Next to the bridge in the “Heart of Gardiner, MT”
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This publication is free for distribution. A digital copy of this document is available on VisitGardinerMT.com or upon request. Cover Photo: Milky Way rising over Roosevelt Arch 5.5.17 (2)/ Yellowstone NPS
On March 1st, 1872, an unprecedented opportunity took place that would forever shape the future of the rough-and-tumble community of Gardiner, Montana. That year, President Ulysses S. Grant signed into law a Congressional act that protected nearly 2.2 million acres that would later become known as Yellowstone National Park.

Before Yellowstone was established Gardiner was mostly populated by prospectors and fur traders—and Native Americans who inhabited the area for thousands of years before them—and was known for being a little disorderly and rough around the edges. In 1902, the Northern Pacific Railroad completed a spur line to Gardiner from Livingston, Montana. (51 miles north), turning the community into a tourist destination. The spur line brought visitors to the Gardiner Depot at the base of Roosevelt Arch—a hallmark of Gardiner as the park's original entrance. President Theodore Roosevelt dedicated a cornerstone of the arch in 1903 declaring Yellowstone “For the Benefit and Enjoyment of the People.”

The first of its kind, Yellowstone has been a learning experience from the beginning and Gardiner has been a proud partner. Set aside for its geology and natural wonders, the park has also become a refuge for wildlife, a respite from civilization, as well as an ongoing testament to human history in the American West. As Yellowstone's popularity among visitors continues to grow, gateway communities are working with park managers to secure a successful visitor experience moving into the future. Yellowstone's sesquicentennial—or 150-year anniversary—is underway in 2022 with virtual and in-person events.

Follow #YNP150 on social media for all things Yellowstone 150! For a list of virtual and in-person events please scan the QR Code here:
JANUARY Gardiner locals become a tight-knit family when winter arrives—but they’re a welcoming bunch, too. Residents beat the cold with the annual Chili Cook-Off competition.

FEBRUARY The annual Jardine Ski Run celebrates this mountain community’s love for cross-country skiing and friendly competition.

MARCH Yellowstone’s interior roads close for spring plowing. Cross-country skiing and wildlife watching are still popular on the Northern Range from Gardiner to Cooke City (the North East Entrance).

APRIL Many of Yellowstone’s roads open to the public for the summer season, offering a chance to visit major attractions without crowds.

MAY Bison calves dot the hillsides and spring rafting begins. The Hell’s A-Roarin’ Horse Drive takes place on Memorial Day weekend.

JUNE All park roads are open. The Gardiner Rodeo takes place on Father’s Day weekend. Flowers are abundant on the mountainsides and the Beartooth Highway is open.

JULY The salmon fly hatch occurs on the Yellowstone River making for world-renowned dry fly fishing. The Gardiner Brewfest showcases the town’s appreciation for local craft beer, good music, and great company.

AUGUST Peak summer season is upon Gardiner and Yellowstone National Park and the bison rut begins. The anniversary of the National Park Service is August 25th.

SEPTEMBER The bison rut draws to a close and the elk rut begins. Park visitation is still high—we recommend advance reservations.

OCTOBER The elk rut continues while bears begin to prepare for hibernation. Carrying bear spray while hiking is always necessary. Park roads are open.

NOVEMBER With the exception of the Northern Range from Gardiner to Cooke City, most park roads close for the season.

DECEMBER Stroll, shop, and sing at the annual Gardiner Christmas Stroll or enjoy the Christmas Tree Lighting in Mammoth Hot Springs. Park roads open to over-snow travel in mid-December.
HAVE A QUESTION?  
...we've got answers

Where can I find lodging accommodations in Gardiner and Yellowstone?  
The Gardiner Chamber of Commerce and Visitor Center has a number of hotels, motels, cabins, and other rental opportunities listed at VisitGardinerMT.com (see page 26). Yellowstone National Park Lodges operates hotels, cabins, and camp sites inside the park. Learn more at YellowstoneNationalParkLodges.com

Where can I find something to eat?  
Gardiner has a number of restaurants, grab-and-go coffee shops, and food trucks. The Gardiner Market sells picnic supplies. Yellowstone has a number of restaurants and cafeterias available (see page 32). Look for our QR Code around town with updated information on restaurants’ hours of operation.

How close is Gardiner to Yellowstone National Park?  
Gardiner is the North Entrance to Yellowstone. Learn more about how to get to Gardiner on page 6.

What is the cost to get into Yellowstone National Park?  
The entry fee to Yellowstone National Park is $35 for private, non-commercial vehicles, and $30 for motorcycles. Entry fees are valid for seven days from the date of purchase. There are other entry passes available through usgs.gov/pass or inquire at an entrance station about discounted and specialty passes.

Will I have cell phone service or Wi-Fi?  
Most national carriers have reliable cell phone service in the Gardiner area. The Gardiner Chamber of Commerce and Visitor Center offers complimentary Wi-Fi. In Yellowstone cell phone service and Wi-Fi is only available in developed areas (such as Old Faithful and Mammoth Hot Springs).

What can I expect in terms of weather?  
Depending on the time of year Yellowstone and the surrounding area can experience temperatures ranging from cool to hot with occasional rain or snow showers. Check weather forecasts for up-to-date information and bring lots of layers.

Where are the nearest medical facilities?  
The Mammoth Clinic located in Mammoth Hot Springs can treat most minor medical situations. The nearest hospital is Livingston Healthcare located 58 miles north of Gardiner.

Should I bring my furry friend on my Yellowstone adventure?  
Bringing a pet on your adventure can limit your activities in Yellowstone. Pets are not allowed on trails, boardwalks, in the backcountry, or in thermal areas. They must be physically controlled at all times and not left unattended. For more information visit NPS.gov/yell/planyourvisit/pets

Is Gardiner open year round?  
Gardiner is the only year round entrance to Yellowstone National Park, with access to the Northern Range to Cooke City, MT (North East Entrance). US highway 89, which connects Gardiner to Livingston, is plowed and maintained year round.

Where can I camp?  
Both Gardiner and Yellowstone offer many camping opportunities. Visit page 16 for more camping details.

What kinds of wildlife can I see in Gardiner?  
Bison, elk, deer and pronghorn can frequently be seen in and around the town of Gardiner. On rare occasion, bears, coyotes, bighorn sheep, fox, and moose can be seen in or outside town as well.

Is there a park or picnic area in town?  
Arch Park, next to the Roosevelt Arch, has a pavilion, picnic tables, and other facilities. An additional picnic area is located at Confluence Park on Park Street overlooking the confluence of the Yellowstone and Gardner rivers.
Celebrate Yellowstone National Park’s 150th Anniversary with us!

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### GETTING HERE

...and getting there

**DRIVE TIMES TO MAJOR ATTRACTIONS**
- Canyon Village: 38 miles (~1 hr)
- Cooke City, MT: 56 miles (~2 hrs)
- Grand Teton National Park: 134 miles (~4 hrs)
- Grant Village: 73 miles (~2.5 hrs)
- Jackson, WY: 167 miles (5-6 hrs)
- Mammoth Hot Springs: 5 miles (~15 min)
- Norris Geyser Basin: 26 miles (~45 min)
- Old Faithful: 56 miles (~2 hrs)
- Tower Fall: 25 miles (~45 min)
- West Yellowstone, MT: 54 miles (~1.5 hrs)
- Yellowstone Lake: 54 miles (~2 hrs)

**BY CAR**
From the north, take U.S. Highway 89 from Livingston, Montana, for 53 miles until you reach Gardiner. To reach Gardiner from the east, west, or south, follow the Grand Loop Road north through Yellowstone National Park toward Mammoth Hot Springs, then head north five miles and exit the park through the North Entrance (summer-time only). In the winter, Gardiner can only be accessed from the north as interior roads are closed to personal vehicles. The northeast road from Gardiner to Cooke City is open year-round.

**BY AIR**
Gardiner has a small, non-commercial airport. You can take a commercial flight to one of the following airports and finish the trip by car: The Bozeman Yellowstone International Airport in Bozeman, Montana (83 miles), the Billings Logan International Airport in Billings, Montana (167 miles), the Helena Regional Airport in Helena, Montana (185 miles), and the Jackson Hole Airport in Jackson, Wyoming (165 miles).

**TRAVELING INSIDE THE PARK**
Be aware it can take extra time to drive through Yellowstone due to traffic, the whims of wildlife, construction, or weather. A good rule of thumb is to give yourself at least an extra 30 minutes beyond what you had planned to reach your destination. Check the status of park roads at NPS.gov/yell or call 307-344-2117.

**NAVIGATING**
Ride sharing, shuttle services, and public transportation in and around Yellowstone are extremely limited; do not count on these services. To best experience Yellowstone we recommend having your own vehicle or booking a private tour guide (see page 34). Be sure to reserve a rental vehicle immediately upon booking your flight.
GARDINER TRAVEL CENTER

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YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK
The World’s First National Park

“...dedicated and set apart as a public park or pleasuring-ground for the benefit and enjoyment of the people.”
- Yellowstone National Park Protection Act, 1872

Yellowstone National Park is the crown jewel of America’s national park system. At 2.2 million acres, the park is home to infinite natural wonders: steaming thermal features, abundant wildlife, sparkling lakes and rivers, plunging waterfalls, and geological wonders like the Grand Canyon of the Yellowstone (pictured).

THE NORTHERN RANGE
From the eerie thermal features of Mammoth Hot Springs to the dense forests and jagged peaks at the Northeast Entrance, the Northern Range makes up the northern section of Yellowstone National Park. A hub for wildlife, some of the largest herds of elk and bison found in Yellowstone make their home in this thriving ecosystem. Coyotes, foxes, mule deer, and pronghorn are common sightings in this area, as well as the occasional black bear, wolf pack, grizzly bear, or moose.

The Northern Range is the only section of the park open to personal vehicles year-round. In summer and fall, fishing lines catch the sunlight as anglers stalk the blue-ribbon trout streams of Slough Creek and the Lamar River. Hikers and backpackers traverse rolling hills and sun-filled meadows, while families bump along a dusty trail in covered wagons on their way to the Roosevelt cookout. In the winter months, cross-country skiing and snowshoeing—in addition to world-class wolf watching and winter landscape photography—are all popular activities. Come spring, wildlife enthusiasts hunch over spotting scopes on the lookout for bear cubs, wolf pups, and bison calves.

GRAND CANYON OF THE YELLOWSTONE & HAYDEN VALLEY
A rocky patchwork of muted yellows, burnt oranges, and dusty reds, the Grand Canyon of the Yellowstone is roughly 20 miles long and more than 1,000 feet deep. Best available science tells us the canyon was formed more than 600,000 years ago, when the Yellowstone River carved its way through the lava flows and volcanic tuffs left by the Yellowstone Caldera’s eruption. The highlight of the Canyon is arguably the Lower Falls of the Yellowstone, where the Yellowstone River plummets over jagged cliffs to meet the canyon 308 feet below. In nearby Hayden Valley, grizzly and black bears are often spotted ambling through the grassy meadows in the spring. In late summer and early fall, the grunts and bellows of male bison fill the air as they jostle for the attention of females in a spectacular display known as the bison rut.
YELLOWSTONE LAKE
Farther into the park’s interior lie the serene shores of Yellowstone Lake—the largest lake above 7,000’ in North America. With 141 miles of shoreline, Lake can be a welcome respite from the summer crowds found in more popular areas. Although swimming can be treacherous, peaceful hiking trails—including Storm Point and Elephant Back—provide excellent corridors to explore the shores of the lake or take in the views of the Absaroka Mountains. “The Grand Lady of the Lake,” also known as Lake Hotel, perches on the lake’s northern shore. This historic hotel was built in the late 19th century and remains a popular getaway for Yellowstone visitors from all over the world today.

OLD FAITHFUL & THE GEYSER BASINS
The geologically rich southwest corner of the park is divided into three regions: the Lower Geyser Basin, Midway Geyser Basin, and the Upper Geyser Basin. Iconic Old Faithful Geyser—which delights visitors roughly every 90 minutes with an eruption—can be found in the Upper Geyser Basin. The largest hot spring in North America, colorful Grand Prismatic Spring is located at Midway Geyser Basin. Visitors can witness every type of thermal feature—geysers, mudpots, hot springs, and fumaroles—at Fountain Paint Pot in the Lower Geyser Basin.

MADISON & NORRIS GEYSER BASIN
The emerald meadows and steaming thermal features that make up Madison and Norris Geyser Basin are found outside the gateway community of West Yellowstone. At Madison Junction, the Gibbon and Firehole rivers flow together to form the Madison River. The cliffs surrounding Madison Junction are part of the rim of the Yellowstone Caldera. Norris Geyser Basin has become increasingly popular with visitors now that Steamboat Geyser—the world’s tallest active geyser—has been erupting more frequently. If Steamboat isn’t putting on a show, visitors can take in the vibrant green and red-orange hues of the thermal features found in Yellowstone’s hottest geyser basin.
OUTDOOR RECREATION

Surrounded on all sides by public lands, Gardiner is an adventure-lover’s paradise. After you’ve had your fill of exploring the park, you’ll want to spend a day or two hanging out in this laid-back Montana town letting us do what we do best—sharing our love of the great outdoors with our guests!

WHITEWATER RAFTING
Most of Gardiner’s five rafting companies have been around for decades and are more than happy to share a wild ride on the Yellowstone River with guests. If a high-octane adventure isn’t for you, opt for a scenic float on calmer stretches of water that includes commentary on the natural history of the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem from an expert guide.

HORSEBACK RIDING
What visit to a western frontier town would be complete without some time in the saddle? Choose between a trail ride to an old cowboy cookout, a nature ride through Yellowstone National Park, or spend the day rafting and riding with a combo package from one of Gardiner’s rafting companies (see page 34).

ZIPLINING
Soar above the canopy of the Gallatin National Forest on the ultimate adrenaline-pumping adventure. Montana Whitewater Rafting & Zipline Company will set you up on a zipline tour at a historic ranch property with incredible views of the mountains bordering Yellowstone National Park.

BIKING
Bicycling through Yellowstone National Park offers visitors a perspective like no other! Total immersion in the sights, scents, and sounds of nature in springtime allows cyclists to relax while also getting in a satisfying outdoor workout. Whether you’re a well trained athlete, or simply looking to try out a new activity, the range of bicycling opportunities is endless. If you’re looking to rent a bike or go on a guided excursion, check out Big Sky E-Bikes or Yellowstone National Park Lodges.
5 AREA DAY HIKES

HIKING
Did you know 99% of Yellowstone visitors never leave the road? Be the adventurous 1% and experience Yellowstone and southern Montana like the early explorers did by hitting the trail—though unlike them, you’ll get to enjoy a warm bed, delicious food, and perhaps a soak in a local Montana hot spring (see page 18) at the end of your day!

YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK

BEAVER PONDS LOOP
(4 MILES ROUNDTRIP)
This loop trail begins behind the Mammoth Cab-ins in Mammoth Hot Springs. It winds through sagebrush meadows and mature trees, and offers a bird’s eye view of Mammoth Hot Springs. Several pleasant beaver ponds mark the halfway point of the loop. Keep an eye out for water birds, elk, bears, mule deer, pronghorn, and moose.

YELLOWSTONE RIVER PICNIC AREA TRAIL
(3.7 MILES ROUNDTRIP)
The trailhead begins at the Yellowstone River Picnic Area 1.25 miles northeast of Tower Junction on the Northeast Entrance Road. After a short but challenging climb to the rim, kids will love spotting marmots, bighorn sheep, and pronghorn along the trail as it follows the narrows of the Yellowstone River.

PARADISE VALLEY

PINE CREEK FALLS (2 MILES ROUNDTRIP)
The trailhead begins at Pine Creek Campground, 17 miles south of Livingston, Montana. Located in the foothills of the Absaroka Mountains, this well-maintained trail is dog friendly. Hikers will enjoy ambling through mature forest to reach the beautiful cascades of Pine Creek Falls. For a more challenging hike, continue for another 4 miles to reach the spectacular Pine Creek Lakes.

CUSTER GALLATIN NATIONAL FOREST

KNOX LAKE (8 MILES ROUNDTRIP)
The trailhead is located about 40 minutes northeast of Gardiner via Jardine Road, near Bear Creek campground. This moderate hike winds through the Absaroka-Beartooth Wilderness complex to a lovely alpine lake known as Knox Lake. The trail is dog friendly and offers visitors a longer hike with a break from Yellowstone crowds.

THE OTO RANCH (2.6 MILES ROUNDTRIP)
Follow this trail to the first and oldest dude ranch in Montana. From Gardiner, follow Highway 89 approximately 10 miles north and turn onto Cedar Creek Road. The trailhead begins at the end of the road. Spend time exploring the restored buildings of the ranch or enjoy a picnic on the porch of the old lodge before turning back the way you came.

LEAVE NO TRACE

When camping and recreating on public lands, follow these leave no trace principles:
- Pack it in. Pack it out. This includes all garbage and waste (human too!).
- Camp only in designated areas.
- Do not start a wildfire – know fire restrictions in your area.
- Keep a clean bear safe camp site.

BE BEAR AWARE

Carry bear spray and know how to use it! Bear spray is a proven method to deter a bear. You can purchase bear spray at a number of Gardiner businesses or rent it from TrailQuipt (see page 34). Learn more about safe hiking practices by scanning the QR Code.

VisitGardinerMT.com | 406-848-7971
The Gardiner area is home to some of the most abundant wildlife in the country, including wolves, elk, bison, and bears. The town is famous for the wildlife that roam right through town—it's not uncommon to get caught in a bison jam on the way to the market or spot a herd of elk napping on the high school football field!

**SERENGETI OF NORTH AMERICA**

Yellowstone’s Lamar Valley, often referred to as "the Serengeti of North America," is just a short drive from Gardiner. For the best chance of glimpsing its famed wildlife, head out around dawn and dusk when the animals are most active and consider visiting in spring, fall, or winter.

**SPRING & FALL WILDLIFE WATCHING**

Springtime means baby season—including bison calves, bear cubs, elk calves, and more. Late summer and fall are wonderful times to observe the bison rut in the Lamar Valley or the elk rut in Gardiner and Mammoth Hot Springs.

**WINTER WILDLIFE WATCHING**

Wildlife become easier to spot during winter, when the landscape is covered in a blanket of white snow. Our favorite winter wildlife sightings include river otters, groups of bull moose, and Yellowstone’s famous wolf packs. Enjoy winter wildlife watching along the Yellowstone Northern Range and north of Gardiner along Highway 89.

**LEAVE IT TO THE EXPERTS**

For the best chance of glimpsing wildlife, go with a guide! As experts in their field, our local guides are intimately familiar with where to find those elusive animals. Many tours can be customized and include meals and transportation (see page 34).

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(WILDLIFE) SAFETY FIRST

For your safety, Yellowstone National Park requires visitors stay at least 100 yards from bears and wolves and 25 yards from all other animals.
WINTER RECREATION

Do you believe in winter magic? With striking landscapes, uncrowded attractions, and world-class wildlife watching opportunities, wintertime is a local’s favorite time of year in Gardiner and northern Yellowstone!

SNOWCOACH TOURING
Snowcoaches ferry visitors from Mammoth Hot Springs to the winter wonderlands of Old Faithful and Canyon Village in Yellowstone National Park. Book a coach with Yellowstone National Park Lodges or Yellowstone Vacations (see page 34).

WILDLIFE WATCHING
Northern Yellowstone, accessed year-round from Gardiner, is one of the premiere destinations in the world for watching animals in the wild. Book a guide to increase your chances of spotting your favorite critters.

NORDIC SKIING & SNOWSHOEING
There’s a snowy trail for all ages and abilities near Gardiner, but what makes the experience truly special is the sparkling mountain scenery and abundant wildlife.

SCENIC DRIVING
With snow-capped peaks and wildlife in the lower elevations, a sunny day in the Gardiner area is perfect for a scenic drive to Cooke City or through Paradise Valley (see page 14).

5 NORDIC SKI TRAILS FOR BEGINNERS

UPPER TERRACE LOOP (1.2 miles)
This classic Yellowstone trail features steaming hot springs and expansive mountain views. Enter Yellowstone through the North Entrance in Gardiner and head south 5 miles to Mammoth Hot Springs. The loop begins at the Upper Terrace parking area.

BLACKTAIL PLATEAU (8 miles)
This popular Yellowstone ski trail traverses vistas and winds through spruce-fir forest. Locate the trail 8 miles east of Mammoth Hot Springs at a parking area across the road from a self-guiding trail, or at a service road roughly 1 mile farther east.

TOWER FALL (5 miles)
This Yellowstone trail is popular with skiers for the reward at the end—frozen Tower Fall. The trail begins at the closed road just southeast of Tower Junction, roughly 18 miles east of Mammoth Hot Springs.

B BAR RANCH (distance varies)
B Bar Ranch offers groomed trails ranging from beginner to expert. From Gardiner, head north on Highway 89 for 17 miles and turn left on Tom Miner Creek Road. Cross the Carbella Bridge and turn left at the ‘T’. Continue 8.5 miles to the ranch entrance; follow signs for ranch headquarters.

MILL CREEK (distance varies)
Expect friendly faces and dogs along this groomed road in Paradise Valley. (The road closes after January 1). From Gardiner, head north on Highway 89 for approximately 42 miles. Make a right onto Mill Creek Road and follow it for 11 miles until reaching the trail’s parking area on the left.
PARADISE VALLEY

This 53-mile-long scenic drive south of Livingston on Highway 89 offers the most direct route to Gardiner—and the North Entrance to Yellowstone—from the Bozeman Yellowstone International Airport.

TICKETS TO PARADISE
Paradise Valley is a major river valley of the Yellowstone River. Characterized by sweeping views of the Absaroka-Beartooth Mountains to the east and the Gallatin Mountains to the west, the valley is known for fly-fishing, hot springs and fishing resorts, and wildlife-watching opportunities.

SEARCH FOR WILDLIFE
Made up of rich farm country and located on the doorstep of Yellowstone National Park, Paradise Valley is a mecca for wildlife. Elk, pronghorn, bighorn sheep, and deer are often spotted along this scenic route. Be sure to utilize the pullouts along the highway for safe viewing!

SOAK IT UP
Chico Hot Springs, located in Pray, Montana, approximately 25 miles south of Livingston, offers rustic and fine dining, comfortable lodging, a poolside bar, full service spa, and natural hot springs to relax those joints after a hike. Families can also look forward to an array of other outdoor recreation activities including horseback riding, and sleigh rides in the winter.

EMIGRANT, MT
Approximately halfway between Livingston and Gardiner, MT just off of Highway 89, is the quiet town of Emigrant. Named after nearby mountain Emigrant Peak soaring over 10,000 ft. above, be sure to make this small town a pit stop on your way to Yellowstone. Home to Follow Yer Nose, WildFlour Bakery, the historic Old Saloon, and more!

A RIVER RUNS THROUGH IT
Try your luck on the Yellowstone River, a world-class fly-fishing stream, or stop by one of the fishing accesses for a picnic. Keep an eye out for birds of prey like ospreys and bald eagles. Sage Lodge, in Emigrant, MT, is ready to welcome guests with luxury lodging, fine dining, and guided fly-fishing trips and instruction along this mighty river.

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CRUISIN’ THE BEARTOOTH HIGHWAY

The Beartooth Scenic Byway, dubbed the “most beautiful highway in America,” beckons travelers from all over the world. The 68-mile drive takes you from Silver Gate and Cooke City, to Red Lodge, Montana. The route runs parallel to the Absaroka-Beartooth Wilderness and offers jaw-dropping views and plenty of outdoor recreation opportunities. Although closed to wheeled vehicles in winter, visitors can access the highway from Cooke City beginning Memorial Day weekend, weather permitting.

A WINTER SPORTS PARADISE

Cooke City is famously known for vast acres of snow-covered terrain in the winter months. Popular snow sports include snowmobiling, backcountry skiing, cross-country skiing, and snowshoeing. Start your adventure at CookeCityChamber.org or by calling 406-838-2495.

GETTING HERE

Cooke City is 56 miles from Gardiner and can be accessed via Yellowstone’s scenic Northern Range. From Gardiner, enter the park through the North Entrance and turn left on the Grand Loop Road at Mammoth Hot Springs. Head east along this corridor for 18 miles, making a left at Tower Junction. Follow the Northeast Entrance Road for 32 miles—pausing to enjoy the vast herds of wildlife along the way—before reaching your destination.

Located outside Yellowstone’s Northeast Entrance, the mountain towns of Silver Gate and Cooke City offer abundant options for camping, hiking, wildlife watching, snowmobiling, ATVing, and horseback riding. The area is also the closest base camp to the spectacular Beartooth Highway and Yellowstone’s wildlife-rich Lamar Valley.

Summer in Cooke City/Montana Office of Tourism

Snowmobiling in Cooke City/Montana Office of Tourism

Beartooth Scenic Byway/Montana Office of Tourism
CAMPING

Gardiner, Paradise Valley, and Yellowstone National Park

With an increased interest in tent and RV camping, the town of Gardiner, the surrounding national forest, and Yellowstone National Park want to provide a safe and enjoyable guest experience. Those wishing to sleep beneath stars and enjoy a campfire are urged to maintain the pristine conditions that make this area special. Below are actions you can take to protect the natural environment and still have a memorable outdoor sleeping adventure:

Have a Plan A—and a Plan B
And we should also include a “Plan C.” Campsites in Yellowstone are all reservation only. Plan where you’d like to sleep and ensure you have a backup plan for a location to lay your head. Keep in mind camping within the town of Gardiner in parking lots, public parks, and alleyways is strictly prohibited.

Choose Campsites Carefully
If you’re thinking of camping outside the park in the surrounding Custer Gallatin National Forest scan the QR Code to learn more about dispersed camping opportunities, current conditions, and developed campsites, regulations, and fees.

Camping in undesignated areas is hard on the environment and can pose a health and safety hazard for campers and local residents alike.

Respect Other Visitors and Wildlife
By properly disposing of waste—including RV wastewater—you can ensure campsites remain pristine for you and your fellow campers. All of Yellowstone and the surrounding area is considered bear country so food and other items must be stored appropriately. Remember your neighbors also enjoy quiet nights, dark skies, and trails and campsites free of trash, wastewater, and human byproducts.

Happy Camping!

CAMPING DO’S & DONT’S IN BEAR COUNTRY
Always maintain a clean camp by storing food, garbage, cooking utensils, and even cosmetics in a bear-proof storage container or a secure vehicle.

Learn more about the do’s and don’ts of camping in the GYE by scanning the QR Code.
THE YELLOWSTONE RIVER

The longest free-flowing river in the lower 48

For over 670 miles, the Yellowstone River runs unbridled from its headwaters near Yellowstone Lake downstream to the Missouri River in North Dakota. The smaller Gardner River flows into the Yellowstone River at the eastern edge of Gardiner. Loved by anglers and whitewater enthusiasts alike, the Yellowstone River offers a perfect complement of world-class fishing, whitewater rapids, and scenic floats.

Anglers will know this river as one of the most famous blue-ribbon trout fisheries in the United States. With year-round access and a host of annual hatches, the Yellowstone offers every level of angler a chance to experience the magic of catching a trout on fly. Book with an outfitter or guide for expert instruction and the added bonus of inside information on the best fishing spots and what the fish are biting on (page 34).

Those wishing to get more than just their feet wet can choose from one of Gardiner’s five rafting companies (page 34) for a memorable half-day, full-day, or overnight adventure. Family-friendly thrills of class I, II, and III rapids await, as well as stunning views of the surrounding mountains and abundant wildlife like elk, bald eagles, pronghorn, and more.
LOCAL HOT SPRINGS

After a long day of hiking or cross-country skiing, relax those tired muscles in one of two area hot springs. Whether you prefer a rustic experience soaking among elk and deer to a weekend getaway with poolside service, the Gardiner area offers something for every hot springs enthusiast.

YELLOWSTONE HOT SPRINGS
The area’s newest hot springs is nestled along the Yellowstone River in Corwin Springs, just ten minutes from Gardiner. Guests can choose from a main pool heated to a comfortable 98°F-100°F; a hot plunge at 103°F-105°F; or the cold plunge at 60°F-70°F—all are fed by fresh mineral-rich water. The outdoor pools are situated along the banks of the Yellowstone River and offer sweeping views of the surrounding two mountain ranges. Look for elk, deer, bald eagles, and other wildlife while you’re soaking. A fire pit and outdoor tables offer places to relax.

CHICO HOT SPRINGS RESORT & DAY SPA
Established in 1900, Chico Hot Springs in nearby Pray, Montana, has become a long-time favorite of Gardiner and Paradise Valley locals as well as visitors from all over the world. Chico offers two open-air, mineral-rich pools that are geothermally heated and chemical-free. Known for its comfortable atmosphere, western hospitality, and an exceptional menu in its historic dining room (reservations recommended). The resort also includes two restaurants, historic lodging, a saloon, and a spa.

Soaking is not allowed in hydrothermal features in Yellowstone and the result of attempting to do so can be deadly—even resulting in legal action. There currently is not an area established for safe soaking in the park, as the Boiling River, is closed until further notice.

Soak it up!

Two outdoor natural hot springs pools, restaurant and hotel.

Day Spa
Bar
Fine Dining
Skiing & Snowshoeing
Horseback Rides
Hiking
Fly Fishing
River Rafting

406-333-4933
ChicoHotSprings.com
NEARBY MUSEUMS & VISITOR INFORMATION CENTERS

GARDINER VISITOR CENTER

When you arrive in Gardiner be sure to stop by the Gardiner Chamber of Commerce and Visitor Center, centrally located at 216 Park Street. Take advantage of our 24/7 public restroom access, free maps, information, WiFi, and, in the winter, our crackling fireplace. Whether heading into Yellowstone or continuing your journey farther into Montana, our friendly staff can help you plan every step of your journey. Travel recommendations are available no matter where you are by calling 406-848-7971.

YELLOWSTONE HERITAGE & RESEARCH CENTER

The Yellowstone Heritage and Research Center (HRC) houses Yellowstone's collection of historic documents from the park's inception to the present. The center also contains more than 720,000 museum items—including 30 historic vehicles—making it a must-see for history enthusiasts. Located at 20 Old Yellowstone Road in Gardiner, the HRC offers free reservation only public tours Memorial Day through Labor Day. Call 307-344-2264 to reserve a space on a HRC tour.

THE ALBRIGHT VISITOR CENTER

As you begin your Yellowstone journey, stop by the Albright Visitor Center in Mammoth Hot Springs to explore the interactive displays and participate in ranger-led educational talks. The newly renovated center offers trip-planning information, exhibits on the park's history and wildlife, backcountry permits, restrooms, and wifi. Traveling with kids? Be sure to stop in and ask about the Junior Ranger Program before venturing further into the park.

COOKE CITY MONTANA MUSEUM

What motivated a man to leave hearth and home and strike out for territories, challenges, and dangers of the unknown? The communities of Colter Pass, Cooke City, and Silver Gate, updated, yet unchanged since the early days, are yours to explore and experience at the Cooke City Museum in nearby Cooke City, Montana. Open year-round, the museum offers free admission and features exhibits on the area's rich history including mining, the communities of Cooke City and Silver Gate, and the Beartooth Highway. Call 406-838-2203 for more information.
THE UNSUNG SEASONS

Experience the magic of Yellowstone and southern Montana without the crowds in spring, autumn, and winter.
**YOUR YELLOWSTONE WINTER BUCKET LIST**

**GO WILDLIFE WATCHING**

Yellowstone is home to one of the most diverse ecosystems in North America. In winter, animals including elk, bison, and wolves are easier to spot against the snowy landscape. For an insider’s perspective, hire a guide out of Gardiner, Montana.

**TAKE A SNOWCOACH TOUR**

Ride in style on a snowcoach tour with Yellowstone Vacations or Yellowstone National Park Lodges (see page 34). Enjoy a trip to Old Faithful or the Grand Canyon of the Yellowstone while learning about the park’s natural history.

**STAY FOR THE HOLIDAYS**

There are many heart-warming holiday traditions in Yellowstone, from a Christmas Tree Lighting ceremony at Mammoth Hot Springs to celebrating Old Faithful’s first eruption of the New Year.

**TRY CROSS-COUNTRY SKIING OR SNOWSHOEING**

Nordic skiing and snowshoeing are low-impact winter sports that keep you warm while allowing you to take in the wonders of the park at a slower pace—like steaming hot springs, wildlife, and frozen waterfalls.

**EXPLORE YELLOWSTONE’S NORTHERN RANGE**

Yellowstone’s Northern Range is the only section of the park open to personal vehicles all year round. Enjoy beautiful scenery and uninterrupted wildlife watching in this lesser-traveled section of the park, which includes Yellowstone’s famous Lamar Valley.

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**SPRING**

Free from the intensity of summer crowds, this charming season offers a more intimate experience with the Gardiner area. Residents live amongst an abundance of wildlife, many of which are quite active in the springtime as they give birth. April and May are wonderful times to watch a small elk calf take its first steps, or witness the rusty-red coat of a baby bison against impossibly green hillsides. Top that off with early spring wildflowers and waterfalls flowing at their peak, and you have yourself a nature photographer’s paradise.

**AUTUMN**

Fall in Gardiner and northern Yellowstone is spectacular—especially if you love wildlife watching, nature photography, and classic mountain town recreation. Fall marks the start of the elk “rut”—or mating season—where bulls challenge one another and lock antlers to determine breeding rights with females. Fall is also ideal for crisp hikes and a chance to visit the park’s geyser basins with far fewer crowds. Whether you’re looking for a relaxing long weekend or a week-long excursion, this is the time to plan your Yellowstone getaway.

**WINTER**

Locals will tell you winter is a particularly special time of year. With fewer crowds, abundant wildlife, and stunning winter vistas, Gardiner and Yellowstone National Park resemble a real-life snow globe when the snow flies. Yellowstone’s North Entrance, located right in Gardiner, is the only park entrance open to personal vehicles year-round, offering convenient access to the park’s famous Northern Range. See our three-day sample itinerary on page 22 for tips on how to make the most of your winter adventure.

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VisitGardinerMT.com | 406-848-7971
SAMPLE THREE-DAY ITINERARIES

Winter

DAY ONE: WILDLIFE WATCHING
Start your trip bright and early with a drive through the Yellowstone Northern Range, open year-round to personal vehicles. Renowned for its wildlife, the Northern Range offers unparalleled views and opportunities to see everything from bison to moose. Traveling with a guide and starting early in the day are the best ways to ensure you spot as many creatures as possible.

DAY TWO: CROSS-COUNTRY SKIING AND HOT SPRINGS
Ready to stretch your legs? Take advantage of the Nordic ski trails both in Yellowstone and in our surrounding national forest. Stop in at Parks’ Fly Shop in Gardiner or the Bear Den Ski Shop in Mammoth to pick up gear and tips on which trails are best suited to you. After a long day of skiing, enjoy a good meal and a soak in one of our area hot springs (page 18).

DAY THREE: MAMMOTH HOT SPRINGS EXPLORATION
Start your day with a stop at the Albright Visitor Information Center in Mammoth Hot Springs to learn about the history of Yellowstone before exploring the Mammoth Terraces. After a break for a warm lunch, perfect your pirouette at the free Mammoth skating rink, which includes complimentary skate rentals on site. End your day with some local flavor at one of Gardiner’s cozy restaurants.

OH WHAT FUN IT IS TO RIDE!
Book a snowcoach with Yellowstone National Park Lodges or Yellowstone Vacations to visit park attractions like Old Faithful and the Grand Canyon of the Yellowstone (see page 34).

GEAR & ESSENTIALS
- Daypack
- Water bottle
- Thermos
- Sunglasses
- Sunscreen
- Camera
- Extra Clothes
- Field Guide
- Binoculars
- Notebook
- Pencil
- Pocket Hand & Foot Warmers
- Medications
- Snacks

CLOTHING
- Heavy Wool/ Fleece Gloves
- Neck Warmer
- Lightweight Liner Socks
- Heavyweight Socks
- Insulated boots
- Insulated boots
- Wool or Fleece pants
- Lightweight Glove Liners
- Heavyweight Insulating Layer
- Waterproof & Windproof Outer Layer
- Wool or Fleece pants
- Lightweight Gloves

PRO TIP

Infographic courtesy of Lauren Beltramo
Spring

**DAY ONE: THE GRAND LOOP/GEYSER GAZING**
From Gardiner, head south into Yellowstone past Mammoth Hot Springs, stopping at Norris and Midway geyser basins before reaching Old Faithful. After a day of exploration, head east towards Yellowstone Lake and north through Hayden Valley. If time allows, be sure to stop at the Grand Canyon of the Yellowstone before completing the loop back at Mammoth Hot Springs.

**DAY TWO: OUTDOOR ADVENTURES**
Grab a cup of coffee and take a stroll through town. While you window shop, stop at one of our adventure companies to plan out your excursion for the day. Choose between rafting the Yellowstone River, ziplining through the Gallatin National Forest, or taking a horseback ride. Many companies offer a package deal so you can take on several activities in the same day!

**DAY THREE: THE NORTHERN RANGE**
Spend your final day in our favorite part of the park, the Yellowstone Northern Range. Heading east from Mammoth Hot Springs, travel along “the Serengeti of North America” for a chance to spot Yellowstone’s most famous critters. In the spring, highlights include bison calves and clumsy black bear cubs. For optimal wildlife viewing, book with a local guide.

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Fall

**DAY ONE: ELK RUT & PHOTOGRAPHY**
After a leisurely breakfast, pack your camera and head out to the Yellowstone Northern Range to take in the fall foliage and abundant wildlife watching. Fall in Gardiner and northern Yellowstone means elk mating season is in full swing—evenings in Mammoth are often a great time to watch bull elk compete for the attention of females.

**DAY TWO: HIKING**
With temperatures cooling off, fall offers some of the best hiking of the year. If trekking in bear country intimidates you, book with one of our local guides who can provide spotting scopes, bear spray, and a picnic lunch. After your hike, spend a relaxing evening in Gardiner watching the elk roam—try the Iron Horse or a picnic in Arch Park for a great view.

**DAY THREE: SCENIC DRIVING**
Whichever way you head home be sure to leave yourself extra time. If you’re heading north, travel along the Yellowstone River into Paradise Valley. Stay on the main highway or take East River Road for views of the river and Absaroka Mountains. If heading east, drive through Yellowstone and over the scenic Beartooth Highway (page 15).
E-Biking In Yellowstone

- Guided E-Bike Tours
- Daily E-Bike Rentals
- Optic Rentals & Sales
- Tumblers & Coolers
- Apparel

Join us on one of our two most popular tours:
Bike & Soak to Yellowstone Hot Springs
OR
Bike & Hike to Osprey Falls

Book Your Adventure!
406-223-8139
www.bigskyebiketours.com
Bigskyebiketours@gmail.com
405 Scott Street West, Gardiner MT 59030

Relax & Renew
406-848-4141
HOURS
9:00AM - 9:00PM
TUESDAY - SUNDAY
YELLOWSTONEHOTSPRINGSMT.COM

46 RV Spaces! 406-589-7350

VisitGardinerMT.com | 406-848-7971
BE OUR guest

GARDINER BUSINESS DIRECTORY

26 LODGING
Set up your adventure basecamp in one of Gardiner’s many lodging options. Choose from a cozy cabin, traditional hotel with all the amenities, or a vacation rental to fit the whole family.

30 SHOPS & SERVICES
Gardiner is a full-service town—without any box stores. From auto repair to massage therapy, our local businesses are here to make your trip comfortable and easy. Browse for t-shirts and outdoor gear, photography and art, Made-in-Montana souvenirs, and more in our locally owned and operated shops.

32 DINING & NIGHTLIFE
After a day of outdoor adventures, feed the crew at one of our friendly, family-owned restaurants. Most places are open year-round and dining options range from comfort food to farm-to-table to fine dining.

34 ACTIVITIES
The residents of this adventurous mountain town can’t wait to show you the ropes on the trail, in the park, or on the river. Popular activities include wildlife watching, photography, hiking, skiing, and rafting. Whichever you choose, our friendly guides are sure to show you an exhilarating (and safe!) time.
## LODGING

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<td><strong>406 LODGE &amp; CABINS</strong></td>
<td>406-848-9956</td>
<td>204 3rd St. S • Gardiner</td>
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<td><strong>A SUNNY SLOPE LODGE</strong></td>
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<td><strong>ABSOROKA LODGE</strong></td>
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<td><strong>B BAR RANCH</strong></td>
<td>406-848-7729</td>
<td>818 Tom Miner Cr. Rd. • Emigrant</td>
<td>BBar.com</td>
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<td><strong>BE OUR GUEST</strong></td>
<td>626-664-0774</td>
<td>1088 Travertine St. • Gardiner</td>
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<td>406-333-4933</td>
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<td>303 2nd St. S • Gardiner</td>
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<td><strong>ELK RIVER ART STUDIO, GALLERY &amp; LODGING</strong></td>
<td>406-848-9449</td>
<td>1005 Scott St. W • Gardiner</td>
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<td>406-848-7578</td>
<td>164 Crevice Rd. • Gardiner</td>
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<td>80 Mol Heron Creek Rd. • Gardiner</td>
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<td>406-848-7719 521 Scott St. W • Gardiner  YellowstoneRiversideCottages.com</td>
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LODGING

YELLOWSTONE RV PARK & CAMPGROUND
406-848-7496    121 US-89 S • Gardiner
RVParkYellowstone.com

YELLOWSTONE SUPER 8
406-848-7401    702 Scott St. W • Gardiner
YellowstoneSuper8.com

YELLOWSTONE TIPIS
406-570-8448    50 Jardine Rd. • Gardiner
YellowstoneTipis.com

YELLOWSTONE VILLAGE INN
406-848-7417    1102 Scott St. W • Gardiner
YellowstoneVInn.com

YELLOWSTONE’S TREASURE CABINS
406-595-7954    318 5th St. W • Gardiner
YTCabins.com

Mammoth Hot Springs at Christmas/Yellowstone NPS

GARDINER - MONTANA

Amenities:
• Free high-speed internet
• Free parking
• Guest laundry facilities

Nearby Attractions
• Yellowstone National Park
• Gardner River
• Downtown Gardiner

109 Hellroaring St., Gardiner, MT 59030
406.545.5779 • Travelodge.com

VisitGardinerMT.com | 406-848-7971
The longest standing business in Gardiner is still going strong! Formally known as “Helen’s” The CORRAL has been serving the local community and visitors since 1960. Still strive to live up the legend and carry on the tradition of BIG, JUICY BURGERS, TASTY SPECIALITIES & MILKSHAKES. Their mission today is to provide good food by providing the best products-local, organic, sustainable.

We love and appreciate every single one of our customers! We hope to see you soon!


711 Scott St, Gardiner  *  CorralVillas.com
SHOPPING & SERVICES

AUTOMOTIVE/CONVENIENCE STORES
Dino Mart 406-848-9403
Town Station - Conoco 406-848-7742
Yellowstone Dino Lube 406-848-9401
Yellowstone Park Service Stations 406-848-7333

BANKS & CREDIT UnIONS
Bank of the Rockies 406-333-9009
First Interstate Bank 406-848-7474
Meridian Trust Federal Credit Union 307-344-7974

BEVERAGE DISTRIBUTION
Lehrkinds Coca Cola Bottling Company 406-586-2029

CHILD CARE
Little People’s Learning Center 307-344-9011

MASSAGE
Jardine Retreat & Massage Therapy 406-220-2201

CHURCHES
Gardiner Baptist Church 406-223-4478
St. Williams Catholic Church 406-222-1393

CLEANING SERVICES
House of Clean Inc. 800-223-5082
Industrial Towel & Cover Supply 406-222-1131

COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS
Absaroka Beartooth Wilderness Foundation 406-445-3070
Bear Creek Council 406-248-1154
Big Bear Stampedede September, 10, 2022
Child Care Connections 406-587-7786
Electric Peak Arts Council Events all year
Gardiner Community Library 406-848-7835
Gardiner Food Pantry 307-344-9006
Greater Yellowstone Coalition 406-586-1593
Greater Gardiner Community Council 406-848-1883
MSU Park County Extension 406-222-4156
North Yellowstone Education Foundation 406-823-0522
Stafford Animal Shelter 406-222-2111
Upper Yellowstone Roundup Association Rodco June 17 & 18
Yellowstone Forever 406-848-2400
Yellowstone International Arts Festival 406-579-6414

COMPUTER & INTERNET SERVICES
Yellowstone Media Design 406-848-2210

GALLERIES, ARTISTS & FRAMING
High Country Gallery 406-848-7220
Elk River Art Studio & Gallery 406-848-9449
Yellowstone Wild The Gallery 406-240-6968

GIFTS, GEAR, & RENTALS
Big Sky EBike Tours & Rentals 406-300-4706
Frontier Mercantile 406-848-7220
Kellem’s Montana Saddlery 406-848-7776
Montana Goods & Grindz 406-848-9433
Paradise Adventure Company 888-722-6505
Parks’ Fly Shop 406-848-7314
TrailQuipt - Bear Spray Rentals 406-848-4064
Yellowstone Forever 406-848-2400
Yellowstone General Stores 406-586-7593
Yellowstone Gifts & Sweets 406-848-7011
Yellowstone Outpost Mall 406-848-7220

GROCERY STORE
Gardiner Market 406-848-7524

INSURANCE PROVIDERS
AP Health Advisor 931-264-8729

LAUNDROMAT
North Entrance Washhtub 406-848-9870

EMERGENCY & MEDICAL SERVICES
Bear Hearing Solutions 406-333-2547
Gateway Hose Company 406-848-7350
Livingston Healthcare 406-222-3541
Medcor Inc - Mammoth Clinic 307-344-7965

PRESS, PUBLICATIONS, & RADIO
Arvig Media 888-442-8838
Gardiner Mammoth FM Association 406-223-1037
Livingston Enterprise 406-222-2000
Outside Bozeman 406-582-8068

Hosting a group gathering? Rent the...

GARDINER COMMUNITY CENTER
For reservations, contact reservations@gardinermt.org or call 406-848-1883. A full calendar of events is available at: www.GardinerMT.org

SPACIOUS HISTORIC INDOOR VENUE
PARTIES • RECEPTIONS • MEETINGS

VisitGardinerMT.com | 406-848-7971
REAL ESTATE SERVICES
ERA Landmark Western Land  406-222-8700
Lori & Scott Hamilton-Legacy Lands Realty  406-223-1079
Yellowstone Real Estate Group  406-333-0139

TOURISM & AREA INFORMATION
Cooke City Chamber of Commerce  406-838-2495
Gardiner Chamber of Commerce  406-848-7971
Livingston Chamber of Commerce  406-222-0850
US Forest Service, Gardiner Ranger District  406-848-7375
Yellowstone Country  800-736-5276
Yellowstone Trip Planning  406-223-3142

UTILITIES & CONTRACT SERVICES
DW Burns Plumbing & Heating  406-333-4868
Gardiner Park County Water & Sewer  406-848-7734
Hepburn Electric  406-641-0172
Northwestern Energy  406-582-4637
Story Distributing  406-848-7710

VETERINARY SERVICES
Mountain Valley Veterinary Services  406-599-4549

For more information, scan the QR code or visit: VisitGardinerMT.com/plan-your-trip/tourism-directory

Snowcoaches lined up at Mammoth Hot Springs/Yellowstone NPS

Yellowstone Vacations offers convenient lodging in Gardiner, Montana, just one mile from the north entrance to Yellowstone National Park. We also provide convenient tours of Mammoth Hot Springs, Tower-Roosevelt, Lamar Valley and more. Out here, the American frontier lives on — we’ll help you experience the best of it.

Book your Yellowstone escape – visit YellowstoneVacations/Gardiner.

THE AMERICAN original

Yellowstone Vacations offers convenient lodging in Gardiner, Montana, just one mile from the north entrance to Yellowstone National Park. We also provide convenient tours of Mammoth Hot Springs, Tower-Roosevelt, Lamar Valley and more. Out here, the American frontier lives on — we’ll help you experience the best of it.

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VisitGardinerMT.com | 406-848-7971
## DINING & NIGHTLIFE

### GARDINER BARS & RESTAURANTS

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### EMIGRANT, PRAY, & SILVER GATE

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<td>SAGE LODGE</td>
<td>855-400-0505</td>
<td>55 Sage Lodge Dr. • Pray</td>
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</table>

### YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK

#### YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK LODGES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Phone Number</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Breakfast</th>
<th>Lunch</th>
<th>Dinner</th>
<th>Beer &amp; Wine</th>
<th>Spirits</th>
<th>Espresso</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK</td>
<td>307-344-7311</td>
<td>Throughout Park</td>
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</tbody>
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**PRO TIP**

As our community continues to experience record breaking visitation, our restaurants may have longer than typical wait periods and, at times, unpredictable hours due to staffing. When supporting our hard-working eateries please pack your patience and be kind. To find specific operating hours for area restaurant members scan the QR Code here.
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Yellow Bus at the Gardiner Market / Terese Petcoff

Iron Horse / Anthony Pavkovich
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- Parks' Fly Shop: 406-848-7314
- Sage Lodge: 855-400-0505

## GROUP & PRIVATE TOURS
- Adventure Yellowstone Inc.: 406-585-9041
- All Things Wild Tours: 301-978-1391
- Bald Mountain Powder Tours: 406-224-0043
- In Our Nature Guiding Service: 406-579-3838

## HORSEBACK & CARRIAGE RIDES
- Hell's A-Roarin' Outfitters: 406-848-7578
- Rockin' HK Outfitters: 406-333-4933
- Specimen Creek Outfitters: 406-848-9164
- Wandering Journeys: 406-848-8192

## FIshing Guides & Fly Shops

## Hunting Outfitters

## Snowcoach Tours
- Yellowstone National Park Lodges: 307-344-7311
- Yellowstone Vacations: 406-848-5171

## Trip Planning Services
- Yellowstone Trip Planning: 406-223-3142

For details about each tour company, scan the QR Code of visit: VisitGardinerMT.com/plan-your-trip/tourism-directory/activities

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**WhiteWater Rafting & Ziplining**
- Flying Pig Adventure Company: 888-792-9193
- Montana Whitewater Rafting & Zipline: 406-848-7398
- Paradise Adventure Company: 888-722-6505
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As the original entrance to the world’s first national park, the history of Gardiner, Montana, is closely tied to the history of Yellowstone National Park. Since the park was established in 1872, the “rough and tumble” community of Gardiner has been serving the needs of park visitors from around the world, although mining and ranching would later come to make up the Gardiner economy as well.

Although Gardiner was not officially founded until 1880, references to an area known as “Gardner’s Hole” date back to the mid-1830s, likely named for the fur trapper Johnson Gardner. The town received its name from the Washburn-Langford-Doane party in 1870. The extra “I” is said to come from a phonetic misspelling of “Gardner” when pronounced by the infamous West Virginia mountain man Jim Bridger.

In 1883, the Northern Pacific Railway extended its Park Branch Line south from Livingston as far as Cinnabar, a railroad stop just north of Gardiner. The rail line was extended to Gardiner in 1903 and continued to operate until 1948.

The town has survived gold rushes, destructive fires, and the coming and going of the railroad. Today Gardiner is home to a range of businesses that welcome visitors to Yellowstone from all over the world—from outfitters and guides to cozy diners and family-owned lodges.
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