

Yellowstone Guidelines and Yellowstone Valley Lodge

Pick Up Location and Times:

Yellowstone Guidelines will pick up from the Yellowstone Valley Lodge. If clients choose not to be picked up from YVL, we will meet in Gardiner, MT at the Gardiner Chamber of Commerce.

All tours start early to take advantage of the small crowds and wildlife activity. Tours usually begin at 6:00 am from Gardiner or 5:30 am from Yellowstone Valley Lodge (YVL). If we feel the start time is too early, adjustments will be made. Yellowstone Guidelines will be in direct contact with the clients regarding the start time and logistics.

Each tour is approximately 8 to 9 hours in length. Actual time may vary due to wildlife sightings, traffic, road closures/construction, and the flow of the day. Tours can be shortened to accommodate clients' schedules. Please let us know in advance.

What is Provided:

Yellowstone Guidelines will provide transportation in our vehicle, a deli-style lunch, snacks, waters, and have spotting scopes and binoculars to view the animals. We accommodate dietary needs and restrictions. Vegetarian, vegan, and gluten-free lunch options are available.

What to Bring:

We want all of our guests to be prepared for a day of adventure. The most important item is layers of clothing. Yellowstone is generally colder than what people are expecting. Good shoes, comfortable clothes, phone, camera, hat, sunglasses, water bottle, a snack or two, and a small daypack are suggested items to bring on tour. We suggest requesting a to-go breakfast and coffee from YVL (if provided) Coffee and breakfast can be consumed in the car, no problem.

Not Included:

The Yellowstone National Park pass or entrance fee is not included on the trip. If clients have a pass, please bring it with you. The pass purchased at the gate is valid for 7 days. Guide Gratuity is not included. We suggest \$100 per day.

Tour Options:

Yellowstone Wildlife Tour and Safari - Lamar Valley Tour

It's no secret. Yellowstone has tons of wildlife. Our Yellowstone Wildlife Tour and Safari focuses on wildlife with an emphasis on bears and wolves. The route takes us through the famed "Northern Range" ecosystem and Lamar Valley. The "Northern Range" has the greatest diversity of animals large and small in North America. Learn about the park's unique ecology, history, and much more. When not looking for bears and wolves, we often see bison, elk, pronghorn (antelope), bighorn sheep, mountain goats, coyotes, moose, birds of prey, and animals of all shape and sizes. You'll be impressed!!!

The area covered on the tour is the region between Yellowstone's north entrance by Gardiner, MT and the northeast entrance near Cooke City, MT including the Lamar Valley. Numerous stops will be made along the way to look for wildlife. A light hike or two may be included to break up the day and stretch the legs. All the wildlife viewing is non-obtrusive and ethical. This is the best way to see animals in their natural habitat. The wildlife tours are educational, fun, and designed to create a memorable experience.

Yellowstone Day Hiking - Run from May to November 1

Hiking is a great way to explore the backcountry of Yellowstone. Did you know that less than 4% of visitors to Yellowstone leave the main roads? Hiking in Yellowstone is the best chance to ditch the crowds, explore the park, and a great way to experience the peace and solitude of Yellowstone's 2.2 million acres of wilderness. All the hikes are designed around the customer's fitness level and athletic ability. Options include summiting a mountain, discovering a waterfall, exploring a backcountry thermal basin, or just getting seeing the wilds of Wyoming and Montana!

During the hike we will look for animals, identify flora/fauna, engage in conversation about the park's history, wildlife, geology, and all aspects of Yellowstone! All of our guides carry bear spray and will have extra cans available for guests during the hike.

Notes: Actual hiking trail and route will vary. We suggest focusing on hikes in the north of Yellowstone to reduce the drive time in the park. A pre-trip conversation with the clients is recommended to secure details and specific route. Popular Routes include the Beaver Pond Trail, Bunsen Peak, Garnett Hill Loop, Lamar Valley Trail, and Slough Creek.

*** A combination of ½ day wildlife and ½ day hiking is also available. Great combo activity! ***

Yellowstone In A Day - Run from May to November 1

Yellowstone is a big place, a really big place. Seeing the entire park in a single day is a challenge. Our "Yellowstone In A Day" Tour gives our guests the best well rounded-view of the park. The tour focuses on a combination of wildlife watching in the Hayden Valley, sightseeing through the Canyon area, and exploring the thermal basins of Mammoth and the Norris Geyser Basin. The tour itinerary provides plenty of opportunities to stretch the legs with light walks and short hikes throughout the day.

Areas visited on tour can include Mammoth Hot Springs, the Back Basin of Norris Geyser Basin including Steamboat Geyser, Hayden Valley, the Grand Canyon of the Yellowstone and Lower Falls, Mud Volcano, and overlooks of Yellowstone Lake

Yellowstone Geology and Geyser Tour - Run from May to November 1

Geology is the essence of Yellowstone! The park is home to 2/3 of the world's geyser, over 10,000 geothermal features, and a spectacle of hot springs, mud pots, geysers and fumaroles. The diversity of geothermal activity is amazing! The Yellowstone Geology and Geyser Tour will explore the geologically active areas on the southwest portion of Yellowstone.

The Geyser and Geology Tour itinerary will cover the geological highlights like Old Faithful, Lower Geyser Basin, Grand Prismatic Springs, and many more. There is so much to do and see on this side of the park!!! To maximize the experience, we recommend a short hike of about 1.5 miles to the overlook of Grand Prismatic Spring, the largest hot spring in Yellowstone. Amazing!