

5-Day Yellowstone & Grand Teton Itinerary

Both Loops · Lamar Valley · The Best Wildlife Spots in Two Parks

5 DAYS

BOTH LOOPS

WILDLIFE FOCUSED

Quick Facts Before You Go

- Cell service is limited in both parks — download offline maps before you go
- Rent bear spray at the airport or a local outfitter — don't try to buy and ship one
- Wildlife is most active at sunrise and sunset — plan around it, not around convenience
- Yellowstone lodging opens 13 months out (5th of the month); Grand Teton Lodge Co. opens 12 months out
- Stay in your vehicle when viewing wildlife from the road



STEALTHEITINERARY.COM

Steal the research. Keep the adventure.

Arrive, Explore & Sunset Tetons

Jackson Hole & Grand Teton

1

MORNING

Arrive & Drive to Jackson

Pick up your rental car and drive to Jackson. → *15–20 min from the airport*

2

LATE MORNING

Downtown Jackson

Lunch, shops, Town Square, photos under the antler arches.

3

AFTERNOON

Teton Village & the Aerial Tram

Scenic drive to Teton Village, then ride the Aerial Tram (gondola) to the summit for panoramic views.

4

EVENING

Dinner in Teton Village

5

Mormon Row, Schwabacher Landing & Oxbow Bend Loop

SUNSET

Watch for moose, elk, and bison on this drive.

BEST PHOTO SPOT

Pro Tip: Arrive early in the day if you can — it gives you more time to enjoy the tram and catch an unforgettable sunset on your first day.

Grand Teton National Park

Wildlife + Jenny Lake + Scenic Loop + Sunset Drive

- 1

Optional Wildlife Safari
EARLY MORNING
Self-drive or guided — see the Top Experiences page for our favorite guided tours.

WORTH THE SPLURGE
- 2

Lunch in Jackson or Moose
LATE MORNING
- 3

Jenny Lake: Hidden Falls & Inspiration Point
MIDDAY
2–4 miles round trip.

ASHLEY'S FAVORITE
- 4

Scenic Loop North
AFTERNOON
Signal Mountain Summit, Jackson Lake Lodge area.
- 5

Dinner in Jackson, Moose, or Teton Village
EVENING
- 6

Wildlife Drive
SUNSET
Oxbow Bend, Willow Flats, Teton Park Road.

Pro Tip: Jenny Lake parking fills by 8–9 AM in summer. Arrive early or use the boat shuttle.

Grand Teton → Yellowstone

South Entrance to Lamar Valley

- 1

EARLY MORNING

Moose-Wilson Road

Best early chance at moose.
- 2

MORNING

Breakfast in Jackson or Moose
- 3

MORNING

Oxbow Bend & Jackson Lake Overlook
- 4

LATE MORNING

Enter Yellowstone via South Entrance

Lewis Falls is an optional photo stop just past the entrance.
- 5

MIDDAY

Hayden Valley

Prime wildlife viewing.

BEST WILDLIFE CHANCE
- 6

AFTERNOON

Grand Canyon of the Yellowstone

Artist Point, Lower Falls. Continue to the Tower area for optional short hikes.
- 7

LATE AFTERNOON

Lamar Valley

Best chance for wolves, bears, and bison.

DON'T MISS
- 8

EVENING

Dinner Near Your Lodging

Rest up for sunrise — tomorrow's the big wildlife day.

Pro Tip: This is a long driving day — start early and keep snacks in the car. There are few food options between Jackson and Canyon Village.

Lamar Valley & the North Loop

The ultimate wildlife day in Yellowstone

- 1

SUNRISE

Lamar Valley: Slough Creek & Soda Butte

Best light and wolf activity of the trip.

BEST WILDLIFE CHANCE
- 2

MORNING

Breakfast Near Your Lodging
- 3

MIDDAY

Roosevelt Area
- 4

AFTERNOON

Norris Geyser Basin
- 5

LATE AFTERNOON

Mammoth Hot Springs

Drive back via the west side, stopping here on the way. Dinner in Gardiner afterward.
- 6

SUNSET

Return to Lamar Valley

Golden-hour wolf and bear watching — the best light of the day, and the animals know it too.

ASHLEY'S FAVORITE

Pro Tip: Bring a spotting scope. Most Lamar Valley wildlife sightings are a mile or more away, even for the animals everyone's stopped for.

Return to Jackson

Scenic drives · mountain views · final night

1

SUNRISE

Optional Final Visit to Lamar Valley

2

MORNING

Breakfast Near Your Lodging

Begin the scenic drive south.

3

Scenic Yellowstone Drive

LATE MORNING

Midway Geyser Basin (Grand Prismatic), Hayden Valley, West Thumb, Yellowstone Lake — completes both loops!

BEST PHOTO SPOT

4

AFTERNOON

Grand Teton Scenic Stops

Jackson Lake Overlook, Jenny Lake, Oxbow Bend, Signal Mountain.

5

LATE AFTERNOON

Check In, Unpack, Relax

6

Elk Refuge Road to Miller Butte

EVENING

A great chance to spot bighorn sheep.

BEST WILDLIFE CHANCE

7

EVENING

Final Night in Downtown Jackson

Town Square, shopping, celebration dinner.

8

NEXT MORNING

Fly Home

Relaxed final morning in Jackson before heading to the airport (~15 minutes away).

Pro Tip: Save Grand Prismatic for later morning once the boardwalks fill in — early fog often obscures the colors right at sunrise.

Wildlife Hotspot Guide

Where to look for each species on this route, and when.

Moose

Moose-Wilson Road, Oxbow Bend
— best at dawn & dusk

Wolves

Lamar Valley, Slough Creek — best
early morning & evening

Bears

Lamar Valley, Hayden Valley —
keep distance, use caution

Bison

Hayden Valley, Lamar Valley —
often in large herds

Bighorn Sheep

Rocky slopes near Lamar Valley &
Yellowstone's north range

Pronghorn

Sagebrush flats near Lamar Valley &
the Yellowstone/Teton corridor

Harlequin Duck

Fast-moving rivers and streams
throughout the parks

Osprey

Nesting near rivers and lakes
throughout both parks

Mountain Goats

Rocky, high-elevation terrain in
Grand Teton

Always view wildlife from a distance: 100 yards from bears & wolves, 25 yards from other animals.

Map This Route

Every stop from all 5 days, mapped and ready for the road.



Scan for the Live Interactive Map

Every stop from all 5 days in Google Maps — tap any pin for details, and toggle each day on or off using the layers menu. Pull it up before you go, because cell service in the park won't cooperate.

A full-color route map is available on the website version of this itinerary.

Where to Stay & What to Pack

Where to Base Each Leg

- **Jackson or Teton Village** — best base for Days 1–2 and your final night. Jackson is walkable with more restaurants; Teton Village sits at the base of the Aerial Tram.
- **Gardiner, MT** — outside Yellowstone's North Entrance, more restaurant options, a solid base for Days 3–4.
- **Roosevelt Lodge** — inside the park, the closest option to Lamar Valley. Saves drive time for sunrise and sunset wildlife watching.
- Yellowstone in-park lodging opens 13 months out (5th of each month); Grand Teton Lodge Company opens 12 months out — two different windows if you're booking both.

Don't Forget

- **Bear spray** — rent it at the airport or a local outfitter, don't try to buy and ship one
- **Offline maps** — cell service is limited throughout both parks
- **Spotting scope** — most Lamar Valley wildlife is a mile or more away
- **Layers** — mornings are cold even in June
- Full gear guide with 70+ picks on the website

FULL ITINERARY • BOOKING LINKS • INTERACTIVE MAP

stealtheitinerary.com

Steal the research. Keep the adventure.