

Grand Canyon

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior
Grand Canyon National Park
Arizona



The Guide

South Rim: March 1 – May 23, 2009
Also available in Deutsch, Español, Français,
Italiano, 日本語, 中文



NPS photo: Mike Quinn

Welcome to Grand Canyon National Park

The Grand Canyon we visit today is a gift from past generations. Take time to enjoy this gift. Sit and watch the changing play of light and shadows. Wander along a trail and feel the sunshine and wind on your face. Follow the antics of the ravens soaring above the rim. Can you hear the river roaring in the gorge far below? We must ensure that future generations have the opportunity to form connections with this inspiring landscape.

A few suggestions may make your visit more rewarding. The information in this publication will answer many of your questions about the South Rim. Stop by a visitor center and talk with a ranger. Participate in a ranger-led activity. Save gas and frustration; park your vehicle and ride the free shuttles. Watch a sunrise or sunset. Walk out at night to enjoy the star-filled sky or the moon-lit canyon. Pause at a viewpoint and listen to other visitors proclaiming the beauty of the canyon in many languages.



Construction Ahead! Drive Cautiously.

Road construction in the Mather Point – Canyon View Information Plaza area begins in early April. When the project is completed this fall, the road will skirt the south side of Canyon View Information Plaza and additional parking will provide easy access to the visitor center and rim.

Drive slowly and obey all construction zone signs and flagmen.

Stop in One of the Visitor Centers



Canyon View Information Plaza:
The visitor center is south of Mather Point, but you cannot drive there. Park your vehicle at Mather Point and walk the 300 yards to the visitor center, or ride the free park shuttles, or walk or bicycle the Greenway Trail. Watch for construction in this area. Open daily 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Verkamp's Visitor Center: On the rim east of Hopi House, Verkamp's Visitor Center hosts a bookstore and exhibits about the pioneer history of Grand Canyon Village. Come warm up by the fire and enjoy the 100-year-old Verkamp's Curios building. Open daily 8:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.; 8:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m. beginning April 1.

Yavapai Observation Station: The exhibits in this historic building illustrate the geology of Grand Canyon. Enjoy the view from the panoramic windows 8:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. daily; 8:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m. beginning April 1.

Tusayan Museum: This historic building sits beside an ancestral Puebloan village first excavated in the 1930s. Displays feature elements from Native American cultures both modern and historic. A large painting depicts a scene of the village as it might have appeared 800 years ago. A short, paved trail circles the excavation. The museum and bookstore, 3 miles west of Desert View, is open 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. daily.

Ride the Free Shuttle Buses



To make your stay at Grand Canyon National Park less hectic and to reduce traffic congestion, use the free shuttle buses. The shuttles operate from before sunrise to after sunset, come by frequently, and the drivers never get lost. Read the article on page 5 and the map on pages 8–9 for more details.

Look inside for information on:

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What Time Is It?

Most of Arizona, including Grand Canyon National Park, remains on **Mountain Standard Time** year-round. Until March 7, Arizona is on the same time as Colorado, New Mexico, and Utah. Beginning March 8, Arizona is on the same time as California and Nevada.

Emergency: 911

24 hours-a-day dial
911 from any phone

9-911 from hotel phones



Thinking of
Hiking?
See pages 12–13

The National Park Service cares for special places saved by the American people so that all may experience our heritage.

Ranger Programs

During your visit the National Park Service encourages you to participate in the programs listed below. All programs are free. We hope that learning more about Grand Canyon National Park and its resources will lead to a greater appreciation of your

Grand Canyon Village

Activity	Location	Time	Duration	Frequency
Cedar Ridge Hike 				
This program begins May 10.				
With a ranger, descend 1,140 feet (347m) below the rim on the unpaved South Kaibab Trail to Cedar Ridge. This strenuous 3-mile (5 km) round-trip hike is not recommended for people with heart or respiratory problems or difficulty walking. Participants should wear sturdy footwear and bring 1-2 quarts (1-2 liters) of water per person. Hat, sunscreen, and snacks strongly recommended. Hikers cannot drive to the trailhead. Ride the free Village Route shuttle bus to Canyon View Information Plaza and hop on the Kaibab Trail Route shuttle bus by 7:10 a.m. Allow 45 minutes for total travel time. Program begins May 10.	South Kaibab Trailhead	7:30 a.m.	3-4 hours	Daily
Fossil Walk: Remnant Impressions 				
This program given March and April only.				
Walk among brachiopods, sponges, and other marine creatures that thrived on this part of the continent 270 million years ago, before the age of the dinosaurs. This easy ½-mile (0.8 km) one-way walk explores an exposed fossil bed along the rim. Parking may be limited; park in Lots C, D, or E or ride the free Village Route shuttle to the Bright Angel Lodge stop. Walks conducted only in March and April. An alternative activity will be offered during inclement weather.	Patio on rim side of Bright Angel Lodge	9:30 a.m.	1 hour	Daily
Introduction to Grand Canyon Geology  				
Why is the Grand Canyon so deep, wide, and grand? Why does it exist only here in the world? Come and participate in this fascinating talk to learn how Grand Canyon was formed. Program may include a short walk on a paved path. Plan sufficient time to arrive at the Visitor Center by the free Village Route shuttle bus.	Visitor Center at Canyon View Information Plaza	10:00 a.m.	30-45 minutes	Daily
Colorado River Talk   				
Enjoy the grandeur and power of the Colorado River as you explore and discuss the river's role in Grand Canyon. Program may include a short walk on a paved path. Parking may be limited; plan to arrive by the Village Route shuttle bus to the Yavapai Observation Station stop. No programs May 4 - 7.	Bicycle rack outside Yavapai Observation Station	10:00 a.m.	30-45 minutes	Daily
The Human Story  				
For thousands of years, humans have been part of Grand Canyon. Join park staff outside of Verkamp's Visitor Center to take a look at the history of the South Rim area. Programs may include a walk around the village historic district or a talk inside if the weather is poor. Parking may be limited; consider parking at Lots C or D or riding the free Village Route shuttle bus to the Train Depot stop. No programs May 4 - 7.	Verkamp's Visitor Center front porch	1:00 p.m.	30-45 minutes	Daily
Ranger's Choice  				
Explore the world of Grand Canyon during this in-depth special program. Topics change daily; check at the Visitor Center for the day's subject. Possible programs include nature talks, Native American culture, or pioneer history. Plan sufficient time to arrive at the Visitor Center by the free Village Route shuttle bus.	Visitor Center at Canyon View Information Plaza	1:30 p.m.	30 minutes	Daily
Geo-Glimpse  				
Enjoy the geology exhibits at Yavapai Observation Station and explore a selected aspect of the canyon's geology during these short talks.	Inside Yavapai Observation Station	2:30 p.m.	20 minutes	Daily

national park. Some programs, except the Evening Program, are cancelled May 4–7 to allow our rangers to attend training.

Grand Canyon Village, continued

Activity	Location	Time	Duration	Frequency
Rim Walk   				
Grand Canyon is a colorful landscape with a rich history. Enjoy an intriguing walk with a park ranger exploring the canyon's natural and cultural history. This is an easy ½-mile (0.8-km) walk on a paved trail. Parking may be limited; consider parking at Lots C or D or riding the free Village Route shuttle bus to the Train Depot stop. No walks May 4–7.	Verkamp's Visitor Center front porch	3:00 p.m.	45 minutes	Daily
Nature Walk   				
Learn more about the complexity and diversity of nature with a short hike along the rim. Topics vary and may include: animals and plants adapting to changing seasons, man's impact on nature, rare and endangered species, or Native American use of plants and animals. Parking may be limited; plan to arrive by the free Village Route shuttle bus to the Yavapai Observation Station stop. No walks May 4–7.	Bicycle rack outside Yavapai Observation Station	3:30 p.m.	45–60 minutes	Daily
Condor Talk: Wings over the Canyon  				
What highly endangered bird with a 9-foot wingspan is often spotted at Grand Canyon? The California condor! Learn about these majestic birds and their reintroduction in northern Arizona in a talk on the canyon's rim. Parking is limited; consider parking at Lots C or D or riding the free Village Route shuttle bus to the Bright Angel stop. No talks May 4–7.	In front of Lookout Studio near Bright Angel Lodge (You may have to use stairs to arrive at the program site.)	4:00 p.m.	30–45 minutes	Daily
Evening Program  				
The perfect way to end your day at the Grand Canyon! Enjoy a ranger presentation on a significant aspect of the canyon's fascinating natural or cultural history. For this evening's topic check the schedules posted around the park. Arrive by walking, driving, or riding the free Village Shuttle Bus. No programs May 13 and 20.	Shrine of the Ages auditorium	March–April 7:30 p.m. May 8:00 p.m.	1 hour	Daily

Special Programs

Full Moon Walks and Star Talks 				
During nights around the full moon and new moon, rangers may offer moon walks and star talks at the Mather Point overlook. Check bulletin boards at the visitor centers and campgrounds to see if these events are scheduled. Programs may be presented in the 3 days around new and full moons.	Mather Point	March 6:00 p.m. April 7:00 p.m. May 8:00 p.m.	1 hour	See page 5 for moon phase dates
Spring Break Programs 				
During late March and early April, park rangers will offer programs for our younger visitors including story time, short walks, or other activities. Check at visitor centers or park bulletin boards for current activities. Parents must accompany children to activities.	Locations vary	Varies	Varies	Varies
Additional Programs				
As staffing permits, rangers will offer additional programs which may include Fossil Walks, Kolb Studio Tours, and condor programs as staffing is available. Look for signs in the Village area or at the visitor centers to confirm times and availability.	Locations vary	Varies	Varies	Varies

Ranger Programs, continued

Desert View and Tusayan Museum

Activity	Location	Time	Duration	Frequency
Glimpses of the Past  	Tusayan Museum , 3 miles (5 km) west of Desert View	11:00 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.	30 – 45 minutes	Daily

Have you ever wondered how 800 years ago people found food, water, and shelter? Join a ranger to explore the remains of an ancestral Puebloan village and envision a thriving community in this harsh and demanding environment. This walk entails a journey on a 0.1 mile (0.2 km) flat, paved trail.

Inside the Canyon You must hike or ride the mules to these locations.

Activity	Location	Time	Duration	Frequency
Indian Garden 	Indian Garden on the Bright Angel Trail.	As posted	Varies	Thursday through Sunday
These programs begin March 5.				
Phantom Ranch 	Phantom Ranch	4:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.	45 minutes	Daily
These programs begin March 6.				

Rangers present evening programs at the amphitheater just south of the Indian Garden Campground. Check the bulletin board in the campground for times and topics. Rangers also post information on additional programs as scheduling permits. Programs begin March 5. **No programs May 3 - 8.**

Programs are given daily at Phantom Ranch, reachable only by hiking or riding the mules to the bottom of the canyon. Talks cover a wide range of natural and cultural history topics. Upon arrival, check the Bright Angel Campground bulletin board or the Phantom Ranch Canteen for program locations and subjects. Programs begin March 6. **No programs May 3 - 8.**

Children must be accompanied by an adult at all programs.

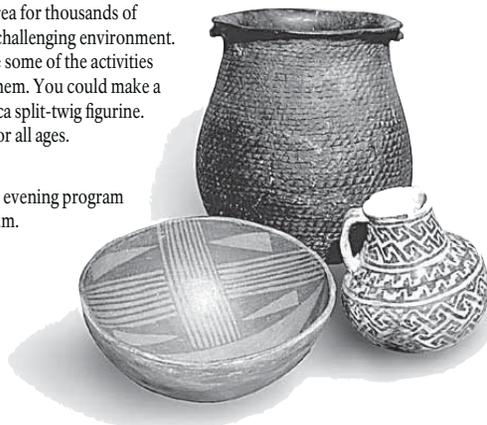
-  All outdoor programs may be cancelled in inclement weather or when lightning danger is present.
-  These programs are wheelchair accessible with assistance. Wheelchairs are available for loan at the Visitor Center at Canyon View Information Plaza.
-  These family-oriented programs are ideal for meeting the ranger program requirement for Grand Canyon's Junior Ranger badge. Any ranger program, however, may serve the requirement on page 2 of the Junior Ranger Activity Booklet.

Archeology Day: March 28, Saturday Visitor Center at Canyon View Information Plaza

People have lived in the Grand Canyon area for thousands of years, learning to sustain themselves in a challenging environment. Presentations throughout the day explore some of the activities of past peoples and how we learn about them. You could make a pot, identify artifacts, or construct a replica split-twig figurine. Activities and presentations are suitable for all ages.

Park archeologist Ian Hough presents the evening program at Shrine of the Ages auditorium at 7:30 p.m.

March is Arizona Archeology Month



Celebrate Wildlife Day: May 2, Saturday Shrine of the Ages

Staff from the National Park Service, Grand Canyon Association, and Arizona Game and Fish Department will hold an open house at the Shrine of the Ages near parking lot A on Saturday, May 2 beginning at 10:00 a.m. Displays will highlight canyon wildlife and current research projects. Researchers and rangers will offer indoor and outdoor programs. Check at any National Park Service visitor center, park headquarters, or the Shrine of the Ages for a schedule of events or visit www.nps.gov/grca/naturescience/wildlife-day.htm.

The evening program at 8:00 p.m. features Robert Mesta of the Sonoran Joint Venture, a bird conservation program between the U.S. and Mexico.



Enjoying Grand Canyon

Information Centers

(see pages 2 – 4 for ranger programs at these locations)



Kolb Studio

Once the home and business of the Kolb brothers, pioneering photographers at Grand Canyon, this building has been restored. Visit the free art exhibits in the auditorium and shop in the bookstore. Kolb Studio is located in the Village Historic District, at the Bright Angel Trailhead. Open daily 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.; 8:00 to 7:00 p.m. beginning April 1. See page 11 for art exhibits displayed here. Free admission.



Verkamp's Visitor Center

The newest visitor center resides in one of the oldest buildings on the South Rim. Operated for more than 100 years by the Verkamp family, the building now features displays telling the history of Grand Canyon Village. The visitor center and bookstore are open daily 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.; 8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. beginning April 1. See pages 2 – 3 for ranger programs beginning here.



Yavapai Observation Station

How old is the canyon? How did it form? The exhibits at Yavapai Observation Station answer these and other geology questions. The historic building, located one mile (1.6 km) east of Market Plaza, features expansive canyon views. The bookstore offers a variety of materials about the area. Open daily 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.; 8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. beginning April 1. See pages 2 – 3 for ranger programs beginning here.



Canyon View Information Plaza

Don't forget to visit the Visitor Center and bookstore at the Canyon View Information Plaza. Reachable by free shuttle bus, a one mile walk or bicycle ride from Market Plaza on the Greenway Trail, or a short walk from Mather Point. The visitor center is open daily from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., while the bookstore is open daily from 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.; 8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. beginning April 1. You may view the outdoor exhibits anytime. See pages 2 – 3 for programs beginning here.



Tusayan Museum

A visit to Tusayan Ruin and Museum provides a look into the lives of a thriving community as illustrated by its pottery, seashell bracelets, corncocks, and arrowheads. See 2,000 – 4,000-year-old original split-twig figurines. Art from today's tribes provides a glimpse into their rich cultures. The museum, open daily 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., is located three miles (5 km) west of Desert View. Free admission. See page 4 for programs beginning here.



Desert View Bookstore & Park Information

The Desert View Bookstore and Park Information Center, located at Desert View Point near the park's east entrance, offers an excellent selection of publications and park information. Open daily 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

A passport cancellation stamp is available at all above locations.

Canyon's Best Bargain: The Free Shuttle Bus System

For more than 30 years the National Park Service has provided a free shuttle bus system on the South Rim. The buses use compressed or liquefied natural gas, a clean burning fuel. Buses have provisions for improved accessibility and can accommodate most wheelchairs. Riding the shuttles makes your stay more enjoyable, while reducing pollution and decreasing traffic congestion. All shuttles have racks for bicycles.



How do I use the shuttles?

The map on pages 8 – 9 is the key. The map shows routes, stops, operating times, and route lengths. Park your vehicle in one of the parking areas, proceed to the nearest bus stop, and board the next bus. The buses come by every 10 – 20 minutes. You do not need to obtain a ticket, and you are free to get on or off at any stop. You can ride to a stop, enjoy the view, shop at a gift store, or walk along the rim, then hop on a later shuttle.

Where do the shuttles go?

Three shuttle routes operate during the spring, with a fourth route starting in late May. The routes do not overlap, although they interconnect. Buses show the route name on the front and display an appropriately colored square near the door.

Hermits Rest Route (red)

The western-most route winds seven miles along the rim to Hermits Rest, stopping at viewpoints along the way.

Village Route (blue)

This loop connects visitor centers, lodging, restaurants, gift shops, and campgrounds. It provides the best means to get to many of the ranger programs.

Kaibab Trail Route (green)

Leaving from Canyon View Information Plaza, this route goes to the South Kaibab Trailhead and two viewpoints to the east.

Tusayan Route (purple)

Starting in late May, this shuttle goes from Canyon View Information Plaza to the gateway community of Tusayan.

Sunrise & Sunset

Date	Sunrise	Sunset
March 1	6:58 a.m.	6:24 p.m.
March 10	6:46 a.m.	6:32 p.m.
March 20	6:32 a.m.	6:41 p.m.
April 1	6:14 a.m.	6:51 p.m.
April 10	6:02 a.m.	6:58 p.m.
April 20	5:49 a.m.	7:07 p.m.
May 1	5:36 a.m.	7:16 p.m.
May 10	5:27 a.m.	7:24 p.m.
May 20	5:19 a.m.	7:32 p.m.

Moon Phases

New moon	Full moon	Moon rise
	March 10	6:29 p.m.
March 26		
	April 9	7:29 p.m.
April 24		
	May 8	7:24 p.m.
May 24		

All times are Mountain Standard Time

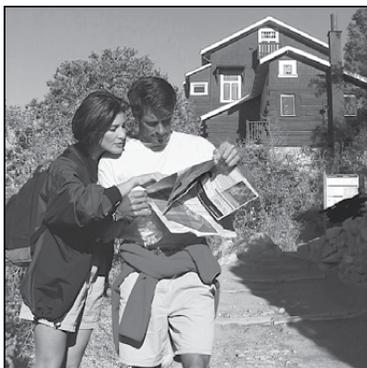


Use Caution Near the Edge!

Footing can be dangerous in the early spring. Watch for snow and ice.

Enjoying Grand Canyon

Planning Your Grand Canyon Experience



Individual interests, available time, and the weather can influence your visit. Use the information in this publication and talk with a ranger in one of the visitor centers to help make your Grand Canyon experience memorable.

If you have only an hour or two

Go to one of the viewpoints such as Mather, Yavapai, or Yaki Points and immerse yourself in the view. Walk a short distance along the Rim Trail and watch the changing patterns in the canyon.

If you have half a day

Stop at one of the visitor centers and learn more about the geology or history of the area. Participate in one of the ranger programs. Ride the Hermits Rest Route shuttle to Hermits Rest, getting off at the Monument Creek Vista stop and walking or bicycling the Greenway Trail to Pima Point.

If you have all day

Walk a short distance down the Bright Angel or South Kaibab Trails, keeping in mind that it is much easier walking down than climbing back up. Drive east on Desert View Drive, enjoying the overlooks along the way and stopping at Tusayan Museum and the Desert View Watchtower. Be at one of the viewpoints an hour before sunset to savor the changing colors and shadows. Help your children attain their Junior Ranger badge.

If you two or more days

The canyon is yours to enjoy and explore. Arise early and take in a sunrise. Hike a trail and notice how much warmer it becomes as you descend into the canyon. Venture away from the popular viewpoints and experience the quiet of the canyon. Attend a couple of ranger-led activities, ending your day with the Evening Program.

Would you like to be a Junior Ranger?

Grand Canyon National Park offers a Junior Ranger program for children ages 4 and older.

To take part in the program, pick up a Junior Ranger booklet at the Visitor Center at Canyon View Information Plaza, Verkamp's Visitor Center, or Tusayan Museum information desk and complete the activities listed for the appropriate age level.

Once completed (don't forget attendance at one or more ranger programs) bring the booklet back to the Visitor Center at Canyon View Information Plaza, Verkamp's Visitor Center, or Tusayan Museum to receive an official Junior Ranger certificate and badge.

National Junior Ranger Day April 25, Saturday

Check at visitor centers for special activities and Junior Ranger materials.



Cell Phone Tour

Your cell phone provides another way to learn more about Grand Canyon National Park. You can listen to a narration over your cell phone at numerous points of interest on the South Rim between Maricopa Point on the west and Yaki Point on the east.

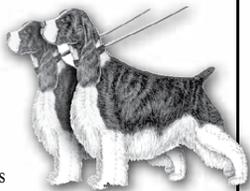
Wherever you see one of the cell phone tour signs, dial (928) 225-2907 and enter the indicated stop number. You will hear an interpretive ranger give a two-minute synopsis on various aspects of the canyon from geology to Native American history to the night sky.

There is no additional charge to listen to these messages. Please be aware that cell phone coverage can be spotty and not all providers offer service in the park.



Pets Must Be Leashed at All Times

Leashed pets are allowed on rim trails throughout the developed areas of the South Rim, but not below the rim. The only exception is service animals.



Persons wishing to take a service animal below the rim must check in first at the Backcountry Information Center. Kennels are available. Telephone: (928) 638-0534.

Environmental Education Class Field Trips and Teacher Workshops

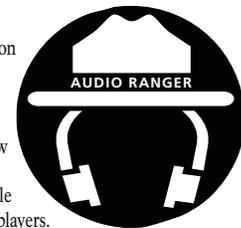
The Environmental Education staff invites teachers and students to take advantage of our free educational resources. We offer nine ranger-led field trip programs at the canyon covering geology, ecology, and history topics. Programs are designed for grades K-7, are curriculum based, and address Arizona academic standards. Advanced reservations are required. These programs are popular, so contact the park as soon as possible to schedule your trip. Rangers may be available for pre-visit classroom presentations.

Free teacher workshops cover suggested pre- and post-visit activities, as well as walk-throughs of the programs at the canyon. Park staff conducts workshops several times each year. For more information or to make reservations for either a park visit or a teacher workshop call (928) 638-7662 or visit www.nps.gov/grca/forteachers/index.htm.



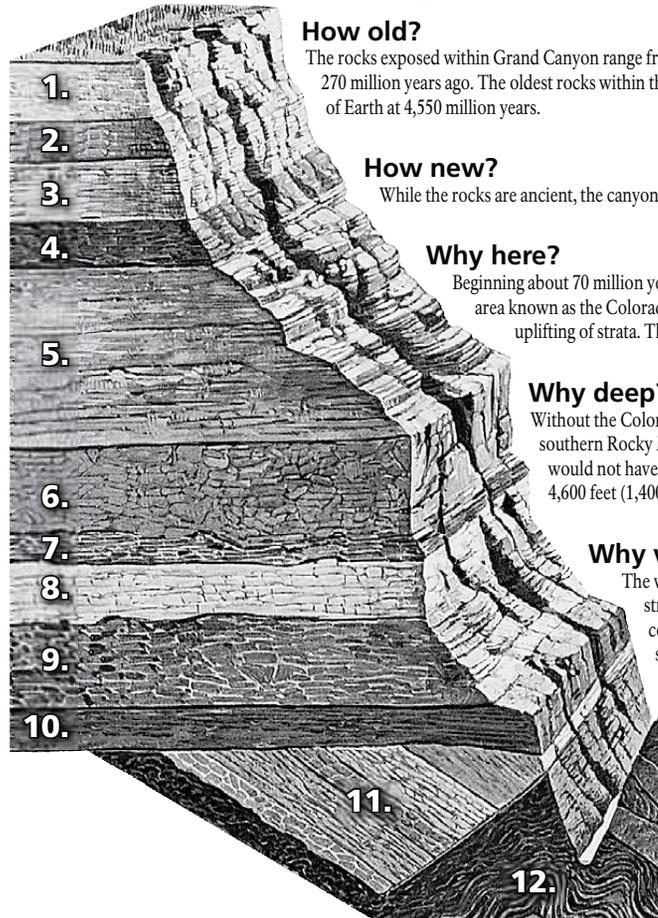
Grand Canyon Audio Ranger:

The Grand Canyon Audio Ranger, your personal tour guide to the South Rim, is now available in the park on reloadable MP3 flash-drive players.



The park's geology, human history, wildlife and natural history come alive in the 117 minutes of narration, music, and comments from National Park Service rangers and historical figures, making for an enjoyable walk in the park. You can listen to the stops in order, or pick your favorites and play only those. Stop in at any of the Grand Canyon Association bookstores/information centers listed on page 5 to find out more about the Grand Canyon Audio Ranger.

There's Only One Grand Canyon: Basic Answers to Your Geologic Questions



How old?

The rocks exposed within Grand Canyon range from the fairly young to the fairly old (geologically speaking). Kaibab limestone, the caprock on the rims of the canyon, formed 270 million years ago. The oldest rocks within the Inner Gorge at the bottom of Grand Canyon date to 1,840 million years ago. For comparison geologists currently set the age of Earth at 4,550 million years.

How new?

While the rocks are ancient, the canyon is young. Geologists generally agree that canyon carving occurred over the last 5–6 million years—a geologic blink of the eye.

Why here?

Beginning about 70 million years ago, heat and pressure generated by two colliding tectonic plates induced mountain building in western North America. An area known as the Colorado Plateau was raised more than 10,000 feet (3,000 m), but was spared most of the deformation and alteration associated with the uplifting of strata. This high plateau, so critical to Grand Canyon's story, is a geological puzzle that researchers still seek to understand.

Why deep?

Without the Colorado River, a perennial river in a desert environment, Grand Canyon would not exist. Water draining off the western slopes of the southern Rocky Mountains carried sand and gravel, cutting down through the layers of rock. Without the uplift of the Colorado Plateau, there would not have been the thousands of feet of topography to sculpt. From Yavapai Point on the South Rim to the Colorado River is a change of 4,600 feet (1,400 m), yet the river still flows 2,450 feet (750 m) above sea level.

Why wide?

The width results from the rock layers collapsing around the river and its tributaries combined with the "headward erosion" of these side streams. Softer, weaker layers erode faster, undermining the harder, stronger layers above them. Without adequate support, the cliffs collapse. The relentless river carries this eroded material to the Gulf of California. Much of what is now southeastern California and southwestern Arizona is covered with material eroded from Grand Canyon.

Over its 277 river miles (446 km), the jagged Grand Canyon varies in width. Along the South Rim, it ranges between 8 and 16 miles (13–26 km) depending upon where you choose to measure.

Why Grand?

Often described as Earth's greatest geological showcase, the ensemble of stunning dimensions—the melding of depth, width, and length—sets Grand Canyon apart. Nowhere else features such a dazzling variety of colorful rock layers, impressive buttes, and shadowed side canyons. Grand Canyon is the canyon against which all other canyons are compared.

The exhibits at Yavapai Observation Station explain the geologic processes that formed the rocks and carved the canyon.

Illustration:

1. Kaibab Formation	270 million years
2. Toroweap Formation	273 million years
3. Coconino Sandstone	275 million years
4. Hermit Formation	280 million years
5. Supai Group	315–285 million years
6. Redwall Limestone	340 million years
7. Temple Butte Formation	385 million years
8. Muav Limestone	505 million years
9. Bright Angel Shale	515 million years
10. Tapeats Sandstone	525 million years
11. Grand Canyon Supergroup	1,200 million–740 million years
12. Vishnu basement rocks	1,840–1,680 million years

Want to know more?

The geologic story is rich in detail and mystery. Attending a free ranger program may move you from wonder to comprehension. Programs are described on pages 2–4.

Grand Canyon Association bookstores offer many geology related titles. Bookstore hours and locations are listed on page 5. To learn more about geology at Grand Canyon, take a look at:

- *Yardstick of Geologic Time*, Allyson Mathis
- *Introduction to Grand Canyon Geology*, Greer Price
- *Carving Grand Canyon*, Wayne Ranney
- *Ancient Landscapes*, Ron Blakey and Wayne Ranney

Park Science

California Condors: Soaring to Success



Cautiously optimistic. That summarizes the outlook for the California condor, one of the largest and rarest birds in North America. The National Park Service is pleased to be cooperating with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the Bureau of Land Management, Arizona Game and Fish Department, and the Peregrine Fund in the reestablishment of a California condor population in Arizona.

Fossils discovered in caves in the park document that condors have lived in this area for thousands of years. During the last Ice Age, when the climate was

cooler and wetter, large herbivores—Shasta ground sloth, shrubbox, mammoths, and horses—grazed here. Condors scavenged on their carcasses. As the climate changed this food source disappeared.

By the time European explorers reached North America, California condors survived only along the Pacific coast, perhaps feeding on dead whales and other marine mammals that washed ashore. Continued pressure from hunting, egg collecting, and the inability to adapt to the modern world with its chemicals and power lines, further reduced the

condor population. Only 22 California condors existed in the wild by the 1980s.

Concerned scientists trapped this remnant population and initiated a captive breeding program. The condors responded well and the population increased sufficiently to release birds back into the wild to attempt reestablishing wild populations. Two areas—central California and northern Arizona—appeared to offer the best chances for the young condors. The first release in the Grand Canyon area took place in 1996. The young birds had to learn to survive without any older birds to act as tutors.

As the birds matured, scientists watched anxiously for courtship displays and other signs of reproduction. A successful reintroduction program depended on the birds thriving and reproducing on their own. The first nesting attempts failed, but in 2003 a pair hatched and fledged the first California condor chick in Arizona in more than 100 years. Each spring since pair bonding and nesting has occurred. Last year two birds fledged in northern Arizona.

The condor program continues with more captive-raised birds being released, additional nesting, and some disappointments. Condors are susceptible to lead poisoning from bullet fragments ingested from carcasses and gut piles. The Arizona Game and Fish Department encourages hunters to use nonlead ammunition and distributes coupons for its purchase. Utah is exploring the possibility of implementing a similar program.

Today more than 60 condors live in Arizona, with a total condor population of more than 300. With populations in California and Baja California, in addition to captive breeding birds, the future of the California condor looks promising.

Ask a ranger where to see condors soaring over the canyon and about this year's nesting activity.

Want to know more?

For more information on California condors, attend the *Condor Talk: Wings over the Canyon* ranger program described on page 3 or for recent field reports go to www.peregrinefund.org.

Grand Canyon Association bookstores feature several condor titles, including:

- *Condor: To the Brink and Back* John Nielsen
- *California Condors* (children's book) Patricia A. Fink Martin
- *Condor, Spirit of the Canyon* (children's book) Robert Mesta
- *Condors in Canyon Country* Sophie Osborne

Take a Look at Canyon Sketches

Canyon Sketches, an electronic magazine on the park's web site, features short updates about the canyon's natural, cultural, and recreational resources. Articles highlight the projects that Grand Canyon's Science and Resource Management biologists, archeologists, physical scientists, and wilderness planners do to inventory, monitor, mitigate, restore, and rehabilitate park resources.

Recent features include the restoration of native vegetation (*right*), surveys of native songbird nests to monitor for parasitizing by brown-headed cowbirds, and the excavation of an archeological site along the Colorado River. Future articles will discuss surveys for bats in park caves and restoration of habitat for the sentry milkvetch, an endangered plant.

Learn more about your park in *Canyon Sketches* e-magazine at <http://www.nps.gov/grca/naturescience/cynsk.htm>.



Keep Wildlife Wild

Spring is a special but precarious time for wildlife. The long winter is coming to an end and new foods are growing. Many animals will soon be giving birth.

Enjoy wildlife from a safe distance. Seemingly tame squirrels, ravens, coyotes, elk, or deer can become aggressive without warning. Keep your distance and do not attempt to feed or approach the wildlife. If the animal obviously knows that you are there, you are too close!

For your safety and the well-being of the park's wildlife, **do not feed any animals.**



Park News

What's New? Your Entrance Fees at Work

You have contributed \$25.00 for the privilege of enjoying and preserving a spectacular part of our national heritage. Your entrance fee supports many projects within the park.



Road Construction

Construction on a new road in the Mather Point-Canyon View Information Plaza area begins in April. The new road will circle to the south of the visitor center and bookstore. Additional parking areas for private vehicles, RVs, and tour buses will provide easy access to the rim, visitor center, rest rooms, and bookstore. Drive slowly and carefully in the construction zone and obey all signs and flagmen.

Hermit Road

The newly repaved Hermit Road provides a great area to bicycle without much traffic. Once you have pedalled up the first steep hill, it is mostly level riding. Watch for shuttle buses and the few vehicles sharing the road. If a shuttle bus approaches from the rear, stop off the edge of the road and let it pass. Buses are equipped with bike racks should you become tired or want a ride to the top of that first hill. A new section of the paved Greenway Trail, suitable for hikers, bicyclists, and visitors in wheelchairs, starts at the Monument Creek Vista bus stop and winds west along the rim past Pima Point to Hermits Rest. Along the way, enjoy canyon viewpoints (*above right*) that only a few hikers had seen before the completion of this segment of the Greenway Trail.

Rim Trail and Orphan Mine

In conjunction with the rehabilitation of Hermit Road, the Trail Crew improved the Rim Trail from Maricopa Point west to Hermits Rest (*lower right*). Leave the shuttle bus at one stop and walk along the rim to be picked up at another stop. East of Powell Point, the Rim Trail detours around the Orphan Mine site, once one of the richest uranium mines in the country. Contractors removed much of the



old building debris and headframe from the area. Once soil testing is completed, the Rim Trail may be routed past the mine site.

Rest Rooms

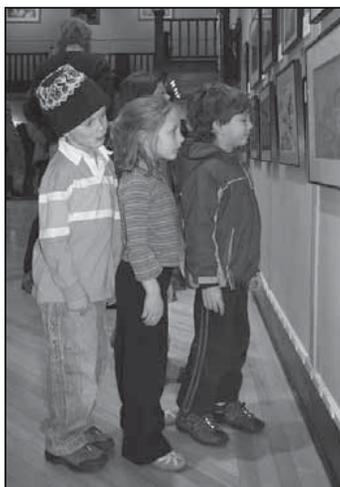
The installation of new vault toilets will provide improved facilities at a number of picnic areas and viewpoints including Tusayan Museum, Grandview Point, and the South Kaibab Trailhead. Work on the rest room at Desert View may result in using temporary portable rest rooms.

Not all of the entrance fees collected at Grand Canyon stay here. Approximately twenty percent of the fees are distributed to National Park Service areas that do not collect fees.

The National Park Service thanks you for your support. If you plan to visit other park service areas, you may want to purchase the *America the Beautiful—Federal Lands Pass* that provides entrance to all sites collecting entrance fees. You can apply your current Grand Canyon National Park entrance permit towards the interagency pass.



Art Exhibits at the Historic Kolb Studio



March 3–29: Arts for Our Park: To Go Boldly

Children from the Grand Canyon community's school explore their futures through art in celebration of National Youth Art Month. Admission is free.

April 11–July 19: Wild about Children's Books: Wildlife Art for Kids

Children's books combine engaging imagery and vivid language to tell their stories while at the same time fostering literacy. Three new children's books about the Southwest are featured in this dazzling exhibition that demonstrates why books continue to thrive in an electronic age. Admission is free.

Artist in Residence: Inspired by the Park



Few places have provoked as much wonder and creativity as Grand Canyon. The Artist-in Residence program offers professional artists (writers, composers, visual and performing artists) the opportunity to spend time on the South Rim of Grand Canyon. The National Park Service supplies a residence within the park for a three week period.

In exchange for the adventure of living and working in a national park, the resident artist has the opportunity to create works that generate understanding and dialogue about the need to preserve this national treasure. While here, the selected artist shares his or her inspiration, motivation, and techniques in programs with park visitors. Upon completion of the residency, the artist donates a work representative of the park.

If you are interested in the Artist in Residence program, stop by the Visitor Center at Canyon View Information Plaza or Verkamp's Visitor Center and ask for a brochure with application or visit our web site www.nps.gov/grca/supportyourpark/air.htm.

Day Hiking



Before You Go . . .

Plan Ahead

As a day hiker no permits are required. You are entirely on your own. Your descent into the canyon, however brief, marks your entry into a world in which preparation, self-reliance, and common sense are crucial.

Know the Weather

Spring weather varies. Snowstorms on the rim are common in March and can occur as late as May. Late April and May can be windy. By mid-May temperatures along the river in the inner canyon may approach 100° F (40°C).

Double Your Calories, Double Your Fun

Salty snacks and water or sports drinks should be consumed on any hike lasting longer than 30 minutes. Food is your body's primary source of fuel and salts (electrolytes) while hiking in the canyon.

If you do not balance your food intake with your fluid consumption, you run the risk of becoming dangerously debilitated and severely ill. For every hour hiking in the canyon, you should drink ½ to 1 quart (liter) of water or sports drinks.

Your best defense against illness and exhaustion is to eat a large breakfast, a full lunch, a snack every time you take a drink, and a rewarding full dinner at the end of the day. This is not a time to diet.

Watch Your Time

Plan on taking twice as long to hike up as it took to hike down. Allow 1/3 of your time to descend and 2/3 of your time to ascend.

Mules and Hikers

Encounters between hikers and mules have resulted in injuries to packers and the death of some mules. To ensure safety for yourself, other trail users, and mule riders, when encountering mules on the trails:

- Step off the trail on the uphill side away from the edge.
- Follow the directions of the wrangler. Remain quiet and stand perfectly still.
- Do not return to the trail until the last mule is 50 feet (15 m) past your position.

Hiking Tips

- 1. Be Prepared:** Know your route. Know the weather forecast. The weather can change quickly and dramatically. Carry a map, flashlight, and extra clothing including wind and rain protection. Instep crampons may be necessary on icy trails in early spring.
- 2. Stay Comfortable:** Dressing in layers is the key to comfortable hiking. This allows you to adjust for the changing conditions as you go up and down the trails. And as Mother always said, "Don't forget your hat!" It is important to stay dry and protected from the wind.
- 3. Go Slowly:** If you can carry on a conversation, you are hiking at the right pace. If you find yourself out of breath, your legs and digestive system are not getting enough oxygen. Lack of oxygen can cause fatigue, heavy legs, and exhaustion.
- 4. Rest Often:** Sit down, prop your legs up, and take a 10-minute break at least once every hour.
- 5. Eat and Drink Frequently:** Balance your food and water intake. Salty snacks help replace electrolytes lost through perspiration. No matter what the temperature, you need water and energy to keep going.

Hiking Chart for some popular day hike destinations

Warning! National Park Service rangers recommend that you do not attempt to hike from the rim to the river and back in one day, because of the distance, high canyon temperatures, low humidity, and the steepness of the trails. Few trails form loops; you will be hiking on the same trail in both directions. You are responsible for the safety of yourself and those in your party!

Trails	Destination	Round trip distance	Approximate time round trip	Elevation change	Notes
Rim Trail (mostly flat, many sections suitable for wheelchairs)					
The Rim Trail offers easy walking and quiet views as it winds along the rim from Hermits Rest west to Pipe Creek Vista. Begin from any viewpoint and use the free shuttle buses to return.	Follows the rim for 12 miles	Your choice	15 minutes to half-a-day	200 feet 60 m	Mostly paved, except dirt from Monument Creek Vista to Maricopa Point
Bright Angel Trail (steep, but popular)					
The most popular trail into the canyon offers some shade and seasonal water (subject to line breaks). Trail begins west of Bright Angel Lodge. Can be icy early in the spring. Check at visitor centers or the Backcountry Information Center for trail condition.	1 ½-Mile Resthouse	3 miles 4.8 km	2 – 4 hours	1,131 ft. 345 m	Rest rooms Water May – Sept.
	3-Mile Resthouse	6 miles 9.6 km	4 – 6 hours	2,112 ft. 644 m	Water May – Sept.
	Indian Garden	9.2 miles 14.8 km	6 – 9 hours	3,060 ft. 933 m	Rest rooms Water year-round
South Kaibab Trail (steep with expansive views)					
Trail begins south of Yaki Point; you must ride the free shuttle bus to the trailhead. Best views for a relatively short hike, but no afternoon shade. Water at trailhead, but not along the trail. Can be icy in the early spring.	Ooh Aah Point	1.8 miles 2.9 km	1 – 2 hours	600 ft. 180 m	No water First view east
	Cedar Ridge	3 miles 4.8 km	2 – 4 hours	1,140 ft. 347 m	Rest rooms No water
Hermit Trail (steep and rocky)					
This rough, unmaintained trail starts 500 feet west of Hermits Rest. Recommended for experienced desert hikers, this trail has little afternoon shade. Hiking boots recommended. Water from springs must be treated.	Waldron Basin	3 miles 4.8 km	2 – 4 hours	1,240 ft. 380 m	No water, little shade
	Santa Maria Spring	5 miles 8 km	4 – 6 hours	1,760 ft. 540 m	Treat water
	Dripping Springs	7 miles 11 km	5 – 7 hours	1,400 ft. 430 m	Treat water Narrow trail



The **Hikers' Express** runs directly from the Bright Angel Lodge shuttle bus stop and the Backcountry Information Center to the South Kaibab Trailhead daily at: **March** – 7:00 a.m., 8:00 a.m., and 9:00 a.m.; **April** – 6:00 a.m., 7:00 a.m., and 8:00 a.m.; **May** – 5:00 a.m., 6:00 a.m., and 7:00 a.m.

Hiking and Camping Below the Rim

Health Hazards

Moderation is the key to having an enjoyable hike. Hike within your ability, maintain proper body temperature, balance your food and water intake, and rest often.

Emergency situations include:

Heat exhaustion

Heat exhaustion is the result of dehydration due to intense sweating. Hikers can lose one to two quarts (liters) of water per hour. Rangers at both Phantom Ranch and Indian Garden treat as many as twenty cases of heat exhaustion a day in summer.

Symptoms: pale face, nausea, cool and moist skin, headache, and cramps

Treatment: drink water, eat high-energy foods, rest in the shade, cool the body.

Heat stroke

Heat stroke is a life-threatening emergency where the body's heat-regulating mechanisms become overwhelmed by a combination of internal heat production and environmental demands. Every year two to three Grand Canyon hikers experience heat stroke.

Symptoms: flushed face, dry skin, weak and rapid pulse, high body temperature, poor judgment or inability to cope, unconsciousness. Victim is in danger!

Treatment: find shade, cool victim with water, send for help!

Hyponatremia

Hyponatremia is an illness that mimics the early symptoms of heat exhaustion. It is the result of low sodium in the blood caused by drinking too much water, not eating enough salty foods, and losing salt through sweating.

Symptoms: nausea, vomiting, altered mental states, and frequent urination

Treatment: have the victim rest and eat salty foods. If mental alertness decreases, seek immediate help!

Hypothermia

Hypothermia is a life-threatening emergency where the body cannot keep itself warm due to exhaustion and exposure to cold, wet, windy weather.

Symptoms: uncontrolled shivering, poor muscle control, and a careless attitude

Treatment: put on dry clothing, drink warm liquids, and protect from wind, rain, and cold.

Want to know more?

Grand Canyon Association bookstores offer many books and maps on hiking. Bookstore hours and locations are listed on page 5. A few items to consider include:

- *Official Guide to Hiking Grand Canyon*, Scott Thybony
- *The Grand Canyon Trail Guides* series: Bright Angel, Grandview, Havasu, Hermit, North Kaibab, South Kaibab, South and North Bass
- *Grand Canyon National Park Trails* topographic map

Backpacking Permits

Overnight backpacking in Grand Canyon provides a degree of solitude, wildness, and silence that is increasingly difficult to find. A backcountry permit is required for all overnight backpacking, except for guests of Phantom Ranch. Permits can be reserved up to four months in advance. A fee of \$10 per permit plus \$5 per person per night is collected. The permit program helps to limit impacts to the natural resource while providing a greater degree of solitude for hikers.

Individuals arriving without a permit may be able to obtain one through a daily waiting list. Inquire early in the morning at the Backcountry Information Center, open daily 8:00 a.m. to noon and 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. For more information, pick up a *Backcountry Trip Planner* at the Backcountry Information Office or any NPS visitor center.

Backcountry Information Center

P.O. Box 129
Grand Canyon, AZ 86023
Tel: (928) 638-7875 (1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Monday - Friday)
www.nps.gov/grca

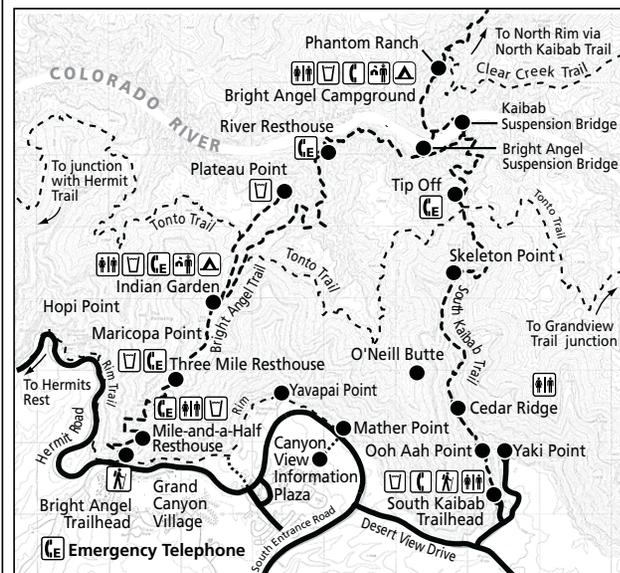
Leave No Trace

Leave No Trace is a nonprofit organization dedicated to promoting responsible outdoor recreation through education, research and partnerships. While enjoying your visit, please consider the following principles to minimize your impact and help protect Grand Canyon for future generations.

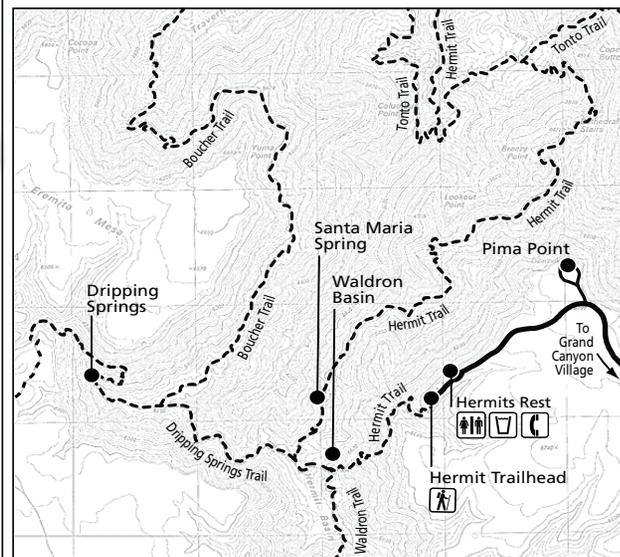
1. Plan ahead and prepare
2. Travel and camp on durable surfaces
3. Dispose of waste properly
4. Leave what you find
5. Minimize campfire impacts
No campfires in Grand Canyon National Park backcountry.
6. Respect wildlife
7. Be considerate of other visitors

For more information visit www.LNT.org

Corridor Trails: Bright Angel and South Kaibab



Hermit Trail



Lodging and Services

Lodging

In the Park—South Rim

For same-day reservations, call (928) 638-2631. For advance reservations, call (888) 297-2757 or write:

Xanterra Parks & Resorts
6312 South Fiddlers Green Circle, Suite 600N
Greenwood Village, CO 80111
www.xanterra.com.

All prices are subject to change.

Bright Angel Lodge

On the rim. \$69 – 174

El Tovar Hotel

On the rim. \$174 – 426

Kachina Lodge

On the rim. \$170 – 180

Thunderbird Lodge

On the rim. \$170 – 180

Maswik Lodge

West end of village. \$90 – 170

Yavapai Lodge

Market Plaza. \$107 – 153

Phantom Ranch

Located at the bottom of the canyon. Overnight dormitory and cabin space. Advance reservations are required.

Call for prices (see above) or inquire at the Transportation Desks in Bright Angel, Maswik, or Yavapai Lodges.

North Rim—Grand Canyon Lodge

Make reservations by calling (877) 386-4383 or www.foreverresorts.com

Outside the Park—Tusayan, AZ

Grand Hotel

(888) 634-7263 or (928) 638-3333

Grand Canyon Best Western Squire Inn

(800) 937-8376 or (928) 638-2681

Holiday Inn Express

(888) 473-2269 or (928) 638-3000

Quality Inn

(800) 995-2521 or (928) 638-2673

Red Feather Lodge

(800) 538-2345 or (928) 638-2414

Camping

In the Park—South Rim

Camping is permitted only in designated campsites in Grand Canyon National Park.

Mather Campground

Operated by the National Park Service. No hookups are available, but there is a dump station. Maximum vehicle length: 30 feet. Campsites are \$18 per night. Some sites may be available on a first-come, first-served basis. Check at the campground entrance. For advance reservations contact (877)-444-6777 or visit www.recreation.gov.

Trailer Village

Pull-through sites with hookups are located next to Mather Campground. \$30.00 per site per night for two people; \$2.00 for each additional person over age 16. Campers may register at the entrance to Trailer Village. Reservations through Xanterra Parks & Resorts. For same-day reservations, call (928) 638-2631. See advance reservation contact information in adjacent column.

Desert View Campground

Located near the East Entrance, 25 miles east of Grand Canyon Village. Self-registration is on a first-come, first-served basis. \$12 per site per night. Opens mid-May.

Outside the Park

Camper Village

Commercial campground located one mile (1.6 m) south of park entrance in the town of Tusayan. Hookups and coin-operated showers are available. Call (928) 638-2887.

Ten-X Campground

Operated by Kaibab National Forest. Located two miles south of Tusayan. \$10.00 per site per night. No hookups or showers. Group sites available by reservation. Information: (928) 638-2443. Opens May 1, weather permitting.

Dining

Listed west to east along the rim.

Hermits Rest Snack Bar

Open daily 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Maswik Cafeteria

In Maswik Lodge at the west end of the village.

Open daily 6:00 a.m. – 10:00 p.m.

Sports Lounge 5:00 p.m. – 11:00 p.m.

Bright Angel Restaurant

In Bright Angel Lodge. Open daily.

Breakfast: 6:30 a.m.–10:45 a.m.

Beginning April 1 open at 6:00 a.m.

Lunch: 11:15 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Dinner: 4:30 – 10:00 p.m.

Lounge: 11:00 a.m. – 11:00 p.m.

Bright Angel Coffee House

Located in the Bright Angel Lodge.

Open daily 5:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

Bright Angel Fountain

Until March 13 weekends only 11:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Beginning March 14 daily 10:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.

The Arizona Room

On the rim in Bright Angel Lodge. Open daily beginning March 6. Reservations are not accepted.

Lunch: 11:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Dinner: 4:30 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.

El Tovar Dining Room

Located on the rim. Open daily.

Breakfast: 6:30 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.

Lunch: 11:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Dinner: 4:30 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.

Dinner reservations are required:

(928) 638-2631 ext. 6432.

Lounge: 11:00 a.m. – 11:00 p.m.

Delicatessen at Marketplace

Located in the General Store. Open daily.

March: 8:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.

April–May: 8:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Yavapai Cafeteria (Coyote Cafe)

Located at Market Plaza. Open daily

6:30 a.m. – 9:00 p.m.

Desert View Trading Post Snackbar

Open daily 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Beginning May 15: 8:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Groceries

Canyon Village Marketplace

The General Store is located in Market Plaza.

March 1 – 16: 8:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.

March 17 – May 22: 8:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Beginning May 23: 7:00 a.m. – 9:00 p.m.

Desert View Marketplace

March – April: 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

May: 9:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Books and gifts

Listed west to east along the rim.

Hermits Rest 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Maswik 7:00 a.m. – 10:00 p.m.

Kolb Studio 8:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Beginning April 1 8:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Lookout Studio 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Beginning May 14 8:00 a.m. – sunset

Bright Angel 7:00 a.m. – 10:00 p.m.

El Tovar 7:00 a.m. – 10:00 p.m.

Hopi House 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Beginning May 14 8:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Verkamp's Visitor Center 8:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Beginning April 1 8:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Yavapai Curio 8:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Beginning May 14 7:00 a.m. – 10:00 p.m.

Books & More at Canyon View

Information Plaza 8:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Beginning April 15 8:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Yavapai Observation Station

..... 8:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Beginning April 15 8:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Tusayan Museum 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Desert View Bookstore/Park Information

..... 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Desert View Trading Post 8:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Beginning May 14 8:00 a.m. – sunset

Desert View Watchtower 8:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Beginning May 14 8:00 a.m. – sunset

Services

Medical

24-Hour emergency care dial 911;
from hotel rooms dial **9-911**

North Country Grand Canyon Clinic

March 1 – March 31
Monday – Friday: 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Beginning April 1: Daily: 8:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.
(928) 638-2551

Services

In the Park–South Rim

Laundry and Showers

Located near Mather Campground.
March 1–March 26: 8:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.
Last laundry load: 4:45 p.m.
March 27 – April 23: 7:00 a.m. – 9:00 p.m.
Last laundry load: 7:45 p.m.
Beginning April 24: 6:00 a.m. – 11:00 p.m.
Last laundry load: 9:45 p.m.

Chase Bank and ATM

At Market Plaza. 24-hour ATM.
Monday – Thursday: 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Friday: 9:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.
Accepts travelers checks and major credit cards.
(928) 638-2437.
ATM also available in Maswik Lodge lobby.

Post Office

At Market Plaza.
Monday – Friday: 9:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.
Saturday: 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. (928) 638-2512.

Kennels

Open daily: 7:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
(928) 638-0534.
For retrieval after 5:00 p.m., contact Fire and Safety: (928) 638-2631.

Lost and Found

For items lost or found in hotels or restaurants, call: (928) 638-2631. For all other lost items call: (928) 638-7798. Take found items to the Visitor Center at Canyon View Information Plaza or Verkamp's Visitor Center.

Garage Services

Located east of Grand Canyon National Park Lodges general offices. Open daily 8:00 a.m. – noon and 1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. Provides emergency repairs such as tires, belts, batteries, fuses, hoses, etc. Tow service provided to Williams or Flagstaff for more advanced repairs. After hours emergency service available. (928) 638-2631

Tours & River Trips

Air Tours

Fixed-wing and helicopter tours originate daily from Grand Canyon Airport. A list of air tour operators is available upon request at NPS visitor centers or consult the local telephone directory.

Bus Tours

Tours within the park to Desert View and Hermits Rest, as well as sunrise and sunset tours, are available daily. Contact any transportation desk or call (928) 638-2631.

Mule Trips

One-and two-day trips into the canyon depart each morning and may be available on a waiting-list basis. Call (928) 638-2631 or contact the Bright Angel Lodge Transportation Desk for information. www.xanterra.com

Horse Rides

Trail rides and twilight wagon rides are available from Apache Stables at the north end of Tusayan. Rides are offered as weather permits. For information and reservations call (928) 638-2891.

Smooth-Water Raft Trips

Half-day trips on the Colorado River from Glen Canyon Dam to Lees Ferry are provided by Colorado River Discovery. (888) 522-6644 or www.raftthecanyon.com.

Hiking and Backpacking

Grand Canyon Field Institute (GCFI) offers a wide variety of educational programs throughout the park. These single- and multi-day classes led by expert instructors share the wonder of Grand Canyon with participants of all ages and backgrounds. For more information call (866) 471-4435 or visit: www.grandcanyon.org/fieldinstitute. GCFI is a program of the nonprofit Grand Canyon Association.

Transportation

Transportation Desks

Information about Phantom Ranch facilities, mule trips, horseback riding, air tours, one-day float trips, and motorcoach tours (including wheelchair-accessible tours) is available in the following lodge lobbies. Call (928) 638-2631, ext. 6015.

Maswik Lodge

Times vary based on seasonal demand.

Bright Angel

6:00 a.m.–6:30 p.m. March 1–31.
6:00 a.m.–8:00 p.m. Starting April 1.

Yavapai Lodge

Times vary based on seasonal demand.

Railroad

Grand Canyon Railway offers service between Williams, Arizona, and Grand Canyon. Call (800)-THE-TRAIN for information and reservations. www.thetrain.com

Taxi Service

Service is available to the Grand Canyon Airport, trailheads, and other destinations. Daily 24-hour service. (928) 638-2631, ext. 6563.

Rim to Rim Shuttle

Daily round-trip transportation between the North Rim and South Rim is provided by Transcanyon Shuttle. One trip each way daily. Scheduled service begins May 15. Reservations required: (928) 638-2820.

Shuttle Service

Two companies provide shuttle service between Flagstaff, Williams, and Grand Canyon twice daily, also serving Phoenix as well as other points in northern Arizona.

Flagstaff Express

(800) 563-1980 or (928) 225-2290
www.flagstaffexpress.com

Open Road Tours

(877) 226-8060 or (928) 226-8060
www.openroadtours.com

Arizona Highway Information

511 or (888) 411-ROAD
www.az511.gov



Religious Services

Religious services are offered in the park and the surrounding community. Current schedules are posted at Mather Campground (near the check-in station), Shrine of the Ages, the information kiosk near the post office, the Visitor Center at Canyon View Information Plaza, and Verkamp's Visitor Center.

Community Easter Sunrise Service

April 12, 5:50 a.m. at Mather Point. Shuttle service available from Market Plaza. Open to all.

Grand Canyon Community Church (interdenominational)

Jared Long, Pastor. (928) 638-2340

Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints

Don Kiel, Branch President. (928) 638-9426

El Cristo Rey Roman Catholic

Father Eugene Cagoco, D.S., (928) 638-2390

Grand Canyon Assembly of God

Brian and Debbie Fulthorp, Co-pastors,
(928) 638-9415

Grand Canyon Baptist Church

Rick Wiles, Pastor. (928) 638-2790

Jehovah's Witnesses (Tusayan)

Borden Miller, (928) 635-4166

Jewish Services and Programs

Student Rabbi Nina Perlmutter, (928) 777-8172

Available in Tusayan

IMAX Theater

8:30 a.m. – 8:30 p.m. Movie shown every hour on the half hour(928) 638-2206

Kaibab National Forest

Tusayan Ranger District (928) 638-2443

News and Weather

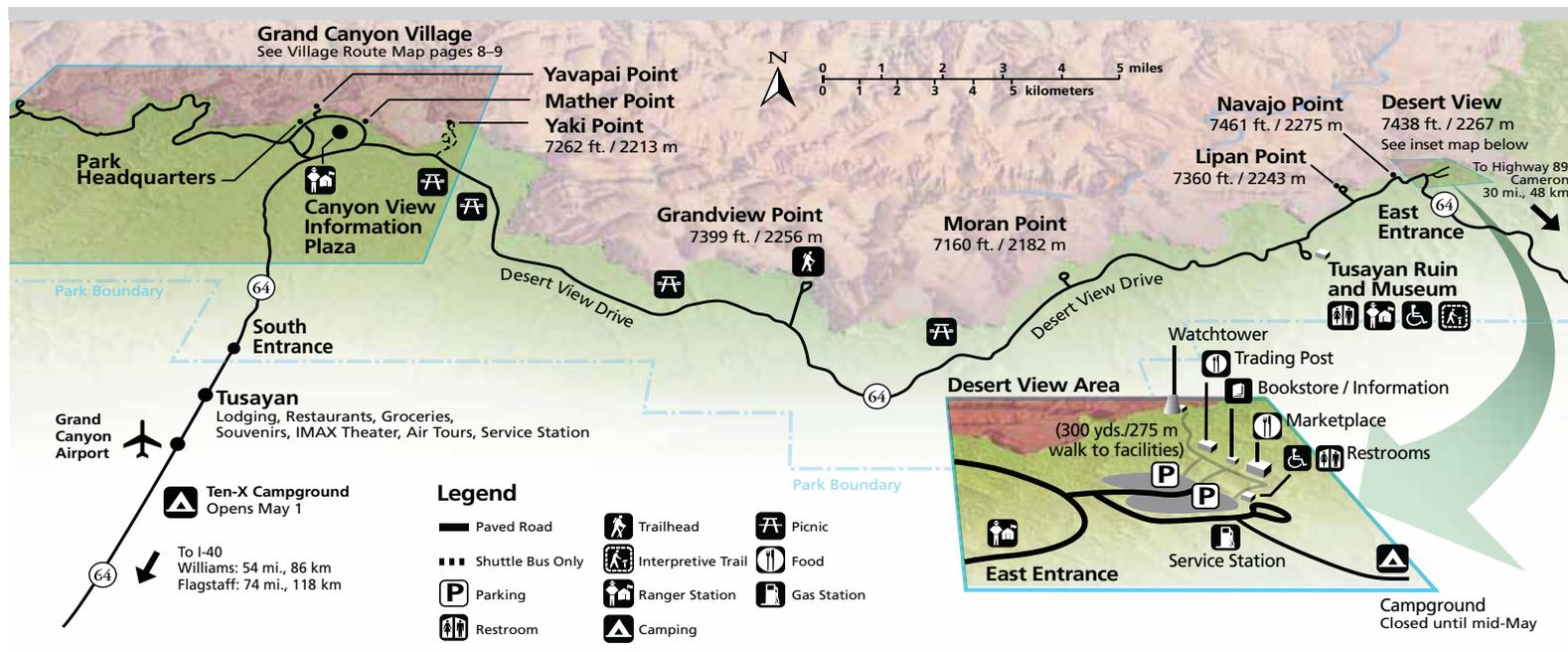
KNAU Radio FM 90.3

Hualapai Skywalk

The Hualapai Skywalk is on the Hualapai Indian Reservation, not in Grand Canyon National Park. The Skywalk is at the west end of Grand Canyon approximately 250 miles from the South Rim. Stop by any NPS visitor center for a brochure with a map.

The Skywalk is a Hualapai Tribal business. For information or to make reservations: (877) 716-9378 or (702) 878-9378 or www.destinationgrandcanyon.com.

South Rim



Bookstores



GRAND CANYON ASSOCIATION
Supporting the Park since 1932

When you shop at Grand Canyon Association (GCA) bookstores, your purchase supports Grand Canyon National Park. GCA is a nonprofit organization created in 1932 to cultivate knowledge, discovery, and stewardship for the benefit of Grand Canyon National Park and its visitors. Since then, GCA has provided in excess of \$30 million in financial support. For GCA bookstore locations, see page 5.

When you visit our bookstores, ask how you can support Grand Canyon National Park's educational programs and scientific research by becoming a member of the Grand Canyon Association. In addition to supporting the park, you will receive a 15% discount at all GCA bookstores, including our online bookstore at www.grandcanyon.org.

Member discounts are also available for most classes offered by the Grand Canyon Field Institute, GCA's outdoor education program. For more information about GCFI, visit www.grandcanyon.org/fieldinstitute.

Teachers can take advantage of GCA's *Travelin' Trunk* program, which brings the Grand Canyon to your classroom. For more information contact (800) 858-2808 ext. 7142 or www.grandcanyon.org/fieldinstitute/educators_trunk.asp.

Shop online: www.grandcanyon.org or call toll free (800) 858-2808, ext 7030.

North Rim

The average distance across Grand Canyon "as the raven flies" is 10 miles. However, getting from the South Rim to the North Rim by automobile requires a five-hour drive of 215 miles.

During winter months, highway AZ 67 to the North Rim entrance is closed due to snow. Lodging and camping are available at the canyon's North Rim from May 15 through mid-October. Reservations are strongly recommended. Lodging reservation information is on page 14.

Additional facilities are available in the surrounding Kaibab National Forest, the Kaibab Lodge area, and Jacob Lake.

A separate issue of *The Guide* is published for the North Rim and includes details about facilities and services, as well as program and hiking information. The North Rim issue of *The Guide* for the 2009 season will be published in May. Stop by any NPS visitor center to obtain a copy.

Desert View Services

Chevron Service Station	Staffed beginning April 2 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Gas available 24 hours year-round with credit card
Desert View Marketplace	March - April: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. May: 9:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.
Bookstore/Park Information	9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Trading Post Gift Shop	8:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. Beginning May 14: 8:00 a.m. - sunset
Watchtower Gift Shop	8:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. Beginning May 14: 8:00 a.m. - sunset
Watchtower stairs	Close 30 minutes before gift shop
Desert View Campground	Opens mid-May weather permitting First-come, first-served

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Grand Canyon National Park

Post Office Box 129, Grand Canyon, AZ 86023

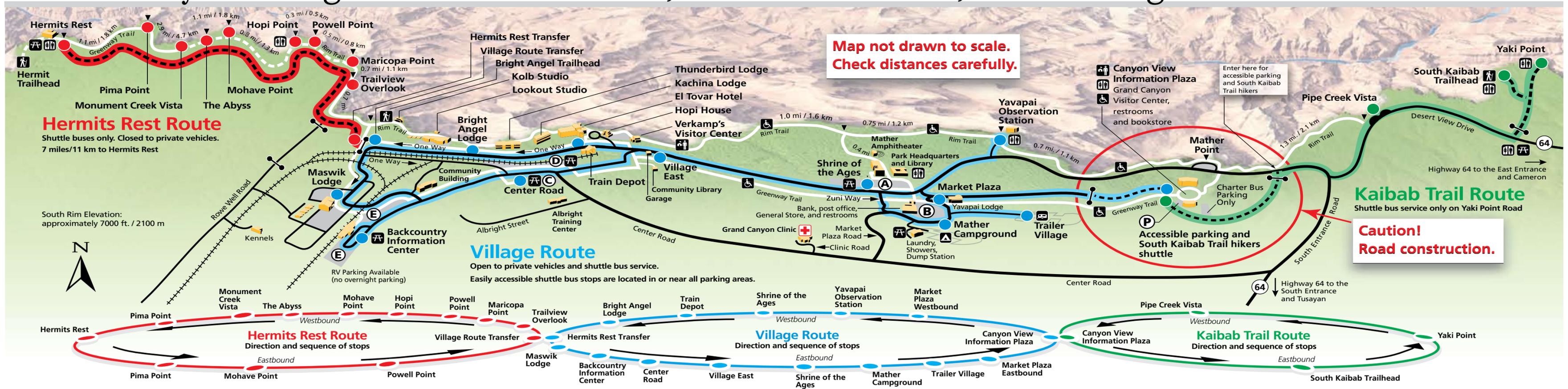
For the latest information updates, visit Grand Canyon National Park's web site at: www.nps.gov/grca/

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Experience Your America



Grand Canyon Village Shuttle Bus Routes, Points of Interest, and Parking



Free Shuttle Buses

Free shuttle buses operate on three routes at Grand Canyon National Park: Hermits Rest Route (indicated in red on the map above), Village Route (blue), and Kaibab Trail Route (green). The routes interconnect, but do not overlap. No tickets are required, and bus stops are clearly marked throughout the park by signs with the above symbol.

Buses are white with a green stripe. The buses display the route name on the front and an appropriately colored square near each door.

All buses are equipped with bicycle racks. Bicycle one way and ride the shuttle the other.

Pets are not permitted on buses.

Service may be suspended during inclement weather.

Sunrise and sunset times are on page 5.

Hermits Rest Route

Buses provide transportation between the Village Route Transfer and Hermits Rest (seven miles; 11 km) with stops at nine canyon overlooks. Buses stop only at Hermits Rest, Pima, Mohave, and Powell Points on return.

75 Minutes Round-trip (without getting off bus)

March buses run every:
30 minutes 4:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m.
15 minutes 9:30 a.m. to sunset
30 minutes sunset to one hour after sunset

April and May buses run every:
30 minutes 4:30 a.m. to 7:30 a.m.
15 minutes 7:30 a.m. to sunset
30 minutes sunset to one hour after sunset

Village Route

Buses provide transportation between Canyon View Information Plaza, Yavapai Point, hotels, restaurants, campgrounds, parking lots, and other facilities in the Village area. This is not a scenic route, but rim views are available a short walk from many stops.

60 Minutes Round-trip (without getting off bus)

March, April, and May buses run every:
30 minutes 4:30 a.m. to 6:30 a.m.
15 minutes 6:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.
30 minutes 7:30 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.

Kaibab Trail Route

Buses provide transportation between Canyon View Information Plaza, South Kaibab Trailhead, Yaki Point, and Pipe Creek Vista. This is the shortest scenic route and the only access to Yaki Point.

30 Minutes Round-trip (without getting off bus)

March, April, and May buses run every:
30 minutes from 4:30 a.m. to 6:30 a.m.
15 minutes from 6:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
30 minutes from 6:00 p.m. to one hour after sunset.

Hikers' Express

An early morning Hikers' Express leaves from the Bright Angel Lodge shuttle bus stop and the Backcountry Information Center and goes directly to the South Kaibab Trailhead daily at:

March: 7:00 a.m., 8:00 a.m., and 9:00 a.m.
April: 6:00 a.m., 7:00 a.m., and 8:00 a.m.
May: 5:00 a.m., 6:00 a.m., and 7:00 a.m.

Rules of the Road

Motorist Warning: Pedestrians have the right of way. Vehicles must stop for pedestrians in crosswalks. *It is the Law.*

Pedestrian Warning: Avoid walking on narrow park roads. Use trails that parallel most park roads. Always face traffic.

Bicyclist Warning: Bicycles are permitted on all paved and unpaved park roads and the Greenway Trails. They are prohibited on all other trails, including the Rim Trail. Bicyclists must obey all traffic regulations. Always ride single file with the flow of the traffic. See and be seen; wear bright colors and a helmet.

On the narrow Hermit Road bicyclists should pull to the right shoulder of the road and dismount when large vehicles are attempting to pass. Never hang onto a shuttle bus while riding.

Parking

Parking is available in lots throughout Grand Canyon Village. Please avoid parking along the roadside except where signs or lines on the road indicate that it is permissible. Location of the lots is indicated on the map above.

- A** Near Park Headquarters. Large lot that frequently has available spots.
- B** Near the businesses in Market Plaza. This is the largest lot, but tends to fill early.
- C** This small lot near the intersection of Center and Village Loop Roads may have sites when others do not.
- D** Unpaved lot along the railroad tracks in the Grand Canyon Village Historic District.
- E** Near the Backcountry Information Center. The southern portion of this lot has large, pull-through spaces for RVs and vehicles with trailers.

Accessibility

An accessibility permit, allowing access to some areas closed to public traffic, is available at entrance gates, the Visitor Center at Canyon View Information Plaza, Verkamp's Visitor Center, Park Headquarters, Kolb Studio, El Tovar Concierge Desk, and the Bright Angel Lodge, Yavapai Lodge, and Maswik Lodge Transportation Desks.

Day-Use Wheelchairs
The National Park Service provides wheelchairs at no charge at the Visitor Center at Canyon View Information Plaza and Verkamp's Visitor Center.

Accessible Tours
Wheelchair-accessible tours are available by prior arrangement. Contact any lodge transportation desk or call (928) 638-2631 for information. TDD telephones are available to hotel guests in the park.

Legend

- Shuttle Bus Routes** (Indicated in red, blue, or green)
 - Shuttle Bus Stops** (Indicated in red, blue, or green)
 - Major Park Roads** (All vehicles)
 - Secondary Roads** (All vehicles)
 - Shuttle Buses Only Parking**
 - Picnic Tables**
 - Paved Trails**
 - Unpaved Trails**
 - Distance between points on trails**
- Not to scale. Check distances carefully.