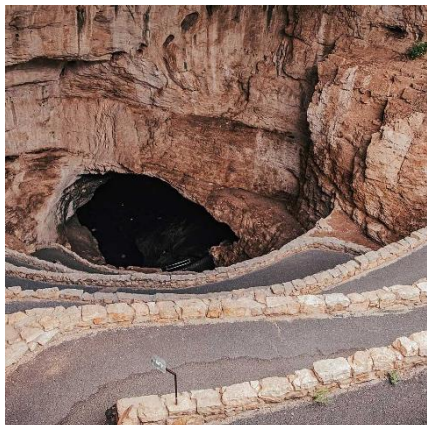


Virtual Program – Outdoors

Week 8: Virtual Park Tours

All Ages

Have you taken a virtual park tour yet? No? Then now is the time! Visiting National and State parks is a great privilege that Americans have. And with privilege comes responsibility – we have to be kind to nature and to each other to maintain these beautiful areas.



Carlsbad Caverns



Chaco Canyon

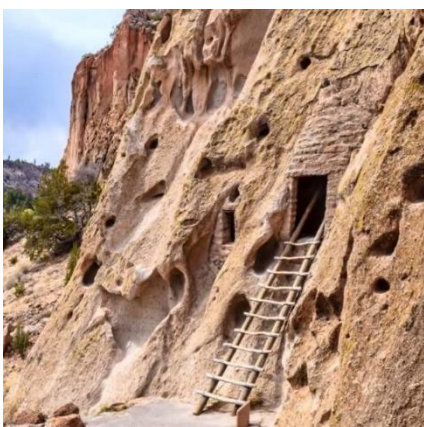


White Sands

Learn more about National and State parks by taking virtual tours, reading about their history, and exploring their volunteer groups. How are people already giving back to the parks? What areas do they need help in? Some places are even doing virtual interviews and peaks into the lives and history of their Park Rangers on social media!



Valles Caldera



Bandelier



Petroglyph

“From digitally diving under the sea to watching the cherry blossom trees bloom, there are countless ways to #FindYourPark / #EncuentraTuParque online.” (from National Park Foundation blog post)



Take a National Park Tour

- National Parks Service list of virtual resources and park tours: <https://www.nps.gov/subjects/npscelebrates/find-your-virtual-park.htm>
- National Parks Foundation list of Virtual Tours: <https://www.nationalparks.org/connect/blog/take-virtual-visit-national-park>
- National Parks in NM: <https://www.nps.gov/state/nm/index.htm>
- (see all US Nat'l Parks in 1 Min) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lva1m8cl9-Q>

- Take a State Specific Park Tour (can't find a virtual tour? Explore their Park Page!)
 - NM State Parks website: <http://www.emnrd.state.nm.us/SPD/>
 - Heart of a Ranger social media campaign: <http://www.emnrd.state.nm.us/SPD/heartofaranger.html>

- Record a "tour" of your house as if it was a National Park (don't forget to include your pets and family as the wildlife!) and share it with the rest of GSNMT via social media.

- Pick a State or National Park within your state and explore more about how you can get involved!
 - Learn about Hiking Etiquette: <https://americanhiking.org/resources/hiking-etiquette/>
 - Test your Leave No Trace skills: <https://lnt.org/get-involved/training-courses/online-awareness-course/>

- Plan a hiking or backpacking trip with your troop for when State and National Parks reopen
 - Get tips and tricks from All Women All Trails facebook group: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/allwomenalltrails/>

Ways to Maintain Trails while hiking/backpacking:

1. Please don't take shortcuts.
2. Stay on the trail as much as possible.
3. Leave no trace rules apply.
4. Avoid hiking when it's muddy; if you do hike go **through** mud and puddles, and not around, to avoid "trail braiding" (where one trails becomes several smaller trails).
5. Don't make or take apart cairns (rock stacks).
6. No turd blossoms on the trail or next to it.
7. Carry a trash bag with you.
8. Move downed branches and other natural litter off the trail.
9. Know what's allowed and what's not on the trail.
10. Know who's responsible for the area.
11. Report trail blockages and problems.
12. Join your local trail organization.
13. If you MUST bring you dog, keep it on a leash.

Don't forget to connect with us on social media!

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|------|------------------------|------|-------------------------------------|
| ---> | Insta: @nmgirlscouts | ---> | Facebook: facebook.com/nmgirlscouts |
| ---> | Twitter: @nmgirlscouts | ---> | Website www.nmgirlscouts.org |

Have further questions or comments to make? Let us know by emailing customer care@nmgirlscouts.org