



WELCOME TO **PARADISE**

MEMO

2009

To: Media and Journalists
From: Clay & Leah Miller, Owners, Paradise Guest Ranch

For over 100 years, Paradise Guest Ranch has welcomed visitors to its glorious setting in the heart of the Big Horn Mountains in north-central Wyoming. With a registered brand that spells “F-U-N,” we can’t help but have a great time throughout the warm-weather months, when our ranch is bustling with guests and activity.

From horseback riding and fly fishing to kids’ rodeos and campfire sing-a-longs, there’s always something happening at Paradise Ranch. We understand the need for rest, relaxation and getting back to nature, too. There’s nothing better than kicking back in a cabin deck chair to watch the vast Wyoming sky fade from day to night after a day spent in the pristine wilderness surrounding Paradise Ranch.

To help you get to know our piece of Paradise, we have developed this press kit which contains the following:

- General Description
- General Fact Sheet
- Activities Fact Sheet
- Children’s Activities
- Additional Programs
- History
- Owners & Staff Bios
- Cowboy Cuisine
- Story Ideas
- Buffalo, Wyoming

We encourage media to “cowboy up” and visit Paradise Ranch to learn more about life in the saddle firsthand. To arrange a stay, don’t hesitate to contact us at 307.684.7876 or email fun@paradiseranch.com.

About PARADISE Guest Ranch

Paradise Guest Ranch is located 16 miles west of Buffalo, Wyoming, in the north-central section of the state. Its 180 acres are surrounded by the Bighorn National Forest and Cloud Peak Wilderness Area and nestled in the Big Horn Mountains. For more information or an online press kit and press releases, visit www.paradiseranch.com.

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PARADISE
GUEST RANCH
Buffalo, Wyoming

WELCOME TO **PARADISE**

Get Back to Nature at Paradise Guest Ranch

From horseback riding to fly fishing, gourmet meals to kids' rodeos, hiking trails to high-alpine vistas, there's something for everyone at this mountain retreat in north-central Wyoming

In today's world, where computers are commonplace, grade-schoolers have their own cell phones, and video games often replace outdoor play, Paradise Guest Ranch is a western retreat where families, couples, groups of friends and multiple generations can come to unplug from electronics in a gorgeous wilderness setting in the Big Horn Mountains of Wyoming.

On a week-long stay at Paradise Ranch, 16 miles from the Old West town of Buffalo, guests can learn how to horseback ride, perfect fly-fishing skills and hike in the Cloud Peak Wilderness Area. And that's just a start! Overnight pack trips allow guests to truly get back to nature at a camp about 12 miles from the ranch. Even kids can get into the act with their own overnight camping excursions. In fact, Paradise Ranch rolls out the red carpet for youngsters—infants through teens have their own age-appropriate activities supervised by specially trained kid wranglers.

Paradise Ranch is all about flexibility and choice—all activities are included in the price of a week's vacation (rates are based on Sunday to Sunday stays). But you can opt in or out of any and all events. For guests who simply want rest and relaxation, nobody will bother them if they'd like to spend afternoons simply resting on a cabin porch, drinking in the scenery or reading a good book. For those who like to sample everything the ranch has to offer, they can be on the go from sun-up (early morning hikes) to sundown (evening brings fun interactive events like bonfire sing-a-longs, square dancing and a Western fashion shows).

Accommodations are elegantly rustic one- to four-bedroom cabins that have full baths, showers, kitchens, living rooms, fireplaces and outdoor porches. Guests make new friends at mealtime, when they sit at long communal tables in the centrally located dining hall. Three hearty meals feature American favorites with a gourmet flair. Outdoor amenities include a swimming pool, volleyball court and horseshoe pits. Kids love making new friends in the recreation room, with ping-pong tables, billiards and board games.

Paradise Ranch welcomes guests from June 7 to September 27, 2009. Wyoming is absolutely glorious in the warm-weather months; depending on when guests visit, they may see high-alpine mountains blanketed in snow, meadows bursting with wildflowers, or the leaves on aspen and oak trees turning beautiful shades of rust, orange and gold. Wildlife is abundant, too. It's not unusual to view moose, elk and deer meandering around the property – guests are encouraged to bring binoculars for up-close views from their cabin decks!

For over 100 years, Paradise Ranch has been introducing guests to the pristine wilderness and the glorious Bighorn Mountains. Onsite owners Clay and Leah Miller, their sons, and their Colorado-based partners look forward to helping guests create amazing vacation memories for many more years to come.

Learn more online at www.paradiseranch.com.

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WELCOME TO **PARADISE**

Just the Facts about Paradise Guest Ranch

Founded: 1907

Location: 16 miles west of Buffalo, Wyoming. In the Big Horn Mountains, adjacent to the Cloud Peak Wilderness Area.

Driving Directions: Drive 13 miles west of Buffalo on US Highway 16, then turn right at Hunter Creek Road to the road into the ranch.

Nearest Airports:

Sheridan, WY, 45 miles from ranch, \$100 round-trip shuttle transportation to/from airport

Casper, WY, 110 miles, \$300 round-trip shuttle

Gillette, WY, 90 Miles, \$200 round-trip shuttle

Billings, MT, 176 miles, \$350 round-trip shuttle, international flights only

Size: 180 private acres, surrounded by public National Forest and Wilderness Area

Elevation: 7,600 feet

Guest Season: June 7 to September 27, 2009

Capacity: 70 guests

Rates: All rates are based on a week's stay, from Sunday arrival to Sunday departure. Rates include lodging, three meals daily and all regular activities (see below) that take place during the week. Check-in Sunday is 3 p.m., check-out Sunday is 10 a.m.

Rates range from \$1,200 per adult per week during the early season (early June) to \$1,975 per adult per week in high-season (August). Children's rates range from \$550 to \$1,850 depending on age of child and time of year.

A 15 percent service charge is automatically added to the weekly bill; otherwise individual gratuities are optional if guests would like to recognize outstanding service from staff.

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Lodging: Four one-bedroom, 11 two-bedroom, two three-bedroom and one four-bedroom cabins. Each of the 18 cabins features full bath, shower, fireplace, pull-out sofa bed in the separate living area, kitchen, and outdoor porch. Some two-story cabins have second-floor balconies, and two-bedroom cabins and larger have washer/dryers. Housekeeping services provided daily. Decorated with unique western art, the rustic log cabins are comfortable and cozy.

Dining: Three hearty meals daily are taken at the spacious dining hall located in the heart of the ranch. Seating is at long, communal tables, and meals are buffets, plated entrees or served family style. Alcoholic beverages from the full bar are available for purchase at an additional charge.

Activities: Horseback riding, fly fishing, hiking, wildlife viewing (elk, moose, deer, coyote, wild turkey, eagles). Kids' program includes horseback-riding instruction for age 6 and up (pony rides for under 6), swimming, fishing, arts & crafts, talent show and overnight campouts; teens have their own ice-cream social and overnight pack trip. Nightly family entertainment includes square dancing, fashion show, chuckwagon dinner, cowboy poetry and campfire sing-a-longs.

Livestock: 170 horses, 12 mules, 20 team penning steers, 2 calves

Staff: 48 employees live on site during the ranch season, hailing from states as varied as Arizona, Iowa, California and North Carolina, as well as Canada and Australia.

Amenities:

Heated outdoor pool
Enclosed whirlpool spa
Recreation room with ping-pong tables, billiards and board games.
Volleyball and badminton
Horseshoe pits
General store gift shop

Phone Number: 307.684.7876

Website: www.paradiseranch.com

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Activities Fact Sheet

Horseback Riding

The horseback riding program at Paradise Ranch is extensive. Each guest is custom-fitted with a horse that perfectly matches his or her riding ability. The riding program is very flexible, with a number of choices ranging from two-hour rides, as well as both half-day and full-day rides. Some day rides include lunches packed on mules and cooked along the trail. Rides take place through wildflower-strewn mountain meadows in the surrounding Bighorn National Forest.

Semi-private riding lessons are available for a fee of \$30 per person per hour. Guests can also learn the art of team penning, where a team of three riders try to separate three steers from a group and lead them down to one end of an arena. A barrel racing clinic is another option. If visitors get up early enough, they'll see the ranch horses wrangled down from the high-alpine meadows with thundering hooves and steaming nostrils to the ranch corrals. A total of 180 horses eat 250 bales a hay a week!

Fishing

At Paradise Ranch, experienced anglers take great pride in teaching guests the art of fly fishing and igniting a lifelong interest in this wonderful sport. Beginners will learn how to properly catch and release fish in the fully stocked private ponds. Casting clinics and tying classes can help hone skills. Then, once guests have gotten the basics down, they can join group guided trips, private guided trips or explore on their own in the productive and varied rivers, streams and brooks. Cutthroat, Eastern brook, rainbow, and brown trout abound in the waters in and around the ranch.

For the avid fisherman (or woman), Paradise Ranch offers exceptional guided trips to the Blue Ribbon waters of the Middle Fork of the Powder River and private streams on the North Fork of the Powder or Clear Creek. One favorite excursion is an all day lunch/fishing ride to one of the local high-mountain streams or lakes in the Cloud Peak Wilderness. While many fishing excursions are included in the cost of a week's stay at Paradise Ranch, some of the more advanced trips cost extra, from \$50 to \$200.

Hiking

A wide variety of scheduled, naturalist-guided hikes are offered throughout the week, such as a Fan Mountain sunrise hike, wildflower identification walks and trips to the local beaver pond and other scenic points in the area. The week typically culminates with a "grand finale" hike to the legendary Outlaw Cave, past the old hideouts of Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid. Naturalist guides are attentive, knowledgeable and love showcasing the Big Horn Mountain ecosystem.

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Children's Activities

Infants to teens have their own programs at Paradise Ranch, with age-appropriate activities supervised by specially trained kid wranglers. Babysitters are on hand to watch the youngest guests up to age 3 every day from 8:15 a.m. to noon, while kids over age 3 can participate in a full-day program (parents pick up their kids to accompany them to the dining hall for lunch). Preschoolers have fun on pony rides, while children ages 6 and up can participate in the daily horseback-riding program. Of course, children can opt in or out of daily activities as needed, depending on family plans.

Here's a sample Kids' Program schedule for the week:

Monday: Horse Day

Morning: Introductions and ice breakers, outdoor games, roping and pony rides for kids under 6.

Afternoon: Beaver Pond hike, arts & crafts, calf feeding.

Tuesday: Fishing Day

Morning: Arts & crafts, swimming, outdoor games.

Afternoon: Make fishing poles, fishing at the pond (parents are encouraged to attend), talent show practice.

Evening: Kids' dinner and games.

Night: Teen Social (movie and ice cream).

Wednesday: Native American Day

Morning: Make dream catchers and headdresses, talent show practice.

Afternoon: Talent show practice, totem pole making, calf feeding.

Evening: Kids' dinner and games.

Night: Talent show.

Thursday: Tie-Dyeing Day

Morning: Calf feeding, tie-dyeing.

Afternoon: Off.

Evening: Pack trips for teens; campouts for ages 3-12; dinner-time babysitting for babies and toddlers, so parents can enjoy Gourmet Night in the dining hall.

Friday: Nature Day

Morning: Hikes, outdoor games, pony rides.

Afternoon: Treasure hunt, rock painting, cookie making.

Evening: Chuckwagon Dinner.

Saturday: Rodeo Day

Morning: Chicken-chasing competition, swimming, outdoor games.

Afternoon: Bookmark and bird-feeder making, kids' rodeo.

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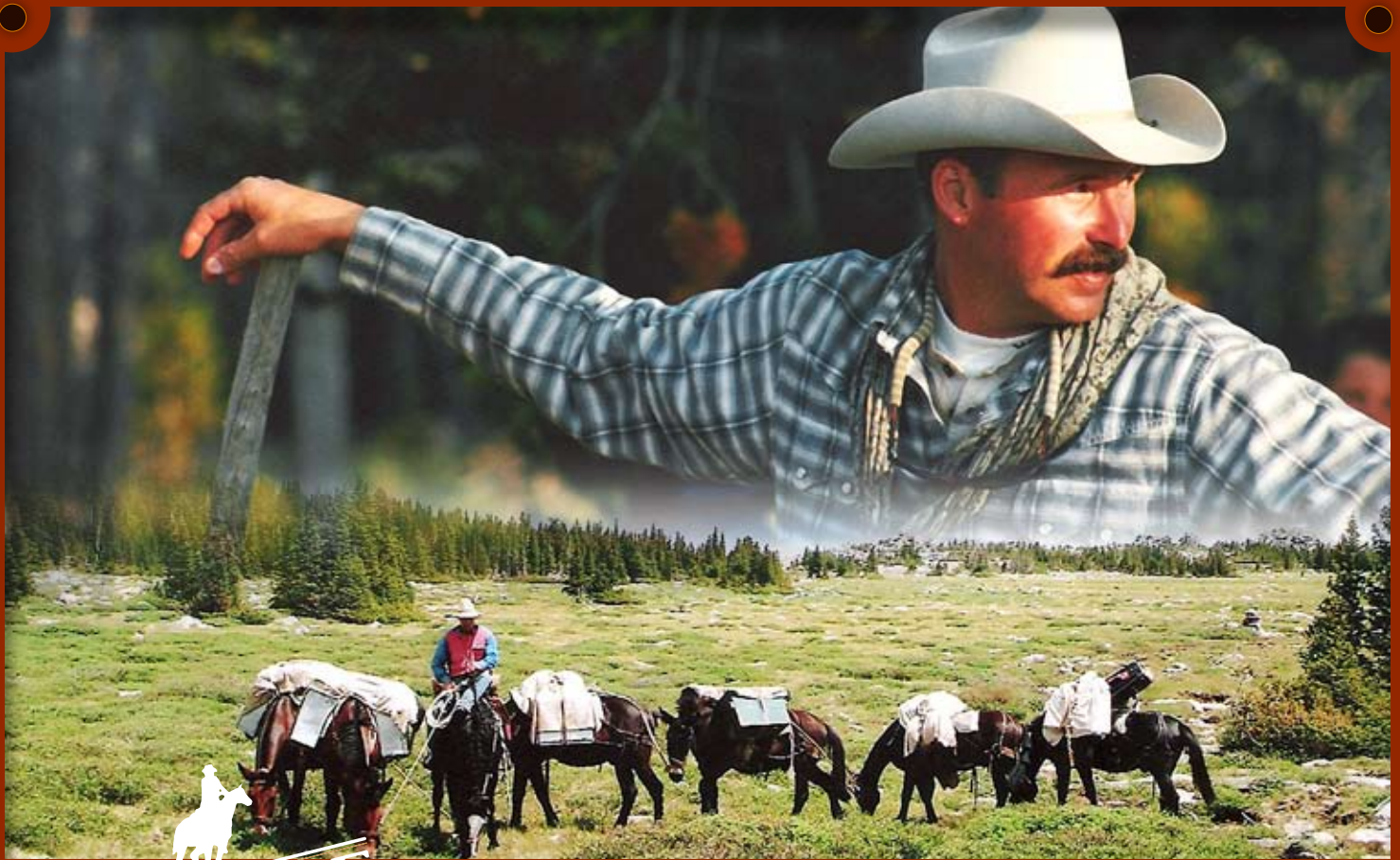
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Additional Programs at Paradise Guest Ranch

Overnight Pack Trips

The three-night extended pack trip program is separate from the Guest Ranch experience, although many guests like to combine the two for a 10-day package. To reach the high-alpine base camp, guests ride through Cloud Peak Wilderness for about 4½ hours to Frying Pan Lake. The lake is one of six in the South Piney Creek drainage that support healthy populations of brook, rainbow and cutthroat trout. The fishing is excellent, as is the riding, hiking, scenery and hospitality.

The camp features 14-by-20 foot cooking and dining tents with wooden floors and picnic tables. Sleeping tents, quality sleeping bags and cots with foam mattresses are all supplied by the ranch. Two “packers” accompany guests to camp. They tend to the stock, cook and take care of all camp chores during the three-night trip, which costs \$200 to \$225 per person, per day, depending on the number of participants.

Elk & Deer Hunting Trips

In the fall, Paradise Guest Ranch offers seven-day horseback hunts in the breathtaking backcountry of the Big Horn Mountains. Ranch guides spend the entire year on horseback in this hunting area, learning where the deer and elk make their homes. Guests ride on well-trained horses while sure-footed pack mules transport equipment safely to hunt camp.

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A Rich History at Paradise Guest Ranch

In the late 1890's Mr. Norman Meldrum drove a herd of cattle from Colorado up to Buffalo, Wyoming, where he had acquired some land. The cattle were wintered near the present Soldier's Home and summered in the upper meadow range of the Big Horns.

Meldrum liked the mountain meadow so well that he proved up on the land and acquired title. Once he had acquired title to the land, he built the original log cabin which still stands. Norman Meldrum's son, Dr. Gordon Meldrum, returned from the war in the Philippines and decided to settle in Buffalo and establish a practice.

Gordon Meldrum was enchanted with the cabin in the mountains and encouraged friends to visit him there. It was these visitors who eventually called the meadow "paradise." The name stuck and eventually became the name of the ranch. Shortly after Dr. Meldrum married Mabel Lee in 1903, they added a few more cabins to accommodate their friends. Soon they began hosting paying guests and the infant dude ranch was on its way. The official date for the founding of "Paradise Ranch" is 1907.

Mabel continued to host guests in the warm-weather months, even after her husband's early death in 1911. Log cabins were erected and a main lodge built with a community bath house to serve guests' needs. Riding, fishing and pack trips were the featured activities of the day. Mabel was known as an expert manager, good horse handler and a fair hunter—she was indeed a liberated woman for her time.

In 1927, Mabel Meldrum sold Paradise Ranch to Frank O. Horton, a neighboring rancher. He ran Paradise as a dude ranch for more than 20 years, although it was only used as a summer picnic spot during World War II. During his tenure, Horton increased the guest overnight capacity to 50 and remodeled some of the cabins and buildings.

The next owner was "Wyoming" Jack O'Brien. Story goes, his real name was Jack O. Brien, but it was misspelled so many times, he simply used the more accepted spelling. As a young man, he was an entertainer, playing the banjo and ukulele, and he could sing like a bird. He would entertain at the Paradise Ranch Teepee and at other dude ranches, such as the Spear O Wigwam. There, he met a gentleman who was involved in radio stations back East. Jack got his big break, and left Wyoming to perform on the Major Bowes radio program. Apparently he was successful, since he returned to buy Paradise Ranch and operate it—still singing away—through the 1950s.

After Jack O'Brien's tenure, Paradise passed to a woman again, Mrs. John Olds who ran it through the late 1970s. Finally, in 1981, it was sold to Apache Oil Company at public auction. Apache, along with the present owners, spent a great deal of time, money and effort in restoring and expanding the ranch into its present state as one of the premier guest ranches in the country. Nine of the original cabins are still standing—and in use—at the ranch now.

Today, the ranch is owned by Clay & Leah Miller, their sons Cade and Travis, and their partners Kevin & Rebecca McMahon of Colorado.

-end-

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Owners & Staff at Paradise Guest Ranch

Leah Miller, Ranch Owner & Manager

This is Leah's 23rd year working at Paradise Ranch. In charge of the kitchen, wait staff, kids' program, housekeeping and the general store, Leah handles much of the behind-the-scenes work that keeps the ranch running so smoothly. She is the chair of the Lake DeSmet Conservation District and a Past-Chair of the Dude Ranchers' Association.

Clay Miller, Ranch Owner & Manager

This is Clay's 12th year working at Paradise Ranch. As a board member of the Dude Ranchers' Association (duderanch.org) and the chairman of the Wyoming Travel & Tourism Board (wyomingtourism.org), Clay is passionate about tourism and ranching. At the ranch, he's involved with the fishing and horseback riding programs, and in the evenings he entertains guests with his guitar-playing and singing abilities.

The Millers' sons **Travis and Cade** have grown up on the ranch, and Cade is a wrangler in the corrals this summer.

Kevin and Rebecca McMahon are the Millers' partners in the ranch, and visit regularly from their home in Boulder, Colorado.

This summer, a total of 48 employees live on site at the ranch, from horse wranglers to housekeepers, fly-fishing experts to hiking guides. Many of the college students who spend their summers working at the ranch visited often as youngsters with their families. Staff hails from states as varied as Arizona, Iowa, Pennsylvania, California and Virginia, as well as England, Scotland, Canada and Australia.

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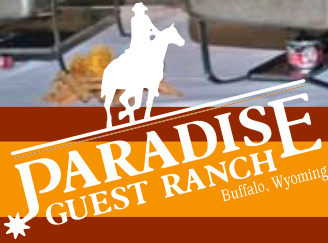
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Gourmet Cowboy Cuisine at Paradise Guest Ranch

When guests hear the dinner bell ring for mealtime at Paradise Guest Ranch, they know its time to enjoy some hearty cowboy cooking with gourmet flair. Meals are served at the dining hall at the heart of the ranch, and guests make new friends at long, communal tables.

Breakfast is served from 7:30 to 9 a.m., with a plentiful buffet spread of fresh fruit, juice, cereal, oatmeal and yogurt. Guests can also order off the hot breakfast menu (from 7:30 to 8:30 a.m.), which includes pancakes, French toast, eggs, bacon and sausage, as well as a daily special, which might be biscuits and gravy, eggs benedict or chocolate-chip pancakes.

Lunch is buffet style and served at noon. Salad and sandwich fixings are available, as well as daily hot entrees, such as blackened chicken breasts, hickory grilled burgers, pork and veggie stir fry, pizza, taco bar and pasta. Lunchtime sweets include peanut butter cookies, lemon bars, homemade granola bars and bread pudding.

Dinner is served at 7 p.m., with main dishes plated individually and accompaniments on the table, passed around family style. Delectable entrees served regularly at the ranch include herb-roasted prime rib with roasted red potatoes and citrus green beans; grilled pork chops with balsamic-marinated black-eyed peas and Southwest cornbread; Cajun shrimp kabobs with bacon and cheddar polenta and oven-roasted asparagus; and BBQ ribs with charred corn on the cob and slow-roasted baked beans. Save room for dessert: New York cheesecake with berry sauce, homemade apple dumplings with ice cream and cinnamon sauce, homemade carrot cake with cream cheese frosting.

Childrens' dinners: On Tuesdays and Wednesdays, the kids are served an optional early children's meal at 6 p.m. Food is geared toward picky palates, and the meal is supervised by activities staff, who then play with the children until 8:15 p.m., allowing mom and dad to enjoy a kid-free meal themselves!

Special dinner events: Typically, an outdoor **Cookout on the Hill** takes place on Monday night, where everyone gathers for an al fresco meal, followed by a sing-a-long around the bonfire. A grownup **Gourmet Night** takes place Thursday night (when the kids are at their campouts) with hors d'oeuvres and special dinner menu followed by western music and dancing. The whole family rides horses to a special site for a **Chuckwagon Dinner** on Friday night (a mule team and wagon transport little buckaroos and those who are not able to ride a horse to dinner).

Wine, beer & cocktails: A full bar is available at the French Creek Saloon; alcoholic drinks cost extra. A selection of bottled wines and beers may also be pre-ordered and are delivered to guest cabins upon request.

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Paradise Guest Ranch Story Ideas

Getting Hitched in the High Country

Paradise Ranch can accommodate up to 70 guests for a destination wedding in one of the most beautiful locations in all of Wyoming. Brides and grooms couldn't ask for a prettier backdrop for wedding photos: lush meadows and snowcapped mountains. Wedding ceremonies can take place outdoors or at the Sam Elliot Pope Memorial Chapel, and are arranged for ranch guests who are staying on property for a full week.

Just for Kids

While mom and dad are enjoying wilderness adventures, pint-sized guests at Paradise Ranch enjoy their own brand of FUN (that is literally the letters on the Paradise Ranch registered brand). Specially trained wranglers look after children and run the kids' program, which offers age-specific activities, such as pony rides for kids under 6, and horseback-riding lessons for kids over 6. Outdoor games, nature hikes, arts & crafts, and overnight campouts are also on the schedule. Teenagers have their own program, with an ice-cream social and an overnight pack trip just for them.

Back to Nature

Today's kids are increasingly disconnected from the natural world, according to child advocacy expert Richard Louv, author of *Last Child in the Woods: Saving Our Children from Nature-Deficit Disorder*. In one British study, 8-year-olds could identify Pokemon characters more easily than "otter, beetle, oak tree." What better way to unplug from all the electronics and get back to nature through hiking, fishing and horseback riding in the wilderness around Paradise Ranch? Also, Paradise Ranch owner and media spokesman Clay Miller, Board Chairman for Wyoming Travel & Tourism, is involved with the Recreation Action Team (REACT), a group from federal and state agencies that promotes statewide outdoor activity among children.

Groups & Meetings

Meeting planners who are interested in organizing unique and exciting executive retreats should consider Paradise Ranch with conference space for 50 people and 2,400 square feet of meeting space. The ranch can arrange special conference itineraries and activities, along with competitive lodging rates.

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Family Reunions

For extended families who live all over the country (or world!), Paradise Ranch is an exceptional place for multiple generations to gather for a reunion or to celebrate a milestone wedding anniversary. After all, a stay at Paradise Ranch is hassle-free: no cars are necessary, activities are fully arranged for you, and nobody has to cook!

Special Ladies' Packages

Female guests can embrace their inner cowgirl with a women-only stay at Paradise Ranch in September. The usual activities like fishing and horseback riding are offered, as well as wine tasting and cooking demonstrations. Plus, an experienced massage therapist can be requested to soothe sore muscles after a couple of days in the saddle.

Special Adults Only Weeks

Paradise Ranch offers special adults-only weeks, where grown-ups have all the fun! With fewer guests on the ranch in early and late summer, the schedule is a bit more relaxed, with flexibility in the riding program. The weather this time of year is typically glorious: blue skies, cool temperatures and beautiful fall colors. In 2009, adults-only weeks are offered June 7 to 14 for \$1200 per person and also August 23 to September 27 and cost \$1400 each.

You Say You Don't Ride...

Paradise Ranch is renowned for its horseback-riding programs, with its ultra-knowledgeable wranglers and guides leading guests on trips ranging from two hours to four days long. Novices and expert riders are welcome here. But what if you don't care to horseback ride (or learn)? No worries! You can still enjoy a ranch vacation. Wildlife viewing is outstanding here; it's not unusual to spot elk, moose, deer, badger, mountain lion, coyote, beaver, fox, antelope, wild turkey and eagles on nature walks throughout the property or from your cabin outdoor deck. Meals are festive, fun affairs in themselves, and nightly entertainment includes cowboy sing-a-longs, square dancing and talent shows. Other ranch amenities include an outdoor swimming pool and horseshoe pits. And there's nothing wrong with bringing a good book (or two or three) and simply relaxing on your cabin's outdoor deck every afternoon before naptime.

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WELCOME TO **PARADISE**

Buffalo, Wyoming, and Nearby Attractions

Paradise Ranch is 16 miles west of Buffalo, Wyoming, a town rich in western history and heritage. Nestled at the base of the towering peaks of the Big Horn Mountains, Buffalo, is located in north-central Wyoming and is gateway to the vast Bighorn National Forest.

Population: 3,900

County: Johnson

Elevation: 4,640 feet

Average Temperatures: Highs of 75 to 85°F in the summer; 72°F in late summer; 65°F in the late spring.

Chamber of Commerce: www.buffalowyo.com

History & Heritage

Buffalo is where Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid holed up after their outlaw exploits. In fact the entire Buffalo area is known as “Hole in the Wall” country.

The region was also the site of the 1892 “**Johnson County Cattle War**,” a deadly dispute among small and large ranchers, which historians often deem one of the most notorious events in our nation’s history.

The **Fort Phil Kearny Historic Site** is one of three forts built by the U.S. Army to protect emigrants traveling the Bozeman trail north to the gold fields of Montana, and also to prevent intertribal warfare between Native American tribes. www.philkearny.vcn.com

Visitors can learn about local history at the **Jim Gatchell Memorial Museum**, through its expansive collection of art, archives and artifacts, particularly from the Frontier Era. www.jimgatchell.com

Recreation

The **Clear Creek Trail** travels through Buffalo and then into the base of the Big Horn Mountains. The route through the community is paved and is handicap accessible. At the west edge of the city park the path joins the green belt and becomes a gravel surface. Benches are provided for the weary traveler to rest or just enjoy the panorama.

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About **PARADISE** Guest Ranch

Paradise Guest Ranch is located 16 miles west of Buffalo, Wyoming, in the north-central section of the state. Its 180 acres are surrounded by the Bighorn National Forest and Cloud Peak Wilderness Area and nestled in the Big Horn Mountains. For more information or an online press kit and press releases, visit www.paradiserranch.com.

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Visitors can tee off at the 18-hole public course at the **Buffalo Golf Club**, with fabulous views of the Big Horn Mountains. The course rating is 71, and the slope rating is 116. Phone 307.684.5266

Washington Park is close to downtown. The outdoor pool is Wyoming's largest, and admission is free. The park also has a playground, wading pool, picnic shelters, and horseshoe pits.

The magnificent Big Horn Mountains, as well as the 189,000-acre Cloud Peak Wilderness Area, are located with in **Bighorn National Forest**, which neighbors Buffalo. The lush grasslands, alpine meadows, crystal-clear lakes and glacial-carved valleys make amazing backdrops for all sorts of outdoor adventures, such as fishing and hiking, mountain biking and swimming. Or, visitors can simply drive along the scenic byways, taking in the pretty mountain scenery.

Nearby Attractions

Many visitors to Paradise Ranch combine their stay with a vacation at **Yellowstone National Park**, full of natural wonders like Old Faithful, breathtaking views, and beautiful wildlife. Yellowstone is a three-hour drive from Paradise.

About two hours southwest of Paradise Ranch in Thermopolis, Wyoming, is **Wind River Canyon Whitewater & Flyfishing**, which runs whitewater rafting and guided trophy fishing trips. This is another popular activity for Paradise guests to enjoy before or after their ranch stay.

www.windrivercanyonraft.com

Thermopolis is also home of the world's largest mineral hot spring, found in Hot Springs State Park, where you can soak weary muscles in the "healing waters. www.thermopolis.com

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