



# Wonderland: Yellowstone in Winter - 2023

Start in Bozeman Montana - End in Jackson WY

A custom quote prepared for Leigh Ann Joyce  
By Leigh Ann Joyce with Sunburst Cruises and Travel

# Wonderland: Yellowstone in Winter



## Your Personalized Quote

The world's first national park inspires awe any time of the year, as Yellowstone winter tours would attest. But as you'll discover visiting the national park during the winter – when bison, elk, wolves and bighorn sheep wander across snow-covered valleys, and Yellowstone's amazing geologic features are even more spectacular in the frigid air – is a whole other... and perhaps other-worldly... experience.

Exploring by snowcoach, you'll see gurgling mud pots and steaming hot springs surrounded by frozen landscapes... waterfalls whose cataracts partially freeze into ice bridges... and geysers, like iconic Old Faithful, erupting dramatically into the cold winter air. You'll ride a horse-drawn sleigh through the National Elk Refuge. And you'll meet a noted naturalist and wildlife photographer who offers insights into the lives of Yellowstone National Park's iconic species. When filmmaker Ken Burns and his colleague Dayton Duncan started thinking of new trips on which to share their unique stories and experiences, a wintertime Yellowstone tour was a natural choice. In Dayton's words: "You've never really seen Yellowstone until you've been there in winter. Once a snowcoach takes you into the interior (the roads are snow-covered), you have this incredible place pretty much to yourself." Small groups, active travel, immersive – it's *Wonderland: Yellowstone in Winter*...

## Wonderland: Yellowstone in Winter

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Thank you for choosing Tauck for your vacation plans! We are dedicated to providing our guests with enriching experiences and authentic cultural discoveries that make every day of your journey special and unique.

The departure was sold out at the time the trip planner was requested. Please contact Tauck or your travel agent for the most up-to-date inventory information.

Guests: Leigh Ann Joyce  
+ 1.  
Journey: Wonderland: Yellowstone in Winter  
Journey Begins: Sunday, January 15, 2023 Bozeman Montana  
Journey Ends: Sunday, January 22, 2023 Jackson WY

DESCRIPTION	PRICE	QTY	AMOUNT
Wonderland: Yellowstone in Winter	\$6,290 USD	2	\$12,580 USD
Guest Protection Plan	\$349 USD	2	\$698 USD

*Quote is subject to change. All monetary values listed are in United States Dollars (USD); additional information is on the final page of the document. This quote is not a booking and does not hold space for you on this departure.*

Total Package Cost \$13,278 USD  
Total Deposit Due \$700 USD

# Itinerary

## ONLY WITH TAUCK

- Filmed vignettes by Ken Burns and Dayton Duncan sharing their own personal stories and telling the stories of those who shaped the creation & preservation of America's first national park, Yellowstone

## TAUCK VALUE INCLUDES

- Small groups, no more than 24 guests
- Travel by snowcoaches to the remote parts of Yellowstone, "coaches on skis" that are specially designed to glide over the snow – a mode of transportation that dates back to the 1930s
- See the greatest collection of geysers, fumaroles, mud pots and boiling springs in the world at their most spectacular, when these thermal features that make the park unique are more prominent
- Special presentation by MacNeil Lyons, noted naturalist and wildlife photographer, who gives insights into the park's iconic species
- Attend a special farewell cocktail reception and dinner in Jackson at The National Museum of Wildlife Art, whose galleries house paintings, drawings and sculpture celebrating Western wildlife
- Travel by sleigh into the National Elk Refuge
- Winter activities in Yellowstone (some at additional cost) – hiking by snowshoe, ice skating, cross-country skiing, and snowmobiling
- Airport transfers upon arrival and departure as noted
- 16 meals; service charges, gratuities to local guides, admission fees, taxes and portorage

## DAY 1 - SUNDAY JANUARY 15, 2023

Arrive Bozeman, and on to Chico Hot Springs

**Tour begins: 6:30 PM, Chico Hot Springs Resort & Day Spa.** A transfer is included from Bozeman Airport to the Chico Hot Springs Resort & Day Spa in Pray, Montana, in the foothills of the Absaroka Mountains, not far from Yellowstone's north entrance, for a two-night stay. Your historic lodge, established in 1900, offers two restaurants, a Western saloon, two mineral hot pools, and a full-service spa. Join us this evening for a welcome reception and dinner.

- **MEALS:** Dinner
- **ACCOMMODATION:** Chico Hot Springs Resort & Day Spa

## DAY 2 - MONDAY JANUARY 16, 2023

Hot springs & Mammoth Hot Springs

Take a morning dip in one of the Chico Hot Springs Resort's open-air swimming pools, heated by underground hot springs. The waters have healing powers, if you believe the legends of gold miners and Native Americans... and even if you don't, an immersion here is a warm introduction to the geothermal wonders of this volcanic plateau. Following a viewing of a Ken Burns's film, you'll leave your resort en route to Mammoth Hot Springs and Yellowstone National Park. Take some time this afternoon to explore the hot springs (just a short distance from the entrance of Yellowstone National Park) and visit the Albright Visitor Center. This evening, after settling in for a two night stay at the Mammoth Hot Springs Hotel, enjoy a presentation by noted naturalist and wildlife photographer MacNeil Lyons on the some of the iconic species – including the bear, wolf and bison – you might meet on your travels in Yellowstone's winter wonderland. Dinner is at your leisure at the hotel tonight.

- **MEALS:** Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
- **ACCOMMODATION:** Mammoth Hot Springs Hotel and Cabins

## DAY 3 - TUESDAY JANUARY 17, 2023

A day of exploration in Lamar Valley

Head out this morning across Blacktail Plateau en route to Yellowstone's Lamar Valley on the northeast side of Yellowstone National Park – welcoming you to a park that is empty of crowds, silent, and eerily peaceful and pristine in shades of white. The temperatures in winter can reach 40 below, yet the ground steams through hidden fissures and hot springs, wafting great clouds across the white landscape, where distant herds of bison and elk drift through it like apparitions in a fog; hot springs here are wildlife magnets. After exploring (and keeping a sharp eye open for wildlife) in Lamar Valley, have lunch, then work your way back by coach through the Blacktail Plateau. Dinner is at your leisure this evening at the hotel.

- **MEALS:** Breakfast, Dinner
- **ACCOMMODATION:** Mammoth Hot Springs Hotel and Cabins

## DAY 4 - WEDNESDAY JANUARY 18, 2023

### Geysers, fumaroles & paint pots

This morning you'll board a snowcoach – designed especially to travel over the snow-covered trails you'll encounter in Yellowstone in winter – for a trek to some of the park's geothermal spectacles: boiling springs, fumaroles, mud volcanoes, and geysers, which miners and mountain men called "places where hell bubbled up," and American Indians considered sacred. In the crisp cold air of winter, these thermal features are all the more present – and spectacular – billowing steam, hissing water, and spume that encrust trees with frost and paint white masks on the faces of bison. You'll see Gibbon Falls, an 84-foot cascade frozen in a veil of ice; the Norris Geyser Basin; and you'll walk through the alien world that steams around Black Sand Geyser and Midway Geyser Basin. Around midday arrive at the Old Faithful Snow Lodge – your home for the next two nights – to warm up and settle in. And of course, during your stay, you only have to walk outside to witness the eruption (on average every 94 minutes) with no crowds between you and the legendary "clockwork" Old Faithful Geyser... a sudden explosion of boiling water that hisses upward to 180 feet for one to five minutes, drifting a curtain of steam in the icy air! There are about 300 geysers in Yellowstone Park (more than in all the rest of the world combined), many of them even more spectacular than the famous one on your doorstep... and you'll see some more of them this afternoon, when you join a local guide for a snowshoeing trek through some of the less visited places in the Lower Geyser Basin near Old Faithful. You'll also have time today to do whatever... like visit the new Old Faithful Visitor Center, ski, skate or just relax by the fire. Enjoy dinner at your leisure at the lodge tonight.

- **MEALS:** Breakfast, Dinner
- **ACCOMMODATION:** Old Faithful Snow Lodge

## DAY 5 - THURSDAY JANUARY 19, 2023

### A grand canyon & Hayden Valley

The Grand Canyon of the Yellowstone is considered the soul of the park, deep in its interior, and you'll set out for it from your lodge today via snowcoach, over roadless terrain. En route, visit West Thumb Geyser Basin at a corner of Yellowstone Lake, and the Mud Volcanoes, bubbling mud hills that emit methane. Discover the sub-alpine Hayden Valley, once a vast lake bed, now a surreal winter landscape alive with trumpeter swans, bison, elk, and moose, home to the Sulfur Spring and the Black Dragon Caldron... and a good place to spot fox and coyote, too. After stopping for a boxed lunch, nothing prepares you for the sight of the Grand Canyon of the Yellowstone itself – a fantasy landscape with a deep gorge blown open by an ancient volcanic eruption, then carved by glaciers and the river itself, nearly a mile wide and plunging 1,200 feet with two torrential waterfalls, each with an arc of spume-made ice and crystalline forests up and down the steep banks. Members of an expedition in 1870 who first happened upon the canyon stood speechless on its rim for a full five minutes... silent... which may be the best way to describe it. And they didn't see it in winter! Return this evening to the Old Faithful Snow Lodge for dinner.

- **MEALS:** Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
- **ACCOMMODATION:** Old Faithful Snow Lodge

## DAY 6 - FRIDAY JANUARY 20, 2023

### The Tetons and the National Elk Refuge

The ice on Yellowstone Lake can freeze three feet thick, yet where the edges meet the warmth of boiling springs, there are patches of open water where otters frolic and catch fish – and coyotes try to steal them. Stand in its awesome solitude and you are part of the picture. In Yellowstone tour by snowcoach via Kepler Falls and the West Thumb Geyser Basin to Flagg

Ranch, once an army station when the military maintained the Park. Leave your snow vehicle behind as you continue your travels to the quintessential Western town of Jackson, Wyoming. Following lunch at Flagg Ranch, a horse-drawn sleigh takes you into the heart of the National Elk Refuge. You learn that vast congregations of elk – 7,500 out of what was once a population of 25,000 – weather the harsh winter here en masse; learn how conservation efforts over the decades strive to keep the remaining herds alive – including the annual antler auction, where Boy Scouts collect the great antlers shed by bulls in the spring and auction them off to pay for conservation efforts. Sled through the steaming, pawing winter world of the herd, as they watch you pass. Return from the tundra to your historic hotel in the heart of Jackson... with unforgettable images to contemplate. Your evening is free to enjoy as you please in Jackson, where you'll spend the next two nights at the historic Wort Hotel.

- MEALS: Breakfast, Lunch
- ACCOMMODATION: The Wort Hotel

## DAY 7 - SATURDAY JANUARY 21, 2023

### Historic Jackson at your leisure

The day is entirely free to do as you please in the beautiful town of Jackson, with the majestic peaks of the Tetons all around you in the distance. You might want to spend some time sitting by the fire or visiting the Silver Dollar Bar at your historic Wort Hotel (where the bar is actually made of silver dollars); re-enter civilization among the town's unique galleries and boutiques; be really adventurous, bundle up and go dog sledding or snowmobiling (both of which would require advanced bookings and additional fees, and could be arranged through the hotel concierge); or go downhill skiing at nearby Grand Teton Resort or Snow King (also requiring advanced bookings and additional fees). Have lunch as you please in town today, and don't miss the famous elk antlers of the town square. Tonight's special farewell reception and dinner takes place at The National Museum of Wildlife Art, whose galleries house a stunning collection of paintings, drawings and sculpture celebrating Western wildlife... and illuminating the natural world and humanity's place in it (including you!).

- MEALS: Breakfast, Dinner
- ACCOMMODATION: The Wort Hotel

## DAY 8 - SUNDAY JANUARY 22, 2023

### Farewell to Yellowstone's winter wonderland

**Tour ends: Jackson.** Fly home anytime. A transfer is included from The Wort Hotel to Jackson Hole Airport. Checkout time is 11:00 AM; post stays available. You should allow two hours for flight check-in at the Jackson Hole Airport.

- MEALS: Breakfast

The U.S. dollar (USD) is the unit of currency and is divided into 100 cents. Only major banks exchange foreign currency. ATMs are widespread and credit cards and travelers' checks are widely accepted. Travelers' checks should be taken in U.S. dollars to avoid hassles.

To obtain the most current exchange rates for all national currencies, you may want to check your local newspaper or log on to the website, *oanda.com*, by clicking [here](#).

All customary gratuities for hotel, lodge and restaurant staff and local guides and drivers are included.

**Tour prices are per person.** All lodging accommodations, mini-coach and snowcoach transportation, sleigh ride, special presentations, admissions, entertainment, special dinners, sightseeing, portage, and the services of hotel and restaurant staff, local guides and drivers and the Tauck Director are included. Transportation from Bozeman Airport to the Chico Hot Springs Hotel is included, regardless of the time of you check in to the hotel, provided you have furnished us with accurate flight arrival information at least three weeks prior to the start of your tour. Transportation from the Wort Hotel to Jackson Hole Airport is also included when you check out of the hotel. Transportation to and from airports may be shared with other Tauck guests.

To avoid jet lag and possible flight delays, you may wish to make hotel arrangements for the nights preceding or following your tour or cruise. As a service, we will book additional nights for you on a space-available basis using special rates only available through us. Hotel room charges will be added to the tour or cruise cost. Transfers for these extended stays are included (as noted). If you wish to spend additional nights, please consult Extend Your Stay in the Accommodations section and discuss it with your reservations sales consultant or your travel advisor when you book your tour or cruise.

We pledge to make every effort to operate all tours as advertised. We reserve the right to alter or curtail the itinerary, or substitute sightseeing, hotels, and/or conveyances as deemed necessary. Any savings realized by these changes will be refunded to you. Any resultant added expense will be covered by us. Although not expected, prices on this website may be modified due to unexpected significant external factors not forecast at the time of publication.