



Utah

THINK BIG

Walk in the footsteps of dinosaurs, Olympians or just pave your own path when you explore the wonders of Utah. The history of this state can be traced back to the Jurassic period. The fossilised evidence is on display in rock art and ruins across the region, and makes for some of the most amazing open-air museums in the world.

Contemporary Utah also continues to inspire a 'survival of the fittest' attitude among visitors. The snow-capped slopes of Salt Lake City draw the most elite of athletes (and amateurs who aspire to that standard) across a range of winter sports.

Meanwhile, travellers unable to achieve the Personal Bests required to mount a podium can enjoy Utah's Mighty Five® national parks, 43 state parks, and 22.8 million acres of public lands at their own pace. From remote mountain ranges and rivers to colourful red rock canyons, outdoor enthusiasts of all levels are attended to.

Finally, those who prefer city slicking to the great outdoors will also be impressed by Utah's urban offerings. Explorers can indulge in world-class paddock-to-plate cuisine, grab a drink at one of the recently legalised distilleries, or simply enjoy any of the annual events that keep the Beehive State's festival calendar buzzing all year long.

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FIND OUT MORE 



UTAH STATE

i ABOUT

Utah wants you to “Think Big” when planning a trip to this South West American state. Salt Lake City has long-been interchangeably referred to as Ski City and is top of the list for avid skiers and snowboarders.

The Mighty Five® national parks are alone enough to impress you with their natural cliffs, creeks and canyons. But they also offer every kind of recreational activity to rock your world.

Utah's open roads also readily deliver a quintessential American Road trip. Travellers only require the drive to discover a "vast desert whose dry and parched soil seemed to bid defiance." And finally, while Mother Nature always grandstands, some of Utah's more entrepreneurial types are taking cues from the natural landscape and repurposing them in decidedly urban ways - to deliver some of the most vibrant dining, lodging and entertainment options in modern America.

MUST-SEE

Mighty Five®

The national parks of Zion, Bryce Canyon, Capitol Reef, Canyonlands and Arches are an adults amusement park, with a range of recreational activities to be enjoyed year-round.

Moab

Sometimes referred to as the “Gateway to the Wild West”, this town is a great pivot point to Utah's magnificent natural wonders, while also remaining close to its city centres.

Scenic Byway 12

The nickname of this all-American Road “A Journey Through Time Scenic Gateway” should give you an indication of the beautiful national parks, monuments and sites.

Destination Dining and Distilleries

Towns and cities across the state are dishing up world-class cuisine and sophisticated spirits, including Logan, Ogden, Provo, Bluff and Cedar.

Utah Jazz Basketball Game

Watch Utah's NBA team shoot some hoops in Vivint Smart Home Arena. Handy hack: Grab tickets to a Salt Lake City Stars game to see potential future pros on court.

WHEN TO GO

While the heat of Utah Summers may make long national park hikes a little tougher, early starts and afternoon rests in the shade with a cold drink can help overcome this. Spring is one of the most popular seasons because you can sightsee and ski on the same day. Similarly the mild temperatures of Autumn make it a great time to visit. As one would expect, Winter in Utah is cold, however rug up and you will be rewarded with some of the best ski conditions of your life.

OFF THE BEATEN TRACK

Valley of the Gods, Mexican Hat

This southeastern Utah hidden gem offers similar views to that of the more famous Monument Valley, with more of a backcountry feel suited to experienced hikers.

Devil's Garden Primitive Loop, Arches National Park

The devil is in the detail of this under-utilised hiking path. It may be difficult, it's also a heavenly escape that'll leave you feeling on top of the world. (Or the equally exhilarating canyon bottom.)

Lost Canyon, Needles

Canyons are arguably among Utah's biggest contribution to tourism, and the amazing panoramas at Lost Canyon remain relatively undiscovered.

Zermatt Resort

★★★★★ Midway, UT

After a day at the nearby Wasatch Mountain State Park, unwind in one of this mountain resort's luxe 317 guest rooms, or pamper yourself with a massage or facial at the onsite day spa.

Little American Hotel

★★★★★ Salt Lake City, UT

This conveniently hotel is within walking distance of many of Salt Lake City's must-sees. In-room facilities feature LCD TVs, while recreational amenities include several pools and a spa tub.



ZION

i ABOUT

Zion National Park is the undisputed star of South West Utah. Located near the town of Springdale, this nature preserve is distinguished by its 24-kilometre long, 800-metre deep Zion Canyon and the ochre-colored Navajo sandstone cliffs and their various walking trails. In addition to hiking, however, rock climbing, birdwatching and water sports are also popular in the national park which includes emerald pools, waterfalls, hanging gardens and The Virgin River. And while the spotlight is deservedly shone on Zion, a host of surrounding cities are brilliantly cast in their supporting roles. From the stunning valleys of St George (and the neighbourhoods within the town who flaunt their own natural wonders) to Orderville - and its phenomenal slot canyons - the scenery of this region is among the most spectacular in Utah.

MUST-SEE

- Zion National Park, Zion**
Climb, camp, or even canyoneer. There are a multitude of ways to explore the scenic sandstone byways and spectacular skylscapes of America's third most visited national park.
- The Gateway to Zion, Springdale**
"The Gateway to Zion", this town (just outside the national park borders) is a great base for non-hiking activities. These include helicopter rides offering a bird's eye view of the area.
- Snow Canyon State Park, St George**
Despite the name, St George city's Snow Canyon State Park seldom receives any actual powder! Instead, its sandstone cliffs and black lava ridges are better suited to hiking.
- Sand Hollow State Park, Hurricane**
Neighbourhoods within St George, such as Hurricane, are sprawling with national conservation areas with Sand Hollow State Park's spectacular reservoir especially popular.
- Red Hollow Hike, Orderville**
Fulfil your daily canyon quota with Orderville's Red Hollow Hike. The trail runs through majestic red and white canyon walls, that gradually narrow and lead to a slot canyon.

WHEN TO GO

Zion National Park, and the towns that surround it welcome guests 365 days a year. Due to a location at the lowest elevation of all of Utah's national parks, temperatures are generally moderate all year long. While Summer months are the busiest, an excellent free public shuttle services most hotels and the entry to Zion National Park, as well as around Springdale. However, travellers who really would rather avoid the crowds will enjoy the freshness of a winter escape.

OFF THE BEATEN TRACK

- Kolob Terrace, Zion National Park**
The Main Canyon of Zion National Park is the most popular, however the rock formations in Kolob Terrace (known as "the subway") make it one hike off-the-beaten path that's worth taking.
- Grafton Ghost Town, Springdale**
Aged wooden buildings and a 19th-century cemetery have made this town popular with supernatural seekers and film fans alike - it featured in Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid.
- Red Reef Trail, St George**
The waterfalls, swimming holes and ancient pictographs form a very pretty backdrop to this family-friendly 2.5 kilometre round-trip trail in the St George Area.

Hampton Inn & Suites Zion National Park ★★★★☆ Springdale, UT

An onsite car park, baggage storage and a nearby supermarket make this 90-room hotel an excellent choice for those looking to settle in before heading off to nearby Zion National Park.

Cable Mountain Lodge ★★★★☆ Springvale, UT

Located adjacent to Zion National Park Visitor Center, and across from the Zion Canyon Theatre, this stone-and-wood style hotel is popular for its great location. (And a hot tub with canyon views!)



PARK CITY

i ABOUT

Perhaps inspired by the enchanting Wasatch ranges that surround it, Park City has managed the magical - somehow merging traditional mountain ways with millennial wants. An alpine town nestled amongst the famous ski slopes of Deer Valley Resort and Park City Mountain, snow sports are an obvious option for travellers. Away from Park City's peaks, the town also exhibits an unexpected appreciation for the arts. Historic Main Street draws on the city's mining heritage to display a dazzling selection of riches. From the Victorian architecture of carefully restored old cabins to over 140 world-class restaurants, boutiques and galleries, Park City is a treasure trove for travellers.

MUST-SEE

Deer Valley Resort
This skiers-only resort offers a ski valet service, uncrowded lift queues and perfect groomers. It's no surprise that it has ranked 'Best U.S. Ski Resort' at the World Ski Awards six times!

Park City Mountain
There's so much to explore at the largest ski resort in the United States. Whether you want to hit the park, navigate the trees or cruise down groomers there are over 300 runs to discover.

High West Distillery and Saloon
Utah's first legal distillery since 1870 and the world's only ski-in distillery was named 2016 distiller of the year by Whisky Advocate.

Utah Olympic Park
Discover the legacy of the 2002 Olympic Winter Games in Park City. Tour through history in its museums, race down the bobsled track or fly through the sky on the new zipline tour.

Sundance Film Festival
Home to Robert Redford's annual gathering and celebration of emerging and independent films. Try your luck at celebrity spotting each January and ski the resorts without the crowds.

WHEN TO GO

Ski season generally runs from late-November through early-April and if you're a winter sports enthusiast the best time to visit Park City is from December to March. However, the city is actually busiest in January, when in addition to skiers, thousands of cinema-goers flock to the annual Sundance Film Festival. Park City in summer offers another world of great outdoor activities including hiking, biking, outdoor concerts and much more.

OFF THE BEATEN TRACK

Dog Sledding
It may sound like a "ruff" ride, but dog-sledding is a surprisingly smooth way to enjoy the beautiful frosted mountains of Park City.

Alpine Distilling
Visit this award-winning craft distillery for gin & whiskey experiences inspired by Park City's snow-capped summits. You can even make your own bottle of gin.

Savour the Summit
You are cordially invited to attend Utah's largest outdoor dinner party. Held annually in June, Savour serves up a tasty menu of world-renowned local dishes, live music and crisp spirits.

Waldorf Astoria Park City

★★★★★ Park City
Located at the Canyons Village of Park City Mountain. Treat yourself at this luxury mountain resort with a mouth-watering meal at Powder restaurant or indulge with a treatment at the Waldorf Astoria Spa.

Hotel Park City, Autograph Collection

★★★★★ Park City, UT
Modern luxury meets old-world charm at this highly awarded hotel. Unwind by the fire or relax in the hot tub with breathtaking mountain views.



SALT LAKE CITY

i ABOUT

Officially or otherwise, Utah's capital, Salt Lake City, is indeed Ski City, with no less than 10 world-class resorts within a one-hour radius of its main airport. In fact, Utah state's slogan "The Greatest Snow on Earth" is even a registered trademark! But slip away from the slopes, and spice things up with a visit to the central neighbourhoods of Downtown, 9th&9th district, and Sugar House. The urban heart of Utah, this side of Salt Lake offers the convenience of big-city living (fine dining, vibrant nightlife and excellent public transport) with small-town hospitality. It should come as little surprise then that former Mormon president Brigham Young famously led pioneers into SLC's Wasatch Front Valley declaring "This is the right place."

MUST-SEE

Ski Resorts

Salt Lake City is synonymous with snow so it would be a sin not to check out the slopes. Some of the best resorts include Alta, Brighton, Snowbird and Solitude.

Temple Square

This complex includes the most visited locations of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, including the home of the famous Mormon Tabernacle Choir.

Red Butte Garden

Green thumbs will fall in love with this botanical garden, arboretum, and amphitheatre operated by the University of Utah, in the foothills of the Wasatch Ranges.

Utah Museum of Contemporary Art

Six galleries host rotating exhibitions by local and international creatives for lovers of mod-art. (FYI traditionalists can get their cultural fix at the Utah Symphony or Opera).

City Creek Center

Salt Lake City is a haven for shoppers, and City Creek provides those in need of serious retail therapy with a 90-plus-store shopping destination over two-city blocks.

WHEN TO GO

Winter naturally entices the masses to Salt Lake's ski slopes, however, the summer is also busy. The months of June to August draw both American families on school break and Aussies keen to escape the cold at home with outdoor activities like hiking and biking. Nestled between both, the Autumn months of September and October may be the best times to visit Salt Lake City as hotel prices are low and temperatures are much more moderate.

OFF THE BEATEN TRACK

Mountain West Cider House & Bar

Utah's only dedicated cidery uses local ingredients from the region to craft artisan and award-winning hard apple ciders. Tours are available for those who like to try before they buy.

Spice Kitchen Incubator

SLC's food scene is buzzing and Spice Kitchen Incubator is sure to leave a good taste in your mouth. The restaurant employs refugees, offering a chance at a culinary career.

City Creek

Enjoy open air and urban living in a single afternoon with a trip to City Creek. Salt Lake's easy access to this trail (15 minutes from downtown) proves the great outdoors is never far in Utah.

Grand America Hotel

★★★★★ Salt Lake City, UT

A stay at The Grand America Hotel places you in the heart of the Wasatch Ranges, with all guest rooms featuring private balconies to enjoy the view. An onsite spa is equally delightful.

Salt Lake Marriott Downtown at City Creek

★★★★★ Salt Lake City, UT

In-room cable programming, video-game consoles and deep soaking bathtubs are available in all of the 515 rooms at this centrally located hotel.



BRYCE

i ABOUT

Bryce Canyon City, in Garfield County Utah takes its location as the closest community to the entrance of Bryce National Park seriously. While the city offers a smattering of quaint small-town services they are under no illusions as to why most visitors have chosen to base themselves there. The city is caretaker of a number of nearby natural sites such as Boulder Mountain, Kodachrome Basin State Park in Cannonville and of course Bryce Canyon National Park. While this high-elevation national park (8,000 to 9,000 feet) offers hikers a fresh escape from the hot summer temperatures, (and winter snowfalls which draw cross-country skiers), it is the superlative scenery and vivid views that truly make Bryce Canyon National Park a dream destination all year round.

MUST-SEE

Bryce Amphitheater

Conveniently located, the National Park's most-visited section offers striking views at every turn. Hike to Inspiration Point for sweeping panoramas of this pink cliffed natural wonder.

Under the Rim Trail

The longest backpacking path in the park (37 kilometres) runs North to Fairyland Point, and offers overnight camping permits for those preferring a leisurely pace.

Rainbow Point

The hike will work your muscles, but there's a pot of gold (or some stunning views) at the end of the rainbow. Highlights include Mossy Cave and Queens Garden.

Sunrise and Sunset Points

Watch the sunrise from Sunset Point and sunset from Sunrise Point (ironic, but it beats the crowds). Or enjoy the 1.5 kilometre return hike between both.

Navajo Loop

This short trail is a 1-2 hour loop from Sunset Point to the bottom of Bryce Canyon, and visits popular hoodoo formations such as Wall Street, Twin Bridges and Thor's Hammer on the way.

WHEN TO GO

Bryce National Park is open 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, however some visitor facilities may be closed (or operate on reduced hours) between October and May. While winter transforms the park into a snow-lovers paradise, generally speaking Bryce is best visited between April-May and September-October. These periods offer the mildest weather and great conditions for outdoor activities, while the Spring blooms and Autumn foliage can be stunning.

OFF THE BEATEN TRACK

Junior Ranger Program

For a family-friendly experience of Bryce enrol aspiring rangers in the Junior Ranger Program. Over 3-5 hours little ones are taught to "Explore, Learn, and Protect" their surrounds.

Bryce Canyon Astronomy Programs

Nocturnal animal spotting, full-moon hikes and nightly star-gazing offer a truly unique Bryce experience. And the glow of the Milky Way over the hoodoos is genuinely out of this world!

Bryce to Boulder Road Trip

Literally get off the beaten track, with a road trip from Bryce to Boulder. The scenery is almost as impressive as Hell's Backbone Grill - the restaurant with a cult following in the destination town.

Best Western Bryce Canyon Grand

★★★★☆ Bryce Canyon City, UT

A short seven-minute drive from Bryce Canyon National Park, and a designated pick up stop for the canyon shuttle, make this 164-room hotel an ideal place to stay when visiting the Park.

Red Ledges Inn

★★★★☆ Tropic, UT

Located in the Bryce Valley, and surrounded by some of the most magnificent scenery, this hotel offers activities such as horseback rides, scenic helicopter flights, and mountain biking or hiking.



KANAB

i ABOUT

Distance may make the heart grow fonder, but it also appears to make the scenery more beautiful. Well it did in Kanab - once the most isolated town in America and presently one of its most picturesque. Formerly used as a basecamp for government exploration, today Kanab is exceedingly likely to serve as a springboard for travellers with a penchant for outdoor adventures and emerging dining destinations. Easily accessible and much more centrally located than it was a century ago, Kanab is a stone's throw (or boulder roll) from South Utah's superstars: Zion and Bryce National Parks, Vermillion Cliffs and Horseshoe Bend. Incidentally, speaking of superstars, Kanab is an A-listener in its own right. Often referred to as Little Hollywood, hundreds of western movies have been filmed amongst its dramatic landscape!

MUST-SEE

The Wave

The best base to explore this famous formation is from Kanab's Coyote Buttes. Tickets to this kaleidoscope trail of sandstone stripes are awarded by lottery, so be sure to plan ahead.

Lake Powell

Framed by winding canyons, Lake Powell is a popular place to kayak, paddle board or just hire a boat and see where it takes you.

Coral Pink Sand Dunes State Park

The coral-hued dunes and red sandstone cliffs in this park make it one of Kanab's best spots for sandboarding and dirt biking.

White Pocket

White pocket is like The Wave v2.0. The swirling multi-colored formation is an almost-as impressive alternative, with quieter crowds on the Kanab side.

Buckskin Gulch

Pack a picnic and spend the day exploring Buckskin Gulch, one of the longest and deepest slot canyons on earth.

WHEN TO GO

While Coral Pink Sand Dunes State Park and Buckskin Gulch are undeniably spectacular in Summer, Winter gives visitors an opportunity to experience these spots in a special way. As well as excellent cooler conditions for hiking trails and slot canyons, quieter crowds mean it's not uncommon to have even the most popular destinations all to yourself all day. And then, by night, you'll have first-pick of Kanab's cool dining options and cozy lodging to escape to.

OFF THE BEATEN TRACK

Little Hollywood Land

Honour Utah's Hollywood heritage at this offbeat Kanab business - where a Museum, Trading Post store and Cookout restaurant all showcase iconic movie sets.

Moccasin Mountain Dinosaur Tracksite

Think big and follow the footsteps of giants at this spot which contains one of the highest diversities of fossil vertebrate tracks for the Early Jurassic time period in North America.

Thunderbird Foundation Gallery

Enjoy a tour of the log-style home of South Utahn artist Maynard Dixon. Follow the hilly trail for beautiful views of "Maynard Dixon Country."

Zion Mountain Ranch

★★★★★ Mt Carmel, UT

This property in Zion National Park is authentically styled with wild west touches. All rooms include a fireplace, with other onsite features including a roaming preserve used by local buffalo.

Best Western Red Hills

★★★★★ Kanab, UT

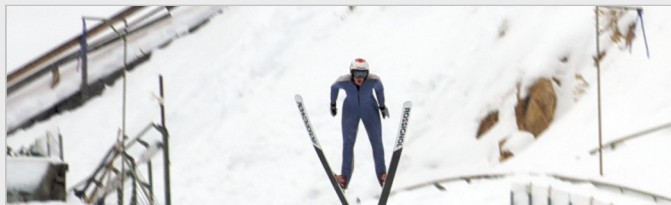
Closely located to both Zion National Park, as well as downtown, this hotel is ideal for nature escapes by day and access to creature comforts, such as Kanab's famed fine dining, by night.



ACTIVITIES



Santa Clara petroglyphs Tour from St George [✉](#)



Park City Grand Tour - Olympic Park, Heber Railroad, Crater Swim, Ice Castles & Zermatt [✉](#)



Ruby's Horseback Adventures [✉](#)



Salt Lake City Tour and the Tabernacle Choir at Temple Square Performance [✉](#)



Adult Snowboard Rental Package for Salt Lake City - Cottonwood [✉](#)



Ruby's Hour Guided ATV Ride [✉](#)