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Spectacular Yellowstone And Grand Teton National Parks



Synopsis

Spectacular Yellowstone and Grand Teton National Parks captures the breathtaking landscape and wildlife of one of America's most renowned regions. More than 275 photographs from some of the country's best nature photographers recreate the adventure and grandeur of this area that combines the world's greatest collection of geothermal features, some of the West's most spectacular mountains and its best wildlife viewing areas. This unique large-format book offers guided tours in words and pictures of Yellowstone and Grand Teton, with thirty-six pages of foldouts, each more than three feet wide, designed to illustrate the wide-open expanse of these national park gems. Yellowstone was set aside as America's first national park in 1872. Since then, interest in the park has grown dramatically and today, more than 3 million people visit the two parks annually. Grand Teton National Park, home of the majestic mountain range, was preserved as a national park in 1929. This book offers stunning photographs of every corner of the 2.2 million acres that make up these parks, including such treasures as Lake Yellowstone, the Grand Canyon of the Yellowstone River, and the world's most famous geyser, Old Faithful, as well as rainbow-colored geyser basins of the north Mammoth country, and herds of buffalo and elk on the wide plains of the Lamar Valley. Sit back and behold the beauty of the Grand Tetons at sunset, the breathtaking vistas over the Snake River, or the refreshing waterfalls off the Bechler River trail. Whether it's boating on Jackson Lake or a hike around Grand Prismatic Spring that you desire, Spectacular Yellowstone and Grand Teton National Parks takes you deep into the parks' many gorgeous landscapes in every season of the year.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Spectacular Yellowstone and Grand Teton National Parks Mar 31, 2008 This stunning new collection of expansive, mind-opening photographs and illuminating essays richly conveys the wild wonders -- and complex challenges -- of two renowned national parks. Yellowstone and Grand Teton. For the casual traveler, these words evoke the wild grandeur of the Old West - the wide-open West of shark-tooth peaks, skyscraping geysers, snaking rivers, plunging waterfalls and lush pristine valleys, and of course free-roaming bison and wolf, elk and bear. For the better informed traveler, these words also evoke a complicated interconnection of wilderness and civilization, conservation and cultivation, preservation and exploitation, resource and reward: an iconic exemplar of the potentials and problems of sustaining wilderness in the 21st century. An extraordinarily beautiful and informative new book, "Spectacular Yellowstone and Grand Teton National Parks" poignantly portrays the exhilarating splendors of these two national parks and the daunting array of challenges confronting them. The book begins with an excellent essay, by Charles R. Preston, which cogently reviews the history of the region and introduces the notion of the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem, then succinctly summarizes the key issues that have shaped its evolution. Five succeeding chapters by Susan Kraft and Letitia Burns O'Connor focus on individual areas and attractions of Yellowstone National Park: Mammoth Hot Springs, the Geyser Basins, the Grand Canyon of the Yellowstone, Lamar Valley, and Yellowstone Lake. O'Conner then describes the history and highlights of Grand Teton National Park. The edifying final chapter, "Elements of the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem," by Jim Robbins, uses the four elements -- fire, water, air and earth - to delineate the lessons of the region. While these texts are all enlightening, the real glory of this book is the more than 275 photographs, many of them stunning, which brilliantly portray the diversity of the region's natural features and wild creatures. Prime among the book's visual treasures are 36 pages of three-foot-wide foldout photographs that exquisitely illustrate the region's expansive glories. The pictures and essays in "Spectacular Yellowstone and Grand Teton National Parks" are gifts to cherish - as are the national treasures they celebrate. [Spectacular Yellowstone and Grand Teton National Parks; text and photographs by various contributors; published by Universe Publishing, a division of Rizzoli International Publications, Inc; copyright 2007 Dana Levy and Letitia Burns O'Conner; hardcover, 132 pages; \$45.] The following Adventure Collection members offer trips to the Yellowstone and Grand Teton region: Backroads, Natural Habitat Adventures, NOLS, OARS, and Off the Beaten Path. -- written by Don George for Adventure

Charles Preston is the chief curator at the Buffalo Bill Historical Center. Jim Robbins is a journalist, specializing in environmental issues. Susan Kraft is a freelance writer and the former curator of Yellowstone Park Museum and Archives. Lee Whittlesey is a Yellowstone Park historian. Letitia Burns O'Connell is an editor and freelance writer.

I ordered this book soon after returning home from a visit to Yellowstone and Grand Teton Parks. The book was prominently displayed in all the gift shops and hotels within the parks, but I didn't like the idea of having to cart this rather large book around and had no idea how I would pack it for the plane trip home. I guess I could have mailed it, but that would just have added to the fairly steep full-price the gift shops were already charging. I thought I might get a better price online and it would also solve my shipping problems. The online price was considerably less than retail and even better than I had hoped. As I said, this book is big. It measures approximately 12x16 inches which makes the coffee table really the only place for it. It would really stick out on a bookshelf. The photographs inside are truly spectacular and need to be displayed in large landscape format. Many of the panoramic photos are folded over and once opened, extend well beyond the book's 12x16 inches. I am a photographer myself, so I have an appreciation for good photography. The images in this book are first-rate and I would be proud to be author of any of them. The print quality is also excellent. The book is well laid out with the text following a logical order documenting the history of the parks through to the present day. There are an abundance of maps, charts and other illustrations to compliment the narrative. I highly recommend this book.

I was born and raised in south eastern Idaho and spent many days touring and hiking through Yellowstone and hiking and climbing in the Tetons. My 40 year career was centered around the design and production of print media and so I can speak with a certain credibility about "Spectacular Yellowstone and Grand Teton National Parks". It is beautifully designed and logically organized. It is printed on a heavy, top quality paper. The history of each park is well documented although some of the pictures could have been a little larger. My greatest disappointment about the Yellowstone section is the lack of information and photographs of the iconic Old Faithful Inn. Built in 1903-04 of locally harvested lodgepole pine logs, it is the largest log structure in the United States if not the world. The lobby is four stories high with an 85ft tall, four-sided stone fireplace. The Inn is a must see. I was also disappointed in the lack of information

about the 1988 fires that ravaged Yellowstone, and the near miraculous recovery that made it the jewel it is today. My disappointment about Grand Teton National Park was the lack of pictures and information about Jenny Lake or any of the other natural lakes. The "Beaver Dick" story about how Jenny and Leigh Lakes got their names would have been a nice inclusion. The foldout of the Teton range was nice but a better view would have been from the summit of Signal Mountain (easily accessible by a paved road). The photographs and information about the Beartooth Pass between Cooke City and Red Lodge, Montana was a pleasant surprise. Rising to almost 11,000 feet it is a truly spectacular drive.

Bigger does not mean better. As coffee table book in the dentist office this book is a good addition for quick page turning. As a photographer looking for inspiration and expecting National Geographic level of production it was impossible to ignore the inconsistent quality of the pictures. Book was printed (poorly) in China. Some pictures reminded me of touristy snapshots. While others, which I am sure are great pictures hanging somewhere, the highlights were blown out, some pictures were too dark and in general the pictures were printed as a homogenized average of high and low tones that lacked any clarity and drama. A collection of photographers were used which would possibly explain the varying degrees of level of expertise shown. I would have to believe most would not be happy when they see how their pictures were reproduced. I returned book (quickly).

This is just one fabulous book. We got it for a very special person for a Christmas present and the whole family was ohhing and awwwwing over it. We were especially happy that it came overnight after we found that we had overlooked ordering it. It arrived on Christmas Eve. Whew. Thank you .

When I ordered "Spectacular Yellowstone and Grand Teton National Parks," I expected it to deliver superb photographs of park vistas, and it does. What really impressed me, however, is that the author went the second mile with terrific wildlife photos and with text that is well-written and well-researched. The text includes much historical background as well as commentary on the ecosystem by people who know what they are talking about.

I bought 2 books after visiting Grand Teton and Yellowstone National parks. I have given one as a present to some friends that came from Sweden to visit those 2 parks with us. Each time I look inside the book it is as if I am transported back to those 2 fabulous parks. You can buy this book inside the park but the cost is around \$42.00

This is a large hard back book showing spectacular photos of Yellowstone and Grand Tetons National Parks. There is also text with explanations and other information about the pictures and parks. After visiting both parks, I wanted something to supplement my memories and the many shots I took. I think this high quality book was a great choice.

Beautiful book. Visited Yellowstone and Grand Tetons last summer. These are photos you couldn't catch in 100 years. This book is cheaper on than it was in any park stores

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