

Yellowstone National Park Tue May 13 to Sun May 18, 2025

\$1900 person | \$600 single room



Yellowstone Wolf



Bison in Old Faithful area

Explore Yellowstone National Park with opportunities to see the Yellowstone wolves, grizzlies, coyotes, bison, elk, antelope, and other mammals. Of course, we will be birding too! Explore the natural history and geology of the world's first national park as we explore the Park with Yellowstone Wild, one of the premier Yellowstone guiding companies. The trip includes five nights at the Yellowstone River Lodges, a beautiful retreat beside the Yellowstone River that our group will have entirely to ourselves!

**Optional extension:** Arrive Mon May 12 for some extra exploration north of Bozeman with our friends from Sacajawea Audubon and the chance to see our lodge a day earlier when we bring down groceries and beverages. Hotel stay and two additional meals for this extension are expected to add ~\$270/person.

This trip is timed to see the large mammals that typically linger in the lower thermal valleys of Yellowstone during winter into spring, to catch some of the early spring migrant birds, and to have access to key roads in the park after they have been reopened, early May, by the National Park Service. Early spring wildflowers will be starting to bloom. This is also a delightful time to visit before the summer crowds. We'll benefit from sunsets as late as 8:45 pm in this northern latitude. However, there is also the



Grizzly Bear

possibility of new snow even in mid-May in Yellowstone. Our experienced guides will adjust accordingly and so will we! On our three guided days with Yellowstone Wild, we will travel in their comfortable, snow-ready minibuses, and we will have our snow-ready vehicles for airport transfers and our group's own explorations.

\* From Bozeman Yellowstone International Airport, Montana (BZN), and not included is the ~\$800 RT airfare from/to NYC (as of 02/09/25.) **A flight itinerary will be recommended.** The single supplement is \$600/person to offset the loss of double room share. The trip cost also includes a \$300 donation to support the local education and conservation work of Saw Mill River Audubon. **Send a deposit of \$600 with the registration form by March 1, 2025 to reserve space(s).** (This trip may fill before that date.) Balance is due March 15, 2025.



IMPORTANT→ Please note that we will share bathrooms in the lodge(s). There are a limited number of king/queen beds and single occupancy rooms. For both lodges there are full kitchens and dining areas and large common areas with fireplaces, and only our group will be in the buildings. No staff. Washer and dryer are available without cost in both lodges. The lodges' surroundings are spectacular, right on the Yellowstone River, and offer excellent birding and photography opportunities right outside! View our lodges here: (main lodge) <u>http://www.vrbo.com/89227</u> and (2nd lodge) <u>https://www.vrbo.com/151009</u>

Yellowstone River Lodge

## **Further Details**

**Cost includes** five nights lodging, all meals except pre-extension meals noted below, all ground transportation, three days of expert guiding from Yellowstone Wild, rental SUVs for SMRA airport transport and our own travel days, park admission, base level guide tips, and a \$300 SMRA donation. **Not included:** Air travel to/from Montana and any alcoholic beverages ordered in advance to enjoy at our Yellowstone lodging.

## **Deposits and Payments.**

Trip deposit of \$600 is required by March 1, 2025, with a registration form. Balance due March 15, 2025.



Roosevelt Arch at the North Gate of Yellowstone with inscription "For the Benefit and Enjoyment of the People."

**The single supplement is \$600** with a limited number of single rooms, and this offsets the loss of double room occupancy.

Payments by check to "Saw Mill River Audubon" are preferred but we can accept credit card payments (MC/Visa) at the following link, with a 3% surcharge calculated here: <a href="http://www.sawmillriveraudubon.org/trip-payment">www.sawmillriveraudubon.org/trip-payment</a>. Another payment option is via Zelle to the SMRA Zelle payment address: <a href="mailto:smrapay@gmail.com">smrapay@gmail.com</a>.

**Please note that the deposit and the final balance payment are both typically nonrefundable on SMRA big trips.** This covers non-refundable payments that SMRA must make for trip arrangements including the lodge rental and guide reservations. We encourage you to use trip insurance to protect your trip costs.

**More about Yellowstone Wild:** We are glad to be working with Yellowstone Wild again for this trip since they have excellent guiding staff. Yellowstone Wild staff are in the park every day and constantly network with other guides about daily wildlife sightings, increasing our opportunities for special wildlife views. More about Yellowstone Wild is here: <a href="https://www.yellowstonewildtours.com/">https://www.yellowstonewildtours.com/</a>.

**Carbon Offset.** We encourage you to consider a donation to a certified project to offset the carbon emission of your flights. <u>Learn more here</u> and see your flight carbon offset costs which might be around \$75 for RT between NYC and BZN.

**Questions?** Contact trip coordinator Anne Swaim, Executive Director, Saw Mill River Audubon via email at <u>aswaim@sawmillriveraudubon.org</u> or by voice/text to 914-548-3235 or office 914-666-6503.