



Park Profile 2013



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: 1,217,403.3 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

Grand Canyon National Park preserves an iconic geologic landscape and resources ranging from 1,840 to 270 million years old, including diverse paleontological resources; unconsolidated surface deposits; a complex tectonic and erosion history; and Pliocene to Holocene volcanic deposits. The Colorado River established its course through the canyon about six million years ago, and likely evolved from pre-existing drainages to its current course. Geologic processes, including erosion of tributaries and slopes, and active tectonics continue to shape the canyon today. The geologic record in Grand Canyon is an important scientific chronicle and is largely responsible for its inspirational scenery.

Plant and Animal Life

Birds	373 species
Mammals	92 species
Fish	18 species (including five native species)
Reptiles and Amphibians	57 species
Invertebrates	8,480 known species
Exotic (non-native) Animal Species	23 species
Endemic Animal Species	20 species

(One reptile, three mammal and one mollusk species are known only from the Grand Canyon region. At least nine species of insects are endemic to Grand Canyon; and six fish species are endemic to the Colorado River basin.)

Plants (vascular)	1750 species
Endemic Plant Species	9 species
Exotic (non-native) Plant Species	198 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, roundtail chub, northern leopard frog, and southwestern river otter.

Endangered / Threatened

Animals: California condor, humpback chub, razorback sucker, southwestern willow flycatcher, Mexican spotted owl, Kanab ambersnail, Yuma clapper rail, and desert tortoise. 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. Nine species of special concern (formerly category 2 species) are known, and 25 additional vascular plants are of management concern due to their limited distribution.

Archeological 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. Archeological evidence from the following culture groups is found in Grand Canyon National Park: Paleo-Indian, Archaic, Basketmaker, Ancestral Puebloan (Kayenta and Virgin branches), Cohonina, Cerbat, Pai, Southern Paiute, Zuni, Hopi, Navajo, and Euro-American. The park has recorded nearly 4,300 archeological resources with intensive survey of approximately six percent of the park area. The park's eleven Traditionally Associated Tribes and historic ethnic groups view management of archeological resources as preservation of their heritage.

Historic Structures

National Historic Landmarks

Individual Buildings	4
Districts	3

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

National Register of Historic Places

Individual Properties	9
Individual Structures	1
Districts	8
Archeological Site	1

(Determinations of eligibility have been received for an additional 14 structures and districts and 316 archeological sites; and nominations in the National Register of Historic Places for ten trails.)

List of Classified Structures (LCS): 874 listings. LCS is inclusive of the National Historic Landmark and National Register programs currently being reviewed.

Climate**South Rim**

Mean High Temperature	63°F / 17°C
Mean Low Temperature	35°F / 2°C
Average Annual Precipitation	15.6 in. / 39.6 cm

North Rim

Mean High Temperature	56°F / 14°C
Mean Low Temperature	30°F / -1°C
Average Annual Precipitation	25.3 in. / 64.3 cm

Phantom Ranch

Mean High Temperature	82°F / 28°C
Mean Low Temperature	57°F / 14°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 – 2012	4,421,352
2012 Shuttle System Passengers	6,200,000 boardings (not passengers)
Year-round shuttle service began March 10, 2000.	
Implemented in 1974, the shuttle system has provided over 104,846,162 rides since its inception.	
2012 Backcountry User Nights	94,266
Corridor	50,025
Other Backcountry Trails	40,241
Number of backcountry permits issued	14,201
Number of backcountry permits used	12,353
2012 Colorado River User Days (Lees Ferry to Diamond Creek)	
Commercial	106,639
Noncommercial	98,307
2012 Mule Trip Riders	
Xanterra (South Rim)	
Abyss Overlook	7,408
Phantom Ranch 1 night	2,643
Phantom Ranch 2 nights	306
2012 Trail Rides (North Rim)	
1 Hour Rim Ride	2,931
½ Day Inner Canyon Ride	4,320
½ Day Rim Ride	209
2012 Train Passengers	127,595 (North-bound boardings)
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	696
Concessioners	514
Total	1,210

Trails

Maintained	126 miles / 202.8 km
Total	588 miles / 946.3 km

Roads

254 miles / 408.8 km

Sewage Treatment Facilities

4

Trans-canyon Pipeline

23 miles / 37 km

Water from Roaring Springs to the North and South Rims

Lodging Units

South Rim	908
North Rim	218
Phantom Ranch	15

Recreational Vehicle Sites

79

Rim Campsites

Mather	317 family, 7 group, 2 hiker/biker, 2 livestock
Desert View	50 family
North Rim	90 family, 3 group
Tuweep	9 family, 1 group

Visitor Facilities

Visitor centers/museums/theater, backcountry office, historic structures, scenic overlooks, accessible rim trails, lodging, campgrounds, dump stations, restaurants, cocktail lounges, coffee shop, general stores, gift shops, bookstores, kennel, post office, bank, service stations, clinic, showers and laundry. Some facilities are seasonal.

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 and bike rentals, auto touring, fishing, church services, overnight lodging, food and beverage, gift and grocery sales, banking, postal services, camper services, law enforcement, medical services, fire protection, taxi and seasonal bicycle rentals/tours, auto repair, emergency medical services.

Concessioners

In Fiscal Year 2012, 22 concessioners grossed approximately \$152 million and paid franchise and other fees of approximately \$9 million.

Law Enforcement Activities**Law Enforcement Activities – 2012**

Part I Offenses Investigated	72
Part II Offenses Reported	1,780
Law Enforcement Jurisdiction	Concurrent

Emergency Medical Services – 2012

Emergency Medical Service Incidents	1,212
Fatalities	12

Search and Rescue Incidents – 2012

282

Fire – 2012

Structural Fire Incidents and Responses	81
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Interpretive Services and Activities**Visitor Centers and Contact Stations**

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

2012 Interpretive Walks, Talks, and Programs

5,568 presentations to 161,672 visitors

2012 Environmental Education Programs1,105 presentations to 28,233 participants
26,321 Junior Rangers sworn in**2012 Publications**Park Unigrids/maps 1,564,025
Park Newspaper 1,786,000
All other brochures 323,000
Newspaper available in eight languages.
244 print publications are currently maintained

Park Administration**FY 2012 Funding**ONPS Base Operating Appropriation \$ 21,004,500
(ONPS, Operation of the National Park System)
ONPS Non-base Funding \$ 1,702,015
(SEPAS, Special Emphasis Program Allocation)
FirePro Base \$ 2,880,921
Line Item Construction \$ 741,112
Emergency & Unscheduled Projects \$ 119,703
Repair & Rehabilitation \$ 923,629**Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act – 80% portion**(FY-03) \$ 12,646,480
(FY-04) \$ 13,392,688
(FY-05) \$ 12,637,171
(FY-06) \$ 9,732,019
(FY-07) \$ 15,616,824
(FY-08) \$ 16,798,553
(FY-09) \$ 13,973,981
(FY-10) \$ 13,398,857
(FY-11) \$ 13,817,628
\$ 13,972,969**10 Year Total (FY03 – FY12)****\$135,987,170****Income 2012**Utilities Reimbursable \$ 5,315,088
Quarters \$ 2,064,367
Concession Franchise Fees – 80% Portion (FY2010) \$ 7,023,264
Filming and Location Fees \$ 87,760
Donations (monetary) \$ 320,126
Transportation (Shuttle Busses) \$ 6,073,982
National Parks Pass (NNP) 65,108
Other (reimbursable, refundable, etc.) \$ 2,891,054

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

Traditionally Associated American Indian Tribes (eleven):

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 Jeff Flake
First District Representative Ann Kirkpatrick

Park Contact Information

Grand Canyon National Park
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Park Information:
(928) 638-7888

Web Site:
www.nps.gov/grca/

Superintendent:
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