

Zion Information Guide

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior



Hiking Guide

Shuttle Stop	Hike Location	Round Trip Average Time	Elevation Change	Description
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EASY

1	Pa'rus Trail Visitor Center Canyon Junction	2 hours 3.5 mi / 5.6 km	50 ft / 15 m	Paved trail follows the Virgin River from the Visitor Center to Canyon Junction.
5	The Grotto Trail Zion Lodge The Grotto	0.5 hour 1 mi / 1.6 km	35 ft / 11 m	This short trail parallels the roadway, connecting the Zion Lodge to the Grotto. It is located behind the shuttle stop.
9	Riverside Walk Temple of Sinawava	1.5 hours 2.2 mi / 3.5 km	57 ft / 17 m	Paved trail follows the Virgin River in a deep canyon. First 0.4 miles is wheelchair accessible but may be sandy.

MODERATE

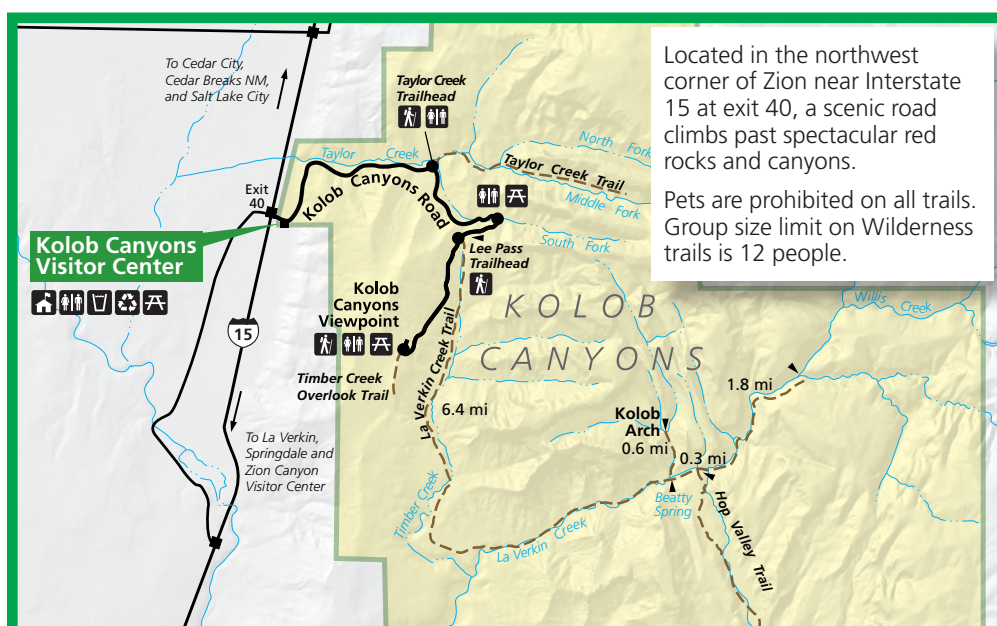
East Side	Canyon Overlook East side of Zion Tunnel	1 hour 1.0 mi / 1.6 km	163 ft / 50 m	Minor drop-offs and handrails. Ends at a viewpoint of lower Zion Canyon. Parking is limited.
1	Watchman Trail Zion Canyon Visitor Center	2 hours 3.3 mi / 5.3 km	368 ft / 112 m	Minor drop-offs. Ends at viewpoint of the Towers of the Virgin, lower Zion Canyon, and Springdale.
4	Sand Bench Trail Court of the Patriarchs	3 hours 4 mi / 6.4 km	466 ft / 142 m	Hike atop a massive landslide under The Sentinel. Minor drop-offs. Commercial horse trail from March to October.
6	Kayenta Trail The Grotto	1.5 hours 2 mi / 3.2 km	150 ft / 46 m	Moderate drop-offs. An unpaved climb to the Emerald Pools. Connects the Grotto to the Emerald Pools Trails.
6	Lower Emerald Pool The Grotto (via Kayenta Trail)	1.5 hours 2 mi / 3.2 km	150 ft / 46 m	Moderate drop-offs. An unpaved descent which leads underneath the Middle Emerald Pools to the Lower Emerald Pool. No swimming.
6	Middle Emerald Pools The Grotto (via Kayenta Trail)	1.5 hours 2.2 mi / 3.5 km	150 ft / 45 m	An unpaved climb to a sandstone ledge that parallels the lower trail at a higher elevation. No swimming.
6	Upper Emerald Pool The Grotto (via Kayenta Trail)	2 hours 3 mi / 4.8 km	200 ft / 61 m	Minor drop-offs. A sandy and rocky trail that climbs to the Upper Emerald Pool at the base of a cliff. No swimming.

STRENUOUS

6	Scout Lookout via West Rim Trail The Grotto	3 hours 4.2 mi / 6.2 km	1000 ft / 305 m	Long drop-offs. Not for young children or anyone afraid of heights. Hikers need a permit to go to Angels Landing. Use QR code on back to apply.
9	The Narrows (via Riverside Walk) Temple of Sinawava	Up to 8 hrs 9.4 mi / 15.1 km	334 ft / 102 m	You are responsible for checking weather, water levels, and flash flood potential before attempting. This hike is in the river and subject to dangerous flash floods. Out and back hike.

KOLOB CANYONS HIKING TRAILS

Timber Creek Overlook Trail Kolob Canyons Road	0.5 hour 1 mi / 1.6 km	100 ft/ 30 m	Follows a ridge to views of Timber Creek, Kolob Terrace, and the Pine Valley Mountains.
Taylor Creek Trail Kolob Canyons Road	3.5 hours 5.0 mi / 8.0 km	450 ft/ 137 m	Maximum 12 people per group. Follows the Middle Fork of Taylor Creek past two homestead cabins to Double Arch Alcove.
Kolob Arch via La Verkin Creek Trail Lee Pass	8 hours 14 mi / 22.5 km	1037 ft/ 316 m	Maximum 12 people per group. Trail follows Timber and La Verkin Creek. A side trail leads to Kolob Arch.



Zion Shuttle

For most of the year, the Zion Canyon Scenic Drive is open to shuttle buses only. Private vehicles are not allowed on the Scenic Drive beyond Canyon Junction during the shuttle bus season. Bicycles and E-bikes must pull over and stop to allow shuttles to pass.

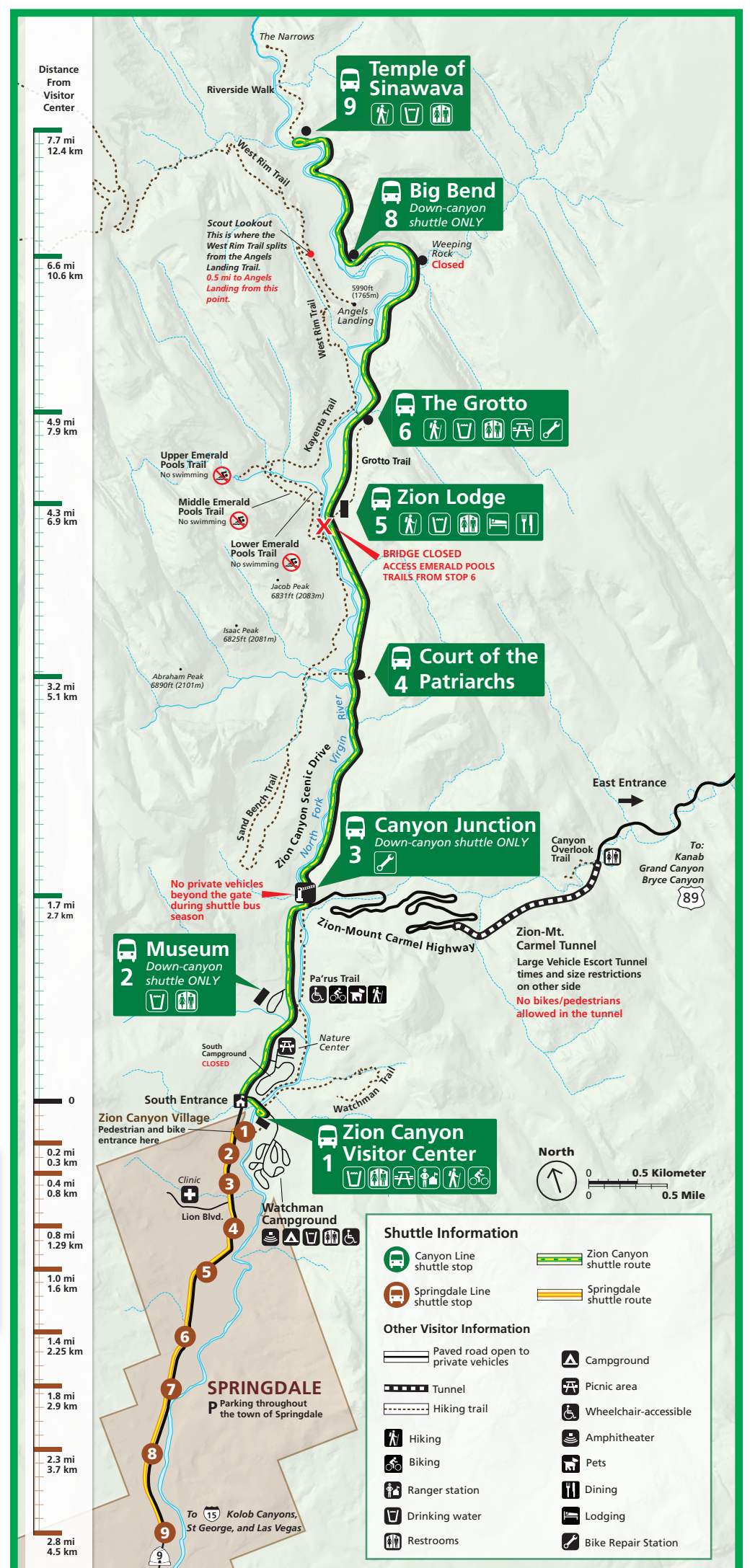
SHUTTLE SCHEDULE

Subject to change. Check website for current hours

	May 19 to September 15	September 16 to November 2
First bus into the canyon from the Zion Canyon Visitor Center	6:00 a.m.	7:00 a.m.
Last bus into the canyon from the Zion Canyon Visitor Center	7:00 p.m.	5:00 p.m.
Last bus out of the canyon from Temple of Sinawava	8:15 p.m.	7:15 p.m.

Town of Springdale Shuttle

First bus from Springdale Stop #9	7:00 a.m.	8:00 a.m.
Last bus leaves Zion Canyon Village	8:00 p.m.	7:00 p.m.



Your Safety Is Your Responsibility



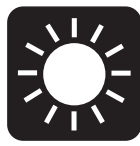
PREVENT DEHYDRATION

As you hike you lose water and salt through sweat. Carry and drink at least

one gallon of water per person per day. You can get water in developed areas. Do not drink untreated water from springs. Your body needs a healthy level of salt to function so eat a few salty snacks, like a handful of salted peanuts, when you drink water.

HARMFUL ALGAE MAY BE PRESENT

Do not drink from the Virgin River. The park is conducting regular water quality monitoring and will issue new health advisories as needed. Check park visitor centers and the park website for current conditions and advisories.



EXTREME HEAT

Heat illness is the cause of many medical emergencies in Zion every summer. It happens when the body

gets too warm. Dehydration can make heat illness worse. This leads to heat cramps, heat exhaustion, and heat stroke.

Symptoms include high body temperature (over 100F, 38C), red, flushed skin, lack of sweat or extreme sweating, stumbling and poor coordination, fatigue, weakness, and confusion or slurred speech. If you recognize any of these signs, stop hiking and immediately find shade, drink water, and get help.



FLASH FLOODS

All narrow canyons are potentially hazardous. Flash floods, often caused by storms miles away, are a

real danger and can be life-threatening. You are taking a risk when entering a narrow canyon. Watch for indications of a possible flash flood. During a flash flood, the water level rises very quickly. A flash flood can rush down a canyon in a wall of water over twelve feet high.

If you observe any of these signs, seek higher ground immediately:

- Deterioration in weather conditions.
- Clouds or thunder.
- Sudden changes in water clarity from clear to muddy.



STEEP CLIFFS

Falls from cliffs on trails have resulted in death. Loose sand or pebbles on stone are very slippery.

Watch for edges all the time - especially when using cameras or binoculars. Never throw or roll rocks. There may be hikers below you. Stay on the trail and away from cliff edges. Observe posted warnings and keep children away from edges.

ELEVATION

Zion is 4,000- 8,000 feet (1,220 - 2,440 meters) above sea level. If you live somewhere closer to sea level, take it easy on your hike until you know how the elevation is going to affect you.

24-HOUR EMERGENCY RESPONSE: CALL 911

Park emergencies: call 435-772-3322 (daylight hours)

Getting Around

To protect Zion landscapes, plants, animals, and history, park only in designated spaces. For your safety, park rangers enforce laws against alcohol and drug-related driving offenses, including open container violations. For Utah road conditions, please call 866-511-8824.



DRIVING

Drivers, pedestrians, bicyclists, and wildlife all share park roads.

- 35 mph is the speed limit unless otherwise posted.
- Wear a seat belt and use a child safety seat if appropriate.
- Turn off your vehicle if you are stopped (do not idle).
- For most of the year, Zion Canyon Scenic Drive is only open to shuttle buses or with a special permit. Your park entrance pass is not a permit.



PARKING

Available on a first-come-first served basis.

If you are driving an RV or other large vehicle, use the Large Vehicle Lot near Zion Canyon Visitor Center. If your vehicle will fit through our tunnel without a permit (see below) you cannot use this lot.

There is paid parking in Springdale.



CYCLING (E-BIKES AND BICYCLES)

Cycling is permitted on all public park roads and on the Pa'rus Trail. Cyclists

must ride single file and stop to let shuttle buses pass. Do not pass shuttle buses in the driving lane. Each shuttle bus has a rack for bicycles. All other park trails, off-trail routes, and the Zion-Mt. Carmel Tunnel are closed to cycles. Only Class 1 pedal-assist E-bikes are allowed and must follow all of the same rules as bicycles.



SPRINGDALE SHUTTLE

For part of the year, you can ride a free shuttle in the town of Springdale. If it is running during your visit, park at your hotel or an approved parking area, and ride to the park entrance.

ZION CANYON SHUTTLE

During much of the year, the Zion Canyon Scenic Drive is only accessible by shuttle bus. Check the shuttle schedule on the front of this sheet to see when the shuttle is running.

The buses have room for backpacks, climbing gear, and normal bicycles (E-Bikes do not fit). While in Zion Canyon you may get on and off the shuttle as often as you like. Only service dogs are permitted on the shuttles. If you have accessibility needs, please speak to a ranger at the Visitor Center.

Visitors must comply with all rules regarding riding the shuttles.

Zion Tunnel

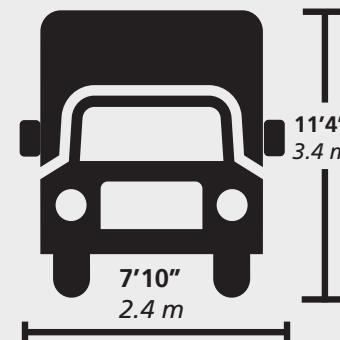
Oversized Vehicles, RVs, Large Trailers

The Zion-Mt. Carmel Tunnel connects Zion Canyon to the east side of the park. It was built in the 1920s when large vehicles were less common. Nearly all RVs, buses, trailers, fifth-wheels, dual-wheel trucks, campers, and large boats require one-way traffic control.

ONE-WAY TRAFFIC CONTROL

Oversized vehicle drivers pay \$15 per vehicle (includes two tunnel pass-throughs within 7 days). Rangers will stop oncoming traffic so that you may drive down the center of the road in the tunnel.

- Vehicles 11 feet 4 inches (3.4m) and taller up to 13 feet 1 inch (4m).
- Vehicles 7 feet 10 inches (2.4m) and wider - including mirrors, awnings, and jacks.



TUNNEL HOURS

Until Oct. 1, 2024: 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

PROHIBITED IN THE TUNNEL

- No vehicles over 13 feet 1 inch (4m) tall
- No semi-trucks and commercial vehicles (e.g. box trucks)
- No vehicles carrying hazardous materials
- No bicyclists or pedestrians
- *Bicyclists and pedestrians cannot get a ride at the tunnel. Hitchhiking is only permitted in pullouts. Rangers are not allowed to give or arrange for transport through the tunnel.*

Permits & Reservations

recreation.gov

PERMITS

You need a permit for activities including but not limited to: hiking to Angels Landing, backpacking, canyoneering, climbing bivy camping, and hiking some Wilderness routes.



Scan this QR code to learn about permits. Use free WiFi at a visitor center or Zion Lodge. You can only apply for Angels Landing permits online by 3pm, and using this link takes you to a webpage with more information.

Remember to carry your permit and photo ID with you on your trip. Permits are non-transferable.



CAMPING

You need a reservation to camp in any of the park's campgrounds. To make a reservation, visit www.recreation.gov or call 877-444-6777.

Camping is not allowed in parking areas or pullouts.



CAMPFIRES

Campfires are only allowed in metal campground fire rings. Fires are never allowed in Wilderness.

Sometimes, especially during the summer, campfires are not allowed due to risk of wildfire.

Statewide fire updates at utahfireinfo.gov

Ranger-led Programs

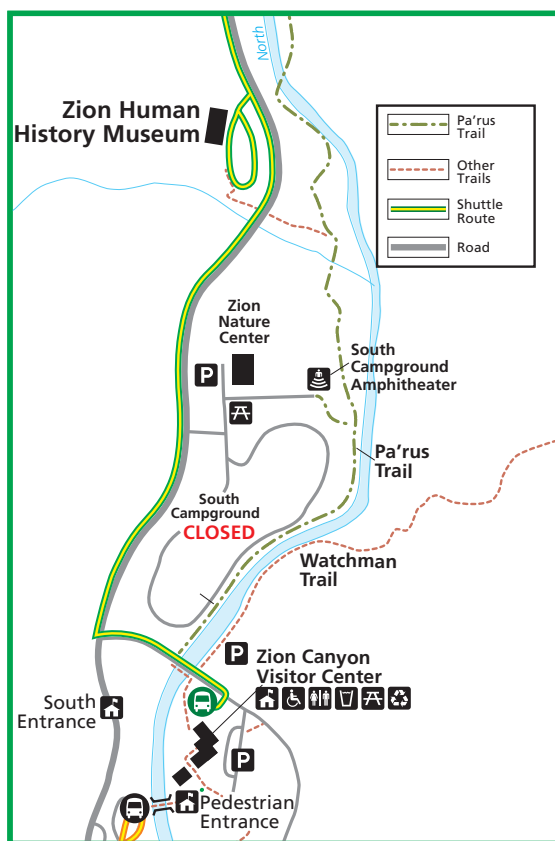


Learn about Zion by participating in a free ranger-led program.

Program schedules are based on ranger availability. Free, advanced reservations may be required and can be made at the Zion Canyon Visitor Center.

Check park visitor centers, bulletin boards, online for times and information about programs. Topics include geology, plants, animals, human history, and more.

Visitors ages 4 and older can earn a badge by completing the Zion Junior Ranger book. The book is available for free at park visitor centers and the Zion Nature Center. The Nature Center is next to the South Campground off of the Pa'rus Trail. The shuttle does not stop here. Limited parking is available.





Contact Us

Mailing Address
Zion National Park
1 Zion Park Blvd.
Springdale, UT 84767

Park Information
(435) 772-3256

Free WiFi is available at the Zion Canyon Visitor Center and the Zion Lodge. Do not expect data or cell connection in most areas of Zion Canyon, on trails, or in Wilderness.

Website
www.nps.gov/zion

Social Media
@zionnps  

Wilderness Information
(435) 772-0170

E-mail
zion_park_information@nps.gov

Traffic and Parking Updates
1610 AM Radio