

NATIONAL PARK · UNITED STATES · CALIFORNIA

Joshua Tree

at a glance

Two deserts meet here, and the tree the park is named after could almost entirely disappear from it by the end of the century.

BEFORE YOU GO



Open around the clock

The park is open 24 hours a day, all year.



Nothing to buy inside the park

No fuel, no restaurant, no shop.



West entrance near Joshua Tree

Eight kilometres (5 mi) south of the junction of Highway 62 and Park Boulevard in the town of Joshua Tree.



Spring and autumn

The most pleasant time: highs around 29 °C (84 °F), lows around 10 °C (50 °F), humidity mostly below 25 percent.



Four litres of water per person

For a summer day the park authority recommends four litres (1 US gallon) per person, plus water for cooling off.



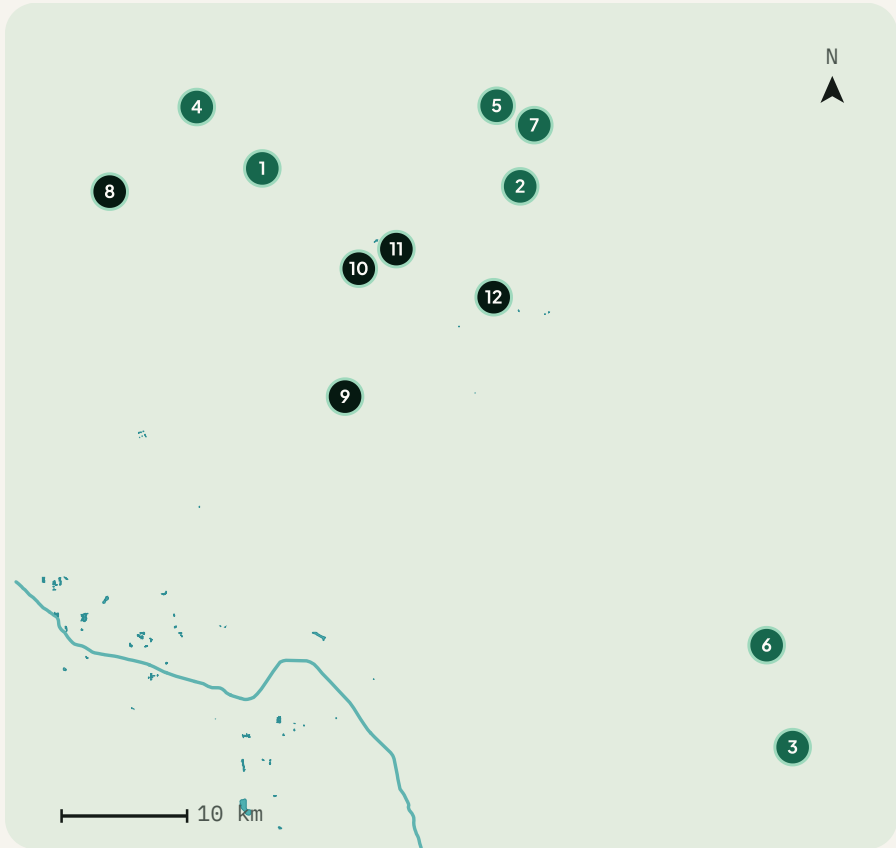
Why the park names one hiker

The hiking page tells the story of Paul Miller, an experienced hiker and photographer from Ontario.



Fees and opening hours, up to date

Fees and times change. The park page lists them with source and date:
nationalparksatlas.com/en/usa/joshua-tree



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|--|----------------------------|
| 1 West Entrance Station | 7 Oasis of Mara |
| 2 North Entrance Station | 8 Black Rock Nature Center |
| 3 South Entrance Park Sign | 9 Keys View |
| 4 Joshua Tree Visitor Center | 10 Hidden Valley |
| 5 Joshua Tree National Park Visitor Center | 11 Barker Dam |
| 6 Cottonwood Visitor Center | 12 Skull Rock |

Green: entrances. Map data © OpenStreetMap contributors (ODbL).



THINGS TO DO

The short trails

Hidden Valley (1.6 km (1 mi), one hour) leads into a valley enclosed by rock walls.

The oases

Fortynine Palms (4.8 km (3 mi), 91 m (300 ft) of ascent) crosses a ridge and drops into a rocky canyon with ...

Stargazing

Joshua Tree is certified by DarkSky International as an International Dark Sky Park.

Hiking apps are dangerous here

The park has officially warned about this since March 2024: third-party apps misjudge routes and show ...

[More on the park page](#)

Ryan Mountain

The most popular summit trail: 4.8 km (3 mi) return, 320 m (1,050 ft) of ascent, one and a half to two and a ...

Climbing

More than 8,000 climbing routes and 2,000 boulder problems on monzogranite make the park one of the most ...

Keys Ranch only on a guided tour

The Keys family's preserved ranch, with house, store, school and workshop, can only be visited on a guided ...

Where the Joshua trees grow

The Colorado Desert, a western extension of the Sonoran Desert, covers the south and east of the park, with ...

TOURS AND GETTING THERE · AD



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Partner links: we may earn a commission if you book. Dates and prices are set by the provider. Checked 22 Sep 2026.