

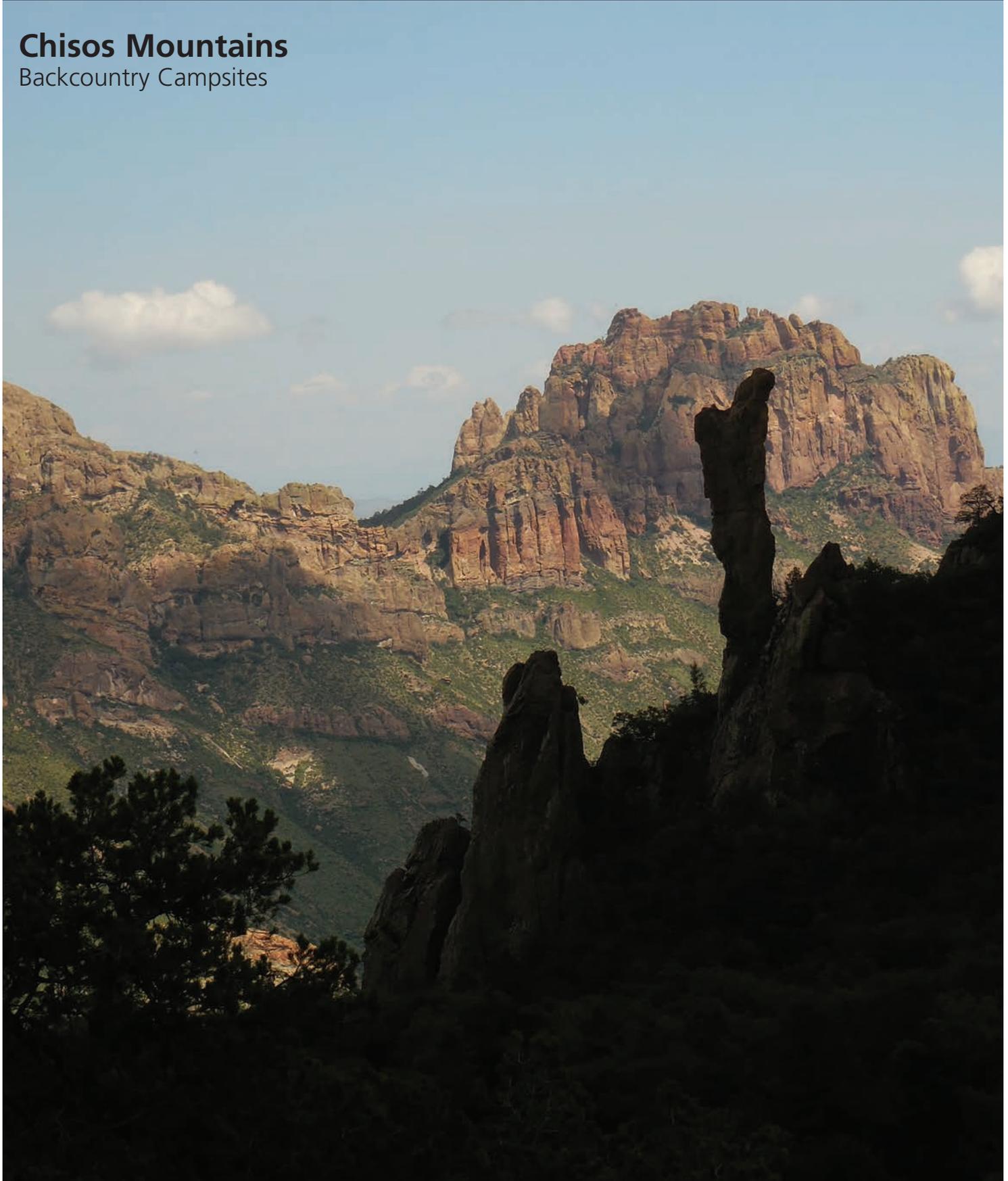
National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Big Bend National Park



Chisos Mountains

Backcountry Campsites



Chisos Mountains

Backcountry Campsites

Big Bend National Park
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Cover photograph by Bryan Frohbieter

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Inside cover: Rock staircase on the Emory Peak Trail.

Preceding page: Mexican black bears are found in the park. Be bear aware whenever hiking and camping in the Chisos Mountains.

This page: Park Ranger patrolling the Boot Canyon Trail, November 1963.





Camping in the Chisos

Backpackers in the Chisos Mountains can choose from a number of designated backcountry sites along the trails of the High Chisos. You choose a specific site for each night. All High Chisos sites have food storage lockers. It is crucial that all backpackers in the Chisos adhere to the “Food Storage in Bear Country” Rules. The designated campsites in the High Chisos are the focus of this booklet.

Planning Your Trip

What should I expect?

The South Rim is an all day or overnight trip. At 14 miles (22 km) in length, give yourself at least eight hours to complete it. You can make it a loop or take the same trail up and back. If you’re making a loop, ascend the Laguna Meadow Trail in the morning then hike to the south rim and back along the Boot Canyon Trail leading to a descent on the Pinnacles. Laguna Meadow is very open to the afternoon sun and can be warm. Either trail will take you through a dry oak forest filled with junipers, piñon pine, oaks and maples. This forest provides excellent bird-watching opportunities with a chance to see the Colima warbler, the endangered black-capped vireo, the racous Mexican jay, and numerous other song-birds. The Boot Canyon trail will take you along the edge of a slickrock canyon at times filled with running water. It will also give you a chance to see the well-known “Boot Rock” formation. The South Rim is an area where the trees meet the grassland. Here there are numerous sightings of Carmen Mountain white-tailed deer, and sometimes black bear

What will I need?

You will need water (1 gallon (4 l) per person per day), sturdy shoes, food, a trail map, sunscreen, and a hat. Don’t forget your camera and binoculars.

No Fires/No Smoking

Campfires are prohibited. Use only gas/propane backpacker stoves. Smoking is prohibited along all trails and at all campsites in the High Chisos.



No Hammocks

No hammocks or other devices may be attached/tied to trees or any other natural features or objects.

Seasonal Closures

To protect the peregrine falcon, an endangered species, the following areas of the park are closed to all use from February 1 until May 31 each year:

- The East Rim Trail from the Boot Canyon/South Rim junction to a point just north of Campsite ER-4.
- East Rim campsites 4 through 9 are closed during this period. Technical rock climbing on rock faces within ¼ mile (400 m) of known peregrine eyries, as posted, will not be allowed between February 1 and May 31.

Backpacking Group Size Limit

An organized group or individual party may not exceed a 15 person limit. There is only one Chisos campsite that can accommodate a group of this size: Colima-1. Groups may split into separate campsites, however the 15 person limit may not be exceeded.

Permits are issued only on a first-come, first-served basis at park visitor centers, or in advance via www.recreation.gov. It is best to plan ahead and have alternative itineraries in mind. Permits are also available in advance via www.recreation.gov. It is best to

Bear and Mountain Lion Sightings

If you encounter a bear or mountain lion:

- Do not run (you may resemble prey).
- Watch children closely and never let them run ahead or lag behind.
- Try to look large. Wave your arms. Throw rocks or sticks at it.
- If attacked, fight back.
- Report any bear or mountain lion sightings or encounters to a park ranger as soon as possible.

Backcountry Regulations

You are responsible for protecting the resources of your park; these regulations are enforced.

Groundfires and woodfires are prohibited.

Use only gas stoves or charcoal within a BBQ grill. Pack out all evidence of use. Note: charcoal fires are only allowed at backcountry roadside campsites and not allowed in the High Chisos or zone camping areas.

Pack out all litter.

Help preserve the park's natural beauty by packing out all litter, including cigarette butts and toilet paper.

No pets on trails or in the backcountry.

Pets may harm or be harmed by wildlife, and can attract predators.

Do not cut switchbacks on trails.

Although cross-country hiking is allowed, help prevent trail erosion by staying on marked trails.

Collecting any natural or historical feature or object is prohibited.

Leave park features intact for others to enjoy.

Contaminating natural water sources and their surroundings is prohibited. Camp at least 100 yards (91 m) from any water source.

Desert water sources and springs are fragile and vital for the plants and animals that depend on them for survival. Soaps, oils, skin lotions, and food residues from bathing and washing can seriously impact water quality. Minimize your impact to areas surrounding springs, seeps, and other temporal water sources.

Camp within designated sites.

When camping in a designated site prevent resource damage by camping within the area outlined by rocks, logs, or brush.

Generator use is not permitted in backcountry campsites.

Natural quiet is a protected resource; help preserve a quiet wilderness experience.

Open zone camping must be at least 1/2 mile (.8 km) and out of sight from any road and at least 100 yards (91m) from any trail, historical structure, archeological site, dry wash, or cliff edge.

Minimize your impact to the natural landscape.

Bury human waste at least 6 inches (15 cm) deep. Pack out toilet paper.

Human waste is unsightly and unsanitary. Carry a digging trowel. Locate latrines 1/4 mile (400 m) from any water source and well away from camp.

Use or discharge of firearms is prohibited.

Possession of other weapons, traps, or explosives is prohibited.

Motorized vehicles and bicycles are permitted only on designated public roads.

Off-road vehicle travel causes visual and environmental damage.

Do not feed wildlife.

Feeding wildlife is illegal; it often results in having to destroy the animal. Keep food in a hard-sided vehicle or food storage locker where provided.

Right: A hiker on the Boot Canyon Trail.





Leave No Trace

Be a steward of the land; during your visit to Big Bend, do everything you can to minimize your impact on the landscape.

Plan ahead and prepare

Big Bend is a land of extremes. Plan on high desert temperatures in the summer with little to no shade; in the winter freezing temperatures are possible in the Chisos Mountains. Schedule your visit to avoid peak season. Visit in small groups. Split larger parties into groups of 4-6. Use a map and compass to eliminate the use of marking paint, rock cairns or flagging.

Travel and Camp on Durable Surfaces

Durable surfaces include established trails and campsites, rock, and gravel. Protect riparian areas by camping at least 100 yards (91 m) from springs, creek beds, and tinajas. Good campsites are found, not made. While on the trail, walk in single file in the middle of the trail, even when wet or muddy. Keep campsites small. Focus on areas where vegetation is absent.

Dispose of Waste Properly

Pack it in, pack it out. Inspect your campsite and rest areas for trash or spilled foods. Pack out all trash, leftover food, and litter. Deposit solid human waste in cat-holes dug 6 inches (15 cm) deep at least 1/4 mile (400 m) from water, camp, and trails. Cover and disguise the cathole when finished. Pack out toilet paper and hygiene products.

Leave What You Find

Preserve the past. Examine, but do not touch, cultural or historic structures and artifacts. Leave rocks, wildflowers and other natural objects as you find them. Avoid introducing or transporting non-native species. Do not build structures, furniture, or dig trenches.

Minimize Campfire Impacts

Campfires are not allowed in Big Bend National Park. In order to cook foods you may use a backpacking stove, portable fuel stove or the barbeque grills in your campsite.

Respect Wildlife

Observe Big Bend's wildlife from a distance. Do not follow or approach them. Never feed wild animals. Feeding wild animals damages their health, alters natural behaviors, and exposes them to predators and other dangers. Protect wildlife and your food by storing rations and trash securely. Pets are not allowed in the backcountry or on trails. Pets should be on leash and under supervision at all times.

Be Considerate of Other Visitors

Respect other visitors and protect the quality of their experience. Be courteous. Yield to other users on the trail. Step to the downhill side of the trail when encountering pack stock. Take breaks and camp away from trails and other visitors. Let nature's sound prevail. Avoid loud voices and noises.

The Toilet Paper Dilemma



What to do with used toilet paper?



Bury it?



Burn it?



I know—I'll carry it out in a plastic bag!

Hiking the High Chisos

Rising nearly a mile above the desert floor, the Chisos Mountains offer excellent year-round hiking options, whether you're looking for a short day hike or an overnight experience.

Chisos Mountains Trail System

The *Pinnacles Trail* gains 1,700' (518 m) in 3.2 miles (5.1 km) from the Chisos Basin trailhead. This is the most direct route to Emory Peak and Boot Canyon.

The *Laguna Meadow Trail* climbs from the Chisos Basin to the meadow namesake of the trail with a elevation gain of 1,600' (488m) in 3.5 miles (5.6 km).

The *Emory Peak Trail* is a 3 mile (4.8km) roundtrip trail that leads to the summit of the tallest point of the Chisos Mountains. This trail begins near the top of the Pinnacles Trail. The last portion requires a rock scramble that may not be for everyone. Use caution.

The *Boot Canyon Trail* leads from the Pinnacles Pass to the South Rim, passing through the lushest environment in the Chisos Mountains. Depending on annual rainfall, water may be present in pools along the canyon during parts of the year.

The *Colima Trail* is a .9 mile (1.4 km) trail that connects the Boot Canyon Trail to the Laguna Meadow Trail to form a ten mile loop hike.

The *East Rim Trail* is a 2.4 mile (3.9 km) trail that loops from the South Rim around to the middle portion of the Boot Canyon Trail. Stunning views to the south, southeast and southwest can be found here. Most of this trail is closed seasonally to protect nesting peregrine falcons.

The *South Rim Trail* connects the Boot Canyon Trail to the Laguna Meadow Trail in 2 miles (3.2 km). This is the most common route visitors hike to view the South Rim.

Trails to the desert

Two trails exit the Chisos Mountains for the desert below. The *Juniper Canyon Trail* descends 6.7 miles (10.8 km) one-way to the end of the Juniper Canyon Road. The *Blue Creek Canyon Trail* descends 5.9 miles (9.5 km) from Laguna Meadow to the Ross Maxwell Scenic Drive. These two trails can be connected via the Dodson Trail to form the approximately 30 mile (48 km) Outer Mountain Loop hike.

Designated Campsites

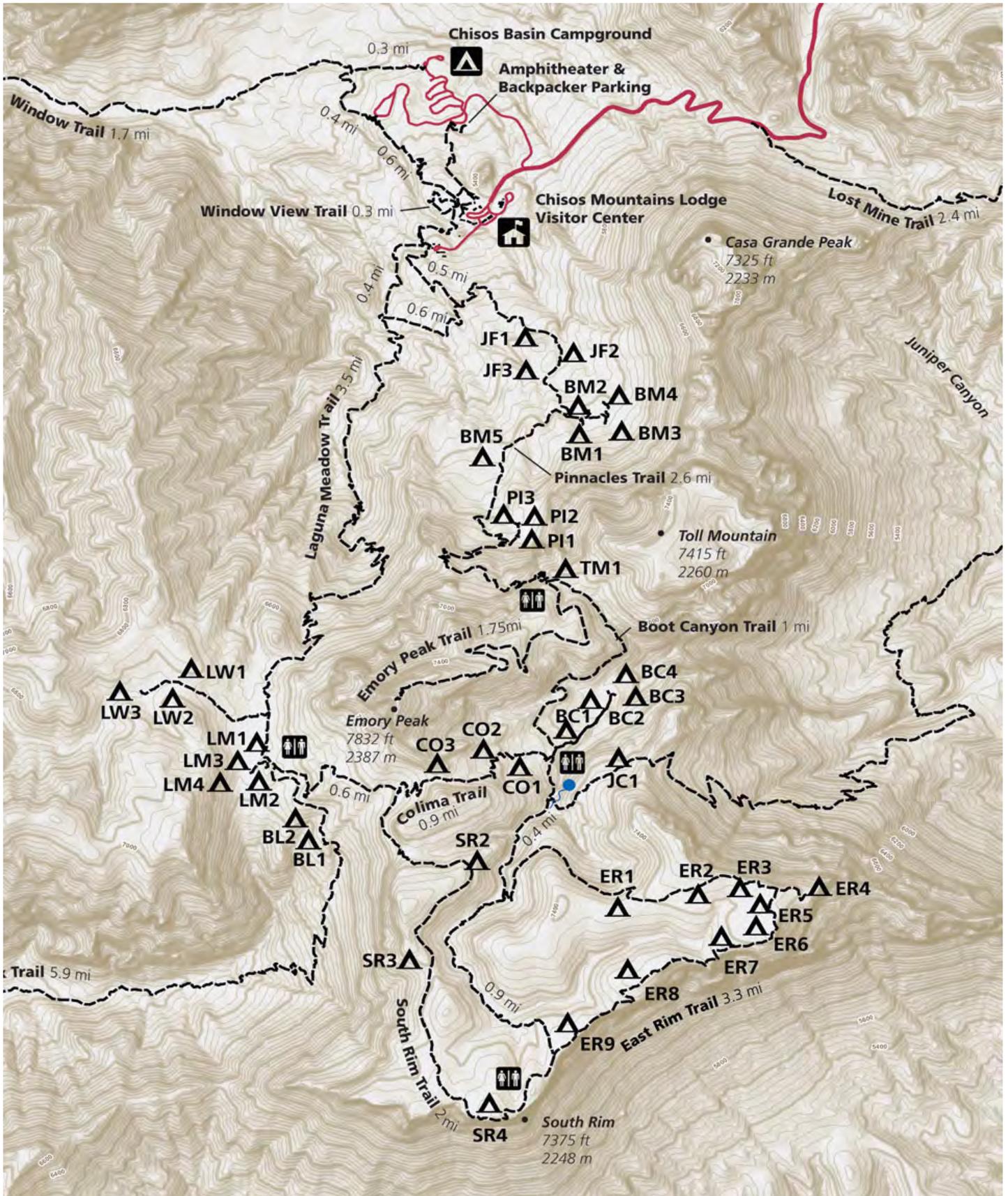
There are 42 designated backpacking campsites along the trail system in the High Chisos Mountains.

High Chisos Campsites

Campsite	Code	Group Size/Tents	Campsite	Code	Group Size/Tents
Juniper Flat (3 sites)	JF-1	4/1	East Rim (9 sites)	ER-1	5/2
	JF-2	6/3		ER-2	6/2
	JF-3	6/3		ER-3	6/2
Boulder Meadow (5 sites)	BM-1	4/2		ER-4	10/5*
	BM-2	4/2		ER-5	6/2*
	BM-3	4/2		ER-6	6/2*
	BM-4	4/2		ER-7	10/5*
	BM-5	6/2		ER-8	6/2*
Pinnacles (3 sites)	PI-1	4/1		ER-9	6/2*
	PI-2	6/2	South Rim (3 sites)	SR-2	3/1
	PI-3	10/3		SR-3	10/4
Toll Mountain Boot Canyon (4 sites)	TM-1	4/1		SR-4	4/1
	BC-1	6/2		Blue Creek (2 sites)	BL-1
	BC-2	12/5	BL-2		4/1
	BC-3	4/2	Laguna Meadow (4 sites)	LM-1	6/2
BC-4	6/2	LM-2		10/5	
Colima (3 Sites)	CO-1	15/5		LM-3	6/2
	CO-2	3/1		LM-4	6/2
	CO-3	4/2	Laguna West (3 sites)	LW-1	4/2
Juniper Canyon	JC-1	6/2		LW-2	4/1
				LW-3	4/1

Group Size shows maximum capacity for number of persons / number of tents

*-denotes a campsite closed Feb. 1 - May 31



CAMPSITE CODES

- | | | | | | |
|-------------------|-------------------|--------------|------------------|------------------|----------------|
| JF-Juniper Flat | BM-Boulder Meadow | PI-Pinnacles | TM-Toll Mountain | BC-Boot Canyon | CO-Colima |
| JC-Juniper Canyon | ER-East Rim | SR-South Rim | BL-Blue Creek | LM-Laguna Meadow | LW-Laguna West |

Getting a Backcountry Permit

A permit is required for overnight backcountry camping in the Chisos, and can be obtained in person, up to 24 hours in advance of the trip or in advance via www.recreation.gov. Permits can be written for as many as fourteen (14) consecutive nights in the backcountry. Park staff can assist you with trip planning based on your needs and current trail conditions. Permits can be obtained at Panther Junction and Chisos Basin Visitor Centers during normal operating hours.

Overnight Use Fee

A \$10-per night fee is required for all overnight backcountry use permits, including multi-day river trips, and overnight backcountry camping. This fee is payable when the permit is issued, and all funds collected go to projects to improve or protect the backcountry experience, including hardening/improving river access points, backcountry campsite maintenance, and trail maintenance.

Plan Ahead

Detailed information on backcountry campsites in the Chisos Mountains and along the backcountry roads are available on the park's website at www.nps.gov/bibe

A wide variety of maps, books, hiking guides and river guides are available for purchase at park visitor centers. If you would like to order them in advance of your trip, call the Big Bend Natural History Association at 432 477-2236 or visit their online bookstore at www.bigbendbookstore.org

Obtaining a Backcountry Permit

Backcountry permits for Chisos Backpacking may be obtained in two ways:

Remember!

- In person at either the Chisos Basin or Panther Junction Visitor Centers. Only up to 24 hours in advance of your first night.
- Selected sites are available online via www.recreation.gov or via phone 1-877-444-6777. Up to six months in advance.
- *You cannot camp in a backcountry site if you do not have a backcountry permit.*

Camping Limits

Visitors cannot camp at backcountry campsites for more than 14 consecutive nights, or for more than 28 nights (including both frontcountry and backcountry camping) in a calendar year, or at any one site for more than 14 nights in a calendar year.

Right: A backcountry permit.

Form 10-404 (12/85)
OMB No. 1024-0022

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
001293
BACKCOUNTRY USE PERMIT

The visitor must have this permit during the visit.

When signed, this single-visit permit authorizes.

NAME	CAMPSITE NAME		ZONE— SITE	NIGHTS
	1	2		
ADDRESS				
CITY				
To visit				
Give best estimate of start and finish dates				
Location of entry				
Location of exit				
Primary method of travel				
Number of people in group				
Number of pack or saddle stock				
Number of watercraft or other craft				
REMARKS				
DATE (VISITOR'S SIGNATURE)				77 78
DATE (ISSUING OFFICER'S SIGNATURE)				79 80

FASTEN THIS TAG TO YOUR PACK, SADDLE, BOAT OR TENT.

Designated Campsites

There are 42 designated backpacking campsites in the High Chisos Mountains along the trail system to the South Rim.

All campsites are accessible only by foot. You must be prepared and equipped to backpack. Distances vary from one to eight miles each way.

Balancing use and preservation

Since the park's establishment in 1944, hikers and backpackers have found peace, solitude, and beauty in the High Chisos. Although the park contains over one hundred miles of maintained trails, the High Chisos routes, covering fewer than twenty miles, receive more than 80% of total trail usage. During busy seasons, when all camping areas in the Chisos are full, there can be as many as 200 campers per night adjacent to these trails.

For forty years, visitors to the High Chisos were allowed to camp wherever they wished, outside a 200 foot (61 m) corridor on each side of a trail. When usage was low, compaction and denuding of camp areas was not great, and natural processes provided revegetation. By the mid-1980s, increases in visitation and use in the High Chisos led to obvious negative impact of park resources. In many places barren areas existed, often directly adjacent to the trail. In 1985 the park developed the existing system of designated campsites, establishing campsites in historically desirable locations, allowing for maximum privacy and benefit from the surrounding natural beauty.

For over twenty years, this method of preserving valuable resources has ensured the existence of largely unspoiled natural area for all generations that the future will bring to this unique island in the desert. Please camp only within the boundaries of the designated campsites!

Left: High Chisos designated campsites, such as Southwest 4, offer privacy and maximum benefit from the natural surroundings.

Right: Composting toilets are situated at four locations in the High Chisos for the convenience of the visiting public.



Composting Toilets

Composting toilets are found at four locations along the High Chisos trail system: Pinnacles Pass, Boot Canyon, the South Rim and Laguna Meadow. These toilets are located at strategic points along the trail to prevent spread of disease, bacteriological contamination, and aesthetic degradation.

It's a good idea to hike with a trowel, toilet paper, and resealable plastic bags, just in case.

Proper care and feeding of a composting toilet

In order to keep the composting toilets in perfect working order, a few easy steps must be followed:

- No garbage, cans, plastic, and etc. Trash negates the efficiency of the toilet and is extremely difficult to remove.
- Add one cup of peat moss after each use (found in the adjacent metal bear box).
- Close lid after each use.

If you can't hold it...

- Backcountry users must locate latrines at least 1/4 mile (400 m) from any water source and 100 yards away from any campsite, trail, or archeological site.
- Latrines must be at least 6 inches (15 cm) deep. It's a good idea to carry a trowel or shovel for digging latrines.
- Toilet paper must be carried out of the backcountry as trash. Burning of toilet paper is prohibited due to risk of wildfire. Carry plastic bags for use in carrying out toilet paper.





Water in the Chisos may be abundant following summer rains (*above*), however during much of the year the same locations may be dry or contain stagnant water not suitable for filtering (*below*). Carry all the water you will need, and never depend on backcountry water sources.



Water in the Mountains

The dry desert air quickly uses up the body's water reserves. We recommend that you carry a minimum of one gallon of water per person per day in the summer, slightly less in the winter. For half-day hikes, carry at least 2 quarts (2 l) per person.

But the map shows a spring here...

At the risk of repeating the obvious, Big Bend is a desert park. Desert water is precious, ephemeral, and unpredictable. The amount of available water in the backcountry has everything to do with rainfall—no rain means no water. Never stake your life on a water source that might not be present.

Cache and Carry

Responsible backcountry users pack in all of the water they plan on using (recommended one gallon per person per day). Plan on using available water sources in the backcountry to augment the water supply you carry (filter all water taken from the backcountry); never stake your life on intermittent water sources.

Regardless of what you may have heard, Boot Spring is unreliable and usually dry. Depending on the time of year, and the amount of rainfall received, water may be available in small pools and depressions along the Boot Canyon Trail. Look for these pools between Boot Spring and the Northeast Rim trail junction. This water is vital to wildlife—please keep it clean. We recommend that this water also be filtered before use.

Desert Water

Springs and tinajas (depressions in rock where water collects) are unreliable and may be unsafe to drink. Springs are rare in the desert and wildlife depend on them. Please carry enough water to supply your own needs.

Right: Water may be filtered from pools in Boot Canyon, when available. Do not consume water without filtering.



Food Storage

Campers in Big Bend's backcountry attract wildlife not only by their presence, but by the water and food they bring with them. Do your part to properly store food, water and other attractive items away from the reach of animals, whether you are backpacking in the Chisos Mountains or camping at a primitive roadside campsite.

Black bear, birds, javelina, skunks, kangaroo rats and other animals can and will explore your campsite looking for scraps of food.

There really are no problem animals—only problem people. With your help, wildlife and humans can live safely together in Big Bend.

Store ALL edible items in the animal-proof food lockers provided in all Chisos Mountains campsites. This means things a bear would eat, such as:

- Food (even canned and freeze-dried)
- Water bottles, filters, and any other liquids
- Trash
- Dirty dishes
- Toiletries such as soap, toothpaste, deodorant, and sunscreen.

Do not leave edible items unattended at any time.

NEVER leave edible items in your pack or take them into your tent at night. Do not eat in your tent.

Keep your camp clean of food scraps, grease, etc. Cook away from your sleeping area. Dispose of cooking water in the camper sinks in the Chisos Basin campground or well away from camp in the backcountry. Strain the water to insure that you are not dumping food scraps on the ground.

Pack out ALL trash, including food scraps and grease. Don't create a problem for the next campers. Do not leave food or trash in the storage locker.

Break down your tent when not in use. Wildlife can be curious or attracted by food smells and may explore your tent, causing expensive damage. Leave backpacks open at night, too.



Getting Help / Staying Safe

Backcountry areas are not inherently dangerous; they are, however, unpredictable places where proper planning and experience can be the key to a safe and enjoyable trip.

1. Have a plan and share it

Whether hiking solo or in a group, you need to become familiar with the area you will be hiking, the hazards, and the expected weather. The process of getting ready will include obtaining maps to review the area you will hike, briefing all members of the group on route selection, having a turnaround time, and developing alternate route selections. Let someone know where you are going, when, your departure point, your planned route and expected time of return.

2. Carry proper equipment, clothing and food

Test your equipment before leaving. Having a little extra clothing, especially for inclement weather, may weigh a bit more, but it is worth it when things go sour. The same rule of “a little extra can’t hurt” applies to food and drink. During the hotter summer months, extra water is especially important, even on shorter hikes and even in areas of high humidity. Dehydration comes on quickly and leads to other, more serious, problems. Better to lug around more than to be stranded with less than you need to survive.

3. Know your limits—and those of the other individuals in your group

A military unit travels at the speed of its slowest member, and that is a good way to think about how to hike. Constant communication is also key: If traveling in a group, you should use a buddy system. Checking your partner for energy levels, blisters, food consumption and fatigue can prevent problems down the trail.

4. Always bring along proper emergency equipment

When hiking by yourself, ensure that you have, at minimum, a first aid kit. Some recommended items include adhesive bandages, medical tape, over-the-counter pain relievers, moleskin, antibacterial ointment, a compress or two, and spare headlamp batteries. If traveling in a group, have a “community” first-aid kit with additional splints, pads and braces.

5. Learn in advance what to do if things go bad

Park rangers typically encourage hikers in genuine distress to “hug a tree,” which means staying where you are until help comes to you. You can last a long time with the gear you have with you. Whistles and mirrors are priceless. *Cellphones are not generally reliable.*

In Case of Fire

Fire is a normal part of a healthy natural environment. One result of fire’s impact on the High Chisos is the beautiful oak-pinyon forest of the higher reaches of the Chisos.

During your stay in the backcountry there is a possibility of a wildland fire starting due to lightning or a human cause. Please be aware of this and take precautions. As you hike, note directions of possible escape routes if evacuation becomes necessary.

It is not uncommon to see clouds hanging over the mountains that may look like smoke. These clouds are called rain dogs and are often mistaken for smoke from a wildland fire.

In order to prevent an unnecessary evacuation, ask two questions:

- Do you smell smoke?
- Is there obvious movement/buildup of smoke from top to bottom?

In case of fire or smoke:

- Remain calm, do not panic.
- Do not investigate area of smoke.
- Watch for fixed-wing aircraft or helicopters. These aircraft may try to drop messages with further instructions.
- If directed, proceed to safe area. If exiting down Blue Creek or Juniper Canyon wait in parking area for park personnel for shuttle.
- Checkout with park personnel to prevent an unnecessary search.

Evacuation routes

During your stay it is your responsibility to carry a map of the High Chisos trails system. That map will be indispensable in finding your way safely out of the high country in the event of a wildland fire.

In case of a wildland fire there are four primary escape routes on trails out of the High Chisos:

- Juniper Canyon Trail. This trail leaves the High Chisos just south of the Boot Canyon Cabin from the Boot Canyon Trail. Follow this trail until you reach the parking area at the end of the trail. Approx. 6.2 miles (10 m).
- Blue Creek Trail. This route leave the High Chisos from the Laguna Meadows trail. Follow the Blue Creek Trail until you reach the Blue Creek Ranch parking area on the Ross Maxwell Drive . Approx 5.5 miles (8.8 km).
- Boot Canyon to Pinnacles Trail. This trail will lead you to the Basin Developed area.
- Laguna Meadows Trail. This route leads back to the Basin Developed Area.

Resources

Proper planning and preparation is the key to a successful trip. Read the detailed information in this publication. Make sure that the degree of difficulty of your itinerary is compatible with all members of your party. The elevation levels and changes involved in hiking in the High Chisos can be jarring for those who live at or near sea level.

We are unable to provide detailed trip planning services over the phone. It is your responsibility to plan and prepare your outing. Hiking and camping guidebooks and topographic maps are available for reference at Visitor Centers. They are also available for purchase through the Big Bend Natural History Association's bookstores, by internet order, and at many outdoor stores.

Plan Ahead

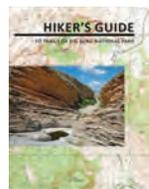
Extensive backcountry planning information, including this campsite book, maps, trail descriptions and other material can be found on the park website at: <http://www.nps.gov/bibe/planyourvisit/backcountry.htm>

Solo hikers

Solo hikers obtaining a backcountry camping permit have the option to submit a Solo Hiker information sheet at the time they obtain their camping permit. Solo hikers must return their permit at the end of their hike, or make notification to any visitor center that they have left the backcountry. Permits must be returned or notification made within 12 hours of leaving the backcountry.

Pre-planning is essential to a successful backcountry experience

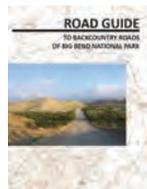
Guide books and maps are an excellent way of preparing for your trip. The Big Bend Natural History Association is a nonprofit organization working with the National Park Service to assist Big Bend's educational and interpretive activities, cultural programs, and special projects. They stock a number of publications that are excellent pre-planning guides. Any of the publications listed are highly recommended, and may be purchased in person or through the mail. Shop their online bookstore at <http://bigbendbookstore.org/> or order by phone 432 477-2236.



Hiker's Guide to Big Bend National Park

Updated in 2017. Covers all major trails in the park, from short self-guiding nature

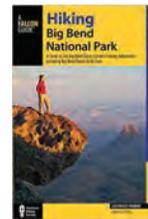
trails to strenuous backpacking routes.



Road Guide to Backcountry Roads

Updated in 2015. Detailed mileage logs of Old Ore Road, Glenn Spring Road and

River Road. Good descriptions of historic sites and scenery.



Hiking Big Bend

In collaboration with National Park rangers, Laurence Parent has compiled a comprehensive guide to 44 of

the most popular hikes. Photos show terrain and views. Describes difficulty, elevation changes, and maps needed. Also includes three hikes in Big Bend Ranch State Park.



Guide to paved and improved dirt roads

Updated 2010. Describes points of interest visible from all paved and improved dirt

roads in the park.



Chisos Mountains Trails Map

A topographic map that includes all trails in the Chisos Mountains. Includes trail

lengths and descriptions.



High Chisos Campsites

Let's go camping!

There are 42 designated backpacking campsites divided into 14 campsite areas along the trail system in the High Chisos Mountains. These campsites are designed and located to provide access to nearly every portion of the High Chisos and still protect the landscape by focusing impacts.

The closest campsites to the trailhead area in the Chisos Basin are approximately one mile in, while the most isolated are seven to eight miles away, depending on your rate of travel.

Most of the year, campsites will be available at or close to your intended overnight destination. When planning a trip into the High Chisos it is important to keep time of year in mind. The Thanksgiving, Christmas and Spring Break holidays are peak periods of use where often every available designated campsite might be occupied for several days at a time. Additionally, the annual peregrine falcon closure limits access to the trail and campsites in the area of the southeast rim for several months.

What does a designated campsite have?

Each designated campsite in the High Chisos offers the following amenities:

- One or more tent pads
- One or more animal-proof food storage boxes
- Tree cover and some shelter from the elements

What do the designated campsites look like?

The following pages provide a brief catalog of the designated backcountry campsites in along the High Chisos trail system.

The descriptions are organized clockwise around the trail system from the Chisos Basin trailhead area. Beginning with the campsite areas along the Pinnacles Trail, each campsite grouping is detailed in a two-page spread that provides campsite sizes, description, maps and photographs.

Which designated campsite is the best?

A cynic would tell you that for the most part, the designated campsites all look the same and from a certain perspective this sentiment is correct; however, each campsite offers a different impression of the natural, recreational, and scenic values of the Chisos Mountains. For those who return to Big Bend National Park, and the Chisos Mountains, experience will eventually best determine what campsite is your favorite.

Right: Bear country warning sign at Toll Mountain Pass.



Preceding page: All campsites and trail intersections in the Chisos Mountains are clearly marked with metal signs.



Juniper Flat Campsites

Above: A view from the trail in Juniper Flat.

DIRECTIONS

The Juniper Flat campsites are 1 mile (1.6 km) from the Basin trailhead via the Pinnacles trail. Each campsite is along its own signed spur trail. All campsites are approximately 150 ft (45 m) off of the main Pinnacles trail.

USUAL TRAIL CONDITIONS

The first 1/2 mile (.8 km) is fairly steep, after which the trail becomes moderately difficult. The Pinnacles trail is well maintained and easy to follow all year. The pinnacles trail is the steeper, yet shorter route to the High Chisos backcountry and the South Rim area.

CAMPSITE SPECIFICS

JF1: Large campsite with two level sites for tents with logs that make nice seats. Very private and surrounded by trees. Good shade throughout most of the day.

JF2: Nice open site with little afternoon shade. Close to main trail.

JF3: Large circular and secluded site with a tree in the middle. Not much shade in the afternoon but great shade in the morning from mountains.

VIEWS

JF1: Excellent views of Casa Grande. Nearby view of the basin area.

JF2: Sits near the base of Toll Mountain and offers views of Casa Grande and surrounding peaks.

JF3: Nice views of Casa Grande & Toll Mountain. All sites have nice sunset views.

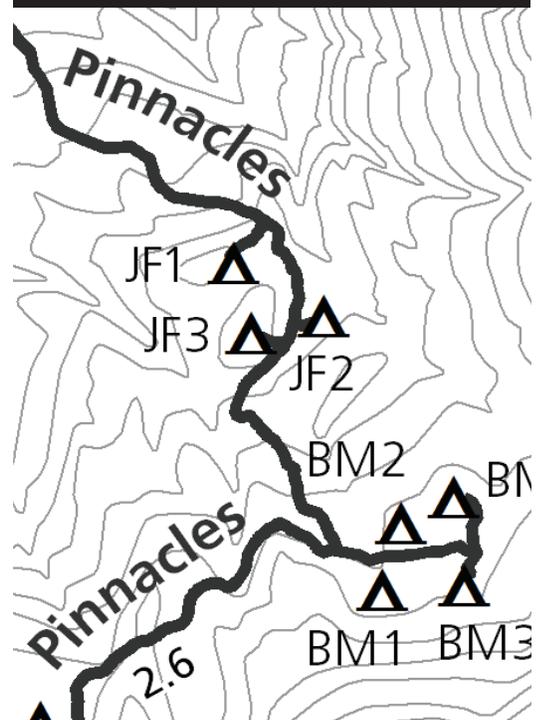
WATER SOURCES

There is NO water available in the Juniper Flat area. The closest water is at the Basin Visitor Center spigot. Always carry adequate water for cooking, drinking, and washing (suggested 1 gallon (4 l)/person/24 hours).

Campsite information

Campsite	# of people	# of tents
JF-1	4	1
JF-2	6	3
JF-3	6	3

Campsite area detail





Above: Juniper Flat 1.



Above: Juniper Flat 1.



Above: Juniper Flat 2.



Above: Juniper Flat 2.



Above: Juniper Flat 3.



Above: Juniper Flat 3.



Boulder Meadow Campsites

Above: A view from the Boulder Meadow Trail.

DIRECTIONS

The Boulder Meadow campsites are located 1.5 mile (2.4 km) from the Basin trailhead via the Pinnacles trail. Campsites 1-4 are situated along a spur trail which is ¼ mile (400 m) long. Campsite 5 is along a separate spur trail which begins 1/4 mile (400 m) past the trail to sites 1-4.

USUAL TRAIL CONDITIONS

The first 1/2 mile (.8 km) is steep, after which the trail becomes moderately difficult. The Pinnacles trail is well maintained and easy to follow all year. It is the steeper, yet shorter route to the High Chisos backcountry and the South Rim area.

CAMPSITE SPECIFICS

BM1: Some shade but not in actual footprints of site due to dead trees. Private with a bit of an incline at tent sites.

BM2: Smaller than BM1 with no shade in afternoon. Short spur trail that leads to a nice place to sit and watch the sunset.

BM3: Very nice site with large boulders. Best shade of all five sites. Lots of thin trees.

BM4: Nice private site with good views. Tent sites are flat and shaded all morning.

BM5: Approximately ¼ mile (400 m) from BM1-4, BM5 is the largest of the BM sites with 3 nice tent sites.

VIEWS

BM1-2: Great views of Casa Grande and surrounding woodland.

BM3-4: Both sites offer pretty views of Toll Mountain and Casa Grande.

BM-5: Distant views are restricted from the tent area, but nearby views are great.

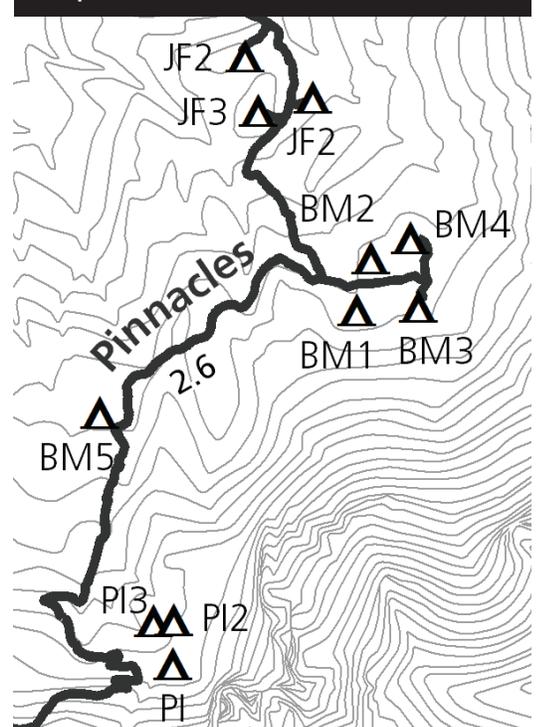
WATER SOURCES

There is NO water available in the Boulder Meadow area. The closest water is at the Basin Visitor Center spigot. Always carry adequate water for cooking, drinking, and washing (suggested 1 gallon (4 l)/person/24 hours)

Campsite information

Campsite	# of people	# of tents
BM-1	4	2
BM-2	4	2
BM-3	4	2
BM-4	4	2
BM-5	6	2

Campsite area detail





Above: Boulder Meadow 1



Above: Boulder Meadow 2



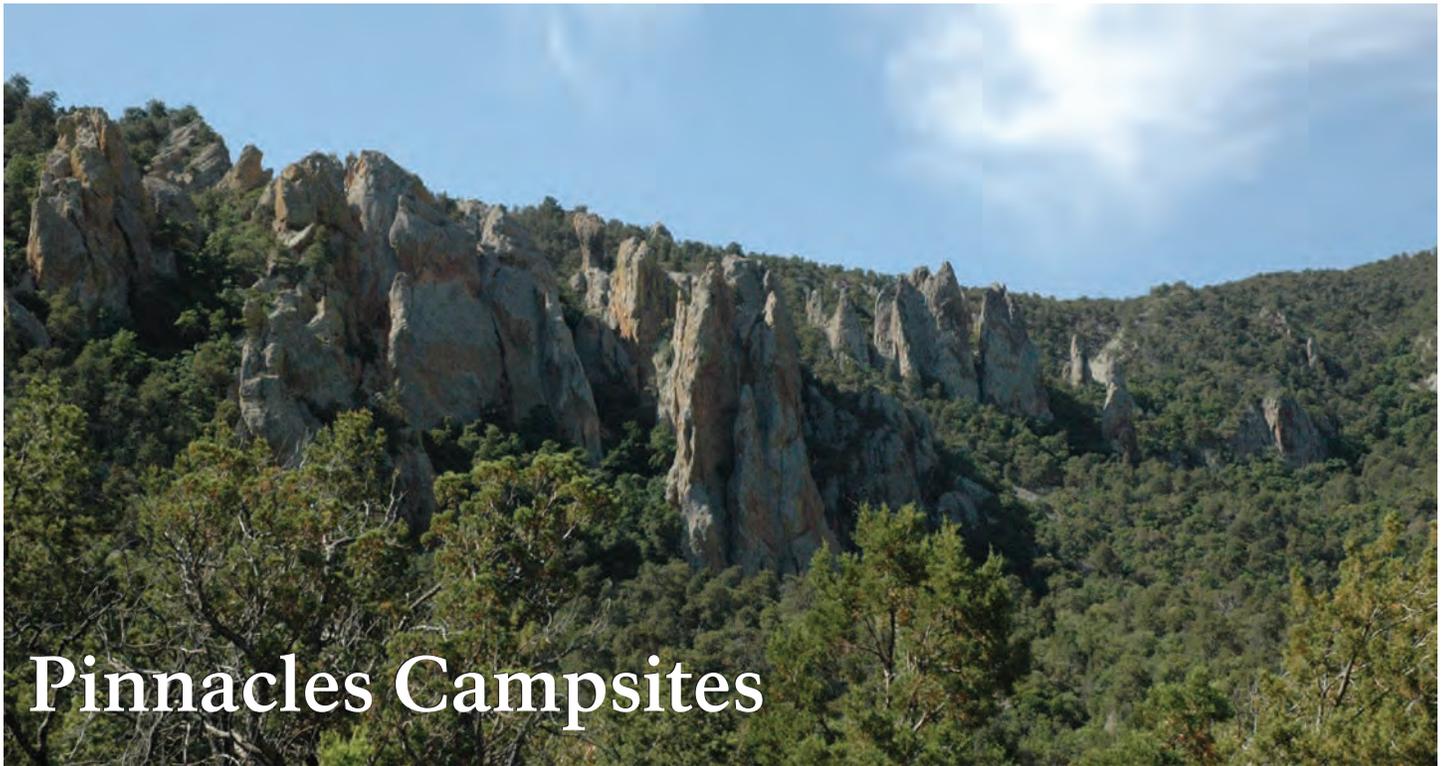
Above: Boulder Meadow 3



Above: Boulder Meadow 4



Above: Boulder Meadow 5



Pinnacles Campsites

Above: The Pinnacles

DIRECTIONS

The Pinnacles campsites are located along the Pinnacles Trail, approximately 2.5 miles (4 km) from the Chisos Basin Trailhead. The three campsites are along a single spur trail to the east of the main trail. The spur trail is 350 yards (320 m) long and ends at campsite PI-3.

USUAL TRAIL CONDITIONS

The first 1/2 mile (.8 km) is fairly steep, after which the trail becomes moderately difficult. The Pinnacles trail is well maintained and easy to follow all year. The pinnacles trail is the steeper, yet shorter route to the High Chisos backcountry and the South Rim area.

CAMPSITE SPECIFICS

PI-1: Large boulders surround this pretty site. The campsite is very private, and provides great shade throughout the day.

PI-2: A large boulder provides separation and privacy from site PI-3. This site has a lot of trees and surrounding vegetation to provide great shade all day long.

PI-3: This is a very large site. A few logs provide a sitting area. Adequate shade is provided by some dead trees.

VIEWS

PI-1: This site lies at the base of the ridge and provides great views of the Pinnacles.

PI-2: This site is very wooded with some views over the tree tops. A short spur trail leads to a nice spot to view the sunset through the Window.

PI-3: Restricted views of the Pinnacles above nearby treetops.

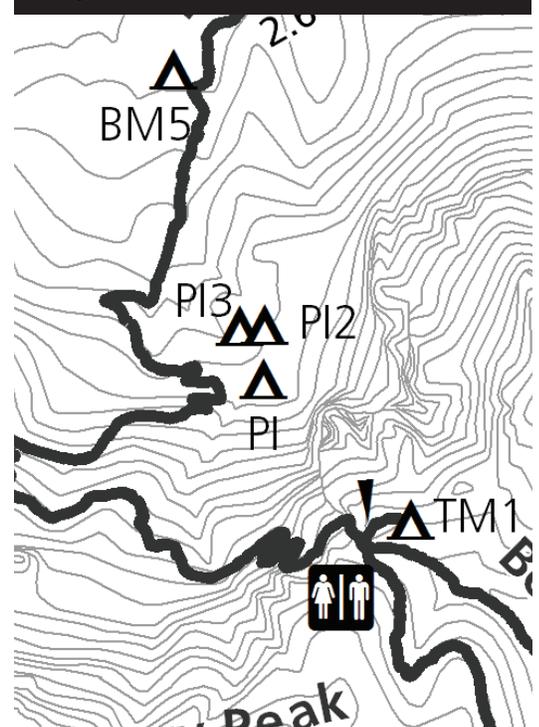
WATER SOURCES

There is NO water available in the Pinnacles area. The closest water is at the Basin Visitor Center spigot. Always carry adequate water for cooking, drinking, and washing (suggested 1 gallon (4 l)/person/24 hours).

Campsite information

Campsite	# of people	# of tents
PI-1	4	1
PI-2	6	2
PI-3	10	3

Campsite area detail





Above: Pinnacles 1



Above: The view from Pinnacles 1



Above: Pinnacles 2



Above: The view from Pinnacles 2



Above: Pinnacles 3



Above: Pinnacles 3



Above: The view from Toll Mountain 1

Directions

The Toll Mountain campsite is located along the Pinnacles Trail at the top of Pinnacles Pass, 3.7 miles (6 km) from the Basin Trailhead. The campsite is 80 yards (70 m) off of the main trail.

Usual Trail Conditions

The first 1/2 mile (.8 km) out of the Basin is fairly steep, after which the trail becomes moderately difficult. The Pinnacles trail is well maintained and easy to follow all year long. Several sections of switchbacks offer fantastic views. Please do NOT cut switchbacks. The pinnacles trail is the steeper, yet shorter route to the High Chisos backcountry and the South Rim area.

Campsite Specifics

This is a small campsite that offers great views and complete privacy for up to four people. Not much protection from wind and only moderate shade.

Views

Nice views of the Basin and the Window from the campsite, and more fantastic views are available nearby.

Water Sources

None. There is NO water anywhere in the Toll Mountain area. It is vital that you carry adequate water for drinking, cooking, and washing. Plan on at least one gallon (4 l)/24 hours/person.

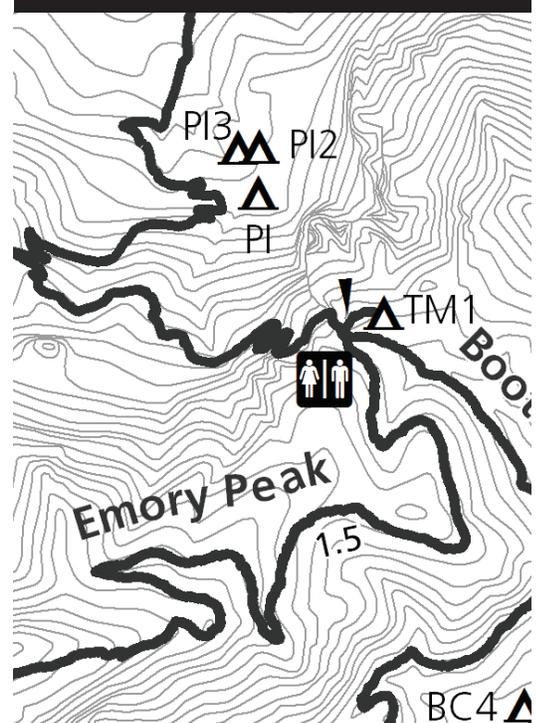
Notes

A solar-composting pit toilet is near the spur trail to the campsite.

Campsite information

Campsite	# of people	# of tents
TM-1	4	1

Campsite area detail





Above: Toll Mountain 1



Above: Toll Mountain 1



Boot Canyon Campsites

Above: Boot Rock in Boot Canyon

Directions

The Boot Canyon campsites are located in Boot Canyon, 4.5 miles (7.2 km) from the Chisos Basin Trailhead via the Pinnacles Trail. All campsites are located along a 1/2 mile (.8 km) long spur trail.

Usual Trail Conditions

The Pinnacles Trail, Boot Canyon Trail, and campsite access trail are all well maintained and generally in excellent condition year round. All the trails are well marked. Please don't cut switchbacks along the Pinnacles Trail. There is abundant shade in the entire Boot Canyon area.

Campsite Specifics

BC-1: A large site with many trees. The site is close to the toilet and spur trail.

BC-2: This extra large site fits 12 people. Isolated with great shade. The access trail leads 100 feet (30 m) down to a cozy camping area.

BC-3: Approx. 1/2 mile (.8 km) down access trail. Private with many trees and much shade.

BC-4: Approx. 1/2 mile (.8 km) down access trail. Private with many trees and great shade.

Views

The Boot Canyon campsites are located within a heavily wooded canyon. There is great shade and wind protection, but no distant views from any site.

Water Sources

Boot Spring is a seasonal/intermittent source of water. This water must be treated before drinking. No bathing or washing in the spring area. Check with a ranger about current flow. Hikers on 1-2 day trips should plan on carrying all their necessary water. Plan on at least 1 gallon (4 l)/24 hours/person.

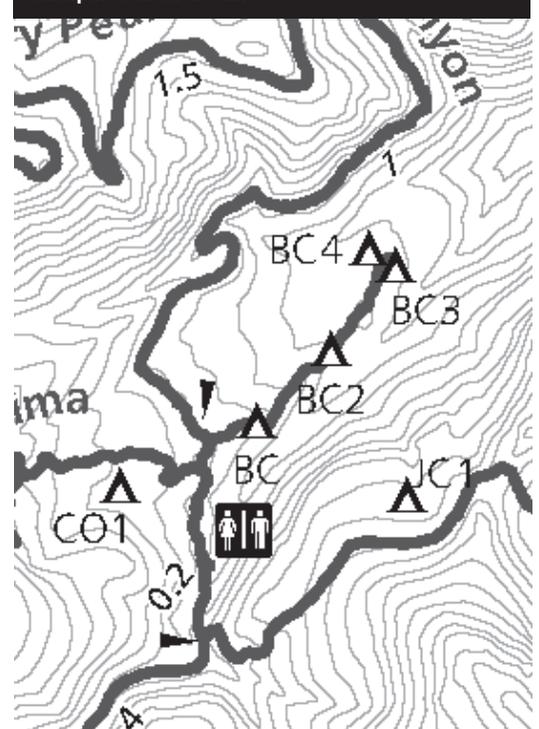
Notes

Each spring/summer, Colima Warblers nest in Boot Canyon. These birds are found nowhere else in the entire U.S.

Campsite information

Campsite	# of people	# of tents
BC-1	6	2
BC-2	12	5
BC-3	4	2
BC-4	6	2

Campsite area detail





Above: Boot Canyon 1



Above: Boot Canyon 2



Above: Boot Canyon 3



Above: Boot Canyon 4



Colima Campsites

Above: A view from the Colima Trail.

Directions

All of the Colima Campsites are located along the 1-mile Colima Trail. The Colima Trail connects the Pinnacles/Boot Canyon Trail with the Laguna Meadow Trail. From the Chisos Basin, the Colima Trail is 4.5 miles (7.2 km) via the Pinnacles Trail and 4.3 miles (6.9) via the Laguna Meadow Trail.

Usual Trail Conditions

The Pinnacles Trail (gain of 1,700 ft, 518 m) has several very steep switchback sections. The Laguna Meadow Trail (gain of 1,600 ft, 487 m) climbs more gradually. The Colima Trail (gain/loss of 300 ft, 91 m) follows a saddle along the south side of Emory Peak. All of these trails are usually in fine condition all year long.

Campsite Specifics

All of the Colima Campsites have their own access spur trails, are completely private from each other, and hidden from the main trail. All sites are well protected from sun and wind.

CO-1: Large site suitable for a group.

CO-2: A very tiny campsite for 3 people only.

CO-3: Nice flat, shady campsite for up to 4 people.

Views

The Colima Campsites are completely sheltered under oak trees and therefore have NO distant views.

Water Sources

Boot Spring is a seasonal/intermittent source of water. This water must be treated before drinking. No bathing or washing in the spring area. Check with a ranger about current flow. Hikers on 1-2 day trips should plan on carrying all their necessary water. Plan on at least 1 gallon (4 l)/24 hours/person.

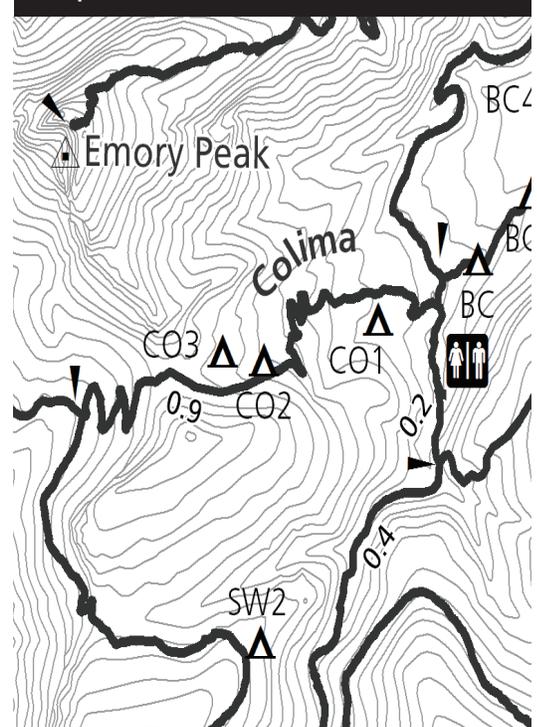
Notes

Each spring/summer, Colima Warblers nest in the surrounding oak canyons. These birds are found nowhere else in the entire U.S.

Campsite information

Campsite	# of people	# of tents
CO-1	15	5
CO-2	3	1
CO-3	4	2

Campsite area detail





Above: Collima 1



Above: Colima 1



Above: Colima 2



Above: Colima 2



Above: Colima 3



Above: Colima 3



Juniper Canyon Campsite

Above: A view from the Juniper Canyon Trail.

Directions

The Juniper Canyon backpack campsite is located ¼ mile down the Juniper Canyon Trail from its intersection with the Boot Canyon Trail. Total distance from the Chisos Basin Trailhead is 5.3 miles (8.5 km) via the Pinnacles Trail or 6.2 miles (10 km) via the Laguna Meadows Trail. The campsite is on the left at the end of a 100 ft (30 m) spur trail.

Usual Trail Conditions

The Pinnacles Trail has several steep sections and a series of sharp switchbacks. The Laguna Meadow Trail gains elevation more gradually. The access trail to the JC-1 campsite is a steep, rocky climb...watch your footing carefully here.

Campsite Specifics

This campsite is surrounded by many trees. Several beautiful weeping junipers provide great shade any time of the day. The site is well protected from the elements and would be a great location during high winds.

Views

Sorry, this campsite is surrounded by trees and offers no distant views.

Water Sources

Closest water source (seasonal, don't count on it) is in Boot Canyon, ¾ mile from the campsite. Upper Juniper Spring (2 miles (3.2 km) and 1,800 ft (550 m) descent from site) is also usually dry. It is vital that hikers carry adequate drinking water (minimum of 1 gallon (4 l)/person/24 hours).

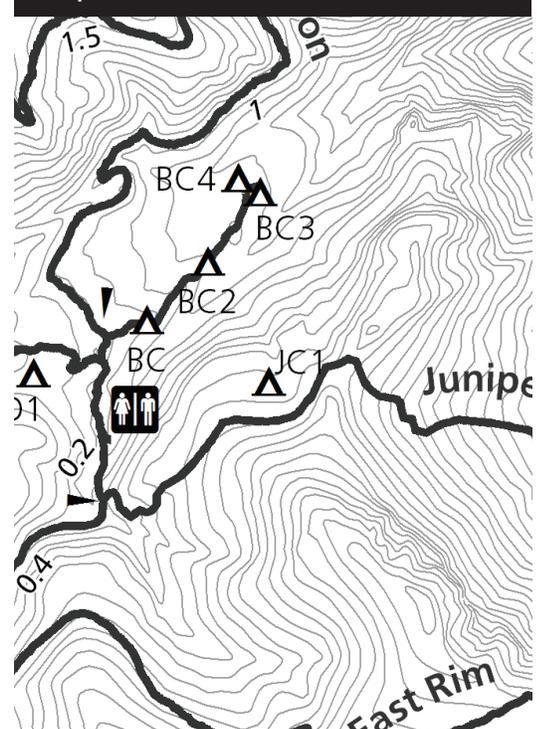
Notes

The Juniper Canyon Trail is the only route from the High Chisos into Juniper Canyon, one of two routes to the primitive and rugged Outer Mountain Loop Trail. In early autumn portions of this trail maybe overgrown and difficult to follow.

Campsite information

Campsite	# of people	# of tents
JC-1	6	2

Campsite area detail





Above: Juniper Canyon 1



Above: Juniper Canyon 1



Above: A view from the Northeast Rim

Directions

The East Rim campsites are located between 6 and 7 miles (10-11 km) from the Chisos Basin Trailhead via the Pinnacles Trail (8.5 miles/13.6 km via the Laguna Meadow Trail). The ER-4 campsite is located at the end of a spur trail on a high ridge. All other sites are situated along the spectacular 1.5-mile (2.4 km) section of trail, high above the desert below.

Usual Trail Conditions

The trails to the East Rim are well marked, maintained, and usually in great condition all year round. The Pinnacles Trail is the most direct route to the East Rim.

Campsite Specifics

The Northeast Rim Campsites are located along the northern edge of a high lava plateau overlooking the desert. These campsites are not located on the very edge of the rim, but 150-300 ft (45-90 m) into the trees on the opposite side of the trail.

ER-1: Small level site, with only moderate shade.

ER-2: Surrounded by trees; good shelter from wind.

ER-3: Nice protection from surrounding trees.

ER-4: A large site for up to 10 campers. Best shade of all.

ER-5: Very level site with only minimum shade.

Views

Since these campsites are not perched on the rim there are NO views off the rim from the campsites. A short walk of 200-300 ft (60-90 m) from any site will provide spectacular panoramic vistas.

Water Sources

None. There is NO water anywhere near the East Rim of the Chisos.

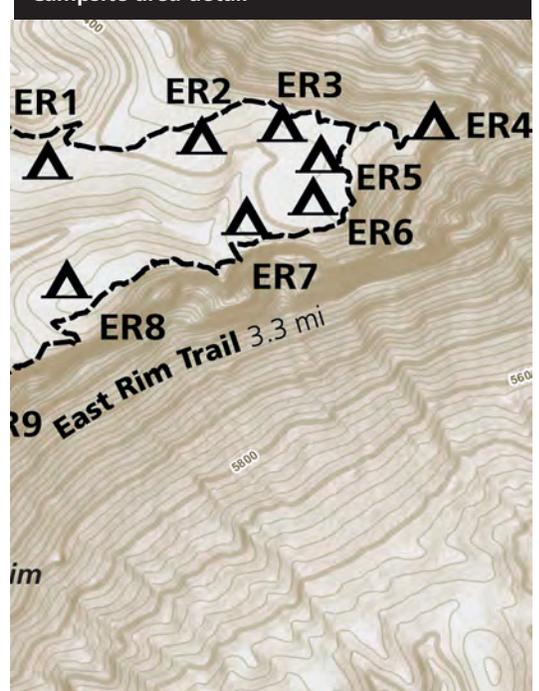
Closure Information

To protect breeding peregrine falcons, from Feb. 1 to May 31, the East Rim Trail from ER-4 to ER-9 is closed to entry, and the only sites available for camping are ER-1, ER-2, and ER-3.

Campsite information

Campsite	# of people	# of tents
ER-1	5	2
ER-2	6	2
ER-3	6	2
ER-4	10	5
ER-5	6	2

Campsite area detail





Above: East Rim 1



Above: East Rim 2



Above: East Rim 3



Above: East Rim 4



Above: East Rim 5



East Rim Campsites (cont.)

Above: A view from the South Rim

Directions

The campsites are located between 6.5 to 8 miles (10-13 km) from the Chisos Basin Trailhead via either the Pinnacles/Boot Canyon or Laguna Meadows Trails. The sites are situated along a spectacular 1.5-mile (2.4 km) section of trail, high above the desert below.

Usual Trail Conditions

The Trails to the are well marked, maintained, and usually in great condition all year round. The Pinnacles Trail is the steepest, yet most direct route to the Rim.

Campsite Specifics

The Rim Campsites are located along the southern edge of a high lava plateau overlooking the rugged Sierra Quemada (the burnt land) desert and into Mexico. These campsites are not located on the very edge of the rim, but situated 100-200 ft (30-60 m) into the trees on the opposite side of the trail.

ER-9: Nice circular site with trees in the middle. Shady. Close to the rim.

ER-8: Great campsite with abundant shade. Close to the rim.

ER-7: A large campsite for a group of up to 10. Pretty, with beautiful trees and moderate shade.

ER-6: a small, level site with good shade.

Views

Since these campsites are not perched on the rim, but sheltered within the trees, there are NO views off the rim from the actual sites. A short walk of 100-200 ft (30-60 m) from any site will provide spectacular panoramic vistas.

Water Sources

None. There is NO water anywhere near the East Rim of the Chisos. It is vital that you carry adequate water for drinking, cooking, and washing.

Closure Information

The East Rim trail and campsites are closed to all entry from February 1-May 31 to minimize disturbance to nesting peregrine falcons.

Campsite information

Campsite	# of people	# of tents
ER-9	6	2
ER-8	6	2
ER-7	10	5
ER-6	6	2

Campsite area detail





Above: East Rim 9



Above: East Rim 8



Above: East Rim 7



Above: East Rim 6



Above: A view down Boot Canyon near Southwest Rim 2

Directions

The South Rim campsites are located on a high volcanic mesa overlooking the low desert and distant mountains of Mexico. The three campsites are spread out along a 1 mile (1.6 km) section of trail.

Via the Laguna Meadows Trail: SR-2 is 5 miles (8 km), SR-3 is 5.6 miles (9 km), SR-4 is 6.1 miles (9.8 km).

Via the Pinnacles Trail: SR-2 is 6.5 miles (10 km), SR-3 is 7 miles (11 km), SR-4 is 7.6 miles (12 km).

Usual Trail Conditions

The Laguna Meadow Trail is the quickest route to these campsites. The Pinnacles Trail is steeper, but completes most of the climbing in only 3.5 miles (5.6 km).

Campsite Specifics

SR-2: Very nice, private site for up to 3 hikers. Beautiful view down Boot Canyon.

SR-3: Great location, and large. This site holds a group of up to 10 campers. Adequate amount of shade, but fairly exposed to wind.

SR-4: Nice, shady, and very private. Composting toilet nearby.

Views

SR-2: Good views of surrounding ridges and Boot Canyon.

SR-3: Excellent views off the rim of the Sierra Quemada, Mule Ears, and Sierra Ponce.

SR-4: This campsite is 200 ft (60 m) from the rim and surrounded by trees. Great privacy, but no views from campsite.

Water Sources

None. There is NO water anywhere near the South Rim of the Chisos. It is vital that you carry adequate water for drinking, cooking, and washing. Plan on at least 1 gallon (4 l)/person/24 hours.

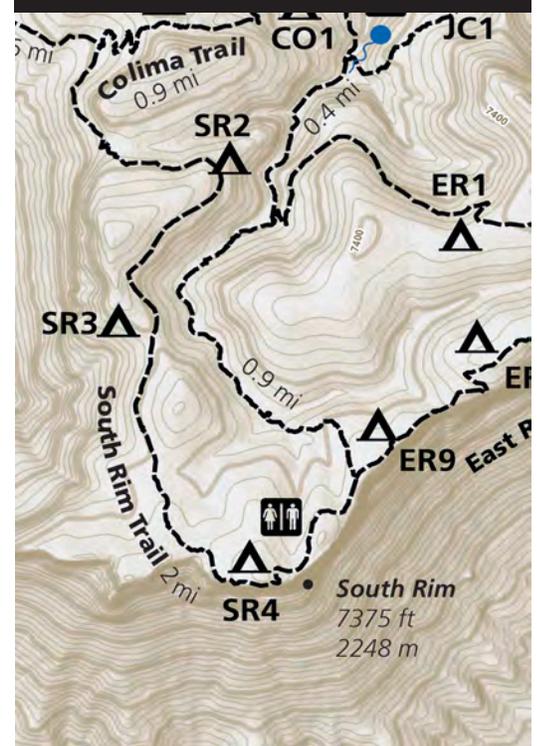
Notes

The south rim is one of the park's most popular destinations for hikers and backpackers.

Campsite information

Campsite	# of people	# of tents
SR-2	3	1
SR-3	10	5
SR-4	4	1

Campsite area detail





Above: South Rim 2



Above: South Rim 3



Above: SouthRim 4



Above: A view down Blue Creek Canyon

Directions

The Blue Creek campsites are located approximately ¼ mile down the Blue Creek Trail from its junction with the Laguna Meadow Trail. Total distance from the Chisos Basin Trailhead is 4 miles (6.4 km) via the Laguna Meadow Trail, or 6½ miles (10 km) via the Pinnacles and Colima Trails. Both sites are situated along the western side of the main trail and have private spur trails.

Usual Trail Conditions

The Laguna Meadow Trail is a long gradual climb with several sections of switchbacks. The Blue Creek Trail is a very steep descent to the lower desert, extending through several vegetative zones, and ending near the Homer Wilson Ranch historic area. Total descent is 2,560 ft (780 m) over 5.5 miles (9 km). All trails are usually well maintained and easy to follow.

Campsite Specifics

Both sites are tiny, private, and offer room for only one tent and four people. Both sites are surrounded by trees and provide good shade throughout the day.

Views

Both campsites have nice views nearby of surrounding ridges and of Blue Creek Canyon.

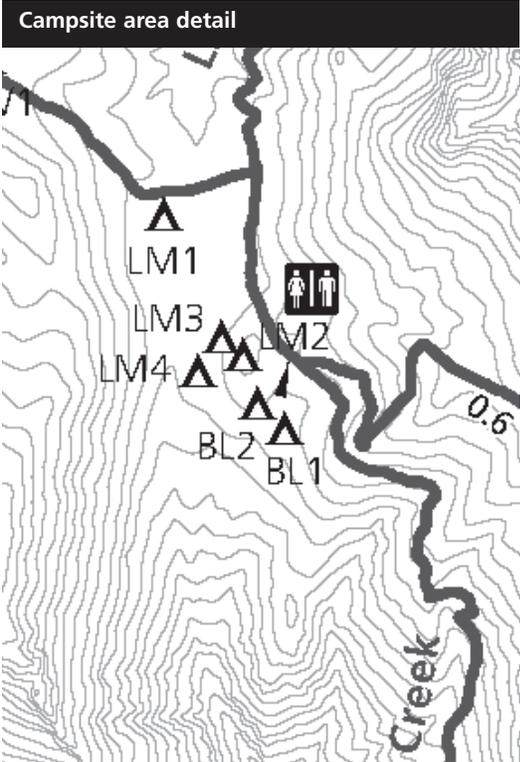
Water Sources

None. There is NO water anywhere near the Blue Creek Sites or in Blue Creek Canyon. It is vital that you carry adequate water for drinking, cooking, and washing. Plan on at least 1 gallon (4 l)/person/24 hours.

Notes

The Blue Creek Trail is the only route from the High Chisos into Blue Creek Canyon, one of two routes to the primitive and rugged Outer Mountain Loop Trail. In early autumn portions of this trail maybe overgrown and difficult to follow.

Campsite information		
Campsite	# of people	# of tents
BL-1	4	1
BL-2	4	1





Above: Blue Creek 1



Above: Blue Creek 1



Above: Blue Creek 2



Above: Blue Creek 2



Laguna Meadow Campsites

Above: Laguna Meadow

Directions

The Laguna Meadow campsites are located 3.5 miles (5.6 km) from the Basin trailhead via the Laguna Meadow Trail (or 6.5 miles/10 km via the Pinnacles and Colima Trails). LM-1 is along the same spur trail that leads to the Laguna West campsites. LM-2, 3, 4 are along their own spur trail just west of the Blue Creek Trail junction.

Usual Trail Conditions

The Laguna Meadow Trail is a gradual climb in elevation (1,600 ft/487 m). There are several sections of switchbacks. Views are great and the trail is usually in fine condition year-round.

Campsite Specifics

LM-1: Secluded with nice afternoon shade.

LM-2: A large, flat, shady site. Closest to nearby toilet.

LM-3: Nice site with adequate shade.

LM-4: Isolated at the end of the spur trail. Good shade.

Views

LM-1 has nice views of Emory Peak and surrounding Laguna Meadow area.

LM-2, 3, 4 sites are secluded among the trees. Views are restricted from the actual sites, but nearby views are great.

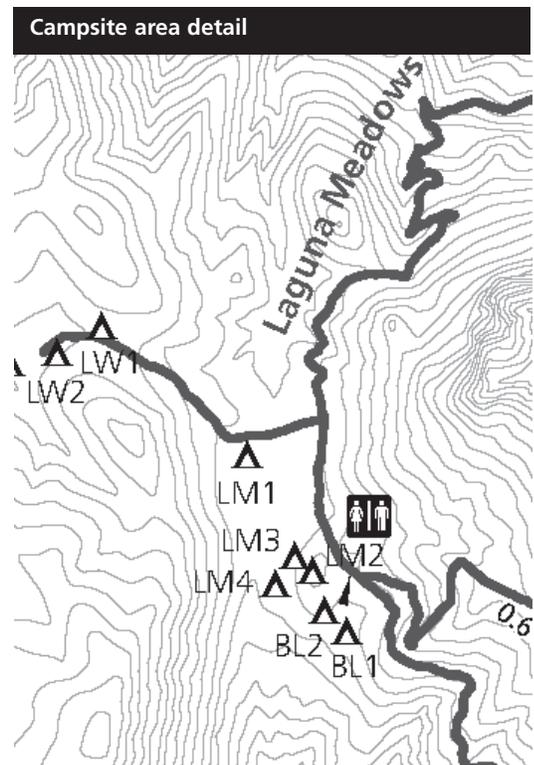
Water Sources

None. There is NO water anywhere near Laguna Meadows. It is vital that you carry adequate water for drinking, cooking, and washing. Plan on at least 1 gallon (4 l)/24 hours/person.

Notes

A solar-composting pit toilet is near the spur trail to sites LM-2, 3, 4.

Campsite information		
Campsite	# of people	# of tents
LM-1	6	2
LM-2	10	5
LM-3	6	2
LM-4	6	2





Above: Laguna Meadow 1



Above: Laguna Meadow 2



Above: Laguna Meadow 3



Above: Laguna Meadow 4



Laguna West Campsites

Above: A view of Emory Peak from near Laguna West 1

Directions

The Laguna West campsites are located approximately 3.5 miles (5.6 km) from the Basin trailhead via the Laguna Meadow Trail (or 6.8 miles/11 km via the Pinnacles and Colima Trails). All Laguna West campsites are located along a spur trail to the west of the main Laguna Meadow Trail. The spur trail is 200 yards (180 m) long and ends at site LW-3.

Usual Trail Conditions

The Laguna Meadow Trail is a gradual climb in elevation (1,600 ft/487 m). There are several sections of switchbacks. Views are great and the trail is usually in fine condition year-round.

Campsite Specifics

The Laguna West area is an open chaparral woodland. All Laguna West campsites are small, accommodating only 4 people each. All sites are secluded and located under small groves of pinyon pines for good shade.

Views

Due to the open nature of the Laguna West area, all sites have nice views. LW-1 and LW-3 have very nice views of Emory Peak. LW-2 provides views of surrounding low brushy hills.

Water Sources

None. There is NO water anywhere in the Laguna Meadows/Laguna West area. It is vital that you carry adequate water for drinking, cooking, and washing. Plan on at least 1 gallon (4 l)/24 hours/person.

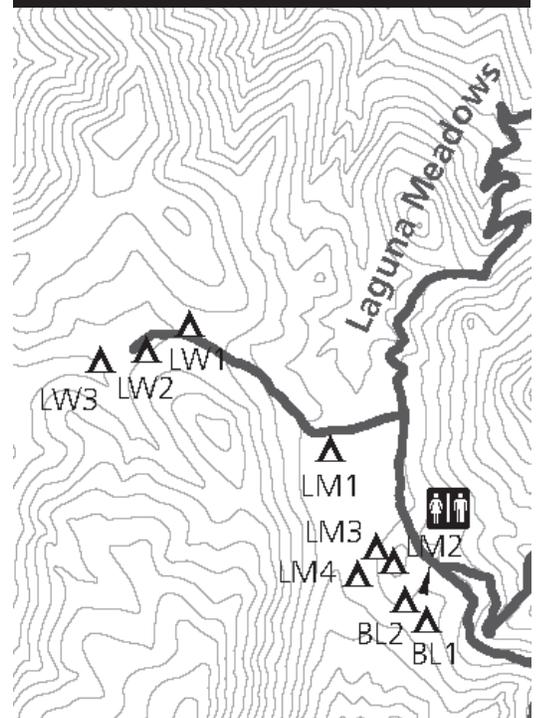
Notes

A solar-composting pit toilet is near the spur trail to sites LM-2, 3, 4.

Campsite information

Campsite	# of people	# of tents
LW-1	4	2
LW-2	4	1
LW-3	4	1

Campsite area detail





Above: Laguna West 1



Above: Laguna West 1



Above: Laguna West 2



Above: Laguna West 2



Above: Laguna West 3



Above: Laguna West 3