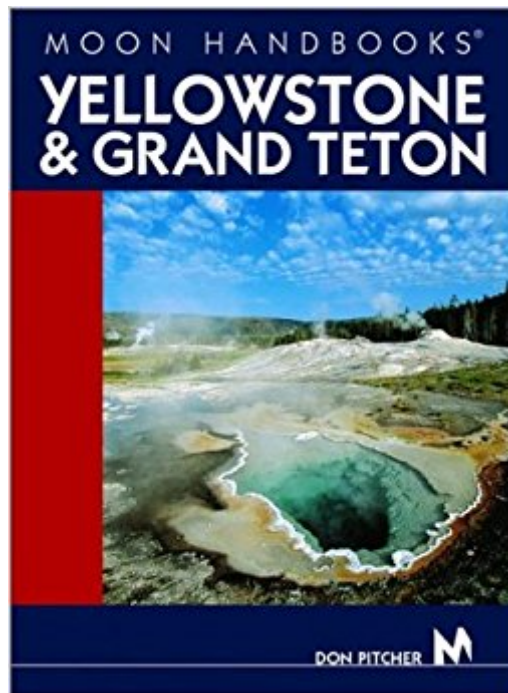




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Moon Handbooks Yellowstone And Grand Teton



Synopsis

Wildlife, wilderness, and solitude -- all can be found in Yellowstone National Park, and Don Pitcher's Moon Handbooks Yellowstone-Grand Teton eases travelers' search to find them. The Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem, encompassing Yellowstone and Grand Teton National parks, offers an impressive array of habitats -- from plains and valley, lakes and rivers to high peaks and steaming vents in the Earth. Both parks are flooded with visitors during the summer months, and smart planning is crucial to an enjoyable trip to this magnificent region. Moon Handbooks Yellowstone-Grand Teton offers extensive coverage of accommodations and campgrounds in the parks and in the gateway towns -- including Cody, Jackson, and West Yellowstone; dining and entertainment options; best bets for recreational opportunities, hiking, backcountry camping, fishing, winter sports, and much more. Author Don Pitcher's coverage of the geological, flora, fauna, and human histories of the region -- from Native inhabitants and the mountain men to the politician's who created the parks -- provide a detailed back-story to this most treasured piece of American soil. Comprehensive, insightful, and resourceful, Moon Handbooks Yellowstone-Grand Teton is a must-have for any vacation planning.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"America's finest travel guidebook series . . . extensively researched, engagingly written, intelligently indexed, and packed with helpful maps and sidebars."

Born in Atlanta, Georgia, Don Pitcher grew up all over the East Coast—from Florida to Maine. He moved west to attend college and immediately fell in love with its wide open spaces. Although trained as an ecologist, Don Pitcher's love of travel led him into the field of writing and photography. In addition to this book, he is the author of *Moon Handbooks Yellowstone-Grand Teton*, *Moon Handbooks Washington*, and *Moon Handbooks Alaska-Yukon*. His photographs have appeared in numerous books, calendars, magazines, and advertisements.

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First, beware, this book is largely about the towns surrounding Yellowstone. It has 30 pages on Grand Teton, 90 pages on Yellowstone, and 180 pages on areas outside the parks. The entire Yellowstone section is lumped into one item in the Table of Contents which means that to find say "old faithful" you have to either check the index or flip randomly through the book. Lastly, the lack of detail was appalling. For example it said only that Canyon has "various stores and eating places." Such as? A place to get a sandwich? A place for a nice dinner? A store with a good selection of camping gear? No way to know until you get there. I skimmed this book before I left but I was in Yellowstone for a week and barely opened this book because I found it so frustrating.

Teton Parks. The guide also provides helpful tips on highlights in both parks and the areas where you are most likely to see wildlife. The hotel reviews and contact information have been updated, and I found the reviews to be quite accurate. One of the best features of this book is the information included on Jackson, Wyoming, including a detailed block-by-block map of the city which shows the location of each restaurant, museum, art gallery, and store mentioned in the text. I like the Moon Handbook series because of the extensive historical information included in each book. This one is no exception. Using this book will give you a much greater appreciation of the area's fur trappers, early traders, and American Indian influences in addition to the natural beauty of the area.

I just came back from vacation in Jackson Hole, and this book was like a bible for our trip. Not only was it small enough not to be cumbersome in my bag, but it was so in-depth as to be excessive -- just like I like travel books to be. It is replete with local history, shopping and accommodations tips, geology, and so much more. My girlfriend's mom, a Jackson native who prides herself on her knowledge of the area and its wildlife, fell so in love with it I gave it to her. The only minor issue I had with the book was that he didn't include much discussion on birdlife (big deal, right?). If you're going to travel the whole state, please buy Pitcher's book on all of Wyoming. Incidentally, I am a very big fan of Lonely Planet guides, but there didn't appear to be a good one for Wyoming or this area.

I just returned from a visit to Yellowstone and found this book extremely helpful both in planning the trip and as a reference while there. I particularly liked the author's reviews of the accommodations within the park, which I found to be accurate, especially his reviews of the accommodations at the Old Faithful area, Canyon, and Lake Yellowstone. The book contains excellent, accurate maps and the descriptions of touring the park contain lots of little-known sites that were worth seeing. Also, the book contains great information on hikes within the park. I looked at several other guides to Yellowstone, this one by far outshines the other ones that I saw. Enjoy your visit to this wonderful park!

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There are many travel guides which will tell you where to eat, where to stay, and how much you can expect to spend. Some contain maps, important phone numbers, and local attractions. This book goes well beyond that. You will come away with a deep appreciation of the area and a better understanding of the wildlife. You will come to understand the differences between a black, brown, and grizzly bear and how to peacefully coexist with them in the park. You will learn how geysers work, what dangers exist, and how to help preserve the park for future generations.

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