

SCHEDULE OF TOURS-MESA VERDE NATIONAL PARK

Effective September 4, 1990 (subject to change without notice). Unpredictable weather conditions may alter this schedule. It is suggested that you stop first at the Far View Visitor Center for information. WATCH FOR HERDS OF DEER! A telephone call will provide you with the latest road conditions and other information. 303/529-4475 or 529-4461. USE OF SEAT BELTS REQUIRED.

The Far View Visitor Center is open daily from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. The Archeological Museum is open daily 8 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. Museum exhibits and artifacts show the story of the Mesa Verde people.

The Ruins Road Drive is open 8 a.m. to sunset. Two six-mile loops entered at the intersection one-fourth mile north of the Museum. Ten excavated mesa-top ruins may be visited and a number of cliff dwellings viewed from canyon rim overlooks. Exhibits at sites explain features. Guide booklets available in the Museum bookstore.

Chapin Mesa Self-Guided Tours. Cliff dwellings may be entered only when a Ranger is on duty. If you have a heart or respiratory problem you should not attempt these tours. Spruce Tree House is the easiest of the ruins to visit. No ladders or steps. Trail begins in front of the Museum. Guide booklets are available along the trail to the dwelling or in the Museum bookstore. Open: 8:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. Cliff Palace is the largest ruin in the Park. Located on the left fork of the Ruins Road Drive. Visitors must descend stone stairs and climb four 10-foot ladders. Walking distance is one-fourth mile round-trip. Guide booklets available in bookstore or at the ruin. Moderately strenuous. Open: 9 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. Ranger Guided tours: Balcony House is located on the left fork of the Ruins Road. Allow 15-20 minutes to drive from the Museum to Balcony House. RANGER MEETS GROUP IN THE PARKING LOT AT BALCONY HOUSE. TOURS LIMITED TO THE FIRST 50 PEOPLE AND LEAVE EVERY HALF HOUR 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. This is the most strenuous tour in the Park, involving climbing stone steps, a 32-foot ladder, crawling through a tunnel, and climbing two ten-foot ladders.

Wetherill Mesa is accessible by road, just west of the Far View Visitor Center, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. The 12-mile ride offers excellent views of the Park and Four Corners area. Vehicles in excess of 8000 G.V.W. and/or 25 feet in length are prohibited. Box lunches, snacks and cold drinks available.

To visit the Badger House Community, ride the mini-train from the kiosk area to the trailhead. A 3/4 mile self-guided trail going to four mesa-top ruins. Guide booklets available along the trail. Open: 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Self-guided tours: Step House may be visited by a 1/2 mile walk from near the kiosk. Guide booklets available along the trail. Open: 10:00 to 5:00 p.m.

Ranger-guided tours: Ride the mini-train from the Kiosk area to the trailhead for trip to Long House. A fairly strenuous 1/2 mile round-trip. TOURS LEAVE EVERY HOUR FROM 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Other services: Spruce Tree Terrace. Snack bar open from 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Store and gift shop open 8 a.m. - 7:00 p.m. Far View Terrace: Gift shop, cafeteria, and gas station 7:00 a.m.- 9:00 p.m. Far View Lodge: Rooms available; Dining room open 5 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. Morefield Campground: Laundry and shower facilities available. Store and gift shop open 8:00 a.m. - 9:30 p.m.

HIKING IN MESA VERDE IS RESTRICTED TO DESIGNATED TRAILS ONLY, ASK A RANGER AT THE MUSEUM OR CHIEF RANGER'S OFFICE.

PETS ARE NOT ALLOWED ON TRAILS, IN RUINS OR PUBLIC BUILDINGS

SMOKING IN CLIFF DWELLINGS AND PUBLIC BUILDINGS PROHIBITED!

BICYCLES PERMITTED ON PAVED ROADWAYS ONLY

