



North Rim

Includes »

Overlooks	131
Driving	131
Hiking	135
Kaibab National Forest (North Rim)	147
Fredonia	151
Kanab	151
Along Highway 89	157
Page & Glen Canyon Recreation Area	159
Lees Ferry & Marble Canyon	165

Best Hikes

- » Bright Angel Point (p136)
- » North Kaibab (p141)
- » Widforss Trail (p136)
- » Cape Final (p137)
- » Cliff Springs (p136)

Best Places to Stay

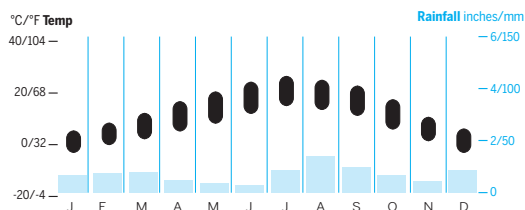
- » Grand Canyon Lodge (p144)
- » Best Friends Animal Sanctuary (p155)
- » Parry Lodge (p155)
- » Purple Sage Inn (p155)
- » Kaibab Lodge (p150)

Why Go?

A single stone-and-timber lodge with floor-to-ceiling windows is perched directly on the canyon rim, and miles of trails wind through meadows thick with wildflowers, willow aspen and towering ponderosa pines. At the end of every day the lodge's small rimside sun porch fills with dusty, weary hikers, doffing baseball caps, Camelbaks and backpacks. They grab a beer from the saloon and mingle on the porch, settling into the Adirondack chairs, comparing notes and sharing experiences. After the sun sets, when most of the children have gone to sleep and darkness has subdued the canyon's ferocity, folks bundle in their fleeces and sit quietly, studying the stars, breathing in the canyon's emptiness, listening to the silence. This is the kinder, gentler Grand Canyon, and once you've been here you'll never want to see the canyon from anywhere else.

When to Go

North Rim



October

Cottonwoods and aspen burn brilliant with fall color.

July

North Rim altitude offers relief from the canyonlands' summer sizzle.

September

The desert sun softens and meadows tease with autumn delights.

PLANNING TIPS

Park accommodation is limited to Grand Canyon Lodge and the campground. All facilities at the Grand Canyon North Rim are closed mid-October through mid-May.

Fast Facts

- » Miles of rim trails: 25
- » Highest elevation: 8803ft
- » Elevation change from rim to Colorado River: 5850ft

Reservations

Grand Canyon Lodge (☎877-386-4383; www.foreverlodging.com) takes reservations up to a year months in advance; no penalty for cancellations made before 72-hours. Call ☎928-638-2611 for same-day room reservations.

North Rim Campground (☎877-444-6777, 928-638-7814; www.recreation.gov) takes reservations up to six months in advance; hiker/cyclist sites are usually available without reservation.

Resources

- » www.nps.gov/grca/
- » www.foreverlodging.com
- » www.kaneutah.com

Entrances

The North Rim Entrance sits 30 miles south of Jacob Lake on Hwy 67. A park pass of \$25 per car, good for seven days on both rims, can be purchased at the gate. Those entering on foot, by bicycle or by motorcycle pay \$12 per person. If you arrive after-hours, a posted note will direct you – remember to pay the fee when you depart. From here, it is 14 miles to Grand Canyon Lodge.

DON'T MISS

Just coming to the North Rim is getting away from it all, but once you're here there are a few easily accessible hideaways. **Uncle Jim's Cave**, once used as a ranger residence, lies in the rocks on the far side of **Harvey Meadow** on the way to the Widforss Trailhead – easy to get to and free of crowds, the meadow and cave make a great spot to hang out, particularly for children. The stone **Moon Room** below the sun porch of Grand Canyon Lodge offers a cool and quiet rimside refuge. Look for small, unmarked stairs along the trail that runs between the lodge and the canyon. On the road to Cape Royal, few folks bother stopping at **Greenland Lake**, and it's a peaceful place for a picnic. Unmaintained forest roads off Cape Royal Rd and the road to Point Sublime lead miles through the woods and meadows to **back-country overlooks**. Ask at the visitor center for details, and secure a backcountry permit if you plan on primitive camping.

When You Arrive

- » Upon entry, you'll receive a map and a copy of *The Guide*, a National Park Service (NPS) newspaper with information on ranger programs, hikes and park services.
- » Do not lose your entrance receipt, as you'll need it if you intend on leaving and re-entering the park.
- » The road dead-ends at Grand Canyon Lodge. At the lodge entrance you'll find the **North Rim Visitor Center** (☎928-638-7864; ☀9am-6pm, closed mid-Oct–mid-May) as well as a cafeteria, a saloon and a cafe and other amenities.