

1. The Grand Canyon is one of the “Seven Natural Wonders of the World.”
2. The Grand Canyon became a National Park in 1919.
3. The Grand Canyon is 277 miles in length, and approximately 6,000 feet deep. The deepest point of the canyon is just over a mile deep.
4. The Canyon Rims vary from 10 to 18 miles apart.
5. The highest point on the South Rim is Navajo Point at 7,498 feet and the highest point on the North Rim is Point Imperial at 8,803 feet.
6. Phantom Ranch sits on the bottom of the Canyon floor at 2,400 feet.
7. The volume of the Grand Canyon is estimated to be 45 trillion cubic yards.
8. The Canyon was created by a number of geological events. Mainly uplifting of land, and cutting by the Colorado River.
9. The Grand Canyon is about 5 to 6 million years old. Rock exposed by the Colorado River, at the bottom of the canyon, is 1.75 billion years old.

10. The Colorado River is 1450 miles long and starts in the upper Rocky Mountains and runs southwest towards the Gulf of California through Mexico.
11. The average width of the Colorado River in the canyon is 300 feet (91 m) wide. The narrowest width is 76 feet (23m).
12. The Colorado River averages about 40 feet (12 m) deep. The deepest spot is about 80 feet (24 m).
13. The Colorado River temperature averages about 50 degrees F (10 C).

14. In winter, the rim of the canyon will often receive snow. However, the bottom of the canyon never receives snow – too warm.
15. In summer, the temperature can be a pleasant 80 degrees (27 C) at the rim, and at the bottom of the canyon, along the river, it can be 110 degrees (44 C).

16. The first people living in the canyon were the Paleo-Indian (Ancient Native American People) 12,000 years ago.
17. The Grand Canyon National Park has recorded more than 4,800 archeological sites.
18. There are 5 Native American tribes that occupy Grand Canyon land: Navajo, Hopi, Hualapai, Havasupai, and Paiute.
19. Aside from the Park Service’s Phantom Ranch, the only people who live in the Canyon are Havasupai, who live in a small village named Supai.
20. The Navajo Nation, here in Northern Arizona, is the largest Native American tribe in the US.

21. Spanish Conquistadors were the first Europeans to visit the Grand Canyon, 473 years ago.
22. One-armed war veteran John Wesley Powell, navigated the Colorado River in 1891 and 1892 in a wooden boat, was the first to consistently use the name “Grand Canyon.”

23. Tourists started visiting the Grand Canyon in the 1880’s. Most arrived by stagecoach from Flagstaff (12 hours to travel the rough 83 miles).
24. It wasn’t until 1901 that the Santa Fe Railway reached the South Rim, and it became easier for tourists to travel to the Grand Canyon.
25. The first automobile to reach the Grand Canyon’s South Rim was in 1902. It took 5 days from Flagstaff.
26. 1956 was the first year that visitation at the Grand Canyon exceed one million people. By the 1990’s visitation reached five million.
27. Recent statistics show visitors roll into the park in 1.5 million cars and 30,000 tour buses.
28. Back in the 1920s, the average visitor would stay at the Grand Canyon for two to three weeks. Today, the average person spends about three to four hours at the Grand Canyon.

29. To drive from the south rim to the north rim, takes about 4 hours.
30. To hike rim-to-rim is 24 miles (39 km).
31. Rob Krar of Flagstaff completed the fastest rim-to-rim run in 2 hours 51 minutes.
32. If deciding to hike down into the Canyon, plan on taking twice as long to hike back up.
33. Mules are used on the narrow trails in the Canyon, because they have a better view of their feet than horses, and thus can better see where they are placing them on the edge of the cliffs. Mules also give a smoother ride.
34. There are no roads that go to the bottom of the Canyon within the National Park.

35. The five life zones represented in the Canyon, are the Lower Sonoran, Upper Sonoran, Transition, Canadian, and Hudsonian.
36. The Ponderosa Pine trees make up the majority of the Canyon rim forests. These trees are part of the largest Ponderosa forest in North America. They can get as old as 500 years.

37. Elk are one of the largest species of the Deer family in the world, and one of the largest land mammals in North America. The Native Americans call them Wapiti.
38. The California Condors were reintroduced to the Grand Canyon in 1996.
39. The California Condor wings can span up to 9½ feet.

48. The Arizona National Scenic Trail runs from Mexico to Utah, and traverses the entire north-south length of the state of Arizona.
49. The Arizona Trail is 800+ miles long, with 22 miles of it crossing the Grand Canyon along the Kaibab trail. The trail passes directly behind the National Geographic Visitor Center.

40. Arizona became the 48th state in 1912
41. In land area, Arizona is the 6th largest state.
42. Turquoise is the official state gemstone.
43. The Cactus Wren is the official state bird.
44. The saguaro cactus blossom is the official state flower.
45. Arizona's most abundant mineral is copper.
46. Arizona observes Mountain Standard Time on a year round basis. The one exception is the Navajo Nation located in the northeast corner of the state, which observes the daylight savings time change.
47. Humphreys Peak, located near Flagstaff, is the highest point in Arizona, with an elevation of 12,637 feet.

50. There is no fiber optic internet access in Tusayan or Grand Canyon, and due to the remote area, WiFi Internet access is spotty and slow.

Located on Hwy. 64, one mile south of the entrance to Grand Canyon National Park South Rim.
www.ExploreTheCanyon.com • 928-638-2468



Official
National Park
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