



Welcome to a driving tour of the Arikaree Breaks. The tour is on well maintained county roads and all roads should be passable in good weather. Please respect private property by staying on the county roads

1 We begin our tour at the *Republican River Bridge*, one mile north of the Cheyenne County Courthouse. The courthouse is located at Benton and Main Street. The Republican River divides the county nearly in half, flowing from southwest to northeast. At the bridge you will find the back entrance

beautiful one mile walk paralleling the river. Stop, pull your car off on the turnout and enjoy the quiet beauty.

2 At this red sign, take the right hand fork of the road.

3 *G.A.R. Cemetery* Turn east 1/4 mile. This cemetery was established in 1889. The east half was to be used exclusively for the burial of Grand Army of the Republic Comrades and their families. The west half was to be used for the burial of citizens and their families. No lots were to be sold; only a donation for the dead was taken. This provision was made to enable destitute Civil War veterans an honorable burial.

4 *Spring Creek* This creek is the first of four spring fed creeks on this tour. Spring Creek was a popular homestead site for the county's early settlers.

5 Stay on the main road, heading north.

6 *Plum Creek* This spring fed creek has wild plums growing along its banks.

7 *Cleveland Run Creek* was named after the township that it is in. It was also a popular homestead site with its running spring water.

8 *Hackberry Creek* was the site of several Indian encampments. It is the longest of the creeks on this tour, starting one mile east of the Colorado border at the edge of the breaks.

9 Turn east here to visit *Horse Thief Cave*. This drive is not recommended in wet weather.

10 Continue north here to visit the breaks.

Be ready for a breath taking view as the deep canyons fall away from the tabletop farm ground.

11 *Lookout Point*. What a breathtaking view. The breaks offer stunning photographic possibilities, especially in the flat light of dawn and dusk.

12 Down the road less than 1/4 mile from Lookout Point is a *parking area*. Get out of your vehicle, stretch you legs and enjoy the view.

13 *Kansas-Nebraska State Line*. You may continue north here, traveling to US 34, or retrace your route to St. Francis.

14 Turn north two miles east of marker number 9 to travel down a narrow winding road to see *Horse Thief Cave*. This is a fair weather road only.

15 *Horse Thief Cave* This is one of several caves in the breaks. Most of this cave has caved in over the years with only the entrance being left. This was a large two chamber cave used to hide stolen horses. The horses were kept in the large back chamber while the outlaws used the front chamber as their living quarters. This cave was last used in 1878.

Returning to sign post 9 and 10, turn south to return to St. Francis, or continue west to K-27. From there you can turn south, traveling 5 miles to the turn off to Devil's Gap another outstanding view of the breaks.