

**DEATH VALLEY
NATIONAL MONUMENT**

CALIFORNIA-NEVADA

**UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE**

DEATH VALLEY NATIONAL MONUMENT
California

Open All Year

A region rich in human and scientific interest, Death Valley presents to the visitor a wealth of color, blended by nature into constantly changing patterns. To absorb the pastels of the barren rocks, the browns and purples of the mountain ranges, the white expanses of salt and alkali, requires more than a brief visit.

SUGGESTED TRIPS

Below are listed a few of the many interesting trips, so arranged as to permit the visitor to see the most in a limited amount of time. These trips may be made in one's own car or with the sightseeing service provided from Furnace Creek Inn and Camp.

DANTES VIEW.--A half day, preferably the morning, should be allowed for this trip. The country along the way, such as at Zabriskie Point, is colored and carved in infinite variety. From Dantes View, perched on the rim of the valley more than 5,700 feet above the floor, one can view at a single glance both Badwater and distant Mount Whitney, the lowest and the highest points in the United States proper. To the north can be seen a white mass of rock nearly 100 miles away, while the Avawatz Mountains lie to the south. Across the valley the comparatively somber Panamints, topped by Telescope Peak, stand out sharply in the thin air.

0.0 Furnace Creek	7.3 20-Mule-Team Canyon	24.4 Dantes View
3.2 Zabriskie Point Road	13.5 Ryan Road	

BADWATER.--Perhaps the most spectacular trip from the viewpoint of color is that down the east-side road to Badwater and beyond. A half day is required, the afternoon being the most favorable; hence it can be combined with the Dantes View trip to fill out the day. The side trips through Golden Canyon and the incomparable Volcanic and Artists Drives should not be missed. At the Salt Pools a trail through the Devils Golf Course leads to pools of concentrated brine. Nearly pure rock salt, covering thousands of acres, has been dissolved and recrystallized to form myriads of rough, pointed pinnacles from a few inches to more than 4 feet in height. On a still day the salt can be heard to snap with a metallic sound as the pinnacles continue to grow. The Natural Bridge, while not spectacular, is well worth a visit. A few miles farther, at the edge of the briny pool that is Badwater, 280 feet below sea level, one stands on the lowest dry land surface in three continents and the third lowest in the world. On the rocky wall of the mountain, high above the parking space, is a sign indicating sea level.

0.0 Furnace Creek	5.0 Volcanic and Artists Drive Road	11.2 Salt Pools Road
2.0 Golden Canyon Road		13.3 Natural Bridge Road
4.6 Mushroom Rock	6.0 Devils Golf Course Road	16.8 Badwater

HIGH PANAMINT.--This trip includes Skidoo, a resurrected ghost town; Aguerreberry Point, the complement to Dantes View, affording an unequalled view of the brilliantly colored eastern wall; the old charcoal kilns in upper Wildrose Canyon; and Mahogany Flat at the end of the Wildrose Canyon Road on the crest of the Panamint Mountains. A good trail from this point leads to Telescope Peak, 6½ miles distant.

0.0 Furnace Creek	38.4 Emigrant Spring	54.0 Junction Wildrose Canyon Road
17.0 Junction of Lone Pine and north highway (turn left)	44.3 Skidoo Road	
	45.3 Aguerreberry Point Road	61.2 Charcoal kilns
34.0 Emigrant Junction Ranger Station (turn left)		62.0 Thorndykes
		62.5 Mahogany Flat and trail to Telescope Peak

SOUTH LOOP.--This trip is an extension of the Badwater tour, continuing south along the foot of the Black Mountains, across the southern neck of the valley and completing the loop by returning along the west side of the valley. Here along the line of the old borax freight road are a number of interesting historical points such as Bennetts Well, Eagle Borax Works, and the graves of Shorty Harris and Jimmy Dayton. Most of the day should be allowed for this trip.

0.0 Furnace Creek	45.0 Ashford junction	82.3 Devils Golf Course
16.9 Badwater	(turn right)	83.8 East-west roads junction
44.0 Ashford Mill	66.7 Bennetts Well	89.8 Furnace Creek
	74.0 Tule Spring	

UBEHEBE CRATER AND SCOTTY'S CASTLE.--The vast extent of the valley is further appreciated on a short day's trip to Ubehebe Crater and Scotty's Castle. Standing on the edge of this deep, highly colored bowl formed by a volcanic explosion, one can look nearly 30 miles farther up the valley. Scotty's Castle, which is privately owned, is a man-made wonder nestled in the weirdly colored rocks of Grapevine Canyon, a few miles from the valley floor. It was built by Walter Scott, ex-cowboy of Buffalo Bill fame, and his partner A. M. Johnson. Standing against the dark sun-baked hills, with massive gates blocking the bridge that gives entrance to the grounds over a deep ravine, it has the appearance of a medieval stronghold guarded by its moat portcullis. Of concrete construction in provincial Spanish architecture, with towers and gardens, pools and plazas, it is as fantastic as the country around it. A guide service fee of \$1.10 is charged by the owners of the castle.

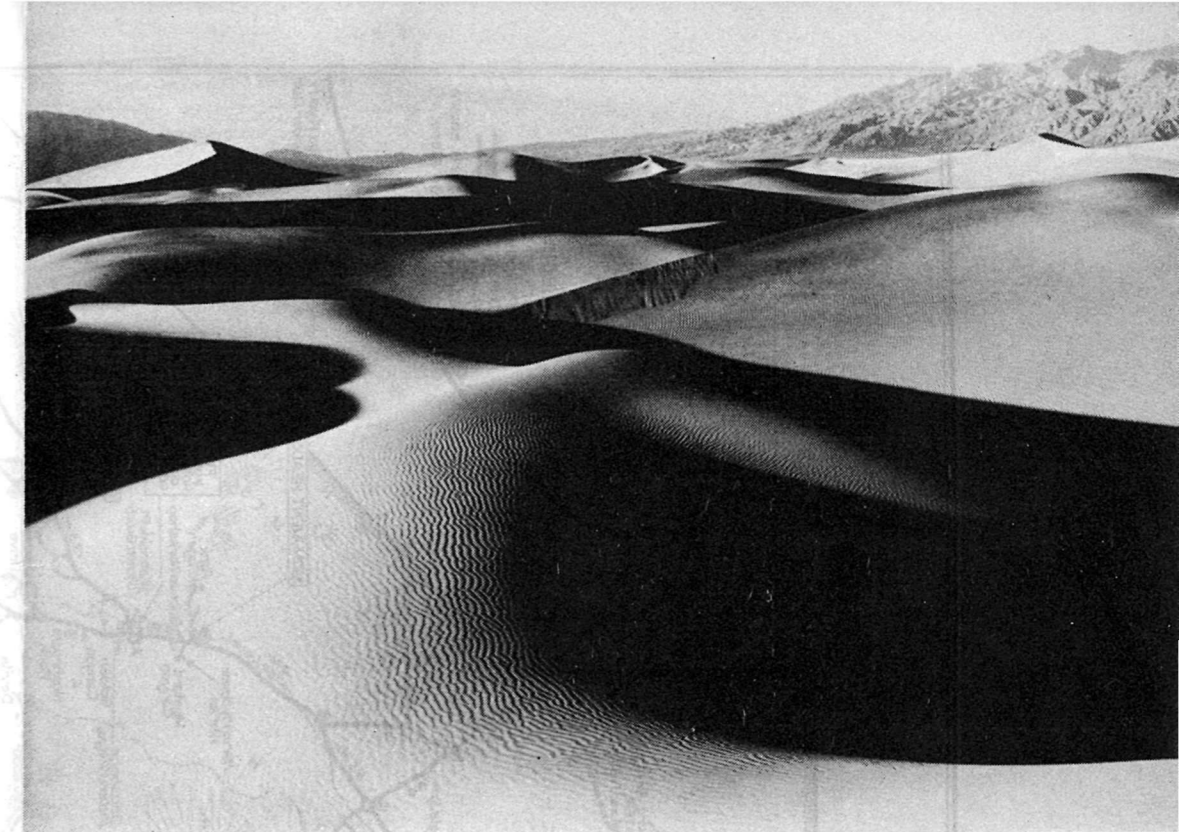
0.0 Furnace Creek	54.0 Grapevine Canyon. Here left-hand road leads 5 miles to Ubehebe Crater; right-hand fork leads 3 miles to Scotty's Castle
4.3 Monument Headquarters	
17.0 Junction of road to Lone Pine	
34.4 Exit road from Titus Canyon	

SAND DUNES AND MOSAIC CANYON.--The dunes area near Stovepipe Well completes the desert picture. Rippled by the winds, slowly changing in graceful curve and contour, they are best seen when the sun is low, at which time their beauty is accentuated by deep shadow and sharpened crest. Mosaic Canyon close by is so named because its walls are partially formed by eroded and polished conglomerate, whose pebbles contrast strongly with the color of the matrix to form a striking natural mosaic. Thin slabs of copper-color limestone are found here that ring, when struck, like a silver bell. Nearly half a day should be allowed for this trip.

0.0 Furnace Creek	4.3 Monument
2.6 Harmony Borax Works and Mustard Canyon Road	19.0 Sand Dunes
3.4 Gnomes Workshop Road	24.6 Mosaic Canyon Road

GHOST TOWN AND TITUS CANYON.--This trip should not be attempted without first consulting National Park Service authorities, as the road is often washed out and impassable. The oiled road through Hells Gate and Daylight Pass leads to the famous ghost town of Rhyolite, Nevada, outside the boundary of the monument. A turn-off on this road swings back through Titus Canyon and into the valley. The beautifully colored amphitheater at the head of Titus Canyon and its narrow, winding lower part are among the most spectacular portions of the monument.

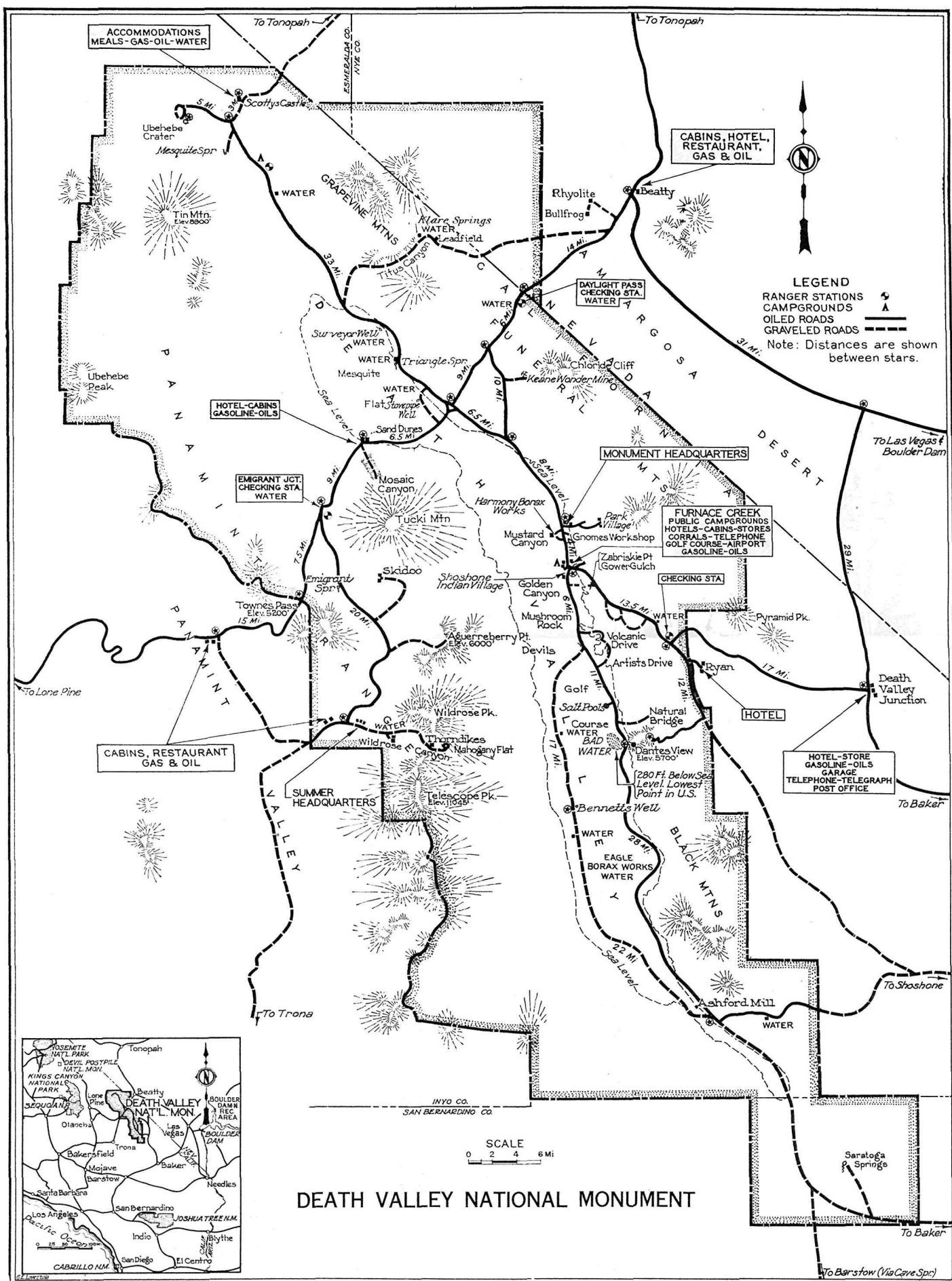
Road Information: Current road conditions and other information can be obtained from any National Park Service official or at monument headquarters.



DEATH VALLEY NATIONAL MONUMENT

CALIFORNIA-NEVADA

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE



MILEAGE TABLE

FROM FURNACE CREEK

TO

LOS ANGELES	via Death Valley Jct.—Shoshone—Baker—Barstow.....	306
	" Trona—Inyokern—Mojave—Saugus.....	277
	" Townes Pass—Olancho—Mojave—Saugus.....	297
SAN FRANCISCO	" Townes Pass—Lone Pine—Reno—Auburn.....	605
	" Lone Pine—Tioga Pass—Big Oak Flat—Manteca.....	468
	" Townes Pass—Olancho—Walker's Pass—Bakersfield.....	534
	" Trona—Inyokern—Walker's Pass—Bakersfield.....	524
SANTA BARBARA	" Trona—Inyokern—Saugus.....	324
	" Townes Pass—Olancho—Saugus.....	334
	" Baker—Victorville—Little Rock—Saugus.....	365
SAN DIEGO	" Death Valley Jct.—Baker—San Bernardino—Riverside.....	380
	" Trona—Atolia—San Bernardino—Riverside.....	360
SAN BERNARDINO	" Death Valley Jct.—Shoshone—Baker—Barstow.....	250
	" Trona—Atolia.....	230
LAS VEGAS, NEVADA	" Death Valley Jct.—Rose's Well.....	141
	" Beatty—Rose's Well.....	158