

Animals to See . . .



Bighorn Sheep are usually seen on High-Line Trail to Granite Park Chalet.

Other Services in Glacier Park:

Horse Trips — Rocky Mountain Outfitters, Inc., Route 2, Box 39, Columbia Falls, MT 59912. Corrals at Apgar, Lake McDonald Lodge and Many Glacier.

Ranger-Naturalist Conducted Hikes and Other Park Information — Information Desk, Headquarters, Glacier National Park, West Glacier, Mt 59936, Phone (406) 888-5441.

Hotels and Bus Transportation within Glacier Park — Glacier Park, Inc., May 15 through September 15; East Glacier, MT 59434; Phone (406) 226-4841. (September 15 to May 15; P.O. Box 4340, 1735 E. Fort Lowell Road, Tucson, AZ 85717)

Excursion Boat Tours — Glacier Park Boat Co., Inc. Boats on Swiftcurrent Lake (Many Glacier), St. Mary Lake, Two Medicine Lake and Lake McDonald. Small boat rentals at Two Medicine, Swiftcurrent, Lake McDonald Lodge and Apgar.

PHOTOS BY MEL RUDER

 Hungry Horse News

1979 Season

Open July 1 — closed September 3. Overnight accommodations are full American plan, only. (Includes the three meals) Rate: \$25 per person per day. (Child under 12 — \$20.75) Reservations are required, with deposit of \$10 per person. Advance reservations are recommended, 6-8 weeks ahead. We do not accept credit cards.

For information and reservations, write:

BELTON CHALETS, INC.

Box 188

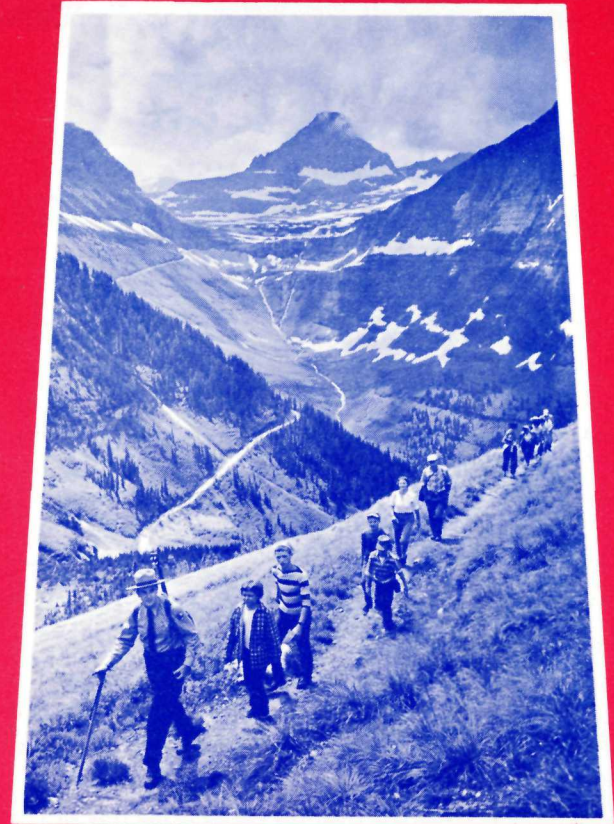
West Glacier, MT 59936

Phone: 8 a.m. to 8 p.m., May to September:
[406] 888-5511.



Day and night visitors at Sperry Chalet are Rocky Mountain Goats.

*Glacier National Park
High-Mountain Hotels
Reached only by Trails*



Along the High-Line Trail to Granite Park.

**Sperry Chalet
Granite Park Chalet**



Sperry Chalet

[Elevation: 6500']

Sperry Chalet is located on the west side of Gunsight mountain overlooking Lake McDonald and the Whitefish Range. Situated on a broad alpine ledge, seemingly surrounded by craggy peaks, cascading waterfalls, and up and down vistas, it is an area full of alpine nooks and crannies waiting to be explored by those who like to relax and enjoy "away from it all."

The main trail to Sperry is from the Lake McDonald Lodge parking lot (3214'). With an average hiking time (AHT) of 4 hours, this 6.7 mile long, 3300 feet up, trail is a challenge to many hikers. However, the compensation of the beautiful vistas, the warm, friendly feeling of the chalet, and the camaraderie of others who "made it," make this trip an outstanding one. Mountain goats are almost daily visitors, and a delight to the photographer as they seem to pose for their picture.

The only other trail to Sperry is the Gunsight trail, over Gunsight Pass (6946'), from either Sun Point on upper St. Mary Lake (4550'), 15.2 miles; or from the Jackson Glacier Viewpoint on the Going-to-the-Sun Road (5250'), 12.1 miles.

The key side trip from the chalet is the trek to Sperry Glacier. This 3.5 mile hike, to the headwall, up the stone stairway to Comeau Pass (7970'), and across to the Glacier, is one of the most memorable and magnificent trips in the Park.

Other side trips include: the 1 mile scramble up Lincoln Peak (7440') with its sweeping view; the 3 mile walk on the Gunsight trail to Lake Ellen Wilson (5929'), stocked with Eastern Brook Trout; and Gunsight Pass (6946'), 4.5 miles.

For those who deem it more practical, saddle horse trips to Sperry are available from the Lake McDonald horse barn. It all depends on where you like your blisters.

General Information

Here, at Granite Park with its vast panorama of mountain splendor, and at Sperry nestled on a mountainside in alpine serenity, meals and lodging are available for those who wish to see and explore Glacier on foot or horseback without the necessity of packing food, bedding, utensils etc., or who don't feel up to 'roughing it'.

Granite Park and Sperry Chalets were built about 1914 by Jim and Louis Hill of the Great Northern Railway, the prime developer of Glacier Park, as part of the hotel system in the park. A part of our American heritage, these rustic buildings, built of native rock, have survived their rugged environment relatively unchanged through the years. They were purchased by the National Park Service in the early fifties and put on a concession contract to continue their operation as a visitor service.

Except for modern restroom facilities in separate buildings, and modernized kitchen facilities, an effort has been made to keep both the interiors and exteriors of the chalets much as they were built. The rooms are private, but not modern. Rooms at Sperry are lit with kerosene lamps, and each has a sink with cold running water. Rooms at Granite Park are lit by candlelight, sinks with cold water are located on each balcony.

The dining rooms are lit with mantled lanterns. Meals are served informally, table d'hote; breakfast from 7 to 8:30 A.M., lunch at noon (or trail lunch provided), dinner is served at 6 P.M. A la carte is available in the dining rooms from Noon to 5 P.M. Overnight accommodations are on the full American plan only, and reservations are required.

Sleeping bag accommodations are not available. Campgrounds are located near the Granite Park and Sperry areas for those who wish to back-pack and camp out. Campgrounds are under park service supervision. Camping permits are required. Permits are available from any Park Ranger.

While a 'toothbrush and a smile' are all that is needed for an overnight stay at the chalets, it's advisable, for everyone who ventures onto Glacier's trails, to carry a warm jacket or sweater, and rain gear. Comfortable, well broken-in shoes or boots, with two pairs of socks (heavy woolen pair over a light rayon or cotton pair), are recommended footwear. Sore, blistered feet, and cold wet bodies are the biggest fun-killers that can be encountered. 'Be Prepared'. Insect repellent, sunburn lotion and adhesive tape for blister prevention, are items most often used while hiking. A little lunch (or a lot!) is handy too, especially when hiking with children.



Granite Park Chalet

[Elevation: 6690']

Granite Park Chalet is located at the north end of the Garden Wall below and west of Swiftcurrent Peak. Perched on a lava (not granite) outcrop, it overlooks an impressive mountain panorama: the Garden Wall, Logan Pass, the McDonald Valley and the east side of the Livingston Range.

Trails to Granite Park include: the Garden Wall or 'Hi-line' trail from the Logan Pass parking lot (6646'), an easy 7.5 mile hike, this should be a leisurely trip to enjoy the many beautiful panoramic views, the rock formations, the multi-hued wildflowers, and the occasional glimpse of mountain sheep, goats and deer, afforded by this trail; AHT 4 hours. The Swiftcurrent Pass trail from the Swiftcurrent Campground in the Many Glacier area (4930'), a 7.9 mile hike up the Swiftcurrent Valley, with its many small lakes and flashing streams, over Swiftcurrent Pass (7185'), and down into Granite Park; a fascinating hike: AHT 4 hours. The Loop Trail, from the Loop parking lot on the Going-to-the-Sun Road (4297'), this 4.5 mile trail is not recommended when the weather is hot and dry, but its wildflower display early in the season has few peers: AHT 3 hours. And, for the truly venturesome, the Fifty Mountain trail from the Goat Haunt Ranger Station on the south end of Waterton Lake, 24.5 miles.

Side trips from the Chalet include: the Grinnell Glacier overlooks, 1.5 miles (the two saddles on the Garden Wall - 7600'); Swiftcurrent Pass, 1 mile; Swiftcurrent Peak and Fire Lookout (8436'), 2.4 miles; and Ahearn Pass (7100'), some breathtaking scenery, 5 miles.

Saddle horse trips to Granite Park are available from Many Glacier, coming over Swiftcurrent Pass. This is an unbeatable horseback experience.