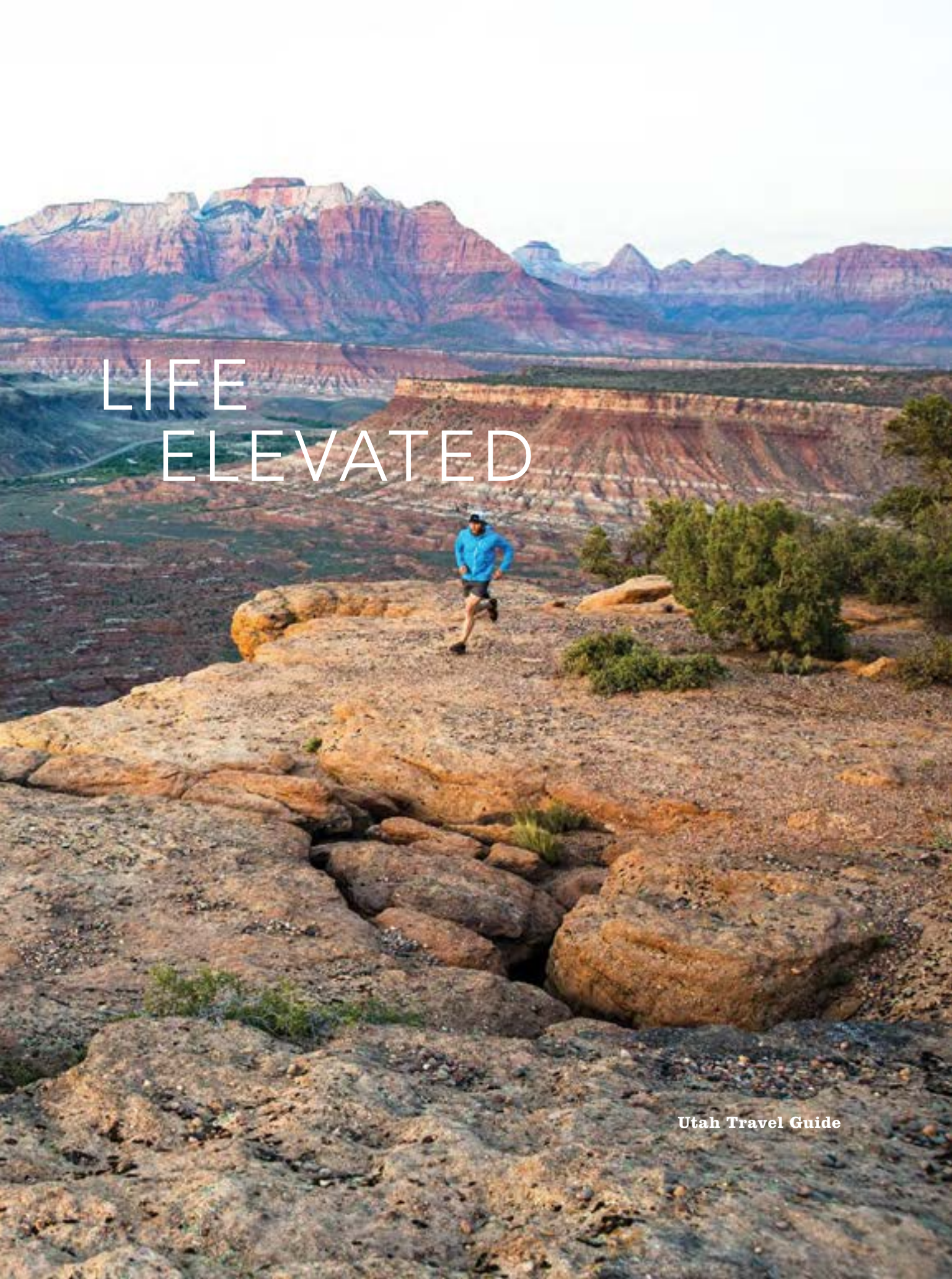


A full-page photograph of a person in a blue jacket running on a rocky desert ridge. The background features a vast canyon and a range of colorful mountains under a clear sky. The text "LIFE ELEVATED" is overlaid in white, sans-serif font.

LIFE ELEVATED

Utah Travel Guide

*"We travel, initially, to lose ourselves,
and we travel, next, to find ourselves.
We travel to open our hearts and
eyes. And we travel, in essence, to
become young fools again — to slow
time down and get taken in, and
fall in love once more."*

— Pico Iyer

TRAVEL GUIDE CONTENTS



THE BUCKET LIST

Ride with bison, raft the West's best whitewater, rappel down slot canyons then hook a trophy trout — and your vacation is just getting started. Fulfill — or create — your Utah Bucket List with these nine unforgettable adventures.

PAGE 4

GETTING HERE & AROUND

Getting to Utah is easy, and with a little know-how, getting around is also a breeze. Traveling in Utah means falling in love with Utah.

PAGE 10

SALT LAKE CITY & THE WASATCH FRONT

You think you know Salt Lake? Immerse yourself in the experiences that truly define this vibrant city and the greater Wasatch Front.

PAGE 12



DINING & CULTURE

Savor local cuisine. Marvel at impeccable choreography, captivating art and rich natural history. Get to know the sophisticated side of Utah with help from a renowned dining critic, and a Salt Lake Magazine editor.

PAGE 16



THE GREATEST SNOW ON EARTH®

Zip up your coat then point your skis or board down your choice of nearly 1,000 runs at 14 ski resorts. Repeat. This is your guide to getting here, getting around and getting more mountain time on your Utah ski vacation.

PAGE 26



TOP RATED UTAH

Travelers to Utah love their experiences so much they can't resist sharing them with the world. Here are several top attractions trending on TripAdvisor that deserve a spot on your vacation itinerary.

PAGE 32



THE MIGHTY FIVE®

Utah's five national parks are an epiphany set in fiery sandstone, cooling whitewater and awesome canyons. Lose yourself in adventure then find yourself beneath pristine starry skies. Your Road to Mighty® adventure starts here.

PAGE 38



SCENIC BYWAYS

The lure of the open road is strong in Utah. No matter where you drive here, there's a scenic way to get where you're going. These seven scenic byways will fill your eyes with Utah's iconic visual splendor.

PAGE 48



HERITAGE & ARTS

From prehistoric cultures and the Western pioneers through the 2002 Winter Olympics and into the present day, Utah weaves a colorful historical tapestry. Here are 10 places to add texture to your Utah vacation.

PAGE 54

STATE PARKS, BOOMER AND ADAPTIVE TRAVEL

Create lasting bonds with these tips on how and where to travel when visiting Utah with your extended family and travelers of various abilities.

PAGE 57

FURTHER RESOURCES

Fifty-six pages tell only a fraction of Utah's story. Here are a few resources to help you discover the rest of it.

PAGE 60

LAST WORDS WITH GOVERNOR HERBERT

What really makes Utah unique? Here are some favorite destinations and travel advice from Utah's 17th chief executive, Gary R. Herbert.

PAGE 60



NIGHT SKY ASTRONOMY FESTIVAL

BRYCE CANYON NATIONAL PARK

Embrace the dark side of Utah's national parks by staying up at night. Bryce Canyon National Park will always be recognized for geologic wonders formed by erosion, but a growing number of visitors are sticking around the high-elevation park to play in the dark. The Dark Rangers of Bryce encourage such deviance.

Bryce, it turns out, is one of the best places in the world to take in the night skies. Two other Utah National Park Service units, Capitol Reef National Park and Natural Bridges National Monument, are also among the top stargazing spots.

The park celebrates its low level of light pollution with an annual astronomy festival and night sky programs throughout the year.

www.sltrib.com/ubl/Bryce



BRETT PRETTYMAN
OUTDOOR WRITER, AUTHOR

Native Utahn Brett Prettyman grew up exploring the natural wonders of the state and shared them with the public as an outdoor writer and columnist with the state's largest newspaper, The Salt Lake Tribune, for 25 years. Brett Prettyman is the former outdoor editor at the Salt Lake Tribune and author of "Fishing Utah," "Best Easy Day Hikes Capitol Reef National Park" and "Hiking Utah's High Uintas" (revision). When not covering stories, and sometimes while doing it, he can be found discovering new Utah adventures with family and friends. He also has his own Utah Bucket List. **@BrettPrettyman** on Twitter

ABOUT THE UTAH BUCKET LIST

Utah's ample and amazing opportunities for possible outdoor adventure can be intimidating. Where do you start? The Salt Lake Tribune, in partnership with KUED Channel 7, set out to create a multimedia cheat sheet to help motivate people to make and experience their own Utah Bucket List and then actually cross items off.

Each item had to be a unique Utah experience and the list had to include a variety of activities incorporating various ability levels. Bucket Lists are about making memories with family and friends to reflect on special times in special places. "Utah Bucket List" earned two Emmy Awards.

Utah national and state parks made the list, of course, as did a famous winter commodity of the Beehive State. Wildlife excursions are on the Utah Bucket List and so is a trip to Utah Olympic Park for a G-force generating bobsled ride or ski jump into a pool.

See these Utah Bucket List items and more at www.sltrib.com/ubl/

Follow **@UtahBucketList** on Twitter or visit the Utah Bucket List Facebook page.

Photos by Francisco Kjolseth/The Salt Lake Tribune, unless noted otherwise.



BIKING WHITE RIM TRAIL

CANYONLANDS NATIONAL PARK

The slickrock country around Moab gets the majority of mountain biking attention in Utah, but those looking for a different pedal power experience have discovered the unique opportunity of the 100-mile White Rim Trail. Some do it all sunrise to sunset, but they could miss what the landscape has to offer while in such a hurry to set bragging rights.

A more popular way to ride the White Rim is with a sag wagon support vehicle chasing the bikers on a more casual three- or four-day camping trip. The more leisurely ride allows visitors to soak up the stunning views and share them with family and friends. Like hiking, there is something special about powering yourself through nature — especially nature like Mother Nature gave Southern Utah.

www.sltrib.com/ubl/WhiteRim



RAFTING CATARACT CANYON

CANYONLANDS NATIONAL PARK

There is big white water and then there is the appropriately named Cataract Canyon stretch of the Colorado River in Canyonlands National Park. Many visitors have a river trip on Cataract on their life lists, but it takes a special kind of adventurer to experience the raging Colorado at its peak flow.

During high water years people drop everything to float Cataract. "It's the biggest white water you can find in the country," said Steve Young, a river ranger at Canyonlands National Park. "It's kind of a bucket list within a bucket list." Don't worry, floating the Colorado is a thrill even at its lowest flow. There are few places where you can truly escape everything about the outside world; Cataract Canyon is one of them.

www.sltrib.com/ubl/Cataract



CAMPING DEVILS GARDEN

ARCHES NATIONAL PARK

***CLOSED THROUGH NOVEMBER 2017 FOR CONSTRUCTION**

There are no lodges in Arches National Park and that is not necessarily a bad thing. Upward of 99 percent of the daily visitors leave the gates near or shortly after sunset. The only place for a head to hit a pillow is the 50-site Devils Garden Campground.

After a day of hiking to some of the greatest natural wonders of the world — the park has more than 2,000 documented arches — hanging out with the family around the campfire keeps the magic moments coming. As the fire dies and the night sky lights up, tired campers find a way to stay awake just a little longer.

Sunrise brings a new day of adventure and more exceptional hiking with options like Delicate Arch, Landscape Arch, Marching Men, Dark Angel and the Fiery Furnace.

www.sltrib.com/ubl/Arches



CANYONEERING

GRAND STAIRCASE-ESCALANTE NTL MONUMENT

From the famous Subway and Narrows routes in Zion National Park to the countless side canyons running into Lake Powell and the surrounding countryside, Utah is zig-zagged with slot canyons galore. Naturally, the state would become a destination for canyoneers from around the world when interest in the activity escalated in recent years.

Grand Staircase-Escalante is a perfect place to wander the desert slot canyons. People new to the sport and even those with outdoor skills developed from other interests should make at least their first trip canyoneering with experienced friends or guides.

www.sltrib.com/ubl/canyoneering

UTAH POWDER DAY

WASATCH FRONT

Utah's snow is the best on the planet for skiing and snowboarding. If you don't believe it, just ask state officials who trademarked the phrase "The Greatest Snow on Earth" — seriously, legally trademarked it. Mother Nature has been known to dump up to 4 feet of the fluffy stuff in one storm on resorts within 20 minutes of downtown Salt Lake City. Epic is an understatement on days like these for skiers and boarders.

Whether you're riding the lifts and cutting the slopes at one of the state's 14 resorts, exploring the backcountry or venturing out for a Nordic ski adventure, Utah has the perfect winter vacation for hardcore skiers or families interested in strapping something on their feet to get down, or around, the mountain.

www.sltrib.com/ubl/skiutah



Photo courtesy of Ski Utah



HORSEBACK BISON ROUNDUP

ANTELOPE ISLAND STATE PARK

Many people believe the only place to see wild bison is at Yellowstone National Park. But visitors flying into Salt Lake City International Airport just have to look out the window while their plane makes its final descent.

Bison from Yellowstone were delivered to Antelope Island, the largest island on the Great Salt Lake, in 1897. Today, the state manages the island. The bison and other wildlife, including pronghorn antelope, mule deer, coyote, fox and numerous species of shorebirds, raptors and songbirds, make Antelope Island a great destination for tourists, families and photographers.

For a truly genuine Western experience consider riding horseback during the annual Antelope Island Bison Roundup held late each fall. Riders of all experience levels help "encourage" the bison into pens for health checkups and an auction.

www.sltrib.com/ubl/antelopeisland

FLY-FISHING THE GREEN RIVER

GREEN RIVER

There are plenty of reasons why the Green River below Flaming Gorge Dam is on the Bucket List of fly-fishers; 15,000, in fact, as in the number of feisty trout per square mile on the river in northeastern Utah.

But anglers who don't take time to look up every once in a while are missing out on some of the best scenery in the country. Explorer John Wesley Powell documented this country in 1869 while floating down the Green and Colorado rivers. Aside from the reservoir, the scenery on a river trip below the dam looks a lot like it did more than 150 years later.

The emerald green waters and red rock canyon create visually pleasing contrasts. The excellent opportunities for fishing and wildlife viewing are just a bonus when floating the river.

www.sltrib.com/ubl/fishgreenriver



Photo by Jay Kinghorn

OLYMPIC PARK

PARK CITY (WINTER AND SUMMER)

Most tourists visiting the state come to experience the many natural wonders. The 2002 Winter Olympics are another reason to come to Utah. Utah Olympic Park remains as a legacy to the 2002 Winter Games — not only for athletes training for future Olympics, but also for people interested in a taste of the sports.

Utah Olympic Park in Park City offers opportunities for people to ride down the same bobsled track used during the 2002 Games. Rides are available in the winter and the summer months. Fantasy bobsled and skeleton camps are also available in the winter. Another summer activity is taking a freestyle ski jumping lesson. Visitors can suit up and eventually jump into the 750,000-gallon pool used as a landing pad for skiers training for the Olympics.

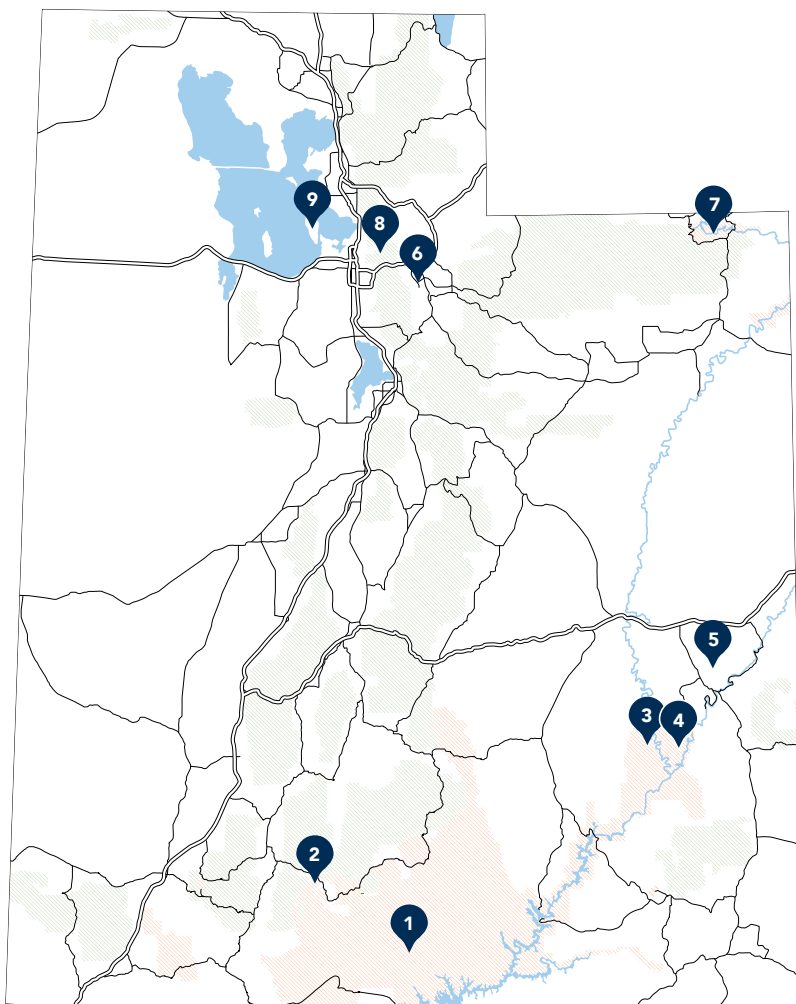
www.sltrib.com/ubl/olympicpark

INCORPORATING THE BUCKET LIST INTO YOUR TRIP

With a little planning, the right equipment and occasionally a guide, you can truly have a Utah vacation for the ages. Here are a few ways to incorporate the Utah Bucket List into your next trip.

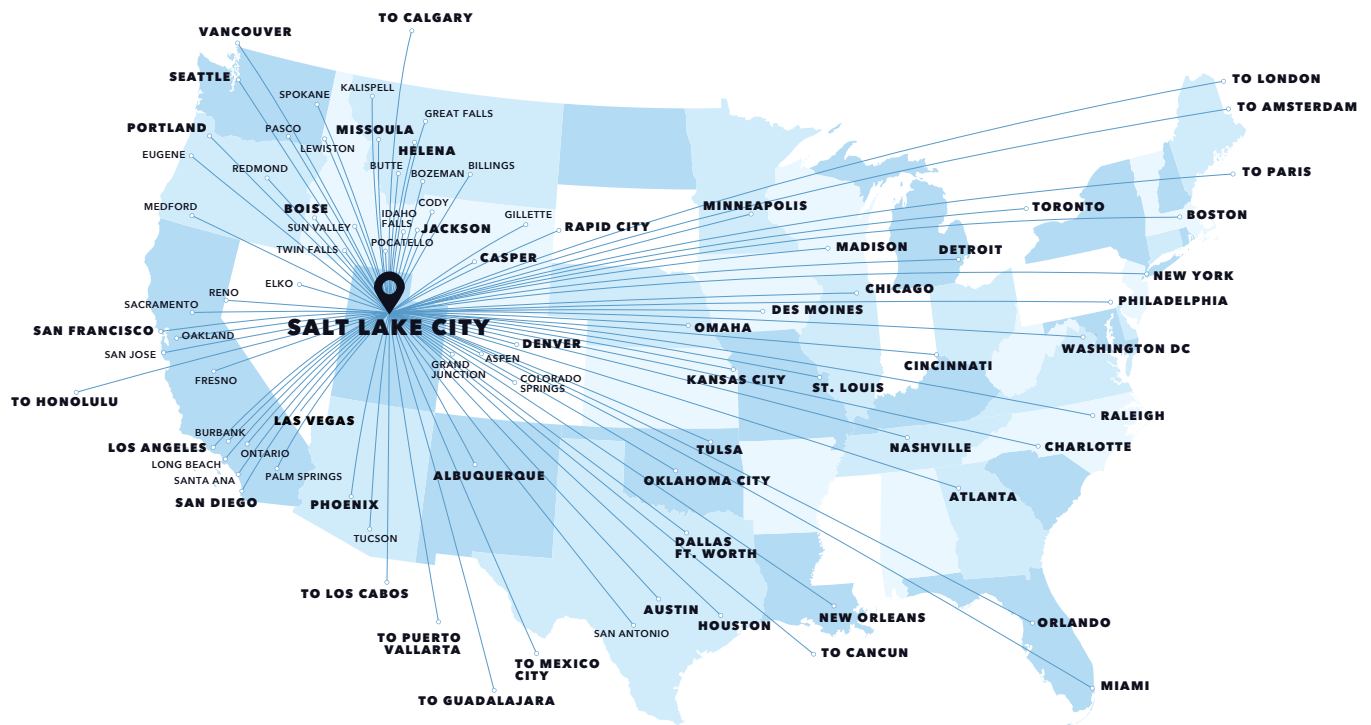
Off Scenic Byway 12, you can easily explore some of **Grand Staircase-Escalante's** [1] popular slot canyons like Peek-a-boo and Spooky Gulch, but to uncover the most remote, technical and spectacular areas, book a guide and prepare yourself for a grand adventure. Astronomy tourism in **Bryce Canyon** [2] is immensely popular thanks to one of the oldest dark sky programs in the nation. While the ranger-led versions are highly informative (and fill up fast), you can appreciate the Milky Way on your own terms — so long as the skies are clear. When heading to Moab, reserve a campsite in **Arches** [5] well in advance of your trip. The same goes for booking your trip down the rapids of the **Colorado River** [3] and making necessary arrangements for the **White Rim Trail** [4].

Almost any ski vacation in Utah has a high probability of delivering an epic **Powder Day** [8]. For an Olympic-caliber vacation, plan a visit to the **Utah Olympic Park** [6], only minutes from Park City-area resorts and a short drive from Salt Lake. Fly-fishing on the **Green River** [7] is a destination unto itself, or a great addition to road trips hitting the Flaming Gorge National Recreation Area or Dinosaur Diamond Scenic Byway and Dinosaur National Monument. Though the Bison Roundup is one weekend in October, **Antelope Island** [9] is a must-visit destination for hiking, biking and viewing wildlife throughout the year. It's an essential stop when traveling through Northern Utah to Yellowstone or Grand Teton.



GETTING HERE & AROUND

In 1869, the Central Pacific and the Union Pacific united in Northern Utah to complete the First Transcontinental Railroad. Today, Utah's location at the crossroads of the western United States means travelers enjoy easy access to The Greatest Snow on Earth®, The Mighty Five® national parks and everything in between on The Road to Mighty®. The Golden Spike National Historic Site marks that important event in America's history when the nation was united by rail and is a predecessor to Utah's modern infrastructure that includes convenient air access, well-connected interstate highways and, yes, even rail. Learn more at visitutah.com/travel-info.



Reflects current air service into Salt Lake City International Airport as of March 2017. Flight routes subject to change.

GEOGRAPHY

Utah is a land of contrasts — seasonally, geographically and geologically — making for year-round travel opportunities across diverse landscapes. The Wasatch Mountains run north to south through Northern and Central Utah and cradle 12 of Utah's 14 ski resorts. The range is the backdrop to the Wasatch Front cities of Salt Lake, Ogden, Logan and Provo — comfortable urban scenes nestled against dynamic mountains perfect for skiing, hiking and mountain biking.

In the southern portions of the state, the terrain switches from alpine, evergreen forests dotted with aspen to a colorful palette of sandstone cliffs, domes, canyons and spires. Southern Utah is home to all five of Utah's national parks and iconic Western landscapes like Monument Valley, Kanab and Lake Powell.



View from the foothills of Salt Lake City | Jay Dash

TRAVELING TO UTAH

Utah is accessible to the world via Salt Lake City International Airport (SLC). Located just 8 miles northwest of downtown Salt Lake City, it is a primary gateway for Utah travelers. The airport consistently ranks among the best U.S. airports for on-time arrivals and departures, making it a convenient hub for planning your vacation. Air Canada, Alaska, American, Delta, Frontier, JetBlue, KLM Royal Dutch, Southwest and United and their affiliates serve SLC, including 90 cities with nonstop flights. International nonstop flights include Paris, Amsterdam, London and select cities in Mexico and Canada.

Some visitors to Mighty Five® itineraries in southwestern Utah may opt for flights through Las Vegas, which is a 2.5-hour drive from Zion National Park, St. George and Kanab.

Utah is great for road trips as well. Interstate 15 runs north to south creating major intersections with the western terminus of Interstate 70 in Central Utah and Interstates 80 and 84 in the north. Many travelers enjoy exploring off the interstate on one of Utah's many scenic byways, backways and on Road to Mighty® itineraries. See page 48 for some of Utah's best scenic routes.

BUS & RAIL

Experienced travelers say the California Zephyr is one of the most beautiful train trips in North America. The Zephyr runs daily between Chicago and San Francisco. Utah stops include a staffed station in Salt Lake City and unstaffed stops in Provo, Helper and Green River. Amtrak bus service connects to Ogden.

The Greyhound Bus Lines offer frequent service to and throughout Utah on its transcontinental routes along all interstates (I-15, I-84, I-80 and I-70) as well as to Denver along U.S. 40 and Moab along U.S. 191. This is the best option to reach Utah's national parks using public transportation.

The Utah Transit Authority (UTA) serves the Wasatch Front with regular bus, light-rail and commuter rail schedules. FrontRunner commuter rail links Salt Lake City to both Ogden in the north and Provo in the south, while TRAX light-rail serves Salt Lake County, including Salt Lake International Airport to downtown Salt Lake City in just 20 minutes. TRAX also serves the University of Utah, Energy Solutions Arena (home of the Utah Jazz), Temple Square and Rio Tinto Stadium (home of Real Salt Lake).

UTA Ski Buses serve Powder Mountain and Snowbasin near Ogden, all four Salt Lake resorts, Sundance and Park City-area resorts via the PC-SLC Connect.

WELCOME CENTERS

Brigham City (on the Wasatch Front)
Southbound I-15 | Northern Utah
435-744-5567

St. George (west of Zion National Park)
Northbound I-15 | Southwestern Utah
435-673-4542

Near Thompson Springs (north of Moab)
Westbound I-70 | Eastern Utah
435-285-2234

Jensen (near Dinosaur National Monument)
Westbound U.S. 40 | Northeastern Utah
435-789-4002

SALT LAKE CITY

& THE WASATCH FRONT

Salt Lake City is the urban heart of Northern Utah's vibrant Wasatch Front. A city known equally for its thriving downtown as its backyard mountain range, Salt Lake City offers cosmopolitan amenities in an easy-to-navigate urban setting. The city is just a stone's throw from hundreds of miles of trails for hiking, running and exploring and a dozen ski resorts, including four within 30 minutes. This unparalleled proximity has earned Salt Lake the distinction of being the only "Ski City." Even Park City, the only IMBA Certified Gold Level mountain biking city in the country and home to Deer Valley and Park City mountain resorts, is less than 45 minutes up the canyon. Utah's five national parks are an average of four hours away by car. In short, by marrying the best of urban attractions and outdoor adventures, Salt Lake City is both a travel destination itself and is the jumping-off-point for many Utah vacations.

EXPLORE FIVE BACKYARD
ADVENTURES YOU CAN ONLY
FIND IN SALT LAKE CITY

www.visitutah.com/slc-backyard



Downtown Salt Lake City | Camp 4 Collective



Whiskey Street in SLC | Austen Diamond



Eva Restaurant | Austen Diamond



FIND YOUR WAY

Historic Temple Square, located at Main Street and South Temple Street, is the point of origin for the four quadrants of the Salt Lake City street grid system. From Temple Square, major streets count up in increments of 100. State Street (100 East) is a primary artery running the full length of the valley beginning on Capitol Hill.

Locals frequently abbreviate street names, so you'll hear 1300 South, 500 East spoken as "13th south, fifth east." Popular neighborhoods just outside downtown include the Avenues, University, Liberty Wells, 9th and 9th, 15th and 15th and Sugar House. Each district has a unique character and features local shops, theaters, restaurants and bars worth seeking out (see the city map in Dining & Culture on page 16).

URBAN & MODERN

Great vacations go hand in hand with great food. In 2014, Wine Enthusiast Magazine named Salt Lake City one of "America's 5 New Foodie Cities." Salt Lake has award-winning microbreweries like Squatters, Uinta and Red Rock, distilleries like Sugar House

and Beehive and skilled mixologists at hip downtown spaces like Eva, The Rest, Whiskey Street or actor Ty Burrell's Bar-X and Beer Bar, to pair with your dinner. Tony Caputo's Market and Liberty Heights Fresh offer the best in local, artisan food like Creminelli Fine Meats and Amano Artisan Chocolates.

Evenings bring out the best cultural attractions at performing arts and music venues including Broadway at the Eccles Theater. Award-winning productions by Ballet West, the Utah Symphony & Opera and Pioneer Theater Company provide an international flair. Catch national and local acts headlining downtown venues like the Urban Lounge, The Depot and The State Room and at multiple outdoor summer concert series (see Dining & Culture on page 16).

ARTS & FESTIVALS

Discover the anchors of Salt Lake City's art scene in the next chapter of this guide, then browse the several independent galleries sprinkled about downtown, including the arts, crafts and boutiques of West Pierpont Avenue and Broadway (300 South). Also don't miss the seamless blend of art and science in The Leonardo

Museum, featuring explorations in digital imagery, water, responsive architecture and world-class traveling exhibits.

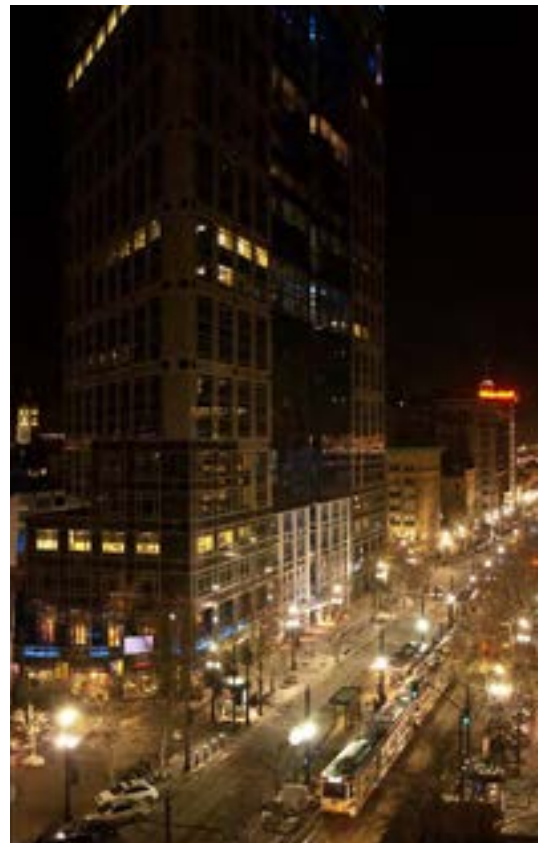
Spring through fall there are downtown festivals and events almost every weekend including Living Traditions, Pioneer Farmers Market, Utah Pride Festival, Utah Arts Festival and the International Jazz Festival. SLUG Magazine, also known as Salt Lake UnderGround, annually hosts Craft Lake City, which celebrates the city's strong do-it-yourself and entrepreneurial character. Other major events include Comic Con and the Sundance Film Festival.

HERITAGE & RELIGION

Settled in 1847, Salt Lake is a relatively young city, and its heritage remains strong. In fact, Salt Lake City's most popular attraction is the 35-acre Temple Square. This beautiful downtown site is the spiritual center for The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints and offers free walking tours in forty languages, extensive genealogy, great dining and frequent performances of the Mormon Tabernacle Choir. This Is the Place Heritage Park brings to life Utah's Mormon and native history and marks the end of the 1,300-mile Mormon trail.



The Living Room above Red Butte Garden | Jay Dash



Evening in downtown SLC | Downtown Alliance

THE WASATCH FRONT

The jagged wall of the Wasatch Front is the backdrop to Utah's 100-mile-long metropolitan corridor in Northern Utah. A global audience first became familiar with Utah's dramatic Rocky Mountain setting during the 2002 Olympic Winter Games. Now, the Wasatch Front's reputation precedes it: the range is home to 10 world-class ski resorts in the winter and limitless mountain adventure all year long.

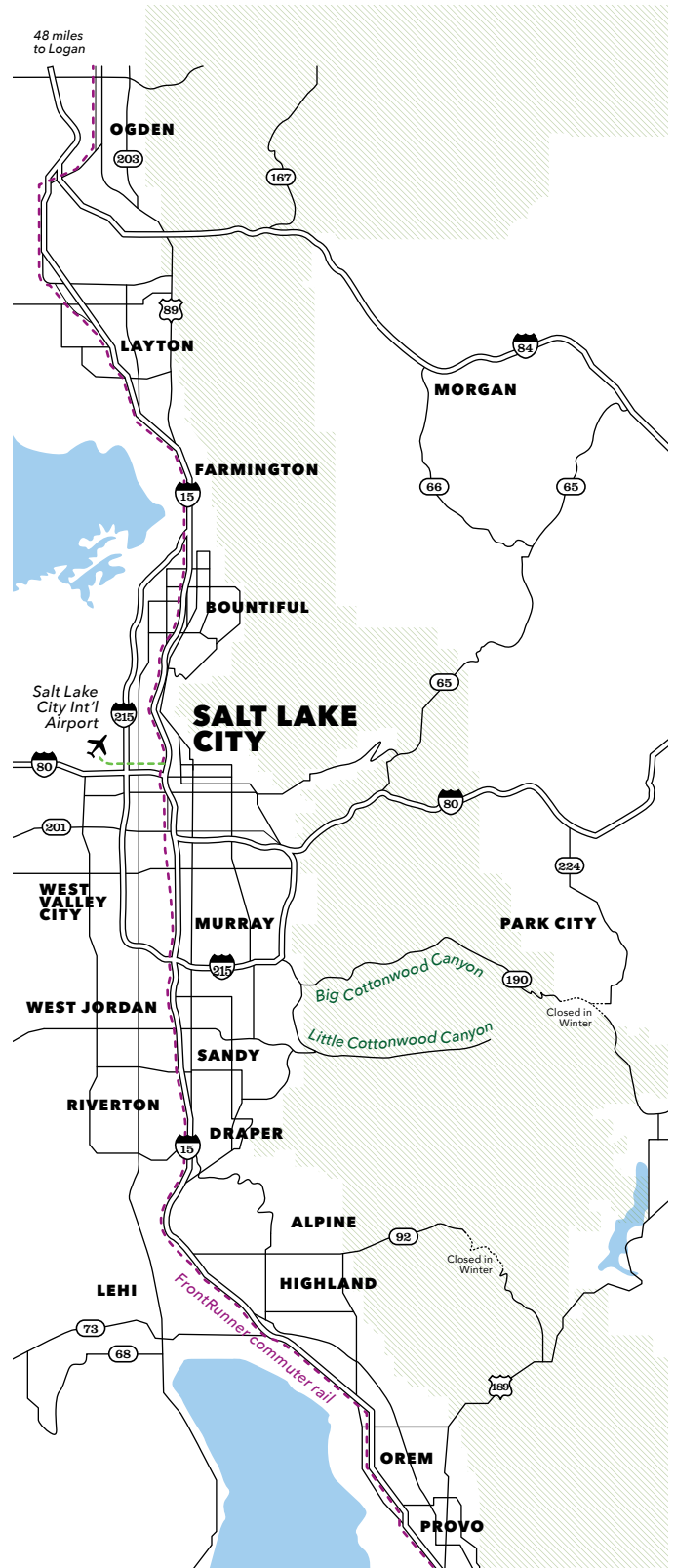
Dynamic cities populate the valley to the west of the Wasatch Range. More than 2 million people call the Wasatch Front home thanks to a diverse economy and highly regarded quality of life. Interstate 15 travels through the corridor and FrontRunner commuter rail connects Provo to Salt Lake to Pleasant View, between Ogden and Brigham City.

Historic Ogden has a surging downtown and nightlife on 25th Street and the Junction where great brews and food from Roosters Brewing Co. or farm-to-table fare at Hearth on 25th can fuel your adventure, whether you stay in town for iFLY indoor skydiving or head up scenic S.R. 39 toward Snowbasin and extensive national forest. Round out your Northern Utah experience on a hike among the wildlife of Antelope Island State Park or among the thrill-seekers on the roller coasters of Lagoon amusement park, both in Davis County.

Though Salt Lake and its international airport have the largest profile, the other cities of Salt Lake County all feature unique identities, local food and attractions. As you travel south from Salt Lake City, visit the grain-to-glass production of Sugar House Distillery in South Salt Lake, try the local food of Provisions in Mill Creek or Copper Kitchen in Holladay, catch Real Salt Lake professional soccer at their home at Rio Tinto Stadium in Sandy then discover the diverse ecosystems and 450 species at the Living Planet Aquarium in Draper.

In Lehi, the gardens, museums and Johnny Miller Signature Golf Club of Thanksgiving Point and Outlet Mall at Traverse Mountain mark the transition to Utah County, to the south of Salt Lake. Other landmarks include the Adobe campus, part of Utah's dynamic "Silicon Slopes," technology scene and the Lehi Roller Mills, equally known for locally milled grains as their role in "Footloose." This welcoming valley beautifully blends high tech with heritage. Provo and Orem have a growing local dining scene, including Communal and Black Sheep Cafe, and easily access Mount Timpanogos and the fly-fishing, hiking, ice climbing and skiing of Provo Canyon.

Provo Canyon (U.S. 189) and I-80 head east up the canyon toward Utah's premier mountain town, Park City. Explore 426 downhill trails across 9,326 acres in winter — prime mountain biking terrain when the snow melts. Between adventures, fuel up at 100+ restaurants and bars, like the authentic, Western-inspired fare at Grub Steak and the American eclectic cuisine of Riverhorse on Main or the farm-to-table scene of The Farm and the artisan cheese production of Deer Valley, also home to the Montage's highly regarded Burgers & Bourbon.





Clockwise from top:
 High West Distillery, Park City | Marc Piscotty
 Aerial view of Park City | Marc Piscotty
 Slackwater Pizzeria, Ogden | Jeremiah Watt
 Natural History Museum of Utah, SLC | Dana Sohm
 Downtown Logan | Jay Dash



2



**TED SCHEFFLER***EDITOR, DEVOUR UTAH**RESTAURANT CRITIC AND DRINK COLUMNIST, SALT LAKE CITY WEEKLY*

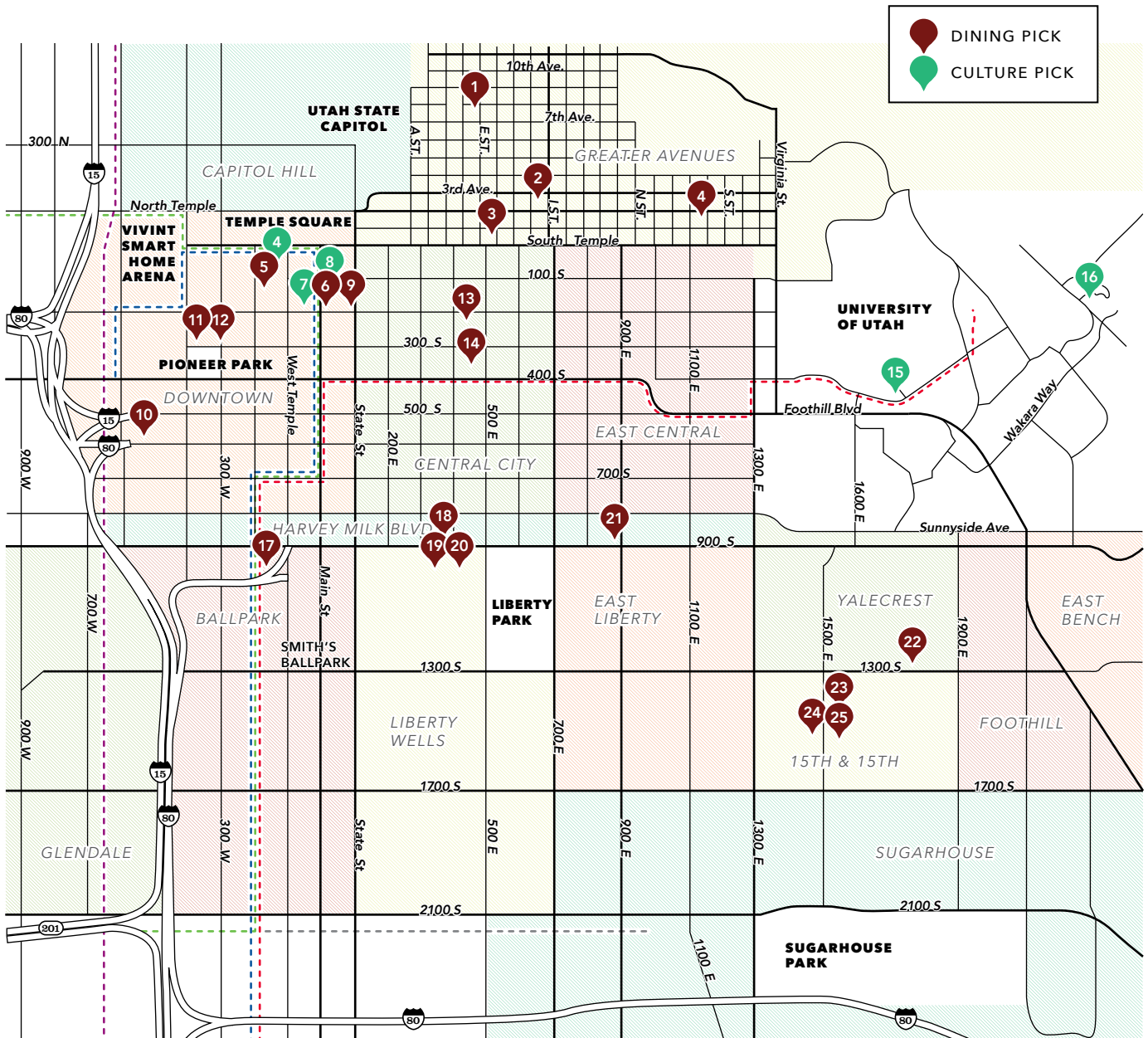
“We’ve come a long way, baby! Utah’s dining scene, that is. Sure, we’ve long been known for our state’s beauty and natural wonders, the incredible skiing, biking, hiking and other activities, but it’s only been recently that eating and eating well, has become an important Utah draw.

Diversity is the keynote here, with award-winning chefs and restaurants spanning the globe to bring us cuisines from places as diverse as Asia, Latin America, Eastern Europe, Africa, the Middle East and elsewhere; if it’s flavorful, you can probably find it here.

The dining guide that follows is a mere stepping off point — a roundup of can’t-miss eateries from Salt Lake City and around the state — but a list that merely scratches the surface of the culinary wonders Utah offers. So, enjoy visiting these marvelous restaurants, as well as others too numerous to include here. As the marvelous Julia Child used to say, bon appétit!”

Ted Scheffler is a Utah-based freelance writer and the author of thousands of food, wine, music and travel articles. He is also editor of Devour Utah magazine and Salt Lake City Weekly’s restaurant critic and drink columnist. When not maintaining his ever-expanding guitar collection, he enjoys skiing, reading, tennis, and of course, eating.

SALT LAKE CITY DINING



NEIGHBORHOODS

There are culinary corners, streets and neighborhoods in Salt Lake City where killer cuisine seems to be especially concentrated. From a Parisian bistro to Middle Eastern meals, this quartet of culinary hot spots offers delightful destination dining.

GREATER AVENUES

The bucolic Avenues neighborhood, with its hilly streets and superb eateries, is remarkably reminiscent of San Francisco. But you're actually right here in Utah at the cookbook-strewn **Avenues Bistro on Third** — a lovely local spot for outstanding food and drink, plus über-friendly hospitality. Ditto **Cucina**, where the extensive wine list is certainly a draw, but so is chef Joey Ferran's inventive cuisine — pork belly pozole and his terrific tandoori lamb chop, for example. Indian flavors with a modern flare is the mantra at Lavanya Mahate's beautiful **Saffron Valley East India Café**. Along with traditional dishes, Mahate also gets modern with menu items like the Bombay Sloppy Joe and her Saffron Banana Split. Craft beers brewed in-house and anything-but-routine pub fare is the calling at **Avenues Proper Restaurant & Pub** and **Publick House**, where their Hopsplit IPA (Proper is down the block from LDS Hospital) pairs perfectly with duck fat-spritzed Prop-corn or General Tso's Pork Belly Tacos.

- (1) **Avenues Proper Restaurant & Pub** | 385-227-8628 | avenuesproper.com
 (2) **Avenues Bistro on Third** | 801-831-5409 | avenuesbistroonthird.com
 (3) **Saffron Valley East India Café** | 801-203-3325 | saffronvalley.com
 (4) **Cucina** | 801-322-3055 | cucinadeli.com



3RD & 3RD (DOWNTOWN)

One of SLC's iconic culinary corners is 300 West and 300 South, where for years **Tony Caputo's Market & Deli** has been feeding the city's foodies with imported cheeses, chocolates and gourmet foods, plus an unbeatable array of deli sandwiches, pastas and such. Just around the corner, **Cucina Toscana** has been a longtime go-to destination for Tuscan-style Italian cuisine like scaloppine di vitello al limone. Traveling the other side of the globe, **Laan Na Thai** is a mom-and-pop eatery dishing up the vivid flavors of northeastern Thailand — nam tok, for example. And, for comfort food at its Belgian best, be sure to visit **Bruges Waffles & Frites**, where the name of this fun eatery pretty much tells the story. Be sure to check out the SLC Farmers Market at Pioneer Park on Saturdays throughout the summer.

(11) **Tony Caputo's Market & Deli** | 801-531-8669 | caputosdeli.com

(11) **Cucina Toscana** | 801-328-3463 | toscanaslc.com

(12) **Bruges Waffles & Frites** | 801-363-4444 | brugeswaffles.com

(12) **Laan Na Thai (pictured)** | 801-363-2717 | facebook.com/laannathai



HARVEY MILK BOULEVARD

SLC's east-west corridor called Harvey Milk Boulevard (aka 900 South) is a smorgasbord of fresh, fantastic flavors. Vibrant local art decorates the walls of **Meditrina**, while that same vibrancy describes every dish at Jen Gilroy's tasty tapas eatery. Just around the corner, aromas of fresh-baked pita, simmering legumes, and fresh herbs welcome guests into **Laziz Kitchen**, the Harvey Milk home of mouthwatering Middle Eastern cuisine. For southern-style American comfort food, Amy Britt's **Pig & a Jelly Jar** has you covered with chicken and waffles, beignets, fried pickles and Mason jar libations. Modern, elevated Greek cuisine is on tap at **Manoli's**, where you won't find gyros or souvlaki, but will enjoy creative Greek meze and mains like pan-seared branzino and delectable donuts called loukoumathes. As the owners of **Veneto Ristorante Italiano** say, there is no tipping in Veneto, so there's no tipping at Veneto, an inviting local gem knocking the cuisine of Northern Italy out of the park.

(17) **Laziz Kitchen (pictured)** | 801-441-1228 | lazizkitchen.com

(17) **Meditrina** | 801-485-2055 | meditrinaslc.com

(18) **Pig & a Jelly Jar** | 385-202-7366 | pigandajellyjar.com

(19) **Veneto Ristorante Italiano** | 801-359-0708 | venetoslc.com

(20) **Manoli's** | 801-532-3760 | manolison9th.com



15TH & 15TH

Stroll the tree-lined blocks around 1500 South and 1500 East and you'll discover a veritable United Nations of foods and flavors. At **Mazza Middle Eastern Cuisine**, Lebanon, Morocco, Syria, Egypt, and other countries are well-represented with dishes like mujaddara, kibbeh, kafta, and of course, falafel. For regional Italian fare, wander a of couple blocks over to **Sea Salt's** sunny patio in warm weather for Nonna Maria's meatballs, top-notch wood-fired pizzas, and delicious dishes such as whole oven-roasted branzino. Next door to Mazza, Scott Evans' **Trestle Tavern** offers guests creative Eastern European-meets-American cuisine, ranging from paprikash, goulash and pierogies to grilled Utah trout and seared lamb tenderloin. Across the street, the "city of lights" awaits at **Paris Bistro & Zinc Bar**, where authentic French flavors, wines, atmosphere, and sensational service will have you saying, "ooh la la!"

(22) **Sea Salt** | 801-349-1480 | seasaltslc.com

(23) **Trestle Tavern (pictured)** | 801-532-3372 | trestletavern.com

(24) **Paris Bistro** | 801-486-5585 | theparis.net

(25) **Mazza Middle Eastern Cuisine** | 801-484-9529 | mazzacafe.com

MORE SALT LAKE DINING

LOG HAVEN

Log Haven is an iconic Utah dining destination, originally built as a log mansion before being purchased and made into a world-class restaurant by owner Margo Provost and her talented team. Nature, nurture and nourishment come together on the 40 private acres that Log Haven occupies in nearby Millcreek Canyon. Waterfalls, streams and stunning views complement chef Dave Jones' inventive and eclectic cuisine, which incorporates Asian and Southwestern flavors in dishes like Korean fried cauliflower and roasted poblano chile mac and cheese. It's no wonder that Log Haven is in high demand for weddings and other special occasions.

801-272-8255 | log-haven.com

(6) EVA

Eva owner/chef Charlie Perry looked to his great grandmother, Eva Coombs, when naming his inviting eatery. He credits her for passing a love of quality ingredients and the "shared pleasures of eating" to him. The eclectic menu has a Mediterranean tinge to it — consider shrimp and grits with feta, for example. But the cuisine really spans the entire globe with dishes like togarashi fried chicken, lamb and pork cevapi and Neapolitan-style pizzas. Super-friendly service, a casual-but-classy atmosphere and a terrific selection of craft cocktails, beer and wine all add to Eva's excellence.

801-359-8447 | evaslc.com

(5) J. WONG'S THAI & CHINESE BISTRO

The interesting blending of Chinese and Thai cuisines at J. Wong's isn't surprising once you know that the Wongs — originally from China — emigrated to Thailand before settling down here in Utah. Their restaurant has a contemporary, sleek look, with imported artwork and décor from China and Thailand. It's an inviting, beautiful eatery. On the menu, flavors range from Thai curries and Chinese stir-fries to inventive dishes like honey-glazed walnut shrimp and equally delicious Hong Ju scallops. An excellent beer, wine, liquor and sake selection just adds to J. Wong's appeal.

801-350-0888 | jwongs.com



(14) STANZA ITALIAN BISTRO & WINE BAR

Eye-popping design and décor is the hallmark of Joel LaSalle's Stanza restaurant, which is a fine destination for excellent, eclectic Italian fare. Yellowtail crudo is a terrific way to kick off a meal here, and you'll certainly want to tuck into at least one of the homemade pastas: bucatini alla carbonara is a great choice. Beverage manager Jimmy Santangelo's first-rate wine and cocktail collection adds to the enjoyment of a Stanza meal.

801-746-4441 | stanzaslc.com



FELDMAN'S DELI

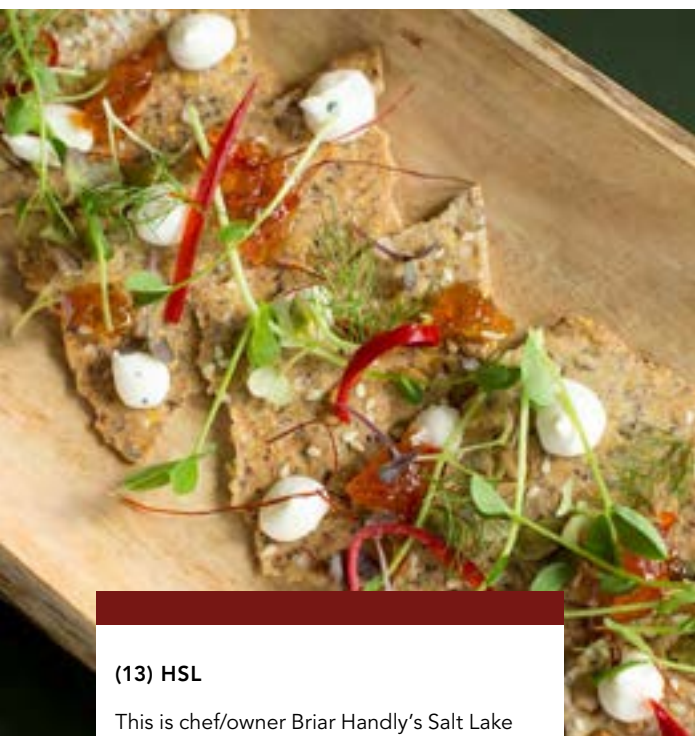
For an authentic, Jewish-style (not kosher) eating experience in Utah, look no further than Feldman's Deli. Created by husband-and-wife team Michael and Janet Feldman, this is the real deal. The menu can transport you to the East Coast, where the Feldmans hail from, with temptations like boil-and-bake bagels, housemade kishka, potato and onion knish, matzo ball soup, gefilte fish and, of course, overstuffed deli sandwiches. And there's entertainment to boot. Look for "Old Jews Telling Jokes" comedy nights as well as live music on weekends.

801-906-0369 | feldmansdeli.com

(10) FRIDA BISTRO

With no shortage of Mexican restaurants in town, owner Jorge Fierro raises the bar with his vibrant and colorful homage to artist Frida Kahlo. No burritos here, but you'll find regional Mexican cuisine like chile en nogada, escolar ceviche, and pollo cotija, along with an exceptional selection of tequilas, mezcal, cocktails, wines, beers and more. Tucked away on a nearly traffic-free street, patio dining is serene at Frida Bistro.

801-983-6692 | fridabistro.com



(13) HSL

This is chef/owner Briar Handly's Salt Lake sister restaurant to Handle, located in Park City. With locally sourced ingredients that are mostly organic, HSL offers nourishing meals with a ultra-inventive spin. Imagine smoked parsnip "bacon," with red beets, Granny Smith apples, and pink peppercorn honey, for example. Ash-roasted cabbage, anybody? The beef cheek burger with duck fat-fried spuds is one of the tastiest things on the planet, and who but the always-surprising Handly will glaze a pork shank with apple butter and Frank's Red Hot Sauce?

801-539-9999 | hslrestaurant.com



(9) FIRESIDE ON REGENT

If you're attending a performance at the Eccles Theater and looking for a pre-show meal, Fireside on Regent is conveniently located adjacent to the venue. But then, lunch or dinner at Fireside is a terrific choice anytime. Chef Michael Richey specializes in wood-fired pizzas and housemade pastas that are ethereal. White wine-braised rabbit with bucatini is outstanding, as are creative dishes such as Richey's house-pulled mozzarella bathed in zucchini "broth" with basil, parsley, olive tapenade, and thin-sliced zucchini rounds. Grab a spot at the counter and watch the kitchen action up close.

801-359-4011 | firesideonregent.com



(21) PAGO

Owner Scott Evans and chef Phelix Gardner are militant about incorporating locally-sourced and natural ingredients into Pago's dishes whenever possible. The payoff is in the exquisite flavors at this farm-to-table restaurant in Salt Lake's 9th and 9th neighborhood. Local artisan producers like Frog Bench Farms and Clifford Family Farm are well-represented in appealing menu items such as duck confit hash with farm-fresh egg, and parsnip soup with local honey. Having an on-premises sommelier who is also a winemaker — Evan Lewandowski of Ruth Lewandowski wines — to help out with wine choices is a big bonus. The Pago Group's nearby East Liberty Tap House is a casual establishment that applies the same philosophy to classic bar food and elevated cocktails.

801-532-0777 | pagoslc.com



CAFÉ MADRID

Café Madrid and its lunchtime little sister, Café Gaudi, bring a splash of sunny Spain to Salt Lake City. The gorgeous restaurant and courtyard offer the setting for cuisine ranging from Spanish tapas to customized paella. Family owned, the folks at Café Madrid treat everyone like family; it's hard to think of a more hospitable dining spot. Classic tapas like bacon-wrapped gambas (shrimp) share the menu with more modern fare such as philo-wrapped salmon with ginger and honey sauce. A terrific selection of Spanish wines and sangria round out the Café Madrid dining experience nicely.

801-273-0837 | cafemadrid.net

STATEWIDE DINING

TREE ROOM SUNDANCE

There are plenty of great reasons to visit Robert Redford's Sundance Resort — skiing, hiking, biking, relaxing and enjoying its natural beauty, among them. But one favorite excuse for a Sundance excursion is the experience of dining at the Tree Room. Decorated with Redford's personal collection of Western and Native American art and memorabilia, the restaurant is named for the tree that grows in the middle of it; Redford didn't want to cut it down, so he essentially built the Tree Room around it. From grilled octopus with piquillo peppers and white beans, to elk loin with seasonal mushrooms and blackberry-pomegranate mostarda, dining here is just as memorable as the sensational setting.

866-627-8313 | sundanceresort.com



HELL'S BACKBONE GRILL BOULDER

James Beard Award finalist Hell's Backbone Grill isn't just one of Utah's best restaurants, it's one of this country's best restaurants. Tibetan prayer flags blowing in the breeze welcome customers old and new to this very distinctive eatery where — not to sound hokey — but love is in the air. Guests love the Grill and owners Blake Spalding and Jen Castle and their staff love them right back. And what's not to love with meals sourced from the restaurant's organic farm and Boulder-raised, grass-fed local lamb and beef. Whether you come for the bodacious blue corn pancakes or Hopi-style lamb-stuffed green pepper, be assured that an excursion to Hell's Backbone Grill is one that can be life-changing. It's that special.

435-335-7464 | hellsbackbonegrill.com

SPIN CAFÉ HEBER

Fun and funky are two words to describe Spin Café, a casual restaurant with outrageously delicious homemade gelato that folks queue up for, along with an extensive and eclectic menu and beverage list. Someone in the kitchen knows a lot about barbecue, as evidenced by the excellent house-smoked turkey, Texas-style beef brisket, St. Louis spare ribs and hickory-smoked chicken. But this isn't just a BBQ joint. Spin also offers pastas, burgers, steaks, seafood, and lots more, including super-friendly service.

435-654-0251
facebook.com/spincafe



TUPELO PARK CITY

The creation of über-charming couple Matthew Harris and Maggie Alvarez, Tupelo is named for Harris' roots, which are planted in Georgia. The couple travels far and wide to source artisan, small-scale producers such as Bear Lake Lamb, Desert Mountain Beef, Ritual Chocolate and such for their kitchen. In Harris' hands, something as simple as buttermilk biscuits with Tupelo honey butter is divine, and a dish of whiskey-glazed pork cheeks with rosemary crumbs is truly memorable. Be certain to order the exquisite sticky toffee pudding with Earl Grey bitters ice cream for dessert.

435-615-7700 | tupeloparkcity.com

LE NONNE
LOGAN

One might not expect to encounter Northern Italy in Northern Utah, but that's exactly what you get at Le Nonne. PierAntonio Micheli's eatery isn't just the best Italian restaurant in Logan, it's one of the best in the West. Situated in a charming, foliage-covered house, Le Nonne is a lovely place to dine. And the food ... well, Micheli's homemade gnocchi Pomodoro is other-worldly, and see-through thin slices of beef carpaccio with arugula, lemon, EVOO and shaved grana padano is equally exceptional. Pollo ai funghi, delicate handmade ravioli, pasta e fagioli — all those dishes and more are simply superb.

435-752-9577 | lenonne.com



EKLECTICAFAE
MOAB

Aptly named, Eklecticafe is nothing if not eclectic. Brooklyn transplant Julie Fox isn't bound by traditional menu rules and regs, offering a smorgasbord of delicious dishes that range from her wildly popular banana-walnut pancakes to homemade pot-stickers and one of the best Reuben sandwiches around. Grab a seat in the plant- and fountain-strewn garden and indulge in the serenity.

435-259-6896
facebook.com/eklecticafe

FIREWOOD
PARK CITY

Firewood owner/chef John Murcko has always had a thing for fire. Not that he's a pyromaniac or anything — he just loves cooking over wood flames. So, creating a restaurant where almost all of the cooking is performed using various types of wood was a dream come true. For diners, that means enjoying dishes such as fire-roasted Arctic char, hot-smoked organic salmon, ember-roasted cauliflower, apricot wood-grilled duck confit and more — all cooked naturally over open flame. If you're over 21, visit the Nickel Bar downstairs at Firewood, named so because it's literally covered in nickels.

435-252-9900 | firewoodonmain.com



COMMUNAL
PROVO

Sure, you'll find fine dining in Provo. But did you expect to find a restaurant that strives to use local and sustainable meats, cheeses, and other ingredients? Enter Communal, a restaurant with a terrific vibe and killer cuisine to match. I know of no other eatery in Utah serving a whole *loup de mer*, but Communal does, with accoutrements like Brussels sprouts chips and turmeric cream sauce. Saturday brunch here is wildly popular, so plan accordingly.

801-373-8000 | communalrestaurant.com

GATEWAY GRILLE
KAMAS

If you don't consider Kamas to be a dining destination, you've never been to Sean Wharton's Gateway Grille. A former longtime chef at Deer Valley Resort, Wharton opened his Grille in the rural village of Kamas in 1997. Since then, the restaurant has drawn a committed clientele ranging from local farmers and ranchers to Park City visitors and residents. Serving breakfast, lunch and dinner, Gateway Grille offerings run the gamut from chicken fried steak and eggs to entrees like chicken piccata with lemon-white wine and caper-butter sauce. And hey, there's wine, to boot!

435-783-2867 | gatewaygrille.com

PAINTED PONY
ST. GEORGE

"No corkage Mondays" brings throngs of wine lovers to St. George's Painted Pony restaurant, but it's the top-notch food and ambiance that keep 'em coming back. Settle in on the sunny patio, at the bar, or in the dining room for a helping of Southwestern class, and dig into dishes as varied as bacon-wrapped duck, parsnip-green pea ravioli, and rack of New Zealand lamb with shaved fennel and mint gelée. Oh, and a side of "Truffled Ruffles" are a must, by George!

435-634-1700 | painted-pony.com

HEARTH ON 25TH
OGDEN

This Ogden fine-dining destination is nothing if not unique. Among the menu items at Hearth, you'll find Himalayan yak, Ora King salmon (which makes up only 1/2 of 1 percent of the global salmon population), and Tunis lamb and veal sourced from Wyoming's Cross Quarter Circle Ranch — a 100 percent women-owned and operated outfit. Add a speakeasy-style bar, the Title 32B Lounge, and you've got a truly one-of-a-kind dining and drinking establishment. And yes, yak meatballs and yak strip steaks are delish.

801-399-0088 | hearth25.com

STATEWIDE CULTURE GUIDE



MARY BROWN MALOUF
EDITOR, SALT LAKE MAGAZINE

(15) MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS SALT LAKE CITY

The state's art museum, the UMFA is located on the University of Utah campus where it preserves a collection of art and 21,000 cultural objects that represent 5,000 years of human history, including the finest landscapes inspired by the West's natural beauty. But the UMFA is anything but stodgy and offers a growing collection of contemporary art and features exhibitions of modern art from around the world.

801-581-7332 | umfa.org



UTAH FESTIVAL OPERA LOGAN

The annual six-week run of the Utah Festival Opera in Logan, Utah, adds a touch of high-class performing arts to trips to Northern Utah. In addition to five main shows in repertory each season with several operas and musicals, the festival offers expanded programming including talks, tours and demonstrations. Come to a show with an open mind and leave with a new view of the arts and your world.

435-752-0026 | www.utahfestival.org



(8) GEORGE S. AND DOLORES DORÉ ECCLES THEATER SALT LAKE CITY

Let it be known that the Eccles Theater brought Broadway to Utah. With the capacity and calendar to accommodate the big touring shows, the new theater anchors Salt Lake's rich performing arts cityscape, which includes nearby Capitol Theater, Abravanel Hall, Rose Wagner and additional venues at the University of Utah. This state-of-the-art theater features the 2,500-seat Delta Performance Hall and an intimate black box theater and opens up onto a public plaza on Regent Street that is quickly becoming a new urban lifestyle hub in downtown.

801-355-ARTS | artsaltlake.org

SHAKESPEARE FESTIVAL CEDAR CITY

This is one of Utah's more hidden gems — a renowned repertory theater (they won a Tony) featuring plays by the bard as well as classic and contemporary works in the heart of the state. It is staged on three theaters on the Southern Utah University campus: an outdoor replica of the Globe Theatre, an indoor theater and an auditorium theater.

800-752-9849 | bard.org

SUNDANCE FILM FESTIVAL
PARK CITY

While many adventure travelers flock to Park City, Utah, come wintertime, the mountain town also flurries with cinematic energy during the Sundance Film Festival, one of the largest independent film festivals in the world. For more than 30 years, the January festival has showcased some of the most innovative storytelling in cinema from American and international filmmakers. In other words, Park City and Utah's other festival venue cities combine each year's most promising films with The Greatest Snow on Earth®. It's worth planning extra days to visit.

435-658-3456 | sundance.org/festival



(7) UTAH MUSEUM OF CONTEMPORARY ART
SALT LAKE CITY

They call it UMOCA and it's full of outlandish, thought-provoking — sometimes even humorous — art that pushes the boundaries of genres. One show even featured an artist-designed miniature golf course. Galleries offer venue for up-and-coming, on-the-edge artists from Utah and beyond, but UMOCA serves as an art center as well, offering classes for the whole family on the second Saturday of each month as well as occasional events and lectures. Plus, it's free.

801-328-4201 | utahmoca.org



(16) RED BUTTE GARDENS
SALT LAKE CITY

Everyone knows that Utah has the best powder-skiing; what they may not know is that the state also has a terrific outdoor summer music scene. Check out the lineup at the Twilight Concert Series, (twilightconcertseries.com), the music at Thanksgiving Point (thanksgivingpoint.org) and the Brown Bag midday series at the Gallivan Center downtown (thegallivancenter.com). But besides the lovely gardens run by the Arboretum, Red Butte is home to a concert series which is the highlight of Salt Lake City summers. Big acts like David Byrne, Wilco and Willie Nelson take the stage here, playing to a picnicking audience seated on a grassy hillside in the foothills of the Wasatch Range. You can buy a beer and picnic on-site or bring in your own refreshments.

801-585-0556 | redbuttegarden.org



(4) UTAH SYMPHONY & OPERA
SALT LAKE CITY

The Utah Symphony plays more than 70 concerts a year in the acoustically beautiful Abravanel Hall with the towering Dale Chihuly glass sculpture in the lobby. One of the premier orchestras in the West, it also presents a summer pops program and accompanies the Utah Opera during its four yearly performances at the recently restored Capitol Theater. During the season, many local bars and restaurants create cocktails inspired by the opera libretti in a promotion called "Libretti & Libation."

801-533-6683 | usuo.org

(16) NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM OF UTAH
SALT LAKE CITY

You could consider it your own Jurassic Park. This is one of the most entertaining museums you'll ever visit, full of interactive features and dramatic dioramas. Utah is home to one of the most colossal concentrations of dinosaur fossils in the world. Many were discovered by Utah paleontologists and are on display in this dazzling museum. Built into the side of the mountains and designed to evoke Utah's slot canyons and mountains, the museum is laid out in geological time sequence. The view of the valley from the cafe and outdoor terraces is worth the price of admission.

801-581-6927 | NHMU.utah.edu

(4) BALLET WEST
SALT LAKE CITY

Thanks in part to the toe-tapping early Mormon settlers, who loved dance, Utah has a thriving dance scene, with several companies — from modern dance like Ririe-Woodbury to avant-garde Stephen Brown — performing full seasons. Queen of them all is Ballet West. Considered one of the country's leading dance companies, Ballet West performs the full-length classics as well as contemporary and original works. And every holiday they present a new and hilarious spoof of the beloved Nutcracker in addition to the classic.

801-323-6900 | balletwest.org

3





The quality and quantity of Utah's snow, ski resorts and winter experiences mean you truly can have the ski or snowboard vacation of your dreams. Looking for deep powder, Olympic downhill or precision-engineered terrain parks? Do you have visions of endless terrain followed by luxurious après ski? Stop dreaming and experience the real thing in Utah.

Utah's location at the Crossroads of the West means you have more time to enjoy your vacation on our world-class snow. It means more time on the mountain; more time with family and friends. A quick cup of coffee and a morning flight to Salt Lake City gets you on Utah's slopes by afternoon. Ten of Utah's 14 ski resorts are less than an hour from the airport. Stay anywhere along the vibrant Wasatch Front (Salt Lake City, Park City, Provo or Ogden) and you'll find a winter paradise in your own backyard. To explore insider tips and local ideas for more mountain time on The Greatest Snow on Earth®, go to **visitutah.com/mountain-time**.



Caroline Gleich, Solitude Mountain Resort | Adam Clark

EASY ACCESS

Salt Lake-area resorts (Solitude, Brighton, Snowbird and Alta) and Park City -area resorts (Park City/Canyons and Deer Valley) are within 45 minutes of Salt Lake City International Airport. Ogden-area resorts (Snowbasin, Powder Mountain, Nordic Valley) are an average of an hour from the airport, as is Robert Redford's scenic Sundance Mountain Resort in Provo Canyon.

The junctions of I-15, I-80 and I-84 in Northern Utah, combined with Salt Lake's belt route, I-215, means wide-open avenues right to Utah's best canyons. This layout is also convenient for ski itineraries hitting multiple Utah resorts. TRAX light rail, UTA ski buses and taxi services work together to shuttle visitors without vehicles between downtown and the resorts.

If it's all about the journey, set your sights on Utah's four scenic destination resorts: Cherry Peak and Beaver Mountain in Northern Utah near Logan or Eagle Point and Brian Head in Southern Utah. Many consider these undiscovered gems worth the drive for the untouched powder, mellow vibe and nonexistent lift lines. For visitors to the southern resorts, air travelers have the quickest access through Las Vegas.

Once you're here, the only real challenge is deciding if you want to stay slope-side or stay in the city. Maybe you want access to the cultural amenities and nightlife of Salt

Lake City, Ogden or Provo, or maybe you want to sleep in an extra 20–30 minutes in the morning by staying on the mountain.

WHERE TO STAY

SALT LAKE CITY

From the European-style village at Solitude to the luxurious Cliff Spa at Snowbird, Utah's four Cottonwood Canyon resorts (the popular Brighton Resort and skier's-only Alta round out the list) are top winter vacation destinations. Look for extensive slope-side lodging options and an average of 500+ inches of Utah's legendary snow in these canyons. The quality of the ski runs, on-mountain amenities and the proximity of the resorts to downtown define the Salt Lake ski experience. It's easy to catch first lift in the morning and take in the symphony in the evening. Add in a thriving culinary scene, world-class performing arts, plentiful shopping and off-the-slope activities for the whole family, and you can begin to see why the Salt Lake area has the reputation as the only true "Ski City" in the U.S.

PARK CITY

Though Historic Main Street has all the look and feel of a cozy mountain town, the Park City area is much larger than many realize. Park City Resort is among the largest resort experience in America while luxurious Deer Valley stretches into

the neighboring Heber Valley. Park City has more than 100 lodging properties and countless additional home and condo rentals in town or on the slope. The serene landscape around Heber and Midway is home to Olympic-caliber cross-country skiing at Soldier Hollow and comfortable Alpine accommodations.

SUNDANCE

Twenty minutes southwest of Heber is Robert Redford's rustic and comfortable Sundance Mountain Resort, nestled beneath one of the most picturesque peaks of the Wasatch Mountain Range, Mount Timpanogos.

OGDEN

This historic and welcoming town has built a mighty reputation as an outdoor recreation mecca with good reason. You'll find some of the state's best slopes in Ogden's backyard. Powder Mountain is one of North America's largest resorts and offers vast backcountry access and snow kiting. The legendary runs of Snowbasin include the men's and women's downhill from the 2002 Winter Olympics, stunning scenery, terrain parks and beautiful on-mountain facilities. Nordic Valley's expansion is building on Ogden Valley's legacy of incredible skiing and riding. Ogden's walkable downtown is growing with family amenities like the Treehouse Museum, a thriving restaurant and bar scene and classic buildings from Ogden's history as a boomtown railroad outpost.

UTAH'S SNOW SCIENCE

Utah's combination of geography and the storms that drop their bounty along the ten ski resorts in the Wasatch Mountains lead many to make the claim that Utah has the best deep-powder skiing and riding in the country. But don't take our word for it. Just look at the accolades from the readers of SKI magazine, Forbes and others, who annually rank Utah's ski resorts at the top of the class. According to research of snow quality in the Cottonwood Canyons by University of Utah atmospheric scientist Jim Steenburgh, unique climate conditions produce a "just right" frequency and quantity of snow for ideal flotation when skiing and riding Utah's powder. You may also hear the term "designer storms," which is when more than a foot of snow drops at a time in the mountains while Ski City at the foot of the canyon receives light snow or a little rain, keeping the roads and sidewalks clear. Follow the weekly Utah Snow Report on YouTube at "utahtourism."



GO BEYOND THE DOWNHILL
TO UTAH'S SPAS, DINING,
FESTIVALS AND ATTRACTIONS

visitutah.com/off-the-slope

APRÈS & UNIQUELY UTAH

Skiers and riders come to Utah for The Greatest Snow on Earth®, yet even those who opt not to take to the slopes can still find their “Greatest” at Utah’s resorts and surrounding communities. Here are nine experiences on and off the slopes favored by travel writer Jill K. Robinson.

Follow Jill @[dangerjr](#) and [dangerjillrobinson.com](#).

To see the best of all 14 resorts, explore [visitutah.com/ski-resorts](#).

RIDE AN ORANGE BUBBLE TO CLOUD DINE

Warm up and grab lunch atop Dream Peak at the newly redesigned and expanded Cloud Dine at Park City Resort. The orange bubble lift, a heated, covered chairlift warms you between runs as it zips you to the top of the peak in under ten minutes.



CLIFF SPA AT SNOWBIRD

Long days on the slopes can lead to sore muscles, but that doesn’t mean calling it a night. Stretch out at Snowbird’s Cliff Spa in yoga and fitness classes then chill in the eucalyptus steam room or rooftop heated pool after a spa treatment. Still not relaxed? Head downstairs to round out your après with a great meal and a cocktail. Don’t miss one of Utah’s largest stashes of premium tequila at El Chanate.



LAP THE UTAH OLYMPIC LEGACY AT SNOWBASIN

Advanced skiers can get a taste of the 2002 Winter Olympics by following the 2,625 feet of vertical drop that made up the women’s Wildflower Downhill course. Take the John Paul Express Quad to the Allen Peak Tram, adjust your goggles and go! For less extreme terrain, take the Needles Express Gondola to enjoy a treasure trove of intermediate and easy terrain.



GET A LIFT FROM TOWN AT PARK CITY

There’s no need to drive to the resort when you can grab a seat on the Town Lift, which loads right on Park City’s Historic Main Street. At the end of the day, celebrate your successful turns at the High West Distillery & Saloon — with ski-in access. Don’t worry: ski gear is perfectly acceptable attire for a late afternoon whiskey tasting.





KITES ARE FOR SKIERS

Get fluent in snow kiting at Powder Mountain's Adventure Center, which has lessons for individuals and groups to get a grip on the basics. If you already love it and have the gear, sign up for a snow kite adventure and learn how to add to your skills or if you just want to access the acres, you can grab a day pass and kite skiing pass.

SKI AMONG BRIAN HEAD'S HOODOOS

Downhill skiing in Utah calls to mind craggy alpine peaks. At Brian Head, however, their high-speed quads zip you up the mountain overlooking the orange sandstone hoodoos (slender rock towers) of Cedar Breaks National Monument, just 3 miles away. Of course, the skiing is spectacular too. Recent upgrades at the resort have many long-time regulars singing the resort's praises even louder, making Brian Head a hidden gem among Utah's resorts.



DRINK WHISKEY IN BUTCH CASSIDY'S FOOTSTEPS

Add some authentic Western influence to your ski day at the Owl Bar. Once frequented by Butch Cassidy's Hole-in-the-Wall Gang, the 1890s Rosewood Bar was moved from its home in Thermopolis, Wyoming to Sundance and restored for your enjoyment. Belly on up, order a whiskey, exchange stories about the best run of the day and make plans for tomorrow.



LEARN FROM 80 YEARS OF SKI TRAINING AT BRIGHTON

Brighton has been open since 1936, which means there has been a continuous focus on ski instruction for more than 80 years. Even the kids of past instructors are now teaching ski school basics. It's hard to pass up the value of all those decades of experience helping turn novice skiers into seasoned masters.



BRING THE SKIS TO DEER VALLEY

Deer Valley is a skier's mountain. Impeccable corduroy runs, ski valets, attention to detail and awesome terrain are some of the reasons why readers of SKI magazine consistently vote Deer Valley among the best ski resorts in North America including No. 1 for guest services. It isn't hype: Deer Valley is that good.



*After hard toil laid on the completion
of the Pacific Railroad, Aug. 1869*

JOHN W. FULTON	JOHN W. FULTON
JOHN W. FULTON	JOHN W. FULTON
JOHN W. FULTON	JOHN W. FULTON
JOHN W. FULTON	JOHN W. FULTON
JOHN W. FULTON	JOHN W. FULTON
JOHN W. FULTON	JOHN W. FULTON
JOHN W. FULTON	JOHN W. FULTON
JOHN W. FULTON	JOHN W. FULTON
JOHN W. FULTON	JOHN W. FULTON
JOHN W. FULTON	JOHN W. FULTON

Witnessed by "Old Time"
JOHN W. FULTON



Last year, TripAdvisor users engaged in more than 24,000 discussions about locations and attractions in the Utah forums. These are some of the best-reviewed destinations — the places, activities and adventures — that give meaning to Utah Life Elevated®. Here your fellow Utah travelers are your guide.

Dine on Historic 25th Street after a visit to Ogden's stately Union Station then track down your ancestors at the Family History Library in Salt Lake City. Take a drive or ride a bicycle up Provo Canyon, among the world's most scenic canyons, or head to Southern Utah for incredible hikes, scenic backways and championship golf in Utah's best red rock landscapes.

To find more trip ideas and reviews, go to:
www.tripadvisor.com/utah

ABOUT TRIPADVISOR®

TripAdvisor is the world's largest travel site, enabling travelers to plan and book the perfect trip. TripAdvisor offers trusted advice from travelers and a wide variety of travel choices and planning features with seamless links to booking tools that check hundreds of websites to find the best hotel prices. All reviews are the subjective opinion of a TripAdvisor member and not of TripAdvisor LLC. Reviews used with permission of TripAdvisor. We have edited some reviews for grammar and space but have preserved the reviewer's intent.

DINOSAUR NATIONAL MONUMENT



"Amazing! Exceeded our expectations!"

Never thought we would be able to see fossils in their 'unexcavated' state! Educational! Informative, and just plain fun! It is mesmerising... hard to believe places like this actually exist. Dinosaurs brought up close...but not in a typical museum. Beautiful country!"

— David C



TIMPANOGOS CAVE NATIONAL MONUMENT



"Incredible adventure"

I have visited Carlsbad Caverns, Mammoth Cave and Kartchner Caverns but never have I felt as awed as I did at Timpanogos Cave. ... The trail to the entrance is only 1.5 miles but the vertical climb is about 1,000 feet. ... The path inside the cave is not strenuous but there are some narrow places."

— Professor-Zero



FLAMING GORGE NATIONAL RECREATION AREA



"Wild and Beautiful — Lots to See and Do"

It may be a bit out of the way, but Flaming Gorge is totally worth the drive to take in all its gorgeous beauty and great outdoor activities. ... We love Flaming Gorge and highly recommend a visit for at least a couple days. You'll want to return as we did."

— MNDoodles



BEAR RIVER MIGRATORY BIRD REFUGE



"Great Birding"

I just keep coming back (from the U.K.) to Bear River. One of the best birding spots in the U.S. Masses of shore and water birds, and usually very peaceful with surprisingly few visitors."

— Profilan



UTAH MOTORSPORTS CAMPUS



"World Class Track"

This has become a world-renowned road-racing course, one of the best in the U.S. Everyone in Utah should check out this \$100 million facility, it is awesome. There is car racing and motorcycle racing ... [and] a Go Kart Racing series each year. Family fun at very reasonable prices."

— Dave G



BEAR LAKE



"Excellent Water Activities"

Cooler temperatures, pleasant water and shallow beaches that are great for kids. ... There is a very family-friendly atmosphere, and it really isn't overcrowded. There are plenty of places that rent out equipment ranging from kayaks and canoes to motorboats. ... Don't miss out on raspberry shakes in July/August."

— aquistbe



All reviews by travelers on TripAdvisor®



HILL AEROSPACE MUSEUM



"Amazing for children from 5 to 95

This is a great place to spend an entire afternoon with hundreds of displays and activities. ... Every time we leave, the children ask when they can go back. As adults we love to see the old planes and read the history behind them. You HAVE to make this a destination when you visit Ogden."

— Debbie W



USU EASTERN PREHISTORIC MUSEUM



"A spoonful of dinosaurs makes the archaeology go down

It has a really solid collection of dinosaur bones and skeletons an open lab, and terrific exhibits ... the kids will love it. BUT the real secret to this museum is the other half with the collection of pottery, woven goods, baskets, etc. of Utah's Native peoples, back to the earliest excavations ... "

— htvollin



PROVO CANYON



"Few scenic drives compare

We've traveled through canyons all over the world: Switzerland, Germany, Taroko Gorge, China, New Zealand and on and on, but Provo Canyon ranks with them. ... Stop at Bridal Veil Falls; head up South Fork or stop at the ponds at Vivian Park or go up the Alpine Loop by way of Sundance."

— Mark S



MONUMENT VALLEY NAVAJO TRIBAL PARK



"My Favorite Place In The USofA

The very unusual formation of these red rocks are breathtaking[ly] unique. It is quiet; you really can relax and enjoy your time there. Talk to the natives and — if you like — buy a piece of Navajo jewelry. ... If you have watched old Western movies, here you see the 'real world' where some of the movies played."

—paulpaul72



UNION STATION



"4 Museums plus a wonderful lunch

We made a day of visiting Ogden. ... We had lunch at Union Grill then toured the four museums. ... The railroad museum explained the transcontinental railroad history. Nicely done and interesting for both adults and children. ... The Browning Museum is a must for gun and rifle enthusiasts."

— pattcake919



HELL'S REVENGE JEEP TRAIL



"Do it!

I was a little leery of this tour because I am an instructor for Land Rover and thought it might be a little lame. I'll have to admit that the first few ascents and descents had my heart rate up. ... At several places we stopped and [our instructor] regaled us with stories and local history. Hated to see it end."

— Gman532

ENTRADA AT SNOW CANYON GOLF COURSE



"You Must Play This Course

If you're in St. George on a golf trip, you MUST play this one. I've played most of them in the area and this is at the TOP of the list. ... This is by far the best condition, layout, etc. A great scenic surprise when you get to holes 15-17."

— LVworldTravelerUSA



PARK CITY MUSEUM



"Fascinating history

This museum is extremely well done and covers ... the silver mining history, how Sundance was founded, the ski industry, [Park City's] diversity dating back 100 years. The exhibits are terrific, informative, interactive, and the jail downright creepy. It is a great way to spend an afternoon."

— shelandi



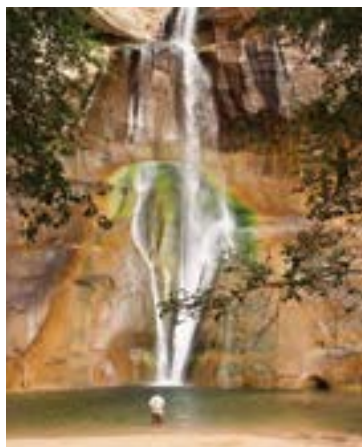
CALF CREEK FALLS



"Wonderful hike

Hiked this great trail ... while we were exploring Highway 12. This trail was a lot of fun with wonderful scenery along the way. The red canyon walls, the river, even a large bird flying overhead scouting for a meal. The waterfall itself could be something out of a fairy tale — it was just beautiful."

— NCfamilytravel



CAPITOL REEF NP: BURR TRAIL



"A beautiful solitary drive

Utah does wonderful maintenance on its unpaved roads and the Burr was no exception. ... The 30 miles through dramatic red rock canyons, followed by exciting tight switchbacks ... and the colorful, desolate beauty of the lonely dirt road ... is our idea of a perfect drive."

— RandiRA



HEBER VALLEY



"FISHING, GOLF AND HORSEBACK RIDING

From Blue Ribbon fly-fishing on the Provo to golf at Soldier Hollow and two horseback riding experiences ... All were excellent. My husband went fishing. I went riding and we played golf together, not all in one day. But it was so great we returned another day to do it all over again."

— Cindy K



U-DIG FOSSILS



"Trilobites are prolific!

It is a bona fide trilobite dig ... Take plenty of water and something to eat as well as sunblock. We did a half-day dig. It was actually quite relaxing and we got some nice trilobite specimens to take home. ... Serious rockhounds will enjoy it."

— Karen G



THANKSGIVING POINT



"A great place with lots to do

There is a wide selection of activities for families, couples or individuals. There are several nice shops and a few places to eat. You could easily spend a full day here exploring the gardens, dinosaur museum, Museum of Curiosity, Farm Country and taking in a movie."

— StevieinCH





TEMPLE SQUARE



"America's Vatican City"

This is a beautiful, peaceful place. The missionaries are available to answer questions or give you a tour and explain the historical and religious importance of this place. If you happen to go on a Thursday night, stop in at the Tabernacle to listen to the famous Mormon Tabernacle Choir rehearsal."

— 901Annie



BEST FRIENDS ANIMAL SANCTUARY



"What all animal shelters should strive to be"

I'm so glad we stopped here while traveling from Zion to Lake Powell. It was extremely heart-warming to see such effort and dedication to doing animal rehabilitation, care and adoption the best that it can be done. ... Be sure to check their schedules for available tours and workshops."

— Jeffrey F



FAMILY HISTORY LIBRARY



"Mecca for geneologists!"

The kind people here will help you if you are a beginner. Let them know it's your first time. If you are not a beginner, use the FamilySearch website to do your homework in advance and come prepared with your film numbers! If your films are in the Granite Mountain Vault, order them in advance."

— JLZplus4



GOLDEN SPIKE NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE



"You're going to love it more than you can imagine ..."

After watching the movie (20 minutes), looking at the artifacts, going out to see the site itself, and looking around at the very, very majestic landscape, I had one of those moments where I felt a huge burst of pride on behalf of the incredible work that our forebears did to develop this country."

— artnik



MAPLE CANYON



"Great views and hike"

Maple Canyon is now one of our favorite fall hikes. We love the views, the colors of the maple leaves, the amazing formation of the rock walls, and the natural arch. It is challenging enough, but not too hard. If you are a rock climber, it is a MUST!!!"

— sistatee



All reviews by travelers on TripAdvisor®

5





The Road to Mighty® thoughtfully paves the way for visitors to The Mighty 5® national parks and all the national monuments, national forests, towns, state parks and scenic lands that fill the space in between. For it is here that travelers visit the red rock icons then discover something equally wild around the next bend. It's hiking down the 1,000-foot face of a towering Island in the Sky then respectfully walking among 1,000-year-old ruins. It's running with childlike glee among the goblins then splashing in the plunge pool of a 126-foot-high waterfall. It's hidden canyons and observation points where fewer travelers visit and dark night skies so filled with stars, you'll wonder who is out there looking back.

Utah: Where five national parks are just the beginning.
visitutah.com/mighty5

©

THE MIGHTY FIVE



ARCHES

Fiery Furnace, Arches National Park | Jeff Diener

Behind the Arches National Park visitor center, craggy sandstone rises like a castle's curtain wall between towers and turrets. The 18-mile scenic drive climbs high onto the plateau and crosses a vast and glorious landscape with panoramic views of distant lofty peaks. At sunset, you'll swear photographers coined "magic hour" here as the red rock becomes saturated with the radiance of the sun. At sunrise, rays of light break over dramatic horizons. Daytime in Arches is playtime. Let's get hiking.

CLIMATE

You'll typically encounter excellent temperatures both day and night throughout the spring and fall, often deep into November, though nights are significantly cooler. Southeastern Utah gets hot in the summer, and daytime temperatures can exceed 100°F. You can beat the heat by planning ahead and carrying sunscreen and extra water. During the summer, consider exploring in the morning and evening. In winter, navigate icy trails with poles and shoe spikes, and enjoy iconic landmarks in complete solitude.

GATEWAYS TO ARCHES

Five miles away in Moab, find great local cuisine, coffee, brews and abundant accommodations or seek out nearby resort destinations like Red Cliffs Lodge or Sorrel River Ranch and Spa. Pack your tent for the public lands that surround Moab. Bring your bike (or rent locally) for world-renowned trails of all types. Pack your sense of wonder for dinosaur prehistory and starry skies. Additional lodging options in Green River.

BUILD AN ITINERARY

In Arches, hiking, camping and road cycling can fill your itinerary. Every arch is a window into time and space that frames 300 million years of patient erosion. Arches also contains fields of spires, pinnacles and balanced formations that seem to defy the laws of physics. The National Park Service has options for half-day drives through the park with brief stops at overlooks, but Arches National Park's hikes can fill several days of exploration.

Fill up your water bottles at the visitor center. To start the journey, the La Sal Mountains Viewpoint creates contrast between Arches' geology and the distant peaks. The short hikes at Park Avenue, Balanced Rock and the Windows Section quickly bring you up to speed on the park's diverse formations and high concentration of arches. Even if you've seen pictures of Delicate Arch, you've not truly experienced it. Like the more than 2,000 arches that give the park its name, Delicate Arch begs a closer look. As with all hikes at Arches, this one begins with anticipation and ends with a sense of fulfillment.

INSIDER TIPS

1. Arches is not only far less crowded at sunrise and sunset, but many consider it the most striking time to visit. March–October are busy, especially on weekends. For the best experience, travel patiently.
2. Delicate Arch, The Windows and Landscape Arch are popular stops. Respect parking regulations. Well-prepared hikers can escape the crowd on the 8-mile Devil's Garden trail.
3. You'll need stamina, agility and a guide to negotiate the stunning labyrinth called the Fiery Furnace.
4. Follow @archesnps on Twitter and Facebook and visit nps.gov/arch for park alerts about current conditions and to view the entrance station webcam.
5. Due to construction, the road in Arches closes nightly Sunday–Thursday at 7 p.m. to 7 a.m. through November 30, 2017.

WHAT'S NEARBY: THE ROAD TO MIGHTY®

- Three scenic byways explore the Moab area's rolling red rock: Upper and Lower Colorado River (S.R. 128 and 279) and Dead Horse Point Mesa (S.R. 313).
- For off-road adventure, hit the 9,000-acre Sand Flats with Slickrock and Porcupine Rim for mountain biking and 40 miles of Jeep trails or a moderate 9.6-mile out-and-back bike trail at Klondike Bluffs.
- Mountain bikers of all abilities can tackle the Intrepid Trail System at nearby Dead Horse Point State Park (see page 42).

CANYONLANDS



Island in the Sky view from Long Canyon, Canyonlands National Park | Lee Cohen

Imagine wave after wave of deep canyons, towering mesas, pinnacles, cliffs and spires stretching across 527 square miles. Canyonlands National Park, formed by the currents and tributaries of Utah's Green and Colorado rivers, satisfies this vision. Due to the park's massive size, Canyonlands has four separate districts, including three land districts and the rivers themselves, each with its own characteristic landscapes and experiences. It is a lot to see. Luckily, there's always a trailhead nearby.

CLIMATE

Spring and fall are ideal seasons to visit Canyonlands. Like nearby Arches, Canyonlands warms up significantly in the summer months. Beat the heat by planning ahead, carrying sunscreen and extra water, and playing in the morning and evening during the peak of summer. Temperatures will dip to freezing at night by late November, but winter is an extraordinarily beautiful time in Canyonlands. Incredible "monsoon" season thunderstorms on late summer afternoons can result in potentially dangerous flash floods. Check in Moab or at the visitor center for conditions.

GATEWAYS TO CANYONLANDS

Moab and Monticello are popular base camps for Island in the Sky and the Needles districts, respectively, and each offers excellent accommodations. While Moab is known as an outdoor adventure destination and for its proximity to Arches National Park, Monticello is a high-elevation retreat with easy access to Monument Valley Navajo Tribal Park and the Four Corners region.

BUILD AN ITINERARY

Utah's largest national park has some of the least-visited areas in the nation, yet also has some of the most well-photographed icons in the West. You can custom-build your Canyonlands adventure with short but inspiring hikes for the whole family, a day or more on the rapids, or a retreat into the backcountry. Island in the Sky is the popular northern section accessible from Moab, where easy and moderate hikes access views of the Colorado River to the east and the Green River to the west. The southern tip overlooks the rivers' confluence. Strenuous hikes like Gooseberry Canyon and Murphy Loop descend into the canyon. The White Rim Trail (backcountry permit required) is a must for mountain bikes and Jeeps.

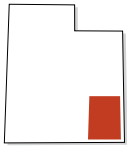
The Needles District is named for its profusion of red rock spires and sandstone fins. The remote Maze District is Canyonlands' most jumbled stone playground, requiring backcountry use permits and a high-clearance 4WD vehicle. Many have made the pilgrimage to Canyonlands inspired by Western author Edward Abbey and have left with a renewed sense of wonder and lust for life.

INSIDER TIPS

1. Island in the Sky is the most visited district, but outside of Mesa Arch and the overlooks, trailheads are seldom crowded.
2. With a guide or permit, plan an extra day or more for flatwater or whitewater trips on the Green and Colorado rivers (see Bucket List, page 4). A permit is also required to bike or drive the popular White Rim Trail and for all overnight camping trips in the backcountry.
3. Squaw Flat Campground in the Needles is a great basecamp for day hikes into the backcountry, but go prepared: Carry extra water and be alert for black bears.
4. The Maze, the most remote district of Canyonlands, easily occupies three days including several hours just to get there. The rewards for extremely well-prepared self-sufficient wayfinders are solitude and endless natural splendor.

WHAT'S NEARBY: THE ROAD TO MIGHTY®

- Explore Natural Bridges and Hovenweep national monuments, Edge of the Cedars and Goosenecks state parks and Monument Valley Navajo Tribal Park (see next page).
- Take time to enjoy Indian Creek Corridor to Needles District and Trail of the Ancients Scenic Byway. There is lodging at Blanding, Bluff, Mexican Hat and Monument Valley.
- There are thousands of ruins and cliff dwellings in the Four Corners region of southeastern Utah. When visiting sensitive sites, always "Respect and Protect."



WHAT'S NEARBY: THE ROAD TO MIGHTY SOUTHEASTERN UTAH

Moab is under four hours from Salt Lake City, and provides easy access to Arches, Canyonlands and Dead Horse Point. From there, it's another 150 miles to Monument Valley or 112 miles to Natural Bridges. There are numerous destinations along the scenic byways of the Four Corners region, so many travelers plan an extra day or two. See visitutah.com/road-to-mighty itineraries such as "Native Spirit," "Further Away From it All," "Iconic Classics" and "Hidden Secrets."



Rock Point, DHP | Kennan Harvey



Night sky at Owachomo Bridge | Jacob W. Frank/NPS

DEAD HORSE POINT STATE PARK

Many visitors find Dead Horse Point to be even more captivating than the views at the Grand Canyon. A visitor center and art gallery provide a wonderful introduction to the park's geology and key features visible from the overlooks. There are also mountain biking trails and reservable yurts.

visitutah.com/dead-horse-point

NATURAL BRIDGES NTL. MONUMENT

Discover three majestic bridges carved by water and time including Sipapu ("place of emergence"), the world's second-largest natural bridge. See from the scenic drive or hike down moderate to difficult trails. Stay late for a star show under some of the nation's darkest skies.

visitutah.com/natural-bridges

MANTI-LA SAL NATIONAL FOREST

In southeastern Utah, the La Sal and Abajo mountain ranges provide excellent opportunities for remote camping, hiking, biking, fishing, hunting and mountain climbing. They also serve as scenic backdrops to state and national parks throughout the region.

visitutah.com/mantilasal

HOVENWEEP NATIONAL MONUMENT

In a stark and beautiful landscape of sage and juniper, explore the astonishing ruins of Hovenweep's six prehistoric villages. In the 13th century, Ancestral Puebloans built towers and other structures, some skillfully balanced on canyon rims. Learn more with hiking and interpretive programs.

visitutah.com/hovenweep

EDGE OF THE CEDARS STATE PARK MUSEUM

This museum is a beautiful repository for ancient artifacts in the Four Corners region. The exhibits and on-site ruins showcase Ancestral Puebloan culture along with contemporary Native American items and the largest display of artifacts in the area.

visitutah.com/edgeofthecedars



Mule Canyon Tower | Sonya Doctorian



View from Teardrop Arch | Kennan Harvey

VALLEY OF THE GODS AND CEDAR MESA

A number of tall, red, isolated mesas, buttes and cliffs tower above the valley floor and can be seen while driving along Valley of the Gods' 17-mile gravel road. Nearby Cedar Mesa's remote, rugged backcountry trails offer adventurers solitude, archaeology and geographic beauty.

visitutah.com/cedar-mesa

MONUMENT VALLEY NAVAJO TRIBAL PARK

The iconic symbol of the American West and sacred heart of the Navajo Nation will feel hauntingly familiar and deeply spiritual to fans of Hollywood as your Navajo guide escorts you through the park — the best way to experience the park. Please respect tribal customs.

visitutah.com/monument-valley

GOOSENECKS STATE PARK

Look down upon the San Juan River 1,000 feet below you and see the results of 300 million years of erosion. It's worth lingering for the sunset. From this primitive state park, you can see the famous goosenecks and also enjoy a picnic and a campsite with great views.

visitutah.com/goosenecks

SCENIC BYWAYS

Drive the Upper Colorado River Scenic Byway (S.R. 128) and stop for rafting, wine tasting and renowned hiking and multi-pitch climbing at Fisher Towers. On Potash-Lower Colorado, see ancient rock art and dinosaur tracks or roadside climbing routes like Wall Street. Dead Horse Point Mesa is the scenic route to the namesake state park. Trail of the Ancients covers the Four Corners region.

visitutah.com/scenicbyways



CAPITOL REEF

Enter a world of magnificently colored and rugged rock features made of contrasting red Entrada and white Navajo sandstone. Capitol Reef National Park's central formation is a magnificent warp in the crust of the earth known as the Waterpocket Fold. The fascinating geology is the backdrop to the park's unique Western pioneer heritage found along Capitol Reef Scenic Byway (S.R. 24) and the park's scenic drive, but this formation extends for nearly 100 miles deep into Utah's best red rock country.

CLIMATE

Travelers in Capitol Reef will encounter a combination of mountain and desert climates. As the summer sun ripens the orchards, visitors will experience generally dry, warm weather with 70°–80°F, and significant nighttime dips down to the 40s. November–March is the coldest time, with daytime temperatures peaking under 50°F in November, 39°F in January and freezing overnight. Hardy travelers, however, will encounter stunning solitude amid snowcapped monoliths.

GATEWAYS TO CAPITOL REEF

The welcoming and eclectic town of Torrey is the primary gateway to Capitol Reef but nearby towns from Hanksville to Loa offer great motel and bed and breakfast accommodations. Capitol Reef campgrounds are first come, first served, including a developed campground in Fruita and primitive campgrounds in the backcountry.

BUILD AN ITINERARY

The visitor center and campground are open year-round. Several easy hiking trails and the park's scenic drive are found in this area. In only a couple of hours, you can take the scenic drive along S.R. 24 for a snapshot of the park and even harvest fruit from the park's orchards when in season. Stop for a couple of short hikes like Hickman Bridge and the Grand Wash or examine petroglyph panels left by the Fremont culture. With a day, and a high-clearance vehicle, you can explore the bulging uplift of rainbow-hued sandstone "reefs" and canyons of the Waterpocket Fold or tour the Temples of the Sun and Moon and the rest of Cathedral Valley's sculptured sandstone monoliths. With even more time, and the right supplies, you can grab a free backcountry permit and discover yourself amid pristine wilderness under more stars than you ever fathomed. Check ahead for the current conditions of backcountry roads and washes.

Capitol Reef has several incredible backpacking trails, but water is scarce and wayfinding knowledge is a must. The park is also growing in popularity as a rock-climbing destination. For all its rugged splendor, Capitol Reef is not as well-known as other parks. Yet most who discover the park wonder how they ever missed it.

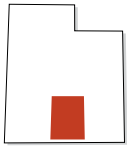
Bentonite Hills, Capitol Reef National Park | Jeff Clay

INSIDER TIPS

1. Ripe fruit picked and eaten in season in the Fruita orchards is free. Bag fruit to go for a nominal fee and stop at the Gifford Homestead for a fresh, local pie.
2. At high desert elevations, drink extra water and don't forget the electrolytes. Start hikes early, cover up and take breaks to enjoy scenery.
3. Capitol Reef is a certified International Dark Sky Park. Some say the real show starts well after sundown.
4. The Capitol Reef Scenic Drive is a 8.2-mile paved road that explores dramatically tilted layers of red sandstone and white rounded domes. Unpaved spurs take explorers deeper into the park, but always check conditions at the visitor center.

WHAT'S NEARBY: THE ROAD TO MIGHTY®

- Nearby San Rafael Swell includes Little Wild Horse Canyon, Goblin Valley State Park, the Wedge Overlook and Buckhorn Wash. Many roads are unpaved.
- Eclectic Torrey and charming Boulder offer inspired local dining like Cafe Diablo and James Beard finalist and Zagat-rated Hell's Backbone Grill, respectively.
- Down Highway 12, check out the popular 6-mile, round-trip Lower Calf Creek Falls hike and more rugged adventure near Escalante.



WHAT'S NEARBY: THE ROAD TO MIGHTY CENTRAL & SOUTHERN UTAH

Capitol Reef Country is roughly 3.5 hours from Salt Lake City and about 120 miles from Moab. All-American Road Scenic Byway 12 travels 124 miles through some of Utah's most scenic lands, connecting Capitol Reef to Bryce Canyon and southwestern Utah. You could do it in a few hours, but you'd miss a lot. Plan time to explore and book lodging or campsites well in advance. See visitutah.com/road-to-mighty itineraries such as "Footsteps of Explorers," "Roughin' It," "Foodie Journey" and "Walking off the Ledge."



Little Wildhorse Canyon | Jeff Diener

SAN RAFAEL SWELL

The Wedge Overlook is a good place to begin exploring the northern Swell and features incredible mountain biking. The view is a bird's-eye perspective of the Little Grand Canyon, a 14-mile path cut by the San Rafael River. Enjoy camping, hiking and petroglyphs in the Buckhorn Wash. Roads are unpaved.

visitutah.com/san-rafael



Fortymile Creek | Andrew Burr

GRAND STAIRCASE-ESCALANTE NATIONAL MONUMENT

Experience 1.8 million acres of outdoor adventure and star-filled night skies. Slot canyons, slickrock and other geologic wonders fill your line of sight while hiking, mountain biking, off-roading and camping. Find visitor centers at Big Water, Kanab, Escalante and Cannonville.

visitutah.com/grand-staircase-escalante

FISHLAKE NATIONAL FOREST

Enter an outdoor paradise known for its beautiful aspen forests with scenic drives leading to secluded camping, extensive ATV trails, elk hunting, and fishing. Highlights include the Paiute ATV Trail and Lakeshore National Recreation Trail, home to the massive quaking aspen colony known as Pando.

visitutah.com/fishlake

PAIUTE ATV TRAIL

Explore one of the best and most extensive networks of ATV trails in the country. Driving the Paiute's hundreds of miles of trails on an ATV or other OHV will take you through alpine forests, over mountains and meadows, and back down through the valleys of the Sevier River.

visitutah.com/paiute-atv

ANASAZI STATE PARK MUSEUM

At the base of the towering 11,000-foot Boulder Mountain get an up close and personal look into life from almost 1,000 years ago. Explore what was once one of the largest Ancestral Puebloan communities west of the Colorado River.

visitutah.com/anasazi



Kodachrome chimneys and pillars | Steve Greenwood

KODACHROME BASIN STATE PARK

The first official name, "Chimney Rock," reflects the area's 67 monolithic stone spires, part of a multicolored landscape so beautiful it earned the nickname "Kodachrome" after a popular Kodak film. Today, visitors enjoy camping and hiking across 2,240 acres of photogenic, geologic wonder.

visitutah.com/kodachrome



Exploring the goblins | Jeff Diener

GOBLIN VALLEY STATE PARK

Goblin Valley is unlike any other place in the world, and its whimsical sandstone landscape captures and stretches the imagination. Bring the family and experience this amazing place by hiking, camping, biking, and exploring the surrounding canyons. It is also a certified International Dark Sky Park.

visitutah.com/goblin-valley

ESCALANTE PETRIFIED FOREST STATE PARK

Discover the kaleidoscopic colors of wood reclaimed from the Earth alongside expansive vistas of the surrounding mountains and Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument. Cool off in idyllic Wide Hollow Reservoir and enjoy great fishing and camping at this state park base camp.

visitutah.com/petrified-forest

SCENIC BYWAYS

On the All-American Road Scenic Byway 12 discover two national parks, an expansive national monument, and the tranquil beauty of Boulder Mountain along with national forest lands and state parks unlike anywhere else. Continue the drive east on S.R. 24 Capitol Reef Country or head west toward the Fishlake Scenic Byway.

visitutah.com/scenicbyways

BRYCE CANYON



Horse trail view from Queens Garden | Steve Greenwood

At dawn and dusk, mule deer graze the forested plateau along the road into Bryce Canyon National Park. The alpine environment is home to dozens of species of mammals and birds, all acquainted with a spectacular truth: This is no ordinary forest. Water and wind over millions of years of freezes and thaws have carved endless fields of the park's distinctive red rock pillars, called hoodoos, into the plateau. Seek out the canyon floor on foot or stick to the overlooks by car. Bryce Canyon invites discovery.

CLIMATE

Travelers will experience the best of Southern Utah's mountain and desert climates at Bryce Canyon. Summer visitation peaks during July's "monsoon" season where travelers will encounter generally dry, warm weather around 80°F interspersed with dramatic afternoon lightning storms. Night dips into the 40s or 30s. November–March are the coldest, with temperatures peaking in the 30–40s and freezing at night. Because of its higher elevation, Bryce is cooler than the other Mighty 5® parks and carries snow longer into spring.

GATEWAYS TO BRYCE CANYON

Bryce Canyon City, Panguitch, Tropic, Cannonville and Henrieville offer a range of accommodations on Highway 12 with easy access to Bryce Canyon, Dixie National Forest and Grand Staircase–Escalante National Monument. Take your mountain bike to the Thunder Mountain Trail at Red Canyon or hike through Kodachrome Basin State Park. The Bryce Canyon visitor center is open year-round. Bryce Canyon Lodge, a National Historic Landmark, is open April through November.

BUILD AN ITINERARY

Bryce Canyon is equally perfect for auto tourists looking for short walks to viewpoints and for backcountry hikers seeking solitude. The 37-mile scenic drive accesses multiple overlooks where you'll capture your own memories of the park's famous vistas. The Rim Trail offers near-continuous looks deep into the main amphitheater while Rainbow, Yovimpa and Inspiration Points access wildly different perspectives. Return at different times of day and night and discover the park's ever-changing personality. If you only have a few hours, you can easily complete the drive and stop at every overlook. Some of the park's iconic hoodoos stand 10 stories tall — something you'll have to hike into the canyon to fully appreciate.

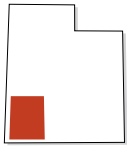
The most brilliant colors of the park come alive with the rising and setting of the sun, and the show continues into the night with dark sky astronomy programs. Summertime offers myriad walking and hiking trails along the rim and toward the bottom of the canyon. Many visitors think it's even better seen by horseback. In the winter, layer up for cold-weather hiking, cross-country skiing or snowshoeing when conditions permit.

INSIDER TIPS

1. Navajo Trail to Queens Garden is one of the best 3-mile hikes anywhere and solace-seekers should consider the 8-mile Fairyland Loop.
2. Bryce Canyon's pristine dark skies mean incredibly starry nights. Sign up early for astronomy programs (see Bucket List, page 4). Full moon hikes mean eerily well-lit hoodoos, but don't forget your headlamp and jacket.
3. High altitude hiking means sunscreen, hats, long sleeves and extra water. The rim at Bryce varies from 8,000 to 9,000 feet.
4. Save Presidents Day weekend in February for the Bryce Canyon Winter Festival or bring your own mule for the May Mule Days.

WHAT'S NEARBY: THE ROAD TO MIGHTY®

- Hike and mountain bike Red Canyon, stop for coffee in Tropic, camp, hike and ride horseback in Kodachrome Basin State Park, or take a high-clearance vehicle into the Grand Staircase (see next page).
- Explore Brian Head Resort and Cedar Breaks National Monument at 10,000 feet, between the Patchwork Parkway (S.R. 143) and Cedar Mountain/Markagunt Plateau (S.R. 14) scenic byways.
- Cedar City is a vibrant college town with Tony Award-winning Shakespeare, great local dining and excellent proximity to the national parks.



WHAT'S NEARBY: THE ROAD TO MIGHTY SOUTHWESTERN UTAH

The main canyon of Zion National Park is 4.5 hours from Salt Lake City; some travelers opt to arrive via Las Vegas. However you get here, plan to stay awhile. Iconic state parks, lush forests and stunning monuments pack the miles between Zion, Lake Powell and Bryce Canyon. From Zion, it's an hour west to Snow Canyon or 90 minutes northeast to Bryce Canyon. Book accommodations well in advance. See visitutah.com/road-to-mighty itineraries such as "Base Camp Kanab," "Family Frontier," "Southwest Silver Screen" and "Red Rock Romance."



Sunset on Point Supreme | Louis Arevalo



Rainbow Bridge span | NPS Photo

CEDAR BREAKS

Take the scenic drive at 10,000 feet through the lush Dixie National Forest, where a fairyland amphitheater of multicolored limestone strata plunges 2,000 feet deep into the plateau. Explore hiking trails or camp under the stars in summer and enjoy premier cross-country skiing in winter.

visitutah.com/cedar-breaks

RAINBOW BRIDGE

Accessible from Lake Powell (depending on lake level and trail condition), one of the world's largest natural bridges is a sacred symbol for indigenous people and an inspiration to modern travelers. With a permit, serious trekkers can backpack across Navajo lands to the remote site.

visitutah.com/rainbow-bridge

DIXIE NATIONAL FOREST

This forest stretches for 170 miles across Southern Utah and is "what's nearby" on much of the Road to Mighty. Hike in Pine Valley, bike among the brilliant red spires of Red Canyon, see scenic Navajo Lake, fish at Panguitch Lake, tour the east fork of the Sevier River, or explore scenic Boulder Mountain. All areas have camping.

visitutah.com/dixie

SAND HOLLOW STATE PARK

This sprawling 20,000-acre park often feels like a national park. Boaters, bikers, anglers, ATV riders and equestrians will all feel at home. A favorite destination for local OHV enthusiasts, Sand Mountain provides 15,000 acres of perfectly sculpted dunes.

visitutah.com/sand-hollow

QUAIL CREEK STATE PARK

Boasting some of the warmest waters in the state and a mild winter climate, the reservoir lures boaters and anglers year-round. Anglers fish for rainbow trout and bass. Spend a day on the water or visit nearby Zion, then retire to a campsite in a spectacular red rock desert setting.

visitutah.com/quail-creek

CORAL PINK SAND DUNES STATE PARK

Coral Pink Sand Dunes State Park is 3,730 acres, and more than 2,000 acres of sand are open to OHVs. It's the only major sand dune field on the Colorado Plateau, and great for OHV enthusiasts, hikers, sand boarders, and families in search of a unique site.

visitutah.com/coral-pink

BASE CAMP KANAB

Kanab is centrally located in the middle of 10 of America's greatest scenic wonders. From the colorful cliffs and wide expanses of Grand Staircase-Escalante, to the twisting sandstone bottlenecks of Buckskin Gulch, and the vertigo-inducing views of Zion, you'll need several days to see it all.

visitutah.com/base-camp-kanab



Gunsight Butte | Richard Ansley



Petrified sand dunes | Louis Arevalo

GLEN CANYON

From Bullfrog or Wahweap marinas, Lake Powell's 2,000 miles of shoreline wrap around the second-largest reservoir in the U.S. The lake is only a portion of the 1.2 million-acre Glen Canyon playground, a paradise for houseboaters, kayakers, bass anglers and photographers.

visitutah.com/glen-canyon-lake-powell

SNOW CANYON STATE PARK

Cut by water, sculpted by wind and time, Snow Canyon's Navajo sandstone cliffs share the same history and geology as Zion, one hour to the east. It is a national park-caliber destination in the Red Cliffs Desert Reserve that is popular with road cyclists, hikers, climbers and families.

visitutah.com/snow-canyon



INSIDER TIPS

1. For the best experience, arrive early. To minimize congestion, take the free town shuttle from near your Springdale hotel. Always hike respectfully and carry extra water and sun protection.
2. There are popular hikes at Angels Landing and The Narrows, but serious hikers may consider Hidden Canyon, Observation Point, and guided canyoneering in lesser-known slots.
3. The distinctive red asphalt of the Zion–Mt. Carmel Highway leads through a narrow 1.1-mile tunnel to lesser-known hikes near the East Entrance. Fee for large RVs, with limits.
4. Follow @zionnps on Twitter and Facebook and visit [nps.gov/arch](https://www.nps.gov/arch) for park alerts. For current conditions, use the Zion Chatbot at [visitutah.com/zion](https://www.visitutah.com/zion).

WHAT'S NEARBY: THE ROAD TO MIGHTY®

- Enjoy warm-water boating and angling or OHV options at nearby Quail Creek, Sand Hollow and Gunlock state parks (see previous page).
- Get off-road with an ATV at Coral Pink Sand Dunes near Kanab — also an excellent base camp for Lake Powell, Rainbow Bridge, Zion and the North Rim of the Grand Canyon.
- Relax in style and luxury at nearby Green Valley Spa and Red Mountain Resort or stroll the conservation trails of Red Cliffs Desert Reserve.

ZION

East Temple Loop | Jeff Diener

Carved by water and time, Zion National Park is a canyon that invites you to participate in the very forces that created it. In the warm climate of southwestern Utah, step into the Virgin River and see the colorful strata that mark the ages rising for thousands of feet up to a narrow strip of sky, then hike to seemingly impossible places and heights.

CLIMATE

May–October visitors will encounter highs in Zion from 90–100+°F. But there are plenty of ways to cool off in Zion. Day and night temperatures can differ by more than 30 degrees and afternoon thunderstorms occasionally drench the canyon — which often lead to flash floods. Refill water bottles at spring water taps throughout the park. Expect somewhat cooler temperatures early in the morning and late in the evening, as well as in early spring and late fall. Though winter days can be cold, the park is open, serene and beautiful.

GATEWAYS TO ZION

On scenic S.R. 9, Springdale is the primary gateway to Zion, and it offers a full range of accommodations as well as diverse dining, coffee, spa and entertainment hotspots. Reserve a spot early for the Watchman Campground or hit the first come, first served South Campground. Numerous lodging options are available in nearby towns La Verkin, Virgin, Rockville, Cedar City and St. George and these locations offer close proximity to championship golf, Snow Canyon and Coral Pink Sand Dunes state parks and Lake Powell.

BUILD AN ITINERARY

From Springdale or the visitor center, join fellow adventurers on the park's multi-passenger shuttle system, which is the only motorized transportation allowed in the main canyon past the historic Zion Lodge during peak season. The park shuttles let visitors sit back and enjoy from below Zion's lofty formations such as The Great White Throne and Weeping Rock and keeps the main canyon road free from congestion. There is adventure at every stop along the way. Plantime for ranger-led programs and the Human History Museum.

From the floor of Zion Canyon, feel dwarfed by the sheer sandstone walls colored with a gradient of white, cream, coral and orange rock dotted with intrepid trees growing among the steep divots and narrow shelves. Explore Pa'rus, Grotto and The Watchman trails with the whole family. Feeling adventurous? Hike to Observation Point, where Zion's monoliths are part of a grand landscape that spreads out beneath you. Take a half day, or two days with a permit, and explore Zion Canyon's famous slot canyons; it's even better with a guide. With even more time, the Kolob Canyons and the backcountry of the West Rim await.

6





ALL-AMERICAN ROAD SCENIC BYWAY 12

THE DRIVE: 124 miles | 4+ hours

Breathtaking engineering of the "Hogsback" complements exciting sandstone hikes and diverse geography between 4,000 and 9,000 feet on one of America's most beautiful drives.

GETTING THERE

Head east at the byway's southwest junction with U.S. 89, toward Bryce Canyon, or south from the northeast junction with S.R. 24 between Torrey and Capitol Reef National Park.

WHAT YOU'LL SEE

- Slickrock canyons, towering plateaus, unique red rock
- Grand Staircase–Escalante National Monument
- Contrasting juniper, pine and aspen of Dixie National Forest
- Deep Ancestral Puebloan heritage and welcoming pioneer towns

STOPPING POINTS

- Red Canyon and Bryce Canyon National Park
- Kodachrome Basin and Escalante Petrified Forest state parks
- Calf Creek Falls hike, Kiva Koffeehouse, Escalante Outfitters
- Boulder Mountain, Hell's Backbone Grill, Burr Trail



DINOSAUR DIAMOND PREHISTORIC HIGHWAY

THE DRIVE: 500 miles | 10 hours

Vast scenery of Utah and Colorado's "Jurassic Park" allows the imagination to travel back to prehistoric times. Interpret multiple active dig areas, museums and other history sites.

GETTING THERE

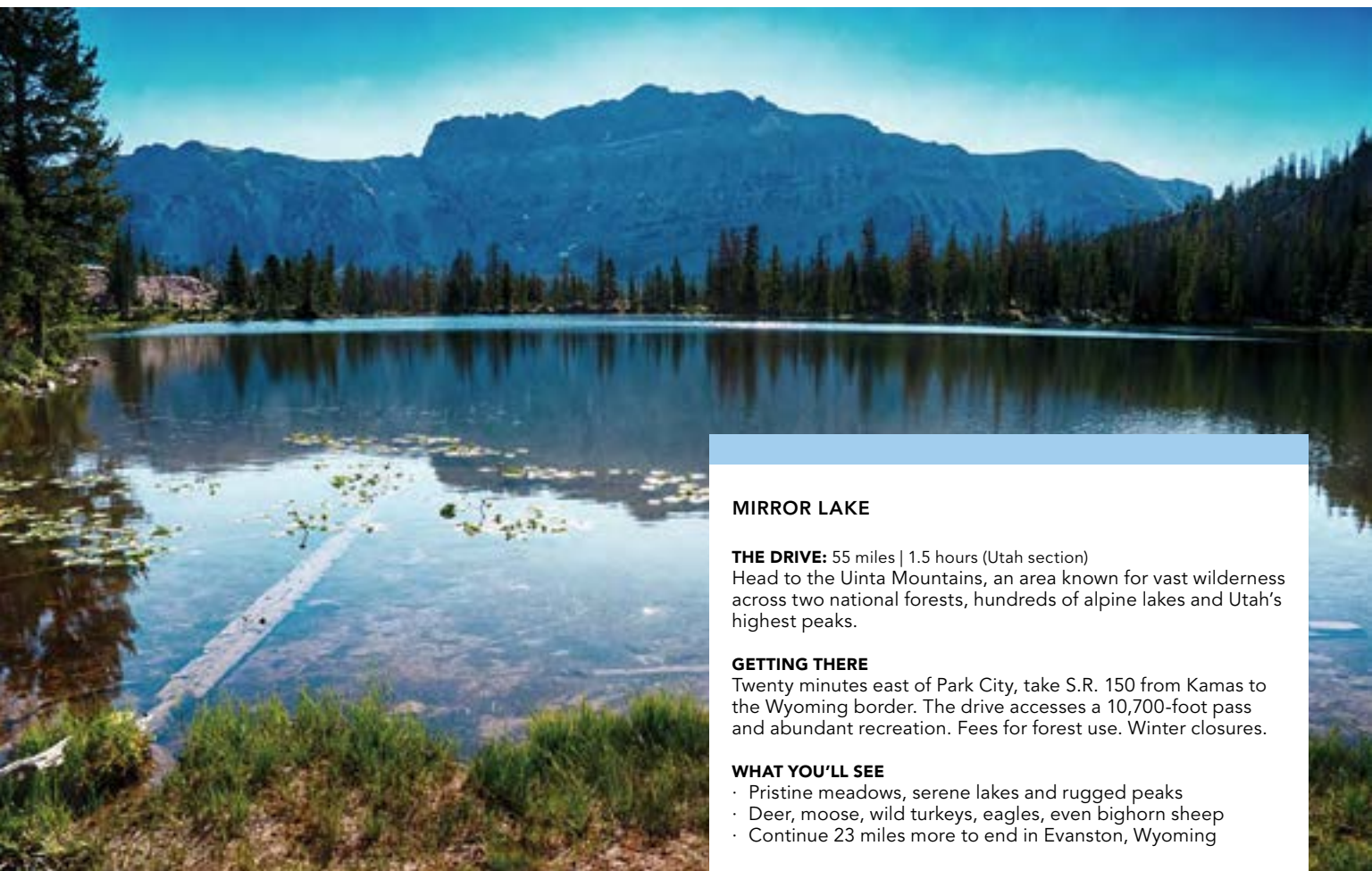
Access the large diamond-shaped byway from U.S. 40 to Vernal, near Dinosaur National Monument and Flaming Gorge, or on U.S. 6 and I-70 as part of a trip to Arches or Canyonlands.

WHAT YOU'LL SEE

- Wall of Bones, dinosaur quarries and pristine night skies
- Relics of Utah's early indigenous people
- Arches, towering mesas and fields of slickrock
- Green River and Upper Colorado River Scenic Byway

STOPPING POINTS

- Dinosaur National Monument and Utah Field House in Vernal
- Prehistoric Museum in Price, Cleveland-Lloyd Quarry
- Side trip: Little Grand Canyon of the San Rafael Swell
- Fisher Towers, Castle Creek Winery, Moab and Arches



MIRROR LAKE

THE DRIVE: 55 miles | 1.5 hours (Utah section)

Head to the Uinta Mountains, an area known for vast wilderness across two national forests, hundreds of alpine lakes and Utah's highest peaks.

GETTING THERE

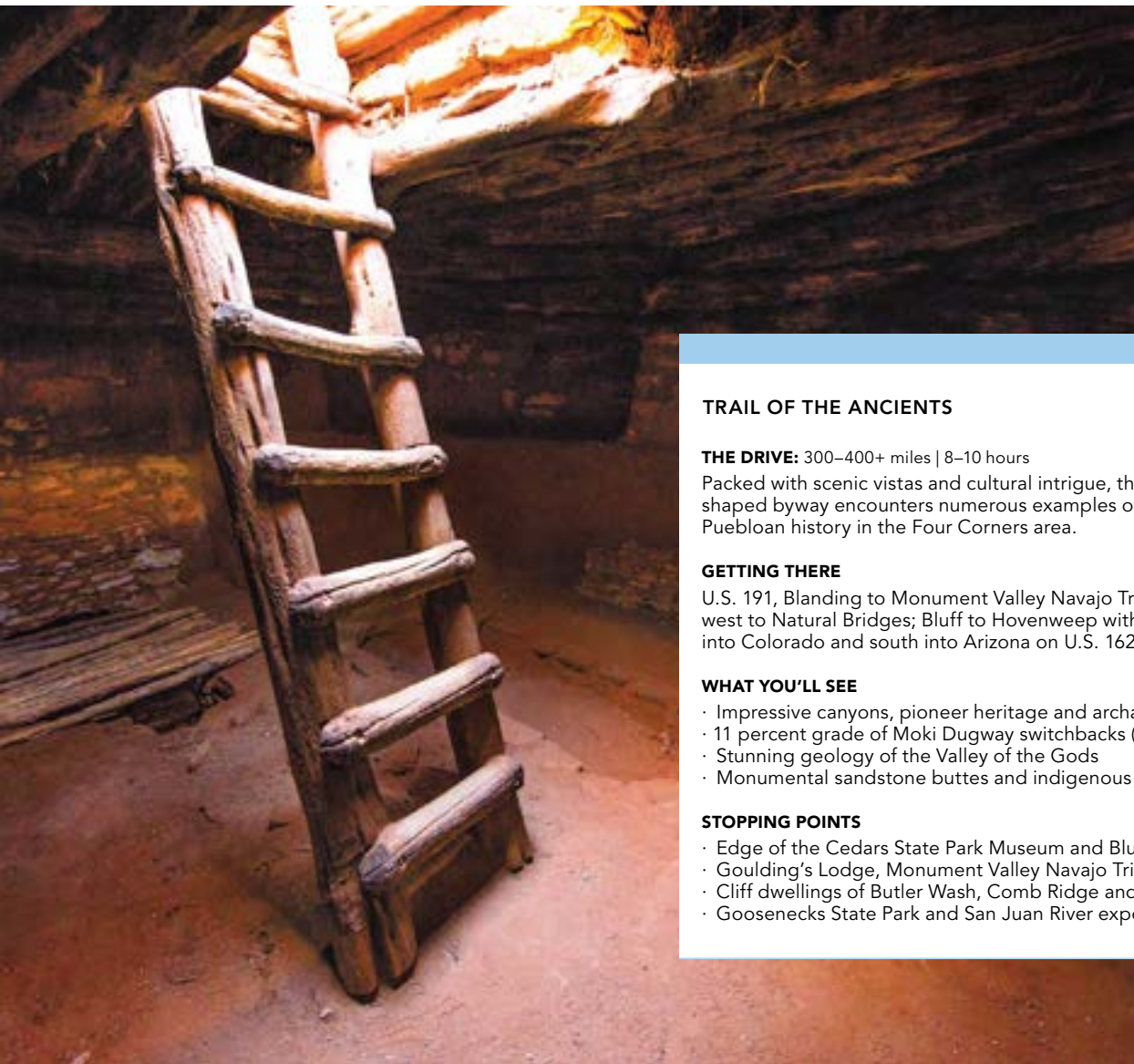
Twenty minutes east of Park City, take S.R. 150 from Kamas to the Wyoming border. The drive accesses a 10,700-foot pass and abundant recreation. Fees for forest use. Winter closures.

WHAT YOU'LL SEE

- Pristine meadows, serene lakes and rugged peaks
- Deer, moose, wild turkeys, eagles, even bighorn sheep
- Continue 23 miles more to end in Evanston, Wyoming

STOPPING POINTS

- Samak for provisions, Upper Provo River Falls
- Bald Mountain, Christmas Meadows and other top trailheads
- Fishing, camping, picnicking and winter snowmobiling



TRAIL OF THE ANCIENTS

THE DRIVE: 300–400+ miles | 8–10 hours

Packed with scenic vistas and cultural intrigue, the sunburst-shaped byway encounters numerous examples of Ancestral Puebloan history in the Four Corners area.

GETTING THERE

U.S. 191, Blanding to Monument Valley Navajo Tribal Park or west to Natural Bridges; Bluff to Hovenweep with options east into Colorado and south into Arizona on U.S. 162 and 163.

WHAT YOU'LL SEE

- Impressive canyons, pioneer heritage and archaeology
- 11 percent grade of Moki Dugway switchbacks (RV size limits)
- Stunning geology of the Valley of the Gods
- Monumental sandstone buttes and indigenous art

STOPPING POINTS

- Edge of the Cedars State Park Museum and Bluff Fort
- Goulding's Lodge, Monument Valley Navajo Tribal Park
- Cliff dwellings of Butler Wash, Comb Ridge and Hovenweep
- Goosenecks State Park and San Juan River expeditions



PATCHWORK PARKWAY

THE DRIVE: 51 miles | 1.5 hours

Steeped in Mormon pioneer heritage, this high-elevation drive between 6,000 and 10,400 feet accesses Utah's highest mountain resort and high-contrast scenery.

GETTING THERE

S.R. 143 is accessible from either I-15 at Parowan, north of Cedar City, or U.S. 89 from Panguitch, near Bryce Canyon.

WHAT YOU'LL SEE

- Vermillion Cliffs and Cedar Breaks National Monument
- Multiple interpretive points of a historic Mormon journey
- Colorful aspens and maples on the Dixie National Forest

STOPPING POINTS

- Year-round outdoor recreation, dining and spa at Brian Head
- Camping and fishing at Panguitch Lake
- Panguitch, on the National Register of Historic Places

NEBO LOOP

THE DRIVE: 32 miles | 1.5 hours

Spectacular overlooks, plentiful wildlife and national forest adventure capped with views of 11,928-foot Mount Nebo, the highest peak in the Wasatch.

GETTING THERE

Forest Service Road 015 is a winding drive between Payson and Nephi. Exit I-15 on S.R. 132 from Nephi then begin the climb to 9,345 feet. Closes in winter.

WHAT YOU'LL SEE

- Diverse wildlife and multiple national forest trailheads
- Eroded red sandstone against deep green foliage
- Fields of summer wildflowers and brilliant fall colors

STOPPING POINTS

- Numerous interpretive sites and scenic overlooks
- Devil's Kitchen Geologic Site and Grotto Falls hikes
- Camping, canoeing and fishing at Payson Lakes



EXPLORE ALL OF UTAH'S 27 STATE
AND NATIONAL SCENIC BYWAYS

visitutah.com/scenicbyways



LOGAN CANYON

THE DRIVE: 41 miles | 1 hour

On the way to a 7,800-foot summit, craggy limestone cliffs line the Logan River and Uinta-Wasatch-Cache National Forest recreation that includes hiking, fly-fishing and snowmobiling.

GETTING THERE

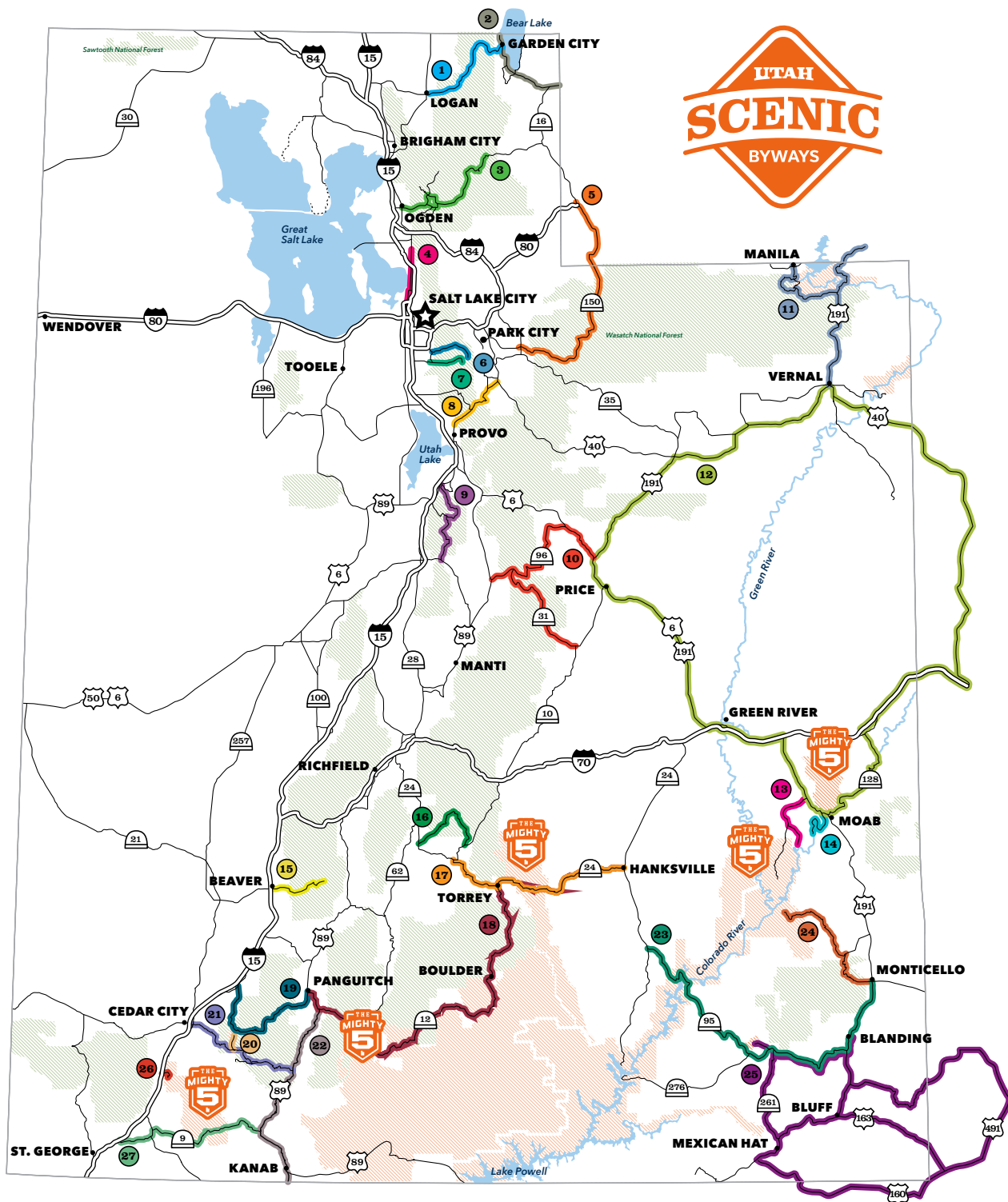
Travel historic U.S. 89 from the lush Cache Valley to the Utah border with Idaho, alongside Bear Lake. This is the scenic route to Grand Teton and Yellowstone national parks.

WHAT YOU'LL SEE

- 500 million years of geology and extensive national forests
- Abundant wildlife, trailheads and stunning fall foliage
- Turquoise waters and diverse water sports at Bear Lake

STOPPING POINTS

- Logan's local dining, coffee and culture
- Tony Grove Nature Trail, Beaver Mountain Resort
- Garden City diners and Bear Lake raspberry shakes



- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. Logan Canyon National Scenic Byway | 15. Beaver Canyon Scenic Byway |
| 2. Bear Lake Scenic Byway | 16. Fish Lake Scenic Byway |
| 3. Ogden River Scenic Byway | 17. Capitol Reef Country Scenic Byway |
| 4. Great Salt Lake Legacy Parkway | 18. Scenic Byway 12 All-American Road |
| 5. Mirror Lake Scenic Byway | 19. Utah's Patchwork Parkway National Scenic Byway |
| 6. Big Cottonwood Canyon Scenic Byway | 20. Cedar Breaks Scenic Byway |
| 7. Little Cottonwood Canyon Scenic Byway | 21. Markagunt High Plateau Scenic Byway |
| 8. Provo Canyon Scenic Byway | 22. Mount Carmel Scenic Byway |
| 9. Nebo Loop National Scenic Byway | 23. Bicentennial Highway |
| 10. Energy Loop: Huntington & Eccles Canyon Ntl. Scenic Byway | 24. Indian Creek Scenic Byway |
| 11. Flaming Gorge-Uintas National Scenic Byway | 25. Trail of the Ancients National Scenic Byway |
| 12. Dinosaur Diamond Prehistoric Highway-Ntl. Scenic Byway | 26. Kolob Fingers Road Scenic Byway |
| 13. Dead Horse Mesa Scenic Byway | 27. Zion Park Scenic Byway |
| 14. Potash-Lower Colorado River Scenic Byway | |

12

FREMONT INDIAN STATE PARK AND MUSEUM SEVIER

Take a trip back in time by visiting thousands of rock art panels. The large visitor center and museum showcases many fascinating artifacts. Nearby access to hiking, Castle Rock Campground and the Kimberly Ghost Town.

Teepee tents under the Perseid meteor shower
Jim Urquhart

Every July 24, Utahns celebrate Pioneer Day with parades, fireworks and festivities that rival the 4th of July. The day honors 1847, when Mormon settlers first colonized what is now the Salt Lake Valley. While Utah has a proud pioneer heritage, the region's human history dates back thousands of years. Visitors to central and southern regions can explore countless reminders of ancient peoples, including prolific rock art and the ruins of their homes and villages. Today, evidence of this blend of indigenous culture and Mormon pioneer heritage abounds throughout Utah's astonishing landscapes. This combined heritage is the foundation for a modern legacy of arts and culture that also includes a thriving Olympic spirit, inspiring earth art and fascinating drives on historic roads.

Here are 10 hot spots of Utah heritage to enrich your vacation. Explore upcoming events at heritage.utah.gov or see Dining and Culture (p.16) for the best of local, contemporary Utah.



NINE MILE CANYON

PRICE

Discover the "World's Longest Art Gallery." Several thousand years ago, ancient people carved and drew the world around them on the rock faces, many of which are accessible by road in this 46-mile-long gem. Combine with trips to Price and the San Rafael Swell.



CHASE HOME MUSEUM OF UTAH FOLK ART

SALT LAKE CITY

One of Utah's best hidden museums, featuring examples of folk art traditions practiced by Utah's multicultural communities including Native Americans. Located at the heart of Liberty Park, next to the Tracy Aviary.



SPIRAL JETTY

ROZEL POINT, GREAT SALT LAKE

Sculptor Robert Smithson's piece is one of the world's most unique works of art using the natural environment. Located on the northeastern shore of the Great Salt Lake, the Spiral Jetty is a brief drive from the Golden Spike National Historic Site and the ATK Thiokol Rocket Garden.



ALF ENGEN SKI MUSEUM PARK CITY

Located within Utah Olympic Park, this museum covers Utah's rich ski heritage over 150 years, from the 1800s through the 2002 Winter Olympic Games. Also visit the Park City History Museum and Kimball Arts Center on historic Main Street.



HISTORIC HIGHWAY 89 STATEWIDE

Before Interstate 15, U.S. Highway 89 was a primary Utah thoroughfare. From Kanab, travel near Zion and Bryce Canyon through pioneer-era towns. Explore Miners' Park at Marysville, the "Little Denmark" section of the Mormon Pioneer Heritage Area, Utah's Fruit Highway and Logan Canyon north to Bear Lake.



FRONTIER HOMESTEAD STATE PARK CEDAR CITY

This living museum displays mining equipment, horse-drawn wagons, historic buildings, and a Paiute native camp from the area's pioneer history. Close to the Shakespeare Festival.



WENDOVER AIR BASE WENDOVER

Take a step back to WWII for a fascinating look at the secret Manhattan Project and how this base was used as a bomber-training site for the bomber pilots, including those bound for Hiroshima and Nagasaki. Close to Bonneville Salt Flats and Sun Tunnels.



DAUGHTERS OF THE UTAH PIONEERS MUSEUM SALT LAKE CITY

The Pioneer Memorial Museum features the world's largest collection of Utah pioneer artifacts and offers a great slice of historic Western living. Located next to the State Capitol and close to Memory Grove Park.

UTAH STATE PARKS

Utah's well-maintained network of 43 state parks contains diverse travel experiences that are perfect for the whole family. Choose from outdoor adventures, relaxing reservoirs with beautiful golf courses, natural lakes and reservoirs with extensive water sports, incredibly scenic overlooks and rich heritage sites. Many state parks have RV hookups, showers and laundry facilities. Make no mistake: Many of Utah's state parks could be national parks in other states. With few exceptions (some beaches and indoor museums), dogs are welcome at Utah State Parks when on-leash and under their owner's control.

HIKING AND MOUNTAIN BIKING

Bring together the best of the Middle Rocky Mountains, Basin and Range, and Colorado Plateau and you can expect great trails no matter where you are in Utah. Utah State Parks represent the best of all three physiographic provinces: hike or bike among free-roaming bison on Antelope Island in the Basin and Range, explore the Rocky Mountain trails of Wasatch Mountain, and traverse the singletrack and slickrock of Dead Horse Point or Snow Canyon, to start.

CAMPING AND CERTIFIED INTERNATIONAL DARK SKY PARKS

Thirty-three of Utah's state parks have overnight options ranging from primitive tent camping to full RV hookups, yurts and teepees, most reservable in advance at [ReserveAmerica.com](https://www.reserveamerica.com). Even better, several parks are working to become certified International Dark Sky Parks, an achievement that reflects efforts to minimize light pollution in already dark and secluded places. Currently, certified parks include Goblin Valley and Dead Horse Point, and an additional 12 state parks are in process of certification.

BOATING AND FISHING

Utah offers a wide array of reservoirs in scenic and quiet places that are perfect for boating, paddling, Blue Ribbon fishing or just relaxing on the beach. A good place to start? Any of more than two dozen Utah State Parks from Quail Creek in the south to Bear Lake in the north with everything from warm-water bass fishing in the summer to ice fishing in the winter of the Wasatch Back. Valid Utah fishing license required.

GOLF

Four Utah parks — Wasatch Mountain, Millsite, Palisade and Green River — feature scenic public golf courses among their list of amenities. Wasatch Mountain combines with nearby Soldier Hollow to offer four 18-hole courses. This means families can bring all their toys and alternate between adventurous days on the trail or water and calmer days walking the greens.

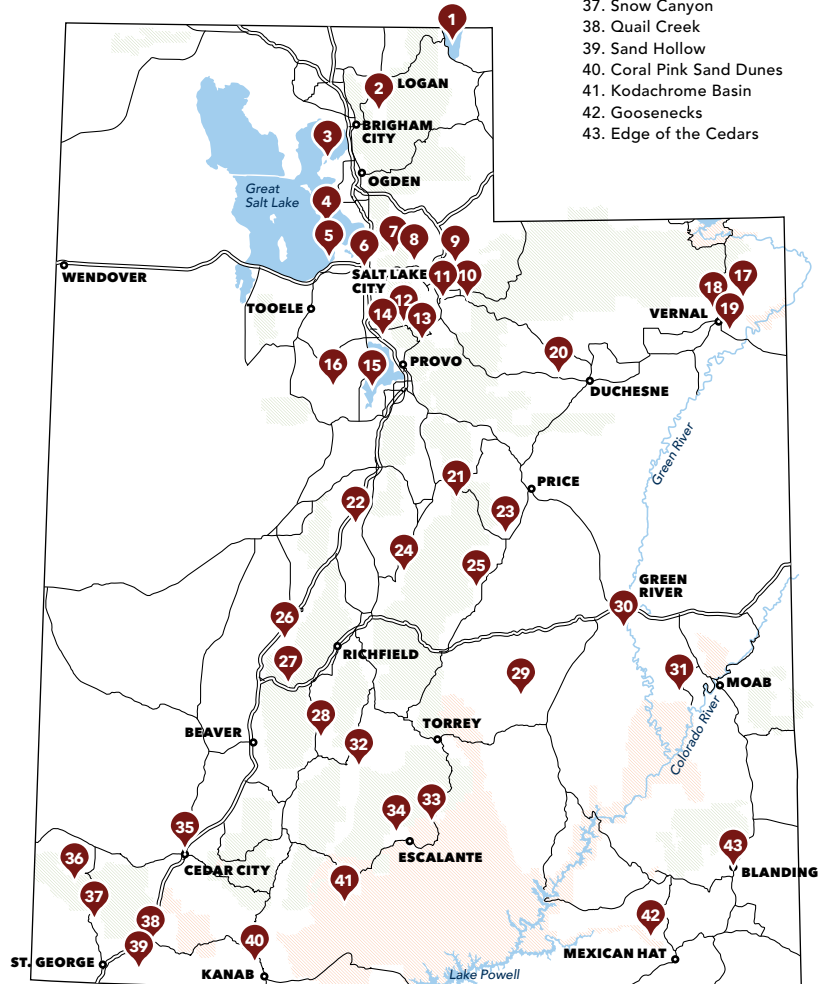
MUSEUMS AND HERITAGE

Utah State Parks also celebrate the Beehive State's unique history, inclusive of its ancient cultures (Edge of the Cedars, Fremont Indian, Anasazi) and more recent pioneer and Mormon heritage (Frontier Homestead, Territorial Statehouse, This Is the Place, Camp Floyd, Antelope Island). Not ancient enough? The Utah Field House of Natural History showcases northeastern Utah's geological and paleontological timeline, extending back nearly 1 billion years.

OHV

Few states match Utah's commitment to quality OHV and ATV experiences, and none offers the quantity and diversity of Utah, with trails covering thousands of high-elevation trails across the Middle Rocky Mountains and the seemingly endless expanses of red rock country in Southern Utah. Some Utah State Parks have trails within them and several are preferred base camps to trail systems. When riding, always know the law and Tread Lightly: stateparks.utah.gov/ohv

1. Bear Lake
2. Hyrum
3. Willard Bay
4. Antelope Island
5. Great Salt Lake
6. Jordan OHV
7. This Is The Place
8. East Canyon
9. Rockport
10. Wasatch Mountain
11. Jordanelle
12. Deer Creek
13. Union Pacific Trail
14. Flight Park
15. Utah Lake
16. Camp Floyd
17. Red Fleet
18. Steinaker
19. Utah Field House of Natural History
20. Starvation
21. Scofield
22. Yuba
23. Huntington
24. Palisade
25. Millsite
26. Territorial Statehouse
27. Fremont Indian
28. Piute
29. Goblin Valley
30. Green River
31. Dead Horse Point
32. Otter Creek
33. Anasazi Museum
34. Escalante Petrified Forest
35. Frontier Homestead
36. Gunlock
37. Snow Canyon
38. Quail Creek
39. Sand Hollow
40. Coral Pink Sand Dunes
41. Kodachrome Basin
42. Goosenecks
43. Edge of the Cedars



BOOMER TRAVEL

There are many reasons to travel: to live, experience, see, discover and connect. Many travel to expand their horizons or see their own life in a new way. For Baby Boomers, travel to Utah offers multiple opportunities. For those traveling with multiple generations, Utah prides itself on being a very family-friendly place. For many Boomers, retirement affords ample time not only to travel, but to enjoy longer stays. Utah's national parks, state parks, mountain resorts and populous Wasatch Front are all great destinations for boomer travelers, no matter your interests or level of adventure.



PARKS AND MONUMENTS

National parks, monuments and recreation areas can provide one of the most readily accessible outdoor vacation experiences around. Luckily, Utah has five national parks and 10 other national sites to help you fill your dance card. In the south, Lake Powell is a popular destination for houseboating and speed boating while anglers will appreciate the trophy trout of Flaming Gorge and the Green River in northeastern Utah. All five national parks have scenic byways and stretches of paved or improved trails for travelers with limited mobility, yet all the parks also have more strenuous trails or extensive backcountry if you heed the call of the wild. In short, Utah's national parks enable boomers and families to custom-build an itinerary with options for every age and ability (See The Mighty 5® on page 38 and Utah State Parks, previous page.)

MOUNTAIN AND METRO

Utah's vibrant urban corridor, known as the Wasatch Front, is an intriguing destination

for boomers because it combines the best cultural amenities of a big city with incredible outdoor recreation. Best of all, you'll spend much less time driving thanks to the proximity of Utah's mountains and excellent infrastructure.

Seasoned travelers may wish to check out Salt Lake City's complete package of professional performing arts, including the Utah Symphony & Opera, Ballet West, multiple theater companies, and the brand new Broadway-style Eccles Theater.

Other refinements include the fascinating nature paths and displays of Red Butte Garden and Arboretum and the Family History Library at Temple Square. Salt Lake City has also emerged as a top dining destination. (See Salt Lake City & the Wasatch Front on page 12 or Dining & Culture on page 16.)

Adventure-rich canyons and trailheads line the Wasatch Front, which means a trip to Salt Lake City (and neighboring metros like Ogden and Provo) can also feed your adventurous spirit, whether that means mountain biking the Bonneville

Shoreline Trail and renowned Wasatch Crest, hiking among wildflowers in designated wilderness or skiing and riding The Greatest Snow on Earth® in the winter. (See page 26.) Mountain resorts are ideal summertime destinations as well, where trails combine with ziplines, alpine slides, outdoor concerts and great dining. You'll find world-class spas at several of Utah's resorts, including Snowbird, Deer Valley, Park City, Sundance and Brian Head.

TRAVEL TIPS

Traveling at high elevation means carrying layers for chilly evenings much of the year and extra water to fend off altitude sickness. If anyone in your party feels tired or light-headed, drink some water and take a break — you'll want to slow down to enjoy the scenery, anyway! Many parks and monuments accept reservations for campsites well in advance. Like hotels and lodging near popular parks, these accommodations can fill up fast, so book early.

ADAPTIVE TRAVEL

"Lisa Speckman visited the National Ability Center (NAC) ranch in Park City, Utah, for the first time after losing both legs and her right arm and has been experimenting with adaptive recreation and travel ever since. On a typical weekend, she takes her two daughters up to the NAC for their horseback riding lessons. In the winter, the whole family heads up to Park City Mountain Resort to ski.

Lisa has been participating in NAC programs, both summer and winter, since 2011. Her goals are simple; to spend quality time together with her family and to get outdoors into Utah's beautiful wild lands. The Speckmans also utilize adaptive equipment and horseback riding to explore Utah's five national parks and other accessible Utah destinations. All of the Speckmans benefit from the support and empathy of the NAC.

There is no 'off the shelf' answer to all disabilities. Each person has his or her own set of challenges. It takes a lot of trial and error to find the right activity and the proper adaptive equipment for one's unique set of challenges. Traveling can amplify these challenges. The NAC, with a treasure trove of equipment, and staff experienced at finding innovative solutions, helps to shorten frustration of pursuing adaptive recreation and sports.

When Lisa first began recuperating, she struggled to come to terms with the changes in the life of her family and the sudden inability to engage with her outdoor passions. The NAC changed her outlook from counting her losses to discovering the possibilities. Adaptive recreation resources throughout Utah work to help build specialized recreation itineraries to create lasting, life enhancing experiences on Utah's diverse landscapes." — NAC

ABOUT NAC

Based in Park City, Utah, the NAC offers year-round adaptive programs for individuals of all abilities, including those with physical, cognitive or developmental disabilities or impairments and their families. In 2017, the NAC joined with Splore to offer even more programs, including whitewater rafting, hut skiing, mountain biking and outdoor climbing throughout the Wasatch and Uinta Mountains and in Moab and the surrounding areas of the Colorado and Green Rivers. Those of any age or ability are encouraged to take part in programs together with their family members, and alongside caring and passionate staff and volunteers, in accessible facilities. discovernac.org | 435-649-3991

FIVE KEY ADAPTIVE TRAVEL TIPS

- Pack a doctor's note on letterhead detailing special needs, medications and possible complications for emergencies and when requesting special accommodations at airports or hotels.
- Call ahead and check facts. Ask questions specific to your needs: Is there a walk-in shower? Is there a step to get in the door? What is the policy towards service animals?
- If flying, call TSA Cares toll-free at 1-855-787-2227, 72 hours prior to travel. You can request a Passenger Support specialist to meet you at the airport, or get information about the TSA's screening process as it relates to your specific disability or medical condition.
- Get an Access Pass. Passes are available to anyone with a permanent disability, and allow free entry to U.S. federal recreation sites (including all five of Utah's national parks) for you and three adults in your vehicle. store.usgs.gov/pass/access.html
- National parks have basic ADA facilities and tips. Go directly to the welcome center for ADA tips when you arrive at your destination to find the accessible campgrounds, viewpoints, restrooms, picnic sites and trails.



UTAH BUCKET LIST: NATIONAL ABILITY CENTER + SPLORE

GETTING ALL ABILITIES OUTDOORS

The National Ability Center and Splore have nearly 70 years of combined experience helping people with disabilities recreate and enjoy the natural wonders many of us take for granted.

Programs offered include cycling, paddlesports, indoor/outdoor climbing, horseback riding, mountain biking, river-rafting, skiing, snowboarding, yurt camping and many more. Families and friends are encouraged to participate alongside their loved ones.

www.sltrib.com/ubl/splore (See The Bucket List on page 4)
discovernac.org/adventure-more/

RESOURCES

For travel information, must-do ADA destinations and other resources: visitutah.com/accessible

TRAILS (Therapeutic Recreation And Independent Life Styles)
healthcare.utah.edu/rehab/support_services/trails.html
801-581-2526

National Ability Center
discovernac.org | 435-649-3991

The Kostopulos Dream Foundation (Camp K)
campk.org | 801-559-1500

Salt Lake County Parks & Recreation Adaptive Program
recreation.slco.org/adaptive | 801-559-1500

Wasatch Adaptive Sports at Snowbird Ski & Summer Resort
wasatchadaptivesports.org | 801-933-2188

Courage Reins Therapeutic Riding Center
couragereins.org | 801-756-8900

Common Ground Outdoor Adventures
cgadventures.org | 435-713-0288

Tag-a-Long Expeditions
tagalong.com | 800-453-3292

Holiday River Expeditions
bikeraft.com | 800-624-6323

Adrift Adventures
adrift.net | 800-874-4483

Hatch River Expeditions (Grand Canyon)
hatchriverexpeditions.com | 800-856-8966

LAST WORDS WITH GOVERNOR GARY R. HERBERT

FAVORITE DESTINATIONS & TRAVEL ADVICE FROM UTAH'S 17TH GOVERNOR

As Governor, you've visited every corner of Utah. What do you tell visiting friends and family they have to see on their trips to Utah?

I enjoy touring the state and experiencing the diverse landscapes we have in Utah. I always recommend friends and family take in a sunset at Dead Horse Point State Park, near Moab. My family and I take annual summer trips to Bear Lake and fall trips to Fish Lake for the spectacular colors as the aspens turn the hills into gold, orange and red against the deep green of the evergreens. These places are quietly beautiful and give me an opportunity to step away from the hectic pace of work and spend quality time with my family.



What is something underappreciated about Utah?

People traveling to Utah find the friendliness of Utahns surprising. Visitors commonly say, "Your people are so friendly, welcoming and hospitable." It's equally true in our big cities and our rural communities. It certainly helps that there is incredible outdoor recreation right in the backyard of our cities and towns, no matter where you are. Access to the outdoors is a big part of our active lifestyle and overall quality of life.

Additionally, people are amazed to discover how sophisticated and cultured Utahns are. We have a world-class symphony, arts scene, ballet and opera. You can find a high level of artistic performance and caliber in Utah that would rival talent on Broadway in New York.

What have officials from other states told you are their favorite Utah destinations?

Park City and Southern Utah's national parks are top referred-to destinations. Other states' officials mention our ski resorts, iconic vistas and venues in Southern Utah, the beauty of our mountains and Lake Powell.

Our state has a beauty that is diverse, and visitors notice the variety right away. It sets us apart from other states. The Rocky Mountains, red rocks and western desert are all beautiful and different.

What additional advice can you offer to travelers coming to Utah?

Be prepared to stay an extra day or two. Visitors are impressed with Utah and enjoy themselves so much they wish they could stay for a few more days. If you anticipate a three-day or 10-day trip, plan to be impressed and want to stay longer.

MORE RESOURCES

Utah's Welcome Centers

See Getting Here and Around on page 10

Ski Information and Snow Report

801-534-1779 | 800-754-8824
skiutah.com

Bureau of Land Management

801-539-4001
ut.blm.gov

U.S. Forest Service

801-625-5306
fs.usda.gov

National Park Service

nps.gov/ut

Utah State Parks & Recreation

801-538-7220
stateparks.utah.gov

U.S. Forest Service

801-625-5306
fs.usda.gov

Accommodations

visitutah.com/stay

City and County Visitor and Travel Bureaus

visitutah.com/local-info

Camping Reservations

stateparks.utah.gov/reservations
reserveamerica.com

Utah Road Conditions

866-511-UTAH, 511 in Utah
commuterlink.utah.gov

National Weather Service

801-524-5133
www.wrh.noaa.gov/slc

Utah Public Safety

801-887-3800 (24 hours a day)
Dial 911 for Emergencies



The Utah Travel Guide is a publication of the
Utah Office of Tourism, Film and Global Branding
Governor's Office of Economic Development

Council Hall / Capitol Hill, 300 North State
Salt Lake City, Utah 84114
(800) 200-1160 or (801) 538-1900
www.visitutah.com



[utahofficeoftourism](https://www.facebook.com/utahofficeoftourism)



[@VisitUtah](https://twitter.com/VisitUtah)



[@VisitUtah](https://www.instagram.com/VisitUtah)



[visitutah](https://www.pinterest.com/visitutah)



[utahtourism](https://www.youtube.com/utahtourism)

GOED Executive Director: Q. Val Hale
GOED Deputy Director: Benjamin Hart
Managing Director of Tourism: Vicki Varela
Associate Managing Director: David M. Williams
Director of Communications: Jay Kinghorn
Director of Partner Relations: Kaitlin Eskelson

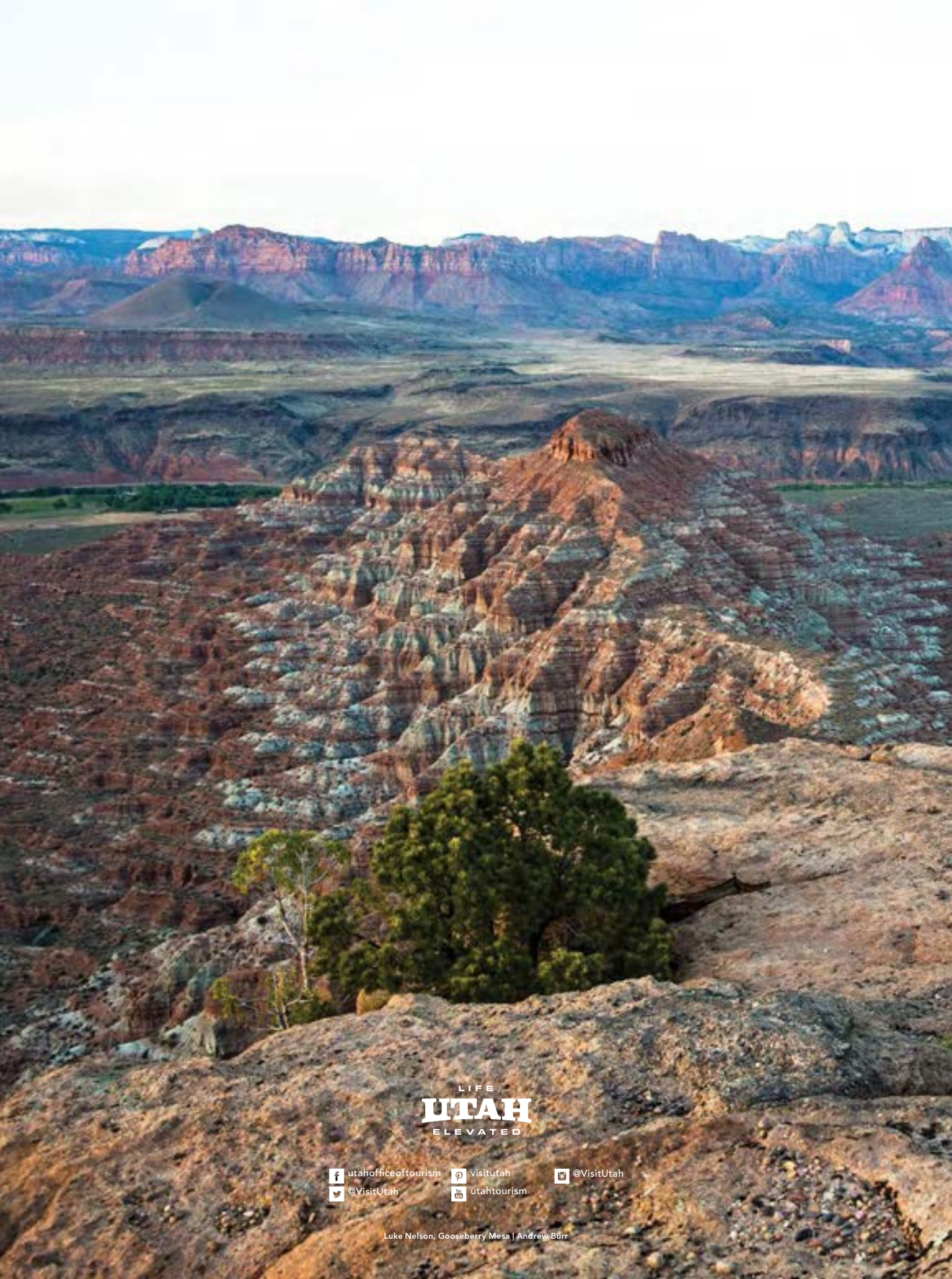
Design: Shaylee Read

Editing: Andrew Dash Gillman

Photo: Sandra Salvas

©Copyright 2017 Utah Office of Tourism

No portion of this publication's photos, text or maps may be reproduced
in any way without written permission from the Utah Office of Tourism.



LIFE
UTAH
ELEVATED



utahofficeoftourism



@VisitUtah



visitutah



utah tourism



@VisitUtah

Luke Nelson, Gooseberry Mesa | Andrew Burr