



PARUS TRAIL - ZION



Rating: Easy hike

Length: 1-2 hours (1.75 miles one way)

Maps: Springdale East, UT;

Water: Available for dogs in a few spots from the Virgin River.

Flash Flood Danger: Low

Season: Any

Waypoints:

Campground Trailhead

12S 323695mE 4119112mN

N37° 12' 07" W112° 59' 12"

History Museum Jct.

12S 324349mE 4119641mN

N37° 12' 24" W112° 58' 46"

Bridge

12S 324638mE 4120418mN

N37° 12' 50" W112° 58' 35"

Diversion Dam

12S 324652mE 4120497mN

N37° 12' 52" W112° 58' 34"

Bridge

12S 324725mE 4120626mN

N37° 12' 56" W112° 58' 31"

Trailhead - Canyon Junction

12S 324840mE 4120889mN

N37° 13' 05" W112° 58' 27"

Hype

Pa'rus is loosely translated from Paiute as bubbling, tumbling spring, and the hike along the Pa'rus Trail lives up to its name. This hike is on a paved trail from the South Campground to Canyon Junction and can be done as an out and back or a one way by catching the park shuttle at either end. This hike is also the only one in the park that allows dogs (on leash) and bicycles.

The hike is a casual stroll on a paved path past campsites and then through stands of rabbit brush along the river. The views of the surrounding rock walls are quite stunning. There are also a dozen or so marked access points to the river where you can watch the blue green water bubble by or dip your toes. There is a side trail leading to the Zion Human History Museum just up from the campground.

Overall, this is a very pleasant hike, but with all the great destinations in the park, it is not a top recommendation except for those with bikes, dogs, or kids wanting to play in the sand.

Tags: *hike, fall colors, dog friendly, family friendly, beginner, access: paved*

Trailhead

The trail begins from the Zion Visitor Center on the east side of the park, and ends at Canyon Junction.

Route

From the visitor center, follow the park road back toward the highway. Just after crossing the bridge, the trail proper start on the right (east) side and passes along the campground.

After leaving the campground, the trail crosses a private park residence road before reaching the junction to the museum. The museum is in the old visitor center and highly recommended.

From the museum junction, big views and easy walking abound as the trail crosses the Virgin River three times before reaching Canyon Junction and the end of the trail. Return the same way, or catch the shuttle when it is running. (All but the dead of winter.)

