



Media Tipsheet

Greater Zion Offers a Fall Packed with Excitement from Red Bull Rampage to the IRONMAN 70.3 World Championships

St. George, Utah – Aug. 31, 2022 – Greater Zion, located in the southwest corner of Utah, offers more than 2,400 square miles of adventure and inspiration. This fall, athletes from around the world, representing a variety of sporting disciplines and age groups will find inspiration in the destination as they compete in a series of events that will bring thousands to the area.

In October alone, Red Bull Rampage will bring the world's top freeride mountain bikers, while the Huntsman World Senior Games will offer the largest multisport event in the world for athletes 50+, and the IRONMAN 70.3 World Championship will bring 6,000 athletes to swim, bike and run. That's just where the fun begins though! This fall, Greater Zion will also host a marathon, a week-long OHV trails event, and a 25-hour endurance bike event.

Sporting Events

St. George Marathon, Oct. 1

Beginning in 1977, the [St. George Marathon](#) has grown to become one of the 20 largest marathons in the country. More than 7,000 marathoners begin their journey at the edge of the Dixie National Forest and the crisp Pine Valley Mountains, and travel through a variety of scenery, including the sandstone cliffs of Snow Canyon State Park as they descend into St. George. Runner's World Magazine has included the St. George Marathon on its list of the 10 Most Scenic Marathons and the 20 Top Marathons in the U.S.

Trail Hero, Oct. 3-8

Taking place at Sand Hollow State Park, [Trail Hero](#) is a go-to event for 4x4 adventure of every type – making it a unique event in the off-roading world. Offering five days of guided trail rides, a golf tournament and after-ride activities, including rock crawling, waterside activities, music festival and more. The event also includes the Hero for a Day program, giving trail experiences to veterans and those with special needs.

Huntsman World Senior Games, Oct. 3-15

The [Huntsman World Senior Games](#), the largest annual multi-sport event in the world for athletes 50 and older, will celebrate its 35th anniversary this year. The games feature more than 11,000 athletes from across the globe, competing in over 30 sports – softball to square dancing, rowing to rugby, and pickleball to track and field – contested in venues throughout Greater Zion. This year, the games will also include the new Friendship Festival with live entertainment, dancing, food and impactful service projects.

Red Bull Rampage, Oct. 21

Mountain biking's premier big-mountain freeride event has called Greater Zion home since its inception more than 20 years ago. Red Bull Rampage showcases the sport's best riders on a rugged, desert mesa course regularly featuring four-story drops and 75-foot gaps in an expert-only display of riding.

IRONMAN 70.3 World Championship, Oct. 28-29

After hosting the 2021 IRONMAN World Championship this May, the excitement will continue when Greater Zion hosts the [2022 IRONMAN 70.3 World Championship](#) this October. Previously scheduled to be hosted in New Zealand, the international event was relocated to Greater Zion after the destination successfully hosted the 2021 iteration of the event. More than 6,000 athletes, representing 80 or more countries are expected to compete in the half-distance triathlon. The event will mark the third world championship event hosted by Greater Zion in 13 months, a feat without precedent in IRONMAN history.

25 Hours in Frog Hollow, Nov. 5-6

[25 Hours in Frog Hollow](#) is the longest one-day mountain bike race ever. Held each year to correspond with end of daylight savings time, solo and team relay racers get a bonus midnight lap to increase the fun, plus are rewarded with after-midnight snacks like fresh pie. The event is held just outside Hurricane, Utah in the shadows of Gooseberry Mesa and Zion National Park.

What's New

Black Desert Resort Golf Course Debuts Nine Holes This Fall

The new Tom Weiskopf-designed [Black Desert Resort Golf Course](#) will open this fall in Ivins, Utah, a suburb of St. George. Dropped amid ancient black lava fields, the course's emerald fairways and greens will be set against a red-rock backdrop, making for an awe-inspiring golf setting. This fall nine of the course's 19 holes will open. When fully open, Black Desert will be a par-72 course where guests can also enjoy a 36-hole, illuminated putting course for play day or night. The 600-acre project is set to debut a 150-room hotel, an open-air restaurant, rooftop steakhouse, expansive resort pool and spa at a later date.

BigShots Golf Now Open

[BigShots Golf](#) opened late this summer in St. George, providing the ultimate golfing experience with full-service food, sports bars, outdoor patio, mini golf, private event space and 52 climate-controlled tee boxes welcoming every level of player. Players can enjoy a social, entertaining atmosphere perfect for the whole family.

Water Canyon Winery Now Open

[Water Canyon Winery](#) is now open by appointment for wine tasting and tours. The vineyard produces a selection of red wines including Cabernet Sauvignon, Sangiovese and Barbera. Associated with the nearby [Water Canyon Resort](#), the combined properties offer a destination in and of itself with access to adventures in the southern-most region of Greater Zion near Hildale, on the backside of Zion National Park. The resort offers spacious one- and two-bedroom studios with kitchenettes and outdoor seating. Dog friendly lodging is available. The Water Canyon area straddles the Utah-Arizona border and offers unique adventures such as hiking in Water Canyon, an oasis of canyon streams and waterfalls, Squirrel Canyon, Zion National Park, historic community sites, a local microbrewery and more.

The Ledges of St. George Unveils Course Improvements

The Ledges of St. George has taken a number of measures to improve the playability of its award-winning golf course, including a renovated 13th hole. The improvements, which debuted in late August, include new agronomic practices to keep up the condition of the course year round; shorter grasses around several of the greens, allowing more margin of error in the short game; and introducing more accessible tee boxes on some of the course's longer holes. The 13th hole, long regarded as the most difficult at the course, was renovated to provide players with a more favorable shot and a view of the green from the fairway. Designed by Matt Dye, The Ledges is an 18-hole, 7,200-yard, par-72 course with impressive red rock backdrops and expansive views.

Zion White Bison Debuts Kiva Glamping Experiences

[Zion White Bison](#), a new glamping resort near Virgin, will begin offering kiva-style lodging this fall. The kivas are freestanding, adobe-style buildings with indoor bathrooms and kitchenettes, as well as an open rooftop lounge space with seating, a grill and hot tub. The kivas are in addition to glamping currently offered in covered wagons and tipis. Zion White Bison will eventually offer RV sites as well. The resort is perfectly situated to provide breathtaking views of Zion National Park to the east, Gooseberry Mesa to the south, Smith Mesa and Kolob Terrace to the north and Pine Valley Mountain to the west.

Holiday Happenings

Celebrate the Holidays at Tuacahn Center for the Arts

Enjoy the winter holidays among the dramatic red rocks in the canyon at [Tuacahn Center for the Arts](#). The amphitheatre will sparkle with more than 250 thousand twinkling lights, a live nativity, visits with Santa, train rides and more from Nov. 25 to Dec. 23. The performances and events will take places outdoors to take advantage of Greater Zion's temperate winter weather. During the same timeframe, guests can also enjoy live performances of Rudolf the Red-Nosed Reindeer in the indoor Hafen Theatre.

Zion National Park Updates

Catch a ride in Zion National Park

The National Park Service provides free shuttle service in the Town of Springdale and throughout Zion Canyon. No permits or reservations are needed to ride the shuttle or access the park. The shuttle will cease operations on Nov. 27 and then begin running again for a little more than a week in the end of December. For more information, including shuttle schedules, visit go.nps.gov/ZionShuttle.

Seasonal Lottery for Angels Landing Permits Opens Oct. 1

The last of four seasonal lotteries for Angels Landing hiking permits will be open Oct. 1-20 for hiking dates from Dec. 1- Feb. 22, 2023. The lottery outcome will be announced via email on Oct. 25. A pilot program requiring permits for portions of the Angels Landing hike was put in place by The National Park Service in April 2022. The program was designed to limit traffic on Angels Landing, known as one of the most popular hikes in the park. In addition to the four seasonal lotteries, visitors can receive a permit in a different lottery the day before their planned hike. The permit is only required for the half-mile, chained section of Angels Landing. Visitors are still able to hike the West Rim Trail from the trailhead at the Grotto to the spectacular viewpoints at Scout Lookout without a permit. Additionally, visitors can continue along the West Rim Trail beyond Scout Lookout for more remarkable views of Zion.

Zion Human History Museum Reopens

The Zion Human History Museum has reopened after a two-year closure. The museum displays artifacts and archives from the park's permanent collection that illustrate the rich human history of the land, as well as the impact water has had on both the peoples and place. The museum also includes the Zion Forever Project store, stocked with park memorabilia and opportunities to shop to support the national park.

For More Information

For more information on Greater Zion events, activities, lodging options, cuisine, travel tools and more, please visit GreaterZion.com.

###

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

Media Contact:

Kristin Yantis or Amanda McNally, Malen Yantis Public Relations, GreaterZionPR@myprco.com
(970) 949-7919