

Valley of Fire State Park

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Valley of Fire State Park is 55 miles (~1 hour) northeast of Las Vegas off Interstate 15.

Valley of Fire's Visitor Center is ~6 miles from Lake Mead National Recreation Area's northernmost entrance station.





Photo from Fire Canyon Road (See Map)

HISTORY

Over the course of 4,000 years, these lands were used by Native Americans for hunting and gathering, farming, and religious ceremonies. Their petroglyphs (rock carvings found here in layers of desert varnish covering the sandstone) are fascinating sights.

Ancestral Puebloans occupied the area from AD 500-1150. After a harsh drought, they relocated and were replaced by the Nuwuvi, or Southern Paiute.

This area became known as Valley of Fire State Park in the 1930s; It is Nevada's first and largest state park.

<u>CLIMATE</u>

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

Summer highs often exceed 100°F and can reach 120°F, with nighttime lows between 60 and 90°F.

Winters are mild with temperatures ranging from freezing to the mid-70s.

Average annual rainfall is below 7in, coming from light winter showers and summer thunderstorms.

<u>GEOLOGY</u>

The park derives its name from the red sandstone formations which were once sand dunes during the age of the dinosaurs over 150 million years ago.

Limestone from the days when this land was once covered by sea, and Petrified Wood from a forested past, can also be found.

PLANTS AND ANIMALS

Creosote bush, white bursage, and brittlebush cover the landscape. Beavertail and cholla cactus are also common. Spring blooms of desert marigold, indigo bush, desert mallow, and more are a special treat.

Resident birds include the roadrunner, raven, shrike, mockingbird, and more. Wrens, hawks, and owls are also found here.

Many species of reptile are common in the park. Desert iguanas and chuckwallas are often basking on rocks. Zebra-tailed, horned, and spiny lizards can also be found here. You even may be see a coachwhip, speckled rattlesnake, or sidewinder crossing the road. If you're lucky enough to come across a desert tortoise, please leave this protected species alone.

Common mammals include black-tailed jackrabbit, coyote, bighorn sheep, ground squirrels, and kit fox.



Desert Bighorn Sheep

Rules and Regulations:

It is illegal to disturb or remove rocks, minerals, animals, artifacts, etc.

Do not climb on arches or petroglyphs.

Camp only in designated campground sites; Dispersed camping is NOT permitted here.

Pets are welcome on a leash up to 6ft long. Pets are not permitted in the Visitor Center.

Drones and RC aircrafts are not allowed.

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

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.



White-tailed Antelope Ground Squirrel