



HOW FAR IS IT TO...?

From	Mammoth	Madison	Old Faithful	Lake Village	Tower
Mammoth		35	51	49	18
Madison	35		16	42	45
Old Faithful	51	16		38	61
Lake Village	49	42	38		35
Tower	18	45	61	35	

**Distances in miles for shortest possible route. Driving times vary widely based on weather, traffic and whether or not a bison herd is crossing the road. Yellow routes are scheduled for construction in 2016. Park officials are estimating 30-minute*

PARK OVERVIEW

Top spots to see geysers, sleep under the stars, look for wildlife and much more

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Grand Loop Road

This 154-mile, figure-eight corridor connects Yellowstone's attractions with the five entrance roads. Only the stretch between the North and Northeast Entrances remains open to cars year-round; the other miles are groomed for commercial snow vehicles from December to March. The exception: the 19-mile leg over Dunraven Pass, which closes completely in winter and typically reopens by the end of May.

HIGHLIGHTS

1. Mammoth Hot Springs

A series of striking travertine terraces make this northern hub a can't-miss stop.

2. Norris Geyser Basin

Yellowstone's oldest and hottest thermal area has two walkable zones: Porcelain and Back Basins. You'll find the world's tallest geyser, 300-foot-plus Steamboat Geyser, as well as a museum and bookstore.

3. Artist Paint Pots

A 1-mile trail winds through brightly colored mudpots, geysers and steam vents.

4. Madison area

A developed area where the Gibbon and Firehole Rivers join to form the Madison. An information station and the Madison Campground are here.

5. Lower Geyser Basin

This large thermal area has Fountain Paint Pot and the 2-mile Firehole Lake Drive.

6. Midway Geyser Basin

Famous for gorgeous Grand Prismatic Spring, the park's largest hot spring, Midway is also home to Excelsior Geyser's 200-by-300-foot crater.

7. Upper Geyser Basin

If you visit only one thermal zone, make



it this one. At least 150 geysers pack into one square mile here, including the world's most famous, Old Faithful.

8. Old Faithful area

Here you'll find Old Faithful Inn, Old Faithful Lodge and the Snow Lodge, along with a gift shop and clinic.

9. Shoshone Lake

The Lower 48's largest backcountry lake offers superb paddling and camping along its shores.

10. Bechler area

Called "Cascade Corner" for its abundance of waterfalls, this remote zone offers fantastic wildlife habitat and backcountry hot spring Mr. Bubbles.

11. Grant Village

The park's southern hub houses Grant Village Campground, Visitor Center and Lodge, plus a café and gas station.

12. West Thumb

This area around Yellowstone Lake's "thumb" has its own small geyser basin and an information station.

13. Bridge Bay

Launch or rent a boat or catch a guided fishing tour at this marina.

14. Lake Village

This shoreline hub offers lodging and several cafés (see page 19). Pick up the Elephant Back Trail from this area.

15. Fishing Bridge

Includes Fishing Bridge RV Park, a museum, a visitor center, café and a gas station.

16. Yellowstone Lake

North America's largest high-elevation lake, Yellowstone Lake offers boating, paddling and quiet camping. The South and South-

east Arms in particular offer solitude and wildlife habitat.

17. Thorofare Valley

Yellowstone's southeastern corner is famed for its prime wildlife habitat and the wild Yellowstone River.

18. Hayden Valley

This central valley is one of the best spots in the country to see bison, grizzlies, coyotes, wolves, moose and osprey.

19. Pelican Valley

A grizzly hotbed, this zone is closed from spring to early July, then open only for dayhiking. Hike in groups and follow bear safety practices if you explore this area.

20. Grand Canyon of the Yellowstone

This stunning, 1,200-foot-deep canyon houses 109-foot Upper Falls and 308-foot Lower Falls. Uncle Tom's Trail on the South Rim, a staircase bolted to the canyon's side, delves into the chasm.

21. Canyon Village

This complex houses Canyon Lodge and Campground, gas and a few cafés.

22. Dunraven Pass

The 8,859-foot pass is the trailhead for a 3.1-mile hike up Mt. Washburn.

23. Tower-Roosevelt area

The ideal launch point for exploring Lamar Valley, this area features Roosevelt Lodge, cafés and a campground.

24. Blacktail Plateau Drive

Scan for deer, elk and other wildlife on this one-way scenic drive.

25. Lamar Valley

Ground zero for wolf-watching, this northeastern valley is also home to bison, badgers and bears.