



## **Bowknot Bend**

### **United States**

This section of the Green River canyon in eastern Utah is known as Bowknot Bend because of the way the river doubles back on itself. The loop carries river rafters 14.5 kilometers (9 miles) before bringing them back to nearly the same point they started from—though on the other side of a low, narrow saddle. The reason for the tight bends in the Green River is the same as it is for the mighty Mississippi: river courses often wind over time when they flow across a bed of relatively soft sediment in a floodplain.

In this January 2014 photograph taken from the International Space Station, the Green River appears dark because it lies in deep shadow, 300 meters (1,000 feet) below the surrounding landscape. The yellow-tinged cliffs that face the rising Sun give a sense of the steep canyon walls. The straight white line across the scene is the contrail from a jetliner.