



The Guide: Summer

South Rim Information and Maps



Lightning poses a serious threat to visitors standing on the canyon's rim. If you see lightning, immediately seek shelter inside.



Welcome to Grand Canyon National Park!

Most visitors experience Grand Canyon from viewpoints along the rim. From this expansive perspective, it is hard to see anything but a harshly spectacular and ruggedly beautiful landscape. Manmade structures are often hard to spot because they have such a minimal footprint on the canyon's grandeur.

Far below the rim, hundreds of miles of river corridor and backcountry trails allow the intrepid to experience a world without cell phones, computers, or even electricity. What do you think you might learn about yourself if you were to embark on such an adventure?

Many come to Grand Canyon with the intent of experiencing nature and themselves at their most basic. They often say that in the slower pace, the aloneness, and the vastness, they find extraordinary beauty, inner peace, adventure, and sometimes, a part of themselves they never even knew existed. This, for many, is the value of wildness.

Wild lands and wild experiences are among the resources the National Park Service protects here. The park is in the process of developing a backcountry management plan for Grand Canyon; and your opinions and comments are important to us.

While you are here, consider experiencing some of Grand Canyon's wildness for yourself, but don't forget to seek the advice of the experienced rangers in the Backcountry Information Center before you go.

Once you return home, I hope you will watch for opportunities to participate in Grand Canyon's backcountry management planning process by providing the park with your observations, feedback, and suggestions. With your help, the National Park Service hopes to continue providing incredible backcountry experiences for decades to come

Thank you,

David V. Ueberuaga
David V. Ueberuaga, Superintendent

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Top Grand Canyon Activities

Canyon Rim Activities

VIEW THE RIVER

The Colorado River, flowing 1,400 miles (2,250 km) from Colorado to the Gulf of California, carved Grand Canyon 5-6 million years ago. Visit Lipan Point on Desert View Drive for an amazing river view. In addition to plants, animals, and rocks, Grand Canyon National Park also protects natural quiet. Travel to Pima Point on Hermit Road to hear the rapids roaring far below you.

SEE SUNSET OR STARGAZE

Let changing light in the canyon inspire you as you stroll 0.3 miles (0.5 km) between Powell and Hopi points. Begin an hour before sunset for the best views and stay past sunset to gaze at the millions of stars above. Grand Canyon National Park protects dark skies to limit the impact of light and air pollution on your view.

WALK THE TRAIL OF TIME

Stroll 1.3 miles (2.1 km) between Yavapai Geology Museum and Verkamp's Visitor Center along this award-winning trail. Use signs along the trail to learn geology and locate the rocks in the canyon walls. Touch samples from the different layers and look for fossils as you explore the trail.

LOOK FOR CONDORS

California condors symbolize what national parks embody: preservation of the earth's wonders. Their reintroduction motivates us to protect this important landscape for future generations. Look for condors near Bright Angel Lodge, Pipe Creek Vista, and along the Bright Angel and South Kaibab trails. Please stay 75 feet (23 m) away from these critically endangered birds.

Inner-Canyon Activities

HIKE BRIGHT ANGEL TRAIL

Venture partway into the canyon. As you descend, climate and habitat change from mountain to desert conditions. Look for plants and animals from different life zones as you travel from pine trees to cactus through this outdoor biological museum. Follow the hiking safety information on page 7.

Indoor Activities

EXPLORE HISTORY

Discover the people and events that helped shape the development and protection of Grand Canyon at the Bright Angel Lodge History Room and Verkamp's Visitor Center.

Travel to Desert View where you can tour Desert View Watchtower, a re-creation of ancestral Puebloan towers in other Southwest locations. View murals and paintings as you climb 85 steps to the top for 360-degree views of Grand Canyon and the Painted Desert.

Need Information?

Bring this Guide and your questions to a visitor center. Talk to park rangers, view exhibits, and learn about the park. Grand Canyon Association Park Stores and a stamp for your Passport® To Your National Parks are available at these facilities, except for the Backcountry Information Center. The stamp is also available at Indian Garden and Phantom Ranch.

Grand Canyon Village

GRAND CANYON VISITOR CENTER

Plan your visit, see the park film *Grand Canyon: A Journey of Wonder*, and learn about Grand Canyon with the park's newest exhibits. Park Store, bicycle rental, food service, and Mather Point nearby. 8 am-5 pm

BACKCOUNTRY INFORMATION CENTER

Obtain backcountry information and permits for overnight hikes. 8 am-noon; 1-5 pm

KOLB STUDIO

View rotating exhibits in the restored 1904 Kolb brothers' home and photography studio. 8 am-8 pm

VERKAMP'S VISITOR CENTER

Visit one of the oldest buildings in Grand Canyon Village and explore more than 100 years of community history. 8 am-8 pm

YAVAPAI GEOLOGY MUSEUM

Find answers to your geology questions with 3D maps and exhibits about the geologic story you see through the panoramic windows. 8 am-8 pm

Desert View

DESERT VIEW VISITOR CENTER

Discover how Grand Canyon continues to inspire a variety of people. Document a Grand Canyon memory by writing or drawing in the visitor journal. 8 am-6 pm

TUSAYAN MUSEUM AND RUIN

See original artifacts, including split twig figurines and ancestral Puebloan pottery. Gain insight into local American Indians. Museum: 9 am-5 pm

See page 8 to learn about important summer safety precautions.



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Grand Canyon National Park

Located in northern Arizona, the park encompasses 277 miles (446 km) of the Colorado River and adjacent uplands. One of the most spectacular examples of erosion anywhere in the world, Grand Canyon is unmatched in the incomparable vistas it offers to visitors on the rim. Grand Canyon National Park is a World Heritage Site.

Superintendent David V. Uberuaga

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Grand Canyon, AZ 86023-0129 USA

Park Headquarters

928-638-7888

Website

www.nps.gov/grca/



The Guide is published by Grand Canyon National Park, supported by your user fees; it is available in French, German, Spanish, Italian, Japanese, Chinese, and Korean. An *Accessibility Guide* is also available.

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

EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA™



GRAND CANYON ASSOCIATION

INSPIRE. EDUCATE. PROTECT.

Be a Part of Something Grand

You can make a difference at Grand Canyon National Park!

With your help, the Grand Canyon Association (GCA) supports an impressive variety of projects and programs that help ensure all visitors are able to enjoy the awe-inspiring wonder of Grand Canyon.

As the park's official nonprofit partner, GCA cooperates with the National Park Service to operate Park Stores in seven locations in the park. GCA Park Store purchases help fund new exhibits, scientific research, trail restoration, wildlife monitoring, ecological restoration, support for the arts, Junior Ranger and education programs, and historic building preservation.

Discover the Park With the Grand Canyon Field Institute

From hiking and backpacking to yoga and photography, you can participate in education classes throughout the park. Call 866-471-4435 or visit www.grandcanyon.org/fieldinstitute

Take Grand Canyon Home With You

Join the Grand Canyon Association today. Members receive exclusive benefits and discounts. For information, visit a GCA bookstore, call toll-free 800-858-2808, or visit www.grandcanyon.org.

Special Events and Opportunities

Check at visitor centers and hotels for additional information and special programs.

Grand Canyon After Dark

23RD ANNUAL SOUTH RIM STAR PARTY
June 8–15

Grand Canyon Visitor Center

Free telescope viewing starting at dusk; best after 9 pm. Slide show 8 pm in theater; limited capacity; arrive early. Constellation tours at 9, 9:30, and 10 pm. Bring flashlight for arriving and departing; no white lights allowed in telescope lot. Dress warmly. Wheelchair accessible.

SPECIAL NIGHT PROGRAMS

Explore Grand Canyon in the dark with full moon walks, star talks, cemetery walks, or a special Twilight Zone program for families and children. Offered as staffing allows.

THE SUN AND MOON

Date	Sunrise	Sunset
May 15	5:22 am	7:28 pm
June 1	5:13 am	7:40 pm
June 15	5:11 am	7:47 pm
July 1	5:15 am	7:49 pm
July 15	5:23 am	7:46 pm
August 1	5:36 am	7:34 pm
August 15	5:47 am	7:19 pm
September 1	6:00 am	6:57 pm

Full moon Date

Full moon Date	Rise time
May 24	6:35 pm
June 23	8:08 pm
July 22	7:34 pm
August 20	6:48 pm

Step Back in Time

THE AMAZING KOLB BROTHERS:
A GRAND LIFE AT GRAND CANYON
Daily

Kolb Studio

Come see Grand Canyon through the eyes of photographers Emery and Ellsworth Kolb in this free exhibit. Be amazed and inspired by their stories, and view the movie that remains a box office hit.

ECHOES FROM THE CANYON

June 24, July 6, August 10

McKee Amphitheater

Experience Grand Canyon's rich past as historical characters come to life and share stories about building the foundations of the village historic district.

PRESIDENT THEODORE ROOSEVELT SALUTES

THE NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

June 23, 8:30 pm

McKee Amphitheater

Join Joe Wiegand, the world's premiere Theodore Roosevelt impersonator, for a living history presentation portraying the 26th President of the United States. For information about Mr. Wiegand, visit www.teddyroosevelts.com.

Grand Inspiration

GRAND CANYON MUSIC FESTIVAL

August 23–24 and 30–31

Shrine of the Ages

Evening concerts by classical and contemporary artists. For tickets call 800-997-8285 or visit www.grandcanyonmusicfest.org.

ENJOY ART

Few places have inspired as much wonder and creativity as Grand Canyon. Grand Canyon National Park hosts two Artist-in-Residence programs—a seasonal program on the North Rim and a year-round program on the South Rim. Ask in visitor centers about times and locations for a limited number of free, family-friendly programs with the artists or call 928-638-7616 for recorded information. For additional program information and artist opportunities visit www.nps.gov/grca/supportyourpark/air.htm

SUMMER ARTIST-IN-RESIDENCE SCHEDULE

May 5–31

Poet and conceptual visual artist Rebecca Lowry from Los Angeles, California

June 23 to July 21

Painter Elisabeth Condon from Tampa, Florida

July 22 to August 10

Visual and conceptual artist Kevin Curry from Tallahassee, Florida

August 11–31

Hand-made book artists Johanna Tinnegan-Topitzer and Jeremy Heflin from Merrimac, Massachusetts

Fun for Kids

JUNIOR RANGERS

Children ages

four and older

can pick up

a free Junior

Ranger booklet

from any visitor center.

Have fun learning about Grand Canyon, complete activities, and attend a park ranger program. Turn in the completed booklet at any visitor center and earn a badge and certificate. Special patches are also available for purchase at Grand Canyon Association Park Stores.

Unique Junior Ranger programs are also available on the North Rim (May to October) and at more than 250 national parks, seashores, and monuments nationwide. The Junior Ranger program is generously supported by the Grand Canyon Association.

DISCOVERY PACK

Borrow a backpack filled with naturalist tools to explore many of Grand Canyon's riches with your family. Complete four or more activities in the journal to purchase the Discovery Pack patch. Parents sign out packs and return them to Grand Canyon Visitor Center within 24 hours. Pick up your Discovery Pack between 8 am and noon at Grand Canyon Visitor Center.

Beyond the South Rim

VIRTUAL CACHING

Grand Canyon

National Park

introduces a

Virtual Cache

program that

allows a new way

to explore the

park. The first series of caches will be EarthCaches, which are specifically tailored towards geology, educational experiences, modern technology, and outdoor adventures. Stop by Grand Canyon Visitor Center or visit www.nps.gov/grca to get your EarthCache information and start your adventure today. You will need your own GPS-enabled device to participate.



EarthCache

DISCOVER THE CANYON BY PHONE

Enjoy two-minute interpretive park ranger talks at 30 locations throughout the park. Wherever you see a cell phone tour sign, dial 928-225-2907 and enter the stop number. There is no additional charge; standard calling rates apply. Funded by the Grand Canyon Association.

LEARN IN AN OUTDOOR CLASSROOM

Teachers: Field Trips, Workshops, and

Distance Learning 928-638-7931 or

www.nps.gov/grca/forteachers/

Expeditions for Teens

www.nps.gov/grca/forkids/camp.htm

INSIDE THE CANYON

Going to Phantom Ranch or Indian Garden? Join a park ranger to discover the many wonders of the inner canyon. Programs vary and cover a wide range of natural and cultural history topics. Offered in Grand Canyon's backcountry, these programs are only accessible by a long strenuous hike or mule ride.

Indian Garden

Times vary

Friday to Monday

Check the bulletin board for program topics, locations, and times. Wilderness Explorer Junior Ranger booklet available. Accessible only by hiking 4.5 miles (7.2 km) down Bright Angel Trail.

Phantom Ranch

4 pm and 7:30 pm

Daily

Check bulletin boards for program locations and topics. Phantom Ranch Junior Ranger activity booklet available. Accessible only by hiking or a mule ride to the bottom of Grand Canyon.

RELAX ON THE NORTH RIM

The far reaches of the North Rim provide visitors with a tranquil experience. Open mid-May through the end of October, the North Rim is a five-hour, 215-mile (346 km) drive from Grand Canyon Village. Accommodations fill in advance; reservations strongly recommended.

Grand Canyon Lodge

877-386-4383 or www.foreverresorts.com

North Rim Campground

877-444-6777 or www.recreation.gov









Park Ranger Programs

Discover Grand Canyon with free programs given by park rangers and volunteers. Parking is limited in Grand Canyon Village. Park rangers recommend you ride the free shuttle buses to program locations. All program times are Mountain Standard; Arizona does not recognize daylight-saving time. Outdoor programs may be cancelled during inclement weather or when lightning danger is present.

Children must be accompanied by an adult at all times. Dress warmly and bring a flashlight for programs after 6 pm. ****For all hikes, bring 2 quarts (liters) of water, sunscreen, hat, snacks, and sturdy hiking shoes. Programs in blue take place 25 miles (40 km) east of Grand Canyon Village in the Desert View area.**



=Designed for families with children

Time	Programs	Meeting Location	Duration	Notes
7 am	Cedar Ridge Hike Discover the canyon's beauty while descending 1,120 feet (340 m) on an unpaved trail. This strenuous 3-mile (5 km), round-trip hike is not recommended for people with heart or respiratory problems or difficulty walking.**	South Kaibab Trailhead	3–4 hours	Trailhead closed to vehicles; use Kaibab/Rim Route shuttle
8 am	 Adventure Hike Explore the inner canyon on this strenuous, 2-mile, round-trip hike on the Hermit Trail designed for families. This hike is not recommended for people with heart or respiratory problems or difficulty walking. Board the free Hermits Rest Route shuttle bus by 7 am.**	Hermits Rest (at the bell)	2–3 hours	Starts June 9; for ages 9 and older
8:30 am	Guided Hike Hike a less-traveled route along the rim. You may choose to return hike, continue on to Hermits Rest, or ride the shuttle bus.**	Hermits Rest Route Transfer Stop	2 hours	
8:30 am	Ranger on the Rim: Climate Change and Fire Ecology Stop by anytime between 8:30 am and 10:30 am to learn about park science and current research.	Pipe Creek Overlook	Park ranger present for 2 hours	Accessible
9 am	 Natural Wonders Discover what makes Grand Canyon one of the seven natural wonders of the world during this exciting program designed for families.	Grand Canyon Visitor Center (flagpole)	30 minutes	Starts June 9
9:30 am	Fossil Walk Stroll through an ancient ocean of marine creatures on this 0.5-mile (0.8 km), one-way walk along the rim.	Bright Angel Lodge (rim side patio)	1 hour	Parking is limited
10 am	 Walk on the Wild Side Explore the natural world of Grand Canyon during this 0.5-mile (0.8 km) walk through the forest to the canyon rim aimed at families. Rocky, uneven terrain; sturdy shoes advised.	Shrine of the Ages	1 hour	Starts June 9 and ends August 10
11 am	Geology Walk Discover Grand Canyon's amazing geologic story. Why is it so deep, wide, and grand? Why does it exist only here and nowhere else in the world?	Yavapai Geology Museum	1 hour	Accessible
11 am	Ancestral Puebloan Walk Learn how ancient residents found everything they needed to live.	Tusayan Museum	30 minutes	Accessible
1 pm	Ranger on the Rim: California Condor Stop by anytime between 1 pm and 3 pm to learn about park science and current research.	Hopi Point	Park ranger present for 2 hours	
1 pm	 Storytime Adventure Hear children's books about Grand Canyon with props and interactive games that bring the stories to life.	El Tovar Porch (rim side)	30 minutes	Starts June 9; for ages 2–6
1:30 pm	Ancestral Puebloan Walk Learn how ancient residents found everything they needed to live.	Tusayan Museum	30 minutes	Accessible
1:30 pm	Geology Talk Learn how Grand Canyon formed while getting an impressive view of the rocks from the Grand Canyon Supergroup.	Lipan Point	20 minutes	Parking is limited
1:30 pm	History Walk Discover stories of people's enduring relationship with the canyon and take a short walk around the village historic district. Perfect for train passengers.	Verkamp's Visitor Center	1 hour	Parking is limited
2 pm	 Critter Chat Come learn about Grand Canyon's cute, fuzzy, scaly, and venomous wildlife. Perfect for train passengers and families.	Verkamp's Visitor Center	30 minutes	Starts June 9 and ends August 10
2:30	Rails, Trails, and Tall Tales Hear tales of early park visitors' adventures getting to Grand Canyon by horseback, stagecoach, train, mule, and car. Perfect for train passengers.	Train Depot	30 minutes	
3 pm	Ranger on the Rim: Colorado River Stop by anytime between 3 pm and 5 pm to learn about park science and current research.	Hopi Point	Park ranger present for 2 hours	Accessible
3 pm	 Geo-glimpse Learn how Grand Canyon formed while exploring Yavapai Geology Museum. Consider walking the Trail of Time following the program.	Yavapai Geology Museum	30 minutes	Accessible
3:30 pm	 Natural Wonders Discover what makes Grand Canyon one of the seven natural wonders of the world during this exciting program designed for families.	Grand Canyon Visitor Center (flagpole)	30 minutes	Starts June 9
3:30 pm	Snapshot Talk Explore a moment in time and learn about Grand Canyon's immense natural and cultural resources.	Tusayan Museum	20–30 minutes	Accessible
4 pm	 Kids Rock Join in on fun games and activities exploring Grand Canyon's natural world with programs about fire ecology, water, insects, bats, people of the past, and much more.	Shrine of the Ages	1 hour	Starts June 9
4:30 pm	Condor Talk Learn about the majestic and endangered California condor and its reintroduction to northern Arizona.	Lookout Studio	45 minutes	Parking is limited
4:30 pm	The Canyon in Focus Walk along a less-traveled section of the canyon rim. Experience how this incredible landscape inspired American Indians, explorers, pioneers, scientists, and artists.**	South Kaibab Trailhead	1 hour	Trailhead closed to vehicles; use Kaibab/Rim Route shuttle
6 pm	Ranger on the Rim: Grand Canyon Sunset Stop by anytime between 6 pm and 8 pm to enjoy the beauty and tranquility of Grand Canyon with a park ranger.	Hopi Point	Park ranger present for 2 hours	Tuesday to Sunday; Accessible
6 pm	Active Trails Stretch your legs, have some fun, and explore some less-visited areas of the South Rim while learning about the Grand Canyon community.**	Park Headquarters	2–4 hours	Mondays only; bring a flashlight
6:30 pm	Campfire Program Experience a traditional family campfire program and learn what Grand Canyon offers.	Mather Campground Sage Loop Campfire Circle	1 hour	Starts May 23 and ends August 10
One hour before sunset	Twilight Talk Discover more about one of the canyon's extraordinary features. Wear weather-appropriate clothing. See page 2 for sunset times.	Desert View Point	45 minutes	
8:30 pm May to July 8 pm Aug and Sept	Evening Program Relax beneath the stars and enjoy a presentation about Grand Canyon's fascinating natural or cultural history. Check visitor centers for topics.	McKee Amphitheater	1 hour	Trails to the amphitheater are paved; short sections exceed 5% grade.

Getting Around Grand Canyon

Ride the Free Shuttle Buses

Reducing air pollution and taking nearly a half-million vehicles off park roads each year, shuttle buses offer a hassle-free transportation option.

HERMITS REST ROUTE— RED ON MAP BELOW

- 80 minutes round-trip
- Nine overlooks
- Toilets at Hopi Point
- Water, snack bar, toilets, and gift shop at Hermits Rest
- Buses run every:
 - 30 minutes 4–6:45 am
 - 15 minutes 6:45 am to sunset
 - 30 minutes from sunset to an hour after sunset

VILLAGE ROUTE— BLUE ON MAP BELOW

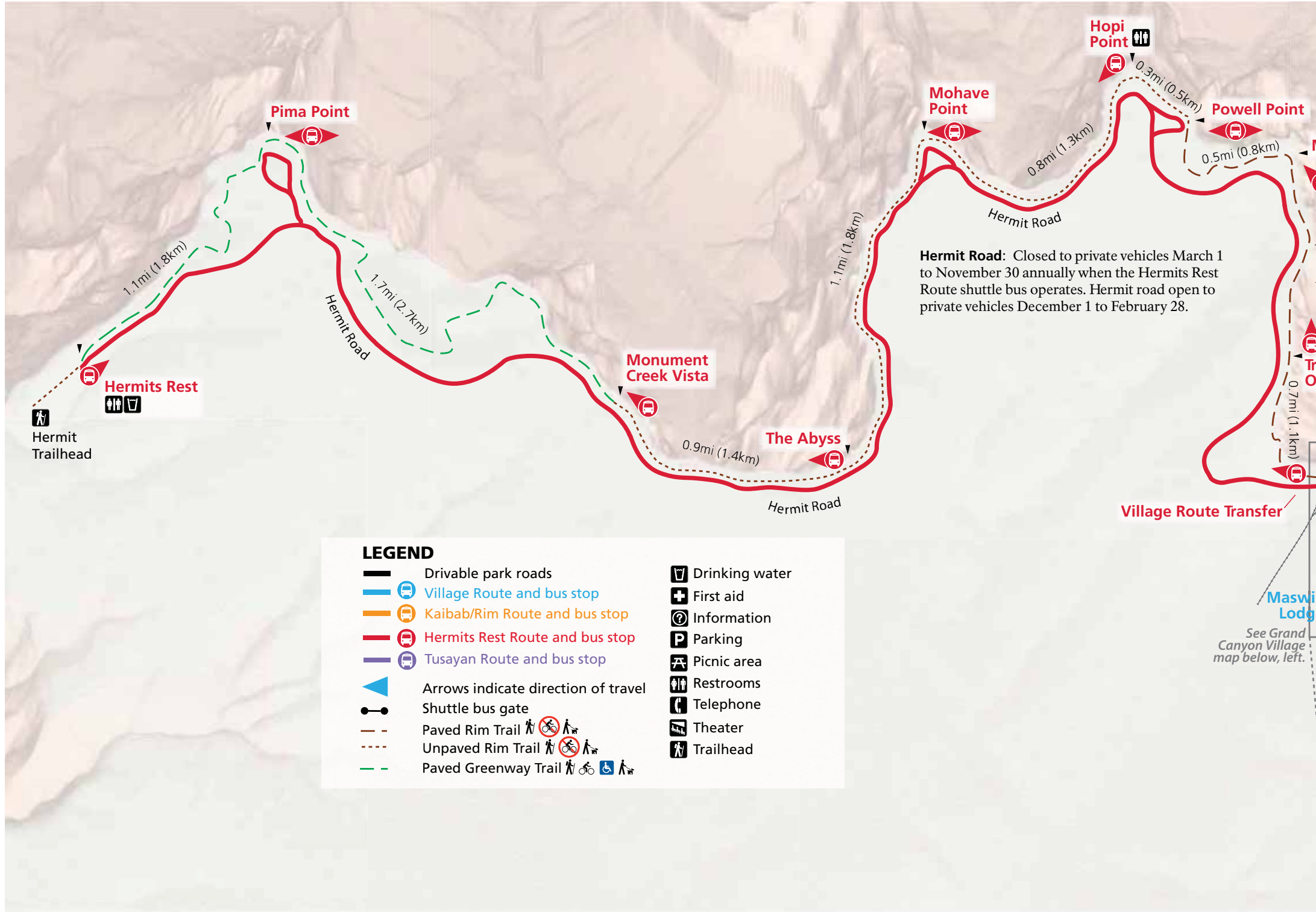
- 50 minutes round-trip
- Grand Canyon Visitor Center, hotels, restaurants, campgrounds
- Scenic canyon views are a short walk from some stops
- Buses run every:
 - 30 minutes 4–6:15 am
 - 15 minutes 6:15 am–7 pm
 - 30 minutes 7–11 pm; visitors should be at a bus stop by 10:30 pm

KAIBAB/RIM ROUTE— ORANGE ON MAP BELOW

- 50 minutes round-trip
- Five viewpoints
- Grand Canyon Visitor Center and Yavapai Geology Museum
- Access to South Kaibab Trailhead
- Buses run every:
 - 30 minutes 4–6:30 am
 - 17 minutes 6:30 am to sunset
 - 30 minutes from sunset to an hour after sunset

TUSAYAN ROUTE— PURPLE ON MAP BELOW

- 40 minutes round-trip
- IMAX, Best Western Grand Canyon Squire Inn, Grand Hotel, Big E Grand Canyon Steakhouse and Saloon, Grand Canyon Visitor Center
- Buses run every 20 minutes:
 - First bus leaves IMAX at 8 am; last bus leaves at 9:45 pm
 - First bus leaves Grand Canyon Visitor Center at 8:25 am; last bus leaves at 9:30 pm.



Car and Driving FAQ

Where can I drive my car?

You can drive anywhere there is a solid black line on the maps in this Guide. Hermit Road and Yaki Point Road are closed to private vehicles; a free shuttle bus provides access.

Where can I park?

All parking lots in Grand Canyon Village are located near free shuttle bus stops.

- **Parking lots 1–4;** Grand Canyon Visitor Center. Lot 1 includes auto, RV, and trailer parking.
- **Parking Lot A,** Park Headquarters
- **Parking Lot B,** Market Plaza
- **Parking Lot C,** near Center Road in Grand Canyon Village
- **Parking Lot D,** Backcountry Information Center. Lot D includes auto parking in the north end and RV and trailer parking in the south end.

Where is the best place to see views of the canyon using my car?

Consider driving Desert View Drive, a 25-mile (40 km) road with many viewpoints. Don't forget to stop at Desert View Watchtower; see page 8 for information.

What else do I need to know about driving?

Do not park along the roadside, except where signs or lines on the road indicate it is permissible. Use pull-outs and overlooks to take pictures and view wildlife. Do not stop in the road.

The Scenic Drive Accessibility Permit allows visitors with mobility issues entry to some areas closed to public traffic. The permit is available at entrance gates, visitor centers, and hotel lobbies.



HIKERS' EXPRESS

NOT SHOWN ON MAP BELOW

Service to South Kaibab Trailhead. Bus begins at Bright Angel Lodge, then stops at Backcountry Information Center, Grand Canyon Visitor Center, and South Kaibab Trailhead. There is approximately 5–10 minutes between stops.

Bus leaves Bright Angel Lodge:
 May and September: 5, 6, and 7 am
 June, July, and August: 4, 5, and 6 am

Shuttle Bus FAQ

Are the shuttle buses free?

Yes, park entrance fees include shuttle bus transportation.

How do the shuttle buses work?

Running like a city bus system, three shuttle bus routes stop at shops, visitor centers, and popular viewpoints around the South Rim. Just wait at any bus stop and enjoy the ride. *Note: During the busy part of the day, buses fill quickly, and you may have to wait for two or three shuttle buses to board.*

What are the shuttle bus rules?

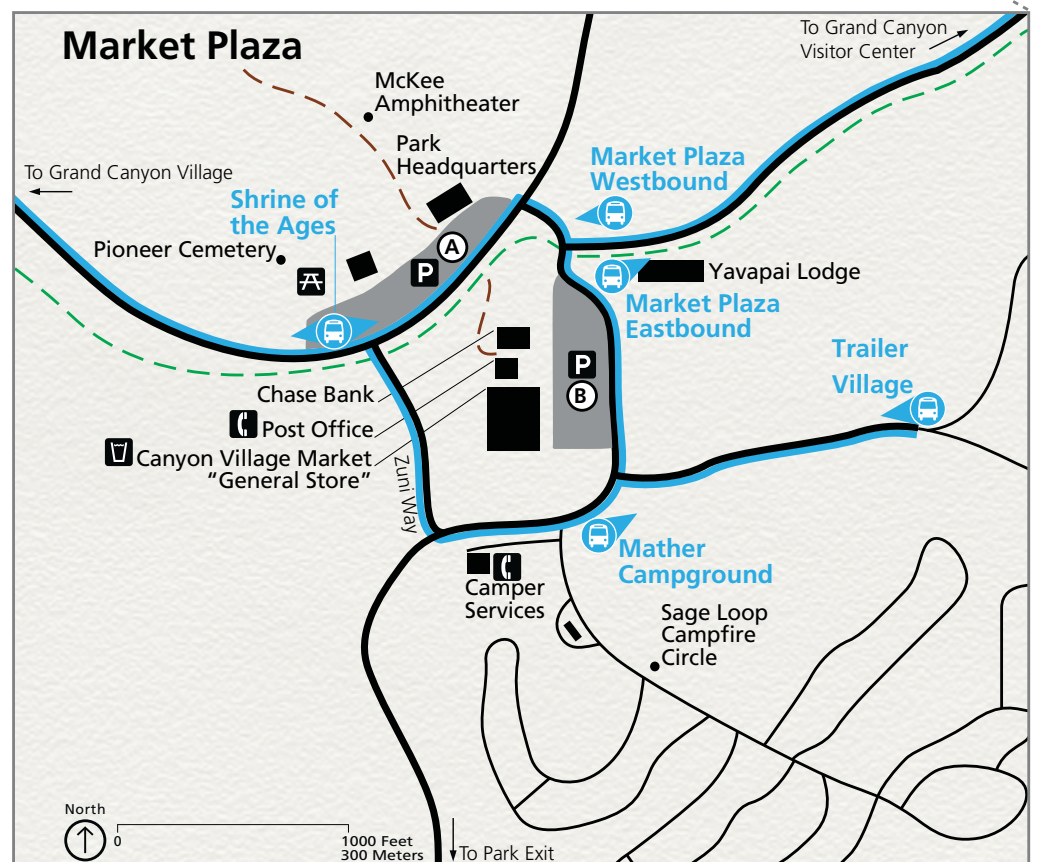
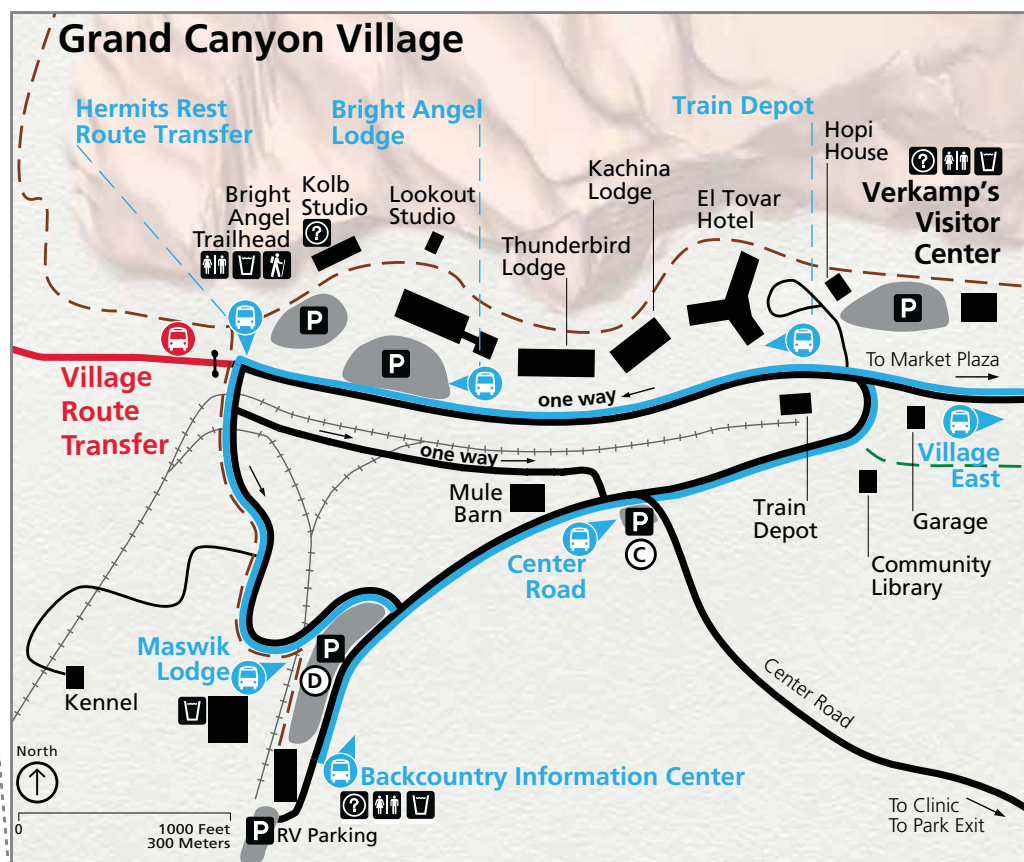
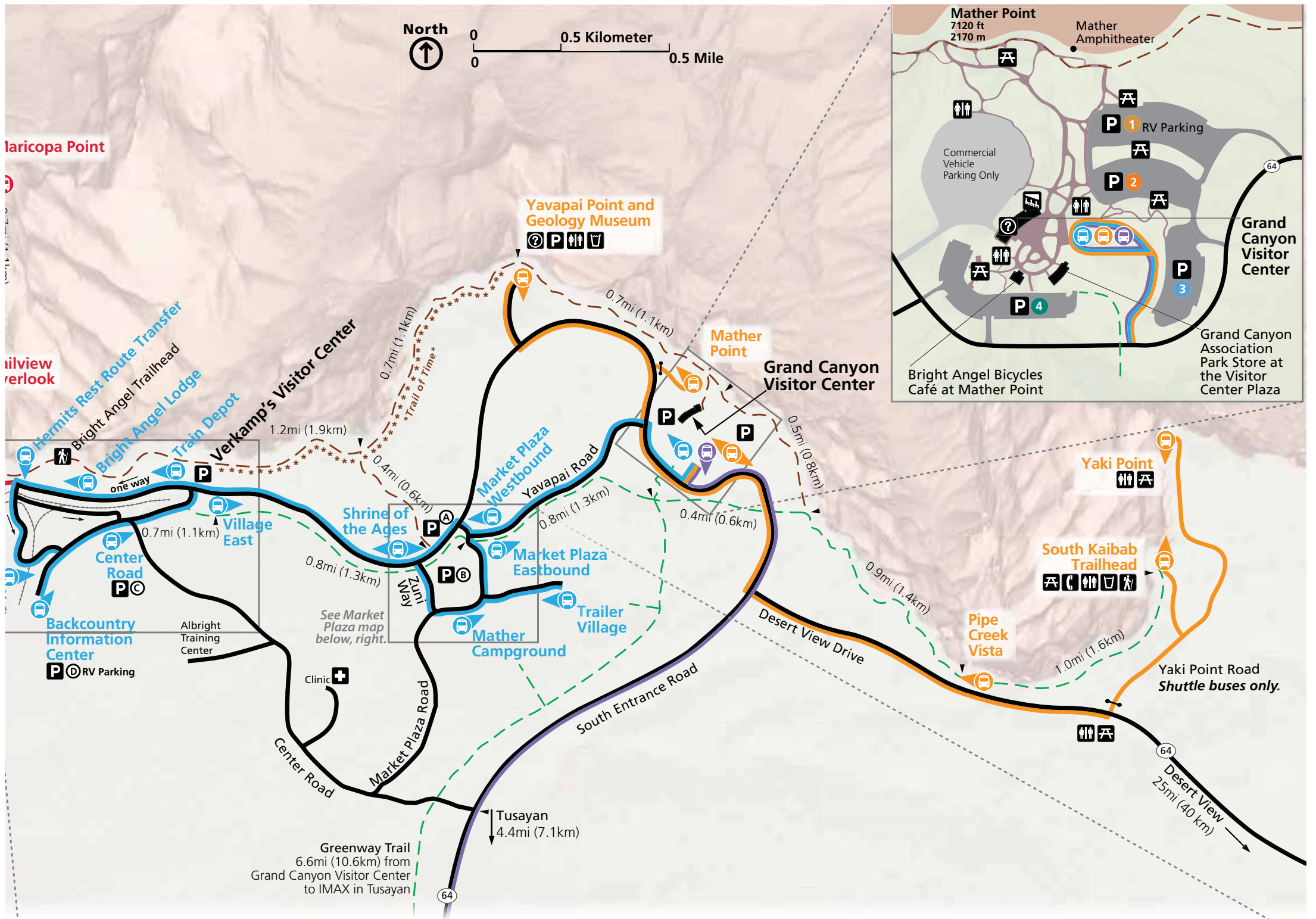
1. No eating or open drink containers.
2. No pets. Service animals permitted.
3. Collapse strollers before entering the bus. No oversized or jogging strollers. Remove baby-back carriers when seated.
4. Shuttle buses can accommodate two or three bicycles, but not tag alongs, baby trailers, or children's bicycles with wheels less than 16 inches (41 cm). Riders must load and unload their bicycles.
5. Shuttle buses only stop at designated bus stops.

How can I tell the difference between shuttle bus routes?

All National Park Service shuttle buses are white and green, but the front of the bus will say the route color and name.

Will my wheelchair fit on the bus?

Buses are equipped with ramps to accommodate passengers in wheelchairs smaller than 30 inches wide by 48 inches long (76 by 122 cm). Most motorized scooters will not fit on buses.



Rim Hiking

Stroll the Rim Trail

The Rim Trail offers a diverse hiking experience along 13 miles (21 km) of the canyon, shown by brown and green dashed lines on the map on pages 4–5. From a short 30-minute sunrise walk to a full afternoon hike, choose your adventure. The Rim Trail is wheelchair accessible from Lookout Studio to South Kaibab Trailhead. Distances are one way.

Difficulty	Start	Finish	Distance	Attraction
Easy, popular Wide, paved trail; accessible by strollers and wheelchairs with assistance	Mather Point	Yavapai Point	0.7 miles (1.1 km)	View the Colorado River and Phantom Ranch
	Yavapai Geology Museum	Verkamp's Visitor Center	1.3 miles (2.1 km)	See and touch canyon rocks along the award-winning Trail of Time
	Verkamp's Visitor Center	Kolb Studio	0.6 miles (1 km)	Explore local history in the village historic district
Easy, Less Traveled Little elevation gain	South Kaibab Trailhead	Mather Point	2.1 miles (3.4 km)	Great views of an inner-canyon trail; paved
	Monument Creek Vista	Hermits Rest	2.8 mile (4.5 km)	Quiet and uncrowded with forest and canyon views; paved
	Hopi Point	Powell Point	0.3 miles (0.5 km)	Expansive east and west views of the canyon; unpaved
Moderate Some elevation gain and/or rough terrain	Mohave Point	Monument Creek	2.0 miles (3.2 km)	Unpaved trail with great views
	Hermits Rest Route Transfer	Trailview Overlook	0.7 miles (1.1 km)	Overlooks Grand Canyon Village and Bright Angel Trail; paved, steep grade

Biking Explorations

Pedal the Greenway Trail

Bicycle along the canyon rim and through ponderosa pine forests by following the green dashed lines on the map on pages 4–5. Bicycles are only permitted on the Greenway Trail, paved roads, and dirt roads open to the public. Bicycles are prohibited on the Rim Trail and trails down in to Grand Canyon.

On Hermit and Yaki Point roads, bicyclists must pull to the right shoulder and dismount when buses pass. Obey all traffic regulations, ride single file with the flow of traffic, and wear bright colors and a helmet.

Bright Angel Bicycles Bicycle rentals and guided tours; located near parking lot 4 at Grand Canyon Visitor Center. 8 am–6 pm. 928-638-3055 or www.bikegrandcanyon.com



South Rim Services and Facilities

Locations shown on the maps on pages 4–5.

Food and Beverage

BRIGHT ANGEL BICYCLES NEAR GRAND CANYON VISITOR CENTER
Café at Mather Point 6 am–8 pm

BRIGHT ANGEL LODGE

The Arizona Room Lunch 11:30 am–3 pm; Dinner 4:30–10 pm; no reservations
Bright Angel Coffee House 5:30–10 am
Bright Angel Fountain 10 am–7 pm
Bright Angel Restaurant Breakfast 6–10:45 am; lunch 11:15 am–4 pm; dinner 4:30–10 pm; lounge 11 am–11 pm

CANYON VILLAGE MARKET

Canyon Village Deli 7 am–8 pm

EL TOVAR HOTEL

El Tovar Dining Room Breakfast 6:30–10:45 am; lunch 11:15 am–2 pm; dinner 4:30–10 pm—reservations required 928-638-2631, ext. 6432; lounge 11 am–11 pm

HERMITS REST

Hermits Rest Snack Bar 8 am to sunset

MASWIK LODGE

Maswik Cafeteria 6 am–10 pm
Maswik Pizza Pub 11 am–11 pm

YAVAPAI LODGE

Yavapai Cafeteria 6 am–9 pm

Books and Gifts

Bright Angel Lodge 7 am–10 pm
El Tovar Hotel 7 am–10 pm
Grand Canyon Association Park Stores
at **The Visitor Center Plaza** 8 am–8 pm
at **Kolb Studio** 8 am–8 pm
at **Verkamp's Visitor Center** 8 am–8 pm
at **Yavapai Geology Museum** 8 am–8 pm
Hermits Rest Gift Shop 8 am to sunset
Hopi House 8 am–8 pm
Lookout Studio 8 am to sunset
Maswik Lodge 7 am–10 pm
Yavapai Lodge Curio 7 am–10 pm

Lodging

Bright Angel Lodge \$94–362
El Tovar Hotel \$183–440
Kachina Lodge \$180–191
Maswik Lodge \$92–176
Thunderbird Lodge \$180–191
Yavapai Lodge \$125–166
Same-day reservations: 928-638-2631
Advance reservations: 888-297-2757
www.grandcanyonlodges.com

Services

ATM Chase Bank and Maswik Lodge

Canyon Village Market "General Store"
Groceries, hiking supplies, and gifts available.
7 am–9 pm

Chase Bank Monday to Thursday 9 am–5 pm;
Friday 9 am–6 pm. 928-638-2437

Garage Emergency repairs and tow service.
8 am to noon and 1–5 pm. 928-638-2631

Kaibab Learning Center Day care for one to 12 year olds; immunization records required.
Monday to Friday, 7:30 am– 5:30 pm.
928-638-6333

Kenel Dogs and cats need proof of inoculations. 7:30 am–5 pm, 928-638-0534
For retrieval after 5 pm: 928-638-2631

Laundry and Showers at Camper Services
6 am–11 pm, last laundry load 9:45 pm

Lost and Found 928-638-7798, 928-638-2631

Post Office Monday to Friday 9 am–4:30 pm;
Saturday 11 am–1 pm; closed Sunday and federal holidays. 928-638-2512

Religious Services See schedules at Mather Campground, Shrine of the Ages, Grand Canyon Post Office, Grand Canyon Visitor Center, and Park Headquarters

Taxi 928-638-2822

WiFi and Public Computer Access
Park Headquarters: Free WiFi available 8 am–5 pm, every day. Computers with internet access available 8 am–4:30 pm, Monday to Friday, except federal holidays.

Community Library: Free WiFi and computers available, 10:30 am–5 pm, Monday to Saturday.
Hotel Lobbies: WiFi available 24 hours a day; fees may be charged.

Camping

Mather Campground (NPS) \$18/night family site; \$50/night group site; \$25/night horse site. No hook-ups; dump station nearby. Maximum vehicle length 30 feet (9.1 m). Reservations: 877-444-6777 or www.recreation.gov

Trailer Village (Xanterra Parks & Resorts)

\$35/night for two people; \$3.50 for each additional person over age 16. Pull-through sites with hook-ups. Same-day reservations: 928-638-2631. Advance reservations: 888-297-2757 or www.grandcanyonlodges.com

Tours and Trips

Mule Trips Two-day trips to Phantom Ranch depart daily. A 3-hour forest ride to The Abyss departs twice daily.

Bus Tours Daily Desert View, Hermits Rest, sunrise, and sunset tours.

Phantom Ranch Dormitory and cabin space located at the bottom of the canyon. Reservations required: 888-297-2757.

Visit transportation desks to get help with tours and trips, or call 928-638-2631, ext. 6015, or visit www.grandcanyonlodges.com. Bright Angel Lodge: 5 am–8 pm; Maswik Lodge: 5 am–8 pm; Yavapai Lodge: 8 am–6 pm.

Tusayan, Arizona

Located seven miles (11 km) south of Grand Canyon Visitor Center on Highway 64.

Lodging

Best Western Premier Grand Canyon
Squire Inn 928-638-2681
Canyon Plaza Resort 928-638-2673; pets ok
Grand Hotel 928-638-3333; pets ok
Holiday Inn Express 928-638-3000
Red Feather Lodge 928-638-2414; pets ok
7 Mile Lodge 928-638-2291

Camping

Camper Village (Private) Hook-ups, coin-operated showers, laundry, propane, dump station, and store. 928-638-2887 or www.grandcanyoncampervillage.com

Ten-X Campground (Kaibab National Forest)

\$10 per vehicle per night; no hookups or showers. Most individual sites first-come, first-served. Reserve some individual and all group sites: 877-444-6777 or www.recreation.gov

Additional Resources

Arizona Highway Information Dial 511 or 888-411-ROAD; www.az511.gov

Grand Canyon Chamber of Commerce
888-472-2696, www.grandcanyonchamber.com

Paid Activities

Fixed-wing and helicopter tours.
Grand Canyon Airlines 800-528-2413
Grand Canyon Helicopters 800-541-4537
Maverick Airlines 800-218-9932
Maverick Helicopters 800-962-3869
Papillon Grand Canyon Helicopters
800-528-2418
Vision Airlines 800-256-8767
Westwind Aviation 888-869-0866

Grand Canyon Apache Stables
Horseback riding reservations: 928-638-2891

Big E Grand Canyon Steakhouse and Saloon
Lunch 12–4 pm; dinner 4–10 pm; variety show 6–10 pm. 928-638-0333 or www.bigesteakhouse.com

IMAX Theater Open 8 am–10 pm. Movie shown every hour on the half hour. First show 8:30 am, last show 8:30 pm. Food and gifts available. 928-638-4629

River Rafting

SMOOTH-WATER RAFT TRIPS OUTSIDE PARK
Colorado River Discovery
888-522-6644 or www.raftthecanyon.com

WHITEWATER RAFT TRIPS IN PARK
See www.nps.gov/grca/ for information about reserving multi-day whitewater raft trips.

Day Hiking Below the Rim

Day hiking into the canyon affords an unparalleled experience. For an enjoyable hike you must prepare for extreme conditions. Gauge your fitness level, be honest about your health, and don't compare yourself to five or 10 years ago. Know your limits and average walking distance and time. Grand Canyon is an extreme environment! For additional information about day and overnight hiking, visit: www.nps.gov/grca/planyourvisit/backcountry.htm.

Trail	Difficulty	Destination	Distance Round-Trip	Elevation Change One Way	Time Round-Trip	Facilities
Bright Angel Trail: Follow the Bright Angel Fault down Garden Creek Canyon on a maintained trail. Plan to park at Grand Canyon Visitor Center and ride the Village Route shuttle bus to the Hermits Rest Route Transfer stop or park at the Backcountry Information Center and walk to the trailhead. Water available at trailhead; water occasionally not available at Indian Garden and resthouses due to pipeline breaks. Always bring a method to treat water.	easy	1st Tunnel	0.4 miles (0.6 km)	60 feet (20 m)	20 minutes	none
	moderate	2nd Tunnel	1.7 miles (2.8 km)	590 feet (180 m)	1–2 hours	none
	moderate	1½-Mile Resthouse	3 miles (4.8 km)	1,120 feet (340 m)	2–4 hours	toilets, water, emergency phone
	difficult	3-Mile Resthouse	6 miles (9.6 km)	2,120 feet (645 m)	4–6 hours	toilets, water, emergency phone
	very difficult	Indian Garden	9 miles (14.4 km)	3,040 feet (925 m)	6–9 hours	water, toilets, ranger station, camping, emergency phone
South Kaibab Trail: Follow an exposed ridge line on a maintained trail for the best views for a relatively short hike. Ride the Kaibab/Rim Route or Hikers' Express shuttle bus to the South Kaibab Trailhead. Water, toilets, and pay phone located at trailhead. For Skeleton Point start before 6 am to avoid hiking in mid-day heat.	moderate	Ooh Aah Point	1.8 miles (2.9 km)	760 feet (230 m)	1–2 hours	none
	difficult	Cedar Ridge	3 miles (4.8 km)	1,120 feet (340 m)	2–4 hours	toilets
	very difficult	Skeleton Point	6 miles (9.6 km)	2,040 feet (620 m)	4–6 hours	none
Hermit Trail and Dripping Spring Trail: Gives intimate views of a long side canyon; rough and unmaintained—for experienced hikers. Begins west of Hermits Rest; water and toilets available at Hermits Rest.	difficult	Hermit Basin	2.8 mi (4.5 km)	1,240 feet (380 m)	2–4 hours	none
	very difficult	Santa Maria Spring	5 miles (8 km)	1,680 feet (510 m)	4–6 hours	treat water
	very difficult	Dripping Spring	7 miles (11.3 km)	1,040 feet (315 m)	5–7 hours	treat water



Prepare a Day Pack With:

Water One quart/liter for every two hours, or drink to thirst. Know your water sources.

Food Bring salty snacks and a full meal. Eat often, even if you are not hungry.

First Aid Kit and Survival Tools Also include medications, blister care, and duct tape.

Map Many trails are well marked, but some are not. Know your route.

Flashlight or Headlamp You may end up hiking in the dark unexpectedly; cell phones do not provide adequate light.

Sun Protection Sunscreen, hat, sunglasses, and a sun umbrella.

Communication Whistle or signal mirror; while cell phones are not reliable, they may be helpful.

Simple Shelters Emergency tarp with reflective side.

Weather-appropriate Clothing and Footwear Layer for the weather and wear hiking boots with good soles, a hat, and sunglasses.

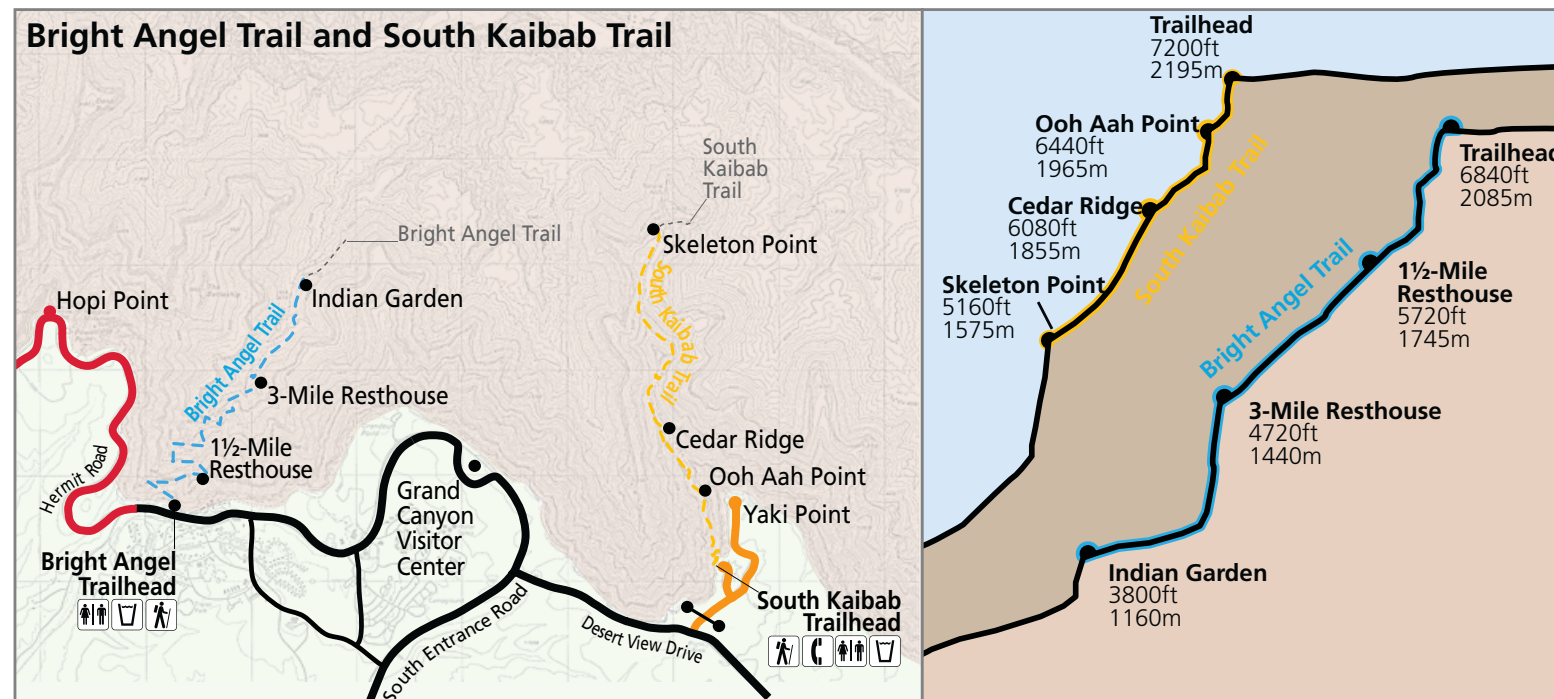
Hike Smart

Plan Knowledge, being prepared, and a good plan are all keys to success. Grand Canyon is not the place for spontaneity. *Stay together, follow your plan, and know where and how to seek help.*

Eat and Drink Snack every time you drink water or energy drinks.

Rest Sit down, prop your legs up, and take a 5- to 10-minute break at least once every hour. If you are not feeling well, rest for at least 30 minutes.

Maps do not show all trails; use for trip planning only. Consider purchasing a trail guide at Park Stores before venturing down the trail.



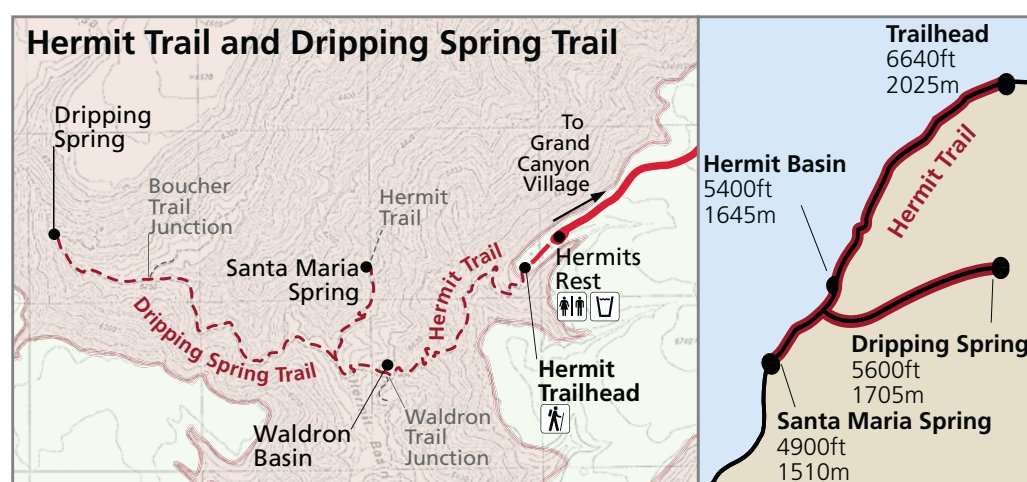
Health Risks

Common Challenges Grand Canyon's climate and elevation can intensify all health issues, including minor colds, making hiking more difficult.

Over Exertion People often have overly ambitious plans and fail to pace themselves. If you feel unwell, you must rest. Remember it takes twice as long to hike up as it does to hike down.

Hypnatremia Results from low sodium in the blood from drinking too much water, not replacing that loss through salty food intake, and losing salt through sweating. Symptoms include nausea, vomiting, altered mental status and frequent urination. Have the patient rest in shade for a long period of time and eat salty foods. If the person's mental alertness decreases seek immediate help.

Heat Illness Heat exhaustion can rapidly progress into heat stroke which may result in death. Avoid heat illnesses by taking preventative measures: eat plenty of salty foods, rest often, seek shade, and keep clothing wet. If a person becomes mentally altered, seek immediate help and cool the patient.



Reflection

Did you Leave a Trace? Day hikers can literally leave quite a mark in the canyon. Write a postcard to your friends instead of writing on rocks. Take your trash back out with you. Do not feed the wildlife, and guard your food from food-habituated animals.

Were you Safe? Did you follow your plans and have enough food and water? Did you have fun?

Backcountry Camping Permits

You must obtain a permit from the Backcountry Information Center to camp in the backcountry. Open daily 8 am to noon and 1–5 pm. A limited number of last minute walk-up permits available.

Danger!

Do Not Day Hike to the Colorado River *Hiking to the river and back in one day is not recommended* due to long distances, extreme temperature changes, and a near 5,000-foot (1,500 m) elevation change each way.

Do Not Swim in the Colorado River Diving and swimming in the Colorado River have caused numerous deaths. River currents are fast and the water is a dangerously cold 46°F (8°C).

Pay Attention to National Weather Service Red Flag Warnings When hiking trails reach 95°F (35°C), consider shortening your plans. *Hike before 10 am and after 4 pm.*

Desert View



Park Ranger Programs

See page 3 for program locations, times, and descriptions.

Books and Gifts

- Desert View Trading Post** 8 am to sunset
- Desert View Watchtower** 8 am to sunset
- Desert View Watchtower Stairs** 8 am to one half hour before sunset.
- Grand Canyon Association Park Stores**
 - at **Desert View Visitor Center** 8 am–6 pm
 - at **Tusayan Museum and Ruin** 9 am–5 pm

Food and Beverage

Desert View Snack Bar 8 am to sunset; located in Desert View Trading Post

Services

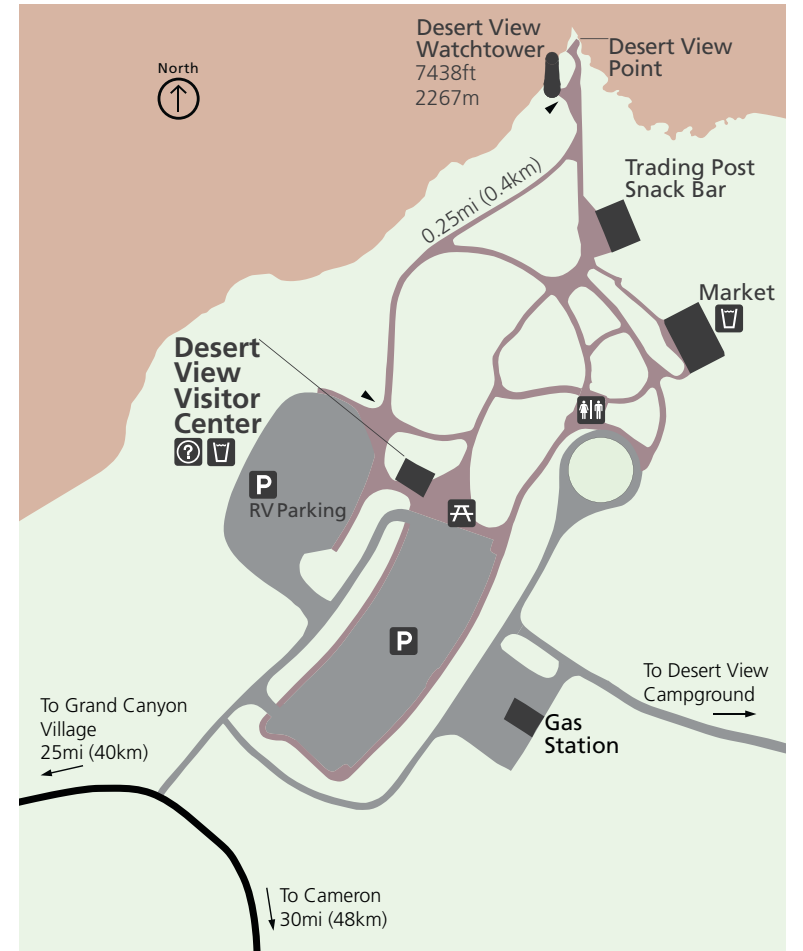
- Desert View Market** 8 am–7 pm
- Gas Station** 9 am–5 pm; fuel available 24 hours a day with credit card, including diesel

Camping

Desert View Campground (NPS)
\$12/night; no hookups; maximum vehicle length 30 feet (9.1 m). First-come, first-served self-registration.



Desert View Watchtower



Staying Safe at Grand Canyon



What Do I Need to Know About Elevation and Weather?

At 7,000 feet (2,135 m) elevation, you may feel short of breath, nauseous, or tire easily. Direct sun can cause dehydration and sunburn. Use sunblock and drink plenty of water.

Monsoon storms are common during summer. When you hear thunder, move back from the canyon rim. Do not stand under a tree. Seek shelter inside a vehicle, shuttle bus, or building; note that shuttle buses only stop at designated bus stops. Be aware of possible flash floods and falling rocks during and after storms.

Emergencies

Dial 911 or from hotel rooms dial 9-911

North Country Grand Canyon Clinic
Urgent care available. 8 am–6 pm daily; 928-638-2551

Where Can I Find Free Drinking Water?

In an effort to reduce litter along hiking trails, plastics in the waste stream, and greenhouse gas emissions, Grand Canyon National Park eliminated the sale of water packaged in individual disposable containers—including plastic and glass bottles.

Water bottle filling stations are available: Bring or buy a reusable water bottle and fill it up for free at park visitor centers, lodges, markets, and major trailheads. Reusable souvenir water bottles are available at Park Stores and gift shops.

Do Not Throw Rocks

Rocks or other objects tossed over the edge or dislodged by taking shortcuts can injure hikers and wildlife below.

How Can I Keep Wildlife Wild?

Never approach or feed any animal; it is illegal to do so.

Deer and elk can be aggressive, especially during the spring calving season (May and June) and fall rut (September and October).

Stay at least 100 feet (30 m), or about six car lengths, away from larger animals.

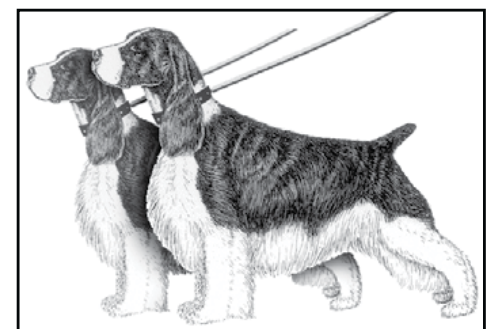
Do not feed the squirrels; they will bite and can carry fleas with the plague.

Keep the California condor flying free. Never approach a condor and stay at least 75 feet (23 m) away from these critically-endangered birds.

It is tempting to want to get close to animals, but remember they are not pets. Wild animals need space and respect.

How Can I View Grand Canyon Safely?

Stay at least 6 feet (2 m) from the edge and hold on to children. Always be aware of your surroundings. Do not back up without first looking where you are going. Never throw anything over the edge.



Where Can I Take My Pet?

Leashed pets are allowed on rim trails in the South Rim developed area, but not below the rim, in buildings, or on shuttle buses. These limits do not apply to service animals, but anyone wishing to take a service animal below the rim must check in at the Backcountry Information Center. Kennel information on page 6.

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