Red Rock by Car

IT’S NOT CALLED THE SCENIC DRIVE FOR NOTHING...

So sit back and enjoy the drive. The maximum speed limit on the 13-Mile Scenic Drive is 35 mph and in some sections the speed limit is lower. By not exceeding the posted speed limits, you can enjoy the spectacular scenery while driving at a speed that is safe for you and your fellow motorists, bicyclists, runners and wildlife.

Now once you’ve followed the speed limit to your favorite turnout, it’s time to park. Fortunately parking lots have been created for your convenience; however they do have limits. If the lot remains full, do not create your own parking spot by parking off road on vegetation. These plants are native to the arid Mojave Desert and can take decades to regrow. You can pick a new spot to visit or reenter the 13-Mile Scenic Drive (your amenity fee is good for a full day).

The upside to following these easy tips is that you are more likely to safely enjoy your visit to Red Rock Canyon National Conservation Area, leaving it undamaged by your activities. Note: law enforcement rangers can cite visitors that disregard regulations.

License Plate

You’ve enjoyed your visit to Red Rock and now you may be looking for a take-home memory of the National Conservation Area. If you are a Nevada resident, you have an opportunity to be reminded of your adventure by purchasing a Red Rock Canyon license plate.

The process is easy: go to the nearest Nevada Department of Motor Vehicles with your registration, ID and your old license plates. The charge for the new plate is $81 with a one-time processing fee of $5. Your normal renewal period will remain the same and plate renewals will be $30.

Friends of Red Rock Canyon receives $25 in revenue for the first year per plate and $20 for renewals for these stylish license plates. All proceeds from the license sales will be used to support programs and services at Red Rock Canyon.

Hours of Operation

- **Visitor Center**
  - 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

- 13-Mile Scenic Drive, Red Rock Overlook on State Route 159 and Red Spring
  - NOVEMBER - FEBRUARY: 6 a.m. to 5 p.m.
  - MARCH: 6 a.m. to 7 p.m.
  - APRIL - SEPTEMBER: 6 a.m. to 8 p.m.
  - OCTOBER: 6 a.m. to 7 p.m.

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Desert Safety Tips

TO SAFELY ENJOY RED ROCK CANYON NATIONAL CONSERVATION AREA, PLEASE PROTECT YOURSELVES AND OTHERS BY RECOGNIZING THE CHALLENGES THAT VISITING THE MOJAVE DESERT PRESENTS.

GENERAL SAFETY

Let friends or family members know where you are going and what time you expect to be back. Don’t rely on cell phones during your visit as coverage in the area can be unreliable or non-existent, especially within canyons. Leave your valuables at home. If you leave your car, take your purse or backpack with you and lock your doors. Never leave packages in plain sight where they may tempt someone to break in to your vehicle.

DESSERT DWELLERS

Watch where you put your hands and feet. Rattlesnakes, scorpions or venomous spiders may be sheltered behind boulders or under rocks and shrubs. Do not touch, collect or try to kill these animals.

WATER

Drink at least one gallon (four liters) per day if you are hiking, the day is hot or the trail is exposed to direct sunlight. Carry at least one gallon of extra water per person in your vehicle. Bottled water is available for purchase at the visitor center. This is the only location where drinking water is available in the national conservation area.

HEAT

Temperatures in Red Rock Canyon can average more than 100 degrees Fahrenheit during the summer months. The best protection against heat is drinking plenty of water and limiting exposure to the sun during the hottest parts of the day. If you feel dizzy, nauseous or get a headache, immediately get out of the sun and drink plenty of water. Dampen your clothing to lower your body temperature.

PROTECTIVE GEAR

For hiking, select shoes that will provide a comfortable fit, ankle stability and protection against cactus spines. Wear clothes that provide protection against the sun (i.e. hats, long sleeves, long pants, etc.) and apply sunscreen.

FLASH FLOODS

When hiking, avoid canyons during rainstorms and be prepared to move to higher ground. While driving, be alert for water running in the normally dry desert washes and across road dips. Do not walk or drive through flood water flowing across a road.

LIGHTNING

Lightning storms frequently occur in the afternoon during the summer months. To prevent lightning from striking you, avoid high places and seek cover in buildings or in vehicles with the windows rolled up. If caught outdoors, crouch down on both feet with your arms wrapped around your knees and wait out the storm.

Rock Climbing at Red Rock

WITH MORE THAN 2,000 CLIMBING ROUTES, RED ROCK CANYON NATIONAL CONSERVATION AREA IS ONE OF THE TOP FIVE CLIMBING DESTINATIONS IN THE UNITED STATES.

There are two wilderness areas in the conservation area: Rainbow Mountain Wilderness and La Madre Mountain Wilderness. New, bolted, fixed anchors and protection bolts cannot be installed in either wilderness area. All of the major canyons in Red Rock Canyon are in the Rainbow Mountain Wilderness and all of the climbing routes located on White Rock Mountain and many crags near Kraft Mountain are within the La Madre Mountain Wilderness.

RAIN, RAIN GO AWAY

The sandstone becomes very brittle when it rains and should not be climbed for at least 24 hours. By allowing the sandstone to dry out, hand and footholds will not be broken and gear will be less likely to pull out during a fall. If it rains during your visit to Red Rock Canyon and the sandstone is too brittle, consider the limestone sport crags that are found in Red Rock and other climbing sites around Las Vegas.

CLIMBING PERMITS

Late Exit permits (LE) provide an additional two hours of climbing time after the normal closure of the scenic drive. These permits are for multi-pitch routes and are only available for the following areas: Angel Food Wall, Ice Box Canyon, Juniper Canyon, Pine Creek Canyon and Oak Creek Canyon.

TO OBTAIN A PERMIT, CALL 702-515-5050. You may call up to seven days in advance or as late as the day of your climb. If your message is not clear, you will not receive a permit and you may receive a citation. Same-day permits are not issued after 4:30 p.m. For your safety and to receive a permit, the following information must be included in your message:

- NAME AND TELEPHONE NUMBER
- TYPE OF PERMIT, LE OR ON, AND CLIMBING DATE(S)
- VEHICLE PLATE NUMBER AND STATE
- VEHICLE DESCRIPTION
- CLIMBING ROUTE/WALL AND WHERE YOU WILL PARK
- EMERGENCY CONTACT NAME AND PHONE NUMBER

Additional information on limestone climbing and the classic crags of Red Rock is available at the visitor center. For more detailed information on specific climbs, contact the climbing ranger at (702) 515-5356.

Fees and Annual Passes

Red Rock Canyon National Conservation Area began collecting fees in 1998. America the Beautiful Annual Pass, which replaced the National Parks Pass, Golden Age, Golden Access and Golden Eagle began sales in 2007. Below is a list of all passes that are available at the Red Rock Canyon entrance station:

- DAILY FEE – $7
- DAILY PASS FOR RED ROCK CANYON NATIONAL CONSERVATION AREA. Does not include overnight stays in the developed campground.
- RED ROCK ANNUAL PASS – $30
- Yearly pass for Red Rock Canyon National Conservation Area. Does not include overnight stays in the developed campground.
- AMERICA THE BEAUTIFUL ANNUAL PASS – $80
- The America the Beautiful pass is an interagency pass that will be honored by the National Park Service, U.S. Forest Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Bureau of Land Management and Bureau of Reclamation. Does not include stays in the developed campground.
- AMERICA THE BEAUTIFUL SENIOR PASS – $10 one time fee
- AMERICA THE BEAUTIFUL ACCESS PASS – FREE
- AMERICA THE BEAUTIFUL MILITARY ANNUAL PASS – FREE
- Yearly pass available for active duty military and their dependents that will be honored by the Bureau of Land Management, National Park Service, U.S. Forest Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and Bureau of Reclamation. Does not include stays in the developed campground.
### Hiking Trail Descriptions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TRAIL NAME</th>
<th>LEVELS OF DIFFICULTY AND GAIN</th>
<th>APPROXIMATE ROUND-TRIP TIME AND DISTANCE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. MOENKOPI</td>
<td>Easy 300 ft [90 m]</td>
<td>1.5 hours • 2 mi [3.2 km]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. CALICO HILLS</td>
<td>Easy - Moderate 400 ft [120 m]</td>
<td>1.5 - 3.5 hours • 2 - 6 mi [3.2-9.6 km]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. CALICO TANKS</td>
<td>Moderate 450 ft [140 m]</td>
<td>2 hours • 2.5 mi [4 km]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. TURTLEHEAD PEAK</td>
<td>Strenuous 2,000 ft [600 m]</td>
<td>3.5 - 4.5 hours • 5 mi [8 km]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. KEYSTONE THRUST</td>
<td>Moderate 400 ft [120m]</td>
<td>1.5 hours • 2.2 mi [3.5 km]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. WHITE ROCK - WILLOW SPRINGS</td>
<td>Easy-Moderate 200 ft [60 m]</td>
<td>2.5 hours • 4.4 mi [7 km]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. WHITE ROCK / LA MADRE SPRING LOOP</td>
<td>Moderate 880 ft [270 m]</td>
<td>3.5 hours • 6 mi [9.6 km]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. LOST CREEK - CHILDREN'S DISCOVERY</td>
<td>Easy - Moderate 200 ft [60 m]</td>
<td>55 minutes • 0.75 mi [1.2 km]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. WILLOW SPRINGS LOOP</td>
<td>Easy 200 ft [60 m]</td>
<td>1.25 hours • 1.5 [2.4 km]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. LA MADRE SPRING</td>
<td>Moderate 400 ft [120 m]</td>
<td>2 hours • 3.3 mi [5.2 km]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11. SMYC</td>
<td>Moderate 300 ft [90 m]</td>
<td>2 hours • 2.2 mi [3.5 km]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12. ICE BOX CANYON</td>
<td>Moderate - Strenuous 300 ft [90 m]</td>
<td>2 hours • 2.6 mi [4.1 km]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13. DALE'S</td>
<td>Moderate 300 ft [90 m]</td>
<td>2.5 hours • 4.4 mi [7 km]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14. PINE CREEK CANYON</td>
<td>Easy - Moderate 300 ft [90 m]</td>
<td>2 hours • 3 mi [4.8 km]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15. FIRE ECOTOLOGY</td>
<td>Easy 200 ft [60 m]</td>
<td>55 minutes • 0.75 mi [1.2 km]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16. OAK CREEK CANYON</td>
<td>Easy - Moderate 200 ft [60 m]</td>
<td>1.5 hours • 2 mi [3.2 km]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17. ARNIGHT</td>
<td>Moderate 300 ft [90 m]</td>
<td>1.5 hours • 2.4 mi [3.8 km]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18. KNOLL</td>
<td>Moderate 300 ft [90 m]</td>
<td>2.5 hours • 3.5 mi [5.6 km]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19. FIRST CREEK CANYON</td>
<td>Easy - Moderate 300 ft [90 m]</td>
<td>2 hours • 3 mi [4.8 km]</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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**Notes:**
- **Trail Notes:** Descriptions of nature and wildlife, seasonal waterfalls, and other natural features.
- **Distance:** Distances are approximate and may vary based on trail conditions.
- **Time:** Times are based on moderate hiking speed and may vary depending on individual fitness.
- **Difficulty:** Levels are moderate to strenuous, with easy sections interspersed.

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**Key Information:**
- **Location:** Red Rock Canyon National Conservation Area, Nevada
- **Access:** Most trails are accessible via the Valley View, Calico Tanks, or Spring Mountains Visitor Centers.
- **Season:** Trails are generally accessible from October to May, although some may be closed due to weather or safety reasons.
- **Water:** Some trails offer seasonal water sources, which are subject to seasonal availability.
- **Wildlife:** Wildlife such as bighorn sheep, mountain goats, and other native species may be encountered.

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**Trail Maps:** Available at the visitor centers or online for planning purposes.

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**Safety Tips:**
- Always carry water and food.
- Wear appropriate footwear and clothing for the weather conditions.
- Follow the Leave No Trace principles to protect the natural environment.

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**Contact:**
- Red Rock Canyon National Conservation Area, 13400 Spring Mountain Road, Las Vegas, NV 89124
- Contact number: (702) 753-4000
- Email: rrvca@lvmpd.com
Hiking Map

Ratings are based on the general ability of a person who hikes frequently. Your ability may differ from the ratings standard used at Red Rock Canyon. Your ability may also be affected by weather, the condition and steepness of the trail, having enough water and physical condition on a given day, among other things.

Strenuous:
Generally, lots of uphill sections (and later downhill); possibly more than 1,000 feet of elevation gain; double digit mileage and/or difficult terrain and rock scrambling.

Moderate:
Uphill sections include up to 1,000 feet of elevation gain; single digit mileage; uneven terrain and some rock scrambling.

Easy:
Like a walk in the city, but on uneven terrain. (Not guaranteed to seem easy if you are not used to trail hiking.)

Combinations:
Listed as easy-moderate, moderate-strenuous and so on.