

The Sculptor's Studio, Bryce Canyon, Utah

Bryce Canyon National Monument

BRYCE CANYON, about ninety miles east of Cedar City, Utah, is probably the most astonishing blend of exquisite beauty and grotesque grandeur that the forces of erosion have ever produced. Bryce is in reality a giant amphitheatre or basin, approximately two miles wide, about three miles long and 1,000 feet deep. Its rim is 8,000 feet above sea level. The softer parts of the high plateau have been etched away leaving an endless array of towers, spires, statues, minarets, fortresses, pagodas, castles and cathedrals standing in indescribably weird formation—a ruined Oriental city overspread by gorgeous color. A brilliant watermelon-pink predominates, with alternate stratas of deep yellows and white, together with many tones of red, orange, buff and purple. At first view there is too much to see, too much to comprehend. The eye is fairly staggered by the imposing monuments, both singly and in groups, that adorn the sides and bottom of the canyon. Moreover, the play of sunlight and shadow upon the huge iridescent bowl of lace and filigree work in stone constantly changes the colors, and sometimes seems to give animation to realistic images.

Near the rim of Bryce Canyon is an attractive rustic Lodge Center, and in the pines near by are the cozy double guest lodges. Excellent scenic motorways connect Bryce Canyon National Monument with Cedar Breaks, another marvelously eroded and tinted basin, and with Zion National Park, Kaibab Forest and North Rim Grand Canyon, all of which may be toured in comfortable motor buses operating regularly out of Cedar City during the season, June 1st to October 1st. Cedar City, the gateway, is served by through sleeping cars of the Union Pacific System.



