



Visiting Glacier National Park: Peak Season Logistics & Activity Information



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Welcome to Montana! We know that visiting Glacier National Park is a big reason why many folks visit this area. In recent years, the park has changed its admission criteria, including adding a vehicle reservation system. To help make the system a bit easier to understand, we've put together the guide below to help you visit the park. We've also included some other ways to enjoy the Flathead Valley outside of the park. We strongly encourage all guests to explore other areas, reduce their impact on park resources, and do their part to #RecreateResponsibly.

What is a Going-to-the-Sun Road Corridor Vehicle Reservation?

Going-to-the-Sun Road is the main thoroughfare through Glacier National Park. The vast majority of the park's iconic hikes and viewpoints are accessed on this road.

A Going-to-the-Sun Road Corridor Vehicle Reservation is required for each vehicle accessing the Going-to-the-Sun Road Corridor Vehicle Reservation Area from May 27th through September 11th, 2022, from 6:00am to 4:00pm.

A Going-to-the-Sun Road Corridor Vehicle Reservation (valid for 3 days) provides access for one private vehicle to enter the Going-to-the-Sun Road Corridor Vehicle Reservation Area through the West Entrance Station, Camas Entrance Station, and the Rising Sun checkpoint. In addition to a Going-to-the-Sun Road Corridor Vehicle Reservation, a park pass (7-day, annual, or lifetime) is required at the time of entry.

How can I get a vehicle reservation?

Vehicle reservations are available online at [recreation.gov](https://www.recreation.gov). [Click here](#) to go directly to the booking page. (Scan QR code at the top of this page to access links)

What if I don't see any availability?

There are two booking windows for vehicle reservations.

Primary Booking Window: A portion of the vehicle reservations are available 120 days in advance of the effective date, beginning on March 2nd at 8:00am MST (e.g., vehicle reservations for July 1st are available on March 3rd).

Secondary Booking Window: The remaining tickets will be available at 8:00am MDT the day before the effective date (e.g., remaining vehicle reservations for July 1st are available on June 30th).

If you are arriving in peak season (mid-June through September) without a vehicle reservation, you will want to try for availability in the "Secondary Booking Window". Remember, tickets are valid for 3 days, so you have multiple days to try for a Vehicle Reservation. For example, buying a vehicle reservation on August 20th would provide you entry for the 21st, 22nd, and 23rd. Be strategic about when you visit. Weekday reservations are often easier to get.

What if I can't get a vehicle reservation?

Don't worry! There are still lots of ways to explore Glacier National Park.

Option 1 - You can access the park before 6:00am or after 4:00pm on any day without a vehicle reservation. Lots of guests enjoyed evening hikes and early morning starts doing this method.

Option 2 - If you have a reservation for any service that operates inside the park, you do not need a vehicle reservation. For example, if you signed up for a bike, paddleboard, or kayak from Glacier Outfitters, that rental would serve as your vehicle reservation for the day of your rental.

We highly recommend guests reach out to our local experience providers to make the most of their time in Glacier National Park. Not only do guided services and gear rentals get you into the park, but working with a local experience partner eliminates worrying about the logistics of where to go and what to do so you can focus on enjoying your time in Glacier.

- [Glacier Outfitters](#) (for gear rentals inside the park)
- [Glacier Guides](#) (for guided hikes in Glacier)
- [Glacier Institute](#) (for guided hikes and educational programs in Glacier, especially great for families)

We also recommend seeking activities outside of the park to reduce your impact and see more of the Flathead Valley. For activities outside the park, we highly recommend:

- [Whitefish Outfitters](#) (for guided driving tours and hikes outside of Glacier)
- [Whitefish Bike Retreat](#) (for mountain bike rentals and direct access to the Whitefish Trail System)
- [Whitefish Mountain Resort](#) (for zip lines, ropes courses, scenic chairlift rides, and more!)
- [Glacier Guides](#) & [Glacier Raft Company](#) (for rafting outside of Glacier)

I've still got questions!

No worries! Your Guest Experience Manager is an amazing resource for details on visiting Glacier and the surrounding area. Feel free to reach out to them if you have any questions.