



Park Profile 2009

Park Contact Information **Grand Canyon National Park**
P.O. Box 129
Grand Canyon, AZ 86023

Superintendent:
Steve Martin

Park Information:
(928) 638-7888

Media Contact:
Maureen Oltrogge
(928) 638-7779

Web Site:
www.nps.gov/grca/

Authorization

- 1882 First unsuccessful attempt to establish a Grand Canyon National Park
- 1893 Designated a "forest reserve" by President Benjamin Harrison (Presidential Proclamation #45)
- 1908 Established as Grand Canyon National Monument by President Theodore Roosevelt (Presidential Proclamation #794)
- 1919 Designated Grand Canyon National Park by an act of Congress on February 26 (40 Stat 1175).
- 1975 Grand Canyon National Park Enlargement Act, an act of Congress on January 3 (88 Stat 2089) (Public Law 93-620)
- 1979 Designated a World Heritage Site on October 26

Park Statistics

Park Size: 1,217,403.32 acres / 487,350 hectares
1,904 sq. miles / 4,950 kilometers

"The Grand Canyon"

Length	277 river miles / 446 km
Width	
Minimum (Marble Canyon)	600 feet / 180 meters
Average Rim to Rim	10 miles / 16 km
Maximum Rim to Rim	18 miles / 28.8 km
Average Depth	1 mile / 1.6 km
Rim Elevations	
South Rim	7,000 feet / 2100 m
North Rim	8,000 feet / 2400 m

Volume

Cubic Yards	5.45 trillion
Cubic Meters	4.17 trillion

"The Colorado River" (within Grand Canyon National Park)

Length	277 miles / 446 km
Average Width:	300 feet / 90 m
Minimum Width	76 feet / 23 m
Average Depth	40 feet / 12 m
Greatest Depth	85 feet / 25.5 m
Average Gradient	7 feet per mile / 1.3 meters per km
Elevation at Phantom Ranch	2,400 feet / 720 m

The Colorado River is 1,450 miles / 2,333 km long from its source in the Rocky Mountains of Colorado to the Gulf of California.

Geology

The carving of the Grand Canyon by the Colorado River has taken place over the last six million years, exposing rocks at the bottom of the canyon that are close to two billion years old.

Plant and Animal Life

Birds	373 species
Mammals	91 species
Fish	17 species
Reptiles and Amphibians	57 species
Crustaceans	33 species
Mollusks	37 species
Invertebrates	8,480 known species

Plants (vascular)	1750 species
Mosses	64 species
Lichens	195 species
Fungi	167 species
Endemic Species	9 species
Exotic (non-native)	189 species
Vegetation Formations	6 types

(Riparian, desert scrub, pinyon/juniper woodland, ponderosa pine forest, spruce/fir forest, and montane meadows/sub-alpine)

Extirpated Species

Grizzly bear, black-footed ferret, gray wolf, jaguar, Bear Valley sandwort, Colorado pikeminnow, bonytail, razorback sucker, roundtail chub, northern leopard frog

Endangered / Threatened

Animals: California condor, humpback chub, southwestern willow flycatcher, razorback sucker, Mexican spotted owl, Kanab ambersnail, Little Colorado River spinedace, Yuma clapper rail, desert tortoise and bald eagle. There are over 35 species of special concern and former USFWS Category 2 species.

Plants: The sentry milk-vetch (*Astragalus cremnophylax var. cremnophylax*) is the only endangered plant in the park. There are no listed threatened plant species. Seven species of special concern (formerly category 2 species) are known, and an additional 26 vascular plants are of management concern due to their limited distribution.

Archaeological Resources

The oldest human artifacts found date to the Paleo-Indian period and are nearly 12,000 years old. There has been continuous use and occupation of the park since that time. Archaeological remains from the following culture groups are found in Grand Canyon National Park: Paleo-Indian, Archaic, Basketmaker, Ancestral Puebloan (Kayenta and Virgin branches), Cohonina, Cerbat, Pai, Zuni, Hopi, Navajo, and Euro-American. The park has recorded more than 4,300 archaeological resources with an intensive survey of over 5 percent of the park area.

Historic Structures

National Historic Landmarks

Individual Buildings	4
Districts (377 Buildings)	3

The Grand Canyon Village was listed as a National Historic Landmark District consisting of 257 contributing properties.

National Register of Historic Places

Individual Structures	10
Districts (336 structures)	6

Determinations of eligibility have been received for an additional 14 structures and districts, and nominations are pending for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places for nine trails.

Determination of eligibility for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places has been received for 323 archaeological sites along the Colorado River.

List of Classified Structures (LCS): 898 listings LCS is inclusive of the National Historic Landmark and National Register programs currently being reviewed.

Climate

South Rim

Mean High Temperature	84°F / 29°C
Mean Low Temperature	18°F / -8°C
Average Annual Precipitation	15.6 in. / 39.6 cm

North Rim

Mean High Temperature	77°F / 25°C
Mean Low Temperature	16°F / -9°C
Average Annual Precipitation	25.3 in. / 64.3 cm

Phantom Ranch

Mean High Temperature	106°F / 41°C
Mean Low Temperature	36°F / 2°C
Average Annual Precipitation	8.5 in. / 21.6 cm

Climate in Grand Canyon National Park is relatively mild. However, low humidity generally allows large temperature differences between day and night. Since precipitation totals are low, year-to-year variations can be large (the passage of a few major storms can have a significant impact on the year's total).

Visitation

Visitation – 2008 4,491,141

2008 Shuttle System Passengers

3,672,030 boardings (not passengers)

Year-round shuttle service began March 10, 2000.

Implemented in 1974, the shuttle system has provided over 83,137,631 rides since its inception.

Hermit Road was reconstructed in 2008. As a result, there was reduced Hermit Route service during part of the season and no Hermit Route service from July to November.

In 2008, the park ran experimental shuttle routes to Desert View and the gateway community of Tusayan.

2008 Backcountry Night Users

87,981

Corridor

51,571

Other Backcountry Trails

36,410

Approximate number of backcountry permits issued

11,574

2008 Colorado River Day Users

Commercial

114,010

Noncommercial

105,492

2008 Mule Trip Riders

Xanterra (South Rim)

Plateau Point

5480

Phantom Ranch 1 night

3985

Phantom Ranch 2 nights

286

2008 Trail Rides (North Rim)

1 Hour Ride

3153

3 Hour Ride (1/2 day ride)

4269

All Day Ride

661

2008 Train Passengers

200,054

Commercial Air Tour Passengers (Industry Figures)

642,000*

Commercial Air Tour Flights (Industry Figures)

90,000*

*Note: Commercial air tour operations reported by the industry to the FAA between May 1, 1997 and April 30, 1998.

Development**Buildings**

National Park Service	602
Concessionaire	557
Total	1,159

Trails

Maintained	144 miles / 82.1 km
Total	588 miles / 946.29 km

Roads

228 miles / 336.93 km

Sewage Treatment Facilities

4

Inner Trans-canyon Pipeline

23 miles / 37 km

Water from Roaring Springs to the North and South Rims

Lodging Units

South Rim	907
North Rim	203
Phantom Ranch	15

Recreational Vehicle Sites

80

Rim Campsites

Mather	316 family, 7 group, 3 hiker/biker
Desert View	50 family
North Rim	83 family, 4 group
Tuweep	10 family, 1 group

Visitor Facilities

Visitor center/museums, backcountry office, historic structures, scenic overlooks, rim trails, overnight lodging, trailer sites, dump stations, tent campsites, restaurants, cocktail lounges, general stores, gift shops, bookstores, kennel, post office, bank, service stations, dentist, medical clinic, showers and laundry. Some facilities may operate seasonally.

Visitor Services

Educational/environmental exhibits, ranger programs and hikes, Junior Ranger program, curriculum-based education programs, self-guided hikes, publication sales, backpacking, hiking, camping, picnicking, mule riding, guided bus tours, air tours (originating outside the park), shuttle bus service, river trips, bicycling, auto touring, fishing, church services, overnight lodging, food and beverage, gift and grocery sales, banking, postal services, camper services, law enforcement, dental/medical services, ambulance, fire protection, and taxi.

Concessioners

In Fiscal Year 2008, 22 concessioners grossed approximately \$140 million and paid franchise and other fees of approximately \$9 million.

Law Enforcement Activities**Law Enforcement Activities – 2008**

Part I Offenses Investigated	129
Part II Offenses Reported	1649
Law Enforcement Jurisdiction	Concurrent

Emergency Medical Services – 2008

Emergency Medical Service Incidents	1495
Fatalities	13

Search and Rescue Incidents – 2008

307

Fire – 2008

Structural Fire Incidents and Responses	86
---	----

**Interpretive Services
and Activities****Visitor Centers and Contact Stations**

- Grand Canyon Visitor's Center
- Verkamp's Visitor Center
- Yavapai Observation Station
- Tusayan Ruin and Museum
- Desert View Bookstore/Park Information
- North Rim Visitor Center

2008 Environmental Education Programs

548 presentations to 14,622 students

2008 Publications

Park Brochures	1.8 million
Park Newspaper	1.6 million

(Newspaper available in English, French German, Italian, Japanese, Spanish, Chinese)

2008 Interpretive Walks, Talks, and Programs7283 presentations to 234,705 visitors

Park Administration**FY 2008 Funding**

ONPS Base Operating Appropriation (ONPS, Operation of the National Park System)	\$ 21,865,899
SEPAS Project Funding (SEPAS, Special Emphasis Program Allocation)	\$ 1,483,650
Equipment Replacement	\$ 232,651
Fire pro Base	\$ 3,040,534

80% Recreation Fee Demonstration Revenue Returned

(FY-97)	\$ 5,878,100
(FY-98)	\$ 17,576,200
(FY-99)	\$ 19,083,000
(FY-00)	\$ 18,952,900
(FY-01)	\$ 17,772,656
(FY-02)	\$ 15,133,000
(FY-03)	\$ 12,646,480
(FY-04)	\$ 17,327,066
(FY-05)	\$ 12,637,171
(FY-06)	\$ 9,792,019
(FY-07)	\$ 15,616,824
(FY-08)	\$ 16,798,553

Total (FY 97-FY08)**\$173,335,869****Federal Lands Highway Program**

\$ 381,198

Income

Utilities Reimbursable	\$ 5,333,792
Quarters	\$ 1,618,945
Concession Franchise Fees – 80% Portion (FY2008)	\$ 6,152,922
Donations (monetary)	\$ 261,600
Transportation (Shuttle Busses)	\$ 4,546,978
Other (reimbursable, refundable, etc.)	\$ 2,068,368

National Park Service Staffing – Fiscal Year 2008

FTE (Full Time Equivalency) Information and Distribution:

Superintendent's Office	12
Project Management Team	7
Administration	39
Science Center	44
Concessions	11
North Rim	2
Planning & Compliance	10
Maintenance	121
Interpretation	53
Protection	119
Fire	27
Total FY 2008 FTE distributed park wide	445

Park Neighbors & Cooperators

Neighbors

North:

Arizona Strip Field Office - BLM, AZ
North Kaibab Ranger District - USFS, Kaibab National Forest, AZ
Kanab Field Office - BLM, Southern UT
Pipe Spring National Monument - NPS, AZ
Coconino County, AZ
Zion National Park - NPS, UT
Mohave County, AZ
Washington County, UT
Bryce Canyon National Park - NPS, UT
Garfield County, UT
Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument - BLM, UT
Vermilion Cliffs National Monument - BLM, AZ
Kaibab Band of Paiute Indians - AZ
All communities from Marble Canyon to St. George, UT

South:

Tusayan Ranger District - USFS, Kaibab National Forest, AZ

East:

Glen Canyon National Recreation Area - NPS, AZ / UT
Navajo Nation, AZ

West:

Lake Mead National Recreation Area - NPS, NV / AZ
Havasupai Tribe, AZ
Hualapai Tribe, AZ
Grand Canyon-Parashant National Monument - BLM / NPS, AZ

Affiliated American Indian Tribes:

Havasupai Tribe
Hopi Tribe
Hualapai Tribe
Kaibab Band of Paiute Indians
Las Vegas Band of Paiute Indians
Moapa Band of Paiute Indians
Navajo Nation
Paiute Indian Tribe of Utah
San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe
Yavapai-Apache Nation
The Pueblo of Zuni

Arizona Congressional Representatives:

Senator John McCain
Senator Jon Kyl
First District Representative Ann Kirkpatrick