

YELLOWSTONE Today



Official Newspaper of Yellowstone National Park

Autumn 2002



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Welcome to the World's First National Park

The Upper Falls of the Yellowstone River, among many other features, await you.

Park Information

307-344-7381
www.nps.gov/yell
TDD: 307-344-2386

**Emergency
Dial 911**

 Printed on recycled paper with soy ink

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CAUTION: SCALDING WATER

Beautiful but deadly: Yellowstone's hydrothermal features can kill you. Their waters are frequently near or above boiling. The crust surrounding them is thin and breaks easily, and often overlies scalding water. People have died in these pools.

- **You must stay on boardwalks and designated trails.** They exist to protect you and to preserve delicate formations.
- **Keep your children close to you at all times;** make sure they understand the danger.
- Pets are prohibited in hydrothermal areas.
- Swimming or bathing is prohibited in hydrothermal pools or streams where water flows entirely from a hydrothermal spring or pool.
- **Where swimming is allowed, swim at your own risk.** Yellowstone's natural waters tend to be very hot or very cold, and immersion in extreme temperature water can be fatal. Hot water can also harbor an organism known to cause a fatal meningitis infection. Exposing your head to hot water by any means—immersion, splashing, or touching your face—increases your risk of burns and infection. Obtain more information at any ranger station or visitor center.

Stay Away from Wildlife

Yellowstone is not a zoo and the animals are not tame, even though they may seem calm. Do not approach any wildlife. View them from the safety of your vehicle.

If an animal reacts to your presence, you are too close.

Keep your distance and stay safe—and you will see more of an animal's natural behavior and activity.

Each year park visitors are injured by wildlife when they approach animals too closely. **You must stay at least 100 yards (91 m) away from bears and at least 25 yards (23 m) away from all other animals—including bison, elk, bighorn sheep, deer, moose, wolves, and coyotes.**

BISON are unpredictable and dangerous; they weigh up to 2,000 pounds (900 kg) and sprint 30 miles per hour (48 kph). Visitors are injured every year.

COYOTES quickly learn habits like roadside feeding. This may lead to aggressive behavior toward humans and can increase the risk of the coyote being poached or hit by a vehicle.

BEARS live throughout the park. Be alert for tracks, do not approach carcasses, and avoid surprising bears in any location or situation.

Page 7, "Hiking and Camping in Bear Country," provides important information on precautions and what to do if you encounter a bear.

If precautions fail and you are charged by a bear, you can usually defuse the situation. Pepper spray is a good last line of defense; it has been effective in more than 90 percent of the reported cases where it has been used. Become familiar with your pepper spray, read all instructions, and know its limitations. Pepper spray must be instantly available, not in your pack. **Remember, carrying pepper spray is not a substitute for vigilance and good safety precautions.**

If you are injured by a bear (regardless of how minor), or if you observe a bear or bear tracks, report it to a park ranger as soon as possible. Someone's safety may depend on it.

Attention Anglers & Boaters

The park's general fishing season opens the Saturday of Memorial Day weekend (usually the last Saturday in May) and closes the first Sunday in November. Other dates apply for Yellowstone Lake and its tributaries; see page 6 or consult the park fishing regulations. Boats and float tubes require permits; see page 6.

Backcountry Permits

Permits are required for overnight backcountry use and may be obtained in person up to 48 hours in advance from any ranger station. Rangers will provide information on weather, trails and other conditions. See page 7 for more information.

Bicycling

Wear safety gear, including helmet and high visibility clothing. Park roads are narrow and winding with few shoulders, and have no bicycle paths. Road elevations range from 5,300 to 8,860 feet (1,615–2,700 m); long distances exist between services and facilities. Bicycling is permitted on established public roads, parking areas, and designated routes; it is prohibited on backcountry trails and boardwalks. Motorists frequently do not see bicyclists or fail to give them enough space on the road. Some drivers pass on hill crests and blind curves. Vehicles, especially motor homes or those towing trailers, may have wide mirrors, posing an additional hazard. For more information about bicycling in Yellowstone, inquire at a visitor center.

Falling Trees

Avoid areas with large numbers of dead trees (snags), which may suddenly fall—especially on windy days.

High Altitude

Most of the park is above 7,500 feet (2,275 m). Allow time to acclimate and drink plenty of liquids. Be aware of your physical limitations. Don't overexert; drink plenty of water to forestall the dehydrating effects of the park's dry climate. Stop and rest frequently.

Lost & Found

Call 307-344-2109 to report or retrieve lost items.

Pets

Pets must be leashed. They are prohibited on all trails, in the backcountry, and in hydrothermal basins. Pets are not allowed more than 100 feet from a road or parking area. Leaving a pet unattended and/or tied to an object is prohibited.

Picnic Areas

Overnight camping is not allowed in picnic areas. Fires may be built only in fire grates available in picnic areas at Snake River, Grant Village, Bridge Bay, Yellowstone River, Norris Meadows, Cascade, Nez Perce, Spring Creek, and the east parking lot of Old Faithful. Liquid or gas fuel stoves or self-contained charcoal grills may be used for cooking at all locations. Most picnic areas have pit toilets, but none have drinking water.

Stream Crossing

If your plans include fishing or following trails that cross streams, check at local ranger stations for current stream conditions.

Swimming

Swimming is discouraged because Yellowstone's natural waters are typically very hot or very cold, and immersion in extreme temperature water can be fatal. Where swimming is allowed, **swim at your own risk.**

See "Caution: Scalding Water" at left.

Theft

Lock your vehicle; keep all valuables out of sight; label all valuable property with your name, address, or identification number; report theft or vandalism to a ranger.

Traffic

Most park roads are narrow, rough, and busy; some steep sections have sharp drop-offs. Drive cautiously and courteously; **slow moving vehicles must use pullouts to observe wildlife or scenery and to allow other vehicles to pass.** Watch for animals on the road, especially at night. Bicycles and motorcycles present special hazards. Drive defensively and wear seat belts. **Yellowstone has a mandatory seat belt requirement for all passengers.** Be especially cautious of ice and road damage; cool temperatures occur year-round. **The maximum speed limit is 45 mph (73 km per hour) or slower as posted.**

Weapons

No firearms or weapons, including state-permitted concealed weapons, are allowed in Yellowstone. However, unloaded firearms may be transported in a vehicle when the weapon is cased, broken down or rendered inoperable, and kept out of sight. Ammunition must be placed in a separate compartment of the vehicle.

AVOID These Illegal Situations

- speeding (radar enforced)
- driving while intoxicated (open container law enforced)
- not removing detachable side mirrors when not pulling trailers
- traveling off-road by vehicle or bicycle
- improperly storing food
- violating camping regulations & rules
- having pets off leash or on trails and boardwalks
- littering
- swimming in hydrothermal pools
- traveling off boardwalks in hydrothermal areas
- removing or possessing natural (flowers, antlers, etc.) or cultural (artifacts) features
- calling in elk by using buglers or imitating their calls
- violating fishing regulations
- feeding or approaching wildlife
- spotlighting elk, deer, or other wildlife (viewing animals with artificial light)

Law enforcement rangers strictly enforce all park regulations to protect you and the park.

Know These Numbers

25

= the number of **YARDS** you must stay away from all wildlife—except . . .

100

= the number of **YARDS** you must stay away from a bear

45

= the **speed limit** in the park unless otherwise posted

911

= the number to call in an **emergency**

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Opportunities for Children

Junior Ranger

Children between the ages of 5 and 12 can participate in the park's official Junior Ranger Program. Ask for more information at any visitor center.

Become a Resident

Classes can participate in our curriculum-based residential program. For more information, write: Expedition: Yellowstone! Coordinator, Box 168, Yellowstone National Park WY 82190.

Electronic Field Trips

Middle school students can climb aboard a virtual bus to look through its Windows Into Wonderland. Log on to www.windowstowonderland.org to view our previous field trips. For more information, visit the park's website, www.nps.gov/yell.

Information

Albright Visitor Center, Mammoth

Daily, year-round. 8 AM–7 PM through Sept. 2; 9 AM–6 PM Sept. 3–30; 9 AM–5 PM thereafter. Information, bookstore, and exhibits on wildlife and history. Films on the national park idea and artist Thomas Moran. Call 307-344-2263.

Canyon Visitor Center

Daily. 8 AM–7 PM through Sept. 2; 9 AM–6 PM Sept. 3–Oct. 13. Information, bison exhibit, and bookstore. Call 307-242-2550.

Fishing Bridge Visitor Center

Daily. 8 AM–7 PM through Sept. 2; 9 AM–6 PM Sept. 3–30. Information, bookstore, and exhibits on the park's birds and other wildlife. Call 307-242-2450.

Grant Visitor Center

Daily. 8 AM–7 PM through Sept. 2; 9 AM–6 PM Sept. 3

–29. Information, bookstore, exhibits, video on the role of fire in Yellowstone. Call 307-242-2650.

Madison Information Station

Daily. 8 AM–7 PM through Sept. 2; 9 AM–5 PM Sept. 3–Oct. 13. Information, bookstore. Call 307-344-2821.

Museum of the National Park Ranger, Norris

Daily. 9 AM–6 PM through Sept. 2; 9 AM–5 PM Sept. 3–30. Exhibits at historic soldier station trace development of the park ranger profession; video shown. Chat with former National Park Service employees who volunteer here.

Norris Geyser Basin Museum

Daily. 10 AM–5 PM through Oct. 13; bookstore 9 AM–5

PM. Information and exhibits on the hydrothermal features of Yellowstone. Call 307-344-2812.

Old Faithful Visitor Center

Daily. 8 AM–7 PM through Sept. 2; 8 AM–6 PM Sept. 3–30; 9 AM–5 PM Oct. 1–Nov. 3. Information, bookstore, and geyser eruption predictions. New film about hydrothermal features. Call 307-545-2750.

West Thumb Information Station

Daily. 9 AM–5 PM through Sept. 29. Information and bookstore.

West Yellowstone Chamber of Commerce, Public Lands Desk

Daily. 8 AM–8 PM, through Sept. 2; 8 AM–4 PM Sept. 3–Nov. 3. Call 406-646-4403. Information, publications.

Yellowstone to Build New Visitor Education Center at Old Faithful

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Old Faithful Geyser is visited by more than 85 percent of the 3.1 million people who come to Yellowstone each year. On peak summer days, more than 25,000 visitors await eruptions of Old Faithful and explore the surrounding geyser basin, which contains the world's largest concentration of active geysers.

But the existing visitor center at Old Faithful does not meet visitor needs for information, orientation, or educational services. It is too small and has no interpretive exhibits. The auditorium lacks sufficient seating for the many people who want to see new and exciting films about the park. Visitors leave the geyser basin without understanding its unique natural resources and their importance.

The National Park Service has long recognized the need for a new visitor center at Old Faithful, but more pressing problems like failing sewers and deteriorating roads have taken precedence. Now, however, the Yellowstone Park Foundation is leading a capital campaign to raise at least \$15 million for an Old Faithful Visitor Education Center. A \$1.25 million grant from Unilever began the funding drive, followed by \$2 million from Conoco. Additional private donations have brought the total amount pledged to this project to more than \$7.5 million.

The new visitor education center will fit into the historic landscape. It will be fully accessible, energy-efficient, of sustainable design, and built with environmentally friendly construction materials and techniques. In the approximately 10,000 square feet of exhibit space, visitors will discover a "window on the Earth" with interactive exhibits, computer animations and simulations, videos, and films.

If you would like to contribute to the Old Faithful Visitor Education Center, please contact the Yellowstone Park Foundation: 406-586-6303; 222 East Main Street, Suite 301; Bozeman, MT 59715; www.ypf.org, or complete and mail the coupon on page 12.

Self-Guiding Trails

Stretch your legs on these self-guiding trails. Check at a visitor center for current conditions and to purchase a trail guide for 50¢. The guides are also available at each trail.

Canyon Area

View the colorful Grand Canyon of the Yellowstone River and the Upper and Lower Falls from overlooks; see for yourself why viewpoints are named Inspiration, Grandview, and Artist Point.

Fort Yellowstone

Enjoy a walking tour around this historic site at Mammoth Hot Springs. Most buildings were constructed during the time that the U.S. Army managed the park (1886–1918). They are now used by the National Park Service as its headquarters.

Fountain Paint Pot

View examples of the four types of hydrothermal features; geysers, hot springs, fumaroles, and mudpots. Eight miles (12.9 km) north of Old Faithful.

Mammoth Hot Springs

Hot spring activity is sculpting an ever-changing landscape of travertine terraces. Walk through active and inactive areas

and enjoy a scenic drive through the Upper Terraces.

Mud Volcano Area

Discover turbulent and explosive mudpots, including Mud Volcano and Dragon's Mouth. View—and smell—Sulphur Caldron. Located on the road between Lake and Canyon, 6 miles (9.6 km) north of Fishing Bridge Junction.

Norris Geyser Basin

Explore the hottest, most dynamic geyser basin in the park, which includes Steamboat, the world's tallest geyser. It erupted in April 2002—its first eruption since May 2000.

Old Faithful

The world's largest concentration of geysers is located in the Upper Geyser Basin. View Old Faithful then walk the trails past hundreds of geysers and hot springs.

West Thumb Geyser Basin

The boiling springs in this basin, including the famous Fishing Cone, discharge their waters into chilly Yellowstone Lake. The Absaroka Mountains provide a backdrop to this self-guiding trail.

Your Fee Dollars at Work

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In 1996, Congress authorized a pilot fee program to demonstrate the feasibility of spreading some of the costs of managing public lands among those who use them. Yellowstone and Grand Teton are two of more than 100 National Park Service units that participate in this pilot fee program. The additional funds generated by the fee increase are being used for projects that the parks have been unable to fund through yearly Congressional allocations.

Entrance and campground fees are dedicated to projects that increase the quality of the visitor experience and enhance the protection of park resources. Projects underway include a major renovation of Canyon Visitor Center including the development of new geology exhibits, campground and amphitheater upgrades, construction of a new accessible restroom at Mammoth Hot Springs, preservation of rare documents, and studies on bison.

Accessibility Guide Available

A free *Visitors Guide to Accessible Features in Yellowstone National Park* is available at all entrance stations and visitor centers in the park. This guide describes which facilities have been judged to be negotiable for wheelchair users. Additional facilities are being made accessible as quickly as possible within funding limitations.

For more information:
Park Accessibility Coordinator
P.O. Box 168, Yellowstone National Park, WY 82190
307-344-2017

TDD only (Telecommunications Device for the Deaf) 307-344-2386
www.nps.gov/yell

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Tips for Getting Around

- Allow plenty of time to drive from place to place. Speed limits are 45 mph (73 km per hour) or lower; narrow, winding roads warrant slower speeds in many sections; and traffic is often heavy and slow.
- Allow extra time when passing through or detouring around road construction (see map on back page).
- Traffic is heaviest from mid June to mid September with daily peaks from mid morning to late afternoon.
- Allow extra time for crossing mountain passes; Sylvan, Craig, and Dunraven are all over 8,000 ft (2427 m).
- Grand Loop Road provides access to major scenic attractions: 142 miles (229 km) total; Upper Loop, 70 miles (113 km); Lower Loop, 96 miles (155 km).
- Driving time on the Grand Loop Road varies depending on road and weather conditions, road construction, and traffic.

Only One Day Here?

Tips from Yellowstone's Rangers

One day driving tours

1. Drive to the Old Faithful area and walk around the geyser basin; drive to the Canyon area—stop at several overlooks and walk along part of the rim.
2. Add Hayden Valley to the above route—especially at the beginning or end of the day—to look for some of the park's large animals. (See map on page 8.)
3. Visit the Upper Geyser Basin (Old Faithful, Biscuit Basin, Black Sand Basin); drive to Fountain Paint Pot to view mudpots; drive to Canyon and visit Artist Point. End your day at Fishing Bridge Museum on the shore of Yellowstone Lake.
4. Visit Old Faithful and one other hydrothermal area, such as Norris, West Thumb, or Mammoth Hot Springs.
5. Visit lesser-known features such as Artist Paint Pots, Natural Bridge near Bridge Bay, Roaring Mountain north of Norris, Terrace Springs near Madison Junction, or Firehole Lake Drive in the Lower Geyser Basin.

Consider one or two moderate day hikes.

Each major area of the park has several hikes suitable for brief excursions into the wilder side of Yellowstone. Consult the *Dayhike Sampler*, available for 25¢ at visitor centers.

Two or More Days?

- Explore one area of the park in depth.
- Explore one theme, such as geology, in depth. For example, visit Mammoth Hot Springs to see travertine formations and view the sedimentary layers of Mount Everts, drive through glaciated terrain to Tower Fall or the Lamar Valley, climb Mount Washburn to view the Yellowstone Caldera and evidence of glaciers, visit the Grand Canyon of the Yellowstone.

Highlights

Geysers & Hot Springs

Yellowstone's unparalleled array of hydrothermal features—geysers, hot springs, mudpots, and steam vents—provide evidence of the active volcano beneath our feet. In the 50 miles between Mammoth Hot Springs and Old Faithful, you'll see the travertine terraces of Mammoth Hot Springs, the acidic features of Norris Geyser Basin, mudpots and geysers at Fountain Paint Pot, the giant hot springs of Midway Geyser Basin, plus Biscuit and Black Sand basins near Old Faithful. West Thumb Geyser Basin is 17 miles east of Old Faithful; Mud Volcano is north of Yellowstone Lake.

Grand Canyon

The Grand Canyon of the Yellowstone River extends from just south of Canyon Village north to Tower Junction. The most famous and spectacular section, including the Upper and Lower Falls of the Yellowstone River, is seen from overlooks along the North and South Rim roads near the Canyon Village area. The northernmost extent of the canyon is visible from Tower Fall and Calcite Springs overlooks, south of Tower Junction.

The road between Tower Junction and Canyon Village goes over Dunraven Pass, the highest road in the park at 8,860 feet (2700 m). Along the way you will find spectacular views of the Absaroka Mountains, the Yellowstone Caldera, and, on a clear day, the Teton Range to the south. This road also travels through areas where bighorn sheep, elk, and bears (black and grizzly) are often seen. Dunraven Pass closes for the season on October 15 and it will be under construction before then, with half hour delays possible.

Lake Area

Yellowstone Lake is the largest high elevation lake (above 7,000 feet) in the Western Hemisphere. It has 110 miles of shoreline and is approximately 400 feet deep at its deepest spot. With the Absaroka Mountains as a stunning backdrop, this area offers boating, fishing, hiking, and wildlife viewing, and hydrothermal features. (*Fishing and boating require permits; see page 6.*) You can visit several historic buildings, view a variety of hydrothermal activity, and see the Yellowstone River flow from the lake on its long journey. Four developed visitor areas lie along the lake's shores: Fishing Bridge, Bridge Bay, Lake, and Grant/West Thumb.

History

People have been visiting Yellowstone for more than 11,000 years. As recently as the 1800s, Native American tribes traversed the Yellowstone Plateau in search of buffalo, medicinal plants, and other resources. Yellowstone National Park was established in 1872—before any surrounding territories had become states. You can visit a number of historic sites, such as Fishing Bridge Museum, Norris Geyser Basin Museum, Obsidian Cliff, Old Faithful Inn and Historic District, Roosevelt Lodge Historic District, and Fort Yellowstone at Mammoth Hot Springs (you can take a self-guiding tour around the fort).

Wildlife

Yellowstone is home to a variety and abundance of wildlife unparalleled in the lower 48 states. The numbers and variety of animals you see are largely a matter of luck and coincidence. Please use pullouts when viewing wildlife and remember that Yellowstone's animals are wild. Undisturbed space is among the greatest of their needs. Respect this, and you will be rewarded by seeing more of their natural activities and discovering how they live in the wild.

For more information, consult the official map and guide—it includes mileage between major areas and detailed maps of these areas—or consult interpretive rangers at the park's visitor centers.

A Way to Save On Park Entrance Fees

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The National Parks Pass

provides a way to save money when visiting national parks. For one annual fee of \$50, you can enter all National Park System areas. You receive a great value and you also support your favorite national parks. **A full 70% of the proceeds from the sales of passes at Yellowstone will go directly to projects**

that help visitors experience the area. The remaining proceeds go to a national fund that supports projects at any of the national parks in the system. To obtain your pass, stop by one of Yellowstone's entrance stations, or purchase the pass online at www.nationalparks.org or call toll-free:

1-888-GO-PARKS (1-888-467-2757). For an additional \$15, you can upgrade your National Park Pass to a Golden Eagle Pass, which provides admission to all national parks, national wildlife refuges, and other federal fee areas. (*Neither pass is good for user or parking fees, such as at Mount Rushmore.*)

Private, noncommercial automobile	\$20 (7 days, both Yellowstone and Grand Teton)
Individual snowmobile, motorcycle	\$15 (7 days, both parks)
Single entry (foot, bike, ski, etc.)	\$10 (7 days, both parks)
Annual Pass, both parks	\$40 (valid one year from date of purchase)
National Parks Pass	\$50 (valid one year from date of purchase for entrance fees at National Park Service areas)
Golden Eagle Pass	\$65 (valid one year from date of purchase at most federal fee collection areas)
Golden Age Pass	\$10 (one-time fee for lifetime pass—available to those citizens or permanent residents of the U.S. 62 years of age and older)
Golden Access Pass	Free (available to those citizens or permanent residents of the U.S. who have been determined to be blind or permanently disabled)

NOTE: Remember to keep your admission receipt in order to re-enter the park.

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Many myths exist about Old Faithful, the world's most famous geyser (shown at left). The lists below can help you sort the facts from myths.

Myths

- ✗ It erupts every hour on the hour.
- ✗ It is so predictable, you can set your watch by its eruption.
- ✗ It is the only geyser in the park that can be predicted.
- ✗ It is the most predictable geyser.
- ✗ Its eruption is not as high as it used to be.
- ✗ Its eruption lasts less time than it used to.
- ✗ Park rangers can control the eruption of Old Faithful.
- ✗ No one can predict Old Faithful anymore.

Facts

- ✓ Its eruption length and height, and the time between eruptions varies from day to day and year to year.
- ✓ As of August 2002, the eruption length ranges from 1-1/2 to 5 minutes; the average interval between eruptions is 94 minutes.
- ✓ Old Faithful's height ranges from 106 feet to more than 180 feet, averaging 130 feet.
- ✓ Its average eruption length, height, and interval will change again—often as a result of an earthquake.
- ✓ 3,700 to 8,400 gallons of water expelled per eruption, depending on the length of eruption.
- ✓ Just prior to eruption, water temperature at the vent is 204°F (95.6°C).
- ✓ It's one of more than 300 geysers in Yellowstone.
- ✓ Old Faithful is a cone geyser, which erupts in a narrow jet of water, usually from a cone. Fountain geysers, such as Grand (also in the Upper Geyser Basin), generally shoot water out in various directions, most often from a pool.

Old Faithful Changes—Naturally & Constantly

Geysers are dynamic and constantly evolving—and Old Faithful is no exception. They evolve in response to small, natural changes in their plumbing systems, water temperature, dissolved gas and mineral content of the thermal water, amount of water, amount of heat, changes in pressure, and other factors. Geysers are also affected by natural events in Yellowstone such as frequent earthquakes.

Predicting any geyser's eruption can be difficult because of the complex interactions of these constantly changing factors. To predict a geyser's next eruption, observers analyze past information such as intervals between eruptions, length of eruption, and the character of an eruption.

Old Faithful is perhaps the most studied and predicted geyser. Mathematicians, statisticians, and dedicated observers have analyzed it for many years. For example, a direct relationship exists between the duration of Old Faithful's eruption and the length of the following interval. Short eruptions (around 2 minutes) lead to short intervals (about 65 minutes); long eruptions (4 minutes or so) lead to long intervals (92 minutes or longer). During a short eruption, less water and heat are discharged; thus, they rebuild again in a short time. Longer eruptions mean more water and heat are discharged and they require more time to rebuild. As of August 2002, the average interval was 94 minutes.

Over time, the average interval between Old Faithful's eruptions increases, in part due to ongoing processes within its plumbing. Changes also result from earthquakes. Prior to the 1959 Hebgen Lake Earthquake, centered 12 miles northwest of the park's west entrance, the interval between Old Faithful's eruptions averaged slightly more than one hour. Its intervals increased after that earthquake and again after the 1983 Borah Peak Earthquake, centered in Idaho. In 1998, an earthquake near Old Faithful lengthened the interval again; later, another swarm of earthquakes further increased intervals.

Between long intervals and other variables, waiting for Old Faithful's eruptions can stretch beyond the predicted time. Think of it this way: you've got time now to meet other visitors, read about the park, or take a much-needed rest. So relax, be flexible, and enjoy the time you spend with the world's most famous geyser.

How Geysers Work

Geysers are hot springs with narrow spaces in their plumbing, usually near the surface. These constrictions prevent water from circulating freely to the surface where heat would escape. The deepest circulating water can exceed the surface boiling point (199°F/93°C). The surrounding pressure also increases with depth, much as it does with depth in the ocean. Increased pressure exerted by the enormous weight of the overlying rock and water prevents the water from vaporizing. As the water rises, steam forms. Bubbling upward, steam expands as it nears the top of the water column until the bubbles are too large and numerous to pass freely through the constrictions. At a critical point, the confined bubbles actually lift the water above, causing the geyser to splash or overflow. This decreases pressure on the system, and violent boiling results. Tremendous amounts of steam force water out of the vent, and the eruption begins. Water is expelled faster than it can enter the geyser's plumbing system, and the heat and pressure gradually decrease. The eruption stops when the water reservoir is exhausted or when the gas bubbles diminish enough to be able to rise without ejecting the water.

Riverside Geyser erupts on a fairly regular interval of once every 6 to 6.5 hours.

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Campgrounds

	Dates	Fees	Sites	Elev (ft)	Features
Bridge Bay*	5/24-9/15	\$15	431	7,800	A, F, DS, G
Canyon*	5/31-9/8	\$15	272	7,900	A, F, S/L, DS, G
Fishing Bridge RV*	5/17-9/29	\$29	346	7,800	F, S/L, DS, G
Grant Village*	6/21-9/29	\$15	425	7,800	A, F, S/L, DS, G
Madison*	5/3-10/20	\$15	280	6,800	A, F, DS, G
Indian Creek	6/7-9/16	\$10	75	7,300	V
Lewis Lake	6/21-11/3	\$10	85	7,800	V
Mammoth	All year	\$12	85	6,200	A, F, G
Norris	5/17-9/30	\$12	116	7,500	F, G
Pebble Creek	5/31-9/30	\$10	32	6,900	V
Slough Creek	5/24-10/31	\$10	29	6,250	V
Tower Fall	5/17-9/30	\$10	32	6,600	V

*Sites you can reserve; price doesn't include tax.

A Accessible sites available
F Flush toilets
V Vault toilets

S/L Pay showers/laundry nearby
DS Dump station
G Generators OK 8 AM-8 PM

Discounts

Holders of Golden Age and Golden Access passes receive approximately a 50% discount on camping fees, except at Fishing Bridge RV Park, where no discounts apply.

Group Camping

Group camping is available at Madison, Grant, and Bridge Bay from late May through closing date for organized groups with a designated leader such as youth or educational groups. Fees range from

\$40-75 per night, depending on group size. Reservations are required and can be made by writing Xanterra Parks and Resorts, P.O. Box 165, YNP, WY 82190 or by calling 307-344-7311.

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In summer, make your reservations early and/or plan on securing your campsite as early in the day as possible; campgrounds may fill by early morning.

First-Come, First-Served

Seven campgrounds are operated by the National Park Service: Indian Creek, Lewis Lake, Mammoth, Norris, Pebble Creek, Slough Creek, and Tower Fall. You cannot reserve these sites.

Reservations

You can reserve a site at the five campgrounds operated by Xanterra Parks and Resorts, indicated by * on the chart at left. For same-day reservations, call 307-344-7901 or ask at lodging activities desks. For future reservations, call 307-344-7311 or write Xanterra Parks and Resorts, P.O. Box 165,

YNP, WY 82190; www.TravelYellowstone.com. Fishing Bridge RV Park is for hard-sided vehicles only (no tents or tent trailers are allowed).

Camping Rules

Camping or overnight vehicle parking in pullouts, parking areas, picnic grounds, or any place other than a designated campground are not permitted, and there are no overflow camping facilities. Camping is often available in neighboring communities and public lands outside the park.

Camping is limited to 14 days between June 15 and September 15 and to 30 days the rest of the year;

there is no limit at Fishing Bridge RV Park. Check-out time for all campgrounds is 10 AM.

Quiet Hours

Each visitor deserves the opportunity to hear the wildlife and streams in this beautiful environment. Respect the rights of other campers and comply with the law by adhering to quiet hours, 8 PM-8 AM (10 PM-7 AM at Fishing Bridge RV Park). No generators, loud audio devices, or other noise disturbances will be allowed during this time. Generators are only permitted in six campgrounds (see chart at left) and the Fishing Bridge RV Park.

Permits and Fees

Permits

Fishing You must have a permit to fish in Yellowstone. Anglers 16 years of age and older are required to purchase either a \$10 ten-day or a \$20 season permit. Anglers 12-15 years of age are required to obtain a non-fee permit; those 11 years and younger may fish without a permit but must be supervised by an adult who knows the regulations. Permits are available at all ranger stations, visitor centers, and Hamilton General Stores. **State fishing licenses are not valid in Yellowstone National Park. If you catch a lake trout in Yellowstone Lake and its tributaries—including the Yellowstone River—you must kill the fish.**

Boats & Float Tubes Permits are required for using boats and float tubes; few park waters are open to them. Obtain a permit in person for boats and float tubes from the following locations: South Entrance, Grant Village Backcountry Office, Bridge Bay Marina, and Lake Ranger Station. Non-motorized boating permits only are available at the Canyon, Mammoth, and Old Faithful backcountry offices, Bechler Ranger Station, and West and Northeast Entrances. You must have a Coast Guard approved "wearable" personal flotation device for each person on board.

Fishing Season

Yellowstone's fishing season generally begins on the Saturday of Memorial Day weekend (usually the last Saturday of May) and continues through the first Sunday of November. **Exceptions:** Yellowstone Lake opens June 15; Yellowstone Lake's tributary streams open July 15; Yellowstone River and its tributaries between Canyon and Yellowstone Lake open July 15. Refer to park fishing regulations or the park website for additional information: www.nps.gov/yell/planvisit/todo/fishing/index.htm

Fishing Regulations

Park fishing regulations are available at all ranger stations, visitor centers, or Hamilton General Stores.

In Yellowstone, wildlife takes precedence over humans as consumers of fish. All fish are wild (there is no stocking), so sufficient adult fish must remain to reproduce and maintain populations and to assure genetic diversity. These facts require both a philosophical and literal distinction between recreational angling and consuming fish. In Yellowstone, angling is based on fishing for native species of wild trout in a natural setting.

Fishing regulations in Yellowstone National Park have evolved as ongoing research reveals population trends and interrelationships with the rest of the Yellowstone ecosystem. Increasing numbers of anglers have also influenced the development of regulations by their impact on certain species and aquatic habitats. As of 2001, you must release all native sport fish: cutthroat trout, Arctic grayling, mountain whitefish.

Non-Toxic Fishing

Yellowstone National Park has implemented a fishing program using non-toxic tackle. Fishing tackle such as leaded split-shot sinkers, weighted jigs (lead molded to a hook), and soft lead-weighted ribbons for nymph fishing, are no longer allowed. Only non-toxic alternatives are allowed to accompany these types of fishing tackle. For more information, contact the Yellowstone Center for Resources, P.O. Box 168, Yellowstone National Park, WY 82190.

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Autumn 2002

More than 900 miles (1,460 km) of trails are available for hiking in Yellowstone's backcountry. Visiting wilderness means experiencing the land on its terms. If you choose to explore and enjoy the natural wonders of Yellowstone, be prepared for any situation. Read these rules and guidelines and consult a backcountry ranger before your trip. Your safety is not guaranteed.

Backcountry Rules

To preserve Yellowstone's backcountry and enhance your wilderness experience, the National Park Service has established the following regulations and guidelines. Contact a park ranger before you begin an overnight trip.

Permits & Reservations

Permits are not required for day hiking, but hikers are encouraged to check in at a ranger station for vital safety information. Backcountry use permits are required for all overnight trips and must be obtained in person at a ranger station not more than 48 hours in advance of the first date of the trip. Campers may reserve campsites for future trips in person or by mail for a \$20 fee. To make reservations, check at a ranger station or write the Backcountry Office, P.O. Box 168, YNP, WY 82190.

For safety and resource concerns, especially regarding bears, camping is allowed in designated campsites only. Each campsite has limits for the number of people and stock allowed. The maximum stay at any single campsite varies from 1 to 3 nights. To obtain detailed information, check at a ranger station.

Firearms, weapons, pets, traps and nets, motorized equipment, and any type of wheeled vehicle (except wheelchairs) are prohibited in the backcountry.

Campfires

Campfires are permitted only in established fire pits. Burn only dead-and-down wood. Wood and ground fires are not allowed in some campsites.

Your fire must be attended at all times and be completely extinguished before you leave.

Pack It In— Pack It Out

You must carry all refuse out of the backcountry, including items partly burned in fire pits (foil, tin, glass, etc).

Sanitation

Bury human waste 6 to 8 inches (15–20 cm) below ground and a minimum of 100 feet (30 m) from water. Dispose of waste water at least 100 feet (30 m) from water or a campsite. Do not pollute lakes, ponds, rivers, or streams by washing yourself, clothing, or dishes in them.

Should You Drink the Water?

Even though clear lake and stream water may look, smell, and taste good, *Giardia* and other bacterial contaminants may be present. Drinking untreated water may lead to intestinal infection. Before drinking water from lakes and streams, either filter it with a good commercial filter, treat it with a chemical treatment such as iodine or chlorine, or boil it at least one minute.

Weather

Yellowstone's weather is unpredictable. A sunny warm day may become fiercely stormy with wind, rain, sleet, and, sometimes snow. Lightning is common; get off water or beaches and stay away from ridges, exposed places, and isolated trees. Without adequate clothing and gear, an easy day hike or boat trip can turn into a battle for survival.

Exposure to wind, rain, or cold can result in hypothermia. This rapid loss of body heat can cause death if not treated. Early warning signs include shivering, slurred speech, memory lapses, drowsiness, and exhaustion. Cold water is a special hazard to anglers and boaters. Get into dry clothes and drink warm fluids at the first signs of hypothermia.

Stock Use

Overnight stock (horses, mules, burros, and llamas) use is not permitted prior to July 1 due to forage conditions and/or wet trail conditions. Horses are not allowed in front country campgrounds.

Stream Crossings

Fording a stream can be hazardous, especially during spring snowmelt or high water. Check at local ranger stations for current trail and stream conditions.

Falling Trees

Avoid areas with large numbers of dead trees (snags), which may suddenly fall—especially on windy days.

Trails

Trail conditions are highly variable. Some can be dry, while others are muddy or blocked by high river crossings or snow. Some are closed to stock. Check at a visitor center or backcountry office for current trail conditions. Orange metal tags on trees and posts mark trails, but may be sparse in some areas. Off-trail travel is difficult because of the terrain and the number of downed trees. Carry a map and compass, and know how to use both.

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Electric Peak dominates the northwest corner of the park, an area of challenging trails and abundant wildlife—including grizzlies. For a safe hike in this area, your group should include four or more people, inquire about conditions at the Mammoth Hot Springs Backcountry Office, and follow the precautions below.

NPS/Peaco

Hiking & Camping in Bear Country

Although the risk of an encounter with a bear is low, your safety is not guaranteed. Minimize your risks by following the guidelines below.

A Fed Bear Is a Dead Bear

Do not leave packs containing food unattended, even for a few minutes. Do not drop your pack if a bear is close by (see below). Allowing a bear to obtain human food even once often results in the bear becoming aggressive about obtaining such food in the future. Aggressive bears present a threat to human safety and eventually may be destroyed or removed from the park.

While Hiking

Make bears aware of your presence on trails by making loud noises, shouting, or singing. Hike in groups and use caution where vision is obstructed. Do not hike after dark. Avoid carcasses; bears often defend this source of food.

If You Encounter a Bear

Do not run. Bears can run 30 mph (48 kph), or 44 feet/second (13 m/second), which is faster than Olympic sprinters. Running may elicit an attack from an otherwise non-aggressive bear. If the bear is unaware of you, keep out of sight and detour behind and downwind of the bear. If the bear is aware of you and is nearby but has not acted aggressively, slowly back away.

Do not drop your pack! This teaches bears a way to obtain human foods and often means the bear must be removed.

Tree climbing to avoid bears is popular advice, but not practical in many circumstances. All black bears, all grizzly cubs,

and some adult grizzlies can climb trees. Plus, running to a tree may provoke an otherwise uncertain bear to chase you.

If a Bear Approaches or Charges You

Do not run. Some bears will bluff their way out of a threatening situation by charging, then veering off or stopping abruptly at the last second. Bear experts generally recommend standing still until the bear stops and then slowly backing away. If you are attacked, lie on the ground completely flat. Spread your legs and clasp your hands over the back of your neck. **Do not drop your pack!**

When Camping

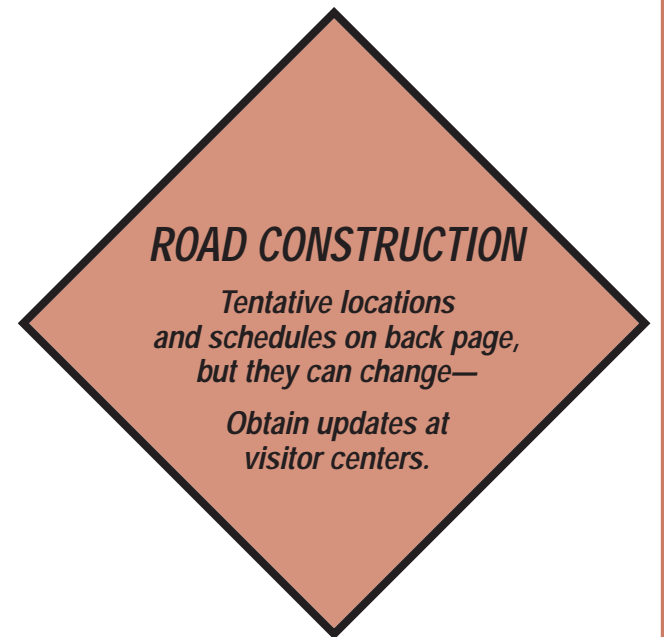
Never camp in an area that has obvious evidence of bear activity such as digging, tracks, scat, or where animal carcasses are present.

Odors attract bears. Avoid carrying or cooking odorous foods or other products. Keep a clean camp; do not cook or store food in your tent. All food, garbage, or other odorous items used for preparing or cooking food must be secured from bears. Hang all such items at least 10 feet (3 m) above the ground and at least 4 feet (1.2 m) out from tree trunks. Treat all odorous products such as soap, deodorant, or toiletries in the same manner as food.

Sleep a minimum of 100 yards (91m) from where you hang, cook, and eat your food. Keep your sleeping gear clean and free of food odor. Don't sleep in the same clothes worn while cooking and eating; hang those clothes in plastic bags.

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CAUTION

Elk are **DANGEROUS**
during their mating season,
which is **NOW**.

You Are a Guest In the Home of Wildlife

- Stay at least 100 yards (91 m) away from bears and at least 25 yards (23 m) from all other animals.
- Never stop in the middle of the road; use the pullouts. Be safe and legal.
- Turn off your engine.
- Talk quietly.
- To find out what people are seeing, get out of your car, approach them, and speak quietly. Never call or shout from your car.

BE SURE TO READ THIS

This is a general guide to where you **MIGHT** see some of the big mammals that live in Yellowstone. Watch for wildlife wherever you drive or walk in the park. Time of day, weather, and other factors make it impossible to know exactly where animals will be at any given time.

For more information, ask at a visitor center for site bulletins #287, "Where Can I See Big Mammals?" and #259, "Yellowstone Mammal Checklist."

Scientists have been studying the role of fire in Yellowstone since the mid 20th century and they continue to discover new information. The history of fire in this park and its benefits explain why Yellowstone’s managers believe fire is an essential natural force.

The National Fire Plan

During the 2000 fire season in the United States, almost 93,000 wildland fires burned close to 7.4 million acres and destroyed numerous structures. Subsequently, recommendations were developed on how to reduce the impacts of fire on rural communities and ensure sufficient firefighting resources for the future. That report, now known as the “National Fire Plan,” identified five key points that continue to emphasize interagency approaches:

- Firefighting: Continue to fight fires and be adequately prepared for the next year.
- Rehabilitation and Restoration: Restore landscapes and rebuild communities damaged by the wildfires of 2000.
- Hazardous Fuel Reduction: Invest in projects to reduce fire risk.
- Community Assistance: Work directly with communities to ensure adequate protection.
- Accountability: Be accountable and establish adequate oversight, coordination, program development, and monitoring for performance.

The House and Senate approved an appropriations bill that included \$101 million for National Park Service projects and activities identified in the National Fire Plan, including those in Yellowstone.

The Yellowstone Fires of 1988

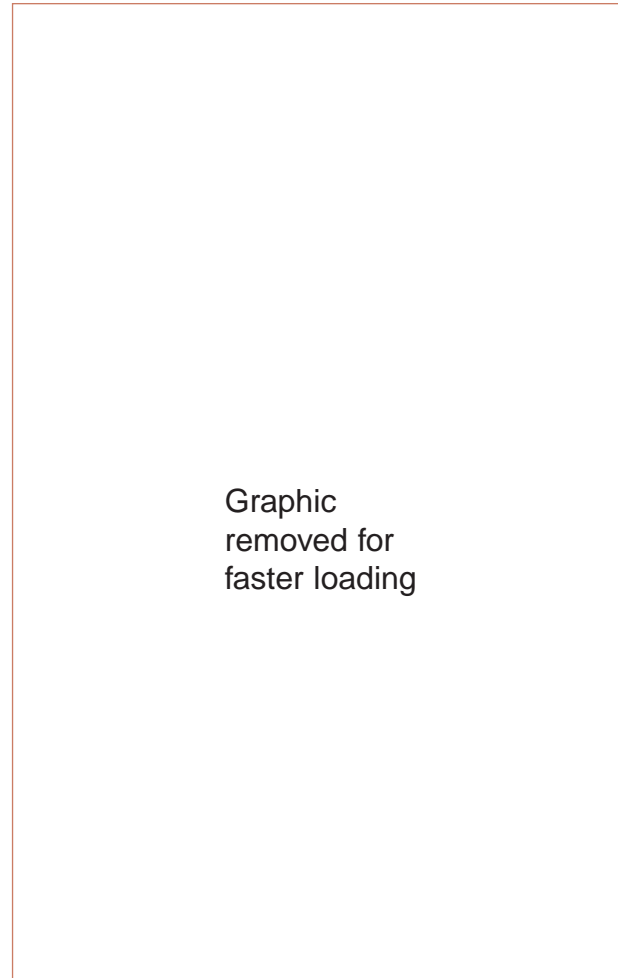
Facts

- The summer of 1988 was the driest in the park’s recorded history.
- More than 793,000 acres (36% of the park) were affected by fire.
- Fires begun outside of the park burned more than half of the total acreage.
- Humans caused 9 fires; lightning caused 42 fires.
- About 300 large mammals, primarily elk, perished.
- \$120 million was spent and 25,000 people participated in this fire-fighting effort, the largest in U.S. history.
- This huge effort saved human life and property, but had little impact on the fires themselves.
- Rain and snow finally stopped the advance of the fires in September.

Aftermath

The 1988 fires created a mosaic of burns, partial burns, and unburned areas that provided new habitats for plants and animals and new realms for research. What scientists have learned:

- Fertile soils with good water-holding capacity and dense, diverse vegetation before the fire recovered quickly.
- Grasslands returned to their pre-fire appearance within a few years.
- Many of the burned forests were mature lodgepole; this species is recolonizing most of the burned areas.
- The first seedlings of Engelmann spruce, subalpine fir, Douglas-fir, and whitebark pine have emerged.
- Aspen reproduction has increased because fire stimulated the growth of suckers from the aspen’s underground root system and left behind bare mineral soil that provides good conditions for aspen seedlings.



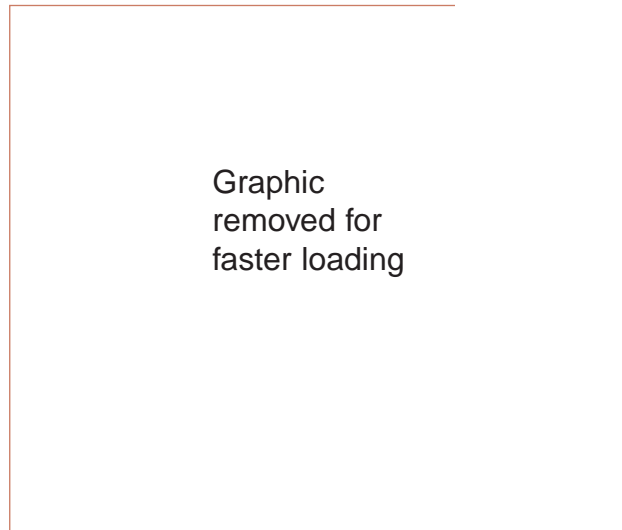
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In 2001, the Arthur Fire (left) was started by lightning. Although it had a natural cause and was within the park, it was fought because it threatened buildings (including homes) at the East Entrance of Yellowstone National Park and in nearby communities.

Yellowstone Fire Facts

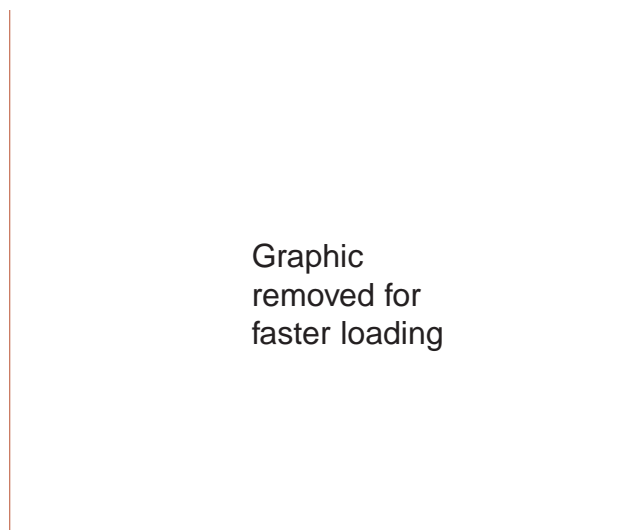
- Large fires burn through forests of Yellowstone every 250–400 years.
- Large fires burn the park’s grasslands every 25–60 years.
- Plants in the park, such as lodgepole pine and aspen, are adapted to fire.
- Lightning starts an average of 22 fires each year.
- 80% of naturally started fires go out by themselves.
- Suppressing fires reduces the number and variety of plant and animal species.
- Until the 1970s, park managers believed they had to extinguish fires to preserve park resources.
- Scientific research changed these beliefs and in 1972, Yellowstone began allowing most natural fires to burn.
- Between 1972 and 1987, 234 fires burned nearly 35,000 acres—most in two dry years, 1979 and 1981.
- The 1988 fires brought management changes and new opportunities for research (see at left).
- Yellowstone now follows the National Fire Plan, described above.

Burned in 1988



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The same location in 1989



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- Some of the grasses that elk eat were more nutritious after the fires.
- Bears grazed more frequently at burned than unburned sites.
- The fires have had no observable impact on the number of grizzly bears in greater Yellowstone.
- Cavity-nesting birds, such as bluebirds, had more dead trees for their nests; birds dependent on mature forests, such as boreal owls, lost habitat.
- No fire-related effects have been observed in the fish populations or the angling experience in the six rivers that have been monitored regularly since 1988.
- Vegetation growth has slowed erosion in watersheds that had erosion and mudslides after the fires, such as the Gibbon River.

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Flight of the Nez Perce

125 years ago—August 1877—the Nez Perce crossed Yellowstone as they fled the U.S. Army. The dotted brown line on the map traces their 1,170 mile route of their ill-fated flight from Oregon to the end near Canada.

Summer 1877 brought tragedy to the Nez Perce (or Nee-me-poo). On June 15 of that year, a band of 800 men, women, and children—plus almost 2000 horses—fled their homeland in what is now Oregon and Idaho toward Canada. Settlers were moving into their homeland and the U.S. Government was trying to force them onto a reservation. At Big Hole, Montana, many of their group, including women and children, were killed in a battle with the Army. The remainder of the group continued fleeing, and entered Yellowstone National Park on the evening of August 23rd. During the two weeks they crossed the park, the Nez Perce encountered all 25 people known to be visiting the new park at that time, some more than once. Warriors took hostage or attacked several of these tourist parties. The group continued traveling through the park and over the Absaroka Mountains into Montana. The Army stopped them in the foothills of the Bear's Paw Mountains, less than 40 miles from the Canadian border, in October. Some Nez Perce escaped into Canada, but the remaining 350 tribal members surrendered after a six-day battle. This is where Chief Joseph spoke his famous words, "From where the sun now stands, I will fight no more forever." The 1,170-mile flight had ended.

Today, the flight of the Nez Perce is commemorated at 38 sites in Washington, Oregon, Idaho, and Montana as part of the Nez Perce National Historical Park.

The sites include Big Hole National Battlefield and Bear Paw Battlefield, a National Historic Landmark. Congress has recognized the trail's national significance by designating it as the Nez Perce (Nee-me-poo) National Historic Trail. This designation includes the portion traversing the park, which today crosses or approaches the main park road in four places: Nez Perce Creek, Otter Creek, Nez Perce Ford, and Indian Pond. To learn more about the Nez Perce National Historic Trail, visit the website at www.fs.fed.us/npnht.

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Winter Use Plan

The National Park Service is currently conducting a supplemental environmental impact statement (SEIS) process for winter use planning. The purpose of the SEIS process is to solicit more public comment and to consider new information. The draft SEIS for Yellowstone and Grand Teton National Parks, and the John D. Rockefeller, Jr., Memorial Parkway analyzed the current decision to ban snowmobile use in the three national park areas as well as two alternatives to the ban. A final SEIS will be available in mid February 2003 and a record of decision is expected to be signed in mid March 2003.

There will be some changes in effect for the winter season of 2002-2003. In Yellowstone, some secondary routes that have been open to snowmobiles will be designated for snowcoach-only use. Specific hours of operation for snowmobile and snowcoach use will be 8 AM to 9 PM.

Find out more information online at: www.nps.gov/yell/technical/planning/index.htm; or contact Yellowstone's planning office: Planning, P.O. Box 168, Yellowstone National Park, Wyoming 82190; 307-344-2021; yell_winter_use@nps.gov.

Explore the Park With the Yellowstone Association Institute

For more than 25 years, the Yellowstone Association Institute has provided visitors with in-depth learning experiences that are both educational and fun.

The Institute's fall and winter schedule features field courses on wolves, wilderness medicine, avalanche safety, nature writing, winter ecology, snow tracking, snowshoeing, skiing, coyotes, and winter photography. Courses are taught by distinguished experts including National Park Service resource managers, University professors, professional nature photographers, and award-winning authors. Fall/winter field courses last from two to nine days and range from 10 to 24 students. Most courses are conducted at the Lamar Valley Buffalo Ranch where accommodations are available in simple and comfortable log cabins.

The Institute also offers a series of "Lodging and Learning" programs in cooperation with Xanterra Parks and Resorts. Lodging and Learning programs are educational packages that include instruction by an Institute naturalist/guide, breakfast and box lunch daily, accommodations at park hotels, ski/snowshoe rental, and in-park transportation. The Lodging and Learning programs for this winter are:

- **Yellowstone for Families—Winter:** three days discovering winter in Yellowstone with an expert naturalist.
- **Winter Wolf Discovery:** two days searching for Yellowstone's charismatic wolves with an Institute wolf biologist.
- **Winter Wildlife Expedition:** two days learning about the abundant and varied wildlife of Yellowstone's Northern Range.
- **Wonderland:** five days exploring Yellowstone's winter environment on skis, snowshoes, and during interpretive snowcoach trips to Old Faithful and Canyon.
- **Yellowstone On Skis:** five days of interpretive ski tours exploring the geyser basins, the wildlife-rich northern range, and Yellowstone's Grand Canyon.

The Institute is sponsored by the Yellowstone Association, a non-profit organization whose mission is to foster the public's understanding, enjoyment, and appreciation of Yellowstone National Park by funding and providing educational products and services. To obtain information or register for a course, contact the Institute registrar at 307-344-2294 or registrar@yellowstoneassociation.org or online at www.yellowstoneassociation.org.

Autumn 2002

Grand Teton National Park

Make time for a visit to our neighbor to the south, Grand Teton National Park. This park offers spectacular scenery and its own campgrounds, exhibits, and activities. Consult the park newspaper, *Teewinot*, for complete information. Newspapers are available at Grand Teton visitor centers and entrance stations.

Campgrounds—First come, first served; camping fee is \$12 per night. Advanced reservations are not accepted. Campgrounds fill to capacity during July and August. For current status of campgrounds, ask at entrance stations or visitor centers in Grand Teton National Park. Approximate filling times and operating dates are as follows:

Gros Ventre (360 sites)	Evening or may not fill	4/29–10/17 (noon)
Jenny Lake (49 sites)	8 AM	5/13–9/20 (noon)
Signal Mountain (86 sites)	10 AM	5/10–10/14 (noon)
Colter Bay (350 sites)	12 noon	5/20–9/27 (noon)
Lizard Creek (60 sites)	2 PM	6/10–9/3 (noon)

Jenny Lake is open to tents only. Other campgrounds accommodate tents, trailers, and recreational vehicles (28-foot restriction at Signal Mt.). All campgrounds have modern comfort stations, but none have utility hookups. The maximum length of stay is 7 days at Jenny Lake and 14 days at all other NPS campgrounds.

Lodging—Make your reservations directly, using these phone numbers:

Jenny Lake Lodge (June 1–Oct. 6)	307-733-4647
Colter Bay Cabins & RV Park (May 24–Sept. 29)	800-628-9988
Flagg Ranch Village (May 24–Sept. 29)	307-543-2861
	or 800-443-2311
Jackson Lake Lodge (May 19–Oct. 9)	800-628-9988
Signal Mt. Lodge (May 11–Oct. 13)	800-672-6012
Dornan's Cabins (all year)	307-733-2522

Lodging can also be found in communities surrounding Grand Teton.

Colter Bay Visitor Center & Indian Arts Museum—Through Sept. 2, 8 AM–8 PM; Sept. 3–29, 8 AM–5 PM; closed for the season thereafter. Information, audiovisual programs, permits, and publication sales. Phone: 307-739-3594. TDD: 307-739-3544.

Flagg Ranch Information Station—Through September 2, 9 AM–5:30 PM. Closed for the season thereafter.

Jenny Lake Ranger Station—Through September 2, 8 AM–6 PM. September 3–22, 8 AM–4:30 PM. Closed for the season thereafter. Backcountry permits and climbing information. Phone: 307-739-3343.

Jenny Lake Visitor Center—Through September 2, 8 AM–7 PM; closed for the season thereafter. Information, publication sales. Phone: 307-739-3392.

Moose Visitor Center—Open year-round. Through September 2, 8 AM–7 PM; 8 AM–5 PM thereafter. Information, audiovisual programs, exhibits, permits, publication sales. Phone: 307-739-3399. Telecommunications device for the deaf only (TDD): 307-739-3400.

Clinic—Grand Teton Clinic, located near Jackson Lake Lodge. Daily, through Oct. 9, 10 AM–6 PM. Closed for the season thereafter. Call 307-543-2514 or after hours 307-733-8002.

Emergency: dial 911.

Hiking, sightseeing, boating, floating the Snake River, horseback riding, and fishing are available depending on seasonal conditions. Backcountry camping requires a free permit from the Moose and Colter Bay visitor centers and the Jenny Lake Ranger Station. Boating requires a Grand Teton boating permit, sold at visitor centers. A Wyoming fishing license is required to fish in Grand Teton National Park.

For Grand Teton information, call 307-739-3300 or visit the website, www.nps.gov/grte

Nearby Public Lands

Big Hole National Battlefield	406-689-3155
Bighorn Canyon National Recreation Area	406-666-2412
Bridger-Teton National Forest	307-739-5500
Caribou-Targhee National Forest	208-624-3151
Gallatin National Forest	406-587-6701
Glacier National Park	406-888-7800
Grand Teton National Park	307-739-3300
Grant-Kohrs Ranch National Historic Site	406-846-3388
Little Bighorn Battlefield National Monument	406-638-2621
Shoshone National Forest	307-527-6241
Virginia City National Historic Site	406-843-5247

Area Communities

Services are available in communities near Yellowstone. For information, contact these Chambers of Commerce:

Montana

Big Sky	406-995-3000
Billings	406-245-4111
Bozeman	406-586-5421
Cooke City–Silver Gate	406-838-2495
Gardiner	406-848-7971
Livingston	406-222-0850
Red Lodge	406-446-1718
West Yellowstone	406-646-7701
Lodging only	406-646-9488

Wyoming

Cody	307-587-2297
Dubois	307-455-2556
East Yellowstone/Wapiti Valley	307-587-9595
Jackson	307-733-3316
Idaho	
Idaho Falls	208-523-1010
Eastern Idaho Visitor Information Center	800-634-3246

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You Can Help Preserve and Protect Yellowstone

In our increasingly crowded and developed world, Yellowstone National Park provides a source of refuge and renewal for those who enter its quiet places. The park's magnificent wilderness areas offer a glimpse of what our continent was like when humans first gazed in wonder upon its steaming geysers, thundering waterfalls, and abundant wildlife. However, Yellowstone exists today only because generations who came before us understood its value and made its preservation a priority.

Because so many visitors who love Yellowstone want to help ensure that it stands wild and unimpaired for our future, two separate organizations have been established. The Yellowstone Park Foundation and the Yellowstone Association work in partnership with the National Park Service and each other to provide a means for visitors to contribute to Yellowstone's preservation. Please help us do the very best we can to protect and preserve this national treasure. Your contribution to either organization will designate you as a true friend of Yellowstone; contributors of \$1,000 or more will have their names displayed on the park's Honor Wall at Old Faithful, receiving special recognition as stewards and benefactors of Yellowstone National Park. Yellowstone will exist tomorrow as one of America's most treasured places only if our generation understands its value and makes its preservation our priority.

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Yellowstone Park Foundation

The Yellowstone Park Foundation is dedicated to funding projects that protect, preserve, and enhance Yellowstone National Park. Its mission is to raise money for important projects and programs in Yellowstone that otherwise would go unfunded, due to shrinking federal budgets and a \$600–700 million operating and infrastructure backlog for the park.

Since January 1997 the Foundation has raised in excess of \$13 million to fund more than 55 projects for Yellowstone. Current and ongoing projects include:

- New interpretive exhibits for the museum at Fishing Bridge;
- A Lynx Population Study to help conserve this threatened species of wild cat;
- The Yellowstone Wolf Project, which monitors the habits, habitat needs, and

ecological impacts of the park's wolf packs;

- A new Visitor Education Center to replace the outdated and inadequate visitor center at Old Faithful (see page 3).

Now more than ever, Yellowstone needs your help! The Yellowstone Park Foundation receives no annual government funding; it relies on the generous contributions of private individuals, foundations, and corporations. For a donation of \$50 or more, you will receive a special premium gift. Donors of \$25 or more are recognized in Yellowstone's Honor Book at Old Faithful for one year. Individuals who donate \$1,000 or more are recognized on the Wall of Honor for one year.

Please help protect the park's wildlife and wonders by becoming a Friend of Yellowstone.

Yes, make me a Friend of Yellowstone National Park!

Contributor \$25 Supporter \$50 Guardian \$100 Steward \$1,000 Other

Enclosed is a tax-deductible gift of _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone () _____ E-mail _____

Charge to: MC Visa

Credit Card # _____ Exp. Date _____

Make checks payable to The Yellowstone Park Foundation.

The Yellowstone Park Foundation

222 East Main, Suite 301
Bozeman, MT 59715 406-586-6303
or visit our website at www.ypf.org

Yellowstone Association

Join us!

as a partner in preserving and protecting Yellowstone through education!

Join us!

in any Yellowstone Association bookstore in park visitor centers and browse through our extensive selection of **books, maps, and videos!**

Our games, puzzles, and activity books will delight your children and help them learn more about Yellowstone's wildlife and geology.

Join us!

in the Old Faithful Visitor Center to view a **spectacular new film** provided to visitors by the Yellowstone Association!

Learn about the massive volcanic hotspot just under your feet which shaped Yellowstone and fuels hot springs and geysers today!

Join us!

in a Yellowstone Association **Institute class!**

Yellowstone is the teacher, Mother Nature supplies the classroom materials, and the Yellowstone Association Institute provides an experienced and capable instructor.

Join us!

to receive many **benefits available only to members!**

Benefits include educational quarterly Yellowstone Association newsletters, plus discounts on your Association purchases, Institute classes, and selected park lodging. Proceeds from your Yellowstone Association purchase and membership fund a wide range of educational and preservation programs. A beautiful Yellowstone bookbag is free to all who join in park visitor centers.

Join us! and join the thousands who are already helping preserve and protect Yellowstone National Park through education.

Yellowstone Association
P.O. Box 117, Yellowstone National Park, WY 82190 (307) 344-2293
www.YellowstoneAssociation.org ya@YellowstoneAssociation.org

Autumn 2002

Comprehensive Medical Care in a Wilderness Setting

Lake Clinic, Pharmacy, & Hospital

May 20–September 15
Emergency Room: 24-hour service
Clinic hours: 8:30 AM–8:30 PM, daily
Phone: 307-242-7241

Old Faithful Clinic

May 10–October 13
Hours: 8:30 AM–5 PM
Phone: 307-545-7325

Mammoth Clinic

Open year-round
8:30 AM–1 PM; 2 PM–5 PM,
Monday–Friday;
closed Wednesday afternoons
Phone: 307-344-7965

- Board Certified physicians
- Prompt personal, family, and emergency medical care
- For emergencies, dial 911

Yellowstone Park Medical Services

A division of West Park Hospital—

Cody, Wyoming

We're there when you need us!

Yellowstone Park Medical Services

Yellowstone Park Medical Services Division of West Park Hospital in Cody, Wyoming, has offered medical care to Yellowstone's visitors, employees, and residents since 1980.

At the Mammoth Clinic, a board-certified physician provides year-round health care to the Yellowstone Park community. Experienced registered nurses and office staff complete the team, offering courteous, professional family and emergency medical care.

In the summer, the operation grows to meet the needs of the park's increased number of visitors and the employees who serve them. Outpatient services are provided at Lake Hospital and Old Faithful Clinic as well as at Mammoth Clinic.

Lake Hospital is also an acute-care facility with ten inpatient beds, clinical laboratory, pharmacy, radiology, and 24-hour ambulance and emergency services. The staff is assembled from highly qualified, experienced professionals from across the country.

For information on employment for the 2003 season (both professional and nonprofessional positions are available), send a resume to: Yellowstone Park Medical Services, 707 Sheridan Avenue, Cody, WY 82414 or call 800-654-9447, ext. 462.

Some images in this newspaper as well as some images appearing in ranger-led programs throughout Yellowstone National Park were made possible, in part, by a grant from the National Park Foundation through the generous support of Kodak—Proud Partner of America's National Parks.

Yellowstone Credit Card Will Benefit the Park

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The Yellowstone Park Foundation and Elan Financial Services have created the new Yellowstone Visa® credit card. The card is giving individuals who love Yellowstone the opportunity to

The new Yellowstone Visa® credit card features this photograph of bull moose by wilderness photographer Tom Murphy

help protect and preserve the park. ♦ Elan will donate a portion of every purchase made with the Yellowstone Visa card to the Yellowstone Park Foundation at no additional cost to the cardholder. The money raised from the credit card program will help fund projects in Yellowstone that are beyond the financial capacity of the National Park Service. ♦ The Yellowstone Visa card features a low introductory APR, seasonal discounts with advance reservations at select Yellowstone National Park Lodges, and many other benefits. ♦ To apply for the card over the phone, or to request an application, call 888-327-2265 and ask for extension 8300. ♦ To apply for the Yellowstone Visa online, log onto the Yellowstone Park Foundation's website at www.ypf.org.

Hamilton Stores, Inc

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Serving the traveling public since 1915, Hamilton Stores, Inc., offers a wide variety of merchandise, including Yellowstone souvenirs, gifts, film and photo supplies, souvenir T-shirts and sweatshirts, winter accessories, groceries, and food, including hot and cold beverages, beer, and liquor.

The Mammoth General Store is open year-round to serve the traveling public and, for your convenience, is an authorized UPS shipping agent.

Hamilton Stores—Oldest Park Concessioner

The 1872 Act that set the park aside “for the benefit and enjoyment of the people, and the protection of the natural and scenic treasures therein” also granted leases for the various concessioners who served the public. For the first decade of the park's official existence, no lease to sell general store merchandise was issued. Then, in 1882, Henry E. Klamer applied for and received permits to provide fresh meat to camps and hotels, to pasture and slaughter beef cattle, operate a dairy herd, and to open a general store in the Old Faithful area of the park.

In 1915, a year after the Klamer General Store was purchased by Charles Ashworth Hamilton, horse transportation in Yellowstone reached its zenith. Three thousand “hayburners” pulled Yellowstone wagons, coaches, surreys, freight wagons, and—grandest of all—double-decker 26-passenger Tallyhos or stagecoaches. However, autos were allowed into the park for the first time that year, and Charles Hamilton quickly

spotted the tire marks in the dirt. In the next five years he acquired store concessions at Lake and Fishing Bridge, and he built filling stations at each location. This was the start of what was to become the oldest, privately owned family concession in the National Park system, serving the traveling public for more than 75 years.

Hamilton Stores invites you to visit its locations for a bit of that history—most especially, the original store at Old Faithful (the Lower Basin Store) and the General Store in the Lake area. The upper store at Old Faithful and the Fishing Bridge General Store also convey rustic charm. The newest store, Grant Village General Store, was built and decorated with the crafts of many Montana artisans. The general store at Mammoth Hot Springs, open year-round, can also be seen in historic photos from around the turn-of-the-century with horse-drawn stagecoaches and people in period dress in front of the store.

Autumn 2002

Let It Snow!

As you travel through Yellowstone this fall, picture this landscape covered in glistening snow. Clear blue skies, crisp mountain air, abundant wildlife, and seemingly more steam in the geyser basins than you've ever seen. Imagine skiing through the solitude with a knowledgeable guide, discovering for yourself the secret side of Yellowstone. You can make this dream a reality by taking part in one of our winter **"Lodging and Learning" programs**, offered through a unique partnership between Yellowstone National Park Lodges (Xanterra Parks & Resorts) and the Yellowstone Association Institute. These multi-day packages, all designed to help you make a deeper connection with Yellowstone, include lodging, breakfasts and lunches, in-park transportation, daily naturalist-led adventures via skis or snowshoes, and optional evening programs:

- *Wonderland* provides a comprehensive overview of winter in Yellowstone, its wildlife and geysers. Includes 3 nights at Mammoth Hot Springs Hotel, and 2 nights at Old Faithful Snow Lodge.

- *Winter Wolf Discovery* focuses on learning about and observing Yellowstone's wolves in the wild. Includes 2 nights at Mammoth Hot Springs Hotel.
- *Yellowstone On Skis* offers naturalist guided cross-country skiing on ski trails in the park. Features 3 nights at Mammoth Hot Springs Hotel and 2 nights at Old Faithful Snow Lodge.
- **New!** *Winter Wildlife Expedition* lets you discover the abundant and varied wildlife of Yellowstone's northern range first hand. Includes 2 nights at Mammoth Hot Springs Hotel.
- **New!** *Yellowstone for Families* offers the chance to explore the lesser-known Yellowstone while reconnecting with your family. Features 3 nights at Mammoth Hot Springs Hotel.

For program details and reservations, call 307-344-5566, or visit www.yellowstoneassociation.org/institute/packages/index.htm.

Winter in Yellowstone. Don't just see it, experience it!

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IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

EMERGENCY: 911

Lodging, dining, camping, activities: 307-344-7311 or TDD 307-344-5395

Park Information: 307-344-7381

Yellowstone Today

is produced by the Division of Interpretation, National Park Service, Yellowstone National Park, in cooperation with the Yellowstone Association and park concessioners. We welcome your comments about the paper. Write to us at Yellowstone Today, P.O. Box 168, Yellowstone, WY 82190.

YPSS Yellowstone Park Service Stations

Yellowstone Park Service Stations has been serving Yellowstone visitors since 1947. We offer quality petroleum products at seven service stations located throughout Yellowstone. See page 15 for dates of operation for YPSS stations.

Tires • Batteries • Automobile Accessories

LP Gas is available at Fishing Bridge and Grant Village. Towing and repair services are available at Old Faithful, Grant Village, Fishing Bridge, and Canyon.

Conoco, Master Card, Visa, Discover, and American Express credit cards are accepted.

YPSS Celebrates Yellowstone Explorers of Yesteryear and Today

In the 1850s, late spring snows thwarted the efforts of Captain William F. Reynolds of the Corps of Topographical Engineers to cross the Yellowstone Plateau. Lamenting his circumstances, Capt. Reynolds wrote:

We were compelled to content ourselves with listening to marvelous tales of burning plains, immense lakes, and boiling springs without being able to verify these wonders. I know of but two white men who claim to have visited this part of the Yellowstone valley—James Bridger and Robert Meldrum. The narratives of both of these men are very remarkable, and Bridger in one of his recitals describes an immense boiling spring that is the very counterpart of the geysers of Iceland. . . . I have little doubt that he spoke of what he had actually seen. The burning plains described by these men may be volcanic, or

more probably beds of lignite, similar to those on Powder River, which are known to be in a state of ignition. Bridger also insisted that immediately west [north] of the point at which we made our final effort to penetrate this singular valley, there is a stream of considerable size, which divides and flows down either side of the watershed, thus discharging its waters into both the Atlantic and Pacific oceans. Having seen this phenomenon on a small scale in the highlands of Maine, where a rivulet discharges a portion of its waters into the Atlantic and the remainder into the St. Lawrence, I am prepared to concede that Bridger's "Two Ocean River" may be a verity.

We trust your exploration of Yellowstone will satisfy your desire to see and experience all of the things Capt. Reynolds only heard about.

Autumn 2002

Bridge Bay

Stores

Bridge Bay Marina Store (general store, light meals, snacks, & fast foods): May 31–September 15

Other Services

Bridge Bay Marina—Dock rental: May 24–September 15
Scenicruiser excursions: June 1–September 15
Outboards, guide boats: June 15–September 8

Canyon

Lodging

Canyon Lodge—Rooms: May 31–September 15;
Western cabins: May 31–September 8;
Pioneer/Frontier cabins: May 31–August 26

Food Services

Canyon Lodge Dining Room: May 31–September 15
Canyon Lodge Cafeteria: May 31–August 26
Canyon Picnic Shop—(light meals, snacks, & fast foods):
May 31–September 15

Stores

**Canyon Nature Store (light meals, snacks, fast foods, photo shop, gifts, & souvenirs): April 26–October 20
Canyon General Store (light meals, snacks, & fast foods):
May 18–September 29
Canyon Lodge Gift Shop: May 31–September 15

Service Stations

***Canyon Village: May 3–November 3
Canyon Repair Service: May 24–September 2
Wrecker service: May 3–November 3

Other Services

Canyon Village Camper Services—Showers and laundry:
May 31–September 8
Trail rides: June 22–August 31

Fishing Bridge

Stores

Fishing Bridge RV Park Gift Shop: May 17–September 29
**Fishing Bridge General Store (general store, light meals, snacks, & fast foods): May 11–September 22

Service Stations

***Fishing Bridge Service Station: May 10–September 22
Fishing Bridge Repair Service: May 24–September 2
Wrecker service: May 24–September 2
Fishing Bridge LP Gas Plant: May 10–September 16

Other Services

Fishing Bridge RV Park—Showers and laundry: May 17–September 29

Grant Village

Lodging

Grant Village—Rooms: May 24–September 29

Food Services

*Grant Village Restaurant: May 24–September 29
Lake House at Grant: May 24–September 22

Stores

Grant Village Ministore (general store, light meals, snacks, & fast foods): May 10–September 30
Grant Village General Store (general store, light meals, snacks, & fast foods): May 25–September 24
Grant Village Gift Shop: May 24–September 29

Service Stations

***Grant Village Service Station: May 17–September 28
Grant Village Repair Service: May 24–September 2
Wrecker service: May 24–September 22
Grant Village LP Gas Plant: May 17–September 28

Other Services

Grant Village Camper Services—Showers and laundry:
June 21–September 29

Lake Yellowstone

Lodging

Lake Yellowstone Hotel—Rooms, cabins: May 17–October 7
Lake Lodge—Cabins: June 10–September 22

Food Services

* Lake Yellowstone Hotel Dining Room: May 17–October 7
Lake Lodge Cafeteria: June 10–September 22
Lake Yellowstone Hotel Deli: May 17–October 7

Stores

Lake General Store (general store, light meals, snacks, & fast foods):
May 17–October 6
Lake Yellowstone Hotel Gift Shop: May 17–October 7
Lake Lodge Gift Shop: June 10–September 22

Other Services

Lake Hospital, Clinic, and Pharmacy: May 20–September 15; 307-242-7241
Lake Lodge—Laundry: June 10–September 22

Mammoth Hot Springs

Lodging

Mammoth Hot Springs Hotel—Rooms and cabins: May 3–October 7

Food Services

Mammoth Hot Springs Hotel Dining Room: May 3–Oct. 7
Mammoth Terrace Grill: May 3–October 13

Stores

Mammoth General Store (general store, light meals, snacks, & fast foods): Open year-round
Mammoth Hot Springs Hotel Gift Shop: May 3–October 7

Service Stations

***Mammoth Hot Springs Service Station: May 8–Oct. 7

Other Services

Trail rides: May 18–September 15
Mammoth Clinic: Open year-round; five days a week; 8:30 AM–5PM, closed 1–2 PM; closed Wednesday afternoons. 307-344-7965
Mammoth Hot Springs Hotel—Showers: May 3–Oct. 7

Old Faithful

Lodging

Old Faithful Inn—Rooms: May 10–October 13
Old Faithful Snow Lodge—Rooms and cabins:
May 3–November 3
Old Faithful Lodge—Cabins: May 17–Sept. 15

Food Services

*Old Faithful Inn Dining Room: May 10–October 13
Old Faithful Inn, Pony Express Snack Shop: May 10–October 13
Old Faithful Snow Lodge Restaurant: May 3–November 3
Old Faithful Snow Lodge, Geyser Grill Fast Food:
May 17–November 3
Old Faithful Lodge Cafeteria: May 17–September 15
Old Faithful Lodge Snack Shops: May 17–September 22

Stores

Old Faithful Inn Gift Shop: May 10–October 13
Old Faithful Snow Lodge Gift Shop: May 3–November 3
Old Faithful Lodge Gift Shop: May 17–Sept. 29
**Old Faithful Photo Shop (light meals, snacks, fast foods, photo shop, gifts, & souvenirs): April 19–October 20
Old Faithful Basin Lower Store (general store, light meals, snacks, & fast foods): May 3–October 13
Old Faithful Basin Upper Store (general store, light meals, snacks, & fast foods): May 10–October 1

Service Stations

***Old Faithful, Lower Service Station: April 19–November 3
Old Faithful, Upper Service Station: May 24–August 19
Old Faithful Repair Service: May 24–August 19
Wrecker service: April 19–November 3

Other Services

Old Faithful Clinic: May 10–October 13; 307-545-7325
Old Faithful Lodge—Showers: May 17–September 15

Roosevelt/Tower

Lodging

Roosevelt Lodge—Cabins: June 7–September 2

Food Services

Roosevelt Lodge Dining Room: June 7–September 2
Roosevelt Lodge Dinner Cookout: June 8–September 1

Stores

Roosevelt Store (general store, light meals, snacks, & fast foods):
June 7–September 1
Roosevelt Lodge Gift Shop: June 7–September 2
Tower Fall Store (general store, light meals, snacks, & fast foods):
May 24–September 23

Service Stations

Tower Junction Service Station: June 7–September 2

Other Services

Trail rides: June 7–September 1
Stagecoach Rides: June 7–September 1
Roosevelt Lodge—Showers: June 7–September 2

* Dinner reservations required. Inquire at any lodging front desk or dining room host stand.

** These locations offer one hour film processing.

*** Diesel fuel is available at these stations.

Reservations

CALL Xanterra Parks and Resorts,
307-344-7311 or TDD 307-344-5395, for lodging,
dining, camping, and activity reservations.
You can also make reservations at any lodging
front desk or activities desk.

Automatic Banking

24-hour cash available at the Fishing Bridge General Store, Grant Village General Store, Lake Yellowstone Hotel, Mammoth General Store, Mammoth Hotel, Old Faithful Inn, Old Faithful Snow Lodge, Old Faithful Upper Store, Canyon General Store, and Canyon Lodge. CIR-RUS and PLUS automatic network machines will be in service for cash anytime during the lodging facilities' seasons.

Medical Services

Lake Hospital, Clinic, and Pharmacy—May 20–September 15; daily,
8:30 AM–8:30 PM; 307-242-7241
Mammoth Clinic—Open year-round; five days a week, 8:30 AM–5PM,
closed 1–2 PM; ; closed Wednesday afternoons. 307-344-7965
Old Faithful Clinic—May 10–Oct. 13; 8:30 AM–5PM;
307-545-7325

Campgrounds

See page 6 for camping information; call for reservations or plan to select sites early in the day.

Guided Tours

The Yellowstone Association Institute and Xanterra Parks and Resorts offer a variety of guided tours throughout the park.

Backcountry Tours

Write to Yellowstone National Park, WY 82190 or call the National Park Service, 307-344-7381, for a list of certified outfitters.

Yellowstone Roads and Facilities

Park Information: 307-344-7381

TDD: 307-344-2386

Emergency: dial 911

Road Closing Schedule

Tower to Canyon via Dunraven Pass; Beartooth Pass (U.S. 212 to Red Lodge, MT)
October 15

All other park roads close for the season at 8 AM November 4 except the North Entrance to Cooke City road, which is open all year.

Dunraven Pass Road Construction

Possible half-hour delays until road closes for the season on October 15.

Norris-Madison Road Construction

Through Aug. 29
Closed 9 PM-9AM, 30-minute delays when open
Aug. 30-Sept. 2 (Labor Day Weekend)
Open without delays
Sept. 3-Nov. 3
Weekdays: Closed 10 AM-6 PM, 10 PM-6 AM; 30-minute delays when open
Weekends: Open with 30-minute delays

Hayden Valley Road Construction

Possible half-hour delays

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For a more detailed map & more wildlife and area information, consult the Yellowstone Official Map & Guide.

SPEED KILLS

more than 100 large mammals each year

SLOW DOWN

and save a life

www.nps.gov/yell • www.YellowstoneAssociation.org • www.TravelYellowstone.com

This map is courtesy of Conoco—providing petroleum products since 1917 . . .

All service stations in Yellowstone offer environmentally sensitive fuels, specially formulated by Conoco to reduce hydrocarbon emissions and decrease other pollution-related problems.