



Trip Planner

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Navigating *Trip Planner*

This document uses links to ease navigation. A box around a word or website indicates a link.

FIND YOUR **P** **A** **R** **K**

Welcome to Grand Canyon



Hello, and welcome to Grand Canyon National Park!

As you explore the park, I hope you find something that catches your eye, inspires wonder, provokes a question, makes a lasting impression, or leaves you wanting more. This remarkable canyon inspired earlier visitors to protect it in perpetuity and today creates untold memories for millions of visitors each year.

A visit to Grand Canyon can begin a lifetime of experiences exploring your national park system or culminate a life-long journey. In 2016, the National Park Service will celebrate its 100th birthday. As we engage the next generation of park stewards, we invite you to **Find Your Park**.

You found Grand Canyon, but did you know the Grand Canyon state boasts 22 other national park sites? Each of these places shares a unique story, preserves a part of our collective history, or offers an opportunity to view unparalleled beauty.

As you **Find Your Park** and discover what these places mean to you, whether it is at Grand Canyon National Park, Navajo National Monument, Hubbell Trading Post National Historic Site, or the city park back home, take the time to share what makes that piece of public land so special. Share a story of your experiences and invite others to find their park and create their own stories. The National Park Service Centennial is the perfect opportunity for all of us to create a new relationship or rekindle an old one with the wonders of national parks and public lands. So get going! Explore Grand Canyon, explore Arizona, explore the country. With 407 national park units in all 50 states get out there and **Find Your Park!**

Thank you,

David V. Uberuaga, Superintendent



General Information



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Located entirely in northern Arizona, the park encompasses 277 miles 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.

Grand Canyon National Park

Superintendent David V. Uberuaga
PO Box 129
Grand Canyon, Arizona 86023 USA

Park Headquarters

928-638-7888

Website

www.nps.gov/grca/



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

EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA™

The Park is Open

The Village and Desert View on the South Rim remain open all year. North Rim facilities open in mid-May and close in mid-October. Park entrances remain open 24 hours a day. Although the park never closes, hours for visitor centers and businesses vary throughout the year.

Park Information

For park ranger programs, services, hours of operation, special events, and current information, see Grand Canyon National Park's seasonal newspaper *The Guide*. The park publishes an edition for both the North and South rims. It is available in French, German, Spanish, Italian, Japanese, Korean, and Chinese. An *Accessibility Guide* is also available. Obtain newspapers at entrance stations, visitor centers, or online.

<http://go.nps.gov/136ojl>

Accessibility

For information about accessibility in Grand Canyon National Park, see

<http://go.nps.gov/1rtxl2>

Pets

Pets must be leashed at all times and may not be taken below the rim, inside buildings, or on shuttle buses. Persons wishing to take service animals below the rim must check in at the Backcountry Information Center. A kennel on the South Rim provides animal boarding.

<http://go.nps.gov/loxbia>

Park Entrance Fees

Fees collected support projects in the park. Admission to the park is \$30 per private vehicle; \$25 per motorcycle; and \$15 per person entering the park via Grand Canyon Railway, the park shuttle bus, private rafting trip, by walking, or riding a bicycle. The pass can be used for seven days and includes both rims. Pay fees at park entrance stations or at some businesses outside the park. Every year the National Park Service offers entrance fee free days. For complete fee information, including Annual, Active Military, Senior, and Access passes visit <http://go.nps.gov/y5uu6f>

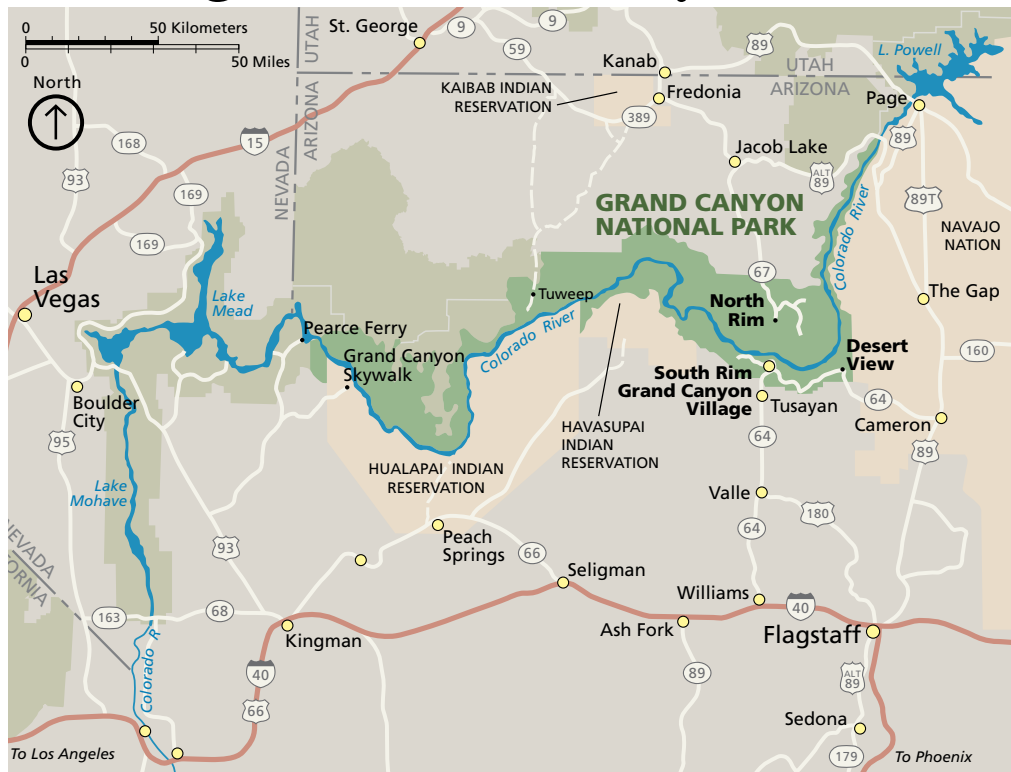
Sustainability

Grand Canyon National Park incorporates sustainability into all aspects of its operations. Due to environmental impacts, bottled water is not for sale in the park; however, the park provides refillable water bottle stations. Please recycle—recycling receptacles are conveniently located and as common as trash receptacles. Discover what else you can do to protect the environment while traveling here and beyond at

<http://go.nps.gov/1b2rzt>



Getting To Grand Canyon



Private Vehicle

SOUTH RIM

From the south—exit I-40 at Williams, Arizona, and proceed north on Arizona Highway 64 or exit on US 180 in Flagstaff, Arizona, and follow it to the intersection with Highway 64; turn north and follow to the South Entrance of the park.

From the north—take US Highway 89 or 160 to Highway 64 in Cameron, Arizona. Proceed west on 64 to the East Entrance of the park.

NORTH RIM

Take Highway 89A to Jacob Lake, Arizona, and turn south onto Arizona Highway 67 to the North Entrance of the park.

Coordinates*

GRAND CANYON VISITOR CENTER

Latitude, Longitude: 36° 03'32"N 112° 06'33"W
UTM Zone 12, NAD 83: 400093 East, 3991074
North

DESERT VIEW WATCHTOWER

Latitude, Longitude: 36° 2'38"N 111° 49'33"W
UTM Zone 12, NAD 83: 425584 East, 3989159
North

NORTH RIM VISITOR CENTER

Latitude, Longitude: 36° 11'51"N 112° 03'09"W
UTM Zone 12, NAD 83: 405379 East, 4006465
North

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Shuttle Service

ARIZONA SHUTTLE

Service between Flagstaff and Grand Canyon twice daily; also serves Phoenix, Tucson, and other locations in Arizona.
877-226-8060 or 928-226-8060
www.arizonashuttle.com

TRASCANYON SHUTTLE

Provides daily trips each way between the North and South rims from mid-May to mid-October.
928-638-2820
www.trans-canyonshuttle.com

FLAGSTAFF SHUTTLE AND CHARTER

Year-round custom service for individuals and groups from Flagstaff, Sedona, and Phoenix, Arizona, and Las Vegas, Nevada to the South and North rims.
928-814-8341
www.flagshuttle.com

*GPS may be unreliable in the area.
Be prepared with a map or atlas.

Airport

Airlines serve Phoenix, Arizona, and Las Vegas, Nevada. Limited flights go to Flagstaff, Arizona. Rent a car at any of these airports to continue to Grand Canyon National Park or reserve a shuttle to the park from Phoenix or Flagstaff.

GRAND CANYON AIRLINES

Fly from Boulder City, Nevada, near Las Vegas, to the Grand Canyon Airport in Tusayan, Arizona. Ride a shuttle or taxi from the airport to the South Rim; rental cars not available at Grand Canyon Airport.

866-235-9422

www.grandcanyonairlines.com

Train

AMTRAK

Stops at Williams and Flagstaff, Arizona. Shuttle service runs from Flagstaff to the South Rim.

800-872-7245

www.amtrak.com

GRAND CANYON RAILWAY

The train leaves Williams Depot at 9:30 am and arrives to Grand Canyon Depot at 11:45 am. The train departs Grand Canyon at 3:30 pm, arriving in Williams at 5:45 pm.

800-THE-TRAIN

www.thetrain.com

Bus

GREYHOUND BUS LINES

Serves Flagstaff and Williams.

800-231-2222

www.greyhound.com

Tusayan Route Shuttle Bus

PARK AND RIDE: WE'LL BE YOUR GUIDE

Why wait in lines and drive in circles looking for parking? During the busy summer season, long entrance station lines and difficult to find parking can take the enjoyment out of your trip. Park in the gateway community of Tusayan and ride a shuttle bus into the park. The Tusayan Route operates from late May to late September. After making four stops in Tusayan, the shuttle bus heads straight to the Grand Canyon Visitor Center, where you can begin your Grand Canyon experience. No lines, no hassles, no fuss! <http://go.nps.gov/1nw8ff>

Weather

Current and Year-Round Weather and Road Conditions http://go.nps.gov/grca_wr



SUMMER

June through August on the rims
May to September in the canyon

Beautiful weather shines on the rims, while brutal heat tortures the inner canyon. The high elevation and low humidity causes dramatic changes in temperature from day to night; bring a jacket. The excessive heat in the canyon can be dangerous and even fatal to unprepared hikers. Average rim temperatures range from 40°F (2°C) to 84°F (29°C). Inner canyon temperatures range from 92°F (33°C) to 106°F (41°C).

LIGHTNING DANGER

Common during summer, monsoon storms bring dangerous lightning. When you hear thunder, move away from the canyon rim. Do not stand under trees. Seek shelter inside vehicles, shuttle buses, or buildings; note that shuttle buses only stop at designated bus stops and will not pick you up on the side of the road during a storm. Be aware of possible floods and falling rocks during and after storms.



SPRING AND FALL

April, May, September, and October on the rims.
March, April, October, and early November in the canyon

Come prepared for a variety of conditions during these changeable seasons. May and October are typically dry, but snow on the rims is not unusual. Late April and May feature strong wind on the rims. Seasonable weather in the canyon offers some of the best times for hiking, making permits harder to obtain for overnight camping. Average rim temperatures range from 29°F (-2°C) to 65°F (18°C). Inner canyon temperatures range from 56°F (13°C) to 84°F (29°C).



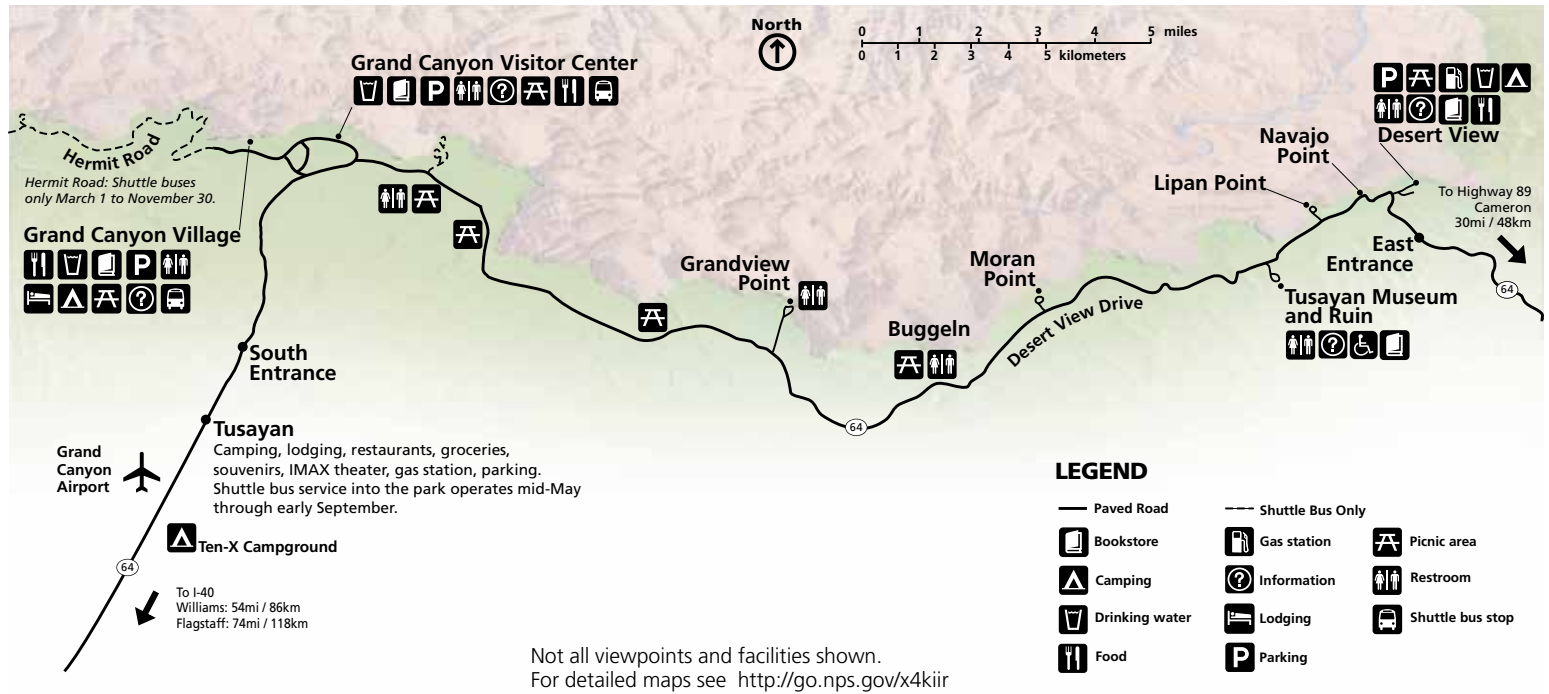
WINTER

November through March on the rims
December to February in the canyon

While the South Rim remains open year-round, the road to the North Rim closes with the first heavy snowfall. Canyon views may be obscured during passing storms, but canyon formations highlighted by snow are unforgettable. Grand Canyon National Park does not refund entrance fees a due to weather. The park plows South Rim roads, but temporary closures may occur. Average rim temperatures range from 18°F (-8°C) to 41°F (5°C). Inner canyon temperatures range from 36°F (2°C) to 56°F (13°C).



South Rim



Parking and Shuttle Buses

Grand Canyon’s South Rim attracts many people during peak seasons. Parking near Grand Canyon Visitor Center provides a convenient choice for visitors to use the shuttle bus system, but can be full during busy periods. Find additional parking in lots A–D and the Village.

Consider using the free shuttle bus system. Running on natural gas, these buses offer easy access to many popular viewpoints and hiking and bicycling opportunities along the South Rim. See *The Guide* for routes, stops, and information.

Shuttle buses offer bicycle racks, wheelchair ramps, and a “kneel” to reduce step. Please note wheelchairs larger than 30 inches (76 cm) wide by 48 inches (121 cm) deep can not be accommodated on shuttle buses; this includes most motorized scooters.

Viewpoints

Choose from dozens of beautiful and unique overlooks. Enjoy fantastic vistas no matter the viewpoint.

HERMIT ROAD

Travel the 7-mile (11 km) Hermit Road. Stop at nine scenic viewpoints and numerous un-named overlooks. Shuttle buses and bicycles only March 1 to November 30.

DESERT VIEW DRIVE

Drive along 25 miles (40 km) for views of the Colorado River. Climb to the top floor of Desert View Watchtower for a 360-degree view.

COLORADO RIVER VIEWS

Look down on portions of the Colorado River from viewpoints along Hermit Road, Desert View Drive, and from Yavapai and Mather points.

Things to do

SEE THE PARK FILM

Grand Canyon: A Journey of Wonder, a 22-minute introductory film, repeats on the hour and half-hour in Grand Canyon Visitor Center.

ATTEND A FREE PARK RANGER PROGRAM

Daily programs help you discover more about Grand Canyon. See the current list of programs in *The Guide*, South Rim edition.

GO ON A HIKE

See page 13 for rim and inner canyon day hiking information. Use free shuttle buses to access trails.

RIDE A BICYCLE

Journey through the forest and along parts of the canyon rim on the Greenway Trail. See go.nps.gov/1v2hmb



South Rim Services and Facilities



Information

The National Park Service staffs several visitor centers on the South Rim. Open every day of the year; hours vary.

SOUTH RIM VILLAGE

Grand Canyon Visitor Center

Plan your visit, and learn about Grand Canyon through the free park film and exhibits. Offers close access to Mather Point.

Backcountry Information Center

Learn about inner-canyon hiking; obtain backcountry information and permits.

Kolb Studio

View exhibits in the restored 1904 Kolb brothers' home and photography studio.

Verkamp's Visitor Center

Visit one of the oldest buildings in the Village and explore more than 100 years of community history.

Yavapai Geology Museum

Find answers to your questions with 3D maps and exhibits about the geologic story you see through the windows.

DESERT VIEW

Desert View Watchtower

Inspired by ancient pueblos, this Mary Jane Colter building offers spectacular views of Grand Canyon and the Painted Desert.

Tusayan Museum and Ruin

Look into the past and present day lives of thriving American Indian communities. Located 3 miles (4.8 km) west of Desert View.

Camping

IN THE PARK

Desert View Campground (NPS)

\$12/night; no hookups. Maximum vehicle length: 30 feet (9.1 m). Open mid-April to mid-October on a first-come, first-served basis; no reservations. Located 25 miles (40 km) east of the Village.

Mather Campground (NPS)

\$18/night; no hookups; dump station available. Maximum vehicle length: 30 feet (9.1 m). Open year-round; reservations strongly recommended April through October. Operates first-come, first-served from the end of November to early March. 877-444-6777
www.recreation.gov

Trailer Village (Delaware North Companies)

\$36/night for two people; \$3.50 for each additional person over age 16. Pull-through sites with hookups. Reservations recommended. Open year-round. Prices subject to change. 877-404-4611
www.visitgrandcanyon.com

OUTSIDE THE PARK, TUSAYAN, ARIZONA

Camper Village (Private)

Hookups, coin-operated showers, laundry, propane, dump station, and store; open year-round. 928-638-2887
www.grandcanyoncampervillage.com

Ten-X Campground (Kaibab National Forest)

No hookups or showers. Most individual sites first-come, first-served. Some individual and all group sites available by reservation. Open May through September. 877-444-6777 or
www.recreation.gov
Information: 928-638-2443

Lodging

IN THE PARK

Reservations should be made well in advance as facilities tend to be full for much of the year. Off-season rates available.

Delaware North Companies Parks & Resorts

Offers accommodations at Yavapai Lodge. 877-404-4611
www.visitgrandcanyon.com

Xanterra Parks & Resorts

Offers accommodations at El Tovar Hotel and Bright Angel, Kachina, Maswik, and Thunderbird, lodges. 888-297-2757
www.grandcanyonlodges.com

OUTSIDE THE PARK IN TUSAYAN, ARIZONA

Best Western Grand Canyon Squire Inn

800-937-8376
www.grandcanyonsquire.com

Canyon Plaza Resort

800-995-2521; pets ok
www.grandcanyonplaza.com

The Grand Hotel

888-634-7263; pets ok
www.grandcanyongrandhotel.com

Holiday Inn Express

888-473-2269
www.gcanyon.com

Red Feather Lodge

866-561-2425; pets ok
www.redfeatherlodge.com

7 Mile Lodge

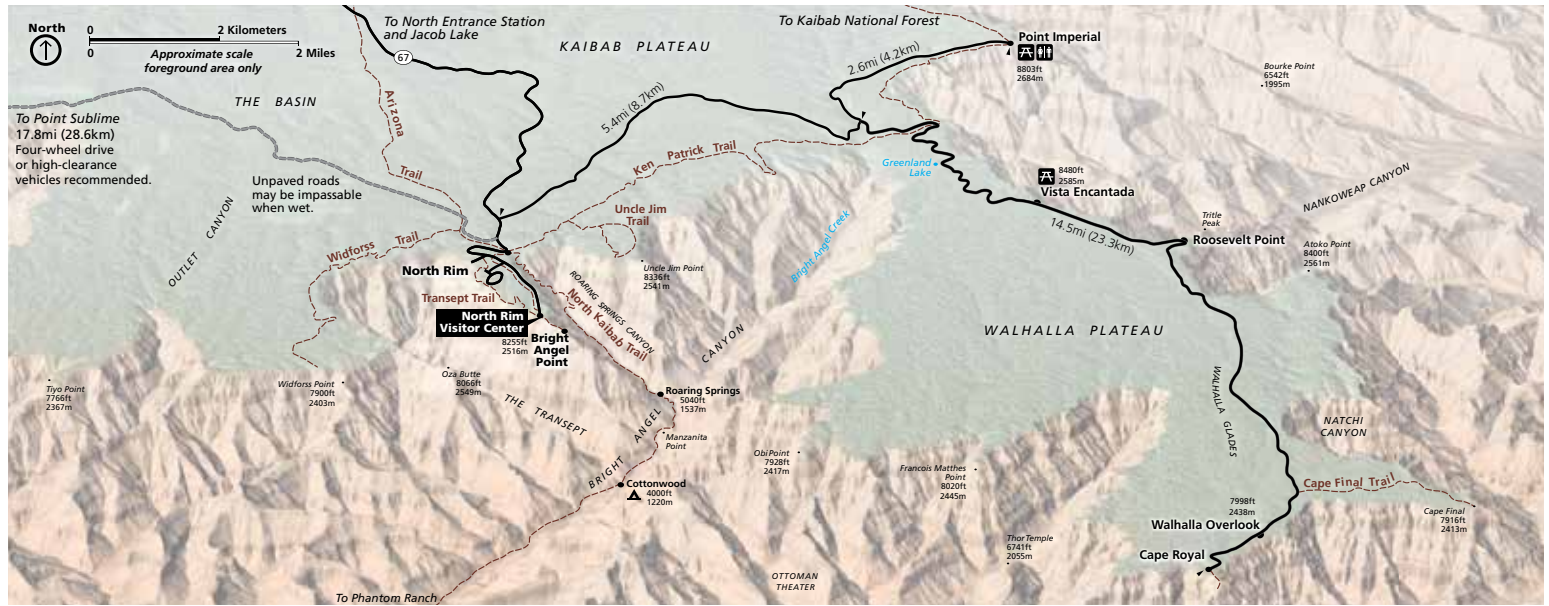
928-638-2291

Other Services

The Village features a variety of services, including restaurants, gift shops, post office, bank, general store, garage, kennel, laundry, showers, taxi, and more. <http://go.nps.gov/o2ib4w>

Tusayan, Arizona, offers additional restaurants, gift shops, groceries, and a gas station.

North Rim



Information

Less visited than the South Rim, the North Rim offers quiet canyon views. North Rim facilities open mid-May to mid-October.

NORTH RIM VISITOR CENTER

Explore exhibits, talk to a park ranger, and visit the bookstore operated by the Grand Canyon Association.

BACKCOUNTRY INFORMATION CENTER

Located in the Administrative Building, learn about inner-canyon hiking and obtain backcountry information and permits for overnight hikes.

Things to Do

ATTEND A FREE PARK RANGER PROGRAM

Daily programs help you discover more about Grand Canyon. See the current list of programs in *The Guide*, North Rim edition.

ENJOY THE VISTAS

View the canyon from Grand Canyon Lodge, trails along the rim, or out on the Walhalla Plateau.

GO ON A HIKE

See page 13 for rim and inner canyon day hiking information.

RIDE A BICYCLE

Permitted on all roads unless posted; prohibited on all trails, except the Bridle and Arizona trails.

Driving Viewpoints

POINT IMPERIAL

Travel 11 miles (18 km) from the visitor center to view Mount Hayden and Marble Canyon along this beautiful 20-minute drive each way.

CAPE ROYAL

Drive 23 miles (37 km) from the visitor center to explore Angels Window and ancestral Puebloan ruins at Walhalla Glades. Allow plenty of time to enjoy this 45-minute drive each way.

Note: Vehicles longer than 30 feet (9 m) not recommended on the roads to Point Imperial and Cape Royal.

North Rim Services and Facilities



Camping

IN THE PARK

North Rim Campground (NPS)

\$18–\$25/night. No hookups; dump station available. Stays limited to seven days per season. Campground fills most nights; advanced reservations strongly recommended. 877-444-6777

www.recreation.gov

OUTSIDE THE PARK

DeMotte Campground (US Forest Service)

18 miles (28 km) north of North Rim. \$18/night; no hookups or reservations. Open May 15 to October 15.

Reservations for half the sites: 877-444-6777 or www.recreation.gov

Information: 928-643-7395

www.fs.usda.gov

Jacob Lake Campground (US Forest Service)

45 miles (75 km) north of North Rim. \$18/night; no hookups. Open May 15 to October 15.

Reservations for group site: 877-444-6777 or www.recreation.gov

Information: 928-569-2333 or

www.fs.usda.gov

Kaibab Camper Village (Private)

Located 0.25 mile (0.5 km) south of Jacob Lake on Arizona Highway 67. Open May 15 to October 15; full hookups available.

928-643-7804

928-526-0924, during the off-season

800-525-0924, outside Arizona

www.kaibabcampervillage.com

Lodging

IN THE PARK

Grand Canyon Lodge

Make reservations with Forever Resorts; books well in advance. Check the lodge for same day availability.

877-386-4383

www.grandcanyonforever.com

Kaibab Lodge

OUTSIDE THE PARK

Located 18 miles (30 km) north of North Rim; open mid-May to late October and includes a restaurant and store.

928-638-2389

www.kaibablodge.com

Jacob Lake Inn

Located 45 miles (75 km) north of North Rim in Jacob Lake, Arizona; open year-round. Includes a restaurant, store, and gas station with pay at pump available 24 hours daily. Propane available.

928-643-7232

www.jacoblake.com

Food and Beverage

IN THE PARK

Grand Canyon Lodge Dining Room

Offers a view of the canyon; reservations for dinner recommended; open daily.

Deli in the Pines

In the Grand Canyon Lodge complex; open daily.

Roughrider Saloon

In the Grand Canyon Lodge complex; open daily.

Coffee Shop

Located in the Roughrider Saloon; offers coffee, bagels, and baked goods in the morning and light fare, appetizers, and cocktails later in the day.

Grand Canyon Cookout Experience

A Western dining event with live entertainment. Reservations recommended; inquire at the lodge front desk or call: 928-638-2611

www.grandcanyonforever.com

Other Services

The North Rim offers a variety of other services including fuel, garage, laundry, showers, post office, and more. <http://go.nps.gov/o2ib4w>

Tours and Trips

Air Tours

All scenic air tours originate from Grand Canyon Airport in Tusayan, Arizona, outside the South Rim of the park. Companies offer both fixed-wing and helicopter tours daily.

FIXED-WING

Grand Canyon Airlines

866-235-9422

www.grandcanyonairlines.com

Westwind Air Service

888-869-0866

www.westwindairservice.com

Vision Airlines

800-256-8767

www.visionholidays.com

HELICOPTER

Grand Canyon Helicopters

800-541-4537

www.grandcanyonhelicoptersaz.com

Maverick Helicopters

888-261-4414

www.maverickhelicopter.com

Papillon Grand Canyon Helicopters

888-635-7272

www.papillon.com

Mule Trips

Mule trips make daily excursions and overnight trips into the canyon.

For information visit

<http://go.nps.gov/14jx4c>

SOUTH RIM

Xanterra Parks & Resorts

303-297-2757 or 888-297-2757

www.grandcanyonlodges.com

NORTH RIM

Grand Canyon Trail Rides

435-679-8665

www.canyonrides.com

Bicycle Rentals

From April 1 to October 31 rent a bicycle for a self-guided tour of the rim. Guided tours also available. Wheelchair rentals and “grab and go” food available year-round. Located near Grand Canyon Visitor Center and Mather Point.

Bright Angel Bicycles

928-814-8704

www.bikegrandcanyon.com

Bus Tours

Daily South Rim tours to Hermits Rest and Desert View, as well as sunrise and sunset tours. Tour guides explain history and geology while you relax and enjoy canyon views. Wheelchair-accessible coaches available by prior arrangement.

Xanterra Parks & Resorts

303-297-2757 or 888-297-2757

www.grandcanyonlodges.com



Tours and Trips

River Adventures

For an ultimate adventure, and a life-changing experience, raft the Colorado River through Grand Canyon. Several options allow exploring the river on a diversity of time frames and budgets.

1-DAY COMMERCIAL TRIPS

Half-day and all-day smooth-water float trips travel 15 river miles (24 km) from Glen Canyon Dam to Lees Ferry, March 1 to November 30.

Colorado River Discovery

888-522-6644
www.raftthecanyon.com

2-5 DAY LOWER GORGE RIVER TRIPS

Private river trips can float 52 river miles (84 km) from Diamond Creek to Lake Mead. Permits available starting one year in advance on a first-come, first-served basis. The National Park Service does not assess permit fees for this section of the river, but the Hualapai Tribe charges access fees for crossing their reservation. For information and applications visit: <http://go.nps.gov/sxsoub>

3-18 DAY COMMERCIAL TRIPS

The following companies offer three- to 19-day river trips through Grand Canyon, traveling 226 river miles (364 km) from Lees Ferry to Diamond Creek. Companies offer a variety of trips in large motorized rafts, oared rafts, paddle rafts, and dories.

Aramark-Wilderness River Adventures

800-992-8022
www.riveradventures.com

Grand Canyon Expeditions Co.

800-544-2691
www.gcex.com

Arizona Raft Adventures

800-786-7238
www.azraft.com

Grand Canyon Whitewater

800-343-3121
www.grandcanyonwhitewater.com

Arizona River Runners

800-477-7238
www.raftarizona.com

Hatch River Expeditions

800-856-8966
www.hatchriverexpeditions.com

Canyon Explorations/ Canyon Expeditions

800-654-0723
www.canyonexplorations.com

Moki Mac River Expeditions

800-284-7280
www.mokimac.com

Canyoneers, Inc.

800-525-0924
www.canyoneers.com

O.A.R.S. Grand Canyon

800-346-6277
www.oars.com

Colorado River & Trail Expeditions, Inc.

800-253-7328
www.crateinc.com

Outdoors Unlimited

800-637-7238
www.outdoorsunlimited.com

Grand Canyon Dories

800-346-6277
www.oars.com/grandcanyon/dories.html

Tour West

800-435-9107
www.twriver.com

Grand Canyon Discovery, Inc.

800-786-7238
www.grandcanyondiscovery.com

Western River Expeditions

866-904-1160
www.westernriver.com













12-25 DAY PRIVATE TRIPS

Since demand far exceeds supply, the park dispenses non-commercial permits to travel from Lees Ferry to Diamond Creek via a weighted lottery. Each February, a main lottery assigns the majority of launch dates for the next year. Additional follow-up lotteries occur throughout the remainder of the year to re-assign cancelled trips. <http://go.nps.gov/ig4s55>



Hiking Map

Map Key

-  Toilets
-  Drinking Water: Year-Round
-  Drinking Water: Seasonal
-  Emergency Phone
-  Campground: Camp in designated sites only
-  Ranger Station: Year-Round
-  Ranger Station: Seasonal
-  First Aid
-  Information
-  Restaurants
-  Lodging
-  General Store



Always carry backup water purification.

Do not swim in the Colorado River!
Dangerous currents and cold water temperatures can be deadly.

South Kaibab Trailhead closed to private vehicles. Access via free shuttle bus only.

Day Hiking

Hiking in Grand Canyon creates life changing experiences and lasting memories. Proper planning ensures good hiking memories. See page 14 for hiking tips.

Hiking to the Colorado River and back in one day is dangerous and not recommended. Summer heat occasionally causes fatalities. In winter, cold temperatures and slippery trails can cause accidents and hypothermia.

If you desire an overnight hike see pages 15–16 and contact the Backcountry Information Center for permits.

South Rim

Destination	Distance Round Trip	Time Round Trip	Elevation Change	Notes
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Rim Trail

Mostly flat; many sections suitable for wheelchairs. Easy walks and quiet views. Follows the rim from Hermits Rest east to South Kaibab Trailhead. Begin from any viewpoint and use the free shuttle buses to customize your trip; see *The Guide* for route information.

Follows the rim for 13 miles (21 km)

Your choice

15 minutes to all day

200 feet
60 m

Mostly paved, except dirt from Monument Creek Vista east to Powell Point

Bright Angel Trail

This popular, steep trail into the canyon begins west of Bright Angel Lodge. Upper portion provides some afternoon shade. Water available year-round at Indian Garden, subject to breaks in the pipeline.

1 ½-Mile Resthouse

3 miles
4.8 km

2–4 hours

2,112 feet
644 m

Toilets
Water
May–October

3-Mile Resthouse

6 miles
9.6 km

4–6 hours

2,112 feet
644 m

Toilets
Water
May–October

Indian Garden

9.2 miles
14.8 km

6–9 hours

3,060 feet
933 m

Water year-round
Toilets

South Kaibab Trail

Trail begins south of Yaki Point at the South Kaibab Trailhead; you must ride the free shuttle bus to the trailhead. Best views for a relatively short and steep hike, but no water. Upper portion of trail subject to strong afternoon sun with little or no shade. Signs identifying turn-around spots may not be in place.

Ooh Ahh Point

1.8 miles
2.9 km

1–2 hours

600 feet
180 m

No water
First view east

Cedar Ridge

3 miles
4.8 km

2–4 hours

1,140 feet
347 m

No water
Toilets

Skeleton Point

6 miles
9.7 km

4–6 hours

2,040 feet
622 m

No water
Hitching rail

North Rim

Bright Angel Point

A short walk on a paved rim trail leads to a spectacular view of the canyon. Trail begins at the log shelter in the parking area by the visitor center or at the porch behind Grand Canyon Lodge. Trail not wheelchair accessible.

Bright Angel Point

0.5 miles
0.8 km

30 minutes

200 feet
60 m

No water
Self-guiding trail brochure available at trailhead

Widforss Trail

Even a short walk along this rim trail blending forest and canyon scenery can be very satisfying. Take the dirt road 0.25 miles (0.4 km) south of the road to Cape Royal for one mile (1.6 km) to the trailhead.

Widforss Point

10 miles
16 km

6 hours

200 feet
60 m

No water
Self-guiding trail brochure available at trailhead

North Kaibab Trail

The trailhead is two miles (3 km) north of Grand Canyon Lodge. This steep trail begins in the forest, but descends quickly into the canyon. Mules may be encountered. In the spring, trail opening may be delayed for repairs.

Coconino Overlook

1.4 miles
2.3 km

1–2 hours

800 feet
245 m

No water
Expansive view

Supai Tunnel

4 miles
6.4 km

3–4 hours

1,450 feet
445 m

Water
May–October

Hiking Tips

Prepare a Day Pack With:

WATER

One quart/liter for every two hours. 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

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; cell phones are not reliable.

SIMPLE SHELTERS

Emergency tarp with reflective side.

WEATHER-APPROPRIATE CLOTHING

Wear layered clothing appropriate for the weather and hiking boots with good soles.

Danger!

DAY HIKES TO THE RIVER

Hiking to the river and back in one day is never recommended due to extreme weather, long distances, and a near 5,000-foot (1,500 m) elevation change each way.

HEALTH RISKS

Familiarize yourself with the symptoms and treatment for heat-related illnesses, hypothermia, dehydration, and electrolyte imbalances.

OVER EXERTION

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

NO SWIMMING

The Colorado River is fast, wide, and cold (46°F / 8°C) year-round. Do not swim in the river—you will perish!

DO NOT THROW ROCKS

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

Hike Smart

PLAN

Keys to a successful hike include knowledge, preparation, and a good plan. Grand Canyon is not the place for spontaneity. Always check weather and trail conditions before you hike.

EAT AND DRINK

Snack every time you drink water or sports drink.

REST

Sit down, prop your legs up, and take a 10-minute break at least once every hour. If you do not feel well, rest until you feel better.

LEAVE NO TRACE

Day hikers can leave quite a mark in the canyon—literally. Write a postcard to your friends instead of writing on walls. Take your trash back out with you, including toilet paper. Do not feed the wildlife, and guard your food from food-habituated animals.

Stay together, follow your plan, and know where and how to seek help.

Hiking Safety Information

SUMMER

<http://go.nps.gov/iopezu>

WINTER

<http://go.nps.gov/1fx2nh>



Backpacking

Backcountry Information Centers

Contact

Mail: Grand Canyon Permits Office
National Park Service
1824 S. Thompson St., Suite 201
Flagstaff, Arizona 86001 USA

E-mail: grca_bic@nps.gov

Fax: 928-638-2125

Tel: 928-638-7875; answered
8 am–5 pm Mountain Standard Time,
Monday to Friday

Backcountry information:
<http://go.nps.gov/1vc55>



SOUTH RIM

Open daily
8 am–noon and 1–5 pm
Year-round



NORTH RIM

Open daily
8 am–noon and 1–5 pm
mid-May to mid-October
Located in the Administrative Building

Do I Need a Permit?

Grand Canyon National Park requires permits for all overnight backcountry camping including:

- hiking
- horseback riding
- cross-country ski trips
- off-river hikes by rivertrip members
- camping at rim sites other than developed campgrounds

Day hiking, day horseback riding, river trips, mule trips, and overnight stays in dormitories or cabins at Phantom Ranch do not need a backcountry permit.

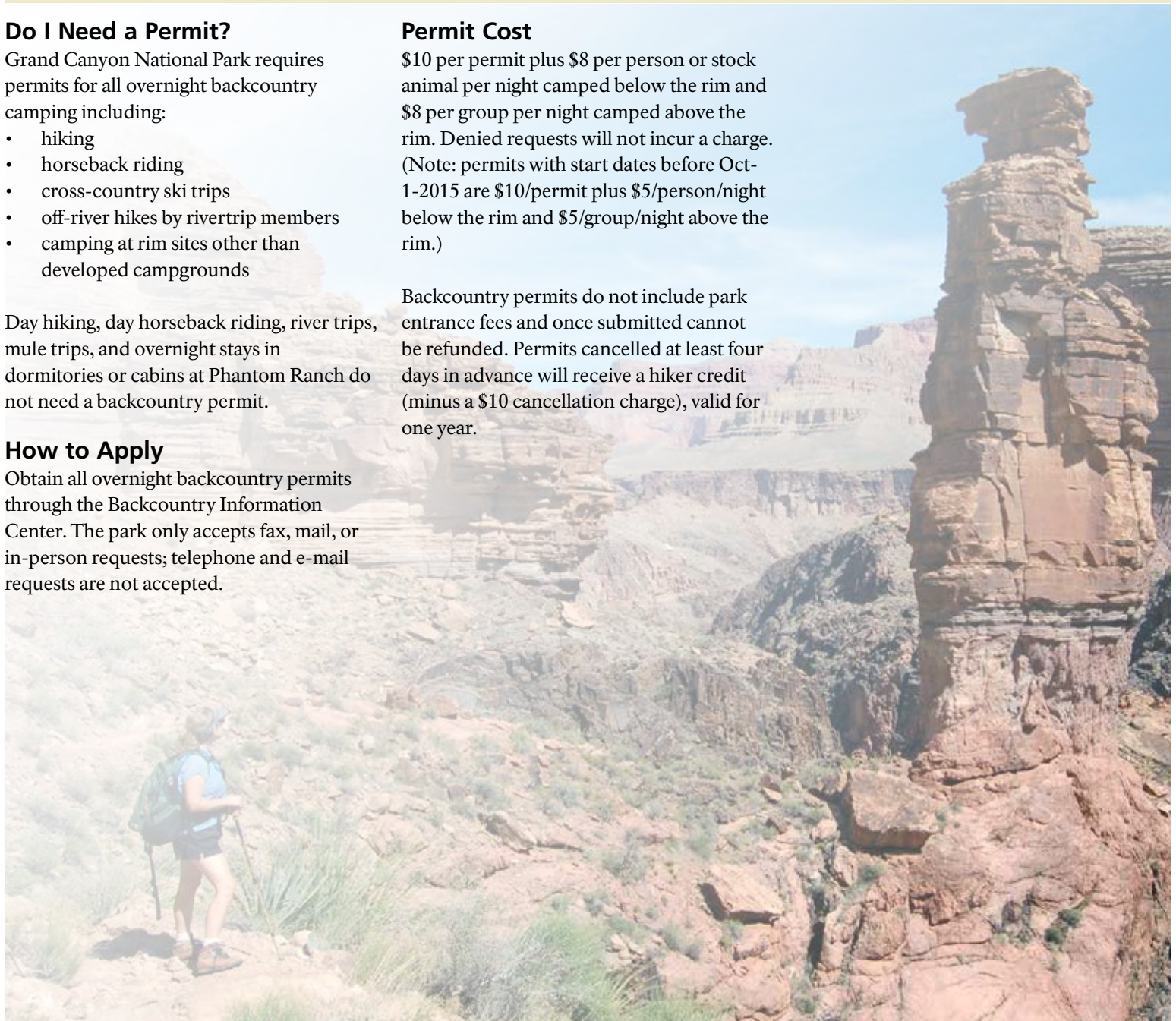
How to Apply

Obtain all overnight backcountry permits through the Backcountry Information Center. The park only accepts fax, mail, or in-person requests; telephone and e-mail requests are not accepted.

Permit Cost

\$10 per permit plus \$8 per person or stock animal per night camped below the rim and \$8 per group per night camped above the rim. Denied requests will not incur a charge. (Note: permits with start dates before Oct-1-2015 are \$10/permit plus \$5/person/night below the rim and \$5/group/night above the rim.)

Backcountry permits do not include park entrance fees and once submitted cannot be refunded. Permits cancelled at least four days in advance will receive a hiker credit (minus a \$10 cancellation charge), valid for one year.



Backpacking

When to Apply

Popular use areas and campsites fill up quickly. Grand Canyon National Park recommends submitting requests on the earliest allowed date. The Backcountry Information Center accepts permit applications no earlier than the first of the month, four months prior to the proposed start of the trip—see chart below.

For hikes starting in:	Submit written request on or after:	In-person requests receive response after:
January	September 1	October 1
February	October 1	November 1
March	November 1	December 1
April	December 1	January 1
May	January 1	February 1
June	February 1	March 1
July	March 1	April 1
August	April 1	May 1
September	May 1	June 1
October	June 1	July 1
November	July 1	August 1
December	August 1	September 1

Since the Backcountry Information Center needs time to process and mail responses, written requests will not be accepted 21 days before the proposed start date. Only in-person requests will be considered within this time frame.

Permit Responses

Grand Canyon National Park responds to all written requests via US mail only. Please allow at least three weeks for processing. The park issues a permit and mails it to the trip leader when space is available and all fee requirements are met. If you have been denied a permit through the mail, you may want to consider day hikes or attempt to obtain a last minute, walk-up permit in person at the Backcountry Information Center.

Last Minute Permits

A limited number of last minute walk-up permits are available at the Backcountry Information Center for Indian Garden, Bright Angel, and Cottonwood campgrounds. The park issues permits in person only, for one or two consecutive nights. Permits cannot be purchased more than one day prior to the start of a hike.

Use Areas

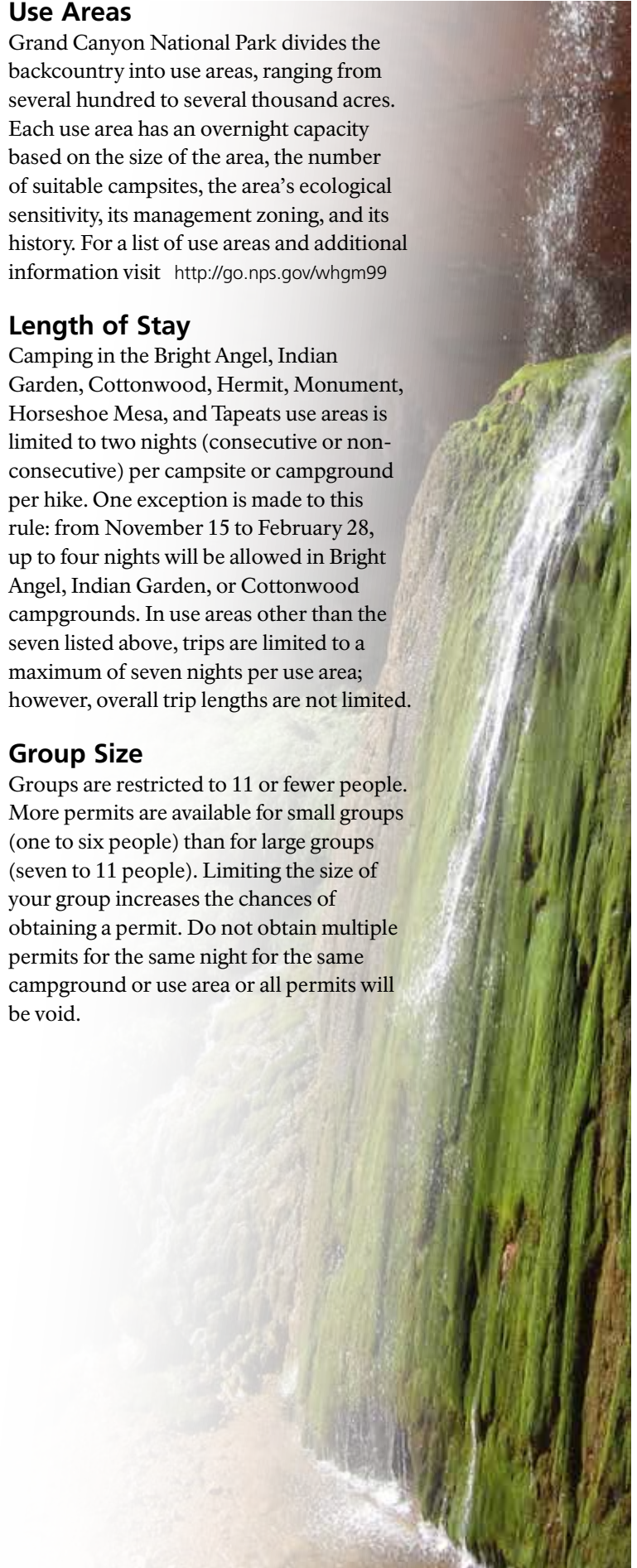
Grand Canyon National Park divides the backcountry into use areas, ranging from several hundred to several thousand acres. Each use area has an overnight capacity based on the size of the area, the number of suitable campsites, the area's ecological sensitivity, its management zoning, and its history. For a list of use areas and additional information visit <http://go.nps.gov/whgm99>

Length of Stay

Camping in the Bright Angel, Indian Garden, Cottonwood, Hermit, Monument, Horseshoe Mesa, and Tapeats use areas is limited to two nights (consecutive or non-consecutive) per campsite or campground per hike. One exception is made to this rule: from November 15 to February 28, up to four nights will be allowed in Bright Angel, Indian Garden, or Cottonwood campgrounds. In use areas other than the seven listed above, trips are limited to a maximum of seven nights per use area; however, overall trip lengths are not limited.

Group Size

Groups are restricted to 11 or fewer people. More permits are available for small groups (one to six people) than for large groups (seven to 11 people). Limiting the size of your group increases the chances of obtaining a permit. Do not obtain multiple permits for the same night for the same campground or use area or all permits will be void.



Get Involved

Teachers

FIELD TRIPS, CLASSROOM RANGERS, DISTANCE LEARNING, AND TEACHER WORKSHOPS

Using Grand Canyon as a teaching tool, park rangers conduct curriculum-based field trips, in-class presentations, and live, two-way video distance learning programs for grades K–12. Students engage in real-world exploration of concepts related to geology, ecology, and human history.

928-638-7931

www.nps.gov/grca/forteachers

University Students

GRAND CANYON SEMESTER

Grand Canyon National Park partners with Northern Arizona University and Prescott College to offer a unique, semester-long program. Grand Canyon Semester immerses students in a place-based learning experience using Grand Canyon as a classroom and laboratory. Classroom academics combine with field opportunities to create an unparalleled learning environment.

www.nau.edu/Honors/GCS/

www.prescott.edu/learn/non-degree/grand-canyon-semester.html

Middle and High School Youth

CANYON FIELD SCHOOLS

Deepen your connection to Grand Canyon National Park. Spend one to two weeks exploring the trails, running the rapids, and camping under the stars.

928-638-7924

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

Volunteer

WANT TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE DURING YOUR STAY? VOLUNTEER AT GRAND CANYON!

You can help Grand Canyon in a variety of ways, from enhancing visitor services to sharing your specialized expertise to help protect and preserve park resources.

Visit www.volunteer.gov to learn about current volunteer opportunities in Grand Canyon National Park.

VEGETATION

Work with the National Park Service's vegetation program to restore native plant communities and protect the ecological integrity of Grand Canyon National Park. Contact the vegetation program volunteer coordinator at 928-638-7753 for information about potential opportunities and accommodations.

Junior Ranger

Grand Canyon National Park and over 250 national parks offer a free Junior Ranger Program. At Grand Canyon, ages four and older can pick up a Junior Ranger booklet at any National Park Service visitor center. Parents, consider making a great memory and become a Junior Ranger with your child; there is no age limit! Available year-round at Phantom Ranch, Indian Garden, and the South Rim; available on the North Rim in the summer only.

TO PARTICIPATE

Attend a free park ranger program. Complete four activities for your age group. Bring your completed booklet back to any Grand Canyon visitor center to receive an official Junior Ranger certificate and badge.



Outside the National Park

Kaibab National Forest

Surrounding both South and North rims, discover unique experiences in national forests.

www.fs.usda.gov/main/kaibab/home

SOUTH RIM

Tusayan Ranger District
176 Lincoln Log Loop
PO Box 3088
Grand Canyon,
Arizona 86023 USA
928-638-2443

NORTH RIM

North Kaibab Ranger
District
430 South Main Street
PO Box 248
Fredonia, Arizona
86022 USA
928-643-7395



Photo courtesy of U.S. Forest Service, Southwestern Region, Kaibab National Forest

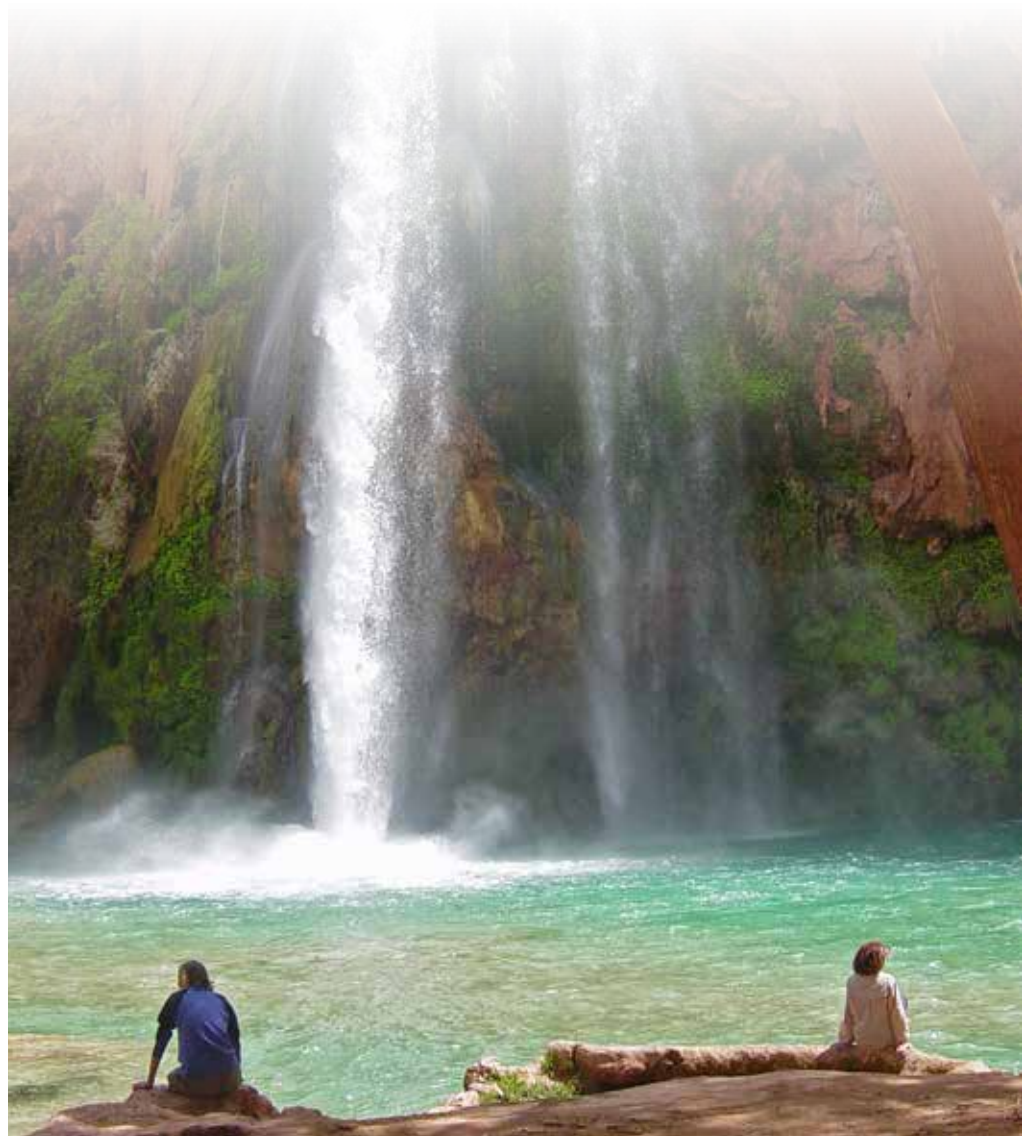
Havasupai Indian Reservation

Havasupai tribal lands include a large tributary canyon on the south side of the Colorado River, approximately 190 miles (310 km) west of the Village. The reservation lies outside the boundaries of Grand Canyon National Park and is administered by the Tribe. Access the Village of Supai by an 8-mile (13 km) hike or horse ride. To obtain a hiking permit or make reservations at the lodge at Supai:

928-448-2121 Tourist Office

928-441-2111 Lodging

www.havasupai-nsn.gov



The Skywalk at Grand Canyon West

Located west of Grand Canyon National Park, this glass walkway protrudes over the rim on the Hualapai Indian Reservation. The Skywalk is a Hualapai Tribal business located 250 miles (400 km) from the South Rim, or 90 miles (145 km) from Las Vegas, Nevada. For information or to make reservations, contact the tribe directly.

888-868-9378 or 928-769-2636

www.grandcanyonwest.com

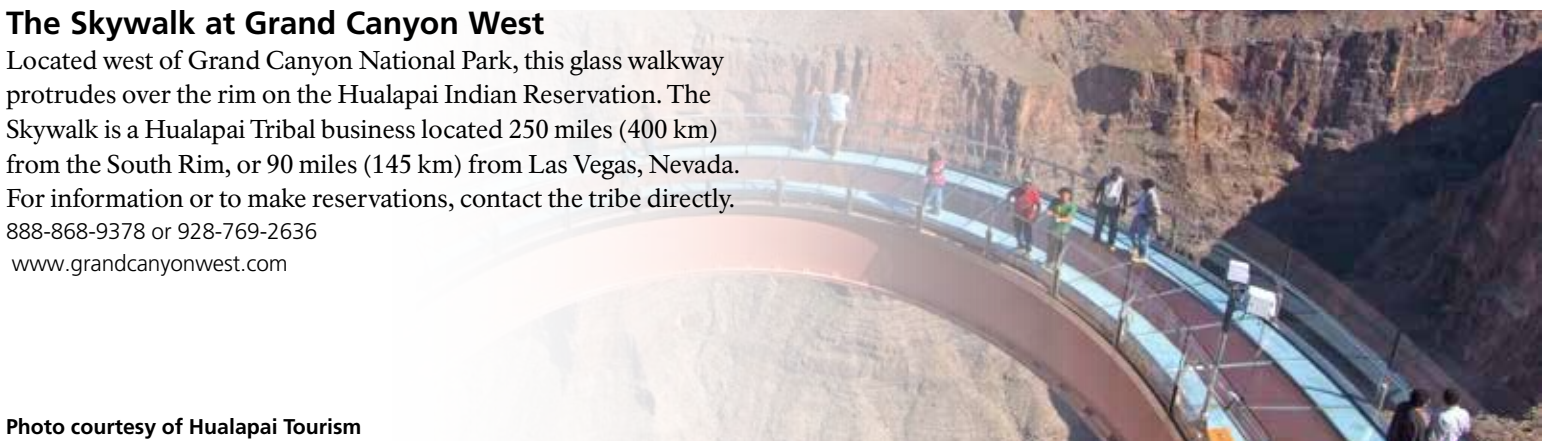


Photo courtesy of Hualapai Tourism

Park Partners



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 enjoy the awe-inspiring wonder of Grand Canyon.

As the park's official nonprofit partner, GCA cooperates with the National Park Service to operate bookstores in seven locations in the park. Bookstore 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

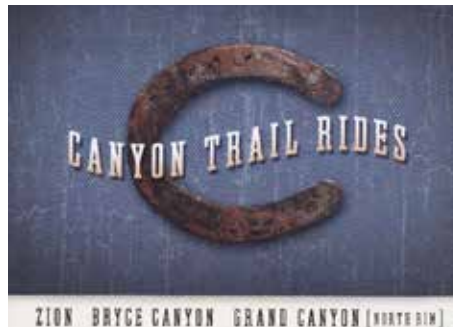
From hiking and backpacking to yoga and photography, you can participate in education classes throughout the park. Call 866-471-4435 or visit www.grandcanyon.org/fieldinstitute

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



Bright Angel Bicycles rents bicycles and serves food near Grand Canyon Visitor Center.



Canyon Trail Rides provides North Rim visitors with mule trips into the canyon.



Delaware North Companies Parks & Resorts provides services at Desert View, and operates Yavapai Lodge, Trailer Village, and Canyon Village Market.



Forever Resorts operates the Grand Canyon Lodge, shops, and restaurants on the North Rim.



GRAND CANYON
Railway®

Grand Canyon Railway serves the city of Williams, Arizona, and the Village on the South Rim.



Xanterra Parks & Resorts provides lodging, dining, transportation services, and shops at Grand Canyon's South Rim.

