



Media Tipsheet

Wide Open Spaces, New Glamping Resorts and Unlimited Outdoor Adventures in Greater Zion

St. George, Utah – September 21, 2020 – This fall many travelers are taking work and school on the road in search of wide open spaces. Greater Zion in southwest Utah provides more than 2,400 square miles of adventure and inspiration with geological wonders and breathtaking scenery. Zion National Park, the fourth most visited national park in the United States, is the premier attraction, but Zion is only the beginning. Four state parks and a multitude of year-round recreational lands set the stage for a burgeoning mountain biking scene, some of the best off-highway vehicle riding in the country, scenic and challenging play at 13 top-rated golf courses, new glamping resorts, via ferrata routes and so much more.

Travel Update During COVID-19 – Hotel & National Park Information

Utah's Low Level of Restriction

Greater Zion is currently operating under Utah's "[low level of restriction](#)" related to the coronavirus outbreak. Businesses are open and are required to take reasonable precautions. Hotels and restaurants are operating with appropriate social distancing and enhanced hygiene measures. Group sizes are restricted to 50 or fewer and face coverings are requested when social distancing is difficult to maintain. A full list of guidelines are [available online](#).

The Greater Zion region also is under Responsible Recreation guidelines, encouraging visitors to maintain six feet between one another, stay away from parks and recreation areas if they're sick, respect facility closures and help keep parks clean by practicing "Pack In and Pack Out" etiquette.

Zion National Park Operations/Springdale Face Coverings

Zion National Park is open during daylight hours with access to Zion Canyon Scenic Drive only through a [ticketed shuttle service](#). The number of boarding tickets is limited and boarding is not guaranteed. Tickets are only valid for the day/time that is printed on the ticket. Advanced shuttle tickets are available on a rolling two-week basis. Tickets for Oct. 16-31 visits will be released on Sept. 30. Tickets are \$1 per person and are not included in park entrance fees or passes.

Tickets only can be purchased online at [recreation.gov](#), through the mobile app or by calling (877) 444-6777. Afternoon walk-up tickets are available on a first-come, first-served basis daily from 3-6 p.m. MDT.

The Kolob Canyons section of the park recently reopened and reservations for the South Campground are available on Recreation.gov. Several canyoneering routes in the park also are open and require wilderness permits, which are limited and only being [issued online](#). Currently closed areas of the park include Angels Landing Chains Section and Weeping Rock.

Springdale, located at the gateway to Zion National Park, will continue to offer complimentary daily shuttle operations from 7 a.m. to 9:30 p.m., allowing guests to park in town and get a ride into the park. (This service is independent of the Zion Canyon Scenic Drive shuttle.) Guests exploring Springdale's many galleries, shops and dining establishments are required to wear masks.

Iconic Red Mountain Resort Reopens After Brief Closure Due to COVID-19

Red Mountain Resort, which has attracted destination guests to Greater Zion for more than two decades, reopened in September after a temporary closure due to the coronavirus outbreak. The resort is open with enhanced health and safety protocols including face masks while indoors, appropriate social distancing and modifications for many adventure and fitness experiences. A list of guidelines are available on the [Red Mountain Resort website](#).

The resort is a one-of-a-kind active destination retreat, inspiring guests to pursue health, wellness, balance and joy. With one of the county's most breathtaking natural settings as its backdrop, the resort features a comprehensive selection of fitness classes and programs, outdoor and hiking adventures, nutritious cuisine and personal discovery seminars. The award-winning Sagestone Spa & Salon provides an array of unique spa services.

Stay & Play in Wide Open Spaces – New Via Ferrata & Glamping Options

New Angels Leading Ledgeswalk & Eye of the Needle Via Ferrata Experiences

Via ferrata have been a staple of the climbing experience throughout Europe for decades and as it grows in popularity in the United States, guests have new ways to explore the red rock cliffs and ledges found throughout Greater Zion. A via ferrata, or "iron path" as it's known in Italy, is a protected climbing route.

Travelers have several options to explore Greater Zion's geological wonders on via ferrata including the new [Angels Leading Ledgeswalk](#). This via ferrata offers a similar experience to the region's popular Angels Landing hike in the national park. Angels Leading Ledgeswalk takes hikers up and down steep cliffsides that lead to incredible vistas, but instead of the chains found on the last quarter mile of the Angels Landing hike, the Ledgeswalk provides hikers with harnesses and they are hooked into safety cables for the majority of the hike. The hike takes 2.5 hours to complete. Tours of Angels Leading Ledgeswalk are offered by [Utah Adventure Center](#) through early October.

[Zion Adventures](#) also offers a unique experience that takes adventure seekers to a private, rarely visited canyon on the [Eye of the Needle](#) via ferrata. This experience starts in an awe-inspiring slot canyon that descends 450 feet over a sixth of a mile, including several down climbs and 9-10 rappels along a 400-foot waterfall. The experience meets at the confluence of Oak Creek Canyon just outside of the national park. From the creek bed, adventure seekers don via ferrata equipment and meander up 472 staples along the canyon wall.

New Glamping Resorts for Naturally Socially Distanced Lodging

Glamping has grown in popularity even more this summer as guests are seeking naturally socially distanced lodging options. Greater Zion offers two new exciting glamping resorts with accommodations that range from Conestoga Wagons to villas and luxury tent options.

[Zion Wildflower](#) opened this summer and allows guests to choose from several unique and memorable accommodations including covered wagons, canvas tents and cozy bungalows. Guests have full access to the resort's amenities including games, yoga and more. The resort is located between St. George and Springdale, in Virgin, near the Kolob Terrace section of Zion National Park.

Luxury camping, aka glamping, is elevated even more at [Open Sky](#). The safari-style glamping tents allow guests to indulge with bamboo linens, soaking tubs and private outdoor showers while enjoying the stunning backdrop of Greater Zion. Open Sky features an onsite spa tent and restaurant. Phase one of Open Sky is scheduled to open in October.

The Dwellings Opens in La Verkin Overlooking Virgin River & Confluence Park

Another new unique vacation option is [The Dwellings at River Rock](#) in La Verkin. Situated on the rim of the Virgin River and Confluence Park below, the location is unique, inspiring, and humbling. The setting offers views of the river below against the backdrop of lava rock cliffs and the panoramic setting of Pine Valley Mountain. The 300- to 800-square-foot units offer vaulted ceilings, contemporary finishes and no-contact check-in. Some units offer a resort-style kitchen and all of units are pet friendly.

Dining, Golf & Insider Tips

Station II by Zion Brewery Opens in St. George

[Station II by Zion Brewery](#) recently opened in downtown St. George. Located in a restored 1918 firehouse, the brewery features a taproom, lounge, patio and billiards room. On tap are Zion Brewery's handcrafted microbrews including popular options such as Zion Pale Ale, a rich malty American-style pale ale with orange, lemon and grapefruit hop aroma, and the Ascender Hefeweizen that is yellow and hazy with an unmistakable banana aroma, balanced with wheat malt, citrus and subtle clove.

Fall Golf Including New Copper Rock Golf Course

Fall is a fabulous time to golf in Greater Zion. Manicured green fairways pop against red rock cliffs, coral-colored sand dunes and rugged, black lava rocks at several courses across this unique desert setting. Combined with more than 300 days of sunshine, Greater Zion is a golfer's paradise. The golf experience recently got even better with the opening of [Copper Rock Golf Course](#), designed by architect Dale Beddo. The 943-acre golf course community includes the 18-hole course, a clubhouse and custom-built private homes. Copper Rock promises to offer fun play with wide corridors, long-range views and back tees measuring 6,800 yards.

Hidden Gems – Veyo Pies & Lemonade Mint Supreme

There are local joints that have lines out the door and menu items that continually rise to the top. In Greater Zion, two hidden gems come to mind when thinking about popular local finds – Veyo Pies and the Lemonade Mint Supreme. For more than 30 years, [Veyo Pies](#) has been a hot spot with lines out the door of its shop. Veyo Pies is popular with cyclists who stop for a little energy boost, as its located along one of the major road bike routes in the region. Classic fruit and cream pies offerings are highlighted by apple and cherry pies as well as specialty options like key lime and pecan. And don't forget their beef or chicken pot pies or barbeque sandwiches ... after dessert, of course.

[Xetava Garden Café](#), in the heart of Kayenta Art Village, is known for its locally sourced, wild and organic ingredients that make up its popular menu. However, there is one menu selection that has become a cool option on a hot day – the Lemonade Mint Supreme. This refreshing drink features lemonade blended with ice, coconut, vanilla and fresh mint.

For more information on Greater Zion events, lodging options, cuisine, travel tools and more, please visit [GreaterZion.com](#).

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Visit the Greater Zion [media asset](#) portal for high resolution, downloadable images and video of the destination.

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