

Easy Drives, Big Fun, and Planning Tips

MONTANA

Six Adventure Road Trips

DAY HIKES,
FLY-FISHING,
SKIING, HISTORIC
SITES, AND
MUCH MORE

A custom guidebook in partnership with
Montana Office of Tourism and Business
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The North Entrance to Yellowstone National Park, outside of Gardiner



Gateways to Yellowstone

From the outdoor recreation hub of Bozeman to the heart of the park, this iconic trip is bursting with high-alpine roads, trout-rich rivers, geothermal marvels, and incredible dining.

Established in 1872 as the world's first national park, there's no question 3,471-square-mile Yellowstone deserves its iconic status, with its wolves, elk, moose, bison, and bears, unique geothermal activity, 10,000-foot peaks, and waterfalls that cascade more than 300 feet.

Bozeman
This leafy enclave, filled with coffee shops, brewpubs, gear stores, and art galleries, is cradled between four major mountain ranges: the Gallatin, Absaroka, Bridger, and Madison. Hike, mountain bike, climb, fly-fish, or cycle in any direction, but for easy access, head to Bozeman Creek Trail, an old logging road that terminates ten miles later at Mystic Lake.

Road Trip

4

TOTAL DISTANCE
445 miles

TOTAL DAYS
6-8

The park feels massive, but is really just part of what makes this chunk of the state so enticing. What lies outside the park on this nearly 450-mile road trip is equally compelling, from the mountain views along the Beartooth Pass to the world-class fly-fishing around Livingston to the hiking, cycling, and mountain biking around Bozeman.

15,000
Number of active geysers and hydrothermal features in Yellowstone National Park

Back in town, visit the Museum of the Rockies, a world-renowned, Smithsonian-affiliated museum that has an entire T. rex skeleton and an accurate replica of a late-1800s Montana homestead.

EAT & STAY: Housed in an Airstream trailer off Main Street, Victory Taco is perfect for a quick summer bite. For dinner, Blackbird



serves up homemade pastas and wood-fired pizzas. The LARK, a fantastically rehabbed motor inn with a massive outdoor fireplace and patio, gourmet coffee on tap for breakfast, and comfortable rooms featuring work by local artists, is just down the street.



The lobby of the LARK Hotel; Victory Taco (left)

Livingston

On the banks of the Yellowstone River, this old railroad town 55 miles north of Yellowstone's North Entrance is the epicenter of Montana fly-fishing. Sign up with one of the top-notch experts at Montana Fly Fishing Guides for a half-, full- or multi-day fishing trip—floating, walking, or wading one of seven nearby rivers, private spring creeks, or trophy lakes.

EAT & STAY: Hit the Livingston Bodega and Bakery in the morning, when their pastry case is freshly stocked with sticky buns, currant scones, and apple cider doughnuts. Live like a local and stay at the Red House, a charming rehabbed Victorian four blocks from Sacajawea Park and the Yellowstone River.

Red Lodge

On the north end of the 68-mile-long Beartooth Highway, Red Lodge makes the ideal place to hunker down for a night or two to explore the wilds on the

northeast edge of Yellowstone, like 12,799-foot Granite Peak, the highest mountain in Montana. In summer, Adventure Whitewater offers a Paddle N' Saddle trip, where guests ride horses in the morning and float the family-friendly Lower Stillwater River in the afternoon. Back in town, U.S. flags fly on every corner, offering up a slice of pure Americana. Kids' eyes will bug out in the Montana Candy Emporium, with barrels full of every kind of sweet imaginable. Adults will appreciate the legendary margaritas a few doors down at Bogart's.

EAT & STAY: The Carbon County Steakhouse gets high marks for its casual atmosphere combined with an award-winning menu that includes "Gallagher's Cut of the Day," a prime cut of regionally sourced beef. Three blocks from downtown, the townhomes at the Island at Rock Creek lodge have creek-side hot tubs and panoramic views of the Beartooth Mountains.

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| DAY 1 | DAY 2 | DAY 3-4 | DAY 5-6 | DAY 6-7 | DAY 8 |
| Bozeman | Bozeman to Livingston | Livingston to Red Lodge | Red Lodge to Gardiner | Gardiner to West Yellowstone | West Yellowstone to Bozeman |

