



FLAGSHIP TRIP COMPANION

# Lusk to Thermopolis Route 20 Weekend

A three-day Wyoming trip with separate roles for the eastern entry, Casper history and logistics, the central crossing, and a Thermopolis destination day.



**Day 1: Lusk -> Casper. Day 2: Casper -> Thermopolis. Day 3: Thermopolis.**

## Night 1

Casper, the full-service history-and-logistics base.

## Night 2

Thermopolis, the destination finish for hot springs or paleontology.

## Core rule

Do not attach Yellowstone to this itinerary; the park approach needs a separate day and current entrance planning.

Check Wyoming road conditions, weather, lodging, and current museum or park notices. Winter travel, smoke, high wind, or a specific program can materially change the plan.



## Current trip page

Scan for the online itinerary, connected segments, and place guides.



TRIP AT A GLANCE

THREE-DAY PLAN

## Separate the three-day crossing into clear roles

### Best version

Three days, with separate overnights in Casper and Thermopolis.

### Faster version

One night and two days; choose one Casper museum and one Thermopolis focus.

### Slower version

Add a Casper day for multiple museums, the river, downtown, or Casper Mountain.

## Anchor roles

Give each place one clear job.

### Lusk

Wyoming entry and practical start.

### Casper

Full-service history-and-logistics base.

### Thermopolis

Destination finish.

#### Casper overnight

---

#### Thermopolis overnight

---

#### Casper Day 1 anchor

---

#### Thermopolis Day 3 anchor

---



DAY 1

CASPER OVERNIGHT

# Lusk to Casper: one history anchor is enough

## LUSK DEPARTURE

### Settle fuel, food, and the route check

Begin the Wyoming entry with practical needs already handled.

## GLENROCK

### Choose a focused stop if it earns the time

The Paleon Museum or emigrant-trail history can justify a stop. Keep Glenrock proportional when a Casper museum is the priority.

## CASPER

### Choose one anchor and stay overnight

Use the National Historic Trails Interpretive Center, Tate Geological Museum, or Fort Caspar as the main history choice, then pair it with the North Platte River or downtown.

Glenrock stop or skip

---

Casper museum / history anchor

---

Casper evening

---

Night 1 lodging

---



## Casper to Thermopolis: keep the transition open

### CASPER MORNING

#### Add a second choice only if it stays proportional

Casper Mountain is a separate outing with its own weather and road considerations, not a quick add-on before Thermopolis.

### CENTRAL WYOMING

#### Handle fuel and food before needs become urgent

Continue through the open stretch toward Shoshoni with practical stops settled early.

### WIND RIVER CANYON

#### Let the drive provide the transition

Use overlooks only where stopping is legal and safe; the drive itself carries the shift into Thermopolis.

### THERMOPOLIS ARRIVAL

#### Use a light first evening

Walk Hot Springs State Park or use a simple downtown evening, then save the main attraction for the next morning.

Casper morning choice

---

Fuel / food checkpoint

---

Canyon notes

---

Thermopolis first evening

---



DAY 3

## Thermopolis: choose one destination anchor first

**HOT SPRINGS OR  
FOSSILS**

### Hot springs focus

Hot Springs State Park combines mineral terraces, river scenery, walking, and soaking options.

### Paleontology focus

The Wyoming Dinosaur Center is the stronger choice for a focused fossil visit.

Combining both can fill much of the day, especially when current access or programs affect how the visit flows. Choose one as the anchor before adding the other.

### If continuing west

Decide the next role before leaving.

### Worland

Decide whether it is the next service stop.

### Cody

Decide whether it is the next overnight.

### Thermopolis primary anchor

---

### Optional second choice

---

### Departure after destination day

---

### Next overnight if continuing

---



SERVICES AND SCHEDULE

CUT ORDER

## Protect the destination, not every option

### Casper

Strongest place to settle supplies and lodging.

### Thermopolis

Has the services needed for an overnight, but attraction schedules and soaking access should be confirmed before arrival.

## What to cut when the trip slips

Protect the destination finish.

### 1 Shorten or skip Glenrock

Keep the stop proportional when Casper is the main history day.

### 2 Use only one Casper museum

Do not stack museums at the expense of the central crossing.

### 3 Drop Casper Mountain

Treat it as a separate outing, not a quick add-on.

### 4 Choose one Thermopolis anchor

Protect enough time for the destination to feel intentional.

Never attach Yellowstone to a slipping three-day plan. The park approach needs its own day and current entrance planning.



FINAL PLAN

READY TO DRIVE

## Copy the three-day decisions that matter

Day 1 Casper anchor

---

Night 1 lodging

---

Day 2 fuel / food plan

---

Night 2 lodging

---

Day 3 Thermopolis anchor

---

First item to cut

---

### Notes from the road

---

---

---

---

---



### Current trip page

Use the online trip page for the Lusk-Orin-Glenrock and Casper-Shoshoni-Thermopolis segments and the separate Thermopolis-to-Cody continuation.

Revision: August 2026.