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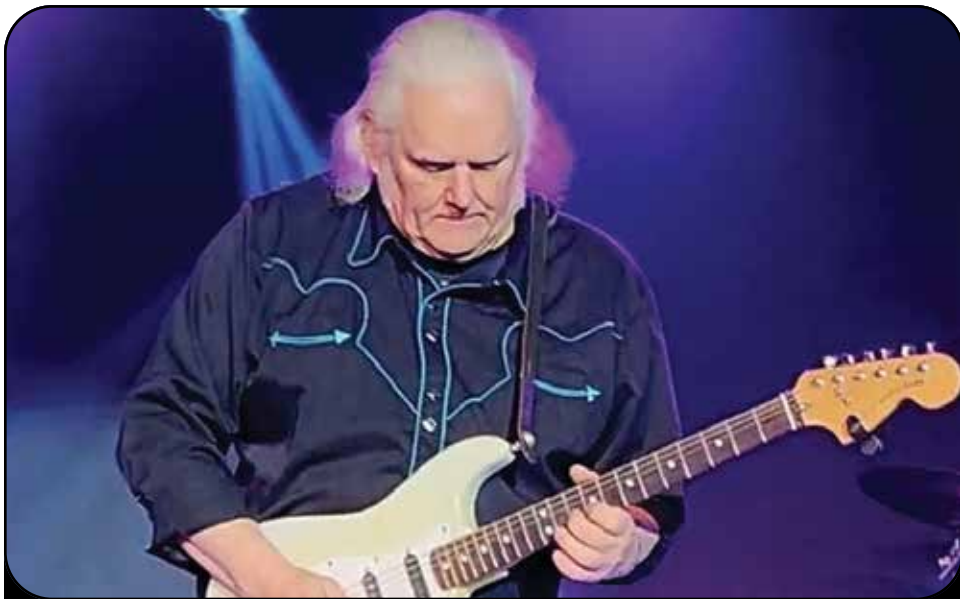
FREE ZION GUIDE

July '26



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BEYOND THE STAGE: CRAFTING YOUR PERFECT DAY AT THE UTAH SHAKESPEARE FESTIVAL

June 26, 2026—Cedar City, UT

A visit to the Utah Shakespeare Festival in Cedar City stretches far beyond the traditional evening performance. While the world-class productions on stage are exceptional, the true value for many visitors lies in the broader Festival Experience—a cultural getaway that expands a single night at the theatre into a multi-sensory journey. From play orientations and scholar-led seminars to the beloved outdoor performances, many of these engagement opportunities are included at no additional cost, making it easy to dive deep into the stories and the community.

A perfect day at the festival often begins well before the first curtain rises. Morning backstage tours offer a rare, intimate glimpse into production spaces, including the costume shop where artists



audiences for generations, filling the air with music, storytelling, and laughter. It transforms the Ashton Family Greenshow Commons into a vibrant gathering place and serves as a perfect prelude to an evening under the stars.

Once the sun sets, the crowd takes their seats in the open-air Engelstad Shakespeare Theatre for timeless works. This season's repertoire includes the gripping drama of Hamlet, the memorable mischief of Twelfth Night, and the rarely-produced Troilus and Cressida. Watching these world-class stories in a breathtaking outdoor setting is an experience fit for the Bard himself. The exploration continues the next morning, as audience members can join festival scholars for post-show seminars to discuss the themes and performances that linger long after the final applause.

This summer is particularly special as the region celebrates the tenth anniversary of the Beverley Taylor Sorenson Center for the Arts. Nestled on the campus of Southern Utah University, the festival is just steps from historic boutiques, galleries, and eateries, making Cedar City an ideal basecamp. For visitors coming from the St. George area, Ivins City Parks and Recreation is even hosting a day trip on July 15. For a fee of \$100, participants can enjoy a luxury shuttle ride, a backstage tour, and a matinee ticket to Something Rotten!, with the trip running from 8 AM to 6:30 PM. Whether you are staying for a day or a week, the festival offers a unique blend of scenic views and Tony Award-winning theatre. For tickets and more information, visit bard.org or call 800-PLAYTIX.

work at the top of their craft to bring the season to life. For those who want to understand the intellectual side of the art, production seminars provide insider perspectives from directors, actors, and designers. These sessions reveal the creative decisions and theatre expertise behind the work audiences see under the stage lights.

After enjoying lunch in the charming historic downtown of Cedar City, guests can attend a play orientation to prepare for an afternoon matinee. This season's indoor offerings at the Randall L. Jones Theatre span several genres. Families might enjoy the fast-paced British comedy See How They Run or the charming hit

Broadway musical She Loves Me. For those who prefer high-energy antics, the musical Something Rotten! provides a hilarious reimagining of the Renaissance. Following the matinee, audiences can witness theatre magic in real time during Repertory Magic. This fascinating demonstration shows how crews swiftly transform a massive set from one production to another in just minutes, and even includes a live Q&A with the festival production manager.

As the heat of the afternoon begins to fade, the community gathers once again for a pre-show orientation before heading to the lawn for The Greenshow. This free outdoor performance has welcomed



LETTER FROM THE EDITOR – JULY By Elizabeth Gunter

"It's a dry heat."

If you've lived in Southern Utah for any length of time, you've probably said it yourself—or at least heard someone say it while stepping out into a 105-degree afternoon. And while there may be some truth to it, July is still the month when we all become experts at finding shade, planning around the hottest part of the day, and rediscovering just how much there is to do indoors.

The good news is that summer doesn't slow Southern Utah down—it simply shifts the schedule. Galleries fill with visitors escaping the afternoon sun, theaters dim their lights, live music carries into the evening, and community events find creative ways to make the most of our long summer nights. This month's issue is full of ideas to help you do exactly that.

This July also brings an opportunity to celebrate some-

thing much bigger. Communities across the country are recognizing America's 250th anniversary with events that



honor our nation's history and the people who continue to shape it. Here in Southern Utah, you'll find plenty of ways to join the celebration while connecting with the stories that make our own communities unique.

We're also especially excited about this month's edition of The Dish. For the first time, we venture into Southern Utah's growing wine scene with a visit to a local vineyard. It's always fun to discover something unexpected close to home, and we think this month's feature may inspire a few new weekend adventures.

Thank you for continuing to support the artists, performers, restaurants, businesses, and organizations that make Southern Utah such a vibrant place to live. Every event attended and every local business supported helps strengthen our community.

Stay cool—and remember, it's a dry heat.

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COMEDIAN ANDY BENINGO AND THE MIGHTY STEELHEADS SET TO PERFORM AT BUMBLEBERRY THEATER

July 11 & August 8, 2026 – Springdale, UT
Bumbleberry Theater keeps the summer calendar moving with two distinct nights on the schedule—live music in July with The Mighty Steelheads, followed by stand-up comedy in August with Andy Beningo.



First up, Saturday, July 11 at 7 PM, The Mighty Steelheads return to Springdale with Vern Monnett and a band built on experience and range.

Monnett, a LaVerkin homegrown guitarist and pedal steel player, brings a long résumé back to southern Utah each time he performs locally. He began working as pedal steel guitarist for Tex-Mex legend Freddy Fender in 1993, continuing through 2005 with recording work and international touring across Europe, Japan, Canada, Australia and the United States. He also logged a film cameo in The Beverly Hillbillies, playing guitar behind Dolly Parton.

The Steelheads lean



into a mix that moves comfortably from country to rock, delivered by seasoned players who know how to hold a room. Expect guitars, pedal steel, familiar songs and a straightforward, no-frills kind of musicianship that fits the setting.

The lineup shifts to comedy on Saturday, August 8 at 7 PM, when Andy Beningo takes the stage.

With more than 3,500 career performances, Beningo has established himself as a reliable national touring comic known for his clean, relatable style. He has been named one of the “40 Best Up and Coming Comedians” in the country and has earned “Best Comedian” honors from both the Detroit Metro Times and

Detroit Hour Magazine.

His credits include AXS TV’s Gotham Comedy Live, CMT’s Next Big Comic, and The Date Night Tour in Canada, along with appearances on the nationally syndicated Bob and Tom Show. His Drybar Comedy special, Adorable Tough Guy, has generated millions of views, and his album Quiet Coyote continues to air on SiriusXM’s Laugh USA.

Both shows take place at Bumbleberry Theater, 897 Zion Park Blvd. in Springdale. The Mighty Steelheads perform July 11, followed by Andy Beningo on August 8, both at 7 PM. Tickets and additional details are available through Stride Events and at Bumbleberry.com.

EXPERIENCE GALACTIC FUN AT THE CEDAR CITY MOONWALK 5K

August 1, 2026 – Cedar City, UT

If you are looking for the perfect family-friendly way to wrap up your summer, look no further than the Moonwalk 5K. Join Cedar City Events for a night of magic under the full moon where the focus is less on the finish line and more on dancing, laughing, and making memories with your favorite people. Participants will have the chance to walk or race through the beautiful East Bench trail system while decked out in their best glow-in-the-dark gear.

The festivities kick off at 7:30 PM in the parking lot of the LDS Church on Greens Lake Drive. Before the race even begins, you can enjoy a live band, free mocktails, and plenty of yard games. There will also be a climbing wall, face painting, and a variety of glow-in-the-dark swag to help you shine. The race itself begins at 9:30 PM and is open to everyone from age 8 to 100 plus. You will have an hour and a half to complete the course, with plenty of extra fun waiting for you along the way.

Whether you decide to stroll with your

loved ones or race for a top time, the celebration continues at the finish line with an out-of-this-world food selection and a foam party. Solo registration is \$25 for walkers and \$30 for timed runners, who will be eligible for awards based on their age group. Families and teams of up to six can also take advantage of a team discount. Every ticket includes a commemorative t-shirt so you can remember this unforgettable experience long after the glow fades. You can sign up now at the Cedar City website.



MUSIC AND ADVENTURE MEET AT THE FIFTH ANNUAL FORT DESOLATION FEST

September 24–26, 2026 – Torrey, UT

The red rocks of Southern Utah are calling as the Fort Desolation Music and Adventure Travel Festival returns for its fifth year. Set against the stunning backdrop of Cougar Ridge Resort in Torrey, this unique event offers three nights of world-class music and three days to explore the breathtaking landscapes of Capitol Reef National Park.



This year’s main-stage lineup is packed with talent, featuring acclaimed artists like Drive-By Truckers, Andrew Bird, Grahame Lesh & Friends, and Rayland Baxter.

To ensure every guest has a premium experience, the festival limits attendance. This allows everyone to move around comfortably, get close to the music, and enjoy the atmosphere without the hassle of long lines.

While the music takes center stage in the evenings, your days are wide open for adventure. Whether you prefer hiking through red-rock canyons, fly-fishing, cycling, or off-roading, the area surrounding the festival has something for everyone. New for 2026, guests can also enjoy the Fort Desolation Fondo, a two-day gravel-cycling event, or relax at the on-site Oasis Pool & Fitness facility.

The heart of the festival is the campground, situated in a pristine alfalfa field with sweeping views. It is a place where neighbors become friends during campsite cookouts and after-hours jams with festival artists. For those who want a bit more luxury, glamping tents and two-bedroom villas are available, offering upscale amenities and private decks. It is truly a one-of-a-kind way to experience the magic of the Utah desert. You can find more details and the official 2026 playlist at the Fort Desolation website.



SOUTHWEST SYMPHONY RETURNS TO AMERICA FIRST PERFORMING ARTS CENTER FOR A MILESTONE SEASON

September 18, 2026 – St. George, UT

Ten years ago, the Southwest Symphony began an exciting new chapter under the baton of Maestro Lucas Darger. This season, that journey reaches a significant milestone as the symphony returns to its newly renovated home at the America First Performing Arts Center. This new era is also being celebrated with a fresh logo and an updated website to better serve the community. Tickets are already available at swsutah.org and are selling quickly.



The holiday season brings Sounds of the Season on December 11 and 12. This polished performance skips the clichés to focus on great seasonal music, including Sleigh Ride, selections from The Nutcracker, and moving renditions of O Holy Night and Silent Night.

In the spring, the symphony explores the raw power of Shostakovich’s Symphony No. 5 on March 5. This concert also looks toward the future of music by showcasing the gold medalist of the Southwest Symphony’s Young Artist Competition and featuring a special collaboration with the Zion Youth Symphony.

The tradition continues on April 2 and 3 with Rob Gardner’s Lamb of God. This sacred Easter oratorio, which tells the story of the final days of Jesus Christ through music and narration, will feature local soloists and a combined choir. The season concludes on April 30 with Cho-Liang Lin Plays Brahms, featuring one of the most distinguished violinists of our time alongside Beethoven’s Symphony No. 6, the “Pastoral.”



The season kicks off on September 18 with A New Era: The Inaugural Concert. This performance offers the first chance to experience the breathtaking acoustics of the renovated hall. The evening features internationally acclaimed cellist Steven Sharp Nelson of The Piano Guys. The program bridges the classical and the contemporary, ranging from Beethoven’s Fifth and the 1812 Overture to the electric energy of “Secrets” and “Kung Fu Panda.”

On October 23 and 24, audiences can enjoy A Night at the Oscars featuring Hollywood bagpiper Eric Rigler. As a musician who helped create some of cinema’s most iconic soundtracks, Rigler will join the symphony for Academy Award-winning favorites from Titanic, Braveheart, The Lord of the Rings, and How to Train Your Dragon.

Whether you are a longtime patron or a first-time attendee, this milestone season promises to be unforgettable. Music lovers are encouraged to secure their Crescendo Club memberships, Saturday Serenade tickets, or individual concert seats soon at swsutah.org.

RED ROCKS AND GLACIERS MEET AT THE SEARS ART MUSEUM IN ST. GEORGE

Through August 14, 2026 – St. George, UT
The Sears Art Museum at Utah Tech University is inviting the community to experience a unique visual journey spanning thousands of miles. The current exhibition, titled From Red Rocks to Glaciers: Southern Utah and Alaska Through the Lens, explores the connections between two of the most monumental landscapes on the continent. Running through August 14, 2026, the show offers a rare opportunity to see how artists respond to the raw power of nature in vastly different climates.

At the heart of the exhibition is an evocative suite of Alaskan wilderness photographs by Tisa Zito. These images were born from Zito's transformative solo journey through remote northern landscapes, documenting fleeting impressions of solitude, awe, and renewal. Her reflections on the physical endurance and silence required for such a journey inform the emotional core of the entire gallery.

This Alaskan suite acts as a catalyst for a larger conversation with prominent regional photographers, including Deborah Bice, Ilene Bandringa, George Kalantzes, Mike Shedlock, and Shirley Smith. These local artists offer their own perspectives

on the Southwest, creating what museum curator James Peck describes as a "call and response." By placing images of red sandstone cliffs alongside glacial ice, the exhibition reveals unexpected parallels in scale, geological drama, and the deeply personal experiences tied to the wilderness.

Peck noted that the result is a dialogue about place, memory, and the ways wilderness shapes us emotionally and psychologically. The photographers respond to Alaska's rivers and mountains with images of canyon walls, desert light, and open expanses familiar to audiences throughout the American Southwest.

Among the regional contributors is Mike "Mish" Shedlock, an award-winning fine art photographer whose work is celebrated for capturing the joy of discovery. Shedlock specializes in museum-quality images designed to evoke emotion and storytelling. His work has appeared in prestigious venues like the Sears Art Museum and has graced the covers of 80 different publications.

The Sears Art Museum is open on the Utah Tech University campus. Those who have not yet had a chance to see this compelling dialogue have until August 14 to visit.



FINAL FRIDAY ART WALKS RETURN TO CEDAR CITY

June 26, 2026 – Cedar City, UT

Cedar City is getting ready to celebrate the local arts scene as the Final Friday Art Walks return for the summer season. This family-friendly event is free and open to the community, offering a wonderful way

The evening will be filled with a variety of musical performances ranging from folk music by Coyote Bluegrass to the Southern Utah Handbell Choir and a brass quintet. You can catch live music at several spots, including The Green, Artisans, Stone Path, and the IG Winery.

This June event also marks a special tenth-anniversary celebration for the Beverley Taylor Sorenson Center for the Arts at the Southern Utah Museum of Art (SUMA) and the Utah Shakespeare Festival. With additional performances and activities, it is a night you will not want to miss. If you cannot make it this month, be sure to mark your calendars for the upcoming Art Walks on July 31, August 28, and September 25.



to explore visual art, live music, and artist demonstrations across several downtown locations.

Starting at 5 PM on June 26, visitors can stroll through galleries and venues to see the work of local artists. For those looking to participate, artists are welcome to set up their family-friendly display tables at the corner of 100 West University Blvd. (Center Street) beginning at 4:30 PM with no vendor fee.



Correction: In our June issue, two articles contained factual errors that did not meet our editorial standards. Our Sears Art Museum article included incorrect artist names and exhibition details, and our Zion Vineyards feature contained incorrect information regarding the vineyard's history and ownership. We sincerely apologize to our readers and to the organizations involved. We have corrected the online versions of both articles and have reviewed our editorial fact-checking process to help ensure greater accuracy moving forward. Thank you for your continued trust in The Independent.



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THE DISH: SAVORING LOCAL HERITAGE AND COMMUNITY SPIRIT AT ZION VINEYARDS

July 12 & 16, 2026 – Leeds, UT

Every month, "The Dish" explores the flavors and destinations that define the culinary landscape of Southern Utah. This month, the journey leads to the quiet beauty of Leeds for a visit to Zion Vineyards. Celebrating three years of growth in the region, this local winery is proving that the desert soil can produce truly refined and complex labels while honoring a regional winemaking history.

lived life. There is a profound poetry in the way the "culture of the grape" creates its flavor; the final notes in the glass are a reflection of the Leeds climate, the patience of the growing process, and the shared heritage of a region that has cultivated vines longer than many realize.

This dedication to the land creates unique opportunities for connection. On harvest days, the vineyard welcomes volunteers to experience the agricultural cycle firsthand, offering a chance to participate in the ancient tradition of bringing in the grapes. For those traveling with a home on wheels, the establishment is a member of the Harvest Hosts program, allowing members to enjoy free overnight parking in exchange for their patronage—a perfect way to wake up surrounded by the beauty of the vines.

While deeper vintage notes are on page 7, estate-grown labels are best experienced through upcoming events. On Sunday, July 12, the establishment hosts a Paint and Sip from 2:30 PM to 4:30 PM. Participants can enjoy the creative process while tasting a selection of wines. The engagement continues Thursday, July 16, with a five-course Wine Pairing Dinner at Wood Ash Rye in St. George.

The tasting room is open daily from noon until 6 PM at 5 Hidden Valley Road in Leeds. Reservations are not needed for flights. Whether joining a volunteer harvest crew or stopping for an overnight stay, guests will find a welcoming space where agricultural heritage and the culinary future meet.



A visit to the vineyard reveals a deep dedication to the craft of viticulture and a passion for creating elevated culinary experiences. The winery operates with a perspective that views wine not just as a beverage, but as a central part of a well-

SOUTHERN UTAH ART GUILD SHOWCASES "FORCE OF NATURE" AND LOCAL TALENT IN ST. GEORGE

July 31, 2026 – St. George, UT

The Southern Utah Art Guild is bringing a wave of creativity to the community this summer with two distinct galleries showcasing the work of talented local artists. These events are free and open to the public, offering an accessible way for residents and visitors to immerse themselves in the local art scene.

is presented without awards, allowing the focus to remain entirely on the diverse creative expressions of the participants.

The community is invited to celebrate the opening of the show at the Artist's Reception on Friday, July 31, from 5 PM to 7 PM. The exhibition will remain on display from July 31–September 3, 2026. Located at 220 N 200 E in St. George, Red Cliff Gallery is open Monday through Friday from 9 AM to 5 PM and Saturday from noon to 4 PM.

Spotlight Artist at Arrowhead Gallery Just a short distance away, Arrowhead Gallery is featuring ceramicist Anita Gardner as its Spotlight Artist for July. Gardner, a local artist and grandmother based in Washington, is widely recognized for her intricate and detailed ceramic pieces. Her award-winning work has earned her local acclaim and provides a unique look at the possibilities of ceramic artistry.

Visitors can view Gardner's spotlight exhibit at Arrowhead Gallery, located at 68 E Tabernacle in St. George. The gallery is open Tuesday through Thursday from 10 AM to 6 PM and Friday through Saturday from 10 AM to 8 PM.

For more information about upcoming shows and participating artists, visit southernutahartguild.com.



Force of Nature at Red Cliff Gallery Red Cliff Gallery is proud to present "Force of Nature," a joint exhibition featuring artists from Guild Clubs, Women Out West, and Turn. This massive showcase will feature more than 150 works of art created by over 70 different artists. Unlike many traditional gallery shows, this exhibition



Get Ready for a Summer Full of Reading and Rewards! Children, Teens, and Adults who complete all eight weeks of reading will not only boost their reading power—they will also be entered into prize drawings for gift certificates, Ipads, and more!

Registration begins May 26, 2026. The reading program starts June 1st and ends July 25th. Check @ your library branch for dates and time of events!

For information on reading requirements and to register for the program, please visit www.library.washco.utah.gov






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FIND RENEWAL AND CONNECTION AT THE "FILL YOUR CUP" SPIRITUAL WELLNESS RETREAT

July 23, 2026 – Kanab, UT

Life can often feel like a race where the finish line keeps moving. For those feeling like they are running on empty, a local gathering in Kanab offers a chance to pause, breathe, and find a bit of balance. The "Fill Your Cup" Spiritual Wellness Retreat arrives at the United Church of Kanab/Fredonia from July 23–26, inviting the community to explore a variety of ways to refresh the mind and spirit.

deep release. Matthew Stewart will provide guided meditations paired with ambient music and explore the healing power of music frequencies. For those who find insight through the written word, Tony Schoenfeld will lead a session on the art of language and journaling to help participants write their own story.

Connection takes many forms throughout the retreat. Tim Clarke will lead a joyous session of Irish Set Dancing—



This unique event is built around the idea that community connection and personal reflection are essential for well-being. Over the course of the weekend, a diverse group of local presenters will share their knowledge through a series of free individual sessions. Because space is limited, interested participants should register in advance by emailing Fill.Your.Cup2026@gmail.com for the sessions they wish to attend.

The journey begins on Thursday, July 23, at 7 PM with an opening presentation by Christiane Turner titled "From Empty to Overflow". Turner focuses on simple yet powerful techniques to shift a mindset in real-time, helping people interrupt draining patterns and reconnect with a sense of calm and clarity.

no previous experience required—while Ria Hoyt showcases the expressive power of art. Scout Wilkins introduces "Word Trails," a tabletop game designed to foster connection and self-discovery among friends and families.

The retreat also emphasizes the importance of trust and mindfulness. Gail Everhart will lead a "Trust Walk" and mindfulness practices aimed at improving the quality of interpersonal relationships. To round out the spiritual experience, Carmella Hoeft will guide a sound bath meditation using crystal quartz sound bowls to help manage stress and promote tranquility.

The weekend concludes on Sunday morning with a special service at 10 AM titled "The Spiritual Joy of Filling Our



The schedule for Friday and Saturday is packed with opportunities for movement and meditation. Megan Clafin will lead Yin and Restorative yoga sessions designed to quiet the nervous system and invite

Cups". Whether attending one session or the entire weekend, the retreat offers a welcoming space for anyone looking to ground themselves and find a little more ease in their journey.

CELEBRATE HERITAGE AND HOME AT THE KANAB PIONEER DAY CELEBRATION

July 24, 2026 – Kanab, UT

The community is invited to gather at the Jackson Flat Reservoir this July 24 for an evening filled with family fun, entertainment, and a spectacular fireworks display. This Pioneer Day celebration offers a wonderful opportunity to honor the area's heritage while enjoying the spirit of community fellowship.

is the perfect time to relax and visit with neighbors before the evening entertainment begins.

The stage will come alive starting at 6:30 PM with live music from two popular Southern Utah acts. The Chris Paul Band will kick things off with their signature blend of country and classic favorites. Following them at 8:30 PM, Casey Lofthouse

will take the stage. Known for his traditional country sound and engaging performances, Lofthouse is a staple of the Southern Utah music scene.

The celebration will also include karaoke and open mic sessions for those feeling brave enough to share their own talents. As the sun sets, the music and dancing will continue at the pavilion until the night concludes with a grand fireworks display after dark. Whether you are a local resident or just visiting the area, this is an event you will



The festivities begin at 4 PM with a variety of activities designed for all ages. Children and adults alike can enjoy a giant slip-n-slide, barrel train rides, and a cornhole tournament. For those looking to capture a memory of the day, there will be pioneer-themed photo opportunities available throughout the afternoon.

From 5 to 6 PM, a community dinner will be served. Attendees can enjoy a classic summer menu of hamburgers, hot dogs, chips, and ice cream treats to keep cool. It

not want to miss.





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KEEPING YOUR PETS HAPPY AND SAFE THIS INDEPENDENCE DAY

July, 2026 – Kanab, UT

As we gear up for fireworks, barbecues, and all the summer camaraderie that comes with the Fourth of July weekend, it is important to think about our furry friends. While we are busy celebrating America's 250th birthday, our pets might feel a bit differently. Crowds, loud booms, and passing sirens can be quite overwhelming for them.

during backyard time and on walks after the holiday in case neighbors indulged in the celebrations.

When it comes to the cookout, try to hold the scraps. Many summer staples like avocados, grapes, onions, and ice cream are toxic to pets. If you really want to share a treat, try frozen watermelon chunks or blueberries instead. Also, double-check that your pet's identification tags and microchips



To give everyone peace of mind, Best Friends Animal Society is offering some wonderful tips to help keep your dogs and cats at ease. First, try to stay calm. Check when your local fireworks are scheduled and bring your pets indoors beforehand. You can set them up in a cozy room with closed windows and their favorite toys. Playing calming music or turning on the TV can also help muffle the noise.

It is also a good idea to keep things clean. If you are celebrating at home, make sure to clear away any firework debris promptly, as those chemicals can be harmful. Keep a close eye on your pets

are current just in case they get startled and run off. Up-to-date information is key in helping the country achieve a no-kill status, where every healthy and treatable pet in a shelter is saved.

Finally, have your emergency contact information ready, including local vet clinics and shelters. And if you are looking for another reason to celebrate, all adoption fees at Best Friends locations are waived from June 22 through July 5 thanks to Warner Bros Discovery. You can visit the Best Friends website for more information on how we can work together to save them all.

ROMANTIC FARCE "THE COTTAGE" OPENS AT THE ELECTRIC THEATER

July 30, 2026 – St. George, UT

The Stage Door is bringing a bit of high-society scandal to St. George this summer with its production of Sandy Rustin's acclaimed romantic farce, *The Cottage*. Opening at The Electric Theater, this witty and fast-paced comedy promises an evening filled with laughter, secrets, and plenty of British banter.

Directed by Josh Scott, the production features a talented lineup of local performers. Ginger Nelson and Michael Lee return to the summer comedy stage as Sylvia and Beau. They are joined by Anna Beck, Timothy Merkley, and Gwendolyn Scott, who previously worked together in *Into the Woods*. The cast also welcomes newcomers Sloane Saunders and Chad



Set in 1923 England, the story is a nod to the classic comedy of manners style of Noël Coward. The chaos begins when Sylvia Van Kipness decides to expose her year-long affair with Beau by sending a telegram to both her husband, Clarke, and Beau's wife, Marjorie. When the unexpected spouses arrive at the countryside rendezvous, the situation spirals as it is revealed that Clarke and Marjorie have their own secrets. With shifting alliances, a prop porcupine, and a few unexpected weapons, the characters must navigate a web of betrayals to find a hilariously non-traditional resolution.

Calmelot to the St. George theatre scene. Performances run for three consecutive weekends from July 30 through August 15. Evening shows are scheduled for 7:30 PM on Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays. There is also a special matinee performance at 2 PM on Saturday, August 1. Because seating is limited and this hilarious production is expected to be popular, theatergoers are encouraged to purchase tickets in advance. You can find more information and secure your seats at stagedoorutah.com.



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MAKE A SPLASH WITH OTC COMEDY

July 3-31, 2026 - Cedar City, UT

July is the season of backyard barbecues, pool parties, sunscreen, and finding every excuse possible to stay out and enjoy the summer. Between the cookouts and cannonballs, make room for one more summer tradition: a night of laughter at OTC Comedy.

Summer always seems to pass by faster than expected. Before the season slips away, take some time to enjoy experiences that are genuinely memorable. While the grill cools down and the pool closes for the night, OTC Comedy is just getting started.

Shows take place every Friday at 8 PM throughout July at the OTC Comedy



Every Friday at 8 PM, the OTC Comedy Theater, located at 913 S. Main Street, serves up a fresh batch of live improv comedy that is every bit as satisfying as a perfectly grilled burger and a cold drink on a hot day. Admission is just \$10, and tickets are available at otccomedy.com.

Unlike your favorite summer recipes, the comedy at OTC is never made the same way twice. Every show is built from audience suggestions, creating an evening of unexpected characters, ridiculous situations, and laugh-out-loud moments that exist for one night only. There are no reruns or reheated leftovers—just comedy served fresh off the grill.

Whether you have spent the day at the pool, cooling off at the lake, or trying to beat the Southern Utah heat, OTC Comedy is the perfect way to cap off a summer evening. The theater offers an all-ages show where the audience helps shape the fun, making it an ideal outing for friends and family alike.

The energy at OTC is similar to a great summer gathering. Everyone comes together, shares a few laughs, and leaves with stories they will be telling long after the night is over. You never know when an audience suggestion will spark an unforgettable scene or when a simple game will turn into the biggest laugh of the night.

Theater. Tickets are \$10 and can be purchased online at otccomedy.com. Grab a towel, finish that last bite of watermelon, and dive into an evening of comedy. The water may be refreshing, but the laughs are even better.



LOCAL STARS TO SHINE AT DIXIE'S GOT TALENT IN ST. GEORGE

September 5, 2026 - St. George, UT

Southern Utah is getting ready for a night of incredible performances as Dixie's Got Talent returns to the stage this fall. Presented by the Utah Tech University Entertainment Alliance, this annual tradition is more than just a talent show; it is a community-wide effort to raise funds for student scholarships while giving local artists a chance to shine.

1, the top eight contestants from each category were chosen. These 24 acts will now face off in the grand finale, where a panel of judges and audience voting will determine the winner and runner-up in each category.

This year, the finale is moving to a new date to kick off the City of St. George's annual Dixie Days festivities. The show begins at 7:30 PM on September



The event has become a premier showcase for regional performers, providing them with a professional platform to share their gifts and compete for cash prizes. Del Beatty, Vice President of Student Affairs, notes that the most rewarding part is watching people find the courage to perform and gain recognition for their abilities while supporting the next generation of students.

The road to the finale began with video auditions, with contestants competing in youth, adult, and group categories. After a round of in-person callbacks on August

5 at the America First Performing Arts Center (AFPAC) Stage on the Utah Tech University campus. It is a wonderful way to celebrate local talent and community spirit all in one evening.

Tickets for the finale range from \$20 to \$50 and go on sale starting at 9 AM on August 3. You can purchase yours at the Utah Tech ticket office or online at utahtech.edu/ticket-office. To learn more about the voting process and the event timeline, you can visit utahtech.edu/DGT.

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SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL FARMERS AND ARTISANS!

FINE WINE AND CREATIVE FUN AT ZION VINEYARDS IN LEEDS

July 12, 2026 – Leeds, UT

Zion Vineyards is busy this July with bottling, creating blends, and irrigating the vines in anticipation of a high-quality 2026 harvest. The clusters of grapes currently on the vine are a promising indication of the good season to come.

For those looking to enjoy these local flavors, the vineyard has worked closely with Wood Ash Rye in St. George for the past year and a half to host monthly Wine Pairing Dinners. This month, the event takes place on Thursday, July 16, featuring a five-course meal paired with five selected wines. Interested guests can sign up online through OpenTable. Additional plans are already in the works for a Dining on Main event in September.



Artistic visitors can join the Paint and Sip event on Sunday, July 12, from 2:30 PM to 4:30 PM. Led by instructor Ash, participants can follow the day's subject or explore their own creative ideas while tasting fantastic wines. It is a perfect opportunity to bring friends or meet new ones in a relaxed setting. Registration is available via Eventbrite.

The tasting menu also welcomes back

two standout wines. The Tempranillo is a full-bodied, smooth selection with bold notes of cherry, cedar, and dark fruits like blueberry and cassis. Its silky tannins make it a perfect match for grilled meats, tapas, or even dessert over amaretto ice cream. Also returning is the 2023 Primitivo, which is grown entirely on the estate in Leeds. Known as Italy's Zinfandel, this rich, fruit-forward wine offers flavors of blackberry and plum with hints of anise and dark chocolate.

Located just 12 miles north of St. George, Zion Vineyards is open seven days a week from noon to 6 PM. Reservations are not required for those wishing to visit the tasting room at 5 Hidden Valley Road. More information and wine selections can be found at the Zion Vineyards website or by calling 435-216-1340.



EXPERIENCE A JOURNEY THROUGH HISTORY AT ONCE UPON A TIME IN AMERICA IN KANAB

July, 2026 – Kanab, UT

The Once Upon a Time in America Museum is celebrating its second year in business, offering a destination that combines history, dining, and shopping in one massive location. Spanning 40,000 square feet, the museum takes visitors on a journey from the Revolutionary War to modern times through six distinct exhibit areas.

Pop culture fans are not left out, as the museum features items from stars like Marilyn Monroe, James Dean, and Elvis Presley. There is even a section dedicated to famous villains and a baseball signed by the very first inductees into the Baseball Hall of Fame.

The "horsepower corral" is a must-see for car enthusiasts. It features over 35 rare classic cars in exquisite condition, including



History buffs will be thrilled to see original documents signed by George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, and Benjamin Franklin. The collection even includes a hat once worn by Abraham Lincoln. Beyond the political figures, the museum houses a vast room dedicated to Western history. You can find autographs from legendary figures like Wyatt Earp, Sitting Bull, and even Utah's own Butch Cassidy. This area also honors Kanab's reputation as "Little Hollywood" by celebrating the more than 200 western films shot in the region.

a fan-favorite replica of the time machine from Back to the Future. No matter which American car brand you prefer, you are likely to find it represented here.

As you wrap up the museum tour, you can visit the western ballroom. It features a town facade complete with a church bell and a jail cell where you can take your picture. Nearby, a massive taxidermy collection showcases animals ranging from polar bears to the desert sheep found right here in Southern Utah.

The experience continues at the Smoke Wagon Saloon. The downstairs area replicates an authentic 1880s saloon, while the upstairs offers a more modern vibe with neon signs, pool tables, and video games. It is a great spot to grab what many guests call the best burgers and smoked meats in the area.

Before you leave, the Sweet Tea and Whiskey Emporium offers high-end gifts and unique treasures to help you remember your visit. It is truly one of the most unique experiences in Southern Utah and a visit you will not forget.



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SUMMER FUN FOR ALL AGES WITH IVINS CITY PARKS AND RECREATION

July 8, 2026 - Ivins, UT

Summer is in full swing, and Ivins City Parks and Recreation has a packed schedule of events to keep everyone entertained. Whether you are looking to cool off from the desert heat, take a cultural day trip, or enjoy a family movie under the stars, there is something for every age and interest.

backstage tour and a matinee ticket to the musical "Something Rotten!" along with snacks and water for the ride. You can register today at the Ivins City website or in person at City Hall.

As August arrives, Friday evenings at Heritage Park transform into a free outdoor movie theater. The films begin at



Teens can beat the heat at the Teen Summer Water Bash on Wednesday, July 8, from 5 PM to 8 PM at Ivins Heritage Park. This free event is set to be a blast with an inflatable water slide, a dunk tank, and a foam machine from local Ivins company Foam Encounter. There will also be music and food available for purchase from local favorites like Corndog Co and Pure Joy Shave Ice.

For those looking to hit the road, the city is hosting a day trip to the Utah Shakespeare Festival on Wednesday, July 15. Participants will meet at Ivins City Hall at 8 AM for a luxury shuttle ride to Cedar City. The \$100 registration fee includes a

approximately 8:30 PM, or as soon as it is dark enough to see the screen. This year's family-friendly lineup includes Matilda on August 7, Cars on August 14, Lego Batman on August 21, and Zootopia 2 on August 28.

Finally, mark your calendars for Ivins City Heritage Days, running from September 9 to September 12. With the theme "Celebrate Freedom's Journey and America 250," the week is full of community spirit, including a free swim night at SHAC, service projects, a car show, cowboy poetry, and a Saturday parade. It is a wonderful way to celebrate the history and future of our community together.

AMERICAN CROSSROADS THEATRE CELEBRATES AMERICA'S 250TH ANNIVERSARY IN CEDAR CITY

July 3, 2026 - Cedar City, UT

American Crossroads Theatre is getting ready to raise the curtain on its 24th summer season in Cedar City. This year is extra special as the company celebrates America's 250th anniversary with a lineup of four acclaimed productions at the Heritage Center Theater.



The season kicks off with Mister Lincoln on July 3 and 4. This intimate one-man play brings Abraham Lincoln to life through his own words, sharing the wit and wisdom that helped shape our nation. It is a perfect way to celebrate Independence Day weekend.

The excitement continues the following week as three more Broadway hits join the rotation. Come From Away opens July 9, sharing the moving true story of a small town's generosity after September 11. On July 10, the beloved classic The Music Man takes the stage, followed by the glitz and glamour of Chicago on July 11.

These four shows will run in repertory through August 8, meaning you have plenty of chances to catch them all. Founder and artistic director Richard Bugg notes that this season is particularly meaningful, reflecting different facets of the American experience through leadership, compassion, optimism, and brilliance.

Whether you are a longtime fan or a first-time visitor, live theatre is a wonderful way to bring the community together. You can grab tickets, subscriptions, or Flex Passes now at AXRTheatre.org or by calling 435-267-0194.



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LITTLE HOLLYWOOD WILD WEST FEST BRINGS THE REEL WEST TO KANAB

September 10, 2026 – Kanab, UT

Kanab is famous for its cinematic history, and this September, the community is invited to experience where the real West meets the reel West. The Little Hollywood Wild West Fest arrives for three days and nights of nostalgia, stunts, and storytelling from September 10–12. Whether you are a fan of classic television or modern blockbusters, this one-of-a-kind event offers something for every posse of family and friends.

from local artisans and crafters.

Younger cowboys and cowgirls can head to the Giddy Up Round Up Kids Korral for a wagon load of activities. The festival also includes a scavenger hunt with prizes, live music on the Gunsmoke Stage, and appearances by Hopalong Cassidy tribute artist Joe “Hoppy” Sullivan. For those who love western culture beyond the screen, the Parry Lodge Barn will host trail boss poet Andy Nelson for cowboy poetry and storytelling. The Kanab Center will



The heart of the festival is the Little Hollywood Museum. There, fans can meet movie and television stars including Rudy Ramos from Yellowstone, Mitch Vogel from Bonanza, and Darby Hinton from Daniel Boone. Stuntman Dr. Buck and his Wild Bunch will also bring high-energy action to the grounds with their signature Wild West Stunt Shows. For those looking for a slower pace, Merchant Row will feature rare finds

also house an amazing quilt show and a library book sale.

Special evening events take place at the Historic Redstone Theater throughout the weekend. Thursday night features a screening of the classic western Tombstone with special guest Peter Sherayko. Friday night offers a star Q&A panel followed by an award-winning old-time radio show called Little Hollywood Rides Again! performed by the Ricochet Radio Ranglers. The big finale arrives Saturday night with a chuck wagon dinner at Giff's BBQ where attendees can dine alongside the festival stars.

Tickets for evening events and more information can be found at the Little Hollywood Wild West Fest website. Grab your wild west best and join the community for this celebration of Kanab's legendary heritage.



DISCOVER SILVER REEF: SOUTHERN UTAH'S HIDDEN HISTORIC TREASURE IN LEEDS

July 1, 2026 – Leeds, UT

Just beyond the bustle of the National Parks and the red rocks of St. George lies one of Southern Utah's most remarkable historic sites: the old silver-mining town of Silver Reef. Once a booming community of nearly 2,000, Silver Reef was the largest town in Southwest Utah in the 1870s and 1880s, even surpassing St. George. Today, only a handful of structures remain, carefully preserved and deeply cherished, yet the town still whispers its stories to anyone willing to listen.

Guided Tours and Exploration Visitors can choose a docent-led tour, explore the old townsite on their own, or enjoy both. A half-mile self-guided walk leads to key historic sites and viewpoints overlooking the former mines and mills that operated here for decades. Outside the museum, original mining equipment stands as a reminder of the town's industrious past. An underground mine exhibit offers an immersive glimpse into what it was like to work beneath the sandstone.

Silver Reef's setting is as captivating as its history. The town sits at the intersection of three major regions of the American West: the Colorado Plateau, the Mojave Desert, and the Great Basin. From the museum grounds, visitors can take in sweeping views of all three landscapes and learn to “read the land” while exploring Southwest Utah.

Planning a Visit To begin the journey, visit silverreef.org, where a virtual introduction shares the stories, geology, and mysteries that define this remarkable place. The website details how silver was discovered, mined, and milled, introducing the people who shaped the town's boom years.

The museum is open Monday, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday from 10 AM to 3 PM, with the last docent-led tour departing at 2:15 PM. Admission is \$5 per person, with additional family members at \$4 each. A family of four can attend for \$16, and children under 6 are free. A full list of monthly events and lectures is also available on the website.



Silver Reef's history is unlike any other in the West. It was the only place where silver was successfully mined from sandstone—a geological rarity found nowhere else on Earth. Miners, merchants, families, and fortune seekers once filled the streets as the clang of industry echoed across the ridges. Visitors can step directly into that past through artifacts, photographs, and exhibits that reveal the surprising events that shaped this unusual mining town.



JULY 2026 FREE FAMILY-FRIENDLY EVENTS

Best Friends Roadhouse & Mercantile
300 N 300 W, Kanab, UT 84741

Enhance your upcoming visit or take a tour from home with the Best Friends Sanctuary App!

Kitten Bingo: July 9, 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM
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Gentle Yoga: Saturdays at 9:00 AM *
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**July 3, 2026 cancelled*

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 July 11, 2026 - Dylan Thomas Gavin
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Blessing of the Animals
July 25, 4:00 PM | Angels Rest Best Friends Animal Sanctuary

Crafts for Pet Lovers
July 28, 5:30 PM - 6:30 PM
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Learn more and visit the Sanctuary!

ZION JEEP TOURS EXPANDS NIGHT SKY ADVENTURES AND CUSTOM BACKCOUNTRY EXPERIENCES

Summer 2026 – Virgin, Utah



Visitors looking to experience Zion after sunset—or escape the crowds during the day—have even more options this season as Zion Jeep Tours expands its popular Night Sky Tours and highlights new opportunities for guided excursions through the historic Zion-Mount Carmel Tunnel to the park's spectacular east side.

For nearly two years, the company has been taking guests far from city lights for unforgettable stargazing adventures in Southern Utah's dark skies. Now, Zion Jeep Tours has expanded its ability to accommodate much larger groups while

continuing to offer the intimate, off-the-beaten-path experiences that have made the tours a favorite among visitors.

The company is also reminding travelers that its smaller Jeep vehicles can legally travel through the Zion-Mount Carmel Tunnel, making it an ideal way to explore the park's east entrance while larger commercial vehicles face increasing restrictions. Guests can now enjoy a three-hour adventure that combines scenic exploration on the east side of Zion with an off-road journey through the rugged backcountry south of the park. Custom



tunnel-focused tours are also available.

Beyond its scheduled tours, Zion Jeep Tours is expanding its lineup of customizable experiences. The company now offers private tours, catered meals in the mountains, corporate outings, weddings, large group excursions for up to 50 people, private night tours, and other personalized adventures tailored to guests' interests.

Originally founded in 2003 as Zion Outback Safaris, the company has introduced thousands of visitors to the lesser-known corners of Zion and the



surrounding backcountry. Current owner Ben Dold purchased the business in 2024 after working as one of its guides, bringing his lifelong passion for off-roading and Southern Utah exploration to the next chapter of the company. Today, the business continues to emphasize small-group experiences, local knowledge, and access to landscapes many visitors never discover on their own.

Whether visitors are hoping to photograph the Milky Way, explore the colorful slickrock east of Zion, or plan a one-of-a-kind private adventure, Zion Jeep Tours offers flexible experiences designed around nearly any occasion. For more information or to book your custom adventure, call 435-668-3756, email info@zionjeeptours.com, or visit zionjeeptours.com.

THE INDEPENDENT MOVIE REVIEWS

By Adam Mast

"Backrooms" is an immersive horror-tinged experience from a talented YouTube content creator



MOVIE REVIEW: BACKROOMS (R) Grade: B

Hot on the heels of the box-office juggernaut that is Curry Barker's *Obsession* comes another horror piece made by a YouTube content creator, this one courtesy of Kane Parsons, who at only a mere 20 years old, has directed an effective and unique genre-bender called *Backrooms*. For the uninitiated, this movie is based on a web series Parsons put together after being inspired by a liminal spaces-oriented creepypasta when he was only 16. Seeing potential for a big screen expansion, A24 stepped up to the plate and rather than milking this concept and handing it off to some journeyman director with no real grasp of the source material, they gave Parsons a shot (along with screenwriter Will Soodik) and the end result is this wild ride of a movie that lands somewhere in between the surreal stylings of a David Lynch film and the creative nature of Rod Serling's "The Twilight Zone."

In *Backrooms*, we're introduced to Clark (Chiwetel Ejiofor), a recently divorced furniture store owner who's been saddled with quite the string of bad luck. His recent separation and failing business only succeed in furthering his escalating drinking problem. With nowhere to turn, Clark reaches out to therapist, Dr. Mary Kline (Sentimental Value Oscar nominee, Renate Reinsve) in the hope that she might help him get his life back on track. Ultimately, his existence is thrown into an even deeper tailspin when he soon discovers a portal to another dimension in his furniture store basement; A dimension that leads to a seemingly never-ending collection of interconnected office space-like rooms. Some of these rooms are empty while others feature everything from randomly placed pieces of furniture to other familiar odds and ends. As a collective, these liminal spaces sometimes feel like they'd be perfectly at home in a book of M.C. Escher artwork.

Upon making this startling discovery, Clark is compelled to search through several of these rooms, looking for answers of some kind. Adding to the overall eeriness of the situation is that while these liminal spaces appear to be deserted, Clark can't help but feel he's not alone. In an effort to keep his sanity, he seeks assistance from a couple of employees and eventually, Dr. Kline, to help him make sense of his never-ending curiosity regarding this alternate dimension. What follows is an intriguing

and methodically paced slow build that will certainly evoke many a post-viewing discussion.

If you're thinking the proceedings sound infinitely weird, they are, but in a good way. No doubt, this film (which sometimes plays like a fever dream) will be divisive, particularly for viewers who want answers to all the questions that are posed but Parsons is more interested in taking a "Let's leave a lot of this stuff open to interpretation" approach and in the case of *Backrooms*, this particular approach really worked for me. Beyond that, while this isn't necessarily a narrative or character-driven film, it does offer two strong leads, both of whom have a surprising amount of depth, and while their psychological issues aren't necessarily directly tied to the twisty nature of the backrooms, there's certainly a metaphorical angle at play in this movie.

As previously mentioned, Ejiofor and Reinsve are solid here. At the very least, they breathe life into dialogue that might have gone south in the wrong hands. As a frustrated man looking for a (peg) leg up (that pun will certainly make more sense to you after you've seen this film), Ejiofor delivers. He's really great in this and it's a testament to his ability as an actor that his increasing curiosity regarding the backrooms becomes our increasing curiosity as viewers. Furthermore, his emotional digging in the final act really lends weight to the proceedings. Likewise, as good as Ejiofor is as Clark, *Backrooms* is every bit as much about Dr. Kline, and Reinsve is terrific in the role of a woman dealing with issues of her own, brought on by a complicated childhood.

Parsons does a great job building a sense of intrigue and in some cases, an impending sense of doom. He does so by way of plenty of cinematic tricks, including an extended (and intense) found footage-like sequence that breathes new life into a rather tired subgenre. Of course, he gets a ton of mileage out of his aforementioned leads, stellar cinematography by Jeremy Cox (who also shot *Osgood Perkins's Keeper*), and incredible production design by Danny Vermette. As one would expect, the backrooms that make up the majority of this film aren't merely locales, they also serve as characters in this experimental piece and from a visual standpoint, these rooms are as simplistic as they are complex.

As was the case with *Skinamarink* (a slice of experimental horror that doesn't quite live up to the hype) and the recently-released *Iron Lung* adaptation from YouTube content-creator Markiplier (a movie that I have yet to see), *Backrooms* is more interested in setting out to create a vibe. It isn't a horror film in the traditional sense, and it certainly isn't reliant upon relentless cheap jump scares accompanied by obnoxiously loud music cues, but the legions of fans who cherish the Kane Parsons web series that inspired this film are already well aware of that. This isn't to say that there aren't traditional creep out moments to be found here. There certainly are (particularly in the final act) but *Backrooms* really serves

as more of an immersive experience (one that is best viewed in a theater) by way of a tone and visual cues that really stick with you. Again, it's a movie that's likely to divide horror fans, particularly given the way it answers questions by way of more questions, the lack of a straight forward narrative, and the deliberate pacing (for what it's worth, *Backrooms* might have actually been even more effective had it been just a tad shorter), but this particular horror fan greatly enjoyed the overall experience.

"Obsession" brings Monkey's Paw scenario to the modern dating world



MOVIE REVIEW: OBSESSION (R) Grade: B

Online content creator Curry Barker (co-creator of the YouTube Channel, *That's a Bad Idea*, a hub for various comedy sketches and a handful of horror-tinged projects including *The Chair*, *Enigma*, and the found footage feature, *Milk and Serial*) has taken the box-office by storm with *Obsession*, a *Monkey's Paw*-inspired take on the modern dating world that gives entirely new meaning to the age old saying; "Be careful what you wish for."

As *Obsession* opens, we're introduced to Bear (Michael Johnston), a lovesick twenty-something who wants nothing more than to have the affection of Nikki (Inde Navarrette), a good pal who seems pretty content in just keeping him in the friend zone. After dealing with a personal tragedy at home and coming to the conclusion that he doesn't have much of a chance with the potential girl of his dreams, Bear inadvertently finds himself playing God after acquiring an apparent novelty item called a *One Wish Willow* and wishing that Nikki will love him more than anything else in the world. Well, to his shock, the wish comes true...Sort of. The problem is, that the aforementioned wish comes with several terrifying side effects as Nikki no longer appears to truly be the individual Bear initially fell for in the first place.

Curry Barker and team have created an unsettling cautionary tale that also serves as an often shocking commentary on co-dependency but while this is certainly a horror movie, it's also a film filled with bursts of humor and awkward moments that really get under your skin. One of the more disturbing aspects of this movie is the idea that Nikki is essentially held against her own will while this deadly courtship is taking place. This is to say that she's literally trapped inside her own body and very much aware that she's been taken over. In that regard, *Obsession* plays a

little bit like a possession story. Think of it as a fusion of *The Exorcist*, *(500) Days of Summer*, and *Big*.

Michael Johnston is solid as the shy and unlucky-in-love Bear, but at the heart of the film is a tour de force performance by Inde Navarrette. As Nikki, Navarrette commits 100% in a turn that is physical, emotional, and unhinged in equal measure. She really goes for it, here, making for an unforgettable character that will have you gasping one moment and laughing the next. For all of the freakish movements, unnerving frowns, and spontaneous outbursts of violence, there's also something incredibly tragic and sympathetic in the way that Navarrette brings Nikki to life. Simply put, she's fantastic!

There are things in *Obsession* that are a tiny bit lacking. It would have been nice to get to know some of these twentysomethings a little bit better before the shit hits the proverbial fan and truth be told, some of these characters would have benefitted from being a tad more likable. Additionally, one might argue that the happenings that make up the build of the film do tend to sometimes get a little bit redundant. That said, the positives in *Obsession* really do outweigh the negatives. In addition to an outstanding Navarrette performance and a pitch perfect (albeit devastating) ending, there's plenty of nuance throughout. While Barker delivers on the horror and humor front, he also provides a lot to chew on. For example, one of the more thoughtful aspects of this movie is the fact that Nikki actually asks Bear if he has feelings for her at the beginning of the film. Given his lack of confidence and his fear that she won't reciprocate in terms of her feelings, however, he lies to her and suggests he just likes her as a friend. Had he been honest about the way he felt from the outset, it stands to reason that Nikki might have been open to taking their friendship to another level. Instead, he conceals his true feelings, makes the wish, and soon realizes the horrible mistake that he's made.

It's clear that I'm not necessarily the target audience for this movie as I'm 57 years old and have been happily married for quite some time. This is to say that I consider myself fortunate that I'm not in a position where I have to navigate the perils and pitfalls that come with the modern dating world. That said, you don't have to be a twenty-something to find some of the themes of this film instantly relatable because most of us have probably been in a position where that person we thought was perfect for us was simply out of reach.

Again, there's a lot to mull over in the often scary, sometimes funny, and altogether tragic (and fittingly brutal) horror show that is *Obsession*, a movie in which even the very title is open to interpretation. Barker and team have done a terrific job with the character work and the world building by way of a film that poses plenty of provocative questions about dating, relationships, and that complicated thing called love.

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

AMERICAN CROSSROADS THEATRE 24TH SUMMER SEASON July 3-Aug. 8. American Crossroads Theatre presents four acclaimed productions in repertory including *Mister Lincoln*, *Come From Away*, *The Music Man*, and *Chicago*. Heritage Center Theater, Cedar City.

BEST FRIENDS ANIMAL SOCIETY ADOPTION EVENT June 22-July 5. Best Friends Animal Society offers waived adoption fees for all pets at locations across the country to celebrate America's 250th birthday. Best Friends Animal Society, Kanab.

FORT DESOLATION MUSIC AND ADVENTURE TRAVEL FESTIVAL September 24-26. A premium festival experience featuring three nights of music and daytime adventures near Capitol Reef National Park. Cougar Ridge Resort, Torrey.

SOUTHWEST SYMPHONY 2026-2027 SEASON Sept. 18-April 30. The Southwest Symphony presents a milestone season of classical masterworks and cinematic favorites in its newly renovated home. America First Performing Arts Center, St. George, Utah.

IVINS CITY HERITAGE DAYS Sept. 9-12. A week of community fun featuring a parade, car show, cowboy poetry, and live music to celebrate America's 250th birthday. Various locations, Ivins.

ONCE UPON A TIME IN AMERICA MUSEUM Daily. A 40,000-square-foot destination featuring American history artifacts, classic cars, an 1880s saloon, and high-end gifts. Once Upon a Time in America, Kanab.

THE COTTAGE AT THE ELECTRIC THEATER July 30-Aug. 15, 7:30 PM. The Stage Door presents Sandy Rustin's hilarious romantic farce set in 1923 England, featuring high-society scandal and wit. The Electric Theater, St. George.

UTAH SHAKESPEARE FESTIVAL Summer Season. Experience world-class theatre under the stars along with free Greenshows, backstage tours, and educational seminars. Engelstad Shakespeare Theatre, Cedar City.

GREASE July 10-Aug. 8, 8:45 PM. High-energy regional production of the classic rock-and-roll musical. Tuacahn Amphitheatre, 1100 Tuacahn, Ivins.

FROM RED ROCKS TO GLACIERS EXHIBITION June 5-Aug. 14. A photography exhibition exploring visual parallels between the red sandstone of Southern Utah and Alaskan glaciers. Sears Art Museum, St. George.

1776 THE MUSICAL June 26-July 3, 7 PM. Experience the birth of a nation as founders debate and unite to sign the Declaration of Independence in this Tony-winning musical. The Forge at Cedar Fun Center, 170 E. Fiddlers Canyon Rd., Cedar City.

AMERICA 250: 13 DAY CELEBRATION - STARS AND STRIPES FOREVER June 26-July 13. A community-wide celebration featuring the Summer Games, Utah Symphony, and various street festivals to honor America's 250th. Various Locations, Cedar City.

HEART OF AMERICA July 1-Aug. 9. National exhibition from the Plein Air Painters of America featuring over 40 artists painting American landscapes on-site. Maynard Dixon Summer Home & Studio, 2200 S. State Street, Mount Carmel.

BEST OF BROADWAY - STARS, STRIPES, AND SHOWTUNES July 1-Aug. 1, 7:30 PM. High-energy celebration of Broadway favorites woven with themes of freedom and the American spirit. St. George Opera House, 212 N. Main St., St. George.

BEST WESTERN PLUS LIVE MUSIC July 1-Aug. 9, 7 PM. Best Western Plus presents live music nightly throughout the summer at the outdoor Stone Circle amphitheater. Best Western Plus, 50 W. 200 N., Cedar City.

BETWEEN SYMBOLS AND STORIES July 1-Aug. 8, 10 AM. Debut solo exhibition by Megan Knobloch Geilman featuring digital compositions exploring LDS history, doctrine, and social questions. St. George City Art Museum, 47 N. 200 E., St. George.

CARRYING THE FLAME FORWARD July 1-Aug. 8, 10 AM. Anniversary exhibit celebrating 40 years of history, memories, and milestones of the Larry H. Miller Utah Summer Games. Southern Utah Museum of Art, 351 W. University Blvd, Cedar City.

INSIDE: CONDITIONS OF CARE BY SAMANTHA KILLINEN July 1-Aug. 8, 10 AM. Examination of the contradictions between compassion and control within the prison system through soft-material art. St. George City Art Museum, 47 N. 200 E., St. George.

SHE LOVES ME July 1-Aug. 8, 2 PM. Heartwarming musical comedy about feuding co-workers in a 1930s perfume shop who are unknowingly romantic pen pals. Randall L. Jones Theatre, 300 W. Center Street, Cedar City.

TWELFTH NIGHT July 1-Aug. 8, 8 PM. Shakespearean comedy of mistaken identities and unrequited affections involving Duke Orsino, Olivia, and Viola. Engelstad Shakespeare Theatre, 200 W. College Ave, Cedar City.

COME FROM AWAY July 2-11, 7:30 PM. Musical based on the true story of a small Newfoundland town that welcomed 7,000 stranded passengers on 9/11. Electric Theater, 68 E. Tabernacle St., St. George.

SEE HOW THEY RUN July 2-Aug. 7, 2 PM. Classic British farce set in a WWII-era English vicarage packed with mistaken identities and comedic mayhem. Randall L. Jones Theatre, 300 W. Center Street, Cedar City.

SOMETHING ROTTEN! July 2-Aug. 8, 8 PM. Hilarious musical reimagining the Renaissance where playwrights attempt to invent the world's first musical. Randall L. Jones Theatre, 300 W. Center Street, Cedar City.

A JOINT EXHIBITION: GUILD ART CLUBS AND WOW AND TURN CENTER ARTISTS July 31-Sept. 3, 9 AM. Free exhibition displaying over 150 works from 70 local artists at the Red Cliff Gallery. Red Cliff Gallery, 220 N. 200 E., St. George.

TROILUS AND CRESSIDA July 2-Aug. 6, 8 PM. Daring Shakespearean tale of love, betrayal, and shifting loyalties set amid the chaos of the Trojan War. Engelstad Shakespeare Theatre, 200 W. College Ave, Cedar City.

BRIAN HEAD ART FAIR 4TH OF JULY WEEK July 3-4. Free mountain festival featuring live music, artisan vendors, food, and family-friendly attractions. Brian Head Resort, 329 S. Highway 143, Brian Head.

DISNEYS FINDING NEMO July 3-Aug. 7, 8:45 PM. Vibrant family musical featuring dazzling puppetry and special effects to bring the underwater world to life. Tuacahn Amphitheatre, 1100 Tuacahn, Ivins.

FOURTH OF JULY WEEKEND CELEBRATION AT MESQUITE ENTERTAINMENT July 3-4, 8:30 PM. Festive weekend featuring free poolside concerts, barbecue favorites, and holiday dining specials. Casa Blanca Resort, 950 W. Mesquite Blvd, Mesquite.

HAMLET July 3-Aug. 7, 8 PM. Shakespeare's haunting tragedy following a prince's psychological struggle with truth, doubt, and vengeance. Engelstad Shakespeare Theatre, 200 W. College Ave, Cedar City.

KANAB'S INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATION 2026 July 3-5, 6:30 PM. Patriotic celebration including a pancake breakfast, color run, parade, and evening fireworks at the park. Jacob Hamblin Park, 566 N. 100 E., Kanab.

LES MISÉRABLES July 4-Aug. 3, 8:45 PM. Epic musical production of love, courage, and revolution performed in the red rock canyon. Tuacahn Amphitheatre, 1100 Tuacahn, Ivins.

IMPAC PRESENTS LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS July 9-18. Devious musical comedy about a meek florist and a mysterious plant with a craving for human blood. Impac Studio, 389 N. 100 W., Suite 7, Cedar City.

[FX]
JULY JAMBOREE July 10-11. Community street festival featuring over 350 classic cars, live entertainment, craft vendors, and a beer garden. Main Street Park, 200 N. Main St, Cedar City.

BUCKSKIN TAVERN PRIDE FEST July 12-13, 3 PM. Inaugural pride festival featuring live music, drag shows, DJs, and food trucks in Fredonia. Buckskin Tavern, 2321 N. Main St., Fredonia.

MARY SHELLEY'S FRANKENSTEIN July 13-Aug. 7, 2 PM. Bold retelling of the Gothic masterpiece explored through the tragic life story of author Mary Shelley. Eileen and Allen Anes Studio Theatre, 101-199 W. University Boulevard, Cedar City.

THE BOOK CLUB PLAY July 14-Aug. 8, 2 PM. Satirical comedy about friends whose carefully curated lives unravel when their book club becomes a documentary subject. Eileen and Allen Anes Studio Theatre, 101-199 W. University Boulevard, Cedar City.

UTAH MIDSUMMER RENAISSANCE FAIRE July 15-18. Long-standing tradition featuring medieval history, artisan guilds, music, and bustling social festivities. Main Street Park, 200 N. Main St, Cedar City.

PIONEER DAY CELEBRATION July 23-24, 10 AM. Heritage festival with food vendors, games, inflatables, and family-friendly activities in the park. Cedar City Main Street Park, 200 N. Main St, Cedar City.

FILL YOUR CUP SPIRITUAL WELLNESS RETREAT July 23-26. A free community retreat featuring yoga, meditation, art, sound baths, and mindset workshops. Registration required via Fill.Your.Cup2026@gmail.com. United Church of Kanab/Fredonia, 530 US-89A, Kanab.

RADA July 28-Aug. 1, 9:30 AM. Contemporary Shakespeare performance training and workshops presented by the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art. Eileen and Allen Anes Studio Theatre, 101-199 W. University Boulevard, Cedar City.

USA WEST - SQUARE DANCE CONVENTION Aug. 5-8. Large-scale regional square dance gathering and convention events. Heritage Center Theatre, 105 N. 100 E., Cedar City.

USF: WORDS CUBED - A PLAY Aug. 7-8, 9:30 AM. New play program featuring staged readings, workshops, and interactive discussions between playwrights and the audience. Anes Studio Theatre, 152 W. Center St, Cedar City.

EVENTS BY DAY DAILY

ZION JEEP TOURS Daily. Guided off-road adventures, night sky stargazing tours, and custom excursions through the Zion-Mount Carmel Tunnel to the park's east side. 435-668-3756, zionjeeptours.com.

MONDAY

SILVER REEF MUSEUM TOURS Mon., Thurs.-Sat., 10 AM-3 PM. Experience the unique history of the only place on Earth where silver was mined from sandstone through museum exhibits, an underground mine, and guided tours. Silver Reef Museum, Leeds.

THE PIPS & ART IN THE PARK 10 AM. Every Monday and Friday this summer performance group hosts Art in the Park featuring crafts for children. Various Parks, St. George.

STORY TIME WITH GRANDPA STEVE 10 AM. Every Monday children are invited to join a free weekly library reading session. Washington County Library, 88 W. 100 S., St. George.

ORDERVILLE FARMER'S MARKET 2026 5:30 PM. Every Monday evening from June through September enjoy a selection of seasonal produce and baked goods. Orderville Town Park, 55 E. State St, Orderville.

TUESDAY

MAKE ART TUESDAYS 11 AM. Every Tuesday children can participate in weekly creative arts and crafts activities. St. George Children's Museum, 86 S. Main St., St. George.

STORY TIME @ WASHINGTON BRANCH 11 AM. Every Tuesday the library hosts a weekly reading session for young children. Washington County Library, 220 N. 300 E., Washington.

WEDNESDAY

ARTIE IN THE PARK 10 AM. Every Wednesday in June and July the performance group visits Town Square to interact with the community by the splash pads. St. George Town Square, 50 S. Main, St. George.

CEDAR CITY FOOD TRUCK COURT 11 AM. Every Wednesday and Friday this vibrant downtown destination features a rotating lineup of food trucks and music. Market Square, 108 S. Main St, Cedar City.

STORY TIME @ HURRICANE 11 AM. Every Wednesday children can enjoy a weekly reading program at the library. Washington County Library, 36 S. 300 W., Hurricane.

STORY HOUR 2 PM. Every Wednesday families are invited to join a weekly community reading session. Panguitch City, Panguitch.

GAMER CLUB 3 PM. Every Wednesday teens and 'twens who love anime and gaming are welcome to join for discussions. Washington County Library, 88 W. 100 S., St. George.

BOWMAN'S WEDNESDAYS FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT 4 PM. Every Wednesday night families can enjoy a weekly movie screening on the outdoor patio. Bowman's Cowboy Kitchen, 3052 N. Iron Springs Rd, Cedar City.

STORY TIME WITH MRS. MANN @ ST. GEORGE LIBRARY 5 PM. Every Wednesday the library offers weekly reading sessions tailored for young children. Washington County Library, 88 W. 100 S., St. George.

MS SENIOR MESQUITE - WORKSHOPS 5:30 PM. Every Wednesday the center hosts regular community workshops specifically for seniors. Mesquite Fine Arts Center, 15 W. Mesquite Blvd, Mesquite.

MUSIC BINGO AT STATION 2 6 PM. Every 2nd and 4th Wednesday test your music knowledge and compete for prizes. Zion Brewery Station 2, 142 N. Main St., St. George.

ADULT BINGO NIGHT AT STATION 2 6:30 PM. Every other Wednesday join for a night of laughs and prizes for guests aged 21 and older. Zion Brewery Station 2, 142 N. Main St., St. George.

AMERICA 250 - USF: AMERICANA GREENSHOW 7:10 PM. Most Wednesdays and Saturdays through Sept. 5, enjoy free outdoor entertainment. Ashton Family Greenshow Commons, 195 W. Center St, Cedar City.



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Thursday July 23 - Saturday July 25



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1-317-402-2791 Gail Everhart
1-801-979-4799 Christiane Turner

Presenters:
Megan Claflin, Tim Clarke
Gail Everhart, Carmella Hoeft
Ria Hoyt, Tony Schoenfeld
Matthew Stewart, Sioux Sugden
Christiane Turner, Scout Wilkins

Fill.Your.Cup2026@gmail.com

BIG IRON COUNTRY SWING DANCE 8 PM. Every Wednesday and Friday night join for partner and line dancing instruction followed by open dancing. The Venue, 33 N. Main St, Cedar City.

THURSDAY

SILVER REEF MUSEUM TOURS Mon., Thurs.–Sat., 10 AM–3 PM. Experience the unique history of the only place on Earth where silver was mined from sandstone through museum exhibits, an underground mine, and guided tours. Silver Reef Museum, Leeds.

TOASTMASTER MEETING 12 PM. Every Thursday professional development and public speaking groups meet to hone their skills. First Baptist Church, 830 E. Hafen Ln, Mesquite.

TEEN SUMMER READING PROGRAMS 4:30 PM. Every Thursday throughout the summer the library hosts fun and engaging weekly activities for local teens. Washington County Library, 88 W. 100 S., St. George.

KARAOKE AT ZION BREWERY STATION II 8 PM. Every Thursday night guests aged 21 and older can participate in weekly karaoke sessions. Zion Brewery Station 2, 142 N. Main St., St. George.

FRIDAY

SILVER REEF MUSEUM TOURS Mon., Thurs.–Sat., 10 AM–3 PM. Experience the unique history of the only place on Earth where silver was mined from sandstone through museum exhibits, an underground mine, and guided tours. Silver Reef Museum, Leeds.

OTC COMEDY July 3–31, 8 PM. OTC Comedy Theater presents live improv comedy every Friday night throughout July, featuring all-ages entertainment built entirely from audience suggestions. OTC Comedy Theater, 913 S. Main St., Cedar City.

IVINS CITY OUTDOOR MOVIES Fridays in August, 8:30 PM. Free family movie screenings in the park including Matilda, Cars, and Zootopia 2. Ivins Heritage Park, Ivins.

FINAL FRIDAY ART WALKS June 26, July 31, Aug. 28, Sept. 25, 5–8 PM. The Cedar City Arts Council presents free, family-friendly evenings of visual art, artist demonstrations, and live music at multiple locations throughout downtown. Various locations, Cedar City.

THE PIPS & ART IN THE PARK 10 AM. Every Monday and Friday this summer performance group hosts Art in the Park featuring crafts for children. Various Parks, St. George.

CEDAR CITY FOOD TRUCK COURT 11 AM. Every Wednesday and Friday this vibrant downtown destination features a rotating lineup of food trucks and music. Market Square, 108 S. Main St, Cedar City.

BOWMAN'S SUMMER CONCERT SERIES - COUNTRY STYLE 6 PM. Every Friday from June to August come for dinner and enjoy a weekly evening of live country music. Bowman's Cowboy Kitchen, 3052 N. Iron Springs Rd, Cedar City.

FRIDAY NIGHT LIVE MUSIC 7 PM. Every Friday night join Home on the Range to relax to weekly performances by local bands. Home on the Desert Range, 97 W. Center St, Cedar City.

BIG IRON COUNTRY SWING DANCE 8 PM. Every Wednesday and Friday night join for partner and line dancing instruction followed by open dancing. The Venue, 33 N. Main St, Cedar City.

DJ AT ZION BREWERY STATION II 9 PM. Friday and Saturday nights guests aged 21 and older can enjoy weekly DJ sets. Zion Brewery Station 2, 142 N. Main St., St. George.

SATURDAY

SILVER REEF MUSEUM TOURS Mon., Thurs.–Sat., 10 AM–3 PM. Experience the unique history of the only place on Earth where silver was mined from sandstone through museum exhibits, an underground mine, and guided tours. Silver Reef Museum, Leeds.

DOWNTOWN FARMERS MARKET 8 AM. Every Saturday from May through October this fun-baby friendly market features local produce and live music. Vernon Worthen Park, 300 S. 400 E., St. George.

FESTIVAL CITY FARMERS MARKET 2026 9 AM. Every Saturday from May through October this market brings together high-quality foods and artisan goods all year long. Bristlecone Parking Lot, 100 W. Center Street, Cedar City.

HURRICANE FARMERS MARKET 2026 9 AM. Every Saturday from March 14 to November 21 local producers and artisans gather under the trees. Hurricane Community Center, 100 W. 100 S., Hurricane.

CEDAR CITY FARMERS MARKET - YOUTH ENTREPRENEUR DAYS 9 AM. Third Saturday of the month from June to September youth sell their handmade items or baked goods. Cedar City Design and Flooring, 2232 N. Main St, Cedar City.

KANAB DOWNTOWN FARMERS MARKET 2026 10 AM. Every Saturday starting in April the market features over 40 amazing vendors with local makers and growers. Kanab Center, 20 N. 100 E., Kanab.

TAI CHI @ SANTA CLARA LIBRARY 10:30 AM. Every Saturday the library hosts a weekly low-impact exercise class for the community. Washington County Library, 88 W. 100 S., St. George.

DUCK CREEK OUTDOOR MARKET 11 AM. Every Saturday from June through September this mountain market features artisans and food trucks. Duck Creek Outdoor Market, 865 E. Movie Ranch Rd, Duck Creek Village.

SATURDAY MOVIE MATINEE @ ST. GEORGE LIBRARY 2 PM. Every Saturday families are invited to the library for free weekly afternoon film screenings. Washington County Library, 88 W. 100 S., St. George.

LIVE MUSIC AT WILLOW GLEN RESORT - OPEN MIC 7 PM. Every Saturday night enjoy live entertainment followed by an open mic session for all musicians. Willow Glen Resort, 3308 N. Bulldog Rd, Washington.

AMERICA 250 - USF: AMERICANA GREENSHOW 7:10 PM. Most Wednesdays and Saturdays through Sept. 5, enjoy free outdoor entertainment. Ashton Family Greenshow Commons, 195 W. Center St, Cedar City.

DJ AT ZION BREWERY STATION II 9 PM. Friday and Saturday nights guests aged 21 and older can enjoy weekly DJ sets. Zion Brewery Station 2, 142 N. Main St., St. George.

SUNDAY

WOMEN'S SUNDAY GOSPEL DISCUSSION 10:05 AM. Second and Fourth Sunday join for a women's gospel study in the Relief Society Room of the new Chapel. Central Chapel, 850 E. Pine Valley Highway, Central.

YOGA WITH WIL DUCREST AT STATION 2 12 PM. Every first Sunday stretch it out at this donation-based session open to all. Zion Brewery Station 2, 142 N. Main St., St. George.

AL-ANON FAMILY GROUPS WEEKLY MEETING 3 PM. Every Sunday community support meetings are back for those affected by someone else's drinking. Mesquite Veterinary Clinic, 371 Riverside Rd A, Mesquite.

POKER AT ZION BREWERY STATION II 5 PM. Every Sunday join in for the next best thing to Vegas with weekly poker games. Zion Brewery Station 2, 142 N. Main St., St. George.

REGIONAL SINGLE ADULT 36+ POTLUCK AND FIRESIDE 6 PM. Every Fast Sunday includes a potluck followed by an inspirational fireside program for singles. The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 1178 S. 700 W., Hurricane.

EVENTS BY DATE

Friday, July 3

LIVE MUSIC ON THE PATIO WITH "MELSOUL" 7 PM. Folk Rock live musical performance. The Icebox Grill, 27 N. 200 E., Ivins.

AMERICA 250: FRIDAY BELLS AT SUU 2:50 PM. Patriotic songs played on the university carillon bells in celebration of 250 years. Southern Utah University, 351 W. University Blvd, Cedar City.

A SACRED CELEBRATION OF AMERICA 250 7 PM. Patriotic program and ice cream social hosted by the Interfaith Alliance. Christ the King Catholic Church, 690 Cove Dr, Cedar City.

ENOCH CITY INDEPENDENCE PROGRAM 7 PM. Community patriotic celebration and program. 451 E. Midvalley Rd, Enoch.

Saturday, July 4

ENOCH CITY 4TH OF JULY 7 AM. Firefighter pancake breakfast followed by park activities and evening fireworks. Brian Head Town Pavilion, 535 S. Vasels Rd, Brian Head.

ZION CANYON INDEPENDENCE DAY PARADE AND LIONS CLUB PANCAKE BREAKFAST 7:30 AM. Community breakfast and parade with cash prizes for top motorized floats. Springdale Elementary School, 898 Zion Park Blvd, Springdale.

CEDAR CITY 4TH OF JULY 9 AM. Patriotic parade followed by festival activities in the park and dark-sky fireworks. 300 W. Center St, Cedar City.

2026 ST GEORGE 4TH OF JULY CELEBRATION 8:30 AM. Annual Independence Day parade featuring a new route this year along 100 S. (Note: Parade registration is full and there is no carnival this year). 100 S., St. George.

4TH OF JULY PARADE | HURRICANE CITY 8:30 AM. Annual parade celebrating America's 250th year of freedom. 300 S. & Main Street, Hurricane.

PAROWAN 4TH OF JULY 10 AM. Holiday parade followed by park games and fireworks at the fairgrounds. Main Street Park, Main St, Parowan.

MOUNTAIN VIEW RANCH: CLASSIC AUTO SHOW 10 AM. Exhibition of classic vehicles at the ranch. Mountain View Ranch, 10 S. 600 W., Parowan.

4TH OF JULY CELEBRATION & HOT DOG EATING CONTEST AT BRIAN HEAD RESORT 11 AM. Independence Day celebration in the mountains featuring live music, local beer, family activities, fireworks, and a hot dog eating contest. Brian Head Resort, 329 S. Hwy. 143, Brian Head.

4TH OF JULY CELEBRATION AT BRIAN HEAD RESORT 11 AM. Live music, food, and family fun followed by mountain fireworks. Brian Head Resort, 329 S. Highway 143, Brian Head.

4TH OF JULY CELEBRATION 5:30 PM. Live music event featuring emerging country music star Russell Dickerson. Greater Zion Stadium, 700 E. & 500 S., St. George.

GUNSHINE-ALTERNATIVE ROCK NIGHT 6 PM. High-energy rock show serving as a pre-fireworks party. The Blackbird Bar, 90 W. Hoover Ave, Cedar City.

CASABLANCA RESORT & CASINO: JULY THE SPRINGSTEEN EXPERIENCE 7 PM. Premier Bruce Springsteen tribute performance for the holiday weekend. CasaBlanca Resort & Casino, 950 W. Mesquite Boulevard, Mesquite.

RED ROCK BLUE SKY A BENEFIT CONCERT FOR ZION NATIONAL PARK 8 PM. Inaugural benefit concert headlined by Luke Grimes to support park conservation. O.C. Tanner Amphitheater, 144 Lion Blvd, Springdale.

TAMMY GRAHAM BAND 8 PM. Live ballroom entertainment for guests 21 and older. Eureka Casino Resort Ballroom, 275 Mesa Blvd, Mesquite.

Sunday, July 5

AMERICA250 KANAB POTLUCK DINNER 6 PM. Nationwide potluck dinner provided by local sponsorships to benefit community projects. Kanab Center, 20 N. 100 E., Kanab.

CANYONS CALLING SUMMER CONCERT SERIES THE BAND FEEL 7 PM. Outdoor summer concert performance at the park. Jacob Hamblin Park, 531 N. 100 E., Kanab.

Monday, July 6

LET FREEDOM ROLL: TRAIL DEDICATION 250 10 AM. Dedication of Fort Cedar Railroad Trail with historic marker unveilings. Corner of 400 W. and Industrial Rd, Cedar City.

LIVE MUSIC AND FARMERS MARKET WITH CHASE SNOW 5 PM. Local bazaar featuring produce, jewelry, and live entertainment. Bit & Spur, 1212 Zion Park Boulevard, Springdale.

Tuesday, July 7

MAKING WAVES FOR AMERICA 12 PM. Discounted pool admission to celebrate America with a day of swimming. Cedar City Aquatic Center, 2090 W. Royal Hunte Dr, Cedar City.

Wednesday, July 8

TEEN SUMMER WATER BASH July 8, 5–8 PM. A free event for teens featuring an inflatable water slide, dunk tank, foam machine, and food trucks. Ivins Heritage Park, Ivins.

CHRISTMAS IN JULY | MUSIC BINGO 21+ 6 PM. Holiday-themed ugly sweater party with music bingo and festive drinks. Zion Brewery Station 2, 142 N. Main St., St. George.

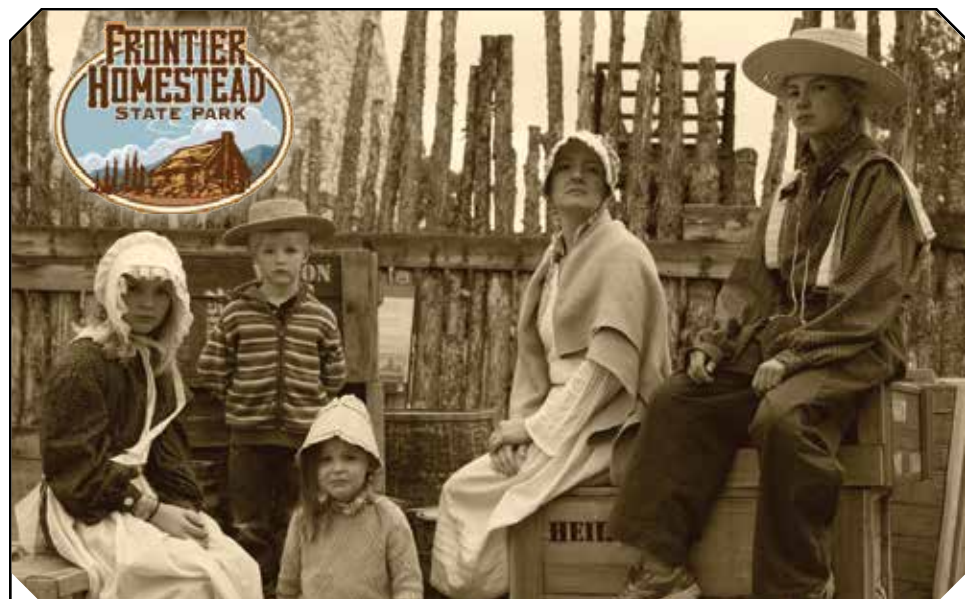
LIVE MUSIC ON THE PATIO WITH "MR. OK" 7 PM. Live musical performance. The Icebox Grill, 27 N. 200 E., Ivins.

CASABLANCA RESORT & CASINO FREE ENTERTAINMENT: JULY MIXTAPE REWIND 7:30 PM. Live sing-along featuring favorite hits from the past. CasaBlanca Resort & Casino's Showroom, 950 W. Mesquite Boulevard, Mesquite.

UTAH SYMPHONY 8:30 PM. Patriotic tour featuring classical works, American folk music, and Broadway selections. Main Street Park, 200 N. Main St, Cedar City.

Thursday, July 9

AUDITIONS FOR ORCHESTRA AND SOLOISTS 4 PM. Audition opportunities for new musicians and youth soloists with the OSU. Heritage Center Theatre, 105 N. 100 E., Cedar City.



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CASABLANCA RESORT & CASINO FREE ENTERTAINMENT: JULY GLENN GALLARDE PROJECT 6 PM. Live Top 40, dance, and rock performance for resort members. CasaBlanca Resort & Casino's Showroom, 950 W. Mesquite Boulevard, Mesquite.

THE HIGHWAYMAN SHOW TRIBUTE 7 PM. Hypnotic tribute to the music of outlaw country legends. Redstone Theater, 29 W. Center Street, Kanab.

HURRICANE CONCERTS IN THE PARK 2026 8 PM. Second Thursday monthly community concert performance. Pioneer Park, 200 N. Main St, Hurricane.

Friday, July 10

ANDY BENINGO AND THE MIGHTY STEELHEADS July 10, 8 PM. A night of clean, high-energy stand-up comedy paired with a multi-genre musical performance by The Mighty Steelheads. Red Cliff Gallery, St. George.

CREATE PLAYDATE 10 AM. Second and Fourth Friday storytime and hands-on activity for Pre-K children. Southern Utah Museum of Art, 13 S. 300 W., Cedar City.

JAC: SUMMER CONCERT SERIES 6 PM. Second Friday free live performance on the outdoor stage for all ages. Johnson Center for Community Arts & Education, 59 N. 100 W., Cedar City.

MOVIE IN THE PARK: E.T. THE EXTRA-TERRESTRIAL 7 PM. Second and Fourth Friday outdoor screening of the classic film. Town Square, 50 S. Main Street, St. George.

UTAH SYMPHONY AT BRYCE CANYON 7:30 PM. Symphonic works performed against the breathtaking vistas of Bryce Canyon. Ruby's Inn, 26 S. Main, Bryce Canyon City.

CINESIZZLE: LABYRINTH 7:30 PM. Screening of the Jim Henson fantasyland film starring David Bowie. Kayenta Center for The Arts, 881 Coyote Gulch Ct, Ivins.

CASABLANCA RESORT & CASINO FREE ENTERTAINMENT: JULY MICHAEL GRIMM TRIO 8 PM. Free live musical performance for resort members. CasaBlanca Resort & Casino's Showroom, 950 W. Mesquite Boulevard, Mesquite.

SUNSET SUMMER BASH 9:30 PM. Major local nightlife event featuring live performances, DJs, and dancing. Saints & Sinners, 307 N. Bluff Street, St. George.

Saturday, July 11

BUMBLEBERRY THEATER - MIGHTY STEELHEADS 7 PM. Live entertainment performance in Springdale. Bumbleberry Theater, 897 Zion Park Blvd, Springdale.

COMEDY NIGHT 7 PM. Live stand-up comedy entertainment for guests 21 and older. Eureka Casino Resort Ballroom, 275 Mesa Blvd, Mesquite.

CINESIZZLE: STARMAN 7:30 PM. Screening of the sci-fi romance film. Kayenta Center for The Arts, 881 Coyote Gulch Ct, Ivins.

RHINESTONE WRANGLERS 8 PM. Live country hits and energetic Western flair. CasaBlanca Resort, 950 W. Mesquite Blvd, Mesquite.

ESCAPE THE HEAT MUSIC SERIES AT BRIAN HEAD RESORT 11 AM. Live musical performance in the cool mountain air. Brian Head Resort, 329 S. Hwy. 143, Brian Head.

LIVE MUSIC ON THE PATIO WITH "FAST EDDIE" 7 PM. Live musical performance. The Icebox Grill, 27 N. 200 E., Ivins.

Sunday, July 12

ZION VINEYARDS PAINT AND SIP July 12, 2:30-4:30 PM. Enjoy wine tasting while creating your own masterpiece with guidance from an instructor. Zion Vineyards, 5 Hidden Valley Road, Leeds.

Monday, July 13

CONCERT IN THE PARK: THE REBEL JAZZ BAND 7 PM. Big band sounds and classic jazz for all ages. Vernon Worthen Park, 61 S. Main Street, St. George.

Tuesday, July 14

PAGE TURNERS BOOK CLUB 2:30 PM. Monthly library literary discussion group. Washington County Library, 88 W. 100 S., St. George.

Wednesday, July 15

COWBOY POETRY OPEN MIC 6:30 PM. Local poets share original Western-themed works. Mountain View Ranch Museum, 10 S. 600 W., Parowan.

Thursday, July 16

ZION VINEYARDS WINE PAIRING DINNER July 16. A five-course meal paired with five Zion Vineyards wines hosted at Wood Ash Rye. Wood Ash Rye, St. George.

COMMUNITY BOOK CLUB 3:30 PM. Neighborhood reading group session. St. George.

TEEN BOOK CLUB 3:30 PM. Library discussion group for local teens. Washington County Library, 36 S. 300 W., Hurricane.

BOOK ENDS BOOK CLUB 4:30 PM. Monthly library meeting for book enthusiasts. Washington County Library, 220 N. 300 E., Washington.

Friday, July 17

CINESIZZLE: 10 THINGS I HATE ABOUT YOU 7:30 PM. Screening of the Shakespeare-inspired high school adaptation. Kayenta Center for The Arts, 881 Coyote Gulch Ct, Ivins.

JOEY VITALE 8 PM. Free live music for guests 21 and older. CasaBlanca Resort, 950 W. Mesquite Blvd, Mesquite.

Saturday, July 18

KINGS OF QUEEN 6 PM. Authentic tribute performance capturing the music and energy of Freddie Mercury. Virgin River Hotel & Casino, 100 Pioneer Blvd, Mesquite.

LIVE MUSIC ON THE PATIO WITH "ELICIT 13" 7 PM. Live musical performance. The Icebox Grill, 27 N. 200 E., Ivins.

CINESIZZLE: WAYNE'S WORLD 7:30 PM. Screening of the iconic comedy based on the SNL skit. Kayenta Center for The Arts, 881 Coyote Gulch Ct, Ivins.

ROCKSTAR KARAOKE 8 PM. Free vocal showcase for resort members. CasaBlanca Resort, 950 W. Mesquite Blvd, Mesquite.

DJ FUEGO LATIN NIGHT 9 PM. Evening of Latin music and dancing. Eureka Casino Resort Ballroom, 275 Mesa Blvd, Mesquite.

Sunday, July 19

CINESIZZLE: DROP DEAD GORGEOUS 7:30 PM. Screening of the mockumentary beauty pageant film. Kayenta Center for The Arts, 881 Coyote Gulch Ct, Ivins.

Tuesday, July 21

2026 ELECTRIC FILM SERIES 6 PM. Monthly screening of unforgettable films with historical discussions. Electric Theater, 68 E. Tabernacle St., St. George.

Thursday, July 23

TERRY WAYNE PROJECT 6 PM. Variety band performing R&B, funk, and classic rock hits. CasaBlanca Resort, 950 W. Mesquite Blvd, Mesquite.

'ORIGINAL MUSIC ONLY' FEATURING NICK WHITESIDES 7:30 PM. Live performance of original compositions. George's Corner Restaurant and Pub, 2 W. St. George Blvd., St. George.

Friday, July 24

PIONEER DAY CELEBRATION July 24, 4 PM. A community celebration featuring a giant slip-n-slide, barrel train rides, a community dinner, live music from Casey Lofthouse, and a fireworks display. Jackson Flat Reservoir, Kanab.

PIONEER DAY FIREWORKS 8 AM. Celebration including a parade, children's activities, and 10 PM fireworks. Veterans Park, 75 E. Telegraph, Washington.

READER'S CIRCLE BOOK CLUB 3 PM. Library reading and discussion group. Washington County Library, 36 S. 300 W., Hurricane.

CASABLANCA RESORT & CASINO: JULY HOMETOWN SOUNDS 6 PM. Free poolside concert series featuring local rock favorites. CasaBlanca Resort & Casino, 950 W. Mesquite Boulevard, Mesquite.

LIVE MUSIC ON THE PATIO WITH "ZNORA" 7 PM. Live musical performance. The Icebox Grill, 27 N. 200 E., Ivins.

CINESIZZLE: I SAW THE TV GLOW 7:30 PM. Screening of the supernatural suburban mystery film. Kayenta Center for The Arts, 881 Coyote Gulch Ct, Ivins.

Saturday, July 25

LIVE MUSIC ON THE PATIO WITH "KIMMEE B & THE BOYS" 7 PM. Live musical performance. The Icebox Grill, 27 N. 200 E., Ivins.

CASABLANCA RESORT & CASINO: JULY AN AMERICAN SOLDIER: TOBY KEITH TRIBUTE 7 PM. Tribute concert celebrating the music of Toby Keith. CasaBlanca Resort & Casino, 950 W. Mesquite Boulevard, Mesquite.

KARAOKE NIGHT! 7 PM. Community karaoke session in the ballroom. Eureka Casino Resort, 275 Mesa Blvd, Mesquite.

CINESIZZLE: THE THING 7:30 PM. Screening of the classic Antarctic horror film. Kayenta Center for The Arts, 881 Coyote Gulch Ct, Ivins.

Sunday, July 26

CINESIZZLE: DOUBLE FEATURE: IT CAME FROM OUTER SPACE + ATTACK OF THE 50FT WOMAN 3 PM. Double feature of 1950s sci-fi horror classics, including a Ray Bradbury adaptation. Dress up and escape the heat for this special afternoon screening. Kayenta Center for The Arts, 881 Coyote Gulch Ct., Ivins.

CINESIZZLE: IT CAME FROM OUTER SPACE & ATTACK OF THE 50FT WOMAN 7:30 PM. Special double feature screening of classic 50s sci-fi. Kayenta Center for The Arts, 881 Coyote Gulch Ct, Ivins.

Tuesday, July 28

SETH LAWRENCE JAMAL COLEMAN 6 PM. High-energy stand-up comedy and freestyle rap performance. Electric Theater, 68 E. Tabernacle St., St. George.

OPEN MIC NIGHT FOR POETS & WRITERS 7 PM. Intimate space for sharing poetry and prose works-in-progress. The Book Bungalow, 94 W. Tabernacle St., St. George.

Wednesday, July 29

LIVE MUSIC ON THE PATIO WITH "OPEN MIC/PRO JAM" 7 PM. Live musical performance hosted by Gary Huff. The Icebox Grill, 27 N. 200 E., Ivins.

Thursday, July 30

'ORIGINAL MUSIC ONLY' FEATURING TOM BENNETT - ONE MAN BAND 7:30 PM. Original outlaw country music from a one-man band. George's Corner Restaurant and Pub, 2 W. St. George Blvd., St. George.

Friday, July 31

FINAL FRIDAY ART WALK 5 PM. Last Friday monthly art walk featuring music and demonstrations. Artisans Gallery, 94 W. Center, Cedar City.

LIVE MUSIC ON THE PATIO WITH "THE LAST LIGHT" 7 PM. Live musical performance hosted by Gary Huff. The Icebox Grill, 27 N. 200 E., Ivins.

CASABLANCA RESORT & CASINO FREE ENTERTAINMENT: JULY RANDY ANDERSON 8 PM. Free live musical performance for resort members. CasaBlanca Resort & Casino's Showroom, 950 W. Mesquite Boulevard, Mesquite.

HOME FREE 8 PM. Highways & High Seas Tour stops for a live performance. Washington County Legacy Park, 339 5500 W., Hurricane.

Saturday, August 1

CEDAR CITY MOONWALK 5K Aug. 1, 7:30 PM. Cedar City Events presents a glow-in-the-dark 5K featuring a live band, yard games, mocktails, and a foam party finish. LDS Church parking lot, Greens Lake Drive, Cedar City.

VEGAS MCGRAW: THE ULTIMATE TIM MCGRAW TRIBUTE 6 PM. Tribute capturing the music and look of the country icon. Virgin River Hotel & Casino, 100 Pioneer Blvd, Mesquite.

STATUS THE BAND 8 PM. Live ballroom entertainment for adults. Eureka Casino Resort Ballroom, 275 Mesa Blvd, Mesquite.

Tuesday, August 4

GARFIELD COUNTY FAIR Traditional county fair events and community gatherings. 25 S. 200 E., Panguitch.

Thursday, August 6

RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE 2 PM. Community service opportunity to donate blood. The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 1178 S. 700 W., Hurricane.

Saturday, August 8

RED ACRE FARMS BURGERS BANDS & BIKES 2026 - HOUSE OF CARDS 6:30 PM. Family-friendly evening with live music and fresh farm burgers. Red Acre Farm, 2322 W. 4375 N., Cedar City.

BUMBLEBERRY THEATER - ANDY BENINGO 7 PM. Live comedy performance in Springdale. Bumbleberry Theater, 897 Zion Park Blvd, Springdale.

HEART BENATAR TRIBUTE 7 PM. Live tribute to the music of Heart and Pat Benatar. Eureka Casino Resort Ballroom, 275 Mesa Blvd, Mesquite.

MUSIC TRIVIA NIGHT IN THE LANAI 8 PM. Competitive music knowledge game night for adults. Eureka Casino Resort Ballroom, 275 Mesa Blvd, Mesquite.

MEN'S SOCCER VS SALT LAKE COMMUNITY COLLEGE (EXHIBITION) 8 PM. Live exhibition soccer match. Greater Zion Stadium, 700 E. & 500 S., St. George.

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7/27 - SOUL WHAT?!	9/21 - STONE COMPANY
8/3 - ELECTRIC WITNESS	9/28 - THE LAST LIGHT
8/10 - NATE ROBINSON TRIO	10/5 - GROOVONIX
8/17 - THE VIBESSETTERS	10/12 - CORY MON
8/24 - MENDED HEARTS CLUB	10/19 - SHANGALU

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WELCOME TO ZION NATIONAL PARK FROM ZION GUIDE



Photo by David J. West

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.



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.

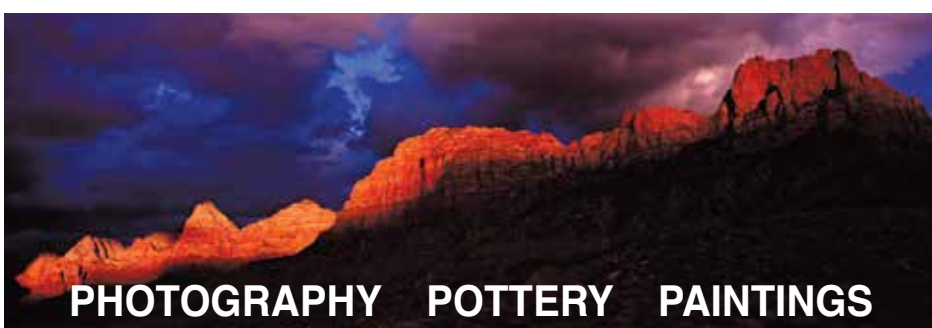
Check out Kolob Canyons & Kolob Terrace Road

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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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 drive east from Springdale through Zion Canyon and out to the East Entrance is

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



Photo by David J. West

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.

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.

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

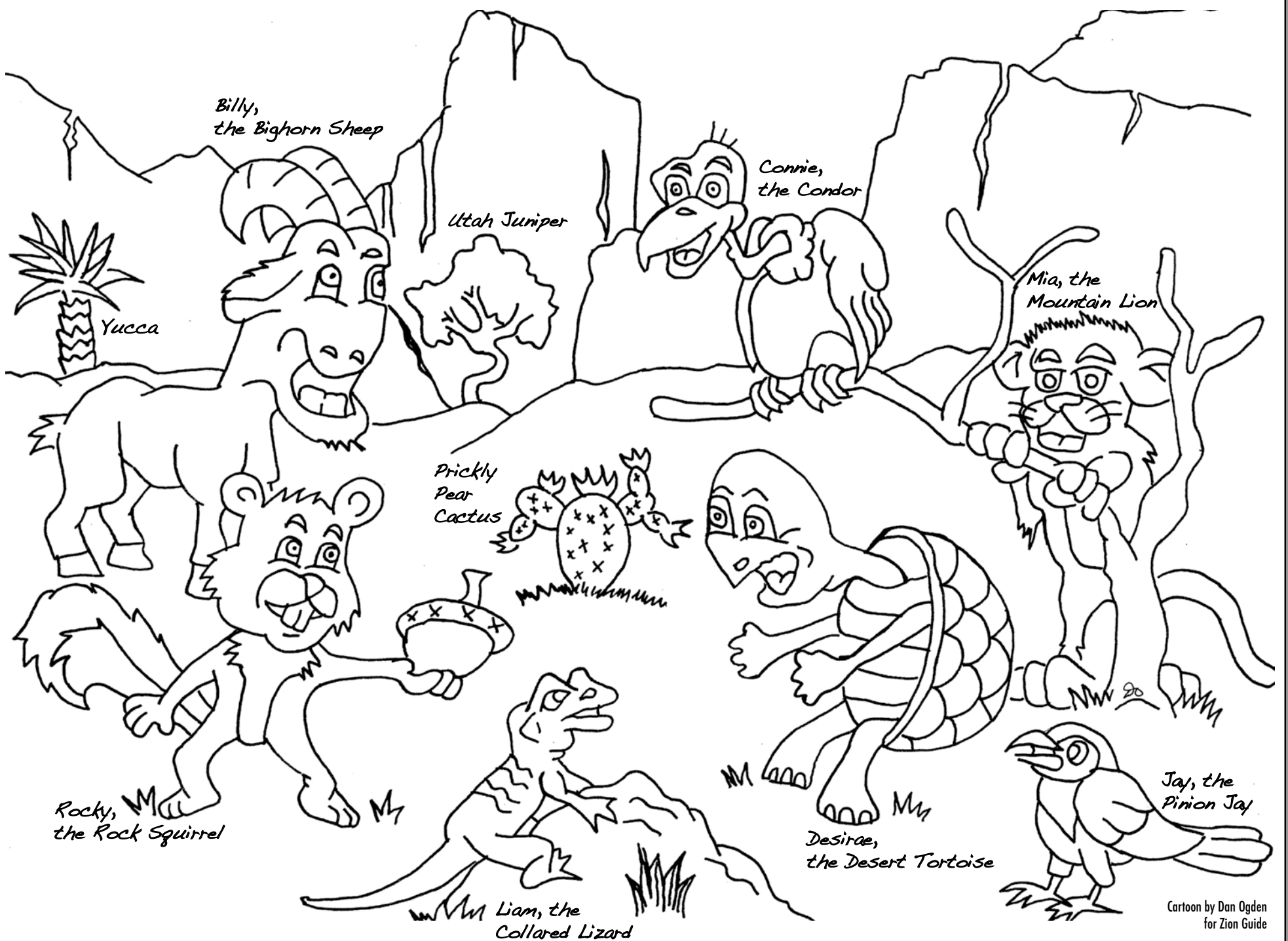
Vast, rugged, and full of secrets, Grand Staircase offers endless day trip options. Popular stops include the Toadstools, Willis Creek Slot Canyon, and Cottonwood Canyon Road. A high-clearance vehicle is recommended for some routes.

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!

Zion Animals & Plants Coloring Page

From your friends at

ZION GUIDE



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.



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.

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

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Popular Zion Hikes

Current Trail Closures & Popular Trail Considerations:

Hidden Canyon and Observation Point (via the Weeping Rock/East Rim Trail) 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, with monsoon storms capable of causing sudden flash floods—check conditions before starting; Zion Canyon Scenic Drive operates shuttle-only service during busy periods as summer visitation remains high; park entry requires the standard entrance fee with no reservation needed for shuttle or canyon access; Weeping Rock Trail and shuttle stop have reopened, though connecting routes to Hidden Canyon and Observation Point remain closed; the Kolob Canyons area (Kolob Canyons Road, Taylor Creek, Lee Pass, and Timber Creek Overlook) may experience intermittent closures due to wildfire impacts, maintenance, or storms; Kolob Terrace and Lava Point Roads may occasionally close due to weather or road conditions; overnight backpacking or top-down Narrows trips require a wilderness permit.

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



Photo by David J. West

this 9 1/2-mile hike. You'll start this hike at Temple of Sinawava.

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 accessible, 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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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.



SUWA
SOUTHERN UTAH WILDERNESS ALLIANCE

Less-Traveled Zion Hikes

Current Trail Closures & Popular Trail Considerations:

Hidden Canyon and Observation Point (via the Weeping Rock/East Rim Trail) 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, with monsoon storms capable of causing sudden flash floods—check conditions before starting; Zion Canyon Scenic Drive operates shuttle-only service during busy periods as summer visitation remains high; park entry requires the standard entrance fee with no reservation needed for shuttle or canyon access; Weeping Rock Trail and shuttle stop have reopened, though connecting routes to Hidden Canyon and Observation Point remain closed; the Kolob Canyons area (Kolob Canyons Road, Taylor Creek, Lee Pass, and Timber Creek Overlook) may experience intermittent closures due to wildfire impacts, maintenance, or storms; Kolob Terrace and Lava Point Roads may occasionally close due to weather or road conditions; overnight backpacking or top-down Narrows trips require a wilderness permit.

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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Featured Hike

ESCAPE THE HEAT: SOUTHERN UTAH'S BEST HIGH-ELEVATION HIKES ARE 20-30 DEGREES COOLER

There comes a point every Southern Utah summer when even the most dedicated hikers glance at the forecast, see triple digits, and decide the couch sounds like a better option.

But while St. George is sweltering under a blazing desert sun, a completely different season is waiting just up the mountain. Less than two hours away, towering pines replace red rock, afternoon temperatures often drop 20 to 30 degrees, and cool mountain breezes make it easy to spend an entire day outside.

Southern Utah's incredible diversity means you don't have to travel far to trade cactus for aspens or sandstone cliffs for alpine lakes. Whether you're looking for an easy family stroll, a scenic picnic, or a challenging hike with panoramic views, these high-elevation escapes offer the perfect excuse to lace up your hiking boots all summer long.



Cedar Breaks National Monument

Perched above Cedar City at more than 10,000 feet, Cedar Breaks National Monument feels worlds away from the desert below. Crisp mountain air, evergreen forests, and one of Utah's most spectacular natural amphitheatres combine to create one of Southern Utah's premier summer destinations.

The monument is perhaps best known for its colorful limestone cliffs, where layers of orange, pink, and white rock form an amphitheater stretching nearly three miles across. Scenic overlooks line the rim, making breathtaking views accessible even for visitors who don't plan to hike.

For those wanting to explore on foot, the Alpine Pond Trail offers an easy walk through spruce and fir forest before arriving at a peaceful mountain pond. It's a favorite for families, birdwatchers, and anyone looking for a leisurely morning surrounded by cool alpine scenery.

More adventurous hikers can continue onto the Spectra Point & Ramparts Trail, where the route follows the edge of the monument with expansive views into the colorful canyon below. During July and early August, the surrounding meadows burst into bloom as wildflowers blanket the landscape in vibrant shades of purple, yellow, red, and blue.

Even on the hottest days in St. George, a light jacket isn't uncommon during the morning hours at Cedar Breaks.

Brian Head

Just a few miles away, Brian Head transforms from a winter ski destination into a mountain playground each summer. Sitting at nearly 10,000 feet, the area offers miles of hiking trails winding through aspens, evergreens, volcanic



rock formations, and wide-open mountain meadows.

The Bunker Creek Trail is one of the area's most popular hikes, leading visitors through lush forest and seasonal wildflowers before reaching a quiet mountain stream. The trail offers plenty of shade, making it especially enjoyable during the warmest months.

Those interested in geology and ancient history will appreciate the Twisted Forest Trail, home to remarkable bristlecone pines. These slow-growing trees have survived harsh mountain conditions for centuries, their twisted trunks shaped by wind, snow, and time.

For hikers looking to earn panoramic views, the Sydney Peaks Trail climbs to sweeping vistas overlooking Southern Utah's mountain ranges and neighboring Nevada. It's the kind of place where visitors often find themselves lingering just a little longer, taking in cool breezes that feel almost impossible after leaving the desert behind.

After a morning on the trails, Brian Head's cooler temperatures also make it a comfortable place to enjoy lunch, browse local shops, or simply relax before heading home.



Navajo Lake

If your perfect summer day involves slowing down rather than climbing uphill, Navajo Lake may be exactly what you're looking for.

Located within Dixie National Forest, the mountain lake is surrounded by dense pine forest and offers one of the region's most peaceful outdoor settings. The trail circling the shoreline is relatively easy, making it ideal for families with young children, casual hikers, photographers, and anyone hoping to spend time outdoors without tackling steep elevation gains.

The calm waters reflect towering trees and passing

clouds while birds, squirrels, and other wildlife are common sights throughout the day. Benches and picnic areas nearby invite visitors to extend their stay, while anglers and paddlers often spend entire afternoons enjoying the cool mountain environment.

It's the kind of destination where there's no pressure to rush. Sometimes the best hike is simply the one that gives you permission to slow down.



Cascade Falls

Just beyond Navajo Lake lies one of Southern Utah's hidden gems.

The hike to Cascade Falls covers only about a mile round trip, but the payoff rivals much longer adventures. The trail begins beneath towering pines before opening onto an overlook where water spills dramatically from the edge of the Markagunt Plateau into the valley below.

Standing near the falls, visitors are treated to expansive views stretching across Southern Utah's colorful landscape while cool mountain air drifts through the surrounding forest.

Because of its relatively short distance, Cascade Falls makes an excellent addition to a day spent exploring Cedar Breaks, Brian Head, or Navajo Lake. Many visitors combine two or three destinations into one memorable mountain getaway.

A Different Side of Southern Utah

When people think about hiking in Southern Utah, images of towering red cliffs, narrow slot canyons, and sun-drenched desert trails often come to mind. While those iconic landscapes deserve every bit of their reputation, they represent only one side of the region.

The mountains above Cedar City reveal a completely different experience—cool forests, alpine meadows, sparkling lakes, and fresh mountain air that feel more like Colorado than the Mojave Desert. It's a reminder that one of Southern Utah's greatest strengths is its incredible diversity.

Before heading out, remember that mountain weather can change quickly, especially during monsoon season. Start hikes early, carry plenty of water, dress in layers, and check current weather and trail conditions before leaving home.

When the desert heat becomes too much, don't put your hiking boots away for the season. Simply head uphill. Southern Utah's coolest adventures are waiting just around the next mountain bend.



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Customer parking available in the Zion Canyon Village at the South entrance to Zion National Park

Zion Wilderness Map



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.



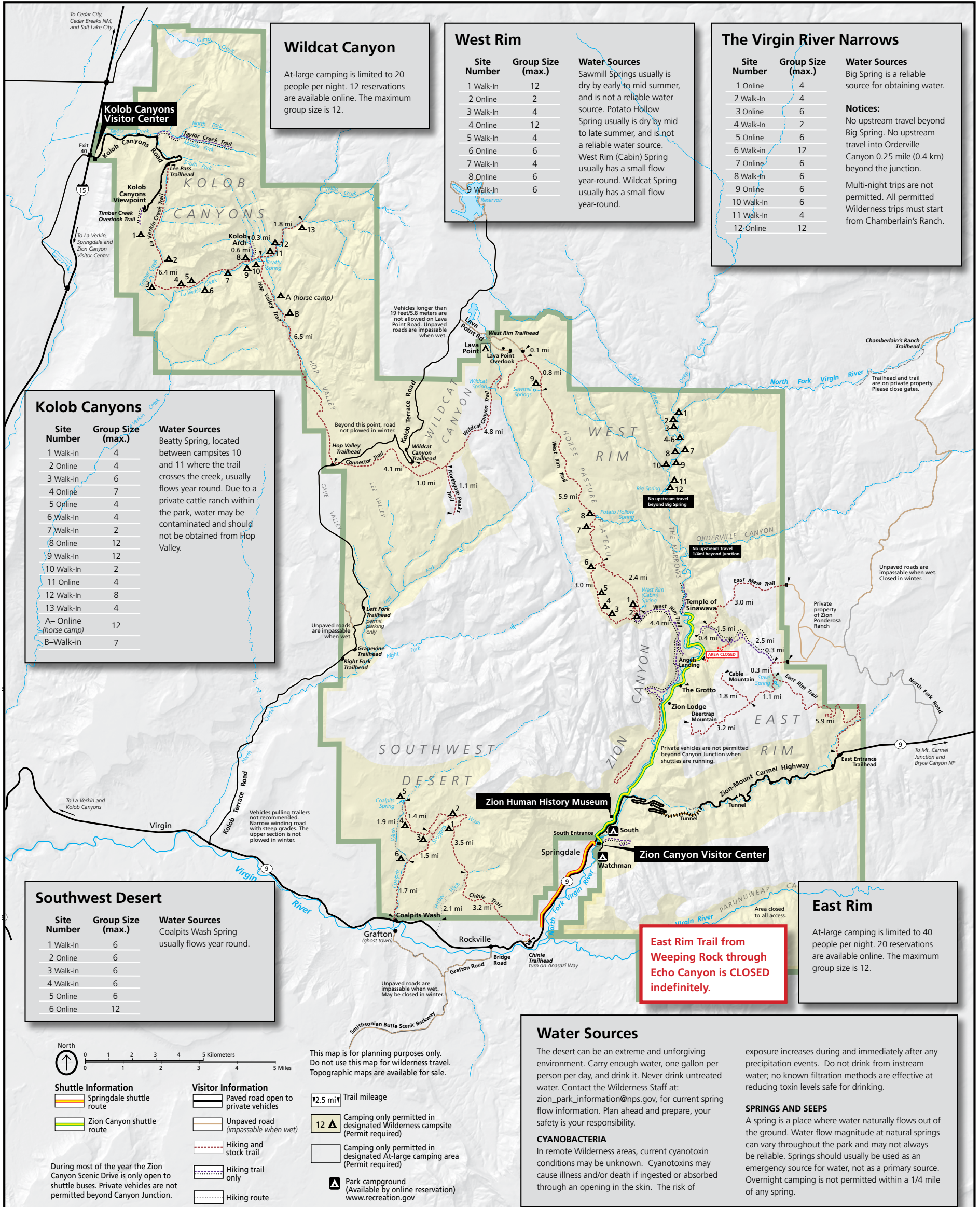
HUMAN WASTE

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 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).

• The shuttle system typically pauses briefly between Thanksgiving and late December.

Shuttles take about 45 minutes to travel between the Zion Canyon Visitor Center and the Temple of Sinawava, meaning 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. If the last shuttle is full, or if you miss it, 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 16, then 7 AM through September 12.

• Last bus departs Zion Canyon Visitor Center to Temple of Sinawava at 6 PM through May 16, then 7 PM from May 17 through September 12.

• Last bus departs Temple of Sinawava to Zion Canyon Visitor Center at 7:15 PM through May 16, then 8:15 PM from May 17 through September 12.

Springdale Line
 • First bus leaves the Hotel De Novo (Stop #9) at 8 AM through May 16, then 8 AM through September 12.

• Last bus leaves Zion Canyon Village (Stop #1) at 7 PM through May 16, then 8 PM from May 17 through September 12.

Camping
 Watchman Campground is open year-round. Reservations can be made up to six months in advance at recreation.gov or by calling 877-444-6777. Plan ahead and make arrangements for where you will stay before you arrive in the park.

South Campground remains closed for a

long-term rehabilitation project.

Lava Point Campground is about a one-hour drive from Zion Canyon and requires reservations.

Visitor Center and Wilderness Permit Desk Hours

Zion Canyon & Kolob Canyons Visitor Centers

• Information desks are typically open 8 AM-5 PM daily.

Wilderness Permit Desks

• Zion Canyon Wilderness Desk: Open daily from 8 AM-5 PM.

• Kolob Canyons Wilderness Desk: Limited seasonal hours.

Attend a Zion Canyon Ranger-Led Patio Talk

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

- 11 AM
- 1:30 PM
- 3 PM

No Matter When You Visit, Be Prepared for Crowds

• Parking fills early year-round. You may have to wait to enter Zion Canyon Scenic Drive if parking is full.

• Watch for pedestrians and bicyclists if you are driving.

• Stay on trails and avoid walking in the road.

• Keep your park pass with you.

• Ride your bike on the road or the Pa'Rus Trail. Bicycling is not allowed on other trails. If riding on the road, you must stop to let buses pass.

• The NPS may temporarily close roads if traffic is congested or parking is full.

• Fewer people visit Zion on weekdays than weekends. Consider arriving early or after 3 PM to avoid the busiest times.

Plan Ahead and Prepare

If you cannot park in Zion or if campsites are full, research nearby communities and public lands for additional recreation and lodging options.

Follow Leave No Trace practices everywhere in the park and beyond, and always pack out your trash.



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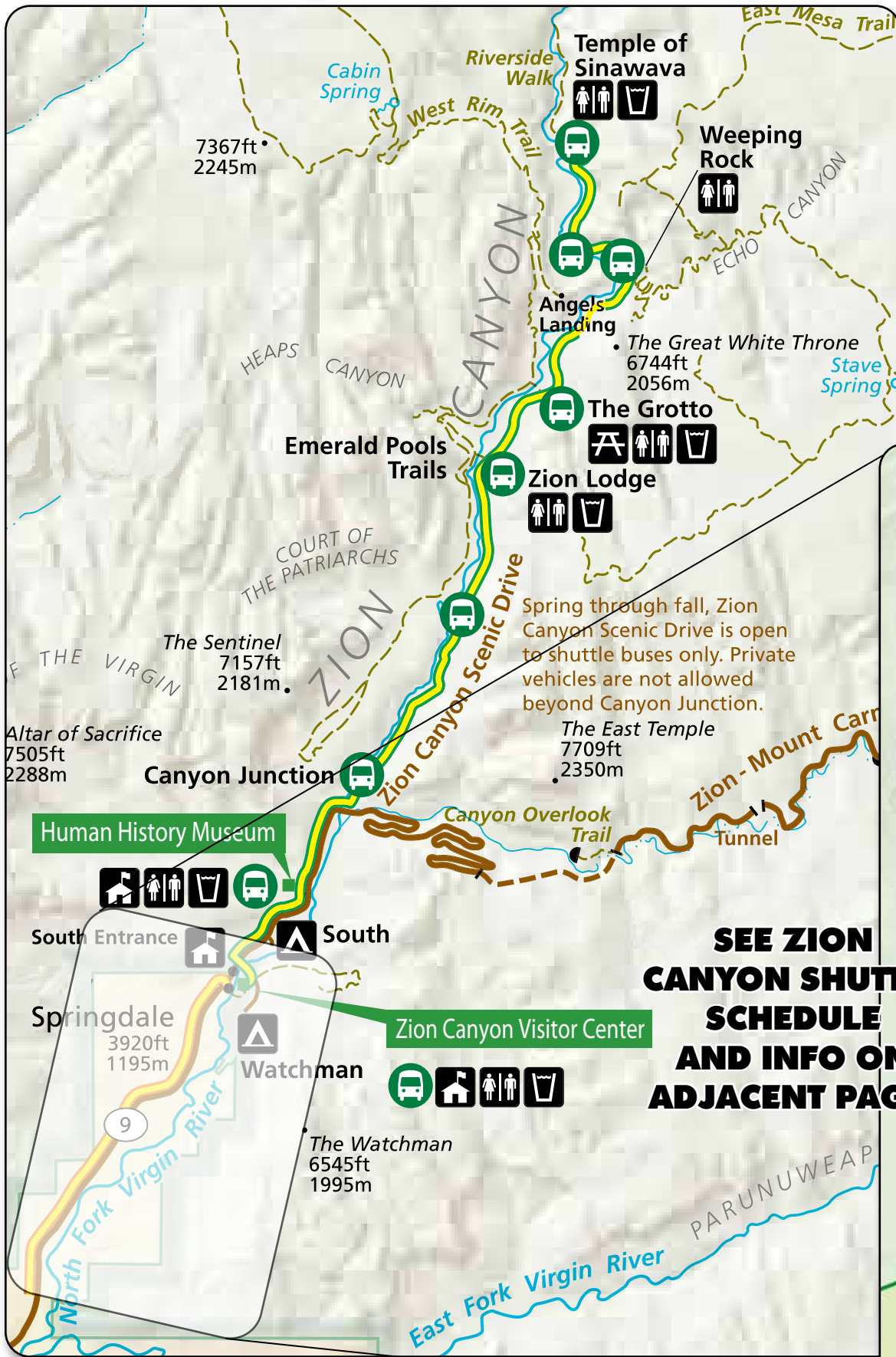
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Zion Canyon Shuttle Map



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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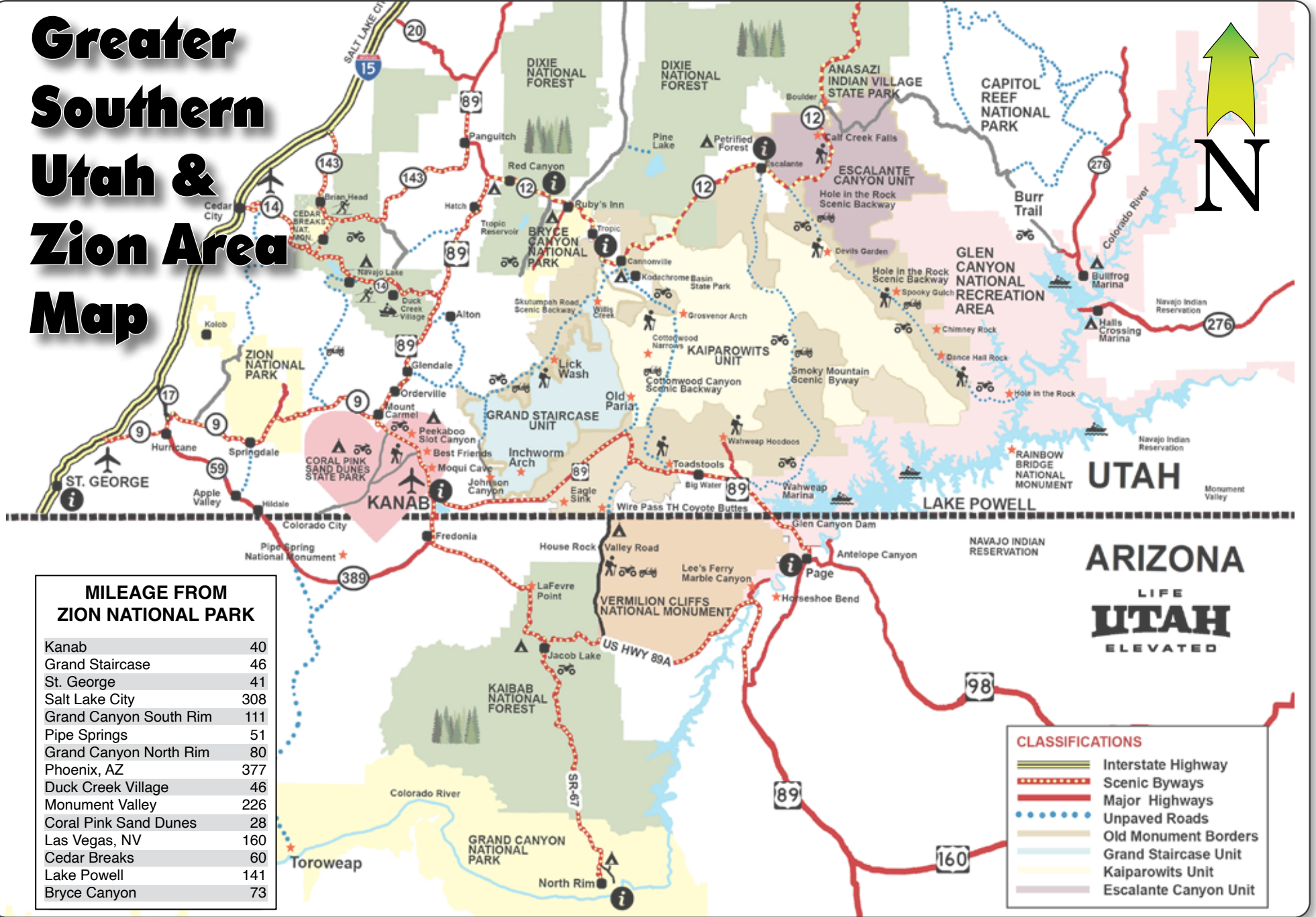




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Greater Southern Utah & Zion Area Map



The Rock Stop & Rock 'N' Tacos

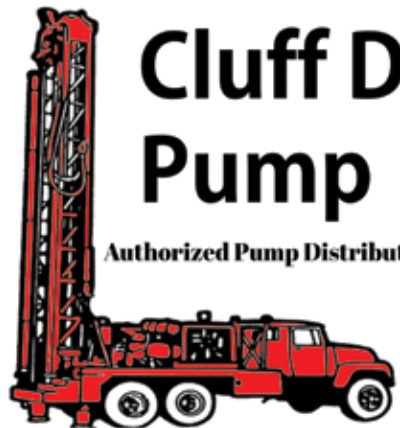


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Zion Area Annual Events



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 (St. George) – 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. Legends 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. Zion Plein Air 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 & 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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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 loctions of access, but Riverside Park is one of the best.

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Kanab Utah City Map

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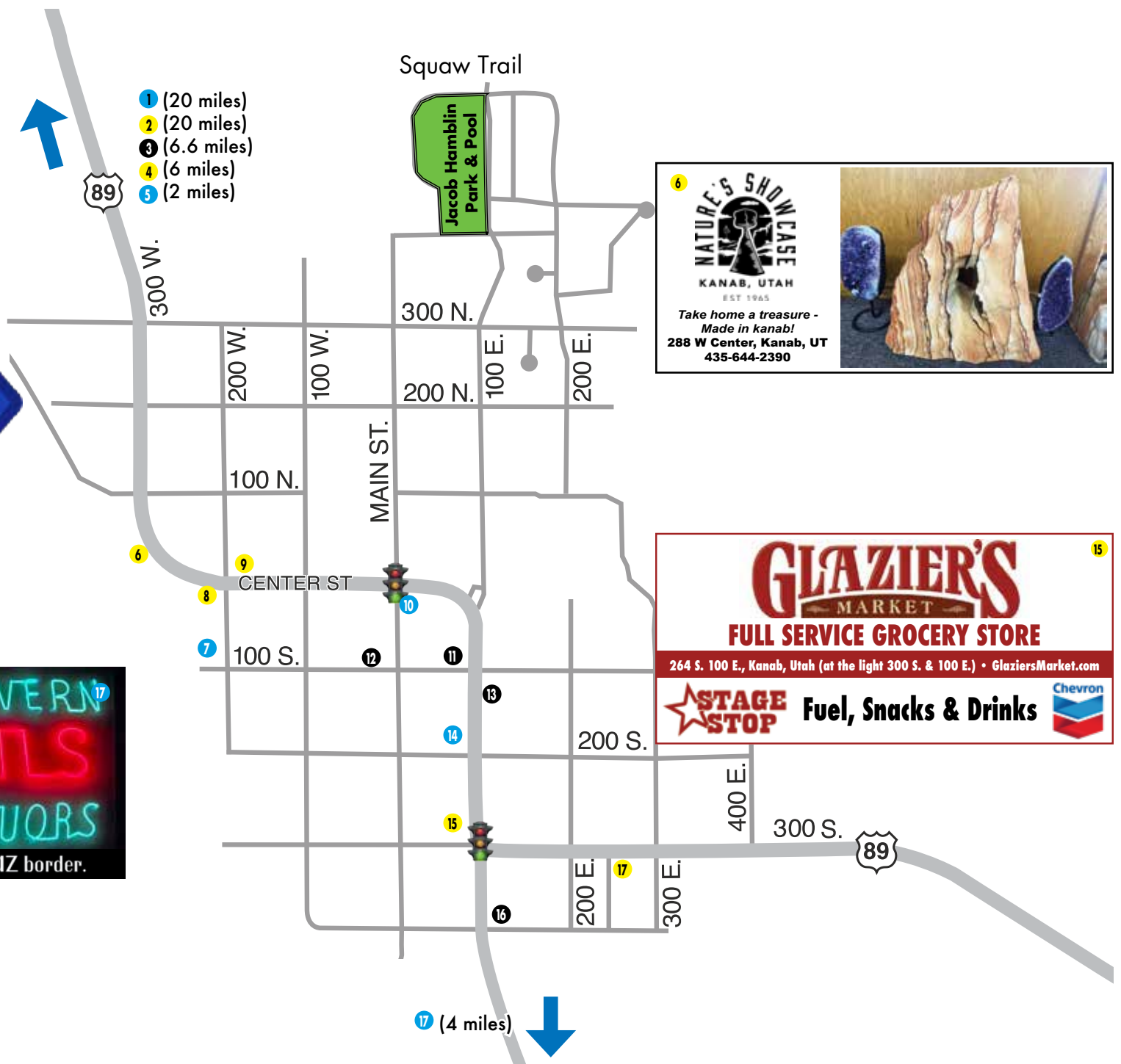
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EAST ZION & KANAB AREA FEATURED RESTAURANTS & BARS FROM ZION GUIDE

Restaurants/Bars (Listed Alphabetically)	Address	Phone	Drinks/Vegan (W)ine, (B)eer, (M)ixed Drinks, (E)spresso, (V)egan items on menu	Hours	WI-FI
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 (Listed Alphabetically)

Adventure Tours of Kanab	Serving Kanab	(435) 689-2029
3 Best Friends Animal Sanctuary	5001 Angel Canyon Rd, Kanab	(435) 644-2001
Grand Canyon Expeditions	Call for Info	(435) 644-2691
16 Hope Hyperbarics	395 S 100 E, Kanab	(435) 689-1831
11 Kane County Visitors Bureau	78 S 100 E, Kanab	(435) 644-5033
12 Kanab Family Dental	76 E 100 S, Kanab	(435) 644-2719
Kayak The Colorado	Call for Info	(435) 275-2925
13 Ramsay Auto Service	115 S 100 E, Kanab	(435) 644-8070

Shops (Listed Alphabetically)

15 Glazier's Market	264 S 100 E, Kanab	(435) 644-5029
17 Honey's Marketplace	260 E 300 S, Kanab	(435) 644-5877
9 Kanab Drug	176 W Center, Kanab	(435) 644-3401
4 Moqui Cave	4581 US-89	(435) 644-8525
6 Nature's Showcase	288 W Center, Kanab	(435) 644-2390
2 The Rock Stop	385 W State St, Orderville	(435) 648-2747

To get your business on this map and directory please call Josh at 435-632-1555 for details.

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