What to See and Do

**Drive**
Drive between West and North entrances to see our famous Joshua trees and boulder fields. When stopping, use paved pull-offs and get completely out of the flow of traffic.

**Enjoy**
Visit the Pinto Basin to see Cholla Cactus Garden and Ocotillo Patch.

**Learn**
Join a ranger program to learn more about the park.

Support Your Park

- **Watch wildlife respectfully**
  Stay at least 75 feet (23 m) from larger wildlife. If an animal reacts to your presence by changing its behavior, you are too close. Remember, this is home for wild animals. We are visitors.

- **Never feed any wild animals**
  Consuming human food is unhealthy for wildlife and may encourage aggressive behavior. Food, trash, scented products, and cooking tools must be stored securely in a vehicle or hard-sided container.

- **Travel responsibly with your pet**
  Pets must be on a leash at all times. They cannot go more than 100 feet (30 m) from roads, picnic areas, and campgrounds. Pets are not allowed on hiking trails or in the backcountry. Owners must never leave a pet unattended or tied to an object. Bag and properly dispose of pet waste.

- **No drones or remote-controlled vehicles**
  Drones and other remotely operated craft can disturb wildlife and disrupt the visitor experience.

- **Campfires**
  Campfires are allowed only in designated fire rings or grills found in campgrounds and picnic areas. Campfires are not allowed in the backcountry. Bring your own firewood and extra water to douse your campfire. Do not use park vegetation, living or dead, for fuel. High winds may require fire bans.

- **No collecting park resources**
  Leave everything in the park as it is for others to enjoy. Do not destroy, deface, dig, collect, or otherwise disturb any park resources including plants or animals (whether they are dead or alive), rocks, fossils, or artifacts.

- **Firearms and weapons**
  Firearms may be possessed in accordance with California state and federal laws. Firearms may not be discharged in the park. Fireworks, traps, bows, BB guns, paintball guns, smoke bombs, and slingshots are not allowed in the park.

- **No graffiti**
  Over the last few years there has been an increase in graffiti and acts of intentional vandalism, including carving into rocks, trees, and historic structures in the park. This is illegal, it damages resources, and costs the park significant time and money to continually remove graffiti from rocks. Report incidents of graffiti to: jotr_graffiti@nps.gov
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hike</th>
<th>Distance</th>
<th>Elevation</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Hi-View</td>
<td>easy</td>
<td>1.3 miles (2.1 km) 400 feet (122 m)</td>
<td>1.5 hours</td>
<td>Loop. Hike up a ridge on the western side of the park and take in panoramic views of the area. Steep sections with benches to take a break and enjoy the view.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Panorama Loop</td>
<td>strenuous</td>
<td>6.6 miles (10.6 km) 1,100 feet (336 m)</td>
<td>3.5-4.5 hours</td>
<td>Loop. Hike up a sandy wash, then follow the ridgeline of the Little San Bernardino Mountains. Enjoy scenic views, dense Joshua tree forest, and pinyon-juniper woodland.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Warren Peak</td>
<td>strenuous</td>
<td>6.3 miles (10.1 km) 1,110 feet (338.3 m)</td>
<td>3.5-4.5 hours</td>
<td>Out and back. Hike to the summit of Warren Peak. Enjoy panoramic views of the quiet western part of Joshua Tree National Park.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 West Side Loop</td>
<td>moderate</td>
<td>4.7 miles (7.6 km) 785 feet (239.3 m)</td>
<td>2.5-4 hours</td>
<td>Loop. Explore the ridge and washes west of Black Rock.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 Indian Cove*</td>
<td>easy</td>
<td>0.6 miles (1.0 km) 50 feet (15.2 m)</td>
<td>30-45 minutes</td>
<td>Loop. Walk on a gently rolling path with a few steps. Take a closer look at desert plants and learn about their traditional uses by Native Americans.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 Fortynine Palms Oasis*</td>
<td>moderate</td>
<td>3.0 miles (4.8 km) 300 feet (91 m)</td>
<td>2-3 hours</td>
<td>Out and back. There is a 300-foot (91-m) elevation gain in both directions, as you hike up and over a ridge. Descend to a fan palm oasis. Avoid this trail when it is hot.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 Oasis of Mara</td>
<td>easy</td>
<td>0.5 mile (0.8 km)</td>
<td>minimal elevation</td>
<td>30-45 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 Boy Scout Trail</td>
<td>strenuous</td>
<td>8.0 miles (12.9 km) 1,190 feet (362.7 m)</td>
<td>6 hours</td>
<td>One way. Stay on trail to avoid getting lost. Most hikers prefer to start at the south trailhead and finish at Indian Cove. Vehicle shuttle strongly recommended for hikers interested in doing the full length of the trail.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 Hidden Valley*</td>
<td>easy</td>
<td>1.0 mile (1.6 km) 100 feet (30.5 m)</td>
<td>1 hour</td>
<td>Loop. Discover a rock-enclosed valley that was once rumored to have been used by cattle rustlers. Limited parking.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 Barker Dam*</td>
<td>easy</td>
<td>1.1 mile (1.8 km) 50 feet (15.2 m)</td>
<td>1 hour</td>
<td>Loop. Explore cultural history and view a historic dam built by early cattle ranchers. Watch for desert bighorn sheep. Limited parking.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11 Wall Street Mill*</td>
<td>moderate</td>
<td>2.0 miles (3.2 km) 80 feet (24.4 m)</td>
<td>1.5-2.5 hours</td>
<td>Out and back. Travel to the remains of a historic gold milling site and see old rusted cars and an old homestead. Leave what you find.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 Ryan Ranch*</td>
<td>easy</td>
<td>1.0 mile (1.6 km) 135 feet (41.1 m)</td>
<td>1 hour</td>
<td>Out and back. Enjoy an easy hike along an old ranch road and see a historic adobe structure. Leave what you find.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13 Ryan Mountain*</td>
<td>strenuous</td>
<td>3.0 miles (4.8 km) 1,500 feet (560 m)</td>
<td>1.5-2.5 hours</td>
<td>Out and back. Hike to the summit of Ryan Mountain. This is one of the most popular hikes.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14 Discovery Trail*</td>
<td>easy</td>
<td>0.7 mile (1.1 km) 70 feet (21.3 m)</td>
<td>30-45 minutes</td>
<td>Loop. Connects Skull Rock and Split Rock trails. Visit Face Rock between Discovery and Split Rock trails.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15 Skull Rock*</td>
<td>easy</td>
<td>1.7 miles (2.7 km) 160 feet (48.8 m)</td>
<td>1-2 hours</td>
<td>Loop. Take an easy hike and explore boulder piles, desert washes, and the trail’s namesake. The trail goes through Jumbo Rocks Campground.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16 Split Rock Loop*</td>
<td>moderate</td>
<td>2.5 miles (4.0 km) 150 feet (45.7 m)</td>
<td>1.5-2.5 hours</td>
<td>Loop with small spur to Face Rock. Explore the park’s geology.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17 Cap Rock</td>
<td>easy</td>
<td>0.4 miles (0.6 km) 20 feet (6.1 m)</td>
<td>30-45 minutes</td>
<td>Loop. View boulder piles, Joshua trees, and other desert plants.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18 Lost Horse Mine</td>
<td>moderate</td>
<td>4.0 miles (6.4 km) 550 ft (168 m)</td>
<td>2-3 hours</td>
<td>Out and back to mine. See one of the most productive gold mines in the park. Stay outside fenced area. Full-loop option is 6.5 miles (10.5 km). Leave what you find. Limited parking.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19 Keys View</td>
<td>easy</td>
<td>0.25 mile (0.4 km) 25 feet (7.6 m)</td>
<td>15-20 minutes</td>
<td>Loop. Short, paved, steep path. Breathtaking views of the San Andreas Fault, Mt San Jacinto, Mt San Gorgonio, and the Salton Sea.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20 Cholla Cactus Garden</td>
<td>easy</td>
<td>0.25 miles (0.4 km) 10 feet (3 m)</td>
<td>15-30 minutes</td>
<td>Loop. View thousands of densely concentrated, naturally growing, cholla cactus. Stay on the trail, wear closed-toe shoes, and be aware of prickly cactus.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21 Cottonwood Spring</td>
<td>easy</td>
<td>0.1 mile (0.2 km) 25 feet (7.6 m)</td>
<td>10 minutes</td>
<td>Out and back. Short walk to fan palm oasis with cottonwood trees. Fantastic birding location with plentiful shade.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22 Mastodon Peak</td>
<td>moderate</td>
<td>3.0 miles (4.8 km) 375 ft (115 m)</td>
<td>1.5-2.5 hours</td>
<td>Loop. An optional rock scramble takes you to the top of a craggy granite peak. The trail then loops around past an old gold mine. Leave what you find.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23 Lost Palms Oasis*</td>
<td>strenuous</td>
<td>7.5 miles (12.9 km) 500 feet (152 m)</td>
<td>5-6 hours</td>
<td>Out and back. Enjoy sandy washes and rolling terrain, then hike down into a canyon to explore a fan palm oasis. Climbing back out of the canyon is strenuous.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24 Bajada</td>
<td>easy</td>
<td>0.25 mile (0.4 km) 20 feet (6.1 m)</td>
<td>15-20 minutes</td>
<td>Loop. Walk on a bajada and discover plants of the Colorado Desert.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Joshua Tree National Park preserves and protects the scenic, natural, and cultural resources representative of the Colorado and Mojave deserts' rich biological and geological diversity, cultural history, wilderness, recreational values, and outstanding opportunities for education and scientific study.

Superintendent
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911

Social Media
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Lost & Found
jotr_lost_and_found@nps.gov

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

EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA™

Safety

Water is available at:
- Oasis Visitor Center
- Black Rock Campground
- Cottonwood Campground
- Cottonwood Visitor Center
- West Entrance
- Indian Cove Ranger Station

Stay hydrated; drink at least one gallon (4 L) of water per person, per day and eat lots of salty snacks or electrolyte drinks when active.

Never put your hands or feet into rock crevices or onto ledges where you can not see. Use a flashlight.

Bees are common and attracted to moisture. Roll up windows and exit vehicles quickly to minimize the likelihood of bees in your car.

In most of the park there is no cell coverage. Do not count on your phone for navigation or in case of emergency.

GPS units and navigation apps are not reliable in the park and may direct you to unsafe roads. Refer to the park map for navigation.

Drive slowly to protect wildlife. When stopping to view animals or scenery use a pullout and move out of the way of traffic.

Use sunscreen and reapply often. Wear loose-fitting, light-colored clothing, sunglasses, and a wide-brimmed hat.

Many historic mine sites exist here. Structures may be unstable and may contain toxic chemicals. Do not enter.

Emergency Phones
- Indian Cove Ranger Station
- Intersection Rock parking area near Hidden Valley Campground
- Cottonwood Visitor Center

In an emergency, if you have cell service, dial 911 for assistance.
Visitor Centers

Black Rock Nature Center
9800 Black Rock Canyon Road
Yucca Valley, CA 92284
8 am-4 pm, October through May

Oasis Visitor Center
760-367-5522
74485 National Park Drive
Twentynine Palms, CA 92277
8:30 am-5 pm

Joshua Tree Visitor Center
6554 Park Boulevard
Joshua Tree, CA 92252
8 am-5 pm

Cottonwood Visitor Center
6 miles (10 km) inside South Entrance
8:30 am-4 pm

The park is open year-round.

Wilderness Backpacking Registration Boards

Before wilderness backpacking, you must register for a free permit at one of the following registration boards:
- Black Rock
- Cottonwood Spring
- Covington Flat
- Geology Tour Road
- Indian Cove
- Juniper Flats (Keys View Road)
- Keys West (Boy Scout Trail-south)
- North Entrance
- Pine Valley (at the junction of Desert Queen Mine and Queen Valley roads)
- Pleasant Valley (by one-way, 4WD-only section of Geology Tour Road)
- Porcupine Wash (8 miles (12.9 km) north of Cottonwood on Pinto Basin Road)
- Turkey Flats (13 miles (20.9 km) north of Cottonwood on Pinto Basin Road)
- Twin Tanks (between Belle and White Tank campgrounds)
Campgrounds Inside the Park

Camping Regulations

- A maximum of six people, three tents, and two licensed vehicles may occupy an individual campsite, if there is space. Some sites only have enough parking for one vehicle. A vehicle towing a trailer, popup, tent trailer, or fifth wheel—or a motorhome towing a vehicle—is considered two vehicles.
- Attaching lines to vegetation, including Joshua trees and junipers, is prohibited. Hammocks, slacklines, and other horizontal ropes are not permitted in campgrounds.
- Quiet hours: 10 pm–6 am.
- Generators permitted: 7–9 am, noon–2 pm, 5–7 pm.

- There is a 30-day camping limit each year. Only 14 of these nights may take place from October through May.
- Campsites left vacant for 24 hours will be treated as vacant. Holding/reserving campsites for persons not present is not allowed.
- Pets must remain on leash at all times and may not be left unattended.
- At Hidden Valley and White Tank campgrounds, RVs and trailers may not exceed a combined maximum length of 25 feet (7.6 m). Other campgrounds have length restrictions not to exceed 35 feet (10.7 m), unless otherwise noted.

First-come, First-served Sites

If a “Campground Full” sign is displayed, please try a different campground.

**Belle**
- 18 sites. $15 per night. Pit toilets, tables, and fire grates. No water. 3,800 feet (1,158 m) in elevation.

**Hidden Valley**
- 44 sites. $15 per night. Pit toilets, tables, and fire grates. No water. 4,200 feet (1,280 m) in elevation.

**Ryan**
- 31 sites. $15 per night. Pit toilets, tables, and fire grates. No water. 4,300 feet (1,311 m) in elevation.

**White Tank**
- 15 sites. $15 per night. Pit toilets, tables, and fire grates. No water. 3,800 feet (1,158 m) in elevation.

Reservation Sites

Reservations can be made at www.recreation.gov, 877-444-6777.

**Black Rock**
- 99 sites. $20 per night. Water, flush toilets, fire grates, dump station. 4,000 feet (1,219 m) in elevation.

**Cottonwood**
- 62 sites. $20 per night. Water, flush toilets, fire grates, dump station. 3,000 feet (914 m) in elevation.

**Indian Cove**
- 101 sites. $20 per night. Pit toilets. Pit toilets, tables, fire grates. Water at ranger station. 3,200 feet (975 m) in elevation.

**Jumbo Rocks**
- 124 sites. $15 per night. Pit toilets, tables, and fire grates. No water. 4,400 feet in elevation.

Campgrounds Outside the Park

Campgrounds are usually full on weekends October through May. From mid-February to mid-May (and during holidays) campgrounds usually fill throughout the week. To improve your chances of getting a campsite and avoid disappointment, visit during the off-season (June through September), reserve a site, and/or have alternate overnight plans ready.

Private Campgrounds

**North of the Park**

**HipCamp**
- hipcamp.com

**Joshua Tree Lake RV & Campground**
- 2601 Sunfair Road
  - Joshua Tree, CA
  - 760-366-1213
  - joshuatreelake.com
  - Hookups and dump station

**South of the Park**

**Chiriaco Summit**
- 62450 Chiriaco Road
  - Chiriaco Summit, CA
  - 760-227-3227

Dispersed Camping

Public lands managed by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) offer free dispersed camping south of the park. Camping is allowed within 300 feet (91 m) of roadways. There are no developed facilities in dispersed camping areas: no restrooms, no water, no trash collection. Bring what you need and pack out all your trash.

All vegetation, living or dead, is protected by law. Campfires require a permit, available from BLM offices or online. Use existing fire rings. Do not move rock. This area includes portions of Camp Young, part of General Patton’s World War II training efforts.

**Dispersed Camping South of the Park**

Accessible from Cottonwood Springs Road. See the map (right) for dispersed camping areas.
Junior Rangers

Kids aged 4-14 earn a free badge by completing a fun activity booklet and attending a ranger program or learning from exhibits in a visitor center. Stop by any park visitor center or entrance station to pick up a booklet.

Older kids and adults can earn their badges too by doing more activities.

Joshua Tree National Park Association

Be a Part of the Adventure

The Joshua Tree National Park Association has been supporting interpretation, education, preservation, and scientific research since 1962. They operate four park stores, offer a field institute with classes taught by experts, and raise funds for the park through donations and a membership program.

Experience the Great Outdoors

Pick up a trail guide or sign up for a Desert Institute field class and make the park your classroom. Take home a schedule and plan ahead.

Become a Member

Join the Joshua Tree National Park Association and you will help support park programs and projects while enjoying some great benefits. Members receive a 15% discount on merchandise at Joshua Tree National Park Association park stores, as well as a discount on all Desert Institute classes. In turn, your gift helps support youth programs, scientific research, and historical collections, and you will assist in the preservation of our fragile desert environment for generations to come.

To become a JTNPA member, call 760-367-5535 or visit joshuatree.org.