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# Quiz: What's the Best National Park Trip for Your Personality?

It can be tough to plan the perfect national park vacation when there are so many options.

Take this quiz to find out where you should go.

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The National Park Service turns 100 on August 25, and each individual park is planning its own unique celebration. Plus, the postal service is issuing 16 new national park stamps and IMAX will be releasing a film highlighting the most scenic spots across the country. But to really be a part of the action, you need to take a trip to one (or more) of the 58 national parks in the U.S. Which should you visit? Take this quick quiz to find out.

### The first thing you'll do when you get to a park is:

- a. Take a photo and post on Instagram
- **b.** Find a biking or kayaking trail
- c. Ask at the info desk where the most scenic spot is for a little R&R
- **d.** Figure out where you'll sleep that night

#### It's important for you that a park offers:

- a. Wi-Fi
- **b.** Fishing, hiking, and horseback riding
- c. Plenty of places to stop and take a break with kids
- **d.** A lodge or restaurant that offers great meals

#### 3. Which best describes your favorite memory of visiting a National Park as a kid?

- a. The photo of your family in front of Mount Rushmore
- **b.** White-water rafting down the Colorado river
- c. Eating bagels and drinking hot chocolate in the foothills of the Rocky Mountains
- d. Sleeping at Zion Lodge, under the sandstone rocks of Zion National Park

#### 4. You know you've succeeded in a great family vacation when your child:

- a. Makes Glacier National Park his/her Facebook cover photo
- **b.** Remembers the wonderful mixture of fear and excitement of riding down the Grand Canyon on mules
- c. Can recall the various lookout points while visiting the Creamsicle-colored Hoodoos in Bryce
- d. Asks to go back to the volcanoes house in Hawaii Volcanoes National Park

#### 5. If it rains while you're at the park, you'll:

**a.** Hit the indoor cultural center to view photos of the park's history **b.** Put on a rain jacket and go on an easy walk or hike **c.** Drive through the park and stop at various lookout points from the car **d.** Stay in your cozy lodge

#### 6. You'd be devastated if:

- **a.** The park banned selfie-sticks **b.** The rim-to-rim trail at the Grand Canyon was closed off
- **c.** The scenic picnic spots were closed, and you had to eat at a place without a view **d.** You had to stay at a hotel miles away from the park

#### 7. One of your favorite parts of any vacation includes:

- a. Sunrises and sunsets
- **b.** Putting backpacks on the kids and going for an adventure
- **c.** Packing a beautiful array of fruits, veggies, cheeses and meats, and eating them against an amazing backdrop
- d. Sleeping at a place that is so unique, you'll tell all of your friends about it when you get home

Crater Lake National Park in Oregon Getty Images/Flickr Open

## If you've answered mostly a's...

Glacier Bay in Southeast Alaska and Joshua Tree in Californian are some of the best parks for Instagrammers and all-around photography buffs. Practically every moment in Glacier Bay is photo worthy. Covering 3.3 million acres of glaciers, mountains, rainforests, and coastlines, this park is chock full of wildlife including grizzly bears, mountain goats, whales, and seals—a camera-lover's dream. On the other side of the spectrum is the beautiful Joshua Tree, where two distinct desert ecosystems—the Mojave and Colorado—come together to form otherworldly geological features. Famous for its much-photographed Joshua tree, shutterbugs will also love the craggy mountains, sun-bleached sand dunes, unique desert wildlife (including the desert tortoise), star-filled nights, and the surprising bursts of colors in the wild flowers.

## If you've answered mostly b's...

The **Great Smokey Mountains**, which spreads across North Carolina and Tennessee, and the **Grand Canyon**, located in Arizona, are some of the best parks for those adventurous types looking for a sporty way to experience our country's magic. The Great Smokey Mountains is the most-visited national park for a reason. Not only are there amazing hiking trails to be had, but you can go horseback riding in four different areas within the park. If you're an angler, some of the best smallmouth bass and trout fishing in the country can be found here. Across the country, at the Grand

Canyon, you better lace up those hiking shoes, because there's plenty to do—rafting down the Colorado River, hiking the rim-to-rim trail, and plenty of biking. The Hermit Road Greenway Trail not only provides a beautifully-maintained bike path, but it offers some of the most stunning views to be had.

## If you've answered mostly c's...

Acadia in Maine and the Everglades in Florida are great parks for leisurely picnics, fabulous scenic viewpoints, and those looking for an easy 'nature' trip. Acadia was the first Eastern national park and is home to the tallest mountain on the Atlantic Coast, Cadillac Mountain—drive to the top for the best lookout points. Another great spot for a picnic or simply hanging out is the Bass Harbor Head Lighthouse, the only lighthouse in the Mount Desert Islands. It sits on a cliff and it's hypnotizing to watch the crashing water below. At the Everglades, the largest subtropical wilderness in the country and a World Heritage Site, there are 1.5 million acres of beauty—cypress trees, mangroves, and miles upon miles of wetland. Also, because the park sits along avian migratory routes, birdwatching—a relaxing activity that takes in both the wildlife and the scenery—is quite popular here. You can see a variety of species including the blue heron and roseate spoonbills from lookout points like the Pahayokee Overlook.

## If you answer mostly d's...

Spanning three states—Idaho, Montana and Wyoming—Yellowstone and Oregon's Crater Lake are some of the best parks for "glampers," those looking for unique accommodations that aren't the typical campgrounds. In Yellowstone, Old Faithful Inn is a national historic landmark and the most requested accommodation in the park (be sure to book as far in advance as possible). What makes it so wonderful? It's the oldest log structure in the world, built back in 1903, and has a beautiful (and massive) stone fireplace in the lobby. Request a room that faces the Geyser Basin—you won't be disappointed. At Crater Lake Lodge, which is celebrating its 101st anniversary, there are no phones or TVs, but plenty of beautiful nature to be observed. Views of the deep-blue lake and stunning cliffs make this a favorite spot for many travelers, which explains the high repeat-visitor rate.

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