

National Park Service U.S. Department of the Interior

Death Valley National Park

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Death Valley News Release

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More Death Valley Roads Open

The Badwater Road to Shoshone, California (Highway 178) will officially open early Sunday morning, September 12, 2004. "We had hoped to get the road open by the later part of September", states park Superintendent J.T. Reynolds, "but we are a good week ahead of schedule thanks to the hard work of our road crews."

Visitors will be able to drive through the southern half of the park and take in some of the more famous sites along the Badwater Road. Since our primary effort was to get the main route through the valley open, several of the scenic side roads will remained closed until road crews have a chance to complete their repairs. The following side roads will be closed a bit longer and will re-open as repairs are completed:

- Natural Bridge Canyon
- Devil's Golf Course
- Artist Drive This road was severely damaged and will need to have several miles rebuilt. It is estimated that it will remain closed for 3 to 5 months.

The Golden Canyon parking area will be open for visitors. This popular one-mile, one-way hiking trail is only recommended during the early morning hours this time of year. Day time temperatures will still be hot, and hiking during the hottest part of the day is discouraged. For safety reasons all other routes in this area will be closed due to storm damage. We ask that visitors observe all posted closures.

State Highway 190 between Death Valley Junction and Furnace Creek will remain closed until further notice. No commercial thru traffic will be allowed on park roads until Highway 190 is repaired. The rebuilding of the damaged section of road will take several months. For more information on current park road conditions, please check the park's web site at www.nps.gov/deva or call the park's information phone line at 760-786-3200.

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