at least 3 times or more. Scenic drives-difficult to much underbrush to see anything especially the animals. Need cafeteria style restaurants in the park!

I have always loved everything about Montana when passing through your state. My only suggestion would be to have more highway markers identifying scenic views & sooner than they appear now. It would be very convenient to have rest stops coordinating with scenic views but I'll just settle for better markers.

I love Montana.

Western Montana is absolutely beautiful. Can't wait to come back to finish exploring.

Hwy 200 could use a few more gas stations and restaurants and hotels.

Too many "trophy" homes going up in scenic/forested areas- too little zoning. Destruction of natural beauty by urban/suburban sprawl and factories/industry placed indiscriminately without apparent forethought.

Wonderful trip-hope to return many times.

I spend 1 week in Sept with 4 friends fly fishing Rock Creek with friends mostly around Gilles Bridge (15 miles south of Philipsburg)

Reserve St. (Missoula) traffic is horrible! City planner needs to do something to avoid all the gridlock.

Kalispell needs a bypass. People were always very friendly and helpful.

We had a great time while spending the two weeks in Montana.

Montana was beautiful. Grazing on BLM land along Missouri was disappointing- trees, chokecheey and native plants have disappeared due to grazing. The scenic river way should not be grazed by livestock.

People in Montana are very friendly and welcoming. I was here for a job interview and would love to move to Montana.

It was a great trip! We had no complaints, other than the usual summer road construction, but that was expected. We did look at highway info on the internet which we did not find to be very helpful with regard to current road construction. Otherwise, it was a perfect vacation.

Roads are terrible. You need to tax the tourists a little to pay for some upgrades.

We had lunch in a rest area.

Sorry- we got the ratings backward & don't know where we stayed for sure anymore. We do want to come back!
Lots of road construction delays, but realize it has to be done!

Red Lodge was the only town in Montana that we visited, ate, and had a drink. Most of our time was spent in Wyoming at guest ranch that was only about 40 miles from Red Lodge

We felt this was a very enjoyable visit

Had a wonderful stay and hope to come back. Everyone very friendly. A beautiful place. Took the train here from Chicago a great ride.

I shall return.

My husband and I love Montana. If my family did not reside in Louisiana I would definitely move to Montana. The people are so hospitable and make you feel at home. Your state is absolutely fascinating from our point of view. We would love to see more! Thank you so much!

Fabulous trip, What a wonderful state! This was our 6th trip to Montana, all were wonderful!

I am always satisfied with my Montana experience. This was my 5 year in a row visit in the summer.

Bear Tooth highway was terrific

We love your state! Keep up the good work see ya next year!

Bozeman is a wonderful, vibrant city

As our six year old son put it. "This was the best vacation-ever!"

We were very pleased. For once, the land was beautiful and the water was really good. The people were very nice

State is very beautiful.

My biggest dissatisfied point was that there were no more options for a fishing license. I purchased a day (48hour) for $25.00. The next step was a 10 day, I was there longer than 10 days, but knew I couldn't fish that much, a 3 or 4 day license for a reasonable fee would be nice. The price of a 10 day or a animal pass wasn't justified for the amount of time I had my main reason of being in Montana is to take care of my parents place and even a 2 day pass only let me fish for 6 or 8 hours out of the 48. Other than that I enjoyed my trip and will be back.

Construction on 93 from Missoula to Kalispell was horrific, and no indication was given prior or about length of construction. Otherwise highways extremely good. Drivers courteous and capable (local drivers) In park, no recycling for plastic was available (aluminum only). Accommodations in park are lousy, frankly, excepting campgrounds. Young park employees indifferent and inhospitable, for the most part. Older employees very helpful. Better integration of Native American history would be of value. You folks should promote stargazing and provide educational information about basic constellations to tourists.

What a beautiful place. We hope to return here soon. Thank you!

The open spaces were refreshing. We will be back.
I love Montana! I was born in South Korea, raised in Oklahoma, and survived Los Angeles, CA. I have traveled a lot and have found the beautiful state of Montana to be the best in the U.S. I'm back here to make it my home.

Stores should sell crafts made by Americans, preferably American Indians, not Chinese or Mexican imports.

I was driving through Montana and loved the scene. I had a couple extra days so I turned off I-90 got lost, and had the time of my life. I will be back soon.

Markings at airport construction poor!

We had a great time and want to return at some point. Hopefully in the not too distant future. I think Montana is the most beautiful state I have visited. The people were very friendly to us! A Texan.

Montana is wonderful. Scenic, friendly and always a great vacation place

Montana is a beautiful state with good fishing

I plan to return.

Got lost in Billings trying to follow Hwy 3

I was on business. Had little time to look other than driving down the highway, Billings-Great Falls-Billings. Looked around Billings at different elevations of different parts of the city.

Tent camping with family in the 60's-80's. we enjoyed the beauty and variety of Montana. 80's and 90's we continued to van camp, and Montana was often our destination. Now we full-time travel in a van, and Montana continues to call to us with its beauty and charming people. Your questions speak to that authenticity that is lacking in other parts of our extraordinary country. The current younger population has changed, but the challenge to maintain and progress is evident in your questionnaire. Thank you for the opportunity to be counted.

We enjoy MT and especially Glacier National Park

Extremely clean. Purchasing wood for campfires very pricey.

Montana rocks.

We loved our stay on Flathead Lake - Loved visiting Glacier.

This was my first visit. I definitely plan to come back next summer and stay longer. I would like to see more historical Montana, especially forts and ghost towns. Also the Native-American culture.

We were just passing thru MT to get to WA for our vacation, but I am astounded at the beauty of MT. Too bad we live 5000 far away as we would make MT our regular vacation spot vs. NM or CO. The WA trip was to look at colleges for our daughter.

We really enjoyed our visit.

We loved Montana! Here are a few things that could be improved somehow: Railroads near lodging every night made it very hard to get some sleep; On Missoula's websites it does not have full listing of lodgings and they didn't disclose they were near railroad tracks; Art galleries were closed so much we had to peek through windows at them.
Wish we had more time to explore other areas of Montana. It's a beautiful place to visit

Hospitality at Lakeside, Somers, Big Fork, and Missoula was exceptional! Flathead Lake is in great condition.

Road Conditions-Secondary roads rough; Feeling of being welcomed- Tuesday September 22nd after traveling south from I-90 we were stopped at a road construction site, when I rolled down the window to ask about how long the wait would be the woman holding the stop sign said "Just get out of my state" We had intended to stay in West Yellowstone but moved on.

We love Montana and enjoy all the outdoor activities as well as visiting family. It's nice to be able to combine vacation and family visits.

I was in Montana for only 24 hours for a family member's funeral.

Montana is very nice. The only thing I would have to say is road signs to turn offs, a bit sketchy. thanks for a great time.

I always enjoy coming to Montana. Unfortunately I only came for business. I am waiting for the trip that will allow me to enjoy more of Montana.

Motorcycle touring so some construction areas were scary (S. to Missoula...yikes!) But good warnings signs and appreciate the effort to maintain roads- Love MT! Our 2nd trip in 2 years! P.s. Very friendly people, good food, yay!

I think Billings has great potential, lots of cool old buildings that could be redeveloped in fun/eclectic restaurants/bars/shops- to make Billings a great destination for a weekend visit.

Go Griz! 2003 Grad.

Did notice more recycling. We do plastics, cardboard, glass and metal in Denver

These are too abstract to answer given the choices.

We love Montana and have been visiting for 35 years, very regularly. Recycling seems behind and even though hotels ask you to reuse towels, there are no containers for plastic bottles or news paper. Commit or don't commit, but try not to look cheap. (Hey, save on laundry, but fill up the landscape with plastic.)

Not enough recycling. While traveling we have a lot of water bottles & cans which need recycling receptacles. I did not find any in Montana except Nat'l Park.

We always received complete satisfaction to any question or accommodation we inquired about, A great state! I was in Park City, Montana.

Loved Beartooth Highway- driving it was a reason to go to Red Lodge. Also dining is important to our travels

Very nice, very clean state, good people.

I grew up in Montana- wonderful state- especially to experience childhood. A lot of your questions do not apply to my current reason for visiting which is family business needs and aging parent issues.

I was very disappointed with the recycling opportunities. They were nonexistent near Glacier National Park

Rest areas need some work. Where is the recycling? Other than that, I love Montana!
Two years ago we got speeding ticket in Roundup and because we were from out of state we had to pay the policeman $200.00 in cash on the spot. We were accidently speeding in a special area in front of the Busy Bee restaurant. That did not seem very friendly.

As a native, and a former resident (so) I see change, however most is good and helps the visitor. Love the signage on the S.K. res. Love the Mennonite rest in Ronan, Ninpipes, Big Horn. What can you say about Kalispell growth? Changed character but after all it is the real world, not a stage set. As an artist, I would have loved to see more museums, shows, etc., But my heart was filled and grateful. Thank you for the good job in caring for my home state. Highway shoulders on 206 would be very helpful. 93 are much improved.

We grew up in Montana and know the beauty of it!

Your airport in Billings needs to get free internet. Most airports large/small/medium has it. The airport also needs better for restaurant past the security point.

I apologize for not being able to provide a lot of feedback. I went to Montana to attend my grandfather's funeral.

We simply traveled through Montana on our way from Alaska and Canada. We were residents of Montana in the late 70's and early 80's and always enjoy returning.

Enjoyed our trip to Montana. Helicopter ride in Glacier Park was our highlight of our trip.

Nice state.

Have traveled through Montana numerous times. Has always been the best part of the trip. Definite spot for my next vacation.

I like your state. I hope to vacation here and see more of the major parks and rock climbing this state has to offer.

I mainly come to Montana to shop in Billings, or to fly out of Billings airport. Your state is beautiful and unspoiled by humans. A place I always enjoy visiting or driving thru.

We just made a quick trip to Manhattan to pick-up a freezer

I went to Gem Mountain any way of Philipsburg. Return trip to Hamilton by way of Skalkaho Pass. Could REALLY use some guard rails on that road!

Hebgen Lake Road by Super 8 Motel to the end of Lake is very rough. Our mirror on our RV fell off. This was screwed into the wall. Road very washboard.

I am a born and raised in Montana. I grew up in Montana City. Unfortunately we had to move to Idaho for work. We live in Pocatello. If we could we would move back in a heartbeat. We love our wonderful state; there is no place like it. Montana is truly "The Last Best Place" Go Griz!

I love Montana.

Speed limit signs need to be posted when entering Montana from Idaho traveling end on I-90. For the first 30 miles there is no speed limit sign. We do not like all of the advertisements for casino's and gambling throughout the state.

This was a trip to teach a friend sausage making and smoking mear so most of the questions don't apply.

Great place to visit
I was born in Butte and enjoy returning to Montana to fish occasionally. This trip was to visit graves on an old family ranch near Glen, approximately 20 relatives were there. We attended the rodeo and concert in Dillon while there.

Montana is a beautiful state. I especially like the wide-open spaces. We spent most of our time in Bannack and Nevada City. The people were friendly and informative, even the lady having the garage sale was great.

We camped at Clark Canyon Dam. We were there more than 14 days and we occupied our trailer at all times, spending money in Dillon, local restaurants and bars. We were in Montana 45 days and spent a lot of money. We were evicted from our camping spot even though we were the only ones there. We came on home. Montana lost revenue from us and people that visited because of us. Rules should be evaluated on a one on one basis.

I didn't like all of the truck traffic from Bozeman to Hwy 20 in Idaho. It should be changed. The trucks could go from Idaho Falls to Dillon and Whitehall onto hwy. 90. Everyone could enjoy the Madison River.

Everything was good.

Between Butte and Helena trees are dying, not very impressive.

I love Montana. I hope to own a ranch in that great state someday soon.

We love Yellowstone Park. We come here every September and October.

Your gambling and casinos provide the wrong atmosphere for your beautiful state.

I really like Montana

Just passing through to Moscow, ID. Road construction was a bit much. But understand the "window for work" in this country.

Family reunion was arranged by Montana native/resident - it was great and will be back

The resort did not have recycling bins; a couple of employees at local restaurants were unfriendly, and some drivers in the area pull out in front of you when you are on a motorcycle, kicking up rocks.

Montana's biggest detractions are the number of casinos and public businesses that are smoke filled

Preserve your natural areas. They are beautiful!

Availability of motel rooms in north east Montana is very limited!

It's beautiful but not the same as when I was a youngster - too many people

Billings is not a very walk friendly town. I was told by the Juniper Inn the grocery store was only a couple blocks away. It was 7 blocks one way. Being a female walking alone I was quite scared several times. Over by the mall was the worst. The cabs here are awful.

Montana used to be the last best place but isn't anymore because too many people arrived and made it how they wanted it - money, money, money.
We travel to Montana at least 2 times a year. Have relatives there and also to shop. Beautiful country.  

Came to visit relative and take a plane to Vegas. Traveled freeway from ID to Missoula, MT is a great place to visit. 

disappointed in lack of recycle bins at rest areas- love Montana's Big Sky!  

We enjoyed traveling through Montana. From Billings south, when we went east, the interstate was terrible. But when we came west the same section of road had been resurfaced, making travel a lot smoother coming west. There were storms. We were impressed with the weather updates on the radio stations, the updates helped us decide where to stop. 

Need soap in restrooms  

We do not like what gambling has done to MT. I grew up in Helena. What blight on the entire state. You can't escape it! The trees dying due to beetles should be harvested to help protect other trees and to be good stewards of the natural resources.  

Traveled through Montana many times. This trip only four hours.  

We travel through Montana quite often. We have been to Yellowstone, Glacier, Lolo Pass but not this trip. We were traveling from Pocetello to Post Falls where we reside. We were attending a funeral.  

I was driving through Montana to go from Northern Idaho to get to Idaho Falls and to return to Northern Idaho. It was a nice drive.  

Very good, scenic, motorcycle trip, with Riding Club convention in Billings. Rural roads and highway really need more signs.  

Sorry I could not stay longer  

I Love Montana.  

On my return trip from Canada to Utah, I wanted to stop at the Lewis and Clark center in Great Falls. The first Great Falls exit had a sign indicating that was the exit to take, but after that there were NO directions. I never did find it and returned to the interstate without visiting the center. More signs are needed to direct people from I-15 to the center.  

Overall we have been very satisfied with our time spent in Montana. Unfortunately we have not had time to explore Montana like we would like to.  

Satisfied 

Everything was overpriced at hotels, but the area was beautiful.  

We love the drive. We come through each summer. It’s always clean and welcoming. Thank you!  

We always come to Montana. Griz football! (Not on list weird)  

Keep it this way! Don't make it too touristy.
What a great place, the most beautiful place I have ever been and I have traveled outside of the U.S. The cleanest place ever. Keep up the good work, hope to come again.

I was just passing through, but am planning a white water rafting trip for next summer for my entire family. I'm excited!

We love Montana! We visit every summer.

We like and enjoy coming to Montana - this is the second year in a row we have come here.

Montana was my home for over 40 years, can't wait to move back!

Especially in the Bitterroot Valley I felt a bit unwelcome - it seemed that people were tentatively friendly until they found out we were from Utah and then there was a definite downgrade in welcoming. Overall I got the impression that outsiders were not wanted. We found backcountry car camping difficult and gave up in Lolo and used public campgrounds the rest of the time. It was a bit hard to camp near the trails we wanted especially in Missoula and ended up outside of Lolo and driving up to Missoula to use the Rattlesnake recreation area. The mountain biking through the state was excellent.

Since my party and I stuck primarily to the interstate and only stopped for gas we didn't get to really enjoy all that Montana has to offer. However, what we did see made us want to come back and spend some real time enjoying the state.

We enjoyed our visit. We came to Montana to visit friends. We hope to return again to enjoy the many sites and beauties.

This is a beautiful state! We had a great time and will plan to return in the future.

Beautiful state. Friendly people.

Repeat visitors...always enjoy!

Land: Cut Down burnt and dead trees. Remove under brush. The club can go to hell along with BLM Sierra

We have made this trip several times and really enjoyed it!

West Yellowstone is our family's favorite travel destination.

Had a great time on my way to Missoula - stopped to see Lewis and Clark murals. On my way back to Bozeman took a scenic highway and was delighted by Philipsburg and Anaconda. Bozeman has a great public library with great Montana brochures.

It seems items for sale are Chinese trinkets. Public smokers should be banned - like other states for health reasons.

The Custer county guide though it had typos and misspellings provided a lot of info prior to our trip. Thanks.

National Park Lodges normally offer local game: i.e. Bison at Yellowstone, Venison and mussels at Crater Lake and nada at Glacier National Park.

We love visiting Montana - fishing and golfing and visiting friends. If we did not have a 2nd home near children we'd have one in Hamilton or Whitefish!
I have lived in this state and traveled all over it and sent many people to see it.

Montana is a beautiful state. I have been here many times and I will be back. Would love to have a summer home in the billings area.

Long delays on Hwy 93 north of Missoula and in Glacier Park. If we knew of these ahead of time we would have planned our route differently.

We were very pleased with all we have met in Montana. Friendly state! Very helpful people to out-of-state travelers. Thanks! We will come back!

Enjoyed our visit! We would come back someday to see more of Glacier National Park.

Food options should be increased.

It's always great to be in Montana!

Only came because my friend lives here, but I'm so amazed with the state that I'm actually considering moving here. I love it here.

Whitefish, MT does reflect local heritage. Love their weekly farmers market! Love the clean air, atmosphere, friendliness and mountains and rivers and lakes.

The trees- need help- too many dead

Beautiful scenery. Missoula - great Americana/University feeling. Seemed like a great place to live without cold weather in winter.

I am looking forward to staying more often in the state. Just beautiful

I was taken aback of the level of "Strip-development" along many of the towns I passed through, creating the feeling of anywhere USA. I was encouraged by the seeming increase in value for non-consumptive uses of the natural resources.

On bike tour to visit relatives in Montana. Live in AZ now. Wife is a Montana native, I am a WY native. I guess we had to move to realize how great states like Montana and Wyoming really are. Miss the mountains.

Note: I lived in Missoula and Missoula county for 10 years (1976-1985). I returned to Montana 1 to 2 times per year and roam the rt 93 corridor from Hamilton to Polson. I was born, raised and educated in Ohio. Moving to Montana was the smartest move I ever made. Total level of satisfaction (1976-2009); very satisfied. there's more

scenic

Very pleasant trip and plan to return in another year.

Some of your state parks seem to discourage RV camping. For instance, Missouri Headwaters is wonderful park, but camping is stuck off in the swamps as an afterthought. Spent 22 days traveling/touring in Montana (3 RV's, 5 people, and 5 pets) and thoroughly enjoyed it! Wonderful places, great people (ok, a little bit crazy too). We will be back and spend more time.

Truly enjoyed MT.
The summer of 2009 will be remembered as the greenest ever for Montana. It was as beautiful as the rolling hills in Austria in the Sound of Music! The exit from Kemp avenue to the east towards Miles City is truly a hazard. I don't recall seeing a recycle bin anywhere between Ekalaka and Canada. July 11th and 12th all hotels west of Livingston were totally booked. Luckily found one room equitable at Sacahawea Inn in Three Forks and it was lovely. Suggestion, Montana has so many gems tucked away between its boulders and many are totally missed as visitors drive the vast miles of our state. I've always thought someone should promote it.

I love Red Lodge and the hiking in the Beartooth Mountains!

Totally dig Montana! Red-necks in Wibaux to bikers in Cooke City to intellectual "greens" in Bozeman. It rocks.

Understand road construction can only be completed in summer months. My husband & I are from Montana originally - visit annually if we can. Speed limit signs could be placed at shorter intervals.

I greatly enjoyed my visit to your state.

One day trip to Cody, WY for business.

This summer will have spent 12 weeks in Montana. Enjoy the visits each summer- even rain and snow in June!

Sometimes hard to find local Motels that are not chain brand. Lodging within 75 miles or so of National parks too expensive

I grew up in Denton & went to college at MSU. I left Montana in 1985. This trip was my yearly trip to visit my father.

We loved Montana! The people were wonderful, and everything was beautiful! We hope to move there in a few years.

Too much ugly sprawl around highways such as 93. Beautiful old main streets being forced out of business by chain stores. Been coming here 20 years- a lot of unregulated urban sprawl happening

We have family in Bozeman and visit at least once, usually twice a year. Montana is on our short list of potential retirement locations.

Above reasons reflect why I expect to retire in MT.- (Big Fork). Genuine and people friendly, and extremely welcoming.

We had a hard time finding a nice place to stay. Once we were there we saw a lot of nice places, they are just hard to find on the internet.

My friend and I were only traveling through Montana on a pre-ride checking the route for this year's 3 flags Motor cycle tour coming up over Labor day weekend. Both of us and our husbands have traveled through Montana many times enjoying your National parks, scenery, etc. It is a beautiful state and I love visiting the different parks. This trip however, we didn’t have the time to enjoy all the beautiful scenery, animals, etc.

On a couple of occasions we stayed in ok accommodations, acceptable but not uplifting. On both occasions we found there were very good lodges which were attractive and we would have centrally stayed in them. They were not listed in the AAA (CA) book so we missed them. We did not have easy access to the Internet when looking for accommodations. Is it possible there lodges don’t pay AAA? A truly great visit despite part of the highway to the sun being closed, a real bummer.

A beautiful state. It reflects satisfaction with those who live there.

Keep it real
| Many residents advised only two seasons winter and road repair. Only main road we traveled was highway 90. However B and B were wonderful. Waiter in Cooke city was an ass and asked about cell coverage and he made us wait 2 hours before serving. Would have left but it was only game in town. Only bad apple we met. Stated he didn't like cell phones or people who use them. |
| Great vacation. National park service must upgrade interior condition of national park lodges. Also the quality of the restaurants at the national park lodges must be improved. Everything else about the trip was fantastic! I want to come back and will recommend Montana to friends. |
| If I could make a living in MT, I would move tomorrow! Wonderful experience, and my husband and I cannot wait to come back. My husband has been many times (family is in Hardin). MT rocks my world! |
| Good survey. Extend and expand. |
| Directional road signage: Road and highway agencies need to view plans for highway signage through the eyes of a 1st time visitor. Interstate signage's, in particular, need to be clear, succinct, and sufficiently in advance of the "decision point" to allow for an informed, appropriate and safe response. The I-15 approach to Dillon from the south was unclear how to exit the freeway to Dillion. Returning from the town to the freeway was somewhat confusing since the "I-15" signs in town lacked direction (north/south) labels. We eventually figured it out after going around the block several times. Also for travelers' safety. |
| Not a lot of fine dining- road construction on the way to airport. Very expensive shuttle to airport |
| Nice place, Montana, thanks! |
| Business trip- so did not spend much time playing tourist. What I saw I liked, would plan on coming back on vacation in the future. |
| My mother and I went to Billings, MT for a family members wedding. We were in Billings for two days. Liked our hotel, Boot Hill Inn. Not much in Billings |
| This isn't my only trip I've been looking for a couple years and have traveled your beautiful state and truly appreciate the beauty. I've noticed considerable growth from year to year. I hope to make my purchase next summer! Stays out of the limelight- However Lolo/Florence are ideal for skiing-why not develop out and create more employment. |
| Got to love Montana with the two seasons: winter and road construction! Thanks Big Sky! |
| I travel a lot for work. Montana is one of those rare places where I describe how friendly everyone is. I have yet to have a negative experience here. I look forward to coming back sometime for a vacation. |
| We really enjoyed our first trip to Montana and are looking forward to returning soon. |
| We had a great time. |
| We had to dodge some cows in the middle of the road on Chief Mountain Highway. Cows can roam free in Montana? My wife was not too pleased with the souvenir station and the dining options near the St. Mary area of Glacier National Park. |
| Keep up the wonderful job! |
| Montana is beautiful • I had no idea! Although I didn't have time to stop, I want to come back one day and explore! |
| We love Montana. |
A very beautiful state, especially love going river rafting with my family and enjoying nature.

We had a wonderful time. We will be returning

Survey too long. Too many satisfaction options

We enjoyed the beauty of the drive from Dillon to Hamilton via the Big Hole River route through Wisdom.

I love Montana, beautiful state; I rest, relax on my short vacation. I will come back again in next year - my heaven on earth.

Really enjoyed hiking the M trail above University in Missoula. Signage regarding native vs. invasive plant species was excellent. Would have liked to see more recycling opportunities especially for bottles and cans. River and surrounding areas in Missoula were clean and beautiful. Everyone was very friendly. The Missoula airport contains the best airport gift shop I have ever seen and I have been to over fifty airports globally.

Bozeman’s museum of the Rockies- 5 star! We could not do the dinosaur trail, but this was awesome! I love MT and checked out homes for sale for the near future. Signage was clear and distinct, but city roads were a mess. i.e. Logan Int’l Airport, downtown Billings, MSU, Bozeman- we were lost getting to museum- West Rosebud Lake and Beartooth Highway were 1000 times better than airport road

Beautiful state and friendly

Road construction could be better organized. Fun trip though!

I was traveling to Cody, WY. There were no, zero, road signs to tell me where/how to go. Rental car agency did not offer me a map. I was “saved” by the hotel reception in Red Lodge; she saved me several hours driving time.

We are from California, every year we visit children/grandchildren in Idaho. We so look forward to our drive through Yellowstone enroute to other children/grandchildren in North Dakota- already looking forward to next year

Coming from California was very impressed with the authenticity of life in Montana.

Why are you handing out surveys in July when the drawing is in June?

The XXX hotel in Helena did not post nor uses a caveat about reusing towels. "A towel on the floor gets replaced; a towel hanging up will be reused." (This saves water.)

Travel purpose was to move elderly parent. Grew up in Billings, stayed with family so many questions did not apply.

We Enjoyed Butte very much, interesting town.

Montana is a very beautiful, clean state. I love that it has not been overpopulated or commercialized. I hope it stays that way. I love the open space and farm and ranch life. It would be in Montana's best interest to not promote growth or at least control it. I have seen what growth has done to Colorado’s farm and ranch land and lifestyle. I loved Montana!

The state roads were very clean, very little trash. Minimal graffiti. We have visited 2 years in a row. Our trips were very scenic and beautiful. Thanks for taking such good care of Montana. I wish citizens in California took the same pride in their state.
God bless Montana

As a bicyclist there is considerable glass and debris on the shoulder. Drivers have been polite and roadway smooth. Rumble strip is nice separation between us and traffic. Many vehicles slow down to pass us. Not impressed in Condon- $10 per tent on rocky soil and dry grass, $3.00 shower too much. No table, no fire pit, water not drinkable, food limited to frozen section for cafe, bathroom deplorable, no friendly store manager.

Love Whitefish "old town"- Missoula?

We love Montana. Originally visited in 2000 from London, England. Now living in CA, our 5th trip here. Our kids 6, 4 & 2, adore MT and we have brought our parents from England with us this time. Our family's dream is to live here.

Mostly ok. Bad publicity in both Montana and Idaho are plans to hunt wolves. I protest this kind of action. Wolves and grizzly's need care, not killing. If Montana kills wolves I will boycott anything there and urge friends to do the same. Wildlife and wilderness are precious.

We love Montana! Especially Missoula and Glacier. We would like to see more direct flights from Northern California to Missoula. We flew into Spokane and rented a car. Thanks!

In Missoula, the cost of a meal in a restaurant are big city price but the taste/quality are not matched; very disappointed.

Would like to see more, our main purpose was Yellowstone and Billings was the best deal for flights, wanted to see Museum of the Rockies at Bozeman, but ran out of time. We would also have liked to have made it to GNP. We hope to come back someday.

Montana and Yellowstone National Park has been our favorite vacation spots since the 1950's. It is never a disappointment. Our advice to friends is to visit Montana and the National Parks.

Although most of our time was spent in Idaho, we plan to return to see more of Montana next year. Montana is very interesting and inviting. See you next year.

Loved it, will return someday! My husband was very interested in the mining museum in Butte. My daughter loved the gem/mineral museum in Butte. The family loved the museum and the university in Bozeman.

Glacier was the only place where there was recycling; none of the rest stops had recycling. Also, the rest stops did not have soap or hand sanitizer available. Everything else was very nice.

Need more elevation markers-The route we took needed better directions for camp ground and more of them (RV parks, etc state and federal.) On long stretches of Hwy, pullouts for stretching legs, not necessarily facilities and signage.

I am concerned about two conditions in the natural environment. (1) The pine beetle destruction of the forest is sickening. (2) The destruction of elk and deer herds by the introduction of wolves is so sad.

I live in Hawaii and used to live in Alaska; both states do not allow billboards. Maybe it's just me, but I find billboards extremely ugly and distracting from the natural beauty.

Very disappointed that our national parks are "world biospheres" controlled by U.N. Montana legislature too wimpy to stand up to Federal Government and refine federal subsidies.

Excellent! Excellent! Excellent!

Always good to be in Montana. Lots of beetles. What can be done to help?

A speed limit of 75mph on a windy 2 lane road is insane. But I understand that was MT's response to being mandated to have a speed limit by the Federal Government.Ok, well have one but it will be so high it, in essence is no speed limit. The crosses on the roadside are there to remind us of the folly of no speed limit or a ridiculous one. Road conditions and repair-even given the difficulties of main farming roads in area frequent freeze.
We were in Montana to see an 86-yr old relative who had just had a heart attack, so it was not a pleasure trip. We were so impressed by how clean Montana's highways are! Thank you for keeping the roadside trash picked up. I wish you could teach Oregon and Washington your secrets for maintaining the environment.

Unable to travel this year as much due to father's health. Hopefully-next year.

Road construction was ok but it was difficult to determine speed limits on different portions of the road. Don't want to get a ticket.

People appear to be proud of their home state. It is clean and friendly. We especially enjoyed the folks at small local museums and the information centers "most helpful" A lovely state.

Missoula and Whitefish were among one of the most "character" cities I've been to!

Kalispell extremist radio offensive. Troy and Libby have gone downhill in last 38 years! Troy and Libby were quite depressing to revisit; signage and strip development having taken over. The drive through Mission Valley and Clark Fork river valley were beautiful.

Montana is wonderful. The balancing of tourism and destruction of local culture by pondering to tourists and seasonal residence interest is clearly pretty hard.

Helena was a pretty boring town, but it was nice to see many historical buildings and landmarks. We'll for sure be back.

Brochures on scenic drives would be nice- along with some type of virtual tour guide for it- a pod cast, cell phone number to call, download for a DVD, etc..

I travel to the area every year. Given the emphasis on natural beauty and preservation, it always astounds me that there is not the same importance placed on recycling. Even if one goes to the trouble of taking refuse to the W. Yellowstone dump, there is no longer an option for recycling glass. That's my major gripe-otherwise, I love Montana.

I placed an N/A by environmental practices since I did not ask at either place nor observe containers for recycling. The variety of lodging choices was N/A since being 2 women; we tend to stay at established hotels. If traveling with my husband in MT, I would be more adventurous about lodging. As for stewardship of the land, I would need to study this in regards to the beetle infestation, cattle access to streams, and roadless forest tracts.

There was nowhere to recycle so I had to throw away glass and plastic at rest stops. Need more lodging choices (affordable) in West Yellowstone (under $50 a night).

We planned on fishing the rivers, rafting, and hiking in the mountains. Vesting Butte. That's what we did. I wish I lived there! But I heart Oregon too.

Lots of road construction going on! Why do they tear up the complete highway and not do half or one side of the highway at a time. Not really complaining, I am glad to see our highways maintained and improved.

Very satisfied with natural beauty; inhabitance and associated activities neutral.

I always enjoyed my trips. (we took several on our way to North Dakota while my husband was with me.)

I just put satisfied as I don't recall any problems so it must have been fine. I had no expectations one way or another either. So was neither overly impressed nor disappointed. This was intending to be just a pass-thru trip but now having seen MT (especially GNP) I will be back.

We have traveled through and to Montana many times. We always feel like we are home. We love the state.

I'd love to come back and spend more time in MT.
From Billings to Great Falls you need a roadside rest area. Had lunch in a city park in Harlowton. It was nice, but we expected a roadside rest. Not a big deal but you asked.

I was raised in MT so love the state. Everything is growing so much. Overall impressed with state. As a motorcyclist I did not like the “tar snake” highway repairs. Also thought having 18 miles of hwy 93 N of Missoula torn up at one time was a bit much.

We met several people with very nice sense of humor, pleasant. Hard to find vegan food options at glacier-around Glacier Park

Found NO rest area from Anaconda to Livingston on I-90. Too many miles!

West Glacier area very scenic and beautiful with many services available, East Glacier area not so much.

Most of above items had no bearing on my trip. I was simply driving through from Oregon to Minnesota. I had no complaints. I make this drive yearly.

A lot of road signs around Livingston area are wrecked from wind and have been all year. Scenic drives are normally hundreds of miles rough gravel and no facilities are available when you go there. We have been to Yellowstone and would like to come back and see Glacier Park as well as visit friends in Lewistown.

We had a great time in Montana. Very beautiful! And the people were really friendly. We were back!

The sprawl of Billings into surrounding farmland is very disappointing. This permanently removes good soil from production. There is plenty of un-used and underutilized land within Billings that could be developed before food-producing land is ruined. On a positive note, the embracing round-about in the Billings area is brilliant. I hope other communities follow the example.

We enjoyed our visit and our accommodations. You’ve a beautiful state.

Road construction outside of Missoula (but that is typical to improve conditions). Also the rain was unexpected, but you really have no power to change that one, do you?!

It was a great trip, but airport roads were pretty bad with minimal directional signs.

The rental car dealership in Bozeman was very friendly and helpful. Montana has some of the friendliest people we know. I must say that one area to be worried on would be recycling. More recycle bins could be made available. Best of luck with the survey.

I love Montana! Beautiful state. This trip was very short and only in Billings on business. But I have traveled here many times on business and driven all over the state in 3 to 5 day segments. I’ve visited museums, shops, read historical signs, took lots of pictures, used visitor info. (Pamphlets, maps, etc), but not in this shorter trip.

Mostly giving talks so not much time. Your medical complex is impressive. If I had time, skiing and the natural parks and local heritage would be the main attraction.

Great town with wonderful people!

Construction out of Gardiner was by pilot car for many unnecessary miles. Wait for pilot car was excessive due to above. Probably only needed pilot car for 5-7 miles of the 15-20 that they were used.

Montana is awesome!

I travel to Missoula often as my son attends U of M. Perhaps due to the economy, Missoula appeared somewhat "shopworn" this time around. Lots of litter, properties seem unkempt, many vagrants and panhandlers particularly near Wal Mart. Lots of overgrown and weedy property around the many existing apartment complexes although the improvements along S and N Higgins are looking great.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>We were just driving through-But were so beautiful we are planning on coming back with kids and grandkids. Thank you.</strong></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>I always enjoy visiting Montana. It's beautiful, friendly, and I want to move back.</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Too far apart for rest area</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>I did not notice any special efforts aimed at recycling nor conservation or environmental practice in lodging choices. Generally impossible to locate B&amp;B accommodations when arriving at end of driving day after 5pm. People were friendly, helpful, and kind wherever I stopped. Loved visiting and seeing your state.</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>There was too much road construction to enjoy driving.</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Great customer service everywhere we went and beautiful scenery- only mother nature did not cooperate</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>I always return to find the &quot;real&quot; Montana- and it disappoints me to find high-style shops, goods, etc. The small towns like Joliet are what I'm looking for.</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Most people encountered were very friendly and welcoming. There was assistance available when needed. This was a very nice place to visit and we would definitely return in the future.</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>We enjoyed traveling though Montana and all of the wildlife/site seeing along the way.</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>We have been volunteers at Glacier since mid July! Love Montana beautiful state. Harold &amp; Pam Griffith</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Huckleberry pie-fabulous! Indian artifacts like dream catchers-wonderful). Saw deer along the road. No bear though.</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>I love Montana.</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Note: signage on snakes as we came up on a baby Rattlesnake at Little Big Horn • seen no sign warnings</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Please outlaw emigration by California natives into Montana. We'll keep them locked up here in Washington and we Washingtonians will move to Montana.</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Going east from Missoula on MT 200- Commercial sign mention Seeley Lake- but the Hwy 93 sign is quite small and there is no sign indicating that it is the road to Bigfork or Kalispell. At the intersection of MT 200 and MT 141 signs mention Lincoln and Helena, but nothing indicates that the road is the access to I-90 (along with US12) or the road that gets you to Deer Lodge. The signage on US 12 at I-90 E needs to be larger- you are &quot;there&quot; and the other directional signage is the larger making it the attention grabber. When towing a 30' travel trailer in unfamiliar country the above can cause very frustrating condition</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Beautiful country!</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Too much I-90 construction too many speed limit changes. All along Clark Fork through Valley from Idaho line.</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Montana is my place of birth! I love it and come back as often as possible- love the open space, fishing, and friendly people. Wish I wasn't all the way over in west coast of Washington state.</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Yellowstone was our main reason for our trip, but the scenery and people are great too. What a great state! Everyone was friendly and helpful. We certainly felt welcome and at home</strong></td>
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I was very unhappy with the amount of road construction taking place during the busiest part of the travel season. The road construction added an additional 4 hours of travel to my trip on my initial entry into the state.

Driving the speed limit, a couple on a motorcycle passed us as they waved and smiled. Within 2 minutes they had hit a bolting deer, resulting in her death and he injured. Consider more deer crossing signs in the area 4 mile S.E. Libby. Still in shock for the motorcycle crash, we went shopping for anything and everything in Libby. In a music store I told of the accident to a girl clerk. She asked "Do you need a hug?" I declined. My wife came into the shop 10 minutes later, apparently the clerk realized she was my wife and asked her if she needed a hug. How nice. We have been to Montana a dozen times or more and really enjoy it.

We were just passing thru on this trip. Several years ago we visited Glacier National Park and enjoyed it very much. However this questionnaire is about this trip.

We traveled from Tacoma, WA to Mitchell, SD and of all the roadside foot and restaurants enjoyed MT the most.

It is easy to understand why folks live in Montana, which is much more than I can say for many states.

People of MT very pleasant!

Big Sky needs better recycling options. A- better/more convenient sites. B- glass recycling.

Asked locals in Butte for their favorite steak place. We had great filets at "The Derby" I-90 is very scenic, loved the drive through MT.

Most of goods for sale were made in China. We had two visitors from Korea and they were very disappointed that nothing was made in America.

Montana is a favorite of ours, and we like the country. however the "cowboy-up" culture can be a bit overbearing with extra noisy, extra large vehicles, discourteous trajectory driving hat wearing of monstrous sized hats while eating in supposedly-civilized restaurants. Some of the boys need to grow up a bit, but that will only happen when the girls make them do so. I must add that they would be cowboy culture deform a thing by. For instance making guiness stout barely available and turning ever the gentle pizza into a mountain of salted meats and the most durable plastic cheese, etc.

I consider ergonomic with environmental. I am 66 and stayed at super 8 Motel. I chose the 2nd floor because the night before I had noisy people upstairs. The desk clerk didn't bother to tell me there were no elevators. I wandered all over trying to find one and went back to the desk. The clerk said "we were built before the elevator law went in" No apology, no odder to change the room. Front doors were extremely hard to open. Continental breakfast was a bowl with sugar filled snack bars. I paid $80.00 for this privilege. My mother is 1/4 Native American. I stopped at the gas station where the Custer museum happened to be.

This was a passing through trip only. Brief stop at property to mow grass etc.

I love Montana! I will always be partial to it. I left because they do not pay teachers well, which is too bad.

Was just driving through to visit our daughter and family in Jackson, Wyoming.

We were driving home to Spokane, WA from a short trip in San Diego, Ca and took I-15 to I-90 to home.

We had a fantastic time in Montana and plan to go back next year. The people there were extremely nice.

Montana is a great state with friendly people. As a non-resident doing business in the state, it can be miserable. What is considered collusion no 49 other states is "just how we do it" in Montana. Never ceases to amaze me,
and as a consequence, finished goods and buildings cost more here than they need to

We were on small unpaved roads. No recycling at accommodations. It would be great if we had the ethic of cleaning up campsites and burying toilet paper etc. Lots of knapweed. We love Montana.

I-90 needs work

We love Montana. It is so clean and the people are so kind and friendly.

Restaurant service at XXX near Anaconda was not up to Montana standards. Good visit, kids enjoyed a lot.

We camped near Wise River an also Bannack. Disappointed in no garbage cans at Price Creek campground or recycling containers, Bannack had both very pleased with renovations and Bannack Hotel looks beautiful. We were there last fall so nice to see improvements.

You need to have this available at point of entry to be of any valid usefulness. I was born raised and hope to die in the West. It’s the only place on earth to really live.

We are thrilled that Montana welcomes rockhounds.

We always enjoy being in Montana. It is one of our favorite places to be. This time we were just passing through on our way to my cousins, but enjoyed MT just the same. Normally we go to NW Montana so it was nice to see the south eastern part of the state.

We like traveling in Montana, just didn't have time to do anything on this particular trip.

Love Montana. Want to move there.

You need bear-resistant trash cans at pull-outs, rest stops, etc. You need a few more on 87/187, particular south of town and north of Great Falls.

Love MT. I travel one to two times per year to MT, since leaving in 1985. I plan to relocate to MT in 5 years.

I grew up in Montana. I still love the state, visit 2 or 3 times a year!

Montana is an awesome state.

We made a short trip to Montana. Very busy with personal commitments- no time for any touristy stuff or shopping. Family lives in and near Kalispell, so I'm sure we will be back. Had a real nice time. Thank you.

We had just drove down from Alaska. Both my wife and I said it would be far more impressive if we would not have just came from Alaska, we did enjoy the scenery and wildlife!

Montana is a Great State!! So beautiful with endless photo opportunities.

This is a beautiful state. Very much appreciated the rest area which are fairly plentiful (mostly along the interstate, which was not this trip). Will most likely plan another trip with Montana as the destination.
## 2009 Quarter 4 Visitor Comments

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Comments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Very clean state, very nice people. Very good food.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I think Montana is beautiful and I am always impressed with the outdoor recreation opportunities available I plan to visit again.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Most people are friendly but have run into some who don't appreciate people from out of state- especially Calif.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>We just closed on a condo/vacation home in Somers because we love Montana.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crafts late trip many closed. Authenticity many shops not open. Towns yes often old Montana in a lot of areas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>We have always enjoyed Montana. We will happily return in the future- a clean city (Great Falls)! Unlike the Midwest. Keep it up.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Too many casinos. We loved the scenery, Montana experience and the wealth of activities! Your state pride shines! Thank you.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>We love Montana.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Could not buy Montana map at any service stations.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>We always enjoy driving through Montana, especially the &quot;character&quot; of this state and its people. Far from the crowds of the North East coast wall to wall cities where we also travel. San Francisco, L.A., San Diego, Seattle for example. People are not in such a rush. Have time to smile. Friendly woman who gave us this survey, thank you.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Only road conditions and weather were a problem on this particular visit over the Christmas holiday. My other visits as a tourist have been very good.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Although there was snow unusually early, road conditions remained more than adequate. The unusual weather did cut into other activities though.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I have been coming to the Whitefish area for 20 years and I love it!! Over the years I have introduced friends and family to the area and now they are frequent travelers as well. Keep up the GREAT work!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I'm from Las Cruces, NM and it is a genuine representation of South-Western &quot;western/cowboy, native American/Hispanic culture&quot; just as Montana gives a high level of satisfaction re: authenticity and western feel in general. I also feel that Montana in general and Whitefish/Flathead area specifically is cutting edge regarding 21st century model of living and lifestyle offering great restaurants and recreation opps.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Keep it real.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>We'll be back. The people are fantastic.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I was surprised at the amount of interesting places Montana has to offer we could spend many vacations in Montana.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I grew up in Montana, it is so beautiful!</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
We fell in love with Whitefish and Missoula & look forward to exploring the state and spending more time in Montana. We hope to buy a vacation home after a bit of exploring to get out of Florida!

Be careful of your water resources!

I love the state of MT

Here only for business-but have been to MT many times and we love it here, thanks.

Awesome state!

It was a great trip - always a great time!

Stayed in Billings, Montana for two nights. Nice state. Sorry we are late.

Love Montana - 2nd trip this year alone!

The Gardiner Chamber of Commerce was fabulous

Loved the areas I visited. I have a daughter and three grandchildren who live in Coram.

You need bigger signs for us old farts! With no lights at night you pass the road before you see the sign even into the airport

I have been to Montana several times to visit my daughter - She has resided in Whitefish, Kalispell, and now Columbia Falls where she purchased a home. People are very friendly and my husband & I are drawn to the area & consider relocating here ourselves from Wisconsin.

Great state!

Our plane got diverted to Kalispell Airport. Staff friendly, accommodating. Lovely airport, clean, very nice interior decor, friendly people. Red Lion Hotel: very nice, clean, friendly people.

I lived in Montana and was born in Montana. My family lives there and would love to move back but I am looking for a job there. I have lived in California for 20 years, but I have property in Montana.

We loved Montana. Great roads, beautiful scenery, friendly people.

Enjoyed the friendly Montanans!

We spent a wonderful, wonderful weekend in your great state (my first time). You could have really prospered more in terms of income and educational experiences if you had opened your tourists attractions because so many Canadians were in your area for our Thanksgiving weekend and your Columbus day. We were very disappointed because the brochures really wetted our appetites. Because of our incredible experience we will be back • Our oldest passenger (87) used to go to Montana every fall for years and years. She had not been back in 16 years. When I said I was going her eyes lit up with past memories. I knew I had to take her.

Cooke City is a convenient location to YNP, but it needs help. Drinking water is contaminated and there are very few, if any, dining choices. Gardiner is much better.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>I would like more lighting in the evenings on the highways.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I loved my time in Bozeman...wonderful town. Billings...not so much.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The purpose of our Nov. 2009 trip to MT was very specific as our son was married in the chapel of Mammoth Hot Springs in YNP. We have visited Montana many times for many of the reasons listed in items 12 &amp; 15 and usually spend 8-10 weeks in the west. Daughter lives and works in Missoula. Montana is a special and unique place and hopefully won't be overly influenced by out-of-staters with deep pockets who wish to change, influence, or manipulate.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thank you for fixing HWY 191. Bozo idea: Keep the trucks off 191 much safer and enjoyable. Being run over by a FedEx or semi wasn't cool. It's 1,000 miles from S.F. to Big Sky, 16 hours is all. We come up often.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Would like to come back for solely vacation purposes--not business/school related. Lots to see and do.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Former Billings residents visiting relatives</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Incredibly enjoyable even if it was for work! Very friendly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Please, please, please stop the sprawl. Conserve your land for wildlife, small farms- don't be short sighted as you have in the past- money now does not mean livability in the future!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I-90 roads were in good condition considering the weather(drove 12/23 &amp; 12/29). Residential roads in Billings need to be plowed.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stayed with my parents who are exposed to great variability of recycling bins when they visit me in Oregon and my brother in WA. They always comment and I notice a much lower availability in Billings.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I like how Billings is renovating the older parts of town. Better signs indicating Native Americans once occupied this area and better media too. Beautiful country. Roads are not as well cared for as Wyoming's</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>We had a wonderful trip and we plan to return.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I have visited many times and love Montana. God Bless Big Sky country.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>We would prefer a Montana Visitor Center, but we found none. A visitor center would be great to get information about everything in Montana. It was great to find anywhere the Montana Road Maps.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Most of your survey questions do not pertain to a business traveler. 1. were the taxes/fees to a high rental cars-yes. 2. Easy access to conference facilities? 3. Free wifi in public buildings? 4. Incentive for business traveler to return?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Would love to come back for pleasure. This was business and I saw very little except highway. Gorgeous out there!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Montana is a beautiful state!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I dearly love and miss Montana. After being away for several years, I cannot believe how friendly people are in Montana. A smile and wave or nod from a roadside passer is an amazing thing.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I love Montana and can't wait to come back!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>We loved Yellowstone, it was breathtaking. And going to Red Lodge and Repelling</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Loved Montana, would love to return with my husband for a vacation

I saw lots (!!) of deer, elk, antelope

I helped my family move from Nevada to Billings. We didn’t have time for sightseeing or pleasure. I was extremely moved by the scenery between the Montana state line and Bozeman

Have been traveling to Montana for 25 years.

We bought a house this week because we love Montana so much.

Montana is a lovely state to visit. The people are so friendly and down to earth personalities. The people are kind and laid back and always seem so happy with whatever job they are doing!

As road conditions Hi 15 was still snow covered and icy in spots. Only saw one "sand" truck going on other lane! This was in the northern part between Sweetgrass and Great Falls. Smiths grocery store in Great Falls were very friendly and had an excellent selection

Missoula is a crazy town to drive in. The turn rounds are not always "calming"

I have come to MT a lot over the last 15 years. I love it here. It has rural character but all the high quality amenities. I had an awesome meal at Pearls-Missoula. I always feel welcome (starts at airport) and enjoy my trips

There is always room for improvement on everything. We love Montana and hope it will not become a crowded state!

We visit our children/grandchildren once or twice a year and we always enjoy the visit to "Big Sky" country with its many attributes beautiful scenery and friendly attribute of most people we meet. It would be great to win 2 airline tickets for our next visit from Pittsburgh, PA. We are a retired couple.

Came to visit family but enjoyed much more, golfing, fishing, historical towns. Seen lots of wildlife, Montanans were very friendly and welcoming we would like to come back to Montana, but to visit only vacation sites as Yellowstone and other places-next time and vacation really explore Montana with family. Had a great time.

This was our first visit west of South Dakota and very beautiful. Spent all spare time traveling to see all the sites.

Small businesses need more support. We are looking to move to Kalispell to be closer to our daughter and help her with her ranch and business. Big Sky Country is awesome! Need more venues to sell local products. Thanks for asking!

Came to the ranch for a week and am now spending the winter and next summer at the ranch. People are very nice to visitors.

We make numerous trips to Montana and through Montana to Utah etc. We have stayed in Great Falls, Helena, Bozeman, Billings, Lewistown, Missoula, and Kalispell. We have visited museums in Great Falls, Helena, Bozeman, Chinook and Glasgow and Crow Agency.

I enjoyed all of it.

Beautiful scenery, and very clean. The people we met were very friendly and helpful! Had a surgical procedure performed at Benefis, because being a dual citizen (US/Canada), dissatisfied with Canada's ability to perform in a timely fashion.

Sign indicated rest area • CLOSED
Montana was my home as a kid - Came here for a funeral of a sister-in-law - Not a pleasant occasion but satisfied with all things we participated in. This is a good questionnaire for new people.

Criminal activity in Butte needs to be addressed from Governor down to patrol officers

Want to move back to Montana

Our family has been to Montana a lot, to parks, guided fishing, and I've hunted here a lot when I was young. We have always had a great time and fun and enjoyed the people and outdoor activities thanks.

It was a nice trip

Geographically, Billings is very beautiful and has a lot of potential. However, as a city it is very ugly. New development continues as older establishments remain empty. Additionally, not enough is being done to protect natural areas/parks/recreational areas. Taking steps to consciously develop the city in a more aesthetic and beautiful manner would bring in more tourists and more money. Billings is after all many people's first impression of Montana.

Very satisfied with the atmosphere in Montana

Use Billings airport often for trips to Wyoming to see family. Always happy with airport staff, car rental & staff.

I have always enjoyed visiting or traveling through Montana. The scenery, mountains, wildlife, and sports, rodeos, Metra at Billings entertainment, places to eat etc. It's a bigger city than where I'm from but it still seems country and not so "Big city". It is still connected (retained) to the agriculture and life style we really used to retain in America. I've been to MT, several times, Helena to Montana Branch office, Great Falls to Interpretive Center, Lewis and Clark and Charles M. Russell Museum. Dinosaur Museum in Bozeman plus several other cities in Montana east and west.

I love Montana! I was born in the state.

Very disappointed in how "un-green" places like Missoula and Whitefish were. Also hard to find Montana specific merchandise. Great drive from Missoula to Kalispell-roads were in amazing condition.

Gorgeous state

all OK

I could retire here

We love Montana!

Great state

We have visited Montana often and love the scenery. This trip was just a flight to Kalispell, rent a car, and drive to B.C. where we have a condo. Most visits we spend a day or two in Montana also. Love your state.

I would appreciate businesses taking my Canadian coins
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Comment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Recycling containers not available at hotel. Recycling containers should be at the garbage drop. Waits at border too long, increase number of rest areas on main transit routes.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Our summer trip to Montana (Glacier National park, Whitefish) was every bit as impressive as this winter ski trip. We look forward to more time spent in this beautiful part of the U.S.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>My husband and I loved the state so much...wish we had time to see more of it. We will be back maybe for good(ever) thank you!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Please increase speed limits- it takes a long time to cross your state</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Montana is a great state. We come here often. This trip was just passing through.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I always like coming to MT. I mostly come for work, but I am planning a vacation in 2010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>As we were visiting our daughter and the weather was bad (snowing) we didn't do any sightseeing. Did a little fishing before the weather turned bad. Have enjoyed many state parks in the past. Is a beautiful state to visit.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Love the Montana people, attitude and outdoor opportunities. Did not do many &quot;tourist&quot; activities this trip because we were babysitting grandchildren while parents were on vacation and one of us got the flu! But we will be back!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>While traveling through Montana, I've noticed excellent snow removal from I-15 and I-90 freeways. Thank you</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>We LOVE Montana and have been coming here since 1989!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Montana is a scenic and enjoyable state to visit. I have and will continue to visit Montana for business and vacations.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No glass recycling in Missoula</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Someday I hope that Montana is divided into two state (West Montana and East Montana) So it doesn't seem such a long drive when driving through.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nice state. Interested in visiting more.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stayed here on my way and back to/from another destination. but would like to come back.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Love Montana!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>We have a fractional ownership condo @ Meadow Lake in Columbia Falls which we enjoy. We have friends in different parts of Montana. Montana is a beautiful state and we enjoy visiting as often as possible</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Granted there was current snowfall, I-15 between Butte and the Idaho border could have been more plowed in the southbound lanes. Overall, Montana is a stunning and amazing state, and we look forward to a time that we may return for vacation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I love Montana!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I love coming home to the beautiful scenery and wonderful people! Montana holds my heart.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>We went through Montana to a funeral in Wyoming. I LOVE MONTANA!! I was born in Broadus in 1944 and much of my family still ranches in Montana. We lived in Wyoming most of our lives and recently moved to a</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
small town in eastern Washington to be near our kids.

I stayed with my mother, so lodging wasn't an issue. But she said recycling wasn't available for glass unless she drove to Livingston.

Could not believe how clean the roads were of trash. Great job Montana, keep it up. Biggest disappointment: finding breakfast (restaurants open) before 7AM. Overall visit excellent (love to live there).

On October 15, 2009, a gentleman gave us this form to fill out and we put it in our glove box. Just found it today as here it is. I have to say, my wife and I always enjoy Montana. The roads are really good, even back roads that we like to travel on. Keep up the good work!

I am spoiled by full service gas in Oregon. I would love it if you passed the same laws.

The roundabout at Billings airport needs better signage.

Roads were quite rough for a main artery. I ride dirt bikes, and I would love to return and spend some time riding your trails. Also plan to return during the winter to snowboard at Red Lodge.

Beautiful state-love visiting every time. Have traveled to Eureka, Kalispell, Missoula, Glacier, and into Canada. Love it. The interviewer was extremely nice.

Visit during severe cold snap & snow flurries, not the best time to enjoy & judge the state - We were both born & educated in MT so it will always be home.

I have never had an unpleasant experience in Montana.

My wife and I were born and raised in Montana. We have traveled quite extensively and always find Montana to hold our interest. We have traveled all main roads and many country roads as well as trails and cow paths. We have hunted, fished, river rafted, horse backed, 4-wheeled and personally flown our "home state."

We were in snow and blizzard conditions from Billings to Missoula(10/9/09). Hard to see out of the car- far less enjoys the scenery. Not like the lovely week in June I enjoyed in Bozeman and surrounding day trips. Never more beautiful.

I would probably return for pheasant & deer hunting, but knowing and availability of hunting access and area is not convenient and process of procurement is one race as compared to the past.

I travel to MT often from my home in Cody • usually to shop in Billings or ski in Red Lodge. Sometimes visit friends in Bozeman or Helena.

I love this state, I come here every chance I get

I love Montana for the reasons that it is Montana, and no other place is like it. I am sure that I will find myself coming back to Montana time and time again. From people to nature, Montana is unique unto itself.

I love Montana so much I am moving here!

We like to travel on back roads but it was difficult to find out the conditions of the roads (gravel, paved, snowy, etc.) Since we are driving an R.V. this was our biggest concern.

I travel thru MT 1-2 times a year. A great state and drive.

We have visited Montana before as tourists and saw sights. This trip we are two vehicles and cargo trailers heading to the East coast. Thus no scenic stops really but like US-2 and the lesser traffic. I have told many friends it is like driving back in the 50's (less intense than freeway travel although, we have traveled I-90 on trips before) We like US 2.
Too much snow and wind.

I just drove through your state, I most definitely would have stayed and gambled in your casino's but as an American I am not allowed to smoke in any indoor structure in your state. So I obeyed your law and when I got to free America I gambled and smoked my cigar inside of a casino where the idiot politicians have not passed a law against smoking. If your state government is really interested in health, they should outlaw all tobacco salt and alcohol. You will be safe and healthy!

Need to continue preserving and enhancing wildlife habitat for birds.

The RV dumping station was closed for the season. You are closing them WAY too early. It was October 25th, the weather still quite warm.

We love it here! We come twice a year to enjoy the peacefulness and beauty. We have traveled most everywhere in the state during the last 20 years

We lived here for 20 years and still have family here.

Montana is a wonderful state. The people were very welcoming.

Recycling? Why no recycling? This is 2010. MT will look like any other place if trash & recycling practices aren't implemented!

Although this was a transition through your beautiful state, it was not the first and will not be the last. I would indeed enjoy more time to explore Montana and see more of its natural beauty. Thank you for your hospitality

Pine Bark Beetle damage to trees is widespread and ugly.

Small streams through ranches have poor riparian areas.

I've only been to Montana on business, however I would like to vacation here sometime in the future.

My daughter lives in South Dakota and I travel from Lewiston, ID to SD. Roundtrip about four times yearly.

Plan to move to Montana

We enjoyed Montana very much!

Snow plow drivers need training on interstate. If they are clearing a blizzard to blow back across both lanes, they need to stop occasionally and give motorists a chance to get by without killing themselves and others

I went to Billings from Sheridan, WY to catch a flight.

We travel from Wyoming to Billings on a regular basis for items available in a larger city.

I love that Montana is so mindful of being sustainable. I really like how much locally-grown food is available.

This trip was to use airport, in & out. Have visited Montana on other occasions as guest of local ranchers or as tourists. Very interesting view of "rancher" lifestyle for me as a foreign national. The real rancher/cowboy &
not Hollywood version. Will visit these places again apart from using Billings airport & shopping.

Although I didn’t visit western Montana this trip, I have visited many times in previous visits. I think the wolf population is too high and should be reduced. In the Yellowstone ecosystem the number of wolves has a detrimental effect on wildlife populations and greatly diminishes the wildlife viewing experience in and around the park. I also feel the grizzly population should be managed through controlled hunting. I continue to read with greater frequency of bear/human conflicts resulting in attacks on hunters and hikers.

Montana was very convenient. Loved the university. I would like to visit Montana as a vacation situation

Montana is a place I would like to savor, and explore every nook and cranny.

Would like to see local products authentic and products made in the USA not only distributed in US.

As we were only passing through on I-15, we really had no time for above to consider

Overall I feel Montana is fantastic! the lower marks I gave are only because these are the more important aspects to me, and I don’t want you to become lax on these. I would love to visit again, please enter me in the contest.

You do not promote the Health Mine’s Boulder & Basin places to heal. Check it out

Border crossing into US very unsatisfactory. Border officers rather impolite

In all we have been in Montana over 25 times as a couple and with my three children when they were students three or four times.

Travel through Montana a lot, but because we now have children we need to stop over-night. The accommodations were great, as well as the many rest areas we stopped at. Would definitely stop again soon!

On this occasion we were travelling south en route to California

We mostly travel through but would like to spend time sightseeing parks, history & museums. If we have some information. Once we have time and more information, we would like to take a special trip. Recreation shopping is a bonus - if on sale & no sales tax. Helena city roads? Map from Motel 6 helps.

In general, very good.

You caught me at a time I was just passing through. I have spent a lot of time in Montana and I would have different answers to the questions on a trip where I had spent more time in Montana.

Visit Great Falls 1-3 times a year for over 30 years

We just passed through with a stop for the night in Great Falls. We stopped for fuel in Cut Bank and topped off in great falls as we left. The roads were good thanks.

Very clean home country state. Western/cowboy atmosphere. Friendly and welcoming.

I think MT does a good job of promoting "Montana made" products and I also enjoy the variety of catteries, where you can even usually find a great homemade meal in a local bar. Most everyone I encounter when I travel to MT is very friendly and accommodating. Truly a beautiful and diverse state! On the negative side, the road construction seemed kind of ridiculous in some places, with lengthy stretches still very torn up into
October. The time when the weather could soon shut such activities down. And I'm always critical of places that show evidence of overgrazing. If it's private land, then that's their business how they Fix highway 59 from Wyoming to Biddle!

Enjoy my visits

I appreciate the environmentalist's stance and effort on being good stewards concerning the wildlife, plants, water resources, oil and gas mining developments; however, it has been my experience that the same people who vehemently protect the environment believe the earth is millions of years old, that there is no intelligent design and that we have evolved from apes. The sanctity of life gives way to an individual's freedom of choice. I would rather be a wise steward of plants, animals, natural resources and human life. The lodging and restaurants in western Montana are wonderful

The only comment I have is when you enter on HWY 212! From N.C. Montana should let you know that there are only two gas stations on that route, and not always open! Make sure to fill tank up with gas because the next time you stop to fill up-It's not the cleanest place to visit. The 212 HWY is a nice scenic route, a lot of wildlife, but no waysides to stop!

What local culture? Logging trucks in Missoula streets would be unwelcome, but both culturally consistent and authentic. But why would we want that?

This trip was only to get us on to Phoenix. Have visited the state many other times on vacation and always loved everything about it. Since we live nearly on the Canadian Border of Idaho, we find N.W. Montana a great place to vacation with our guests and show them what Idaho and Montana have to offer in any season.

Since I grew up in MT, I wasn't looking for the above items. So, I made my choices based on what I saw along the way. MT has a lot to offer visitors.

I love to visit Montana and always have a great time. Hunting license for non-residents has gotten way too expensive and may curtail or end my hunting there.

This was one of many trips to visit the grandson.

We do travel a lot in the winter to go snowmobiling at Cooke City Lookout Pass etc.. We visit relatives all summer in Missoula, Great Falls and participate in the annual summer celebration at Fort Benton and Carter.

Access to public lands is restricted to ATV's, this is a bad thing. Allowing predators like wolves, lions, and bears to eat all of your game animals shows a horrific lack of stewardship of the land.

Very satisfied.

I like to think of Montana as another sibling of my home state of Wyoming. I appreciate the landscape and shopping availability.

Montana is a great state to visit. Wish I had more time on this trip.

Sorry that little time was spent on touring the state. Travel was necessitated by a family medical cause in Seattle. We've been in the state for touring previous to this travel.

Montana is a very good place to travel through, to shop in or spend time or vacation. We have done them all to a certain degree. We sure love your rest areas for travelling comfort. Thanks

I travel to Montana to get to Wyoming

Didn't see recycling bins. Motel had notices about not changing sheets/towels unless instructed to good. Motel did not have recycling available for newspapers or cans-bad. Availability of travel info-info center close
on 212. Didn't notice any info about local products at restaurants but it is Dec. in Montana- don't expect much! Gas station at Crow Agency dirty, only 2 pumps working, pavement bad.

You have a great hit in the Montana Brewing Company!

Can't wait to come back!

I lived in Montana from the time I was born until I was 18. Too many people now and the private land is being more and more closed off.

(some) Montanans drive too fast and are not real courteous while doing so.

We spent little time in Montana, but I most appreciated the friendliness of all the people at the airport in Billings

Need to work on a recycling program! Especially in Seeley Lake. Rest stop between Mission and Missoula was HORRIBLE! Summer stops have been ok, but it was so unbearable my kids would have rather gone in a honey bucket! (Women's restroom.)

Montana residents are very friendly and helpful. We always feel welcome. We have a condo at Meadow lake golf resort and we love it there.

Would be nice to have more natural and healthy food available at gas stations rather than aisles and aisles of junk food.

I have come to Montana every year for the past 20 years to hunt on the in-laws farm. Licenses are my only criticism; not user friendly.

Rest areas could be solar heated and solar lighted

On previous trips thru Montana from Arizona we have visited Yellowstone National Park, Glacier, Flathead Lake, fished Big Hole, fished Beaverhead, etc. We love Montana and continue to enjoy the beauty of your state.

People very friendly

We live in Powell, WY. going to Red Lodge and Billings for fun and shopping is just part of our monthly things to do.

I have visited Montana several times and have done many tourist activities. Unfortunately my visit this time was for a funeral.