Yellowstone’s Winter Wonderland
February 25 – March 1, 2024
TOUR RATING: EASY/MODERATE

Geyser basins and snow-covered landscapes await in the winter wonderland of Yellowstone. Winter is a fantastic time for wildlife watching and your guide will take you to the best spots to see bison, elk, bighorn sheep, and possibly even one of the resident wolf packs. We will board special snow coaches that will transport us over the closed roads of Yellowstone to Old Faithful. Once there try out a pair of snowshoes, put on some cross-country skis, or simply walk the boardwalks right from the lodge.

TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

• Journey to Old Faithful in the Winter on heated snow-coaches
• Wildlife viewing including the possibility to see bison, pronghorn antelope, and wolves
• Try cross-country skiing or snowshoeing
• See picturesque ghost trees formed as ice settles on the tree branches

Questions?
(415) 597-6720
travel@commonwealthclub.org
commonwealthclub.org/travel
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Itinerary

**DAY 1** Sunday, February 25 - Arrivals in Bozeman, MT

Arrive in time for a welcome orientation this evening before a group dinner together to get you ready for the adventure ahead. *Best Western Plus Grantree Inn*. Meals included: Dinner

**DAY 2** Monday, February 26 - Transfer to West Yellowstone

Today we shuttle 2 hours to our new lodging in West Yellowstone. Along the way we’ll stop for lunch in Big Sky and have the option to explore the winter wonderland on snow shoes or cross country skis. Staying in West Yellowstone tonight positions us well for a full day of exploration in the park tomorrow. *Golden Stone Inn*. Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

**DAY 3** Tuesday, February 27 - Snow Coach Tour to Old Faithful

A special treat of Yellowstone in the winter is the heated snow coach – a modified van with oversized tires designed to safely traverse the roads closed due to winter snow conditions in the Southern half of the park. Midday we will stop at Old Faithful to explore the surrounding Upper Geyser Basin on foot and have lunch before returning by snow coach to West Yellowstone. *Golden Stone Inn*. Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

**DAY 4** Wednesday, February 28 - Gardiner & Mammoth Hot Springs

After breakfast we transfer 3 hour to the north side of the park following the Yellowstone River as we head south along the Old Yellowstone Trail where we may spot pronghorn and bison before passing through Roosevelt Arch on our way to Mammoth Hot Springs. In the afternoon we walk the Lower Terrace and those who are looking for a bit more adventure can walk or snowshoe the Upper Terrace. Keep your camera ready as you never know when a resident elk will make a visit to warm themselves at the thermal springs. After we’ll shuttle to our new home for the next two nights. *Sage Lodge*. Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

**DAY 5** Thursday, February 29 Lamar Valley Wildlife Viewing

Our day is devoted to wildlife viewing in the snow-covered Lamar Valley. Your guide will get a spotting scope out to get a better look at the resident bison using their heads to move away the snow to get to the grass below, bighorn sheep on the cliff sides, and – with luck – the gray wolves out hunting to survive the long Yellowstone winter. We will have lunch in Cooke City on the eastern side of the park before returning to the hotel taking our time to spot more wildlife this afternoon. Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

**DAY 6** Friday, March 1 - Bozeman & Return Flights

After enjoying breakfast at the hotel, we will make our way back to Bozeman where you can extend your stay or fly home. Meals included: Breakfast
Naturalist Guide

Nathanael Dodge combines his outdoor interests, education, and hands-on experience to make Yellowstone come alive for travelers. Dodge’s style of teaching is experiential, and in the field he excels at bringing geology, natural, human, and cultural history to life. When he’s not guiding, he is a youth case manager and field instructor for Alternative Youth Adventures out of Boulder, Montana, where he guides at-risk youth on 60-day trips in Yellowstone Park, Beaverhead National Forest, and Missouri Breaks country. Dodge graduated from Concordia University in St. Paul, Minnesota with a B.A. in Social Science, and is a Wilderness First Responder and Crisis Prevention Instructor. He looks forward to showing you the beauty and drama of Yellowstone in winter.

Lodging

**Best Western Plus Grantree Inn - 1 night**
Our Bozeman hotel features 120 modern and comfortably designed guest rooms. Hotel features: Free airport and city shuttle service, free wi-fi, 24-hr self-serve laundry, fitness center, indoor pool & hot tub

**Golden Stone Inn - 2 nights**
The Golden Stone Inn is located one mile from the west gate to Yellowstone National Park and is strategically situated for exploration of the park. All rooms are in cabins that have their own private entrance.

**Sage Lodge - 2 nights**
Located on the banks of the Yellowstone River and just 35 minutes north of Yellowstone National Park, Sage Lodge offers the ultimate Montana luxury resort getaway. It’s an idyllic headquarters from where you can launch a day of exploration. Although a Montana trip is typically focused on outdoor adventures, Sage Lodge is committed to the indoor experience as well. Gaze out the windows for hours, settle into your reading nook, or lounge on the balcony and lose yourself in the scenery. Rooms offer the ultimate in comfort. Ideal for getting cozy by the gas fireplace or stepping out onto your balcony or patio to take in the beauty of Paradise Valley. Each room offers a gas fireplace.

Pricing

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>TRIP COST</th>
<th>PAYMENT TERMS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• $4,575 each based on double occupancy</td>
<td>• $750 deposit due to hold space</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Single Supplement: $650</td>
<td>• Balance due 90 days prior to departure (can be auto-collected if you pay by credit card)</td>
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Terms

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>TRIP PRICE INCLUDES</th>
<th>TRIP PRICE EXCLUDES</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 night at Best Western Plus Grantree Inn, 2 nights at Golden Stone Inn &amp; 2 nights at Sage Lodge</td>
<td>Air transportation to and from Bozeman, Montana</td>
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<tr>
<td>14 meals (5 breakfasts, 4 lunches &amp; 5 dinners)</td>
<td>Meals and beverages other than those specified as included</td>
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<td>Beer and house wine with first and final dinners</td>
<td>Optional excursions and other activities done independently</td>
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<td>Snacks and beverages</td>
<td>Trip cancellation/interruption and baggage insurance</td>
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<td>Park admission</td>
<td>Personal items such as e-mail, telephone and fax calls, souvenirs, laundry and gratuities for non-group services.</td>
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<td>Services of professional trip leader(s) including a local naturalist guide</td>
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<td>Ground transportation for all included events during the trip in mini-bus &amp; heated snow coach</td>
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<td>Gratuities for your guides</td>
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<td>Club host to assist you throughout the program (with a minimum of 16 travelers)</td>
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<td>The camaraderie of the Club’s travelers</td>
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Group Size: Minimum 6, maximum 20 (not including staff)

Terms & Conditions

ELIGIBILITY:
We require membership to the Commonwealth Club to travel with us. People who live outside of the Bay Area may purchase a national membership. To learn about membership types and to purchase a membership, visit commonwealthclub.org/membership or call (415) 597-6720.

DEPOSIT & PAYMENTS:
To make a reservation, a deposit of $750 per person is required by check or credit card. Please email travel@commonwealthclub.org or call our office at (415) 597-6720 to reserve. Final payment is due no later than November 27, 2023.

CANCELLATIONS AND REFUNDS:
Your deposit and payments are refundable, less the following cancel fees:
- 121+ days prior to trip start date, $100 fee
- 91-120 days prior to trip start, $750 fee
- 61-90 days prior to trip start, 50% fee
- 0-60 days prior to trip start, No refund

We recommend trip-cancellation insurance; applications will be sent to you. Tour can also be canceled due to low enrollment. Neither CWC nor Black Sheep Adventures accepts liability for cancellation penalties related to domestic or international airline tickets purchased in conjunction with the tour.

MEDICAL INFORMATION:
Participation in this program requires that you be in good health. It is essential that persons with any medical problems and related dietary restrictions make them known to us well before departure. Vaccination for COVID-19 is required.

RESPONSIBILITY:
The Commonwealth Club of California and our ground operators and suppliers act only as agents for the travelers with respect to transportation and arrangements, and exercise every care possible in doing so. However, we can assume no liability for injury, damage, loss, accident, delay or irregularity in connection with the service of any automobile, motorcoach, or any other conveyance used in carrying out this program or for the acts or defaults of any company or person engaged in conveying the passenger or in carrying out the arrangements of the program. We cannot accept any responsibility for losses or additional expenses due to delay or changes in air or other services, sickness, weather, strike, war, quarantine, force majeure or other causes beyond our control. All such losses or expenses will have to be borne by the passenger as tour rates provide arrangements only for the time stated. We reserve the right to make such alterations to this published itinerary as may be deemed necessary. The right is reserved to cancel any program prior to departure in which case the entire payment will be refunded without further obligation on our part. No refund will be made for an unused portion of any tour unless arrangements are made in sufficient time to avoid penalties. The Commonwealth Club of California accepts no liability for any carrier’s cancellation penalty incurred by the purchase of a nonrefundable ticket in connection with the tour. CST: 2096889-40

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