

# YELLOWSTONE

## NATIONAL PARK

Wyoming • Montana • Idaho



### FOR YOUR SAFETY

While in geyser or hot springs areas, *Stay on Constructed Walks and Keep Your Children on Them.* A fall into a boiling pool is fatal; in many places, ground crust that looks safe and solid is thin—dangerous to walk on.

*Bears, Deer, and Other Large Animals Are Potentially Very Dangerous. Observe Them From a Distance; Do Not Feed Them. Remain in Car. Keep Car Windows and Doors Closed When Stopping To Observe Bears.*

# Yellowstone

## NATIONAL PARK

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This is Yellowstone—the oldest National Park in the United States (1872), the largest, and one of the most popular parks in which American families spend their vacation time.

The National Park System, of which this park is a unit, is dedicated to conserving the scenic, scientific, and historic heritage of the United States for the benefit and enjoyment of its people.

Its 3,472 square miles, set apart in the northwest corner of Wyoming and extending into Montana and Idaho, contain such a variety of natural phenomena that early explorers called it "wonderland."

It is not difficult to see why. Within its several geyser basins, Yellowstone harbors more than 10,000 thermal features. About 200 geysers, myriads of hot springs and bubbling mud volcanoes, and brilliant pools and terraces make it the most extensive and spectacular thermal area in the world.

But Yellowstone is not alone the mighty surge of Old Faithful's periodic eruptions, the merry *plop, plop* of the paintpots, nor the angry convulsions of the Black Dragons Caldron.

It is also the Grand Canyon of the Yellowstone River, 24 miles of twisting, sheer rock walls 1,200 feet deep, tinted with red and every shade of yellow visible to man—from the palest lemon to the most brilliant orange—given the decomposed rhyolite by various oxides of iron.

It is Yellowstone Lake, whose blue waters are fed by snow from forested mountains that surround intimately most of its 110-mile shoreline. The largest mountain lake in North America at such high elevation (7,731 ft.), it is renowned equally for its beauty and for the fighting blackspotted, or cutthroat, trout that have made it one of the most famous fishing areas in the country.

Finally, Yellowstone is the favorite park of many Americans because it is one of the greatest wildlife sanctuaries in the world. Wild animals in great numbers and variety, including bear, American elk, moose, deer, pronghorn, coyote, and bison roam unconcernedly over its mountainsides and meadows.

### THE BLACK BEAR

This may be the time to say a word about the bear, who is both the visitor's greatest delight and the park ranger's biggest headache.

American black bears vary in coloration from black through brown, cinnamon red, and platinum blonde—but the face is always brown. You will encounter them along the roads—often with a cub or two—begging most persuasively for something to eat. *For your sake and theirs, stay away from them: park regulations forbid feeding, teasing, or molesting them in any way.* By feeding them, you are courting danger for yourself and those with you and are doing the bears a disfavor. They are well fed, and they do better on the fare which nature has provided than on crumbs from your table. Also, they are greedy, and may swat with a mighty paw when what you are offering is gone.

Even if you don't get a scratch or a bite or a bad fright, you may end up with a fine from the U.S. Commissioner at park headquarters for violation of park regulations. So take your pictures *from inside the automobile* and go on your way. Bear-jams tie up traffic and cause accidents. And remember:

1. Never offer food to bears.
2. Never get between an adult bear and cubs.
3. Always keep at a safe distance.
4. Keep your car windows rolled up.

### AROUND THE GRAND LOOP

Whatever the means or the route by which you have entered Yellowstone National Park, *you will find it profitable, as soon as you can do so after arrival, to read this publication through*, for it has been prepared to try to answer most of the questions likely to arise during your visit.

Overnight accommodations, eating places, campgrounds, stores, souvenir shops, and automobile services are concentrated at relatively few points in the park, thus leaving all but a small percentage of the area in its natural, primeval condition. These places are also the centers from which various interpretive activities—in which you are invited to participate—are carried on.

Starting with Mammoth Hot Springs, which is park headquarters, these major points of interest are listed here in the order in which you will find them in going counterclockwise around the Grand Loop.

**Mammoth Hot Springs** (park headquarters). The graceful terraces at Mammoth, formed by calcium carbonate (travertine) from the hot springs, are unlike the silica hot-springs deposits elsewhere in the park. The Mammoth Terraces rise to dizzy heights; some are brimming over with pools of water that reflect the blue of the sky at noon and the brilliant sunsets later in the day, but others are crumbly and ghostly, and of pale hues.

Guided terrace walks are scheduled hourly from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.; the 3-hour nature walk starts at 8 a.m. These walks are supplemented by the Clematis Gulch self-guiding trail.

A wildlife safari by auto caravan leaves Mammoth Visitor Center each evening at 6:30, or at 6 after August 1. Seldom will you return without having seen American elk, deer, moose, bear, or pronghorn.

**Norris Geyser Basin.** To many people this is the most exciting geyser basin in the park. Some of its thermal features are set within a great hollowed-out bowl called Porcelain Basin, within which roaring steam vents provide eerie sound effects as you walk through. Geysers and bubbling springs add to the activity.

Be sure to see the visitor center, with its unusual dioramas. Conducted walks cover the main basin's loop trail; the Green Dragon Spring self-guiding trail will take you over the entire southern basin in less than 2 miles of walking.

*Stay on the wooden walks constructed in geyser basins; in many places the crust is extremely thin and walking on it is dangerous. Take care not to slip or step into hot pools. Children must be closely attended in all hot-water areas. Leave your pets in your car.*

**Madison Junction.** The visitor center here tells the story of the founding of the park in its exhibits and in the views from its picture window, which looks out on the very campsite at the junction of the Firehole and Gibbon Rivers where the Yellowstone National Park idea was first effectively expressed.

**Old Faithful and the Geyser Basins.** Between Madison Junction and the Upper Geyser Basin (Old Faithful) there are

three other thermal areas. First, Lower Geyser Basin, containing many geysers, springs, and paintpots, working away in cheerful harmony. Geysers worthy of patient vigil are Great Fountain and White Dome on the Firehole Lake Loop Road. Near Fountain Geyser you will see the Fountain Paintpots—bubbling hot mudpots made colorful by their mineral ingredients, such as iron oxides. Here, too, is Gentian Pool, the color of Yellowstone's official flower, the Rocky Mountain fringed gentian.

Midway Geyser Basin is next, with Grand Prismatic Spring, the largest in the basin, and Excelsior Geyser, once the most powerful in the park. Excelsior last played in 1888, when it shot 300 feet into the air; it still gives forth some 1½ billion gallons of scalding water annually. The steam from its crater fills the whole basin at sunset when the air is cool.

Biscuit Basin, 2 miles from Old Faithful, includes beautiful Sapphire Geyser, which erupts at frequent intervals, Jewel Geyser, and other interesting springs and pools.

Walk the self-guiding nature trails and observe the changes in thermal activity caused by the earthquake of August 17, 1959.

*Old Faithful Geyser.*







*Minerva Terraces,  
Mammoth Hot Springs.*

Old Faithful Village is a bustling community whose activities are timed to the performances of the world's most renowned geyser, which has become the symbol of Yellowstone National Park.

*Old Faithful does not play every hour on the hour—you cannot set your watch by it! Eruption intervals do average about 65 minutes; but they have varied between 33 and 95 minutes. Old Faithful's reputation for dependability is, nevertheless, well deserved. It has never missed an eruption during the more than 80 years it has been observed, and its variations follow a pattern that makes it reasonably predictable.*

After dark, one eruption of Old Faithful is illuminated; and then on through the long hours of the night it keeps its vigil while the village sleeps.

No one of the three geyser basins—Upper, Midway, and Lower—should be missed, for each has its own claim to fame and is worth exploring.

Your tour is not complete without a preliminary visit to the Old Faithful Visitor Center, where the "why" and the "how" of geysers are explained, the "who," "what," and "where" noted, and the "when" predicted. The most spectacular

among the "predictable" group include Old Faithful, Castle, Daisy, Grotto, Grotto Fountain, Plume, Riverside, Morning, Great Fountain, and Lone Star.

Do not miss the Geyser Hill and Gentian self-guiding nature trails east of Old Faithful, nor the trip to Black Sand Basin (2 miles), where some of the most incredibly formed and beautifully colored pools are found. For photographs, walk from Old Faithful to Observation Point. The climax of this walk is a view of the Upper Basin (with Old Faithful just opposite) from a height of some 300 feet. There are two evening naturalist programs at Old Faithful—one indoors, one outdoors.

**West Thumb.** On your way from the Upper Geyser Basin to West Thumb, at the end of a long arm of Yellowstone Lake, you will cross the Continental Divide twice. The Upper Geyser Basin lies in the Missouri-Mississippi drainage, as does West Thumb; but between them, the road enters and leaves a part of the headwaters of the Lewis-Snake-Columbia river drainage. Isa Lake, athwart the Continental Divide at Craig Pass, empties into both drainages. The golden water lilies, which cover its surface from early summer until frost, are used as food by many small animals.

At West Thumb the gaudy paintpots, bubbling and steaming, operate against the backdrop of sparkling Yellowstone Lake. There are many deep azure and emerald pools, and the Fishing Cone, a hot-spring mound surrounded by cold lake waters, is a geological oddity on the lake shore.

Brief geyser walks are conducted by a park naturalist on daylong duty in the area; there is also a self-guiding geyser walk and an evening campfire program.

**Lake-Fishing Bridge.** From Fishing Bridge at the outlet of Yellowstone Lake, where anglers stand elbow to elbow from dawn to dusk, one may follow the road eastward 10 miles to Lake Butte for a panoramic view of the lake, or head toward Lake Hotel and the dock where fishing and speed boats can be rented. Boats can also be rented at Fishing Bridge.

Because the Lake and Fishing Bridge areas are only 2 miles apart, you can participate in the naturalist programs of both. On the Fishing Bridge walk, you explore the lake shore and swamp area, where many varieties of birds can be seen. You will also enjoy interesting exhibits of birds and other subjects in the Fishing Bridge Visitor Center. East of the Fishing Bridge is the delta of Pelican Creek. Waterfowl and moose are seen here in season.

**Canyon.** While passing through the tranquil Hayden Valley en route from Fishing Bridge to Canyon, you reach the Mud Volcano area. A quarter of a mile away by trail is the Black Dragon's Caldron, newest (1948) of the mud geysers and the most awesome.

The most exciting way to see and hear the Lower Falls of the Yellowstone River is to go by the trail to the brink of the falls. Twice as high as Niagara, the waterfall thunders 308 feet into the canyon. If you visit the falls in the morning when the sun is shining, you will see a rainbow in the spray. The hike is quite strenuous at this elevation.

The Upper Falls (viewed without climbing) are almost as spectacular in their mighty thundering roar, though they drop only 109 feet.

The canyon itself is gloriously beautiful any time of day, and you can see it and the Lower Falls from many fine viewpoints. Artist, Inspiration, Grandview, and Lookout Points are particularly strategic for taking pictures.

Several walks give you a choice of North or South Rim trips. The Red Rock Trail is self-guiding.

**Tower Fall.** From a large parking area, the path leads to the Tower Fall Observation Platform, where the 132-foot-high fall can best be seen. It was named, by the men of the 1870 expedition (see page 18), for the pinnacles surrounding its brink.

On the road toward Mammoth Hot Springs you will pass Roosevelt Lodge, near the place where President Theodore Roosevelt camped. A daily morning nature walk and the Lost Falls self-guiding trail start at the lodge. Evening programs are given at Tower Fall Campground, 2½ miles away.

#### WILDERNESS AREAS

Only a small percentage of the park is developed (roads, villages, campgrounds). Thus, from almost any point along

the busy Grand Loop Road, you may walk 300 yards and feel completely detached from anything man made. There, in the quiet of forest or meadow, the buzzing of a fly or a mosquito or the song of a bird is a dominating sound.

The park offers you more than a thousand miles of well-marked back-country trails. The Howard Eaton Trail, named after the famous horseman and guide, parallels roughly the Grand Loop Road for some 150 miles. It is a horseback trail, but it may be hiked as well.

Especially recommended are the trails to Shoshone Lake (one 3 miles long and the other, 7) in the Old Faithful area; the hike up Mount Washburn from Dunraven Pass; and the trail to Bunsen Peak, 2 miles from the highway near Golden Gate, above Mammoth Hot Springs.

If you are driving, you can still get off the beaten path. Ask about the old Tower Fall road, the Lower Mesa road from Norris, and the Fountain Freight road. This last is another pleasant detour en route from Madison Junction to Old Faithful, and one which gives a different and dramatic view of the Midway Geyser Basin and Grand Prismatic Spring.

If you are camping, why not try one of the smaller and more remote campgrounds? (See pages 26 and 27 for camping information.)

*When hiking, never leave the trail to take a shortcut. Never bike alone. Before starting an extended or overnight bike, register and obtain a FIRE PERMIT at the nearest ranger station.*

#### PARK RANGERS

Uniformed park rangers are responsible for enforcement of park rules and regulations, fire detection and suppression, operation of entrance stations, and general supervision of activities in the several districts into which the park is divided.

They also handle lost and found property and receive suggestions and complaints from visitors.

*If you are in any sort of difficulty or need information, SEE A PARK RANGER. He is here to help you. Remember, however, that he is also a park police officer, commanding the same respect you give such an officer at home. He is authorized to issue summons for the violator of a park regulation to appear before the U.S. Commissioner at park headquarters. Persons who commit more serious offenses may be tried in the U.S. District Court at Cheyenne, Wyo. (See pages 28 to 30 for park rules and regulations.)*

#### PARK NATURALISTS

Park naturalists, who are also in uniform, are the park's interpretive force. They are here to help you understand what you see in the park, and they are responsible for all interpretive services, which are free of charge. These include:

**Visitor Centers.** The visitor center at Mammoth Hot Springs offers a variety of interesting exhibits. They are biological, geological, and historical in content and will give you



Norris Geyser Basin.

a background for the following branch visitor centers, each of which has a theme:

- Old Faithful (geology of the large geysers, biology).
- Madison Junction (history).
- Norris (geology of thermal areas).
- Fishing Bridge (biology and geology of the Lake area).
- Canyon Village (geology, biology, history of Canyon area).

**Campfire programs.** Informal programs are given each evening by park naturalists at Mammoth Hot Springs, Madison Junction, Old Faithful, West Thumb, Lake, Fishing Bridge, Canyon Village, and Tower Fall. The programs usually include slides or movies dealing with the history or natural history of the park. Subjects are changed each evening and are posted on bulletin boards at important interest centers; a few are park birds, geology, flowers, fishing, Indians, mountains, animals, photography in the park, and Yellowstone in winter.

**Guided walks.** In three thermal areas, along specially constructed wooden walks, and at the Grand Canyon, park naturalists lead regularly scheduled tours of the neighborhood. Nature walks are conducted along forest trails morning or afternoon in some parts of the park.

**Self-guiding trails.** These are marked with maps and numerous trail signs. Some are provided with folders.

### WILDLIFE OF THE PARK

**Mammals.** In all probability, the American black bear will be the first large Yellowstone animal you will see. You are not likely to see a grizzly bear, the most feared and respected of the park's wild animals—but if you do, give him a wide berth. You will know him by his frosty brown fur and the distinct hump over his shoulders. The full-grown grizzly is much larger than the black bear, and has much longer foreclaws.

If you are truly interested in seeing the park wildlife, rise with the sun and ride or hike in the early morning through the forests and meadows. By 8 or 9 a.m., most of the mammals will have gone into seclusion, not to be seen again until evening when they again come out into the open areas to feed. For photography, the morning hours are best.

Besides the bear, you will likely see the following large mammals: mule deer, moose, American elk, pronghorn, bison, bighorn (rarely), and coyote.

These are the places they are most likely to be seen in numbers:

**Deer.** Mammoth Hot Springs area, below the terraces and at Indian Creek; near Chittenden Bridge; in three directions from West Thumb.

**American elk (wapiti).** This is not a true elk—the moose being the American representative of the Old World elks. Below Madison Junction on the West Yellowstone Road; in the lower Norris Geyser Basin; in the Roaring Mountain area between Mammoth and Norris.

**Moose.** In Willow Park between Mammoth and Norris; at Lewis River below the Lewis River falls; in Pelican Creek near Fishing Bridge; Hayden Valley; Dunraven Pass; and Soda Butte Creek near the Northeast Entrance.

**Bison.** In the Lower Geyser Basin; near Madison Junction; Hayden and Lamar Valleys; and near Mary Bay on the East Entrance Road.

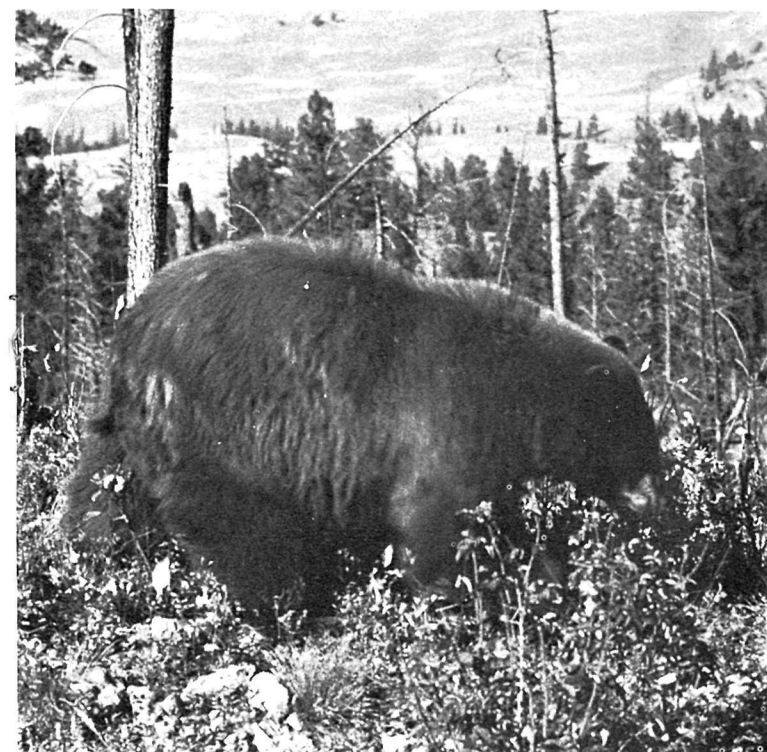
**Coyote.** Everywhere; he is becoming as bold as the bear. Particularly, however, in the Lamar Valley; in Hayden Valley; and near Mammoth.

**Bighorn.** Near the summit of Mount Washburn, which may be reached by park bus or by hiking.

**Pronghorn.** Near Gardiner and the North Entrance; on the Blacktail Deer Plateau between Mammoth and Tower Junction; in Lamar Valley.

*It is reckless and dangerous to approach any wild animal closely, even though it appears tame. Any of the larger animals may turn impulsively and inflict serious injury. Do not*

*On foot, give all bears a wide berth; if one approaches your car, stay in it, with windows closed. Park bears are wild animals. Do not tease, molest, or feed them.*



*feed, tease, frighten, or molest them in any way, particularly if they are accompanied by young; such acts are violations of park regulations.*

Among the smaller mammals seen along the roadside are the marmot, golden-mantled ground squirrel, chipmunk, and Uinta ground squirrel, or picket-pin. This last-named little fellow gets his nickname because he stands as straight as the wooden pins used to tether horses. You see him in open places—not in the forests.

**Birds.** For birdwatching, as well as for spotting mammals, binoculars will be found useful. Yellowstone's bird population is fascinating in its variety; it includes some 200 species.

Our Nation's symbol, the bald eagle, is seen occasionally near the Madison, Firehole, and Yellowstone Rivers, and Lake Yellowstone. You can identify him by his white tail and head. He usually nests in the treetops. The osprey, considerably smaller, has white on the head and underbody. He usually nests on rock pinnacles. Osprey nests are visible from some of the canyon overlooks.

Look for white pelicans, floating like ships under sail, on the water at Lake, Fishing Bridge, and Hayden Valley. Watch also for the California Gull, the mallard, and the Canada goose. The rare trumpeter swan, which at one time was almost extinct, is still difficult to see; for though it is a well-established resident of the park, it nests at secluded lakes and ponds.

The most brilliant of the smaller birds is the western tanager; watch also for the violet-green swallow, flashing color as it glides along canyon walls; the western and mountain bluebirds; the Canada jay; and the water ouzel, or dipper, clown of the bird world, who performs along fast streams near waterfalls and rapids and actually walks completely submerged on the bottom of the streams.

### TREES AND FLOWERS

Ninety percent of Yellowstone is forested. The lodgepole pine predominates (about 80 percent); other evergreens are limber pine, whitebark pine, Engelmann spruce, alpine fir and Douglas-fir, Rocky Mountain juniper, and mountain common juniper.

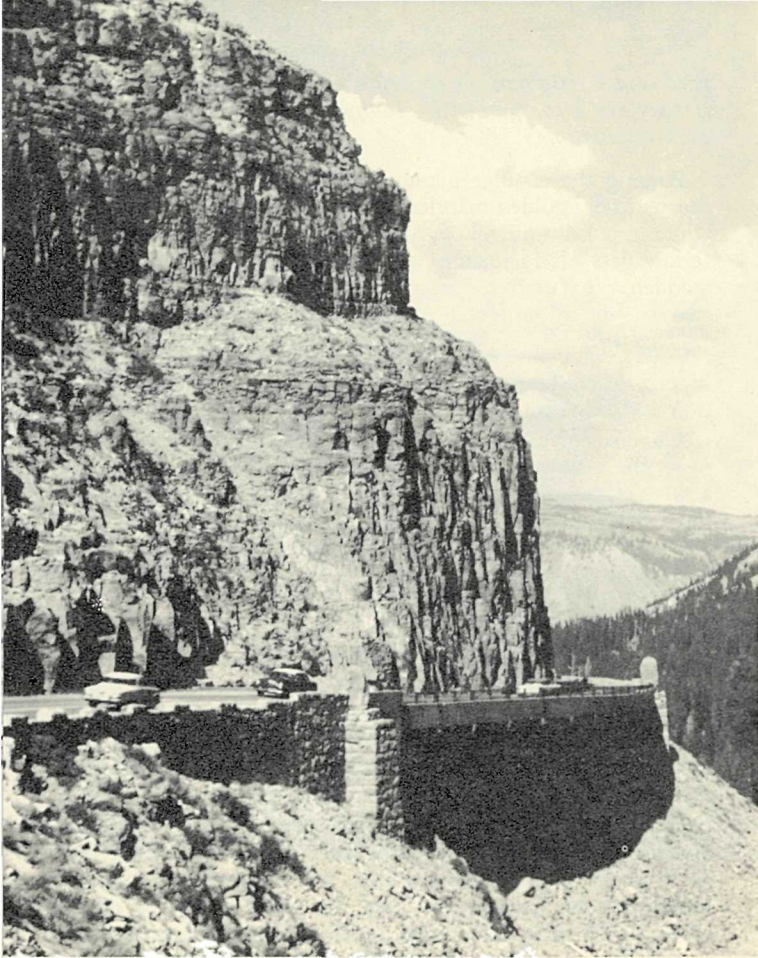
In many places, you will see quaking aspen and perhaps hear the rustling of its leaves in the wind. At lower elevations, you will see narrowleaf cottonwood and, along streams, mountain alder and willow.

Walk out on the sweet-smelling valley floor, and you will see sagebrush, rabbitbrush, and shrubby cinquefoil in profusion.

There, too, you will find the flamboyant Indian paintbrush, and lupine—a heavenly blue; in the cooler places, the delicate columbine and harebell; and, in damp meadows, all over the park, Rocky Mountain fringed gentian, Yellowstone's own flower.

If you will study the descriptions and illustrations of the plants in one of the good wildflower guides, you will be





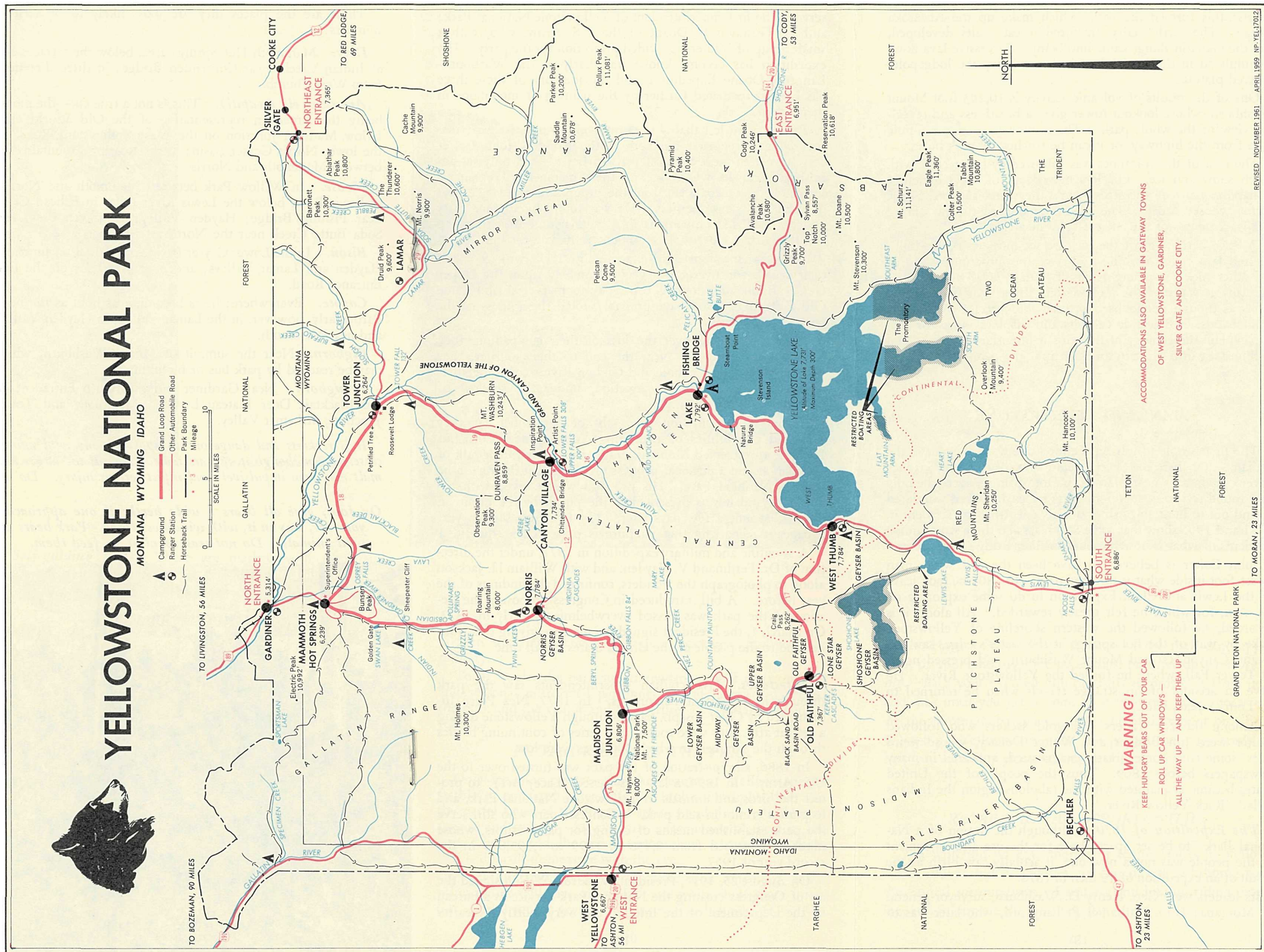
Golden Gate, near Mammoth Hot Springs.

able to identify them along the roadside or trail. And, particularly if your camera has a telephoto or wide-angle lens, you should be able to get delightful wildflower photographs.

### GEOLOGY OF THE YELLOWSTONE REGION

Many millions of years ago, the area that now includes this mountain park (with an average elevation of 7,500 feet) was an inland sea. Later, during a long period of mighty internal disturbance, the earth pushed its crust slowly upwards, and the water receded. What is now the park began to take form as a huge basin surrounded by peaks.

A series of violent volcanic eruptions brought about the next great geological change. The mountains exploded, to pour out onto the surrounding country great quantities of volcanic





debris; this formed the rocks which make up the Absaroka Range. The earth's crust fractured, great faults developed, and the Gallatin Range came into being. Successive lava flows accumulated in the lowlands, which are today the lodgepole-covered plateaus.

One of the results of volcanic activity is 10,243-foot Mount Washburn, whose lookout tower gives a breathless and revealing view of the whole park. The summit is an easy 3.6-mile hike from the highway, or it can be reached by park buses.

The heat of the volcanoes was followed by bitter cold, with much snow and ice. Glaciers moved out of the mountains, reshaping many of the stream-cut valleys and canyons to the forms we see today. The glaciers modified the hot-spring basins, remnants of the ancient volcanic action.

A large percentage of the rock we see in the park is a light-colored lava called rhyolite. One of the most interesting of the other rock formations is basalt, a dark lava, which, along the canyon walls of the Yellowstone River near Tower Fall, looks as though it had been pressed into precise columns by giant hands. (Roadside exhibits and displays in visitor centers explain the geology of the park at important points. You will find it worth while to study them.)

## MAN AND YELLOWSTONE

The first people to inhabit Yellowstone were, of course, the Indians. Of these the Sheepeaters (who lived in the Gardner River canyon area near Mammoth Hot Springs) were the only year-round residents. Neighboring tribes, however, wandered in and out to hunt and fish. Burials unearthed by accident in 1941 and 1956 show that some 800 years ago there were Indian residents of what is now the busy Fishing Bridge campground.

John Colter is believed to have been the first white man to set foot inside what is now the park. In 1807 he took leave of the Lewis and Clark Expedition to do some exploring on his own, for which he felt greatly rewarded. All alone, it is recorded, he followed the western shoreline of Yellowstone Lake by way of the hot springs at the water's edge, saw the Grand Canyon, crossed Mount Washburn, and pressed north to Tower Fall, where he forded the Yellowstone River. He gave an account of his strange travels when he returned to St. Louis 3 years later.

Among the fur traders and gold seekers who followed Colter were Jim Bridger and Walter DeLacy, whose weird tales, some true, some greatly exaggerated, appeared in many newspapers before 1869. Thus the people of the United States became acquainted with the fabulous region the Indians called "Rock Yellow River."

*The Expedition of 1870.* Although the notion of a National Park "to be set apart" here for the use and enjoyment of the people was not a new one, it actually saw birth as the result of an expedition of 19 men in 1870.

Its leaders were Gen. Henry D. Washburn, surveyor-general of Montana; Hon. Nathaniel P. Langford, who later was to

serve as the first superintendent of Yellowstone National Park; and Lt. Gustavus C. Doane of the U.S. Army, who, with a small group of soldiers, provided protection for the party. The expedition has become known familiarly as the Washburn-Langford-Doane Expedition, and the memory of these three has been perpetuated further by the naming of mountains in their honor.

The party, in less than 4 weeks' travel through the park, discovered and reported on most of the wonders John Colter may have seen more than 60 years earlier. Their only serious mishap occurred when one of their members, Truman C. Everts, became separated from the group and spent "37 days of peril" in the wilderness. He was found by another party and rejoined his companions in Montana long after they had left the park. He, too, has a mountain named for him.

During their sojourn in the area and after having given up their search for Everts, the group stumbled upon the Upper Geyser Basin and stopped for a day to marvel at and name Old Faithful. (You have probably noted the aptness of the park's place names.)

Then, despondent over the loss of their companion, they pressed toward home. Near the end of their journey, they camped where the Firehole and Gibbon Rivers come together, at what is now Madison Junction, under the shadow of National Park Mountain.

Around a campfire on the night of September 19, they discussed possibilities of exploiting Yellowstone. Cornelius Hedges, an esteemed Montana judge, interrupted their talk of speculation and a personal profit, suggesting that the region be made a National Park. His proposal was received with enthusiasm, and it was presented to the public by the group in Helena, Mont., a few days later. (In late August each year a pageant reenacting this campfire is presented at the site.)

A scientific and military expedition in 1871, under the direction of Dr. Ferdinand V. Hayden, and with William H. Jackson along to photograph the wonders, confirmed the findings of the year before. A bill introduced in Congress proposing the creation of the park was passed overwhelmingly early in 1872. On March 1, the President signed the measure giving this wonderland to the people of the United States for all time.

*Milestones.* Five civilian superintendents saw the park through its important beginnings. In 1877, Nez Perce Indians, led by Chief Joseph, passed through Yellowstone during a retreat after they were routed in a series of continuing battles through the summer, in which 300 lives were lost.

In 1886, administration of the park was turned over to the U.S. Army. In 1894, a law was passed (Lacey Act) "to protect the birds and animals in Yellowstone National Park, and to punish crimes in said park." Concessioners who still serve the park established means of caring for park visitors, whose numbers increased from 5,438 in 1895 to 1,595,875 in the record year of 1957.

On August 25, 1916, President Woodrow Wilson signed the act of Congress creating the National Park Service as a bureau of the Department of the Interior, and very shortly thereafter



*Electric Peak.*

civilian superintendents were again appointed, replacing the military.

Today, under the park superintendent, a staff of permanent and seasonal uniformed personnel provide service to protect the park and the visitor and to interpret and explain its natural features.

## PHOTOGRAPHY IN THE PARK

Only in color pictures can the beauty of Yellowstone be faithfully portrayed—not only the high-color sights, but also the pastel tones of the thermal springs and the subtle skies of sunrise and sunset. An exposure meter is useful, because the geyser basins and the mountaintops have a quality of light that is difficult to measure with the eye.

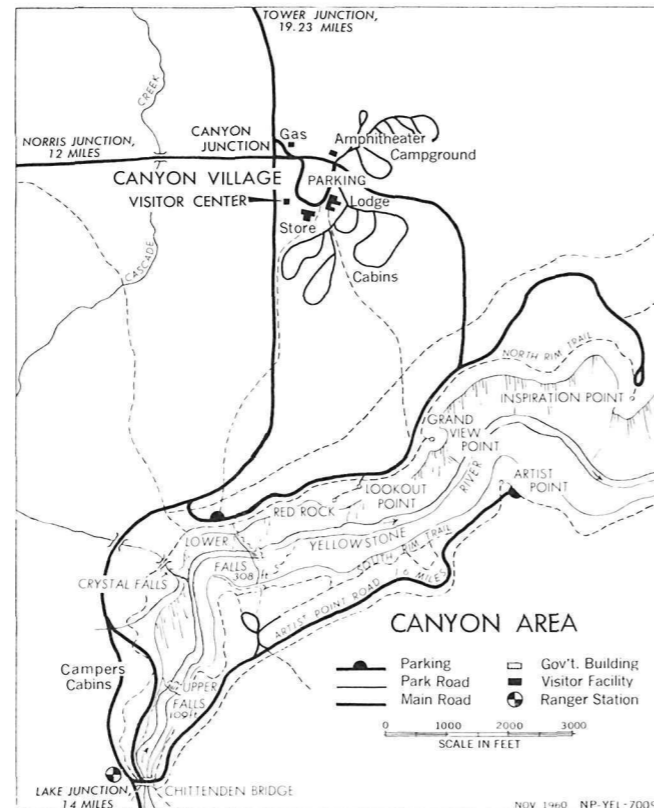
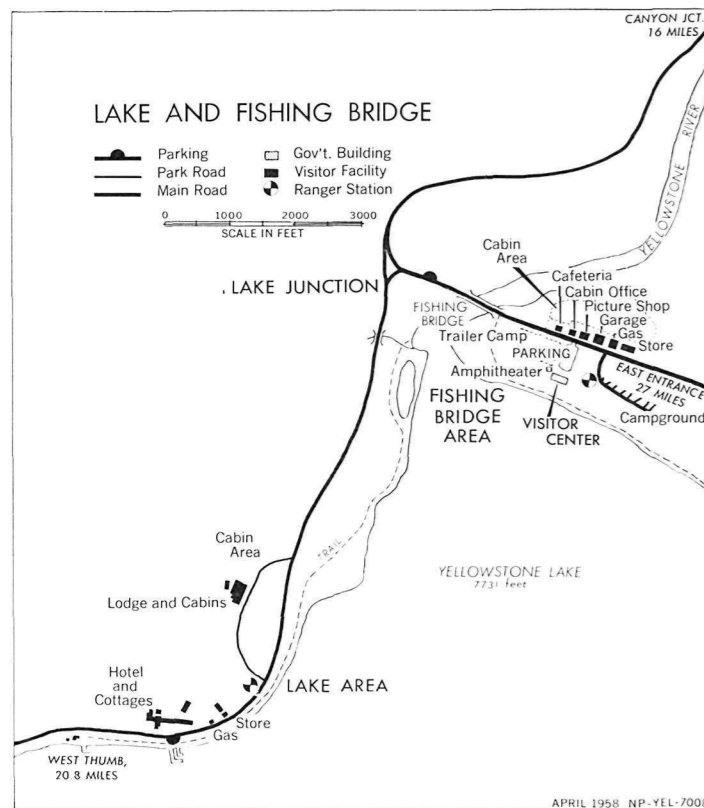
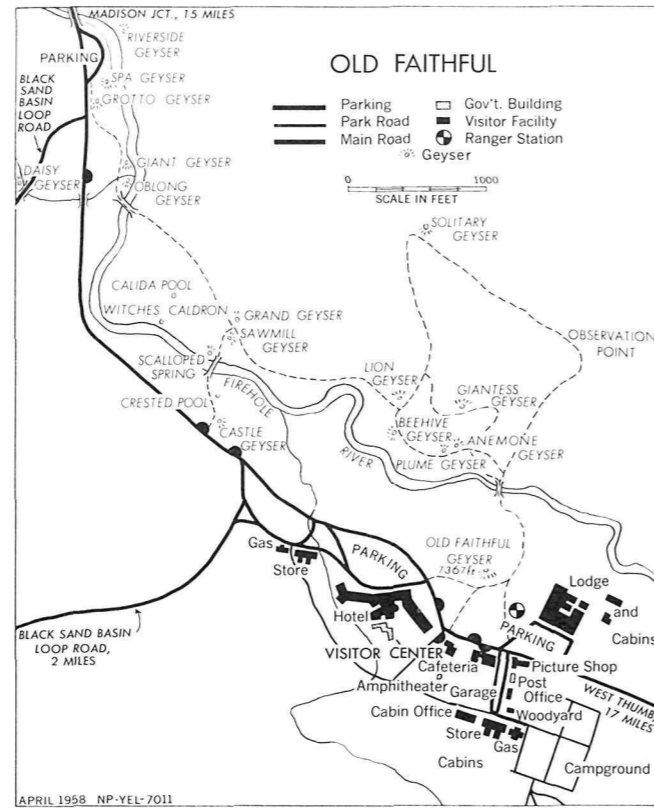
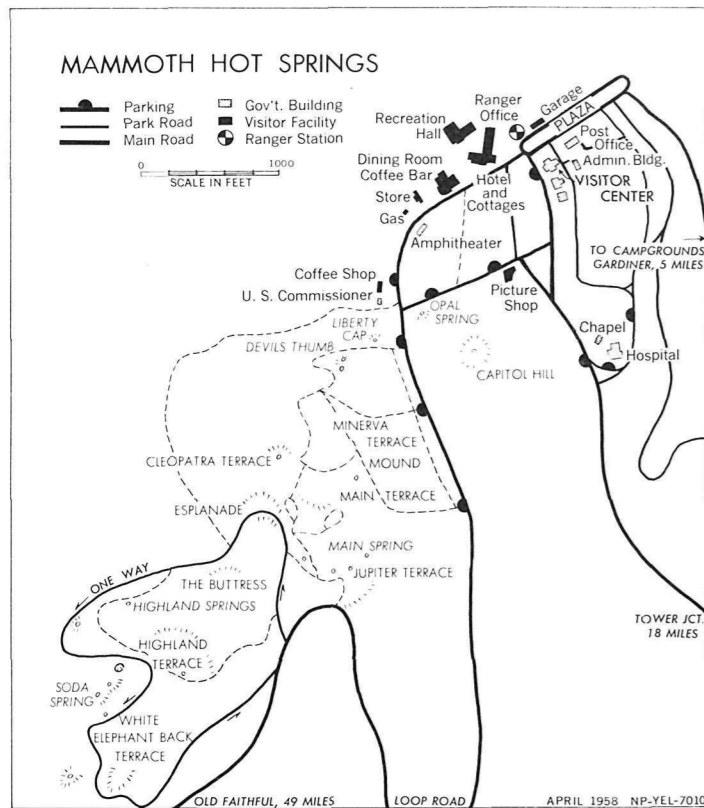
A sky filter is necessary for accurate color rendering, and a yellow filter will give your black-and-white shots more interest. Try them for geysers, hot springs, and clouds.

The Haynes Photo Shops throughout the park can supply most of your photographic necessities, but they do *no processing*. Pack your exposed film carefully to protect it from heat and dust until you get it home or mail it out to be processed. At the photo shops you can get a helpful booklet on "Photographing Yellowstone," and the people there are ready to help you solve any picture-taking problems.

## RECREATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

You will find no golf courses or tennis courts in Yellowstone. Recreational activities are varied, but in keeping with the natural surroundings. Camping and hiking, riding, boating, and fishing are the most popular.





**Hiking.** Never hike alone. Never go near a bear, deer, or any other large wild animal. Notify friends and a park ranger of your route and your expected times of departure and return.

**Riding.** One enjoyable way to see the park is on horseback. You can rent horses at Mammoth Hot Springs, Roosevelt, and Old Faithful. There are scheduled trips; none may be made without a guide. You can, however, make up your own guided party and spend a day or several days exploring some of the thousand miles of horseback trails through arrangements with dude ranchers or licensed guides in the vicinity of the park.

**Boating.** Boats longer than 32 feet are not allowed in the park, nor are sailboats. No boats are allowed on the streams, except at Fishing Bridge and the Lewis Lake channel; but Yellowstone, Lewis, and Shoshone Lakes offer fine boating. Craft 16 feet or less in length are obliged, for safety, to stay within one-quarter of a mile from shore.

The 7-mile trip by boat from Lewis Lake campground to Shoshone Lake is well worth the effort, if you have your own canoe or rowboat. The last 4 miles follow the channel between the two lakes; because of swift waters during the last miles, it is necessary to wade upstream and pull the boat. A campfire permit is required when camping at Shoshone.

**Fishing.** Yellowstone, one of the few parks in which no fishing license is required, offers a great variety of stream and lake fishing. Before you start to fish, acquaint yourself with the fishing regulations and observe them carefully.

Yellowstone's "Fishing for Fun" program represents a new approach to the sport. Ask a ranger for details.

**PARK SEASON**

During the official park season (May 1 through October 31), park roads are open for travel. From May 1 to about June 20 and from about September 10 through October 31, some concessioner facilities (lodging, food, stores, and service stations) are open. All hotels, lodges, camps, cabins, and related facilities are open from about June 20 through September 10. Accommodations are always available in nearby Gardiner, Cooke City, and West Yellowstone, Mont., and Cody and Jackson, Wyo.

**WINTER ROAD CONDITIONS:** From Gardiner to Mammoth Hot Springs, and from Mammoth across the northern part of the park to Northeast Entrance and Cooke City, Mont., the road is open all winter. Beyond Cooke City, however, the road is closed from approximately October 15 to June 1, so the Northeast Entrance is in effect closed during this period. West, East and South Entrances are closed from approximately November 1 to May 1. All motorists who visit the park during the winter, early spring, or late autumn should be prepared for snow and should carry tire chains.

**PREPARING FOR YOUR VISIT**

**Books.** Haynes, Inc., has for many years produced the official park handbook, *Haynes Guide*. It can be bought at Haynes Photo Shops throughout the park or at park visitor centers for \$1.50, or by mail from Haynes, Inc., 801 North Wallace Avenue, Bozeman, Mont., for \$1.70, including postage.

Your visit to the park will be more enjoyable and you will understand more of what you see if you will read one of the following general books (probably available at your local library): *Yellowstone National Park*, by Hiram M. Chittenden; and *The Story of Man in Yellowstone*, by Merrill D. Beal. You may write to the Yellowstone Library & Museum Association, Yellowstone Park, Wyo., for a list of special texts on the Indians and on the park's plants and animals, geology, and geysers.

**What To Bring.** Camera and binoculars; hiking boots or heavy, rubber-soled shoes for rocks and trails; riding boots; mediumweight clothing for daytime wear; coats and sweaters for evening; raincoats for inclement weather.

**HOW TO REACH THE PARK**

**By Automobile.** Yellowstone can be reached from several transcontinental highways. Automobile associations, touring services, travel bureaus, chambers of commerce, and gasoline stations can furnish road information and maps. Inquiry should be made concerning road conditions and snow in high mountain passes in May and June and in September and October.

- Yellowstone is entered by road at 5 points:
- NORTH:** At Gardiner, Mont. (56 miles from Livingston, Mont.).
- NORTHEAST:** Via Cooke City, Mont. (4 miles); 69 miles from Red Lodge, Mont.
- EAST:** Via Cody, Wyo. (53 miles).
- SOUTH:** From Jackson, Wyo. (56 miles), via Grand Teton National Park; 22 miles from Moran, Wyo.; 158 miles from Lander, Wyo., via U.S. 287; 161 miles from Riverton, Wyo., via U.S. 26.

**WEST:** At West Yellowstone, Mont. (Ashton, Idaho, 57 miles; Bozeman, Mont., 90 miles; Ennis, Mont., 74 miles).

You can drive around the Grand Loop (147 miles) in a day's time and glance at major attractions. But if you visit the park so briefly, you will never know how much you have missed.

**By Train.** Park buses meet trains or buses of the Northern Pacific Railway at Gardiner and Silver Gate, Mont.; of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad, at Cody, Wyo.; of the Union Pacific Railroad, at West Yellowstone, Mont., and at Moran, Wyo.; of the Chicago, Milwaukee, St. Paul and Pacific Railroad, at Gallatin Gateway, Mont.

**By Bus.** NORTH ENTRANCE: Central Greyhound Lines to Livingston, Mont.; Northern Pacific Transport to Gardiner, Mont.; park buses from Gardiner to all points within the park.

EAST ENTRANCE: Continental Trailways to Cody, Wyo.; park buses from Cody to all points within the park.

WEST ENTRANCE: Western Greyhound to West Yellowstone; park buses to all points within the park.

Write to the Yellowstone Park Company, Yellowstone Park, Wyo., for further information regarding bus trips to and through the park.

**By Airplane.** Billings, Mont.—Northwest Orient, Western, and Frontier Airlines.

Bozeman, Mont.—Northwest Orient Airlines.

Cody, Wyo.—Frontier Airlines.

Jackson, Wyo.—Frontier Airlines.

Salt Lake City, Utah—United and Western Airlines.

Transportation is available from all these points; information may be obtained from airline ticket offices and travel agents.

## ACCOMMODATIONS

The Yellowstone Park Company, long associated with the history and growth of the park, operates hotels and lodges, cottages and cabins, dining rooms and cafeterias, boats, horseback trips, and buses. Their rates are approved by the National Park Service.

*It is advisable to request reservations in advance by writing to the Yellowstone Park Company, Reservations Department, Yellowstone Park, Wyo. Their schedule of rates for all types of accommodations will be sent on request.*

Mammoth Hot Springs Hotel and Old Faithful Inn are open from approximately June 10 to September 10; Lake Hotel, from about June 10 to September 5. All have dining rooms. Mammoth Hot Springs and Lake Hotels have cottages, many with shower and toilet. In the Canyon Village area, new modern cottages, all with bath and heat, are open from about May 28 to October 1.

Old Faithful Lodge is open from May 25 to September 15; Lake Lodge, from June 15 to September 1; and Roosevelt Lodge, from June 16 to September 1 (all approximate). All lodges have dining rooms. (No cooking is permitted in the lodge cabins.)

There are campers' cabins, not equipped with bedding or cooking utensils (although these may be rented), at Old Faithful, West Thumb, Fishing Bridge, and Canyon, where there are also cafeterias. Cooking is permitted in these cabins. Furnished cabins are also available. Showers and laundry facilities are available at Old Faithful, West Thumb, and Fishing Bridge. Accommodations of this type are open from about May 10 to October 15; at Old Faithful, May 1.

**Camp and Trailer Grounds.** There are 16 improved camp and trailer grounds inside the park. They are open from approximately June 1 to September 15, but some may be used earlier and later. Their capacity varies from 4 sites (Slough Creek) to 450 (Old Faithful). Canyon Village, which is new,

accommodates 160, and Fishing Bridge, newly enlarged, 400 when complete. There are other designated sites scattered through the park for hikers, horseback parties, or people using boats. For these, a campfire permit is required, which can be obtained at ranger stations.

Campgrounds are operated on a first-come, first-served basis. They are free of charge; reservations are not made. There are no electrical or water connections for trailers, but comfort stations are located in all main campgrounds, and water is available. Each site has its own grill and table, except in some of the smaller campgrounds. (A list of campsites may be obtained at ranger stations or by mail.) Camping is limited to 14 days during the height of the travel season (July 1 through Labor Day).

## SERVICES IN THE PARK

**Mail Service.** Visitors should have their mail sent to them in care of General Delivery, Yellowstone Park, Wyo., at one of these post offices: Mammoth Hot Springs (main); Old Faithful, West Thumb, Fishing Bridge, or Canyon (branches).

Those stopping at hotels may have their mail sent in care of the Yellowstone Park Company, Yellowstone Park, Wyo., with the name of the hotel where they have reservations.

**Telegraph and Telephone.** Telegrams may be sent from hotels to any part of the world. Visitors should use Yellowstone Park, Wyo., as their telegraphic address, and inquire for messages at the main office in the Mammoth Hot Springs Hotel.

*Notices of undelivered telegrams and urgent messages are posted daily on bulletin boards at ranger stations, visitor centers, post offices, and elsewhere throughout the park.*

Long-distance and local (intrapark) telephone calls may be made from booths located throughout the park.

**Medical.** A well-equipped hospital, with surgeon, staff physicians, and nursing staff, is at Mammoth Hot Springs. Physicians on the hospital staff and at Old Faithful Inn and Canyon village are on call for emergency medical attention at any point in the park. Trained nurses are stationed in each hotel and lodge.

First aid also may be obtained from ranger stations and visitor centers in case of emergency. Fees for hospital, medical, and ambulance services are approved by the National Park Service and are in keeping with standard charges throughout the country.

**Religious Services.** Church services—Protestant, Roman Catholic, Christian Science, and Latter-day Saints—are conducted in several areas throughout the park on Sunday, many of them in outdoor amphitheaters. Seventh-day Adventist services are held on Saturday.

The Protestant services are sponsored by the National Council of Churches; the main service is held at the Yellowstone Park interdenominational chapel at Mammoth Hot Springs, where the park's resident minister is in charge.

**Transportation.** The Yellowstone Park Company's big yellow buses are available for travel throughout the park from

June 22 to September 3. They are available also for trips to the summit of Mount Washburn.

Rent-A-Car service is available at Mammoth, Old Faithful, and Canyon, and in towns near the park—a convenience for travelers who do not have their own transportation and would like to do some independent exploring.

**Garages, Service Stations.** For automobile repairs, garages are located in the park at Old Faithful, Fishing Bridge, and Gardiner.

Gasoline service stations are found in the park at Mammoth, Old Faithful, West Thumb, Lake, Fishing Bridge, and Canyon.

**Stores and Newsstands.** Hamilton Stores, carrying groceries and drug supplies, sportswear and camping equipment, refreshments, newspapers and magazines, and other items are located at Mammoth, Old Faithful, West Thumb, Lake, Fishing Bridge, and Canyon. Some stores are open to serve campers as long as travel is permitted. There are newsstands in all hotels and lodges, where curios, souvenirs, newspapers, magazines, etc., may be purchased.

**Photographs and Photo Supplies.** Haynes, Inc., operates picture shops at Mammoth, Old Faithful, West Thumb, Fishing Bridge, Canyon, Tower Fall, and Roosevelt Lodge and has shops in the hotels and lodges. Winter address: Haynes, Inc., 801 N. Wallace Street, Bozeman, Mont.

## RULES AND REGULATIONS

**Fires.** Campfires are permitted *only in designated automobile campgrounds*, except that:

*Campfires away from established camps may be allowed if a written permit is obtained in advance at the nearest park ranger station.*

**Make Sure Your Fire Is Out!** *No burning material shall be thrown from any vehicle or saddlehorse or dropped into any flammable material. REPORT ALL FOREST, BRUSH, OR GRASS FIRES TO THE NEAREST PARK RANGER, RANGER STATION, OR VISITOR CENTER.*

**Protection of Wildlife.** This park is a sanctuary for wildlife, and feeding, hunting, killing, wounding, frightening, or capturing of any bird or other animal is prohibited.

**Firearms.** Use or display of firearms is prohibited. *Possession must be declared* at entrance station.

**Preservation of Natural Features.**—Yellowstone National Park has been set aside by Congress for you to enjoy. At the same time, it is to be kept unimpaired for the use and enjoyment of future generations.

*The natural formations of Yellowstone are easily damaged. Please do not injure or write upon them; do not throw objects into pools, steam vents, or hot springs; do not chip or carry away specimens of rock or mineral; do not pick or destroy flowers or trees. Such acts, whether resulting from ignorance, maliciousness, or carelessness, are misdemeanors punishable by law.*

**Camping** is permitted *only in specially designated campsites* and is *limited to 30 days in any single campground*, 14 days in the heavy travel season (July 1 through Labor Day). Campers may not leave sites unattended for more than 48 hours.

Take only fallen dead trees for fuel. (Cash-and-carry woodyards near large campgrounds sell Pres-to-logs and split wood.)

Do not throw or leave refuse along roads, or in campgrounds, picnic areas, or other park lands. Use trash receptacles. Comfort stations are at main developed areas. Do not clean fish or wash clothes at campground hydrants. Do not drain or dump refuse from any trailer, except at designated places.

**Fishing** is permitted *only with rod and line in hand. No license is required. Night fishing is not permitted. Opening dates for the fishing season in streams and lakes and the size and catch limits vary throughout the park. Parkwide fishing regulations may be obtained at entrance stations or ranger stations, or from park rangers. Study the regulations before fishing in park waters. Park rangers will gladly help you.*

**Bait.** The use of eggs, minnows, or other bait fish, fresh or preserved, and the possession of such bait within the park are unlawful. Digging of worms for bait is not permitted in the park (but worms may be purchased), and only artificial flies may be used as lures in certain park waters. The canning or curing of fish is prohibited.

*Ask for copy of fishing regulations in order to avoid violation of closed waters, special seasons, use of certain lures, and other restrictions. Violators are subject to prosecution.*

**Boats.** *No privately owned boat, canoe, raft, or other floating craft shall be placed in operation upon park waters without a permit, which may be obtained (without charge) at entrance or ranger stations.*

Boats longer than 32 feet are not allowed on the lakes; boats 16 feet or under may not be operated more than one-quarter of a mile from shore. No floating craft of any type may be operated on park streams, except at Fishing Bridge and Lewis Lake channel.

*Read your boat permit for complete boating regulations.*

**Dogs and Cats** are allowed in the park if they are on leashes or otherwise under physical restrictive control, but not on trails or in boats under any circumstances.

**Lost Articles** should be reported to the nearest ranger station. If found, they should be deposited at the ranger station.

**Travel on Trails.** If you are traveling on the trails you should not take shortcuts but should confine yourself to the established trails. Motorcycles, other motor vehicles, or bicycles shall not be operated on trails.

**Motor Vehicles.** No vehicle shall be operated *outside constructed roadways or designated parking areas.*

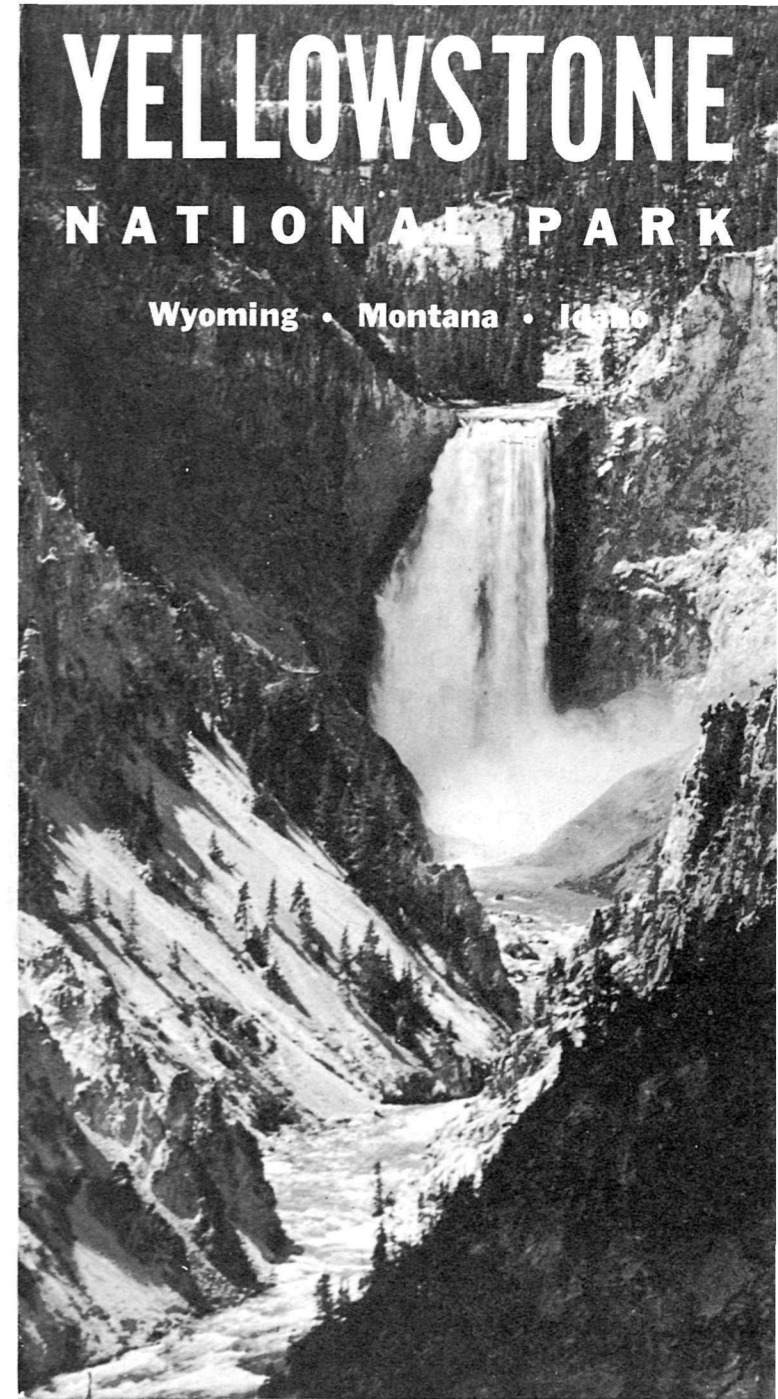
Motor vehicles shall be operated *only with a park permit*, which must be carried in the vehicle for which issued and must be exhibited on request to park rangers. Motor vehicles shall leave or enter the park only by regular entrances and exits.



# YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK

Wyoming • Montana • Idaho

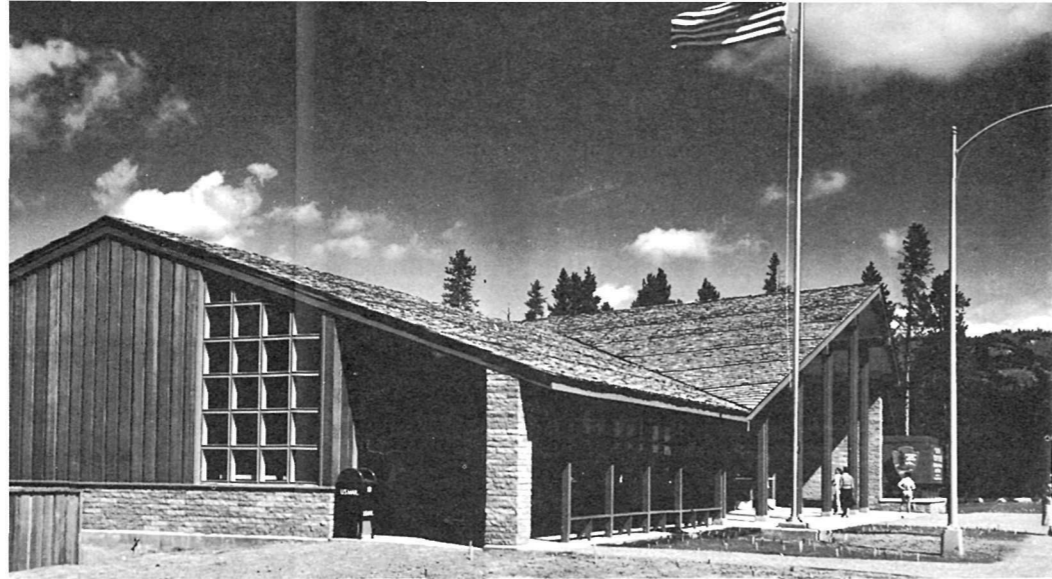
UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE



## FOR YOUR SAFETY

While in geyser or hot springs areas, *Stay on Constructed Walks and Keep Your Children on Them.* A fall into a boiling pool is fatal; in many places, ground crust that looks safe and solid is thin—dangerous to walk on.

*Bears, Deer, and Other Large Animals Are Potentially Very Dangerous. Observe Them From a Distance; Do Not Feed Them. Remain in Car. Keep Car Windows and Doors Closed When Stopping To Observe Bears.*



*The visitor center at  
Canyon Village,  
built under the  
MISSION 66 program.*

Revised 1962

U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE : 1962—O-628159

## ADMINISTRATION

Yellowstone National Park is administered by the National Park Service, U.S. Department of the Interior. A superintendent (address: Yellowstone Park, Wyo.), is in immediate charge.

## MISSION 66

Mission 66 is a program designed to be completed by 1966 which will assure the maximum protection of the scenic, scientific, wilderness, and historic resources of the National Park System in such ways and by such means as will make them available for the use and enjoyment of present and future generations.

## VISITOR-USE FEES

Vehicle permit fees are collected at entrance stations. If you arrive when an entrance station is unattended, you must obtain a permit before leaving the park. Fees are not listed herein because they are subject to change, but the information may be obtained by writing to the superintendent.

Fee revenues are deposited in the U.S. Treasury; they offset, in part, the cost of operating and maintaining the National Parks.

*Cover: Yellowstone Canyon and Lower Falls.*



UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE



For sale by the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office,  
Washington 25, D.C. — Price 15 cents

Before and after the main travel season, hours of exit and entrance will be posted by the superintendent. Only vehicles in sound mechanical condition may be operated on park roads. (See complete regulations for details.)

Park roads have numerous curves and grades. Excessive speed may spell major tragedy. *Courtesy and caution* must be exercised to avoid accidents. Speed of automobiles and other vehicles shall not exceed the following prescribed limits: (1) In all areas which are posted, 25 miles per hour; (2) on 8 miles of the Norris-Canyon road and the Mammoth-North Entrance road, 35 miles per hour; all trucks of 1½-ton capacity or over, 30 miles per hour; (3) cars towing trailers or other cars or vehicles of any kind, 30 miles per hour; and (4) passenger cars and trucks of less than 1½-ton capacity, 45 miles per hour on straight and open stretches.

**Horses and Pack Trains.** Please allow horses and pack trains safe passage. In no case shall a motor vehicle pass such animals on the road at a speed greater than 10 miles per hour, or in such manner or with such noise as to frighten them.

**Obstructing Traffic.** No person shall cause a motor vehicle under his control to obstruct traffic by stopping without a signal, by weaving in and out of traffic, by making right or left turns from the wrong lane, or in any other manner.

**Accidents** must be reported to the nearest ranger station by persons involved as soon as possible after the occurrence.

**Hitchhiking** within the park is not permitted. Motorists should refrain from picking up hitchhikers.

**Pedestrians** should walk facing traffic, especially at night. Copies of the National Park Service General Rules and Regulations and Yellowstone National Park Special Regulations may be seen at ranger stations and visitor centers.

Persons who commit misdemeanors, such as violations of the rules and regulations, are tried before a United States Commissioner at park headquarters. Persons who commit more serious offenses may be tried in the United States District Court at Cheyenne, Wyo.