

## Valley of Fire State Park

P.O. Box 515
29450 Valley of Fire Rd
Overton, NV 89040
vofsp@parks.nv.gov (702)397-2088
facebook.com/valley.of.fire
instagram.com/valley.of.fire

Park Hours: Sunrise to Sunset Daily Visitor Center and Gift Shop Hours: 9am-4pm Daily (may differ on holidays) Location: 55 miles northeast of Las Vegas

## Nevada Division of State Parks

901 S. Stewart St., Suite 5005 Carson City, NV 89701 www.parks.nv.gov (775)684-2770



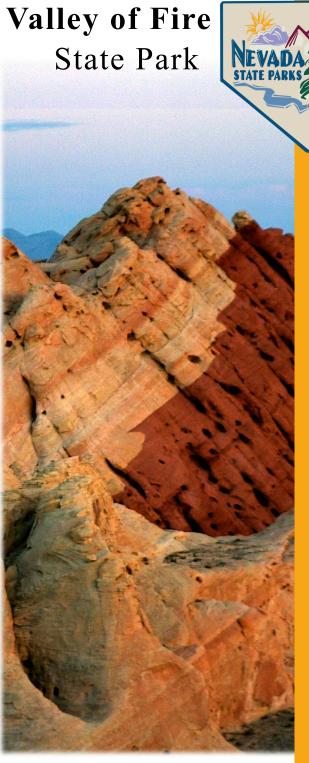


Photo from Fire Canyon Road (See Map)

**HISTORY** For thousands of years, these lands have been used by Native Americans for many purposes. Their petroglyphs (carvings on desert varnish and sandstone) are found throughout the park. Ancestral Puebloans lived nearby from AD 500-1100. They relocated after a harsh drought and the Nuwuvi, or Southern Paiute, entered the area and are still part of our community.

This geologic wonderland became known as 'Valley of Fire' in the 1920s after gaining popularity among travelers. The park formally opened in 1934 and received legal designation in 1935. During the first year of operation, 9,000 people visited. It is Nevada's largest state park.

**CLIMATE** Summer highs often exceed 100°F/38°C and can reach 120°F/49°C, with nighttime lows between 60°F/16°C and 90°F/32°C. Winters are mild with temperatures ranging from freezing to 75°F/24°C. Average annual rainfall is below 7 inches, coming from light winter showers and summer thunderstorms.

## HIKING NOT RECOMMENDED IN SUMMER. HIGH HEAT CAN BE FATAL.

**GEOLOGY** The park derives its name from the way its red sandstone formations, once sand dunes during the age of the dinosaurs over 150 million years ago, seem to glow as if they are on fire in the hour just before sunset.

Limestone from the days when this land was once covered by sea, and petrified wood from a forested past, can also be found. Water and wind erosion continue to shape the landscape.

**WILDLIFE** Animals and plants have adapted to survive the Mojave Desert's harsh climate.

Desert tortoises and Gila monsters spend most of their lives underground and some animals like kit fox and jackrabbits live a nocturnal lifestyle. Desert bighorn sheep stock up on water when it is available, consuming up to five gallons in one sitting. Reptiles like rattlesnakes and chuckwalla are often found basking in the sun, but will take shelter from both the cold and extreme heat. Gambel's quail benefit from their naturally higher body temperature of 107°F/42°C, allowing them to release body heat until the air temperature exceeds their own internal temperature.

Many desert plants are able to go dormant, appearing dead until proper temperatures and a small amount of rainfall allow them to once again sprout leaves and flowers. Plants like brittlebush and desert holly are light in color, which reflects the suns rays and helps the plant stay cool. The waxy leaves of creosote bush conserve water.

**CRYPTOBIOTIC SOIL** In some areas, living microorganisms like cyanobacteria, fungi, and algae take hold in the sand, creating a dark 'crust' on the surface that provides nutrients to surrounding plants and resists erosion. Be careful to avoid stepping on this living layer.

CAMPING There are two campgrounds with a total of 73 sites and one group camping area with 3 sites. Amenities at each site include potable water, a fire pit, and picnic table. Reservations can be made up to 11 months in advance and must be made at least 72 hours in advance at ReserveNevada.com

**Campgrounds full?** There is dispersed camping in public lands outside the park's boundaries.

**POSSIBLE CELL SERVICE** At Park Entrances, Fire Canyon Overlook, Parking Lot 'P3,' White Domes Parking Lot, and on Atlatl Rock Platform. Paid WiFi at Visitor Canter and Atlatl Rock Campground.

## **Rules and Regulations:**

It is illegal to remove or damage rocks, minerals, artifacts, sand, etc.

Carving into or writing on the rocks is not permitted.

It is illegal to disturb or remove wildlife, including plants. Do not feed the animals.

Do not climb on arches or petroglyphs. Help preserve petroglyphs by not touching them.

Camp only in designated campground sites; dispersed camping is not permitted here.

**Pets are welcome on a leash up to 6ft long.**Only service animals are permitted in Visitor Center.

Drones and RC aircrafts are not allowed.

Fires must be in designated pits and grills. Note that fire restrictions may be in place during some times of the year.

Rappelling only in specific area – Ask at Visitor Center. Climbing involving chalk or inserting items into rock is not permitted.

**Permit required for commercial photography.** Apply online at least 6 weeks in advance.



White-tailed Antelope Ground Squirrel