

FIELD TRIP DESCRIPTIONS

These descriptions are intended to give more detail about each field trip to help you determine your top choices. The descriptions are intentionally basic - each field educator lends their particular personality and expertise to the field trip and adjusts the content and itinerary to take advantage of the best interpretive opportunities.



PHOTO JACOB FRANK



PHOTO MATT LUDIN

DAY 2 SAMPLE ITINERARY

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| ALL DAY FIELD TRIP | <p>Charismatic Carnivores: Lamar Valley Wildlife Watching <i>Yellowstone Forever Field Educator</i> <i>Depart: 7:00 a.m. / Return: Approx. 4:00 p.m.</i></p> <p>Take a deep look into Yellowstone's carnivores and learn the individual life stories of wolves, bears, and cougars. Other topics will include current pack dynamics, the ecological role of predators in the Yellowstone ecosystem, and current management practices.</p> |
| | <p>Clear Lake Loop & Canyon <i>Yellowstone Forever Field Educator</i> <i>Depart: 8:00 a.m. / Return 4:00 p.m.</i></p> <p>Clear Lake Loop has a little of everything from a backcountry thermal basin to spectacular views of the Grand Canyon of the Yellowstone. The trail weaves its way through boiling thermal features before traversing the precipitous canyon rim, affording jaw-dropping views of the Lower Falls.</p> |
| HALF DAY FIELD TRIPS (MORNING) | <p>Elk Courtship <i>Yellowstone Forever Field Educator</i> <i>Depart: 7:00 a.m. / Return 12:00 p.m.</i></p> <p>Mammoth Hot Springs is the best place in the park to view the annual elk rut. This tour is designed to take advantage of this rare opportunity. The field educator will share up-to-date information about Yellowstone wildlife biology, behavior, and ecology. Watch elk perform their mating rituals and listen to their bugles piercing the air and the landscape.</p> |
| | <p>Norris Geology <i>Yellowstone Forever Field Educator</i> <i>Depart: 7:00 a.m. / Return 12:00 p.m.</i></p> <p>Explore the Norris Geyser Basin, Yellowstone National Park's hottest and most dynamic thermal area. This tour will take you through a landscape of steaming geysers, bubbling mudpots, and vibrant hot springs, offering a unique glimpse into the park's geothermal wonders.</p> |

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PHOTO NEAL HERBERT



PHOTO JACOB FRANK

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| HALF DAY FIELD TRIPS (AFTERNOON) | Yellowstone's Cultural History <i>Yellowstone Forever Field Educator</i> <i>Depart: 1:00 p.m. / Return 4:00 p.m.</i> <p>Step back in time with this tour which explores Yellowstone's rich cultural history. this immersive experience will take you to ancient hunting blinds and traditional wikiups, offering a fascinating glimpse into the lives of the Indigenous peoples who inhabited Yellowstone.</p> |
| | Crystal Creek Off Trail Adventure <i>Yellowstone Forever Field Educator</i> <i>Depart 1:00 p.m. / Return 4:00 p.m.</i> <p>Join us for an off-trail adventure through the Crystal Creek area on Yellowstone's northern range. This hike will take you through rugged terrain and pristine landscapes, culminating at an historic wolf release site from the reintroduction of wolves to Yellowstone.</p> |

DAY 3 SAMPLE ITINERARY

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| ALL DAY FIELD TRIPS | Hayden Valley & Lake Wildlife <i>Yellowstone Forever Field Educator</i> <i>Depart: 7:00 a.m. / Return: 4:00 p.m.</i> <p>Begin your journey with wildlife watching in Hayden Valley, where you'll have the chance to observe bison, bears, and possibly even wolves in their natural habitat. After immersing yourself in the valley's rich biodiversity, continue to the serene shores of Yellowstone Lake.</p> |
| | Garnet Hill Loop <i>Yellowstone Forever Field Educator</i> <i>Depart 8:00 a.m. / Return 4:00 p.m.</i> <p>Garnet Hill Loop has it all! The trail begins in open sage habitat before following a small creek through dense wildlife habitat then along a deep canyon cut by the Yellowstone River, returning through rolling open sage country.</p> |

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| HALF DAY FIELD TRIPS (MORNING) | Northern Range Wildlife Watching <i>Yellowstone Forever Field Educator</i> <i>Depart: 6:30 a.m. / Return 12:00 p.m.</i> <p>Search for Yellowstone's fall wildlife along the park's northern range and Lamar Valley. This road-based wildlife watching tour will travel in search of the valley's charismatic megafauna and explore the ways wildlife are preparing for the upcoming winter.</p> |
| | Canyon Nature Journaling <i>Yellowstone Forever Field Educator</i> <i>Depart: 8:00 a.m. / Return: 12:00 p.m.</i> <p>Immerse yourself in the breathtaking beauty of Yellowstone's iconic Grand Canyon with our half-day nature journaling tour. This enriching experience invites you to capture the stunning landscapes, vibrant colors, and diverse wildlife through the art of journaling.</p> |
| HALF DAY FIELD TRIPS (AFTERNOON) | Community Science Day <i>Yellowstone Forever Field Educator</i> <i>Depart: 1:00 p.m. / Return: 4:00 p.m.</i> <p>Dive into the world of Citizen Science projects and discover how you can contribute to vital research and conservation efforts. Explore the fascinating realm of macroinvertebrates through hands-on activities, where you'll learn to identify and understand these crucial indicators of ecosystem health.</p> |
| | CSI: Carcass Scene Investigation <i>Yellowstone Forever Field Educator</i> <i>Depart: 1:00 p.m. / Return 4:00 p.m.</i> <p>Dive into the intriguing world of wildlife forensics with our Carcass Scene Investigation (CSI) tour. This unique experience will have you investigating a carcass found on the landscape, piecing together clues to understand what happened and what factors may have led to the animal's demise.</p> |

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PHOTO NEAL HERBERT

DAY 4 SAMPLE ITINERARY

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| ALL DAY FIELD TRIPS | <p>Old Faithful & Yellowstone's Volcano Yellowstone Forever Field Educator Depart: 8:00 a.m. / Return 4:00 p.m.</p> <p>Explore the geothermal features and learn about the volcanic forces shaping the park. Visit the Tribal Heritage Center, where you'll gain insights into the cultural traditions of Yellowstone's Indigenous peoples. Stay for a captivating cultural presentation by Ryan LittleEagle, who will be displaying cultural artifacts, playing the flute, and telling stories.</p> |
| | <p>Bunsen Peak: A Yellowstone Summit Yellowstone Forever Field Educator Depart: 8:00 a.m. / Return 4:00 p.m.</p> <p>Bunsen Peak is an isolated summit near Mammoth Hot Springs which provides incredible views of Swan Lake and the Gallatin Mountains. The trail winds up through conifer forests past fascinating rock formations, then descends the far side of the mountain.</p> |
| HALF DAY FIELD TRIPS (MORNING) | <p>Northern Range Wildlife Watching Yellowstone Forever Field Educator Depart: 6:30 a.m. / Return 12:00 p.m.</p> <p>Search for Yellowstone's fall wildlife along the park's northern range and Lamar Valley. This road-based wildlife watching tour will travel in search of the valley's charismatic megafauna and explore the ways wildlife are preparing for the upcoming winter.</p> |
| | <p>Birding Under Big Skies Yellowstone Forever Field Educator Depart 7:30 a.m. / Return 12:00 p.m.</p> <p>Head into the crisp autumn morning with an eye to the sky. Yellowstone is known for its big furry beasts, but this morning folks will be watching our feathered friends. Raptors will be migrating, summer migrants will be on the move, and of course, the ravens will be teaching much on this morning with the birds!</p> |

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PHOTO ADDY FALGOUST



PHOTO AMANDA EVANS

DAY 4 SAMPLE ITINERARY

HALF DAY FIELD TRIPS (AFTERNOON)

Tracking Yellowstone's Wildlife

Yellowstone Forever Field Educator

Depart: 1:00 p.m. / Return 4:00 p.m.

Head out in search of wildlife, tracks & sign, and anything else that catches our eye along Yellowstone's Northern Range. The exact location will be based on recent sightings and animal activity. Come discover the stories hidden in plain sight!

*We will be walking along creeks where wet feet and mud are expected!

Junction Butte Off Trail Exploration

Yellowstone Forever Field Educator

Depart: 1:00 p.m. / Return 4:00 p.m.

Join us for an off-trail adventure on this lesser-traveled feature of Yellowstone's famous northern range. Discover hidden gems and learn about the ecological and geological significance of Junction Butte while exploring this region of Yellowstone.



PHOTO JIM PEACO