



# Grand Canyon-Parashant

A *Views of the National Parks* virtual experience



**W**hen you go outside your home and close your eyes, what sounds do you hear? If you live in the city you probably hear cars, honking horns, people talking, dogs barking, or music playing; if you are in the country, you might hear birds singing, dried leaves blowing across the ground, running water, or maybe just quiet. People attuned to noise may feel uncomfortable when it is quiet. Other people seek out quiet places, like Grand Canyon - Parashant National Monument, to help them relax.

One of the things that make this monument special is that it is far from centers of human occupation. Some people call it isolated, even lonely, while others travel great distances to experience its solitude. Rugged and secluded, the monument is one of the largest, un-fragmented stretches of sparsely developed lands in the contiguous United States.

This serene land of natural splendor lies in the northwest corner of Arizona, between

the Grand Canyon to the south and Utah to the north. The Grand Canyon limits access from the south, and unpaved roads inhibit use from the north, and in between is over one million acres of spectacular vistas, rough canyons, sprawling desert, pine - topped mountains, and fascinating plants and animals.

## Features

Your journey begins with an overview and a stop at the visitor center. The terrain is rugged and remote. Be sure you read and take seriously the safety information given by the park rangers, for once you leave the visitor center, you're on your own.

### • Introduction

Grand Canyon - Parashant National Monument is one of the most remote places in the continental United States. Can you imagine what this must be like? Can you imagine going into an area where you may not see another person/car for days? (By the way, take extra gas.) Does this intrigue you?

Grand Canyon-Parashant National Monument is situated just north of the Grand Canyon. Jointly managed by NPS and BLM, this monument offers many spectacular sites, like this view of Whitmore Canyon from Mount Logan. (Photo by Paula Branstner)

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*Rugged and secluded, this area is surrounded by one of the largest stretches of sparsely developed lands in the contiguous United States.*

— Grand Canyon-Parashant  
virtual experience

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Learn about the monument, and how to properly prepare to visit such a remote site, before heading out to discover the diversity of wildlife, plants, and history found here.

*Grand Canyon-Parashant National Monument is a model of land management that conserves the natural, scientific and historic resources and includes ecological restoration and protection in a broad ecosystem context, while honoring the history and living traditions of the people who came before us—“The Place Where the West Stays Wild.”*

— Grand Canyon - Parashant mission

Visit Grand Canyon-Parashant online:  
[www.nps.gov/para](http://www.nps.gov/para)

• **Visitor Center**

Begin your virtual visit at the Grand Canyon - Parashant National Monument Visitor Center. This monument is jointly managed by the National Park Service and the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). Learn from their staff about the rugged terrain, the monument’s designated wilderness areas, activities and places of interest - and most important - the precautions that you must take to have a safe visit.

• **Colorado Plateau**

To understand Grand Canyon - Parashant National Monument, you have to first understand the Colorado Plateau on which it is located. Get an overview of the diverse geologic features of this place – mountains, canyons, rivers, and volcanic features. See some of the plants and animals that call this place home. Take a glimpse at the long history of human habitation on the plateau.

• **Journey through time**

Using modern and historic photographs, as well as 360 degree panoramas, explore Nampawep petroglyph site, Mount Trumbull schoolhouse, Tassi Ranch, and Grand Gulch Copper Mine. Many different peoples have lived in this area and their stories are as varied as the land on which they lived.

• **Ecology**

Take a field trip through three distinctly different eco - regions and learn about the physical and biological elements of each. Journey from ponderosa pine forests on the mountain peaks, to the sagebrush

communities in the plateau regions to Joshua tree cactus forests in the Mojave Desert – all the while never leaving Grand Canyon - Parashant National Monument!

**Partners**

The National Park Service (NPS) Natural Resource Program Center’s Office of Education and Outreach teamed up with NPS and Bureau of Land Management staff from Grand Canyon - Parashant National Monument.

**Contact us**

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