

BUSINESS INSIDER

I'm a New Yorker who visited Jackson Hole for the first time. 8 things surprised me.

After my first night, I was shocked to see a moose out the window while eating breakfast.



A moose at the author's hotel in Jackson Hole. Joey Hadden/Business Insider

The most surprising part of my trip popped up on the morning of day two. I sat at a small table next to the floor-to-ceiling windows at Hotel Yellowstone's restaurant, Olivia's.

Amid sipping my coffee and scarfing down steel-cut oats, I froze — a moose was walking along the property, and he couldn't have been more than 10 feet from my window.

As a New Yorker, my typical wildlife sightings consist of rats, squirrels, and raccoons. So, I stared at the creature in awe. It was like being at a zoo without the guilt of seeing caged animals as entertainment.

The moose surprised me, but not my server, who said the animal is a "regular" and often swims in the pond and rolls in flower beds in the center of the property.

I was amazed that this majestic, wild creature could be so comfortable in a human space. But perhaps it's because I was at a calm establishment far from urban chaos.