



## Tuweep

At 3,000 vertical feet (880 m) above the Colorado River, the sheer drop from Toroweap Overlook offers a dramatic view. The volcanic cinder cones and lava flows in this ancestral home of the Southern Paiute people make this area unique. A visit to Tuweep provides an opportunity for an uncrowded, rustic, and remote experience. Access is challenging and demands skill at negotiating difficult roadways. Services are non-existent: there is no water, gas, food, lodging, or phone service.

### Need to Know

- **High clearance vehicles required**
- Day use area: open sunrise to 30 minutes past sunset
- Camping requires reservation permit; permitted campers must arrive by sunset
- Vehicle numbers limited; carpool
- Pets must be leashed; restricted to open roads and campground
- Pack out all trash; there is no water

### Prohibited

- Vehicles and vehicle combinations longer than 22 feet (6.7 meters) are prohibited—this is the total length from end to end, including anything towed
- Off-road vehicles, ATVs, side-by-sides, and dirt bikes not displaying highway license plates are illegal; stickers and non-highway plates not valid; proof of highway insurance required
- Fires and charcoal grills prohibited
- No hunting or collecting

### Directions and Access

*Bring tire plugs and a portable air compressor to repair flat tires. Ensure you have enough fuel, full size spare tire, jack/lift, and owner's manual. Tow service costs \$1,000–2,000 and assistance is not guaranteed. Carry extra water, food, and warm clothing in case of emergency.*

Access the three main routes to Tuweep from AZ 389 between Fredonia, Arizona, and St. George, Utah. Allow two to three hours driving time. Bring the *BLM Arizona Strip Visitor Map*, and do not rely solely on your GPS unit. Muddy conditions exist during summer monsoons and from winter precipitation.

**Sunshine Route:** County Road #109, the most reliable route, leaves AZ 389 eight miles (13 km) west of Fredonia or six miles (10 km) east of Pipe Spring National Monument. This 61-mile (98 km) road features sharp rocks, washboarding, and dust. Please do not stop on tribal land when traveling this route.

**Clayhole Route:** County Road #5 leaves AZ 389 at Colorado City, Arizona. It is 56 miles (90 km) long and impassable when wet.

**Main Street Route:** BLM Road #1069 and County Road #5 from St. George is 90 miles (145 km) long. This scenic route is impassable in winter due to snow and mud.

**Tuweep Airstrip:** Closed.

The stunning view from Toroweap Overlook can only be reached by negotiating difficult roads. © MIKE MCTEER



Vehicles have become stuck for several days (top). Conditions require a high clearance vehicle (bottom). © MARJORIE CASSE (top); NPS (bottom)

## Camping and Overnight Use

Permits are required for camping and overnight use at Tuweep Campground and in all backcountry use areas. To obtain a permit, visit <http://www.nps.gov/grca/planyourvisit/tuweep.htm>. Permits cannot be issued at Tuweep. Camping is prohibited on the land adjacent to the park and at the airstrip.

### *Tuweep Campground:*

There are nine small, group campsites for one to six people with a maximum of two vehicles, including motorcycles, and one large, group campsite for 7–11 people with a maximum of four vehicles, including motorcycles.

- Campers must arrive by sunset
- Fires and charcoal grills prohibited; fossil fuel stoves allowed
- Picnic tables and composting toilets provided; no water available

- Store all food and garbage in a vehicle; pack out all trash
- Seven night limit; affiliated groups are limited to one campsite
- Horses and mules prohibited
- Vehicles and vehicle combinations longer than 22 feet (6.7 meters) are prohibited—this is the total length from end to end, including anything towed

## Tuweep Hiking Trails

Tuweep's hiking trails are marked with cairns (piles of rocks). Shade is scarce and water non-existent. Walk only on trails, roads, and washes. Each footstep off trail may destroy fragile biological soil crusts and damage native plants. All trails are closed to pets, bicycles, and vehicles.

**Tuckup Trail:** Experience Tuweep's unique geology on this six-mile (10 km) roundtrip trail. There are two access points: the first is signed before arriving at Tuweep Campground and the second leaves from campsite 10.

**Saddle Horse Loop Trail:** This 45-minute loop offers spectacular views of the Colorado River. Access the trail along the road between Toroweap Overlook and Tuweep Campground or from a trailhead near campsite 5.

## Trail to Access the Colorado River

**Whitmore Trail:** Located at Whitmore Overlook, a 3-hour drive west of Tuweep, this moderate four-mile (6.5 km) roundtrip trail takes you down to the Colorado River. Access Whitmore Overlook from the Main Street Route; high clearance required.

## Information

<http://www.nps.gov/grca/planyourvisit/tuweep.htm>

