# Yellowstone Winter

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior



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**Park mission:** Preserved within Yellowstone National Park are Old Faithful and the majority of the world's geysers and hot springs. An outstanding mountain wildland with clean water and air, Yellowstone is home of the grizzly bear and wolf and free-ranging herds of bison and elk. Centuries-old sites and historic buildings that reflect the unique heritage of America's first national park are also protected. Yellowstone National Park serves as a model and inspiration for national parks throughout the world.

## Top 10 things to know

Welcome to Yellowstone. We're glad you're here.

As you enter the park, please become familiar with some of the rules and advisories that are important to a safe and enjoyable visit. More are described inside and online at

www.nps.gov/yell/planyourvisit/rules

Give wildlife a brake. Unless posted slower, top speed throughout the park is 35 mph (56 kph). To assure yourself enough stopping distance if you encounter animals unexpectedly, please slow down.

Watch from pullouts. If you see wildlife while driving, do not stop or impede the safe and free flow of traffic along any portion of the roadway. Instead, find the next established pullout, park, and watch from a safe distance.

Do not approach wildlife. You must stay at least 100 yards (91 m) from bears and wolves. A distance of 25 yards (23 m) is required from bison, elk, and other animals. Regardless of distance, if any animal changes its behavior due to your presence, you are too close.

Do not feed any wild animals, including birds and squirrels. Consuming human food is unhealthy and encourages aggressive behavior that may require management action. All food, trash, coolers, and cooking tools must be kept secure in a bear-proof container unless in immediate use.

Stay on designated trails and boardwalks. Ground in hydrothermal areas is fragile and thin, and there is scalding water just below. Visitors have fallen through and died here. Keep your children close at hand.

Be wary of icy surfaces. Hazardous conditions are common in winter. Take extra caution driving on roads, and walking on boardwalks, sidewalks, steps, and trails.

Unmanned aircraft are prohibited.

Launching, landing, or operating unmanned aircraft on lands and waters administered by the National Park Service is prohibited.

As you enjoy trails, **be bear aware.** Bears may still be active in winter. You are safer hiking with groups of three or more. In areas of low visibility, make noise to avoid surprise encounters. Do not run from a bear under any circumstance. Carry bear spray and know how to use it safely.

Control your pet. Pets are not allowed on trails or boardwalks, in the backcountry or hydrothermal basins. Where allowed, pets must be leashed and remain within 100 feet (30.5 m) of a road or parking area. Do not leave a pet unattended or tied to an object. Owners must bag and dispose of pet waste.

Cell phone service may be available in the developed areas at Canyon, Grant, Lake, Mammoth Hot Springs, Old Faithful, Tower, and the North and West entrances. Check with your provider for coverage areas. As a courtesy to others, please silence your mobile device while enjoying Yellowstone's natural features. Wi-Fi is available to visitors at the Mammoth Hotel lounge and the Old Faithful Snow Lodge for a fee.

## **Emergency** Dial 911

Information line 307-344-7381

TTY 307-344-2386

Road updates 307-344-2117

Medical services • Yellowstone is on 911 emergency service, including ambulances. Medical services are available year round at Mammoth Clinic (307-344-7965), except some holidays. Services are also offered at Lake Clinic (307-242-7241) May 23–September 20 and at Old Faithful Clinic (307-545-7325) May 16–October 3.

#### Lodging, dining, and activity reservations

Xanterra Parks & Resorts 866-439-7375 (toll free) or 307-344-7311. TTY 307-344-5395

www.YellowstoneNationalParkLodges.com

**Lost and found** • Call 307-344-5387 to report or retrieve items lost in lodging facilities. To report or retrieve items lost in other parts of the park, call 307-344-2109.

**Accessibility** • A printed guide for visitors who use wheelchairs is available at all visitor centers. To arrange for an ASL interpreter for NPS ranger-led programs, call 307-344-2251 at least three weeks in advance.

**All hazards NOAA weather radio** • If you have a weather radio receiver, tune to 162.425 MHz (Mammoth area) or 162.450 MHz (Lake area) to receive hazardous weather alerts. You can also check for updates posted at www.crh.noaa.gov/riw/nwr/

# Free NPS Geysers app



Discover the natural wonder of the most famous geyser of all, Old Faithful,

and other geysers with this free app that you can use during your visit to the park and at home. App access in the park is limited by cellular network availability.

#### **Features:**

- Shows predictions for up to six Yellowstone geysers—including Old Faithful
- Learn how geysers work and why some are predictable
- View eruptions via live streaming webcam
- Browse photo galleries of past eruptions
- Follow @YellowstoneNPS activity on Twitter, YouTube, and Flickr





Old Faithful

12:23<sub>pm</sub>





# Yellowstone's Winter Use Plan

Yellowstone National Park has implemented a long-term Winter Use Plan and final rule. This plan helps ensure that a winter visit to Yellowstone will be as special tomorrow as it is today.

The park's priorities are concise: conserve the resources and values that make Yellowstone special, and provide for enjoyment of those resources and values in a way which leaves them unimpaired for the enjoyment of future generations.

#### **Key changes**

- Starting December 2014, oversnow vehicles (OSVs) will be managed as "transportation events," either one snowcoach, or a group of up to 10 snowmobiles. Managing by transportation events, rather than absolute numbers of vehicles, will help reduce disturbances to wildlife and how frequently OSVs can be heard.
- The park will be cleaner and quieter because snowmobiles and snowcoaches are now required to meet more stringent environmental protection standards for

- noise and exhaust emissions. Snowmobiles must meet new best available technology (BAT) standards that are significantly lower than the amount of noise and air pollution existing BAT snowmobiles make. In addition, snowcoaches will also be required to meet BAT standards.
- Limited numbers of individuals and groups are allowed to access the park without a commercial guide. Through the "Noncommercially Guided Snowmobile Access Program," one non-commercially guided group of up to five snowmobiles a day will be permitted through each of the four oversnow entrances. www.nps.gov/yell/parkmgmt/ngsap.
- The park will work with interested parties and stakeholders to develop and implement an Adaptive Management Program, which will combine science with public input to ensure OSV impacts stay within limits predicted in the final plan.

For more information visit www.nps.gov/yell/planyourvisit/winteruse.

Enjoy your time in this spectacular place.

## **Snowmobile regulations**



Your guide knows the regulations, but you should be aware of them too.

- All snowmobilers must be led by a guide authorized by the National Park Service (NPS) to operate in Yellowstone National Park.
- All snowmobiles must meet NPS sound and emission requirements.
- Snowmobile operators must have a valid state motor vehicle driver's license in possession. Learner permits are not sufficient.
- Roads are open only 7 AM to 9 PM. Snowmobiles are not allowed to operate in the park between 9 PM and 7 AM.
- Maximum speed limit is 35 mph for snowmobiles, 25 mph for snowcoaches, or less where posted or as conditions warrant.
- · Use hand signals when turning or stopping.
- Allow enough distance between snowmobiles when traveling.
- · Pass only when safe.

- If you turn around, stay within the road width
- Drive in single file, on the right side of the road even if the road is rough.
- When stopping, pull to the far right and park in single file.
- Do not idle your machine more than three minutes.
- Stay on designated roads. Sidehilling, bermriding, or any off-road travel is prohibited and carries a fine of up to \$5,000.
- Report accidents to a ranger.
- Operating a snowmobile while intoxicated is illegal. Possession of open alcoholic beverage containers, including bota bags, is illegal.

#### Wild animals have the right of way

If bison or other wildlife are on the road, stop at least 25 yards away (100 yards for wolves or bears). Pull your machine as far as possible to the opposite side of the road and give them a chance to move off the road.



If bison or other wildlife are on the road, stop at least 25 yards away (100 yards for wolves or bears). Pull your machine as far as possible to the opposite side of the road and give them a chance to move off the road. Do not make sudden or erratic movements.

- Do not chase animals or cause them to run. If an animal appears agitated, do not attempt to pass. It may charge.
- If animals walk or run toward you and you cannot turn around, get off your machine and stand to the side of it, keeping the machine between you and the animals.
- If animals are standing calmly, your guide may inch toward them and assess their behavior. You may be able to pass on the opposite side of the road at a slow speed.







25 yards (23 m)

100 yards (91 m)

# These activities are prohibited within Yellowstone

- Willfully remaining near or approaching wildlife, including nesting birds, within any distance that disturbs or displaces the animal.
- Traveling off boardwalks or designated trails in hydrothermal areas.
- Throwing anything into thermal features.
- Swimming in hot springs.
- Removing or possessing natural or cultural resources (such as wildflowers, antlers, rocks, and arrowheads).
- Leaving detachable side mirrors attached when not pulling trailers.

- Traveling off-road by vehicle or bicycle (including snowbikes).
- Camping outside of designated areas.
- Spotlighting wildlife (viewing with lights).
- Imitating elk calls or using buglers. Imitating wolf howls.
- Using electronic equipment capable of tracking wildlife.

For more information, consult 36 CFR and the Superintendent's Compendium posted online at www.nps.gov/yell/parkmgmt/ lawsandpolicies

#### **Unmanned aircraft prohibited**

Launching, landing, or operating unmanned aircraft on lands and waters administered by the National Park Service is prohibited. Please check at a Visitor Center or Ranger Station for further information.



**Park Tip Line** • To report details of a crime or criminal activity please call 307-344-2132. Leave as much

information as you can. Remain anonymous, or leave a name and number. To immediately reach a ranger call 307-344-7381 and dial "0."

# Firearms—know your responsibilities.

Firearms are allowed in national parks pursuant to state and federal regulation. They are prohibited in facilities where signs are posted, such as visitor centers, government offices, and some concession operations. Discharge of firearms is prohibited. Possession and use of weapons, such as air guns, bows and arrows, spears and slingshots, is also prohibited. Details are available at www.nps.gov/yell/parkmgmt/lawsandpolicies

## Keep your food secure

Do not feed any wildlife, including small mammals and birds. Consuming human food is unhealthy and encourages aggressive behavior that may require animals to be destroyed.



All food, trash, and scented items must be kept bear-proof at all times. Tents, truck beds, and picnic tables are not secure. In some areas, ravens have learned how to unzip packs and scatter the contents.

None of these items, even if clean and empty, may be left unattended at any time:

- Water and beverage containers
- Cooking or eating utensils
- Stoves and grills
- Coolers and ice chests
- Garbage—bagged or not
- Food, including condiments, even if in containers
- Cosmetics and toiletries
- Pet food and bowls
- Pails, buckets, and wash basins

### Stay on boardwalks



You must stay on boardwalks and official trails around hydrothermal features. The ground surface is thin, and often overlies scalding water. Visitors have died here.

# These activities require a permit

- · Overnight backcountry camping
- Travel with a service animal in the backcountry
- All commercial services
- Commercially and non-commercially guided snowmobile
- Still photography with props or models; commercial filming and photography regardless of equipment
- Stock entry into the park requires Coggins testing

# For your health

- Toxic gases may exist at dangerous levels in some hydrothermal areas. If you feel sick, leave immediately.
- Much of the park is above 7,500 feet (2,275 m). Allow yourself time to acclimate and drink plenty of liquids to avoid dehydration. Be aware of your physical limitations and don't overexert. Visitors with cardiac or respiratory medical history may wish to consult a physician before a visit.

## **Programs for young people**



#### **Junior Ranger Program**

Children ages 4 and older can become a Yellowstone Junior Ranger. Get the Junior Ranger activity book for \$3 at a visitor center and ask for the free winter supplement. Hike, ski or snowshoe a trail, attend a ranger-led program, and complete fun activities in the Junior Ranger book to earn an official Junior Ranger patch.

#### **Expedition: Yellowstone!**

Teachers and their classes are invited to participate in this curriculum-based residential program. Through field investigations, hikes, creative dramatics, journal writing, and group discussions, students learn about the park's natural and cultural resources. Find out more at www.nps.gov/yell/forteachers

## **Tours and guides**



# Authorized guides and outfitters

Many authorized guides and outfitters are ready to show you the wonders of Yellowstone, and each has a unique approach. Make sure that your guide, tour company, or other commercial service is fully authorized by the park. Report unauthorized operators to a park ranger, or contact

Concessions Management at 307-344-2271. Authorized providers are listed on the park website at www.nps.gov/yell/planyourvisit/services.htm.

#### **Yellowstone Association Institute**

Programs about wildlife, plants, geology, and history are perfect for curious adults and families who want to spend a day or more exploring the park with a knowledgeable guide. To find out more, call 406-848-2400 or visit www.YellowstoneAssociation.org.

#### **Xanterra Parks & Resorts**

Under its concessions contract, Xanterra offers a wide variety of park tours and activities. In summer, visitors can enjoy photo safaris, partial or full-day tours, horseback and stage-coach rides, and boating and fishing adventures. In winter, there are partial or full-day tours by heated snowcoach, skiing, and snowshoe adventures. For more information, pick up an Experience Planner at any hotel or visit: www.YellowstoneNationalParkLodges.com.

# Be prepared for winter conditions

#### Clothing

Even in severe winter temperatures, you can be comfortable and safe if you dress properly to prevent chilling and overheating.

Wear clothes in several adjustable layers including:

- a windproof, hooded outer layer
- wool or other insulated garments underneath
- wool or synthetic trousers
- wool or synthetic long underwear
- wind or rain pants for warmth on windy days
- wool socks, gaiters, or overboots
- gloves or wool mittens with waterproof shells.

Avoid tight-fitting garments as they restrict circulation and increase the possibility of frostbite. Do not wear cotton clothes of any kind, including jeans, sweatshirts, underwear, socks. They retain moisture and put you at risk for hypothermia.

#### Gear

Before you rent or borrow equipment, check for fit and suitability for wilderness use. Essential items for snowmobiling include a helmet, face mask, heavily insulated gloves or



mittens, felt-lined boots, and a heavily insulated snowmobile suit.

Choose skis and boots made for touring or mountaineering. Narrow racing skis may not give you enough surface area to break trail and low shoes may not have enough ankle support.

On day trips, consider taking extra clothing, water, and food; matches or a lighter; a map and compass; and a ski repair kit. If you are planning an overnight ski trip, you must obtain a backcountry permit. In addition to the items you would include for a day trip, or an overnight trip in mild weather, you may also want to pack repair parts and tools, a shovel, a winter tent or bivouac bag, and a probe pole and transceiver.

# Park highlights



Castle geyser

#### History

The park was established in 1872 but people have visited the Yellowstone area for thousands of years. Visit Mammoth Hot Springs to walk the self-guiding trail around Fort Yellowstone. It chronicles the U.S. Army's role in protecting the park. Other historic sites include the Norris Geyser Basin Museum, and the Old Faithful Inn and Historic District.

#### **Hydrothermal features**

Geysers, hot springs, mudpots, and fumaroles are evidence of ongoing volcanic activity. In the 50 miles between Mammoth Hot Springs and Old Faithful, you will see travertine terraces, acidic thermal features at Norris Geyser Basin, mudpots and geysers at Fountain Paint Pot, plus beautiful hot



Lower falls

springs at Biscuit and Black Sand basins near Old Faithful. West Thumb Geyser Basin is seventeen miles east of Old Faithful. Mud Volcano is north of Yellowstone Lake.

#### **Grand Canyon**

The Grand Canyon of the Yellowstone River extends from south of Canyon Village north to Tower Junction. The most famous and spectacular section, including the Upper and Lower Falls can be seen from the overlooks and trails of the Canyon area.

#### Wildlife

You can see a variety and abundance of wildlife. All the large mammals present when Yellowstone became a park are here today: grizzly and black bears, wolves, mountain lions, elk, bison, pronghorn, moose, and bighorn sheep. You'll likley see a variety of birds, possibly bald eagles.

Services	Canyon Village	Fishing Bridge	West Thumb	Mammoth Hot Springs	Old Faithful	West Entrance & Madison
Medical clinic				Year-round, except weekends and some holidays. Mon–Thu 8:30 AM–5 PM Fri 8:30 AM–1 PM 307-344-7965		
Warming hut Warming huts provide shelter for skiers, snowshoers, and snowmobilers.	Canyon Visitor Education Center Lobby 12/15/14–3/8/15 9 AM–3 PM Vending machine snacks, cold drinks. Restrooms open 24 hours.	12/15/14–3/15/15 Vending machine snacks, cold drinks	12/15/14–3/15/15 No food or water available	Mammoth 12/20/14–3/1/15 8 AM–5 PM Vending machine snacks, cold drinks  Indian Creek 12/15/14–3/3/15 Not staffed, no food or water	12/15/14–3/15/15 Daytime only. No Vending.	Madison 12/15/14–3/15/15 Light snacks and hot drinks sold during day. Vending machine, snacks available anytime
Fuel All have credit card service at pumps. Call 406-848-7548 for assistance	12/15/14–3/15/15 Credit card fueling	12/15/14–3/15/15 Credit card fueling	Grant Village 12/15/14–3/15/15 Credit card fueling	12/20/14–3/3/15 Staffed daily 8 AM–5 PM Credit card fueling Tower Junction Credit card fueling	12/15/14–3/15/15 Credit card fueling	
Supplies and gifts				General Store Closed some Sundays and holidays  Bear Den Ski Shop 12/20/14–3/1/15  Mammoth Hotel gift shop	Bear Den Gift Shop 12/15/14–3/15/15	
Hotel				Mammoth Hot Springs Hotel 12/20/14–3/2/15	Old Faithful Snow Lodge 12/18/14–3/1/15	
Dining T				General Store Lunch available late fall through early spring Mammoth Hot Springs Hotel 12/20/14–3/2/15	Old Faithful Snow Lodge 12/18/14–3/1/15 Geyser Grill 12/15/14–3/15/15	
Campground				All year	With backcountry permit, primitive only 12/15/14–3/15/15	

# How do geysers work?



#### Clepsydra Geyser

The Upper Geyser Basin of Yellowstone National Park has the largest concentration of geysers in the world. 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, similar to the ocean. Increased pressure exerted by the enormous weight of the overlying rock and water prevents the water from boiling.

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 system cools.

Yellowstone's geyser basins contain fountain-type geysers and cone-type geysers. Fountain-type geysers, like Clepsydra (*above*), shoot water out in various directions from a pool of water. Cone-type geysers erupt in a concentrated jet of water from inside a rock formation.

## **Visitor centers**

#### **Mammoth Temporary Visitor Center**

Located at Mammoth Hot Springs and open daily, year round, the center offers information, a bookstore, trip planning, and ranger programs.

Open daily 9 AM-5 PM Call 307-344-2263

#### **Canyon Visitor Education Center Lobby**

Information and vending is available during open hours, restrooms are available 24 hours a day.

Open for winter season beginning 12/15/14 Open daily 9 AM-3 PM Call 307-344-2550

#### **Old Faithful Visitor Education Center**

Yellowstone's newest visitor center offers dynamic exhibits about hydrothermal features. Geyser eruption predictions are posted, or call ahead.

Open for winter season beginning 12/15/14 Open daily 9 AM-5 PM Call 307-344-2750

#### **West Yellowstone Visitor Information Center**

Inside the West Yellowstone Chamber of Commerce Open Weekdays 8 AM-5 PM

NPS Desk

Open for winter season beginning 12/15/14 Open daily 8 AM–4 PM

Call 307-344-2876

# **National Park Service ranger-led programs (Free)**

# Mammoth

Program Descriptions	Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
Mammoth Snowshoe Discovery (December 2–March 1) Experience winter beauty on a guided snowshoe walk with a park ranger. Snowshoes can be rented at the Bear Den ski shop next to the Mammoth Hotel, or bring your own. Come prepared with warm, layered clothes, sunglasses and water. Meet at the Upper Terrace Drive entrance parking area two miles south of Mammoth. Note: If there is a lack of snow, this will become a walk without snowshoes. Moderately strenuous. Beginners welcome! 2 hours.	2 PM 12/21-3/1						
Yellowstone's Wildlife in Winter (December 24–February 25) The Northern Range of Yellowstone has always been a premier place to watch wildlife. Learn about how all forms of life interact here and how this ecosystem has changed since the restoration of wolves. This 20-minute talk will be followed by a 1-hour video. Meet at the Mammoth Temporary Visitor Center. Accessible. 1½ hours, including video.				3 рм 12/24-2/25			
Evening Program (December 26–February 28) Join a park ranger for an illustrated program that highlights a fascinating aspect of Yellowstone's natural, cultural, or scenic wonders. Program descriptions will be posted in the Mammoth Hotel and Mammoth Temporary Visitor Center. Meet in the Mammoth Hotel Map Room.  Accessible. 1 hour.					8 рм 1/1–2/26	8 рм 12/26-2/27	8 рм 12/27-2/28

# **Old Faithful**

Program Descriptions	Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
Geysers Galore! (December 15–March 15) Discover why Yellowstone has so many geysers. Look into Yellowstone's restless geologic past (and present!) for a story of volcanoes and earthquakes. Talk starts 20 minutes prior to a predicted mid-day eruption of Old Faithful. Meet a park ranger at the benches in front of Old Faithful. Accessible. 20 minutes.	Inquire in OF Visitor Education Center 12/21–3/15	Inquire in OF Visitor Education Center 12/15–3/9	Inquire in OF Visitor Education Center 12/16–3/10	Inquire in OF Visitor Education Center 12/17–3/11	Inquire in OF Visitor Education Center 12/18–3/12	Inquire in OF Visitor Education Center 12/19–3/13	Inquire in OF Visitor Education Center 12/20–3/14
Old Faithful Evening Program (December 26–February 28) Join a park ranger for an illustrated program that highlights a fascinating aspect of Yellowstone's natural, cultural, or scenic wonders. Meet in the Old Faithful Visitor Education Center. Doors open at 7 PM. Enter via the main doors on the parking lot side. Program titles and descriptions are posted at the Old Faithful Visitor Education Center and the Old Faithful Snow Lodge. Accessible. 45 minutes.	7:30 PM 12/28-2/22					7:30 PM 12/26-2/27	7:30 PM 12/27-2/2

# **West Yellowstone**

Program Descriptions	Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
Snowshoe Walk (December 20–March 8) Discover Yellowstone's fascinating winter ecology while wearing snowshoes. Join a ranger for a 2-mile walk into Yellowstone National Park along the Riverside Trail. Meet at the West Yellowstone Visitor Information Center at the corner of Yellowstone Avenue and Canyon Street in West Yellowstone, Montana. Bring snowshoes—no experience necessary. Also bring water and a snack. For information, please call 307-344-2876. 2 hours.	10 AM 12/21–3/8						10 AM 12/20-3/7
Afternoon Talk in West Yellowstone (December 20–March 8) Join a ranger for a program highlighting a fascinating aspect of Yellowstone's natural, cultural, or scenic wonders. Program descriptions will be posted in the West Yellowstone Visitor Information Center (corner of Yellowstone Ave. and Canyon St.), and at the Grizzly and Wolf Discovery Center at 201 South Canyon Street.  Talks are free and open to the public. There is a fee to visit the rest of the Grizzly and Wolf Discovery Center.  Accessible. 45 minutes.	Grizzly and Wolf Discovery Center 2 PM 12/21–3/8						Grizzly and Wolf Discovery Center 2 PM 12/20-3/7

# **Xanterra Parks & Resorts**

Xanterra Parks & Resorts							
Interpretive snowcoach tours Full & half-day adventures in heated oversnow vehicles	Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
From Mammoth to Old Faithful: \$93.50 🚮 4 hours, 30 minutes	7:30 ам	7:30 ам	7:30 ам	7:30 ам	7:30 ам	7:30 ам	7:30 ам
From Old Faithful to Mammoth: \$93.50 🚮 4 hours, 30 minutes	1:30 рм	1:30 рм	1:30 рм	1:30 рм	1:30 рм	1:30 рм	1:30 рм
From Old Faithful to Flagg Ranch: \$93.50 👔 3 hours 15 minutes	8:30 ам	8:30 ам	8:30 ам	8:30 ам	8:30 ам	8:30 ам	8:30 ам
From Flagg Ranch to Old Faithful: \$93.50 🚹 4 hours 15 minutes	12:30 рм	12:30 рм	12:30 рм	12:30 рм	12:30 рм	12:30 рм	12:30 PM
Canyon Day Tour from Old Faithful (December 19–February 28): \$166.50 🚮 You may want to order a box lunch the evening prior.	8:15 AM- 6 PM	8:15 AM- 6 PM		8:15 AM- 6 PM		8:15 ам- 6 рм	8:15 ам- 6 рм
Canyon Day Tour from Mammoth (December 23–February 28): \$166.50 🚹 You may want to order a box lunch the evening prior.			8:15 AM- 5:00 PM		8:15 AM- 5:00 PM		8:15 ам- 5:00 рм
Firehole Basin Adventure (December 19–February 27): \$62.50 <page-header></page-header>		12:45 рм -4 рм		12:45 рм -4 рм		12:45 рм -4 рм	
Norris Geyser Basin Tour (December 21–March 1): \$83 🚮 Leaves from Mammoth. Strenuous, if you opt to walk around the geyser basin. 5 hours.	12:30 рм -5:30 рм		12:30 рм -5:30 рм		12:30 рм -5:30 рм		12:30 PN -5:30 PN
Old Faithful Photo Safari (December 19–February 27): \$240 🚮 You may want to order a box lunch the evening prior. 6 hours 15 minutes.		7:45 AM- 2 PM	7:45 AM- 2 PM		7:45 AM- 2 PM	7:45 AM- 2 PM	
<b>Grand Canyon Winter Photography Adventure</b> (December 22–February 27): \$300 <b>M</b> Leaves from Mammoth. You may want to order a box lunch the evening prior. Full day.		7:15 AM- 5:30 PM		7:15 AM- 5:30 PM		7:15 ам- 5:30 рм	
Madison Wildlife Excursion (December 18–February 28): \$83 🚮 Leaves from Old Faithful. 4 hours 45 minutes.			12:45 рм -5:30 рм		12:45 рм -5:30 рм		12:45 PN -5:30 PN
Steam, Stars, and Winter Soundscapes (December 18–March 1): \$47 No child discount. Leaves from Old Faithful. 2 hours 15 minutes.	6:45 PM- 9 PM	6:45 рм- 9 рм	6:45 рм- 9 рм	6:45 рм- 9 рм	6:45 PM- 9 PM	6:45 рм- 9 рм	6:45 рм- 9 рм
Interpretive bus tours (no skiing)	Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
Wake up to Wildlife (December 21–March 1): \$50 🚮 Leaves from Mammoth Hot Springs Hotel. 😸 Accessible. 4 hours 15 minutes.	6:45 AM- 11 AM	6:45 AM- 11 AM	6:45 AM- 11 AM	6:45 ам- 11 ам	6:45 AM- 11 AM	6:45 AM- 11 AM	6:45 ам- 11 ам
Lamar Valley Wildlife (December 22–February 28) : \$92.50 🚹 Leaves from Mammoth Hot Springs Hotel. 👃 Accessible. 7 hours.		7 AM- 2 PM			7 AM- 2 PM		7 AM- 2 PM
Ski & Snowshoe tours	Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
Grand Canyon Ski Tour (December 21–February 26): \$185 <page-header></page-header>	7:45 AM- 6 PM		7:45 ам- 6 рм		7:45 ам- 6 рм		
Guided Snowshoe Tour at Old Faithful. (December 22–March 1): \$36 with snowshoe rental, \$28 without snowshoe rental. No child discount. 3 hours 15 minutes.	8:15 AM & 1:15 PM	8:15 AM & 1:15 PM	8:15 AM & 1:15 PM	8:15 AM & 1:15 PM	8:15 AM & 1:15 PM	8:15 AM & 1:15 PM	8:15 AM & 1:15 PM
Lonestar Excursion Snowshoe or Ski (December 21–February 22): \$55 🚮 Sundays only. Leaves from Old Faithful. 5 hours 15 minutes.	11:45 AM -5 PM						
Orop-offs and skier shuttles (minimum 3 people)	Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
Old Faithful Snow Lodge to Divide Falls or Fairy Falls (December 19–March 2): \$21	8:15 ам	8:15 ам	8:15 ам	8:15 ам	8:15 ам	8:15 ам	8:15 ам
One way. No pickups. You must return by ski or snowshoe.	9:15 AM (Fairy) 10:15 AM	9:15 AM (Fairy) 10:15 AM	9:15 AM (Fairy) 10:15 AM	9:15 AM (Fairy) 10:15 AM	9:15 AM (Fairy) 10:15 AM	9:15 AM (Fairy) 10:15 AM	9:15 AM (Fairy) 10:15 AM
	IU.IJ AM		IU.IJ AM	Check in:	IU. IJ AM	Check in:	10.15 A
Mammoth Hotel to Tower Junction (December 22–March 2): \$31 round-trip. 🚹		Check in: 9 AM 11 AM 1 PM		9 AM 11 AM 1 PM		9 AM 11 AM 1 PM	

Winter getaway value packages	Mammoth Includes unlimited ice-skating	Old Faithful Includes round-trip snowcoach fares
Frosty Fun includes two-nights lodging, breakfast each day, a welcome gift, and a		\$389 per person double
Snow Card that is good for 10 percent off all meals, select gifts, in–park transportation, tours, ski shop services, and snowmobile rentals. Card is valid all winter.	\$249 single occupancy	\$588 single occupancy
Trail of the Wolf Offered Monday and Thursday. Includes three nights lodging,	\$525 per person double	\$715 per person double
components of Frosty Fun, Guided Snowmobile Tour, and Wake up to Wildlife Tour.	^ _ ^	\$1,193 single occupancy
Nordic Heaven Includes components of Frosty Fun, plus unlimited ski drops per	\$205 per person double	\$445 per person double
person.	\$305 single occupancy	\$644 single occupancy

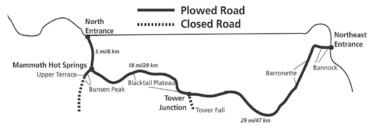
On designated tours, children aged 3 to 11 years old are ½ price. Rates listed are valid January 1 to March 3, 2015, and do not include tax or utility fee. To reserve, stop by one of the hotel front desks or call 307-344-7311 or toll-free 866–Geyserland (866-439-7375), TTY 307-344-5395. www.YellowstoneNationalParkLodges.com

#### Ski and snowshoe trails

Yellowstone offers a variety of enjoyable and challenging trails for skiing and snowshoeing throughout the park. Track is set on a few trails, others may be groomed, and all unplowed roads and trails are open to skiing and snowshoeing. Equipment rental is available in several communities around the park; and ski shop services, including lessons, rentals, and repairs, are available at the Bear Den ski shops at Mammoth Hot Springs and Old Faithful.

Brochures with general trail maps and trail descriptions can be obtained at visitor centers, ranger stations, and ski shops. Some suggested trails are also listed below. One-way or round-trip skier shuttles may be offered to specific trails in the park for a fee. See page 7 for shuttle details and visit www.nps.gov/yell/planyourvisit/skiyell for more information.

#### **Northern Range trails**



In winter, **Upper Terrace Drive** becomes a groomed 1.5-mile loop ski trail. You'll have views of the steaming lower terraces and historic Fort Yellowstone. This is a hydrothermal area; please stay on the trail.

The 6-mile **Bunsen Peak** trail (one-way) follows the old road; it is steep and has sharp turns. Along the trail, you will have views of the Gallatin Mountains and the Gardner River Canyon.

**Blacktail** trail begins 8 miles east of Mammoth and follows an unplowed 8-mile road (one-way). Enjoy vistas of meadows surrounded by mountain peaks, and look for elk and bison scattered throughout their winter range.

**Tower Fall** trail begins at the parking area southeast of Tower Junction. It follows the unplowed Tower-Canyon road for 2.5 miles up a gradual slope past Calcite Springs Overlook to Tower Fall. Great views of the Yellowstone River Canyon, occasional bison, bighorn sheep, and bald eagles.

#### **Old Faithful trails**

Lone Star Geyser trail is a moderate 9-mile trail (round-trip). It begins at the Old Faithful Snow Lodge and takes you to Kepler Cascades. From there, follow a groomed service road alongside the Firehole River to Lone Star Geyser. The geyser erupts about every three hours from a 12-foot high cone. Beginning skiers should return the same way; more advanced skiers may choose to return via the steeper Howard Eaton Trail.

Take a shuttle to the southern end of the **Fairy Falls** trailhead, leading to one of the most spectacular ice-encrusted falls in the park. Be alert for falling trees in areas of burned forest. Return to Old Faithful on the trail next to the road until you reach Biscuit Basin Trail, which crosses the Upper Geyser Basin and Morning Glory Pool for an easy 11-mile round-trip.

#### **West Yellowstone trail**

**Riverside trail** begins on Boundary Street and heads one mile through forest to the Upriver and Downriver loops. Both loops provide scenic views of the Gallatin Range and Madison River. Total distance varies from 2 to 9 miles, depending on your route.



# Be safe and smart while skiing and snowshoeing in Yellowstone

Skiing and snowshoeing are excellent ways to experience the unique beauty and solitude of a winter in Yellowstone. The trails in Yellowstone offer a wide range of scenery, terrain, and difficulty. Before venturing out into Yellowstone's winter wonderland, make sure you have properly planned and are prepared for the challenges brought on by extreme cold and deep snow.

#### Be prepared

- Let friends or family know where you are going and when you plan on returning. Do not travel alone.
- Evaluate your party's capabilities and plan your outing so that everyone will enjoy it.
   Also know your equipment's capabilities and weaknesses, and be prepared to make repairs.
- Exertion in dry mountain air can dehydrate you. Carry and drink plenty of water, and bring high energy food.



- Be prepared to set up an emergency shelter. Bring a first-aid kit, space blanket, extra clothing, and headlamp.
- Carry and know how to use a map and compass or other navigational aid.
- Protect yourself from the intense winter sun. Use sunglasses or ski goggles and sunscreen.

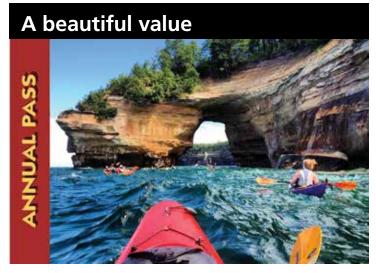
#### Winter hazards

- Check weather and avalanche forecasts. High winds and snow can create dangerous whiteout and high avalanche conditions where route finding may become difficult.
- Do not leave designated trails in hydrothermal areas. Avoid getting close to geysers, hot springs, or mudpots. You may fall through overhanging snow ledges or thin crust.
- Know how to recognize avalanche terrain and avoid known avalanche paths.
   Avalanches are more likely to occur during or after heavy fresh snowfall, high winds, or extreme temperature changes.
- Take preventative measures to avoid the dangers of cold weather. Stay dry and learn how to recognize the signs of hypothermia and frostbite—they can set in quickly.
- Bears may be active at any time of year—be alert for signs of bear activity.

#### **Etiquette**

- · Do not walk on showshoe or ski trails.
- Snowshoe parallel to the ski track.
- Yield to faster skiers or those going downhill.
- Detour around wildlife—do not approach.

For detailed information on winter trails, routes, and winter safety, contact the Central Backcountry Office or request a Winter Backcountry Trip Planner (available online or from any visitor center).



America the Beautiful: National Parks and Federal Recreational Lands Pass

The National Park Service manages approximately 83 million acres in all 50 states, the Virgin Islands, Puerto Rico, Guam, and American Samoa. To learn more about the National Park Service and its programs in America's communities, visit www.nps.gov.

This pass provides several options for people to use at federal recreation sites, including national parks and wildlife refuges, where entrance fees are charged. You can purchase this pass at one of Yellowstone's entrance stations, at Yellowstone Association bookstores (inside visitor centers), or visit <a href="http://store.usgs.gov/pass">http://store.usgs.gov/pass</a>

The pass is not good for camping or for some other fees such as concessionaire parking fees at Mount Rushmore, or cave tours at various parks. Inquire locally.



**Already paid?** Apply the cost of your \$25 Yellowstone entrance fee to the purchase of this pass at Yellowstone Association stores in Mammoth Hot Springs, Old Faithful, Bozeman Yellowstone International Airport, and Gardiner.

Park entrance fees (subject to change)	
<b>Private, noncommercial automobile</b> , valid for seven days at both Yellowstone and Grand Teton national parks	\$25
Individual motorcycle/snowmobile, seven days, both parks	\$20
Single entry (foot, bike, ski, snowcoach, etc) seven days, both parks	\$12
<b>Yellowstone and Grand Teton Annual Pass</b> , valid for one year from month of purchase for entrance to both parks	\$50
<b>America the Beautiful:</b> <i>National Parks and Federal Recreation Lands Pass</i> , valid for one year from month of purchase for entrance fees to federal fee areas	\$80
Senior Pass, U.S. Citizens or permanent residents age 62 or older*	\$10
<b>Access Pass</b> , U.S. Citizens or permanent residents with documentation of permanent disability*	Free
<b>Military Pass</b> , annual pass for active duty U. S. military personnel and their dependents with proper identification (CAC card or DD Form 1173).	Free

<sup>\*</sup> Previously issued Golden Age Passports and Golden Access Passports are still accepted. They can also be exchanged for newer, more durable passes.

Area chambers of commerce					
<b>Idaho</b>	Gardiner				
Idaho Falls	406-848-7971				
208-523-1010	Livingston				
Pocatello	406-222-0850				
208-233-1525	Red Lodge				
<b>Montana</b>	888-281-0625				
Big Sky	West Yellowstone				
406-995-3000	406-646-7701				
Billings	<b>Wyoming</b>				
800-735-2635	Cody				
Bozeman	800-393-2639				
800-228-4224	Jackson				
Cooke City–Silver Gate 406-838-2495	307-733-3316				

Glacier NP  *Kalispell	North  Cities Interstate Highway State Boundaries National Forest National Park Unit  Fort Union Trading Post NHS
Missoula	A N A  Theodore Roosevelt NP  Dickinson
Grant-Kohrs Lodge Ranch NHS  Big Hole  Bozeman  Bignorten  Bignorten  Bignorten  Bignorten  Bignorten  Bignorten	Little Bighorn ghorn Battlefield NM
	Sheridan Devil's Tower NM Gillette Rapid City
Craters of the Moon NM  Rexburg  Rexburg  Idaho Falls  Rexburg  Jackson  Rexburg  Jackson	Rushmore NM Badlands NP Jewel Cave Wind NM Cave NP
Hagerman Fossil Beds NM	Casper

#### **Area National Park Service units**

Area Mational Fair	
Idaho	Little Bighorn
Craters of the Moon	National Monument
National Monument	Crow Agency, MT
Arco, ID 83213	59022
208-527-1300	406-638-3217
www.nps.gov/crmo	www.nps.gov/libi
City of Rocks NR	Glacier NP
Almo, ID 83312	W. Glacier, MT 59936
208-824-5901	406-888-7800
www.nps.gov/ciro	www.nps.gov/glac
Hagerman Fossil Beds	Grant-Kohrs Ranch
National Monument	National Historic Site
Hagerman, ID 83332	Deer Lodge, MT 59722
	407 047 2070
208-933-4100	406-846-2070
208-933-4100 www.nps.gov/hafo	www.nps.gov/grko
www.nps.gov/hafo	www.nps.gov/grko
www.nps.gov/hafo Minidoka Internment	www.nps.gov/grko Wyoming

208-933-4127

Historic Park Spalding, ID 83540

208-843-7020

Montana

406-689-3155

www.nps.gov/miin

Nez Perce National

www.nps.gov/nepe

Big Hole Battlefield Wisdom, MT 59767

www.nps.gov/biho

Bighorn Canyon

406-666-2412

National Rec. Area

www.nps.gov/bica

Fort Smith, MT 59035

Devil's Tower National Monument Devil's Tower, WY 82714 307-467-5283

www.nps.gov/deto

Fort Laramie National Historic Site Ft. Laramie, WY 82212 307-837-2221

www.nps.gov/fola

Fossil Butte National Monument Kemmerer, WY 83101 307-877-4455 www.nps.gov/fobu

John D. Rockefeller, Jr. Memorial Pkwy Moose, WY 83012 www.nps.gov/jodr

#### The Yellowstone Association,

in partnership with the National Park Service, connects people to Yellowstone National Park and our natural world through education.



JOIN US to support the park and receive a quarterly magazine, as well as discounts on educational products and programs. Annual membership begins at \$35.00.

**EXPERIENCE** Yellowstone your way with the Yellowstone Association Institute. We offer a variety of fun and affordable learning adventures that help foster lifelong connections to Yellowstone and the natural world.

**VISIT** any of our year-round Park Store locations: Mammoth Hot Springs, Old Faithful, Bozeman Yellowstone International Airport, Gardiner (YA Headquarters)



# Yellowstone Association

YellowstoneAssociation.org ● 406.848.2400



#### SETTING THE STANDARD FOR AMERICA'S NATIONAL PARKS

YELLOWSTONE GENERAL STORES

**DELAWARE NORTH COMPANIES PARKS &** RESORTS OPERATE TWELVE GENERAL STORES IN YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK. EACH STORE IS UNIQUE IN ARCHITECTURE, AND LOCATED IN A SCENIC SETTING THAT IS ALWAYS CONVENIENT. OFFERINGS INCLUDE FOOD AND BEVERAGE SERVICES, GROCERY, SOUVENIRS, APPAREL, OUTDOOR GEAR AND SUPPLIES. VISITORS WILL FIND OUR STAFF TO BE HELPFUL IN ASSISTING WITH MERCHANDISE, SCENIC STOPS OR WILDLIFE SIGHTINGS.



Food and beverage services offer a variety of selections to satisfy any wilderness hunger. Relax to a cup of coffee, scoop of ice cream, or trail ready snacks while taking in the wonders of Yellowstone. Discover volumes of books and explore the wide spectrum of collectibles and novelties in our souvenir areas; take away more than just a memory of America's first National Park. Our apparel departments provide a variety of items relating to the different areas of the Park. We offer supplies for a cookout, a night of camping, and a day of fishing, hiking, boating, and wildlife watching. Visit Old Faithful, Grant, Fishing Bridge and Canyon Stores to experience our *Pathways to Yellowstone* program and meet talented local artists and authors. Through our stewardship initiatives, we protect the natural, cultural, and historic resources for future generations. Our award winning Environmental Management System, GreenPath, is recognized according to international standards, ISO 14001. Our goal is to provide stewardship and hospitality services to our guests while simultaneously preserving the natural wonders where we operate.







www.VisitYellowstonePark.com



#### Tours from Old Faithful

Snowcoach Transportation Old Faithful to Mammoth Old Faithful to South Gate

Mammoth to Old Faithful

South Gate to Old Faithful Snowcoach Tours

Grand Canyon Day Tour

Firehole Basin Adventure Madison Wildlife Excursion

Winter Photo Safari

Steam, Stars & Winter Soundscapes

**Guided Snowmobile Tours** Lower Loop Tour

**Skiing & Snowshoeing Tours** Grand Canyon Ski Tour

Grand Canyon Snowshoe Tour

Guided Snowshoe Tour

Lone Star Excursion

#### Tours from Mammoth

**Snowcoach Transportation** Mammoth to Old Faithful

Old Faithful to Mammoth

Snowcoach Tours

Grand Canyon Day Tour

Norris Geyser Basin Tour Grand Canyon Photography Tour

Other Interpretive Tours

Lamar Valley Wildlife Tour

Guided Snowmobile Tours Mammoth to Old Faithful Tour

Mammoth to Grand Canyon Tour

#### For more information and pricing, please visit our website or a hotel front desk

Tour reservations can be made at any front desk

For Reservations & Information:

307-344-7311 | TTY: 307-344-5395 YellowstoneNationalParkLodges.com



PHOTO: LAMAR VALLEY WOLF WEEK PARTICIPANTS; BRAD ORSTED/YA

# **Partners Protect and Preserve**

#### The National Park Service mission

The National Park Service preserves unimpaired the natural and cultural resources and values of the national park system for the enjoyment, education, and inspiration of this and future generations. The National Park Service cooperates with partners to extend the benefits of natural and cultural resource conservation and outdoor recreation throughout this country and the world.

As an integral part of our mission, Yellowstone National Park, park concessioners, and park partners are committed to reducing the ecological footprint of park operations and preserving natural resources through sustainable practices. During your time in Yellowstone and beyond, we encourage you to do your part by practicing the following:



Please properly dispose of all waste items. Recycling bins are located throughout the park for plastic, glass, metal, paper, cardboard, propane canisters, bear spray, batteries, and more.



Yellowstone National Park encourages you to stay hydrated during your visit. Please use a reusable water bottle and fill it up for free at our many water filling locations.



In an effort to reduce harmful emissions from idling, please turn your vehicle off while you are parked or stopped for more than 30 seconds. Emissions can also be reduced by carpooling and utilizing transportation services to tour the park.



Reduce energy use by turning off lights, heat, and electrical devices when you leave your rooms.



Help reduce water consumption by being aware of your water use. Turn water off while brushing your teeth, shorten showers, and participate in towel and linen reuse programs if you are staying in park lodging.

This sustainability message is brought to you by the Yellowstone Environmental Coordinating Committee, a team of National Park Service employees, park concessioners, and non-profit partners working together to combine extensive resources to elevate the potential for sustainability achievements in Yellowstone National Park. The YECC is comprised of representatives from Delaware North Companies, Medcor Inc., National Park Service, Xanterra Parks & Resorts, Yellowstone Association, Yellowstone Park Foundation, and Yellowstone Park Service Stations.

# MEDICAL SERVICES AT YELLOWSTONE

EMERGENCIES Dial "911" or contact a National Park Service ranger. Specially trained rangers provide rescue, emergency care, and ambulance service.

MEDICAL CLINICS Medcor operates three urgent-care clinics within Yellowstone, staffed by a board-certified physician, PAs, NPs, and RNs. These clinics are open to the public and are equipped for most medical emergencies as well as routine care. Services include injury and illness treatment, x-rays, and some lab and pharmacy. If in-patient care or advanced services are required, the clinic staff can stabilize patients and arrange for appropriate transfer to a hospital.

Mammoth Clinic (307) 344-7965

Open year round Mon - Fri June 1 - September 30 also open Sat & Sun

Lake Clinic

(307) 242-7241 Open late May - late September; 7 days a week

Cld Faithful Call for hours of operation. Walk-in patients welcome. For more information visit ww.medcor.com/Yellowstone.

(307) 545-7325 Open mid May - early October; 7 days a week

EASTERN IDAHO REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER Air and ground ambulance, emergency medical direction, training, and trauma/specialty care from one of the top Trauma Centers in the U.S. www.eirmc.com

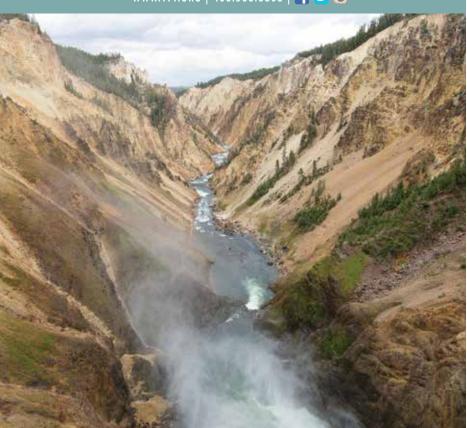




# OFFICIAL FUNDRAISING PARTNER

OF YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK -

YELLOWSTONE PARK FOUNDATION | 222 EAST MAIN STREET, SUITE 301 | BOZEMAN, MT 59715 WWW.YPF.ORG | 406.586.6303 | 🚹 📂 💽



# DISCOVER YELLOWSTONE WITH THE YELLOWSTONE OUTDOORS APP



- Developed by High Country Apps in conjunction with YPF
- More than 1.500 Greater Yellowstone activities listed all on an interactive map
- Info on area hiking, fishing, camping, and more
- Regional services listed including museums. visitor centers, outdoor stores and shops

Everything you could want to see and do in the Greater Yellowstone area —at your fingertips!

# FREE TO DOWNLOAD

Search **Yellowstone Outdoors**, by High Country Apps, in your Apple or Google Play App Store or go to www.highcountryapps.com and follow the links.



TO LEARN MORE OR DONATE ONLINE, VISIT US AT WWW.YPF.ORG

PARK PARTNERS

