

Frequently Asked Questions Regarding Local Services and Attractions

Are hotels, restaurants, retail, and other businesses open in Whitefish?

Yes. It's important to know that services might be limited and new safety protocols are in place. For more detailed information regarding individual businesses, we suggest calling those businesses directly or checking their status on their Facebook pages.

Am I required to wear a mask in public while in Whitefish?

Yes. While Governor Gianforte lifted the state-wide mask mandate effective February 12, 2021, the City of Whitefish enacted [Emergency Ordinance 21-01](#) continuing the Mask Mandate for another 90 days following its commencement on February 12, 2021.

- Face coverings are **REQUIRED** to be worn in all indoor spaces open to the public.

- Face coverings are **REQUIRED** to be worn for outdoor activities where social distancing is not possible or is not observed.

Notable Exemptions:

1. Children under the age of five. Children between the ages of two and four are strongly encouraged to wear a face covering. Children under the age of two should not wear a face covering.
2. Persons consuming food or drinks in a restaurant or bar.
3. Further exceptions can be found at: <https://www.cityofwhitefish.org/>

What safety protocols are in place at Whitefish Mountain Resort?

Whitefish Mountain Resort requires face coverings when in outside lines, and while loading and unloading the lift. Face coverings are required indoors in our public buildings. Face coverings can be removed while seated for eating and drinking purposes. They are required when riding the shuttle and S.N.O.W. Bus. Face coverings are required for ages 5 and up.

More information on additional steps Whitefish Mountain Resort is taking to keep residents, visitors and employees safe can be found on their website: <https://skiwhitefish.com/covid-19/>.

What is the status of Glacier National Park services?

Glacier National Park is open and face masks are required in all buildings and on park lands when physical distance cannot be maintained.

Access to Going-to-the-Sun Road is available at the west entrance (West Glacier) only. The Going-to-the-Sun Road is open at the West Entrance to Lake McDonald Lodge. Occasionally in extreme conditions the road may be closed at the foot of Lake McDonald. The inside North Fork Road is currently closed at Polebridge. The roads on the east side of the park are closed, as is typical for this time of year. Additionally most areas within the park, east of the Continental Divide, remain closed to all access due to the COVID-19 pandemic restrictions on the Blackfeet Indian Reservation, just outside the park. Non-essential travel on roads within the Blackfeet Indian Reservation is prohibited. Check the GNP road status page and glacierpark.info for most up-to-date information on road closures. All east side park entrances are closed for the season.

Skiing and Snowshoeing

Winter recreation access is permitted beyond the vehicle closure on the west side of the Going-to-the-Sun Road. Skiing and snowshoeing along the road is a popular winter activity. The snow is beginning to get too deep for hiking on the road. Guided snowshoe trips are not being offered this winter.

Camping

Loop B of the Apgar Campground has opened for first-come, first served primitive camping. There is no water available and only vault toilets. Loop B will remain open for primitive camping through the winter.

Lodges, Restaurants, and Other Services

Glacier's concessioners operating lodging, restaurants, boat rentals, horseback rides, and bus tours have closed for the season. Private businesses in Apgar Village may be open periodically during the winter. Plan to bring food and other items you may need, just in case they are not open.

Trails and Backcountry Camping

Snow has accumulated on park trails. Winter conditions are in effect throughout the park trail system.

From November 20th to May 1st, special backcountry camping regulations are in effect. Due to COVID-19 precautions, permits will be issued electronically by advance reservation only. Call 406-888-7800 and press 5 to leave a call-back number. A ranger will return your call within 3 work days. Permits may be obtained up to 7 days in advance.

Entrance fees are being collected by gate attendants. The self service kiosks are available at the entrance station for visitors when gate attendants are not present. Visitors can also purchase their park pass in advance at [Recreation.gov](https://www.recreation.gov) Reminder: Visitor services are very limited. Visit the [Glacier National Park Status Update Page](#) for more information.

Where Can I Find Information on Health Care?

- North Valley Hospital and Kalispell Regional Medical Center: <https://www.krh.org/krhc/patients-and-visitors/covid-19-preparedness-and-updates>

- Flathead County Health Orders and Phased Safety Measures: <https://flatheadhealth.org/novel-coronavirus-covid-19/>

Where Can I Get Tested for the Coronavirus?

Testing for people with no or mild COVID-19 symptoms and close contacts of people who have tested positive for COVID-19 is available at The Cornerstone Bldg, 3004 Hospital Way, Whitefish (406) 862-1754 or Drive up testing: 160 Heritage Way in Kalispell, (406) 890-7294.

What happens if I test positive for COVID-19 while I am visiting the area?

If an individual tests positive in Flathead County, they will be required to isolate until they meet CDC criteria for release from isolation. Release from isolation must be cleared by the Health Department (MCA 50-18-107). If the individual is unable to leave Flathead County, isolation may result in someone staying in their current lodging situation for a longer period of time than initially planned. Please contact your host immediately.

What is the status of the U.S. / Canada Border?

The border between Canada and the United States is closed to all non-essential travel through at least April 21, 2021

Where can I find more visitor information in Whitefish?

Visit [ExploreWhitefish.com](https://www.explorewhitefish.com) or visit, call, or email the Whitefish Visitor Information Center located at 505 East 2nd St, They can also be reached via phone (877-862-3548) or email (info@explorewhitefish.com). The Visitor Center is open Mon-Fri 9am - 3pm. Stop by one of the green self service visitor information kiosks located in downtown Whitefish. **Free Wifi is available at the kiosks as well as maps and travel guides.**