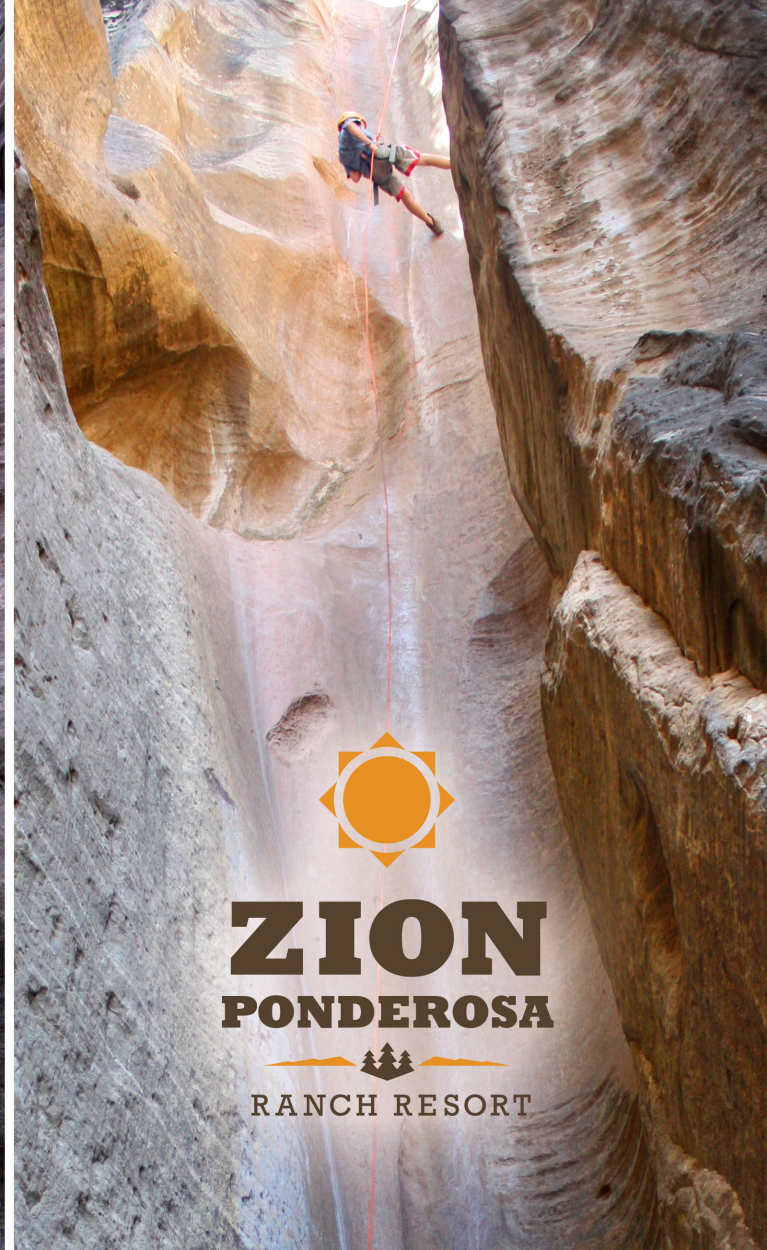




- ◆ 4,000 Acres Bordering Zion National Park
- ◆ Six Lodging Types (Camping to Deluxe Cabins)
- ◆ Dining, Spa Services, Diverse Amenities
- ◆ More Activity Options Than Any Regional Resort



CANYONEERING



**ZION
PONDEROSA**


RANCH RESORT



For Immediate Release

Outdoor Adventure Resort Borders National Park

Zion National Park, Utah - June 24, 2012 - There's a great opportunity that comes with living next to a national Park, at least that's the feeling of the management of the 4,000 acre Zion Ponderosa Ranch Resort. "Our property runs against the eastern border of Zion National Park and it's an opportunity and a responsibility for us," says general manager Michael Kane. Mr. Kane holds an advanced degree in outdoor recreation from the University of Utah and he treasures the opportunity he enjoys at Zion Ponderosa. "With several thousand acres of private ground, at a cooler elevation of 6,500 feet, we have plenty of room for our guests to spread out and enjoy various activities. Add to that the ability to venture into the surrounding canyons for hiking, canyoneering, horseback riding and other activities, and our guests really have the outdoor world at their finger-tips."

Zion National Park stretches 30 miles in length and 15 miles across at its widest point. "There's so much ground to explore that you'll never run out of new things to see at Zion Park," suggests reservation manager Julie Millard. With Zion Ponderosa's location on the east side of Zion National Park, it is much closer to what locals refer to as America's highest concentration of natural scenic wonders. One look at a map and it is quite obvious that the region is a treasure of scenery, with Bryce Canyon just 75 minutes away, the Grand Canyon north rim a two-hour drive and Lake Powell just 100 minutes away. "A good percentage of our guests make a half-day or full-day excursion to Bryce Canyon and many drive to other scenic attractions," says Kane.

Four world-class attractions in such close proximity is quite remarkable, but it doesn't end with national parks or national recreation areas. The region surrounding Zion Ponderosa is also home to Cedar Breaks, Pipe Spring, and the Grand Staircase National Monuments, along with several Utah State Parks and a strong list of designated scenic highways and byways. Scenic Highway 9 passes through Zion National Park and nearby Scenic Highway 89 goes north to Bryce Canyon and south toward the Grand Canyon. National Scenic Byway 12 near Bryce Canyon is rated an All-American-Highway and Car & Driver Magazine has designated it as one of the top-ten scenic highways in America. "The visitor to a national park is generally looking for a complete experience in lodging and services that matches their experience within a national park," adds Kane. "With our cabins, mountain homes and camping options on a forest plateau next to Zion, we truly offer the experience visitors are looking for."

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For Immediate Release

Canyoneering – The Real Outdoor Adventure

Zion National Park, Utah - June 24, 2012

Stand sideways in a narrow space where a very tall wall touches your chest and back, and you've got an inkling of what it is like to enter one of southern Utah's unique slot canyons. Travelers continue to gain greater interest in the new sport called Canyoneering, which means to rappel, scramble, climb, and scoot your way through this ungainly slot canyon terrain. Zion Ponderosa Ranch Resort is one of the key providers of Canyoneering experiences near Zion National Park, and offers daily excursions through the summer and early fall months.

These narrow slot passages are carved by wind, water, and the occasional wood and rock debris that passes roughly through during a flash flood. Such convoluted spaces allow only reflected light to enter their deepest recesses, but this provides a setting that is ethereal and very unique in the natural world. Few places on this planet offer more slot canyons than does southern Utah, and many of these formations are found in the vicinity of Zion National Park. "We border Zion National park with our 4,000 acre ranch resort," says Zion Ponderosa General Manager Michael Kane. "Our location puts us very close to the many canyons that feed into Zion Park, and this is very convenient for our guests who are looking for outdoor adventure."

Small groups of 6 to 10 people are escorted by guides at the front and rear of the exploration group. The front guide sets the ropes and makes the first descent on each of the many down-climbs that the group will undertake. No experience is necessary, just a sense for a little adventure and a willingness to take the first tough steps over the first edge. "Once people get over their first obstacle, they usually get very excited and even anxious for the next rappel," says Kourtney Aldous, recreation manager for the resort. "For some people, the first few steps are a little daunting but our guests really rave about their experience when they return to the resort."

Canyoneering is one of the more unique adventures in the world and yet this once-in-a-lifetime adventure is easily accomplished with the guides at Zion Ponderosa Ranch Resort.

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