Plan Your Visit

Welcome to Zion National Park. Steep cliffs, narrow canyons, and unpredictable weather add to the challenge and adventure of a visit. It is important to plan carefully for your stay. Park rangers at the visitor centers can provide planning information and weather forecasts, but your safety depends on your own good judgment, adequate preparation, and constant awareness.

**SOCIAL MEDIA**
Zion National Park is always searching for new ways to connect with our visitors. Social media websites, like Twitter and Flickr provide the park with an opportunity to share information and create a place for visitors to learn about Zion National Park. These sites encourage interaction and enable our visitors to experience the park in an entirely new way.

**TWITTER**
twitter.com/zionnps
Twitter is a real-time information network that connects you to the latest information about the park. Sign up to follow @ZionNPS on Twitter to receive breaking news, severe weather warnings, closure updates, special event announcements, and other information.

**FLICKR**
www.flickr.com/photos/zionnps
Flickr is a photo sharing website that provides a place for the park and our visitors to post images and videos. Visit ZionNPS on Flickr to view recent photos and learn more about the plants, animals, and places that make Zion so special.

www.flickr.com/groups/zionnps
Are you interested in sharing your photos of Zion National Park? Visit the ZionNPS Group on Flickr to view photos from other visitors and share your own.

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**Entrance Fees**

- **Private Vehicle**: $25 per vehicle
- **Pedestrian**: $12 per person
- **Bicycle**: $12 per person
- **Motorcycle**: $12 per person
- **Organized Group**: $12 per person
- **Commercial Tours**: Ask about rates

All entrance fees are valid for seven days.

**Hours of Operation**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>September 6 to October 30</th>
<th>October 31 to November 27</th>
<th>November 28 to March 2</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Zion Canyon Visitor Center</td>
<td>8:00 am to 6:00 pm</td>
<td>8:00 am to 5:00 pm</td>
<td>8:00 am to 5:00 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zion Canyon Backcountry Desk</td>
<td>7:00 am to 6:00 pm</td>
<td>8:00 am to 5:00 pm</td>
<td>8:00 am to 4:30 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zion Human History Museum</td>
<td>9:00 am to 6:00 pm</td>
<td>10:00 am to 5:00 pm</td>
<td>Closed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kolob Canyons Visitor Center</td>
<td>8:00 am to 5:00 pm</td>
<td>8:00 am to 4:30 pm</td>
<td>8:00 am to 4:30 pm</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Zion Backcountry Desk will be closed after Sunday, November 27. Starting Monday, November 28, permits can be obtained at the Zion Canyon Visitor Center Information Desk from 8:00 am to 4:30 pm.

**ZION ANNUAL PASS**

$50
Admission to Zion National Park for one year from date of purchase.

**ANNUAL PASS**

$80
Admission to all federal fee areas for one year from date of purchase.

**SENIOR PASS**

$10
Admission to all federal fee areas for life, U.S. citizens 62 years or older.

**ACCESS PASS**

Free
Admission to all federal fee areas for life, permanently disabled U.S. citizens.

All passes are available at park entrance stations. Information about interagency passes and participating agencies (NPS, BLM, FWS, FS, and BOR) is available online at store.usgs.gov/pass.
Wildlife

Zion National Park is home to 69 species of mammals, 208 birds, 29 reptiles, six amphibians, and nine fish. Commonly seen animals include mule deer, lizards, and many species of birds. Rare or endangered species include the peregrine falcon, Mexican spotted owl, California condor, desert tortoise, and the Zion snail, found only in Zion National Park.

Mountain Lions
Mountain lions are present in the park. Attacks are unlikely and have never been reported in the park. Please watch children closely and never let them run ahead or lag behind. More information is posted at trailheads. Please report any sightings or encounters to a park ranger as soon as possible.

Desert Bighorn Sheep
Desert bighorn sheep are often seen on the east side of the park. Although they naturally shy away from people, some of these animals have grown accustomed to visitors in the park. Please do not approach or feed bighorn sheep.

Respect Wildlife
Please keep all animals wild and healthy by viewing them from a safe distance. Do not feed or touch wildlife. Store food and trash responsibly.

Sick or Injured Animals
Be aware that wild animals can be unpredictable. Do not approach animals or attempt to move sick or injured wildlife. Please report any sick or injured animals to a park ranger.

Emergencies

For 24-hour emergency response, call 911 or 435-772-3322. The Zion Canyon Medical Clinic is located in Springdale near the south entrance to the park. For hours, please call 435-772-3226. Other medical clinics are located in Hurricane. The nearest hospitals are in St. George, Cedar City, and Kanab.

Flash Floods

All narrow canyons are potentially hazardous. Flash floods, often caused by storms miles away, are a real danger and can be life threatening. You are assuming a risk when entering a narrow canyon. Your safety is your responsibility.

Watch for indications of a possible flash flood. If you observe any of these signs, seek higher ground immediately:

• Any deterioration in weather conditions
• Build up of clouds or sounds of thunder
• Sudden changes in water clarity from clear to muddy
• Floating debris
• Rising water levels or stronger currents
• Increasing roar of water up canyon

During a flash flood, the water level rises within minutes or even seconds. A flash flood can rush down a canyon in a wall of water over twelve feet high.
Safety

Whether hiking, climbing, or driving, your safety depends on your good judgment, adequate preparation, and constant awareness. Your safety is your responsibility.

STEEP CLIFFS
Falls from cliffs on trails have resulted in death. Loose sand or pebbles on stone are very slippery. Be careful of edges when using cameras or binoculars. Never throw or roll rocks because there may be hikers below.

• Stay on the trail.
• Stay back from cliff edges.
• Observe posted warnings.
• Please watch children.

WATER
The desert is an extreme environment. Carry enough water, one gallon per person per day, and drink it. Water is available at visitor centers, campgrounds, Zion Lodge, and most shuttle stops. Do not drink untreated water.

DRIVING
Park roads are used by vehicles, bicycles, walkers, and even wildlife. Obey posted speed limits. Unless otherwise posted, the maximum speed limit is 35 mph.

Seat belts or child safety seats are required for all occupants in a vehicle.

To protect park resources, please park in designated spaces only and turn off your engine when your vehicle is stopped.

Don’t drink and drive. For your safety, rangers enforce laws against alcohol and drug-related driving offenses, including open container violations.

HEAT EXHAUSTION
Heat exhaustion occurs when the body loses more fluid than is taken in. Signs of heat exhaustion include nausea, vomiting, fatigue, headaches, pale appearance, stomach cramps, and cool clammy skin. If a member of your party begins to experience any of these symptoms, stop your hike immediately. Find a cool, shady area and rest with your feet up to distribute fluids throughout your body. It is important to drink fluids, but it is also important to eat. While suffering from heat exhaustion, drinking fluids without eating can lead to a potentially dangerous condition of low blood salt. Seek medical help if heat exhaustion symptoms persist for more than two hours.

HEAT STROKE
Heat stroke is an advanced stage of heat exhaustion. It occurs when the body is unable to cool itself. Symptoms include confusion, disorientation, behavioral changes, and seizures. If you believe that a member of your party is suffering from heat stroke, it is imperative to cool them using any available means and obtain immediate medical assistance.

HYPOTHERMIA
Hypothermia occurs when the body is cooled to dangerous levels. It is responsible for the greatest number of deaths among people engaging in outdoor activities. Possible even in warm weather, it often occurs without the victim’s awareness. It is a hazard in narrow canyons because immersion in water is the quickest way to lose body heat.

To prevent hypothermia, avoid cotton clothing, it provides no insulation when wet, and eat high energy food before you are chilled. The signs of hypothermia include:

• Uncontrollable shivering
• Stumbling and poor coordination
• Fatigue and weakness
• Confusion or slurred speech

If you recognize any of these signs, stop hiking and immediately replace wet clothing with dry clothing. Warm the victim with your own body and a warm drink, and shelter the individual from breezes. A pre-warmed sleeping bag will also prevent additional heat loss.

FIREARMS
Firearms are permitted in Zion National Park. As of February 22, 2010, a federal law allows people who can legally possess firearms under federal, Utah, and local laws, to possess firearms in the park. It is the visitor’s responsibility to understand and comply with all applicable Utah, local, and federal firearms laws. Federal law prohibits firearms in certain facilities in Zion National Park; those places are posted with signs. If you have questions, please contact the park at 435-772-3256. The discharge of firearms and hunting within the park are prohibited. Utah State Law prohibits the open carry of loaded firearms on park shuttle busses.
**Points of Interest**

**Temple of Sinawava**

**Big Bend**

**Weeping Rock**

**The Grotto**

**Zion Lodge**

**Court of the Patriarchs**
Short and steep trail to viewpoint. Views of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob Peaks, Mount Moroni, and The Sentinel.

**Canyon Junction**
The junction of the Zion-Mt. Carmel Highway and the Zion Canyon Scenic Drive. Views of the Virgin River and Zion Canyon. Access to the Pa’rus Trail.

**Zion Human History Museum**
Explore the human history of Zion Canyon. Indoor exhibits focus on the human history of Zion National Park. A 22-minute orientation film highlights the dramatic landscapes of the park and examines the history of the canyon. Rotating art exhibits feature regional artists. Visit the bookstore for maps, books, and gifts. There are dramatic views of the Towers of the Virgin and Bridge Mountain outside.

**Zion Canyon Visitor Center**
The starting point for any visit to Zion Canyon. Outdoor exhibits, information desk, backcountry permits, bookstore, restrooms, picnic area, and water bottle filling station. Ranger-led programs. Access to the Pa’rus Trail and Watchman Trail.

**Zion-Mt. Carmel Highway**
This 10-mile scenic drive connects the South and East Entrances. From Zion Canyon, the road travels up steep switchbacks, through the historic Zion-Mt. Carmel Tunnel, and emerges on the east side of the park. For large vehicle restrictions, please read page 12.

**Kolob Canyons Road**
This five-mile scenic drive starts at the Kolob Canyons Visitor Center, climbs past the spectacular canyons and red rocks of the Kolob Canyons area of the park, and ends at the Kolob Canyons Viewpoint.

**Kolob Terrace Road**
This steep 20-mile scenic drive starts in the town of Virgin and climbs north from the desert washes into the aspen-covered plateaus of the higher elevations of the park and provides access to Lava Point. Not recommended for vehicles pulling trailers.

**Zion Human History Museum**
Indoor exhibits focus on the human history of Zion National Park. A 22-minute orientation film highlights the dramatic landscapes of the park and examines the history of the canyon. Rotating art exhibits feature regional artists. Visit the bookstore for maps, books, and gifts. There are dramatic views of the Towers of the Virgin and Bridge Mountain outside.

**Zion Canyon Visitor Center**
Located near the South Entrance of the park, the Zion Canyon Visitor Center is an excellent place to begin your exploration of Zion Canyon. Park rangers and outdoor exhibits will help you plan your visit and make the most of your time. Inquire at the Zion Canyon Backcountry Desk about permits for backpacking, canyoneering, and other trips into the backcountry. Visit the bookstore for maps, books, and gifts. Outside the visitor center, you can walk along the Virgin River in the shadow of The Watchman to the south.

**Kolob Canyons Visitor Center**
This is the entry point to the Kolob Canyons area of the park. It is located 45 miles north of Springdale and 17 miles south of Cedar City at Exit 40 on Interstate 15. Park rangers are available to answer questions and issue backcountry permits. Exhibits explore the geology, vegetation, and wildlife of this unique landscape.

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The Kolob Arch in the backcountry of the Kolob Canyons area of Zion National Park.
Recreation

**Camping**
Campgrounds in Zion Canyon have restrooms, drinking water, picnic tables, fire grates, and dump stations. All sites are half price for holders of Interagency Senior and Access Passes. There are no showers available within Zion National Park. Pay showers are available in Springdale and east of the park. The availability of these services varies throughout the year.

**Fires**
When fire danger is high, all campfires may be prohibited. When permitted, fires are only allowed in fire grates in the campgrounds. Bring or buy firewood. Collecting any type of wood in the park is prohibited.

**Bicycling**
Bicycles may travel on roadways and on the Párus Trail. Bicycles are not allowed off roadways or in construction areas. When riding from the South Entrance, use the Párus Trail instead of the main road. Shuttles cannot pass moving bicycles, please pull over and allow them to pass. Do not pass a moving bus. The rules of the road apply to bicycles. Please ride on the right side of the road in single file and wear your helmet. Each shuttle has a rack for at least two bicycles.

**Climbing**
The sandstone cliffs of Zion National Park are famous for big wall climbs. Zion is not a place for inexperienced climbers. Climbing in the park requires appropriate hardware and advanced technical skills. There are few top roping areas and no sport climbs. Permits are not required for day climbs, but they are required for all overnight bivouacs. Climbing information and route descriptions are available at the Zion Canyon Backcountry Desk in the Zion Canyon Visitor Center.

Some areas and routes are closed each year to climbing from early March through August to protect nesting peregrine falcons. Some areas that are routinely closed to climbing include The Great White Throne, Cable Mountain, Court of the Patriarchs, and Angels Landing. Check at visitor centers or visit www.nps.gov/zion for current closure information.

**Backcountry permits**
Permits are required for overnight trips, through-hikes of The Narrows and its tributaries, The Subway, and Left Fork, Kolob Creek, and all canyons requiring the use of technical equipment. Reservations are available online for many permits at www.nps.gov/zion. Permits must be obtained at the visitor centers before your trip.

Backcountry fees are based on the size of your group:
- $10 for 1-2 people
- $15 for 3-7 people
- $20 for 8-12 people

The maximum group size is 12 people of the same affiliation on the same trail or in the same drainage on the same day. The limit for some canyons is six people.

**Watercraft**
All watercraft use in Zion National Park requires a backcountry permit. Permits are issued only when the river is flowing in excess of 140 cubic feet per second. Inner tubes are not permitted at any time on any watercourse in the park.

**Horseback riding**
Horses traditionally have been used to explore the terrain of Zion National Park. Guided trips are available starting at the corral near the Emerald Pools Trailhead. For private stock use, see the Backcountry Guide or inquire at visitor centers.

**Hiking and canyoneering**
Hiking in canyons, even short hikes, requires advance planning. Some hikes involve walking in water. Rivers and washes are subject to flash flooding. Know the weather and flash flood potential forecasts before starting your trip. Daily forecasts are posted in park visitor centers. Many canyons require ropes, hardware, and advanced technical skills for rappelling and ascending.

**Rappelling**
Permits are required for all backcountry camping. There is a fee. Permits and hiking information are available at visitor centers. The maximum group size is 12 people. Please read the Backcountry Guide for more information.

**Pastoral**
Map and Guide 5

**Dangers**
There are three ways to hike The Narrows, weather and water conditions permitting.

**Day hike from the bottom and back**
This round-trip hike can last up to eight hours and is the simplest way to experience The Narrows. Ride the shuttle to the Temple of Sinawava, walk one mile to the end of the paved Riverside Walk, and begin wading up the river. There is no formal destination and you must return the same way you entered. Many hikers try to reach the junction with Orderville Canyon, a tributary creek approximately two hours upstream from the paved trail. A permit is not required and group size limits do not apply. Travel upstream into Orderville Canyon or beyond Big Spring is prohibited.

**Day hike from top to bottom**
This two-day hike requires a permit and a private shuttle to the trailhead. Please see the Backcountry Guide or inquire at the Zion Canyon Backcountry Desk for more information.

**Overnight hike from top to bottom**
This strenuous 16-mile all-day hike requires a permit and a private shuttle to the trailhead. Maximum stay is one night. Please see the Backcountry Guide or inquire at the Zion Canyon Backcountry Desk for more information.

**The Narrows**
The Virgin River has carved a spectacular gorge in the upper reaches of Zion Canyon—16 miles long, up to 2000-feet deep, and at times only 20 to 30-feet wide. The Narrows, with its soaring walls, sandstone grottos, natural springs, and hanging gardens can be an unforgettable experience. It is not, however, a trip to be underestimated. Hiking The Narrows means hiking in the Virgin River. At least 60 percent of the hike is spent wading, walking, and sometimes swimming in the river. There is no maintained trail because the route is the river. The current is swift, the water may be cold and deep, and the rocks underfoot are slippery. Flash flooding and hypothermia are constant dangers. Good planning, proper equipment, and sound judgment are essential for a safe and successful trip. Your safety is your responsibility.

**The Narrows checklist**
- Obtain weather and flash flood potential forecasts before your trip.
- Wear closed-toe shoes or sturdy boots with ankle support, not sandals or water shoes.
- Take a walking stick. Do not cut tree branches for sticks.
- Children should not hike in the river due to strong currents and deep pools.
- Carry out all trash, including food wrappers, apple cores, fruit peels, and toilet paper.
- Carry one gallon of drinking water per person per day, food, sunglasses, sunscreen, and first aid kit.
- Take a fleece or windbreaker. The Narrows is much cooler than other areas in Zion Canyon.
- Pack your gear in waterproof bags.
- Use the restroom at the Riverside Walk trailhead before hiking. There are no toilets in The Narrows.
### Hiking Guide

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hike Location</th>
<th>Round Trip Average Time (mi / km)</th>
<th>Elevation Change (ft / m)</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Easy</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Parus Trail</td>
<td>2 hours 3.5 / 5.6</td>
<td>50 / 15</td>
<td>Paved trail follows the Virgin River from the South Campground to Canyon Junction. Trailside exhibits.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Archeology Trail</td>
<td>0.5 hour 0.4 / 0.6</td>
<td>80 / 24</td>
<td>Short, but steep. Starts across from the entrance to the visitor center parking lot. Climbs to the outlines of several prehistoric buildings. Trailside exhibits.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Lower Emerald Pool Trail</td>
<td>1 hour 1.2 / 1.9</td>
<td>69 / 21</td>
<td>Minor drop-offs. Paved trail leads to the Lower Emerald Pool and waterfalls. Connects to the Middle Emerald Pools Trail.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 The Grotto Trail</td>
<td>0.5 hour 1.0 / 1.6</td>
<td>35 / 11</td>
<td>The trail connects the Zion Lodge to The Grotto. Can be combined with the Middle Emerald Pools and Kayenta Trails to create a 2.5-mile loop.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 Weeping Rock Trail</td>
<td>0.5 hour 0.4 / 0.6</td>
<td>98 / 30</td>
<td>Short, but steep. Minor drop-offs. Paved trail ends at a rock alcove with dripping springs. Trailside exhibits.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 Riverside Walk</td>
<td>1.5 hours 2.2 / 3.5</td>
<td>57 / 17</td>
<td>Minor drop-offs. Paved trail follows the Virgin River along the bottom of a narrow canyon. Trailside exhibits. Wheelchairs may need assistance.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Moderate</strong></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 Watchman Trail</td>
<td>2 hours 2.7 / 4.3</td>
<td>368 / 112</td>
<td>Minor drop-offs. Ends at viewpoint of the Towers of the Virgin, lower Zion Canyon, and Springdale.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 Middle Emerald Pools Trail</td>
<td>2 hours 2.0 / 3.2</td>
<td>150 / 46</td>
<td>Long drop-offs. An unpaved climb to the Middle Emerald Pools. Loose sand and rocks on stone are slippery. Closed due to rockslide.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 Upper Emerald Pool Trail</td>
<td>1 hour 1.0 / 1.6</td>
<td>200 / 61</td>
<td>Minor drop-offs. A sandy and rocky trail that climbs to the Upper Emerald Pool at the base of a cliff.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 Kayenta Trail</td>
<td>2 hours 2.0 / 3.2</td>
<td>150 / 46</td>
<td>Long drop-offs. An unpaved climb to the Emerald Pools Trails.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11 Canyon Overlook Trail</td>
<td>1 hour 1.0 / 1.6</td>
<td>163 / 50</td>
<td>Long drop-offs, mostly fenced. Rocky and uneven trail ends at viewpoint of Pine Creek Canyon and lower Zion Canyon. Parking lot is right turn only.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 Crystal Creek Trail</td>
<td>4 hours 5.0 / 8.0</td>
<td>450 / 137</td>
<td>Limited to 12 people per group. Follows the Middle Fork of Taylor Creek past two homestead cabins to Double Arch Alcove.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13 Timber Creek Overlook Trail</td>
<td>0.5 hour 1.0 / 1.6</td>
<td>100 / 30</td>
<td>Follows a ridge to a small peak with views of Timber Creek, Kolob Terrace, and Pine Valley Mountains.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Strenuous</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14 Angels Landing via West Rim Trail</td>
<td>4 hours 5.4 / 8.7</td>
<td>1488 / 453</td>
<td>Long drop-offs. Not for young children or anyone fearful of heights. Last section is a route along a steep, narrow ridge to the summit.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15 Hidden Canyon Trail</td>
<td>3 hours 2.4 / 3.9</td>
<td>850 / 259</td>
<td>Long drop-offs. Not for anyone fearful of heights. Follows along a cliff face to the mouth of a narrow canyon.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16 Observation Point Trail via East Rim Trail</td>
<td>5 hours 8.0 / 12.9</td>
<td>2148 / 655</td>
<td>Long drop-offs. Climbs through Echo Canyon to viewpoint of Zion Canyon. Access to Cable Mountain, Deertop Mountain, and East Mesa Trails.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17 The Narrows via Riverside Walk</td>
<td>8 hours 9.4 / 15.1</td>
<td>334 / 102</td>
<td>Read page 5 and check conditions at the visitor center before attempting. High water levels can prevent access to The Narrows.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18 Kolob Arch via La Verkin Creek Trail</td>
<td>8 hours 14.0 / 22.5</td>
<td>1037 / 316</td>
<td>Limited to 12 people per group. Follows Timber and La Verkin Creeks. Connects to the trail to Kolob Arch, one of the world’s largest freestanding arches.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Stay on established trails and watch your footing, especially at overlooks and near drop-offs. Avoid cliff edges. Watch children closely. People uncertain about heights should stop if they become uncomfortable. Never throw or roll rocks because there may be hikers below.
Ranger-led Programs

**Walks**

**EMERALD ESCAPE**
1.75 hours, moderate 1.5-mile hike
Emerald Pools Trailhead
Experience the splendors found along an ever-changing trail.

**HIKING THE KAYENTA**
2 hours, moderate 1.5-mile hike
The Grotto Shuttle Stop
Hike amidst the spectacular scenery and discover Zion's unique natural and cultural history.

**RIVERSIDE RAMBLE**
1.75 hours, easy 2-mile walk
Temple of Sinawava Shuttle Stop
Discover the striking power and role of water in canyon country.

**ROCK AND STROLL**
1.25 hours, easy 1-mile walk
West Rim Rock Shuttle Stop
Follow the Virgin River and unearth the geologic processes that sculpt the scenery.

**THE NARROWS**
4.5 hours, strenuous 6-mile hike
Take an epic trip through the Virgin River into the heart of Zion Canyon. Make free reservations, in person, no more than three days in advance at the Zion Canyon Visitor Center.

**WALKING THE WATCHMAN**
2.5 hours, moderate 2.5-mile hike
Visitor Center Shuttle Stop
Explore a diverse and beautiful landscape teeming with life.

**What’s Flyin’ in Zion**
2 hours, easy 1-mile bird walk
Locate, identify, and discuss Zion’s winged wonders. Make free reservations, in person, no more than three days in advance at the Zion Canyon Visitor Center. Bring binoculars. Ask about accessibility options.

**Whispers from the Past**
1.5 hours, easy 1-mile walk
Zion Lodge Flagpole
Immerse yourself in the rich history of Zion Canyon on a stunning trail along the Virgin River.

**Ride with a Ranger**
Shuttle Tours
Enjoy a unique 2-hour experience on a morning or evening ranger-led shuttle bus tour as you travel the Zion Canyon Scenic Drive. Several stops will provide an intimate look at Zion Canyon. Seating is limited - make free reservations, in person, up to one day in advance at the Zion Canyon Visitor Center. Please arrive 15 minutes prior to departure.

**Evening Programs**

Watchman Amphitheater and Zion Lodge Auditorium
Discover what makes Zion such a special place. 45-minute evening programs addressing a myriad of topics. Limited parking is available at Watchman Campground for non-campers. Please check bulletin boards at the visitor center, museum, and campgrounds for program topics.

**Program Schedule**

**TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 6**
9:00 am Ride with a Ranger
9:00 am Walking the Watchman
10:30–noon River Rendezvous
11:25 am Water, Rocks, and Time
12:55 pm Desert Struggles
2:25 pm Zion Zoology
3:00 pm Ranger’s Choice
5:30 pm Whispers from the Past
6:00 pm Ride with a Ranger
8:30 pm Lodge Evening Program
8:30 pm Watchman Evening Program

**WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 7**
8:30 am The Narrows
9:00 am Ride with a Ranger
11:25 am Windows into the Past
2:25 pm Water, Rocks, and Time
3:00 pm Ranger’s Choice
5:30 pm Hiking the Kayenta
6:00 pm Ride with a Ranger
8:30 pm Lodge Evening Program
8:30 pm Watchman Evening Program

**THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 8**
9:00 am Canvas of Cliffs
9:00 am Ride with a Ranger
10:00 am Riverside Ramble
12:55 pm Animal Icon
2:25 pm Pioneer Glimpses
3:00 pm Ranger’s Choice
5:30 pm Rock and Stroll
6:00 pm Ride with a Ranger
8:30 pm Lodge Evening Program
8:30 pm Watchman Evening Program

**FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 9**
9:00 am Ride with a Ranger
9:00 am Hiking the Kayenta
11:25 am Water, Rocks, and Time
2:25 pm Footsteps in Time
3:00 pm Ranger’s Choice
5:30 pm Emerald Escape
6:00 pm Ride with a Ranger
8:30 pm Lodge Evening Program
8:30 pm Watchman Evening Program

**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 10**
9:00 am Ride with a Ranger
12:55 pm Water, Rocks, and Time
2:25 pm Zion Zoology
3:00 pm Ranger’s Choice
5:30 pm Rock and Stroll
6:00 pm Ride with a Ranger
8:30 pm Lodge Evening Program
8:30 pm Watchman Evening Program

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 11**
9:00 am Ride with a Ranger
10:30–noon River Rendezvous
12:55 pm Windows into the Past
2:25 pm Animal Icon
3:00 pm Ranger’s Choice
5:00 pm Hiking the Kayenta
6:00 pm Ride with a Ranger
8:30 pm Lodge Evening Program
8:30 pm Watchman Evening Program

**MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 12**
9:00 am Ride with a Ranger
9:00 am Walking the Watchman
9:30–11 am Canvas of Cliffs
11:25 am Water, Rocks, and Time
2:25 pm Footsteps in Time
3:00 pm Ranger’s Choice
5:30 pm Emerald Escape
6:00 pm Ride with a Ranger
8:30 pm Lodge Evening Program
8:30 pm Watchman Evening Program

**TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 13**
9:00 am Ride with a Ranger
9:30 am Whispers from the Past
11:25 am Zion Zoology
2:25 pm Pioneer Glimpses
3:00 pm Riverside Ramble
5:00 pm Ride with a Ranger
8:30 pm Lodge Evening Program
8:30 pm Watchman Evening Program

**WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 14**
8:30 am The Narrows
9:00 am Ride with a Ranger
11:25 am Windows into the Past
2:25 pm Water, Rocks, and Time
3:00 pm Ranger’s Choice
5:30 pm Rock and Stroll
6:00 pm Ride with a Ranger
8:30 pm Lodge Evening Program
8:30 pm Watchman Evening Program

**THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 15**
9:00 am Ride with a Ranger
9:30–11 am Canvas of Cliffs
10:00 am Riverside Ramble
11:25 am Zion Zoology
2:25 pm Pioneer Glimpses
3:00 pm Ranger’s Choice
5:30 pm Rock and Stroll
6:00 pm Ride with a Ranger
8:30 pm Lodge Evening Program
8:30 pm Watchman Evening Program

**FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 16**
8:30 am What’s Flyin’ in Zion
9:00 am Ride with a Ranger
12:55 pm Stories in Stone
2:25 pm Desert Struggles
3:00 pm Ranger’s Choice
5:00 pm Emerald Escape
6:00 pm Ride with a Ranger
8:30 pm Lodge Evening Program
8:30 pm Watchman Evening Program

**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 17**
9:00 am Ride with a Ranger
9:30–11 am Canvas of Cliffs
12:55 pm Water, Rocks, and Time
2:25 pm Animal Icon
3:00 pm Ranger’s Choice
5:00 pm Rock and Stroll
6:00 pm Ride with a Ranger
8:30 pm Lodge Evening Program
8:30 pm Watchman Evening Program

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 18**
9:00 am Ride with a Ranger
10:30–noon River Rendezvous
11:25 am Zion Zoology
2:25 pm Water, Rocks, and Time
3:00 pm Ranger’s Choice
5:00 pm Hiking the Kayenta
6:00 pm Ride with a Ranger
8:30 pm Lodge Evening Program
8:30 pm Watchman Evening Program

**MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 19**
9:00 am Ride with a Ranger
9:00 am Walking the Watchman
10:30–noon River Rendezvous
11:25 am Windows in the Past
2:25 pm Footsteps in Time
3:00 pm Ranger’s Choice

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**Ranger’s Choice**
Join a ranger and explore a topic of their choice on the Zion Lodge lawn.

**Stories in Stone**
Unearth the past by exploring the fossil record left behind.

**Water, Rocks, and Time**
Uncover the geologic story behind the striking scenery.

**Windows into the Past**
Discover past events or projects that shaped Zion National Park.

**Zion Zoology**
Explore the natural history of some of Zion’s most interesting inhabitants.

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**Drop-In Programs**

**Canvs of Cliffs**
Big Bend Shuttle Stop
Search for peregrines, condors, climbers, and other life on the cliffs and discover the stories of the surrounding peaks. Weather permitting.

**River Rendezvous**
Temple of Sinawava Shuttle Stop
Immerse yourself in the grandeur of Zion and discover its unique diversity. The program site is located halfway up the Riverside Walk.

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**Junior Ranger Program**

Children ages 6 to 12 can earn a badge or patch by completing the Junior Ranger Handbook, available for $1.00 at park bookstores, and attending at least one ranger-led program.

Children ages 3 and younger can earn a pin by completing the Lil’ Junior Ranger Activity Sheet, available for free at visitor centers and the Zion Human History Museum.
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<th>Date</th>
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Weather

In fall, the heat of the summer gives way to cooler temperatures and drier weather, making it an ideal time to visit Zion National Park.

Along the Virgin River, cottonwoods turn golden yellow and bigtooth maples add splashes of scarlet to the canyons and trails. Favorable conditions prevail for hiking and canyoneering, but be sure to check the weather forecast, flash flood potential ratings, and the temperature of the river before exploring the park. Day and night temperatures can differ by over 30°F/17°C. Consider dressing in layers to prepare for changes in temperature.

Environmental Impact

Zion National Park is much more than just a recreational destination. It is a sanctuary of natural and cultural resources. Conserving this heritage is a task that the National Park Service cannot accomplish alone. All of us serve a critical role in maintaining Zion’s sanctuary for the future. Please respect your national park and the experiences of others.

RECYCLING AND TRASH

Please do not litter. Carry out or recycle all of your trash, including toilet paper. The park recycling program provides disposal for plastic, aluminum, glass, paper, and other materials. Zion National Park works closely with the community to provide many recycling options for visitors. With help from you, Zion kept over 90,000 lbs of waste out of landfills in 2010. Participate in recycling efforts by using the available recycling bins inside the park and in local communities.

WILDLIFE

Feeding, harming, or capturing wild animals is illegal and can cause injury or death to the animal. Animals can become aggressive beggars when fed.

OBJECT COLLECTION

It is illegal to remove anything from Zion National Park. Leave the flowers, rocks, and anything else that you might find for others to enjoy.

SOUNDSCAPES

Soundscapes, or sound environments, are an important natural feature of the park. Be aware of the noise that you make so that others may enjoy the peace and solitude of the park. Please travel quietly and limit the size of your group.

WATER BOTTLE FILLING STATIONS

There are several water bottle filling stations located throughout the park. To reduce waste, the sale of disposable plastic water bottles is prohibited in Zion Canyon. Support this initiative by bringing a reusable water bottle with you and using it after you leave. Water bottle filling stations are located at the Zion Canyon Visitor Center, Zion Human History Museum, Zion Lodge, and the Temple of Sinawava.

Sun and Moon

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Full Moon

- September 12
- October 11
- November 10

Volunteer

Fridays at 9:00 AM

Lend a hand and take an active role in preserving your national park. Visitors interested in volunteering can gather every Friday at 9:00 am at the Zion Canyon Visitor Center Shuttle Stop to assist with much needed tasks that keep the park clean and beautiful. Activities include litter removal, trail maintenance, and the management of invasive plants. All visitors are welcome. No registration is required for individuals. Groups larger than 10 people are required to register. Children must be joined by an adult.

Please call 435-772-0184 for information.
The Zion Natural History Association is a non-profit organization that began in 1929 to support education, research, publications, and other programs for the benefit of Zion National Park, Cedar Breaks National Monument, and Pipe Spring National Monument. Financial support by ZNHA members, combined with sales from our bookstores, provides parks with approximately $600,000 in annual aid.

ZION CANYON FIELD INSTITUTE

The Zion Canyon Field Institute educates and inspires visitors about the greater Zion National Park ecosystem and environment. ZCFI is the educational division of the non-profit cooperating association Zion Natural History Association. These workshops take place in and around Zion National Park, Cedar Breaks National Monument, and Pipe Spring National Monument.

OUTDOOR LEARNING ADVENTURES

Hike to a hanging garden where vibrant columbine grow next to scarlet monkey flowers. Relax while a geologist explains the wonders of Zion in a small group setting. Enjoy a discussion by the Virgin River about water issues in the West. Wade into The Narrows and plunge into a service project to keep it pristine. These are just a few of the experiences that you can enjoy during our workshops.

SERVICE PROJECTS

Participants have the opportunity to get a backstage view of Zion, learn intensively about a single subject, and contribute to a project that benefits the park.

PRIVATE WORKSHOPS

Our Custom Explore Zion program provides private workshops for small groups scheduled at your convenience.

REGISTRATION

Pick up the course schedule at any of the park’s bookstores. To register for a course, please visit www.zionpark.org, call 435-772-3264 or 800-635-3959, or stop by the Zion Canyon Visitor Center Bookstore. Fees for one-day workshops are $45 to $60 per day.

MEMBERSHIP

Become a member of ZNHA and enjoy benefits for yourself today, while you help Zion tomorrow. ZNHA supports the educational outreach and the Junior Ranger programs for youth, publishes books on Zion, contributes to park ranger-led programs, and provides free visitor information about the park.

Join us as a member and receive a twenty-percent discount on all purchases at ZNHA bookstores and many ZCFI workshops. Members also receive discounts at participating associations, our quarterly e-newsletter, and the bi-annual Sojourns publication. Most importantly, your membership helps ensure future educational and research activities in Zion National Park.

MEMBERSHIP LEVEL OPTIONS

- Individual Sojourns $45
- Family Sojourns $60
- Contributor $100
- Advocate $250
- Lifetime $500

To find out more about the programs and publications available through the Zion Natural History Association, visit www.zionpark.org or call 800-635-3959.

In the Footsteps of Thomas Moran

Plein Air Artist Invitational at Zion National Park

September 20 to November 27

Participating artists exhibition at the Zion Human History Museum

October 31 to November 3

Watch artists paint from Thomas Moran’s 1873 sketchbook locations

November 4

Quick Draw and Auction

November 5 to November 6

Public Wet Paint Sale at the Zion Nature Center

Event proceeds will benefit the Zion National Park Foundation and help support the Zion National Park Youth Education Initiative and various art programs. For information, please call 800-635-3959 or visit www.zionpark.org.
Large Vehicles

The Zion-Mt. Carmel Tunnel connects Zion Canyon to the east side of the park. It was built in the 1920s when large vehicles were less common. Vehicles 11’4” tall or taller, or 7’10” wide or wider, require one-lane traffic control through the tunnel. Large vehicles cannot travel in a single lane through the tunnel. Nearly all RVs, buses, trailers, fifth-wheels, dual-wheel trucks, campers, and boats require traffic control.

**TUNNEL TRAFFIC CONTROL**
Visitors requiring traffic control through the tunnel must pay a $15 fee per vehicle in addition to the entrance fee. Pay this fee at the park entrance station before driving to the tunnel. The fee is valid for two trips through the tunnel for the same vehicle during a seven-day period. Rangers will stop oncoming traffic so that you may drive down the center of the road in the tunnel. We apologize for any delays associated with this safety precaution.

**PROHIBITED VEHICLES**
Bicycles and pedestrians are not permitted in the tunnel. Vehicles not permitted in the tunnel include the following:
- Vehicles over 13’1” tall or taller
- Semi-trucks and commercial vehicles
- Vehicles carrying hazardous materials
- Vehicles weighing more than 50,000 lbs
- Combined vehicles or buses over 50’ in length.

**Vehicles over 11’4” (3.4 m) tall or 7’10” (2.4 m) wide, including mirrors, awnings, and jacks, will require traffic control in the tunnel. Single-axle vehicles may not exceed 40’ in length.**

**ZION CANYON SHUTTLE**
The Zion Canyon Scenic Drive is accessible by shuttle bus only from April 1 to October 30. The buses are accessible and also have room for backpacks, climbing gear, and at least two bicycles. Buses run throughout the day. The shuttles are free and you may get on and off as often as you like. Pets are not permitted.

**SPRINGDALE SHUTTLE**
In coordination with the Zion Canyon Shuttle, the Springdale Shuttle will pick up and drop off passengers in the town of Springdale. The closest stop to the Zion Canyon Visitor Center is located near the pedestrian entrance to the park.

**PARKING**
Parking areas in the park are usually full from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm. To avoid delays at the entrance station and limited available parking, park in Springdale and ride the free shuttle to the pedestrian entrance of the park.

Improper parking is unsafe and damages park resources. Please park in designated spaces only and turn off your engine when your vehicle is stopped. Parking regulations are strictly enforced.

**AUTOMOBILES**
Travel in Zion Canyon from April 1 to October 30 is by shuttle bus only. Only the Zion Canyon Scenic Drive is closed to private vehicles. The Zion-Mt. Carmel Highway, Kolob Canyons Road, and Kolob Terrace Road are open to private vehicles.

**OTHER VEHICLES**
Other vehicles such as ATVs and OHVs are not permitted in Zion National Park.