

FOURTH ANNUAL WEST COAST



Welcome to eastern Utah! This is the desolate high desert where cell phone coverage is questionable. Water is almost non-existent and when you need help, people are few and far between. Please carry plenty of WATER and other necessities. If you require a tow truck be prepared to mortgage your home and your first born!

Sunrise / Sunset Information

10.7	Wed	Rise 7:19	Set 6:55
10.8	Thursday	7:20	6:53
10.9	Friday	7:21	6:52
10.10	Saturday	7:22	6:50
10.11	Sunday	7:23	6:49
10.12	Monday	7.24	6:47

** Road side parking is not allowed under Utah Law -*

** If a lot is full, do not wait for an opening, move on and try later*

** Never park on vegetation, or in a manner that blocks traffic*

** Be Courteous*

Park in designated areas only.

This year we are in one of Mother Nature's unusual playgrounds, an area where she used her artistic skills, wild dreams, and a vivid imagination.

Because each stop has several options for short walks and photo ops, only suggested start times are listed except for the group photo Friday at 10:30 - (see #3 on page 2)

FRIDAY

Arches National Park covers 114 square miles with over 1,000 arches, from the small three foot to the massive Landscape Arch at over 290 feet. There are amazing rock formations and vast expanses of desert landscape just waiting for your camera!

The group will concentrate on just five of the hundreds of sites with plenty of time to venture off on your own along the way.

1. Courthouse Towers - Suggested meeting time 8:30am
2. The Windows Section
3. Fiery Furnace
4. Garden of Eden
5. Delicate Arch
6. Friday Night **Pizza Party**

SATURDAY

CanyonLands National Park covers a massive 530 square miles with only limited roads. Most of the park is accessible only by hiking or 4 wheel drive vehicles. The most popular attractions have paved roads, and that is what we will concentrate on. However, you are a diverse and adventurous group, with a lot of free time- Have Fun. In CanyonLand we will center on just four locations - and leave plenty of time for your own wanderings.

1. Dead Horse Point - Suggested meeting time 9:00am
2. Mesa Arch
3. Upheaval Dome
4. Grand View Point
5. Saturday Night **Dinner**

SUNDAY - FREE DAY (Some are leaving - Some are wandering!)

FRIDAY - ARCHES NATIONAL PARK

See Map on Page 6

PIZZA WELCOME PARTY FRIDAY NIGHT 7:00 AT EDDIE MCSTIFF'S 57 S MAIN ST

Group Photo at location 3 at 10:30

Suggest an early start to beat the heat and crowds. Hit the road by 7:30-8:00 recommended.

1 The first stop on the road is **Park Avenue** and **Courthouse Towers**, monolithic spires and ridges of rock standing isolated in largely flat terrain. These have been featured in several movies. A one mile trail starts along the Avenue, starting and ending at trailheads along the road, and is easy to take short cross-country walks towards other sites of interest: named features include **Sheep Rock**, **The Three Gossips**, **The Organ**, and **Tower of Babel**. The only arch in the area is **Ring Arch** accessible by a 1.5 mile hike, off trail along **Courthouse Wash**.

2 The Road continues across an open, undulating landscape of petrified sand dunes and eroded pinnacles for 5 miles, passing **Balanced Rock** (which will also be accessible from the next stop). It is hard to miss **Balanced Rock** since it seems to be the only thing rising above the desert floor. The road reaches a turn off to the **Windows Section**, the first major concentration of arches and spires. **TURN HERE.**

3 Soon after the turn is the **Garden of Eden**. This is a particularly beautiful area of whitish slickrock, green bushes and red columns. Soon after this, the road ends at a loop with several large parking lots. These bear self-explanatory names such as **Double Arch**, **Cove of Caves** and **Balanced Rock**. Everything of interest in this area can be seen either from the road or by short walks, so *all visitors* go at least this far in the park. **This is where we will gather for our Group Photo.** Depending on the lighting, the exact location will be chosen by "popular vote." **Be smiling at 10:30 am.**

4 Back to the main road and 2.5 miles further is a turn off leading to **Wolfe Ranch**, where you will find an old log cabin built in 1888. A 1.5 mile foot trail starts here and leads to **Delicate Arch**. This arch is perched precariously on the edge of a small canyon. The road continues to the **Delicate Arch** view point. This is the arch that appears on the Utah license plates.

5 The **Fiery Furnace** is a natural labyrinth of narrow passages between towering sandstone walls. To enter the **Fiery Furnace**, visitors must accompany a ranger-guided tour or obtain a hiking permit at the visitor center.

There are no trails, signs, or cairns in the **Fiery Furnace**. GPS units do not work well due to the towering sandstone walls.

6 Past the **Fiery Furnace**, the road continues past several other large arches including **Sand Dune**, **Broken** and **Skyline**, and terminates at **Devils Garden**. Starting here there is a six mile loop trail leads to seven major arches including the 290 foot wide **Landscape Arch**, the longest in the world. The park campground is located nearby where drinking water is available.

SATURDAY - CANYONLANDS NATIONAL PARK

3

See Map on Page 7

SATURDAY NIGHT BANQUET 7:00 AT EDDIE MCSTIFF'S 57 S MAIN STREET

The Island in the Sky sits atop a massive 1500 foot mesa, quite literally an Island in the Sky. Twenty miles of paved roads lead to many of the most spectacular views in Canyon Country. From these lofty viewpoints visitors can often see over 100 miles in any given direction, resulting in panoramic views that encompass thousands of square miles of canyon country

1, Dead Horse Point State Park is one of Utah's most spectacular state parks just 32 miles from Moab. The view from Dead Horse Point is one of the most photographed scenic vistas in the world. Towering 2,000 feet above the Colorado River, the overlook provides a breathtaking panorama of Canyonlands' sculpted pinnacles and buttes. Millions of years of geologic activity created the spectacular views from Dead Horse Point State Park. Deposition of sediments by ancient oceans, freshwater lakes, streams and windblown sand dunes created the rock layers of canyon country. Igneous activity formed the high mountains that rise like cool blue islands from the desert below.

Mesa Arch by Powerchaser 6-22-15

This Canvas was this year's THANK YOU gift to WeatherUnderground
Dead Horse Point by Gary Poteat (RailHeel)



2 Mesa Arch - Bet you have seen it! It is a desk top background for Windows 7. A 5-7 mile easy hike with spectacular visas and a photographer's dream

3 Upheaval Dome. In an area approximately three miles (5km) across, rock layers are dramatically deformed. In the center, the rocks are pushed up into a circular structure called a dome, or an anticline. Surrounding this dome is a downwarp in the rock layers called a syncline. What caused these folds at Upheaval Dome? Geologists do not know for sure, but there are two main theories which are hotly debated

4 Grand View Point is the southern-most spot on Canyonland's high mesa, the Island in the Sky. Laid out below is a complex network of canyons carved by the converging Colorado and Green Rivers. This 2-mile round trip hike leaves from Grand View Overlook and travels down the mesa's edge for as far as you can go without running out of real estate.

For a sneak peek of this stop - This is a link to a 360 degree panorama <http://www.utah3d.net/utah-travel/canyonlands/grand-view.html>

Optional Adventure

The needles district is 40 miles south of Moab plus another 35 miles to the visitor center - (That's just one way distance) The Needles District forms the southeast corner of Canyonlands and was named for the colorful spires of Cedar Mesa Sandstone that dominate the area. The district's extensive trail system provides many opportunities for long day hikes and overnight trips. Location On US Highway 191, drive 40 miles (60 km) south of Moab or 14 miles (22 km) north of Monticello, then take Utah Highway 211 roughly 35 miles (56 km) west. Highway 211 ends in the Needles, and is the only paved road leading in and out of the district



4 MISCELLANEOUS STUFF

Wonderful Underground Photographers

<u>Handle</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Cell Phone</u>	
backwardguy	Steve(Barb) Swan		OR
BananaBender	Steve James		AK
BluesMaster	Randall (Kathy) Brewer	614.565.7195	OR
ColoradoKat	Kat Ross	303.949.4695	CO
Drifter50	Tad Zadykowicz	480.390.6456	AZ
Gilg72	Gil (Margaret) Gallegos	575.770.4665	NM
Got2dogs	Susan Hanson		CA
HarveyCreek	Brian (Mollie) Wright	503.538.6788	OR
Kristinarinell	Kristina Rinell	503.369.3005	OR
KSMc	Keith (Carol) McConnelly	703.585.9667	MI
LarryD	Larry (Cheryl) Cox		NE
llpj04	Charlotte Schafer	985.351.4533	LA
LuckyStar	Linda (Harry) Minns	580.545.3574	OK
Madermade	Trudy (Larry) Mader	940.627.4321	TX
MarGinal	Gina Geary		OR
MicPic	Mike (Sandy) Gazdiewich	303.421.5441	CO
MotorcycleNana	Barb Swan (Steve)	541.626.8344	OR
PowderChaser	Cynthia (Robin) Hori	801.350.1276	UT
QuickEye	Rich (Elizabeth) Watson	541-247-9096	OR
RailHeel	Gary Poteat	843.670.9542	NC
RenoSoHill	Duane (Jeanne) Foss	775.750.8444	NV
SKERT	Carol Youorski		GA
SunsetSailor	Laura Ragland		GA
SVLover	Lori Quillen	530.598.0229	CA
TrailHiker	Heidrun (Rudi) Gritzner		AUSTRIA

This year's schedule is fairly open with the time frames to allow for the wide range of interests. Some will want to stay on the main park roads, others will venture off to "hoof it" on some of the trails, and it would not be too farfetched to think there might even be a 4X4 vehicle in the group.

Remember to have plenty of water with you!

PETS

Activities with pets are very limited in the parks. Pets are not allowed on any hiking trails or in the visitor center. Pets may accompany visitors in the campground, and at overlooks and pullouts along the paved scenic drives. Pets may be walked on roads or in parking lots, but must be leashed at all times when outside a vehicle. Pets may not be left unattended. If yours is a Service Animal, the vest or other distinguishable item should be worn when in the park.

The following kennels offer boarding services in Moab:

Karen's Canine Campground
2781 S. Roberts
(435) 259-7922

Moab Veterinary Clinic
4575 Spanish Valley Drive
(435) 259-8710

Mileage from Moab

Devils Garden - Arches 21 miles
Dead Horse Overlook 32 miles
Island in the Sky Visitor Center 31 miles

Emergency 911

Visitor Information
(435) 719-2299
Headquarters
(435) 719-2100

Please vote on next year's location Saturday night at the Party. We hate to play spin the bottle.



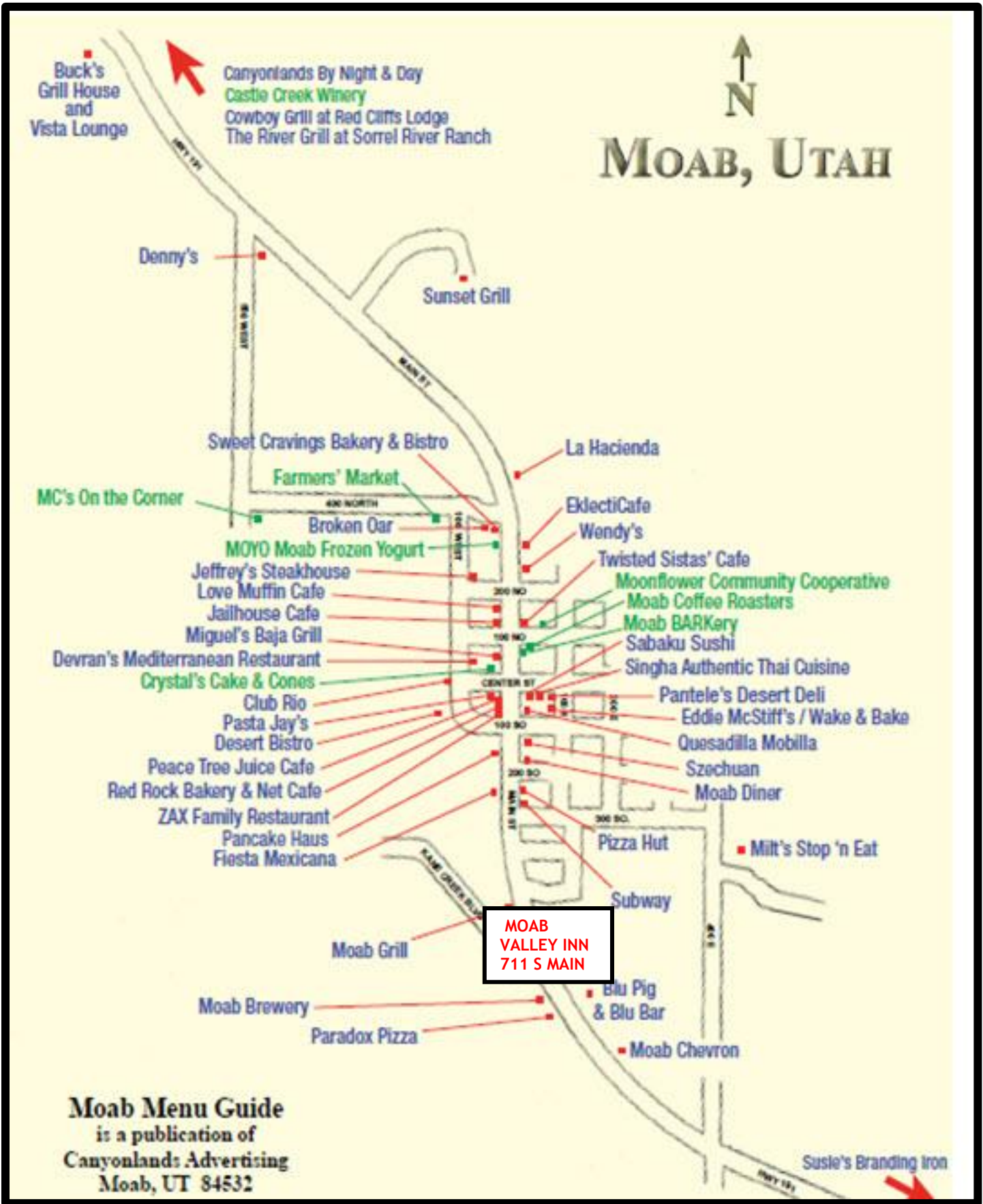
Balanced Rock by RenoSoHill

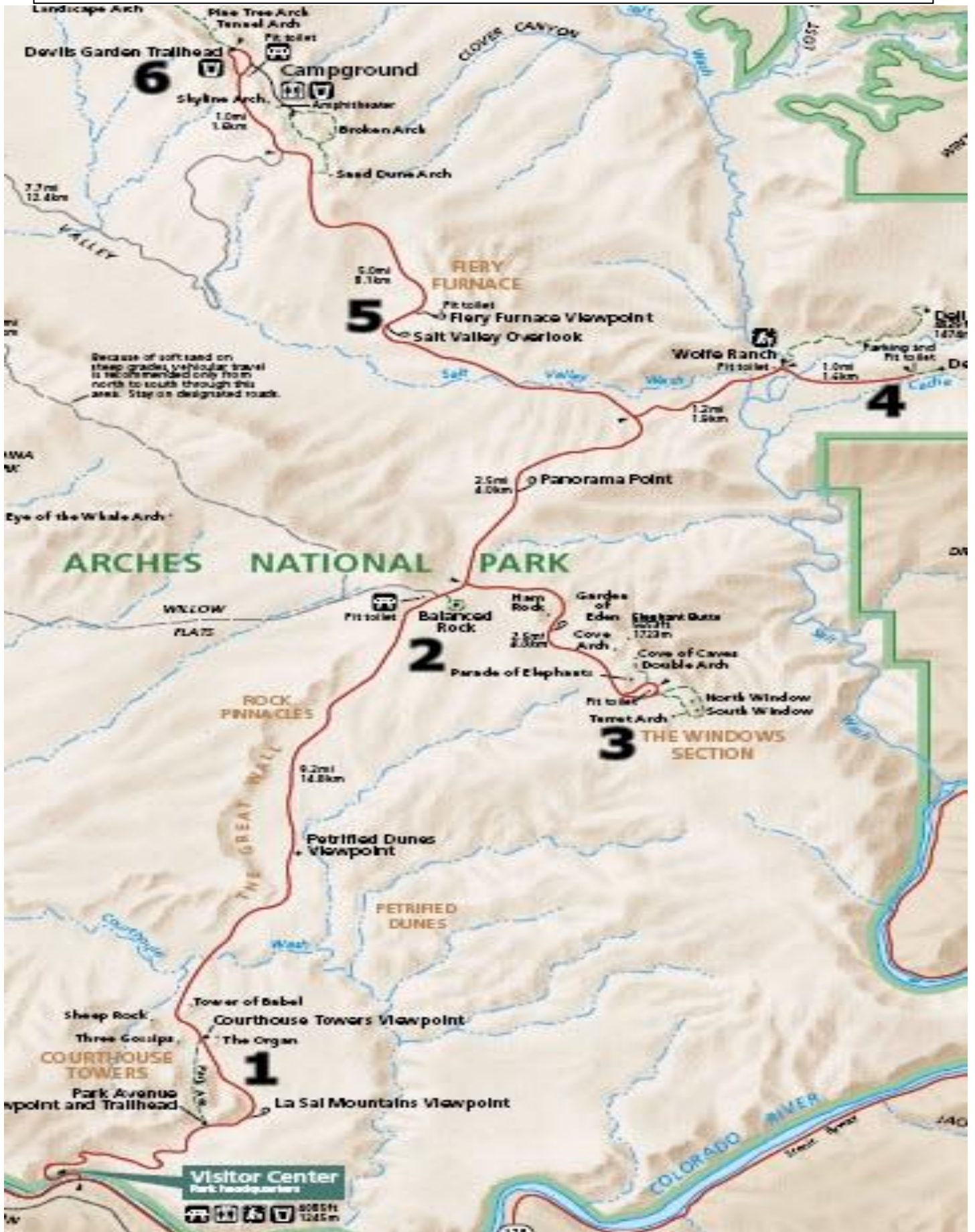


A very special THANK YOU to WU for all the support we receive in putting these "Gatherings" together. THANK YOU for the Welcome Bags and Dinners. **THANK YOU Michelle and Andria - You are AMAZING!**

Event Organizers & Contributors:

Duane Foss (RenoSoHill)
Gary Poteat (Railheel)
Kristina Rinell (kristinarinell)
Lori Quillen (SVLover)





Moab to Areas in the Park

Island In The Sky Visitor Center	32mi/51km
Needles Visitor Center	76mi/121km
Horseshoe Canyon Unit via I-70	101mi/162km
Horseshoe Canyon Unit via State 24	119mi/191km
Hans Flat	133mi/214km

