

Here's a suggested route based in input from our Intern experts, depending on what time you plan to leave Cody. If you leave mid-to-late afternoon for Yellowstone, it might look like this:

- Leave Cody to the north toward Billings. 17 miles out of Cody is the Chief Joseph Scenic Highway over the Beartooth Mountains to the Northeast gate of Yellowstone (Silvergate and Cooke City). <http://www.travelwyoming.com/listing/yellowstone-national-park/chief-joseph-scenic-byway>
- Go into Yellowstone through Silvergate, through Lamar Valley (most likely place to see bear, wolves and so on),
 - We have found that what works best for hitting Lamar Valley at the two best times of day is to leave Cody about 3-4:00 p.m., go over Chief Joseph Scenic Highway, arrive at Silvergate about 5-6:00 to check into a hotel or campsite, then from 6:00-9:00 drive into Yellowstone and through Lamar Valley. That is the time of day we see all kinds of animals. Often, there are people with telescopes watching animals and they happily share so you can have a look. Drive back out to Silvergate/to campground for the night.
- The next morning about 6 a.m., drive back into the park through Lamar Valley to Mammoth
- At Mammoth, there is a little publicized, but very popular with me, place to swim in the Gallatin River where the Boiling River comes into it. Mammoth is an elk breeding area and the elk and bison often water in the Gallatin River near the swimming area. <http://www.yellowstonepark.com/swim-yellowstones-boiling-river/>
- You will have to backtrack one way or another, so we suggest backtracking from Mammoth to Tower Fall/ Grand Canyon of Yellowstone. After seeing Tower Falls, go South through the Canyon, stopping at the Lower and Upper Falls near Canyon Village.
- From Canyon Village go West across to Norris. From Norris, going south, I'm told Monument Geyser Basin is a must see.
- Next you go through Madison and toward Old Faithful. Along this route, I'm told **Midway Geyser Basin** is a must see. Then of course, **Old Faithful**, where if it is 4:00 p.m. or later, you can have a lovely buffet for about \$30 in the historic Old Faithful Inn, open till October 9th. <http://www.yellowstonenationalparklodges.com/dining/old-faithful/old-faithful-inn-dining-room/>
- From Old Faithful, head to West Thumb then South to Jackson Hole. Along this route, you may stay at Gros Ventre campground, just five or so miles outside of Jackson. The next morning, go into Jackson for a warm pecan roll and hot drink at Granny's. Ask at the visitor's center about the Tetons. https://www.nps.gov/grte/planyourvisit/camping.htm#CP_JUMP_1831997
- If you leave the Tetons about 5 p.m., you could return outside the park by way of Dubois, Riverton and Thermopolis. You could be in the vicinity of the ranch about 9 -10 p.m. and stay here for the night if you would like, then return your rental car the next morning and we could bring you back from Cody.

Here is a link to the map of Yellowstone:

<http://yellowstone.net/maps/yellowstone-national-park-map/>