

GRAND TETON

NATIONAL PARK TRIP PLANNER

Essential
Tips To
Plan Your
Vacation



A Park
Map



National Park Trips

How far is Yellowstone from Idaho Falls?

(It's closer than you think)

In under two hours, you can be right at the gates of two beloved national parks; Yellowstone and Grand Teton! But don't be surprised if Idaho Falls draws you in and keeps you a little longer than expected!

Stroll the falls along the Greenbelt, visit the zoo or aquarium, or maybe take in a hockey or baseball game! (Idaho Falls has a pretty robust arts, culture, and dining scene too!) Visit YellowstoneTeton.org for more information and inspiration!





Ready for a road trip?



Get your Free Travel Planner now
at YellowstoneTeton.org

GETTING THERE

No matter where you are coming from, traveling to Grand Teton National Park is just as memorable as exploring the park. Here are three top routes.



Map by Peter Sucheski

STARTING POINT: SALT LAKE CITY

Hit desert highlights from the Great Salt Lake to Dinosaur National Monument as you travel to Yellowstone and Grand Teton national parks on this 1,140-mile route.

Start in Salt Lake City and discover the city's burgeoning craft-brewing and foodie scene where Emmy Award-winner Ty Burrell has opened two restaurants: Beer Bar and Bar-X. Then head north to Cache Valley to visit the American West Heritage Center. Explore Americana in Idaho towns like Ashton, Driggs and Victor, home of The Spud Drive-In Theatre. Cross into Wyoming to explore Jackson and Grand Teton National Park. Farther north, you'll discover the magnificent wonders of Yellowstone National Park. From the park, head south to Kemmerer, Wyo., to Fossil Butte National Monument and get wet at the Flaming Gorge National Recreation Area. Then stop in Vernal, Utah, to explore Dinosaur National Monument.

STARTING POINT: DENVER

Spend your first day of this incredible 1,379-mile, round-trip route in the Mile High City, checking out the art and food scene before heading west to the outdoor mecca of Winter Park, Colorado and the charming town of Grand Lake at the foot of Rocky Mountain National Park.

In the park, take Trail Ridge Road, the National Park Service's highest paved road, over the Continental Divide to Estes Park, Colorado. Then head to Laramie, Wyoming for interesting museums and fun breweries. Catch views of the Snowy Range Mountains before stopping in Rawlins to eat. From there, head to northwest to visit Sinks Canyon State Park in Lander before reaching Jackson and Grand Teton National Park. Head north to Yellowstone before exiting the park's East Entrance to Cody, home of the Buffalo Bill Center of the West. Farther along, you'll find the hot springs of Thermopolis, authentic Casper and outdoor fun at the Terry Bison Ranch in Cheyenne.

STARTING POINT: CHICAGO

Start in Chicago for this 2,800-plus mile route and head west, stopping at Wall Drug and Badlands National Park. Beyond lies Mount Rushmore in Keystone, South Dakota, hot springs in Hot Springs, South Dakota and two underground sites: Wind Cave National Park and Jewel Cave National Monument.

Enjoy the historic downtown in Custer and wildlife like bison at Custer State Park. Then visit Crazy Horse Memorial, the world's largest mountain carving. Visit Deadwood for Wild West reenactments and go for an old-fashioned train ride aboard The 1880 Train in Hill City. From there head west across the Wyoming border to explore Devils Tower National Monument. After exploring Yellowstone and Grand Teton national parks, head to Medora, North Dakota home of the stunning Theodore Roosevelt National Park, on your way back to Chicago.

ON THE COVER: John Moulton barn on Mormon Row in Grand Teton National Park (Depositphotos)



PARK ENTRANCES

Grand Teton National Park is shaped a bit like your left-hand thumb and is dotted with three main entrances. There is no Grand Teton entrance station when you head south from Yellowstone into Grand Teton.

GRANITE CANYON ENTRANCE

If you are coming from Utah or Idaho, you might think this entrance on Moose-Wilson Road would get you into the park the quickest. The turnoff for it is at the bottom of Teton Pass on Hwy. 22 in Wilson, Wyo. But don't be fooled. It's a slower drive into the park, so if you are looking for a leisurely drive or for hikes near this entrance, take it. Otherwise, drive through Jackson and use Hwy. 89 to enter the park via the Moose Entrance or Moran Entrance, which will give you faster access to Jenny Lake and Jackson Lake.

MOOSE ENTRANCE

If you are staying in Jackson, the best way into the park is through the Moose Entrance. Take 191-26-89 north past the National Elk Refuge and the Jackson Hole Airport, which has arguably the best airport views in the nation.

In the Moose area, you'll find the Craig Thomas Discovery & Visitor Center, which tells the story of the park, its wild inhabitants and cultural history through interactive exhibits and touch screens. Don't miss the "video river," composed of video screens on the floor that lead you on a visual journey to discover the places, people and preservation of the park.

Just a mile north of Moose on Hwy. 26, 89, 191 and east on Antelope Flats Road, you'll find the iconic barn that appears in the foreground of so many Teton range photos. It was built by T.A. Moulton. You'll also find the Gros Ventre Campground and the Menors Ferry Historic District where you can tour an original cabin and general store.

MORAN ENTRANCE

If you are coming from Denver via Dubois, Wyo., the Moran Entrance might be the easiest way for you to get into the park. Hwys. 26/289 flow right into it 30 miles north of Jackson, Wyo. Accessing the northern end of the park through here puts you in the heart of the Jackson Lake and Colter Bay areas. And you're only 20 miles south of Yellowstone National Park.

A natural body of water, Jackson Lake is the largest lake in the park, and it's 400-feet deep. There is 39 feet of reservoir storage on the top of the lake, which is why you'll see the Jackson Lake Dam on the lake's east side.

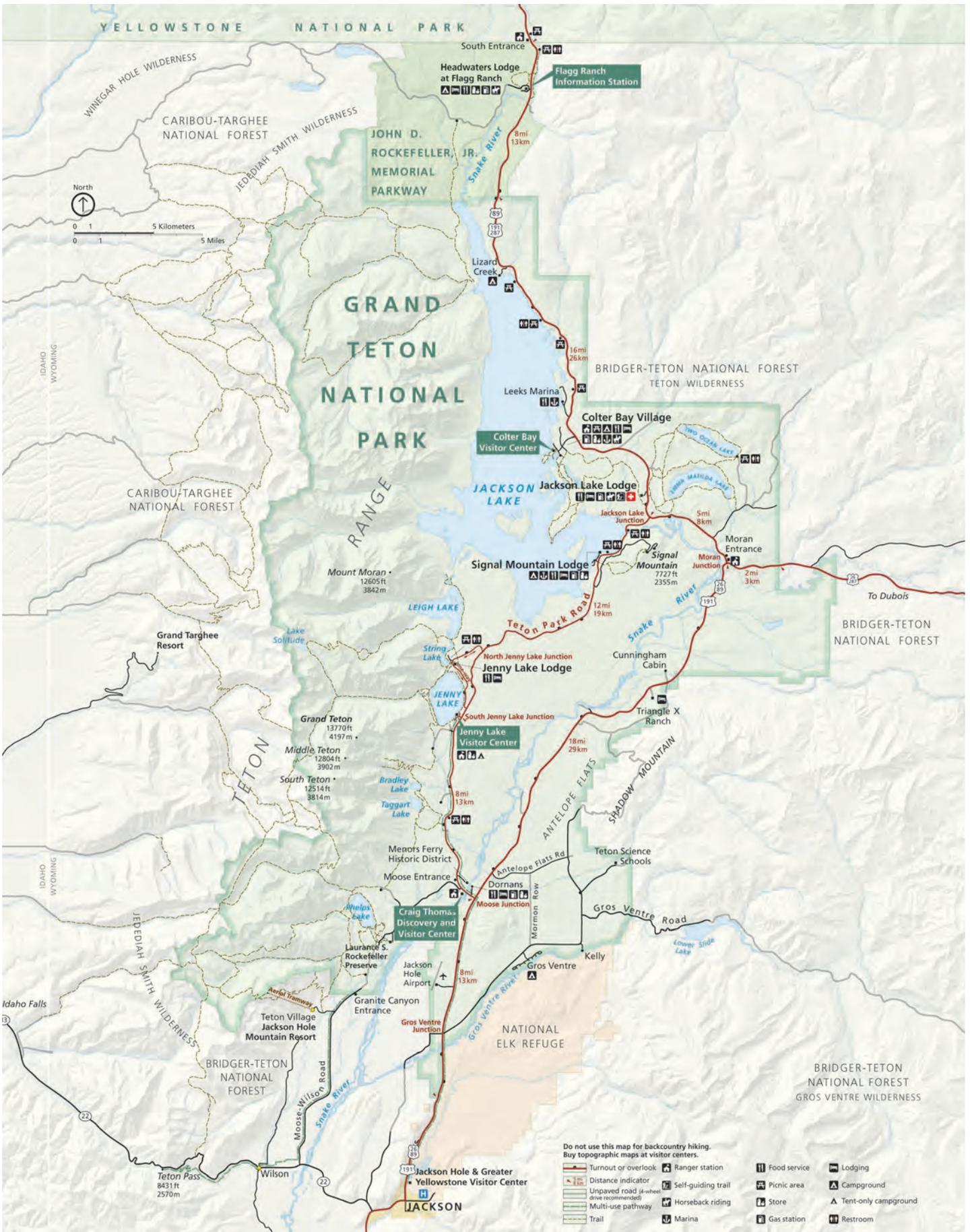
Along its shores, you'll find Signal Mountain Lodge, Jackson Lake Lodge, the Colter Bay Village and Colter Bay Visitor Center. The visitor center is 25 miles north of Moose.

FLAGG RANCH INFORMATION STATION

If you visit Yellowstone first, the best way to get to Grand Teton National Park is through Yellowstone's South Entrance. You do have to purchase a separate pass for Grand Teton National Park.

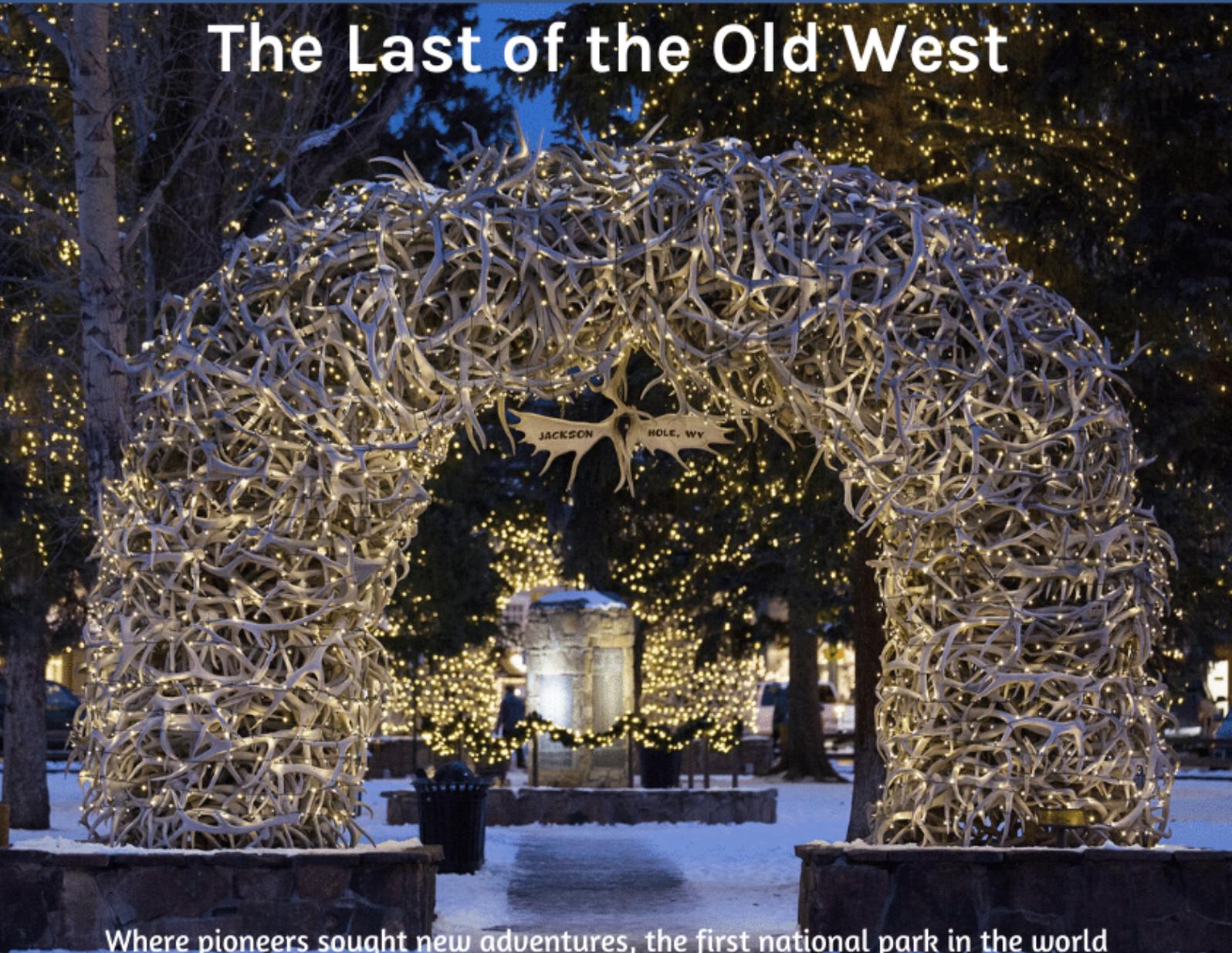
When you enter Grand Teton from Yellowstone, you'll notice there is no formal entrance station. If you want a park newspaper, stop at the Flagg Ranch Information Station four miles south of Yellowstone or pick up a map and more information at the larger Colter Bay Visitor Center 18 miles from Yellowstone on the shores of Jackson Lake.

This end of the park is the farthest north and provides easy access to the Colter Bay District where hiking trails, the stunning Jackson Lake, canoe and kayaking opportunities, fishing, scenic drives and wildlife-viewing await. You also can take a dip at the swim beach in Colter Bay.



Map Courtesy NPS

Howdy Stranger, Yonder is Jackson Hole The Last of the Old West



Where pioneers sought new adventures, the first national park in the world - **Yellowstone** - was born & French fur trappers named **Grand Teton National Park's** mountains. Today's travelers can explore on skis, **horse-drawn sleighs**, snowshoes, snowmobiles & more, all while observing some of the world's most spectacular animals - **moose, elk & if you're lucky, wolves**. And indulge in our exquisite cuisine, world-renowned art and unique shopping.

Let us help you
make your dream vacation out West a reality.

www.jacksonholechamber.com



JACKSON HOLE
CHAMBER
OF COMMERCE

RIDE FOR THE BRAND

GRAND TETON'S TOP SIX

Here are some of our favorite things to do from hiking to exploring some of Grand Teton's most iconic treasures.



1

BREAKFAST IN THE MURAL DINING ROOM

Start the day with breakfast at the Mural Dining Room in Jackson Lake Lodge for a delicious breakfast with unforgettable views. The floor-to-ceiling panoramic windows offer outstanding views of the Tetons.



2

GET A HUCKLEBERRY MILKSHAKE

Stop at the Pioneer Grill in the Jackson Lake Lodge for the best milkshake ever. After you take a sip, you'll understand why bears seek out huckleberry bushes to feast.



3

DRIVE TETON PARK ROAD

Spot wildlife and stop for a picnic on this 21-mile scenic drive in the park. It stretches from Moose to Jackson Lake Junction.



4

VISIT MORMON ROW

Founded in the 1890s by Mormon settlers, this community was once home to 27 homesteads. Today see T.A. Moulton's much-photographed iconic barn. Drive north from Jackson on Hwy. 191 past Moose Junction, turn right onto Antelope Flats Road and drive for 1.5 miles. A trail brochure and interpretive sign can be found at the parking lot.



5

JACKSON LAKE BOAT CRUISE

Go on a scenic boat ride for a breakfast, lunch or dinner cruise on Jackson Lake where you'll fuel up on great views and food on Elk Island. Being on Jackson Lake gives you a whole different perspective.



6

HIKE TO TAGGART LAKE

This beautiful 3-mile round-trip trail cuts through sagebrush flats and forests before rolling into Taggart Lake. You'll gain 350 feet of elevation on this trail rated "easy." From the lake, you'll have great views of the awe-inspiring, 13,770-foot Grand Teton.

PHOTOS: Grand Teton National Park (©Adobe Stock); Mural Dining Room and huckleberry milkshake (Grand Teton Lodge Co.); Teton Park Road (Grant Ordelheide); Mormon Row (Lee Skalkos/National Parks Photography Contest); Jackson Lake (Depositphotos); Taggart Lake (Flickr/Kathryn Harper)



WHERE TO STAY

Inside the park are eight different lodging options mainly clustered in the Jenny Lake and the Jackson Lake/Colter Bay areas. They range from tent cabins to luxury hotels.

JENNY LAKE

JENNY LAKE LODGE

This is the closest park property to Jackson, and like the town, it has a luxurious feel. Extravagance awaits in the form of suites, stand-alone cabins and duplex-style cabins with homemade quilts. A five-course restaurant has a menu that changes nightly, but the dining room also serves breakfast and lunch. Food is locally sourced from the Jackson Farmers Market and beyond. Reservations are required. Cruiser bikes are complementary. Make reservations at www.gtlc.com or call 307-543-3100.

SOUTH OF JENNY LAKE

AMERICAN ALPINE CLUB CLIMBERS RANCH

If you are a rock climber, this may be the place for you. Just four miles north of the Moose headquarters, sleep on wooden bunks in primitive co-ed dormitory-style cabins that accommodate four, six or eight people. There are communal men and women's bathrooms and a cook shelter. Make reservations at americanalpineclub.org/gtcr-faq.

DORNANS SPUR RANCH CABINS

Located east of Jenny Lake, Dornans is set on 10 acres along the Snake River. This family-owned resort has eight one-bedroom cabin duplexes and four two-bedroom cabin duplexes. Each cabin has a fully-equipped kitchen, BBQ grills, handcrafted furniture and queen-sized beds with down comforters. The resort, which requires a three-night minimum stay in summer, has two restaurants, a grocery store, gas pumps, a nationally recognized wine shop, gift shop and deli. Make reservations at dornans.com or call 307-733-2415.

EAST OF JENNY LAKE

TRIANGLE X RANCH

Triangle X Ranch is the last dude ranch concession in the National Park Service system. Located 26 miles north of Jackson on Hwy. 89, the ranch sits on the park's eastern edge close to the Moran Entrance. Since 1926, five generations of the Turner family have managed the ranch that has 20 cabins, ranging from one to four bedrooms, plus bathrooms with tubs and showers, a small refrigerator and porch. During peak summer season, there's a seven-night minimum stay. Horseback riding is king, but the ranch also offers float trips. Make reservations at trianglex.com or call 307-733-2183.

COLTER BAY

JACKSON LAKE LODGE

This 385-room lodge has hotel rooms and cottages, a heated swimming pool and several restaurants, giving you a classic national park experience. U.S. Secretary of State James Baker and Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze signed a statement of peace and friendship here in 1989. See the lodgepole pine table, made for the signing, in the Upper Lobby area. Beyond there's Mural Dining Room offering fine dining, the 1950s-style Pioneer Grill and the Blue Heron Lounge named the park's "best watering hole" for humans by the National Park Foundation. Make reservations at www.gtlc.com or call 307-543-3100.

COLTER BAY CABINS

Staying here on the northern shore of Jackson Lake offers an affordable vacation with incredible access to a general store, restaurants, kayaking

and horseback riding. Sleep in one of the 208 historic refurbished cabins or stay in tent cabins. Choose between one and two-room cabins with a variety of bed configurations. The tent cabins have two log walls, two weather-proof canvas walls and a weather-proof canvas roof. Each has fold-down bunk beds and a wood-burning stove but no electricity. Bring your own bedding or rent it. Make reservations at www.gtlc.com or call 307-543-3100.

SOUTH OF COLTER BAY

SIGNAL MOUNTAIN LODGE

If you want to stay on Jackson Lake, Signal Mountain Lodge & Marina is the only lake-front accommodations in the park. Opened in the 1920s, this lodge offers five different types of cabins, plus bungalows and a lake-front retreat. Each cabin has a private bathroom and accommodates four to six people. It has three restaurants: The Trapper Grill, Peaks Restaurant and Leek's Pizzeria. Make reservations at signalmountainlodge.com or call 307-543-2831.

NORTH OF COLTER BAY

HEADWATERS LODGE & CABINS AT FLAGG RANCH

This lodge is just two miles south of Yellowstone's South Entrance. With no Wi-Fi or cell phone service, it's a wonderful place to disconnect. Walk to trails and the Snake River and eat at Sheffields, which serves breakfast, lunch and dinner. Make reservations at gtlc.com/lodges/headwaters-lodge-at-flagg-ranch or 307-543-2861.

INSIDER'S TIPS

From what to pack to entrance fees and weather at Grand Teton National Park, here's the scoop.



GRAND TETON ENTRANCE FEES*

Buy your pass at a park entrance station, purchase a digital pass at recreation.gov or order a card online at REI.com (with no shipping costs).

\$20
fee for hikers and bikers for a seven-day pass

\$30
fee for motorcyclists for a seven-day pass

\$35
fee for seven-day vehicle pass

\$70
cost of a Grand Teton annual pass

\$80
price of the interagency annual pass for all national park sites

\$80
fee for U.S. citizens 62 and older for the senior pass

*Fees subject to change

ONLINE

Visit MyYellowstonePark.com to find out where to stay and what to do during your vacation. Interested in exploring other national parks? Check us out at NationalParkTrips.com.



PACKING LIST

- Refillable water bottles or a hydration system
- Binoculars
- Clothing layers to accommodate temperature fluctuations of 30-40 degrees in one day.
- A sun hat, sunglasses and sunscreen
- Rain jacket & bug spray
- Sturdy hiking boots
- Daypack



Learn more at MyYellowstonePark.com/park/what-to-pack.



OUTSIDE+ MEMBERSHIP

Become a member of Outside+ to get access to a year of Gaia GPS Premium for trail maps to build trip plans with weather and topo overlays, plus get exclusive content online and on Outside TV. Learn more at MyYellowstonePark.com/OutsidePlus.

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WILDLIFE AT GRAND TETON

Discover more about Grand Teton's fantastic animals and where to see them.



MOOSE

You can spot a male moose easily by its huge antlers that can stretch up to six feet. Females don't have antlers. As the largest member of the deer family, moose have long snouts, bulbous noses and extra skin under their throats, which set them apart from other animals. They are enormous, weighing up to 1,800 pounds. On land they can reach speeds of up to 35 miles per hour, but they also are good swimmers that can paddle several miles at a time.

SEE THEM: Spot moose along Moose-Wilson Road near willows, Cascade Canyon, Oxbow Bend, Blacktail Ponds, Mormon Row and Antelope Flats Road.



BLACK BEAR

These omnivores can weigh up to 400 pounds and stretch from two to four feet tall. They can be black, blond or brown, which can lead visitors to misidentify them as grizzlies. Throughout summer and fall, they retreat to higher elevations, chasing berries and trout. They hibernate in winter and mate in summer.

SEE THEM: Look for them along the Moose-Wilson Road near berry bushes, Teton Park Road, Signal Mountain, Two Ocean and Mathilde lakes, Colter Bay and Jenny Lake.



GRIZZLY BEAR

Spotting a grizzly in the park 25 years ago was an unusual experience. Today, the Greater Yellowstone region is home to about 700 grizzlies. Weighing up to 700 pounds, grizzlies, also known as "brown bears," have a distinctive hump between their shoulders, a long snout and shorter ears than black bears. While their front claws measure between 2-4 inches, black bears' claws are 1-2 inches. They typically have blonde-tipped fur on their backs and flanks.

SEE THEM: Look for them at Willow Flats, Oxbow Bend, Two Ocean and Emma Mathilde lakes and Cascade and Death canyons.



BISON

In 1916, America's wild bison, which once numbered 60 million, had dwindled to 23 animals. Yellowstone's bison today, which number 4,900, are descendants of those survivors. Bison can weigh up to 2,000 pounds. While they may seem docile, they are unpredictable and have injured visitors who approach them. Stay at least 25 yards from bison when observing them.

SEE THEM: Look for them along the Snake River from Moose north to the Jackson Lake Dam, Kelly Loop/Antelope Flats and Elk Ranch Flats.



ELK

About 11,000 elk live in the Jackson Hole area and an estimated 7,300 spend the winter in the National Elk Refuge near the park. Adult bull elk weigh up to 700 pounds while adult females may weigh up to 500 pounds. Their rear ends are white and often give them away to passersby. Elk congregate at lower elevations during mating season, also known as "the rut," from September to October, making fall the best time to spot them.

SEE THEM: Look in aspen groves in Oxbow Bend, meadows along the Snake River from Moose north to Jackson Lake Dam, Teton Park Road, Willow Flats and Two Ocean and Emma Mathilde lakes.



WOLF

From the 1930s to 1998, wolves were absent from Grand Teton after decades of hunting had wiped the predator out. In 1998, a pair of wolves from Yellowstone moved to Grand Teton and gave birth to pups. The duo was part of a Yellowstone reintroduction program that brought 14 Canadian wolves to Yellowstone in 1995, followed by subsequent reintroductions. Today, there are about 58 wolves that roam in six packs in the Grand Teton area, with about 450 in the Greater Yellowstone area.

SEE THEM: In Grand Teton, look for them in Willow Flats. You are more likely to catch sight of them in the northern parts of Yellowstone, including the Lamar Valley.

THE OTHER SIDE OF THE TETONS

Six can't-miss stops from Idaho Falls to Ririe in Idaho.

By Mikaela Ruland



IDAHO FALLS

WHY STOP? Stroll the Greenbelt along the Snake River, which is home to shops, breweries, a weekend farmer's market and even a Japanese garden.

LOCAL TIP: The event of the summer is the Mountain Brewers Fest, the biggest craft beer festival in the area, June 6, 2020.

ISLAND PARK

WHY STOP? This mountain town is home to some of Idaho's best ATVing. High Mountain Adventures rents ATVs and offers guided tours of the surrounding wilderness.

LOCAL TIP: After a day of adventure, stop in at Connie's Restaurant & Saloon at 4130 Quakie Lane for Idaho's best fried green beans.

TETON VALLEY

WHY STOP? The world-class Grand Targhee Resort is just as beautiful in the summer as it is in winter. Ride the chairlift up and mountain bike or hike down.

LOCAL TIP: For a picture-worthy hike, hit the Darby Canyon Wind Cave Trail, 5.4 miles roundtrip culminating in a gorgeous cave with a waterfall.

ST. ANTHONY

WHY STOP? The St. Anthony Sand Dunes are famous for their wild beauty. With two separate areas, you can rent a motorized vehicle if you're interested in thrills or a sand board if you prefer quiet.

LOCAL TIP: Eastern Idaho is full of amazing off-road opportunities. Download Yellowstone Teton Territory's Off-Road Guide for trail information at yellowstoneteton.org/travel-guides.

SWAN VALLEY

WHY STOP? The best way to explore Swan Valley is by raft or paddleboard. Float down the south fork of the Snake River past Fall Creek Falls, a hidden gem offering beautiful views.

LOCAL TIP: At the end of a long day on the river, Rainy Creek Store is the place to stop. The store's square ice cream, with a malt ball in the bottom of the cone, has lines forming out the doors.

RIRIE

WHY STOP? Heise Hot Springs, situated on the beautiful Snake River, offers natural mineral pools, camping and even ziplining.

LOCAL TIP: Stay at 7N Ranch in cabins or the campground and take advantage of the mountain bike course in the summer to get you warmed up for area trails or the tubing hill in the winter.

Learn more about Yellowstone Teton Territory at yellowstoneteton.org.