

## **Fact Sheet**

Location

Greater Zion comprises the southwest corner of Utah, spanning out from Zion National Park. The destination is approximately 100 miles north of Las Vegas on I-15 or 300 miles south of Salt Lake City via I-15. The region includes St. George, Springdale, Hurricane, Washington, Virgin, Ivins and several towns in between.

Landscape

Greater Zion is where three geological regions converge – the Mojave Desert, Colorado Plateau and the Great Basin. The destination is in the northeastern most part of the Mojave Desert and adjacent to the Pine Valley Mountains. The area offers layers of geological formations from snow-capped mountain peaks to red rock canyons and red sand mountains to lava fields.

**National Park** 

Utah's first national park and the third most visited in the United States, Zion National Park is distinguished by Zion Canyon's steep red cliffs. Follow the paths where ancient native people and pioneers walked. Gaze up at massive sandstone cliffs of cream, pink, and red that soar into a brilliant blue sky. Experience wilderness in a narrow slot canyon. Zion offers a unique array of plants and animals as well as a rich history of past and present day adventures.

Zion Canyon Scenic Drive cuts through its main section, leading to forest trails along the Virgin River. The river flows to the Emerald Pools, which have waterfalls and a hanging garden. Also, along the river, partly through deep chasms, is The Narrows, a wading hike. The park is known for this iconic hike, as well as several others, such as Angels Landing, Observation Point and The Subway.

**State Parks** 

There are four State Parks located in Greater Zion:

- Sand Hollow State Park Located near Hurricane, Sand Hollow State Park features a 1,322-acre reservoir for water sports and an extensive off-highway vehicle recreation area on Sand Mountain.
- Snow Canyon State Park Located near Ivins and St. George, Snow Canyon State Park is notorious for its unique geologic features such as volcanic cones, sand dunes, deep red sandstone cliffs and twisted layers of rock. The scenery has attracted Hollywood for years, as movies such as "The Electric Horseman" and "Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid" were filmed there. The park offers great hiking trails, canyoneering and road bike options.
- Quail Creek State Park Located near Hurricane, Quail Creek State Park features a 600-acre reservoir that is popular for anglers. Fisherman can catch rainbow trout, bullhead catfish and crappie along with largemouth

bass and bluegill. The area also offers water sports like stand-up paddleboarding and kayaking as well as easy access to several nearby mountain biking trails.

 Gunlock State Park & Reservoir – Northwest of St. George, Gunlock State Park is surrounded by rustic red rock and extinct black lava cinder cones. The park is great for hiking, boating, fishing and swimming.

## By the Numbers

- Highest Elevation Signal Peak at 10,369 feet located in the Pine Valley Mountains
- Lowest Elevation Beaver Dam Wash on the Utah-Arizona border is 2,178 feet above sea level
- Size of Washington County more than 2,400 square miles
- National Parks 1
- State Parks 4
- Forest & National Parks more than 300,000 acres
- Mountain Biking Trails 300 miles
- Paved Trails 50 miles
- ATV/Off-Road Racing 20,000 acres
- Golf Courses 12
- Lodging and Condominium Properties More than 100
- RV Parks & Campgrounds 24
- Spas 17
- Galleries & Museums 38
- Bars & Restaurants 186
- Retail Outlets 7
- Outfitters 55

#### **Year-Round Climate**

- Warmest Months June to September with the average daily high temperature around 91 degrees
- Coolest Months November to February with the average daily high temperature around 61 degrees

### Time Zone

#### Mountain Time Zone

### **Outdoor Pursuits**

Greater Zion offers unlimited, year-round outdoor adventures.

- Hiking
- Horseback riding
- Rock climbing
- River tubing
- Via Ferrata
- Zip lining
- Canyoneering
- Mountain biking
- Road cycling
- Off highway vehicle adventures
- Golf
- Kayaking and stand-up paddleboarding
- Scuba diving
- Helicopter tours
- Boating and other water sports

- Fishing
- Hot air ballooning
- Shooting sports

### Petroglyphs

There are several locations in Greater Zion to get a glimpse into the past with these unique rock carvings including two popular destinations - Petroglyph Park and Little Black Mountain.

#### **Performing Arts**

More than 10 performing arts facilities are anchored by the world-renowned Tuacahn Center for the Arts, which is set amid a stunning red rock backdrop deep in Padre Canyon and features a 90-foot stage with a 2,000-seat amphitheater. Tuacahn is home to Broadway-style musicals with elaborate sets and costumes, seasonal concerts and other special performances.

## **Signature Events**

- NEW! 2021 IRONMAN World Championship (to be contested May 7, 2022; moved from Hawaii for the first time since its inception in 1978)
- 2021 and 2022 IRONMAN 70.3 World Championship
- IRONMAN 70.3 North American Championship (2015-2020, 2023)
- IRONMAN 70.3 Pro Championship (2013-2014)
- IRONMAN St. George (2010-2012, 2024)
- Huntsman World Senior Games (Annual since 1987)
- St. George Marathon (Annual since 1977)
- NJCAA Women's Fast Pitch Championships (Annual since 2009)
- Red Bull Rampage Mountain Bike Competition (Annual since 2008)
- 25 Hours of Frog Hollow Mountain Bike Race (Annual since 2009)
- True Grit Epic Ultra Endurance Mountain Bike Race (Annual since 2011)
- Winter 4x4 Jamboree (Annual since 2014)

### Lodging

Greater Zion offers a diverse selection of lodging ranging from AAA Four-Diamond hotels to RV parks and campgrounds.

- St. George 74 hotels and condominium/residential accommodations
- Springdale 31 hotels
- La Verkin 3 hotels + 1 Vacation Rental (4 total)
- Enterprise 1 hotel
- RV Parks & Campgrounds 23
- Glamping Resorts 6
- Hildale 5 hotels, bed and breakfasts and glamping
- Rockville 7 vacation rentals and bed and breakfasts

### Meetings & Conventions

- Greater Zion offers five conference hotels each with approximately 5,000 square feet of meeting space for tradeshows, banquets, conventions, and retreats.
- 20+ additional hotels or unique venues with meeting space and board rooms perfect for smaller meetings and off-site receptions/events
- The Grafton Building in Hurricane offers 19,000 square feet of pillar-free exhibit hall space with 28-foot ceilings and an additional 18,000 square feet next door at the Harmony Building.
- The Dixie Center in St. George offers more than 100,000 square feet of meeting space.
  - 46,000 square-foot column-free exhibit call

- o 32,000 square feet of meeting space
- o 25,000 square feet of pre-function space
- 19 breakout rooms
- o Two board rooms
- o In-house audio visual
- o In-house white glove catering
- Telecommunications
- Event management

# **Sporting Facilities**

- Softball 33 fields
- Baseball 15 fields
- Soccer 32 fields
- Football 6 fields
- Golf 12 courses in a 20-mile radius
- Tennis 72 courts
- Volleyball 37 indoor courts
- Pickleball 45 public and 42 private courts
- Swimming four facilities, 28 lanes, 1 diving pool
- Bowling 3 centers, 52 lanes
- Equestrian horse track, 3 outdoor arenas, regional park with exhibit building, stalls, etc.
- Shooting Sports Park trap, skeet, sporting clays, rifle, pistol, cowboy action, tactical, archery
- Motocross Park
- Recreation Centers 2 centers with multiple gyms, cardio and weight rooms, racquetball, gymnastics, etc.
- Snake Hollow Mountain Bike Park -- the only year-round bike park in the state 80 acres of bike skills area

#### **Awards & Accolades**

- St. George No. 1 Emerging Travel Hotspot, TripAdvisor
- Zion National Park The Best National Park in the U.S., Trip Advisor
- St. George Utah's Best Vacation Destination, Official Best
- Hurricane The Next Great Slick Rock Biking Town, National Geographic Adventure
- Springdale Prettiest Small Town in the U.S., Forbes Traveler
- Zion National Park Best Fall Getaway, Sunset Magazine
- St. George 50 Best Places to Live & Play, *National Geographic Adventure*
- Zion National Park, Three-Star Michelin Award
- Taylor Creek Trail in Zion National Park Best Winter Hikes in National Park – Outside Magazine
- Sand Hollow, Entrada at Snow Canyon, Sunbrook, Green Spring, Coral Canyon and The Ledges at St. George – "Best Courses You Can Play in Utah" – Golfweek Magazine
- Zion National Park 11 National Parks That are Even Better in Winter Yahoo Lifestyle
- No. 7 America's Most Beautiful Hiking Trail, Angels Landing 35 Most Beautiful Places in America – Yahoo.com

### **Getting Here**

Greater Zion is easily accessible with major access points along the I-15 corridor. The area is located approximately 100 miles north of Las Vegas and 300 miles south of Salt Lake City.

### St. George Regional Airport

St. George Regional Airport (SGU) is located 12 miles southeast of St. George. The airport offers daily roundtrip flights via United Airlines, American Airlines and Delta Air Lines with seasonal travel via Allegiant. The airport offers non-stop flights to and from key hubs such as Salt Lake City, Denver, Phoenix, and seasonally to Los Angeles and Dallas/Ft. Worth.

## **Ground Transportation**

The St. George Regional Airport provides rental car services at the airport, as well as taxi and Uber/Lyft service into the Greater Zion area. Airport shuttle services also are available from nearby McCarran International Airport in Las Vegas and Salt Lake International Airport.

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