

# FLAMING GORGE *Scenic Byway Highlight Tour*



*From Rock Springs, your journey begins at Exit 99 off I-80, following US Hwy 191 south through the high desert country. Vast sweeping landscapes unfold, which are home to large herds of pronghorn, wild horses, mule deer and many species of raptors.*

#### MM 500

**Historic Routes** As you cross the bridge over the railroad tracks; you are crossing a major historic transportation corridor. During pioneer times, this was part of the famous Overland Stage Trail, a vital route across the Wild West. In the late 1860's, the Transcontinental Railroad was built along the same corridor.

#### MM 511

**Art Gallery of Time** Also known as the Little Firehole Overlook, the interpretive sign explains some of the vast geologic forces which carved and crumbled the landscape before you.

#### MM 513

**Canyons, and Spires, and Chimneys, Oh My!** The Big Firehole Turnout is a 10 mile paved road offering the northern most access to Flaming Gorge. The unique Chimney formations have been carved by wind and water erosion. Big Firehole offers boat launch, camping, restroom and picnic facilities along the lake.

#### MM 535-537

**Birds of Prey** Several unmarked turnouts on the east side offer sweeping views of Clay Basin, where one can see over 60 miles into Utah, Colorado and Wyoming. This area has the highest concentration of Raptors (Hawks, Falcons, Eagles, and Vultures) in the lower 48 states. Clay Basin also serves as a major underground storage facility for the numerous natural gas wells in the region.

#### MM 549

**Outlaw Country** At Minnie's Gap, the road to the east travels 20 miles on paved and graded roads to historic Browns Park. Its remote location along three state borders attracted many outlaws and Browns Park became a major way station on the Outlaw Trail. Its most famous residents were Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid, although a colorful list of others like Matt Warner, Tom Horn, Queen Ann & Josie Bassett, Isom Dart and Mexican Joe Herrera added to its notorious fame. Today, the charm of Browns Park is that it is little changed from those frontier years, although fly rods have replaced six guns for most of its visitors.

#### MM 401

**Powell's Namesake** A splendid view of the lake awaits you at this byway pullout. The colorful red cliffs across the lake inspired early explorer John Wesley Powell to name the area Flaming Gorge. The town of Manila and Lucerne Marina are also visible across the lake. Antelope Flats offers camping, wildlife viewing and access to excellent lake fishing.

#### MM 398

**Take a Dip!** Follow the well marked turnoff to Mustang Ridge, a favorite boat launch and camping area. On the way is Sunny Cove, a popular lake swim beach.

#### MM 396

**River Playground** The Little Hole Road takes one down to the most popular access point along the Green River. This day use area offers boat ramps, picnicking, rafting, hiking and trophy trout fishing.

#### MM 395

**Dam Good Views.** The Flaming Gorge Dam & Reservoir Overlook is just around the corner on this short paved road. The waters before you are 3-400 feet deep! Many stationary boats you see are likely seeking the state record Lake Trout that prosper in these waters.

#### MM 393

**Take a Free Tour!** Don't miss Flaming Gorge's premier Visitor Center at Flaming Gorge Dam! Open year round, one can enjoy interpretive displays of the area and free dam tours in summer. Enjoy the newly constructed picnic facilities, boat dock and fishing pier located at the other end of the parking area.

*Greendale Junction - is the intersection of US Hwy 191 and UT Hwy 44.*

*From here, a choice needs to be made... south on US Hwy 191 continues to Vernal and the land of dinosaurs. North on UT Hwy 44 leads to historic Green River WY. Either direction is packed with scenic wonders and countless recreational opportunities!*

**HEADING NORTH ON UT HWY 44;**

#### MM 3.5

**Spectacular Views** The Red Canyon Visitor Center is located on a rocky point, 1,700 feet above the lake as it winds through this deep canyon. Stunning overlooks are plentiful here any time of year.

#### MM 14.5 or MM 22

**Geology Unbound** You may enter this 13 mile loop from either direction to enjoy the amazing views of the Sheep Creek National Geologic Area. Keep your eyes peeled for the bighorn sheep that call this area home.

#### MM 17.5

**Another Kodak Moment?** Grab your camera and enjoy the fiery red cliffs that tower over scenic Sheep Creek Bay.

#### MM 43

**Pronghorn Central** Lucerne Peninsula is a great place to view these fleet high desert mammals and is the major marina and camping development on the lake.

#### MM 31

**Hit the Water!** The historic location of Brennagar's Crossing is one of many unpaved roads along your journey north that offer access to more remote regions of the lake.

#### MM 24

**See that Water Tower?** It is the site of Buckboard Marina, offering the most northern marina services and an excellent ice fishing departure point.

#### MM 8

**Barren Lands** Learn more about the incredibly sculpted towers and chimneys that dominate this area of the gorge.

#### IN GREEN RIVER

**Expedition Island** This is where John Wesley Powell began his voyage of exploration down the uncharted waters of the Green and Colorado Rivers. Today, visitors can enjoy trails, swimming, kayaking and picnicking at this idyllic site.

**HEADING SOUTH FROM GREENDALE JUNCTION ON US HWY 191;**

#### MM 372.5

**Backroads Tour** The Red Cloud Loop follows a winding unpaved route to Vernal and shows off another side of the Ashley National Forest, offering scenic lakes, trails, meadows and views a little off the beaten path.

#### MM 363

**Dinosaur Trackway** One of the many attractions of this popular park where dinosaurs once roamed. Today, Red Fleet State Park offers scenic boating, camping and fishing.

#### HWY 40

**UT Fieldhouse of Natural History** Located right in town, this museum is a popular family attraction! Surrounded by life-size dinosaurs, the museum offers a number of interactive displays and exhibits on the region's prehistoric fossils and artifacts.

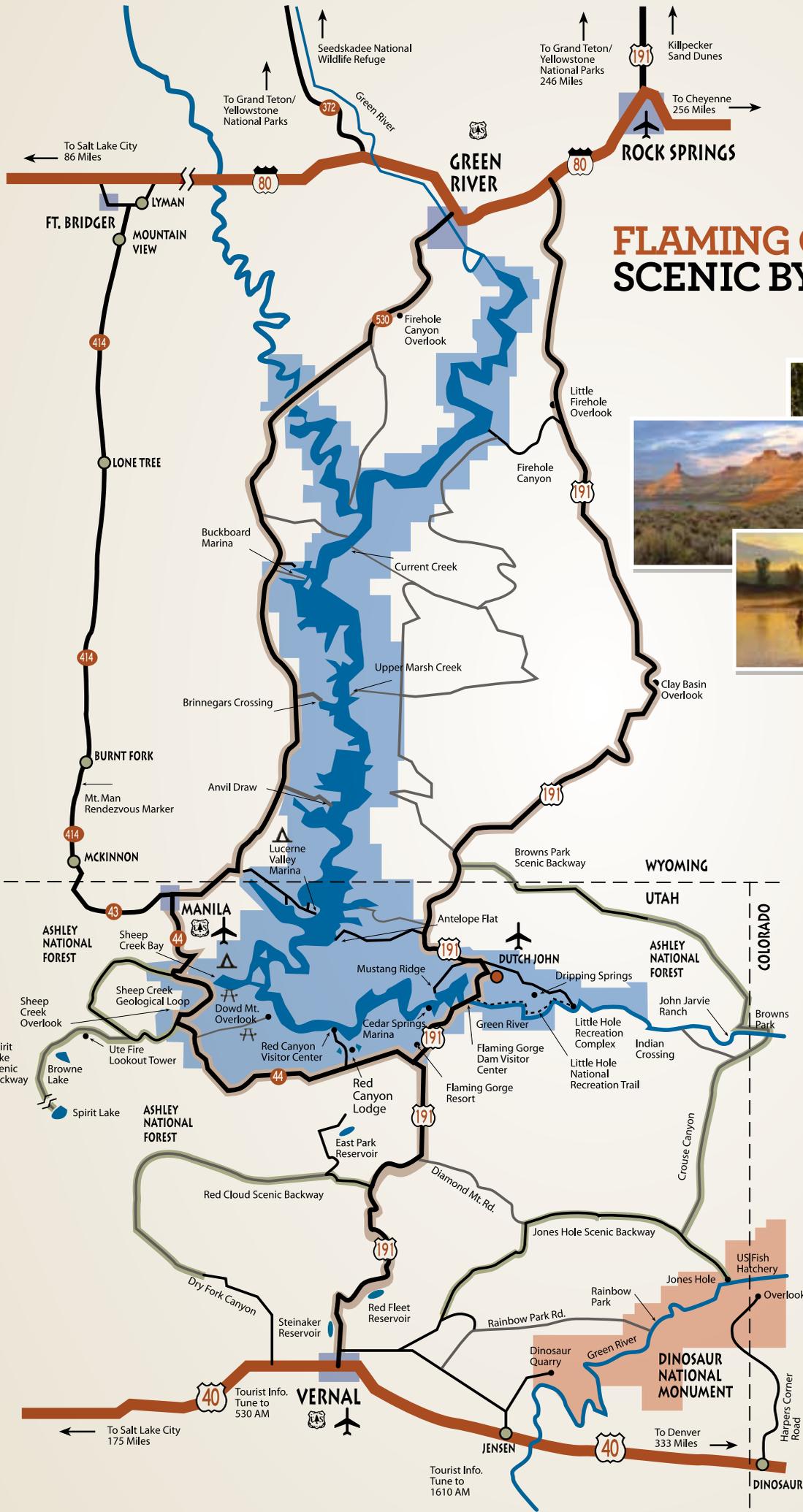
#### HWY 40

**Dinosaur National Monument** Dinosaurs may have drawn you to the monument, but be ready to be amazed by the rest of the park. Visitors are stunned to discover incredibly scenic areas, thrilling whitewater rafting and scenic drives. The world famous wall of dinosaur bones is displayed in a brand new Exhibit Hall that compliments the new Visitor Center below.

**For further traveler information visit any of these area websites:**

[www.RockSpringsChamber.com](http://www.RockSpringsChamber.com)  
[www.TourWyoming.com](http://www.TourWyoming.com)  
[www.FlamingGorgeCountry.com](http://www.FlamingGorgeCountry.com)  
[www.GRChamber.com](http://www.GRChamber.com)  
[www.Dinoland.com](http://www.Dinoland.com)

\*Mile Markers (MM) are small green signs, located each mile along the road. Please note: As you change highways and cross state lines, the MM numbers are not consecutive! Mile Marker locations are approximate. Always pay close attention to other traffic as you pull in and out of these stops!



# FLAMING GORGE SCENIC BYWAYS



## LEGEND

- Flaming Gorge National Recreation Area
- Major Access Routes
- Improved Roads (graded and/or graveled)
- U.S./State Highways
- Paved Roads
- Flaming Gorge Scenic By-Ways
- State Scenic Backway
- Gateway Cities providing full visitor services.

**Recreation Pass Use Required:** Use of some facilities in the Flaming Gorge National Recreation Area requires a daily Use Pass for your vehicle.