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.

http://go.nps.gov/15gd82
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

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™

Table of contents
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 646 in Cameron, Arizona. Proceed north to the South 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 112° 03'09"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

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

TRANSCANYON 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

Airline
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

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

Parkinig 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

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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 IN 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

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.jacobblake.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/o2lb4w

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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

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

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
# 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**
  - Phone: 888-522-6644
  - Website: 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](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**
  - Phone: 800-992-8022
  - Website: www.riveradventures.com

- **Arizona Raft Adventures**
  - Phone: 800-786-7238
  - Website: www.azraft.com

- **Arizona River Runners**
  - Phone: 800-477-7238
  - Website: www.raftarizona.com

- **Canyon Explorations/Canyon Expeditions**
  - Phone: 800-654-0723
  - Website: www.canyonexplorations.com

- **Canyoneers, Inc.**
  - Phone: 800-525-0924
  - Website: www.canyoneers.com

- **Colorado River & Trail Expeditions, Inc.**
  - Phone: 800-253-7328
  - Website: www.crateinc.com

- **Grand Canyon Dories**
  - Phone: 800-346-6277
  - Website: www.oars.com/grandcanyondories.html

- **Grand Canyon Discovery, Inc.**
  - Phone: 800-786-7238
  - Website: www.grandcanyondiscovery.com

- **Grand Canyon Expeditions Co.**
  - Phone: 800-544-2691
  - Website: www.gcex.com

- **Grand Canyon Whitewater**
  - Phone: 800-343-3121
  - Website: www.grandcanyonwhitewater.com

- **Hatch River Expeditions**
  - Phone: 800-856-8966
  - Website: www.hatchriverexpeditions.com

- **Moki Mac River Expeditions**
  - Phone: 800-284-7280
  - Website: www.mokimac.com

- **O.A.R.S. Grand Canyon**
  - Phone: 800-346-6277
  - Website: www.oars.com

- **Outdoors Unlimited**
  - Phone: 800-637-7238
  - Website: www.outdoorsunlimited.com

- **Tour West**
  - Phone: 800-435-9107
  - Website: www.twriver.com

- **Western River Expeditions**
  - Phone: 866-904-1160
  - Website: 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](http://go.nps.gov/ig4s55)
Always carry backup water purification.

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

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### South Rim

#### 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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Destination</th>
<th>Distance Round Trip</th>
<th>Time Round Trip</th>
<th>Elevation Change</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Follows the rim for 13 miles (21 km)</td>
<td>Your choice</td>
<td>15 minutes to all day</td>
<td>200 feet 60 m</td>
<td>Mostly paved, except dirt from Monument Creek Vista east to Powell Point</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### 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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Destination</th>
<th>Distance Round Trip</th>
<th>Time Round Trip</th>
<th>Elevation Change</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 ½-Mile Resthouse</td>
<td>3 miles 4.8 km</td>
<td>2–4 hours</td>
<td>2,112 feet 644 m</td>
<td>Toilets</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3-Mile Resthouse</td>
<td>6 miles 9.6 km</td>
<td>4–6 hours</td>
<td>2,112 feet 644 m</td>
<td>Toilets</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indian Garden</td>
<td>9.2 miles 14.8 km</td>
<td>6–9 hours</td>
<td>3,060 feet 933 m</td>
<td>Water year-round</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### 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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Destination</th>
<th>Distance Round Trip</th>
<th>Time Round Trip</th>
<th>Elevation Change</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ooh Ahh Point</td>
<td>1.8 miles 2.9 km</td>
<td>1–2 hours</td>
<td>600 feet 180 m</td>
<td>First view east</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cedar Ridge</td>
<td>3 miles 4.8 km</td>
<td>2–4 hours</td>
<td>1,140 feet 347 m</td>
<td>No water</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Skeleton Point</td>
<td>6 miles 9.7 km</td>
<td>4–6 hours</td>
<td>2,040 feet 622 m</td>
<td>No water</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Destination</th>
<th>Distance Round Trip</th>
<th>Time Round Trip</th>
<th>Elevation Change</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bright Angel Point</td>
<td>0.5 miles 0.8 km</td>
<td>30 minutes</td>
<td>200 feet 60 m</td>
<td>Self-guiding trail brochure available at trailhead</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### 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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Destination</th>
<th>Distance Round Trip</th>
<th>Time Round Trip</th>
<th>Elevation Change</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Widforss Point</td>
<td>10 miles 16 km</td>
<td>6 hours</td>
<td>200 feet 60 m</td>
<td>Self-guiding trail brochure available at trailhead</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### 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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Destination</th>
<th>Distance Round Trip</th>
<th>Time Round Trip</th>
<th>Elevation Change</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Coconino Overlook</td>
<td>1.4 miles 2.3 km</td>
<td>1–2 hours</td>
<td>800 feet 245 m</td>
<td>Expansive view</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supai Tunnel</td>
<td>4 miles 6.4 km</td>
<td>3–4 hours</td>
<td>1,450 feet 445 m</td>
<td>Water</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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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.

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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.

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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.

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Hiking Safety Information

**SUMMER**
http://go.nps.gov/iopezu

**WINTER**
http://go.nps.gov/1fx2nh
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/1lvC55

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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>For hikes starting in:</th>
<th>Submit written request on or after:</th>
<th>In-person requests receive response after:</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>September 1</td>
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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

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

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Park Partners

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 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.