

Yucca Valley: Sunny Days & Starry Nights



Yucca Valley and surroundings offer a variety of entertaining options for visitors whether your interests include nature and outdoor adventures, arts and culture, or history and heritage. There are so many enjoyable ways to experience the desert's stunning natural beauty, colorful history and lively art community! Enjoying a long weekend in the area? Following is a sample three-day itinerary of local attractions.

DAY 1

Begin the day at (1) **Black Rock Canyon**, located in the northwest corner of Joshua Tree National Park. This quiet campground is the starting point for multiple hiking trails surrounded by fascinating desert plant life, and wildlife sightings are frequent. The Visitor Center offers maps, books and nature guides. The Hi-View Nature Trail is a 1.3 mile interpreted walk identifying the desert flora and fauna.

Just minutes from Black Rock Canyon is downtown Yucca Valley and the (2) **Hi-Desert Nature Museum**. Enjoy their displays of gems and minerals, natural history dioramas, and Native American artifacts. This family-oriented educational center also boasts a mini-zoo and a Kids' Corner where children can play, read and color. An active schedule of temporary exhibits and programs makes your museum experience truly memorable.

Ready to enjoy lunch? Stop by the (3) **California Welcome Center** on your way to (4) **C&S Coffee Shop**, a popular diner known for their generous portions, or if you prefer sushi, the (5) **Kimi Grill** is a favorite with many locals.

Next is antiquing in (6) **Yucca Valley's Old Town District**.

Take home a souvenir of your desert vacation from one of the charming local antique shops such as Pioneer Crossing Antiques, Past Times Antiques, Route 62 Arts & Antiques, Mother Lode Antiques, and Tamma's Magic Mercantile.

Visit (7) **Desert Christ Park**, an iconic feature of Yucca Valley. Dedicated in 1951, the park is home to more than 40 large-scale concrete statues portraying scenes of Christ's life and teachings by artist Frank Antoine Martin.

Continue on to (8) **Pioneertown**, built in 1946 as a set for western movies starring Gene Autry and Roy Rogers. Take a walk along scenic Mane Street and on the weekends you may even see an old-time shootout!

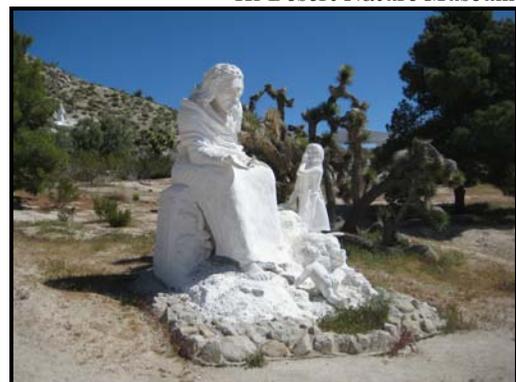
End the day at legendary (9) **Pappy & Harriet's Pioneertown Palace** for a dinner of mesquite BBQ while enjoying live music in this historic wild west watering hole. Musical entertainment includes diverse styles from bluegrass to country to rock 'n roll.



Joshua Tree National Park



Hi-Desert Nature Museum



Desert Christ Park



Pioneertown



Barker Dam, Joshua Tree National Park



Noah Purifoy Outdoor Desert Art Museum

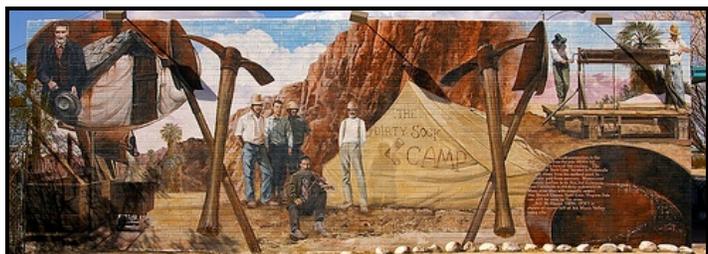


Old Schoolhouse Museum



29 Palms Inn

The Dirty Sock Camp Mural, 29 Palms



DAY 2

Start your day with breakfast at popular local eatery (10) **Paradise Café**, before setting off for an outdoor adventure in Joshua Tree National Park. Start your JTNP experience with a stop at the (11) **Joshua Tree Visitor Center** where you can find maps and useful information on hiking and driving tours of the park's fascinating landscapes and where to go for the best wildlife viewing. Barker Dam, Hidden Valley, and the Cholla Gardens are some recommended highlights. A ranger-led tour of historic Keys Ranch is popular with visitors.

For those less interested in desert ecology and more focused on cultural foraging, the Morongo Basin maintains an active community of artists. Local art galleries and the Morongo Basin Cultural Arts Council enhance the regional art scene with a variety of shows, programs and events. The yearly Hwy 62 Art Tours, held the last two weekends in October, provide tourists the opportunity to visit working studios throughout Morongo Basin. Downtown Joshua Tree is home to a variety of eclectic venues including the Joshua Tree Art Gallery, Red Arrow Gallery, Wind Walkers, Coyote Corner, and the quirky World Famous Crochet Museum. On Saturday mornings downtown Joshua Tree hosts a fun and friendly Farmer's Market. Joshua Tree is also home to (12) **Noah Purifoy's Outdoor Desert Art Museum**.

This 7.5 acre property displays Purifoy's assemblage sculptures, all created on-site between 1989 and 2004. Purifoy came into prominence during the 1960's as an installation artist and co-founder of the Watts Towers Art Center.

Continue down Highway 62 towards 29 Palms. On the way you can stop at (13) **A Roadside Attraction**, which displays rotating art shows hosted by the local Chaparral Artists organization. Once in 29 Palms be sure to keep on the lookout for the more than 20 world-class murals that make up the (14) **"Oasis of Murals"** painted on their city walls. 29 Palms offers another excellent opportunity to enjoy art at the 29 Palms Art Gallery and 29 Palms Creative Center. While in town don't miss the (15) **Old Schoolhouse Museum**, operated by the local historical society. The museum includes local history exhibits, gift shop and library.

Joshua Tree National Park's (16) **Oasis of Mara Visitor Center** is located in 29 Palms and displays exhibits with information on the park's history, plants, wildlife, and fascinating granite geology. A gift shop offers desert-themed books and souvenirs.

End your day with a delicious dinner at historic (17) **29 Palms Inn**. Enjoy a cocktail while lounging by the pool and view the rotating art shows on the dining room's walls. Rest and relax for your next day of fun and adventure.

DAY 3

Heading north of Yucca Valley on Old Woman Springs Road (SR247) stop to view the (18) **"Rhythms of Life" geoglyph** by Australian artist Andrew Rogers. This amazing artwork is part of the largest contemporary land art undertaking in the world, forming a chain of 48 massive stone sculptures around the globe. Yucca Valley's sculpture is the only one located in North America.

Continue north to (19) **Gubler Orchids** in Landers where you can find a jungle paradise in the desert. They offer personal tours of the greenhouse with its colorful display of exotic plants, and you can purchase the perfect plant for your home. Gubler's is host to the yearly Orchid Festival, held the first weekend of October, which includes food, music, orchid classes, and fun activities for the whole family.

Landers is home to the world-famous (20) **Integratron**. This domed structure was built by George Van Tassel based on the research of Nikola Tesla and descriptions he received from extraterrestrials. Originally designed as a rejuvenation machine, it was never completed and today the all-wood, acoustically perfect sound chamber is used for soothing sound baths, by appointment.



Simi Dabah Sculpture Located at the California Welcome Center

Continue heading north and you will see (21) **Giant Rock**, considered the world's largest free-standing boulder. Weighing approximately 25,000 tons and standing 7 stories tall, Giant Rock was revered by Native Americans from the Morongo Basin who held sacred ceremonies at the site. Van Tassel held UFO Conventions at Giant Rock from the 1950's through the 1970's.

The desert offers a number of off-highway vehicle areas, and (22) **Johnson Valley**, north of Landers, provides a varied landscape for every skill level. The Means Dry Lake area of Johnson Valley is the location of the yearly "King of the Hammers" off-road race in February, which combines desert racing and rock crawling.

For those interested in history, the (23) **Morongo Basin Historical Society Research Center** in Landers is open Tuesdays or by appointment.

After arriving back in Yucca Valley enjoy a tasty meal at one of the various local restaurants, such as (24) **Roadhouse Cafe**, known for their great steaks. While driving through Yucca Valley keep watch for pieces from their public art collection, on display throughout the town. Ready for a cool, dark break from the desert sun? (25) **Cinema 6** showcases recently released movies or you

can take in live theater at some of the local venues such as Joshua Tree's Hi-Desert Playhouse, Theatre 29 or the tiny and quaint Groves Cabin Theatre in Morongo Valley.



"Rhythms of Life" Geoglyph



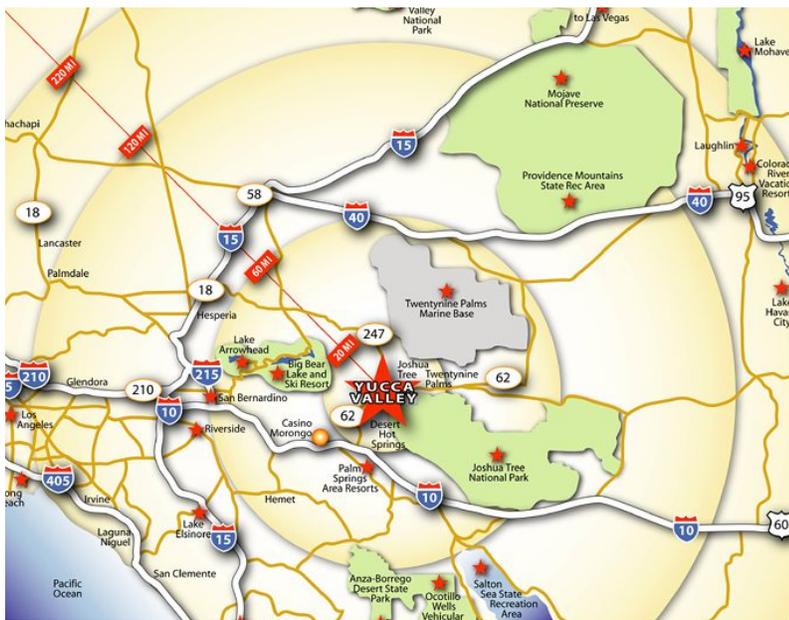
Gubler Orchids



Integratron



Giant Rock



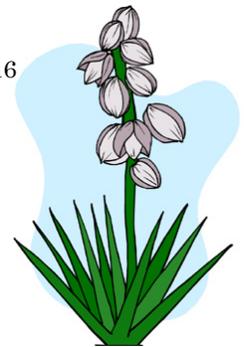
Yucca Valley is a high desert town located in the Morongo Basin of the Mojave Desert, within a 30 minute drive from downtown Palm Springs. Discover Yucca Valley's scenic desert landscapes, clean air and small town appeal, which make it a great vacation getaway.

Yucca Valley plays host to many exciting special events throughout the year including the Earth Day Conservation Fair in April, Grubstake Days Celebration in May, Summer Music Concerts, Starry Nights Festival in the Fall, and the Old Town Light Parade in December.

For a full schedule of upcoming special events visit the Town of Yucca Valley website at: www.yucca-valley.org



1. **Black Rock Canyon**, Black Rock Canyon Road dead ends at the campground, www.nps.gov/jotr/
2. **Hi-Desert Nature Museum**, Yucca Valley Community Center, Hwy 62 & Dumosa, (760) 369-7212
Open Tuesday—Saturday, 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Free Admission, www.hidesertnaturemuseum.org
3. **California Welcome Center**, 56711 Twentynine Palms Highway, Yucca Valley, (760) 365-5464
4. **C&S Coffee Shop**, 55795 Twentynine Palms Highway, Yucca Valley, (760) 365-9946
5. **Kimi Grill**, 7500 Camino del Cielo Trail, Yucca Valley, (760) 369-1122
6. **Old Town Merchants**, along Twentynine Palms Highway, Yucca Valley
7. **Desert Christ Park**, 56218 Sunnyslope Drive, Yucca Valley, (760) 365-3984, www.desertchristpark.org
8. **Pioneertown**, 4 miles north of Yucca Valley on Pioneertown Road
9. **Pappy & Harriet's**, 53688 Pioneertown Road, Pioneertown, (760) 365-5956, www.pappyandharriets.com
10. **Paradise Café**, 58890 29 Palms Highway, Yucca Valley, (760) 365-0015
11. **Joshua Tree Visitor Center**, 6554 Park Boulevard, Joshua Tree, (760) 366-1855
12. **Noah Purifoy's Outdoor Desert Art Museum**, 6303 Blaire Lane, Joshua Tree, (213) 382-7516
Free Admission, Tours by Appointment, www.noahpurifoy.com
13. **A Roadside Attraction**, 69197 Twentynine Palms Highway, 29 Palms, (760) 362-4100
Open Monday—Friday, 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., Saturday, 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
14. **Oasis of Murals**, 29 Palms, www.oasisofmurals.com
15. **Old Schoolhouse Museum**, 6760 National Park Drive, 29 Palms, (760) 367-2366
Free Admission, www.29palmshistorical.com
16. **Oasis of Mara Visitor Center**, 74485 National Park Drive, 29 Palms, (760) 367-5500
17. **29 Palms Inn**, 73950 Inn Avenue, 29 Palms, (760) 367-3505, www.29palmsinn.com
18. **Rhythms of Life Geoglyph**, Old Woman Springs Road (SR247) and Aberdeen, www.andrewrogers.org
19. **Gubler Orchids**, 2200 Belfield Boulevard, Landers, (760) 364-2282, www.gublers.com
20. **Integratron**, 2477 Belfield Boulevard, Landers, (760) 364-3126, www.integratron.com
21. **Giant Rock**, north of Integratron about 2 miles, follow signs on unpaved roads, www.giantrockproject.com
22. **Johnson Valley**, enter from Old Woman Springs or Camp Rock Road, www.blm.gov/ca/barstow/johnson.html
23. **Morongo Basin Historical Society**, 632 N. Landers Lane, Landers, (760) 364-2000, www.mbhs.net
24. **Roadhouse Cafe**, 57173 Sunnyslope Drive, Yucca Valley, (760) 365-5581
25. **Cinema 6**, 56401 Twentynine Palms Highway, Yucca Valley, (760) 365-9633, www.fandango.com



Yucca Valley Hotels

- Best Western**, 56525 Twentynine Palms Highway, Yucca Valley, (760) 365-3555, www.bestwestern.com
- Oasis of Eden**, 56377 Twentynine Palms Highway, Yucca Valley, (760) 365-6321, www.oasisofeden.com
- Sands Motel**, 55446 Twentynine Palms Highway, Yucca Valley, (760) 365-4615, www.sandsyv.com
- Super 8**, 57096 Twentynine Palms Highway, Yucca Valley, (760) 228-1773, www.super8.com
- Travelodge**, 54850 Twentynine Palms Highway, Yucca Valley, (760) 365-3311, www.travelodge.com

For more information contact the Yucca Valley Chamber of Commerce,
56711 29 Palms Highway, Yucca Valley, www.yuccavalley.org, (760) 365-6323