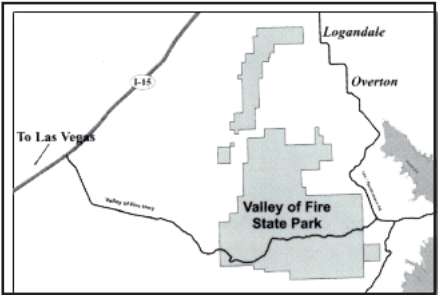


Valley of Fire State Park

Post Office Box 515
29450 Valley of Fire Road
Overton, Nevada 89040
vof@mvdsl.com • (702) 397-2088
www.facebook.com/valley.of.fire



Valley of Fire State Park is 55 miles (1 hour) northeast of Las Vegas off Interstate 15 at exit 75. It is six miles from Lake Mead.

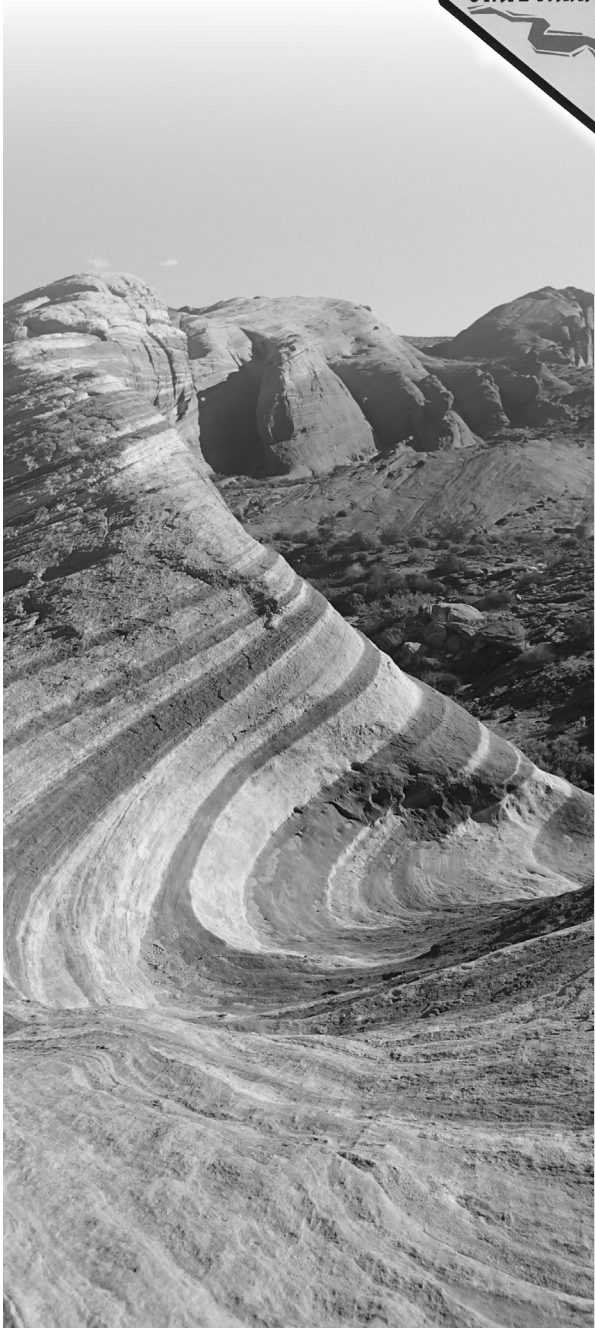


DIVISION OF STATE PARKS

901 S. Stewart St., Suite 5005
Carson City, Nevada 89701-5248
www.parks.nv.gov • (775) 684-2770



Valley of Fire State Park



(702) 397-2088
parks.nv.gov/parks/valley-of-fire-state-park

HISTORY

Valley of Fire derives its name from red sandstone formations, formed from great shifting sand dunes during the age of dinosaurs, 150 million years ago. Complex uplifting and faulting of the region, followed by extensive erosion, have created the present landscape.

Other important rock formations include limestone, shale, and conglomerates. Prehistoric users of Valley of Fire included the Basket Maker people and later the Anasazi Pueblo farmers from the nearby fertile Moapa Valley.

The span of approximate occupation has been dated from 300 B.C.E. to 1150 C.E. Their visits probably involved hunting, food gathering, and religious ceremonies, although scarcity of water would have limited the length of their stay. Fine examples of rock art left by these ancient peoples can be found at several sites within the park.

CLIMATE

Winters are mild with temperatures ranging from freezing to the mid-70s. Summer highs usually exceed 100°F (38°C) and can reach 120°F (49°C). Temperatures can vary widely from day to night. Average annual rainfall is four inches, coming in the form of light winter showers and summer thunderstorms. Spring and fall are the preferred seasons for visiting Valley of Fire.

PLANTS AND ANIMALS

The area plant community is dominated by widely-spaced creosote bush, burro bush, and brittlebrush. Several cactus species, including beavertail, hedgehog, and cholla, are also common. The springtime bloom of such plants as the desert marigold, indigo bush, and desert mallow are often spectacular along park roads.

Resident birds include the raven, house finch, sage sparrow, and roadrunner. Many migrant birds also pass through the park. Most desert animals are nocturnal and not frequently seen by the passing motorist. Many species of lizards and snakes are common in the park, as well as the coyote, kit fox, black-tailed jackrabbit, spotted skunk, and antelope ground squirrel.

The desert tortoise is a rare species and protected by state law. If you are lucky enough to come across one, please leave this likeable and harmless creature to live its life in peace in its own environment.



Kit Fox

FACILITIES

VISITOR INFORMATION: The visitor center provides exhibits on the geology, ecology, prehistory, and history of the park and the nearby region. Postcards, books, and souvenirs are on sale for your convenience. It is highly recommended that you make this one of your first stops. The visitor center is open daily, year-round from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm. The park is open daily from sunrise to sunset. **DAILY-USE FEE:** A daily-use (entrance) fee is charged per vehicle upon entering the park. This fee is collected at the fee booth, visitor center, or at self-pay stations.

CAMPING: Additional fees are charged for the use of camping areas and are payable at the campgrounds. All campsites are first come, first served. There are two campgrounds with a combined total of 72 units. Campsites are equipped with shaded tables, grills, water, and restrooms. A dump station and showers are available.

RV CAMPING: RV sites with power and water hookups are also available. A \$10 surcharge is added to the regular camping fee for the use of these sites.

PICNICKING: Shaded areas with restrooms are located at Atlatl Rock, Seven Sisters, the Cabins, Mouse's Tank, and White Domes.

GROUP-USE AREA: There are three group-use sites, each accommodating up to 45 people, though parking is limited. The sites are available for overnight camping by reservation only. Call the park for reservations at (702) 397-2088.

HIKING: Many intriguing hikes are available to visitors. Inquire at the visitor center for suggestions on day hikes of varying length and difficulty.

RULES AND REGULATIONS

The desert is extremely fragile. To make everyone's visit enjoyable and protect the fragile resources:

- Drive only on approved routes (see map), and park only in designated places along the roadside shoulders. Motor vehicles are not allowed on trails.
- Camp only in designated campground sites.
- Fires must be in designated grills and fire-pits.
- Plants, animals, artifacts, rocks and minerals are protected by law. Do not harm or remove them.
- Pets are welcome! Please keep them on a leash no longer than six feet. They are not allowed in the visitor center.
- Please conserve water.
- The park is open from sunrise to sunset unless camping in campgrounds or group use sites. After sunset, activity is limited to these areas.
- Rock climbing is limited to specific areas in the park. Inquire at the visitor center.

PARK FEATURES

WEST ENTRANCE STATION: Maps, points of interest, rest-rooms, and information may be found here.

BEEHIVES: Unusual sandstone formations eroded by wind and water. Group-use camping available by reservation only.

ATLATL ROCK: Outstanding examples of ancient Indian rock art, or petroglyphs, including a depiction of the atlatl, a notched stick used to throw primitive spears. The atlatl was a predecessor to the bow and arrow. The adjacent **Atlatl Rock Campground** has 44 campsites. Half of sites are semi-primitive, and half are RV sites with water and power hookups. This campground offers showers and modern restrooms.

ARCH ROCK: Near Arch Rock is the more primitive **Arch Rock Campground** with 29 campsites (open seasonally). A two-mile scenic loop road provides views of some of Valley's most interesting rock formations, such as Arch Rock and Piano Rock. Please do not climb on Arch Rock.

PETRIFIED LOGS (west and east) : Logs and stumps, washed into the area from an ancient forest about 225 million years ago are exposed at these two locations.

VISITOR CENTER: Information, interpretive displays, and exhibits on the valley. The gift shop offers souvenirs, books, snacks, and beverages. Hours are 8:30 am-4:30 pm daily.

MOUSE’S TANK: Named for an outlaw who used the area as a hideout in the 1890s, Mouse’s Tank is a natural basin in the rock where water collects after rainfalls, sometimes remaining for months. A 3/4-mile, round-trip trail leads to Mouse’s Tank from the trailhead parking area, passing numerous examples of prehistoric petroglyphs.

RAINBOW VISTA: An excellent photo point with a panoramic view of multi-colored sandstone.

FIRE CANYON/SILICA DOME: From this vantage point, there is an excellent view of the deep red sandstone Fire Canyon and the unique geological features of Silica Dome.

FIRE WAVE: Located directly across from parking lot #3. To preserve this fragile and unique area, please stay on the trail, and do not walk on the wave formation at the end of the trail.

WHITE DOMES: Sandstone formations with brilliant contrasting colors, picnic area, and a 1.25-mile scenic trail with a slot canyon. White Domes is a 5.5-mile (20-minute) drive from the visitor center.

SEVEN SISTERS: Fascinating red rock formations are easily accessible from the road. Picnic areas provide a relaxing stop during your Valley tour.

CABINS: Now a picnic area, these historic stone cabins were built with native sandstone by the Civilian Conservation Corps in the 1930s as a shelter for travelers of the Arrowhead Trail.

EAST ENTRANCE STATION: Mounted maps, information, and restrooms are available here. **Elephant Rock** is accessible from the East Entrance (please use the trail).

