



## Zion National Park Trip Assistant

### How Much Time?

It's almost impossible to give a general amount of time for a visit. Some people spend most of their lives here. Others enter Zion-Mount Carmel Highway in the middle of peak visitation and they can't wait to get out.

There are about 50 miles of trails here. However, the big draw is canyoneering. There are many narrow canyons hidden within the park's boundaries. The Narrows most people hike, which is an absolute riot, is very wide compared to the slots thrill seekers play in.

So, how much time? The typical trip is hike The Narrows and

Angel's Landing and move on to the next stop. While possible to do them both in a day, it's probably better to stretch it out to two. Note that a permit is required for [Angel's Landing](#) (a ranger typically checks them at Scout Lookout). And, if you'd like to hike The Narrows beyond Big Springs (or thru-hike it from the top down), you'll need a permit.

There's quite a bit more to do. You'll find easily accessible slot canyons on either side of Zion-Mount Carmel Tunnel. The Subway (permit required) and West Rim are exceptional hikes. And Kolob Canyons is the park's quiet corner.

### Need to Know

- While Zion doesn't require a timed-entry permit, many of the park's most popular activities do. [Angel's Landing](#) does. The Narrows (to hike beyond Big Springs, [thru-hike top-down](#), or [over-night](#)) does. [Left Fork/Subway](#) does.
- The park can be remarkably busy. And it doesn't really let up until November through February.
- Winter can be a fantastic time to visit. You can drive Zion Canyon Scenic Drive on your own (except popular holidays/weeks). And daytime highs are usually surprisingly comfortable.
- If you're lucky and catch some snow/rain, ephemeral waterfalls accent the canyon's walls!
- Parking fills pretty quickly at the visitor center. You can also park in Springdale, and then hop on a different [shuttle](#) line that will ferry you near the visitor center.
- You can also bypass the [Zion Canyon Shuttle](#) by hiking/biking Pa'rus Trail or spending the night at the park lodge.

### Maps

Zion National Park Map: [PDF](#) | [JPG](#)

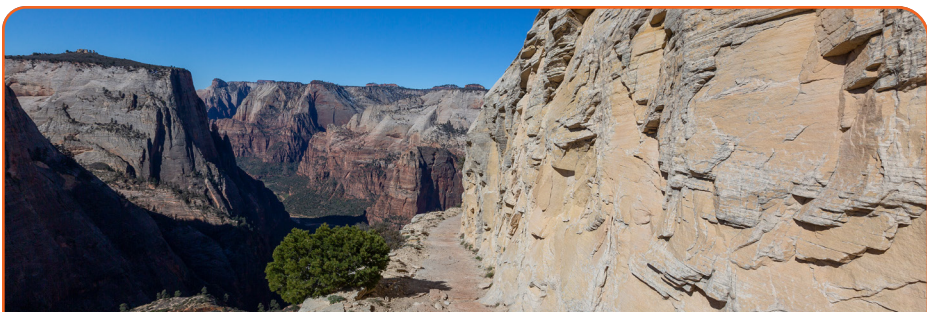
[Google Map w/ Trails and Attractions](#)

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

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

### Highlights

Zion Canyon Scenic Drive  
Zion-Mount Carmel Highway  
Kolob Terrace Road  
Lava Point Overlook  
Kolob Reservoir (cool in summer)  
Kolob Canyons



## Favorite Trails

**Easy**  
[Pa'rus](#)

**Moderate**  
[Observation Point via East Mesa](#)  
[Watchman](#)

**Canyon Overlook**  
[Taylor Creek](#)

**Strenuous**  
[Mouth of the Narrows](#)  
[Left Fork/Subway](#)  
[West Rim](#)  
[East Rim](#)  
[Kolob Arch](#)

## Activities

Hiking  
Backpacking  
Horseback Riding  
Biking  
Paddling  
Rock Climbing  
Canyoneering

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

## Highlights

[UT-12 Red Canyon Arch](#) (UT)  
[Belly of the Dragon](#) (UT)

[Cedar Breaks NM](#) (UT)  
[Valley of Fire SP](#) (NV)  
[Coral Pink Sand Dunes SP](#) (UT)

There's a ton of National Forest and BLM land. The [Arizona Strip](#) is great, and Cedar Breaks is nice place to cool down when it's too hot at Zion. [Kanara Falls](#), also good. [Cottonwood Canyon](#) (unpaved) is a beautiful route to avoid the Bryce-Zion traffic.

## Road Trip

Here's a [Google Map](#) to help plan road trips from the east (Bryce Canyon), north (Great Basin), west (Las Vegas, NV), and south (North Rim, Grand Canyon). It's a good start, but I'd highly recommend making your own.

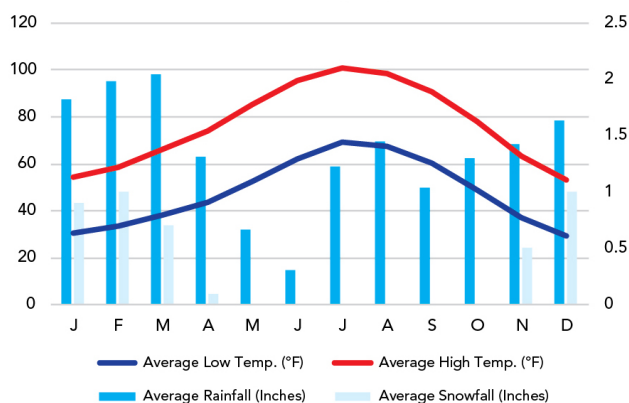
There's much more to our country. Here's another [Google Map](#) with points of interest across all types of public land.

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.

## When To Go

### Weather

Zion National Park: 4,037 ft Elevation



### Visitation

Zion Visitation

