



Stops Along the Valley Drive

- 1. The Mittens & Merrick Butte
- 2. Elephant Butte
- 3. Three Sisters
- 4. John Ford's Point
- 5. Camel Butte
- 6. The Hub
- 7. Totem Pole & Yei Bi Chei
- 8. Totem Pole & Sand Springs
- 9. Artisit's Point
- 10. North Window
- 11. The Thumb

MONUMENT VALLEY

Scenic Valley Drive

The monuments in the park have descriptive names. They are based on ones imagination. These names were created by the early settlers of Monument Valley. Others names portray a certain meaning to the Navajo people. The park consists of mesas, buttes and spire rock structures.

1. **The Mittens & Merrick Butte.** The East Mitten Butte and West Mitten Butte look like hands, yet it signifies spiritual beings watching over. Merrick Butte and Mitchell Mesa are named after two prospectors who discovered silver inside the park.
2. **Elephant Butte** is a butte that from this stop and perspective you can see the outline of a gigantic elephant in the southwest desert.
3. **Three Sisters** is a formation that looks like Catholic nun facing her two pupils.
4. **John Ford's Point** is named after Hollywood director who made John Wayne famous. Some of his work included: "The Searchers, Cheyenne Autumn, and Stage Coach"
5. **Camel Butte** is a butte that from this perspective looks like a camel sitting and facing .
6. **The Hub.** Symbolizes a hub of a wagon wheel. Navajos see it as a fire place in the center of a gigantic Hogan (a Navajo home). Also visible from this stop to the north is Rain God Mesa which marks the geological center of the park. Navajo medicine men pray and give thanks to the Rain God, who stored water for the people. On the south side, you can see dark painted streaks from the natural aquifer that seeps out at the base of the sandstone. Directly south is Thunderbird Mesa.
7. **Totem Pole & Yei Bi Chei.** The Totem Pole is a spire monument and classic example of what erosion does to a butte. The Yei Bi Chei (Navajo spiritual gods) located east of the Totem Pole, is a formation of dancers emerging from a Hogan.
8. **Totem Pole & Sand Springs.** Overlooks a vast sand dune. A natural aquifer seeps out where the De Chelly and Navajo sandstone formations meet under the sand dune.
9. **Artist's Point** is a place where artists can create landscape and bring them to life on their canvas. Spearhead Mesa which is directly east is attached to a spire monument that looks like a spear of an arrow.
10. **North Window** overlooks the northern view of the lower valley. On the left is Elephant Butte and on the right is Cly Butte. Cly which is Navajo for "Left", is named after a well known Navajo medicine man, he is buried at the foot of the formation.
11. **The Thumb** is a free standing spire apart from Camel Butte. This formation also looks like a cowboy boot.