The Titan of Chasms—inexpressible—you must see it to understand.
A Cosmic Intaglio
An Appreciation of
Grand Canyon National Park

By Charles F. Lummis

In the very cradle of recorded Time, the Grand Canyon was waiting, under the Slow Smile of God, for Man to come to it and know His chiefest Wonder-vision on earth; this vast chameleon, unearthly, attainable, Mirage in Immortal Rock. Through milleniums it has been worshipful and awe-full to the bronzed First Americans, whose swallow-nesting homes still crumble along that amethystine "Rim." Caucasians were late of coming—though to us parvenus it seems long ago, in years and world-change. When Coronado's lieutenant, Garcia Lopez de Cárdenas, first of Europeans, stood upon this Brink (September 14, 1540), Luther was walking the floor with his fretful Reformation, just cutting its teeth. Henry VIII. was still adding new reels to his kinema of wives. His seven-year-old daughter Bess was learning never to lose her head (as Mamma had done), and to have no heart to lose. She staid unmarried as many times as Papa didn't. It was forty years before Raleigh spread his cape for her. It was a generation before Shakespeare, and two before Milton; seventy years before English was spoken in any home in all the New World. There was not a printed Bible, except in Latin; and the King James version was nigh seventy years to the future. It was three centuries before the first friction match; over two hundred years before Ben Franklin invented the first cook-stove; twenty-five years before the first forks and steel needles. It was a world without kerosene, wire cigars, potatoes, corn, whisky, side-saddles, public schools and libraries, quinine, rifles, tin cans, turkeys, newspapers, novels, vaccination—without even the sacred symbol, $.

As to the Franciscan missionaries—it was a week before our Declaration of Independence that Fray Francisco Garcés (first of Europeans) saw the Canyon from the West. In the same month that General Howe defeated Washington's forces at White Plains, Fray Sylvestre Velez de Escalante
was first white man to cross (October 7, 1776) the chasm and its head-
long river.

Major Powell’s heroic threadings of that fearsome Labyrinth (1869-70) 
marked the first serious attention of “Americans” to the most wondrous 
thing in America; but his notable volumes precipitated no pilgrimage. 
Thirty-five years ago, when I began my ’prenticeship to the Canyon, not 
a hundred people a year saw it—and ten Englishmen to one American. 
Today (most thanks to the builders of the steel highway), it is famous 
and luxuriously accessible—yet 95 per cent of the travelers passing within 
sixty miles never visit it!

As it was I who first raised (a third of a century ago) the slogan, “See 
America First!” it now falls my privilege to extend this official invitation 
to the opening of the Grand Canyon, at last a National Park, guarded by 
Government; a heritage unto our children’s children forever. I doubt not 
it has the very humility of its transcendent greatness, and patiently enjoys 
our little “Recognition” and “Honor.”

The Grand Canyon Bids You! Come, all ye Peoples of the Earth, to 
witness God’s boldest and most flaming Signature across Earth’s face! 
Come—and penitent—ye of the United States, to marvel upon this 
chiefest Miracle of our own land!

Ten thousand pens have “described at” this Indescribable, in vain. It 
is alone in the world. The only Mountain Range in Captivity—a hundred 
miles of unearthly peaks, taller from their gnawing river than Mt. Wash-
ington above the distant sea; all countersunk in a prodigious serpentine 
gulf of living rock; a Cosmic Intaglio carved in the bosom of the great 
Arizona Plateau. Nowhere else can you look up hundreds of 7,000-foot 
cliffs whose tops are but three miles from a plummet to your feet. And 
from their Rim, look down upon such leagues of inverted and captive 
skies—of rainbows in solution, and snow and thunder tempests far below 
you; and brimming fogs that flow with the moon, and with dawn ebb 
and ebb—till one by one the white, voiceless tide reveals the glorified 
“islands” of its countless archipelago of glowing peaks.

It is a matchless cross-section of Earth’s anatomy, to the geologist. 
To all, it is a Poem; History; an imperishable Inspiration. Words cannot 
over-tell it—nor half tell. See it, and you will know why!

It has waited long to give you welcome and benediction and a deathless 
Memory. Come!

Chas. F. Lummis.
To the American People:

Uncle Sam asks you to be his guest. He has prepared for you the choice places of this continent—places of grandeur, beauty and of wonder. He has built roads through the deep-cut canyons and beside happy streams, which will carry you into these places in comfort, and has provided lodgings and food in the most distant and inaccessible places that you might enjoy yourself and realize as little as possible the rigors of the pioneer traveler’s life. These are for you. They are the playgrounds of the people. To see them is to make more hearty your affection and admiration for America.

Secretary of the Interior

Grand Canyon National Park

Grand Canyon National Park, in northern Arizona, is the newest of our national playgrounds, having been brought into the National Park family by Act of Congress, February 26, 1919. One comes upon it suddenly, only a short distance from the railroad terminus—a titanic gash in the earth’s crust, an unexpected step-off in the wooded mesa country.

Imagine a stupendous chasm, in places ten to thirteen miles wide from rim to rim, more than two hundred miles long in the total of its meanderings, and more than a mile deep. A mighty river, the Colorado, has chiseled out the inner granite gorge, which is flanked on each side by tier upon tier of huge architectural forms—veritable mountains—carved by erosion from the solid rock strata which lie exposed in great layers to the desert sun. And all painted in colors of the rainbow.

That’s the Grand Canyon.

Other scenic wonders are viewed either on the level or looking up. The Grand Canyon, from the rim, is looked down upon. The sensation is novel—absolutely unique, in fact. Not every visitor can at once adjust untrained eyes to this sudden shift from the usual outlook. Gradually one must become accustomed to the change from the ordinary range of vision. It is like seeing a landscape from a low-flying aeroplane.

Descend by trail, and, one after another, the Canyon forms seem to creep upward, until soon they take their place in familiar fashion along the horizon. Not until then do they assume a natural aspect.

As first glimpsed from the very edge of the abyss, the Canyon is a geologic marvel and a spiritual emotion. Below is a primeval void, hemmed in everywhere, except skyward, by the solid framework of our earth—rocks, and rocks, and yet more rocks, millions of years old.

At high noon the enclosing walls seem to flatten out and are strangely unimpressive. They lack life and luster and form. They are wholly material and make scant appeal to the emotions. One is aware of bigness and deepness and stillness, but not of any mystery.

Come back to the edge of the abyss in the late afternoon, or early in the morning. How marvelous the transformation! Immense forms have pushed out from the sheer walls. They float in a purple sea of mysterious shadows. It is a symphony of mass and color, of body and soul. Almost a new heaven is born and, with it, a new inferno, swathed in soft celestial fires; a whole chaotic underworld, just emptied of primeval floods and waiting for a new creative word; eluding all sense of perspective or
El Tovar Hotel on the brink of the Canyon.

The Lookout is a quaint rough stone observatory and rest house on the rim near head of Bright Angel Trail.
dimension, outstretching the faculty of measurement, overlapping the confines of definite apprehension; a boding, terrible thing, unflinchingly real, yet spectral as a dream. Never was picture more harmonious, never flower more exquisitely beautiful. It flashes instant communication of all that architecture and painting and music for a thousand years have gropingly striven to express.

Thus speaks the Grand Canyon to almost every person who comes within the magic circle of its perpetual allurement. Joaquin Miller affirms that at the Canyon color is king. William Winter calls it “this surpassing wonder,” and Hamlin Garland is most impressed by its thousand differing moods. John Muir sums it up in a striking phrase—“wildness so Godful, cosmic, primeval.” Possibly a little girl expressed the inexpressible most simply when she remarked that it is so beautiful she would like to live here always.

A Canyon Within a System of Canyons

A canyon, truly, but not after the accepted type. An intricate system of canyons, rather, each subordinate to the river channel in the center, which in its turn is subordinate to the whole effect. That river channel, the profoundest depth, and actually more than six thousand feet below the point of view, is in seeming a rather insignificant trench, attracting the eye more by reason of its somber tone and mysterious suggestion than by any appreciable characteristic of a chasm. It is perhaps five miles distant in a straight line, and its uppermost rims are nearly four thousand feet beneath the observer. One cannot believe the distance to be more than a mile as the crow flies, before descending the wall. Yet the immediate chasm itself is only the first step of a long terrace that leads down to the innermost gorge and the river. Roll a heavy stone to the rim and let it go. It falls the height of the Eiffel tower, and explodes like a bomb on a projecting ledge. If any considerable fragments remain they bound onward, snapping trees like straws; bursting, crashing down the declivities until they make a last plunge over the brink of a void; and then there comes languidly up the cliff-sides a faint, distant roar, and your boulder lies scattered as wide as Wycliffe’s ashes, although the final fragment has lodged only a little way, so to speak, below the rim.

The spectacle is so symmetrical, and so completely excludes the outside world and its accustomed standards, it is with difficulty one can acquire any notion of its immensity. Were it half as deep, half as broad, it would be no less bewildering, so utterly does it baffle human grasp.

The terrific deeps that part the walls of hundreds of castles and turrets of mountainous bulk may be approximately located in barely discernible penstrokes of detail. The comparative insignificance of what are termed grand sights in other parts of the world is now clearly revealed.

Overmastering Charm of the Panorama

Still, such particulars cannot long hold the attention, for the panorama is the real overmastering charm. It is never twice the same. The scene incessantly changes, flushing and fading, advancing into crystalline clearness, retreating into slumberous haze. Should it chance to have rained heavily in the night, next morning the Canyon may be completely filled with fog. As the sun mounts, the curtain of mist suddenly breaks into cloud fleeces, and while you gaze these fleeces rise and dissipate, leaving the Canyon bare. At once around the bases of the lowest cliffs white puffs begin to appear and their number multiplies until once more they rise and overflow the rim, and it is as if you stood on some land’s end looking down upon a formless void. Then quickly comes the complete dissipation, and again the marshaling in the depths, the upward advance, the total suffusion and the speedy vanishing, repeated over and over until the warm walls have expelled their saturation.

It is, indeed, a place created by some magician’s wand.

Long may the visitor loiter upon the verge, powerless to shake loose from the charm, until the sun is low in the West. Then the Canyon sinks into mysterious purple shadow, the far Shinumo Altar is tipped with a golden ray, and against a leaden horizon the long line of the Echo Cliffs reflects a soft brilliance of inde-
scribable beauty, a light that, elsewhere, surely never was on sea or land. Then darkness falls, and should there be a moon, the scene in part revives in silver light, a thousand spectral forms projected from inscrutable gloom; dreams of mountains, as in their sleep they brood on things eternal.

The River as Viewed From Foot of the Trails

The traveler stands upon a sandy rift, confronted by nearly vertical walls many hundred feet high, at whose base a tawny torrent pitches in a giddying, onward slide, that gives him momentarily the sensation of slipping into an abyss.

Dwarfed by such prodigious mountain shores, which rise immediately from the water at an angle that would deny footing to a mountain sheep, it is not easy to estimate confidently the width and volume of the river. Choked by the stubborn granite, its width is probably between 250 and 300 feet, its velocity fifteen miles an hour, and its volume and turmoil equal to the Whirlpool Rapids of Niagara. Its rise in time of heavy rain is rapid and appalling, for the walls shed almost instantly all the water that falls upon them. Drift is lodged in the crevices thirty feet overhead.

For only a few hundred yards is the tortuous stream visible, but its effect upon the senses is perhaps the greater for that reason. Issuing as from a mountain side, it slides with oily smoothness for a space and suddenly breaks into violent waves that comb back against the current and shoot unexpectedly here and there, while the volume sways, tide-like, from side to side, and long curling breakers form and hold their outline lengthwise of the shore, despite the seemingly irresistible velocity of the water. The river is laden with drift (huge tree trunks), which it tosses like chips in its terrible play.

As it is Written in the Archives

The Colorado is one of the great rivers of North America. Formed in Southern Utah by the confluence of the Green and the Grand, it intersects the northwestern corner of Arizona, and flows southward until it reaches tidewater in the Gulf of California. It drains a territory of 300,000 square miles. At three points, Needles, Parker and Yuma on the California boundary, it is crossed by a railroad. Elsewhere its course lies far from the routes of common travel.

The early Spanish explorers at first reported it in 1540. Again in 1776, a Spanish priest found a crossing at a
The Grand Canyon is the most instructive example of one of the chief factors of earth-building—erosion.

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place that still bears the name “Vado de los Padres.”

For more than eighty years thereafter the Big Canyon remained unvisited except by the Indian, the Mormon herdsman, and the trapper, although the Sitgreaves expedition of 1851, journeying westward, struck the river about one hundred and fifty miles above Yuma, and Lieutenant Whipple in 1854 made a survey for a practicable railroad route along the thirty-fifth parallel, where a railroad afterwards was constructed.

In 1857 the War Department dispatched an expedition in charge of Lieutenant Ives to explore the Colorado upstream to the head of navigation. Ives ascended to the head of Black Canyon; then returning to the Needles, he set off northeast across country. He reached the Canyon at Diamond and Cataract Creeks in the spring of 1858, and made a wide southward detour around the San Francisco Peaks, thence to the Hopi Pueblos, to Fort Defiance, and back to civilization.

It remained for a geologist and a school-teacher, a one-armed veteran of the Civil War, John Wesley Powell, afterward director of the United States Geological Survey, to dare and to accomplish the exploration of the mighty river.

In 1869 Major Powell started with nine men and four boats from Green River City, in Utah. Powell launched his flotilla on May 24th, and on August 30th landed at the mouth of the Virgin River, more than one thousand miles by river channel from starting place, minus two boats and four men. There proved to be no impassable whirlpools in the Grand Canyon, no underground passages and no cataracts. But the trip was hazardous in the extreme. The adventurers faced the unknown at every bend, daily, often several times daily, embarking upon swift rapids without guessing upon what rocks or in what great falls they might terminate. Continually they upset.

Again, in 1871, he started down river with three boats and went as far as the Crossing of the Fathers. In the summer of 1872 he returned to the row boats at Lee’s Ferry, and descended as far as the mouth of Kanab Wash, where the river journey was abandoned.

Powell’s journal of the initial trip is a most fascinating tale, written in a compact and modest style, which, in spite of its reticence, tells an epic story of purest heroism. It definitely established the scene of his exploration as the most wonderful geological and spectacular phenomenon known to mankind, and justified the name which had been bestowed upon it—the Grand Canyon.
Since that day several expeditions have traversed the same route, each experiencing thrills enough for a lifetime. Powell easily ranks at the top of the list. Not only was he a pioneer, but his daring was for the sake of scientific knowledge.

Canyon Geology

The average man measures long periods of time by centuries. The geologist reckons otherwise. To him a hundred years are but the tick of a clock, the passing of a summer cloud. He deals in aeons as others do in minutes, and thus is able to measure, after a fashion, almost inconceivable time.

Searching for a convenient yardstick, the building of our earth is first thought of as divided into four eras. Periods are lesser divisions of the eras. In the proterozoic era there are two periods—archaean and algonkian. The paleozoic
era has six periods—the cambrian, ordo-
vician, silurian, devonian, carboniferous
and permian. The mesozoic era divides
into the triassic, jurassic and cretaceous
periods. The cenozoic era has five periods
—eocene, oligocene, miocene, pliocene
and pleistocene.

These four periods particularly must be
borne in mind, because they are the primer
of Canyon geology, viz., the archaean,
algokian, cambrian and carboniferous
rocks, which are among the very oldest
of earth's strata. The later rocks un-
doubtedly were here once—nearly 12,000
feet of them—on top of what today is
top, but in some remote age they were
shaved off.

Yet the Canyon itself is accounted
geologically modern. It happened, so
scientists say, only yesterday.

Stand almost anywhere on the south
rim and look at the north wall, which is
the southern limit of the Kaibab plateau.
That north rim is three times as far from
the Colorado River as is the south rim,
and is 1,000 to 1,500 feet higher, viz.,
5,500 to 6,000 feet above the river,
compared with 4,500 feet. It is like a
section of layer cake, each layer of
different material and color—or like
gigantic beds of titanic masonry.

Begin at the top and go down. For
the first 3,000 feet or more, the wall
descends by cliffs, steep slopes and
narrow ledges. Next comes a wide
terrace, the Tonto platform. Lastly
appears the inner granite gorge, V-shaped
and 1,000 to 1,200 feet deep, with
the river flowing at the bottom in a trench
250 to 300 feet wide.

The light buff formation at the top is
the Kaibab limestone.

Beneath this is another light-colored
formation, the crossbedded Coconino
gray sandstone, presenting a sheer face.

The next is of bright red color, due to
oxide of iron; it consists of alternating
beds of hard sandstone cliff and soft shale
slopes, about 1,100 feet thick, and known
as the Supai formation.

Farther down is the Red wall or “blue”
limestone, 550 feet thick and very hard,
so finely grained it seems to be a single
bed; its precipitous cliffs are stained red
by wash from the strata above; in this
formation occurs Jacob's Ladder, on
Bright Angel Trail, and Cathedral Stairs,
on Hermit Trail.

These were laid down during the car-
boniferous period.

The horizontal formations below the red
wall form the Tonto group, of the Cambrian
period. In order, from top to bottom,
they are—Muav limestone, thin-banded
and grayish green; Bright Angel shale,
325 feet; and the basic rocks—Tapeats
sandstone, hard and brown, forming the
floor of the Tonto platform.

Where Hermit Road ends and Hermit Trail begins is a unique rest house called Hermit's Rest.
The "Devil’s Corkscrew" is a spiral pathway down an almost perpendicular wall on the Bright Angel Trail.
You may notice that these strata are not at the same height everywhere. This is due to fractures or "faults," along which the rocks on one side are much lower than on the other.

All these nearly horizontal strata rest on a level surface of archaean and algonkian rocks, through which the river has cut a lower inner gorge.

That, in brief, is what you see today.

Geologists agree that the rocks of each period represent an uplift and subsidence of the upper crust, extending over in-calculable time, each subsidence being followed by sedimentary deposits on the sea bottom, ultimately forming a new series of rocks.

Imagine this huge mass, say three and a half miles thick, gradually lifted up, and forming a plateau with an area of 13,000 to 15,000 square miles. The top two-thirds, except an isolated butte here and there, was next eliminated by erosion, and then the Colorado River began to cut the Grand Canyon through the lower third.

Nobody knows to what extent, if any, earthquake disturbances originally may have helped to make the Grand Canyon, but the masterful influence of erosion is plainly to be seen. The Canyon has not stopped changing. Every decade it gets a fraction deeper and wider, by erosion only.

Roadside erosion is familiar to us all. A hundred times we have idly noted the fantastic water-carved walls and minaretted slopes of ordinary ditches. But seldom, perhaps, have we realized that the muddy roadside ditch and the world-famous Grand Canyon of the Colorado River are, from Nature's standpoint, identical; that they differ only in soil and size.

An All-The-Year Resort

The Grand Canyon is more than something stupendous to look at. It is a place for rest and recreation. It may be visited any day in the year. When most other mountain resorts are frozen up, the titan of chasms is easily accessible. During the winter snow falls in the pine forest along the rim, and the upper sections of the trails to the river are covered with a white blanket. Nevertheless one may venture muleback down any of the principal trails, confident that spring soon will begin to peek out timidly and early summer appear just around the turn. For, going down, the climate changes perceptibly every few hundred feet, so that when on the rim a nipping frost is in the air there are fragile desert flowers blooming along the river guches.

The weather in July or August is not torrid, except at the very bottom of the giant cleft. Up above, the rim is almost a mile and a half above sea-level. That means cool mornings, evenings and nights. Only at noon in the summer months does the thermometer register a high figure; yet because of absence of moisture, in midsummer one moves about in perfect comfort during the day and sleeps under a blanket at night.

Go down in summer and the temperature comes up; come up in winter and the temperature goes down. The difference of nearly a mile in altitude between the Colorado River and Canyon rim is like traveling hundreds of miles north or south on the level.

Also high altitude means cool summers, while southerly latitude means warm winters, as a rule—which explains why the Grand Canyon is an ideal resort the year 'round.

As a rule, too, this part of Arizona is a land of sunshine; the air is dry and the wind velocity is under the average. Easy drives, in the stimulating atmosphere of Arizona, a mile and a half up in the sky, soothe the tired brain and nerves. More vigorous is the horseback exercise, taken through the parklike glades and reaches of Tusayan Forest.

While spring and fall perhaps are more attractive than midsummer or midwinter, each season has its special lure. Camping, during the December - to - March period, is restricted to the inner canyon region. The boulevard rim drives, and the south wall trails are open from January to January. So are the hotels.

Most persons make the mistake of trying to see the Canyon in too short a time. They rush in, rush around, and rush out. That's the wrong way. The right way is to take it leisurely.

A Pullman brings one to the very rim. While it is possible to get a hasty glimpse in a day, this hurried day must be spent either on the rim or in a rush down the trail to the river's edge; it is not possible to do both between sunrise and sunset,
A noted feature of Bright Angel Trail is Jacob’s Ladder.
The Tonto Trail follows the inner gorge, thousands of feet below the rim.
and both rim and river are well worth a day for each.

It is much better to plan to stay at least two full days, allowing one of them for the trail to the river and the other for rim drives. Or, combine both in the Hermit Rim drive and Hermit Trail trip, with a night in the Canyon.

Four or five days will enable you to really see this sublime spectacle. Viewed from above, it is an emotional experience. Descend mule-back over trails which zigzag steeply but safely down the cliffs, and the experience is altogether different.

**Accommodations for Travelers**

On arrival at the Canyon the traveler finds ample hotel accommodations, suitable entertainment for leisure hours, and complete facilities for outing trips. The saddle horses, mules and coach animals are specially trained for Western roads and trails. The vehicles are comparable to those found at Eastern resorts. Drivers and guides are experienced. The excellent hotels cater to all classes of visitors.

**El Tovar** — One of the most unique resort hotels in the Southwest is located at the railroad terminus, near head of Bright Angel Trail, at an elevation of 6,866 feet above sea-level. It is named El Tovar, and is under management of Fred Harvey.

It is a long, low structure, built of native boulders and pine logs. There are ninety-three sleeping-rooms, accommodating 175 guests. Forty-six of these rooms are connected with private bath.

There is a music-room, and rendezvous. In the main dining-room 165 persons can be seated at one time.

Hot and cold water, steam heat and electric light are supplied. El Tovar also has a steam laundry.

El Tovar Hotel is conducted on the American plan, i.e., room and meals both included. Rooms without bath, $5 a day for one person and $9 a day for two persons occupying same room; rooms with bath, $7 to $8 and upward for one person, and $12 to $15 a day and upward for two persons occupying same room. Meals only: breakfast and luncheon, $1 each; dinner, $1.50.

**Bright Angel Cottages** — Cozy lodgings in cottages or tents at Bright Angel Cottages, adjacent to El Tovar, cost $1.00 to $1.50 a day, each person; meals are furnished a la carte at the cafe. The accommodations are clean and comfortable. There are four cottages, open the year round and several large tents for summer only. All of the cottages have steam heat and electric light; one cottage also has baths. About 150 persons can be accommodated here. Kitchen facilities are ample for quick, a la carte service.

**Grand View Hotel** — This hotel, located at Grand View, thirteen miles east of the railroad station, is under management of Mr. P. D.
Camping in the Tusayan Forest on the rim.

Berry. It is a large frame edifice, with log cabin annex, and can accommodate about fifty guests in season. Not open for regular traffic in winter.

The Lookout — The Lookout is a quaint observatory and resthouse, built on the edge of the rim near head of Bright Angel Trail.

It is equipped with a large binocular telescope in the tower, for observing the most distant reaches of the Canyon by day and for viewing the heavens by night. There is a small library for the layman and scientist. Canyon maps and photos are displayed. The reception-room has spacious windows, a fireplace, Navajo rugs and easy chairs; it is electric lighted and steam heated.

Hopi House—Opposite El Tovar is a reproduction of the dwellings of the Hopi Indians and several Navajo hogan.

In the Hopi House are installed collections of Indian handiwork. Here also live a small band of Hopis. These are the most primitive Indians in our country. Their ceremonies are hundreds of years old, the most famous being that of the snake dance. The men weave blankets and the women make pottery. The Navajos weave fine blankets which find a ready market and the silversmiths fashion their articles, mostly bracelets and rings, from Mexican coin silver. Supai Indians from Cataract Canyon frequently visit El Tovar.

Hermit’s Rest—Where Hermit Rim Road ends and Hermit Trail begins is a unique rest-house, built into the hill, with a roofed-in porch and parapet wall. As the name implies, it is intended to provide rest and shelter for parties who take the Rim Road drive, or the Hermit Trail trip. Guests may sit at the tables outside or sheltered by the glass front inside, according to weather, and enjoy a light lunch in unusual surroundings. Admission is by ticket.

The Trails Down to the River — There are but four points from which a descent may be made of the south wall of the Grand Canyon in the vicinity of the granite gorge:

1. At Grand View, down Grand View Trail.
2. At El Tovar, down Bright Angel Trail.
3. At Hermit Basin, down Hermit Trail.

Hermit and Bright Angel trails are regularly used and are kept in excellent condition. Grand View and Bass Trails are used infrequently.

The Canyon is accessible over trails at other places outside of the district named, such as Lee’s Ferry Trail, by wagon from Winslow, and Hopi Indian Trail, by way of Little Colorado Canyon; but tourists take the El Tovar and Hermit routes because of the superior facilities there offered.

It is near Grand View that Marble Canyon ends and the Grand Canyon proper begins. Northward, eighteen miles away, is the mouth of the Little Colorado Canyon. From Grand View the beginning of the granite gorge is seen.
Overlooking the Colorado River from Plateau Point.
The Colorado River at foot of Bright Angel Trail.
El Tovar is approximately in the center, Hermit a little west of center, and Bass Trail at the western end of the granite gorge. By auto road it is about thirteen miles from El Tovar east to Grand View, eight miles west to Hermit, and twenty-four miles west to Bass Trail.

**Hermit Rim Road**

A scenic roadway, Hermit Rim Road, has been built from El Tovar westward to the head of Hermit Basin, seven and a half miles. It is like a city boulevard in the wilderness. It closely follows the rim, by way of Hopi and Mohave Points, to Pima Point, and thence along the east side of Hermit Basin to top of Hermit Trail. In many places there is a sheer drop of 2,000 feet within a rod of the rim.

Along the entire route the gigantic panorama of the Grand Canyon unfolds itself for miles and miles, with views of Tusayan Forest, the Cataract country, and, far to the west, the purple peaks of the Uinkarets.

Powell Monument, on Sentinel Point, was erected by the U. S. Government as a memorial to Major John W. Powell, the first Canyon explorer. This massive monument is constructed of native rock and represents an Aztec sacrificial altar.

**Regular Trip Drives by Coach** — There are several interesting “regular trip” drives by coach. They are popular with everybody, the expense being moderate. A list follows:

- **Hopi Point** — El Tovar to Hopi Point, two miles west, and back; first trip starts at 10 a.m.; rate, $1.00. Second trip leaves at 2 p.m.; rate, $1.00. Third trip leaves at an hour timed to reach the point before sunset; rate, $1.50.

- **Mohave Point** — Three miles west; leaves 9 a.m. and 2 p.m.; rate, $2.

- **Hermit Rim Road** — Fifteen miles round trip — once in the forenoon and once in the afternoon. The first starts at 9 a.m. and reaches El Tovar, returning, at 1 p.m.; rate, $3. The second starts at 2 p.m., and reaches El Tovar, returning, about 5:30 p.m.; rate, $3. Stops are made en route at Hopi, Mohave and Pima points. Rates named also include use of facilities and light refreshments at Hermit’s Rest.

- **Yavapai and Grandeur Points** — This drive extends two miles east of El Tovar; start 10:15 a.m.; rate, $1.

**Private Conveyance Rates** — Where private carriages or coaches are desired, an extra charge of $2 is made for entire party, besides the individual rate for regular service.

As an example — the rate for regular trip to end of rim road is $3 each person. If one person desires to make this trip in a special conveyance, that person would pay $5; if two persons go, the entire expense would be $8; for three persons, $11; and so on up to six. The $2 extra is collected for the party as a whole, and not individually.

Rates for special autos vary with service performed.

Note — If the demand for regular trip drives is so heavy as to require use of all conveyances available, private carriages or coaches will be discontinued temporarily.

**Regular Trip Drives by Auto** — With the rapid development of good roads in Northern Arizona, the use of the auto for seeing this section enables visitors to get around quickly and with comfort. One easily can make the detour to the Canyon from either Flagstaff or Williams over good natural roads, which for two-thirds of the way, run over a rolling plain. To care for increasing auto travel, a large stone garage has been built at the Canyon, with ample facilities for parking, repairing and supplying cars.

Some of the “regular” auto trips are mentioned below. Autos are not permitted on Hermit Rim Road, nor on the road to Yavapai Point, nor on road from Rowe Well to Hopi Point. This is a regulation of the United States Government to safeguard travel by coach along the rim. There are no such restrictions elsewhere in this vicinity.

Special rates are made for special auto service.

**Grand View** — The round trip to Grand View Point, thirteen miles each way, is made by automobile in about three and a half hours, allowing sufficient time to visit the nearby outlooks. Leave El Tovar 9:30 a.m. and 2 p.m. daily; rate, $3. The ride is through the tallest pines of the Tusayan Forest, via Long Jim Canyon and Thor’s Hammer.

From Grand View may be seen that section of the Canyon from Bright Angel Creek to Marble Canyon, including the great bend of the Colorado. On the eastern wall are Moran, Zuni, Papago, Pinal, Navaho (Desert View) and Comanche points; and the mouth of the Little Colorado River. Still further beyond is the Painted Desert and Navaho Mountain — the latter plainly seen, though one hundred and twenty miles away. The rim trail to Moran Point is interesting. Grand View Trail enters the Canyon near Grand View Point.

**Desert View** — At this point there is a far outlook not only into the Canyon above the granite gorge, where the river valley widens, but also across the Painted Desert, toward Hopi-
land, and along the Desert Palisades to the mouth of the Little Colorado. At sunset and sunrise it is a glorious sight. For that reason one preferably should arrange to stay over­night — a camping trip, elsewhere referred to. Where time is an object the run may be made by auto there and back in a day, as soon as the necessary road improvements have been finished.

The distance is thirty-two miles each way, via Grand View, Hull Tank, Trash Dam, Tanner Tank, old Aztec ruin, and head of Tanner Trail. Two round trips a day, leaving El Tovar 9 a.m. and return by 1:30 p.m. Rate for one person, $20; for two persons, $10 each; for three or more persons up to capacity of car, $8 each. Special auto for parties of six persons or less, $48; lunch extra, except for El Tovar room guests.

Flagstaff — It is about eighty-five miles, El Tovar to Flagstaff, via Grand View, Lockett’s Lake, Skinner’s Wash, Moki Wash and San Francisco Peaks, over a main traveled road, on which a good run is possible most of the year. The round trip requires about two days.

This is a very enjoyable drive through pine forests and across green mesas along the old­time stage route to the Canyon. The town of Flagstaff is located in the heart of the San Francisco uplift. In this vicinity are pre­historic cliff dwellings, extinct craters, volcanic cones, lava beds and ice caves. The summit of Humphrey’s Peak, one of the peaks forming the San Francisco Mountains, is 12,750 feet high.

Hermit Trail — A pathway down the south wall of the Grand Canyon, named Hermit Trail, has been built from end of Hermit Rim Road to the Colorado River. One can take carriage from El Tovar to head of Hermit Trail, and go as far down as the plateau, muleback — a twodays’ round trip, spending the night at Hermit Camp. Hermit-Tonto-Bright Angel Loop camping trip, requiring two to three days, includes the rim road and three trails, Hermit, Tonto and Bright Angel.

Hermit Trail is four feet wide. The descent is accomplished by a series of easy grades. A southern exposure for the first thousand feet at top, renders it comparatively free in winter. The lower section opens into the main Canyon along Hermit Creek.

On the plateau, at the foot of a lofty peak, Hermit Camp has been built — a central dining­hall and eleven tents with accommodations for thirty persons. Excellent camp meals are provided. The tents have pine floors and sides, beds, rugs, and other conveniences.

The upper part of Hermit Trail leads down into Hermit Basin, on the western slope, to where the red wall begins. From Red Top to the head of Cathedral Stairs the way leads along the steep east wall of Hermit Gorge, almost on a level.
At Cathedral Stairs there is an abrupt descent through the blue limestone by a succession of short zigzags. From camp to Colorado River there is a new trail. The river view at Hermit Rapids is one of the finest along the Colorado. These rapids are narrow, long, and very rough.

Hermit Trail is distinguished from all the others by its wide views of the big Canyon nearly every rod of the way.

**Hermit Camp Overnight** — This trip takes two days and one night. Hermit Rim Road to head Hermit Trail; down Hermit Trail; stay overnight at Hermit Camp; go to River foot of Hermit Creek; return up Hermit Trail to rim; thence Rim Road.

Start from El Tovar or Bright Angel Cottages at 9 a.m., and return next afternoon. Round-trip charge is $16 for each person; private guide, $5 a day extra, rate quoted includes regular guide, overnight accommodations and meals en route.

**Hermit-Tonto-Bright Angel Loop** — This trip takes two days and one night. Hermit Rim Road to head Hermit Trail; down Hermit Trail; stay over night at Hermit Camp; go to River foot of Hermit Creek; return along Tonto Trail to Indian Garden; thence up Bright Angel Trail.

Start from El Tovar or Bright Angel Cottages at 9 a.m., and return next afternoon. Round-trip charge is $23 for each person; private guide $5 a day extra; rate quoted includes regular guide, over-night accommodations and meals en route.

Note — This trip can be lengthened to three days and two nights by spending an extra night in the Canyon, also going to River at foot of Bright Angel Trail — a 34-mile journey. Rate, $14 a day, one person; $8 a day extra each additional person; provisions extra; includes guide.

**Bright Angel Trail** — The trail here is generally open the year round. In midwinter it is liable to be closed for a day or two at the top by snow, but such blockade is not frequent. The trail reaches from the hotel seven miles to Colorado River, with a branch terminating at the top of the granite wall immediately overlooking the river. At this latter point the stream is 1,272 feet below, while El Tovar hotel on the rim is 3,158 feet above. The trip is made on muleback, accompanied by a guide.

Those wishing to reach the river leave the main trail at Indian Garden and follow the downward course of Indian Garden and Pipe creeks. A feature of this section is a spiral pathway up an almost perpendicular wall.

Another noted feature is Jacob's Ladder, cut across the face of hard blue limestone rock.

For the first two miles it is indeed a sort of Jacob's ladder, zigzagging at an unrelenting pitch. At the end of two miles the blue limestone level is reached some 2,500 feet below the rim, that is to say — for such figures have to be impressed objectively upon the mind — five times the height of St. Peter's, the Pyramid of Cheops, or the Strasburg Cathedral; eight times the height of the Bartholdi Statue of Liberty;
and eleven times the height of Bunker Hill Monument. Looking back from this level the huge towers that border the rim shrink to pige­mies and seem to crown a perpendicular wall, unattainably far in the sky. Yet less than one­half of the descent has been made.

Leave at 8:30 a. m. for the river trip, seven miles; return to rim 5:30 p. m.; rate, $5 each person. Leave 10:30 a. m. for trip to plateau five miles; rate, $4 each. To plateau and river same day, rate $6 for each person; start at 8 a. m. Rates quoted above are for each person in parties of three or more. For special trips with less than three persons there is a party charge of $5 extra for guide. Lunch extra, except for El Tovar room guests.

It is necessary that visitors who walk down Bright Angel Trail and desire that guide and mules be sent to meet them, be charged full price and special guide fee of $5. This is unavoidable, as the mules and guides are not available for any other trip, and in addition a toll fee of $1 must be paid by the management for each animal, whether the entire trail trip is made or not.

Camping Trips — Camping trips with pack and saddle animals, or with wagon and saddle animals, are organized, completely equipped, and placed in charge of experienced guides.

For climatic reasons it is well to arrange so that camping trips during the season from October to April are mainly confined to the inner Canyon. For the remainder of the year, i. e., April to October, they may be planned to include both the Canyon itself and the rim country. The rates vary from $10 to $15 a day for one person; $6 to $8 a day each additional person. Such rates specially include services of guide and camp equipment; provisions extra; figures quoted are approximate only, varying with different outings.

Dripping Spring — This trip is made on horseback all the way, or carriage to rim and saddle horses down trail; ten miles west, start at 8:30 a. m.; rate, $4 each for three or more persons; for less than three persons, $5 extra for guide. Private parties of three or more persons, $5 extra for guide.

Cataract Canyon and Havasupai Village — The best time to visit this place is from May to October. A journey of about fifty miles, first by wagon or auto, thirty-five miles, across a timbered plateau, then on horseback down Topocobya Trail, along Topocobya and Cataract canyons, to the home of the Havasupai Indians.

The baskets made by the Havasupai women consist of the burden basket, a shallow tray and a water bottle of willow. Those made by the older weavers are of fine mesh, with attractive designs and bring good prices. No other Indians know so well how to cook meat, seeds and mush in coiled willow trays lined with clay.

This tribe is allied to the Wallapai, their near neighbors on the west, and both speak the same language, with slight variation of dialect. Havasupai means people of the blue water. Padre Garces was the first white man to visit their canyon home. In early days the Havasu­pais undoubtedly were cliff dwellers. They built nearly all the Grand Canyon trails, or rather their rude pathways were the advance guard of the present trails. Their summer homes resemble those of the Apaches. The winter homes afford more protection against the weather.

The round trip from El Tovar is made in three days, at an expense of $15 a day for one person, $20 a day for two persons, and $25 a day for three persons. Each additional member of party, $5 a day. Provisions extra. These rates include service for party of one or two persons, also cost of horse feed, but do not include board and lodging at Supai Village for members of party and guide while stopping with Indian agent, who charges $2 a day for each person.

For parties of three to six persons an extra guide is required, whose services are charged for at $5 a day, besides his board and lodging at the village.

Note — At the western end of the granite gorge is a trail down to the Colorado River and up the other side to Point Sublime and Powell's Plateau, the river being crossed by ferry. Reached by team from El Tovar, a distance of twenty-four miles, or it can be seen as a detour on the Cataract Canyon trip; rates on application.

Desert View — Elsewhere reference is made to Desert View auto trip. When taken by wagon, it occupies three days, leaving El Tovar morning of first day and returning afternoon of third day, with all-night camp at destination. Rate, $10 for one person, and $5 each additional person; provisions extra; rate named includes one guide; an extra guide costs $5 a day.

Little Colorado River — The trip to the mouth of the Little Colorado is a most interest­
At Cathedral Stairs, on Hermit Trail, there is an abrupt descent through the blue limestone by a succession of short zigzags.
ing one. Leaving El Tovar in the morning by wagon, camp is made the first day at Deer Tank. The next day the Cliff Dwellings are visited, and the plateau overlooking the Canyon of the Little Colorado is reached by midday. From the edge of the plateau to the bottom of the Canyon is a straight drop of 2,500 feet.

Painted Desert and Hopiland — The trip is made with saddle and pack animals. The first night the camp is at Saddle Horse Tanks. Hopi Crossing of the Little Colorado is reached the next afternoon and Tuba City the third day. The Hopi village of Moenkopie is seen en route.

The Painted Desert country affords a most interesting study of a phase of Indian entertainment, little known to white people.

Horseback Trips — The Far West ranges are the home of the horse. Here the pinto, cayuse and broncho truly belong. Here they grow strong of limb and swift of foot.

Recently many new bridle paths along the rim and through the pines of Tusayan have been opened up, so that horseback riding now is possible for all. The animals are well trained and dependable. Saddle-horses cost $4 a day, or $2.50 a half day. English, McLellan, Whitman or Western stock saddles furnished as requested. Side saddles not provided. The rate for special guides is $5 a day, or $2.50 a half day. Horseback trips over any of the trails into the Canyon are only permitted when accompanied by guide. This is necessary to avoid risk in meeting trail parties and pack trains.

Time Required — While one ought to remain a week or two, a stopover of three or four days from the transcontinental trip will be quite satisfactory. The Hermit overnight camping trip requires one day and night. One day should be devoted to a carriage ride along the Hermit Rim Road, and by auto to Grand View. Another day go down Bright Angel Trail and back. A fourth day spent in short walks to nearby points, or on horseback, will enable visitors to get more intimate views. Hermit Loop three-day camping trip, down one trail and up another, is well worth while.

The National Park Service of the Department of the Interior recommends to the traveling public that stop-overs of as long duration as practicable be planned at points within the Parks,—that Grand Canyon National Park be regarded not alone as a region which may be glimpsed on a hurried trip, but also as a vacation playground for rest and recreation.

One-Day Outings — In one day any one of the following combinations of regular round trips may be taken at the Canyon, from El Tovar or Bright Angel Cottages:

1. (a) Hermit Rim Road, coach to head of Hermit Trail, $3.
   (b) Auto to Grand View, $3.

2. (a) Hermit Rim Road, coach to head of Hermit Trail, $3.
   (b) Hermit Trail to Santa Maria Spring, $4; guide extra.

3. Bright Angel Trail to Plateau ($4) or river ($5).

4. (a) Coach to Yavapai Point, $1.
   (b) Coach to Hopi Point, $1 and $1.50.

5. Bright Angel Trail to river and plateau, $6; guide extra.

Two-Day Outings — In two days any one of these regular trip combinations may be taken:

1. (a) Hermit Rim Road to head Hermit Trail; Hermit Trail to Plateau Camp and river; return same route; $16.

2. (a) Bright Angel Trail to Plateau; round trip, $4.
   (b) Hermit Rim Road to head Hermit Trail, round trip, $3.
   (c) Grand View auto, round trip, $3.

What to Wear — If much tramping is done, stout, thick shoes should be provided. Ladies will find that short walking skirts are a convenience; divided skirts are preferable, but not essential, for the horseback journey down the zigzag trail. Traveling caps and (in summer) broad-brimmed straw hats are useful adjuncts. Otherwise ordinary clothing will suffice. Divided skirts and straw hats may be rented at El Tovar Hotel.

Flora and Fauna — Grand Canyon National Park is bordered on the north by the Kaibab National Forest and on the south by the Tusayan National Forest. In fact, a part of each of these forests is now within the boundaries of the Park.

In this high forested region, the climatic diversity on the rim and in the depths is indicated all year, by the wild flowers, shrubs and trees. On the rim are the pines, cedars, junipers, pinyon and mesquite, also the cactus, "rose of the desert," the cholla and ocotillo, the yucca or Spanish bayonet, and many brilliantly colored wild flowers. The farther down one goes, the greater the change becomes. The pines drop
On the plateau at base of Hermit Point is Hermit Camp. Hermit Trail is four feet wide, with a low protecting wall on the outside. The Colorado River at foot of Hermit Trail.
out, then the cedar, juniper and pinyons. Many new wild flowers appear.

There is a wide range of bird life, such as the golden eagle, wild turkey, sage-hen, mockingbird, and the noisy magpie. Humming-birds and Canyon wrens are seen everywhere.

The North Rim—About two hundred miles to the southeast of Lund, Utah, by auto highway, is Bright Angel Point, on the north rim of the Grand Canyon. The journey will make an appeal to those who aim to get away from the usual and into the primitive. No regular schedules are available for the entire distance; and tourists must be satisfied with the homelike accommodations of remote villages en route and comfortable camps at the Canyon rim.

The route from Lund is thirty-five miles to Cedar City, forty-four miles from Cedar City to Hurricane, sixty-nine miles from Hurricane to Fredonia and sixty-three miles from Fredonia to Grand Canyon National Park.

The tour embraces several zones of altitude. At Cedar City the climate is comparable with that of Salt Lake City; southward the road drops downward two thousand feet through the Hurricane Fault into Utah's "Dixie," a garden spot of semi-tropical vegetation and quaint Mormon settlements. South of Hurricane the route is across a land of Zane Grey's "Purple Sage," and upward for sixty miles along the magnificent stretches of the Kaibab Plateau, whose southern escarpment, at an altitude of 8,000 feet, is the northern wall of the Grand Canyon of the Colorado. These last sixty miles are through the Kaibab forest, a national reserve which exhibits on a grand scale one of the largest forests of giant pines in the United States. The high, dry, bracing pine-laden air, the forest aisles, and occasional glimpses of wild deer, make this ride a fitting prelude to the silent symphony of the Grand Canyon itself.

How to Reach the Park

Grand Canyon National Park is directly reached by a branch line of railroad extending sixty-four miles northward from Williams, Ariz. In certain trains through standard sleeping cars are operated to and from Grand Canyon station. Passengers using other trains and stopping over at Williams will find adequate accommodations at the Fray Marcos, station hotel.

Excursion Tickets

Stop-overs at Williams are permitted on both round-trip and one-way tickets, all classes, reading to points beyond—also on Pullman tickets. Side-trip fare from Williams to Grand Canyon and return is $7.60. Round-trip excursion tickets at reduced fares are on sale daily at practically all stations in the United States and Canada to Grand Canyon, as a destination.

Baggage

Baggage may be checked through to Grand Canyon station, if required. Passengers making brief side-trips to Grand Canyon may check baggage to Williams only or through to destination. Certain regulations for free storage of baggage for Grand Canyon passengers are in effect.

The route to the North Rim is elsewhere described.

Park Administration

Grand Canyon National Park is under the jurisdiction of the Director, National Park Service, Department of the Interior, Washington, D. C. The Park Superintendent is located at Grand Canyon, Ariz.
Navajo woman spinning wool.

Hopi Indian women weaving.

A Supai maiden from Cataract Canyon.

**U. S. Government Publications**

The following publications may be obtained free on written application to the Director of the National Park Service, Washington, D. C., Glimpses of our National Parks. 48 pages, illustrated. Map of National Parks and National Monuments. Shows location of all of the national parks and monuments, and railroad routes to these reservations.


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- Helena, Mont. 58 S. Main St.
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- Los Angeles, Cal. 215 S. Broadway
- Milwaukee, Wis. 99 Wisconsin St.
- Minneapolis, Minn. 202 Sixth St. South
- New Orleans, La. 1416 Dodge St.
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- Columbus, Ohio. 70 East Gay St.
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This series of tremendous chasms reaches its culmination in a chaotic gorge 217 miles long, 9 to 13 miles wide, and more than 6000 feet deep.