



# School Group Activity Guide

As you plan your trip to the park, allow at least 45 minutes to one hour driving time from the entrance station to the Chapin Mesa Archeological Museum. Below is a sample activity guide and time table that you can use to help plan your trip. All of your visit can be done on your own with some coordination and information from National Park Service staff. If you desire the assistance of a “step-on” guide, you can arrange for one through [ARAMARK Mesa Verde](#), the park concessionaire. For planning information and logistics, please see [Planning Your Visit](#).

## Main Park Road

Specific Site	Time Needed For Activity	Specific Activity	Other Information
<a href="#">Mesa Verde Visitor and Research Center</a>	30 - 45 minutes	purchase tickets here if needed	exhibits to orient visitors to the park
Park Point	30 minutes	look into four different states	not plowed in winter
Montezuma Valley Overlook	20 minutes	identify geologic formations	

## Museum Loop Road

Specific Site	Time Needed For Activity	Specific Activity	Other Information
Chapin Mesa Museum	30 minutes	see video - <i>Legacy of Stone and Spirit</i>	available through the <a href="#">Mesa Verde Museum Association</a> . (Teachers get 10% discount. Must place order by phone.) 970-529-4445
Chapin Mesa Museum	45 minutes	dioramas, artifacts, and exhibits	
Chapin Mesa Museum	variable	kids 4 to 12 yrs complete Junior Ranger booklet and earn badge	booklet available at museum desk
<a href="#">Spruce Tree House</a>	40 to 60 minutes	self-guided cliff dwelling	guided tours only, early November to early March
<a href="#">Petroglyph Point Trail</a>	1 to 3 hours	self-guided trail (register at trail head or museum desk)	2.4 miles -- guide book available
Picnic Area	variable	30+ picnic tables	not plowed in winter

## Mesa Top Loop Road

Specific Site	Time Needed For Activity	Specific Activity	Other Information
Stops 1, 4, and 6	45 to 60 minutes	a 600-year history of surface sites	
Stop 7	20 minutes	overlook of cliff dwellings	

## Cliff Palace Loop

Specific Site	Time Needed For Activity	Specific Activity	Other Information
Cliff Palace Overlook	15 to 20 minutes for overlook	view the largest cliff dwelling in North America	tour and ticket required to enter Cliff Palace.
<a href="#">Cliff Palace Tour</a>	60 minutes	ranger-guided tour	purchase tickets at the Visitor and Research Center <i>No tours in Spring 2015 due to preservation work. Please see <a href="#">schedule</a>.</i>
<a href="#">Balcony House Tour</a>	60 minutes	ranger-guided tour	purchase tickets at the Visitor and Research Center
<a href="#">Balcony House Tour for school groups</a>	90 minutes	curriculum-based, ranger-guided tour for 3rd to 12th grade school groups	school group tours offered in spring and fall. Call 970-529-5079 for information
<a href="#">Soda Canyon Overlook Trail</a>	45 to 60 minutes	1.25 mile round-trip trail to view Balcony House	only view of Balcony House without a tour

## Main Park Road (on the way out)

Specific Site	Time Needed For Activity	Specific Activity	Other Information
<a href="#">Cedar Tree Tower and Farming Terrace Trail</a>	tower: 15 minutes trail: 30 minutes +	tower/kiva is a surface site	good example of farming techniques
<a href="#">Far View Sites Complex</a>	20 to 60 minutes	six surface sites	guide book available on site and in museum limited bus maneuvering and parking



## Planning Guide

**Use the table below to help plan your own customized visit**

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