

EXPERIENCE YOUR  
**NATIONAL PARKS**



IN  
**VIRTUAL REALITY**



# YOUR VR PLAYBOOK



Millions of Americans find joy, inspiration and replenishment visiting our National Parks. Many people cannot visit the National Parks. Virtual Reality (VR) allows people an immersive experience of the majestic landscapes from the comfort of libraries. VR libraries can bring National Parks to a wider audience, inspiring people to visit parks and fostering appreciation of our natural environment.

## **Benefits of a VR Program on National Parks:**

Attractive to all age groups from students and teens to families and seniors  
Educational  
Novel and engaging content draws new and repeat patrons for visits  
Can be linked to library collections for further exploration

This VR Playbook is a roadmap for presenting the National Parks VR Program in a library.

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## **VR National Parks to Explore**

- Bryce Canyon • Bears Ears National Monument
- Grand Canyon • Joshua Tree • Yellowstone • Yosemite

# PREPARATION

Install the relevant National Park titles by downloading the Virtual Reality Apps listed below. These Apps focus on human interest, nature, environment and travel related content and are all free. They can be found by searching in the Oculus/Viveport store or on the device. Download the App to your VR device for easy access.

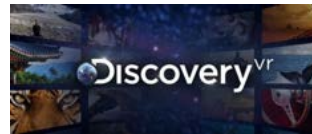
## Apps to Install for Accessing Content



Oculus Go  
Samsung Gear



Oculus Go  
Oculus Rift  
HTC Vive



Oculus Go  
Oculus Rift  
HTC Vive



Oculus Go  
Oculus Rift

Compatible Devices

ALL FREE

1



### SEARCH FOR APP, E.G. NAT GEO

- Go to Navigate Menu
- Click on Search Button
- Type 'National Geographic'
- Download App

2



### FIND APP IN LIBRARY

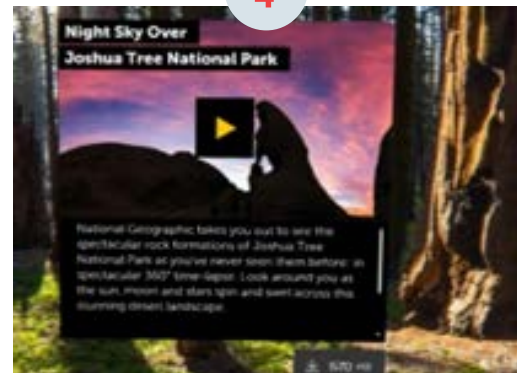
- Go to Navigate Menu
- Click on Library Button
- Find Required App

3



- Browse to find required Title

4



- Download Title(s)

# PLANNING

## Space

Designate an open, unobstructed space (minimum 6' x 6') for the VR setup. Basic setup includes seating and a table for equipment. VR on the Oculus Go is best experienced when seated so stable chairs are recommended. A separate room or meeting room can be booked when the VR Program is offered. If possible, think of an area near the main entrance to attract attention and generate patron curiosity.

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## Schedule

The National Park VR Program can be offered to fit your library's requirements and capability. Plan on at least 90 minutes for a program. Consider the target audience, staffing and space availability. You may offer it to all patrons or one just for teens or seniors. Target audiences and staff availability can influence scheduling. The National Park VR Tour or can be offered as a stand-alone program or as part of existing scheduled VR programs such as VR Nights or Tech Tuesdays.

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## Equipment

The best VR device for accessing the full range of National Park experiences is the Oculus Go. The Oculus Go offers an extensive range of gaming and non-gaming Apps and titles. If Oculus Gos are not available, other device options are Oculus Rift and the HTC Vive, although they offer somewhat limited National Park content.

It is recommended to have at least two headsets to ensure smooth running and reasonable wait times. In order to prepare the headsets, you need to download the VR Apps and content listed in this Guide.

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## Staffing

Demonstrating VR needs a staff person to oversee and help guide patrons. Viewing the content for National Parks VR is similar to watching a video and not very interactive. Patrons require a minimal amount of supervision and help. Patrons that are not tech-savvy and unfamiliar with the headsets, need help getting acquainted with equipment, navigating the menu and getting started with viewing. Staffing requirements depend on the type and size of the audience and their comfort level.

If staff is limited, the use of volunteers is a good solution. In our experience, we have seen libraries use teen volunteers. They are tech savvy and can build their public engagement skills by volunteering. We have also seen tech enthusiasts enthused about VR volunteering their time and knowledge. As patrons become more comfortable with VR, it may eventually be possible to eliminate the need for dedicated staff members, and have staff members as area monitors.



# RESOURCES



## NATIONAL PARK VR PLAYLIST

A curated list of some premier VR National Park titles with a summary of each title. This sheet can be printed out and displayed at the VR Station for patrons to view and select apps.

## USER INSTRUCTIONS

These are simple Instructions for patrons to get them familiar with the Oculus Go and how to use it. This page can be printed out and kept next to the headsets, so that patrons can read it before they use the device.

## NATIONAL PARK QUIZ

After the viewing, it may be desirable to have an optional follow-on activity or discussion. This Quiz or questionnaire can be presented to participants to engage them further about the experience and what they viewed

## XRLibraries

XRLibraries provides end to end solutions for XR implementation including equipment selection, installation, staff training and support. Our goal is to enable equitable access to emerging technologies for all communities.

## Webinars

We provide other resources including webinars covering topics such as the 'Using the Oculus Go', 'Virtual Travel' and use of different VR Titles and Apps.

# NATIONAL PARKS PLAYLIST

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## NIGHT SKY OVER JOSHUA TREE NATIONAL PARK

Bask in the spectacular vistas of Joshua Tree National Park in California and the night sky ablaze with stars. See the rock formations as you've never seen them before: in spectacular 360 time lapse.

RT: 2:41 mins | Available on: National Geographic

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## SOAR ABOVE BRYCE CANYON

Marvel at nature's handiwork at Bryce Canyon National Park as you take a breathtaking aerial ride across Bryce Canyon's red-orange-pink amphitheaters.

RT: 2:41 | Available on: National Geographic

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## BEARS EARS NATIONAL MONUMENT

Bears Ears is a desert landscape of immeasurable cultural value revered by its indigenous people. Explore the culture including the sacred kiva ceremony, the four story dwelling and rock paintings among other archeological treasures.

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## YOSEMITE WITH PRESIDENT OBAMA

Tour Yosemite National Park with President Obama as he honors the legacy of our country's national parks. Be in the company of President Obama and his family, as they visit the breathtaking landscapes of Yosemite National Park.

RT: 11:02 | Available on: Oculus Videos

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## AS IT IS: A GRAND CANYON VR DOCUMENTARY

Over 100 years ago, President Theodore Roosevelt asked us to leave the Grand Canyon "as it is". Journey down the Colorado River to see the Grand Canyon as too few do, from the bottom up. Run its biggest rapids, explore its slot canyons, and meet the Navajo and Hopi activists working to protect sacred sites.

RT: 17:05 | Available on: Littlestar

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## "VIRTUAL YELLOWSTONE"

National Geographic takes you on a tour of Yellowstone to see all the famous sights from Lamar Valley and bison to Old Faithful and Mammoth Hot Springs.

RT: 6:45 | Available on Littlestar

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## "AMERICA'S BEST IDEA"

Step inside Jonathan Irish's favorite natural places in America. Take a deep breath & look around as you catch a glimpse of Zion, Redwood, Acadia & Grand Canyon National Parks.

RT: 2:04 | Available on: Discovery VR



# QUIZ

## Test Your Knowledge » National Park VR Tour

### GENERAL QUESTIONS

- What did you find the most interesting or fascinating about the experiences?

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- Does experiencing National Parks in Virtual Reality make you curious or inspire you to:

- ☐ Explore National and local parks?
- ☐ Learn about public lands and their history?

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### THROUGH THE AGES: YOSEMITE WITH PRESIDENT OBAMA

- What was one of his most vivid childhood memories that President Obama recalled?

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### NIGHT SKY OVER JOSHUA TREE

- Why do you think the night sky looks so brilliant over Joshua Tree National Park?

- ☐ Located far from major cities
- ☐ Stars are closer to the Earth at that latitude

- What kind of climate does Joshua Tree have?

- ☐ Arid / Desert
- ☐ Alpine

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### SOAR ABOVE BRYCE CANYON

- What are the famous geological formations in Bryce Canyon National Park called?

- ☐ Spires
- ☐ Hoodoos

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### BEARS EARS NATIONAL MONUMENT

- What did the Pueblo people build 'Kivas' for?

- ☐ Wedding
- ☐ Preparing Food
- ☐ Ceremonies and Gatherings

- How many stories was the tallest dwelling in the Pueblo village?

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### AS ITS IS: A GRAND CANYON DOCUMENTARY

- How many visitors does Grand Canyon receive in a year?

- ☐ 100,000
- ☐ 2,000,00
- ☐ 6,000,000

- Which Native American tribes consider the Grand Canyon area sacred or having cultural significance?

- ☐ Navajo
- ☐ Hopi
- ☐ Zuni
- ☐ All of the above

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### AMERICA'S BEST IDEA | DISCOVERY

- In what state is Acadia National Park located?

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- According to the photographer, why are National Parks important?

- ☐ Beautiful scenery
- ☐ They are places where nature renews and motivates our human spirit



# OCULUS GO

## Tips on usage

- Take a seat and remain seated
- Make sure the headset is comfortable by adjusting the straps. If the image is blurry, adjust the straps or move the headset up and down
- To begin, press and hold the Home button  to initialize the controller

• If you feel dizzy or disoriented, close your eyes for some time or take off your headset

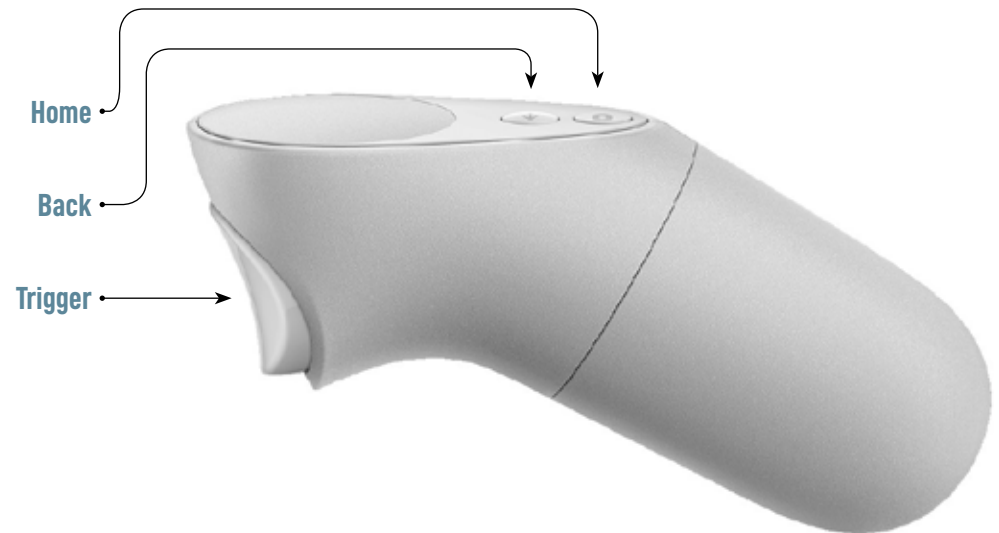
• Look around, look up and down and enjoy!

## Using the controller

**Trigger:** Make selections and interact with a scene. The index finger sits on the trigger.

**Back button:** Press to go back to the previous screen or menu

**Home button:** Press to go back to the Home Screen







[XRLIBRARIES.COM](http://XRLIBRARIES.COM) // [XR-LEARN.COM](http://XR-LEARN.COM)