



North Rim

Includes ➔

Day Hikes.....	136
Overnight Hikes.....	143
Driving.....	145
Other Activities.....	147
Mule Rides.....	147
Ranger Programs.....	147
Cycling.....	148
Cross-Country	
Skiing.....	148
Sleeping.....	148
Eating & Drinking.....	148

Best Hikes

- ➔ Bright Angel Point (p137)
- ➔ North Kaibab (p144)
- ➔ Widforss Trail (p138)
- ➔ Cape Final (p140)
- ➔ Cliff Springs (p139)

Best Places to Stay

- ➔ Grand Canyon Lodge (p148)
- ➔ Kaibab Lodge (p154)
- ➔ Parry Lodge (p158)
- ➔ Cliff Dwellers Lodge (p167)
- ➔ Canyons Lodge (p157)

Why Go?

On the quiet North Rim, an elegant stone and timber lodge with floor-to-ceiling windows is perched directly on the edge of the canyon. Nearby, miles of trails wind through old forests of towering ponderosa pines, past meadows thick with wildflowers, and down through layers of ancient rock. The lodge's sun porch fills with hikers as the sun goes down. Dusty and weary, they settle into Adirondack chairs, comparing notes and sharing experiences, toasting the day with drinks from the nearby saloon. Later, when children have gone back to the lodge's cabins and darkness has subdued the canyon's ferocity, people bundle up in 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.

Road Distances (miles)

North Rim Entrance Gate	15				
Kanab	80	70			
Page	125	110	75		
Vermilion Cliffs	85	75	80	75	
Fredonia	75	60	7	80	70
North Rim					
North Rim Entrance Gate					
Kanab					
Page					
Vermilion Cliffs					

Note: Distances are approximate

Entrances

The North Rim Entrance sits 30 miles south of Jacob Lake on Hwy 67. A park pass of \$30 per car (or \$25 per motorcycle), good for seven days on both rims, can be purchased at the gate. Those entering on foot, by bicycle or on a shuttle bus pay \$15 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

If you think the views from Grand Canyon Lodge (p148) are nice, wait until you see the canyon from Point Imperial and Cape Royal. These are two of several drives you'll want to make time for when visiting the North Rim. Wear your hiking boots – many of the overlooks are connected to easy (and family-friendly) trails – and **pack a picnic**, as you won't find many services after pulling away from the North Rim General Store (p149). Popular day-trip destinations include the aptly named **Point Imperial** (p141): at an altitude of 8803ft, it's the highest lookout on either rim, and a prime spot to watch cloud shadows moving across the canyon below. The second essential drive takes you to the spectacular **Cape Royal** (p146) lookout. Stop for lunch at one of the picturesque picnic spots along the way, and don't miss the once-in-a-lifetime photo-op at the striking natural arch known as **Angels Window** (p146).

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. If you have an annual pass, senior pass, or access pass, display it from your rearview mirror using the hangtag provided.
- The road dead-ends at Grand Canyon Lodge. At the lodge entrance you'll find the North Rim Visitor Center (p150) as well as a cafeteria, a saloon and coffee shop, and various other amenities.

Tip: Bring Your Own Water Bottle

In an ongoing effort to go green, Grand Canyon National Park no longer sells disposable plastic water bottles. Bring your own reusable container and fill it up at a water station at one of three locations on the North Rim: at the North Kaibab Trailhead, at the North Rim Visitor Center (adjacent to the restrooms) and at the North Rim Backcountry Office. The backcountry water station stays open year-round.

PLANNING TIPS

Park accommodations are 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

- Rim trail length: 25 miles
- Highest elevation: 8803ft
- Elevation change from rim to Colorado River: 5850ft

Reservations

- Grand Canyon Lodge (p148) takes reservations up to 13 months in advance: accommodations book up quickly. Reservations are often required for dinner at the Grand Canyon Lodge Dining Room (p149). Reach the lodge operator at ☎ 877-386-4383.
- North Rim Campground (p148) takes reservations up to six months in advance and stays open through late October. Hiker/cyclist sites are usually available without reservation.

Resources

- **Grand Canyon National Park** (www.nps.gov/grca)
- **Grand Canyon Lodge** (www.grandcanyonlodgenorth.com) A one-stop resource for all dining, mule rides and services affiliated with the lodge.
- **Visit Southern Utah** (www.visitsouthernutah.com) An online travel planner with interactive maps.