



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Death Valley National
Park

CA Highway 190
P.O. Box 579
Death Valley, CA 92328

phone 760.786.3200
fax 760.786.3283

Death Valley News Release

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Contact: Terry Baldino
Telephone: 760.786.3279

The Titus Canyon Road Closed Since January of 2006 Is Now Open

On August 29th, the Titus Canyon Road, one of the most scenic and popular of the park's backcountry roads, reopened to the public. The road was washed out and heavily damaged by flash flooding in January of this year. The Titus Canyon Road follows the flash flood channel of the canyon down through miles of rock-walled narrows with walls rising hundreds of feet above the valley floor. The road and canyon are spectacular, but the road is highly susceptible to flooding and rock falls.

The road starts near the ghost town of Rhyolite on Nevada Highway 374 and travels a gravel and hard-packed route over the top of the Grapevine Mountains at Red Pass. From that scenic view, the road drops steeply down into Titus Canyon over clay hills that become impassible to all vehicles after rains. The ruins of the historic ghost town of Leadfield can be seen at the bottom of the canyon and the road then continues for miles down the narrow, dark-walled, water-fluted canyon until it emerges from the face of the cliff three miles from the Scotty's Castle road. The twenty-six mile one-way road is recommended for vehicles with good ground clearance "high clearance" such as pickup trucks, vans, SUVs and 4X4s. It is steep, rough, rocky, and **NOT** recommended for passenger cars.

On the 29th, Death Valley road crews finished clearing rocks and debris from the road surface, repairing the large flood channels in and across the road, and grading the entire length of the canyon.

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