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

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

Park Headquarters 928-638-7888

Website www.nps.gov/grca/

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

EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA™

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

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

Accessibility
For information about accessibility in Grand Canyon National Park, see

http://go.nps.gov/136oj1

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

http://go.nps.gov/loxbia

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

http://go.nps.gov/y5uu6f

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

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

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 64; turn north and follow to the North Entrance of the park.

Coordinates*

GRAND CANYON VISITOR CENTER
Latitude, Longitude: 36° 03’32”N 112° 06’33”W
UTM Zone 12, NAD 83: 400993 East, 3991074 North

DESERT VIEW WATCHTOWER
Latitude, Longitude: 36° 2'38"N 111° 49’33”W
UTM Zone 12, NAD 83: 400093 East, 3991074 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

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/Tnw86f

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

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

**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).
**Park 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.

**DESSERT 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**


**GO ON A HIKE**

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

**RIDE A BICYCLE**

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

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

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)
Pull-through sites with hookups. Reservations recommended. Open year-round. 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. Most individual sites first-come, first-served. Some individual and all group sites available by reservation. Open May through September. 928-638-2887

www.grandcanyoncampervillage.com

Ten-X Campground (Kaibab National Forest)
No hookups or showers. Most individual sites first-come, first-served. 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.qcanyon.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.jacoblake.com

Food and Beverage

IN THE PARK
Grand Canyon Lodge Dining Room
Offers a view of the canyon; reservations for dinner recommended; open daily.

Deli in the Pines
In the Grand Canyon Lodge complex; open daily.

Roughrider Saloon
In the Grand Canyon Lodge complex; open daily.

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

Grand Canyon Cookout Experience
A Western dining event with live entertainment. Reservations recommended; inquire at the lodge front desk or call: 928-638-2611
www.grandcanyonforever.com

Other Services

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

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

**FIXED-WING**
- **Grand Canyon Airlines**
  866-235-9422
  www.grandcanyonairlines.com

- **Westwind Air Service**
  888-869-0866
  www.westwindairservice.com

- **Vision Airlines**
  800-256-8767
  www.visionholidays.com

**HELIicopter**
- **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

**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
888-522-6644
www.raftthecanyon.com

2 – 5 DAY LOWER GORGE RIVER TRIPS
Private river trips can float 52 river miles (84 km) from Diamond Creek to Lake Mead. Permits available starting one year in advance on a first-come, first-served basis. The National Park Service does not assess permit fees for this section of the river, but the Hualapai Tribe charges access fees for crossing their reservation. For information and applications visit http://go.nps.gov/sxsoub

3 – 18 DAY COMMERCIAL TRIPS
The following companies offer three- to 19-day river trips through Grand Canyon, traveling 226 river miles (364 km) from Lees Ferry to Diamond Creek. Companies offer a variety of trips in large motorized rafts, oared rafts, paddle rafts, and dories.

Aramark-Wilderness River Adventures
800-992-8022
www.riveradventures.com

Arizona Raft Adventures
800-786-7238
www.azraft.com

Arizona River Runners
800-477-7238
www.raftarizona.com

Canyon Explorations/Canyon Expeditions
800-654-0723
www.canyonexplorations.com

Canyoneers, Inc.
800-525-0924
www.canyoneers.com

Colorado River & Trail Expeditions, Inc.
800-253-7328
www.crateinc.com

Grand Canyon Dories
800-346-6277
www.oars.com/grandcanyondories.html

Grand Canyon Discovery, Inc.
800-786-7238
www.grandcanyondiscovery.com

Grand Canyon Expeditions Co.
800-544-2691
www.gcex.com

Grand Canyon Whitewater
800-343-3121
www.grandcanyonwhitewater.com

Hatch River Expeditions
800-856-8966
www.hatchriverexpeditions.com

Moki Mac River Expeditions
800-284-7280
www.mokimac.com

O.A.R.S. Grand Canyon
800-346-6277
www.oars.com

Outdoors Unlimited
800-637-7238
www.outdoorsunlimited.com

Tour West
800-435-9107
www.twriver.com

Western River Expeditions
886-904-1160
www.westernriver.com

12 – 25 DAY PRIVATE TRIPS
Since demand far exceeds supply, the park dispenses non-commercial permits to travel from Lees Ferry to Diamond Creek via a weighted lottery. Each February, a main lottery assigns the majority of launch dates for the next year. Additional follow-up lotteries occur throughout the remainder of the year to re-assign cancelled trips. http://go.nps.gov/ig4s55
Hiking Map

Map Key

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

Always carry backup water purification.

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

South Rim

Bright Angel Trailhead

Cottonwood Campground

North Kaibab Trailhead

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

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

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

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>South Rim</th>
<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><strong>Rim Trail</strong></td>
<td>Follows the rim for 13 miles (21 km)</td>
<td>Your choice</td>
<td>15 minutes to all day</td>
<td>200 feet</td>
<td>Mostly paved, except dirt from Monument Creek Vista east to Powell Point</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Bright Angel Trail</strong></td>
<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, Water May–October</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<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, Water May–October</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<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, Toilets</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>South Kaibab Trail</strong></td>
<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>No water, First view east</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<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, Toilets</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<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, Hitching rail</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>North Rim</strong></td>
<td>Bright Angel Point</td>
<td>0.5 miles (0.8 km)</td>
<td>30 minutes</td>
<td>200 feet (60 m)</td>
<td>No water, Self-guiding trail brochure available at trailhead</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Widforss Trail</strong></td>
<td>Widforss Point</td>
<td>10 miles (16 km)</td>
<td>6 hours</td>
<td>200 feet (60 m)</td>
<td>No water, Self-guiding trail brochure available at trailhead</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>North Kaibab Trail</strong></td>
<td>Coconino Overlook</td>
<td>1.4 miles (2.3 km)</td>
<td>1 – 2 hours</td>
<td>800 feet (245 m)</td>
<td>No water, Expansive view</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<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, May–October</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Hiking Tips

Prepare a Day Pack With:

WATER
One quart/liter for every two hours. Know your water sources.

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

FIRST AID KIT AND SURVIVAL TOOLS
Include medications, blister care, and duct tape.

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

FLASHLIGHT OR HEADLAMP
You may end up hiking in the dark unexpectedly; cell phones do not provide adequate light.

SUN PROTECTION
Sunscreen, hat, sunglasses, and a sun umbrella.

COMMUNICATION
Whistle or signal mirror; cell phones are not reliable.

SIMPLE SHELTERS
Emergency tarp with reflective side.

WEATHER-APPROPRIATE CLOTHING
Wear layered clothing appropriate for the weather and hiking boots with good soles.

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

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

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

NO SWIMMING
The Colorado River is fast, wide, and cold (46°F / 8°C) year-round. Do not swim in the river—you will perish!

DO NOT THROW ROCKS
Rocks or other objects tossed over the edge or dislodged by taking shortcuts can injure hikers and wildlife below.

Hike Smart

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

EAT AND DRINK
Snack every time you drink water or sports drink.

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

LEAVE NO TRACE
Day hikers can leave quite a mark in the canyon—literally. Write a postcard to your friends instead of writing on walls. Take your trash back out with you, including toilet paper. Do not feed the wildlife, and guard your food from food-habituated animals.

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

Hiking Safety Information
SUMMER
http://go.nps.gov/iopezu

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

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<th>For hikes starting in:</th>
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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](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/learn/education

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

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

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.

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.

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.
Outside the National Park

**Kaibab National Forest**
Surrounding both South and North rims, discover unique experiences in national forests.

**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](http://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](http://www.grandcanyonwest.com)

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

Forever Resorts

Bright Angel Bicycles

Canyon Trail Rides

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Grand Canyon Railway

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