

Grand Teton

NATIONAL PARK • WYOMING

The lofty peaks of the Grand Tetons—blue-gray pyramids of 2½-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 7,000 feet above the almost-level basin of sagebrush flats and morainal lakes, this most scenic part of the Teton Range was a landmark for Indians and frontiersmen. The Grand, Middle, and South Tetons were called the Trois Tetons by trappers and explorers of the early 19th century. The Grand Teton, at 13,770 feet, is the dominating figure.

The snowfields and small glaciers that hang on the peaks, the U-shaped canyons with cirques at the heads, and the terminal moraines that rim the large lakes in the basin are reminders of the forces that shaped this landscape during the ice age. This process of building and movement of glaciers is being continued today.

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 the back country offer opportunities for recreation. You can camp near the lakes, swim, fish, watch wildlife, take float trips on the Snake River, ride horseback, 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—Jackson, Leigh, Jenny, Bradley, Taggart, and Phelps—all lie close to the foot of the range. Nestled in dense forests outside the mouths of canyons, these lakes mirror in their quiet depths nearby peaks whose summits rise in 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, may be seen. The pika (cony) and marmot are common throughout the rock slides, where these little animals find refuge. Look for beaver lodges and dams along the Snake River and its tributaries.

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

Jackson Hole could be called a valley of flowers—the vivid yellow of balsamroot, the brilliant red of scarlet gilia, and the deep blue of gentian color the scene. From early-spring buttercups to late-autumn asters, 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 well worth your investigation.

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 trips.

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 and beauty of the smaller lakes, the use of powerboats is restricted to Phelps, Jenny, and Jackson Lakes.

Floating the Snake River is an exhilarating experience, with fine scenic views and glimpses of wild-life 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.

Printed literature about the park can be obtained at park museums or by writing to Grand Teton National History Association, Moose, WY 83012.

MUSEUMS

Colter Bay Visitor Center has an Indian Arts museum which is designed to give an appreciation and understanding of the American Indian. Also, a movie is shown throughout the day that illustrates the park's natural history.

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 Creek, Colter Bay, Signal Mountain, Jenny Lake, and Gros Ventre—are open from early June to late September. They are usually full by noon or before. House trailers are permitted at all campgrounds except Jenny Lake, which is for tent camping only. Off-season camping is available at Colter Bay.

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, CA 94108 (winter), or Jackson, WY 83001 (summer).

Overnight lodging facilities are available in and adjacent to the park all year. These facilities in Colter Bay, Jenny Lake, and Jackson Lake Lodge are operated by the Grand Teton Lodge Company. Signal Mountain Lodge is operated by Signal Mountain Lodge Inc., and Leeks Lodge is managed by Leeks Lodge, Inc.

Grocery stores and service stations are located at Colter Bay, Moose, Kelly, and Signal Mountain. Colter Bay is open 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 or Teton Village.

REGULATIONS

Report all accidents promptly.

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. Back-country campers should pack out all non-burnable trash.

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 and vehicles are not allowed on trails.

Do not feed wild animals or approach them.

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.

Collecting of rock or plant material is not permitted.



U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1971-435-413/69
REVISED 1971

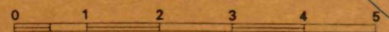
ADMINISTRATION

Grand Teton National Park is administered by the National Park Service, U.S. Department of the Interior. A superintendent, whose address is Moose, WY 83012, is in immediate charge of the park. Phone 307-733-2880 for park information. As the Nation's principal conservation agency, the Department of the Interior has basic responsibilities for water, fish, wildlife, mineral, land, park, and recreational resources. Indian and Territorial affairs are other major concerns of America's "Department of Natural Resources." The Department works to assure the wisest choice in managing all our resources so each will make its full contribution to a better United States—now and in the future.

U. S. Department of the Interior
National Park Service

GRAND TETON

SCALE IN MILES



LEGEND

- Paved Road
- Gravel and Dirt Road
- Viewing Area
- Trail
- Ranger Station
- Campground
- Picnic Area
- Swimming Beach
- Marina
- Post Office
- Lodging
- Food Service
- Airport
- Environmental Study Area
- Facilities