

# Stanford **TRAVEL/STUDY**

## **YELLOWSTONE IN WINTER**

**January 25 to February 1, 2022**

One of the most unique wilderness adventures in the world is, without doubt, exploring Yellowstone National Park in the hushed majesty of winter. Traveling via heated snow coaches, we'll observe, close up, the wild animals of this tectonic hot spot as they survive the long Yellowstone winter. We'll drive along roads free of vehicles to view waterfalls framed by ice, a vast geyser basin filled with bubbling cauldrons, the limestone terraces of Mammoth Hot Springs, and Old Faithful as it erupts even more dramatically than usual into the cold winter air.

## **FACULTY LEADER**

### **Elizabeth A. Hadly**

Elizabeth A. Hadly is the faculty director of Jasper Ridge Biological Preserve, a senior fellow at the Woods Institute for the Environment and a professor of biology and of geological sciences (by courtesy)—all at Stanford University. Professor Hadly and her lab conduct research throughout the Americas, Asia and Africa on the ecology and evolution of vertebrates. She is especially interested in the impact that environmental change exerts on the biodiversity of mammals around the world. During our program, she will discuss the geological history of Yellowstone, its unique ecosystem and Yellowstone in the present time. "Yellowstone is the 'crown jewel' of America's national parks, as those who have stepped into its wilderness know," says Professor Hadly. "But for those who haven't been there in winter, you're in for a treat—the chance to be immersed in its vastness, the silence, the slowness of life." This is the 16th trip Professor Hadly will be leading for Stanford Travel/Study.

Also at Stanford:

- Faculty director, Jasper Ridge Biological Preserve, since 2016
- Mr. and Mrs. Frank W. Yeung Bass Fellow in Undergraduate Education, since 2015
- Senior fellow, Center for Innovation in Global Health, School of Medicine, since 2015
- Paul S. and Billie Achilles Chair of Environmental Biology, since 2012
- Professor, biology and, by courtesy, geological and environmental sciences, since 2010
- Senior fellow, Woods Institute for the Environment, since 2010
- BA, anthropology, 1981, University of Colorado; MS, quaternary science, Northern Arizona University; PhD, integrative biology, UC Berkeley

## **ITINERARY**

Tuesday, January 25

**BOZEMAN, MONTANA / PARADISE VALLEY**

Arrive on independent flights to Bozeman and transfer to the Sage Lodge, arriving in time for an orientation that prepares us for the splendid adventure that awaits us. Then gather for a welcome dinner. **SAGE LODGE (D)**

Wednesday, January 26

**BOZEMAN / MAMMOTH HOT SPRINGS, WYOMING**

Depart Bozeman and follow the Yellowstone River as we head south along the Old Yellowstone Trail, where we may spot elk, deer and bighorn sheep before passing through Roosevelt Arch en route to Mammoth Hot Springs. In the afternoon we walk the Lower Terrace, and those who are looking for a bit

more adventure can walk or snowshoe the Upper Terrace. Keep your camera ready, as you never know when the resident elk will make a visit to warm themselves at the thermal springs. This evening we have dinner in a lovely restaurant in the gateway town of Gardiner, Montana. MAMMOTH HOT SPRINGS HOTEL (B,L,D)

Thursday, January 27  
LAMAR VALLEY

Today is devoted to wildlife viewing in the snow-covered Lamar Valley. Our guide will provide spotting scopes so we can get close-up views, as they present themselves, of the resident bison using their heads to shove away the snow to get to the grass below, bighorn sheep clinging to cliffs and other wildlife doing their best to survive the long Yellowstone winter. Enjoy a simple lunch in Cooke City before returning to Mammoth Hot Springs through the valley for more wildlife viewing. There is time to relax at our hotel before dinner. MAMMOTH HOT SPRINGS HOTEL (B,L,D)

Friday, January 28  
GRAND CANYON OF YELLOWSTONE / OLD FAITHFUL

A special treat at Yellowstone in the winter is a ride on one of the heated snow coaches that allow us to traverse roads that are closed during the winter in the southern half of the park. Midday we'll stop at the Grand Canyon of the Yellowstone to take in the unusual sight of ice-covered waterfalls. Along our drive we may share the road with herds of bison or catch a glimpse of trumpeter swans. Arriving in Old Faithful Village, check in to Yellowstone's winter lodge and enjoy a relaxing dinner and evening. OLD FAITHFUL SNOW LODGE (B,L,D)

Saturday, January 29  
OLD FAITHFUL / UPPER GEYSER BASIN

This morning explore the boardwalks surrounding Old Faithful and the Upper Geyser Basin, the largest concentration of geysers in the world. The geysers provide another unique winter sight: trees, covered in rime frost, hovering along the path. This afternoon explore the winter wonderland around us by choosing to hike or snowshoe, or simply relax by the fireplace at the lodge. After dinner bundle up to go view an eruption of nearby Old Faithful, which is made especially dramatic in the winter when the plume of hot water hits the cold air. OLD FAITHFUL SNOW LODGE (B,L,D)

Sunday, January 30  
OLD FAITHFUL / UPPER GEYSER BASIN

Take another day to explore this exciting thermal region with your guides, or simply relax at the lodge and enjoy the stillness of winter all around you. OLD FAITHFUL SNOW LODGE (B,L,D)

Monday, January 31  
YELLOWSTONE / BOZEMAN

Board our snow coach this morning for a return trip to Mammoth Hot Springs, this time stopping at the Norris Geyser Basin, Artist Paint Pots, Roaring Mountain and Obsidian Cliff. As we leave the park we travel through the spectacular Paradise Valley back to Bozeman, where we can relax before a delicious farewell dinner. ELEMENT BOZEMAN (B,L,D)

Tuesday, February 1  
BOZEMAN / HOME

After breakfast at the hotel, transfer to the airport for flights home. (B)

## INFORMATION

### Covid-19 and Travel

With travel requirements and local Covid-19 conditions changing weekly, travel protocols for specific destinations will be shared with confirmed travelers closer to departure. To read more about Travel/Study's approach to ensuring traveler health and safety, visit our [Covid-19 Travel page](#).

### Size

This trip is limited to 15 travelers. Travel/Study is committed to providing a low-density experience on all programs and will implement protocols to do so, including social distancing on transportation as well as during lectures, meals and excursions. Single accommodations are limited.

### Cost\*

\$8,995 per person, double occupancy

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\*Stanford Alumni Association nonmembers add \$300 per person.

### Included

- Educational program with lecture series and predeparture materials, including an education resource list and travel information
- 7 nights of hotel accommodations
- 7 breakfasts, 6 lunches and 7 dinners
- Welcome and farewell receptions
- Gratuities to guides and drivers for all group activities
- All tours and excursions as described in the itinerary
- Transfers and baggage handling on program arrival and departure days
- On-tour quarantine-related trip-cancellation, -interruption and -delay insurance coverage
- General medical, accident and evacuation insurance
- Educational program with lecture series and predeparture materials, including an education resource list and travel information
- Services of our professional tour manager to assist you throughout the program

### Not Included

- Your personal flights to and from the program
- Passport and visa fees
- Immunization costs
- Meals and beverages other than those specified as included
- Independent and private transfers
- Nonquarantine-related trip-cancellation, -interruption and -delay insurance coverage
- Baggage insurance
- Excess-baggage charges
- Personal items such as internet access, telephone calls, laundry and gratuities for nongroup services

### **Air Arrangements**

You are responsible for booking and purchasing airfare to the start location and from the end location of the program. These air purchases are NOT included in the program cost. To assist you in making these independent arrangements, we will send you details with your confirmation materials on when to arrive and depart.

### **What to Expect**

This trip offers the opportunity to experience the winter wonderland of Yellowstone at a relatively gentle pace. The majority of the program's activities take place outdoors on varying terrain in temperatures likely to be at or below freezing. Most paths are paved walkways or wooden boardwalks but may be coated with snow or ice, so participants are encouraged to bring walking sticks, sturdy boots and/or Yaktrax to make our walks safer and more relaxing. Excursions may involve up to one mile of walking (longer optional hikes are available).

On this program, participants travel aboard passenger vans and snow coaches, the longest drives taking up to eight hours (including rest stops and opportunities for sightseeing). Participants must be able to climb up and down a flight of stairs to board our transports and be sure-footed on frozen or ice-covered terrain. We will encounter varying altitudes, with the highest being 7,700 feet above sea level. Participants should be physically fit, active and in good health. We welcome travelers 15 years of age and older on this program.

## **TERMS AND CONDITIONS**

### **Eligibility**

We encourage membership in the Stanford Alumni Association as the program cost for nonmembers is \$300 more than the members' price. The nonmember fee is waived for anyone traveling as a paid guest of a current member, as well as for emerita or emeritus faculty and staff. To purchase a membership, call (650) 725-0692 or [click here](#) for more information.

### **Deposits, Payments and Cancellations**

A \$1,000-per-person deposit is required to reserve space on this program. Final payment is due 120 days prior to the program start. Deposits and any payments are refundable, less a \$500-per-person cancellation fee, until 120 days prior to departure. After that date, refunds can be made only if the program is sold out and we resell your place(s), in which case a \$1,000-per-person cancellation fee will apply.

### **Insurance**

Stanford Travel/Study provides all travelers who are U.S. or Canadian citizens with general medical, accident and evacuation coverage, as well as on-tour quarantine-related trip-cancellation, -interruption and -delay insurance coverage, under our group-travel insurance policy. Our group policy is intended to provide minimal levels of protection while you are traveling on this program. You may choose to subscribe to optional nonquarantine-related trip-cancellation, -interruption and -delay insurance coverage and/or baggage insurance. Information offering such insurance will be included in your confirmation materials. The product offered includes special benefits if you purchase your insurance within 14 days of receiving your welcome email.

### **Responsibility**

The Stanford Alumni Association, Stanford University and our operators act only as agents for the passenger with respect to transportation and exercise every care possible in doing so. However, we can assume no liability for injury, damage, loss, accident, delay or irregularity in connection with the service of any automobile, motor coach, launch or any other conveyance used in carrying out this program or for the acts or defaults of any company or person engaged in conveying the passenger or in carrying out the arrangements of the program. We cannot accept any responsibility for losses or additional expenses due to delay or changes in air or other services, sickness, weather, strike, war, quarantine, force majeure or other causes beyond our control. All such losses or expenses will have to be borne by the passenger, as tour rates include arrangements only for the time stated. We reserve the right to make such alterations to this published itinerary as may be deemed necessary. We reserve the right to cancel any program prior to departure, in which case the entire payment will be refunded without further obligation on our part. We also reserve the right to decline to accept or retain any person as a member of the program. No refund will be made for an unused portion of any tour unless arrangements are made in sufficient time to avoid penalties. Baggage is carried at the owner's risk entirely. The airlines concerned are not to be held responsible for any act, omission or event during the time passengers are not on board their plane or conveyance. Neither the Stanford Alumni Association, nor Stanford University, nor our operators accept liability for any carrier's cancellation penalty incurred by the purchase of a nonrefundable ticket in connection with the tour. Program price is based on rates in effect at the time the brochure is published and is subject to change without notice to reflect fluctuations in exchange rates, tariffs or fuel charges. As a condition of participation, all confirmed participants are required to sign an Assumption of Risk.

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