

## Teton Valley, Idaho

Teton Valley was first discovered and labeled as the finest valley in the world by trapper Jedediah Smith in 1824. Located in southeastern Idaho, this 450 square mile valley is named for the majestic Teton mountain range. Although the Tetons are more famous to people having seen them on the other side in Jackson Hole and Grand Teton National Park, the views from the west are equally spectacular.

While Idaho is one of the fastest growing states in the country with a 13+% increase from 2000 to 2006, [Teton County far surpasses the state growth with an estimated increase of 30.7%](#) during the same period. As of July, 2006 it is estimated there are 7838 residents in Teton County, Idaho. The percentage of college graduates living in Teton County is 29% greater than the state of Idaho total. 73% of residents own their homes. Median household income in 2005 was \$46,292, 11.7% greater than the state average.

Driggs is the county seat with Victor and Tetonia the other communities in the valley. There are several banks in town, a new supermarket and a variety of other stores and restaurants.

Victor is the bedroom community of and closest town to Jackson Hole, being 35 minutes away while Driggs is eight miles to the north or less than 45 minutes from Jackson town center. Driggs is also just 45 minutes from Teton Village and the Jackson Hole Mountain Resort and less than 15 minutes from Grand Targhee ski resort. Grand Targhee, although located in Wyoming, is only accessible from Teton Valley.

Grand Targhee is a wonderful family resort known for its exceptional snow averaging over 500 inches annually and the fluffy powder that skiers dream about. The wide open runs make it ideal for skiers of all abilities.

Being surrounded by national forest makes Teton Valley a paradise for back country skiers and snow mobilers in the winter and hikers, bikers and climbers in the summer. Fishing, hunting and hot air ballooning are also popular activities in the Valley.

The fact that Teton Valley is at an elevation of 6200 feet is another attraction. It is high enough to offer all the benefits of exceptional weather (summers are spectacular) but comfortable enough that altitude adjustment comes very quickly for most people. Summer time highs average in the high 70's but will frequently reach the 80's in July and August but the evenings cool down to the 40's so air conditioning is very seldom seen in homes in the Valley. The average high in January is 29 and the low 8, but with low humidity and many sunny days.

The location of a first class private airport just north of Driggs, the Driggs Reed Memorial Airport, makes getting in and out of the valley very easy for private aircraft owners or operators. With 7300 feet of runway and taxiway, this airport is capable of handling a full range of private aircraft but no commercial flights currently fly into Driggs.

For those flying into the area commercially there are excellent options. The Jackson Hole airport is about 45 minutes from Victor and the Idaho Falls airport is approximately one hour away offering multiple direct and connecting flights across the country. Both are easy to get to, offer easy check in, have modern terminals, rental car facilities and are efficient and prompt in getting baggage out to travelers.

Jackson Hole has a population of nearly 20,000 with the town of Jackson offering many services of a much larger city. There are many lodging options, truly quality restaurants, a town square perfect for walking, a variety of retail outlets, multiple galleries, a world class museum, a new Center for the Arts, an exceptional hospital and health care services, summer music festival, summer rodeo, concert and entertainer performances and many other activities.