

# DINOSAUR

## UTAH

LIFE ELEVATED®

Allosaurus sculpture, Utah's state fossil, is featured at the Blanding Dinosaur Museum, Steve Czerkas

UTAH OFFICE OF TOURISM

Utah's inhabitants of the distant past weren't nearly as friendly as those of today. Featuring the world's most complete exposed record of the earth's geologic history, this is THE dinosaur state - a real life "Jurassic Park."

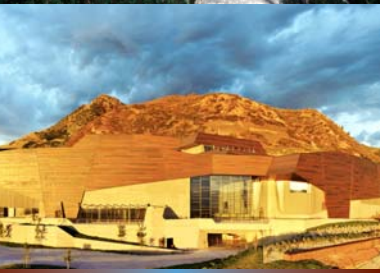
- ★ See the fossil records of more dinosaur species than any other state
- ★ Explore the most complete record of prehistoric life than any other geographic area on the planet
- ★ Visit museums housing the world's largest collection of mounted dinosaur skeletons
- ★ Experience the world's most famous dinosaur fossil quarry at Dinosaur National Monument



Utahraptor, CEU Prehistoric Museum



Pteranodon, the flying reptiles, Ogden Eccles Dinosaur Park



Natural History Museum of Utah at the Rio Tinto Center



North American Museum of Ancient Life is the Largest Dinosaur Exhibit in the nation



Dinosaur National Monument Fossil Quarry



Mosasaur exhibit at the John Wesley Powell River History Museum

### Northern Utah Dino-sites

**1- Ogden's George S. Eccles Dinosaur Park** This eight-acre outdoor museum is unique in its exhibition of full-bodied creatures of the Dinosaur Age. See prehistoric crawlers, predators, marine creatures and flying reptiles dating from the Permian through Cretaceous periods. Realistic sculptures of more than 125 dinosaurs fill the park in a native Utah setting, all reproduced based on the findings of fossil skeletal remains. You can hear the dinosaurs walking and roaring, the crash of trees brought down by powerful herbivores and the calls of Pteranodons gliding through the air brought to you by a high quality sound system throughout the park. Also featured is a new 16,000 square foot working museum including exhibit space, a large paleontology laboratory, offices and a lecture hall. 801-393-DINO, [www.dinosaurpark.org](http://www.dinosaurpark.org)

**2- BYU Museum of Paleontology** The Brigham Young University Museum of Paleontology in Provo is world-renowned for its extensive collections of late Jurassic and early Cretaceous dinosaurs, including Supersaurus, Torvosaurus and Utahraptor. Exhibits include the largest and smallest dinosaurs, a 150-million-year-old Allosaurus egg, fossil plants, minerals and an array of dinosaur, pterosaur and Ice Age mammal skeletons. Observe paleontologists working the lab, touch dinosaur skin and watch videos of our scientists collecting in the field. Free admission. 801-422-3680, [cpms.byu.edu/ESM](http://cpms.byu.edu/ESM)

**3- The Natural History Museum of Utah at the Rio Tinto Center** This new copper-clad museum, set against the foothills of the Wasatch Mountains, invites you to discover science through world-class exhibits that showcase Utah's natural wonders, including newly discovered dinosaur specimens. The Canyon lobby features a three story Collections Wall, a topographical map, and remarkable views of the Salt Lake Valley. The Trailhead to Utah® connects your visit to further explorations around the state. Located in Salt Lake's Foothill Cultural District, [nhmu.utah.edu](http://nhmu.utah.edu)

**4- The North American Museum of Ancient Life** Located at Thanksgiving Point in Lehi, this is the world's largest collection of mounted dinosaur skeletons, exhibiting more than 60 mounted dinosaur specimens and thousands of ancient fossils. The museum also features a six story 70 mm movie screen and theater, featuring a variety of 3D movies and other specialty films. Fifty interactive, hands-on displays within the exhibit halls are designed to immerse guests in the subject matter, using expansive murals, soundtracks, plants and real streams with live fish. Guests are invited to touch actual fossils and feel real dinosaur bones and eggs. A working paleontology lab operated by Western Paleontology, Inc. is located within the museum and can be observed by guests as they tour the exhibit halls. 888-672-6040, [www.thanksgivingpoint.com/museum](http://www.thanksgivingpoint.com/museum)

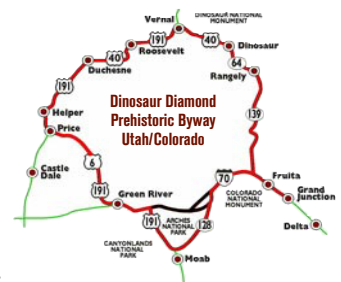
### Northeastern Utah Dino-sites

**5- Dinosaur National Monument** In 1909, a 200-foot-long ancient sandbar was found, which has yielded over 350 tons of fossils and become the largest quarry of Jurassic Period dinosaur bones ever discovered. Today, a new visitor center protects more than 1,500 dinosaur bones left exposed in the sandstone quarry wall. The monument also offers mapped hikes, scenic drives, whitewater rafting, and other activities which highlight the area's unique geology, history, wildlife and rugged beauty. The Split Mountain and Green River Campgrounds are located near the Quarry Visitor Center. 435-781-7700, [www.nps.gov/dino](http://www.nps.gov/dino)

**6- Utah Field House of Natural History State Park Museum** The Uinta Fossil Journey begins in the museum rotunda where the giant Diplodocus skeleton, 90 feet from tip to tail, looms about and greets visitors. A rock wall contains a small ravine where visitors may try to distinguish fossils from among the washed out pebbles and debris. A dig site simulation illustrates the science and sequence of Jurassic fieldwork, including discovery and removal of fossils from rock. In the Fossil Lab, visitors can use a brush to reveal replicas of fossil

specimens. The Grand Jurassic Gallery reveals life 145 million years ago with three large and impressive dinosaur skeletons. The museum also includes special changing exhibits, a classroom facility and a new outdoor dinosaur garden. 435-789-3799, [www.stateparks.utah.gov/parks/field-house](http://www.stateparks.utah.gov/parks/field-house)

**7- Dinosaur Diamond Prehistoric Byway** Created in 1997/98, this 512-mile diamond-shaped loop connects the cities of Vernal, Roosevelt, Price, Duchesne, Helper, Moab, and Green River in Utah; and the communities of Grand Junction, Fruita, Rangely, and Dinosaur in CO. Dig sites, museums, and scenery abound. The Utah sites are featured in this piece. [www.dinosaurdiamond.org](http://www.dinosaurdiamond.org)





Dueling Uimatherium, post-dinosaur mammals, at Utah Field House Museum



Cleveland-Lloyd Dinosaur Quarry Shelter



"Al" the Allosaurus at the College of Eastern Utah Prehistoric Museum



The new Interpretive Center at Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument



Dino track, St. George Dinosaur Discovery Site at Johnson Farm

Southeastern Utah Dino-sites



**8- College of Eastern Utah Prehistoric Museum** This is the museum that discovered the Utahaptor, Utah's adopted state dinosaur and unwitting star of Steven Spielberg's Jurassic Park. The CEU Prehistoric Museum is one of four accredited museums in the state, and all specimens are either actual fossil or cast from fossils in the museum's collection. The museum has eight complete skeletons from the Jurassic and Cretaceous periods, the bones of which may be seen on display. The collection also contains many dinosaur tracks removed from local coal mines, dinosaur eggs and other fossils. The CEU Prehistoric Museum currently operates ten dinosaur fossil quarries. 800-817-9949, [museum.ceu.edu](http://museum.ceu.edu)

**9- Museum of the San Rafael** The Museum of the San Rafael in Castle Dale tells stories of a primitive past long buried under shifting soils. A replica of a fossilized dinosaur egg believed to contain an embryo is part of the collection, as well as skeletons of Allosaurus, Chasmosaurus, Albertosaurus and the great skull of Tyrannosaurus rex. 435-381-5252, [www.castlecountryside.com/what\\_to\\_do/san\\_rafael\\_museum.html](http://www.castlecountryside.com/what_to_do/san_rafael_museum.html)

**10- Mill Canyon Dinosaur Trail**

**11- Copper Ridge Dinosaur Trackway Site**

Mill Canyon contains numerous bones and petrified trees with excellent signs at the trailhead and along the trail. At Copper Ridge, dinosaur tracks show a sauropod making a right turn as well as meat-eating theropods. [www.utah.com/playgrounds/mill\\_canyon.htm](http://www.utah.com/playgrounds/mill_canyon.htm)

**12- Cleveland-Lloyd Dinosaur Quarry** This quarry contains more Jurassic dinosaur bones per square yard than have been found anywhere else in the world! Bones of 74 individual Allosaurs have been excavated, of which 66% belong to the meat-eater Allosaurus, Utah's official state

fossil. Since 1928, over 12,000 bones have been excavated, with several thousand more yet to be uncovered. Having recently undergone a million-dollar renovation, the visitor center houses fossil exhibits and the quarry shelter features upper and lower observation platforms for close viewing. 435-636-3600, [www.blm.gov/ut/st/en/fo/price/recreation/quarry.html](http://www.blm.gov/ut/st/en/fo/price/recreation/quarry.html)

**13- John Wesley Powell River History Museum** John Wesley Powell's second expedition down the Green River discovered some of the first dinosaur fossils recorded in Utah in 1871. The museum has recently added new exhibits including a mounted skeleton of the Falcaurus utahensis found only 10 miles from downtown, a Mancos Shale exhibit upon which the city of Green River was built, a 36-foot skeleton of the marine lizard Prognathodon stadtmani (only full mount in the world), and the first full-mounted horned dinosaur Utahceratops gettyi to be exhibited anywhere. 435-564-3427, [johnwesleypowell.com](http://johnwesleypowell.com)

**14- Dan O'Laurie Museum** This regional museum tells the story of Moab's and Grand County's past, featuring an extensive rock and mineral display and massive dinosaur bones. Adults and children alike will love the museum's "hands-on" policy with many of the displays. 435-259-7985, [www.discovermoab.com/museums.htm](http://www.discovermoab.com/museums.htm)

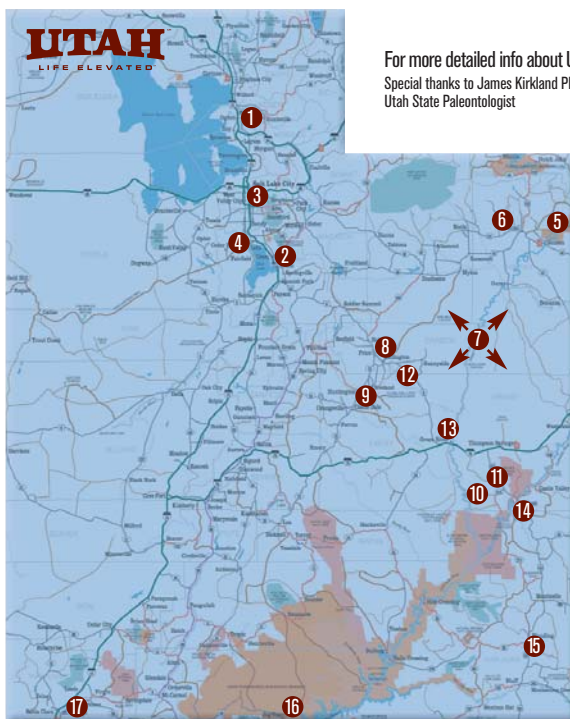
**15- The Dinosaur Museum, Blanding** Skeletons, fossilized skin, eggs, footprints, state-of-the-art graphics and beautifully realistic sculptures present dinosaurs from the Four Corners region and throughout the world. Enjoy displays of dinosaur eggs and the baby Protoceratops and Maiasaura sculptures. The museum also contains a history hall of Hollywood dinosaur movies with memorabilia from the silent classics all the way through the high tech dinosaur movies of today. 435-678-3454, [www.dinosaur-museum.org](http://www.dinosaur-museum.org)

Southwestern Utah Dino-sites



**16- Grand Staircase-Escalante NM Interpretive Center** Opened in 2006, this visitor center was built in the form of an ammonite fossil (ancestor of the modern-day nautilus) and features local fossils from the late Cretaceous, with many actual fossils to see and touch. The dinosaur garden outside features life-size metal dinosaur, bird and mammal sculptures. 435-675-3200, [www.ut.blm.gov/monument](http://www.ut.blm.gov/monument)

**17- St. George Dinosaur Discovery Site at Johnson Farm** Newly discovered in February 2000, it has been described as the most significant dinosaur tracksite in western North America and houses some of the oldest and best preserved footprints in the world. Over 2,000 tracks, made by a variety of early Jurassic dinosaurs, are preserved in the exposed sandstone. The newly constructed shelter protects the tracks from the elements and houses fossil exhibits and a gift shop. [www.dinoatrax.com](http://www.dinoatrax.com)



For more detailed info about Utah paleontology:  
Special thanks to James Kirkland PhD,  
Utah State Paleontologist

[geology.utah.gov](http://geology.utah.gov)

- 1- Ogden George S. Eccles Dinosaur Park
- 2- BYU Museum of Paleontology
- 3- Natural History Museum of Utah at the Rio Tinto Center
- 4- Museum of Ancient Life at Thanksgiving Point
- 5- Dinosaur National Monument
- 6- Utah Field House of Natural History State Park Museum
- 7- Dinosaur Diamond Prehistoric Byway
- 8- College of Eastern Utah Prehistoric Museum
- 9- Museum of the San Rafael
- 10- Mill Canyon Dinosaur Trail
- 11- Copper Ridge Dinosaur Trackway Site
- 12- Cleveland-Lloyd Dinosaur Quarry
- 13- John Wesley Powell River History Museum
- 14- Dan O'Laurie Museum
- 15- The Dinosaur Museum, Blanding
- 16- Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument Interpretive Center
- 17- St. George Dinosaur Discovery Site at Johnson Farm