Grand Canyon

National Park Service U.S. Department of the Interior Grand Canyon National Park Arizona



2006

Accessibility Guide

Welcome to Grand Canyon National Park



Grand Canyon has much to offer all visitors—limitless views, a fascinating geologic story, some of the cleanest air in the United States, abundant wildlife in undisturbed forests, and spectacular sunsets. The park also features rugged terrain and historic buildings that may offer challenges to visitors with disabilities.

This publication provides information on what to expect when you are using the facilities in the park. It supplements other park publications: *The Guide*, *Trip Planner*, and park brochures. The National Park Service and park concessioners are working to improve access for all visitors.

Experiencing Grand Canyon



Grand Canyon offers the most impressive display of the processes of geology and natural beauty in the world! Throughout the canyon, erosion has sculpted crenulated peaks and flat-topped mesas. The canyon walls exhibit alternating layers of sheer cliffs and precipitous slopes. Everywhere shades of orange, red, brown, purple, and gray change as the light varies during the day.

Our minds have a difficult time grasping the magnitude of the canyon—a mile (1.6 km) deep,

8–16 miles (13–26 km) wide, and hundreds of miles long. A hiker might take three days to walk the 22 miles

(35 km) of rugged trail from rim to rim. A rafter could take more than two weeks to float the rapids and flat water of the 277 river miles (446 km) from Lees Ferry to the Grand Wash Cliffs.

People experience the canyon in many ways. The view from one of the points or a roadside pull-off will never be forgotten. Take the time to stop at one of the visitor centers and talk with a ranger. Participate in a ranger talk or campfire program. Follow a paved trail along the rim or around an ancient village. A few moments of guiet solitude on the edge of the canyon may reveal the songs of birds, the whistling of the wind, or the challenging bugle of an elk on a crisp autumn day. At Pima Point the muffled roar of the Colorado River a mile below may be heard cutting the canyon deeper and deeper. A hot, sunny summer day can quickly yield to the thundering crash of a cooling thunderstorm, accompanied by the smell of the dampened forest. Like the ancient ones, breathe deeply and sense the reasons why this place is special to you.

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Park Information

National Park Service P.O. Box 129 Grand Canyon AZ 86023 928-638-7888 www.nps.gov/grca



Emergency • 911

24 hours-a-day dial 911 from any phone, 9-911 from hotel phones.

For the latest information updates, visit Grand Canyon National Park's website at: www.nps.gov/grca

The National Park Service cares for special places saved by the American people so that all may experience our heritage.

General Information

Accessibility Permits

Grand Canyon's Accessibility Pass

For much of the year some roads on the South Rim are closed to visitor traffic to reduce congestion. This pass, which is placed on the dashboard of your vehicle, allows access to most of these restricted areas. There is no charge for the Accessibility Pass. It can be obtained at entrance stations, the visitor center at Canyon View Information Plaza, travel desks, Tusayan Museum, and Kolb Studio—all on the South Rim.

Golden Access Passport

This free passport allows entry to federal recreation areas throughout the United States. It also provides a 50% discount on federal recreation user fees such as campground fees. It is available to U.S. citizens who are legally blind or permanently disabled. The passport admits the pass owner and accompanying passengers in a private vehicle. In areas that charge a per person fee, the passport admits the owner, spouse, and children. Obtain a Golden Access passport at park entrance stations and visitor centers.

Medical Services

For emergency assistance dial 911 or 9-911 from hotel room phones.

South Rim

Medical care is available on a walk-in basis from North Country Grand Canyon Clinic in the Grand Canyon Village area. Hours vary seasonally and are listed in the park newspaper, *The Guide*. The clinic can be reached at (928) 638-2551.

A dentist is available a few days a week in the same facility. Check *The Guide* for times or call (928) 638-2395.

Flagstaff Medical Center, a large regional hospital, is approximately 1 hour from the South Rim. Both

Service Animals and Pets

Fully trained service animals are permitted in all park facilities, on South Rim shuttle buses, and along rim trials. Persons wishing to take their service animal on trails below the rim must check in first at the Backcountry Information Center on the South Rim or the Backcountry Office on the North Rim. ground and air ambulance service are available if needed to transport patients from the South Rim to Flagstaff, Arizona.

North Rim

The North Rim is more isolated with fewer medical care options. Park rangers are certified in first aid, most as Emergency Medical Technicians, and are available to respond as necessary. A small hospital is located in Page, Arizona, for more advanced care. Air transport to Flagstaff Medical Center can be arranged if the situation warrants.

Pets must be physically restrained at all times. Leashed pets are allowed on rim trails throughout the developed areas in the park, but not below the rim. Pets are not allowed on South Rim shuttle buses. Kennels are located near Maswik Lodge in Grand Canyon Village, but are not available on the North Rim.

Accessibility Ratings

The following pages list almost 50 lodging facilities, restaurants, gift shops, visitor centers, campgrounds, and trails on the North and South rims. Each is evaluated on the usability of doors and entry paths, parking, and the availability of restrooms, telephones, and water. The following terms are used in these charts:

Good – These facilities meet all or nearly all accessibility standards.

OK – These are useable, but do not meet all standards.

Maybe - Most likely it will require assistance to use these facilities.

- **X** Significant barriers are encountered.
- None This item is not available at this location.

Accessible Restrooms

Restrooms in these locations offer some accommodations. The ease of use will vary, and some may require assistance. Details are found on the following pages.

North Rim

North Rim Administration North Rim Campground North Rim Visitor Center Point Imperial vault toilet Cape Royal vault toilet

South Rim

Bright Angel Lodge Backcountry Information Center Canyon View Information Plaza Canyon Village Marketplace Desert View Campground Desert View Point El Tovar Hotel Hermits Rest vault toilet Hopi Point vault toilet Maswik Lodge Mather Campground Park Headquarters Tusayan Museum Yavapai Observation Station

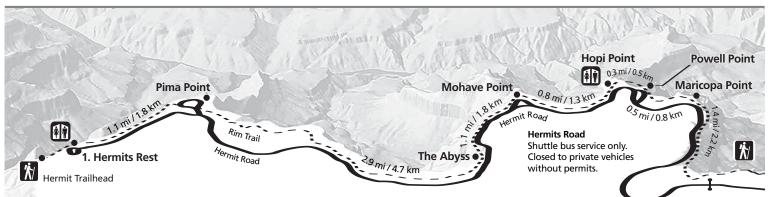
Free Wheelchair Loans

Wheelchairs can be checked out at the following locations:

- North Rim Visitor Center
- Visitor Center at Canyon View
 Information Plaza
- Yavapai Observation Station
- Desert View Bookstore/ Park Information

The wheelchairs are for daily use in the area where they are obtained and must be returned at least 30 minutes prior to closing time. Borrowers must present a valid identification card.

South Rim – Hermit Road



Hermit Road – Facilities and Services

Facility	Entrance/Doors	Parking	Restrooms	Pay phones	Water Fountains	Details
Hermit Road 8 miles/13 km	OK Pass is needed Mar. 1–Nov. 30	OK Numerous pullouts with views	OK Vault toilets at Hopi Point and Hermits Rest	OK Located at Hermits Rest	None	 Hermit Road is closed to most private vehicles Mar. 1– Nov. 30. Obtain Accessibility Pass (see page 2, "Accessibility Permits"). Do not block road or shuttle bus stops. Pedestrians and bicyclist share road. Stairs hinder access at some view- points.
1. Hermits Rest Gift Shop. Designed by Mary Colter and built in 1914	Maybe Stairs make access difficult	Good Do not park in shuttle bus stop.	OK Accessible vault toilet near store	ок	None	 Steep cross slope on sidewalk and two steps make entrance difficult. Portable ramp available upon request. Store has multiple levels inside. Snack bar is inaccessible without assistance.
See page 2 for "A	ccessibility Ratings	" descriptions.				

South Rim Transportation

Free Shuttle Buses

An extensive shuttle bus system serves the developed area of the South Rim. Routes and stops are shown in the park newspaper, *The Guide*. Some shuttle buses have low floors and can "kneel" for easier entrance. Accessible shuttles are available in response to requests made the day prior at 928-638-0591.

Fred Harvey Bus Tours

Wheelchair accessible tours are available by prior arrangement. Contact any lodge Transportation Desk or call 928-638-2631 for information.

Mule Rides

Grand Canyon's famous mule rides are provisionally accessible with prior arrangements. Contact the head wrangler at 928-638-2631 concerning specific needs and accommodations.

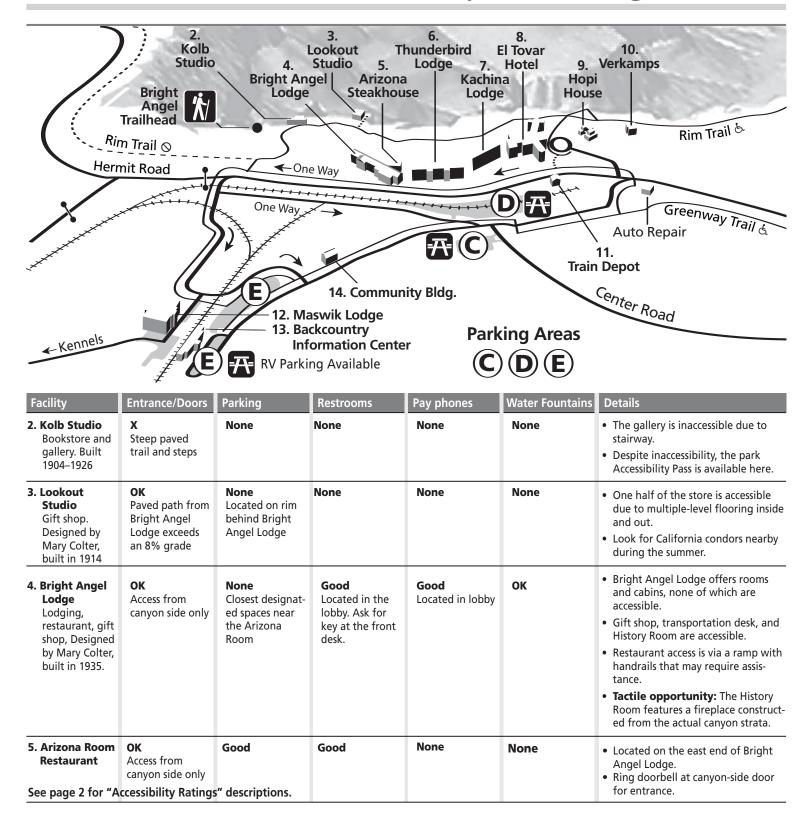
River Trips

Many river concessioners are willing to make accommodations for people of all abilities. Contact individual trip providers for more information. The *Trip Planner*, available at all visitor centers, includes a list of approved rafting and boating companies or visit the park website www.nps.gov/grca.

Scenic Air Flights

Fixed-wing and helicopter tours over the canyon originate at the Grand Canyon National Park Airport. Most companies are enthusiastic about providing accommodations. Check the local phone book for phone numbers or obtain a list of air tour companies at visitor centers.

South Rim – Grand Canyon Village

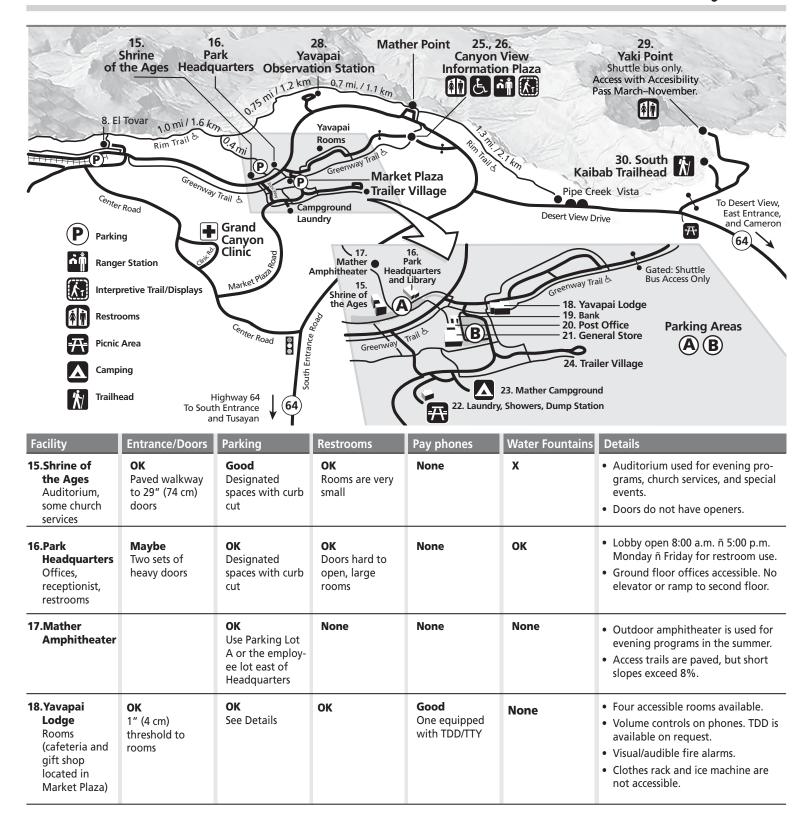


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Facilities and Services

Facility	Entrance/Doors	Parking	Restrooms	Pay phones	Water Fountains	Details
6. Thunderbird Lodge Lodging only	OK 32" (81 cm) dou- ble doors	ок	Good In rooms	OK In rooms	None	 Register at Bright Angel Lodge. Sidewalk has very steep grade from parking to entrance. Roll-in showers. Volume control on phones; TDD available on request. Visible and audible fire alarms.
7. Kachina Lodge Lodging only	OK 32" (81 cm) dou- ble doors	ок	OK In rooms	OK In rooms	None	 Register at El Tovar Lodge. Shower chair is available on request, but there is no bench for transfer to bathtub. Phones have volume controls with TDD available. Visible and audible fire alarms.
8. El Tovar Hotel Lodging,restau- rant, gift shop, and lounge. Designed by Charles Whittlessey— built in 1905	OK 32" (81 cm) dou- ble doors	OK Parking located behind Hopi House	Good Off lobby—ask for key at front desk	OK In rooms	None	 Guest rooms remodeled in 2005. Entry ramp has 9% grade. Restaurant, gift shop, and lounge are off lobby. Accessible rooms have 27" (68 cm) doorways. Volume control on phones, but no visible fire alarm.
9. Hopi House Gift shop. A 1905 Mary Colter building	OK From canyon side only	OK Behind the building	None	None	None	 Multiple entry doors, but most are difficult. Inside floor has several levels. Second floor is not accessible.
10.Verkamps Curios Gift shop Built in 1906	OK 9% ramp	ок	None	None	None	 Long entrance ramp has handrails. Tactile opportunity: An iron meteorite is on display.
11.Train Depot Built in 1910; one of the only log depots left in the U.S.	Maybe	None	Maybe Women's inside depot. Men's outdoors on north side	None	None	 Entry is via a short, steep ramp from an uneven platform. Depot is open only when the train is at the canyon, usually 12:15 p.m.– 3:15 p.m.
12.Maswik Lodge Lodging, cafe- teria, gift shop, lounge	ОК	ок	Good In rooms	ок	Good	 Accessible hotel rooms, but no accessible cabins. Shower bench and TDD available by request.
13.Backcountry Information Center Hiking permits	Good Automatic door opener	ок	Good	None	Good	 Golden Access Passports and park Accessibility Pass available. Large lot with nearby RV spaces
14.Community Building Built in 1935— CCC project	Maybe Short, steep ramp and awk- ward threshold	Maybe Few parking spaces; unpaved entrance paths	OK Unisex bathroom	None	x	 Used for offices and training, public program are occasionally given.

South Rim – Market Plaza and Vicinity



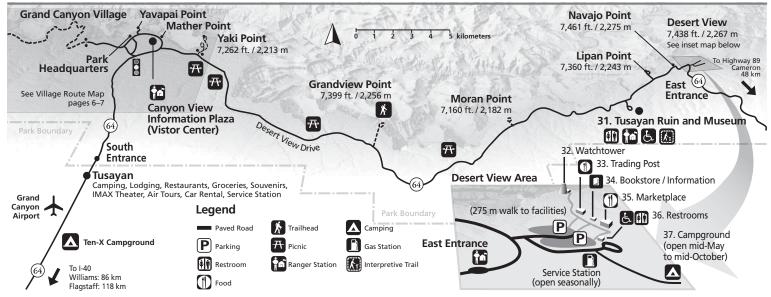
Facilities and Services

Facility	Entrance/Doors	Parking	Restrooms	Pay phones	Water Fountains	Details
19.Chase Bank In Market Plaza	OK 26" (66 cm) double doors	OK Designated spaces in Parking Lot B. Curb cut.	None Closest restrooms on south side of the general store	None Phones near post office	None	 ATM outside near entrance. Accessible counter in lobby.
20.Post Office In Market Plaza	OK 35" (89 cm) double doors	OK Designated spaces in Parking Lot B. Curb cut.	None Closest restrooms on south side of general store	Good Between post office and gener- al store. Left phone has vol- ume control	None	 Stamp machine in lobby. Heavy doors between lobby and service windows. No accessible window. Table in middle of room makes maneuvering a wheelchair difficult.
21.General Store Marketplace Groceries, gifts, camping sup- plies, deli In Market Plaza	OK Use doors on post office side	OK Designated spaces in Parking Lot B. Curb cut.	Good Located on south side of building with exterior entry	Good Between post office and gener- al store. Left phone has vol- ume control.	None	 Aisles in store vary 35" ñ 43" (89 ñ 109 cm). Wheelchair may have diffi- culty navigating.
22. Laundry, Showers, and Dump Station	OK Entry ramp has handrails	Good No parking for large RVs	Good See Details	OK Located on entry porch	None	 Offers roll-in shower. Attendant must unlock separate combination shower and restroom. Floor is slippery when wet.
23.Mather Campground National Park Service; No hookups.						 Reservations made through Spherix (800) 365-2267. Ask for accessible sites when reserving or registering.
24.Trailer Village Xanterra Parks and Resorts. Hookups.	ок	ок	None	OK Located near Park Entrance	None	 No sites specifically for accessibility. Elevated fire grills and hookups are useable with assistance.
25.Visitor Center at Canyon View Information Plaza	Good Automatic door openers	Maybe See Details	Good Two restrooms on either side of the visitor center feature family rooms	OK Offers a bench and volume control	Good	 Vehicles less than 20' (6 m) may park at Mather Point. RVs with Accessibility Pass may park in the tour bus lot near visitor center. Slightly inclined paved trail leading 420' (140 m) from Mather Point to visitor center does not offer level resting areas. Accessible van travels between Mather Point and the Visitor Center during open hours. Free shuttle buses, some of which are accessible, stop near visitor center. Wheelchairs are available for Ioan. Tactile opportunity: Relief map of a portion of the canyon.

Market Plaza and Vicinity (continued)

Facility	Entrance/Doors	Parking	Restrooms	Pay phones	Water Fountains	Details
26.Books and More Store Canyon View Information Plaza	Good Automatic door openers	Maybe See Details for visitors center	Good Restrooms on either side of visitor center— family rooms	OK Located in shel- ter north of store	Good Located by restrooms	• Bookstore is across the plaza from the visitor center and presents the accessibility problems discussed above.
27.North Country Grand Canyon Clinic Medical services	OK Automatic door openers	Good	Good 32" (81 cm) doors, but rooms lack adequate grab bars	None	X Cups available from nurse's station	• Entrance via front door or emer- gency entry as appropriate.
28. Yavapai Observation Station Yavapai Point	OK 175' (53 m) of up to 8% paved trail leads to heavy door	Good Designated spaces and curb cut	?	None	x	 New displays scheduled for installa- tion in 2007
29. Yaki Point	X Steps or uneven ground on trail to point	OK Paved parking near point	?	None	None	 Road open only to vehicles with Accessibility Pass March ñ November. Road open to all vehi- cles December ñ February. Do not block shuttle bus stop.
30. South Kaibab Trailhead	X Path to trailhead steep and unpaved	OK Limited views from paved parking area	? Will path be paved to vault toilet?	X Pay phone at trailhead. Does not meet stan- dards.	None Hose bib short distance up path to trailhead.	 Road open only to vehicles with Accessibility Pass March ñ November. Road open to all vehi- cles December ñ February. Do not block shuttle bus stop.

Tusayan Museum and Desert View – Facilities and Services

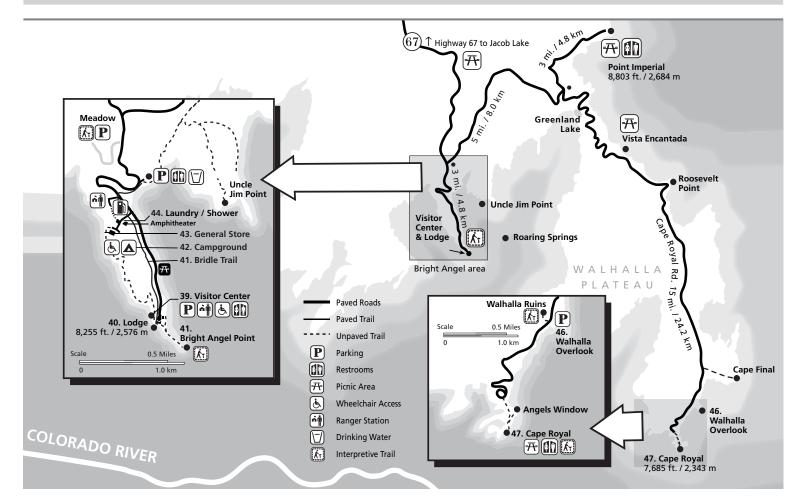


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Tusayan Museum and Desert View

Facility	Entrance/Doors	Parking	Restrooms	Pay phones	Water Fountains	Details
31.Tusayan Museum located 3 miles (5 km) west of Desert View; 23 miles (37 km) east of Grand Canyon Village	OK Short, level paved trail from parking area to museum	Good Paved parking with designated spaces	OK Chemical toilets located near parking have 1 ³ /4" (4.5 cm) threshold	None	None	 Narrowest aisle in museum is 30" (76 cm). Ruins circled by 0.1 mile (0.2 km) paved trail. Visitors using wheel-chairs may find trail easiest to use by traveling the trail in a counter-clockwise direction so only sloped section is downhill. Wheelchair available at Desert View (see item 36). Accessible picnic table is near the parking area.
32.Watchtower Gift Shop	OK Paved trail leads 500 feet (245 m) from parking to gift shop	Good Parking at some distance from gift shop	None Restroom in separate building. See Details: 36	None Phones located near Desert View Market-place	None Water fountains located at restroom. See Details: 36	 Good canyon views at adjacent Desert View Point Canyon also visible from gift shop windows Top of tower reached by three flights of steep, narrow stairs.
33.Desert View Trading Post and Snack Bar	OK Paved trail leads 450 feet (140 m) from parking to store	Good Parking at some distance from store	None See Details: 36	OK Adjacent to store. No volume control. Bench may be available for sitting.	None See Details: 36	
34.Desert View Bookstore/ Park Information	OK Paved trail—450 ft. (140 m) from lot to bookstore	Good Parking is some distance from the store	None See Details: 36	OK Phones between bookstore and Trading Post	None See Details: 36	 Wheelchair may be available on loan for use during a Desert View/ Tusayan Museum visit. Tactile opportunity: Life-sized California condor silhouettes.
35.Desert View Marketplace	OK Paved trail—450 ft. (140 m) from lot to bookstore	OK Parking is some distance from the store	None See Details: 36	OK Phones located near Desert View Marketplace	None See Details: 36	 Nearby picnic area includes an accessible table.
36.Restrooms	OK Paved trail leads 300 feet (90 m) from parking to restroom	Good Parking is some distance from the restroom	Good	None Phones located near Desert View Marketplace	Good	
37.Desert View Campground See page 2 for "A	OK ?" doors on restrooms	 ???? 50 sites " descriptions. 	ОК	ОК	x	 Campground is open mid-May-mid-October, weather permitting. There are no designated accessible sites, but the two sites closest to the restroom have accessible picnic tables. Phones also available at the gas station.

North Rim – Facilities and Services



Facility	Entrance/Doors	Parking	Restrooms	Pay phones	Water Fountains	Details
38.North Rim Visitor Center Rangers, exhibits, restrooms	OK 36" (91 cm) wide ramp with 8% grade	Good Paved parking area with desig- nated sites	OK Entrance in rear of building — 1" (2.5 cm) threshold	Good Located in rear of building	ок	 Wheelchairs available for loan. Tactile opportunity: Touch box with natural history specimens
39.Grand Canyon Lodge Lodging, restaurants, gift shop, lounge, restrooms	ОК	OK Accessible park- ing near entrance; main parking at some distance.	Maybe Located near snack bar	X Phones in booths. No volume control	ок	 Multiple levels with connecting stairs and awkward thresholds make this complex of cabins, restaurants, and a gist shop difficult to navigate. Lifts provide access to main dining room and other areas. Some cabins minimally accessible but do not have roll-in showers or tub benches. TTY phones available Tactile opportunity: Bronze statue of Brighty of the Grand Canyon in
See page 2 for "A	ccessibility Ratings	" descriptions.				Sun Room

North Rim – Facilities and Services

Facility	Entrance/Doors	Parking	Restrooms	Pay phones	Water Fountains	Details
40.Bridle Trail Trail will be completed for the 2007 sea- son. Portions usable in 2006	Not applicable	? Available near the visitor cen- ter, campground, and North Kaibab Trailhead	? Available at the trailhead and in the campground	None	None	 Hard-surfaced trail leads 1.2 miles (2 km) from Lodge to North Kaibab Trailhead paralleling the road Section from lodge to campground entrance road is a minimum of 6 feet (2 m) wide and a maximum 9% grade with level resting areas Section from campground entrance road to North Kaibab Trailhead has slopes too steep to meet standards
41.Bright Angel Point Nature Trail	Maybe Trail starts at log shelter behind the visitor center	OK Paved parking with designated sites near the visitor center	None Along trail, but in nearby visitor center	None Along trail, but in nearby visitor center	None Along trail, but in nearby visitor center	 Paved trail is narrow, rough, and steep in places with a few stairs and dropoffs. Excellent views of canyon.
42. North Rim Campground	Not applicable	OK 2–11' (3.4 m) pull through sites	OK Located near accessible sites. 34" (85 cm) doors. 38" (125 cm) high grab bars.	None Closest phones at General Store (see item 43)	None	 Designated sites have accessible picnic tables Amphitheater reached by long, unevenly paved trail; ground surface of amphitheater is loose gravel or dirt.
43.Camper Store	OK 32" (81 cm) dou- ble doors	ок	OK Separate entrance to left of main entrance	x	ок	
44.Laundry and Showers	OK 34" (86 cm) door	ок	Maybe Stall has 1" (4 cm) threshold	Maybe	None	 Features roll-in showers Paved, level path leads from accessible campground sites to the facility
45.Point Imperial Overlook 11 miles (18 km) east of Grand Canyon Lodge	Not applicable	ок	ок	None	None	Accessible viewing platform
46.Walhalla Ruins Trail	Not applicable	OK Trail starts across the road from parking area	None	None	None	 Short, unpaved trail visits the remains of ancient dwellings Brochure available Canyon views are not accessible
47.Cape Royal Nature Trail 23 miles (37 km) from Grand Canyon Lodge	Not applicable	ок	OK Chemical toilet	None	None	 0.6-mile (1 km) paved trail with lit- tle elevation change

Accessibility Guide

Environmental Conditions

Grand Canyon is carved deeply into a high, dry plateau. The terrain is rugged with steep slopes and sharp cliffs. Visitors using wheelchairs or who have visual impairments may need assistance. Protective walls and railings are intermittent.

South Rim

Rim elevation varies from ,6600 feet (2,060 m) at Hermits Rest to 7,400 feet (2,300 m) at Desert View. The South Rim is open all year. Summer days are pleasant with highs in the 80s and 90s (26–32 ∞ C). Thundershowers are common in July, August, and early September. Winter days experience 30–45 ∞ F (0 8 ∞ C) with nights in the teens (-5– -10 ∞ C). Icy conditions may exist for a day or two after occasional snowstorms.

Lodging Inside the Park

All lodging within Grand Canyon National Park is operated by a single concessioner, Xanterra Parks and Resorts. To make reservations or if you have questions about the accommodations, please contact:

South Rim

Xanterra—South Rim Advanced reservations: 888-297-2757; In-park, same day reservations: 928-638-2631; www.grandcanyonlodges.com

North Rim

Xanterra Parks & Resorts Advanced reservations: 888-297-2757; In-park, same day reservations: 928-638-2611 www.xanterra.com

Outside the Park

Tusayan, AZ, South Rim

North Rim

Kaibab Lodge928-638-2389 Jacob Lake Inn . . .928-643-7232

Nearby Communities

In addition numerous hotels, motels, and resorts can be found in the nearby communities of Williams, Flagstaff, and Page, Arizona and Kanab, Utah.

North Rim

The North Rim is considerably higher; from 8,200 to 8,800 feet (2,550–2,740 m) along the edge of the canyon. This leads to temperatures that are $5 - 10\infty$ (3–5 ∞ C) cooler than the South Rim. The highway into the North Rim opens about mid-May. North Rim facilities stay open until mid-October, although the road does not close until the first significant snowfall, usually in November.

Camping

Inside the Park

The National Park Service operates the Mather Campground near Grand Canyon Village and Desert View Campground, both on the South Rim, and the North Rim Campground. National Park Service campgrounds provide water, restrooms, and dump stations, but do not have hook-ups. Only Mather Campground is available year round.

Xanterra—South Rim offers sites with hookups at Trailer Village near Mather Campground. The reservation information for Xanterra is given in the adjacent column. Accessibility accommodations for these campgrounds are discussed on pages 7, 9, and 11.

Outside the Park

Kaibab National Forest has a campground near Tusayan, Arizona (Ten-X Campground) for the South Rim, and near the park's north boundary (De Motte Campground) and at Jacob Lake for the North Rim. Forest Service campgrounds tend to be less developed than National Park Service campgrounds and are open seasonally. Call 928-638-2443 (Tusayan Ranger District) or 928-643-7396 (North Kaibab Ranger District) for more information.

Commercial campgrounds with hookups are available in Tusayan (Camper Village: 928-638-2887; www.grandcanyonentrance.com) and Jacob Lake (Kaibab Camper Village: 800-525-0924 outside Arizona or 928-526-0924 locally).

The Accessibility Guide is published by Grand Canyon National Park in cooperation with Grand Canyon Association. Printed by Arizona Daily Sun on recycled paper 👁, using soy inks. © 2006 Grand Canyon Association



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