SALT LAKE CITY TO GRAND CANYON AND BACK: 1,302 MILES

UTAH PARKS EXTRAVAGANZA

Hit every Utah national park, plus off-trail adventures, on this 1,302-mile trip.
Incredible outdoor adventures, six national parks and ancient ruins combine to make this a trip of a lifetime. Start in Salt Lake City where you may be surprised by the craft brewing scene and how easy it is to get around this city framed by the Great Salt Lake and Wasatch mountains. Head south to Moab, home to Canyonlands and Arches national parks. From there stop in Blanding, Bluff and Monticello where ancient ruins, pioneer history and rafting await. Head to the Hopi reservation for a tour. Then point your wheels toward Grand Canyon National Park to visit the popular South Rim and/or the less-visited North Rim. Cool off in Page, Ariz., by exploring Lake Powell by kayak, motor boat or stand-up paddleboard. Don’t miss the 710-foot-high Glen Canyon Dam that created Lake Powell. Then explore the historic town of Kanab, home to hundreds of film shoots, the St. George area and Panguitch area. It’s an easy drive to nearby Bryce, Zion and Capitol Reef national parks where spectacular sandstone spires and canyons await. What follows are some of the best things to see.
CITY FIX

Discover six things you didn’t realize about bustling Salt Lake City.

1. THERE’S A THRIVING BEER SCENE.
OVERVIEW: This city has literally exploded with microbreweries in the last 10 years and even within a brewery beers can range from 4-13 percent in alcohol content.
TIP: Download the Salt Lake Brewery Tour Pass onto your phone to sample food and beer at as many as 12 different breweries. Get it here: SaltLakeConnectPass.com

2. FOODIES FEEL AT HOME.
OVERVIEW: Whatever you’re in the mood for, Salt Lake has it. This city’s food scene has taken off and even Hollywood star Ty Burrell, an Emmy-award-winning actor who plays the awkward father on ABC’s Modern Family, is on the scene.

3. YES, THE OUTDOORS ARE JUST AS WORLD-CLASS AS THEY APPEAR IN PHOTOS.
OVERVIEW: With 60 national and state parks within a few hours away, Salt Lake is literally ringed by skiing, hiking and biking trails.
TIP: Head to Snowbird to ride the aerial tram up 2,900 feet to the top of Hidden Peak or drive to the Utah Olympic Park to ride on a bobsled, go on an alpine slide or zipline at this family-oriented park.

4. YOU CAN SEE WORLD-CLASS ACTS.
OVERVIEW: Salt Lake is one of the few cities in the nation with a professional symphony, orchestra and ballet. Two great places to catch a show are Eccles Theater and the historic Capitol Theatre.

5. YOU DON’T NEED TO BE A MORMON TO ENJOY TEMPLE SQUARE.
OVERVIEW: The city’s most visited attraction, this iconic landmark includes the temple, gorgeous gardens and historic tours. Head to the FamilySearch Center to find out about your ancestors.
TIP: Non-Mormons are not allowed in the temple.

6. SEEING THE CITY’S ATTRACTIONS IS AFFORDABLE.
OVERVIEW: Buy a Visit Salt Lake Connect Pass that offers 50-80 percent off regular admission fees to attractions covered by the pass.
TIP: Charge your smart phone, so you can present your electronic pass at the area’s sights. Get the pass here: SaltLakeConnectPass.com.

Learn more at VisitSaltLake.com.
Plan your next great vacation at VisitSaltLake.com
1. ARCHES NATIONAL PARK
See the iconic Delicate Arch up-close on a 3-mile roundtrip hike. At 64 feet high and 45 feet wide, it's Arches National Park's largest freestanding arch. Along the way, you'll pass the Wolfe Ranch cabin and Native American petroglyphs. Arrive early to get a parking spot and to avoid heat and crowds. It's a popular hike in the park.

2. ZIP LINE ADVENTURE
Get your adrenaline fix at Raven's Rim Zip Line Adventures. Your day starts when you climb aboard an off-road, four-wheel-drive vehicle to drive to the high desert of Moab. There are six zip lines and a suspension bridge to test just how brave you are. The office is at 998 N. Main St; ravensrim.com.

3. RAFT THE COLORADO RIVER
See the red-rock canyons from a different point of view on a half-day rafting trip on the Daily section of the Colorado River. Gentle rapids make this outing fun for everyone. Kids must be 40 pounds or heavier to go on area river trips.

4. COURTHOUSE WASH
You don't need to go to a museum to see ancient Native American art. Easily accessible from town, the Courthouse Wash art panel is 19 feet high and 52 feet long. Vandals defaced these drawings in 1980, but archaeologists restored the panels only to discover older drawings behind the white shields held by figures. To see them head north on Hwy. 191 and cross the Colorado River Bridge. Drive .5 miles to the parking area.

5. NEGRO BILL CANYON TRAIL
For a beautiful hike along a year-round stream, do this 4-mile roundtrip hike to Morning Glory Natural Bridge. Spanning 243 feet, the natural bridge is the nation's sixth-longest. Avoid the poison ivy near the bridge. This hike is easily accessible from Moab and outside both national parks. Take Hwy 191 out of Moab and turn right onto Hwy. 128. Drive for three miles. The trailhead will be on your right.

Learn more about the greatest things to do in Moab at the Moab Area Travel Council's website, discovermoab.com.
Colossal adventure begins here!

Moab’s backyard contains two of Utah’s The Mighty 5® National Parks, the state’s most epic state park, the thrilling waters of the Colorado River, Utah’s second highest mountain range and thousands of square miles of the most dazzling red rock scenery on Earth. If you’re looking for an unforgettable escape from the ordinary, look no further than Moab.

For a free Moab Travel Planner call 435-259-8825 or visit discovermoab.com

COME SEE WHAT’S UP AROUND THE BEND!

VisitPageLakePowell.com
CANYON COUNTRY
Discover a center dedicated to the Four Corners region and guided outings.

If you could take the entire sensory experience of the Four Corners region and squeeze it into a building, it would look like the Canyon Country Discovery Center in Monticello, Utah.

A bouldering wall pays homage to Indian Creek, an area just outside Canyonlands National Park that attracts rock climbers from all over the world. The Augmented Reality Sandbox has an image projected over the sand. As participants shape the sand with their hands, they can watch the geography of the Earth change. Manos and Matates allows visitors to grind corn with stones as the ancient people of the area did. A photo exhibit captures scenes from Bears Ears National Monument.

Opened in 2016, the discovery center started as a grassroots idea to create a center for visitors and locals to learn more about the Four Corners region. Today, the $12 million center sits on a sprawling 48 acres of juniper, pinon pine and sagebrush lined by hiking trails and wind turbines and framed by the Abajo Mountains in the distance. Its proximity to Natural Bridges National Monument, Canyonlands National Park, Arches National Park, Capitol Reef National Park and Bears Ears National Monument make it an excellent stopover. In December 2017 Bears Ears National Monument made headlines when President Trump reduced the monument by 85 percent from 1,351,849 acres to 201,876 acres.

Learn more at ccdiscovery.org.
People have been living in Old Oraibi [pronounced “Oravy”] for nearly 1,000 years, and if you go on an Experience Hopi day tour, you'll visit this ancient village as well as other significant Hopi sites. Old Oraibi is one of the oldest, continuously inhabited settlements in North America.

“It’s never been so easy to book a room, enjoy the comforts that are everywhere but in Hopi and then take a tour,” says James Surveyor, operations manager of the Moenkopi Developers Corporation.

Your morning will start in the modern hotel lobby of Moenkopi Legacy Inn & Suites in Tuba City, Ariz., with a short overview by your Hopi guide before you climb into an air-conditioned tour van with individual seats.

From there, you’ll head to Coalmine Canyon to learn about Hopi pottery, discover the important role agriculture has played in Hopi life and spend 15 minutes walking across Old Oraibi. Its residents have no electricity or running water.

Beyond you’ll visit Prophecy Rock, a singular sacred petroglyph, and Dawa Park filled with rock art from many chapters of Hopi history.

“Hopi is an ancient culture, and not even all Hopis know all the information,” Surveyor says. “So what we share on tours are like raindrops in a big pool of Hopi culture.”

Interested in meeting a Hopi silversmith, painter or weaver? Book a custom tour. Learn more at experiencehopi.com.
HORSESHOE BEND

One of the most photographed places in the West, this iconic feature is where the Colorado River makes a hard turn, creating a beautiful horseshoe shape. While you have to walk .75 miles to see it, the park service added amenities in 2018. Now ADA accessible, you’ll find shade shelters and a viewing platform with a partial railing. Horseshoe Bend is 1,000 feet below, so watch your children. Heat can be a real hazard, so don’t do this hike mid-day in summer. Temperatures have melted the rubber off the soles of shoes.

FLATWATER FLOAT TRIP

Enjoy a gorgeous flatwater float down the Colorado River from the Glen Canyon Dam to Lees Ferry. This half-day trip with Wilderness River Adventures brings you down 15 gorgeous river miles. You’ll board a bus to the put-in where you’ll climb in engine-powered rafts. At Lees Ferry, you’ll discover Lonely Dell Ranch Historic Site on a one-mile walking tour past orchards and buildings constructed for families operating Lees Ferry. The area served as a ferry crossing site from 1872-1928. Board the bus for a 42-mile drive back to Page.

RAINBOW BRIDGE NATIONAL MONUMENT

You can only see this awe-inspiring sight if you ride a boat or do a three-day hike. Standing 290 feet tall and 275 feet wide, this towering natural sandstone bridge could fit the Statue of Liberty underneath it. Established in 1910, it’s the country’s first officially designated dark skies sanctuary. “It’s so beautiful it’s one of those things you cannot fully comprehend unless you see it in person,” says Betsy Scroggs, visual information specialist at Glen Canyon National Recreation Area. It’s a full-day trip.

SWIM BEACH AT WAHWEAP

The only designated beach for swimmers, Wahweap Swim Beach is an oasis during the summer at Lake Powell. Even so, it’s a .75-mile, shadeless, heat-pounding walk to the beach from the parking lot. While there is no lifeguard, ropes with buoys clearly mark the swimming area to separate boats from people. The water is warm enough to keep you in for a long time. However, don’t go to the beach without abundant water. Even though the water cools you, the sun is relentless.

Learn more at visitpagelakepowell.com

LIVING IT UP AT THE LAKE

Lake Powell is so large it can be difficult to know how to navigate it to make the most of your time. Here are the top four things to do.
Fab Kanab

Base out of Kanab, Utah, to avoid the crowds, enjoy fantastic food and discover the hidden gems along the way to three of the Southwest’s most gorgeous national park sites.

Marble Canyon Loop Drive
Start off at Kanab Creek Bakery that offers European-style dishes by chef Cheryl McAllister that are so gorgeous you hate to dig in. “It’s so good you hear the people around you stop talking,” says Camille Johnson, executive director of Kane County Office of Tourism. Then drive the 190-mile Marble Canyon Loop that hits everything from Vermillion Cliffs Overlook to Lees Ferry and Marble Canyon. This scenic loop takes 3 hours if you don’t stop, so you can be back in Kanab in time to have an amazing dinner.

The Wave and Best Friends
Try your luck and join the enthusiastic crowd standing in line for a permit for The Wave, the iconic sandstone formation in the Paria Canyon-Vermillion Cliffs Wilderness. Grand Staircase Escalante National Monument Visitor Center in Kanab issues 10 walk-up permits for the following day, beginning at 8:30 a.m. Afterwards, stop at Kanab’s Best Friends Animal Sanctuary Visitor Center to book a sanctuary tour and meet adoptable pets. For 30 years, it has been the nation’s largest no-kill sanctuary.

The Quieter Side of Grand Canyon
Wake up early and head to the North Rim of Grand Canyon National Park. This best-kept secret receives only 10 percent of the visitation of the South Rim. It’s open mid-spring through late fall. For dinner back in Kanab, head to Sego Restaurant to taste Chef Shon Foster’s creations. “When people eat my food I want them to find themselves in that moment, closing their eyes and letting their senses take them back to memories of their life,” he says.

A Secret Near Zion
En route to Zion National Park, stop at Coral Pink Sand Dunes State Park between Kanab and Mount Carmel. “It’s like a giant sandbox,” says Johnson of Kane County Office of Tourism. “It brings out the kid in all of us.” The sand dunes are great for sledding, so rent a sand board at the state park office. When you return to Kanab, stay at the Parry Lodge in a hotel room named after a Hollywood actor who stayed there, starting in the 1930s. Frank Sinatra visited so often he paid for the construction of the lodge’s swimming pool.

Learn more at Kane County, Utah - Visitor Information Center in downtown Kanab or go to visitsouthernutah.com.
The Grand Canyon. It’s one of the most spectacular natural wonders on Earth. You can experience the quieter and less traveled North Rim without the peak-season crowds. Open to visitors from May to December (with fewer services starting October 15th), the North Rim is best accessed via a scenic 80-mile drive from Kanab. Make plans to see what so few others see—plan a trip to the North Rim.

For more information, including dining and lodging options in Kanab, go to: VisitSouthernUtah.com

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Distance from Kanab</th>
<th>Distance from Kanab</th>
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<td>Zion National Park</td>
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<td>Salt Lake City Airport 317 MILES (510 KM)</td>
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<td>Bryce Canyon National Park</td>
<td>77 MILES (124 KM)</td>
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<td>Grand Canyon North Rim</td>
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<td>Lake Powell/Glen Canyon Rec Area</td>
<td>73 MILES (117 KM)</td>
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BEYOND ZION

Zion National Park’s beauty does not end at the park boundary. Here are six ways to experience the area and escape the park’s crowds.

1. **GUNLOCK STATE PARK**
   WHY GO: Fewer motorized boats and a smaller reservoir than nearby state parks make this a great place to rent a stand-up paddleboard or kayak and cruise past the red-rock lined shores. It’s 15 minutes from St. George.
   LITTLE-KNOWLEDG FACT: You’ll take the Old Spanish Trail, now a county road, to get to the park. From the 1820s through 1849, horse drivers and rustlers from Sante Fe, New Mexico, to Los Angeles used it until gold was discovered in 1849 and a shorter route replaced it.

2. **TUACAHN AMPHITHEATRE**
   WHY GO: The desert isn’t all about outdoor recreation. Combine culture with natural beauty when you sit in this outdoor, 2,000-seat amphitheater for an evening concert or theater production nestled in a red-rock canyon in Ivins, Utah.
   TIP: The amphitheater is adjacent to the spectacular Snow Canyon State Park, so spend the day on a hike, bike ride, or a guided horseback ride in the park. Scenes from Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid were filmed here, so imagine Paul Newman riding next to you on horseback.

3. **CANYONEERING**
   WHY GO: If you’ve never tried canyoneering, this is the place to get your feet wet. A combination of hiking and rappelling with ropes, there’s a guided canyoneering outing for every ability, including shorter ones for kids.
   TIP: In the St. George area, head to Paragon Adventure Co. In Springdale, Zion Adventure Co. literally teaches you the ropes as you go.

4. **MOUNTAIN BIKING**
   WHY GO: While Moab gets all the attention for its mountain biking scene, St. George offers a ton of trails for beginners through experts. Bearclaw Poppy is a smooth, rolling trail for beginners, and Barrel Roll is a great moderate trail.
   TIP: Stop in Red Rock Bicycle Co. or Rapid Cycling Bikes in St. George for directions to trails, advice or to rent a bike.

5. **CAFE SOLEIL**
   WHY GO: Looking to picnic in the park? Located at 205 Zion Park Blvd. in Springdale, this local favorite has counter service where you can get lunch to go before you head into Zion National Park. Choose from an assortment of grilled paninis and wraps, including the Asian chicken wrap, with vegan and vegetarian options.
   TIP: Check out the local art and crafts on display as you sip your espresso.

6. **CLIFFSIDE RESTAURANT**
   WHY GO: Built on a cliff overlooking St. George, you’ll enjoy fantastic views of the St. George valley while eating contemporary American cuisine.
   TIP: Order the Wahoo Fish Taco Duo or the Four-Cheese and Pear Pasta.

Learn more at visitzioncanyon.com.
Best Scenic Route
These little towns along Hwy. 12 make for a unique vacation.

Just 20 minutes from Bryce Canyon National Park lies a string of towns like Panguitch, Escalante and Boulder that make for a great base to explore Utah’s red-rock country.

Start your morning at the Wanderlust Cowgirl Coffee in Panguitch where you can kickstart the day with a fresh-baked pastry or kolache paired with a cold brew, cappuccino, smoothie or chai latte. Or head to Rise & Shine Bakery located in a historic red brick house where you’ll find breakfast and lunch specials and savory empanadas, cinnamon rolls and pies.

Then hit the road and take Hwy 12, which connects Bryce Canyon National Park to Capitol Reef National Park. Just 25 minutes down the road, you’ll reach Bryce Canyon National Park. After exploring it, continue east where you’ll discover uncrowded natural attractions, such as Kodachrome Basin State Park, that locals argue would be national parks if they were located in any other state.

“Theres a different view around every corner from sandstone red rocks to forests,” says Falyn Owens, executive director of Garfield County Office of Tourism. “It’s incredible the changes you see on one road.”

Kodachrome Basin State Park is filled with brilliantly colored spires and named by a National Geographic Society expedition in 1948 after the popular color film. It’s 20 miles southeast of Bryce off Hwy. 12. Panorama Trail, which is 3-6 miles, and Shakespeare Arch, an easy 1.7-mile hike, are the most popular and for good reason. You can catch views into Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument and Bryce Canyon National Park from Shakespeare Arch.

From Kodachrome, head down Cottonwood Canyon Road, a graded dirt road, for another 10 miles to the Grosvenor Arch parking lot. It’s actually two sandstone arches that reach 150 feet into the blue sky, and they sit in the Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument.

After you explore Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument, sleep like a star in the Shooting Star RV Resort on Hwy. 12 in Escalante. You can stay in one of nine Airstreams that are decorated to resemble a Hollywood movie star’s dressing trailer. Think Marilyn Monroe’s trailer while she filmed Some Like It Hot.

Learn more at brycecanyoncountry.com.
wake up

IN ZION

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