Hello, and welcome to Grand Canyon National Park! People from around the world come to see this immense and spectacular landscape. I think you will agree that the first glimpse is a powerful, even pivotal moment.

How did you respond when you first stood on the edge and looked out at the canyon’s boundless expanses? Were you awed? Overwhelmed? Did you start to comment and point excitedly, or did you grow silent… perhaps even closing your eyes to more fully experience the canyon?

Grand Canyon National Park protects an expansive landscape composed of its exceptional landforms and distinct scenery. It also safeguards a unique soundscape with abundant and subtle natural sounds that are part of a natural quiet that seems to magnify the canyon’s immensity.

To protect this magnificent soundscape and limit the impacts of aircraft noise on your once-in-a-lifetime visit, the park is working on an overflights management plan. The finished plan will be the result of many years of collaboration, hard work, and thousands of comments from people just like you.

This is your park. Your opinions and comments on the ways in which we manage it are invaluable to us. We encourage you to watch for opportunities to participate in these planning efforts, share your comments and concerns, and help us protect those rare moments when we stand in silent awe on the edge of one of the world’s most magnificent precipices.

Thank you,

Dave Uberuaga, Superintendent

Welcome to Grand Canyon

Setting atop the Kaibab Plateau, 8,000 to 9,000 feet (2,400–2,750 m) above sea level with lush green meadows surrounded by a mixed conifer forest sprinkled with white-barked aspen, the North Rim is an oasis in the desert. Here you may observe deer feeding, coyote chasing mice in the meadows, a mother turkey leading her young across the road, or a mountain lion slinking off into the cover of the forest.

Visitors in the spring may see remnants of winter in disappearing snowdrifts or temporary mountain lakes of melted snow. The summer with colorful wildflowers and intense thunderstorms comes and goes all too quickly, only to give way to the colors of fall. With the yellows and oranges of quaking aspen and the reds of Rocky Mountain maple, the forest seems to glow. Crispness in the air warns of winter snowstorms soon to come.

Although only 10 miles as the raven flies from the South Rim, the North Rim offers a very different visitor experience. Solitude, awe-inspiring views, a slower pace, and the feeling of going back in time are only a few of the many attributes the North Rim has to offer. Discover the uniqueness of the North Rim.

Make the Most of Your Visit

To ensure a safe and enjoyable visit to Grand Canyon National Park’s North Rim, please keep the following in mind.

**Steep Cliffs**

Loose sand or pebbles on stone are very slippery. Be careful of cliff edges when using cameras or binoculars. Never throw or roll rocks; there may be hikers below.

Stay on the trail. Stay back from cliff edges. Observe posted warnings. Parents—watch your children! Don’t ruin your vacation by having an accident. Your safety is your responsibility.

**Emergency: 911**

EMT-certified rangers respond 24 hours a day. Dial 911 or 9-911 from your room or cabin.

**Drive With Care**

Observe posted speed limits. Maximum speed limit is 45 mph. Watch for people and wildlife. Increase caution at night and during wet conditions.

**What Time Is It?**


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</table>

**Sky Watch**

Take some time to enjoy northern Arizona’s clear skies. Watch the sun rise or set over the canyon or ponder the vastness of the universe as the night sky is illuminated by thousands of stars.

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Experience North Rim

Top Four Ways to Enjoy North Rim

1. Go For A Hike
   - Walk to Bright Angel Point
     - Hear Roaring Springs and try to spot South Rim buildings, hikers in side canyons, or the distant San Francisco Peaks.
   - Wander the Rim Trails
     - Explore Wildforces, Transept, and other trails with beautiful forest and canyon views.
   - Day Hike into Grand Canyon
     - Even a few steps down the North Kaibab Trail will help you experience Grand Canyon’s splendor. Remember, it takes twice as long to hike up as it does to hike down. Do not attempt to hike to the river and back in one day!

   See pages 6–8 for trail information.

2. Take a Drive
   - Explore Point Imperial
     - Experience the park’s highest point at 8,803 feet (2,742 m). Point Imperial offers a unique view Mt. Hayden, Marble Canyon, and landscapes changed by fire.
   - Watch Sunset at Cape Royal
     - Walk the nature trail for Colorado River views and visit Angels Window Overlook.
   - Discover Walhalla Overlook
     - Visit ancestral Puebloan ruins and learn about the people who made a summer home here 900 years ago.

See map and information on pages 6–7

3. Ride a Bike
   - Permitted on paved and dirt roads unless posted. Permitted only on the Bridle Trail and Arizona Trail. Roads can be congested. Remember: wear a helmet, ride single file, and stay aware of your surroundings.

4. Attend a Park Ranger Program
   - Interested in learning more about Grand Canyon? Join park rangers and volunteers who know it inside and out. Walks and programs listed on page 5.

Avoid Shocking Experiences

Dangers lightning strikes commonly occur on Grand Canyon’s North Rim. Stay away from exposed rim areas during thundershowers. Hair standing on end is a warning. It signals that an electrical charge is building near you and lightning may strike. Move away from the rim immediately!

During storms, stay safe inside a vehicle with the windows closed or in a building. Avoid touching anything metal. For additional information, ask for a lightning awareness brochure at the visitor center.

Monsoon...In Arizona?

Vibrant thunderstorms and accompanying heavy rain surprise visitors coming to Grand Canyon National Park in the summer. During these events, one often hears “Isn’t this rain unusual? This is Arizona. It’s supposed to be a desert, isn’t it?”

Much to the surprise of visitors, summer rain is a normal and vital contributor to the ecosystem. Flora and fauna rely on this rain to sustain life and have developed unique adaptations to take advantage of the moisture that becomes available.

The thunderstorms sweeping across Grand Canyon during summer are part of the monsoon season. Monsoon comes from the Arabic word mausum which means “season.” It refers to the large-scale seasonal changes in wind that often bring rain to southern and southeastern Asia.

A high pressure system over southeastern Colorado and the Texas Panhandle interacting with a low pressure system over southern California causes the Arizona monsoon. This interaction of atmospheric conditions draws moist, tropical air from the Gulf of Mexico resulting in frequent, sometimes violent, thunderstorms with heavy rain.

The monsoon in the Southwest begins in July and can continue into early September. While you are visiting, if it starts to rain, do not be discouraged. Rain in the desert is something special and something to celebrate. If you are thinking, “The day we visit Grand Canyon is the one day it decides to rain,” do not feel dismayed. Kick off your shoes and join in the celebration. When lightning is present, celebrate safely indoors. Usually the storms pass quickly, leaving the forest renewed and the air refreshed.

Reduce, Reuse, Refill

Did you know that Grand Canyon National Park is a World Heritage Site? Recently, the National Park Service partnered with the Grand Canyon Association, Delaware North Companies, Xanterra South Rim, and Forever Resorts on the North Rim in a new way to protect the park. In an effort to reduce litter in this world-class landscape, plastics in the park’s waste stream, and greenhouse gas emissions (GHGs), and as part of a reusable water bottle program, water packaged in individual disposable containers is no longer sold in the park.

We Have Filling Stations

Filling stations providing fresh Grand Canyon spring water are available at the North Rim Visitor Center, Administration & Backcountry Office, or North Kaibab Trailhead.

Fill ‘er up! What can you do to help? Bring or buy a reusable water bottle and fill it up for free.

You can purchase reusable, souvenir water bottles at park retailers.

Why refill?

When you refill your water bottle:
- Enjoy fresh Grand Canyon spring water.
- Reduce litter in the park, plastics in the waste stream, and GHGs.
- Save money—Grand Canyon spring water is FREE!
- Help save the environment.

Please Note: During spring runoff, Grand Canyon’s drinking water may appear turbid or cloudy. This annual turbidity has been exhaustively researched and is not harmful to health. Grand Canyon National Park regularly tests the water to ensure it is safe to drink.
A Burro Called Brighty

In 1953 Marguerite Henry wrote _Brighty of the Grand Canyon_. Ever since, children and adults have been fascinated by the small burro who played a role in Grand Canyon history. Who was Brighty? How much of this tale is true?

There was a real Brighty. He lived at Grand Canyon from around 1892 until 1922. He was given the name Bright Angel after the creek that flowed into the canyon from his home on the North Rim, but everyone called him Brighty. He spent his summers carrying water from a spring to early tourist accommodations on the North Rim. He was tolerant of children, who would ride on his back for hours. Most of the events and people in Marguerite Henry’s book were based on fact. Brighty was the first to cross the new bridge at the bottom of the canyon, and he did meet Teddy Roosevelt.

In spite of his friendliness toward people and his willingness to act as a beast of burden, he was essentially a wild creature who roamed the canyon at will. It is this spirit of independence, more than anything, that has captured the hearts of readers for years. Today a life-sized bronze statue of Brighty, the work of sculptor Peter Jepson, sits in Grand Canyon Lodge on the North Rim. Here, he is admired and remembered by children and adults alike. Legend has it that a rub on the nose brings good luck.

A Great Experience

For the past eight summers, I have volunteered as an interpreter on the North Rim of Grand Canyon National Park. It has been a way for me to share my love of the great outdoors and help the National Park Service with its mission to preserve the area for the enjoyment of all.

As a volunteer, I conduct nature walks and condor and archeology talks. I help visitors at the visitor center and out on the trails.

One of my hobbies is photography. I enjoy taking visitors on a photo walk, with cameras in hand, to teach them how to take “better” pictures at the canyon and wherever else they visit. With my photography, I created an album of North Rim flora that is used as a reference in the visitor center.

The Value of Volunteering

Whether it is working for resource protection, interpretation, maintenance, or science and resource management, volunteers are an integral part of a team whose mission is to preserve and protect these special places we call national parks.

Volunteers help by donating their time, talents, and abilities to enhance your and other visitors’ experience.

Although volunteering is a great experience and rewarding to the spirit, it is also hard work. The next time you see a volunteer wearing a green shirt with an NPS volunteer patch helping someone on the trail, answering questions at the visitor center, or contacting visitors around the lodge, take a minute to share your canyon experience or just give them a nod to show your appreciation. Come into the visitor center for information on the volunteer program or visit www.volunteer.gov.

Grand Canyon Lodge: Decades of Service

Grand Canyon Lodge on the North Rim of Grand Canyon is often the first prominent feature visitors see, even before viewing the canyon. The highway ends at the lodge. The lodge’s sloped roof, huge ponderosa beams, and massive limestone facade fit its 8,000-foot (2,400 m) setting, but where is Grand Canyon?

To experience the full impact of the design of the lodge, take the historic route. Go through the front entrance. Walk across the carpeted lobby and descend a stairwell. Shining through great windows across the Sun Room is the much-anticipated first view of Grand Canyon.

The architect, Gilbert Stanley Underwood, following the wishes of former National Park Service Director Steven Mather, designed a rustic national park lodge. Grand Canyon Lodge served as a symbol of the importance of preserving of this natural wonder, while allowing for luxury and enjoyment. Yet, Underwood had incorporated something extra—a surprise view!

Underwood’s 1928 Grand Canyon Lodge, designed for the Union Pacific Railroad, is not today’s lodge. Underwood’s design included a massive Spanish-style exterior with a high front topped by an observation tower. The original building burned down in 1932 and a new 1937 lodge now sits on its footprint.

The fire that destroyed the original lodge engulfed the structure within minutes. On the top floor over the auditorium slept the only inhabitants—the lodge manager, his wife, and the maids. All exited safely to stand watching helplessly in the early morning hours of September 1, 1932.

The Utah Parks Company, Union Pacific’s subsidiary, hastily erected a cafeteria and recreation hall. The next summer, buses brought more visitors, but Underwood’s secret surprise of having your first view of Grand Canyon from inside the lodge was lost until the summer of 1937 when Grand Canyon Lodge reopened.

Utilizing the same floor plan, the builders erected a more sensible structure with sloped roofs, better able to shed heavy snow. They also preserved Underwood’s surprise view.

For decades employees would greet visitors arriving by bus and sing them through the entrance. Later the employees would put on a talent show after serving dinner and end the evening with a dance accompanied by a college student orchestra. While these entertainments no longer exist, the lodge still exhibits Underwood’s genius.

Another genius, the geologist Clarence E. Dutton, came to the North Rim in 1880 and described his experience in his masterpiece, _A Tertiary History of the Grand Canyon_. “The earth suddenly sinks at our feet to illimitable depths. In an instant, in the twinkling of an eye, the awful scene is before us.” Underwood must have read this book, or perhaps inspiration does strike twice.

This has been a wonderful way to meet and serve people from all walks of life and from all over the world. To be able to do this on the North Rim is memorable and most enjoyable, made more so by all the people I meet and with whom I work.

I hope to see you out on the trail or at one of the programs here on the North Rim.

Happy Trails,
Nancy Varga

Canyon Volunteers

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Grand Canyon National Park • North Rim

Special Events and Opportunities

North Rim Star Party
June 16–23
Explore the night sky with volunteers from the Phoenix Saguaro Astronomy Club. Enjoy a slide presentation and then view the night sky through their telescopes. Dress warmly. Check the visitor center or program flyers for presentation times. Telescope viewing continues into the night.

For better night sky viewing, please observe the low light restrictions. Keep flashlight use to a minimum or cover your light with a red cellophane.

During the daytime, watch for special opportunities to view the sun through a filtered telescope.

Western Arts Day
July 14
Western Arts Day celebrates the western culture which defines what Grand Canyon, northern Arizona, and southern Utah are today. Focusing on music and poetry, activities take place in various locations throughout the North Rim developed area. Check at the visitor center for program topics, times, and locations.

For specific nation as they capture the beauty of this timeless landscape on canvas. For specific topics, times, and locations.

Inhabitants and others who have contributed to its colorful history.

Heritage Days began in 1994 with individuals from the Kaibab Band of Paiute Indians, who were the last native group to occupy the North Rim area on a seasonal basis. The event has grown over the years to include a variety of presenters from Grand Canyon’s Traditionally Associated Tribes.

Symphony of the Canyon
August 11, 6:30 pm
Symphony of the Canyon presents a musical interpretation of Grand Canyon. This 18-year tradition brings southern Utah and northern Arizona musicians from pre-teen to more than 70 years old together to share their talents. For information, contact Forever Resorts at the Grand Canyon Lodge: 928-638-2611.

Native American Heritage Days
August 9–10
The 18th annual Native American Heritage Days will honor Grand Canyon’s original inhabitants and others who have contributed to its colorful history.

The event has grown over the years to include a variety of presenters from Grand Canyon’s Traditionally Associated Tribes.

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 fund new exhibits, scientific research, trail restoration, wildlife monitoring, ecological restoration, support for the arts, and historic building preservation.

How Can You Get Involved?
Join the Grand Canyon Association today. Members receive exclusive benefits and discounts. For more information, visit a GCA bookstore, call toll-free (800) 858-2808, or visit www.grandcanyon.org.

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 fund new exhibits, scientific research, trail restoration, wildlife monitoring, ecological restoration, support for the arts, and historic building preservation.

How Can You Get Involved?
Join the Grand Canyon Association today. Members receive exclusive benefits and discounts. For more information, visit a GCA bookstore, call toll-free (800) 858-2808, or visit www.grandcanyon.org.

Become a Junior Ranger
Grand Canyon National Park offers a Junior Ranger program for children ages five and older. To take part in the free program, pick up a Junior Ranger booklet at the North Rim Visitor Center. Complete activities listed for the appropriate age level and attend a ranger-led program. Bring your completed booklet to the visitor center to receive an official Junior Ranger certificate and badge.

Already a Grand Canyon Junior Ranger from the past? Ask a park ranger about the brand new North Rim Junior Ranger booklet. This program is generously funded by the Grand Canyon Association.

Additional Junior Ranger programs are available at Phantom Ranch, the South Rim, and over 250 national parks, seashores, and monuments nationwide.

Artist-in-Residence
Photography, music, painting, sculpture, performance, and the written word preserve and celebrate the wonder and majesty of national parks. Artists frame our heritage for those who visit now, those who will come in the future, and those who will know the park only through this artistic legacy. This relationship continues with artists from all genres participating in the Artist-in-Residence program. Grand Canyon hosts a seasonal program on the North Rim and a year-round program on the South Rim. Artists participating on the North Rim this summer include:

Nancy McKay, digital prints on silk/painter
Rodney Thompson, encaustic—the layering of sap or wax
Chris Brown, photographer
Elizabeth Black, painter
Bobbie Sullivan, fiber arts, postcard quilting
Dennis Farris, painter

Ask at the visitor center for dates and times of free public programs. To learn more or to apply for a residency: www.nps.gov/gcra/supportyourpark/air.htm
## Park Ranger Programs

Discover Grand Canyon with daily, free programs given by park rangers and volunteers, no reservations needed. Additional programs such as talks about local history or culture, nature, geology, photography, an evening stroll, or telescope viewing may be available, check at the visitor center for special programs. Outdoor programs may be cancelled in inclement weather or when lightning danger is present. Children must be accompanied by an adult at all programs.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Program Description</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Duration</th>
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<tr>
<td>8:00 am</td>
<td>Nature Walk Learn about the natural processes that sustain ponderosa pine and aspen forests. Start your morning with a relaxed 1.5-mile (2.4 km) walk with some elevation gain and loss.</td>
<td>North Rim Visitor Center</td>
<td>May 26 to October 15</td>
<td>60 minutes</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:30 am (Offered as staffing allows.)</td>
<td>Flashback—A Glimpse of History Step back in time with a ranger as he or she introduces you to a remnant of North Rim history. Wheelchair accessible.</td>
<td>Grand Canyon Lodge Sun Room</td>
<td>Check at Visitor Center</td>
<td>15–20 minutes</td>
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<tr>
<td>1:00 pm</td>
<td>Way Cool Canyon Hone your senses and open your eyes to the North Rim environment through activities, games, and stories. Check out a Discovery Pack after the program so the whole family can explore on their own. Family-friendly program. Wheelchair accessible.</td>
<td>North Rim Campground Amphitheater</td>
<td>June 9 to August 26</td>
<td>45 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3:00 pm</td>
<td>What's Rockin'? Grand Canyon Geology Why is Grand Canyon here and not in your backyard? Enjoy a ranger talk and then test your new skills with a short, optional stroll to Bright Angel Point. Program is wheelchair accessible but Bright Angel Point is not easily accessed by wheelchairs.</td>
<td>Grand Canyon Lodge back porch fireplace</td>
<td>May 15 to October 15</td>
<td>30–40 minutes</td>
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<tr>
<td>4:30 pm</td>
<td>Condor Talk What has a 9-foot (2.7 m) wingspan and a face only a mother could love? The California condor. Come discover their life and death story and the science that saved this incredible bird. Family-friendly program. Wheelchair accessible.</td>
<td>Grand Canyon Lodge back porch fireplace</td>
<td>May 15 to October 15</td>
<td>30–40 minutes</td>
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<td>7:00 pm</td>
<td>Campfire Program Learn about a fascinating aspect of the Grand Canyon story. Topics are posted in the campground, lodge, and visitor center. Family-friendly program. Wheelchair accessible.</td>
<td>North Rim Campground Amphitheater</td>
<td>May 15 to October 15</td>
<td>35–45 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:00 pm</td>
<td>Evening Program A variety of programs explore the natural, scientific, and cultural aspects of this special landscape. Nightly topics are posted in the lodge, visitor center, and campground. Bring your questions and arrive 15 minutes early for an &quot;Ask the Ranger&quot; discussion.</td>
<td>Grand Canyon Lodge Auditorium</td>
<td>May 15 to October 15</td>
<td>35–45 minutes</td>
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Volunteer George Varga can often be seen on the Grand Canyon Lodge veranda sharing his knowledge of and passion for Grand Canyon with park visitors. Be sure to look for him at night when he is showing visitors night sky treasures with his telescope.

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**Park Ranger Programs Inside the Canyon**

Hiking to Phantom Ranch or Indian Garden? Join a park ranger to discover the many wonders of the inner canyon. *These programs are offered in Grand Canyon’s backcountry and accessible only by a long, arduous hike.*

**Phantom Ranch**

4 pm and 7:30 pm

Daily Talks and evening programs cover a wide range of natural and cultural history topics. Check bulletin boards for program locations and topics. Junior Ranger activity booklet available. Located 14 miles (22.5 km) from North Rim via the North Kaibab Trail.

**Indian Garden**

Check bulletin boards for times

Friday to Monday Park rangers present programs about natural and cultural history in the amphitheater just north of Indian Garden Campground. Programs vary throughout the year. Check bulletin boards for topics and program times. Located 18.7 miles (30 km) from North Rim via the North Kaibab and Bright Angel trails.

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*The Guide • 2012 Season 5*
Day hiking in Grand Canyon is one way to experience some of the canyon’s rich natural beauty and immense size. No permits or fees are required. When day hiking into the canyon, plan one-third of your time to walk down and two-thirds to trudge back up. Assuming you are physically fit and have adequate food and water, the following day hikes are considered reasonable for most people during the summer months.

Bring at least 3 quarts/liters of water per person, plenty of snacks, sturdy shoes or boots, hat, and sunscreen on your hike. Always check the status of trails before traveling to the trailhead.

Trail numbers correlate with the maps above. All hiking times are approximate.

1. **Bright Angel Point Trail**
   - 0.5 mi (0.8 km) round-trip
   - 30 minutes round-trip
   - A short walk on a paved trail leads to a spectacular view of the canyon. Trail begins at the log shelter in the visitor center parking area or from the lodge back porch.

2. **Bridle Trail**
   - 1.2 mi (2 km) one-way
   - 45 minutes one-way
   - This trail follows the road as it connects Grand Canyon Lodge with North Kaibab Trailhead. Pets on a leash and bicycles are permitted on this hard-packed trail.

3. **Transept Trail**
   - 3.0 mi (4.8 km) round-trip
   - 1.5 hours round-trip
   - Trail follows the canyon rim from Grand Canyon Lodge to North Rim Campground.

4. **Widforss Trail**
   - 10 mi (16 km) round-trip
   - 6 hours round-trip
   - Wander through a blend of forest and canyon scenery—even a short walk can be very satisfying. To locate the trailhead, take the dirt road 0.25 mile (0.4 km) south of Cape Royal Road for one mile (1.6 km) to the Widforss Trail parking area. Self-guiding trail brochure available at trailhead.

5. **Arizona Trail**
   - 10 mi (16 km) one-way
   - 6 hours one-way
   - A section of this trail enters the park near the North Entrance and roughly parallels Highway 67 until it connects with the North Kaibab Trail.

6. **North Kaibab Trail**
   - Distance and times vary; see page 8
   - This is the only maintained trail into the canyon from the North Rim. Do not attempt to hike from the rim to the river and back in one day. Round-trip to the Colorado River is 28 miles (45 km) and the trail descends almost 6,000 ft (1,800 m). The opening of the North Kaibab Trail may be delayed due to winter damage. This trail is also used by mules. See page 10 for etiquette and safety information.
Ken Patrick Trail
10 mi (16 km) one-way
6 hours one-way
Trail winds through the forest and along the rim from Point Imperial to the North Kaibab Trail parking area.

Uncle Jim Trail
5.0 mi (8.0 km) round-trip
3 hours round-trip
Stroll through the forest to a viewpoint overlooking the canyon and the North Kaibab Trail switchbacks. Begin from the North Kaibab Trail parking lot. This trail is also used by mules. See page 10 for etiquette and safety information.

Point Imperial Trail
4.0 mi (6.4 km) round-trip
2 hours round-trip
This easy trail passes through areas burned by the 2000 Outlet Fire and ends at the north park boundary. Connections are possible from there to the Nankoweap Trail and US Forest Service roads.

Roosevelt Point Trail
0.2 mi (0.3 km) round-trip
20 minutes round-trip
Stroll this secluded woodland loop offering spectacular views and benches for relaxing. Trail begins from the Roosevelt Point parking area.

Cape Final Trail
4.0 mi (6.4 km) round-trip
2 hours round-trip
Enjoy a forested walk from the dirt parking area to Cape Final. This trail offers a view of the canyon and the Painted Desert. Trail begins 2.4 miles (3.9 km) north of the Cape Royal parking lot.

Cliff Springs Trail
1.0 mi (1.6 km) round-trip
1 hour round-trip
Path meanders down a forested ravine and ends where a chest-high boulder rests under a large overhang. The spring is on the cliff side of the boulder. Please do not drink the water since it may be contaminated. Trail begins directly across the road from a small pullout on a curve 0.3 miles (0.5 km) north of Cape Royal.

To Point Sublime
17.8 mi (28.6 km)
Four-wheel drive or high-clearance vehicles recommended.
North Kaibab Trail

Overnight Hiking
A hike into the canyon will test your physical and mental endurance. Know and respect your abilities and limitations. Rangers will be glad to help you plan a hike within your capabilities. All overnight hikers, except those staying in the lodging at Phantom Ranch, must obtain a backcountry permit.

Hiking Permits
Backcountry use permits and fees are required for overnight hiking. Day hikes do not require a permit or fee.

Successful Hikers
Avoid hiking in the middle of the day. Begin your trip, hike between campgrounds, and return to the rim before 10 am or after 4 pm. All hikers should be aware that efforts to assist them may be limited during the busy summer months due to staffing levels, number of rescue calls, employee safety requirements, and limited helicopter flying capability during periods of extreme heat or inclement weather.

Health Hazards
Moderation is the key to having an enjoyable hike. Hike within your ability, maintain proper body temperature, balance your food and water intake, and rest often. Be prepared for emergency situations such as:

Heat Exhaustion
Caused by dehydration from intense sweating. Hikers can lose 1–2 quarts/liters of water per hour. Rangers treat as many as twenty cases of heat exhaustion a day in summer.

Symptoms: pale face, nausea, cool and moist skin, headache, cramps. Treatment: drink water, eat high energy foods, rest in the shade, cool the patient.

Hypothermia
Life-threatening emergency where the body’s heat-regulating mechanisms become overwhelmed by internal heat production and environmental demands.

Symptoms: flushed face, dry skin, weak and rapid pulse, high body temperature, poor judgment or inability to cope, uncontrolled shivering, poor muscle control, and a careless attitude. Treatment: put on dry clothing, drink warm liquids, and protect from wind, rain, and cold.

Hyponatremia
Illness that mimics the early symptoms of heat exhaustion. Caused by low sodium in the blood from drinking too much water, not eating enough salty foods, and losing salt through sweating.

Symptoms: nausea, vomiting, altered mental states, frequent urination. Treatment: have the patient rest and eat salty foods. If mental alertness decreases, seek immediate help.

Don’t Suffer, Hike Smart

1. Be Prepared
Know the weather forecast. Weather changes quickly. Know your route. Carry a map, flashlight, sunscreen, and extra clothing including wind and rain protection. Over-the-shoe traction devices may be necessary on icy trails during spring and fall.

2. Stay comfortable
Dressing in layers is the key to comfortable hiking. Do not forget your hat. It is important to stay dry and protected from the wind.

3. Go Slowly
If you can carry on a conversation, you are hiking at the right pace. If you find yourself out of breath, your legs and digestive system are not getting enough oxygen which may lead to fatigue, heavy legs, and exhaustion.

4. Rest Often
Sit down, prop your legs up, and take a 10-minute break at least once every hour.

5. Eat and Drink Frequently
Balance your food and water intake. Salty snacks help replace electrolytes lost through perspiration. Snack every time you drink. Food and water supply the extra energy needed for hiking.

North Kaibab Trail Profile

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Elevation (Feet)</th>
<th>Elevation (Meters)</th>
<th>Distance (Miles)</th>
<th>Distance (Km)</th>
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<tr>
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<tr>
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<tr>
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<tr>
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<tr>
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Backcountry Fees
Backcountry permit fee: $10
Per person per night user impact fee: $5

Overnight permit requests should be arranged up to four months in advance. Overnight use requests should be arranged up to four months in advance.

Contact:
Backcountry Information Center
P.O. Box 129
Grand Canyon, AZ 86023

For information visit: www.nps.gov/grca/planyourvisit/backcountry.htm

North Kaibab Trail Profile

Elevations and One-way Distances

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Fire Management and Forest Renewal

Did you notice the charred tree trunks and recovering forest as you drove from Jacob Lake to the North Rim? For some people, it can be hard to accept that fire is an integral part of the park’s forested ecosystems. At Grand Canyon, plants and animals evolved with fire and depend upon it to create the conditions they need to flourish. Fire management demands a careful balance between suppressing unwanted fires, often caused by humans, and allowing for the positive attributes of fire under favorable conditions.

Many factors—weather, topography, and vegetation types—influence fire behavior and the effects fires have on park resources. In prolonged hot, dry, and windy conditions, wildland fire threatens park resources and can cause significant damage. Aggressive suppression actions are taken against these types of fires.

The National Park Service has a mandate to preserve resources such as plants and animals, along with the natural processes that sustain them, including fire. Fire management policies evolve with our understanding of fire’s vital role in nature. Fire is a powerful natural force; its destructive potential is evident, but fire’s positive attributes must also be recognized. As a land manager, how would you balance suppressing fires and allowing for the positive attributes of fire under favorable conditions?

Managers use fire as a tool for ecosystem restoration when conditions are right. Lightning-ignited fires may be allowed to burn when conditions benefit the ecosystem. Suppression actions are taken if fire behavior contradicts resource goals. Prescribed fires are planned ignitions, implemented under scientifically-determined conditions, with specific objectives in mind, such as to protect developed areas.

During the last few years, the park completed important fuel reduction projects designed to improve defensible space and reduce the potential impacts of wildland fire near structures, campgrounds, and other at-risk areas. Defensible space is the area between a structure and the surrounding forest where vegetation has been modified to reduce a fire’s threat. Properly modified and maintained vegetation can slow a fire, shorten flame lengths, reduce the amount of generated heat, and increase the odds of saving a structure.

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As a land manager, how would you balance suppressing fires and allowing the natural process of fire to continue?

North Kaibab Ranger District

Much of the Kaibab Plateau is protected by Kaibab National Forest and Grand Canyon National Park. Jacob is a Paiute Indian word meaning “mountain lying down.”

Visitor Center

A visit to the north Kaibab Ranger District should include a stop at the North Kaibab Plateau Visitor Center in Jacob Lake, Arizona. The visitor center is open 8 am to 5 pm daily from mid-May to mid-October, with reduced hours later into the season.

Scenic Vistas

North Kaibab Ranger District offers a variety of spectacular views of Grand Canyon, Kanab Creek Wilderness, and Vermilion Cliffs. Some of these viewpoints are easy drives, while others require a high-clearance vehicle. Remember, get a map before heading out on the more remote routes.

Wilderness

North Kaibab Ranger District offers more than 108,000 acres (44,000 ha) that remain wild and free in two wilderness areas—Kanab Creek on the west side of the plateau and Saddle Mountain to the east.

Elevation in Kanab Creek Wilderness ranges from 2,000 feet (600 m) at Kanab Creek to 6,000 feet (1,800 m) at the rim. This wilderness contains Kanab Creek, a major tributary of the Colorado River, and a network of vertical-walled gorges.

Saddle Mountain Wilderness varies from 6,400 feet (1,900 m) on the Marble Canyon Rim to 8,000 feet (2,400 m) on Saddle Mountain. Gentle slopes on top of the plateau change to sudden drop-offs at the rim.

Winter Sports

Cross-country skiing is a good way to enjoy northern Arizona’s winters. The snow-covered forest roads become great ski and snowshoe trails. Many miles of forest roads and connecting meadows provide excellent snowmobiling opportunities not permitted in the Grand Canyon National Park. The area east of Highway 67 and south of Highway 89A is closed to motorized winter use and offers great solitude.
Mule
Although not native to the area, mules are a common sight at Grand Canyon. With a donkey for a dad and a horse for a mom, mules are said to be more sure footed than a horse and smarter than a donkey. Mules are acutely aware of their surroundings and have become very familiar with some of the trails on the North Rim.

Kaibab Squirrel
Watch for the “Silver Ghost of the North Rim,” also known as the Kaibab squirrel. The unique Kaibab squirrel lives only in ponderosa pine forests on the North Rim.

Quaking Aspen
Shimmer is an action that comes to mind when viewing the quaking aspen, a member of the Willow Family. Flattened leaf stalks allow the leaves to tremble. The movement helps distribute sunshine evenly to the leaves. Shimmering keeps the upper leaves from getting too much sun and allows more light to reach the lower leaves.

After fire moves through a forest, sun-loving aspens thrive in the open conditions. New sprouts spring from unburned roots and start the cycle of recovery from scorched earth to mature forest.

Golden-mantled Ground Squirrel
At first glance, the golden-mantled ground squirrel appears to be a chipmunk (also in the Squirrel Family) on steroids. The easiest way to tell the difference between the golden-mantled ground squirrel and a chipmunk is by the distinct lines displayed on a chipmunk’s face. Take another look. If the stripes are missing, chances are you are looking at a golden-mantled ground squirrel.

Remember, not only is it illegal to feed the animals but the cute little critters may just bite the hand that feeds them. As with all rodents, squirrels may have disease-carrying fleas, ticks, or lice. Take precautions to keep rodents out of your bags, vehicles, rooms, tents, and other personal belongings.

Mountain Short-Horned Lizard
Keep your eyes open for some interesting sights here at Grand Canyon. Creatures such as this mountain short-horned lizard are among the surprises you may encounter during your visit.

Mule
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If you encounter a mule on the trail, be aware they have the right of way. Stop and find a place off the trail to take a short break. Make sure to put the trail between you and the canyon so the mule can pass easily. Don’t make any sudden movements or try to touch a mule. Listen for further instruction from the wrangler.

Golden-mantled Ground Squirrel

Let Wildlife Be Wild
Deer and bison can be extremely aggressive. Never approach wild animals and discourage animals from approaching you by yelling and stamping your feet. Report aggressive or bizarre behavior from a wild animal to a park ranger or other park personnel.

Never Feed Them
Natural wild foods are available year round. Once a wild animal is fed human food, it may become habituated to human handouts. Animals may eat wrappers and plastic bags along with the food, leading to severe injuries and death.

Protect Yourself, Family, and Pets
Squirrels and rodents may get into your belongings or enter your vehicle, room, or tent. Keep doors closed. Serious bites from squirrels happen all too often. People can get plague from being bitten by an infected flea or by handling an infected animal. Pets must stay on a leash at all times.

You can spot the Abert’s squirrel, another subspecies of tassel-eared squirrel, on the South Rim. At the end of the last ice age, these squirrels moved from the south to ponderosa pine forests in northern Arizona.

Golden-mantled Ground Squirrel

Mountain Short-Horned Lizard

Mule

Quaking Aspen

Let Wildlife Be Wild

Never Feed Them

Protect Yourself, Family, and Pets

Nature Notes
Bison or Beefalo?
Visitors to the North Rim may see large herds of bison in the meadows near the Entrance Station. Bison are not native to Grand Canyon National Park. In fact, these particular animals were brought to the Kaibab Plateau in 1906 in an effort to breed them with cattle and produce a hardy bison variety. It was an experiment not economically successful and abandoned several years later. Today, this hybrid group, or “beefalo” herd, is managed by the Arizona Game and Fish Department. The House Rock Valley Wildlife Area, located just east of the park, was designated as a bison range in 1950 to provide them a home and reduce conflicts with wildlife and cattle.

Since 2000, the bison hybrids have been traveling from the wildlife area to the Kaibab Plateau and into Grand Canyon National Park. The herd now numbers more than 400 head, with the majority staying within park boundaries year round. Unfortunately, these extremely large grazing animals are fouling sensitive and critical water sources, trampling and removing delicate vegetation, and compacting fragile soils. Grand Canyon National Park is working closely with federal and state managers who are determined to reduce or eliminate the bison’s negative impacts to park resources.

Bison may appear tame and slow, but they are unpredictable and dangerous. They weigh up to 2,000 pounds (900 kg) and sprint at 30 miles (48 km) per hour, three times faster than you can run. For your safety, you must stay at least 75 feet (23 meters) from bison.

California condors, being curious, are attracted to human activity. If you see a condor, do not approach it or offer it food. Try to read the number on the wing band and report its number and location to a park ranger.

Nature Notes

On The Wings of a Condor
Is that a bird or an airplane? If you find yourself asking this question, it is very possible you are seeing the results of the hopeful, and so far promising, comeback story of the California condor. With their large wings, bald head, and a face only a mother could love, seeing a condor riding a thermal over the canyon is a spectacular view from the past.

Fossil evidence shows that condors have nested in the Grand Canyon area for approximately 50,000 years. During the Pleistocene, when the canyon had a cooler and wetter climate, the California condor scavenged carcasses of sloth, mammoth, and horse. A once-flourishing bird, the California condor was almost gone by the 1980s when there were fewer than two dozen left in the world. There are many reasons for their decline, most involving human impacts. With this in mind, scientists have been working to re-establish their presence in central California and northern Arizona. One confirmation of a successful reintroduction program is reproduction in the wild.

California condors, being curious, are attracted to human activity. If you see a condor, do not approach it or offer it food. Try to read the number on the wing band and report its number and location to a park ranger.
Food

**INSIDE THE PARK**

**Grand Canyon Lodge Dining Room**
- Breakfast: 6:30–10 am
- Lunch: 11:30 am–2:30 pm
- Dinner: 4:45 pm–9:45 pm
- Dinner reservations recommended.

**Deli in the Pines**
- 7 am–9 pm

**Roughrider Saloon**
- 11:30 am–11 pm

**Coffee Shop**
- Located in the Roughrider Saloon; offers coffee, coffee and baked goods from 5:30 am–10:30 am. Light fare, appetizers, and cocktails served after 11:30 am.

**Grand Canyon Cookout Experience**
- A western dining event with live entertainment. Transportation provided from the lodge. Reservations recommended; inquire at the lodge front desk or call 928-636-2611.

**OUTSIDE THE PARK**

**Kaibab Lodge**
- 18 miles (29 km) north of the park on Highway 67.

**Jacob Lake Inn**
- 45 miles (72 km), north of the park at the junction of highways 67 and 89A.

**General Services**

**ATM**
- Available in the General Store and Roughrider Saloon.

**Service Station**
- On the access road to the North Rim Campground. Open daily 8 am–5 pm. Diesel available; 24 hour pay at the pump.

**Groceries and Camping Supplies**
- The General Store is adjacent to the North Rim Campground. Open daily 7 am–8 pm.

**Laundry and Showers**
- On the road to the North Rim Campground. Open daily 7 am–10 pm.

**Lost and Found**
- Found items should be turned in at the North Rim Visitor Center. Inquires about lost items can be made at the visitor center or the Grand Canyon Lodge front desk.

**Pets**
- Pets are allowed only on the Bridle Trail that connects Grand Canyon Lodge and North Kaibab Trailhead. Pets, except service animals, are not allowed on any other trails. Pets must be leashed at all times and are not permitted in Grand Canyon Lodge or in lodging facilities. A kennel is not available on the North Rim.

**Post Office**
- In the Grand Canyon Lodge Complex. Window service open Monday through Friday 9 am–5 pm. Closed Saturday, Sunday, and federal holidays.

**Religious Services**
- Check the bulletin board in Grand Canyon Lodge for a schedule of services.

**Lodges**

**INSIDE THE PARK**

**Grand Canyon Lodge**
- Check at the lodge for same day availability.
- Make advance reservations with Forever Resorts. Reserve as far ahead as possible since lodging is booked well in advance. 877-386-4383 or 480-998-1981
- www.grandcanyonforever.com

**OUTSIDE THE PARK**

**Kaibab Lodge**
- Located 18 miles (30 km) north of the North Rim, the lodge is open mid-May to early November and includes a restaurant. Some services may remain open after facilities in the park have closed for the season. 928-636-2389

**Jacob Lake Inn**
- Located 45 miles (75 km) north of the North Rim in Jacob Lake, Arizona. The Jacob Lake Inn is open year-round. 6:30 am–9 pm. Includes a restaurant, store, and gas station with pay at pump available 24 hours daily. Propane is available.

**Books and Gifts**
- Grand Canyon Association Bookstore
- Open daily 8 am–6 pm, beginning May 15 and 9 am–4 pm, beginning October 16, located in the North Rim Visitor Center.

**Gift Shop**
- Located in the Grand Canyon Lodge Complex. Open daily 8 am–9 pm. Some gift items are also available in the General Store.

**Services Outside the Park**

**North Rim Country Store**
- Located 18 miles (30 km) north of the North Rim. Convenience store and gas station open 7:30 am to 7 pm daily, May 15 to early November. Offers tire repair and ATAP. 928-636-2383

**Transportation**
- Hiker Shuttle
  - A shuttle to the North Kaibab trailhead is available twice daily in the morning. Sign up at the Grand Canyon Lodge front desk. The shuttle picks up passengers in front of the lodge at 5:45 am and 7:10 am. Reservations recommended 24 hours in advance.

**Rim-to-Rim Transportation**
- Daily transportation between the rims is provided by Transcanyon Shuttle. The shuttle departs the North Rim at 7 am and arrives at the South Rim at 11:30 am. It departs the South Rim at 1:30 pm and arrives at the North Rim at 6:30 pm. Reservations required. 928-638-2280

**Flagstaff Shuttle and Charter**
- Service between Flagstaff and Grand Canyon, as well as between Flagstaff and South rims. 888-215-3105

**Weather and Road Conditions**
- Weather is posted daily in the visitor center. For daily weather and road conditions call 928-636-7888.

**Arizona Highway Information**
- 511 or 888-411-ROAD or www.511az.gov

**Utah Highway Information**
- 801-964-6000 or www.sr.ex.state.ut.us

**Nevada Highway Information**
- 702-486-3116 or www.nevadadot.com

**Dispersed Camping**
- In the Kaibab National Forest you may camp at large, or away from campgrounds. Stop at the North Kaibab Ranger District for information. Remember:
  - There is no garbage service. Pack out what you take in.
  - Bring your own water. Few reliable water sources exist on the Kaibab Plateau.
  - Camp at least 0.25 mile (0.4 km) from water sources to allow access for wildlife and livestock.
  - Be fire safe. Carry a shovel and bucket.

**South Rim**
- The average distance across the canyon, as the condor flies, is 10 miles (16 km). However, traveling from the North to the South Rim requires a five-hour drive of 215 miles (345 km). The South Rim is open year round. All visitor services—camping, lodging, and restaurants—are available. Reservations are strongly recommended during the busy summer season. Some facilities are closed during the winter.

A free shuttle bus system operates in Grand Canyon Village. Make your visit easier by parking your car and using the shuttle to get around. Be sure to stop at the Grand Canyon Visitor Center.