

# Badlands National Park



Badlands National Park is located in South Dakota. The park is best known for its geological formations and sprawling grasslands.

**What to do:** Visitors can check out one of the most popular trails in the park called Loop Road, which leads to many scenic overlooks of skies and rock formations. These formations have been building up for millions of years and are shaped by natural erosion.

**History:** This area formerly belonged to the Lakota Tribe. Badlands is a rough translation of "Mako Sica" which was their name for it.

**Wildlife:** The park is home to plenty of animals like bison grazing in the grass, prairie dogs poking their heads out of the ground or bighorn sheep scaling cliffs with their special hooves.

**Fun Fact:** The Fossil Preparation Lab is where paleontologists study and clean fossils found in the Badlands--some of which are millions of years old and found by visitors.