



ADVENTURE ASSOCIATES OF WA, INC.

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Yellowstone National Park: Winter Ski Safari

TRIP DATES: February 15 – 23, 2019

LAND COSTS: \$2295 (6 participants)

DAY 1 (Arrival: Friday, Feb 15)

Depart for Bozeman, Montana. Overnight in Bozeman and meals on your own. Hotel assistance in Bozeman provided so group is together for briefing and am departure.

DAY 2 (Saturday, Feb 16) Early morning shuttle from Bozeman to Cooke City, MT. Enjoy a full day touring through the famed 1995 wolf release area of Yellowstone Park's Lamar Valley. There is always the possibility of seeing wolves or at the very least, signs of their presence. It is not unusual to spot big horn sheep on the steep rocky bluffs as we enter the park. Wonderful rolling countryside with big open vistas, snowy meadows and spruce-fir forests leading into the canyon walls of Barronette and Abiathar Peaks. We will pick up lunch along the way. Big Bear Lodge is home for three nights. A snow mobile will shuttle our luggage and we'll ski in 2.7 miles to the rustic resort. Time permitting, we may enjoy an afternoon ski in the upper terraced area of Mammoth Hot Springs. Mammoth Hot Springs is an immense travertine terraces with steaming hot springs and bubbling pools. Basic ski instruction provided as needed. Overnight Gardiner, Mt. (D)

DAY 3 (Sunday, Feb 17) Ski the favored Bannock (Warm Creek) trail. Lunch at the end of the winter road in Cooke City. The trails in these areas are rated as easiest to more difficult. It is not uncommon in these areas to sight coyote, elk, bison and occasionally big horn sheep! Overnight Gardiner, Mt. (BLD)

DAY 4 (Monday, Feb 18) Enjoy a hearty breakfast and prepare to ski the day out exploring the Cooke City area and park trails. Overnight Gardiner, Mt. (BLD)

Day 5 (Tuesday Feb 19) Very early departure for Mammoth Hot Springs to catch the 7:45am tour via snow coach to the Old Faithful area. This four-hour shuttle offers great opportunity for viewing winter wildlife in their natural habitat. Our journey is narrated by a park naturalist. In addition to viewing elk, bison, pronghorn antelope and the occasional moose, this area is the winter home for many birds such as the bald eagle, osprey, snow geese and trumpeter swan. Upon arrival at the Old Faithful Snow Lodge, we enjoy a late afternoon / evening ski tour through the steaming Biscuit Basin and Old Faithful geyser areas. This area is the largest concentration of geysers in the world...these geothermal features cloaked in winter weather are spectacular! Overnight Old Faithful Lodge–Premier Rooms. (BL)

DAYS 6-7 (Wed-Thur, Feb 20-21) Full days of backcountry ski options in the Spring Creek / Lone Star Geyser areas. We are shuttled by snow coach out to the trailhead and then follow the beautiful Spring Creek trail on a mostly gentle downhill slope (some steeper sections) to the Lone Star Geyser trail. Visit the Old Faithful interpretive center and evening park naturalist program. Sightings of snowshoe hare, coyote, deer, bison and river otter are a possibility here. Overnight Old Faithful Lodge – Premier Rooms. (BL)

DAY 8 (Friday, Feb 22) Sunrise ski the Fern Cascades loop - stunning trail through a hilly section of the 1988 burn area. Or, if you wish, there is the option of spending the morning walking along the boardwalk through the Old Faithful geyser basin with boiling blue green hot springs, bubbling mud pots and steaming fumaroles. After lunch, 1:45 departure, we return via snow coach to the Mammoth Hot Springs area. It will be a long day but full of Yellowstone winter wonders, such as the mud pots and geyser walks. We'll get a late dinner in Gardiner and settle in for the night. Overnight: Gardiner, MT. (BL)

DAY 9 (Departure date: Saturday, Feb 23)

Early am depart for Bozeman. Schedule flights for afternoon departures. End of Services. (Meals on own)

Special Note: Although we try to adhere to this printed itinerary, due to circumstances beyond our control (i.e. weather, traffic, flight schedules), this itinerary is subject to change. Prices for 2019 may adjust based on fall 2018 rates. □

Land Costs □	Deposit □	Single Supplement	Dates □	Group Size □	Difficulty □	Activities □
\$2295 □	\$500 □	\$TBD	Feb 16-23 □	6 □	No Experience Needed □	XC skiing, Wildlife, Lodges □

Tier Pricing: 6 Guests: \$2295. Adjusted fees for a smaller group – TBA.

A FEW IMPORTANT DETAILS ABOUT YOUR TRIP...Read carefully

What is included in your Trip Fee: Cross-country ski escorted tours; seven nights accommodations (nights two through eight) based on double occupancy in OFL premier lodging and Standard rustic lodge (private baths in all rooms); 6 breakfasts, 6 lunches as indicated on the itinerary (B=breakfast, L=lunch, D=dinner); roundtrip shuttle from Bozeman to Yellowstone; snow coach shuttles and ski drops within the park; park entrance fees and permits.

Not Included in your Trip Fee: Transportation to Bozeman (however, we will assist with carpools from the Seattle area and flights); first evenings lodging in Bozeman; single supplement (see below) if unable to share a room; meals not specified in the itinerary (all dinners and 2 breakfast); alcoholic beverages; cross-country ski or snowshoe gear; trip insurance or medical / emergency costs.

Single Supplement: Fee is based upon shared double room accommodations and is based on a group size of 6. If you are traveling alone, we'll try our best to match you with a roommate. If that is not possible or if you prefer a single room, you will be responsible for the single supplement fee determined at time of booking.

Trip & Travel Insurance: We strongly recommend that travel insurance be purchased immediately following your registration. The insurance protects you and your money from late cancellations, accidents or illness in remote areas, emergency evacuation, and loss of baggage and other unexpected delays. The particular program we recommend (Access America or Travelex) will cover "preexisting" conditions if you purchase full coverage within fourteen (14/21) days following your registration. A minimum coverage for evacuation and medical is a must. Information will be provided by Adventure Associates.

How Strenuous is this trip: This trip is designed for the new and the experienced cross-country touring skier. We will ski each day on non-groomed skied-in trails. There will be plenty of opportunity for ski instruction. You will have the option of skiing with an experienced escort or you may choose to spend the day on a self-guided tour. The pace of each day is fairly flexible. The all-day tours are between 5-7 hours in length and, although not technical, do require a hearty spirit!

What About Clothing & Equipment: Bring your own personal cross-country ski gear or rent from the park. If you choose not to travel with gear or do not have personal gear, full package ski rentals are available at the various lodges. Upon registration, we will provide you with a complete list of suggested clothing and personal gear.

What is the Weather Like: Days are typically dry, cold and sunny...making for ideal skiing conditions! Temperatures may range from 45°F to below zero. Protection in the form of layered clothing and appropriate fabrics are essential. It is this cold weather that brings the large mammals down into the warmer lower basins for grazing purposes.

Transportation/Flight Arrangements: If you need flight arrangements to Bozeman, please contact Adventure Associates - we can assist with your travel arrangements. Book your return flight home from Bozeman Day 9 after noon.

How to Register: Please contact our office for a complete registration packet. Complete the application form and return it to our office along with the appropriate deposit. Upon receipt of your application, we will send you a confirmation and final details about your pre-trip preparation. For immediate confirmation, you may charge your **deposit** to Visa, Master Card by phone or fax.

Payment Schedule: Credit cards are accepted with a fee
\$500 deposit due at the time of registration (\$100 is non-refundable)
Balance due 75 days prior to departure
If you are registering within 60 days of the trip departure, please submit full payment at that time.

- We do accept Visa and Master Card for your **deposit** payment. Cash for payment for the balance or credit cards with an administrative fee of \$50.

Cancellation & Refund Policy

If you must cancel prior to departure, the following fee will be assessed based upon our receipt of your written cancellation request:

Days Prior to Departure (trip destination)	
90 or more	\$100
60 to 89	\$200
45 to 59	50% fee
1 to 44	100% fee

No partial refunds are possible for any unused portion of your trip.

Penalties on airline tickets are subject to the individual air carrier's rules and regulations. Departure is defined as the date of the first flight, or the trip departure date as indicated on our Trip Schedule, whichever comes first. Once a trip has been confirmed medical circumstances will not be considered as exceptions to our cancellation policy. However, if you have purchased a comprehensive Travel Insurance plan that covers cancellation, you may be able to retrieve some of the funds.



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