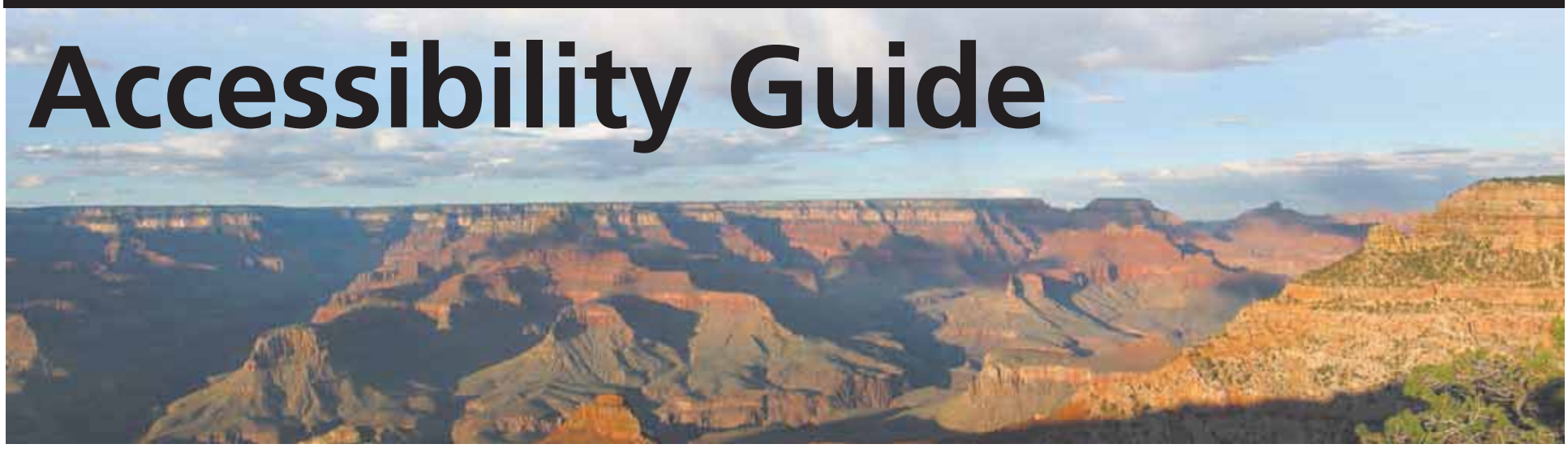
Grand Canyon National Park

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior



Accessibility Guide

Welcome to Grand Canyon National Park

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For additional information refer to "The Guide", North and South Rim editions.

This newspaper outlines accessible park services, facilities, and activities. Grand Canyon National Park strives for full and equal participation of all visitors and continually upgrades facilities to make them more accessible. Use this publication for access information about hearing, sight, and mobility concerns in the park.

This information is current as of summer 2012. For up-to-date information see "The Guide", available at entrance stations, visitor centers, and other locations or visit www.nps.gov/grca

Access Pass

U.S. citizens or permanent residents who are permanently disabled are eligible for the Interagency Access Pass. This **free**, lifetime admission pass is valid at National Park Service, Bureau of Land Management, US Fish and Wildlife Service, US Forest Service, and Bureau of Reclamation sites.

- Must be obtained with valid identification
- Does not cover or reduce special recreation permit fees or fees charged by concessioners
- Available at park entrance stations, most visitor centers, and online; admits pass owner and passengers in a private vehicle

For information, or to download an application visit www.nps.gov/fees_passes.htm

Service Animals

Service animals are allowed in all facilities and on all shuttle buses and trails, but must always be leashed. Persons wishing to take a service animal below the rim must first check in at the Backcountry Information Center.

Accessible Facilities

ATMs

South Rim Chase Bank and Maswik Lodge ATMs are equipped with Braille and a headphone jack.

Bookstores, Gift Shops

All bookstores and gift shops are wheelchair accessible except for South Rim's Kolb Studio and upper floors of Desert View Watchtower.

Food

All food service facilities in Grand Canyon are wheelchair accessible.

Lodging, Campgrounds

All hotels have wheelchair-accessible rooms. Mather and North Rim campgrounds have wheelchair-accessible sites. Campgrounds do not have hook-ups. Trailer Village does have hook-ups, but no wheelchair-accessible sites. Consult "The Guide" for details about locations and reservations.

Shuttle Buses

The South Rim offers a free, accessible shuttle bus service. For information, pick up a copy of "The Guide". Shuttle buses have wheelchair ramps and "kneel" to reduce step. Shuttle service is not available on North Rim or along Desert View Drive on South Rim.

Please note: Wheelchairs larger than 30 inches (76 cm) wide by 48 inches (121 cm) long cannot be accommodated on shuttle buses. Typically, motorized scooters cannot be accommodated on the buses.

TTY Phones

Bright Angel Lodge, El Tovar, and Yavapai Lodge all have TTY phones available for public use. Inquire at the front desk for more information.

Services

ASL Interpreters

If you would like to attend a free, park ranger program and need an ASL interpreter, email the park at least three weeks ahead of time at grca_information@nps.gov. Park ranger programs are listed in "The Guide", available for download at www.nps.gov/grca
If you have any questions, contact the park's Deaf Services Coordinator at 928-638-7888.

Cell Phone Tour

Dial 928-225-2907 and listen to the two-minute ranger introduction. Enter the indicated stop number for interpretive park ranger talks on specific subjects. No additional charge; standard rates apply. Cell phone service can be inconsistent. Text versions of some tour stops are available at www.nps.gov/planyourvisit/cell-phone-audio-tours.htm.

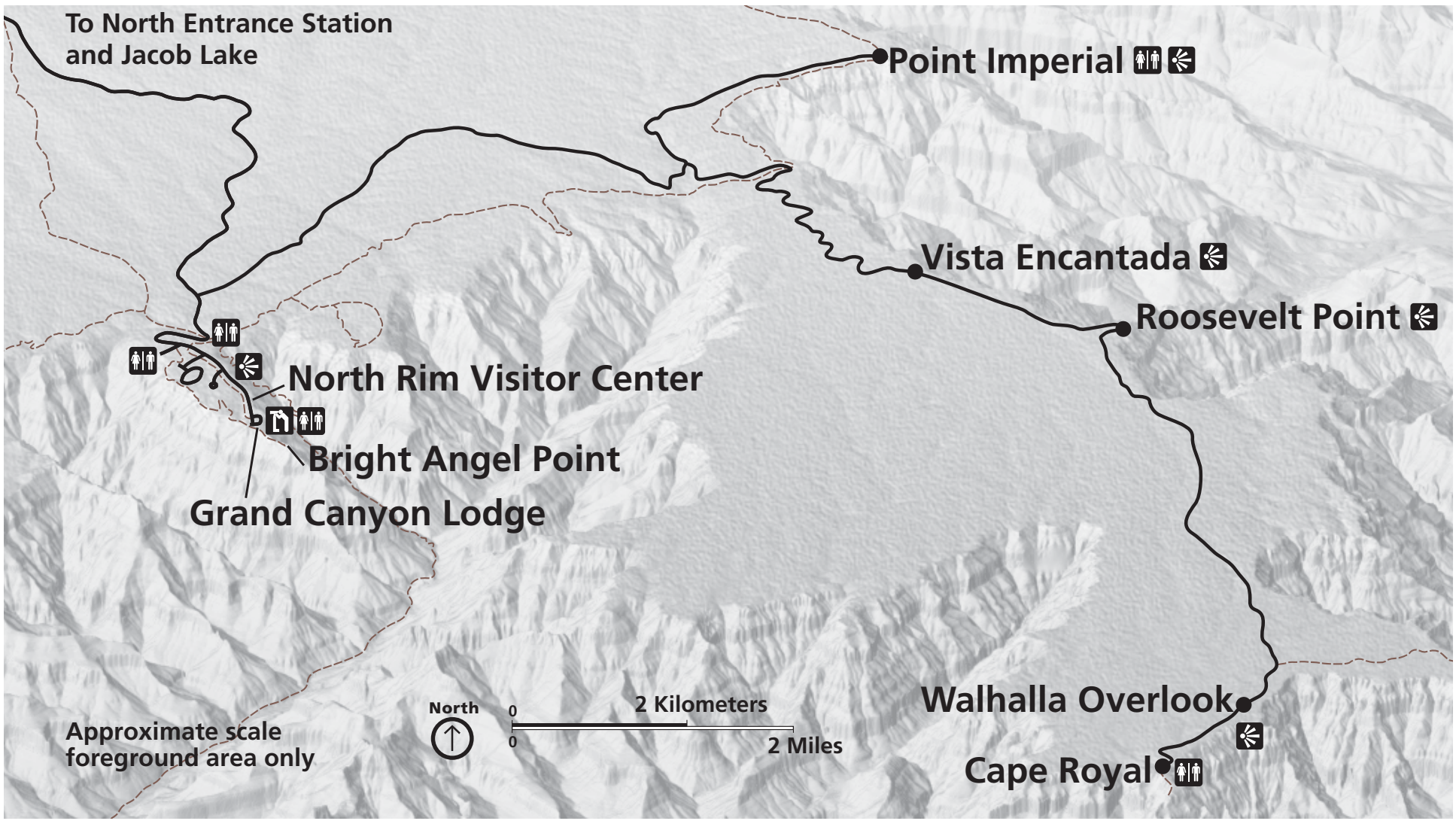
Medical Facilities

Dial 911 in an emergency
(9-911 from park hotel rooms)
South Rim North Country Clinic: 928-638-2551
North Rim No medical facilities;
Emergency Medical Technicians available.

Wheelchairs, Bicycles

South Rim Wheelchairs and tandem bicycles available for rent at Bright Angel Bicycles next to Grand Canyon Visitor Center. 928-814-8704
North Rim A limited number of wheelchairs are available for loan from the visitor center, free of charge.

North Rim Activities



North Rim Visitor Center

- 8 am–6 pm (9 am–4 pm after October 15)
- Enjoy exhibits
- Park rangers available to answer questions and describe exhibits

Park Ranger Programs

- Topics may include: ecology, geology, history, condors, hiking, fossils, astronomy, prehistory
- Program locations, dates, and times listed in "The Guide" and North Rim Visitor Center

Scenic Drive

- Point Imperial: 11 miles (18 km) one-way from the visitor center; Point Imperial is the highest point on either rim at 8,803 feet (2,742 m); spectacular views of Mt. Hayden and Marble Canyon
- Cape Royal: 32.5 miles (52 km) one-way from the front entrance station; stop at scenic overlooks along the way
- Maximum vehicle length: 30 feet (9 m)
- Road may be closed due to high winds, downed trees, weather, or fire

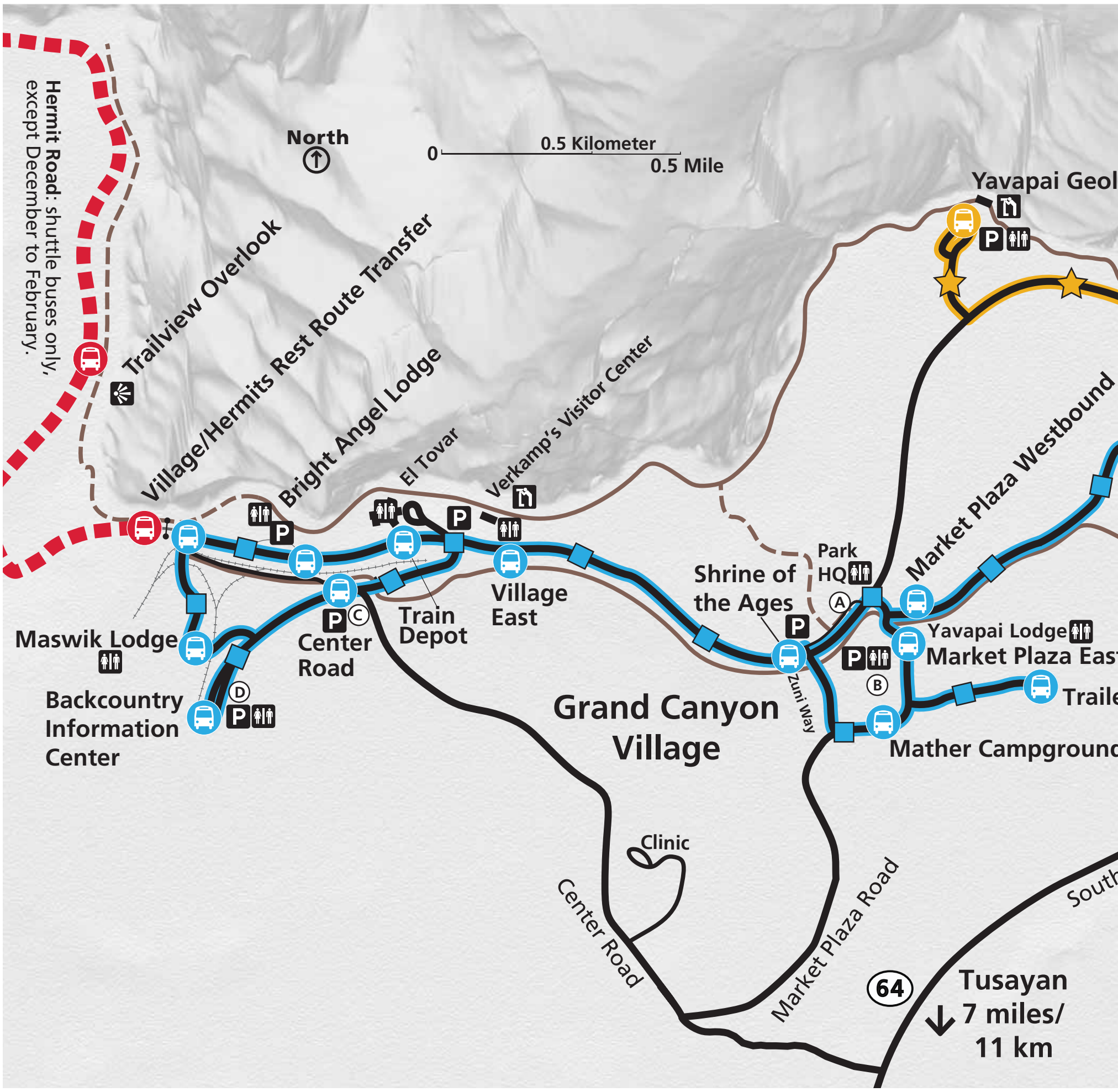
Windshield Views

- Views, as noted on the map, are available without leaving the vehicle

Legend

- - - Non-wheelchair-accessible trail due to steep grade and/or unpaved surface
- —— Park roads
- Wheelchair-accessible scenic view
- Wheelchair-accessible restrooms
- Windshield views

South Rim Activities: Grand Canyon Village



Grand Canyon Visitor Center

- Rangers available for questions
- Science on the Sphere: Video display with touchable exhibits accompanied by Braille labels and open captioning
- Audio description available for all exhibits

Mather Point

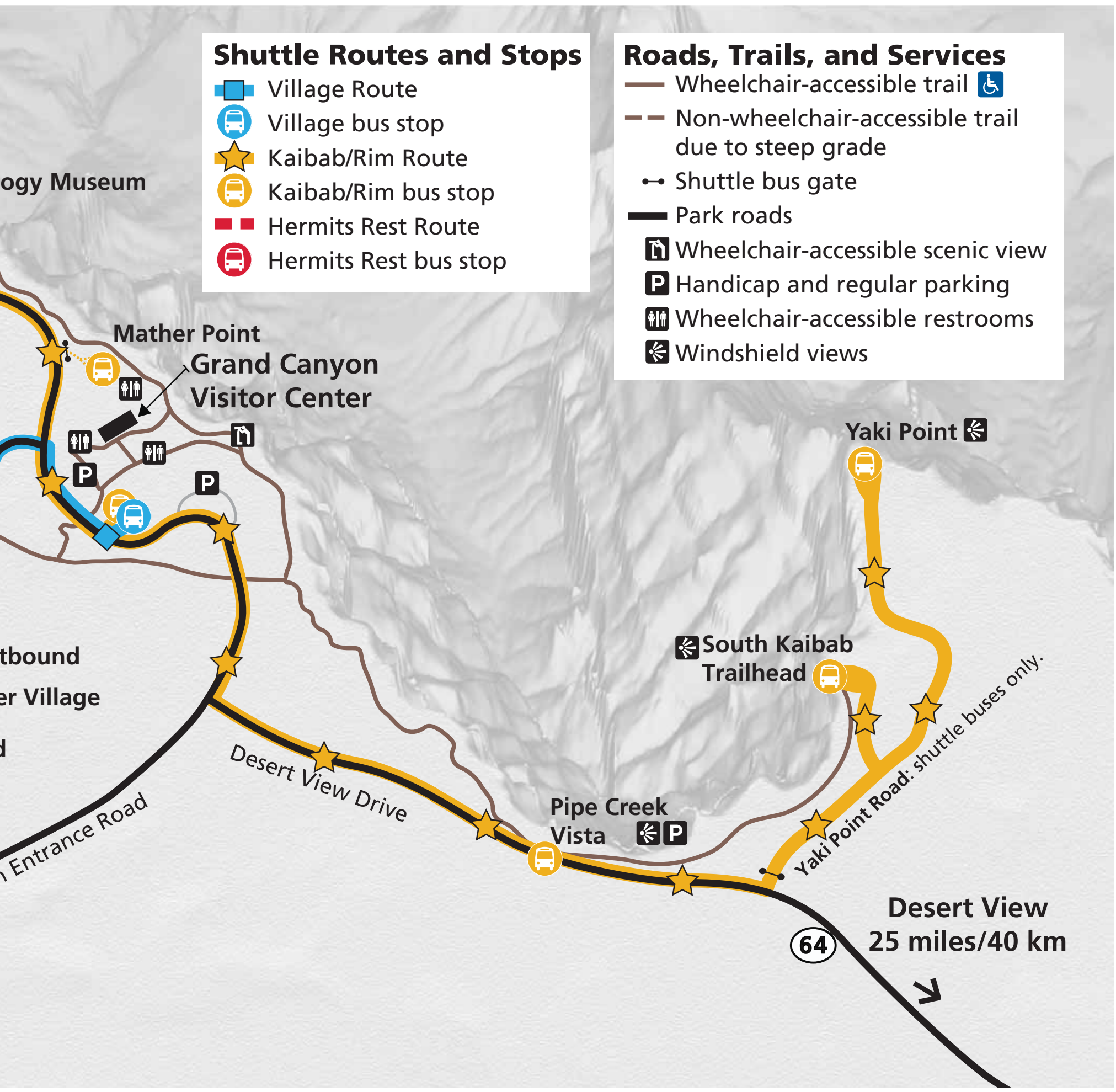
- Wheelchair-accessible views of Colorado River and South Kaibab Trail

Park Movie

- Located in Grand Canyon Visitor Center
- Open captioning is used in all showings
- Assistive-listening and audio-descriptive devices available upon request

Park Ranger Programs

- Topics may include: ecology, geology, history, condors, fossils, astronomy, prehistory
- Consult "The Guide" for program locations, dates, and times



Scenic Drive Accessibility Permit

- For visitors with mobility issues
- Must be displayed on vehicle dashboard
- Available at entrance stations, in-park hotels, and visitor centers
- Allows personal vehicles on Hermit and Yaki Point roads
- Does not qualify vehicles to park in designated handicap parking spaces; a government-issued parking pass is required

Trail of Time

- Wheelchair-accessible 1.3-mile (2.1 km) trail between Verkamp's Visitor Center and Yavapai Geology Museum
- Touchable samples of Grand Canyon's rocks

Yavapai Geology Museum

- Tactile Grand Canyon relief map
- Touchable exhibits accompanied by an interpretive audio track with some description for the sight impaired

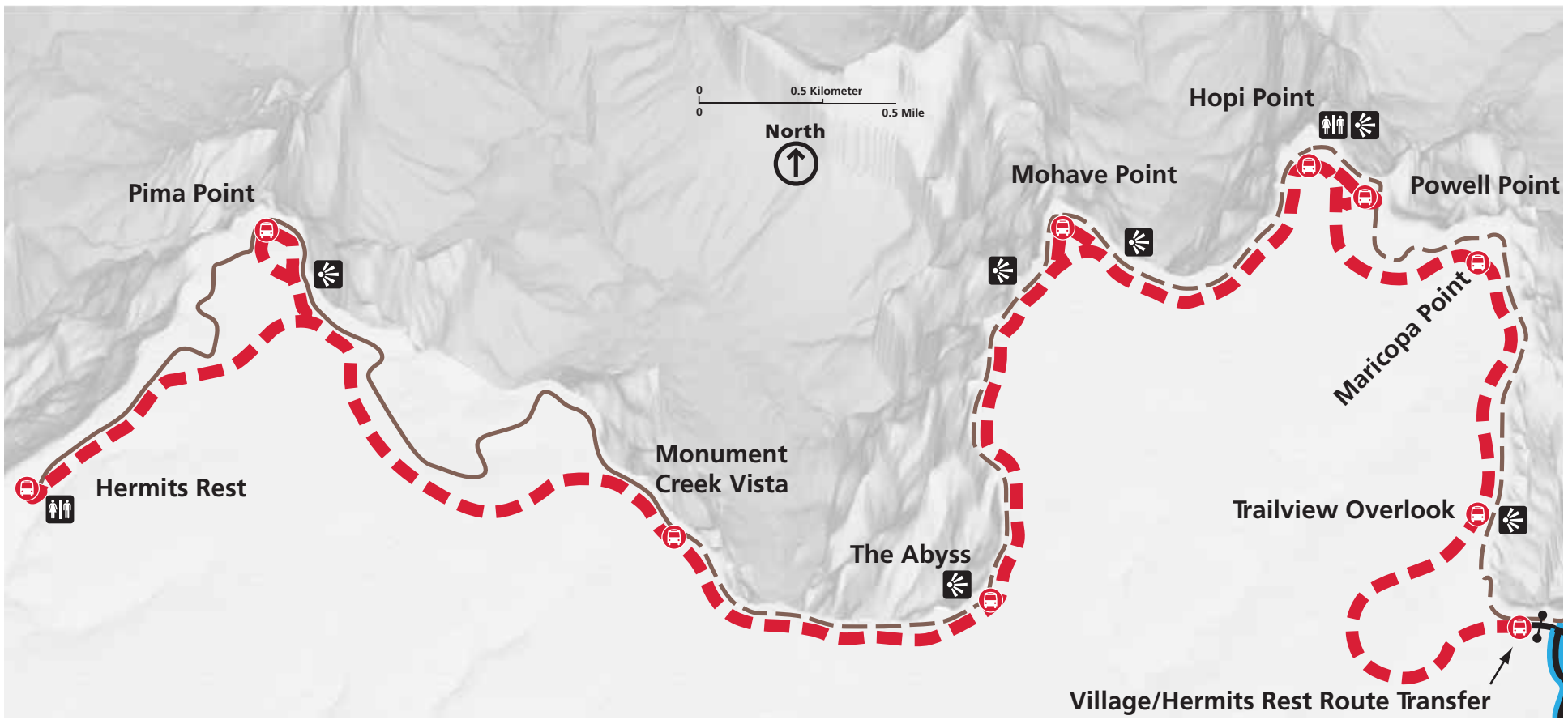
Legend

Assistive-listening devices

Audio description

Open captioning

South Rim Activities: Hermit Road



Windshield Views

- Views, as noted on the map, are available without leaving your vehicle

Hermits Rest

- Designed by Mary Colter and opened in 1914
- Wheelchair-accessible restrooms, snackbar, and gift shop

Hermit Road Viewpoints

Trailview Overlook

- View of Grand Canyon Village and Bright Angel Trail

Maricopa and **Powell points**

- View the Orphan Mine site
- Learn about uranium mining history

Powell Point

- Memorial to John Wesley Powell and crews' river expeditions

Hopi Point

- Highest point on Hermit Road
- Provides most expansive east to west view, including Colorado River

Mohave Point

- Views of Colorado River's exhilarating rapids

The Abyss

- 3,000 foot (914 m) sheer drop into canyon

Monument Creek Vista

- Start of wheelchair-accessible part of Rim Trail to Hermits Rest

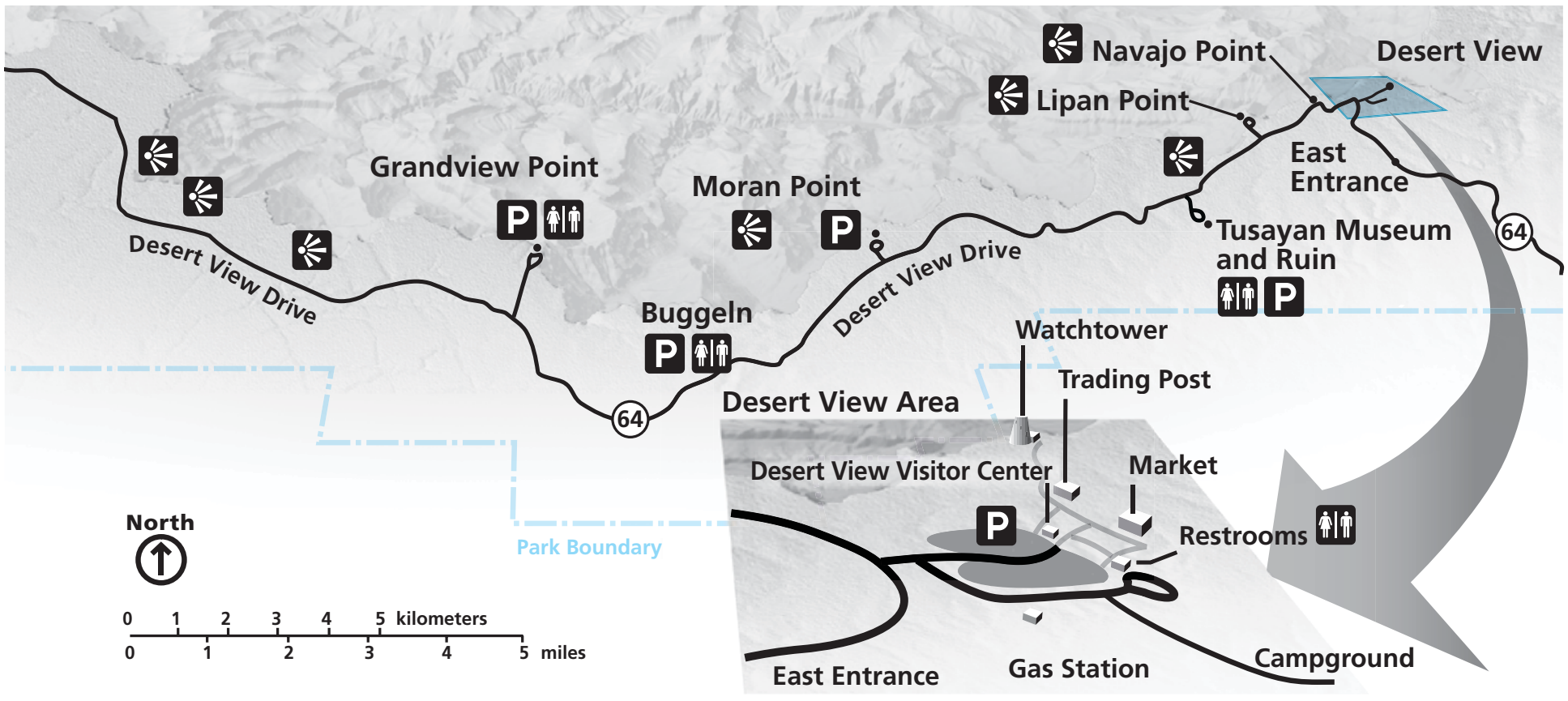
Pima Point

- Expansive river view
- Hear rapids roaring a mile (1.6 km) below

Legend

- Wheelchair-accessible trail
- Non-wheelchair-accessible trail due to steep grade and/or unpaved surface
- Shuttle bus gate
- Hermit Road: Shuttle buses only, except December through February. Scenic Drive Accessibility Permit available at visitor centers.
- Wheelchair-accessible restrooms
- Windshield views
- Hermits Rest Route shuttle bus stop

South Rim Activities: Desert View Drive



Tusayan Museum and Ruin

- Learn about Traditionally Associated Tribes
- Tour ancestral Puebloan village on wheelchair-accessible trail
- Park rangers available to answer questions and describe exhibits
- Visit wheelchair-accessible bookstore and museum

Windshield Views

- Views, as noted on the map, are available without leaving your vehicle

Desert View Drive Viewpoints

Grandview Point

- Panoramic views of Grand Canyon
- Learn about mining history

Moran Point

- View Cape Royal on the North Rim, eight miles (13 km) across canyon
- Views of Colorado River

Lipan and **Navajo points**

- View tilted Grand Canyon Supergroup rocks
- Colorado River views

Desert View Point

- Expansive view of Grand Canyon, North Rim, Colorado River, Navajo Nation, Vermilion Cliffs, Echo Cliffs, and Navajo Mountain

Desert View Watchtower

- Designed by Mary Colter, opened in 1933
- Upper floors not wheelchair-accessible; requires climbing a six-story building
- Views of the canyon and Painted Desert from the top

Legend

- Paved road
- Wheelchair-accessible scenic view
- Handicap and regular parking
- Wheelchair-accessible restrooms
- Windshield views

For Your Health

Weather

Summer

Daytime average temperatures
North and South rims: 70–80s (21–32° C)
Inner Canyon: 100s (38–43° C)
Nighttime average temperatures
North and South rims: 40–50s (4–15° C)
Inner Canyon: 70s (21–27° C)
Weather
Monsoon rain July to early September and dangerous lightning

Winter

Daytime average temperatures
North and South rims: 30–40s (-1–10° C)
Inner Canyon: 50–60s (10–21° C)
Nighttime average temperatures
North and South rims: 10s (-12– -7° C)
Inner Canyon: high 30s (2–4° C)
Weather
snow and ice

Smoke and Fire

In Grand Canyon, fire is natural and important for maintaining healthy forests. Smoky skies are possible spring through fall. Visitors should call 928-638-7888 or visit www.nps.gov/grca

Elevation

South Rim 7,000 feet (2,134 m)
North Rim 8,000–9,000 feet (2,438–2,743 m)
Phantom Ranch 2,550 feet (777 m)

High-altitude sickness and other issues caused by elevation have the following symptoms:

- shortness of breath
- light-headedness
- nausea and vomiting
- headaches

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Address	Grand Canyon National Park PO Box 129, Grand Canyon, AZ 86023
E-mail	grca_information@nps.gov
Fax	928-638-7797
Phone	928-638-7888
Website	www.nps.gov/grca