

Frequently Asked Questions on Timed Entry Permit System at Red Rock Canyon National Conservation Area

Why is Red Rock Canyon National Conservation Area implementing a Timed Entry Permit System?

On November 3, 2020, Red Rock Canyon National Conservation Area (RRCNCA) implemented a timed entry system to improve access, the visitor experience and to better protect natural and cultural resources. This system will more safely manage the pace and flow of visitor use, reduce crowding, and provide an improved visitor experience commensurate with RRCNCA's safe operational capacity.

RRCNCA is the most visited National Conservation Area in the country with over 3.5 million visitors in 2019. Visitors experience a high level of congestion in many areas of the Red Rock Canyon Scenic Drive area from October through May.

How do I create an account in Recreation.gov?

It's easy! Go to [Recreation.gov](https://www.recreation.gov) and click on "Sign Up" in the top right corner. From there, follow the prompts to create an account. You must have an account to make a reservation and we recommend creating your account well in advance of purchasing your reservation.

How do I make a reservation?

Once you set up an account you will select the day of your visit and your preferred time, add it to your cart and make the payment. [Visit the Recreation.gov Help Center article](#) for more details on purchasing a reservation.

You will receive an email confirmation with an attached reservation. Print out a copy of your reservation. If you are planning to access an outlying area outside of the Red Rock Canyon Scenic Drive you do not need a reservation.

How far in advance can I make my reservation?

Reservations will go on sale through [Recreation.gov](https://www.recreation.gov) at 7 a.m. Pacific Time on

Tuesday, October 13, 2020. Those reservations will be for November 3, 2020 through May 31. Reservations can be made up to 30 days in advance of your planned visit to the Red Rock Canyon Scenic Drive.

Reservations will be released in two booking windows:

- **Primary Booking Window:** Reservations will be available up to a month in advance daily at 7 a.m. PT.
- **Secondary Booking Window:** Additional reservations will also be available two days in advance starting at 7 a.m. PT. Example: On November 1, new reservations will be available for November 3; on November 2 new reservations will be available for November 4.

What times will the permits be issued for?

The timed entry system will provide for advanced daily reservations for vehicles. The booking system will be for arrivals, at the top of every hour beginning at 8 a.m. through 5 p.m. with an allowance for a 30-minute early arrival and 30 minutes late arrival. For example, 8-9 a.m., 9-10 a.m., 10-11 a.m., etc. If a 9 a.m. entry was purchased a visitor can arrive between 8:30 am and 9:30 a.m.

Can I leave at any time?

Yes. There is no length-of-stay requirement, you may leave at any time. The only restriction is on when you can enter the Red Rock Canyon Scenic Drive. You must enter within your reserved 1-hour window.

Do annual/senior pass holders have to get a permit?

Yes. A timed entry reservation is needed to enter the Scenic Drive even if you have an existing pass. Annual passes are for the payment of entrance fees. All Scenic Drive visitors will need to participate in the reservation system to ensure visitation is within appropriate capacity levels.

Can I resell or transfer my reservation?

No. All permits are non-transferable.

Does the Timed Entry Permit System apply to all areas of Red Rock National Conservation Area?

No. A timed entry permit is required to enter the Red Rock Canyon Scenic Drive from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. October 1 – May 31.

If I am visiting Red Rock Canyon Scenic Drive for two days, do I make a reservation for each day separately?

Yes. You will need to make a reservation for each day of your visit. To ensure that Red Rock Canyon stays within appropriate capacity levels visitors must have a reservation for each day of their visit. This allows Red Rock Canyon to have an accurate visitor count for each day.

How flexible is the reservation system? Is there any possibility of getting a pass at the last minute?

The reservation system does allow for some limited last-minute reservations. They may go very quickly. Some reservations will be made available two days prior and will be available up to the timed entry window they are for, provided they have not been all reserved. Those reservations will go on sale at 7 a.m. PT two days prior to the date of visit, but again, those may go rapidly.

I don't have a computer and/or smart phone. Can I pick this permit up and/or purchase this in person?

All timed entry reservations can be made in advance on a smart phone or at the Red Rock Canyon Scenic Drive Fee Booth. However, during peak times, visitors will be turned away if reservations have all been reserved.

How does the permit system apply to those with campground reservations?

Visitors with campground reservations will still be required to reserve timed entry into the Red Rock Canyon Scenic Drive.

With a reservation, am I guaranteed a parking place and access to all areas within the Red Rock Canyon Scenic Drive?

No. Your timed entry reservation permit guarantees your access to the Scenic Drive on that day and during that time window. The reservation only applies to access to the drive, it does not guarantee access to all parking areas. The most popular parking areas and trailheads could still experience vehicle restrictions due to parking limitations and congestion.

What if I just want to drive through the Scenic Drive and not stop to recreate or use facilities or services?

All visitors to the Scenic Drive are required to obtain a reservation during peak-use seasons and times.

How does this apply to Special Recreation Permits?

Commercial visits and Special Recreation Permit holders must obtain a timed entry reservation for their trips into the Scenic Drive.

Do bicycles have to get permits?

At this time, if you are entering the Scenic Drive via bicycle you will not need a timed entry reservation, however you will need to pay the appropriate entrance fees at the entrance stations or display a valid pass for entry.