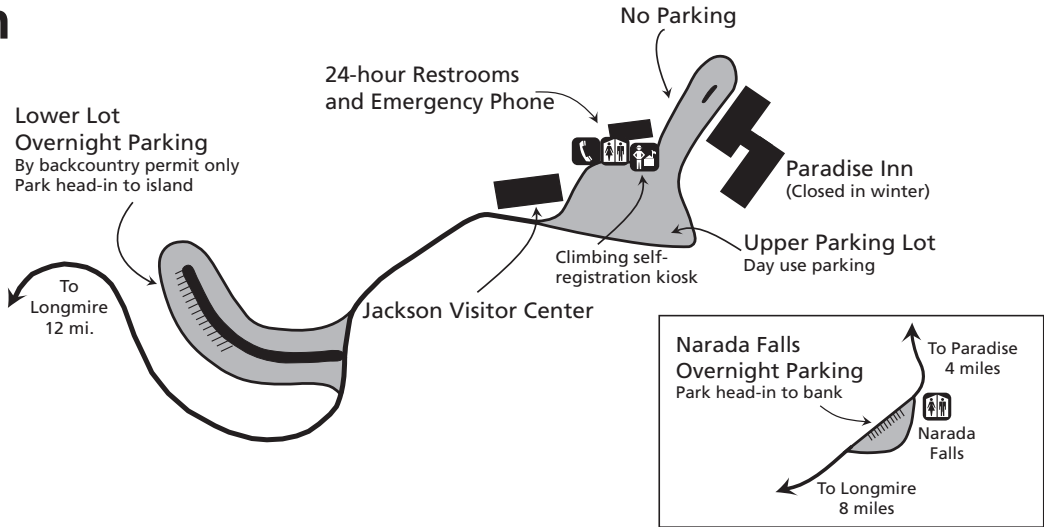




Winter Recreation

Plan to leave Paradise by 4:30 pm to exit the downhill gate at Longmire by the 5 pm closure. The gate at Longmire for uphill traffic generally closes at 4 pm.

Stay out of parking lots and well away from snow plows while they are working. Plows cannot stop quickly. Snow blowers can throw snow and ice 300 feet.



Safety First!	Hypothermia and frostbite are winter hazards which can lead to serious injury or death. If you are spending time outside, dress sensibly, drink lots of fluids, and take warm-up breaks indoors.	Keep a sharp eye out for snowplows. Never ski, snowshoe, or hike along plowed roads, even when they’re closed. Snow plows may be working at any time.
Protect Your Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Remember to pack out all trash. Pets are not permitted on trails or snow. Leashed pets are permitted only in parking lots. Walking on roads is not recommended due to hazards from snow plows.Use fuel stoves. Campfires are not permitted.Enjoy wildlife at a distance and keep human food properly stored.Dispose of human waste properly—use restrooms where available, or ask a ranger for a “blue bag”. Blue bags are for disposal of human	<p>waste when camping. Using blue bags keeps water clean, protects fragile vegetation from digging and allows more people to use this area without leaving impacts. To dispose of used blue bags, a blue bag barrel is available in the tunnel to the restrooms in the upper Paradise parking lot.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Cutting of vegetation and collecting or gathering of wood is not permitted.Do not dry clothing or gear in the restroom tunnel.Camping and cooking in any building or in the restroom tunnel is not permitted.
Sledding and Sliding	The Paradise sledding area will not open this winter. Sledding and sliding are not permitted in other areas	of the park. Trees, tree wells, and cliffs make other areas dangerous.
Dangerous Terrain	<p>Paradise has numerous hazards where winter navigation skills and sound judgement are vital:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Avoid tree wells, creek crossings, snow cornices, gullies, and steep, open areas of snow.Just because you see evidence of people in an area it does not mean it is safe to travel there.Carry the 10 Essentials, give advance notice of your plans to a responsible person so they can contact rangers if you fail to return.Cell phone coverage is limited inside the parkDetermine if the location you are traveling is avalanche prone. When in doubt, ask questions or don’t go. Never travel alone.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Learn to identify avalanche terrain. Get the daily avalanche forecast from Northwest Avalanche Center at www.nwac.us.Each person should carry and know how to use a beacon, probe, and shovel. Avalanches occur with frightening regularity in the Paradise area. Check the map on the back for known avalanche zones. Ask a ranger for current avalanche conditions.Winter storms along the Muir Snowfield can produce hurricane force winds, blinding snow, and white out conditions. These conditions challenge even the best mountaineers.If visibility is poor, do not travel at all.
Skiing and Snowboarding	A minimum of 5’ of snow is advised for skiing and snowboarding. Avoid damaging exposed vegetation. Obtain further information at the Jackson Visitor	Center at Paradise Friday - Monday and the Longmire Museum daily.
Snow Camping	<p>Due to the unpredictability of vehicle access to Paradise, campers should be prepared to spend extra nights in the backcountry if the gate at Longmire remains closed. A minimum of 5’ of snow at Paradise and 2’ in other areas of the park is required to protect fragile vegetation. A minimum of 8’ of snow is recommended to construct snow caves.</p> <p>Permits are required for snow camping in the backcountry. They are available the day of arrival at the Longmire Museum 9 am - 4 pm daily and the Paradise Visitor Center Fri - Mon. Reservations will be available once there is at least 5 feet of consolidated snow at Paradise. Reservations must be made</p>	<p>at least 2 days in advance.</p> <p>Select a location for your campsite that is a minimum of 300 feet from other campers and their campsites, plowed roads, and parking areas (to avoid being buried by snowplows), marked routes, trails, and buildings. Camp at least 100 feet away from water. If you encounter shrubs, trees, or bare ground while digging, choose a different spot. For the safety of others, collapse igloos and snow caves before you leave.</p> <p>Maximum group size is 12 people. <i>Hard-sided food storage containers are required in all Paradise area winter camping zones.</i></p>
Group Campsites	Groups of 13-60 people may snow camp only at Paradise. Groups must camp in the designated group camping areas and are required to use restrooms to dispose of human waste. Reservations are available	72 hours in advance from recreation.gov . Obtain a Special Use Permit for organized group recreation at mora_special_use@nps.gov . <i>Hard-sided food storage containers are required for all groups.</i>
Winter Parking & Vehicle Safety	Vehicles parked overnight must be left in the designated overnight parking areas at Narada Falls, Longmire, or the Paradise lower parking lot. If designated areas are full, contact a park ranger. See	<i>the map above for more details. All vehicles are required to carry tire chains when traveling in the park. Know how to install them and obey the traction requirements.</i>

