

Trail Conditions

- Surface: loose gravel, rock, and sand - Hiking shoes and poles recommended
- Tripping hazards include large rocks, roots, and run off channels
- Uneven terrain throughout
Cross slope: 10 - 50% Grade: 1-27%
- Significant fear of heights: some trails not recommended (especially Hailstone)

Prohibited on all trails:



Don't hit the trail without:

- Water
- Electrolytes & snack
- Sunscreen & a hat
- Paper map

Stop hiking & seek shelter or help if you:

- Feel sick, weak, or feverish
- See lightning or hear thunder

Emergency = Call 911

Park Specific Dangers

Everyone responds differently to elevation. Listen to your body, don't overdo it!

- High elevation = less oxygen
- Do not climb on or up rocks

Wildlife:

- Be aware - look where you step
- Keep children close and pets leashed
- Rabies! Stay FAR away from animals

Pets

Keep pets close: wild animals and snakes put pets at risk.

Rules

- Pets must be leashed at all times
- Waste must be picked up and disposed of
- Leaving pets unattended or tied to objects is prohibited

Dog Friendly Areas

- Hike: Campground or Visitor Center to Bonita Creek Loop - 4.4 mile roundtrip
- Trails:
 - Bonita Creek (partially paved)
 - Silver Spur Meadow
 - Campground & Visitor Center Connector
- Parking lots



NOTICE: Emotional support, therapy, companion & carried pets are permitted **only** in the areas noted above. No pets are permitted in federal buildings.

International Dark Sky Park

In 2021, Chiricahua National Monument was recognized as a Dark Sky Park. National parks are some of the best places to see the stars.

Stargazers may see exceptionally starry nights from any open parking areas, like Faraway Ranch or Bonita Creek. You may see the first stars on the horizon from Echo Canyon or Massai Point.

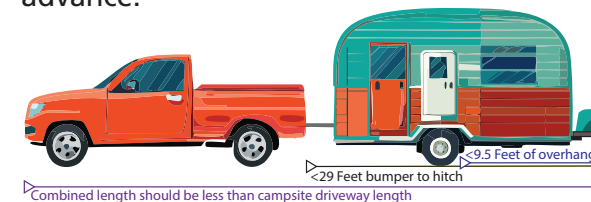
**Animals are especially active at night. Be careful when driving or walking. Sleeping is only permitted in the campground.



Camping

Bonita Canyon Campground is a small, primitive campground with 23 sites, flush toilets, and water. No shower facilities or electric hook ups. Vehicle length limit is 29 feet.

Make reservations on recreation.gov in advance.



Park Guide & Map



Chiricahua National Monument Arizona

Grounds open 24-hours
Visitor Center open 8:30 am - 4:30 pm

**Oversized Vehicle & Trailer Parking
at Faraway Ranch**

Scenic Drive

Paved out and back
Travel 6 miles beyond Visitor Center
Vehicles over 24 feet prohibited
No trailers



Popular Hiking Destinations

Echo Canyon Trail to the Grotto
1/2 mile from Echo Canyon Parking



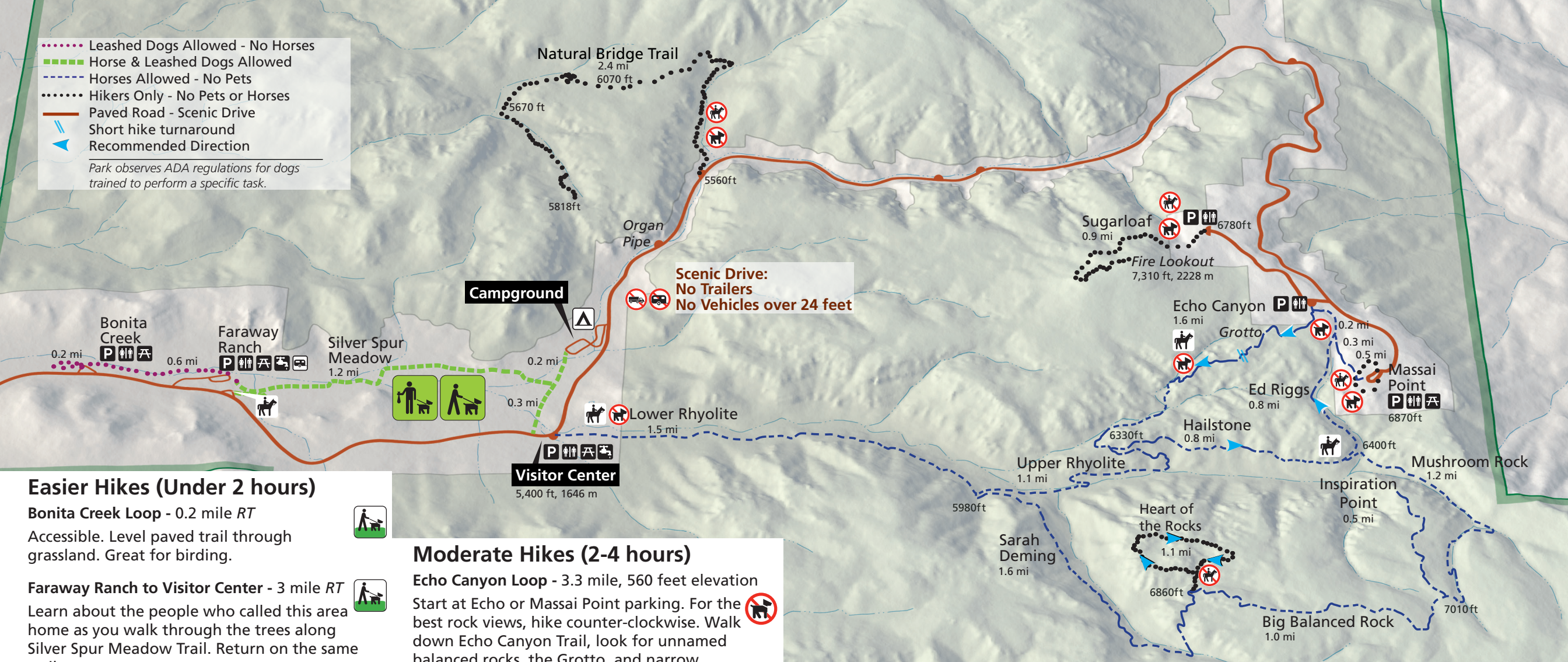
Heart of the Rocks

Strenuous 7+ miles! Do not start after 1 pm.





- Leashed Dogs Allowed - No Horses
- Horse & Leashed Dogs Allowed
- Horses Allowed - No Pets
- Hikers Only - No Pets or Horses
- Paved Road - Scenic Drive
- Short hike turnaround
- Recommended Direction


Park observes ADA regulations for dogs trained to perform a specific task.





Easier Hikes (Under 2 hours)


Bonita Creek Loop - 0.2 mile RT 
 Accessible. Level paved trail through grassland. Great for birding.


Faraway Ranch to Visitor Center - 3 mile RT 
 Learn about the people who called this area home as you walk through the trees along Silver Spur Meadow Trail. Return on the same trail.


Massai Point Nature Trail - 0.5 mile loop 
 Trail loops around parking lot. North part of the trail is paved up to an exhibit building. To make the full interpretative loop, hike counter-clockwise from the paved trail on the northwest side. Alternatively, challenging, but steep stairs shortcut down to the lookout.

Echo Canyon to Beyond Grotto - 1.2 mile RT 
 Easy to moderate trail with balanced rocks. Look for tunnel-like formation on right. Turn back when you see a window & switchbacks. 

Moderate Hikes (2-4 hours)


Echo Canyon Loop - 3.3 mile, 560 feet elevation 
 Start at Echo or Massai Point parking. For the best rock views, hike counter-clockwise. Walk down Echo Canyon Trail, look for unnamed balanced rocks, the Grotto, and narrow canyons. Turn left on Hailstone Trail to see the Wonderland of Rocks and unique spherulites. Finish by hiking up Ed Riggs Trail.

Sugarloaf Peak - 1.8 mile RT, 500 feet elevation 
 A short, steep climb to the highest point in the park with 360 degree views and historic fire lookout.

Natural Bridge - 4.7 mile RT, >1,000 ft elevation 
 Hike up and down through areas of intense burn with dramatic views. The bridge is visible from a distance.


Scenic Drive: No Trailers No Vehicles over 24 feet


Strenuous Hikes (4-6 hours)

Heart of the Rocks from Echo Canyon 
 7.4 mile RT, >1,000 feet elevation
 Take Ed Riggs Trail to Mushroom Rock, Big Balanced Rock then descend into Heart of the Rocks. Walk through trees until you see a trail sign on the left. Ascend the large boulders at that sign and continue clockwise. Heart of the Rocks Loop is too difficult to follow in reverse. Return on same trails.

All time estimates are based on full hike - loop or roundtrip (RT) - for average to strong hikers, not including drive from Visitor Center to parking area.

Very Strenuous Hikes (4-8 hours)

Heart of the Rocks from Visitor Center 
 7.4 mile RT, 1,600 feet elevation
 More strenuous with some shade. Up Lower Rhyolite to steep climb up Sarah Deming then descend into Heart of the Rocks. Walk to trail sign on the left. Ascend the large boulders and continue clockwise. Return on same trails.

Big Loop - 8.5 to 12 miles 
 Connect upper trails to see it all in one hike. Echo Canyon Trail and Heart of the Rocks are highlights. Ask for details and options.