
Trail Descriptions:



Lone Star Geyser Trail, 7583' to 7600'

2.5 miles (one way), **easiest**, 17 feet elevation gain/loss.

Machine-groomed for classic and skate skiing. Beginning at the snow vehicle road above Kepler Cascades, the trail follows a service road through the forest and along the Firehole River to Lone Star Geyser. Lone Star Geyser erupts about every 3 hours with activity lasting approximately 20 minutes. Novice skiers should return by the same route, choosing the snow vehicle road or Kepler Cascades Trail to descend to Old Faithful. For a much more difficult return route, take the Howard Eaton Trail.

Kepler Cascades Trail, 7362' to 7583'

2 miles (one way), **more difficult**, 220 feet elevation gain/loss. Skier-tracked. The trail follows the Mallard Lake/Lone Star Geyser Trail across the Firehole River bridge. At the trail junction, the trail goes to the right. In approximately 25 yards, the trail goes left and uphill through a narrow gap in the trees. Once you see the main snow vehicle road, you have the option of skiing facing traffic on the road. The road has more gradual uphill sections, while the trail has steep hills. The trail ends at the main snow vehicle road. To view the cascades, cross the road to the large pullout. Go past Kepler Cascades pullout to find the beginning of the Lone Star Trail.

Howard Eaton Trail, 7362' to 7880'

3.5 miles (one way), **most difficult**, 520 feet elevation gain/loss. Skier-tracked.

Attempt this steep trail only if you have excellent speed control and turning skills. Most of the trail is through a narrow gap in a dense forest and can be very dangerous. The trail starts at the Bear Den Ski Shop exit and angles towards the Snow Lodge cabin area. Then the trail passes through trees and crosses small bridges to reach the main snow vehicle road. Cross the snow vehicle road and go left at the Howard Eaton Trail sign. The trail climbs steeply for about 1.5 miles, then descends to Lone Star Geyser. Please yield to downhill skiers. Where the trail crosses thermal areas, you may need to remove your skis due to lack of snow.



Spring Creek Trail, 7360' to 8100'

8 miles (one way), **more difficult**, 740 feet elevation gain/loss. Skier-tracked.

Snowcoach drop at Divide Trailhead. The trail starts with a short uphill climb. At the junction, turn right and go down a steep narrow trail through dense forest. Excellent speed control and turning skills are required.

Snowcoach drop at the Spring Creek Picnic Area. The trail traverses rolling hills, level terrain, forests, canyons, and many small bridges over Spring Creek. There are additional areas where you may need to sidestep up and also sidestep down a steep hill. Please do not take your skis off as it creates a hazard for other skiers. The trail ends at the Lone Star Geyser Trail. Turn right to return to Old Faithful via the snow vehicle road or Kepler Cascades Trail. Turn left to reach Lone Star Geyser. The Howard Eaton Trail starts immediately beyond Lone Star Geyser.



Divide Trail, 8040' to 8590'

2.8 miles (round trip) from Spring Creek Trail Junction, **more difficult**, 546 feet elevation gain/loss. Skier-tracked.

The trail climbs up to a saddle on the Continental Divide. On a clear day, you may have views of Shoshone Lake and Mt. Sheridan. Return to Old Faithful via the Spring Creek Trail.

Mallard Lake Trail, 7362' to 8120'

3.4 miles (one way), **more difficult**, 760 feet elevation gain/loss. Skier-tracked.

Beginning near Snow Lodge, the trail follows Mallard Lake/Kepler Cascades Trail across the Firehole River bridge. At the trail junction, the trail goes left through the forest and climbs to Mallard Lake, with some steep sections and sidehills. Beware of avalanches. This trail is not recommended in very icy conditions. The Mallard Creek trail junction is approximately 0.2 miles before the lake. Return downhill to Old Faithful the same way.

Mallard Creek Trail, 7320' to 8120'

12 miles round trip from Old Faithful, **most difficult**, 800 feet elevation gain/loss. Skier-tracked.

This trail branches off the Mallard Lake Trail 0.2 miles before the lake. From the junction, the trail climbs steeply up switchbacks to a ridge overlooking Mallard Lake and then heads northwest for approximately 4 miles. The trail has many challenging turns and crosses numerous deep gullies. Sections of the trail may be hard to follow and may not be well marked. Only advanced skiers should attempt this trail. The return to Old Faithful is another 4 miles over gently rolling terrain along the Powerline Trail and through the Upper Geyser Basin.



Fairy Falls Trail, 7240' to 7400'

11 miles (round trip), **easiest**, (made more difficult because of mileage and the Powerline Trail) 160 feet elevation gain/loss.

Skier-tracked. Ski 1.3 miles on the Fountain Flats Drive, then turn left on the Fairy Falls Trail. Most of the Fairy Falls Trail is level, but there are hills and bends in the trail near the falls. Return via the same route, then take the Powerline Trail or the snow vehicle road to Old Faithful. To reach the Powerline Trail, ski about 0.25 miles south (right) along the snow vehicle road to the Mallard Creek trailhead on the left. Follow the Mallard Creek Trail and turn right at the first junction onto the Powerline Trail, which has rolling hills. The Powerline Trail leads to the Upper Geyser Basin Trail and Morning Glory Pool. Where the trail crosses thermal areas, you may need to remove your skis due to lack of snow.

Skier-Tracked Trail - A trail that has been made/broken by a person skiing through deep snow.

Machine-Groomed Trail - Mostly level trail with machine set tracks; ideal conditions for beginners. Groomed areas are for both classic and skate skiing. Most of these are practice loops that follow summer roads. In addition the **Upper Geyser Basin Trail** from the lower store to Morning Glory Pool is groomed but often has bare patches due to thermal heat. **Lone Star Geyser Trail** is also groomed.

Snowshoe Trails - Observation Point is the only designated snowshoe trail in the Old Faithful area. The Upper Geyser Basin Trail is also popular for snowshoeing. Please talk to the ski shop or visitor center staff for other ideas of where to snowshoe. Please do not snowshoe in ski trails as it creates hazards for skiers. Snowshoers and skiers need to maintain separate tracks, which may mean you will need to break trail.

Caution: Bison frequent all trails in the Old Faithful area. Do not attempt to travel any backcountry trails without good topographical maps and first inquiring at the ski shop or visitor center about trail conditions. Many trails are difficult to find and follow as they may not be well marked for winter travel and may not have been skied recently. Trails may go through areas with avalanche risk.
