

Organ Pipe Cactus

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior



Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument

Planning Your Visit



Plan Ahead

Many people base the time of their visit on the season, the temperature, and blooming wildflowers or cacti. Your time, interests and abilities will further determine how you experience the monument. Temperature and wildflower charts are included on the reverse. The following are offered as suggestions only.

If you have:

One Hour

Welcome to the Kris Eggle Visitor Center!
Combine at least two of these activities:

- Watch a 15 minute informative video presentation to see spectacular photos of the Monument.
- Take a leisurely walk on the 1/10 mile accessible nature trail behind the Kris Eggle Visitor Center.

- Stroll through our exhibit room to learn what makes this monument so special.
- Explore a little of the Sonoran Desert by driving the 10 mile round trip section North Puerto Blanco to Pinkley Peak Drive. This graded dirt road easily accommodates passenger vehicles, but is not recommended for motorhomes or trailers over 25 feet in length.
- Browse the bookstore.

Two or Three Hours

Do some of the above, then:

- Walk the easy 1.2 mile Desert View Trail to learn more about the desert plants and the people who lived in this area.

Or ...

- Tour the 21 mile Ajo Mountain Scenic Loop. Drive through impressive stands of organ pipe, saguaro and other cacti. Journey beneath tall cliffs and marvel at impressive views from volcanic mountainsides. This graded dirt road easily accommodates passenger vehicles, but is not recommended for motorhomes or trailers over 25 feet in length. Trailers may be left at the Kris Eggle Visitor Center parking area during your loop drive.

Half Day

Any of the above, plus:

- Take a hike toward the arches in Arch Canyon, or to the historic structures at Victoria Mine or Alamo Canyon.

Or ...

- Hike the rugged Estes Canyon-Bull Pasture trail to discover a unique ecosystem high in the Ajo Mountains. Imagine how early day ranchers drove their bulls to this remote pasture-like basin.

Other hikes are available in Senita Basin.

All Day

Combine any of the above. Bring your picnic lunch, camera, binoculars and guidebooks,

and ...

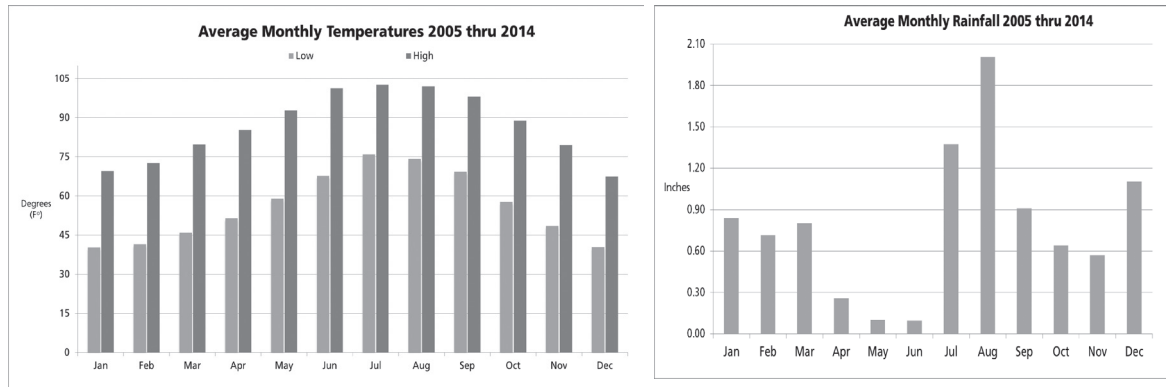
- Tour the 41 mile Puerto Blanco Loop. Journey through scenic vistas and the greatest variety of

plants in the monument.

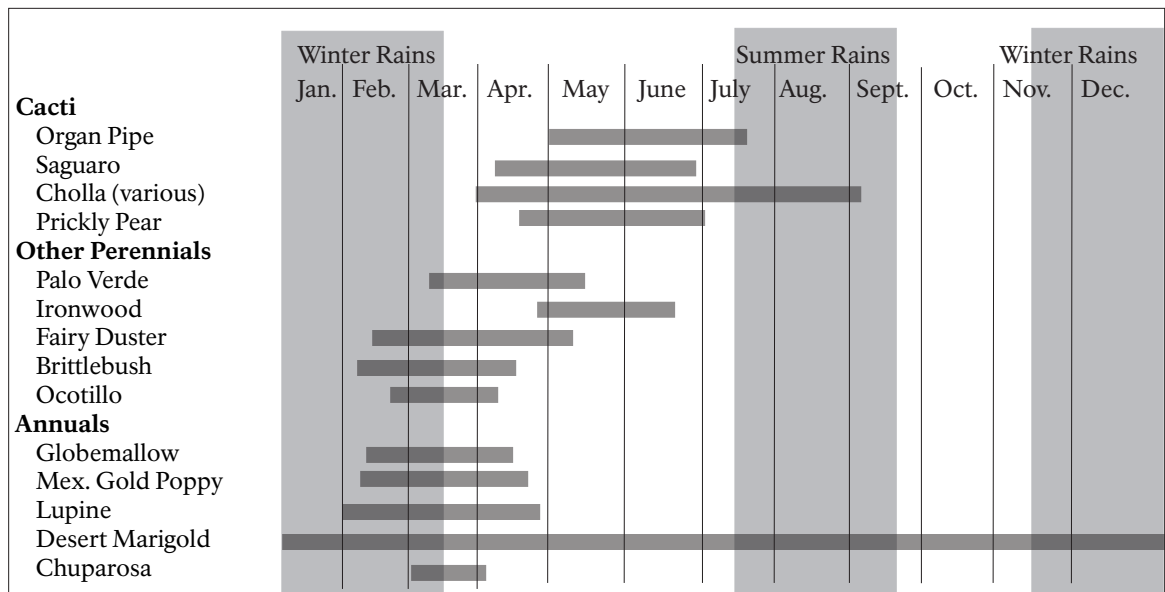
This rugged route is recommended for high clearance vehicles only. There are picnic tables along the route.

- Ask the visitor center staff for further suggestions.

Temperature and Rainfall, 2005–2014



Blooming Seasons



Note: The blooming times of all annuals and many perennials depends upon the amount of rain and the time of year in which the rain falls. The above chart is only an average.

Fees and Facilities

Kris Eggle Visitor Center. Open daily 8:00 am to 5:00 pm except on Thanksgiving and Christmas Day. Offers Information, exhibit area, orientation video and bookstore. Contact us at (520) 387-6849 extension 7302, or at www.nps.gov/orpi.

Ranger programs. Presented January through March.

Entrance Fee. \$12 per private vehicle or motorcycle; \$4 each per pedestrian or bicyclist. Fee is valid for seven (7) consecutive days. No fee upon presentation of Senior/Golden Age/Access passes, Interagency Annual Pass (America The Beautiful www.nps.gov/findapark/passes.htm) or Organ Pipe Cactus Annual Pass and identification.

Twin Peaks Campground. Open daily, with self-registration available when entrance station is unoccupied. Fee \$16 per night; 50% discount upon presentation of Senior/Golden Age/Access passes and identification. 34 tent-only sites and 174 places for RVs up to 40 feet maximum length. Hookups for electricity, water, or sewer not available; drinking water and RV dump station are available. Generator use permitted 8:00 am – 10:00 am and 4:00 pm – 6:00 pm only. Sites are first-come, first-served; advanced reservations are not accepted but there are usually sites available even on weekends, please call the visitor center on the day of your arrival for campground status.

Alamo Primitive Campground. Open daily, self registration in person at the campground. Fee \$10 per night; 50% discount upon presentation of Senior/Golden Age/Access passes and identification. Tent and car-camping only, no vehicle to exceed 15 feet in length. Motorhomes and trailers are not permitted. Water is not available and fires are not permitted. No generators. Limited to four tent sites which may fill early especially in winter. Sites are first-come, first-served; no reservations.

Backcountry Camping. Fee \$5.00 each permit. Obtain required permit at visitor center. Campsite must be at least 1/2 mile away from roads, structures.