

# Yellowstone Today



Official newspaper of Yellowstone National Park

Winter 2011–2012

National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior

# Welcome



NPS PHOTO

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## Enjoy exploring Yellowstone's winter wonderland

We're glad you're here. 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, hydrothermal features, and around wildlife. Stay at least 100 yards from bears and wolves, at least 25 yards from bison, elk, bighorn sheep, deer, moose, and coyotes. Never feed any wild animal, including birds.

- Watch your children. Your hand and voice may be too far away once your child leaves your side.
- You can 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.
- Current and complete trip-planning resources are available on the park website –

[www.nps.gov/yell/planyourvisit](http://www.nps.gov/yell/planyourvisit)

## Park considers public input more fully for long-term winter use plan

Oversnow vehicle access to Yellowstone is the same for visitors this year as the previous two winters. This means that each day the park may host as many as 78 commercially-guided snowcoaches, and 318 commercially-guided, best-available-technology snowmobiles. It also provides for continued motorized oversnow travel over the East Entrance road and Sylvan Pass.

NPS planners have been working through a formal procedure known as an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) process to consider long-term regulations for access to Yellowstone in winter. A previous goal had been to have final regulations in place by December 2011. Then last summer, during a 60-day public comment period, more than 58,000 responses were received which identified a variety of issues that the NPS wants to analyze

further before issuing a long-term regulation. The NPS now intends to have a final supplemental EIS, a long-term Record of Decision (ROD), and a long-term decision in place before the start of the 2012-2013 winter season.

To stay informed about the park's long-term winter use planning process, visit –

[www.nps.gov/yell/planyourvisit/winteruse.htm](http://www.nps.gov/yell/planyourvisit/winteruse.htm)



### SPEED KILLS

more than 100 deer, moose, bears, elk, bison, and wolves each year

### SLOW DOWN and save a life

#### Help protect wildlife near roads

- Always expect animals to be on or near the road.
- Follow the speed limit (maximum 45 mph unless otherwise posted).
- Increase caution at night and during wet or wintry conditions.

## Watch for ice on roads and trails

Two park roads are plowed in Yellowstone in winter, from the North Entrance to Cooke City, and from Mammoth Hot Springs to the Upper Terraces parking.

They are maintained only during daylight hours and may close during severe storms. Expect snowpack, ice, frost heaves, and drifts. Mud/snow tires or tire chains are recommended and may be required.

The speed limit for all vehicles is 45 mph (73 kph) or slower where posted, such as from the 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 and watch your children.

## Park tip line

**307 344-2132**

Report a crime or criminal activity. Leave as much detail as you can—who, what, where, when.

Leave your name and number, or you can remain anonymous.



NPS/Madsen

## In hydrothermal areas

**Beautiful but deadly:** Yellowstone's hydrothermal features can kill you. Water is frequently near or above boiling; 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 and disease: 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.

**Thermal areas = thin crust  
Boiling water lies beneath**



Courtesy E. Suthoff

**All elk are aggressive, fast and dangerous.  
Stay away from elk**

## Around wildlife

Wild animals are dangerous. To protect yourself and wildlife, follow these guidelines and regulations at all times:

- Legally, 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, bighorn 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.
- Do not stand in the road to view or photograph wildlife—you could be injured or killed by other drivers.
- Never surround, crowd, approach, or follow wildlife.

- Do not block an animal's path.
- Do not run or make sudden movements—this may cause animals to attack.
- If other people in the area are putting you in danger, leave the scene and notify a park ranger.
- Never 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.

**Bears** live throughout the park. Grizzly bears sometimes leave their dens. Be alert for tracks, do not approach carcasses, and avoid surprising bears. If you are injured by a bear (regardless of how minor), or if you observe a bear or bear tracks, report it to a park ranger as soon as possible. Someone's safety may depend on it.

## More safety tips

**Falling trees** Avoid areas with dead trees; they 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 avoid dehydration from altitude and dry climate. Stop and rest often.

**Hypothermia and 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.

**Stream crossings** Check at local ranger stations for stream conditions.

**Swimming** Most park streams, rivers, and lakes are extremely cold; swim at your own risk. Swimming in hydrothermal features is illegal.

**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; some have sharp dropoffs. Ice and road damage occur year-round. Drive cautiously and

courteously. 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. A sunny warm day may become stormy and sometimes snowy. Lightning is common; get off water or beaches and away from ridges, exposed places, and isolated trees.

**All Hazards NOAA Weather Radio** If you have a weather radio receiver, tune to 162.425 MHz (Mammoth area) or 162.450 MHz (Lake area) to receive hazardous weather alerts, or go to [www.crh.noaa.gov/riw/nwr/](http://www.crh.noaa.gov/riw/nwr/).

## Know these numbers

**100**

= minimum number of yards you must stay away from a bear or wolf

**25**

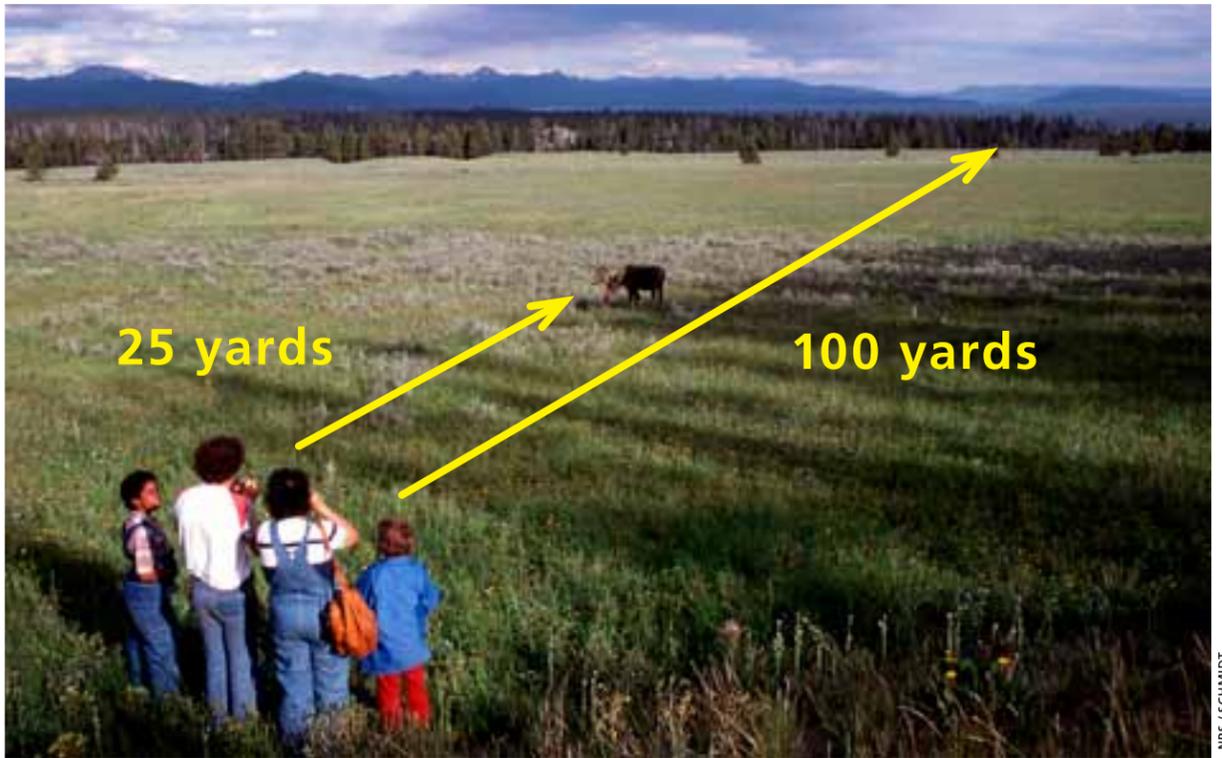
= minimum number of yards you must stay away from all other wildlife

**45**

= maximum speed limit in park unless posted slower

**911**

= phone number to dial in an emergency



If any wild animal changes its behavior due to your presence, you are too close.



**Keep your distance.** Federal regulation requires you to stay at least 100 yards (91 m) away from bears and wolves, and at least 25 yards (23 m) away from all other wild animals, such as bison, elk, bighorn sheep, deer, moose, and coyotes.

## These actions are illegal

- Littering.
- Removing or possessing natural features (such as wildflowers, antlers, rocks) or cultural features (such as arrowheads).

### Around thermal features

- Throwing anything into thermal features.
- Swimming in hydrothermal pools.
- Traveling off boardwalks or designated trails in hydrothermal areas.

### While driving

- Speeding (radar enforced). All roads within the park are posted at 45 mph or slower, except for a portion of U.S. 191.
- Driving while intoxicated (open container law enforced).
- Leaving detachable side mirrors attached when not towing a trailer.
- Traveling off-road by vehicle or bicycle. (Bicycling rules and riding locations are listed in a free brochure at visitor centers.)
- Driving or riding in a vehicle without a fastened seatbelt. Each occupant must have a safety belt or child restraint system fastened when a vehicle is in motion.

### With pets

- Having pets off leash or on trails and boardwalks. Pets are prohibited on all trails, in the backcountry, and in hydrothermal basins. Where allowed, pets must be leashed and must remain within 100 feet (30 m) of a road or parking area. Do not leave a pet unattended or tied to an object. Boarding facilities are available outside the park.
- Pet owners must pick up and dispose of all pet feces.

### While watching wildlife

- Spotlighting (viewing with artificial light) elk, deer, or other animals.
- Imitating elk calls or using buglers; imitating wolf howls.
- Using electronic equipment capable of tracking wildlife.
- Willfully remaining near or approaching wildlife, including nesting birds, within ANY distance that disturbs or displaces the animal.

### Also

- Diving or jumping off cliffs in the Firehole swim area on Firehole Canyon Drive.

### While camping or picnicking

- Improperly storing food
- Violating camping regulations and rules.
- Camping outside of designated camping areas.
- Camping in the backcountry without a permit.
- Fishing, boating, or using a float tube without a permit.

### Keep all of your food out of reach of animals

These items—new, clean, dirty, empty, or full—may not be left outside, on picnic tables, in tents or tent trailers, in the back of pickups, or unattended in any location, at any time, day or night, unless in immediate use:

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



### Never feed any animals

This includes all mammals, including chipmunks, ground squirrels, and all birds, including ducks and ravens.

### Coyotes and wolves

quickly learn habits such as roadside begging. This may lead to aggressive behavior toward humans and can increase the risk of the animal being hit by a vehicle or destroyed by management.

Do not feed them.

### About cooking

Liquid or gas fuel stoves or self-contained charcoal grills may be used for cooking at all picnic areas.

Campfires are allowed only in grills in picnic areas. A handout with a list of sites with fire grates is available at visitor centers.

## About firearms



As of February 22, 2010, federal law allows people who can legally possess firearms under applicable federal and state laws to legally possess firearms in Yellowstone National Park. It is your responsibility to understand and comply with those laws, including understanding locations of state boundaries within Yellowstone National Park.

Federal law still prohibits firearm possession by certain individuals and in certain park facilities (such as visitor centers, government offices, some concession facilities as posted, etc). Those places are marked with signs at all public entrances. For more information, visit –

[www.nps.gov/yell/parkmgmt/lawsandpolicies.htm](http://www.nps.gov/yell/parkmgmt/lawsandpolicies.htm)



A wolf's thick coat provides insulation against the cold.

NPS

## Safe and 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. Sidehilling, bermriding, or any off-road travel is prohibited and carries a fine of up to \$5,000.
- Report accidents to a ranger.
- Operating a snowmobile while intoxicated is illegal. Possession of open alcoholic beverage containers, including bota bags, is illegal.

## 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.mtavalanche.com](http://www.mtavalanche.com), for avalanche advisories for Bozeman, Livingston, West Yellowstone, Cooke City, and Gardiner; or check with a local ranger for a current forecast.

## Safe and smart skiing and 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 geysers, 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 and wolves and at least 25 yards from all other animals.



## 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 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 [www.nps.gov/yell/planyourvisit/winteract.htm](http://www.nps.gov/yell/planyourvisit/winteract.htm).

**Staying in Yellowstone** Xanterra Parks & Resorts provides winter lodging in the park. Visit [YellowstoneParkLodges.com](http://YellowstoneParkLodges.com); call 307-344-7311 or toll-free 866-Geyserland (866-439-7375).

## ? Questions? Ask a ranger at these locations

### 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 9 am–5 pm. Open year-round.

### Old Faithful Visitor Education Center

Information, exhibits, films, bookstore, and geyser eruption predictions. Call 307-344-2750. Open daily, Dec. 15–March 15: 9 AM–5 PM  
*Old Faithful eruption predictions: 307-344-2751, during visitor center hours.*

### Canyon Visitor Center

Lobby open approximately 9 AM–3 PM for information and warming hut services. Restrooms open 24 hours a day. Remainder of building closed during winter. Call 307-344-2550. Open daily, Dec. 15–March 13.

### West Yellowstone Visitor Information Center

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



Iced trees on a winter morning.

NPS

## Warming huts

Warming huts provide shelter for skiers, snowshoers, and snowmobilers. They are open 24 hours a day, except Mammoth, Old Faithful, and Canyon, which are in visitor centers.

Restrooms at Canyon are open 24 hours. A list of locations, opening and closing dates and other details appears on page 11.

## Self-guiding trails

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

**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.

**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.

**Old Faithful Historic District** Enjoy a walking tour of this historic district, which includes Old Faithful Geyser, the Inn and other distinctive buildings. The Inn is not open to the public in winter.

## Winter Junior Rangers

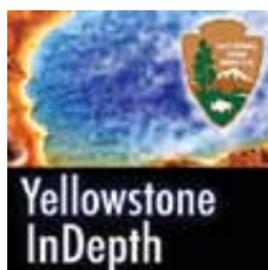
Hike, ski, or snowshoe a trail, attend a ranger-led program, and complete fun activities. Find out more and pick up your free copy of the eight-page Junior Ranger activity paper available at a visitor center.



NPS / BEACO

## Stay connected with Yellowstone online

At home or on the road, you can explore Yellowstone online. Yellowstone National Park has been posting programs for more than a decade that bring the park to you—wherever you are. Stay connected and find new features at [www.nps.gov/yell](http://www.nps.gov/yell), such as . . .



### Old Faithful Virtual Visitor Center

The OFVVC is for explorers of all ages, from young children to their great grandparents. Begin your online visit with a flyover of Yellowstone National Park that lands you beside Old Faithful Geyser. Click a button to zoom into the lobby, where dozens of explorations await you. Watch animations of a geyser eruption, volcano eruption, travertine terrace growth, and microbial mats color changes. You'll find maps, too, along with links to other online resources.

### Videos and podcasts

Plan your visit, customize your guide to the park, or learn more about Yellowstone's attractions and treasures through videos at [www.nps.gov/yell](http://www.nps.gov/yell) or podcasts free from iTunes. Popular features include:

**Visiting Yellowstone:** A series of orientation videos that include traveling with pets, hiking and backpacking, traveling with kids, walks and day hikes, water-related rules and safety, and bicycling in Yellowstone.

**Exploring Yellowstone:** Park Ranger Orville Bach takes you on a tour of the Upper Geyser Basin, home to Old Faithful Geyser.

**Watch Land to Life:** Yellowstone's new film on how extreme geologic forces create a unique landscape that supports an abundance of life.

**Inside Yellowstone:** Nearly 100 videos of very short ranger talks on park features and processes.

**Yellowstone InDepth:** Major park questions and issues are discussed by park rangers, scientists, historians, and park visitors.

*Funding provided by the Yellowstone Association and by Canon U.S.A., Inc., through a grant to the Yellowstone Park Foundation.*

### Electronic field trips

Especially for middle school students and teachers: Take one of 17 free electronic field trips, available at [www.WindowsIntoWonderland.org](http://www.WindowsIntoWonderland.org). Funding provided by donations through the Yellowstone Park Foundation.

### Webcams

Stay connected to Yellowstone's dynamic landscape through webcams located at Old Faithful, Mammoth Hot Springs, and the Mount Washburn Fire Lookout: [www.nps.gov/yell/photosmultimedia/webcams.htm](http://www.nps.gov/yell/photosmultimedia/webcams.htm). *The Old Faithful live-streaming webcam was donated, along with supporting funds, by Canon U.S.A., Inc., through a grant to the Yellowstone Park Foundation.*

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 loop ski trail. You'll have views of the steaming lower terraces and historic Fort Yellowstone. This is a hydrothermal area; please stay on the trail.

#### Bunsen Peak

This 6-mile trail (one-way) 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 (one-way). 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 (minimum 5 miles round-trip). You'll have views of the Yellowstone River Canyon and you might see bison, bighorn sheep, or bald eagles. Continue on the 5.5-mile Chittenden Loop Trail or return to Tower Junction.

#### Barronette

This 3.5-mile trail (one-way) 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 consistently good snow conditions.

### Old Faithful

#### Lone Star Geyser

This moderate 9-mile trail (round-trip) 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 round-trip.

### West Yellowstone

#### Riverside

This trail begins on Boundary Street and heads one mile through forest to the upriver and downriver loops. Both loops provide scenic views of the Gallatin Range and Madison River. Total distance varies from 2 to 7 miles, depending on your route. Round-trip mileages from trailhead: Upriver loop 3.5 miles, downriver loop (short) 6.6 miles, downriver loop (long) 9 miles.

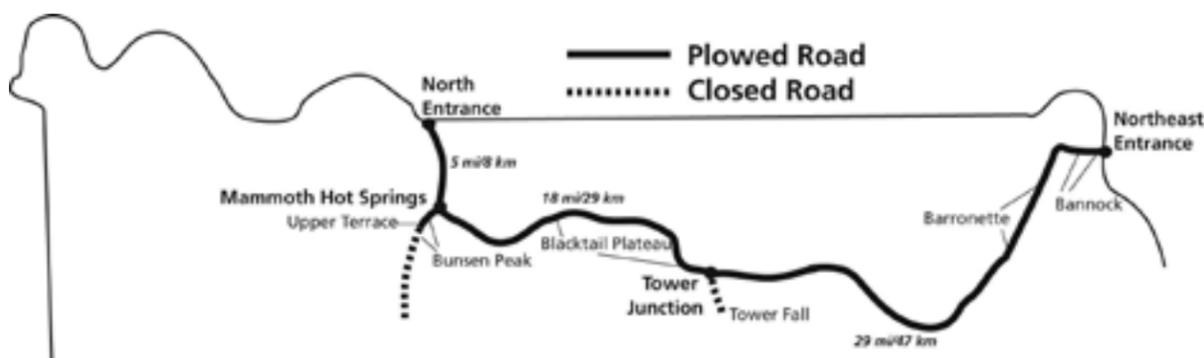


NPS

## 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 overheating.
- 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 and 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 and closed-cell sleeping pad
  - shovel
  - easily-prepared food
  - small tarp
  - first-aid kit
  - stove and pots
  - knife
  - tent or bivouac bag
  - probe pole
  - transceiver

### Map of winter trails in northern Yellowstone



- A permit is required for all overnight trips in the Yellowstone backcountry. Inquire about backcountry permits at visitor centers or ranger stations.
- Pack it in—Pack it out: No matter what trail you are on or its length, you must pack out all refuse.

Rent skis and snowshoes in the Bear Den Ski Shops at Mammoth and Old Faithful

## Mammoth Hot Springs

Albright Visitor Center • 9 am–5 pm • Daily, year-round

	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Weds.	Thurs.	Friday	Sat.
<p><b>Snowshoe Yellowstone</b> <i>Starts Dec. 27, ends Mar. 1</i> Experience Yellowstone National Park's winter beauty on a guided snowshoe walk with a park ranger. <b>Snowshoes can be rented at the Bear Den Ski Shop next to the Mammoth Hotel, or bring your own.</b> Come prepared with warm, layered clothes, sunglasses and water. NOTE: If there is a lack of snow, this will become a walk without snowshoes. Before renting snowshoes, check at the visitor Center to find out if you need them. Meet at the Upper Terrace Drive entrance parking area two miles south of Mammoth. Moderately strenuous. Beginners welcome. <b>2 hours</b></p>			2 pm 12/27–2/28		2 pm 12/29–3/1		
<p><b>Wolves in the Yellowstone Ecosystem</b> <i>Starts Dec. 21, ends Feb. 29</i> The Northern Range of Yellowstone has been a premier place to watch wolves since their restoration to this ecosystem. Learn about the wolf's place here and how best to spot and watch this magnificent animal. A 20-minute talk will be followed by the hour-long video, <i>The Rise of the Black Wolf</i>. Meet at the Albright Visitor Center theater. <b>Free Program.</b> <i>1½ hours, including video.</i> ♿</p>		3 pm 12/26–2/27		3 pm 12/21–2/29			
<p><b>Evening Program</b> <i>Starts Dec. 22, ends Mar. 3</i> Join a park ranger for an illustrated program that highlights a fascinating aspect of Yellowstone's natural, cultural, or scenic wonders. Program descriptions will be posted in the Mammoth Hotel and Albright Visitor Center. Meet in the Mammoth Hotel Map Room. <b>Free Program.</b> <i>1 hour</i> ♿</p>					8:30 pm 12/22–3/1	8:30 pm 12/23–3/2	8:30 pm 12/24–3/3

## West Yellowstone

Visitor Information Center • 8 am–5 pm • Daily, Dec. 15–Mar. 15

Located at the corner of Yellowstone Avenue and Canyon Street

	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Weds.	Thurs.	Friday	Sat.
<p><b>Snowshoe Walk</b> <i>Starts Dec. 17, ends Feb. 25</i> 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. <i>No experience necessary.</i> <b>Bring your own snowshoes,</b> plus water and a snack. For information, please call 307-344-2876. <b>Free program.</b> <i>3 hours</i></p>							1:30 pm 12/17–2/25
<p><b>Afternoon Talks at the Grizzly &amp; Wolf Discovery Center</b> <i>Starts Dec. 18, ends Feb. 26.</i> 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 and at the Grizzly and Wolf Discovery Center at 201 South Canyon Street. Meet at the Grizzly and Wolf Discovery Center. <b>Free Program,</b> but there is a fee to visit the rest of the center, which is an educational bear and wolf preserve. <i>45 minutes</i> ♿</p>	1:30 pm 3 pm 12/18–2/26						

## Old Faithful

Visitor Center • 9 am–5 pm • Daily, Dec. 15–Mar. 15

	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Weds.	Thurs.	Friday	Sat.
<p><b>Geysers Galore</b> <i>Starts Dec. 15, ends Mar. 15</i> 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 Old Faithful Visitor Education Center. <b>Free Program.</b> <i>20 minutes</i> ♿</p>	Inquire at Old Faithful Visitor Education Center 12/18–3/11	Inquire at Old Faithful Visitor Education Center 12/19–3/12	Inquire at Old Faithful Visitor Education Center 12/20–3/13	Inquire at Old Faithful Visitor Education Center 12/21–3/14	Inquire at Old Faithful Visitor Education Center 12/15–3/15	Inquire at Old Faithful Visitor Education Center 12/16–3/9	Inquire at Old Faithful Visitor Education Center 12/17–3/10
<p><b>Evening Program</b> <i>Starts Dec. 27, ends Mar. 3</i> Join a park ranger for an illustrated program highlighting a fascinating aspect of Yellowstone's natural, cultural, or scenic wonders. Meet at the Old Faithful Visitor Education Center. Doors open at 7 pm. Enter via the main doors on the parking lot side. Weekly program descriptions and locations will be posted in the visitor center and the Old Faithful Snow Lodge. <b>Free Program.</b> <i>45 minutes</i> ♿</p>			7:30 pm 12/27–2/28		7:30 pm 12/29–3/1	7:30 pm 12/30–3/2	7:30 pm 12/31–3/3

♿ = Accessible

🗣️ 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.



Road, service, and program schedules can change. Always check locally for updates.

In the early years after the National Park Service was created in 1916, its first Director, Stephen T. Mather, knew that building public support for a fledgling National Park System was crucial for its future. Resourcefulness and philanthropy helped sustain our parks then, and have played important roles throughout the history of the system. In Yellowstone National Park, two nonprofit partners—The Yellowstone Park Foundation and The Yellowstone Association—support the National Park Service’s mission and goals.

The Yellowstone Park Foundation (YPF) is the park’s official fundraising partner. YPF works in cooperation with the National Park Service to fund projects and programs that protect, preserve, and enhance natural and cultural resources and the visitor experience in Yellowstone. One of YPF’s most visible accomplishments is providing over half of the funding needed

to build the new Old Faithful Visitor Education Center. The Old Faithful live streaming webcam is another innovative service that has been funded by Canon U.S.A., Inc., through the Yellowstone Park Foundation, and dozens of other projects have been accomplished thanks to YPF’s support.

The Yellowstone Association (YA) is the park’s official nonprofit educational partner. YA works in cooperation with the National Park Service in its primary role of supporting visitor information, orientation, and education through the sales of educational materials and services in park visitor centers. Proceeds from sales and memberships have funded exhibits at the Canyon Visitor Education Center, the new geology film, *Yellowstone: Land to Life*, web videos and podcasts, and dozens of outdoor exhibits, publications, online features, and other NPS programs. See below to find out more about each organization.

THE YELLOWSTONE PARK FOUNDATION



**W**ith the support of *Friends of Yellowstone* the Yellowstone Park Foundation funds critical Park projects such as:

- wildlife & fisheries conservation
- hiking trail restoration
- historic preservation
- \$15 million toward the *new* state-of-the-art Old Faithful Visitor Education Center

and many more. To learn more or to **donate** online, visit us at

[www.ypf.org](http://www.ypf.org)

*Preserving the Wonders and Wildlife of Yellowstone National Park*

Text YELLOWSTONE to 85944 to donate \$10\*

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**YOUR SUPPORT MAKES A DIFFERENCE! Donate now & receive a free t-shirt.**

\$30  \$50  \$100  \$250  Other \$\_\_\_\_\_

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed is my check. (Make check payable to the Yellowstone Park Foundation.)

Please charge my credit card. (Choose one)

Amex  Diners Club  Discover  MC  Visa

CREDIT CARD # \_\_\_\_\_ EXP. DATE \_\_\_\_\_



T-shirt size  
Please check one:  
 Medium  
 Large  
 X-Large  
min. \$30 donation

\*A minimum donation of \$10 will be billed to your credit card. Shipping & handling fees apply. Donations are collected by the Yellowstone Park Foundation, 222 East Main Street, Suite 301, Bozeman, MT 59715. For more information, call 406-586-6303 or visit [www.ypf.org](http://www.ypf.org).

Yellowstone Park Foundation 222 East Main Street, Suite 301, Bozeman, MT 59715 406-586-6303

**JOIN THE PACK!**  
Receive a **FREE** gift and enjoy savings throughout the park when you become a member.



Join the nonprofit **Yellowstone Association** and receive **25% OFF** your first purchase **PLUS 15% OFF** future purchases in any of our educational Park Stores in visitor centers and at the North Entrance.

**AND GET 15% OFF\*** all purchases in retail locations operated by **Yellowstone General Stores and Xanterra Parks & Resorts® Gift Shops** located throughout Yellowstone National Park.



**YELLOWSTONE ASSOCIATION**

Contact us directly at: **406-848-2400**  
Online at: [www.YellowstoneAssociation.org](http://www.YellowstoneAssociation.org)

\*Exclusions apply. Inquire at each location for details. You must present membership card to receive discounts.

**INSPIRE. EDUCATE. PRESERVE.**

## Xanterra Parks and Resorts

December 18–March 7

	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>INTERPRETIVE SNOWCOACH TOURS</b> Full and half-day adventures in heated over-snow vehicles.							
From West Yellowstone to Old Faithful: \$62	Noon–3:45 pm						
From Old Faithful to West Yellowstone: \$62	7:30 am–11 am						
From Mammoth to Old Faithful: \$76	7:30 am–Noon						
From Old Faithful to Mammoth: \$76	1:30–6 pm						
From Old Faithful to Flagg Ranch: \$76	8:30–11:45 am						
From Flagg Ranch to Old Faithful: \$76	12:30–4:45 pm						
Canyon Day Tour, from Old Faithful: \$135 <i>You may want to order a box lunch the evening prior</i>	8:15 am–6 pm	8:15 am–6 pm		8:15 am–6 pm	8:15 am–6 pm		8:15 am–6 pm
Canyon Day Tour, from Mammoth: \$135 <i>You may want to order a box lunch the evening prior</i>	8:15 am–5 pm		8:15 am–5 pm		8:15 am–5 pm		
Firehole Basin Adventure, from Old Faithful: \$35		12:45–4 pm					
Norris Geyser Basin Tour, from Mammoth: \$62 <i>Strenuous, if you choose to walk around the geyser basin</i>		12:15–5:30 pm		12:15–5:30 pm		12:15–5:30 pm	12:30–5:30 pm
Old Faithful Photo Safari, from Old Faithful: \$162 <i>You may want to order a box lunch the evening prior</i>			7:45 am–2 pm			7:45 am–2 pm	7:45 am–2 pm
Steam, Stars, & Winter Soundscapes, from Old Faithful: \$38	6:30–9 pm						
<b>INTERPRETIVE BUS TOURS (no skiing)</b> Wake Up to Wildlife, from Mammoth: \$41, adults; \$20.50 children. <i>Receive a 20% discount on the Norris Geyser Basin Tour if you book this tour.</i>							
Lamar Valley Wildlife Tour, from Mammoth: \$32 adults, \$16 children	6:45–11 am		6:45–11 am	6:45–11 am		6:45–11 am	
<b>SKI AND SNOWSHOE TOURS</b>							
Grand Canyon Ski Tour, from Old Faithful: \$150			7:45 am–6 pm			7:45 am–6 pm	
Grand Canyon Ski Tour, from Mammoth: \$150							7:45 am–6 pm
Afternoon Ski-Daddles, Old Faithful: \$49	11:45 am–5 pm						
Guided Snowshoe Tour, Old Faithful: \$36 tour with snowshoe rental \$28 without snowshoe rental	8:15–11:30 am				8:15–11:30 am		
<b>EXPRESS SNOWCOACH TRIPS</b> Old Faithful Express to West Yellowstone: \$59 one way, daily, 6:30–8:30 am and 1:15–3:30 pm • <i>For the early express, you may want to order a box breakfast the evening prior</i> West Yellowstone Express to Old Faithful: \$59 one way, daily, 8:30–10:45 am							
<b>SKI/SNOWSHOE DROPS &amp; SHUTTLES</b> Old Faithful Snow Lodge to either Divide or Fairy Falls: \$16.50 one way, daily, 7:45 am, 8:45 am, 9:45 am, 10:45 am • <i>No pickups, you must return by ski or snowshoe</i> Mammoth Hotel to Indian Creek: \$16.50 round trip, daily, 8:15 am, 10 am, 12 noon, 1:45 pm, 3:30 pm • <i>Last pickup from Indian Creek is 4:30 pm</i>							



## 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 snow-coach transportation per person. Plus, each package includes a minimum 2 nights lodging, breakfast each day, a welcome gift, and a Snow Card (The Snow Card is good for 10% off of meals, select gifts, in-park transportation, tours, ski shop services and snowmobile rentals. It is valid all winter, so keep it for your next visit.) Rates listed here are valid January 2–March 5, 2011, and do not include tax or utility fee. For details, visit – [www.YellowstoneNationalParkLodges.com](http://www.YellowstoneNationalParkLodges.com)

To reserve, stop by one of the hotel front desks or call us at 307-344-7311 or toll-free at 866-Geyserland (866-439-7375)  
TTY: 307-344-5395.

### Frosty Fun Package

Mammoth:  
\$139 Per Person Double Occupancy  
\$219 Single Occupancy  
Old Faithful:  
\$295 Per Person Double Occupancy  
\$439 Single Occupancy

### Trail of the Wolf

Offered Monday and Thursday. Includes 3 nights lodging, and components of Frosty Fun, Guided Snowmobile Tour, and Wake Up to Wildlife Tour.  
Mammoth: \$439 Double Occupancy  
\$787 Single Occupancy  
Old Faithful: \$575 Double Occupancy  
\$955 Single Occupancy

### Nordic Heaven

Includes components of Frosty Fun plus ski/equipment rental and unlimited ski drops per person.  
Mammoth:  
\$189 Per Person Double Occupancy  
\$269 Single Occupancy  
Old Faithful:  
\$345 Per Person Double Occupancy  
\$489 Single Occupancy



“They said they’d seen it all in Yellowstone. We politely suggested one of our Winter Packages. Four days later, that same family couldn’t stop talking about all the *new* things they’d discovered about the park, *and themselves*. We just smiled.”

*Yellowstone.  
Don't just see it, experience it.*

## WINTER PACKAGES

**GETAWAY & ADVENTURE PACKAGES AT MAMMOTH INCLUDE:**  
Minimum 2 Nights Lodging • Breakfast per Person per Night  
Welcome Gift • Snow Card Discount Card  
1-Hour Hot Tub Rental • Unlimited Ice Skate Rentals

**GETAWAY & ADVENTURE PACKAGES AT OLD FAITHFUL SNOW LODGE INCLUDE:**  
Minimum 2 Nights Lodging • Breakfast per Person per Night  
Welcome Gift • Snow Card Discount Card • Unlimited Ice Skate Rentals • Round-Trip Snowcoach per Person

### GETAWAY PACKAGES AT MAMMOTH

**FROSTY FUN**  
Starting at \$139 per person double occupancy, \$219 single

**NORDIC HEAVEN**  
Starting at \$189 per person double occupancy, \$269 single  
*Nordic Heaven includes full-day ski rental and unlimited ski drops in addition to items listed above.*

### GETAWAY PACKAGES AT OLD FAITHFUL SNOW LODGE

**FROSTY FUN**  
Starting at \$295 per person double occupancy, \$439 single

**NORDIC HEAVEN**  
Starting at \$345 per person double occupancy, \$489 single

### ADVENTURE PACKAGE – TRAIL OF THE WOLF FROM MAMMOTH

Starting at \$439 per person double occupancy, \$787 single  
Includes 2 nights at Mammoth/1 night at Snow Lodge or 2 nights at Snow Lodge/1 night at Mammoth, 2 breakfasts per person, 1 1/2-Day Guided Snowmobile Tour with clothing, Lamar Valley Daybreak Tour (muffin and juice provided), in addition to the items listed above.

### ADVENTURE PACKAGE – TRAIL OF THE WOLF FROM OLD FAITHFUL SNOW LODGE

Starting at \$575 per person double occupancy, \$955 single

Package rates available January 1 - March 5, 2012. Prices are per person plus tax and utility fee. Additional charges may apply for extra people, room upgrades, extra nights, etc. Also available without transportation.



For Reservations & Information:  
866-439-7375 | [YellowstoneNationalParkLodges.com](http://YellowstoneNationalParkLodges.com)

Xanterra Parks & Resorts is an authorized concessioner of the National Park Service.  
[xanterra.com](http://xanterra.com)

## FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS: HELP PROTECT YELLOWSTONE!

### Xanterra's Long Term Commitment to Sustainability

Xanterra provides hospitality in some of the most beautiful places on earth, and we take our role of environmental stewardship very seriously. Through our Ecologix program, we incorporate sustainable practices in all aspects of our operations, from food to fuel, and from emissions reduction to renewable energy.



#### You can help us protect Yellowstone in the following ways:

**Recycle:** For your convenience, we now offer in-room recycling containers for plastic, paper, glass, cardboard, and aluminum. Recycling bins are also located throughout the park. With help from visitors like you, last year we recycled over 1.9 million pounds of material and diverted over 70% of our waste from the landfill!

**Choose Green:** Visit our new For Future Generations: Yellowstone Gifts store in the Mammoth Hotel and check out the wide selection of sustainable products and cool exhibits on climate change.



**Eat Well:** Our restaurants also offer a variety of sustainable choices including our great tasting Marine Stewardship Council certified salmon and fair trade, organic coffee. In 2010, 32% of our food purchases were sustainable!

**Conserve Energy:** When staying in the park's guest rooms, take advantage of the linen reuse program and be sure to turn off lights and heat when you leave the room.

**Be Green at Home:** Stewardship does not end at national park borders. You can help protect Yellowstone and other national parks from the impacts of climate change and pollution by adopting sustainable practices at home. Please visit the Environmental/Future Generations section of our website [YellowstoneNationalParkLodges.com](http://YellowstoneNationalParkLodges.com) for a list of green living tips and more information about climate change in our national parks.

*Thank you for helping us preserve Yellowstone!*



Yellowstone General Stores operates twelve retail stores with the attempt to cater to those visiting the world's first National Park. Each of our General Stores is unique in architecture, and located in scenic settings at each major area throughout Park. Visitors will find our staff to be very helpful in assisting with merchandise, scenic stops or wildlife sightings.

Food and beverage services offer a variety of selections to satisfy any wilderness hunger. Relax with a cup of coffee, ice cream, or snack while taking in the wonders of Yellowstone National Park.

Discover volumes of books with a variety of titles that describe and interpret the Park.

Explore the wide spectrum of collectibles and novelties in our souvenir sections. Themed postcards, posters, and other items are available offering an opportunity to take away more than a memory. Personal memories can also be preserved at photo centers, offering digital film processing, digital card downloads, and other photographic supplies.

Our apparel departments provide a variety of items with designs relating to the different areas of the park that may be worn now or given later as gifts. Outdoor enthusiasts can find a variety of supplies and gear to explore Yellowstone National Park. We offer supplies needed for a cookout, the night's camping, a day of fishing, hiking, boating, and wildlife watching.

Visit Old Faithful, Grant, Fishing Bridge and Canyon General Stores to join our *Pathways at Yellowstone* Program to meet talented and interesting artists and authors who make unique Yellowstone products.

Yellowstone General Stores is grateful for the opportunity to operate within Yellowstone National Park, and through our stewardship we protect the natural, cultural, and historic resources for future generations. Our Environmental Management System, GreenPath, is recognized according to international standards, ISO 14001. We implement programs to minimize our impact while operating in a unique pristine environment and strive for continual environmental improvement.



## Medcor® MEDICAL SERVICES AT YELLOWSTONE



**Emergencies** - Dial "911" or contact any National Park Ranger within Yellowstone. Specially trained rangers provide rescue, emergency medical care, and ambulance service.

**Medical Clinics** - Medcor operates three urgent-care clinics within the park. The clinic at Mammoth is open year round, staffed by a board-certified physician and a team of experienced RNs. The clinics at Lake and Old Faithful are open seasonally (see below for schedules). All these clinics are open to the public and are staffed and equipped for most medical emergencies and routine care. Services include injury and illness treatment, x-rays, and some lab and pharmacy services. If in-patient care or advanced services are required, the clinic staff can stabilize patients and arrange for appropriate transfer to a hospital.

**Stay Safe & Healthy** - Yellowstone is a large wilderness area with many natural hazards, including wild animals, scalding hydro-thermal features, freezing temperatures, blinding snow, thin ice, deep and running water, and high altitude. Please follow all national park regulations and common-sense precautions to stay safe and healthy while enjoying your visit.

**Eastern Idaho Regional Medical Center** - Air and ground ambulance, emergency medical direction, training, and trauma/specialty care from one of the top Trauma Centers in the U.S. [www.eirmc.com](http://www.eirmc.com)

**Mammoth Clinic** (307) 344-7965  
Open year round Mon - Fri  
June 1 - Sept 30 also open Sat & Sun

**Old Faithful Clinic** (307) 545-7325  
Open May 13 - Oct 3; 7 days a week

**Lake Clinic** (307) 242-7241  
Open May 20 - Sept 21; 7 days a week

For more information visit [www.medcor.com/Yellowstone](http://www.medcor.com/Yellowstone).

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## 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.yppf.org](http://www.yppf.org) or call 1-800-853-5576 (press \*1, then ext. 8301) to sign up for your Yellowstone Park Foundation Visa® Platinum Card today!

U.S. Bank National Association ND is creditor and issuer of the Yellowstone Park Foundation Visa Platinum Card.

Card photos by Tom Murphy.

**ATM** 24-hour cash available at Mammoth Hot Springs Hotel and Old Faithful Snow Lodge; and during store hours at the general store at Mammoth Hot Springs. CIRRUS and PLUS network.

**Lost and 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, mixed paper, cardboard (corrugated and grayboard), plastics 1–7 at Mammoth Hot Springs and Tower-Roosevelt. Inquire locally for locations and for recycling small propane canisters used with camp stoves and lanterns, household batteries, and bear spray.

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

## Cell phones

Cell phone service may be available in the Mammoth, Old Faithful, Canyon, and Grant developed areas. As a courtesy to other visitors, turn off your phone while enjoying Yellowstone's natural features.

## Accessibility

Yellowstone National Park is improving accessibility for all visitors. Some boardwalks, trails, picnic tables, and campsites are now accessible. Ask for *Accessibility in Yellowstone*, a free guide available at entrance stations, visitor centers, and on [www.nps.gov/yell/planyourvisit/accessibility.htm](http://www.nps.gov/yell/planyourvisit/accessibility.htm). *The Yellowstone Park Foundation supported printing of this guide.*

**For more information:**  
Park Accessibility Coordinator  
P.O. Box 168  
Yellowstone National Park, WY 82190  
[www.nps.gov/yell/planyourvisit](http://www.nps.gov/yell/planyourvisit)  
TTY: 307-344-2386

## Winter Services

	Mammoth Hot Springs	West Entrance and Madison	Canyon Village	Fishing Bridge	Old Faithful	West Thumb
Visitor Information and Bookstore	Albright Visitor Center Year-round, 9 am–5 pm	West Yellowstone Visitor Information Center Monday–Friday 8 am–5 pm  NPS rangers available daily, 8 am–5 pm Dec. 15–March 15  No bookstore	Canyon Visitor Center Daily, approx. 9 am–3 pm Dec. 15–March 13  Warming hut use only. See below.  Bookstore & exhibits not open		Old Faithful Visitor Education Center Daily, 9 am–5 pm Dec. 15–March 15  Bookstore & exhibits open	
Medical Clinic	8:30–5, Monday–Thursday 8:30–1, Friday 307-344-7965					
Warming Hut	<b>Mammoth</b> Dec. 21–March 6 8 am–5 pm Vending machine snacks; cold drinks.  <b>Indian Creek</b> Dec. 15–March 6 Not staffed, no food or water.	<b>Madison</b> Dec. 15–March 15 Light snacks & hot drinks sold during the day; vending machine snacks available any time.	Dec. 15–March 13 Approx. 9 am–3 pm Vending machine snacks; cold drinks. Restrooms open 24 hours a day.	Dec. 15–March 15 Vending machine snacks; cold drinks.	Dec. 15–March 15 Daytime only. Vending machine snacks; cold drinks.	Dec. 15–March 15 No food or water available.
Supplies and Gifts	General Store closed some Sundays & holidays  Hotel Gift Shop; Bear Den Ski Shop Dec. 20–March 5				Lodge Gift Shop Dec. 15–March 4  Bear Den Ski Shop Dec. 18–March 3	
Dining	General Store lunch on weekdays, groceries  Mammoth Hotel Dec. 20–March 4				Snow Lodge Dec. 18–March 3  Geyser Grill Dec. 15–March 15	
Hotel	Dec. 20–March 5				Dec. 18–March 4	
Snowmobile Gas	Dec. 20–March 5 Staffed 8–5 daily Credit Card Fueling		Dec. 20–March 5 Credit Card Fueling	Dec. 20–March 5 Credit Card Fueling	Dec. 20–March 5 Credit Card Fueling	
Campground	Year-round				Primitive only Dec. 15–March 15	

## Authorized guides and tours

### Yellowstone Association Institute

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

### Xanterra Parks & Resorts

Yellowstone's primary concessioner also offers a wide variety of park tours and activities during the summer. Visitors can enjoy photo safaris, partial or full day tours, horseback and stage-coach rides, and boating and fishing adventures. For more detailed information pick up an *Experience Planner* at any hotel or visit [www.YellowstoneNationalParkLodges.com](http://www.YellowstoneNationalParkLodges.com).

### Other Certified Guides and 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](http://www.nps.gov/yell).

### Caution:

#### Unauthorized Tours and 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.

## Save on entrance fees

The "America the Beautiful—National Parks and Federal Recreational Lands Pass" provides several pass options for people to use at federal recreation sites where entrance fees are charged, including national parks and wildlife refuges.

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. You can also trade them in for the new and more durable passes.*



### Entrance Fees for Yellowstone and Grand Teton

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

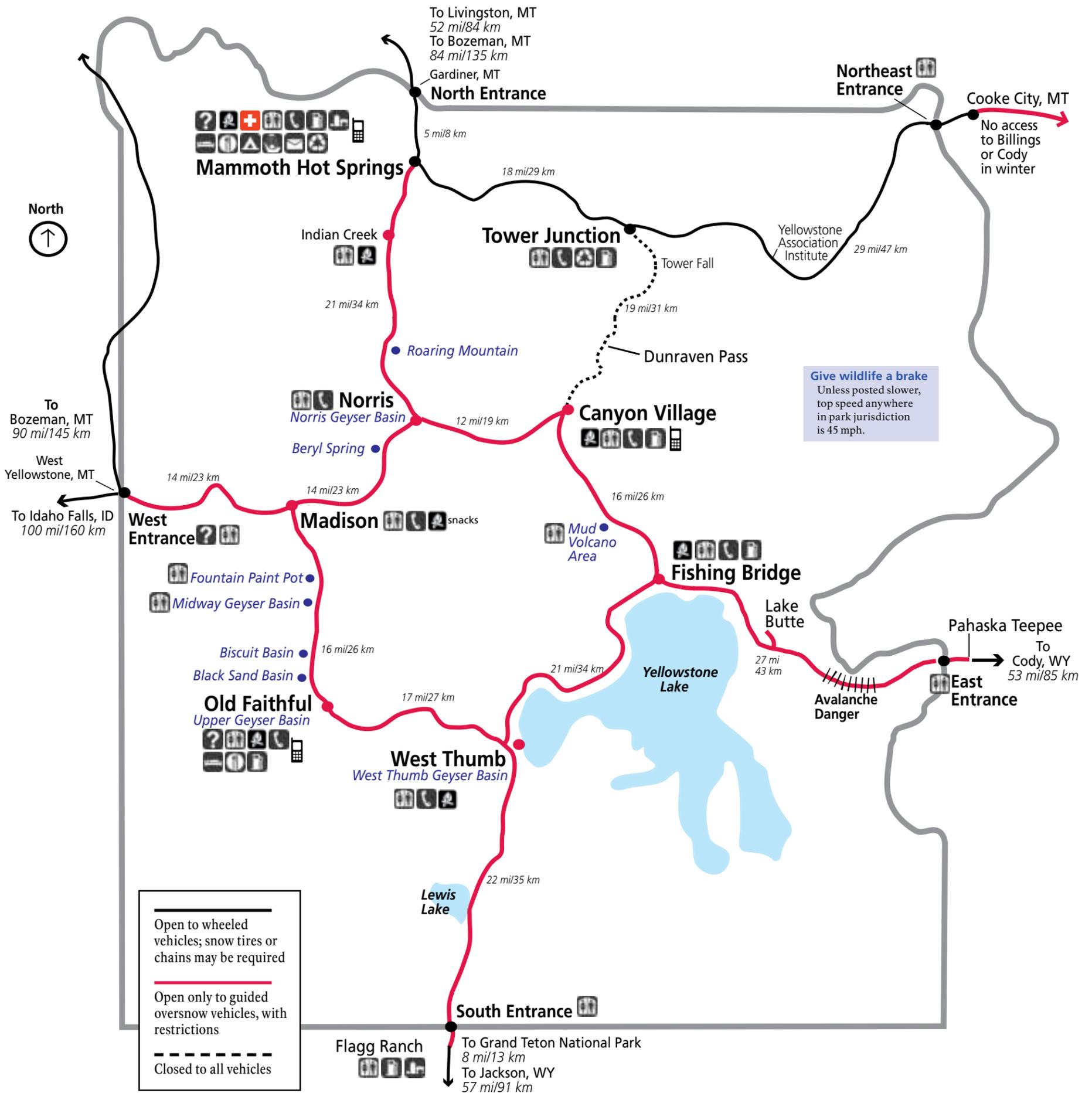
# Yellowstone in winter

[www.nps.gov/yell/planyourvisit](http://www.nps.gov/yell/planyourvisit)

Scan this QR code with a free app for your smartphone to link directly to trip-planning resources on the park website.

<http://go.nps.gov/visit-ynp>

The term QR code is a registered trademark of Denso Wave, Inc.



## Services

- Medical clinic
- Visitor center or information station
- Food
- Lodging
- Restrooms
- Fuel
- Store
- Warming hut
- Campground
- Recycling
- Telephone
- Mail
- Showers
- Cell phone service may be available

## Oversnow travel ends in March

Roads close to oversnow travel at **9 PM** as follows:  
 March 1: East Entrance to Lake Butte  
 March 4: Mammoth to Norris  
 March 6: Madison to Norris to Canyon  
 March 11: Canyon to Fishing Bridge  
 March 15: All other park roads close to oversnow travel

*The road between the North and Northeast entrances is open to wheeled vehicles all year.*

## Spring road openings

Weather permitting

April 20: Mammoth to Old Faithful; Madison Junction to West Entrance; Norris Junction to Canyon

May 4: Canyon to Lake, Lake to East Entrance (Lake is one mile south of Fishing Bridge)

May 11: Lake to South Entrance, West Thumb to Old Faithful, Tower Junction to Tower Fall

May 25: Tower Fall to Canyon (Dunraven Pass); Beartooth Hwy.

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