

# Zion

NATIONAL PARK • UTAH

*Nothing can exceed the wonderful beauty of Zion....In the nobility and beauty of the sculptures there is no comparison.... There is an eloquence to their forms which stirs the imagination with a singular power, and kindles in the mind a glowing response.*

—Clarence E. Dutton, geologist, 1882

The park is open all year. From December to March, snow may fall intermittently, but usually lasts only a day or two on the canyon floor. Winter maximum temperatures average 60°; the minimum average is 15°.

May to October daytime temperatures may range from 85° to 105°; nighttime, from 65° to 70°.

## WHAT TO SEE AND DO

The visitor center, your headquarters while in the park, is open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. from October through April; from May through September, the hours of operation are extended. Here, you can obtain information that will help you plan your visit, see exhibits on the natural history of the park, study a relief map of Zion Canyon, and learn about the park through orientation programs.

Naturalist program schedules are posted throughout the park.

Illustrated talks about the park are presented by park naturalists each evening in summer at Zion Lodge and at the campground amphitheaters.

Guided trips are conducted daily in summer over well-maintained trails; in spring and autumn, several times a week.

**Drives.** On a 12-mile round-trip drive through Zion Canyon, you can see the shapes of Zion: The Sentinel, Three Patriarchs, Mountain of the Sun, and Great White Throne.

Kolob Canyons Road, in the Kolob Canyons section, is a paved 5.2-mile spur leading into the northeast corner of the park from Int. 15 near Kanarraville. This road is closed from late autumn to spring.

A secondary road from Utah 15 at the town of Virgin leads northward through private ranch country to the Lava Point Fire Lookout on the Kolob Terrace highlands and beyond. Steep, winding, and unimproved, it crosses the terrace and descends Right Hand Canyon to Utah 14 near Cedar City. This road should only be traveled in good weather.

Park roads were designed for your enjoyment of the superb scenery—not for speed. The maximum speed is 35 miles an hour. Keep to the right of the center stripe. Do not park on curves.

Your car's lights must be in good working order; they are essential in traveling through the mile-long tunnel.

**Walks and hikes.** The trails of Zion complement the park's striking views and are almost as famous.

All experienced hikers take such commonsense precautions as the following: Obtain detailed information from a park ranger on back-country trails before attempting to hike them. Seek the advice

of a park ranger before attempting the more difficult trails; tell him where you plan to go and when you plan to return. Do not hike alone. Stay on established trails; taking shortcuts may endanger yourself and others. Children under 16 years of age should be accompanied by a responsible adult on all trails within the park.

The most popular trail is a mile-long footpath from the road's end at the Temple of Sinawava, winding near the east wall of the canyon, past cliffs trickling with streams, to the beginning of The Narrows. On this walk you can see the Hanging Gardens of Zion, luxuriant verdure, and wildlife.

Self-guiding trips may be made throughout most of the year on the trails to Weeping Rock and to Canyon Overlook.

Other trails reach such places as the Emerald Pools and Hidden Canyon. West Rim Trail, leading to views of the Great West Canyon, and East Rim Trail, with its unequaled view of Zion Canyon, are more strenuous but well worth the effort.

In the Kolob Canyons section, you may hike along the streambed of Middle Fork to the great double-arch amphitheater. Here you see the finger canyons, whose sheer walls form box canyons 1,500 feet deep. The round-trip distance is 4 miles. Another trail leads down Timber Creek from Lee Pass. After turning east into La Verkin Creek, this trail divides: one segment passes through Hop Valley (12 miles one way), and the other continues into upper La Verkin Creek. Round-trip distance from Lee Pass to the Kolob Arch is 13 miles.

All persons who plan to make technical rock climbs are required to register at park headquarters. Climbing alone is not recommended.

Please leave the animals, trees, wildflowers, rocks, and geological formations undisturbed so that other people, too, may enjoy them.

Wheeled devices are not allowed on park trails.

**Horseback trips.** Arrangements for guided horseback trips within the park may be made at Zion Lodge or Zion Inn. Schedules are posted throughout the park.

**Fishing** is allowed all year in the Virgin River below Zion Narrows, but it is marginal because of frequent flooding and seasonal fluctuations in water levels. A Utah fishing license is required.

The park is a sanctuary for wildlife; hunting or the use (or display) of firearms is not allowed.

Pets are prohibited on trails or in public buildings, and they must be kept under physical control at all times.



## HOW TO REACH THE PARK

Int. 15 (U.S. 91) passes west of Zion and connects with Utah 15 and 17 to the park. U.S. 89 passes east of the park and connects with Utah 15 to the park.

In summer, the Utah Parks Company furnishes bus service from Cedar City, but there is no common carrier service to the park the rest of the year. The nearest scheduled rail and air service is through Cedar City and Lund, Utah.

## ACCOMMODATIONS AND SERVICES

**Campgrounds.** South Campground is open all year and the camping limit is 14 days. Watchman Campground is open only from May through September and the camping limit is also 14 days. Fees are charged.

Both campgrounds are equipped with individual campsites, fire grates, tables, tap water, an ice machine, restrooms, and a sanitary disposal station for travel trailers and campers. Utility hook-ups are not available.

Be careful with fire at all times. Keep your campfire small and under control. Build fires only in fireplaces. Break your match and hold it until it is cold before throwing it away; crush your cigarette, and be sure that no embers remain.

**Picnic sites** are available at the Grotto Picnic Area (near Zion Lodge) and at the end of Kolob Canyons Road.

**Lodging.** The Utah Parks Company (Cedar City, UT 84720) operates Zion Inn and Zion Lodge, the service station in the park, and the scheduled bus tours to Zion (and to Cedar Breaks National Monument, Bryce Canyon National Park, the North Rim of Grand Canyon National Park, and Kaibab National Forest).

Zion Inn, open from mid-May through September, and Zion Lodge, open from early June through

Labor Day, have cabin accommodations. Reservations are advisable in summer.

Communities in the vicinity offer year-round accommodations.

**Food.** Zion Lodge has a dining room and soda fountain; Zion Inn, a cafeteria and groceries.

**Medical attention:** A registered nurse is on duty at Zion Lodge in summer. A physician is available in Hurricane, 24 miles west of the park. Hospitals are in St. George, 45 miles west of the park, Cedar City, 60 miles north, and Kanab, 42 miles east.

**Religious services.** Protestant (interdenominational), Latter-day Saints, and Roman Catholic services are held in summer. See posted schedules.

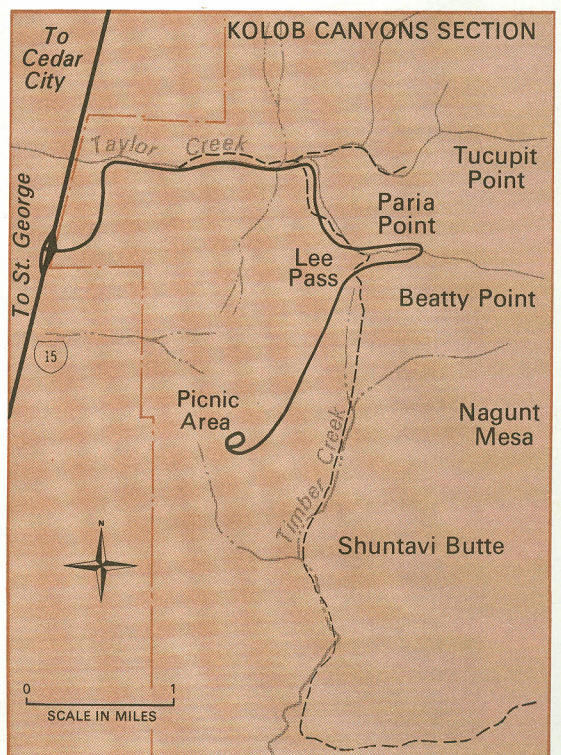
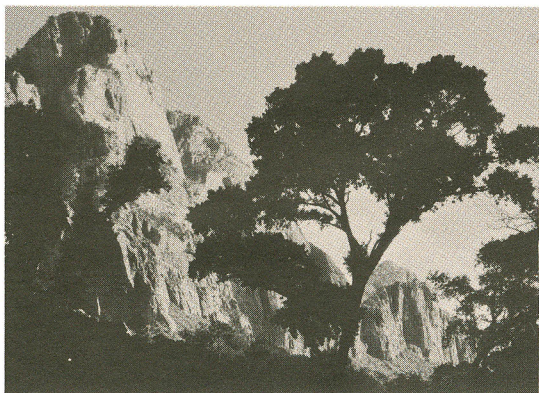
**Emergency messages** may be received at the visitor center and entrance stations. If you anticipate a message, leave your name and instructions for locating you at one of these places.

**Public telephones** are at the visitor center, Zion Lodge, Zion Inn, and the service station.

**Automobile service.** The service station at Zion Inn is operated only in summer. Springdale has service stations and a garage (with towing service) that are operated all year; Mt. Carmel Junction has all-year service stations.

## NEARBY PLACES OF INTEREST

Within a 1-day drive of Zion are many places of outstanding scenic, historic, and recreational interest, including Bryce Canyon National Park, Capitol Reef and Cedar Breaks National Monuments, Lake Mead National Recreation Area, Grand Canyon National Park (North and South Rims), Grand Canyon National Monument, Glen Canyon Recreation Area, Pipe Spring National Monument, Valley of Fire State Park (Nevada), Dixie State Park (near St. George, Utah), Coral Pink Sand Dunes State Park (near Kanab), and Dixie, Fishlake, and Kaibab National Forests.



# ZION NATIONAL PARK (ZION CANYON SECTION)

To Potato Hollow & Lava Point

GREAT WEST CANYON  
PHANTOM VALLEY

THE NARROWS

ECHO CANYON

THREE PATRIARCHS  
BIRCH CREEK

DEERTRAP MOUNTAIN

TOWERS OF THE VIRGIN

PINE CR  
VIRGIN

WHITE

CHECKERBOARD MESA

To Mt. Carmel Junction

**EAST ENTRANCE**

5726

CLIFFS

The West Temple  
7795

**VISITOR CENTER**  
(PARK HEADQUARTERS)  
4000

Bridge Mountain  
6814

The East Temple  
7110

The Great Arch  
5036

Mountain of the Sun

The Sentinel  
7157

The Beehives

Red Arch Mountain  
5924

The Great White Throne  
Grotto Picnic Area  
6744

Cable Mountain  
6496

Weeping Rock

Observation Point  
6508

Temple of Sinawava  
4411







The Pulpit

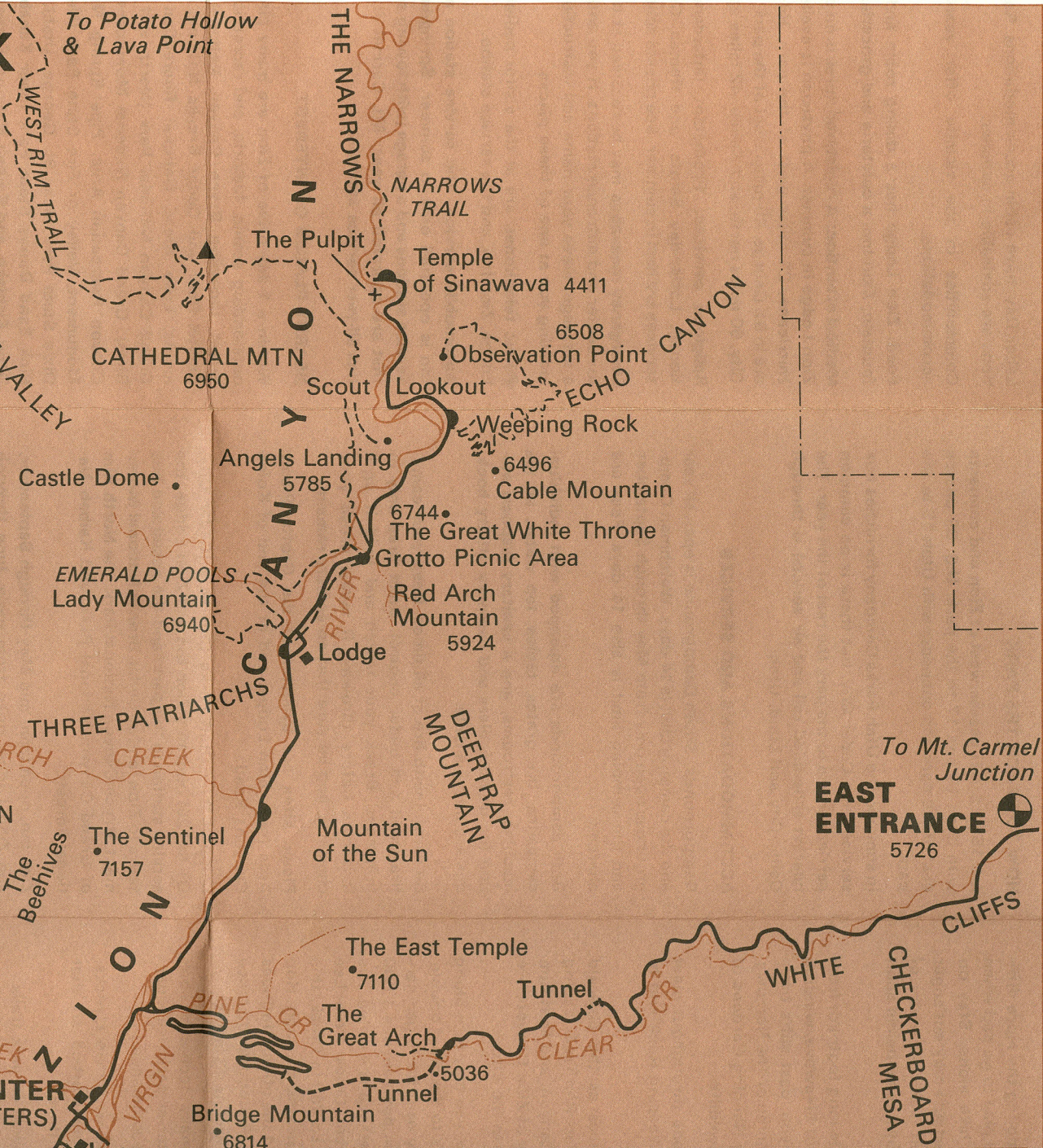
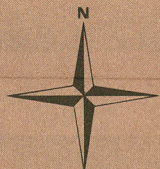
CATHEDRAL MTN  
6950

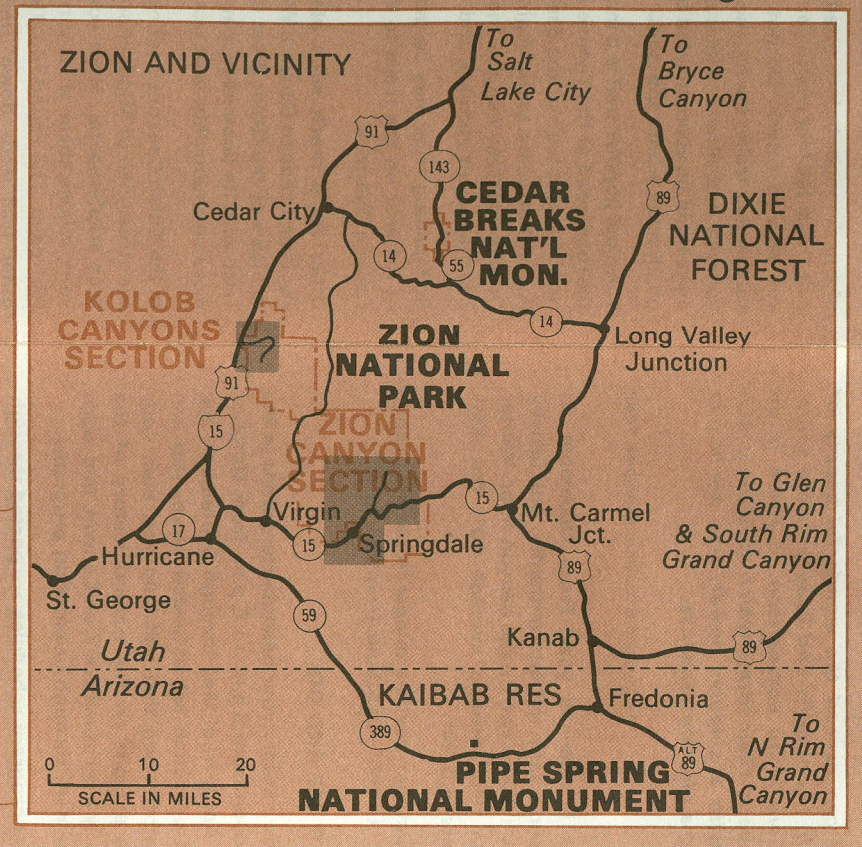
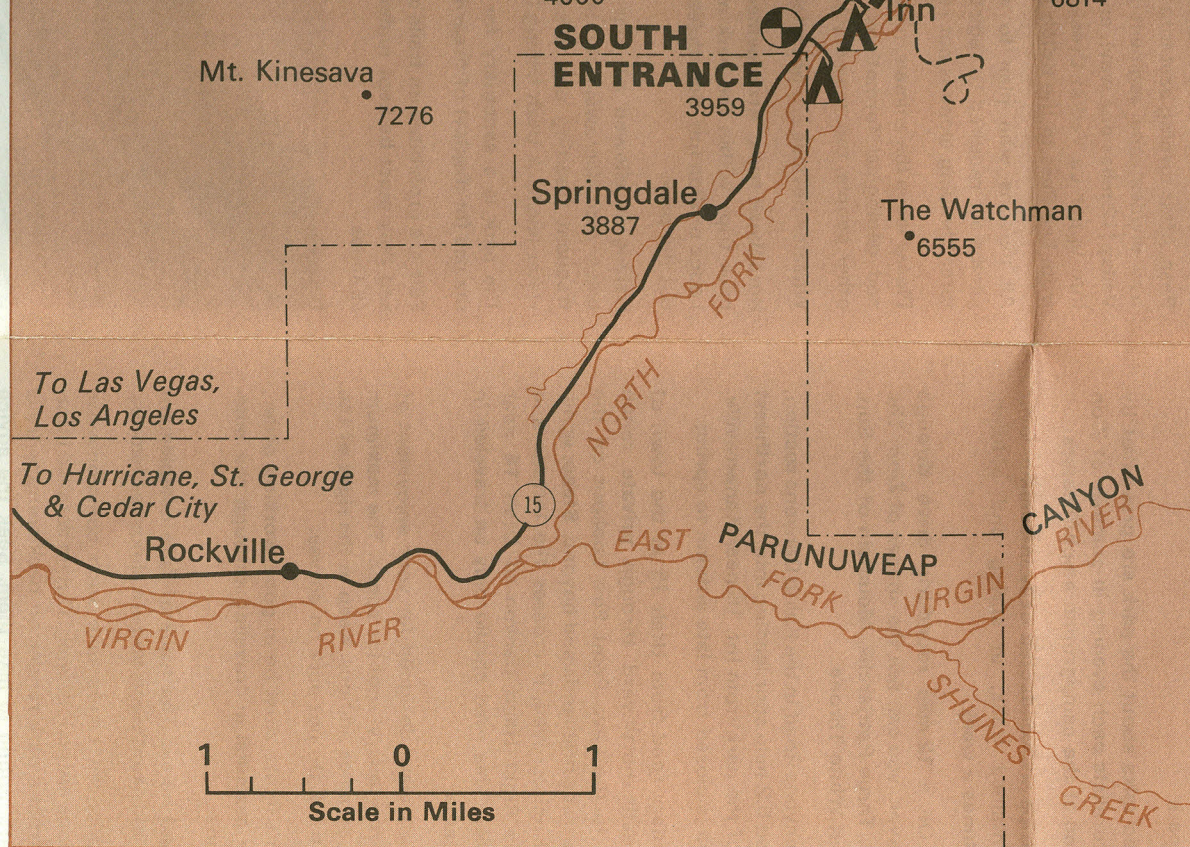
Castle Dome

Angels Landing  
5785

EMERALD POOLS  
Lady Mountain  
6940

-  Campground
-  Shelter
-  Ranger Station
-  Parking
-  Road
-  Trail





**PARK TRAILS**

<i>Trail</i>	<i>Starting point</i>	<i>Distance (round trip)</i>	<i>Average time (round trip)</i>	<i>Remarks</i>
The Narrows	Temple of Sinawava	2 miles	2 hours	Easy, no steep grades. All-weather trail. Fine view of river flood plain. Trailside exhibit near Temple of Sinawava.
Weeping Rock	Weeping Rock parking area	½ mile	½ hour	An easy, surfaced, self-guiding trail. Water drips from overhanging cliff; springs issue from it. Hanging gardens; travertine deposits.
Emerald Pool	Zion Lodge or Grotto picnic area	2 miles	2 hours	Cross river on footbridges. Small pool formed by two falls. Loop or one-way trail.
Canyon Overlook	Parking area, upper end of large tunnel	1 mile	1 hour	A self-guiding trail. Mostly easy walking to top of Great Arch. Excellent view of Pine Creek Canyon and west side of Zion Canyon.
East Rim	Weeping Rock parking area	7 miles	5 hours	Fairly strenuous foot and horse trail. Carry water, lunch. Cross footbridge and climb to East Rim Trail sign.
West Rim	Grotto picnic area	12½ miles	8 hours	Strenuous foot and horse trail. Carry water, lunch. Cross river on footbridge.
Angels Landing	Grotto picnic area	5 miles	4 hours	Fairly strenuous foot and horse trail; steep climb. Half of trail hard-surfaced. Cross footbridge over river. Excellent view of Zion Canyon.
Lady Mountain	Zion Lodge	4 miles	5½ hours	Strenuous mountain climb even for experienced hikers. Cross footbridge over river. Carry water.
Watchman Viewpoint	River bridge above South Campground	2 miles	2 hours	View of Watchman, Springdale, Zion, and Oak Creek Canyons. Changing vegetation.

## **ADMINISTRATION**

Zion National Park is administered by the National Park Service, U.S. Department of the Interior. A superintendent, whose address is Springdale, UT 84767, is in immediate charge.

As the Nation's principal conservation agency, the Department of the Interior has basic responsibilities for water, fish, wildlife, mineral, land, park, and recreational resources. Indian and Territorial affairs are other major concerns of America's "Department of Natural Resources." The Department works to assure the wisest choice in managing all our resources so each will make its full contribution to a better United States—now and in the future.

**U. S. Department of the Interior**

**National Park Service**