



Yellowstone Anglers' Basecamp (YAB)

Camp Buffalo Bill

870 N Fork Hwy

Cody, WY 8244

(307) 587-5885

<https://www.anglersbasecamp.org>

About YAB:

Yellowstone Anglers' Basecamp at Camp Buffalo Bill is Cutthroat Trout territory, and we are very excited that you are joining us in this adventure.

Our number one job at camp is to make sure you have a spectacular experience. So please speak to any member of our staff if you have a request or if something isn't going how you think it should. We will do our very best to fix it.

Camp Buffalo Bill is managed/operated by the Adventure West Council of the Boy Scouts of America. Construction on the camp began in 1948 after approval of the U.S. Forest Service. The Boy Scouts lease the land from the Forest Service.

There have been many improvements to the camp over the years, but the camp is showing its age and there are many more upgrades that need to be made, with the central bathhouse being top priority. Several improvements have been seen at camp. For example....Starlink High-Speed Internet Service is available at the Main Lodge and Ranger Cabin and Six new Diamond Brand tents on platforms.

The Yellowstone Anglers' Basecamp is a fundraiser, which supports the Scouting America Adventure West Council. So, in addition to getting a great outdoor experience, you are contributing to the long-term viability of Camp Buffalo Bill.

For over 70 years, Camp Buffalo Bill has offered Scouts an exceptional and truly unique outdoor experience. Its location in the Shoshone National Forest and the Absoroka Range provides beauty and wilderness second to none. We are privileged to have formed this partnership with the Boy Scouts so that our fly-fishing community may share in its richness and also contribute to its future.

Cody, Wyoming

It is named after Colonel William Frederick "Buffalo Bill" Cody for his part in the founding of Cody in 1896. The population of Cody has been growing by about 1,000 people per decade since 1970 and is currently estimated to be about 10,000 or about 2% of the population in Wyoming. The principal industry is tourism, but agriculture, cattle, oil & mineral extraction do play a part in its economy.

Registration fee

\$1200 (subject to change)

2025 YAB Schedule

- a. Week 1 – August 3 - 9
- b. Week 2 – August 10 - 16
- c. Week 3 – August 17 - 23
- d. Week 4 – August 24 - 30
- e. Week 5 – August 31 - September 6

Arrival

Cody, Wyoming is about 45 miles east of Camp Buffalo Bill and travel time is about an hour.

Check in: The check-in time is 2 pm. If you arrive before 2 pm your cabin or room may not be ready. However, you can register at the Lodge and we will store your luggage until your living accommodation is ready. We will provide food to munch on and you can also fish while you wait.

We will have sandwiches for lunch on Sunday and will have a full dinner.

If you are driving: You will have maximum flexibility and can plan your arrival whenever you like, keeping in mind the paragraph above. You may want to stop in Cody, Wyoming before you come to camp. There are 2 fly shops, [North Fork Anglers](#) and [Wyoming Trout Guides](#) and a visit to one or both may be in order depending on your supply of flies and accessories. There are also liquor shops in Cody that are open on Sunday and you may want to stock up if you plan to have a drink at camp. There are at least 2 that won't take you off the beaten path: [Libations](#) and [Rocky Mountain Discount Liquor](#).

If you are flying: Obviously, the time you arrive in camp is dependent upon the arrival time of your flight. We keep a close eye on arrival times in case of flight delays. Coordination of guest(s) pickup times will be relayed via text message, email and/or cell call. If time permits, we will stop the van at the fly shops, liquor store and Walmart before heading to camp. If you have other needs, then let the driver know and we will do your best to stop and let you pick up whatever that might be.

Some money saving tips if you want to fly:

- For those who are interested in flying, we will be providing a shuttle service between Billings-Logan Airport in Billings, Montana and camp. The ticket prices are frequently much cheaper and there are many more choices of airlines that service Billings.
- If you do choose to fly into Billings, we would ask that you **cluster your arrival times** in Billings around 12:00 noon plus or minus an hour or two so that pickup is most efficient.
- You may also find that flying in on a Saturday is cheaper than flying on a Sunday. The money you save flying on a Saturday may justify making a hotel reservation in Billings for Saturday night. If staying in Billings on Saturday, make plans for your lodging accommodations and transportation via Uber or a Taxi. Coordination for Sunday shuttle pickup...place and time will be relayed to guests.
- If you do decide to fly into Billings on Saturday, please choose one of the following.....
- Hilltop Inn 1116 N. 28th St. Billings, MT 1-800-878-9282
<https://riversageinns.com/hilltop-inn-billings>
- Dude Rancher Lodge 415N. 29th St Billings, MT 59101 406-259-5561
<https://www.duderancherlodge.com>
- Holiday Inn Express & Suites Billings, West 3431 Ember Lane Billings, MT 406-652-0111 billingshiexpresswest@tkohotels.com

- Ledgestone Hotel 4863 King Ave E. Billings, Mt 59101 406-259-9454
<https://ledgestonehotel.com/hotel-billings>

Checklist: Please refer to our YAB website

Fishing

- Three to seven weight rods, reels & lines are a nice mix. If you are flying and are limited, then a 5 & 6 weight will do nicely. If gear is needed, please contact us.
- Plenty of tippet in the 2x-7x range. 4x-6x is adequate.
- Waders - Some of the waters are relatively warm and some are cold. Waders are recommended but be prepared to wet wade as well.
- Wading boots - **NO FELT in Yellowstone**. Felt soled boots with spikes are OK everywhere else.
- Wading staff
- Split shot - **NO LEAD** in Yellowstone, so you may as well make it no lead everywhere.
- Polarized sunglasses if you have them.

Technique

- The water ranges from fast and narrow to meandering and slow and there are deep holes in both. Drifts tend to be short, so the flies need to get down fast and stay down.
- Nymphing will likely be your most productive method. You will probably need some extra weight to get the fly down.
- However, streamers and dry flies will also be productive in some areas. The Clark's Fork of the Yellowstone River is a dry fly paradise.
- Be patient and don't be shy about asking for help. Other campers and staff will be glad to lend a hand.

Use the Buddy System

Don't fish alone. You might be tempted, but don't do it. You may fall. You may encounter bear, moose, or bison. You may need help. Plan for it, be safe and have fun.

We have a pond

Right in camp and it is stocked with cutthroat trout. Just a short walk from your home away from home. On the map, on page 10, in the upper left corner there is a blue body of water

close to the Shoshone River. It is called Aquatics on the map because the Boy Scouts use it for kayak training. We fish for cutthroat.

You are welcome to fish in the pond anytime you want. We would still recommend going with a buddy. In 2021, there was a cow moose that waded the pond almost every evening. We named her Eleanor, and we kept our distance. She pretended to ignore us, and we got along just fine.

Flies Recommended by Fly Shops in Cody Wyoming

Barbless Hooks Only in Yellowstone AND THEY DO CHECK

Big (size 2-6) heavy Sparkle Stones
Big Jigged Soft hackles 20-Inchers Bitch Creeks
Blue-winged olives
Caddis
Carpenter Ants
Double bead stones
Dropper flies – size 10-12
Egg patterns
Girdle Bugs
Golden stones
Grasshoppers
Green Sedges (caddis)
Halfbacks
Japanese Beetles
Large stonefly nymphs
Larger nymphs – 4-8
Little Yellow stoneflies
North Fork Special
Pale Morning Duns: 16/18
Pats Rubber legs
San Juan Worms
Shagadelic's
Spotted Sedges (caddis)
Streamers – Woolly Buggers mentioned a lot
Tricos
Yellow sallies

Camp Buffalo Bill

The accommodations are rustic but functional.

1) Cabins: There are 6 cabins that measure 15' x 15' inside. Five of the 6 are completely open while the 6th (the one with a loft) has a 4x4 post in the center. They have a combination of bunk beds and/or single beds. Each cabin has windows that can be opened and both a ceiling fan and a floor fan. The cabins are not heated and have no air conditioning aside from the fans. They can get warm during the day but cool off nicely at night. They do have electricity with one outlet.

2) Rooms in other buildings: There are sleeping/living accommodations in other buildings on the property. We cannot accommodate all of our guests in cabins, so some anglers will be housed in this type of dwelling. They are typically equipped with single beds but there are some double and queen-sized beds.

3) Camper/RV pads: There are 4 camper/RV pads with water and electricity. There is gray/black water disposal onsite near the ranger station which is only a few hundred yards from the camper sites.

4) Camp sites: While not typically used at Anglers' Basecamp, there are plenty of camp site for tents/campers but these have no water or electric. We will occasionally have a guest or staff member use a camp site. Anyone who wishes to pitch a tent is welcome to do so.

5) Platform Diamond Brand Tents: 6 added in 2024. The tents can accommodate 2-4 via bunk beds or single beds. Canvas 3 season tent with electrical outlet and desk lamp. The tents are not heated and do not have water.

The Lodge

The lodge, the dining hall, it is known by many names, but it is the centerpiece of most of the activity and socialization that happens while you are in camp. This is where you will check into camp when you arrive. We eat our meals, plan our trips, exchange fishing stories, mix our drinks and sit around one or both large stone fireplaces to warm our tired bodies in the early mornings and evenings.

This is where we gather as we get organized and leave for our fishing trips planned for the first part or maybe the entire day. In the warmth of the afternoon sun, we gather on the front porch and grab a rocking or camp chair while we listen to the North Fork of the Shoshone River. We gaze at the Absoroka Range and watch eagles and osprey soar overhead. An occasional mule deer will stroll by and you may see a blue or sage-grouse.

The Ranger Cabin

The Ranger Cabin is the central office for Camp Buffalo Bill and Yellowstone Anglers' Basecamp. It is where the Camp Director lives during camp and a place you can go for information that might not be available at the Lodge.

Fishing License

<https://wgfd.wyo.gov/licenses-applications>

If your license is for more than 5 days, you will also need to purchase a Conservation Stamp

***YOU CAN ALSO PURCHASE A LICENSE FROM A FLY SHOP BUT THEY DO NOT ACCEPT CREDIT CARDS FOR LICENSE PURCHASES

Yellowstone Fishing Regulations

Fishing regulations in Yellowstone National Park are structured to strongly support native fish conservation goals. Cutthroat trout are the sole, native trout of the park and were the dominant fish species here prior to Euro American settlement. Cutthroat trout, Arctic grayling, mountain whitefish, and other native fishes are important to the ecology of Yellowstone.

Felt-soled Footgear Prohibited

To reduce the potential for introduction or spread of aquatic invasive species, footgear with absorbent felt or other fibrous material on the soles are prohibited while fishing in Yellowstone.

Tackle, Lure, and Hook Restrictions

- Each angler may use only one rod which must be always attended to at all times and used for angling only... intentional snagging of fish is not allowed.
- Only lead-free artificial lures (e.g. spoon or spinner) or flies may be used. Leaded fishing tackle such as leaded split-shot sinkers, weighted jigs (lead molded to a hook), and soft lead-weighted ribbon for nymph fishing are not allowed.
- Hooks must have points that are barbless, or the barbs must be pinched down by pliers. Lures may have only one hook with a single, double, or treble configuration. A single pointed hook is the best choice for fishing in Yellowstone. Treble hooks (3 points) can severely injure fish and are often constructed with toxic lead solder.

- Each fly may have only one hook. Up to two flies may be used on a single leader (commonly referred to as “dropper,” “dry and dropper,” or “hopper and dropper”).
- Except for feathers and other typical fly-tying materials, the hook must be bare. No organic or inorganic baits are allowed. Organic baits include fish or fish parts, minnows, salmon eggs, worms, insects, or foodstuffs such as bread and corn. Inorganic baits include rubber worms and plastic “twister” tails.
- Scented attractants (liquid and solid baits) are illegal. Putting any substance in the water for the purpose of attracting fish (chumming) is illegal.

Safety in Bear Country

- Someone always asks if it is alright to take energy bars and other snacks along while fishing. The short answer is yes. But keep them wrapped up tight and in a zip lock bag. Also, keep the wrappers in a plastic bag after something is eaten. Try not to leave crumbs.
- The best defense against bears is prevention. Walk in a group of 3 or more. While on the trail... talk, make noise and generally make yourself known.
- Some wear a bell, the same kind that you might put on a dog when hunting. The last thing you want is to surprise a bear on the trail, especially one with cubs

Upon checking into camp, you will be assigned bear spray. Always have your bear spray readily available. It doesn't do much good to have it stashed away in your pack.

- All of the areas we fish are bear habitats, even the boardwalks around Old Faithful (and other thermal areas).
- Never pursue a bear to take its picture. When viewing bears along roads, use pullouts and stay in or near your car.
- Keep all food, garbage, and other scented items stored in bear-proof containers when not in use.
- If a bear approaches or touches your car, honk your horn and drive away to discourage this behavior.
- Follow the best practices for hiking in bear country....be alert, make noise, hike in groups, do not run, carry bear spray and know how to use it.
- If you see someone hurt by a bear, witness aggressive bear behavior, or see a bear obtain or try to obtain human food or garbage, call 911 immediately or notify any park ranger.

Should you hire a guide?

To hire a guide or not is a very personal choice. If you have never fished WY waters before or you have never fished for wild trout before, then you may benefit from hiring a guide. Additionally, there are waters with really big fish that are only accessible by a drift boat or raft. Then, unless you have your own, you will need a guide.

In (2021) lots of people did float trips and caught some truly big fish.

There are two fly shops in town that provided guide services: North Fork Anglers Fly Shop (<https://northforkanglers.com>) & Wyoming Trout Guides (<https://www.wyomingtroutguides.com>). They both do wade and float trips. If you plan on a guided trip, book early, book now. They fill up quickly.

*****This Section is General Information given to YAB Guests

GENERAL INFORMATION



Fishing Trips

Trips: Will be posted on white board with time of departure, travel time, difficulty of site. Trips will be discussed nightly and final plans will be completed by 8:30PM. Reports will be given from those that have already gone to the locations.

Guided Trips: Individuals are responsible for scheduling guided trips.

Guided trips are not included in the cost of YABC.

Transportation can be provided to Cody if needed to meet with guides

Maps: Will be posted on the whiteboard.

Shuttles: Will be provided when fishing along the North Shoshone River and Middle Fork. The shuttle will run about every 2 hours. May return for lunch at lodge. The van is available for those going to the pond or Kitty Hawk.

Fishing License: Wyoming License are required on all waters

Yellowstone License is required if fishing inside Yellowstone. Each guest may purchase a license online.

Food Options:



Meals: (served in the dining hall) No food allowed outside the dining Hall. Menu will be posted. Meal times may change if needed.

Breakfast: 6 - 7 am

Lunch: 12 - 1 pm

Dinner: 6 - 7 pm**

**meal can be held over if requested or individual plates put aside in warming oven....When departing before breakfast or not returning before dinner.

Breakfast: Continental breakfast (serve yourself)

Lunch: Prepare your own lunch. Lunchmeat, bread, condiments will be provided. Sandwich bags will be provided. Coolers will be assigned for each van leaving the camp for the day. Lunches and drinks will go in designated coolers

Dinner: Continental Style (serve yourself)

Snacks: A wide variety of chips, cookies, granola bars, etc will be provided throughout the day.

Drinks: Water, Punch, Lemonade and coffee will be available throughout the day. Individual beverages can be stored in the refrigerator located in the dining hall. Ice and individual ice packs will be in cooler or in the freezer compartment of the refrigerator in the dining hall.

***We request help with the dishes after every meal. After scraping your plate, please place the plate and utensils in a designated tub. Empty the cups and glasses of any liquid before placing them in the tubs. It is requested that you do not bring soiled dishes into the kitchen.

*** Food allergies- It is important that all dietary needs must be noted/added to one's initial registration information. If this is not accomplished prior to arriving at camp diet needs could easily be missed.

Communication



Phone

Landline - CBB (307) 587-5885. Limited use while in Camp. Rings at Lodge and at the Ranger Station.

Cell Phone – Starlink Satellite Service is available at the Lodge and near the Ranger’s Station. Best to use Wi-Fi calling setting.

NEARBY ATTRACTIONS:

Transportation may be arranged to meet up with your tour.

(Tours and attractions are not included in the cost of camp and prices are subject to change)



Trail Rides

Pahaska Tepee and UXU Historic Ranch 1 hr - \$55 2 hrs - \$100

Museum:

Buffalo Bill Center of the West Museum, Cody, WY

Cost - \$22 (senior- good for 2 days)

Hours: 8am - 6pm

Cody Dug Up Museum (weaponry from gold rush to WWII)

Cost – Donation

Hours - 9 am - 9 pm

Heart Mountain (WII Japanese American Confinement Camp)

Cost - \$10 (senior)

Location - Between Powell and Cody

Hours: 10am - 5 pm Wed - Sat.

Restaurants: See Staff for suggestions. A lot of variety in Cody and surrounding Area

Tours:

Cody Trolley Tour - Learn the history of Cody and its founding father Buffalo Bill
Cody

Location - Irma's Hotel 1 hour, cost \$26 (senior)

Red Canyon Wild Mustang Tour - See Wild Mustang in Wild Management
Area

3 hour transit van, cost \$65 (307-587-6988)

Cody Wyoming Adventures - Yellowstone (307-587-6988)

Lower loop - 10- 12 hours, cost \$150, mini van

Need: park pass, lunch, non alcohol beverage, water provided

Upper Loop - 12 hrs, cost \$225, open air convertible 18 passenger sprinter van

Tour provides - park pass, lunch, beverage, binoculars and spotting
scope

Cody WY Shuttle - Yellowstone (307-527-6789) \$250

Lower loop or Upper loop (chose one)

8-12-person van, duration 10-12, will pick up at camp

Tour provides: park pass, lunch drinks, and snacks

Rodeo:

Cody Stampede Rodeo:

Cost \$24 (adults, discount for Veterans with ID)

Time: 8pm to 10pm Every night June 1 to August 31.

YABC will provide transportation on Thursday night, leaving
camp at 6:45pm

Week 5 - Rodeo night TBD

MISC:

Gun Fight - nightly @ 6pm, free, Irma's Hotel

Irma's Hotel - Historical hotel, bar and restaurant. Original hotel built by Buffalo Bill Cody for his daughter, Irma. See the bar given to Buffalo Bill from Queen Victoria. Hotel opened in 1902 and Bill Cody stayed at the hotel when home from his travels.

Huckleberry - a local favorite for ice cream, jellies, sauces etc.

Granny's - a local restaurant on Sheridan Ave. Well known for good food and plenty of it. Expect a long wait around Breakfast time. Open 7am - 1 pm.

YABC MERCHANDISE: (if available)

Pullovers, Vests, Caps, Shirts, Stickers and misc. Fishing items are for sale.

See pricing chart. Complete a line item for each purchase. Pay with cash or make arrangements to go to the Trading Post to pay with a credit card.

Vehicles not belonging to CBB

No Cars can be parked in the area around the main lodge or Dining Hall in the evening. May use the parking lot near the Ranger Cabin. Cars must be backed in and ready to pull out at all times in case of an emergency and the camp has to be evaluated quickly. Personal cars may be parked near cabins or tents if they are properly parked and do not block any access roads or other vehicles. Please do not park or drive in areas that are marked as prohibited by the CBB.