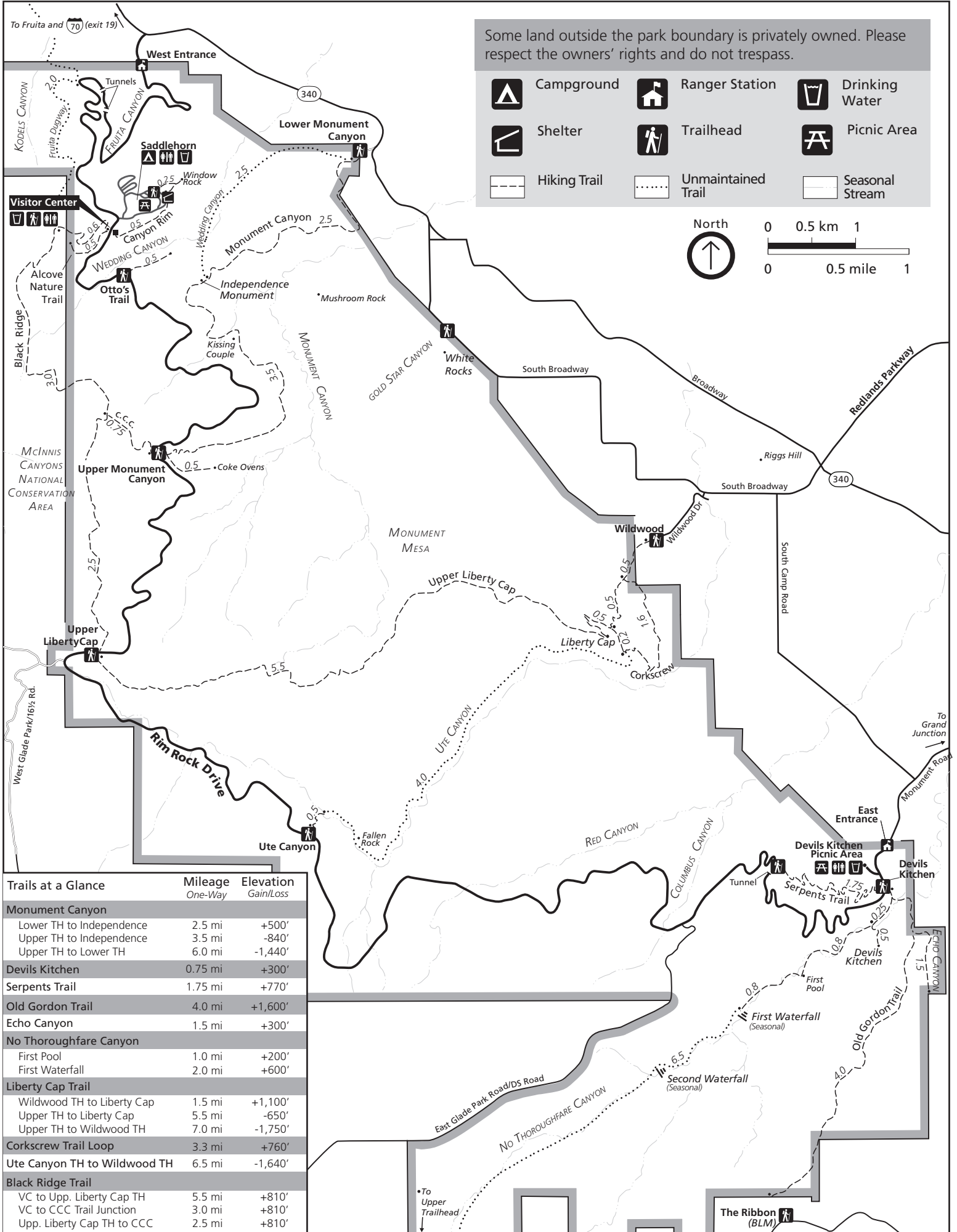




Suggested Hikes in the Monument



Protect your Park

Please help us protect the park's natural and cultural resources. Leave things as you find them, and be sure to pack out all trash.



Help keep wildlife wild. Do not feed or approach animals.



Pets are not allowed on trails. You may walk your dog (on a leash) on paved surfaces.



Bicycles are not allowed on trails.

Monument Canyon

Lower Monument Canyon Trailhead: From the west entrance, turn right and drive 2.1 miles on Hwy 340. Turn right at the trailhead sign and follow the dirt driveway to a gravel parking area.

Lower Monument Canyon Trail to Independence Monument

For a moderate half-day hike, follow the Lower Monument Canyon Trail to the base of Independence Monument. Desert bighorn sheep also enjoy this sunny trail, so have your camera handy. *(2.5 miles one-way, +500 feet)*

Monument and Wedding Canyon Loop

Try this difficult loop for a more adventurous finish to the Lower Monument Canyon hike. From the base of Independence Monument turn right to find the faint Wedding Canyon

Trail. The park does not maintain this trail, so it will have some rough portions. Be prepared for route-finding and lose footing. *(5 mile loop, +550 feet)*

Upper Monument Canyon Trailhead: From the Visitor Center turn left (east) and drive for 3.8 miles. The trailhead will be on your left.

Upper Monument Canyon Trail to Independence Monument

During the first 0.5 mile of this difficult trail, you will descend over 700 feet through steep, rocky switchbacks. Make sure you are prepared with enough water and proper footwear. *(3.5 miles to the base of Independence Monument, -840 feet, 6 miles to the Lower Monument Canyon Trailhead, -1,440 feet)*

Devils Kitchen

Devils Kitchen Trailhead: From the east entrance drive 0.2 miles and turn left into the trailhead parking area.

Devils Kitchen Trail

Although less than a mile from the road, the shady interior of Devils Kitchen rock formation feels like a remote oasis. This moderate trail ascends a large rock slope and is hard to follow, look for cairns (rock piles) and carved steps. *(0.75 miles one-way, +300 feet)*

No Thoroughfare Canyon

Keep your eyes peeled for collared lizards as you explore this narrow canyon. For an easy hike, follow the wash for 1 mile to the First Pool and turn around. For a moderate hike, follow the path to the right of the First Pool, then walk up the wash for 0.8 mile to the First Waterfall. A rough route continues past the waterfall for 6.5 miles to the Upper Trailhead. *(1-2 miles one-way, +200-500 feet)*

Echo Canyon Trail

You may think Echo Canyon feels like a jungle compared to the dry shrubland surrounding it. A spring keeps this lush canyon green throughout the summer. To reach Echo Canyon, follow Old Gordon Trail for 0.5 mile to a signed junction and turn left. *(1.5 miles one-way, +300 feet)*

Old Gordon Trail

Follow cairns to find your way along this historic toll road. Your hard work will be rewarded with great views of No Thoroughfare Canyon below. *(4 miles one-way, +1,600 feet, moderate)*

Serpents Trail

Named for its many switchbacks, Serpents Trail was the park's only auto road until Rim Rock Drive was opened in 1952. Be sure to take in the views of the Grand Valley to the north on the way to the Upper Trailhead. *(2 miles one-way, +780 feet)*

Corkscrew, Liberty Cap, and Ute Canyon Trails

Wildwood Trailhead: From the West Entrance turn right at the stop sign and drive 6.5 miles on Hwy 340. Turn right at the light onto South Broadway/Redlands Pkwy. Drive 1.2 miles and turn left onto Wildwood Drive. The gravel parking lot will be on your right.

Corkscrew Trail Loop

The Corkscrew Trail follows an historic route built by the park's first ranger, John Otto. You can hike it in either direction, but we suggest hiking up the Liberty Cap Trail and down the Corkscrew Trail (counter-clockwise). *(3.3 miles one-way, +760 feet, moderate)*

Liberty Cap Trail

Climb for 1.5 miles on this steep, rocky trail to reach the Liberty Cap rock formation, a

large sandstone dome. The trail continues past the cap for 5.5 miles to the Upper Liberty Cap Trailhead. *(1.5 miles one-way, +1,100 feet)*

Ute Canyon Trailhead: From the Visitor Center, turn left onto Rim Rock Drive and drive 9.4 miles. The trailhead will be on your left.

Ute Canyon

Ute Canyon offers a nice chance to explore the lush canyon bottom ecosystem. After the first 0.5 mile, the trail becomes rough and hard to follow. In many areas vegetation covers the trail, so be prepared to route-find and hike through thick brush. *(4.5 miles one-way, -880 feet)*

Short on Time?

Ask at the visitor center for suggestions on short hikes.

Protect Yourself

- Be prepared. There is no drinking water in the canyons. Always carry extra water.
- Protect your skin. Wear a hat and sunscreen.
- If you become lost, stay in one place and call for help.
- Pay attention to rapidly changing weather. If

lightning is in the area, be sure to stay in low-lying areas and return to your vehicle.

- Backcountry campers must get a free permit from the visitor center.
- In case of emergency call 911.

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