

missoula

MONTANA

Missoula, Montana



The ancestral and current home of the Pend D’Oreille/Kalispel People and the Ktunaxa People, known as “The Garden City,” Missoula is located on the western side of Montana, near the Idaho Border, Blackfoot River, Rock Creek River, and Bitterroot River. Residing in Bitterroot Valley, this city is surrounded by towering mountains with the Clark Fork River running through it. About 19.7% of the population lives below the federal poverty line, and due to lack of emergency housing and supportive services in rural areas of Montana, people with mental illness and people experiencing houselessness often travel to Missoula from across the state of Montana. There is also an ongoing need for shelter services, crisis response, and advocacy for survivors and victims of domestic violence and sexual assault. With its population of about 74,000 (2018), Missoula is one of the fastest growing cities in Montana. Missoula is a hub for culture and recreation in Western Montana. The area provides a recreational lifestyle native to Montana throughout all four seasons, ranging from mountain biking, hiking, running rivers, and skiing. Many are also drawn to Missoula by its access to art, performance and folk scene, completely unique to the area.

Joys of being a JV in Missoula

The Riverfront Trail, going along the Clark Fork River (which conveniently passes not far from the JV house) provides a scenic path for biking, walking, and running. Missoula JVs have also enjoyed becoming members of Run Wild Missoula in order to join a welcoming, inclusive exercise community and in order to avail of the many discounts to local stores, cafés, restaurants, etc. that can come with the membership. Additionally, JVs have enjoyed visiting the Roxy Theater, and in exchange for volunteering, they have received free movie tickets. Further, at Free Cycle, JVs live into the values of simple living and social and ecological justice by learning about bike maintenance and repair. When looking for a refreshing treat, Big Dipper Ice Cream strives to meet that desire.