



Yankton isn't just a place—it's a kayaking playground with something for everyone - from tranquil beginners to seasoned paddlers seeking adventure. Here's what makes our waterways outstanding:

DIVERSE WATERWAYS FOR EVERY SKILL LEVEL

- Lake Yankton is your go-to calm-water spot - an ideal setting for families and novice kayakers to master the basics in protected, motor-free waters.
- For more seasoned paddlers, the Missouri National Recreational River delivers a dynamic paddling experience. This stretch remains undammed, offering scenic wildlife views, evolving river channels, and an immersive journey through history.

SCENIC, STRATEGIC, AND SAFE

- Paddlers often embark on multi-day stretches along the Missouri River, with the current gently guiding them downstream - sometimes covering 40–80 miles in a day - while appreciating changing landscapes from grasslands to forested stretches.
- The river demands respect - sandbars, snags, and sudden wind shifts are part of the adventure, but navigational caution ensures both challenge and safety.



Yankton: A KAYAKING OASIS WORTH EXPLORING

LEARNING + RECREATION = PERFECT PAIRING

- The National Park Service hosts kayak clinics on Lake Yankton, offering instruction, equipment, and safety guidance - ideal for beginners seeking a supportive paddle introduction.
- Locals can rely on ACE Bike and Fitness of Yankton for rentals and guided river trips.

WHY YANKTON STANDS OUT

- Yankton sits at the heart of one of the last free-flowing stretches of the Missouri River, making it a rare and valuable paddle destination.
- Whether you're after peaceful family outings at Lake Yankton or bold river journeys along the "Big Muddy," our location offers unmatched paddling versatility.

TIPS & MUST-KNOW INFO FOR KAYAKERS IN YANKTON

- Life jackets are required for all paddlers - safety first.
- Check the weather and wind before heading out - conditions can change quickly on the river.
- Stay aware of sandbars and snags - they're part of the adventure, but require caution.
- Bring plenty of water and sun protection - shade can be scarce along the river.
- For beginners: Start at Lake Yankton or sign up for a NPS kayak clinic to learn the basics.
- For river paddlers: Know your put-in and take-out points - plan ahead for shuttles or pick-ups.
- Equipment rentals & guided trips available locally through ACE Bike & Fitness.

