The petroglyphs along Utah Highway 24 are also accessible. The visitor center offers exhibits on geology, archeology, and history, as well as an 18-minute orientation movie.

Things to Do

The park offers a variety of ranger-led programs from spring to fall no charge. These include interactive talks, dark sky programs, evening programs at the campground amphitheater. The Frutas Schoolhouse is a restored pioneer structure located 1.1 miles south of the visitor center on Highway 24. An audio way is available as an interpretive display to help you school.

The blacksmith shop, located 0.9 mile south of the visitor center on the Scenic Drive, offers an audio way as an interpretive display to help you school.

A picnic area is located 1.6 mile south of the visitor center on the Scenic Drive. There are site tables, fire rings, rest rooms, drinking water, and shade trees.

Hiking and Backpacking

There are over 140 miles of trails and in around the park and over 150 miles of trails and backcountry routes available at the visitor center and on our website. There are over 140 miles of roads in and around the park and over 150 miles of trails and backcountry routes available at the visitor center and on our website.

Visitor Center Operations

The park is open year-round and the visitor center is open daily, except for federal winter holidays. Business hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., and ranger programs are wheelchair-accessible with assistance. The petroglyphs along Utah Highway 24 are also accessible.

Kid-friendly Activities

Kids of all ages can complete activities in the Junior Ranger booklet and earn a badge (allow 2 hours per person). Enjoy interactive exhibits, games and activities, and free educational programs at the Riptile Rock Nature Center. Call the Cape for more information.

Fees are subject to change.

Backcountry

A free backcountry permit is required for all overnight stays in the park. The permit is available at the visitor center and on our website. A group campsite is open seasonally and is always available for free. Permits for any fruit removed from the orchards. There is no fee charged for any fruit removed from the orchards.

Fires are permitted only within fire rings provided in the picnic areas and the picnic area.

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Weather

Conditions at the visitor center can change rapidly, and constant attention. Ask at the visitor center about potentially dangerous weather conditions.

Pets

Do not feed, harass, or approach any park wildlife.

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Do not litter. Pack out all trash.

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Shut off all engines while you eat or have pets nearby.

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Use caution near cliff edges as rocks can be slippery and potentially dangerous. Do not litter. Pack out all trash.

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Do not litter. Pack out all trash. Recycling bins are located at the visitor center, picnic area, and campground.

All vehicles, including bicycles, must stay on the road. Use caution near cliff edges as rocks can be slippery and potentially dangerous.

Pets are subject to change.

Orchards

A group campsite is open seasonally and is always available for free. Permits for any fruit removed from the orchards. There is no fee charged for any fruit removed from the orchards.

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Planning Your Visit

Hiking, backpacking, picnicking, wildlife viewing, and walking through the orchards are favorite activities at Capitol Reef National Park. Below are some suggested ways to spend your time for:

An Hour or Two:
• Stop at the visitor center and view the displays and orientation movie.
• Pick some delicious fruit when in season.
• Hike one of the shorter trails in the Fruita area.
• Tour the Scenic Drive (approximately 90 minutes round trip).
• Visit the petroglyphs, historic schoolhouse, or Belknap Cabin (along Highway 24), or the Historic Gifford House, nature center, or blacksmith shop (on the Scenic Drive).
• Join a ranger-guided program.

One Day:
• Hike longer trails.
• Join a ranger-guided walk, talk, or evening program.
• Borrow a Family Fun Pack and learn about the park through family-oriented games and activities.
• Tour Cathedral Valley or the Waterpocket District.
• Check at the visitor center for the weather forecast and current road conditions.

Several Days:
• Combine day trip options.
• Hike the shorter trails and routes along the Waterpocket District or Cathedral Valley Loops.
• Experience solitude and quiet by backpacking into remote areas of the park. Check for current weather, road and trail conditions at the visitor center. A free permit is required for overnight backcountry use.

Anasazi State Park
Cedar Mesa
Strike Valley Overlook
Burr Trail Switchbacks
GRAND WASH
GRAND STAIRCASE-ESCALANTE NATIONAL MONUMENT
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
FISHLAKE NATIONAL FOREST
DIXIE NATIONAL FOREST
To Bullfrog Marina,
Glen Canyon National Recreation Area
Burr Trail Road
McMillan Springs (BLM)
To Fremont and
To Hanksville
To Escalante and Bryce Canyon National Park
Hartnet Road
Post Corral
Halls Creek Overlook
Notom-Bullfrog Road
Cathedral Road
Extremely rough unmaintained 4WD road
GLEN CANYON NATIONAL RECREATION AREA
(National Park Service)
CAPITOL REEF NATIONAL PARK
Scenic Drive
Visitor Center or Center
72 Miles
5 Kilometers
North
Picnic area
Campground
Primitive campground
Ranger station
Unpaved road
Unpaved road (high clearance 4-wheel-drive required)
Unpaved road (high clearance 4-wheel-drive recommended)
Roads may become impassable due to weather.
Paved road

Additional Park Information
Capitol Reef National Park
HC 70 Box 10
Torrey UT 84775
435-425-3791
www.nps.gov/care
www.facebook.com/CapitolReefNPS
www.twitter.com/CapitolReefNPS

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