



Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Park Trip Assistant

How Much Time?

The answer is not much. But you should at least take the time to stop at both rims. The North Rim is fantastic and much more peaceful than the south.

At the South Rim, drive the road, stop at some viewpoints (Gunnison Point, Chasm View, Painted Wall, and Cedar Point are really nice, but they're all good), and then make the quick hike to Warner Point.

At the North Rim, do the short Chasm View hike, and then drive the road stopping at Narrows View, and the end of the road to get a good look at Kneeling Camel at a minimum. The hike to Exclamation Point is also good.

If you're looking for something more thrilling, then pick an inner canyon trail or two. Just know, you must have a [permit](#) to do them.

Need to Know

- South Rim is open year-round, but South Rim Road closes beyond Gunnison Point in winter.
- East Portal and North Rim close for winter.
- North Rim Road is unpaved but (typically) very nice. The drive there from the south via CO-92 is extremely scenic.
- Inner canyon hiking is thrilling but dangerous (steep with loose rock, and possibly poison ivy). A [permit](#) is required. Reserve online for the South Rim. Sign up in-person at the North Rim Ranger Station.

Maps

Black Canyon of the Gunnison: [PDF](#) | [JPG](#)

South Rim: [PDF](#) | [JPG](#)

Region: [PDF](#) | [JPG](#)

[Google Map w/ Trails and Attractions](#)

All 63 National Parks Map: [PDF](#) | [JPG](#)

Southwestern NPS Units Map: [PDF](#) | [JPG](#)

Highlights

Painted Wall

Gunnison Point (South Rim)

Kneeling Camel (North Rim)

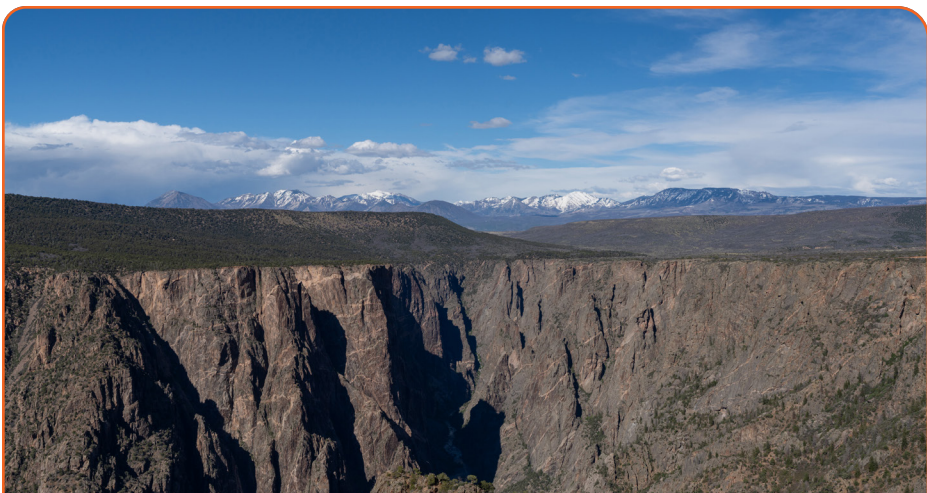
Painted Wall View (South Rim)

The Narrows (North Rim)

South Rim Road

North Rim Road

East Portal



Favorite Trails

Moderate

Warner Point

N. Vista (to Exclamation Pt.)

Extreme (Inner Canyon)

Long Draw

Gunnison Route

Pinyon Draw (S.O.B Draw)

Activities

Hiking
Backpacking
Kayaking
Rock Climbing
Biking
Horseback Riding
Cross-country Skiing
Snowshoeing

See this [Google Map](#) for pins to favorite trails and attractions.

Road Trip

Here's a [Google Map](#) to help plan road trips from the east (Great Sand Dunes), north (Rocky Mountain), west (Arches), and south (Petrified Forest). It's a good start, but I'd highly recommend making your own.

There's much more to our country. Here's another [Google Map](#) with points of interest across all types of public land.

For campers, here's a [Google Map](#) with National Forest campgrounds. National Park campgrounds are difficult to reserve (there are about 200!). With nearly 5,000 national forest campgrounds, you can usually pull in and find a spot.

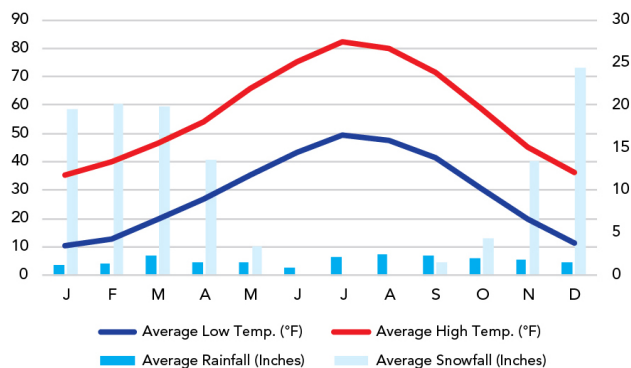
Highlights

There's a lot. This might be the prettiest part of the Lower 48 and I only know a tiny fraction of what there is to see and do over here. I'll get this updated when all the roads open up.

When To Go

Weather

Black Canyon of the Gunnison NP: 8,149 ft Elevation



Visitation

Black Canyon of the Gunnison Visitation

