



Preparing for your Ranger-Led Field Trip

GROUP LEADER CHECKLIST

We are delighted that you have chosen Grand Canyon's free ranger-led field trips. To ensure that your visit meets your expectations as well as ours, please refer to the following checklist and share pertinent points with your group.

BEFORE YOUR VISIT

Chaperones:

We require one chaperone for every 5 students, plus one lead teacher. Extra adults may not participate in the field trip and must pay the general admissions fee.

- Assign each chaperone to a group of 5 children, leaving yourself free to help oversee and facilitate the program.
- Fill out a Chaperone Information Sheet to hand out before leaving on the field trip. Make sure chaperones are aware of the schedule and their responsibilities.

Students:

Each program can accommodate up to 35 students. Siblings are not welcome.

- Review behavioral expectations with students.
- Remind parents to send children with layers in case of inclement weather.
- Nametags: Create prior to trip for all adults and children.
- Make double-sided copies of the field trip journal provided by Grand Canyon staff.
- Lead the students in creating custom covers for the journals before arrival.
- Introduce Grand Canyon to your students before your trip. Visit www.nps.gov/GRCA/forteachers for curriculum materials that connect to your topic.

What to Bring:

- A hard copy of your fee waiver (attached to your confirmation).
- Lunches.
- One liter of water per person.
- Any necessary medications.
- Check the weather report a few days before.
- Dress in layers. Raincoats, jackets, hats and gloves may be appropriate.

Reservation changes:

- If you need to make any changes in your reservation, please call 928-638-7931.
- Cancellations must be made by phone three weeks ahead of your field trip. No-shows and last minute cancellations may lead to schools not being offered field trips in the future.

(turn over)

UPON ARRIVAL

- ❑ **At the entrance station:** Show your fee waiver to the rangers at the gate for free admission.
- ❑ **Where to go:** Follow signs to “Parking Lot A, Park Headquarters.” The bus driver may temporarily park in front of Park Headquarters (please no idling).
- ❑ **Bathrooms:** Have chaperones organize students, forming two lines outside Park Headquarters. Only four students of each gender may enter the building at a time.
- ❑ **Greeting:** A park ranger will greet groups to review expectations and the schedule.
- ❑ **Bus parking:** Found at Grand Canyon Visitor Center and the Backcountry Information Center. Please refer to maps in the Park Guide available at the gate, or online.

DURING YOUR VISIT

- ❑ Each section of up to 35 students will be led by a ranger.
- ❑ Rangers rely upon the lead teacher and chaperones for behavior management.
- ❑ Tablets, phones and mp3 players are prohibited during the field trip. Cameras may only be used during designated photo opportunities.
- ❑ Some programs involve walking off trail on uneven terrain.
- ❑ Programs conclude promptly at scheduled times.
- ❑ Trips to gift and souvenir shops are not included in the itinerary.

STUDENT BEHAVIOR GUIDELINES

- ❖ **Respect wildlife.** It is disrespectful and illegal to harass the animals in any manner, including feeding them, throwing objects at them, making loud noises, and approaching them. Remember that we are visitors in their home.
- ❖ **Respect plants.** Do not pick flowers or break leaves off plants. Stay on the trail so that plants do not get trampled.
- ❖ **Respect other visitors and people with ancestral ties to Grand Canyon.** Just as in the classroom, yelling, running, throwing objects, and derogatory remarks are unacceptable.
- ❖ **Respect each other.** When a ranger, teacher, chaperone or student is talking, please listen quietly. Keep your hands to yourself.
- ❖ **Respect the park.** Everything in the park, including rocks, plants, fossils, animals, and artifacts, is protected by law and must remain where it is found.
- ❖ **Respect yourself.** Keep yourself safe by staying a body length away from the rim at all times.