



2019 SUMMER

Adventure JOURNAL



There's just something about summer, isn't there? It's the time of year when the sun lingers as long as possible, inviting everyone to do the same. It's a call to squeeze in one more impromptu BBQ, take one more bike ride and roast one last s'more before turning in. With so many ways for you and the kids to soak up the season, it's only natural to want to pack in as much as possible.

Here at The Resort at Paws Up, we're doing just that. Our glamping tents are rolled open, giving the rare opportunity to revel in nature and sleep in luxury—the best of both worlds. You'll likely find us greeting the day with morning yoga sessions before moving on to horseback trail rides, fly-fishing and good old-fashioned cattle drives before gathering around an impressive bonfire to wind things down.

Our Island Lodge at Salmon Lake is open for its second year, and we keep finding new ways to make it the ideal getaway within a getaway. We're filling every moment there with kayaking, jet skiing, sailing and sunset boat tours—to name a few.

We're also welcoming back our favorite summer traditions, including our popular Montana Long Table series as well as our Campfire Stars series, with talented musicians like John Doe. And we're starting new traditions such as our Songwriter Series, where aspiring writers are paired with industry pros for a collaborative, productive and all-around inspiring weekend retreat.

We're excited to welcome cutting-edge chefs from Portland for the Taste of Rose City in late June. We have Wilderness Workshop instructors lined up, ready to offer intimate classes on photography, art and so much more. Plus, we're already gearing up for our New York City-themed installment of Montana Master Chefs that's coming up in September.

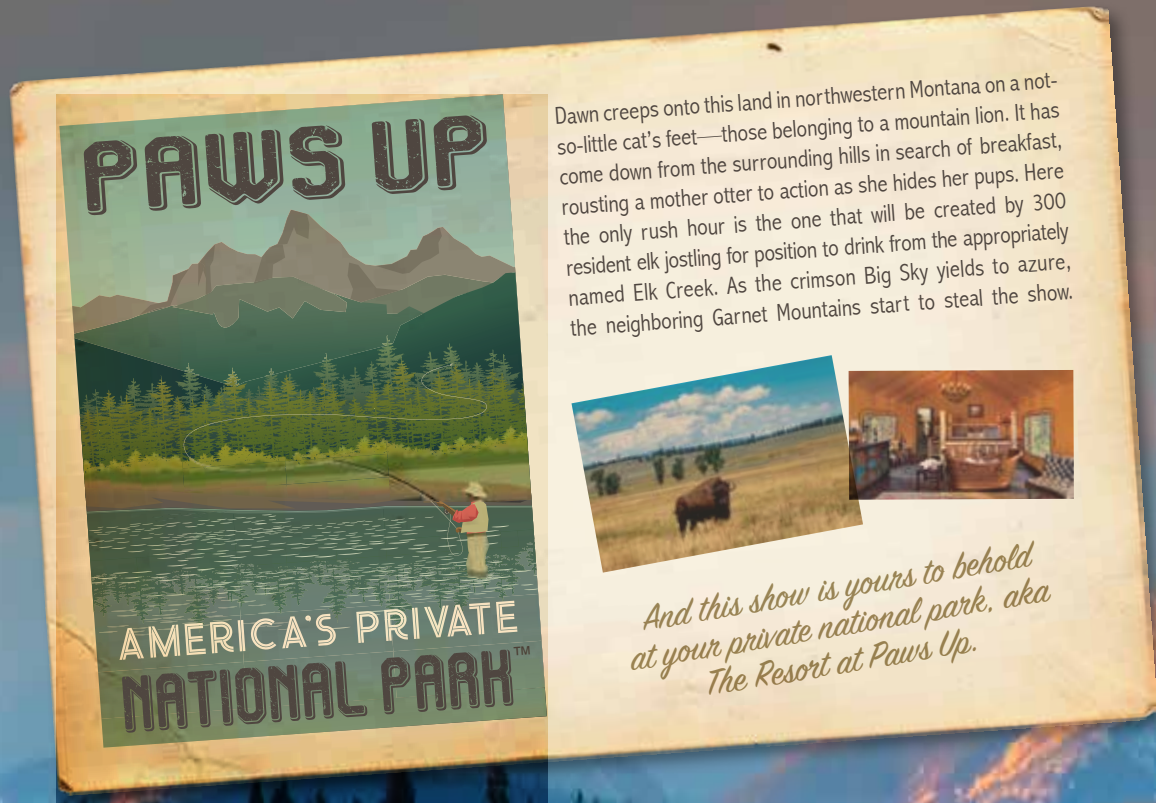
Read on to find plenty of ideas to fill your summer with magic, both here in Montana and at home. And as always, please let me know if there's anything I can do to help make your time at Paws Up as special as possible. The days may be long, but as we all know—the season seems to end in the blink of an eye. Let's make this a good one.



Steve Hurst
Managing Director
The Resort at Paws Up



This summer we're doing everything under the sun.



“It is an incalculable added pleasure to any one’s sum of happiness if he or she grows to know, even slightly and imperfectly, how to read and enjoy the wonder-book of nature.”

—THEODORE ROOSEVELT

Dawn creeps onto this land in northwestern Montana on a not-so-little cat’s feet—those belonging to a mountain lion. It has come down from the surrounding hills in search of breakfast, rousting a mother otter to action as she hides her pups. Here the only rush hour is the one that will be created by 300 resident elk jostling for position to drink from the appropriately named Elk Creek. As the crimson Big Sky yields to azure, the neighboring Garnet Mountains start to steal the show.



*And this show is yours to behold
at your private national park, aka
The Resort at Paws Up.*

10 REASONS PAWS UP FEELS LIKE YOUR OWN PRIVATE NATIONAL PARK.

1. Knee-buckling views

From Yellowstone to Glacier and beyond, national parks share one thing in common: iconic and expansive landscapes that are simply unforgettable. The 37,000 acres at Paws Up qualify, big-time.

2. Wildlife in abundant supply

Whether it’s hundreds of wild elk, herds of deer, a grizzly bear chewing on huckleberries or an eagle feasting on a creek-side snack, Paws Up teems with the hustle and bustle of local wildlife.

3. Watery wonderlands

Few rivers are as revered, as canoe-friendly, as scenic and as full of trout as the Blackfoot River, which cuts through mile after mile of Paws Up. The Island Lodge at Salmon Lake and the Lake House at Seeley Lake further expand water recreation possibilities.

4. Trees for all seasons

Coniferous trees dominate much of the landscape, with Douglas firs towering 80 feet skyward, sharing and shading alongside Ponderosa pines and western larch, whose needles actually take on a golden hue each fall.

5. Trails that transcend the ordinary

After spending time on trails through nature’s living room, it’s hard not to be inspired in one way or another. Whether striking out on foot or on horseback, communing with the wilderness begins right off of your back deck.

6. Accommodations rising to the spectacular

After the last s’more has come off the campfire, friends and families can return to accommodations that are every bit as distinctive as the best of the national park lodges and quite a bit more luxurious.

7. A historical perspective

National parks typically have a story to tell. At Paws Up, at first blush it’s about cattle—the rich history of cowboys and ranching is everywhere. But it’s also easy to imagine yourself following in the footsteps or paddle strokes of Meriwether Lewis as he explored this region in 1806.

8. Knowledgeable folks serving your needs

From camping butlers who provide insight into local flora, fauna and the Blackfoot River to a Wilderness Workshop leader demonstrating primitive skills unchanged for hundreds of years, you’ll sense an ongoing reverence for the land.

9. Long lines of cars. Well, maybe not.

Okay, so Paws Up isn’t totally like a national park. Because here, the only cars you’re likely to encounter are the ones guests get to use during their stay. This is a place of natural beauty you won’t be sharing with more than a few hundred other guests. Ever.

10. Easy access to Montana’s wilderness

Creating your very own national park experience doesn’t take an act of Congress—just a call to The Resort at Paws Up reservation number found on the back cover of this journal.



LICK YOUR CHOPS AND GRAB YOUR BIBS—IT'S BBQ SEASON!

When summertime descends upon Montana with its rush of warm air and sunshine dancing on the Blackfoot River, one thing above all else promises endless good times. It's BBQ season!

At The Resort at Paws Up, we're happy to heed the call of the grill and the char of the coals every chance we get, starting with Montana Master Grillers. Some of America's finest BBQ chefs—from Boston to Austin, Nashville to Chicago—have flocked to the banks of the Blackfoot to man the flames for this epic Memorial Day weekend event.



"I love the big events like Montana Master Grillers," says Chicago barbecue legend Chef Charlie McKenna of Lillie's Q. "It's actually an intimate time to talk to lots of people who are interested in grilling." McKenna adds, "At an event like this, I trade ideas with other chefs, watch their demos and get super-creative. It's fun interacting with guests, talking about BBQ or smoking and seeing them go, 'Hey, I think I'll try that.'"

He has a little Southern BBQ in his blood—McKenna's grandmother Lillie is from South Carolina. "My main influence revolves around Southern cooking, but I do draw inspiration from my travels, and give a twist to traditional Southern dishes," McKenna says.

Another top pit master rooted in Southern cooking is Houston's Patrick Feges. "Sure, we're in Houston, but I'm not just about straight-up Texas style. I might do something influenced by Korean BBQ, or do things a little different with our brisket or pork belly," Feges says. He and his wife, Chef Erin Smith, also like to change up their side dishes at Feges BBQ: "We do a yogurt and cilantro slaw or even Moroccan spiced carrots."



Feges visits Paws Up for the Campfire Chefs series in August. And while he just may turn to his passion, roasting a whole hog, he won't be the first to cook long into the night at Paws Up.



"I loved sitting out all night cooking a whole hog under that sky—the clarity of the stars and constellations I'll never forget."

—PAT MARTIN, MARTIN'S BAR-B-QUE JOINT

But visiting Paws Up for delicious BBQ isn't all about eating. It's also about learning, as grill masters dole out some serious instruction at BBQ-U. Chef Sam Huff traditionally does the honors. And if you join him or any of our bosses of the sauces around our fire, you'll get to create some mighty fine 'cue.

You can also answer the call of the loon at the Island Lodge at Salmon Lake, where your chef will grill up some goodies exclusively for your family (of course the local eagles will want their cut).

Between trips to Montana, you'll want to fire up your own grill. Here are a few tips from the pros.

BBQ TIPS FROM THE PROS

Let grilling greats Patrick Feges and Charlie McKenna slather on a little advice:



WOOD

FEGES: Season your wood well. Wood that's too green can add an odd taste.

MCKENNA: My favorite is peachwood. The fruitwoods, including cherry, impart a lighter smoke flavor.



CHARCOAL

FEGES: Skip the charcoal fluid and use a chimney for getting your coals started.

MCKENNA: I like Quebracho charcoal—it's harder and burns clean for less ash, and it's superhot in the beginning, so you don't need as much charcoal.



TEMPERATURE CONTROL

MCKENNA: Two keys here: first, adjust the distance from the flame or heat source, and second, control the air flow.



CUTS

FEGES: Whole hog in the pits every chance I get.

MCKENNA: For steaks, my favorite is ribeye; I love the fat content and flavor.



SAUCES

FEGES: For most red meats, I use either a Carolina-style vinegar mustard or a sweet, red Texas-style sauce. But with brisket or pork butt, hold off on the sugar until you glaze or spritz with a sweeter sauce.

MCKENNA: Choose the Lillie's Q sauce that matches up with meat you're cooking—we spent long hours combining just the right ingredients.



SEASONING

FEGES: A lot of us in central Texas start and end with good kosher salt and course ground pepper. I might add a light granulated onion and granulated garlic.

MCKENNA: One secret to a great steak is to season it properly—a lot more kosher or sea salt and pepper than you might think, especially for really thick cuts like a tomahawk steak.

JOHN DOE

LIGHTING UP THE NIGHT
WITH CAMPFIRE STARS,
PAWS UP WELCOMES
rocker
AND ACTOR JOHN DOE.

Best-known as the singer-bassist for the legendary Los Angeles band X, John Doe is not your ordinary rocker. Yes, he can often be seen performing with what *Variety* magazine describes as “LA’s preeminent punk-era group.” And he’s just recorded new material this past January. But adding to his discography are screen credits and TV roles, as well as two book titles. Doe recently released *Under the Big Black Sun*, a personal history of LA punk, which features contributions from Doe, his bandmate Exene Cervenka, members of the Go-Go’s and others. He’s also prepping to release a sequel, *More Fun in the New World*.

Paws Up: How did it come about that you were scheduled to play at Paws Up? We heard you met Special Events Manager Scott Schaefer and struck up a conversation?

John Doe: Yes, I believe that the conversation eventually centered on horses.

PU: Would you call yourself an avid equestrian?

JD: Sure. I have two trail horses. I started riding in my thirties with my friend Michael Blake [author of *Dances with Wolves*]. They’re my support animals, although I can’t bring them on airplanes [laughs].

PU: What songs do you think people most recognize you for writing?

JD: It’s hard to say who knows X and who doesn’t. I’m finally happy with the role of either people not knowing who we are or people saying that we changed their lives. That’s an enviable position to be in.

PU: Speaking of X, we read that the original lineup went into the studio in January.

JD: We’ve done some mixes and we might want to add some more songs. There are five songs and we’re really happy with them.

PU: Your first albums were produced by Ray Manzarek of the Doors. What was it like working with him?

JD: Inspiring! To have someone with those credits tap you on the shoulder and say, “You guys are worth my time to record,” that’s a huge validation.

PU: Which acting roles do you think you’re most recognized for?

JD: One is probably *Road House*, which is a ridiculous movie, but a lot of fun. It appeals to everyone’s inner 14-year-old boy. *Roadside Prophets* was fun, although my second



daughter was born the day we started shooting. I got to meet Timothy Leary and hang out with Arlo Guthrie—nothing wrong with that.

PU: How did you come up with your professional name? It’s so punk rock without even trying.

JD: My last name is Czech and pronounced oddly and I didn’t want to have to suffer through that. I also really loved that movie *Meet John Doe* with Gary Cooper.

PU: Are you planning on doing some horseback riding at Paws Up?

JD: Absolutely. I just like hanging out with them. If I’m on their backs, that’s cool too.

PU: Anything else you want to add?

JD: I’ll remember to look up [Paws Up Equestrian Manager] Jackie and I’ll remember that Paws Up is doing mustang rescue. I hope I don’t come home with one! It’s very possible.

YOUR MONTANA SUMMER PLAYLIST



Chuck Ragan



Austin Jenckes



Crystal Bowersox



Brian Pounds

New this year: Paws Up homes and tents are appointed with the latest smart speaker technology. Now you can say, “Alexa, play me some tunes!” The Resort’s Amazon Echo devices are programmed with 24 music stations through iHeart Radio. You can also pair the device to your smartphone and shuffle your own mixes. For songs inspired by Montana, artists who’ve toured here or just plain great toe-tappin’ ditties we’ve been listening to lately, look no further. We have your Montana summer playlist right here.

Chuck Ragan “Something May Catch Fire”
Fleet Foxes “Helplessness Blues”
Emmylou Harris “Montana Cowgirl”
The Lil Smokies “Mending the Fence”
John Floridis “Big Sky Falling”
Crystal Bowersox “Up to the Mountain”

Luke Bryan “Sunrise, Sunburn, Sunset”
Brian Pounds “Wagon Wheel”
Jewel “The Missoula Song”
Austin Jenckes “It’s a Great Day to Be Alive”
John Doe “A Little More Time”
Seth Glier “I’m Still Looking”

THE MOST DRAMATIC VIEWS

CLIFFSIDE CAMP

GREAT FOR:
*Having
an elevated
experience—
literally*

Cross Paws Up's famous covered bridge to discover the most stunning views on property. Each tent is perched atop a soaring cliff, and the heightened drama doesn't end there. Cliffside Camp's Dining Pavilion extends over the Blackfoot River to offer dazzling surroundings at every meal. The camp is also home to two of our ultra-romantic honeymoon tents.



THE MOST SECLUDED

MOONLIGHT CAMP

GREAT FOR:
*Getting
away from it all
and finding your
own pace*

Did you hear that? It's the sound of total relaxation. Moonlight Camp is located on its own private section of The Resort, offering picturesque views of Lewis & Clark's Lookout Rock as well as private river access just a short stroll away. Go for a bike ride, play horseshoes, sink back into Adirondack chairs and revel in this one-of-a-kind glamping retreat.



THE PERFECT HOME BASE

CREEKSIDE CAMP

GREAT FOR:
*Letting
the kids roam
while you relax*

Wander off and explore—we'll be sure to call you back for dinner. Located on the banks of the idyllic Elk Creek, Creekside Camp is picture-perfect for families, offering plenty of charming wooded space to run, play and reconnect with nature. Each night, share your tales of the day around the outdoor fire pit and help yourself to another round of s'mores.



WHAT'S YOUR TENT TYPE?

Your Guide to the Perfect Glamping Getaway

Picture it: sumptuous beds with soft linens, spacious en suite bathrooms, air-conditioning and a camping butler at your service. It's not hard to see yourself enjoying a luxury camping getaway surrounded by pristine nature. But do you know your glamping style? Just like our guests, each camp at The Resort at Paws Up has its own distinct personality. With six unique campsites to choose from, you're sure to find a match made in glamping heaven.

GLAMPING 2.0

NORTH BANK CAMP

GREAT FOR:
*Communing
with nature,
together as a
family*

As the inventors of glamping, we're always looking for ways to take it to the next level. North Bank is the first camp in the U.S. to offer three-bedroom tents, and every tent has a spacious balcony overlooking the river. Dining here is also a completely different experience—North Bank's Dining Pavilion features a massive fireplace and glass walls for a spectacular view.



THE BEST OF BOTH WORLDS

PINNACLE CAMP

GREAT FOR:
*Taking
in the scenery
and getting
your feet wet*

Perched on a bluff overlooking the Blackfoot River and Elk Creek, Pinnacle Camp offers more than just jaw-dropping views—here you also have access to swimming and fishing on the Blackfoot River. After a full day of adventure, sinking into your welcoming tub might be your favorite part.



THE BEST BLACKFOOT EXPERIENCE

RIVER CAMP

GREAT FOR:
*Swimming,
fishing,
sunning and
splashing*

Fall asleep to the lapping sounds of nature's best soundtrack. Wake up with the sun and immediately cast your first fly. With tents that sit directly on the banks of the Blackfoot, River Camp offers the ultimate way to take advantage of its legendary waters. After spending your days fishing, swimming and relaxing with the river as your faithful companion, you might find it hard to return to life on dry land.





THERE'S A PLACE IN MONTANA WHERE KIDS RIDE



Horseback riding and deer tracking and baby bison watching and goofy ground squirrel chasing and go-kart racing and longbow making and arrow shooting and trout fishing and forest hiking and s'mores cooking and stone skipping and river rafting and, well, if you're a kid, you get the idea.

At The Resort at Paws Up, there's a lot to do. And being connected here has nothing to do with Wi-Fi; instead it means connecting with nature. You can let your littles wander freely or set them up for a full day's worth of carefully supervised adventure. At the Kids Corps of Discovery, Little Discoverers feeds curiosity and provides structured play for the younger set. Adventure Club captures the imaginations of the older ones with obstacle courses, go-karts and more. Beyond Kids Corps, there are Wilderness Workshops and the Junior Wrangler Program to challenge and inspire kids of all ages.

There's nothing better than learning to hit, ride or throw things.

Young faces light up when they see musician Scott Besaw sitting around a campfire, with nine drums waiting to be played. "They'll come charging down and ask if they can play," he says. "We'll learn to keep a basic beat, and we'll say, 'If you can say it, you can play it.' Like, Black-foot Ri-ver. Black-foot Ri-ver. They catch on quickly and we build from there."

He's spent seven summers at Paws Up conducting his family-friendly Drum Circle Madness workshops. "The idea is not just to get kids exposed to music, it's to teach them a bit about rhythm and keeping a beat—all the while keeping it fun and fast," Besaw says.

Of course, there's also a creature young people are really drawn to: the horse. Paws Up Equestrian Manager Jackie Kecskes says, "We teach them to care about horses, saddle them, talk to them, feed them and, yes, clean up the poop." She adds, "Interestingly, last summer some of the kids were really into the ooey-goey aspects of veterinary care."

And as for building self-esteem? "I think for a child to learn how to ride a horse that's many times their size just may be the ultimate expression of self-confidence," Kecskes says.



Teaching kids skills that date back centuries is the bailiwick of resident mountain man and Gettin' Primitive instructor Gary Steele.

"Time and time again I've seen kids just light up with pride when they begin to master the primitive skills. They use their own hands to make a bow, shoot an arrow accurately or throw an atlatl dart [an early tool used by Native Americans to propel a dart or spear]," he says.

"One moment is firmly embedded into my heart. A girl of about 12 loved using the atlatl to throw darts—she threw with enough accuracy and power to bring down a woolly mammoth. With a true sincerity she said to me, 'This is the most fun I have ever had; I am going to remember you forever.'"





YOUR ULTIMATE SUMMER BUCKET LIST: 15 INCREDIBLE, UNMISSABLE EXPERIENCES AT PAWS UP

How often do you get the chance to jump off the side of a mountain, meet a wild mustang or dig into warm pancakes oozing with huckleberries picked fresh that day? When a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity presents itself, you take it—and at Paws Up, it seems like they pop up around every bend. Did you know The Resort offers more outdoor activities than any other resort in the country? There's simply no better place to check off some truly incredible, unmissable life experiences. From top speed to taking it slow, from soaring mountain peaks to the most placid lakes—here's your ultimate list of the things one must see, do, taste and experience at The Resort at Paws Up.

1. Gather the herd with our Morning Jingle.

Rise with the sun and saddle up for an exhilarating morning collecting our ranch horses for the day. You'll lead the pack and watch in amazement as each horse heeds the signal and folds one by one into the herd.

2. Go fly-fishing on the Blackfoot River.

The river is legendary, the fishing is superb and the views are incredible. Whether you catch your trophy fish or not, you're guaranteed to have an unforgettable time on this historic body of water.

3. Greet the day the Montana way.

Grab a cup of coffee, slip out to your deck and watch the animals roam past as the sun slowly burns through the morning fog. Even the most ambitious adventurer needs a moment of sublime quiet and reflection.

4. Drop off our highest jump on the Challenge Course.

Face your fears at our Sky Line™ Aerial Adventure Park—and for the truly brave, go for our Challenge Course that features a teeth-chattering 55-foot free fall.

5. Get in the spirit(s).

Learn from the pros and impress everyone back home by taking a beverage class tailored to your group's preferences. Try our Wine 101 class with a WSET Level 3 sommelier or take our whiskey tasting class, Whiskey Business.



6. Meet our mustangs.

Wild mustangs have roamed the plains for centuries, and you're looking at the only resort that offers the opportunity to come face-to-face with them. Here's your chance to step into the ring for a soul-stirring experience with one of Paws Up's adopted mustangs.

7. Go with the flow on a Montana river.

What's your speed: a leisurely canoeing trip on the Clearwater River or a thrilling whitewater rafting ride over Class III rapids on the Alberton Gorge? Take your pick and enjoy an adventurous afternoon on one of Montana's pristine rivers.

8. Get your fill of our favorite fruit.

Montana is known for huckleberries, and Paws Up is known to take full advantage of that. Be on the lookout for our must-try, ever-changing offerings of huckleberry drinks, pastries, sauces and more.

9. Say namaste in nature's most beautiful studio.

Book a private outdoor yoga session and roll out your mat amidst lush, untouched nature. Breathe in the fresh mountain air and quiet your mind as you work into your postures underneath Montana's Big Sky.

Ready for your next challenge? Join the Paws Up Thrillionaire Club, an elite group of adventure chasers who've conquered the most adrenaline-packed activities at The Resort. Visit pawsup.com/thrillionaire to check out the challenges—and the many rewards that come with being named a Thrillionaire.



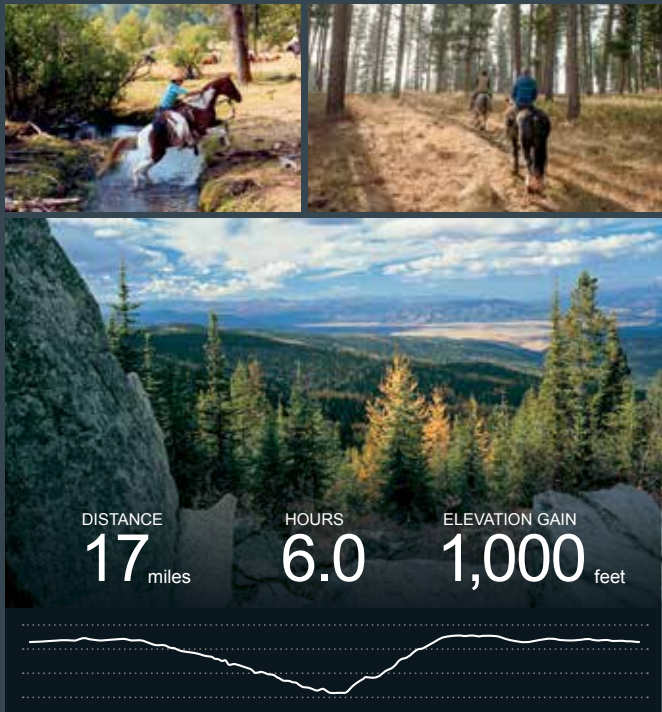
WHERE YOUR HORSE ACTS LIKE A TIME MACHINE

Ever wonder what the land was really like in the American West of the 1800s? You can readily see it, along with the pioneering spirit that settled it, right here on Paws Up's sprawling ranch. In fact, it was literally trailblazing that created the new Frontiersman Ride, a six-hour trail ride designed for horse lovers with a sense of adventure.

"If you're looking for the true, most authentic riding experience you can have, this is the ride for you," says Equestrian Manager Jackie Keeskes. You'll be traversing creeks, gaining 1,000 feet in elevation and traveling into a piece of the Lubrecht Experimental Forest, where motorized vehicles are not permitted. The only sound you'll hear is from your horse's hooves. "You truly are out in the middle of nowhere—miles from The Resort in a place where guests can only go if they do this ride," says Keeskes.

While the Frontiersman Ride takes you into parts seldom traveled, it's not limited to advanced riders. "We can gear this ride for just about any ability level, adjusting the speed and route," Keeskes says. Still, she says, "It's an experience that pushes the boundaries of your personal horse experience and comfort, ever so slightly."

It's also awe-inspiring. Stopping atop a ridge to enjoy lunch amid stunning views of the Blackfoot River Valley is something you won't soon forget. And that's the point of the Frontiersman Ride. "It's a good place to contemplate that this is the mode of transportation our ancestors used to cross this country years ago," Keeskes says. She adds, "It gives you a newfound respect for what it took to come west and to live like they did."



MONTANA
CATTLE
DRIVES

THEN



A cattle drive in the early 1900s



Innovations like the chuck wagon, a brainchild of cattleman Charles Goodnight, made life nearly tolerable on drives. It carried basics, including coffee, molasses, flour, pinto beans and other items. But by the time they hit Montana, the cowboys ate just beef. Meals at the Paws Up chuck wagon still feature it—tomahawk steak anyone?

Cowboys rode into America's Western lore beneath broad-brimmed hats that kept the sun from their eyes and rain off their necks and with few possessions other than a bandana for a dust mask, a rain slicker and a bed roll behind their saddle. They worked for cattlemen like Texas legend Charles Goodnight, who set out to move Texas longhorn cattle up to Midwestern cow towns and sometimes even to Montana. As early as 1866, longhorns were driven up the Bozeman Trail to Montana. Cowboys braved lightning storms, flash floods, stampedes and frigid nights, all for a whopping 30 bucks a month.

Through it all, the big cattle barons and the cowboys carried on for the better part of two decades, fueled by gold strikes, the ascent of the transcontinental railroad and a rapidly growing western population.

The invention of barbed wire in 1874 and the particularly bitter winter of 1886–1887 effectively closed the open range. Meanwhile, Mexican vaqueros were driving their compact, rugged Corriente cattle from Mexico into California. Many of the cattle-drive measures they implemented, such as moving cows from pasture to pasture to preserve the grasslands, exist today at The Resort at Paws Up.

And NOW



✕
THESE BOOTS
WERE
MADE FOR
RIDING.
✕

Whether it's festive holidays with fireworks or epicurean weekends featuring James Beard Award-winners, our blockbuster events always make for unforgettable gatherings. But there's one event that really ropes 'em in: the Cowgirl Spring Roundup. Held in April every year, this four-day weekend is a celebration of all things cowgirl, cohosted by the Cowgirl Museum and Hall of Fame.

A Chance to Ride Side-by-Side with Inspiring Hall of Fame Honorees

Cowgirl Spring Roundup is packed with daily activities ranging from trail rides and barrel racing demonstrations to artistic pursuits like photography and painting workshops. "But the real magic happens at night," says Paws Up's Mindy Marcum. That's when guests and honorees come together to enjoy gourmet food, fine wine and honest-to-goodness cowgirl



"We are a guest ranch, but simultaneously a multifaceted cattle ranch, raising 500 head of Black Angus cattle for production and about 60 Corriente cows used in guest experience cattle drives," said Paws Up Ranch Co-Manager Leigh Kelley. The cattle drives of the Old West pushed cows more than 15 miles a day, spanning thousands of miles between Texas and Montana. But now, "We drive cattle to rangelands within three miles of Paws Up. In the spring, our main herd may grow to 1,000 head of mother cows and calves," Kelley said.

Cattle drives are part of the ethos of the Old West. "But cattle are also at the hub of a whole beautiful system that preserves the landscape. As they forage and feed, they're actually keeping the soil and grasslands healthier," Kelley said. The Corriente cows at Paws Up are similar to the ones vaqueros drove in California over a century ago. According to Paws Up Equestrian Manager Jackie Kecskes, "Guests not only help us find stray cows, they help move the herd from pasture to pasture, so we don't overgraze or impact waterways."

Visitors love working with cattle as they develop an appreciation for authentic cowboy culture. "They're not just passive passengers on a trail ride. They learn horse skills and then put them to productive use. I think that's a big part of what sets Paws Up apart," Kecskes concluded.

conversation. "Sure, the weekend is about the honorees and the amazing stories they have to tell, but they end up pulling your own story out of you," Marcum says. "People walk away inspired to be the women they really are, to be better friends, mothers, wives."

Best of all, the weekend attracts all kinds, from those who've ridden their whole lives to others who barely know the difference between a horse and a cow. "Mother-daughter, groups of girlfriends, we get them all and many come every year. In fact, one woman who comes every year tried to persuade her son to change his wedding date so she could make it!" says Marcum.

"It's something I'm excited to be a part of every year," she says. "There is so much negativity in the world, but this one weekend is so positive and so uplifting. It becomes like a sisterhood with women walking away with new friends."



Inspiration on permanent display

TWO ARTISTIC PERSPECTIVES ON CAPTURING NATURE’S BEAUTY.



Rounding the corner on Sunset Hill Road, suddenly your eyes are drawn to the snow-capped peaks looming in the distance. If that vista captured your heart when you first arrived at The Resort at Paws Up, you’re not alone. It’s also one of Danielle LaGoy’s favorite views: “It’s a classic Montana landscape. You look at it and it reminds you of so many different places but also feels like home.”

An abstract landscape painter, LaGoy is one of two artists-in-residency who work at Paws Up year-round.

Finding unending inspiration in The Resort’s trees, rolling pastures and resident animals, she looks for patterns. “Maybe a group of cattle or a grouping of trees and the light that creates a shadow,” she says. “Then I take it and make it into my own.” LaGoy, who teaches the Nature, Abstracted Wilderness Workshops during the summer months, doesn’t take her surroundings literally. Instead, her work is bright and layered, or as she terms it, “one big messy accident.” It’s something she imparts in her workshops and private instruction.

“I like the human interruptions in art,” says LaGoy.

While LaGoy sees her art in patterns, Resort Photographer and Wilderness Workshop instructor Stuart Thurlkill finds beauty in singular items: “Great pictures aren’t made by looking at giant vistas. It’s about finding small details—a stump that has beautiful light and textures.” Thurlkill has been telling compelling stories through imagery for over 15 years, traveling all over the world to shoot ad campaigns, films and editorial spreads.

A Montana native, he started partnering with The Resort three years ago. “I’ve spent the last three years getting into the backwoods and getting lost on the property. There’s always something depending on where you turn and it doesn’t stop. It never runs dry on inspiration,” he says. Whether he’s capturing the emotion of a family, shooting marketing images or teaching workshops, Thurlkill continues to look at The Resort, and the world, with fresh eyes: “You always have to look at things from different angles and perspectives.”



An avid outdoorsman, Thurlkill revels in the property’s wild beauty: “I drive from my home for 30 minutes to what feels like the wilderness. The main creative force for me is being able to touch deep nature.” As someone who has spent many hours combing through the woods, his short list of favorite spots keeps growing, though there is one place that he particularly loves: “There is a pond between the ranching headquarters. Nobody goes out there.”

Wherever they roam, both artists find that the seasons themselves are a source of inspiration. Especially in the summer, LaGoy says, “As the sun goes down, everything becomes really golden.” And Thurlkill revels in the warmer months, “with the rainbow rocks in the river and then in late August, after a hot summer, when the grass is burned off.”

As he puts it, the landscape here “is always changing. I’ve fallen in love with it.”



HOPING TO CREATE ART OF YOUR OWN?

HERE ARE A FEW TIPS.

“Think of things in shapes, break those shapes down into colors and then figure out if it’s interesting to you. Don’t get caught up in making it perfect. Evoke drama. Witness things in a different way.”—Danielle LaGoy

“It’s about what evokes emotion to you and then getting close to it creatively. Take time to slow down to really look. Lie on your back. Crawl in the grass to look at pinecones. Look up a tree; look down in the grass. Find points of reference in this big open space.”—Stuart Thurlkill



STEVE FRAKER:

*hitching together
horses
and words*

Five generations of Frakers have made a living raising draft horses, so it stands to reason that roping and riding are second nature to Steve Fraker. He joined Paws Up 11 years ago to run the teams for wagon rides, sleigh rides and chuck wagon dinners. So how did he become Paws Up’s resident cowboy poet, too? Well, that is a very good story.

The way Fraker tells it, “I met a fellow at the local feed store who played banjo and did cowboy poetry.” Liking what he heard, Fraker soon brought the poet on to entertain The Resort’s guests. It wasn’t long before Fraker found himself entranced by the words—and the stories behind them. And when that gentleman decided to move on, Fraker took up the mantle, faithfully reading other people’s poems.

But two years in, his wife laid down the law: “She told me, you’re not a real poet unless you’re writing your own.” His first poem, “Cowboy Time,” was about a man who lives by his own clock. Ever since, he’s written one poem a year. “That way I know how long I’ve been doing it,” he jokes.

His most recent, “Cowboy Tech,” pokes fun at our reliance on technology and its distractions. Another poem’s poignancy resonates with guests. “Before a Cowboy Gets Old” is about Fraker’s father, he says. “It’s near and dear to my heart, and it’s the one that I get the most requests for.”

Fraker, who participates in cowboy poetry festivals across Montana and recently attended the National Cowboy Poetry Gathering in Elko, Nevada, chooses to write about relatable subjects. “I write just enough to make a good story,” he says, “but each person can insert their own vision into what’s happening.”



WHEN WORDS FAIL, HAVE A DRINK!

You would think that since a cowboy spends his or her days corralling cattle and working with the horses, there’d be plenty of inspiration for that next stanza. But once in a while, we’re told, some wordsmiths like a little something extra to get their creative juices flowing. If that turns out to be the case for you, aspiring poet, here’s a specialty craft cocktail you can rustle up at home. It’s equal parts smooth and satisfying—just like a hard day’s work on the ranch.

The Cattle Rustler

2 ounces High West Rendezvous rye whiskey
¾ ounce spiced simple syrup
2 dashes of aromatic bitters
2 orange slices
1 mint sprig

Muddle bitters and two orange slices in a shaker. Add rye whiskey and simple syrup and shake hard. Strain into a rocks glass packed with ice. Garnish with mint sprig and orange twist.



Before a Cowboy Gets Old

by Steve Fraker

*Before a cowboy gets old
he’s young, tuff and bold*

*There’s not a horse he can’t ride
nor a cow he can’t rope
he’s for sure no dope.*

*That is til a pretty little filly comes by
At first she just smiles, then says hi!*

*Before he knows it he’s been caught!
For it’s a cowboy that she sought
Now they start having some little ones
He does his best to teach them the cowboy code by day
Before long they are well on their way*

*Oh being young, tuff and bold
Now the cowboy is just a little bit old.
He’s not as fast as he was, so he’s been told*

*He keeps being a cowboy cuz,
that’s all he knows is the cattle buzz
the days get a bit tougher, and his joints get a bit stiffer*

*One day the kids come by,
they have kids of their own, that want to say hi!*

*He takes them out to the corral, and on their way,
He talks about the cowboy’s day*

*He watches the grandkids being young, tuff and bold.
Doing what it takes to get on their horses of old!*

*He watches the grandkids climbing up the notches
He thinks back and grins, and remembers the days
Before this cowboy got old*



NATURE AT ITS MOST EXPANSIVE.



A RETREAT AT ITS MOST INTIMATE.



OPENING 2020

UPCOMING 2019 EVENTS

All season long, great events keep cropping up.



Montana Master Grillers

MAY 24–27

Join us as we fire up the grill with these legendary BBQ pit masters: Nashville's Carey Bringle, Boston's Andy Husbands, Chicago's Charlie McKenna and Texas's Wayne Mueller. With live music and wild adventures, it's a finger-licking, toe-tapping, heart-pumping good time.



The Taste of Rose City

JUNE 28–30

For one delicious weekend in June, we're moving Portland, Oregon, farther inland. Dine on the open-flame cuisine of James Beard Award-winning geniuses Chef Greg Denton and Chef Gabrielle Quiñónez-Denton—plus *Top Chef* finalist Chef Doug Adams. And then wash it all down with brilliantly paired Oregon wines.



Fourth of July

JULY 2–4

Celebrate America's birthday in the shadow of purple mountain majesties. In addition to fireworks and a main street parade, we've got live music, craft cocktails, line dancing, a float-decorating contest, lawn games and gunnysack races. It's a quintessential holiday done just right.



Summer Songwriter Weekend

JULY 27–28

Summer's beauty sure is inspiring, so let your creative juices flow at our inaugural Summer Songwriter Weekend, where you'll jam and write songs with the likes of real-deal artists Beth // James, Austin Jenckes and Brian Pounds.



Bounty on the Blackfoot

AUGUST 24

It's our fifth year of this popular farm-to-table dinner with jaw-dropping views. Headlined by *Top Chef* winner Chef Brooke Williamson, this riverside feast will also be an opportunity to rub shoulders with a famous foodie and the creator of Netflix's *Somebody Feed Phil*.



Montana Master Chefs: New York City

SEPTEMBER 26–29

Come September, we'll be hosting some big-time Big Apple chefs at our annual signature culinary event. It's four days of dining and spirits tastings sandwiched between thrilling outdoor adventures. Trust us, this is one weekend you won't easily "fuhgeddabout."

40060 PAWS UP ROAD GREENOUGH, MT 59823

800-473-0601 THERESORT@PAWSUP.COM WWW.PAWSUP.COM



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