



## Park Profile 2008

**Park Contact Information** **Grand Canyon National Park**  
P.O. Box 129  
Grand Canyon, AZ 86023

**Superintendent:**  
Steve Martin

**Park Information:**  
(928) 638-7888

**Media Contact:**  
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**Web Site:**  
[www.nps.gov/grca](http://www.nps.gov/grca)

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### Authorization

- 1882 First unsuccessful attempt to establish a Grand Canyon National Park
- 1893 Designated a "forest reserve" by President Benjamin Harrison (Presidential Proclamation #45)
- 1908 Established as Grand Canyon National Monument by President Theodore Roosevelt (Presidential Proclamation #794)
- 1919 Designated Grand Canyon National Park by an act of Congress on February 26 (40 Stat 1175).
- 1975 Grand Canyon National Park Enlargement Act, an act of Congress on January 3 (88 Stat 2089) (Public Law 93-620)
- 1979 Designation as a World Heritage Site on October 26

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### Park Statistics

**Park Size:** 1,217,403.32 acres / 487,350 hectares  
1,904 sq. miles / 4,950 kilometers

#### "The Grand Canyon"

Length	277 river miles / 446 km
Width	
Minimum (Marble Canyon)	600 feet / 180 meters
Average Rim to Rim	10 miles / 16 km
Maximum Rim to Rim	18 miles / 28.8 km
Average Depth	1 mile / 1.6 km
Rim Elevations	
South Rim	7,000 feet / 2100 m
North Rim	8,000 feet / 2400 m
Lake Mead Boundary	1,200 feet / 360 m

#### Volume

Cubic Yards	5.45 trillion
Cubic Meters	4.17 trillion

#### "The Colorado River" (within Grand Canyon National Park)

Length	277 miles / 446 km
Average Width:	300 feet / 90 m
Minimum Width	76 feet / 23 m
Average Depth	40 feet / 12 m
Greatest Depth	85 feet / 25.5 m
Average Gradient	7 feet per mile / 1.3 meters per km
Elevation at Phantom Ranch	2,400 feet / 720 m

The Colorado River is 1,450 miles / 2,333 km long from its source in the Rocky Mountains of Colorado to the Gulf of California.

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## Geology

The carving of the Grand Canyon by the Colorado River has taken place over the last six million years, exposing rocks at the bottom of the canyon that are close to two billion years old.

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## Plant and Animal Life

Birds	373 species
Mammals	91 species
Fish	17 species
Reptiles and Amphibians	57 species
Crustaceans	33 species
Mollusks	37 species
Invertebrates	8,480 known species

Plants (vascular)	1750 species
Mosses	64 species
Lichens	195 species
Fungi	167 species
Endemic Species	12 species
Exotic (non-native)	187 species
Vegetation Formations	6 types

(Riparian, desert scrub, pinyon/juniper woodland, ponderosa pine forest, spruce/fir forest, and montane meadows/sub-alpine)

### Extirpated Species

Grizzly bear, black-footed ferret, gray wolf, jaguar, Bear Valley sandwort, Colorado pikeminnow, bonytail chub, razorback sucker, roundtail chub, northern leopard frog

### Endangered / Threatened

**Animals:** California condor, humpback chub, southwestern willow flycatcher, razorback sucker, Mexican spotted owl, Kanab ambersnail, Little Colorado River spinedace, Yuma clapper rail, desert tortoise and bald eagle. There are over 35 species of special concern and former USFWS Category 2 species.

**Plants:** The sentry milk vetch (*Astragalus cremnophylax* var. *cremnophylax*) is the only endangered plant in the park. There are no listed threatened plant species. Seven species of special concern (formerly category 2 species) are known, and an additional 26 vascular plants are of management concern due to their limited distribution.

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## Archaeological Resources

The oldest human artifacts found date to the Paleo-Indian period and are nearly 12,000 years old. There has been continuous use and occupation of the park since that time. Archaeological remains from the following culture groups are found in Grand Canyon National Park: Paleo-Indian, Archaic, Basketmaker, Ancestral Puebloan (Kayenta and Virgin branches), Cohonina, Cerbat, Pai, Zuni, Hopi, Navajo, and Euro-American. The park has recorded more than 4,300 archaeological resources with an intensive survey of nearly 4 percent of the park area.

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## Historic Structures

### National Historic Landmarks

Individual Buildings	9
Districts (377 Buildings)	3

The Grand Canyon Village was listed as a National Historic Landmark District consisting of 257 contributing properties.

### National Register of Historic Places

Individual Structures	9
Districts (336 structures)	6

Determinations of eligibility have been received for an additional 44 buildings and structures, and nominations are pending for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places for nine trails.

Determination of eligibility for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places has been received for 323 archaeological sites along the Colorado River.

List of Classified Structures (LCS): 875 listings LCS is inclusive of the National Historic Landmark and National Register programs currently being reviewed.

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**Climate****South Rim**

Mean High Temperature	84°F / 29°C
Mean Low Temperature	17°F / -8°C
Average Annual Precipitation	16.5 in. / 41.9 cm

**North Rim**

Mean High Temperature	77°F / 25°C
Mean Low Temperature	16°F / -9°C
Average Annual Precipitation	25.7 in. / 65.3 cm

**Phantom Ranch**

Mean High Temperature	106°F / 41°C
Mean Low Temperature	37°F / 3°C
Average Annual Precipitation	9.8 in. / 24.9cm

Climate in Grand Canyon National Park is relatively mild. However, low humidity generally allows large temperature differences between day and night. Since precipitation totals are low, year-to-year variations can be large (the passage of a few major storms can have a significant impact on the year's total).

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**Visitation**

<b>Visitation – 2007</b>	4,515,733
<b>2007 Shuttle System Passengers</b>	4,800,000 boardings (not passengers)
Year-round shuttle service began March 10, 2000.	
Implemented in 1974, the shuttle system has provided over 83,137,631 rides since its inception.	
<b>2007 Backcountry Night Users</b>	87,100
Corridor	48,648
Other Backcountry Trails	38,452
Approximate number of backcountry permits issued	11,067
<b>2007 Colorado River Day Users</b>	
Commercial	114,006*
Noncommercial	105,438*
*Note: Actual river day users as recorded under the 2006 Colorado River Management Plan	
<b>2007 Mule Trip Riders</b>	
<b>Xanterra (South Rim)</b>	
Plateau Point	5241
Phantom Ranch 1 night	2998
Phantom Ranch 2 nights	258
<b>2007 Trail Rides (North Rim)</b>	
1 Hour Ride	2886
3 Hour Ride (1/2 day ride)	3833
All Day Ride	623
<b>2007 Train Passengers</b>	221,396
Commercial Air Tour Passengers (Industry Figures)	642,000*
Commercial Air Tour Flights (Industry Figures)	90,000*
*Note: Commercial air tour operations reported by the industry to the FAA between May 1, 1997 and April 30, 1998.	

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**Development****Buildings**

National Park Service	589
Concessionaire	553
Total	1,142

**Trails**

Maintained	51 miles / 82.1 km
Total	588 miles / 946.29 km

**Roads**

228 miles / 336.93 km

**Sewage Treatment Facilities**

4

**Inner Trans-canyon Pipeline**

23 miles / 37 km

Water from Roaring Springs to the North and South Rims

**Lodging Units**

South Rim	907
North Rim	203
Phantom Ranch	15

**Recreational Vehicle Sites**

80

**Rim Campsites**

Mather	316 family, 7 group, 3 hiker/biker
Desert View	50 family
North Rim	83 family, 4 group
Tuweep	10 family, 1 group

**Visitor Facilities**

Visitor center/museums, backcountry office, historic structures, scenic overlooks, rim trails, overnight lodging, trailer sites, dump stations, tent campsites, restaurants, cocktail lounges, general stores, gift shops, bookstores, kennel, post office, bank, service stations, dentist, medical clinic, showers and laundry. Some facilities may operate seasonally.

**Visitor Services**

Educational/environmental exhibits, ranger programs and hikes, Junior Ranger program, curriculum-based education programs, self-guided hikes, publication sales, backpacking, hiking, camping, picnicking, mule riding, guided bus tours, air tours (originating outside the park), shuttle bus service, river trips, bicycling, auto touring, fishing, church services, overnight lodging, food and beverage, gift and grocery sales, banking, postal services, camper services, law enforcement, dental/medical services, ambulance, fire protection, and taxi.

**Concessioners**

In Fiscal Year 2007, 22 concessioners grossed approximately \$136 million and paid franchise and other fees of approximately \$8.6 million.

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**Law Enforcement  
Activities****Law Enforcement Activities – 2007**

Part I Offenses Investigated	130
Part II Offenses Reported	1189
Law Enforcement Jurisdiction	Concurrent

**Emergency Medical Services – 2007**

Emergency Medical Service Incidents	1495
Fatalities	11

**Search and Rescue Incidents – 2007**

331

**Fire – 2007**

Structural Fire Responses	79
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**Interpretive Services  
and Activities****Visitor Centers and Contact Stations**

- Canyon View Information Plaza
- Yavapai Observation Station
- Tusayan Ruin and Museum
- Desert View Bookstore/Park Information
- North Rim Visitor Center

**2007 Environmental Education Programs**

450 presentations to 13,800 students

**2007 Interpretive Walks, Talks, and Programs**

6200 presentations to 213,500 visitors

**Publications**

- Park Brochure 2,000,000 per year
- Park Newspaper 1,700,000 per year  
(Newspaper available in English, French German, Italian, Japanese, Spanish)

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**Park Administration****FY 2007 Funding**

ONPS Base Operating Appropriation (ONPS, Operation of the National Park System)	\$ 19,807,000
SEPAS Project Funding (SEPAS, Special Emphasis Program Allocation)	\$ 606,765
Equipment Replacement	\$ 71,373
Fire pro Base	\$ 1,463,965

**80% Recreation Fee Demonstration Revenue Returned**

(FY-97)	\$ 5,878, 100
(FY-98)	\$ 17,576,200
(FY-99)	\$ 19,083,000
(FY-00)	\$ 18,952,900
(FY-01)	\$ 17,772,656
(FY-02)	\$ 15,133,000
(FY-03)	\$ 12,646,480
(FY-04)	\$ 17,327,066
(FY-05)	\$ 12,637,171
(FY-06)	\$ 9,792,019
(FY-07)	\$ 15,616,824

**Total (FY 97-FY07) \$162,415,416****Federal Lands Highway Program \$ 47,100****Income**

Utilities Reimbursable	\$ 4,821,746
Quarters	\$ 1,550,003
Concession Franchise Fees – 80% Portion (FY2007)	\$ 5,782,579
Donations (monetary)	\$ 184,785
Other (reimbursable, refundable, etc.)	\$ 2,955,291

**National Park Service Staffing – Fiscal Year 2007**

FTE (Full Time Equivalency) Information and Distribution:

Superintendent's Office	11
Project Management Team	7
Administration	44
Science Center	54
Concessions	9
North Rim	24
Planning & Compliance	11
Maintenance	126
Interpretation	59
Protection	148
Fire	41
Total FY 2007 FTE distributed park wide	534

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## Park Neighbors & Cooperators

### Neighbors

#### North:

Arizona Strip Field Office - BLM, AZ  
North Kaibab Ranger District - USFS, Kaibab National Forest, AZ  
Kanab Field Office - BLM, Southern UT  
Pipe Spring National Monument - NPS, AZ  
Coconino County, AZ  
Zion National Park - NPS, UT  
Mohave County, AZ  
Washington County, UT  
Bryce Canyon National Park - NPS, UT  
Garfield County, UT  
Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument - BLM, UT  
Vermilion Cliffs National Monument - BLM, AZ  
Kaibab Band of Paiute Indians - AZ  
All communities from Marble Canyon to St. George, UT

#### South:

Tusayan Ranger District - USFS, Kaibab National Forest, AZ

#### East:

Glen Canyon National Recreation Area - NPS, AZ / UT  
Navajo Nation, AZ

#### West:

Lake Mead National Recreation Area - NPS, NV / AZ  
Havasupai Tribe, AZ  
Hualapai Tribe, AZ  
Grand Canyon-Parashant National Monument - BLM / NPS, AZ

### Affiliated American Indian Tribes:

Havasupai Tribe  
Hopi Tribe  
Hualapai Tribe  
Kaibab Band of Paiute Indians  
Las Vegas Band of Paiute Indians  
Moapa Band of Paiute Indians  
Navajo Nation  
Paiute Indian Tribe of Utah  
San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe  
Yavapai-Apache Nation  
The Pueblo of Zuni

### Arizona Congressional Representatives:

Senator John McCain  
Senator Jon Kyl  
First District Representative Rick Renzi