

Yellowstone National Park

Accommodations Guide



PARKS COLLECTING

Yellowstone National Park

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Editor's Note

This Accommodations Guide is here to help you find somewhere to stay on your trip to Yellowstone National Park.

This is not an exhaustive list, but instead is a curated selection with several options in West Yellowstone and the other gateway towns for different budgets. It also includes all of the accommodation options inside the park, with campgrounds, cabins and lodges.

I recommend looking at the map on the last page while deciding where to stay. Your choice can make a considerable difference to drive times to the various areas of the park.

If you stay somewhere not mentioned here and love it, feel free to email me and let me know, as I am always updating this list.

Note that most of the places inside the park are only open for the main season May – September.

James

James Ian
Founder

PARKS COLLECTING





INSIDE THE PARK

The park's **lodges and cabins** tend to be on the pricey side – you pay for the location – but staying inside the park gives you easy access to the surrounding areas. Keep in mind, though, that the park is quite large, and you will still need to drive to other sections of the park.

That being said, accommodations inside the park are very popular. Lodges and cabins inside the park are all run by [Yellowstone National Park Lodges](#).

Until now, summer reservations open at 8:00AM MST on May 1 of the year before (so May 1, 2022 for 2023 bookings) and winter reservations (December - March) open March 15 (so March 15 for December 2022-March 2023).

Starting April, 2022, reservations will change to a 13-month advance rolling window. Reservations will open on the fifth of each month for the same month in the following year at **midnight MST/ MDT online** or 7:00AM MST/ MDT on the phone. I recommend doing this the second they become available! So:

April 5, 2022 >> reservations open for April 1-30, 2023

May 5, 2022 >> reservations open for May 1 - 31, 2023

June 5, 2022 >> reservations open for June 1 - 30, 2023, etc.

It is worth noting that there are no AC, TV or radios in any of the rooms in any of the lodges or cabins in Yellowstone, so this is a good chance to unwind and enjoy the park without regular distractions.

Camping is a cheaper option, and there are 12 campgrounds in the park, with over 2,000 sites in total.

[Yellowstone National Park Lodges](#) takes reservations for five of these campgrounds.

These follow the same reservation schedule as the lodges and cabins. These are:

- Bridge Bay Campground
- Canyon Campground
- Fishing Bridge RV Park
- Grant Village Campground
- Madison Campground

The [National Park Service](#) manages the other seven campgrounds. **Reservations** for six of the campgrounds managed by the National Park Service can be made through [Recreation.gov](#). Reservations open 8:00AM MST 6 months before your arrival date. Be logged into your recreation.gov account beforehand and be prepared to click on the reservation at 8:00AM on the dot!



INSIDE THE PARK

The NPS campgrounds that you can reserve are:

- Mammoth Campground
- Slough Creek Campground
- Norris Campground
- Pebble Creek Campground
- Indian Creek Campground
- Lewis Lake Campground

There is one campground that is still **first-come, first-served**. You should get there by 7:00AM at the latest for a chance of getting a spot at the height of summer. [Check the NPS website](#) for recent fill times and to see the status of all of the campgrounds in the park.

The first-come, first-served NPS campgrounds is:

- Tower Fall Campground

NORTHERN AREA

Mammoth Hot Springs Hotel & Cabins



The hotel was built in 1936, but has been recently renovated. In the hotel, there are **Deluxe Rooms**, with a king or two queen beds and private bathroom, and **Suites**, with two queen beds, private bathroom and separate sitting room. There are also several types of cabins:

- **Frontier Cabin:** Two queen beds; private shower; no phone.
- **Hot Tub Cabin:** One queen bed; private bathroom with shower; private 6-person hot tub
- **Cabin without bath:** One queen bed; shared bathroom; sink in room
- **Two-room cabin without bath:** Two rooms with connecting door; one queen bed and two double beds; shared bathroom; sink in each room

Be sure to check out the **Map Room**, where there is an enormous map of the USA built with 15 kinds of wood from nine different countries. The hotel is one of two inside the park that are open in winter.



INSIDE THE PARK

NORTHERN AREA



Mammoth Campground

This is managed by the National Park Service and is **reservable** from May 1 – October 15. It's the only campground that's open year-round. There are 85 sites for RVs (up to 30 feet) and tents set among juniper and Douglas fir trees, which provide welcome shade in summer. There are tiers, so most sites have views of the mountains. Visits by elk are common.

- Each site has a campfire ring, picnic table and food storage locker
- Seasonal flush toilets with spigots for dishwashing
- No showers or laundry
- No hookups or dump station
- Generators allowed from 8:00AM to 8:00PM



Indian Creek Campground

This campground is managed by the National Park Service and is **reservable**. It's eight miles south of Mammoth Hot Springs and has wonderful views of Electric Peak. It has 70 sites for RVs (up to 35 feet) and tents.

- Each site has a campfire ring, picnic table and food storage locker
- Seasonal vault toilets with spigots for dishwashing
- No showers or laundry
- No hookups or dump station



Roosevelt Lodge and Cabins

There is a single-story log lodge building with a long porch with rocking chairs. It has a bit of wild west feel to it. Accommodations are basic cabins:

- **Frontier Cabins:** two double beds; private shower
- **Roughrider Cabins:** one or two double beds; shared bathrooms; wood burning stoves



Tower Fall Campground

This small campground is managed by the National Park Service and is first-come, first-served. Set amongst trees and conveniently close to



INSIDE THE PARK

NORTHERN AREA

Tower Fall Campground



Tower Fall, the Tower General Store and Roosevelt Lodge, it has just 31 sites for RVs (up to 30 feet) and tents.

- Each site has a campfire ring, picnic table and food storage locker
- Seasonal vault toilets with spigots for dishwashing
- No showers or laundry
- No hookups or dump station

NORTHEAST AREA

Slough Creek Campground



With just 16 sites, this campground is small. It's managed by the National Park Service and can be **reserved**. It is suitable for tents and small RVs (up to 30 feet). It's at the end of a 2-mile dirt road and is a great place for seeing and hearing wildlife.

- Each site has a campfire ring, picnic table and food storage locker
- Seasonal vault toilets with spigots for dishwashing
- No showers or laundry
- No hookups or dump station

Pebble Creek Campground



This campground is managed by the National Park Service and is **reservable**. The campground is in the Lamar Valley near the beautiful Absaroka Mountains. It has sites for RVs (including some long pull throughs) and tents.

- Each site has a campfire ring, picnic table and food storage locker
- Seasonal vault toilets with spigots for dishwashing
- No showers or laundry
- No hookups or dump station

Madison Campground



There are 270 sites + 3 group sites, for RVs (up to 40 feet) and tents. Reservations are made through **Yellowstone National Park Lodges**.

- No electricity, water, or sewage hook ups. There is a dump station.



INSIDE THE PARK

WESTERN AREA

Madison Campground



- Flush toilets and faucets with cold water spigots and dishwashing stations
- No showers or laundry
- Generators allowed from 8:00AM to 8:00PM

Norris Campground



The campground is managed by National Park Service and can be reserved. It's right next to a large meadow that is a great place to see wildlife in the early morning and late afternoon. There are 111 sites for tents and RVs (5 sites for 30 feet and 2 sites for 50 feet).

- Each site has a campfire ring, picnic table and food storage locker
- Seasonal flush toilets with spigots with cold water and dishwashing station
- No showers or laundry
- No hookups or dump station
- Generators allowed from 8:00AM to 8:00PM

OLD FAITHFUL AREA

Old Faithful Inn



Built in 1903, this is THE classic national park lodge. Built from logs and stone, it has inspired 'park-itecture' and retains its old-world charm. The lobby is seven stories high and has an enormous stone fireplace and historic copper clock.

There are a range of rooms in the lodge and surrounding wings. They range from a **basic room with shared bath** in the old house to a suite with two queen beds and sitting room. In between are **Junior Suites**, **Deluxe Hotel Rooms**, **Standard Hotel Rooms** and **Old House Rooms with private bath**.

The rooms are kind of small, and pretty basic. Between the crowds of visitors and the creaking wood, they can also be kind of noisy. However, the location is impossible to beat, and the atmosphere is unsurpassed.



INSIDE THE PARK

OLD FAITHFUL AREA

Old Faithful Snow Lodge & Cabins



Built in 1999 in an updated version of classic park-tecture, this has a little less charm than Old Faithful Inn, but is a more modern – and a little more comfortable - option.

They have **hotel style rooms** in the lodge, decorated with western style furnishings. There are also **Frontier Cabins**, which are duplex cabins with one or two beds, and **Western Cabins**, which are in groups of four, each with two queen beds and a private bathroom. This is one of two accommodation options inside the park that are open in winter.

Old Faithful Lodge Cabins



There is a one-story log and stone lodge with great views of Old Faithful from the lobby.

There are two types of rustic cabins. **Frontier Cabins** have one double or one double and one single bed, with private shower and toilet. **Cabins Without Bath** have a double and single or two double beds and shared bathroom facilities, though there is a sink in each cabin. These are a solid budget choices, but definitely not fancy.

CANYON VILLAGE AREA

Canyon Lodge & Cabins



This is a huge complex with several lodges and multiple cabins; there are more than 500 rooms in total! The location is very central and makes a great base for exploring the park. Many of the rooms are fairly new or newly renovated.

Options include:

- **Western Cabins:** groups of 4 or 6 cabins together; two queen beds; private bathrooms; no phones
- **Standard Lodge Rooms:** one queen bed; private shower
- **Deluxe Lodge Rooms** (Canyon Lodge): two queen beds; private bath/ shower



INSIDE THE PARK

CANYON VILLAGE AREA



Canyon Lodge & Cabins

- **Deluxe Lodge Rooms** (Cascade & Dunraven Lodges): one or two queen beds; private bathroom
- **Suites:** two bedrooms (one king bed and one queen bed); separate sitting room; private bath/ shower

Note that the dining areas in Canyon Village are in a separate area from the accommodations. There is a shuttle bus between the two. Day visitors can only access the dining area.



Canyon Campground

This campground has a great central location in the park. There are 273 sites for RVs (up to 40 feet) and tents set amongst woods, which provides welcome summer shade. Reservations are made through

Yellowstone National Park Lodges.

- No electricity, water, or sewer hook ups. Dump station IS available.
- Flush toilets with cold water faucets and dishwashing stations
- Coin-operated laundry
- Pay showers (2 showers/ night are included in the rate)
- Generators allowed from 8:00AM to 8:00PM

YELLOWSTONE LAKE AREA



Lake Yellowstone Hotel & Cottages

It's hard to miss this beautiful Colonial Revival style hotel – it's bright yellow with enormous white columns. It was recently renovated and restored.

There are several types of accommodations:

- **Presidential Suite:** 2 bedrooms (one king bed and one queen bed); separate sitting room; 2 bathrooms (one tub and separate shower and one shower); great views of the lake. President Coolidge stayed here.
- **Suite:** one king bed; separate sitting room; private bathroom



INSIDE THE PARK

YELLOWSTONE LAKE AREA



Lake Yellowstone Hotel & Cottages

- **Deluxe Hotel Room:** one king or one or two queen beds; private bathrooms; some have lake views
- **Standard Lodge Room** (Sandpiper Lodge next to the main hotel building): one king or one queen bed; private bathroom
- **Cabin:** Duplex cabins dating from the 1920's but recently renovated; two double beds; private shower; No WiFi



Lake Lodge Cabins

The main lodge is a large log building with a wide front perch with lovely views of the lake (grab a rocking chair and relax!) and two enormous fireplaces in the lobby. There are classic basic **Pioneer Cabins** as well as recently renovated **Western Cabins** (two queen beds with private bathroom) and **Frontier Cabins** (one or two double beds and private shower). The cabins are quite rustic, but also quite spacious.



Fishing Bridge RV Park

Located near the mouth of the Yellowstone River as it enters Yellowstone Lake, this is a great place to see pelicans and other water birds. It is prime bear country, so be mindful of this. The site, newly renovated for 2022, has 346 sites for hard-sided RVs only, up to 95 feet in length. It's the only campground inside Yellowstone that has water, sewer and electrical hookups! Reservations are made through

Yellowstone National Park Lodges.

- Full hookups for electricity, water, and sewer (50 amp or 30 amp). Dump station.
- Paid showers (rates include 2 showers/ night)
- Coin-operated laundry
- Generators allowed from 8:00AM to 8:00PM



Bridge Bay Campground

Located near Bridge Bay Marina on Yellowstone Lake, the campground has 432 sites that can accommodate RVs (up to 40 feet) and tents or a combination of both. The lower loop has open sites and the upper loop sites are shadier, in amongst the woods. Reservations are made through

Yellowstone National Park Lodges.



INSIDE THE PARK

YELLOWSTONE LAKE AREA



Bridge Bay Campground

- No electricity, water, and sewage hook ups. Dump station is available near the entrance to Bridge Bay Marina
- Flush toilets and cold water faucets and dishwashing stations
- Picnic table and fire grate at each site
- No showers or laundry
- Generators allowed from 8:00AM to 8:00PM



Grant Village

This 80's era complex has six two-story building with 50 rooms in each. Each room has two double beds and a private shower or shower/ tub. It's the most southern hotel-style option inside the park and is not far from Grand Teton National Park. Rooms are average.



Grant Village Campground

Located in a lodgepole pine forest on the shores of Lake Yellowstone near West Thumb Geyser Basin. There are 430 sites for RVs (up to 40 feet), tents and combination RV/tents. Reservations are made through

Yellowstone National Park Lodges.

- No electricity, water, or sewage hook ups. There is a dump station.
- A picnic table and fire grate at each site
- Flush toilets with cold water faucets and dishwashing stations
- Paid showers (2 showers/ night are included in the rate)
- Coin-operated laundry facilities
- Generators allowed from 8:00AM to 8:00PM



Lewis Lake Campground

Located just eight miles north of the South Entrance to the park on the shores of Lake Lewis, this campground has a lovely setting, but will involve some longer drive times to the northern parts of the park. There are 85 sites suitable for tents and small RVs (up to 25 feet). This campground is managed by the National Park Service and is

reservable.

- Each site has a campfire ring, picnic table and food storage locker
- Seasonal vault toilets with spigots for dishwashing
- No showers or laundry / No hookups or dump station



OUTSIDE THE PARK

There are **five entrances** to the park and there are accommodation options outside each of them. There is a greater range of options outside the park, from budget motels to luxury hotels and vacation rentals. However, be mindful of driving times from each of the areas. Some like West Yellowstone, Gardiner and Cooke City are just outside the park. Others like Bozeman and Cody are further afield.

NEAR WEST ENTRANCE: WEST YELLOWSTONE

Located right outside the West Entrance, this is the most popular, and convenient, place to stay outside the park. Your itinerary assumes you are staying here (if you aren't, you can see how to adjust the timings in the *Adjusting Your Schedule* section of your itinerary), as it the most centrally located and a stone's throw from the park gate.

LUXURY OPTION: [1872 Inn](#)



This is a beautifully decorated half-timbered hotel with fun rustic rooms with handmade wooden furniture. Some of the rooms even have fireplaces. There is a gym and sauna and hot breakfast is included. Friendly staff add to the inn's appeal. Adults only.

MID-RANGE OPTION: [Elkhorn Cabins and Inn](#)



This is a classic mid-century motel & rustic cabins. Each room is individually decorated with a different theme. Think golf, bowling, skiing and other mountain activities. Most of them have lodgepole bed frames and patchwork quilts. All rooms have private bathrooms, flat-screen TVs with cable, Wi-Fi access, microwaves, minifridges, coffeemakers and air-conditioning.

BUDGET OPTION: [Yellowstone Inn](#)



This lodge-style motel has basic rustic, wood-paneled rooms and cabins with patchwork quilts and log furniture. Try to get a room with a fireplace. Rooms have cable TV, microwaves, minifridges and coffeemakers and there is WiFi. The inn has picnic areas with BBQ grills so you can enjoy the outdoors in summer. It's clean and the staff are friendly, making this is a well-recommended budget option



OUTSIDE THE PARK

NEAR NORTH ENTRANCE: GARDINER

The original main entrance to the park, this is very convenient to Mammoth Hot Springs and the Lamar Valley.



LUXURY OPTION: The Ridgeline Hotel At Yellowstone

This is not a super luxurious option, but the best of what's on offer in Gardiner. The hotel has clean, spacious rooms with Wi-Fi and flat-screens, plus coffeemakers, minifridges and microwaves. Suites have living areas and/or kitchenettes. The location right beside the Yellowstone River is hard to beat and some rooms have river and/ or mountain views. There's a spa, indoor pool and a hot tub. It also has a fairly basic restaurant, bar, billiard room and casino. Breakfast is included, though it's not that great.



MID-RANGE OPTION: Yellowstone Gateway Inn

There are cabin-style buildings with 1- and 2-bedroom suites. There's also a studio with a kitchenette. Rooms have free Wi-Fi, flat-screen TVs and DVD players and there is a DVD library onsite. They also have coin-operated laundry facilities. Most suites have decks with mountain views.



BUDGET OPTION: Hillcrest Cottages

This is simple cottage/cabin style motel with three basic rooms and 12 cottages. They all have free Wi-Fi, flat-screen TVs and/or kitchenettes. There's also a two-bedroom suite with a tub and living room. The motel has picnic areas and BBQ grills. The cabins are small and somewhat dated, but are comfortable, cozy and clean.



Vacation Rentals

If you'd prefer to stay in a vacation rental like Airbnb or VRBO, [check out my blog post](#) with multiple options to choose from in **West Yellowstone** and **Gardiner**.



OUTSIDE THE PARK

NEAR NORTH ENTRANCE: BOZEMAN

Bozeman is 78.5 miles/ 1.5 hours from the north entrance, so staying here will make for very long days. As such, it isn't the ideal place to base yourself the whole time. However, it does have an airport that is one of the main gateways to Yellowstone National Park, so you may want to stay there before or after your flights before or after heading to another place to stay for the rest of your trip. If everything in and nearer the park is full, this could be a last-resort option, too.



LUXURY OPTION: [Kimpton Armory Hotel Bozeman](#)

This is a lovely hotel in a 1941 art deco building. The rooms are large and have Wi-Fi, flat-screen TVs, minibars, and yoga mats. Some even have exercise bikes – and there is bike rental available too, should you wish to ride outside of your room. Ask for a room with a mountain view. You can upgrade to a suite and get a living area with a sofa bed, a balcony and wet bar.

There is a restaurant on the first floor, an underground whiskey lounge and a rooftop restaurant. There's also a deck with pool and bar on the roof. The downtown location is hard to beat.



MID-RANGE OPTION: [The LARK](#)

This hotel is also right downtown. If you're looking for something with a modern, minimalist aesthetic, then this is a great choice. Rooms are individually decorated in a contemporary style with colorful wood, leather and metal furnishings designed by local artisans. Some rooms also have bunk beds and/ or decks. Suites have sitting areas with sofas. There are flat-screen TVs, designer toiletries, and free WiFi in the rooms.

One downside is the parking. There is valet parking onsite, but for free parking, you need to park in a garage three blocks away. The upside is the cool vibe and the super friendly staff.



OUTSIDE THE PARK

NEAR NORTH ENTRANCE: BOZEMAN



BUDGET OPTION: Baymont

A basic, but clean and comfortable motel. Rooms have cable TV, coffeemakers, microwaves, minifridges, and free WiFi. Suites have pullout sofas or wall beds to accommodate more people. There is a fitness center, hot tub and an indoor pool with a 90-foot waterslide.

NEAR NORTHEAST ENTRANCE: COOKE CITY

Cooke City has a beautiful location just outside the Northeast Entrance. It's convenient for the Lamar Valley, but will involve longer drives to the more southern areas of the park. Cooke City is small, and accommodation options are more limited here than in the other gateway towns, but it has everything you need if you are just looking for a simple but comfortable place to stay.



MID-RANGE OPTION: Antlers Lodge

At the budget end of 'mid-range', there are five basic motel-style rooms and several rustic log cabins. Cabins range in size from two to six guests and some have kitchens. The main lodge has a lounge with a fireplace and there's a picnic area with a BBQ grill, which is lovely in summer. They also have a casual seasonal restaurant and bar.



BUDGET OPTION: Elk Horn Lodge

This is another basic hotel with six rooms and two log cabins. Rooms have private bathrooms, patchwork quilts, flat-screen TVs with satellite channels, free WiFi, microwaves, minifridges, and coffeemakers. The cabins have kitchenettes, futon sofas, and private outdoor sitting areas. Rooms are on the big side, and are very clean and comfortable. The Elk Horn Lodge has the highest guest rating of any accommodations in Cooke City. There is also a hot tub and BBQ grills. The location on Main Street is very convenient and, of course, there are the stunning Cooke City mountain views all around.



OUTSIDE THE PARK

NEAR EAST ENTRANCE: CODY

The nearest gateway town to the East Entrance is Cody. Cody is a classic western town with lots of charm and you will really feel like you are in the American west when you visit and stay there. Keep in mind, though, that it is 50 miles/ about an hour from the entrance, so you will need to get started earlier and will get back later each day.



LUXURY OPTION: Chamberlin Inn

Dating from 1903, this lovely vintage-style hotel has individually decorated rooms and suites with antique furnishings and a quaint, romantic feel. Rooms have flat-screen TVs, free WiFi, and coffeemakers. Some have kitchenettes, claw-foot tubs and/or sofas. The standard queen rooms are small, but the suites and studios are quite roomy. Because it's an older building, rooms aren't very soundproofed, though.

There's a bar (try the artisanal pizza), a cozy lounge, a library, and a sunroom. A highlight is the lovely courtyard garden and a balcony with mountain views. It also has a great central location.

MID-RANGE OPTION: The Cody Hotel



This a comfortable hotel with an indoor pool, a hot tub and a gym. Rooms come with flat-screen TVs, DVD players, iPod docks, microwaves, minifridges, coffeemakers, and free WiFi. Suites have Jacuzzis and/ or fireplaces. Ask for a room with a balcony or patio.

BUDGET OPTION: Cody Cowboy Village



There are comfortable and very clean log cabins with western-themed furnishings and flat-screen TVs. Suites include pull-out sofas, microwaves and/or minifridges. There's an outdoor pool with a waterfall and complimentary breakfast served in their communal dining hall. There are private outdoor areas where you can enjoy the views.



OUTSIDE THE PARK

NEAR EAST ENTRANCE: GRAND TETON NATIONAL PARK

Grand Teton National Park lies just south of Yellowstone. It's possible to stay in the northern reaches of the park and still drive into Yellowstone each day, though the drive times to the northern areas are longer.



Headwaters Lodge & Cabins (Flagg Ranch)

Just two miles from the south entrance of Yellowstone, Flagg Ranch is a convenient place to stop over if you're traveling between the two parks. There is no internet or cell phone service. A basic lodge with a variety of cabins including:

- **Standard cabins:** two queen beds with an optional rollaway bed
- **Deluxe cabins:** two queen beds or one king bed with an optional rollaway bed
- **Premium cabins:** two queen beds or one king bed with an optional rollaway bed; a patio with river valley view and rocking chairs

Headwaters Campground & RV Park (Flagg Ranch)

Has a variety of options including:



- 34 tent sites
- 97 pull-through RV sites with full-hookups including sewer, water, and 20-, 30-, and 50-amp electric outlets
- 40 camper cabins, which are basic cabins with bunk beds and no bedding.

Lizard Creek Campground

Lizard Creek is 20 miles/ 30 minutes from the South Entrance to Yellowstone, so if you stay here, you'll have some extra driving to get to the northern areas of the park. It's a basic campground with a lovely setting. It has 60 sites set among spruce and fir trees on the shores of Jackson Lake. RVs and trailers up to 30 feet are allowed, but there are no hookups, dump station or water fill stations.





MAP OF ACCOMMODATIONS

