

# Itineraries From Panguitch, Utah

## Day One: Red Canyon / Casto Canyon / Losee Canyon



**Explore these three canyons** that are all part of the Dixie National Forest. Go east from downtown Panguitch and follow Scenic Highway 89 as it bends south (seven miles) to Scenic Byway 12. Turn east (left) on Scenic Byway 12 toward Bryce Canyon National Park. Just over one mile up the road you'll encounter a dirt road with signs pointing to the trail-heads for both Casto and Losee Canyons. You may venture to these canyons for hiking, mountain biking, ATV riding, or you may continue straight on Scenic Byway 12 to Red Canyon (.5 miles).

**Here you'll find a visitor information center** with details on how what to see and do in Red Canyon and the surrounding area. Explore side canyons or venture on the paved path that leads to the top of the canyon. This is ideal for people on foot or on a bicycle. The paved trail follows Scenic Byway 12 as it winds to the east, crossing over ravines, and ascending to the Pansaugunt Plateau. The return walk or ride downhill is easy going and very enjoyable. Upon completion of your chosen activities you may return to Panguitch for dining, shopping and lodging.



## Day Two: Bryce Canyon National Park



**Bryce Canyon National Park** is actually a series of amphitheaters that run for approximately 20 miles along the eastern rim of the Pansaugunt Plateau. You may venture the full length of this beautifully paved road to the end of the park, stopping at overlooks along the way. Interpretive signs and maps will provide valuable information about the things you are viewing and the potential views of wildlife, and other items of interest.

**Be sure to stop** at the visitor center just to the right after you enter the park, where you can enjoy films, interpretive information, and a gift shop filled with great books, photography, and other materials that will enhance your visit to Bryce Canyon. At the entrance of the park you are at an elevation of 8,000 feet and there are trails that descend off many view points into the various amphitheaters. Walking or hiking these trails is one of the great experiences to be found at Bryce Canyon.

**You can also arrange to ride horseback** into the canyon. You can pick up groceries or box lunches to go in Panguitch so you can enjoy a full-day experience in Bryce Canyon. Remember that you can choose to park your car and ride shuttles within the park, or take your own vehicle and venture where you choose.

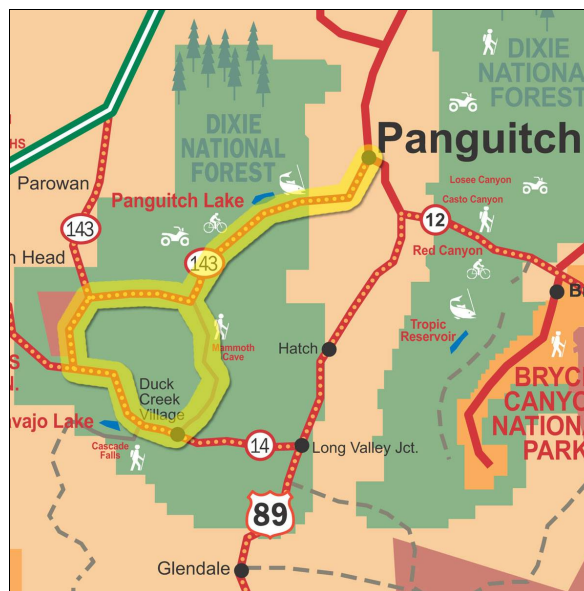


## Day Three: Panguitch Lake & Scenic Byway 143 & 14 Loop



**From Panguitch** go straight south from the center of town on Scenic Byway 143. On this road you will ascend 20 miles onto the the Markagunt Plateau toward Panguitch Lake. Here you may rent boats to go out on the lake for fishing or sight-seeing. Along the way to Panguitch Lake you will come near to Panguitch Creek in several locations with opportunities for picnicking or fishing.

**Beyond Panguitch Lake** you will continue to ascend through areas of open meadows, aspen and pine forests, and will catch views of large lava fields. This area was once a hot-bed for volcanic activity and the remnants of these ancient lava fields are continually visible. Approximately five miles past Panguitch Lake you will have the option of leaving Scenic Byway 143 and heading southeast on the Mammoth Creek road approximately 15 miles to connect with Scenic Byway 14 near Duck Creek Village. Along this road (approximately 5 miles) you'll find a turn to the east (left) that leads to a lava tube known as Mammoth Cave. Follow signs a short distance to Mammoth Cave where you can enter the main cavern and walk a short distance to the back of the cave.



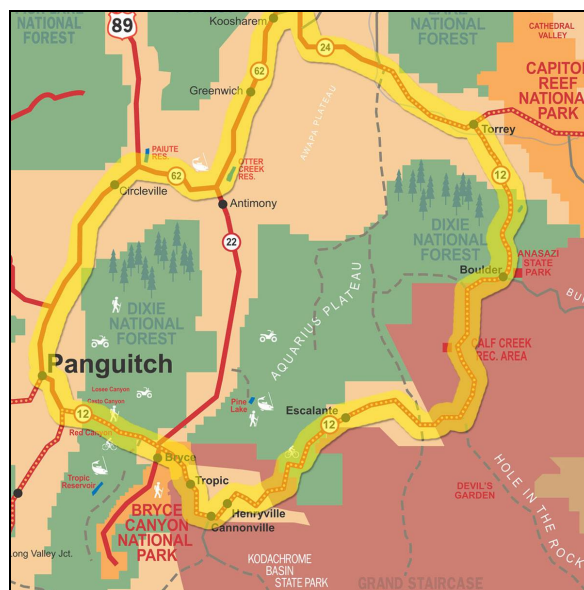
**Once on Scenic Byway 14** you have the option of driving to the trail-head for Cascade Falls (.5 miles each way) and seeing where water comes from the bottom of Navajo Lake and exits from the side of a mountain. You can also fish, shoot photographs, or go boating on Navajo Lake (rentals available). Just past Navajo Lake you can catch glimpses toward the upper valleys and formations of Zion National Park, and then turn right onto highway 148 which will take you to Cedar Breaks National Monument. From Cedar Breaks you can loop back on Scenic Byway 143 toward Panguitch.

## Day Four: Scenic Byway 12



**From Panguitch** first head east and then follow the road as it bends to the south on Highway 89 to Scenic Byway 143 (just seven miles). Scenic Byway 143 extends 120 miles from this point all the way to Capitol Reef National Park on the north end. This road is rated as one of the “Top 10 Scenic Drives in American” by Car & Driver Magazine. This road is great for driving, but is also a sought after trip for motorcycle enthusiasts who love the twists and turns.

**This road takes you through Red Canyon**, across the Pangsaugunt Plateau, past Bryce Canyon and down through the Paria Valley. You may wish to take the short drive from Cannonville to Kodachrome Basin State Park, which is one of the best hidden secrets of the region. Further along Scenic Byway 143 you will ascend past formations called The Blues just below Powell Point which is the southern tip of the Aquarius Plateau. Then you'll descend slowly toward Escalante where you find access points up onto Boulder Mountain or down into the slot canyons of the Escalante Grand Staircase. Devils Garden and other attractions are found along the Hole-In-The-Rock road just past Escalante.



**Further on Scenic Byway 143** you'll come across lower and upper Calf Creek Falls (both excellent hikes to view the falls). In the town of Boulder is the Anasazi Indian Village State Park, and then you'll pass over high ridges through the forest before descending to the town of Torrey. You may visit Capitol Reef National Park, or swing west to loop back to Panguitch on highway 24, 62, and 89. This makes for a good day of driving, walking, hiking, or whatever you choose to do.

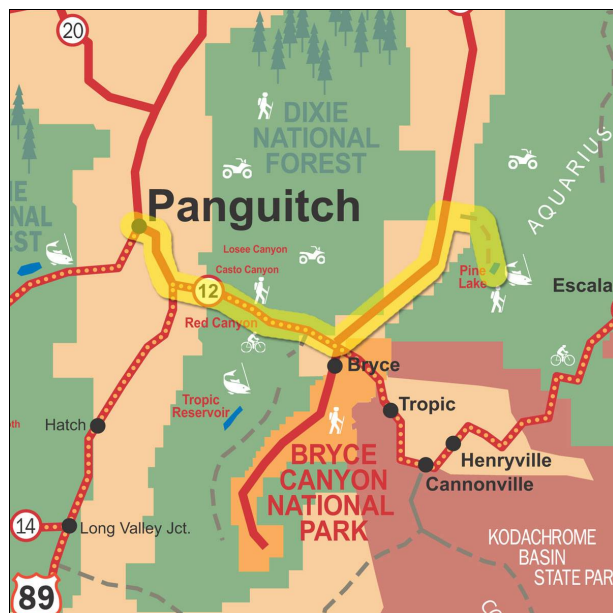
## Day Five: Pine Lake – Mountain Excursion



**From Panguitch head east** and then south on Highway 89 to Scenic Byway 143 (just seven miles). Follow Scenic Byway 143 until you arrive at the Bryce Canyon Airport. Just past the Airport turn left (north) on Highway 22.

**Follow this road approximately 10 miles** until you reach a road leading right to Pine Lake. Follow this road (dirt) approximately 6 miles to Pine Lake. Enjoy fishing, picnicking, hiking, photography or other activities in this very picturesque location.

**You may return** to highway 22 and circle north through Antimony to Otter Creek and Paiute Reservoir for excellent fishing opportunities, then circling south again on highway 89 back to Panguitch.



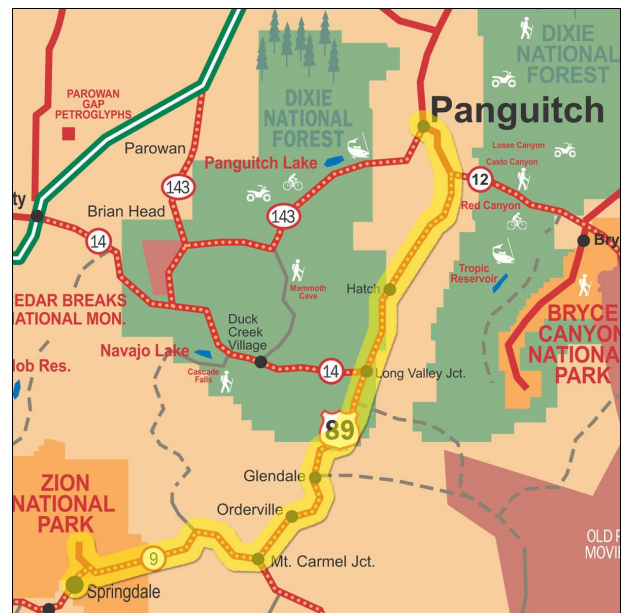
## Day Six: Zion National Park



**From Panguitch it is just 74 miles** to the east gate of Zion National Park. Venture east from town on highway 89 and follow the road as it bends to the south. You'll descend through beautiful valleys and narrow forest canyons through picturesque small towns until you reach Mt. Carmel Junction. At the junction follow the signs to the west just 15 miles to the east gate of Zion National Park. From here you'll venture down through the upper eastern portion of the park. Be sure to keep your eyes open for bighorn sheep as this is their favorite hang-out.

**You'll come to a short tunnel** and then to the main mile-long tunnel that was cut in 1935 to allow visitors to access the park from the east. There are windows in the tunnel that look out across the main canyons of Zion National Park. As you exit the tunnel you'll descend on a series of switch-backs that take you to the town of Springdale. Park your car in Springdale and ride the shuttle into the main canyon. Shuttles make stops at many view points in the main canyon and you can get off a shuttle and back on another (they come by every 10 minutes or so).

**Note:** Shuttles run from March through October, and sometimes on busy weekends in the off-season. Suggested stopping points are; Court of the Patriarchs, Weeping Rock, Emerald Pools, Temple of Sinewava. From Zion Canyon you can return the scenic way you came, to Panguitch for the evening.



## Preparation:

Remember that these itineraries are just ideas for your consideration. Always consider your physical abilities, and bring along the necessary supplies you will need for each day trip (water, food, hat, sunscreen, clothing layers, etc.). Your experience will be all that you hope for as you properly prepare to experience the scenic beauty surrounding Panguitch, Utah.

## Itinerary Maps:

Print out larger versions of these itinerary maps by visiting this web-page: [www.Panguitch.com/itineraries/](http://www.Panguitch.com/itineraries/)