



## Road Construction Information

Starting June 7, 2010, the reconstruction of a 9.5-mile section of the Zion-Mt. Carmel Highway from the junction of the Zion Canyon Scenic Drive to the East Entrance will cause delays and closures. The closures will occur Monday through Friday, with Saturday and Sunday open, subject to traffic control. *The construction does not impact Zion Canyon, the most visited area of the park.* Those traveling between US Highway 89 and Zion Canyon should be aware of the construction schedule.

### Monday through Friday

- Road closed from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., all vehicles must be beyond Canyon Junction or past the East Entrance by 9:00 a.m. to drive through the construction zone.
- Road open from 4:00 p.m. to 9:00 a.m., subject to traffic control. No stopping or parking in the construction zone.
- Large vehicles, over 11'4" tall or 7'10" wide, may travel through the tunnel from 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. and from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. A \$15 escort permit is required.

### Saturday and Sunday

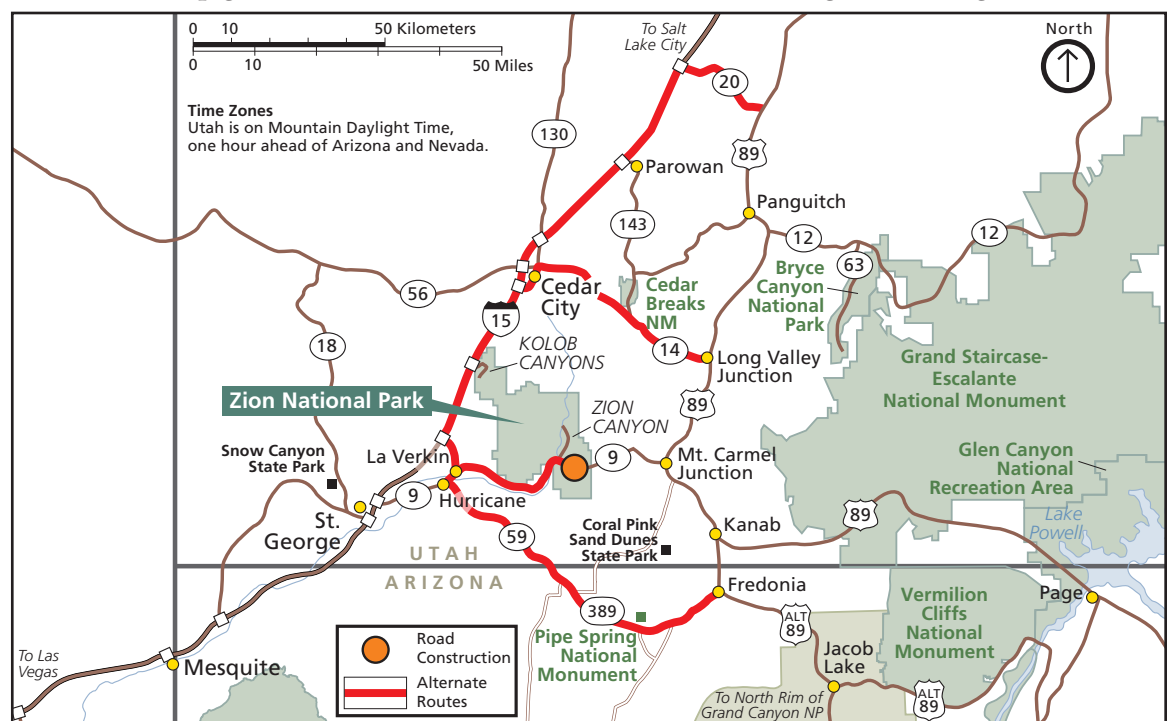
- Road open, subject to traffic control. Parking permitted in designated areas.
- Large vehicles may travel through the tunnel from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m., hours may be reduced in August.

Bicycles are not permitted in the construction zone at any time.

Call 435 772-3256 (press 1, then 4) or visit [www.nps.gov/zion](http://www.nps.gov/zion) for current information.

### Alternate Routes

Alternate routes to US Highway 89 are Utah SR 59 from Hurricane to Arizona SR 389 (1.5 hours—good for large vehicles); Utah SR 14 from Cedar City to Long Valley Junction (2 hours—steep grades); or from I-15 to Utah SR 20 (2 hours—good for large vehicles).



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## Frequently Asked Questions

### *When can I go through Zion National Park?*

Travel is possible at all times other than Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. when the road from the East Entrance to Zion Canyon will be closed to all vehicles.

### *Is the park closed when the road is closed?*

No. Zion National Park and the shuttle system are open and visitor services will not be interrupted during the construction project.

### *I don't want to take an alternate route. Where can I wait for the road to open?*

You can wait outside the park where there are several areas with parking that have seating, restrooms, restaurants, horseback riding and shopping. There are no parking areas for vehicles to wait at the entrance of the park. Vehicles waiting on the roadway would cause traffic congestion.

### *If I am in line at the entrance station at 8:55 a.m., will I be able to get through?*

It is not guaranteed. The barricades will go up at 9:00 a.m. whether you are through the gate or not. Please do not "cut it close". Come early and have your park pass or tunnel pass purchased ahead of time. Park rangers will be making an express lane for people who have already paid their fees.

### *I don't want to get caught in a long line when the road opens at 4:00 p.m., can I arrive early and wait?*

Please do not try to arrive early! Because of congestion near the construction zone, all vehicles will be turned away before 4:00 p.m. It is far better for you to leave a little later than try to be there at 4:00 p.m.

### *Why is the road construction happening in the summer during the day?*

The project must be done during the construction season from May to October. Work cannot be done during other months because it is too cold for paving. Additionally, winter conditions including fog, frozen ground, snow, and ice are not conducive to road construction and the dirt sections of the work area would be impassable in wet weather. Although there will be night work, not all of the work could be done at night. Safety, wildlife, and environmental concerns prevented total night work from being an option.

### *Can I get through with an oversized vehicle when the road is open?*

Yes, but there are specific times for large vehicles over 11'4" tall or 7'10" wide to go through the Zion-Mt. Carmel Tunnel. This includes most motor homes, trailers, dual-wheeled vehicles, and buses. Information about hours and procedures for large vehicles is posted at entrance stations, in the Map and Guide, and also at [www.nps.gov/zion](http://www.nps.gov/zion).

### *Can I stop and hike when the road is open?*

Only on weekends and holidays. However, Monday through Friday vehicles will not be permitted to stop or park in the construction zone. Because work will be done at times other than the closure hours, including nights, vehicles stopped or left unattended may be trapped or interfere with work.

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