

THE HOODOO

The official newspaper of Bryce Canyon National Park.

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior



2016
National Park Service
CENTENNIAL
FIND YOUR
PARK

Map, Shuttle & Hiking Guide

Marion Littlefield Photography

QUESTIONS? BRING THIS NEWSPAPER TO THE VISITOR CENTER DESK.

Lee Gelatt Photography



REFLECTIONS - FIND YOUR SENSE OF SPACE & PLACE

I live and breathe national parks. As a 34-year veteran of the National Park Service, I have found that personally and professionally, parks have shaped my life and the person I have become.

National parks are an American idea - like apple pie and baseball. The first national park in the world was established in 1872 at Yellowstone and within that decade, spread to Australia and other nations. Initially, U.S. national parks and monuments were managed individually; some parks were managed by the U.S. military - hence the traditional uniform and “flat” hat. By 1916, it was realized that a national umbrella of management was needed. The National Park Service was created by an Act signed by President Woodrow Wilson on August 25, 1916.

Yellowstone and early national parks were set aside for vast scenic landscapes filled with wildlife. Throughout the century of park establishments, there’s been an addition of different titles or “last names” as our society and the national park system co-evolved. During the 1930s, battlefields were transferred to the National Park System. The 1970s created recreation areas in an effort to bring national parks to urban areas.

No matter its last name, each national park area preserves a slice of this nation’s natural and/or cultural history. Visiting this system of parks

is like opening up a treasure box. Some of the stories honor places, people or cultures and some stories reflect an accomplishment or sad time in our history. Similar to oral traditions of indigenous people, the national park system preserves the unspoken stories of our natural world in the beauty and mysteries of these special places.

Each national park unit’s story shares something of significance. Bryce Canyon National Park was first established as a national monument (1923), which was then named Utah National Park (1924) before its current name (1928). This area showcases a sculpted landscape of what is now called hoodoos. The significance of this area includes not only these geologic and dynamic features, but also the natural sounds, clean air and water, cultural histories and stellar night skies!

When I’m outdoors hiking along trails, I’m filled with the “surround-sound” of bird calls, wind gusts, or the simplicity of quiet. Until we experience this type of spaciousness and really have room to breathe, I’m not sure we realize what we truly need to survive. The NPS mission protects these special places into perpetuity, and I’m truly grateful. Having devoted my life to a conservation agency, I know I will always need to “touch the earth” -- because for me, that is the real meaning of being grounded!

Superintendent Lisa Eckert has worked in 13 different national park units as a park ranger and manager, and has had overseas assignments in Australia and Croatia.

“There is something for everyone in our 407 national parks, whether it is the breathtaking landscapes or the historical and cultural sites that tell the story of our country, ...As we approach the centennial anniversary of the National Park Service, this is a perfect time for all Americans—especially young people—to Find Your Park, from neighborhood parks to national parks and all public lands in between.”

**Sally Jewell, Secretary, Dept. of Interior
March 30, 2015**

(As of April 2016, there are 411 units of the National Park Service).

What’s Inside

Emergency Information	pg 3
Accessibility	pg 2
Information & Services	pg 2
Plan Your Visit	pg 5
Park Map	pg 6-7
Ranger Programs	pg 4
Safety	pg 3
Shuttle	pg 5
Weather	pg 10



VISITOR CENTER HOURS: SPRING 8 A.M.- 6 P.M. / SUMMER 8 A.M.- 8 P.M. / FALL 8 A.M.- 6 P.M.

Information and Services



Park Roads

The main park road is open year-round, except after a heavy snow.

- Fairyland Point and Paria View roads are intentionally **NOT** plowed for the enjoyment of winter activities.



Visitor Center

Open daily except Christmas Day, Dec. 25.

- Open 8:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m. (Summer)
- Interpretive exhibits, park publications, and orientation film, backcountry permits and lost-&-found services available.



Accessibility

Restrooms, the Visitor Center, Bryce Canyon Lodge and General Store are fully accessible when open.

- The ½-mile section of Rim Trail between Sunset and Sunrise Points is paved and fairly level. Paria Point is paved.
- Inquire at the Visitor Center to obtain a free Access Guide.
- Shared-Use Path is now open starting from Bryce Canyon City to Inspiration Point.



Restrooms

Available year-round at the Visitor Center, North Campground, Mossy Cave, and Sunset, Farview, and Rainbow Points.

- March – mid-November at Inspiration Point, Bryce Canyon Lodge, General Store and Sunset Campground.



Pets

Pets must be leashed at all times.

- You must clean up after your pet.
- Pets are permitted at park viewpoints, campgrounds, and on paved surfaces including the paved trail between Sunset and Sunrise Points and the Shared-Use Path.
- Pets are not permitted in buildings or on unpaved surfaces.



Horseback Riding

Guided two hour and half day horse rides are available Spring – October.

- Contact Canyon Trail Rides, P.O. Box 128, Tropic, UT 84776; 435 679-8665. www.canyonrides.com, or inquire at the Bryce Canyon Lodge.



Wireless Internet (WiFi)

Wireless Internet access is available all year at the Visitor Center. Internet services are available outside the park.



Bicycles

Bicycles are restricted to paved roads & the Shared-Use Path. The Dixie National Forest has a paved bicycle path through Red Canyon, and many miles of mountain bike trails.



Water Refill Stations

Water refill stations are available at the Shuttle Station, Visitor Center, General Store, North Campground and Sunset Point. Water is **NOT** available at Rainbow Point. Reusable water bottles are available for purchase at the Visitor Center bookstore, Bryce Canyon Lodge, and General Store.



Entrance Fees

Private Vehicle: \$30 per vehicle
Pedestrian / Bicycle: \$15 per person
Motorcycle: \$25 per motorcycle
Organized group: \$15 per person
(Valid for 7 days at Bryce Canyon only.)

- **Interagency Annual Pass:** \$80 12 month pass from the month of purchase in all federal fee areas.
- **Interagency Senior Pass:** \$10 lifetime pass for U.S. residents 62 or older.
- **Interagency U.S. Military Pass:** Free 1-Year Pass for current U.S. military members w/ proper ID.
- **Interagency Access Pass:** Free Lifetime pass for U.S. residents who are permanently disabled.
- **Commercial Tours:** Inquire at the Visitor Center.
- **4th Grade Pass:** free access to national parks, national forests, national wildlife refuges and to all 4th graders in United States during 2016.



Camping

Tent Site: \$20 a night per tent site.
RV Sites: \$30 per RV site.
(Half price for Senior / Access Pass holders.)

- All campsites open March 25, 2016.
- RV sites may be reserved May 6 – Sept. 25 Call 877 444-6777 or www.recreation.gov. Reservations can be made 240 days in advance.
- **North Campground:** Open all year, 101 campsites (only one loop is open in winter.) 13 RV sites are available for reservation by calling (877)444-6777, all others are first come, first served.
- **Sunset Campground:** Open March 25 through September, 102 campsites. 20 tent sites are available for reservation by calling (877)444-6777, all others first come, first served.
- **Group Campsite:** One site available by reservation only, late spring to early fall. Group size is limited to 7-30 people and 8 vehicles. Cost is dependent on group size. Reserve by calling 877 444-6777 or visiting www.recreation.gov.
- **Dump Station:** No hookups are available in the park, but a fee-for-use dump station is available in summer near North Campground. Year-round dump stations may be available outside the park.
- **Other Campgrounds:** For camping reservations at other National Parks, call 877 444-6777 or visit www.recreation.gov.
- Public campgrounds are available on U.S. Forest Service, BLM, and Utah State Park lands.



Showers & Laundry

Coin-operated shower and laundry facilities are available at the General Store during spring, summer & fall. Closed during Winter.



Recycling

Bins are located at North Campground, Sunset Campground and Sunset Point.

- Please rinse all containers.
- Recycling for small propane cylinders is available at North Campground, or seasonally at Sunset Campground.



Lodging

Bryce Canyon Lodge: Opens late-March to early- November along with...

1. Dining Restaurant
 2. Gift Shop
 3. Cabin
 4. Suites
- Motel room suites open year-round.
 - For lodging reservations call 877 386-4383, or visit www.brycecanyonforever.com.



Food Services

The Bryce Canyon Lodge dining room, and the General Store are open late-March – early-November. Valhalla Pizzeria is open May 17-Oct 9th.

- **Other Food Services:** Restaurants are available Bryce Canyon City, Tropic, Panguitch, and Junction of Highway 12 and 89.



Post Office / ATM

A Post Box for outgoing mail is located at Visitor Center. ATM is available at the Lodge spring through fall.

- Ruby's Inn has a post office open Mon – Sat (Bryce, UT 84764), and an ATM.
- Personal mail addressed to park visitors will not be accepted at Bryce Canyon National Park.



Telephone & Wireless Service

Public pay phones are available year-round in Bryce Canyon City. Cell Service is not always available in many areas within the park.



Picnic Areas

Picnic areas are available year-round at Sunset Point, and:

- April – October at the south end of North Campground, General Store, Mile 4.5 of the park road and Rainbow Point.
- Across from Whiteman Bench Overlook.
- Fire grates are available only at the North Campground Picnic Area.



Backcountry Hiking

Bryce Canyon has a backcountry area designated for backpacking, which includes the 9-mile Riggs Spring Loop, and the 23-mile Under-the-Rim Trail.

- Fees are \$5/person.
- Backcountry permits are on a first-come, first-served basis and may be purchased at the Visitor Center.
- There are two group sites available with a limit of 15 people per site.



Aircraft-based Remote-controlled Equipment

Use of remote-controlled equipment within Bryce Canyon is prohibited. Visit <http://www.nps.gov/fire/aviation/safety/unmanned-aerial-systems.cfm> for more information.





Preventative Search and Rescue Tips

“An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure” - Benjamin Franklin.

Self-Rescue Tips - DON'T PUSH IT!!!

Set attainable hiking goals:

Those who push their physical limits often need rescue! Pace yourself. If you are hiking in a group, STAY together. Be mindful of weather conditions. Weather can change abruptly at Bryce Canyon. Be prepared.



Have a plan: Leave someone your itinerary. If you are not back when you are scheduled to be back they can call for help. Stick to your itinerary. It gives the search and rescue team a place to start looking for you. Know your route before you leave. Have a turnaround time and if you feel lost, go back the way you came. Stay on designated trails and away from cliff edges where footing can be dangerous.

Treat Your Symptoms: If you start to feel nauseous, dizzy, or exhausted, sit down and rest in some shade for 30 minutes. Eat and drink. Cool down with water. If you have a spray bottle, spray your face or pour some of the contents of your water bottle over your head to help with cooling.

USE THESE TIPS FOR A SAFE AND FUN HIKING EXPERIENCE!!!!

REMEMBER: Wearing shoes or boots not designed for hiking is the **NUMBER ONE** cause of rescues and injuries that require hospital visits at Bryce Canyon National Park. Wear hiking boots with good ankle support and “lug” traction. Sports-sandals, tennis shoes, or flip-flops are **NOT** safe hiking footwear.

Recommended 10 Essentials for Hiking

- ✓ **WATER** – Drink one quart/liter every 1-2 hours. Consider electrolyte replacement in addition to water. A well-hydrated body is better able to regulate body temperature and is more resistant to heat exhaustion.
- ✓ **FOOD** - Salty foods can help.
- ✓ **FIRST AID KIT** – Band-Aids, Ace wrap, antiseptic, moleskin etc.
- ✓ **MAP** – While many trails are well-marked, seasonal flooding can wash away sections of trail. Maps are helpful tools and can help you find a route.
- ✓ **PACK** – Carries your essentials.
- ✓ **FLASHLIGHT/HEADLAMP** – Allows you to hike out if you stay out too long.
- ✓ **SPRAY BOTTLE** – Acts as your personal air conditioning system.
- ✓ **HAT/SUNSCREEN** – Keeps the sun off of you and protects your skin.
- ✓ **WHISTLE and/or SIGNAL**
- ✓ **MIRROR** – Assists rescuers in locating you - for emergency use only.
- ✓ **WATERPROOF CLOTHING** Poncho or jacket is especially useful during monsoon season.



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Bryce Canyon National Park

Mailing Address

PO Box 640201
Bryce, Utah 84764-0201

Park Headquarters - Information

(435) 834-5322

E-mail

E-mail: brca_information@nps.gov

Lost & Found

Report at Visitor Center (435) 834-4736

**For 24-hour
emergency
response,
call 911 or
435-676-2411**

Garfield Hospital: (435) 676-8811

Panguitch Clinic: (435) 676-8842

In Panguitch, Utah,
23 miles/45 km (28 minute drive).

Help Keep Bryce Canyon's Skies Clear

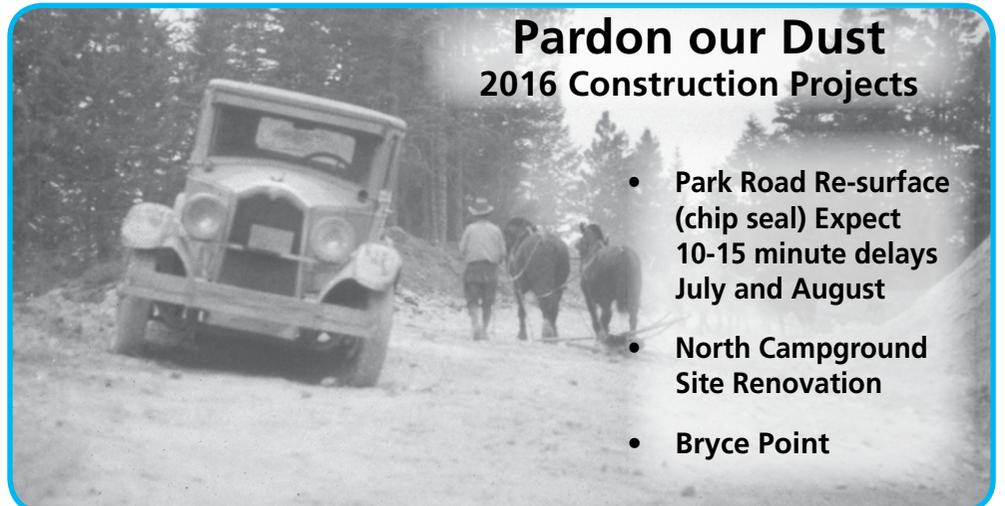
You Can See (Almost) Forever Both local and distant air pollutant sources affect air quality and visibility in Bryce Canyon National Park. Visibility has been identified as the most sensitive air resource in the park. Although visibility in the park is still superior to that in many parts of the country, visibility in the park can be degraded by light-scattering pollutants such as suspended dust and emissions from power plants and vehicles. On a clear day at Bryce Canyon, you can see over 150 miles and even recognize landforms in Arizona! From several of the park's viewpoints you can usually see Navajo Mountain, more than 80 miles away.

Future Visions

Bryce Canyon's visibility monitoring program has documented degraded visibility due to fine particle pollution. In general, the visibility in Bryce Canyon is improving on the clearest days, but not improving on the haziest days.

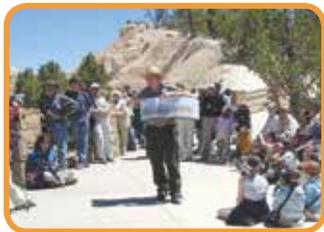


Pardon our Dust 2016 Construction Projects



- Park Road Re-surface (chip seal) Expect 10-15 minute delays July and August
- North Campground Site Renovation
- Bryce Point

Ranger-led Activities Check at the Visitor Center for program locations and start times!



Geology Talk Hoodoos, ancient lakes and something called frost wedging? Geologists have spent years studying the unique story of Bryce Canyon. Spend a half hour with a ranger as we discuss the current scientific explanation behind Bryce Canyon's unique geologic history. Sunset Point Duration: 30 minutes 



Rim Walk Great views, plant and wildlife stories, a touch of geology, a smattering of cultural history – what more could you want? Join a park ranger for an overview of Bryce Canyon as you stroll along the rim of the Bryce Amphitheater. Daily in the late afternoon June – September, check at the Visitor Center for start times.  1 mile, Duration: 1.5 hours



Canyon Hike (June – August) Join a park ranger for a hike down into the heart of the Bryce Amphitheater. Enjoy face-to-face encounters with hoodoos. Immerse yourself in a labyrinth of breathtaking views and engaging stories about all that surrounds you. Offered occasionally – inquire at Visitor Center. Length: 1.5 to 2 miles



Evening Program Bryce Canyon's diversity comes to life during ranger programs at the Bryce Canyon Lodge, Visitor Center Theater, or North Campground Amphitheater (weather permitting). Auditoriums are wheelchair-accessible; access to the North Campground Amphitheater may require additional assistance. Duration: 1 hour 



Kids Programs (June – August) While most of Bryce Canyon's ranger programs are family-friendly, some may be too technical for younger children. However, these are fun for kids and parents alike. Rangers present a wide range of programs appealing to a variety of interests. Most Kids Programs, offered occasionally, require reservations – inquire at the Visitor Center. Duration: 1 hour



Full Moon Hike Group size is limited to 30 people; in summer, tickets are distributed via lottery the day of the hike - check at the Visitor Center or our website for details. Hiking shoes or boots with good traction are REQUIRED - no exceptions. 1.5 to 2 miles, Duration: 2 to 2.5 hours



Astronomy Programs Join park rangers and volunteers to learn about the heavens, and view Bryce's night skies through telescopes (weather permitting). Ask at the Visitor Center or look on page 5 for additional information. Duration: 2 hours 

Become a Bryce Canyon Junior Ranger!



Children ages 3 and older can become a Junior Ranger. Junior Rangers can be thought of as potential Park Rangers in training. At Bryce Canyon National Park, our Junior Rangers must successfully complete three tasks:

- ✓ Attend a presentation or hike given by a Park Ranger.
- ✓ Work through an activity booklet completing an age appropriate number of activities (pick up at visitor center).
- ✓ Pick up some litter at an overlook parking lot or while hiking a trail.

Upon completing these requirements, Junior Ranger candidates must return to the Visitor Center where they will be inducted as Junior Rangers and receive a free badge. Upon receiving the badge, a unique patch can be purchased from the bookstore for one dollar.



Becoming a Junior Ranger is a mark of distinction. These special patches and badges issued cannot be purchased or otherwise obtained except through the dedication of the child and the support of his or her parents or guardians. Parents wishing their children to become Junior Rangers should plan to allocate 3-6 hours of their Bryce Canyon visit toward the completion of this program.

I Hiked the Hoodoos Program



Hiking is great exercise and Bryce Canyon's "I Hiked the Hoodoos!" program is not just hiking, it's also a scavenger hunt intended to encourage youth to enjoy the great outdoors.

Searching for special benchmarks gives them the incentive to earn a reward for their efforts. Follow the instructions below so they can earn the reward while hiking some of the park's most beautiful trails.

One possible route is the famous Queens/Navajo Combination Loop – a three mile hike that includes two benchmarks along the way (*you must find both!*).

Detailed hiking information can be found on page 7.

"I Hiked the Hoodoos" Program Requirements

1. In order to qualify for the reward you *must hike a minimum of three miles/4.8 km* (see chart at right with the qualifying distance for each benchmark found) or *find at least 3 benchmarks* and complete the requirements in #2 below. It may be necessary to hike more than one trail in order to complete the three-mile requirement.
2. *Each individual seeking the reward MUST HAVE:*
 - a.) Either a pencil rubbing of each qualifying benchmark or,
 - b.) A photograph of them standing next to the benchmark (selfie).
3. Only special "I Hiked the Hoodoos" benchmarks qualify for the reward. USGS benchmarks found at various locations within the park do not qualify.
4. Rewards are available at the Visitor Center.
5. Please, only one (1) reward per person.

Benchmark	Distance	
	miles	km
Mossy Cave	0.8	1.3
Rim Trail	2.5	4.0
Tower Bridge	3.0	4.8
Queens Garden	1.8	2.9
Navajo Loop	1.3	2.2
Peekaboo (from Sunset Point)	2.4	3.9
Wall of Windows (from Bryce Point)	1.6	2.6
Sheep Creek	4.0	6.4
Bristlecone Loop	1.0	1.6

Trail difficulty: Easy, Moderate, Strenuous



**Healthy Parks
Healthy People**

Getting Around the Park *Heading to the Main Amphitheater? Take a shuttle bus!*

Shuttle buses have no fees in addition to the entrance fee AND offer a more relaxing way to visit the park. Why is this important? The main amphitheater (map page 6) is VERY congested during the summer, especially between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. There are few parking spaces at these most popular viewpoints (Bryce, Inspiration, Sunset and Sunrise Points, as well as the Visitor Center and Sunset Campground). The shuttle begins and ends in Bryce Canyon City, to the north of the park, and you can board at any stop in between.

OTHER WAYS TO AVOID CROWDS? Visit the viewpoints NOT at the main amphitheater.

Drive to the southern part of the park (beyond the main amphitheater). These

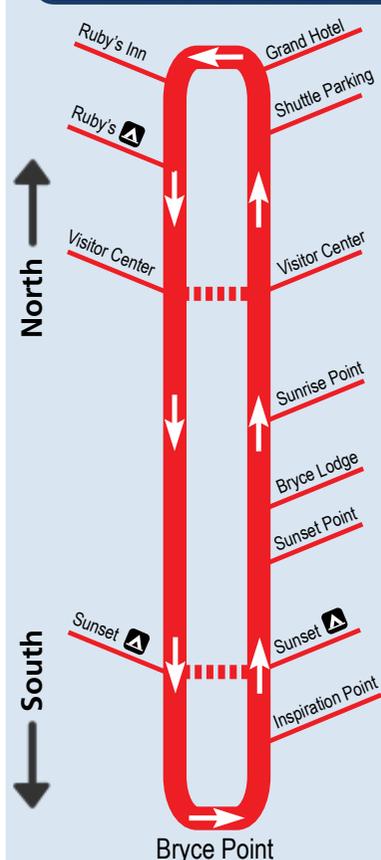
other 9 viewpoints along the 18-mile (20 km) scenic drive feature smaller amphitheaters, but just as colorful, and you will also have a close-up view of a natural bridge and bristlecone pines at Rainbow Point. By first driving south to the road's end, you can then return north stopping at the overlooks by making an easy right-hand turn. Depending on the time of day, you could consider stopping at the main amphitheater. This combination could take about 3-4 hours.

We thank you for your enthusiasm of your national parks. Between 2014 and 2015, Bryce Canyon's annual visitation increased by 300,000 people (up from 1.4 to 1.7 million). We anticipate that 2016 will also be a successful and well-supported year. As in any national park, you can experience

solitude and a special sense of space by visiting during off-peak times of day or year, as well as choosing overlooks or trails in more distant parts of a park (be flexible). At Bryce Canyon, there are several rim vistas where you can achieve that feeling of being perched on the edge of the planet!



Bryce Canyon Shuttle



FREE SHUTTLE! Bryce Amphitheater Route

The Bryce Canyon Shuttle is voluntary. Riding the Bryce Canyon shuttle reduces traffic, conserves fuel, saves time, money, and helps protect the planet! Shuttle buses are fully accessible. Pets are not allowed. Service Dogs welcome.

2016 Season: Spring - Fall

Hours:

8:00 am – 6:30 pm	April 15 – May 26
8:00 am – 8:00 pm	May 27 – September 18
8:00 am – 6:30 pm	September 19 – November 13 (weather permitting)

Bus Interval:

Approximately every 10 – 15 minutes.

LAST BUS	Enters Park	Leaves Bryce Pt.	Leaves Park
Apr 15 – May 26	5:41 pm	5:51 pm	6:12 pm
May 27 – Sept 18	7:11 pm	7:21 pm	7:42 pm
Sept 19 – *Nov 13	5:41 pm	5:51 pm	6:12 pm

*November 13 shuttle end date TBD weather permitting

Rainbow Point Tour: In addition, two free round-trip tours to Rainbow Point are offered most days, one in the morning and one in the afternoon. For further information, inquire at the Shuttle Boarding Area outside the park or at the Visitor Center.

FOR TOUR RESERVATIONS CALL (435) 834-5290

Summer/Fall Night Sky Programs

Bryce Canyon National Park celebrates the night sky throughout the summer and into fall. When offered, astronomy nights will feature either one or two one hour multimedia shows, each with different night-sky related topics. Check at the Visitor Center for locations, times and dates.

After the indoor presentations, it's out to the telescopes to enjoy the real sky! Remember to bring warm clothes. Even in August, temperatures may dip down as low as 40° F / 4° C!

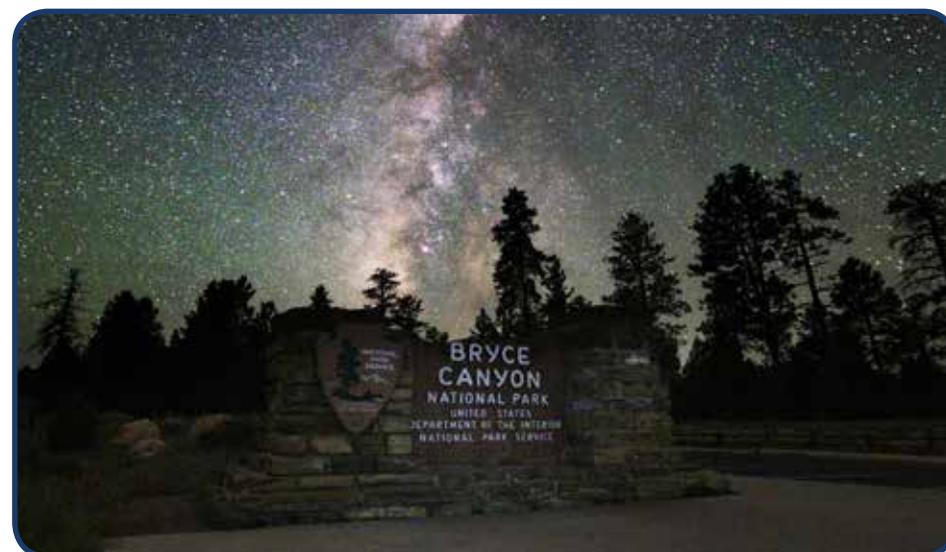
Though the multimedia shows are never canceled, stargazing is weather-dependent.



Astronomy Festival June 1-4, 2016

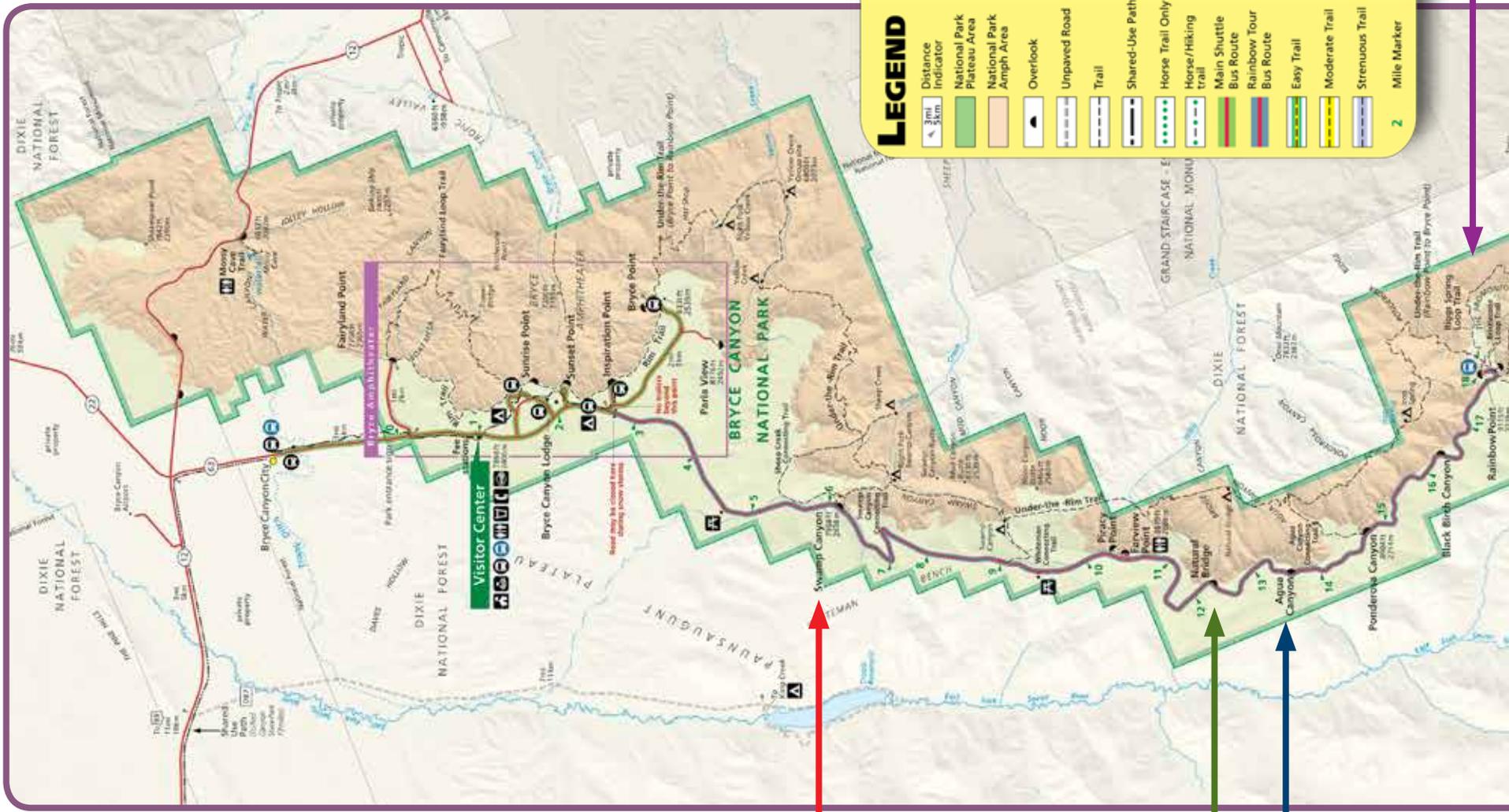
Join us for our 16th Annual Astronomy Festival - Bryce Canyon National Park and the Salt Lake Astronomical Society will welcome Seth Jarvis, Clark Planetarium as the festival's keynote speaker.

Other special guests, along with Bryce Canyon's Park Rangers, will present a full slate of programs on the other nights during the festival. Each night's programs are followed by stargazing with telescopes!

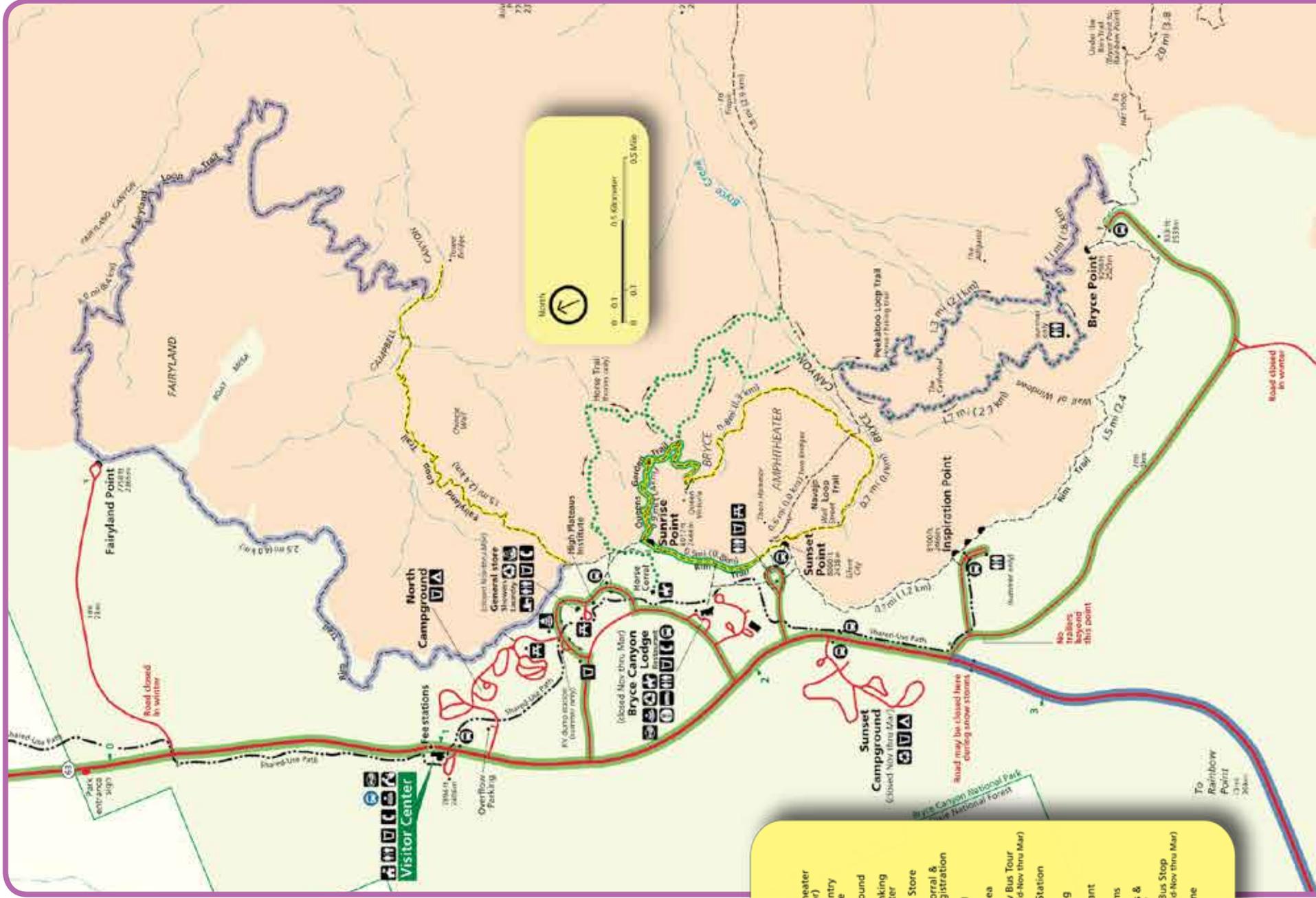


Bring this page with you to the VISITOR CENTER Desk & while HIKING.

Bryce Canyon National Park



Main Amphitheater Region



LEGEND

- Theater (Indoor)
- Amphitheater (Outdoor)
- Backcountry Campsite
- Campground
- Drinking Water
- General Store
- Horse Corral & Ride Registration
- Lodging
- Picnic Area
- Rainbow Bus Tour (closed mid-Nov thru Mar)
- Ranger Station
- Recycling
- Restaurant
- Restrooms
- Showers & Laundry
- Shuttle Bus Stop (closed mid-Nov thru Mar)
- Telephone
- WiFi

- Distance Indicator (3mi, 5mi)
- National Park Plateau Area
- National Park Amph Area
- Overlook
- Unpaved Road
- Trail
- Shared-Use Path
- Horse Trail Only
- Horse/Hiking Trail
- Main Shuttle Bus Route
- Rainbow Tour Bus Route
- Easy Trail
- Moderate Trail
- Strenuous Trail
- Mile Marker



Hiking Trail Guide

Bryce Canyon has 8 different day-hiking trails. Because many of these trails are interconnected, our most popular hikes are combinations of two or more of these basic trails. If you can only do one hike, the Queen's/Navajo Combination Loop might be the best choice. Parking is limited. Take the shuttle bus.

Trail Name	Starting Location	Round Trip Est. Time	Elevation Change	Description
Mossy Cave*	Hwy 12 North end of park	0.8 mi 1.3 km 1 hour	200 ft 61 m 827 ft 250m	Streamside walk up to a mossy overhang and small waterfall. (Waterfall flows May-October.)
Sunset to Sunrise	Sunset Point	1.0 mi 1.6 km 1 hour	34 ft 10 m 8000 ft 2460m	Outstanding views of hoodoos from above. Rim Trail is paved and fairly level between Sunset and Sunrise Points, and open to pets.
Rim Trail*	Anywhere along rim (not a loop)	1.0-11.0 mi 1.6-17.7 km (you pick start and end points)	1177 ft 359 m 7780ft 2370m	Outstanding views of hoodoos from above. Trail is paved and fairly level between Sunset and Sunrise Points.
Bristlecone Loop*	Rainbow Point	1.0 mi 1.6 km 1 hour	200 ft 61 m 8939ft 2725m	Hike through spruce-fir forests to cliffs with bristlecone pines and expansive vistas.
Queens Garden*	Sunrise Point (not a loop)	1.8 mi 2.9 km 1-2 hours	357 ft 109 m 8001ft 2439m	The least difficult descent into the canyon. See Queen Victoria at the end of a short spur trail.

Trail Name	Starting Location	Round Trip Est. Time	Elevation Change	Description
Navajo Loop*	Sunset Point	1.3 mi 2.2 km 1-2 hours	550 ft 168 m 8000ft 2438m	See Wall Street, Two Bridges, and Thor's Hammer on this short but steep trail. Clockwise direction recommended.
Queens/Navajo Combination Loop*	Sunset or Sunrise Pt.	2.9 mi 4.6 km 2-3 hours	600 ft 183 m 8005ft 2435m	Combine two trails described above with the Rim Trail to form a loop. Clockwise direction recommended.
Tower Bridge*	North of Sunrise Point (A portion of the Fairyland Loop - not a loop)	3.0 mi 4.8 km 2-3 hours	802 ft 245 m 8406ft 2534m	See Bristlecone Pines and the Chinese Wall. A shady 1/4-mile spur trail leads to the bridge.
Hat Shop	Bryce Point (not a loop)	4.0 mi 6.4 km 3-4 hours	1075 ft 328 m 8315ft 2534m	Descend the Under-the-Rim Trail to see a cluster of balanced-rock hoodoos.
Sheep Creek/Swamp Canyon Loop*	Swamp Canyon	4.0 mi 6.4 km 3-4 hours	647 ft 198 m 8079ft 2463m	Start at Swamp Canyon viewpoint for a beautiful hike through a section of Bryce Canyon's backcountry. Good route-finding skills a must.

Trail Name	Starting Location	Round Trip Est. Time	Elevation Change	Description
Fairyland Loop*	Fairyland Point or north of Sunrise Point	8.0 mi 12.9 km 4-5 hours	1716 ft 523 m 8075ft 2461m	See the Chima Wall, Tower Bridge and tall hoodoos on this picturesque, less crowded trail.
Peekaboo Loop*	Bryce Point	5.5 mi 8.8 km 3-4 hours	1571 ft 479 m 8315ft 2534m	Steep but spectacular hike through the heart of Bryce Amphitheater. See the Wall of Windows.
Navajo / Peekaboo Combination Loop*	Sunset Point	4.9 mi 7.8 km 3-4 hours	1581 ft 482 m 8000ft 2438m	Combine Navajo and Peekaboo Loop Trails into a mini figure-8.
The Figure 8 Combination*	Sunrise or Sunset Point	6.4 mi 10.2 km 4-5 hours	1631 ft 497 m 8939ft 2725m	Combine Queens Garden, Peekaboo Loop and Navajo Loop into one ultimate hike!
Bryce Amphitheater Traverse*	Bryce Point (May to Oct during shuttle operations)	4.7 mi 7.5 km 3-4 hours	1010 ft 308 m 8315ft 2534m	Descend from Bryce Point. Turn left (clockwise) on Peekaboo Loop to canyon floor and climb Queens Garden Trail to Sunrise Point. Hike or ride shuttle back.

MODERATE

EASY

Trails marked with an asterisk() are part of the "Hike the Hoodoos!" adventures described on page 4.

Hiking Safety & Reminders...

CAUTION! Rocks occasionally fall on most hiking trails. If you see or hear active rockfall, leave the area. Wear hiking boots with lug soles and ankle support. Carry plenty of water; drink a quart/liter for every 2 to 3 hours of hiking. Park elevations reach over 9115 feet

Give them warning of your presence. Be respectful of others; keep noise levels down. Talk, don't shout. Stay on maintained trails. Do not take short cuts. **NO SOCIAL TRAILS.** Do not throw anything, anywhere, at any time. Pack out all trash including tissue paper and cigarette butts. Do not feed the wildlife. Pets are not permitted on any unpaved surface or trail, including all trails below the rim. Service Dogs exempted. Uphill hikers have the right of way. Remember, you are entering a wild

setting. Ultimately, you are responsible for your safety and the safety of those around you. Take what you bring, leave what you find. In order to reduce the environmental impact of single-use plastic bottles, Bryce Canyon National Park

has water filling stations available in the following locations: Visitor Center, General Store, High Plateaus Institute (Sunrise Point), Bryce Canyon Lodge, and Sunset Point. Reusable water bottles are available for purchase at the Visitor Center bookstore, General Store, and The Lodge Gift Shop.

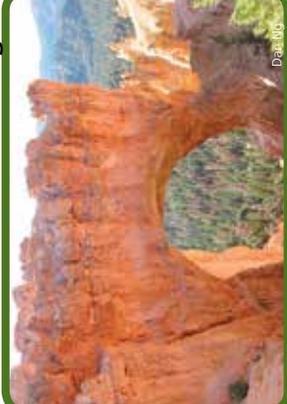
paper and cigarette butts. Do not feed the wildlife. Pets are not permitted on any unpaved surface or trail, including all trails below the rim. Service Dogs exempted. Uphill hikers have the right of way. Remember, you are entering a wild

Most Popular Viewpoints on the Southern Scenic Drive

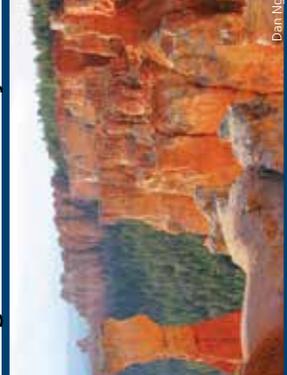
Swamp Canyon



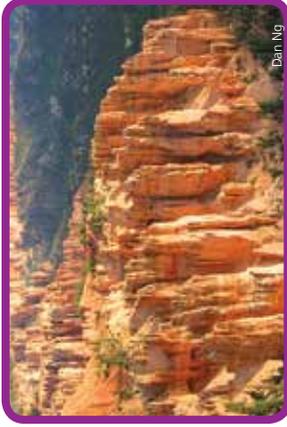
Natural Bridge



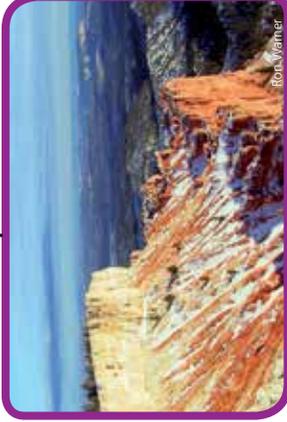
Agua Canyon



Rainbow Point



Yovimpa Point



Bryce Canyon National Park is not a canyon, but rather, it is a spectacular series of 14 huge amphitheaters, each of which is carved at least 1,000 feet into the pastel palette of limestone along the Paunsaugunt Plateau. Each of the amphitheaters is crowded with animated rock sculptures. Spires, pinnacles, windows, and arches accentuate a seemingly unreal landscape from another planet. In southern Utah, this rock is referred to as the Claron Formation or Pink Cliffs.

Beginning about 55 million years ago, the lower pink layer was deposited as muds and silts in meandering streams and shallow lakes. The upper white layer represents limestone deposited in a shallow lake system. Sedimentary rocks are softer than other rocks and therefore, more impacted by erosional forces. At Bryce, the principle form of weathering is “freeze-thaw” as water gets into small cracks, freezes and expands at night. The numerous cracks in these rock layers are due to a major uplift that exposed the Colorado Plateau, stretching across four western states.

More locally, the uplifting of Utah’s High Plateaus contributed to the formation of the “Grand Staircase,” with Bryce Canyon at the top. The geologic story of Bryce Canyon is inseparable from that of other national parks on the southern edge of the Colorado Plateau. The sedimentary foundations of Bryce Canyon and Cedar Breaks National Monument, 65 miles to the southwest, rests on the Gray Cliffs of the Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument. Zion, in turn, has its foundation on the Vermilion Cliffs and Chocolate Cliffs, which rest atop the Kaibab Plateau of the north rim of the Grand Canyon. The southwest aridity preserves this layer-cake effect and provides clues for the traveler as to the relative age of a rock layer when compared to what is above or below that layer.



Hoodoo at Mossy Cave Trail, 2013



Same Hoodoo as photo above, autumn 2014

National park lands have been protected for all of our futures. Sometimes this protection yields once-hidden secrets to come to the surface. Just last summer, fossilized insect cocoons were first observed in newly exposed rock. Following a rainstorm and major rock fall along a hiking trail, a park ranger reported finding something of interest in the fallen rock. The remnant cocoons were due to bees or wasps burrowing into soil to create chambers for laying their eggs. These types of cocoons had been reported from the Claron Formation of the Markagunt Plateau west of the park, but there had been no published reports of these cocoons from Bryce Canyon National Park.

At Bryce Canyon, “Finding Your Park” often means gazing at, or hiking within the hoodoos, the primary reason that this national park was established. Parks are also outdoor natural laboratories, and when parks are preserved through the decades, you may stumble upon a surprise.



NPS illustration of ancient wasp by B. Roanhorse, 2015



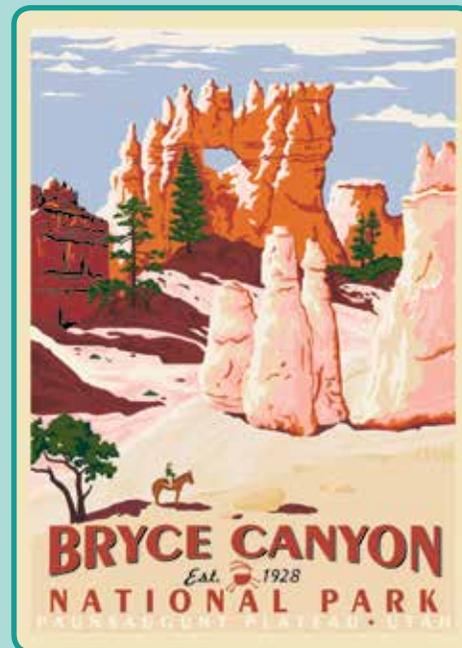
40 million year-old cocoons discovered in the park, 2015

7th ANNUAL BRYCE CANYON GEOLOGY FESTIVAL July 16-17, 2016

Join us for this event celebrating the geology and paleontology of Southern Utah.

Special guest speakers, displays, guided hikes and tours, and other adventures are all part of this fun-for-the-whole-family three-day event!

Check our website at www.nps.gov/brca for more information.



Learn more about Bryce Canyon’s geology by visiting our website at www.nps.gov/brca/planyourvisit/brochures.htm

For more information about park resources, visit our new website at www.nps.gov/brca

Park Profile



Established

1923 as Bryce Canyon National Monument administered by the U.S.

Forest Service; Congress passed legislation in 1924 to create the national park and, in 1928, Bryce Canyon National Park was officially established.

Significance

Established to preserve and protect outstanding scenic and scientific values. Best known for the beautiful and bizarre rock spires called hoodoos and the dark night sky.

Hoodoo

[hoo'doo] n. 1. A pinnacle or odd-shaped rock left standing by the forces of erosion. 2. v. To cast a spell or cause bad luck. 3. Voodoo.

Elevation/Size

Lowest: 6,620 feet (2018 m) Yellow Creek. Highest: 9,115 feet (2778 m) at Rainbow Point. Area: 55 square miles (35,835 acres)

The Bryce Name

Ebenezer and Mary Bryce lived in the area from 1875-1880 and aided in the settlement of southwestern Utah and northern Arizona.



Humans

Archaeological studies indicate Ancestral Puebloans probably lived in the area from 2,000 years ago, followed by the Fremont Culture through the 1200s. This region remains the ancestral homeland of the Southern Paiute. Mormon settlers arrived in the 1870s. Park visitation in 1929 was 22,000; last year it was 1.7 million.

Original Paiute Name

UNKA TUMPEE WUN-NURRX TUNGWATSINI XOOPAKICHU AHNAX meaning "Red Rock Standing Like a Man in a Hole." (Source: Angelita Bullets, Kaibab Band of Paiute Indians)

Plant Life

More than 400 native plant species live in the park. Pinion pine and juniper grow among the hoodoos at low elevations; ponderosa pine forests dominate the plateau top; fir and aspen thrive at the highest elevations. Bristlecone pines, some more than 1,600 years old, live at various elevations throughout the park.



Segoe Lily, Utah State Flower

Animal Life

Utah prairie dogs, a federally-threatened species, can be seen in open meadows. Mule deer and pronghorn (mistakenly known as antelope) are the most common large mammals seen. Mountain lions and black bears live in the park, but are rarely seen. Over 200 species of birds visit Bryce.

Bryce Canyon Lodge

Designed by Gilbert Stanley Underwood and built in 1923, it is a National Historic Landmark. Of the four lodges in the Grand Circle Tour (Bryce Canyon, Cedar Breaks, Zion, and Grand Canyon-North Rim), the Bryce Canyon Lodge is the only original of these structures still standing.



Keep Them Wild!

Feeding wild animals is a sad example of how good intentions can unwittingly cause serious harm.



When animals are fed they instinctively will look for handouts and frequent areas where there are humans. At Bryce Canyon, humans and animals are often found near parking lots, and many squirrels and chipmunks are lost each year when run over by cars.



Their digestive systems are adapted to specific types of food. Feeding wildlife chips and other snack foods is unhealthy and may lead to a shortened life for the animal.



Fed animals teach offspring to beg for food. The young animals may never learn the necessary skills to find natural foods and grow up totally dependent on humans for survival.



Wild animals bite. An animal may not be able to tell the difference between the tip of your finger and a peanut. An animal as small as a chipmunk can inflict a painful bite requiring stitches and, more importantly, that same bite could transmit a potentially fatal disease.



Be responsible. Learn to be a real friend to wildlife by not trying to befriend animals with food.

The Wild Side of Bryce Canyon



The Utah Prairie Dog

A Rare Breed Of the five species of North American prairie dogs, the Utah Prairie Dog has, historically, had the smallest population and territory. With a population estimated to be nearly 100,000 at the turn of the 20th Century, less than 7,000 remain today. Stressors such as disease and habitat loss from development and agricultural practices have contributed to their decline. Because of this, Utah Prairie Dogs are a federally-listed *threatened species*.

Good Neighbors Biologists refer to some animals as "keystone species" if their activities have a positive impact on the local ecosystem. Biologists have determined that the nutrient cycling, soil aeration, and other activities of prairie dogs support more than 150 vertebrate species.

Talk, Talk, Talk Prairie dogs have one of the most extensive vocabularies in the animal kingdom. Variations in their "bark" can communicate information about approaching predators, including what type of animal it is, the direction it is coming from, and more.

Zion National Park



Zion National Park is located just 78 miles from Bryce Canyon; take Highway 89 South to Mt. Carmel Junction.

Short delays may occur at the Zion Tunnel. Shuttle bus is mandatory to access Zion Canyon.

For further information; www.nps.gov/zion

Wildland Fire *Wildland Fire A Burning Issue*

It's Natural An estimated 16 million thunderstorms occur each year on earth, causing some 100 lightning ground strikes per second. Between 50 and 89 percent of forest fires in western North America are lightning caused. There are some 4,871 lightning fires per year on federally-owned land in the U.S. (Source: *Stephen J. Pyne, Fire in America, 1982*)

Primarily caused by lightning, low intensity fires have maintained healthy forests throughout the American West for centuries. Recent tree ring studies conducted in the Bryce Canyon area show that, historically, the fire return interval is 0-35 years on average. These low intensity fires would clear dense understory and surface litter, remove dead and diseased trees, and leave the healthiest trees still standing. With the settlement of the West, fire suppression interrupted this historic cycle.

How Do We Know Forest managers study the trees themselves and the soil below the surface to determine fire frequency. For example, trees that survive a fire will have a scar in the rings each time a fire takes place. Trees less than a century old generally have few scars, while older trees will have an abundance of scars prior to the most recent 100 years when fires were actively suppressed for fear of uncontrollable wildfire.

Managing Fire There are three primary techniques employed by fire managers to help carefully restore fire's benefits to the park's forests: Prescribed fires, managed natural fires, and mechanical treatments (or a combination of all three). Prescribed fires are ignited by foresters in areas that have not burned in many years and have become overgrown. When lightning starts a fire naturally, fire managers may choose (under a strict environmental prescription) to manage it instead of suppressing it. In an area that would benefit from wildland fire, fire behavior is carefully monitored to meet ecological and resource management objectives. Mechanical "thinning" is also another technique, or an initial phase, in fuel reduction efforts where heavy dead and downed (or over-stocked) material is cut by chainsaw, piled, then burned when conditions are more favorable (primary winter).

Healthy Forests, Healthy Life The healthier forest that results from these fire management practices helps protect the park's structures from high severity fire, increases visitor safety, and improves habitat for wildlife species that reside in Bryce Canyon National Park.



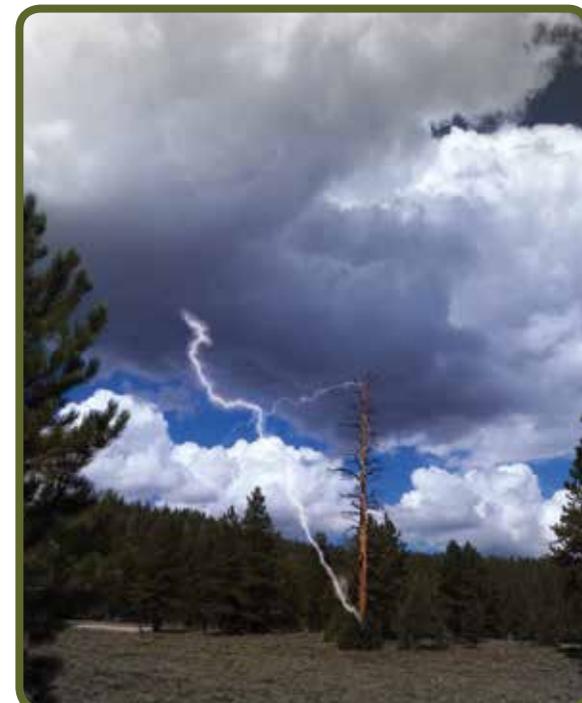
Smoke rises as seen from Swamp Canyon Viewpoint.

When Thunder Roars, Go Indoors!

Lightning Is Serious Business Summer storms at Bryce Canyon bring lightning, a powerful force which can and does kill. Take a look along the canyon's edge, and you'll soon spot one of the countless trees that have been struck. Don't let that be you! Here at Bryce Canyon, lightning has claimed the lives of four visitors in the past 23 years. Six other visitors have been seriously injured by lightning strikes. Though most common in July, August, and September, thunderstorms can happen any time of the year.

Where Is It Safe? The safest place to be is in an enclosed building with walls, roof, and floor (such as the Visitor Center). The next best place is in an enclosed vehicle. If you can't get to a safe location, avoid the most dangerous places and activities, including higher elevations, wide-open areas, tall isolated objects, water-related activities and open vehicles. **Do not go under trees to keep dry during thunderstorms!**

When Thunder Roars, Go Indoors! If you hear a clap of thunder, a thunderstorm is within 10 miles (16 km). Do not wait, this is Mother Nature warning you that you need to IMMEDIATELY SEEK SHELTER and DO NOT go back outside until at least 30 minutes after hearing the sound of thunder.



A bolt of lightning contains about a billion volts and can reach 50,000 degrees Fahrenheit!



Weather & Climate *If you have not already, please read the section on lightning safety above!*

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Temperature (°F)												
Average High	37	38	45	54	64	75	80	77	70	58	45	36
Average Low	15	17	23	29	37	45	53	50	42	32	23	15
Record High	59	64	67	75	85	92	98	90	86	79	68	60
Record Low	-26	-26	-11	-3	13	21	28	23	16	0	-12	-23
Precipitation (in)												
Normal H ₂ O	1.8	1.4	1.5	0.8	0.8	0.6	1.6	2.0	1.8	2.0	1.3	1.2
Maximum H ₂ O	7.4	6.0	4.9	5.8	3.5	3.3	5.7	7.7	5.4	6.4	7.3	3.7
24 Hour Maximum H ₂ O	3.3	2.3	1.8	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.4	2.2	2.1	2.6	1.4	3.3
Normal Snowfall	17	18	17	8	2	0.1	0	0	0.1	3	10	14
Maximum Snowfall	82	55	48	62	18	2.5	Trace	Trace	2	16	36	50
Days with Measurable Precip.	6	6	7	5	5	4	7	10	7	5	5	5
Thunderstorms	0	0	0	1	3	2	11	12	4	1	0	0

In more ways than one, Bryce Canyon is one of the coolest places to be in southern Utah during the summer months.

Daytime temperatures typically range from 70 to 80°F (21 to 27°C), cooling to below 60°F (17°C) at night. Though June is normally one of the driest months of the year, brief snowstorms have occurred many times in the past.

As you can see on the chart at left, nighttime temperatures below freezing, though rare, have happened in the past.

July, August, and early September is the rainy season here at Bryce Canyon, and afternoon thunderstorms occur most days.

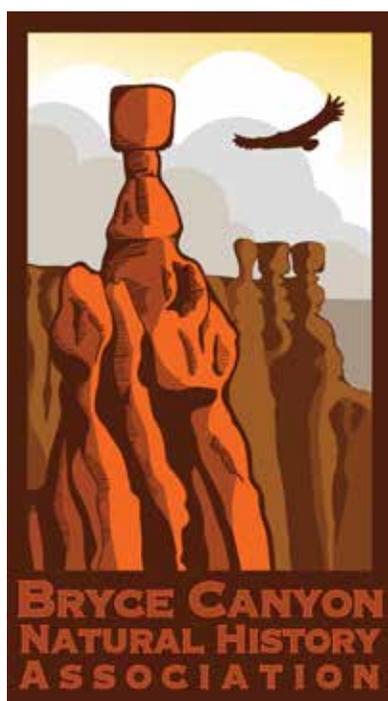
Bryce Canyon Natural History Association

Official Partner of Bryce Canyon National Park

Providing Memories & Inspiring Stewardship



The Bryce Canyon Natural History Association (BCNHA) is the official educational nonprofit partner assisting Bryce Canyon National Park and Dixie National Forest in furthering their scientific, educational, historical, and interpretive activities. Financial support by BCNHA Members, combined with sales from our bookstores, provide the park with annual aid.



IT'S MORE THAN JUST BOOKS! BCNHA's store at the Visitor Center, offers an outstanding selection of Bryce Canyon publications and products that will help you further explore and appreciate this premiere geologic and recreational gem. You may place online orders at the website listed below.

YOU CAN PRESERVE AND PROTECT THE PARK FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS BY BECOMING A BCNHA MEMBER TODAY!

Your tax deductible membership dues will support the work of BCNHA. Members receive a 15% discount in BCNHA stores and online, a one-time free gift, and discounts at most cooperating association bookstores in national parks and other public lands across the country.

Hoodoo You Love?

Stay Connected



Ask about membership at the Visitor Center, call us at 888-362-2642 or visit www.brycecanyon.org/membership

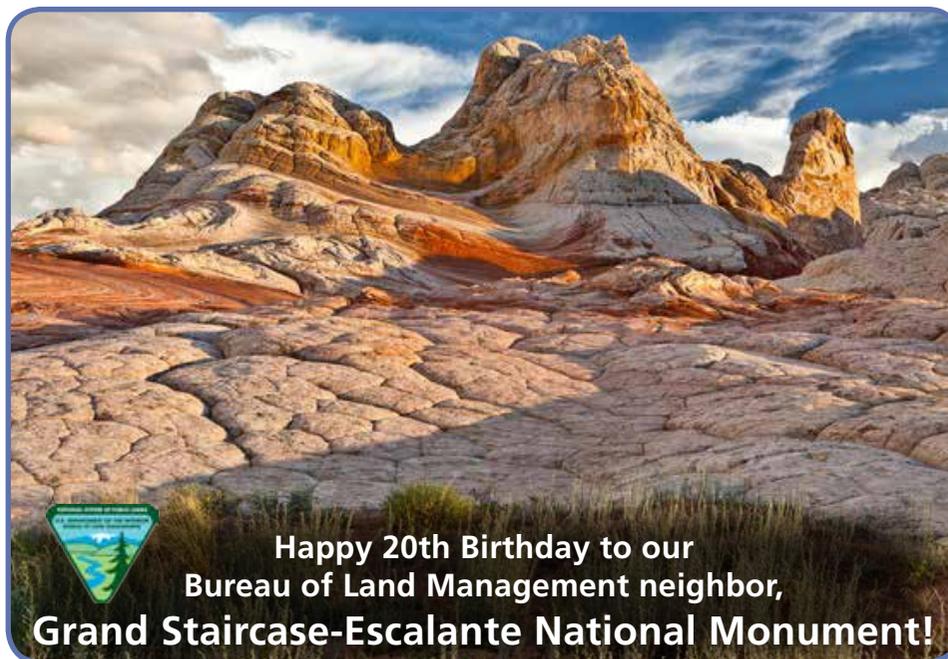
New website! Visit us at www.brycecanyon.org

Contributors - this publication has been made possible thanks to:

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All photos are NPS photos unless otherwise noted.

Cost of printing – Bryce Canyon Natural History Association



Happy 20th Birthday to our Bureau of Land Management neighbor, **Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument!**

Thank You to Our Donors & Partners

Bryce Canyon National Park is grateful to its generous donors and partners who help improve park programs and services.

Since 1961 the **Bryce Canyon Natural History Association** has contributed more than \$6 million to the park that supports:

- The Junior Ranger Program
- This Hoodoo newspaper and other free publications
- The Geology Festival, Astronomy Festival and other special events and interpretive programs
- A full-time Education Outreach Specialist and the Geoscientist-in-Park

Since 2008, the BCNHA has funded two Geoscientist-in-Park (GIP) interns. These interns assist with:

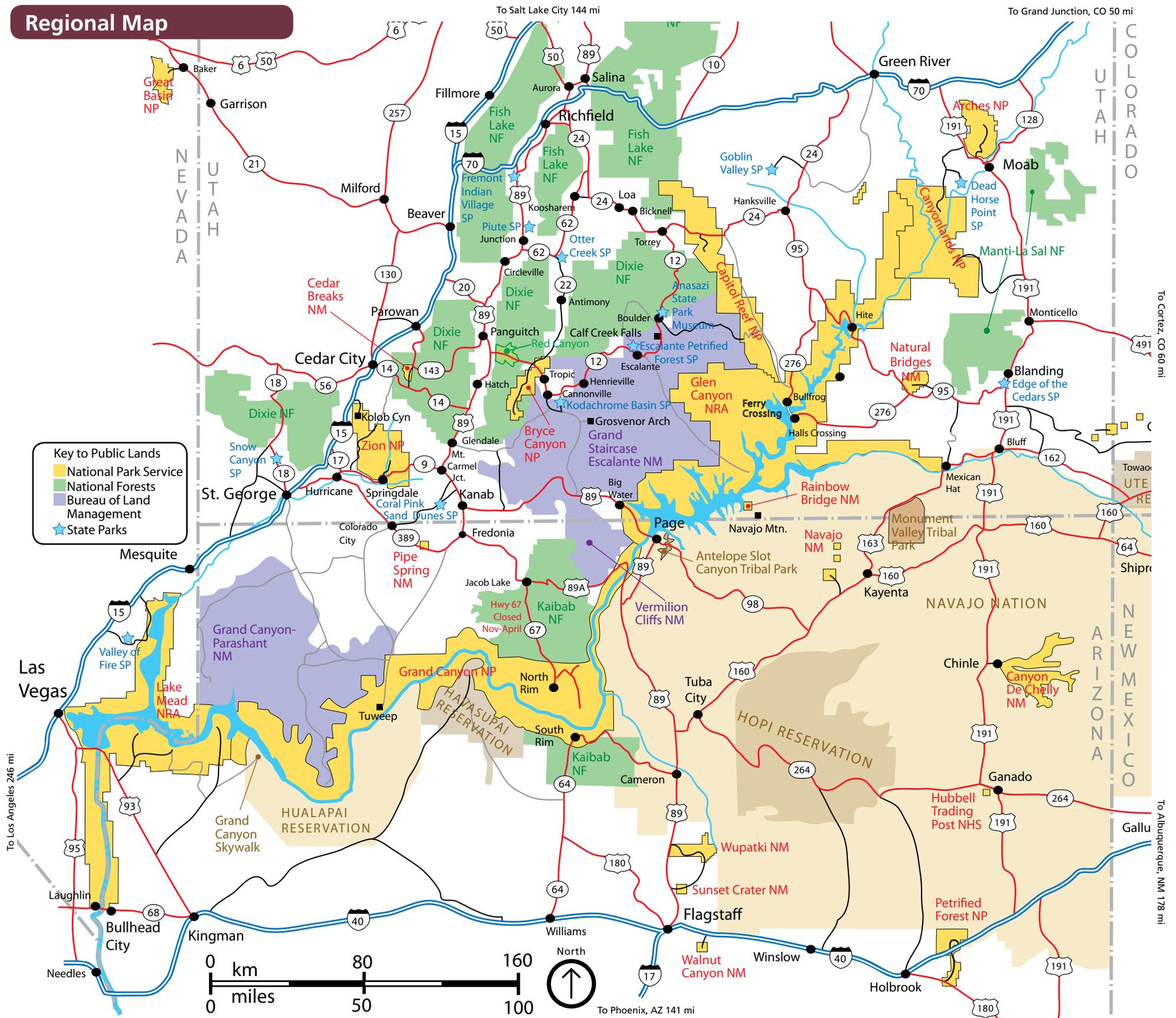
- Research
- Present public geology programs each summer
- Provide training for park staff on the geology of the Colorado Plateau

The **Lodge at Bryce Canyon** and **Ruby's Inn Resort** have implemented a Dollar Donation Program. Hotel guests have the option of donating a dollar to the park each night of their visit. Since 2006 over \$500,000 has been contributed to fund:

- Seasonal employees for interpretation and the trail crew
- Projects such as the recent addition of restrooms at Inspiration Point & Mossy Cave.

THANKS!
We couldn't do it without you!

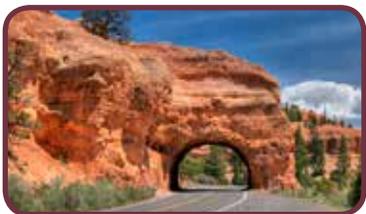
Regional Map



Driving Distances - Time

Arches NP (via US 89 & I-70)	270	5	Cortez, CO (thru Page)	357	8	Kanab	80	1½	Panguitch	25	½
Arches NP (via UT-12)	249	6	Death Valley NP (Furnace Cr.)	392	7	Kodachrome Basin SP	25	¾	Salt Lake City	260	4½
Boulder (Anasazi SP)	80	2	Escalante	50	1½	Lake Powell (Page, AZ)	150	3	Tropic	11	½
Capitol Reef NP (via UT-12)	120	3	Grand Canyon NP (North Rim)	160	3½	Las Vegas	270	4½	Yosemite NP (via Tioga Road)	610	11½
Cedar Breaks NM	56	1½	Grand Canyon NP (South Rim)	300	5½	Monument Valley (via Page)	275	6½	Yosemite NP	738	13
Cedar City	80	1¾	Great Basin NP	199	4	Monument Valley (via Cap Reef)	313	7½	Zion NP (East Entrance)	78	1½

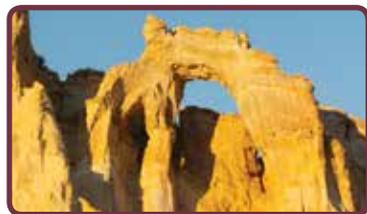
Nearby Attractions



Red Canyon/Scenic Byway 12
124-mile route between US 89 & UT 24
www.scenicbyway12.com



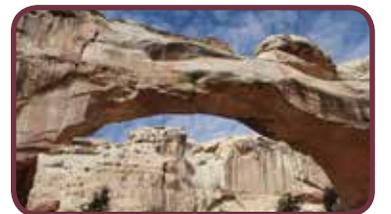
Kodachrome Basin State Park
25 miles southeast via UT 12 and Cannonville to Kodachrome Way
Headquarters: (435) 679-8562
stateparks.utah.gov



Grand Staircase-Escalante Nat. Mon.
South and east via UT 12 & US 89
Cannonville: 435-679-8981
Kanab: 435-644-4600
www.ut.blm.gov/monument



Cedar Breaks National Monument
83 miles west via UT 12, US 89 & UT 14
Headquarters: 435-586-9451
www.nps.gov/ceb



Capitol Reef National Park
121 miles northeast via UT 12 & 24
Visitor Center: 435-425-3791
www.nps.gov/care