

Field Trips at Walnut Canyon National Monument

Teacher Quick Facts

What to see and do:

Visitor Center and Museum

Rim Trail

Island Trail

Basics:

Hours:

Park Hours are from 9:00 to 5:00 (Nov to Apr) and 8:00 to 5:00 (May to Oct)

Open every day except for December 25th

No Admittance to Locked Park after 5:00 pm♦No admittance to Island Trail after 4:00 pm♦

No admittance to Rim Trail after 4:30 pm

Description:

Small museum with exhibits on life at Walnut Canyon. Includes a 10 minute movie.

Rim Trail overlooks canyon, winds through ancestral farmland, and passes a pueblo and pithouse.

1 mile roundtrip trail descending and ascending 180 vertical feet using 240 steps. Loop trail visits Ancestral Pueblo cliff homes and different canyon ecozones.

Average Visit:

30 minutes

30 minutes

45 min to 1 hour (please take frequent breaks)

Logistics:

Trail/Group Capacity:

No more than 20 per group

No more than 20 per group

No more than 20 per group

Gift Shop / Bookstore:

Teachers receive 20% discount and there is no sales tax

None

None

Food Availability:

NO food available; vending machines with water / sports drink

None

None

Picnic Sites:

Picnic Tables Avail.

Picnic Tables Avail.

Picnic Tables Avail.

Restrooms:

Facilities for two girls and three boys at a time

None

None

Driving Distances:

From Flagstaff, approximately 12 miles / 20 minutes

From Sunset Crater Volcano National Monument, approximately 24 miles / 40 minutes

From Wupatki National Monument, approximately 48 miles / 1 hour 20 minutes

Common Teacher Questions:

How do I reserve a field trip time and date?

Please remember, scheduling a field trip requires a *1-month* notification. To begin the process, go to the [Plan a Field Trip](#) on our webpage: nps.gov/waca and follow the steps for the required documentation.

What happens when I get to the park?

STEP 1: Teacher checks into the visitor center *prior to* unloading the bus.

STEP 2: Use bathroom facilities, gather group for orientation program.

STEP 3: 10-15 minute Ranger Orientation.

STEP 4: Break large groups into smaller groups as specified by trail capacity (see above).

What do I need to know about preserving and protecting Walnut Canyon National Monument?

Have appropriate teacher and chaperone presence with all groups: 1 chaperone for every 5 students in kindergarten to 5th grade, for every 12 students in 6th to 12th grade, and for every 20 college students. Also, go to our webpage: nps.gov/waca for rules and regulations so that you can familiarize *all* field trip members with park rules and regulations.

What do I need to know about any safety issues?

Regardless of season, ensure that all group members have adequate *sunscreen* and *water*. If enjoying the Island Trail, ensure that all group members *take their time* when ascending.

Is it possible to visit more than one Flagstaff Area Monument in the same day?

Yes, visiting more than one monument is possible; however, driving distances and times *must* be planned accordingly. Please note above sections for park hours, driving distances and times, and any trail restrictions.

Who can I call when I have more questions?

For fee waiver questions, please call the fee waiver coordinator at 928-526-1157, extension 239. For park specific questions, call Walnut Canyon National Monument at 928-526-3367; ask for the school group liaison.