Hot Dog!

While park regulations don't allow pets to join you on trails, in the backcountry, or in park buildings, there are alternative areas to explore.

Places to go
- Paved and unpaved roads
- Picnic areas and campgrounds

Things to remember
- Pets must remain on a leash at all times. Leashes may be no longer than 6 feet (1.8 m).
- Pets may go no more than 100 feet (30.5 m) from any road, picnic area, or campground.
- Owners must pick up any droppings. Leave no trace.
- Bring plenty of water for your pet. Dogs have died in the park from dehydration and heat illness.
- Do not leave your dogs in your vehicle unattended, even for short periods of time.
- Paved areas heat up fast and can be harsh on paws.

To learn more, visit: https://www.nps.gov/jotr/planyourvisit/pets.htm

The Colorado Desert is a subsection of the larger Sonoran Desert (left). The transition zone between the Colorado and Mojave Deserts hosts a wealth of biological diversity and is home to species characteristic of both deserts (right).

Camping
Learn more about park campgrounds and alternative options on page 3.

Hiking
Suggestions for short and moderate hikes are available on page 6. Remember to drink water, eat salty snacks, and avoid the heat of the day.

Maps
Park overview and detail maps are located on pages 4-5.

Ranger-led Programs
Ranger programs are listed on page 8.

Safety
Safety information is located on page 2. Dehydration is a key worry in the desert sun. Drink plenty of water and eat salty snacks.

As the National Park Service embarks on a second century of preserving your public lands, I want to invite you to enjoy your park. For the handy folks like yourselves who make the trek to Joshua Tree in the summer, we have quite an adventure in store for you. Summertime is the quiet season at the park. Sunrise at an oasis can be magical as the sounds of bird calls fill the air. The peace and quiet of the Pinto Basin on a hot summer day can be overwhelming. As the day draws to a close, visitors are rewarded with sunsets that stretch from one side of the park to the other. The night time skies at Jumbo Rocks campground and the clarity of the Milky Way overhead are a welcome reward for the hearty souls who spend a night out under the stars.

With a little preparation, a summertime visit to a desert park can be a very special experience. Without it, it can be very risky. If you are planning an extended hike, please plan on an early start. Leave the trail before temperatures become too excessive. Bring at least one liter of water per hour, per person. Protect your skin with big shade hats, loose-fitting clothes, and ample sunscreen. Please leave pets at home and off the trails for both their safety and the safety of wildlife. Each year, park rescuers respond to hikers in distress or even worse when they are overcome by the heat. Help us help you by not becoming a victim of a heat related injury.

I look forward to seeing you as you enjoy your park.

David Smith
Superintendent
Rules and Regulations

Watch wildlife respectfully
Stay at least 75 feet (23 m) from 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
Remote-controlled vehicles, including aircraft and rockcrawlers, are prohibited. 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.

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. However, they 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 within 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 or use the form on page 7.

Safety

Be generous in using 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 toxic chemicals are likely present. Admire, but do not enter.

Flash floods occur during summer monsoons. Avoid canyons and washes and move to higher ground. Don't drive through moving water.

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.

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

In an emergency, if you have cell service, call 909-383-5651 or 911 for assistance.

Cell Phones
In most of the park there is no cell coverage. Do not count on your phone for navigation or in case of emergency.
What to See and Do

- Visit the Pinto Basin and see the Cholla Cactus Garden and Ocotillo Patch.
- Drive between West and North entrances to see our famous Joshua trees and boulder fields. To stop and take photos, use paved pulloffs and get completely out of the flow of traffic.
- Attend a ranger-led activity and learn more about the amazing resources protected here.
- Enjoy moderate hikes in the early morning and plan to finish before the heat of the day.

Camping

Visitors staying overnight in the park must camp in a designated campground or backcountry camping area (see page 6). A maximum of six people, three tents, and two cars may occupy an individual campsite, if there is space. Some sites only have enough parking for one vehicle.

Closed for summer.

- Belle
  - This campground is typically closed throughout the summer.
- Black Rock
  - 99 sites. $20 per night. 4,000 feet in elevation. Water, flush toilets, tables, fire grates, and a dump station.
- Cottonwood
  - 62 sites. $20 per night. 3,000 feet in elevation. Water, flush toilets, tables, fire grates, and a dump station. Half of this campground closes in summer.
- Indian Cove
  - 101 sites. $20 per night. 3,200 feet in elevation. Pit toilets, tables, and fire grates. No water. Half of this campground closes in summer.
- Jumbo Rocks
  - 124 sites. $15 per night. 4,400 feet in elevation. Pit toilets, tables, and fire grates. No water.
- Hidden Valley
  - 44 sites. $15 per night. 4,200 feet. Pit toilets, tables, and fire grates. No water.
- Indian Cove
  - 99 sites. $20 per night. 4,000 feet in elevation. Water, flush toilets, tables, fire grates, and a dump station.
- Indian Cove
  - 101 sites. $20 per night. 3,200 feet in elevation. Pit toilets, tables, and fire grates. No water. Half of this campground closes in summer.
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- Hidden Valley
  - 44 sites. $15 per night. 4,200 feet. Pit toilets, tables, and fire grates. No water.

Can't Find a Campsite?

If you are unable to get a site in a designated campground, you can:

- Camp on Bureau of Land Management lands outside the park
- Go to a private campground or stay in lodging in gateway communities.

Sleeping in your vehicle overnight along the road or in a parking area is not allowed and violators may be subject to citation.

For more information, visit:
www.nps.gov/jotr/planyourvisit/camping-outside-of-the-park.htm
Map of Joshua Tree National Park

Visitor Centers

Oasis Visitor Center
760-367-5500
74485 National Park Dr.
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; access from 1-10
8:30 am-4 pm

The park is always open.

Backcountry Boards

There are 13 backcountry registration boards located throughout the park.
- Black Rock
- Cottonwood Spring
- Desert Queen Mine Road
- Indian Cove
- Jumbo Rocks (Key View Road)
- Keys West (Boy Scout Trail - south)
- Keys West
- Pine City (at the junction of Desert Queen Mine and Queen Valley roads)
- Pinon Flats (north of Geology Tour Road)
- Pine City (at the junction of Desert Queen Mine and Queen Valley roads)
- Porcupine Wash (8 miles north of Cottonwood on Pinto Basin Road)
- Turkey Flats (13 miles north of Cottonwood on Pinto Basin Road)
- Twin Tanks (between Belle and White Tank campgrounds)

Black Rock Area Detail Map

Hidden Valley & Jumbo Rocks Area Detail Map

Cottonwood Area Detail Map

Note: Detailed hiking maps for this area are available at any visitor center and outside Black Rock Nature Center. Do not rely on this map for route finding.
Junior Rangers

Kids are invited to participate in the Junior Ranger program.

Earn a Joshua Tree Junior Ranger badge by completing the activity book. Stop by any park visitor center or entrance station to pick one up.

Additionally, you'll be asked to attend a ranger-led program.

If attending a ranger program isn’t possible, kids can fulfill this requirement by learning from exhibits in a visitor center or along a trail.

The Junior Ranger program is designed for ages 4-14, but anyone can do it.

(Older "kids" should expect to be asked to do more activities!)
Joshua Tree National Park Association

Be a Part of the Adventure
The Joshua Tree National Park Association has been supporting preservation, scientific research, and education since 1962. We operate four bookstores, offer a field institute with classes taught by experts in natural sciences, cultural history, and the arts, and raise funds for the park through public events and our membership program.

Connect with Nature
Learn more about Joshua Tree at our visitor center bookstores. Wildflower identification, climbing and hiking guides, birding, geology, stargazing, native plants, and local history are just a few of the topics. www.joshuatree.org/store/

Experience the Great Outdoors
Pick up a trail guide or sign up for a Desert Institute field class and make the park your classroom. Classes are not offered in the summer months, but take home a schedule and plan ahead.

Become a Member
Join the Joshua Tree National Park Association and you'll support park programs and projects while enjoying some great benefits. You are supporting youth programs, scientific research and historical collections, and you will assist in the preservation of our fragile desert environment for generations to come.

Graffiti Report
Help keep your park clean and free of graffiti. Return this form to a visitor center or email your report to: jotr_graffiti@nps.gov

Contact Information
Name

Email address

Phone number

Date
When did you see graffiti?

Location
Where is it? Record GPS coordinates, geotag photos, draw a map, and/or describe surrounding landmarks.

Is it easy to reach and see? Write Yes or No.
• Can you walk to it?
• Can you reach it while standing on the ground?
• Will we need technical climbing gear to reach it?

Description
What does it look like? Are there identifiable colors, symbols, letters, or words? Feel free to draw a picture.

What was it done with? Circle all that apply.
Spray Paint
Chalk
Etched/Carved
Charcoal
Other

How big is it? Circle one.
< 3 feet
3-5 feet
> 5 feet
Other

Photos
Overview and detail photos can be emailed to jotr_graffiti@nps.gov

Please ask for a membership brochure at one of the visitor centers or call 760-367-5535.

www.joshuatree.org
EXPLORE RESPONSIBLY

JNP
PACK IT IN
PACK IT OUT
PLAN AHEAD
BRING WATER

NPS
USE SUN PROTECTION
LEAVE PETS AT HOME
PUT FOOD AWAY

@JOSHUAATREENPS

Take a photo with this poster in the park and share on social media. Tag @JoshuaTreeNPS and #ExploreResponsibly.