

Hoofin' It in the Tetons

Grand Teton Mountains, Wyoming

July 18 - 25, 2008 (Friday - Friday)

The Grand Tetons are a unique mountain range: forty miles long and eight miles wide, created by movement along a fault that started 13 million years ago. The mountain block uplifted along the western side of the fault while the valley block dropped down on the eastern side. This block was then sculpted by glaciers into the dramatic peaks that are so well documented in Ansel Adams' photographs. The western side of the mountains, sloping gradually back down to the plains, are quite different: fewer lakes and more streams, high mountain meadows, tall pines, and terrain that is perfect for exploring on horseback. Despite the differences in climate and topography, both sides of the range are known for spectacular mountain wildflowers and abundant wildlife. During our stay we are very likely to see moose, bison, elk, bears, pronghorns, mule deer, pika, marmots, beavers, and the Golden-mantled ground squirrel. Bird life is also abundant: kestrels, ospreys, bald eagles, American white pelicans, and numerous songbirds.

This trip is designed to give you a close-up view of all the ecosystems in the Grand Tetons - by water, by foot, and by hoof. If the Grand Tetons are on your "must see" list, we can't think of a better introduction.

Our trip begins on July 18 when we meet you at the airport in Idaho Falls, Idaho at 1 pm. We will drive to Yellowstone National Park and check into our cabin at Old Faithful Lodge. After we get settled we will take a short hike, watch Old Faithful and share a welcome dinner. We'll get up early the next morning for an exploration of Yellowstone; since we only have one day, we'll hit some of the major highlights. That afternoon we leave for the Grand Tetons and our lodging at Signal Mountain Lodge. Sunday morning we will hike the trail to Taggart Lake. Both the wildflowers and the background of jagged peaks make this one of the premiere trails in the park. After a picnic lunch we will catch a boat ride across Jenny Lake to the mouth of Cascade Canyon for some additional hiking.

On Monday, we say goodbye to Signal Lodge and head for Jackson Hole. We'll give our legs a rest as we see the landscape from the perspective of a raft on the Snake River. This part of the Snake River offers some of the wildest whitewater in Wyoming. With rapids with names like "Big Kahuna" and "Lunch Counter", this 8-mile portion of the river is guaranteed to cause huge smiles! After this fun-filled morning you'll have the afternoon to wander this interesting town and have lunch on your own. From there we drive back over the pass to the western side of the mountains where we'll stay in a motel for the night.

Tuesday is the beginning of the horseback riding part of our adventure. We'll meet our wranglers and the horses that have been chosen for us based on our experience and preferences. The exact pack trip we do will depend on the current weather and snow conditions. We'll pack into a remote backcountry campsite the first day, set up camp, and have some time to relax. The next day we'll enjoy a hearty breakfast in camp, then pack up lunch for an all day trail ride. Typically the trails will take us above tree line, through open alpine meadows, to vistas that stretch out for miles. In partnership with our well-trained and sure-footed equine companion, we experience a great sense of freedom and of wilderness. At night we return to our camp for a delicious dinner and sitting around the campfire. The last morning we'll return by a different route to our starting point. After bidding farewell to our horses and wranglers, we'll drive to Idaho Falls where we'll enjoy hot showers and our farewell dinner. You are free to leave anytime on July 25.

To reserve a place on this adventure, send your deposit of \$300 or the full trip fee of \$2025 (deduct \$50 if you register by 3/18) to the Adventures in Good Company office, register on our web site, or call to register by phone. The trip fee includes seven nights lodging, all meals from lunch on Friday through dinner the last Thursday (except for one lunch), all activities on the itinerary, roundtrip transportation from Idaho Falls, and experienced guides. Three months before the trip we'll send you a complete packing list and other information to help you prepare. If you have any questions, please call the Adventures in Good Company office. We'd love to welcome you to this riding adventure!

A d v e n t u r e s i n G o o d C o m p a n y

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