

TRAVEL

WHERE YOUR JOURNEY BEGINS



PLACES TO VISIT IN A LONG WEEKEND
ARIZONA - UTAH EDITION



LONG WEEKEND ROAD TRIP

WRITTEN BY JEYMMYZAMBRANO

Nevada is located very strategically, in my opinion. Oregon borders it to the northwest, Idaho to the northeast, California to the west, Arizona to the southeast, and Utah to the east. If you love road trips as I do, you will definitely love living in Las Vegas. This TRAVEL edition will give you a suggested itinerary for a long weekend trip and places to visit in the

borderline of Utah and Arizona within a few hours of driving from Las Vegas. Since it's just one extra day for the long weekend, but I bet you are still eager to visit places that you might never have been before, here you have a plan to do fun stuff, starting your drive on a Friday evening and returning on a Monday morning.

ITINERARY

Friday:

- Departure time: 5pm to Page, Az (4.5 hours drive)
- Arrival at an Airbnb: around 10 pm

Saturday:

- Wake up time: 7 am
- Departure to Goulding Arch: 8 am (It's a 2 hours drive from Page, AZ)
Goulding Arch Hike: 10:30 am (you can enjoy the Hike and the Arch and stay there for an hour or so)
- Lunch: 12 pm
- Drive back to Page: 1pm (2 hours driving)
- ETA to Page: 3 pm. Relaxation time: 1 hour
- Horseshoe Bend: 4:40 (start hike) 30 - 35 minutes hike... Wait for sunset, and you can try to stay a little longer to watch the stars. Trust me, it's worth it!
Dinner: 7pm
- Go back to Airbnb: around 8 pm.
Relax!

Sunday:

- Wake up time: 7am.
- Departure to Toadstool Hoodoos: 8am (it's a 30 minutes drive from Page, AZ)
Arrival time: 8:30 am
- Start to drive to Wire Pass Trailhead: 11am (40 min drive)
- Arrival time to Wire Pass: 11:40 am
Hike (2.5 - 3 hours hike) until 2:30 pm
Make a quick lunch in the car
- Start to drive to White Pocket: 2:30pm (travel time: 1 hour)
- Arrival time at White Pocket: 3 pm
Enjoy this fantastic place, and you can actually wait for sunset there! You will be amazed! You might need headlamps or a flashlight to go back to the car.
- Dinner: 6 pm
- Drive back to Page, Az: 7pm ETA to Page 8:30
- Relax!

Monday:

- Wake up time: 9 am Breakfast: 9:30 am
- Departure time to Las Vegas: 10:30 am
Arrival time: Las Vegas 3:30 pm



PLACES TO VISIT

GOULDING ARCH

This 0.6 miles roundtrip hike will take you to an arch that doesn't get as much recognition as it is right across the street from Monument Valley Road, dragging you into the park. This Hike starts at the Gouldings Campground and is well marked. Once you get into the campground parking, you will see the signs directing you to the arch. Just follow the signs and hike the 0.3 miles to the base of the beautiful Goulding Arch. Don't freak out if you don't see the arch right away, as it blends in with the rock background, but look to your right, and you'll see it. When you're done, use the trail back the same way you came. This Hike is straightforward, and doesn't require high skill levels, and can be done at any time of the year.

WHITE POCKET

You probably won't understand how remote this place is until you finally get to the trailhead. It has a large parking area, but you won't ever see more than a couple of cars. This is a great place to visit, very similar to the famous "The Wave" but the cool thing is that it does not require any permit to hike it. If you're looking for solitude, this is your place to go. While White Pocket has been getting more media attention lately, it is still far enough off the main highway to limit visitors' number. You will need a 4x4 to get to the parking area. There is a sandy trail that leads about 100 yards from the parking area. After that, there is no set trail, as you are free to explore along the colorful Slickrock. You can easily spend several hours exploring the formations tucked in and around White Pocket. You can take amazing pictures there, trust me!



TOADSTOOL HOODOOS

Toadstools Hoodoos is a short hike that will take you to unique rock formations through a sandy wash that is an excellent hike to do, and it will only take an hour. Almost the entire Hike is walking in a dry, sandy wash. The sand can be deep in some places, making you slow your pace, but the Hike is not challenging. Two things to consider: 1) There is NO shade along the trail, so take enough water with you and apply sunscreen. I would suggest bringing sunglasses and a hat. Trust me, even though it's such a short hike, you'll roast. 2) Stay in the wash as much as you can. The wash may wind around a little more than you'd like and be a bit more sandy than if you walked along the top of the bank, but erosion is a significant problem here, and tramping plants and the cryptobiotic crust can devastate this fragile landscape. By staying in the wash, you'll minimize your impact.

After 0.8 miles from the trailhead, you will arrive at the first toadstools. They may not look exceptionally tall or impressive, but the rock's surrounding colors make great photos. Feel free to wander around the hoodoos, but do not climb them. Be sure to look around and see the landscape in all directions. You can see nearly every color of the rainbow. When you are ready to head back, retrace your steps through the dry wash to the trailhead parking area.



WIRE PASS TRAILHEAD

Wire Pass is a hike through a scenic slot canyon often overlooked due to its proximity to the very famous Wave. Unlike the "Wave," a permit is not required to make the Hike, only a day-use fee at the trailhead. Getting to the trailhead requires an 8-mile drive on a relatively well-maintained dirt road called House Rock Valley Road. A high clearance vehicle is not mandatory but would be a good idea.

Starting on the trail, follow the wash as it meanders along the desert as it will lead you right to the slot canyons of Wire Pass. There are a couple of small sections of the canyon that are a prelude to the main canyon. A short distance later and you enter into much taller and narrower sections that highlight the Hike. The Hike's only major obstacle comes up pretty quickly in this section of The Wire Pass slot canyon. A 7-8 foot drop that isn't too bad going down, but coming back up can be a challenge if alone. If you lack experience in this kind of hiking, you could turn around at this point.

Following the tightest part of the slot canyon, the walls open up to the massive intersection of Buckskin Gulch. Here you will find the enormous arch in the wall, and at the south end, there are even some Petroglyphs to see as well.





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HORSESHOE BEND

THE MOST RECOGNIZED AND VISITED
PLACES IN GLEN CANYON NATIONAL
RECREATION AREA.

The Hike to the overlook is a gentle slope of 1.5 miles roundtrip over flat terrain. The trail is wide, easy for low-impact walkers, and accessible to wheelchairs. It has two shade stations along the way. As with any hike, be prepared with plenty of water, sturdy footwear, sunscreen, and other bare hiking essentials. Know that there is little shade along the Horseshoe Bend Trail.

**EVERYONE
WANTS TO LIVE
ON TOP OF
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BUT ALL THE
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ANDY ROONEY

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