Glenwood is set amid rolling hills on the eastern shore of Lake Minnewaska and has been the county seat of Pope County since 1866. Glenwood is also home of Waterama the last full weekend in July.

The City of Glenwood, including the Long Beach area, has a population of approximately 3,000 and is located 15 miles south of Interstate 94 on Highway 29 or 120 miles northwest of the Twin Cities, at the junction of Highways 28, 29, 55, and 104.
1 Mount Lookout 4.22 miles

Mount Lookout – The Mount Lookout scenic vista lies on 5 acres of land donated to the City of Glenwood by Mrs. E.M. Webster in Sept of 1934. The popular observation point was modernized in 1938. Lacking adequate parking, the State Highway Dept. and National Youth Administration (NYA) funded the $7,500.00 project. The wall of native stone was built along the outer edge of the original two knolls that had been filled in. 45 NYA men began construction on 01/01/38.

On April 27, 1948, over 200 Glenwood citizens and 110 students planted 22,500 spruce, jack pine and cedar seedlings. The Glenwood's Sportsmen's club and Chamber of Commerce spearheaded the project. A local Eagle Scout project in October of 2000 added 64 ornamental shrubs to the area.

2 Central Square Cultural and Civic Center – The auditorium was dedicated on May 28, 1937, as an addition to Glenwood Central High School. When the school closed in 1991, the building with the historic auditorium and gymnasium were preserved and re dedicated as Central Square on June 10, 1995. With 1044 seats, the auditorium provides West Central Minnesota with one of the largest, entertainment facilities between Minneapolis and Fargo.

3 Glenwood City Hall – By 1972, the city had outgrown its two-story fire hall and city offices. A bond issue was passed to replace it. The new Glenwood City Hall was dedicated on June 29, 1973. It included an expanded Fire Department, ambulance service, Glenwood Police and Pope County Sheriff’s offices, dispatch center, jail, and Chamber of Commerce office as well as the City offices and meeting room.

4 Ann Bickle Heritage House – Designed by the Grand Rapids, Michigan, architectural firm of Frank P. Allen and Son, the Bickle House represents the quintessential American Foursquare design popular in the early twentieth century. The home’s historical significance is associated with resident Ann Bickle, an extraordinary volunteer and civic leader who organized the community’s hospital auxiliary and founded the state’s auxiliary, the second in the country. Her leadership established critical safety-net social services prior to tax-funded support for such services. The Bickle House and its furnishings were saved in 1988 by a group of nine women who established the Ann Bickle Heritage House dedicated to telling her story and preserving her memory.

5 Courthouse 2.01 miles

Pope County Courthouse – Our stately Pope County Courthouse was built in 1929 replacing an earlier brick structure on Courthouse Square – a full city block donated by Kirk J. Kinney. Kinney, together with Alfred Lathrop, laid out the village of Glenwood in 1865. The 1930 dedication of the Courthouse was a three day event of parades and historical pageants. The Courthouse was placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1982. This is the fourth Pope County Courthouse. The first, now on the Pope County Museum grounds, was a log cabin in Gilchrist Township where the county was officially organized in 1866. The county seat was moved to Glenwood later that fall.

6 Glacial Ridge Health System – The current building is a 19-bed Critical Access, trauma hospital with an on-site clinic, physical therapy and cardiac rehabilitation center, and fitness center. Nine physicians and 3 nurse practitioners provide care for patients from throughout the region.

7 Pope County Museum – The museum was built in 1966 and features 11,000 square feet of gallery space and 6 historic buildings. Artifacts on display include the Smithsonian worthy Helbing Collection of Native American Arts and Crafts, a tribute to Pope County’s veterans, and items from throughout Pope County’s History from trappers and pioneers to today. The museum is open from 10-5 Tuesday – Saturday.

8 Barnness Park – This 100 acre recreation area is managed by the city of Glenwood. The land was donated to the city by James E. Barnness in 1949. Additional tracts of land were purchased by the city in the 1970s. The park features camping, picnic areas, a skateboard park, hiking and cross country ski trails, playgrounds and baseball, softball and soccer fields. Even before it became a park, the area was used for recreation. The first official ski jumping tournament in Glenwood was held on the ski hill in 1912. At one time there were 2 ski jumps and 3 lighted downhill runs on the ski hill.

9 Glenwood Public Library – Glenwood’s Carnegie Library was built in 1908 and expanded in 1998. Local residents requested funds to build the library from Andrew Carnegie who offered to build a library for any town which could provide a site and commit to public funding to operate it. The Glenwood Library is a member of the Viking Library System, a regional lending network. There are 24,000 books, tapes and movies at our library and access to thousands more through inter-library loan. Over 77,000 items are checked out each year. The Glenwood Public Library was placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1982.

10 Lake Walk 2.92 miles (roundtrip)

Glenwood City Beach – Lake Minnewaska is about 13 miles long and nearly 8,000 acres, providing lots of open space to take you boating, waterskiing, wakeboarding, windsurfing, kayaking, or jet skiing. You can launch your boat in three places—by the Glenwood City Beach, the DNR landing, and in Starbuck’s marina.

11 Glenwood City Park – Glenwood’s City Park offers tennis and basketball courts, restrooms, a playground, and a band shell. The band shell was built in 1925 for $4000. For many years a community band held weekly band concerts all summer long. Today it is still used for occasional outdoor concerts, Waterama events, and Sunday morning church services.

12 Lakeside Ballroom – The original 1909 pavilion grew into a regional attraction hosting such bands as the Andrews Sisters, the Everly Brothers and Louis Armstrong. It burned to the ground in 2003. The present ballroom opened in 2005.

13 MN DNR Fish Hatchery – The state fish hatchery was established in 1904 and is still in operation today. 90 million walleye eggs are hatched every spring. Half of the 1-2 day old “fry” are sent out to area lakes. The other half are raised in local ponds to “fingerling” size. More fish are stocked in the Glenwood area than in all of South Dakota and Iowa combined.

For Additional Routes Check Online at
www.westcentralwellness.org
www.glenwoodlakesarea.org
www.starbuckmn.org