

Route Overview

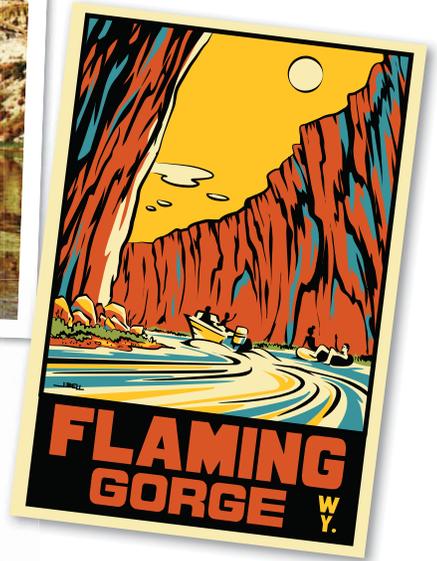
Stops: 30

Distance: About 279 miles

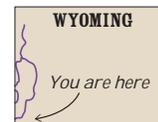
Start: Evanston

End: Yellowstone National Park

Estimated Drive Time: 5.5 hours



SALT TO STONE



EVANSTON TO KEMMERER

If you're headed into Wyoming from the southwest corner, the preferred route is Salt to Stone, which runs northward along Wyoming's western side and ends at Grand Teton or Yellowstone national parks. Upon crossing the Wyoming state line, stop in **Evanston**, a railroad town founded in 1868. Surrounded by mountains on all sides, Evanston is a hub for fishing, hunting, hiking, mountain biking and wildlife viewing.

From Evanston head to **Bear River State Park**, where you can stop off at the visitor center to speak with locals about your travel plans. Bear River State Park is home to a small herd of bison and elk and three miles of foot trails.

Continue east on I-80 to visit **Fort Bridger State Historic Site**. Fort Bridger was originally established as an emigrant supply stop

along the Oregon Trail. Visit historic buildings like the trading post and stone barracks and browse through the museum and gift shops.

Next, dip down from the town of **Green River** into **Flaming Gorge National Recreation Area**. More than 2.5 million boaters, campers, hikers, fishermen, cross-country skiers and other outdoor enthusiasts recreate here each year.

Find your way back to the interstate and exit onto Hwy 30 to the town of **Kemmerer**, which is home to two famous festivals: Fossil Fest in June and Oyster Ridge Music Festival in July. It's also where James Cash "J.C." Penney founded his first retail store in 1902 when it was a booming mining town.

Just west of Kemmerer is **Fossil Butte National Monument**. As Wyoming's newest national monument, it contains more than 8,000 acres and protects

a portion of the largest deposit of freshwater fish fossils in the world. The visitor center houses more than 300 fossils but if that's not enough, hike one of the interpretive trails.

KEMMERER TO PINEDALE OR AFTON

Once you've stopped in Kemmerer, choose between Pinedale and Afton as your next destination.

- **Pinedale** is nestled on the western flank of the Wind River Mountain Range. The 12-mile-long boater- and fisher-friendly Fremont Lake is just three miles from town. On your way to the lake, stop by the **Museum of the Mountain Man** for a fascinating look into life during the 1800s fur trade era.

- **Afton** is located in a growing rural community along the banks of Swift Creek. It's home to the world's largest elk-antler arch, built in 1958 with more than 3,000 elk

antlers. Locals contribute to the growing arch when elk shed their antlers each year.

ALPINE TO JACKSON HOLE

Head north from Afton to the beautiful town of **Alpine**, less than an hour away. The town is surrounded by national forest and connects to Jackson Hole by the Snake River Canyon, making it a gateway to Yellowstone and Grand Teton national parks. Alpine is known as a headquarters for water sports on the nearby **Palisades Reservoir**, and with many streams and three rivers converging in the town of Alpine, the fishing is among the best in Wyoming.

It's a remarkable drive from Alpine northeast to Jackson — one you'll be glad to take again and again. The **Jackson Hole** area is encompassed by craggy mountain barriers. It's a beautiful spot for outdoor recreation and wildlife

watching. Before heading into Yellowstone and Grand Teton national parks, stop in Jackson to sample world-class dining or ride the tram up Jackson Hole Mountain Resort's slopes, which satisfy powder-hungry skiers each winter.

JACKSON HOLE TO YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK

Grand Teton National Park shelters stunning mountain scenery and a diverse array of wildlife. Rising more than 7,000 feet above the valley of Jackson Hole, the Teton Range dominates the park's skyline. The range is very popular among climbers, hikers and photographers.

Yellowstone National Park has more than 2 million acres of sprawling wilderness to explore, including the world-famous Old Faithful geyser. The park's vast network of trails takes hikers to hundreds of secluded places where nature is left to its own devices.

For additional routes and information, visit TravelWyoming.com/Itineraries.