

BANNER RIDGE SUMMER YURT GUIDE

The Banner Ridge yurt is a very popular yurt because it is only a few hundred yards from a USFS road and has a spectacular view to the north and east. From Banner Ridge are beautiful views of the South Fork of the Payette River Canyon, Bear Valley, Scott Mountain and the scenic Sawtooth Mountains. Many miles of high elevation primitive roads and trails are available for hiking, mountain biking and horseback riding. The yurt's high elevation (6,500 feet) guarantees an assortment of wild flowers all summer long. This is also a wonderful place to experience the power of a summer thunderstorm, view the stars of the Milky Way, watch wildlife, or just to curl up and read a book. The yurt is usually snow free early May to early November.

PLEASE READ THE SUMMER YURT MANUAL FOR MORE DETAILS

Combination to the yurt, It's your responsibility:

You can contact the yurt coordinator by emailing deetta.petersen@idpr.idaho.gov or by calling 208-514-2418 no less than one week to 48 hours in advance of your arrival in order to acquire your yurt access code. Failure to contact the yurt coordinator will result in inability to obtain entry to the yurt. No refunds are given for failure to obtain door access code. All correspondence must include reservation number, phone number or name on the reservation and yurt booked. **Take the combination with you.**

How to Get There: The Banner Ridge yurt is accessed from the Banner Ridge Park N' Ski parking lot which is 23.5 miles north of Idaho City on Highway 21, just past mile marker 61. Across from this parking lot, turn right off the highway onto a gravel road. You will immediately pass a toilet. Drive on this gravel road about 2 miles to the yurt parking spot. This road is shown as part of the Elkhorn Loop on the yurt location map. This trail/road is marked by the five inch (5") blue diamond shapes (blue blazes) located on trees beside the road. The road to the yurt will continually climb until you reach the top of the ridge. Do not turn off on any side roads on the way up. A high clearance vehicle is recommended because of the water bars on the road. You will know you are at the summer parking spot when you see a 2-foot yellow diamond shape (blaze) attached to a post off to your left.. Please park to the right of the post off the road. Follow the 5" yellow blazes alongside the path to the yurt. **You cannot see the Banner Ridge yurt from the Elkhorn Loop trail/road or the summer parking area.**

Elevation Change and Distance:

From the yurt summer parking spot it is about a 50-foot descent along a 300-yard long single-track trail.

Dogs:

From Dec 1st through April 15th dogs are *not* allowed. All other times dogs are allowed.

Solar Power:

This yurt has a solar unit with four lights. Please do not change the panel location. Use the lights when needed, turn them off when not in use and at the end of your stay.

Wood:

Firewood is located under the deck. Wood for the fire pit is on the ground surrounding the yurt site. Please use downed, dry timber for the fire pit, as it helps clean up the area and aides in fire protection.

Water:

You must haul in your own drinking water in the summer season. We recommend you haul it in on a wagon or wheelbarrow. There is a year around spring available within 350 yards of this yurt. From the yurt, hike down the drainage about 150 yards and down 50 feet in elevation until you come to a visible roadbed. Turn right on the level roadbed and travel 200 yards on the road. At this point, look downhill about 30 feet to see a 4x4 post sticking out of the ground. Five feet downhill from the base of this pole is a spring that comes directly out of the ground. We recommend that this water be boiled for 10 minutes or drawn through a water filter system. A water tank is located on site and is refilled about every three weeks. This water is not for drinking but may be used for cleaning and washing. Please conserve this so others have water for their stay.

Equipment Needed:

Bring two (2) one-pound propane bottles per each night of your stay and a roll of paper towels. **A list of recommended items for your yurt trip is at the back of the summer yurt manual.**

Maps Needed:

Idaho City Area Park N' Ski Location Map, Banner Ridge Summer Trail Route to Banner Ridge Yurt (on website).

Global Positioning System Locations

UTM (in NAD 83/WGS 84): Note UTM's are rounded to nearest 10 meters

Banner Ridge Parking Lot: 11T0611730E 4875470N

Banner Ridge Yurt: 11T 0613220E 4877070N

Elevations:

Banner Ridge Parking Lot on Highway 21: 5,764 feet

Banner Ridge Summer Parking: 6476 feet

Banner Ridge Yurt: 6,425 feet

Safety: The nearest telephone is in Lowman. For emergencies call Boise County Sheriff: **1-208-392-4411** or in a medical emergency: **911**. There is cell phone coverage for some cell phone systems at the high point on the Elkhorn trail once you are on the top of the Banner Ridge. There is also possible coverage on Stargaze trail near on Highway 21.

REPORT YURT DAMAGE OR MISSING ITEMS TO 208-514-2418 or 208-514-2419

PLEASE, DO NOT FEED ANY WILD ANIMALS. IT CAN LEAD TO THE ANIMALS CHEWING OR TEARING THE YURT SKIN.