



## Media Tipsheet

### Greater Zion Blooming with New Glamping Resort, Desert Waterfalls, Fields of Lavender and More

**St. George, Utah – March 29, 2023** – [Greater Zion](#), located in the southwest corner of Utah, is blooming with unique seasonal opportunity this spring including new glamping options, rare desert waterfalls, fields of lavender, a Kevin Costner movie production and more. The destination offers more than 2,400 square miles of adventure and inspiration. Zion National Park, the second 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 14 top-rated golf courses, world-class cultural performances at Tuacahn Center for the Arts and so much more.

#### Arts & Culture News

##### Kevin Costner Filming in Greater Zion

Greater Zion has served as the backdrop for classic films like *Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid*, popular hits like *High School Musical 2* and Katy Perry's 2016 Rise music video. The region's film credits are set to expand with Kevin Costner's production company, Territory Pictures, gearing up to film *Horizon, an American Saga* throughout Greater Zion. Parts two and three of the four-film series are slated for production in Greater Zion this year. For more information, including opportunities to be involved in the production, please visit [film.greaterzion.com](http://film.greaterzion.com).

##### Waterfalls Flowing in Greater Zion

Visitors can go chasing desert waterfalls this spring in Greater Zion thanks to a wet winter, followed by spring rains. Due to the favorable conditions this year, a number of seasonal waterfalls have sprung up throughout the region, including some rarely seen gems that have only appeared a few times in the last decade. In Zion National Park, Weeping Rock, Emerald Pools and the Temple of Sinawava can all feature waterfalls depending on current conditions. The Red Reef Trail in Red Cliffs Desert Reserve also features seasonal waterfalls and pools. In Gunlock State Park, seasonal waterfalls that are part of a spillway that only flows in years when the reservoir reaches capacity have also appeared this year. Visitors are strongly encouraged to follow all safety regulations and check weather forecasts before hitting the trail.

### **Baker Creek Lavender Farm Opens for Summer Season**

[Baker Creek Lavender Farm](#) is set to open for the season on May 25. The family-run farm is located near Baker Dam Reservoir, just outside the town of Central, roughly 30-minutes north of St. George. In addition to enjoying fields of lavender set amidst the desert landscape, guests can shop for house-made lavender products and enjoy a number of workshops highlighting lavender growing, lavender distillation and more. The farm is open Thursday through Sunday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. from May 25 until July 23.

### **Tuacahn Center for the Arts Broadway Season Opens May 13**

[Tuacahn Center for the Arts](#), which is set amid a stunning, red-rock backdrop, deep in Padre Canyon, will kick off a season of Broadway-style musicals with elaborate sets and costumes, on May 13. Roald Dahl's *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory* will be the first performance this year at the outdoor venue which features an 80-foot stage and a 2,000-seat amphitheater. The 2023 Broadway schedule at Tuacahn includes:

- Roald Dahl's *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*
- *Tarzan*
- *The Hunchback of Notre Dame*
- *Beautiful: The Carole King Musical* (in the indoor Hafen Theater)
- *Irving Berlin's White Christmas the Musical* (in the indoor Hafen Theater)

## **Lodging, Event & Visitor News**

### **AutoCamp Set to Open Greater Zion Location in May**

AutoCamp is bringing its popular Airstream glamping oasis to Greater Zion in 2023. The new location will offer a mix of Airstreams, luxury tents, accessible suites and X Suites. The site is outside of Zion National Park with the Virgin River meandering through the property and views of iconic Gooseberry Mesa, popular for mountain biking. AutoCamp Zion recently announced a partnership with the Zion National Park Forever Project. For each reservation at AutoCamp Zion, \$1 will go toward helping the nonprofit's projects that benefit Zion National Park. AutoCamp Zion is expected to open in May.

### **IRONMAN 70.3 North American Championship Returns to Greater Zion**

The Intermountain Health IRONMAN 70.3 North American Championship St. George will return to Greater Zion on May 6. The event will mark the fifth championship-level IRONMAN event in Greater Zion since 2021. Known as one of the most picturesque and challenging IRONMAN 70.3 courses in the world, Greater Zion hosted the 2021 IRONMAN World Championship, making history as the first time the event was ever contested outside of Hawaii.

### **New Visitor Center Opening Summer 2023**

The new Greater Zion Visitor Center is set to open in summer 2023. Located on the ground floor of the new four-story Washington County Administration Building at 111 East Tabernacle Street in downtown St. George, the Greater Zion Visitor Center will offer a number of dynamic and interactive exhibits that will help bring the area to life for guests. Planned exhibits include an interactive map of the Greater Zion area, a Red Cliffs Desert Reserve Discovery Center and more.

## **Dining News**

### **Hurricane's Pizza Wagon Ranked Among Top in Nation**

Some of the best pizza in the county can be found at a roadside stand in Hurricane according to a list recently released by Yelp. The list of the Top Pizza Spots in the U.S. and Canada ranked the Pizza Wagon at No. 5. The Pizza Wagon offers hand-crafted pizzas from a mobile wood-burning pizza oven, making

perfect pies to enjoy al fresco at the adjacent picnic tables or to-go. The Pizza Wagon offers traditional favorites including Margherita and Pepperoni, as well as unique creations like the Italian Cowboy with barbeque sauce and smoked bacon and the Greek with toasted feta and olives.

### **Take a Foodie Field Trip**

Tour company Foodie Field Trips Utah kicks off its season this month. The company keeps guests in-the-know on the best sips and bites in Greater Zion with guided walking and dining tours of historic downtown St. George. On the tour, guests enjoy some iconic Utah foods with seven stops to sip, sample, sightsee and shop. Advance reservations are required.

## **Zion National Park Updates**

### **Seasonal Lottery for Angels Landing Hike Permits Opens April 1**

The National Park Service issues permits to hike Angels Landing in Zion National Park. The program launched last year in an effort to protect the trail, which is one of the most popular in the park. Visitors can obtain a permit by entering one of four seasonal lotteries or a lottery the day before their planned hike. Hikers hoping to visit between June 1 and August 31 should plan to enter the seasonal lottery that opens on April 1 and closes on April 20. The permit is only required for the half-mile, chained section of Angels Landing. All 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. Find links to apply for a permit and learn about the trail at [go.nps.gov/AngelsLanding](https://go.nps.gov/AngelsLanding).

### **Seasonal Climbing Closures**

Climbing routes on cliffs used by nesting raptors in Zion National Park began a seasonal closure on March 1. Raptors, including California condors and peregrine falcons, are especially sensitive to being disturbed while they nest. If disturbed, a nesting pair may abandon their nest site and not return until the following year. Climbers are asked to check the [Seasonal Climbing Closures webpage](#) for updates.

### **For More Information**

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

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*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](mailto:GreaterZionPR@myprco.com) (970) 949-7919