



# Around Grand Teton

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## Best Places to Eat

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## Best Places to Stay

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## Why Go?

Outside the park boundaries, the landscape doesn't suddenly turn dull. The rampage of beauty continues with cold clear rivers, winding singletracks and steep powder runs. Visit this region in winter and you will find Jackson Hole and Grand Targhee resorts serving up deep, pillow snow. Lodges light roaring fires and the wilderness becomes a haven for dogsledding, snowshoeing, ski touring and frozen fun.

Posh and popular Jackson serves as the regional hub and base camp, where you can browse for Western baubles, down pints of fresh organic lager or wrap yourself in honey and rose petals. The foodie scene is among the best in the West, with an emphasis on local, farm-raised food. On the Idaho side, rural Teton Valley is another world. If you have come to embrace every scrap of solitude, a trip west across the divide might be in order.

## Road Distances (miles)

Teton Village	15			
Moose	15	10		
Victor, ID	25	25	35	
Grant Village (Yellowstone)	80	75	65	100
Jackson				
Teton Village				
Moose				
Victor, ID				

Note: Distances are approximate

## Jackson

📍 307 / POP 10,135 / ELEV 6234 FT

Beautiful and studiously rustic, this town, technically in Wyoming, has the highest per-capita income in the US: with no income tax, it's a haven for millionaires. Once a diamond in the rough, it nowadays has McMansions spreading like brucellosis. This is the new West, a human confluence that includes ranchers, rhinestone cowboys, mountain athletes and an army of service workers. As the community evolves, tensions sometimes flare over wilderness issues, since 97% of Teton County is, in fact, public land.

Yet Jackson is abuzz with life: trails and outdoor opportunities abound, fresh sushi is flown in daily and generous purse strings support a vigorous cultural life. When it becomes a little much, just skip the souvenir shops and dwell in the glorious backyard called Grand Teton National Park.

Jackson marks the intersection of Hwy 22 (heading west to Teton Pass) and US 26/89/191. The main drag follows East-West Broadway into the downtown area, where it turns north onto Cache Dr at the town square, the heart of the pedestrian-oriented commercial district. Hwy 390 (Moose-Wilson Rd) leads north 7 miles to Teton Village.

## 👁 Sights

### ★ National Museum of Wildlife Art

MUSEUM

(📍 307-733-5771; [www.wildlifeart.org](http://www.wildlifeart.org); 2820 Rungius Rd; adult/child \$14/6; ☎ 9am-5pm, from 11am Sun spring & fall) If you visit one area museum, make it this one, with major works by Bierstadt, Rungius, Remington and Russell. It's worth driving up just for the outdoor sculptures and the building itself (inspired by a ruined Scottish castle). The **discovery gallery** has a kids' studio for drawing and print rubbing that adults plainly envy. Check the website for summer film-series and art-class schedules.

### National Elk Refuge

WILDLIFE RESERVE

(📍 307-733-9212; [www.fws.gov/refuge/national\\_elk\\_refuge](http://www.fws.gov/refuge/national_elk_refuge); Hwy 89; ☎ 8am-5pm Sep-May, to 7pm Jun-Aug) **FREE** This refuge protects Jackson's herd of several thousand elk, offering them a winter habitat from November to March. During summer, ask at the Jackson visitor center for the best places to see elk. An hour-long horse-drawn sleigh ride is the highlight of a winter visit; buy tickets at the visitor center.

## Center for the Arts

ARTS CENTER

(📍 307-733-4900; [www.jhcenterforthearts.org](http://www.jhcenterforthearts.org); 240 S Glenwood S) One-stop shopping for culture, attracting big-name concert acts and featuring theater performances, classes, art exhibits and events. Check the calendar of events online. Students get discounts on performances.

## Jackson National Fish Hatchery

FISH HATCHERY

(📍 307-733-2510; 1500 Fish Hatchery Rd; ☎ 8am-4pm) **FREE** Just north of the elk refuge, with daily tours.



## Activities

### Goodwin Lake & Jackson Peak

HIKING

This 9-mile round-trip is one of the closest summits to Jackson with cross-valley Teton views. The bare, pointed summit of Jackson Peak (10,741ft) sits above a lake. Its most secure approach winds left up a gradual saddle. Continue past Goodwin Lake heading south-east, crossing an open field. Take a right at a well-worn but narrow trail marked with cairns. Climb steeply to the ridge, crossing snow patches and rocky outcrops to the peak.

To get here, drive east on East Broadway until it ends, turning left into the National Elk Refuge. The road switchbacks. Bear right at Curtis Canyon for Goodwin Lake (after 9.2 miles) and drive 2.7 miles to the parking lot. The trail climbs steadily through a field of wildflowers, topping out on a level hilltop, and passing through fragrant forests of Douglas fir. Approach the forested shores of Goodwin Lake (880ft), a nice spot for a swim or trout fishing.

Return via the same route. Dogs allowed.

### Mill Iron Ranch

HORSEBACK RIDING

(📍 888-808-6390, 307-733-6390; [www.millironranch.net](http://www.millironranch.net); 5 US Hwy 89; 2hr ride \$60) This fourth-generation operation of a Wyoming ranch family is the real deal. Climbing 2000ft, its two-hour ride in the Bridger-Teton National Forest is rated the number-one trail ride in the US. It also offers dinner rides, sleigh rides and barn dances. To get there, drive south from Jackson on Hwy 89.

## Jackson Hole Mountain Guides

ROCK CLIMBING

(📍 307-733-4979, 800-239-7642; [www.jhmg.com](http://www.jhmg.com); 1325 US 89, Suite 104) With world-class climbing at your fingertips, Jackson is an ideal center for instruction or guided climbs. This place offers guided Teton rock climbing and programs for kids.