

GRAND CIRCLE

ARIZONA + COLORADO + NEVADA + NEW MEXICO + UTAH



OFFICIAL TRAVEL PLANNER

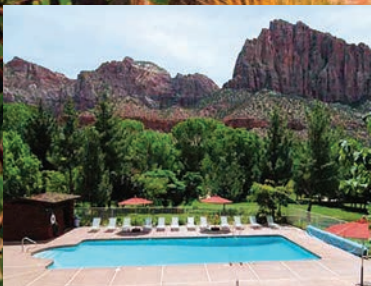
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Greater Zion boasts over 2,400 square miles of majestic beauty
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GRAND CIRCLE

The Grand Circle® Travel Planner is the official guide of the Grand Circle® Association. The Association is a non-profit member organization dedicated to the promotion of visitation and travel within Arizona, Colorado, Nevada, New Mexico and Utah.

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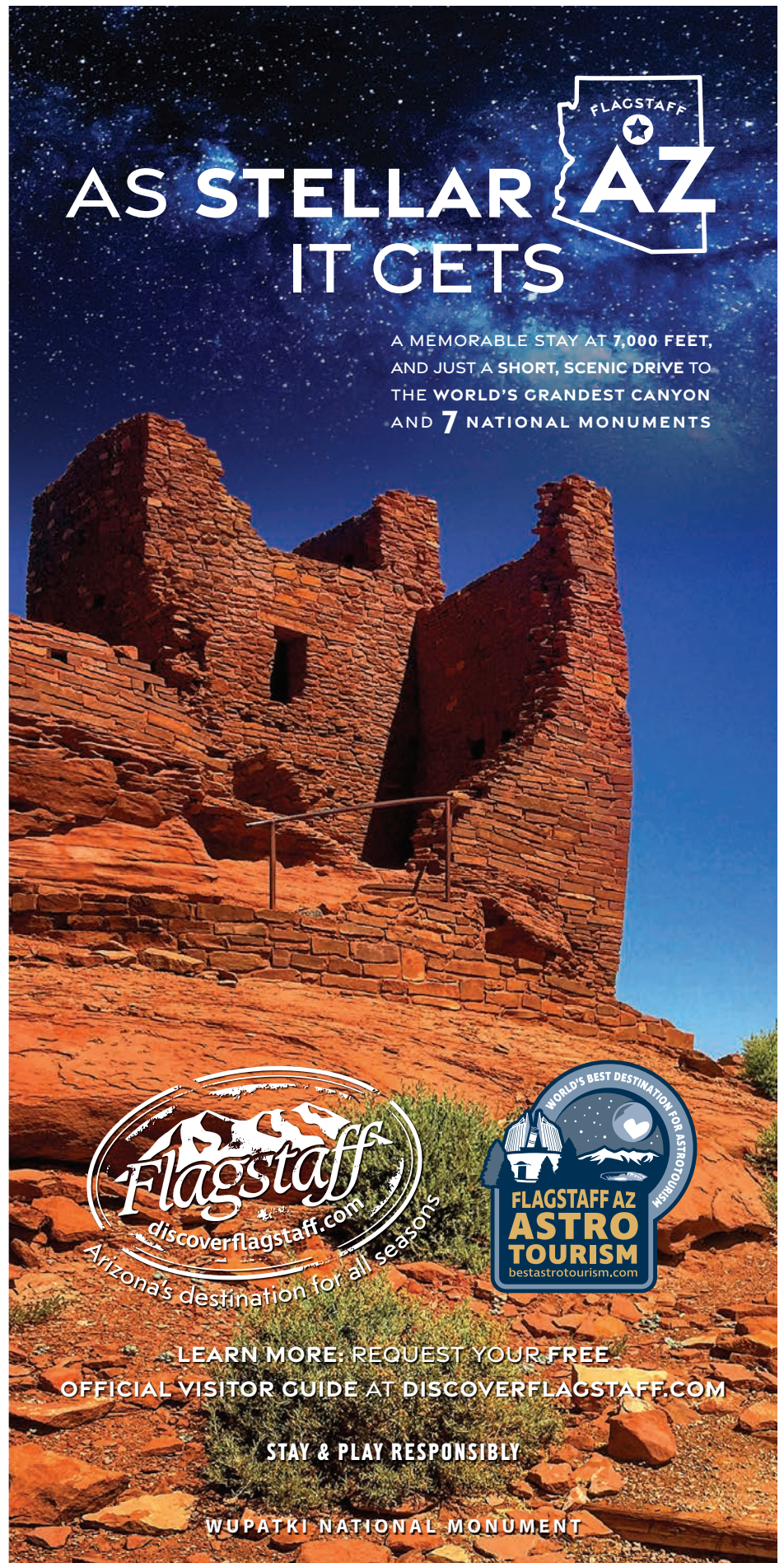
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AS STELLAR IT GETS



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GREETINGS FROM THE GRAND CIRCLE!

We are thrilled to welcome you back to travel and experiencing everything that travel has to offer.

All our members would like to invite you to explore the best of America's Southwest – The Grand Circle. If you enjoy magnificent natural wonders, diverse cultural traditions, colorful history, and friendly people The Grand Circle is for you.

From the depths of Arizona's Grand Canyon to the beautiful mountains and mesas of Western Colorado and Utah's soaring stone arches the varied terrain will surprise you at every turn with its diversity. Traveling through the Grand Circle is an adventure and will create memories that will last a lifetime.

The Grand Circle includes National Parks and Monuments, laced with Scenic Byways, Native American cultural sites, and dotted with archaeological wonders. As you drive through this wonderland of scenic attractions you will taste authentic Native American cuisine, rejuvenate yourself in welcoming communities and have the opportunity to experience outdoor adventures.

Whether visiting for the first time or returning, we want to help you create the vacation of your dreams. The Grand Circle is pleased to help you with your travel planning. Please reach out to our members listed in this travel planner and scan the QR code to visit our website for itinerary ideas.

We invite you to share your Grand Circle adventures, stories, and pictures with us at info@grandcircle.org. We would love to share your adventures with the world.

Happy Travels,



Jeff Lyman, President



SCAN TO EXPLORE
OUR WEBSITE





CANYONS OF THE COLORADO RIVER

MARBLE CANYON

The Colorado River has carved a score of canyons, but none so awe-inspiring as Glen Canyon and, of course the most awesome of all, the Grand Canyon. They are a study in contrasts: to early explorers of the Grand Canyon, its tumultuous waters "work on the nerves, there is no repose in it, nothing that is soft." Glen Canyon, though, was "almost absolutely serene, an interlude for a pastoral flute."

That is still true today, especially with most of Glen Canyon sleeping below the surface of Lake Powell. However, the upper sandstone walls of Glen Canyon are as seductive as ever—and they are more approachable. Now we can boat, float, ski, fish, sail, or kayak amongst sheer cliff walls and billowing, towering domes. As for the Grand Canyon, most of us simply stare with incomprehension. It's too vast, too old, too grand to grasp. But for those of us who do hike or ride or raft into its depths, the Grand Canyon truly can transform our lives.



GLEN CANYON

GRAND CANYON NATIONAL PARK: SOUTH RIM

Grand Canyon National Park is an awesome example of Mother Nature's finest engineering—ten miles wide, a mile deep. A silvery ribbon of water still relentlessly continues to slice through billion year old rock. From the best vantage points on the rim, you see less than a quarter of the Canyon, yet even this inspires us to silence. Hike down Bright Angel or Kaibab or Hermit Trail, and you'll begin to understand the enormity of these vertical walls. At 7,000 feet, the South Rim glistens with snow-clad buttes in winter, shimmers with heat mirages in summer. On the Canyon floor, temperatures can easily reach over 100 degrees in July and August. Hiking, riding mules to Phantom Ranch, and sightseeing by helicopter or small plane all offer unforgettable moments in the Canyon. Be sure to visit the Canyon View Information Plaza located at Mather Point to find out about shuttle schedules, interpretive programs, and hiking conditions. From the eastern entrance of the Park, a spectacular road winds along the rim, offering turnouts and scenic overlooks of the Canyon. The South Rim is open year-round. [nps.gov/grca](https://www.nps.gov/grca); for Park lodging and concessions [grandcanyonlodges.com](https://www.grandcanyonlodges.com) | [visitgrandcanyon.com](https://www.visitgrandcanyon.com)



NEARBY COMMUNITIES:

Tusayan is just a few miles south of the Canyon's southern entrance and has a wide variety of hotels and restaurants. The Grand Canyon Visitor Center/IMAX Theater offers stunning and fascinating perspectives of the Canyon on its giant screen. Grand Canyon flightseeing, by helicopter or fixed-wing aircraft, is available from Tusayan's airport. At the Park's east entrance, the town of Cameron has lodging, restaurant, and a beautiful trading post. Williams has numerous hotels and restaurants, and is the origination point for the Grand Canyon Railway, a historic ride to the South Rim, complete with strolling musicians and a mock train robbery. [grandcanyoncvb.org](https://www.grandcanyoncvb.org) | [williamschamber.com](https://www.williamschamber.com)

Flagstaff has a great historic district, many accommodations and restaurants, and several additional attractions, including Lowell Observatory and the Museum of Northern Arizona. Vestiges of Historic Route 66 are found in both Flagstaff and Williams. To the south, eclectic and bustling Sedona is set amid tall red rock buttes. [flagstaffarizona.org](https://www.flagstaffarizona.org)

GRAND CANYON, SOUTH RIM



HISTORIC ROUTE 66

Stretching from New Mexico to Arizona, there are many reminders of the glory of the "Mother Road" across Northern Arizona. Winslow, Holbrook, Flagstaff, Williams, Peach Springs and Kingman all have vestiges of the motels, diners and gas stations that made Route 66 the epitome of highway travel.

WALNUT CANYON NATIONAL MONUMENT

South of Flagstaff, the monument offers a steep trail into the canyon to view the high limestone alcoves where the Sinagua built their homes from 1100 to 1250. [nps.gov/waca](https://www.nps.gov/waca)

RED ROCK SCENIC BYWAY

Red Rock Scenic Byway winds through Sedona's Red Rock Country, often called a "museum without walls." Travelers are amazed by the high desert's power, diversity, and sense of intimacy with nature. Inhabited for thousands of years, the stunning red rocks are alive with a timeless spirit that captivates and inspires. Total distance: 7.5 mi / 12.1 km I-17 to Sedona.

SUNSET CRATER AND WUPATKI NATIONAL MONUMENTS

This area is part of a 2,200 square mile volcanic field near Flagstaff with more than 400 cinder cones. Sunset Crater is the youngest volcano; it exploded in AD 1065 and blanketed the entire region in thick, moisture-preserving ash. Different prehistoric societies moved here to take advantage of the suddenly rich soil, so the area became a trading crossroads. More than 800 ruins – the homes and villages of the Sinagua and Ancestral Puebloans – have been found in this immediate area and are now protected as Wupatki National Monument. [nps.gov/sucr](https://www.nps.gov/sucr) or [nps.gov/wupa](https://www.nps.gov/wupa)

GRAND CANYON NATIONAL PARK: NORTH RIM

A different world greets visitors to the other rim of the Canyon. Higher in elevation, lower in visitation, the North Rim offers splendid moments of solitude on the cool, green Kaibab Plateau. The vistas across the Canyon and into its depths still stun and inspire, and trails still beckon hikers down below the rim. Visitor facilities, including accommodations, are open from mid-May to mid-October. Once it snows, access to the North Rim is closed for the winter.

[nps.gov/grca](https://www.nps.gov/grca); for North Rim lodging and concessions [GrandCanyonForever.com](https://www.GrandCanyonForever.com)

NEARBY COMMUNITIES:

The closest community to the North Rim of Grand Canyon National Park is Jacob Lake, located at the junction of Highway 89 and the Kaibab North Rim Parkway. Centrally located to visit many Parks, Kanab is the largest town north of the Grand Canyon. It offers dozens of activities—horseback and jeep tours, mountain biking, photography workshops, flightseeing, the world's largest animal sanctuary, and an old west town created around Hollywood's movie sets. [kaneutah.com](https://www.kaneutah.com)



HELICOPTER TOUR, GRAND CANYON



ANTELOPE CANYON

KAIBAB PLATEAU NORTH RIM PARKWAY

Travel through the Kaibab Plateau's meadows and forests, with its dense ponderosa pine and mixed conifer, to the brink of the spectacular North Rim of the Grand Canyon, 1,000 feet higher than the South Rim. Total distance: 42 mi / 68 km from Jacob's Lake to the North Rim.

Explore

GRAND CANYON SOUTH RIM



Grand Canyon Plaza Hotel

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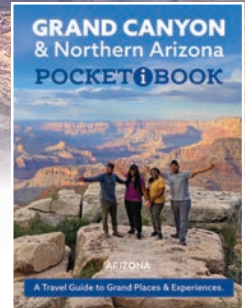
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Stay awhile and enjoy 30 miles of spectacular rim views, hiking trails & amazing wildlife!

LAKE POWELL / GLEN CANYON NATIONAL RECREATION AREA

"Glen Canyon is for pure delight." So spoke explorer John Wesley Powell of this rare section of the Colorado River that did not terrify nor torment his men. They frolicked in its warm waters and gawked at its sculptured side canyons, just as people do today. Lake Powell is, without doubt, one of the most sublime places on earth. Blue waters lap at sculptured red sandstone. Water meets desert, the best of two worlds.

Millions of visitors now splash and play here in every conceivable way—houseboating, jet skiing, bass fishing, skin diving, kayaking, parasailing, and water skiing. Take a boat tour up lake from Wahweap Marina or Antelope Point Marina to Rainbow Bridge. Rent a houseboat for a week to explore the thousands of channels braced by high rock walls and lined with soft sandy beaches. Hike from the lake into Glen Canyon's magical backcountry, following undulating rock for miles. Tumble down sand dunes and lose yourself in slot canyons. Simply...enjoy. nps.gov/glca; for Park lodging, boat tours, or rentals, call 800-528-6154 | lakepowell.com or call 800-255-5561 | LakePowellHouseboating.com

ANTELOPE CANYON

Slot canyons are magical crevasses in rock, split and polished by water and time, a favorite subject of photographers. Guided jeep and photo tours are available from Page, AZ. The most expensive photograph ever sold was of Antelope Canyon. *Phantom*, by Peter Lik sold recently for \$6.5 million. For a relaxing alternative to hiking the canyon, take a leisurely one-hour boat tour through its towering cliffs. visitpagelakepowell.com | antelopepointlakepowell.com



LAKE POWELL



NEARBY COMMUNITIES:

Page, Arizona on the shores of Lake Powell, was founded as the company town for construction of the Glen Canyon Dam. Today, it has grown into a tourism and recreational center offering great golfing, sightseeing and lake and backcountry access. It is a perfect base for exploring all of the attractions the area has to offer with lots of options for lodging, meals and entertainment. Visit Page Lake Powell can help with activity reservations. visitpagelakepowell.com

JOHN WESLEY POWELL MUSEUM

A small museum featuring the famed explorer of the Colorado and Green Rivers, canyon and river geology, and the making of Lake Powell. Located in Page, AZ. powellmuseum.org

NAVAJO NATIONAL MONUMENT

Three beautifully preserved cliff dwellings (only one is visible to most visitors) are protected here. Exhibits focus on Ancestral Puebloan and Navajo culture and uses for native plants. Between Page and Kayenta. nps.gov/nava

PETRIFIED FOREST NATIONAL PARK

Multihued badlands of the Painted Desert, 225-million-year-old fossils, and one of the world's largest and most colorful concentrations of petrified wood make this a fun side trip. Visitors often drive one way through the Park to connect between I-40 and Hwy 180. nps.gov/pefo

NEARBY COMMUNITIES:

Communities nearest Upper Lake Powell are Blanding and Hanksville, providing access to Bullfrog, Hall's Crossing and Hite Marinas. Each offers boat rentals. Bullfrog offers half-day tours to Rainbow Bridge and has a small lodge, restaurant and other amenities. visitpagelakepowell.com

GLEN CANYON DAM

Construction began in 1960 and the gates closed in 1963, backing up waters that now lap 1,900 miles of shoreline. Informative tours of the dam typically are offered daily and float trips are offered below the dam in serene Marble Canyon. nps.gov/glca

MARBLE CANYON

Icy waters gush into the Grand Canyon from below the Glen Canyon Dam, creating a flat stretch of emerald water perfect for mellow float trips and world class fly fishing. *Call 928-645-2741 for rafting and guiding companies.*

RAINBOW BRIDGE NATIONAL MONUMENT

"Sheer cosmic poetry" is how one writer describes the world's largest natural bridge. It is accessible by boat (half- and full-day tours from Wahweap Lodge & Marina and full days from Bullfrog and Halls Crossing Marinas) and via a strenuous trail from Navajo Mountain. The towering Bridge is a sacred site to neighboring tribes, so visitors are asked to treat the Bridge with the respect they would use in a cathedral. For tours: nps.gov/rabr

PIPE SPRING NATIONAL MONUMENT

Native Americans utilized this area for at least a thousand years before the Mormons arrived in the 1860s to begin cattle ranching. Made a national monument in 1923, it offers excellent living history demonstrations, an old fort, and interpretive trails that offer a glimpse of American Indian and pioneer life in the Old West. Located 15 miles SW of Fredonia, AZ. nps.gov/pisp



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learn more!



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THE GRAND STAIRCASE

In the northwest arc of the Grand Circle, a wondrous geologic ladder steps from the bottom of the Grand Canyon to raised tablelands of southwestern Utah. This Grand Staircase—with chocolate, vermilion, white, gray, and pink cliffs—spans five different life zones from Sonoran desert to pine and spruce forests. It is a masterpiece of geological and biological diversity, encompassing Zion, Bryce, and Capitol Reef National Parks plus many other attractions.

Within the Grand Staircase, you travel between totally unique, contrasting landscapes. Zion's main canyon is a green oasis fed by waterfalls cascading down 2,000-foot sandstone cliffs. Bryce "Canyon" is actually one face of a plateau that is slowly eroding away, leaving behind amphitheaters with thousands of delicate spires and minarets. Vast oceans of red-gold rock undulate through both Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument and Capitol Reef. And enormous tracts of lush national forest weave among the Parks offering welcome respite from the heat of lower elevations.

This is one of the Grand Circle's finest year-round playgrounds. The National Parks offer hiking trails up icy streams and into slot canyons, through arid amphitheaters of crumbling stone and beneath fabulous arches, over geologic folds in rock and across bristlecone-studded forests. National forests and BLM lands offer other ways to explore these lands as well: mountain biking, backpacking, and ATV activities abound in summer; nordic skiing and snowmobiling in winter. Thin 'Scenic Byways' snake between these points, twisting up hogbacks, across alpine meadows, and plunging down into small communities along the way.





ZION NATIONAL PARK

ZION NATIONAL PARK

Nature at its most eloquent, Zion is a place of towering sandstone cliffs, narrow slot canyons, spectacular arches, intermittent waterfalls and seeping springs. Originally inhabited by both Ancestral Puebloans and Paiutes, Zion received most of its colorful place names from early travelers and settlers. Gentle strolls or strenuous hikes allow exploration of the main canyon, with its emerald pools and wooded valley, its upper reaches of sandstone and open desert, or nearby Kolob Canyon, where a 14-mile hike (round-trip) will take you to the world's second largest stone arch.

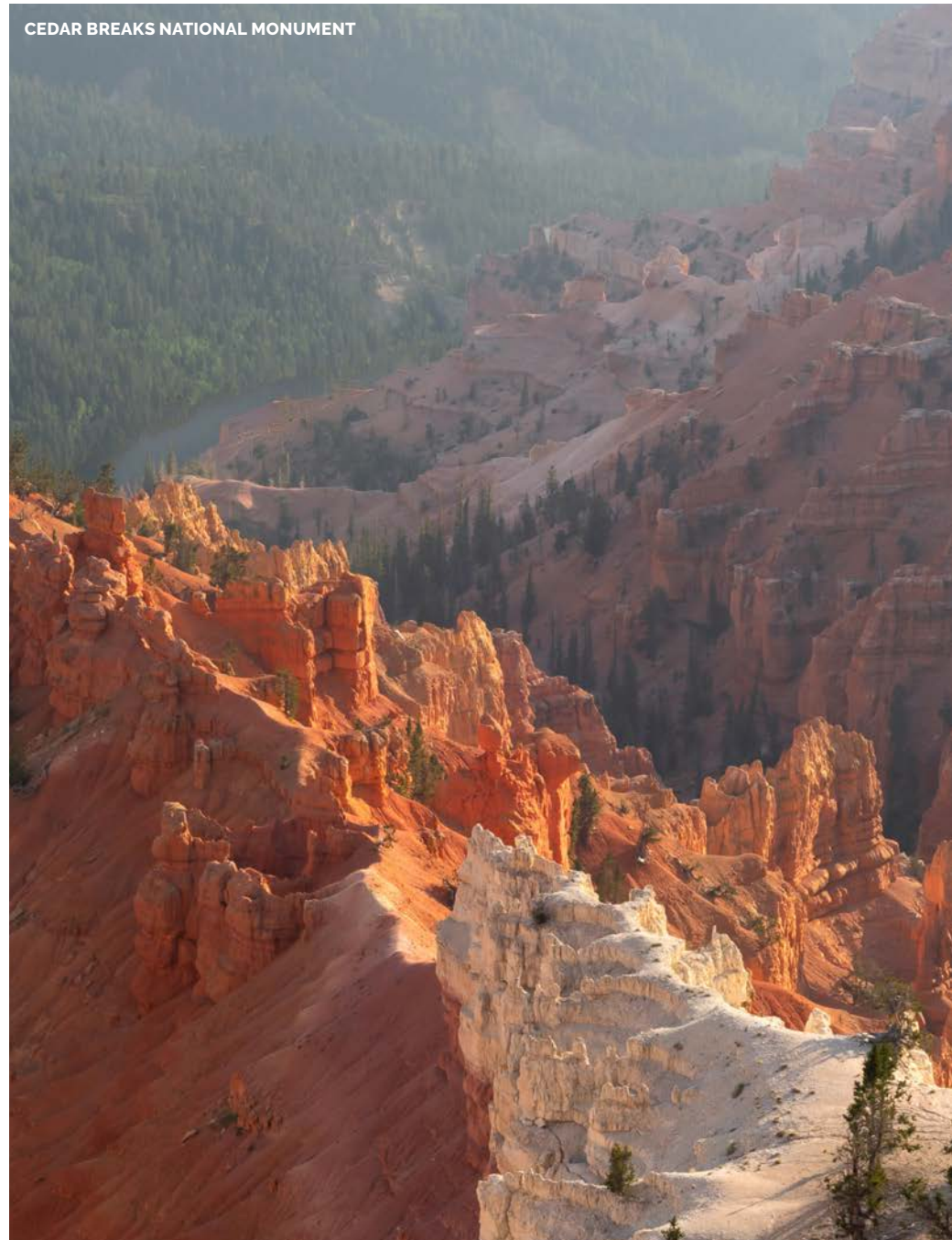
Zion is most definitely a photographer's paradise. Shuttles run into the Park from Springdale from April through November; private vehicles allowed off-season. nps.gov/zion | for Park lodging: 303-297-2757 | zionlodge.com

CEDAR BREAKS NATIONAL MONUMENT

A miniature Bryce Canyon, this amphitheater spans some three miles, and drops 2,000 feet off the plateau toward the town of Cedar City. In summer, the high rim of the canyon is dazzling with verdant forests and brilliant wildflowers. Hiking trails along and below the rim. Open late May through mid October. nps.gov/cebr



GRAND STAIRCASE - ESCALANTE NATIONAL MONUMENT



CEDAR BREAKS NATIONAL MONUMENT

NEARBY COMMUNITIES:

SPRINGDALE

Adjacent to and surrounded by Zion NP, this scenic town offers excellent hotels, casual and fine dining, guided tours, spas, art galleries, unique shops and makes this town a comfortable base camp. A free shuttle runs throughout the town and into the Park much of the year.

ST. GEORGE

This resort community is only 45 minutes from Zion NP. Numerous hotels and restaurants, shopping, a wonderful historic architecture, outdoor theater are on the "to do list" besides golf, hiking, mountain biking and world class events. Only 90 minutes north of Las Vegas.

KANAB

Kanab is a small, southern-Utah town located just north of the Arizona/Utah state line. The area became known as "Little Hollywood" for decades as producers and actors used it as the site of increasingly popular Western movies. kaneutah.org

CORAL PINK SAND DUNES STATE PARK

Red rock walls give way to a wide plain of bright reddish-pink sand dunes, dotted with wildflowers and wind-swept, low-clinging shrubs. There are hundreds of off-roading trails in the vicinity. 24 miles west of Kanab, UT. stateparks.utah.gov

CEDAR CITY

Near Zion, Cedar City is a bustling college town best known for its Utah Shakespearean Festival. Winner of the "2000 Tony Award for Outstanding Regional Theater," the Festival delights audiences with Shakespeare, Broadway, and more from mid-June-late October scenicsouthernutah.com

BRIAN HEAD RESORT

Challenging mountain biking in summer and fun skiing in winter, Brian Head also offers some of the finest views in western Utah. For serious bikers, begin at the Brian Head Lookout Tower and bike down to Panguitch Lake, a descent of several thousand feet. Shuttles are available from bike shops in both Cedar City and Panguitch. scenicsouthernutah.com



CORAL PINK SAND DUNES STATE PARK



DIXIE NATIONAL FOREST

SCENIC BYWAY 143: UTAH'S PATCHWORK PKWY

Utah's newest National Scenic Byway crosses the Dixie National Forest from Panguitch to Parowan, near Cedar City. Cresting the 4,500-ft (1,372-m) pass at Brian Head, the highway passes through six distinct life zones in 51 miles (82 km). By day, there are abundant outdoor recreational opportunities and, by night, some of the darkest star-filled skies found anywhere on earth. Total distance: 51 mi / 82.1 km



There's a place in Southern Utah that visitors and locals alike say is nothing short of magical. It's a place called **KANAB**.

Surrounded by world-famous locations like Zion National Park, Bryce Canyon National Park, Lake Powell, Coral Pink Sand Dunes, the Wave, and Grand Staircase Escalante National Monument, Kanab has become a destination for those seeking small-town charm and the unspoiled beauty of the American West.

The town of Kanab was established in 1870 and remained a relatively tiny outpost until Hollywood discovered it as a location for western movies in the mid-20th century.

While Kanab has a rich history, it has also developed into a robust 21st-century city with the necessary amenities and infrastructure necessary for today's workforce. Despite its location, Kanab is known for its high-speed internet, which makes working remotely an easy option.

So come to Kanab to see the beautiful surroundings and explore all there is to see. Just don't be surprised if you may start thinking about spending a bit more time in this unique part of the world.



GATEWAY TO WONDER



Whether it is the thrill of live theater, the rush through fresh powder on the slopes, or breathtaking views of scenic wonder, Cedar City is the center of it all. Cedar City is home to a thriving arts scene with the Southern Utah Museum of Art, SimonFest, and the Utah Shakespeare Festival and only 40 minutes from Utah's highest base elevation ski resort, Brian Head. Cedar City is also the gateway to Utah's National Parks with Zion, Bryce, and Cedar Breaks all within a 90 minute drive.

Visit Cedar City • Brian Head | 581 N Main, Cedar City | (435) 586-5124 | visitcedarcity.com

LET *Wonder* BE YOUR GUIDE



BRYCE CANYON NATIONAL PARK

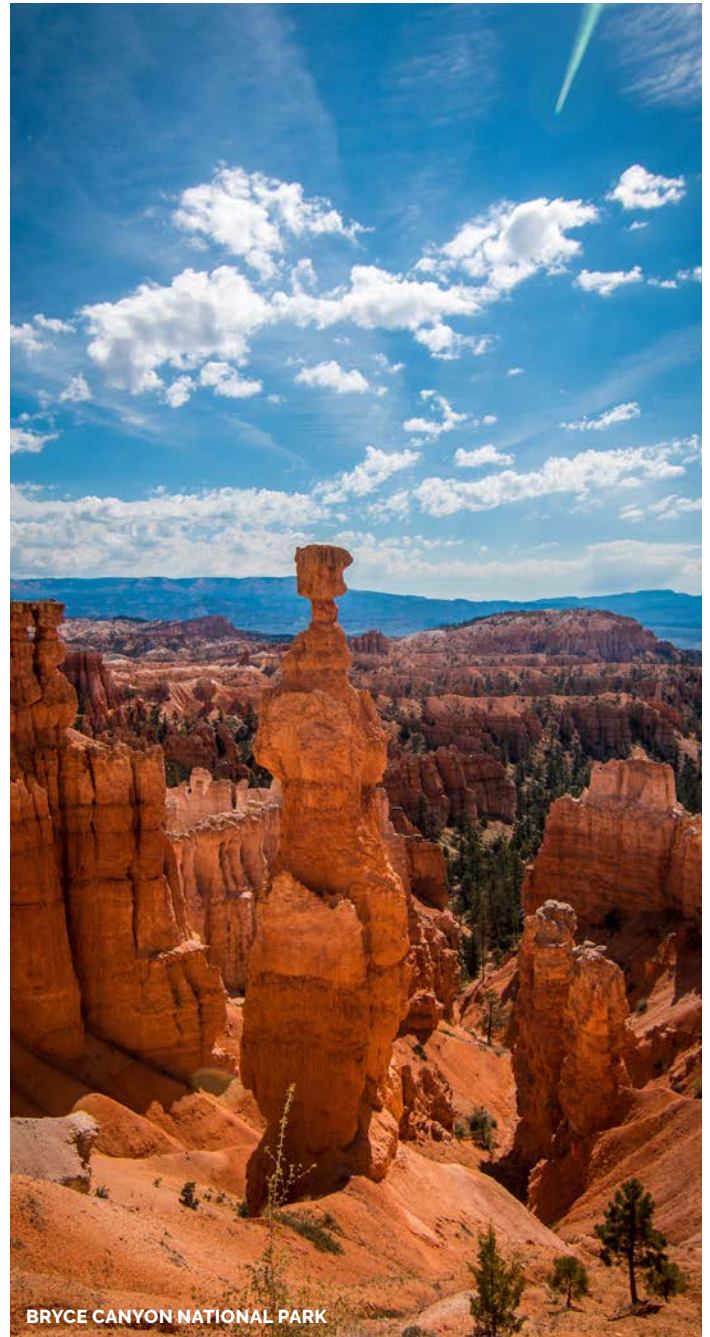
Bryce's original inhabitants, the Paiutes, believed that the rock figures here were people turned to stone by angry gods. Delicately colored spires, fins, and mazes haunt our imagination and beckon us to explore them more closely. Hiking and horseback trails wind through the Park, both along the rim and down amongst the towering rock formations called "hoodoos." A shuttle system (late May through mid-September) connects all major natural amphitheatres along the eastern rim; private vehicles are allowed off-season. There are also evening rodeos, flightseeing, mountain biking, and cross country skiing trails on outskirts of the Park. The Lodge inside the Park will reopen with limited services beginning March 6, 2020 – March 26, 2020 and November 3, 2020 – December 27, 2020. Limited Sunset Motel rooms available. brycecanyonforever.com

RED CANYON

Just minutes from Bryce, a new visitor center showcases the Dixie National Forest. It offers an excellent hiking and biking trail that loops from the top to the bottom of this Forest Service canyon. The trail runs along the recently designated Scenic Byway 12, an All-American Road. Shuttles, bike rentals are available nearby. fs.fed.us/dxnf/recreation/redcanyon | brycecanyoncountry.com

SCENIC BYWAY 12

Utah's first All American Road takes you to the heart of the American West. This exceptional 124-mile route negotiates an isolated landscape of canyons, plateaus, and valleys ranging from 4,000 to 9,000 feet above sea level. You'll encounter archaeological, cultural, historical, natural, recreational, and scenic qualities while driving this exhilarating byway. Total distance: 124 mi / 199.6 km Panguitch to Torrey.



NEARBY COMMUNITIES:

TROPIC and **PANGUITCH** are friendly towns with motels, casual restaurants, and campgrounds, situated near Bryce National Park. brycecanyoncountry.com

KODACHROME BASIN STATE PARK

Red rock chimneys jut upward from the valley floor, perhaps originally springs which eventually filled in. As softer surrounding sandstone eroded, the chimneys remained. stateparks.utah.gov

GRAND STAIRCASE-ESCALANTE NATIONAL MONUMENT

Extending across a breath-taking 1.9 million acres, the Monument represents a unique combination of archaeological, geological, paleontological, and biological resources. These strikingly beautiful and scientifically important lands are divided into three distinct regions: The Grand Staircase, the Kaiparowits Plateau, and the Canyons of the Escalante.

KANAB
MAGICALLY UNSPOILED

Toadstool Hoodoos

Let imagination go.

Coral Pink Sand Dunes

Imagine a landscape full of infinite adventure: unbelievable red rock cliffs, rolling hills of sand, lush winding canyons – a spectacle to behold. In Kanab, Utah, you can let imagination go, because in this little town right outside Utah's national parks, the sights worth imagining are right before your eyes.

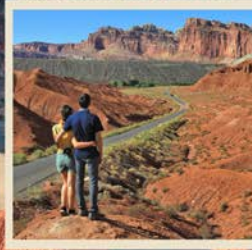
VISITSOUTHERNUTAH.COM

Buckskin Gulch

UTAH
LIFE ELEVATED

The Center of Utah's Mighty Five

CapitolReef.org



Make a deposit in your family memory bank!



WIDE OPEN SPACES



With two National Parks, three State Parks, and one of the largest National Monuments, there's plenty of open space to explore in Bryce Canyon Country.

BRYCECANYONCOUNTRY.COM



NEARBY COMMUNITIES:

BICKNELL and **TORREY**, right off Capitol Reef, have numerous hotels and some fun dining. capitolreef.org

ANASAZI STATE PARK MUSEUM

One of the largest Ancestral Puebloan communities west of the Colorado River, the site was occupied from A.D. 1050 to 1200. The village remains largely unexcavated, but many artifacts have been uncovered and are on display. Boulder, UT. stateparks.utah.gov

GOBLIN VALLEY STATE PARK

Whimsical rocks eroded into what appear to be “goblins,” and these and other fanciful creatures greet visitors in this vast sandstone bowl. Near Canyonlands National Park. stateparks.utah.gov

GREAT BASIN NATIONAL PARK

Located west of the Grand Circle in Nevada, the Park offers incredible diversity: 4,000-year old bristlecone pines; 13,063-foot Wheeler Peak; star-studded night skies. (astronomy programs May–Sept.); the spectacular Lehman Caves (year-round tours). 775-234-7331 | nps.gov/grba | greatbasinheritage.org

LAS VEGAS STRIP

A trip down the Strip is an all-inclusive way to experience the heart of Las Vegas—an adventure that captures 75 years of history, glitz, and roadside charm. Total distance: 4.5 mi / 7.2 km.



CAPITOL REEF NATIONAL PARK

NEARBY COMMUNITIES:

ESCALANTE AND BOULDER

Bordering border the sprawling National Monument and Dixie National Forest, these towns offer excellent access to both. Small and friendly towns, they each have motels, fine B&Bs and several restaurants. Torrey and Bicknell, right off Capitol Reef, are slightly more developed, with numerous hotels and fun dining.

Managed by the Bureau of Land Management, the Monument is a “multi-use area” allowing hiking, mountain biking, horseback riding, and backpacking/camping. Permits required for overnight use are available at offices in Cannonville, Escalante, Boulder, Big Water and Kanab. ut.blm.gov/monument

FISHLAKE NATIONAL FOREST

Located north of Dixie National Forest, Fishlake is particularly noted for hunting, fishing, and its 250-mile-long Paiute ATV trail. Richfield, UT offers easiest access for the trail. fs.fed.us/r4/fishlake

CAPITOL REEF NATIONAL PARK

The Waterpocket Fold, an enormous wrinkle in the earth’s crust known as a monocline, forms the 100-mile-long backbone of this Park. Early explorers described it as an “impassable reef” of rock, coining the park’s name. The Park’s Visitor Center is located in an oasis enjoyed for millennia—pre-European rock art and early settlers’ orchards grace the area. Scenic driving, hiking, backpacking, mountain biking, and horseback riding are allowed in the Park. nps.gov/care | capitolreef.org

NEBO LOOP SCENIC BYWAY

From Nephi to Payson, this Scenic Byway has breath-taking views of the Wasatch Range and 11,877-foot Mt. Nebo, its tallest mountain. See flat bottomlands, high-alpine conifers, red rock formations, gray sandstone cliffs and salt flats all in the same day. Sights include Devil’s Kitchen, Walker Flat and Mt. Nebo Wilderness. Total distance: 37 mi / 59.5 km. Payson to Junction, Highway 132 (near Nephi).



CAPITOL REEF NATIONAL PARK



36.04586° N, 112.05867° W

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not minutes.**



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ARIZONA
THE GRAND CANYON STATE



THE GRAND CIRCLE ALL YEAR LONG

In the Grand Circle, there is no reason to pick one season or one vacation over another—you can do it all. Combine skiing outside Denver or Salt Lake City with biking in Moab or Grand Junction. If the South Rim is chilly in winter, hike into the Grand Canyon for a springtime paradise. If canyons seem too warm in summer, drive up into the mountains for cool green escapes. Fall, Winter and Spring are when crowds ease in the Grand Circle's most popular attractions and prices may ease, as well.

Fall brings a riot of color as portions of the Grand Circle see leaves turn from green to gold and red. Cedar Breaks National Monument, Capitol Reef and Zion in Utah, Grand Junction and the San Juan Mountains in Colorado, Flagstaff, in Arizona all offer dazzling displays. Days are warm and the Grand Circle's dark skies are crisply studded with a myriad of stars and views of the Milky Way.

When it snows, we celebrate. Our mountains become comforted in deep powder, while our canyons are sometimes blessed with dustings of glitter, most often gone by midday. It's a true gift for the lucky who catch the beauty. Photography at this time of the year is exceptional. Scenery takes on a new look as bands of snow streak canyon walls and rock spires are capped in white. All National Parks in the Grand Circle are open, except the North Rim of the Grand Canyon. Yet, in winter you can golf in St. George, UT or hike in mild temperatures amidst the red rocks of Sedona, AZ.

It doesn't snow often in the low elevations, so you can plan a relatively chill-free vacation—tour Chaco Canyon, watch

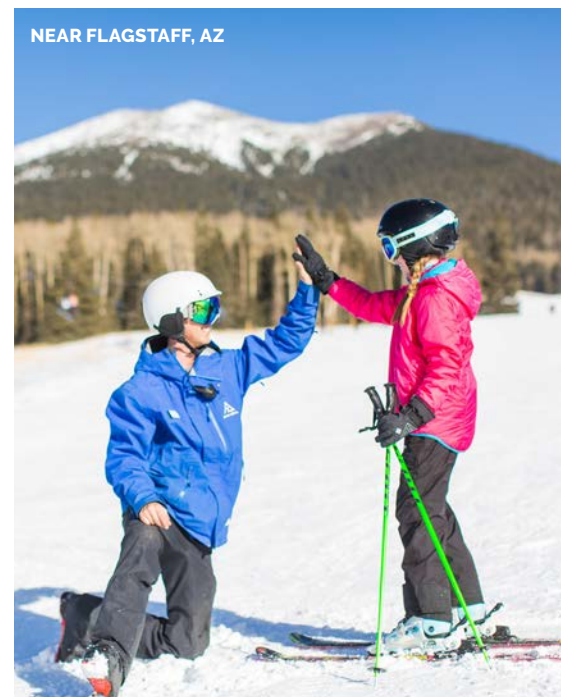


CEDAR CITY, UT

balloons rise over Valley of the Gods, jeep through Canyon de Chelly and explore vivid pastel slot canyons near Page. In winter, you can ski or ride at Brian Head Resort or at Snowbowl near Flagstaff.

In Spring, the Grand Circle bursts with wildflowers and the promise of the seasons to come. Rivers rush with melting snows and days are warm and dry. Biking, hiking, and touring National Parks are in prime time from April through June. Mountains and monuments awaken from winter, ready for summer's bounty.

Throughout the year, communities across the Grand Circle host fantastic and unique special events. From the Fire and Ice Festival in Ely, Nevada to Colorado Mountain Winefest in Grand Junction to the Balloon Fiesta in Albuquerque, NM, The Grand Circle is filled with celebrations throughout the year. Visit grandcircle.org to find out about the hundreds of events that add to your Grand Circle experience.



NEAR FLAGSTAFF, AZ



NEVADA	
1	LAS VEGAS STRIP
UTAH	
2	NEBO LOOP SCENIC BYWAY
3	THE ENERGY LOOP: HUNTINGTON / ECCLES CANYON SCENIC BYWAY
4	FLAMING GORGE - UNITAS SCENIC BYWAY
5	DINOSAUR DIAMOND PREHISTORIC HIGHWAY
6	SCENIC HIGHWAY 12
7	SCENIC BYWAY 143
8	UTAH'S PATCHWORK PARKWAY
8	TRAIL OF THE ANCIENTS SCENIC BYWAY
COLORADO	
5	DINOSAUR DIAMOND PREHISTORIC HIGHWAY
8	TRAIL OF THE ANCIENTS SCENIC BYWAY
9	GRAND MESA SCENIC AND HISTORIC BYWAY
10	SAN JUAN SKYWAY
ARIZONA	
11	KABAB PLATEAU - NORTH RIM PARKWAY
12	HISTORIC ROUTE 66
13	RED ROCKS SCENIC BYWAY
NEW MEXICO	
12	HISTORIC ROUTE 66
14	JEMEZ MOUNTAIN TRAIL
15	EL CAMINO SCENIC BYWAY
16	TURQUOISE TRAIL NATIONAL SCENIC BYWAY

MAP LEGEND

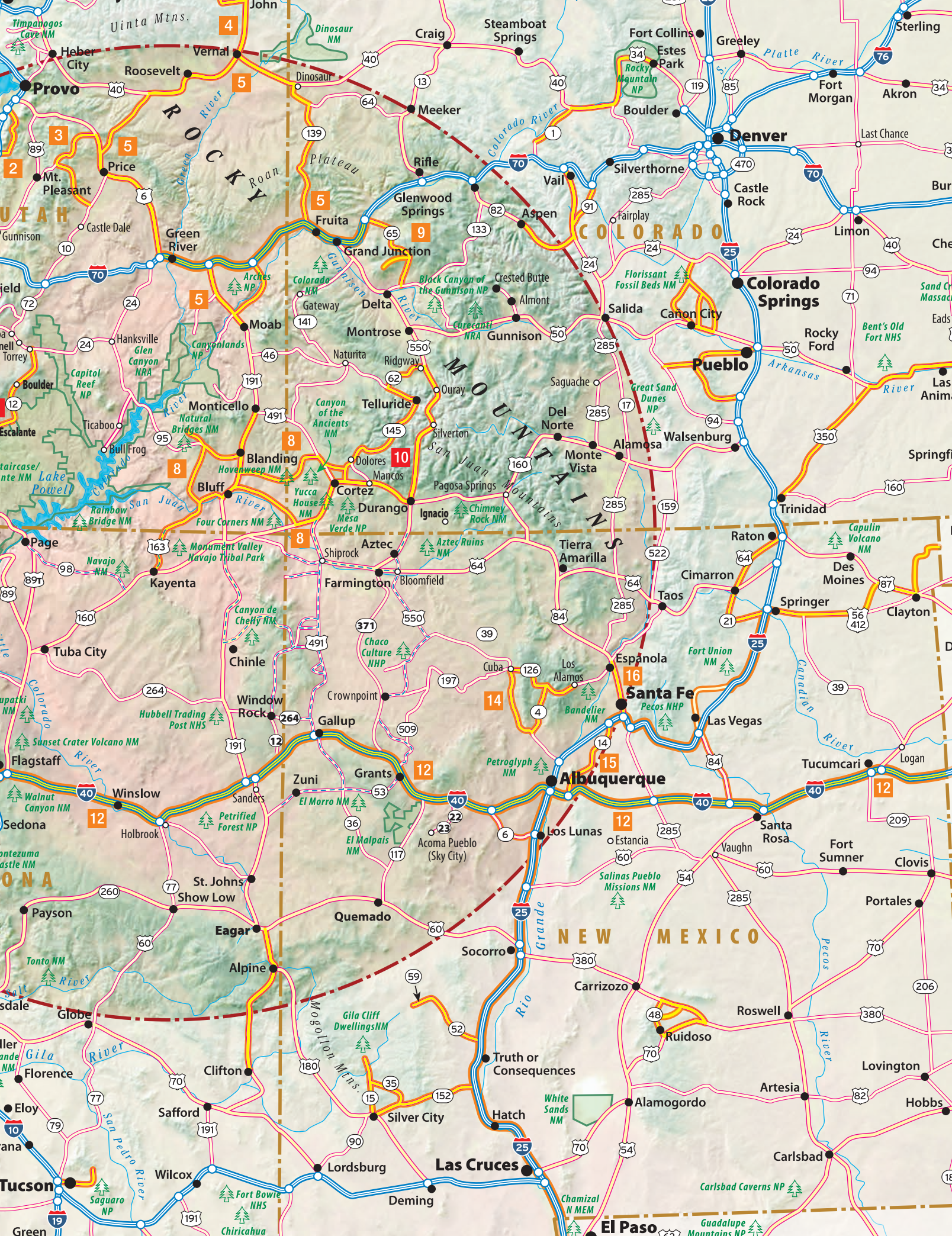
100 miles
150 kilometres

- # ALL-AMERICAN ROAD
- # NATIONAL SCENIC BYWAY
- INTERSTATE
- INTERSTATE SCENIC BYWAY
- NATIONAL SCENIC BYWAY ALL-AMERICAN ROAD
- MAJOR HIGHWAY
- SECONDARY HIGHWAY
- PENDING SCENIC BYWAY



SCAN QR CODE FOR DIGITAL MAP





UTAH

COLORADO

MOUNTAIN

NEW MEXICO

ARIZONA



TUCSON

LAS CRUCES

EL PASO



MONUMENTS AND MESAS

SNOW FED RIVERS DRAIN FROM THE WESTERN SLOPE OF THE ROCKY MOUNTAINS TO CARVE
THE CANYONS OF THE COLORADO RIVER BASIN —POLISHED WORKS OF GEOLOGIC ART.

Extending from Colorado's Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Park and Colorado National Monument on the Grand Circle's eastern fringe through Utah's famed Parks—Canyonlands, Arches, Monument Valley—is an empire of astonishing cliffs and canyons, mountains and mesas. It is a land that invites us to wander and wonder, hike, bike, boat, float, jeep, ride, fly, climb, ski, photograph, or just sit and absorb its timeless beauty.

Each canyon and season offer unique treasures—graceful cottonwoods blazing yellow in the autumn months, canyon wrens calling in spring. Sitting quietly on a smooth sandstone ledge next to a centuries old site and absorbing the afternoon sun (hot in summer, welcomingly warm in winter), you'll understand how people felt a thousand years ago: completely at peace. Bike across slickrock, testing your nerves and muscles, continuing on for miles because it's just too beautiful to turn back. Join a dinosaur dig. Jeep into the cool green mountains of the La Sals or the Abajos, or onto Grand Mesa. Visit a vineyard. Raft the rivers—splash and play under the Grand Circle's stunning blue skies.

DINOSAUR DIAMOND PREHISTORIC HIGHWAY

The Dinosaur Diamond runs through the best land in the world to learn about dinosaurs. Numerous sites are available to the public where bones and tracks are still visible in the ground. Many museums along the way add to the opportunities to see and learn about dinosaurs. Total distance: 480 mi / 772.5 km Circle – Grand Junction, CO to Moab, UT to Grand Junction.

COLORADO NATIONAL MONUMENT is a natural wonder of deep canyons and miraculous sandstone rock spires. Rim Rock Drive winds through spectacular scenery and accesses over forty miles of uncrowded hiking trails. nps.gov/colm | visitgrandjunction.com/areas/colorado-national-monument

GRAND MESA NATIONAL FOREST, the largest flat-top mountain in the world, encompasses over 300 lakes and hundreds of miles of hiking, biking and riding trails. In winter, there are ample opportunities for cross-country skiing. 45 minutes northeast of Grand Junction. fs.fed.us/r2/gmug | visitgrandjunction.com/areas/grand-mesa

GRAND MESA SCENIC AND HISTORIC BYWAY

This "playground in the sky" climbs from the rugged Plateau Canyon floor to the cool evergreen mesa forests, 11,000 feet up. Featured are hundreds of sparkling lakes, wildflower meadows and forests of shimmering aspen and pine. Take a side trip to Lands End Overlook where the Grand Junction area unfolds below. Total distance: 63.0 mi / 101.4 km I-70 to Cedaredge with spur to Lands End.



MONUMENT VALLEY,
NAVAJO TRIBAL PARK



HOVENWEEP NATIONAL MONUMENT



DELICATE ARCH, ARCHES NATIONAL MONUMENT

NEARBY COMMUNITIES:

GRAND JUNCTION makes a wonderful central point from which to explore these monuments, mesas and museums. It's known as a paleontologist's playground, home to the greatest diversity of prehistoric bones ever recovered. Full of restaurants, accommodations, shops, even vineyards. Dinosaur Journey Museum is a wonderful stop for adults and kids alike—robotic dinosaurs, bones and skeleton casts, a working lab, a kids' quarry, and 1-3 day adult digs. visitgrandjunction.com

RIDGWAY, also near the Black Canyon of the Gunnison, serves as a great base-camp for exploring the heart of Southwest Colorado and incredible outdoor recreation. ridgwaycolorado.com

BLACK CANYON OF THE GUNNISON NATIONAL PARK, one of our newest national parks, was formed slowly by water and stones scouring down through hard, dark crystalline rock. No other canyon in North America combines the narrow opening, sheer walls, and startling depths offered by this gorge. There are rim drives and hiking trails with scenic views; trails to the bottom are only for the very experienced hiker. 15 miles east of Montrose, CO, off US 50. The small, friendly town of **MONTROSE** is close to the Black Canyon and has more than a dozen motels to choose from. There is also an excellent small Ute Museum with information about this indigenous Western Slope tribe. [970-249-5000](tel:970-249-5000) | visitmontrose.com | nps.gov/blca

GUNNISON NATIONAL FOREST was named for Captain John Gunnison, a man who came through this area in 1853 in search of a feasible route across the Continental Divide for a railroad. The present Forest consists of over 1.7 million acres of public land and over 100,000 acres of private land within its boundaries. There are two peaks over 14,000' and another 20 that are over 13,000' in elevation. People are also still finding undiscovered Anasazi ruins in the Forest. If you come across ruins, please leave them undisturbed and report your discovery to the appropriate Forest Service personnel. In this area, we are learning much about our Native American heritage through the study of previously unknown and undisturbed sites and artifacts. nps.gov/azru

ARCHES NATIONAL PARK

More than two thousand natural sandstone arches, including the world-famous Delicate Arch, frame this area of Utah's amazing beauty. In some areas, faulting has exposed millions of years of geologic history. An 18-mile paved loop road introduces visitors to a brilliantly colored landscape littered with fins, pinnacles, faults and fossils, hiking trails wind under arches and around windows in stone. 5 miles north of Moab on Hwy 191. nps.gov/arch

CANYONLANDS NATIONAL PARK

Countless canyons, mesas and buttes comprise the three separate districts of this Utah Park—Island in the Sky, the Needles, and the Maze (very difficult access). Each is special. Near Moab, short hiking trails loop through Island in the Sky as raft trips float thousands of feet below to the confluence of the Green and Colorado Rivers. Grand View Point, about 30 miles from Moab, offers a 360 degree panoramic view of the deep canyons below. Off road vehicles and bikes are permitted on the 100-mile White Rim Trail. The Needles District north of Monticello offers a very different beauty with remote loop hikes to spectacular red rock gardens. nps.gov/cany

DEAD HORSE POINT STATE PARK

On the same mesa as Canyonlands' Island in the Sky, 2,000 feet directly above the Colorado River, Dead Horse Point provides a breath-taking panorama of Canyonlands' sculptured pinnacles and buttes. stateparks.utah.gov



The largest city between Denver and Salt Lake, Grand Junction is a mecca for people who define themselves by the amount of time they spend outdoors.

The Grand Junction area is known for world-class single-track mountain bike trails including Lunch Loops, Kokopelli and 18 Road. Unparalleled hiking in Colorado National Monument, the Grand Mesa, and along the Book Cliffs provides uncrowded hiking trails. Enjoy kayaking, rafting, or stand up paddleboarding with easy access to over 40 miles of calm waters on the Colorado River.

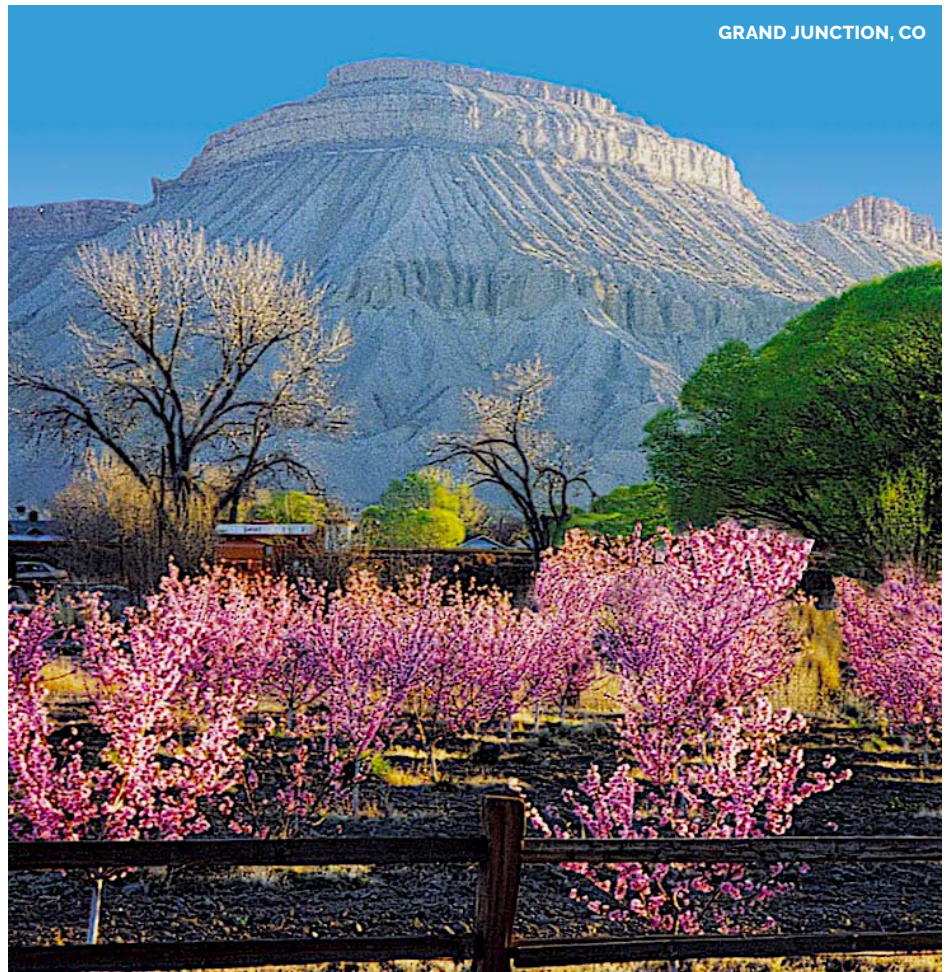
More than just an outdoor playground, Grand Junction is brimming with culture. Downtown is known for farm-to-table restaurants, art galleries and boutiques. Over 100 sculptures line Main Street, part of the award-winning Art on the Corner program, one of the largest outdoor art displays in the country. Three museums, an arts center, and a botanical garden all add to the diversity of activities.

Grand Junction's temperate climate makes for warm summers and mild winters, which create the perfect condition for award-winning vineyards, supplying over 28 wineries in the area and also the world-famous Palisade peach.

It's also home to a rich paleontological history, including the excavation of some of the biggest dinosaurs ever discovered. Today you can visit a working paleontological lab or participate in a live dig site.

With more than 37 hotels, there is plenty of affordable lodging to choose from.

[VISITGRANDJUNCTION.COM](https://visitgrandjunction.com)





COLORADO

LET LIFE TAKE THE LEAD



Experience a place where vibrant music, farm-fresh cuisine and a lively art scene converge with countless outdoor adventures. Where alpine terrain meets dramatic high desert and powerful rivers course through verdant valleys.

Where you can indulge your senses, follow your passions and go wherever they may lead.

GRAND JUNCTION

WHERE LIFE LEADS

MANTI-LA SAL NATIONAL FOREST

Home to the La Sal (near Moab) and Abajo (near Monticello) Mountains, this Forest offers outstanding recreation in cooler temperatures. Wonderful scenic drives snake through these two different ranges, offering views of the surrounding desert floor.

NEWSPAPER ROCK NATIONAL RECREATION SITE

One fabulous wall of Ancestral Puebloan and Ute petroglyphs (art chiseled and pecked into stone) is located on the road into Needles District of Canyonlands.

NEARBY COMMUNITIES:

GOOSENECKS STATE PARK

A stunning overlook views an "ancestral entrenched meander," deep, looping S-curves carved by the San Juan River. 18 miles south of Bluff, UT off Hwys 191 & 261. stateparks.utah.gov/parks/goosenecks

BEARS EARS NATIONAL MONUMENT

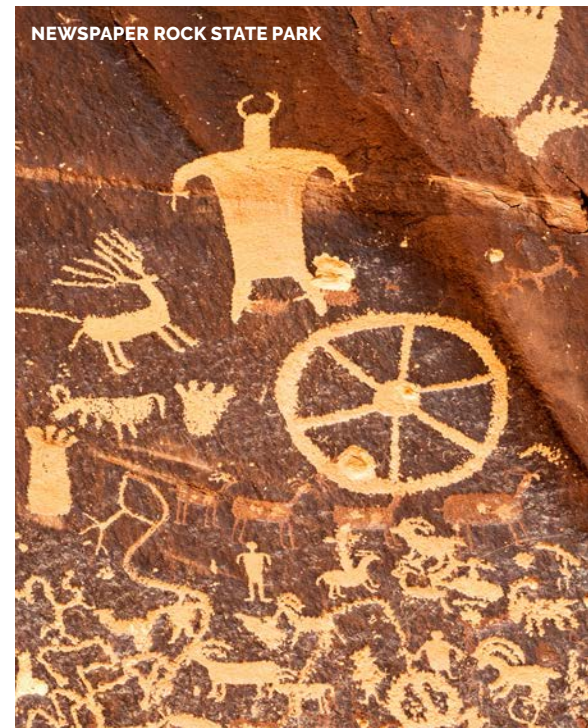
Divided into two tracts of SE Utah, Bears Ears National Monument has numerous natural rock formations and valleys. Abundant rock art, ancestral dwellings, ceremonial sites and other assets of cultural significance to Native American peoples are found through the monument. bearssearsonmonument.org

VALLEY OF THE GODS

A landscape that rivals Monument Valley, but is more accessible for driving, hiking, camping, and biking (managed by BLM) 12 miles south of Bluff, UT.

MOAB

Moab is a vibrant town known for its world class slick rock mountain biking. But there's more—rafting, boat tours, flight seeing, golf, and glorious, solitary hikes, and one of the best breweries in Utah. Lots of lodging and restaurants, some campgrounds. For the southern entrance to Canyonlands' Needles District, Monticello is close and is nestled at the foot of the lovely Abajo Mountains. It has a visitor center, motels, & restaurants. In addition, there is a golf course, mountain bike and ski trails and a hands-on learning center. discovermoab.com | utahscanyoncountry.com



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CEDAR MESA MOKI DUGWAY

NATURAL BRIDGES NATIONAL MONUMENT

Unlike arches, bridges are formed when streams cut through canyon walls. Three lovely bridges in one canyon, all accessible by short, steep hiking trails, are protected here. 36 miles west of Blanding, UT, off Hwy 95. nps.gov/nabr

MONUMENT VALLEY NAVAJO TRIBAL PARK

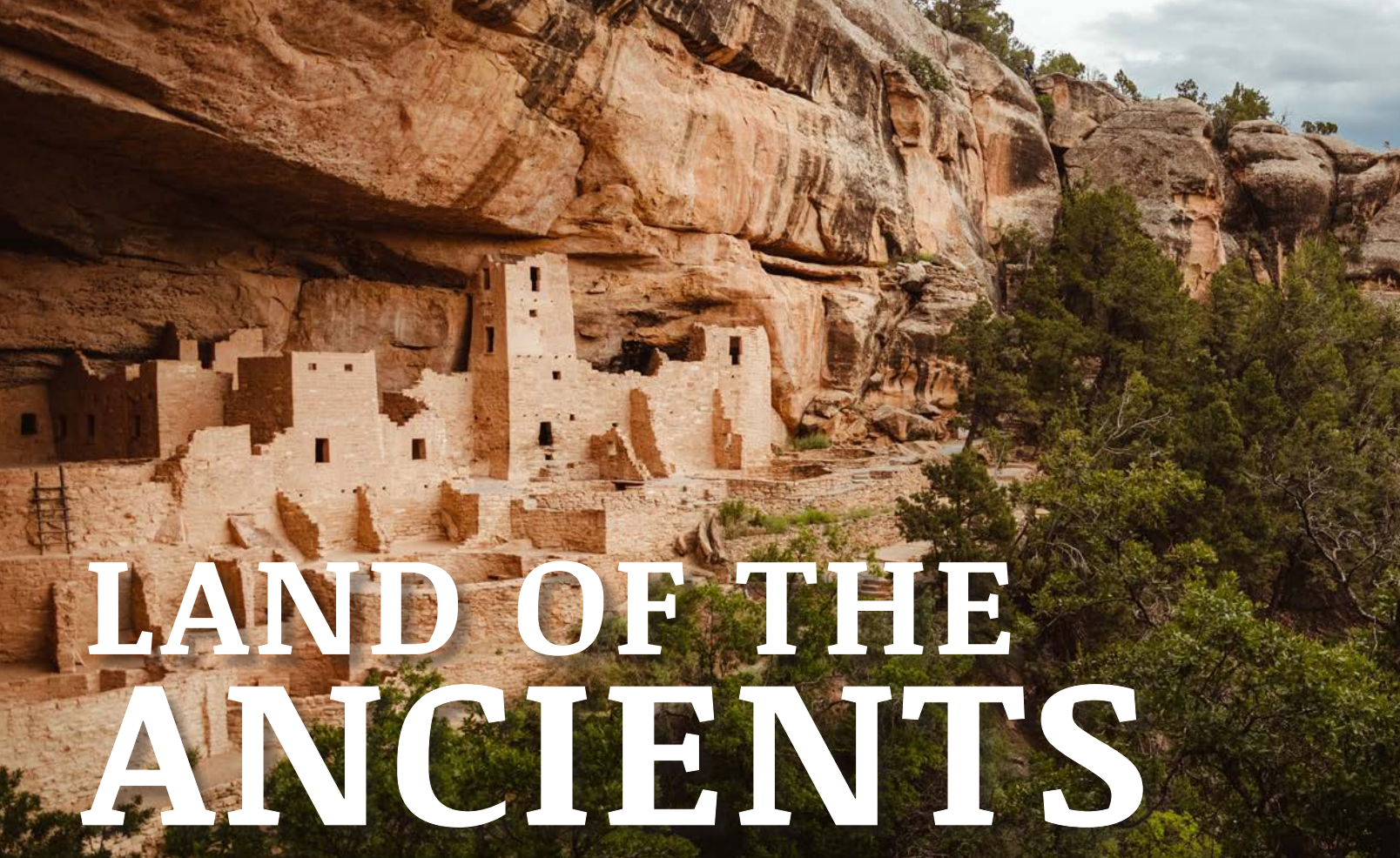
Perhaps the most photographed landscape in America, this valley of monoliths and buttes has been a favorite Hollywood backdrop for 80 years. Still a traditional Navajo homeland, the valley is accessible by private vehicle and guided tours on limited roads. Horseback tours are also available. No backcountry hiking or biking is allowed. Goulding's, the area's first trading post, has a fine small museum on early trading days. utahscanyoncountry.com | navajonationparks.org



MESA ARCH, CANYONLANDS NATIONAL PARK

HISTORIC GOULDING'S LODGE

Known as a western fort or town setting of many John Wayne movies, Historic Goulding's Lodge is one mile from the rim of Monument Valley. It offers accommodations, a restaurant, campground, a museum, grocery store, fast food, and flightseeing. Twenty-five miles south of the valley is Kayenta, AZ, on the Navajo Reservation, with several hotels and small restaurants. North of the valley, in Utah, are Mexican Hat, Bluff, and Blanding. Blanding is the largest town with several motels and restaurants. Their visitor center offers much area information. Bluff, though small, is charming with historic Mormon homes, lots of outfitters and rafters and a few trading posts. It has a wide range of accommodations from motels to cabins and B&B's. Located on the San Juan River, Mexican Hat has several motels and restaurants. Monticello, sheltered by the Abajo Mountains, has several hotels and motels and a full range of dining options. southeastutah.org



LAND OF THE ANCIENTS

Human history seeps from the pores of this land—generations of nomads, farmers, builders, warriors, explorers, traders, miners, and ranchers have traipsed the Colorado Plateau and called it home. Nowhere is this more evident than in the southeast corner of this Grand Circle where remote canyons have nurtured civilizations for hundreds of years.

Tens of thousands of people once lived here, building villages along every creek and near every small, life-giving spring. Travel for a day in this part of the Grand Circle and you will see their traces: small granaries tucked inconspicuously up under rock outcroppings, circles of sunken stones still noting kivas, places of ceremony. Remnants of their homes litter sage-covered plains and mesas. But time and water—those same sculptors of the canyons—wreak havoc on ancient walls. One of the Grand Circle's newest national monuments, Canyons of the Ancients, was recently created to help protect some of these fabulous sites.

The best-known treasures here are Mesa Verde, Chaco Canyon, and Canyon de Chelly. Mesa Verde first caught explorers' attention because it's so well preserved: whole towns protected from weather because they were built in high, dry cliff alcoves. Brooms and sandals, grinding stones and dog-hair weavings capture images of life 800 years ago. Archaeologists thought for years that Mesa Verde was this society's nucleus but, as it turns out, that high plateau was merely a satellite of a far more organized, far more powerful community: Chaco. Apparently the trading and religious center of the Ancestral Puebloan world, Chaco's trade spread from the Pacific to the Mississippi to Meso America. Over hundreds of years, Chacoans created enormous villages and ceremonial structures, as well as precise solstice markers and elaborate irrigation systems. On the western side of the Chuska Mountains, Canyon de Chelly was less developed, less populated

during Puebloan times, but has been occupied since by other native peoples. The Navajo still farm and raise sheep in this magical canyon through a unique partnership with the National Park Service.

Where did the builders of these sandstone cities go? It appears that, by 1300, all the Ancestral Puebloans of this area had migrated south to join with other communities of kin—the Rio Grande Pueblos, the Acoma, Zuni and Hopi peoples—possibly forced from this area by cooling weather and dwindling resources. Their traditions live on today though, in the arts and rituals spread throughout New Mexico and Arizona.

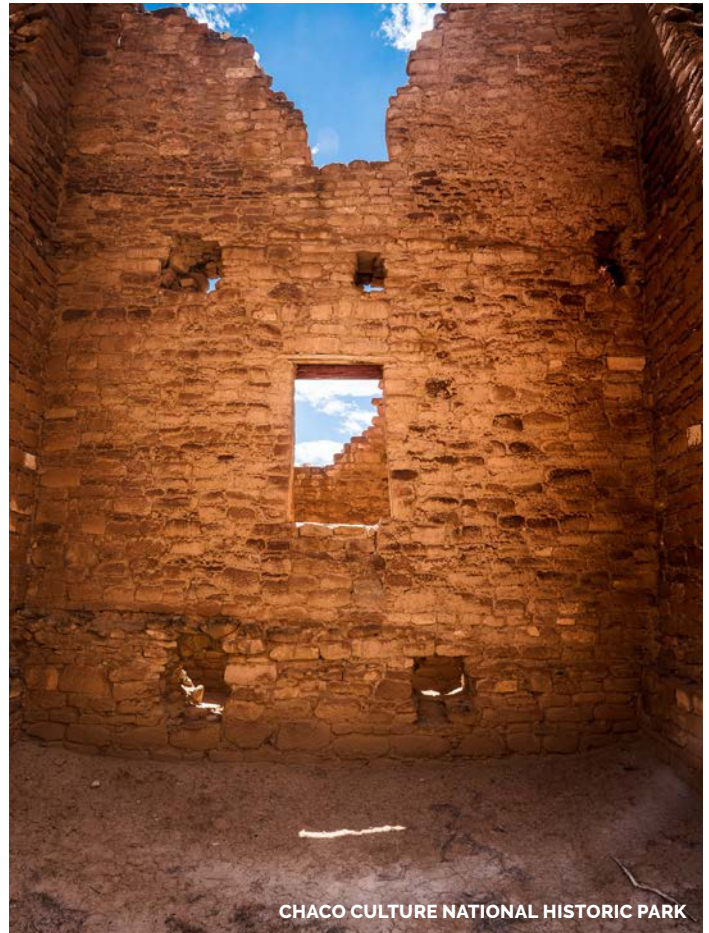
Sixty-five miles west of Albuquerque is **ACOMA PUEBLO** and the **SKY CITY CULTURAL CENTER**. Dating to the 13th century, Acoma Pueblo is the oldest continuously inhabited settlement in North America and the 28th Historic Site designated by the National Trust for Historic Preservation. Its rich history is on display at the Haak'u Museum and features a wide array of art and artifacts of the Acoma and other puebloan tribes of the area. Native American jewelry and the work of contemporary Pueblo artists who create world-renowned pottery are available at the museum. acomaskycity.org/officialbestof.com/features/newmexico/2013.php

ZUNI—thought to be the famed city of gold, Cibola, the Spanish searched for in 1539—is a simple town surrounded by fields tended for centuries and a unique blend of Catholicism and Pueblo beliefs. Two additional National Monuments are near these villages: EL MALPAIS, with wonderful volcanic lava flows and cinders and EL MORRO, which commemorates Inscription Rock – centuries of rock art and European explorers' signatures. nps.gov/elmo

Learn more about **NATIVE NEW MEXICO** through the New Mexico Tourism Department/Indian Tourism Program. newmexico.org/nativeamerica



MESA VERDE NATIONAL PARK



CHACO CULTURE NATIONAL HISTORIC PARK

The **HOP**I live furthest west, isolated on the southern rim of the enormous Black Mesa, the driest place chosen by any Pueblo people. Able to coax corn and beans out of parched earth, ecologists call them "environmental wizards." One is not born Hopi, one aspires to become Hopi. Being Hopi is a state of being, of grace, peacefulness, and honesty. Their sacred dances invoke the rains, but also pray for peace and happiness for the entire world. Today, visitors are still allowed to view some dance ceremonies, should you be lucky enough to attend. No photography or recording devices are allowed.

Arts are a part of life for the different Pueblos. The Hopi Arts Trail allows visitors to connect with the wonderful artists and galleries on the Hopi mesas in northern Arizona. Visitors are welcome to drive across the Hopi reservation using the Arts Trail map as a guide to visit the galleries and contact artists. hopiartstrail.com / hopiculturalcenter.com



NAVAJO DANCER



ACOMA PUEBLO

Utes were undoubtedly the contemporaries of the Ancestral Pueblos, though their small clan, hunter and gatherer style left only scant traces of their centuries old habitation of the southwest. After the Ancestral Pueblos moved away, Utes continued to live along the western slope of Colorado and in the San Juan River basin. In the mid-1600s, after they acquired horses from the Spanish, Utes flourished, becoming fearsome warriors, raiders, and buffalo hunters. But by 1880, the group now known as Southern Utes were only 500 people; the Ute Mountain Utes numbered 650. Today both tribes earn revenues from oil and mineral leases, casinos, and tourism.

THE UTE MOUNTAIN TRIBAL PARK, wrapped around the base of Mesa Verde, contains world-class archaeological sites for visitors to tour with Ute guides. utemountaintribalpark.info

Of all the tribes, the **Navajo** dominate the political and physical landscape. With more than a quarter million tribal members, and more than seven million acres of reservation land spread across three states, the Diné are a powerful nation. Relative newcomers to the southwest—they are believed to have migrated here in the 1400s—the **Navajo** language is similar to Canadian-Athabaskan. Masters of adaptation, the **Navajo** quickly picked up agriculture, sheepherding, and weaving for profit from traders. Unlike the Pueblos though, most traditional Diné families choose to live apart from their neighbors. Hogans—one roomed earthen structures that originally served as homes—often sit next to modern houses, but they're still used and appreciated. Notice how every hogan faces east, to greet the dawn.

The traditional arts of the **Navajo**—sand painting, basket weaving, silversmithing, pottery and rug weaving—have experienced a revival in recent years and are valued by visitors and collectors. Today the Nation has its own unified government and a strong view of the future. discovernavajo.com

HOVENWEEP NATIONAL MONUMENT

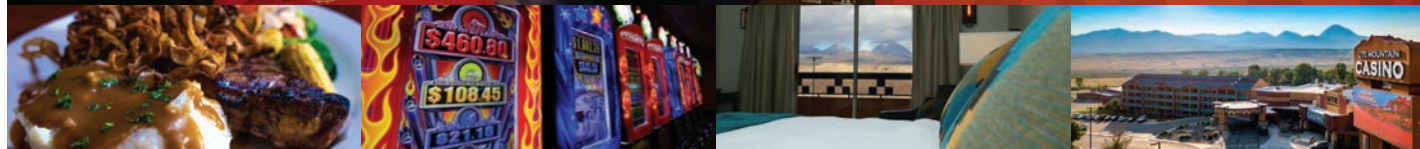
Five beautifully built ancient towers cluster at the heads of spring-fed canyons in this small, undeveloped park. Their use is still unknown – was it for storage? Solstice observation? Defense? Facilities include a Vistor Center and self-guided interpretive and hiking trails. Travel three miles south of Cortez, CO. on Hwy 160, then west 39 miles on County Road G (McElmo Canyon Road).
970-562-4282 | nps.gov/hove



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MESA VERDE NATIONAL PARK

Repeatedly cited as one of the world's top cultural attractions, Mesa Verde was home to the Ancestral Puebloans for more than 700 years. Many of the best-preserved dwellings were built high on cliff walls in alcoves, well-protected from the elements. Complete homes and entire villages have survived with many artifacts amazingly intact, providing visitors a unique and thought-provoking glimpse into America's pre-European past. Self-guided interpretive trails on the mesa's surface, ranger-guided tours of some cliff dwellings, concessions-guided tours and lodging. visitmesaverde.com | nps.gov/meve | mesaverdecountry.com

CORTEZ CULTURAL CENTER

A forum for arts, education, and Native cultures, the Center offers free Indian Dances and Cultural Programs, or the outdoor drama Black Shawl during the summer months. The Center also features exhibits of prehistoric and contemporary Native tribes, as well as rotating art exhibits. cortezculturalcenter.org

CANYONS OF THE ANCIENTS MUSEUM & VISITOR CENTER

A wonderful, interactive museum and information center introduces visitors to artifacts and pre-European ruins. The Center is also the headquarters of Canyons of the Ancients National Monument. 10 miles north of Cortez off Hwys 145 & 184. The Heritage Center was renamed the Canyons of the Ancients Museum and Visitor Center. blm.gov/learn/interpretive-centers/CANM-visitor-center-museum

CANYONS OF THE ANCIENTS NATIONAL MONUMENT

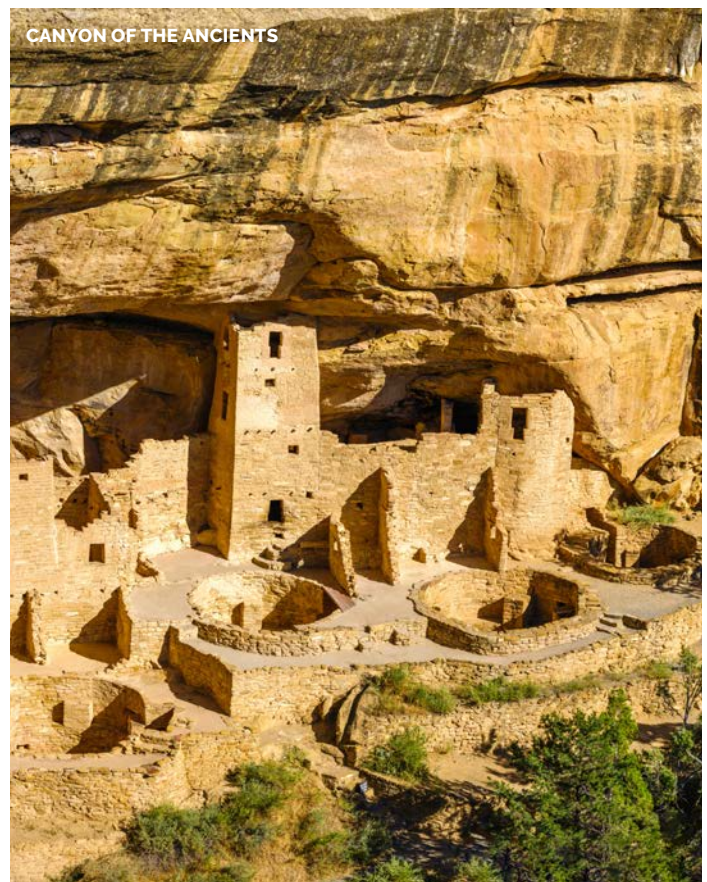
Newly designated to protect thousands of unexcavated archaeological sites, this Monument still lacks significant infrastructure. So far, there is just one interpretive site and two hiking trails. Lowry Pueblo, just north of Cortez, is a self-guided tour. Sand Canyon, off McElmo Canyon Road, has a nice canyon hiking trail that passes several cliff dwellings and Painted Hand Pueblo, a backcountry site, has a beautiful standing tower and pictographs. For information on how to reach these hiking trails, visit the Anasazi Heritage Center. blm.gov/visit/canyons-ancient-national-monument

FOUR CORNERS MONUMENT

Four states meet at this Monument, surrounded by the Ute and Navajo Nations. Here you can have your photo taken touching four states at one time. 38 miles southwest of Cortez, CO, off Hwy 160.

DURANGO & SILVERTON NARROW GAUGE RAILROAD

In the 1880s a narrow rail line was strung along the Animas River, a twisting river gorge, to connect Silverton and Durango. Authentic coal fired steam engines still pull passengers in narrow gauge cars on an incredibly scenic journey through Durango, CO. 970-247-2733 | durangotrain.com



TRAIL OF THE ANCIENTS NATIONAL SCENIC BYWAY – EAST

On the East side, Trail of the Ancients traverses a landscape filled with traces of the long occupation of the region by ancestral Native American peoples. The archaeological heartland of the Southwest, the Scenic Byway travels across stark and beautiful landscapes. Explore world-renowned Mesa Verde National Park, Monument Valley Tribal Park, Four Corners Monument, Chaco Canyon, Zuni Pueblo, Bisti Badlands and Aztec Ruins National Monument. The Trail of the Ancients is a loop route that may be started at any point along its length. On the east you can begin the loop in Cortez, CO, Farmington and Gallup NM. Total distance: 480 mi / 772 km.

WILD WEST ADVENTURE IN
DURANGO,
COLORADO



Photo: Anthony D'Amato



Colorado's Historic Durango & Silverton Narrow Gauge Railroad

Experience world-famous canyon views on board our vintage trains. Join us on a scenic excursion or at one of our special events for adults and kids. Durango, CO is in the heart of America's Southwest Grand Circle; it is the only point in the U.S. shared by four states. The circle has the largest concentration of national parks and monuments in the U.S.

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MESAVERDECOUNTRY.COM

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Mesa Verde
COUNTRY
 COLORADO

SAN JUAN SKYWAY

Travel the "road to the sky" which offers views of the towering 14,000-foot San Juan Mountains to rolling hillsides speckled with ancient Indian pueblo ruins. Victorian towns offer both excitement and relaxation. Soak in hot springs, ride the narrow-gauge railroad, and sleep under the stars or in a cozy lodge. This byway can be traveled in a loop. Total distance: 236 mi / 379.8 km

NEARBY COMMUNITIES:

Sizeable towns nearest Mesa Verde are Cortez and Durango, Colorado. **CORTEZ** (eight miles west of Mesa Verde) makes a wonderful base for exploring more of the area's archaeology and offers free Indian dances nightly. **DURANGO** (36 miles east) offers the historic silver boomtown feel with the famous Durango & Silverton Railroad, and Victorian architecture. Both have numerous hotels, restaurants, and other entertainment. mesaverdecountry.com / durango.org

CHACO CULTURE NATIONAL HISTORIC PARK

Unlike most of today's well-known, well-preserved Ancestral Puebloan sites, Chaco is not comprised of cliff dwellings. Instead, a broad, shallow canyon cradles the spectacular public architecture of this ancient urban center, the hub of the Puebloan world for religion, trade, and administration. Hiking only; mountain biking on the one loop road around the canyon floor. 76 miles south of Farmington, off of Hwy 550. nps.gov/chcu

AZTEC RUINS NATIONAL MONUMENT

Nestled on the edge of the free-flowing Animas River in Aztec, NM, this 450-room UNESCO World Heritage site was occupied by ancestral Pueblo people from 1100-1300 A.D. The largest ceremonial chamber within the Pueblo is the only reconstructed Great Kiva in North America. Self-guided interpretive trail, visitor center, museum, picnic area. Located in northwest New Mexico off U.S. Hwy. 550 just 10 minutes south of the Colorado/New Mexico state line. nps.gov/azru

NEARBY COMMUNITIES:

Sizeable towns near these popular wilderness areas and Ancestral Puebloan destinations in northwest New Mexico include Aztec, Bloomfield, Farmington and Shiprock. aztecnm.com / bloomfieldnm.com / farmingtonnm.org

THE FARMINGTON / GALLUP / FOUR CORNERS AREA

are the hubs of Navajo Country in New Mexico that include Red Rock State Park, museums, lodging, restaurants, and outdoor recreation. navajonationparks.org / discovernavajo.com

PETROGLYPH NATIONAL MONUMENT

Although traces of Native American culture can be found throughout the Monument, it is of course best known for the over 20,000 petroglyphs (images pecked or carved into rock) that can be viewed there. Five volcanic cinder cones on the West Mesa of Albuquerque produced the basalt boulders that were the rough canvas for these amazing petroglyphs. The Visitors Center, once a homestead-era traditional adobe home, is the best place to start your visit.

BANDELIER NATIONAL MONUMENT

Bandelier's human history extends back for over 10,000 years when nomadic hunter-gatherers followed migrating wildlife across the mesas and canyons. Around 1150, Ancestral Pueblo people began to build permanent settlements here, but by 1550 the Ancestral Pueblo people had moved from their homes to pueblos along the Rio Grande (Cochiti, San Felipe, San Ildefonso, Santa Clara, Santo Domingo). Reminders of these past times are still evident in the monument.

TURQUOISE TRAIL NATIONAL SCENIC BYWAY

Linking Albuquerque and Santa Fe, the byway is surrounded by a Scenic and Historic Area encompassing 15,000 square miles. From the views atop Sandia Crest, travel through the historic mining towns Golden, Madrid and Cerillo, alive with art, crafts, museums, and restaurants. Total distance: 50 mi / 81 km along Highway 14.

BISTI BADLANDS & DE-NA-ZIN WILDERNESS AREA

This wonderland of soft clay and sandstone formations can be reached from state road 371 on US 64.

SALMON RUINS & HERITAGE PARK

Another large "greathouse," or small village, believed to have been a community connected to the people of Chaco Canyon. Eight miles east of Farmington, NM on Hwy 64. farmingtonnm.org

CANYON DE CHELLY NATIONAL MONUMENT

This Monument shelters over 1,600 years of Native American history. Early Ancestral Puebloan basket maker home sites built high into cliff alcoves grace spectacular red rock canyons where Navajo farmers and sheepherders still live. One hiking trail; jeep and horseback guided tours. Near Chinle, AZ, off Hwy 191. nps.gov/cach



BISTI BANDLANDS & DE-NA-ZIN WILDERNESS AREA

JEMEZ MOUNTAIN TRAIL

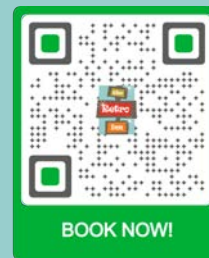
Jemez Mountain Trail takes you through time, past amazing geological formations, ancient Indian ruins, and an Indian pueblo. The area is rich in logging, mining, and ranching heritage. Sites include Jemez State Monument, Bandelier National Monument, Soda Dam, Cabezón, Battleship Rock, and the Spence and Jemez Mountain Hot Springs. Total distance: 163 mi / 262 km. Loop Road near Albuquerque, NM.

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HUBBELL TRADING POST NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE

The trader John Lorenzo Hubbell introduced rug patterns popular on the East Coast (imported from China and Persia) and locals began weaving them to create the distinctive regional style of Ganado. Today, the trading post looks as it did a century ago, stocked with excellent rugs for sale. Weaving demonstrations also done. 36 miles south of Chinle, AZ (Canyon de Chelly) on Hwys 191 & 264. nps.gov/hutr

NEARBY COMMUNITIES:

The small town of Chinle, and the capital of the Navajo Nation, Window Rock, both in Arizona, have several motels and restaurants for visitors. Window Rock serves as the seat of government for the Navajo Nation and a base for its' touring council meetings. The Navajo Nation Museum and the Navajo Nation Code Talkers World War II memorial are located here. Gallup, NM, located on I-40 about 100 miles south of Canyon de Chelly, is a busy trading center for all southwestern arts, particularly silversmithing. It is estimated that 80% of Navajo and Pueblo jewelry passes through Gallup's wholesalers. GallupRealTrue.com | discovernavajo.com navajopeople.org/nnm

HISTORIC ROUTE 66 SCENIC BYWAY

In its glory days Historic Route 66 was a symbol of freedom and opportunity to travelers across the nation as it stretched across Northern New Mexico and Arizona. History lovers have preserved many of the attractions so unique to the "Mother Road" in places like Albuquerque and Gallup. Relive the glory days of one of America's most historic byways by visiting restored quirky restaurants, such as Mother Road Brewing Company in Flagstaff, Arizona, as well as gas stations, motels, and other sites all along the Historic Route 66.



ROUTE 66 THROUGH FLAGSTAFF



EX-PE-RI-ENCE



✓ *An event or occurrence that leaves an impression on someone.*

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Detours offers scheduled day tours, multi-day tours from Phoenix and Las Vegas to Sedona, Grand Canyon South Rim/West Rim, Apache Trail, Antelope Canyon and other Southwest highlights. Unique tours to National Parks and Native American lands are operated out of Phoenix, Las Vegas, and Albuquerque. Group size is generally 8-12. Our Platinum programs offer private tours in luxury SUVs for 2-6 people. We can custom design anything! 722 S. Perry Lane, Tempe, AZ 85281. 480-633-9013, fax 480-633-8687. detoursamericanwest.com

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HOSPITALITY MANAGEMENT SERVICES

Hospitality Management Services operates a number of properties in the southwestern United States. They help to manage a diverse portfolio of hotels, restaurants, and adventure tourism destinations. They currently manage Aarchway Inn, Moab; Hyatt Place Moab, Moab; Holiday Inn Express, Mesa Verde; Retro Inn at Mesa Verde; Destination Grill, Cortez; Zax Restaurant, Moab; and soon to open - Hoodoo Moab - Curio Collection by Hilton. 10 West 100 South, Moab, UT 84532. 303-419-1192. HMSMoab.com

SOUTHERN UTAH SCENIC TOURS

Established in 1999, we have been providing top-quality tours of Utah's breathtaking national parks and other iconic destinations such as the Grand Canyon, Yellowstone, and more. Whether you are seeking a family-friendly adventure or a romantic getaway, we offer both scheduled and private tours to meet your needs. With our commitment to excellence and being "TripAdvisor" recommended, you can trust that your experience with us will be unforgettable. P.O. Box 911772, St. George, UT. 888-404-8687 or 435-656-1504. utahscenicitours.com

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As a Destination Management Company, we provide individuals and groups with scenic, photography, and adventure tours throughout the Southwestern US. We offer a wide range of day tour and multi-day tour options and activities and can customize tours to meet your needs. Tours departing from Las Vegas, Phoenix, Sedona, Salt Lake City and other local areas adjacent to the National Parks. Contact us to start planning your adventure today! 382 East 650 South Circle, Cedar City, UT 84720. 435-590-5864. southwestadventuretours.com

SWEETOURS

Since 2000, Sweetours has offered trips to the Grand Canyon South Rim, Grand Canyon West Rim, Hoover Dam, Bryce Canyon and Zion National Park. We also offer in-town transportation for schools, churches, individuals, and conventions, with airport and convention center transfers. Dedicated to high quality of customer service and satisfaction, Sweetours connects people to their dream destinations! 702-456-9200. sweetours.com

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ARIZONA

ARIZONA EXPOSURE MARKETING

We are a full-service agency with 30 years of tourism marketing and advertising experience. We also publish the popular Northern Arizona Exposure Map, which has been providing visitors with information for 25 years. For a full list of our services, see our member listing on GrandCircle.org. Follow us at: [Facebook.com/ArizonaThingsToDo](https://www.facebook.com/ArizonaThingsToDo). 2445 N. Belgian Way, Camp Verde, AZ 86322. 928-607-1213. arizonaexposure.com

ARIZONA OFFICE OF TOURISM

Arizona - Experience the Grand Canyon, old west legends, Native American and Hispanic heritage, sun-drenched adventures, resorts to ranches, shopping & sports! For Arizona vacation information and travel deals. 100 N 7th Ave, Ste. 400, Phoenix, AZ 85007. 866-488-3754. visitarizona.com

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CANYON DE CHELLEY

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CANYON DE CHELLEY TOURS

Canyon de Chelly Tours is a 100% Diné woman-owned business. We ensure that every guide is a professional and certified by both the National Park Service and the Navajo Nation Parks and Recreation. We pride ourselves in providing you with memories that will last a lifetime. We provide hiking, Jeep/SUV, camping tours in Canyon de Chelly National Monument in Chinle, AZ, Navajo Nation. 1889 W. Queen Creek Rd #1101, Chandler, AZ 85218. 480-297-7860. canyondechellytours.com

FLAGSTAFF

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Located in the mountains of northern Arizona, Flagstaff is a destination for all seasons. Flagstaff's four seasons are enviable by many. Summer temperatures average in the low 80s with sapphire blue skies and crisp mountain air, while winter adventures await in Arizona's officially designated Winter Wonderland with an average 108" of snow fall in downtown. The bounty continues into Fall with a panoramic canvas of quaking aspen and foliage with hues of reds and purples. Spring offers breathtaking beauty of blooms in the world's largest contiguous ponderosa pine forest. 211 West Aspen Ave, Flagstaff, AZ 86001. 928-774-9541. discoverflagstaff.org

GILBERT

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Voted Phoenix's Coolest Suburb in 2016, Gilbert, Arizona boasts an array of attractions not found anywhere else in the Valley. Name a Top Five Food Neighborhood in Metro Phoenix, home to the world's 2013 Best New Brewery and a thriving agritainment community. 30-minutes southeast of Phoenix. Centrally located for some of Arizona's most beautiful attractions. 90 E. Civic Center Dr, Gilbert, AZ 85296. 480-503-6000. discovergilbert.com

GRAND CANYON / SOUTH RIM

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GRAND CANYON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Tusayan is your welcoming community nestled in the Kaibab Forest just a mile from the main entrance to the Grand Canyon National Park. Comfortable motels, a campground, restaurants, the world famous IMAX Theater, and the official Arizona State Visitor Information Center make Tusayan a perfect home base for enjoying the South Rim. 469 AZ 64, Suite C, Tusayan, AZ 86023. 928-638-4095. grandcanyoncvb.org

GRAND CANYON PLAZA HOTEL

Located one mile from Grand Canyon National Park South Rim Entrance. 176 deluxe rooms and 56 two-room suites, kids 16 and under stay free, full-service restaurant (buffet or menu dining), New Wagon Wheel Saloon, indoor garden atrium with 18 ft. spa, and outdoor pool (seasonal). 1-800-995-2521 or 928-638-2673. grandcanyonplaza.com

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The recently renovated Lodge is located one mile from the Grand Canyon National Park South Rim entrance. Our friendly staff can assist you with information regarding the area. Kids 17 and under stay free with parents. Pet rooms available (advance reservations recommended). Rooms have coffee makers, refrigerators, microwaves, cable television, and free Wi-Fi. Fitness Room. Laundry Facilities. 300 State Rte 64, Grand Canyon, AZ 86023. 928-638-2414 or 800-538-2345. redfeatherlodge.com

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PAGE/LAKE POWELL

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We are Experience Hopi! We were created to be Moenkopi Developers Corporation, Inc. (MDC), a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation, established with a mission of economic development for the Upper Village of Moenkopi (UVM). MDC's mission is to create jobs for the Hopi people and to create revenue for the Upper Village. We have two major entities under MDC. The hotel and travel center. We also have programs like our Experience Hopi Tours and the Hopi Arts Trail. P.O. Box 2260, Tuba City, AZ 86045. 928-283-4500. experiencehopi.com

COLORADO

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Located in the "Four Corners" region where Colorado meets Utah, Arizona and New Mexico, Durango is the perfect gateway to experience the history of the American West. Durango offers "a dozen vacations in one destination." From old west experiences, ancient ruins, and arts & culture to adventure sports, agritourism and special events, Durango has something to offer all travelers. Durango Welcome Center: 802 Main Ave, Durango, CO 81301. 800-525-8855. durango.org

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Grand Junction is the Gateway to Colorado's Wine Country, scenic canyon lands, mountains, rivers, and trails of Western Colorado. The Grand Vista Hotel is a full-service hotel with 158 rooms conveniently located off Interstate 70 on Horizon Drive, only 1/4 mile from Grand Junction Regional Airport in the city's primary lodging and business district. Our guest rooms feature travertine tile and granite bath areas, comfortable chairs and ottomans for reading or tv viewing, in-room artwork and pillow-top mattresses, and an English-style pub for eating and relaxing. 2790 Crossroads Blvd, Grand Junction, CO 81506. 970-241-8411. grandvistahotel.com

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IGNACIO

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MESA VERDE

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Home to Mesa Verde National Park, two National Monuments and a Tribal Park. Experience the Trail of the Ancients, the only National Scenic Byway dedicated solely to archaeology. 'One day just isn't enough!' P.O. Box HH, Cortez, CO 81321. 970-565-8227; 800-253-1616. mesaverdecountry.com

MESA VERDE NATIONAL PARK

In 1906 Mesa Verde National Park was set aside to "preserve the works of man." Over 52,000 acres preserve approximately 4,800 known archeological sites. P.O. Box 8, Mesa Verde, CO 81330. 970-529-4465. nps.gov/meve

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RIDGWAY

RIDGWAY LODGE & STAR SALOON

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NEW MEXICO

ALBUQUERQUE

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AZTEC

CITY OF AZTEC

Aztec epitomizes the Great American West. A popular Four Corners gateway, Aztec is rich in multi-cultural heritage, ancestral traditions and top-tier amenities and events. Among them: Aztec Ruins National Monument (a UNESCO World Heritage site), world-class Quality Waters fly-fishing, over 200 natural sandstone arches, and sumptuous outdoor recreation. 110 N. Ash Ave, Aztec, NM 87410. 888-543-4629. aztecnm.com

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FARMINGTON CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAU

Farmington, NM is the affordable family friendly basecamp for discovering the authentic cultures, national treasures and outdoor adventures of the Four Corners. With four distinct beautiful seasons it's an ideal getaway for outdoor lovers and active families. Known for world class off roading, fishing, golfing and scenic landscapes it's a must for your next road trip. Contact us at 800-448-1240 for a free vacation guide. When in town stop by our visitor center at 3041 E. Main St, Farmington, NM. Learn more at farmingtonnm.org



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CAPITOL REEF / BICKNELL / TORREY

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KANAB

SOUTHERN UTAH'S KANE COUNTY OFFICE OF TOURISM

Centrally located to Bryce, Zion, Lake Powell, Grand Canyon and many more. Kanab and surrounding Kane County is the perfect basecamp for your Southern Utah adventure. 78 South 100 East, Kanab, UT 84741. 435-644-5033; 800-SEE-KANE visitsouthernutah.com

GRAND CIRCLE TOURS

Grand Circle Tours offers professional guided tours of The Vermilion Cliffs, Grand Staircase-Escalante, Coyote Buttes, Buckskin Gulch, and Coral Pink Sand Dunes. 78 S 100 E, Kanab, UT 84741. 928-691-0166 grandcircuitours.net

MOAB



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San Juan County, Utah is home of Canyonlands National Park; Hovenweep, Natural Bridges and Rainbow Bridge National Monuments; Edge of the Cedars and Dead Horse Point State Parks; Monument Valley Lake Powell and much more! For information, maps & travel guides call 800-574-4386. utahscanyoncountry.com

PANGUITCH

BRYCE CANYON COUNTRY

Destination marketing organization for the Bryce Canyon National Park area and Utah's only All-American Road, Scenic Byway 12. Information, images, itineraries and trip planning available. 55 South Main, Panguitch, UT 84759. 435-676-1160/ 1161; 800-444-6689. brycecanyoncountry.com

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