How To Use The Shuttle

Less Than 3 Hours
Zion Canyon Scenic Drive
The easiest way to see some of the park’s most beautiful sights in a limited time is to ride the Zion Canyon Shuttle. Round trip will take a minimum of 90 minutes.

Weeping Rock Trail
An easy walk on a paved path where springs continually drip from overhead. .5 miles/.5 hours round trip/climbs 98 feet. Shuttle stop: Weeping Rock.

Court of the Patriarchs
Short but steep trail leads to views of the Sentinel and the Three Patriarchs. 100 yards/.25 hours round trip, climbs 368 feet. Shuttle stop: Court of the Patriarchs.

Zion-Mt. Carmel Highway
The 30-mile road that connects the east and south entrances is a steep drive up switchbacks and through the mile-long tunnel. This is the main access to Bryce Canyon and the North Rim of Grand Canyon. Large vehicle restrictions: page 12.

More Than 3 Hours
Emerald Pools Trail
One place where you’ll often find at least a small waterfall. Easy, 1.2 miles/1.5 hours round trip, climbs 200 feet. Warning! Steep Cliffs. Shuttle stop: Zion Lodge.

Making The Most of Your Time

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Zion Canyon Field Institute
Visitor Center Hours
April 1 - April 16, 2004
Zion Canyon 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.
History Museum 8 a.m. – 5 p.m
Kolob Canyons 8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

April 17 - May 28
Zion Canyon 8 a.m. – 6 p.m.
• Permits 7 a.m. – 6 p.m.
History Museum 8 a.m. – 6 p.m
Kolob Canyons 7 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

May 29 - September 5
Zion Canyon 8 a.m. – 7 p.m.
• Permits 7 a.m. – 7 p.m.
History Museum 8 a.m. – 6 p.m
Kolob Canyons 8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

September 6 - October 3
Zion Canyon 8 a.m. – 6 p.m.
• Permits 7 a.m. – 6 p.m.
History Museum 8 a.m. – 6 p.m
Kolob Canyons 7 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

October 4 - Spring 2005
Zion Canyon 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.
History Museum 9 a.m. – 5 p.m
Kolob Canyons 8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Emergencies
Call 911 or 772-3322 24 hours a day or contact a Park Ranger.
**This is Canyon Country**

**Steep Cliffs**
Loose sand or pebbles on stone are very slippery. Be careful of cliff edges when using cameras or binoculars. Never throw or roll rocks; there may be hikers below.
- Stay on the trail.
- Stay back from cliff edges.
- Observe posted warnings.
- Parents—watch your children!

**Flash Floods**
All narrow canyons are potentially hazardous. Flash floods, often from storms miles away, present a real danger and can be life threatening. By entering a narrow canyon, you are assuming a risk.

**Judgment**
Whether hiking, climbing, or driving, your safety depends on your own good judgment, adequate preparation, and constant attention. Don’t ruin your vacation by having an accident. Your safety is your responsibility.

**Water**
The desert is dry, even in winter. Carry enough water for everyone in your group. Water is available at visitor centers, campgrounds, and Zion Lodge. Do not drink untreated water.

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**Information and Services**

**Emergencies**
For 24 hour emergency response, call 772 -3322 or 911. Zion Canyon Medical Clinic is in Springdale, reduced winter hours, 772-3326. The nearest hospitals are in St. George, Cedar City, and Kanab.

**Accessibility**
Restrooms, visitor centers, museum, and Zion Lodge are fully accessible. Several campsites are reserved for people with disabilities, and two trails are accessible.

**Pets**
Pets must be under physical control on a leash no longer than six feet at all times. They are not allowed in the backcountry, on trails, or in public buildings. Pets may be walked on the Pa’rus Trail. Boarding kennels are available in Rockville, Hurricane, Kanab, St. George, and Cedar City.

**Entrance Fees**
Private Vehicle $20 per vehicle, good for 7 days in Zion National Park. $10 per vehicle for Kolob Canyons section only.

**Individual**
$10 per person (pedestrian, bicycle, motorcycle, and organized group), good for 7 days in Zion National Park.

**Zion Annual Pass**
$40, good for one year from date of purchase in all federal fee areas.

**Golden Access Passport**
Free lifetime pass for US citizens who are permanently disabled.

**Golden Eagle Passport**
$65, good for one year from date of purchase in all federal fee areas.

**Camping**

- **Watchman Campground**
  - Open all year, sites are first-come, first-serve November 1-March 28. Fees: $6 a night. $8 per night with electric hookups, $20 per night for river sites (half price for holders of Golden Age/Access Passports).
  - Reservations may be made for Watchman Campground five months in advance for April 2-October 1; on-line at reservations.nps.gov, or call 800 365-2267.

- **South Campground**
  - Open mid-March through October, sites are first-come, first-serve.
  - Fees: $16 a night. Group Campsites Available April 2 through October 31 by reservation to organized groups of 9-40 people for $3.00 per person per night; 800 365-2267 or on-line at reservations.nps.gov.

**Watercraft**
All watercraft use in the park requires a backcountry permit. Permits are issued 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.

**Food Service**
Zion Lodge Dining room serves breakfast, lunch, and dinner. Dinner reservations are advised: 435 772-3213.

**Other Food Service**
Restaurants available in Springdale, east entrance, Mt. Carmel Junction, and Kanab.

**Groceries**

**Lodging**

**Other Lodging**
Available in Springdale, Rockville, east entrance, Mt. Carmel Junction, Kanab, and Cedar City.

**Worship Services**
Offered during summer, check bulletin boards for times.

**Interdenominational**
Zion Lodge and South Campground.

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2 Zion Map & Guide
Ranger-led Activities

Ranger-led activities are a great way to learn more about Zion National Park. Topics include:
- geology
- plants
- animals
- human history
- more

All programs are free. Check at visitor centers and Zion Lodge for program topics and hike locations. Allow time for shuttle transportation to the presentation.

Rangers may be called to fires and other emergencies—programs may be canceled.

### Program Dates Times Description

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program</th>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Times</th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Morning Hike</td>
<td>May 2-Oct. 2</td>
<td>9 a.m. daily</td>
<td>One to three-hour hike. Be prepared to walk two to three miles. Wear sturdy footwear and bring a hat, sunglasses, sunscreen, and water. Check bulletin boards for meeting places. Some hikes may be accessible.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ride With A Ranger Shuttle Tour</td>
<td>April 25-Oct. 2</td>
<td>9 a.m. daily</td>
<td>Two-hour narrated shuttle bus tour on the Zion Canyon Scenic Drive. Seating is limited—obtain free tickets at the Zion Canyon Visitor Center. Tickets are not required for the regular shuttle system.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Museum Talk</td>
<td>April 25-Oct. 2</td>
<td>11:25 a.m. daily, 2:25 p.m. daily</td>
<td>20 to 30-minute talk on the shaded Zion Human History Museum patio.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zion Lodge Evening Program</td>
<td>May 2-Sept. 11</td>
<td>9 p.m. nightly</td>
<td>30 to 45-minute presentation in the Zion Lodge Auditorium.</td>
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<td>Watchman Campground Evening Program</td>
<td>April 25-May 15</td>
<td>9 p.m. nightly</td>
<td>30 to 45-minute presentation at the Watchman and South Campground Amphitheaters.</td>
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<tr>
<td>South Campground Evening Program</td>
<td>May 16-Aug. 7</td>
<td>9:30 p.m. Sun. Tue. Thu. nights</td>
<td>20 to 30-minute talk on the shaded Zion Human History Museum patio.</td>
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</table>

Junior Ranger Program

### Junior Ranger Explorer

**Who**
This summer discovery program is developed especially for children 6 to 12 years of age. The 6-year-old minimum age is strictly followed. For children under 6, see “Self-Guided Programs.”

**What**
Junior Ranger Explorers learn about Zion National Park and their world through hands-on activities, games, hikes, and lessons. Topics vary and range from plants and animals to geology and archaeology. Plus, children can earn awards, a pin and certificate for attending one session, and a patch for attending a second session or a ranger-led program (guided shuttle tour, walk, talk, evening program).

**When**
Available May 29 to September 4, 2004. Two sessions are offered daily: 9:00 to 11:30 a.m. and 1:30 to 4:00 p.m.

Where
The programs are held at the Zion Nature Center, 1/2 mile north of the south park entrance, near the entrance to the South Campground. The shuttle does not stop at the Nature Center. You may drive your vehicle to the Nature Center any time of the year. For accessibility information call 435 772-0169.

What to Wear
Many activities are outdoors, so dress comfortably and wear closed-toe shoes; no sandals. Hats and sunscreen are good on hot, sunny days. Bring rain gear if the weather looks stormy.

Registration
A parent or guardian must register children. Register at 8:30 for the 9:00 a.m. session, and at 10:00 for the 1:30 p.m. session. There is a one-time, $2.00 per child fee.

Parents
Children must be with their parents between sessions if attending both morning and afternoon programs. Please be prompt dropping off and picking up children. Food is not available, so ensure children have eaten before coming to the program.

Self-Guided Programs

**Ages 6 to 12 Junior Ranger**
Children 6 to 12 years old can earn a badge by completing an activity booklet during their visit. Booklets are available at the visitor centers and museum year-round. A different Junior Ranger Badge is offered at each visitor center.

**Ages Under 6 Junior Ranger Helper**
Children under 6 years old can earn a decal by completing an activity sheet available at the Zion Canyon Visitor Center and Human History Museum year-round.

The Zion Natural History Association provides additional funding for this program.
Hiking in canyons, even short hikes, requires advance planning. Many hikes involve walking in water, and the rivers and creeks are subject to flash flooding. River flows vary greatly depending on time of year and weather conditions. Check the National Weather Service weather forecast and flash flood potential before entering any canyon, posted daily in visitor centers. See the Zion Backcountry Planner for additional information.

Permits
Permits are required for all overnights, through hikes of the Narrows and tributaries, Left Fork of North Creek (the Subway), Kolob Creek, and all canyons requiring the use of technical equipment. Permits are issued at visitor centers (see hours, page 1) the day before your hike. Cost: • $10 for 1-2 people • $15 for 3-7 people • $20 for 8-12 people. Reservations are available on-line for many permits: www.nps.gov/zion.

Group Size
The maximum group size is 12 people of the same affiliation on the same trail or in the same drainage on the same day.

Be Prepared
All narrow canyons are potentially hazardous. Flash floods, cold water, and strong currents present real dangers that can be life-threatening. Your safety depends on your own good judgement, adequate preparation, and constant attention. By entering a narrow canyon, you are assuming a risk. Your safety is your responsibility.

Zion Narrows
Weather and water conditions permitting, there are three ways to hike the Zion Narrows.

Short Day-hike
Continue upstream beyond the end of the Riverside Walk. 1 to 3 hours, round trip. No permit required.

Through Day-hike
Hike downstream from Chamberlain’s Ranch. This long all-day hike requires a shuttle to the trailhead and a permit.

Overnight Hike
Hike downstream from Chamberlain’s Ranch. This two-day hike requires a shuttle to the trailhead and a permit. Maximum stay is one night. Fires are not allowed.

Zion Narrows Checklist
• Obtain weather and flash flood potential forecasts before starting your trip.
• Wear sturdy boots or shoes with ankle support.
• Take a walking stick. Do not cut tree branches for sticks.
• Small children should not hike in the river due to strong currents and deep pools.
• Carry out all trash: food wrappers, apple cores, fruit peels, tissue paper—everything you carried in.
• Carry one gallon of drinking water per person for a full-day hike, food, sunglasses, sunscreen, and first aid kit.
• Take a sweater or windbreaker. The Narrows is much cooler than Zion Canyon.
• Pack gear in waterproof bags.
• Use the restroom at the Riverside Walk Trailhead before hiking. There are no toilets in The Narrows.

Mountain Lions
Mountain lions are wild animals and can be dangerous. They have been observed frequently in the park. An attack by one is unlikely—there is a far greater risk of being struck by lightning. Zion National Park has never had a reported attack on people or pets. However, mountain lions have attacked in other areas.

Recommendations For Your Safety
• Watch children closely, and never let them run ahead or lag behind.
• Solo hiking or jogging is not recommended.
• Never approach a mountain lion. Most will try to avoid a confrontation. Always give them a way to escape.
• Do not run! Try to look large. Put your arms up.
• If a mountain lion approaches, wave your arms, shout, and throw rocks or sticks at it.
• If attacked, fight back.
• Report any mountain lion sightings or encounters to a Park Ranger as soon as possible.

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Never approach a mountain lion. Most mend.
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Maintaining Sanctuary

Please stay on marked trails. Hiking off trails can lead to loss of vegetation, soil compaction, erosion, and unsightly scars on the landscape.

“You better behave, because I won’t” Keep wildlife wild. Human foods are not healthy for wildlife. Feeding wild animals is illegal and can cause injury or death to the animal. Wild animals are capable of hurting you as well.

Please respect the peace and quiet of the park and protect the subtle sounds of nature by traveling quietly.

You are an important resource too. Use common sense and good judgement to protect your own safety and take advantage of our educational programs to enhance your knowledge of Zion.

Zion National Park is much more than just a recreational destination. It is a sanctuary of natural and cultural resources—a living museum for all the world. Conserving this heritage is a task the National Park Service cannot accomplish alone. All of us serve a critical role in maintaining Zion’s sanctuary for the future.
Zion Canyon

Trail Guide

Use the Shuttle to Access Trailheads
Access to trailheads along the Zion Canyon Scenic Drive is by shuttle only. Private vehicles are not allowed. Shuttles depart early morning from Springdale and the Zion Canyon Visitor Center and run late into the evening. Check page 12 for schedule. Plan your hike so you do not miss the shuttle.

For Your Safety
Stay on established trails and watch your footing, especially at overlooks and near drop-offs. Always stay back from edges. Watch children closely. People uncertain about heights should turn around if they become uncomfortable. Never throw or roll rocks, there may be hikers below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Trail</th>
<th>Shuttle Stop</th>
<th>Round Trip (m/km)</th>
<th>(hrs)</th>
<th>Ascent (ft/m)</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pi’is Trail</td>
<td>Zion Canyon Visitor Center</td>
<td>3.0/6.6</td>
<td>1-1/2</td>
<td>50/15</td>
<td>Easy Paved trail follows Virgin River from South Campground to Canyon Junction.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weeping Rock</td>
<td>Weeping Rock</td>
<td>0.5/0.8</td>
<td>1/2</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>Riverside Walk</td>
<td>Temple of Sinawava</td>
<td>2.0/3.3</td>
<td>1-1/2</td>
<td>57/17</td>
<td>Easy Minor drop-offs. Paved trail follows Virgin River along bottom of narrow canyon. Trailside exhibits.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lower Emerald Pool</td>
<td>Zion Lodge</td>
<td>1.2/1.9</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>69/21</td>
<td>Easy Minor drop-offs. Paved trail to lower pool and waterfalls.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Middle Emerald Pools</td>
<td>Zion Lodge</td>
<td>2.0/3.3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>150/46</td>
<td>Moderate Long drop-offs. Loop trail to lower and middle pools.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canyon Overlook</td>
<td>Zion Canyon Visitor Center</td>
<td>1.0/1.6</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>163/50</td>
<td>Moderate Long drop-offs, mostly fenced. Rocky, uneven trail ends at spectacular viewpoint of lower Zion Canyon and Pine Creek Canyon.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Watchman</td>
<td>Zion Canyon Visitor Center</td>
<td>2.7/3.3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>368/112</td>
<td>Moderate Minor drop-offs. Ends at viewpoint of lower Zion Canyon, Oak Creek Canyon, and town of Springdale.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hidden Canyon</td>
<td>Weeping Rock</td>
<td>2.0/3.2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>850/259</td>
<td>Strenuous Long drop-offs. Not for anyone fearful of heights. Ends at mouth of narrow canyon.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Angels Landing</td>
<td>The Grotto</td>
<td>5.0/8.6</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1488/453</td>
<td>Strenuous Long drop-offs and narrow trail. Not for anyone fearful of heights. Ends at summit high above Zion Canyon. Last 0.5 mi (0.8 km) follows steep, narrow ridge; chains have been added.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Observation Point</td>
<td>Weeping Rock</td>
<td>8.0/12.0</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>2148/655</td>
<td>Strenuous Climbs through Echo Canyon to Observation Point. Excellent views of Zion Canyon. Trail gives access to other East Rim plateau trails: Cable Mountain and Deertop Mountain.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West Rim to</td>
<td>Cabin Spring</td>
<td>10/17.2</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>2640/880</td>
<td>Strenuous Long drop-offs. Climbs to high country view of canyons. Trail continues to Lava Point. Trip to Lava Point should not be attempted as a one-day hike.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kolob Canyons</td>
<td>Kolob Canyon Visitor Center</td>
<td>1.0/1.6</td>
<td>1/2</td>
<td>190/30</td>
<td>Moderate Follows ridge top to small peak with views of Timber Creek, Kolob Terrace and Pine Valley Mountains.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kolob Arch</td>
<td>La Verkin Creek</td>
<td>5.0/8.6</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>450/137</td>
<td>Moderate No drop-offs. Follows Middle Fork of Taylor Creek past two home-stead cabins to Double Arch Alcove.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Zion Map & Guide 7
The Geology of Zion

ZION NATIONAL PARK IS A SHOWCASE OF geology. The arid climate and sparse vegetation expose bare rock and reveal the park’s geologic history.

Zion sits on the edge of the Colorado Plateau. Uplift, tilting, and erosion formed the Grand Staircase, a series of colorful cliffs stretching from Bryce Canyon to the Grand Canyon. The bottom layer of rock at Bryce Canyon is the top layer at Zion, and Zion’s bottom layer is Grand Canyon’s top layer.

Sedimentation
Zion was a relatively flat basin near sea level 275 million years ago. As sands, gravels, and muds eroded from surrounding mountains, streams carried these materials to the basin, depositing them in layers. The sheer weight of these accumulated layers caused the basin to sink, thus the top surface remained near sea level. As the land rose and fell and as the climate changed, the environment fluctuated from shallow seas to coastal plains to a desert of massive windblown sand. Sedimentation continued until 10,000 feet of material accumulated.

Lithification
Mineral-laden waters slowly filtered through the compacted sediments. Iron oxide, calcium carbonate, and silica acted as cementing agents. With pressure from overlying layers and long periods of time, the deposits transformed into stone. Ancient seabeds became limestone; mud and clay became mudstones and shale; and river sand and sand dunes became sandstone. Each layer originated from a distinct source and so differs in thickness, mineral content, color, and eroded appearance.

Uplift
In an area from Zion to the Rocky Mountains, forces deep within the earth pushed the surface up. Not chaotically, but a slow vertical hoisting, Zion rose from near sea level to 10,000 feet above sea level.

Uplift is still occurring. In 1992 a magnitude 5.8 earthquake caused a landslide visible just outside the park’s south entrance.

Erosion
Erosion has shaped Zion. Uplift gave streams greater cutting force in their descent to the sea. Zion’s location on the western edge of this uplift caused the streams to tumble off the plateau, flowing rapidly down a steep gradient. These streams eroded and cut into rock layers, forming deep narrow canyons. Grain by grain the Virgin River carried away over 6,000 feet of rock that once lay above Zion’s highest layers visible today.

The Virgin River is still excavating. Upstream from the Temple of Sinawava, the river cuts through Navajo Sandstone, creating a slot canyon. At the Temple, the river reached the softer Kayenta Formation below. Water erodes this shale, undermining the overlying sandstone and causing it to collapse, widening the canyon.

Volcanic Activity
Volcanic vents created, as a result of the weakening of the Earth’s crust during uplift, allowed lava flows and cinder cones to form. Cinder was piled several hundred feet high in classic cones and lava flowed into valleys like those visible west of Rockville and Kolob Terrace.

Geology In Action
More than once landslides dammed the Virgin River forming lakes. Sediments settled from the quiet waters. Always the river breached the dam and drained the lakes, leaving behind a flat-bottomed valley. This change in the canyon’s character can be seen from the scenic drive south of Zion Lodge near the Sentinel Slide. This slide severely damaged the road in 1995.

Flash floods occur when sudden thunderstorms dump water on exposed rock. With little soil to absorb the rain, runoff occurs quickly. These floods often happen without warning and can increase water flow by over 100 times. In 1998, a flash flood increased the volume of the Virgin River from 200 cubic feet per second to 4,300 cubic feet per second, once again damaging the scenic drive at the Sentinel Slide.
Managing Fire

The National Park Service uses many tools to manage our natural and cultural resources. Fire is one such tool. By using a combination of techniques, we can best manage wildland fire to reduce the risk to the public and to maintain healthy ecosystems on federal lands.

Fire Suppression
Extinguishing or limiting wildland fires at their discovery by utilizing the safest and most efficient suppression methods available.

Prescribed Fire
Any fire ignited by management specialists under predetermined conditions to meet specific objectives related to hazardous fuels or habitat improvement. An approved prescribed fire plan must exist prior to ignition.

Wildland Fire Use
The management of naturally ignited (lightning) wildland fires to accomplish specific pre-stated resource management objectives in predefined geographic areas outlined in Fire Management Plans.

Mechanical Fuel Reduction
The removal of natural vegetation with mechanized equipment and/or hand tools. Usually limbing and thinning vegetation and disposing of the material through pile burning.

Chemical Fuel Treatment
The use of herbicides to control unwanted vegetation. Follow-up treatments may include mechanical fuel reduction.

Weather and Climate

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<th>M</th>
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<td>0.8</td>
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<td>1.1</td>
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<td>1.4</td>
<td>1.3</td>
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<td>18</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>3</td>
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<td>0</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>5</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>5</td>
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<td>5</td>
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<td>4</td>
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<td>15</td>
<td>5</td>
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Be prepared for a wide range of weather conditions. Temperatures vary with changes in elevation and day/night temperatures may differ by over 30°F.

Spring
Weather is very unpredictable. Stormy, wet days are common, but warm, sunny weather may occur too. Precipitation peaks in March. Spring wildflowers bloom from April through June, peaking in May.

Summer
Days are hot (95-110°F), but overnight lows are usually comfortable (65-70°F). Afternoon thunderstorms are common from mid-July through mid-September. Storms may produce waterfalls as well as flash floods.

Fall
Days are usually clear and mild; nights are often cool. Autumn color displays begin in September in the high country. Colors in Zion Canyon usually peak in late October.

Winter
Winters in Zion Canyon are fairly mild. Winter storms bring rain or light snow to Zion Canyon, but heavier snow to the higher elevations. Clear days may become quite warm, reaching 60°F; nights are often in the 20s and 30s. Winter storms can last several days and cause roads to be icy. Zion roads are plowed, except the Kolob Terrace road, which is closed in winter. Be prepared for winter driving conditions from November through March.

Profile
Established
1909 as Mukuntuweap National Monument; expanded in 1919 as Zion National Park. Kolob section added in 1937.

Significance
Established to preserve and protect aesthetic and scientific values:
- Zion features stunning scenery found nowhere else on earth.
- Zion is a geologic showpiece with sandstone cliffs among the highest in the world.
- Zion features one of the last mostly free-flowing river systems on the Colorado Plateau.
- Zion features a large, diverse plant and animal community.
- Zion features evidence of human occupation both historic and prehistoric, including excellent examples of Civilian Conservation Corps work.

Size
229 square miles (147,551 acres).

Elevation
Lowest: 3,666 ft (1,128 m), Coalpits Wash in the southwest corner. Highest: 8,726 ft (2,660 m), Horse Ranch Mountain.

Precipitation
Average: 15 inches.

Name
Zion, a Hebrew word referring to a place of safety or refuge, given to this canyon by Mormon pioneers in the 1860s. Kolob, in Mormon theology, is a heavenly place close to God.

Humans
Evidence of Ancestral Puebloans, known as the Anasazi, date from 2,000 years ago; Paiutes from about 800 years ago to present. Mormon settlers arrived in the 1860s. Park visitation in 1920 was 3,692; in 1996 it reached 2.5 million.

Plant Life
Richest diversity of plants in Utah—almost 800 native species. Differences in elevation, sunlight, water, and temperature create “microenvironments,” like hanging gardens, side canyons, and isolated mesas that lend to this diversity.

Animal Life
75 species of mammals, 275 birds, 32 reptiles and amphibians, 6 fish. Commonly seen animals include mule deer, lizards, and many species of birds. Rare or endangered species include the Peregrine Falcon, Mexican Spotted Owl, Southwest Willow Flycatcher, desert tortoise, and the Zion snail, found nowhere else on earth.

Zion Canyon Shuttle
Includes 30 propane buses and 21 trailers. In 2002, there were 2.3 million riders. Each bus/trailer combination replaces 28 cars that would drive up the Scenic Drive.

Zion Map & Guide
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Traveling In The Area

Zion National Park is part of the Southwest’s “Grand Circle” of national parks, monuments, historic areas, and recreation areas— one of the world’s great concentrations of outstanding natural and cultural features. Even though these areas seem close, do not try to visit too many in a short period. Allow plenty of time for each and plan return trips if you miss some this time around.

Utah’s 13 National Park Service areas comprise a small part of the public land in the state. The Bureau of Land Management and U.S. Forest Service manage large areas including some strikingly beautiful and some very remote places. In addition, the state of Utah administers 44 state parks.

Travel Information

You can get more information on traveling in the area at the information desks in the park visitor centers. The nearby towns of Kanab, St. George, and Cedar City have offices for some or all of these other land management agencies. They also have travel councils and chambers of commerce.

Utah Travel Council 800 200-1160, www.utah.com
Utah State Parks and Recreation 801 538-7220, Reservations 800 322-3770
www.stateparks.utah.gov
National Park Service www.nps.gov
Bureau of Land Management www.blm.gov
U.S. Forest Service www.fs.fed.us
National Weather Service www.nws.noaa.gov
Utah Department of Transportation www.utah.gov

Area Mileages

One-way from Zion Canyon Visitor Center.

West Bound
St. George, UT 45
Las Vegas, NV 158
Death Valley CA 284
Albuquerque, NM 500

South Bound
Grand Canyon North Rim 120
Grand Canyon South Rim 253
Flagstaff, AZ 243

North Bound
Bryce Canyon 86
Salt Lake City, UT 325
Moab, UT 333

Pipe Spring National Monument
Pipe Spring National Monument is rich with American Indian, early explorer, and western pioneer history. In the 1870s, Mormon pioneers built a fort on the site, “Winsor Castle,” laying claim to one of the few perennial springs on the Arizona Strip. The visitor center, tours of Winsor Castle, living history demonstrations, garden and orchard, and a half-mile trail offer a glimpse into Indian and pioneer life in the Old West. A bookstore operated by the Zion Natural History Association, and a campground operated by the Kaibab Paiute Tribe are nearby. For more information call 435 843-7105, www.nps.gov/spip

Bryce Canyon National Park
Erosion has shaped a colorful amphitheater of “hoodoos,” unique formations whimsically arranged and tinted with colors too numerous and subtle to name. We encourage you to use the Bryce Canyon Shuttle during your stay. It is easy and convenient and you’ll be doing your part to reduce traffic, conserve fuel, reduce pollution, and protect park resources. Ample parking is available at Ruby’s Inn. Reconstruction of the scenic drive will be completed in 2004. Be prepared for delays up to 20 minutes. For detailed shuttle and road construction information, tune your radio to 1600 AM as you approach the park. Camping reservations may be made on-line at www.ReserveUSA.com. For more information call 435 834-5322. www.nps.gov/bryc

Cedar Breaks National Monument
Erosion has shaped a colorful amphitheater of “hoodoos,” unique formations whimsically arranged and tinted with colors too numerous and subtle to name. We encourage you to use the Bryce Canyon Shuttle during your stay. It is easy and convenient and you’ll be doing your part to reduce traffic, conserve fuel, reduce pollution, and protect park resources. Ample parking is available at Ruby’s Inn. Reconstruction of the scenic drive will be completed in 2004. Be prepared for delays up to 20 minutes. For detailed shuttle and road construction information, tune your radio to 1600 AM as you approach the park. Camping reservations may be made on-line at www.ReserveUSA.com. For more information call 435 834-5322. www.nps.gov/bryc

National Park Shuttle Systems
The National Park Service has shuttle systems in place in several area parks that make visiting convenient and comfortable. The shuttles reduce parking congestion, noise, and pollution. Comments from the visiting public have been overwhelmingly positive. Take advantage of these shuttles—let us do the driving so you can enjoy the parks. Shuttles operate during the busy season in:
- Zion National Park
- Bryce Canyon National Park
- Grand Canyon National Park, South Rim
- Check park web sites and publications, visitor centers, and as you approach the parks, listen to the AM radio stations, identified with highway signs, for more information. National Park Service website www.nps.gov.
Learn, Explore, Enjoy!

Join us for an exciting, intensive educational experience with the majesty of Zion National Park and its surroundings as your living classroom.

The Zion Canyon Field Institute (ZCFI) is a nonprofit educational organization established by the Zion Natural History Association in cooperation with Zion National Park. Its mission is to educate and inspire. Participants investigate the natural and cultural resources of the greater Zion ecosystem with tailoring to the taste of science, the humanities, and the arts. Learning is through adventurous, hands-on programs.

Workshops take place in Zion National Park, Cedar Breaks National Monument, Pipe Spring National Monument and nearby locales. They provide excellent opportunities to learn about and view local flora, fauna, and cultural sites up close, with engaging expert instructors. Enrollment is limited to ensure a quality experience.

The Field Institute operates year round. Course fees include books and materials and will allow ZCFI to expand its offerings. Fees range from $25-$80/day.

Field Institute Classes 2004

Spring Workshops

Rock Art Service/Learning April 19-20
Recycled Art Contest Deadline April 22
Zion Geology April 23
Earth Day Celebration April 24
Zion Through the Lens April 30-May 1

Summer Workshops

East is Eden June 2
Edible Plants June 5
Summer Photography June 8
Zion Narrows June 12
Bat Biology & Conservation June 30
Geology in the Transition July 8
Cedar Breaks: From Lab to Field July 9
Edible & Medicinal Plants at Cedar Breaks July 10
Zion By Moonlight July 30
Insects: Biology & Exploration Aug. 21
Angels Landing Aug. 25

Fall Workshops

Photography: Eastward Ho! Sept. 8
Natural History of Desert Snakes Sept. 11
Wildlife Survey Sept. 14-16
Field Journal Journey Sept. 17
Natural History of Elk Sept. 18
Autumn Photography Sept. 22
Pa’rus Picnic & Zion History Sept. 24
Zion Narrows Sept. 25
Painting Zion In Zion Oct. 1
Natural History of Mule Deer Oct. 9
Descending the Grand Staircase: From Desert To Snow Oct. 9 or 10
Archeology Workshop Oct. 18-20
Fall Foliage Photography Oct. 21-23

Winter Workshops

Geology of Zion Nov. 5-6
Zion In Black & White Nov. 26
Winter In Zion Photo Journey Dec. 11

Exploit instructors take you into the field for hands-on learning—here mist netting bats.

Zion Canyon Field Institute

Zion Map & Guide 11
Large Vehicles

Vehicle Size
Vehicles sized 7’10” in width or 11’4” in height, or larger, are required to have an "escort" (traffic control) through the Zion-Mt. Carmel Tunnel. Vehicles this size are too large to stay in their lane while traveling through the tunnel. Nearly all RV’s, buses, trailers, 5th wheels, campers, and boats will require an escort.

Arranging An Escort
Visitors requiring an escort must pay a $10 fee per vehicle in addition to the entrance fee. Pay this fee at either park entrance before proceeding to the tunnel. The fee is good for two trips through the tunnel for the same vehicle during a 7-day period.

Prohibited Vehicles
• Vehicles over 13’1” tall. • Semi-trucks. • Commercial vehicles. • Vehicles carrying hazardous materials. • Vehicles weighing more than 50,000 lbs. • Single vehicles over 40’ long. • Combined vehicles over 50’ long. • Bicycles and pedestrians.

Shuttle Schedule

Spring & Fall
April 1-May 22
Sept. 12-Oct. 31
Zion Canyon Loop
Visitor Center departures
first bus 6:45 a.m.
15 minute service 6:45-8:30 a.m.
7-10 minute service 8:30 a.m.-8 p.m.
15 minute service 8-9 p.m.
last bus 9:30 p.m.
departure from Temple of Sinawava 10 p.m.
Zion Canyon Loop
Visitor Center departures
first bus 5:45 a.m.
30 minute service 6:30-7 a.m.
10-15 minute service 7-9 a.m.
6-10 minute service 9 a.m.-8 p.m.
15 minute service 8-9 p.m.
30 minute service 9-10 p.m.
last bus 10:30 p.m.
departure from Temple of Sinawava 11 p.m.
Springdale Loop
Express bus up-canyon leaves
May 23-Sept. 11
Zion Canyon Loop
first bus 6:30 a.m.
10 minute service 6:30-7 a.m.
6-10 minute service 7-11 a.m.
15 minute service 11 a.m.-4 p.m.
last bus 4:30 p.m.
departure from Majestic View 10 p.m.
Springdale Loop
Express bus up-canyon leaves
5:30 a.m.
20 minute service 6:40-7 a.m.
10-15 minute service 7 a.m.-10 p.m.
30 minute service 10-11 p.m.
last bus 11 p.m.
departure from Majestic View 11:15 p.m.

Summer
May 23-Sept. 11
Zion Canyon Loop
Visitor Center departures
first bus 6:30 a.m.
10-15 minute service 7-9 a.m.
9 a.m.-8 p.m.
8-9 p.m.
9-10 p.m.
last bus 10:30 p.m.
departure from Temple of Sinawava 11 p.m.
Springdale Loop
Express bus up-canyon leaves
5:30 a.m.
20 minute service 6:40-7 a.m.
10-15 minute service 7 a.m.-10 p.m.
30 minute service 10-11 p.m.
last bus 11 p.m.
departure from Majestic View 11:15 p.m.

Avoid parking hassles—ride the Springdale Shuttle and walk into the park.