Enjoy Yellowstone’s Winter Wonderland

Snow and cold combine with natural wonders to create an incomparable winter experience in Yellowstone. Enjoy your winter visit safely.

- Use extra care near waterfalls, on trails, in hydrothermal areas, and around wildlife.
- Watch your children. Your hand and voice may be too far away once your child leaves your side.
- Travel by automobile year-round on the road from the North Entrance to Cooke City, a few miles outside the Northeast Entrance. Mud/Snow tires or chains are recommended and may be required.
- Before beginning your trip—whether by car, skis, or snowshoes—obtain current road and weather reports.
- Dress for winter: wear wool or synthetics, and layer clothing. More gear tips on p. 5.
- Plan outings to match your group’s abilities so everyone can enjoy themselves and stay safe. For more safety tips, see p. 4.
- Stay 100 yards from bears and wolves, 25 yards from bison, elk, bighorn sheep, deer, moose, coyotes. Never feed them or other animals, including birds. More safety tips and regulations on p. 2.
IN HYDROTHERMAL AREAS

Beautiful but deadly: Yellowstone's hydrothermal features can kill you. Their waters are frequently near or above boiling. Their crust is thin, breaks easily, and often overlies scalding water.
- Stay on boardwalks and designated trails. They protect you and delicate formations.
- Keep your children close to you at all times; make sure they understand the danger.
- Pets are prohibited in hydrothermal areas.
- Swimming or bathing is prohibited in hydrothermal pools or streams where water flows entirely from a hydrothermal spring or pool.
- Avoid burns & infections: don't expose your head to thermal water by immersion, splashing, touching your face, or inhaling steam. Thermal water can harbor organisms that cause fatal meningitis or Legionnaires' disease.
- Dangerous levels of hydrogen sulfide and carbon dioxide have been measured in some hydrothermal areas. If you feel sick, leave the location immediately.

AROUND WILDLIFE

Wild animals are dangerous. To protect yourself and wildlife, follow these guidelines when viewing or photographing roadside wildlife, whether you are alone or in a wildlife jam:
- You must stay at least 100 yards (91 m) away from bears and wolves and at least 25 yards (23 m) away from all other animals—including bison, elk, big horn sheep, deer, moose, and coyotes.
- Park in established turnouts and make sure your car is completely off the paved roadway. Put your vehicle into park, and engage your parking brake.
- If you exit your vehicle, stay near it so you can get inside if the animal approaches.
- Avoid being struck by a moving vehicle—do not stand in the road to view or photograph wildlife.
- Never surround, crowd, approach, or follow wildlife.
- Don't block an animal's movement or line of travel.
- Do not run or make sudden movements—this may cause predators to attack.
- If other people in the area are putting you in danger, leave the scene and notify a park ranger.
- Do not ever feed wildlife, including birds.

BISON are unpredictable and dangerous; they weigh up to 2,000 pounds (900 kg) and sprint 30 miles per hour (48 km/h). Visitors are injured every year.
GRIZZLY BEARS sometimes leave their dens. Be alert for tracks, do not approach carcasses. Report signs of bear or encounters with bears to a park ranger as soon as possible. Someone's safety may depend on it.

MORE SAFETY TIPS

Falling Trees Dead trees may suddenly fall, especially on windy days.

High Altitude Most of the park is above 7,500 feet. Allow time to acclimate; be aware of your physical limitations; don't overexert. Drink plenty of water to forestall dehydration from altitude and dry climate. Stop and rest often.

Hypothermia & Frostbite Hypothermia is a rapid loss of body heat that can cause death if not treated. Early warning signs include shivering, slurred speech, memory lapses, drowsiness, and exhaustion. Know these warning signs and how to treat them. Seek help as soon as you can. Frostbite can permanently damage tissue and affect use of fingers, toes, nose, ears, or other extremities. Protect yourself with warm, layered clothing, and frequent stops to warm up.

Theft Lock your vehicle; keep valuables hidden; label valuable property with your name, address, or identification number; report theft or vandalism to a ranger.

Traffic Most park roads are narrow, rough, and busy; drive cautiously and courteously; you must use pullouts to observe wildlife or scenery and to allow other vehicles to pass. Watch for animals on the road, especially at night.

Weather Yellowstone’s weather is unpredictable. Obtain current weather conditions and forecasts at visitor centers or ranger stations. Be prepared for severe winter cold. Plan your trip and follow your plan.

All Hazards NOAA Weather Radio If you have a weather radio receiver, tune to 162.425MHz (Mammoth area) or 162.450 MHz (Lake area) to receive hazardous weather alerts, or go to www.nws.noaa.gov/owr/mwr/.

Watch for ICE on Roads & Trails

Only two park roads are plowed:
1 Between the North Entrance and Cooke City, Montana
2 From Mammoth Hot Springs to the parking area at the Upper Terraces
- They are maintained only during daylight hours and may close during severe storms.
- Expect snowpack, ice, frost heaves, drifts.
- Mud/Snow tires or tire chains may be required and are recommended always.
- Speed limit for all vehicles is 45 mph (73 kph), or lower where posted—such as from North Entrance to Mammoth.
- Do not stop on the road or block traffic when viewing wildlife or scenery. Use pullouts.
- Trails and overlooks may be snow-covered, icy, and dangerous.
- Obey all trail closures. Walk cautiously at all times and watch your children.
Enjoying Winter

In a car You can drive from the North Entrance to Cooke City, MT, year-round. You will see spectacular scenery and probably pronghorn, elk, bison, and possibly wolves.

On skis or snowshoes Choose from many trails in the northern parts of the park and near the West Entrance. Information is available at visitor centers and at www.nps.gov/yell/planyourvisit/wintact.htm. See also pages 4 & 5 for tips, and pages 7, 9, & 11 for guided trips.


Questions?

Albright Visitor Center, Mammoth
Information, bookstore, and exhibits on wildlife and history. Films on the park and the national park idea. Call 307-344-2263.
Open daily, year-round: 9 AM–5 PM

Old Faithful Visitor Center
Information, bookstore, and geyser eruption predictions. Award-winning film about hydrothermal features. Call 307-344-2750.
Open daily, Dec. 15–March 15: 9 AM–5 PM

Old Faithful Virtual Visitor Center

Old Faithful eruption predictions: 307-344-2751, during visitor center hours.

West Yellowstone Visitor Information Center
Information, publications. West Yellowstone Chamber of Commerce staff available year-round, Monday–Friday, 8 AM–5 PM
Call 406-646-7701.
NPS rangers available daily, Dec. 15–March 15: 8 AM–4 PM. Call 307-344-2876

Warming Huts

Warming huts provide shelter for skiers, snowshoers, and snowmobilers. They are open 24 hours a day, except Mammoth and Old Faithful. Opening & closing dates and other details are listed in the services chart on the back page.

Self-guiding Trails: Explore at your own pace

Mammoth Hot Springs Walk through ever-changing travertine terraces and enjoy a scenic drive through the Upper Terraces.

Old Faithful Area The world’s largest concentration of active geysers is here. View Old Faithful then walk trails past hundreds of geysers and hot springs.

Fort Yellowstone Enjoy a walking tour of this historic site at Mammoth Hot Springs, from the time of U.S. Army management (1886–1918).

Forces of the Northern Range
Eight miles east of Mammoth Hot Springs, walk among evidence of volcanoes, glaciers, and fire; and learn about the area’s plants and animals.

Yellowstone on the Internet

Videos & Podcasts
Plan your visit to Yellowstone, create your own customized guide to the park, or enjoy learning more about Yellowstone’s famous attractions and hidden treasures through videos available on the park’s official website (www.nps.gov/yell) or as podcasts from iTunes. Park rangers lead you on short video tours in the “Inside Yellowstone” series. Explore the park in detail with scientists, park rangers, historians, and others in the “Yellowstone Indepth” series. These videos are produced by the National Park Service with funding provided by the Yellowstone Association and the Yellowstone Park Foundation.

Webcams
Here or at home, you can see what’s happening at Old Faithful and Mammoth Hot Springs by going to www.nps.gov/yell/photosmultimedia/webcams.htm. The Old Faithful webcam is trained on the famous geyser and gives the time of the next eruption. You might also see other geysers erupting in the background. Look at the Mammoth webcam to see if bison or elk are hanging out in front of the Albright Visitor Center. Supported by Canon U.S.A. through a grant to the Yellowstone Park Foundation.

Greater Yellowstone Science Learning Center
The Greater Yellowstone Science Learning Center is a portal to information about the natural and cultural resources of Yellowstone and Grand Teton national parks and Bighorn Canyon National Recreation Area. Read about new findings from scientists who are conducting research and monitoring in these parks. Go to: www.GreaterYellowstoneScience.org. Supported by Canon U.S.A. through a grant to the Yellowstone Park Foundation, and by the Yellowstone Association.

Electronic Field Trips
Attention middle school students & teachers—explore our electronic field trips! These eTrips share the resources and treasures of the world’s first national park through creative story lines, auduble dialog, animations, video, lesson plans, and interactive components. Embark on 17 adventures as you look through Windows Into Wonderland. They are free and available any time: www.WindowsIntoWonderland.org.
Safe & Smart Snowmobiling

Dress for Extreme Cold
Essential items: helmet, face mask, heavily insulated gloves or mittens, felt-lined boots, and a heavily insulated snowmobile suit. Avoid tight-fitting garments; they restrict circulation and increase the possibility of frostbite.

Wild Animals Have the Right of Way!
Your guide will know what to do if you encounter wild animals on the road. Recommendations include:
- If bison or other wildlife are on the road, stop at least 25 yards away (100 yards for wolves or bears) and/or pull your machine as far as possible to the opposite side of the road, give them a chance to move off the road.
- Do not make sudden or erratic movements; use groomed pullouts where possible.
- Do not chase animals or cause them to run.
- If an animal appears agitated, do not attempt to pass—it may charge.
- If animals run toward you and you can confidently turn around, do so, moving to a safe place while your guide reassesses the situation.
- 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. If they remain calm, you may be able to pass on the opposite side of the road at a slow speed.

Regulations
Your guide knows the regulations; you should be aware of them too:
- All snowmobilers must be led by a commercial 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.
- 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 45 mph or less where posted or as conditions warrant.
- Speed limit is 35 mph West Entrance to Madison, Madison to Old Faithful.
- 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 on the right side of the road even if the road is rough.
- Drive in single file.
- Do not idle your machine more than 5 minutes.
- When stopping, pull to the far right and park in single file.
- Stay on designated roads. Sidehillling, bermlining, 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.

Weather
Yellowstone’s weather is unpredictable and changes suddenly. Obtain current weather conditions and forecasts at visitor centers or ranger stations. Be prepared for a range of conditions, whether you are out for several hours or overnight. Plan your trip and follow your plan.

Avalanches
- Avalanche hazard can be high on roads between the East Entrance and Fishing Bridge Junction, on Dunraven Pass, on trails in the Cooke City vicinity, and in many areas of the backcountry.
- Learn about avalanche mechanics, safe travel methods, and rescue procedures before going into the backcountry.
- Avalanches most commonly occur on hillsides or in canyons with slopes of 30–45°, but can happen on any slope.
- When traveling through such areas, cross the slope one at a time while others watch.
- Avalanches are more likely to occur during or after heavy fresh snowfall, high winds, or extreme temperature changes.
- Check the Gallatin National Forest Avalanche Center, 406-587-6981 or www.mtnavalanche.com, for avalanche advisories for Bozeman, Livingston, West Yellowstone, Cooke City, and Gardiner; or check with a local ranger for a current forecast.

Safe & Smart Skiing & Snowshoeing
- Most of the park is above 7,500 feet. If you are coming from lower elevations, acclimate yourself and test your capabilities by taking short day trips before considering longer excursions.
- Evaluate your party’s capabilities. Plan your outing so that everyone will enjoy it.
- Know your equipment’s capabilities and weaknesses and be prepared to make repairs.
- Let someone know where you are going.
- Never go close to geyers, hot springs, or mudpots. You may fall through overhanging snow ledges or thin crust. Do not leave designated trails in hydrothermal areas.
- Beware of icy conditions on downhill grades leading into hydrothermal areas. Side-step or walk down the hill rather than risk skiing out of control into a boiling pool.
- When crossing frozen lakes, use extreme caution and check ice thickness by prodding with a ski pole. Ice, snow-covered or not, may be thin, especially near inlets, outlets, and waters warmed by hydrothermal activity. Crossing rivers may be dangerous; some have bridges and some do not. Ask a ranger about local crossings.
- Do not approach wildlife. Wild animals are unpredictable; if they charge, you can’t outrun them, especially in deep snow. If they run, you are forcing them to use energy they need to survive.
- When passing through areas of dead trees (snags), stay on established trails and be alert. Snags can fall with little warning.
- Exertion in dry mountain air can dehydrate you. Drink two quarts of water a day. Carry gear to melt water from snow or dip it out of a stream from a safe distance with a ski pole. Boil water from lakes or streams to reduce the chance of infection from water-borne diseases.
- Learn as much as you can about winter survival. Talk with park rangers before you leave on any trip. Many good books are also available on this topic.
- Follow basic ski etiquette: skiers going uphill yield to those going downhill; never walk or snowshoe in ski tracks.
- Orange trail markers attached to trees may be difficult to find in winter. Even on a well-marked trail, you can become lost easily in a whiteout or blizzard.
- If you venture into the backcountry, carry a USGS topographic map and a compass—and know how to use them.
- Attempt off-trail travel only if you are completely familiar with the specific area where you will be skiing.
- Obtain specific information on conditions at the area’s ranger station, backcountry office, warming hut, or visitor center.

You must stay at least 100 yards from bears & wolves and at least 25 yards from all other animals.
Yellowstone has miles of trails for the adventurous skier and snowshoer. Whether you are skiing a groomed trail in a developed area or venturing into the backcountry, remember that you are traveling in wilderness with all its potential dangers: unpredictable wildlife, changing weather conditions, hydrothermal areas, deep snow, open streams, and avalanches. You have chosen to explore and experience the land on its terms, and your safety is not guaranteed. Be prepared for any situation. Carefully read the safety information on the previous page, understand all backcountry guidelines and regulations, and know the limits of your ability.

## Skiing and Snowshoeing Trails

You have a choice of ski trails throughout the park—a few are described here. Maps and trail brochures are available for trails in the Mammoth, Tower, Northeast, and West Yellowstone/Gallatin areas. These trails range from easy to difficult; please take a map!

### Northern Region

See map below. Skiing opportunities abound along the plowed road between Mammoth and the Northeast Entrance.

#### Upper Terrace

In winter, Upper Terrace Drive becomes a groomed 1.5-mile 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.

#### Bunsen Peak

This 6-mile trail follows the old Bunsen Peak road; in places it is steep and has sharp turns. Along the trail, you will have views of the Gallatin Mountains and the Gardner River Canyon. For trail conditions, suggested starting points, and shuttles, ask at the Bear Den Ski Shop next to the Mammoth Hot Springs Hotel.

#### Blacktail

This trail begins 8 miles east of Mammoth and follows an unplowed 8-mile road. Enjoy vistas of meadows surrounded by mountain peaks, and look for elk, deer, coyotes, and bison scattered throughout their winter range.

#### Tower Fall

This trail begins at Tower Junction and follows the unplowed Tower–Canyon road for 2.5 miles past the Calcite Springs Overlook to Tower Fall. You’ll have views of the Yellowstone River Canyon and you might see bison, bighorn sheep, or bald eagles. Continue on the 5.3-mile Chittendon Loop Trail or return to Tower Junction.

#### Barronette

This 3.5-mile trail follows Soda Butte Creek along an old roadway that parallels the Northeast Entrance Road at the base of Barronette Peak. It travels through a forest and offers spectacular scenery and consistent snow conditions.

#### Old Faithful

Lone Star Geyser

This moderate 9-mile trail begins at the Old Faithful Snow Lodge and takes you to Kepler Cascades. From there, you 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 might like to return via the Howard Eaton Trail, which is steep and requires caution.

Fairy Falls

Catch a snowcoach shuttle at Old Faithful Snow Lodge to the southern end of the Fairy Falls trailhead at the steel bridge. From here you can ski to one of the most spectacular ice-encrusted falls in the park. You will be skiing on a snowcoach route then through areas of burned forest so be alert for falling trees. You can ski back to Old Faithful by following the trail next to the snow vehicle road until you reach the Biscuit Basin Trail, which takes you through the Upper Geyser Basin past Morning Glory Pool and Geyser Hill. The entire trip is about 11 easy miles.

#### West Yellowstone

Riverside

This trail begins on Boundary Street and heads one mile through forest to the up-river and down-river loops. Both loops provide scenic views of the Gallatin Range and Madison River. Total distance varies from 2 to 7 miles, depending on your route.

### Winter Gear Guide

- Before you rent or borrow equipment, check for fit and suitability for wilderness use. 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 give you enough ankle support.
- Even in severe winter temperatures, you can be comfortable and safe if you dress properly to prevent chilling and overheat.
- Wear clothes in several adjustable layers:
  - windproof, hooded outer layer
  - wool or other insulated garments underneath
  - wool or synthetic trousers
  - wool or synthetic long underwear
  - wind or rainpants for warmth on windy days
  - wool socks
  - gaiters or overboots
  - gloves or wool mittens with shells
- Do not wear cotton clothes of any kind, including jeans, sweatshirts, underwear, socks. They retain moisture and put you at risk for hypothermia.
- Protect yourself from the sun:
  - wear dark sunglasses on sunny days
  - apply sunscreen lotion to avoid sunburn
- As you plan your trip, allow for limited daylight, changing snow conditions, temperature extremes, and the number of people in the group and their experience and physical condition.
- On day trips, consider taking some or all of these items to increase your safety:
  - extra clothing
  - water & food
  - matches or lighter
  - map
  - compass
  - ski repair kit
- If you are planning an overnight ski trip, carry all of the above, plus:
  - backcountry permit
  - repair parts and tools
  - sleeping bag & closed-cell sleeping pad
  - shovel
  - easily-prepared food
  - small tarp
  - first-aid kit
  - stove and pots
  - knife
  - tent or bivouac bag
  - probe pole
  - transceiver

Rent skis & snowshoes at the Bear Den Ski Shops, Mammoth and Old Faithful.
In winter, Yellowstone’s landscape transforms into a world of snow, ice, frost, and dazzling sunshine. Wildlife such as elk migrate to lower elevations, where they are often visible to winter visitors. People have been drawn to the winter wonderland for decades; since 1949, they have toured the park on motorized over-snow vehicles.

Winter Use Planning
The National Park Service (NPS) works with local governments, businesses, concessioners, conservation and other interest groups, industry, visitors, and the public to build a sustainable future for winter use while preserving park resources and providing high quality visitor experience.

Goals of a Winter Use Plan
In the last twenty years, the NPS has led a series of planning efforts to manage winter visitor use. For each of these efforts, the NPS has had the following goals:

- Preserve pristine air quality and natural soundscapes.
- Mitigate impacts to wildlife.
- Provide a high quality, safe, and educational winter experience for all visitors.
- Provide for visitor and employee health and safety.
- Minimize adverse economic impacts to gateway communities.

For the latest information, go to: www.nps.gov/yell/planyourvisit/winteruse.htm

American Recovery and Reinvestment Act In Yellowstone

Yellowstone National Park will receive $15 to $19 million in project funding from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA). This is part of a $750 million investment in nearly 800 projects throughout the National Park Service.

The largest Yellowstone project is the construction of a new wastewater treatment plant at Madison Junction. The new plant will replace a 50-year-old facility that struggles to handle summer demands and was never designed to operate during winter.

Another project funded by ARRA takes a new “spin” on an old idea. Nearly a century ago when the U.S. Army was still running Yellowstone, a Pelton water wheel was installed to generate electricity for Mammoth Hot Springs. The original unit was taken out of service long ago, but ARRA funding will support the installation of a new micro hydropower system to harness power from drinking water already stored for use. Using this clean power source will reduce the annual greenhouse gas emissions by 695 tons and save the park approximately $80,000 each year in electricity costs.

Yellowstone Projects Funded by ARRA
In Yellowstone, ARRA is funding projects that address critical park needs, improve the visitor experience, and implement sustainable green technologies while stimulating economic activity in the region. Of the projects funded in Yellowstone, at least six will be accomplished through contracts and seven will utilize National Park Service employees.

Completed Projects
- Resurface South Entrance Road
- Repair hazardous propane service line at Fort Yellowstone

Approved Projects
- Demolish and replace Madison Wastewater Facility
- Demolish and replace roof of wastewater management lift station
- Improve restroom facilities to eliminate contamination issues
- Realign segments of the Shelf Lake Trail
- Rehabilitate and repave South Rim Drive
- Rehabilitate the Observation Peak Trail
- Repair boardwalks near thermal features
- Repair deteriorating trails and footbridges
- Replace deteriorating spring and reservoir to ensure clean drinking water
- Replace leaking underground fuel storage tanks and remediate soil contamination
- Construct micro hydropower facility at Mammoth Hot Springs

Possible Future Projects
- Provide Youth Conservation Corps team to work on deferred maintenance and resource projects in FY 2010
- Demolish substandard trailers and replace with 8-plex in Mammoth
- Remediate remaining contaminated soils at Canyon Village to obtain Wyoming Site Closure Permit
- Replace outdated heating boilers in Mammoth buildings with energy efficient models
- Replace windows in Mammoth quarters
- Replace pumps, motors, and valves in all water and wastewater plants

ARRA PROJECTS IN YELLOWSTONE
Left, top: This wastewater treatment facility at Madison will be demolished and replaced.
Left, bottom: The South Entrance Road was resurfaced in 2009.
Below: Signs identify the South Entrance Road project.

Check for NPS project updates at www.doio.gov/recovery/nps
If you need a sign language interpreter for National Park Service interpretive programs, please make arrangements three weeks in advance by calling 307-344-2251.

**West Yellowstone**

**Visitor Information Center • 8 AM–5 PM • Daily, Dec. 15–March 15**
Located at the corner of Yellowstone Avenue and Canyon Street.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Days</th>
<th>Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Snowshoe Walk</strong></td>
<td>Starts Dec. 19, ends March 13</td>
<td>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. No experience necessary! Bring your own snowshoes, plus water and a snack. For information, please call 307-344-2870. Free program. 3 hours.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Afternoon Talks at the Grizzly &amp; Wolf Discovery Center</strong></td>
<td>Starts Dec. 20, ends March 14</td>
<td>Join a park ranger for an illustrated 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 and at the Grizzly &amp; Wolf Discovery Center at 201 South Canyon Street. Meet at the Grizzly &amp; Wolf Discovery Center. Free Program, but there is a fee to visit the rest of the center, which is an educational bear and wolf preserve. 45 minutes.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Evening Program</strong></td>
<td>Starts Dec. 19, ends March 13</td>
<td>Join a park ranger for an illustrated program highlighting a fascinating aspect of Yellowstone's natural, cultural, or scenic wonders. Weekly program descriptions will be posted in the West Yellowstone Visitor Information Center, which is also the meeting place. Free Program. 45 minutes.</td>
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**Old Faithful**

**Visitor Center • 9 AM–5 PM • Daily, Dec. 15–March 15**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Geyser Galore!</strong></td>
<td>Starts Dec. 16, ends March 15</td>
<td>As you wait to watch Old Faithful erupt, discover why Yellowstone has so many geysers. Look into Yellowstone's restless geologic past (and present?) for a story that includes volcanoes and earthquakes. Meet at the benches in front of Old Faithful. Talk starts 20 minutes prior to a predicted mid-day eruption of Old Faithful. Times are posted daily at the temporary Old Faithful Visitor Center. Free Program. 20 minutes.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Evening Program</strong></td>
<td>Starts Dec. 26, ends March 14</td>
<td>Join a park ranger for an illustrated program highlighting a fascinating aspect of Yellowstone's natural, cultural, or scenic wonders. Weekly program descriptions and locations will be posted in the temporary Old Faithful Visitor Center and the Old Faithful Snow Lodge. Free Program. 45 minutes.</td>
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**Ranger-led Programs**
**Winter 2009–2010**

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<tr>
<td><strong>Mammoth Hot Springs Illustrated Talk</strong></td>
<td>Starts Dec. 21, ends March 2</td>
<td>The travertine terraces at Mammoth are even more dramatic during the winter. Learn how these amazing formations are created at this illustrated talk with a ranger. Meet at the Albright Visitor Center theater. Free Program. 30 minutes.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Snowshoe Yellowstone!</strong></td>
<td>Starts Dec. 28, ends March 3</td>
<td>Experience Yellowstone National Park’s winter beauty on a guided snowshoe walk with a ranger. Learn about the park’s ecosystems in the winter season as you silently travel over the snow. 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 parking area. Moderately strenuous. Beginners welcome! 2 hours.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Return of the Wolf</strong></td>
<td>Starts Dec. 23, ends March 5</td>
<td>The northern range of Yellowstone has been a premier place to watch wolves since their reintroduction to this ecosystem in 1995 and 1996. Learn about the wolf’s place in the ecosystem and how best to spot and watch wolves. A 20-minute talk will be followed by the hour-long National Geographic video Wolves: A Legend Returns to Yellowstone. Meet at the Albright Visitor Center theater. Free Program. 11⁄2 hours, including video.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Evening Program</strong></td>
<td>Starts Dec. 25, ends March 6</td>
<td>Join a park ranger for an illustrated program highlighting a fascinating aspect of Yellowstone's natural, cultural, or scenic wonders. Program descriptions will be posted in the Mammoth Hotel and Albright Visitor Center. Meet in the Mammoth Hotel Map Room. Free Program. 1 hour.</td>
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**Mammoth Hot Springs**

**Albright Visitor Center • 9 AM–5 PM • Daily, year-round**

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<td><strong>Return of the Wolf</strong></td>
<td>Starts Dec. 23, ends March 5</td>
<td>The northern range of Yellowstone has been a premier place to watch wolves since their reintroduction to this ecosystem in 1995 and 1996. Learn about the wolf’s place in the ecosystem and how best to spot and watch wolves. A 20-minute talk will be followed by the hour-long National Geographic video Wolves: A Legend Returns to Yellowstone. Meet at the Albright Visitor Center theater. Free Program. 11⁄2 hours, including video.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Evening Program</strong></td>
<td>Starts Dec. 25, ends March 6</td>
<td>Join a park ranger for an illustrated program highlighting a fascinating aspect of Yellowstone's natural, cultural, or scenic wonders. Program descriptions will be posted in the Mammoth Hotel and Albright Visitor Center. Meet in the Mammoth Hotel Map Room. Free Program. 1 hour.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Services
Winter 2009–2010

ATM 24-hour cash available at the general store at Mammoth, and at Mammoth Hot Springs Hotel and Old Faithful Snow Lodge. CIRRUS and PULS network.

Cell Phones Coverage is extremely limited in the park. Where service is available, please be courteous of other visitors by keeping your voice low.

Lost & Found Call 307-344-5387 to report or retrieve items lost in lodging facilities; call 307-344-2109 to report or retrieve items lost in other parts of the park.

Recycling You can recycle glass, cans, paper, cardboard, plastic bottles with narrow necks, office paper, magazines, small propane canisters (used with camp stoves and lanterns), household batteries. See map on back page for general locations; inquire locally.

Reservations For lodging, dining, camping, and activity reservations, call Xanterra Parks & Resorts, 307-344-7311, TDD 307-344-5395, or toll-free 866-439-7375. You can also make reservations at lodging front desks or activities desks.

Worship Services Most major denominations and interdenominational services available in summer, in the park and in communities near the park. Information on bulletin boards at campgrounds and visitor centers.

Use the card that protects the wonders and wildlife of Yellowstone!

U.S. Bank contributes a percentage of every purchase to the Yellowstone Park Foundation to help fund projects that protect the wonders and wildlife of Yellowstone National Park.

Go to www.yellowstoneparkfoundation.org to sign up for your "Yellowstone Park Foundation Visa" Platinum Card today!
### Concessioner Activities

#### Winter 2009–2010

#### Xanterra Parks & Resorts

**December 18–March 8**

#### INTERPRETIVE SNOWCOACH TOURS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sunday</th>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>Friday</th>
<th>Saturday</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Noon–3:30 pm</td>
<td>Noon–3:30 pm</td>
<td>Noon–3:30 pm</td>
<td>Noon–3:30 pm</td>
<td>Noon–3:30 pm</td>
<td>Noon–3:30 pm</td>
<td>Noon–3:30 pm</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- **From West Yellowstone to Old Faithful:** $37
- **From Old Faithful to West Yellowstone:** $37
- **From Mammoth to Old Faithful:** $70
- **From Old Faithful to Mammoth:** $70
- **From Old Faithful to Flagg Ranch:** $70
- **From Old Faithful to Fairy Falls:** $45
- **From Mammoth to Old Faithful:** $40
- **From Old Faithful to Mammoth:** $50
- **From Old Faithful to Divide:** $15
- **From West Yellowstone to Old Faithful:** $57

#### EXPRESS SNOWCOACH TRIPS

- **From Old Faithful to Mammoth:** $70
- **From Old Faithful to DeLacy Creek:** $15
- **From Old Faithful to Fairy Falls:** $45
- **From Old Faithful to Flagg Ranch:** $70
- **From Flagg Ranch to Old Faithful:** $70
- **From Old Faithful to Mammoth:** $40
- **From Old Faithful to Divide:** $15

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#### INTERPRETIVE BUS TOURS (no skiing)

- **Firehole Basin Adventure, from Old Faithful:** $32.75
- **Norris Geyser Basin Tour, from Mammoth:** $57
- **Steam, Stars, & Winter Soundscape, from Old Faithful:** $35

#### SKI AND SNOWSHOE TOURS

- **Lamar Valley Wildlife Tour, from Mammoth:** $30
- **Guided Snowshoe Tour, from Old Faithful:** $32

#### EXPRESS SNOWCOACH TRIPS

- **Old Faithful Express to West Yellowstone:** $55 one way, daily, 6:30–8:30 am and 1:30–3:45 pm • For the early express, you may want to order a box lunch breakfast the evening prior

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#### SKI/SNOWSHOE DROPS & SHUTTLES

- **Old Faithful Snow Lodge to other Dudes or Fairy Falls:** $15 one way, daily, 7:45 am, 8:45 am, 9:45 am, 10:45 am • No pickups, you must return by ski or snowshoe

#### Winter Getaway Packages

Xanterra Parks & Resorts is again offering Winter Getaway value packages, which make it easier to enjoy the park under its frosty cover. Mammoth packages include a 1-hour hot tub rental and unlimited ice-skating. Old Faithful packages include unlimited ice-skating, round-trip snowcoach transportation per person. Plus, each package includes a minimum 2 nights lodging, breakfast each day, a welcome gift, and a Snow Card (good for 10% off of meals, select gifts, in-park transportation, tours, ski shop rentals and snowmobile rentals. The Snow Card is valid all winter, so keep it for your next visit!) Rates listed here are valid January 3–March 8, 2010, and do not include tax.

Visit our website at www.YellowstoneNationalParkLodges.com for details. To reserve, stop by one of the hotel front desks or call us at 307-344-7311 or toll-free at 866-Geyserland (866-439-7373).

#### Frosty Fun Package

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Price</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mammoth</td>
<td>$134 Per Person Double Occupancy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$217 Single Occupancy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Old Faithful</td>
<td>$294 Per Person Double Occupancy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$438 Single Occupancy</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Trail of the Wolf

- **Offered Sunday, Wednesday, and Friday. Includes 3 nights lodging, and components of Frosty Fun, Guided Snowmobile Tour, and Wake Up to Wildlife Tour.**
- **Mammoth:** $410.50 Double Occupancy
- **$744 Single Occupancy**
- **Old Faithful:** $546 Double Occupancy
- **$910 Single Occupancy**

#### Nordic Heaven

Includes components of Frosty Fun plus ski/equipment rental and unlimited ski drops per person.
- **Mammoth:** $185 Per Person Double Occupancy
- **$268 Single Occupancy**
- **Old Faithful:** $345 Per Person Double Occupancy
- **$489 Single Occupancy**
In our increasingly crowded and developed world, Yellowstone National Park provides a source of refuge and renewal for those who enter its quiet places. The park's magnificent wilderness areas offer a glimpse of what our continent was like when humans first gazed in wonder upon its steaming geysers, thundering waterfalls, and abundant wildlife. However, Yellowstone exists today only because generations who came before us understood its value and made its preservation a priority.

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

Yellowstone Association Institute
Each year, thousands of people join the park’s official educational partner for a closer look at wildlife, plants, geology, and history. Programs are perfect for curious adults and families who want to spend a day or more exploring the park with a local expert. Their goal is to help you understand and enjoy this remarkable place. To find out more, call 406-848-2400 or visit www.YellowstoneAssociation.org.

Xanterra Parks & Resorts
Yellowstone’s lodging concessioner also offers a wide variety of in-park tours and activities. Witness wolves in the wild; photograph bull elk near steamy geyser basins; watch otters fish for trout on frozen streams. A variety of tours by snowcoach, snowmobile, van, and bus, plus ski/snowshoe tours offer plenty of opportunities to make the most of your winter experience.

Other Certified Guides & Outfitters
Many authorized guides and outfitters are ready to show you the wonders of Yellowstone, and each has a unique approach. To learn about these authorized providers, write to Yellowstone National Park, WY 82190, call 307-344-7381, or visit www.nps.gov/yell.

Caution: Unauthorized Tours & Guides
Make sure your guide, tour company, or other commercial service is authorized by the National Park Service. Please report unauthorized operators to a ranger at a visitor center or ranger station or to the Chief, Concessions Management, P.O. Box 168, Yellowstone National Park, WY 82190; 307-344-2271.

Accessibility

Yellowstone National Park is improving accessibility for all visitors. Some boardwalks, trails, picnic tables, and campsites are now accessible. Ask for the Visitor’s Guide to Accessible Features in Yellowstone National Park, available free at entrance stations and visitor centers.

For more information:
Park Accessibility Coordinator
P.O. Box 168
Yellowstone National Park, WY 82190
www.nps.gov/yell/planyourvisit
TDD only (Telecommunications Device for the Deaf): 307-344-2386

New Old Faithful Visitor Education Center Opens in 2010

A new Old Faithful Visitor Education Center is being built, and is planned to open in August 2010. It will provide visitors with a central location for learning about Yellowstone’s hydrothermal features and life in these unique environments. The center is also being planned to meet “Gold LEED Certification,” one of a set of national standards for environmentally sound buildings developed by the U.S. Green Building Council. It will be one of the first visitor centers in the National Park System to meet the gold standard.

The “green” features will include:
- Recycled materials and salvaged wood
- “Snow zones”—a natural soil moisture recharge system surrounding the building
- Locally and regionally manufactured materials
- A ventilation system in the foundation that acts as a thermal buffer to protect the sensitive geothermal area

A multi-zone heating and cooling system that allows for a reduced heated space in winter
- Renewable resources such as cork flooring
- Low-flow restroom plumbing
- State-of-the-art lighting to reduce electricity consumption

Major funding for the Old Faithful Visitor Education Center is provided by the Yellowstone Park Foundation.

SAVE on Entrance Fees!

The “America the Beautiful—the National Parks and Federal Recreation Lands Pass” provides several pass 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 or go to http://store.usgs.gov/pass. The pass is not good for camping or for some other fees such as parking fees at Mount Rushmore or cave tours at various parks. Be sure to inquire locally.

Previously issued Golden Age Passports and Golden Access Passports are still accepted.

Entrance Fees

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Pass</th>
<th>Fee</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Private, noncommercial automobile</td>
<td>$25 (7 days, both Yellowstone and Grand Teton)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Individual motorcycle</td>
<td>$20 (7 days, both parks)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Single entry (foot, bike, ski, etc.)</td>
<td>$12 (7 days, both parks)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yellowstone–Grand Teton Pass</td>
<td>$50 (valid one year from month of purchase)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>America the Beautiful Pass—the National Parks and Federal Recreation Lands Pass</td>
<td>$80 (valid for one year from month of purchase for entrance fees to federal fee areas)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senior Pass</td>
<td>$10—for U.S. citizens or permanent residents of the U.S. who are 62 or older.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Access Pass</td>
<td>Free—for citizens or permanent residents of the U.S. who have been determined to be permanently disabled and present such documentation.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Get an inside look with the Yellowstone Association Institute

Spend a Day Exploring with Our Expert Naturalists

Choose from different daily tours along the northern range. We’ll introduce you to Yellowstone, provide advice to make the most of your visit, and show you the wonders of the park.

DAILY CHOICES

Activity levels will be tailored to your group.

Wolves in Winter
Start: 7 or 8 AM at Gardiner, Mammoth, or Lamar

Wildlife Watching on the Northern Range
Start: 7 or 8 AM at Gardiner, Mammoth, or Lamar

Yellowstone by Ski or Snowshoe
Start: 8 AM at Gardiner, Mammoth, or Lamar

Rates:
1–5 people $495, 6–13 people $625
Rates effective through April 30, 2010.
Advance reservations are required.
Call 406-848-2400 Monday–Friday 8 AM to 4:30 PM

INSPiRE, EDUCATE, PRESERVE.
www.YellowstoneAssociation.org

Annul Pass

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**Supplies & Gifts**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mammoth Hotel</td>
<td>Dec. 21–March 7—8 am–5 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Snow Lodge</td>
<td>Dec. 18–March 7—8 am–9 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Visitor Center</td>
<td>Year-round, except Thanksgiving: 9 am–5 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yellowstone Association Bookstore</td>
<td>Dec. 15–March 15—No bookstore</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Hotel**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mammoth Hotel</td>
<td>Dec. 21–March 8—8 am–10 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Snow Lodge</td>
<td>Dec. 21–March 7—8 am–9 pm</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Medical Clinic**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Location</th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mammoth Hotel</td>
<td>Dec. 21–March 7—8 am–5 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indian Creek</td>
<td>Dec. 15–March 15—Not staffed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West Entrance</td>
<td>Year-round, except Thanksgiving: 9 am–5 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yellowstone Association Bookstore</td>
<td>Dec. 15–March 15—No bookstore</td>
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</table>

**Visitor Information**

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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Winter Services**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mammoth Hot Springs</th>
<th>West Entrance &amp; Madison</th>
<th>Canyon Village</th>
<th>Fishing Bridge</th>
<th>Old Faithful</th>
<th>West Thumb</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Visitor Center</td>
<td>West Yellowstone Visitor Information Center</td>
<td>NPS rangers available daily, 8 am–5 pm Dec. 15–March 15</td>
<td>Visitor Center Daily: 9 am–5 pm Dec. 15–March 15</td>
<td>NPS rangers available daily, 8 am–5 pm Dec. 15–March 15</td>
<td>NPS rangers available daily, 8 am–5 pm Dec. 15–March 15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Albright Visitor Center</td>
<td>Year-round, except Thanksgiving: 9 am–5 pm</td>
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<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yellowstone Association Bookstore</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Oversnow Travel Ends in March**

- Roads close to over-snow travel at 9 pm as follows:
  - March 1: East Entrance to Lake Butte
  - March 7: Mammoth to Norris
  - March 9: Madison to Norris to Canyon
  - March 14: Canyon to Fishing Bridge
  - March 15: All other park roads close to oversnow travel

- Roads close at 9 pm on the days listed.

- The road between the North & Northeast entrances is open to wheeled vehicles all year.

**Spring Road Openings**

- Weather Permitting

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Roads</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>April 16</td>
<td>Mammoth to Old Faithful; Madison Junction to West Entrance; Norris Junction to Canyon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 7</td>
<td>Canyon to Lake, Lake to East Entrance (Lake is one mile south of Fishing Bridge)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 14</td>
<td>Lake to South Entrance, West Thumb to Old Faithful, Tower Junction to Tower Fall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 21</td>
<td>Tower Fall to Canyon (Dunraven Pass); Beartooth Highway</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**This park newspaper is funded by the Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act and a generous donation from the Yellowstone Association.**

**All WINTER SERVICES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE. Call the park or check the website.**