

Cruising Montana's Northern Yellowstone Corridor

Experience the magic of fall and winter in the Rockies on this bucket list-worthy road trip.

Herds of wild bison, towering mountain peaks, and sparkling blue-ribbon trout streams are the highlights of this quintessential Yellowstone road trip from Livingston, Montana, to Yellowstone National Park's famed Northern Range. Follow in the footsteps—or in this case the stagecoach tracks—of early Yellowstone visitors in the comfort of your own vehicle on this well-maintained Montana route.

Day One: Experience Historic Livingston, Montana

Step back in time to the late 1800's as you cruise through the eclectic railroad town of Livingston, Montana. Begin your journey at Sacajawea Park along the banks of the Yellowstone River, highlighted by brilliant orange cottonwoods in the fall and snowcapped peaks in winter. Head down Park Street until you reach historic Downtown Historic Livingston, where charming shops, galleries, museums, restaurants, and live music venues await you. Choose one of the great hotels like the Murray Hotel or many others for a restful night. Grab breakfast at our local bakery's or Pinky's on Main Street before heading south on Hwy 89 through the breathtaking Paradise Valley to Gardiner, Montana.



Day Two: The Yellowstone Northern Range Wildlife Safari

Once you arrive in Gardiner, hit the road for the most scenic and wildlife-rich region of Yellowstone National Park: The Northern Range. The only section of the park open year-round, this route begins at Yellowstone's North Entrance. Drive south to Mammoth Hot Springs, then head east for Tower Junction. From there, drive northeast towards the spectacular Lamar Valley, known as the "Serengeti of North America." Stop to admire the abundant herds of pronghorn, elk, and bison (just don't put them in your car!) along the way. Wrap up your trip with a stop for lunch at the historic mining town of Cooke City, Montana, just outside the park's Northeast Entrance. Turn back the way you came for night two in Gardiner, Montana.



Day Three: Paradise Valley Exploration

Take the slower, scenic route back to Livingston on a well-maintained country road that parallels Highway 89. From Gardiner, take the righthand turn marked East River Road (approximately 20 miles to the north) to experience Paradise Valley from a slightly different angle than on Day One. This route is graced by striking ranch homes, lush pastures, quiet country lanes, and dramatic views of the Absaroka-Beartooth Mountains. Midway through your journey, stop at the historic mountain resort of Chico Hot Springs for pizza and a soak in the hot pools, or for a more upscale experience, enjoy an exquisite meal at Sage Lodge. Follow East River Road along the banks of the Yellowstone River until you find yourself back in Livingston, Montana.

Paradise Valley Side Trips

If you're visiting in the fall, consider a scenic side trip down Trail Creek Road, numerous hiking trails offer a chance to stretch your legs and experience the natural beauty of the Absaroka-Beartooth Wilderness, or the North Hwy 89 to Clyde park to view the beautiful Crazy Mountain range.

Don't fear the snow! Fall and winter are magical times to visit northern Yellowstone. And good news for road-trippers: this area is drier than you might think. The Gardiner area receives an average of just 25 inches of snow per year—as compared to 150 inches in nearby Mammoth Hot Springs and Livingston has its own micro climate which keeps it open 365 days a year! Both the National Park northern road to Cooke City and our communities roads are kept open and clear for year round enjoyment.

LIVINGSTON
AREA

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAU

303 E. Park St., Livingston
406-222-0850

www.DiscoverLivingston.com



216 W. Park St, Gardiner
406-848-7971