

adventurewomen

THE DESTINATION IS JUST THE BEGINNING

YELLOWSTONE

A Dramatic Winter Wonderland



January 29 - February 4, 2023



adventurewomen 10 mount auburn street, suite 2, watertown ma 02427 t: (617) 544-9393 t: (800) 804-8686 www.adventurewomen.com



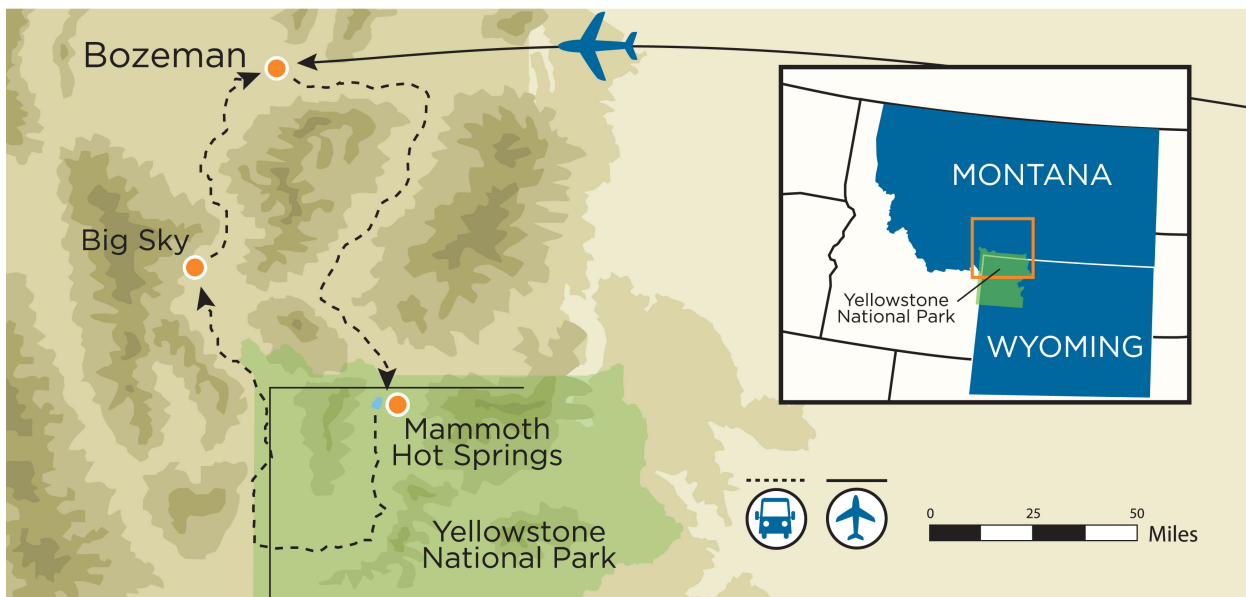
YELLOWSTONE

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TRIP HIGHLIGHTS

- ▶ Snowshoe across rolling landscapes to spot wildlife
- ▶ Learn how to “mush”, driving your own dog sled team
- ▶ Witness geothermal wonders found nowhere else in North America
- ▶ Ride on a jingling horse-drawn sleigh out into the star-filled night
- ▶ Revel in the profound quiet and calm of a Montana winter

TRIP ROUTE



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QUICK VIEW ITINERARY

- Day 1 arrive in Gardiner, explore Mammoth Hot Springs, welcome dinner
- Day 2 wildlife viewing in the Lamar Valley
- Day 3 soak in the Boiling River or Yellowstone Hot Spring, walk to Ouzel Falls
- Day 4 snowcoach tour of Yellowstone
- Day 5 dogsled adventure, sleigh ride
- Day 6 snowshoe Yellowstone, return to Bozeman, farewell dinner
- Day 7 depart Bozeman

ACTIVITY LEVEL

Active

TRIP PRICE

Main Trip: \$4,995

Optional Single Accommodations: \$1,200

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your adventure
in depth

DAY 1
Sunday
1/29/23

Arrive in Gardiner

Welcome to Montana! Gardiner is a small town that serves as a main entrance to Yellowstone National Park. The town got its name from a fur trapper who operated in the area in the early 1830s.

During your Yellowstone adventure, you'll get to know your expert Montana-based guide, who will help you discover this amazing, natural, winter wonderland. You are also accompanied by an AdventureWomen Ambassador, committed to helping make your experience a fun and personally rewarding adventure, and cheering you on as you reach beyond your comfort zone to take on new challenges in your own unique way!

Arrival Information

Arrive at the Best Western Plus Grantree Inn in Bozeman today before 1:00pm.

Pick-up and Transfer

You will be picked up at 1:00pm from the GranTree Inn and transferred to Gardiner, Montana.

Explore Mammoth Hot Springs

Head to Mammoth Hot Springs to explore the unique and famous "travertine terraces." This is an amazing area to discover; the terraces were created over thousands of years. As hot water from the springs cools, it deposits calcium carbonate, which created this stunning landscape.

Welcome Dinner

Enjoy a lively welcome dinner as you get to know your fellow travelers this evening. Share stories and learn about why each woman in your trip is excited to explore Yellowstone!

Accommodations
Absaroka Lodge

Meals Included
dinner

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DAY 2
Monday
1/30/23

Yellowstone National Park

Yellowstone National Park is in Montana, Wyoming, and Idaho, and was the first national park in the United States, established in 1872. It is known for its wildlife and geothermal activity. Its 3,468 square miles includes lakes, canyons, rivers, and mountain ranges, and it is home to hundreds of species of mammals, birds, fish, and reptiles, including the oldest and largest public bison herd in the United States.

Wildlife Viewing in the Lamar Valley

You will depart the hotel early today with a boxed breakfast and head to the Lamar Valley in the northeastern part of Yellowstone National Park, where you will snowshoe on a trail overlooking the Yellowstone and Lamar Rivers. You will view wildlife and have an overview of the local history and geology, as well as the ecology of the wolves, bison, elk, coyotes, birdlife, and other animals in Yellowstone. Enjoy a picnic lunch along the way before returning to the hotel later in the afternoon.

Dinner

Enjoy dinner with the group at a local restaurant.

Accommodations
Absaroka Lodge

Meals Included
breakfast, lunch,
dinner

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DAY 3
Tuesday
1/31/23

Yellowstone to Big Sky

Big Sky, in the southwestern corner of Montana, is just miles from Yellowstone National Park. In the winter, the area is known for alpine skiing, Nordic skiing, snowshoeing, and sleigh rides.

Soak in the Boiling River or Yellowstone Hot Springs

There may be an opportunity to soak in one of Yellowstone's wild and natural hot springs, while you are staying in Gardiner and the Northern Range of Yellowstone. If you are interested, please bring your swimsuit, water shoes, and an adventurous spirit to wear in the river. You will be able to use hotel towels. Due to river flows, weather, unscheduled Boiling River closures, etc. this activity is not guaranteed.

Drive to Big Sky

Depart Gardiner this morning and drive north through Paradise Valley and along the famous Yellowstone River. Travel along the Gallatin River (where much of the movie "A River Runs Through It" was filmed), to Big Sky, Montana.

Walk to Ouzel Falls

Walk on a snow-covered trail for one mile to Ouzel Falls. Designed and built by the Gallatin Valley Land Trust, the trail accesses a spectacular 60-foot waterfall where the South Fork of the Gallatin River falls over a break in the Canyon. In the winter, these falls are frozen with magical ice crystals, forming a lacy curtain of rime (an accumulation of granular ice tufts on the windward sides of exposed objects that is formed from supercooled fog or cloud and built out directly against the wind) and other treasures that the cold weather brings.

Afternoon and Evening

Enjoy the remainder of the afternoon at leisure. Dinner tonight will be catered with the group.

Accommodations
320 Guest Ranch

Meals Included
breakfast, lunch,
dinner

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DAY 4
Wednesday
2/1/23

Big Sky

Enjoy another day in the stunning Big Sky area. The winter landscapes here are magical.

Snow Coach Tour

In West Yellowstone, take a private and spacious 14-passenger snowcoach tour into Yellowstone National Park and to see Old Faithful. Sit back and relax in the winter wonders of Yellowstone while enjoying a guided tour in comfort and warmth into the park's pristine winter environment.

Travel at a comfortable pace with outstanding views and opportunities to get out and take pictures along the way. You will look for bison, elk, and coyote, and experience the greatest concentration of geysers in the world. Journey along the Firehole and Madison Rivers where you can see bird life that includes Trumpeter Swans, Bald Eagles, and a variety of ducks, geese, and possibly water ouzels. Continue to Fountain Paint Pots and Biscuit Basin and see the sights at Old Faithful. If you're lucky, you just might catch a glimpse of Old Faithful geyser erupting. Winter around Old Faithful Geyser Basin is magnificent, and you can see lots of animals, steaming pools, geysers, and surreal surroundings that glisten like diamonds in the sun and snow.

Dinner

Dinner is at a local restaurant this evening.

Accommodations
320 Guest Ranch

Meals Included
breakfast, lunch,
dinner

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DAY 5
Thursday
2/2/23

Big Sky

West Yellowstone is an ideal place to view the wildlife the Park is known for. Old Faithful, a cone geyser that erupts every 45-125 minutes is also located in this area of the park.

Dogsledding

No other method of travel over snow can compare with dog sledding! This trip is one you will never forget. The energy, excitement, and enthusiasm of these amazing huskies is a wonder to behold. The dogs love to run and their high spirits and big, lovable hearts will quickly win yours.

Experienced guides give hands-on instruction so you can feel, first-hand, the thrill of driving a sled dog team. Lift your foot off the brake and make for the hills as the dogs “mush” ahead. The ten-mile trip allows for plenty of photo opportunities and snack time as you travel through the beautiful mountain scenery of Moonlight Basin Ranch. If riding is more your style, you are welcome to ride inside the sled.

Lunch

Stop for lunch on your own at a local restaurant and take some time to walk around town.

Sleigh Ride

At 5:15pm, meet in front of the ranch office and get ready to glide beneath a deep-black, star-dotted Montana sky during your evening sleigh ride! Percheron draft horses will skillfully guide you beside the Gallatin River. Cozy up with wool blankets and ask the wranglers about the remarkable history of the 320 Ranch. After a twenty-minute ride beneath the Montana sky, arrive at the Mountain Man Campsite on the ranch property, where you will be offered a steaming mug of cowboy chili and some hot cider that you may spice with rum! Stay inside and mingle with other guests who are staying at the ranch or venture outside to enjoy the warmth of a winter bonfire before the sleigh leaves for the short ride back to the cabins.

Dinner and Rest

Return to the ranch for dinner as a group before turning in after a busy day, to your comfortable, cozy log cabin.

Accommodations
320 Guest Ranch

Meals Included
breakfast, dinner

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DAY 6
Friday
2/3/23

Big Sky to Bozeman

Say goodbye to Yellowstone today and drive to Bozeman, the fourth-largest city in Montana. Founded in 1864, the town's fertile land attracted permanent settlers. Today, Bozeman attracts residents and visitors for quality of life, scenery, and recreation.

Backcountry Snowshoeing

Take a short drive to a remote corner of the Yellowstone ecosystem close to the National Park. Put on your snowshoes and begin your adventure at the trailhead. See signs of how wildlife survives the struggles of winter, the magic sculptures that snow-covered trees form, and hear the silence that such a snow-blanketed landscape offers. Your route follows a large creek most of the way as you travel along rolling terrain for about four hours. The distance you travel depends on snow conditions and how often the group stops. Enjoy a boxed lunch along the way.

Return to Bozeman

Head back to Bozeman and check into your hotel.

Farewell Dinner

Have a farewell dinner with your new AdventureWomen friends. Reminisce over all the memories you have made and celebrate the end of an amazing journey through this truly spectacular area.

Accommodations
Best Western Plus
GranTree Inn
Meals Included
breakfast, lunch,
dinner

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DAY 7
Saturday
2/4/23

Depart Bozeman

Bid farewell to your new friends and journey home.

Transfer to the Airport

Hop on the shuttle from the Grantree Inn to the Bozeman Airport for your flights home.

Departure Information

Depart from Bozeman, Montana (BZN) anytime today.

Please note: AdventureWomen will attempt to adhere to the itinerary as much as possible. However, certain conditions (political, climatic, environmental, and cultural) may necessitate changes in the itinerary. AdventureWomen reserves the right to alter any itinerary at any time, if necessary. We will attempt to notify participants of changes as far in advance as possible. Costs incurred by such changes will be the responsibility of the participants.

Meals Included
breakfast

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Accommodation Details

Absaroka Lodge

Absaroka Lodge is located just outside the North entrance to Yellowstone National Park in quiet, quaint Gardiner, Montana. The motel overlooks the Yellowstone River which can be enjoyed from the patio. Often, elk, antelope, deer, and other park animals can be seen across the way.

Amenities: Soap, shampoo, conditioner, hair dryer; Wifi

320 Guest Ranch

In 1898, when the west was wilder, two homesteads totaling 320 acres were combined to form the 320 Ranch. In 1936, Montana's first woman doctor and first pathologist, Dr. Caroline McGill, purchased the working cattle ranch as a rest and relaxation retreat for her friends and patients. Today, picture a quiet place, just north of Yellowstone Park and just south of Big Sky Ski Resort, where the pristine Gallatin River winds through sage and towering pines, snow-covered mountains rise against crystal-clear blue skies, and there's an abundance of pure, clean mountain air! That's where you will find the 320.

Amenities: Soap, shampoo, conditioner, hair dryer; Wifi

Best Western Plus GranTree Inn

Cradled between the Bridger, Gallatin, and Spanish Peaks mountain ranges, the Best Western Plus GranTree Inn offers perfect lodging that is conveniently located near restaurants, shops, and Historic Downtown Bozeman. Each large, non-smoking room is attractively decorated and has one king-size or two queen-size beds, cable TV and pay movies, data ports, voicemail, high-speed internet access, clock radios, hairdryers, coffee/tea makers, irons and ironing boards, and two phones with dual lines. Excellent amenities include a heated indoor pool, hot tub, exercise room, convenience store, gift shop, a business center, and the GranTree Bar & Grill. The hotel also offers room service, 24-hour airport shuttles, 24-hour front desk service, valet laundry service, and 24-hour laundry facilities.

Amenities: Soap, shampoo, conditioner, hair dryer; electricity; Wifi

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Included:

- ▶ Accommodations as per itinerary based on double occupancy
- ▶ All meals as listed in the itinerary
- ▶ All ground transportation
- ▶ All park fees
- ▶ Guided sightseeing and activities as indicated in the itinerary
- ▶ Professional guide(s) throughout the trip
- ▶ All gratuities except for head guide

Not Included:

- ▶ Airfare to and from Montana
- ▶ Optional activities
- ▶ Meals not specified in the itinerary
- ▶ Alcoholic beverages (unless otherwise specified)
- ▶ Fees for travel insurance
- ▶ Cost of hospitalization or evacuation
- ▶ Items of a personal nature

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Cancellations and Refunds

Notification of cancellations must be received in writing. Full payment is due 90 days prior to departure date, and the registration deposit is non-refundable.

For cancellations received 61-90 days prior to the trip departure date: 50% of the total trip cost is non-refundable. For cancellations received 1-60 days prior to the trip departure date: 100% of the total trip cost is non-refundable.

You are highly encouraged to purchase trip cancellation insurance to cover emergency situations. Travel insurance information will be sent to you once you have registered for your trip.

Switching Trips

Our deposits are nonrefundable and nontransferable. If for some reason you need to switch to a different trip, please call us and we will do our best to accommodate you, but switching is not guaranteed.

No Smoking Policy

Beginning in 1995, our trips became smoke free. Please note that there will be no smoking by any participants on AdventureWomen vacations.

Health Insurance

You must have your own health insurance to participate in an AdventureWomen trip.

Adventure Travel Today

At AdventureWomen, we want everyone to understand that our excursions are adventure travel vacations and not "tours." We define "adventure travel" as travel in which one **actively participates**, as opposed to a "tour," in which one is more or less a passive observer. AdventureWomen designs and organizes vacations all over the world for women who want to **experience an active, out of the ordinary vacation, and meet new friends**. Most of all, we want our trips to be **fun!**

good-natured realist and have a sense of humor! Adventure vacations, by nature, require that participants be self-sufficient, flexible, and able to accept situations as they exist, and not just as they would have preferred or expected them to exist. The constraints of scheduled group traveling also necessitate that each of us be understanding of and sensitive to others. **Being on time** is important, and contributes to the congeniality, success and well-being of both individuals and the group!

In this spirit, the successful adventure traveler should be a