

Winter Clothing and Equipment List for Safaris

Camera, Binoculars; If you have them bring them. If you have a digital camera, you may be able to take close photos of surprising quality through the spotting scopes provided.

Personnel First Aid Kit; Please bring any personal medications you require.

Alarm Clock; Make sure you're ready for early mornings, a secondary wakeup measure is a good idea.

Pocket -hand/ Foot Warmers; These can help with comfort, but do not rely on them for safety.

Weather in Yellowstone is unpredictable,; you will need to prepare for greater temperature and weather extremes. The elevation in the Park interior is 5000 to 7000 feet. If you are poorly prepared in winter conditions, "uncomfortable" can quickly become life threatening. Conditions could range from 20 - 30 degrees F below zero to the 30's above with calm or windy conditions. Heavy snows can occur daily. If you are adequately equipped with the right gear and clothing, you will have a more comfortable and enjoyable experience. If you have any questions about appropriate clothing or gear, please do not hesitate to contact us at the 406-848-7311.

Clothing

The layered use of synthetics and wool with protection from the wind is the goal of your clothing choices. Loose fitting layers allow you to maintain a comfortable and dry body by having flexibility in insulation as outside temperatures change and as your own body's temperature and moisture output changes with different levels of exertion. It is strongly recommended that you not wear cotton clothing outdoors in the winter, especially next to your skin.

Insulating Underwear; silk, polypropylene, or similar. Should have ability to wick moisture away from the body. A light or medium weight is adequate.

Lightweight Insulating Layer; A light 200 weight synthetic fleece shirt or wool garment is a good choice.

Heavyweight Insulating Layer; Fabric can be wool, down, heavy-weight fleece, or other synthetic fabric. A heavy winter coat with a water resistant shell will suffice for less active activities.

Wind/ Rain Jacket and Pants A layer that breaks the wind yet breathes is important. Gore Tex shells do both, but are expensive. Coated nylon blocks wind and rain and is economical, but doesn't release sweat. If your rain jacket does not breathe, you might consider a separate wind jacket. A jackey with a hood is a plus. Wind pants should be wind / water resistant and loose fitting.

Shirts; syntbetic shirts are ideal, because they wick moisture away from the body.

Pants; Wool or fleece pants or tights are recommended. The fleece variety in a 200 weight are excellent. Wool army surplus pants are okay, too. The tight fitting ski pants used for track or skate skiing are typically inadequate.

Hat; insulated hat that covers your ears.

Gloves; light weight glove liners, and a pair of heavy wool or fleece gloves or mittens. S water and windproof outer layer is recommended.

Neck Warmer / Gaiter; synthetic or wool is best.

Socks; A lightweight liner with heavyweight synthetic or wool socks are best however, if you have a system that works for you, bring that.

Gaiters; Knee-high length is recomended to keep the snow out of your boots and to keep your pants dry.

Insulated Boots should have a water repellent layer outside, thick insulation inside, and be large enough to fit over thick socks. Tight boots are the surest way to get painfully cold feet. General hiking boots will not provide adequate insulation.

Off-duty Shoes; sandals, athletic shoes, or other leisure footwear.

Equipmrnt

Your Guide will be carrying a first aid kit, bear spray (if needed), and emergency communication device.

Daypack; In addition to extra clothes, you'll be carrying water, lunch, and a camera, binoculars, field guides, and other items during your excursion away from the vehicle. Make sure your daypack is large enough to accommodate these items.

Water Bottle (reusable); Staying hydrated is very important. One quart / liter is the minimum recommended, Camelback or similar hydration systems work as well. To reduce our impact, we do not provide disposable water bottles.

Sunglasses / Goggles; Glare can be debilitating and damaging without proper eyewear out in the snowy landscape.

Sunscreen / Lip protectant; recommended.