



Ancient Times



Wupatki Pueblo, Sunset Crater Volcano, Walnut Canyon Cliff Dwellings, NPS Photos



Welcome!

The scent of blooming cliffrose greets you during the climb out of Walnut Canyon on the Island Trail. Your eyes blink against the glittering contrast of snow blanketing Sunset Crater Volcano's black basalt flows. At Wupatki, a raven's cackling calls and wing beats break the silence surrounding red sandstone pueblos.

Welcome to Flagstaff Area National Monuments, places that will delight your senses and challenge your mind to consider everything from violent geologic processes to the struggle of finding water in an arid landscape.

Each of the monuments is unique, but all three share a cultural legacy, including their ownership by all Americans as part of the National Park System. Come and enjoy them. They are yours. This newspaper, the Ancient Times, can help you decide how to create your own experiences at the Flagstaff Area National Monuments during any season of the year.

We're waiting for you!

Kayci Cook Collins
Superintendent
Flagstaff Area National Monuments

Gaze across the grasslands and puebloan structures at Wupatki, witness the aftermath of the eruption that formed Sunset Crater Volcano, and follow the rock ledges and cliff dwellings down into Walnut Canyon.

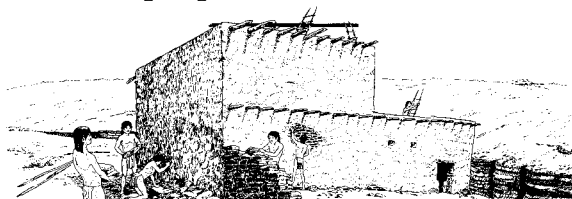
Cultural Legacy

People have found ways to live here for thousands of years, discovering new ways to build homes, to grow food, and to trade for goods. The eruption of Sunset Crater Volcano changed the lives of everyone who witnessed the event and influenced settlement throughout the region.

At Wupatki, builders chose the open grassland of the Wupatki Basin, constructing homes of stone and mud. Farmers cultivated corn, beans, and squash. Wupatki Pueblo had the greatest population. Located at the crossroads of several cultures, it was a regional center for trade.

Sunset Crater Volcano is part of the legends, landscape, history, and culture of several American Indian tribes. Life profoundly changed for those present when the volcano erupted. Some left because survival seemed impossible. Others saw the eruption as a signal to migrate. Some chose to stay, building new homes and learning to farm a cinder-covered landscape.

Though named after its walnut trees, Walnut Canyon is better known for the cliff dwellings built into ledges along the canyon walls. Builders selected spots warmed by the winter sun, protected from snow and rain, and shaded on hot days. Water in Walnut Creek, farmland on the canyon rims, and abundant plants and animals were everything the ancestral Puebloan people needed.



NPS Graphic

Natural Environment

From sandstone and limestone revealing ancient sand dunes and seas, to rugged lava flows created by violent forces in the earth, the landscapes of all three national monuments have been shaped by weather, water, and time.

Without domestic grazing, the grasslands of Wupatki once again provide habitat for the same plants and animals harvested and hunted by the ancestral Puebloan people who lived under the endless skies.

Sunset Crater Volcano provides an unparalleled opportunity to study the dynamics of eruption, change, and recovery in an arid climate. The dramatic landscape is home to species adapted to life on and around the young volcanic terrain.

At Walnut Canyon plant communities overlap, bringing together species usually separated by elevation, creating concentrated biodiversity. The ancestral people had a wide array of native plants to harvest along every curve of the canyon.

By visiting the monuments and gazing across their visually striking landscapes, you may better understand the lives of those who came before, learning from their ingenuity and achievements.

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Wupatki Pueblo, NPS Photo



Sunset Crater Volcano, NPS Photo



Walnut Canyon Cliff Dwellings, NPS Photo

Contact Information



Flagstaff Area National Monuments
Park Headquarters
6400 North U.S. Highway 89
Flagstaff, AZ 86004

Phone: (928) 526-1157
Fax: (928) 526-4259
Email: FLAG_Information@nps.gov

Wupatki National Monument
25137 N Wupatki Loop Rd
Flagstaff, AZ 86004
(928) 856-1705 or (928) 679-2365
www.nps.gov/wupa

Sunset Crater Volcano National Monument
6082 Sunset Crater Rd
Flagstaff, AZ 86004
(928) 526-0502
www.nps.gov/sucr

Walnut Canyon National Monument
Walnut Canyon Rd / USFS Road 303
Flagstaff, AZ 86004
(928) 526-3367
www.nps.gov/waca

Entrance Fees

7-day Passes

Sunset Crater Volcano and Wupatki:
per vehicle..... \$20
motorcycle..... \$15
bicycle/pedestrian..... \$10
Walnut Canyon: per person (adults 16+)... \$8

Annual and Lifetime Passes

Interagency Annual Pass..... \$80
Interagency Senior Pass
Annual..... \$20
Lifetime..... \$80
Interagency Access Pass (Lifetime)..... Free
Interagency Military Pass (Annual)..... Free
Every Kid in a Park (4th Grade Pass)..... Free
Flagstaff Monuments Annual Pass..... \$40

Park Hours of Operation

Visitor centers are open every day from 9:00am to 5:00pm Mountain Standard Time (MST), closed only on December 25. Hours may be extended during summer months at Walnut Canyon and Sunset Crater Volcano. Wupatki is 9:00am to 5:00pm MST year-round.

Note: Arizona does not observe Daylight Savings Time (DST) and is on MST year-round. An exception is the Navajo Nation, which observes DST.

Lodging and Camping

Overnight lodging can be found in Flagstaff. For more information contact the Flagstaff Visitors Bureau at (800) 842-7293 or visit www.flagstaffarizona.org.

Bonito Campground, operated by the U.S. Forest Service, is located at the entrance to Sunset Crater Volcano. This campground is open May to October. Facilities include running water and restrooms. Showers and trailer hookups are not available. Maximum length for vehicles is 40 ft (12 m). For more information contact the U.S. Forest Service at (928) 526-0866 or visit www.fs.usda.gov/coconino.

Camping is not allowed within the monuments.

Pets

Pets may be exercised in parking areas and must be kept on a leash at all times. Pets are not allowed in buildings or on most park trails. Pets are only allowed on the Rim Trail at Walnut Canyon and USFS section of the Lava's Edge Trail at Sunset Crater Volcano. Please clean up after your pet.

Note: Pets left in vehicles on a warm day, even for a few minutes, can suffer heat stroke. Use caution in the summer!

Services

Food service and gas stations can be found in Flagstaff and Cameron.

Picnic tables are available at all three monument visitor centers, as well as several locations within each monument. Please check the park map for locations.



Indian Paintbrush, NPS Photo

Directions

Sunset Crater Volcano

From Flagstaff, go north on U.S. Highway 89 for 14 mi (23 km). Turn east onto USFS Road 545 (at the Sunset Crater Volcano-Wupatki National Monument turn off). Continue east for 2 mi (3 km) to the visitor center.

Wupatki

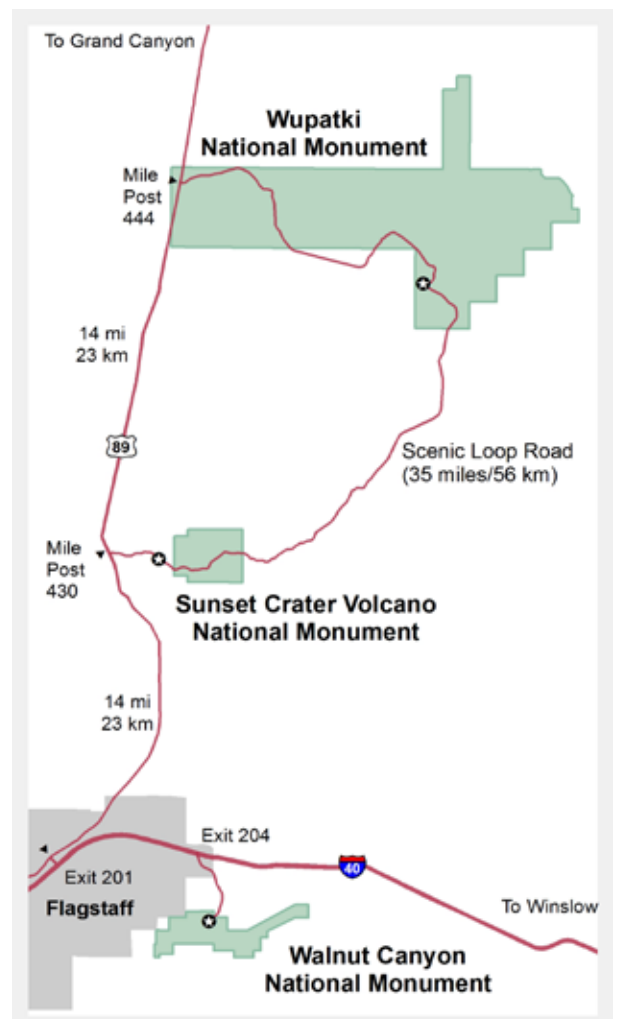
- From Cameron, go south on U.S. Highway 89 for 20 mi (32 km). Turn east onto USFS Road 545 (the Wupatki National Monument turn off). Continue east for 14 mi (23 km) to the visitor center.
- From Flagstaff, travel the scenic loop road from Sunset Crater Volcano.

Scenic Loop Road

Sunset Crater Volcano and Wupatki are located along a 35 mi (56 km) scenic road (USFS Road 545) with views of the San Francisco Volcanic Field, Painted Desert, and grasslands of the Wupatki Basin.

Walnut Canyon

From Flagstaff, go east on I-40, 7.5 mi (12 km) to Exit 204. Drive south for 3 mi (5 km) on USFS Road 622 to the visitor center. *Note:* The parking area has a tight turn-around for towed vehicles. 40 ft (12 m) maximum length is recommended.



Weather and Climate

Expect variable weather conditions. Short afternoon thunderstorms are common July through September. Expect high winds from March through May.

Summer daytime temperatures can exceed 100°F (37°C) at Wupatki.

Heavy snowfall is common throughout the winter at Sunset Crater Volcano and Walnut Canyon.

Accessibility

Wupatki

The visitor center and sections of the Wupatki, Wukoki, and Nalakihi Trails are accessible. Accessible restrooms are available at the visitor center and Lomaki Trail.

Sunset Crater Volcano

The Bonito Vista Trail is accessible. Accessible restrooms are available at the visitor center and the Lava Flow Trail.

Walnut Canyon

A section of the Rim Trail is accessible. The visitor center has accessible restrooms and chair lifts.



Lava Flow Trail, Sunset Crater Volcano, NPS Photo



Amphitheater, Sunset Crater Volcano, NPS Photo

Going Green

The Flagstaff Area National Monuments are committed to protecting and preserving natural and cultural resources through environmental education, environmental compliance, pollution prevention, stewardship, and sustainability. You can help us!

- Use recycling containers at the visitor centers for paper, plastic, and aluminum.
- Bring refillable water bottles and refill at water filling stations.



Safety Tips

In case of emergency, call 911 or contact any park ranger.

Drive Safely

Drive slowly, enjoy the scenery, and watch for bicyclists and wildlife on the road. Seat belts are required by law. Buckle up! For your safety and the safety of others, vehicles and bicycles must remain on designated public roadways. Always use marked parking areas, and never stop in the roadway.

Wildlife

Wildlife in the monuments is protected by federal law. Keep a safe distance and do not approach or feed animals. Rattlesnakes are active in summer months, so use caution on trails. Hunting in the monuments is prohibited year-round.

Avoid Lightning

Lightning is common to northern Arizona in summer months. Avoid danger by seeking shelter in vehicles or buildings during thunderstorms. Avoid trees and open areas.

Be Careful With Fire

Discard cigarettes only in ashtrays and never along roads. Smoking is prohibited on all park trails. Protect yourself and your public lands by obeying periodic fire restrictions and closures.

Hydrate

Elevations range from 5,000 to 7,000 ft (1,524 to 2,134 m), where the air is thinner and drier. Prevent dehydration by drinking water throughout the day. Water is available during summer months at all three visitor centers.

Trails and Hiking

Stay on designated trails. Bicycles are not allowed on any park trails. Respect archeological structures by not climbing on them. All plants and animals, as well as natural and cultural artifacts are protected. Fines start at \$250 with the possibility of imprisonment for damage or removal.



Archeology Crew at Wupatki, NPS Photo



Historic Ranger Cabin, Walnut Canyon, NPS Photo

Your Fee Dollars at Work

The Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act allows the Flagstaff Area National Monuments to keep 100% of the entrance fees collected at Wupatki, Sunset Crater Volcano, and Walnut Canyon. These funds are used for projects that directly impact visitor safety and enjoyment.

Wupatki

Stabilization work at archeological sites maintains and preserves the current status of structures and allows visitors a glimpse into the life of early people. Many sites are open for public visitation or through **Discovery Hikes** (see page 7).

Sunset Crater Volcano

An open air amphitheater near the start of the Lava Flow Trail now provides a venue for ranger programs, including night sky programs. Improvements have been made to the upper loop of the Lava Flow Trail, creating better access for visitors.

Walnut Canyon

A sound monitoring program characterizes existing sound levels, estimates natural ambient sound levels in the area, and will establish soundscape quality indicators for future management planning.

The historic Ranger Cabin, the monument's first visitor center, residence, and museum has been rehabilitated to preserve its unique craftsmanship and allow limited public visitation. **Discovery Hikes** (see page 7) during the summer include tours of the cabin, opening its history to the public.

And...

As part of our commitment to environmental stewardship, all three visitor center restrooms have low flow sinks and toilets, as well as hand dryers.

Plan Your Trip

Sunset Crater Volcano and Wupatki provide opportunities for hiking, learning, and the exploration of archeological and natural landscapes and features. We recommend that you travel the scenic loop road and visit both monuments, experiencing the dramatic change in landscape from the high elevation ponderosa pine forests to the lower elevation grasslands, as well as the volcanic features found in both.

IF YOU HAVE 1-2 HOURS:

- Spend a few minutes in each visitor center for orientation and an overview of park resources.
- Walk the A'a Trail at Sunset Crater Volcano.
- Enjoy a scenic view of Wupatki Pueblo from behind the Wupatki Visitor Center.
- Enjoy views along the scenic loop road.

IF YOU HAVE 3-4 HOURS:

- Explore exhibits in the museum at each visitor center.
- Watch the 20 minute park film at the Sunset Crater Volcano Visitor Center.
- Walk the Lava Flow Trail. A trail guide is available for purchase at the Sunset Crater Volcano Visitor Center.
- Stop at the Painted Desert Vista for a scenic view.
- Walk the Wupatki Pueblo Trail. A trail guide is available for purchase at the Wupatki Visitor Center.
- Attend a Ranger Program, if available.
- Enjoy views along the scenic loop road.

IF YOU HAVE 4 OR MORE HOURS, OR IF YOU ARE VISITING FOR A SECOND TIME:

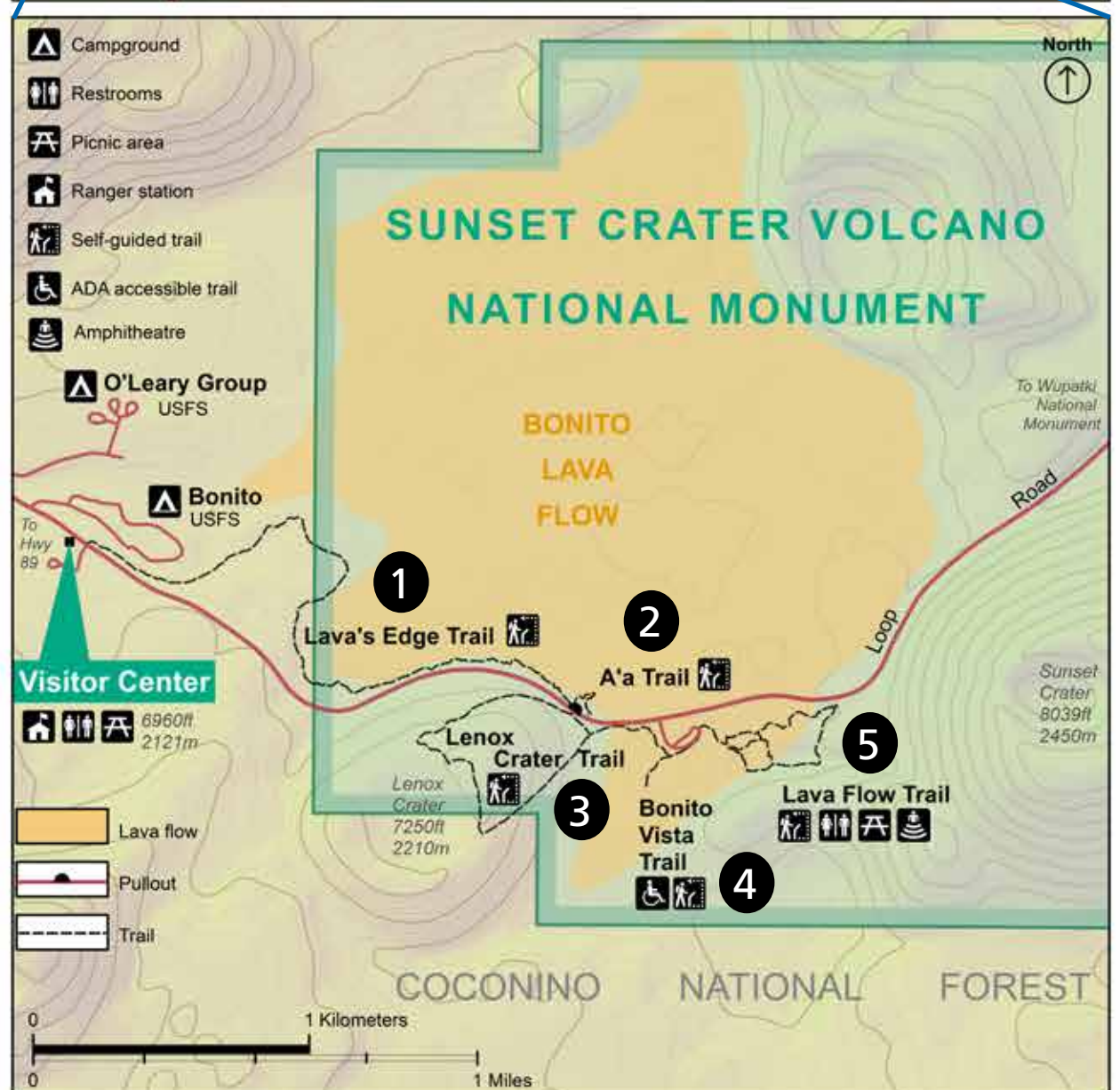
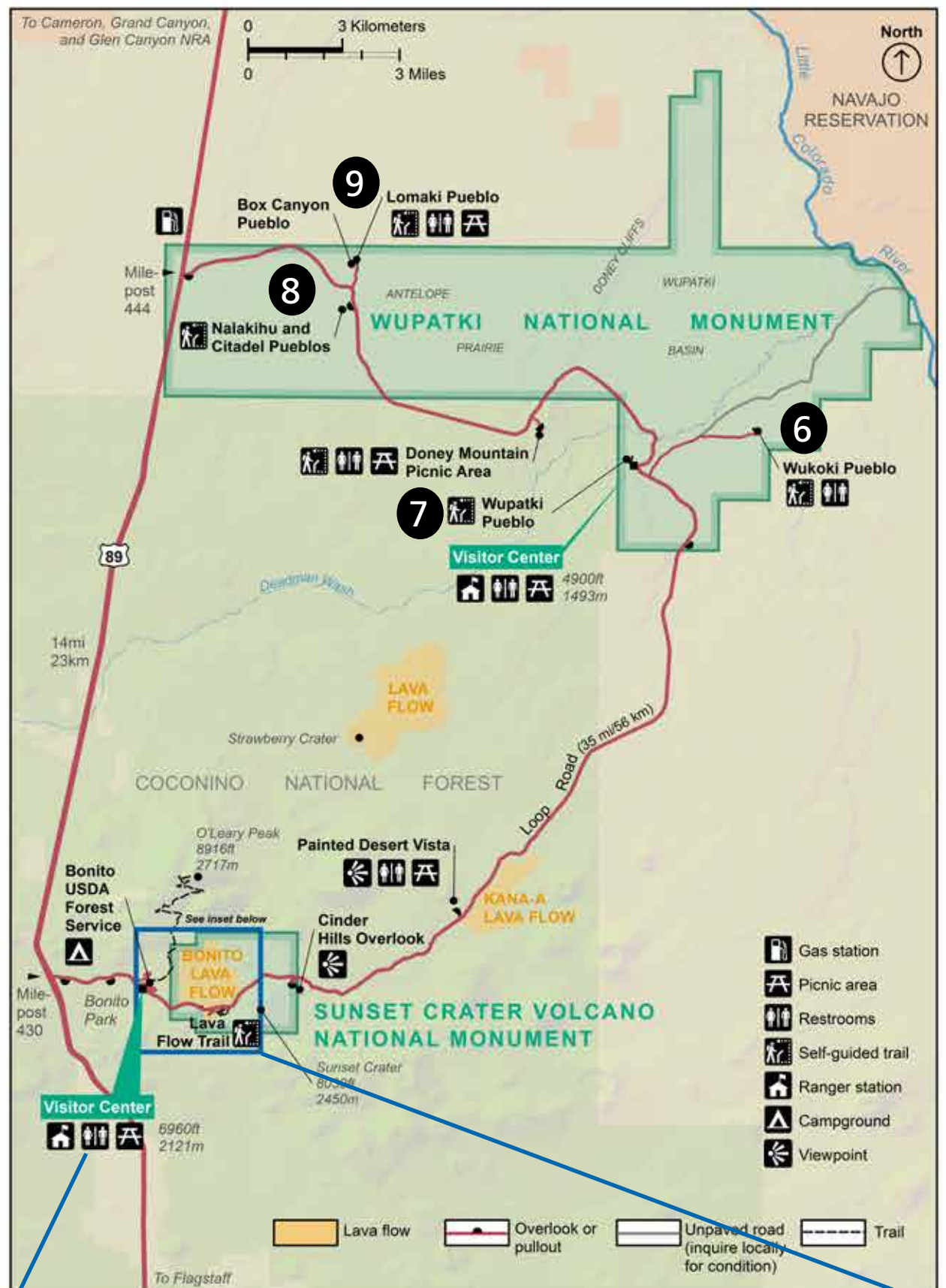
- In addition to the above suggestions,
- Hike the Lenox Crater or Lava's Edge Trail.
 - Visit Wukoki, Citadel, Nalakihi, and Lomaki Pueblos.
 - Take time to sit in a quiet spot and contemplate the lives of the ancestral people. Imagine the intensity of Sunset Crater Volcano's formation and the silence that would have followed.

If you want to further explore the monuments, sign up for one or more of the **Discovery Hikes**. See page 7.

The **Roving Rangers** offer guided hikes and campground presentations in the monuments and Coconino National Forest during the summer months. See page 7.



Aspens, Sunset Crater Volcano, NPS Photo



Sunset Crater Volcano

What It's All About

ESTABLISHED: May 26, 1930

Sunset Crater Volcano is the most recent event in a dynamic geologic story, one that encompasses the 3,000 square mile (7,800 square km) San Francisco Volcanic Field. At about 900 years old, this geologic infant has reshaped life and the land.

Explorers marveled at the unusual terrain. Miners, ranchers, loggers, and treasure seekers all took their toll on the volcanic field. Thousands of visitors caused such severe erosion the trail to the top of the crater was closed. Today, this cinder cone stands while nearby quarries and housing developments remove other volcanoes.

Volcanoes remind us of beginnings and perseverance. When a volcano erupts, life is destroyed and new life seems marginal on the jagged lava surface. But a slender penstemon flower now stands radiant against the black rock, its species unique to this rugged terrain. Ponderosa pines, stunted from growth in harsh conditions, offer habitat for squirrels and shade for visitors. Lichen adds color to the landscape, slowly converting rock to soil. Destruction results in renewal.

Trails at Sunset Crater Volcano



Please stay on the established trails. Do not climb on fragile volcanic features. Leave artifacts and features as you find them. Trails may close for snow removal.



Lava's Edge Trail, NPS Photo

1 Lava's Edge Trail

Walk under ponderosa pines, over loose cinders and rough basalt along the jagged edge of the Bonito Lava Flow.

DISTANCE: 3.4 mi (5.5 km) round-trip

TIME: 2.5 hours

DIFFICULTY: Moderate

NOTE: Pets are only allowed on USFS section, 2 mi (3.2 km) round-trip.



A'a Trail, NPS Photo

2 A'a Trail

Observe jagged blocks of rough a'a basaltic lava, formed as the Bonito Lava Flow cooled over 900 years ago.

DISTANCE: 0.2 mi (0.3 km) round-trip

TIME: 15 minutes

DIFFICULTY: Easy



San Francisco Peaks from Lenox Crater Trail, NPS Photo

3 Lenox Crater Trail

Walk through a ponderosa pine forest while viewing Sunset Crater Volcano, the Bonito Lava Flow, O'Leary Peak, and from the summit, sweeping views of the San Francisco Peaks.

DISTANCE: 1.6 mi (2.6 km) round-trip

TIME: 1.5 hours

DIFFICULTY: Moderately strenuous



Bonito Vista Trail, NPS Photo

4 Bonito Vista Trail

Walk across a field of cinders on this paved trail for an expansive view of the Bonito Lava Flow and surrounding volcanoes.

DISTANCE: 0.3 mi (0.5 km) round-trip

TIME: 20 minutes

DIFFICULTY: Easy, accessible



Lava Flow Trail, NPS Photo

5 Lava Flow Trail

Explore the Bonito Lava Flow and numerous volcanic features while walking at the base of Sunset Crater Volcano.

DISTANCE: 1 mi (1.6 km) round-trip

TIME: 1 hour

DIFFICULTY: Easy, upper 0.25 mi (0.5 km) loop has a concrete surface

Wupatki

What It's All About

ESTABLISHED: December 9, 1924

Life at Wupatki revolved around growing corn, praying for rain, and finding ways for people with diverse backgrounds to live together as a community. In difficult times, cooperation may have broken down. Competition and friction over dwindling food stores may have forced families to move on.

Wupatki was a regional trade center. Prized possessions might have included scarlet macaws brought from tropical areas to the south. Traders may have returned home with elaborately woven and dyed cotton sashes. Pottery, shell jewelry, copper bells, and turquoise were precious items that would accompany the owner into the afterlife.

Today an 800 year old pueblo window frames a landscape offering little food, water, or comfort. It is much the same view as seen by the original builders. For their descendants, each pueblo is evidence of places they occupied through their migration across the Southwest.

Trails at Wupatki



Please stay on the established trails. Do not climb on ancient walls. Leave artifacts and features as you find them.



Wukoki Pueblo, NPS Photo

6 Wukoki Pueblo Trail

Built on a sandstone outcrop, this pueblo is unique for its structure and location.

DISTANCE: 0.2 mi (0.3 km) round-trip

TIME: 15 minutes

DIFFICULTY: Easy, first 0.1 mi (0.2 km) is accessible.



Wupatki Pueblo, NPS Photo

7 Wupatki Pueblo Trail

Once a regional center for trade, this 104 room pueblo features a ballcourt and unique geologic blowhole.

DISTANCE: 0.5 mi (0.8 km) round-trip

TIME: 1 hour

DIFFICULTY: Easy



Citadel and Nalakihi, NPS Photo

8 Nalakihi and Citadel Pueblos Trail

Walk up the hill past Nalakihi to Citadel Pueblo and enjoy 360 degree views of the surrounding landscape.

DISTANCE: 0.2 mi (0.3 km) round-trip

TIME: 15 minutes

DIFFICULTY: Easy, trail section to Nalakihi is accessible.



Lomaki, NPS Photo

9 Lomaki Pueblo & Box Canyon Trail

Built on the edge of a small canyon, the Box Canyon and Lomaki Pueblos unite the human and geologic story of the Wupatki Basin.

DISTANCE: 0.5 mi (0.8 km) round-trip

TIME: 30 minutes

DIFFICULTY: Easy



NPS Graphic



Plan Your Trip

Walnut Canyon provides opportunities for hiking, learning, and relaxation.

IF YOU HAVE 1 HOUR:

- Walk the Island Trail and explore the ancient cliff dwellings.

OR

- Walk out onto the back patio and down to the first overlook on the Island Trail.
- Explore the museum.
- Watch the 20 minute park film.
- Walk a loop to the first canyon overlook on the Rim Trail and then around to the excavated pueblo and pithouse site.

IF YOU HAVE 2 OR MORE HOURS:

- Explore the museum.
- Watch the 20 minute park film.
- Walk the Island Trail and explore the ancient cliff dwellings.
- Walk the Rim Trail and search for cliff dwellings in the canyon.
- Take time to sit in a quiet spot within the canyon or along its rim. Listen to the birds. Feel the wind. Imagine the lives of the ancestral people in this unique environment.



Walnut Canyon Cliff Dwellings, NPS Photo

What It's All About

ESTABLISHED: November 30, 1915

Today Walnut Canyon resonates with birdsong, but once the canyon knew other songs: the rhythmic beat of a stone axe, the soft voice of an aged storyteller, children's laughter echoing off the rocks.

Water flowing along the canyon floor was the lifeblood of the community. Accessing Walnut Creek once required confidence, agility, and strength. With time, use, and a little maintenance, these narrow paths were widened and became safer.

Deer and bighorn sheep yielded warm clothing, materials for tools, and valuable protein. Located in shallow drainages that caught runoff after rains, pockets of soil on the canyon rim provided plots for corn, beans, and squash. In good years, there was plenty of food for all. In times of hardship, there was a stronger reliance on stores of food. Cooperation and generosity united the community.

Life continued here for over one hundred years. Children were born, matured into adults, and reared children of their own. Eventually the people moved on, leaving a legacy of their life within the canyon walls.

With the construction of the railroad through Flagstaff in the 1880s, scores of pot hunters streamed into the canyon. Armed with shovels and dynamite, these souvenir seekers removed a great wealth of cultural material. Protection as a national monument in 1915 ended the looting.

The future of Walnut Canyon is in your hands. With the cooperation of visitors, this intimate canyon will educate and inspire for many generations to come.

Trails

Please stay on the established trails. Do not climb on ancient walls. Do not remove or disturb features. Trails may close for snow removal.

Island Trail



Visit cliff dwellings that echoed with the sounds of a lively puebloan community more than 700 years ago.

DISTANCE: 1 mi (1.5 km) round-trip

TIME: 1 hour

DIFFICULTY: Strenuous. The trail descends 185 vertical feet (56 m) into the canyon, including 273 stair steps to the start of the loop trail.

NOTES:

- Entry to the Island Trail closes at 4:00pm.
- Hand railings do not extend the length of the trail. For safety, please follow marked direction of travel.

Rim Trail



Following the canyon rim, look down and spot cliff dwellings within natural alcoves. Also visit an excavated pithouse and pueblo near ancient farming sites.

DISTANCE: 0.75 mi (1.1 km) round-trip

TIME: 30 minutes

DIFFICULTY: Easy, paved

NOTE: Entry to the Rim Trail closes at 4:30pm.



Early Visitors at Walnut Canyon, NPS Photo



Junior Ranger Swearing In, NPS Photo

Junior Rangers

EXPLORE, LEARN, AND PROTECT

Children of all ages can pick up a free Junior Ranger booklet at any of the three monument visitor centers. Families explore the monument together, learn something new, and protect the natural and cultural resources around them. Once the required activities are completed, children turn the booklet in and receive an official Junior Ranger badge. Junior Ranger patches are also available for purchase through the Western National Parks Association bookstores located within each visitor center.

From home, check out the *WebRangers* program at www.nps.gov/webrangers and explore a variety of national parks, earning a free WebRanger patch.



School Group at Walnut Canyon, NPS Photo

For Teachers

The monuments are like open text books. From canyons to volcanoes to desert-like environments, we invite you on an educational quest.

- Explore Walnut Canyon's unique cliff dwellings.
- Discover how ancestral Puebloan people searched for water in online lesson plans.
- Learn about the history and mission of the National Park Service with a park ranger visit to the classroom.

For educational resources, including the *Educational Fee Waiver Request Form* required for field trips, visit any of the monument websites and explore information and lesson plans under **For Teachers**.



Roving Rangers Program, NPS Photo

Roving Rangers

Roving Rangers is a partnership of National Park Service and U.S. Forest Service staff. Through free programs provided in and around the Flagstaff area, Roving Rangers bring understanding and inspiration to all ages, encouraging citizens of the world to cherish nature and act to preserve natural and cultural resources.

During summer months, programs are held at three local campgrounds, an interpretive ranger can be found at the top of the Arizona Snowbowl Scenic Chairlift Ride, and guided walks are conducted throughout the national monuments and Coconino National Forest. For more information visit www.nps.gov/sucr/planyourvisit/local-hikes-and-campground-programs.htm.

Discovery Hikes

Discovery Hikes are offered year-round, exploring places closed to the general public. Reservations are required. Some restrictions and fees apply.

Wupatki

For information and to make reservations visit www.nps.gov/wupa/planyourvisit/guidedtours.htm or call (928) 856-1705 or (928) 679-2365.

PUEBLO HIKES

Discover hidden archeological sites, petroglyphs, geology, flora, and fauna of Wupatki on one of several pueblo hikes. Hikes are offered November through March. They begin at the Wupatki Visitor Center, last 2-3.5 hours, and are 2-3 miles over moderate terrain.

CRACK-IN-ROCK

This strenuous, overnight backpacking trip covers 25 miles (40 km). Participants must be able to carry a 30-40 lb pack. Hikes are offered on some weekends in April and October. Group size is limited, with participants selected by lottery.

Walnut Canyon

For information and to make reservations visit www.nps.gov/waca/planyourvisit/interpretive_programs.htm or call (928) 526-3367.

CANYON LEDGE HIKE

Experience the canyon and cliff dwellings along an ancient ledge path. Strenuous, 1.5 hours. This hike requires walking along narrow ledges and rocky slopes with steep drop-offs. It is not recommended for small children or people who have difficulty with heights. Hikes are offered in the summer months.

RANGER CABIN WALK

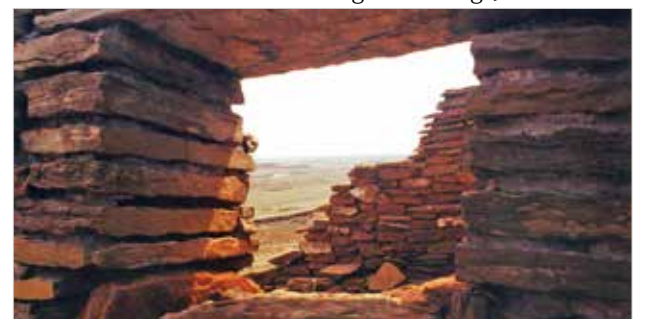
Explore the history of the restored 1904 Ranger Cabin which served as the first ranger residence, visitor center and museum at Walnut Canyon. Easy, 2 hours. Hikes are offered in the summer months.



Ranger Cabin, NPS Photo



Ledge Dwellings, NPS Photo



Window at Crack-In-Rock, NPS Photo

Ranger Programs

Ranger guided programs are offered year-round. Please inquire at any of the monument visitor centers for availability during your visit.

Wupatki

RANGER'S CHOICE PATIO TALK

These short interpretive programs take place under the shade awning at the Wupatki Visitor Center.

WUPATKI PUEBLO WALK

Tour the 104 room Wupatki Pueblo learning about its incredible past, from the ancestral Puebloan people who built it to the early park rangers who lived in it. Easy, 45 minutes.

Sunset Crater Volcano

LENOX CRATER TRAIL

Climb a volcano and enjoy views of Sunset Crater Volcano, the Bonito Lava Flow, and the San Francisco Peaks while learning about the changing landscape. Strenuous, 1 hour.

LAVA FLOW TRAIL

Walk over the Bonito Lava Flow at the base of Sunset Crater Volcano and learn about the San Francisco Volcanic Field. Easy, 30 minutes.

Walnut Canyon

RANGER'S CHOICE PATIO TALK

These short interpretive programs take place on the back patio of the Walnut Canyon Visitor Center.

RIM TRAIL

Walk along the Rim Trail and learn about how the early inhabitants used both the rim and the canyon in their daily life. Easy, 30 minutes.

Western National Parks Association

Western National Parks Association (WNPA) helps make the national park experience possible for everyone.

As a nonprofit education partner of the National Park Service, WNPA supports 70 parks across the West, developing products, services, and programs that enrich the visitor experience. Since 1938 WNPA has worked to connect new generations to parks in meaningful ways, all with one simple goal: create advocates who want to preserve and protect these special places for everyone, for all time.

National parks tell the story of America, embodying its beauty, culture, and heritage. WNPA helps discover, preserve, and share that story. But the American story is rapidly unfolding. In today's fast-paced, ever-changing world, WNPA is committed to discovery: new knowledge, new understanding, and new ways to engage with society.

Membership dollars go toward direct aid for our partner parks across the West. They also help provide educational materials to park visitors of all ages. As a thank you, WNPA members get discounts at all WNPA Partner Park Stores. All purchases help support parks.

Thank you for your support when you visit the Flagstaff Area National Monuments!

For more information, visit wnpa.org.



The Friends of Flagstaff National Monuments is a non-profit, partner organization formed to support the preservation of the monuments' natural and cultural heritage through stewardship, public education and community engagement. Friends also generate monetary support through donations and fund-raising events, facilitate new partnerships with the National Park Service, and provide expertise.

For more information and to sign up to receive the digital newsletter, visit www.friendsflagmonuments.org.



Volunteers of all ages can contribute time and expertise helping monument staff achieve the National Park Service mission.

Eradicating non-native species, stabilizing puebloan structures, working at the visitor centers, and conducting programs are only some of the ways volunteers can help. Full or part time positions are available throughout the year. Housing or RV pads with hook-ups may be available.

For more information, contact a park ranger at one of the visitor centers, at park headquarters, or visit www.nps.gov/getinvolved/volunteer.htm.



Box Canyon Dwellings, Wupatki, NPS Photo

How Do You Say That?

Some of the words you will encounter at the Flagstaff Area National Monuments may be a little intimidating to pronounce. Here's a pronunciation guide that will help you navigate the linguistics like a pro.

The following are names of puebloan structures at Wupatki.

Wupatki: wuh-**paht**-kee

Wukoki: wuh-**ko**-kee

Lomaki: lo-**mah**-kee

Nalakihi: nah-**lah**-kee-hoo

These are not the names the ancestral people gave the pueblos, but names provided by their later Hopi descendants.

A'a: **ah**-ah

From the Hawaiian word for "stony rough lava," a'a lava is found in both Hawaii and at Sunset Crater Volcano.



NPS Graphic

The National Park Service cares for special places saved by the American people so that all may experience our heritage.

Dark Sky Parks

In 2016 the International Dark-Sky Association (IDA) awarded Dark Sky Park status for the Flagstaff Area National Monuments. Thanks to Flagstaff, the first International Dark Sky City in 2001, its efforts to prevent unnecessary light pollution have limited amounts of light around the monuments. "Each of the monuments offers a spectacular night sky," said Caleb Waters, NPS Maintenance Supervisor, who led the effort to achieve the designation. The NPS used current research, made lighting retrofits, and hosted astronomy events with community partners in order to achieve the International Dark Sky Park status.

The designation "is an important step forward that ties dark skies preservation efforts in the City of Flagstaff to protected lands elsewhere on the Colorado Plateau," IDA Executive Director J. Scott Feierabend explained. "It also reminds us not only that fine views of starry night skies can still be found practically on the city's doorstep, but also that naturally dark nights are a key aspect of Northern Arizona's historical and cultural heritage."

We can all make a difference. Take time to gaze up into the heavens tonight, soak in the celestial energy, and let the starlight direct you towards the preservation of a heritage that belongs to us all. To learn more visit www.nps.gov/subjects/nightskies/index.htm.



Star trails, Lomaki Pueblo, Photo Courtesy of Stan Honda

EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA™

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National Park Service
U. S. Department of the Interior

