

Oh, Ranger!®

COMPLIMENTARY \$3.95

2019/2020

YOUR COMPLETE GUIDE TO THE PARKS

GLEN CANYON, LAKE POWELL & LAKE MEAD

ACTIVITIES • SIGHTSEEING • DINING • LODGING
TRAILS • HISTORY • MAPS • MORE



OFFICIAL
PARTNERS





SO TASTY EVERYONE WILL WANT A BITE.



©2019 Preferred Brands International. All rights reserved.



TASTY BITE® is all-natural and perfect for the trail. Look for the yellow pouch in the international food aisle.*

tastybite.com

*Keep wildlife wild;
Don't feed the animals.



WELCOME

Welcome! You are one of more than 12 million people who visit **Glen Canyon and Lake Mead National Recreation Areas (NRAs)** every year. These units of the national park system were established to protect the outstanding resources of this rugged canyon country and to provide for your enjoyment.

Glen Canyon NRA's 1.25 million acres includes a diverse spectrum of recreational opportunities. With Lake Powell at the center—surrounded by vast canyon lands and remote backcountry proposed wilderness areas—there is no shortage of natural beauty to experience.

At 1.5 million acres, **Lake Mead NRA** is twice the size of Rhode Island. Its diversity attracts boaters and anglers, as well as hikers and wildlife photographers. Three of America's four desert ecosystems—the Mojave, the Great Basin and the Sonoran Deserts—meet here. This seemingly barren area contains an amazing diversity of plants and animals, some of which are found

nowhere else in the world.

Remember to tread lightly and leave any areas you visit in better condition than they were when you arrived. Respect the park's fragile resources and minimize impact by adhering to park regulations, designed for your safety and the park's protection.

The National Park Service and concessioners—(for Glen Canyon) Lake Powell Resorts & Marinas, managed by Aramark, and the Antelope Point Marina, operated by Antelope Point Holdings LLC; (for Lake Mead) Las Vegas Boat Harbor, Forever Resorts, Guest Services, Inc., Urban Park Concessionaires, Aramark, and Access-Parks—collaborate to provide everything you need for a memorable visit.

This *American Park Network* guide to Glen Canyon NRA, Lake Powell and Lake Mead NRA is provided by Lake Powell Resorts & Marinas and Antelope Point Marina to enhance your appreciation and enjoyment of the park. It is made possible by the support of sponsors whose messages appear herein.

Shutterstock



Enjoy Lake Powell sunsets with breathtaking desert landscapes, rock formations, and basins.

Unforgettable Adventures.



Feel-Good Savings.

Heed the call of adventure with great insurance coverage.
15 minutes could save you 15% or more on RV insurance.

GEICO® for your RV

geico.com | 1-877-434-2678 | Local Office

Some discounts, coverages, payment plans and features are not available in all states, in all GEICO companies, or in all situations. GEICO is a registered service mark of Government Employees Insurance Company, Washington, DC 20076; a Berkshire Hathaway Inc. subsidiary. © 2019 GEICO



CONTENTS



American Park Network® publishes OhRanger.com, Oh, Ranger! ParkFinder™ and Oh, Ranger! guides—a collection of visitor guides for public lands all across America—and operates Oh, Ranger! Wi-Fi in parks and public lands. American Park Network is an official partner of the National Forest Foundation, National Parks Conservation Association, National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, American Hiking Society and the Student Conservation Association.

Publisher & Editor-in-Chief
MARK J. SAFERSTEIN

Associate Publisher & Executive Editor
Joel S. Saferstein

Group Sales & Partnerships Director
Alex Frenkel

EDITORIAL / PRODUCTION
Editors: Monette A. Bailey, Daniel Johnson, Jacqueline Kehoe, Amanda McConnon, Julie McCool, Danielle Taylor, Wendy Willis
Proofreader: Scott Tabor
Production Manager: Mario Arce
Graphic Designers: Karla Aldana, Dennisse Cruz, Tatiana Hurtado, Yamileth Recinos

DIGITAL
Technology Manager: Scott Falconer

ADVERTISING SALES & MARKETING
(212) 581-3380

adsales@americanparknetwork.com
Business Development: Randy Burton, Mary Pat Kalebth, Pat Keane, Craig King, Kristi Rummel
Operations Manager: Matthew Price

American Park Network
41 East 11th Street, 11th Floor, NY, NY 10003

@OhRanger

©2019 APN MEDIA, LLC - All Rights Reserved

Oh, Ranger! and American Park Network are registered trademarks of APN Media, LLC.



The publisher of this guide and the advertisers herein are not affiliated with, or endorsed by, the National Park Service.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Distribution requests
distribution@americanparknetwork.com

Oh, Ranger! Wi-Fi™ installation/sponsorship
wifi@americanparknetwork.com

	Welcome	1
	What's New!	4
	GLEN CANYON Plan Your Visit	6
	GLEN CANYON Important Numbers	11
	GLEN CANYON Regulations & Safety	15
	GLEN CANYON History & Culture	18
	GLEN CANYON Preservation	20
	GLEN CANYON Sights To See	23
	Centerfold Map	
	GLEN CANYON Lodging & Dining	26
	GLEN CANYON Things To Do	30
	GLEN CANYON Camping	34
	GLEN CANYON Walking & Hiking	35
	LAKE MEAD Plan Your Visit	36
	LAKE MEAD Things To Do	40
	Nature & Wildlife	42
	Just For Kids	45
	Photography	46
	If You Only Have A Day	48

Cover: Slot Canyon in Glen Canyon National Park (Photo: Shutterstock)

For answers to all your questions, go to **OhRanger.com**

GLEN CANYON, LAKE POWELL & LAKE MEAD 3



WHAT'S NEW! WE'RE ALL CONNECTED

"When we try to pick out anything by itself, we find it hitched to everything else in the Universe."

—John Muir

As a young man, John Muir, the naturalist known as, "Father of the National Parks," had an accident that left him temporarily blinded. It changed his life forever. When he regained his sight, he emerged into the light ever-determined to pursue his dreams of exploration. Fortunately for the world, Muir's trials led him to help move Congress to set aside Yosemite, one of his many contributions to our nation's preservation movement.

When faced with adversity, we have but two choices. We can either rise above our circumstance or succumb to our demons of doubt, fear, resentment and apathy. While Muir was lucky to have his sight return, his subsequent efforts drew strength from hope, compassion, kindness and love to rise up from personal adversity.

Lately, it feels like we're all dealing with too many hurdles. Every hour, "breaking" news spews forth accounts of tragedy and divisiveness. It was with this backdrop that I was preparing to teach a restorative yoga class, to create a safe environment for my students and provide an hour's worth of peace and quiet to carry out into the world. What theme would capture their imagination and neatly underscore our human need for connectedness?

When teaching, I try to use examples that marry ancient tradition with contemporary



Mark, Joel & Alex – connecting in parks!

science. I often find inspiration in parks. In its traditional form, yoga was about joining with the collective universe. So, too, is Muir's quote, best illustrated by an example from Yellowstone. When wolves were reintroduced there after a 70-year absence, the rampant elk population could no longer leisurely nibble on willows, graze in open meadows or congregate by the rivers. In a short period of time, the forests and meadows began to regenerate. Song birds appeared. Beavers flourished, building dams, which created habitats for otters, muskrats and ducks. Cooler waters, shaded by more trees, attracted different species of amphibians and fish. Tree roots stabilized the river banks, diminished erosion and even changed the geography of the park! Indeed, pick out anything by itself and we quickly find that *everything* is connected.

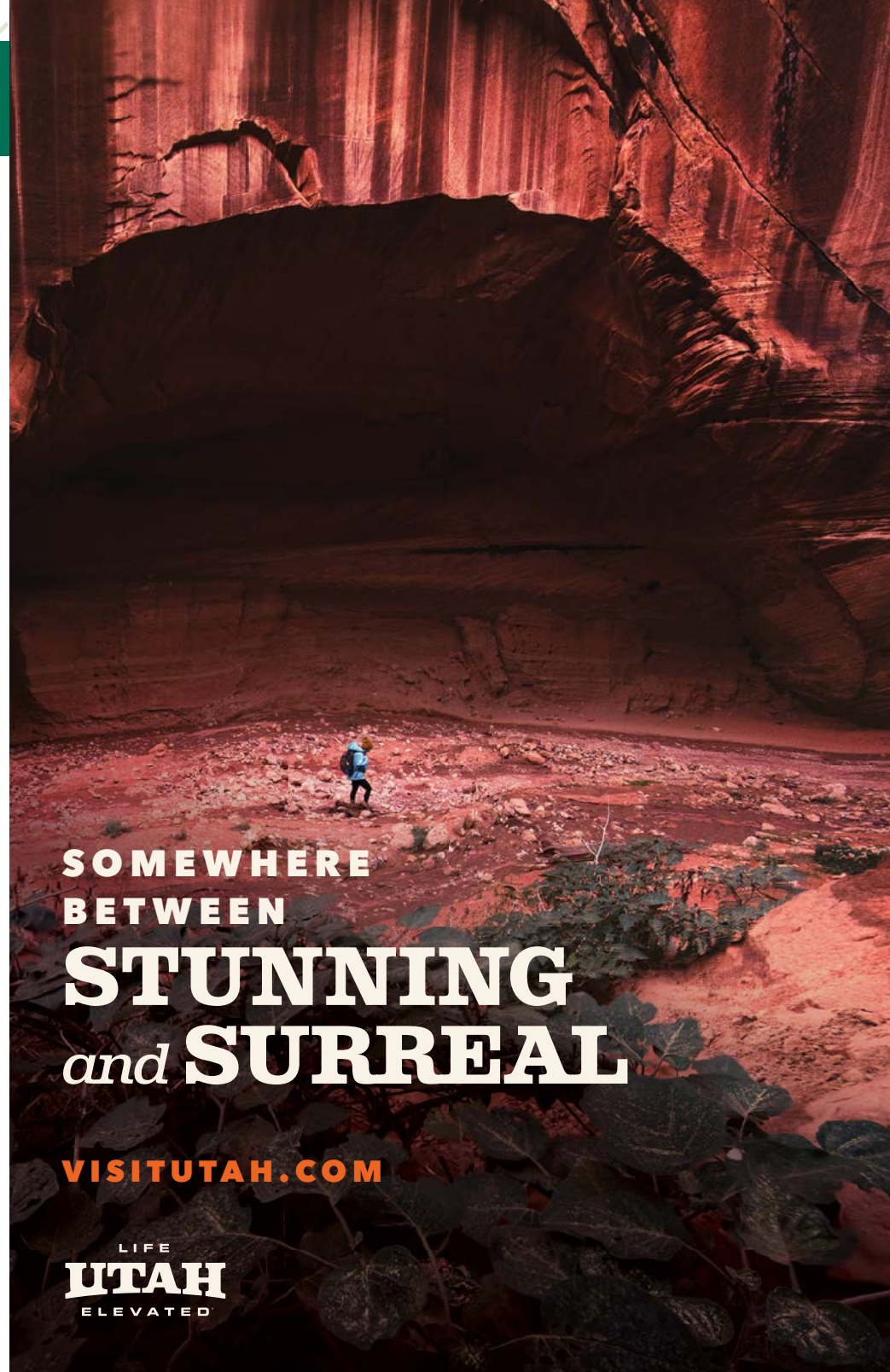
Now is the time to seek out connection—whether in a park, a yoga studio or anywhere you find inspiration—to find strength to rise up and overcome the obstacles that face us all...

mark@americanparknetwork.com



GET CONNECTED AT YOUR FAVORITE PARKS!

Parks are about enjoying nature, but what if you want to share a great picture or are awaiting an important email? If you're looking to add connectivity to your park, or if you already have Wi-Fi and would like help adding content or generating sponsor revenues, please let us know at wifi@americanparknetwork.com.



SOMEWHERE
BETWEEN
STUNNING
and **SURREAL**

VISITUTAH.COM

LIFE
UTAH
ELEVATED



GLEN CANYON PLAN YOUR VISIT

More than 1.25 million acres of incredibly diverse and beautiful land await you in Glen Canyon National Recreation Area (NRA). Lake Powell accounts for a mere 13 percent of Glen Canyon NRA—there is so much more to see beyond the lake! The **canyons**, **buttes**, and **desert sands** invite you to discover a place that tells the story of nearly 270 million years of the earth's history.

Glen Canyon NRA is nestled in the center of the Grand Circle—a collection of seven national parks, eight national monuments and numerous state parks, historical sites, prehistoric Indian ruins, colorful ghost towns, and stunning geologic formations—which reaches from northern Arizona into southern Utah, western Colorado and northwest New Mexico.

Established by Congress in 1972, Glen Canyon NRA is one of only 20 national recreation areas managed by the National Park Service (Lake Mead was the first). National recreation areas often con-



sist of lakes and reservoirs created by major dams. Others are located in urban areas. The park is the sixth largest national park unit in the lower 48 states!

The park is open 365 days a year. A seven-day entrance permit costs \$30 per vehicle, \$25 per motorcycle and \$15 per pedestrian. A Glen Canyon National Recreation Area Annual Pass costs \$55. A seven-day en-



FEDERAL RECREATIONAL LANDS PASSES

A federal recreation pass is helpful if you plan to visit many national parks, forests or other federal lands. For information, call (888) 275-8747 or visit store.usgs.gov/pass.

Type	Cost	Availability	Details
Annual Pass	\$80	General Public	This one-year pass is available on site, by phone or online (see above).
Senior Pass	\$80	U.S. residents age 62+	This lifetime pass is available on USGS.gov site or via mail order. ID required. Add \$10 handling fee.
Military Pass	Free	U.S. Active Duty military members and their dependents	This one-year pass is available on site. ID (CAC Card or DoD Form 1173) required.
Access Pass	Free	U.S. residents with permanent disabilities	This lifetime pass is available on site or via mail order. ID and documentation required.
Volunteer Pass	Free	250 cumulative volunteer service hours	Inquire locally to obtain information about this one-year pass.



**You can help protect
the places you love to hike.**

**Join today and get a 20% discount on membership.
Use this exclusive Oh, Ranger! code APN20**

AMERICANHIKING.ORG/JOIN



Shutterstock

Take advantage of all the available activities to do on the water—Glen Canyon is a boater's paradise.

trance permit for boaters costs \$30 per boat and a Glen Canyon National Recreation Area Annual Vessel Sicker costs \$50 per boat, allowing unlimited entry January 1 through December 31. For current park information, stop at a visitor center or ranger station, call **(928) 608-6200** or visit nps.gov/glca. Note: Entrance fees subject to change.

GETTING TO GLEN CANYON & LAKE POWELL

By Land: There are two main entry points to Lake Powell. From the south, drive 2.7 miles north from Page, Arizona on U.S. Highway 89 to the South Entrance for Wahweap Marina. From the north, take Utah Highway 276 to the Bullfrog Visitor Center or continue on the highway to Lake Powell. A free NPS brochure on Glen Canyon NRA, containing a detailed map, is available at park visitor centers and entrance stations. For marina access information, see the "Glen Canyon Resorts & Marinas" article in this chapter.

By Air: Contour Airlines offers service from

Phoenix to Page, Arizona. Several services at the Page Airport can provide the last link to your Glen Canyon destination. Shuttle buses, rental cars, and charter and scenic air services are available to take you to Wahweap, Antelope Point Marina, and Page. Public airstrips with limited tie-downs serve those visitors headed up-lake to the marinas at Bullfrog or Halls Crossing. Pilots of small aircrafts can arrange pickup for guests of Bullfrog and Halls Crossing Marinas by communication (Unicom frequency 122.8) before landing at the nearby airstrip. Aramark provides free shuttle service to Halls Crossing and Bullfrog. Please call **(435) 684-3000** to make arrangements. (Bullfrog airstrip will be closed for construction May 2, 3, 7–10; use the Cal Black Memorial Airport in Halls Crossing for an alternative.)

EVERY KID IN A PARK

The Every Kid in a Park initiative was launched to help create our next generation of park visitors, supporters, and advocates. The goal is to provide an opportunity for every fourth grade student to experience their

Hoover Dam Rafting Trips

**THE ULTIMATE BUCKET LIST
ADVENTURE ON THE
BLACK CANYON RIVER!**

Cottonwood Houseboat Rentals

**FAMILY MEMORIES
TO LAST A LIFETIME**



 **LAKE
MEAD • MOHAVE**
ADVENTURES™

BLACKCANYONADVENTURES.COM
RAFTING RESERVATIONS: (800) 455-3490

COTTONWOODCOVERESORT.COM
HOUSEBOAT RESERVATIONS: (877) 262-8212

ESSENTIALS FOR BOATERS



CarGe/Stock

- **Navigation:** Topographic maps and compass or GPS.
- **Light:** Flashlight with spare bulbs and batteries.
- **Food:** Extra food and water.
- **Clothing:** Extra clothing for cold weather.
- **Sun Protection:** Sunglasses, a brimmed hat and sunscreen.
- **Fire:** Waterproof matches or fire starter. Fire extinguishers are required.
- **First-Aid Kit:** Know how to use it.
- **Equipment:** Knife, horn, personal flotation devices and bailing bucket.
- **Signals:** Whistle or signal mirror.
- **Garbage Sack:** Please always put garbage in containers provided. Recycle aluminum cans, plastic and cardboard. Carry out all litter and waste.
- **Portable Toilets:** Containers can be emptied at boat pump-outs or dump stations. Use of plastic bags is prohibited. See the "Park Regulations & Safety" chapter for more information.

federal public lands and waters in person.

All kids in the fourth grade have access to their own Every Kid in a Park pass at **Everykidinapark.gov**. This pass admits the pass owner and any accompanying passengers in a private non-commercial vehicle to the park. You must present a pass printed from **everykidinapark.gov** (valid until August 31, 2019).

VISITOR CENTERS

In 2017, the Bureau of Reclamation and National Park Service replaced all of the exhibits in **Carl Hayden Visitor Center** for the first time since it was constructed in 1968. Including a model of a dam, interactive trip planning, recreation activities and relief maps, these exhibits tell the story of the human

relationship with the Colorado River. There is a fee for the dam tour. For a dam tour or group bookings, call **(928) 608-6072**. The visitor center is open daily year-round, except Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day and New Year's Day. Please visit **nps.gov/glca** or call **(928) 608-6200** for more information. *Note: Visitors may bring bags and purses into the visitor center. However, due to heightened security, visitors may not bring packs or large purses on the dam tour. Other restricted items include pocket knives, lighters, nail clippers, and food and beverages other than water.*

Bullfrog Visitor Center offers current weather and lake conditions, general park information, a bookstore and exhibits on the natural and cultural history of

the area, including a scale model of a **slot canyon**, an extremely narrow gorge with walls uniquely sculpted by wind and water. You can often touch both walls with your outstretched arms. The visitor center is open seasonally. Call **(435) 684-7423** for more information.

Navajo Bridge Interpretive Center near Lees Ferry features outdoor exhibits and a pedestrian walkway over the Colorado River. It is open April through October from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Please call **(928) 355-2319** for more information.

Escalante Interagency Visitor Center (NPS/BLM/USFS) is located in the town of Escalante, Utah, and is open from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. daily. New outdoor exhibits and an app are available to help visitors with trip planning support and to help them have safer adventures in the area. Call **(435) 826-5499** for more information.

For general information about services and facilities in nearby Page, Arizona, contact the **John Wesley Powell Museum**. Call **(928) 645-9496** or visit **powellmuseum.org**.

GETTING AROUND LAKE POWELL

Shuttle Service: Lake Powell Resort, Antelope Point Marina, Bullfrog and Halls Crossing all provide courtesy shuttle service for guests during peak season.

The ferry which normally operates between Bullfrog and Halls Crossing marinas is currently closed for repairs with no estimated reopening date. Please call **(435) 893-4747** or visit **udot.utah.gov** for more information.

STORES & SUPPLIES

Merchandise for sale in gift shops, marina stores and sporting goods centers ranges from basic necessities to American Indian

IMPORTANT NUMBERS

Park Information	(928) 608-6200 nps.gov/glca
Lake Powell Resorts & Marinas Lodging, Tours & Boat Rentals	(928) 645-2433 or (888) 896-3829 lakepowell.com
Antelope Point Marina: Full Service Marina, Recreational Rentals	(928) 645-5900 antelopepointlakepowell.com lakepowellhouseboating.com
Wilderness River Adventures (Glen Canyon Floats Trips)	(800) 992-8022 riveradventures.com/glen-canyon-float-trips/ glen-canyon-float-trip-experience
Emergencies (Park Dispatch) Powell Watch	911 or (800) 582-4351 or (928) 608-6300 (24 hours) (928) 614-0820 (text to report non-emergency crime sighting)
Boater's Emergency	If you have VHF radio, dial Channel 16 on the marine band and hail another boater for help.
Campgrounds	(435) 684-3000 (Bullfrog) (435) 684-7000 (Halls Crossing) (928) 608-6200 (Lees Ferry – does not accept reservations) (888) 896-3829 (Wahweap) (435) 233-6822 (Hite)
Lost & Found	(928) 608-6200



GLEN CANYON RESORTS & MARINAS



Four marinas operate year-round on the perimeter of Lake Powell and are accessible by land. A fifth marina, Dangling Rope, is accessible by boat only. The three full-service marinas offer houseboat and powerboat rentals, boat tours, accommodations, dining, fuel, dock-side and dry boat storage, fishing and water sports gear, groceries and general merchandise. For the latest launching conditions, call the park or visit nps.gov/glca.

Wahweap Marina & Lake Powell Resort (1) are located six miles north of Page, Arizona, and five miles from Glen Canyon Dam. This is the largest marina at Lake Powell. It offers four restaurants, a campground, swimming pools and lodging with 350 rooms. Boat rentals, boat tours, boat repairs, two public launch ramps and restroom facilities are available. • (888) 896-3829 • lakepowell.com.

Bullfrog Marina & Defiance House Lodge (2) is the second-largest marina on Lake Powell and offers the widest variety of services on the lake outside of Wahweap. It is located in Utah near mid-lake and offers a restaurant, campground and lodging with 48 rooms. Boat rentals, boat repairs, public launch ramp and restroom facilities are available. • (435) 684-3000 • lakepowell.com. Note: Bullfrog launch ramp is currently closed due to low water levels.

Halls Crossing Marina (3) is located on Highway 276, about 90 miles north of Blanding, Utah. It is 95 miles upstream from Glen Canyon Dam and is directly across the lake from Bull-

frog marina. It offers fuel, family units, a grocery store, two campgrounds (one with hook-ups), laundry, showers, service station and boat repair. • (435) 684-7000 • lakepowell.com.

Antelope Point Marina (4) is just outside of Page off Highway 98, Navajo Route 22B, on the Antelope Point Turnoff. The marina has boat rentals, boat tours, a floating restaurant and lounge, general store, snack bar, laundry and showers, valet launch and retrieval services, repair services, boat transport services, dry storage, a day use area, dump station, wet slip rentals and fuel. • (928) 645-5900 • antelopepointlakepowell.com

Dangling Rope Marina (5) is about seven miles southwest of the entrance to the canyon leading to Rainbow Bridge. During summer, rangers at Rainbow Bridge patrol the area and provide visitor information. Fuel, ice, food, ice cream, souvenirs, boat pump-out facilities and drinking water are available. Dangling Rope is accessible only by boat and is open March through November. • (928) 691-0206 • lakepowell.com

Hite Marina (not shown), on the northern tip of Lake Powell, has suspended operation of its marina-based facilities due to the low lake level, but land-based facilities are open April through November. These include pay-at-the-pump gas, a small store with limited hours and RV camping spaces. The area's new concessioner Hite Outpost has begun providing additional services, including lodging, kayak rental, and guided fishing. • ticaboo.com • (435) 233-6822.

crafts. A great selection of books and videos about Lake Powell and Glen Canyon NRA are available at any marina gift shop, store, or park visitor center. Hours of operation will vary. Please see the "Lodging & Dining" chapter for more information.

Marina Stores: Located at Antelope Point, Wahweap, Bullfrog, Halls Crossing, and Dangling Rope marinas, these stores sell provisions such as food, ice, toiletries, and books. The stores also provide fishing licenses, maps, public phones, and local information. Dangling Rope, open March through November, does not sell fishing licenses. Check with other individual stores for off-season operating hours.

Lake Powell Resort Gift Shop: Year-round, buyers and browsers will find a variety of Navajo, Hopi and Zuni jewelry, pottery, and kachina dolls. This is the largest collection of American Indian crafts for sale in the park.

Castle Rock Outlet: Souvenir sportswear and T-shirts, marine accessories, and almost anything that is related to fun in and around the water are sold at this seasonally open specialty store.

Bullfrog Defiance House & the lower Gift Shop: A gift shop is located in the Defiance House Lodge. In addition, a larger store is located next to the service station at Bullfrog, which offers a range of gifts and sportswear, and includes a Utah State liquor store.

Convenience Stores: These carry a number of basic necessities and are located in or adjacent to the Lake Powell Resort Complex and Bullfrog and Halls Crossing RV parks.

MEDICAL SERVICES

Bullfrog Medical Clinic, located off highway 276 in Lake Powell, is open May through November and provides

emergency and routine medical care. For information, please call (435) 684-2288.

Page, Arizona, has many physicians and dentists, as well as the full-service Page Hospital, which is open 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days a year. For information, please call (928) 645-2424.

RELIGIOUS SERVICES

Page is served by 14 churches, 11 of which are on Lake Powell Boulevard. Services for The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints are held in Ticaboo (near Bullfrog) on Sundays.

SPECIAL SERVICES

Park facilities that are accessible to visitors with disabilities are indicated throughout this guide by the ♿ symbol. Some Lake Powell concessioners offer assistance in boarding their houseboat and river float trip fleet specially designed to accommodate people who are physically challenged. Antelope Point Marina, Wahweap, and Bullfrog. Halls Crossing and Bullfrog also offer onshore, ramped family units. Bullfrog and Wahweap offer lodging, restaurants and restrooms that are wheelchair-accessible.

Wheelchair-accessible ranger stations are located at Bullfrog, Halls Crossing, and the Escalante and Carl Hayden Visitor Centers. Restrooms with wheelchair access are available at Antelope Point Marina, Halls Crossing, Bullfrog, and Wahweap, and at Lees Ferry. Most parking lots are accessible. Call (928) 645-1030 for assistance.

Fishing docks at Wahweap and Antelope Point Marina are accessible with assistance. They allow everyone—including senior citizens, youth, and visitors with disabilities—an opportunity to enjoy fishing at Lake Powell.

VISITOR SERVICES

	Antelope Point	Bullfrog	Dangling Rope	Halls Crossing	Hite	Wahweap/Stateline
BANKS						
There are ATMs at various locations around Lake Powell. Ask at one of the lodges or stores for the nearest ATM. There are several 24-hour ATMs in Page, Arizona.	•	•		•		•
BOATING / PERSONAL WATERCRAFT*						
You can rent a boat or personal watercraft (PWC) by the hour, day, week or longer.	•	•			•	•
LAUNCH RAMPS*						
The NPS maintains public boat launching facilities, and park concessioners offer wet and dry boat storage facilities.	•	•		•		•
BOAT FUEL & REPAIR*						
Bullfrog repair services are offered on land only.	•	•	•	•		•
GAS STATIONS						
Self-service auto gasoline and related products are available.		•		•	•	•
LAUNDROMATS & SHOWERS						
These services open year-round and are located at the campgrounds at Wahweap and Halls Crossing, and near the Bullfrog RV Park.	•	•		•		•
POST OFFICE / MAIL						
Each day, mail is picked up from and delivered to Halls Crossing, Wahweap, and Bullfrog (no Saturday service in winter). There is a post office in the city of Page, Arizona with full postal services available.		•		•		•
FAX SERVICES						
Fax service is available for a fee.	•	•				•
RV PARKS						
Comfortable and convenient facilities and hook-up sites with water, sewer, and electrical service are available. Please call (888) 896-3829 for more information.		•		•	•	•
CAMPGROUNDS						
The NPS also operates a small campground at Lees Ferry and primitive camping is available at Hite. See the "Camping" chapter for more information.		•		•	•	•
*Boaters should always check current lake conditions by contacting the NPS or marinas, or by visiting nps.gov/glca prior to their trip. See the "Glen Canyon Resorts & Marinas" chart in this chapter for contact information.						

GLEN CANYON PARK REGULATIONS & SAFETY

Glen Canyon National Recreation Area is like a museum without walls—there are rules. For your safety and enjoyment, **please observe all park regulations**

Glen Canyon NRA rangers patrol the lake by water and air, both to enforce boating and water quality regulations, and to provide assistance to those in need.

Quagga mussels are non-native organisms that wreak havoc on aquatic ecosystems. They have infested much of the Midwest and Eastern U.S., and were discovered in 2007 in Lake Mead. Quagga mussels pose a major threat to Lake Powell. Please remember to clean, drain, and dry your boat before coming to Lake Powell and again when you leave.

The National Park System no longer requires mussel decontamination certificates. Quagga shells are starting to wash up on beaches. These shells are sharp and will cut through skin, clothes and paws, so please wear closed-toe shoes and put booties on pets when on beaches. Launch ramps are open 24/7, unless water levels prevent launching altogether—then they are closed for safety reasons. Arizona and Utah have different regulations regarding how boats are decontaminated. Check for updates at nps.gov/glca/learn/nature/mussel-update.htm.

For Arizona regulations, please visit azgfd.com/fishing/invasivespecies.

For Utah regulations, please visit wildlife.utah.gov/invasive-mussels.html.

Personal watercraft (PWC) can be fun, but they can also be dangerous. Operators must obey all **regulations for boat use** on Lake Powell, including wakeless speed in harbors and speed-in-proximity laws on

Simonkr/Stock



Operate personal watercraft with care. Safety is everyone's responsibility.

open water. Due to lowering water levels, it is especially recommended to go slow in narrow passages and heed warning buoys. In Arizona, children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult when riding in any personal watercraft. In Utah, children under 18 must have an adult on board when operating personal watercraft or be at least 16 years of age and possess a Utah PWC Education Certificate. Riders between 12 and 15 years old must have a certificate and operate under direct adult supervision. *PWCs are not allowed within Rainbow Bridge National Monument. PWC's must meet 2006 emission standards set by the EPA for the manufacturing of two-stroke engines.*

Do not drink alcohol while operating a boat. The combination of sun, motion, glare, and wind while boating can seriously impair coordination and affect your ability to judge distances, speed, and water depth.

Drowning is the number one cause of accidental death at Lake Powell. An average of six people drown each year in the lake. **Personal flotation devices (PFDs) or life jackets must be worn by**

all children 12 years and younger when on a boat. Everyone should wear PFDs whenever they are near the water.

Portable toilets are required if you are camping overnight on Lake Powell. Boats are regularly checked for compliance. Toilets can be rented from park concessioners. Do not leave human waste on beaches or bury it.

All boats must be driven at wakeless speed in Utah when they are within 150 feet of another boat, a water-skier, a person in the water or in any harbor area. The following canyons will be at wakeless speed only: Antelope, Labyrinth, and Lost Eden. **Do not drink alcohol while operating a boat.**

No Anchoring Into Rock. Pin anchors and houseboat staking are prohibited. Pounding permanent anchors into slickrock is damaging and illegal.

Riding the bow of a boat is prohibited, except on boats with factory-installed seats.

Cliff diving (or jumping) is dangerous and is not recommended, even for experienced divers and from any height. It is illegal to jump or dive into the lake from a height greater than 15 feet. The NPS discourages jumping from any height. **Boats towing a water-skier** must have at least two people on board: a pilot and an observer (both at least 18 years of age). The boat must display an orange flag to indicate when a skier is down in the water. Waterskiing is not permitted in marked channels, in narrow side canyons or within 500 feet of harbors, mooring areas or swimming beaches.

Swimming is strongly discouraged. There are **no lifeguards** in the recreation area; there is **danger of rock slides, rocky shorelines, and unseen drop-offs**; and there is **risk of electrocution from hot dock structures**.

Wakes generated by boats can be an unexpected hazard on the lake. Minimize

the danger by slowing down and crossing the wake at a 45-degree angle. Look out for signs designating No Wake and for wakes rebounding off the walls in narrow, steep-walled canyons. Serious accidents and fatalities were caused by boat wakes!

Strong winds can whip the surface of the lake into high waves. Small craft are particularly vulnerable. If you observe a storm approaching, seek shelter of a leeward cove. These storms usually pass within an hour or two.

Buoys defining a safe passage uplake from Glen Canyon Dam are provided only in the main channel of the lake. Hazards in other areas of Lake Powell are not marked. As you pass a buoy, note its color and number to identify your location. Learn the shapes and colors of buoys and markers before you set out on your boat.

Night boating involves many hazards and is not recommended.

Always carry a map indicating the locations and numbers of buoys. Find maps at the reservations office and marina stores, boat rental offices, and park visitor centers.

Beware of flash floods, especially in tributary canyons, which are susceptible to dangerous, unpredictable flooding. The thin, sandy, desert soil reaches its saturation point quickly during a thunderstorm. Runoff builds up in small, dry washes that converge in washes, or rush into narrow, steep canyons. Eleven hikers died during a 1997 flash flood in Antelope Slot Canyon. Avoid camping in canyons or under dry waterfalls.

Deadly carbon monoxide gases come from boat engines, generators, and gas appliances. Symptoms of **carbon monoxide** poisoning include headache, nausea, blurred vision, memory loss, and lethargy. Do not swim, sit, or work near exhaust fumes. If carbon monoxide poisoning is suspected, seek



Trek through the narrow passages of Slot Canyon for a unique geological perspective.

fresh air, and medical assistance immediately.

Giardia lamblia is a tiny protozoan often present in streams and lake water in this area. The germ causes diarrhea, cramps bloating, and may require treatment by a doctor. **Carry adequate water** for short trips to avoid this parasite. Boil all your water on longer hikes.

Hantavirus has come up nearby. Always spray rodent droppings with bleach water before cleaning them to avoid breathing dusty hantavirus.

Glen Canyon NRA lies within two states: Utah and Arizona. The laws of each state apply within its own boundaries. Arizona **fishing licenses** require a Utah stamp, but Utah licenses do not require an Arizona stamp. Licenses are **available at marinas** and in nearby communities. Fishing below Glen Canyon Dam requires a valid fishing license as well. Ask a ranger about regulations before you fish.

Motor vehicles and bicycles must stay on park roads. Some roads require four-wheel-drive vehicles. Check the road

status at a visitor center, as some roads may not be open.

Don't dump garbage in the lake or leave in remote locations. Take garbage to a marina or to garbage containers.

Plants, animals, and rocks must be left undisturbed.

Drones are illegal. No unmanned aircraft are allowed in the national park.

Pets must be on a leash no longer than six feet. Pets are allowed in Aramark lodges and RV parks on a leash, but are prohibited at Rainbow Bridge National Monument. Pack out all pet and human waste from campsites as it can degrade water quality.

Dehydration is an important concern for those who venture into the backcountry. Carry and drink a minimum of one gallon of water per person per day in the summer.

Beware of cliff edges. Seemingly stable rock can suddenly crumble or break, sending you over the edge.

Always let someone know where you are going and when you expect to be back so that help can be summoned if you are overdue.

Climbing and rock scrambling accidents have increased. The canyon country has a lot of **slickrock**. When the weather is dry, loose sand can cause you to slide. When wet, it lives up to its slippery name. Be careful when hiking, never hike alone and always let someone know when and where you are going.

Note: Putting permanent climbing aids into rocks is prohibited.

For information about **possessing a firearm** within Glen Canyon NRA, please visit [nps.gov/glca](https://www.nps.gov/glca). Federal law prohibits firearms in certain park facilities. responsibility of visitors to understand and comply with all applicable firearms laws before entering NPS sites. Check with the NPS regarding where firearms may be carried.



GLEN CANYON HISTORY & CULTURE

From prehistoric Indian cultures to miners and ranchers, from modern-day adventure-seekers to vacationers, the Glen Canyon area has been home to humans for thousands of years.

EARLY INHABITANTS

Small bands of prehistoric Indians, called **Paleo-Indian people**, roved and hunted the Glen Canyon area at the end of the Ice Age, about 9,000 to 11,000 years ago. Later, a **Desert Archaic** culture developed that was based on a simple, nomadic lifestyle.

Around 200 B.C., the **Ancestral Puebloan (Anasazi) Basketmaker** culture arose. These people, named for their tightly

woven, elaborate baskets, were primarily hunters and gatherers. As their corn production steadily increased, they built more permanent settlements called pit houses.

Over the centuries, communities expanded into the architecturally ingenious cliff dwellings that mark the **Pueblo** period. These Ancestral Puebloans installed irrigation systems and used other canyon resources to make exquisite baskets, pottery, tools and adornments.

Defiance House, located in Forgotten Canyon, was occupied at the peak of the Ancestral Puebloan culture, from A.D. 1050 to A.D. 1250. More information about visiting Defiance House is available in the "Sights to See" chapter of this guide.

Ancestral Puebloan cultures eventually migrated to regions along the Rio Grande River and North of the Little Colorado River, continuing their ceremonial cycles and cultural traditions of the Hopi, Zuni, Acoma and other modern Pueblo tribes of today. Other cultural groups—the Paiute, Ute and Navajo—moved into the Colorado Plateau, adding to the rich cultural tapestry of the region.

DARING EXPEDITIONS

Two young and spirited Spanish priests from Santa Fe led the first documented journey through the area in 1776. On their way home from a futile attempt to find an overland trail to California, the **Dominguez-Escalante** party of 10 men cut through the Glen Canyon area as a harsh and early winter threatened their survival. Without the help of guides, they negotiated the maze of canyons, keeping detailed journals and maps. They named

many of the features of the Four Corners area, including the Colorado River.

This portion of Arizona was ceded to the United States by Mexico in 1848. Although some military groups were sent into the area, it remained largely unexplored.

Then, in 1869, **Major John Wesley Powell**—a soldier, scholar, scientist and fearless explorer—mounted the first of his two Colorado River expeditions. He mapped and kept detailed journals on the 1,000-mile trip while the public back east avidly followed his daring journey. Powell proved to be an intrepid leader.

GOLD & GRASS

When gold was discovered in 1871, miners came in hordes to separate flour gold (fine flecks) from the mud of the Colorado and San Juan rivers. Much later, in the 1940s and early 1950s, there was another great mining boom in the area—this time for uranium.

Grass became another valuable resource as cattle and sheep ranches were established in the late 1800s. Drought and overgrazing affected the cattle industry, as did rustling. Robbers Roost, the occasional hideout of Butch Cassidy and the Wild Bunch, was located up the Dirty Devil River.

THE MORMON SETTLERS

Mormons first arrived in the area searching for a river crossing before Powell's first expedition. In 1871, at the direction of the Mormon church, **John D. Lee** established a ferryboat service across the Colorado River at present-day Lees Ferry, providing the first accessible canyon crossing.

One of the most courageous events of the early Utah pioneers was the **Hole-**

in-the-Rock Expedition of 1879–1880. More than 200 people, 83 wagons, nearly 400 horses and more than 1,000 cattle headed eastward across southern Utah. Ahead of them lay 290 miles of the most difficult terrain imaginable. They expected to reach their destination in six weeks, but instead, it took six months. At a point opposite Cottonwood Canyon, overlooking the Colorado River, they found it necessary to chop and blast the perilously steep path now known as "Hole-in-the-Rock." Ultimately, the settlers reached their destination, which is now the town of Bluff, Utah.

TOURISM COMES TO GLEN CANYON

As time passed, increasing numbers of explorers, prospectors and pioneers were experiencing Glen Canyon. It was not until the early 1920s that tourism took the form of river trips outfitted and guided by **David Rust**, an early guide in Kanab. Rust built the trail from the North Rim of the Grand Canyon to the Colorado River, and then spanned the River with its first aerial crossing by a tram attached to a cable. Rust took his tourists through Glen Canyon in canvas fold boats brought by wagon to Hite Crossing, and then taken out at Lees Ferry.

THE MAKING OF A PARK

The area that is now Glen Canyon NRA was part of the 6,000-square-mile area proposed in the 1930s as Escalante National Park. After World War II, treaty agreements with Mexico and other commitments led to the construction of the Glen Canyon Dam, completed in 1966.

During construction, NPS would administer the reservoir's public use. In 1972, Congress established Glen Canyon National Recreation Area.



iStock

Petroglyphs made by indigenous peoples of the southwest are on still display in Glen Canyon.



GLEN CANYON PRESERVATION

By understanding and protecting the fragile natural and cultural resources of Glen Canyon, you can help preserve the park for future generations.

HISTORIC & ARCHEOLOGICAL SITES

Glen Canyon's prehistoric Indian ruins and remains of 19th-century settler and mining activities are protected by the NPS under law. You are invited to visit some culturally significant sites: Defiance House, Descending Sheep Petroglyph Panel, Lonely Dell Ranch Historic District, and Lees Ferry Historic District. Defiance House *can be reached via boat and requires a walk up a hill*. All other prehistoric and historic sites are closed. You may observe and photograph them from a distance, but entering is prohibited by law. Be careful not to disturb any site. Studies of these sites are in progress and the movement of any pottery pieces, artifacts or building



NPS

Quagga mussels cause extensive resource damage. Have your vessels screened.

materials can render the sites useless. Defacement of a site or theft of artifacts carries civil and criminal penalties. Please contact a ranger or any law enforcement official at **(800) 227-7286**. You can also text **(928) 614-0820** to report a non-emergency crime sighting.

TRASH TRACKER PROGRAM

The **Trash Tracker Program** is a co-operative effort by the NPS and Lake Powell Resorts & Marinas to clean up the 1,960 miles of Lake Powell's shoreline. This year will mark its 30th year of operation, making it the longest-running NPS park-partner program. Members of the NPS's **Volunteers in the Parks (VIP) Program** spend four to seven days aboard a houseboat-barge cleaning up trash and debris along the shoreline. They bring their own food, personal gear and enthusiasm. The volunteers remove 50,000 pounds of trash and recyclables annually in this enormously successful program, which is sponsored by Lake Powell Resorts & Marinas. For information or to volunteer for the Trash Tracker Program, please visit nps.gov/glca/getinvolved/trashtracker.htm, call **(928) 608-6200** or write: Glen Canyon National Recreation Area, P.O. Box 1507, Page, AZ 86040.

QUAGGA MUSSELS SCREENING

Quagga mussels are a real and imminent threat to many Western waters. They damage boat engines, threaten native fish and wildlife, and cost taxpayers by clogging power plant and public water intakes and pipes. Quagga mussels primarily spread westward on trailered boats—and a boat that

EXPERIENCE ANOTHER WATER PARK.



...AFTER GLEN CANYON, VISIT CODY, WYOMING & YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK.

With the historic town founded by Buffalo Bill, the Upper Falls of the Yellowstone and more, you'll enjoy our waterworks.

Cody THE GREAT
AMERICAN
ADVENTURE
YELLOWSTONE

Plan your trip today at CodyYellowstone.org or call 1-800-393-CODY



has been in infested waters for as little as an hour can carry these tiny pests.

There are no current technologies or treatments to eradicate the initial population in an open water environment the size of Lake Powell. For the latest information about quagga mussels visit nps.gov/glca/learn/nature/mussel-update.htm.

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO & POWELL WATCH

The **Know Before You Go** public outreach campaign focusing on unsafe and illegal activities. Information will be shared with boaters at all Lake Powell marinas.

Local tour and service providers have signed up to **Adopt a Canyon on Lake Powell**. As canyon stewards, these companies will remove trash from their canyons throughout the year.

The **Powell Watch** asks visitors to keep a watchful eye on park resources. Tips from the public are key to detecting and prosecuting damage to the park's vast and often remote resources. If you see something, say something! If you happen to be in a remote area with poor cell phone reception for phone calls, a new messaging service allows you to text non-emergency tips to park dispatch at **(928) 614-0820**. Calling 911 or hailing via VHF radio are other emergency communication options on Lake Powell. Pick up your Powell Watch wristband with contact numbers at launch ramps throughout the year.

GRAFFITI REMOVAL & INTERVENTION TEAM (GRIT)

Unfortunately, the canyon walls around Lake Powell are plagued with graffiti—writings left by visitors. These thoughtless acts of vandalism deface the beauty of our park. The **Graffiti Removal & Intervention Team (GRIT)** travels around Lake Powell in a



AZGF

The humpback chub is one of the endangered species found in Glen Canyon

houseboat, removing graffiti.

This program is similar to the popular Trash Tracker Program in that volunteers sign up for a five-day minimum houseboat trip. This can be strenuous yet very fulfilling work. Volunteers will enjoy embarking from Antelope Point Marina, where the GRIT houseboat is moored. For more about this program, please visit nps.gov/glca/getinvolved/grit.htm, call **(928) 608-6200** or write: Glen Canyon National Recreation Area, P.O. Box 1507, Page, AZ 86040.

ENDANGERED SPECIES

There are several endangered fish that live in Glen Canyon NRA. Species include the **bonytail chub**, the **humpback chub**, the **razorback sucker**, and the **Colorado pikeminnow**. All of these fish are native to the Colorado River and thrived in the warm, silty waters of the river before Glen Canyon Dam was built. Today, the National Park Service, the Bureau of Reclamation U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, and the states of Utah and Arizona are taking steps to ensure that these endangered species survive for future generations.



GLEN CANYON SIGHTS TO SEE

CANYONS OF THE ESCALANTE

Accessed by boat or trails, the Escalante River canyons draw visitors to their cool, serene depths, the relatively profuse flora and fauna of their riverbanks, and their natural bridges and arches, including **Stevens Arch** (the largest in Glen Canyon NRA) and **La Gorce Arch**. For camping, backpacking and other information, please contact the Escalante Interagency Visitor Center at **(435) 826-5499**. *Note: Permit now required for Coyote Gulch section of Escalante. Pick one up at Escalante Interagency Visitor Center.*

ORANGE CLIFFS

One of the least-visited attractions in Glen Canyon NRA, the Orange Cliffs area

offers hiking and camping opportunities as well as spectacular vistas into Canyonlands National Park, which borders Glen Canyon to the northeast. Access this area east of Utah Highway 24, north of Hanksville, Utah, or just north of the Highway 95 bridge across the Colorado River. The **Flint Trail** offers excellent hiking and mountain biking. Permits (fees apply) are required for all overnight backcountry use. Camping is allowed only in designated areas. Advance reservations are encouraged; fax and mail requests are accepted. For more information, contact the Backcountry Reservations Office, Canyonlands National Park, 2282 SW Resource Boulevard, Moab, UT 84532; call **(435) 259-4351**, 8 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., Monday–Friday; fax **(435) 259-4285**.

Shutterstock



With stunning views of Gunsight Bay and Lake Powell, Alstrom Point is a highlight of the southwest.

THE RINCON

This unusual Colorado River formation between Long and Iceberg canyons, down-lake from Bullfrog, was created when a loop of the river changed course, leaving a sandy river bottom that makes for interesting hikes. You can only access it by boat or on foot.

ALSTROM POINT & ROMANA MESA

From Warm Creek Road, turn off to Alstrom Point. This four-wheel-drive road ends with jaw-dropping overviews of Lake Powell's Padre Bay and Gunsight Butte, a favorite vista for professional photographers. Mountain bikers can also enjoy biking along this road.

RAINBOW BRIDGE NATIONAL MONUMENT

Rainbow Bridge is a must-see for visitors to Glen Canyon NRA. Its size, symmetry and color reveal how special it is. Reaching a height of 290 feet, its red sandstone arch spans 275 feet and is 42 feet thick at the top. Natural bridges like Rainbow Bridge are formed by extremely rare natural events. An arid climate, a stream with good flow rates and rock like Navajo Sandstone—which is firm enough to form cliffs hundreds of feet high, yet soft enough to erode quickly—create an environment that makes the bridge unique.

The geological significance of Rainbow Bridge led to its designation as a national monument in 1910, but long before its discovery by white explorers, American Indians considered Rainbow Bridge a sacred religious site. In 1995, the National Park Service began working with Navajo, Hopi, Kaibab Paiute, San Juan Southern Paiute, and White Mesa Ute tribes to identify and implement culturally sensitive

management practices for the monument. Rainbow Bridge is still considered a sacred place to many American Indians, and the viewing area at the end of the trail provides an opportunity to honor its significance. For information about guided tour boat trips to Rainbow Bridge, please call Lake Powell Resort at **(928) 645-2433**. Boat trips are offered year-round; check during the off-season for times and availability.

You can also hike to Rainbow Bridge via a 14-mile trail that crosses the Navajo Reservation. A permit is required. Visit navajonationparks.org for more information. The monument has been designated as an International Dark Sky Sanctuary.

DEFIANCE HOUSE

This archeological site is associated with the Ancestral Puebloan (Anasazi) people, who occupied much of this region between A.D. 600 and 1300, farming in the river valleys and living in shelters in south-facing alcoves. Eleven separate structures were recorded, including: a retaining wall; a series of contiguous room blocks; storage units for corn, grain and squash; and one **kiva**, where religious ceremonies are believed to have been performed.

An Ancestral Puebloan clan constructed this community cliff dwelling in **Forgotten Canyon** at the peak of their culture. Along the back of the alcove are rock art panels and animal-like figures with human characteristics, which archeologists call **anthropomorphs**. The name "Defiance" refers to the pictograph of three warriors carrying shields. Archeologists believe that as many as 20 individuals (two to three families) inhabited this site for months at a time.

GLEN CANYON DAM

Constructed between 1956 and 1966, the Glen Canyon Dam was erected amid great controversy and compromise over the fate of America's western water resources and vast wilderness tracts.

Water began to back up behind the dam's 710-foot wall in 1963, reaching its "full pool" in 1980. Much of the Colorado River's original canyon (Glen Canyon, for which the park today is named) disappeared from view and Lake Powell was created.

Ask at the Carl Hayden Visitor Center for additional information and dam tours (fee charged), or call **(928) 608-6200**.

GLEN CANYON BRIDGE

At 700 feet above the river, this is the second-highest steel-arch bridge in the world. Before the bridge was opened on February 20, 1959, the road distance from one side of the river to the other was 197 miles. Walking paths across the bridge are accessible from Carl Hayden Visitor Center.

HOLE-IN-THE-ROCK

Twenty-eight miles down-lake from Bullfrog, gaze up at this monumental crevice in the rock cliff. Drive to the top from Escalante, Utah (State Highway 12), and look down to better understand and appreciate the courage and determination of the Mormon pioneers as they struggled to cross the Colorado River in the winter of 1879–1880. Visitors can walk the steep trail that pioneers cut and blasted down the rock face to lower their wagons and drive nearly 1,500 head of livestock to the canyon bottom. The Hole-in-the-Rock Road is 55 miles long, the last six of which require high-clearance, four-wheel drive vehicles. The entire route on the

east side of Lake Powell requires a four-wheel-drive vehicle.

LAKE POWELL

Named for Civil War veteran John Wesley Powell, the lake is 186 miles long and backs up into more than 96 major side canyons. Its 1,960-mile shoreline encompasses 27 million acre-feet and has a surface area of 161,390 acres, making it the second-largest man-made lake in the United States, after Lake Mead.

Lake Powell is the result of a single dam with a concrete crest, which extends nearly one-third of a mile across the sandstone rim of Glen Canyon. The lake's blue water, more than 500 feet deep in places, is the product of a score of rivers draining large portions of Colorado, Wyoming, Utah, and New Mexico.

LEES FERRY/ LONELY DELL RANCH

Lees Ferry is the only place within Glen Canyon where visitors can drive to the Colorado River. A natural corridor between Utah and Arizona, this historic river crossing opened travel from Utah into Arizona territory and enabled primarily Mormon settlement of the Four Corners region. **Mile 0**—the dividing line between the Upper and Lower Colorado River basins—is the starting point for white-water river trips through the Grand Canyon.

An historic fort, silt lab, mining equipment, and the remains of a steamboat can be seen as you walk the River Trail, which remind us of the area's colorful past. Visit the nearby Lonely Dell Ranch to see historic ranch buildings, a cemetery and the orchard and garden maintained by the NPS.



GLEN CANYON LODGING & DINING

LODGING

Lodging at Glen Canyon National Recreation Area includes onshore lodges, motel rooms and family units, and spacious houseboats.

For lodging reservations, call the appropriate marina (see the “Plan Your Visit” section for phone numbers). Write to Lake Powell Resorts & Marinas, 2850 East Camelback Road, Suite 240, Phoenix, AZ, 85016; call **(888) 896-3829**; or visit **lakepowell.com**.

Note: Check-in is at 4 p.m. and check-out is at 11 a.m. at all lodges, motels, and family units.

HOUSEBOATS

Discover “the ultimate escape from a clock-watching world.” Cast off as your own captain and sleep under the stars in a private cove. Houseboat rentals are available at Antelope Point, Bullfrog, and Wahweap

marinas. A variety of sizes and features are available. Houseboats are equipped with a range, refrigerator, propane grill, utensils and dishes, heater, drinking water, and bathroom(s) with toilet and shower. Some houseboats even have hot tubs and fireplaces!

Houseboat reservations should be made as far in advance as possible. Inquire about special packages and discounted rates. For houseboat rentals at Wahweap and Bullfrog, call Aramark at (888) 896-3829 or visit **lakepowell.com**. For houseboat rentals at Antelope Point Marina, call (800) 255-5561 or visit **antelopepointlakepowell.com**. For more information about houseboats, see the “Things To Do” chapter.

LAKE POWELL RESORT

Located at Wahweap Marina and overlooking Wahweap Bay, Lake Powell Resort is the largest lodging facility on Lake Powell. The elegant Rainbow Room dining room is on-site, as are banquet and meeting facilities. Amenities include a lounge, a gift shop, two pools, a sauna, a jacuzzi, an exercise room, and satellite TV. Access to the resort is via the north or south entrances to Glen Canyon NRA, just outside of Page, Arizona. **Dining:** Rainbow Room, Wahweap Grille and Latitude 37 (see “Dining” for details).

DEFIANCE HOUSE LODGE

Defiance House Lodge is located on the lake in Bullfrog, Utah, directly across the lake from Halls Crossing Marina and on a bluff overlooking Bullfrog Bay. Inspiring views of the sacred Navajo Mountain and the Henry Mountain Range reward



Shutterstock

Watch the houseboats, tour boats, and yachts steam through Wahweap Bay.



Aramark and Leave No Trace® want to ensure visitors are equipped with the best information and resources to enjoy our parks and leave them better than we found them!

Head to **thenationsvacation.com** to learn more about this partnership and ways that you can Leave No Trace® on your visit.



guests at the lodge. Amenities include a restaurant, lounge, gift shop, and satellite TV. **☿ Dining:** Anasazi Restaurant (see “Dining” for details).

FAMILY UNITS

To enjoy the comforts of home, many visitors choose to stay in family units at Bullfrog Marina, Halls Crossing, and Hite Marina. Each three-bedroom unit has a living room, fully equipped kitchen, two full baths, satellite TV, electricity, and garbage collection, but no phones. There are units at all three locations with ramps. ☿

CAMPGROUNDS

For information about campgrounds at Glen Canyon, see the “Camping” chapter.

DINING

JA'DI TO'OH

This remarkable restaurant is located at Antelope Point Marina on a one-acre “floating island” surrounded by floating fountains. The dramatic open breezeway welcomes you, while floor-to-ceiling glass walls provide stunning views. Being away from home doesn't mean you'll have to give up great food. Ja'di To'oh Restaurant highlights the most innovative Southwestern cuisine with Native American fusion, featuring cedar plank salmon and wood-fired pizza. Prefer to stay onboard? Call in your order and it will be delivered dockside!

RAINBOW ROOM

This elegant, glass-walled restaurant at Lake Powell Resort combines fine and romantic dining. The panoramic view of Wahweap Bay and Castle Rock will tempt you to return for both breakfast and dinner, so you can observe the changing colors

of the landscape. The Rainbow Room's ambience matches the variety and quality of its entrées and wines. Before or after dinner, learn more about the history of the area through interpretive displays located in the adjacent lobby. The Rainbow Room is open April to October for breakfast and dinner. *Note: The Driftwood Lounge serves food when the Rainbow Room is closed for the season.*

CANYON PRINCESS

The Canyon Princess, a yacht-style tour boat, is available for a two-hour dinner cruise that allows diners to take in the breathtaking sunsets around Wahweap Bay and Warm Creek Bay. The luxurious 96-foot Canyon Princess is also available for charter for special functions, such as weddings and catered meetings. There is a bar onboard and comfortable seating in the fully enclosed upper and lower dining rooms. The front section of the lower deck and the rear section of the upper deck are both open, offering spectacular views as you glide across Wahweap Bay. Reservations are recommended. For more information, call Lake Powell Resort at **(888) 896-3829**. Dinner Cruises run May through August. Please check at Lake Powell Resort's front desk for dinner cruise departure times, which are determined by sunset.

DRIFTWOOD LOUNGE

In addition to its stunning lake view setting, the Driftwood Lounge at Lake Powell Resort (at Wahweap Marina) offers mouthwatering pub fare, plus a variety of specialty cocktails, beer, and wine. Open for lunch and dinner daily, enjoy the relaxed atmosphere while tucking into a tasty sandwich, salad, or appetizer.

Shutterstock



The houseboat marina is one of the most densely populated neighborhoods around.

WAHWEAP GRILLE

Enjoy the boat activity at this convenient, casual, family-friendly eatery. Eat pizza, salad or burgers on the deck while taking in the views. Open Memorial Day through Labor Day.

LATITUDE 37

Dine at Latitude 37, Lake Powell's newest floating restaurant featuring indoor and outdoor seating. Conveniently located at the Wahweap Marina, Latitude 37 is accessible by both land and water, with temporary slips available for boaters.

ANASAZI RESTAURANT

This restaurant adjoins Bullfrog's Defiance House Lodge and affords panoramic views of Bullfrog Bay, Henry Mountains, Navajo Mountain, and the Waterpocket Fold of Capitol Reef National Park. Diners can also see a display featuring reproductions of Ancestral Puebloan (Anasazi) pottery and a

mural depicting a traditional village. Anasazi is open seasonally and offers a wine list, bar service, breakfast (seasonal), lunch , and dinner.

MARINA STORES

Stores at all marinas sell basic food supplies, beverages, ice, and sundries, and a variety of shirts, hats, mugs, and souvenirs. Fresh, ready-made sandwiches are stocked at Wahweap, Antelope Point Marina, Halls Crossing, Hite, and Dangling Rope.

BOX LUNCHES

For visitors at Wahweap or Bullfrog, box lunches are available with advance notice. Call the front desk of your lodge to place your order the night before.



For answers to all your questions, go to **OhRanger.com**



GLEN CANYON THINGS TO DO

Warm water, hot days, and cool nights make Lake Powell ideal for water lovers from May through October. At 3,700 feet elevation and within a 78 percent sunshine belt, the lake often gets comfortable daytime temperatures even in the winter months. An elevation range from 3,200 feet at Lees Ferry to 7,154 feet atop the Kaiparowits Plateau ensures four mild seasons.

The lake provides plenty of opportunities for adventure throughout the year. Summer is the busiest season, but many essential services are available year-round. Seasonal discounts are available for lodging and boat rentals. Check for special offers when making reservations. Spring and fall are best for hiking into the canyons and viewing arches or ancient American Indian rock art, or just enjoying the glens, for which the park is named. Winter offers solitude and outstanding photo opportunities.

The area warrants an extended stay—to sail the waters and to hike the canyons. But, if you only have a day, refer to the “If You Only Have a Day” chapter, or ask at a visitor center for suggestions on how to best enjoy this “away-from-it-all” holiday spot.

PARK PROGRAMS

Junior Ranger programs are available daily at Carl Hayden Visitor Center, as are guided hikes during the season to Hanging Garden.

NPS audio/visual exhibits are shown at Carl Hayden Visitor Center. Bureau of Reclamation audio/visual exhibits are shown at Carl Hayden Visitor Center only. For more information, call (928) 608-6200.

MUSEUM

Glen Canyon Conservancy’s **John Wesley Powell Museum**, which also provides visitor information for the Page, AZ area, is located downtown and is open Monday through Saturday in the summer and Monday through Friday in the winter. Exhibits include early artifacts, paleontology of the Glen Canyon region, a replica of Major Powell’s original boat and fine American Indian basketry. 6 N. Lake Powell Blvd., P.O. Box 547, Page, AZ 86040. For more information, call (928) 645-9496 or (888) 597-6873, or visit powellmuseum.org or canyonconservancy.org.

TOURS ON THE WATER

The following tours are available from **Lake Powell Resort**. All tours require a minimum number of passengers and low lake levels may necessitate schedule changes. For current schedule and departure times, call (888) 896-3829 or visit lakepowell.com/tours.

The **Rainbow Bridge Cruise**, available at Lake Powell Resort, is the best way to visit the awe-inspiring Rainbow Bridge National Monument. This scenic six-hour-long cruise travels over 100 miles round trip to Forbidding Canyon.

The **Canyon Princess Dinner Cruise** is a two-hour cruise through Wahweap or Warm Creek Bay on a 96-foot yacht-style tour boat. Tours run May through August on select Tuesdays and Saturdays and depart at 5 p.m. or 6 p.m., depending on sunset.

The **Antelope Canyon Tour** is a 1.5-hour cruise that visits the narrow, winding Antelope Canyon. Daily departures are offered April through October.

SAVE UP TO 20%

For your next stay, book direct on ChoiceHotels.com and get our lowest price guaranteed.

BADDA BOOK. BADDA BOOM.®



Visit ChoiceHotels.com/Arizona-hotels or call 1-888-846-9378 to get our lowest price guaranteed.



Qualifying rates only. Valid only for current Choice Privileges® members. Members must book direct at ChoiceHotels.com/Arizona-hotels or call 1-888-846-9378. Reservations must be made at least 7, 14, 21 or 30 days in advance, which will vary based on hotel. Rooms at this discount are limited. Offer not available to groups and cannot be combined with any other discount. Consumers who find lower prices must submit claim within 24 hours of booking and at least 48 hours prior to arrival. Additional Terms and Conditions Apply. See www.choicehotels.com/deals/best-rate and www.choicehotels.com/deals/advanced-purchase for details. Choice Hotels reserves the right to change or discontinue this offer at any time. All Choice Hotels properties are independently owned and operated. ©2019 Choice Hotels International. All rights reserved.

The **Canyons Adventure Cruise** takes you to the towering sandstone walls of Navajo Canyon, the narrow confines of Antelope Canyon and the majesty of Glen Canyon Dam. This 2.5-hour tour, which has daily departures between April and October, is a great way to see all the highlights of South Lake Powell.

The **Panoramic Lake Powell Tour** transplants you to the dramatic backdrop and authentic majesty of Lake Powell. Take in the epic scenery and rich atmosphere as you learn about the rich history and geology of the area from an interpretive guide. The boat departs Lake Powell Resorts when the light is just right, typically around 5 p.m., mid-April to August.

Wilderness River Adventures presents motorized and non-motorized full-day and half-day raft trips down the Colorado River from Glen Canyon Dam to Lees Ferry. (Raft trips are same distance, different durations.) For more information, call **(800) 992-8022**, or visit riveradventures.com.

FISHING

Lake Powell's various game fish and the Colorado River trout population between the Glen Canyon Dam and Lees Ferry provide fishing year-round. The lake is known for its **largemouth**, **smallmouth** and **striped bass**, **crappie**, and **walleye**.

March to November is prime fishing season. Crappies swim into the shallows to spawn in spring, so fishing the shoreline brush is a good bet. Fish in deep waters during the cooler months to catch walleye. If you're an avid angler, inquire at a marina store about upcoming fishing tournaments. Before you cast, check with a marina store for the proper licenses, fish limits, and regulations.



Shutterstock

Rent a kayak and spend your day exploring the narrow canyons of the lake.

BOATING

Lake Powell's sheer, twisting canyons intrigue and delight boaters. Inlets are interspersed with sandy beaches, which lure visitors to picnic or camp in the shadows of multicolored cliffs. Broad bays offer space for water sports, while house boating seems to be made for Lake Powell. Lake Powell Resorts & Marinas and Antelope Point Holdings LLC maintain a fleet of houseboats, powerboats and an assortment of personal watercraft (PWCs) for rent.

Houseboats are available year-round. It takes several days to really get away and appreciate the solitude and chameleon moods of the lake's nooks and crannies. The most enjoyable speeds for house boating are "slow" or "stopped." Talk with park rangers or marina staff to determine how far you can travel across the waters and back within your time limit. But remember, getting sidetracked by yet another intriguing canyon is part of the thrill.

Before setting out, you'll receive an orientation session and instruction manual covering such maneuvers as piloting,

docking, anchoring, refueling and pumping out. Study a map and chart your course before departing. Bring beach towels, flashlights, batteries, map and compass. Many people rent a "tag-along" powerboat for waterskiing or side trips, using the houseboat as a mobile base.

Powerboats are available in many types and sizes. Not all boat sizes are available at all marinas. Small boats rented for overnight use must have a portable toilet on board. Portable toilets are available for rent at Wahweap boat rentals and may be purchased at Bullfrog boat rentals.

Personal watercraft and other equipment are available for rent. Wakeboards and ski tubes are great for water enthusiasts of all ages. Kneeboards and water skis are also popular. Please see the "Park Regulations & Safety" chapter for personal watercraft operating rules. Please call **(801) 538-2628** to learn how to obtain a Utah PWC education certificate.

Hourly rentals can be arranged on the spot at each marina. For full-day or longer rentals, advance reservations are recommended. Please call **(888) 896-3829** or call the marina directly. Please see the "Plan Your Visit" chapter for marina phone numbers.

KAYAKING & PADDLEBOARDING

Kayaks and paddleboards offer a great way to explore the narrow canyons of the lake. You don't need to be an expert paddler to have fun: Lake Powell offers opportunities for one-hour or multi-day excursions. Kayaks, paddleboards, and guides are available for rent locally; remember to wear your life jacket. For a fee, Wilderness River Adventures will haul kayakers or canoeists from Lees Ferry upriver to the base of the dam.

They can then paddle back down to Lees Ferry at their own pace. Due to water temperatures, paddleboarding is not recommended on the Colorado River.

SWIMMING

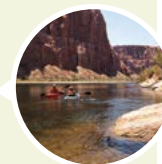
During the summer, water temperatures are ideal for swimming, reaching an average of 80°F in August. Avoid swimming in crowded boating areas and use extreme caution when diving or jumping into the water. See the "Park Regulations & Safety" chapter for more information.

WATERSKIING

Most of the lake's surface is ideal for waterskiing at any skill level. However, waterskiing is prohibited in areas with heavy boat traffic and inside the narrow canyons. Please see the "Park Regulations & Safety" chapter for more information.

Oh, Ranger! FUN FACTS

Q. WHAT KINDS OF WATER RECREATION ACTIVITIES ARE AVAILABLE IN THE PARK?



Opportunities for boating, fishing and swimming abound. Kayaking is an excellent way to experience Lake Powell and its magnificent geologic wonders. Visitors can explore for a few hours using whitewater kayaks or take an overnight journey on a sea kayak.

For answers to all your questions, go to **OhRanger.com**



GLEN CANYON CAMPING



Shutterstock

Sleep under the stars in a primitive backcountry campsite.

Glen Canyon offers a variety of camping options, including RV parks, classic campgrounds, and primitive campsites. Some campgrounds are managed by the NPS, while others are managed by concessioners. The information that follows will help you decide which type of camping facility is best for your trip.

CAMPGROUNDS

Concessioner-operated campgrounds are located at **Wahweap**, **Bullfrog** and **Halls Crossing**. Reservations for campgrounds are on a first come, first-served basis and must be made at the campground upon arrival. An RV dump station is located at each campground. Wahweap, Bullfrog, Halls Crossing, and Hite have hookups and Wi-Fi. Campgrounds are open year-round.

The NPS operates a campground at **Lees Ferry** on a first come, first-served basis. The facilities include camping sites, tables, grills, water, and flush toilets.

Primitive camping areas—open all year and suitable for backcountry camping—are located at **Lone Rock** (near Wahweap), **Hite**, **Dirty Devil**, **Farley**

Canyon (near Hite), and **Stanton Creek** (Bullfrog).

Note: Due to low water conditions, primitive camping may change. For updated information, call (928) 608-6200 or visit nps.gov/glca.

No camping is allowed within one mile of the marinas and Lees Ferry or at Rainbow Bridge National Monument. There is a 14 consecutive-day limit for camping in the park and a total of 30 nights within one calendar year.

A free permit is required for overnight hiking in the Escalante Canyon area. Permits can be obtained in person at the Escalante Interagency Visitor Center. Please call (435) 826-5499 or (435) 826-4315 for more information. No permit is required for day hikes. Camping is prohibited in roadside pullouts, picnic areas or on posted beaches near developed areas.

RV PARKS

RV parks with full utility hookups are available year-round by Lake Powell Resorts & Marinas at Wahweap, Bullfrog, and Halls Crossing. Facilities include grocery, gas, and coin-operated showers and laundry. Hite offers an RV campground with full services year-round. For reservations and fee information, please call (435) 233-6822.

For additional RV information, visit gocampingamerica.com.



SHARE YOUR BEST PHOTOS
WITH US!
FOLLOW US! @OhRanger



GLEN CANYON WALKING & HIKING

Backcountry walking and hiking opportunities in Glen Canyon NRA are well-kept secrets. There are few marked trails through Glen Canyon's spectacular and undeveloped areas, some of which have limited accessibility. For information about specific areas to walk or hike, current conditions and safety tips, contact **Glen Canyon NRA** at (928) 608-6200.

Several publications describe the area's canyons and hiking opportunities. These are available for sale at NPS visitor centers and at retail stores in the park.

PAGE/WAHWEAP AREA

The **Horseshoe Bend Trail** leads to a spectacular vista 1,000 feet directly above the Colorado River, including a new viewing platform which was opened in Summer 2018. The trail is located just five miles south of the Carl Hayden Visitor Center off Highway 89. The hike is 1.5 miles round-trip. The **Hanging Gardens Trail** is an easy 1-mile hike to a desert oasis.

CANYONS OF ESCALANTE

At the mid-lake region, the lower Escalante River canyons on the lake's north side are noted for their easy, streambed hikes as well as some tricky scrambling over slick rock formations. Access to this area is by boat or from trailheads along Hole-in-the-Rock Road, southeast of the town of Escalante. The new Escalante Interagency Visitor Center has outdoor exhibits to help you plan your visit. Note: Different backcountry regulations than the rest of the park apply.

LEES FERRY

Several hikes ranging from one to 34 miles originate in the Lees Ferry vicinity.

The **River Trail** starts just upriver from the historic fort. Walk past the main ferry site to the remains of Charles Spencer's steamboat, which still exists from the gold boom years.

Cathedral Wash Trail, a moderate 1.25-mile hike (one way) through narrow canyons and interesting rock formations, leads you to Cathedral Rapids on the Colorado River. To reach Cathedral Canyon, park at the second turnout on the right as you enter the road to Lees Ferry.

The 34-mile trail through **Paria Canyon Primitive Area** leads from Lonely Dell Ranch at Lees Ferry through canyon twists to the Paria River at U.S. Highway 89 between Page, AZ, and Kanab, UT. Overnight hikes require a permit from the Bureau of Land Management office in Kanab.

Shutterstock



Obey trail signs and help protect and preserve these lands for future visitors.



LAKE MEAD PLAN YOUR VISIT

Lake Mead National Recreation Area offers a wealth of things to do and places to go—no matter what the season. One of the area's most striking features is its diversity, highlighted by the remarkable contrast of water, mountains, deserts, canyons, and rugged backcountry.

The recreation area is comprised of Lake Mead and Lake Mohave, both of which were created by manmade dams. Hoover Dam was completed in 1935, and Lake Mead filled up behind it. Lake Mohave followed, with the completion of Davis Dam in 1953.

Not surprisingly, Lake Mead NRA offers opportunities to enjoy boating, sunbathing and fishing. Hikers, sightseers, and wildlife photographers can enjoy the many attractions of the desert ecosystem. Three of America's four desert ecosystems—the Mojave, the Great Basin, and the Sonoran Desert—meet in Lake Mead NRA and, as a result, this seemingly barren area contains an amazing diversity of plants and animals, some found nowhere else in the world.

Visitors to Lake Mead NRA can't help but marvel at the breathtaking scenery: the stark, unspoiled beauty of the desert, the majesty of the mountains dominating the Basin and Range province; colorful canyons and high plateaus; and the historic Hoover Dam—the highest concrete dam in the Western Hemisphere.

The park is open 365 days a year. A seven-day entrance permit costs \$25 per vehicle, \$20 per motorcycle and \$15 per pedestrian. A Lake Mead National Recreation Area Annual Pass costs \$45. A seven-day entrance permit for boaters costs \$16 per boat and a Lake Mead National Recreation Area Annual Ves-

sel Sicker costs \$50 per boat, allowing unlimited entry January 1 through December 31. For current park information, stop at a visitor center or ranger station, call **(702) 293-8990** or visit nps.gov/lake. *Note: Entrance fees subject to change.*

FEES

A seven-day entrance permit costs \$25 per vehicle, \$20 per motorcycle, and \$15 per pedestrian. An Annual Pass costs \$45. A seven-day entrance permit for boaters costs \$16 per boat and a an Annual Vessel Sicker costs \$50 per boat, valid all year. For current park information, stop at a visitor center or ranger station, call **(702) 293-8990**, or visit nps.gov/lake/planyourvisit/fees.htm.

HISTORY

Lake Mead and Lake Mohave were both created by dams that back up the Colorado River as it flows through one of the hottest, driest regions on Earth. Lake Mead NRA was established on October 8, 1964, as America's first national recreation area and continues to be a destination for millions of visitors each year.

Before the lake was created, the desert was sparsely populated—undoubtedly due to the fact that the dry, hot land could be very harsh for human habitation. **Artifacts** like fire hearths and stone tools prove that humans existed in the area as early as 13,000 years ago. These early people were part of a desert culture that was dependent upon small game, seed collecting and plant gathering. They were probably nomadic and moved in small bands or family groups.

Certain **petroglyphs** (rock art) suggest that the earliest permanent settlers were American Indian tribes. As time wore on,

LAKE MEAD RESORTS, MARINAS & TOURS



Caville Bay Resort & Marina (1) has a cafe, snack bar, lounge, convenience and grocery store, public showers, laundry, RV sites, campground, dump station, fish cleaner, and houseboat and recreational boat rentals. Its full-service marina has a launch ramp, slip rentals, dry boat storage, boat repair, and decontamination services. • **(702) 565-8958** or **(800) 255-5561** (reservations) • callvillebay.com *Photo: Forever Resorts*

Cottonwood Cove Resort & Marina (2) has a café, meeting room, convenience and grocery store, marina, boat rentals, houseboat rentals, auto/boat fuel, dry boat storage, boat repair, decontamination services, boat towing, dump station, fish cleaner, showers/laundry, motel, trailer village, RV sites, campground, and launch ramp. • **(702) 297-1464** or **(800) 255-5561** (reservations) • foreverresorts.com *Photo: Teresa Yoakum*

Echo Bay (3) offers many amenities, including a trailer village, short-term RV sites, dry boat storage, showers, laundry, land-based fuel, convenience store, and dump station. There is also a boat launch and campground. • **(702) 394-4000** or **(800) 255-5561** (reservations) • cottonwoodcoveresort.com *Photo: Forever Resorts*

Lake Mead Cruises (4) offers brunch and dinner cruises April through October, as well as sightseeing tours aboard the Desert Princess, a paddle wheel vessel, February through November. The Desert Princess offers refreshment centers, handicap accessible restrooms, and plush seating. Charter boat service is also available. • **(702) 293-6180** • lakemeadcruises.com *Photo: Brad Appleby*

Lake Mead RV Village (5) is located in the Boulder Beach area. The village's facilities include dry boat storage, a convenience and grocery store, an activity center, a visitor trailer village, RV sites, showers, and laundry (available only to guests). An outdoor recreation area features a bocce ball court and horseshoe pits. There is a boat launch ramp nearby. • **(702) 293-2540** • cottonwoodcoveresort.com *Photo: Bob Hall*

Katherine Landing at Lake Mohave Marina (6) has a restaurant and lounge, retail store, motel, auto/boat fuel, marina, boat rentals, houseboat rentals, trailer village, RV sites, dump station, showers/laundry, dry boat storage, personal watercraft rental, campground, launch ramp, boat repair, fish cleaner and decontamination services. • **(928) 754-3245** or **(800) 752-9669** (reservations) • katherinelanding.com *Photo: Alan Gibby*



LAKE MEAD RESORTS, MARINAS & TOURS (CONTINUED)



7



8



9

Forever Resorts

Las Vegas Boat Harbor (7) is located in the Boulder Basin near Hemenway Harbor. Facilities include two restaurants and lounges, convenience and grocery store, boat rentals, dry boat storage, boat fuel, boat repair, decontamination services, dump station, launch ramp, and fish cleaner (nearby). • **(702) 451-2901** (main) or for reservations call • **(702) 293-1191** (Lake Mead Marina) • **boatinglakemead.com**

Temple Bar Resort & Marina (8) has numerous facilities, including restaurant/lounge, convenience and grocery store, motel, trailer village, RV sites, dry boat storage, marina, boat rentals, shower, laundry, boat/motor repairs,

personal watercraft rental, auto/boat fuel, campground, fish cleaner, dump station, and launch ramp. • **(928) 767-3211** or **(800) 255-5561** (reservations) • **templebarlakemead.com**

Willow Beach Marina & Black Canyon River Adventures (9) is located at the northern end of Lake Mohave, just a short trip from the Hoover Dam with a retail store, docks, boat rentals, RV park/campground, snack bar, fishing pier, fish cleaner, boat fuel, dump station, and launch ramp. Black Canyon River Adventures also offers raft trips. • **(928) 767-4747** (information), **(800) 255-5561** (reservations) • **willowbeachharbor.com**

Mormon settlers, prospectors, riverboat captains and fur trappers also lived in and around the environs. From the mid-1850s until the early twentieth century, steam-powered boats were a common sight on the Colorado River, bringing supplies to military outposts, mining towns and other settlements. But once the railroad arrived in 1905, there was less need for this river traffic, and steamboat use diminished almost exclusively to local shuttles. Construction of **Hoover Dam** began in the early 1930s, sealing the river and marking an end to the boating fleets that plied it.

Hoover Dam was the engineering masterpiece that turned the often wild Colorado River into the still waters of Lake

Mead. More than 5,000 workers spent five years erecting the massive structure, which stands between the walls of Black Canyon. **Davis Dam**, which is downstream from Hoover Dam, was finished in 1953 and controls the flow of water from Lake Mohave.

VISITOR CENTER/RANGER STATION

The **Lake Mead Visitor Center** is located four miles from Boulder City, Nevada, on U.S. 93. It offers information, a film, exhibits, maps, nautical charts, and more. The center is open daily from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., except Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day, and New Year's Day. Obtain information by calling (702) 293-8990 or by stopping at **Park Headquarters** in Boulder

City, at the intersection of Nevada Way and Wyoming Street.

CRUISES

Lake Mead Cruises offers seasonal **brunch** and **dinner cruises**, and **sightseeing tours** to Hoover Dam, which include views of other landmarks like Fortification Hill, an ancient lava flow, and the colorful Arizona Paint Pots. For more information, contact Lake Mead Cruises by calling **(702) 293-6180** or visiting **lakemeadcruises.com**.

SAFETY

Park regulations are available at visitor centers and online at **nps.gov/lake**. In the event of an emergency, dial 911. The non-emergency number is **(702) 293-8998**.

QUAGGA MUSSELS

Quagga mussels are freshwater mollusks that typically have a zebra-like pattern on their shells. They are alien to North America, but have been found in Lake Mead and Lake Mohave. Mud, plants, and animals that may be lurking on your watercraft, on your trailer or on your vehicle will cause the spread of this invasive species. Always clean, drain, and dry all equipment each time you leave the water. You may also have your boat professionally decontaminated. See the "Preservation" section for more information.



TAKE YOUR MOMENTS
AND SHARE WITH US!
FOLLOW US! @OhRanger.com

Pick your park and start your adventure!



ARIZONA
STATE PARKS & TRAILS

HIKE | BIKE | CAMP | RV | CABINS | FISH | BOAT | LAKES | RIVERS | HISTORIC SITES

Explore...
MORE!

AZStateParks.com | 877-MYPARKS





LAKE MEAD THINGS TO DO

Lake Mead National Recreation Area offers a variety of recreational activities on land and water, along with a host of sights to see.

BOATING

Since Lake Mead and Lake Mohave cover 290 square miles, recreational boaters can enjoy lots of space without feeling hemmed in. Sailboats, kayaks, fishing vessels, power boats, personal watercraft, and houseboats regularly make use of the area, exploring sights like the **Overton Arm** to the north, **Black Canyon** in upper Lake Mohave, and numerous secluded coves.

MARINAS & TOURS

Concessioners operate a number of marinas along the lake—offering boating services, rentals and supplies for 12 months of the year. There are free public launch ramps and parking areas; however, parking is limited to seven days per stay. Concessioners provide tours, including paddle wheel vessels and raft trips. Authorized paddlecraft tours are also available. For more information, visit nps.gov/lake.

SWIMMING & WATER SPORTS

Swimming, snorkeling, waterskiing and **scuba diving** are popular water sports in both Lake Mead and Lake Mohave—since both lakes have waters that are sparkling clean and clear. Spring, summer, and fall tend to be the prime seasons. Realize, however, that Lake Mead NRA has no lifeguards, so visitors swim at their own risk. Life jackets are recommended and are available on loan at popular beaches. Never swim alone.

FISHING

Some of the nation's finest sport fishing can be found at Lake Mead and Lake Mohave. The waters are populated with **largemouth bass, channel catfish, black crappie, and bluegills**, among others. **Striped bass** is a particularly popular catch in Lake Mead. Arizona and Nevada share jurisdiction over both Lake Mead and Lake Mohave. If you wish to fish from shore, you need only a license from state you are standing in. Fish cleaning stations are located near marinas. Fishing piers are located at Hemenway Harbor, Willow Beach, and Katherine Landing. Anglers should familiarize themselves with catch limits and legal methods of capture. Authorized fishing guides are available.

HIKING

Hikers in the desert can take in natural wonders that are not visible by car or boat—including the colorful sandstone formations near Redstone Picnic Area. There are few maintained trails, however, so hiking usually requires cross-country travel. For longer hikes, it's critical to plan carefully and carry plenty of water. Rangers lead guided hikes and can offer additional insights. There are also authorized guided hiking outfitters available. Summer hiking is not recommended due to high temperatures.

CAMPING

Backcountry camping is permissible along the lake's shoreline, as well as in designated sites along unpaved country roads. There is no camping in the developed marina areas, but there are eight designated NPS campgrounds around the lakes that

have restrooms, picnic tables, and some fire rings. Please read the park brochure or park newspaper or ask at visitor centers to find out time limits and rules in the campgrounds. More information is also available at nps.gov/lake.

SCENERY

A drive through the Lake Mead NRA environs offers a chance to see some unforgettable scenery. There are several paved roads in the area, which wind through mountains and desert basins. **Lakeshore Road** and **Northshore Road** afford views of the blue lake silhouetted against the rich, majestic mountains. Visitors can also glimpse brilliant red boulders and rock formations along Northshore Road. One of the world's finest **Joshua tree forests** can be seen along the **road to South Cove**. Visitors should be aware that the Lake Mead NRA region includes many unpaved roads in remote areas; it is highly recommended that you check road conditions before traveling these particular routes. Always bring plenty of water, both for drinking and for servicing your car if needed. (Automobile tools should be taken along as well.) Drive only on paved roads or unpaved roads signed with yellow, numbered arrows. Authorized motorized scenic tours are also available. Be aware that some sights you've seen in magazines require a significant hike and/or boat ride to see.

HISTORIC SITES

History buffs can find structures at Lake Mead NRA that reflect the area's Mormon population, gold mining culture and ranching background. The **Historic Railroad Trail**—which is left over from the construction of Hoover Dam—winds around the sides of mountains and through five tunnels, ending

at the Hoover Dam parking garage. For those who want to get out on the water, a **gauging station** from the Hoover Dam construction era and the site of the **gauger's house** can be seen from the cool currents in Black Canyon down by Willow Beach. Many of these sites are listed on the National Register of Historic places. Visitors are not permitted to remove or damage any cultural artifacts, since they are protected by federal law.

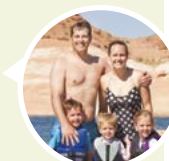
Note: Historic Railroad Trail Tunnel 3 is closed until further notice.

PICNICKING

Echo Bay, Callville Bay, Las Vegas Bay, Willow Beach, Boulder Beach, Cottonwood Cove, and Katherine Landing all offer shaded picnic areas—complete with grills, tables, water, and restrooms. Picnic areas located at Temple Bar, South Arizona Telephone Cove, Princess Cove, and Northshore Road, including one at Rogers Spring—have some facilities, but no drinking water. Glass and styrofoam are not allowed in the park.

Oh, Ranger! FUN FACTS

**Q. OH, RANGER!
WHERE CAN WE
HAVE A FAMILY
PICNIC?**



A: There are many shaded picnic areas located throughout the park. Please be sure to clean up all of your litter and keep the park clean. Picnicking is also welcome on all the beaches, where you may want to bring your own shade.

For answers to all your questions, go to **OhRanger.com**



NATURE & WILDLIFE

Life in Glen Canyon and Lake Mead requires tenacity and creative adaptability. While the region appears harsh and sometimes barren, the park abounds with wildlife. The Colorado Plateau rises like a lush island from the surrounding Great Basin Desert. The mountains and high plateaus that encircle this area create a self-contained plant and animal community quite distinct from the adjacent desert habitats, ranging from riverbanks and lakeshore to barren mesas and piñon pine and juniper woodlands.

Unless you are extremely lucky or especially sharp-eyed, chances are you will not see any of the 80 species of mammals that live here. Most are nocturnal and only a few of them exist throughout the entire area. Keep your eyes peeled if you camp overnight, you never know who might come out of hiding!

Antelope ground squirrels spend the day scampering around campground



Shutterstock

The porcupine is one of the many animals you might see around the park.

and picnic areas oblivious to the sun and heat. Several other species of **ground squirrels** and **chipmunks** inhabit the parks, as do **woodrats, badgers, mice, gophers, kangaroo rats**, and even **porcupines!**

The river from the base of Glen Canyon Dam to Lees Ferry attracts neotropical migrant birds, including **blue grosbeaks** and **yellow-breasted chats**. In the winter, **waterfowl** of all types flock to both the lake and the river, as do **bald eagles**.

Look closer at the ground as you explore the desert of the Colorado Plateau, and you may notice a bumpy or spongy crust covering the floor. **Cryptobiotic soil crusts** are an important part of arid and semi-arid ecosystems throughout the world, including those in Glen Canyon and Lake Mead. These soil crusts are a significant part of biodiversity and are formed by very small organisms and their byproducts, which create a crust of soil particles held together by organic materials. Watch your step: cryptobiotic soil crusts are fragile. Tires and foot traffic by humans and livestock can break through the crust, increasing the risk of soil erosion and nutrient loss. Once compacted, cryptobiotic soils can take anywhere from a few years to decades or longer to recover. Research suggests recovery of some of the algal and lichen components and their functions may take much longer, and could take several hundred years in very dry environments.



For answers to all your questions, go to [OhRanger.com](https://www.ohranger.com)



GLEN CANYON'S PLANT ZONES



Found in the Kaiparowits Plateau and Orange Cliffs areas of Glen Canyon, the high-elevation **Piñon-Juniper Community (1)** receives more moisture than other areas. The additional water and cooler temperatures enable large plants, including the piñon pine, to thrive here. This small, bushy evergreen tree is 15 to 35 feet tall with a rounded, spreading crown. Its egg-shaped cones take two years to mature, at which point they open to release several large, edible seeds. *Photo: Jimmy Thomas*

The diverse vegetation of the **Hillside Community (2)** varies depending on latitude, topography and slope exposure. Many plants here appear grayish-green because they are covered with tiny white hairs that protect against moisture loss. The **prickly pear cactus (beavertail cactus)** is a low plant that forms clumps up to three feet wide and six inches high. Its waxy flowers are two to four inches wide and can be red, pink or yellow. *Photo: John Morton*

Hanging garden communities (3) survive on water seeping out of stone formations in canyon walls, on rock debris slopes and on canyon bottoms. This moist environment provides a habitat for lush vegetation. Verti-

cal collections of Gambel oak, maidenhair fern, poison ivy, monkey flowers, redbud and snowy white columbine flowers make up the ancient hanging gardens that have evolved around seeps and drip lines in the sandstone canyon walls in Glen Canyon NRA. *Photo: NPS*

Terrace Communities (4) are located on old floodplains, which are usually higher than the reach of present-day floodwaters. The herbaceous **globemallow** plant can be one to three feet tall and has scallop-edged leaves surrounding vertical clusters of orange-to-scarlet flowers. A relative of cotton and hollyhocks, this perennial blooms in April near Glen Canyon Dam. *Photo: NPS*

The plants that thrive in **Riparian Community (5)** are found along streams and in canyon bottoms. Although streams can be dry in the spring, water is generally available deep below the surface. These adaptable plants must be able to tolerate occasional severe flooding. Natives of Arizona, the tall **Fremont cottonwood** trees have grayish bark and broad leaves that turn bright gold in fall. They grow by riversides and are often planted as shade trees. *Photo: Katja Schulz*



WATCHABLE WILDLIFE



California Condor (*Gymnogyps californianus*) (1) are critically endangered members of the vulture family. These scavengers have long black wings with white triangular markings on the underside and bald heads and necks, useful to keep rotting meat from sticking to them. Look for condors soaring above, especially near Lees Ferry. • **Weight** 15–25 lbs • **Size** 45–55 in tall; 9–10 ft wingspan • **Active** year-round *Photo: Shutterstock*

Desert Bighorn Sheep (*Ovis canadensis*) (2) roam across large swaths of land to find food and water and are seldom seen. With hooves that grip steep ledges, they are well-adapted to the desert environment and prefer rocky cliffs away from human activity. When temperatures soar, they rest by day and feed at night. • **Weight** 100–300 lbs • **Size** 3–4 ft tall • **Active** year-round. *Photo: Shutterstock*

Gopher Snakes (*Pituophis catenifer*) (3) are frequently mistaken for rattlesnakes due to their brown, diamond-shaped markings and the rattle-like noise they make when threatened. These otherwise harmless snakes prey on rodents, lizards, and birds, and have even been known to eat other snakes. In summer they bask in the sun by day and hunt at night. • **Weight** 4–8 lbs • **Size** 4–8 ft long • **Active** spring through fall *Photo: Shutterstock*

Mule Deer (*Odocoileus hemionus*) (4) speed across rough terrain, taking bounding leaps, and landing on all fours simultaneously. They have large, mule-like ears, which earned them their name. Keep an eye out for them at dusk and dawn, as they browse for food. • **Weight** 100–300 lbs • **Size** 4–5 ft long • **Active** year-round. *Photo: iStock*

Peregrine Falcon (*Falco peregrinus*) (5) These chocolate-brown, crow-sized raptors breed in more than 80 places in the cliffs around Lake Powell. The fastest of all birds, the peregrine falcon can swoop down in a 200-mph vertical dive to capture its prey—almost exclusively medium-sized birds like doves and waterfowl. • **Weight** 18–35 oz • **Size** 13–19 inches tall, six-foot wingspan • **Active** year-round. *Photo: iStock*

Canyon Bat (*Pipistrellus hesperus*) (6) These small gray bats have a black leathery facial mask and control the park's pest population by foraging up to 50 feet above the ground on insects. Canyon bats inhabit areas with rocky exposures and rock-walled canyons. They are so valuable to the ecosystem that they are celebrated at the annual Bat Fest • **Weight** 5–6 oz • **Size** 1–2 in long • **Active** year-round. *Photo: NPS*



JUST FOR KIDS

A visit to Glen Canyon, Lake Powell, and Lake Mead will provide kids with memories to last a lifetime.

GLEN CANYON & LAKE POWELL

At Wahweap and Bullfrog, check out the **Junior Ranger programs** and activity pamphlets that help kids learn about the Glen Canyon National Recreation Area. Kids can also print a Junior Ranger booklet from Glen Canyon's website. Simply visit nps.gov/glca.

Lake Powell provides families with all sorts of **water play**. Kids will love boating and houseboating, swimming, waterskiing, kayaking, canoeing, boat tours, and raft tours. *Note: Water safety is very important to the basic mission of the National Park Service at Glen Canyon National Recreation Area.*

Kids can even try their hand at **fishing** for striped bass, carp and catfish throughout the summer. Please review the "Park Regulations & Safety" section of this guide and observe your children whenever they are in or near the water. Ask at any marina store for more information.

At the end of last year the Carl Hayden Visitor Center opened their Junior Ranger Corner, which includes an augmented reality sandbox, play space, and other creative activities. Daily ranger-led hikes on the Hanging Gardens trail take place from May through September. Times vary throughout the summer and program schedules are posted at the Carl Hayden Visitor Center and nps.gov/glca.

Glen Canyon is a great place for kids to learn about **American Indian culture**. Kids can explore well-preserved ruins and marvel at **ancient rock art** left by the Ancestral Puebloans (Anasazi) who lived there hundreds of years ago. Ask rang-

ers about **Defiance House in Forgotten Canyon** and other dwellings and artifacts.

See if you can answer these questions:

- Where did the Ancestral Puebloans sleep?
- What did they eat?
- What is a *kiva*?
- What kinds of animals are painted on the walls?
- How many people lived in one dwelling?
- How high up are the cliff houses?
- From when to when was Defiance House occupied?
- What were their more permanent residences called?

LAKE MEAD

Kids can earn a **Junior Ranger** badge by completing the Lake Mead NRA Junior Ranger booklet. They'll learn how the lake was created, find out more about park wildlife, and even dabble in archaeology! Stop by any visitor center for additional details.

The National Park Service presents a variety of **ranger-led programs** throughout the year. The programs, some of which are geared specifically toward kids, are presented at different locations in the Lake Mead NRA, ranging from Boulder Beach to Katherine Landing.

Kids can even learn about national parks from home by becoming **WebRangers**. Play interactive and educational games, take the WebRanger pledge, and print and sign a membership card. To get started, visit nps.gov/webangers.



For answers to all your questions, go to OhRanger.com



PHOTOGRAPHY

For millennia, we've looked towards the heavens and contemplated what's beyond our orbit and universe. More recently, stargazing has become increasingly difficult for millions of people living in developed areas. If you live you in a populated area east of the Mississippi or along the Pacific coast, odds are that you can count the number of stars you see on your hands. National and state parks—remote and minimally developed—not only protect our land, but also our dark skies which are ideal for astrophotography.

There are two primary types of astrophotography shots that yield different, but stellar compositions. A long exposure setting will show stars trailing across the sky, while a shorter exposure will show pinpoints of light—objects that a camera can capture that the unaided eye cannot. Both require a camera with interchangeable lenses and manual controls to set aperture, ISO, and exposure settings. Here's what you'll need to start:

- **A sturdy tripod:** Simply put, a shaky tripod will yield blurry photos.
- **A cable release or remote control or intervalometer:** You'll want to avoid touching your camera to minimize shake. The addition of an intervalometer will allow you to take sequential long exposures
- **Batteries:** Your aperture may be open for several hours, so it's important to have multiple fresh and fully charged batteries.
- **A wide lens:** Use the fastest, widest lens available.
- **A head lamp:** It'll be useful to set up your equipment and illuminate your foreground.

Check the cloud cover; if there's too much wait until you have a clearer night. Before you start, set your focus to infinity and turn off your autofocus and high ISO noise reduc-

tion. Next, set your white balance to daylight settings (5500k) and turn on your mirror lock to avoid mirror shake. Wait until the moon is out, too, as it'll illuminate and add detail to your foreground. Make sure that it's behind you. To capture star trails:

- Set your ISO at 200 to reduce digital noise.
- Compose your image, making sure you have interesting features in the foreground.
- Choose your focal length. The longer the focal length, the quicker your star trails will start to form.
- Set your camera to manual mode so that you can select your shutter speed and aperture.
- Set your aperture between f/2.8 and f/4 for best results.
- Select "bulb mode" as your shutter speed.
- Use your cable release or remote to open the shutter or set your timer for two to four minutes.

Check your results. If your picture is too dark, increase the exposure time. If your trails are too short, increase the exposure time. Keep playing around with your settings to get the results you desire. To learn how to take photos of the milky way and millions of points of light, visit ohranger.com/brightskies.

Shutterstock



Photographing the night sky is as close as many of us will get to exploring space.



Discover Moab in the Off-Season

With unmatched solitude, spectacular views, and discounted rates, the off-season in Moab is fast becoming one of the most rewarding times to visit. Enjoy year-round access to Arches and Canyonlands National Parks, Dead Horse Point State Park and thousands of square miles of spectacular red rock scenery. No matter what time of year you visit, Moab's warmth and hospitality will shine through.



Where Adventure Begins

For a free Moab Travel Planner call
435-259-8825 or visit
discovermoab.com





IF YOU ONLY HAVE A DAY

GLEN CANYON NATIONAL RECREATION AREA

The best way to enjoy your time at Glen Canyon is to get on the water. Take any of the **boat tours** on Lake Powell or try a **float trip** on the Colorado River. All tours include a lively narrative describing Lake Powell and the area. If you prefer to go at your own pace, **rent a boat** for the day from a park marina.

Between Memorial Day and the end of August, enjoy **sunset dinner cruises** aboard the Canyon Princess, which two evenings a week departs from Wahweap. Call **(888) 896-3829** and select option 1, or call Lake Powell Resort directly at **(888) 896-3829**.



Shutterstock

The Hoover Dam is a must-see stop along your trip through Lake Mead.

Check the schedule of **ranger-led activities** posted on bulletin boards at Wahweap to see if a brief ranger program will fit into your schedule.

LAKE MEAD NATIONAL RECREATION AREA

Lake Mead National Recreation Area comprises a stunning 1.5 million acres, encompassing Lake Mead, Lake Mohave, the Colorado River, and the surrounding desert. With such an amazing amount of terrain, there are nearly endless recreational activities. Don't miss a chance to get out on the water. **Boating, canoeing, kayaking, fishing, and swimming** are great ways to enjoy a day at Lake Mead. Please always wear a life jacket.

Off the water, there are several paved roads around Lake Mead, winding in and out of the stunning desert terrain surrounding the lake. Take a **scenic drive** or enjoy a **bike ride** through the canyons and desert. Several **short hikes** begin near many of the main roads, leading to views you won't see from a boat or car. When you're tired, stop at one of the many **shaded picnic areas** along the shore with water, tables, fire grills, and restrooms. For more information, call the Lake Mead Visitor Center at **(702) 293-8990**.

Hoover Dam, one of the greatest engineering wonders of the world, is on the southwestern tip of Lake Mead, separating the lake from the Colorado River and forming Lake Mead. Take a **tour of the dam** and enjoy **impressive views** of the adjacent canyon and desert terrain. For more information on dam tours and ticket reservations, please call **(702) 494-2517**.

Wildness
reminds us
what it means to be
HUMAN,
what we are
CONNECTED TO
rather than what
WE ARE SEPARATED FROM."
terry tempest williams



NATURE VALLEY

HAVE SOME
FAMILY FUN

CLIMB A MOUNTAIN

SLEEP UNDER THE STARS

RECHARGE

EAT A NATURE VALLEY BAR

CAST A LINE

RUN A RIVER

REFRESH

FIND YOUR
HAPPY PLACE

HIT THE TRAIL

TAKE A HIKE WHERE THE WIFI IS WEAK!

You're not going to remember the time you spent surfing the web. Get back to nature and see why you'll find the best tweets outside, not online.

#NatureGives

