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Editor's note:

**WORD document** attached titled: Art of the West in Wind River Country

**Photos** attached titled: Sinks Canyon.jpg, Lander Main Street.jpg

*Note: Higher resolution image available upon request.*

**Photo Caption: *Enjoy the Art of the West Invitational show and other art attractions on a fall driving tour in Fremont County.***

**Photo Credit:** Wyoming's Wind River Country

## **Art of The West Weekend Fall Tour in Wind River Country, Wyoming**

**Fremont County, WY** - Experience all that Lander, Dubois & Riverton, Wyoming has to offer during a two-day driving exploration. You will see art in many forms especially the October 16 Heart of the West Invitational Art Show and The Cowboy Gear Exhibition. Also included on this art tour are gallery exhibits at the Lander Art Center, Central Wyoming College, The Headwaters Art and Conference Center and local galleries in each town. You will encounter some of nature's original art all along your drive to Sinks Canyon, the Loop road, and Wyoming's newest Scenic Byway in the Wind River Canyon, located on the Wind River Indian Reservation. Fill up and enjoy the ride!

### **Day One**

Lander Wyoming is known as the Bronze City for the great number of monumental bronze works that adorn the town's streets. Eagle Bronze Art Foundry, a local business, produces world-class art and sculpture for some of the most famous artists and collectors. Located just southeast of Lander, off US287 in the Industrial Park (130 Poppy Street), the foundry offers tours of its facility and explains the complex process. Please call in advance to schedule 307-332-5436.

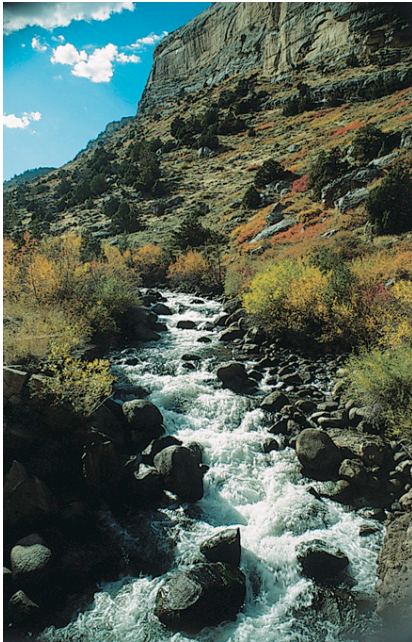
In Lander on October 16, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. the artwork for the Heart of the West will be on display, with the awards presented in the evening, along with single malt scotch and wine tasting, hors d'oeuvres, cash bar and the Fur, Felt and Denim Ball with live music. Local artists are also active in the event with a quick draw competition as well as art exhibits along Lander's Main Street October 11-16.

Through September 24, The Lander Art Center (224 Main Street) will exhibit the Audubon Wildlife Art Show. The 32<sup>nd</sup> year of this wildlife show features work by professional, advanced amateur, amateur, teen and children's divisions in a number of media.



During October, The Lander Art Center will have a show entitled "It Turns Out I'm From..." with the opening reception Oct 1, 6-8 p.m. This juried show will solicit work based on the theme of where we are from either literally or relating to the topic more tangentially. Open nationally, the Lander Art Center plans to provide incentives to display at the gallery with awards for People's Choice and Best of Show.

You'll enjoy some of nature's original art and fall colors if you take a drive through Sinks Canyon State Park on Highway 131 (Sinks Canyon Road) just 6 miles south of town. Follow the road into National Forest land and onto the Loop road (at Bruce's parking lot and picnic area). Here you will find miles of paved and unpaved road in an area known for its stunning views of the Wind River Range's glacial lakes and granite peaks. Later in the day you can head north to Wyoming's newest Scenic Byway in the Wind River Canyon, located on the Wind River Indian Reservation. Take Wyoming Highway 789 north to Riverton then US Highway 26 to Shoshoni where you'll turn onto US Highway 20. This Scenic Byway drive offers travelers 34 miles of dramatic canyon views, more fall colors, 2000-foot cliffs, geologic field exploration opportunities, abundant wild life, float trips, canyon fishing, and boat launching and state park facilities.



Plan on a stop in Riverton, where you can enjoy the Central Wyoming College Robert A Peck Center Gallery (2660 Peck Ave.) show called "The Other Side of the Pass." This exhibit will include a variety of painting, drawing, collage, and three dimensional works from four Jackson Hole artists: Susan Thulin, Sharon Thomas, Sam and Jenny Dowd. The exhibit runs August 30 through October 1, 7 a.m. to 8 p.m., Monday through Friday. The next show "Group Dynamics," is a presentation of the interplay of different styles of two-dimensional works from several artists: Alison Denyer, Peter Russom, and Mike Nichols. This exhibit will run October 4 through November 12.

### **Day Two**

Today you'll head out to Dubois, nicknamed the "Valley of the Warm Winds" on US Hwy. 287. As you drive through Fort Washakie on the Wind River Indian Reservation, visit Gallery of the Wind (14631 US Hwy 287) where you can see and purchase authentic Native American artwork made by local artists on the Wind River Indian Reservation in central Wyoming.

Continue north on US Hwy. 287, turning left on US Hwy. 26/287 to Dubois. First settled about 1866, this town has a history typical of the Old West. Many legendary hunters, trappers and explorers such as Kit Carson, Jim Bridger and Butch Cassidy passed through this area. You can view an extensive collection of accumulated art through 61 years of national art shows at The Headwaters Art and Conference Center (20 Stalnaker St.). The center also houses extensive works of artists Joe and Mary Back. And don't forget to shop in the many western-styled stores as well as art galleries. Stop by the National Bighorn Sheep Interpretive Center (907 W. Ramshorn St.) to learn more about the bighorn sheep of Whiskey Mountain with their hands-on exhibit. The Dubois Museum (909 W. Ramshorn St.) another must-see, houses artifacts from Native Americans, early white settlers and the tie hack industry.

To learn more about what Wind River Country has to offer, or to request a vacation packet, please visit us at <http://www.wind-river.org> call 800-645-6233 and **fan us on Facebook** at [Wyoming's Wind River Country](#) and **follow us on Twitter** under [WindRiverWY](#).

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