

Grants & Competitions .....	14
Forthcoming in	
AAG Journals.....	16
Award Deadlines.....	16
Jobs in Geography .....	17
Events .....	47

# Explore the Grand Canyon

The Grand Canyon is one of the world's great natural wonders. All those attending the 2009 Annual Meeting should consider registering for an AAG field trip to the Grand Canyon. Many field trips are currently under development. A number of local commercial excursion companies also offer trips to Grand Canyon National

Park which is only a few hours from Las Vegas and easily within driving distance.

Many sessions at the 2009 AAG Annual Meeting will address various topics related to the Grand Canyon, including challenges to recreation and tourism, irrigation issues, history, iconography, and debates in geomorphology. Noted speakers will include James Powell (University of Southern California), author of *Grand Canyon: Solving Earth's Greatest Puzzle*, and Donald Worster (University of Kansas), author of *A River Running West: The Life of John Wesley Powell*. For more on the AAG Annual Meeting visit [www.aag.org/annualmeetings/2009](http://www.aag.org/annualmeetings/2009).

Over 277 miles long, the Grand Canyon is a massive rift in the Colorado Plateau that varies in width between 4 and 18 miles and descends to depths of approximately 6,000 feet. Carved over a span of 17 million years by the Colorado River, it offers visual displays of pre-Cambrian rock, stunning vistas, and abundant plant and wildlife. No reservations are needed and entry fees to the park are minimal. Downloadable hiking maps, a trip planner, a list of hotels and restaurants, a complete fee schedule and more are available at [www.nps.gov/grca](http://www.nps.gov/grca). ■



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A number of AAG field trips to the Grand Canyon are currently under development. Check [www.aag.org/annualmeetings/2009](http://www.aag.org/annualmeetings/2009) for new field trip listings as they become available.