

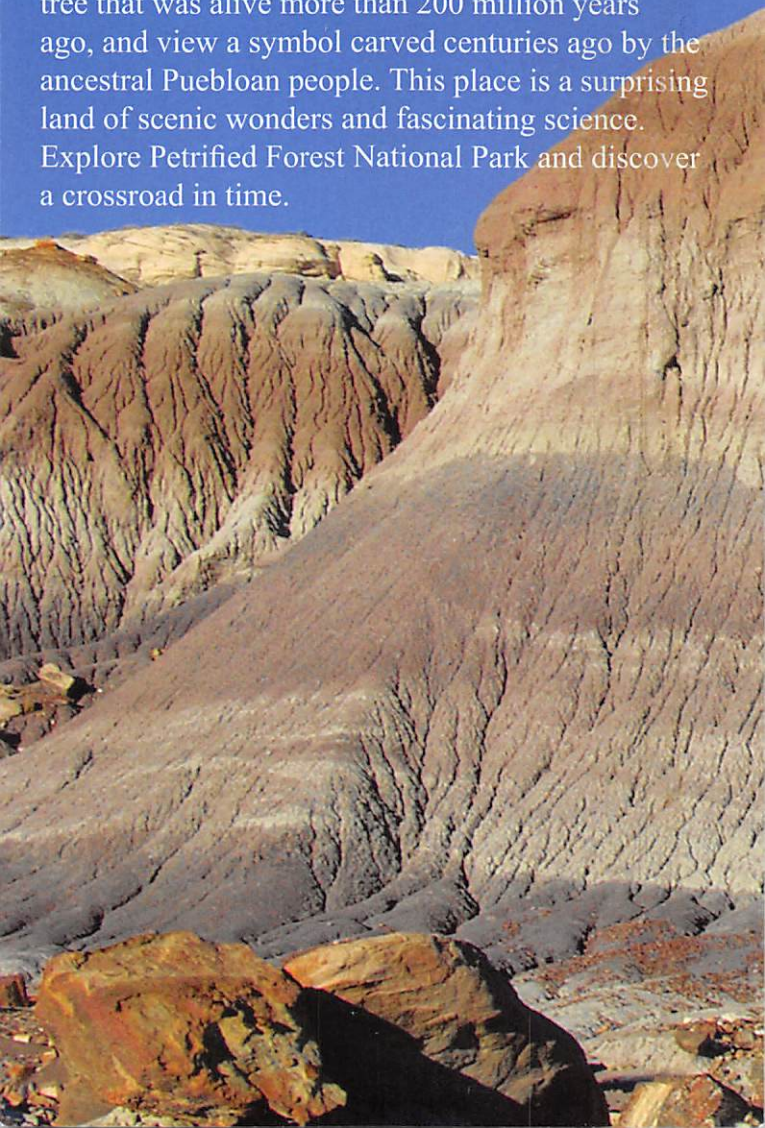


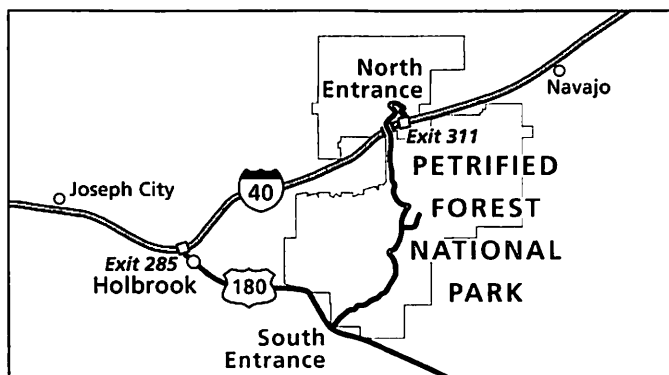
Petrified Forest

An enchanted spot...to stand on the glass of a gigantic kaleidoscope, over whose sparkling surface the sun breaks in infinite rainbows.

—Charles F. Lummis, *Some Strange Corners of Our Country: A Forest of Agate*, 1891.

Painted Desert, petroglyphs, and pronghorn! There is so much to experience at Petrified Forest National Park, from a treasure trove of Triassic fossils to the only remnant of Route 66 in a national park. Take a moment to contemplate the vast landscape of colorful badlands, touch the surface of a fossil tree that was alive more than 200 million years ago, and view a symbol carved centuries ago by the ancestral Puebloan people. This place is a surprising land of scenic wonders and fascinating science. Explore Petrified Forest National Park and discover a crossroad in time.





How to get here:

Eastbound: take Highway 180 from Holbrook 18 miles to the south entrance of the park; follow the 28-mile road through the park and exit on Interstate 40 at the north end of the park. **Westbound:** take exit #311 off Interstate 40 through the north entrance of the park. Follow the 28-mile road south to Highway U.S. 180. Make a right and return 18 miles to I-40 at Holbrook.

Points of Interest and Facilities

Painted Desert Visitor Center (north end) and Rainbow Forest Museum (south end) provide an orientation film, information, park publications (e.g. newspaper), book sales, and exhibits.

Overlooks from Tiponi to Lacey Point provide panoramic views of the Painted Desert.

Painted Desert Inn National Historic Landmark remembers the CCC and the heyday of Route 66.

Puerco Pueblo, a large archeological site, was occupied over 600 years ago, and features an array of ancient petroglyphs including a summer solstice marker.

Newspaper Rock has more than 650 petroglyphs adorning boulders that tumbled to rest below the cliffs. Free spotting scopes are available at the viewpoint.

Blue Mesa is named for the colorful bands of blue sedimentary rock. You will also see shades of purple, pink, grey, and red.

Jasper Forest showcases bluffs which once encased the petrified wood now strewn across the valley floor.

Explore the large concentrations of petrified wood at Crystal Forest, Long Logs, and Giant Logs.

Hours of operation:
8am to 5pm Mountain Standard Time
Extended hours in the summer

Open daily except Christmas Day

Admission charged

For more information contact:

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