

Grand Teton Guide

Winter 2012-2013 (November–April)

The official newspaper of
Grand Teton National Park
& John D. Rockefeller, Jr.
Memorial Parkway



Welcome to Grand Teton National Park

FEW LANDSCAPES IN THE WORLD are as striking and memorable as that of Grand Teton National Park. Rising abruptly from the valley floor, the Teton Range offers a testament to the power and complexity of nature. The mountains, valleys, lakes, rivers and skies are home to diverse and abundant plants and animals.

People have been living in the shadow of the Teton Range for more than 11,000 years. The human history of this area is extensive, beginning with American Indian prehistoric life, to the early Euro-American explorers, to the more recent

frontier settlement and today's adventure seekers.

This spectacular mountain range and the desire to protect it resulted in the establishment of Grand Teton National Park in 1929. Through the vision and generous philanthropy of John D. Rockefeller, Jr. and others, additional lands were added to form the present day park in 1950.

Grand Teton National Park is truly a unique place. With thoughtful use and careful management, it can remain so for generations to come. As with other sites in the National Park System, Grand

Teton preserves a piece of America's natural and cultural heritage for future generations.

While you are here, take a moment to put your cares aside: take a scenic drive, celebrate winter by skiing or snowshoeing, and lose yourself to the power of this place.

We hope you will be refreshed and restored during your visit, and stay connected to this magnificent landscape long after you have returned home.

Winter Wildlife



LIVING WITH WILDLIFE challenges all of us. Whether you visit Grand Teton National Park on vacation or live in the valley of Jackson Hole, encountering wildlife in their own environment is thrilling and potentially dangerous.

Winter poses special challenges for wildlife—both predator and prey. Snow buries food, temperatures plummet and traveling through deep snow is difficult. Wildlife survive the harsh winter here by adapting. Some animals migrate, some hibernate and some simply endure.

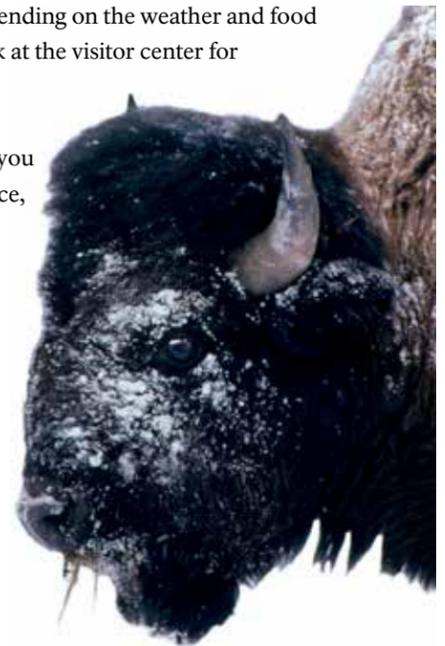
Grand Teton National Park closes key wildlife habitat areas to all travelers during winter. The corridor along the Snake River is closed from December 15 until April 1; and several high peaks are closed from December 1 until April 1. Check the map on page 4 and at the visitor center for more information. These areas are closed to allow wildlife a place where they will remain undisturbed.

Look for wildlife during your visit, observing and photographing them is always a thrill. Maintain a distance of at least 100 yards from bears and wolves, and 25 yards from all

other animals for your safety and theirs. If your actions cause an animal to flee, you are too close.

Bears usually hibernate from November into March, but the timing varies depending on the weather and food availability. Check at the visitor center for wildlife updates.

Whatever brings you to this special place, remember the spectacular mountains and diverse wildlife you encounter during your time here.



International Visitors

Des renseignements en Français sont disponibles aux centres des visiteurs dans le parc.

Sie können Informationen auf Deutsch in den Besucherzentren bekommen.

Se puede conseguir información en Español en el Centro del Visitante.

 Accessibility information available at visitor centers and on the Grand Teton Website: www.nps.gov/grte.

Contact Information

Grand Teton National Park Website
Grand Teton National Park Facebook
Grand Teton National Park Tweets

www.nps.gov/grte/
www.facebook.com/GrandTetonNPS
twitter.com/grandtetonnps

EMERGENCY	911
Park Dispatch	(307) 739-3301
Visitor Information	(307) 739-3300
Weather	(307) 739-3611
Road Construction Hotline	(307) 739-3614
Backcountry & River Information	(307) 739-3602
Climbing Information	(307) 739-3604
Bridger-Teton National Forest Avalanche Center	(307) 733-2664
Snowshoe Hike Reservations; Craig Thomas Discovery & Visitor Center	(307) 739-3399
TTY/TDD Emergency Calls Only	(307) 739-3301

Snowshoe Walk



Experience winter in Grand Teton National Park. Join a ranger for a guided snowshoe walk. Walks offered daily, late December through mid-March, conditions permitting. See page 2.

Contents

Trip Planning and Safety	2
Concessioners	2
Go Digital	3
Partners	3
Park Map	4

Make the Most of Your Park Visit



Wondering how to make the most of your time in Grand Teton National Park? Take a look at the suggestions below to help plan your visit. Stop by the Craig Thomas Discovery and Visitor Center for trip planning assistance.

Activities

Ranger-guided Snowshoe Walks

Are you curious about winter ecology or snow science? Would you like to experience the park in winter? A snowshoe walk with a park naturalist is the perfect introduction to winter in the Tetons and to travel on snowshoes. Naturalists provide guided snowshoe walks from the Craig Thomas Discovery and Visitor Center daily late December through mid-March, conditions permitting. Call the Craig Thomas Discovery and Visitor Center at (307) 739-3399 to make reservations.



Cross-country Skiing & Snowshoeing

Experience the exhilaration of winter on cross-country skis or snowshoes. Watch for wildlife such as moose, coyote and ermine and look for signs of wildlife in the snow. From November 1 through April 30th, the Teton Park Road from the Taggart Lake

Please respect groomed ski tracks by walking or snowshoeing beside them rather than on them.

trailhead to Signal Mountain Lodge is open for non-motorized use only. The road is intermittently groomed to provide a packed surface for snowshoeing and cross-country touring. The grooming schedule is sporadic. Call (307) 739-3682 for grooming updates. Other places to enjoy cross-country skiing and snowshoeing include Colter Bay, Moose-Wilson Road, Taggart Lake and Flagg Ranch.

Backcountry Skiing & Snowboarding

Jackson Hole is world-renowned for backcountry skiing opportunities. Few places provide the scenery, variety of terrain, ease of access and challenging lines found in the park's backcountry.

When skiing or snowboarding in the national park backcountry you are responsible for managing and assessing your risks. If you access the park from the Jackson Hole Mountain Resort, remember that, the park does not perform avalanche hazard reduction work. Please check the park map on page 4 for wildlife closures. Check with the Bridger-Teton National Forest Avalanche Center www.jhavalanche.org or call (307) 733-2664 for the current avalanche forecast.

If your plans include backcountry camping, you must obtain a backcountry permit free of charge at the visitor center in Moose.

Winter Camping

Park campgrounds are closed during the winter. Primitive winter camping is allowed near the Colter Bay Visitor Center for \$5 per night from December 1 to April 15. Pay at the self-pay station by the restroom. Camp on the snow that covers the parking lot.

Snowmobiling

Snowmobile use is limited in Grand Teton National Park. Please check at the visitor center for current information.

Fishing

Fishing in Grand Teton National Park is subject to Wyoming state regulations. A Wyoming fishing license is required in the park and parkway.

Safety and Regulations

Fall Elk Reduction

When Grand Teton National Park was expanded in 1950, Congress authorized an elk reduction program in some areas of the park to continue management of the herd. The reduction program ends on December 2, 2012. Check at the visitor center for additional information.

Wildlife

Maintain a distance of at least 100 yards from bears and wolves, and 25 yards from all other animals whether on foot or in your vehicle. Obey all wildlife closures (see map page 4).

Pets

During the winter, pets are allowed on plowed roadways and parking areas, and the unplowed portions of the Teton Park and Moose-Wilson roads. Restrain pets on a leash no longer than six feet at all times and within 30 feet of roadways. Pets are NOT allowed on trails or in the backcountry, in boats on the Snake River or lakes other than Jackson Lake, or in visitor centers. Owners are required to clean up after their pets.

Firearms

Wyoming state regulations apply. Carrying or possessing firearms is prohibited in buildings where notice is posted. Firearms may not be discharged in a national park, except by permitted individuals during legal hunting seasons.

Winter Safety

- Protect yourself. Know your equipment and your capabilities and limitations.
- Avoid skiing or snowshoeing alone. Always let someone know your planned destination, route and expected time of return.
- HYPOTHERMIA is a common cause of human fatalities in mountain country. Carry extra clothing and dress to prevent hypothermia. Never leave a member of your party alone. If someone you are with begins to act or talk abnormally, make him or her put on more clothing and drink warm liquids. Learn about treating hypothermia before your trip.
- Be prepared for sudden changes in the WEATHER. Snow and weather conditions may vary considerably throughout the day and by elevation. Check the weather forecast before you venture out, and above all use common sense.
- Be alert for AVALANCHE hazards, especially in mountain canyons and along ridge tops. Read the current avalanche hazard condition report at the visitor center, or check with the Bridger-Teton National Forest Avalanche Center for daily updates at: www.jhavalanche.org or call (307) 733-2664.



Let's Get Moving in Grand Teton National Park



Let's Move Outside encourages and all park visitors to engage in outdoor activities to get bodies moving and hearts pumping. The Let's Move campaign was initiated by First Lady Michelle Obama to end childhood obesity within a generation. This program is now underway in national parks all over the country. Join our ranger-guided snowshoe walk to have fun and get healthy! Or explore the park with your own snowshoes or skis.

Average Temperatures & Snowfall

Moose, WY 1958-2011

Month	Average High Temp	Average Low Temp	Average Snowfall
January	25.9 °F	0.9 °F	43.3 in.
February	31.1 °F	3.3 °F	28.8 in.
March	39.3 °F	12.0 °F	20.1 in.
April	49.3 °F	22.2 °F	9.2 in.
May	61.0 °F	30.8 °F	2.4 in.
June	70.7 °F	37.3 °F	0.1 in.
July	80.5 °F	41.3 °F	0 in.
August	79.0 °F	39.6 °F	0 in.
September	69.1 °F	32.2 °F	0.4 in.
October	55.7 °F	23.1 °F	4.8 in.
November	38.3 °F	13.7 °F	23.4 in.
December	26.5 °F	1.9 °F	40.0 in.

Park Concessioners & Lodging

Climbing Guides

Exum Mountain Guides
(307) 733-2297
Open year-round
www.exumguides.com

Jackson Hole Mountain Guides

(307) 733-4979
(800) 239-7642
Open year-round
www.jhmg.com

Cross Country Ski & Snowshoe Tours

The Hole Hiking Experience
(866) 733-4453
www.holehike.com

Jackson Hole Mountain

Resort Nordic Center
(307) 739-2629
www.jacksonhole.com

NOLS/RMB

(800) 710-6657
www.nols.edu

Teton Backcountry Guides

(307) 353-2900
www.skithetons.com

Winter Lodging

Triangle X Ranch
Open: late December to late March
(307) 733-2183
www.trianglex.com

Dornans Spur Ranch

Open year-round
(307) 733-2522
www.dornans.com

Additional accommodations can be found in the nearby communities of Jackson, Wilson, and Teton Village. Visit the Jackson Hole Chamber of Commerce website for more information at www.jacksonholechamber.com. (307) 733-3316

Go Digital

Craig Thomas Discovery & Visitor Center



Grand Teton National Park invites you to enjoy the Craig Thomas Discovery and Visitor Center Auditorium. This facility serves as a launching point for grand experiences through the interpretive park film "Life on the Edge." Grand Teton National Park Foundation donors funded this 3,600-square-foot, 154-seat auditorium, featuring recycled, sustainable, and energy-efficient materials. The auditorium is fully accessible and equipped for the hearing impaired. Please ask at the visitor center for details.



Explore the visitor center. Everyone will love the engaging exhibits about the people, wild communities and preservation of this place. Discover wildlife hidden throughout. See how mountaineering has evolved in the Teton Range and place climbing protection gear on an interactive rock wall display. Enjoy a breath-taking view of the Teton Range from the lobby, and a bird's eye view of the park by walking along the video river.

Visitor Center Hours

The visitor center is open daily year-round, closed on December 25th. Hours are 9 am to 5 pm from November 1, 2012 through April 30, 2013 (closed at 2 pm on November 22nd and December 24th).

What's New

WIRELESS INTERNET

Free wireless internet access is available for the public at the Craig Thomas Discovery and Visitor Center in Moose.



MULTIMEDIA PRESENTATIONS

The Grand Teton National Park website offers a variety of audio, video and digital images: www.nps.gov/grte/photosmultimedia/multimedia.htm.

VIDEO PODCASTS

Plan your trip, view wildlife, learn about safety in bear country, understand the powerful forces that shaped these mountains, and learn about the Murie family who helped preserve this landscape from the multi-media page.



GRAND TETON iPHONE APP

The Official App for Grand Teton National Park produced for the Grand Teton Association includes the essential information you need to plan your trip or experience the park before leaving home. Download to your iPhone: tetonapp.com.



TravelStorysGPS iPHONE APP

This free app from the Grand Teton National Park Foundation shares vivid and engaging audio stories about the history, geology, animals and activities in the park. Drive the Teton Park Road from Moose to Jackson Lake Lodge and learn about this magnificent park: www.gtnpf.org/TravelStorysGPS.php.



Write on our Wall

Like us on Facebook to get park updates, or share photos and your thoughts with our friends: www.facebook.com/GrandTeton-NPS

Follow us on Twitter: twitter.com/grandtetonnp



Learn & Discover



Visit our fun and educational website: Discover Grand Teton! We have partnered with the Grand Teton National Park Foundation to create an exciting resource for visitors. The website highlights the park's history, geology, wild communities and Junior Ranger program.

Go to: www.discovergrandteton.org to learn and experience the park virtually.

Park Partners

Park partners help accomplish park goals by supporting important projects, programs and visitor services.

Grand Teton Association
P.O. Box 170
Moose, WY 83012
(307) 739-3403
www.grandtetonpark.org

Grand Teton National Park Foundation
P.O. Box 249
Moose, WY 83012
(307) 732-0629
www.gtnpf.org

Teton Science Schools
P.O. Box 68
Kelly, WY 83011
(307) 733-4765
www.tetonscience.org

The Murie Center
P.O. Box 399
Moose, WY 83012
(307) 739-2246
www.muriecenter.org

University of Wyoming/ NPS Research Station
P.O. Box 3166
Laramie, WY 82071-3166
www.uwyo.edu

We invite you to become a member entitled to a 15% discount on purchases at all GTA visitor center outlets, as well as on catalog and website orders. Many cooperating association stores nationwide offer reciprocal discounts.



- \$35 Individual Annual Member with discount privileges and a unique member gift
- \$50 Family Annual Member with discount privileges and a choice of member gifts
- Additional annual memberships: \$100 Supporting Member, \$250 Sustaining Member, \$500 Gold Member with discount privileges and additional gifts
- \$1000 Platinum Member, a three-year membership includes an Interagency Annual Pass.

Name: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ State/Zip Code: _____
Date of Application: _____ Phone: _____
Paid by Cash Check Credit Card
Card Number _____ Exp. Date _____

Grand Teton Association • P.O. Box 170 • Moose, WY 83012
(307) 739-3403 • www.grandtetonpark.org

Yes! I would like to be a part of the future of Grand Teton National Park.



Name: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ State/Zip Code: _____
Email: _____ Phone: _____

Please include your check made out to the Grand Teton National Park Foundation, or supply the following credit card information.

Credit Card Number _____ Exp. Date _____

Visa Mastercard Cardholder's Signature _____

Grand Teton National Park Foundation • P.O. Box 249 • Moose, WY 83012
(307) 732-0629 • www.gtnpf.org

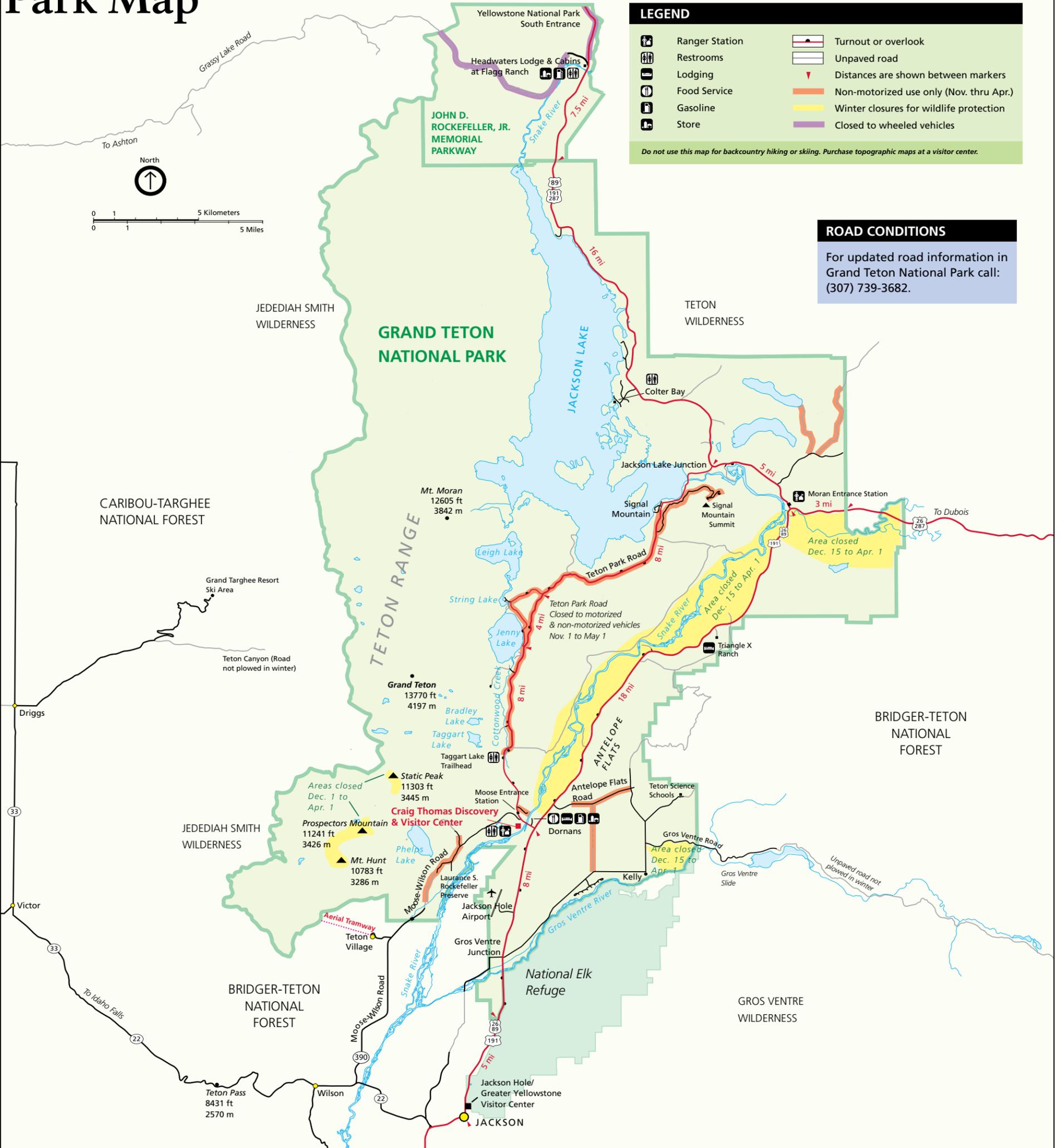
GRAND TETON ASSOCIATION
Grand Teton Association was established in 1937 as the park's primary partner to increase public understanding, appreciation, and enjoyment of Grand Teton National Park and the Greater Yellowstone area. Since that time, the Association has been aiding the interpretive, educational, and research programs.

When you make a purchase at an Association bookstore, you are supporting the educational, interpretive, and scientific programs in Grand Teton National Park. Your purchase also supports the publication of this newspaper, books, and the free educational handouts available at visitor centers and entrance stations.

GRAND TETON NATIONAL PARK FOUNDATION
Grand Teton National Park Foundation provides private financial support for special projects that enhance and protect Grand Teton National Park's treasured resources. Since 1997, our organization has raised more than \$20 million for education-based capital projects, work and learn programs

that reconnect youth to nature, and wildlife research and protection. By funding initiatives that go beyond what the National Park Service could accomplish on its own, Foundation friends solve park challenges and create a solid future for Grand Teton.

Park Map



LEGEND

	Ranger Station		Turnout or overlook
	Restrooms		Unpaved road
	Lodging		Distances are shown between markers
	Food Service		Non-motorized use only (Nov. thru Apr.)
	Gasoline		Winter closures for wildlife protection
	Store		Closed to wheeled vehicles

Do not use this map for backcountry hiking or skiing. Purchase topographic maps at a visitor center.

ROAD CONDITIONS

For updated road information in Grand Teton National Park call: (307) 739-3682.

Drive Safely!

WINTER DRIVING is often challenging. Park roads are frequently covered with ice or hard-packed snow. Winter storms create white-out driving conditions. Make sure your vehicle is equipped with winter or all-season tires and carry tire chains when crossing mountain passes.

- Roads may be icy or snow-covered, drive below the speed limit when conditions warrant.
- Watch for wildlife on the roadway, especially in the morning and evening.
- Carry an emergency kit and a shovel in your vehicle. Snowstorms may occur at any time. Roads may close at any time for visitor safety.
- Always wear your seat belt.
- Be prepared for changing weather conditions.

Night Time Speed Limit!

The night time speed limit on US Highway 26/89/191 is 45 mph from the park's south boundary to the boundary east of Moran Junction. Night time lasts from 30 minutes after sunset until 30 minutes before sunrise.

On average, over 100 animals are killed on park roads each year. During the past three years, 64 percent of wildlife fatalities occurred on this section of highway. Throughout the park, 55 percent of fatalities occurred at night. In order to protect the public and to preserve wildlife populations, park officials reduced night time speed limits to allow drivers and animals more reaction time.

Accessible Roads During Winter

The park's main roadways, Highway 26/89/191 and Highway 26/287, are plowed and open for winter travel.

Seasonal Road Closures

Much of the Teton Park Road and the Moose-Wilson Road are closed to motorized vehicles during the winter months. See the map above for additional seasonal road closures. The unplowed section of the road from Taggart Lake trailhead parking area to Signal Mountain Lodge—a distance of 15 miles—is open to non-motorized use only (skiers, snowshoers and walkers). Snow bikes are not allowed.

