



escape adventures®

Road Biking Grand Teton & Yellowstone National Park- Jackson Hole to Yellowstone

The Basics

State: Wyoming
Mileage: 300-350 Miles
Duration: 6 days/5 Nights
Season: Summers
Type: Camping or Inns
Elevation:
Airport: Salt Lake City, UT

Meeting Information

Location: Shilo Inn Suites
Address: 780 Lindsay Blvd.
Idaho Falls
Time: 8am

* We will return to Idaho Falls around 5:00pm on the last day.

Bike Rentals

Specialized bikes available and are included.

Camping Rentals

- Three-man tent with fly and ground tarp
- 30 degree sleeping bag
- Camp Pillow (BYO pillowcase)
- Self-inflating ground pad and or cot.

Bringing or shipping your own gear? [See our shipping policy.](#)



*F*or a wilderness experience unlike any other, come with us out West to Wyoming's Yellowstone and Grand Teton National Parks! Leaving from Montpelier, Idaho, we take off on a wild west journey through Star Valley and Jackson, Wyoming. Our ride takes us through the Bridger-Teton National Forest and across a wide open bull moose and bison range. With no foothills, the Grand Teton Mountains rise sharply from our route along the valley floor. Overhead, the bald eagle soars in mighty circles, and in the distance, elk whistles pierce the silence. At night, we may hear the lonesome howl of the wolf.

In Yellowstone National Park, riding in the great outdoors affords us the opportunity to feel a part of the grand scene. Along the way, we experience natural landmarks such as Old Faithful, Yellowstone Lake, and the Grand Canyon of the Yellowstone, where a magnificent waterfall plunges over a 500-foot striated cliff into the misty valley below!

Trip Amenities and Meals

Cell phone service is spotty between all towns but is fairly good in Jackson.

Camping Tours: Camping will be in campgrounds with pit toilets and running water. Solar showers will also be available. All meals will be prepared by your experienced guides.

Inn Tours: We'll stay in comfortable inns in towns along our route. They are chosen for comfort, scenery, and proximity to our activities. All meals are in local restaurants except picnic lunches, prepared by your experienced guides.



Contact Us: Info@escapeadventures.com | 800.596.2953 | www.escapeadventures.com

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Daily Itinerary

Specific Trip Tips

- Salt Lake City is the closest major airport and is a 3-hour drive from Idaho Falls
- Several airlines offer flights into Idaho Falls Regional Airport (IDA)
- Please arrive in Idaho Falls at least 12 hours prior to your departure time in order to have time to rest before the tour.

What sets us apart?

Our People: Our guides are the best in the business! Trained personally by the owners, our guides understand the areas you ride and the safety of the group.

Our Commitment: We don't just preach environmental awareness, we live it! We recycle 90% of our waste, run our facilities with solar and wind power, and we are the world's 1st carbon-neutral outfitter.

Our Food: Our guides lovingly prepare meals for the trip with an emphasis on fresh, local and organic foods, ensuring you have the fuel you need to ride, and a delicious meal at the same time—including dessert!

Offset Your Airfare

We've got your trip covered, but use our online [Carbon Calculator](#) to offset your travel to and from the trip

Day 1 | Montpelier to Afton

From our rendezvous spot in Idaho Falls, we shuttle a brisk if enjoyable 145-miles to the National Oregon/California Nature Center (Montpelier, Idaho). After taking in the experience of our own brave 19th century economic refugees, who journeyed from Missouri to Oregon—and crossed this very spot doing so, captured and interpreted at the center—we begin to envision our own collective epic. This, while trip leaders prepare your bikes. Our route, following what's known as the Lotoja stage, launches in go-big fashion with a climb over Geneva Pass. A tongue-wagging descent on the other side brings us to a beautiful lunch spot. (The first in what promises to be a blur of big, wild beauty.) After lunch, the next climb takes us over Salt Pass: elevation 7630-ft., a stunning, if truly brawny plateau atop the Bridger-Teton National Forest. Now 30-miles north of Montpelier—on US-89—the next stage parallels the north-trending Snake River, flowing into Star Valley. Forty-five miles long, and defined by a handful of widespread ranching communities, Star Valley's attributes stretch from wildlife to unsurpassed outdoor access to spectacular, high country scenery. Though without question, the highlight of today's stage is [Intermittent Spring](#). Erupting at consistent 15 to 20 minute intervals, this cold-water geyser, recognized as the world's largest, represents one of only three of its type to have ever been discovered. From a Wyoming type spritz, we overnight five miles east of the spring, in cowboy comfort at the nearby Afton *High Country Inn*. As St. Louis has its Gateway Arch, Afton (pop. 1181) announces itself with a 75-ft wide span of 3,000 elk antlers stretched over four lanes of US-89.

Total Mileage | 14-59 miles **Camp** | Afton **Inn** | Hi Country Inn
Total Ascent | 1335-3339 ft

Day 2 | Afton to Jackson, Snake River

Today's stage continues a northerly arc: surging through the broad-in-the-shoulders Star Valley, our routing shoots towards Jackson, Wyoming; and, ultimately to the mouth of the Snake River. A 1078-mile tributary of the Columbia, the Snake River originates in Wyoming. Discharging 54,830-cubic feet per second (on average), the Snake then carves its way across Southern Idaho. On fast, grabby Kevlar skins, we surge through the same spot where Ansel Adams shot his iconic, 1942 black and white image: the Snake river—also called Mud, Shoshone and Yam-pah-pa—bent at a serpent-like hard right beneath the 13,775-ft high Tetons. Today's stage, at an average 1.9% grade takes a dramatic bump in elevation before we sweep through the powerfully built Snake River Gorge, then ultimately into the mountains that front Jackson. Tonight we decompress at the plush 5-star *Lexington at Jackson*. You earned those high thread-count sheets.

Total Mileage | 36-56 miles **Camp** | Curtis Canyon **Inn** | Jackson Hole
Total Ascent | 1814-2000 ft

Day 3 | Grand Teton, Jackson to Moran Junction

Today's stage launches from Jackson, the phenomenal majesty of the 40-mile long Tetons spread akin to a royal procession, pushed up to the sky's very edge before our humble peloton. Our route stays within the 310,000-acre Grand Teton National Park. Along with 2.2-million acre Yellowstone National Park ten miles to the south, plus adjoining national forests, we're immersed in, and moreover nurtured by no less than 18-million acres of wilderness. Called the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem, our group experiences the world's largest intact biome or bionetwork (at mid latitude). Put another way, we're cycling amidst the largest concentration of big and small mammals in the Lower 48: Wyoming moose to Grizzly bear, wolf, Bison and Bighorn sheep, elk, Black bear, Pronghorn antelope to puma, Mountain goat, otter, Bald eagle, Pine Marten to Marmot. This deep dive into a cold and high Serengeti closes out at the Park's eastern edge, in the small gateway community of Moran Junction. A high altitude village that routinely sees winter temperatures in the 50-60 below range, Moran Junction can also claim John Wayne's toil. In the late 1930s, Wayne helped build cabins for cast and crew while on location here for *The Big Trail*. Leaving Teton National Park, we cross into the 3.4-million acre Bridger-Teton National Forest, the third largest outside Alaska. We will find the welcome mat at *The Hatchet Resort*.

Total Mileage | 26-48 miles **Inn** | Hatchett Inn **Camp** | Hatchett CG
Total Ascent | 902-1516 ft

Day 4 | Grand Teton to Yellowstone

Another day, another embarrassment of riches. With a shuttle into Yellowstone National Park, we stop to take in West Thumb: a large, stand-alone geyser basin on the shores of Lake Yellowstone, West Thumb has the look of a mini Crater Lake. Departing from the 14 by 20-mile Yellowstone Lake, at 7732-ft. elevation, today's stage proceeds clockwise around YNP, ultimately crossing the Continental Divide. Once Yellowstone's roads are cleared of snow, road cycling season begins. (Until April, cars are verboten.) Our stage follows the route of the Old Faithful Cycle Tour. Timed for late summer's thinning crowds, Aspens showcasing their best gold bling, and elk making long distance calls, our peloton sweeps toward Isa Lake—straddling the Continental Divide—and onto the Kepler Cascades. At 8262-ft., Isa Lake is a hydrologic oddball. One of only two lakes in the world that drains backwards, Isa's east spills out toward the Pacific; while its west tumbles towards the Gulf of Mexico. Kepler, conversely, keeps it real: as in really stunning cascades, plunging 150-ft. over multiple drops. The midway point of today's stage unfolds at Old Faithful with a lunch stop. Blowing every 44 to 125-minutes, Old Faithful's cone geyser reaches a height of 106 to 185-ft. Remounting, we cycle further into geothermal Disneyland, sweeping past a phantasmagoric succession of percolating mud pots, hot springs and belching fumaroles: from Morning Glory Pool to Biscuit Basin, and the Grand Prismatic Spring, all fed by an upper mantle reactor of volcanic magma. Surging toward Madison Junction we pass the site where—so goes the legend—the 19th Washburn exploratory party first floated the idea of preserving this blessed landscape in perpetuity. Wrapping in either West Yellowstone or Canyon Village, we enjoy dinner, bookended by time for souvenir shopping. Our beautiful hotel setting is in either *Canyon Lodge and Cabins*, Yellowstone, or *Bar N Ranch*, West Yellowstone.

Total Mileage | 24-59 miles
Total Ascent | 516-3680 ft

Inn | Canyon Lodge & Cabins
Camp | Madison Junction, Yellowstone NP

Day 5 | Madison Junction to West Thumb

After a by turns hearty and superb breakfast, a our stage loops back around Yellowstone National Park, ultimately towards West Thumb. Near Artist Point, we stop to hike two-miles down to the breathtaking Grand Canyon of the Yellowstone River. The roaring splendor of the Upper and Lower Falls unfolds before us from a canyon overlook, conjuring an open-air Imax Theatre, its columns plunging dramatically into the Yellowstone River. A tributary of the Missouri River, the 692-mile long Yellowstone was so named for the yellow sandstone bluffs highlighting the canyon walls. Sweeping across Hayden Valley in gorgeous afternoon light, the opportunity to glimpse big, charismatic wildlife becomes manifest. From Lake Village and the stage's culmination alongside Yellowstone Lake, we shuttle back to *Hatchet Resort*.

Total Mileage | 20-37 miles
Total Ascent | 1062-2025 ft

Inn | Hatchet Resort
Camp | Hatchet Campground

Day 6 | Teton Pass to Victor

Staying true to our extra bold theme, our closeout day begins with a Wyoming country breakfast. Next we shuttle to the bike path that sweeps in smart fashion alongside the base of the celebrated Jackson Hole ski resort. A nine-mile scenic spin shoots from Teton Village to the quaint, Old West town of Wilson. The next stage climbs Teton Pass; then surges toward Victor. Yes, a climb that might turn your calves into Buffalo wings. Inasmuch, hauling over the old highway is how Jackson's cycling culture defines vertical integration. We see it as the maximum compensation package: a challenging week in the saddle wrapped in a finale of elite and super burly measure. Relishing a ripping descent for hours—days... weeks even—our peloton hauls into Idaho. With a last lunch stop, we load up, then shuttle back to Idaho Falls. Smiling broadly. Sharing anecdotes. Hating the thought of a reentry into Urbana.

Total Mileage | 20-33 miles
Total Ascent | 260-2690 ft

Trip Cost Includes: Two guides, all meals starting with lunch on the first day through lunch on the last day, support vehicle, snacks, first-aid, bike maintenance, rental bike, community gear, and a souvenir shirt.

Trip Cost Does Not Include: Airfare to and from our departure point, lodging before or after the tour, personal camping gear, or gratuities to Escape Adventures guides. Tips to the guides are given at your discretion and based on the quality of your experience. We suggest 10-20% of your trip cost to be divided between the guides.

This is a general itinerary and may vary. Escape Adventures reserves the right to make changes due to weather, local conditions, government intervention, or any unforeseen reasons that may affect the quality of the trip and/or safety of the participants. Inns are subject to change.