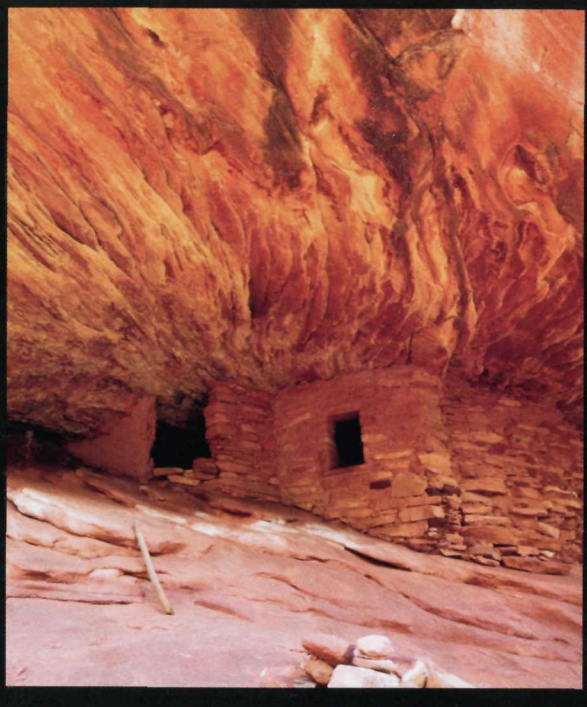


It's your responsibility to know the rules and regulations as they may be different inside and outside the monument. For maps, trip planning information, and rules, regulations, and recreation permits, contact the BLM at (435) 887-1510.

www.blm.gov/programs/national-conservation-lands/utah/bears-ears-national-monument

For more information on ways to respectfully explore Bears Ears, visit:

www.fs.fed.us/visit/bears-ears-national-monument



Developed in collaboration with the BLM, the US Forest Service, National Park Service, Utah State Parks, and Utah School Institutional Trust Lands Administration.



COVER PHOTO: BEARS EARS BUTTES | PUBLIC DOMAIN BLM FLICKR

# Bears Ears National Monument

## Area Attractions

### If you have several hours

From Blanding: Explore the diverse cultures of Bears Ears on scenic Hwy 95. Look for dinosaur tracks at #24, take a walk at the Butler Wash Developed Site (#8), then stop at Mule Canyon Kiva (#10) and Salvation Knoll (#11), end your cultural tour at the Kane Gulch Ranger Station (#6).

From Bluff: Enjoy the easily accessed Sand Island Petroglyphs (#5), then head to the Valley of the Gods scenic loop (#1). Next enjoy the lofty vista at Goosenecks State Park (#21), and drive the twisty Moki Dugway to see the Bears Ears Buttes (#13).

From Monticello: Take Hart's Draw Road (#16) over the side of the Abajo Mountains, drop down to Indian Creek to view rock writing on Newspaper Rock (#17), and climb again for a vista at the Needles Overlook (#19).

### If you have a full day

Enjoy the sunrise over Valley of the Gods (#1), view the petroglyphs at Sand Island (#5), and visit Edge of the Cedars State Park Museum (#22). Then drive to the Butler Wash Developed Site (#8) for a short hike, walk out to Cave Towers (#9), and drive to Muley Point (#23) for a sunset vista.

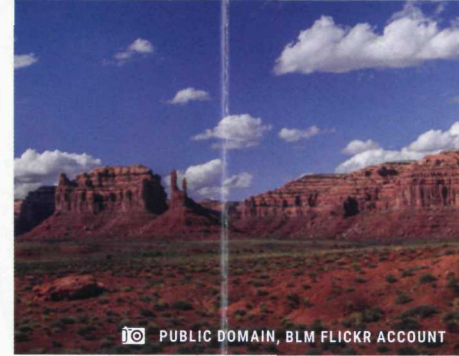
### If you have multiple days

Add an adventure with a permitted guide! Float the San Juan River and visit the Big Kachina Panel (#4) and River House (#3), take a hike from Kane Gulch Ranger Station to Junction Cliff Dwelling (#7), ride OHVs at Jacob's Chair (#15), rock climb at Indian Creek (#18), mountain bike the Lockhart Basin Road (#20), or try canyoneering in Fry Canyon (#14).

#### 1. Valley of the Gods

Scenic Drive – Mexican Hat

This 17-mile drive through the sculpted Cedar Mesa sandstone buttes of Valley of the Gods offers an easy car drive or a mellow mountain biking route, on a well-maintained but unsurfaced road. Follow the Valley of the Gods road which connects Hwy 163 and UT-261 to view all the towering buttes. (No Water. No facilities)



#### 2. San Juan Hill

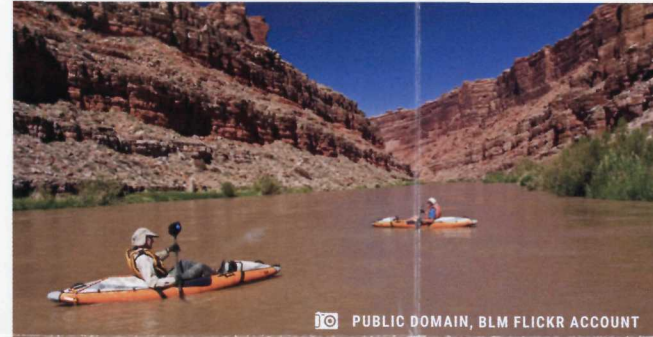
Hike to historic inscription – Comb Ridge

Climb the steep San Juan Hill to relive the historic Hole-in-the-Rock expedition of 1879-1880. From the top of this section of Comb Ridge, enjoy scenic views of the San Juan River and a historic inscription. (No facilities or water)

#### 3. River House

Riverside Cliff Dwelling – San Juan River

This Ancestral Puebloan multi-room home is best visited from the San Juan River through a guided or private trip. The standing walls and kiva structures date to the 1200s A.D. The site was also briefly inhabited in the 900s A.D. (No facilities or water)



#### 4. Big Kachina Panel

Rock Writing – San Juan River

Experience this panel from the San Juan River where you can see hundreds of petroglyphs that are from 200 to thousands of years old. The panel is famous for the large broad-shouldered anthropomorph figures from the Basketmaker era. (No facilities or water)



#### 5. Sand Island Petroglyph Panel

Camping and Roadside Rock Writing – Bluff

This roadside panel boasts centuries of rock art spanning from the 19th century to 2,500+ years ago. Most of the petroglyphs are from the early Basketmaker through Pueblo III eras. More recent Ute and Navajo rock images can be identified by their brighter carvings. (Vault toilet; water only seasonally)

#### 6. Cedar Mesa Rock Art Exhibit

Kane Gulch Ranger Station – Cedar Mesa

Stop by the ranger station to view the Cedar Mesa Rock Images Exhibit that explores the rock images of the area, starting with the Archaic period, traveling through the Basketmaker and Puebloan eras, and ending with Navajo and Ute petroglyphs. (Ranger station open March 1 - June 15 and September 1 - October 31. Vault toilet)

#### 7. Junction Cliff Dwelling

Advanced Hike to Archaeology – Cedar Mesa

This hike leads to a multi-level Ancestral Puebloan cliff dwelling site located at the intersection of Kane Gulch and Grand Gulch, the longest canyon in Cedar Mesa. The hike to Junction is an 8-mile, advanced round trip hike. (No facilities or water)

#### 8. Butler Wash Developed Site and Trail

Short Hike – Cedar Mesa

This moderate one mile round trip walking trail leads you to an overlook of several Ancestral Puebloan structures, including kivas, dating to 1200 A.D. The trail has a few shaded benches and plant ID signs along the way. (Vault toilet)



#### 9. Cave Towers

Short Archaeology Hike – Cedar Mesa

Accessed by a short hike, this Ancestral Puebloan archaeological site dates to the mid-13th century and consists of the fragile remains of seven structures. Cave Towers sits on a square-mile section of Utah School and Institutional Trust Lands Administration land that is embedded within the monument. (No facilities or water)



#### 10. Mule Canyon Kiva

Roadside Archaeology – Cedar Mesa

This roadside stop with interpretive information provides a great sense of the types of surface and underground structures built by the Ancestral Pueblos 700 years ago. (Vault toilet)

#### 11. Salvation Knoll

Roadside Hike to Historic Site – Cedar Mesa

This is a short but steep hike to an interpretive panel about the 1879-1880 Mormon Pioneer Hole-in-the-Rock expedition. From this highpoint on the landscape, you can experience the same views as the original pioneers that climbed this hill. (No facilities)



#### 12. Upper Arch Canyon Overlook

Scenic View – Elk Ridge

This roadside overlook is a must-see when visiting the Bears Ears Buttes. From an elevation of 8000 feet, Arch Canyon twists and turns below with the prominent Comb Ridge in the background. (No facilities, seasonal access)

#### 13. Bears Ears Buttes

Scenic Drive – Elk Ridge

The namesake and heart of the landscape, these twin buttes stand over 8,700 feet in elevation. They are sacred places to many American Indian tribes who share spiritual connections to the area. (No facilities, seasonal access)

#### 14. Fry Canyon

Technical Canyoneering – Fry Canyon

This is considered an "introductory" canyon but still requires technical expertise, use of ropes in one rappel, and a long swim. Fry Canyon is for people with experience canyoneering or traveling with a guide. (No facilities or water)

#### 15. Jacob's Chair

OHV Trail – Highway 95

This off road vehicle adventure offers a backcountry, moderate 28 mile loop for experienced drivers. Begin the high, and at times narrow, ride at Gravel Crossing. (No facilities or water)

#### 16. Harts Draw Road

Scenic Overlook – Abajo Mountains

Travel along the northwestern flank of the Abajo Mountains for stunning views of Bears Ears National Monument, Shay Mountain, the La Sal Mountains, BLM's Indian Creek special recreation area and the Needles District of Canyonlands National Park at the Harts Draw Overlook (elevation 8200 feet). The drive starts in Monticello and finishes at Highway 211 at the entrance to Indian Creek. (No facilities or water. Impassable in winter)



#### 17. Newspaper Rock

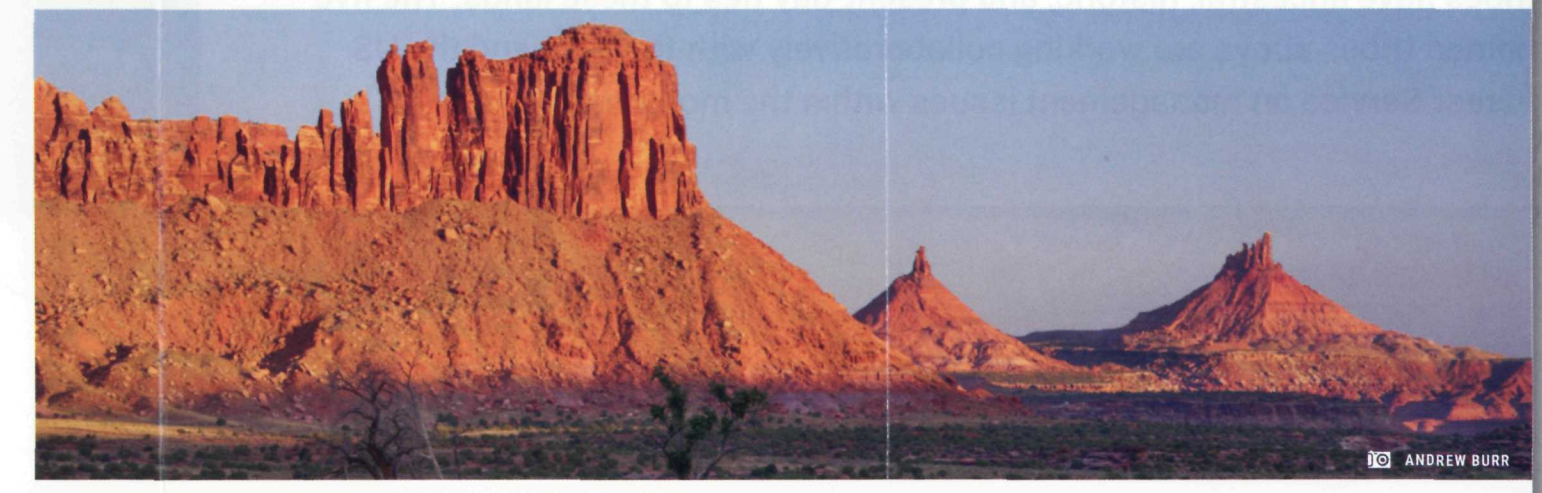
Roadside Rock Writing – Indian Creek

This rock writing panel on the way to Indian Creek and the Needles District of Canyonlands National Park has 2000 years of history depicted in over 650 designs left by the Ancestral Pueblos, Fremont people, Navajo people and Anglo-Americans. (Vault toilet)

#### 18. Indian Creek

Rock Climbing – Indian Creek

World class climbing abounds on BLM lands in the Indian Creek area, with more than 1,000 routes in the corridor. Please be respectful of private property in the area. (Vault toilets and nearby designated camping.)



#### 19. Needles Overlook

Scenic Overlook – Indian Creek

This overlook of sandstone formations and canyons offer views of the BLM's Indian Creek, the Abajo Mountains of the Manti-La Sal National Forest and Canyonlands National Park. (Vault toilet)



#### 20. Lockhart Basin Road

Intermediate Mountain Biking – Lockhart Basin

For an intermediate to advanced (due to distance) mountain bike ride, Lockhart Basin Road offers astounding views of Canyonlands National Park while paralleling the Colorado River along slickrock and trail. This 44 mile route is best as a long day or multi-day ride. If using a vehicle, 4WD high clearance is necessary. (No facilities or water)

#### 21. Goosenecks State Park

Scenic Overlook – Highway 316

This Utah State Park affords impressive views of the San Juan River as it winds and carves its way through BLM lands 1,000 feet below. From the edge of the canyon is a striking example of a river meander known as a gooseneck. (Camping and vault toilets available)



#### 22. Edge of the Cedars State Park and Museum

Archaeology Museum – Blanding

Visit the Edge of the Cedars State Park to view the largest collection of Ancestral Puebloan pottery on display in the Four Corners area. Also tour the Edge of the Cedars Pueblo, a village inhabited from AD 825 to 1225. (Full facilities available)



#### 23. Muley Point

Scenic Overlook – Cedar Mesa

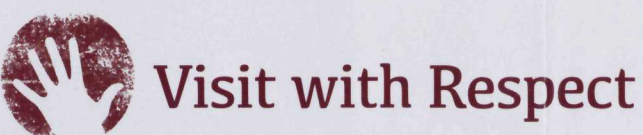
Muley Point offers a sunset watching viewpoint unlike any other. From an elevation of 5,715 feet, you can see the Goosenecks of the San Juan River, Valley of the Gods, Monument Valley and Navajo Mountain. Muley Point is located in the Glen Canyon National Recreation Area managed by the National Park Service. (No facilities or water)



#### 24. Dinosaur Track Site

Roadside Exhibit – Highway 95

Take a short walk to examine three-toed dinosaur tracks preserved in the sandstone of the wash. (No facilities or water)



## What you can do to protect ancient and sacred places:

**LEAVE ALL ARTIFACTS**  
Keep discovery alive so the next person can share the experience. It's illegal to remove or take any artifact, including historic trash, from public lands.

**STEER CLEAR OF WALLS**  
Historic and prehistoric structures can be easily damaged. Please refrain from touching, leaning, standing or climbing on any structures.

**STAY ON DESIGNATED ROADS**  
Use existing roads when traveling to cultural sites. Driving off-road can create new routes on top of fragile archaeology and ecosystems.

**KEEP PETS AT A DISTANCE**  
To prevent digging and erosion, pets are not allowed in archaeological sites. Please make sure pets are leashed and kept away from the site.

**USE A FIREPAN**  
Remember to check when and where fires are allowed. Where fires are allowed, use existing fire rings or bring your own fire pan instead of making a fire ring out of rocks.

**DON'T TOUCH ROCK ART OR MAKE YOUR OWN**  
Vandalism of petroglyphs and pictographs erases stories of ancient people and destroys the experience for future visitors.

**DON'T BUST THE CRUST**  
Stay on existing trails and routes to protect the living cryptobiotic soil. Once stepped on, this fragile crust takes years to regrow.

**GPS REVEALS TOO MUCH**  
GPS points often lead uneducated visitors to sensitive sites. When posting online about your trip, remove all references to location.

**CAMP AND EAT AWAY FROM ARCHAEOLOGY**  
Camping, fires and food can damage the archaeological remains and also spoil the view for other visitors. Remember to pack out all waste.

**DON'T DISTURB FOSSILS AND DINO TRACKS**  
Leave fossils, dinosaur bones, tracks and other paleontological remains where you find them so future visitors and scientists can experience them.

**GUIDE CHILDREN THROUGH SITES**  
Archaeological sites are not playgrounds. Please teach children respect. Keep a close eye so kids don't get hurt or accidentally damage cultural and natural resources.

**PAY YOUR FEES**  
It may not seem like much, but your small fee helps support important monitoring, enforcement and amenities like toilets.

**GO TO THE BATHROOM AWAY FROM SITES**  
...Because no one likes finding used toilet paper. Bury human waste and pack out the toilet paper.

**DON'T BUILD CAIRNS**  
Keep the landscape natural by leaving only footprints. Cairns can increase impacts on sensitive sites and are sometimes mistakenly constructed with artifacts.

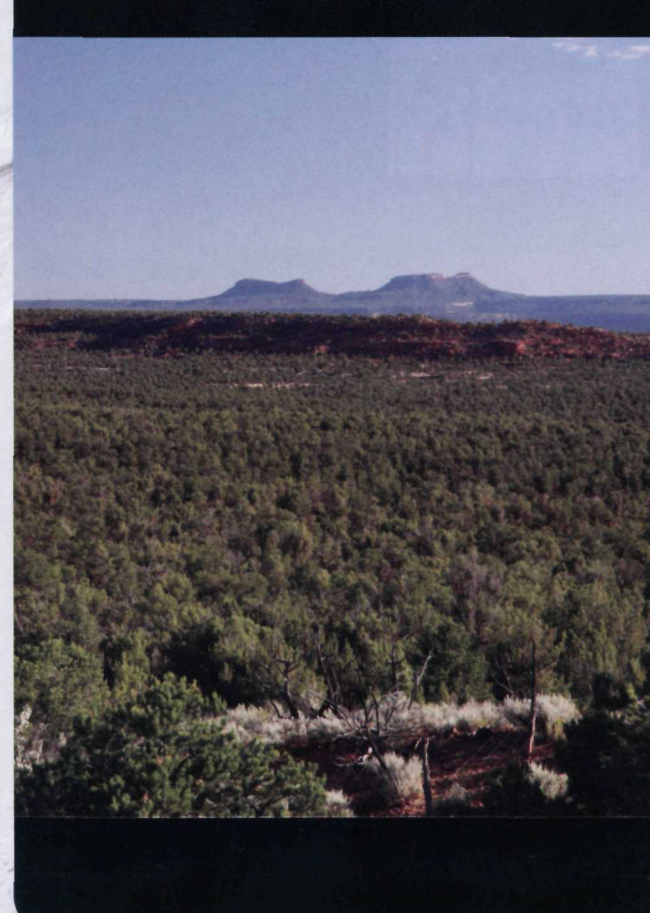
**LEAVE THE ROPES TO THE PROS**  
The use of climbing gear like ropes to access archaeological sites is illegal. This protects archaeology from damage caused by falling rocks and looting.



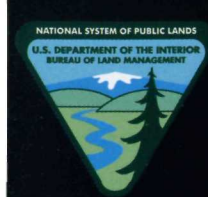
## Bears Ears National Monument

A living cultural landscape sacred to American Indian Tribes

Yours to enjoy and protect by visiting with respect.







**NATIONAL CONSERVATION LANDS**



# Bears Ears National Monument

## A Living Cultural Landscape sacred to American Indian Tribes

The Bears Ears National Monument belongs to all Americans. These lands hold special value to American Indian peoples. The Ute Mountain Ute, Navajo Nation, Hopi Nation, Zuni Tribe, Ute Indian Tribe and many other tribes have ancestral, historic, and present-day ties to these lands. The five named tribes above are working collaboratively with the BLM and the US Forest Service on management issues within the monument.



## Yours To Enjoy And Protect By Visiting With Respect

This living cultural landscape should be enjoyed in ways that can preserve our experience, the archaeological sites and the land for future generations. By exploring and visiting the Bears Ears National Monument thoughtfully with respect, you honor American history and show dignity toward Native Americans who hold these lands as sacred.

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and the US Forest Service (USFS) manage the national monument which contains separately managed State of Utah, private, and National Park Service lands.

This map highlights just a few of the many opportunities available to explore in the area. Other sites will be featured in the future following BLM and US Forest Service improvement projects.

### Exploring Bears Ears Area

1. Valley of the Gods
2. San Juan Hill
3. River House
4. Big Kachina Panel
5. Sand Island Petroglyph Panel
6. Cedar Mesa Rock Art Exhibit
7. Kane Gulch to Junction Cliff Dwelling
8. Butler Wash Developed Site and Trail
9. Cave Towers
10. Mule Canyon Kiva
11. Salvation Knoll
12. Arch Canyon Overlook
13. Bears Ears Buttes
14. Fry Canyon
15. Jacob's Chair
16. Harts Draw Road
17. Newspaper Rock Panel
18. Indian Creek
19. Needles Overlook
20. Lockhart Basin Road
21. Goosenecks State Park
22. Edge of the Cedars State Park & Museum
23. Muley Point
24. Dinosaur Track Site

### Historic Trail

Hole-in-the-Rock

### Roads

Scenic Byway or Backway

Primitive Roads

High Clearance Recommended

Passenger Vehicle

Highway

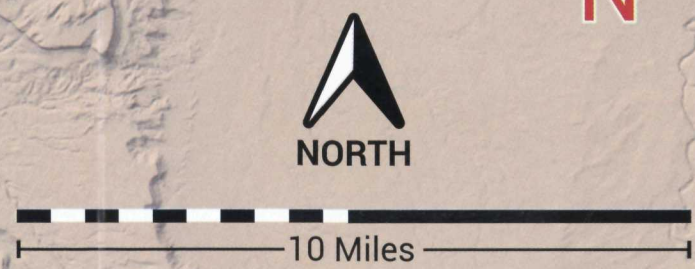
### Land Status

- Bears Ears National Monument
- Bureau of Land Management (BLM)
- BLM Wilderness/Instant Study Area
- State Trust Lands
- Forest Service
- Forest Service Wilderness Area
- Private
- National Park Service
- Indian Reservation

### Visitor Information

- Site of Interest
- Ranger Station
- OHV Trail
- Trailhead
- Overlook/Scenic View
- Historic Site
- Campground
- Group Campsites
- Point of Interest
- Restroom
- Boat Ramp
- Visitor Center
- Hospital
- Kiosk
- Gas Station
- Food Service
- Fee Tube

**DISCLAIMER:** This information is provided as a courtesy only, no warranty, expressed or implied, is made as to the current validity of this information. Trail ratings are only intended to serve as general overviews of difficulty levels, and may vary from the trail ratings in other areas you are familiar with. Weather events can quickly alter trail conditions and increase difficulty levels, be prepared for changing conditions at all times. Unsecured, abandoned mines may be present near the trails for your safety, never enter abandoned mines. The BLM is not liable for any incidents arising from the use of the information presented here—each user is solely responsible for their own safety while enjoying their public lands. Revised January 2019.



NAVAJO

NATION

TO MONUMENT VALLEY

MEXICAN HAT

TO MOAB