

Grand Canyon

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior
Grand Canyon National Park
Arizona



The Guide

North Rim: 2010 Season

Also available in Deutsch, Español, Français,
Italiano, 日本語, 中文, 한국어



View south from Cape Royal. NPS photograph by Michael Quinn

North Rim maps on pages 8–9



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**Use Caution
Near the
Edge!**

**Footing can be
dangerous.**

Welcome to the North Rim

Sitting atop the Kaibab Plateau 8,000 to 9,000 feet (2,400–2,750 m) above sea level with lush green meadows surrounded by a mixed conifer forest sprinkled with white-barked aspen, the North Rim is an oasis in the desert. Here you may observe deer feeding or a coyote chasing mice in the meadows, a mother turkey leading her young across the road, or a mountain lion slinking off into the cover of the forest.

Visitors in the spring may see remnants of winter in disappearing snowdrifts or temporary mountain lakes of melted snow. The summer with colorful wildflowers and intense thunderstorms comes and goes all too quickly, only to give way to the colors of fall. With the yellows and oranges of quaking aspen and the reds of Rocky Mountain maple, the forest seems to glow. Crispness in the air warns of winter snowstorms soon to come.

Although only ten miles as the raven flies from the South Rim, the North Rim offers a very different visitor experience. Solitude, awe-inspiring views, a slower pace, and the feeling of going back in time are only a few of the many attributes the North Rim has to offer. Discover the uniqueness of the North Rim.



What Time Is It?

Most of Arizona, including Grand Canyon National Park, remains on **Mountain Standard Time** year-round. Arizona is on the same time as California and Nevada and one hour behind Colorado, New Mexico, and Utah.



The Visitor Center . . .

is a great place to start your adventure on the North Rim. Bring this newspaper with you and speak with a ranger who will be happy to help with questions you may have. The visitor center features interpretive exhibits and a bookstore.

The Grand Canyon Association, a non-profit park partner since 1932, operates the bookstore, where your tax-free purchases help support ranger programs and research projects in Grand Canyon National Park. Ask

about the benefits of becoming a Grand Canyon Association member. To learn more about classes, programs, books and products, inquire at the bookstore, call (800) 858-2808 or visit www.grandcanyon.org.

To reach the visitor center, park in the designated parking area (map on pages 8–9) and walk to the south end of the parking lot. The North Rim Visitor Center is open daily 8:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Drive with care

- Observe posted speed limits.
- Maximum speed limit is 45 mph.
- Watch for pedestrians and wildlife.
- Increase caution at night and during wet conditions.

Emergency: 911

24 hours-a-day dial

















911 from any phone

9-911 from hotel phones


The National Park Service cares for special places saved by the American people so that all may experience our heritage.

North Rim Ranger Programs

The National Park Service encourages you to participate in these free programs during your visit. Rangers recommend wearing a hat and sunglasses and bringing water to all daytime programs due to the high elevation and arid conditions. Please check times and frequencies carefully to ensure that you participate in the programs that interest you. All times are Mountain Standard Time. We hope that learning more about Grand Canyon National Park and its resources will lead to a greater appreciation of your national park.

Activity	Location	Dates given	Time	Duration	Frequency
Nature Walk  <p>Learn about the natural processes that sustain ponderosa pine and aspen forests. Start your morning with a relaxed 1.5-mile / 2.4 km walk with some elevation gain and loss.</p>	North Rim Visitor Center	May 29– October 15	8:00 a.m.	60 minutes	Daily
Flashback - A Glimpse of History   <p>Step back in time with a ranger as he or she introduces you to a remnant of North Rim history.</p>	Grand Canyon Lodge Sun Room	Check at the visitor center	10:30 a.m.	15–20 minutes	Check at the visitor center
Way Cool Canyon    <p>A ranger presents activities, games, and stories that hone your senses and open your eyes to the environment of the North Rim. Check out a Discovery Pack after the program so the whole family can explore on their own.</p>	North Rim Campground amphitheater	June 12 – August 29	1:00 p.m.	45 minutes	Daily
Into the Past   <p>How did the people at Grand Canyon survive hundreds and even thousands of years ago? Discover the powerful ties between people and place. Ask a ranger about a nearby excavated ancestral Puebloan site.</p>	Walhalla Overlook parking lot (45 minutes from the visitor center)	Check at the visitor center	1:00 p.m.	30–40 minutes	Check at the visitor center
What's Rockin'? – Grand Canyon Geology   <p>Why is Grand Canyon here and not in your backyard? Enjoy a ½-hour talk with a ranger and then test your new skills with a short, optional stroll to Bright Angel Point. Bright Angel Point is not easily accessible to visitors in wheelchairs.</p>	Grand Canyon Lodge fireplace on back porch	May 15 – October 15	3:00 p.m.	30–40 minutes	Daily
Condor Talk    <p>What has a 9-foot / 2.7 m wingspan and a face only a mother could love? The California condor. Come discover the life and death story, and the science that saved this incredible bird.</p>	Grand Canyon Lodge fireplace on back porch	May 15 – October 15	5:00 p.m.	30–40 minutes	Daily
Campfire Program    <p>Programs cover some aspect of the Grand Canyon story. Topics are posted in the campground, lodge, and visitor center.</p>	North Rim Campground amphitheater	May 28 – September 25	7:00 p.m.	35–45 minutes	Daily
Evening Program <p>A variety of programs explore the scenic, scientific, and cultural aspects of this special landscape. Nightly topics are posted in the lodge, visitor center, and campground. Arrive 15 minutes early for an “Ask the Ranger” discussion.</p>	Grand Canyon Lodge auditorium	May 15 – October 15	8:00 p.m.	35–45 minutes	Daily
Additional Programs <p>As time and staffing permits, additional programs may be presented including talks on local history or culture, nature, geology, photography, or an evening stroll.</p>		May 15 – October 15	Check at the visitor center for dates and times of special programs		

Children must be accompanied by an adult on all programs.

 These family-oriented programs are ideal for meeting the ranger program requirement for the Grand Canyon's Junior Ranger award. Any ranger program, however, will meet the requirement on page 2 of the Junior Ranger Activity Booklet.

 All outdoor programs may be canceled during rain, snow, or lightning storms.

 These programs are wheelchair accessible with assistance. Wheelchairs may be checked out at the visitor center free of charge.

Special Programs



North Rim Star Party: June 6–12

Explore the night sky with Phoenix Saguaro Astronomy Club volunteers. Enjoy a slide presentation and then view the night sky through their telescopes. Dress warmly. Check the visitor center or program flyers for slide show presentation times. Telescope viewing continues into the night. Please observe the “low light” restrictions for better viewing of the night sky. Watch for special daytime viewings of the sun through a filtered telescope.

Artist-in-Residence Program

The wonder and majesty of the national parks have been preserved and celebrated in many ways—through photography, music, painting, sculpture, performance, and the written word. Artists frame our heritage for those who visit now, those who will come in the future, and those who will know the park only through this artistic legacy.



This mutually beneficial relationship continues, with all genres of artists participating in the Artist-in-Residence Program. Grand Canyon hosts a seasonal program on the North Rim and a year-round program on the South Rim. Artists participating on the North Rim this year:

Fiber artist Terry Kramzar, May 20–June 9
Scientific illustrator Dr. Patricia Latas, July 11–August 1
Pastel artist Paul Murray, August 14–September 4
Weaver Lyn Hart, September 4–24
Painter Karen Ahlgren, September 25–October 16

The artists present free public programs during their residencies. Ask at the visitor center for program dates and times. For more information on the Artist-in-Residence program visit www.nps.gov/grca/supportyourpark/air.htm.

Interagency Annual Pass

If you are a frequent visitor to National Park Service or other federal agency sites that charge entrance fees, you may be interested in the *America the Beautiful - National Parks and Federal Recreation Lands Pass*. The \$80.00 pass is valid for one year from the time of first use. Five federal agencies—National Park Service, Bureau of Land Management, Bureau of Reclamation, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and U.S. Forest Service—participate in the pass.

The program also offers a lifetime senior pass (\$10.00) for U.S. citizens 62 or over and a free access pass for citizens with permanent disabilities. Those who already have a Golden Age or Golden Access pass do not need to obtain the new passes.

The interagency pass may be purchased at park entrance stations, Grand Canyon Association bookstores, or online at www.recreation.gov. Your Grand Canyon entrance fee may be applied toward the purchase of the pass.



Special Events

Please inquire at the visitor center for a complete list of event activities, as well as the times and locations.

Western Arts Day: July 10

Western Arts Day celebrates the western culture which helps define what Grand Canyon, northern Arizona, and southern Utah are today, focusing on music and poetry. Programmed activities take place in various locations throughout the North Rim developed area.

Native American Heritage Days: August 12–13

The seventeenth annual Native American Heritage Days will honor Grand Canyon's original inhabitants and others who have contributed to its colorful history on Thursday and Friday, August 12 and 13.

Heritage Days began in 1994 with individuals from the Kaibab Band of the Paiutes, the last native group to occupy, on a seasonal basis, the North Rim area. The event has grown over the years to include a variety of presenters from local tribes.



Symphony of the Canyon: August 14



Symphony of the canyon presents a musical interpretation of Grand Canyon. This fifteen-year tradition brings southern Utah and northern Arizona musicians from pre-teen to more than 70 years old together sharing their talents. For information regarding this event, contact Forever Resorts at the Grand Canyon Lodge (928) 638-2611.

Would you like to be a Junior Ranger?

Grand Canyon National Park offers a Junior Ranger program for children ages 4 and up. To take part in the program, pick up a *Junior Ranger* booklet at the North Rim Visitor Center and complete the activities listed for the appropriate age level.

Once completed (don't forget that attendance at one or more ranger programs is mandatory) bring the booklet back to the visitor center to receive an official *Junior Ranger* certificate and badge.



Enjoying the North Rim

Personalize Your Grand Canyon Experience

There are many ways to experience Grand Canyon. Individual interests, available time, and the weather can influence a visit. These activities may assist you in personalizing your Grand Canyon experience. Refer to the maps on pages 8–9 to locate the places mentioned below.

Activity	Comments
Drop by the visitor center	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Open 8:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. • Talk with a ranger • Enjoy the interpretive exhibits
Attend free ranger programs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Walks and programs are listed on page 2 • Junior Ranger Program available for children
Take a drive to:	
- Point Imperial 11 miles/18 km one-way 20 minute drive one-way	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Highest point on either rim (8803 feet/2742 m) • Spectacular views of Mt. Hayden and Marble Canyon • View a landscape changed by fire
- Cape Royal 23 miles/37 km from the visitor center; 45 minute drive one-way	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Walk the nature trail to view the Colorado River • Visit Angels Window Overlook • Stop at scenic overlooks along the way • View ancestral Pueblo ruins at Walhalla Overlook
Go on a hike	Ask at the visitor center for information on trails and safety.
- Walk to Bright Angel Point ½ mile/0.8 km round trip	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See and hear Roaring Springs • Excellent views of the South Rim, side canyons, and the distant San Francisco Peaks
- Walk the rim trails	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Widforss, Transept, and others. See pages 8–9 for details.
- Day hike into Grand Canyon	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Even a short hike down the North Kaibab Trail will help you experience the enormity of the canyon. • It takes twice as long to hike up as it does to hike down. • Do not attempt to hike to the river and back (28 mi./45 km) in one day!
- Backpack in the canyon	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Permit and fees required; see page 10 for details.
Ride a bicycle	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Permitted on paved and dirt roads unless posted • Prohibited on all trails, except the Bridle Trail • Roads can be congested. Bicycle safely. Wear a helmet. Ride single file. • Rentals available at Forever Resorts' Outfitter Station



Pets

Pets, except signal and guide dogs, are not allowed on trails other than the Bridle Trail that connects the Grand Canyon Lodge with the North Kaibab Trail. Pets must be on a leash. A kennel is not available on the North Rim. Pets are not permitted in Grand Canyon Lodge or in lodging accommodations.

Brighty of the Grand Canyon



In 1953 Marguerite Henry wrote *Brighty of the Grand Canyon*. Ever since, children and adults have been fascinated by the small burro who played a role in Grand Canyon history. Who was Brighty? How much of this tale is true?

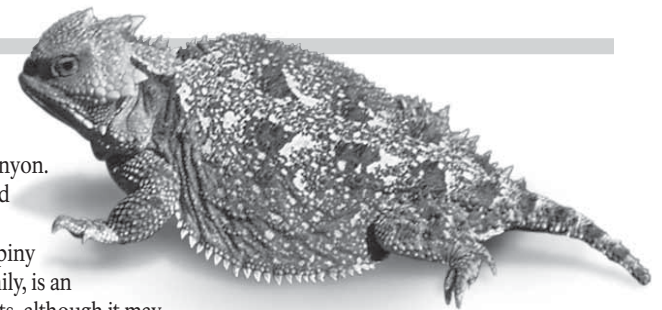
There was a real Brighty. He lived at Grand Canyon from around 1892 until 1922. He was given the name “Bright Angel” after the creek that flowed into the canyon from his home on the North Rim, but everyone called him Brighty. He spent his summers carrying water from a spring to early tourist accommodations on the North Rim. He was tolerant of children, who would ride on his back for hours. Most of the events and people in Marguerite Henry’s book

were based on fact: Brighty was the first to cross the new bridge at the bottom of the canyon, and he did meet Teddy Roosevelt.

In spite of his friendliness toward people and his willingness to act as a beast of burden, he was essentially a wild creature who roamed the canyon at will. It is this spirit of independence, more than anything, that has captured the hearts of readers for years. Today a life-sized bronze statue of Brighty (the work of sculptor Peter Jepson) sits in Grand Canyon Lodge on the North Rim, where he is admired and remembered by children and adults alike. Legend has it that a rub on the nose brings good luck.

Critter Notes

Keep your eyes open for some interesting sights here at Grand Canyon. Creatures such as this horned lizard are among the surprises you may encounter during your visit. This spiny critter, a member of the iguana family, is an insectivore that feeds mainly on ants, although it may occasionally eat baby snakes.



Remember to be respectful to all plants and animals.

Enjoying the North Rim

Sunrise and Sunset

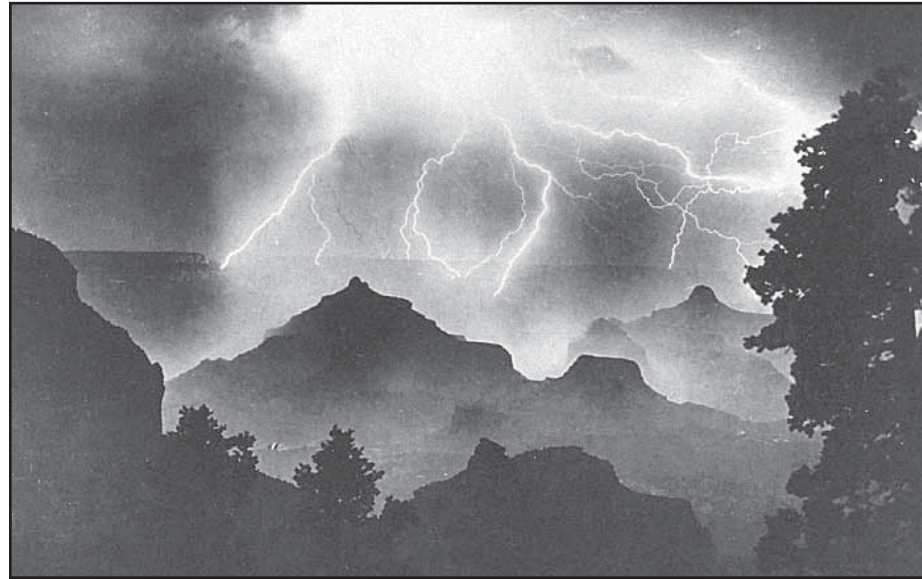
Date	Sunrise	Sunset
May 16	5:22 a.m.	7:28 p.m.
May 23	5:17 a.m.	7:34 p.m.
May 30	5:14 a.m.	7:39 p.m.
June 6	5:12 a.m.	7:43 p.m.
June 13	5:11 a.m.	7:46 p.m.
June 20	5:12 a.m.	7:49 p.m.
June 27	5:14 a.m.	7:49 p.m.
July 4	5:17 a.m.	7:49 p.m.
July 11	5:21 a.m.	7:47 p.m.
July 18	5:25 a.m.	7:44 p.m.
July 25	5:30 a.m.	7:39 p.m.
August 1	5:36 a.m.	7:33 p.m.
August 8	5:41 a.m.	7:26 p.m.
August 15	5:47 a.m.	7:18 p.m.
August 22	5:53 a.m.	7:10 p.m.
August 29	5:58 a.m.	7:00 p.m.
September 5	6:03 a.m.	6:50 p.m.
September 12	6:09 a.m.	6:40 p.m.
September 19	6:14 a.m.	6:30 p.m.
September 26	6:20 a.m.	6:19 p.m.
October 3	6:25 a.m.	6:09 p.m.
October 10	6:31 a.m.	5:59 p.m.
October 17	6:37 a.m.	5:50 p.m.
October 24	6:44 a.m.	5:41 p.m.

Full Moon

Date	Moon rise
May 27	7:50 p.m.
June 25	7:31 p.m.
July 25	7:28 p.m.
August 24	6:56 p.m.
September 22	5:51 p.m.
October 22	5:18 p.m.

All times are Mountain Standard Time

Avoid Shocking Experiences



Kolb Brothers photograph

Lightning strikes on the North Rim of Grand Canyon are a common occurrence and extremely dangerous. Stay away from exposed rim areas during thunderstorms. Hair standing on end is a warning. It is a signal that an electrical charge is building near you and that lightning may strike. Move away from the rim immediately!

The safest place to be during a storm is inside a vehicle with the windows closed or in a building. Avoid touching anything metal. For further information, *Lightning Awareness* brochures are available at the visitor center.

Let Wildlife Be Wild

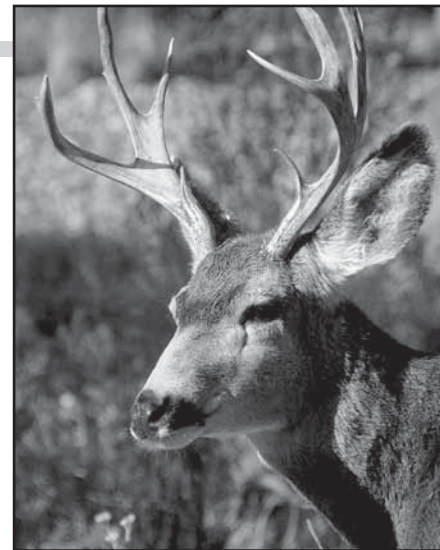
The North Rim is well known for its wildlife. Deer, turkeys, coyotes, and Kaibab squirrels can frequently be seen in the lush meadows and forests. For your own safety and the well-being of the animals, when viewing wildlife:

Keep your distance. Deer and bison can be aggressive. Discourage animals from approaching you. Scare them away. Yell or stamp your feet.

Never feed them. Natural foods should be abundant this year. These foods are still the best. Once a wild animal is fed human food, it may become addicted. Animals will often ingest wrappers and plastic bags along with the food, eventually leading to their death.

Protect yourself, family, and pets. Squirrels and other rodents may get into your belongings or enter your vehicle, room, or tent. Keep doors closed. Serious bites from squirrels happen all too often. Fleas on squirrels may carry bubonic plague.

Enjoy wildlife from a distance.



Monsoon . . . in Arizona?

Vibrant thunderstorms and accompanying heavy rains often surprise visitors coming to Grand Canyon National Park in the summer. During these events, some may think "I thought the desert was supposed to be dry. Is this rain unusual?"

Much to the surprise of our visitors, summer rains are not unusual. They are very much a vital contributor to the ecosystem. Flora and fauna rely on these rains to sustain life and have adapted to taking advantage of the moisture that becomes available.

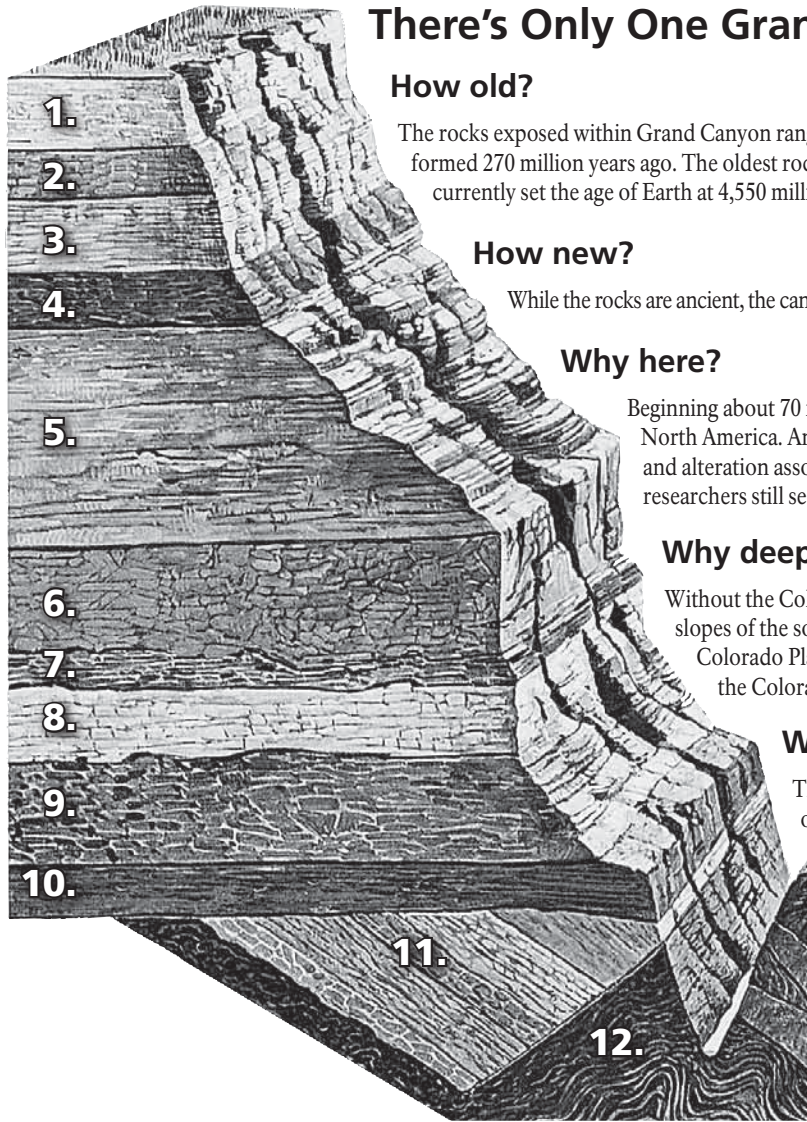
The thunderstorms that sweep across Grand Canyon during the summer are part of the monsoon season, a term commonly used in Arizona. Monsoon comes from the Arabic word *mausim* which means "season." It refers to the large-scale seasonal changes in wind that often bring rains to southern and southeast Asia.

The interaction of a high pressure system over southeastern Colorado and the Texas Panhandle interacting with a low pressure system over southern California causes the Arizona monsoon. This interplay of atmospheric conditions draws moist, tropical air from the Gulf of Mexico and Gulf of California over Arizona and New Mexico resulting in frequent, sometimes violent, thunderstorms with heavy rains.

The monsoon in the Southwest begins in July and can continue into early September. While you are visiting, if it starts to rain, do not be discouraged. Rain in the desert is something special, something to celebrate. If you are thinking, "The day we visit Grand Canyon is the one day it decides to rain," do not feel dismayed. Kick off your shoes and join in the celebration. When lightning is present, celebrate safely indoors. Usually the storms pass quickly leaving the forest renewed and the air refreshed.

Park Science

There's Only One Grand Canyon: Basic Answers to Your Geologic Questions



How old?

The rocks exposed within Grand Canyon range from the fairly young to the fairly old (geologically speaking). Kaibab limestone, the caprock on the rims of the canyon, formed 270 million years ago. The oldest rocks within the Inner Gorge at the bottom of Grand Canyon date to 1,840 million years ago. For comparison geologists currently set the age of Earth at 4,550 million years.

How new?

While the rocks are ancient, the canyon is young. Geologists generally agree that canyon carving occurred over the last 5–6 million years—a geologic blink of the eye.

Why here?

Beginning about 70 million years ago, heat and pressure generated by two colliding tectonic plates induced mountain building in western North America. An area known as the Colorado Plateau was raised more than 10,000 feet (3,000 m), but was spared most of the deformation and alteration associated with the uplifting of strata. This high plateau, so critical to Grand Canyon's story, is a geological puzzle that researchers still seek to understand.

Why deep?

Without the Colorado River, a perennial river in a desert environment, Grand Canyon would not exist. Water draining off the western slopes of the southern Rocky Mountains carried sand and gravel, cutting down through the layers of rock. Without the uplift of the Colorado Plateau, there would not have been the thousands of feet of topography to sculpt. From Point Imperial on the North Rim to the Colorado River is a change of 6,000 feet (1,800 m), yet the river still flows 2800 feet (850 m) above sea level.

Why wide?

The width results from the rock layers collapsing around the river and its tributaries combined with the “headward erosion” of these side streams. Softer, weaker layers erode faster, undermining the harder, stronger layers above them. Without adequate support, the cliffs collapse. The relentless river carries this eroded material to the Gulf of California. Much of what is now southeastern California and southwestern Arizona is covered with material eroded from Grand Canyon.

Over its 277 river miles (446 km), the jagged Grand Canyon varies in width. Along the South Rim, it ranges between 8 and 16 miles (13–26 km) depending upon where you choose to measure.

Why Grand?

Often described as Earth's greatest geological showcase, the ensemble of stunning dimensions—the melding of depth, width, and length—sets Grand Canyon apart. Nowhere else features such a dazzling variety of colorful rock layers, impressive buttes, and shadowed side canyons. Grand Canyon is the canyon against which all other canyons are compared.

Illustration:

1. Kaibab Formation	270 million years
2. Toroweap Formation	273 million years
3. Coconino Sandstone	275 million years
4. Hermit Formation	280 million years
5. Supai Group	315–285 million years
6. Redwall Limestone	340 million years
7. Temple Butte Formation	385 million years
8. Muav Limestone	505 million years
9. Bright Angel Shale	515 million years
10. Tapeats Sandstone	525 million years
11. Grand Canyon Supergroup	1,200–740 million years
12. Vishnu basement rocks	1,840–1,680 million years

Want to know more?

The geologic story is rich in detail and mystery. Attending a free ranger program may move you from wonder to comprehension. Programs are described on page 2.

Grand Canyon Association bookstores offer many geology related titles. To learn more about geology at Grand Canyon, take a look at:

- *Yardstick of Geologic Time*, Allyson Mathis
- *Introduction to Grand Canyon Geology*, Greer Price
- *Carving Grand Canyon*, Wayne Ranney
- *Ancient Landscapes*, Ron Blakey and Wayne Ranney

Park Science

Fire Management and Forest Renewal



You could not help but notice the charred tree trunks and recovering forest as you drove from Jacob Lake to the North Rim. It can be hard to accept that fire is an integral part of the park's forested ecosystems. Plants and animals here have evolved with fire for thousands of years and depend upon fire to create the conditions they need to flourish. Fire management demands a careful balance between suppressing unwanted, often human-caused, fires and allowing for the positive attributes of fire under favorable conditions.

Many factors—weather, topography and vegetation types—influence fire behavior and the effects that fires have on park resources. In prolonged hot, dry and windy conditions, wildland fires pose a threat to park resources and can cause significant damage. Aggressive suppression actions are taken on such fires.

Fire is used as a tool for ecosystem restoration when conditions are right. Lightning ignited fires may be allowed to burn when conditions benefit the ecosystem. Suppression actions are taken if fire behavior contradicts resource goals. Prescribed fires are planned ignitions, implemented under scientifically determined

conditions, with specific objectives in mind, such as to protect developed areas.

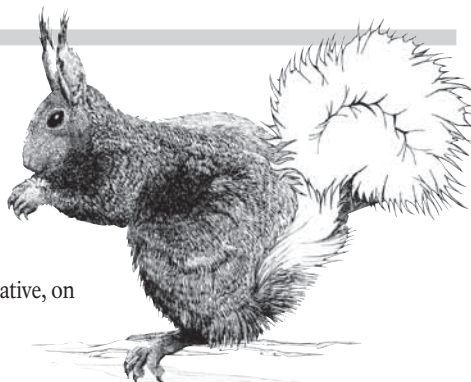
During the last few years, the National Park Service completed important fuel reduction projects designed to improve defensible space and reduce the potential impacts of wildland fire near structures, campgrounds, and other values at risk. Defensible space is the area between a structure and the surrounding forest where vegetation has been modified to reduce a fire's threat. Properly modified and maintained vegetation can slow a fire, shorten flame lengths, reduce the amount of generated heat, and increase the odds of saving a structure.

The National Park Service has a mandate to preserve resources such as plants and animals, along with the natural processes that sustain them—including fire. Fire management policies have evolved with our understanding of fire's vital role in nature. Fire is a powerful natural force. Its destructive potential is evident, but fire's positive attributes must also be recognized. As a land manager, how would you find a balance between suppressing fires and allowing the natural process of fire to continue?

Critter Notes

Keep your eyes open for the “Silver Ghost of the North Rim,” also known as the Kaibab squirrel. The Kaibab squirrel lives only on the North Rim and nowhere else in the world, because the Kaibab Plateau offers an island of forest surrounded by desert. You can spot the Abert squirrel, a close relative, on the South Rim.

Illustration by Ranger Mark McCutcheon



On The Wings of a Condor



Is that a bird or an airplane? If you find yourself asking this question, it is very possible you are seeing the results of the hopeful, and so far promising, comeback story of the California condor. With their large wings, bald head and a face only a mother could love, seeing a condor riding a thermal over the canyon is a spectacular view from the past.

Fossil evidence shows that condors have nested in the Grand Canyon area for approximately 50,000 years. During the Pleistocene, when the canyon had a cooler and wetter climate, the California condor scavenged carcasses of sloth, mammoth, and horse. A once flourishing bird, the California condor was almost gone by the 1980s when there were less than two dozen left in the world. There are many reasons for their decline, most involving human impacts. With this in mind, scientists have been working to re-establish their presence in central California and northern Arizona.

One confirmation of a successful reintroduction program is reproduction in the wild. Ask a ranger about this year's nesting pairs.

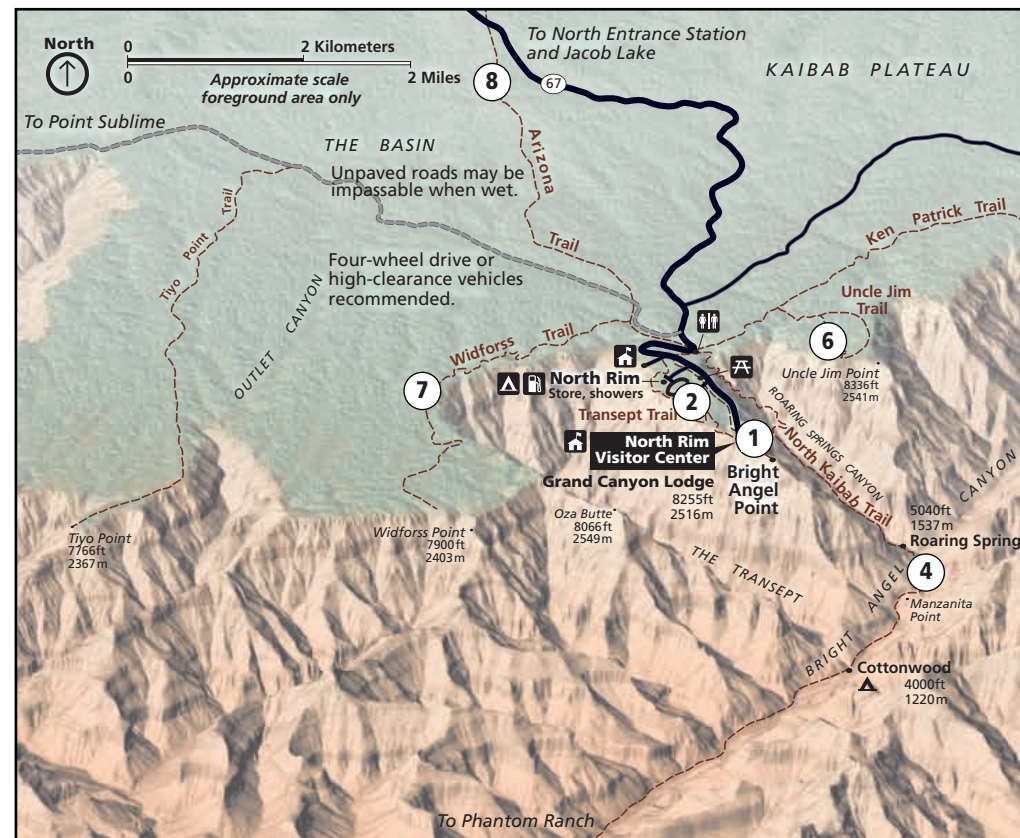
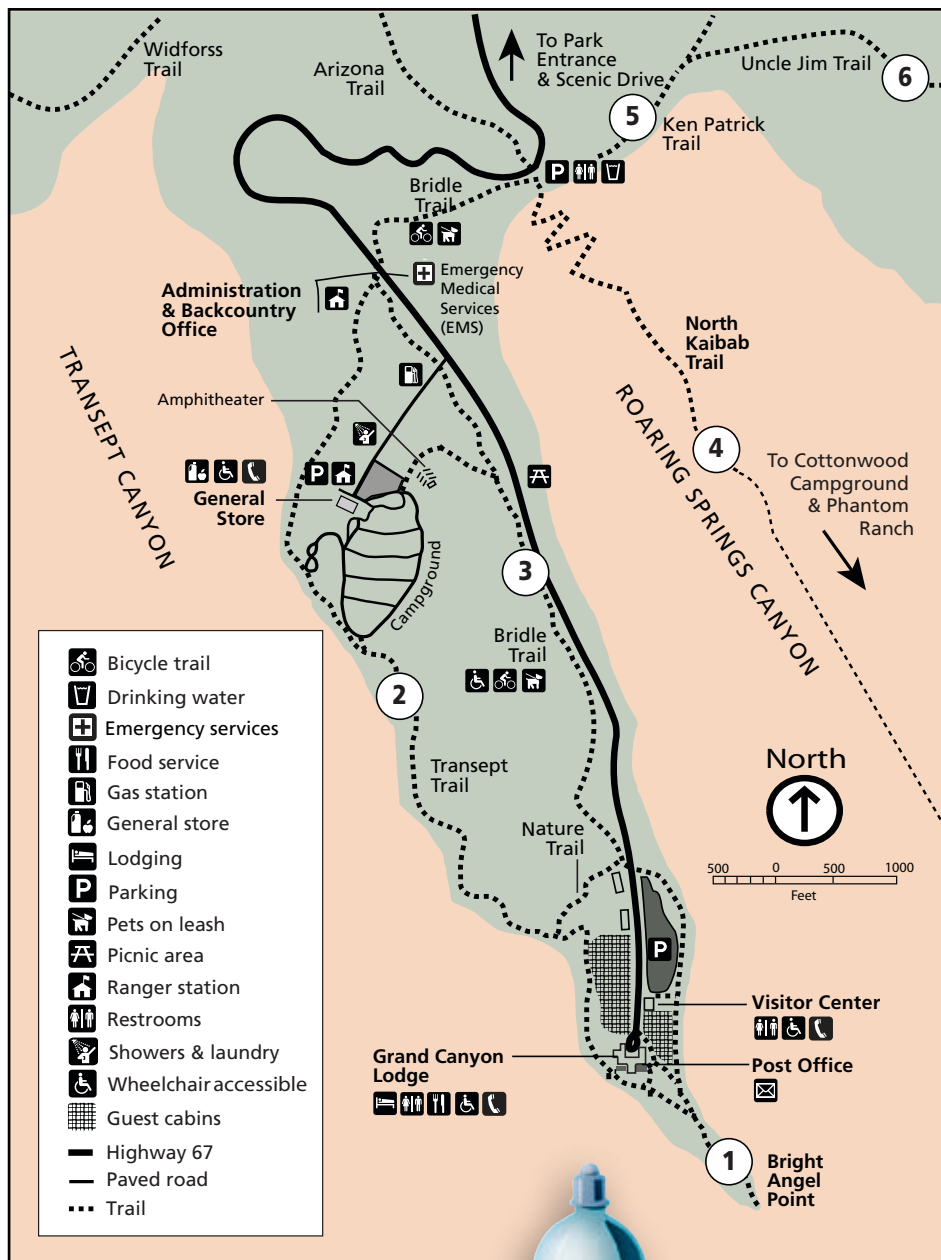
California condors, being curious, are attracted to human activity. If you see a condor, do not approach it or offer it food. Try to read the number on the wing band and report it to a ranger.

Want to know more?

For more information on California condors, attend the Condor Talk ranger program described on page 2 or for recent field reports go to www.peregrinefund.org. Grand Canyon Association bookstores feature several condor titles, including:

- *Condor: To the Brink and Back* John Nielsen
- *California Condors* (children's book) Patricia A. Fink Martin
- *Condor, Spirit of the Canyon* (children's book) Robert Mesta
- *Condors in Canyon Country* Sophie Osborne

North Rim Roads and Trails



Trail Guide

Day hiking in Grand Canyon is one way to experience some of the canyon's rich natural beauty and immense size. No permits or fees are required for day hikes. When hiking into the canyon, plan 1/3 of your time to walk down and 2/3 to trudge back. Assuming that you are physically fit and have adequate food and water (at least 3 quarts/liters per person), the following day hikes are considered reasonable for most people during the summer months. The numbers following correlate with the maps above.

Always check the status of trails before traveling to the trailhead.

1. Bright Angel Point Trail

0.5 mi./0.8 km round-trip; 30 minutes approximate round-trip hiking time. A short walk on a paved trail leads to a spectacular view of the canyon. The trail begins at the log shelter in the parking area by the visitor center or at the corner of the back porch behind the lodge. Obtain self-guiding nature trail pamphlets from a box along the trail.

2. Transept Trail

3.0 mi./4.8 km round-trip; 1.5 hours approximate round-trip hiking time. Trail follows the canyon rim from Grand Canyon Lodge to the North Rim Campground.

3. Bridle Trail

This trail follows the road as it connects the Grand Canyon Lodge with the North Kaibab Trailhead, a distance of 1.2 miles/2 km one-way. Pets on leash and bicycles are permitted on this hard-packed trail. Portions are accessible.

4. North Kaibab Trail

Distance and hiking times vary. This is the only maintained trail into the canyon from the North Rim. Even a short hike to Coconino Overlook (1.5 miles/2.4 km round-trip) or Supai Tunnel (4 miles/6.5 km round-trip) can give you an appreciation for the canyon's rich natural beauty and immense size. A hike to Roaring Springs and back is extremely strenuous and takes a full day (7–8 hours)—begin your hike before 7:00 a.m. Roaring Springs lies 3,050 feet/930 m



below the canyon rim and is 9.4 miles / 15 km round-trip. A day hike beyond Roaring Springs is not recommended. Many years of experience have shown that hikers who proceed beyond Roaring Springs during the hottest parts of the day have a much greater probability of suffering from heat-related illness, injury, or death. **Under no circumstances should you attempt to hike from the rim to the river and back in one day!** Round trip to the Colorado River is 28 miles / 45 km and the trail descends almost 6,000 ft. / 1,800 m.

The opening of the North Kaibab Trail may be delayed due to severe winter damage. More information on the North Kaibab Trail is displayed on page 11. This trail is also used by mules.

5. Ken Patrick Trail

10 mi. / 16 km one-way; 6 hours approximate one-way hiking time. Trail winds through the forest and along the rim from Point Imperial to the North Kaibab Trail parking area.

6. Uncle Jim Trail

5.0 mi. / 8.0 km round-trip; 3 hours approximate round-trip hiking time. Winds through the forest to a point overlooking the canyon and the North Kaibab Trail switchbacks. Begins at the North Kaibab Trail parking lot. This trail is also used by mules.

7. Widforss Trail

10 mi. / 16 km round-trip; 6 hours approximate round-trip hiking time. Blends forest and canyon scenery. Even a short walk can be very satisfying. Take the dirt road 1/4 mile / 0.4 km south of Cape Royal Road for 1 mile / 1.6 km to the Widforss Trail parking area. Self-guiding trail brochure available at trailhead.

8. Arizona Trail

The Arizona Trail is an ambitious project traversing Arizona from the Utah border to Mexico. A section of this trail enters the park near the North Entrance and roughly parallels the highway until it connects with the North Kaibab Trail, a distance of approximately 10 miles / 16 km.



9. Cape Royal Trail

0.6 mi. / 1.0 km round-trip; 30 minutes approximate round-trip hiking time. An easy walk on a flat, paved trail providing views of the canyon, Angels Window, and the Colorado River. Markers along the trail interpret the area's natural history. Trail begins at the southeast side of the Cape Royal parking area.

10. Cliff Springs Trail

1.0 mi. / 1.6 km round-trip; 1 hour approximate round-trip hiking time. Path meanders down a forested ravine and ends where a chest-high boulder rests under a large overhang. The spring is on the cliff side of the boulder. Please do not drink the water as it may be contaminated. Trail begins directly across the road from a small pullout on a curve 0.3 miles / 0.5 km from Cape Royal.

11. Cape Final Trail

4.0 mi. / 6.4 km round-trip; 2 hours approximate round-trip hiking time. A forested walk from the dirt parking area to Cape Final. This trail offers a view of the canyon.

12. Roosevelt Point Trail

0.2 mi. / 0.3 km round-trip; 20 minutes approximate round-trip hiking time. This trail is a short, secluded woodland loop with spectacular views. Offers benches for relaxed enjoyment of the canyon.

13. Point Imperial Trail

4.0 mi. / 6.4 km round-trip; 2 hours approximate round-trip hiking time. This easy trail passes through areas burned by the 2000 Outlet Fire and ends at the north park boundary. Connections are possible from there to the Nankoweap Trail and U.S. Forest Service roads.

Day and Overnight Hiking

Before You Go . . .

Plan Ahead

As a day hiker no permits are required. You are entirely on your own. Your descent into the canyon, however brief, marks your entry into a world in which preparation, self-reliance, and common sense are crucial.

Temperatures Soar

There is a 20–30°F (11–16°C) difference in temperature between the cool, forested rim and the inner canyon. Canyon temperatures can soar to more than 110° F (43° C) in the shade, and you will not be walking in the shade.

Double Your Calories, Double Your Fun

Salty snacks and water or sports drinks should be consumed on any hike lasting longer than 30 minutes. Food is your body's primary source of fuel and salts (electrolytes) while hiking in the canyon.

If you do not balance your food intake with your fluid consumption, you run the risk of becoming dangerously debilitated and severely ill. For every hour hiking in the canyon, you should drink ½ to 1 quart (liter) of water or sports drinks.

Your best defense against illness and exhaustion is to eat a large breakfast, a full lunch, a snack every time you take a drink, and a rewarding full dinner at the end of the day. This is not a time to diet.

Watch Your Time

Plan on taking twice as long to hike up as it took to hike down. Allow 1/3 of your time to descend and 2/3 of your time to ascend.

Mules and Hikers

Encounters between hikers and mules have resulted in injuries to packers and the death of some mules. To ensure safety for yourself, other trail users, and mule riders, when encountering mules on the trails:

- Step off the trail on the uphill side away from the edge.
- Follow the directions of the wrangler. Remain quiet and stand perfectly still.
- Do not return to the trail until the last mule is 50 feet (15 m) past your position.

Hiking Tips

- 1. Be Prepared:** Know your route. Know the weather forecast. The weather can change quickly and dramatically. Carry a map, flashlight, and extra clothing including wind and rain protection.
- 2. Be cool:** Hike during the cooler early morning and late afternoon hours. If you hike in the sun, keep your shirt and hat wet to stay cool.
- 3. Go Slowly:** If you can carry on a conversation, you are hiking at the right pace. If you find yourself out of breath, your legs and digestive system are not getting enough oxygen. Lack of oxygen can cause fatigue, heavy legs, and exhaustion.
- 4. Rest Often:** Sit down, prop your legs up, and take a 10-minute break at least once every hour.
- 5. Eat and Drink Frequently:** Balance your food and water intake. Salty snacks help replace electrolytes lost through perspiration. No matter what the temperature, you need water and energy to keep going.

The Canyon Belongs to Everyone

During your visit the National Park Services asks that you respect the canyon and the rights of others.

- Carry out all trash.
- Leave all fossils, rocks, plants, and animals as you find them, so others may enjoy them also.
- Refrain from throwing or rolling rocks. They may injure people below you.
- Enjoy the natural quiet. Do not yell while on the trail.

Overnight Hiking

A hike into the canyon will test your physical and mental endurance. Know and respect your abilities and limitations. Rangers will be glad to help you plan a hike within your capabilities. All overnight hikers, except those staying in the lodging at Phantom Ranch, must obtain a backcountry permit.

Hiking Permits

Backcountry use permits and fees are required for overnight hiking. Day hikes do not require a permit or fee.

Successful Hikers...

Avoid hiking in the middle of the day. Begin your trip, make daily changes of camp, and return to the rim before 10:00 a.m. or after 4:00 p.m.

All hikers should be aware that efforts to assist them may be limited during the busy summer months due to staffing levels, number of rescue calls, employee safety requirements, and limited helicopter flying capability during periods of extreme heat or inclement weather.

Backcountry Fees

\$10.00 Backcountry Permit fee plus \$5.00 per person per night User Impact fee

Overnight permit requests should be sent up to four months in advance to:

Backcountry Information Center
P.O. Box 129
Grand Canyon, AZ 86023

Hikers arriving without permits should contact the North Rim Backcountry Office 11.5 miles south of the North Entrance in the Administrative Offices building. Rangers are on duty 8:00 a.m. – noon and 1:00 – 5:00 p.m. daily, summer and fall.

For more information:

www.nps.gov/grca/planyourvisit/backcountry.htm

Health Hazards

Moderation is the key to having an enjoyable hike. Hike within your ability, maintain proper body temperature, balance your food and water intake, and rest often.

Emergency situations include:

Heat exhaustion

Heat exhaustion is the result of dehydration due to intense sweating. Hikers can lose one to two quarts (liters) of water per hour. Rangers at both Phantom Ranch and Indian Garden treat as many as twenty cases of heat exhaustion a day in summer.

Symptoms: pale face, nausea, cool and moist skin, headache, and cramps

Treatment: drink water, eat high-energy foods, rest in the shade, cool the body.

Heat stroke

Heat stroke is a life-threatening emergency where the body's heat-regulating mechanisms become overwhelmed by a combination of internal heat production and environmental demands. Every year two to three Grand Canyon hikers experience heat stroke.

Symptoms: flushed face, dry skin, weak and rapid pulse, high body temperature, poor judgment or inability to cope, unconsciousness. Victim is in danger!

Treatment: find shade, cool victim with water, send for help!

Hyponatremia

Hyponatremia is an illness that mimics the early symptoms of heat exhaustion. It is the result of low sodium in the blood caused by drinking too much water, not eating enough salty foods, and losing salt through sweating.

Symptoms: nausea, vomiting, altered mental states, and frequent urination

Treatment: have the victim rest and eat salty foods. If mental alertness decreases, seek immediate help!

Hypothermia

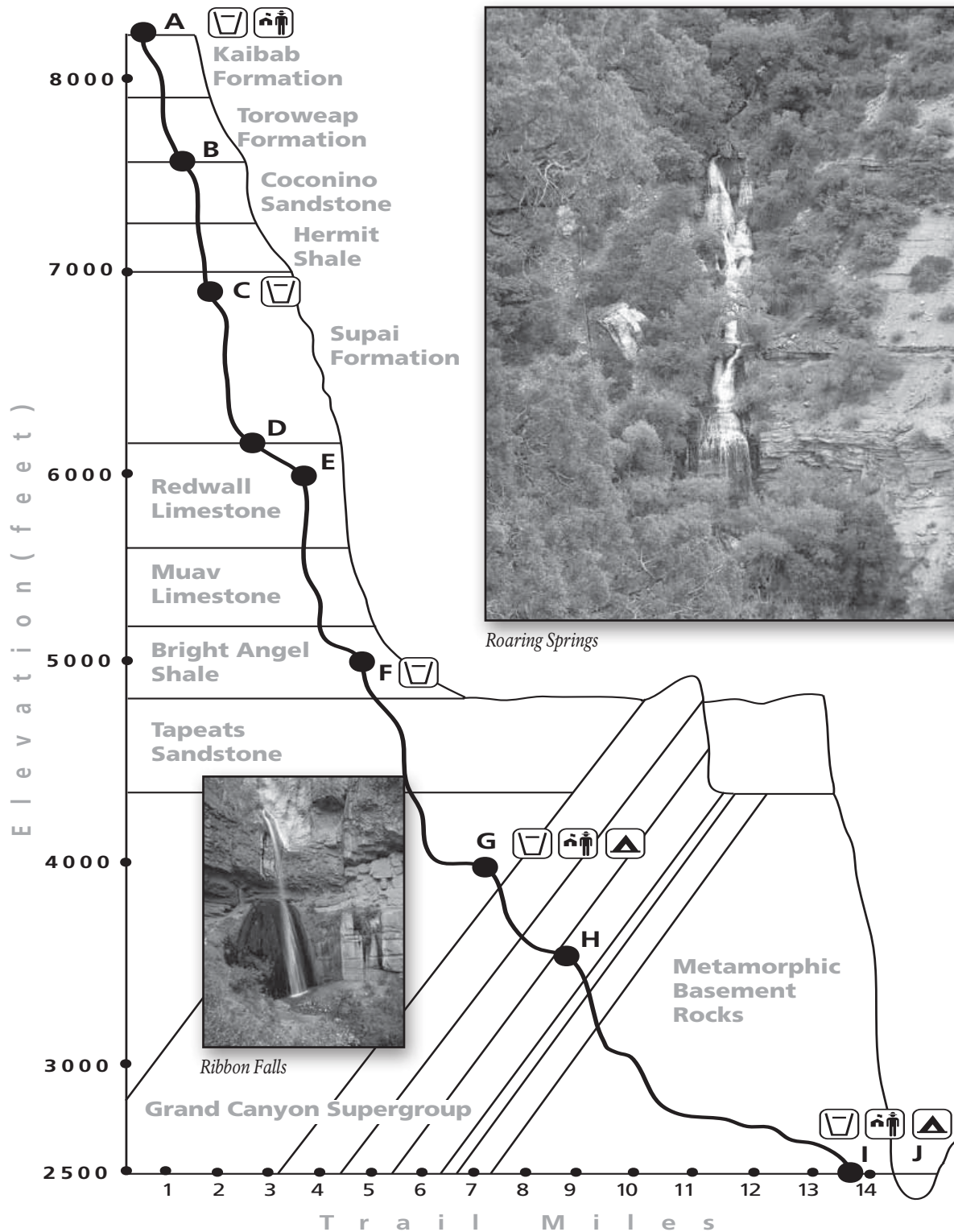
Hypothermia is a life-threatening emergency where the body cannot keep itself warm due to exhaustion and exposure to cold, wet, windy weather.

Symptoms: uncontrolled shivering, poor muscle control, and a careless attitude

Treatment: put on dry clothing, drink warm liquids, and protect from wind, rain, and cold.

Hiking the North Kaibab Trail

North Kaibab Trail Profile



Elevations and Distances

Location	Elevation		Distance (one way)	
	Feet	Meters	Miles	Kilometers
A. Trailhead	8250	2515	0	0
B. Coconino Overlook	7450	2270	0.7	1.1
C. Supai Tunnel	6800	2070	2.0	3.2
D. Redwall Bridge	6100	1860	2.6	4.2
E. Eye of the Needle	5850	1780	3.5	5.6
F. Roaring Springs	5200	1585	4.7	7.6
G. Cottonwood Camp	4080	1240	6.8	10.9
H. Ribbon Falls	3720	1130	8.3	13.4
I. Phantom Ranch	2546	776	13.7	22.0
J. Colorado River	2400	730	14.2	22.9



Water is available at Phantom Ranch year-round. Water is also available at the trailhead, Supai Tunnel, Roaring Springs, and Cottonwood Campground from approximately mid-May to mid-October, depending on the weather.

Check for availability before starting your hike.



National Park Service rangers are stationed at Phantom Ranch all year. During the summer, rangers staff the North Rim Backcountry Office and Cottonwood Campground.



Backcountry campsites are located at Cottonwood Campground and Phantom Ranch (Bright Angel Campground). All overnight backpackers must have a permit prior to starting their hike. Obtain permits in advance or through backcountry offices on either the North or South rims.



Phantom Ranch

Park News

Superintendent's Greeting



Welcome to the North Rim of Grand Canyon National Park. This is truly a land apart—an island of forest and meadow isolated by the rugged expanse of Grand Canyon. Temperatures are a little cooler, vegetation greener, and the pace a bit quieter.

The North Rim offers many opportunities. Stop by the visitor center and talk with one of our rangers. Walk the short trail to Bright Angel Point for expansive views across the canyon. Drive through mountain meadows to Point Imperial or the viewpoints along the Walhalla Plateau. Join a ranger-guided activity to learn more of the North Rim's secrets. Watch a California condor float effortlessly over the canyon's buttes. Experience a summer thunderstorm from the safety of the lodge.

The beauty and immensity of the canyon both thrills and humbles us. We have the foresight of past generations to thank for preserving this awe-inspiring landscape. With that gift comes a responsibility to preserve the canyon, its surrounding lands and the plants and animals that thrive here for future generations.

I hope this visit to your park is a pleasant and memorable one. Return often to enjoy the many moods of Grand Canyon.

Steve Martin, Superintendent
Grand Canyon National Park

Grand Canyon Association

**Inspired by the canyon?
Get involved and be a part
of something grand!**

The Grand Canyon Association is a nonprofit membership organization created to inspire and educate people to protect Grand Canyon National Park for the enjoyment of visitors and Grand Canyon enthusiasts around the world. Here's how you can get involved:

Shop: You can help Grand Canyon and learn more about the park by purchasing books and other items online from the Grand Canyon Association or by purchasing items from Grand Canyon Association bookstores within the park. Proceeds from sales benefit the educational, scientific, historical and research efforts of the National Park Service. Your purchases from the Grand Canyon Association directly benefit Grand Canyon National Park. And members receive a 15% discount at all Grand Canyon Association bookstores and our online store: www.grandcanyon.org.

Explore: The Grand Canyon Field Institute, the Grand Canyon Association's long-standing outdoor education program, provides great opportunities to learn about, volunteer and explore Grand Canyon. Member discounts are available for most classes offered by the field institute.
www.grandcanyon.org/fieldinstitute

Donate: When you become a member of the Grand Canyon Association, you are joining a community of people who are passionate about protecting and sharing the grandeur of Grand Canyon. With donor and member support, the Grand Canyon Association works in cooperation with the National Park Service to fund projects and programs that are beyond the financial capacity of the park. The Grand Canyon Association is proud to fund projects like trail restoration, wildlife monitoring, ecological restoration, and art and historic building preservation.

Take part in preserving Grand Canyon for future generations. Join the Grand Canyon Association today!

To become a member or to make a donation, call 800-858-2808 or visit www.grandcanyon.org.



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National Park Service photo by Michael Quinn

Kaibab National Forest

Welcome to the North Kaibab Ranger District

Much of the Kaibab Plateau, a forested island surrounded by dry lower elevations, is protected within the Kaibab National Forest and Grand Canyon National Park. Kaibab is a Paiute Indian word meaning "mountain lying down."

Grand Canyon National Park is bounded on the north and south by the Kaibab National Forest. The North Kaibab Ranger District was part of the lands included in the Grand Canyon Forest Reserve set aside in 1893. President Theodore Roosevelt created the Grand Canyon Game Reserve in 1906. The game reserve, which included 612,736 acres/248,071 hectares of the Kaibab National Forest, was set aside "for the protection of game animals and birds" and is "to be recognized as a breeding place thereof." In 1908 the Forest Reserve north of Grand Canyon was renamed the Kaibab National Forest. Grand Canyon National Park was carved from Forest Service lands surrounding the canyon in 1919. Headquarters for the North Kaibab Ranger District is in Fredonia, Arizona, while the Kaibab National Forest's Supervisor's Office is in Williams, Arizona.

Visitor Center

A visit to the North Kaibab Ranger District should include a stop at the North Kaibab Plateau Visitor Center in Jacob Lake, Arizona. The visitor center is open 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. daily from mid-May to mid-October, with reduced hours later into the season. Displays highlight the uniqueness of the Kaibab Plateau. Books about the region are available.

Scenic Vistas

The North Kaibab Ranger District offers a variety of spectacular views of Grand Canyon, Kanab Creek Wilderness, and Vermilion Cliffs. Some of these viewpoints are easy drives in a sedan, while others require a high-clearance vehicle. Remember, get a map before heading out on the more remote routes

Arizona 67 from Jacob Lake to the North Rim has been designated a National Forest Scenic Byway and a state Scenic Parkway. Due to heavy snow the road is normally closed from late November through mid-May.

Camping

There are three campgrounds for picnicking and camping—Jacob Lake, DeMotte, and small, primitive Indian Hollow. DeMotte, 7 miles/11 km north of the park boundary usually opens for the season in late May. Campsites are available on a first-come, first-served basis.

You may camp away from campgrounds on national forest land. Such camping is referred to as dispersed camping. When you are away from the developed facilities remember:

- **There is no garbage service.** Pack out what you take in.
- **Bring your own water.** Few reliable water sources exist on the Kaibab Plateau.
- **Camp at least ¼ mile / 0.4 km from water sources** to allow access for wildlife and livestock.
- **Be fire safe. Carry a shovel and bucket.** Check at U.S. Forest Service offices for seasonal fire restrictions.
- **Bury all human waste at least 4–6 inches / 10–15 cm deep** and a minimum of 100 feet / 30 m from water sources and drainage bottoms.
- **Practice backcountry ethics** and eliminate all signs of your camp.

Trails

Trails on the North Kaibab Ranger District offer both challenges and rewards for the hiker, bicyclist, equestrian, or cross-country skier. Challenges come from the steep, rugged terrain, primitive trails, and the potential lack of water. Rewards include solitude among the most scenic features in all the canyon lands, the discovery of unique rock formations, and breathtaking views of distant horizons.

Winter Sports

Cross-country skiing is a good way to enjoy northern Arizona's winters. The snow-covered forest roads become great ski trails. Although there are no designated snowshoeing areas, these same roads are excellent for this activity. Many miles of forest roads and connecting meadows provide excellent snowmobiling opportunities not permitted in the national park. The area east of Highway 67 and south of Highway 89A is closed to motorized winter use and offers greater solitude.

Wilderness

Wilderness is a part of America's heritage. The North Kaibab Ranger District offers more than 108,000 acres / 44,00 ha that remain wild and free in two wilderness areas—Kanab Creek on the west side of the plateau and Saddle Mountain to the east.

Elevation in the Kanab Creek Wilderness ranges from 2000 feet / 600 m at Kanab Creek to 6000 feet / 1800 m at the rim. This wilderness contains Kanab Creek, a major tributary of the Colorado River, and a network of vertical-walled gorges.

Saddle Mountain Wilderness varies from 6000 feet / 1800 m on the Marble Canyon Rim to 8000 feet / 2400 m on Saddle Mountain. Gentle slopes on top of the plateau change to sudden drop-offs at the rim. Narrow drainages cut into the plateau's flanks.

Heritage Resources

Evidence of ancient cultures can be found throughout the Kaibab National Forest. Federal law protects historic and prehistoric sites and artifacts on public lands. Please leave these sites undisturbed. Vandalism should be reported to Forest Service or other law enforcement officials.

Jacob Lake Ranger Station, built in 1910, connects us with the beginning of the U.S. Forest Service and stands today on its original site near Jacob Lake.

For more information on the North Kaibab Ranger District contact:

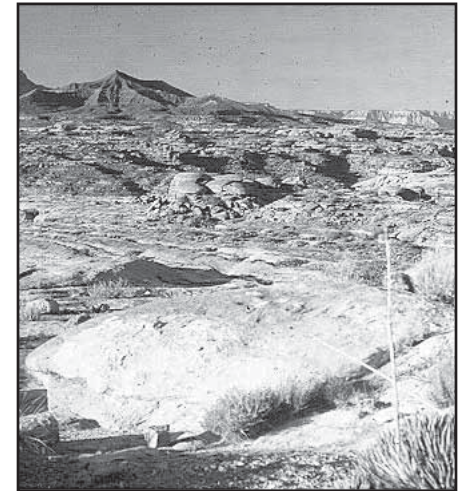
North Kaibab Plateau Visitor Center and Grand Canyon Association Bookstore
Jacob Lake
Fredonia, AZ 86022
(928) 643-7298

North Kaibab Ranger District
P.O. Box 248
Fredonia, AZ 86022
(928) 643-7395
www.fs.fed.us/r3/kai/

Top: Racetrack Knoll from Ranger Trail. USFS photo by Tom Hooker

Center: Marble Canyon From the Nankoweap Trail, Saddle Mountain Wilderness. USFS photo by Susan Hittson

Bottom: White columbines. USFS Photo by M. Siders



Lodging and Services

Grand Canyon Lodge: Many Decades of Service



Grand Canyon Lodge on the North Rim of Grand Canyon is often the first prominent feature that visitors see, even before viewing the canyon. The highway ends at the lodge. The lodge's sloped roof, huge ponderosa beams and massive limestone facade fit its 8000-foot / 2400 m setting, but where is the Grand Canyon?

To experience the full impact of the design of the lodge, take the historic route. Go through the front entrance. Walk across the carpeted lobby and descend a stairwell. Shining through great windows across the "Sun Room" is the much-anticipated first view of the Grand Canyon.

The architect, Gilbert Stanley Underwood, following the wishes of then-Director of the National Park Service, Steven Mather, designed a rustic national park lodge. Grand Canyon Lodge served as a symbol of the importance of the preservation of this natural wonder, while allowing for luxury and enjoyment. Yet, Underwood had incorporated something extra—a surprise view!

Underwood's 1928 Grand Canyon Lodge, designed for then-concessionaire the Union Pacific Railroad, is not today's lodge. Underwood's design included a massive Spanish-style exterior with a high front topped by an observation tower. The original burned down in 1932 and a "new" 1937 lodge sits on its footprint.

The fire that destroyed the original lodge engulfed the structure within minutes. On the top floor over the auditorium slept the only inhabitants—the lodge manager, his wife, and the maids. All exited safely to stand watching helplessly in the early morning hours of September 1, 1932. The employees must have wondered if their jobs were burning up that night, but the nearby cabins, except two, escaped the blaze.

The Utah Parks Company, Union Pacific's subsidiary, hastily erected a cafeteria and recreation hall. The next summer buses brought more visitors, but Underwood's secret surprise of having your first view of Grand Canyon from inside the lodge was lost until the summer of



1937 when Grand Canyon Lodge reopened. Utilizing the same floor plan, the builders erected a more sensible structure with sloped roofs, better able to shed the heavy snows. They also preserved Underwood's surprise view.

For decades the college-aged employees would greet visitors arriving by bus and sing them through the entrance. These same employees would later entertain with a talent show after serving dinner, and end the evening with a dance complete with a college student orchestra. These entertainments no longer exist.

The lodge still exhibits Underwood's genius. Another genius, the geologist Clarence E. Dutton, came to the North Rim in 1880 and described his experience in his masterpiece, *A Tertiary History of the Grand Canyon District*. "The earth suddenly sinks at our feet to illimitable depths. In an instant, in the twinkling of an eye, the awful scene is before us." Underwood must have read his book, or perhaps inspiration does strike twice.



FOREVER
RESORTS

Forever Resorts operates the Grand Canyon Lodge, restaurants, retail, gift and convenience stores, service station, and Grand Canyon Cookout Experience in the park under contract with the U.S. Department of the Interior. Forever Resorts trains and encourages employees to foster a sense of awareness and stewardship in park visitors through an appreciation of park resources. For information on Grand Canyon North Rim Lodge visit online at www.GrandCanyonForever.com.

The National Park Service thanks Forever Resorts for their support of this publication.

Services

Lodging

In the Park

Grand Canyon Lodge

Check at the lodge for same day availability. Make advanced reservations with Forever Resorts at (877) 386-4383 or (480) 998-1981 or on the internet at www.grandcanyonforever.com. Reserve as far ahead as possible, as lodging is booked well in advance.

Outside the Park

Kaibab Lodge

Located 18 miles / 30 km north of the North Rim, the lodge is open mid-May to early November and includes a restaurant and store. Phone (928) 638-2389. Some services may remain open after facilities in the park have closed for the season.

Jacob Lake Inn

Located 45 miles / 75 km north of the North Rim in Jacob Lake, AZ, the Jacob Lake Inn is open year-round 6:30 a.m. – 10:00 p.m. Includes a restaurant, store, and gas station with pay at pump available 24 hours daily. Propane is available.

Food

Grand Canyon Lodge Dining Room

Offering a view of the canyon, open for breakfast 6:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m., lunch 11:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m., and dinner 4:45 p.m. – 9:45 p.m. Reservations for dinner recommended: (928) 638-2611.

Deli in the Pines

In the Grand Canyon Lodge complex, the delicatessen is open daily 7:00 a.m. – 9:00 p.m.

Roughrider Saloon

Also in the Grand Canyon Lodge complex, the saloon is open daily 11:30 a.m. – 11:00 p.m.

Coffee Saloon

Located in the Roughrider Saloon, the coffee bar offers fine coffee, bagels, and baked goods from 5:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. Light fare, appetizers, and cocktails served after 11:30 a.m.

Grand Canyon Cookout Experience

A western dining event with live entertainment. Transportation provided from the lodge. Reservations recommended: inquire at the lodge front desk or (928) 638-2611.

Camping

Camping is permitted only in designated campsites in Grand Canyon National Park. Those camping outside of the designated area will be cited.

In the Park

North Rim Campground

Operated by the National Park Service, campsites are \$18.00–25.00. No hook-ups, but a dump station is available. Stays limited to 7 days per season. For reservations call (877) 444-6777 or (518) 885-3639 or www.recreation.gov/. Check at the campground for last-minute availability. The campground may remain open after October 15 with limited services, weather permitting.

Outside the Park

DeMotte Campground

Open during the summer only, this U.S. Forest Service campground is 16 miles / 28 km north of the North Rim. No hook-ups or reservations. Opens in late-May. \$17.00 per night.

Jacob Lake Campground

Operated during the summer only by the U.S. Forest Service; 45 miles / 75 km north of the North Rim. No hook-ups. \$17.00 per night. Group site only may be reserved: (877) 444-6777 or www.recreation.gov/.

Dispersed Camping

You may camp away from campgrounds on the Kaibab National Forest. See page 13 for more information. Check at the visitor center or North Kaibab Ranger District office for seasonal closures.

Kaibab Camper Village (Jacob Lake)

This commercial campground is located ¼ mile / ½ km south of Jacob Lake on Arizona 67. Full hook-ups are available. May 15–October 15 call (928) 643-7804, during the off-season (928) 526-0924, outside Arizona (800) 525-0924.

Fuel

Service Station

On the access road to the North Rim Campground. Open daily 7:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m. Diesel available. 24 hour pumps with credit card.

Medical – dial 911

EMT-certified rangers can respond 24 hours a day. Dial 911 or 9-911 from your cabin / room.

Groceries/Camping Supplies

The General Store is adjacent to the North Rim Campground. Open daily 7:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Laundry/Showers

On the road to the North Rim Campground. Open daily 7:00 a.m. – 10:00 p.m.

Post Office

In the Grand Canyon Lodge complex. Window service open Monday through Friday 8:00 a.m. – noon and 1:00. – 5:00 p.m. Closed Saturday, Sunday, and holidays.

ATM

Available in the General Store and Roughrider Saloon.

Lost and Found

Found items should be turned in at the North Rim Visitor Center. Inquiries about lost items can be made at the visitor center or the Grand Canyon Lodge front desk.

Religious Services

Check the bulletin board in the Grand Canyon Lodge for a schedule of services.

Books and Gifts

The Grand Canyon Association bookstore, in the North Rim Visitor Center, is open daily 8:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. The Gift Shop, in the Grand Canyon Lodge complex, is open daily 8:00 a.m. – 9:00 p.m. Some gift items are also available in the General Store.

Weather Report

A weather forecast is posted daily in the visitor center. For recorded weather information phone the park's information line: (928) 638-7888. Information is updated at 7:00 a.m. daily.

Transportation

Hiker Shuttle

A shuttle to the North Kaibab Trailhead is available twice daily in the morning. Cost: \$7.00 per person; Sign up at the Grand Canyon Lodge front desk. The shuttle picks up passengers in front of the lodge at 5:45 a.m. and 7:10 a.m. Reservations are recommended 24 hours in advance.

Rim-to-Rim Transportation

Daily transportation between the rims is provided by Trans Canyon Shuttle. The shuttle departs the North Rim at 7:00 a.m. and arrives at the South Rim at 11:30 a.m. It departs the South Rim at 1:30 p.m. and arrives at the North Rim at 6:30 p.m. Reservations are required: (928) 638-2820.

Arizona Highway Information

511 or (888) 411-ROAD
www.az511.gov



Tours & River Trips

Grand Canyon Trail Rides

One-hour rides along the rim and half-day rim or inner canyon trips are usually available each day. Register at the Grand Canyon Trail Rides desk in the lobby of the lodge. Open daily 7:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. or call (435) 679-8665.

Colorado River Trips

Commercial whitewater raft trips through the canyon last from 3 to 21 days and require reservations well in advance. Ask at the visitor center for a *Trip Planner* with a list of river trip concessioners or visit the park's website www.nps.gov/grca/.

Smooth Water Raft Trips

Colorado River Discovery provides half-day trips on the Colorado River from Glen Canyon Dam to Lees Ferry. (888) 522-6644 or www.raftthecanyon.com.

Area Information

Protect the Remnants of Our History

Thousands of people have called Grand Canyon home during the past 10,000 years. During your visit, you may come across the remnants of cultures from long ago. You may see evidence left by miners, explorers, or cattlemen, or the remains of Native American dwellings, rock art, or artifacts such as pottery and projectile points. Unintentional damage by visitors to cultural sites is a major, but preventable, problem.

Remains and artifacts are a fragile, irreplaceable legacy. The National Park Service preserves and protects these priceless resources. Federal law prohibits the excavation, injury, or destruction of historic or archaeological sites and the removal of any artifacts.

Irreplaceable cultural sites tell the story of this country and remain places of ancestral importance to Native Americans. Treat these treasures with utmost care and respect.

If you would like to experience an archaeological site while on the North Rim, visit Walhalla Glades Ruin (*right*), Transept Trail Ruin, or Cliff Spring Granary.



The Value of Volunteering

Whether it's working for resource protection, interpretation, maintenance, or the science center, volunteers are an integral part of a team whose mission is to preserve and protect these special places we call national parks. Some travel from season to season or year to year to different parks. Others find a park they have a special attraction to and stick around for a few years. Volunteers help by donating their time, talents and abilities to enhance your and other visitors' experience.

Although volunteering is a great experience and rewarding to the spirit, it is also hard work. The next time you see a volunteer wearing a green shirt with an NPS volunteer patch helping someone on the trail, answering questions at the visitor center, or contacting visitors around the lodge, take a minute to share your canyon experience or just give them a nod to show your appreciation. Come into the visitor center for more information on the volunteer program or visit www.volunteer.gov/gov.

A Great Experience

For the past six summers, I have volunteered as an interpreter on the North Rim of Grand Canyon National Park. I conduct nature walks and the condor and archeology talks. I help at the visitor center and out on the trails. As one of my hobbies

is photography, I enjoy taking visitors on a photo walk and teach them how to take 'better' pictures at the canyon. This has been a wonderful way to meet and serve people from all walks of life and from all over the world.

Nancy Varga



When visiting a site:

DO

- Stop, look, and think before viewing a cultural site. Be respectful.
- Stay on trails within the site.
- View, photograph, or sketch the site.
- Imagine what life was like in the past.
- Contact a ranger or call (928) 638-7805 if you see historic or archaeological sites being defaced or witness someone removing artifacts.

DON'T

- Walk, climb, or lean on walls.
- Touch rock art.
- Move artifacts or modify structures.
- Remove or collect anything.
- Eat or camp within the site.
- Create modern rock art. (This is vandalism.)

South Rim

The average distance across the canyon "as the condor flies" is 10 miles / 16 km. However, traveling from the North Rim to the South Rim requires a five-hour drive of 215 miles / 345 km.

The South Rim is open year round. All visitor services—camping, lodging, and restaurants—are available. Reservations are strongly recommended during the busy summer season. Some facilities are closed during the winter.

A free shuttle bus system operates in the Grand Canyon Village area. Make your visit easier by parking your car and using the shuttle to get around. Be sure to stop at the Grand Canyon Visitor Center in Canyon View Information Plaza.



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Grand Canyon National Park

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For the latest information updates, visit Grand Canyon National Park's web site at: www.nps.gov/grca/

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Experience Your America

Critter Notes: Bison or Buffalo?

During your travels on the North Rim you may encounter bison, or as they are better known, buffalo. To scientists, bison are the bovines that evolved in North America. Buffalo are found only in the Old World, Asia and Africa. The names are used interchangeably, however, with buffalo being the most common.

Two colorful North Rim characters, Charles "Buffalo" Jones and Uncle Jim Owens, in the early 1900s cross bred cattle with bison in an attempt to produce heartier and meatier stock. Such crosses are referred to as cattalo or beefalo. Today, the descendants from this experiment wander up to the Kaibab Plateau from House Rock Valley.

No matter what you call them, remember that these are wild animals and can do bodily harm. Do not approach them or allow any wildlife to approach you!

Xanterra South Rim

Xanterra South Rim, L.L.C. is the primary concessioner and the sole provider of in-park lodging at the South Rim. Owned and operated by Xanterra Parks & Resorts, we have been providing quality guest service since the El Tovar Hotel was opened in 1905 by the Fred Harvey Company. Today park visitors have a choice of accommodations in seven distinctly different Grand Canyon lodging properties. Additional services include gift stores, restaurants and in-park tours.

As the nation's largest national and state park management company, we know that we play an integral part in the tourism industry and how it impacts the natural environment. This is why we are a company based upon values that reflect an environmental ethic and social conscience – for the long term. We have taken the lead in this calling and have implemented comprehensive and broad-based environmental initiatives throughout all of our operations. Please join us in these efforts to reduce, reuse and recycle during your visit to this special place.



Xanterra South Rim, LLC. –
We're not just close, we're there!