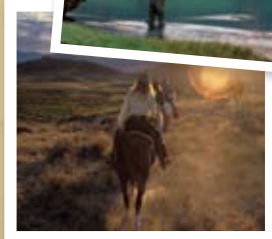


# TOP 10 THINGS TO DO IN DUBOIS AREA

- 1 Enjoy world-class snowmobiling on the Continental Divide Trail.
- 2 Visit Petroglyphs by ancient people.
- 3 Fish Blue Ribbon streams or pristine alpine lakes.
- 4 View the largest herd of wintering bighorn sheep in the continental United States.
- 5 Enjoy the excitement of a weekly rodeo.
- 6 View breath-taking glacier-carved granite peaks from the Glacier Trail in the Wind River Mountains.
- 7 Explore the largest contiguous wilderness area in the continental United States.
- 8 Experience unique dining and shopping along Dubois' downtown boardwalk.
- 9 Learn about the Upper Wind River Valley at the National Bighorn Sheep Center, the Dubois Museum and the Headwaters Center.
- 10 Experience Western life at one of Dubois fine guest ranches or on an outfitted pack trip.



## FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT US

www.duboismuseum.org  
www.duboismuseum.org  
www.wind-river.org



**Funded By:** Wyoming Main Street, Dubois Museum, Wind River Visitors Council

**Photos By:** Amy Cross, Stephen Lunsford, Jeff Vanuga  
Historic Images provided by the Dubois Museum

# DUBOIS WYOMING

HISTORIC WALKING TOUR  
SHOPPING & DINING GUIDE



WHERE REAL COWBOYS WORK & PLAY  
WWW.DUBOISWYOMING.ORG



## WALKING TOUR

Dubois is an authentic western town. Many of the buildings lining the boardwalks along the town's main street have colorful pasts. This walking tour guides you to a few of the buildings with stories about their past and a description of their present use. The tour can take an hour or more, depending on whether you stop to shop for cowboy gear, eat some homemade pie, or visit an art gallery—just a few of the detours that might add time to your Dubois experience.



## WELCOME TO DUBOIS

In Dubois time seems to move at a slower pace. The rustic log buildings that line the main street look much as they did when the town was first settled in the late 1800s. The town is nestled in a valley between the Absaroka and Wind River mountain ranges. And, yes, a river runs through it. The Wind River meanders peacefully through town on its way to join the Yellowstone River system.

Despite its rustic appearance, Dubois offers accommodations to fit every taste and pocketbook. Guest ranches offering an authentic Western experience are a long established Dubois area tradition. One of the two oldest guest ranches in Wyoming is located a few miles south of town. Dubois offers a wide range of dining choices from family fare to elegant gourmet cuisine.

Dubois is the southern gateway to Yellowstone, but we invite you to linger and relax in a true Western community. For more information, visit [www.duboismuseum.org](http://www.duboismuseum.org).



# OUR HISTORY

Native Americans, fur traders, homesteaders, outlaws, and Scandinavian tie hacks are all part of the diverse cultural heritage of Dubois and the Upper Wind River Valley. Petroglyphs and pictographs found on cliffs and boulders near Dubois hint at the area's long history. For centuries, the Mountain Shoshone, known as Sheep Eater Indians, spent their summers hunting in the high country around Dubois and living in the valley in the winter. The remnants of their hunting traps and blinds, teepee rings, and vision quest sites can still be seen in the mountains around Dubois.

Europeans arrived late in the valley's history. A party of fur traders and trappers came to the Upper Wind River Valley in 1811 searching for an overland route to Oregon, and Jim Bridger, the famed mountain man and guide, visited the Upper Wind River Valley on a number of occasions. It was not until the late 1870s that the first homesteaders arrived. A settlement that would become Dubois—a store, bank, and, of course, a saloon—soon sprang up along the Wind River. The notorious outlaw Butch Cassidy and his partner Al Heiner spent the fall and winter of 1889-1890 living in a cabin near Dubois. Wyoming Tie and Timber Company brought a Scandinavian influence to the Upper Wind River Valley in 1914 when they began a railroad tie-cutting operation on the mountain slopes near Dubois. The company employed Scandinavian loggers, known as tie hacks, who cut ties with a broad axe and sent them down a wooden flume to the Wind River to be floated to the railroad yard in Riverton. Today, Dubois' economy is tourism-based. Located on one of the main routes to Yellowstone,

the town hosts Yellowstone-bound tourists and others who come to camp, hike, horseback ride, fish, hunt, and snowmobile in the thousands of acres of national forest land surrounding the town.



## ST THOMAS EPISCOPAL CHURCH

The Reverend John Roberts, an Episcopal missionary who served the Indian tribes on the Wind River Reservation south of town more than a century ago, began traveling to Dubois to hold services for the community as early as 1901. He preached in homes or other community buildings until in 1910, when Dr. Francis H. Welty, one of Dubois' most prominent citizens, donated two lots on the eastern edge of town to establish a permanent home for the church. The Wyoming Tie and Timber Company provided the logs used for the construction of church from forests



in the nearby mountains. In 1924, Janet Walton raised money for the construction of new pews, the Bishop's Chair, and a prayer desk built by Ernest Stringer, another prominent Dubois citizen. In 1926, a chancel, sacristy, and a community room were added as well as a living room, kitchen and bedroom for the resident missionary.

### TODAY

More than 100 families worship in the church, and visitors are always welcome. The church hosts a farmers' market in the summer and fall and operates the Opportunity Shop, a thrift store offering quality-used clothing and house wares. In addition, the church performs a blessing of the animals on the feast day of Saint Francis of Assisi in October of every year. People can bring their cats, dogs, horses, cows, or other pets to the ceremony to be blessed.

## RAMSHORN INN

The Ramshorn Inn was built in 1913 by Albert and Oscar Stringer, and was originally called the Stringer Hotel. The two Stringer brothers had come to the Dubois area from Oklahoma in 1901 to homestead with their brothers Carl and Ernest, their sister Annette (Nettie), and their mother Sarah. Three other brothers had previously moved to the Upper Wind River

Valley. Oscar and Albert operated the hotel while their mother, Carl, and Nettie homesteaded. Nettie also cooked at the hotel. The Stringer brothers ran the hotel until after World War II. At some point, the name of the hotel was changed to the Ramshorn Inn after another hotel in town that had been called the Ramshorn Inn burned down.



### TODAY

Today the Ramshorn Inn houses a liquor store that offers a wide selection of fine wines and spirits.

## TUKADEKA TRADERS AND HORSE CREEK STATION



Tukadeka Traders and Horse Creek Station was constructed in the 1930s and operated as the Rustic Art Café and Curio Shop by Shorty and Mae Meckum during the 1940s. Over the years the log building with its unique Western façade has housed other types of businesses.

### TODAY

This beautiful building, owned by Monte and Tina Baker, has been maintained close to its original design and is now a gallery that features Native American gift items, local artwork, and Native American jewelry. Patrons can buy unique beads and string together their own necklace or bracelet. Tukadeka is most famous for owner Monte Baker's antler carvings. Each individual carving is superbly detailed and uniquely original. These carvings tell the story of the wilderness, its wild-life, and the Western way of life.

## THE COWBOY CAFÉ

The Cowboy Café has had various names and owners during its long history. "Hub" and Relda Guest first opened a cafe called "Hub's Hut" in 1939 at the current location in the center of downtown Dubois. Various known as the Frontier Cafe, Dubois Cafe, and Rock Garden, the restaurant became the Cowboy Café in 1982 when the business was bought by the Leon Ralston Family.



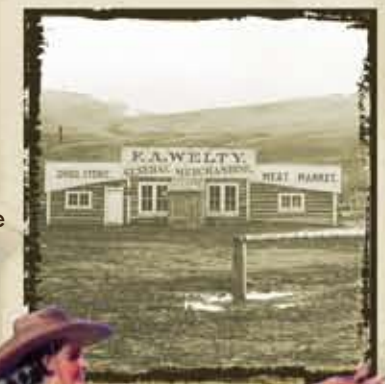
### TODAY

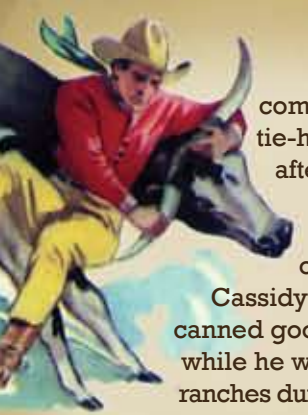
Bob and Carol Murdoch and Robert and Severine Murdoch purchased the Cowboy Café in 1993. The cafe and its homemade pies and soups have become a local legend. There are frequently long lines waiting for a table, but the food is worth the wait. Open all day,

the Cowboy Café is a great place to eat and enjoy its small town Wyoming atmosphere.

## WELTY'S GENERAL STORE

Welty's General Store was founded in 1889 by Frank A. Welty, Sr. and was first located three miles up Horse Creek along the original road that ran through the Dubois area. Welty subsequently moved the store to its present location on West Ramshorn Street. Over the years the store was remodeled a number of times. The present structure was





completed in 1956 and was built by tie-hacks who still lived in the area after the railroad cross-tie logging operation in the Dubois area ended. The store's most famous or infamous customer was Butch Cassidy who bought cigars, neckerchiefs, canned goods, and other staples at the store while he was helping out on some of the ranches during the summers and not engaged in his other more lucrative profession. The store is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

**TODAY**

Stepping into Welty's is like stepping back in time. The store has changed little since its early days except food items, with the exception of jams and jellies, are no longer sold. You can still find an eclectic assortment of clothing and sporting goods and purchase hunting or fishing licenses. Welty's has one of the largest selections of authentic cowboy hats and boots in Wyoming.

**THE RUSTIC PINE TAVERN**



The Rustic Pine Tavern was built in 1919 and operated for many years as a pool hall with boarding rooms upstairs. The business was originally known as the Hiway Café or the Hiway Pool Hall until a bar was added in 1939. At that time it was renamed the Rustic Pine Tavern. In 1935 the interior of the bar

was decorated with the distinctive knotty pine paneling that still covers the walls today. The dance-hall portion of the bar was for many years the only large meeting room in Dubois, and it was used for social functions such as weddings and town meetings. Band music filled the bar most evenings.

**TODAY**

Over the years, the Rustic Pine has changed hands several times but has been owned and operated by Buck Butkovich and Charlie Brown since 1993. A restaurant and bar are still operated in the building. Square dances are held every Tuesday during the

summer months, and community events are still held in the large Frontier Room. During happy hour the bar is the place for socializing and community gossip, and it's the best place in town to see a real live cowboy or cowgirl.

**DUBOIS MERCANTILE**

The Dubois Mercantile Company was constructed in 1913 and opened for business as the "new store" in competition with Welty's General Store. C.E. Birdsall was the first manger of the Mercantile, W.K. Carson was the company president, and a number of prominent citizens served as directors. The business sold to Wyoming Tie and Timber Company in 1947 after the company's railroad cross-tie operation near Dubois closed. Tony Dolenc, who had managed Wyoming Tie and Timber Company's tie camp store, moved to Dubois and ran the mercantile for the company for nine years. Subsequently, the business changed ownership a number of times until Ann and Wayne Steinert purchased it in 1986.



**TODAY**

The Dubois Mercantile is not currently in operation, but the historic building is for sale with a number of prospective clients.

**AMORETTI, WELTY, HELMER AND CO. BANK**



Brothers Jack and Dave Williamson constructed the Amoretti, Helmer Bank in 1913 of a red-tinted stone quarried locally. Frank Welty, Sr. was added as the bank's third partner a few years later. The bank continued to operate until the death of E.B. Helmer, its cashier and manager, in 1927. After

Helmer's death, it was discovered that he had embezzled the bank's funds and invested them unwisely in the stock market. In addition to Helmer, Eugene Amoretti was also involved in the bank, but Frank Welty, Sr. was the principle stockholder and the partner who paid off account holders. This was the last privately operated bank in the state. The building served as a residence until the Dubois National Bank opened there in 1963.

**TODAY**

This beautiful stone building is no longer in use, but it is still an excellent example of the Williamson brothers' expertise at stone masonry.

**WHISKEY CREEK SALOON**

Like the Twin Pine Lodge, the Whiskey Creek Saloon was constructed by Ernest Stringer in 1934. He built the saloon for local business owners, Les Wright and Tom Hulett. Originally known as the Branding Iron Bar, the saloon was a popular watering hole with locals who came there to gamble, dance, and socialize. Gambling was legal until the 1940s. Part of the bar's original allure was its sign: a large metal bucking bronco designed by Wright who wanted a grand marquee for his business. The bucking horse attracted tourists and their cameras for many years. The bar portion of the building burned to the ground in 1948, but the dance hall was saved and remodeled into a saloon. The business changed hands and names several times in the intervening years, and in 1984 was again gutted by fire. The building has since been remodeled with its original western flair.



**TODAY**

Today Bobby Lawrence operates the Whiskey Creek Saloon and Lorenzo's Restaurant in the old building. Lorenzo's offers an eclectic mix of Italian, Mexican and barbecue cooking, but the restaurant is most famous for its delicious meatballs. Lawrence named the business for Whiskey Creek, an area creek where cowboys were said to have hidden their whiskey to keep it cool in the summer. The saloon has pool tables and dartboards, and, on the weekends, live bands provide music for dancing.

**TWIN PINES LODGE**

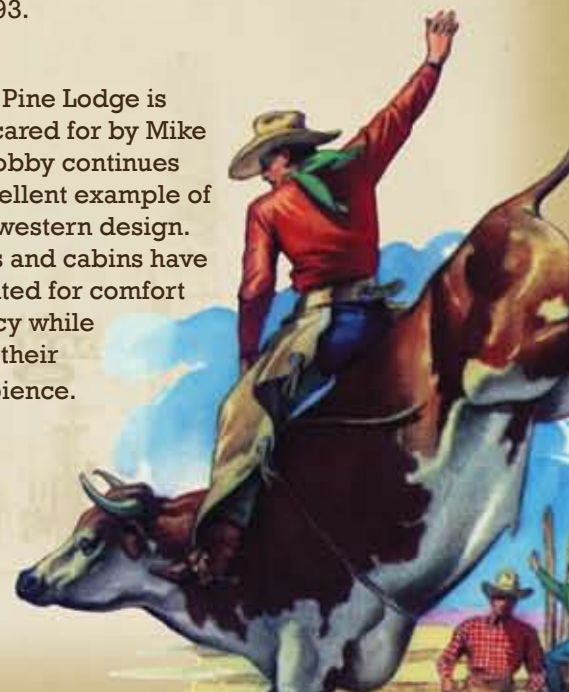
The Twin Pines Lodge and seven of its guest cabins were constructed in 1934 by Ernest Stringer, the son of one of the first families of Dubois. Stringer, who was known for his furniture-making skills, also built a prayer desk for St. Thomas Episcopal Church in 1924. The lodge's architecture is a unique blend of classic arts and crafts style and the rustic architecture used in Yellowstone National Park, most notably in Old Faithful Lodge. The lodge is constructed of saddle-notched lodge pole pine harvested from dense stands on the side of nearby Lava Mountain. A distinctive balcony with a railing of burled lodge pole pine wraps around the lobby. Unlike the straight timbers that make up the external construction of the building, the twisted, knotted logs in the balcony came from gnarled trees harvested on Union Pass.

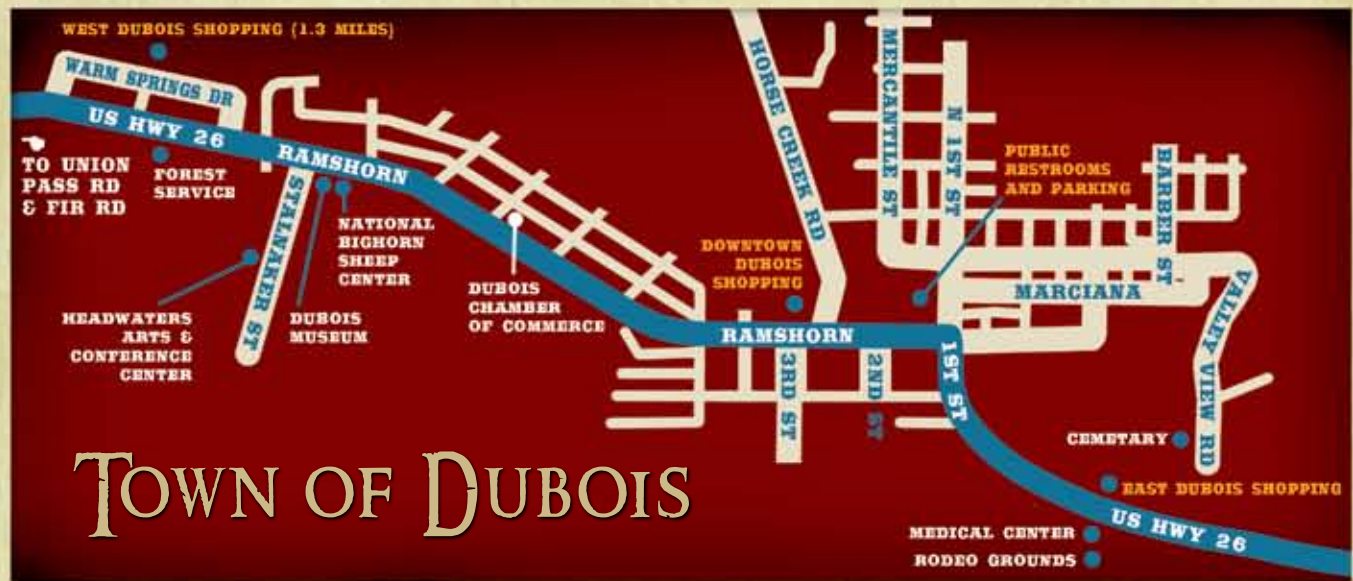


Twin pines planted by Stringer stood in front of the building and gave the lodge its name. Unfortunately, the trees that gave the lodge its name were blown down in a storm a few years ago. The Twin Pines Lodge was added to the National Register of Historic Places in 1993.

**TODAY**

The Twins Pine Lodge is owned and cared for by Mike Slider. The lobby continues to be an excellent example of early 1900s western design. Guest rooms and cabins have been renovated for comfort and efficiency while maintaining their historic ambience.





## SHOPPING

### Absaroka Western Designs

1414 Warm Springs Drive  
307-455-2440  
Absarokawesterndesign.com

### Antler Workshop & Gallery

1404 Warm Springs Drive  
307-455-2204 • antlergallery.com

### The Backyard Floral Design

132 E. Ramshorn • 307-455-2142  
307-690-6958

### Dubois Antiques, Etc.

125 West Ramshorn • 307-455-2626

### Dubois Video

209 E. Ramshorn • 307-455-3435

### Knives & Things

116 E. Ramshorn • 307-455-2004

### Opportunity Shop Thrift Store

1 South 1st St • 307-455-2900

### Saddle Tramps

104 N. First St • 307-455-2088  
saddletrampsdubois.com

### Silver Sage Gallery

124 E. Ramshorn • 307-455-3002  
silversagegallery.com

### Spin a Yarn

122 E. Ramshorn • 307-455-3617  
wyomingwoolandgifts.com

### Stewart's Trapline Gallery

120 E. Ramshorn • 307-455-2800

### The Tickled Trout Gallery and Fly Shop

12 Stalnaker St • 307-455-2500

### Tukadeka Traders

104 E. Ramshorn • 307-455-3345

### Two Ocean Books

128 E. Ramshorn • 307-455-3554  
CowboyBookSeller.com



### Water Wheel Gifts and Books

113 E. Ramshorn • 307-455-2112

### Welty's General Store

113 W. Ramshorn • 307-455-2377

### Western Bouquet

114 Barber St • 307-455-4044

### Whiskey Mountain Tackle and Sports

1428 Warm Springs Dr. • 307-455-2587

### Wild Country Emporium

508 W. Ramshorn

### Wind River Gear

19 N. First St • 307-455-3468  
WindRiverGearShop.com

### Windy Mountain Herbs

300 W. Ramshorn • 307-455-2728



## FOOD & DINING

### Dubois Super Foods

610 W. Ramshorn • 307-455-2402

### Chandler's Ranch House Cuisine

1408 Warm Springs Dr. • 307-455-2115

### Cowboy Café

115 E. Ramshorn • 307-455-2595

### Kathy's Koffee

306 W. Ramshorn • 307-455-3862

### Line Shack Lodge

448 Union Pass Rd • 307-455-3232  
lineshack.com

### Lorenzo's Italian Restaurant

206 W. Ramshorn • 307-455-2397

### Paya Deli Pizza and Catering

112 E. Ramshorn • 307-455-3331

### Rustic Pine Steakhouse

123 E. Ramshorn • 307-455-2772  
rusticpinetavern.com

### Sawmill Lodge

1 Fir Rd • 307-455-2171  
thesawmill.org

### Sundance Café

106 E. Ramshorn • 307-455-3989

### Tammy's Coffee Haus

Corner 1st and Ramshorn  
307-455-2764

### Taylor Creek Exxon -

1426 Warm Springs Dr • 307-455-3320

### Village Café/Daylight Doughnuts

515 W. Ramshorn • 307-455-2122

### Wilderness Boundary Restaurant

3577 US Hwy 26  
307-455-3788  
lavamountainlodge.com

## SNACKS

### Country Store

404 W. Ramshorn • 307-455-2677

### Dubois Drugstore

126 E. Ramshorn • 307-455-2300

## TAVERNS & LIQUOR STORES

### Rustic Pine Tavern

119 E. Ramshorn • 307-455-2430

### Whiskey Creek Saloon

204 W. Ramshorn • 307-455-2387

### Ramshorn Inn Liquor and Fine Wines

202 E. Ramshorn • 307-455-2444

## SALONS & SPAS

### Helping Hands Massage Therapy

209 Mercantile St • 307-455-3504

### La Curl Beauty Salon

209 W. Ramshorn • 307-455-2491

### Neuro Muscular Massage Therapy

8 Stalnaker St • 307-455-3773

### Ora's Beauty Salon

113 Horse Creek Rd • 307-455-2644

### Painted Ladies Hair & Nail Salon

218 W. Ramshorn • 307-455-2803

### Western Shears

1422 Warm Springs Dr • 307-455-3556

## MUSEUMS

### Dubois Museum/Wind River Historical Center

909 West Ramshorn • 307-455-2284  
duboismuseum.org

### Headwaters Arts & Conference Center

20 Stalnaker Street • 307-455-2687  
headwaterscenter.org

### National Bighorn Sheep Center

907 W. Ramshorn • 307-455-3429  
bighorn.org

For a complete list of Services and Lodging, please visit

[www.duboiswyoming.org](http://www.duboiswyoming.org)

