

THE INDEPENDENT

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FREE ZION GUIDE

Sept '25

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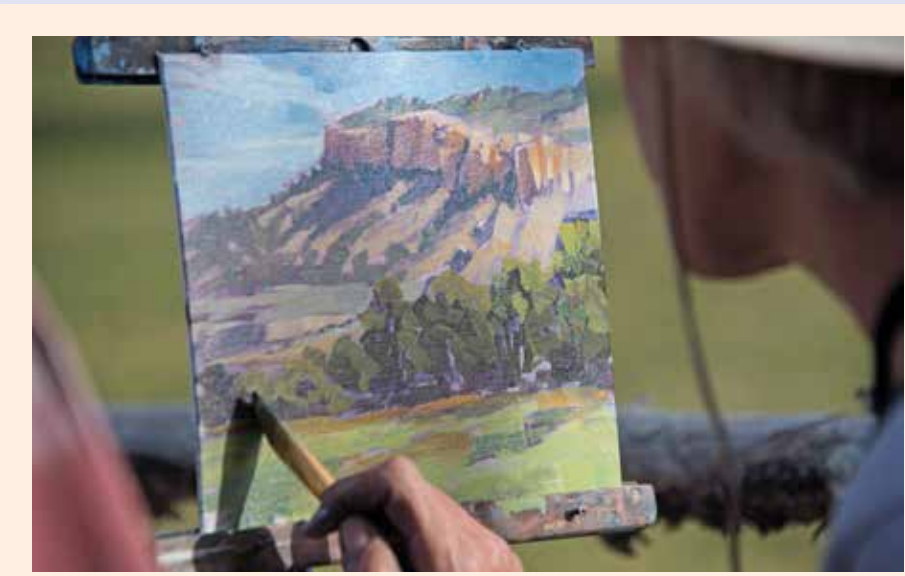
ART DEFINED BY DIVERSITY: ESCALANTE CANYONS ART FESTIVAL TURNS 21

Escalante, UT
Escalante Canyons Art Festival (ECAF) will celebrate its 21st year in the breathtaking red rock scenery of Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument from September 19 to 28, 2025. What began as a grassroots effort to bring artists into the wild beauty of southern Utah has grown into a multifaceted, ten-day event that blends art, music, natural history, and community.

This year's lineup is as diverse as the landscape itself, offering opportunities for every kind of creative. Visual art takes center stage, with demonstrations and classes across a wide range of styles. Attendees can learn the fine lines of woodcut printmaking, explore simplified watercolor plein air, practice painting shapes and shadows in the shifting sun, or dive into on-site oil painting sessions. Other workshops include composing a Southwestern landscape and creating nature-inspired abstracts—each offering practical instruction while surrounded by some of the most dramatic terrain in the West.

The festival also celebrates artistic achievement through its competitions. Winners will take home a share of \$10,000 in awards across six categories: plein air, studio work, junior, miniature, abstract, and nocturne. These juried events showcase not only the technical skill but also the wide perspectives artists bring to interpreting the Escalante landscape.

ECAF is not limited to visual artists. Writers will find inspiration through workshops on storytelling in the desert setting, designed to encourage creative reflection tied directly to place. Naturalist sessions add another dimension, with participants guided in identifying clouds, medicinal plants, bats, and conifers through discussions led by professional herbalists and rangers. Each day also features excursions into the vast public lands of the monument, where artists, writers, and visitors alike can



learn and create on-site. This year's featured local artists, Dwight and Jalene Vance, will present their extensive collection of award-winning wood carvings. Their works range from detailed Santas and whimsical characters to fish, spoons, and natural scenes, each piece carved with precision and care. Textile art also has a strong presence, with both heritage and modern quilts on display.

Performance art adds another vibrant layer. Musicians will share an eclectic mix, spanning jazz, folk, rock, bluegrass, and Norwegian instrumental melodies, offering audiences a constantly shifting soundtrack throughout the festival. In addition, four painters will demonstrate different plein air methods while tackling the same landscape: a watercolorist, a pastelist, an oil painter using a brush, and an oil painter using a palette knife. These side-by-side sessions highlight the diversity of approach that defines plein air art and remind audiences how one view can inspire entirely different artistic interpretations.

ECAF is a participatory festival at heart. Whether you come as an artist ready to compete, a writer looking for inspiration, a naturalist eager to learn, a vendor hoping to share your work, or a visitor who simply wants to browse or buy, there is a place for you. The atmosphere is one of inclusion and encouragement, where both seasoned professionals and curious newcomers are welcomed into the creative community.

The spirit of diversity and variety defines not only the event but also the setting. Escalante's red rock canyons, expansive skies, and rugged beauty create a backdrop that naturally inspires creativity. In celebrating art in all its forms—visual, performance, literary, and natural history—the Escalante Canyons Art Festival remains one of Utah's most eclectic and uplifting cultural gatherings.

Classes are already beginning to fill, and organizers encourage participants to register soon. For full schedules, class descriptions, and registration details, visit escalantecanyonsartfestival.org.



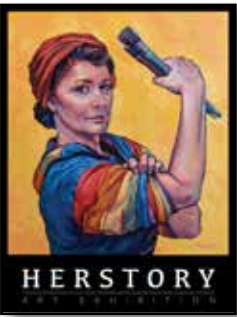
ART PROVIDES OPENS 'HERSTORY REFRAMED' CALL FOR ART 2026 EXHIBIT

St. George, UT
ART Provides has opened submissions for *Herstory Reframed*, a curated group exhibition that tells of her story through visual art. During ART Provides' interim as a mobile organization, the 2026 exhibit will be installed at a pop-up venue in Washington County. A location has been secured, venue details will be announced closer to the exhibition to prevent premature inquiries to the host site and to keep the focus on the work. Accepted artists will receive full venue information with their acceptance packet.

Herstory Reframed explores layered stories of women, welcoming direct or abstract interpretations. Themes may include

resilience and resistance, body, identity, and voice, ancestry, lineage, and care, feminine labor, leadership, and liberation, and memory, myth, and future making. Work that sparks dialogue, honors nuance, and offers a lens into personal or collective experience is encouraged.

All visual media are eligible, including painting, photography, sculpture, digital art, fiber, and mixed media. Artists may submit up to eight



Painting by Megan Reiker, "I've Got this," from the 2023 Herstory Exhibit

available pieces for consideration, with final selections based on quality, relevance, and curatorial balance. Artwork must be original and for sale, a 40 percent commission applies. Submissions should include high-resolution JPG or PNG files labeled with the artist's name and artwork title, along with title, dimensions, medium, and a brief statement for each piece. Artists are responsible for delivery and return shipping, include a prepaid return label if needed.

The submission deadline is Monday, November 4, 2025, notifications will be sent Tuesday, November 18, 2025. The exhibition runs March 6 through April 18, 2026. The entry fee is \$30 per artist. To apply, complete the form, upload images and your inventory list, and pay the fee at artprovides.org/pages/call-to-artists-app. Questions may be directed to info@artprovides.org.

Venues interested in hosting a future installation of *Herstory Reframed* are welcome to inquire, contact info@artprovides.org with "Herstory venue inquiry" in the subject line.

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BACK TO SCHOOL LAUGHS WITH SO U COMEDY THEATER

September 2025 — St. George, UT
With kids back in school, it's the perfect time for parents to treat themselves—and So U Comedy Theater is ready to deliver the laughs. Known for its quick wit and interactive improv style, So U offers audiences a fresh alternative to dinner and a movie.



Shows for Every Mood
Catch the Family-Friendly Improv Show at 7 PM, a fun choice for all ages. For date nights or a more adventurous crowd, stick around for the Uncensored Show at 9 PM, where anything goes. Every performance is built around audience suggestions, making each night of improv unique.

Learn Improv Yourself
This fall, So U is also back in the classroom, hosting a weekly community improv practice on Monday nights at 7 PM. Open to beginners and returning players alike, these sessions are a chance to learn the basics in an informal and supportive setting.

For those ready to dive deeper, So U offers Improv 101, an eight-week course designed to teach fundamentals and give individualized feedback. "Improv is so unique in the fact that skills you learn can be applied to everyday life," said cast member Ginger Nelson. "It's not an exaggeration

when we say 'Improv saves lives.'" While this semester's class is already underway, the next session will be announced on So U's social media platforms.

Special Events
Looking ahead, So U's Annual Halloween Show returns October 18. Guests are encouraged to come in costume—anyone dressed up receives \$5 off admission. It's a festive kick-off to spooky season with plenty of themed laughs.

September Performances
Mark your calendars for September 6 and 20 at the Electric Theater Center (upper room 2). Each date includes the 7 PM family-friendly show and the 9 PM uncensored show. Tickets are available online at soucomedy.com

or at the door, with discounts offered. Whether it's your first show or your fiftieth, So U Comedy Theater brings improv that's fun, surprising, and always fresh.



DIXIE DAYS RETURNS WITH A WEEK OF COMMUNITY CELEBRATION

September 15–21, 2025 — St. George, UT
Dixie Days returns September 15–21 for a week of events that celebrate heritage, creativity, and community spirit in St. George. From rodeo nights and parades to carnivals and concerts, the second annual celebration offers something for everyone.

"Dixie Days is more than an event. It's a celebration of who we are," said Mayor Michele Randall. "From the Dixie Roundup Rodeo and parade, to the carnival and drone show, to the festival and Dinner on Main, there's something for everyone to enjoy."

Weeklong Highlights
The festivities begin September 15 with an evening drone show above Red Hills Desert Garden, visible across downtown with the Dixie Sunbowl as a prime viewing area. On September 16, the Electric Theater hosts a free screening of *My Father's Highway*. Historic tours, known as Dixie Treks, will also be offered September 16–17,



guiding participants through sites like the Tabernacle attic, Pioneer Park, and Heritage Cove.

On September 17, Utah Tech University unveils its new Statue Garden at 9 AM, honoring five of America's greatest thinkers. That evening, the public is invited to explore the Human Performance Center from 6 to 9 PM.

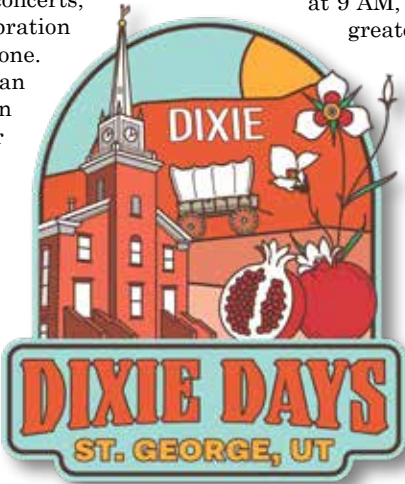
Traditions and New Favorites
The Dixie Roundup Rodeo, now in its 91st year, takes place September 18–20 at the Dixie Sunbowl beginning at 7:30 PM nightly. Running alongside the rodeo, the Dixie Days Carnival brings rides, games, and food to Town Square September 18–21.

On September 18, Main Street transforms for Dinner on Main from 5 to 9 PM, offering a chef's table dining experience under the stars.

Saturday, September 20, starts with the Dixie Days Dash at 8 AM, followed by the Dixie Roundup Rodeo Parade at 9 AM along 100 South, finishing at the Sunbowl. Vernon Worthen Park then hosts the Dixie Days Festival from 9 AM to 2 PM, featuring artisan vendors, food trucks, fresh produce, live entertainment, a petting zoo, tractor rides, and family attractions.

Community Spirit
With its mix of tradition and new attractions, Dixie Days has quickly become one of the most anticipated celebrations in Southern Utah.

For more information and the full schedule, visit sgcityutah.gov/dixiedays.



ORCHESTRA OF SOUTHERN UTAH LAUNCHES SEASON WITH "AMERICA'S PLAYLIST"



October 9, 2025 — Cedar City, UT
The Orchestra of Southern Utah (OSU) opens its 2025–2026 season October 9 at the Heritage Theater in Cedar City with *Stage Meets the Silver Screen*, a celebration of beloved movie and Broadway music. Under the direction of Music Director and Conductor Carylee Zwang, the season presents a wide variety of American music as part of the national America250 commemoration.

Season Highlights
The opening night program features hits from *Mary Poppins Suite*, *West Side Story Dances*, *Phantom of the Opera*, and "If I Were a Rich Man" from *Fiddler on the Roof*, performed alongside local vocalists.

On October 11 at 2 PM, the popular **Children's Jubilee** brings art, science, and music together in a family-friendly concert. Activities begin at noon, admission is "pay as you can," and donations of food benefit SUU's Hope Pantry.

On November 20, OSU presents its third **Rock Gold** concert with favorites by the Beach Boys, Madonna, and Aerosmith. Auditions for additional repertoire, including music by Adele and Shania Twain, are ongoing.

Handel's Messiah returns December 14–15, marking the 85th Cedar City performance of this holiday tradition. A commu-

nity choir will join the orchestra, with solo auditions set for September 25.

The February 19 concert opens with the **Star-Spangled Banner**, followed by Copland's *Rodeo Suite*, Gershwin's *Rhapsody in Blue* featuring pianist Christian Bohnenstengel, and Americana favorites like *Boogie Woogie Bugle Boy*, *The Entertainer*, and *Blue Tango*.

On April 9, OSU presents the **Hal Campbell Young Composers Concert**, showcasing winning works by emerging composers alongside Barber's *Adagio for Strings* and Bernstein's *Overture to Candide*.

A Season of Collaboration
Throughout the season, OSU will collaborate with Cedar Valley Community Theater, Canyon View High School, and other community groups. "We are pleased to combine with several community groups this season in honor of America250," said Zwang. "Please join us as we bring amazing music and entertainment to the stage."

Tickets and Information
Season tickets are \$55 for adults and \$35 for students, available at myosu.org. Individual concert tickets will also be sold.

For more information, contact Amy Gold at 435-233-8185 or myosumanager@gmail.com.

HORRORFEST INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL RETURNS TO THE ELECTRIC THEATER

October 17–20, 2025 — St. George, UT
Are you a creature of the night? Then the 2025 HorrorFest International Film Festival will be right up your alley. Presented by the 501(c)(3) nonprofit Film and Media Alliance of Southern Utah (FMASU), the four-day festival returns to the Electric Theater October 17–20 with horror films, premieres, guests, and events from across the globe.

A Rare Grand Alignment (Cinqué Lee) — a survival thriller set in a cable car high above snowy Norway.

Curse of Crom 2: Crom's Fury (Rob York) — an all-ages '80s-inspired throwback.

Heresy — an atmospheric period-piece horror.

The TreeHouse — a brutal psychological thriller world premiere.



Frights and Fun
Now in its 23rd year, HorrorFest offers more than just screenings. Attendees can join horror trivia, a costume contest, after-parties, an arcade, an art gallery, a Cereal Killer Breakfast Bar, networking opportunities, and an awards ceremony.

The festival also welcomes an impressive roster of horror industry pros, including Alec Gillis, founder of Studio Gillis and creature effects legend (*Aliens*, *Predator*, *Tremors*); Joseph and Vanessa Winter, creators of Shudder's cult hit *Deadstream*; Frank Dietz, veteran screenwriter (*Creepshow TV*), actor (*Black Roses*), and Disney animator (*Hercules*); and James and Chelsea of *Dead Meat*, best known for *The Kill Count*.

Screenings and Premieres
This year's programming mixes world premieres with standout genre features:

Severed Road (Ben Brown) — a love letter to slasher films.

Projection (Evan Samaras & George Scoufaras) — an experimental film about fathers, sons, and cinema.

Shell (Max Minghella) — a horror-comedy starring Elisabeth Moss and Kate Hudson.

Alongside features, HorrorFest will showcase over 40 short films spanning multiple shades of horror, giving new voices in the genre a platform.

Honoring the Classics
Festival programmers emphasize honoring horror's roots. This year's classics include Mel Brooks' *Young Frankenstein* (presented in 16mm) and an '80s Throwback Mystery Double Creature Feature, where the titles remain a surprise until the projector rolls.

A Festival with Bite
For horror fans, HorrorFest International has become a Southern Utah tradition, combining independent film with community spirit and the red rock beauty of St. George.

For tickets, schedule, and full lineup details, visit fmasu.com/horrorfest.

ZION CANYON MUSIC FESTIVAL 2025: MUSIC, MOUNTAINS, AND MAGIC UNDER THE STARS

September 26, 2025 — Springdale, UT
The Zion Canyon Music Festival returns for its 15th year September 26–27, 2025, transforming the Bit and Spur backyard in Springdale into a lively celebration of music, artistry, and community at the gateway to Zion National Park.

for infectious energy that keeps crowds dancing.
From Las Vegas, **Paige and The Overtones** deliver honky-tonk country in the spirit of outlaw legends. Paige’s gritty, soulful vocals—nicknamed “The Angry Songbird”—and Jake Shepard’s wild



This year’s lineup features a mix of national touring acts and regional favorites, highlighted by four headliners that promise something for everyone.
The Slackers, icons of the New York ska scene, bring more than 30 years of music blending ska, soul, rock, and garage with socially conscious lyrics and irresistible grooves. Their live shows are famous

B-Bender guitar licks fuel a sound both nostalgic and fresh.
The MEGA-SCOPES take audiences on an improvisational ride with a genre-bending mix of psychedelic rock, funk, and jazz. No two sets are alike, making them a festival standout.
Closing out the headliners is **AJ Lee and Friends**, led by AJ Lee, whose crys-



talline vocals and mandolin mastery have made her one of Americana’s brightest young stars. With bandmates from Blue Summit, she offers a vibrant new take on traditional bluegrass.
The festival experience extends beyond the stage, with artisan booths, local food, craft beer, and a family-friendly vibe. As

day turns to night, the music mingles with canyon breezes and starry skies, creating a setting unique to Southern Utah.
After 15 years, the Zion Canyon Music Festival remains a beloved tradition where music, community, and natural beauty come together.
For tickets and details, visit zioncanyonmusicfestival.com.



COLORADO CITY MUNICIPAL AIRPORT FLY-IN AND AIRSHOW

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September 20, 2025
Free pancake breakfast at 8 a.m.
Airshow starts at 10 a.m.

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DINNER ON MAIN: A CELEBRATION OF FOOD, HERITAGE, AND COMMUNITY SPIRIT

September 18, 2025 — St. George, UT
By Rick Atkin, Chair of Dixie Days & Dinner on Main

There's something magical about gathering around a long table, under the open sky, in the heart of historic downtown St. George. This September, that magic returns as Dinner on Main once again transforms our beloved Main Street into Southern Utah's largest outdoor dining room.



As part of the Dixie Days festival, Dinner on Main isn't just about food, it's about celebrating who we are as a community. For one evening, Main Street comes alive with music, laughter, and the aromas of dishes carefully crafted by some of our region's most talented chefs.

Honoring Our Roots

The spirit of Dinner on Main runs

deep in our local heritage. From my own family's historical accounts, the early pioneers believed in the power of gathering around food, music, and community. They transformed a hot desert into a place of abundance through agriculture, hard work, and resilience. In that same spirit, Dinner on Main honors their legacy while showcasing the vibrant foodie scene blossoming here in Southern Utah.

A Feast for the Senses

On Thursday, September 18, Main Street will close to traffic and open to celebration. Guests will be treated to a chef's table experience, with multi-course meals prepared by favorites including Wood Ash Rye, Sandtown Pizza, Pica Rica, and The Hive435. Each brings unique flavors and stories to the table, highlighting the creativity of our culinary community.

Live music and local art will surround diners, turning the evening into more than just a meal. Dinner on Main is a celebration of connection,

culture, and place.

A Community Effort

Dinner on Main wouldn't be possible without the many volunteers, city partners, businesses, and sponsors who come together to make it happen. From setting the tables to pouring the wine, this event is a true labor of love, months in the making. Every detail, from the linens to the lighting, reflects the pride our community takes in gathering together.

Dinner on Main has quickly become one of St. George's most cherished traditions, and this year promises to be better than ever. Tickets are limited, and reservations go fast, so secure your seat early and be part of this one-of-a-kind evening.

Join us this September and raise a glass to good food, good company, and a bright future.



THE CREAMERY IN BEAVER IS MORE THAN A PIT STOP – IT'S A FULL-ON FOODIE DETOUR

Beaver, UT

It's easy to fly past Beaver on the long stretch between Southern Utah and Salt Lake City—but trust us: you'll want to plan a stop. Tucked right off I-15, The Creamery isn't just a cheese shop—it's a road trip oasis serving up crave-worthy comfort food, small-batch ice cream, and a market full of Utah-made goods.

And of course, we didn't leave without sampling the ice cream. The Creamery's house-made flavors are rich, creamy, and the perfect end to a meal you didn't know you needed on I-15.

More than just a restaurant, The Creamery includes a charming store packed with local cheeses, jams, snacks, and gift-



On a recent drive home from a Stick Figure concert, we finally gave in to curiosity and pulled over. The Creamery had been catching our eye for ages—its bright blue silo and modern farmhouse vibe feel like a billboard come to life. And once inside, it fully delivers.



My guy and I each ordered a sandwich, then went halvesies so we could try both. The braised short rib was the standout—melly, slow-cooked beef paired with an au jus that was rich enough to drink. The avocado bacon ranch sandwich was no slouch either, layered with smoky bacon, crisp greens, and a creamy ranch with just the right tang. We rounded things out with a side of cheese curds—golden and perfectly squeaky—and a comforting cup of tomato soup.



able goods—ideal for road trippers, foodies, or anyone looking to bring a little bit of Utah home.

Planning your stop: The Creamery is located at 165 S 500 W, Beaver, UT—right off Exit 109. Open daily from 10 AM to 6 PM. Learn more and browse the full menu at The Creamery website.

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WELCOME TO UTAH WINE COUNTRY AT ZION VINEYARDS

September 2025 — Leeds, UT
Harvest season is underway at Zion Vineyards, where rows of grapes ripen under the Southern Utah sun. The vineyard began picking white varieties in mid-August and is now harvesting reds, with several more to come. Each grape variety ripens on its own schedule, meaning harvest is celebrated again and again throughout the season.



Be Part of the Harvest
Ripeness is measured with a refractometer, which shows the sugar concentration, or Brix level, of the grapes. Once the winemaker determines they are ready, volunteers are invited to help pick. Those who sign up at the tasting room receive email notifications, with the first 12 RSVPs joining the team. Harvest mornings begin at 7 AM, with picking from 7:30 to 11:30, followed by lunch. Volunteers also get to watch the grapes being crushed before heading home with a gift.

Wines of Distinction
Zion Vineyards offers a growing selection of wines that highlight the unique flavors of Utah's terroir.

- **Cabernet Sauvignon:** Bold with dark fruit flavors of currants and cherry, balanced with tobacco, smoke, vanilla, and clove.
- **Miscela Rossa:** A Bordeaux-style blend of Cabernet Sauvignon,



Zinfandel, and Tempranillo. Fruit-forward with earth and smoke notes, plum, blueberry, and a chocolatey finish.

- **Tempranillo Reserve:** A Spanish varietal aged in new French oak. Dry, full-bodied, with notes of red cherry, dried fig, and spice.

Owner and vintner Michael Jackson considers the vineyard his legacy.

Winemaker Robert Cec, a self-taught craftsman, has already earned acclaim for producing wines with both depth and balance—reds that are bold and expressive, and whites with crisp citrus and fruit notes.

Visit the Tasting Room
The tasting room at Zion Vineyards is open daily from noon to 6 PM. Guests are invited to enjoy flights of handcrafted wines, learn about the winemaking process, and experience Utah's growing wine country firsthand.

Zion Vineyards is located at 5 Hidden Valley Rd. in Leeds, just off I-15 about 12 miles north of St. George. Simply search "Zion Vineyards" in Google Maps to find your way.

For details, visit Zion Vineyards in person and raise a glass to harvest season in Southern Utah.

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OJ LEX



SPRINGHILL SUITES
BY MARRIOTT



DRIFTWOOD LODGE





CABLE MOUNTAIN LODGE



WATCHMAN VILLAS



4 seasons AUTO SALES

CEDAR MUSIC STORE & STUDIO: A MAIN STREET HUB FOR MUSICIANS

Cedar City, UT
For years, Cedar Music Store and Studio has been the go-to spot for musicians in Southern Utah. Owned by local musicians Derrek and Leslie Adams since 2019, the shop relocated to a new Downtown Main Street location and has become a staple of Cedar City's arts community.



More than just a retail store, Cedar Music is a one-stop hub for learning, creating, and performing. The shop carries a wide range of high-quality instruments—from brands like Teton, D'Angelico, Yamaha, and Martin—to keyboards, violins, and drum kits, all at competitive prices. Accessories, sheet music, and rentals for school band and orchestra students round out its offerings.

For those looking to learn, Cedar Music's private lesson program employs nearly 20 teachers, many of whom are local musicians or university students. Lessons are available for guitar, piano, voice, violin, drums, and more, making it one of the most affordable music education options in

Southern Utah. All lessons are taught in private rooms within the store, ensuring that students have the tools and environment they need to thrive.

Parents and students alike praise the store for its supportive atmosphere. "Cedar Music Store and Studio has been my daughters' music haven where they've been able to hone their talents through dedicated teachers," said parent Heather Velazquez. Customers also rave about the retail side: "I found the perfect guitar for me. I fell in love with it, and my husband loved the price tag," shared Dallas Harper.

From first-time students to professional musicians, Cedar Music's knowledgeable staff is dedicated to helping every visitor find the right instrument, accessory, or teacher. "The staff and the owner are always extremely nice and know their stuff," wrote customer Dillon Fahey. "Pricing is very fair, if not better than online, and you can clearly tell they have a passion for what they sell."

Whether you're signing up for lessons, browsing sheet music, or gearing up for your next gig, Cedar Music Store & Studio provides a welcoming and expertly guided experience for Cedar City's music community. The store is located at 70 East 200 North in Cedar City and can be reached by phone at 435-586-8742 or by email at cedarmusicstore@hotmail.com. Regular hours are Monday through Thursday from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m., and Friday and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., with the store closed on Sundays. More information is available online at cedarmusicstore.com.

RAVEN'S HEART GALLERY PRESENTS ANNUAL FALL SHOW AND ARTISTS' RECEPTION

By Josh Warburton

October 10, 2025 – Kanab, Utah
The biggest show of the year for Raven's Heart Gallery is almost here! On Friday, October 10 from 6 to 9 PM, the gallery in downtown Kanab will host its Annual Fall Show and Artists' Reception, featuring brand-new works from all 35 members of the Raven's Heart Gallery Family of Artists.



This highly anticipated evening is when the gallery completely transforms, rehanging and restaging its walls to showcase the best-of-the-best from each artist. Guests can meet more than 20 artists in attendance, hear about their inspiration firsthand, and take home not only a piece of art but also the special memory of connecting with its creator.

"We look forward to this night all year," said the Raven's Heart Gallery team. "We love inviting everyone to this big, fun artsy party to present everything fresh and new from our incredible artists, all in one evening."

Featured Artists: Highlighted attending artists include Cyrus Mejía, Gary Kalpakoff, Willamarie Huelskamp, Carol Bold, and Angela Woods. The show also welcomes new additions to the Raven's Heart Gallery Family of Artists: Marjorie Eno, Ken Ragsdale, Natalie Gula, Andrea Johnson, and James Mosdell—each bringing fresh Southern Utah perspectives to the gallery.

The signature artwork for this year's marketing materials comes from gallery artist Rebekka Anderson. Her piece, a striking color reduction linocut of a raven soaring through golden aspens, sets the tone and theme for the entire Fall Show. The full edition of Anderson's linocuts will make its debut during the reception.

About Raven's Heart Gallery: Located in the heart of Kanab at 57 West Center Street, Raven's Heart Gallery is a vibrant hub for art lovers, collectors, and visitors alike. With its roster of 35 artists, the gallery offers a diverse range of mediums and styles—from bold contemporary works to intricate printmaking—making it a cornerstone of the Southern Utah art scene.

Join the Celebration: The Annual Fall Show and Artists' Reception is free and open to the public, with doors opening promptly at 6 PM. All are welcome to enjoy the evening, meet the artists, and discover artwork to treasure.

For more information, visit ravensheartgallery.com or follow Raven's Heart Gallery on Facebook and Instagram for sneak peeks leading up to the event. You can also call 435-644-5644 for details.





15TH ANNUAL
CARMEL MOUNTAIN

Car Show

SEPTEMBER 26-27, 2025

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SEP 27: CAR/TRUCK/BIKE/RV SHOW 9AM-3PM

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GIVE LIGHT

OCTOBER 4, 2025

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Fun Starts @ 5PM
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PAROWAN

VISIT Cedar City BRIAN HEAD

15TH ANNUAL CARMEL MOUNTAIN CAR SHOW ROLLS INTO MT. CARMEL JUNCTION

September 27-28, 2025 — Mt. Carmel Junction, UT

The Carmel Mountain Car Show is back for its 15th year, taking over the Thunderbird Golf Course in Mt. Carmel Junction September 27-28. This family-friendly tradition brings custom and classic cars, trucks, motorcycles, and unique vehicles of every kind to Southern Utah's canyon country.

Party on the Green

Festivities kick off Friday, September 27, with Party on the Green from 4 to 7 PM. Registration for cars runs from 3 to 3:45 PM and is free. Guests can expect a relaxed evening with food, music, awards, and a backyard BBQ atmosphere—just add cool cars.

The Big Show

Saturday, September 28, is the main event. Registration is open from 8 to 8:45 AM, with the show starting at 9 AM and running until 3 PM. Rows of polished hoods and chrome will sparkle against the red rock backdrop as enthusiasts gather to share their passion for everything on wheels.

Entertainment throughout the day

includes appearances by local automotive personalities, live pinstriping demonstrations by renowned artist Jeff Dastrup, and music by JC Hackett Cruisin' Oldies.

Contests, Raffles, and Community Spirit

The show isn't just about cars—it's also about community fun. After a noon tribute honoring service members, veterans, police, and firefighters, the contests begin, with crowd favorites like the frozen T-shirt challenge, pin-the-part, and a pie-eating showdown.

Raffles add even more excitement. The \$1 raffle offers prizes and cash, with past years' winnings reaching as much as \$500. A \$2 raffle features a flat-top grill as the grand prize. All proceeds support Valley High School's shop class, whose students also design and build the custom trophies awarded to winning vehicles. These students double as shuttle drivers, helping guests get to and from the parking area. Tips are appreciated but never required.

Food, Vendors, and More

Guests will find a mix of vendors and food trucks serving up everything from barbecue to sweet treats, along with plenty of drinks to stay refreshed. The Thunderbird Restaurant will also be open, ensuring nobody leaves hungry.

With two days of fun, food, and four-wheeled eye candy, the Carmel Mountain Car Show continues to be a highlight of the fall in Kane County.

For details, visit carmelmountaincarshow.com or follow on Facebook at facebook.com/carmelmountaincarshow.



COOL DOWN WITH COLOR AT WASHINGTON CITY ARTS COUNCIL'S ALCOHOL INK WORKSHOP

September 20, 2025 — Washington, UT

If you're ready to add a splash of color to your weekend, the Washington City Arts Council invites you to its upcoming Alcohol Ink Workshop with local artist Rorie Tafoya. The workshop takes place Saturday, September 20, from 10 AM to 2 PM at the Historic Relief Society Hall in Washington.



This adult-only class (ages 18 and up) is designed to be both fun and educational, giving participants a chance to dive into the vibrant world of alcohol inks. With only 16 spots available, the workshop offers a rare opportunity to receive personal instruction from Tafoya, who is known for her bold colors, expressive style, and organic forms.

The class is perfect for all skill levels, whether you're completely new to art or a seasoned creator looking to experiment with a new medium. Alcohol inks are celebrated for their fluid, unpredictable effects, and Tafoya will guide students through blending, layering, and manipulating the inks on non-porous surfaces to create striking, one-of-a-kind designs.

At just \$45 per person, this four-hour workshop is considered a steal, especially since all supplies are included. All you need to bring is your curiosity and a willingness to play with color.

Spots are expected to sell out quickly, so early registration is recommended. To reserve your seat, visit the Washington City Arts Council's official event page www.washingtoncityartscouncil.com/event-details/alcohol-ink-with-rorie-tafoya. For more information, email washingtoncityartscouncil@gmail.com, call 435-590-0036, or follow the Washington City Arts Council on facebook at facebook.com/wcacut.



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Best Friends Animal Society

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Gentle Yoga: Saturdays, 9 a.m.
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LIVE Music: Fast Eddie - Sept. 13, 6-8 p.m.
LIVE Music: Full Circle - Sept. 20, 6-8 p.m.
LIVE Music: Tuesday's Black-Acoustic - Sept. 27, 6-8 p.m.
LIVE Music: Gundy & The Gurus - Oct. 4, 6-8 p.m.
LIVE Music: Mesozoic - Oct. 11, 6-8 p.m.

Pet Safety Lecture with Dr. Jacqueline Grant, Sept. 6, 5 p.m.
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Create a Special Pet Memorial Painting, Sept. 30, 4 p.m.
At Best Friends Roadhouse and Mercantile

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Every day from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. The buffet menu changes daily, see the menu here: bestfriends.org/angel-village-cafe-menu

SOUTHWEST SYMPHONY LAUNCHES THRILLING 2025-2026 SEASON

September 12, 2025 — St. George, UT
The Southwest Symphony opens its 2025–2026 concert season on September 12 with *Ivory and Fire*, a dazzling night of music featuring guest pianist Henry Kramer. The performance blends Stravinsky’s *Firebird Suite* with the beauty of Rachmaninov’s Piano Concerto No. 2, setting the tone for a season filled with passion, brilliance, and variety.



Season Highlights
Audiences can look forward to six subscription concerts and several special programs throughout the year:

- **Moonlight and Mayhem: Halloween Spooktacular** (Oct. 2–3, 2025) — Spine-tingling thrills and playful favorites in a mix of fright and delight.
- **Young Artist Competition Finalist Showcase** (Nov. 6, 2025) — Featuring the talents of exceptional young musicians.
- **Handel’s Messiah** (Dec. 5–6, 2025) — A holiday tradition with chorus, soloists, and orchestra performing the timeless oratorio.
- **Arabian Nights** (Feb. 6, 2026) — Rimsky-Korsakov’s *Scheherazade* brings the tales of *One Thousand and One Nights* to life, featuring the Young Artist Competition Gold Medalist.
- **Mozart’s Requiem** (Mar. 27–28, 2026) — The Southwest Symphony joins the St. George Chamber Singers for Mozart’s masterpiece of beauty and depth.
- **Voices of Freedom** (Apr. 24, 2026) — A stirring celebration of the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence, featuring works by American composers and patriotic favorites.

Membership and Tickets
Crescendo Club memberships are on

sale now and include benefits such as discounted tickets to all subscription concerts, 50% off the Young Artist Competition add-on, and first choice of seats for the 2026–2027 season when the Symphony returns to Utah Tech University’s America First Credit Union Performing Arts Center. Membership guarantees access, even for sold-out concerts.

Experience the Season
From haunting Halloween music to the majesty of *Messiah*, and from Mozart’s final masterpiece to a patriotic finale, this season promises unforgettable experiences for Southern Utah audiences.
Tickets are available at swsutah.org or by calling the Utah Tech Box Office at 435-767-9800.



UTAH TECH THEATRE OPENS FALL SEASON WITH NEIL SIMON’S CALIFORNIA SUITE

September 24–27, 2025 — St. George, UT
Utah Tech University Theatre Program opens its fall season with Neil Simon’s *California Suite*, a timeless comedy that explores the messy, hilarious, and heartfelt realities of human relationships. Performances run September 24–27 at 7:30 PM nightly, with a 2 PM matinee on September 27. All shows take place in the Eccles Black Box Theatre at the Dolores Eccles Fine Arts Center on the UT campus.



Gabriel Flowers plays William Warren, with Adda Fernandez as Hannah Warren. Jairo Rubio and Annalena Jacobs appear as Marvin and Millie Michaels, joined by Lydia Perry as Bunny and Sophie Price as swing. Daniel Stirland and Sydney Lane portray Sidney and Diana Nichols, while Tag Tapusoa and Ari DeGraaff play Mort and Beth Hollender. Tyson Ruiz and Kaya Towne star as Stu and Gert Franklyn, with Bode Mathews serving as swing.

The production team includes Bree Stobbe (stage manager), Christy De La Cruz (assistant stage manager), and Sam Pope (assistant director). Scenic and props design are by Jasmin Low, costumes by Henry Janke, technical direction by Shelby Burgess, lighting by Mason Gonzales, and sound design and fight choreography by Walker Truesdell. Dramaturgy is provided by Allison Gibbes.

Ticket Information
Tickets are \$10 for the general public and free for Utah Tech students and staff. Tickets go on sale September 9 and may be purchased at utahtech.venue.net/events/THEATRE.

Please note: this production contains mature themes, stage violence, and an offensive slur directed at an LGBTQ+ character.

Join Utah Tech University Theatre for a night of laughter, charm, and heart with Neil Simon’s *California Suite*.

About the Play
Set in the iconic Beverly Hills Hotel in 1979, the play unfolds through four distinct yet interconnected stories, each taking place in Suite 203–204. From custody battles and marital secrets to Oscar night disappointments and vacation disasters, Simon’s blend of humor and pathos reflects on love, friendship, and the human condition.

Director John Terry describes the production as layered and immersive: “The atmosphere of the theatre will immediately be off balance as the audience enters. The room celebrates a life of luxury and a facade that everything is as it should be, beautifully elegant. Underneath, the audience will see what happens behind closed doors when the characters have to drop the masks of polite society.”

Cast and Crew
The production features a talented ensemble of Utah Tech students.





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MEAGAN EVANS JOINS ST. GEORGE ART MUSEUM AS NEW MANAGER & CURATOR

August 2025 — St. George, UT
The St. George Art Museum has welcomed Meagan Evans as its new Manager & Curator, marking a bold new chapter for the museum's role in shaping Southern Utah's arts and culture landscape.



Evans brings an impressive background in art history, curatorial studies, and Western American art. Originally from Heber City, she holds a BA in Art History and Curatorial Studies and an MA in Comparative Studies from Brigham Young University, with a PhD in Art of the American West expected from the University of Oklahoma in 2026. She has held prestigious fellowships at the Charles M. Russell Center for the Study of Art of the American West and the Amon Carter Museum of American Art in Texas, while also contributing to projects at the Springville Museum of Art and BYU.

Her scholarship and curatorial work emphasize identity, memory, and place-making in Western and Native American



art. At the St. George Art Museum, Evans aims to highlight the region's rich artistic heritage while positioning the museum as a leading hub for art of the American West.

"It is a privilege to contribute to the legacy of the St. George Art Museum and to

help shape its future as a vital part of this dynamic community," Evans said. "My goal is to foster a space that celebrates creativity and culture, where the power of art to inspire, educate, and connect is felt by local residents and visitors."

City leaders echoed their enthusiasm. "Meagan brings vision, energy and a wealth of knowledge to this position," said Michelle Graves, Assistant Director of Parks and Community Services. "Her vast experience will play a crucial role in elevating the St. George Art Museum."

The St. George Art Museum, located at 47 East 200 North in downtown St. George, opened in 1997 in a renovated sugar beet seed storage facility. Today it houses a permanent collection of more than 1,400 pieces, and features rotating exhibitions that highlight both regional and national artists. The museum is open Monday through Saturday from 10 AM to 6 PM and operates on a donation basis, with contributions directly supporting education and operating expenses.

Learn more about exhibits and upcoming programs on the St. George Art Museum website.



SOUTHERN UTAH ART GUILD OPEN HOUSE AND SEPTEMBER GALLERY EVENTS

Multiple Dates — St. George, UT
The Southern Utah Art Guild is set to bring a vibrant lineup of art events to downtown St. George this September, with opportunities to meet artists, view new exhibitions, and participate in community workshops at both Arrowhead Gallery and Red Cliff Gallery.



The month begins with an open house at Arrowhead Gallery on Thursday, September 4, from 5 to 7 p.m. Guests can meet many of the gallery's artists, enjoy live music, and sample light refreshments while exploring fresh work. September's featured artist is Roland Lee, a nationally recognized watercolorist known for his striking landscapes. Lee is a signature member of the National Watercolor Society, and his paintings have appeared in national publications including *Fine Art Connoisseur* and *Southwest Art*. Arrowhead Gallery is located at 68 E. Tabernacle in St. George.

Red Cliff Gallery also has a full schedule of events this fall. On September 11, from 6 to 8 p.m., the Utah Arts Alliance

presents Connect, a program designed to give emerging Utah artists constructive critiques from host Colleen Gianatiempo before exhibiting their work in the gallery.

Continuing through September 18 is The Power of Three, a collaborative exhibition featuring three creative collectives: Guild SubClubs, Elements at Play, and Turn Center artists. The show also includes work from Sego Lily, a group of Deaf artists sharing stories of triumph over domestic abuse.

On September 15, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., Red Cliff Gallery will host a free Meet + Mingle session with Gianatiempo, combined with a short workshop on strengthening an artist's presence on Instagram.

The month concludes with Light & Shadow, opening September 26 and running through November 6. The exhibition features a wide range of media including oil paintings, ceramics, watercolors, and fiber art. The community is invited to attend the opening reception on Friday, September 26, from 6 to 8 p.m. at the Red Cliff Gallery, 220 N. 200 E. in St. George.

For more information on Arrowhead Gallery and Red Cliff Gallery events, visit southernutahartguild.com.



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AMERICAN CROSSROADS THEATRE STAGES DIAL “M” FOR MURDER

October 24–28, 2025 — Cedar City, UT
American Crossroads Theatre (formerly SimonFest Theatre) brings a classic thriller to the stage this fall with *Dial “M” for Murder*. Performances run October 24–25 and 27–28 at 7 PM at the Heritage Center Theater in Cedar City.

liant stage thrillers ever written, the play promises elegance, intrigue, and nail-biting tension until the very last moment.
Cast and Direction
Company founder and Artistic Director Richard Bugg directs the production. “It is always a delightful challenge to work with



A Masterclass in Suspense
Penned by Frederick Knott and made famous by Alfred Hitchcock’s film adaptation, *Dial “M” for Murder* has held audiences spellbound for decades. At its center is Tony Wendice, a retired tennis player who discovers his wealthy wife, Margot, is falling for another man. His solution is chilling: murder. But even the best-laid plans can unravel, and every phone call, key, and alibi could spell disaster.

Celebrated as one of the most brilliant stage thrillers ever written, the play promises elegance, wit, and shocking twists, making it a highlight of the fall theater season in Southern Utah.

a talented cast in discovering the delicate arc and tempo of a great stage mystery,” said Bugg.
The cast features Tyson Chanticleer as Tony Wendice, Rachel Cox as Margot, and Jared Davis as her American love interest, Max. Local favorite Brodie Perry returns to the stage as Captain Lesgate, while John Blasko appears as Inspector Hubbard and Stacey Johnson as Thompson.

Experience the Production
Dial “M” for Murder delivers an evening of suspense, wit, and shocking twists, making it a highlight of the fall theater season in Southern Utah.
Tickets and information are available at ACTPlayers.com.

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CASABLANCA RESORT OPENS TWO NEW DINING DESTINATIONS IN MESQUITE

Mesquite, NV
CasaBlanca Resort & Casino in Mesquite has unveiled two new restaurants, bringing fresh flavors and fun to the popular getaway. On August 25, crowds gathered to celebrate the grand opening of **Ritas & Fajitas** and **Jersey Joe's Diner**, two dining concepts that add variety and flair to the resort's culinary scene.

its bright neon glow and nostalgic vibe, the diner has already become a favorite stop for both locals and travelers.
Between the two venues, there are 182 indoor seats and 28 patio seats, giving diners plenty of options whether they're looking for lively group gatherings or casual bites at any hour.
What's Next for CasaBlanca



Ritas & Fajitas
Ritas & Fajitas is a lively Mexican kitchen and tequila bar, the only one of its kind in Mesquite. The restaurant features more than 10 sizzling fajita varieties, table-side guacamole, and playful cocktails such as the Mango Bubble Margarita. With colorful décor and a festive atmosphere, it quickly became a hit with guests looking for bold flavors and a memorable dining experience.

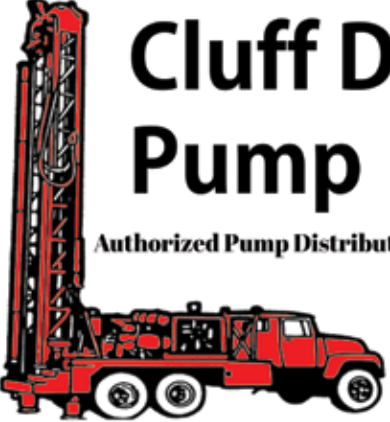
The openings are part of CasaBlanca's ongoing property enhancements designed to make it a premier road trip destination for dining and entertainment. Looking ahead, the resort plans to debut a new food hall in early 2026, featuring a mix of popular regional and national eateries. Additional concepts, including an Einstein Bros. Bagels at CasaBlanca and a Burger King at nearby Virgin River, are also in the works.

Jersey Joe's Diner
Just steps away, Jersey Joe's Diner offers a retro-inspired escape open 24 hours a day. Its menu is packed with comfort-food favorites like Cheesesteak Egg Rolls, indulgent Boardwalk Waffles, and a tempting array of house-made pies and desserts. With

From sizzling fajitas to late-night



diner classics, CasaBlanca's latest additions expand the resort's reputation as a place where great food and hospitality meet the scenic beauty of Mesquite.



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Valerie Orlemann, *First Light on the Mesa* (detail), oil, 2024

15TH ANNUAL RED ROCKS IMPROV FESTIVAL BRINGS LAUGHTER TO CEDAR CITY

September 18-20, 2025 — Cedar City, UT
The Red Rocks Improv Festival is back for its 15th year, taking the stage September 18-20 at the OTC Comedy Theater in Cedar City. The three-night festival is a showcase of comedy without a script, featuring teams from across the country performing in wildly different styles.

weekend. Advance tickets are available at otccomedy.com/rrif.
A Cornerstone of Cedar City Comedy
For 15 years, the festival has been a cornerstone of Cedar City's growing comedy scene, bringing together performers from across the country while spotlighting local talent. The anniversary edition promises



Three Nights of Unscripted Comedy
Each night begins at 8 PM, with performances ranging from musical improv and improvised noir to parody podcasts and shows inspired by Dungeons & Dragons. Every set is unique, and no two nights are alike, making the festival one of Southern Utah's most unpredictable and entertaining weekends.
Tickets are \$10 per night or \$25 for an All-Fest Pass that covers the entire

bold performances and fresh laughs that highlight the creativity of improvisers at the top of their game.
More Laughs All Month
The festival isn't the only reason to head to OTC Comedy in September. The theater also hosts family-friendly improv shows every Friday at 8 PM, offering a perfect night out for groups of all ages.
For something a little more daring, The Improv Lab returns Thursday, September 25, at 7 PM. This 18+ show pushes the boundaries of comedy with experimental performances and unexpected surprises. Tickets for The Improv Lab are just \$5.
Celebrate 15 Years of Laughter
Whether you're planning to attend all three nights of the Red Rocks Improv Festival or drop in for a weekly favorite, OTC Comedy offers a lineup of shows guaranteed to keep the laughs rolling this September.
For more details and tickets, visit otccomedy.com.



STELLAR VISTA OBSERVATORY INVITES YOU TO EXPLORE THE NIGHT SKY

September-October 2025 — Kanab, UT
Stellar Vista Observatory (SVO), a nonprofit dedicated to helping people appreciate and understand the night sky, is hosting a series of public astronomy events this fall. From free star parties to a starlit dinner experience, there's something for everyone who wants to connect with the cosmos.

Public Star Parties
The series begins Friday, September 12, with a star party at Coral Pink Sand Dunes State Park as part of the Southwest Astronomy Festival. Guests will gather on the park's observation deck to view the constellations Scorpius and Sagittarius, which cradle the Butterfly and Ptolemy star clusters. The planet Saturn will also be visible in the evening sky. This event is free with a \$5 per vehicle park entrance fee, waived for campers.

Lectures and Community Programs
On Thursday, September 25, Dr. Troy Allan of Utah State University will present a talk on how enjoying the night sky can support mental wellness, awe, and community connection. The free program begins at 7 PM at the Kanab City Library.

Tickets are \$149 per person and available on Eventbrite at bit.ly/DesertStarlight2025.
Independent readers can get 10% off tickets with discount code indy10.
Observe the Moon
The celebration continues with International Observe the Moon Night on Friday, October 3, also at Coral Pink Sand Dunes State Park. Visitors will learn about



the moon's craters, mountains, and ancient lava seas while viewing it through telescopes. The event is free with the standard \$5 per vehicle park entrance fee.
Inspiring Curiosity
Whether you're a first-time stargazer or a seasoned skywatcher, these events offer unique opportunities to explore the wonders of the universe. By bringing astronomy to the public, Stellar Vista Observatory continues its mission to inspire curiosity and deepen appreciation for the night sky.
For more information, visit StellarVistaObservatory.org.



Desert Starlight
For those seeking an elevated night under the stars, SVO will host **Desert Starlight** on Friday, September 19, and Friday, September 26 in Kanab. The evening includes dinner, astrophotography opportunities, and guided stargazing through telescopes with expert guidance.

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COLORADO CITY AIRSHOW RETURNS WITH HIGH-FLYING THRILLS

September 20, 2025 — Colorado City, AZ
The Colorado City Airshow is back for its 5th annual event, promising bigger crowds, more performers, and plenty of family fun on Saturday, September 20. With free admission, the show blends breathtaking aerial stunts with ground activities designed to inspire aviation enthusiasts of all ages.

A Day of Sky and Community
Festivities begin with a free community breakfast and live music before the airshow takes to the skies. Visitors can enjoy static aircraft displays, airplane rides, food trucks, snow cones, and even a candy drop for the kids. A youth airplane pull will give young participants a chance to test their strength against real aircraft.

Christopher and Todd Rudbeg, who fly Van's aircraft they built themselves. Their choreographed formations and aerobatic maneuvers showcase both innovation and daring.

Aerobatic pilot Brad Wursten from Logan, Utah, will push his state-of-the-art MXS-R stunt plane to its limits, reaching speeds up to 400 MPH. Danny Sorensen of Golden Age Airshows will demonstrate his unique hand-built biplane, "Unfinished Business," while Allen Cook presents powerful vintage Warbird displays that bring aviation history to life.

Kicking off the event, Skydive Mesquite will soar in with an American flag parachute jump, setting a patriotic tone for the day.



The event highlights the airport's role in the community, giving the public a chance to meet local pilots and learn how airports operate. Organizers hope the experience will spark curiosity and appreciation for aviation.

Aerial Performances
This year's lineup features an entirely new roster of performers. Headlining are Undaunted Airshows, the duo of Stephen



Behind the Scenes
The show will once again be guided by announcers Jeff and Melissa Overby, whose engaging commentary brings every aerial twist and turn to life. Air Boss Bob Evans will oversee operations, ensuring safe and seamless performances throughout the event.

More Than an Airshow
This year's fly-in also celebrates a milestone for the community: the completion of the Colorado City Airport's new taxiway project. Organizers hope the event not only entertains but also educates the public about aviation and inspires the next generation of pilots.

The 5th Annual Colorado City Airshow takes place Saturday, September 20, at the Colorado City Airport. Admission is free. For more information, email daltonbarlow@gmail.com or call 702-235-9011.

RED ROCK FILM FESTIVAL BRINGS PREMIERES AND LOCAL TALENT TO CEDAR CITY

September 24-27, 2025 — Cedar City, UT
The 15th Annual Red Rock Film Festival returns September 24-27 at Frontier Homestead State Park in Cedar City, showcasing a wide slate of world premieres, documentaries, features, shorts, and animation. With flexible passes and a mix of genres, the festival offers something for every film fan.



Feature Films
Among this year's highlights is *This is Pike County* (USA), a world premiere documentary about a rural community shaken by an unsolved murder. Other documentaries include *Blue Zeus* (USA), which uncovers corruption in the U.S. wild horse program; *Goddess of Slide* (Canada), a portrait of pioneering slide guitarist Ellen McIlwaine; and *The Chaplain & The Doctor* (USA), following the bond between a chaplain and trauma physician in Oakland.

In dramatic fiction, *Water Lilies* (Korea) follows two women's struggles in Seoul, while *The Aegean* (Australia) explores the bond between a widowed fisherman and a troubled teen. *Operation Taco Gary's* (USA) delivers a wild road-trip comedy featuring Dustin Milligan, Brenda Song, Jason Biggs, Simon Rex, and Doug Jones.

Utah Filmmakers
Local filmmakers bring strong representation with *The Angel*, a folk horror story set in Southern Utah, and *Free to a Good Home*, a dark comedy about a mother replacing her daughter's cat. Documentaries include *Standout: The Ben Kjar Story*, about a wrestler born with a



facial difference, and *Ride in Paradise*, chronicling a father's mission to deliver teddy bears to grieving parents.

Shorts & Animation
Short films include *What the River Knows* (USA), uncovering the beauty beneath Lake Powell, and *The Believers* (USA), about a secretive tattoo tradition. Other highlights include *Chance of Rain* (USA), a supernatural drama, and *Darcine's Day* (USA), exploring homelessness in Los Angeles. International shorts come from Iran, Sweden, Belgium, Croatia, Bosnia & Herzegovina, and the UK.



The animation block features works from women directors across the U.S., including *Bwinky's Little Big World of Love*, *Ink Washed!*, *Lost Track*, *Ümit*, and *Whittle Me This*.

Festival Info
Screenings run daily September 24-27 from 1 to 11 PM at Frontier Homestead State Park, 635 N. Main St., Cedar City. Tickets and passes are available at the door, with free gifts and offers for advance purchases at redrockfilmfestival.eventive.org.

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DR. BECKY BLOOM STEPS IN AS INTERIM DIRECTOR OF SUMA

Cedar City, UT
The Southern Utah Museum of Art (SUMA) at Southern Utah University has appointed Dr. Rebecca “Becky” Bloom as Interim Director following the departure of Executive Director Jessica Kinsey, who accepted a faculty position at the University of Oklahoma. Bloom begins her new role August 1, 2025.

New Perspectives on Black Experience.
Her scholarship also highlights Cedar City’s cultural history. She curated *L. Robert Gardner: Cedar City Mid-Century Modern*, showcasing the work of a local architect, and presented “The Mystery of Dixon’s Cedar City Works” at the BYU Museum of Art Symposium, exploring Maynard Dixon’s ties to Southern Utah.

All: The Cedar City Art Exhibit, 1940–2008 and the 2025 *Faculty Exhibition*.
Located on SUU’s campus, SUMA

houses nearly 2,000 works in its permanent collection, including pieces by Maynard Dixon, Jimmie F. Jones, Edith Hamlin, Eve Drewelow, and an extensive collection of prints by artists such as Marc Chagall, Käthe Kollwitz, Kawase Hasui, and Thomas Hart Benton. Named the best-designed museum in Utah by *Architectural Digest*, SUMA’s Brooks + Scarpa building is itself a work of art. Admission is always free, making it a cultural cornerstone for the region.
For details on current and upcoming exhibitions, visit www.suu.edu/suma.



Bloom has been SUMA’s Diane P. Stewart Director of Curatorial Affairs since 2022, bringing expertise in Tibetan Buddhism, Buddhist material culture, and the role of religion in museums. At SUMA, she has curated exhibitions that connect local and global perspectives, including *The Space Between: Visions of the Southwest*, *Harry Bertoia: Master Modernist*, *Salt Lines: Exploring Climate, Environment, and the Saline Influx*, and *A Dream Deferred*.



“Becky brings a depth of knowledge, curiosity, and heart to everything she touches,” said Michael T. Schmidt, Dean of SUU’s College of Performing & Visual Arts. “Her leadership will ensure continuity and innovation during this transitional period.”
In addition to her curatorial work, Bloom has taught History of Non-Western Art at SUU since 2023. Before joining SUMA, she held curatorial roles at the Rubin Museum of Art and the Smithsonian’s National Museum of Asian Art. She earned her PhD in Buddhist Studies from the University of Michigan, an MA in Religion from Yale Divinity School, and a BA in Religion and History of Art from Middlebury College.
As Interim Director, Bloom will continue guiding SUMA’s mission of engagement and experiential learning. Upcoming exhibitions include *Art for*



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How To Use This Calendar: Begin by reviewing the ‘Multi-Day Events’ section to find specific dates or event types happening over multiple days. For weekly reoccurring events go to ‘Events by Day.’ Then explore ‘Events By Date’ for date-specific events.

Multi-Day Events

WINE TASTINGS AT ZION VINEYARDS August–September, Noon. Daily wine tastings and optional vineyard tours at Guests may sample grapes from the vine. No reservations needed. Zion Vineyards, 5 Hidden Valley Rd., Leeds.

WINE HARVEST VOLUNTEER SEASON Mid-August–Mid-October, Start Time Varies. Volunteer harvest opportunities Spots limited; sign up via email invitation. Zion Vineyards, 5 Hidden Valley Road, Leeds.

THE POWER OF THREE EXHIBIT September 5–18. Featuring work from Guild SubClubs, Elements at Play, and Turn Center. Opening reception August 28 from 3 to 5 PM. Red Cliff Gallery, 220 N. 200 E., St. George.

TERRY WAYNE PROJECT AT CASABLANCA Sept. 9, 10, and 23, 24. 6 PM. Showtimes may vary. R&B, funk, dance, oldies, and classic rock. Free admission. 21 or older. Skydome Lounge, 950 W. Mesquite Blvd., Mesquite.

ESCALANTE CANYONS ART FESTIVAL Sept 13–20, Times vary. Exhibits, workshops, plein air painting, art market, live music, and demonstrations. Escalante. Schedule at escalantecanyonsartfestival.org.

DIXIE TREKS Sept 16–17, Various times Guided tours of historic sites including Tabernacle attic, Pioneer Park, and Heritage Cove.

US MARINE CORPS’ 250TH ART & PRINT SALE Sept. 16–17, 10 AM. CasaBlanca, 950 W. Mesquite Blvd., Mesquite.

KANE COUNTY FARMERS MARKETS Sept. Enjoy local produce, handmade goods, and food trucks. Glendale Town Park, 50 E. Center St., Glendale.

MICHAEL GRIMM AT CASABLANCA Sept. 16, and 17, 8:30 PM. Vegas headliner and winner of America’s Got Talent. 21 or older. 950 W. Mesquite Blvd., Mesquite.

DIXIE DAYS CARNIVAL Sept 18–21, Various times Family-friendly carnival with rides, games, food, and much more. Town Square, 50 S. Main St., St. George.

POWER OF THREE ART SHOW Sept. 5–19, 9 AM. Featuring SubClubs, Elements at Play, and Turn Center. Mon–Fri 9 AM–5 PM, Sat 12–4 PM. Red Cliff Gallery, 220 N. 200 E., St. George.

HORRORFEST INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL Sept. 17–20. Times vary. Four days of horror films, premieres, shorts, trivia, costume contests, guests, and parties.Tickets at fmasu.com/horrorfest. The Electric Theater, 68 E. Tabernacle St., St. George.

LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS Sept. 18–Oct. 4, 7:30 PM. Little Shop of Horrors is a horror-comedy musical about Seymour, a down-on-his-luck florist who discovers a strange plant that brings him fame and fortune. However, the plant, which Seymour names Audrey II, has a sinister secret: it feeds on human blood. The show is a mix of dark humor, catchy music, and 1960s B-movie camp. St. George Musical Theater, 212 N. Main Street, St. George.

ST. GEORGE FALL FESTIVAL Sept. 19–20, 10 AM. It was so much fun last year, we’re doing it again! With over 90 vendors showcasing their amazing products to tantalizing food trucks serving up seasonal treats, and a plethora of fall-themed activities, there’s something for everyone to enjoy. Plus, don’t miss out on our exciting GIVEAWAYS! Get ready to embrace the fall vibes at this unforgettable event! Free Admission! St. George Fall Festival Washington County Legacy Park, Hurricane.

RED ROCKS IMPROV FESTIVAL Sept 18–20, 8 PM Three nights of comedy with improv troupes from across the country. OTC Comedy Theater, 913 S. Main St., Cedar City. Tickets at otccomedy.com/rriif.

FIELD OF SCREAMS Sept. 19–Nov. 1, 7:30 PM. On select nights from Sept. 19 through Nov. 1, experience a milestone season like no other as Staheli Family Farm proudly presents the 20th anniversary of The Field of Screams, where nightmares are grown from the ground up. Step into a dark, twisted world designed to push your fears to the limit. With high-intensity scares, cinematic sets, and an atmosphere dripping with dread, every corner hides a new horror. Secure your tickets now. Staheli Family Farm, 3400 So. Washington Fields Rd., Washington.

FISHER FARM FALL FESTIVAL Sept. 22–Oct. 9 AM. Fall is here, and we are ready to celebrate new and existing traditions! What’s included: Tractor Tire Town, Corn Pit, Two Zip lines, Hamster Wheels, Petting Zoo, Swings, Culver Slides, regular slides, two bounce houses, music, photo ops. What’s not included: Available for purchase Ax throwing Tractor Train Ride Pumpkins from patch Food Available: Mon, Fri, Sat Note: Haunted House and Fall Festival tickets require separate tickets. Fisher Family Farm, 1162 W. 3000 S., Hurricane.

RED ROCK FILM FESTIVAL Sept 24–27, 1–11 PM World premieres, documentaries, shorts, and animation, plus strong Utah filmmaker representation. Tickets at redrockfilmfestival.eventive.org. Frontier Homestead State Park, 635 N. Main St., Cedar City.

UTAH TECH THEATRE: CALIFORNIA SUITE Sept 24–27, 7:30 PM (Sept 27 matinee 2 PM) Neil Simon’s classic comedy exploring relationships, humor, and heartbreak. UT campus. Tickets \$10 or free for UT students/staff. Eccles Black Box Theatre, Dolores Eccles Fine Arts Center, 225 S. 700 E., St. George.

UTAH TECH THEATRE: CALIFORNIA SUITE Sept. 24–27, 7:30 PM (Sept 27 matinee 2 PM) Neil Simon’s classic comedy exploring relationships, humor, and heartbreak. UT campus. Tickets \$10 or free for UT students/staff. Eccles Black Box Theatre, Dolores Eccles Fine Arts Center, 225 S. 700 E., St. George.

ZION CANYON MUSIC FESTIVAL Sept 26–27, Times vary Live music, artisan booths, food, and family-friendly atmosphere under the stars. Lineup and tickets at zioncanyonmusicfestival.com. Bit & Spur backyard,r, 1212 Park Blvd., Springdale.

CARMEL MOUNTAIN CAR SHOW Sept 26–27, Fri 4–7 PM & Sat 9 AM–3 PM Kickoff party with music and awards Friday, followed by main car show Saturday featuring classics, customs, and contests. Thunderbird Golf Course, 4530 State St., Mt. Carmel.

ST. GEORGE ART MUSEUM 10 AM. The St. George Art Museum showcases more than 1,400 pieces in its permanent collection, along with rotating exhibitions highlighting regional and national artists. Donation-based entry, with contributions supporting education and operations at sgartmuseum.com. St. George Art Museum, 47 E. 200 N., St. George.

STATEWIDE ANNUAL EXHIBITION 1 PM. The Utah Statewide Annual Exhibition features the work of 26 Utah artists in a showcase of current, outstanding visual art presented by the Utah Division of Arts & Museums. You’re invited to view this free exhibition at the Southern Utah Museum of Art until Sept. 27, located on the Southern Utah University campus in Cedar City. Art lovers are invited to a special reception and award presentation at 5 PM on Sept. 20. More information at artsandmuseums.utah.gov. Southern Utah Museum of Art, SUMA, 13 South 300 West, Cedar City.

HERSTORY REFRAMED SUBMISSION DEADLINE Nov. 4. \$30 entry, all visual media accepted. Submit at artprovides.org/pages/call-to-artists-app.

SOUTHERN UTAH MUSEUM OF ART (SUMA) 10 AM. Located on SUU campus, free admission. Permanent collection includes Maynard Dixon, Jimmie F. Jones, Edith Hamlin, and Marc Chagall, and the building itself is a work of art. Visit www.suu.edu/suma. Southern Utah Museum of Art, 13 S. 300 W., Cedar City.

KANAB ARTS BOARD THIRD QUARTER EXHIBITION July 18–Sept. 30. Featuring works by Melissa Bowersock and local art group “The Creative Crones.” Exhibits on view at Kane County Hospital Lobby and Kanab City Library. For artist inquiries, email KanaArts@gmail.com. Kanab City Library & Kane County Hospital, 374 N. Main St., Kanab.

CEDAR CITY DAUGHTERS OF UTAH MUSEUM 10 AM. Artifacts, Photos, and Histories of our Iron County Pioneer settlers. Tools, Clothing, Hats, Dolls, Furniture, Books, A Spinning Wheel, and the Organ are on display. Cedar City Visitors Center, 581 N. Main St., Cedar City.

Events by Day

MONDAYS

FARMERS MARKET AT THE BIT & SPUR 5 PM. The Bit & Spur Farmers Market and local Bazaar feature everything from local jewelry, artwork, & amazing produce, clothing booths, & more. Listen to great bands & sample the fare from our awesome taco truck & cocktails from our cantina. Dogs & kids are welcome. Both on leashes, of course. Weather-permitting. Bit & Spur, 1212 Zion Park Blvd., Springdale.

TUESDAYS

MAKE ART TUESDAYS 11 AM. Every day is better when you make art! Join us every Tuesday from 11–Noon. to create unique projects that you can take home. St. George Children’s Museum, 86 S. Main St., St. George.

TRAUMA & LOSS WOMEN’S GROUP 6 PM. Trauma & Loss Group for Women. 640 E. 700 S., Ste. 101, St. George.

KARAOKE TUESDAY AT WAREHOUSE BAR + KITCHEN 8 PM. 432 N. 100 W. Cedar City.

WEDNESDAYS

FREE POOL WEDNESDAYS AT WAREHOUSE BAR + KITCHEN Warehouse Bar + Kitchen, 432 N. 100 W., Cedar City.

GAMER CLUB 3 PM. Teens and ‘tweens who love anime, gaming, or both meet for book discussions, games, and great times. Santa Clara Library, 1099 Lava Flow Dr., St. George.

MIDVALLEY: FARMERS MARKET 4 PM. Live music, jump house, face painting, & more. Beautiful, original, & unique items for your loved one, all the crafters & artisans are local, & everything is handmade. Text: 435 704-6916. 780 Midvalley Rd., Enoch.

WONDER WEDNESDAY 4 PM. Wonder Wednesdays are an after-school program for elementary-aged children. Activities are held each Wednesday during the school year. Southern Utah Museum of Art. Southern Utah Museum of Art, 13 S. 300 W., Cedar City.

KANAB FARMER’S MARKET 5 PM. Support your local artisans. There is lots of locally grown produce, flowers, food & more on the Front Lawn of the Kanab Center Building, 20 N. 100 E., Kanab.

ROWLEY’S RED BARN WEDNESDAY MARKET 5 PM. Come hang with us at Rowley’s Red Barn every Wednesday Night for some good times & great vibes. A Perfect destination for a Date night or Family outing. Live music, awesome vendors, & yummy food trucks. Rowley’s Red Barn, 471 W. Telegraph St., St. George.

KARAOKE AT BEAVER DAM BAR 5:30 PM. Every Wednesday with Gayle Louise (SAME TIME as Mesquite) (435) 229-9725. 411 Co Hwy. 91, Littlefield.

KJS ICE BARN: COSMIC SKATING Everyone is invited to come get funky with Freddy with flashing lights, groovy music, cosmic fun, & more! KJs Ice Barn, 2550 E. Pinnacle Way, Enoch.

THURSDAYS

DESERT COMMUNITY STRINGS AND NEW HORIZONS STRINGS 5:30–7:30 PM. Open to all ages and abilities. If you used to play a stringed instrument and would like to get back to the joy of music, this group is definitely for you. desertstrings.org. Basement of St. George Medical Building, 736 S. 900 E., St. George.

KARAOKE B-I-N-G-O! 6:30 PM. Karaoke B-I-N-G-O! with “Gayle Louise”. Two ways to win! Not based on talent. SING–PLAY–WIN! “KORAL KAFE Might As Well Lounge” (435) 627-6262. 2400 N. Town Center Dr., Washington.

BONKERZ COMEDY NIGHT 7 PM. Comics from TV and the Movies at the CasaBlanca Showroom! Three new comedians each week! Free Admission. Must be 21 or older. CasaBlanca Showroom, 950 W. Mesquite Blvd., Mesquite.

KARAOKE WITH DJ LANCE AT MIKES TAVERN 9 PM. 90 W. Hoover Ave., Cedar City.

FRIDAYS

CRAFTIVITY 11 AM. Join this creative activity every Friday where, together, guests & volunteers work to make easy, fun, & educational crafts. St. George Children’s Museum, 86 S. Main St., St. George.

CEDAR STREET FEST 3 PM. Businesses, artisans, & performers come together for a weekly celebration of Cedar City’s unique culture. Enjoy music, food, & fun, including live music, theatrical performances, stand-up comedy, bouncy houses, art classes, games, Artisans Fair, Farmers Market, drive-in movies, & more. Visit Cedarstreetfest.com. Cedar Fun Center, 170 E. Fiddlers Canyon Rd., Cedar City.

KARAOKE AT ADRIA’S 7 PM. Come in and have a great time with us! Adria’s Restaurant, 86 S. 200 W., Kanab.

LIVE MUSIC AT HOME ON THE DESERT RANGE 7:30 PM. Join Home on the Range & Navajo Crafting Co as they welcome local duo Wes & Trekker performing for their first night of live music. Shop, enjoy homemade ice cream, sip some craft soda, & relax to the music. Home on the Desert Range, 97 W. Center St., Cedar City.

COMMUNITY GAME NIGHT 7 PM. Bring a friend and your favorite board or card game to this weekly all-ages event. Santa Clara Meetinghouse, 3040 Santa Clara Drive, Santa Clara.

OTC COMEDY IMPROV 8 PM. Performing for over 20+ years, you can be sure that every show is unique & completely made up on the spot from suggestions that YOU (the audience!) give them! Every Friday. Tickets are \$10. Advanced tickets available for purchase at otccomedy.com. OTC Comedy Theater, 913 S. Main St., Cedar City.

SATURDAYS

BEST FRIENDS GENTLE YOGA 9 AM. Join us for a 45-minute gentle yoga class for all levels and ages at Best Friends Roadhouse and Mercantile Best Friends Roadhouse and Mercantile, 30 N. 300 W., Kanab.

HURRICANE FARMERS MARKET 9 AM. Support local farmers, bakers, and artisans at this weekly Saturday market running May through October. Shop fresh produce, homemade goods, and more while connecting with your community. Free admission. All ages welcome Hurricane City Fine Arts Center, 92 S. 100 W., Hurricane.

CEDAR CITY FARMERS MARKET 9 AM.–1 PM. Come for the farmers, food, and artisans as well as drawings, bingo, and more! For information visit them on Facebook, Cedar Saturday Market, or call Nancy (435) 463-3735. IFA, 905 S. Main St., Cedar City.

TUACAHN SATURDAY MARKET 9 AM. Every Saturday morning, live entertainment, crafters, vendors, food & fun. In the event of rain, we cozy up under the cover of the Tuacahn Amphitheater plaza. Tuacahn Amphitheatre, 1100 Tuacahn, Ivins.



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DOWNTOWN FARMERS MARKET 10 AM. Over 50 vendors from all over Washington & Iron Counties bringing you the best in locally grown produce, pasture-raised meats, raw cheeses, & unique artisanal products. Enjoy local food, goods, and jamming out to local live music. Every Saturday. Vernon Warthen Park, 300 S. 400 E., St. George.

FESTIVAL CITY FARMERS MARKET 10 AM. Every Saturday behind 1/G Winery. Free admission. Come and support local farmers by buying fresh and local year-round. Shop locally produced and grown fruit, vegetables, cheese, jam, bread, eggs, honey, farm products, and more. 45 W. University Blvd., Center St., Cedar City.

DUCK CREEK OUTDOOR MARKET 10 AM. A weekly Saturday market featuring local foods, artisans, food trucks, and a rotating lineup of new and returning vendors all summer long. Free admission. All ages welcome. Duck Creek Outdoor Market, 865 E. Movie Ranch Rd., Duck Creek Village.

ADULT DUNGEONS & DRAGONS 2:30 PM. Join us for the adult Dungeons & Dragons club at the Springdale Library! Embark on epic quests, battle fearsome monsters, and unravel mysterious plots in this immersive tabletop role-playing game. Springdale Branch Library, 126 Lion Blvd., Springdale.

SATURDAY MOVIE MATINEE AT ST. GEORGE LIBRARY 2 PM. Washington County Library System, 88 W. 100 S., St. George.

AL-ANON FAMILY GROUPS WEEKLY MEETING 3 PM. Al-Anon Family Group is Back! Weekly meetings on Sundays. Mesquite Veterinary Clinic, 371 Riverside Rd. A, Mesquite.

SUNDAYS

SOUTHERN UTAH SUNDAY FUNDAY MARKET 10 AM. The Funday Market pops up every 2nd and 4th Sunday with fresh finds from soaps to baked goods, produce, and more. Ace Hardware on North Bluff, 160 N. Bluff St., St. George.

Events by Date

Fri, Sept 5

ART WALK 5 PM. Wander through the charming streets of the Downtown Art District, where every corner is filled with inspiration and artistic expression. Whether you're an art enthusiast, a casual observer, or simply looking for a unique experience. St. George Main St., St. George.

FIRST FRIDAYS AT KAYENTA 5 PM. First Fridays at Kayenta. Enjoy live music, food trucks, and a pop-up boutique market in the Kayenta Art Village beginning at 5 PM, with film screenings in the theater presented by DOCUTAH. Kayenta Center for The Arts, 881 Coyote Gulch Ct., Ivins.

YELLOW BRICK ROAD AT CASABLANCA 8 PM. Vegas lounge scene vibe, 21+. Casablanca. 950 W. Mesquite Blvd., Mesquite.

Sat, Sept 6

PET SAFETY LECTURE WITH DR. JACQUALINE GRANT 5 PM. Learn to explore Grand Staircase-Escalante safely with your pup. Best Friends Roadhouse and Mercantile, 30 N. 300 W., Kanab.

CANYONS CALLING SUMMER CONCERT SERIES 7 PM. Enjoy free concerts at Jacob Hamblin Park featuring Theoretical Blonde as part of a community celebration with food trucks, a beer garden, and playgrounds. Presented by the Kane County Center for the Arts to support future arts initiatives. Jacob Hamblin Park, 566 N. 100 E., Kanab.

FOO FIGHTAZ TRIBUTE BAND AT CASABLANCA 7 PM. They deliver a jaw-dropping, authentic Foo Fighters tribute like no other, complete with their electrifying sound, high-energy performances, and a full-scale live production. Casablanca. 950 W. Mesquite Blvd., Mesquite.

SO U COMEDY THEATER 7 PM (Family-Friendly) & 9 PM (Uncensored). Interactive improv shows where audience suggestions inspire every scene. Electric Theater Center, upper room 2, St. George. Tickets at soucomedy.com. The Electric Theater, upper room 2, 68 E. Tabernacle St., St. George.

AARON RASHAW W/STEVE STEWART AT BEST FRIENDS ROADHOUSE 6 PM. Best Friends Roadhouse and Mercantile, 30 N. 300 W., Kanab.

Sun, Sept 7

TASTE OF THE TOWN AT KAYENTA 5 PM. Celebrate southern Utah's culinary scene with food, wine, and beer beneath the red rocks of Kayenta. Must be 21+ with a valid ID. Kayenta Center for The Arts, 881 Coyote Gulch Ct., Ivins.

Wed, Sept 10

ARTS COMMISSION MEETING 5 PM. Ivins City Hall, 85 N. Main St., Ivins.

Thurs, Sept 11

KITTEN BINGO AT BEST FRIENDS ROADHOUSE 7 PM. Best Friends Roadhouse and Mercantile, 30 N. 300 W., Kanab.

Fri, Sept 12

PARADIGM.VEGAS 7 PM. Introducing Paradigm.Vegas, Las Vegas's newest and freshest Dance band, known for their dynamic performances that light up the stage. Must be 21 or older. Casablanca, 950 W. Mesquite Blvd., Mesquite.

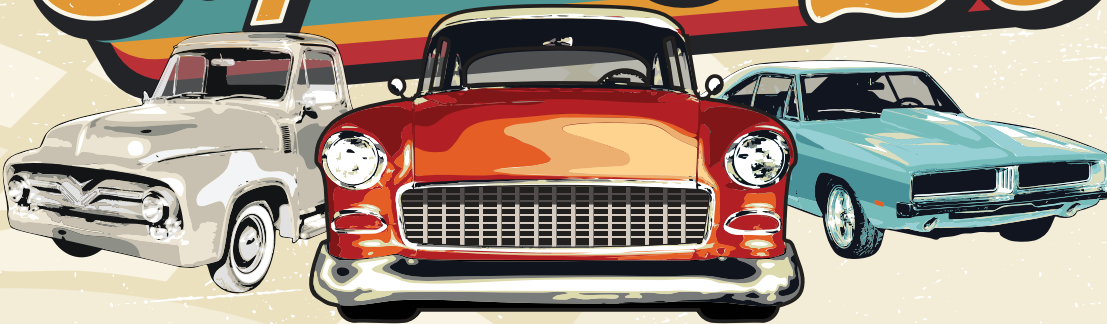
PUBLIC STAR PARTY 8 PM. Stellar Vista Observatory hosts stargazing with views of Scorpius, Sagittarius, and Saturn. \$5 park entry fee (waived for campers). Coral Pink Sand Dunes, 12500 Coral Pink Sand Dunes Rd., Kanab.

NOCHES DE BAILE 9 PM. Dance the night away with Tornado Techno Banda, Banda Desierto La Bandona with DJ Vela and DJ Tony Montes. Must be 21 or older. Casablanca, 950 W. Mesquite Blvd., Mesquite.

CasaBlanca

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ADAM FERRARA

LIVE COMEDY

SEPTEMBER 19, 2025 DOORS 7PM | SHOW 8PM

21 AND OLDER



CasaBlanca

SOUTHWEST SYMPHONY: IVORY AND FIRE 7:30 PM. Opening night concert featuring pianist Henry Kramer in Rachmaninov's Piano Concerto No. 2 and Stravinsky's Firebird Suite. Tickets at swsutah.org. Cox Performing Arts Center, Utah Tech University, St. George. 325 S. 700 E., St. George.

Sat, Sept 13
DIXIE QUILT GUILD NEW YEAR KICKOFF MEETING 10 AM. Doors 9:30 AM, visitors welcome visit dixiequiltguild.com for more info. Taylor Auditorium, Utah Tech Health Sciences, 1526 E Medical Center Dr., St. George.

SMART SATURDAY 10 AM. SmART Saturday is a monthly art class geared towards children 6-12 years of age. Two separate sessions begin at 10-11:30 AM and 11:30 - 1 PM on the second Saturday of each month. For information or to make reservations, call the St. George Art Museum at (435) 627-4525. 47 E. 200 N., St. George.

ST. GEORGE WATER LANTERN FESTIVAL 5 PM. The St. George Water Lantern Festival is bringing people together for a celebration of light and community! This unforgettable evening will be filled with tasty food trucks, fun music, activities, and thousands of lanterns lighting up the night with love, hope, and happiness. Tickets are selling fast! Tickets at www.waterlanternfestival.com, and follow us on social media @waterlanternfestival. The Ledges of St. George, 1585 Ledges Pkwy, St. George.

FAST EDDIE LIVE AT BEST FRIENDS ROADHOUSE 6 PM. Best Friends Roadhouse and Mercantile, 30 N. 300 W., Kanab.

CASH AFTER DARK – THE JOHNNY CASH TRIBUTE SHOW 7 PM. You'll swear it's the real deal, as Cliff's uncanny resemblance and raw energy transport you back to Johnny's prime. CasaBlanca, 950 W. Mesquite Blvd., Mesquite.

EKO: STARRY SKIES 9 PM. Sand Hollow is collaborating with Utah's DOR. We are hosting the Starry Skies "Every Kid Outdoors" Challenge. Meet a Park Ranger at the main beach parking across from the OHV Staging Area to look up to the cosmos. Bring blankets or chairs to get comfortable on the beach. Free with the cost of park entry. Open to the public; no reservation required. Sand Hollow State Park, 3351 S. Sand Hollow Rd., Hurricane.

PUNK NIGHT AT WAREHOUSE BAR + KITCHEN 9 PM. 432 N. 100 W. Cedar City.

Sun, Sept 14
SOUTHERN UTAH SUNDAY FUNDAY MARKET 10 AM. (2nd & 4th Sundays) Soaps, baked goods, and produce. Ace Hardware on North Bluff, 160 N. Bluff St., St. George.
Mon, Sept 15
VVAA GENERAL MEETING 11 AM. Mesquite Fine Arts Center, 15 W. Mesquite Blvd., Mesquite.

WILDWOOD - CONCERT IN THE PARK 7:30 PM. Wildwood is country music's next big thing! This powerhouse duo—Georgia peach Kate Miller and Nashville native Chad Truman—brings a soulful blend of rich harmonies, heartfelt lyrics, and undeniable energy to the stage. Vernon Worthen Park, 300 S. 400 E., St. George.

DIXIE DAYS DRONE SHOW 9 PM. Kickoff celebration above Red Hills Desert Garden, visible from downtown with best views at Dixie Sunbowl. Free.

Tues, Sept 16
MY FATHER'S HIGHWAY FILM SCREENING 5 PM. Free showing. Electric Theater, 68 E. Tabernacle, St. George.

HAM RADIO CLUB 6 PM. Virgin Valley Amateur Radio Club meeting held on the third Tuesday of each month. Call Jonny Rauzi at 801-643-4952. Airport Fire Station #2, Mesquite.

ELECTRIC FILM SERIES 6 PM. Every third Tuesday. Free screening & discussion with a guest speaker. Electric Theater, 68 E. Tabernacle St., St. George.

SOURDOUGH MADE SIMPLE 6 PM. Discover the art of sourdough baking in this two-part, hands-on, beginner-friendly workshop. General Classroom 204, 152 S 300 W, Cedar City.

BINGO AT WAREHOUSE BAR + KITCHEN 9 PM. Every 1st & 3rd Tuesday. 432 N. 100 W. Cedar City.

Wed, Sept 17
UTAH TECH STATUE GARDEN UNVEILING 9 AM. New garden honoring American thinkers. Utah Tech campus.

BELLS ACROSS AMERICA Noon. Annual tradition of the ringing of the bells. Veteran's Memorial Park, 501 Hillside Drive, Mesquite.

HUMAN PERFORMANCE CENTER OPEN HOUSE 6 PM. Free public access to state-of-the-art fitness and recreation facility. Utah Tech University.

Thurs, Sept 18
DINNER ON MAIN 5 PM. Historic Main Street transforms into an outdoor dining experience with local chefs, live music, and art. Tickets required. Main Street, South of St. George Blvd., St. George.

GAME NIGHT AT WAREHOUSE BAR + KITCHEN 7 PM. 432 N. 100 W. Cedar City.

RELIEF SOCIETY FALL INTO THE HOLIDAYS DECORATING NIGHT 7 PM. Come enjoy a dessert bar and gather ideas for fall/holiday decorations. Bring any decor that you would like to swap among the Sisters. Stake Center, 1985 N Main St, Cedar City.

'ORIGINAL MUSIC ONLY' FEATURING ALLEN STANLEY AND KELLY PENTICO 7:30 PM. 'Original Music, George's Corner Restaurant and Pub, 2 W. George Blvd., St. George.

Fri, Sept 19
ELIZABETH SUGGS | SOUTHERN UTAH BOOK FESTIVAL 2 PM. Come meet Utah local Elizabeth Suggs: author, editor, and co-owner at Collective Tales Publishing. Pre-order your copies by August 30th. Bookdom Apothecary, 1579 N. Main St., #STE 110, Cedar City.

ADAM FERRARA AT CASABLANCA 7 PM. Get ready to laugh until your sides hurt because the "hilarious" Adam Ferrara, an internationally touring headliner and two-time nominee for best male stand-up by the American Comedy Awards, is bringing his unique blend of comedy and improv to the CasaBlanca Showroom. CasaBlanca, 950 W. Mesquite Blvd., Mesquite.

THE KINGS OF QUEEN 7 PM. Dubbed "Freddie Mercury reincarnated", Emo Aladdin fronts the incredible ensemble, The Kings of Queen. Sand Hollow Resort, 5662 W. Clubhouse Dr., Hurricane.

DESERT STARLIGHT DINNER 7 PM. An evening of dinner, astrophotography, and guided telescope viewing of the night sky. Tickets \$149 at bit.ly/DesertStarlight2025. Kanab.

FLEETWOOD VISIONS 7:30 PM. Fleetwood Visions returns to give another unforgettable evening filled with timeless classics. Boasting an ensemble of world-class musicians, Fleetwood Visions captures the essence and spirit of the legendary band with remarkable authenticity and precision. www.cedarcityut.gov/calendar Heritage Center Theatre, 105 N. 100 E., Cedar City.

Sat, Sept 20
DIXIE DAYS DASH 8 AM. Community run with 2K and 4K distances. Starts at 100 S. & 400 E., St. George.

DIXIE ROUNDUP PARADE 9 AM. Annual parade along 100 South, ending at Dixie Sunbowl.

DIXIE DAYS FESTIVAL 9 AM. Family festival at with artisans, food trucks, kids' activities, and live entertainment. Vernon Worthen Park, 300 S. 400 E., St. George.

COLORADO CITY AIRSHOW 10 AM. Free admission event with aerobatics, warbirds, parachute jumps, static displays, rides, candy drop, live music, and food trucks. Colorado City Airport, 1599 W. Airport Ave., Colorado City.

WILD GAME COOKING CLINIC 5 PM. Learn how to turn your big game harvest into an amazing meal at this live cooking demonstration and tasting event! Utah Division of Wildlife Resources, 1470 N. Airport Rd., Cedar City.

FULL CIRCLE AT BEST FRIENDS ROADHOUSE 6 PM. Best Friends Roadhouse and Mercantile, 30 N. 300 W., Kanab.

FILM FESTIVAL 6:30 PM. Come and enjoy fun films made by the ward leadership in the Cultural Hall! The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 260 E 1060 S, Ivins.

THE PERKS OF BEING A WALLFLOWER/BOOK ADAPTATION BOOK CLUB 6 PM. Love books & movies? Join our Book Adaptation Club! Read the book, watch the film, and join a discussion with fellow fans. Bookdom Apothecary, 1579 N. Main St. #STE 110, Cedar City.

GLENN GALLARDE PROJECT AT CASABLANCA 8 PM. Former Star Search vocalist Glenn Galarde and his band deliver a high-energy show packed with Top 40 hits, dance tracks, and rock anthems from the '60s through today. Free. 21 or older. CasaBlanca, 950 W. Mesquite Blvd., Mesquite.

SCORPION HUNT AT SAND HOLLOW SP 8:30 PM. Join a Park Ranger for a nighttime adventure among glowing arachnids. Enjoy a ¼ mile loop walk starting at our OHV staging area. Please wear closed-toed shoes, bring your own UV flashlights if you have them, and be ready to be amazed. UV Lights are provided. Free with the cost of park entry. Open to the public; no reservation required. Sand Hollow State Park, 3351 S. Sand Hollow Rd., Hurricane.

Mon, Sept 22
MIDNIGHT RELEASE | ALCHEMISED & THE PRIMAL OF BLOOD AND BONE 8 PM. A night of alchemy, dark romance, and divine power! Celebrate two epic releases with themed fun, vibes, and bookish magic. Bookdom Apothecary, 1579 N. Main St. #110, Cedar City.

Wed, Sept 24
PAWS FOR TALES 4 PM. Children have the opportunity to read a book to a dog. St. George Children's Museum, 86 S. Main St., St. George

25TH WARD FAMILY HISTORY POTLUCK 6 PM. Come gather with your families and join our ward family for a family history-focused potluck! Bring your favorite dish that represents your ancestry. We will do a fun "scavenger hunt" to get to know each other's family history. The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 320 N. 3400 W., Hurricane.

LECTURE WITH DR. TROY ALLAN 7 PM. Free talk at Kanab City Library on astronomy, wellness, and community connection. Kanab City Library, 374 N. Main St., Kanab.

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The Utah Democratic Party's Rural Caucus stands up for rural Utahns—championing common-sense solutions that lower costs, expand healthcare and housing access, defend public lands, strengthen public education, and keep government accountable to the people.

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Thurs, Sept 25
WINGED WONDER BIRD WATCH AT SAND HOLLOW SP 7 AM. Sand Hollow has over 250 species of birds visit the reservoir each year. Bring a chair or a blanket and join a Park Ranger off the main boat ramp to catch a glimpse of some of these amazing birds and chat with local bird enthusiasts. Binoculars are provided. Free with the cost of park entry. Open to the public; no reservation required. Please bring appropriate gear to each event if necessary. Sand Hollow State Park, 3351 S. Sand Hollow Rd., Hurricane.

THE PERKS OF BEING A WALLFLOWER/BOOK ADAPTATION BOOK CLUB 6 PM. Love books & movies? Join our Book Adaptation Club! Read the book, watch the film, and join a discussion with fellow fans. Bookdom Apothecary, 1579 N. Main St. #STE 110, Cedar City.

OTC COMEDY IMPROV LAB 7 PM. Get ready for an unpredictable night of experimental improv as OTC members and special guests test bold new ideas and fresh formats on stage. Held on the last Thursday of every month, this 18+ comedy showcase is packed with twists, laughs, and creative chaos. Tickets \$5. Ages 18 and older. OTC Comedy Theater, 913 S. Main St., Cedar City.

Fri, Sept 26
AMERICAN RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE Noon. SGACC, 136 N. 100 E., St. George.

COMMUNITY ACTION - TRASH PICK UP AT SAND HOLLOW STATE PARK 5:30 PM. Come wearing gloves to join a Park Ranger for an evening of trash pick up at our no-vehicles beach. Buckets will be provided for trash pick up. Help keep our park beautiful and trash-free. Please bring appropriate gear to each event if necessary. Sand Hollow State Park, 3351 S. Sand Hollow Rd., Hurricane.

NINETEEN MINUTES/MONTHLY PICK BOOK CLUB 6 PM. Monthly book club exploring new genres and titles. Bookdom Apothecary, 1579 N. Main St. #STE 110, Cedar City.

DESERT STARLIGHT DINNER 7 PM. An evening of dinner, astrophotography, and guided telescope viewing of the night sky. Tickets \$149 at bit.ly/DesertStarlight2025. Kanab.

PHOENIX – CLASSIC ROCK TRIBUTE 7 PM. Join us for great night classic rock! Free Admission. Must be 21+. CasaBlanca, 950 W. Mesquite Blvd., Mesquite.

HOMECOMING PARTY AT WAREHOUSE BAR + KITCHEN 9 PM. 432 N. 100 W. Cedar City.

Sat, Sept 27
STAKE EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS FAIR 8 AM. Stake event at new Dixie springs building The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 320 N. 3400 W., Hurricane.

RED ACRE: BREAKFAST ON THE FARM 8:30 AM. Farm breakfast with flapjacks, sourdough French toast, local eggs, bacon, and fresh coffee. Red Acre Farm, 2322 W. 4375 N., Cedar City.

TUESDAY’S BLACK-ACOUSTIC AT BEST FRIENDS ROADHOUSE 6 PM. Best Friends Roadhouse and Mercantile, 30 N. 300 W., Kanab.

FRONTIER HOMESTEAD OPEN MIC NIGHT 7 PM. Free community talent showcase. Every 4th Saturday. Call (435) 586-9290. Frontier Homestead State Park Museum, 635 N. Main, Cedar City.

SO U COMEDY THEATER 7 PM (Family-Friendly) & 9 PM (Uncensored). Interactive improv shows where audience suggestions inspire every scene. Electric Theater Center, upper room 2, St. George. Tickets at soucomedy.com. The Electric Theater, upper room 2, 68 E. Tabernacle St., St. George.

CARPENTERS PLATINUM 7:30 PM. Paying homage to the incredible artists, Carpenters Platinum is sure to delight with a driving set list of all the best hits from ballads to upbeat tunes. You can be sure to enjoy these remarkable renditions as they keep the original artist’s music alive for fans of all ages! www.cedarcityut.gov/calendar. Heritage Center Theatre, 105 N. 100 E., Cedar City.

Sun, Sept 28
SOUTHERN UTAH SUNDAY FUNDAY MARKET 10 AM. (2nd & 4th Sundays) Soaps, baked goods, and produce. Ace Hardware on North Bluff, 160 N. Bluff St., St. George.

Tues, Sept 30
Create a Special Pet Memorial Painting 4 PM. Best Friends Roadhouse and Mercantile, 30 N. 300 W., Kanab.

KYLE ELLIOTT AT CASABLANCA 6 PM. Join us for a night of great music! CasaBlanca, 950 W. Mesquite Blvd., Mesquite.

Wed, Oct 1
FOREIGN FILM CLUB 6 PM. Washington County Library System, 88 W. 100 S., St. George.

Thurs, Oct 2
UCP: RISK MANAGEMENT, EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS & DISASTER RESPONSE, PART A 10 AM. Join us at the UCP Workshop to learn about the environment and building systems in a fun and interactive way! Frontier Homestead State Park Museum, 635 N. Main, Cedar City.

CHAPTER 1 BOOK CLUB 5:30 PM. Washington County Library System, 88 W. 100 S., St. George.

Fri, Oct 3
OBSERVE THE MOON NIGHT 8 PM. Celebrate International Observe the Moon Night with telescope viewing and education. \$5 park entry fee. Coral Pink Sand Dunes, 12500 Coral Pink Sand Dunes Rd., Kanab.

Sat, Oct 4
PANGUITCH LANTERN FESTIVAL GIVE LIGHT 5 PM. Come ready for fun! We will have horseshoes, corn-hole, spike ball, s’mores, and music. Come enjoy the night hanging out with friends and making new ones. Lanterns will be sent off at dark. Following the lantern glow, stay for the dance. *Event is contingent on weather and fire restrictions. City Park, 775 N. Main St., Panguitch.

MOONLIT MASQUERADE GALA 6 PM. The Moonlit Canyon Masquerade is an enchanting evening where elegance meets purpose. Guests will enjoy a night filled with light bites, signature drinks, live music, auctions, and immersive masquerade-themed experiences. More than just a celebration, this gala is a vital fundraiser supporting Canyon Creek Services’ mission to provide safety, hope, and resources for survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault. Every ticket purchased helps create lasting change in our community. Iron Springs Resort , 3196 Iron Springs Rd., Cedar City.

GUNDY AND THE GURUS AT BEST FRIENDS ROADHOUSE 6 PM. Best Friends Roadhouse and Mercantile, 30 N. 300 W., Kanab.

RODNEY ATKINS 7 PM. Marry Me Again MMA is available NOW: <https://rodneyatkins.lnk.to/marrymeagain> Trail. Hero Music Fest, 339 5500 W., Hurricane.

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OCTOBER 9, 2025

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The SOUNDTRACK of your Imagination
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IVORY and fire

MOONLIGHT & Mayhem
Halloween Spooktacular

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MESSIAH

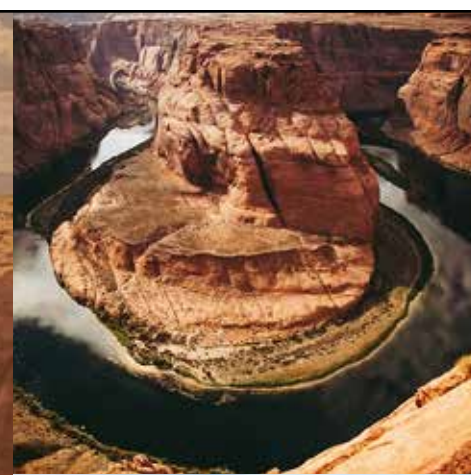
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Zion Guide!

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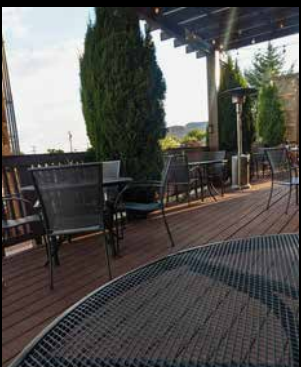


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Safety Tips For Zion

Emergencies

For 24-hour emergency response, call 911 or (435) 772-3322. The Zion Canyon Medical Clinic is located in Springdale near the south entrance to the park. For hours, please call (435) 772-3226. Other medical clinics are located in Hurricane. The nearest hospitals are in St. George, Cedar City, and Kanab.

Hydrate and use refillable water bottles

It is easy to get dehydrated while hiking and walking in the desert, so pack along extra water, and be sure to take rest and water breaks on long hikes. There are a number of places to refill your water bottles in Zion National Park including the visitors' center and Zion Lodge as well as a new hydration station at the Springdale bus stop in front of The Bumbleberry Inn and Zion Canyon Brew Pub.

Be cautious near steep cliffs

Falls from cliffs on trails can result in death. Loose sand or pebbles on stone are very slippery. Be careful of edges when using cameras or binoculars. Never throw or roll rocks because there may be hikers below you. Stay on the trail. Stay back from cliff edges. Observe posted warnings. Please watch children.

Watch for flash floods

All narrow canyons are potentially hazardous. Flash floods, often caused by storms miles away, are a real danger and can be life threatening. You are assuming a risk when entering a narrow canyon. Your safety is your responsibility.



Tips To Minimize Your Impact

Pack it in, pack it out & use recycling bins

Each month, Zion National Park pays many thousands of dollars to haul away waste collected from garbage cans and recycling bins. Your experience and that of everyone who visits Zion Canyon can be improved by never littering and making sure you pick up any trash you see along the way. Recycling bins are placed strategically throughout Zion Park, and it is highly encouraged for everyone to use them.

Please stay on the marked trails

Hiking off trails can lead to loss of vegetation, soil compaction, erosion, and unsightly scars on the landscape. Remember, if you bring it in, please pack it out.

Go before you go

It is always a good idea to use the restroom before you begin a hike since facilities are limited to select locations. If you do need to take care of your business, please pack it back out.

Be respectful to the wildlife

Feeding, harming, or capturing wild animals is illegal and can cause injury or death to the animal. Animals can become aggressive beggars when fed.

Please leave it how you found it

It is illegal to remove anything from Zion National Park, including flowers, rocks, or anything else that you might find. Do not write or carve on natural surfaces.

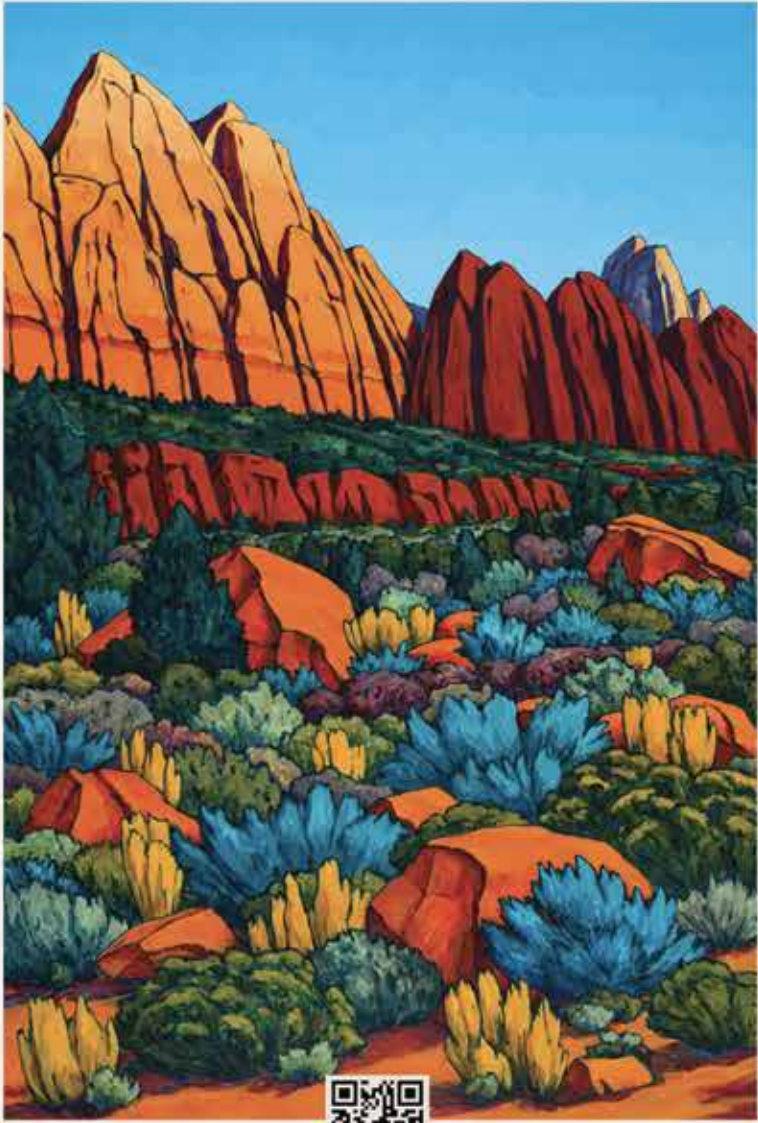


ZION FOREVER PROJECT

2025 Art Invitational
ZION NATIONAL PARK

NOVEMBER 3-8, 2025

- 15 Artists Paint Zion All Week
- Free Demonstrations by Each Artist
- Art Exhibit & Sale to Benefit Zion
- Silent Auction, Art Activities & More!



Featured Artwork by Royden Card



"Anasazi Plateau" (36 x 24 Acrylic)

PARTICIPATING ARTISTS

Allen Brockbank • Royden Card • Philip Carlton
John Cogan • Michelle Condrat • Bill Cramer
Roland Lee • James McGrew • Stephen Stauffer
Gregory Stocks • Paula Swain • Ellie Wilson
Wade Wixom • Suze Woolf • Jim Woodark



ZION FOREVER PROJECT

2025 Art Invitational
ZION NATIONAL PARK

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Gallery Artwork
Exhibit and Sale
Oct 1 - Nov 8

Worthington Gallery
Springdale, Utah

Participating artists will display multiple works available for purchase, with all proceeds benefitting Zion National Park.

Tuesday, Nov 4

Art Demonstrations 9am - 2pm
Cable Mountain Lodge

- Bill Cramer
- Jim Woodark
- Suze Woolf
- John Cogan
- Roland Lee

Wednesday, Nov 5

Art Demonstrations 9am - 2pm
Cable Mountain Lodge

- Wade Wixom
- Ellie Wilson
- Gregory Stocks
- Allen Brockbank
- Michelle Condrat

Thursday, Nov 6

Art Demonstrations 9am - 2pm
Cable Mountain Lodge

- Philip Carlton
- Paula Swain
- James McGrew
- Steven Stauffer
- Royden Card

DON'T MISS
THE BIG EVENT
ON SATURDAY!

November 8

10am - 1pm
Zion National Park Lodge

The Art Invitational culminates with a day of fun and celebration at the big lawn in front of Zion National Park Lodge. Interact with all 15 artists as they paint the park in one location. Activities include a silent auction (details below), interactive community mural, children's art table and more. This is a free event for all park visitors (entrance fee not included).

SILENT AUCTION
November 8

10am - noon
Zion National Park Lodge

Art from the week's painting demonstrations will be auctioned by silent bidding. Saturday's paintout art will also be available for purchase.



Zion Area Tips



Photo by David J. West

Top Things To Do In Zion

Get some great hiking in

Zion National Park is known for its scenic landscape and unrivaled hikes. No matter your fitness level, there are hikes here for you. Please go to [ZionGuide.com](#) to see the details on many area hikes.

Spend a day in Springdale

Springdale is unique to our national park system in that it is almost completely surrounded by Zion National Park. So when you're in Springdale, you're right in the middle of Zion Canyon.

Catch an event

Not only does Zion Brew Pub have live music every Saturday, the property also hosts a handful of events throughout the year, as do the Bit and Spur restaurant, Tanner Amphitheater, Bumbleberry Inn, Wildcat Willies, and several other locations.

Try a guided tour

Jeep, helicopter, ATV, canyoneering, horseback riding, or mountain biking, guided tours are all available. Many of these tours take you outside Zion National Park boundaries and give you a unique perspective on Zion's canyons and plateaus from surrounding areas of southern Utah. Check out [ZionGuide.com](#) for listings and ads.

Visit the east side of Zion and spend a day in Kanab

The east side of Zion is generally less crowded, making hikes more accessible and private. These are some of the most enjoyable hikes in the canyon. You can spot wildlife you won't see elsewhere in the canyon. The city of Kanab, situated east of the canyon, is full of unique attractions, like the Little Hollywood Movie Museum and the Best Friends Animal Sanctuary.

Take lots of pictures, leave only footprints

Be sure you've got extra charged batteries, smartphone cables, and memory cards so you can capture all the magic of Zion National Park. Additionally, there are numerous photo tour and guiding companies to assist you. Thank you for visiting the Zion National Park area.

Tips To Maximize Enjoyment

Go on a less crowded hike

The most visited Zion hikes have a lot of competition. If you'd rather not feel like you're in the line at a theme park, consider seeking out a less traveled path. Check out our feature, Less-Traveled Zion Hikes, in this issue.

To avoid the crowds, go early or late in the day

Consider getting up extra early or trekking out midday after the initial rush has flooded in. Especially during the Summer months, it's highly recommended to go early!

Consider coming back again in the low season

Starting in the late fall, the number of visitors to Zion Canyon starts to dwindle, and by December it's significantly less than in the heat of the summer. It is simply a different experience to see Zion in the winter with the snow-capped monoliths. Most hikes are still accessible and are less crowded. You can also drive to the Temple of Sinawava parking lot. The shuttles stop running from November until March.

Check out Kolob Canyons & Kolob Terrace Road

With gorgeous open spaces and plenty of dirt roads to explore, Kolob Terrace Road is one of Zion's best kept secrets. You'll notice the air getting cooler as you gain elevation, and you'll find plenty of beautiful views worth stopping at for a quick photo op. The Kolob Terrace Road turnoff is in Virgin, so watch for signs. Portions of the Kolob Canyon District of Zion National Park are reached via Exit 40 on Interstate 15.



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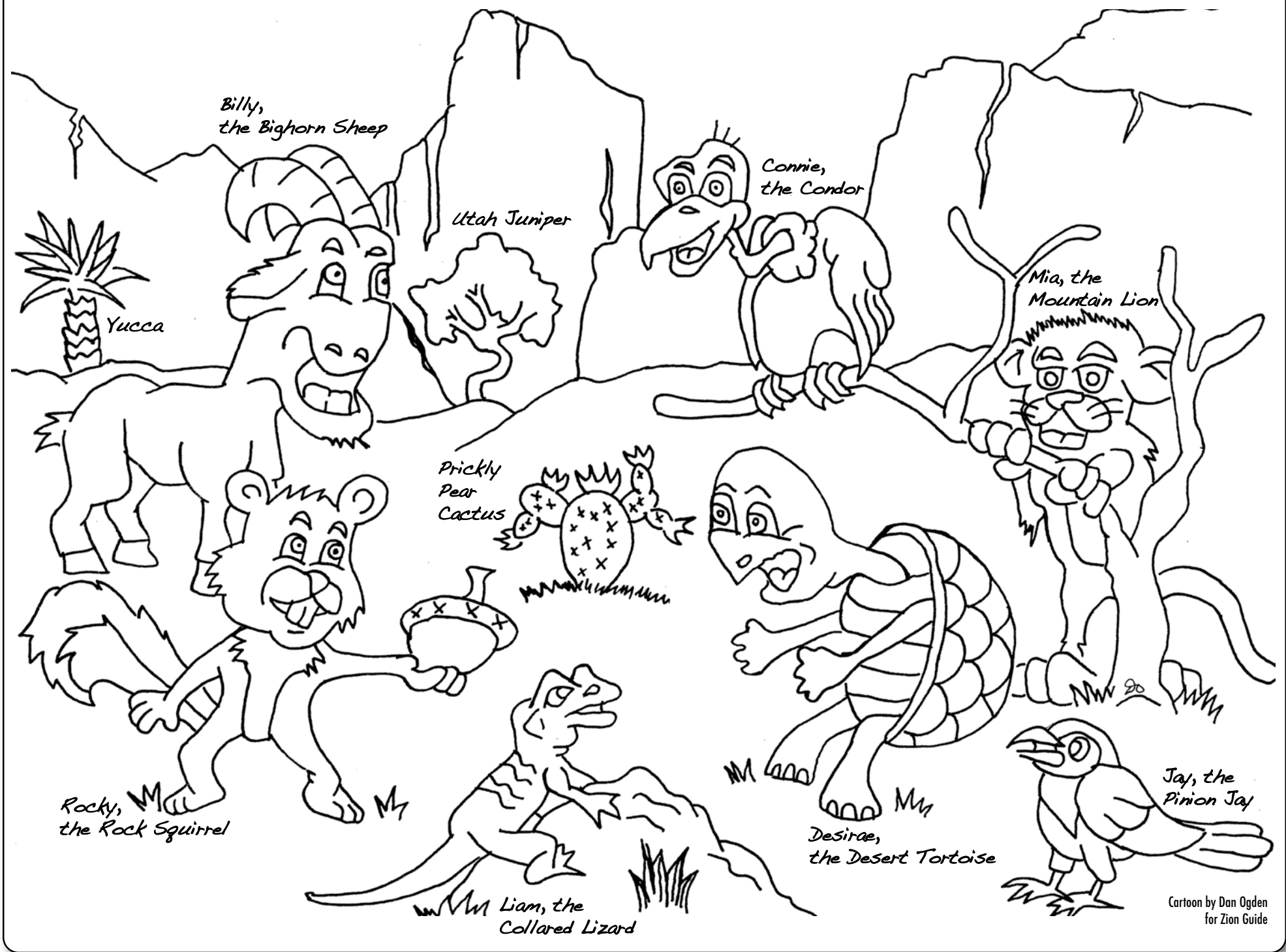
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Zion Animals & Plants Coloring Page

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Zion National Park Hiking Info

THE LOCALS' GUIDE TO HIKING PREPAREDNESS

National parks are seeing an uptick in helicopters carrying unfortunate hikers out of precarious situations.

In 2024, the National Park Service reported over 200 search-and-rescue operations, which means over 200 extremely unpleasant vacation experiences. Many more than just a decade ago. The majority of those rescues occurred in Zion and Bryce Canyon National Parks, and most hikers who end up getting into trouble are either in their 20s or are older than 60.

Despite our highly skilled and dedicated rescue teams' valiant efforts, not everyone made it out of their predicaments safely. An average of four people per year lose their lives in Zion and Bryce Canyon National Parks.

It's hard to imagine one wanting a vacation amid the splendor of our national parks to involve search and rescue teams or a close encounter with death.

Zion National Park is often referred to as an outdoor Disneyland. But this is the wilderness, and it's far less forgiving than any theme park. Here are some tips for how to safely enjoy your time in Zion Canyon.

Bring Water

You lose more water through perspiration than you realize, and if you are used to a moister climate — and nearly any climate is less arid than southern Utah — you can become dehydrated quickly without realizing it.

The National Park Service recommends that hikers bring a minimum of one gallon of water per hiker per day. There are fill stations throughout Springdale and the park that provided filtered water at no charge.

Natural water sources in the park such as creeks and streams are NOT reliable sources of clean drinking water. If you find yourself in a situation wherein you need

water but have none, it is strongly advised that any locally-sourced water intended for consumption first be filtered, boiled for at least 10 minutes, or treated with iodine before consuming.

Wear Appropriate Clothing

While most paths and trails are well maintained, this is the great outdoors, and a little loose gravel or slickrock can lead to injury — or worse. Think of appropriate footwear as an insurance policy — and if you are a little nervous, a hiking stick never hurts. Also, dress lightly if it's going to be hot, but be sure to use appropriate sun protection like sunscreen and large-

brimmed hats and UV protective clothing, because suffering from sunstroke or severe sunburn during an already taxing hike can be brutal.

Leave Wildlife Alone

Animals instinctively avoid humans, but the area is home to everything from poisonous snakes to mountain lions. Never approach local wildlife — and never try to feed them. This can result in injury to visitors, and numerous visitors have required stitches after attempting to hand-feed animals. But when humans feed wildlife, it's also not good for the animals, who are already best suited to feed themselves.

Leave No Trace

Zion's beauty is matched by its fragility. The red rock landscapes and delicate desert ecosystems are easily damaged, often taking years or decades to recover. That's why it's so important to leave no trace. Stay on designated trails to protect sensitive plant life, especially the black, crusty-looking soil known as biological soil crust — a vital part of the desert ecosystem. Pack out all trash, including food scraps, tissues, and biodegradable items. Use established restrooms when available, and if not, follow park guidelines for disposing of waste properly. Avoid carving into rocks or trees, and keep noise levels down so everyone can enjoy the peace of the canyon. When we leave no trace, we help ensure Zion remains as breathtaking for the next hiker as it was for us.

Hike Sober

Sometimes relatively stationary outdoor activities like boating or camping involve enjoying an alcoholic drink or two. But when you're hiking the varied terrain of our national parks, you don't want your coordination, balance, or judgment to be impaired to any extent. Zion Canyon, Springdale, and Kanab are home to several fine restaurants and bars — but visit them for a cocktail after your hike, not before.

Hike at Your Skill Level, and Don't Take Risks

Trails in Zion range from short and easy to long and challenging. Don't overestimate your ability and endurance level. And don't engage in horseplay or other activity that might endanger yourself or others. Some of Zion's hikes are steep, and you wouldn't be the first person to tumble down a hill — or worse, fall off a cliff. Zion is beautiful, but it's also dangerous, so respect yourself and others by respecting the terrain.



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JOIN THE MOVEMENT TO PROTECT WILD UTAH!

The Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance (SUWA) is a nonprofit organization with members and supporters from across the country dedicated to protecting America's redrock wilderness—places like Bears Ears and Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monuments, Labyrinth Canyon, the San Rafael Swell, and many others. Our team of professionals defends the redrock, organizes support for America's Red Rock Wilderness Act, and stewards a world-renowned landscape.

Learn more at www.suwa.org.



Popular Zion Hikes

Current Trail Closures & Popular Trail Considerations:

Hidden Canyon and Observation Point remain closed due to long-term rockfalls; Angels Landing requires a year-round lottery permit (apply via Recreation.gov); The Narrows closes when Virgin River flows exceed 150 cfs—always check current conditions; Zion Canyon Scenic Drive is shuttle-only March–November (including September); park entry requires the standard entrance fee but no reservation for shuttle or canyon access; September highs regularly exceed 100 °F—carry 3–4 L of water per person and hike early or late to avoid peak heat; Weeping Rock shuttle stop and trail remain closed; most other side trails remain open—watch for debris after storms; any overnight backpacking or top-down Narrows trip requires a wilderness permit; and beginning in June 2026, oversized vehicles will be rerouted off the Zion–Mount Carmel Highway and tunnel under new restrictions.

Angels Landing via West Rim Trail

Possibly the most popular hike in Zion, Angels Landing takes around four hours to complete, covers just under 5 1/2 miles, and requires a permit to hike. As you work your way up the 1,488-foot change in elevation, you'll want to look out for long drop-offs. This hike is not for young children or people with a fear of heights. Be sure to enjoy, but be careful along the last section of the hike, which is a steep, narrow ridge to the summit. The hike starts at The Grotto.

The Narrows via Riverside Walk

A full-day hike at 8 hours, the Narrows can pose extra dangers depending on the weather. High water levels can prevent access to the Narrows, so be sure to check with the visitor center before beginning this 9 1/2-mile hike. You'll start this hike at Temple of Sinawava.



Photo by David J. West

Kolob Arch via La Verkin Creek Trail

Getting to Kolob Arch via the La Verkin Creek Trail follows Timber and La Verkin creeks and connects to the trail to Kolob Arch, one of the world's largest freestanding arches. A full-day hike, it will take around 8 hours to finish the 14-fourteen mile trip. This hike starts at Kolob Canyons Road.

If you are looking for something more moderate, try some of these mid-range hikes.

Kayenta Trail

This two-hour hike starts at the Grotto and goes for two miles. You'll gain 150 feet in elevation, and the trail does have long drop-

offs. This unpaved climb connects the Grotto to the Emerald Pools trails.

Canyon Overlook Trail

Starting at Zion-Mt. Carmel Highway, this one-hour hike provides a 163-foot gain in elevation over the course of a mile. This rocky and uneven trail ends at a viewpoint for Pine Creek Canyon and lower Zion Canyon. While this trail is mostly fenced, there are long drop-offs.

Taylor Creek Trail

You'll begin this five-mile hike at Kolob Canyons Road. It should take around 4 hours to complete and provides a 450-foot gain in

elevation. Larger groups may need to split up, as this hike limits 12 people to a group. It follows the Middle Fork of Taylor Creek past two homestead cabins to Double Arch Alcove.

Timber Creek Overlook Trail

A quick hike, the Timber Creek Overlook Trail covers just one mile and 100 feet in elevation gain. It can be done in about 30 minutes. The trail follows a ridge to a small peak with views of Timber Creek, Kolob Terrace, and Pine Valley Mountains.

Those looking for something less strenuous should check out these easy hikes.

Pa'rus Trail

Starting at the Zion Canyon Visitor Center, this two-hour hike covers 3 1/2 miles and rises 50 feet in elevation. A paved trail that follows the Virgin River from the South Campground to Canyon Junction, Pa'rus Trail is wheelchair accessible and is open to both bicycles and dogs.

Archeology Trail

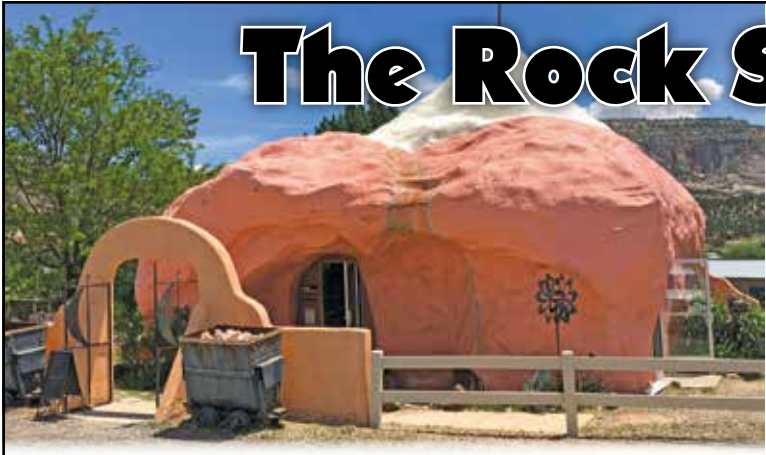
Also starting at the Zion Canyon Visitor Center, this short half-hour hike covers just under half a mile and rises 80 feet in elevation, making it a short but steep trail. This trail offers trailside exhibits and views of several prehistoric buildings.

Grotto Trail

Starting at Zion Lodge or the Grotto, this trail connects the two locations and can be combined with the Middle Emerald Pools and Kayenta trails to create a 2 1/2-mile loop. The non-loop version should take about 30 minutes and rises 35 feet over one mile.

Riverside Walk

Starting at Temple of Sinawava, this 1 1/2-hour hike cover just over two miles and rises 57 feet in elevation. While it is wheelchair accessable, there are minor drop-offs. The trail, which is paved, offers trailside exhibits as it follows the Virgin Rivet along the bottom of a narrow canyon.



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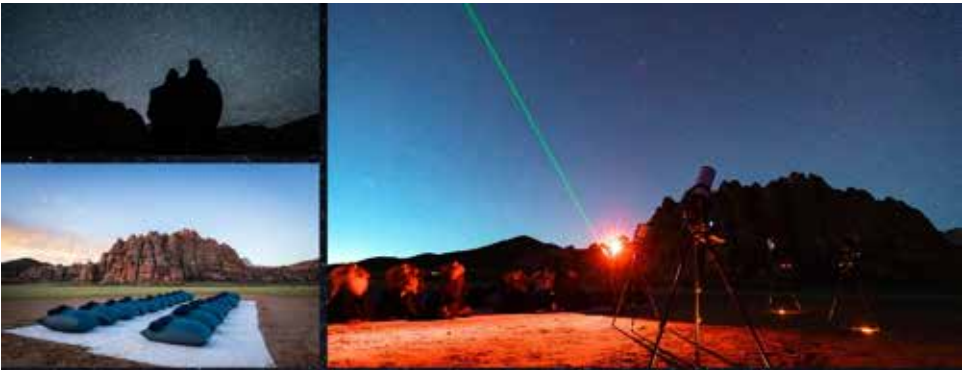
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Less-Traveled Zion Hikes

Current Trail Closures & Popular Trail Considerations:

Hidden Canyon and Observation Point remain closed due to long-term rockfalls; Angels Landing requires a year-round lottery permit (apply via Recreation.gov); The Narrows closes when Virgin River flows exceed 150 cfs—always check current conditions; Zion Canyon Scenic Drive is shuttle-only March–November (including September); park entry requires the standard entrance fee but no reservation for shuttle or canyon access; September highs regularly exceed 100 °F—carry 3–4 L of water per person and hike early or late to avoid peak heat; Weeping Rock shuttle stop and trail remain closed; most other side trails remain open—watch for debris after storms; any overnight backpacking or top-down Narrows trip requires a wilderness permit; and beginning in June 2026, oversized vehicles will be rerouted off the Zion–Mount Carmel Highway and tunnel under new restrictions.

Northgate Peaks

The Northgate Peaks trail in the Kolob Terrace section of Zion National Park is an amazing trail with spectacular views. The trail itself is nearly flat, making it a perfect hike for families.

To reach the Northgate Peaks trailhead, take State Route 9 to the town of Virgin. Turn left onto Kolob Terrace Road. Drive for 15.7 miles through increasingly spectacular country until the short spur road (on the right) for the Wildcat Trailhead is reached. Drive a few hundred feet to the large parking area.

The trail heads east across grassy plains and stands of Ponderosa Pine with dynamite views of the towering Pine Valley Peak to the west. Soon the trail will be fully in the forest with limited views. After 0.9 miles, the junction with the Hop Valley trail is reached. Continue east, and 0.1 miles further, the junction with the Northgate Peaks Trail is reached. Head south on this trail for another 1.1 miles until the end of the official trail is reached at a rocky basalt bluff with epic views of the Northgate Peaks to the east and west and of North Guardian Angel to the south.

For families with young children, this makes an excellent turnaround spot.

Gifford Canyon

Gifford Canyon offers a nice stroll through a sandy wash and is very charming when water is running. This hike is nearly 3 miles long and will take about 2 hours to finish.

To start this hike, park in the lot located immediately east of the Zion/Mt. Carmel Tunnel. The trail begins at the backside of the restrooms at the back of the parking lot. There will be a steep, sandy



path to climb down before you enter Pine Creek slot. Follow the path upstream for almost 75 feet, and look for a 15-foot wall of slickrock. You can scramble up the rock or look for the beaten path on the backside of the rock.

On top of this wall is a narrow dirt path that is crowded by rock and vegetation. It winds around the mountain to a dead end with a beautiful view of the mountain where the Canyon Overlook Trail is located, opposite is Gifford Canyon.

The path will lead past stone bridge and to another minor slickrock climb. At the end of the canyon, there is a circle of cliffs preventing further exploration without climbing up the sandstone.

Chinle Trail

Chinle Trail is an off-the-beaten-path trail located in the lower elevation west desert wilderness area, offering wide vistas, desert landscapes, and a reprieve from the more touristy trails in the park. Though it's a long trail, it's a mellow hike that can be cut off whenever you feel like turning around. It's a great hike with kids because it's not treacherous, slippery, or steep. Avoid it after snow or rain as it will be muddy.

The Chinle Trailhead starts outside of Zion, south of Springdale. If you are coming from St. George, the turn is about a block before you hit the apple orchard and stand as you leave Rockville off of State Route 9. There is a parking area off the right of Anasazi Way near the Anasazi Plateau housing development. If you hit houses, you missed it. And yes, the trail starts below the housing development and takes you right through it. Don't worry though, it doesn't last long.

Shortly after you get through the housing development, you will hit a sign letting you know you are entering the Zion Wilderness. At this point, you can breathe a sigh of relief, because you have gotten

away from civilization to enjoy nature, and chances are that you won't see another soul until you return to your car.

Many Pools

The route is moderate with a gentle uphill climb to an alcove, but plan for a strenuous hike if you continue to the East Rim.

The route begins right off the highway. Drive to the pullout near the second drainage on the north side of the State Route 9, about 0.8 miles after the smaller tunnel. Walk carefully along the road about 150 yards and drop down into a sandy bowl on the north side of SR-9. There is a trail for a short distance, and then the sand turns into large flat stones that you can pick and choose to walk on, depending on your sense of balance. A short distance off the road, filled pools carved into the rocks appear. Ponderosa Pines and Juniper trees twisted by the wind are a good backdrop to the reds and whites ribboned through the rocks.

Overlook Trail

The Overlook Trail is a short, beautiful hike located on the east side of Zion National Park, just outside the Mt. Carmel tunnel. The hike is about one mile roundtrip, and it usually takes people about an hour. It is definitely one of the easier hikes in Zion, but it's still considered a moderate-level hike due to a few exposed areas and sandstone pathways, which can be slippery.

The Overlook trailhead lies right outside of the Mt. Carmel tunnel by the ranger booth. Exit the tunnel too quickly and you'll miss it.

It begins with a staircase carved out of the sandstone leading up and away from the road. Soon, you'll be walking along the side of the mountain and looking down into a thin crevice known as Pine Creek Canyon. At about halfway, you'll walk across a bridge that wraps around a corner and leads to an area of recessed rock wet with the moisture that caused it to erode and be filled with ferns growing out of the sandstone.

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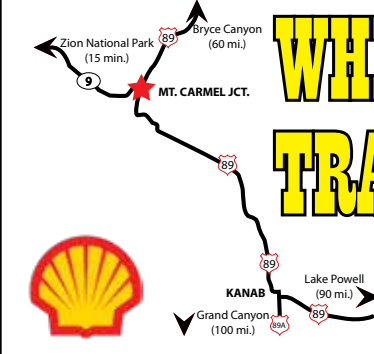
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Featured Hike

A CLASSIC ZION HIKE REVISITED: EMERALD POOLS

Location: Zion National Park
Difficulty: Easy to the Lower Pool, moderate to the Middle Pool, more strenuous to the Upper Pool
Distance: 1.2 miles to Lower, 2 miles to Middle, 2.5 miles to Upper (round trip)
Total elevation gain: 70 feet to Lower, 150 feet to Middle, 350 feet to Upper
Average time: 1–3 hours, depending on how far you go
Family-friendly: Lower Pool is great for nearly all ages; Middle and Upper are best for older kids and adults
Dog-friendly: No dogs are allowed on this trail
Access: Take the park shuttle to Zion Lodge (Stop #5). The Emerald Pools Bridge reopened in June 2025, restoring direct access across the Virgin River. Outside shuttle season, limited parking is available at the Lodge.

The Trail
Emerald Pools was my very first hike in Zion National Park more than 14 years ago. For many visitors, it's the gateway hike — approachable yet rewarding, offering a taste of waterfalls, lush canyon vegetation, and towering cliffs without requiring a backcountry trek. I still remember stepping onto the trail for the first time and being surprised at how suddenly the desert gave way to something so green and alive.
In Zion, waterfalls are more than just scenic — they're magical. They appear unexpectedly in a land of sun and stone, shimmering like silver veils and cooling the air around them. They feed hanging gardens that cling to sandstone walls and create small, fragile ecosystems. Whether a steady trickle or a roaring torrent after a storm, they transform the canyon into something almost enchanted.



The Lower Pool is the easiest to reach, just over half a mile from the trailhead on a mostly paved path shaded by cottonwoods and box elders. Here, waterfalls spill over the cliffs above, sometimes misting the trail as you pass behind them — a refreshing gift on hot summer afternoons. This is the spot where many families turn back, and it's perfect for first-time hikers or those with young children.
Continue on to the Middle Pools and the trail becomes steeper, switching back across sandstone steps. At two miles round trip, the effort is rewarded with views of Red Arch Mountain and two beautiful pools fed by canyons above. Water from Behunin Canyon feeds one, while Heaps Canyon drains into another before cascading over the edge toward the Lower Pool. The slickrock edges demand caution, but the views are breathtaking.
For those who keep climbing, the Upper Pool is the crown jewel. Enclosed by sheer sandstone walls, the amphitheater-like setting feels secluded and serene.

The pool itself is broad and shaded, often reflecting the cliffs above. Look closely and you may spot canyoneers descending from Heaps Canyon far above. It's the perfect place to pause, snack, and simply listen to the sound of water.
A Haven for Artists
Emerald Pools is more than just a family-friendly hike — it's also one of the easiest places in Zion for artists to set up for the day. Shaded alcoves and gentle overlooks make it an inviting plein air studio, with waterfalls, hanging gardens, and the ever-changing interplay of light and stone as subjects. For a painter, few places in the park are as welcoming or inspiring.
Tips
Family-friendly: Lower Pools is accessible for most ages; Middle and Upper are best for those steady on their feet.
Not dog-friendly: Pets are not permitted.
Access: Shuttle to Zion Lodge (Stop #5) and cross the newly rebuilt bridge to the trailhead.



Bring: Plenty of water, snacks, sunscreen, and a camera. Summer hikes are best started early in the morning.
With its bridge reopened and easy access restored, Emerald Pools continues to be one of Zion's most beloved trails. Whether it's your very first hike in the park or one you return to again and again, the pools remind us that even in the desert, water creates wonder.

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NO CAMPFIRES

Campfires are prohibited in the Zion Wilderness. Fuel stoves and lanterns

may be used for camping purposes, but should only be lit on bare ground away from all vegetation. In the interest of protection of environmental and scenic values, protection of natural resources, and public safety, these restrictions on fires are necessary. Please do all you can to protect the park from human caused wildfires.



FOOD STORAGE

All food and trash must be stored inside a secure hard sided container or interlocking wire mesh

bag. For the welfare of park wildlife, your safety, and the safekeeping of your equipment, you should make your food items as unobtainable as possible. Your actions can put other people at risk of food pilfering, since animals regularly revisit areas where they easily obtained food. At worst, your behavior may lead directly to the death of a wild animal. These guidelines are meant to protect park wildlife, people, and equipment.



LEAVE NO TRACE

Protect the park from all graffiti and vandalism. All graffiti, including words,

drawings, and arrows, no matter how small or superficially drawn, carved, scratched, or painted, is vandalism. Do not build rock cairns. If placed incorrectly, they can mislead visitors, cause unnecessary damage, and lead to potential injuries. Help protect Zion by not leaving your mark. Make memories, take photos, and leave no trace.



HUMAN WASTE

Pack out all solid human waste, toilet paper, diapers, and personal hygiene

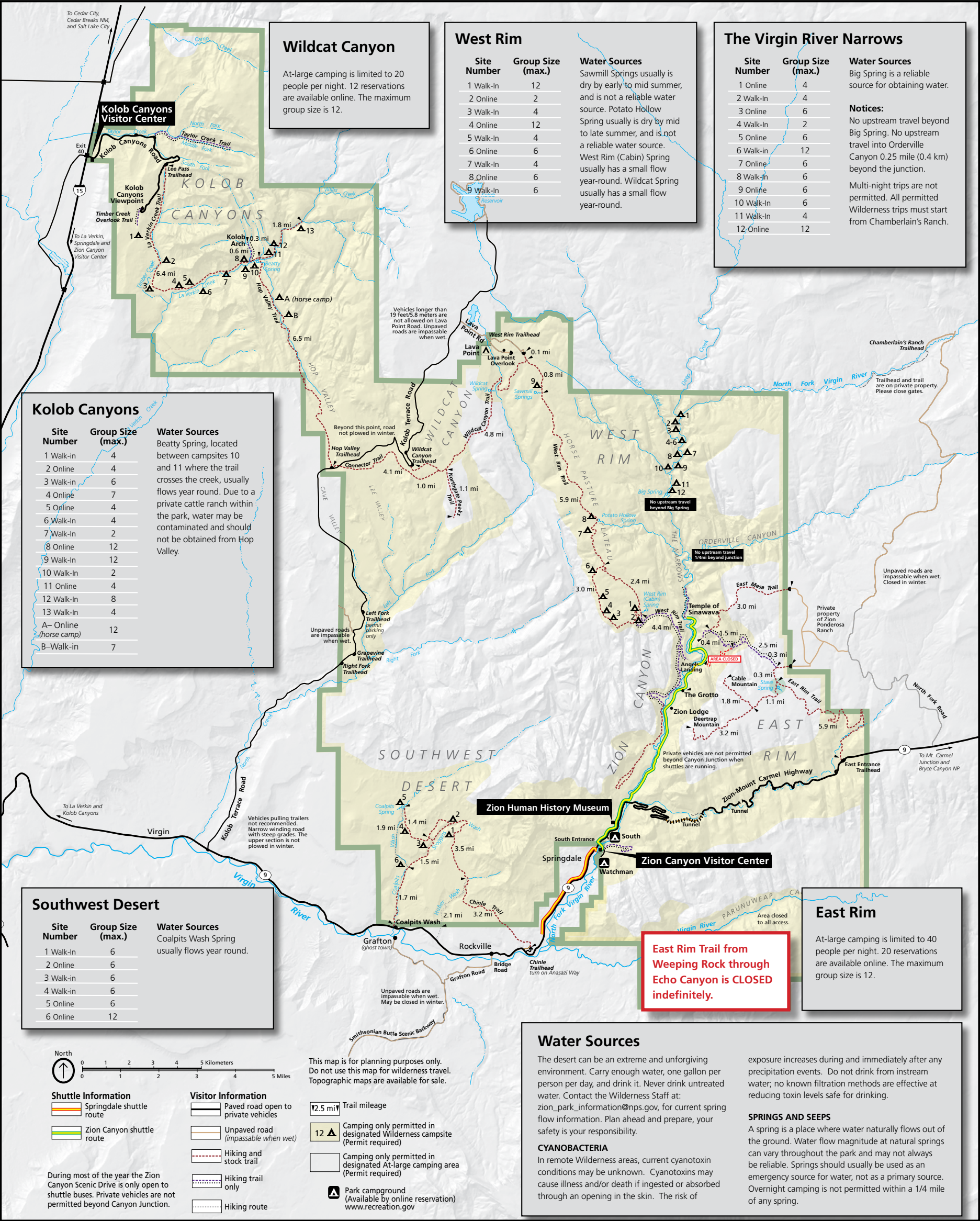
products. An environmentally friendly human waste disposal bag, complete with use and disposal instructions, is available for sale in the Zion Forever Park Store and at local outfitters. The contents of the disposal bag may then be deposited in the trash. Use of this waste disposal system is required for all Wilderness permit holders.



GROUP SIZE

Wilderness trails have a group size limit of 12. These limits apply to all trips into the park's

wilderness, including trips that do not require a permit. Group size limits are strictly enforced. Groups that exceed these limits may not split up and visit the same route, or wilderness trail on the same day, but may split up and visit different areas.



ZION CANYON SHUTTLE
The Zion Canyon Scenic Drive is closed to private vehicles during most of the year. The Zion Canyon shuttle provides access to the trailheads for the Emerald Pools, the West Rim, and the Narrows.

PRIVATE VEHICLES
The Zion-Mount Carmel Highway, Kolob Terrace Road, and Kolob Canyons Scenic Drive are open to private vehicles. Park roads are used by vehicles, bicycles, and wildlife. Obey posted speed limits. Park only in designated spaces to protect fragile vegetation.

BICYCLES
Bicycles are not permitted in the Zion Wilderness. Bicycling is permitted on all park roadways and on the Pa'rus Trail. Bicyclists must ride single file and stop to let shuttle buses pass.

HIKER SHUTTLE SERVICES
Commercial shuttle services can be hired to provide point-to-point pick-up and drop-off at designated parking areas within the park. All services must have a current Commercial Use Authorization (CUA) with Zion National Park. Search online for current authorized services.

OTHER VEHICLES
Any use of any off-highway vehicle (OHV), all-terrain vehicle (ATV), utility vehicles (UTV) or other motorized conveyance manufactured for recreational non-highway, off-road, or all-terrain travel is prohibited within Zion National Park.

Beyond Hiking

ZION AREA ADVENTURE & RECREATION GUIDE

Welcome to the Zion area—where crimson cliffs, canyon labyrinths, and sun-drenched mesas aren't just for looking at. If you're ready to go beyond hiking, Southern Utah offers a wide array of thrilling guided experiences. Whether you're exploring hidden canyons by Jeep, riding desert singletrack, or sipping wine at a red rock vineyard, there's something here for everyone—and local pros ready to show you the way.

Jeep Tours & Scenic Off-Road Drives

Let someone else do the driving while you soak in the views. Jeep tours offer access to some of the most jaw-dropping scenery in Southern Utah—without the need to hike for miles. Zion Jeep Tours based in Springdale offers half- and full-day trips to Zion's lesser-known gems, from mesa-top panoramas to desert slot canyons. Adventure Tours of Kanab specializes in scenic backroad excursions and guided hikes to amazing local sites like Peek-A-Boo Slot Canyon and White Pocket. Jeep and 4x4 tours are also available in the Coral Pink Sand Dunes area and around East Zion, with seasonal options from spring through late fall depending on weather and trail conditions.

Mountain Biking & eBiking

From Hurricane's world-famous singletrack to scenic bike routes through Zion Canyon, the area is a top-tier destination for cyclists. Over the Edge Cycles in Hurricane is a rider-favorite bike shop offering top-notch rentals, gear, and trail beta. Greater Zion eBikes in Springdale lets you cruise Zion Canyon by electric bike—ideal for riders of all skill levels. You'll also find bike shops and limited rentals in St. George, Springdale, and Cedar City, where local pros can help you pick trails or handle repairs. Best riding seasons are spring and fall, though e-bike routes are popular year-round.



River Rafting Adventures

Water might seem rare in the desert, but rafting is one of the most breathtaking ways to experience the region. Grand Canyon Expeditions (GCEX) offers multi-day rafting trips through stunning Grand Canyon scenery. Kayak the Colorado leads half- and full-day trips on calmer stretches near Glen Canyon and Lake Powell. Spring to early fall is prime river season, with outfitters based in Kanab, Page, and Big Water—just a short drive from Zion.

Horseback Riding

There's no better way to channel your inner pioneer than a trail ride on horseback. Ranches and outfitters around Zion, Bryce Canyon, and Grand Staircase-Escalante offer guided rides ranging from peaceful one-hour strolls to full-day backcountry adventures. Most operate from March through October.

Wine Tours, Breweries & Distilleries

Yes, Utah has wine—and it's worth exploring. Water Canyon Winery offers tasting rooms in both Hildale and Springdale, pairing red rock views with their handcrafted reds and whites. Zion Winery, located in Leeds, is a must-stop for visitors heading north. You'll also find Iron Gate Winery in Cedar City and Bold and Delaney in Dammeron Valley. Adding to the region's growing craft culture, several local breweries and distilleries have begun offering tours and tastings of their artisanal brews and spirits. Whether you're in the mood for a rich, locally brewed ale or a smooth, small-batch whiskey, you can often combine winery visits with stops at these innovative local establishments. Spring through fall is ideal for sipping and sightseeing, with some guided tours pairing wine tastings, brewery stops, and gourmet food in a scenic setting.

Photography Tours

Golden light on sandstone cliffs. Starry skies over silent mesas. The Zion region is a dream for landscape and night photographers. Local photography guides know when and where to go for the best light and angles—often in places you won't find on Google. Milky Way tours are popular May through September, with fall color excursions in October, and Stargazing Zion offers unforgettable Dark Sky experiences year-round.

Best Friends Animal Sanctuary

Located just outside Kanab, Best Friends Animal Sanctuary is the nation's largest no-kill sanctuary for companion animals—and one of the region's most beloved attractions. Visitors can take free guided tours, volunteer with cats, dogs, horses, and even pigs, or hike the scenic canyon trails that wind through the 3,700-acre campus. Whether you're an animal lover, a family with kids, or just looking for a peaceful and meaningful stop, Best Friends is must-see. It's open year-round and pairs perfectly with a visit to Kanab's other natural attractions.

Tips for Planning Your Adventure

Book Ahead – Spring and fall are peak seasons, so reserve early.
Go Local – Local guides bring insight, safety, and a personal touch.
Be Safe – Desert conditions can be extreme. Bring water and listen to your guide.
Leave No Trace – Help preserve these stunning places for the future.
Hiking Too? – If your plans include trail time, don't miss our extensive hiking section including our piece on hiking preparedness for essential safety tips and gear advice.
Whether you're climbing rocks, rafting rivers, cruising on a bike, volunteering with rescued pets, or sipping Syrah at sunset, this region offers more than you imagined. Find your adventure...with Zion Guide!



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Beyond Hiking

THE BEST DRIVES & DAY TRIPS AROUND ZION

We're glad you're here—and if you're reading this, chances are you came for the world-famous hikes, towering cliffs, and unforgettable canyons of Zion National Park. But maybe you've already hiked Angels Landing or tackled The Narrows. Or maybe you're looking for a different kind of adventure—something a little less strenuous, a little more scenic, or just a great way to spend a day in the car with some jaw-dropping views.

Well, you're in luck. Zion sits in the middle of a wonderland of scenic drives, hidden gems, and bucket-list day trips. So, whether you're taking it easy, chasing new sights, or looking for ways to escape the crowds, here are some top picks to round out your Southern Utah experience.

Scenic Drives and Viewpoints

Kolob Canyons (Zion National Park – Northwest Entrance)

If you love Zion but want something quieter, head to the Kolob Canyons section of the park. Located off I-15 near Cedar City, this five-mile scenic drive offers massive red rock cliffs, sweeping vistas, and several short hikes. It's a perfect add-on for road trippers and a beautiful detour on your way north.

Kolob Terrace Road

A local favorite, this backroad winds its way from the town of Virgin up into the cooler high country above Zion. Along the way, you'll pass lava fields, meadows, forested plateaus, and killer canyon views. There's even a reservoir near the top if you want to dip your toes.

Zion-Mount Carmel Tunnel

Even if you've already been through the tunnel, it's worth a second look. The



Photo by David J. West

drive east from Springdale through Zion Canyon and out to the East Entrance is one of the most dramatic in the state. Stop at the many pullouts along the way to take in views of slickrock formations, bighorn sheep, and winding canyons.

Gooseberry Mesa

This spot is a mecca for mountain bikers, but the road out to Gooseberry is scenic. You'll need a high-clearance vehicle for the final stretch, but you'll be rewarded with stunning panoramic views over Zion and the Virgin River Valley.

Smithsonian Butte Backway

This off-the-beaten-path route connects Rockville to Apple Valley with unpaved road and unparalleled views. Think mesas, cliffs, and the perfect backdrop for golden hour photos. It's a local secret—and one of the best-kept ones at that.

Best Day Trips and Nearby Parks

Bryce Canyon National Park

About 90 minutes from Zion, Bryce is known for its bizarre and beautiful hoodoos—towering spires of red and orange rock that glow at sunrise and sunset. You

can easily drive the scenic loop and stop at multiple viewpoints or stretch your legs with a short hike into the amphitheater.

Grand Canyon North Rim

Less visited than the South Rim, the North Rim normally offers a cooler, quieter experience. It lies roughly 2.5 hours from Zion but is closed for the 2025 season due to the Dragon Bravo wildfire.

Coral Pink Sand Dunes State Park

Located just outside Kanab, this state park features rolling hills of—you guessed it—deep coral-colored sand. Rent a sandboard, hop on an ATV, or just enjoy the surreal landscape.

Snow Canyon State Park

Tucked just north of St. George, this park is a mini-desert paradise filled with lava flows, red cliffs, and white sandstone. It's perfect for a short hike or scenic drive and less than an hour from Zion.

Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument

Vast, rugged, and full of secrets, Grand Staircase offers endless day trip options. Popular stops include the Toadstools, Willis Creek Slot Canyon, and Cottonwood Canyon Road. A high-clearance vehicle is recommended for some routes.

Whether you're a hiker, a cruiser, or just here for the views, Southern Utah has more to offer than one trip can hold. Flip the page for more top parks in the region—and happy exploring!



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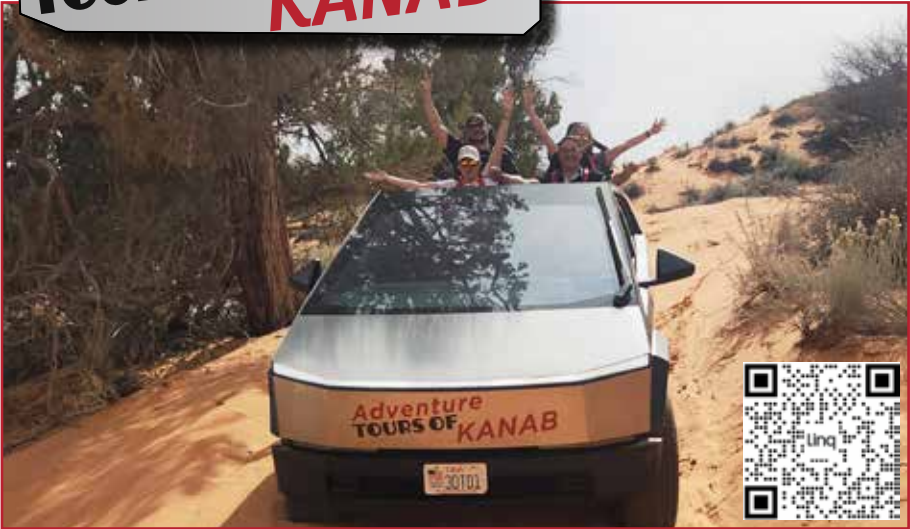


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Zion National Park Shuttle Info

The seasons are changing in Zion National Park! Every year, the National Park Service (NPS) adjusts shuttle schedules and campground availability throughout the year.

Here's What You Need To Know To Plan Your Visit

- You do not need a ticket or reservation to ride the park shuttle or enter the park.
- During the shuttle season, visitors cannot drive personal vehicles on Zion Canyon Scenic Drive.
- Shuttles arrive about every 15 minutes on the Springdale Line (outside the park) and about every 5–10 minutes on the Zion Canyon Line (inside the park).
- Shuttles will not run December 2–20.
- Shuttles take about 45 minutes to drive between the Zion Canyon Visitor Center and the Temple of Sinawava. This means a round trip takes about an hour and a half.
- Be mindful of the time you board the shuttle back to the Zion Canyon Visitor Center at the end of the day. You should not wait for the last shuttle of the day. If the last shuttle is full, or if you miss the last shuttle, you may have to walk nine miles back to the Zion Canyon Visitor Center.

Zion Canyon Line

- First bus departs Zion Canyon Visitor Center to Temple of Sinawava at 7 AM through May 17th, then at 6 AM from May 18th to September 14th.
- Last bus departs Zion Canyon Visitor Center to Temple of Sinawava at 5 PM through May 17th, then at 7 PM from May 18th to September 14th.
- Last bus departs the Temple of Sinawava to Zion Canyon Visitor Center at 7:15 PM through May 17th, then at 8:15 PM from May 18th to September 14th.

Springdale Line

- First bus leaves the Hotel De Novo (Stop #9) at 8 AM through May 17th, then at 7 AM from May 18th to September 14th.
- Last bus leaves Zion Canyon Village (Stop #1) at 7 PM through May 17th, then at 8 PM from May 18th to September 14th.

Camping

Watchman Campground is open year-round, and you can make a reservation up to six months before your visit at www.recreation.gov or by calling 1-877-444-6777. Plan ahead and make arrangements for where you will stay before you get to the park.

South Campground is closed for a long-term rehabilitation project.

Lava Point Campground is a 1-hour drive from Zion Canyon. Reservation only.

Visitor Center and Wilderness Permit Desk Hours

Zion Canyon & Kolob Canyons Visitor Centers

- The Information Desk opens at 8 AM and closes at 5 PM every day.

Wilderness Permit Desks

- Zion Canyon Wilderness Desk: Open daily from 8 AM to 5 PM.
- Kolob Canyons Wilderness Desk: Closed until late 2024.

Attend a Zion Canyon Ranger-Led Patio Talk

Free ranger talks happen outside of the Zion Canyon Visitor Center every day at:

- 11 AM, 1:30 PM and 3 PM

No matter when you visit, be prepared for crowds and remember:

- Parking fills early year-round. You may have to wait to enter Zion Canyon Scenic Drive if parking is full there.
- Watch out for pedestrians and bicyclists if you are driving.

- Stay on trails and avoid walking in the road.
- Put your pass in your pocket. Don't leave your park pass or receipt in a hotel room or at home.
- Ride your bike on the road or the Pa'rus Trail. Bicycling is not allowed on any other trails in the park. If you are riding in the road, you must stop to let buses pass you.
- The NPS may temporarily close roads if traffic is congested or there is nowhere for drivers to park.
- In general, fewer people visit Zion on weekdays than weekends. Consider arriving early or after 3 PM to avoid the busiest times of day.

Plan ahead and prepare

If you cannot park in Zion or if all of our campsites are full, research nearby communities and public lands to learn about other recreational activities and lodging. Always recreate responsibly and respect private owners' property and facilities.

Follow Leave No Trace practices everywhere in the park and beyond; be sure to pack out all your trash.



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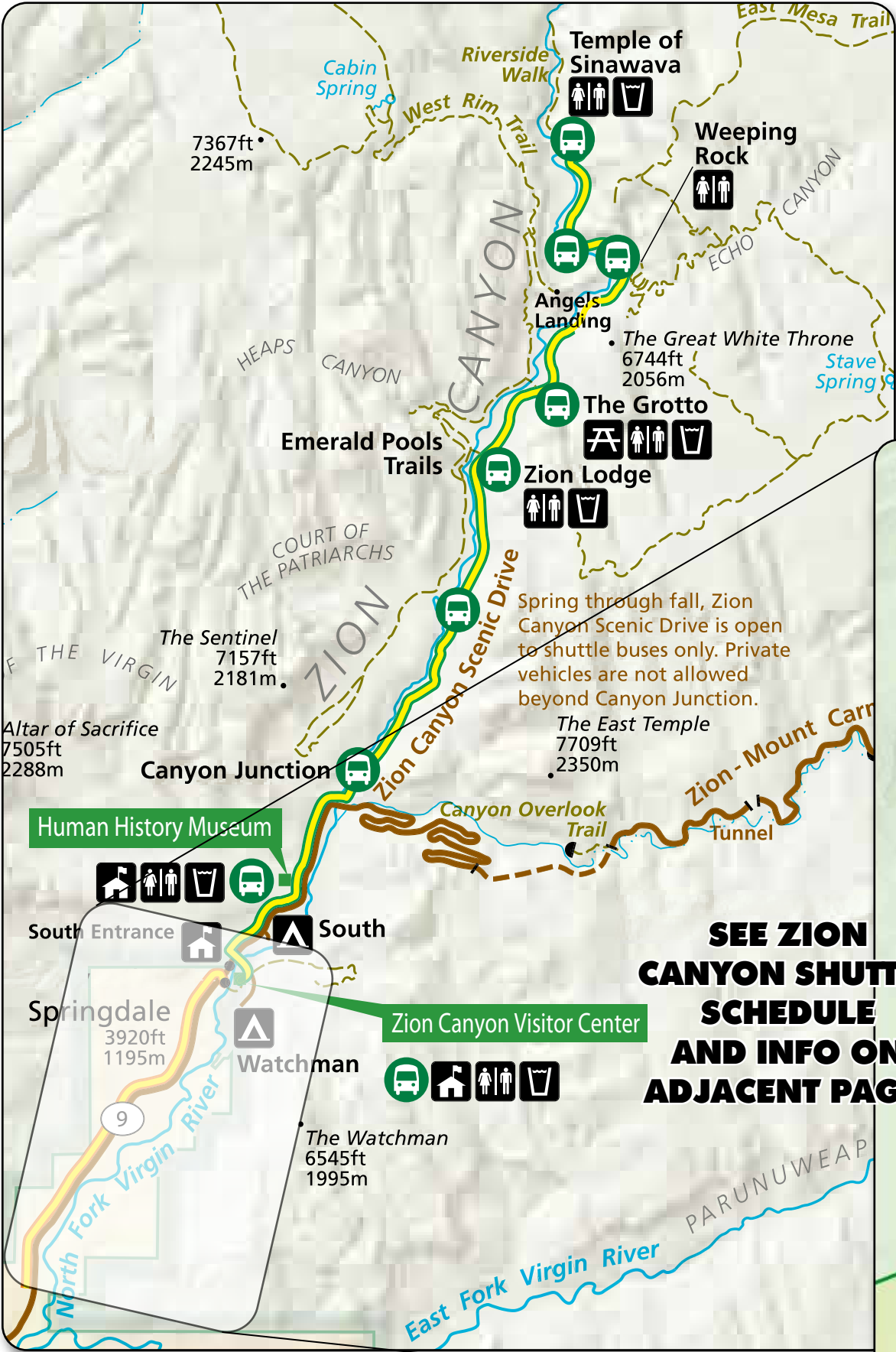
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Zion Canyon Shuttle Map



Springdale Shuttle Map



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Southern Utah State & National Parks

ANASAZI STATE PARK MUSEUM - This ancient Indian village in the heart of Utah’s canyon country was one of the largest Anasazi communities west of the Colorado River. The site is believed to have been occupied from A.D. 1050 to 1200. The village remains largely unexcavated, but many artifacts have been uncovered and are on display in the newly remodeled museum. Anasazi State Park is in the picturesque town of Boulder on State Route 12. Group and individual picnic areas are available. There is no camping. (435) 335-7308.

BAKER - Baker Reservoir is a small lake on the Santa Clara River four miles north of Veyo on Utah State Route 18. It is a 63-acre lake with an average depth of about 20 feet. Many people come to the reservoir to camp at one of its 10 campsites and to fish. The reservoir is stocked with rainbow trout and contains brown trout, green sunfish, crayfish, redbreast shiner, and mountain sucker. It has picnic areas and vault toilets. There is a fee for visiting the reservoir and no boat ramp.

BRYCE CANYON - Bryce Canyon National Park is a scientist’s laboratory and a child’s playground. Because Bryce transcends 2,000 feet of elevation, the park exists in three distinct climatic zones: spruce/fir forest, ponderosa pine forest and pinion pine/juniper forest. This diversity of habitat provides for high biodiversity. Here at Bryce, you can enjoy over 100 species of birds, dozens of mammals, and more than a thousand plant species. (435) 834-5322.

CEDAR BREAKS - Sitting at over 10,000 feet and looking down into a half-mile deep geologic amphitheater. Come wander among timeless bristlecone pines, stand in lush meadows of wildflowers, ponder crystal-clear night skies and experience the richness of our subalpine forest. Just four miles off Utah Highway 148, you’ll find the Cedar Breaks National Monument parking lot.



CORAL PINK SAND DUNES - At an elevation of 6,000 feet and 12 paved miles off U.S. Highway 89 near Kanab, this park provides a fantastic setting for camping, hiking, OHV riding or just playing in the sand. A 265-acre conservation area prohibits motorized vehicles in order to protect the Coral Pink beetle (found nowhere else in the world) and its habitat. The mule deer, jackrabbit, kit fox, coyote, and many small rodents also make the park their home. (435) 648-2800.

DEAD HORSE POINT - Dead Horse Point State Park is perhaps Utah’s most spectacular state park. Dead Horse Point is a promontory of stone surrounded by steep cliffs near Moab. The overlook at Dead Horse Point is 6,000 feet above sea level. Two-thousand feet below, the Colorado River winds its way from the continental divide in Colorado

to the Gulf of California, a distance of 1,400 miles. (435) 259-2614.

DINOSAUR TRACKS - The St. George Dinosaur Discovery Site at Johnson Farm is home to exceptionally well-preserved dinosaur tracks, some displaying skin impressions. These tracks, along with hundreds of fossil fish, plants, rare dinosaur remains, invertebrates’ traces, and important sedimentary structures, show evidence that this site was produced along the western edge of a large, Early Jurassic (age between 195-198 million years ago) freshwater lake. (435) 574-3466.

ENTERPRISE - There are two reservoirs in the Bull Valley Mountains 10 miles southwest of the town of Enterprise. The main one is Upper Enterprise Reservoir, about 250 acres with an average depth of about 50 feet, while Lower Enterprise Reservoir is 79 acres. Many come to the reservoir to camp, fish hike, and boat. The Honeycomb Campground



is situated between both lakes and has 21 campsites and flush toilets. There is a boat ramp on Upper Enterprise Reservoir and several fishing areas around both reservoirs. Fishermen will find rainbow trout and smallmouth bass here. Fees are charged.

FOUR CORNERS - The Four Corners is the only place in the U.S. where four states come together at one place: Arizona, New Mexico, Utah and Colorado. Here, a person can put each of their hands and feet in four states at the same time. The unique landmark is on Navajo Nation land and is open for visits from the public. West of U.S. Highway 160, 40 miles southwest of Cortez, Colo. (928) 871-6436.

GRAND CANYON - A World Heritage Site encompassing 1,218,375 acres on the Colorado Plateau in northwestern Arizona. The land is semi-arid and consists of raised plateaus and structural basins typical of the southwestern United States. (928) 638-7888.

GRAND STAIRCASE-ESCALANTE NATIONAL MONUMENT - Nearly 1.9 million acres of America’s public lands and located between Bryce Canyon and Glen Canyon Recreational Areas. From its namesake Grand Staircase of cliffs and terraces across the rugged Kaiparowits Plateau to the beauty of the Escalante River Canyons, the Monument’s size, resources, and isolated location provide amazing opportunities.

GUNLOCK - In scenic red rock country, 15 miles northwest of St. George, lies the 240-acre Gunlock State Park and Reservoir where year-round boating, water sports, and quality fishing for bass and catfish attract visitors. Facilities include boat launching ramp and pit privies. (435) 628-2255.

LAKE MEAD - Lake Mead National Recreation Area offers a wealth of things to do and places to go year-round. Its huge lakes cater to boaters, swimmers, sunbathers and fishermen, while its desert rewards hikers, wildlife photographers, and roadside sightseers. It is also home to thousands of desert plants and animals adapted to survive in an extreme place where rain is scarce and temperatures soar. (702) 293-8990.

LAKE POWELL - In Glen Canyon National Recreation Area is one of the world’s great places for houseboating! The 186-mile-long lake offers sandy beaches, cool blue water, and exceptional red-rock scenery. It is excellent for boating, skiing, kayaking, and fishing. Boat or hike to Rainbow Bridge, or explore any of its many canyons or sand dunes. (928) 608-6200.

PINE VALLEY - Pine Valley Reservoir is a beautiful place for fishermen to fish brook trout and rainbow trout. The reservoir is near the Pine Valley Recreation Complex, which has over 150 campsites with picnic and restroom facilities. This area is greener than most other parts of southwestern Utah with pine and pinion trees, and many come to enjoy camping and hiking. It is west of the town of Central. (435) 652-3100.

QUAIL LAKE - Quail Creek State Park provides excellent year-round camping, picnicking, boating, and trout and bass fishing in sunny southwest Utah. The park is three miles east of the Interstate 15 Hurricane exit on Utah State Route 9. Facilities include 23 campsites, modern restrooms, a fish cleaning station, and two covered group-use pavilions. (435) 879-2378.

SAND HOLLOW - Looking to fish? Swim? Ride your ATV in the sand? Do all that and more at Sand Hollow State Park, located between St. George and Hurricane. Bring your boat, a picnic, and some fishing gear for a fun day on the reservoir, or watch the kids swim while you relax on the beach. Load up your RV or tent and settle in for a nice campout, or ride your ATV in the dunes of Sand Mountain. (435) 680-0715.



SNOW CANYON - Named after early Utah leaders Lorenzo and Erastus Snow, Snow Canyon State Park begins just outside of Ivins and stretches northward. Spectacular scenery includes towering red and white sandstone cliffs, black lava formations, and even a waterfall that appears during heavy rain. Snow Canyon offers 16 miles of hiking trails, beautiful sand dunes, technical rock climbing sites, horseback riding, year-round camping, nature studies, and wildlife viewing. This park is a favorite for locals and visitors alike. (435) 628-2255.

ZION - With breathtaking views, numerous hiking attractions of all difficulty levels and some of the most spectacular scenery on earth, Zion National Park and its surrounding areas attract thousands of visitors every year. This natural wonder is not only a mecca of recreational activity, but Zion and nearby Springdale host numerous cultural activities, as well. There’s something for everyone in Zion – whether you’re looking for a challenging hike or a fun excursion for the family. (435) 772-3256.

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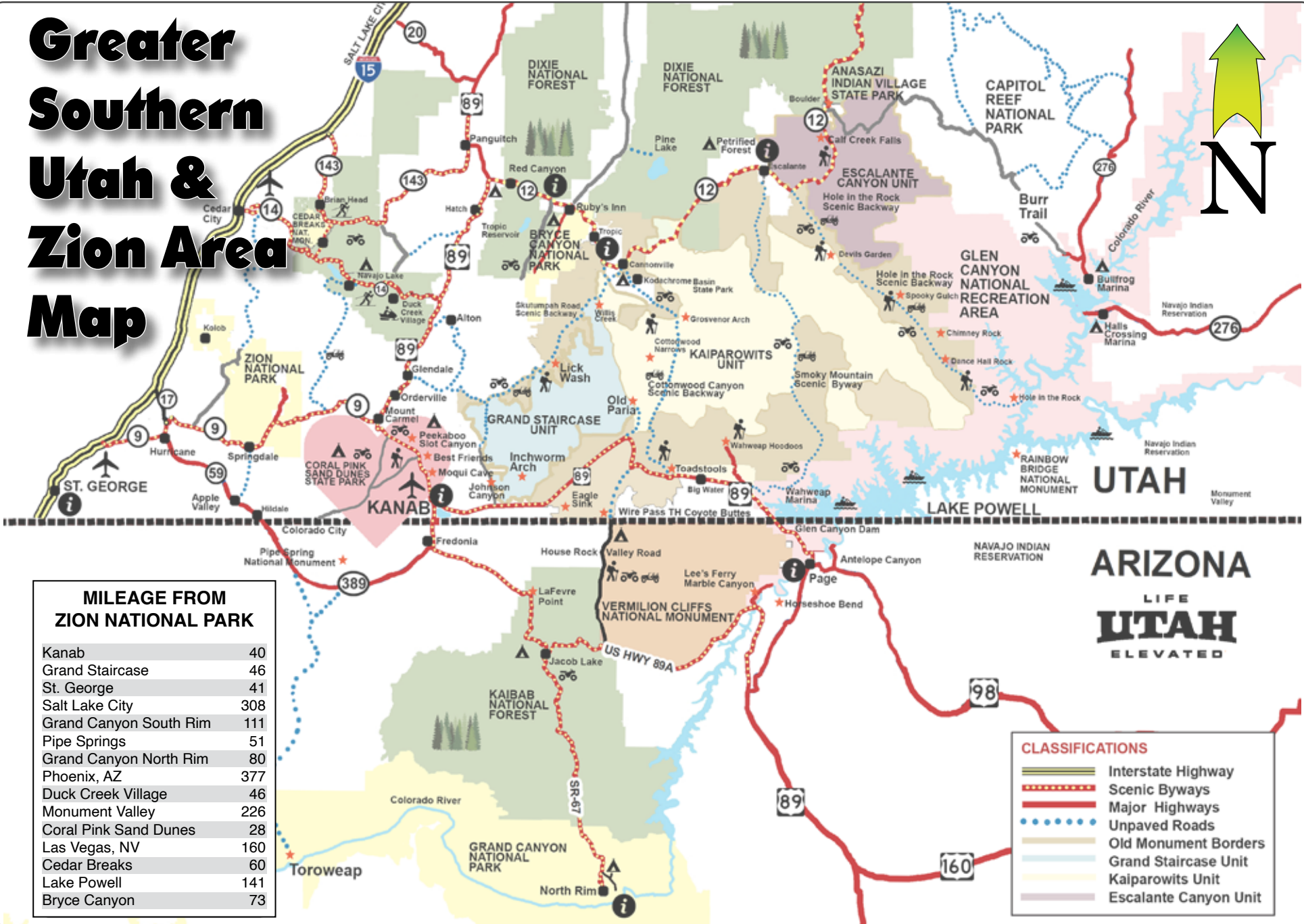
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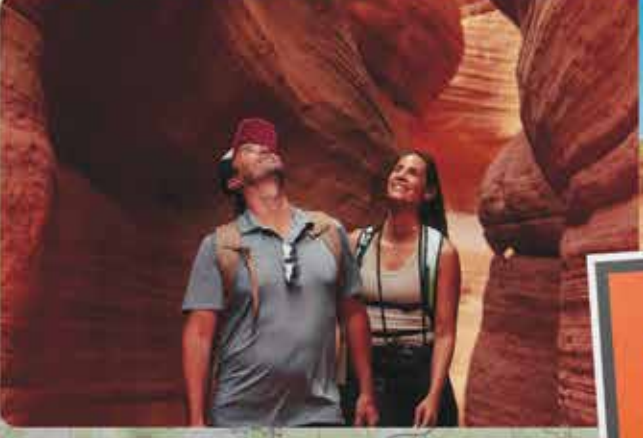
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Zion Area Annual Events



The Zion area is incredible for hiking—but did you know it also hosts hundreds of amazing events every year? From art festivals and outdoor concerts to rodeos, parades, and film screenings, there’s something happening in every season. Here are just a few highlights. Be sure to check out The Independent’s extensive Events Calendar and local event coverage in every issue!

January

Winter 4x4 Jamboree (Hurricane/Sand Hollow) – One of the biggest off-road events in Southern Utah during the winter season, attracting enthusiasts from across the West.

February

St. George Parade of Homes (Washington County) – Showcasing luxury and custom homes with a focus on design, architecture, and interior inspiration. Bryce Canyon Winter Festival (Bryce Canyon National Park) – Presidents’ Day weekend celebration featuring snowshoeing, archery, arts and crafts, and more. The Annual Sears Invitational – Every year on President’s Day weekend, showcasing over 100 artists from all over the West and more than 200 traditional, contemporary, and sculptural pieces of artwork.

March

Southern Utah Early Music Festival (St. George) – Hosted by Utah Tech University, this concert explores early music traditions from Gregorian chant to the Baroque. Ivins Fitness Fest (Ivins) – A health-forward community event with fitness booths and the kickoff to the month-long “Sloth-A-Thlon.”

April

Kayenta Chalk Festival (Ivins) – A vibrant celebration of ephemeral art, where local and visiting artists transform the sidewalks

of the Kayenta Art Village with large-scale chalk creations. St. George Art Festival (St. George) – Held Easter weekend in historic downtown, this beloved festival features fine art, live music, and local food vendors. St. George Plein Air Festival (St. George) – Now in its fifth year, this outdoor painting festival draws artists of all levels to capture the beauty of Southern Utah landscapes on canvas. Includes workshops, exhibitions, and live painting events. Art Around the Corner Unveiling (St. George) – Each spring, the annual Outdoor Sculpture Exhibit kicks off with a celebratory unveiling of new public art installations throughout downtown. Zion Chalk & Earth Fest (Springdale) – This interactive art and nature festival combines chalk art, earth-based installations, and hands-on activities along the gateway to Zion National Park.

May

Spring Fiesta (Cedar City) – A lively cultural celebration featuring music, food, and family fun in historic downtown Cedar. Amazing Earthfest (Kanab) – Southern Utah’s signature festival of learning, arts, culture, and outdoor adventure. Kanab Outdoor Market (Kanab) – A weekly market running through October, offering nursery stock, baked goods, local art, jewelry, crafts, and a bounce house for kids.

June

Jacob Hamblin Days Festival (Kanab/Kane County) – Honoring the region’s pioneer and Western heritage with family-friendly festivities. Maynard Dixon Country Campout (Mt. Carmel, Kane County) – A multi-day gathering of artists and fans of Western art history and painting. Utah Shakespeare Festival (Cedar City) – Kicks off in late June and runs through October with a celebrated

lineup of Shakespearean and contemporary plays.

June–July

Firefly Powerbike Rally (Toquerville or Hurricane area) – Electric dirt-bike gathering with rides, demos, and social events for e-bike enthusiasts.

July

Independence Day Festivities (Various towns in Southern Utah) – Parades, fireworks, barbecues, and live music in communities like Kanab, Springdale, Duck Creek, and more. Pioneer Day Celebrations (Various towns in Southern Utah) – Celebrations on or around July 24th honoring Utah’s pioneer history with parades, games, dinners, and traditional festivities.

August

Kane County Fair (Orderville) – A family-friendly event offering games, contests, food, and community fun with mostly free admission. Legend’s Weekend (Kanab) – A celebration of Kanab’s Western and film heritage featuring parades, rodeos, film screenings, concerts, and more.

September

Red Rock Film Festival (Cedar City) – Independent film screenings, workshops, and panels celebrating artistic and innovative filmmaking. Carmel Mountain Music & Art Festival and Car Show (Mount Carmel, Kane County) – Classic cars, live music, food vendors, and kid-friendly activities. Duck Creek End of Summer Bash (Duck Creek Village, Kane County) – Labor Day Weekend music event at Duck on In Saloon. Zion Canyon Music Festival (Springdale) – A fall tradition in Zion Canyon with live music, artisan booths, food, and local flair. Swiss Days (Santa Clara) – A lively heritage celebration

with Swiss-inspired food, vendors, live music, and community activities. Hurricane Peach Days (Hurricane) – Parade, rodeo, carnival, and of course, peaches – held the weekend after Labor Day. Escalante Canyons Art Festival (Escalante) – Featuring plein air competitions, art exhibits, guided hikes, and workshops celebrating art and landscape.

October

Kanab Arts Festival (Kanab) – Art, food, live music, poetry, wagon rides, and kids’ activities line Kanab’s main street in a festive fall atmosphere. Zion Rocktoberfest (Springdale) – A mix of live music, food, beer, and Oktoberfest-inspired celebration set against the red cliffs of Zion. Red Bull Rampage (Virgin) – The world’s premier freeride mountain biking event, drawing top athletes and huge crowds to Southern Utah.

November

Butch Cassidy 10K Run (Springdale/Virgin/Grafton area) – A scenic road race through red rock country followed by a celebratory gathering in historic Grafton. K-town Turkey Trot 5K (Kanab) – A Thanksgiving morning fun run/walk for all ages in downtown Kanab. Plein Air Art Invitational (Springdale) – A week of exhibits, workshops, and painting sales with some of the finest plein air artists in the nation. Christmas Light Parade and Festival (Kanab) – Parade, gourmet s’mores, hot cocoa, caroling, and a lantern launch held the Saturday after Thanksgiving. Zion Canyon Arts and Crafts Fair (Springdale) – A beloved community tradition featuring local and regional artisan booths and handmade goods.

December

Z-Arts Gala (Springdale) – A formal night of celebration with food, dancing, and an art auction hosted by Z-Arts.

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Springdale Utah Town Map



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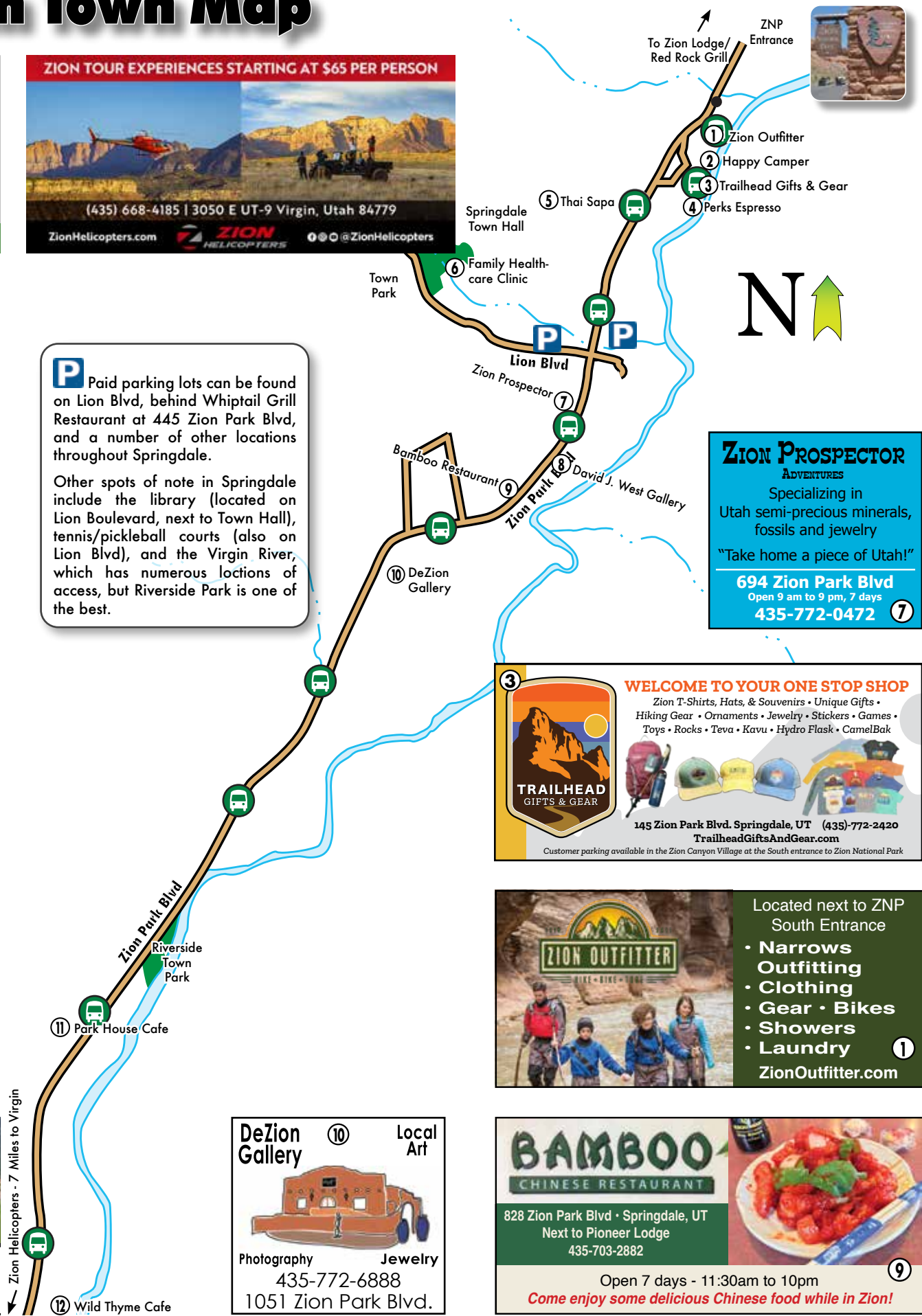
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ZionHelicopters.com **ZION HELICOPTERS** **@ZionHelicopters**

P Paid parking lots can be found on Lion Blvd, behind Whiptail Grill Restaurant at 445 Zion Park Blvd, and a number of other locations throughout Springdale.

Other spots of note in Springdale include the library (located on Lion Boulevard, next to Town Hall), tennis/pickleball courts (also on Lion Blvd), and the Virgin River, which has numerous locations of access, but Riverside Park is one of the best.



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145 Zion Park Blvd. Springdale, UT (435)-772-2420
TrailheadGiftsAndGear.com
Customer parking available in the Zion Canyon Village at the South entrance to Zion National Park

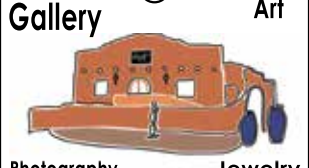
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⑨



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Kanab Utah City Map



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EAST ZION & KANAB AREA FEATURED RESTAURANTS & BARS FROM ZION GUIDE

Restaurants/Bars	(Listed Alphabetically)	Address	Phone	Drinks/Vegan	Hours	WI-FI
(W)ine, (B)eer, (M)ixed Drinks, (E)spresso, (V)egan items on menu						
7	Adria's Restaurant	86 S 200 W, Kanab	(435) 644-7800	W, B, M	8:30 AM - 2 PM Tues - Sun	Yes
17	Buckskin Tavern	2321 N Main, Fredonia, AZ	(928) 643-7094	W, B, M, V	Noon - Close	Yes
10	Jakey Leigh's	4 E Center St, Kanab	(435) 644-8191	E, V	7 Am - 2 PM Daily	Yes
5	Nomad Cafe & RV Resort	2400 N Hwy 89, Kanab	(406) 594-0294	E, V	6:30 AM - 2:30 PM Thurs - Mon	Yes
1	Soup Town	30 E State, Orderville	(435) 648-2370	V	11 AM - 5 PM Tues - Fri	Yes
14	Wild Thyme Cafe	198 S 100 E, Kanab	(435) 644-2848	W, B, M, E, V	11:30 AM - PM Daily	Yes

EAST ZION & KANAB AREA FEATURED SERVICES, SHOPS & GALLERIES FROM ZION GUIDE

FOR EMERGENCIES DIAL 911

Services			Shops		
(Listed Alphabetically)			(Listed Alphabetically)		
Adventure Tours of Kanab	Serving Kanab	(435) 689-2029	15	Glazier's Market	264 S 100 E, Kanab (435) 644-5029
9	Best Friends Animal Sanctuary	5001 Angel Canyon Rd, Kanab (435) 644-2001	17	Honey's Marketplace	260 E 300 S, Kanab (435) 644-5877
Grand Canyon Expeditions	Call for Info	(435) 644-2691	9	Kanab Drug	176 W Center, Kanab (435) 644-3401
16	Hope Hyperbarics	395 S 100 E, Kanab (435) 689-1831	4	Moqui Cave	4581 US-89 (435) 644-8525
11	Kane County Visitors Bureau	78 S 100 E, Kanab (435) 644-5033	6	Nature's Showcase	288 W Center, Kanab (435) 644-2390
12	Kanab Family Dental	76 E 100 S, Kanab (435) 644-2719	2	The Rock Stop	385 W State St, Orderville (435) 648-2747
Kayak The Colorado	Call for Info	(435) 275-2925	To get your business on this map and directory please call Josh at 435-632-1555 for details.		
13	Ramsay Auto Service	115 S 100 E, Kanab (435) 644-8070			

CHECK OUT ALL THESE GREAT SHOPS AND SERVICES WHEN YOU'RE VISITING KANAB AREA!

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ZION NATIONAL PARK EXPERIENCE



ZION TOUR EXPERIENCES STARTING AT \$65 PER PERSON



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