



## **Our trip to the Grand Canyon By Dr. Niru Prasad**

During February of 2016 we had an opportunity to visit Arizona with our family which included our children and grandchildren. We had a wonderful trip to one of the 7 wonders of world, "Grand Canyon National Park".

We were fascinated by the top of mountains and my curiosity grew more and more. After coming back from trip I did research regarding the 7th wonder of world that I would like to share with all of you.

### **Facts about Grand Canyon Arizona**

At its widest point the Grand Canyon stretches 18 miles (29 kilometers) across. At its narrowest point it stretches 4 miles (6.4 kilometers) across. The Grand Canyon is around 6000 (1800 meters) feet deep. The Colorado River runs through the Grand Canyon, it has been eroding its steep sides for millions of years

.Our journey to Grand Canyon began next day by car as we rented a van so our family could be comfortable while driving. As we drove through Scottsdale to Phoenix on major highway we were intrigued by the glamorous view of Camel Back Mountain.

As the highest peak in Phoenix, Camelback Mountain is probably the most scenic hiking spot in the city. Soaring 2,704-foot high, Camelback's summit offers spectacular views of Phoenix and Scottsdale and can be reached from the 1.2-mile (incredibly steep) Summit Trail. If you're looking for a more low-key hike, the 1.5-mile Cholla Trail on the east side of the mountain offers a more gradual incline, at least until you near the summit. You can also try one of the several beginner-friendly trails that circle Camelback's base. Hiking Camelback Mountain is best attempted earlier in the morning or later in the afternoon when the desert heat is bearable. But no matter when you decide to climb, make sure you have plenty of water and sunscreen.

The camel back mountain Sedona was an excellent view of copper stained rocks and the major attractions there includes the Sanctuary which is a famous luxury resort spread on 53 acres of private paradise,

The chapel of holy cross which is a Roman Catholic chapel built into the buttes of Sedona and run by the diocese of phoenix as a part of St John Vianney opened in 1956 and is significant for natural beauty of very picturesque rocks, desert, red rocks the cactus .and the guardian chapel.

Grand Canyon Mule Rides. left to right: South Rim - Phantom Ranch, Bright Angel Trail switchbacks, North Rim riders descending North Kaibab Trail

While at the canyon we had spectacular views of the mountains, valleys, the river, and cactus growing around and the sun set. The Desert View Scenic Drive at the South Rim of the Grand Canyon is a very scenic stretch of Arizona Highway 64 that extends 25 beautiful miles along the canyon rim. It runs east to west from Grand Canyon Village to Desert View Overlook. The most eastern view point is at the South Rim. Along the way, enjoy astounding views from six canyon viewpoints, four picnic areas, and five pullouts that are accessible with private vehicles.

After having completed our tour through the desert we had dinner at the resort and headed back with the most spectacular views in mind of the canyons. A week went by fast and we returned to Michigan very happy. Especially our grandkids they were so excited for this wonderful trip.