Planning Your Trip

Permits
Permits are required for overnight trips in the backcountry (including climbing bivouacs), through hikes of the Virgin River and tributaries, and canyons requiring the use of descending gear or ropes (including the Subway). Permits are available the day before or the day of a trip at both visitor centers.

Reservations
Reservations are available for many backcountry trips. See page 8 or visit www.nps.gov/zion for more information.

Group Size
Large groups produce larger impacts. Group size is limited to a maximum of 6 or 12 people sharing the same affiliation (school, club, scout troop, family, friends). Larger groups may split and visit different areas. They may not visit the same drainage, route, or backcountry trail, on the same day. This is strictly enforced; violators are cited. The group size limit does not apply to trails in Zion Canyon including Emerald Pools, Angels Landing, Observation Point, and The Narrows to Orderville Canyon.

Walk-in Permits
Walk-in permits are available for all areas in Zion National Park. At least 25% of all permits are available for walk-ins. Walk-in permits are given out the day before, or the day of your trip. Arrive early if you wish to visit a popular area, such as the Subway, on a summer weekend. See page 8 or visit www.nps.gov/zion for more information.

On-line Permits
Frequent visitors can obtain permits on-line through our Zion Express Permit Program. See page 8 or visit www.nps.gov/zion for more information. Express permit members can get permits three days before their trip. For example, canyoneers wanting trips on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday can get all three permits on-line Wednesday. Avoid lines, use express permits!

Permit Fees
Backcountry fees are based on group size: $10 for 1 to 2 people, $15 for 3 to 7 people, $20 for 8 to 12 people. Fees are used to help defray the cost of issuing permits, backcountry patrol, resource monitoring, trail maintenance, and search and rescue.

Zion Canyon Shuttle
Travel in Zion Canyon from March 21 to November 2 is by shuttle bus only. The buses have room for backpacks, climbing gear, two bicycles, and other equipment. Buses run often throughout the day. You may get on and off as often as you like. The buses are free. Check the schedule, page 3.

If your hike ends at a trailhead in Zion Canyon, plan your trip so you will not miss the last shuttle of the day. Zion Canyon Shuttle leaves Zion Canyon Visitor Center starting at 6 p.m. all year.

On the other side of the park, the Zion-Mt Carmel Highway through the park is open to private vehicles all year.

Backcountry News
The Spry Canyon use limit has been raised from 12 to 20 people a day because the erosion problem has been reduced. Six designated campsites have been created in the Southwest Desert to protect cryptobiotic crust. Narrows campsite 8 has been relocated away from flash flood danger. Sites 6, 7, and 8 have been renumbered.

Permit Hours
Fall 2008 - April 25, 2009
8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Zion Canyon
8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Kolob Canyons

April 26 – May 21
7 a.m. - 6 p.m. Zion Canyon
8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Kolob Canyons

May 22 – September 7
7 a.m. - 8 p.m. Zion Canyon
8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Kolob Canyons

September 8 – October 12
7 a.m. - 6 p.m. Zion Canyon
8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Kolob Canyons

October 13 – Spring 2010
8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Zion Canyon
8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Kolob Canyons

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Leave No Trace

The Leave No Trace program promotes and inspires individual and responsible outdoor recreation through education, research, and partnerships. Leave No Trace is more than a campaign for clean camps. It's a program dedicated to building understanding, appreciation, and respect for our public recreation places. Leave No Trace is about enjoying the outdoors while traveling and camping with care.

Plan Ahead and Prepare

Do not forget to protect yourself from adverse weather conditions. Here in Zion, it is very important to protect yourself from the summer heat. Take plenty of water (one gallon per person per day) and drink it. In the event of dehydration, headaches, weakness, nausea, vomiting, and cramping. In the cooler months, be aware of mean wood or synthetic clothes and a good sleeping bag.

Dilemma

What to do with used toilet paper? Bury it? Burn it? I know—I’ll carry it out in a plastic bag! But, what if it’s a good sleeping bag.

General Information

For 24-hour emergency response, call 415-772-1322 or 911. Zion National Park Medical Clinics in Springdale, call for hours, 772-3226. The nearest hospital is at St. George, Cedar City, and Kanab.

Weather

Check weather forecasts at visitor centers or the National Weather Service web site: www.weather.gov.

Treasure Your Water

Water collected in the backcountry is not safe to drink without treatment. There are two methods. boil. Bring water to a rolling boil for one minute. Add an additional minute to each 1,000 feet above seal level. filter and disinfect. Filter through an “absolute” 1 micron filter, or one fabated as meeting ANSI/NSF International standard # 53. Then add eight drops of liquid chlorine, or four drops of sodium per gallon of water and let stand for 30 minutes.

Bicycles and Other Vehicles

Bicycles and other vehicles are not allowed off roadways. Bicycles are allowed on the Park Trail. While riding from the coast, visitors use the Park Trail instead of the motorized trail. Visitors may not ride bicycles if you want to pass, roll over and play dead. Don’t pass a moving horse. Ride on the right side of the road in single file. Wise your helmet. Hikers have rights for two bicycles.

Pests, Fire & Firearms

Pets are not allowed on backcountry trails. Even well-behaved pets may disrupt wildlife and other campers. Campers are not allowed to camp in the backcountry. Use a gas stove. Firearms are prohibited.

Transportation

You are responsible to complete your hike at a different location from your starting point. Person, shuttle and van services are available. Inquire at the backcountry desk.

November

Volunteer wildlife officers at Zion National Park only Check out their schedule. Carry enough water—ten gallons per person per day. Don’t carry your tent. Can’t be sure you’ll be able to use it. Be prepared to spend more time than you thought you’d need at the backcountry .

Shuttle Schedule

THE ZION CANYON SCENIC DRIVE IS BY SHUTTLE ONLY FROM APRIL 4 TO OCTOBER 25, 2009. Private vehicle are not allowed. Plan your trip to include using the shuttle. There is room in the shuttle and backcountry equipment. Buses are fully accessible. Pets are not allowed.

Spring & Fall

April 4 & Sept. 15–25 Zion Canyon Loop Visitor Center departures first bus 6-45 am 15 minute service 7-10 minute service 8:30 am-8 pm last bus 9-30 pm last departure from Temple of Sinawava 10 pm Springdale Loop Express bus up canyon leaves Majestic View 6-40 am Zion-Canyon Theater departures first bus 7-15 am 10-15 minute service 7:45-10 pm last bus 10 pm last departure from Majestic View 10:15 pm

Summer

May 19–Sept. 12 Zion Canyon Loop Visitor Center departures first bus 5:45 am 10-15 minute service 6-10 minute service 9 am-8 pm 10-15 minute service 9-9 pm last bus 9-30 pm last departure from Temple of Sinawava 10 pm

November

Volunteer wildlife officers at Zion National Park only Check out their schedule. Carry enough water—ten gallons per person per day. Don’t carry your tent. Can’t be sure you’ll be able to use it. Be prepared to spend more time than you thought you’d need at the backcountry.

Climbing

ZION’S 2,000 FOOT CLIFFS ARE WORLD-RENOVED FOR THEIR ROUGH WALK CLIFFS, ZION IS NOT A PLACE FOR INEXPERIENCED CLIMBERS, THERE ARE TOP ROPE ROPES, AND NO COMMUNITY. PERMITS ARE NOT REQUIRED FOR DAY TRIPS, BUT THEY ARE REQUIRED FOR ALL OVERNIGHT TRIPS.

Stock Use

HORSES USE TRADITIONALLY USED TRAILS IN THE UNINCORPORATED LANDS, stock camps are allowed for horses, cattle, horse, donkeys, mules, llamas, etc., and others are not allowed. Permits are not required for day trips. Stocks is prohibited during spring thaws, usually works with the rain, and snow or the snow can cause trail damage. Minimum group size is one animal.

Where trails are present, stock must remain on trails. Free trailing or loose herding is not allowed. Stay on a single track and follow the signs. When standing, stock must be kept at least 100 feet from drainages.

Chickens

Check the Backcountry Planning Map on pages 6 and 7 for trails to stock up use. Of trail use is permitted only in Lower Cooks Wash from the trailhead to the junction with Scovill Wash, in Scovill Wash proper, up into Cohuman Wash above the springs, and in Huber Wash. Overhead Taps

The only overnight stock camp is Hop Valley Site #1 is limited to one night. A permit is required and must be obtained from the Park Service at the Backcountry Planner and issued to the Backcountry Planner to the person. Chickens are not allowed. For all purposes, chickens are not allowed. You must also keep your chickens away from nature’s artifacts.

Horses

Horses are not allowed. Permits are not required for day trips. Stocks is prohibited during spring thaws, usually works with the rain, and snow or the snow can cause trail damage. Minimum group size is one animal.

Where trails are present, stock must remain on trails. Free trailing or loose herding is not allowed. Stay on a single track and follow the signs. When standing, stock must be kept at least 100 feet from drainages.

Chickens

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Waterscraft

All non-motorized use in the park requires a backcountry permit. Permits are available at the Zion National Park Visitor Center. If the river is in excess of 140 calf feet per second. Minimum group size is one animal.

Overhead Taps

The only overnight stock camp is Hop Valley Site #1 is limited to one night. A permit is required and must be obtained from the Park Service at the Backcountry Planner and issued to the Backcountry Planner to the person. Chickens are not allowed. For all purposes, chickens are not allowed. You must also keep your chickens away from nature’s artifacts.

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

• Wash宣传阿明人, and we’re happy to have you run ahead or lag behind.

• 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.

• Solo hiking or jogging is not recommended.

• Never approach a mountain lion. Most will try to avoid a confrontation, and a few may give it a way to escape.

• Do not stay too long. Let your pack do the talking. They are not allowed. Pets are not allowed.

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The Zion Narrows

The Virgin River has cut a spectacular gorge in the upper reaches of Zion Canyon: 14 miles long, up to 2000 feet deep, and it narrows to 20-50 feet wide. The Zion Narrows walking the shadow of its coating, walls, sandstone grottos, natural spring, and hanging gardens can be an unforgettable wilderness experience. It is not a trip to be understated. Hiking The Narrows means hiking in the Virgin River. At least 60% of the hike is spent wading, walking, and sometimes swimming in the river. There is no maintained trail; the route is the river. The current is swift, the water is cold, and the rocks underfoot are slippery. Flash flooding and flash floods are constant dangers. Good planning, good equipment, and sound judgement are essential for a safe and successful trip. Your safety is your responsibility.

Weather forecasts, flash flood potential ratings, and stream reports are available at the Zion Canyon Visitor Center or online. Conditions change from day to day so you do not miss the last shuttle.

Day Hike From the Bottom and Back This is a strenuous nine-mile round trip hike requiring extensive route finding. Visitors are encouraged to do the trip with experienced Subway hikers and/or obtain a detailed Subway map. Permits are required regardless of the direction of travel. The Subway is a day use area only.

Water Depth Water level turns in The Narrows. Under ideal conditions, when flow is under 78 cubic feet per second, most crossings are around knee-deep. Higher flows may require an area of water too wide to wade, and you may include wading in waist deep water. Boating is prohibited. From what appears to be to knee-deep, water holes are common.

Waterproofing Even the most experienced hikers fall occasionally in The Narrows. It is therefore a good idea to waterproof your belongings. Many hikers line their packs with large plastic garbage bags. Reusable bags provide extra protection for small items.

Recommended Equipment

- hiking boots with ankle support
- walking stick
- shorts while hiking
- extra dry, warm clothes
- headnet and insect repellent
- flashlight and spare batteries
- first aid kit
- plastic bags for waterproofing gear

Transportation

If you are hiking the Narrows from top to bottom, there are several transportation options:
- If you have two vehicles, you can shuttle yourself by parking one vehicle at Chamberlain’s Ranch and the other at the Zion Canyon Visitor Center.
- You may make arrangements with a local shuttle service.
- At the end of your hike at the Temple of Sinawava, you must catch the Zion Canyon shuttle. Please close the gate behind you. Drive 3½ miles further and park just past the road crossing the river. To begin your hike, cross the river and follow the road for approximately 3 miles. Enter the narrows at the end of the road past the old cabin. Chamberlain’s Ranch is a private ranch outside Zion National Park. Please respect private property.

Group Size Limit for The Narrows

Large groups produce increased impacts on the backcountry. Group size is limited to a maximum of 12 people sharing the same affiliation (school, club, scout troop, family, friends) in the same drainages, routes, or backcountry trail on the same date. This strategy, enforced, violations will be cited.

Preparation

Footwear Hiking The Narrows is like walking on slippery boulders. It requires balancing on algae-coated rocks in the middepth-of-slightless water. Sandal footwear is essential. Hiking boots with good ankle support are recommended. Sandals or bare feet are not appropriate—they result in two polishes of water per person per day.

Clothing In mid-summer, The Narrows is chilly. The water is cold, breezes blow steadily, and very little sunlight penetrates. Good clothing is needed. Take plenty of extra warm clothing. Clothing made of wool or synthetic fibers provides the best insulation.

There are two ways to hike The Subway. Both trips involve extensive route finding. Visiors are encouraged to do the trip with experienced Subway hikers and/or obtain a detailed Subway map. Permits are required regardless of the direction of travel. The Subway is a day use area only.

Hike From Bottom and Back This is a strenuous nine-mile round trip hike requiring extensive route finding, stream crossing, and scrambling through the Subway. Both trips begin and end at the Left Fork Trailhead off of the Kolob Terrace Road.

Left Fork, “The Subway”
Backcountry Planning Map

Backcountry Campsites

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On-line: Reservations and permits are available for these campsites on-line at www.nps.gov/zion.
Permits and Reservations www.nps.gov/zion

Walk-in Permits
Walk-in permits are available for all areas in Zion National Park. At least 25% of all permits are available for walk-ins. Walk-in permits are available the day before or the day of your trip. Difficult to obtain permits include the Subway, Mystery Canyon, The Narrows, and the West Rim during the spring, and all areas on holiday weekends. You’ll have greater success obtaining walk-in permits if you arrive at the Zion Canyon Backcountry Desk as soon as it opens the day before your intended trip.

Reservations Lottery
The two most difficult to obtain permits at Zion are the Subway and Mystery Canyon. An on-line lottery is used to provide a fair opportunity for all interested visitors to obtain walk-in permits if you arrive at the Zion Canyon Backcountry Desk as soon as it opens the day before your intended trip.

...continued from the previous page...

Keyhole Canyon On May 16, 2004, a 15-year-old boy took a tumbling 40-foot fall and landed in bushes, and he rappelled into the belly of the canyon. The boy was not traveling with the adult leaders. He missed a critical right hand turn, and began working his way down a steep slope. The boy took a tumbling 40 foot fall and landed in the bottom of the canyon. He suffered serious head, back, and internal injuries.

Canyoneering Safety: What is Your Plan B?

Always Have a Plan B
There is no substitute for planning ahead, taking the proper equipment, having the right skills, and using sound judgment. Having sound can make the difference between having a wonderful trip or ending up in the hospital—or worse.

Canyoneering Safety: What is Your Plan B?

1. Back-up Equipment
The ability to stay alive, rescue, or get up hanging in a rope is a survival skill that must be learned by someone who does it regularly. You cannot create a rope. Do you have extra rope? Do you have a second rope? Do you have a second rope? Do you have a second rope? Do you have a second rope? Do you have a second rope? Do you have a second rope? Do you have a second rope? Do you have a second rope? Do you have a second rope?

2. Weather Forecast/Flash Flood Potential
Check it out—when in doubt, stay out!

3. Map and Route Description
You must have them and know how to use them.

4. Anchor Equipment
Are they good or not? How long has that wedding ring hung there? Bouldering Checklist: Is there another mate for creating this anchor? Will the bolt that I am placing safely last for years? When I change that power drill, am I aware that power drills don’t work in canyons.

5. Extra Clothing
Could you survive an unexpected night out in the canyon?

6. Extra Food
Helps you keep your energy up and stay alive. Would you have enough to spend the night out?

7. Water
Drink one gallon of water per person per day

8. Flashlight/Headlamp
It may mean the difference between getting out or spending the night in the canyon.

9. Helmet
Rocks fall.

10. First Aid Kit

Light your Load
Cell phones and GPS units really work in Zion’s narrow canyons. Don’t count on them.

Touchstones, Desert Shield, Mosleyberg, and Tricks of the Trade. The number of climbers on Zion’s walls is not limited, but a reservation is necessary to obtain an online permit (see Zion Express Permits).

Other Areas Reservations and permits for canyon trips, backpacking trips, and climbing trips not listed as available for reservations are available as walk-in permits.

Zion Express Permits
Permits are available on-line to those who live in this area and want an early start. The entry permit process can be completed over the Internet. There are two requirements to obtain online permits. First, you must be a member of the Zion Express Permit Program. To become a member, simply visit the Zion Canyon Backcountry Desk once every three years. You’ll be asked to complete a short orientation and sign a program agreement. Membership for those who signed up in 2007 will be valid through 2009. And second, you must have a reservation for your permit. Reservations and on-line permits are available until 5 p.m. the day before your trip. For example, canyoneers wanting trips on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday can get all three permits on-line Wednesday. Walk-ins, use express permits!

Reservations Dates
For a trip in

April 2009
May
June
July
August
September
October
November
December
2009

2009

2009

2009

2009

2009

2009

2009

2009

2009

2009

month of your trip. Difficult to obtain permits include the Subway, Mystery Canyon, The Narrows, and the West Rim during the spring, and all areas on holiday weekends. The Narrows on weekends, the West Rim during the spring, and all areas on holiday weekends. You’ll have greater success obtaining walk-in permits if you arrive at the Zion Canyon Backcountry Desk as soon as it opens the day before your intended trip.

...continued on the next page...
Backpacking

Kolob Canyon
Season: Spring and fall are ideal seasons for hiking in LaVerkin Creek. Temperatures are typically free to ten degrees cooler than Zion Canyon. Trails are frequently snow covered in winter, and summer temperatures regularly top 100 degrees. Description: Hiking in a red-soiled valley bottom next to a flowing stream. Camping is limited to designated campsites. Suggested Itinerary: An excellent two-night backpack can be accomplished by hiking from one of several campsites near Kolob Arch (7 miles one way). The middle day can be spent day hiking to Kolob Arch, Bear Trap Canyon, or upper LaVerkin Creek.

West Rim Trail
Season: Late spring and fall are ideal times for hiking the West Rim. Temperatures are usually ten to fifteen degrees cooler than Zion Canyon. The trail is usually snow covered from December through April. Description: Hiking along a series of canyons with panoramic views. Camping is permitted in designated campsites. Water may be available at Cabin, Potato Hollow, and Emmett Springs. Check with rangers for water availability. Suggested Itinerary: A difficult, but rewarding, one-night backpack can be accomplished by hiking from the Grotto to one of the camps near Cabin Spring (4 miles, 20-foot elevation gain, one way). A more adventurous West Rim trip involves hiking from Lone Point to a camp near Potato Hollow (5 miles, 1200-foot elevation change, one way).

Other Routes
The backcountry planning map on pages 6 and 7 shows where camping is limited to designated campsites yellow zones. Narrow, West Rim, and LaVerkin, and LaVerkin; in other areas, at large camping permitted. Water and vegetation, trails are not always available in this area. Permits are required, and visitors are required to camp one mile from roads, out of sight of trails, and ¼ mile from springs.

Extended Trips
Trips up to 50 miles can be made in Zion’s backcountry by combining the LaVerkin Creek, Hop Valley, Wildcat Canyon, West Rim, and East Rim Trails. The route crosses several roads, so shorter versions are also possible. A vehicle shuttle is necessary.

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

Steep-CLiffs
Falls from cliffs on trails have resulted in death. Loose sand or rubble on some are very slippery. Be careful of edges when using cameras or binoculars. Never throw or roll rocks—there may be hikers below. Trails can be more ice covered in winter. Stay on the trail. Stay back from cliff edges. Observe posted warnings. Parents—watch your children!

Water
The desert is dry. Carry and drink water: one gallon per person per day for everyone in your group. Water is available at water centers, campgrounds, and Zion Lodge. Do not drink untreated water. Water flow at springs can vary; check for recent information at tourist centers.

Hypothermia
Hypothermia occurs when the body is cooled to dangerous levels. It is the number one killer of outdoor recreationists, and it usually happens without the victim’s awareness. It is hazardous in narrow canyons, even in summer, because immersion in cold water is the quickest way to body heat loss. To prevent hypothermia, avoid cotton clothing (it provides no insulation against water) and eat high energy food before you get chilled. Signs of hypothermia: 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. Wear the victim with your own body and a hot drink. Shovel from breeze. A pre-warmed sleeping bag will help prevent further heat loss.

Heat Exhaustion
Heat exhaustion occurs when the body loses more fluid than it takes in. Signs of heat exhaustion include nausea, vomiting, fatigue, headaches, pale appearance, stomach cramps, and clammy skin. If you or a member of your party begins to experience any of these symptoms, it is essential that you stop your hike. Find a cool, shady area. Rest with your feet up to allow flush throughout your body. It is important to drink fluids, but also important to eat. Drinking lots of fluids and not eating, while suffering from heat exhaustion, can lead to a potentially dangerous condition of low blood volume. In this situation, your body has lost more fluids than it can replace for more than two hours, seek medical help.

Heat stroke is an advanced stage of heat exhaustion. It is the body's inability to cool itself. Symptoms include confusion, disorientation, and behavior changes. Seizures may occur. A person may still be sweating. 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.

Backcountry Management

After a dry year process, Zion National Park completed a backcountry management plan in 2007. Standards were developed to measure the health of natural resources, and a social survey was completed to quantify the number of encounters people considered desirable and acceptable while experiencing wilderness. These two standards were combined with existing management zones to create overall use limits and group size limits. The use limits will be evaluated each year, and they will change as conditions warrant.

Backcountry Use Limits 2008

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Use Limit</th>
<th>Limiting Factor</th>
<th>Spaces Available</th>
<th>Group Size Limit</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Zion Narrows</td>
<td>12 groups/night</td>
<td>Social/Primitive Zone</td>
<td>6 groups/night</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LaVerkin Creek</td>
<td>17 groups/night</td>
<td>Social/Primitive Zone</td>
<td>6 groups/night</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West Rim</td>
<td>9 groups/night</td>
<td>Social/Primitive Zone</td>
<td>4 groups/night</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Southwest Desert</td>
<td>6 groups/night</td>
<td>Social/Primitive Zone</td>
<td>3 groups/night</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Subway (Left Fork)</td>
<td>80 people/day</td>
<td>Social/Primitive Zone</td>
<td>60 people/day</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pine Creek Canyon</td>
<td>50 people/day</td>
<td>Wildlife protection/Primitive Zone*</td>
<td>30 people/day</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Keyhole Canyon</td>
<td>80 people/day</td>
<td>Social/Primitive Zone</td>
<td>60 people/day</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Orderville Canyon</td>
<td>50 people/day</td>
<td>Wildlife protection/Primitive Zone*</td>
<td>30 people/day</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spire Canyon</td>
<td>20 people/day</td>
<td>Social/Primitive Zone</td>
<td>12 people/day</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mystery Canyon</td>
<td>12 people/day</td>
<td>Eroded access trail/Primitive Zone</td>
<td>6 People/day</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Buhlun Canyon</td>
<td>12 people/day</td>
<td>Wildlife protection/Primitive Zone*</td>
<td>6 People/day</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Echo Canyon</td>
<td>12 people/day</td>
<td>Wildlife protection/Primitive Zone*</td>
<td>6 People/day</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Where nesting season is a limiting factor, use limits will be raised either from 12 to 20 or from 50 to 80 people/day outside the nesting season (March 1 through August 31).

For Your Safety
Know the weather and flash flood potential forecasts before starting your trip. If bad weather threatens, do not enter a narrow canyon. Make informed decisions.

As a Last Resort
Watch for these signs of a possible flash flood:
• Any deterioration in weather conditions.
• Build up of clouds or sounds of thunder.
• Sudden change in water clarity from clear to muddy. May be accompanied by floating debris.
• Rising water levels or changes in water.
• Increasing roar of water up canyon.

If you have the misfortune to observe any of these signs:
• Seek higher ground immediately. Do not try to beat a flash flood out of a canyon.
• Remain on high ground until conditions improve. Water levels usually drop within 24 hours.
• If caught in an area with no high ground, try to seek shelter behind a jutting fin of rock that may break the initial mass of water and debris. It may be possible to wedge yourself into a crevice above water level. Even climbing a few feet may save your life.

The Best Defense
Use good judgement before you go. If in doubt, stay out.

Flash Floods

The debris on this rock marks the outward flank of the last flash flood. Hikers faced a 30-foot 24-hour climb to escape the flash floods. You judges the edgy edge and your friends at risk.

ALL NARROW CANYONS ARE POTENTIALLY DANGEROUS. FLASH FLOODS, OFTEN FROM STORMS IN MOUNTAIN AREAS, PRESENT A REAL DANGER AND CAN BE LIFE-THREATENING. BY ENTERING A NARROW CANYON YOU ARE ASSUMING A RISK. YOUR SAFETY IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY. DURING A flash flood—the water level rises from minute to minutes within seconds. Water can rush down canyon in less than a mile.
Weather & Climate

The Zion Natural History Association sells maps and guides, as well as other books, at park visitor centers. ZNHA may be contacted for phone or mail orders: Zion Natural History Association, Zion National Park, Springdale, UT 84767, (800) 635-3959 or (435) 772-3264 or for on-line orders: www.zionpark.org.

ZNHA is a non-profit membership organization which supports the scientific, educational, historical, and interpretive activities of the park. Members receive a 20% discount.

Area Guides

Hiking Zion and Bryce Canyon National Parks by Eric Molvar and Tamara Martin. An illustrated guide to the breathtaking slick-rock canyons and towering cliffs of southwest Utah. $16.95

Hiking the Southwest’s Geology, Four Corners Region by Ralph Lee Hopkins. Information on 50 hikes includes the landscape and geologic features along each trail. $16.95

Hiking the Southwest’s Canyon Country by Sandra Hinchman. Describes backpacking, day hikes, and canyon routes. $16.95

Hiking Utah A Falcon guide by David Hall. $15.95

Zion: Canyoneering by Tom Jones. Descriptions of trail hikes, off-trail hikes, and technical canyoneering routes. $19.95

Desert Rock by Eric Bjornstad. Rock climbing routes in National Parks of the Colorado Plateau. $25.00

Rock Climbing Utah A Falcon guide by Stewart M. Green. The essential guide for planning climbing trips in Utah. $26.95

How To Books

Desert Hiking Tips by Bruce Grubbs. Covers desert tips from drinking water to flash floods. $6.95

Backpacking Tips by Bill and Russ Schneider. $7.95

Leave No Trace by Will Harmon. The official Leave No Trace manual of the American Hiking Society, pocket-size. $6.95

Reading Weather by Jim Woodmency. Weather basics to help you avoid bad weather on your outdoor adventures, pocket-size. $6.95

Route Finding by Gregory Crouch. Pocket-size guide to map and compass navigation. $6.95

Emergency Survival, A Pocket Guide by Christopher Van Tilburg, M.D. Quick information for outdoor safety. $3.50

Maps

Zion Topographic Map Scale 1:37,700 39 x 53" Backcountry and hiking information, waterproof, Tear Resistant, folded. $3.95

Trails Illustrated Topo Map of Zion National Park Scale approximately 1:37,700 30 x 25" Backcountry and hiking information, waterproof, Tear Resistant, folded. $11.95

St George & Springdale, Utah Trail Map Scale 1:25,000, 27 x 39" Hiking information, waterproof, tear resistant, folded. $10.99

USGS Topographic Maps Scale 1:24,000, 7.5 minute quadrangles. Paper, rolled. $6.00 each. Kanarraville, Kolob Arch, Kolob Reservoir, Cogwell Point, Smith Mesa, Guardian Angels, Temple of Sinawava, Clear Creek, Springdale West, Springdale East, The Barrels.

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Weather & Climate

Month | J | F | M | A | M | J | J | A | S | O | N | D
---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---
Temperature (°F)
normal daily max | 52 | 57 | 63 | 73 | 83 | 93 | 100 | 97 | 91 | 78 | 63 | 53
normal daily min | 29 | 31 | 36 | 43 | 52 | 60 | 68 | 66 | 60 | 49 | 37 | 30
extreme high | 71 | 78 | 94 | 102 | 114 | 115 | 111 | 110 | 97 | 83 | 71
extreme low | -2 | 4 | 12 | 23 | 40 | 51 | 50 | 33 | 23 | 13 | 6
days above 90°F | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 8 | 21 | 30 | 28 | 18 | 3 | 0 | 0
days below 32°F | 19 | 14 | 10 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 9 | 18
Precipitation (inches)
normal | 1.6 | 1.6 | 1.7 | 1.3 | 0.7 | 0.6 | 0.8 | 1.6 | 0.8 | 1.0 | 1.2 | 1.5
maximum | 7.5 | 6.7 | 7.1 | 4.4 | 3.0 | 4.0 | 3.6 | 4.8 | 6.7 | 3.3 | 3.2 | 4.3
max 24 hour | 1.6 | 1.3 | 0.9 | 1.2 | 1.8 | 2.2 | 1.1 | 1.6 | 1.4 | 1.3 | 1.3 | 2.0
maximum snowfall | 26 | 18 | 14 | 3 | T | 0 | 0 | 0 | T | 1 | 5 | 21
days w/precipitation | 7 | 7 | 8 | 7 | 6 | 5 | 3 | 5 | 6 | 4 | 4 | 5
no. thunderstorms | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 4 | 5 | 14 | 15 | 5 | 2 | 0 | 0