Grand Canyon National Park
The official newspaper

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

March 1 through May 20, 2014

The Guide: Spring

South Rim Information and Maps

Spring weather provides a perfect opportunity to hike down the South Kaibab Trail into the canyon; see page 7.

Need Information?

Bring this Guide and your questions to a visitor center. Talk to park rangers, view exhibits, and learn about the park. Grand Canyon Association Park Stores and a stamp for your Passport To Your National Parks® are available at these facilities, except for the Backcountry Information Center.

Grand Canyon Village

GRAND CANYON VISITOR CENTER
8 am–5 pm

BACKCOUNTRY INFORMATION CENTER
8 am–noon; 1–5 pm

KOLB STUDIO
8 am–7 pm

VERKAMP'S VISITOR CENTER
8 am–7 pm

YAVAPAI GEOLOGY MUSEUM
8 am–7 pm

Desert View

DESERT VIEW VISITOR CENTER
9 am–5 pm

TUSAYAN MUSEUM AND RUIN
9 am–5 pm

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How Can We Help Plan Your Trip?

Hello, we are not interested in hiking but want to see great views from the free shuttle bus or our own car.

Park rangers suggest:

- *Mather Point:* start with a five-minute walk from Grand Canyon Visitor Center to Mather Point.
- *Shuttle bus:* ride the free shuttle buses to see Grand Canyon views. Allow 2 hours to visit overlooks on the Kaibab/Rim Route (orange).
- *Car:* drive 25 miles (40 km) along Desert View Drive. Stop at viewpoints, learn about ancestral Puebloan people at Tusayan Museum, and visit the historic Desert View Watchtower.
- *Sunrise/sunset:* view by car from Lipan Point on Desert View Drive or ride the Kaibab/Rim Route shuttle bus to Yaki Point.

Good day, I'm excited to explore the canyon on foot or by bike.

Park rangers suggest:

- *On the rim:* 13 miles (20 km) of rim trail let you see lots of great views from the top. Use the free shuttle bus to get back to where you started.
- *In the canyon:* two inner-canyon trails offer great options. The scenic South Kaibab Trail is ideal for shorter day hikes. The Bright Angel Trail offers longer hikes.
- *Biking:* travel the Greenway Trail to South Kaibab Trailhead or ride Hermit Road to Hermits Rest.
- *Sunrise/sunset:* view from Ooh Ahh Point in the canyon or bike along any Greenway Trail during sunset to see the light changing.

Hi, I have children in my group but would like to to see great views of the canyon.

Park rangers suggest:

- *Junior Ranger:* stop by a visitor center to pick up a Junior Ranger booklet. Children four and older attend a free ranger program and complete activities to become Junior Rangers.
- *Park ranger program:* attend a fossil walk, geo-glimpse, or condor talk and have your kids get their Junior Ranger booklet signed.
- *Stroll the village:* walk with your family along the canyon rim through historic Grand Canyon Village. Take in the view, grab a bite to eat, and learn about early visitors to the canyon.
- *Sunrise/sunset:* explore Yavapai Geology Museum and stay to watch sunset at Yavapai Point.

If parking is full at Grand Canyon Visitor Center, use lots A, B, C, or D in Grand Canyon Village. See map pages 4–5.

Special Events and Opportunities

Archaeology Day
March 22
10 am–4 pm
Grand Canyon Visitor Center
Learn about the native people who called Grand Canyon home over the past 10,000 years.

Earth Day
April 20
10 am–2 pm
Grand Canyon Visitor Center
Join Grand Canyon National Park for unique and interactive activities to celebrate the environment and all nature has to offer.

Bike the Park Week
May 19–24
Daily in various locations
Join the Grand Canyon community for an hour, a day, or the entire week. In an effort to reduce automobile traffic in Grand Canyon Village, the park and its partners offer Bike to Work Day, special bicycle tours, and a parade. Bring your own or rent a bicycle.

The Amazing Kolb Brothers: A Grand Life at Grand Canyon
Daily
8 am–7 pm
Kolb Studio
See Grand Canyon through the eyes of photographers Emery and Ellsworth Kolb in this exhibit. Be amazed and inspired by their stories, and view the movie that remains a box office hit.

Discover the Canyon by Phone
Enjoy two-minute park ranger talks at 30 locations throughout the park. Wherever you see a cell phone tour sign, dial 928-225-2907 and enter the stop number. There is no additional charge; standard calling rates apply. Funded by the Grand Canyon Association.

Explore Virtual Caches
Grand Canyon National Park offers a different way to explore the park. These EarthCaches are specifically tailored to geology, educational experiences, modern technology, and outdoor adventures. Stop by Grand Canyon Visitor Center or visit www.nps.gov/grca/planyourvisit/virtual-caching.htm to get your EarthCache information and start your adventure today. You will need your own GPS-enabled device to participate.

Artist-in-Residence
Few places have inspired as much wonder and creativity as Grand Canyon. Grand Canyon National Park hosts two Artist-in-Residence programs—a seasonal program on the North Rim and a year-round program on the South Rim. Ask in visitor centers about a limited number of free, family-friendly programs with the artists or call 928-638-7616 for recorded information. For program information and artist opportunities visit www.nps.gov/grca/supportyourpark/air.htm

EAR1 Remote Control **by Brack Morrow; musical instrument parts, electronics; remotely controls a sound machine rover: *EAR1* and monitors weather via apps and gauges; 18" x 19"; 2012**

SOUTH RIM SPRING SCHEDULE

March 1–15
Playwright and performer Scott Bradley from Chicago, Illinois
www.scootyjojo.com

March 16 to April 11
Sculptor and mixed media artist Brack Morrow from Las Cruces, New Mexico
www.brackmorrow.com

April 12 to May 4
Mixed media collaborative artists Dread Scott and Jenny Polak from Brooklyn, New York
www.dreadscott.net
www.jennypolak.com

May 5–31
Printmaker Jean Gumpper from Colorado Springs, Colorado
www.jeangumpper.com

New Trails Forever Endowment
In February, Arizona Public Service donated $1 million to the Grand Canyon Association establishing the Grand Canyon Trails Forever Endowment to preserve and protect Grand Canyon's trails. This is one of the most significant private, philanthropic gifts in Grand Canyon's history. The endowment provides on-going funding vital to help maintain the 350 miles of established trails, including the popular corridor trails like the Bright Angel, South Kaibab and North Kaibab trails. A portion of this generous gift was also used to help renovate the Bright Angel Trailhead.

As the National Park Service approaches its 100th anniversary in 2016, this donation establishes a path that ensures those generations to come enjoy one of our nation's most precious gifts—Grand Canyon, for the next 100 years and beyond. Visit www.grandcanyon.org for information.

September 3, 2014 is the 50th Anniversary of the Wilderness Act, which provides the highest level of public land protection in the United States. Ninety-four percent of Grand Canyon National Park qualifies for wilderness designation and is currently protected as such. Is there a designated wilderness area where you live? Wilderness belongs to everyone—this year let's honor it together. www.wilderness.net

The Sun and Moon

Date	Sunrise	Sunset
March 1	6:59 am	6:23 pm
March 15	6:40 am	6:35 pm
April 1	6:16 am	6:50 pm
April 15	5:56 am	7:01 pm
May 1	5:36 am	7:15 pm
May 15	5:23 am	7:27 pm
June 1	5:13 am	7:39 pm

Full Moon Date	Rise Time
March 16	6:57 pm
April 15	7:46 pm
May 14	7:38 pm

The North Rim
Grand Canyon's North Rim provide visitors with a tranquil experience. Open mid-May through the end of October, the North Rim is a five-hour, 215-mile (346 km) drive from Grand Canyon Village. Accommodations fill in advance; reservations strongly recommended.

Grand Canyon Lodge
877-386-4383 or www.foreverresorts.com

North Rim Campground
877-444-6777 or www.recreation.gov

Check at visitor centers and hotels for information about free, family-friendly programs.

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Grand Canyon National Park

Located in northern Arizona, the 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 to visitors on the rim. Grand Canyon National Park is a World Heritage Site.

Superintendent David V. Uberuaga
Grand Canyon National Park
PO Box 129
Grand Canyon, AZ 86023-0129 USA

Park Headquarters
928-638-7888

Website
www.nps.gov/grca/

The Guide is published by Grand Canyon National Park, supported by your user fees; it is available in French, German, Spanish, Italian, Japanese, Chinese, and Korean. An *Accessibility Guide* is also available.

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

EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA™

Grand Canyon Association

Be a Part of Something Grand
You can make a difference at Grand Canyon National Park!

With your help, the Grand Canyon Association (GCA) supports an impressive variety of projects and programs that ensure all visitors enjoy the awe-inspiring wonder of Grand Canyon.

As the park's official nonprofit partner, GCA cooperates with the National Park Service to operate Park Stores in seven locations in the park. GCA Park Store purchases help fund new exhibits, scientific research, trail restoration, wildlife monitoring, ecological restoration, support for the arts, Junior Ranger, education programs, and historic building preservation.

Explore the Canyon's Wonders with the Grand Canyon Field Institute
Learn about geology, archaeology, photography, yoga, and more, during fun and informative education classes. Activities include rim walks, backpacks, and river trips. Call 866-471-4435 or visit www.grandcanyon.org/fieldinstitute

Take Grand Canyon Home with You
Join the Grand Canyon Association today. Members receive exclusive benefits and discounts. For information, visit a GCA bookstore, call toll-free 800-858-2808, or visit www.grandcanyon.org.

Park Ranger Programs

Discover Grand Canyon with free programs given by park rangers and volunteers in or near Grand Canyon Village; see page 8 for Desert View programs. Parking is limited. Park rangers recommend you ride the free shuttle buses to program locations.

Children under age 16 must be accompanied by an adult. All program times are Mountain Standard; Arizona does not recognize daylight-saving time. Check at visitor centers and hotels for additional information and special programs.

Time	Programs	Meeting Location	Duration	Notes
8 am	**Cedar Ridge Hike** Explore the canyon's beauty while descending 1,120 feet (340 m) on an unpaved trail. This challenging 3-mile (5 km), round-trip hike is not recommended for people with heart or respiratory problems or difficulty walking. Bring 1–2 quarts (liters) of water, sunscreen, hat, snacks, and sturdy hiking shoes.	South Kaibab Trailhead	3–3.5 hours; offered in ***May only*** *No program May 12*	Trailhead closed to vehicles; ride the free Kaibab/Rim Route shuttle bus.
9 am	**Fossil Walk** Stroll through an ancient ocean of marine creatures. Discover the amazing world of fossils and what they say about the canyon's history on this moderate 0.5-mile (0.8 km), one-way walk along the rim. Perfect for Junior Rangers.	Bright Angel Lodge (rim side patio)	60 minutes; offered in ***March and April only***	Parking is limited; ride the Village Route shuttle bus.
10 am	**Geology Walk** Unearth the amazing story of one of the greatest geologic features on the planet. Why is Grand Canyon so deep, wide, and grand? Why does it exist only here and nowhere else in the world?	Yavapai Geology Museum	60 minutes *No program May 12*	Accessible
1:30 pm	**History Walk** Discover stories of people's enduring relationship with the canyon and take a short walk around the village historic district. Perfect for train passengers.	Verkamp's Visitor Center	60 minutes *No program May 12*	Parking is limited; ride the Village Route shuttle bus. Accessible
2:30 pm	**Mather Point Talk** Uncover some of the many treasures of Grand Canyon. Topics vary daily. Perfect for Junior Rangers.	Mather Point	30 minutes *No program May 12*	Accessible
3:30 pm	**Geo-glimpse** Find out how Grand Canyon formed, explore Yavapai Geology Museum, and consider walking the Trail of Time following the program. Perfect for Junior Rangers.	Yavapai Geology Museum	30 minutes *No program May 12*	Accessible
4 pm	**Condor Talk** Learn about the majestic and endangered California condor and its reintroduction to northern Arizona.	Lookout Studio	60 minutes *No program May 12*	Parking is limited; ride the Village Route shuttle bus.
7:30 pm	**Evening Program** Relax in a beautiful auditorium and enjoy a presentation about Grand Canyon's fascinating natural or cultural history. Check visitor centers for topics.	Shrine of the Ages	60 minutes Sat, Sun, Tues, Thurs	Accessible
Check visitor centers	**Outdoor Evening Program** Explore Grand Canyon in the evening! Join a park ranger and discover some of the lesser known stories and facts. Programs include star talks, night hikes to the rim, cemetery tours, and more.	Check visitor centers	60 minutes Mon, Wed, Fri	Dress for the weather.

Grand Canyon Semester

Grand Canyon National Park is proud to partner with Northern Arizona University and Prescott College to offer a unique, semester-long program: Grand Canyon Semester. This interdisciplinary program engages students through a progressive, place-based learning experience that uses the greater Grand Canyon ecoregion as its classroom and laboratory. Classroom-based academics combine with extended field opportunities to develop a learning environment unparalleled in academics.

https://nau.edu/Honors/GCS/
http://www.prescott.edu/learn/non-degree/grand-canyon-semester.html

Learn in an Outdoor Classroom

Teachers: Field Trips, Workshops, Ranger Classroom Visits, and Distance Learning
928-638-7931
www.nps.gov/grca/forteachers/

Expeditions for Teens
www.nps.gov/grca/forkids/camp.htm

Inside the Canyon

Programs begin early March
Going to Phantom Ranch or Indian Garden? Join a park ranger to discover the many wonders of the inner canyon. Programs vary and cover a wide range of natural and cultural history topics. *Offered in Grand Canyon's backcountry, these programs are only accessible by a long, strenuous hike or mule ride.*

Indian Garden, times vary, Saturday to Tuesday
Check the bulletin board for program topics, locations, and times. Wilderness Explorer Junior Ranger booklet available. Accessible only by hiking 4.5 miles (7.2 km) down Bright Angel Trail.

Phantom Ranch, 4 pm and 7:30 pm, Daily
Check bulletin boards for program locations and topics. Phantom Ranch Junior Ranger activity booklet available. Accessible only by hiking or a mule ride to the bottom of Grand Canyon.

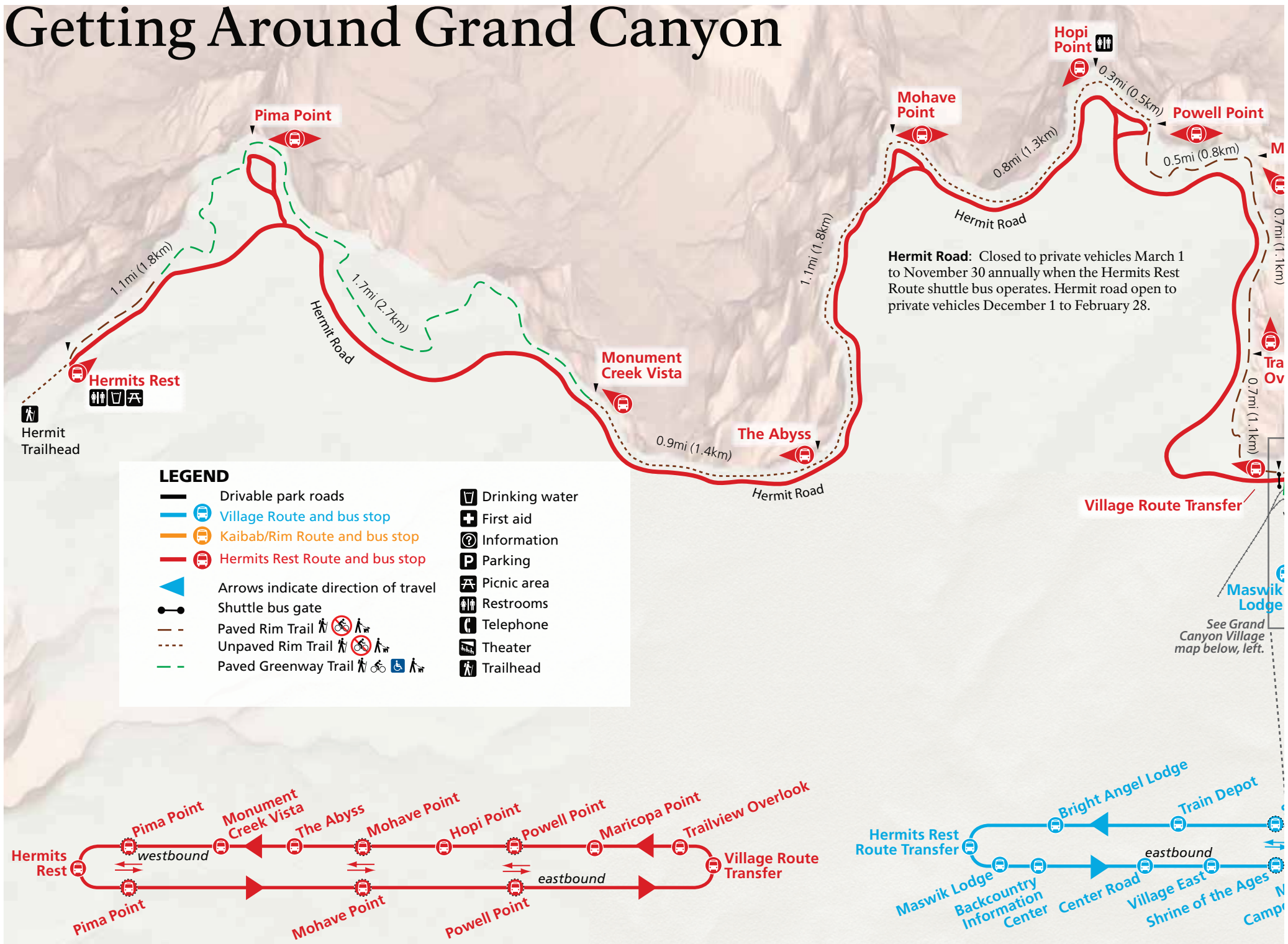
Fun for Kids: Junior Rangers

Children ages four and older can pick up a free Junior Ranger booklet from a visitor center. Have fun learning about Grand Canyon by completing at least four activities and attending a park ranger program. Turn in the completed booklet at any visitor center and earn a badge and certificate. Special patches are also available for purchase at Grand Canyon Association Park Stores. Unique Junior Ranger programs are available on the North Rim (May to October) and at more than 250 national parks, seashores, and monuments nationwide. The Junior Ranger program is generously supported by the Grand Canyon Association.

Junior Ranger Day

April 20
Location Varies
Attend a park ranger program and receive special recognition as part of this national event. Look for signs at visitor centers.

Getting Around Grand Canyon



Ride the Free Shuttle Buses

Reducing air pollution and taking nearly a half-million vehicles off park roads each year, shuttle buses offer hassle-free transportation.

HERMITS REST ROUTE—RED ON MAP ABOVE

- 80 minutes round-trip
- Nine overlooks
- Toilets at Hopi Point
- Water, snack bar, toilets, and gift shop at Hermits Rest
- Buses run every:
  - 30 minutes 4:30–6:30 am
  - 15 minutes 6:30 am to sunset
  - 30 minutes sunset to an hour after sunset
  - Visitors should be at a bus stop no later than 30 minutes after sunset.

VILLAGE ROUTE—BLUE ON MAP ABOVE

- 50-minutes round-trip
- Scenic canyon views are a short walk from some stops
- Grand Canyon Visitor Center, hotels, restaurants, campgrounds
- Buses run every:
  - 30 minutes 4:30–6 am
  - 15 minutes 6 am–8:30 pm
  - 30 minutes 8:30–10 pm; visitors should be at a bus stop no later than 9:30 pm.

KAIBAB/RIM ROUTE—ORANGE ON MAP ABOVE

- 50-minutes round-trip
- Five viewpoints
- Grand Canyon Visitor Center and Yavapai Geology Museum.
- Access to South Kaibab Trailhead
- Buses run every:
  - 30 minutes 4:30–6 am
  - 15 minutes 6 am to one hour after sunset; visitors should be at a bus stop no later then 30 minutes after sunset.

HIKER'S EXPRESS NOT SHOWN ON MAP ABOVE

Service to South Kaibab Trailhead. Bus begins at Bright Angel Lodge, then stops at Backcountry Information Center, Grand Canyon Visitor Center, and South Kaibab Trailhead.

Bus leaves Bright Angel Lodge at:

- 7 am, 8 am, and 9 am in March
- 6 am, 7 am, and 8 am in April
- 5 am, 6 am, and 7 am in May

Shuttle Bus FAQ

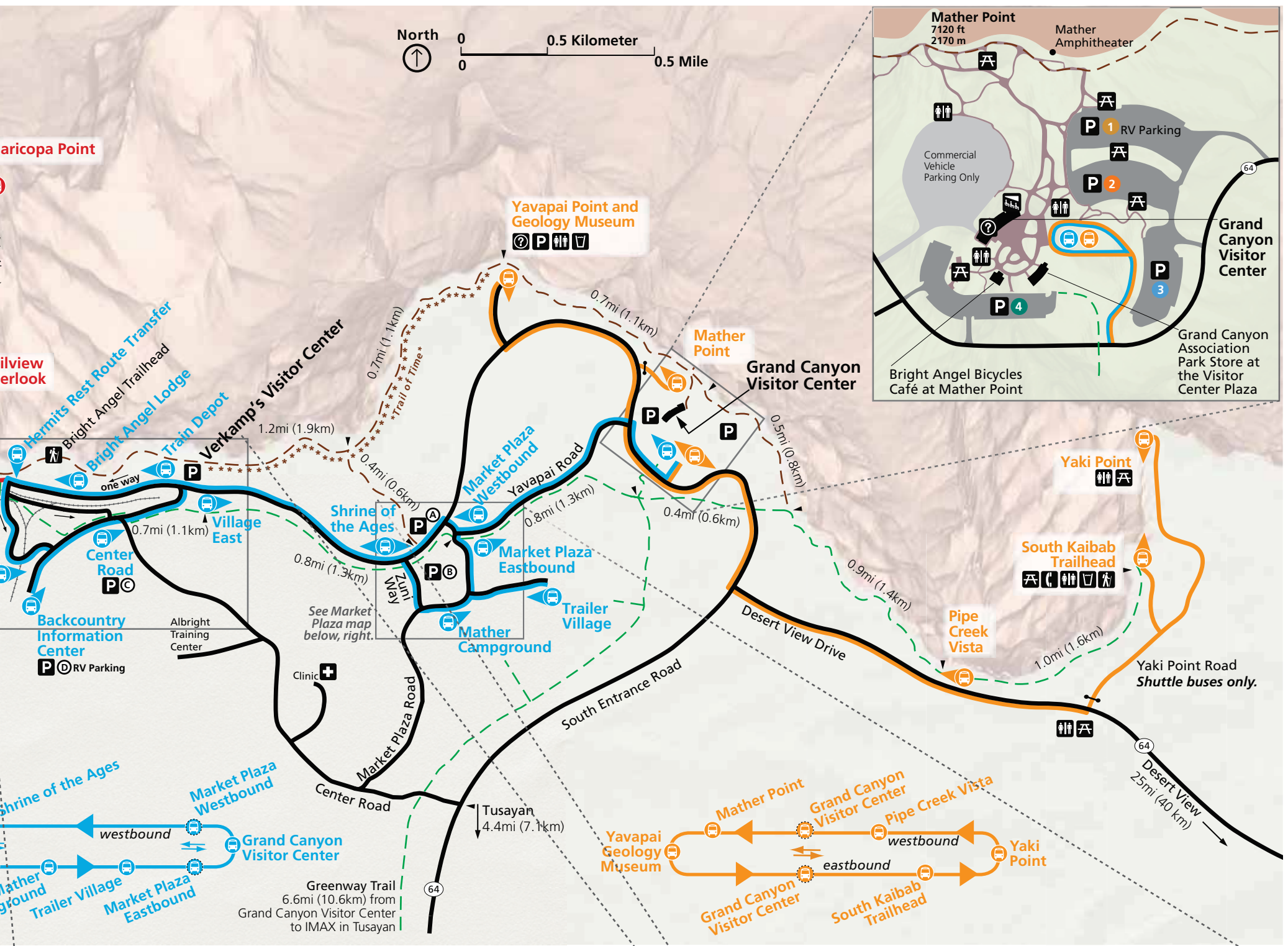
Are the shuttle buses free?
Yes, park entrance fees include shuttle bus transportation.

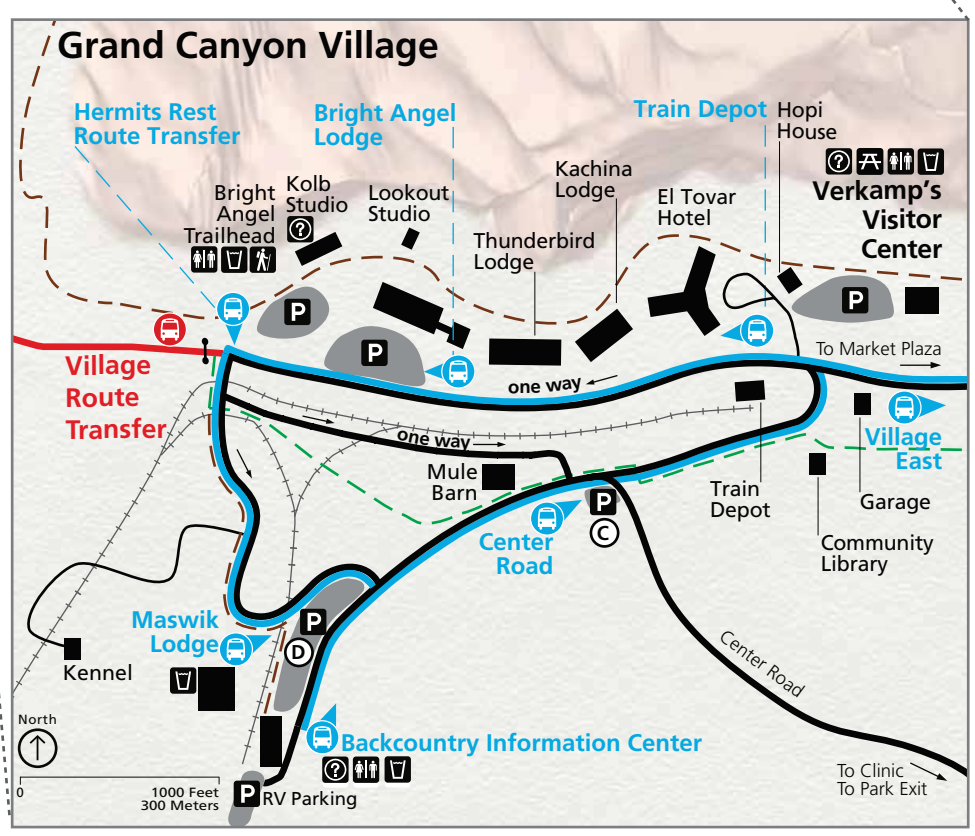
How do the shuttle buses work?
Running like a city bus system, three shuttle bus routes stop at shops, visitor centers, and popular viewpoints around the South Rim. Just wait at any bus stop and enjoy the ride.

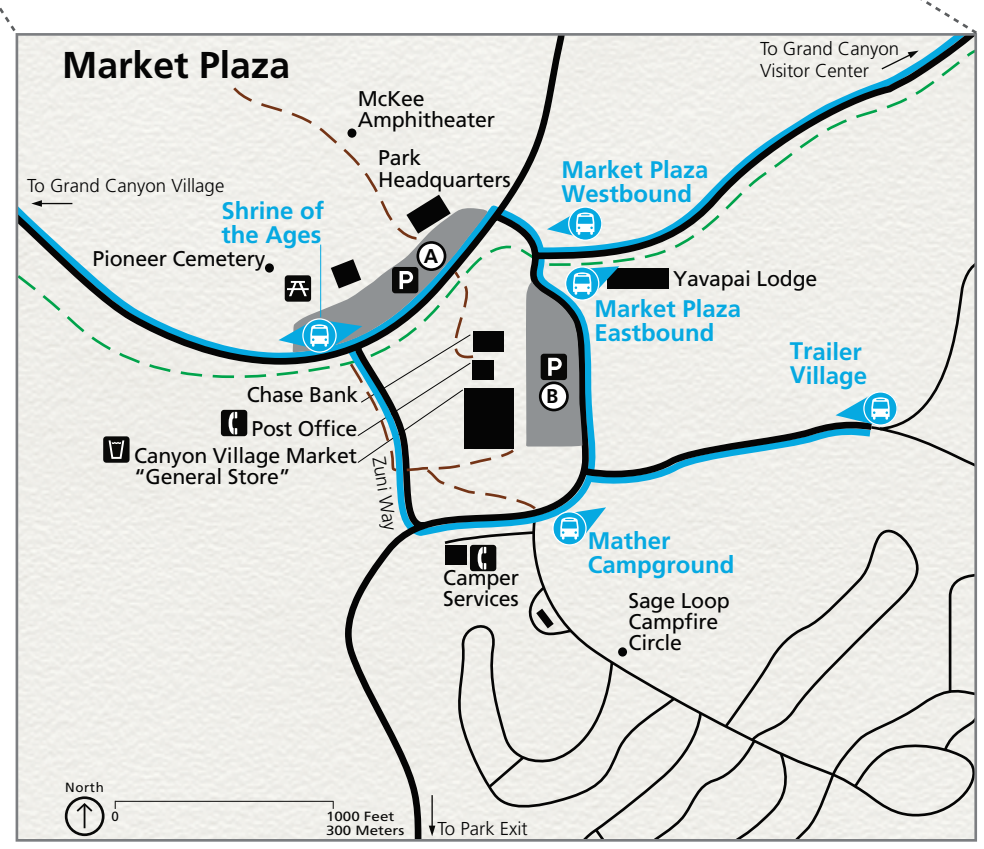
Will my wheelchair fit on the bus?
Buses are equipped with ramps to accommodate passengers in wheelchairs smaller than 30 inches wide by 48 inches long (76 by 122 cm). Most motorized scooters will not fit on buses.

How can I tell the difference between shuttle bus routes?
All National Park Service shuttle buses are white and green, but the front of the bus will show the route color and name.

What are the shuttle bus rules?
1. No eating or open drink containers.
2. No pets. Service animals permitted.
3. Collapse strollers before entering the bus. No oversized or jogging strollers. Remove baby-back carriers when seated.
4. Shuttle buses can accommodate two or three bicycles, but not tag alongs, baby trailers, or children's bicycles with wheels less than 16 inches (41 cm). Riders must load and unload their bicycles.
5. Shuttle buses only stop at designated bus stops.







Driving and Parking FAQ

Where can I drive my car?
You can drive anywhere there is a solid black line on the maps in this Guide. Yaki Point Road and Hermit Road are closed to private vehicles; ride the free shuttle bus to access.

The Scenic Drive Accessibility Permit allows visitors with mobility issues entry to some areas closed to public traffic. This permit is available at entrance gates, visitor centers, and hotel lobbies.

Where can I park?
All parking lots in Grand Canyon Village are located near free shuttle bus stops.

- **Parking lots 1–4** Grand Canyon Visitor Center. Lot 1 includes auto, RV, and trailer parking.
- **Parking Lot A** Park Headquarters
- **Parking Lot B** Market Plaza
- **Parking Lot C** near Center Road in Grand Canyon Village
- **Parking Lot D** Backcountry Information Center. Includes auto parking in the north end and RV and trailer parking in the south end.

Where can I learn about road conditions?
Check at visitor centers or call 928-638-7496. Even during spring, snow and ice present potentially hazardous driving conditions and can temporarily close park roads. Please slow down and drive carefully while exploring Grand Canyon.

What else do I need to know about driving?
Do not stop or park along the roadside, except where signs or lines on the road indicate it is permissible. Use pull-outs and overlooks to take pictures and view wildlife. Please do not block other people's enjoyment of the park by stopping in the road or blocking traffic.

Rim Hiking

Stroll the Rim Trail

The Rim Trail offers a diverse hiking experience along 13 miles (21 km) of the canyon, shown by brown and green dashed lines on the map on pages 4–5. From a short sunrise walk to a full afternoon hike, choose your adventure. The Rim Trail is wheelchair-accessible from Lookout Studio to South Kaibab Trailhead. Distances are one way. Use caution and over-the-shoe traction devices when hiking icy or snowy trails which may or may not be plowed.

Difficulty	Start	Finish	Distance	Attraction
Easy, popular Wide, paved trail; accessible by strollers and wheelchairs with assistance	Mather Point	Yavapai Point	0.7 miles (1.1 km)	View the Colorado River and Phantom Ranch
	Yavapai Geology Museum	Verkamp's Visitor Center	1.3 miles (2.1 km)	See and touch canyon rocks along the award-winning Trail of Time
	Verkamp's Visitor Center	Kolb Studio	0.6 miles (1 km)	Explore local history in the village historic district
Easy, Less Traveled Little elevation gain	South Kaibab Trailhead	Mather Point	2.1 miles (3.4 km)	Great views of an inner-canyon trail; paved
	Monument Creek Vista	Hermits Rest	2.8 miles (4.5 km)	Quiet and uncrowded with forest and canyon views; paved
	Hopi Point	Powell Point	0.3 miles (0.5 km)	Expansive east and west views of the canyon; unpaved
Moderate Some elevation gain and/or rough terrain	Mohave Point	Monument Creek Vista	2.0 miles (3.2 km)	Unpaved trail with great views
	Hermits Rest Route Transfer	Trailview Overlook	0.7 miles (1.1 km)	Overlooks Grand Canyon Village and Bright Angel Trail; paved, steep grade

Biking Explorations

Pedal the Greenway Trail

Bicycle along the canyon rim and through peaceful forest scenery by following the green dashed lines on the map on pages 4–5. Bicycles are only permitted on the Greenway Trail, paved roads, and dirt roads open to the public. Bicycles are prohibited on the Rim Trail and trails down in to Grand Canyon.

On Hermit and Yaki Point roads, bicyclists must pull to the right shoulder and dismount when shuttle buses pass. Obey all traffic regulations, ride single file with the flow of traffic, and wear bright colors and a helmet. Watch for ice on roads and trails.

South Rim Services and Facilities

Locations shown on the maps on pages 4–5.

Food and Beverage

BRIGHT ANGEL BICYCLES NEAR GRAND CANYON VISITOR CENTER
Café at Mather Point Mar 1 to Apr 30, 7 am–6 pm; May 1–21, 6 am–8 pm

BRIGHT ANGEL LODGE
The Arizona Room Lunch 11:30 am–3 pm; dinner 4:30–10 pm, reservations not accepted; lounge 4:30–10 pm
Bright Angel Coffee House Mar 1–31, 6–10 am; Apr 1 to May 21, 5:30–10 am
Bright Angel Fountain Mar 1–31, 10 am–6 pm; Apr 1 to May 21, 10 am–7 pm
Bright Angel Restaurant Breakfast Mar 1–31, 6:30–10:45 am and Apr 1 to May 21, 6–10:45 am; lunch 11:15 am–4 pm; dinner 4:30–10 pm; lounge 11 am–11 pm

CANYON VILLAGE MARKET
Canyon Village Deli Mar 1–16, 8 am–6 pm; Mar 17 to May 21, 8 am–7 pm

EL TOVAR HOTEL
El Tovar Dining Room Breakfast 6:30–10:45 am; lunch 11:15 am–2 pm. Dinner Mar 1–31, 5–10 pm and Apr 1 to May 21, 4:30–10 pm; dinner reservations required 928-638-2631, ext. 6432; lounge 11 am–11 pm

HERMITS REST
Hermits Rest Snack Bar Mar 1 to May 14, 9 am–5 pm; May 15–21, 8 am to sunset

MASWIK LODGE
Maswik Cafeteria 6 am–10 pm
Maswik Pizza Pub 11 am–11 pm

YAVAPAI LODGE
Yavapai Cafeteria Closed Mar 1–6. Open Mar 7, 3–8 pm; Mar 8 to May 21, 6 am–9 pm

Books and Gifts

Bright Angel Lodge 7 am–10 pm
El Tovar Hotel 7 am–10 pm
Grand Canyon Association Park Stores
at **Kolb Studio** 8 am–7 pm
at **Verkamp's Visitor Center** 8 am–7 pm
at **Visitor Center Plaza** 8 am–7 pm
at **Yavapai Geology Museum** 8 am–7 pm
Hermits Rest Gift Shop Mar 1 to May 14, 9 am–5 pm; May 15–21, 8 am to sunset
Hopi House Mar 1 to May 14, 9 am–5 pm; May 15–21, 8 am–8 pm
Lookout Studio Mar 1 to May 14, 9 am–5 pm; May 15–21, 8 am to sunset
Maswik Lodge 7 am–10 pm
Yavapai Lodge Mar 1 to May 14, 8 am–8 pm; May 15–21, 7 am–10 pm

Lodging

Same-day reservations: 928-638-2631
Advance reservations: 888-297-2757
www.grandcanyonlodges.com
Bright Angel Lodge $94–404
El Tovar Hotel $186–464
Kachina Lodge $194–209
Maswik Lodge $94–185
Thunderbird Lodge $194–209
Yavapai Lodge $140–174

Phantom Ranch Dormitory and cabin space located at the bottom of the canyon. Reservations required: 888-297-2757

Services

ATM Chase Bank and Maswik Lodge

Canyon Village Market "General Store" Groceries, supplies, and gifts. Mar 1 to Apr 27, 8 am–8 pm; Apr 28 to May 21, 8 am–9 pm;

Chase Bank Monday to Thursday 9 am–5 pm; Friday 9 am–6 pm. 928-638-2437

Garage Emergency repairs and tow service. 8 am to noon and 1–5 pm. 928-638-2631

Kaibab Learning Center Day care for one to 12 year olds; immunization records required. Monday to Friday, 7:30 am–5:30 pm. 928-638-6333

Kennel Dogs and cats need proof of inoculations, 7:30 am–5 pm, 928-638-0534 For retrieval after 5 pm: 928-638-2631

Lost and Found 928-638-7798, 928-638-2631

Post Office Monday to Friday 9 am–4:30 pm; Saturday 11 am–1 pm; closed Sunday and federal holidays. 928-638-2512

Religious Services See schedules at Mather Campground, Shrine of the Ages, Grand Canyon Post Office, Grand Canyon Visitor Center, and Park Headquarters

Taxi 928-638-2822

WiFi and Public Computer Access
Park Headquarters: Free WiFi 8 am–5 pm daily; computers available 8 am–4:30 pm, Monday to Friday, except federal holidays
Community Library: Free WiFi and computers available, 10:30 am–5 pm, Monday to Saturday
Hotel Lobbies: WiFi available 24 hours a day; fees may be charged
Canyon Village Market: WiFi; see hours above

Camping

Mather Campground (National Park Service) Campsites fill up daily during peak season, weekends, and holidays. Advance reservations highly recommended and can be made up to six months in advance using www.recreation.gov or 877-444-6777.

Trailer Village (Xanterra Parks & Resorts) $35 per night for two people; $3.50 for each additional person over age 16. Pull-through sites with hookups; dump station nearby. Same-day reservations: 928-638-2631. Advance reservations: 888-297-2757 or www.grandcanyonlodges.com

Laundry and Showers at Camper Services Mar 1–20, 8 am–6 pm, last laundry load 4:45 pm; Mar 21 to Apr 17, 7 am–9 pm, last laundry load 7:45 pm; Apr 18 to May 21, 6 am–11 pm, last laundry load 9:45 pm

Tours and Trips

Bright Angel Bicycles Wheelchair rentals; bicycle rentals and guided tours beginning March 15, weather permitting. Located near parking lot 4 at Grand Canyon Visitor Center. 928-638-3055 or www.bikegrandcanyon.com

Xanterra Tours: Bus Tours Depart daily to Desert View Watchtower and Hermits Rest for sunrise and sunset. Reserve at El Tovar Hotel concierge desk; transportation desk in Bright Angel, Maswik or Yavapai lodges; 928-638-2631, or www.grandcanyonlodges.com

Xanterra Tours: Mule Trips Overnight trips to Phantom Ranch depart daily. A two-hour ride along the canyon rim departs daily. Inquire at transportation desks in Bright Angel or Maswik lodges or call 928-638-2631.

Tusayan, Arizona

Located seven miles (11 km) south of Grand Canyon Visitor Center on Highway 64.

Lodging

Best Western Premier Grand Canyon Squire Inn 928-638-2681
Canyon Plaza Resort 928-638-2673; pets ok
Grand Hotel 928-638-3333
Holiday Inn Express 928-638-3000
Red Feather Lodge 928-638-2414; pets ok
7 Mile Lodge 928-638-2291

Camping

Camper Village (Private) Hookups, coin-operated showers, laundry, propane, dump station, and store. 928-638-2887 or www.grandcanyoncampervillage.com

Ten-X Campground (Kaibab National Forest) Opens May 1, Reserve some individual and all group sites: 877-444-6777 or www.recreation.gov

Additional Resources

Arizona Highway Information Dial 511 or 888-411-ROAD; www.az511.gov

Grand Canyon Chamber of Commerce 888-472-2696, www.grandcanyonchamber.com

Kaibab National Forest Tusayan Ranger District ranger station, 8 am–4:30 pm, Monday to Friday. 928-638-2443

Paid Activities

Fixed-wing and helicopter tours.
Grand Canyon Airlines 800-528-2413
Grand Canyon Helicopters 800-541-4537
Maverick Airlines 800-218-9932
Maverick Helicopters 800-962-3869
Papillon Grand Canyon Helicopters 800-528-2418
Vision Airlines 800-256-8767
Westwind Aviation 888-869-0866

Grand Canyon Apache Stables Horseback riding reservations: 928-638-2891

IMAX Theater Open 8 am–10 pm. Movie shown every hour on the half hour. First show 8:30 am, last show 8:30 pm. Food and gifts available. 928-638-2468

River Rafting

SMOOTH-WATER RAFT TRIPS
OUTSIDE THE PARK
Colorado River Discovery 888-522-6644 or www.raftthecanyon.com

WHITEWATER RAFT TRIPS
INSIDE THE PARK
See www.nps.gov/grca/planyourvisit/whitewater-rafting.htm for information about reserving multi-day whitewater raft trips.

Day Hiking Below the Rim

Day hiking into the canyon affords an unparalleled experience. For an enjoyable hike you must prepare for extreme conditions. Gauge your fitness level, be honest about your health, and don't compare yourself to five years ago. Know your limits and average walking distance and time—Grand Canyon is an extreme environment!

Consider purchasing a trail guide at Park Stores before venturing down the trail. Park rangers like to say "going down is optional, but coming up is mandatory." It takes twice as long to hike up as it does to hike down. For additional information about day and overnight hiking, visit the Backcountry Information Center or www.nps.gov/grca/planyourvisit/backcountry.htm.

Backcountry Camping Permits

To camp anywhere in the park, other than in a developed campground on the South Rim, North Rim, or Tuweep, you must obtain a permit from the Backcountry Information Center, which offers a limited number of last minute walk-up permits.

Hike Smart

Knowledge, being prepared, and a good plan are all keys to success. This is not the place for spontaneity. Eat and drink often and take a break once per hour. ***Stay together, follow your plan, and know where and how to seek help.***

Trail	Difficulty	Destination	Distance Round-Trip	Elevation Change One Way	Time Round-Trip	Facilities
Bright Angel Trail: Follow the Bright Angel Fault down Garden Creek Canyon on a well-maintained trail. Trail descends a north-facing wall that can accumulate snow and ice, becoming very treacherous. Park at Grand Canyon Visitor Center and ride the Village Route shuttle bus to the Hermits Rest Route Transfer stop or park at the Backcountry Information Center and walk to the trailhead. Water available at trailhead; water occasionally not available at Indian Garden and seasonal locations due to pipeline breaks—check before descending. Always bring a method to treat water.	easy	1st Tunnel	0.4 miles (0.6 km)	60 feet (20 m)	20 minutes	none
	moderate	2nd Tunnel	1.7 miles (2.8 km)	590 feet (180 m)	1–2 hours	none
	moderate	1½-Mile Resthouse	3 miles (4.8 km)	1,120 feet (340 m)	2–4 hours	toilets, seasonal water, emergency phone
	difficult	3-Mile Resthouse	6 miles (9.6 km)	2,120 feet (645 m)	4–6 hours	toilets, seasonal water emergency phone
	very difficult	Indian Garden	9 miles (14.4 km)	3,040 feet (925 m)	6–9 hours	water, toilets, ranger station, camping, emergency phone
	very difficult	Plateau Point	12 miles (19.3 km)	3,080 feet (940 m)	9–12 hours	seasonal water
South Kaibab Trail: Follow an exposed ridge line on a well-maintained trail for the best views for a relatively short hike. Trail descends a north-facing wall that can accumulate snow and ice, becoming very treacherous. Ride the Kaibab/Rim Route or Hikers' Express shuttle bus to the South Kaibab Trailhead. Water, toilets, and pay phone located at trailhead.	moderate	Ooh Aah Point	1.8 miles (2.9 km)	760 feet (230 m)	1–2 hours	none
	difficult	Cedar Ridge	3 miles (4.8 km)	1,120 feet (340 m)	2–4 hours	toilets
	very difficult	Skeleton Point	6 miles (9.6 km)	2,040 feet (620 m)	4–6 hours	none
Hermit Trail and Dripping Spring Trail: Gives intimate views of a long side canyon; rough and unmaintained—for experienced hikers. Begins west of Hermits Rest; water and toilets available at Hermits Rest.	difficult	Hermit Basin	2.8 miles (4.5 km)	1,240 feet (380 m)	2–4 hours	none
	very difficult	Santa Maria Spring	5 miles (8 km)	1,680 feet (510 m)	4–6 hours	treat water
	very difficult	Dripping Spring	7 miles (11.3 km)	1,040 feet (315 m)	5–7 hours	treat water

Prepare a Day Pack With:

Water At least two liters or more depending on hike intensity and duration. Drink to thirst. Know your water sources—some water stations are seasonal.

Food Bring salty snacks and a full meal. Eat often, even if you are not hungry. Snack every time you hydrate.

First Aid Kit and Survival Tools Also include medications, blister care, and duct tape.

Map Many trails are well marked, but some are not. Know your route.

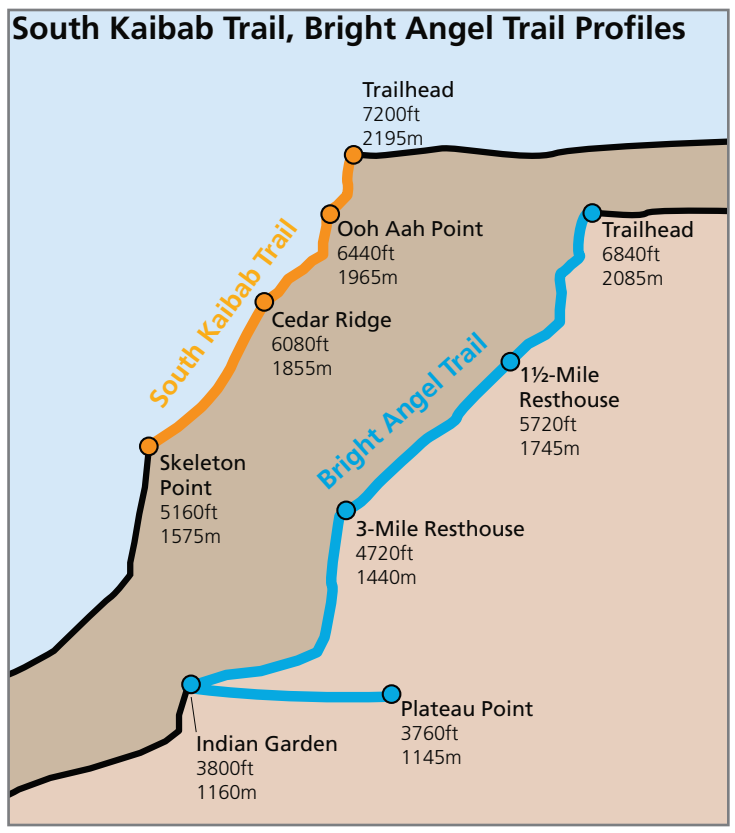
Flashlight or Headlamp You may end up hiking in the dark unexpectedly; cell phones do not provide adequate light.

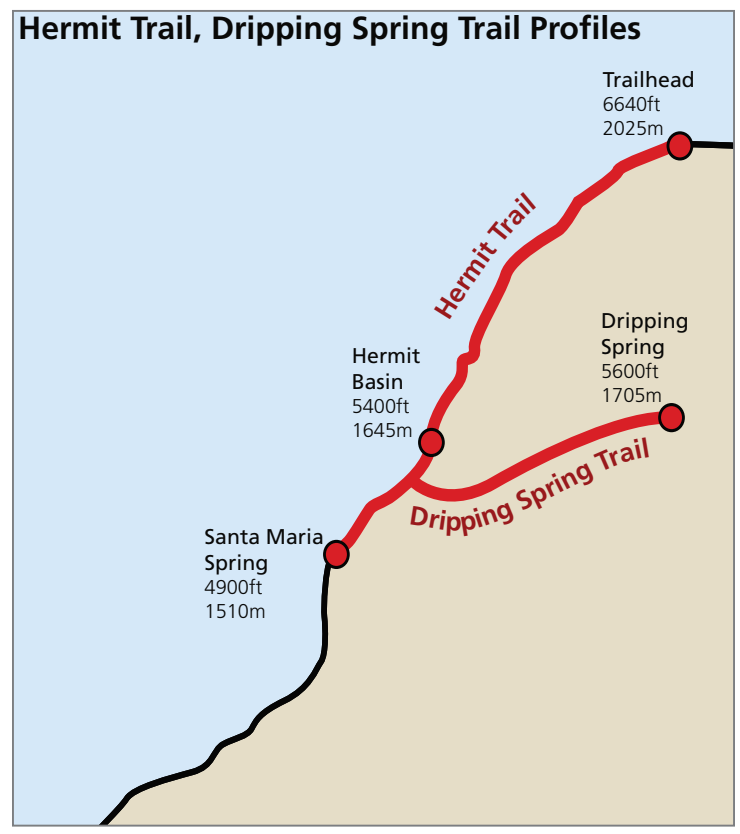
Sun Protection Sunscreen, hat, sunglasses, and a sun umbrella.

Communication Whistle or signal mirror; while cell phones are not reliable, they may be helpful.

Simple Shelters Emergency tarp with reflective side.

Weather-appropriate Clothing and Footwear Layer for the weather and wear hiking boots with good soles, a hat, and gloves. Over-the-shoe traction devices reccomended for ice and snow.





Health Risks

Common Challenges Any activity at high elevation and in a dry environment can bring your body to its limits and exacerbate pre-existing medical conditions, current illnesses , or lack of proper fitness when attempting to hike into this steep canyon. Spring conditions vary from extreme cold to very hot temperatures. Watch the weather forecast and prepare for both.

Heat-related Illnesses In spring, beware of over-exposure to hot, dry weather. Rest in the shade, hydrate, and eat high-energy foods.

Hyponatremia Common hiking illness that occurs from improper over-hydration and low salt ingestion during a strenuous hike; a deadly condition if ignored. Balance hydration with salty snack intake, eat a well-rounded lunch, and rest frequently while hiking. Drink to thirst and eat regularly.

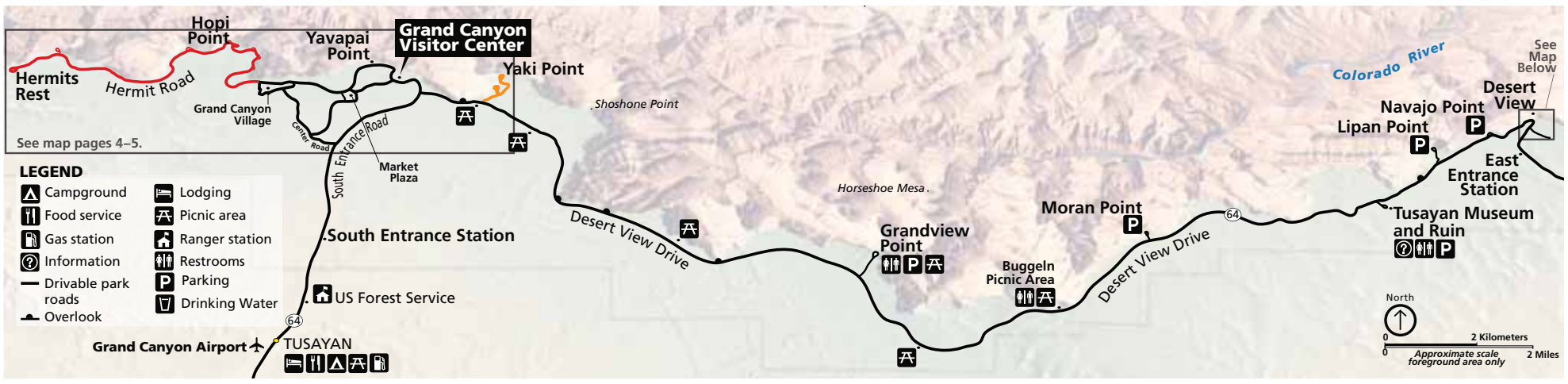
Over Exertion When looking from the rim into the canyon everything looks close—but it is not! Know your limits, pace yourself, and take a 5- to 10-minute break once an hour. If you are not feeling well, rest for at least 30 minutes. Turn around before you feel tired.

Danger!

Hiking to the river and back in one day is not recommended due to long distances, extreme temperature changes, and a near 5,000-foot (1,500 m) elevation change each way. If you think you have the fitness and experience to attempt this ***extremely strenuous*** hike, please seek the advice of a professional at the Backcountry Information Center.

No Swimming The Colorado River is fast, wide, and a cold 46°F (8°C) year-round. Do not swim in the river—you will perish!

Desert View



Park Ranger Programs

Ranger on the Edge

We depend on water to live. Join a park ranger to learn how one of our basic needs is also essential to the canyon.
10:30 am
20 minutes
Navajo Point: Monday, Wednesday, Friday, Sunday
Lipan Point: Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday
No Program May 12

Tusayan Ruin Tour

Discover how the ancestral Puebloans found food and water while creating homes at the canyon.
1:30 pm
30 minutes
Tusayan Museum
No Program May 12

See page 3 for programs in Grand Canyon Village.

Books and Gifts

Desert View Trading Post Mar 1 to May 14, 8 am–6 pm; May 15–21, 8 am to sunset
Desert View Watchtower Mar 1 to May 14, 8 am–6 pm; May 15–21, 8 am to sunset
Desert View Watchtower Stairs Mar 1 to May 14, 8 am–5:30 pm; May 15–21, 8 am to 30 minutes before sunset
Grand Canyon Association Park Stores
at **Desert View Visitor Center** 9 am–5 pm
at **Tusayan Museum and Ruin** 9 am–5 pm

Food and Beverage

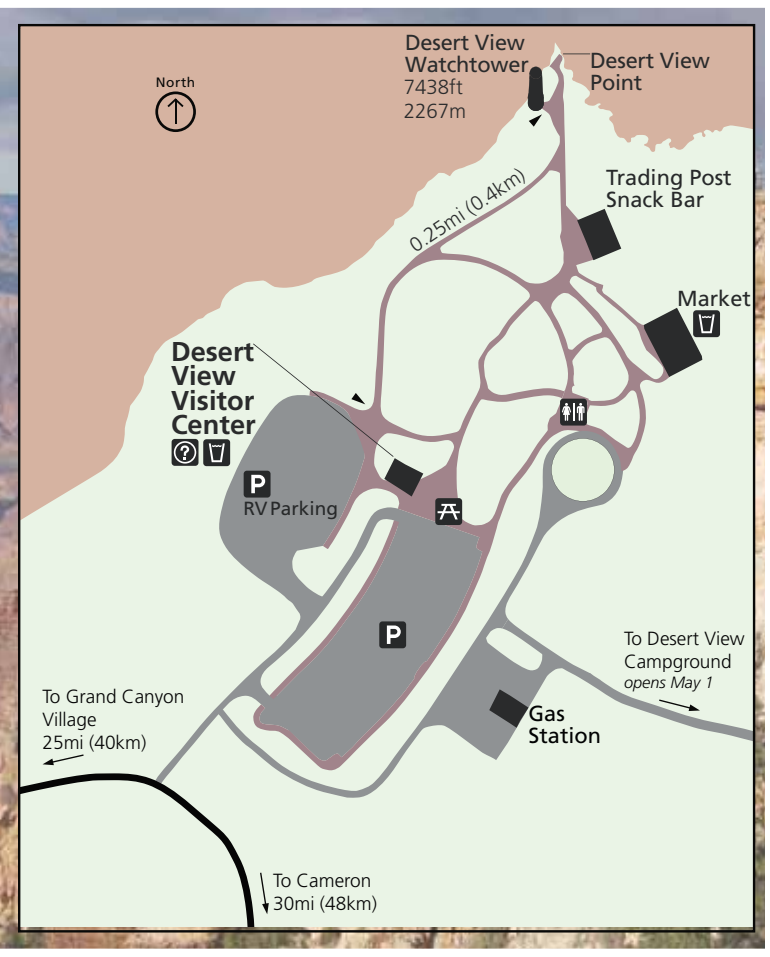
Desert View Snack Bar Mar 1 to May 14, 8 am–6 pm; May 15–21, 8 am to sunset

Services

Desert View Market Mar 1 to Apr 27, 9 am–5 pm; Apr 28 to May 21, 9 am–6 pm
Gas Station Closed Mar 1–26; Mar 27 to May 21, 9 am– 5 pm; fuel, including diesel, available 24 hours a day with credit card.

Camping

Desert View Campground (National Park Service) Opens May 1; $12/night; no hookups; maximum vehicle length 30 feet (9.1 m); first-come, first-served self registration



Staying Safe at Grand Canyon

Desert View Watchtower

Elk

Water bottle filling station

What Do I Need to Know About Elevation and Weather?

At 7,000 feet (2,135 m) elevation, you may feel short of breath, nauseous, or tire easily. Direct sun can cause dehydration and sunburn. Use sunblock and stay hydrated.

Spring weather varies greatly and can change suddenly. Be prepared with layered clothing for cold, rain, wind, sun and snow.

Never Throw Anything Over the Edge

Never throw rocks, coins, trash, or anything else over the edge. Objects tossed over the edge or dislodged by taking shortcuts can injure hikers and wildlife below.

How Can I Watch Wildlife Safely?

Never approach or feed any animal. It is dangerous—both to you and the animal—and illegal to do so.

Deer and elk: Stay at least 100 feet (30 m), or about six car lengths, away.

Squirrels: Do not feed; they will bite and can carry fleas with the plague.

California condor: Stay 75 feet (23 m) away from these endangered birds.

Emergencies

Dial 911 or from hotel rooms dial 9-911

North Country Grand Canyon Clinic
Urgent care available. Mar 1 to Apr 15, 8 am–5 pm, Monday to Friday; Apr 16 to May 21, 8 am–6 pm daily; 928-638-2551

Do You Reduce, Reuse, and Refill?

Plastic water bottles can take 1,000 years to biodegrade. In an effort to reduce litter along hiking trails, plastics in the waste stream, and greenhouse gas emissions, the park eliminated the sale of water packaged in individual disposable containers.

Free Grand Canyon spring water is available from bottle filling stations at major trailheads, visitor centers, grocery stores, and lodges. Bring your own or buy a reusable water bottle at Park Stores or gift shops. ***Stay hydrated and reduce your environmental footprint!***

Please note: During spring runoff, Grand Canyon's drinking water may appear turbid or cloudy. This annual turbidity has been exhaustively researched and is not harmful to health. Grand Canyon National Park regularly tests the water to ensure it is safe to drink.

How Can I View Grand Canyon Safely?

Stay at least 6 feet (2 m) from the edge and hold on to children. Always be aware of your surroundings. Do not back up without first looking where you are going.

Where Can I Take My Pet?

Leashed pets are allowed on rim trails, but not below the rim, in buildings, or on shuttle buses. These limits do not apply to service animals. Anyone wishing to take a service animal below the rim must check in at the Backcountry Information Center. For kennel information see page 6.

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