



Guide's Guide™

# Jackson Hole Vacation Planner

2014 EDITION

## Welcome!

We hope this planner will help you create a great itinerary to Jackson Hole and the Greater Yellowstone Area. This guide is meant as a starting point for your research into where to stay, what to do and things you should not miss while in Jackson Hole. The information included in this vacation planner is based on years of personal experience here in Jackson Hole and the feedback of thousands of guests throughout the years. The suggestions included in this planner, including the suggested businesses, are not paid advertisements. The businesses, activities and events have been included at no charge based on our experience and the experience of other travelers. These are the places we frequent, we like or that we have heard from our guests to be excellent. Be aware that just because we didn't include something doesn't mean it's bad and anything in here could change for the worse. Management, employees and quality can always change but we have done our best to steer you in the right direction. If you think something should be included or something should be removed feel free to email us your suggestions.

We hope you enjoy our vacation planner and most importantly that you have a great vacation to Jackson Hole.

## Fun Facts:

- Yellowstone is larger than Delaware and Rhode Island combined!
- Jackson Hole is named after the trapper and explorer, Davey Jackson!
- Grand Teton National Park is named for the highest peak in the Teton Range!



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## Getting Here

Jackson Hole is a remote mountain valley tucked between five mountain ranges in northwest Wyoming. There are four main roads that will get you into the area with all but the southerly route requiring a trip over one or more high mountain passes. You can also fly into the Jackson Hole airport, the only commercial airport inside a national park. Direct flights can be found from several major cities depending on season and carrier but most tickets will require at least one stop along the way.



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## Where To Stay

Jackson Hole is home to countless hotels, motels, luxury lodges and bed and breakfasts that will provide you with safe, comfortable and often luxurious base for your adventures in the greater Yellowstone area. Before you consider what property is best for your vacation it is important to understand the basics of the geography of Jackson Hole. First and foremost, Jackson Hole is a huge valley in Northwest Wyoming named after an early settler and trapper, Davey Jackson. Within Jackson Hole you will find the town of Jackson, Wilson, Moose, Kelly, Moran and a large portion of Grand Teton National Park. We have included the location of each location and subdivided them into three sections according to geography.

Below is a list of our favorite place to stay based on our personal experience and feedback from our clients over the years (Hotels not listed below may be as good or better – we just don't have enough feedback to include them on our list) Our recommendations for you depends on two factors; your budget and where in Jackson Hole you want to be. The two main choices are between the town of Jackson and Teton Village 15 minutes outside of town at the base of Jackson Hole Mountain Resort. There are also some amazing places both north and south of Jackson that include dude ranches, park hotels and rental houses. Below we will offer suggestions by area and budget. Rates at all properties are highly seasonal and will vary significantly depending on when you are planning to visit. \$ Budget lodging, \$\$ Mid-level lodging, \$\$\$ Premium lodging.



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## Town of Jackson

**Cowboy Village** \$ (Jackson) With 82 well-appointed cabins and two spacious lodge rooms the Cowboy Village Resort is the ultimate in convenience. Easy accessibility to the area's activities bring our guests back, year after year. The Cowboy Village is only 15 minutes from Grand Teton National Park. Jackson Hole Airport, serviced by most major airlines, is only 10 minutes away and Yellowstone National Park is a spectacular hour's drive along the Teton Range. Join us at the Cowboy Village Resort!

**Hampton Inn** \$\$ (Jackson) "This hotel in Jackson Hole, WY offers modern accommodations and premier amenities, to make your stay as enjoyable as possible. Stay fit in the fitness center with cardio machines. Stay on top of work in the business center with fax, printing and photocopying services. Start the day with Hampton's free hot breakfast, or grab one of our free Hampton On the Run Breakfast Bags, available Monday through Friday."

**Homewood Suites** \$\$ (Jackson) Located at the heart of the historic Jackson Hole valley in Wyoming, our Jackson Hole hotel offers easy access to everything Jackson has to offer. Discover a fantastic range of snow sports, eclectic shopping, galleries and an array of superb restaurants. Our Jackson Hole hotel is near some of Jackson Hole's most popular attractions, including Grand Teton National Park and Yellowstone National Park and is only 20 minutes away from Jackson Hole Airport (JAC).



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**Lodge at Jackson Hole** \$\$ (Jackson) Situated in the heart of Jackson, a short drive away from bustling Town Square, is Jackson's newest luxurious hotel. In early 2012 this Jackson resort completed a multimillion dollar renovation project, boasting lavish room enhancements and state-of-the-art amenities. Whether you are visiting the area to experience world-renowned skiing, snowmobiling, and sledding during the winter months, or exceptional fly fishing, hiking, or rafting during the summer, The Lodge at Jackson Hole is the premier Jackson Hole, Wyoming lodging choice for the adventurous soul.

**Rustic Inn** \$\$\$ (Jackson) Located on seven lush acres adjacent to the National Elk Refuge and just a few blocks from Jackson's lively town square, the Rustic Inn Creekside Resort & Spa welcomes guests with warm Western hospitality. Outdoor enthusiasts and hedonists alike indulge in the lavishly appointed historic lodging accommodations and luxury log cabins, state of the art resort amenities, revitalizing spa, innovative cuisine, year-round Wyoming activities and an idyllic setting.

**Rusty Parrot** \$\$\$ (Jackson) Like the town itself, the Rusty Parrot is a paradox: A family-run 30-room lodge that's one of the top small luxury hotels in the world. It caters to the traveler—not the tourist. The owners and staff delight in sharing inside information about the town and area they love. Their passion for Jackson Hole and personal attention to guests just isn't found at larger hotels. Earning the AAA Four-Diamond award for eighteen years in a row attests to that passion.



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**Snow King Resort** \$\$ (Jackson) Located in the heart of Wyoming ski country, Snow King Resort offers a variety of lodging options unique to the average Jackson Hole Wyoming hotel. These options include comfortable Jackson Hole lodging at the Snow King Resort Hotel, the adjacent Snow King Condominiums and luxurious Jackson Hole Resort lodging at Love Ridge Resort Lodges. Only 6 blocks from downtown Jackson Wyoming, Snow King Resort, surrounded by the Bridger Teton National Forest, is walking distance from shopping, restaurants, and a multitude of fine art.

**Town Square Inns** \$ (Jackson) Looking for the place to stay in Jackson Hole? Look no further. With four in-town locations and over 400 rooms, the Town Square Inns have more options to meet your style and budget than any other hotelier in town.

**White Buffalo Club** \$\$\$ (Jackson) The White Buffalo Club is the newest luxury hotel in Jackson, Wyoming. The White Buffalo Club, only three blocks from the town square, provides a private restaurant, fitness club, and spa to its members and hotel guests. Nowhere in Jackson will you find superior lodging accommodations, dining or relaxation. The hotel was completed in 2008 and has the most unique floor plans of any hotel in Jackson. Combine the perfect accommodations with the perfect location and you have the recipe for a perfect Jackson vacation.

**Wort Hotel** \$\$\$ (Jackson) Jackson Hole's historic Four Diamond Wort Hotel, listed on the National Register of Historic Places, is an elegant boutique hotel rich in history. Just off the Town Square, The Wort Hotel is in the center of restaurants, nightlife & shopping in Jackson Hole, Wyoming.



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## Teton Village

**Four Seasons Jackson Hole** (Teton Village) \$\$\$ A world of adventure awaits at Four Seasons Resort Jackson Hole. Enjoy spacious lodge-style accommodations with ski-in/ski-out access, restaurants that capture the flavor of the American West, a full-service spa, and outdoor activities galore.

**Hotel Terra** \$\$\$ While Jackson Hole, Wyoming invites exploration and adventure, this pristine environment also inspires much needed rest and relaxation. With this in mind, our Teton Village hotel features supremely comfortable guest rooms and suites and thoughtful amenities and services for a unique lodging experience at the entrance to Grand Teton National Park. A flickering fireplace, stunning views, beautiful spaces lit with natural sunlight, plush hotel amenities and caring service come together to offer the kind of mountain getaway you truly deserve.

**Snake River Lodge** \$\$ The Snake River Lodge & Spa has guest accommodations to fit everyone's lodging needs. Select from 125 beautifully appointed traditional hotel guestrooms and suites. We also feature 30 two, three and four bedroom residences with full kitchens ranging from 1,400 – 4,500 square feet.

**Teton Mountain Lodge** \$\$ Located slope side to legendary Jackson Hole ski slopes and just a mile from Grand Teton National Park, we welcome you to discover our four diamond Jackson Hole lodge. Situated in the heart of Teton Village, our lodge offers alpine luxury mixed with Western hospitality, an ideal base camp for your next Rocky Mountain adventure.



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## Other locations within Jackson Hole

[Amangani](#) \$\$\$ (Jackson Hole) Amangani (peaceful home) clings to the crest of East Gros Ventre Butte, some 2,135m above sea level, and affords magnificent views of the Grand Tetons and Snake River Valley below. It was the first Aman resort in North America and evokes the atmosphere of the American West. Amangani is an all-season resort. The winter highlight is skiing, while in spring, summer and fall, the surrounding wilderness areas of Grand Teton and Yellowstone National Parks are amongst the many attractions.

[Apex Property Management](#) \$\$\$ Apex specializes in a foundation that provides clientele the highest standard of investment protection, convenience, and personal attention. We provide the Jackson Hole area with the finest luxury rentals, property management and real estate services. We work hard to match owners, tenants, buyers and sellers so that all of their needs are met.

[Bentwood Inn](#) \$\$ (Wilson) The Bentwood Inn is constructed with massive 200 year old logs brought in from Yellowstone National Park. This architectural splendor touches the senses – grand, luxurious, relaxing, cozy – are just a few of the comments our guests have made. Whether you are looking at the massive three story high river rock fireplace or settling into one of the inn's cozy rooms with personal fireplaces and spa tubs to help you unwind, you too will feel your senses touched. This is the place you were looking for. This is the romance you have read about in novels.





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[Clear Creek Group](#) \$\$\$ (Jackson Hole) You know you would like a private home, but how will you choose? At The Clear Creek Group we're here to help you find a luxury rental home ideally suited for your Jackson Hole vacation. Peruse our portfolio, which contains some of the most exceptional homes in the valley, then give us a call.

[Spring Creek Ranch](#) \$\$ (Jackson) Let Spring Creek Ranch be your window to the grandeur of the West. At Spring Creek Ranch we offer a wide variety of lodging options to complement any Jackson Hole Vacation. Starting with Inn Rooms for two to Mountain Villas for eight, we will always have the right combination for your Jackson Hole vacation.

[Triangle X Ranch](#) \$\$\$ (Grand Teton National Park) The Triangle X Ranch is an authentic dude ranch and the only operating guest ranch concession in the nation's entire National Park system. An all-inclusive Wyoming dude ranch vacation at Triangle X, offers unparalleled horseback riding and one of the most complete outdoor recreation packages of any facility in the Mountain West.



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## Where to eat

The valley of Jackson Hole is home to around 20,000 people but, with over 4 million visitors a year, has enough restaurants to satisfy a mid-sized city. The variety is amazing given that you are saddling up for a meal in a remote cowboy town in NW Wyoming. Do you want Thai, Sushi, Mexican, Chinese, Japanese, Austrian, Italian or just plain old American? Once you know what you want, which usually takes your typical Jackson Hole local about an hour of back and forth negotiations to figure out, then you hope it's not Friday night or July 4th! The prices for dinner can vary from about \$10.00-\$100.00 per person so each of our recommendations will include 1-3 dollar symbols to give you an idea of cost. \$ is under \$10.00, \$\$ is under \$30.00 and \$\$\$ is over \$50.00. These are estimates based on our own bills and definitely depends on what you order. These are places we like or know are good from our clients. Restaurants can change in quality pretty quick so if they're not on our list they could be pretty good and ones here could go down hill with the change of a chef. With that said this is a good place to start and places we know are favored and frequented by locals.



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## Breakfast

[Bubba's](#) \$ - (Jackson) A good place for a hearty breakfast without breaking the bank. You will see a lot of locals lining up here. If you're on a budget or want to fit in order the working man's special. It's not on the menu.

[The Bunnery](#) \$- (Jackson) Another Jackson Hole classic! During high season there might be a line out the door so get here early or be prepared to wait. Try the Gros Ventre Slide or other locally named dish.

[Creekside Market and Deli](#) \$ (Jackson) This is the place to grab a quick burrito, breakfast sandwich or bagel and a hot cup of locally roasted coffee to get the day started. Also a great place to stock up on sandwiches, supplies and drinks before heading north into the parks.

[D.O.G](#) \$ - (Jackson) Down on Glen, or D.O.G, is the locals go to for a solid breakfast burrito. Order one up with meat or veggies and spicy or mild depending on your taste. A DOG burrito is often all you will need until dinner.

[Nora's Fish Creek Inn](#) \$ - (Wilson) A hearty breakfast in a rustic setting. Saddle up to the bar if you don't want to wait for a table. Either way enjoy a good meal surrounded by locals and tourists alike.



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**Pearl Street Bagels** \$ – (Jackson and Wilson) This locally owned coffee house and bagel shop is a must try. With a location in both Jackson and Wilson you are never too far from a freshly brewed cup of locally roasted coffee or one of their signature bagels. The local's tip here is they don't toast their bagels so don't ask and choose from a variety of house made cream cheese flavors. If you only want a little cream cheese ask for a "schmear".

**Rusty Parrot** \$\$\$ – (Jackson) The Wild Sage's intimate 32-seat gathering room, with its rugged river rock fireplace, has a full view of our exhibition-style kitchen. Regional offerings feature organically grown produce, local game and meats, sustainable fish and seafood, and freshly prepared desserts. Though great for all meals this is a must try for breakfast.

**Terra Cafe** \$ – (Teton Village) Situated inside Hotel Terra, this is a great go to breakfast stop before a day at Jackson Hole Mountain Resort or heading off to explore the region. A varied menu, good food and convenient location in Teton Village make this one of the main go to breakfast and lunch spots in Teton Village.



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## Lunch

**Backcountry Provisions** \$ - (Jackson) Tucked away just off the square, this is a good place to grab a sandwich to take into field.

**Betty Rock** \$ - (Jackson) We might eat lunch here more than anywhere in Jackson! Especially since they introduced their burgers and fries which I think might just be the best in town. They also have a varied menu, fresh baked goods and milkshakes.

**Bon Appe Thai** \$\$ - (Jackson) Just off of town square in Jackson, this small Thai owned and operated restaurant is a popular locals spot for both lunch and dinner.

**Creekside Market** \$ (Jackson) Mentioned above, Nick and his crew provide a one stop shop for anyone heading into the parks and wanting to bring a lunch, snacks or cocktails with them on their journey.

**Dornan's** \$\$ (Moose) This is a classic Jackson Hole eatery located in the middle of Teton Park. They have an amazing wine selection (which you can buy in their retail store and bring into the restaurant with no corkage fee!), good pizza, calzones and salads and most importantly an upper and lower deck that look out over the Snake River and the Teton Range. You will see more than one climber saddled up to the bar here on a summer day.

**Jenny Lake Lodge** \$\$ - (Grand Teton National Park) This historic ranch situated just up from Jenny Lake serves up gourmet food at fast food prices (almost). You might want to call to make a reservation because they fill up fast in the summer.



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[Pinky G Pizza](#) \$ - (Jackson) This is our go to pizza spot in Jackson. Fun, casual, and tasty. You can order whole pies or select flavors by the slice and enjoy a local wine while they heat it up.

[Rising Sage Cafe](#) \$ - (Jackson) Located inside the National Museum of Wildlife Art, the Rising Sage offers a nice menu overlooking the National Elk Refuge and surrounded by one of the best wildlife art collections in the world.

[Sidewinders American Grill](#) \$\$ (Jackson) A local's favorite if your in the mood for a fancy sports bar menu and atmosphere. They have everything from homemade pizzas to Mahi Mahi. This is the place to watch a game since they have more TV's than seats!

[Signal Mountain Lodge](#) \$ - (Grand Teton National Park) This is our go to place when we are out in the park late photographing Grizzlies. The trick here is to skip the line at the restaurant and sit in the bar area (Trapper Bar). The next and most important local trick....order the full nachos and a margarita! People will stare at the mound of food while you will feed your whole family with one order of nachos.

[Silver Dollar Bar/ Wort Hotel](#) \$\$ - (Jackson) The Silver Dollar Bar is both a great lunch and dinner restaurant with great nightlife and live music on select nights throughout the year. In the summer you can sit outside and order off either the bar or restaurant menu anywhere on the deck or in the bar.

[The Spur](#) \$\$ - (Teton Village) Located in Teton Mountain Lodge this is the relaunch of a local's favorite eatery previously called the Cascade. A creative menu, great cocktails and comfortable atmosphere make this a good place for lunch or dinner. Try their bacon Bloody Mary!



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[Sweetwater](#) \$\$ (Jackson) This is one of our go to lunch spots in town. The food is good, the outside seating great when the weather is nice and there are always daily specials to keep things interesting. Try the shrimp po-boy or stuffed avacados.

## Dinner

[Bon Appe Thai](#) \$\$ – (Jackson) Just off of town square in Jackson, this small Thai owned and operated restaurant is a popular locals spot for both lunch and dinner.

[Blue Lion](#) \$\$\$ – (Jackson) A Jackson Hole fixture that feeds as many locals as tourists. Locally owned and operated, this is a great fine dining experience with good food and great service. The local's favorite here is the rack of lamb, their house specialty.

[Dornan's](#) \$\$ – (Moose) Located in the heart of Grand Teton National Park, this is the place to grab lunch, dinner or just a drink after a day of adventure in the park. If you are traveling without kids don't miss their adults only upper deck with stunning views of the Tetons.

[Gun Barrel Steakhouse](#) \$\$ – (Jackson) Housed in a retired wildlife art museum, this is a favorite steak house in Jackson Hole. Not only are all the old mounts and guns on display, they serve reliably good steak and game, always cooked to perfection. Try their Buffalo Prime Rib – it's our favorite cut of meat there!

[Hayden's Post](#) From their cast-iron cinnamon rolls, their bison chili and their elk Bolognese, the options at Hayden's Post startle, soothe and satisfy. They offer market-fresh fruits and vegetables, aged cheeses, healthy choices for varied diets and options for all the little pardners in your posse. Thier meats and fish come from local and regional suppliers.



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**The Kitchen** \$\$ – (Jackson) 'The Kitchen' as it is affectionately called serves up creative modern dishes with fresh ingredients. This is a fun place to go and share several dishes family style. Fan favorites include the Luxury Shrimp, Tuna Tartados and the Pan Seared New Zealand Red Deer.

**Nikai Sushi** \$\$\$ – (Jackson) If you are in the mood for Sushi while in Jackson Hole this is the place. Even if your not in the mood for Sushi you might consider eating here anyway. This is one of our favorites and definitely requires a reservation.

**Osteria** \$\$\$ – (Teton Village) This Italian fine dining restaurant in Hotel Terra is one of our favorite nicer places to have dinner. Make sure to make a reservation as they are packed every night.

**Pica's Mexican Taqueria** \$\$ – (Jackson) Locally owned and operated Tex Mex joint with great food and even better margaritas. We land here a lot when we are in the mood for something fast, fresh and casual.

**Pinky G Pizza** \$ – (Jackson) This is our go to pizza spot in Jackson. Fun, casual, and tasty. You can order whole pies or select flavors by the slice and enjoy a local wine while they heat it up.

**Rendezvous Bistro** \$\$\$ – (Jackson) This is one of the top fine dining restaurants in town yet casual enough that we regularly drop in after a long day of work at the last minute. They have a great menu and friendly service.

**Rusty Parrot** \$\$\$ – (Jackson) The Wild Sage's intimate 32-seat gathering room, with its rugged river rock fireplace, has a full view of their exhibition-style kitchen. Regional offerings feature organically grown produce, local game and meats, sustainable fish and seafood, and freshly prepared desserts.





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**Silver Dollar Bar/ Wort Hotel** \$\$ – (Jackson) The Silver Dollar Bar is both a great lunch and dinner restaurant with great nightlife and live music on select nights throughout the year. In the summer you can sit outside and order off either the bar or restaurant menu anywhere on the deck or in the bar.

**Snake River Grill** \$\$\$ – (Jackson) A Jackson Hole classic fine dining experience. You will definitely need a reservation during the high seasons. The menu changes regularly but tends to include a bit of everything.

**The Spur** \$\$ – (Teton Village) Located in Teton Mountain Lodge this is the relaunch of a local's favorite eatery previously called the Cascade. A creative menu, great cocktails and comfortable atmosphere make this a good place for lunch or dinner. Try their bacon Bloody Mary!

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**Teton Thai** \$\$ (Teton Village) Owned by a young local couple, Teton Thai has quickly become a Jackson Hole fixture. Whether for lunch or dinner, you will love these traditional Thai dishes made by Thai people. The local's trick here is the spice scale of 1-5 stars. 0 is no spice and 5 is heeding to go to the hospital hot. They will usually not serve new customers much over a 3.

**Trio** \$\$\$ - (Jackson) Another favorite of ours and locally owned by a couple young chefs. The wood fired dishes are both creative and delicious but don't miss the Blue Cheese waffles fries! They are the reason we go in as often as we do.

**West Bank Grill** \$\$\$ - (Teton Village) This is one of the top fine dining restaurants in Jackson Hole. Located in the Four Seasons Resort Jackson Hole, this is a great choice for an elegant experience and great food. Use the free valet and show up early for a drink in their bar just off the lobby.

## Dessert

**Coco Love** \$ - (Jackson) This locally owned dessert and gelato shop serves up gourmet treats from world chocolate master Chef Oscar Ortega. Everything served is handmade in Jackson Hole at Ortega's main kitchen on Scott Lane, Atelier Ortega.

**Atelier Ortega** \$ - (Jackson) This is world chocolate master Oscar Ortega's flagship kitchen that supplies his confections to dozens of retailers including his other location Cocoa Love. See cutting edge showpieces on display as his team trains for international competition while producing the best desserts you will ever try.

**Moo's Ice Cream** \$ - (Jackson) Located right on town square serving locally made ice cream, made with organic cream and fresh fruits. Try one of their local flavor like their famous wild huckleberry or wild blueberry. A Jackson Hole classic!



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## Summer Activities

Jackson Hole was recognized as an outdoor paradise by the native Americans that first explored the area thousands of years before the first white mountain men stumbled upon the valley. These lucky first inhabitants were here to hunt, fish, trap and explore the rugged terrain and enjoy the abundance of natural resources. As the early white explorers trapped, hunted and mapped the region, it didn't take long before word got out and tourism in Jackson Hole was born. Urbanites from the eastern cities made their way to this remote corner of northwest Wyoming to enjoy the impressive vistas and bounty of fish and game in the name of sport. These travelers needed guides to the area and the first trappers stepped in to fill the niche. Over time dude ranches were built to house and feed the guests in addition to roads, trails and passes through the mountains. With time newer outdoor pursuits were being realized including rafting, climbing and skiing. Today Jackson Hole is home to two of the world's most famous national parks, world class skiing, hiking, fishing, climbing, horseback riding, snowmobiling and wildlife viewing all in a place that has been carefully protected allowing guests today to enjoy the abundance experienced by the earliest explorers. This has made Jackson Hole one of the global leaders in sustainable tourism.

The easiest way to organize activities for the sake of vacation planning to Jackson Hole is by summer or winter. The spring and fall get divided into these categories depending on the specific activities and seasonality of the valley. Summer season is defined by the classic outdoor activities like fishing, hunting, horseback riding, wildlife viewing and rafting. Most of these will fall in both spring and fall but we still lump them into summer. The "summer" season typically starts on May 1 and lasts

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through October. The winter season in Jackson Hole is set by the opening and closing dates of Jackson Hole Mountain Resort, typically Thanksgiving to the first week in April. It is during this time that you can find the classic winter activities at their best like skiing, snowshoeing, snowmobiling, dog sledding, sleigh rides onto the National Elk Refuge and opportunities to find the abundant wintering wildlife of the valley.

Some activities can be enjoyed all year including photography and wildlife tours that are offered year-round; however, it is important to note that some park roads and local businesses are closed for the off seasons including most of Yellowstone National Park. It is best to check on the seasonal closure dates and ask specific questions about what is available if you are coming at any time except the middle of summer.

With all that in mind here is a list of our favorite 'must do' activities and our favorite vendors. These suggestions are not advertisements and those included didn't pay to be mentioned. These suggestions are from our personal knowledge of the companies and their staff. As mentioned above, things can change quickly from company to company so those listed could always go downhill and those not included are not necessarily bad. It is our philosophy when choosing an activity provider, the company and especially the guides can make or break a trip. Always check each company's guide page and see who they hire. The best companies will have the best guides! We also tend to lean towards local family owned companies as they will have lower annual turnover and the most knowledgeable local staff.



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## National Park Tours and Wildlife Safaris

[Jackson Hole Wildlife Safaris](#) This guide owned and operated tour company strives to educate, entertain and connect guests with this amazing place we call home. Their mission is to provide you with the highest quality wildlife tours and photo safaris by combining their love for this area with a desire to share this passion with you. They have gained a reputation for providing guests with once in a lifetime experiences and helping them gain a deeper understanding of the geology, history and ecology of the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem. Jackson Hole Wildlife Safaris is owned and operated by Jason Williams, a veteran Jackson Hole guide. He is also the founder of Guide's Guide publishing and author of this vacation planning guide!

## Rafting

Rafting in Jackson Hole is offered on several stretches of the Snake River from the Jackson Lake dam in Grand Teton National Park to Palisades Lake south of Jackson Hole. Most of the river is relatively calm and scenic float trips are offered on several stretches ranging in length from 8 to 13 miles. These trips typically last about 3-4 hours round trip with about 1.50 to 3 hours on the water. All of the commercial whitewater trips in Jackson Hole float an 8.5 mile long section of the river south of town through the Snake River Canyon.

[Jackson Hole Whitewater](#) Hands down the best whitewater company in Jackson Hole! They are family owned and operated, have specially designed rafts made to the guide's specifications and most importantly they have the most experienced guides on the river. A whitewater trip down the Snake River is a must do while enjoying the area in the summer.



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[Teton Expeditions](#) "For over 46 years Teton Expeditions has shared our knowledge of the river with the visitors of Jackson Hole. Our commitment to quality and customer satisfaction is unsurpassed. Please join us for an adventure that you will remember for a lifetime." They operate a 13 mile scenic float down the 'Wilson to South Park' section of the Snake River which is home the highest concentration of Bald Eagle nests in Jackson Hole. A great option is their safari-river combo trip with an early morning in Grand Teton National Park in search of big game and then an afternoon float to see the southern half of Jackson Hole by boat.

## Fishing

[Reel Deal Anglers](#) This company was founded and is operated by our friend and experienced Jackson Hole guide, Rhett Bain. They have brought a new level of service and professionalism to guided fishing in Jackson Hole. "With Reel Deal Anglers JH, explore the best fly fishing in the Jackson Hole and Pinedale Wyoming area. We are a small family owned company that focuses on quality not quantity. Our team of professional guides will show you the best public and private waters to fish in Western Wyoming. We subscribe to sustainable fishing practices so our waters are never over fished and the trout will be here for generations to come. Our access is some of the most desired fishing waters found anywhere in the world. If you are looking for pristine, quiet and beautiful places to fish without the crowds, then come see what we're all about."

[Teton TroutFitters](#) We have worked with these guys over the years and our clients have had a great experience. We recommend requesting our friend, Mike McCloud, who is a master fly fisherman and extremely experienced Jackson Hole guide.



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## Hiking

Jackson Hole and Grand Teton National Park offers some of the best hiking in the region. Well maintained trails will take you off the beaten path to hidden lakes, waterfalls and lesser visited places to enjoy alone with your friends and family. The rangers at any visitor center are great assets to use when planning hikes in the area. They will have ideas, maps and current trail conditions plus weather updates. Remember that this is bear country so make sure to learn how to travel safely in bear country by making noise (especially in places with dense vegetation), hike in a group, and always carry bear spray. A lot of visitors to the area are nervous about hiking because of the bears but if you follow the basics of being 'bear aware' the chances of even seeing a bear are extremely low. Another option is to hire a guide or join a ranger lead hike offered free throughout the parks daily.

**Jackson Hole Llamas** Llama trekking is a great way to explore the area on foot. Jackson Hole Llamas offers both single and multi-day hikes using llamas to carry gear while accessing remote parts of the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem. If you want to get into the backcountry for a night or two this is a great option for part of your vacation. The owners of the company, Jill and Dave, are great people and experienced professionals. We have been on two multi-day trips in Yellowstone with them and had a blast both times.

**Jackson Hole Wildlife Safaris** Join an experienced local guide for a private, fully customized hiking experience in Yellowstone National Park. We offer full day and multi-day lodge based hiking safaris that will put you into some of the most remote country in America! The exact routes, trails and itineraries will be tailored to your areas of interest, fitness level and schedule.



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## Horseback Riding

[Bob Barlow Outfitting](#) If you want to ride with a real Wyoming cowboy then Bob is the man to call. His small owner operated outfit located just south of Jackson is well run and provides guests with a great horseback experience. One of the best deals going is Bob's overnight adventures to his remote camp in the Wyoming Range. Learn about the area and camp in style with one of the best guides in Jackson Hole!

[Spring Creek Ranch](#) Located just outside of town, the Spring Creek stables are a great place to take the family for a short trail ride with great views and solid horses. Check out their 'Paddle and Saddle' package with Jackson Hole Whitewater for an action packed day on the trail and river.

[Triangle X Ranch](#) This is one of Jackson Hole's oldest and most classic businesses not to mention one of the largest and well known horse packing outfits in the United States! Owned and operated by the Turner family, they offer extended stay western experiences and multi-day backcountry horseback trips into some of the wildest country in North America.

## Mountain Biking

Jackson Hole is quickly becoming a mountain biking destination! The trail network here is outstanding with everything from beginner trails to advanced downhill courses that climb and descend through stunning mountain terrain. In addition to the hundreds of miles of great free riding from a number of area trailheads, you can also enjoy brand new lift served biking at all three local ski areas.





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There are several places to rent bikes in the area and to hire guides if you would like someone to show you around. Check with the companies listed below for maps, prices and equipment.

**Fitzgerald's Bicycles:** These guys know the game and have a great rental fleet. They also have a full service shop and retail shop if you're in need of anything.

**Hoback Sports:** This is one of the larger locally owned bike shops in Jackson. They have a knowledgeable staff, good bikes and they offer both rentals and guided bike tours.

**Teton Mountain Bike Tours:** Located right on the north edge of Jackson at the start of the new bike path leading into Grand Teton, they are a great option for both bike rentals for a self guided adventure. They also offer guided tours into the park if you would like someone to show you around.

**Wilson Backcountry Sports:** This is one of our favorite bike shops in Jackson Hole. They are located right at the base of Teton Pass which is riding distance from a great trail network. They have maps, rentals and a full service shop and retail shop.

## Shooting

**Jackson Hole Shooting Experience:** NRA Appointed Training Counselor Shepard Humphries & NRA Certified Instructor Lynn Sherwood are at the helm of the Jackson Hole Shooting Experience and enthusiastically share their passion for shooting. Regardless of your experience or skill level, they will "meet you where you are" and provide a Shooting Experience you'll not soon forget!



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## Scenic Flights

[Teton Aviation](#) (Driggs, Idaho) Soar the Tetons on one of our scenic glider rides and experience this beautiful mountain range from a birds-eye view. Enjoy a leisurely soar and let the magic of motorless flight in one of the world's most awe-inspiring scenic areas provide you with the adventure of a lifetime. Or, for groups up to three people, enjoy a powered tour of area mountain ranges in a Cessna. We are dedicated to providing the safest, most comfortable and enjoyable flights possible. We use these guys for photographic flights and they run a great operation! Plan on having lunch at the Warbird's Cafe at the airport and spend a few minutes looking at their display of combat aircraft.

## Summer Attractions

[Aerial Tram - Jackson Hole Mountain Resort](#) (May-Sept. dates will vary) This is what flying feels like. In 15 minutes, the Aerial Tram glides 4,139 vertical feet from the base of Teton Village to the top of Rendezvous Mountain. The summit offers a staggering 360-degree view of the Snake River Valley, Grand Teton National Park and the Gros Ventre Range in the distance. Even the summit of the Grand feels close from this high up.

[Bar J Chuckwagon](#) "Originated on a working cattle ranch, the Bar J Chuckwagon takes you back to the spirit of the old west with a relaxing atmosphere, rib stickin' meal and authentic cowboy entertainment. The Bar J Wranglers will entertain the entire family as they take you down memory trail with songs, stories, comedy, yodeling, fiddling and more!" Though this might seem like a cheesy thing to do, the Bar J Wranglers put on quite a show and even locals go to watch.



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**Bar T 5 Covered Wagon Cookout** This is a great family activity that the kids will love. Who wouldn't want to ride in a covered wagon, get attacked by indians, eat dinner in the woods and then enjoy some entertainment around the campfire?

**Jackson Hole Rodeo** The Jackson Hole Rodeo is regularly held at the Teton County Fairgrounds on Wednesday and Saturday evenings from Memorial Day through Labor Day. "Rodeo has been a part of Jackson Hole since the first settlers arrived and no vacation to Jackson would be complete without experiencing why! Come on down to the rodeo grounds and take part in over 100 years of true cowboy culture! See you at the rodeo!"

**Jackson Hole Historical Society Museum** Located right in town on North Cache, the new museum is a great place to learn about the people and history of Jackson Hole. Definitely worth a visit if you want to know more about the pioneers that settled and explored this valley.

**Jackson Hole Museum of Wildlife Art** Located just north of town looking out over the National Elk Refuge, the Museum of Wildlife Art is home to one of the most complete collections of wildlife art in the world. There is always a traveling exhibit as well as a gift shop and restaurant. For kids they have a great play area that allows them to try their hand at different art projects while learning about wildlife and the natural world.

**Snowking Mountain** This is a great place to bring the family if you are looking for something to do in town. They have a chairlift to the top of the hill, an alpine slide and a mini-golf course.



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## Shopping and Galleries

Jackson Hole is home to dozens of small independently owned shops, art galleries and studios. Start from town square and walk in two blocks in all directions to find some great hidden gems and carefully crafted home furnishings, fine art and clothing. Since everyone has different tastes this is just a small selection of shops and galleries that I think are worth a visit and should only serve as a starting point for your Jackson Hole shopping expedition.

**Astoria Fine Art** Located on the town square in beautiful Jackson Hole, Wyoming, is one of the West's premier fine art galleries. Currently featuring original works by artists, both contemporary and historical, from 20 states and 5 countries, our selection is unsurpassed in variety and quality.

**Brookover Gallery** Located in the heart of Jackson this gallery features some of the finest landscape photography in the west by photographer David Brookover. David is one of our favorite photographers and is an expert print maker using traditional processes to create unique, often one of a kind, prints. He is often at the gallery and extremely friendly and welcoming so stop in and see a true master.

**Heather James Fine Art** Located on Cache, just steps away from the town square this gallery focuses on a wide breadth of genres including cultural art and antiquities, Impressionist and Modern, Post-War and Contemporary, American and Latin American Masters, Old Masters, cutting-edge Contemporary and Photography. Designed by internationally renowned architect Dianna Wong, the gallery spans 3600 square feet and encompasses five main exhibition spaces in addition to five smaller gallery spaces.



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**Horizon Fine Art** Located a half of a block off of the Town Square, Horizon invites you to come and experience a new and different approach to showcasing fine art. Horizon encourages both first time buyers and experienced collectors to peruse a gallery that has both international and regional art. They feature painting, photography, sculpture, jewelry, woodworking and fine furnishings. This is one of our favorite galleries in Jackson with a wide range of styles, mediums and price points and the owner is always extremely friendly.

**Images of Nature Gallery** Located a block north of town square, the Images of Nature Gallery features the work of famous wildlife and conservation photographer Tom Mangelsen. Tom has galleries all over the country but this is his home town gallery with a lot of the shots you will see coming from the Greater Yellowstone Area. Tom is a great guy, great artist and best of all humble. You will probably see him shooting in the parks and won't even know you are standing next to one of the most prolific photographers alive today.

**Made Jackson Hole** Located just off town square in Gaslight Alley, this inviting shop has a relaxed contemporary atmosphere in the heart of Jackson Hole. MADE features a unique selection of handmade goods for the house, office, gift and individual. This locally owned small business is especially known for their collection of made in Wyoming items including the ever popular glass belt buckles made by the owner of the shop.

**Mountain Trails Gallery** Long recognized as one of the premiere fine art galleries of the West, Mountain Trails Gallery proudly represents many of the most renowned contemporary and western artists of our time. The gallery features an eclectic mix of representational and impressionist paintings and sculpture as well as a broad selection of western artifact reproductions.



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## Summer Events 2014

The best up to the date source for events in Jackson is [JacksonHoleChamber.com](http://JacksonHoleChamber.com). The information below is from their website and is subject to change so when making plans make sure to check their site for any changes. The events below are only a few of the great events offered in Jackson Hole each summer (although the ones listed are definitely our favorites).

[Town Square Shootout](#) – Monday – Saturday, 6:00pm. Watch a lively reenactment of frontier justice on the Jackson Town Square in what is the longest, continuously running shootout show in the country!

[Jackson Hole Rodeo](#) – Wednesday & Saturday evenings, The rodeo is regularly held on each Wednesday and Saturday during the summer season at the Teton County Fairgrounds. The 4th of July Rodeo is a fine western tradition and a wonderful way to spend an evening as the sun sets over the Teton Range.

[July 4th](#) This is probably my overall favorite holiday in Jackson Hole. If you are in Jackson over the 4th then even as the owner of an activity company I have to give you one piece of advice.....don't plan any activities on the 4th! There is so much cool, fun and free things to do in Jackson Hole that I have to recommend staying in town and enjoy the festivities. Everything is family friendly and both tourists and locals alike will be out in the streets. A current schedule of events can be found on the [Jackson Hole Chamber of Commerce website](#).



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**Jackson Hole Art Fair** — July 11-13 & August 8-10, 2013. Established in 1965, Art Fair Jackson Hole brings diverse forms of art to a community that is rich in western history. The summer Art Fairs are family-oriented events that feature up to 170 international, national and local artists, live music, food and snack booths and hands-on art activities. AFJH attracts enthusiastic members of the public from our immediate community and from across the nation who are interested in supporting the visual arts. This is a great event that runs twice each summer and a fun time to be in town!

Friday 10am-6pm, Saturday 10am-6pm, Sunday 10am-4pm

.Miller Park, corner of Millward Street and Deloney Avenue

.\$3 per day for Art Association members \$5 per day for non-members

**Teton County Fair** — July 18 - 27. Who doesn't love a good old country fair? This is a fun event filled with rodeos, rides, farm animals, demolition derbies, pig wrestling and fireworks! This is a great family event and a must do for anyone coming to Jackson Hole during this week.



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**Fall Arts Festival** — September 4 – September 14. The Jackson Hole Fall Arts Festival is widely recognized as one of the premier cultural events in the Rocky Mountain West. Thousands of art enthusiasts are drawn each year to experience the diverse artwork and breathtaking natural surroundings that make Jackson Hole a leading cultural center. Experience the world-class installments of contemporary, culinary, landscape, Native American, wildlife, and Western, arts. Visitors will appreciate the works of nationally and internationally acclaimed artists along with an exceptional array of art, music, cuisine, and wine. More than fifty events round out our eleven-day festival. Visit [The Jackson Hole Chamber Events Website](#) for an updated list of events.





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## Winter Activities

### National Park Tours and Wildlife Safaris

[Jackson Hole Wildlife Safaris](#) This guide owned and operated tour company strives to educate, entertain and connect guests with this amazing place we call home. Their mission is to provide you with the highest quality wildlife tours and photo safaris by combining their love for this area with a desire to share this passion with you. They have gained a reputation for providing guests with once in a lifetime experiences and helping them gain a deeper understanding of the geology, history and ecology of the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem. Jackson Hole Wildlife Safaris is owned and operated by Jason Williams, a veteran Jackson Hole guide. He is also the founder of Guide's Guide publishing and author of this vacation planning guide!

[Elk Refuge Sleigh Ride](#) Join the family owned and operated Bar T 5 Ranch for a horse drawn sleigh ride onto the National Elk Refuge. You will get up close and personal with one of the largest elk herds in the world as they winter in Jackson Hole. This is a must do for everyone coming to Jackson Hole in the winter. The trips leave from the Jackson Hole Visitor center on the north end of town (worth a visit anyway). Tickets are sold at the counter inside or take a Best of Jackson Hole Safari with Jackson Hole Wildlife Safaris that includes the sleigh ride!



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## Snowmobiling

[Jackson Hole Snowmobile Tours](#) This family owned and operated company has great guides, equipment and permits that will give you the best snowmobile experience available in Jackson Hole and Yellowstone National Park. Choose between several choices ranging from Granite Hot Springs where you can ride off-trail and soak in natural thermal pools or a Yellowstone National Park tour ranging from 1 to 4 days. They also have permits for the Greys River and Togwotee Pass which are home to some of the best snowmobiling in the world.

## Dogsledding

[Jackson Hole Iditarod Sled Dog Tours](#) Owned and operated by Iditarod veteran Frank Teasley, Jackson Hole Iditarod is hands down the best sled dog outfit in Jackson Hole. Their base is located at the mouth of Granite Canyon allowing for half and full day trips up into the mountains with a full day option to go 10 miles up canyon to soak in Granite Hot Springs. Make sure to book in advance as this is a popular activity and company and are full most days in the winter!

## Shooting

[Jackson Hole Shooting Experience:](#) NRA Appointed Training Counselor Shepard Humphries & NRA Certified Instructor Lynn Sherwood are at the helm of the Jackson Hole Shooting Experience and enthusiastically share their passion for shooting. Regardless of your experience or skill level, they will "meet you where you are" and provide a Shooting Experience you'll not soon forget!



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## Downhill Skiing

There are 3 ski resorts in the Jackson Hole area. The largest and most famous is Jackson Hole Mountain Resort or 'the mountain' as it's known locally. Recognized as the best ski resort in the United States, this is a must ski for skiers and a must see for everyone else. The most historic, but smallest of the resorts, is the Snow King or 'town hill'. If you are standing in town looking up at the runs that drop right down into town, you have found Snow King. Depending on conditions Snow King can be a great place to spend a day and is the only resort in the area that offers night skiing. The third ski resort is Grand Targhee or 'the Ghee'. This mid-sized resort is located just outside of Jackson Hole on the West side of the Tetons. Consequently, being on the windward side of the range, Grand Targhee tend to get quite a bit more snow. The resort also has a lot more moderate terrain making this a great spot to visit for intermediate skiers that want a little more acreage at their level.

### [Jackson Hole Mountain Resort](#)

### [Snow King](#)

### [Grand Targhee](#)

## Cross Country Skiing

There are countless places to cross country ski in Jackson Hole. From the groomed trails at Jackson Hole Mountain Resort to exploring Grand Teton National Park, there are great options for all experience and fitness levels. Rental skis and boots are available at several specialty outdoor sporting goods stores in both Teton Village and the town of Jackson. Ask the customer service agent on advice and options for where to go based on your ability and fitness level.



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## Winter Attractions

[Jackson Hole Historical Society Museum](#) Located right in town on North Cache, the new museum is a great place to learn about the people and history of Jackson Hole. Definitely worth a visit if you want to know more about the pioneers that settled and explored this valley.

[Jackson Hole Museum of Wildlife Art](#) Located just north of town looking out over the National Elk Refuge, the Museum of Wildlife Art is home to one of the most complete collections of wildlife art in the world. There is always a traveling exhibit as well as a gift shop and restaurant. For kids they have a great play area that allows them to try their hand at different art projects while learning about wildlife and the natural world.

[Jackson Hole Visitor Center](#) Located on North Cache on the southern end of the National Elk Refuge, this is worth a visit if you are interested in learning more about Jackson Hole's ecology and history. In addition this is the jumping off point for the horse drawn sleigh rides into the elk herd and tickets can be purchased from the counter.

## Events

Winter is full of great community events open to both residents and visitors. The best place to get updated information on community events is from the [Jackson Hole Chamber of Commerce](#) or at the [Jackson Hole News and Guide Calendar](#).



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## Other Jackson Hole Travel Resources

[Grand Teton National Park Information](#)

[Yellowstone National Park Information](#)

[National Elk Refuge Information](#)

[Mountain Weather](#)

[Wyoming Road Conditions](#)

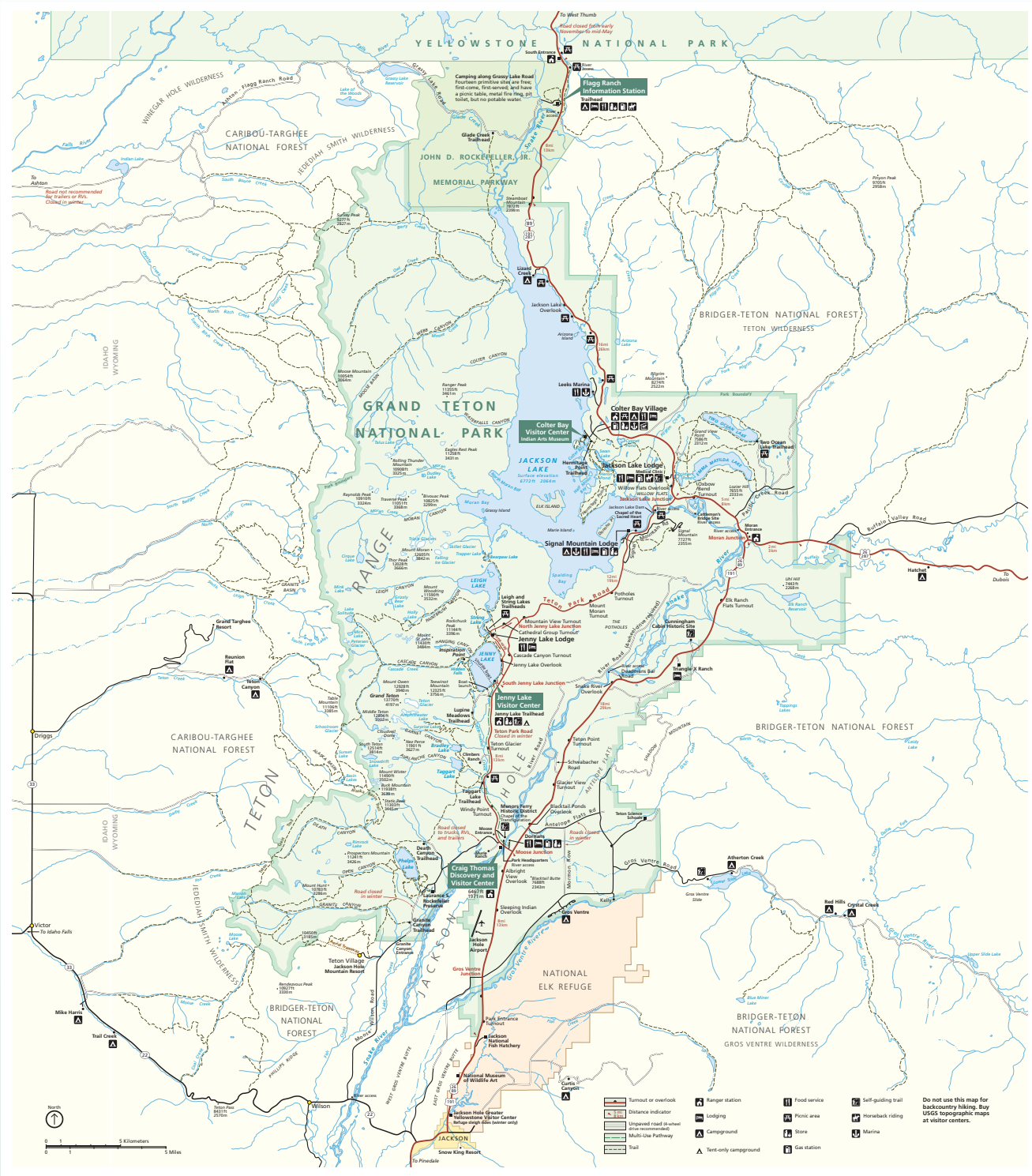
[Jackson Hole Chamber of Commerce](#)



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## Grand Teton National Park





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## Yellowstone National Park

