

Why is Death Valley Famous?

Death Valley is a *National Park*. National Parks are made to protect special places and let people see them. Death Valley is a very special place and has a lot to see and do. When I visit Death Valley, I can see some of the things that make this place special.



NPS / N. Spicuzza

Death Valley is known for being very, very hot. It is the *hottest place on Earth!* In the summer of 1913, it reached 134 degrees Fahrenheit (57 degrees Celsius)! When I visit Death Valley in the summer, I need to be prepared for this extreme heat. I will be sure to drink lots of water, wear a hat and sunscreen, and take breaks when I get tired.



NPS / J. Jurado

Death Valley is also famous for being the *driest place in North America*. Death Valley only gets about two inches of rain a year! The tall mountains that surround Death Valley can block clouds from coming in, which makes this a very dry place. During my visit to Death Valley, the dryness can cause my skin or lips to crack. If this happens, I can use moisturizer or lip balm for relief.



NPS / N. Spicuzza

Death Valley is known for being the *lowest place in North America*. This lowest spot is located at Badwater Basin. This is a large salt flat. A salt flat is a place where salt crystals make up the basin floor. I can go visit Badwater Basin and walk out on the salt and be in the lowest place in North America.



NPS / N. Spicuzza

Right by the parking lot at Badwater Basin, there is a pool of salty water. This pool is home to the Badwater snail. The Badwater snail is an *endemic species*, meaning that it lives only in Death Valley National Park. There are a lot of these endemic species in Death Valley. The park is famous for being their home. I can help protect these endemic species by making sure I leave the plants and animals alone and not disturbing them.



NPS / N. Spicuzza

Death Valley is a special place full of fun things to do and discover. It is famous for being the hottest place in the world, driest place in North America, and lowest place in North America. Death Valley is also home to lots of endemic species. During my trip in Death Valley National Park, I can explore this amazing place.