



# FALL RIVER RANCH

## Information to know before your stay:

**General Information:** Please read the description provided in our VRBO or AirBNB listing for more information about the ranch, its general location, and nearby attractions and activities.

### House Rules:

- No pets at the ranch
- No fireworks at the ranch or surrounding forest at any time
- NO SMOKING allowed on the property
- Fires are only allowed in designated firepits
- No hunting is allowed unless you have written approval from the owner
- ATVs and motorcycles may only be operated on the gravel driveway and parking areas
- Keep garage doors closed at all times when not in use (especially at night) to keep wildlife out of the trash
- Cabinets, closets, and garage stalls that are locked are for the owners' use

**Travel to the Ranch:** The ranch address is 4777 E 1200 N, Ashton, ID 83420. Before you leave, use Google Maps or iMaps to familiarize yourself with the ranch's location and the route you will take to get there. The last road you are on before you reach our gravel drive is east E 1200 N. Our gravel drive is on the left just before E 1200 N turns from pavement to gravel, which makes it hard to miss.

There is a green road sign that reads “4777” at the entrance of our gravel drive. If you reach the Targhee National Forest sign on the right and a gravel parking lot on the left, you have gone about 100 feet too far. After you turn left on our gravel drive, you will drive approximately 1.25 miles to reach our ranch gate. Drive straight ahead and you will arrive at the lodge. *(Note: If you are coming from the direction of towns like Jackson, WY or Driggs/Victor, Idaho you should avoid navigation routes that take you on E 1000 N or Conant Fall River Road near the ranch. Some navigation apps may take you that way, but parts of those roads near the ranch may be closed until May or June. After the snow is off you can drive on those roads, but parts of these roads near the ranch are dirt/gravel and may not be in the greatest condition.)*

**Arrival to the Ranch:** Check in begins at 4pm on your day of arrival. **Please call Jeanyck McNeil or Netty McNeil (Property Mangers) within one week of your stay at 208-390-9655 or 208-390-4611 and provide them with your name and planned arrival time to the ranch. Also, please update them by calling or texting if you are unexpectedly delayed during your day of travel to the property.** This is important so they can meet you at the property upon your arrival to orient you to the ranch and the surrounding area. If for whatever reason Netty or Jeanyck do not meet you upon your arrival (e.g., usually late arrival time), they will provide you with the information you need to access the ranch. Netty and Jeanyck will be your point of contact during your stay, so please keep their telephone numbers handy.

**Groceries:** Large grocery stores are available in the towns of Jackson, Driggs (approximately halfway between Jackson and the ranch), Idaho Falls and Rexburg (halfway between Idaho Falls and the ranch). You may choose to stop at one of these towns on your way to stock up on food. Ashton is the closest town to the ranch – about 14 miles away. Dave’s Jubilee in Ashton is a small-town grocery store that offers most, but perhaps not all, of what you will want for your stay. Many guests choose to stock up at a larger grocery store on the way to the ranch and use Dave’s Jubilee to supplement and replenish throughout their stay. Most common spices and supplies (e.g., baggies, foil, etc.) are typically available at the

ranch, but you should pick up any specific items to ensure you have what you need for your meals.

**Places to eat in Ashton:** If you are looking for a good place to grab something to eat in Ashton, we recommend ***511 Main*** or **Big Juds**.

**Fishing Equipment:** We usually have a couple spin fishing rods/reels available for our guests' use on the river or pond at the ranch. We try to keep extra fishing line in the garage, but no tackle is available unless a previous guest leaves some at the ranch upon their departure. For those planning to fish a lot, especially those who are serious about fishing, we recommend you bring your own gear or plan to purchase tackle in one of the nearby towns. You can learn more about numerous streams and lakes by calling tackle shops and fishing guides/outfitters in Island Park or other nearby towns.

**Water Toys:** There are two stand-up paddleboards and a two-person kayak for use at the ranch. We do not recommend using these on the river, but many guests enjoy using them at the pond. There are also life preservers in the garage for our guest' use. However, if you have young children you should bring your own to ensure proper sizing. It is wise to pack some sort of water shoes/sandals for your trip. Also, if you are planning water activities outside the ranch, please bring your own beach towels so our towels can remain on the property.

**Check-out Time:** Our 11am check-out time is strictly enforced due to the time it takes to turn over the linens and clean the ranch prior to the arrival of the next group, which is often the same day you leave. Our cleaners will typically arrive around 10am the day of your departure to check on things and answer any questions you may have as you depart. If you plan to leave the ranch very early on your day of departure, please let Netty or Jeanyck know your plans in advance.

# Activities and Attractions

The following information summarizes popular activities in the area with details to help you plan your stay. We recommend you learn more about your desired activities online in advance of your trip. Information for all types of outfitters, guides, and a range of other services is abundant. You should consider booking popular activities (e.g., private/group tours of Yellowstone, guided fly fishing, float trips, horseback rides, etc.) in advance of your stay.

The United States Forest Service office in Ashton is a great source for information  
46 Highway 20  
Ashton, ID 83420  
208-652-7442

## **Full Day Trips**

One suggestion we have regarding full day trips, especially to Jackson/Grand Teton National Park and Yellowstone National Park, is to leave early in the morning and plan for a long day. There is a lot to see and do (many common routes are scenic byways) and the roads can get very crowded, especially during the peak summer months. Wildlife can also cause significant delays in Yellowstone.

**Yellowstone National Park:** We have a few tips for those who have not been to the park. First, do your research online in advance and call the park with any questions. You will see there are two large travel loops in the park that form a figure 8. We recommend you only try to cover the southern loop on a day trip from the ranch, especially if traveling with younger children, due to the length of time you will be in the car. You will see 7 of the top 10 park attractions on the southern loop, including Old Faithful and the Yellowstone “Grand Canyon.” If you prefer not to drive the park yourself, numerous companies offer various types of guided tours that begin in the town of West Yellowstone. If you stop in the town

of West Yellowstone, consider checking out the Grizzly and Wolf Discovery Center to see these animals up close.

For those who want a less crowded and more remote Yellowstone experience, consider going to Cave Falls. Cave Falls is a beautiful 250-foot-wide waterfall location in the southwest corner of the park – only 40 minutes from the ranch. The last 10 miles of the road to Cave Falls is a gravel road. SUV's are fine, as are most other vehicles with standard road clearance. You can call the USFS office in Ashton for road conditions if you want to learn more before you go. Unlike the five major entrances to the park, this route ends at Cave Falls and does not connect to the other major park arteries. It is great for day hikes and fly fishing... or you can pack a picnic lunch and find a quiet place to relax and enjoy the beautiful surroundings. Keep in mind you will not see some of the other attractions you can see elsewhere in the park, i.e., there are no buffalo, geysers, thermal springs, mudpots, etc. in this remote corner of the park.

**Jackson Hole/Grand Teton National Park:** Plan on an hour and half to get to the town of Jackson from the ranch. It is easy to spend a half a day (or more) shopping and dining around the town square. If you stop in **Teton Village**, which is just outside of Jackson along the route to Grand Teton National Park, consider taking a **tram ride** to the top of the Jackson Hole Ski Resort to see the amazing views. In addition to all the activities the park has to offer, you should also consider a scenic/whitewater **float trip** down the Snake River, a visit to the **Elk Wildlife National Refuge**, or a **boat ride** on Jackson Lake. Finally, consider seeing the **Jackson Hole Rodeo**. It is the real deal and is held every Wednesday and Saturday evening at 8pm in June and Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday in July and August. Since it is very popular, we recommend you purchase your tickets in advance. More information at [JHRODEO.COM](http://JHRODEO.COM)

## **Half Day/ Full Day Trips**

The attractions described below can typically be done in a half day, but they will become full day trips if you like to take things at a slower pace or if you choose long hikes/rides or other activities.

**Herriman State Park:** This is a beautiful historical park in the town of Island Park, only 40 minutes from the ranch. It has 11,000 acres for fly fishing the world-famous Henry's Fork, picnicking, horseback riding, historical tours, hiking, biking, wildlife viewing/photography and other summer activities. Cross country skiing, snowshoeing and fat biking are popular on the 24 miles of groomed trails in the winter. Learn more at <https://parksandrecreation.idaho.gov/parks/harriman/>

Horseback trail rides are offered by Dry Ridge Outfitters. You can learn more and book your ride by calling 208-351-1796 or at <https://www.dryridge.com/>

**Mesa Falls Scenic Byway:** This road heads north from the ranch into the lush landscape of the Targhee National Forest. It passes by the Warm River campground and two of the most spectacular waterfalls in the West – Lower and Upper Mesa Falls. At the upper falls you can stop at the historic interpretive center to learn about the geology and history of the area. It is convenient to see Mesa Falls as you go to or from activities in Herriman State Park or Island Park.

**St Anthony Sand Dunes:** St. Anthony Sand Dunes is only about 40 minutes from the ranch and consists of 10,600 acres of clear white quartz sand. Although a lot of the area is managed as a wilderness study area, the area is also very popular for off-road vehicle use. Dunes up to 400 feet high attract riders from throughout the west. But many others prefer to explore the dunes on horse or on foot.

<http://blm.gov/visit/st-anthony-sand-dunes>

208-524-7500

Off-road vehicles can be rented from St. Anthony Dune Rental: 208-624-4935

**Yellowstone Bear World:** This is a drive-thru wildlife park just off Highway 20 in Rexburg, Idaho – approximately 45 minutes from the ranch. (It is not in, or even close to, Yellowstone National Park). You will be surrounded by free-roaming

wildlife as you drive your personal vehicle through the park. Wildlife you will see includes Elk, Bison, White-tail Deer, Mule Deer, Rocky Mountain Goats, Moose, Black Bears and Grizzly Bears. They also have a petting zoo, small amusement park rides for young children, and other activities.

<https://yellowstonebearworld.com/>

St. Anthony Sand Dunes and Yellowstone Bear World can easily be seen in the same day since they are both off Highway 20 near Rexburg.

**Ashton-Flagg Ranch Road:** Instead of turning left into the gravel drive for the ranch, you could stay straight and head east on “Ashton-Flagg Ranch Road.” (E 1200 N turns into Ashton-Flagg Ranch Road near the ranch. Some refer to this road as the “Reclamation Road.”) This gravel road goes for approximately 30 miles, ending just north of Grand Teton National Park (near Jackson Lake) and just south of Yellowstone National Park’s south entrance. This road is closed to vehicular traffic in the winter but it typically opens by May or June, depending on the snowpack. Much like the Cave Falls area of Yellowstone National Park, this area is remote. Those experience in the outdoors love to hike or bike the trails that can be accessed from this road. Others use it to access the northern part of Grand Teton National Park. (For example, if you want to rent a boat on Jackson Lake to enjoy another day in Grand Teton Park, you may want to take Ashton-Flagg Ranch road... It will take about 1/3<sup>rd</sup> the time it would take to drive south to the town of Jackson, then drive back north on the Wyoming side of the Tetons.) You can also access Yellowstone National Park through its south entrance from this road. (For example, some may start their day trip to Yellowstone via this road and the park’s south entrance, then drive along part of the southern park look and exit through the park’s west entrance. Some prefer this route because they do not drive back to the ranch using the same route they took if they had entered and exited the park via West Yellowstone.) Although an SUV or four-wheel drive vehicle is recommended on the road, it is usually passable in any vehicle with standard road clearance. You should check with the USFS office in Ashton to learn more about travel on this road. The road runs parallel to southern boundary of Yellowstone and is very close to the Jedidiah Smith Wilderness area.

Most large animals, including Grizzly Bear, live in this area. If you venture into the forest on foot, take bear spray and be Bear Aware.

**Fishing:** This region is one of the best places in the country to fish, especially if you like to fly-fish for trout. Famous trout rivers within a 45-90 minute drive of the ranch include: The Teton; The Henry's Fork; The South Fork of The Snake; The Fall River; and the Madison (Montana). There are also numerous smaller streams that hold nice trout and offer great fly-fishing opportunities. Still water fisheries like Henry's Lake, Island Park Reservoir, Hebgan Lake, and Quake Lake also offer a variety of different fishing opportunities. We recommend calling one of the many fly-fishing shops/guides in the towns of Ashton, Island Park, West Yellowstone or Jackson to learn more about what areas will be fishing best during your stay. Henry's Fork Anglers, Trout Hunter and Three Rivers Ranch are three very reputable guiding companies. You should call in advance because half day and full day fishing trips often fill up quickly. There are also plenty of public fishing access points to walk and wade on your own, but you may have greater success with a guide unless you are an advanced fisherman and familiar fishing these waters.

### **Raft, Kayak, Stand-up Paddleboard, and Tube Rentals / Float Trips**

**Rapid River Rentals:** Located in Ashton at 265 South Highway 20, rents a variety of floating equipment. You can take the equipment and use it on your own or sign up for a 2-4 hour shuttled float trip down the Henry's Fork.

<https://oldhickorysheds.us/rapid-river-rentals>

208-351-3715

**Mack's Inn Resort:** A historic Inn located in Island Park also offers equipment rental and shuttle services for scenic three-hour float trips. The five-mile float along this unique section of the Henry's Fork starts at Big Springs (another historic spot you could visit during your trip) and ends in Island Park. The shuttle leaves every 30 minutes during summer days, so it is a convenient and efficient float trip

option for your group. You can easily make this a full day trip by choosing other activities in Island Park, Herriman State Park or Mesa Falls on your way back to the ranch.

### **Other Activity Options**

**Grand Targhee Resort** is a little over an hour from the ranch, offers great skiing/snowboarding in the winter and awesome mountain biking in the summer.

There are numerous **scenic bike trails** for people of all ability levels between Island Park, Ashton, Teton, Driggs and Victor – all are within a reasonably short drive from the ranch. Bike rentals are available in Island Park and Driggs.

**Island Park/Henry's Lake State Park** offers extensive outdoor activity options. You can rent ATVs, personal watercraft, boats, bikes, and all sorts of other outdoor equipment for use in the area, which is less than an hour from the ranch. Learn more by contacting High Mountain Adventures, Island Park Adventures, or Henry's Lake State Park.

**Big Sky, Montana** is a mountain resort town offering a wide range of summer and winter outdoor activities. It is a two-hour drive north from the ranch (one-hour drive south of Bozeman, Montana). The drive to Big Sky is beautiful and takes you through the towns of Island Park and West Yellowstone.

**West Yellowstone**, which is adjacent to the west entrance of Yellowstone National Park, is less than an hour and a half drive from the ranch. It is a touristy town with several restaurants and shops. It is also home to the Grizzly and Wolf Discover Center, which offers an opportunity to learn about and see these animals up close.

**Fall River Ranch:** You could also choose to stay put and enjoy the tranquility of the ranch with your guests. We have board games, puzzles, billiards, ping pong, horseshoes, corn hole, basketball, pickle ball, fire pits, the river, the pond, the hot tub, hiking the forest just outside the ranch gate, or simply sitting on the deck and enjoying the sound of the river only 10 feet away.