One thousand years ago, the canyon along what is now Interstate 70 near Sevier, Utah, was home to one of the largest communities of Fremont Indians ever discovered. Their rock art is still visible on the canyon walls. A film, hands-on activities, rock art tours, and exhibits reveal the culture of the Fremont Indians. The park also offers camping, hiking, and access to the Paiute ATV Trail.

Their unique figurines and rock art with lively images of animals and people hint at their beliefs about the world.

**History**

After the Fremont left this canyon, the Paiute, Ute, and Shoshone tribes travelled seasonally through it to hunt and gather seeds and pine nuts. The trail they used through Clear Creek Canyon was the best route between hunting areas on opposite sides of the Pahvant and Tushar Mountain ranges. As they travelled through, they added to the rock art on the canyon's walls, recording stories of their culture and their interactions with the new technologies brought west. Carvings of trains, horses, and houses can all be found here.

The Paiute Trail through Clear Creek Canyon was later used by settlers and explorers such as Jedediah Smith in 1826. The trail was improved into a wagon road in 1872. In 1877 the first year-round homesteaders, John Smiley Lott and his two wives, settled in the canyon. A school was built for the Lott's grandchildren in 1895. In the 1890s gold was discovered on Kimberly Mountain, making Clear Creek Canyon an important route to the railroad at the nearby town of Sevier.

During the 20th century, most families here relied on employment out of the canyon rather than farming. The majority left in the 1980s when Interstate 70 was built. Fremont Indian State Park and Museum opened in 1987.
This picnic area offers a shady spot to eat panels to the south and east. It appears to be a summer solstice panel. From here there are 28 more can be borrowed from the visitor center.

This short unimproved 0.18-mile trail begins with an immediate ascent to an open flat canyon. There are two sets of panels in this area. The first can be found to the west on the north rocks of the north face of the canyon's small inlet. Walk from here to the east end of the canyon to find the second panel that seems to contain a wheel. Though we do not know its exact meaning, it appears to be a sun/solstice panel. From here there are 28 more panels to the south and east.

Stop at this interpretive site to learn about Jedediah Smith and the Old Spanish Trail that passed through this canyon. Archeologists think Jedediah Smith may have come through here in 1826 because that date is carved into the canyon wall next to a 75’

This viewpoint offers the best look at Newspaper Rock, the canyon’s most famous panel, with more than 1,000 images carved into it. We are not sure who dubbed this panel Newspaper Rock but it shares its name with another Newspaper Rock near Canyonlands National Park in southeastern Utah. More rock art can be seen from this viewpoint by following the cliff line. Hiking up to the panel is prohibited but binoculars can be borrowed from the visitor center.

Step back in time as you ponder the artifacts in our collection that reveal miners looking for gold. Kids will enjoy our Discovery Zone where they can examine ancient tools and explore a Fremont pithouse. Wander in our gift shop and pick out a souvenir to remember your adventures. Check out the insert of this guide for a detailed map and trail information for the area around the museum.

This trail is a 1-mile loop with views of the cactus forest above the canyon floor. There are no rock art panels along the trail. The first section of the trail is steep but the view of surrounding pinyon and juniper-covered mountains make it worthwhile.

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This is a 2-mile round trip hike. From the trailhead the hike to the cave is 0.3 miles. If you would like to extend your hike to 1-mile round trip, start at the southeast corner of the museum parking lot. From there the trail switchbacks down the slope and runs parallel to the frontage road until it reaches the trailhead.

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Parade of Rock Art Trail
This 0.2-mile paved loop is the perfect place to start your exploration of the park. It is the most accessible and the only paved path in the park. It offers views of 20 rock art panels. You will discover depictions of animals and people from long ago. Please stay on the pavement and do not wander up to the rock art. By staying on trails and viewing rock art at a distance, you are protecting these cultural treasures. Even the oils on your hands will damage them.

Court of Ceremonies Trail
This trail starts from the Parade of Rock Art Trail, is 0.26 miles long and is steep in several areas. From the head of the trail two panels are visible. One is to the left of the trail as it climbs among the rocks and the other is to your right on your way up. Once you have finished climbing the rock stairs, six different figures are visible along the canyon walls.

Coyote Canyon Trail
The Coyote Canyon Trail starts from the reconstructed pithouse at the corner of our parking lot and follows a moderate slope up the canyon 0.3 miles to the Meditation Spiral. Along the way you may find a small rock art panel and several experimental granaries that were built in 2001 to see how they weathered over time.

Hidden Secrets Trail
The Hidden Secrets Trail connects to the Court of Ceremonies, Coyote Canyon, and Canyon Overlook Trails. You can follow this trail along the canyon floor or hike along the ridgeline.

The Upper Hidden Secrets Trail along the ridgeline is much more frequently traversed and has a clearer footpath. The highlight of this trail is a petroglyph panel on the north end of the loop. You will notice a spur trail that goes toward the cliff. There you will find images that include an intricate spider web pattern, a shield figure, wavy lines, several people, bighorn sheep, and animals.

Canyon Overlook Trail
The trail connects to both the Hidden Secrets Trail and to Coyote Canyon Trail. All three trails meet at the Meditation Spiral. Slow down and enjoy the scenery as you wind your way to the spiral’s center. All along this 0.27-mile trail are beautiful views of the canyon looking east toward Monroe Mountain. The view of I-70 is reminiscent of the trails and roads that have passed through this canyon for thousands of years.

Centennial Trail
This 5-mile dirt trail is a great way to hike or mountain bike your way through the park. The northern section of the loop winds along the creek and will take you to more rock art panels than this guide identifies. The southern portion of the loop is a challenging nature hike that will get you close to the cliffs with beautiful views of the geology, past the the Cave of a Hundred Hands, and under the Indian Blanket pictograph.

Become a Junior Ranger!
Youth between the ages of 5 and 13 are invited to become Fremont Indian State Park Junior Rangers! You may become a Junior Ranger by completing an activity booklet available at the visitor center.
Reservations

Reservations are always recommended. Individual campsite reservations must be made at least two days in advance of arrival date, but can be made up to 16 weeks in advance of park check-out. Group-use reservations may be made up to 11 months in advance. To make a reservation, call 800-322-3770 or visit stateparks.utah.gov.

Camping Regulations

Each camping permit covers one vehicle and attached recreational unit. It is unlawful to dump or drain wastewater from campers or trailers onto the ground or into lakes and streams.

Quiet Hours

10 p.m. to 7 a.m.

Explore From Here

Forest Service Trail 051

This is an out-and-back Forest Service trail that is not maintained. The trail continues 10 miles up the mountain. Most hikers stay along Joe Lott Creek and turn around when the trail splits from the creek. The trail begins near the top of the campground loop near the vault toilets and campsite #20.

ATV Trail 79

This ATV trail connects Castle Rock Campground to the Paiute ATV Trail. It also gives access to the museum and other trails in the state park. OHVs are allowed on all roads in the state park and marked OHV trails only.
**Safety**

Rattlesnakes: Rattlesnakes are passive and prefer to be left alone. They rattle to alert their presence and avoid confrontation. When encountering a rattlesnake, give it space and move along slowly.

Heat: Carry plenty of water, wear a hat, and use sunscreen.

Hiking: Never hike alone. Stay on designated trails. Rock climbing is prohibited.

Creeks and Streams: During springtime when winter snow is melting or after heavy rainstorms, Clear Creek becomes dangerous. Keep a safe distance and always make sure children are supervised.

**Fees**

Permits: A special use permit is required for all special events, concessions, and commercial/professional filming or photography.

Use Fees: Day-use and camping fees are charged year-round. Additional fees are charged for group events and reservations.

**Contact Us:**
Fremont Indian State Park and Museum
3820 West Clear Creek Canyon Road
Sevier, Utah 84766
Phone: 435-527-4631
Email: fremontindian@utah.gov
Follow us on Facebook and Instagram

**Hours of Operation:**
The visitor center is open every day except Thanksgiving and Dec. 24-25. Hours of operation are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Extended summer hours are 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. (Memorial Day-Labor Day)

Closed Sundays in winter.

*Information contained in this brochure was accurate at the time of printing. Information may change as mandated. For updated information, please contact the park. 04/2020