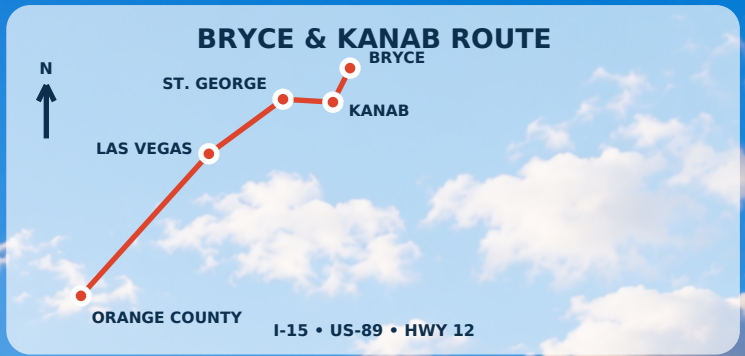




CUSTOM NEW YEAR WEEKEND

DEC 31, 2026 - JAN 3, 2027

BRYCE CANYON - WINTER WONDERLAND NEW YEAR CELEBRATION

Snow-Dusted Hoodoos • Vermilion Cliffs Sunset • Zion • Valley of Fire
Desert Wonders • The Wave Lottery Attempt • White Hoodoos (Wahweap)

4 DAYS / 3 NIGHTS

FROM \$520 / PERSON • OTHER PRICES IN PROGRAM

Trip Overview

Easy-moderate: Bryce, Zion sunset, Coral Pink Sand Dunes sunset, St. George and Valley of Fire. Strenuous: Kanab base, The Wave lottery or White Hoodoos hike; Wire Pass and Antelope Canyon alternatives.

Highlights

- Bryce • Coral Pink Sand Dunes sunset
- St. George Narrows • Pioneer Arches
- Zion Canyon Hot Springs • Optional
- Zion sunset • Belly of the Dragon
- Valley of Fire • Scenic walks
- La Verkin soak • Admission extra

SIGNATURE EXPERIENCES



LAS VEGAS LUNCH STOP

New Year buzz before / after quiet nature

TWO HIKING OPTIONS

Easy-Moderate / Moderate-Strenuous

COMFORTABLE LODGING

Kanab or Bryce • 2-4 Star

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Bryce Canyon & Kanab: New Year Weekend

Snow-Dusted Hoodoos • Vermilion Cliffs Sunsets • Dark-Sky Stargazing • Wave Lottery Attempt

Orange County • Kanab • Bryce Canyon • Las Vegas / St. George — 4-Day / 3-Night Trip

DEC 31, 2026 - JAN 3, 2027 • OPTIONAL STRENUOUS: THE WAVE (LOTTERY), FAIRYLAND LOOP

Trip Overview

A 4-day, 3-night New Year weekend in southern Utah, with two versions to match your hiking level: **Option 1 (3 nights in Kanab)** for moderate and strenuous hikes, with a Bryce Canyon day trip on New Year's Day and a try at the daily lottery for **The Wave**; and **Option 2 (2 nights at Bryce Canyon + 1 night in St. George / Mesquite / Las Vegas on the way back)** for easy and moderate hikes, with New Year's Eve and a full day at Bryce. Offered as a **last-minute booking** (75% / 25% payment).

What to Expect Over New Year

Holiday weekend with winter conditions: lodging fills early and holiday dates run higher, and the Wave attempt (Option 1 only) depends on the lottery draw plus dry roads. Sunrise about 7:40 AM, sunset about 5:05 PM (Utah is 1 hour ahead of California).

Weather: Bryce sits at 8,000–9,000 ft, with highs around freezing, nights near or below 10°F, and frequent snow; Kanab and St. George are milder. Pack insulated layers, hat, gloves, and microspikes. **The Wave lottery:** the advance lottery for these dates has already closed, so we enter the daily (day-before) lottery through the Recreation.gov app while in the area. Odds are low, and the dirt trailhead road is impassable when wet or snowy.

Day-by-Day Itinerary

Option 1 — 3 Nights in Kanab (Moderate & Strenuous Hikes)

Day 1, Thursday Dec 31 — Orange County to Kanab, Sunset on the Vermilion Cliffs

Driving: ~8.5-9 hrs (~520 mi via I-15, Hurricane, and Hwy 59 or Hwy 9) | Hiking/Trekking: ~1 mi, easy

- Depart about 5:30 AM via I-15 through Barstow, Baker, and Las Vegas; lunch stop in St. George
- Reach Kanab in time for sunset at the Vermilion Cliffs viewpoints or Coral Pink Sand Dunes (~25 min away)
- On arrival, set up the Recreation.gov app (location check) for the Wave lottery; New Year's Eve in Kanab
- Overnight: Kanab (Night 1 of 3)

Long holiday driving day; check road conditions first. Full-size vans may be restricted in the Zion-Mt. Carmel tunnel, so Hwy 59 is the alternate.

Meals: not included

Day 2, Friday Jan 1 — New Year's Day at Bryce Canyon (Full Day)

Driving: ~1.75 hrs each way (~80 mi) via US-89 and Hwy 12 through Red Canyon | Hiking/Trekking: ~3-4 mi, easy

- Depart Kanab about 7 AM; Red Canyon's red-rock arches on the way
- Rim Trail from Sunrise to Sunset Point (~1 mi, easy) and Queen's Garden Trail (~1.8 mi RT, easy-moderate) among the hoodoos
- **Optional extras:** Navajo Loop and Wall Street (moderate, if open); Peekaboo Loop (moderate); Fairyland Loop (strenuous, ~8 mi)
- Sunset at Inspiration Point, then back to Kanab; in the evening, enter the Wave daily lottery for the Day 3 hike
- Overnight: Kanab (Night 2 of 3)

Trails are icy; use microspikes. Some descents may be closed in winter.

Meals: not included

Day 3, Saturday Jan 2 — The Wave or Wire Pass, Vermilion Cliffs Country

Driving: ~45 min to the House Rock Valley Road, plus ~8 mi of dirt road | Hiking/Trekking: ~2-6.5 mi

- **If drawn:** The Wave (Coyote Buttes North, ~6.4 mi RT, strenuous, cross-country navigation)
- **If not drawn:** Wire Pass to the Buckskin Gulch confluence (~3.4 mi RT, easy-moderate slot canyon), or Toadstool Hoodoos (~1.8 mi RT, easy)
- Afternoon at Best Friends Animal Sanctuary or Moqui Cave
- Overnight: Kanab (Night 3 of 3)

We skip the dirt road if it is wet or snowy.

Meals: not included

Day 4, Sunday Jan 3 — Zion East Side, Las Vegas, and Home

Driving: ~9-9.5 hrs (~520 mi) with stops | Hiking/Trekking: ~1 mi, easy

- Zion-Mt. Carmel Highway: Checkerboard Mesa and east-side canyon viewpoints
- Down through St. George to Las Vegas for dinner, then home to Orange County via I-15

Meals: not included

Option 2 — 2 Nights at Bryce Canyon + 1 Night St. George / Mesquite / Las Vegas on the Way Back (Easy & Moderate Hikes)

Day 1, Thursday Dec 31 — Orange County to Bryce Canyon via Zion, New Year’s Eve

Driving: ~10-10.5 hrs (~640 mi via I-15, St. George, and the Zion-Mt. Carmel Highway) | Hiking/Trekking: ~1 mi, easy

- Depart about 5:30 AM via Barstow, Baker, and Las Vegas; lunch in St. George
- Sunset on the way: Zion Canyon east-side viewpoints and Checkerboard Mesa (Canyon Overlook Trail, ~1 mi RT), or Snow Canyon near St. George if running late
- Dinner on the way (Mt. Carmel Junction or Panguitch) before arriving at Bryce; New Year’s Eve under dark skies
- Overnight: Bryce Canyon City / Tropic (Night 1 of 3)

Long holiday driving day. Full-size vans may be restricted in the Zion-Mt. Carmel tunnel, so US-89 via Hwy 59 and Panguitch is the alternate.

Meals: not included

Day 2, Friday Jan 1 — New Year’s Day: Full Day at Bryce Canyon

Driving: ~30 min total in and around the park | Hiking/Trekking: ~3-5 mi, easy-moderate

- Sunrise at Sunrise Point, the hoodoos glowing orange
- Rim Trail to Sunset Point (~1 mi, easy) and Queen’s Garden Trail (~1.8 mi RT, easy-moderate); views at Inspiration and Bryce Point
- **Optional extras:** Navajo Loop and Wall Street (moderate, if open); ranger-led snowshoe walk (seasonal)
- Overnight: Bryce Canyon City / Tropic (Night 2 of 3)

Trails are icy; use microspikes. Some descents may be closed in winter.

Meals: not included

Day 3, Saturday Jan 2 — Bryce Canyon, then Back to St. George / Mesquite / Las Vegas

Driving: ~3-4.5 hrs depending on the town | Hiking/Trekking: ~1-2 mi, easy

- Morning at Mossy Cave on Hwy 12 (~0.8 mi RT, easy) or Kodachrome Basin State Park
- Drive back via Red Canyon (Pink Ledges Trail, ~0.7 mi, easy), Panguitch, and Cedar City; optional Kolob Canyons viewpoints off I-15
- Sunset at Snow Canyon State Park (St. George) or Valley of Fire (Las Vegas / Mesquite)
- Overnight: St. George, Mesquite, or Las Vegas (Night 3 of 3)

Meals: not included

Day 4, Sunday Jan 3 — Home

Driving: ~4.5-7 hrs depending on the town | Hiking/Trekking: ~1.5 mi, easy (optional)

- Optional morning: Valley of Fire (Fire Wave, ~1.5 mi RT), Seven Magic Mountains, or Calico Ghost Town
- Return to Orange County via I-15 (expect heavy holiday traffic from Baker to Barstow)

Option 2 does not include a Wave attempt; it needs a Kanab base.

Meals: not included

Driving times and trail distances are approximate. No meals are included on any day of this trip.

Lodging Options

Tier	Kanab (Option 1)	Bryce Canyon City / Tropic (Option 2, Nights 1-2)	St. George / Mesquite / Las Vegas (Option 2, Night 3)
2-Star	Budget motels (Quality Inn-type)	Bryce View Lodge-type budget motels	Value motels in Mesquite / St. George; Strip or downtown value hotels
3-Star	Holiday Inn Express / Best Western Plus-type	Best Western Plus Bryce Canyon Grand / Ruby’s Inn-type	Hampton Inn / Holiday Inn Express-type
4-Star	Limited: boutique inns (Parry Lodge-type)	Limited: Ruby’s Inn upper-tier rooms	Upscale hotels in St. George or on the Strip

Properties are examples; confirm availability when booking. Holiday dates run higher; lodging for New Year’s Eve is quoted at booking (expect roughly +15-25%). Las Vegas resort fees are extra.

What's Included

- 3 nights of accommodation at the selected hotel tier and option
- Rental vehicle with fuel and parking / park fees: SUV for 2-4 guests, minivan for 5-6, full-size van / minibus for 7-8
- Trip organizer drives throughout, with participants helping out (fuel stops, navigation, etc.)
- Trip planning and coordination

Not included: all meals (breakfast, lunch, and dinner), Wave lottery application and permit fees, Wire Pass day-use fee, hotel taxes and resort fees, alcohol, gratuities, and travel insurance.

Price — Option 1: 3 Nights in Kanab

Last-minute booking, per person, double occupancy.

Group size	Vehicle	2-Star	3-Star	4-Star
2	SUV	\$910-\$1,050	\$960-\$1,130	\$1,045-\$1,250
3	SUV	\$715-\$830	\$765-\$910	\$850-\$1,030
4	SUV	\$595-\$700	\$645-\$780	\$730-\$900
5	Minivan	\$585-\$690	\$640-\$775	\$720-\$895
6	Minivan	\$550-\$650	\$600-\$730	\$685-\$850
7	Full-Size Van/Minibus	\$555-\$675	\$610-\$760	\$690-\$880
8	Full-Size Van/Minibus	\$530-\$645	\$585-\$725	\$665-\$845

Price — Option 2: 2 Nights at Bryce Canyon + 1 Night St. George / Mesquite / Las Vegas

Last-minute booking, per person, double occupancy.

Group size	Vehicle	2-Star	3-Star	4-Star
2	SUV	\$900–\$1,045	\$955–\$1,135	\$1,035–\$1,260
3	SUV	\$705–\$825	\$760–\$915	\$840–\$1,040
4	SUV	\$585–\$695	\$640–\$785	\$720–\$910
5	Minivan	\$575–\$690	\$630–\$780	\$710–\$905
6	Minivan	\$540–\$645	\$595–\$735	\$675–\$860
7	Full-Size Van/Minibus	\$545–\$675	\$600–\$765	\$680–\$890
8	Full-Size Van/Minibus	\$520–\$640	\$575–\$730	\$655–\$855

Prices include a late-booking surcharge on vehicle and lodging.

Occupancy Adjustments (per person)

Option 1

Occupancy	2-Star	3-Star	4-Star
Double (2/room) — standard	Included	Included	Included
Single (1/room)	+\$155	+\$220	+\$320
Triple (3/room)	–\$50	–\$75	–\$110
Quad (4/room)	–\$75	–\$110	–\$160

Option 2

Occupancy	2-Star	3-Star	4-Star
Double (2/room) — standard	Included	Included	Included
Single (1/room)	+\$150	+\$220	+\$320
Triple (3/room)	–\$50	–\$75	–\$110
Quad (4/room)	–\$75	–\$110	–\$160

Organizer tip: a tip of 5–10% of trip cost is highly suggested for whoever plans, books, and coordinates the trip.

Driver / group helper discount: travelers who drive or otherwise help run the trip get 50% off their share of the gas cost.

Payment Schedule (Last-Minute Booking)

Payment	Amount	Due date
Deposit	75% of trip cost	Now, non-refundable
Final Payment	25% of trip cost	Thursday, December 17, 2026 (2 weeks before departure), non-refundable

Optional Extras & Points of Interest

- **Strenuous extras (Option 1):** The Wave (Coyote Buttes North), lottery permit required (Day 3 only); Fairyland Loop at Bryce (~8 mi RT, ~1,500 ft gain, icy)
- **Moderate extras:** Navajo Loop and Wall Street (~1.3 mi, if open); Peekaboo Loop (~5.5 mi); Wire Pass to the Buckskin confluence (~3.4 mi RT)
- Bryce extras: ranger-led snowshoe hikes (seasonal), Mossy Cave, Kodachrome Basin State Park
- Along the way: Calico Ghost Town, Valley of Fire, Seven Magic Mountains, Coral Pink Sand Dunes, Best Friends Animal Sanctuary, Checkerboard Mesa

Rate Notes

- **Holidays:** Peak holiday dates carry higher hotel rates and fill early, so lodging for Christmas week and New Year's is quoted at booking (expect roughly +15–25% on lodging).
- **The Wave:** permits are by BLM lottery only and not guaranteed; fees are paid by each guest. AWD or chains may be required in winter.
- Hotel rates are market estimates; book early, as weekends and holidays fill quickly.
- Rates are per person, in USD, before hotel taxes and resort fees; final pricing is confirmed once group size is set.



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