

## Grand Prismatic Spring

**Location: United States Of America**

The Grand Prismatic Spring is a natural wonder located in the Midway Geyser Basin of Yellowstone National Park in the United States. It is the largest hot spring in the country and the third largest in the world. The spring is approximately 370 feet in diameter and has a depth of 121 feet. It is known for its striking colors, which are created by microbial mats around the edges of the mineral-rich water. The Grand Prismatic Spring was first discovered by Europeans in the early 1800s, but it was not until 1871 that it was named by the Hayden Geological Survey. The name [prismatic] refers to the spring's vibrant and varied colors, which range from deep blue to orange and red. The spring has been studied extensively by geologists and microbiologists due to its unique properties. The water in the spring is heated by underground magma and can reach temperatures of up to 189 degrees Fahrenheit. The microbial mats that give the spring its colors also play an important role in its ecology, as they provide a habitat for a variety of thermophilic, or heat-loving, microorganisms. The Grand Prismatic Spring is a popular tourist destination and is easily accessible from a boardwalk that loops around the

spring. Visitors are cautioned to stay on the boardwalk and avoid touching the water, as the high temperatures and acidity can be dangerous. In recent years, the park has implemented measures to reduce the impact of visitors on the fragile ecosystem of the spring, including restricting access to some areas and promoting responsible tourism practices.

