

Grand Teton

NATIONAL PARK, WYOMING

The lofty peaks of the Grand Tetons—blue-gray pyramids of 3-billion-year-old rock, glacier-carved and still glacier-spotted—their canyons and forested lower slopes, and the basin called Jackson Hole are all encompassed in Grand Teton National Park.

Rising steeply a mile above the almost-level basin of sagebrush flats and morainal lakes, this most scenic part of the Teton Range was a landmark for Indian and frontiersman. The Grand, Middle, and South Tetons, called the Trois Tetons by trappers and explorers of the early 19th century, can be seen to the best advantage from the west and southwest. The Grand Teton, at 13,766 feet, is the dominating figure.

The snowfields and small glaciers that hang on the peaks, the U-shaped canyons with cirques at their heads, and the terminal moraines that form natural dams for the large lakes in the basin are reminders of the forces that helped shape this landscape during the ice age.

The majestic peaks; the morainal and smaller mountain lakes; the wild canyons; the extensive forests of pine, fir, spruce, cottonwood, and aspen; and the Snake River, winding through an unspoiled wilderness offer limitless opportunities for recreation. You can camp by the lakes, swim, fish, watch animals and birds, take float trips on the Snake, ride or hike the trails, engage in the strenuous sport of mountaineering, or—if your needs and wishes so dictate—simply relax and enjoy the scenery.

The larger lakes of the park—Leigh, Jenny, Bradley, Taggart, and Phelps—all lie close to the foot of the range and are linked by the sparkling, tumbling waters of Cottonwood Creek and neighboring streams. Nestled in dense forests outside the mouths of canyons, these lakes mirror in their quiet depths nearby peaks whose pointed summits rise with sheer slopes a mile or more above them.

In spring, willows, aspens, and cottonwoods erupt from dormancy to add the soft glow of opening buds. Autumn is often the most colorful time of the year, with yellow, gold, and red splashed about in generous fashion. In winter, the Tetons are transformed into a land of enchantment.

The park is a sanctuary for wildlife, and the larger animals, such as pronghorn, bighorn,



mule deer, elk, and moose, are frequently seen in the smaller ponds and marshy meadows. The pika (cony) and marmot are common throughout the rock slides, where these little animals find refuge. Look for examples of work of the beaver along the Snake River and its tributaries.

The bald eagle, the rare trumpeter swan, and white pelicans are among the more than 200 species of birds that have been identified in the park.

Jackson Hole is frequently called the valley of flowers—the vivid yellow of balsamroot, brilliant red of scarlet gilia, and the deep blue of gentian. From early spring buttercups to asters in late autumn, there is a veritable parade of flowers, each in its proper time and proper place.

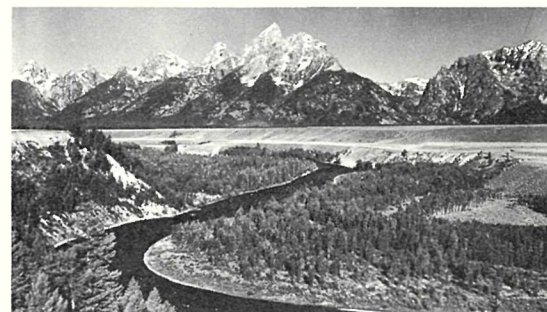
SEEING GRAND TETON

Grand Teton's avenues of approach are themselves of great interest and beauty, and afford magnificent distant views of the Teton Range. The country traversed is rich in associations of the Old West and contains numerous historic places.

Many of the park's finest scenic offerings can be viewed only by following the trails, which penetrate into deep canyons, follow cascading streams, and eventually lead to high alpine meadows. Dozens of jewel-like lakes are discovered in unexpected places. Interesting patterns of banded gneiss ornament sheer cliffs. In many places, canyon walls are crisscrossed with light colored granites or pegmatites intruded in darker gneiss. The trails are well marked with directional signs giving destinations and distances. The hiker has a choice of traveling on his own or he can join one of many naturalist-conducted hikes.

Each year many mountain climbers go to the Tetons to pit their strength and skill against the rocky crags. The range is a favorite of climbers because of the hard rock, the variety of climbs, and the rewarding scenery.

The park's lakes are an invitation to many boaters—to water ski, to fish, or just to enjoy beautiful vistas of the mountains. To preserve better the quiet of the smaller lakes, the use of powerboats is restricted to Phelps, Jenny, and Jackson Lakes. Any boat or other craft put upon park waters must first be registered at a ranger station. Printed information on boating regulations is available.



Floating the Snake River is an exhilarating experience, with fine scenic views and glimpses of wildlife the rewards. A number of concessioners offer such trips, on either large rafts holding up to 18 persons or small rafts with room for a few.

From early June to Labor Day, naturalist talks are presented each evening at the five campgrounds in the park. These programs deal with many subjects, each designed to help visitors understand and appreciate the park.

With modern oversnow vehicles, it is now possible to visit many sections of the park to enjoy spectacular winter scenery. Ski touring has its share of followers, while others enjoy tramping about on snowshoes.

MUSEUMS

Colter Bay Visitor Center has a museum which is designed to give a brief orientation on the park and its features. In the same building a slide-illustrated program tells about the park and what it contains.

A fur trade museum, at park headquarters in Moose, graphically explains the trappers' role in the exploration of the Teton area.

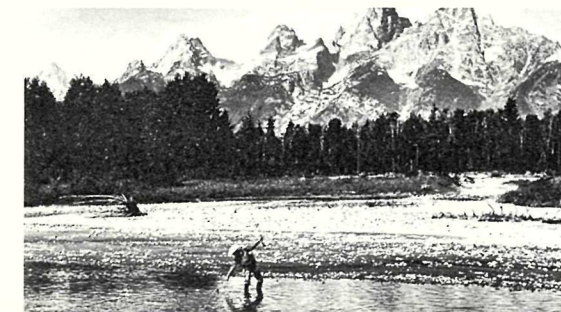
A small museum at Jenny Lake provides information about the park's geology and also tells about early mountain climbing in the Tetons.

ACCOMMODATIONS AND SERVICES

Five campgrounds—Lizard Point, Colter Bay, Signal Mountain, Jenny Lake, and Gros Ventre—are operated by the National Park Service on a first-come, first-served basis. From late June to late August, they are usually full by noon or before. House trailers are permitted in all except Jenny Lake.

A concessioner-operated trailer village at Colter Bay is the only place for trailers within the park which has power, water, and sewer connections. Advance reservations for this facility may be made by writing Grand Teton Lodge Company, 209 Post St., San Francisco, Calif. 94108 (winter), or Jackson, Wyo. 83001 (summer).

Dude ranch and cabin-type facilities are available in and adjacent to the park in summer. Grand Teton Lodge Company operates Jackson Lake Lodge; reservations are required.



Grocery stores and service stations are located at Moose, Kelly, Signal Mountain, and Colter Bay, the latter two in summer only.

Most accommodations and services within the park are available from early June through September. However, lodging, restaurant facilities, and other services may be obtained all year in nearby Jackson.

REGULATIONS

Report all accidents promptly to the nearest ranger station.

Do not camp or park cars overnight along roadsides. A camping or fire permit is required whenever you picnic or camp outside a designated campground.

Be sure your campfire is out before you leave it. Be equally careful with cigarettes.

Register at the Jenny Lake Ranger Station before starting to climb any peak. Report your return from each expedition. *Do not attempt a solo climb under any circumstances.*

If you plan to hike or climb other than an established trail, you must register at park headquarters or at a ranger station.

Pets are not allowed on trails.

Specific regulations affecting water safety, sanitation, navigation, and boat operation can be obtained from park rangers. Boating permits are required for all types of watercraft.

Do not feed wild animals or approach them; *keep your distance.*

ADMINISTRATION

Grand Teton National Park is administered by the National Park Service, U.S. Department of the Interior.

The National Park System, of which this park is a unit, is dedicated to conserving the great natural, historical, and recreational places of the United States for the benefit and enjoyment of all the people.

A superintendent, whose address is Moose, Wyo. 83012, is in immediate charge of the park.



THE DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR—the Nation's principal natural resource agency—has a special obligation to assure that our expendable resources are conserved, that our renewable resources are managed to produce optimum benefits, and that all resources contribute to the progress and prosperity of the United States, now and in the future.



