

# Things You Gotta See at Sturgis

By: Hounddog

If you're attending the Sturgis Rally for the first time, I suggest you do a little planning and decide what you want to see, unless you plan to spend more than a week there. This is one of the most popular (and in my opinion the best) rally in the USA because there is so much good riding and so many attractions. Here is a list of some things worth working into your plans.

1. **Spearfish Canyon** – if you like lots of curves and great scenery you're going to love the ride through the canyon. Beautiful trees and abundant wildlife make for a breathtaking view and one of the best rides anywhere in the world.

2. **Wall Drug Store** – this 76,000 square foot attraction located in Wall South Dakota on I-90 east of Rapid City is a family owned business that got its start in 1931. Get a Buffalo Burger and a 5 cent cup of coffee at the restaurant which features the largest privately owned art collection in the country. Shop for souvenirs, western apparel, or any of the thousands of unique items such as the South Dakota Jackalopes. There is also an arcade or visitors can pan for fossils and gemstones on site. FREE admission, open 6:30am to 10:00pm.

3. **Mount Rushmore** – the famous faces of 4 presidents that are carved into the side of a mountain. Take I-90 to Rapid City and follow Highway 16 southwest to Keystone and then Highway 244 to Mount Rushmore. May 13<sup>th</sup> through August 14<sup>th</sup> the memorial is open 7 days a week from 8:00am to 10:00pm. Parking fee: \$8.00

4. **Crazy Horse** – this monument to Chief Crazy Horse was started in 1948 and is still under construction. At its completion, it will be the largest sculpture in the world. It is located 17 miles southwest of Mount Rushmore along US 16/385. It is open to the public and is also home to the Indian Museum of North America.

5. **Devil's Tower** – President Theodore Roosevelt proclaimed Devil's Tower the first National Monument in 1906. If you saw the movie Close Encounters of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Kind, you will remember Devil's Tower. Traveling west on I-90 into Wyoming exit at Sundance and take 14 North to 24 and 24 to Devil's Tower. The monument is open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. FREE Admission. The visitor center is open 8:00am to 7:00pm.

6. **Hulett's No Panty Wednesday** – August 9<sup>th</sup>, also known as Ham and Jam. A festival of food and music where willing women will have their panties snipped off (without removing their shorts or jeans of course). Lots of fun and entertainment and thousands of bikes show up for this event. Hulett Wyoming is just a few miles north of Devil's Tower on scenic Highway 24.

7. **The Badlands** – Badlands National Park consists of nearly 244,000 acres of sharply eroded buttes, pinnacles and spires blended with the largest protected mixed grass prairie in the United States. Be prepared for high winds and thunderstorms that may pop-up quickly. Entry fee: \$5.00 for a 7 day pass.

8. **The Jackpine Gypsies M/C Races** – the club that founded the Black Hills Rally puts on short track races at their track near I-90 at exit 30. This is what started the whole enchilada, you gotta check it out. Race schedules and locations are available, just ask for them. Here is a couple: August 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm.

9. **Custer State Park and Needles Highway** – beautiful terrain and an abundance of wildlife (Watch out for the buffalo, I've seen them charge motorcycles). Cruise Needles highway (SD 87) which twists and turns its way past towering rock formations and through narrow tunnels. Fees: temporary permit (good for 7 days) \$5.00 per person or \$12.00 per vehicle

10. **AMD World Championship Bike Build-Off** – Custom Bikes from all over the world will be on display at Champions Park on Lazelle Street in Sturgis from August 5<sup>th</sup> through August 8<sup>th</sup>.

11. **Downtown Sturgis** – Thousands and thousands of bikes, babes and vendors line the streets of Sturgis. Be prepared to duck walk your bike through town because the traffic is at a standstill pretty much all hours of the day and night. If you decide to park and walk, make sure you don't park in a no parking area or you may come back and discover that your bike is missing (towed away). Lots of bikes get stolen in Sturgis each year too, so be smart and be careful.