The Hoodoo
National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Regional Map

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Services
ACCESSIBILITY
Restrooms, Visitor Center, Bryce Canyon Lodge, Vidala, and General Store are fully accessible when open.
- The 5-mile section of Rim Trail between Sunset and Sunrise Points is paved and fairly level.
- Free Access Guide at Visitor Center

LODGING
The Lodge at Bryce Canyon is open Spring-Fall. Winter lodging is available at the Sunset Motel. Reservations can be made by calling (435) 834-6700 or visiting Brycecanyonreservations.com.

SHUTTLE
Free! Runs Spring through Fall. See Bryce Amphitheater map.

MONEY
ATM available at the Lodge and Ruby’s Inn General Store, north of the park.

Recreation
CAMPING
Camping is available on a first come, first served basis.
Tent sites are leased at the self-service kiosk for $20/night. RV sites (first 20-feet) are available on a first come, first serve basis. Contact (435) 834-6730 for reservations. The Bryce National Park has a paved bicycle path traveling over 17 miles through Red Canyon to connect to the park path, along with many miles of mountain bike trails.

BICYCLING
Bicycles are restricted to paved roads, campground roads, and the Shaded-Lie Path (see map). Bicycles are not permitted along the Rim Trail or on any other hiking trail. The Dixie National Forest has a paved bicycle path traveling over 17 miles through Red Canyon to connect to the park path, along with many miles of mountain bike trails.

HORSEBACK RIDING
Horseback riding along the 9-mile of the Rim Trail is allowed Spring-Fall. Please see the regulations at Bryce Canyon Lodge. The use of privately-owned horse trails is permitted. However, regulations and guidelines have been developed to ensure safety and protection for other visitors and wildlife resources. Please E-mail us or call (435) 834-4735 at least 72 hours in advance to schedule a reservation for your privately-owned horse.

BACKCOUNTRY
Backcountry permits are required to enter the backcountry. Backcountry permits are issued on a first-come, first-served basis and may be purchased at the Visitor Center. Maps are available to 6 people per night. There are two groups sites available with a limit of 15 people per site. Maps available at the Visitor Center and the park website.

Park Contact
Superintendent/Leader Manager
Mailing Address
PB Box 64700
Riley, UT 84704-0700
Park Information
435-834-5122
Website
www.nps.gov/bryc
Social Media
www.facebook.com/bryecanyonwww.
www.instagram.com/bryecanyonwww.
www.twitter.com/bryecanyon
www.youtube.com/bryecanyon
E-mail
bryc_information@nps.gov
Lost and Found
bryc_lostfound@nps.gov
Emergencies
800-552-4911 or 911

Entrance Fees
Fees are available at park entrance stations. Information about participating agencies (NPS, BLM, FWS, FS, and DNR) is available online at http://www.nps.gov/bryc.

While valid, the cost of your entrance to this park and others on your trip can be used toward the cost of an Annual Pass. Simply bring your receipt to the bus or Visitor Center front desk.

SRVCY ANNUAL PASS $10 (up to two adults and all lifetime, if applicable) National Park for all years from date of purchase

ANNUAL PASS $80 (up to two adults and all lifetime, if applicable) National Park for all years from date of purchase

WHALEY PASS $30 (up to two adults and all lifetime, if applicable) National Park for all years from date of purchase

ACCESS PASS $5 (adults 62 years or older)

4TH GRADE PASS Free admission to all Federal fee areas for U.S. 4th Graders with validity through school year

MILITARY ANNUAL PASS - Free admission to all Federal fee areas for active or retired military personnel

SENIOR PASS $10 (up to two adults and all lifetime, if applicable) National Park for all years from date of purchase

4TH GRADE PASS - Free admission to all Federal fee areas for U.S. 4th Graders with validity through school year

Thad’s Hammer at Sunset Point. Photo Credit: Phil Monson

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The Hoodoo 8
**Bryce Canyon National Park Map/Guide**

**Scenic Areas**

- Rainbow and Yovimpa Points: Enjoy two of the longest views in North America at Mile 18, the end of the scenic drive. Walk the 1.0-mile Bristlecone Loop amongst Bristlecone pines over 1,000 years old. (See inside cover for hiking information)

- Natural Bridge: Just past Mile 12, technically not a bridge, but a natural arch formed by headward erosion. Enjoy the contrast between the red rocks and deep greens of the plateau forest.

- Bryce Amphitheater: The park’s most popular area, and the reason it was first established. Marvel at this “cave without a ceiling” from four main overlooks and along numerous hiking trails above and below the rim. Accessed within first four miles of the park. (See inside cover for detailed map)

- Mossy Cave: Travel 3.7 miles east on Hwy 12 to reach this popular and easy hike that leads you along flowing water beneath hoodoos to a waterfall and grotto not a cave that fills with moss and winter icicles. (See inside cover for hiking information)

**Plan Your Visit**

**Welcome to Bryce Canyon National Park, home to the largest collection of hoodoos in the world. Explore the park by traveling on the main road (Highway 63). As you enter the park, all turns for viewpoints and hikes will be on your left.**

**4 Hours or Less**

- **Hike the Canyon (next page for detailed map)**
  - Walk paved 1.0-mile Rim Trail from Sunset to Sunrise Points (Leashed Pets OK).
  - Or hike below the rim on 2.9-mile Queen’s / Navajo Combination Loop

- **Or Scenic Drive and Overlooks (back page)**
  - Continue driving 17 miles to Rainbow and Yovimpa Points.
  - As you return north (to western exit), overlooks will be on the right.
  - See iconic Bryce Amphitheater at Bryce, Inspiration, Sunset and Sunrise Points

**4 Hours or More**

- **Hike the Canyon (next page for detailed map)**
  - Explore the Bryce Amphitheater on a 2.5, 5.5, or 8.0-mile loop.
  - Enjoy the park’s highest elevations on the 1.0-mile Bristlecone Loop.

- **Scenic Drive and Overlooks (back page)**
  - Continue driving 17 miles to Rainbow and Yovimpa Points.
  - As you return north (to southern exit), overlooks will be on the right.
  - See sunrise, sunset, or a Ranger-led program (schedules posted at Lodge, General Store Shuttle Station, and Visitor Center)

**Questions? Bring this Map and Guide to the Visitor Center and watch the map orientation video.**
Ranger Programs

RANGER TALKS
Check information boards at the Visitor Center, Valhalla, Sunset Motel, General Store*, Bryce Canyon Lodge*, Shuttle Station*, for weekly schedules. Bi-weekly schedules posted at www.nps.gov/bryc/planyourvisit/calendar.htm

*Closed in winter

FULL MOON HIKES
In the winter, a full moon hike is offered the night of the full moon. An additional hike is held the next night in summer. See page 7 for full moon data and rise times. Hikes are to be taken only March-November. See ranger schedule for times and locations. Sign up for winter hikes in Visitor Center.

SNOWSHOEING
Snowshoe programs are offered when snowpack and staffing allow. On days the program is offered, it is typically substituted for the Rim Walks. Hikes are typically 1.5 miles, lasting no more than 2 hours. See ranger schedule for times and locations.

Jr. Ranger Program

BECOME A JUNIOR RANGER
Learn about the wonders of Bryce Canyon National Park while learning what makes it unique through programs and activities.

This is a special opportunity to earn a special badge and patch that cannot be purchased or otherwise obtained except through this program.

Visitors of all ages are welcome to participate. Please allocate 3-4 hours of your visit to this experience. See Visitor Center for materials and more information.

Winter Activities

CROSS-COUNTRY SKIING & SNOWSHOEING
Cross-country skiing and snowshoeing are permitted along the canyon rim as well as on the Paha Ski Loop, Farley Road, and groomed trails to the north near Ruby's Inn.

TRAIL CLOSURES
In the winter, trails may be closed due to risks associated with ice, snow, and rockfall. These trails typically include the Wall Street section of the Navajo Loop trail, as well as the Rim Trail between Bryce Point and Inspiration Point.

ROAD CLOSURES
Following winter storms, portions of Highway 63 are periodically closed to allow for snow removal at the park's highest elevations. Additionally, the Farleay Point and Fairy View trails are regularly closed for winter activities.

Volunteer

BECOME A VOLUNTEER
Volunteer with Bryce Canyon National Park and help us care for this special place and all our visitors, and get to live in one of the world's most beautiful environments. Call the park at 435-834-5322 or e-mail us at bryc-information@nps.gov for more information.

VOLUNTEER ANNUAL PASS
Free admission to all federal fee areas for one year for volunteers with over 250 hours of service.

10 Most Common Injuries

1. Improper Footwear
Wear shoes with support. Ankle injuries on Navajo Loop are the most common.

2. Over-exertion
Avoid running, 3.5 miles, providing only 70% of the oxygen you may be used to. Hiking often involves going down and back; avoid before you become tired.

3. Leaving the Trail
Stay on designated trails, and away from cliffs. Winter cliff edges are hard to see.

4. Dehydration
Drink 1 quart per day every 2-3 hours. See map for water stations.

5 & 6. Ignoring the Weather & Lighting
The difference in the daily high and low can be as much as 50°F if you have thunder, lightning is within 10 mi. Seek shelter immediately to stay safe.

7. Feeding Animals
Do not feed wildlife; wild animals become aggressive. Observe from a distance.

8. Climbing or Descending Cliffs
Bryce Point is very unstable. Climbing is both illegal and highly dangerous.

9. Unsafe Driving
Speed equal accidents, wildlife death, injury. Observe speed limit in the park.

10. Fireguns
Discharge of firearms and hunting within the park is prohibited.

Life Zones

Wildlife of Bryce Canyon
Variations in temperature, moisture, and exposure create a variety of microclimates and habitats.

There are three distinct habitat zones in the park, each named for a dominant plant or feature. Within these, meadows and rock cliffs, or "breaks," exist even more habitats.

Keystone Species provider for others
Utah Prairie Dogs, the rarest prairie dog in the United States, live only in southwestern Utah. These rodents build "towers," a vast underground network of tunnels and chambers where they sleep, hide, breed, and spend the winter. The tunnels they dig provide habitats for other rodents, insects, and reptiles in the park, while helping maintain the land, promoting new growth.

Blackened trees are a sign of fire and rejuvenation of a forest community.

Ecological Time

2.5 million years ago Start of the ice age

1 million years ago Modern pronghorn species

500,000 years ago Utah Prairie Dog species living in Utah

10,000 years ago End of last ice age and oldest aspen clone in the park

1,500 years ago Oldest bristlecone pine begins growing

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For ears, fires occurring naturally in plant communities on the plateau have trimmed trees, revitalized meadows, and returned nutrients back into the soil. As you travel south you may see how the landscape has changed after the 2009 Bide Fire that burned nearly 4,080 acres across the park and surrounding forest.

End of last ice age and oldest aspen clone in the park

1,500 years ago Oldest bristlecone pine begins growing
**Geology of Bryce Canyon**

**Geologic Time**

- **1.1 billion years ago**: Sedimentary rocks of the Grand Canyon deposited
- **700 million years ago**: First rodent-like creatures appeared
- **650 million years ago**: First fish-like creatures appeared
- **550 million years ago**: First land plants appeared
- **520 million years ago**: First trilobites appeared
- **480 million years ago**: First vertebrates appeared
- **450 million years ago**: First land animals appeared
- **400 million years ago**: First land plants appeared
- **370 million years ago**: First amphibians appeared
- **233 million years ago**: First dinosaurs appeared
- **220-150 million years ago**: First birds and mammals appeared
- **97 million years ago**: Oldest exposed rocks deposited at Bryce Canyon
- **65 million years ago**: Non-avian dinosaurs go extinct
- **50 million years ago**: Rocks that form hoodoos deposited
- **2.6 million years ago**: Start of the last ice age

**Deposition of the Colorado Plateau**

- **525 to 270 Million Years Ago**: Sedimentary rocks of the Grand Canyon deposited
  - **245 Million Years Ago**: Moenave Formation
  - **195 Million Years Ago**: Kayenta Formation
  - **110 Million Years Ago**: Navajo Sandstone
  - **30 Million Years Ago**: Tropic Shale

**Uplift of the Colorado Plateau**

- **6 Million Years Ago**: The Colorado River and its tributaries begin rapidly carving through rock layers, carrying off sediments.

**Hoodoo Erosion**

Hoodoos begin their life as a fin (typically) capped with a harder form of limestone extending from the rim of the plateau. As nearly 200 days of freeze/thaw cycles a year combine with the effects of CO₂-fueled acid rain, “windows” in these fins begin to open up through the forces of frost wedging. Eventually the caprock is unsupported and windows cave in to form hoodoos.

**What is an Amphitheater?**

As streams and rivers that feed the Grand Canyon began rapidly carving down into the rock layers, the beginnings of these stream moved slowly, further and further back, like fingers into the edge of the plateau. This creates a bowl-shaped pattern, forming not only the Paria Valley seen east of the park, but the scalloped amphitheaters in which the hoodoos of Bryce Canyon can be seen eroding from the rim. The Bryce Amphitheater, for which the park was first established, contains the densest collection of hoodoos in the world.
Human History

Who Came First

Native people living on the land are the descendants of people who have lived here since the dawn of time. They are the first people, and they are a part of the Circle of Life.

Who Came Later

In the 1870s, the Mormon settlers arrived on foot from Salt Lake City, Utah. They came for the promise of land and a better life.

Movement = Life

American Indians understand the resources of the land, the knowledge provided by water, and the stories of the land they have lived on for centuries.

Human Time

- 1,000 years ago
- 1,000 years ago

Clean Air, Night Skies, and Soundscapes

Clear Skies at Night

On a clear, moonless night you can see over 3,000 stars from Bryce Canyon. That’s more stars than you can see from anywhere else in North America.

Sounds of Nature

The sounds of the park, like the sound of water flowing, the birds chirping, and the wind blowing, are a part of the natural landscape. These sounds can help you relax and enjoy your visit.

Bryce Canyon is one of America’s earliest national parks, and a national treasure.

Sun Rise/Set

Sunrise/setting times for Bryce Canyon National Park

- May 16: 6:15 a.m. / 8:30 p.m.
- June 15: 6:01 a.m. / 9:52 p.m.
- July 15: 5:46 a.m. / 10:12 p.m.
- August 15: 5:32 a.m. / 10:12 p.m.
- September 15: 5:16 a.m. / 9:52 p.m.
- October 15: 5:01 a.m. / 9:52 p.m.
- November 15: 4:46 a.m. / 9:52 p.m.
- December 15: 4:32 a.m. / 9:52 p.m.
- January 15: 4:16 a.m. / 9:52 p.m.
- February 15: 4:01 a.m. / 9:52 p.m.
- March 15: 3:52 a.m. / 10:12 p.m.
- April 15: 3:52 a.m. / 10:12 p.m.
- May 15: 4:01 a.m. / 9:52 p.m.
- June 15: 4:16 a.m. / 9:52 p.m.

Climate

Temperature (°F)

- January 77°F
- February 68°F
- March 60°F
- April 60°F
- May 70°F
- June 70°F
- July 70°F
- August 70°F
- September 70°F
- October 70°F
- November 60°F
- December 55°F

Precipitation (inches)

- January 0
- February 0
- March 0
- April 0
- May 0
- June 0
- July 0
- August 0
- September 0
- October 0
- November 0
- December 0

The Lodge at Bryce Canyon and Ruby’s Inn Resort have implemented a $1 Donation Program. Hotel guests can donate a dollar to the park each night of their visit. Since June 2014, over $100,000 has been contributed to fund:

- Seasonal employees for Interpretation and the trail crew
- Projects such as the recent addition of restrooms at Inspiration Point & Mesas Cliff

Because of Members Like You...

Visitors to the park can support the park’s programs and services by becoming a member of the Bryce Canyon National Park Association. There are various membership levels available, ranging from $25 to $100, to support the park’s programs and services.

Visit our Website or the Visitor Center Bookstore to see how you can help support the park.

GEOLOGY FESTIVAL

Every April and October, the park hosts a festival to celebrate the balance of its defining feature, the hoodoos. Join park rangers for guided hikes, geology programs, book tours, evening programs, workshops, and seminars about hoodoos, subtropics, and more.

ASTRONOMY FESTIVAL

Explore your world and beyond through one of Bryce Canyon National Park’s most precious resources: its night sky. Each June, the Astronomy Festival features renowned guest speakers, telescopes, local, and national park programs, night sky tours, and many activities the entire family will love.

HOO DOO YOU LOVE?

BRYECANYON.ORG 800-352-4442