





National Park Service  
U.S. Department of Interior

Grand Canyon National Park  
Backcountry Information Center  
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## 2008 Winter Backcountry Permits

Your permit request should arrive at the Backcountry Information Center at least 21 days prior to the start of your hike to ensure enough time to process your request. Any remaining sites will be given out in person at the Backcountry Information Center. **Many North Rim trailheads and viewpoints are closed or not accessible in the winter. Expect icy trail conditions January, February and March!** The advance reservation totals below do not include last minute walk-in permits.

	Bright Angel Campground (CBG)	Indian Garden Campground (CIG)	Cottonwood Campground (CCG)
<b>Dec 2008</b>	44% full	34% full	12% full*
<b>Jan 2009</b>	19% full	16% full	5% full*
<b>Feb 2009</b>	19% full	20% full	5% full*
<b>Mar 2009</b>	82% full	84% full	31% full*

\* North Kaibab trailhead not accessible by vehicle until mid-May 2009.

Bright Angel full Dec 27 and 29. Indian Garden and Bright Angel 99% full Mar 10-31.

### Options for hikers who are unable to obtain a permit in advance:

**Last Minute Permits/Waitlist:** Several campsites in Bright Angel, Indian Garden, and Cottonwood Campgrounds are made available each morning for the next day. For best chance of success arrive at Grand Canyon National Park two or more days before you wish to backpack. Go to the Backcountry Information Center and get a waitlist number. Return to the Backcountry Information Center by 8 a.m. the next morning. Campsites are awarded to the lowest numbers present. Those who do not obtain a permit the first morning will receive a lower waitlist number for the following morning.

**Day Hike:** No permit needed to day hike. Be prepared for winter hiking conditions. In-step crampons may be necessary and can be purchased from the South Rim general store for around \$10. Weather and trail conditions are variable and change dramatically from one year to the next. Plan Ahead and Prepare.

### Non-Corridor Permit Updates:

- Hermit, Monument, and Indian Garden are available all nights in December. Salt and Horn are booked for about half of the nights in December.

**North Rim (Kaibab Plateau/ Highway 67/ North Kaibab Trailhead):** **The North Rim of Grand Canyon National Park is closed and will not be accessible by vehicle until it reopens, tentatively mid-May 2009.** The North Rim campground is available for winter camping, and is accessible via inner canyon trails from the South Rim or by cross-country skiing and snowshoeing – a 45 mile trip from Jacob Lake. To camp at the North Rim during the winter months, visitors will need a backcountry permit, which can be obtained from the Backcountry Information Center located at the South Rim of Grand Canyon National Park. Backcountry permits for North Rim winter camping are also available at Pipe Spring National Monument in Fredonia, Arizona, or at the Bureau of Land Management District Office in St. George, Utah; however, you must obtain your permit in person and several days in advance at these locations.

For information on trail conditions and situations affecting the backcountry of Grand Canyon National Park visit [www.nps.gov/grca/planyourvisit/trail-closures.htm](http://www.nps.gov/grca/planyourvisit/trail-closures.htm)

December 9, 2008