Discovering Our Planet Together



Ultimate Winter Yellowstone: Wolves & Wildlife

A Rare Snowy Season Safari Deep into Yellowstone & Grand Teton National Parks

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Trip Details:

Days
7 Days / Jan–Feb

Price
From $8495

Ultimate Winter Yellowstone: Wolves & Wildlife

A Rare Snowy Season Safari Deep into Yellowstone & Grand Teton National Parks

In the pale light of sunrise, we survey the open expanse of Yellowstone's Lamar Valley, searching for wolves. Alongside expert naturalist guides, with spotting scopes poised, we hope to spy a pack emerge from the forest, energized by the awakening day. In the distance, a large male halts and sniffs the frozen air. Elegant predators, wolves are an important part of the Yellowstone ecosystem, where great herds of elk, snow-crusted bison and other prey provide sustenance. Winter's white mantle offers a pristine backdrop against which to search for these elusive icons of wilderness. The landscape holds magic, too, with steaming geysers, bubbling mud pots and trees covered in glittering ice crystals beneath an immaculate blue sky. Discover Yellowstone and the Tetons on a rare winter wildlife safari—your spirit will never be the same.

Trip Highlights

Track Wolves with Expert Guides

Alongside our naturalist Expedition Leaders and scientist researchers, search for wolves in Yellowstone's remote Northern Range—the best place on Earth to find them

Experience Yellowstone's Fire & Ice in Winter

Make the winter journey to Old Faithful in a private snowcoach, stay inside the peaceful park, and watch steaming geysers erupt against the snowy backdrop

View Elk on a Horse-Drawn Sleigh Ride

Travel by sleigh over the silent, snowy expanse of the National Elk Refuge in Jackson Hole for close-up views of the vast winter herds beneath the Teton spires

Ready to Book? Call an Adventure Specialist at 800-543-8917

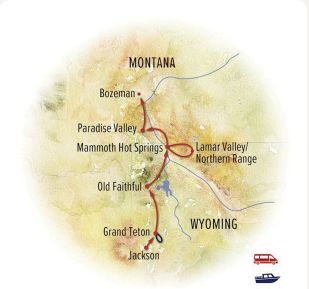


Ultimate Winter Yellowstone: Wolves & Wildlife Itinerary

A Rare Snowy Season Safari Deep into Yellowstone & Grand Teton National Parks

Itinerary at a Glance

Day 1	Jackson
Day 2	Jackson Hole
Day 3	Grand Teton National Park / Yellowstone National Park
Day 4	Hayden Valley / Mammoth Hot Springs / Northern Range
Day 5	Northern Range & Lamar Valley / Cooke City
Day 6	Lamar Valley / Paradise Valley / Bozeman
Day 7	Bozeman



Day 1

Jackson

Begin a winter wildlife safari in Jackson

- Arrive in Jackson at the edge of Grand Teton National Park
- Join your Expedition Leader and fellow travelers for a welcome dinner

Our Yellowstone wildlife tour begins in the Old West town of Jackson, which sits at the edge of Grand Teton National Park in the shadow of the mountain range's jagged spires. This evening, meet your Expedition Leader and fellow adventurers at an informal welcome dinner and orientation.

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Day 2

Jackson Hole

See thousands of elk wintering in Jackson Hole

- Look for bald eagles, golden eagles, bighorn sheep, bison and moose across the valley
- Ride a horse-drawn sleigh through the National Elk Refuge among thousands of wintering elk
- Pause for lunch at the National Museum of Wildlife Art in Jackson

Our winter safari begins in the broad valley of Jackson Hole as we look for bald and golden eagles, bighorn sheep, coyote, bison, mule deer, moose and elk. After lunch at the National Museum of Wildlife Art in Jackson, travel by horse-drawn sleigh through the National Elk Refuge. Gliding over the snow that blankets the valley floor, we capture close-up photos of the massive herd that winters here, with thousands of animals roaming the range.

Day 3

Grand Teton National Park / Yellowstone National Park

Enter Yellowstone's snowbound interior for a night at Old Faithful

- Cross Grand Teton National Park beneath the Teton Range
- Board a heated snowcoach into Yellowstone's interior, stopping at West Thumb Geyser Basin
- Watch Old Faithful erupt through a veil of steam in the winter stillness

A traverse of Grand Teton National Park offers a panorama of the iconic peaks rising above the Snake River. Reaching the boundary of Yellowstone, we board heated snowcoaches that convey us into the pristine winter splendor of America's first national park. We stop at West Thumb Geyser Basin on the edge of Yellowstone Lake, looking along the way for moose, river otters and trumpeter swans before arriving at Old Faithful Snow Lodge. Because winter access to the park's interior is limited to snow vehicles, an overnight stay here is a coveted experience. In silent seclusion, witness the park's most famous geothermal feature, Old Faithful geyser, erupt in a crystalline veil of spray. And on a clear night, we may even get to watch it shoot skyward by the light of the moon.

Day 4

Hayden Valley / Mammoth Hot Springs / Northern Range

Snowcoach across Yellowstone's frozen interior into wolf country

- Cross Yellowstone by heated snowcoach, watching for bison, red foxes and coyotes in Hayden Valley
- Reach Mammoth Hot Springs, where elk gather near the white travertine terraces
- Enter the Northern Range and begin scanning for gray wolves with your Expedition Leader

Today we traverse Yellowstone’s interior by snowcoach on our transfer from Old Faithful to Mammoth Hot Springs. This over-the-snow journey gives us access to remote geothermal areas, where steaming features remain active even in the coldest months. As we pass through Hayden Valley, an open expanse of prime wildlife habitat, look for bison, red fox, coyote and other animals adapted to winter and active on the landscape. Along the way, our guides share insights into Yellowstone’s seasonal ecology, with ample chances to photograph wildlife and the wintry white landscape. Arriving at Mammoth Hot Springs in the afternoon, we often see elk near the white travertine terraces. Here, thermal water flows over limestone formations shaped by mineral deposits and heat-loving microorganisms called thermophiles, which create vivid color patterns across the rock. As evening approaches, continue into the Northern Range, a key corridor for winter wildlife. Bison are frequently spotted, their heavy coats cloaked in frost, and it's here that we begin our search for gray wolves, which roam this region year-round.

Yellowstone's Northern Range remains the best place in the world to observe wolves in the wild, though they are almost always seen at a distance with the use of our guides' high-powered spotting scopes. The next two days are devoted to tracking these elusive predators alongside other more readily seen wildlife. Although wolf sightings are never guaranteed—pack movements are unpredictable and wolves tend to avoid people—our Expedition Leader is a skilled tracker and educator. We also collaborate with local researchers who provide up-to-date sighting reports, increasing our chances of locating an active pack. After a full day in the field, we arrive at our hotel near Yellowstone’s northern boundary, where we spend the next two nights.

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Day 5

Northern Range & Lamar Valley / Cooke City

Search Yellowstone's winter range for wolves

- Scan the snowy Lamar Valley at dawn and dusk for gray wolves
- Learn how the return of wolves changed the balance of Yellowstone's elk herds
- Visit the Hartman Gallery in Cooke City for Dan Hartman's wildlife images and field insights

A full day is ours to scout for Yellowstone's legendary wolves and other wildlife. Reintroduced to the park in 1995 amid much controversy, the gray wolf was returned to this native ecosystem after a 70-year absence following a policy of government-sanctioned eradication. Since then, they have flourished, supported by bountiful prey including a multitude of elk. Yet much rancor continues to surround their presence, and we learn in detail from our guides about the current conditions in which wolves exist within the greater Yellowstone area. As the wolves have restored more balance to the natural ecosystem, elk numbers have dropped, and we may not be as likely to see as many wolves as visitors did several years ago. If we are especially lucky, though, we might see a pack test an elk herd for a weak or sick animal, or spot lone individuals foraging on their own. But even if the wolves remain elusive, the winter landscape is magical, and we're sure to see plenty of other wildlife native to the park.

After an exhilarating morning on safari, continue east to Cooke City for a visit to the Hartman Gallery, with a slide presentation by Dan Hartman. Dan is a local naturalist and renowned Yellowstone wildlife photographer whose wolf images are widely acclaimed. He'll share insightful observations about wolf behavior gleaned from countless hours in their presence, as well as tips for pursuing photos of wolves and other wildlife. In the waning light of mid-afternoon, we head back across the Lamar Valley for more wolf tracking, knowing our chances to see them are best at dawn and dusk.

Day 6

Lamar Valley / Paradise Valley / Bozeman

Make a final wolf search before returning to Bozeman

- Scan the Lamar Valley at dawn with Expedition Leaders who work alongside wolf researchers
- Follow the Yellowstone River through Paradise Valley between the Absaroka and Gallatin ranges
- Join your Expedition Leaders and fellow travelers for a farewell dinner in Bozeman

As dawn illumines the snowy meadows of the Lamar Valley and the peaks of the Northern Range, we return once more in search of wolves. If we are fortunate to sight them, our onboard spotting scope enhances our observation of their activities from a distance without disturbing their natural behavior. Many of our Expedition Leaders have worked for years with the field researchers who track these wolves daily, and together they provide us every opportunity to find these intriguing animals in their natural surroundings. Returning to Mammoth Hot Springs and exiting the park once more, we leave Yellowstone’s frozen silence and continue up the Paradise Valley along the Yellowstone River, flanked by the Absaroka and Gallatin ranges on either side. Reaching Bozeman for a final night, we gather for a farewell dinner this evening.

Day 7

Bozeman

Explore Bozeman before departing for home

- Walk through historic Bozeman, where 40 properties are listed on the National Register of Historic Places
- Transfer to Bozeman for homeward flights

If your flight schedule permits, you may enjoy exploring Bozeman on your own today. This historic Old West/New West town, with a rich mining and trapping heritage, boasts 40 individual properties on the National Register of Historic Places. It is home to Montana State University, with a thriving contemporary economy built on growing tourism and tech sectors. With a wide range of cultural and outdoor activities, Bozeman offers plenty to do. A transfer to the airport is included to meet your departing flight.

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Ultimate Winter Yellowstone: Wolves & Wildlife Accommodations

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Old Faithful Snow Lodge

Located near Yellowstone's most famous geyser, Old Faithful, the Snow Lodge is the newest of Yellowstone's full-service hotels and has been recognized with the Cody Award for Western Design.



Mammoth Hot Springs Hotel

Built in 1936 near the north entrance of Yellowstone National Park, the Mammoth Hot Springs Hotel is a welcoming lodge built in the Art Moderne architectural style and is famed for its signature map room containing a large wooden map of the United States.



Explorer Cabins at Yellowstone

These cabins in the heart of West Yellowstone are conveniently located near the park's west entrance, offering rustic appeal on the outside with plenty of amenities inside for a truly comfortable stay.



Ridgeline Hotel at Yellowstone

Our rooms at this well-appointed boutique hotel overlook the Yellowstone River, in walking distance of the historic center of Gardiner, the northern gateway to Yellowstone National Park.



Armory Hotel

One block off historic Main Street, Bozeman's only 4-star hotel melds old and new to create sophisticated boutique lodgings that honor the heritage of the landmark Armory building.



The Rockwell Inn at Jackson Hole

Ideally located in the heart of Jackson, Wyoming, the Rockwell Inn accommodates guests in an atmosphere of rustic mountain elegance that perfectly blends Old West heritage with contemporary comforts.

For detailed descriptions, visit nathab.com/us-national-parks-tours/yellowstone-wolves-wildlife-adventure/accommodations.

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Wolves, Elk, Bison & More on One Epic Winter Wildlife Adventure!

Ultimate Winter Yellowstone: Wolves & Wildlife

You simply won't find a more comprehensive winter itinerary in Yellowstone Country. Our peerless wildlife odyssey includes all the highlights, including the Grand Tetons and extended wolf-search opportunities in Yellowstone's Lamar Valley. We capitalize on the quiet season when wildlife viewing is best: crowds are non-existent, animals stand out against winter's white mantle, and Yellowstone's hidden pockets feel like ours alone. Here's what makes this adventure so distinctive:

1. **A Small Group Enhances Wildlife Observation**

   With fewer travelers, we can use smaller vehicles with access to backroads and more remote areas. Explore with approximately 13 guests plus two guides and an adventure assistant. In a nimble small group, we can move quickly to places where wolves and other wildlife have recently been spotted, and to observe without disturbing them.

2. **Two Expedition Leaders for the Utmost in Attention & Interpretation**

   Travel with two naturalist guides whose in-depth knowledge and experience mean better, closer and more inspiring encounters with natural habitats and wildlife. With two guides, we can divide the group into two vehicles, offering the utmost in personalized interpretation. And we can split up for excursions based on physical ability and interest. You won't find a better guide-to-guest ratio!

3. **Exclusive Nat Hab Safari Cruisers with Pop-Top Roofs**

   A far cry from the typical buses or vans other companies use, Nat Hab has crafted new Mercedes Sprinters into specialty **North America Safari Cruisers**. Featuring luxury bucket seats, USB chargers, expansive side windows and a pop-top roof offering 360° views on the landscape, these impressive vehicles provide a superlative wildlife viewing experience, not to mention exceptional comfort. Every guest has a window seat and plenty of room for camera equipment and other gear. These exclusive vehicles make a big difference!

4. **Access the Heart of Yellowstone by Snowcoach**

   Much of Yellowstone National Park, including the Old Faithful area, is off-limits to regular vehicles in winter. But you won't miss out: We get you there via the park's newest state-of-the-art snowcoaches, with Bigfoot tires to reduce noise as we travel through quiet, wild habitat.

5. **Enjoy Coveted Stays at Secluded Yellowstone Destinations**

   Very few visitors have the opportunity to stay at Old Faithful Snow Lodge near Old Faithful geyser. Inaccessible by road during winter, our access is via overland snowcoach—a trip highlight in its own right.

6. **Travel by Horse-Drawn Sleigh through the National Elk Refuge**

   The National Elk Refuge in Jackson Hole protects and manages winter habitat for the nationally significant Jackson elk herd and for other big game and endangered birds. On a private horse-drawn sleigh ride, get close to the thousands of elk that winter here.

7 **Quality Time with Local Nature Photographers**

Over the years, we've cultivated relationships with many locals, including Dan Hartman, a renowned regional naturalist and photographer who lives just outside the bounds of Yellowstone National Park in Montana. We visit Dan at the Hartman Gallery in Cooke City for a private presentation on wildlife photography. Acclaimed for his images of wolves and other Yellowstone wildlife, Dan will share tips for capturing the best shots of these often-elusive animals.

8 **Your Expedition Leaders are Professional Biologists, Naturalists and Educators**

Our Expedition Leaders know the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem and its wildlife intimately. They're in constant contact with local wolf researchers, obtaining the most current insider knowledge of wolf locations and activity. Our guides average a decade's experience leading trips in this region, and they receive additional training and resources from WWF scientists. We're proud that our Expedition Leaders are the ones called upon to train and teach new local guides. **See Expedition Leader bios** with traveler comments regarding the quality of our leaders.

9 **Our Quality-Value Guarantee Ensures Your Outstanding Winter Safari Experience**

With Natural Habitat Adventures, you receive our exclusive guarantee that clearly states that we will meet the high expectations we set forth in our promotional materials. To our knowledge, this is the most ambitious guarantee made by any adventure travel company. **Read our important promise.**

10 **Feel Good About Your Carbon-Neutral Journey**

We care deeply about our planet, as we know you do. When you travel with us, the carbon emissions from your trip are 100% offset—including your round-trip flights from home. Natural Habitat Adventures has been the world's first carbon-neutral travel company since 2007.

11 **Natural Habitat Adventures is World Wildlife Fund's Travel Partner**

Because of our commitment to environmentally friendly travel, as well as the exceptional quality of our small-group nature adventures, World Wildlife Fund, the world's leading environmental conservation organization, has named Natural Habitat Adventures its worldwide travel partner—a designation that makes us exceedingly proud!



Dates & Pricing Summary:

Price
From $8495

Group Size
Limited to 13 Travelers

Ultimate Winter Yellowstone: Wolves & Wildlife Dates, Pricing & Info

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2027 Departures

Departure – Return	Pricing	Notes
Jan 3 - Jan 9, 2027	**$8695**	Bozeman to Jackson
Jan 3 - Jan 9, 2027	**$8695**	Jackson to Bozeman
Jan 5 - Jan 13, 2027	**$11195**	Photo Expedition
Jan 11 - Jan 17, 2027	**$8695**	Jackson to Bozeman
Jan 11 - Jan 17, 2027	**$8695**	Bozeman to Jackson
Jan 14 - Jan 22, 2027	**$11195**	Photo Expedition
Jan 18 - Jan 24, 2027	**$8695**	Bozeman to Jackson
Jan 18 - Jan 24, 2027	**$8695**	Jackson to Bozeman
Jan 23 - Jan 29, 2027	**$8695**	Jackson to Bozeman
Jan 30 - Feb 5, 2027	**$8695**	Bozeman to Jackson
Feb 1 - Feb 7, 2027	**$8695**	Jackson to Bozeman
Feb 1 - Feb 7, 2027	**$8695**	Bozeman to Jackson

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Departure – Return	Pricing	Notes
Feb 7 - Feb 15, 2027	**$11195**	Photo Expedition
Feb 8 - Feb 14, 2027	**$8695**	Bozeman to Jackson
Feb 15 - Feb 21, 2027	**$8695**	Jackson to Bozeman
Feb 15 - Feb 21, 2027	**$8695**	Bozeman to Jackson
Feb 22 - Feb 28, 2027	**$8695**	Jackson to Bozeman
Feb 22 - Feb 28, 2027	**$8695**	Bozeman to Jackson

2028 Departures

Departure – Return	Pricing	Notes
Dates not confirmed for 2028		
Jan 2 - Jan 8, 2028	**$8695**	Jackson to Bozeman
Jan 2 - Jan 8, 2028	**$8695**	Bozeman to Jackson
Jan 4 - Jan 12, 2028	**$12095**	Photo Expedition
Jan 10 - Jan 16, 2028	**$8695**	Jackson to Bozeman
Jan 10 - Jan 16, 2028	**$8695**	Bozeman to Jackson
Jan 13 - Jan 21, 2028	**$12095**	Photo Expedition
Jan 17 - Jan 23, 2028	**$8695**	Jackson to Bozeman
Jan 17 - Jan 23, 2028	**$8895**	Bozeman to Jackson
Jan 22 - Jan 28, 2028	**$8695**	Jackson to Bozeman
Jan 24 - Jan 30, 2028	**$8695**	Bozeman to Jackson
Jan 29 - Feb 4, 2028	**$8695**	Bozeman to Jackson
Jan 31 - Feb 6, 2028	**$8695**	Jackson to Bozeman
Jan 31 - Feb 6, 2028	**$8695**	Bozeman to Jackson
Feb 6 - Feb 14, 2028	**$12095**	Photo Expedition
Feb 7 - Feb 13, 2028	**$8695**	Jackson to Bozeman
Feb 7 - Feb 13, 2028	**$8695**	Bozeman to Jackson
Feb 14 - Feb 20, 2028	**$8895**	Jackson to Bozeman
Feb 14 - Feb 20, 2028	**$8695**	Bozeman to Jackson
Feb 15 - Feb 21, 2028	**$8695**	Bozeman to Jackson
Feb 21 - Feb 27, 2028	**$8695**	Bozeman to Jackson
Feb 21 - Feb 27, 2028	**$8695**	Jackson to Bozeman

Departure – Return	Pricing	Notes
Dates not confirmed for 2028		
Feb 23 - Feb 29, 2028	**$8695**	Jackson to Bozeman

See https://www.nathab.com/us-national-parks-tours/yellowstone-wolves-wildlife-adventure/dates-fees for the latest pricing details.

Included

Accommodations, services of Nat Hab's professional Expedition Leader(s) and local staff, transportation and local snowcoaches, all meals from dinner on Day 1 through breakfast on final day, some gratuities, airport transfers on Day 1 and final day, gear including warm parkas and winter boots, use of Nat Hab scopes and binoculars, all activities and entrance fees, all taxes, permits and service fees.

Not Included

Travel to and from the start and end point of your trip, alcoholic beverages, some gratuities, passport and visa fees (if any), optional activities, items of a personal nature (phone calls, laundry, etc.), airline baggage fees, airport and departure taxes (if any), optional travel protection and medical evacuation insurance.

Important Information About This Trip

While the Lamar Valley and Yellowstone National Park offer some of the best opportunities to see wolves in the wild, these animals are still very elusive, and they usually do not come in close range of humans. This trip offers a totally natural, uncontrived experience, and as a result, most wolf viewing is done at a distance through spotting scopes. This allows us to watch the packs go about their normal behavior uninfluenced by the presence of humans. It is important to understand that it is incredibly difficult to see the wolves without the use of a spotting scope (Nat Hab provides spotting scopes on your trip). Often, the best way to get photos of the wolves is with a cell phone camera through a spotting scope. Your Expedition Leader will help you with this technique, called “digiscoping.” While a long lens is a must for photographers, even then, we can't guarantee excellent shots of the wolves. However, the sheer beauty and grandeur of the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem provides magnificent nature imagery, and we are likely to see plenty of the region’s other iconic species. Please note that winter temperatures in the region are often very cold, and we do spend a lot of time standing in the outdoors. At times, temperatures may fall below 0° F. On some dates, our itinerary operates in the reverse order of what is listed on our trip page. Please contact our office for details.

Getting There & Getting Home

This trip begins in Jackson, Wyoming, and ends in Bozeman, Montana. **You must arrive in Jackson by 4 pm on Day 1** in order to attend a welcome dinner beginning at 6 pm. (Please note: Alternating departures operate in reverse, beginning in Bozeman and ending in Jackson.)

You may depart from Bozeman at any time on the final day.

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Natural Habitat & WWF: Discovering Our Planet Together

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