Hit every Utah national park, plus Nevada's Great Basin National Park, on this 1,453 mile trip that starts in Salt Lake City.
Incredible outdoor adventures, six national parks and ancient ruins combine to make this a trip of a lifetime.

Start in Salt Lake City where you may be surprised by the craft brewing scene and how easy it is to get around this city hemmed in by the Wasatch mountains and the Great Salt Lake. Head south to Moab, home to Arches and Canyonlands national parks. From there, stop in Monument Valley, one of the West’s most iconic landscapes. Continue to the Hopi reservation for a tour of Old Oraibi, one of the oldest continuously inhabited settlements in North America.

Then point your wheels toward Grand Canyon National Park to explore the less-visited North Rim or more popular South Rim (see pages 5-17). Afterwards, head north to the historic town of Kanab, Utah, home to hundreds of film shoots and great restaurants. Zion National Park’s East Entrance is a short 20-minute drive away. Then make your way north to Cedar City to visit the uncrowded Cedar Breaks National Monument. Explore Panguitch and Bryce Canyon National Park before heading to Escalante, Utah, for a deep dive into spectacular slot canyons. What follows are some of the best things to see.

PHOTOS ON OPPOSITE PAGE FROM TOP: Grotto Trail view in Zion National Park (Jonathan Alleman, Tamron Photo Contest), hiking Park Avenue in Arches National Park (David Ebaugh, Tamron Photo Contest)
I f you stroll into La Barba, you can pick out green coffee beans and wait for them to be roasted on the spot. While this level of coffee curation sounds indicative of a trendy coffee bar in San Francisco, it's just another cup of Joe being made in Salt Lake City.

And it's one of many venues that constitute the city's eclectic cultural ecosystem that offers a ton of surprises, a world-class theater scene and outdoor experiences that are minutes from downtown Salt Lake City.

Head outdoors at Memory Grove Park, which is in the city but feels worlds away with its small creek that flows into Harbor of Beauty, a small pond built in memory of fallen U.S. sailors. Dogs are welcome here, and there's enough green grass and handicap-accessible paths to unwind and listen to the birds. For great views of the city, hike the easy, one-mile round-trip trail to Ensign Peak. It's here Brigham Young and others looked out over the valley and plotted out what would become Salt Lake City.

With incredible outdoor experiences minutes away, Salt Lake's cultural scene rivals its scenery. See Broadway hits like Les Miserables at Hale Centre Theatre, which has a modern, 900-seat stage (think arena-like seating) or catch a concert at the larger Eccles Theater. You'll find live improv and political satire at Off Broadway Theatre.

And then there's the foodie scene with innovative chefs and artisan cocktails. Chef Milo Carrier owns Arlo, which opened in 2020 in the Marmalade District a few minutes walk from downtown. Committed to sustainability, he serves locally grown produce and is a whole animal butcher. Chef Cory Harwell serves re-imagined comfort food with a refined twist at Carson Kitchen downtown. Actor Ty Burrell, who played the awkward father on ABC's Modern Family, owns Bar-X, along with Beer Bar next door where chef Viet Pham cooks up house-made bratwursts and Belgian-style fries. Don't miss the lively scene at Hallpass at the Gateway, Utah's first food hall, and explore the city's brewery scene by downloading the Salt Lake Brewery Pass.

Despite all the innovation, you can still experience the city's traditional religious roots — the state was founded by Mormons. Utah is number one in the nation for volunteering, a core value of the Mormon religion, and the Mormon FamilySearch Center at Temple Square is still the best place in the world to find out more about your family tree, regardless of your religion.

Learn more at VisitSaltLake.com and get your city attraction pass at SaltLakeConnectPass.com.
Let imagination go.

Imagine a landscape full of infinite adventure: unbelievable red rock cliffs, rolling hills of sand, lush winding canyons – a spectacle to behold. In Kanab, Utah, you can let imagination go, because in this little town right outside Utah's national parks, the sights worth imagining are right before your eyes.

VISITSOUTHERNUTAH.COM
PUSH YOUR LIMITS

Check out these four heart-pounding adventures in Arches and Canyonlands national parks near Moab, Utah.

by Mikaela Ruland

1. Backpack the Needles

The Needles is Canyonlands’ most popular backpacking area for good reason. First, its trailheads are easily accessible by most cars. Second, it usually has seasonally accessible water. And third? It’s just plain gorgeous. Trips range from 7.5 to 23 miles. The 23.2-mile Big Needles Loop is a great choice. Backcountry camping permits open four months in advance of each season. Spring permits open Nov. 10, summer permits open Feb. 10, fall permits open May 10 and winter permits open Aug. 10.

Backcountry campsites in The Needles require you to pack out your solid human waste. Outdoor stores like REI sell WAG Bags, which contain chemical crystals that gel your #2, neutralizing it. Throw it away when you get back to civilization.

2. Hike Fiery Furnace

Arches’ Fiery Furnace is a stunning and remote maze of sandstone canyons. The only way to access this part of the park is via a ranger-led hike or with a self-guided exploration permit. Both can be reserved online at recreation.gov. Self-guided permits become available one week in advance at 8 a.m. There’s no marked trail in this area, and GPS signal is often weak among the sandstone towers. You’ll squeeze through tight canyons, balance on precarious ledges and need to keep your wits about you. The park requires you to watch an informational video before starting off.

Don’t step on cryptobiotic soil. Learn to identify this “living” soil, which can take thousands of years to form, before hiking in the desert. One footprint or tire track can destroy it. Since there are no trails in Fiery Furnace, stick to sandy or rocky areas.

3. Raft Cataract Canyon

Utah’s biggest whitewater can be found on the Colorado River in the Cataract Canyon section of Canyonlands National Park. The 14-mile section through the park includes up to Class V rapids. It can be done as a day trip, or as a longer adventure launching north of Moab in Potash or Green River. The takeout is usually Hite Marina on Lake Powell. Permits are required for all trips. Get them on a first-come, first-served basis on recreation.gov. Overnight permits for April 14 – Oct. 15 open on Dec. 14. Permits for Oct. 15 – April 13 open on June 15. Day use permits can be obtained up to 24 hours in advance. If you’re planning an overnight trip, you’ll need a backcountry camping permit from recreation.gov. Rafting companies like OARS offer guided trips through Cataract Canyon, which is an excellent choice if you’re not an experienced river runner.

4. Bike White Rim Road

You could rent a Jeep to explore the stunning White Rim Road in Canyonlands, but we argue it’s much more satisfying to traverse it under your own power. This 100-mile loop is usually done as a three-to-five-day intermediate bike ride with a four-wheel-drive support vehicle carrying water. You’ll circle Island in the Sky, riding along the edge of cliffs, past deep canyons with the Colorado River ribboning along their bottoms and breathtaking viewpoints. The average grade of this backcountry road is only 2%, but it does max out at 37%. There are 10 camping areas with 20 total sites along the road, ranging from the seven-mile mark to the 77-mile mark. Toilets are located at each area. Permits are required for all day and overnight rides and drives. Backcountry camping permits open four months in advance of each season.
Salt Lake is known for its progressive art, entertainment and dining scene. But the city also offers breathtaking outdoor escapes, like parks, trails and gardens. In this diverse and dynamic metropolis, nature lovers can broaden their horizons. And their minds. visitsaltlake.com
TAKE A HOPI TOUR

by Tori Peglar

People have been living in Old Oraibi [pronounced “Oray”] for nearly 1,000 years, and if you go on an Experience Hopi day tour, you’ll visit this ancient village as well as other significant Hopi sites.

Just a little more than an hour from Grand Canyon’s South Rim, the Hopi reservation offers travelers a rare glimpse into Native American life today. Start your morning in the modern hotel lobby of Moenkopi Legacy Inn & Suites in Tuba City, Ariz., with a short overview by your Hopi guide before you climb into an air-conditioned tour van with individual seats.

From there, you’ll head to Coalmine Canyon to learn about Hopi pottery, discover the role agriculture has played in Hopi life and spend 15 minutes walking across Old Oraibi. Its residents have no electricity nor running water.

Beyond you’ll visit Prophecy Rock, a singular sacred petroglyph, and Dawa Park filled with rock art from many chapters of Hopi history. Then stop in and support Hopi artists in the hotel gift shop.

“Hopi is an ancient culture and not even all Hopis know all the information,” says James Surveyor, operations manager of the Moenkopi Developers Corporation. “So what we share on tours are like raindrops in a big pool of Hopi culture.”

Learn more at ExperienceHopi.com.
Offering fantastic views with less congestion than the more popular South Rim, the North Rim of Grand Canyon National Park offers travelers a chance to see the canyon without the crowds. It’s a five-hour drive from the South Rim.

There are places like Point Imperial where you can watch the distant rising sun gradually spread a blanket of warm red and gold light across the giant walls of rock and the singular spire of Mount Hayden. You might even hear the evocative song of a canyon wren rising and falling in crescendo, just eight or 10 clear notes. It is, perhaps, the most memorable bird song of the West.

The North Rim of the Grand Canyon is an experience wholly separate from the South Rim. A more remote, rugged and individual opportunity to see what John Wesley Powell described as, “ledges and cliffs where the soaring eagle is lost to view before it reaches a summit.”
Kanab is one of those magical places where locals practice random acts of kindness on a daily basis. A Canadian tourist only had a credit card to buy her ticket at the cash-only movie theater, so a local standing behind her paid for her. Two travelers got their car stuck on the road to Peek-a-Boo slot canyon and a passing local lent a hand to get them driving again.

“These types of things happen all of the time,” says Camile Johnson, executive director of the Kane County Office of Tourism. “We’re just authentic and down-to-earth here.”

Which just adds to Kanab’s allure as a little-known, world-class destination for some of the most gorgeous scenic drives, best access to outdoor adventures and fantastic food in the Southwest.

Start off at Kanab Creek Bakery that serves delicious European-style dishes by chef Cheryl McAllister. Then set off for Moqui Cave just five miles out of town that has ancient Native American artifacts, cool bright-colored mineral displays and more than 180 dinosaur tracks. Next to it, you can hike for free up to a large natural cave that peer over the road. Continue on to Coral Pink Sand Dunes State Park minutes from town but worlds away. The sand dunes are great for sledding, so rent a sandboard at the state park office when you drive in.

Then head to Zion National Park’s less-visited East Entrance to explore the park. Or drive the 190-mile Marble Canyon Loop that hits everything from Vermillion Cliffs Overlook to Lees Ferry and Marble Canyon. This scenic loop takes three hours if you don’t stop, so you can be back in Kanab in time to have an amazing dinner.

The next day, wake up early and head to the North Rim of Grand Canyon National Park, which receives only 10% of the visitation of the more popular South Rim. It’s open mid-spring through late fall. For dinner in Kanab, head to Sego Restaurant to taste Chef Shon Foster’s creations. He’s a former executive chef at the upscale Amangiri resort.

Try your luck and join the enthusiastic crowd standing in line at the Kanab Center Gymnasium beginning at 8:30 a.m. for a chance to get a walk-up permit for the following day for The Wave, the iconic sandstone formation in the Paria Canyon-Vermillion Cliffs Wilderness. Afterwards, hike the five-mile Mansard Trail minutes from town or book a tour at Kanab’s Best Friends Animal Sanctuary Visitor Center to meet adoptable pets. For 30 years, it has been the nation’s largest no-kill sanctuary.

If you have your pet with you, stay at the trendy Best Friends Roadhouse and Mercantile Hotel in Kanab. It’s the most pet-centric hotel you may ever experience with modern built-in cubbies for pet sleeping, dog-washing stations and a gorgeous, light-filled gift shop where complimentary breakfast and coffee are served.

Learn more at Kane County, Utah - Visitor Information Center in downtown Kanab or go to VisitSouthernUtah.com. Download the Kanab Trails app for off-the-beaten path tips.
ADRENALINE-FUELED ZION

Looking to physically challenge yourself and find world-class adventure in Utah’s most popular park? Here are three of our favorite ways to spend an active day in Zion.

by Mikaela Ruland

HIKE THE NARROWS

One of Zion’s most iconic features, The Narrows is a stunning slot canyon formed by the Virgin River. This hike will bring you under towering cliffs, past breathtaking waterfalls and have you wading, and even swimming at times, in icy waters.

If you’re looking for a big adventure, apply for a permit to day hike or backpack the entire 16-mile downstream stretch. Permits become available on the fifth day of the month before your desired hike date at 10 a.m. MT on nps.gov/zion. They’re very competitive, so be sure to apply as soon as they open. Half the permits are also available on a first-come, first-served basis one day in advance at the Zion Canyon Visitor Center Wilderness Desk, which opens at 7 a.m.

For a mellower day in the park that does not require permits, start at the Temple of Sinawava and hike five miles upstream to Big Springs—as far as you can get without a permit. While not quite as remote-feeling as the upper canyon, you’ll still see jaw-dropping sights like Mystery Canyon Falls at 1.5 miles and Wall Street at 3.5 miles where the canyon narrows to just 22 feet and the walls tower overhead at 1,500 feet.

Water levels fluctuate greatly and flash floods are a possibility, even if you start out the morning with clear blue skies. Always check weather conditions at the Zion Canyon Visitor Center or online at the National Weather Service before hiking. You’ll need proper gear like waterproof shoes, pants and a dry bag for spending the entire day navigating slippery rocks and cold waters, even in the height of summer. Zion Outfitters in Springdale rents all the gear you’ll need to safely conquer The Narrows.

Continues on next page

PHOTO: Hiking The Narrows in Zion National Park (Depositphotos)
EXPLORE THE SUBWAY

To get a true canyoneering experience in Zion, The Subway is an excellent choice for expert hikers. This formation gets its name from its tube-like walls and is either a 9 or 9.5 mile round-trip day hike. It requires permits year-round. This hike can be done two different directions, both of which require extensive route-finding. The Bottom-Up route is a strenuous day hike, and the Top-Down route is a true canyoneering experience, including rappelling and swimming through deep, debris-filled pools.

If you’re planning on going April through October, an advanced permit lottery is available via nps.gov/zion. Submit your $5 non-refundable application fee two months prior to your desired hike date and cross your fingers that your name gets drawn. Permits are awarded on the fifth day of the month after application. For example, if you wish to hike The Subway in July, submit an application in May and you’ll be notified on June 5 if you’ve won the lottery. Reservations for off-season become available the fifth day of the previous month.

TAKE A SCENIC BIKE RIDE

Zion Canyon Scenic Drive is closed to passenger vehicles, so the only way to see this stunning canyon is by shuttle bus or by bicycle. From the Pa’rus Trail beginning at the Zion Canyon Visitor Center, you can bike 7.5 miles, merging with the scenic drive up the canyon. The trail gains 450 feet, so it’s a beautiful, mellow ride well-suited for fit families at 15 miles round-trip. If you’re looking for a shorter ride, hop on the shuttle which is equipped with bike racks for regular bikes, but not e-bikes, at any of the stops along the way to get a lift back to the visitor center. You can access a lot of hikes from this route, including the Emerald Pool trails and Angel’s Landing.

Cruiser bikes and e-bikes can be rented at Zion Outfitter in Springdale, minutes from the beginning of the Pa’rus Trail. Always yield to shuttle buses on the road.
WILDFLOWER GEM

In the heart of southwest Utah, you’ll find an uncrowded national monument topped with aspen trees, wildflowers and pine trees. Here are four reasons to stop in the Cedar City, Utah, area.

by Tori Peglar

CEedar Breaks National Monument

Not only is this national park site considerably less crowded than its nearby sister national parks, it’s also filled with an incredible array of vibrant wildflowers. Get an intimate view of this special place by attending complimentary ranger talks that run from late May through Labor Day. Watch a stunning sunset from Point Supreme Overlook and then stay at the overlook for an evening ranger talk. Or better yet, join a ranger-led Star Party in this International Dark Sky park during the summer and fall season.

Brian Head Resort

Take a chairlift to 11,000 feet at Brian Head Resort to get a bird’s eye view of Utah’s stunning scenery. Just five minutes from Cedar Breaks National Monument, Brian Head Resort offers zip lining, disc golf and mountain biking, plus a chance to explore Utah’s mountainous terrain. “It’s that higher elevation experience,” says Maria Twitchell, executive director of Visit Cedar City Brian Head. “A lot of people travel to the national parks and see a lot of desert and it gets hot. Having a place to cool down is really great both in Cedar Breaks National Monument and Brian Head.” The higher you go up a mountain, the cooler it gets, so bring layers for the top of the chairlift. Check brianhead.com for weekend hours of operation.

Kanarra Falls and More

This is one of those gorgeous slot canyons that has Instagrammers racing to get to southern Utah. In fact, it’s become so popular that as of 2018, you need a permit to enter Kanarra Falls. Only 150 permits are issued to individuals per day via an online registration system, which opens Jan. 1. Just 13 miles south of Cedar City, you’ll discover gorgeous waterfalls formed by Kanarra Creek as you hike through water in the canyon. Afterwards, head to Cedar City and order a cocktail or glass of wine at IG Winery (the “IG” stands for “Instant Gratification”). Stay at The Cottages at Shakespeare Lane, equipped with kitchens, built in 2019. Located next to the Utah Shakespeare Festival, you’re a short walk away from restaurants and great theater.

Utah Shakespeare Festival

Cedar City, Utah is home to the Tony-Award-winning Utah Shakespeare Festival, which features professional actors from across the country who perform a variety of Shakespeare’s plays all summer. Founded in 1961 to provide entertainment for the thousands of tourists visiting nearby national parks, the festival offers a number of plays in three theaters in Beverley Taylor Sorenson Center for the Arts at Southern Utah University. Not sure you want to commit to an entire play? Stop by the Greenshow, an hour-long, free outdoor performance in the Ashton Family Greenshow Commons. It’s a light-hearted show full of dance and song.

Learn more about Cedar City and Brian Head at VisitCedarCity.com.

MyGrandCanyonPark.com • 63
Closest Lodging to Bryce

Reuben Syrett was a cowboy. When he bought a ranch near what is now Bryce Canyon National Park, he had no plans of becoming a conservationist and hotelier, but when he first set eyes on the inspiring orange and pink hoodoos of Bryce Canyon, he was moved.

In 1916, Syrett, who went by the nickname “Ruby,” opened what is now Ruby’s Inn in Bryce Canyon City, Utah. He invited friends and family to experience the area’s beauty. Syrett wrote to Congress, petitioning the government to protect Bryce Canyon from development. His efforts, in part, influenced the government to turn Bryce Canyon into a national park.

What started as a 20-room lodge is now three hotels, multiple restaurants, a general store and more than 300 campsites less than a mile from the park entrance. The complex is still owned and managed by the Syrett family four generations later.

Experience the hotel’s cowboy roots today by taking a horseback tour along the canyon rim or attending the Ebenezer’s Barn and Grill Country Music Dinner show held nightly April 20 - Oct. 20.

Find Ruby’s Inn at 26 S. Main; RubysInn.com/GCJ.

Compared to Utah’s other national parks, Bryce Canyon feels like a totally different world. For one, it’s mesmerizing hoodoos ranging from white to pink to red feel like you might just be on Mars. For another, the canyon’s rim sits at between 8,000 and 9,000 feet in elevation, making it cooler and allowing pine and spruce forests to flourish. And lastly? It sees a fraction of the crowds.

Hike the intermediate, 8-mile Fairyland Loop Trail that sees fewer visitors and is just as gorgeous as the more popular hikes in the park.

“I like that not all the hoodoos are dark red on Fairyland,” says Garfield County’s executive director Falyn Owens. “The colors range from light pink to darker red. It’s really beautiful.”

Another spot at Bryce Canyon that most visitors miss? Natural Bridge. This easily accessed viewpoint brings visitors to a stunning view of one of the park’s few arches. It’s worth the drive.

If you want an activity that the whole family can enjoy, rent electric bikes from Bryce Canyon EZ Riders just outside the park. You can ride the five mile path to Inspiration Point inside the park, or head the opposite direction to explore Red Canyon. From point to point, the path is 18 miles and incredibly scenic.

Base your trip to Bryce Canyon National Park in the charming towns along Hwy. 12 like Panguitch, Escalante and Boulder. You’ll find great dining like the James Beard-nominated Hell’s Backbone Grill in Boulder and easy access to the slot canyons and rock formations in Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument. The monument can be quite remote, so tour with a guide like Utah Canyon Outdoors or Excursions of Escalante to adventure safely and get the most out of your trip.

Before you set out to explore Bryce Canyon or Grand Staircase, you’ll want to fuel up at Wanderlust Cowgirl Coffee in Panguitch. It serves the best hot chai Owens has ever had and its sweet and savory kolaches can’t be missed.

Learn more at BryceCanyonCountry.com/GCJ.

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Learn more at BryceCanyonCountry.com/GCJ.
Capitol Reef National Park greets visitors with stunning monoliths rising from the desert floor, sheer cliffs and colorful sandstone. And best yet? Fewer crowds than many of Utah’s other national parks. Get a jumpstart on your day exploring the park at Dark Sky Coffee in Torrey, Utah, which has a drive-thru so you can hit the road faster.

While there’s so much to see and do in Capitol Reef, locals suggest planning an entire day to drive the Cathedral Valley Loop. This remote part of the park promises solitude and will wow you with its stunning formations. High-clearance vehicles are required. Not traveling in an adventure rig? Rent a Jeep from a local outfitter.

More accessible is Fruita, the preserved settlement from the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Located just east of the visitor center, you’ll find a homestead, which now sells gifts and pies, a one-room schoolhouse and apple, peach, pear and cherry orchards where you can harvest ripe fruit on trees with “U-Pick Fruit” signs and self-pay for your bounty.

Capitol Reef is just the beginning of what this scenic part of Utah has to offer.

“Our landscape is so diverse here,” says Capitol Reef Country director Nycole Durfey. “We have greys and purples that look like Mars, the reds of Capitol Reef and beautiful green forests.”

You’ll find yourself wondering if you’ve been transported to another planet when you visit Goblin Valley State Park outside of Green River. The soft sandstone in this park has eroded into bizarre formations that some say resemble goblins.

For more breathtaking views, drive Scenic Byway 12, rated one of the top 10 most scenic drives by National Geographic, from Capitol Reef to Bryce Canyon National Park.

“It should really be its own national park,” says Durfey. “You can see forever.”

At the end of the day, treat yourself to dinner at The Hunt & Gather in Torrey, serving dishes so beautifully plated, they’ll compete with the national parks for your favorite views of the trip. Or, for a more casual meal, head to Slackers Burger Joint, a 1950s-style restaurant serving up mouthwatering burgers and ice cream.

Head to CapitolReef.org to learn more about the area and nps.gov/care to learn more about the park.
JUST over the Utah border, visit Nevada’s Great Basin National Park, where you can explore the inside of the Earth and the top of a 13,000-foot peak on the same day.

Start by seeing some of the oldest trees in the world on the 2.8-mile roundtrip Bristlecone Pine Trail. One of these hardy trees, nicknamed the Prometheus Tree, was cut down by geographer Donald Currey in 1964. It had 4,862 tree growth rings, indicating the tree was nearly 5,000 years old. You can count its rings today in the visitor center. If you walk further down the trail, you can spot the only glacier in Nevada at the base of Wheeler Peak, a 13,063-foot mountain.

Go underground on a guided ranger tour of Lehman Caves. Choose between the Lodge Room tour, which covers .4 miles, is 60 minutes long and is ideal for young children and families. Or sign up for the Grand Palace Tour that covers .6 miles, lasts 90 minutes and is for ages 5 and over (except November through February). Buy your tickets in advance at recreation.gov to guarantee your spot.

Then head to the Nevada Northern Railway Museum in Ely, a National Historic Landmark where you can ride on trains pulled by century-old engines. Check nnry.com for the schedule of themed trains.

To learn about a darker part of our country’s past, visit the Topaz Museum in Delta, Utah, educating visitors about the internment camp where more than 8,000 Japanese Americans were imprisoned during World War II. You’ll discover the stories of those who lived at the camp before driving to the camp site, which is approximately five miles away.

At the end of a day, check in to the Stargazer Inn in Baker and dine in the town’s newest restaurant, Sugar, Salt & Malt. Owned and operated by local chefs who are also twin sisters, you’ll find inventive, seasonal dishes for dinner and an espresso bar and delicious pastries for breakfast.

Learn more at GreatBasinHeritage.org.
Explore 3 Adventure Zones
The Highlands ~ Capitol Reef ~ East Desert

Our Secret Is Now Yours!
ATV Riding, Canyoneering, Fishing, Hiking, Horseback Riding, Jeep Tours, Mountain Biking, Photography, Rock Climbing, Scenic Drives, Wildlife Viewing and so much more!

WAYNE COUNTY OFFICE OF TOURISM ~ CAPITOLREEF.ORG

WIDE OPEN SPACES

With two National Parks, three State Parks, and one of the largest National Monuments, there’s plenty of open space to explore in Bryce Canyon Country.

BRYCECANYONCOUNTRY.COM/GCJ
Straddling the Nevada-Utah border, GREAT BASIN NATIONAL HERITAGE AREA offers unique opportunities for recreation and reflection, with wide-open spaces perfectly suited to “socially-distanced” adventures. Soak in star-filled night skies; stroll through groves of Earth’s oldest trees; hunt for fossils; and explore miles of crowd-free hiking trails and 4WD roads. Leave behind the constant buzz of modern life to discover a landscape much like it was a century ago.

GREATBASINHERITAGE . ORG
You’ll find out why Grand Canyon is so much more than just a large hole in the ground when you watch the IMAX movie "Grand Canyon: The Hidden Secrets" at the Grand Canyon Visitor Center in Tusayan, Ariz. Pronounced “Toos-ayon,” the town is located minutes from the South Rim’s South Entrance.

The 34-minute film projected on a six-story high screen is a fantastic start to your Grand Canyon adventure as it carries you on a journey spanning 4,000 years of Grand Canyon history. It begins with the native people who lived there and includes a re-creation of John Wesley Powell’s 1869 daring boat expedition through the Grand Canyon.

But the visitor center is also a place to learn more about area attractions, get a bite to eat and pick up a unique souvenir or map. You can also purchase your park pass at the Grand Canyon Visitor Center, which will help you avoid waiting in longer lines at the park entrance.

Tip: Buy your IMAX tickets online to save up to 20% at ExploreTheCanyon.com.
As you explore Grand Canyon National Park or take nearby scenic road trips to places like Sedona, Ariz., chances are you're missing so many incredible stories and facts just below the surface. What you need is a guide in your passenger seat. The Gypsy Guide App solves that problem.

The narrated driving tour app uses your phone's location to automatically play fun and informative commentary about behind-the-scenes stories, historical events and notable geologic formations as you drive. In doing so, it tells you about upcoming sights, so you have time to decide if you want to stop. Because the app uses GPS signal, not cell towers, no service or WiFi is required while touring.

On the Grand Canyon's South Rim you'll learn about famed architect Mary Colter who designed a number of iconic buildings along the rim, excelling in a traditionally male-dominated world.

"It'd be such a shame if you didn't know her story as you passed the Bright Angel Lodge," Rick Bulich of GyPSy Guide muses.

In Sedona, the app will make sure you don't miss stops like the best rock formations and magical vortexes believed to be mysterious earth-energy centers.

Download driving tours for Grand Canyon, Sedona and more at GyPSyGuide.com.