



Around North Rim

Includes ➔

Kaibab National Forest (North Rim).....	152
Fredonia.....	155
Kanab.....	155
Page & Glen Canyon National Recreation Area	161
Vermilion Cliffs & Marble Canyon.....	166

Best for Western Movie Buffs

- ➔ Frontier Movie Town & Trading Post (p155)
- ➔ Western Legends Roundup (p157)
- ➔ Old Barn Playhouse (p158)
- ➔ Kane County Office of Tourism (p159)
- ➔ Paria Townsite (p160)

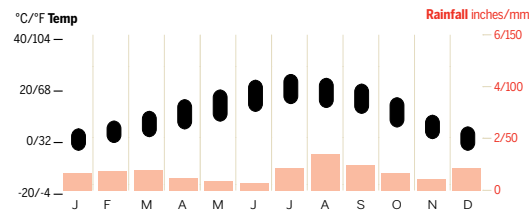
Best for Families

- ➔ East Rim View (p152)
- ➔ Seldom Seen Adventures (p157)
- ➔ Antelope Canyon (p162)
- ➔ Angel Canyon (p158)
- ➔ Best Friends Animal Sanctuary (p155)

Why Go?

The North Rim sits on the southern edge of the spectacular 1010-sq-mile North Kaibab Plateau, refreshingly cool and green at 8000ft and surrounded below by red-rock scenery, miles of trails and vast expanses of desert wilderness. You can easily spend a week exploring the dramatic diversity of the region, boating on Lake Powell one day, hiking a slot canyon the next and cycling through the aspen and meadows of the Kaibab another. Combine a visit to the North Rim with Zion and Bryce National Parks (see Lonely Planet's *Zion & Bryce Canyon National Parks*), both within a few hours' drive north of the park.

When to Go North Rim



Oct Cottonwoods and aspen display magnificent fall color.

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

Sep The desert sun softens and meadows tease with autumn delights.

Kaibab National Forest (North Rim)

928 / ELEV 7900FT-9000FT

Hwy 89A (also known as Alt 89) winds 5000ft up from the burning canyons of the Paria Canyon-Vermilion Cliffs Wilderness, past the Kaibab National Forest boundary and through the eerie black-timbered remains of a 2001 forest fire, to the outpost of **Jacob Lake**. Nearly everyone heading up to the canyon stops here, piling out of dusty vehicles to breathe in the mountain air, shop for canyon souvenirs, grab a cookie or an extra-thick milkshake – the inn is famous for both. They then continue south on Hwy 67 through the meadows, rolling hills, aspen and ponderosa pine trees of the Kaibab National Forest on their way to the North Rim.

On the 30 miles between Jacob Lake and the park entrance, dirt forest-service roads on either side lure curious travelers, offering yellow canopies in the fall, wildflowers in the summer and miles of opportunities for hiking, cycling, snowmobiling and cross-country skiing. While most folk simply pass through on their way to the rim, the Kaibab is an idyllic setting in its own right and a worthwhile stop for a couple of days.

Sights & Activities

The 107-sq-mile **Kanab Creek Wilderness**, comprised of classic canyonland formations cut by Kanab Creek, lies in the southwestern corner of the Kaibab and abuts the western edge of the Kaibab Plateau. Here you'll find many desert trails for experienced hikers; the 21.5-mile **Snake Gulch** rewards hikers with loads of incredible petroglyphs. On the southeast corner, abutting the eastern edge of the Kaibab Plateau, is the **Saddle Mountain Wilderness**. Stop by the Kaibab Plateau Visitor Center in Jacob Lake for maps and information on the network of **hiking trails** throughout the region. In the winter, you can **cross-country ski** or **snowmobile** throughout the Kaibab. The Jacob Lake Inn is open year-round, but the 44-mile road from Jacob Lake to the North Rim Lodge (which is closed from mid-October through mid-May) is not plowed and there are no services north of Jacob Lake.

Dirt roads veer off Hwy 67 in both directions to overlooks on the edge of the plateau. The drives are lovely, particularly in the fall when the aspens turn or in late summer when wildflowers and tall grass

burst out of the meadows, but they are long and bumpy. Even in a 4WD, be prepared to drive at a snail's pace in some spots. Consider tackling the roads to Fire Point, Crazy Jug, Indian Hollow and the recommended Jumpup Point overlooks, all of which make nice backcountry camping sites. The five overlooks connected by Rainbow Rim Trail may see a few more people, but they have the advantage of excellent hiking and mountain-biking from each point.

While they're certainly beautiful, don't expect classic canyon vistas at any of the Kaibab's overlooks; for that, head to the park itself.

★ **Marble View**

VIEWPOINT

A favorite of the many Kaibab Forest overlooks, this viewpoint makes a spectacular picnic or camping spot. From the 1-acre meadow, covered with Indian paintbrush and hiding Coconino sandstone fossils, views extend over the eastern edge of the canyon to the paper-flat expanse beyond. This is not a quintessential Grand Canyon overlook that you see in postcards and Grand Canyon books. Instead, you're looking down where the Colorado first cuts into the rocks from Lees Ferry.

East Rim View

HIKING

With views east into the Saddle Mountain Wilderness, Marble Canyon and the Vermilion Cliffs, this easily accessible overlook (elevation 8810ft) is suitable for strollers and wheelchairs. In fact, it's so easy to reach, it's amazing there aren't more people out here. East Rim doesn't offer the inviting views, picnic and camping opportunities of Marble View, but it's a beautiful spot. From the overlook you can hike the East Rim Trail 1.5 miles down, and from there connect to longer hikes.

Arizona Trail: Park Boundary Trailhead to Crystal Spring

HIKING

This narrow meander through wide meadows bordered by aspens and ponderosas is a hidden gem of the North Kaibab. There are no big views or cliffs, but plenty of room to run and scramble. Keep your eye out for fossils in the rocks along the trail. Perfect for families, this hike can be shortened considerably by hiking 2.3 miles to **Sourdough Wells** and turning around, or lengthened by hiking an added 1.5 miles to **East Rim View**.

Rainbow Rim Trail

MOUNTAIN BIKING

The Rainbow Rim Trail connects **Parissawampitts**, **Fence**, **Locust**, **North Timp**