



Preparing for your visit to the Desert Studies Center

Weather and road conditions can change rapidly in the Mojave Desert. Be prepared before you leave!

- Expect no cell service away from DSC; bring offline or print maps
- Tell trustworthy people where you are going and when you expect to return
- Carry ample water and food, appropriate clothing and safety gear, and essential tools (the nearest drug and full-service grocery stores are in Barstow, 55 mi S)
- Keep a full gas tank. Closest gas is in Baker (12 mi N) and at Rasor Rd exit (11 mi S).
- If driving in the Preserve, be sure that your vehicle has an inflated spare tire and that someone in your party knows how to change a tire
- Check current weather and road conditions, as well as I-15 traffic:

- Weather forecast (NWS): <https://forecast.weather.gov/MapClick.php?lon=-116.11230674540205&lat=35.12211877102804>

- Mojave National Preserve conditions and closures:
<https://www.nps.gov/moja/planyourvisit/conditions.htm>

Checklist - What to bring:

non-disposable water bottle (at least 1 L)
brimmed hat
sunscreen (≥ 30 spf)
boots or sturdy shoes
lightweight long-sleeve shirt
(sun protection - avoid wearing black, which absorbs heat)
warm layers, hat, and gloves
(for winter - cold and windy)
toiletries and medications
personal first aid kit

bath towel
sleeping bag and pillow
mobile phone and wall charger

Optional:

sunglasses
binoculars
camera
field notebook and pencil
non-disposable coffee/tea mug

DSC physical address: 49441 Zzyzx Road, Baker, CA 92309, Mojave National Preserve