



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Death Valley National
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Death Valley News Release

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America's Best Idea Has Come to Death Valley National Park

American Pulitzer prize-winning author Wallace Stegner wrote that national parks are 'America's best idea,' - a departure from the royal preserves that Old World sovereigns enjoyed for themselves - inherently democratic, open to all, "they reflect us at our best, not our worst." The traveling photography exhibit – America's Best Idea takes you on a visual tour of America's most special natural and cultural places – our national parks. The exhibit showcasing all 58 national parks is on display through Easter weekend (April 8th) at the Furnace Creek Visitor Center in Death Valley National Park. The visitor center, located on Highway 190 in the heart of Furnace Creek, is open seven days a week 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

While the National Park Service currently manages 391 sites scattered across the United States and its territories, only 58 are officially designated as "National Park." Photographer Stan Jorstad, one of only a handful of professional photographers who have photographed every national park, hopes that all who see his images will come away with a renewed appreciation for our irreplaceable natural and cultural treasures.

Superintendent JT Reynolds reminds everyone that now is one of the best times for exploring the nation's largest desert wilderness park, and what better place to showoff our nation's best idea – our national parks. In addition, the Death Valley Natural History Association will be selling the companion book – *America's Best Idea: A Photographic Journey Through Our National Parks*. This book contains the same beautiful images by photographer Stan Jorstad as well as providing you a history of names, dates and designations of all of our national parks.

For more information about this special exhibit as well as information about Death Valley National Park visit the park's web site at www.nps.gov/deva or call 760/786-3200.

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