



Petrified Forest National Park

A Land of Contrast

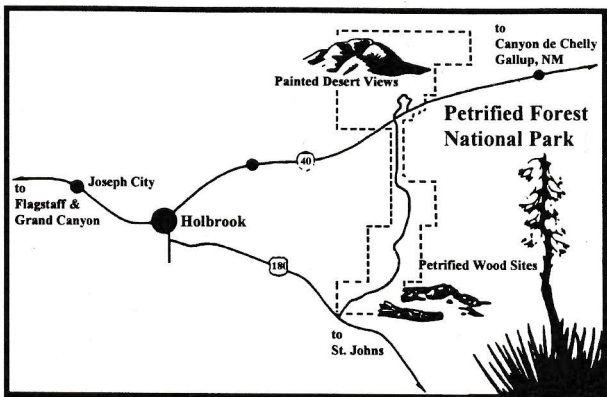
The remains of a 225 million-year-old forest and its inhabitants lie scattered across northeastern Arizona. Today, fossils provide the clues that allow us a glimpse into a time when crocodile-like reptiles, giant fish-eating amphibians, and small dinosaurs roamed among a variety of ferns, cycads, and other plants.

To an unpracticed eye, this now-dry tableland seems uninviting. Evidence, however, shows that resourceful people have inhabited this area for 10,000 years. The remains of homes and tools provide a look into the human side of the park.

Wind and rain continue to erode layers of sediment revealing clues to an unwritten history - a place where the ancient past meets the modern world.

The collection or removal of petrified wood, natural or cultural objects is prohibited. Violators will be fined, imprisoned, or both.





Save Time and Gas: West bound on I-40, exit #311. Drive thru park to US 180 to I-40 via Holbrook. East bound on I-40 take US 180/ Holbrook to park's south entrance. Drive park road to rejoin I-40.

Hours: Open all year except Christmas. 7:30 - 5:00 Mountain Standard Time; extended hours in summer. Hours may change, call park to verify - (520) 524-6228.

(Arizona does not observe Daylight Savings Time.)

Fees: \$10.00-vehicle; \$5.00-walk in per person; Golden Eagle; Golden Age; Golden Access

Services: Painted Desert - food, gas, souvenirs. Rainbow Forest - souvenirs, snacks. No lodging or campgrounds in park. (Nearby communities have facilities.)

Activities: Overnight backpacking (permit required), self-guided trails, day hikes. Picnic areas - Chinde Point & Rainbow Forest. Ranger talks - seasonal.

Weather: Summer - warm, thunderstorms common. Winter - cool, less than 10" snow. (Winter storms may close park.) Strong winds anytime.

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Information: Superintendent, PO Box 2217,
Petrified Forest, AZ 86028 (520)-524-6228.

Visit our Web site - www.nps.gov/pefo