Authorization

1882: First unsuccessful attempt to establish a Grand Canyon National Park
1893: Designated a “forest reserve” by President Benjamin Harrison (Presidential Proclamation #45)
1908: Established as Grand Canyon National Monument by President Theodore Roosevelt (Presidential Proclamation #794)
1919: Designated Grand Canyon National Park by an act of Congress on February 26 (40 Stat 1175)
1975: Grand Canyon National Park Enlargement Act enacted by Congress on January 3 (88 Stat 2089) (Public Law 93-620)
1979: Designated a World Heritage Site on October 26
2019: Designated an International Dark Sky Park (IDSP) by the International Dark-Sky Association in June after being awarded Provisional IDSP status in 2016

Park Statistics

**Grand Canyon National Park**

- **Park Size:**
  - 1,218,375 acres (493,059 ha)
  - 1,904 square miles (4,931 km²)

- **Length:** 277 river miles (446 km)

- **Width:**
  - Minimum at Marble Canyon, 600 feet (180 m)
  - Average Rim to Rim: 10 miles (16 km)
  - Maximum Rim to Rim: 18 miles (28.8 km)

- **Depth:** Average 1 mile (1.6 km)

- **Elevations:**
  - South Rim 7,000 feet (2,100 m)
  - North Rim 8,000 feet (2,400 m)

- **Volume:** 5.45 trillion cubic yards (4.17 trillion m³)

**Colorado River in Grand Canyon National Park**

- **Length:** 277 miles (446 km)
- **Average Width:** 300 feet (90 m)
- **Minimum Width:** 76 feet (23 m)
- **Average Depth:** 40 feet (12 m)
- **Greatest Depth:** 85 feet (25.5 m)
- **Average Gradient:** 7 feet per mile (1.3 m/km)
- **Elevation at Phantom Ranch:** 2,400 feet (720 m)

The Colorado River is 1,450 miles (2,333 km) long from its source in the Rocky Mountains of Colorado to the Gulf of California.
**Geology**

Grand Canyon National Park preserves an iconic geologic landscape and resources ranging from 1,840 to 270 million years old, including diverse paleontological resources; unconsolidated surface deposits; a complex tectonic and erosion history; and Pliocene to Holocene volcanic deposits. The Colorado River established its course through the canyon about six million years ago and likely evolved from pre-existing drainages to its current course. Geologic processes, including erosion of tributaries and slopes, and active tectonics continue to shape the canyon today. The geologic record in Grand Canyon is an important scientific chronicle and is largely responsible for its inspirational scenery.

**Plant and Animal Life**

**Animals**
- Birds: 450 species
- Mammals: 91 species
- Fish: 18 species, 5 native
- Reptiles and Amphibians: 58 species
- Invertebrates: 1,443 species, including 292 butterflies and moths
- Exotic (non-native) animals: 27 species
- Park Endemic animals, not extirpated: 9 species; 5 butterflies, 1 pseudoscorpion, 1 tarantula, 1 snake, 1 mollusk
- Regionally Endemic animals, not extirpated: 5 species; humpback chub, razorback sucker, flannelmouth sucker, Kaibab squirrel, and the Navajo Mexican vole

One reptile, three mammal, and one mollusk species are known only from the Grand Canyon region. At least nine species of insects are endemic to Grand Canyon, and six fish species are endemic to the Colorado River basin.

**Plants**
- Vascular Plants: 1,747 species
- Endemic Plants: 4 species
- Exotic (non-native) Plants: 208 species

**Vegetation Formations**
- 6 types: riparian, desert scrub, pinyon/juniper woodland, ponderosa pine forest, spruce/fir forest, and montane meadows/sub-alpine.

**Endangered/Threatened**
- Animals: California condor, humpback chub, razorback sucker, southwestern willow flycatcher, Mexican spotted owl, Ridgeway’s rail, yellow-billed cuckoo, and desert tortoise. There are over 35 species of special concern and former USFWS Category 2 species.

**Extirpated Species**
- Grizzly bear, black-footed ferret, gray wolf, jaguar, Bear Valley sandwort, Colorado pikeminnow, bonytail, roundtail chub, northern leopard frog, and southwestern river otter.
Human History

The oldest human artifacts found date to the Paleoindian period and are nearly 12,000 years old. There has been continuous use and occupation of the park since that time. Archaeological evidence from the following prehistoric culture groups is found in Grand Canyon National Park: Paleoindian, Archaic, Basketmaker, Ancestral Puebloan (Kayenta and Virgin branches), Cohonina, Cerbat, Pai, and Southern Paiute. Historical-period cultural groups include the Hopi, Navajo, Pai, Southern Paiute, Zuni, and Euro-American. The park has recorded 4,615 archaeological resources with intensive survey of approximately six percent of the park area. The park’s 11 Traditionally Associated Tribes and historic ethnic groups view management of archaeological resources as preservation of their heritage.

Historic Resources

National Historic Landmarks
- Individual Buildings: 4
- Districts: 3
- Sites: 1

National Register of Historic Places
- Buildings: 8
- Districts: 10
- Sites: 2
- Structure: 1

Climate

Climate in Grand Canyon National Park is relatively mild. However, low humidity generally allows large temperature differences between day and night.

South Rim
- Mean High Temperature: 60°F (15.6°C)
- Mean Low Temperature: 39°F (3.9°C)
- Average Annual Precipitation: 15.94 inches (40.49 cm)
- Total Precipitation in 2019: 15.66 inches (39.78 cm)

North Rim
- Mean High Temperature: 55°F (12.8°C)
- Mean Low Temperature: 31°F (-0.6°C)
- Average Annual Precipitation: 24.68 inches (62.69 cm)
- Total Precipitation in 2019: 30.16 inches (76.61 cm)

Phantom Ranch
- Mean High Temperature: 77°F (25.0°C)
- Mean Low Temperature: 53°F (11.7°C)
- Average Annual Precipitation: 10.06 inches (25.55 cm)
- Total Precipitation in 2019: 12.50 inches (31.75 cm)

Since precipitation totals are low, year-to-year variations can be large. The passage of a few major storms can have a significant impact on the year’s total.
Development

Buildings
   Total: 1,181
      National Park Service: 645
      Concessioners: 536

Trails
   Paved: 35 miles (56.3 km)
   Unpaved: 560 miles (901.2 km)
   Total: 595 miles (957.6 km)

Roads
   Paved: 106 miles (170.6 km)
   Unpaved: 148 miles (238.2 km)
   Total: 254 miles (408.8 km)

Sewage Treatment Facilities
   Total: 4

Trans-canyon Pipeline
   Water from Roaring Springs to the North and South rims
   Total: 23 miles (37 km)

Lodging Units
   South Rim: 908
   North Rim: 219
   Phantom Ranch: 15

Rim Campsites
   Mather: 317 family, 7 group, 2 hiker/biker, 2 livestock
   Desert View: 50 family
   North Rim: 90 family, 3 group
   Tuweep: 9 family, 1 group

Recreational Vehicle Sites
   Total: 123

Visitor Facilities
   Visitor centers, museums, theaters, backcountry offices, historic structures, scenic overlooks, accessible rim trails, lodging, campgrounds, dump stations, service stations, restaurants, cocktail lounges, coffee shops, general stores, gift shops, bookstores, clinic, bank, post offices, churches, and a dog kennel. Some facilities are seasonal.

Visitor Services
   Services include educational exhibits, curriculum-based education programs, junior ranger programs, ranger programs and hikes, picnicking, bicycling, bike rentals, self-guided hikes, mule riding, backpacking, fishing, river trips, overnight lodging, camping, camper services, guided bus tours, air tours (outside of park), shuttle bus service, taxi, auto repair, publication sales, gift and grocery sales, law enforcement, and medical and emergency services.

Concessioners
   In Fiscal Year 2019, 22 concessioners grossed approximately $182.5 million and paid franchise and other fees of approximately $17.8 million.

2019 Visitor and Resource Protection

Law Enforcement Activities
   Part I Offenses Investigated: 59
   Part II Offenses Reported: 4,409
   Law Enforcement Jurisdiction: Concurrent

Emergency Medical Services
   Emergency Medical Service Incidents: 1,237
   Fatalities: 13

Search and Rescue Incidents (SAR)
   Total: 328

Preventative Search and Rescue (PSAR)
   Total Contacts: 160,106
   Preventative Actions: 21,333
   Hiker Assists: 722

Structural Fire Incidents and Responses
   Total: 41

Wildland Fire Incidents and Treatments
   Fire Starts Incidents: 19
   Acres treated with fire: 8,790
   Acres of defensible space treated: 6
   Houses treated for FireWise standards: 10
2019 Visitation

Total Visitation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Total Visitation</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>5,974,411</td>
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<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>6,380,495</td>
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<td>2017</td>
<td>6,254,238</td>
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<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>5,969,811</td>
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<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>5,520,736</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Shuttle System Passengers
7,644,231 boardings (not passengers)

The shuttle system was implemented in 1974. Year-round shuttle service began March 10, 2000.

Backcountry User Nights

Total: 91,339
Corridor: 52,751
Other Backcountry Trails: 38,588
Backcountry permits issued: 14,753
Backcountry permits used: 13,758

Colorado River User Days

Lees Ferry to Diamond Creek
Commercial: 114,337
Noncommercial: 107,679

Diamond Creek to Pearce Ferry
Noncommercial: 15,178

Mule Trip Riders

Xanterra, South Rim
Phantom Ranch 1 night: 2,223
Phantom Ranch 2 nights: 316
Canyon Vistas: 8,680

Canyon Trail Rides, North Rim
One Hour Rim Ride: 2,646
Half Day Inner Canyon Ride: 4,004
Half Day Rim Ride: 494

Train Passengers

North-bound boardings
Total: 190,782

2019 Interpretive Services and Activities

Visitor Centers and Contact Stations

Grand Canyon Visitor Center
Verkamp’s Visitor Center
Yavapai Observation Station
Tusayan Ruin and Museum
Desert View Visitor Center
North Rim Visitor Center
Kolb Studio
Indian Garden
Phantom Ranch
Headquarters

Interpretive Walks, Talks, and Programs

2,778 presentations to 388,822 visitors

Environmental Education Programs

615 presentations to 18,187 participants
30,000 Junior Rangers sworn in

Publications

50 print publications currently maintained
Park Unigrids/maps distributed on the South Rim: 1,076,400
Pocket Map and Services Guide distributed on the South Rim: 1,837,750
All other brochures: 328,750

Pocket Map and Services Guide available in eight languages.

Digital Media

Facebook followers: 559,091
Instagram followers: 623,590
Twitter followers: 135,793
Social Media engagement clicks: 5,903,211
nps.gov/grca page views: 15,969,192
Administration

**FY 2019 Funding**

Operation of the National Park System (ONPS)
- ONPS Base Operating Appropriation: $21,607,500
- ONPS Non-base Funding: $41,949

Special Emphasis Program Allocation (SEPAS)
- FirePro Base: $1,469,792
- Construction and Major Maintenance: $368,624
- Repair and Rehabilitation: $346,875

**Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act—80% portion**

(FY-10) $13,367,858
(FY-11) $13,780,061
(FY-12) $13,972,969
(FY-13) $14,775,466
(FY-14) $8,407,057 (collections reduced by LSI buy down)
(FY-15) $18,361,846
(FY-16) $15,215,281 (collections reduced by Pipeline reserve)
(FY-17) $11,739,334 (collections reduced by Pipeline reserve)
(FY-18) $16,263,449
(FY-19) $15,788,360

10 Year Total (FY10-19) $141,671,681

Federal Lands Highway Program: $0

**Income 2019**

- Utilities Reimbursable: $4,793,491
- Quarters: $1,933,006
- Concession Franchise Fees—20% Portion: $3,231,346
- Filming and Location Fees: $15,605
- Donations (monetary): $1,312,092
- Transportation (Shuttle Buses): $6,594,934
- Other (reimbursable, refundable, etc.): $2,960,853

**National Park Service Staffing—FY 2019**

Information and distribution of all staff (Permanent, Term, and Seasonal) as of January 2020.

- Superintendent’s Office: 13
- Administration: 15
- Science and Resource Management: 40
- Concessions Management: 11
- Planning, Environment, and Projects: 9
- Facility Management: 94
- Interpretation: 46
- Visitor and Resource Protection: 127
- Fire and Aviation Management: 17

**Total National Park Service Staffing**

(FY-15) 457
(FY-16) 451
(FY-17) 382
(FY-18) 452
(FY-19) 372

**Volunteers-in-Parks (VIP) Program**

Volunteer hours by category

- Administration: 1,732
- Campground Host: 6,902.5
- Cultural Resource Management: 1,300.5
- General: 0
- Interpretation/Education: 13,530.75
- Natural Resource Management: 7,016.5
- Protection/Law Enforcement: 23,426.25

**In-Kind Service Amount**

- Total volunteers in park: 1,457
- Total hours: 61,110.25
- National value of each volunteer hour: $25.43
- Total in-kind services: $1,554,033.66
Located in northern Arizona, Grand Canyon National Park encompasses 277 miles (446 km) of the Colorado River and adjacent uplands. One of the most spectacular examples of erosion anywhere in the world, Grand Canyon is unmatched in the incomparable vistas it offers visitors on the rim. Grand Canyon National Park is a World Heritage Site.

The National Park Service cares for the special places saved by the American people so that all may experience our heritage.