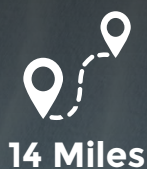




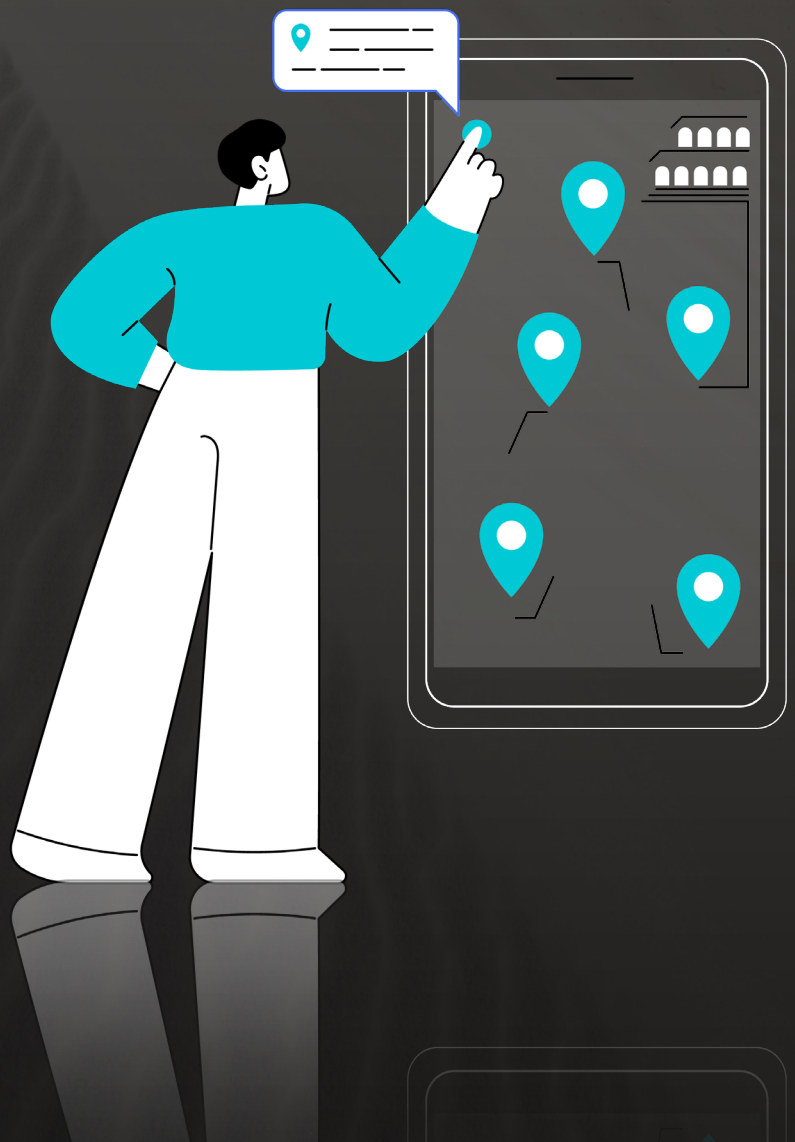
WHITE SANDS NATIONAL PARK

TRIP PLANNER

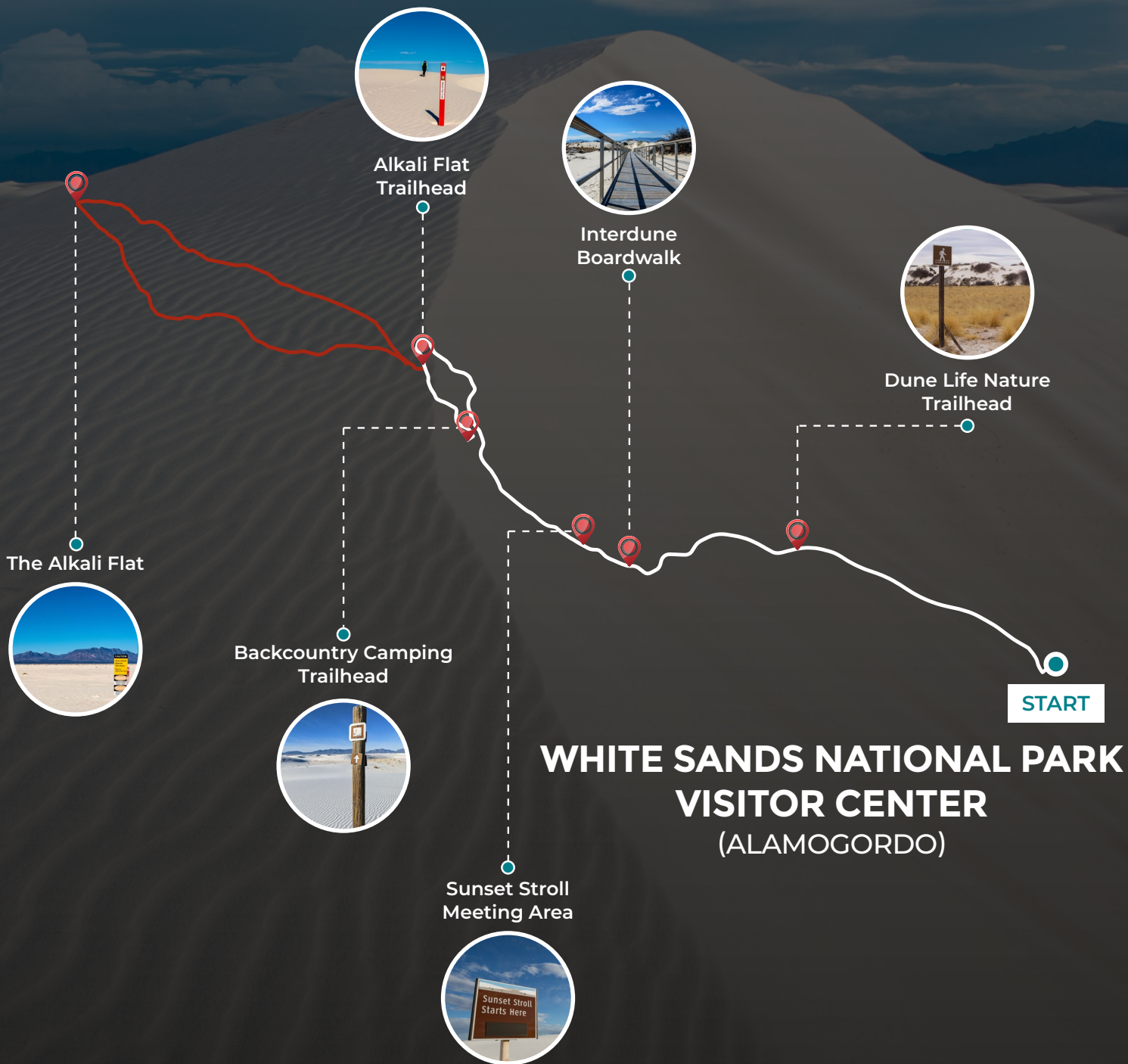


TRIP PLANNER

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



MUST-SEE POINTS



BEST HIKES



DUNE LIFE
NATURE TRAIL



0.9 Miles 20 Mins



INTERDUNE
BOARDWALK
[CLOSED]



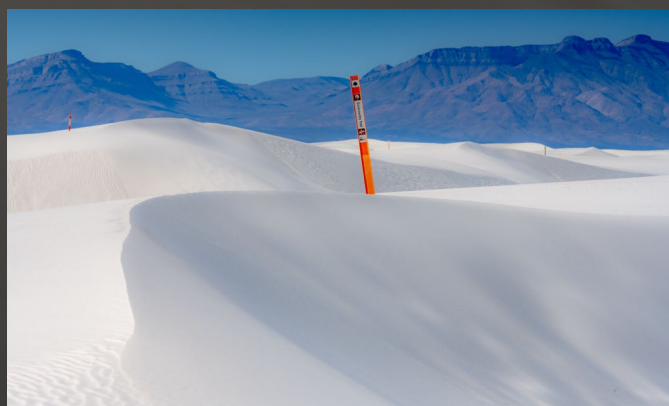
0.3 Miles 10 Mins



PLAYA TRAIL



0.3 Miles 10 Mins



BACKCOUNTRY
CAMPING TRAIL



1.6 Miles 30 Mins



ALKALI FLAT
TRAIL



4.4 Miles 3 Hours

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. 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:

- Start your day by entering White Sands National Park early in the morning. Ensure the app and tour are downloaded in advance, as cellular signal may be limited in some areas.
- Begin your visit with the driving portion of the tour, exploring the following must-see points (marked in the tour as "Must-See"):
 - Dune Life Nature Trailhead
 - Sunset Stroll Meeting Area
 - Alkali Flat Trail
 - The Alkali Flat
 - Backcountry Camping Trailhead
- Enjoy some fun sledding on the dunes, a unique and exciting way to experience the park's stunning landscape ([see sledding spots for details](#)) and plan a few hikes during the day, depending on your time and interest. (See Hikes section)
- Take a break and enjoy a picnic lunch at one of the designated picnic areas, such as the Sunset Stroll Meeting Area or Dune Life Nature Trailhead, to relax and take in the park's natural beauty.
- Park at the Alkali Flat Trailhead to begin the walking tour, following the red route on the map. After finishing the walking tour, head back to your car and continue the adventure by exploring the final trail of the tour, the Backcountry Camping Loop Trail.
- End your day with a relaxing drive to scenic viewpoints and enjoy the sunset over the dunes. If you're staying longer in New Mexico, explore more stunning landscapes and adventures with our [New Mexico Bundle](#). Discover more at [ActionTourGuide.com](#).

WHERE TO STAY



ALAMOGORDO

Located near the entrance of White Sands National Park, Alamogordo offers a range of accommodations, dining options, and attractions like the New Mexico Museum of Space History, making it a great base for exploring the park.

LAS CRUCES

About an hour's drive from White Sands National Park, Las Cruces is a larger city with a variety of hotels, restaurants, and attractions like the Organ Mountains, perfect for visitors seeking a mix of urban and natural experiences.

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO



ENTRANCE FEES: An entrance fee or valid park pass is required to visit White Sands National Park. [Review pass options.](#)



PERMITS & RESERVATIONS: Reservations are not required to enter White Sands National Park, but certain activities may require a reservation or special use permit. Backcountry camping at the park is temporarily closed due to rehabilitation of the campsite and does not have a date set for re-opening. [Reserve here before your trip.](#)



OPERATING HOURS: White Sands National Park is open year-round, 24 hours a day, with the park's operating hours from 7:00 am until sunset. [Learn more before you go.](#)



ROAD CLOSURES: Unexpected weather or construction incidents can affect roads. A safety corridor is in effect on Dunes Drive (mile 3–5.5). While driving through is allowed, stopping, parking, or exiting vehicles is prohibited. The Interdune Boardwalk trail is also closed. Military tests may close Dunes Drive. [Check for updates before your visit.](#)



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

PACKING LIST



Headphone



First Aid Kit



Water



Snacks



Portable Charger



Phone Holder



Gas



Binoculars



Hat & Glasses



Sunscreen



Hiking Boots



Extra Layers



Sled Saucer