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Travelling to Utah is an adventure. It helps to come prepared, always with a little knowledge, often with gear and supplies. Here are a few tips to help you start planning and packing for Utah.

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 +1 773 816 6193
 tobiaszerr@phoenixip.com
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On the cover: Goblin Valley | Marcin Zajac
Back cover: Alta Ski Resort | Scott Markewitz



DIGITAL GUIDE



GETTING HERE & AROUND

TRAVELLING TO UTAH

Utah is accessible to the world via Salt Lake City International Airport (SLC). Starting in Salt Lake City is the best place to begin your trip if you want to understand Utah's culture, history and local flavours — and see the towering mountains overlooking the city. Travellers can also fly into Las Vegas' Harry Reid International Airport for slightly closer access to Southern Utah sites, including a 2.5-hour drive from Zion National Park, St. George and Kanab.



TRAVELLING AROUND UTAH

With 28 scenic byways and endless beauty, Utah is the premier road trip state. When possible, leave the interstate to slow down and explore these roads. While a rental car will give you the most control, there are also shuttles and group tours. Public transit is available in the Wasatch Front urban corridor of Northern Utah for travellers wanting to explore or traverse the city.

It takes time to travel between major locations. Taking advantage of the scenic byways offers local scenery, welcoming small towns and off-the-beaten-track attractions. See page 46 for some of Utah's best scenic routes.



Utah's location at the crossroads of the western United States means travellers enjoy easy access to The Greatest Snow on Earth[®], The Mighty 5[®] national parks and everything in between. Utah's landscape is varied, ranging from high-desert plateaus to alpine meadows and snow-covered peaks to bird-filled wetlands. Across all the varied terrain you'll find different national parks and monuments, state parks and cultural and historic activities, not to mention non-stop outdoor recreation. Without a several week road trip it's hard to experience it all, so pick a region and itinerary to start with, then come back again and again.

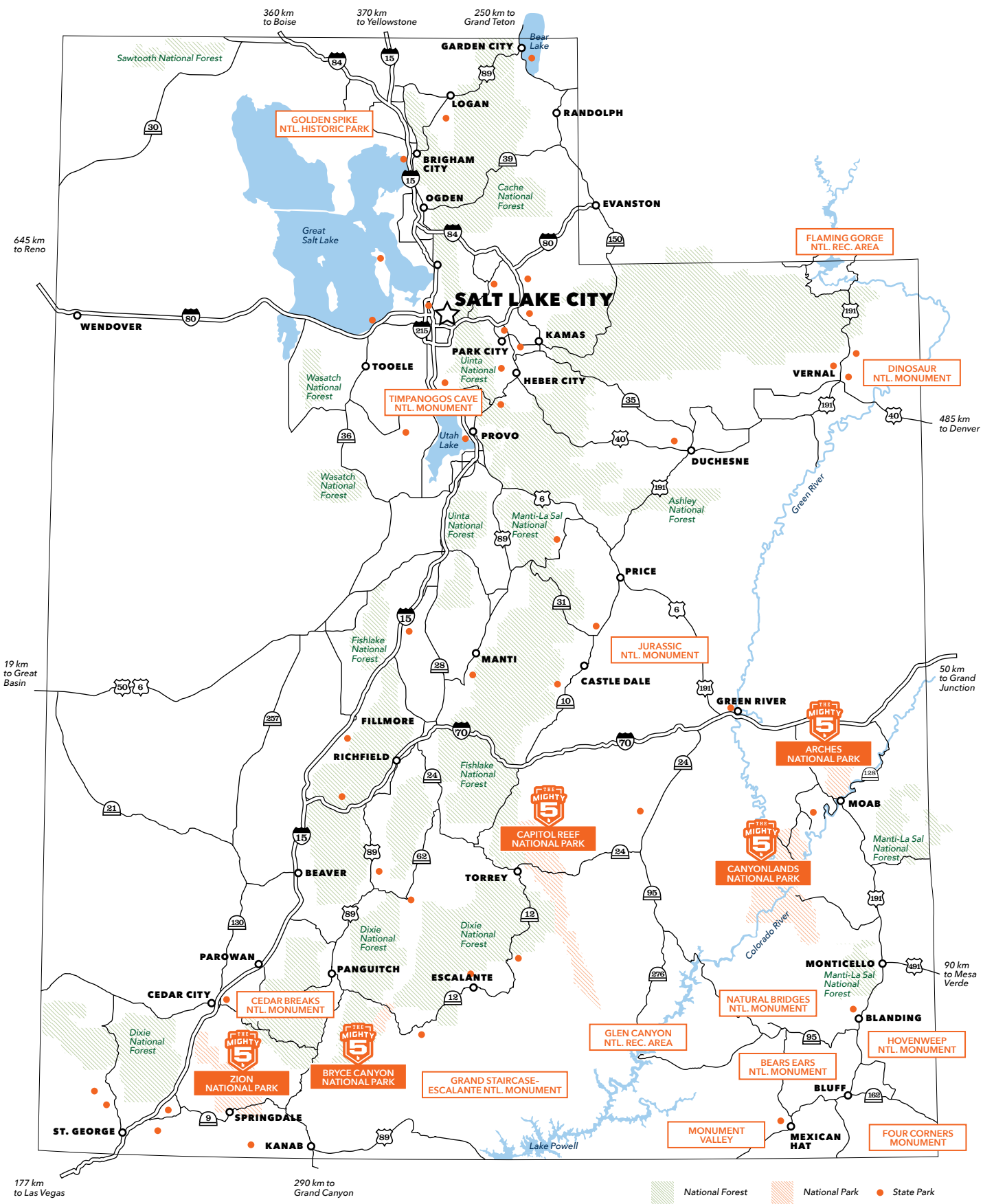
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DISTANCE CHART

| | Arches National Park | Bear Lake State Park | Bryce Canyon National Park | Capitol Reef National Park | Canyonlands National Park Needles District | Cedar Breaks National Monument | Dinosaur National Monument | Escalante | Flaming Gorge National Recreation Area | Grand Canyon National Park South Rim | Kanab | Moab | Monument Valley Navajo Tribal Park | Park City | Salt Lake City | St. George | Yellowstone | Zion |
|--|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|--|--------------------------------|----------------------------|-----------|--|--------------------------------------|-------|------|------------------------------------|-----------|----------------|------------|-------------|------|
| Arches National Park | | 350 | 275 | 155 | 50 | 284 | 203 | 215 | 271 | 331 | 314 | 5 | 155 | 231 | 229 | 337 | 578 | 341 |
| Bear Lake State Park | 564 | | 394 | 356 | 400 | 372 | 222 | 399 | 193 | 643 | 433 | 355 | 506 | 128 | 122 | 425 | 291 | 430 |
| Bryce Canyon National Park | 442 | 634 | | 137 | 324 | 62 | 351 | 53 | 381 | 291 | 81 | 279 | 283 | 275 | 273 | 136 | 621 | 88 |
| Capitol Reef National Park | 249 | 573 | 220 | | 201 | 162 | 287 | 62 | 316 | 374 | 195 | 156 | 201 | 236 | 235 | 253 | 583 | 202 |
| Canyonlands National Park Needles District | 81 | 644 | 521 | 323 | | 333 | 253 | 264 | 316 | 292 | 314 | 45 | 115 | 281 | 279 | 386 | 627 | 391 |
| Cedar Breaks National Monument | 457 | 599 | 100 | 261 | 536 | | 372 | 100 | 402 | 278 | 68 | 288 | 269 | 253 | 251 | 78 | 600 | 75 |
| Dinosaur National Monument | 327 | 357 | 565 | 462 | 407 | 599 | | 310 | 58 | 533 | 391 | 207 | 357 | 159 | 185 | 426 | 453 | 430 |
| Escalante | 346 | 642 | 85 | 100 | 425 | 161 | 499 | | 340 | 330 | 120 | 219 | 265 | 280 | 278 | 175 | 626 | 127 |
| Flaming Gorge National Recreation Area | 436 | 311 | 613 | 508 | 509 | 647 | 93 | 547 | | 589 | 421 | 263 | 412 | 186 | 205 | 456 | 396 | 460 |
| Grand Canyon National Park South Rim | 533 | 1035 | 468 | 602 | 470 | 447 | 858 | 531 | 948 | | 210 | 326 | 179 | 524 | 522 | 292 | 870 | 251 |
| Kanab | 506 | 697 | 130 | 314 | 505 | 109 | 629 | 193 | 677 | 338 | | 318 | 201 | 314 | 312 | 83 | 661 | 41 |
| Moab | 8 | 571 | 449 | 251 | 72 | 463 | 333 | 352 | 423 | 525 | 512 | | 150 | 236 | 234 | 341 | 582 | 346 |
| Monument Valley Navajo Tribal Park | 249 | 814 | 455 | 323 | 185 | 433 | 574 | 426 | 664 | 288 | 323 | 241 | | 387 | 385 | 283 | 734 | 242 |
| Park City | 372 | 206 | 442 | 380 | 452 | 407 | 256 | 451 | 299 | 843 | 505 | 380 | 623 | | 31 | 306 | 381 | 310 |
| Salt Lake City | 369 | 196 | 439 | 378 | 449 | 404 | 298 | 447 | 330 | 840 | 502 | 377 | 619 | 50 | | 304 | 351 | 309 |
| St. George | 542 | 684 | 219 | 407 | 621 | 126 | 685 | 282 | 734 | 470 | 134 | 549 | 455 | 493 | 489 | | 651 | 43 |
| Yellowstone | 930 | 468 | 999 | 938 | 1009 | 965 | 730 | 1007 | 638 | 1400 | 1064 | 936 | 1181 | 613 | 565 | 1047 | | 658 |
| Zion | 549 | 692 | 142 | 325 | 629 | 121 | 692 | 204 | 740 | 404 | 66 | 557 | 389 | 499 | 497 | 69 | 1059 | |

KILOMETRES

MILES



IN STATE

- Salt Lake City to Moab (via I-15 and Hwy 6) — 4 hrs
- Salt Lake City to St. George (via I-15) — 4 hrs 15 min
- Springdale to Torrey (via Hwy 89 and Hwy 12) — 4 hrs
- Torrey to Moab (via Hwy 24 and I-70) — 2 hrs 30 min

OUT OF STATE

- Denver to Moab (via I-70) — 5 hrs 30 min
- Las Vegas to St. George (via I-15) — 1 hr 45 min
- Yellowstone to Salt Lake City (via Hwy 20 and I-15) — 5 hrs

To request a free Official Utah Highway Map, please contact the Utah Department of Transportation at 801-965-4000 or the Utah Office of Tourism at 801-538-1900

The Bucket List

BRETT PRETTYMAN
OUTDOOR WRITER, AUTHOR

Native Utahn Brett Prettyman grew up exploring the natural wonders of the state and shared them with the public as an outdoor writer and columnist for the state's largest newspaper, *The Salt Lake Tribune*, for 25 years. Brett Prettyman is the former outdoor editor at *The Salt Lake Tribune* and author of "Fishing Utah," "Best Easy Day Hikes in Capitol Reef National Park" and "Hiking Utah's High Uintas". When not covering stories, and sometimes while doing it, he can be found discovering new Utah adventures with family and friends. He also has his own Utah Bucket List. @BrettPrettyman on Twitter (X).

Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument | Andrew Burr

RAFTING CATARACT CANYON

CANYONLANDS NATIONAL PARK

There is big white water and then there is the appropriately named Cataract Canyon stretch of the Colorado River in Canyonlands National Park. Many visitors have a river trip on Cataract on their life lists, but it takes a special kind of adventurer to experience the raging Colorado at its peak flow.

During high water years, people drop everything to float Cataract. "It's the biggest white water you can find in the country," said Steve Young, a river ranger at Canyonlands National Park. "It's kind of a bucket list within a bucket list." Don't worry, floating the Colorado is a thrill even at its lowest flow. There are few places where you can truly escape everything about the outside world; Cataract Canyon is one of them.



NIGHT SKY ASTRONOMY FESTIVAL

BRYCE CANYON NATIONAL PARK

Embrace the dark side of Utah's national parks by staying up at night. Bryce Canyon National Park will always be recognized for geologic wonders formed by erosion, but a growing number of visitors are sticking around the high-elevation park to play in the dark. The Dark Rangers of Bryce encourage such deviance.

Bryce, it turns out, is one of the best places in the world to take in the night skies. Two other Utah National Park Service units, Capitol Reef National Park and Natural Bridges National Monument, are also among the top stargazing spots.

Bryce celebrates its low level of light pollution with an annual astronomy festival and night sky programmes throughout the year.



UTAH POWDER DAY

WASATCH FRONT

Utah's snow is the best on the planet for skiing and snowboarding. If you don't believe it, just ask state officials who trademarked the phrase "The Greatest Snow on Earth" — seriously, legally trademarked it. Mother Nature has been known to dump up to 1.2 metres of the fluffy stuff in one storm on resorts within 40 minutes of downtown Salt Lake City. On days like these, "epic" is an understatement for skiers and snowboarders.

Whether you're riding the lifts and cutting the slopes at one of the state's 15 resorts, exploring the backcountry or venturing out for a Nordic ski adventure, Utah has the perfect winter holiday for hardcore skiers or families interested in strapping something on their feet to get down, or around, the mountain.



FLY-FISHING THE GREEN RIVER

GREEN RIVER

There are plenty of reasons why the Green River below Flaming Gorge Dam is on the bucket list of fly-fishers. 15,000, in fact, as in the average number of feisty trout per square kilometre on the river in northeastern Utah.

But anglers who don't take time to look up every once in a while are missing out on some of the best scenery in the country. Explorer John Wesley Powell documented this country in 1869 while floating down the Green and Colorado rivers. Aside from the reservoir, the scenery on a river trip below the dam looked a lot like it does in the 21st century.

The emerald green waters and red rock canyon create visually pleasing contrasts. The excellent opportunities for fishing and wildlife viewing are just a bonus when floating the river.



OLYMPIC PARK

PARK CITY (WINTER AND SUMMER)

Most tourists visiting the state come to experience its many natural wonders. The 2002 Winter Olympics and the potential return of the Winter Games in 2034 are two additional reasons to come to Utah. Utah Olympic Park remains as a legacy to the 2002 Winter Games — not only for athletes training for future Olympics, but also for people interested in a taste of the sports.

Utah Olympic Park in Park City offers opportunities for people to ride down the same bobsled track used during the 2002 Games. Rides are available in the winter and the summer months. Fantasy bobsled and skeleton camps are also available in the winter. Another summer activity is taking a freestyle ski jumping lesson. Visitors can suit up and eventually jump into the 2.3 million litre pool used as a landing pad for skiers training for the Olympics.

HORSEBACK BISON ROUNDUP

ANTELOPE ISLAND STATE PARK

Many people believe the only place to see wild bison is at Yellowstone National Park. But visitors flying into Salt Lake City International Airport just have to look out the window while their plane makes its final descent.

Bison from Yellowstone were delivered to Antelope Island, the largest island on the Great Salt Lake, in 1893. Today, the state manages the island. The bison and other wildlife, including pronghorn antelope, mule deer, coyote, fox and numerous species of shorebirds, raptors and songbirds, make Antelope Island a great destination for tourists, families and photographers.

For a truly genuine Western experience, consider riding horseback during the annual Antelope Island Bison Roundup held late each autumn. Riders of all experience levels help encourage the bison into pens for health checkups and an auction.



CAMPING DEVILS GARDEN

ARCHES NATIONAL PARK

There are no lodges in Arches National Park, and that's not necessarily a bad thing. Most daily visitors leave the gates near or shortly after sunset. The only place for a head to hit a pillow is the 50-site Devils Garden Campground.

After a day of hiking to some of the greatest natural wonders of the world — the park has more than 2,000 documented arches — hanging out with the family around the campfire keeps the magic moments coming. As the fire dies and the night sky lights up, tired campers find a way to stay awake just a little longer.

Sunrise brings a new day of adventure and more exceptional hiking with options like Delicate Arch, Landscape Arch, Marching Men, Dark Angel and the Fiery Furnace.



CANYONEERING

GRAND STAIRCASE-ESCALANTE NATIONAL MONUMENT

From the famous Subway and Narrows routes in Zion National Park to the countless side canyons running into Lake Powell and the surrounding countryside, Utah is zigzagged with slot canyons galore. Naturally, the state would become a destination for canyoneers from around the world when interest in the activity escalated in recent years.

Grand Staircase-Escalante is a perfect place to wander desert slot canyons. People new to the sport and even those with outdoor skills developed from other interests should make at least their first trip canyoneering with experienced friends or guides.

BIKING WHITE RIM TRAIL

CANYONLANDS NATIONAL PARK

The slickrock country around Moab gets the majority of mountain biking attention in Utah, but those looking for a different pedal power experience have discovered the unique opportunity of the 160-kilometre White Rim Trail. Some do it all sunrise to sunset, but they could miss what the landscape has to offer while in such a hurry to set bragging rights.

A more popular way to ride the White Rim is with a sag wagon support vehicle chasing bikers on a more casual three-or four-day camping trip. The more leisurely ride allows visitors to soak up the stunning views and share them with family and friends. Like hiking, there is something special about powering yourself through nature — especially nature like Mother Nature gave Southern Utah.





Discover Salt Lake City

Salt Lake City is the urban heart of Northern Utah's vibrant Wasatch Front. A city known equally for its thriving downtown and its backyard mountain range, Salt Lake City offers cosmopolitan amenities in an easy-to-navigate urban setting. The city is just a stone's throw from hundreds of kilometres of trails for hiking, running and exploring and a dozen ski resorts, including four within 40 minutes. This unparalleled proximity has earned Salt Lake the distinction of being the only "Ski City." Even Park City, the first IMBA Certified Gold-Level mountain biking city in the country and home to Deer Valley and Park City mountain resorts, is less than 45 minutes up the canyon. Utah's five national parks are an average of four hours away by car. In short, by marrying the best of urban attractions and outdoor adventures, Salt Lake City is both a travel destination itself and the jumping-off point for many Utah vacations.

Downtown Salt Lake City



Utah Symphony | Jeremiah Watt; Table X Restaurant | Austen Diamond Photography



Natural History Museum of Utah

URBAN & MODERN

Great holidays go hand in hand with great food. In 2014, Wine Enthusiast Magazine named Salt Lake City one of "America's 5 New Foodie Cities." Salt Lake has award-winning microbreweries like Squatters, Uinta and Red Rock, distilleries like Sugar House and Beehive and skilled mixologists at hip downtown spaces like Eva, The Rest, Whiskey Street or actor Ty Burrell's Bar-X and Beer Bar, to pair with your dinner. Tony Caputo's Market and Liberty Heights Fresh offer the best in local, artisan food like Creminelli Fine Meats and Amano Artisan Chocolates.

Evenings bring out the best cultural attractions at performing arts and music venues including Broadway at the Eccles Theatre. Award-winning productions by Ballet West, the Utah Symphony & Opera and Pioneer Theatre Company provide an international flair.

Catch national and local acts headlining downtown venues like the Urban Lounge, The Depot and The State Room and at multiple outdoor summer concert series.

HERITAGE & RELIGION

Settled in 1847, Salt Lake is a relatively young city, and its heritage remains strong. In fact, Salt Lake City's most popular attraction is the 35-acre Temple Square. This beautiful downtown site is the spiritual centre for The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints and offers free walking tours in forty languages, extensive genealogy, great dining and frequent performances of The Tabernacle Choir at Temple Square. This is the Place Heritage Park brings to life Utah's Mormon and native history and marks the end of the 2,092 kilometre Mormon trail.

ARTS & FESTIVALS

Discover the anchors of Salt Lake City's art scene, then browse the several independent galleries sprinkled about downtown, including the arts, crafts and boutiques of West Pierpont Avenue and Broadway (300 South).

Spring through autumn there are downtown festivals and events almost every weekend including Living Traditions, Pioneer Farmers Market, Utah Pride Festival, Utah Arts Festival and the International Jazz Festival. SLUG Magazine, also known as Salt Lake UnderGround, annually hosts Craft Lake City, which celebrates the city's strong do-it-yourself and entrepreneurial character. Other major events include FanX® Salt Lake Comic Convention™ and the Sundance Film Festival.

FIND YOUR WAY

Historic Temple Square, located at Main Street and South Temple Street, is the point of origin for the four quadrants of the Salt Lake City street grid system. From Temple Square, major streets count up in increments of 100. State Street (100 East) is a primary artery running the full length of the valley beginning on Capitol Hill.

Locals frequently abbreviate street names, so you'll hear 1300 South, 500 East spoken as "13th south, fifth east." Popular neighbourhoods just outside downtown include the Avenues, University, Liberty Wells, 9th and 9th, 15th and 15th and Sugar House. Each district has a unique character and features local shops, theatres, restaurants and bars worth seeking out.



SALT LAKE CITY & THE WASATCH FRONT
visitutah.com/places-to-go/urban

48 Hours in Salt Lake City

BY CRAI BOWER

Red Butte Garden | Austen Diamond Photography

Like the western rattlers that stow beneath erratic boulders in the surrounding foothills, Salt Lake City has shed its skin several times in the past two decades. SLC's glistening new look reveals a town teeming with arts, nightlife and attitude that left me hissing for just one extra play day — if not two. Though there are enough fun things to do in Salt Lake City to keep you occupied for a week, visitors with less time can read below for the best way to enjoy SLC on the quick.

SETTLE INTO DOWNTOWN

I've been a Salt Lake cruiser for years, zipping past downtown on my way to visit Park City or play in Little Cottonwood Canyon. So imagine my surprise when I finally checked into a boutique hotel here and took a look around. First impression? Everyone's having a good time, whether they're hanging out on the Beerhive Pub terrace, catching some live jazz or hitting one of multiple downtown breweries, queuing up for the Tumbleweeds Film Festival at the Rose Wagner PAC or tailgating before the nationally ranked Utah Utes football game. Must be that Wasatch Range elevation.

SHARE A BIKE AND BITES

Bike share programmes have swept across North America, but they make the most sense here, given SLC's relatively flat topography. With stations every few blocks, and an award-worthy app, grabbing one of GREENbike's bright green cruisers becomes a no-brainer. I also appreciate the broad baskets and optional aluminum panniers, perfect for camera bags or farmers' market finds. I cruise over to Current Fish & Oyster, an elegant and fun restaurant set behind an impressive historical brick façade. I follow a dozen of the day's oyster selections with what I would call "pescado al fresco," as in Mediterranean sea bass served to me on the vibrant, bustling terrace.

LIVING ROOM SUNSET

A living room sunset suggests couch slouching and a picture window. Not so in always active SLC, where hiking trails disappear into the foothills from seemingly every direction. We embark from the Natural History Museum of Utah parking lot upon an evening saunter up the Living Room Trail, a 4.3-kilometre route that leads to a photo-worthy plateau "furnished" with an assortment of chairs and settees assembled from loose sandstone rock. It turns out the Great Salt Lake provides an ideal canvas for the setting sun's dazzling palette.



Utah Museum of Contemporary Art | Austen Diamond Photography

HIT THE PUBS

I'm not sure why, but trolley barns and breweries seem to go together like brick and mortar. The Desert Edge Brewery, started in '72 as a college fueling station, pioneered the city's micro scene, and has the gold ribbons to prove it. The ambience at trendy Trolley Square complements ale batches such as Citra in Red and the Helles Lager-style Desert Hell. Experience a different kind of ambience across town in the up-and-coming Granary District. Just a block from the 900 South "Central Ninth" neighbourhood are two powerhouse names in Utah brewing: the revived historic Utah brewing brand A. Fisher Brewing Company (Read: "Rediscovering A. Fisher Brewing") and the Templin Family's TF Brewing — with rotating food trucks, both facilities are a great place to spend an afternoon or evening.



Downtown Farmers Market | Austen Diamond Photography

TO MARKET, TO MARKET

True, every American city offers a Saturday Farmers' Market, but Salt Lake's bazaar rocks out, encompassing all of Pioneer Park — a historic park that fills one of Salt Lake City's large blocks. Makes sense, since the entire population appears to be here. At the Salt Lake City Pioneer Farmers Market cellist plies her bow beside flower blossoms, steel windmills spin tails, heirloom tomatoes bulge from their crates while a Dixieland band shuffles past to keep time.

GOOD MORNING GARDEN

I find quiet time among the flora always adds a nice afterglow to a previous evening's pub crawl, which is one of many reasons I wander into Red Butte Garden to start my day. Like a lot of non-desert dwellers, I admit to a certain bias against cacti and succulents. Imagine my surprise to find myself within this warren of broad blooms juxtaposed with outdoor sculptures and, my personal favourite, poetry hoisted in iron ore frames. (Home garden inspiration? Check.) My two hours would have stretched to four if I had young kids in tow, the Children's Garden is that perfect. Add this to your list of locations to visit if you love checking out the local plant life.

FUTURE TO THE BACK

The Grand Staircase in Southern Utah is just plain cool — massive layers of sedimentary rock that have yielded thousands of dinosaur bones from paleontological rock stars such as Allosaurus and Stegosaurus. And just next door to the Red Butte Garden, the Natural History Museum of Utah in Salt Lake City (Read: "An Afternoon at the Natural History Museum") is also pretty sweet. Housed in a gorgeous building that settles perfectly against the city's foothills, it contains permanent exhibits exploring over 150 years of Utah's ancient past, as well as rotating shows of global significance.

ARTS AT LEISURE

I may not call SLC's growing downtown cozy, but it is very walkable, especially when out for a museum crawl. The Leonardo provides an awesome children's learning, I mean play space, filled with interactive activities as well as some thought-provoking installations, like a mixed-media exhibition that profiles Salt Lake's homeless population. I expect a family-centric hub like SLC to possess a top rate science museum and library, but I wasn't prepared to discover the Utah Museum of Contemporary Art and its provocative exhibits. I round out my afternoon with an informative stroll through Temple Square.

ONE AFTER 9TH AND 9TH

Few indicators show off a city's urbane evolution like its neighbourhoods (Read: "Insider's Guide to Salt Lake City Neighbourhoods"), so I make my way to 9th & 9th (900 East, 900 South), an up and comer that's arrived. Restaurateur Scott Evans helped launch the area into its modern incarnation with his farm-to-table inspired Pago and nearby East Liberty Tap House. I loved the gelato at Dolcetti — every good 'hood needs a solid gelato spot. Terraces rule this corner. The Stockist (men's and women's specialty clothing store) and Children's Hour (bookstore) also hit their marks perfectly. One of the two 9s of 9th & 9th, namely 900 South, has taken on new life as Harvey Milk Boulevard with new restaurants and shops springing up all along the route to the Central Ninth neighbourhood on 200 West. I pick out a \$20 rose gold ring at The Land of Salt for my wife that she actually wears.

DOWNTOWN DINS & SINS

I make a rule of sitting at the bar when travelling alone, a fine way to capture the pulse of a town or, at the very least, gauge its friendliness. I'd say lively and amicable. Working my way through Bambara chef Nathan Powers' "Snake River Farms Pork Shank," my conversation with multiple locals yields a backcountry skiing invite, secret-fishing-hole intel and an enticement to Whiskey Street, a compelling urban saloon.



Current Restaurant | Austen Diamond Photography



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NATURE'S MASTERPIECE

Moab, Utah, is home to some of the most spectacular scenery in the United States. Here, you'll discover wild wonders, from the unique rock formations of Arches National Park and the stunning vistas of Canyonlands National Park to the vibrant art and culture of the city itself, all nestled on the banks of the Colorado River. These red rock landscapes provide an awe-inspiring backdrop for a variety of exploration opportunities, including hiking, biking, climbing, river rafting, stargazing and so much more.

Learn how to visit responsibly at discovermoab.com



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Salt Lake City to Moab



Moab rafting | Austen Diamond Photography

When you think of Moab you may think of hiking the Delicate Arch Trail, gazing over Canyonlands National Park or four wheeling down a slickrock trail. This is Utah's adventure epicentre — a place where world-renowned natural destinations are scattered around a town that's brimming with local charm. Imagine being on a movie set with John Wayne as you ride horseback through familiar movie backdrops, or follow the path of explorer John Wesley Powell as you float down the Colorado. Then switch gears with a heart racing 4x4 tour of Hell's Revenge, or a mountain bike ride on the beloved slickrock trail. Afterwards, with tired legs and an unshakeable smile it's time to head back into town for a bite to eat before gazing upwards into some of the darkest night skies anywhere in the world. Welcome to an idyllic weekend road trip to Moab.



Moab Red Cliffs

DAY 1

SALT LAKE TO MOAB

THE DRIVE: 378 Kilometres

It takes about four hours to drive from Salt Lake City to Moab, or flights from Salt Lake City International Airport are available most days and only take about an hour. Depending on when you arrive you may have enough time for a full afternoon in Arches National Park (Read: "The Best Time to Visit Moab"). If not, you may spring for a quick hike on BLM land alongside State Route 128 or Kane Creek. Either way, you'll want to make sure you plan enough time for a lunchtime break in Green River at Ray's Tavern or Tamarisk, which boasts river-side views. As the day winds down, be sure to spend the evening popping into the galleries, gift shops and outfitters that line Main Street for a sense of Moab's charm.

DAY 2

THE DRIVE: 48 Kilometres | **WHAT YOU'LL DO:** 4x4 Tour, Golfing, and Kayaking

Well known for its biking and rugged dirt roads, Moab is less recognized for its golf, yet the Moab Golf Club layout is one of the most spectacular anywhere with the rich green grass accented by the backdrop of rugged red cliffs. Start your day off by playing nine holes, or spend some time floating down the Colorado on a kayak or a paddleboard (either of which can be rented in town.) Then, cap your day off with an adrenaline pumping tour of Hell's Revenge with a local guide. Tours are available in the evening, at which time you may be able to watch the sky burst with colour as the sun sets behind the red rock horizon.

DAY 3

THE DRIVE: 193 Kilometres | **WHAT YOU'LL DO:** Mountain Biking, Canyonlands and Dark Skies

Day three of your weekend retreat is all about seeing some of Moab's more remote destinations. While heavily trafficked, the 16.9 kilometre Slickrock Trail leads riders deep into a solitary ocean of rolling slickrock terrain. This is a very strenuous ride, so you might elect to sample the 3.7 kilometre Slickrock Practice Trail instead, or consult with a local bike shop for a better suited trail. Up next is Canyonlands National Park, the largest national park in Utah. Fully exploring the Canyonlands region calls for a trip all its own, but Gooseberry is an excellent day hike to see the park's dramatic geology. Finally, end your day with stargazing at RedRock Astronomy for a sense of Southern Utah's dark skies.

DAY 4

THE DRIVE: 97 Kilometres | **WHAT YOU'LL DO:** Horseback Riding, Jet Boats and Scenic Drives

As your weekend trip winds down, you may be looking for a relaxing way to ease yourself back into reality. Start your day off at The Moab Movie Museum, then ride through those same movie backdrops on horseback at Red Cliffs Lodge. Or, if you're looking to cool down, a jet boat tour on the Colorado River promises everything from wildlife views to a ground level vantage point of the Goose Neck. Then, once you've packed up your car and you're headed back, add the scenic La Sal Mountain Loop to your route for a few last unforgettable photo ops.

Northern Utah & the Wasatch Front



Weber River near Ogden



Real Salt Lake | Austen Diamond Photography

Northern Utah is the place to discover vibrant cities such as Salt Lake City, Park City, Ogden and Provo. It's also the place to find much of The Greatest Snow on Earth®, with world-class skiing and adventure sports. But great cities and great snow are just the beginning.

THE WASATCH FRONT

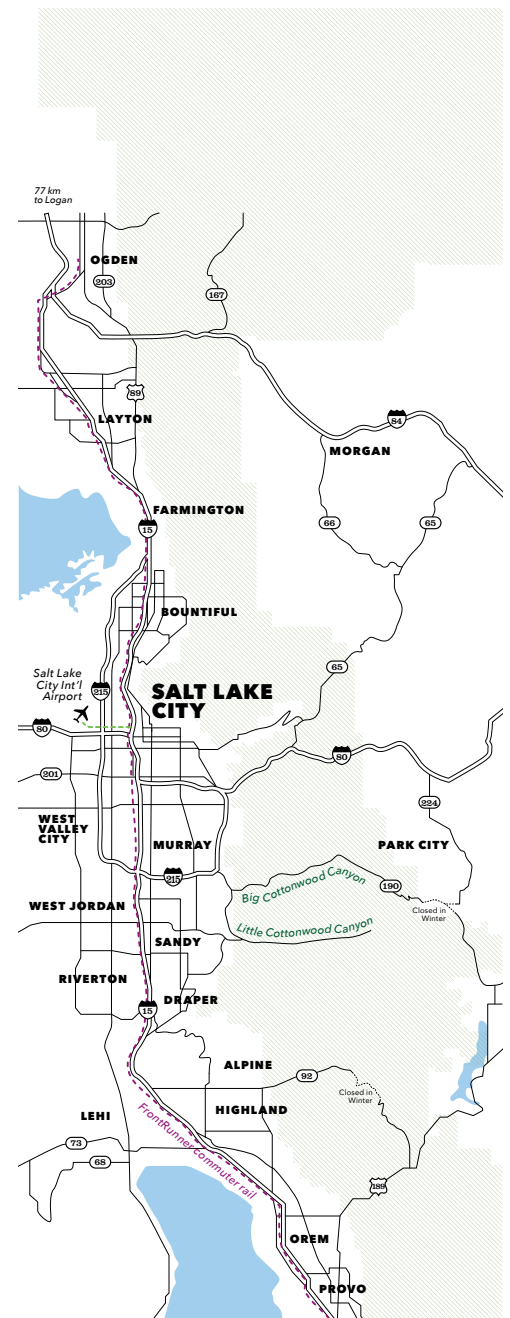
Salt Lake City is conveniently located midway along the Wasatch Front – Utah's 160-kilometre-long metropolitan corridor in Northern Utah. Made internationally famous during the 2002 Winter Olympics, the Wasatch Front is home to ten world-class ski resorts, dynamic cities and unlimited year-round outdoor adventure. Here is a snapshot of top cities and attractions along the Wasatch Front.

Fans of professional sports can catch a Utah Jazz basketball game at the Delta Center Arena in downtown Salt Lake City, or lovers of the beautiful game of soccer (or should we say, football) can travel south to sing and chant alongside fans of Real Salt Lake at a Major League Soccer match in Sandy.

Farther south, appreciate exotic and native Utah ecosystems at the Living Planet Aquarium in Draper, home to more than 450 species. Continuing south to Lehi, stroll amongst the gardens and visit the shops and museums at Thanksgiving Point.

Provo and Orem, at the southern end of the front, offer easy access to Sundance Mountain Resort and Mount Timpanogos as well as Provo Canyon's fly fishing, hiking and skiing.

North of Salt Lake City, historic Ogden offers visitors a burgeoning downtown nightlife. Settled by mountain men before the Mormons arrived in Salt Lake City, Ogden prides itself on feeling a little set apart from the rest of Utah. This is the place to find locally roasted coffee, craft breweries, farm-to-table cuisine and extensive recreation including Weber River tubing, a restored urban river waterfront and iFLY indoor skydiving.





Ashley National Forest

Go backpacking in the Ashley National Forest, stopping to camp by alpine lakes at elevations up to 4,100 metres. The forest is also home to the spectacularly beautiful Flaming Gorge National Recreation Area. Famous for its trout fishing, Flaming Gorge offers a host of recreational options – from hiking and camping to waterskiing and powerboating on the reservoir or rafting and fly fishing on the emerald waters of the Green River, all while surrounded by towering red cliffs.

The charming community of Vernal serves as a gateway to Ashley National Forest as well as Utah’s dinosaur country, earning it the nickname of Dinosaurland. Home to one of the largest quarries of prehistoric Jurassic dinosaur bones, Vernal is located just minutes from Dinosaur National Monument. Visit the Dinosaur Quarry Exhibit Hall to view 1,500 dinosaur bones, then examine ancient petroglyphs carved by the Fremont people, then embark on a nearby whitewater rafting adventure.

For more outdoor action, go hiking and fishing in the Uinta Mountains. Swim, sail and water ski the brilliant blue waters of Bear Lake State Park on Utah’s state border with Idaho. Or take a 2.4 kilometre hike up 304 metres to explore Timpanogos Cave National Monument, just south of Salt Lake City. With stalactites, stalagmites, “draperies” and countless other geological formations, Timpanogos offers a one-of-a-kind experience that’s worth the effort.



Dinosaur National Monument Visitor Centre / Mark Osler; Bear Lake State Park / Marc Piscotty

UTAH.
PURE
AND
SIMPLE.

RAMBLERS
BEAVER COUNTY, UTAH



Dine Out Utah

Utah's outstanding scenic diversity is matched perfectly by its variety of restaurants and dining opportunities. There's cowboy steaks smoked to perfection capturing the spirit of the American West down south, and a thriving farm-to-table scene lining the Wasatch Front.

UTAH FOOD TRAILS

Discover Utah's food trails — gastronomic adventures highlighting the best of Utah's home-grown culinary goodness. Food trails use a thematic approach to eating (think honey, burgers, chocolate and more) to offer foodies a streamlined guide to sampling the best options in the region. Food trails are a great way to tour the state and support local businesses.

URBAN FOOD TOURS

Did you know that you can enjoy some of Utah's local food and drink while also learning about the history and architecture of its urban centres? Check out a Salt Lake City or Park City food tour from local purveyors like Local Food Walking Tours, Whisky & History, Salt Lake City Bike and Brew Tour or Gourmand Tours.

Austen Diamond Photography



SALT LAKE CITY DINING

GREATER AVENUES

The bucolic Avenues neighbourhood, with its hilly streets and superb eateries, is remarkably reminiscent of San Francisco. Try the cookbook-strewn Wildwood — a lovely local spot for outstanding food and drink. Or Cucina, where the extensive wine list is certainly a draw, but so is its inventive cuisine — pork belly pozole and terrific tandoori lamb chop, for example. Try Indian flavours with a modern flare is the mantra at beautiful Saffron Valley. Along with traditional dishes are modern menu items like the Bombay Sloppy Joe and Saffron Indimex Burrito. Craft beers brewed in-house and anything-but-routine pub fare is the calling at Avenues Proper Restaurant & Publick House, where their Hopspital IPA pairs perfectly with duck fat Pommes Frites or General Tso's Pork Belly Sandwich.

3RD & 3RD (DOWNTOWN)

One of SLC's iconic culinary corners is 300 West and 300 South, where for years Tony Caputo's Market & Deli has been feeding the city's foodies with imported cheeses, chocolates and gourmet foods, plus an unbeatable array of deli sandwiches, pastas and such. Just around the corner, Cucina Toscana has been a longtime go-to destination for Tuscan-style Italian cuisine like scaloppine di vitello al limone. Travelling the other side of the globe, Laan Na Thai is a mom-and-pop eatery dishing up the vivid flavours of northeastern Thailand — nam tok, for example. And, for comfort food at its Belgian best, be sure to visit. Bruges Waffles & Frites, where the name of this fun eatery pretty much tells the story. Be sure to check out the SLC Farmers Market at Pioneer Park on Saturdays throughout the summer.



HARVEY MILK BOULEVARD

SLC's east-west corridor called Harvey Milk Boulevard (aka 900 South) is a smorgasbord of fresh, fantastic flavours. Just around the corner, aromas of fresh-baked pita, simmering legumes and fresh herbs welcome guests into Laziz Kitchen, the home of mouthwatering Middle Eastern cuisine. For southern-style American comfort food, the Pig & a Jelly Jar has you covered with chicken and waffles, beignets and Mason jar libations. Modern, elevated Greek cuisine is on tap at Manoli's, where you'll find creative Greek meze and mains like pan-seared branzino and delectable donuts called loukoumathes. Veneto Ristorante Italiano is an inviting local gem exquisitely showcasing the cuisine of Northern Italy.

15TH & 15TH

Stroll the tree-lined blocks around 1500 South and 1500 East and you'll discover a veritable United Nations of foods and flavours. At Mazza Middle Eastern Cuisine, Lebanon, Morocco, Syria, Egypt and other countries are well-represented with dishes. Or, grab an authentic sandwich stacked high with local ingredients from Salt Lake's favourite Italian and Southern European deli, Caputo's. As a bonus, stop in one of the city's fiercely independent bookstores: The King's English.



Avenues Bistro | Austen Diamond Photography; Eva | Austen Diamond Photography; Caputo's | Nicole Morgenthau



THE BEST RESTAURANTS IN SALT LAKE CITY
visitutah.com/articles/best-restaurants-in-salt-lake-city



FOOD & NIGHTLIFE IN SALT LAKE CITY
visitutah.com/things-to-do/food-nightlife



Harvey Milk Neighbourhood | Austen Diamond Photography;
Park City | Scott Markewitz

DINING REGIONS

SALT LAKE CITY

Dining in Salt Lake City has a well-earned reputation for excellence, thanks to its blend of international fare and local specialties from restaurants like Mr. Shabu, Red Iguana, The Copper Onion and more. Many restaurants go beyond traditional cuisine, adding distinct twists that have become a Salt Lake trademark. Funeral potatoes, fry sauce and pastrami burgers are just a few of Utah's contributions to the culinary world. [visitutah.com/articles/best-restaurants-in-salt-lake-city](https://www.visitutah.com/articles/best-restaurants-in-salt-lake-city)

OGDEN

Ogden's restaurant scene is buzzing with flavour and variety, making this frontier mountain town both a foodie and an outdoor destination. Check out Tona Sushi, Lucky Slice Pizza, Table 25, Slackwater and more. [visitutah.com/places-to-go/cities-and-towns/ogden/restaurants-in-ogden](https://www.visitutah.com/places-to-go/cities-and-towns/ogden/restaurants-in-ogden)

PARK CITY

As a destination that attracts adventure-seekers from around the globe, it's no surprise that Park City's culinary scene is booming with equally adventurous cuisine. And the proximity of Deer Valley and Park City Mountain resorts has fostered a thriving selection of apres ski dining and drinks. Don't miss restaurants like Yuki Yama Sushi, Handle, High West Saloon and more. [visitutah.com/places-to-go/cities-and-towns/park-city/restaurants-in-park-city](https://www.visitutah.com/places-to-go/cities-and-towns/park-city/restaurants-in-park-city)

MOAB

Post-fun meals in Moab are an essential part of the adventure. Recharge your energy, enjoy a cold one (or two) and refuel at some of Moab's best restaurants, including Antica Forma, Thai Bella and more. After a day of biking along endless slickrock bluffs or hiking narrow canyons, you'll have worked up a mighty appetite. [visitutah.com/places-to-go/cities-and-towns/moab/restaurants-in-moab](https://www.visitutah.com/places-to-go/cities-and-towns/moab/restaurants-in-moab)

PROVO

The Heirloom Group headlines the culinary scene with their farm-to-table (and appropriately named) Communal restaurant and Pizzeria 712. The Black Sheep Café combines flavours of the southwest with Native American cooking traditions. This area, known as Utah Valley, is also known for great desserts. [visitutah.com/articles/hike-and-dine-provo](https://www.visitutah.com/articles/hike-and-dine-provo)

LOGAN

Logan is packed with unique, local dining options. Angie's is a classic, small-town diner offering a full menu of homemade food from scratch. Caffe Ibis is an internationally renowned coffee shop. Cafe Sabor is a Mexican restaurant with a historical flair and top-notch burritos. And Crumb Brothers crafts delicious mouth-watering sandwiches on organic artisan breads. [visitutah.com/articles/high-art-hometown-americana](https://www.visitutah.com/articles/high-art-hometown-americana)



Austen Diamond Photography



DISTILLERIES

[visitutah.com/things-to-do/food-nightlife/distilleries](https://www.visitutah.com/things-to-do/food-nightlife/distilleries)



UTAH CRAFT BREWING

[visitutah.com/things-to-do/food-nightlife/craft-brewing](https://www.visitutah.com/things-to-do/food-nightlife/craft-brewing)



CRAFT CHOCOLATE CAPITAL OF AMERICA: UTAH'S CULTURE OF CACAO

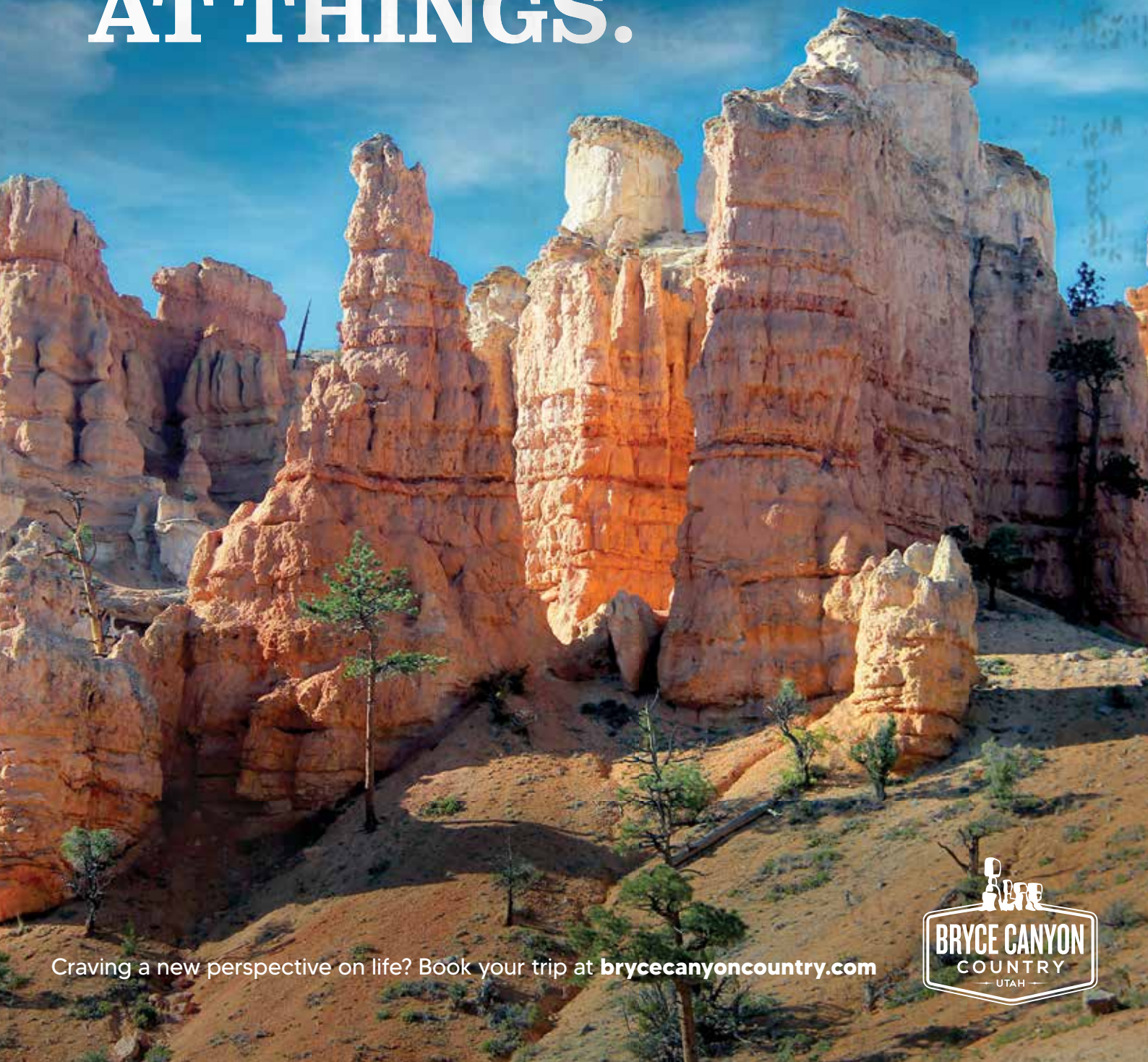
[visitutah.com/articles/craft-chocolate-capital-of-america](https://www.visitutah.com/articles/craft-chocolate-capital-of-america)



GOOD ROOTS: THE FACES OF UTAH'S FOOD CULTURE

[visitutah.com/articles/good-roots-the-faces-of-utahs-food-culture](https://www.visitutah.com/articles/good-roots-the-faces-of-utahs-food-culture)

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LOOK
AT THINGS.**



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The Greatest Snow On Earth[®]

There are a lot of reasons Utahns love winter. The ski and snow quality. The variety of winter experiences. Getting cozy inside after a day of play. For many, winter in Utah is all about skiing and riding the deep powder, Olympic downhill or precision-engineered terrain parks. Whether you have visions of endless slopes followed by luxurious après ski or a simpler image of quiet snowshoeing across serene snowy landscapes, your winter dreams exist in Utah.

Utah's location at the Crossroads of the West means you have easy access to it all. A quick morning cup of coffee in Salt Lake City and a short drive gets you on the mountains by the afternoon. Ten of Utah's 15 ski resorts are less than an hour from the airport. Stay anywhere along the vibrant Wasatch Front (Salt Lake City, Park City, Provo or Ogden) and you'll find a winter paradise in your own backyard.

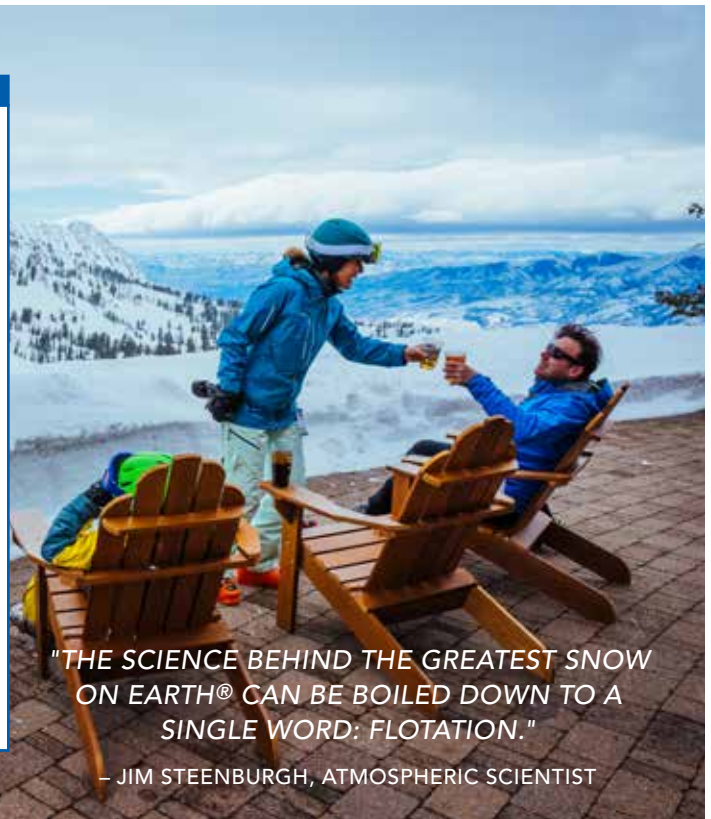
Snowbird | Scott Markewitz

Utah's Snow Science

Utah's combination of geography and the storms that drop their bounty along the eleven ski resorts in the Wasatch Mountains lead many to make the claim that Utah has the best deep-powder skiing and riding in the country. But don't take our word for it. Just look at the accolades from the readers of SKI Magazine, Forbes and others, who annually rank Utah's ski resorts at the top of the class. According to research of snow quality in the Cottonwood Canyons by University of Utah atmospheric scientist Jim Steenburgh, unique climate conditions produce a "just right" frequency and quantity of snow for ideal flotation when skiing and riding Utah's powder. You may also hear the term "designer storms," which is when more than 30 centimetres of snow drop at a time in the mountains while Ski City at the foot of the canyon receives light snow or a little rain, keeping the roads and sidewalks clear.



WELCOME TO WINTER IN UTAH
visitutah.com/welcome-to-winter



"THE SCIENCE BEHIND THE GREATEST SNOW ON EARTH® CAN BE BOILED DOWN TO A SINGLE WORD: FLOTATION."

— JIM STEENBURGH, ATMOSPHERIC SCIENTIST

Snowbasin | Jeremiah Watt



Beaver Mountain | Re Wikstrom

UTAH SKI REGIONS

THE WASATCH

Home to the Greatest Snow on Earth®, you can't go wrong visiting any of the Salt Lake area's world-class resorts. Skiing at Alta, Brighton, Snowbird and other resorts along Utah's metropolitan corridor will feature high elevations, evergreen forests, state-of-the-art resorts and lodges and a culture saturated with dedicated powderhounds.

NORTHERN UTAH

For skiers looking to avoid the crowds, find a more affordable lift ticket and enjoy small-town charm, the northern resorts are tough to beat. Visit Cherry Peak or Beaver Mountain for a family-friendly (and budget-friendly) ski vacation. You can extend the fun by staying in the nearby ski basecamp towns of Logan or Garden City.

SOUTHERN UTAH

Southern Utah's ski resorts feature kilometres of fresh powder among unique red rock scenery. The small crowds and family-friendly slopes make Brian Head and Eagle Point excellent ski trip destinations. After skiing or riding, stay at the basecamp towns of Brian Head or Cedar City to enjoy more gorgeous red rock scenery.



7 SKIING TIPS FOR MORE FUN ON THE MOUNTAIN
visitutah.com/articles/what-to-know-for-ski-school



UTAH SKI RESORTS
visitutah.com/places-to-go/utah-ski-resorts



HOW TO PREPARE FOR YOUR UTAH SKI VACATION
visitutah.com/articles/ski-vacation-tips



THE OFFICIAL UTAH SNOW REPORT
skiutah.com/snowreport

WHERE TO STAY



EASY ACCESS

Salt Lake-area resorts (Solitude, Brighton, Snowbird and Alta) and Park City-area resorts (Park City, Deer Valley and Woodward) are within 45 minutes of Salt Lake City International Airport. Ogden-area resorts (Snowbasin, Powder Mountain and Nordic Valley) are an average of an hour from the airport, as is the scenic Sundance Mountain Resort in Provo Canyon.

The junctions of I-15, I-80 and I-84 in Northern Utah, combined with Salt Lake's belt route, I-215, mean wide-open avenues right to Utah's best canyons. This layout is also convenient for ski itineraries hitting multiple Utah resorts. TRAX light rail, UTA ski buses and taxi services work together to shuttle visitors without vehicles between downtown and the resorts.

If it's all about the journey, set your sights on Utah's four scenic destination resorts: Cherry Peak and Beaver Mountain in Northern Utah near Logan, or Eagle Point and Brian Head in Southern Utah. Many consider these undiscovered gems worth the drive for the untouched powder, mellow vibe and nonexistent lift lines. For visitors to the southern resorts, air travellers have the quickest access through Las Vegas.

Once you're here, the only real challenge is deciding if you want to stay slope-side or stay in the city. Maybe you want access to the cultural amenities and nightlife of Salt Lake City, Ogden or Provo, or maybe you want to sleep in an extra 20–30 minutes in the morning by staying on the mountain.

SALT LAKE CITY'S COTTONWOOD CANYONS

From the European-style village at Solitude to the luxurious Cliff Spa at Snowbird, Utah's four Cottonwood Canyon resorts (the popular Brighton Resort and skier's-only Alta round out the list) are top winter holiday destinations. Look for extensive slope-side lodging options and an average of 13+ metres of Utah's legendary snow in these canyons. The quality of the ski runs, on-mountain amenities and the proximity of the resorts to downtown define the Salt Lake ski experience. It's easy to catch the first lift in the morning and take in the symphony in the evening. Add in a thriving culinary scene, world-class performing arts, plentiful shopping and off-the-slope activities for the whole family, and you can begin to see why the Salt Lake area has the reputation as the only true "Ski City" in the U.S.

ALTA SKI AREA

Nestled near the top of one of Utah's best canyons, Alta is a storied paradise for skiers. Even riders leave their boards at home for a chance at the 2,600+ acres of Alta's renowned slopes featuring 119 runs.

BRIGHTON SKI RESORT

Brighton has been delighting skiers longer than most resorts in Utah. In 1936, an alpine ski club pulled together their engineering expertise and built a rudimentary rope tow to get folks up the mountain. That basic mission remains the same today: Brighton is just looking to get folks up the mountain to enjoy great skiing and riding. The only difference now is that the full expanse of the resort's well-balanced 1,000 plus acres is accessible from high-speed quads and Utah's fastest chairlift, a six-seater that opened in December 2023.

SNOWBIRD SKI RESORT

Snowbird has the longest ski season in Utah. It frequently opens before Thanksgiving and stays open as long as the snowpack will allow (usually through Memorial Day), and it's not unheard of to ski or ride at Snowbird on the 4th of July. Snowbird's generous season means more time on its 988 metre top-to-bottom vertical and its 2,500 acres.



The Village at Solitude | Austen Diamond Photography

SOLITUDE MOUNTAIN RESORT

They say Solitude isn't just a name, it's a promise. Ask a Solitude season pass holder, they'll tell you the mountain resort is a relaxed environment, offers dozens of runs for all levels, has an abundance of hidden powder stashes and offers up plenty of opportunities for skiers and riders to challenge themselves. Up for the challenge? Solitude is an intermediate skier's delight. More than half of the 1,200 acres, 65 runs, 8 lifts and 610 vertical metres are labeled for those in the middle.



THE Heber Valley UTAH

APRÉS ALL DAY IN THIS UNBELIEVABLE MOUNTAIN TOWN

Heber Valley, Utah, is a winter wonderland for those seeking one-of-a-kind outdoor adventure. This majestic mountain destination is a year-round recreation mecca, positioned between two world-class ski resorts and less than an hour from Salt Lake City International Airport. Beyond skiing the stunning slopes of the Wasatch back mountains, this charming alpine village astounds first-time visitors with its quaint setting and abundance of outdoor activities, superb dining, and refined spa treatments. But what truly amazes our guests are the special moments and memories that await - making this community a highly sought-after destination for unique après experiences.



Park City Yoga Adventures

SWIM IN THE CRATER

Discover the 10,000-year-old geothermal hot spring - a favourite for guests to relax and soak in the 95°F (35°C) mineral water following a day on the slopes. The Utah Crater offers snorkeling and scuba diving - the only warm-water scuba destination in the lower 48 states! And many visitors love the guided stand-up paddleboard yoga class atop the warm water.

SUMMERS IN HEBER VALLEY

Access to hundreds of kilometres of trails and open space to ride, bike, run, zip, swim, hike, and explore. Mild summer temps make Heber Valley an idyllic place to visit. There's much more to do, see, taste, hear, and experience.



Deer Valley Resort

THE GREATEST SNOW ON EARTH

Heber Valley is a prime location to access two world-renowned ski resorts. Deer Valley Resort will extend to Heber Valley, offering skiers a new base and village by winter 2025-26. The resort is known for its impeccable corduroy groomers and excellent customer service. On the other side of the valley sits the world-class Sundance Mountain Resort. Offering jaw-dropping views below Mount Timpanogos (one of the tallest mountain peaks in Utah), this year-round resort honors the Robert Redford legacy that started the vision so many years ago.

SKI AMONG THE OLYMPIANS

The Soldier Hollow Nordic Centre welcomes athletes and recreationalists worldwide to train and play on the Olympic course. The year-round facility was host to 23 events during the 2002 Winter Olympics and today is open to the public with cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, and snow tubing in the winter.



EXPLORE MAGICAL ICE CASTLES

Between meals and activities, visit this award-winning frozen attraction, built using hundreds of thousands of hand-placed icicles. The formation features LED-lit sculptures, frozen thrones, ice-carved tunnels, slides, fountains, and more. This is a must-see experience in Heber Valley!

WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR?

These are only some of the amazing experiences that await you in Heber Valley. Plus, the historic Heber Valley Railroad, dark skies, Blue Ribbon fly fishing, snowmobiling, chocolatiers, and more. All amid an impressive mountain backdrop with fast and easy access by plane or vehicle. Get more from your winter vacation at gohebervalley.com



SKI TRAVEL CHECKLIST

Weekends and holidays are crowded. The Cottonwood Canyons experience heavy car congestion leading to the resorts. Can you go during a weekday? If you're going on the weekend, have you reviewed canyon alerts and best practices, and are you prepared for a time-consuming journey up Big and Little Cottonwood Canyons? Are you able to take the UTA Ski Bus? Crowds typically thin out around 1 p.m. after lunch.

- Have you secured all your needed reservations for the right days? See parking information by resort. Different resorts require different types of reservations for lodging, parking and lift passes.
- Make sure you have the right vehicle. If you are planning to access Utah resorts when snow is in the forecast, is your vehicle four-wheel drive and/or is equipped with chains or snow tires?
- Help out our air quality. If you're looking to ski during an inversion or when air quality is poor, can you carpool or take the UTA ski bus to reduce vehicle emissions?
- Demonstrate respect for the mountain. If you feel the urge to push your boundaries, consider adult ski school or hiring a backcountry guide. And if you find yourself in a crowded lodge, lift line or ski run, remember that anytime you are in a crowd, you are the crowd. Have patience and be considerate of those with whom you are sharing this outdoor space.

Small towns, big scenery,
**GIGANTIC FORMER
RESIDENTS.**

DINOSAUR NATIONAL MONUMENT

**CROWDS
NOT
INCLUDED**

LIFE
UTAH
ELEVATED

DINOSAUR LAND
Vernal, Utah

DARK SKY PARKS | RAFTING | HIKING | CAMPING | NATIVE AMERICAN ROCK ART | EARLY WILD WEST EXPLORATIONS



THE PERFECT MOUNTAIN DESTINATION FOR EVERY SEASON.

Located 35 minutes from the Salt Lake City International Airport, Park City, Utah's ease of access coupled with its limitless beauty and year-round adventure make it a one-of-a-kind mountain destination. Its two resorts – Deer Valley and Park City Mountain – offer a combined 3,700 skiable hectares during the winter season, and near-endless outdoor recreation in the summer and fall months. Enjoy more than 700 kilometers of free trails by bike or by foot, cool off while fly-fishing in a nearby river, shop at independently-owned boutiques and galleries that line Historic Main Street, or explore the town's diverse culinary scene.

park  city
visitparkcity.com

AREA RESORTS

PARK CITY

Though Historic Main Street has all the look and feel of a cozy mountain town, the Park City area is much larger than many realize. Park City Resort is among the largest resort experiences in America, while luxurious Deer Valley stretches into the neighbouring Heber Valley. Park City has more than 100 lodging properties and countless additional home and condo rentals in town or on the slope. The serene landscape around Heber and Midway is home to Olympic-caliber cross-country skiing at Soldier Hollow and comfortable Alpine accommodations.



SUNDANCE

Twenty minutes southwest of Heber is the rustic and comfortable Sundance Mountain Resort, nestled beneath one of the most picturesque peaks of the Wasatch Mountain Range, Mount Timpanogos.



OGDEN

This historic and welcoming town has built a mighty reputation as an outdoor recreation mecca, with good reason. You'll find some of the state's best slopes in Ogden's backyard. Powder Mountain is one of North America's largest resorts and offers vast backcountry access. The legendary runs of Snowbasin include the men's and women's downhill from the 2002 Winter Olympics, stunning scenery, terrain parks and beautiful on-mountain facilities. Nordic Valley's expansion is building on Ogden Valley's legacy of incredible skiing and riding. Ogden's walkable downtown is growing, with family amenities like the Treehouse Museum, a thriving restaurant and bar scene and classic buildings from Ogden's history as a boomtown railroad outpost.



BEAVER MOUNTAIN

Beaver Mountain Resort sits in the northeast corner of Utah with 3.35 square kilometres of prime mountain terrain that is blanketed annually with 10 metres of The Greatest Snow on Earth®. Though modest in size compared to other Utah resorts, some runs at Beaver Mountain have a length of over 3 kilometres and are just the perfect length for getting into the perfect groove run after run. The northeast exposure makes for some beautiful morning sun as it drenches the neighbouring rural valley. And the ski area offers several terrains parks and great night skiing.



Sundance Film Festival | Matt Morgan; Deer Valley Ski Resort | Marc Piscotty; Sundance Ski Resort | Marc Piscotty; Snowbasin | Jeremiah Watt

APRÈS & UNIQUELY UTAH

Skiers and snowboarders come to Utah for The Greatest Snow on Earth®, yet even those who opt not to take to the slopes can still find their “Greatest” at Utah’s resorts and surrounding communities. Here are nine experiences on and off the slopes favoured by travel writer Jill K. Robinson. Follow Jill @dangerjr and dangerjillrobinson.com. To see the best of all 15 resorts, explore visitutah.com/ski-resorts.



RIDE AN ORANGE BUBBLE TO CLOUD DINE

Warm up and grab lunch atop Dream Peak at the newly redesigned and expanded Cloud Dine at Park City Mountain. The orange bubble lift, a heated, covered chairlift warms you between runs as it zips you to the top of the peak in under ten minutes.

LAP THE UTAH OLYMPIC LEGACY AT SNOWBASIN

Advanced skiers can get a taste of the 2002 Winter Olympics by following the 800 metres of vertical drop that made up the women’s Wildflower Downhill course. Take the John Paul Express Quad to the Allen Peak Tram, adjust your goggles and go! For less extreme terrain, take the Needles Express Gondola to enjoy a treasure trove of intermediate and easy terrain.



DRINK WHISKY IN BUTCH CASSIDY’S FOOTSTEPS

Add some authentic Western influence to your ski day at the Owl Bar. Once frequented by Butch Cassidy’s Hole-in-the-Wall Gang, the 1890s Rosewood Bar was moved from its home in Thermopolis, Wyoming to Sundance and restored for your enjoyment. Belly on up, order a whisky, exchange stories about the best run of the day and make plans for tomorrow.



GET A LIFT FROM TOWN AT PARK CITY

There’s no need to drive to the resort when you can grab a seat on the Town Lift, which loads right on Park City’s Historic Main Street. At the end of the day, celebrate your successful turns at the High West Distillery & Saloon — with ski-in access. Don’t worry: ski gear is perfectly acceptable attire for a late afternoon whisky tasting.





SKI AMONG BRIAN HEAD'S HOODOOS

Downhill skiing in Utah calls to mind craggy alpine peaks. At Brian Head, however, their high-speed quads zip you up the mountain overlooking the orange sandstone hoodoos (slender rock towers) of Cedar Breaks National Monument, just 3 miles away. Of course, the skiing is spectacular, too. Recent upgrades at the resort have many long-time regulars singing the resort's praises even louder, making Brian Head a hidden gem among Utah's resorts.



LEARN FROM 80 YEARS OF SKI TRAINING AT BRIGHTON

Brighton has been open since 1936, which means there has been a continuous focus on ski instruction for more than 80 years. Even the kids of past instructors are now teaching ski school basics. It's hard to pass up the value of all those decades of experience helping turn novice skiers into seasoned masters.

There's **POWER** in Utah's mountains.

A power that makes hearts beat faster and time move slower, that makes you feel on top of the world, yet one with nature.

The power of The Greatest Snow on Earth.®

Plan your trip at skiutah.com





Experience Dark Skies

Eighty percent of Americans live in an area where they cannot see the Milky Way due to the light pollution of the cities. That is not an issue when stargazing in Utah. There's a certified International Dark Sky Park nearby to reconnect you with our ancestral knowledge and finely tuned instincts. Except this presents a welcome challenge: do we go to bed early to ensure ample energy for tomorrow's adventures, or stay up late for a chance to peer into light tens of thousands of years old, yet part of the same Universal sea of energy?

Utah has the highest concentration of Dark Sky International-certified locations, including communities, parks and protected areas. The great advantage to astrotourism is that it doesn't depend on seasonality. You can see night or dark skies throughout the year. From our northern hemisphere viewpoint, the Milky Way core (or bulge) is always generally south on the horizon. However, the orientation of the galaxy differs throughout the year.

Of course, you'll want to take note of the weather and avoid nights where cloud cover is prevalent or potential storms are on the horizon.

Bryce Canyon



Goblin Valley | Austen Diamond Photography

WHEN

SUMMER

We see more of the Milky Way, its centre, and the highest concentration of stars combining for the most luminous of views during the summer. Looking low on the southern horizon is the constellation of Sagittarius, and its brightest stars make a teapot shape, with the Milky Way rising as steam from the spout.

WINTER

In the winter months, we are looking toward the outside edge of the galaxy, with fewer stars that are less intense and more subtle. Winter is a wonderful time of year to experience stargazing in part because it's kinder to the non-nightowls. There are more hours of darkness as the sun goes down earlier in the day and Utah's typical dry winter air also allows for clearer viewing.

VIEWING THE GALACTIC CORE

The central part of the Milky Way — the galactic core — shines nightly from March to November.

March–May: The galactic core will first become visible a few hours before sunrise.

June–August: View the Milky Way as soon as the sun sets for most of the night.

September–November: The Milky Way will be best seen in the early evening.

November–February: The galaxy core will not be visible in the northern hemisphere.

TIME OF MONTH

Plan your stargazing during a new moon or within three days before or three days after. A new moon occurs when it is located between Earth and the sun. The moon is thus not visible from Earth, resulting in dark skies that are ideal to see the Milky Way and the faintest of celestial objects and phenomenon (details in dustlines of the galaxy, fainter light against a dark background, etc.) Any light from the moon will wash out the night sky.

TIME OF NIGHT

The Milky Way is most clearly seen during true night, after the sun is 18 degrees below the horizon — typically an hour to an hour-and-a-half after sunset. During the northern hemisphere's summer months, that's after 10 p.m. And the longer you stay up, the more intense the sky becomes with stars beaming as the night gets darker.

WHERE

CAPITOL REEF NATIONAL PARK

From late June to October, Capitol Reef offers night sky tours, full moon walks and its Annual Heritage Starfest event, featuring telescope viewing and guest speakers.

NATIONAL MONUMENTS

Rangers offer occasional stargazing programmes at Cedar Breaks National Monument, Dinosaur National Monument, Hovenweep National Monument, Natural Bridges National Monument, Rainbow Bridge National Monument and Timpanogos Cave National Monument. Check with the park's visitor centre for upcoming programmes.

UTAH STATE PARKS

Many Utah state parks have earned the International Dark Sky Park designation, including Dead Horse Point, Antelope Island, Kodachrome Basin and more. Visitors sticking around after dark can enjoy star parties, astronomy programmes and ranger-led stargazing hikes.

ARCHES, CANYONLANDS AND DEAD HORSE POINT

During the spring and fall, rangers from Arches National Park, Canyonlands National Park's Island in the Sky district and Dead Horse Point State Park team up for ranger-led night sky events. Programmes rotate among the three parks and usually occur around the new moon.

BRYCE CANYON NATIONAL PARK

Bryce Canyon offers year-round, ranger-led programmes and an annual Astronomy Festival in June. Some popular programmes (winter snowshoe hikes and full moon hikes) require advance sign-up or are subject to a lottery.



"FOR MY PART I KNOW NOTHING WITH ANY CERTAINTY,
BUT THE SIGHT OF THE STARS MAKES ME DREAM."

– VINCENT VAN GOGH

Kodachrome Basin | Austen Diamond Photography



RED ROCK & DARK SKIES: STARGAZING THE NATIONAL PARKS - 4 DAY ITINERARY
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DARK SKY PARKS
visitutah.com/places-to-go/dark-sky-parks



Explore The Outdoors

Great access to Utah's parks and outdoors begins within 30 minutes of the Salt Lake City Airport in Northern Utah, which includes national forests and monuments that cross high-alpine adventure, tranquil lakes, mountain ranges and hidden caverns. Head south and soon find yourself on the astonishingly scenic drives that mark the way for visitors to The Mighty 5[®] national parks and all the unexpected national monuments, national forests, towns, state parks and scenic lands that fill the space in between. It's here in Southern Utah that travellers visit red rock icons, then discover something equally wild around the next bend.

Keep in mind, visiting Utah is about so much more than recreation. It's about soul-awakening adventures. Help keep Utah Forever Mighty by travelling responsibly. That means planning ahead, leaving no trace in the outdoors, supporting local and slowing down to fully appreciate all that is around you.

Navajo Loop Trail, Bryce Canyon National Park | Matt Morgan

ACTIVITIES

WATER SPORTS

Though famous for its scenic desert vistas, Utah also ranks among the top 10 in the United States for surface area of boatable waters. The state's rivers, lakes and reservoirs offer world-class water recreation. Rent a houseboat and cruise the Lake Powell oasis. Go fly fishing in the Green River. Swim, sail and waterski the turquoise waters of Bear Lake. Or take a heart-pounding whitewater rafting trip down the Colorado River through Cataract Canyon.

CANYONEERING

It's hard to imagine a place better suited for canyoneering than Utah. From the deep canyons of The Mighty 5® to the desert slots of the Grand Staircase–Escalante National Monument, the state is tailor-made for both serious canyoneers and guide-accompanied novices alike. Utah has the highest concentration of slot canyons in the world, which means explorers can never run out of incredible desert terrain. Canyoneering is a serious endeavour and often highly technical, but local guides and outfitters can lead you down a trail that's perfect for your level of adventure.

RAFTING

Rafting a river can take you to some of the most remote places on Earth, filled with the darkest star-filled skies anywhere. Most of these river runs also include numerous opportunities for hikes to petroglyphs, pictographs and other reminders of Utah's ancient cultures. Some of the most famous runs include the wild whitewater of Westwater and Cataract Canyons (class IV-V) on the Colorado River, the Gates of Lodore and Desolation Canyon (class III-IV) on the Green River, and the Upper and Lower stretches (class III) of the San Juan River.

MOUNTAIN BIKING

For mountain bikers, all trails lead to Utah. The challenging climbs and descents of the slickrock trails helped put Moab on the map. But Moab is just the beginning. Travellers to Bryce Canyon and Zion national parks should plan to visit nearby Thunder Mountain and Gooseberry Mesa. For a mountaintop biking adventure, head to Park City – America's only International Mountain Bicycling Association-Certified Gold Level mountain biking city – or travel the single-track Wasatch Crest Trail near Salt Lake City and the many sections of the Bonneville Shoreline Trail in Salt Lake City and Ogden.

HIKING

From family-friendly trails to more challenging climbs, Utah is made for hiking. The Mighty 5® national parks offer countless trails through the region's iconic red rock landscape. Multiple national monuments, national recreation areas, national forests and state parks also blanket Southern Utah, providing ample hiking opportunities outside of The Mighty 5®. For diverse high-elevation views, hike through kilometres of lush wilderness with alpine meadows and lakes in the Uinta-Wasatch-Cache National Forest, or summit Mount Raymond to enjoy 360-degree views of Big Cottonwood Canyon, home to both Brighton Resort and Solitude Mountain Resort.

Chimney Rock from Chimney Rock Trail, Capitol Reef National Park | Andrew Burr

*"NOBODY CAN DISCOVER THE WORLD FOR SOMEBODY ELSE.
ONLY WHEN WE DISCOVER IT FOR OURSELVES DOES IT
BECOME COMMON GROUND AND A COMMON BOND AND
WE CEASE TO BE ALONE."*

– WENDELL BERRY

BEFORE TRAVELLING, WE ASK YOU TO PLEASE CONSIDER:

- Am I familiar with the Leave No Trace Seven Principles?
- Does this activity put me at risk for potential rescue, straining local resources?
- Am I doing what I can to avoid crowded locations?
- Have I prepared for limited services in remote areas, and taken into account the abilities of others in my group?
- Are there ways I can make a positive impact on the communities I plan to visit?

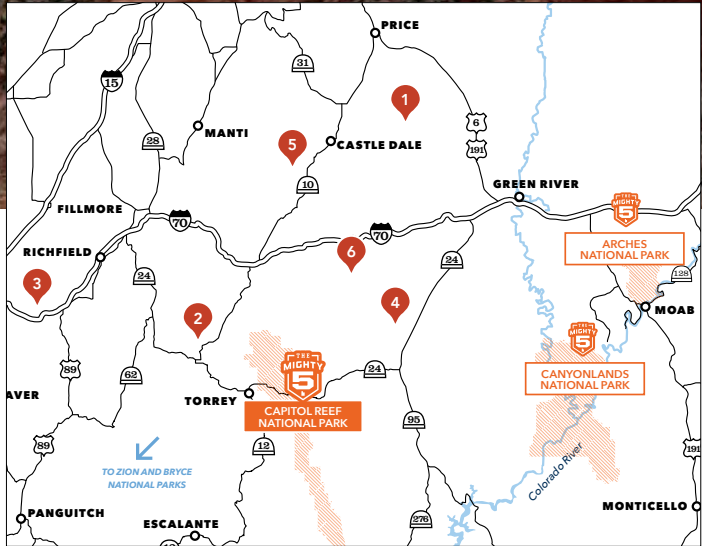
Read more at [visitutah.com/prepare](https://www.visitutah.com/prepare)



NATIONAL
PARK



Will Pattiz



Capitol Reef

While Bryce and Zion are like encapsulated little fantasy lands of coloured stone and soaring cliffs, the less-visited Capitol Reef is almost like a planet unto itself. Here you get a real feel for what the earth might have been like before life appeared, when nothing existed but earth and sky.

CAMPING - As one of Utah's less crowded national parks, there is plenty of camping to choose from. Start your day nestled beside the Fremont River in the lovely Fruita Campground, or explore the two free primitive campgrounds further into the park.

CANYONEERING - Utah is known around the world for its spectacular slot canyons, many of which are found in Capitol Reef National Park.

HIKING - For travellers who find serenity in seclusion, Capitol Reef's sprawling red rock hiking may be tough to beat. There are plenty of hiking trails out of the Fruita area and along the scenic drive to spread out and experience the varied environments of Capitol Reef. Or spend the day winding through the park's awe-inspiring slot canyons.

SCENIC DRIVE - In many parks the most beautiful destinations can't be seen from the road. That's not the case at Capitol Reef. Ramble down the 13 kilometre Capitol Reef Scenic Drive for breathtaking viewpoints and more likely than not, some great conversation. The Scenic Drive is a paved road, suitable to passenger vehicles. Beyond the paved road are two dirt spur roads, Grand Wash and Capitol Gorge. These dirt spur roads enter canyons and lead to trailheads, and are usually suitable for passenger cars and RVs up to 8 metres in length.

SLOW DOWN - Capitol Reef isn't the type of place that calls for a packed itinerary. Slow down a bit while you're here — visit the Pioneer Register site to see the names of historic miners and settlers, or visit the historic district of Fruita to pick fruit from its orchards.

WINTER ACTIVITIES - Towering red rocks dusted in snow, often set against bright blue skies, welcome winter visitors to Capitol Reef National Park. Skip the summer crowds and bundle up for an unforgettable winter adventure. Soak up incredible views along the park's scenic drive or gear up and head out on a wintry hike. After the sun sets, watch dazzling stars shimmer against a brilliant and crisp night sky.

CLIMATE

You'll experience a combination of mountain and desert climates. From May–October, expect dry, warm weather in the 10°–27°C range, and significant nighttime dips down to the 5°Cs. November–March is the coldest time, with daytime temperatures peaking under 10°C in November, 4°C in January and freezing overnight. Hardy travellers, however, will encounter stunning solitude amid snowcapped monoliths.

visitutah.com/capitol-reef



COMPLETE YOUR ITINERARY

Start at visitutah.com/capitol-reef to learn more about these nearby destinations.

(1) Cleveland-Lloyd Dinosaur Quarry & Jurassic National Monument | 2 hours 30 minutes from Capitol Reef

At Utah's newest national monument, you'll see the world's densest concentration of dinosaur bones — more than 12,000 discovered so far. Typically open April–September, but check the hours before you go. The kids will love it, and they get in free.

(2) Fishlake National Forest | 1 hour from Capitol Reef to Fish Lake

Enter an outdoor paradise known for its beautiful aspen forests with scenic drives leading to secluded camping, extensive ATV trails, elk hunting and fishing. Highlights include the Paiute ATV Trail and Lakeshore National Recreation Trail, home to the massive quaking aspen colony known as Pando.

(3) Fremont Indian State Park and Museum | 1 hour 45 minutes from Capitol Reef

This museum marks the site of one of the largest-known Fremont culture villages. The museum showcases the incredible discovery of this village by a road construction crew, and nearby hiking trails explore the areas petroglyphs and pictographs. You can camp or rent a teepee for an evening beneath pristine dark skies.

(4) Goblin Valley State Park | 1 hour 30 minutes from Capitol Reef

Unlike any other place in the world, this park's whimsical sandstone landscape captures and stretches the imagination. Bring the family and experience this amazing place by hiking, camping, biking and exploring the surrounding canyons. It is also a certified International Dark Sky Park.

(5) Millsite State Park | 1 hour 45 minutes from Capitol Reef

This quiet reservoir is a great place to boat, fish and camp. There is also an eighteen-hole, public golf course adjacent to the park. Visitors who bring off-highway vehicles or mountain bikes can enjoy kilometres of trails in nearby Ferron Canyon.

(6) San Rafael Swell | 1 hour 45 minutes from Capitol Reef

Starting at the 305 metre Wedge Overlook introduces you to the expansiveness of this area. The view is a bird's-eye perspective of the Little Grand Canyon, a 23 kilometre path cut by the San Rafael River. After the overlook, drive down into the Buckhorn Draw Backway to experience a wealth of petroglyphs, hiking, climbing and peaceful, primitive camping. The southern portion of the Swell is more rugged, but with a map and plenty of fuel you can enjoy remarkable slot canyons. Expect all roads in this area to be unpaved, including several requiring high-clearance and four-wheel drive.



INSIDER TIPS

1. In summer and early autumn, fruit can be picked and eaten in the Fruita orchards for free. You can take a bag of fruit to go for a nominal fee. Definitely stop at the Gifford Homestead for a fresh, local pie.
2. At high desert elevations, drink extra water and don't forget the electrolytes. Start hikes early, protect your skin, and take breaks to enjoy the scenery.
3. Capitol Reef is a certified International Dark Sky Park. Fit stargazing into your itinerary.
4. Connect your visit with Bryce Canyon National Park by driving on the All-American Road: Scenic Byway 12, one of the most beautiful roads in the United States. Plan several days to explore both parks adequately.



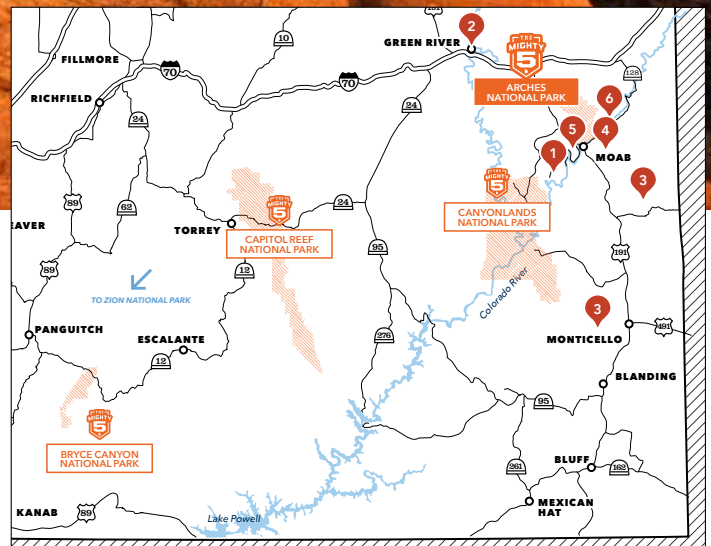
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CAPITOL REEF PETROGLYPHS
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Delicate Arch | Jason Langley



Arches

A 296 square metre wonderland of eroded sandstone fins, towers, ribs, gargoyles, hoodoos, balanced rocks, and, of course, arches northwest of Moab. The park protects an amazing landscape that includes the largest proliferation of arches in the world. Over 2,000 arches have been catalogued in Arches National Park.

CAMPING - Start your day with the best access to the park's hiking trails and viewpoints, then wind down as the sun sets behind arches and rock formations. Arches National Park has a single campground within the park, and plenty more camping options nearby.

HIKING - Hike the world-famous Delicate Arch trail, see three separate arches on the Windows Primitive Loop, or simply soak in one of the many awe-inspiring viewpoints. No matter how you hike, Arches National Park has trails you just can't miss.

PHOTOGRAPHY - As home to some of the most famous natural formations in the world, the park will have you reaching for your camera at every stop.

STARGAZING - After the sun sets and the sandstone has cooled you can see countless stars set against a pitch black night sky. See the night sky like you may never have before after dark in Arches National Park.

TOURS - It took millions of years for the park's arches, hoodoos, towers and fins to take form. Explore the most popular destinations in the park and learn about how they were formed with a guided tour. Stop by the visitor centre to learn more about ranger-led programmes. Commercial tours within the park are also available from authorized, local outfitters: Adrift Adventures, NAVTEC Expeditions and Moab Scenic Adventures.

WINTER ACTIVITIES - Arches National Park is internationally known for its namesake arches and stunning red rock scenery. Winter is the park's quietest season and a perfect time to see the fiery red arches with a soft dusting of white snow. Skip the crowded peak season and embrace a quiet winter hike or scenic drive.

CLIMATE

You'll typically encounter 18°–30°C temperatures through the spring and autumn, often deep into November, though nights can be as much as 30°C cooler. These cooler seasons are highly recommended to avoid crowds. Southeastern Utah gets hot in the summer, and daytime temperatures can exceed 38°C. You can beat the heat by planning ahead and carrying sunscreen and extra water. During the summer, consider exploring in the morning and evening. In winter, enjoy iconic landmarks in solitude. You may need poles and shoe spikes to navigate icy or snowy trails.



COMPLETE YOUR ITINERARY

Start at visitutah.com/arches to learn more about these nearby destinations.

(1) Dead Horse Point State Park | 40 minutes from Arches visitor centre

Many visitors find the views at Dead Horse Point to be more captivating than the Grand Canyon. A visitor centre and gallery provide a wonderful introduction to the park's geology. There are also mountain biking trails, campsites and reservable yurts.

(2) Green River | 45 minutes from Arches visitor centre

Green River is the name of a welcoming small town, a lush state park and one of the West's great rivers. Stay in the town of Green River as a base camp for Arches National Park or for a rafting trip on the Green River daily or other world-class floats. With a rafting guide or permit, take on the Green River's famous Desolation Canyon.

(3) Manti-La Sal National Forest | 1 hour from Moab area

In southeastern Utah, the La Sal and Abajo mountain ranges provide excellent opportunities for remote camping, hiking, biking, fishing, hunting and mountain climbing. They also serve as scenic backdrops to state and national parks throughout the region.

(4) Moab Mountain Biking | Most trails 10–20 minutes from Arches or Moab

The Slickrock Trail of Sand Flats is one of the most famous trails located within a stone's throw of the biking/hiking/off-road mecca known as Moab. But there's biking for days: Magnificent 7, Intrepid, Klondike Bluff and Bar M are just a few of the must-ride trail systems in the area.

(5) Potash-Lower Colorado River Scenic Byway | Junction 1 kilometre south of Arches entrance

Take the 27-kilometre scenic byway down S.R. 279 to access soaring sandstone cliffs, rock climbing, cycling trails, petroglyphs, dinosaur tracks, arches and views of the Colorado River. Popular arches include Bowtie, Corona and Jug Handle.

(6) Upper Colorado River Scenic Byway | Junction 5 minutes south of Arches entrance

Part of the Dinosaur Diamond Prehistoric Highway, the 71-kilometre S.R. 128 accesses trailheads, rafting, wine tasting and renowned hiking and multi-pitch climbing at Fisher Towers and Castle Valley, also popular backdrops for film and TV, from John Wayne to "Westworld."

INSIDER TIPS

1. Arches is far less crowded at sunrise and sunset, and it may be the most striking time to visit. March–October is busy, especially on holidays, weekends and mid-morning.
2. Well-prepared hikers can escape the crowd on the 13-kilometre Devils Garden trail. With stamina, agility and a permit or guide, visit the stunning labyrinth called the Fiery Furnace.
3. Follow @archesnps on Twitter and Facebook and visit nps.gov/arch for park alerts about current conditions and to view the entrance station webcam.
4. The short Dead Horse Point Mesa Scenic Byway (S.R. 313) connects Moab and Arches to the road's namesake state park and the Island in the Sky district of Canyonlands.



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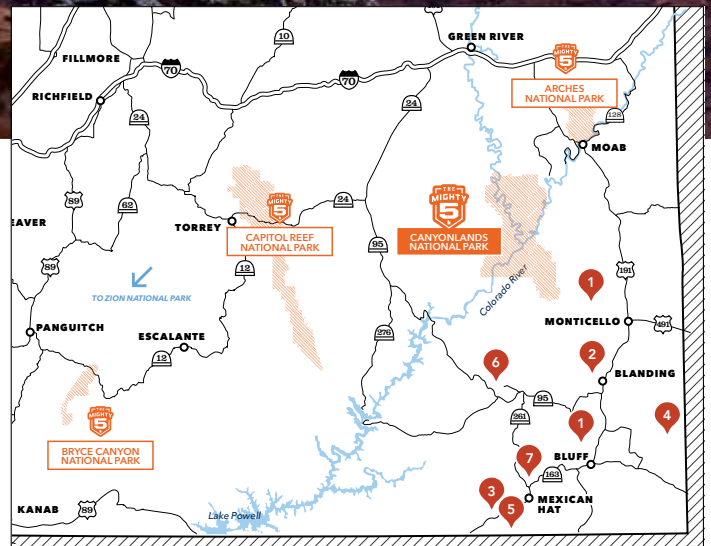
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Canyonlands | Adam Clark

Canyonlands

Endless deep canyons, towering mesas, pinnacles, cliffs and spires stretching across 1,365 km² Canyonlands National Park, formed by the currents and tributaries of Utah's Green and Colorado rivers, is home to many different types of travel experiences. From sublime solitude in the more remote stretches to moderate hikes through the Needles District to one of the West's most photographed landforms, Mesa Arch.



BACKPACKING - The park is divided into three regions: The Needles, Island in the Sky and The Maze. Each region offers secluded backpacking, incredible views and exciting hikes. Before your trip, be sure to learn more about permits and pack necessities.

CAMPING - Amidst the park's canyons you'll find countless places to set up camp. The park houses two established campgrounds, Needles Campground and Willow Flat Campground, as well as numerous backcountry campsites (permits required).

HIKING - Hiking at Canyonlands National Park is a dream come true for day hikers and thru-hikers alike. Head to The Needles district for access to over 112 kilometres of hiking, or bring the family to the awe inspiring Mesa Arch.

RAFTING - Spend a day or two floating the same rivers that ultimately formed Canyonlands. Venture down the adventurous Cataract Canyon with its Class V rapids, or relax as you float calm waters under impressive cliff sides.

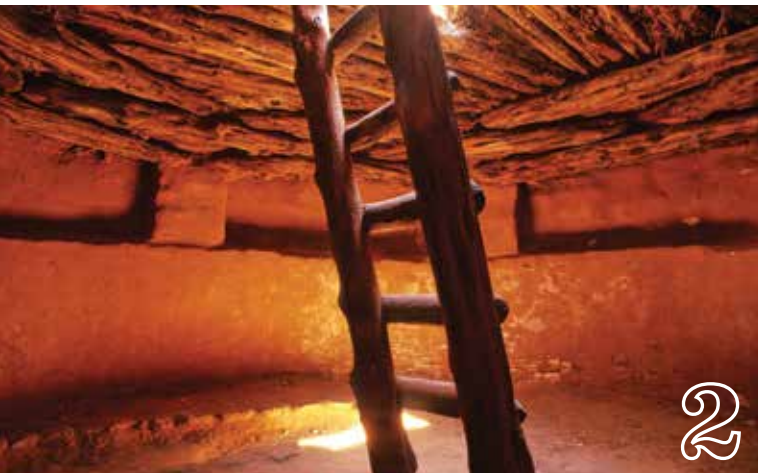
TOURS - With over 1,365 square kilometres of park to explore, knowing what to prioritise can be daunting. Book a trip with a local guide to visit must-see destinations and learn about the park's interesting past.

WINTER ACTIVITIES - As the largest national park in Utah, Canyonlands provides a variety of winter adventures. Fewer people visit the park in the winter, allowing each visitor to experience more solitude. Take advantage of hiking the quiet trails, photographing landscapes in the soft winter light and stargazing on the longest nights of the year.

CLIMATE

Spring and autumn are ideal seasons to visit Canyonlands with daytime temperatures of 15°–30°C. Like nearby Arches, Canyonlands warms up significantly in the summer months reaching 38+°C. Temperatures will dip to freezing at night by late November, but winter is an extraordinarily beautiful time in Canyonlands. Incredible "monsoon" season thunderstorms on late summer afternoons can result in potentially dangerous flash floods.

visitutah.com/canyonlands



2



5



6

COMPLETE YOUR ITINERARY

Start at visitutah.com/canyonlands to learn more about these nearby destinations.

(1) Bears Ears National Monument | Less than 1 hour from Monticello or Bluff

Shash Jaa and Indian Creek units cover a broad expanse of red rock, juniper forest, high plateau, cultural, historic and prehistoric legacy that includes an abundance of early human and Native American historical sites, including Newspaper Rock and House on Fire.

(2) Edge of the Cedars State Park Museum | 1 hour 30 minutes from Needles visitor centre

This museum is a beautiful repository for ancient artefacts in the Four Corners region. The exhibits and on-site kiva showcase Ancestral Puebloan culture along with contemporary Native American items and the largest display of artefacts in the area.

(3) Goosenecks State Park | 30 minutes from Monument Valley

Look down upon the San Juan River 300 metres below you and see the results of 300 million years of erosion. It's worth lingering for the sunset. From this primitive state park, you can see the famous goosenecks and also enjoy a picnic and a campsite with great views.

(4) Hovenweep National Monument | 2 hours 15 minutes from Needles visitor centre

In a stark and beautiful landscape of sage and juniper, explore the astonishing sites of Hovenweep's six prehistoric villages. In the 13th century, Ancestral Puebloans built towers and other structures, some skilfully balanced on canyon rims.

(5) Monument Valley Navajo Tribal Park | 2 hours 30 minutes from Needles visitor centre

The iconic symbol of the American West and sacred heart of the Navajo Nation will feel hauntingly familiar and deeply spiritual to fans of Hollywood as your Navajo guide escorts you through the park — the best way to experience the park. Please respect tribal customs.

(6) Natural Bridges National Monument | 2 hours 15 minutes from Needles visitor centre

Discover three majestic bridges carved by water and time including Sipapu ("place of emergence"), the world's second-largest natural bridge. See the bridges from the scenic drive or hike down moderate to difficult trails. Stay late for a star show under some of the nation's darkest skies.

(7) Valley of the Gods and Cedar Mesa | 1 hour from Monument Valley

A number of tall, red, isolated mesas, buttes and cliffs tower above the valley floor and can be seen while driving along Valley of the Gods' 27 kilometre gravel road. Nearby Cedar Mesa's remote, rugged backcountry trails offer adventurers solitude, archaeology and geographic beauty.

INSIDER TIPS

1. Close to Moab, the Island in the Sky is the most visited district, but outside of overlooks and Mesa Arch (especially at sunrise), the scenic, though strenuous, trails are seldom crowded.
2. A permit is required to bike or drive the popular White Rim Trail and for all overnight camping trips in the backcountry.
3. Needles Campground in the Needles district is a great base camp for day hikes into the backcountry, but go prepared: carry extra water and be alert for black bears.
4. The remote Maze District easily occupies three days, plus hours to drive there. Solitude and endless splendour are the rewards for extremely well-prepared, self-sufficient wayfinders.



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**BACKPACKING IN
CANYONLANDS NATIONAL PARK**
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NATIONAL
PARK



Thors Hammer | Matt Morgan

Bryce Canyon

An alpine forest with as many red rock hoodoos as trees. Water and wind over millions of years of freezes and thaws have carved into the plateau endless fields of distinctive red rock pillars, called hoodoos, as well as into the park's series of natural amphitheatres. At an elevation of 2,438 and 2,743 metres, there are even opportunities for winter sports like snowshoeing and cross-country skiing.



CAMPING - The striking contrast between red rock and dark green forest scenery lays the foundation for a camping trip that will call you back time and time again.

HIKING - Explore a network of intertwined hiking trails that wind through high altitude forests and awe-inspiring canyon vistas. Check out The Rim Trail for an easy family hike, or gear up for a backpacking excursion on the Under The Rim Trail.

HORSEBACK RIDING - Something about riding through Bryce Canyon on horseback just feels perfectly right. Learn more about exploring the park with a guided tour, available to riders of any experience level.

WINTER ACTIVITIES:

PHOTOGRAPHY - When you imagine Utah's national parks, you may not imagine snow covered red rocks. Truth is, that may be when Bryce Canyon's towering cliff walls are most stunning. Find inspiration with local tips about how to get that perfect snow-capped red rock shot.

SKIING - Thanks to an elevation between 2,438 and 2,743 metres, Bryce Canyon is one of few national parks where travellers can spend a day cross country skiing. Explore the Rim Trail, Bristlecone Loop and Paria Ski Loop to get started.

SNOWSHOEING - As the snow covers Bryce Canyon's tall pine trees, a calmness envelopes the park. Gear up with some snowshoes (which are available for rental) and venture into the park's trails for an unforgettable day hiking.

CLIMATE

Summer visitation peaks during July's "monsoon" season where travellers will encounter generally dry, warm weather around 26°C interspersed with dramatic afternoon lightning storms. Night dips into the 0–5°Cs. November–March is the coldest, with temperatures peaking in the 0–5°Cs and freezing at night. Because of its higher elevation, Bryce is cooler than the other national parks and carries snow longer into spring.

visitutah.com/bryce-canyon



COMPLETE YOUR ITINERARY

Start at visitutah.com/bryce-canyon to learn more about these nearby destinations.

(1) Anasazi State Park Museum | 1 hour 40 minutes from Bryce Canyon

At the base of the towering 3,353 metre Boulder Mountain, get an up close and personal look into life from almost 1,000 years ago. Explore what was once one of the largest Ancestral Puebloan communities west of the Colorado River.

(2) Eagle Point Resort | 1 hour 45 minutes from Bryce Canyon

Eagle Point Resort is best known as a family-friendly ski area with fresh powder and varied runs, and great snowshoeing. In the summer, the area offers a respite from the heat among the high elevations of the Tushar Mountains, great for hiking and mountain biking. The Tushar's ridgeline is about a 20-minute hike from the resort. The most dramatic vistas are along the Skyline Trail, a moderate hike from the Big Flat trailhead.

(3) Escalante Petrified Forest State Park | 1 hour from Bryce Canyon

Discover the kaleidoscopic colours of fossilized, pre-historic wood alongside expansive vistas of the surrounding mountains and Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument. Cool off in idyllic Wide Hollow Reservoir and enjoy great fishing and camping at this state park base camp.

(4) Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument | 30 minutes from Bryce Canyon to the Cannonville Visitor Centre

This massive and remote area is packed with outdoor adventure and star-filled night skies. Slot canyons, slickrock and other geologic wonders fill your line of sight while hiking, mountain biking, off-roading and camping. Get help planning at the visitor centres in Big Water, Kanab, Escalante or Cannonville. Check out the 6 kilometre hike to Escalante Natural Bridge.

(5) Kodachrome Basin State Park | 40 minutes from Bryce Canyon

This state park features 67 monolithic stone spires, part of a multicoloured landscape so beautiful it earned the nickname "Kodachrome" after a popular Kodak film. Today, visitors enjoy camping and hiking across 9 square kilometres of photogenic, geologic wonder.

(6) Red Canyon | 20 minutes from Bryce Canyon

This area is one of the most distinctive stretches along the All-American Road: Scenic Byway 12. At one point, the road actually cuts through two tunnels in the red rock. Stop at the interpretive visitor centre to learn about the surrounding Dixie National Forest and all the multi-use trails that wind through red rock hoodoos and vistas.

INSIDER TIPS

1. Navajo Trail to Queens Garden is one of the best 5-kilometre hikes anywhere and solace-seekers should consider the 13 kilometre Fairyland Loop.
2. Bryce Canyon's pristine dark skies mean incredibly starry nights. Sign up early for astronomy programmes. Full moon hikes mean eerily well-lit hoodoos, but don't forget your headlamp and jacket.
3. High altitude hiking means sunscreen, hats, long sleeves and extra water. The rim at Bryce varies from 2,400 to 2,700 metres.
4. Save Presidents Day weekend in February for the Bryce Canyon Winter Festival or bring your own mule for the May Mule Days.



LODGING

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CHASING OLD WEST OUTLAWS ON THE CASSIDY TRAIL

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NATIONAL PARK

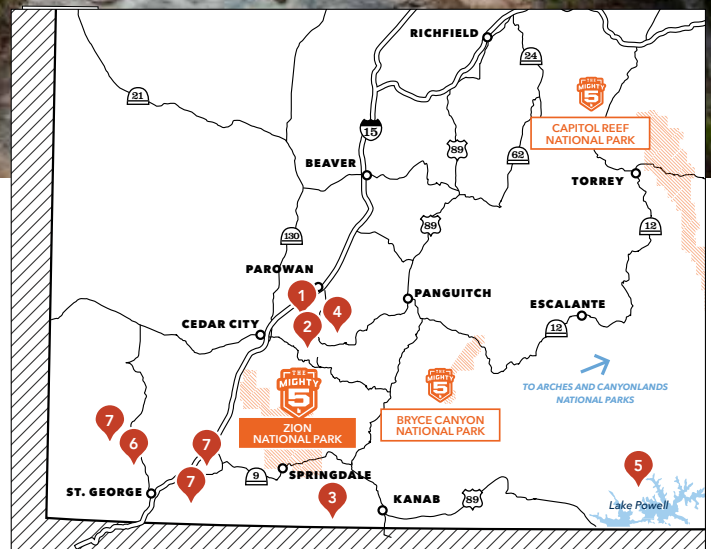


The Watchman | Matt Morgan

Zion



A 305-metre deep red rock canyon, nestled in dramatic surroundings. Whether you are wandering the trail to Observation Point or watching the shadows constantly change the mood of the Court of the Patriarchs, Zion National Park is always ready to quench your appetite for outdoor wonder.



BACKPACKING - Find your way out of the crowds into the park's tranquil backcountry.

CAMPING - End your day under Zion's internationally-certified dark skies at any of the campgrounds within or near the park. Dispersed, developed and RV campgrounds are all available, but make your reservation early; campgrounds fill quickly during peak travel months.

CANYONEERING - Looking to add some adrenaline to your vacation? Explore Zion's most popular canyoneering routes. Be sure to get the details about permits and local guide services ahead of time.

HIKING - Zion is famous for its remarkable hiking trails. Take an adventurous scramble up to Angels Landing or a family hike on the Emerald Pools Trails, among others.

HORSEBACK RIDING - Trot through pine forests and red rock views during a horseback riding tour through the park. Local guides offer rides for every experience level, and are available year-round in certain regions of the park.

WINTER ACTIVITIES - With more than 300 days of sunshine a year, Zion National Park is a great place to enjoy sunny skies, fresh air and get a little extra Vitamin D in the winter months. Plan a winter visit to soak up the sunshine while enjoying moderate temperatures and a stunning sandstone kaleidoscope of reds, oranges and pinks. Winter visitors will find plenty to do, including hiking, photography and gazing up at the wonders of the night sky.

CLIMATE

May–October visitors will encounter highs in Zion from 30-32+°C. Escape the heat by getting in the river or stopping in the visitor centre or museum. Afternoon thunderstorms occasionally drench the canyon which can lead to flash floods. Expect somewhat cooler temperatures (sometimes up to 17 degree difference) early in the morning and late in the evening, as well as in early spring and late autumn.

visitutah.com/zion



1



3



5

COMPLETE YOUR ITINERARY

Start at visitutah.com/zion to learn more about these nearby destinations.

(1) Brian Head Resort | 1 hour 30 minutes from Zion

In the winter, pair a trip to Zion National Park with a great ski day. In warmer temperatures, rent a mountain bike and ride around the resort area, or enjoy an evening concert at cooler high-elevation temperatures.

(2) Cedar Breaks National Monument | 1 hour 45 minutes from Zion

Drive at 3,000 metres through the lush Dixie National Forest, where a fairyland amphitheatre of multicoloured limestone strata plunges 600 metres deep into the plateau. Explore hiking trails or camp under the stars in summer and enjoy cross-country skiing in winter.

(3) Coral Pink Sand Dunes State Park | 1 hour from Zion

This park boasts 8 square kilometres of sand open to OHVs (Off Highway Vehicles). It's the only major sand dune field on the Colorado Plateau, and great for OHV enthusiasts, hikers, sand boarders and families in search of a unique site.

(4) Dixie National Forest | 45 minutes from Zion to Red Cliffs

Hike in Pine Valley Recreation Area or Red Cliffs National Conservation Area, bike among the brilliant red spires of Red Canyon, fish at Navajo or Panguitch lakes, tour the east fork of the Sevier River or explore scenic Boulder Mountain. All areas have camping.

(5) Glen Canyon and Lake Powell | 1 hour 45 minutes from Zion

Accessed from Wahweap marina (or Bullfrog marina from the northeast), this is a 486 square kilometre paradise for houseboaters, kayakers, anglers and photographers. For the most adventurous, Rainbow Bridge National Monument is accessible from Lake Powell (depending on lake level and trail condition), and is one of the world's largest natural bridges. With a permit, serious trekkers can also backpack to the bridge.

(6) Snow Canyon State Park | 1 hour from Zion

Cut by water, sculpted by wind and time, Snow Canyon's Navajo sandstone cliffs share the same history and geology as Zion, and offer hiking, climbing, cycling and camping.

(7) State Park Reservoirs | 45 minutes from Zion

Sand Hollow State Park brings together boating, fishing and off-roading all in one place, with almost 61 square kilometres of perfectly sculpted dunes. Quail Creek State Park has some of the warmest waters in the state and lures boaters and anglers year-round. Both of these, as well as Gunlock State Park, offer great spots to camp in a red rock desert setting.

INSIDER TIPS

1. For the best experience, arrive early. Take the free town shuttle from near your Springdale hotel. Always hike respectfully and carry extra water and sun protection.
2. There are popular hikes at Angels Landing and The Narrows, but serious hikers may consider Hidden Canyon, Observation Point and guided canyoneering in lesser-known canyons.
3. The distinctive red asphalt of the Zion–Mt. Carmel Highway leads through a narrow 2 kilometre tunnel to lesser-known hikes near the East Entrance. Fee for large RVs, with limits.
4. Follow @zionnps on Twitter (X) and Facebook and visit nps.gov/zion for park alerts.



LODGING

visitutah.com/places-to-go/parks-outdoors/zion/where-to-stay



ZION NATIONAL PARK HIKES

visitutah.com/places-to-go/parks-outdoors/zion/outdoor-experiences



Travel Scenic Byways

The geographic size of Utah might seem daunting, but time on the road passes quickly when new discoveries punctuate each kilometre travelled. With interstates and airplanes, the world can feel pretty small. On Utah's designated scenic byways, the world feels grand; its horizons seem infinite.

In total, Utah's distinct topography provides the surface for 28 scenic byways, which add up to hundreds of kilometres of vivid travel experiences wherein the road trip is as memorable as the destination. All of Utah's scenic byways are explorative journeys filled with trailheads, scenic overlooks, museums, local flavours and vibrant communities where you can stop for the night or hook up your RV.

Scenic Byway 89, Logan Canyon | Jay Dash Photography

NEBO LOOP

THE DRIVE: 51 kilometres | 1.5 hours

Spectacular overlooks, plentiful wildlife and national forest adventure capped with views of 3,636 metre Mount Nebo, the highest peak in the Wasatch.

GETTING THERE

Forest Service Road 015 is a winding drive between Payson and Nephi. Exit I-15 on S.R. 132 from Nephi then begin the climb to 2,848 metres. Closes in winter.

WHAT YOU'LL SEE

- Diverse wildlife and multiple national forest trailheads
- Eroded red sandstone against deep green foliage
- Fields of summer wildflowers and brilliant autumn colours

STOPPING POINTS

- Numerous interpretive sites and scenic overlooks
- Devil's Kitchen Geologic Site and Grotto Falls hikes
- Camping, canoeing and fishing at Payson Lakes



DINOSAUR DIAMOND PREHISTORIC HIGHWAY

THE DRIVE: 800 kilometres | 10 hours

Vast scenery of Utah and Colorado's "Jurassic Park" allows the imagination to travel back to prehistoric times. Interpret multiple active dig areas, museums and other history sites.

GETTING THERE

Access the large diamond-shaped byway from U.S. 40 to Vernal, near Dinosaur National Monument and Flaming Gorge, or on U.S. 6 and I-70 as part of a trip to Arches or Canyonlands.

WHAT YOU'LL SEE

- Wall of Bones, dinosaur quarries and pristine night skies
- Relics of Utah's early indigenous people
- Arches, towering mesas and fields of slickrock
- Green River and Upper Colorado River Scenic Byway

STOPPING POINTS

- Dinosaur National Monument and Utah Field House in Vernal
- Prehistoric Museum in Price, Cleveland-Lloyd Quarry within the new Jurassic National Monument
- Side trip: Little Grand Canyon of the San Rafael Swell
- Fisher Towers, Castle Creek Winery, Moab and Arches

ALL-AMERICAN ROAD: SCENIC BYWAY 12

THE DRIVE: 200 kilometres | 4+ hours

Breathtaking engineering of the “Hogback” complements exciting sandstone hikes and diverse geography between 1,200 metres and 2,750 metres on one of America’s most beautiful drives.

GETTING THERE

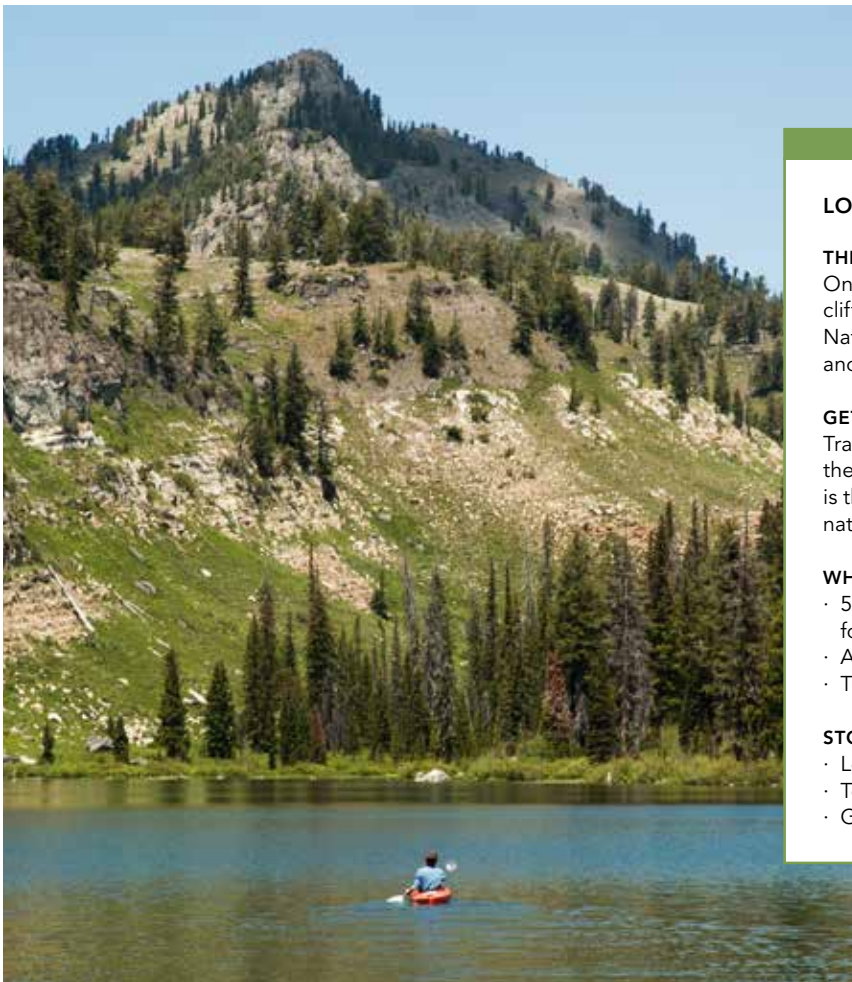
Head east at the byway’s southwest junction with U.S. 89, toward Bryce Canyon, or south from the northeast junction with S.R. 24 between Torrey and Capitol Reef National Park.

WHAT YOU’LL SEE

- Slickrock canyons, towering plateaus and unique red rock
- Grand Staircase–Escalante National Monument
- Contrasting juniper, pine and aspen of Dixie National Forest
- Deep Ancestral Puebloan heritage and welcoming pioneer towns

STOPPING POINTS

- Red Canyon and Bryce Canyon National Park
- Kodachrome Basin and Escalante Petrified Forest state parks
- Calf Creek Falls hike, Kiva Koffeehouse and Escalante Outfitters
- Boulder Mountain, Hell’s Backbone Grill and Burr Trail



LOGAN CANYON

THE DRIVE: 66 kilometres | 1 hour

On the way to a 2,377 metre summit, craggy limestone cliffs line the Logan River and Uinta-Wasatch-Cache National Forest recreation that includes hiking, flyfishing and snowmobiling.

GETTING THERE

Travel historic U.S. 89 from the lush Cache Valley to the Utah border with Idaho, alongside Bear Lake. This is the scenic route to Grand Teton and Yellowstone national parks.

WHAT YOU’LL SEE

- 500 million years of geology and extensive national forests
- Abundant wildlife, trailheads and stunning autumn foliage
- Turquoise waters and diverse water sports at Bear Lake

STOPPING POINTS

- Logan’s local dining, coffee and culture
- Tony Grove Nature Trail, Beaver Mountain Resort
- Garden City diners and Bear Lake raspberry shakes



TRAIL OF THE ANCIENTS

THE DRIVE: 500-650 + kilometres | 8-10 hours
 Packed with scenic vistas and cultural intrigue, the sunburst-shaped byway encounters numerous examples of Ancestral Puebloan history in the Four Corners and Bears Ears area.

GETTING THERE
 U.S. 191, Blanding to Monument Valley Navajo Tribal Park or west to Natural Bridges; Bluff to Hovenweep with options east into Colorado and south into Arizona on U.S. 162 and 163.

WHAT YOU'LL SEE

- Impressive canyons, pioneer heritage and archaeology
- 11 percent grade of Moki Dugway switchbacks (RV size limits)
- Stunning geology of the Valley of the Gods
- Monumental sandstone buttes and indigenous art

STOPPING POINTS

- Edge of the Cedars State Park Museum and Bluff Fort
- Goulding's Lodge, Monument Valley Navajo Tribal Park
- Cliff dwellings of Bears Ears and Hovenweep national monuments.
- Goosenecks State Park and San Juan River expeditions

MIRROR LAKE

THE DRIVE: 89 kilometres | 1.5 hours (Utah section)
 Head to the Uinta Mountains, an area known for vast wilderness across two national forests, hundreds of alpine lakes and Utah's highest peaks.

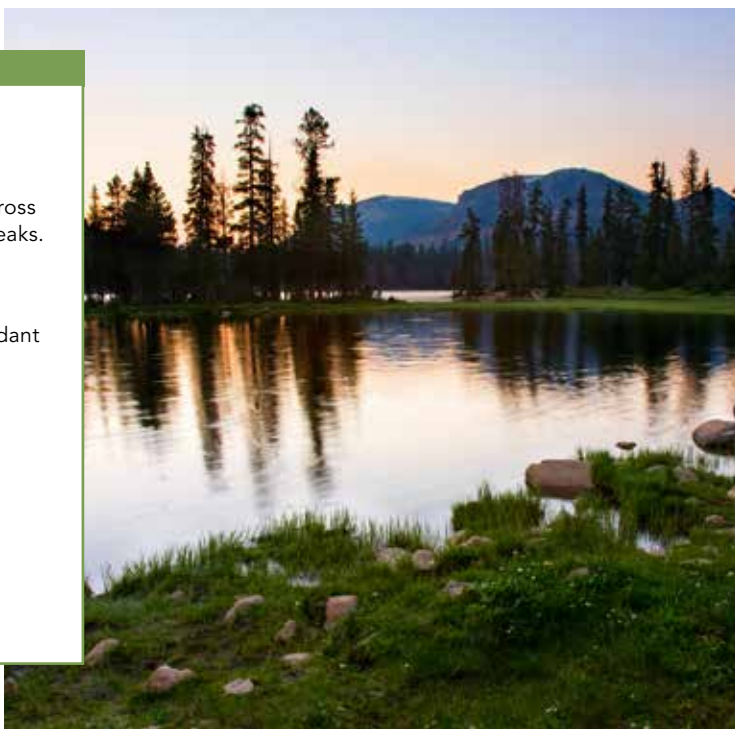
GETTING THERE
 Twenty minutes east of Park City, take S.R. 150 from Kamas to the Wyoming border. The drive accesses a 3,262 metre pass and abundant recreation. Fees for forest use. Winter closures.

WHAT YOU'LL SEE

- Pristine meadows, serene lakes and rugged peaks
- Deer, moose, wild turkeys, eagles, even bighorn sheep
- Continue 37 kilometres more to end in Evanston, Wyoming

STOPPING POINTS

- Samak for provisions, Upper Provo River Falls
- Bald Mountain, Christmas Meadows and other top trailheads
- Fishing, camping, picnicking and winter snowmobiling



PATCHWORK PARKWAY

THE DRIVE: 82 kilometres | 1.5 hours
 Steeped in Mormon pioneer heritage, this high-elevation drive between 1,800 and 3,200 metres accesses Utah's highest mountain resort and high-contrast scenery.

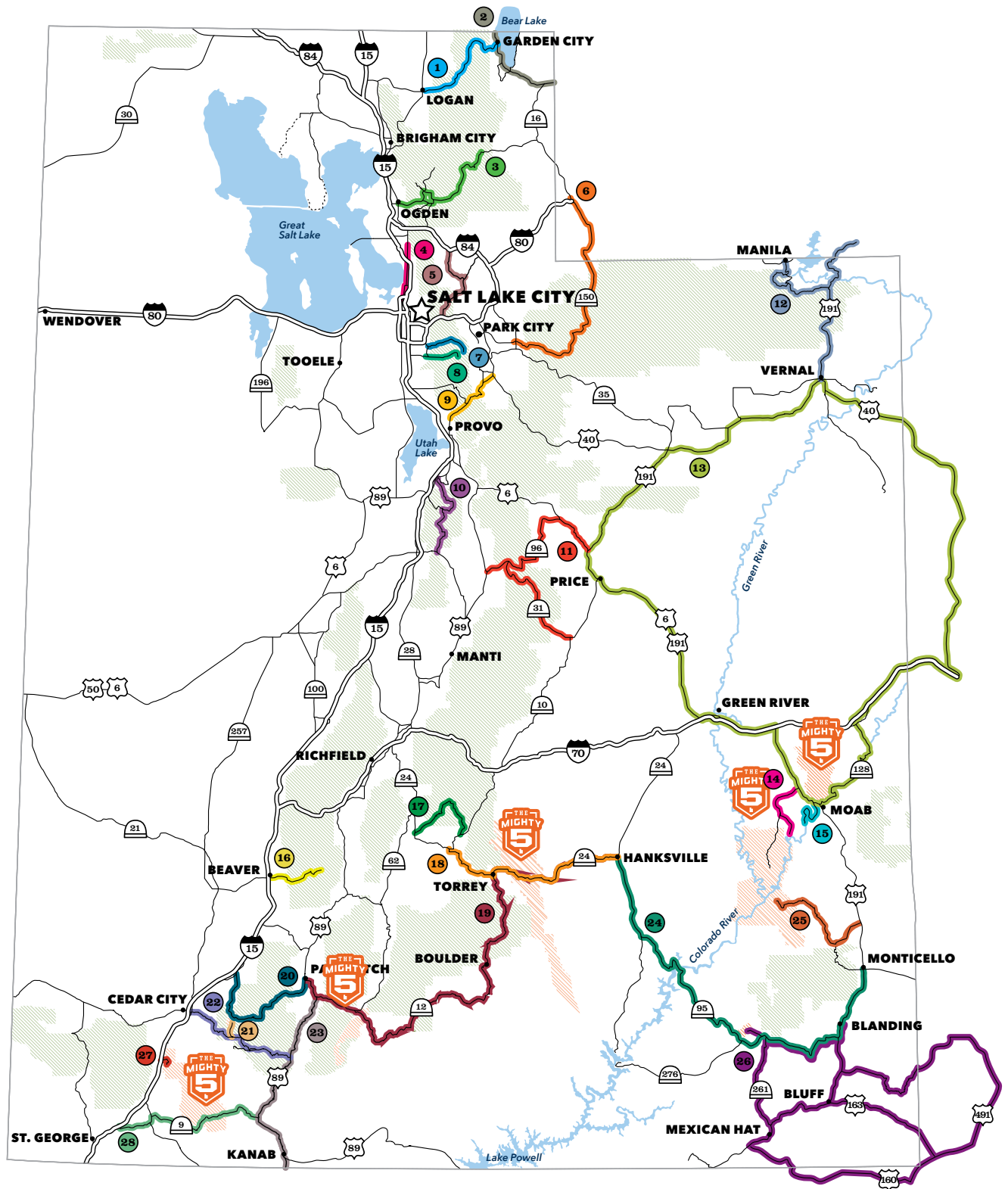
GETTING THERE
 S.R. 143 is accessible from either I-15 at Parowan, north of Cedar City, or U.S. 89 from Panguitch, near Bryce Canyon.

WHAT YOU'LL SEE

- Vermillion Cliffs and Cedar Breaks National Monument
- Multiple interpretive points of a historic Mormon journey
- Colourful aspens and maples on the Dixie National Forest

STOPPING POINTS

- Year-round outdoor recreation, dining and spa at Brian Head
- Camping and fishing at Panguitch Lake
- Panguitch, on the National Register of Historic Places



- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. Logan Canyon National Scenic Byway | 15. Potash-Lower Colorado River Scenic Byway |
| 2. Bear Lake Scenic Byway | 16. Beaver Canyon Scenic Byway |
| 3. Ogden River Scenic Byway | 17. Fish Lake Scenic Byway |
| 4. Great Salt Lake Legacy Parkway | 18. Capitol Reef Country Scenic Byway |
| 5. Morgan-Parleys Scenic Byway | 19. All-American Road: Scenic Byway 12 |
| 6. Mirror Lake Scenic Byway | 20. Utah's Patchwork Parkway National Scenic Byway |
| 7. Big Cottonwood Canyon Scenic Byway | 21. Cedar Breaks Scenic Byway |
| 8. Little Cottonwood Canyon Scenic Byway | 22. Markagunt High Plateau Scenic Byway |
| 9. Provo Canyon Scenic Byway | 23. Mount Carmel Scenic Byway |
| 10. Nebo Loop National Scenic Byway | 24. Bicentennial Highway |
| 11. Energy Loop: Huntington & Eccles Canyon Ntl. Scenic Byway | 25. Indian Creek Scenic Byway |
| 12. Flaming Gorge-Uintas National Scenic Byway | 26. Trail of the Ancients National Scenic Byway |
| 13. Dinosaur Diamond Prehistoric Highway-Ntl. Scenic Byway | 27. Kolob Fingers Road Scenic Byway |
| 14. Dead Horse Mesa Scenic Byway | 28. Zion Park Scenic Byway |

Let imagination go.

Toadstool Hoodoos

Imagine a landscape full of infinite adventure: unbelievable red rock cliffs, rolling hills of sand, lush winding canyons – a spectacle to behold. In Kanab, Utah, you can let imagination go, because in this little town right outside Utah's national parks, the sights worth imagining are right before your eyes.

Coral Pink Sand Dunes

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UTAH
LIFE ELEVATED

VISITSOUTHERNUTAH.COM

Buckskin Gulch

BEFORE YOU GO

Utah's amenity-rich cities on the metropolitan Wasatch Front can gear you up for wherever your Utah travels take you, and there are towns and cities throughout the state with food, fuel, supplies and other resources to ensure you can travel safely between destinations. Still, the more you consider what you'll need in advance, the less likely you'll be surprised by the unexpected. Here are a few tips to consider before your trip.

Elevation: Most adventures in Utah start at more than 1,200 metres above sea level, and some areas in and between national parks exceed 2,750 metres. In the mountains, elevations can reach up to 3,000 to 4,000 metres. To prevent altitude sickness, don't do strenuous activities on your first couple of days so your body can adjust, know your limits and take it slow.

Hydration: Staying hydrated is key any time of year in the arid, high desert country of Utah and especially when outside recreating. Many parks have places to refill your water bottles, but on longer road trips or more remote areas, carry extra. A quick rule of thumb is that you should expect to consume one half litre of water or more per hour in hot weather.

Food: Nutrient-dense foods like jerky, trail mix, dried fruit, canned fish or tuna pouches, and nuts or nut butters are lightweight — don't worry, though, for all but the most serious backpackers, these are just to tide you over. Most great Utah outdoor adventures and destinations are near excellent base camps with several local options for a hot meal.

Clothing and shoes: One of the most important keys for clothing is layers. Some opt for a lightweight, long-sleeve base layer even when the summer sun is shining. When hiking, wear sturdy, closed-toe hiking boots that you've broken in to protect your feet and provide traction.

Gear: Backpacks exist for a reason, and that's to carry necessary gear with you: trail snacks, extra water, sunscreen, jacket or layers to add or remove and to carry out your trash. If you're travelling far from the road and trailhead, carry first-aid materials and rescue aids just in case — and let someone know where you're going and when to expect you back.

Seasons: Utah is a four-season destination. The arid, high-elevation climate means long stretches of brilliant summer sun with sporadic bouts of rain. In November–March, temperatures are cooler. The hottest months are June–August. In Southern Utah, summer and early autumn are “monsoon season” and can bring threatening thunderstorms, pounding rains and flash floods. Snow is possible at all elevations in winter, but particularly at higher elevation passes and destinations. visitutah.com/weather

Driving: Thanks to a crossroads of interstates with great scenic byways, it's easy to get around Utah. It can be several hours between destinations, so keep an eye on fuel levels and plan your itinerary to avoid drowsy driving or driving in inclement weather, such as winter snowstorms. Some canyons require snow tires or chains in winter and some roads close for the winter. visitutah.com/roads

Backcountry: Venturing into Utah's backcountry — meaning recreation areas further from common amenities, such as restrooms, marked trails and visitor centres — is a rewarding endeavor for experienced, well-prepared adventurers. These areas often require a permit. Stop at the nearest visitor centres or ranger stations, check weather and road conditions and follow all backcountry ethics, including Leave No Trace principles.

Ski: In addition to ski jackets and pants, insulating layers and socks, snow gear includes boots, helmet, goggles, gloves, hat, sunglasses and a neck gaiter. Check fit on kids from previous years, pack sunscreen, lip balm, tissues and snacks. visitutah.com/ski

Go with a guide: Not sure where to start? Not only can guides get you there safely, they often take you and your family to places only accessible with a permit and the right gear. Guided hiking trips can vary from half-day hiking clinics to backpacking expeditions lasting a week or more. visitutah.com/guides

Adaptive travel: Utah has several organisations working together to advocate and offer specialised recreation plans through the use of adaptive equipment, trained staff and scholarships. Discover cycling, paddlesports, indoor/outdoor climbing, horseback riding, mountain biking, river-rafting, skiing, snowboarding, yurt camping and many more. Families and friends are encouraged to participate. visitutah.com/accessible

CLIMATE CHART

| | LOGAN | SALT LAKE | PARK CITY | ST. GEORGE | MOAB | BLANDING |
|-----------|------------|-----------|-----------|------------|----------|----------|
| January | 31/11 F | 36/19 F | 32/12 F | 53/25 F | 42/18 F | 38/16 F |
| | -0.3/-12 C | 2/-7 C | 0/-11 C | 12/-4 C | 6/-8 C | 3/-9 C |
| February | 38/17 F | 43/24 F | 36/15 F | 60/30 F | 51/24 F | 44/22 F |
| | 3/-8 C | 6/-4 C | 2/-9 C | 16/-1 C | 11/-4 C | 7/-6 C |
| March | 48/26 F | 52/31 F | 41/20 F | 67/36 F | 62-33 F | 52/27 F |
| | 9/-3 C | 11/-0.6 C | 5/-7 C | 19/2 C | 17/0.5 C | 11/-3 C |
| April | 59/33 F | 62/38 F | 53/28 F | 77/43 F | 72/41 F | 62/34 F |
| | 15/0.6 C | 17/3 C | 11/-2 C | 25/6 C | 22/5 C | 16/1 C |
| May | 69/41 F | 72/43 F | 63/36 F | 86/51 F | 82/48 F | 72/42 F |
| | 21/5 C | 22/8 C | 17/2 C | 30/11 C | 28/9 C | 22/6 C |
| June | 80/48 F | 83/54 F | 74/44 F | 96/56 F | 92/56 F | 83/50 F |
| | 27/9 C | 28/12 C | 23/7 C | 36/14 C | 33/13 C | 28/10 C |
| July | 89/54 F | 92/62 F | 82/50 F | 102/66 F | 99/63 F | 88/57 F |
| | 32/12 C | 32/16 C | 26/10 C | 37/18 C | 36/16 C | 30/13 C |
| August | 88/52 F | 90/61 F | 79/49 F | 99/65 F | 95/61 F | 86/56 F |
| | 31/11 C | 33/16 C | 26/9 C | 37/18 C | 35/16 C | 30/13 C |
| September | 77/43 F | 79/51 F | 70/41 F | 93/55 F | 87/51 F | 78/48 F |
| | 25/6 C | 26/11 C | 21/5 C | 34/13 C | 30/11 C | 26/13 C |
| October | 64/33 F | 66/40 F | 58/32 F | 80/43 F | 73/39 F | 66/38 F |
| | 18/0.6 C | 19/4 C | 14/0 C | 27/6 C | 23/4 C | 19/3 C |
| November | 46/24 F | 50/29 F | 44/22 F | 65/32 F | 57/28 F | 51/26 F |
| | 8/-4 C | 10/-2 C | 6/-6 C | 18/-0.5 C | 14/-2 C | 11/-3 C |
| December | 34/15 F | 34/22 F | 34/15 F | 54/26 F | 44/20 F | 41/19 F |
| | 1/-9 C | 1/-6 C | 1/-9 C | 12/-4 C | 7/-7 C | 5/-7 C |

RESOURCES

Utah's Welcome Centres
visitutah.com/welcome-centers

Ski Information and Snow Report
skikutah.com

Bureau of Land Management
blm.gov/utah

National Park Service
nps.gov/ut

Utah State Parks & Recreation
stateparks.utah.gov

U.S. Forest Service
fs.usda.gov

Accommodations
visitutah.com/stay

Visitor and Travel Bureaus
visitutah.com/local-info

Camping Reservations
stateparks.utah.gov/reservations
reserveamerica.com

Utah Road Conditions
866-511-UTAH | 511 in Utah
commuterlink.utah.gov

National Weather Service
weather.gov/slc

Utah Public Safety
Highway Patrol: 801-887-3800
Emergencies dial 911

Guides & Outfitters
visitutah.com/guides

ACCESSIBLE UTAH

Utah is known for its recreation opportunities, from hiking in five national parks to skiing The Greatest Snow on Earth® to white-water rafting down the mighty Colorado River. But did you know all of these attractions and activities are accessible to people of all ability levels? Having fun in Utah is no problem, no matter your ability level.

ARRIVING IN UTAH

Salt Lake City International Airport is 10 minutes from downtown and offers a guide for travellers with disabilities.

Wheelchair Getaways in Salt Lake City, can meet you at the airport with a fully-accessible, ramp-equipped rental van.

United Access and Compassion Mobility offer a fleet of wheelchair accessible van rentals for daily, weekly or long-term needs. The most common wheelchair van rental includes a lowered floor minivan with an automatic fold-out ramp providing convenience for a ride to that special family occasion, medical appointment, sporting event or vacation outing. Compassion Mobility also offers mobility scooter and power wheelchair rentals.

Thrifty Car Rental at Salt Lake City International Airport offers accessible minivans that include wheelchair ramps with dropdown service for ground-level access, hand controls and removable seats to accommodate wheelchairs. For more information or to book your minivan visit thrifty.com or call 877-283-0898.

FOREVER MIGHTY

WHAT CAN YOU DO?

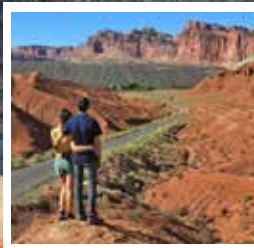
- Leave No Trace as you recreate.
- Respect the power of nature.
- Support local business and honor community, history and heritage.
- Share your knowledge to guide and enable others.
- Celebrate the diversity of people and places.

ARTICLES

We're capturing stories, videos and photos meant to guide and inspire you on your travels to Utah. Want to watch the Voices of Bears Ears series? Or get cycling route recommendations from a professional cyclist? Or maybe you're looking for pro-tips on how to keep kids happy on the slopes or trail. We're talking about all this and more. Explore our archives or sign up for our monthly newsletter. visitutah.com/articles

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 [visitutah](https://www.youtube.com/visitutah)

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