



Media Tipsheet

Greater Zion Summer in Full Swing with New Golf Course and New PGA, LPGA Tour Stops

St. George, Utah – July 31, 2023 – [Greater Zion](#), located in the southwest corner of Utah, offers more than 2,400 square miles of adventure and inspiration. This summer the destination is in full swing with the new Black Desert Resort Golf Course now fully open and a newly announced PGA Tour stop arriving in 2024 with the LPGA Tour coming in 2025.

The Black Desert Resort Golf Course is one of 14 top-rated golf courses offering scenic and challenging play in Greater Zion. Beyond the links, the area also includes Zion National Park, the second most-visited national park in the United States, 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, world-class cultural performances at Tuacahn Center for the Arts and so much more.

Golf News

Black Desert Resort Golf Course Open

The new [Black Desert Resort Golf Course](#) in Ivins is now open to the public. Dropped amid ancient black lava fields, the course's emerald fairways and greens are set against a red-rock backdrop, making for an awe-inspiring golf setting. The 19-hole, par-72 course was designed by the late Tom Weiskopf. The golf course is part of the 600-acre Black Desert Resort, which is set to include a 150-room hotel, 80,000 square-feet of restaurant and retail space, an expansive resort pool and more. Black Desert Resort is set to open the hotel and many additional amenities in 2024. Guests currently can play at Black Desert while staying at lodging partner Red Mountain Resort, which is conveniently located across the street from the course. Red Mountain Resort is an all-encompassing wellness resort that also offers packages that include golf at Black Desert.

PGA Tour Competition Coming to Greater Zion

The world's most prestigious professional golfers are coming to Greater Zion to test their skills at the new Black Desert Resort Golf Course. The PGA recently announced a new tour stop at Black Desert, kicking off in October 2024. The Black Desert Championship will mark the first time in more than 60 years that the PGA Tour has stopped in Utah and is to be part of the FedEx Cup fall series.

LPGA Tour Competition Coming to Greater Zion in 2025

Black Desert Resort Golf Course will also welcome the LPGA Tour in 2025. It has been more than 60 years since Utah hosted a professional-level LPGA event, but that will all change in May 2025. Currently, there are only two other golf courses in the country that host both PGA and LPGA Tour events.

Lodging & Dining News

Zion Utah Jellystone Park Opening Fall 2023

The first phase of Zion Utah Jellystone Park is set to open in Hurricane this fall. The extensive 54-acre park will offer a variety of ways to stay including 11 rental cabins and 74 campsites. Guests will also be able to enjoy a wide range of amenities including a 1.5-acre lagoon, sandy beach, waterslides, lazy river, sports courts and more.

LOGE Camp Coming to St. George

A new outpost of the outdoor adventure focused lodging brand LOGE Camp is set to open in downtown St. George late 2023. LOGE Camps are known for offering a variety of lodging styles to accommodate varying budgets, as well as easy access to outdoor recreation including Greater Zion's four state parks, world-renowned mountain biking and more.

Zion Vineyards Tasting Room Now Open

The new Zion Vineyards Tasting Room, located in Leeds, is now open, welcoming guests daily from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Walk-ins are welcome. Tastings cost \$25 per person and the facility is a 21-and-over establishment. The vineyard is part of the Utah Wine Trail, which includes five vineyards, four of which are located in Greater Zion, all within a short drive of one another.

Strap Tank Brewery Coming to St. George

Utah-based restaurant and brewery Strap Tank Brewery is coming to St. George. Known for unique décor that highlights vintage motorcycles alongside a seasonal pub menu and craft beer, this will be Strap Tank Brewery's third outlet in the state. Strap Tank will be the third brewery to open in St. George since 2019.

Silver Reef Brewing Co. Opens New Restaurant

Silver Reef Brewing Co., the largest craft brewery in Southern Utah, is opening Silver Reef Craft Kitchen this month. The new restaurant will serve appetizers, sandwiches and entrees. The portions are generous and many feature Silver Reef beers such as the BBQ Beer Burger or Pretzel Bites with beer cheese. Rounding out the menu are cocktails made with Silver Reef distilled spirits, and a mocktail menu featuring hand-crafted non-alcoholic beverages. Silver Reef is serving lunch and dinner 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. daily and is open to guests of all ages.

Visitor & Cultural News

New Greater Zion Visitor Center Now Open

The new Greater Zion Visitor Center is now open and welcoming guests Monday-Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Located on the first floor of the new four-story Washington County Administration Building at 111 East Tabernacle Street in downtown St. George, the Greater Zion Visitor Center offers a number of dynamic and interactive exhibits that help bring the area to life for guests. Exhibits include an interactive map of the area, a model of a slot canyon and more to help visitors understand how to recreate responsibly in Greater Zion's unique ecosystem. The Visitor Center also houses the Red Cliffs Desert Reserve Discovery Center, which includes a number

of desert animals that were rescued or require rehabilitation. Animal inhabitants include desert tortoises, a Gila monster, snakes, salamanders, a scorpion and tarantula.

Renovated Historic St. George Utah Temple Set to Welcome Visitors this Fall

Originally built in 1877, the St. George Utah Temple of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints was the first temple completed in Utah and is the oldest operating temple in the Church. The pioneer-era temple closed in November 2019 for renovations and will reopen this fall for a public open house prior to rededication. The project included seismic upgrades and structural reinforcements to the stone foundation along with a new addition to the west side of the building. A brides' exit and plaza were added along with a baptistry entrance and exit. The temple is set to host an open house Sept. 15 through Nov. 11, excluding all Sundays and Saturday, Sept. 30. The last time the temple was open to the general public was a 10-day period in 1975 when more than 83,000 guests toured the facility. The St. George Utah Temple typically is only accessible to practicing members of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, as will be the case following the rededication.

Construction continues at the Red Cliffs Temple, also located in St. George, which broke ground in 2020. Dates for a public open house of that property are expected to be announced as it is completed.

Event News

St. George Marathon, Oct. 7, 2023

Beginning in 1977, the [St. George Marathon](#) has grown to become one of the 20 largest marathons in the country. Featuring more than 7,000 athletes who begin their journey at the edge of the Dixie National Forest and the crisp Pine Valley mountains, marathoners 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.

Huntsman World Senior Games, Oct. 9-21, 2023

The [Huntsman World Senior Games](#), the largest annual multi-sport event in the world for athletes 50 and older, will celebrate its 36th anniversary this year. The games feature more than 11,000 athletes from across the globe, competing in over 30 sports, contested in venues throughout Greater Zion. Athletes compete in pickleball, cycling, triathlon, basketball, softball, rugby, horseshoes and more.

Zion National Park Updates

Free Programs Offered Daily Through Mid-September

Zion National Park is offering a variety of daily programs free to guests through mid-September. Programs include Junior Ranger events, guided hikes, ranger-led shuttle rides, campfire/evening programs and more. For a complete list and registration details, please visit Zion National Park's [Calendar of Events](#).

Water Hikes in Greater Zion

The Narrows in Zion National Park is now open, following a mid-April to June closure due to high water flow. Officials encourage guests visiting The Narrows to be prepared and check weather reports before entering the Virgin River or any canyons that lead to it. In addition to The Narrows, Greater Zion offers several alternative hikes for guests seeking water. Options include

Water Canyon, a 3.3-mile hike near Hildale and the Red Reef Trail, a 1.3-mile hike in Red Cliffs Desert Reserve.

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