



# Call of the Canyon

## Winter Calendar of Events

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### Sunset Hike

Explore the twilight sights and sounds of the canyon during a one-mile, roundtrip hike.

Fri., 1/5, 5:00-6:30 pm

Fri., 2/9, 5:30-7:00 pm

### Nature Sketch Hike

Explore the fun of sketching nature and learn how to make a new connection with the canyon on this short nature hike.

Fri., 1/12, 4:00-5:30 pm

### Star Walk:

#### Winter Circle

Join us for a stroll under the stars and explore the 'Winter Circle'—a bright pattern of stars adorning our chilly skies!

Fri., 1/19, 6:30-8:00 pm

### Moonlit Hike

Join park staff for a moonlit, two-mile hike. Enjoy the unique opportunity to see the canyon by moon-glow!

Fri., 1/26, 6:00-7:30 pm

Sat., 1/27 6:00-7:30 pm

### Star Walk:

#### North Star

Join us for a stroll under the stars and learn more about our north star and its neighboring constellations.

Fri., 2/2, 6:30-8:00 pm

### Lava Tube Hike

Join park staff for a two-mile, roundtrip hike and the chance to explore the unique formations of a lava tube!

Sat., 2/17, 1:00-2:30 pm

Sat., 3/10, 1:00-2:30 pm

### Playing With Fire

Knowing how to start and build fires is an essential part of any survival situation.

From modern to primitive learn about and try your hand at different techniques.

Not recommended for children under 10.

Sat., 2/24, 11:00 am-Noon

### West Canyon

#### Discovery Hike

Join us on this two-mile, roundtrip walk with a ranger and talk about the discoveries we make along the way—you can even bring your canine pal.

Sat., 3/3, 8:30-10:00 am

*All listed events are free and open to the public. Space is limited; registration required. **Program registration is held two days preceding the scheduled event.***

*Register by phone or in person. For more information or to register for a program contact park staff at (435) 628-2255.*

*A snowflake is  
winter's butterfly.*

— Author Unknown

**Snow Canyon State Park**



## Snow Canyon State Park

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### ***Utah State Parks:***

*Providing opportunities to enhance the quality of life by preserving natural, cultural, and recreational resources for the enjoyment, education, and inspiration of this and future generations.*

***The color of springtime is in the flowers, the color of winter is in the imagination.***

~Terri Guillemets

## Transitions

If it has been awhile since you had the pleasure of exploring the Scout Cave trail, winter is a wonderful opportunity to get re-acquainted with this stroll through time. As you leave the trailhead pause and consider the landscape before you—with just a few more steps and a little imagination, you are about to cross a threshold to the past.

Most obvious, is the expansive lava field spread before you. While walking through the skyward-reaching arms of creosote, stop a moment to take in the views—both north and south—that show the magnitude of this most recent volcanic event. One of three flows in the park, this is the youngest rock in the canyon (carbon-dated 26,000 years ago). Originating from the Santa Clara cinder cone, one mile north of the north entrance, its molten path, now a hardened record in time, occasionally glints fiery in the sun—reminiscent of its heat-born nature.

Further down the trail, the rounded, red Navajo sandstone towers above. These hardened sentinels are so dissimilar to the ever-shifting sea of sand they were born from more than 180 million years ago. Massive, striated forms attest to the vastness and depth of these ancient dunes. Blown by wind, fine quartz sand traveled up the dune face to its crest, and eventually slid down the backside of the dune creating the linear, cross-beds prevalent throughout this feature. Repetition of this process over time, combined with weight and pressure, was the shaping force of this formation—a record of its wind-born origins.

Looking across the ravine to the base of the Navajo sandstone, you may observe a distinct change or shift from the soft, curving sandstone above to the blocky, step-like foundation below. This visible shift marks the transition from the Navajo layer to the Kayenta formation. Formed roughly 10 million years before the Navajo layer by the repetition of crisscrossing rivers and streams; layer upon layer of mud and silt constructed and shaped this oldest visible rock in the canyon. Long gone are the lush plants, roaming dinosaurs and cooler temperatures of this Jurassic world. If you look close in the ravine's banded walls below, can you find hints of its dynamic, water-born past?

Take a moment to reflect on where you are. Consider not only the beauty of these startling rock formations, but also the passages of time they represent. Before returning to the pavement and the present, pause and appreciate the scope of this walk through time.

