



MESA VERDE NATIONAL PARK

TRIP PLANNER



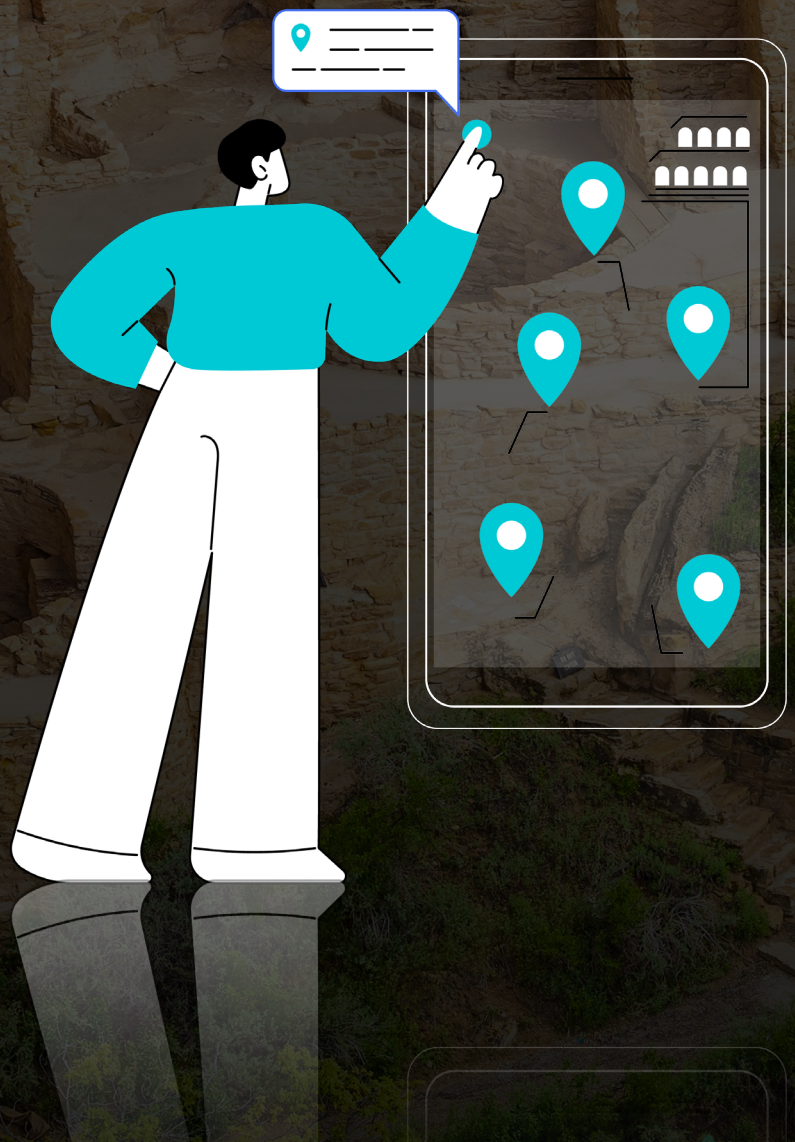
30 Miles



2-3 Hours

TRIP PLANNER

- Must-See Points
- Best Hikes (Quick, Moderate)
- Itineraries (One Day, Two Days)
- Where to Stay
- Know Before You Go
- Packing List



MUST-SEE POINTS

MANCOS
(SOUTHBOUND)

START



Montezuma Valley
Overlook



Mancos Valley
Overlook



Far View
Reservoir



Park Point



Cliff Palace



Petroglyph Point Trail



Sun Temple



Balcony House



Square Tower House

BEST HIKES



PARK POINT
OVERLOOK TRAIL



Easy



0.5 Miles



10 Mins



SQUARE
TOWER HOUSE



Easy



0.2 Miles



10 Mins



FAR VIEW
SITES COMPLEX



Easy



0.8 Miles



20 Mins



STEP HOUSE
TRAIL



Moderate



0.8 Miles



20 Mins



PETROGLYPH
POINT TRAIL



Moderate



2.7 Miles



1-2 Hours



POINT
LOOKOUT TRAIL



Moderate



2.1 Miles



1 Hour

ITINERARIES

You can enjoy the park at your own pace with the self-guided audio tour from Action Tour Guide.

This flexible tour can be completed in one day or spread over multiple days. Since it is valid for one year and offers unlimited usage, you don't have to worry about seeing everything in one visit.

ONE-DAY ITINERARY:

- Begin your day by arriving early at the entrance of your choice. Make sure to download the Action Tour Guide app before leaving your accommodation and activate the tour.
- Drive along the park's main roads and make stops at the Must-See attractions highlighted on the tour:
 - Mancos Valley Overlook
 - Park Point
 - Montezuma Valley Overlook
 - Far View Reservoir
 - Petroglyph Point Trail
 - Cliff Palace
 - Balcony House
 - Square Tower House
 - Sun Point View
 - Sun Temple
- Embark on a few good and memorable hikes to fully experience the park's unique cultural and natural landscape. (See Hikes Section)
- Pause for a relaxing lunch at one of the park's scenic spots, like Mancos Valley Overlook or the Park Point, where you can enjoy stunning views while you unwind.
- As the day draws to a close, head to one of the scenic overlooks, such as Park Point Overlook to enjoy a beautiful sunset over the surrounding mesas and valleys.
- After finishing your Mesa Verde tour, consider exploring nearby destinations with our self-guided tours.
 - If you're heading west toward Durango, take the scenic [Million Dollar Highway](#) tour for breathtaking mountain views.
 - For those travelling north, visit [Arches National Park](#) or [Canyonlands National Park](#) to experience stunning red rock landscapes.
 - Heading south? Don't miss the iconic sandstone formations at [Monument Valley](#) on the Arizona-Utah border.
- Each tour offers a unique adventure in the Four Corners region! For more visit [Actiontourguide.com](https://www.actiontourguide.com).

WHERE TO STAY

A photograph of the main entrance sign for Mesa Verde National Park. The sign is a dark wooden board with orange lettering, mounted on a stone pillar. The text on the sign reads "ENTRANCE MESA VERDE NATIONAL PARK" in large letters, and "U.S. DEPT. OF INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE" in smaller letters below. The sign is flanked by two stone pillars and is set against a backdrop of green trees and a rocky cliff.

CORTEZ

Located just a 15-minute drive from the park's main entrance, Cortez offers a variety of accommodations, including hotels, motels, and campgrounds. It's a convenient base for exploring Mesa Verde.

MANCOS

A short 10-minute drive from the park's entrance, Mancos provides cozy bed & breakfasts, motels, and vacation rentals. This quaint town is an ideal starting point for exploring the park's sites and enjoying the local arts scene.

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO



ENTRANCE FEES: Requires a park pass, which is not included in the self-guided tour. [Review pass options.](#)



RESERVATION: Reservations are required for all the ranger-led [Cliff Dwelling](#) tours, [camping](#) or other activities which are not included in the self-guided tour. [Reserve here before your trip.](#)



OPERATING HOURS: Open 24 Hours. Year-Round. Partial closures or limited accessibility in winter due to snow. [Learn more before you go.](#)



ROAD CLOSURES: Unexpected weather or construction incidents can affect roads. While the tour is updated frequently to include detours, it cannot reflect up-to-the-minute updates. [Check before you leave.](#)



PARK RULES AND SAFETY: Stay on designated trails, camp in designated areas, and respect wildlife and natural resources by following the [Camping Rules and Regulations](#). Follow all NPS [Laws and Policies](#). Be familiar with the park's [Safety Guidelines](#).

PACKING LIST



Binoculars



Hat & Glasses



First Aid Kit



Snacks



Portable Charger



Phone Holder



Gas



Bear Spray



Insect Repellent



Sunscreen



Water



Hiking Boots