# Beartooth Highway

Dramatic All American Road



7 Days/6 Nights Gateway City: Billings, Montana



It's a dramatic drive! That's the main calling card of this All American Road that famed writer Charles Kuralt termed "America's most beautiful highway." It's named the Beartooth because, at the pass, at the highest point, there's a perfectly formed glacially-shaped mountain which the Crow thought looked just like a bear's tooth. Nearby, a whole mountainside looks like a full set of teeth.

As you climb over 5,000 feet through the mountainous terrain, the drive is punctuated by hundreds of glacial lakes, over 20 mountain peaks reaching skyward beyond 12,000 feet, waterfalls, and vivid wildflowers that bloom when the highway is open between Memorial Day and Columbus Day. Breathtaking views of the Beartooth Mountains accompany you on the entire route between Red Lodge and Cooke City, rewarding you with stunning views at every turn. Hairpin turns magically emerge as you travel to nearly 11,000 feet and into the clouds. The terrain is so rugged that only Native Americans traversed the pass until General Sheridan took the route in 1882. In 1936, when the road was built with tight switchbacks to get up and down the canyon walls, it was considered an engineering marvel. As you round corners, don't be surprised if you spot a moose or grizzly bear among the wildflowers or on the glaciers. They're used to having the land to themselves.



# **Touring the Byway**

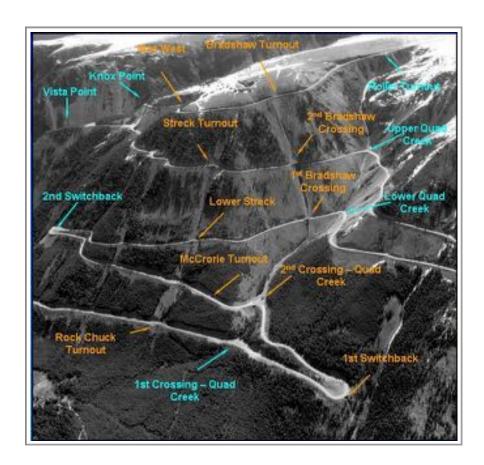
Even though the Beartooth is only 68 miles long, the amazing drive will hold your attention throughout the entire journey. We recommend beginning your trip in Billings, where we suggest spending two days exploring the multitude of heritage locations in the city. Start your visit at the Visit Southeast Montana Visitors Center for a brief introduction to the city, followed by the Historic Walking Tour of Downtown Billings. On the tour you'll also discover locations on the Billings' Public Art and Billings Brew Trail. After lunch, it will be time to visit the Western Heritage Center, a Smithsonian Affiliate, before checking into the Northern Hotel. On Day Two, the Moss Mansion, Yellowstone Art Museum, and Yellowstone Country Museum await.

Leaving Billings on Interstate 90, you'll be taking the exit at Columbia, home to the Museum of the Beartooths and the Beartooth Front Scenic Drive. At Absarokee, you'll have the option to take the Absarokee Scenic Loop that will bring you to the Tippet Rise Art Center in Fishtail, considered one of the five best museums in the Billings area (the other four you will have already visited in Billings). Additionally, you can also take the Luther-Roscoe Scenic Drive off the Beartooth Front Loop.

Have lunch in Columbus or in Absarokee at the end of the loop drive. Once you reach Red Lodge, you'll discover it looks like it dropped right out of the film set for a western movie. There you can explore the Yellowstone Wildlife Sanctuary, a safe, life-long home for aging buffalo from Yellowstone National Park and other animals, which are treated with dignity, compassion, and respect, from the day they arrive until their end of days.

After exploring Red Lodge's historic downtown, you can explore the Carbon County Art Guild and Depot Gallery, and the Carbon County Historical Society and Museum, before checking into The Pollard. From there, it's time to drive the Beartooth Highway All American Road.

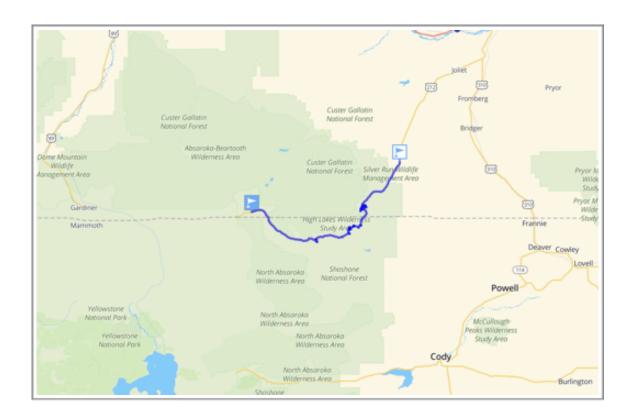
A little over 20 miles south of Red Lodge, you'll come to the Vista Point Rest Area at 9,190 feet above sea level, with an interpretive trail and bathrooms. A little further on, you'll cross the 45<sup>th</sup> Parallel, exactly halfway between the North Pole and the equator. Next up, the Bear's Tooth, at the top of 10,947 foot Beartooth Pass. Coming down from the pass, visit the Top of the World Store at 9,396 feet.



Further on, you'll pass Island Lake and Beartooth Lake before traveling into Cooke City, Silver Gate and the Northeast Entrance to Yellowstone National Park.

The roads in Yellowstone form two continuous loops through the park and were specifically designed to provide access to all major attractions. Be sure to visit all seven visitor centers in Yellowstone: Old Faithful Visitor Education Center, Canyon Visitor Education Center, Fishing Bridge Museum and Visitor Center, Grant Village Visitor Center, Madison Information Station, Albright Visitor Center at Mammoth and the Norris Area Museums, and the West Yellowstone Visitor Information Center at the West Entrance. Each tells a different part of the story.

When you travel the Beartooth, be sure to remember that the high alpine climate can cause severe weather conditions any month of the year. Summer temperatures range from the 70s to below freezing during sudden snowstorms. Pack warm jackets, hats and boots if you plan to hike. The road is normally plowed by Memorial Day, but closures are common through June due to spring snowstorms. From here, we wish you safe passage if you're traveling another Montana Scenic Drive, or a safe and pleasant journey home.



### DAY ONE



# **Billings**

The Crow, the same people who named the Beartooth Highway, called Billings Ammalapashkuua — or where they cut wood. Caves south of town contain more than 100 pictographs over 2,000 years old, 30,000 stone tools, weapons, and other artifacts, that provide evidence the area was occupied for 4,500 years before Europeans arrived. Lewis and Clark passed through in 1806. The Billings area was originally known as Clark's Fork Bottom and then Coulson. That rough town founded in 1877, filled with dance halls and saloons, was considered the best location for commerce, but the railroad had other ideas. Founded in 1882, Billings grew from three buildings to 2,000 residents in a matter of months. Shaped by the Yellowstone River and sheltered by the Rims (or Rimrocks), Billings is now a thriving city with diverse cuisine, art, and culture. In the north, trails wind along the rimrock sandstone cliffs. The Western Heritage Center features historical artifacts and the Moss Mansion showcases early 20th century life.

### **Visit Southeast Montana**

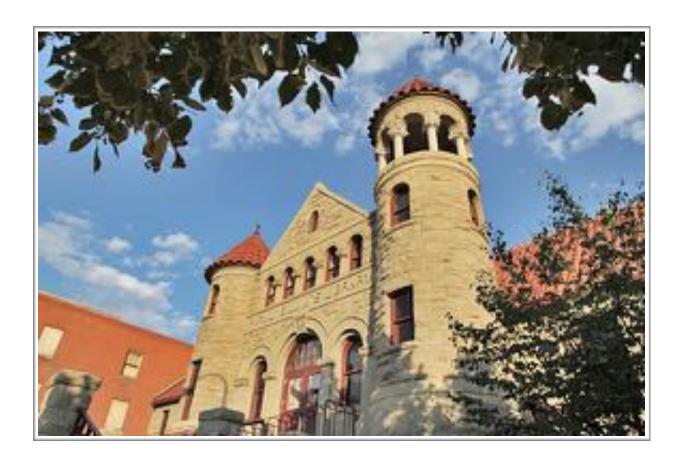
Begin exploring Billings at the Visit Southeast Montana Visitor Center, with exhibits that introduce you to the Billings area and provide any other information you may need to make your visit here most enjoyable.

815 South 27th Street #4513, Billings, MT 59101, 406-294-5270



# **Historic Walking Tour of Billings**

From the Visitor Center, plan to walk the 45-stop Historic Walking Tour, which begins and ends at the Western Heritage Center and encompasses historic structures mostly on Minnesota and Montana Avenues. While you are walking, you'll see the work of the Public Art Committee which has supported 27 utility box wraps and other service installations including "Between This Life and the Next," "Wildlife," "Paper Moon," and "Magenta#1." They also sponsored a series of murals, and "Art Alley," next to the Good Earth Market.



# Western Heritage Center

The collections of the Western Heritage Center, located in the Richardson Romanesque Parmly Billings Library tell the story of life in the Yellowstone River Valley. Over 16,000 artifacts fill several permanent collections including a Yellowstone River Cultural Inventory, American Indian Tribal History, Native American Collection, Regional Western Art Collection, Harry Farhm Collection, Thomas Molesworth Collection, and the James Kenneth Ralston Collection. Exhibits include the Dude Ranch Lobby, Parading Through History, Montana's Black Gold, Blackfoot Tipi Legends, The Real West: Farming, The Southsiders, Women Ranchers, and more.

2822 Montana Avenue, Billings, MT 59101, 406-256-6809, Tues-Sat 10AM-5PM, Adults \$5



#### **Destination Distinctive Accommodations**

Northern Hotel 19 North Broadway, Billings, MT 59101, 406-867-6767

Escape to the new Northern Hotel, which has welcomed guests since 1904, to relax in luxuriously renovated guest rooms with warm, contemporary interiors.

### **Destination Distinctive Dining**

**Walkers American Grill** 2700 First Avenue North, Billings, 59101, 406-24-9291 Barbed-wire chandeliers and local art complement a very creative menu and extensive wine list.

Montana's Brewing Company 113 N Broadway, Billings, MT 59101, 406-252-9200,

Seasonal selection of house-brewed beer on tap and pub fare served in a lively, casual setting..

**Juliano's** 2912 Seventh Avenue North, Billings, MT 59101, 406-248-6400 A 1902 stable with a patio as a backdrop, hosts Asian-accented American cuisine.

### **Destination Distinctive Retail**

**Liberty & Vine Country Store** 2019 Montana Avenue, Billings, MT 59101, 406-534-8667 Tues-Sat, 10AM-6PM, Sun 11AM-4PM

Brockel's Chocolates 117 North 29th Street, Billings, MT 5910, 406-248-2705

Sandstone Gallery 2913 Second Avenue North, Billings, MT 59101, 406-256-5837

**Toucan** 2505 Montana Avenue, Billings, MT 59101, 406-252-0122

### DAY TWO

### **Moss Mansion Museum**

When Preston Boyd Moss built the Moss Mansion in 1903, he influenced the entire culture of the city. Designed by the architect of the Waldorf Astoria and the Plaza Hotel in New York, the mansion showcases unrivaled craftsmanship. Amazingly, original fixtures, including heated indoor plumbing on each floor, call buttons for servants, and other impressive feats of technology for the period, remain intact. Exhibits include the history of early Billings interpreted in letters, diaries, and interviews. At the start of your tour, be sure to watch the 13-minute video which describes the activities of the Moss family in the development of Billings. 914 Division Street, Billings, MT 59101, 406-256-5100, Year-round, Tues-Sat 10AM-4PM, Sun Noon-3PM, check availability of guided tours, Adults \$12



### Yellowstone Art Museum

The Yellowstone Art Museum hosts a unique collection of Western art focused on preserving the living artistic heritage of the region. The Visible Vault (one of only a few in the country) allows guests to observe art collection, storage, and preservation. In 1991, there were 609 objects in the collection and today, over 7,300. Major gifts from prominent artists including Bill Stockton, Isabelle Johnson, and Edith Freeman, and the Virginia Snook Collection, the largest public gathering of the drawings, paintings, books, and memorabilia of cowboy illustrator Will James. The collection also includes paintings and drawings by J.H. Sharp, Charles M. Russell, and other regional artists. Raven's Café d'Art is a favorite local hot-spot for lunch.

401 North 27th Street, Billings, MT 59101, 406-256-6804, Tues-Sun 10AM-5PM, until 8PM on Thursday, Adults \$15.



# Yellowstone County Museum

Housed inside the historic McCormick Cabin that was moved from its original location in downtown Billings to the airport and complemented with a spacious addition, the Yellowstone County Museum is a treasure trove of American history. An astonishing array of cultural artifacts and one of a kind memorabilia drawn from the region's early history are on display in exhibits including 1890 Ghost Dance, Plains Indians Art and Culture, Montana Prehistory, Coulson City Saloon, the Legacy of Bravery, the cabin's history, and more. 1950 Airport Terminal Circle, Billings, MT, 406-256-6811, M-Sat 10:30AM-5PM Free

### DAY THREE

### **Columbus**

Columbus, originally located two miles to the west, was named Stillwater by founder Horace Countryman who owned a stage station on the Yellowstone Trail. It later became known as Eagle's Nest, and later Sheep Dip. When the railroad arrived in 1881, Countryman re-located the town and changed its name. Prosperity arrived when the Montana Sandstone Company furnished stone for the state capitol building in Helena.

### Museum of the Beartooths

This museum features ever changing exhibits covering the rich history, art, and culture of the Stillwater County area, that include Crow tribal artifacts, the Columbus Mercantile Company, household items, the Jim Annin Collection, local newspapers dating back to 1906, photographs, oral histories, and original county documents and journals.

440 East Fifth Avenue North, Columbus, MT 59019, 406-322-4588 M-F 10AM-5PM, Sat 11AM-3PM, Memorial Day-Labor Day, Free

### **Destination Distinctive Dining**

**307 Bar and Grill** 842 East Pike Avenue, Columbus, MT 59019, 406-322-4511, Full service restaurant serving lunch and dinner.

#### **Fishtail**

The town of Fishtail was established on the homestead of John Mauer in 1900. By 1913, the town had a saloon, blacksmith shop, livery barn, and a hotel. It continued to grow when the construction of the Mystic Lake power project occurred nearby.

# **Tippet Rise Art Center**

Considered one of the five best museums in the Billings area, Tippet Rise sits atop a 12,000-acre working sheep and cattle ranch. Every year, they host classical chamber music concerts and recitals as well as curated art exhibits, outdoor sculptures, and some of the world's foremost artists and designers.

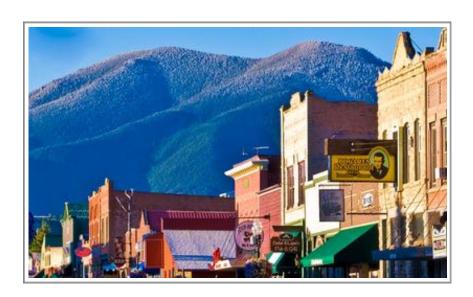
96 Grove Creek Road, Fishtail, MT 59028, 406-328-7820, check the schedule for specific events and exhibits.

#### **Destination Distinctive Retail**

**Fishtail General Store** 35 West Main Street, Fishtail, MT 59028, 406-328-4260 This historic landmark has featured a little bit of everything including a bakery, souvenir items, and grocery items since 1900.

### **Destination Distinctive Dining**

**Wild Flower Kitchen** 3008 Highway 78, Absarokee, MT 59001, 406-328-9118



# **Red Lodge**

When you arrive in Red Lodge, don't be surprised to see cowboys, mountain men, or Native Americas on the streets. You're in the authentic American West. Like so many other western towns, Red Lodge was built on mining. The downtown and surrounding streets, now listed on the National Register of Historic Places, are populated with homes and buildings constructed during the coal-mining boom between 1893 and 1910. The Rocky Fork Coal Company opened the area's first mine in 1887and by 1891, more than 400 Finns, Scots, Irish, Italians, Slavs and Scandinavians arrived to work the East Side Mine, digging an average of 100 tons of coal a day. By 1896, the vibrant town of Red Lodge was teeming with action, filled with strong-willed folks and twenty saloons. By 1910, Carbon County led Montana in coal production and by 1911, Red Lodge boasted a population of 5,000 souls. In the old days, they used to say Red Lodge had a saloon on every corner. Today, you'll discover some of those saloons housing art galleries, gift shops, and more, while still retaining their historic character.

# **Historic Walking Tour of Red Lodge**

Beginning at the Civic Center, the walking tour takes you through Red Lodge Commercial Historic District with buildings including the Carbon County Courthouse, the Carbon County Hospital and Sanitarium, Historic Roman Theater, and the Iris Theater, as well as surrounding residential areas. Tour begins at 215 14th Street



# Yellowstone Wildlife Sanctuary

As bison and other animals in Yellowstone National Park age and need care, they are moved to the Yellowstone Wildlife Sanctuary, along with gray and red wolves, porcupines, owls, black bears, and more. Take the 60-90 minute guided tour to learn more about the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem, the species represented at the sanctuary, and how the animals arrive here.

615 Second Street East, Red Lodge, MT 59068, W-M, 10AM-4PM, Adults \$10

# Carbon County Art Guild and Depot Gallery

After the Burlington Northern Railroad donated the 1889 classic Craftsman style Red Lodge depot to the Art Guild, enterprising citizens created an art location featuring the work of regional artists from south central Montana and northern Wyoming.

11 Eighth Street West, Red Lodge, MT, 59068, 406-446-1370, Th-Sat Noon-4PM



# Carbon County Historical Society and Museum

When originally constructed in 1909, the Labor Temple Building housed the Kaleva Co-Operative Mercantile on the first floor, with the second devoted to union offices, a public library, and reading room, plus the "Workers Club." The third floor had lodging rooms and showers as well as the finest dance hall in Red Lodge. It served the area's miners until 1920. The Historical Society restored the facility to feature historic exhibits about Carbon County plus a shop with Old West books and gifts. The newest exhibit tells the backstory of the Beartooth Scenic Highway from inception through the construction of the most remarkable highway in America.

224 Broadway Avenue North, Red Lodge, MT 59068, 406-446-3667, Tu-Sat 10AM-4PM, June 1-Labor Day, Adults \$7



#### **Destination Distinctive Accommodations**

**The Pollard** 2 Broadway Avenue North, Red Lodge, MT 59068, 406-446-0001 Red Lodge's first hotel quickly gained fame as a gathering place for the rich and famous including William Jennings Bryan, Copper Kings William and Marcus Daly, Buffalo Bill Cody, who spent many evenings swapping tales with local old timers and Calamity Jane who would occasionally interrupt the quiet of the hotel.

### **Destination Distinctive Dining**

**Carbon County Steakhouse** 121 Broadway Avenue South, Red Lodge, MT 59068, 406-446-4025 Traditional steakhouse fare plus seafood, coupled with a deep wine list, is served in an upscale cowboy-themed setting.

**PREROGATIVE Kitchen** 104 Broadway Avenue South, Red Lodge, MT 59068, 406-445-3232 Serving a rotating a la carte chalkboard menu dedicated to ecofriendly and community conscious cuisine.

#### **Destination Distinctive Retail**

**Candy Emporium** 7 Broadway Avenue North, Red Lodge, MT 59068, 406-44-1119 Nostalgic old time candies, handmade delights, and huckleberry originals.

**Babcock & Miles** 105 12th Street West, Red Lodge, MT, 50968, 406-446-1796

A food lover's paradise filled with the best espresso, wine, craft beer, gourmet ingredients, cheese, chocolates, charcuterie, ready to go sandwiches, snacks, spices, and more.

**Coleman Gallery and Studio** 223 South Broadway Avenue, Red Lodge 50968, 406-446-1228 Featuring award winning nature and portrait photography.

**Beartooth Gallery and Fine Art** 110 South Broadway Avenue, Red Lodge, MT, 50968, 406-446-1292 Representing an impressive collection of painters, sculptors, glass blowers, potters, and furniture makers.

### DAY FOUR

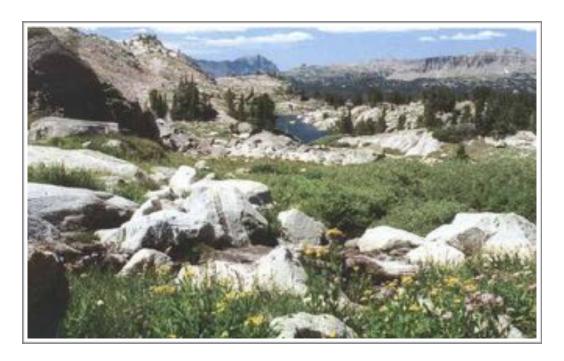


# **Beartooth Highway All American Road**

Today is the day to drive the thrilling Beartooth Highway All American Road over the Beartooth Pass. A little over 20 miles south of Red Lodge, you can pull over at the Vista Point Rest Area which sits at 9,190 feet above sea level. A series of interpretive panels tell the story of the area's natural history as well as construction of the road. Further on, at what's going to feel like the top of the world, you'll pass over the 45th Parallel, marking the halfway point between the North Pole and the equator. And then, it's up and over the pass where the "Bear's Tooth" stands proudly. Island Lake and Beartooth Lake lie alongside the Beartooth Highway.

# Top of the World Store and Resort

It is not uncommon to see visitors throwing snowballs in the middle of the summer at the Top of the World Store and Resort on the other side of the pass. Originally located on Beartooth Lake, the charming little place that was relocated, is now a full service resort with accommodations, dining, camping, and outdoor recreation. 2823 Highway 212, Cody, WY, 82414, 307-587-5368, M-Sat 8AM-7PM, Sun 9AM-6PM



### **Colter Pass**

Just before you reach Cooke City and Silver Gate, you'll drive over Colter Pass at 8,200 feet above sea level. This tiny community began when residents bought three homestead properties from President Grover Cleveland in 1896 and named the community after famed American mountaineer John Colter. The land changed hands several times until the Western Smelting Power Company purchased the land to mine gold. Today, what was once an in demand "dude ranch," experience is now home to three year-round businesses.

# **Cooke City/Silver Gate**

For decades, Cooke City was known as Miner's Camp, until it was renamed for the Pacific Railroad contractor working to bring the railroad to the mountain camps in the New World Mining District. Like so many western mountain towns, people came and went with the fortunes of mining. Where there was once two smelters, two sawmills, three general stores, two hotels, and a local meat market, is now home to about 100 hardy souls. The tiny town of Silver Gate began when a family that wanted to work on the Beartooth Highway purchased the original land. Instead of coming from mining, the name of Silver Gate came from the silver haze which seemed to shine over the mountains.



# **Cooke City Montana Museum**

The Cooke City Montana Museum has several permanent exhibits on Colter Pass, Cooke City, and Silver Gate, as well as exhibits on the Beartooth Highway, local schools, tourism, local women and winter.

206 Main Street, Cooke City-Silver Gate, MT 59020, 406-838-2203. M-Sat 10AM-5PM, Sun 10AM-4PM, Free

### **Destination Distinctive Dining**

Log Cabin Café 106 US Highway 212, Cooke City-Silver Gate, MT 59081, 406-838-2367 Miners Saloon & Sammie's Café 208 Main Street, Cooke City-Silver Gate, MT 59020, 406-838-2214

Beartooth Café 211 Main Street, Cooke City-Silver Gate, MT 59020, 406-838-2475

### **Destination Distinctive Retail**

Yellowstone Trading Post 101 South Canyon Street, Cooke City-Silver Gate, MT 59020 Cooke City General Store 101 Main Street, Cooke City-Silver Gate, MT 59020, 406-698-8353

Step back in time at this community landmark to learn more about the store's history and view some of the amazing photographs of the area's earlier days.

Sylvia's Sweet Shoppe 109 Main Street, Cooke City-Silver Gate, MT 59020, 406-838-2107



### Yellowstone National Park

The creation of Yellowstone National Park and protection of the astounding resources here was not without challenges. At first, the Park Act called for administration with no cost to the United States. Unfortunately, this did not protect the land and the wildlife from poaching, squatters, and more. When the second superintendent was appointed in 1877, he was able to begin constructing roads, appoint a "gamekeeper," and campaign against hunters and vandals. When that still didn't work, the U.S. Army arrived in 1886 to develop and enforce regulations, evict troublemakers, and patrol park lands. Finally, recognizing that America's National Parks needed cohesive management, the National Park Service was established in 1916.

Fortunately for visitors since then, Yellowstone has remained a beautiful place with incredible wildlife and more thermal features than anywhere else in the world. It is best to allow at least a whole day to travel each of the two Park loop roads. If you enjoy stopping at Visitor Centers and the natural attractions, it may take at least two days to thoroughly explore each loop. Accommodations are located in six different locations, affording a lot of flexibility for overnight stays. Coming in from the Northeast Entrance, you'll pass the Yellowstone Association Institute before you reach **Tower-Roosevelt.** There is no actual Visitor Center here, but the Roosevelt Lodge serves as accommodations at this location, which is likely the best place to stay before taking the northern park loop drive tomorrow. Stagecoach rides are available as well.

### DAY FIVE

# Northern Loop Road

From Tower Roosevelt, drive the 19 miles to **Canyon Village**, which will take about an hour. Here you will find the **Canyon Visitor Education Center** where you can learn about the geologic story of the area, including the Yellowstone volcano, and view a room-size relief map of the Park. Be sure to watch the 20-minute film. Restrooms are available 24 hours a day. 307-344-2550

The **Canyon Lodge** complex with showers, a laundry, a post office, dining, and other services, a serves as accommodations here. The **North Rim Scenic Drive** takes you to Inspiration Point along the Yellowstone River and the **South Rim Scenic Drive** takes you to Artist Point. There are also views of the Upper Falls. Next up is the Norris Geyser Basin, home to the **Norris Geyser Basin Museum and Information Center** overlooking the Geyser Basin. This historic 1930s building was constructed to serve as a "trailside museum" for people traveling in their own cars without a guide. Restrooms are located in the parking lot. 307-344-2812

There is a side trip available to the **Norris Campground and Museum of the National Park Ranger.** This facility, built in 1908, is staffed by retired park rangers who celebrate the history of the Park Ranger profession. After visiting here, you'll be headed through the basin to view the steam vents and geysers in this area.



From there, it's time to head to **Mammoth Hot Springs**, which will take about an hour to drive the 21 miles. Walk on the upper and lower boardwalks above the steaming hydrothermal features or take a drive around the vibrant travertine terraces. Approximately 50 hot springs lie within the area.

This area is also home to the **Albright Visitor Center, Historic Fort Yellowstone, the Mammoth Springs Hotel,** the **Upper Terrace Drive,** and the headquarters of Yellowstone National Park. Explore exhibits to learn more about the wildlife and history of Yellowstone and check the ranger programs on offer. The visitor center has free Wi-Fi. 307-344-2263. This is likely the best place to spend the evening so you can take the second Park loop road tomorrow.

Mammoth Hot Springs Hotel, built in 1936, was added to a 1911 wing of guest rooms that included the signature Map Room with a large wooden map of the United States constructed of 15 different kinds of wood from nine countries. Don't be surprised if you spot elk grazing outside the hotel.



#### DAY SIX

From Mammoth Hot Springs, you can take US 89 North to connect with US 191 on the way to West Yellowstone, Montana. The desk and backcountry office is staffed by National Park Service rangers, summers and winters, and year-round by the West Yellowstone Chamber of Commerce. Bathrooms are available. 307-344-2876

# South Park Loop Road

Next up is Madison, home to the **Madison Information Center and Trailside Museum.** Located about halfway between Old Faithful and West Yellowstone, this structure is a good example of "parkitecture" from the 1930s. You can sign up for a ranger program and use the bathrooms. 307-344-2821. Between Madison and Old Faithful, take the **Firehole Canyon Drive** and **Firehole Lake Drive** to the Fountain Paint Pot, Lower Geyser Basin, Midway Geyser Basin, Biscuit Basin, Black Sand Basin and the Upper Geyser Basin right at Old Faithful. While exploring the **Old Faithful Visitor Education Center,** marvel at the famous Old Faithful Geyser from the tall front windows. Delve into the natural wonders of Yellowstone in the exhibit hall, check the ranger programs on offer, and use the restrooms. 307-344-2751

Now it's over to **West Thumb and Grant Village**, both of which sit at the edge of Yellowstone Lake. Grant Village is likely the best place for tonight's accommodations. The small facility at the start of the West Thumb Geyser Basin boardwalks, built in 1925, is a good example of historic ranger-station architecture. 307-242-7690. At the **Grant Village Visitor Center**, you can learn more about Yellowstone's fires, which have had a significant impact on the park. Ranger programs and restrooms are also available. 307-344-2650

### DAY SEVEN

This morning head back north from Grant Village, past the **Bridge Bay Marina** and the Lake area, and on to the **Fishing Bridge Visitor Information Center and Trailside Museum.** The distinctive stone-and-log architecture of this old building—known as "parkitecture"—was one of several prototypes for park buildings around the country. Today, the museum highlights the ecology of Yellowstone Lake. 307-344-2450. At this point, you have traveled virtually all the roads in Yellowstone National Park. It's most convenient at this point to exit the Park by the East Entrance, which will put you on the road back to Montana.

### **Yellow Bus Tours**

If you don't want to drive all of Yellowstone's roads, the best way to tour is to take the Yellow Bus vintage White Motor Company buses that ferry visitors on guided wildlife-watching tours, photo safaris, sunset tours, and more. The distinctive antique yellow vehicles have retractable canvas roofs and panoramic windows, making them ideal for sightseeing.

