

The I-94 Attention-Span Pack

FARGO TO MEDORA WITH KIDS

ONE ANCHOR / ONE RESET / ONE THING TO SKIP



FOUR WESTBOUND DAYS WITH ROOM TO CHANGE THE PLAN

AI-generated editorial illustration - not a route photograph

THE ROUTE - NOT TO SCALE

1

DAY 1

FARGO

Choose one arrival-day anchor. Recover, eat, and let an ordinary bedtime count.

2

DAY 2

FARGO > JAMESTOWN > BISMARCK

About 3 highway hours before local driving. Jamestown is the meaningful stop.

3

DAY 3

BISMARCK > DICKINSON > MEDORA

About 2 hours direct; allow 3-4 elapsed with a Dickinson or Painted Canyon reset.

CT > MT: BACK 1 HOUR

4

DAY 4

MEDORA: CHOOSE ONE FULL-DAY ANCHOR

South Unit for adjustable outdoor movement OR the presidential library for an indoor story.

5

OPTIONAL

THE OTHER MEDORA ANCHOR

Use an optional fifth day for the anchor you did not choose. Add a separate return day.

EASTBOUND CLOCK NOTE

Medora to Fargo is about 4.5 hours before breaks; Mountain > Central adds one clock hour.

Anchor, reset, optional

Pick the column that protects attention. *Seasonal listing: verify current operation.

- IN = INDOORS
- OUT = OUTDOORS
- WC = DOCUMENTED RESTROOM
- CALL = DETAIL NOT PUBLISHED

FARGO IN OUT WC* FOOD*	ANCHOR Red River Zoo outdoors, or Fargo Parks Sports Center for an indoor pivot. Choose one.	RESET Lindenwood Park for movement. Restroom and concession listings are seasonal.	OPTIONAL Anything after dinner. An ordinary bedtime wins.
JAMESTOWN IN OUT CALL MEAL IN TOWN	ANCHOR Bison Discovery Center. Build around the museum; a herd sighting is a bonus, not a promise.	RESET A real meal in town plus a staffed bathroom stop.	OPTIONAL Frontier Village and the concrete bison, only when season, weather, and energy agree.
BISMARCK IN WC FOOD CALM	ANCHOR Choose the State Museum OR Gateway to Science. Do not make both compete for one morning.	RESET Eat. Use documented restroom, nursing, lactation, or quiet-support features as needed.	OPTIONAL The second museum disappears from the plan without apology.
DICKINSON IN OUT WC* CALL	ANCHOR Badlands Dinosaur Museum, only if the group still has museum attention.	RESET Friendship Park. Its accessible restrooms and changing tables are seasonal.	OPTIONAL Painted Canyon, if the reset worked and a short final reveal still sounds good.
MEDORA IN OUT WC FOOD IN TOWN	ANCHOR Choose the South Unit OR the presidential library. Each gets its own day.	RESET A Medora meal, short walk, pool, or early stop. The South Unit has no restaurant or lodging inside.	OPTIONAL Day 5 holds the other anchor. It is not an overflow chore for Day 4.

Energy first. Weather gets veto power.

These cues are planning prompts, not judgments about a child or a family.

☐ STEADY

anchor + reset + optional

☐ WIGGLY

anchor + reset; optional goes

☐ SPENT

food + toilet + quiet; stop

CHOOSE BY THE PERSON WITH THE LEAST FLEXIBLE ENERGY BUDGET

YOUNG / NAP-SHAPED DAY

Keep the anchor short; make the next stop food or open play.

GRADE SCHOOL

Give the day one mission: bison, fossils, science, or Junior Ranger.

TWEEN / TEEN

Let them own one real choice. A downloaded map can be part of the plan.

MIXED OR SPECIFIC NEEDS

Use feature-level operator details; avoid broad accessibility promises.

THREE-STEP ROAD AND WEATHER DECISION

1 / ROAD STATUS

Closed or No Travel Advised?

Do not travel. Change the day.

2 / OUTDOOR BUDGET

Heat, smoke, storms, or fatigue erase it?

Pivot indoors only if the drive is safe.

3 / CONDITIONS WORK

Road open and the group has energy?

One anchor, one reset. Check park conditions.

TODAY, WE ARE ALLOWED TO SKIP:

WILDLIFE + PARK SAFETY

- Stay at least 100 ft from bison - about two bus lengths.
- Stay at least 25 yd from other wildlife, or follow stricter posted guidance.
- Use signed lots and pullouts, never the I-94 shoulder. Stay in the vehicle when bison are near the road.
- The park has little shade. NPS summer guidance is about 1 L of water per person per hour.
- There is no restaurant or lodging inside the South Unit. Carry water and food.
- Short does not mean paved, cool, stroller-suitable, or barrier-free.

BATHROOM + RESET CHAIN

- Fargo: Sports Center lists restrooms; Lindenwood listing is seasonal.
- Bismarck: State Museum and Gateway document restrooms; support features differ.
- Dickinson: Friendship Park lists seasonal accessible restrooms and changing tables.
- Painted Canyon: NPS lists accessible restroom, changing station, and bottle fill.
- South Unit: visitor center restroom, changing station, and bottle fill; two mid-loop accessible restrooms are listed.
- Library: lobby and gallery restroom options are documented; check changing-table limits.
- Bison Center or Dickinson Museum: call if facility details determine your stop.

The passenger's prairie field page

Original look-and-notice prompts. A live bison sighting is never required.

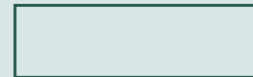
1 SKY PALETTE

Find three colors in the North Dakota sky. Shade one circle for each.



2 PRAIRIE GEOMETRY

Spot a long horizon, a circle, and a triangle. Draw the most surprising shape.



3 BISON EVIDENCE

A live animal, museum image, sign, story, or exhibit all count. What clue did you find?

4 FOSSIL QUESTION

Choose one fossil clue. What might it say about ancient North Dakota? Sketch or write.

5 / THE CLOCK CHANGE

Fargo and Bismarck use Central Time. Dickinson and Medora use Mountain Time.
Traveling west: set the clock back one hour. Traveling east: add one hour.

CENTRAL

MOUNTAIN



Adult pre-trip recheck

DETAILS CHECKED 2026-08-08 - LIVE PAGES CONTROL

ND Roads - closures, No Travel Advised, cameras

www.dot.nd.gov/travel-and-safety/road-conditions-weather-resources

Theodore Roosevelt National Park - current conditions

www.nps.gov/thro/planyourvisit/conditions.htm

Park safety and trail-specific planning

www.nps.gov/thro/planyourvisit/safety.htm

Free official Junior Ranger program

www.nps.gov/thro/learn/kidsyouth/junior-ranger.htm

Presidential library visit and access details

www.trlibrary.com/visit/accessibility

State Museum amenities

statemuseum.nd.gov/visit/museum/amenities

Gateway to Science amenities and accessibility

gatewaytoscience.org/visit/plan-your-visit/amenities-accessibility



ND ROADS



PARK CONDITIONS

BEFORE WHEELS TURN

- ☐ Road status and weather
- ☐ Park conditions and smoke/heat
- ☐ Live facility hours and tickets
- ☐ Restroom and access needs
- ☐ Downloaded maps and confirmations