

ORGAN PIPE CACTUS NATIONAL MONUMENT QUICK FACTS

Park Established	April 12, 1937, by Presidential Proclamation of Franklin D. Roosevelt
Area Significance	Monument named for cactus species rarely found in the United States. Monument preserves a representative sample of the Sonoran Desert ecosystem and classic Basin-and-Range topography. Stark volcanic mountains, rocky canyons, and Sonoran Desert plants and animals typify this harsh and beautiful land.
Size	330,689 acres, with 95% designated wilderness
Address & Phone	10 Organ Pipe Drive, Ajo, AZ 85321 (520) 387-6849 ext 7302 (Kris Eggle Visitor Center)
FAX	(520) 387-7475 (Kris Eggle Visitor Center) (520) 387-7144 (Administration)
Location	Pima County, AZ. Headquarters and Kris Eggle Visitor Center located 34 miles south of Ajo, on State Highway #85 at Mile Post #75.2. (5 miles north of International Border at Lukeville, AZ/ Sonoyta, Mex.)
Visitor Center Hours	Daily 8:00 am – 5:00 pm, Mountain Standard Time Open daily January through March. Closed major Federal holidays April through December.
Park Hours	Twin Peaks Campground, Ajo Mountain Scenic Drive, Puerto Blanco Drive and selected trails open 24/7
Major Features	Organ Pipe, Saguaro, Senita, and several other cacti; many species of plants and wildlife found only in this section of the Sonoran Desert. Classic Basin-and-Range topography.
Plants	28 species of cacti, 550 species of vascular plants
Wildlife	Amphibians 4 Birds 279 Mammals 53 Reptiles 43
Annual Visitation	340,290 in 2008

Elevation	1670 ft. at visitor center; highest elevation 4808 ft. at Mt. Ajo.
Average Precipitation	7.2 inches
Entry Fees	<p>\$8.00 per passenger vehicle (7 day pass)</p> <p>\$4.00 per bicyclist, motorcycle, or pedestrian (7 day pass)</p> <p>Free entry upon presentation of identification and America the Beautiful (InterAgency) Annual Pass, Golden Age/Access passes, Senior/Access passes, or Organ Pipe Cactus Annual Pass.</p> <p>Commercial bus: NOTE: these vehicles are too long to travel monument roads. No entry fee is charged for use of Kris Eggle Visitor Center, picnic area or nature trail.</p> <p>Other commercial vehicles: “These parks charge each individual in a commercial group the per-person fee. The driver and guide will not be charged an entrance fee. Passes are accepted for entry as stated on the back of the pass.”</p>
Camping	<p>Twin Peaks (main campground)</p> <p>208 sites w/designated tent, RV generator/ no generator sites. MAXIMUM RV LENGTH 40 FT. Sites usually available. No reservations accepted; first come-first served. Rest rooms and water available. Dump station. No hookups. No showers. Maximum stay 14 days.</p>
Camping Fees	Standard fee \$12.00 per night. Discount (50%) available with presentation of Senior or Access pass.
Group Camping	Group camping by reservation only. Fee required, based upon number of occupants. Restrooms and water available. Contact Fee manager for details.
Primitive Camping	
Alamo Campground	Primitive campground. No water. 4 sites. Reservations required , and can ONLY be made at Kris Eggle Visitor Center. Maximum stay 7 nights. Fee \$8.00/night.
Backcountry Camping	Not available.
Scenic Drives	Ajo Mountain , 21 mile loop, average time 2-2½ hours; interpretive guide book available at nominal cost.

Road is dirt surface. Designed for passenger vehicles; not recommended for RVs and trailers over 25 ft. 4WD not required.

Puerto Blanco Drive open for first 5 miles only (10 mile round trip), average time 1 hour. Series of 5 pullouts with interpretive panels. Picnic area and pit toilet facilities at turnaround.

Road is dirt surface. Designed for passenger vehicles; not recommended for RVs and trailers over 25 ft. 4WD not required. **Remainder of this 53 mile loop is closed indefinitely.**

Pets

Pets on leash are welcome in Twin Peaks Campground, on the Campground Perimeter Trail and Palo Verde Trail. Pets are not permitted on any other trail. They are not permitted to run loose within monument boundaries.

Trails

Visitor Center Nature Trail, 0.1 mile, easy, accessible.

Palo Verde (Visitor Center to Campground), 2.6 miles, round trip; easy.

Campground Perimeter Loop, 1 mile, easy.

Desert View Nature Trail, 1.2 miles, easy.

Arch Canyon, 1.5 miles round trip in dry riparian canyon on Ajo Mountain Drive; moderate.

Bull Pasture/Estes Canyon, moderate to strenuous 4.2 mile loop.

Alamo Canyon, easy walk on an old jeep trail, 2 mile round trip.

Victoria Mine, easy 4.5 mile round trip across gently rolling landscape to historic silver mine.

Consult other maps/hiking guides for more detailed descriptions of these and other trails.

Web Site

www.nps.gov/orpi