

Hours: (9-4:30 Every Day)
Phone: 800-715-HIKE (4453)
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# **GREYBULL PASS THRU HIKE**

CODY, WY

## **DESCRIPTION**

Get off the beaten path with this epic Wyoming alpine experience. This 6-day trip includes one base camping night just outside of our wildly remote trailhead and 4 nights of backpacking. On day one, we will drive deep into the 2.4 million acre Shoshone National Forest, the first National Forest established in the United States. Scenic roads will lead us to the historic settlement of Kirwin, a mining ghost town that few people have heard of and even less have the ability to visit. That night, we will marvel at the beauty and history here, have a cookout and car camp just outside of our trailhead to set ourselves up for a burly first day of hiking. With everything we need for the next 5 days on our backs, we will ascend Greybull Pass. Views will increase with dramatic beauty as we climb, climaxing at the craggy pass with our first glimpse of the deep alpine valley on the other side. After an initially steep descent, the grade will ease as we continue down through the open meadows. We will keep our eyes peeled for elk, bears, trout and other wildlife. These 5 days will have us following the Greybull River, watching it build speed and gain volume as it winds down the mountain valley through changing landscapes. Day 5 will be a layover day offering a chance to climb Irish Rock for an aweinspiring view of the surrounding peaks, reminding us that we are nestled miles deep in nothing but mountains.

This trip is operated by Wildland Llamas, a permitted outfitter in Shoshone National Forest.

Trip Type: Guided Backpacking Trip	Difficulty Level:
Solitude Level:	Group Size: 4-6 Guests
Trip Length: 6 Days	Distance: 32MI / 52KM

## WHAT'S INCLUDED

- A professional, knowledgeable, certified Wyoming backpacking guide
- Top-of-the-line tent, backcountry sleeping pad and multi-day backpack
- High quality, synthetic sleeping bag (professionally laundered after every use) or bring your own.
- Use of trekking poles
- All meals are included from breakfast the first day through lunch on the last day
- Roundtrip transportation from your hotel in Cody, Wyoming
- 1 night of car-camping and a cookout outside of the historic ghost town of Kirwin, Wyoming
- Bear safety equipment including bear spray cannisters and food-hanging gear
- Emergency equipment including a company-issued first-aid kit and satellite phone
- You will receive a Lifetime Hiking Membership entitling you, your spouse and your kids to a lifetime discount of 10% off any Wildland Trekking hiking trip after your first one!

## WHAT'S NOT INCLUDED

- Clothes, raingear, and footwear (see recommendations)
- Sunscreen, toiletries and personal items
- Water bottles and a headlamp or flashlight
- Guide gratuity (industry recommendation is 10-20% of trip cost)

### Day 1

- Shuttle to Trailhead: 2.5 hours
- Accommodations: Camping

Your guide will pick you up at your hotel in Cody, Wyoming where you'll meet the rest of the group. We'll conduct a short orientation and ensure everyone has the necessary gear and clothing before setting off to the trailhead. Our drive takes us into a stunning corner of the Rocky Mountains, across creeks and past breathtaking scenery. We will reach our campsite for the night, near our trailhead and the picturesque ghost town of Kirwin. Nestled in the mountains here, Kirwin boomed as a mining town in the late 1800s complete with a post office, hotel, and saloon. Mining explosions, avalanches, and the loss of prosperity drove its 200 residents to abandon the settlement, but most of its structures are still standing. We will marvel at the buildings and artifacts still remaining and set up camp here at 9,200 feet. Your guide will distribute camping equipment and food as we prepare our packs for our journey. We will complete the evening with a cookout in this unique, secluded setting.



### Day 2

- Hiking Mileage: 5 miles
- Elevation Gain: 2500 feet

The next day, we will be glad to have placed ourselves just outside the trailhead for an early start because this backpacking trip kicks off with a hearty challenge. After breakfast, we will climb up through Brown Basin, ascending 2,500 feet in just 3.5 miles to reach Greybull Pass. Reaching this craggy pass will give us our first view of the epic alpine valley below, the headwaters of the Greybull River, and the highest point in the Absarokas, Franc's Peak, in the distance. After an initially steep, rocky descent, we will reach the river and enjoy a gently sloping valley trail until we reach Yellow Creek and an impressive backcountry cabin. We will make camp somewhere near this junction and enjoy a well-earned backcountry feast.



### Day 3

- Hiking Mileage: 6 miles
- Elevation Gain: minimal
- Elevation Loss: 700 feet

After a filling breakfast, we will continue along the Greybull River, winding up and down the grassy hills, but ultimately making a mellow descent down the valley. Along the way, we will admire lush drainages, the unmistakable form of Pyramid Peak, and the impressive height of Franc's Peak. With skilled eyes, it is possible to see bears along these talus slopes flipping over rocks to find some of their favorite delicacies,

Army Cutworm Moths. We will camp, eat, and enjoy the stars along another beautiful creek.



## Day 4

- Hiking Mileage: 6 miles
- Elevation Gain: minimal
- Elevation Loss: 600 feet

On today's hike, the valley will expand before us, offering more diverse views and new peaks in the background. We will continue descending ever-gently along the river, noticing it swell in size and increase with fish along the way. In the Fall, this area is a prime hunting post because of its rich elk habitat. After passing another old backcountry cabin, we will make camp near Haymaker Creek where we will stay for 2 nights.



## Day 5

■ Hiking Mileage: 8 miles

■ Elevation Gain: 2100 feet

■ Elevation Loss: 2100 feet

Today we get to leave our heavy loads safely stored at camp and day hike up to a high point for spectacular views. If the whole gang is up for a full day, we can reach the summit of Irish Rock. No matter how far we go, we are sure to see a breathtaking panorama of snow-capped peaks, reminding us how deeply embedded we are in this incredible mountain range. This layover day also offers one of our best fishing opportunities for any avid anglers on the trip. Due to grizzly bear safety protocol, we need to stay in groups of 3 and so will have to make a group decision on what to do on this layover day.



### Day 6

- Hiking Mileage: 7 miles
- Elevation Gain: minimal
- Elevation Loss: 800 feet
- Shuttle to Cody: 1.5 hours

After one last hearty breakfast, we will continue along the Greybull River, even crossing its rushing waters a few times. As we descend even further in elevation, this landscape will transform before our eyes becoming a tight canyon and exploding with riparian foliage we have yet to see thus far. Eventually, the mountains that hug us will shrink, and with a final push, we will emerge into wetlands and rolling hills where we commonly see moose, pronghorn, and our friendly pick-up driver. Relishing the trip along our shuttle drive home, we can generally anticipate arriving back in Cody before 5pm.

<u>Please Note</u>: We always do everything in our power to follow the set itinerary, however it can change occasionally based on temporary access restrictions, weather, lodging/campground availability, guest ability/injury, natural events like fires and flooding, and other potential causes. Normal terms and conditions apply to trips with itinerary changes.

## **PACKING LISTS**



#### IMPORTANCE OF BEING PREPARED

Your safety and enjoyment will depend on your level of preparedness. It is your responsibility to arrive with the items listed below. Our Gear Guide is a resource to find more information about these items and links to online options. If you have additional questions about what to pack, please ask your guide during the pretrip contact (~10 days prior to the trip start date) or call our Adventure Consultants 7 days a week at 928-223-HIKE (4453).

#### **PACKING LIST VIDEO**

For more guidance on the packing list, we recommend watching our Wildland Packing List Video. A senior Wildland guide and outdoor retail expert walks us through each item with examples and insights. Click here to see the video.

#### STANDARD CLOTHING CHECKLIST

The following items are required for your trip unless otherwise noted. When packing, think layered clothing systems that work together and can be easily added or removed.

(GG) = Gear Guide: see for more info and links to product options

Hiking Boots/Shoes — mid weight, lug-soled, waterproof and ideally well broken in (GG) (Note: buy your boots/shoes 1/2 size to 1 size larger than your street shoes to allow for feet swelling and thicker socks)

Secondary Footwear — supportive, lightweight, well-drained shoe or sport sandal for creek crossings and/or for camp comfort (GG)

Hiking Socks — one pair for every two days of your trip, plus an extra pair to sleep in. Hiking specific padded socks, no cotton please! (GG)

(Note: wearing thin liner socks under your hiking socks can help prevent blisters)

Sun Hat — wide brimmed hat or baseball cap/bandana combo (GG)

Hiking Shirts -1-2 non-cotton, breathable short sleeve and/or long sleeve shirts (GG) (*Note: long sleeve shirts provide better sun protection*)

Warm Top — mid-weight sweater or pullover of wicking material such as merino wool, fleece or polypropylene (GG)

Hiking Pants & Shorts — nylon pants AND shorts, zip-offs or leggings (GG)

Rain Gear — waterproof jacket and pants, breathable fabric such as Gore-Tex® or coated nylon. For the pants look for side zippers that will allow you to pull them over your boots. (GG)

Warm Hat & Gloves — lightweight beanie and light-to-mid weight fleece or wool gloves (GG)

Mid Layer Insulating Jacket — down-fill or synthetic-fill insulated "puffy" jacket or warm, heavy weight fleece jacket (GG)

Base Layer/Long Underwear — 1 pair of wicking tops and bottoms that are lightweight to midweight, synthetic wicking materials such as polyester, polypropylene, merino wool...etc. (GG)

Mosquito Headnet — recommended for June/July. Aug/Sept may be needed but will be weather dependent.

Important Note: Please, no cotton hiking clothes and please feel free to call us if you have any questions or you can reference the Gear Guide.

#### **GEAR CHECKLIST**

 $Hydration \ System-2+liters\ capacity, either\ water\ bottles\ or\ bladder/hose\ system\ and\ an\ additional\ water\ bottle\ (GG)$ 

(Note: We recommend always having a bottle with 1 liter of capacity as a back-up in case of a hydration system failure and to use while in camp)

Headlamp — preferably with an L.E.D. bulb that works with AA or AAA batteries (GG) (Note: always test your headlamp before trips, travel/pack without batteries in device, and for longer trips (4+ days) consider a spare bulb and 1 set of spare batteries)

Sunglasses, Sunscreen, Lip Balm

 $Contact\ Lenses\ and\ Glasses-if\ you\ wear\ contact\ lenses, please\ also\ bring\ a\ pair\ of\ glasses-your\ contacts\ are\ likely\ to\ become\ dirty\ and\ may\ be\ difficult\ to\ clean$ 

Bug Repellent — preferably a product containing at least 25% "DEET" (*Note: some people are sensitive to this product*)

Toiletries — small amounts, travel sizes and/or just what you need for the trip (important that they are small!)

Prescription Medication – please inform your trip leader of any medications you are taking

Money — for any shopping you would like to do and for consideration of tipping your guide (*Note: tipping is optional but appreciated, industry recommendation is 10-20% of your trip cost based upon the quality of your experience*)

Important Note: We need to be "bear aware" on our trip. All food, toiletries, and scented items must be secured each night and never left in tents or backpacks overnight. Please keep scented items to a minimum and bring the smallest amount necessary for your trip (travel size items are perfect) in order to best fit into bear canisters or into bear bags to be hung away from camp each night.

#### **OPTIONAL ITEMS**

Personal Sleeping Bag — please see information about bringing your own below.

Personal Trekking Poles — as a Wildland guest, you can enjoy a 20% discount off Leki trekking poles (reservation number required.) Click here for discount. Trekking poles are provided for guests who do not bring their own.

Swimsuit — only if swimming is an option on your trip, some guests prefer to swim in quick drying hiking clothes, sports bra, etc...

Gaiters — recommended for wet or snowy conditions

 ${\tt Camp\ Pillow-light weight, compressible\ and\ packable}$ 

(Note: many guests use their extra clothing in a stuff sack with a bandana as a pillowcase, and it works well)

Stuff Sacks — various sizes for better organization of clothing & gear, and/or to help create a camp pillow, etc.

(Note: A lightweight waterproof stuff sack can be extremely useful in wet conditions)

Support Braces — consider bringing any joint braces that may be currently needed or from past injuries (i.e. knee, ankle, elbow, etc...)

Camp Reading Material — lightweight paperback book, magazine or small notebook/pen for journaling

Cell Phone or Camera

Spare Batteries – for camera, headlamp or other electronics

Solar Charger or Charging Bank — small, lightweight devices to recharge electronics

Vitamins & Supplements

Quick Dry Towel – lightweight, compressible and packable – bandanas also work

Fishing Gear — optional, lightweight and packable equipment for fly-fishing or reel-casting. A license may be required. Check with your guide about fishing opportunities and requirements for your trip.

## **BRINGING YOUR OWN SLEEPING BAG**



Some guests choose to bring their own sleeping bag. We supply high quality, synthetic fill bags that are professionally laundered after every trip. Synthetic fill is non-allergenic, insulates when damp and stands up well to repeated washings, but is heavier and bulkier than down. If you're able to bring your own down sleeping bag, there are multiple benefits. If not, we've got you covered!

#### SLEEPING BAG TEMPERATURE RATING NEEDED FOR THIS TRIP: 15-30° F

# TRAVEL, TRANSPORTATION, MEETING & LODGING



#### **MEETING TIME & PLACE**

You will meet your guide and group in Cody, Wyoming on the morning of Day 1 around 11:00 AM. Your guide will contact you approximately 2 weeks before your trip to coordinate the exact meeting place and pick-up time.

### TRIP CONCLUSION

This trip will conclude at approximately 7:00 PM on the last day.

#### **ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE DATES**

Travel to and from the trip starting point is not included in the cost of our trips. Please plan on arriving in time for the orientation meeting the day before the trip leaves and departing the day after getting back from the field.

### **GATEWAY CITY:**

The Greybull Pass Traverse begins and ends in Cody, WY. Cody has an airport served by multiple airlines.

#### TRANSPORTATION TO & FROM THE TRAILHEAD

We provide transportation to and from the trailhead on Absaroka-Beartooth trips.

#### STORAGE OF PERSONAL ITEMS & VEHICLES

Many guests choose to store their luggage with the hotel they'll be using before and after the trip. You are also welcome to leave your luggage with us for secure storage while you're in the backcountry — just inform your guide. Vehicles may also be parked at our facility while you're out.

### **CODY PRE & POST-TRIP RECOMMENDED LODGING**

Pre and post-trip lodging is your responsibility. We recommend the below-listed accommodations in Cody. Make your reservations early as Cody is a tourist community and rooms book early.

Buffalo Bill Village Cabins (airport shuttle upon request)

Website / Phone: 307-587-5544

Holiday Inn Cody (free airport shuttle upon request)

Website / Phone: 307-587-5555

## TRIP INSURANCE

We strongly recommend purchasing trip insurance. We designed our terms and conditions with trip insurance in mind. When you register for a trip, your spot is no longer available to other guests. Therefore, if you discover inside of 30 days (prior to your trip departure date) that you are unable to travel, no refund is available. With trip insurance, not only is your payment to Wildland covered, but your flights, hotels and other travel costs can also be insured.

# CHECK THE WEATHER FORECAST FOR YOUR TRIP

We recommend using NOAA's website (www.weather.gov) for the most accurate 5-day weather forecasts. Click here for a forecast of the area.



# **PACK WEIGHT AND CONTENTS**

You will be hiking with a multi-day backpack that we provide. You're also welcome to bring your own. The contents will be what you need for the trip — tent, sleeping bag, sleeping pad, clothing, rain gear, personal items, water, a share of the group food/gear...etc.

**ESTIMATED PACK WEIGHT: 35-45 POUNDS** 

# **TRAINING TIPS**



The better shape you're in the more fun you'll have! We recommend very strongly that you train for your trip.

#### TRAINING BY HIKING

If you have access to hiking trails in hilly or mountainous terrain, this is the ideal way to train. If not, we recommend using the Stairmaster machine (with rotating stairs like an escalator) or actually training on stairs. Nothing prepares you for a trip better than the activity itself!

Train at least 3 days a week. Start with short hikes or workouts (1-hour in length) with a light daypack. From week to week build the length and intensity of your hikes/workouts and gradually increase your pack weight until you're comfortably able to hike 6-8 hours a day carrying the weight you'll have on your trip. It's best to begin your training regimen at least 12 weeks prior to your trip. Also be sure to use the boots you'll have on your trip to break them in.

Following is how a program may look:

First Week	Work Up To
Tuesday: 1-hour hike/workout with daypack Thursday: 1-hour hike/workout with daypack Sunday: 2-hour hike/workout with daypack	Monday: 2-3 hour hike/workout with daypack Wednesday: 2-3 hour hike/workout with daypack Thursday: 2-3-hour hike/workout with daypack Sunday: 7-hour hike with the weight you'll have on your trip

### **SUPPLEMENTAL TRAINING IDEAS**

There are many other activities that are easily incorporated into your daily life to build your overall fitness. Cross training is important to strengthen opposing muscle groups and it helps to avoid over-use injuries. Supplemental training ideas include:

Bike to work or when running errands.

- Gym activities including step aerobics, treadmill, bicycling, or elliptical trainers to name a few. A modest weight training program focusing on the muscles that support the ankles, knees, back, and shoulders is also beneficial.
- Swimming is a great way to build endurance and cardiovascular fitness and is easy on the joints.
- Walk to work instead of driving. Run your errands by walking and carry your groceries home in a backpack.
- Yoga and/or Pilates classes can build strength throughout your body while also improving your flexibility.
- Intramural sports
- Jogging is another option, however if you are not a regular runner it can easily lead to injuries that backpacking may then exacerbate. Undertake a jogging routine with care.

#### FLEXIBILITY AND HYDRATION

Flexibility is an important part of training. Remember to stretch before and after your workouts. For the two weeks leading up to your trip cut your workouts in half to avoid arriving fatigued. Also for a 72-hour period before your trip commences, ensure that you are consuming sufficient amounts of sodium and fluids. Doctors agree that hikers increase the likelihood of experiencing problems if they are sodium depleted (e.g., follow a low sodium diet) or are dehydrated (due to travel or using diuretics such as coffee or alcohol).

Important note: Always consult with your physician before commencing with a workout program.

# **GROUP TRAVEL**



If you're joining one of our scheduled trekking tours you'll be hiking with fellow outdoor enthusiasts. Please carefully examine the trip materials and difficulty level prior to registering to select a trip that matches your ability level. If you need assistance selecting the right trip we are more than happy to help.

We make every effort to accurately set expectations and effectively screen guests, however it is inevitable on some trips there will be a discrepancy in fitness levels. Consider that the trip may be a once in a lifetime opportunity for your fellow travelers and it is important to respect each guest's individual condition, needs and desires.

Finally, guided groups are required by land management agencies to stay together on the trail. Hiking together can require patience and flexibility. If hiking at a very specific pace is extremely important to you, you may want to consider booking a private trip.



## TIPPING YOUR GUIDE

Tipping your guide is greatly appreciated! Wildland guides, and outdoor/backcountry guides in general, do much more than lead guests down the trail. Although supported by amazing in-town staff, they often work independently in the field due to permit and logistical constraints. The guide is responsible for the group's safety, menu planning (including dietary restrictions), cooking for the group, prepping and taking care of the gear, handling livestock (on stock-supported trips), driving, complying with government regulations, ensuring guest satisfaction, and generally making sure the tour runs smoothly. They wear many hats and are extraordinary at what they do!

The industry standard tip amount for hiking and backpacking guides is between 10% and 20% of the tour cost per person, depending on your level of satisfaction. If you have any questions about tipping, feel free to call us 7 days a week at 800-715-HIKE (4453)!



# **GUIDE SHIFTS**

Guides are required to take 8 hours off each 24-hour period to sleep, recuperate, take personal/down time...etc. In addition, as part of the 8 hours off they must sleep/rest or be in their tents/rooms <u>uninterrupted</u> for a minimum of 5 hours each night. We ask guests to respect these requirements and to not interrupt guides' off time and sleep time unless there is a true emergency.

Thank You! The Wildland Trekking Company is dedicated to delivering an exceptional travel experience that exceeds your every expectation. We believe travel and adventure are two of life's great joys and take seriously our role in helping you create a trip of lasting memories. In addition to our role as your travel partner and outfitter we are dedicated to the promotion of stewardship and conservation in the regions we visit. One of our commitments is to use Wildland as a tool toward long-term sustainability of the Earth's environment and its communities. If there is anything we can do to further inform or help you prepare for your upcoming adventure please do not hesitate to contact us. Thanks for the opportunity to serve you and we look forward to seeing you soon!



800-715-HIKE (4453)

Feel free to call us for more info — we're here 7 days a week!