



# WYOMING SOLAR ECLIPSE 2017

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

**Helpful Information and Tips for the Best Wyoming Eclipse Experience**

### GENERAL ECLIPSE INFORMATION

#### **What is a total solar eclipse?**

Essentially, it's when the moon moves in front of the sun, covering it completely for a very short time. Stars come out, the horizon glows with a 360-degree sunset, the temperature drops, and day turns to night. The darkness of the sky gives you a unique view of the beautiful corona that surrounds the sun. **IMPORTANT NOTE:** You'll want to pick up a pair of eclipse glasses to see this event take place; looking directly at the sun without these specialized glasses could cause eye damage. (source: [eclipse2017.org](http://eclipse2017.org))

#### **When will it happen?**

Monday, August 21st, 2017. Go ahead and clear your calendar, you won't want to miss it. Timing of the eclipse will vary based on where you are located along the path of totality. Check out [www.eclipse2017.org](http://www.eclipse2017.org) for the actual times of totality from your viewing location.

#### **Aren't these pretty common?**

Not as common as you might think. While one happens every year or other year somewhere on earth, you have to be situated in a very narrow strip of land (called the path of totality) if you want to see the total phase of the eclipse. Otherwise, all you'll see is a partial eclipse – more common, and honestly not nearly as cool. (source: [eclipse2017.org](http://eclipse2017.org))

#### **When was the last total solar eclipse in the USA?**

The only total eclipses that have happened in the last 40 years in the US were in 1979 (in the northwest part of the country only) and in 1991 in Hawaii only. (source: [eclipse2017.org](http://eclipse2017.org))

#### **Where should I be to watch it?**

For the 2017 Eclipse, there is a strip of land about 70 miles wide called the "path of totality" that stretches from central Oregon across the country through South Carolina; however, we will argue that Wyoming will offer the best viewing experience! With its big open skies, plethora of public land access, and lowest light population in the country, Wyoming is almost certain to offer the best opportunity for a clear, crisp viewing experience.

#### **Why Wyoming?**

Many Wyoming destinations fall within the eclipse's path of totality. In addition, Wyoming's low light pollution makes the state the ideal place to be when the sky goes dark in August.

## **Which Wyoming destinations are directly along the path of totality?**

Destinations that lie directly within the path of totality include: Grand Teton National Park, Jackson, Dubois, Lander, Riverton, Arapahoe, Ethete, Fort Washakie, Pavilion, Shoshoni, Boysen Reservoir State Park, Wind River Canyon, Casper, Glenrock, Douglas, Lusk, Guernsey, Guernsey State Park, Glendo State Park, Wheatland, Fort Laramie National Historic Site, and Torrington

## **Which Wyoming destinations are close to the path of totality?**

Luckily for Wyoming, the path of totality will cross the center of the state making it very easy for viewers to get to a great viewing site easily. No matter where you're adventuring within the state, you can be within the path of totality within 2 hours. Check out our interactive map to start exploring all of the places to stay, places to view, and things to do within Wyoming during the 2017 eclipse.

## **VIEWING TIPS**

### **\*Eye Protection**

We can't stress this enough; you will need some fun and fashionable eclipse glasses in order to actually view the eclipse. Sorry, sunglasses aren't enough. If these aren't an accessory that you already have on hand – no need to worry, we have you covered. You will be able to pick up eclipse glasses at numerous places throughout Wyoming leading up to the event.

### **\*Weather**

It may sound obvious, but you will have to be able to see the sun if you want to see the eclipse. Keep an eye on the weather forecast in the days leading up to the event. If your planned area's forecast looks cloudy or overcast, you may want to look at other areas nearby that will likely have clear skies.

## **ADVENTURING IN WYOMING**

### **Drink Plenty of Water**

Be sure to drink plenty of water while adventuring in Wyoming. Drinking lots of water is the number one way to help your body adjust easily to our higher altitude. While the higher elevation and drier air translate to bluer and clearer skies, it can also cause some to become dehydrated and/or sunburned more quickly.

### **Pack the Sunscreen**

With higher elevation comes less protection from the sun, so be sure to pack the sunscreen. It's not a bad idea to throw in sunglasses, and lip balm as well!

### **Phone and Data Connectivity**

Cell service and bandwidth are expected to be limited during the event: don't be surprised if you can't receive calls or texts, and plan accordingly. Disconnecting can be a good thing when planned!

### **Be an Explorer**

Plan your trip to take in the vibrant communities, public lands, and natural wonders throughout the state.

### **Download the App**

Find useful information by downloading apps from Wyoming State Parks, the National Park Service, and Forest Service or [click here](#) for more planning resources.