

# Dinosaur Diamond – Places To Visit

## Grand Junction (CO)

Grand Junction is near the Colorado National Monument.



## Colorado National Monument (CO)

The Colorado National Monument offers a good look at Colorado Plateau landscape and Indian rock art.

**Directions:** outside of Grand Junction, CO

## Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre, and Gunnison National Forests (CO)

The Forests include spectacular features like Bridal Veil Falls, Grand Mesa, and Alpine Tunnel.



## McInnis Canyons National Conservation Area (CO)

Created in 2001, this conservation area is located along the Colorado River.

**Directions:** near Grand Junction, CO



## Dinosaur Hill (CO)

In 1901 Elmer Riggs excavated the "Brontosaurus" (Apatosaurus) that is now on display in the Chicago Field Museum of Natural History.

**Directions:** near Fruita, CO



## Riggs Hill (CO)

This is the field site where Elmer Riggs of the Field Museum in Chicago and his crew excavated a Brachiosaurus altithorax in 1900.

**Directions:** near Fruita, CO





### **Mygatt-Moore Quarry (CO)**

A dinosaur quarry currently being investigated by cooperative agreement between the BLM and the Museum of Western Colorado.

**Directions:** near Mack, CO

### **Fruita (CO)**



Fruita is near the Colorado National Monument and Grand Junction.

**Directions:** Fruita, CO.

### **Dinosaur Journey Museum (CO)**

The Dinosaur Journey Museum is a hands-on facility that combines robotic dinosaurs with unique fossil finds from all over the Diamond.

**Directions:** A few miles west of Grand Junction on I-70, go north to Colorado Highway 6. The city of Fruita is on Hwy 6.

### **Douglas Pass (CO)**



From Douglas Pass, you can see the surrounding area in Colorado and into Utah.

**Directions:** Douglas Pass along CO-139, CO

### **Canyon Pintado (CO)**

The Fremont Indian culture left many marks that are still visible to visitors today in this area.

## **Rangely (CO)**

In the area surrounding Rangely, ruins and rock art are hidden among the canyons.

**Directions:** Rangely, CO



### **Rangely Museum (CO)**

The Rangely Museum has displays on local history and prehistory.

**Directions:** Rangely, CO

## **Dinosaur (CO)**

Dinosaur is the gateway to the Dinosaur Diamond in Colorado and Dinosaur National Monument.

**Directions:** Dinosaur, CO



### **Dinosaur Welcome Center (CO)**

This State of Colorado Welcome Center provides information as you enter Colorado.

**Directions:** At the junction of US 40 and CO-64 in Dinosaur, Colorado.

### **Dinosaur National Monument Headquarters and Visitor Center (CO)**

Dinosaur National Monument is located in both Utah and Colorado, and this Visitors Center is on the Colorado side.

**Directions:** just east of Dinosaur, CO



### **Musket Shot Springs Scenic Overlook (UT)**

Scenic views of the area and information regarding the history of the area can be found here before reaching Colorado.

**Directions:** Near UT/CO border, UT

### **Dinosaur National Monument (UT)**



See a 160-foot-long wall with over 1600 dinosaur bones at this, the home of the world's largest Jurassic period dinosaur quarry. Displays of fossils, archaeology, and dinosaur history can be seen.

### **Dinosaur Quarry of Dinosaur National Monument (UT)**

A sandstone ridge containing dinosaur bones forms one wall of the visitor center to give visitors a chance to see how bones are excavated.

**Directions:** just east of Vernal, UT.



### **Red Fleet State Park (UT)**

Dominated by the three red sandstone 'ships' which give it its name, Red Fleet supplies camping, boating, swimming and fishing facilities to the Vernal area. Dinosaur footprints from the Triassic period are visible on a 3/4-mile hike.

**Directions:** near Vernal, UT

## Vernal (UT)

Vernal is the largest community in the Flaming Gorge area.

**Directions:** Vernal, UT



### Utah Field House of Natural History (UT)

Exhibits of area animals, geology, paleontology, prehistory, and history can be seen next to 18 life size replicas of prehistoric creatures in a garden setting.

**Directions:** Vernal, UT

### Utah Welcome Center and Visitor Information (UT)

This welcome center is located near the Utah/Colorado border on US-40, and is a great place to find information.

**Directions:** east of Vernal on UT/CO border, UT.

## Roosevelt (UT)



Roosevelt serves as the recreational outlet to the High Uintas Wilderness Area.

**Directions:** Roosevelt, UT

### Roosevelt Ranger District Office (UT)

The Roosevelt Ranger District Office offers additional information about the Uinta Mountains visible to the north.

**Directions:** Roosevelt, UT

### **Ouray National Wildlife Refuge (UT)**

This wildlife refuge is a haven for many migrating birds, ducks, and other land animals, and fish.

**Directions:** near Ouray, UT



### **Nine Mile Canyon (UT)**

The Fremont Culture left a rich legacy of petroglyphs in Nine Mile Canyon.

**Directions:** located along US-191, UT

### **Wellington (UT)**

The road to Nine Mile Canyon is located just two miles east of Wellington.

**Directions:** Wellington, UT

### **Duchesne (UT)**

Located near the petroglyphs in Nine Mile Canyon, Duchesne provides many recreational opportunities and visitor services.

**Directions:** Duchesne, UT



### **Ashley National Forest-Duchesne Ranger Station (UT)**

There are an abundance of recreational opportunities awaiting the visitor to the Ashley National Forest-Duchesne Ranger Station.

**Directions:** Duchesne, UT

### **Indian Canyon Summit Scenic Pullout (UT)**

This scenic overlook provides visitors with vistas of over 20 and 30 miles.

**Directions:** US-191 between Helper and Duchesne, UT

### **Asphalt Ridge Scenic Turnout (UT)**

This scenic turnout provides many grand views of the Uintah Mountains and surrounding mountains and area.

**Directions:** Scenic overlook off US 40/191, UT

### **Helper (UT)**

Settled by Teancum Pratt in 1870, Helper drew many people due to its thriving coal-mining operations.



### **Western Mining and Railroad Museum (UT)**

This museum in the heart of historic Helper features a simulated 1900 coal mine, as well as many artifacts and displays about mining and railroad history in the area.

**Directions:** Helper, UT

### **Price (UT)**



Price offers a closer look at archaeology in the area as well as many visitor services.

**Directions:** Price, UT



### **College of Eastern Utah Prehistoric Museum (UT)**

This university-operated museum has world-class exhibits including the Utahraptor Dinosaur and (one of their own discoveries) the Gastonia burgei. In the hall of Archeology is the Colombian Mammoth and information about the prehistoric cultures of Utah.

**Directions:** Price, UT



### **Cleveland-Lloyd Dinosaur Quarry National Natural Landmark (UT)**



This quarry is rich in dinosaur bones, and the bones uncovered here are displayed throughout the world.

**Directions:** near Castle Dale, UT

### **Museum of San Rafael in Castle Dale (UT)**



The Museum of San Rafael in Castle Dale has an outstanding exhibit on dinosaurs and local archaeology.

**Directions:** Castle Dale, UT

### **Roadside Scenic Pullout (UT)**

The drive along US-191 can be a scenic feast for the eyes, so get out of your car and enjoy your surroundings.

**Directions:** Along US-191 between Green River and Price, UT



### **Fisher Towers Recreation Area (UT)**

These rock pinnacles soar above a maze of red and purple-hued canyons.

**Directions:** Located in Castle Valley area along the Colorado River

## Green River (UT)



Located on the banks of the Green River, this Utah town offers a variety of attractions, including flat water river trips down the Green River. The John Wesley Powell River History Museum is another attraction.

**Directions:** Green River, UT

## Manti-La Sal National Forest (UT)

Diverse landscapes of red rock, wooded forest, and geologic extremes contrast nicely with each other in the 1,413,111 acres of Manti-La Sal National Forest.

## Cisco (UT)

The first evidence of modern habitation after crossing the Colorado/Utah border is the ghost town of Cisco, an abandoned uranium mining town.

**Directions:** Cisco, UT

## Matrimony Springs Pterosaur Tracks (UT)

Pterosaur tracks are preserved in a bench in sandstone.

**Directions:** Between Cisco and Moab, UT

## Dewey Suspension Bridge (UT)



This wood-and-iron suspension bridge across the Colorado River was built in 1916.

**Directions:** On the byway between Cisco and Moab



### **Big Bend Recreation Site (UT)**

This BLM-managed area has several campsites, and offers access to the river, a nice beach, disabled access facilities and picnic areas.

**Directions:** On the Colorado River between Cisco and Moab.

### **Moab (UT)**



Known as a world class recreation town, Moab is also home to Indian rock art, dinosaur track sites, and dinosaur bone sites.



### **Arches National Park (UT)**

With the greatest concentration of natural stone arches and bridges in the world, this national park is a treat for the imagination. Early settlers thought the arches and pillars evidence of an ancient civilization.

**Directions:** By Moab.

### **Canyonlands National Park, Island in the Sky District (UT)**

The northern section of Canyonlands, which overlooks Upheaval Dome and Grand View Point.

**Directions:** UT, east of Arches National Park and UT191



### **Canyonlands National Park - Needles District (UT)**

The Needles District of the sprawling Canyonlands National Park is home to thousands of acres of finely-shaped pinnacles, spires, mushrooms and fins carved by erosion in the orange and beige sandstone.

**Directions:** Take Hwy. 191 (south) to Hwy. 211.

### **Copper Ridge Dinosaur Trackway Site (UT)**

This site gives visitors the opportunity to see sauropod and theropod tracks.

**Directions:** north of Moab, UT

### **Dan O'Laurie Museum of Moab (UT)**

Located in the heart of downtown Moab, this privately-run museum covers a broad spectrum of topics from paleontology to local mining history, movie sites, geology, and archeology.



### **Deadhorse Point State Park (UT)**

The Byway ends at the state park, where the mighty Colorado River can be seen from an overlook.

**Directions:** north of Moab, UT

### **Mill Canyon Dinosaur Trail (UT)**

Mill Canyon Dinosaur Trail is a short trail to dinosaur bones visible in the bedrock.

**Directions:** UT



### **Negro Bill's Canyon (UT)**

This canyon is well-known locally for its hiking opportunities. A 2-mile hike along a perennial clear stream in scenic canyon country leads to Morning Glory Natural Bridge.

**Directions:** Located east of Moab along the Colorado River



### **Newspaper Rock (UT)**

Newspaper Rock State Historical Monument is a petroglyph panel etched in sandstone that records perhaps 2,000 years of human activity in the area.

**Directions:** Take Hwy. 191 from Moab to Hwy. 211 north of Monticello.



### **Potash Road (UT)**

Red rock walls on both banks of the Colorado River display Indian rock art.

**Directions:** Just north of Moab, UT



### **Slickrock Bike Trail (UT)**

This premier (and insanely popular) mountain biking trail travels through rugged redrock terrain just east of Moab. A short practice loop will whet your appetite for the main course (experts only.)

**Directions:** Located on the redrock mesa above Moab to the east.

### **Westwater (UT)**

At this BLM Ranger Station you may arrange for 1 and 2 day whitewater rafting trips on the Colorado River.