

GUADALUPE MOUNTAIN NATIONAL PARK FALL 2023

December 13 - December 17



Trails *of*
Transformation



GUADALUPE MOUNTAINS NATIONAL PARK



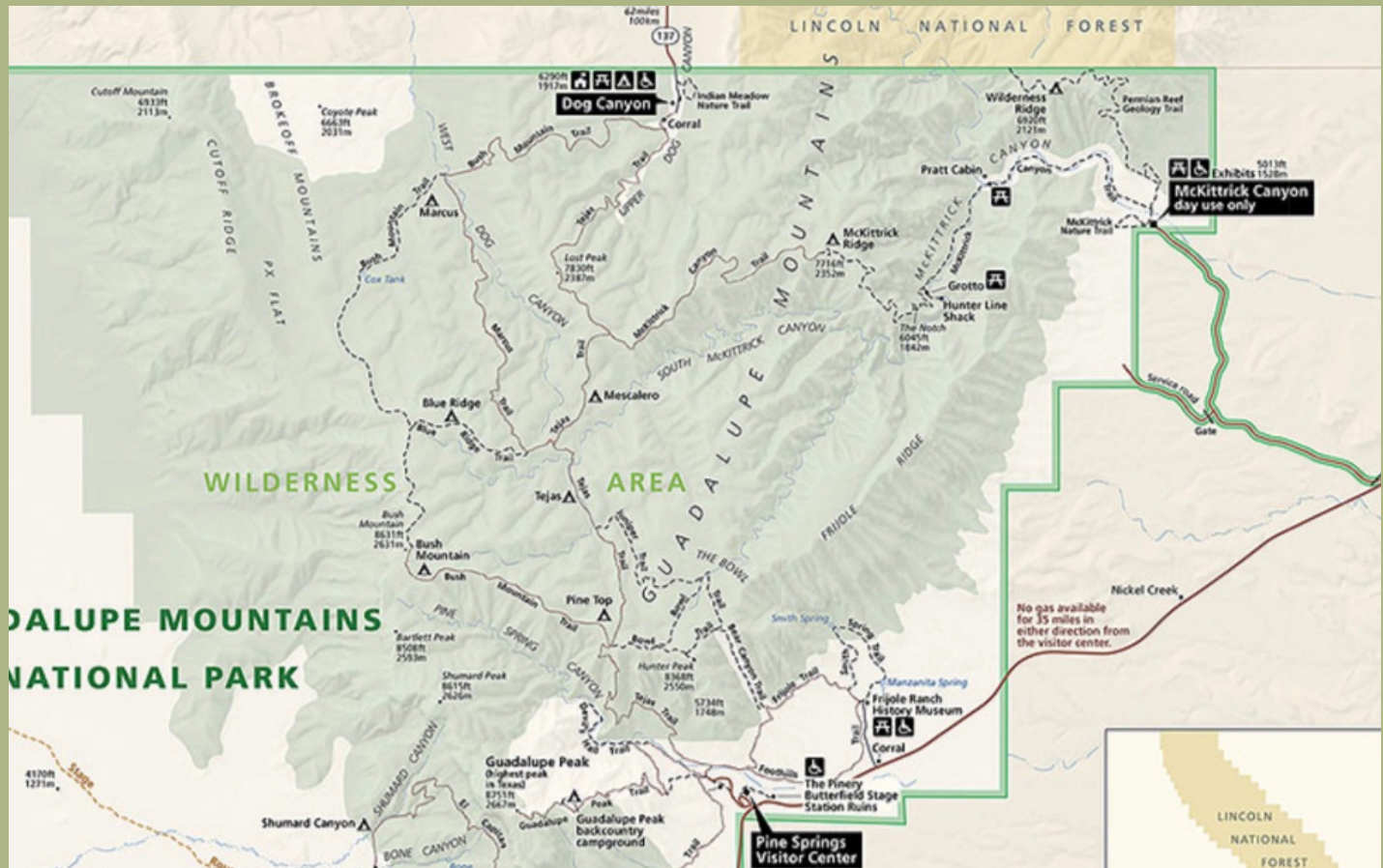
Guadalupe Mountains National Park is home to the world's most extensive Permian fossil reef, the four highest points in Texas, various ecosystems, and historic stories of bloodshed and survival all waiting to be explored. From forested mountains and desert dunes, Guadalupe Mountains offer various ways to explore the area through hours of hiking and backpacking trails not for the faint of heart, or via beautiful settings of flora and wildlife within reach of families.

This national park is one of the most unique in the United States as it allows visitors to explore different environments within the underrated desert of West Texas.



NATIONAL PARK WILDERNESS

GUADALUPE MOUNTAINS



McKittrick Canyon Trail

The McKittrick Canyon Trail follows the floor of South McKittrick Canyon for four miles before climbing steeply to gain the ridge on the north side of the canyon. This is an arduous climb of 2,380 feet in about two miles, and provides spectacular views into the canyon and to the ridges that border it. The trail continues along the ridge above South McKittrick Canyon, ascending to a high point of 7,916 feet and gradually descending to a junction with the Tejas Trail.

This is an extremely rewarding trail, offering both the variety of McKittrick Canyon and the grandeur of the high ridges that surround it. The floor of McKittrick Canyon provides a panoramic experience through the unique environments of the canyon; to protect this special habitat, visitors are asked to stay on the trail and stay out of the water.

Tejas Trail

The Tejas Trail is the primary north/south through trail within the park, connecting the Pine Springs Trailhead with the Dog Canyon Trailhead at the park's northern boundary. This major artery can be used to connect to numerous other trails to make a variety of loops.

Water sources

There are no water sources in the backcountry. To insure you have enough water for drinking and cooking, please carry one gallon per person per day (water weighs approximately 8 lbs. per gallon). For multiple nights in the wilderness, water weight can be a considerable burden (three days and two nights at a gallon per person per day equates to about 24 pounds of water). Water is obtainable at the Pine Springs Visitor Center, Pine Springs Campground, McKittrick Visitor Center, or the Dog Canyon Ranger Station and Campground.

WEEK ITINERARY

**WEDNESDAY
DECEMBER 13**

Travel Day - Fly into El Paso OR Drive from Austin TBD - Drive to Guadalupe Mountains NP - Check-in at Pine Springs - Possible short hike to Smith Spring- Fresh front country meal

**THURSDAY
DECEMBER 14**

Fresh cooked breakfast - Start backcountry trek from McKittrick Canyon Trailhead (about a 7 mile day). Lunch at the Grotto. Set up camp at McKittrick Ridge

**FRIDAY
DECEMBER 15**

After breakfast and coffee, continue along the McKittrick Canyon trail until trail junction - Pick up the Tejas trail until Tejas campground - About 7 mile day

**SATURDAY
DECEMBER 16**

Enjoy your third day immersed in the back country hiking along the Tejas Trail and Guadalupe Peak Trail. 7-8 mile day of backpacking. Hike up to Guadalupe Peak for dinner and sunset. Night hike back.

**SUNDAY
DECEMBER 17**

Either early morning hike for sunset at Guadalupe Peak with breakfast and coffee OR breakfast at camp then pack up - Hike out about 4-5 miles to Pine Springs Visitor Center. Drive back to El Paso airport or Austin TBD



BACK COUNTRY GEAR



GEAR INCLUDED:

- Backpacking Backpack
- Sleeping Bag
- Backpacking Pillow
- Tent & Footprint
- Rain Fly
- Sleeping Pad
- Water Filtration
- Water Bottle x2
- Headlamp
- Kitchen & Food Supplies
- Kitchen Utensils, Bowl & Cup
- Stove & Fuel
- First Aid Kit
- Shovel & Wipes
- Waterproof Bag & Cover



GEAR REQUIRED TO BRING:

- Hiking Shoes
- Rain Jacket
- Cold Weather Jacket
- Hiking Poles - Optional
- Multiple Pairs of Socks (1 per day)
- 4 Outfits for the Backcountry
- Layers for warmth
- Personal Hygiene and Medications
- Towel or Wash Cloth if you'd like to have one.
- Optional - Sandals/Camp Shoes, Hat, Beanie, Bandana or Buff
- Sunscreen & Sunglasses
- Bug Spray
- Biodegradable Soap

MEALS & MRE'S



MEALS INCLUDED DURING THE TRIP

- Meals provided on travel days.
- Freshly cooked meals while camping in the front country.
- Trails of Transformation is not responsible for meals dining out.



MEALS INCLUDED IN THE BACKCOUNTRY

- Coffee, Tea, and Cacao will be provided.
- 2-3 MRE's per day in the back country
- An assortment of backpacking friendly snacks
- You may bring a few specialty snacks - anything you're willing and able to carry.

THE BACKCOUNTRY EXPERIENCE



THE CHALLENGE

- Simplify your way of living to the bare essentials
- Carry everything you bring on your back, over challenging terrain
- You will be pushed out of your comfort zone physically, mentally, and emotionally
- Embrace deeper levels of presence
- Leave behind normal means of distraction and entertainment
- Sleep outside, swim in cold water, push up steep elevation climbs



THE EXPERIENCE

- Unplug from the matrix and immerse in nature with others through genuine connection to each other and your environment
- Strip down to your raw and natural self, by removing most vehicles of distraction
- Encouraged to embrace your authentic, wild, and playful self
- Push on your edge and through discomfort
- Experience what it means to be free



THE SIMPLICITY

- Bring only what you can/want to carry
- Embrace the art of living simply. Explore what that means to you?
- Your central nervous system will slow down, and your sensory inputs will look much different than your normal day. Play with this, and explore the deeper levels of presence.
- During long hikes, let your mind wander to uncomfortable places

CORE VALUES



FREEDOM

Break free from your everyday routine and explore the unknown or forgotten places within your wild heart and soul. Push your limits as you ascend mountains, bathe in glacial fed rivers, activating potential that is waiting to come alive. Remember or familiarize yourself with what it means to simply be free. Give yourself permission to leave all your responsibilities behind, and embrace presence.



SIMPLICITY

By stripping down to your raw, natural self, and removing most vehicles that typically distract you...and things of comfort... things become simple. Being in nature, while in this state, provides room for a perspective shift or expansion. A contemplative state ensues on what matters and is important to you. This space is potent and powerful for personal insights.



RESILIENCE

On these trips, you will be pushed out of your comfort zone. Explore what you are capable of, how this feels, and if this builds trust within yourself. This space is where growth can breathe. While we encourage personal reflection, there is also an element of communal connection and witnessing that encourages vulnerability. This allows you to be your most raw and authentic self.

YOUR GUIDE



JOHN THOMAS DI BARI

Born and raised in Austin, Texas, I grew up swimming in Barton Springs and running barefoot through the greenbelt. My affinity for nature is rooted in my being and always has me seeking out my next adventure in the wilderness. Throughout my young adulthood I was fortunate enough to embark on several pivotal backpacking experiences that changed my perspective on life. These experiences included backpacking solo through eastern Europe & the U.S., adventuring with my closest friends yearly at America's National Parks, and traveling through Southeast Asia on a motorbike. These trips led me to feeling the most alive I had ever felt, closer to myself, and left me with a profound sense of presence. I began to crave these trips more and more & felt a calling to share these transformational experiences with others. As your guide, I am honored to offer you the same invigorating back country experiences that have shaped who I am today.



- Wilderness First Responder Certified
- CPR & Epinephrine Certified
- 3 Years Guiding Experience
- 10 Years Backpacking Experience
- 17 Backpacking Trips Logged
- 30+ State & National Parks / Forests Visited

INVESTMENT

All trips require a \$500 non-refundable deposit to solidify your spot.
Pay in full or first payment is due upon contract.



PAY IN FULL

1 PAYMENT OF

\$2499



2X PAYMENTS

2 MONTHLY
PAYMENTS OF

\$1375



3X PAYMENTS

3 MONTHLY
PAYMENTS OF

\$915

Flights and transportation to and from the airport not included in the cost of the trip.
Meals dining out will not be included in the cost of the trip.

WE'D LOVE TO EXPLORE WITH YOU!



NEXT STEPS:

- FILL OUT OUR INQUIRY FORM
- ASK US ANY QUESTIONS VIA EMAIL
- SIGN OUR CONTRACT & SEND US YOUR DEPOSIT + FIRST PAYMENT
- RECEIVE YOUR WELCOME PACKAGE
- RECEIVE A CUSTOM DASHBOARD WITH ALL OF THE INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR UPCOMING TRIP

INQUIRE
HERE