



National Park Tour Preparation



The Night Before

Ana will attempt to contact you by cell phone text the night before to review departure time, needs & lunch plans. It is recommended that tours begin between 6:30–7:30 A.M., especially the full-day tours. This early departure will help start the tour ahead of traffic, increase your chances to see wildlife, capture the morning sun illuminating the Teton Range, and provide a reasonable return hour for dining. Please call 307.690.6106 if you have questions before the tour.

What to Anticipate During the Tour

Rules & Regulations: You will be asked to sign an *Acknowledgment of Risk* form and there will be a review of the *NP Rules & Regulations*. For your safety, you will be requested to follow the guide's instructions, wildlife viewing guidelines and understand inherent natural dangers. To minimize our impact on fragile and sensitive park features, collecting, defacing or destroying any plant, animal, or mineral is prohibited. Swimming generally discouraged and at your own risk.

Variable Weather Conditions: Please bring rain jackets, clothing layers, long pants, sunglasses, hats, and other suitable attire for variable mountain weather. You may travel to elevations up to 8,000ft, where weather conditions are unpredictable and can vary unexpectedly throughout the day. Rain, snow, hail, & wind are not uncommon and can appear without warning. Check forecast before you travel and on the morning of the tour. If there is a prediction of cold temps, knit hats and mittens take minimal packing space and will help keep you warm. Even with an umbrella, your shoes will get wet if its windy & raining heavily.

Physical Activity & Dangers: Since most of Grand Teton & Yellowstone Parks are above 6500ft, altitude sickness is a risk, which can be reduced by staying hydrated, having time to acclimate and avoiding alcohol. Your 'road-based' sightseeing tour will have exposure to many uncommon dangers associated with walking, natural environment, unpredictable wildlife & vehicular travel in the National Parks. All participants will be asked to review & sign a participation agreement & liability waiver. Please wear comfortable shoes (no flip flops) and be prepared for short walks (15-20min) on uneven paths... including paved walkways, elevated boardwalks, dirt trails, ramps & steps. Wheel chair rental is suggested for those with reduced mobility, as most viewpoints cannot be seen from the vehicle. Please inquire about hazards if you plan to swim in the lakes/ivers or wade in the "boiling river".

Travel Delays: Be prepared for possible travel delays due to animal crossings, slow traffic, road construction and your changing needs. Your return time may be delayed. It is recommended that you allow at least a 1/2-hour time window before a dinner or activity reservation, which immediately follows the tour.

Phone Service: Be prepared for limited/sparse cell coverage in both parks. Batteries deplete quickly, so bring portable chargers, or use Airplane Mode.

Touring Supplies: Binoculars are a must for wildlife viewing and you are encouraged to have your own for personal use. Guide will have a spotting scope for group use and a limited selection of binoculars. Picnic supplies, umbrellas, towels, coolers are available with advanced notice.

Covid: Park regulations may require vaccinations or negative test results for commercial vehicles. Please come prepared with documentation and masks. Facilities may require masks for entry. If using a step-on guide, please sanitize vehicle just prior to tour commencement. Guide may choose to wear a mask.

Meals and Refreshments

Meals: It is recommended that you eat a meal before the tour and please be sure to understand what meals are included in your tour. Restaurant dining is slow, so a picnic-style lunch is recommended to minimize delays and maintain a comfortable flow of the tour. Box lunches can be provided for an additional fee.

Snacks & Refreshments: Please bring your personal refillable water bottle, as their use is strongly encouraged by the Parks. Once in the National Parks, there are several areas to stop along the way where you may purchase general necessities. Snacks or drinks can be provided for an additional fee.

Alcoholic Beverages: Alcohol is permitted in picnic areas, but open containers must be disposed of, as the National Parks do not allow these in the vehicle and some public areas. It is suggested to purchase alcohol in advance, as selections are limited within the park.

Additional Fees and Information

Park Entry Pass: Your group's park entry pass is not included in the tour fees. Separate entry fees are required for each National Park. Commercial Tour rates apply: Sedan (1-6 seats) \$25+\$20/pp; Van (7-15 seats) \$125; Mini-bus (16-25 seats) \$200; Bus (26+ seats) \$300.

Additional Tour Hours: Please assist guide and adhere to the departures scheduled through the day. Additional fees may be charged when tours run over 12 hours due to client delays or special requests, such as shopping, "happy hour", dinner, additional scenic stops, photography, etc.

Refunds: No refunds for unexpected circumstances such as inclement weather, road closures, construction, etc. Cancellation policy applies.

Children: If using a chartered vehicle, an "extensive vehicle cleaning" fee may be charged for groups with children, as appropriate to damage or debris.

Please Advise: Please advise in advance of your special needs and requests, including dietary restrictions, medical conditions, allergies, wheel chairs, supplies, special occasions, etc. We do our very best to customize your tour especially for you.

Prior to Departure - Don't Forget

~ eat ~ bring water ~ use rest room ~ camera ~ portable charger ~ park pass (if pre-purchased) ~ comfortable shoes ~ layers, with jacket ~ smile

Thank you for choosing Ana's GRAND EXCURSIONS!
I look forward to sharing the beauty of Jackson Hole and neighboring National Parks. ~ Ana Rode