

# DAY TRIPS

*For Days*



## GRAND STAIRCASE PAUNSAUGUNT PLATEAU SCENIC BACKWAYS

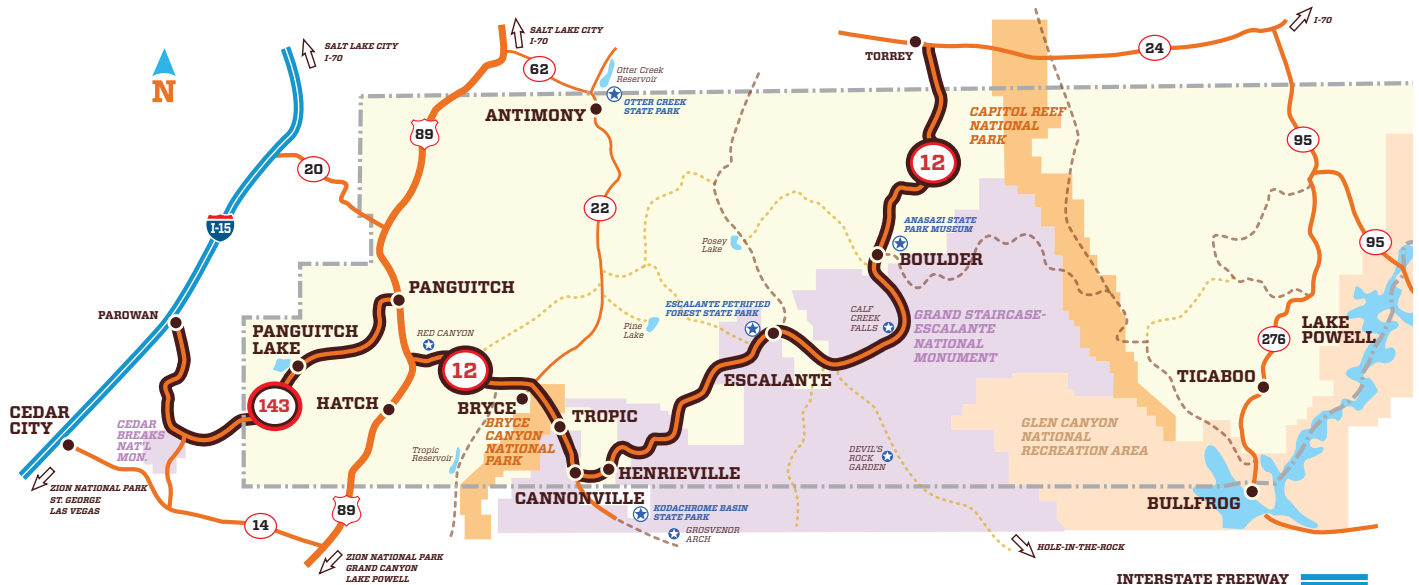
Take the road less traveled and experience some of the most beautiful sights in southern Utah as you explore scenic backways in Bryce Canyon Country. These scenic backways provide access to great adventures, unique wildlife and interesting scenery. So what are you waiting for? Adventure awaits you in Bryce Canyon Country.



# TRAVEL TO BRYCE CANYON COUNTRY

To get the most out of your scenic backways experience, give yourself time to travel to the area, check-in to the lodging of your choice and spend the remainder of the day relaxing before you take on your off-roading ventures.

Some of the prettiest roads that will take you to Bryce Canyon Country are Byway 12 and 24. National Scenic Byway 12 can be accessed from Interstate 15 or Highway 89, and Scenic Byway 24 can be accessed from Interstate 70.



DAY  
**1**



## HOLE-IN-THE-ROCK SCENIC BACKWAY

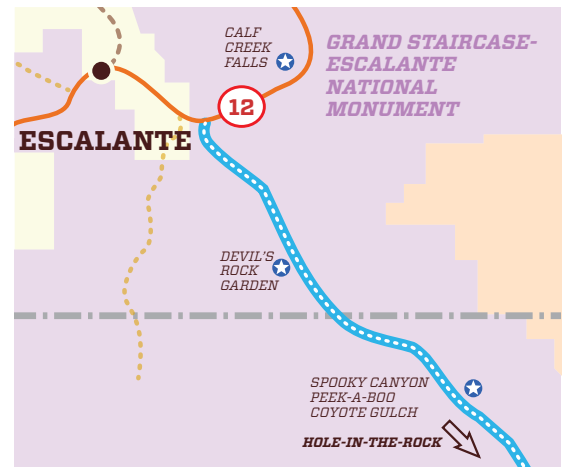
The 55.3-mile Hole-in-the-Rock Scenic Backway will take you through some of the most amazing scenery in southern Utah. Please note that this road can be rough—even for four-wheel drive vehicles—so make sure you have a full tank of fuel and plenty of food and water. This route was taken by Mormon pioneers in the late 1800s and was made in an attempt to create a shortcut across the Colorado River.

Highlights along the route include Devils Garden, Peek-a-Boo and Spooky slot canyons and Dance Hall Rock. Devils Garden—home of the iconic Metate Arch—is found 12 miles after entering the Hole-in-the-Rock Road from National Scenic Byway 12. Meander around the slickrock formations, miniature domes and arches within the garden.

Around mile 26, you will reach the Dry Fork Trailhead, which is the entrance to Spooky and Peek-a-Boo slot canyons. You can hike these two slot canyons as a loop or just explore one. Either way, the hike gives incredible views into one of southern Utah's most memorable wonders. At mile 36, you will pass Dance Hall Rock, a natural sandstone amphitheater where the pioneers set up a base camp and held dances to keep their spirits high.

The end of the Hole-in-the-Rock Road is where the original travelers had to dig and blast a passage through the rocks. It took six weeks of chiseling, digging and blasting to finally complete a “hole-in-the-rock” large enough to use as a road for their full-sized wagons and cattle. You will be in awe noticing the sacrifice and determination of these early settlers.

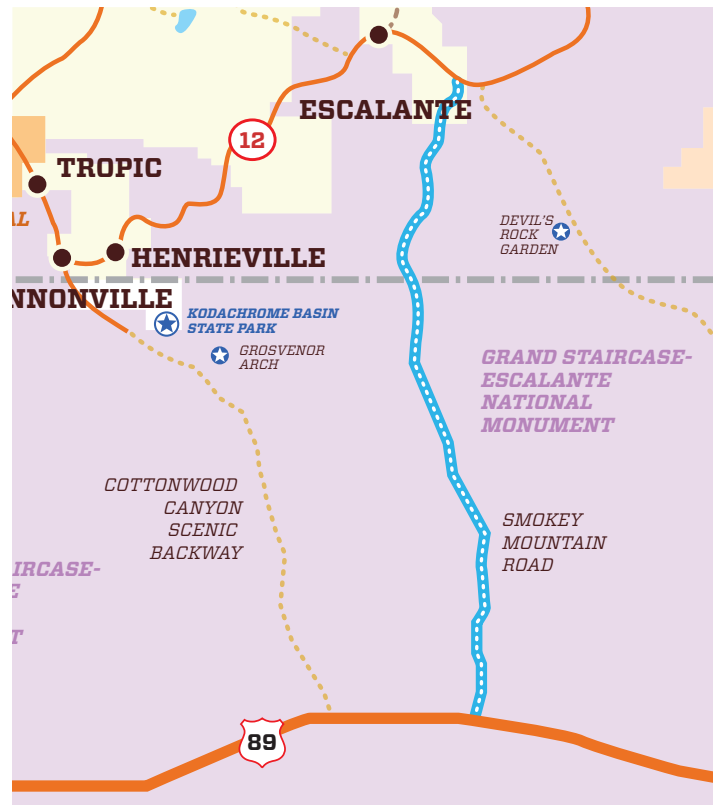
If you really seek adventure, add an additional day to explore more of the Hole-in-the-Rock Road. It might be helpful to hire one of the local outfitting companies in order to experience more technical canyons. You can also explore Escalante River, Phipps Arch or Willow Gulch Arch.





## SMOKY MOUNTAIN SCENIC BACKWAY

Smoky Mountain Scenic Byway travels on the rough ridges of the area's canyons, weaving through five miles of switchbacks before ascending 1,200 feet up to Smoky Mountain. This staggering road offers a dominating view of the Kaiparowits Plateau and its isolated wilderness before giving way to the background vistas of Lake Powell, Navajo Mountain, Fifty Mile Mountain, Bryce Canyon and the Table Cliffs. Plan on bringing enough water and supplies in case of difficulty as this is rough backcountry.



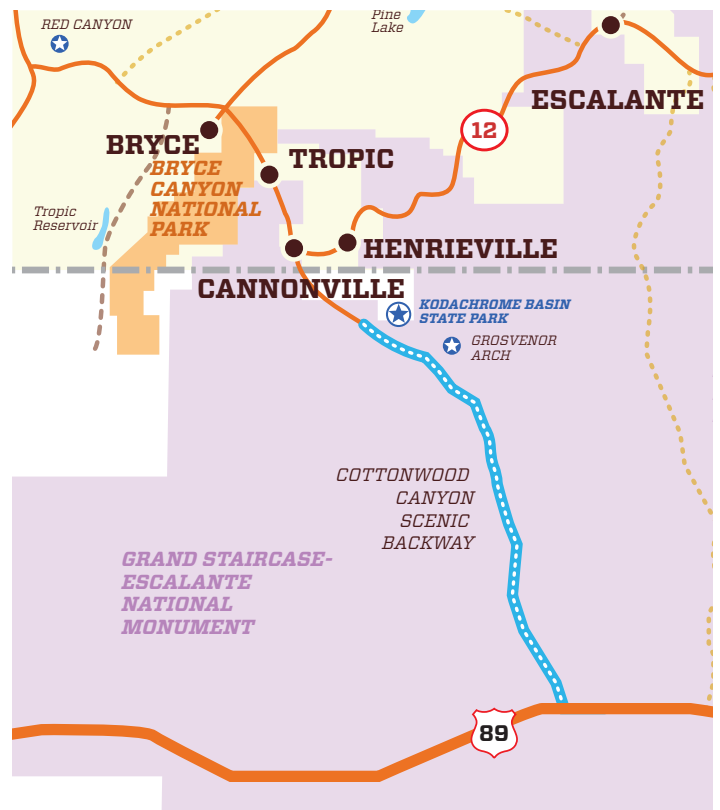
DAY  
**3**



## COTTONWOOD CANYON SCENIC BACKWAY

The 46-mile Cottonwood Canyon Scenic Backway provides travelers with remote access to Kodachrome Basin State Park. The majority of the road is graded dirt with an underlying clay base, making the road impassable when wet. Stop at the Cannonville Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument visitor center to inquire about road conditions.

Highlights along this unique back road route include Kodachrome Basin State Park, Chimney Rock, Shakespeare Arch, Ballerina Geyser and Grosvenor Arch. Grosvenor Arch is actually two massive arches that tower 150 feet above the ground, the largest arch being nearly 100 feet in diameter. The road also provides access to the Cottonwood Wash Narrows Trailhead and other various other hiking trails.

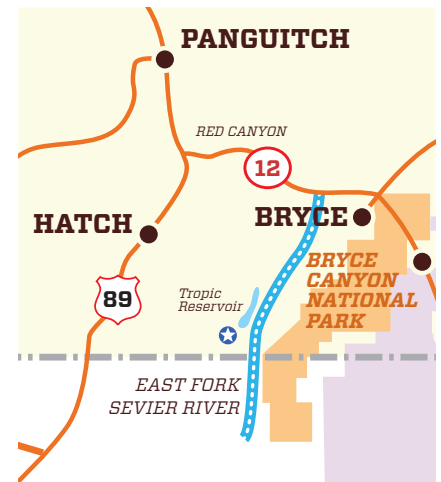


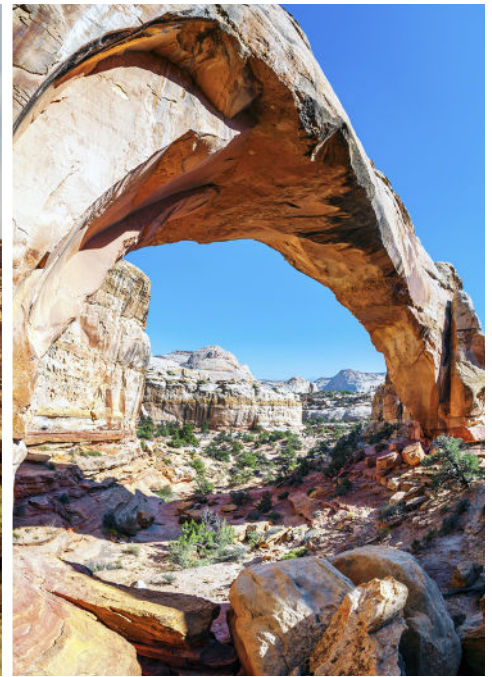
DAY  
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## EAST FORK SEVIER SCENIC BACKWAY

This 17 mile road weaves along the edge of Bryce Canyon National Park, eventually meeting the recreational desert oasis of Tropic Reservoir. Along the way, travelers will enjoy wildlife viewing, horseback riding trails and plenty of dirt roads for ATV use. Nestled beneath large spruce trees, the Podunk Guard Station sits in a narrow mountain valley near Tropic Reservoir. Built in the 1920s, this small station was used to house U.S. Forest Service personnel.

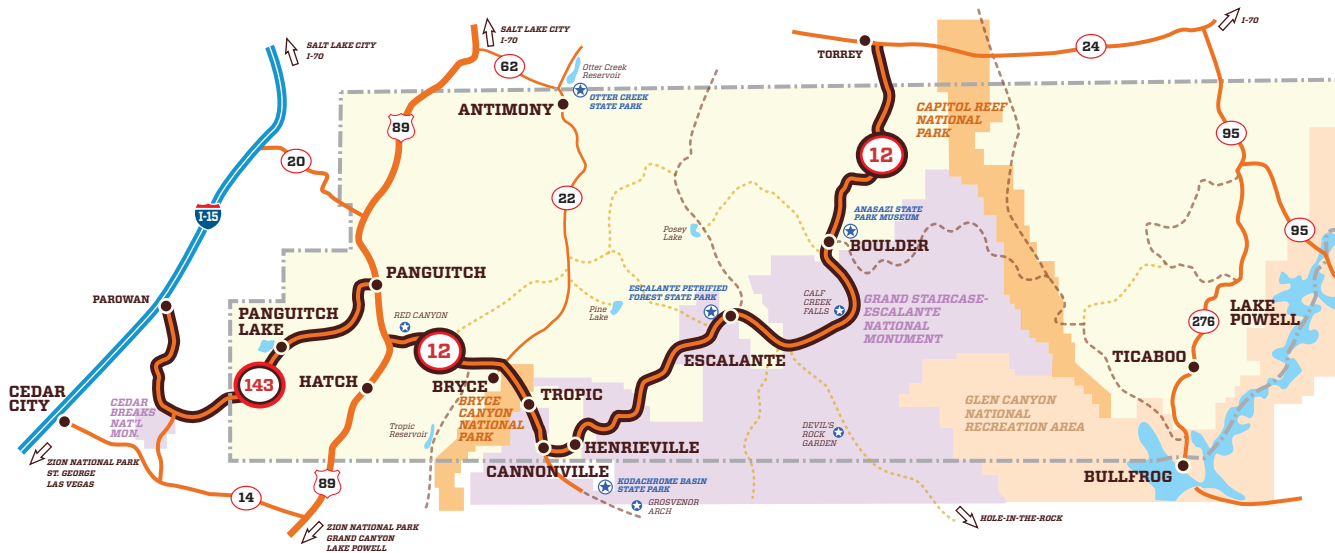




## DEPARTURE

Because this region is scenically diverse, your departure route will not be any less of a scenic adventure than you've already experienced. You can mix the days on this itinerary so you can take Cottonwood Canyon Road or other backways as you depart Bryce Canyon Country.

Scenic Byway 12 will carry you out of Bryce Canyon Country toward Highway 89 and I-15 on the west and toward other attractions going northeast. These attractions include Kodachrome Basin State Park, Escalante Petrified Forest, Calf Creek Falls, Anasazi Museum State Park and Capitol Reef National Park.



DAY  
**6**