

Delicate Arch at Dusk, Mesa Arch at Dawn

Moab packs two national parks, a state park overlook made famous by Hollywood, and a run of the Colorado River into a single long weekend. This 3-day self-drive route uses Arches and Canyonlands' most rewarding short hikes, a real

DAY 2

Canyonlands' Island in the Sky & Dead Horse Point

A sunrise hike to one of the Southwest's most photographed arches, sweeping overlooks into Canyonlands, and a Hollywood-famous canyon rim at Dead Horse Point.

Mesa Arch at Sunrise

~1 hour, 0.7 miles round trip · \$30 USD per vehicle (valid 7 days)

A short trail in Canyonlands' Island in the Sky district to a natural arch framing a 1,000-foot drop into the canyon below — best reached 30 minutes before sunrise for the arch's underside to glow red.

Grand View Point & Green River Overlook

~2 hours · included in park entry

Two easy overlook trails at the end of the Island in the Sky mesa, looking down more than 1,000 feet onto canyons carved by the Colorado and Green rivers.

Lunch: Milt's Stop & Eat

~1 hour · lunch ~\$10–\$15 USD / person

Moab's oldest restaurant, open since 1954 — a walk-up burger stand serving hand-pattied burgers, fry sauce and malt shakes at a handful of outdoor picnic tables.

Milt's Stop & Eat · miltstopandeat.com

Dead Horse Point State Park

~1.5 hours · \$20 USD per vehicle day-use fee

A rim-top overlook 2,000 feet above a horseshoe bend of the Colorado River, made famous as the closing shot of *Thelma & Louise* — among the most photographed views in Utah.

Dinner: Miguel's Baja Grill

~1.5 hours · dinner ~\$18–\$28 USD / person

A long-running Main Street favorite for Baja-style Mexican food — fish tacos, carnitas and a well-stocked tequila list on a lively outdoor patio.

Miguel's Baja Grill · miguelsbajagrill.net

DAY 3

Colorado River Rafting & Departure

A half-day whitewater run down the Colorado River in the morning, then a scenic drive back toward Grand Junction along a canyon byway lined with petroglyphs and dinosaur tracks.

Half-Day Colorado River Rafting

~4 hours · from \$79 USD / person

A guided half-day run through Fisher Towers-area rapids on the Colorado River, with red-rock canyon walls rising on both sides — gear, guide and a riverside snack included.

Mild to Wild Rafting · mild2wildrafting.com

Scenic Drive: Potash Road (Utah 279)

~1 hour · free

A riverside byway along the base of towering sandstone cliffs, with roadside pullouts for Native American petroglyph panels and a marked dinosaur track site.

Drive Back to Grand Junction & Departure

~2 hours, ~110 miles

The return drive north on Highway 191 and I-70 to Grand Junction Regional Airport (GJT), timed to allow at least two hours before a flight home.