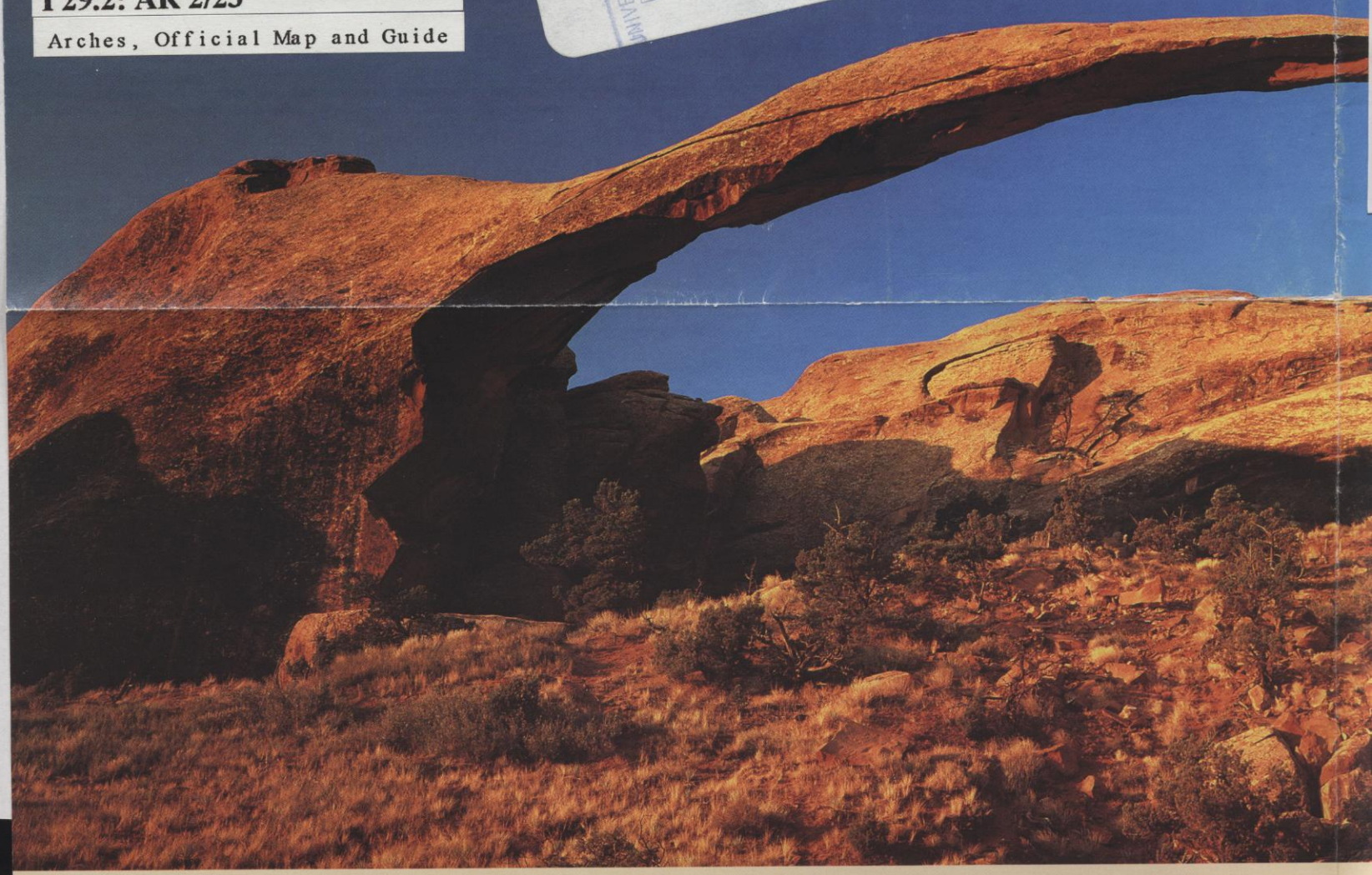

Title: Arches National Park, Utah : official map and guide.
Author: United States.
Description: Pages: 1 sheet :
Pages: 1 sheet :
OCLC - 32838306;
Publisher: National Park Service, U.S. Department of the Interior,; 1995
Source: 74421.on.worldcat.org:xwc
UM Twin Cities Magrath Library I 29.2:AR 2/23
Copyright:

Arches

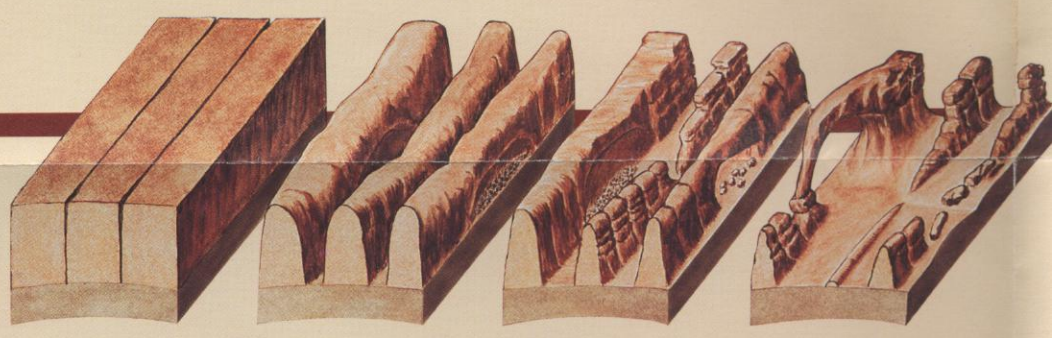
Official Map and Guide



Water and ice, extreme temperatures, and underground salt movement are responsible for the sculptured rock scenery of Arches National Park. On clear days with blue skies, it is hard to imagine such violent forces, or the 100 million years of erosion, that created this land that boasts the greatest density of natural arches in the world. The more than 2,000 cataloged arches range in size from a three-foot opening, the minimum considered an arch, to the longest one, Landscape Arch, which measures 306 feet from base to base. New arches are being formed and old ones are being destroyed. Erosion and weathering are relatively slow but are relentlessly creating dynamic landforms that gradually change through time. Occasionally change occurs more dramatically. In 1991 a slab of rock about 60 feet long, 11 feet wide, and 4 feet thick fell from the underside of Landscape Arch, leaving behind an even thinner ribbon of rock. Delicate Arch, an isolated remnant of a bygone fin, stands on the brink of a canyon, with the dramatic La Sal Mountains for a backdrop. Towering spires, pinnacles, and balanced rocks perched atop seemingly inadequate bases vie with the arches as scenic spectacles.

Native Americans utilized the area for thousands of years. Archaic people, and later Anasazi, Fremont, and Utes searched the arid desert for game animals, wild plant foods, and stone for tools and weapons. They also left evidence of their passing on a few pictograph and petroglyph panels. The first white explorers came looking for wealth in the form of minerals. Ranchers found wealth in the grasses for their cattle and sheep. John Wesley Wolfe, a disabled Civil War veteran, and his son, Fred, settled here in the late 1800s. A weathered log cabin, root cellar, and a corral remain as evidence of the primitive ranch they operated for more than 20 years. A visit to Wolfe Ranch is a walk into the past.

The Geologic Story



The park lies atop an underground salt bed, which is basically responsible for the arches and spires, balanced rocks, sandstone fins, and eroded monoliths that make the area a sightseer's mecca. Thousands of feet thick in places, this salt bed was deposited across the Colorado Plateau some 300 million years ago when a sea flowed into the region and eventually evaporated. Over millions of years, the salt bed was covered with residue from floods and winds and the oceans that came and went at intervals. Much of this debris was compressed into rock. At one time this overlying layer of rock may have been more than a mile thick.

Salt under pressure is unstable, and the salt bed below Arches was no match for the weight of this thick cover of rock. Under such pressure, the salt layer shifted, buckled, liquified, and repositioned itself, thrusting the rock layers upward into domes. Whole sections dropped into the cavities.

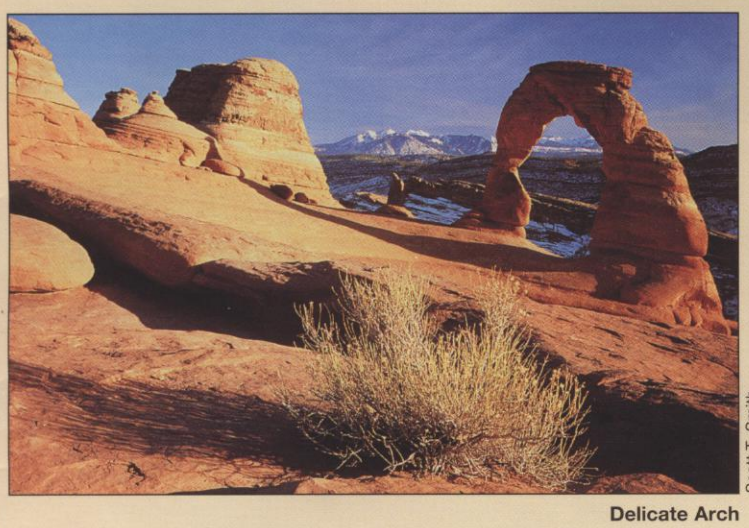
Faults deep in the Earth contributed to the instability on the surface. The result of one such 2,500-foot displacement, the Moab Fault, is seen from the visitor center. This movement also produced vertical cracks that later contributed to the development of arches. As this subsurface movement of salt shaped the Earth, surface erosion stripped away the younger rock layers. Except for isolated remnants, the major formations visible in the park today are the salmon-colored Entrada Sandstone, in which most of the arches form, and the buff-colored Navajo Sandstone. These are visible in layer cake fashion throughout most of the park. Over time water seeped into the superficial cracks, joints, and folds of these layers. Ice formed in the fissures, expanding and putting pressure on surrounding rock, breaking off bits and pieces.

Winds later cleaned out the loose particles. A series of free-standing fins remained. Wind and water attacked these fins until, in some, the cementing material g of rock tumbled out. Ma lapsed. Others, with the ness and balance, survi missing sections. These arches. Pothole arches weathering as water col depressions and eventu the layer below. This is Arches—probably. The circumstantial.

Arches National Park
Utah

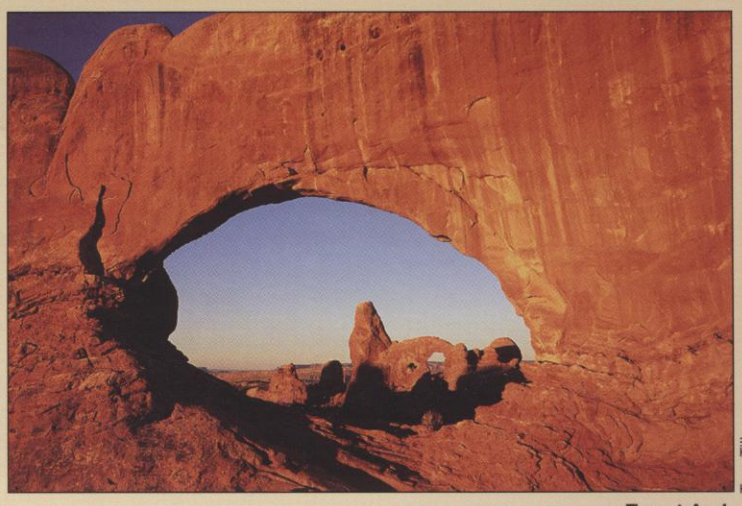
National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Cover photo of Landscape Arch by Tom Till



Scott T. Smith

Delicate Arch



Tom Till

Turret Arch

Greg Harlin

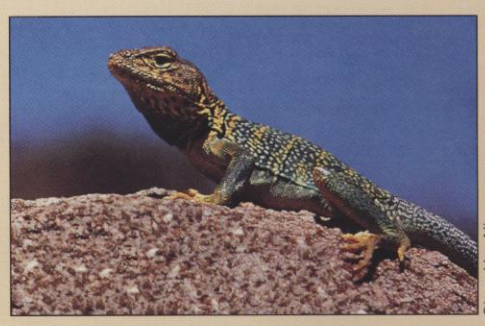
Common Raven

Much More Life Than Meets the Eye

erial gave way and chunks
. Many damaged fins col-
n the right degree of hard-
survived despite their
hese became the famous
hes form by chemical
r collects in natural
ventually cuts through to
is is the geologic story of
The evidence is largely

Pinyon and gnarled juniper trees add a splash of green contrast to the red sandstone terrain. When conditions are just right, wildflowers bloom in profusion from April to July. Most species of mammals are nocturnal, but you might see mule deer, kit fox, or more often, jackrabbits and cottontails, kangaroo rats and other rodents, and small reptiles. Flocks of blue pinyon jays chatter in tree tops; migratory species such as mountain bluebirds and residents such as golden eagles are seen by careful observers.

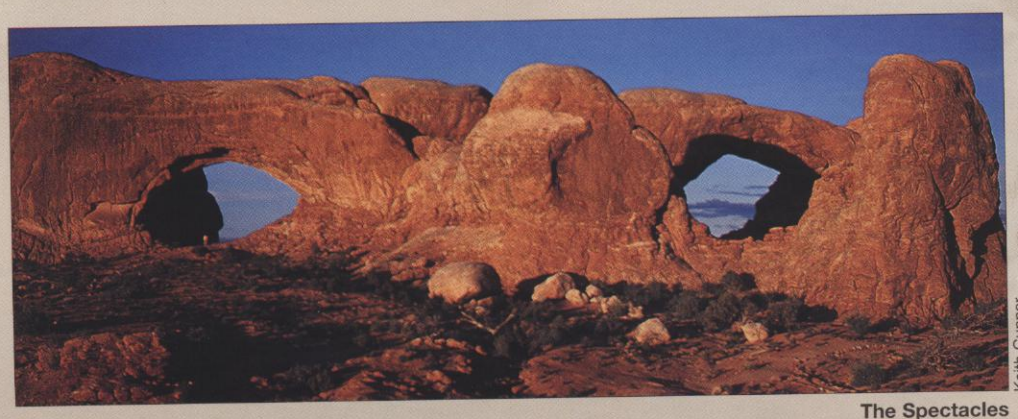
Cryptobiotic Crust: Its alive, so watch your step! But it won't bite you. Once called cryptogamic soil, this dark crust covers much of the untrampled desert. Composed of cyanobacteria as well as lichen, algae, and fungi, this covering protects against erosion, absorbs moisture, and provides nitrogen and other nutrients for plant growth. Avoid crushing these life-giving organisms. Stay on trails. Without these crusts, many of the larger plants could not survive, and if the plants go, so do the animals. The desert could lose much of the life that makes it such a magical place.



Glenn Van Nimwegen

Collared Lizard

Arches



Keith Gunnar

The Spectacles

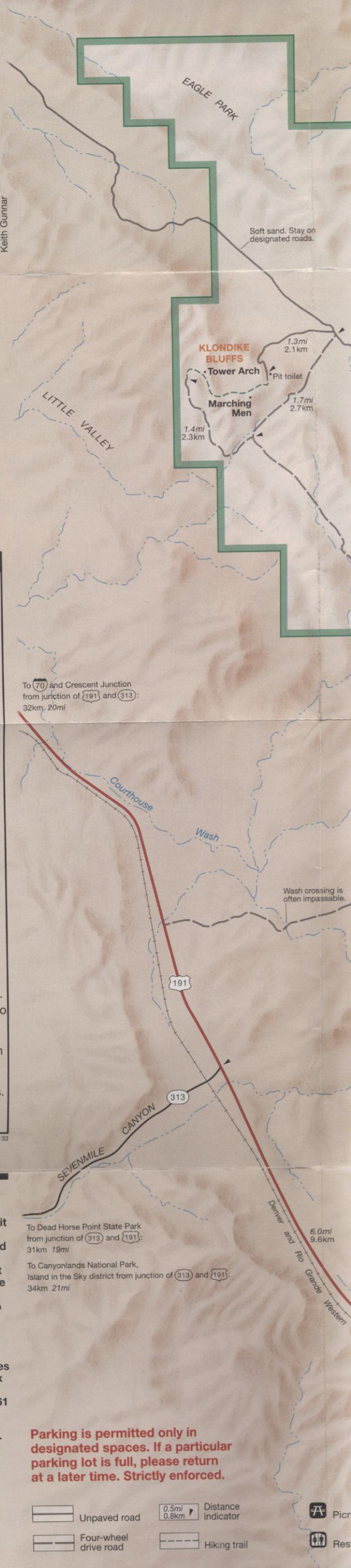
Arches National Park is a great family park. Foot trails lead to many park features. You can see much from your car, but to grasp the aura of time and silence and experience the scale so special here, get out of your car and walk.

Stop at the visitor center and ask advice on the best use of your time—whether an hour or a week—in the park and nearby areas. Watch a color slide orientation program, see the geology and history exhibits, and browse for publications and maps. A self-guiding booklet for the drive along the park road is available, as is a guide to the trails of the park. In season, ask about the naturalist-led Fiery Furnace walk and other ranger-guided programs or privately-operated tours. There are no food or lodging facilities in the park; nearby Moab provides all types of visitor services.

Devils Garden Campground has 52 tent and trailer sites; all are first-come, first-served (no reservations). Fees are charged year-round. Two walk-in group sites are limited to tents (no RVs) and may be reserved for eleven or more people. Flush toilets and water are available mid-March through mid-October. Chemical toilets are available in winter; get water then at visitor center. Campfire programs are offered in season at the amphitheater.

Trail	Length	Description
Trail distances are round-trip.		
Park Avenue (one way)	1.0 mi/1.6 km	Moderately easy; short hill leads to smooth rock canyon bottom; tall walls, balanced rocks.
Balanced Rock (loop)	0.3 mi/0.5 km	Easy walk around the base of Balanced Rock.
Windows (loop)	1.0 mi/1.6 km	Easy to North and South Windows and Turret Arch; 0.7 mile/1.1 km. Complete loop, for view of both windows, is more strenuous.
Double Arch	0.8 mi/1.2 km	Easy trail through some loose sand; spectacular arch.
Delicate Arch	3.0 mi/4.8 km	Elevation gain of 480 feet/146 meters; no shade—**take at least one quart of water per person!** Open slickrock with some exposure to heights. Best at sunset.
Delicate Arch Viewpoint ♿	100yds/91m	Surfaced trail, distant view of arch; reach base of arch only on Delicate Arch trail.
Sand Dune Arch	0.3 mi/0.5 km	Easy trail that's great for kids!
Broken Arch	1.3 mi/2.1 km	Easy trail across open grassland.
Skyline Arch	0.4 mi/0.6 km	Moderate walk over rocks to closer view of arch.
Devils Garden: Landscape Arch	1.6 mi/2.6 km	Moderately easy with some elevation gain; gravel surface. Short side trips to Tunnel and Pine Tree arches.
Double O Arch	4.2 mi/6.8 km	Difficult with many short elevation changes, rocky footing, some exposure to heights. Add side trips to Navajo and Partition Arches.
Primitive Loop from Double O to Landscape	2.2 mi/3.5 km	Difficult low route through fins; short section of smooth slickrock; slippery when wet. Side trip to Private Arch.
Tower Arch	2.4 mi/3.8 km	Moderately difficult in remote section of Klondike Bluffs. Some sand and elevation changes.

☆ GPO: 1995-387-038-00133



For Your Safety

The climate and landscape at Arches pose special problems you should be aware of for your safety and convenience. Summer daytime temperatures can reach 43°C (110°F). Carry 4 liters (1 gallon) of water per person per day, minimum. Dehydration and heat problems can be fatal.

Sandstone is dangerous—it crumbles and breaks easily. Its easier to climb up than down; don't get rimrocked. Technical rescues are expensive and dangerous. Rock climbing is permitted in the park but prohibited on most features named on USGS maps. More information is available at the Visitor Center.

Drivers: The scenery can leave you awe-struck! Save sightseeing for viewpoints.

Regulations

It is your responsibility to know and obey park rules and regulations. Regulations are designed for your safety and for the protection of natural resources. Parking is restricted to designated areas; return at a later time if a parking lot is filled. Visitors must remain on designated roads and trails.

Wood gathering is prohibited. Bring fuel for the grills provided, or bring a stove. Carry out all trash, even cigarette butts.

No hunting or firearms are permitted. All features are protected: leave them undisturbed for future visitors.

Mountain bikes are allowed on established roads only; do not take them on trails or in the backcountry. These are only some of the regulations. All federal and state laws are enforced in the park.

Pets

Pets are not allowed on or off trails, in the backcountry, or in buildings. In the front country they must be under physical restraint at all times. Pets left unattended in vehicles during the heat of the day can die from heat exhaustion.

Backcountry Use

Backcountry overnight hikers must get a permit at the visitor center. There are no designated backcountry trails or campsites. Low-impact camping techniques are essential. You must carry all your water. No fires are allowed.

For information

The park superintendent's address is Arches National Park, P.O. Box 907, Moab, UT 84532. Telephone 801-259-8161 (voice); 801-259-5279 (TTY). Group campsite reservations: 801-259-4351.

Arches National Park
Utah

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

North

0 1 2 3 4 Kilometers
0 1 2 3 4 Miles

CAUTION
Stay on trails or slickrock to protect fragile cryptobiotic soil crust. These tiny organisms are critical to all life in the desert.

YELLOW CAT FLAT
Yellow Cat Wash
MOLLIE HOGANS
MINE DRAW
Cottonwood Wash
FIN CANYON
LOST SPRING CANYON
CLOVER CANYON
Salt Wash
WINTER CAMP RIDGE
Wash
Camp Winter Wash
DOME PLATEAU
CACHE VALLEY
Valley Wash
DRY MESA
WILLOW FLATS
HERDINA PARK
MAT MARTIN POINT
Courthouse Wash
Rio Grande Western
MOAB CANYON
SALT VALLEY
Salt Valley Wash
Cache Valley Wash
COLORADO RIVER
Scenic Byway
JACKSON CANYON
NEGRO BILL CANYON
MOAB VALLEY
tunnel

DEVILS GARDEN
Dark Angel
Private Arch
Double O Arch
primitive trail
Wall Arch
Navajo Arch
Partition Arch
Landscape Arch
Pine Tree Arch
Tunnel Arch
Pit toilet
Devils Garden Trailhead
Campground
(water available spring-early fall)
Amphitheater
Skyline Arch
Broken Arch
Sand Dune Arch
1.3mi 2.1km
1.7mi 2.7km
1.0mi 1.6km
7.7mi 12.4km
9.0mi 14.5km

FIERY FURNACE
5.0mi 8.1km
Pit toilet
Fiery Furnace Viewpoint
Salt Valley Overlook

Because of soft sand on steep grades, vehicular travel is recommended only from north to south through this area. Stay on designated roads.

Wolfe Ranch
Pit toilet
Parking and Pit Toilet
Delicate Arch
4829ft 1474m
Delicate Arch Viewpoint
1.0mi 1.6km
1.2mi 1.9km

Eye of the Whale Arch

ARCHES NATIONAL PARK

Pit toilet
Balanced Rock
Ham Rock
Garden of Eden
Elephant Butte 5653ft 1723m
Cove Arch
2.5mi 4.0km
2.5mi 4.0km
Panorama Point
Cove of Caves
Double Arch
Parade of Elephants
Pit toilet
North Window
South Window
Turret Arch
THE WINDOWS SECTION

ROCK PINNACLES
THE GREAT WALL
9.2mi 14.8km
Petrified Dunes Viewpoint
PETRIFIED DUNES

To 70 and Cisco from junction of 191 and 128: 72km 45mi
To Castle Valley from junction of 191 and 128: 26km 16mi

128

BLM campgrounds
BIG BEND

Tower of Babel
Sheep Rock
Courthouse Towers Viewpoint
Three Gossips
The Organ
COURTHOUSE TOWERS
Park Ave
Park Avenue Viewpoint and Trailhead
La Sal Mountains Viewpoint
Visitor Center
Park headquarters
4085ft 1245m
6.0mi 9.6km

5.0mi 8.0km
128
191
279
To Monticello: 90km 55mi
To Canyonlands National Park, Needles district: 126km 77mi
To Potash Mine 23km 14mi
MOAB

Picnic area
Restrooms
Interpretive trail
Drinking water