



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Grand Canyon National Park

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Grand Canyon News Release

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ENTRANCE FEES TO INCREASE AT GRAND CANYON NATIONAL PARK

Grand Canyon, AZ - The entrance fees for Grand Canyon National Park will increase beginning May 1, 2006. The increase is the first in almost ten years and will continue to help the park with repair and maintenance projects.

The entrance fee increase applies to the per-person and single, private vehicle entrance permits, as well as the Grand Canyon annual park pass. Commercial tour fees remain the same as last year.

The fees to be changed are:	Current Fee	New Fee
Private vehicle – entrance pass is good for 7 days for North and South Rims	\$20	\$25
Per person – entrance pass is good for 7 days for North and South Rims	\$10	\$12
Annual Grand Canyon Pass	\$40	\$50

The National Parks Pass is still available for \$50.00. This pass is valid for 12 months from the date of purchase, and allows admission to any National Park Service site that charges an entrance fee. This pass can be upgraded with the purchase of a \$15 Golden Eagle sticker to include other federal recreation areas that require an entrance fee. Golden Age Passports, a lifetime pass for those citizens or permanent residents of the U.S. who are age 62 or older, are still available for a \$10 one-time fee, and Golden Access Passports, a lifetime pass, are still available free to citizens or permanent residents of the U.S. who are legally blind or permanently disabled.

Congress established an annual fee demonstration program for national parks in 1996 that allowed each park in the program to retain up to 80 percent of the fees collected. The remaining 20 percent is made available to parks that don't collect an entrance fee. The money is used for construction and rehabilitation projects that focus on visitor health, safety and enjoyment. This program was replaced by the Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act in 2004 extending the program for ten years.

All parks are required to review their fee rates, complete a comparability study, conduct public outreach and receive approval from the Director of the National Park Service and the Secretary of the Interior's office prior to increasing fees. Grand Canyon completed its review of the entrance fee, and based on comparability studies received approval to make the changes.

The park has participated in the fee program since 1997 and has completed a variety of projects with the money retained in the park. Projects include:

- Construction of Canyon View Information Plaza (CVIP) - the park's visitor orientation center
- Construction of South Rim Emergency Services Building
- Rehabilitation of Mather Campground
- Repair and stabilize backcountry trails and river sites
- Rehabilitation of the Historic Ranger Operations Building
- Reconstruction of the park's Backcountry Information Center

A portion of the fees will be used in the planning, compliance and implementation of a visitor transportation system for the South Rim area of the park. The park announced earlier this week that it will begin to prepare a transportation plan and environmental assessment that will guide the development of a park transportation system that would reduce overall vehicle traffic in the Grand Canyon Village, reduce long waits at the entrance station, improve directional signing, improve visitor access to CVIP and improve visitor experience.

New projects that will also benefit from fee money include construction of the North Rim Emergency Services and Wildland Fire Facility, Yavapai Observation Station rehabilitation and the construction, repair or replacement of restrooms throughout the park.

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