



Planning Your Winter Visit

BE PREPARED FOR A WIDE RANGE OF WEATHER CONDITIONS. SNOW conditions and temperatures vary at different elevations.

Fall days are usually clear and mild; nights are often cold. Fall color displays begin in September in the high country and peak in Zion Canyon by late October.

Winters in Zion Canyon are fairly mild. Storms bring rain or light snow to the canyon, but heavier snow to the higher elevations.

Clear days may become quite warm, reaching 60°F; nights are often in the 20s and 30s. Winter storms can last several days and cause roads to be icy. Be prepared for winter driving conditions from November through March.

Spring is unpredictable. Stormy, wet days are common, but warm, sunny weather may also occur. Precipitation peaks in March. The spring wildflower bloom usually starts in April.

Making The Most of Your Time

Drives

The shuttle system does not operate in winter. The Zion Canyon Scenic Drive is open to private vehicles October 31 through March 31. The 2006 shuttle season is April 1 through October 29.

Zion Canyon Scenic Drive

6 miles. Short drive along the canyon floor. Be prepared for hazardous driving conditions during and after storms. Icy spots remain through the winter.

Zion-Mt. Carmel Highway

10 miles. Steep drive up switchbacks and through tunnels to Checkerboard Mesa. See large tunnel limitations on page 8. Be prepared for hazardous driving conditions during and after storms. Icy spots remain all winter.

Kolob Terrace Road

14 miles. Steep uphill drive with switchbacks to the high country. Not recommended for long vehicles. The road is plowed for the first 14 miles north of Virgin, Utah. The rest of the road, including Lava Point, is closed by snow.

Kolob Canyons

5 miles. Uphill scenic drive skirting the Kolob finger canyons. The road is plowed, but may be temporarily closed during storms or plowing.

Visitor Centers

Zion Canyon Visitor Center

At the south entrance; across the river from Springdale. Exhibits and a three-dimensional model of Zion Canyon help you plan your visit and make the most of your time. An animated computer simulation demonstrates the geologic processes that created Zion Canyon. Rangers are available to answer questions and issue backcountry permits. Books, maps, and film.

Zion Human History Museum

One-half mile north of the south entrance. Exhibits show how humans have influenced, and been influenced by Zion. Orientation film, information desk, and books. Closed November 28 through March 3.

Orientation Film

Twenty-two minute film highlights the features of the park. Shown by request daily on the hour and half hour in the Human History Museum. Shown in the Zion Canyon Visitor Center November 28 through

Kolob Canyons Visitor Center

Off Interstate 15 at Exit 40, 45 miles north of Springdale and 17 miles south of Cedar City. Exhibits explain the geology, plants, and animals of the area. Rangers are available to answer questions and issue backcountry permits. Books, maps, and film.

Winter Hiking

Hikers should be flexible and plan to turn back if trail conditions are unsafe or falling ice is a hazard.

Zion Canyon

Trails usually have patchy snow, ice, or mud during winter and spring. Portions of several trails, including Emerald Pools, Weeping Rock, and Riverside Walk are hazardous when icy and may be closed because of ice falling from above. The Sand Bench and Watchman Trails are usually snow free, but muddy in spots. Trails leading to higher elevations such as Observation Point, Angels Landing, and Hidden Canyon are often hazardous because of ice.

High Country

West Rim, Wildcat Canyon, and all east side trails are covered with up to three feet of snow in winter and are icy or muddy in spring. Kolob Canyons trails are snow covered most of the winter.

Southwest Desert

Chinle Trail, Coalpits, and Huber Washes offer good hiking during dry weather and are the most accessible for winter hiking and backpacking.

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Visitor Center Hours

October 31, 2005 - March 4, 2006

8 a.m. – 5 p.m. Zion Canyon

closed Dec. 25

History Museum 9:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m

closed Nov. 28- Mar. 3 Kolob Canyons 8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

closed Nov. 24 &

Dec. 25

March 5 - April 29, 2006

8 a.m. – 5 p.m. Zion Canyon History Museum 10 a.m. – 5 p.m 8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Kolob Canyons

Emergencies

Call 911 or 772-3322 24 hours a day or contact a Park Ranger.

Lost and Found

Items may be reported at any visitor

2006 Shuttle Season

April 1-October 29



National Park Service U.S. Department of the Interior

Zion National Park

Superintendent

Jock Whitworth

Mailing Address

Zion National Park Springdale, Utah 84767

Web Site

www.nps.gov/zion

Park Headquarters

435 772-3256 Fax 435 772-3426

ZION_park_information@nps.gov

For Employment with the National

Park Service: www.usajobs.opm.gov. Seasonal jobs: www.sep.nps.gov.

This is Canyon Country

Steep Cliffs

Trails can be covered with snow and ice in winter. Loose sand or pebbles on stone are very slippery. Be careful of cliff edges when using cameras or binoculars. Never throw or roll rocks; there may be hikers below.

- •Stay on the trail.
- •Stay back from cliff edges.
- ·Observe posted warnings.
- •Parents-watch your children!



This symbol is a warning. Falls from cliffs on these trails have resulted in death.

Flash Floods

All narrow canyons are potentially hazardous. Flash floods, often from storms miles away, present a real danger and can be life threatening. Flash floods can occur at any time of day or year. By entering a narrow canyon, you are assuming a risk.

Judgement

Whether hiking, climbing, or driving, your safety depends on your own good



Flash floods occur without warning. This one was in

judgement, adequate preparation, and constant attention. Don't ruin your vacation by having an accident. Your safety is your responsibility.

Water

The desert is dry, even in winter. Carry enough water for everyone in your group. Water is available at visitor centers, campgrounds, and Zion Lodge. Do not drink untreated water.



It happened in seconds. A hiker would not survive.

Information and Services

Emergencies

For 24-hour emergency response, call 772-3322 or 911. Zion Canyon Medical Clinic is in Springdale, reduced winter hours, 772-3226. The nearest hospitals are in St. George, Cedar City, and Kanab.

Accessibility 💍



Restrooms, visitor centers, the museum, and Zion Lodge are fully accessible. Several campsites are reserved for people with disabilities, and two trails are accessible.

Pets

Pets must be under physical control on a leash no longer than six feet at all times. They are not allowed in the backcountry, on trails, or in public buildings. Pets may be walked on the Pa'rus Trail. Boarding kennels are available in Rockville, Hurricane, Kanab, St. George, and Cedar City.

Do Not Feed The Animals

Wildlife are wild. Keep them that way by not feeding, touching, or getting close. Feeding wildlife is illegal. Deer will kick and have been shot as a result of becoming aggressive. Squirrels will bite and can carry bubonic plague. Turkeys will run at people when begging and hop on cars, scratching the paint.

Driving

- ·Watch carefully for animals, especially at dawn and dusk.
- •Never stop in the road. Use established pullouts.
- •Bicyclists and pedestrians have the right-
- •Drive only on established roads, and park only in designated areas. Watch for falling

Entrance Fees

All passes available at entrance stations. Private Vehicle \$20 per vehicle, good for 7 days in Zion National Park. \$10 per vehicle for Kolob Canyons section only.

Individual \$10 per person (pedestrian, bicycle, motorcycle, and organized group), good for 7 days in Zion National Park.

Zion Annual Pass \$40, good for one year from date of purchase at Zion National Park only.

Commercial Tours Ask for rates. Golden Age Passport \$10 lifetime pass for U.S. residents 62 or older.

National Parks Pass \$50, good for one year from date of purchase in all areas of the National Park System.

Golden Eagle Passport \$65, good for one year from date of purchase in all federal fee

Golden Access Passport Free lifetime pass for U.S citizens with permanent disability.

Camping

Watchman and South Campgrounds

Near the south entrance to the park. Watchman Campground is open all year, sites are first-come, first-serve October 30-April 6. The fee is \$16 a night, \$18 per night with electric hookups, \$20 per night for river sites (half price for holders of Golden Age/Access Passports). Reservations may be made five months in advance for April 7-October 28; 800 365-2267 or http:/reservations.nps.gov.

Group Campsites Available April through October by reservation to organized groups of 9-40 people for \$3.00 per person per night; 800 365-2267 or http://reservations.

Facilities Restrooms, drinking water, picnic tables, fire grates, and dump stations.

Other Campgrounds Private campgrounds with showers and hookups are available outside the park.

Fires

Fires are permitted only in the fire pits provided at campgrounds and some picnic areas. Bring or purchase your firewood; collecting wood is not permitted. Fires are not permitted in the backcountry at any time; use a stove to cook.

Winter Sports

Cross-country skiing and snowshoeing are possible in the higher elevations of Zion National Park and in nearby Cedar Breaks National Monument. For information on routes, snow conditions, weather, and safety, check at the visitor centers. Recreational snowmobiling is not permitted in the park.

Backpacking

Permits are required for all backcountry camping and are based on group size. 1-2 people: \$10, 3-6 people: \$15, 7-12 people: \$20. Maximum group size is 12 people. Permits and hiking information are available at both visitor centers. See the Zion Backcountry Planner for more information.

Bicycles are permitted only on established roads and the Pa'rus Trail. Cyclists must obey traffic laws. Bicycles are not allowed on hiking trails or off-trail. Riding through the Zion-Mt. Carmel tunnel is prohibited. Bicycles must be transported through the tunnel by motor vehicle.

Climbing

Climbing on Zion's sandstone requires appropriate hardware and technical skills. Climbing information is available at visitor centers. Climbing and rappelling is prohibited on the cliffs above Middle and Lower Emerald Pools and Weeping Rock. Some routes may be closed to climbing when Peregrine Falcons are nesting. A permit is required for overnight climbs.

Horseback Riding

Guided trips are available March through October, 435 679-8665. For private stock use, contact a visitor center.

Watercraft designed and manufactured for whitewater use are allowed by permit when the water level exceeds 140 cubic feet per second. Inner tubes are not allowed.

Food Service

Zion Lodge Dining room serves breakfast, lunch, and dinner. Dinner reservations are advised: 435 772-7760.

Other Food Service Restaurants are available in Springdale, Mt. Carmel Junction, and Kanab.

Groceries Grocery stores available in Springdale and Kanab. Convenience stores available in Mt. Carmel Junction.

Zion Lodge Three miles north on Zion Canyon Scenic Drive. Open year-round. Motel rooms, cabins, and suites available. Zion Lodge has a gift shop and post office. Reservations recommended: 888 297-2757, 435 772-7700, or www.Xanterra.com. Other Lodging Available in Springdale, Rockville, Mt. Carmel Junction, Kanab, Cedar City, and other nearby towns.

Winter Hiking

WINTER HIKING, EVEN SHORT WALKS, REQUIRES advance planning. Trails in the higher elevations will be snow covered, and canyon trails can be icy in the winter and muddy in the spring. Hikers should be flexible and turn back if trail conditions are unsafe. Check the National Weather Service forecast posted daily in visitor centers and Zion Human History Museum. Park Rangers can provide trail information. See the *Zion Backcountry Planner*.

Permits

Permits are required for overnight back-packing trips, climbing bivouacs, all through-hikes of the Narrows and tributaries, the Subway, Mystery Canyon, and all canyons requiring the use of rappelling or climbing equipment. Permits are issued at both visitor centers beginning at 8 a.m. the day before your hike. Check www.nps. gov/zion for Mystery Canyon and Subway lottery applications and back-country reservations. Reservations are not required but are recommended. Reservations; \$5. Permits; 1-2 people: \$10, 3-6 people: \$15, 7-12 people: \$20.

Group Size

The maximum group size is 12 people of the same affiliation on the same trail or in the same drainage on the same day. Small groups are encouraged.

Zion Narrows

Narrows day-use permits are not issued in the winter because of cold water, low air temperatures, and short days. You may take a short day-hike from the end of the Riverside Walk. Dry suits are essential gear for winter hikes in the Narrows. Talk to a Park Ranger for details.

Backpacking

Highcountry trails will be snow covered, requiring skis or snowshoes. Trails in the southwest desert offer good winter hiking during dry weather. Ask a Park Ranger for details. Permits are required for overnight trips.

Be Prepared

Your safety depends on your own good judgement, adequate preparation, and constant attention. *Your safety is your responsibility*. Guidebooks can be helpful, but are not a substitute for sound judgement.

Books and Maps

Topographic maps and guidebooks are available from the Zion Natural History Association bookstores in both visitor centers. They may be purchased in advance through the mail. A catalog is available at www.zionpark.org. See page 7 for ordering information.

Emerald Pools Trails

THIS SERIES OF POOLS AND WATERFALLS may be accessed by three different routes. These trails, as well as a short trail to the upper pool, connect and can be combined as a loop. There is always a small waterfall at the lower pool. If it rains, or if snow is melting, there may be larger waterfalls at both the upper and lower pools.

The trails may be closed at times during the winter because of ice on the trails or ice falling from above.

Lower Emerald Pool Trail

Easy, .6-mile one-way, 69-foot ascent. Paved trail to the pool, then continues behind the waterfalls that cascade from the middle pools into the lower pool.

Middle Emerald Pools Trail

Moderate, I-mile one-way, I50-foot ascent. Unpaved climb to a sandstone

ledge that parallels the lower trail but at a higher level. Connects to lower pool trail to form a 1.6-mile loop. Do not go near the edge. Deaths have occurred from falling from the middle pools. Ice, snow, loose sand, or pebbles on stone are very slippery.

Upper Emerald Pool Trail

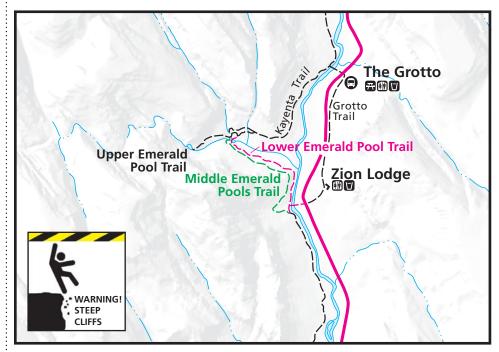
Moderate, .3-mile from Middle Pool Trail one-way, 200-foot ascent. A sandy, rocky trail climbs to the base of the cliff.

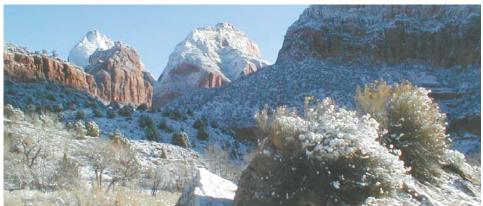
Kayenta Trail

Moderate, I-mile one-way, I50-foot ascent. Unpaved climb to a sandstone ledge, connects The Grotto Picnic Area to the Emerald Pools.

Grotto Trail

Easy, .5-mile one-way, level. Trail connects Zion Lodge to The Grotto Picnic Area. Can be linked with Emerald Pools and Kayenta Trails allowing a 3-mile loop hike.

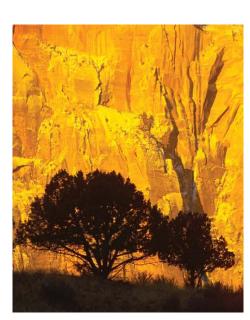




Snow blankets Zion Canyon two or three times a year.

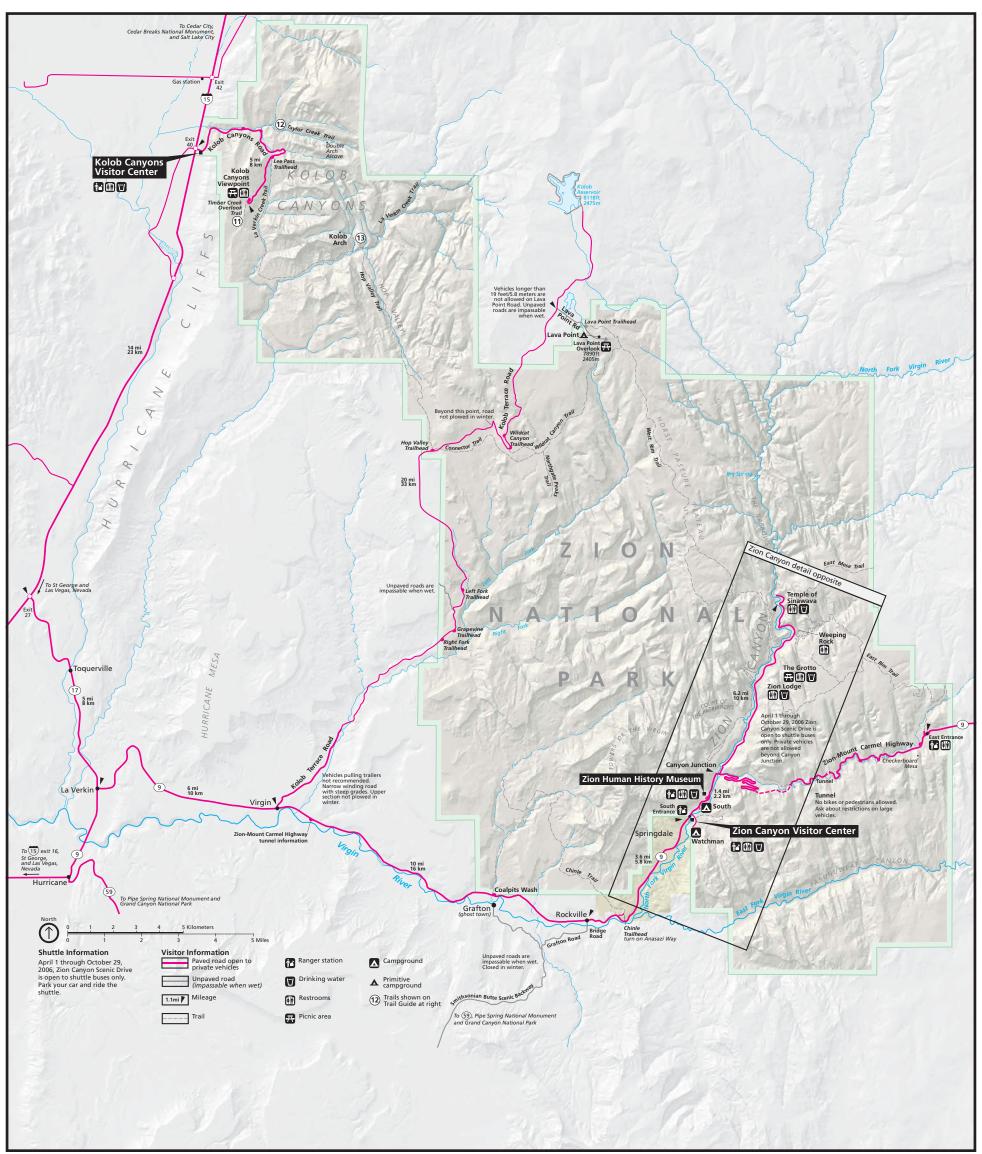
Weather and Climate

Month	J	F	M	Α	M	J	J	Α	S	0	N	D
Temperature (°F)												
normal daily max	52	57	63	73	83	93	100	97	91	78	63	53
normal daily min	29	31	36	43	52	60	68	66	60	49	37	30
extreme high	71	78	86	94	102	114	115	111	110	97	83	71
extreme low	-2	4	12	23	22	40	51	50	33	23	13	6
days above 90°F	0	0	0	1	8	21	30	28	18	3	0	0
days below 32°F	19	14	10	3	0	0	0	0	0	1	9	18
Precipitation (inches)												
normal	1.6	1.6	1.7	1.3	0.7	0.6	0.8	1.6	0.8	1.0	1.2	1.5
maximum	7.5	6.7	7.1	4.4	3.0	4.0	3.6	4.8	6.7	3.3	3.2	4.3
max 24 hour	1.6	1.3	0.9	1.2	1.8	2.2	1.1	1.6	1.4	1.3	1.3	2.0
maximum snowfall	26	18	14	3	T	0	0	0	T	1	5	21
days w/precipitation	7	7	8	6	5	3	5	6	4	4	5	6
no. thunderstorms		0	0	0	1	4	5	14	15	5	2	0

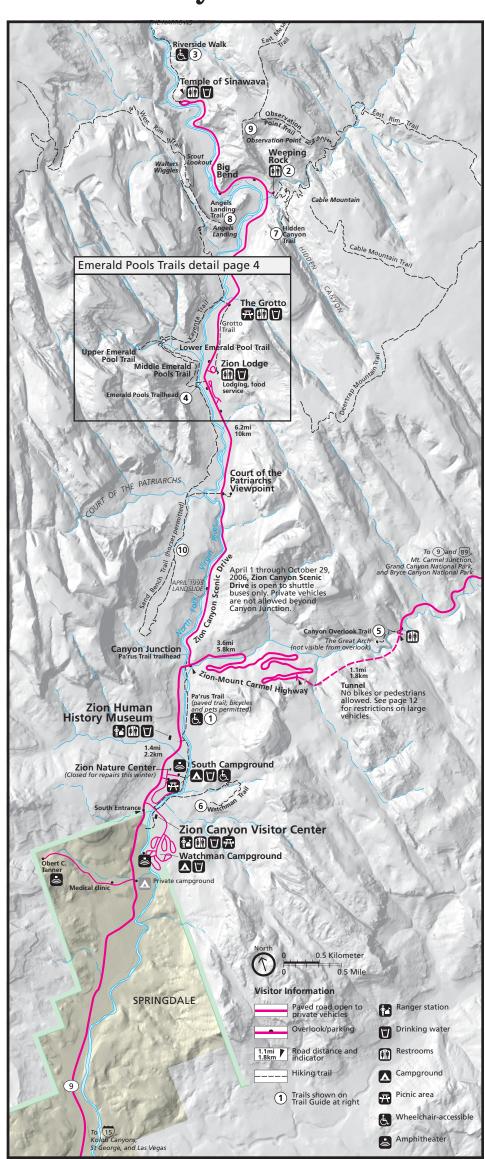


Utah juniper on a winter sunrise.

Zion National Park



Zion Canyon



Trail Guide

Winter Hiking

Hikers should be flexible and turn back if trail conditions are unsafe. Trails can be snow covered and icy. Stay on established trails and watch your footing, especially near drop-offs. Always stay back from edges. Watch children closely. Ice, snow, loose sand, or pebbles on stone are very slippery. Be careful of edges when using cameras or binoculars. Never throw or roll rocks; there may be hikers below.

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Kolob Arch 14/22 8 hours 699/213 Strenuous Ends at Kolob Arch. Lee Pass (13) Descent Commonly snow covered.	Descript Commonths are as a second	

2006 Shuttle Season

IN WINTER THE ZION CANYON SCENIC DRIVE IS OPEN TO PRIVATE vehicles. From April 1 through October 29, it is accessible by free shuttle bus only. Private vehicles are not allowed. One loop includes nine stops in Zion Canyon, and a second includes nine stops in the town of Springdale. Shuttles depart each location often throughout the day. You may get on and off the shuttle as many times as you wish. Riding the shuttle on both loops is free. Visitors with reservations at Zion Lodge will receive a red permit in the mail or may pick one up in person at the Zion Canyon Visitor Center, allowing them to drive to the lodge in their private vehicle.

Easy as 1-2-3

It's easy to use the shuttle; follow these three steps:

Parking at the visitor center is full between 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. daily.

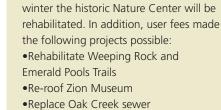
To avoid parking hassles, leave your car in the town of Springdale and ride the town shuttle to the park. Enter the park on foot at the Zion Canyon Giant Screen Theater. If staying at the campground, leave your vehicle at your campsite and walk to the visitor center. Tune your radio to 1610 AM for more information.

2. Plan

Use the exhibits at the Zion Canyon Visitor Center to plan your visit based on your time (less than 3 hours or more than 3 hours) and your interests (sightseeing, hiking, and more). Check the schedule of Ranger-led activities and the park bookstore for maps and books to enhance your visit.

3. Ride

Free buses run from dawn to late evening as often as every six minutes. Buses are fully accessible. Pets are not allowed.



to operate the shuttle system. This

Entrance Fees at Work About 80% of your entrance fees now stay right here in the park. The Fee Dem-

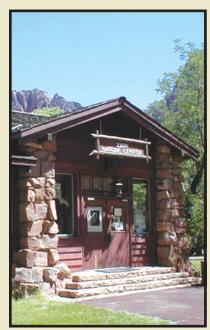
onstration Program and other recent

legislation has enabled Zion to continue

to enhance your visit and protect park

resources. Entrance fees are being used

- •Replace main waterline
- •Rehabilitate Watchman Campground
- Build Emergency Operations Center
- •New pavement on main park road Thank you!



This winter the Nature Center will be rehabilitated, made accessible, and converted into a year-round facility.



Shuttle bus in Zion Canyon.

Park Profile

Established

Mukuntuweap National Monument, 1909; expanded in 1919 as Zion National Park. Kolob Canyons section was added in 1937. Current size: 229 square miles (147,000

Significance

Established to preserve and protect aesthetic and scientific values:

- •Zion features stunning scenery found nowhere else on earth.
- •Zion is a geologic showpiece with sandstone cliffs among the highest in the world.
- ·Zion features one of the last mostly freeflowing river systems on the Colorado Plateau.
- •Zion features a large, diverse plant and animal community.
- •Zion features evidence of human occupation both historic and prehistoric, including excellent examples of Civilian Conservation Corps work.

Elevation

Lowest: 3,666 ft (1,128 m), Coalpits Wash in the southwest corner. Highest 8,726 ft (2,660 m), Horse Ranch Mountain in the Kolob Canyons section.

Precipitation

Zion Canyon average: 15 inches.

Name

Zion, a Hebrew word referring to a place of safety or refuge, given to this canyon by Mormon pioneers in the 1860s. Kolob, in Mormon theology, is a heavenly place close to God.

Geology

Sedimentary rock, mostly sandstone. Some limestone, shale, mudstone, and conglomerate. Mostly Triassic through Jurassic (250 million to 150 million years ago). Some recent volcanic activity in the form of cinder cones and lava flows.

Plant Life

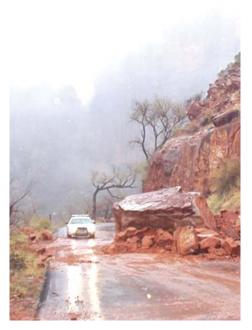
Richest diversity of plants in Utah--almost 800 native species. Differences in elevation, sunlight, water, and temperature create "microenvironments," like hanging gardens and forested side canyons.

Animal Life

75 species of mammals, 290 birds, 32 reptiles and amphibians, 8 fish. Commonly seen animals include mule deer, rock squirrels, lizards, and many species of birds. Rare or endangered species include the Peregrine Falcon, Mexican Spotted Owl, Southwest Willow Flycatcher, desert tortoise, and the Zion snail, found nowhere else on earth.

Human History

Evidence of Ancestral Puebloans date from about 2,000 years ago; Southern Paiutes from 800 years ago. Mormon settlers arrived in the 1860s. Visitation in 1920 was 3,692; in 1997, 2.5 million.



Geology in action; rockfall on the Zion Canyon Scenic Drive, February, 2004.



Educational Adventures in Zion

Imagine hiking with a wildlife biologist to watch bighorn sheep on the East side of Zion National Park. Capture the photograph of a lifetime when a rainbow appears against the West Temple. Find the tracks of ringtails and wild turkeys in the fine sands of a dry wash. Marvel at a scorpion visible in the dark under the beam of an ultraviolet light. View a bat up close during a mist-net study. Discover and map an unrecorded archaeological site.

These are experiences that Zion Canyon Field Institute (ZCFI) participants enjoy during their workshops. The Field Institute strives to educate and inspire visitors to the greater Zion National Park ecosystem and environment. ZCFI is the educational division of the non-profit Zion Natural History Association, publisher and seller of books on Zion National Park and related subjects for over 70 years. The Field Institute sponsors 1, 2, and 3-day outdoor workshops with expert and engaging instructors and challenging itineraries that immerse participants in the park and stimulate investigation of its many natural and cultural resources. These workshops take place at and around Zion National Park, Cedar Breaks National Monument and Pipe Spring National Monument.

We are called a Field Institute because our primary classrooms and lecture halls are the vast canyons and formations of magnificent Zion National Park.

All classes include hiking which ranges from moderate to strenuous. Most classes also include an indoor component such as a lecture, slide presentation, demonstration, or time to examine animal or plant specimens.

November

4-5 Geology of Zion

January

21

Winter in Zion

February

II Native Plants and Xeriscaping

25 Winter in Zion

March

II	Organic Gardening
16	Water in the Desert

18 Basic Botany for Gardeners

Spring In Step with a Naturalist

30 **April**

7 Paiute Beading

14 Life Zones I:Mojave to Zion

Fire Ecology

15 Zion Geology

Earth Day CelebrationZion Through the Lens

May

5 Energy Alternatives: Solar Power

in Zion and Beyond

12 Geology of Kolob Canyons

13 Edible Plants

Spring Photography

20 Mexican Spotted Owls

June

10 Zion Narrows Service Project

10 Zion Geology

12 Zion Ecology

Service Projects

Participants have the opportunity to get a "backstage" view of Zion, to learn intensively about a single subject, and to be part of a project that benefits Zion National Park.

To Enroll

Visit our website at www.zionpark.org or

stop by the Zion Canyon Visitor Center. Call us for a free catalog of workshops at 435 772-3264 or 800 635-3959. Fees range from \$25-\$80 per day.

Private Workshops

Our "Explore Zion" program provides private workshops for your small group or family scheduled at your convenience.

Zion Natural History Association

Springdale, Utah 84767 phone 435 772-3264 fax 435 772-3908 www.zionpark.org

The Zion Natural History Association is a non-profit organization established in 1931 to support education, research, publication and other programs for the benefit of Zion National Park, Cedar Breaks National Monument, and Pipe Spring National Monument. Financial support by ZNHA members combine with sales from our bookstores to provide parks with approximately \$300,000 in aid annually. Join us as a member of ZNHA today and receive a 20% discount on Field Institute workshops and on purchases at ZNHA bookstores. Order books by phone at 800 635-3959 or our website: www.zionpark.org. Find hundreds of books, posters, t-shirts, and other Zion items at our website.

Zion Trip Planning Package

Plan your vacation to Zion National Park with our hand-selected publications. Includes the books: *Zion, Towers of Stone; Zion Shuttle Guide; Guide to Zion National Park; Introduction to the Geology of Zion National Park;* and a Zion topographic map. (\$29.30 value) Only \$22.95 (All books are also available for individual purchase.)

Zion National Park Orientation Video/DVD

Enjoy the official National Park Service orientation video to Zion in your own living-room. Learn about plants, animals, geology, park history, and what to see and do in Zion. 23 minutes, color. VHS \$9.95, DVD (close captioned) \$14.95

Maps of Zion

From topo maps, to geologic maps, to maps on CD-Rom; call us for details on which map will fit your needs.

Studying a bat caught in a mist net. Bat Biology and



Desert bighorn sheep.

Help Support Zion National Park

Become a member of ZNHA and enjoy benefits for yourself today while you also help Zion tomorrow. ZNHA supports the Junior Ranger program, publishes books on Zion and contributes to park interpretive programs as well as providing free visitor information about the park.

☐ **Individual** \$35 per year

☐ **Family** \$50 per year

As a member you receive your 20% discount on books and workshops, receive a ZNHA newsletter, a beautiful Zion membership pin, and a holiday gift. Most importantly, your membership helps ensure future educational and research activities in Zion.

Name ______Address _____

___ State ____

Make checks payable to ZNHA. Mail to: Zion Natural History Association, Zion National Park, Springdale, Utah 84767. We also accept credit cards. Call 800 635-3959 for details.

_Zip _

Tunnel Information & Large Vehicle Restrictions

Tunnel Limitations

The Zion - Mt. Carmel Tunnel is between the East Entrance and Zion Canyon. It was built in the 1920s when cars were small and few in number.

Vehicle Size

Vehicles sized 7'10" in width or 11'4" in height, and/or larger, are required to have an "escort" (traffic control) through the Zion-Mt. Carmel Tunnel. Vehicles this size are too large to stay in their lane while traveling through the tunnel. Nearly all RVs, buses, trailers, dual-wheel pickups, 5th wheels, campers, and boats will require an escort

Arranging An Escort

Visitors requiring an escort *must pay a \$15 fee in addition to the entrance fee.* Pay this fee at either park entrance before proceeding to the tunnel. The fee is good for two trips through the tunnel for the same vehicle during a 7-day period.

The tunnel was built for cars like this 1930s model.

During the winter season, escorts must be arranged at the entrance stations, Zion Canyon Visitor Center, Zion Human History Museum, Zion Lodge, or by phoning 435 772-3256. From October 30 through March 18, escorts may be scheduled between 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. daily.

You will not be following an escort vehicle through the tunnel. Rangers will stop oncoming traffic and when the tunnel is clear you will drive down the middle of the road. We apologize for the delays that many visitors will encounter because of this safety precaution.

Prohibited Vehicles

•Vehicles over 13'1" tall. •Semi-trucks. •Commercial vehicles. •Vehicles carrying hazardous materials. •Vehicles weighing more than 50,000 lbs. •Single vehicles over 40' long. •Combined vehicles over 50' long. •Bicycles and pedestrians.



Some modern vehicles require the whole tunnel to themselves.

Large Vehicle Parking

The Weeping Rock parking area has a small turnaround space. The Temple of Sinawava can have heavy traffic congestion on busy weekends and holidays throughout the winter. Buses with a capacity of 16 or more passengers may park at Checkerboard Mesa but may not park between Checkerboard Mesa and the Zion-Mt. Carmel Tunnel.

Weeping Rock

Vehicles longer than 19 feet may not park at Weeping Rock at any time.

Temple of Sinawava

Vehicles longer than 19 feet may park in the designated parallel spaces and in front of the shade structure.



Please park in designated sites and not on the side



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