



Places to visit for a weekend, a week, or more...

Yellowstone National Park

English Now!

Yellowstone is a great destination if you'd like to explore America's natural beauty in a vast, unsettled area. Located in the states of Wyoming, Montana, and Idaho, Yellowstone was the first National Park in the U.S. and is famous for its spectacular views, wildlife, and many geothermal features.

Many people know about Yellowstone because this is where you find the amazing geyser, Old Faithful. Old Faithful erupts to a height of over 100 feet every 45-125 minutes, and is one of many geysers in the park. Yellowstone is comprised of an amazing range of landscapes including geothermal sites such as high shooting geysers, bubbling mud holes, and hot sulphur springs, as well as vast forests, valleys, streams, lakes, and high mountains. Yellowstone's many unusual geological features led Congress to designate it America's first national park in 1872. Many people consider it the first national park in the world!

Wildlife is abundant in Yellowstone and includes bison, deer, elk, moose, coyotes, wolves, bears, bobcats, otter, and many bird species. You may spot several animal species during your visit, so don't forget to pack your binoculars!

The best time to visit Yellowstone is in the spring when the flowers are in bloom and baby animals are likely to be seen, and fall when the park is peaceful and painted in autumn colors. Spring is late in Yellowstone and can be chilly, but it is quiet. Both spring and fall you will find fewer crowds, but of course, anytime you are able to get there will be a treat. If you are adventurous, you might even want to visit in the winter when Yellowstone is covered in a luxurious white blanket of snow and bison dot the landscape. There is a great company called Yellowstone Expeditions that offers cross-country skiing and cozy yurt accommodations.

There are many outdoor activities in Yellowstone, ranging from hiking, camping, fishing, boating, naturalist led talks and walks, to bird watching and wildlife viewing. Consider even a brief hike in Yellowstone's huge, unspoiled northeastern corner. This part of Yellowstone is said to be the largest unsettled natural forest in the U.S. Imagine: that's what the European settlers of the West found as they moved west.

Please be sure to check out this helpful link in video format with English subtitles. It may answer many of your questions:

<https://www.nps.gov/yell/learn/photosmultimedia/visitingyellowstone.htm>

Getting There. You can fly from Washington, D.C. to Salt Lake City, UT and then Salt Lake City right into Yellowstone via Delta Airlines. Or, if you have more time, consider taking Amtrak across the U.S. to see the scenery along the way. Most travelers fly out west and rent a car to drive into the park. The park is also accessible by bus from Salt Lake City and other nearby cities. Driving from Salt Lake City, the closest nearest city, takes about five hours. The distances are vast in this part of the U.S.!

Where to Stay. If possible we recommend that you consider staying in “bed and breakfast” inns as you travel to Yellowstone. Small cities and small towns in the West have many such inns, and you can meet local people as you travel in these types of establishments. To find “B&Bs”, search “B&B” and the city where you’d like to stay, on the internet. Airbnb.com may be a good option for finding a place to stay as well, but most Airbnb accommodations don’t include breakfast with your “host”! Once you arrive at Yellowstone, there are a number of inns and campgrounds. The most famous inn is “Old Faithful Inn”, located near Old Faithful geyser. That and other inns often have huge stone fireplaces where you can warm yourself by the fire. For information about those and other inns visit: <http://www.yellowstonenationalparklodges.com/> Or consider camping: it’s a beautiful natural way to experience the park!

For More Information. Many thanks go to Marian DeAngelo, who loves Yellowstone, for these recommendations! Please feel free to talk to Marian, Paul, or Kirstie if you’re considering a trip to the region, and for ideas about other places to visit out west. Also, please let us know if you travel there and how it goes. We would love to hear about special places you discover!