



THE MONTANA HISTORY
FOUNDATION

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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History Foundation Launches History Hikes & Walks Program in Helena

The Montana History Foundation is launching a new program called History Hikes & Walks in Helena to connect residents and visitors with the city's landscape and history. The series kicks off Memorial Day weekend and runs through Labor Day. History Hikes & Walks promotes heritage tourism, outdoor recreation, and downtown businesses.

"Bringing people together for history is one of our main goals and the History Hikes & Walks program does just that," says History Foundation President/CEO Charlene Porsild. "People are looking for ways to be active outdoors and learn more about history; we are excited to help fill that niche in Helena and help our businesses at the same time."

The two tours are as follows:

Mt. Helena History Hike

This 2-mile guided hike meets at The Base Camp, with a shuttle provided to the trailhead. As you traverse the mountain, you'll hear stories of the colorful characters and community endeavors that helped shape Helena into the town we see today. **History Hike: Mt. Helena takes place on Saturdays and Sundays at 10:30 a.m.**

Breweries & Brothels History Walk

This 1-mile downtown walk begins at Blackfoot River Brewing Co. Along the way, you'll visit Reeder's Alley and the historic red-light district. You'll learn about Helena's brewing history and hear stories about the madams of Helena's underworld! **History Walk: Breweries & Brothels takes place on Thursday and Fridays at 6:00 p.m.**

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The historical content of our program has been researched and written by History Foundation Special Projects Coordinator Ciara Ryan.

“Helena is known for the icons that dot its skyline: from the Guardian of the Gulch fire tower, to the Bluestone House, and even Mt. Helena itself,” says Ryan. “We’re excited to share their origins and their role in Helena’s history with locals and visitors.”

Tickets can be purchased by going to www.mthistory.org, where you’ll find the complete schedule and ticket prices. Our tours are proudly operated by Vigilante Shuttles and Tours.

History Hikes & Walks is made possible with the help of our premiere sponsors The Base Camp and Blackfoot River Brewing Co. and our title sponsors Blue Cross Blue Shield of Montana, The Windbag Saloon & Grill and Ten Mile Creek Brewery.

For more information on History Hikes & Walks, please contact Community Outreach Coordinator Melissa Jensen at 449-3770.

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