Discover KESTREL CAMP on American Prairie Reserve
Since opening in 2013, Kestrel Camp has hosted guests from around the world who are looking for an inspiring nature experience in a world-class setting. Long-time friends, generations of families, and venturesome couples have reconnected on America’s Serengeti, using the camp as an intimate sanctuary for shared adventures.

Unlike the rest of the modern world, this is a timeless place, where days pass seamlessly into sunsets. You can stand overlooking the Missouri River and see glimpses of the region’s history: homesteading, Lewis and Clark, Plains Indians and early humans. Here, time is marked through the migration of pronghorn, the emergence of prairie dog pups and the ancient dance of sage grouse.

We invite you to Kestrel Camp to discover the prairie again with fresh eyes. Guided by our talented naturalists and rejuvenated by your time with loved ones, your trip will provide memories that last for years to come.

“What a joy to spend time here. We do not want to leave and will be back. Thanks to a wonderful crew!”
–Howard & Nancy S.
Tucked into the landscape that it celebrates, Kestrel Camp is designed to bring the outside in with unexpected amenities that make your stay restful, safe and reinvigorating. Each of the five suites include premium mattresses and linens, a coffee bar with a personal library, private indoor and outdoor seating areas and an en suite bathroom with spa-quality bath products and robes.
“Thank you for the most peaceful three days we’ve ever experienced and all that you are doing to preserve this incredible landscape...”

–Dakota C. & Dave P.
ENGAGE

The social lounge is located in the heart of the Camp. Several seating areas, a stocked bar and an interpretive library full of books, activities and games provide ample opportunity to relax and spend time with others around the fireplace or on the deck.
The adjoining dining room provides an additional gathering place for conversation and gourmet meals. The Camp’s rotating Montana-based chefs create custom menus that are often talked about long after the trip ends, including bountiful breakfast buffets, field lunches, hearty appetizers and dinners that give way to desserts and digestifs.

“You have a winner! Beautiful setting, great staff, delicious food — you made us feel welcome and at home…and a wonderful mission.”
CHEF PROFILE - DANIEL WENDELL

Chef Daniel Wendell has created food experiences at Kestrel Camp since its inaugural season. His culinary philosophy is well paired with the Camp's fresh and natural atmosphere, and his meals feature the finest regional and seasonal ingredients with an eye toward healthy and full flavor fare for active explorers. At home in Bozeman, Daniel keeps his plate full as the executive chef and owner of The Food Studio, which hosts dinners and provides cooking instruction in addition to deploying in-house chefs and caterers. His career began as an apprentice in a cheese and charcuterie shop and gaining experience in a renowned Berkeley, California restaurant and he quickly grew into executive chef roles at restaurants across the American West. Daniel made Montana his home in 2001 and continued to expand his culinary artistry as a private chef for members of the exclusive Yellowstone Club before opening The Food Studio in 2013. His approach to food also carries over to his community commitments, serving as a mentor for a high school culinary program and volunteering with a local farm-to-school food program.
Your exploration of the northern plains will cover more than the region’s human history and fascinating plants and wildlife. Kestrel Camp guests have special access to American Prairie Reserve’s ongoing work to restore the landscape, from bison and prairie dogs to citizen science and bird research. The Reserve is a conservation project in motion, and unlike developed national parks and African wildlife safaris, your experience will be a holistic look at the past, present and future.

Guests travel in four-wheel-drive vehicles with their personal naturalists guiding the way. In addition to touring, itineraries also can incorporate a wide range of activities for children and adults. Recent trips have included early morning bird walks, photography instruction and mountain biking.

“To our friends at Kestrel Camp – Heaven on earth! You are creating a profoundly important, globally impactful place. Take pride in the journey and the legacy. We are immensely grateful for experiencing your creation and for your generous hospitality.”

–Jason C. & Mary Ann M.
“Wow! An American Safari of the best kind! Truly an adventure not to be missed! Definitely gives new meaning to the American Plains!”

–Darci H.
GUIDE PROFILE - DR. KYRAN KUNKEL

Dr. Kyran Kunkel, American Prairie Reserve’s Lead Scientist, is a familiar face for Kestrel Camp guests. As one of the Camp’s naturalist guides, Kyran helps visitors connect with the intricacies of the prairie ecosystem and its fascinating wildlife. He also shares stories from the frontlines of the Reserve’s ongoing science work, giving guests a behind-the-scenes look at the building of America’s 21st century park. A world-renowned conservation scientist and consultant who has led projects ranging from bears and wolves to bighorn sheep, Kyran has worked with American Prairie Reserve from the very beginning as a contractor and through collaborative efforts with World Wildlife Fund before officially joining the staff in 2014. He also continues his work with emerging conservationists as an Affiliate Professor in the Wildlife Biology Program at the University of Montana.
ENGAGING FOR CHILDREN

Parents, grandparents and children delight in the Kestrel Camp experience thanks to the prairie’s endless room to roam and special programming customized to families and multi-generational groups.

In addition to interacting with the Reserve’s naturalist staff, past guests have enjoyed our collaboration with Montana Outdoor Science School (MOSS), which works to promote an awareness, understanding and appreciation of the natural world through quality educational experiences. The organization’s talented educators create engaging activities and special memories for all ages, including hands-on and small group instruction like walking safaris and making native plant lotions and potions to take home. After an active day in the outdoors, bedtime often comes quickly after sunset pond exploration and campfire treats.
“Thank you, Kestrel. This is a paradise for 6- and 8-year-olds, their parents and grandparents.”

–Tom & Meredith B.
SPRING

The arrival of spring is not only a period of abundance; it is also filled with the unexpected. Water fills seasonal streams and wetlands, bison calves appear overnight, and grassland birds arrive from across the country. As snow melts and moisture seeps into the soil, shades of brown become alive with new growth and grasses emerge from sleep. The prairie is no longer a heavy winter blanket across the landscape -- it is transformed into a vibrant quilt of color and song.

SELECT YOUR SEASON

With unexpected amenities and climate-controlled accommodations, Kestrel Camp offers comfortable, world-class adventures.
SUMMER

Summer on the Reserve means discovery. As if playing a game of hide-and-seek, prairie wildlife becomes attuned to a cycle of cool mornings and warm afternoons. Early-rising visitors are surrounded by the calls of meadowlarks and swallows, and the last slivers of evening light reveal burrowing owls perched at prairie dog towns and bison on the horizon. Long days fade into nights by the fire, and stargazers experience life on the prairie after dark, complete with coyote serenades.

FALL

A time of gathering, autumn serves as a reminder to prairie inhabitants that preparations must be made before the snow. Pronghorn come together in large groups and start their long migrations, and elk amass for their annual mating spectacle. Gradually, the Reserve says farewell to the birds that travel through the region on their way to other destinations. As golden light creeps across the landscape, photographers and wildlife watchers delight in the opportunities that cooler weather and migrations provide on America’s Serengeti.
PLAN YOUR TRIP

Including travel to and from American Prairie Reserve, the suggested trip length at Kestrel Camp is three days and two nights. This itinerary includes two nights of lodging in one or more of our suites, guided activities, ground transportation and gourmet meals throughout your stay.

For questions about pricing, availability and travel arrangements, please contact us at (406) 585-4600 or visitation@americanprairie.org.

ABOUT US

American Prairie Reserve is spearheading a unique nonprofit effort to create the largest wildlife reserve in the continental United States by linking together more than three million acres of private and public land on Montana’s Great Plains. When complete, the Reserve will provide critical habitat for a variety of species, offering modern visitors the opportunity to experience a wildlife spectacle unlike anything in North America. American Prairie Reserve already comprises more than 400,000 acres and provides visitors with wildlife viewing, outstanding scenery and a true sense of the wide open.

Learn more about the Reserve’s mission and progress on our website, www.americanprairie.org.

Photos by Diane Hargreaves, Dennis Lingohr, Gib Myers, Frans Schepers, Dave Shumway and APR Staff
PLAN YOUR TRIP TODAY

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