The Faces

Discover How Mount Rushmore Remains the Face of South Dakota

Mount Rushmore is a national icon, a massive sculpture and the enduring image of South Dakota.

It's also a dynamic and active place, where people work, others stop for a tour and some visit for a chance to celebrate America and its promise of freedom and independence.

The monument was carved from a mountain in the Black Hills by master sculptor Gutzon Borglum, his son Lincoln Borglum and their team of brave, dedicated workers.

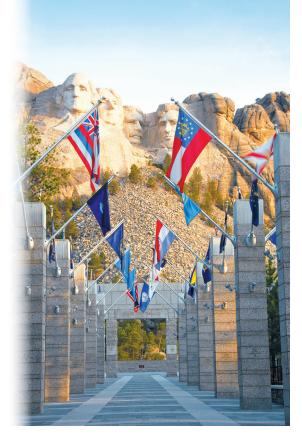
Work was launched in 1927 and continued until October 1941, six months after Gutzon Borglum died.

He didn't live to see it completed, nor did his vision of the four presidents depicted from head to waist come to fruition. But Borglum succeeded in creating perhaps the most famous sculpture in American history.

The carved images of four presidents are on Mount Rushmore. The monument is dominated by the largest face on it, and the only one with parts of his chest and shoulders shown: George Washington.

Next to him is his fellow Virginian, Thomas Jefferson, with Theodore Roosevelt, who explored the Black Hills and loved the area, tucked in the middle. At the right edge is Abraham Lincoln.

While there has been a lot of discussion of adding faces to Mount Rushmore, including women's rights leader Susan B. Anthony, John F. Kennedy and Ronald Reagan, officials insist no more faces will be placed on it.



Discover the Crazy Horse Memorial



Crazy Horse is still a work in progress and it is a work to behold. The massive carving will fill Thunderhead Mountain with a sculpture of Crazy Horse, the Lakota leader and warrior, on horseback, pointing out to his people's lands.

Korczak Ziółkowski started the work and, in the 30 years since his death, his family has continued the effort at the site between Custer and Hill City, 17 miles from Mount Rushmore.