



Travel and Recreation Guide

Guide to Capitol Reef National Park

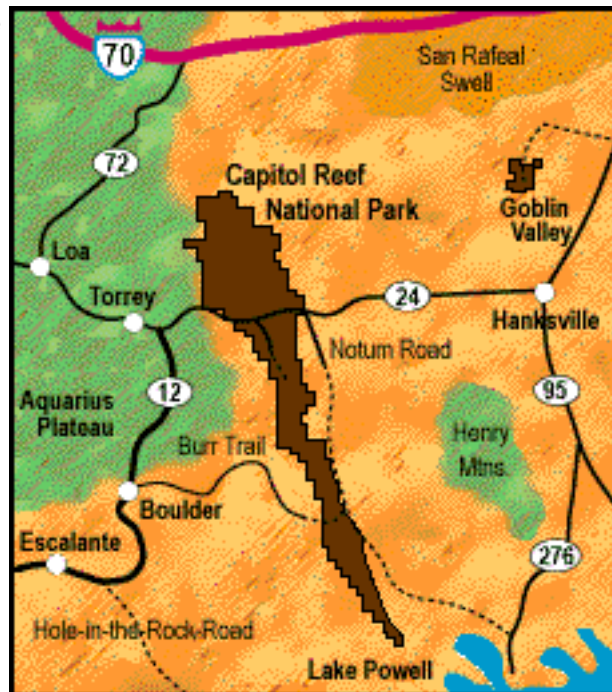
GO-UTAH.COM is the largest travel web site devoted to providing Utah travel information. Please let businesses you patronize know you found them on GO-UTAH.COM.

Introduction

Capitol Reef National Park encloses a 100 mile long ridge of rock that was thrust up from the earth millions of year ago. The strata that was forced upward folded back on itself trapping water in the process -- a "waterpocket fold." Erosion subsequently created marvelously-colored and wildly-varied rock formations of great beauty out of the ridge. (The "reef" describes the barrier created by the rock while "capitol" refers to several dome like rock formations resembling the Capitol Building in Washington, D.C.)

Capitol Reef offers hiking opportunities and some good scenic drives. Early settlers in the region planted orchards of cherries, apricots, peaches, pears and apples that are open for picking from late-June to October. The campground is pleasantly situated near the orchards in a grassy well shaded area.

Capitol Reef is located in south central Utah some 60 miles south of I-70. It is not near any substantial towns. Its isolation makes it the least visited of Utah's national parks and the lack of crowds definitely adds to the experience.



Exploring the Park

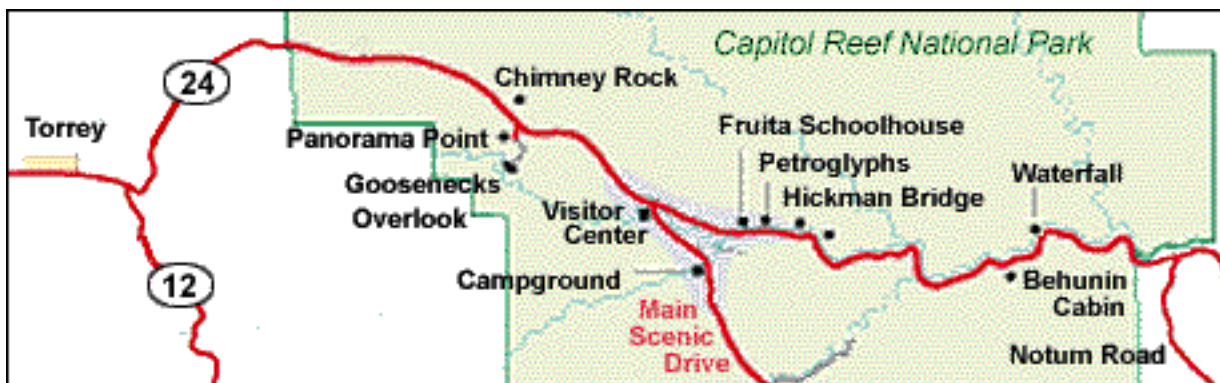
The best scenery in the park is to be found along the park's main scenic drive and along Hwy 24 through the reef. The Cathedral Valley area north of Hwy 24 has some wonderful scenery but is difficult to access. The east side of the reef, reached on rough Notum-Bullfrog Road, is less visited. Described below are the sights and hikes along **Scenic Highway 24**, the **Main Scenic Drive**, **Cathedral Valley** and **Notum-Bullfrog Road**.



See the Capitol Reef Map at the back for a more detailed version of the map to the right.

Sights & Hikes Along Hwy. 24

Hwy 24 bisects the reef through a canyon carved by the Fremont River. You can make the drive with a few stops in an hour or two, or extend with a few hikes. Hiking trails and other points of interest are briefly described below. (Mileages are from the western park border.)



Chimney Rock

A pull-off 3 miles west of the visitor center gives a good view of this striking 660 foot tall red rock column.

Chimney Rock Trail

Moderate 3-1/2 mi. semi-loop 620 ft. 2-1/2 hrs.

Chimney Rock Trail climbs switchbacks to good views of Chimney Rock and some nice panoramic views of the park.

Panorama Point, the Goosenecks and Sunset Point

Panorama Point provides views of the reef to the east and Boulder Mountain to the west. The Goosenecks are several tight hairpin turns carved by the Sulfur River, of which you get a nice perspective from the overlook high above. Sunset Point is at the end of an easy 1/3 mile hike. It offers a terrific panoramic view of the reef with the Henry Mountains in the background, and as its name implies is especially nice at sunset.

Fruita Schoolhouse

The one room Fruita Schoolhouse was built in 1896 and closed in 1941. A ranger is present on some days in the summer, to let you in to look around. Otherwise, you can look through the windows and listen to a recording of a teacher reminisce about the old days.

Petroglyphs

On a cliff face 1/2 mile east of the schoolhouse are numerous Fremont Indian petroglyphs of human figures and mountain sheep.

Hickman Bridge Trail

Moderate 2 mi. out/back 350 ft. 1-1/2 hrs.

Popular Hickman Bridge Trail climbs to a shaded dry wash that leads to Hickman Bridge, a graceful sandstone bridge that spans 133 feet over the wash. The Trailhead is 2 miles east of the visitor center.

Rim Overlook Trail

Strenuous 4-1/2 mi. out/back 1,050 ft. 3-4 hrs.

Rim Overlook Trail starts with the Hickman Bridge Trail but then climbs sharply above the dry wash to sheer cliffs 1,000 feet above the park and nearby orchards.

Navajo Knobs Trail

Strenuous 9 mi. out/back 1,550 ft. 5-6 hrs.

Navajo Knobs Trail continues where the Rim Overlook Trail ends and climbs another 500 feet to a great 360 degree panoramic overlook.

Behunin Cabin

Behunin Cabin is a tiny cabin built in 1882. It sits along the side of the road.

Fremont River Waterfall

Fremont River Waterfall is a pleasant, small waterfall on the Fremont River. Cooling off in the pool below the falls is ok, but beware of the strong undertow. It is about 7 miles east of the visitor center.

Sights & Hikes Along Main Scenic Drive

The park's paved Scenic Drive takes you past the visitor center, campgrounds and a very pleasant picnic area to trails and viewpoints along the west side of the reef. You should plan on spending at least a day stopping at the sights, taking a few hikes, and maybe having a picnic lunch.

Fremont Gorge Overlook Trail

Strenuous 4.5 mi. out/back 1,000 ft. 3 hrs.

Fremont Gorge Overlook Trail crosses a mesa then climbs steeply to a lookout 1,000 feet above the Fremont River.

Fremont River Trail

Moderate 2 mi. out/back 460 ft. 1-1/2 hrs.

Fremont River Trail runs along orchards adjacent to the Fremont River and then climbs Miners Mountain to a good viewpoint of the reef.

Cohab Canyon Trail

Moderate 1.7 mi. oneway 770 ft. 1-1/2 hrs.

The Cohab Canyon Trail climbs steeply over switchbacks then more gradually to a hidden canyon above the campground. A short side trail leads to a lookout. You can bear right onto Frying Pan Trail at mile 1.1 or continue to the left and descend to Hwy. 24 near the Hickman Bridge Trail trailhead.



Frying Pan Trail

Strenuous [3 mi. oneway] 1,000 ft. 2 hrs.

Frying Pan Trail begins at mile 1.1 of Cohab Canyon Trail and follows the ridge of the Capitol Reef escarpment before joining Cassiday Arch Trail about 3/4 of a mile from the arch.

Cassiday Arch Trail

Strenuous 1-3/4 mi. oneway 980 ft. 1-1/2 hrs.

Cassiday Arch Trail climbs steeply up the northern face of Grand Wash Canyon and then heads across slickrock to a vantage point near Cassiday Arch. It intersects the Frying Pan Trail after one mile.

Grand Wash Trail

Easy 2-1/4 mi. oneway 200 ft. 1-1/2 hrs.

Grand Wash Trail travels along a narrow wash bottom beneath 800 foot sheer canyon walls. You can start at the end of Grand Wash Road or off Hwy 24, 4-1/2 miles east of the visitor center.

Old Wagon Trail

Strenuous 3-3/4 mi. out/back 1,000 ft. 2-3 hrs.

Old Wagon Trail crosses a wash and then climbs through shrub woodland along an old wagon road. The trail leaves the road near the end and climbs to a knoll with great views of the reef.

Golden Throne Trail Strenuous 4 mi. out/back 1,100 ft. 3 hrs.

Golden Throne Trail climbs steadily out of Capitol Gorge to great views of the reef and Golden Throne, a massive sandstone monolith.

Capitol Gorge Moderate

You can hike along the dry riverbed in the bottom of Capitol Gorge at the end of the scenic drive. The gorge cuts through the reef to the east. At 3/4 of a mile are natural water tanks typical of the "Waterpocket Fold" and at 1-1/2 miles is a "pioneer register" -- names scratched on the walls. The riverbed can be followed another 3 miles to Notum Road on the east side of the reef.

Cathedral Valley

The Cathedral Valley area north of Hwy 24, the Northern District, has some wonderful scenery that can only be explored by high clearance vehicles, and then only in dry weather. 4wd vehicles are recommended. This is rugged country of desert valleys, fluted cliffs and strikingly bold monoliths. It has a small primitive campground and a few short designated hiking trail.

[We intend to add detailed coverage of this shortly.]

Notum/Bullfrog Road Area

Notum Road begins at Hwy 24 just outside of the park's eastern border. It travels south along the eastern side of the reef offering some good views. After 34 miles, it joins the Burr Road and continues south for another 35 miles to Bullfrog Basin Marina on Lake Powell. The road is paved only for about the first five miles. The rest is passable though washboarded and occasionally washed out or sandy.

Muley Twist Canyon is a noted backpacking area accessible from the Notum Road. It is a beautiful deep canyon cut into the waterpocket fold of Capitol Reef.

Upper Muley Twist Canyon Strenuous 15 mi. semi-loop 950 ft. Overnight

The upper portion is terrifically scenic with numerous arches and dramatic views. The trail begins along a 4wd road through a wash. A gate at the 2.5 mile mark blocks vehicles but you continue up the ever narrowing canyon past several arches. The Rim Route, a rigorous, lightly carined trail that follows the crest of the reef back to an intersection with an earlier part of the trail.

Lower Muley Twist Canyon

Strenuous

16.5 mi. loop

850 ft.

Overnight

This trail climbs slickrock up the waterpocket fold, winds through the superb, deep Lower Muley Twist canyon and then returns through a broad grassy valley.

[We intend to add better coverage of this area by May 31, '99.]

Mountain Biking

There are a few good mountain biking opportunities in the area. Biking within the park is allowed on the Scenic Drive, but you'll have to deal with cars and RV's on the narrow and curving road. Experienced well conditioned cyclists could tackle the 4wd jeep roads in the beautiful Cathedral Valley section of the park north of Hwy 24. You might also try the following routes near the park.

	<u>Skill/ Endurance</u>	<u>Distance</u>	<u>Elev. Change</u>	<u>Time</u>
Tantalus Flats	Easy/ Intermediate	30 mi. oneway	-3,000 ft.	1/2 day

This mostly downhill route starts on Boulder Mountain and descends over dirt roads to the main Scenic Drive in Capitol Reef. The trailhead is at Tantalus Overlook on Hwy. 12, about 14 miles south of Torrey. You can leave a vehicle at the visitor center making it a 30 mile point to point ride, or leave you car at the end of the main scenic drive and chop off 10 miles.

Velvet Ridge	Easy/ Intermediate	14 mi. loop	700 ft.	3 hrs.
---------------------	-----------------------	-------------	---------	--------

This route follows jeep roads along the top of some pretty cliffs overlooking the Fremont River Gorge. The trailhead is 5-1/2 miles west of the town of Torrey.

An outfitter rents bikes and leads guided tours in the area.

Wild Hare Expeditions

116 W. Main St.; Box 194 - Torrey

888-304-4273

Off-Road Driving

The Cathedral Valley section of the park is accessible only in high clearance or 4wd vehicles and offers some great scenery. Guided tours and/or rentals are provided by the following outfitters.



[Hondoo Rivers And Trails](#)

90 E. Main; Box 98 - Torrey

800-332-2696

"Outfitter to wilderness enthusiasts in Utah's Canyon Country on horseback or 4wd vehicle"



[Red Rock & Llamas](#)

Box 1304 - Boulder, UT 84716

435-559-7325

"Llama trips, jeep trips and specialty tours"

Luna Mesa Oasis
Wild Hare Expeditions

Hwy. 24; Box 140 - Caineville
116 W. Main St.; Box 194 - Torrey

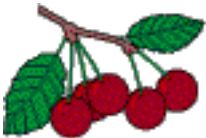
800-629-9141

888-304-4273

tours

[More complete information on areas to explore will be added shortly]

Other Recreation



FRUIT PICKIN'

Mormons established the town of Fruita in the 1880's and planted numerous fruit orchards. The town has long since ceased to exist, but the orchards remain within the park. Sampling ripe fruit is free. Picking fees paid on an honor system applies to more serious pickers. Ladders and scales are provided. Cherries ripen in June, apricots in mid-July, peaches in August, pears in September and apples during September and October. The visitor center at the park (435-425-3791) can provide more information.

Horseback Riding/Llama Trips

A few outfitters offer guided horseback rides in the park and surrounding areas, from an hour long to one day. Hondoo Rivers and Trails also offers multi-day horsepack trips and Red Rock 'N Llamas offers multi-day llama pack trips in the area.



[Hondoo Rivers And Trails](#)

90 E. Main; Box 98 - Torrey

800-332-2696

"Outfitter to wilderness enthusiasts in Utah's Canyon Country on horseback or 4wd vehicle"



[Red Rock & Llamas](#)

"Llama trips, jeep trips and specialty tours"

Box 1304 - Boulder, UT 84716

435-559-7325

Best Western Capitol Reef Resort
Hondoo Rivers And Trails
Wild Hare Expeditions

2600 East Hwy 24 - Torrey
90 E. Main - Torrey
116 W. Main St. - Torrey

800-528-1234
800-332-2696
888-304-4273



FISHING

Nearby Boulder Mountain offers some excellent trout fishing opportunities in mountain streams and pretty beaver ponds. A few outfitters lead guided trips on Boulder Mountain (and other nearby areas).



[Boulder Mountain Fly Fishing](#)

"Guided fly fishing trips to great streams, lakes and beaver ponds on Boulder Mtn."

Box 1403 - Boulder

435-335-7306



[J.F. Parker Flyfishing](#)

"Southern Utah, Boulder Mountain, and Bryce Canyon Area Flyfishing Specialists!"

Box 32 - Cannonville

435-679-8664

Alpine Angler
Boulder Mountain Lodge
Outdoor Source

Box 324 - Boulder
Hwy 12; Box 1397 - Boulder
H.C. 61 Box 230 - Fremont

435-864-3473
800-556-3446
888-345-8824



PHOTO TOURS

The following business(es) offer photo tours in Capitol Reef as well as throughout the red rock deserts of southern Utah.

[Canyonlight Photo & Scenic Tours](#)

"We offer individualized year round photography and 4wd scenic tours in canyon country"

Box 1170 - Moab

435-259-2231

Scenic Drives

The main Capitol Reef Scenic Drive and the section of Hwy 24 that passes through the park are the two best scenic drives. These are described in detail in the Main Drives & Hiking Trails section above. The following designated scenic byways and backways are also worth a look.

■ **Loa to Hanksville Scenic Byway (Hwy 24)**

The scenic beauty of Hwy. 24 is not confined to the portion that passes through the park. Starting in Loa it passes through rolling farmland before passing through Torrey and then entering the park. East of the park the highway passes through stark and occasionally striking red rock scenery before opening into rangeland towards Hanksville. The entire route 60 mile route is paved and should take you 1-1/2 hours with some stops.

■ **Highway 12 Scenic Byway**

Highway 12 is one of the best scenic byways in the state. It begins at Hwy 24 near Torrey and runs south and west for 122 miles to Hwy. 89 south of Panguitch. The early section of the route climbs up the side of the heavily forested Boulder Mountains with some nice views east over Capitol Reef and the Henry Mountains. Past the town of Boulder, the route enters the Grand Staircase and passes through very rugged and often spectacular red rock scenery as it heads west towards Bryce Canyon National Park. Areas before Bryce Canyon are very scenic (as, of course, is the main scenic route through Bryce Canyon) but the route becomes relatively ordinary west of Bryce Canyon.

The entire route is paved and opened year round. Plan on spending about 3-1/2 hours with some stops.

■ **Burr Trail Scenic Backway**

The Burr Trail is a **great** scenic backway. It starts in the town of Boulder, crosses through the northeasternmost portion of the Grand Staircase and then crosses the waterpocket fold of Capitol Reef. Past the waterpocket fold it joins Notum Road and continues south to Bull Frog Marina on Lake Powell. The best section is the 25 miles from Boulder to the Notum Road. Here the route passes through some fantastic narrow canyons and then climbs through rugged and beautiful red rock to the top of the reef. At the summit are good vistas of southeastern Utah and the Henry Mountains. The route descends over tortuous switchbacks down the other side of the reef.

It is hard-surfaced for 31 miles until it reaches Capitol Reef National Park. It then turns to graded dirt, with rocky and sandy stretches. It is not recommended when wet. It'll take about 1-1/2 hours to reach Notum Road and another few hours to Lake Powell.

Lodging

There is no lodging in Capitol Reef National Park itself, but there are numerous good options in the small towns near the park.

Torrey (11 miles west)

Austin's Chuck Wagon Motel	12 W. Main St.	800-863-3288	21 rooms	\$-\$\$\$
Best Western Capitol Reef	2600 East Hwy. 24	800-528-1234	50 rooms	\$\$-\$\$\$
Boulder View Inn	385 W. Main St.	800-444-3980	12 rooms	\$\$
Capitol Reef Inn	360 W. Main St.	435-425-3271	10 rooms	\$
Days Inn of Torrey	Jct. Of Hwys 12 & 24	800-DAYS INN		\$-\$\$\$
Rim Rock Rustic Inn	Hwy 24; Box 264	800-243-0786		\$\$
Skyridge Bed & Breakfast Inn	950 East Hwy. 24	435-425-3222	6 rooms	\$\$\$
Wonderland Inn	Jct. Hwys. 12 & 24	800-458-0216	50 rooms	\$-\$\$

Teasdale (16 miles west)



[Cockscomb Inn](#)

97 S. State St.; Box 18 800-530-1038 3 rms/ 1 cabin \$55-100

"A wonderfully cozy, quiet home in a ranching community close to Capitol Reef"



[Lodge at Red River Ranch](#)

2990 W Hwy 24; Box 69 800-205-6343 15 rooms \$95-150

"Included in Travel & Leisure's 'Best American Lodges'"



[Muley Twist Inn B&B](#)

125 S. State St.; Box 117 435-425-3640 5 rooms \$70-90

"... a place you'll come back to"

435-425-3641 (fax)



[Pine Shadows](#)

195 W. 125 South; Box 25 800-708-1223 6 cabins \$65

"Within the shadows of coral Navajo sandstone bluffs, Pine Shadows offers an ideal retreat."

Cactus Hill Ranch Motel 830 S. 1000 East; Box 36 800-507-2624 5 rooms \$-\$\$

Bicknell (19 miles west)

Aquarius Motel	240 W. Main St.; Box 304	800-833-5379	27 rooms	\$-\$\$
Sunglow Motel	63 E. Main St.; Box 158	888-425-3113	17 rooms	\$

Loa (27 miles west)

Road Creek Inn	90 S. Main St.; Box 310	800-388-7688	2 rooms	\$\$-\$\$\$
Wayne Wonderland Inn	42 N. Main St.; Box 98	435-836-9692	12 rooms	\$\$-\$

Caineville (11 miles east)

Caineville Cove Inn	Hwy 24 (Marker 99); Box 80	435-465-9900	
Luna Mesa Oasis	Hwy 24; Box 140	800-629-9141	\$

Hanksville (35 miles east)

Best Value Inn	264 E. 100 North; Box 145	435-542-3471		\$
Desert Inn Motel	197 E. 100 South; Box 181	800-894-3242	10 rooms	\$
Fern's Place Motel	99 E. 100 North; Box 181	435-542-3251	8 rooms	\$-\$\$
Joy's Bed & Breakfast	296 S. Center St.	435-542-3252	3 rooms	\$40-50
Whispering Sands Motel	140 South Hwy 95; Box 68	435-542-3238		\$\$

Pricing Code: \$ = under \$50; \$\$ = \$50-75; \$\$\$ = \$75-125; \$\$\$\$ = \$125+

Camping



CAMPING IN THE PARK

- The **Fruita Campground** is located one mile from the visitor center, attractively situated amidst the old fruit orchards. Many of the sites are shaded. 70 sites; restrooms w/ cold running water; elev. 5,500 ft.; open year-round; first-come, first-serve; \$7. Group sites are available by reservation for \$25.
- **Cathedral Valley Campground** is a primitive campground set in the rugged desert terrain of Cathedral Valley in the northern portion of the park. 5 tent sites; vault toilets; no water; elev. 7,000 ft.; open year-round; first-come, first-serve; free.
- **Cedar Mesa Campground** is located in the rugged, wild southern area of the park off the Notum Road, about 22 miles south of Hwy 24. It sits among desert shrubs at the base of the reef. 5 tent sites; vault toilets; no water; open year-round; first-come, first-serve; free.

Backcountry camping is allowed in the park by permit, obtainable for a small fee at the visitor center.



PRIVATE CAMPGROUNDS



[Sand Creek RV Park](#)

540 Hwy 24; Box 276 - Teasdale

877-425-3578

24 sites

\$9-15

"Pull through RV sites with full hook-ups; tent sites; 8-room hostel -- all in a beautiful setting"



[Thousand Lakes RV Park](#)

Hwy 24; 1 mile west of Torrey

435-425-3500

58 sites

\$11-17

"Come see our green oasis with a spectacular view from every site."

Aquarius RV Park	210 S. 100 East - Bicknell	435-425-3771	12 sites
Luna Mesa Oasis	Hwy. 24; Box 140 - Caineville	800-629-9141	
Sleepy Hollow Campground	Hwy 24; Box 40 - Caineville	435-456-9130	
River Inn RV Park	955 East Hwy. 72 - Fremont	435-836-2715	18 sites
Boulder Mountain Homestead	4 mi. south on Hwy 12 - Torrey	435-425-3374	10 sites
Chuckwagon Campground	12 W. Main St. - Torrey	435-425-3288	12 sites
Rim Rock Ranch RV Park	2523 East Hwy. 24 - Torrey	435-425-3843	



PUBLIC CAMPGROUNDS

The U.S. Forest Service operates four campgrounds off Hwy 12 between Torrey and Boulder in the Boulder Mountains. Each are pleasantly set among heavy pine forests, except Lower Bown which is only lightly shaded.

- Singletree has great panoramic views over Capitol Reef and the Henry Mountains. 26 sites; flush toilets; drinking water; 8,600 ft.; open May-Sep.; first-come, first-serve; \$7. It also has a group site available by reservation only.
- Pleasant Creek is nice, though a bit worn down. 17 sites; vault toilets; drinking water; 8,700 ft.; open May-Sep.; first-come, first-serve; \$7.
- Oak Creek -- 10 sites; vault toilets; drinking water; 8,800 ft.; open May-Sep.; first-come, first-serve; \$7.
- Lower Bown -- 3 sites for tents only; vault toilets; no water; 7,400 ft.; open May-Oct.; first-come, first-serve; no fee.

There are also two Forest Service campgrounds in the Fishlake National Forest north of Torrey.

- Sunflow is nicely set in a red rock canyon area, shaded by cottonwoods. 5 sites; vault toilets; drinking water; 7,500 ft.; open May-Nov.; first-come, first-serve; \$7. 3 group sites are available, reservation recommended.
 - Elkhorn is a quiet, pleasant campground. 6 sites; vault toilets; drinking water; 8,600 ft.; open Jun-Sep.; first-come, first-serve; \$7.
-

Transportation

Capitol Reef is located in south central Utah on Hwy 24, 50 miles south of I-70. It stretches 50+ miles south to the Glen Canyon National Recreation Area that surrounds Lake Powell. The maps at the back of this document will help you plan your route and get oriented.

There is no convenient plane, bus or train service.

Weather

Like most destinations in southern Utah, Capitol Reef is best visited in spring or fall when temperatures are moderate and the number of visitors fewer. Summers are hot, but not unbearable, and see the most visitors. Winters are cold and the park is pretty much deserted. The park doesn't get much precipitation, but the wettest months are July and August with about an inch of rain each.

Average daily highs and lows are set forth below.

	<u>Jan.</u>	<u>Feb.</u>	<u>Mar.</u>	<u>Apr.</u>	<u>May</u>	<u>Jun.</u>	<u>Jul.</u>	<u>Aug.</u>	<u>Sep.</u>	<u>Oct.</u>	<u>Nov.</u>	<u>Dec.</u>
High	39	46	56	66	75	86	91	88	80	67	51	40
Low	17	24	31	38	47	56	62	61	53	43	29	20

Practicalities



PARK DETAILS

There is a \$4 entrance fee per vehicle for a seven day pass. There is no charge for those with a [National Park Pass](#). The visitor center is open daily 8:-4:30 with extended hours in summer. The visitor center is closed on Christmas, but the park itself never closes.



USEFUL ADDRESSES & PHONE #'S

Capitol Reef National Park
Panoramaland Travel Region

HC-70; Box 15 - Torrey
4 S. Main St., Box 71 - Nephi

435-425-3791
800-748-4361



Special Outfitters



Utah Touring and Hiking

801-334-8681

Guided Hiking / backpacking Trips

"Explore Utah from mountain peaks to desert plateaus, forest paths to sandstone canyons."

Other Things To Do

Wayne Theatre	Bicknell	11 East Main St.	435-425-3123
---------------	----------	------------------	--------------

Religious Services

Church of Latter Day Saints	Bicknell	190 N. 200 East	435-425-3461
	Hanksville	59 S. Center	435-542-3201
	Loa	14 South 100 West	435-836-2322
	Teasdale	122 South State	435-425-3770
	Torrey	89 East Main St.	435-425-3292
First Babtist Church	Torrey	66 West Main St.	435-425-3272
St. Anthony of the Desert Church	Catholic Torrey	600 N. Sand Creek Rd.	435-425-3319

Nearby Attractions

- [Boulder Mountain](#) is pretty forested range with a peak of over 11,000 feet. It offers some excellent, secluded fly fishing, good hiking and a few scenic drives. It is 25 miles west of Capitol Reef.

- ★ [Lake Powell](#) is a vast body of clear blue water beautifully contained within tall orange-red cliff walls. Thousands of snaking finger canyons run from the main canyon and beg exploration. Houseboating, power boating, water skiing and fishing are all popular, as is camping along its nearly 2,000 miles of shoreline. Lake Powell is south of Capitol Reef.



- [Escalante](#) is a small, sleepy ranching town along scenic Highway 12. To the north is the alpine wilderness of Boulder Mountain, in all other directions lie miles and miles of rugged, pristine red rock desert. It is 65 miles south of Capitol Reef.

- [Escalante Grand Staircase National Monument](#) is the nation's newest national monument. It encompasses a huge area of rugged desert and remote canyons. It has some interesting scenic drives and challenging hiking opportunities. Its northern border abuts Escalante.

Please let businesses you patronize know you found them on GO-UTAH.COM so we can continue to provide this information free to you. Enjoy your trip!

Copyright 1999 Go Utah Travel

