

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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June 25, 2020



## Death Valley National Park Reopens Part of Furnace Creek Visitor Center

Death Valley, Calif.— The National Park Service has given permission for the Death Valley Natural History Association (DVNHA) to reopen its bookstore in the Furnace Creek Visitor Center starting Friday, June 26<sup>th</sup>. This is part of Death Valley National Park’s three-phase reopening plan. DVNHA is the official non-profit partner of Death Valley National Park and provides educational products to visitors with proceeds benefiting park programs. DVNHA is the only park retail to not have already resumed operations during an earlier phase of reopening.

The health of visitors and staff are a top priority. DVNHA has been deemed compliant by Inyo County according to the COVID - 19 stipulated California state guidelines for operations including: increased sanitation, masks, and social distancing protocols.

“DVNHA is thrilled to be able to resume operations after more than three months of being shut down. In that time, we have lost a half a million in sales which will severely impact our ability to provide support to Death Valley National Park,” said David Blacker Executive Director of the Death Valley Natural History Association. “By resuming operations, we hope to continue our mission and return to some sense of normalcy.”

Death Valley National Park Visitor Center operations have been closed since March 17<sup>th</sup> and Death Valley National Park has already begun its phased reopening plans. Visitor opportunities began when overlooks, trail heads, bathrooms, and other limited facilities along CA-190 reopened earlier this month. Reopening back country areas for dispersed camping and additional roadways such as Badwater, Dantes View, and Wildrose has also begun. The soaking tubs at Saline Valley, Ranger Contact Station at Stovepipe Wells, and National Park Service in-person visitor information desk, theater and exhibits at the Furnace Creek Visitor Center remain closed. More details on what is open now and what will open in the next phases can be found at <https://www.nps.gov/deva/planyourvisit/conditions.htm>.

Summer visitors should be prepared for extreme heat and to bring plenty of methods for sanitation (soap, water, hand sanitizer) as there is no soap and water found at most locations throughout the park advises Death Valley National Park staff. The public is advised that face coverings are also required by Inyo County and the State of CA for building admittance.

For more information about the Death Valley Natural History Association or to make a donation please visit: [dv nha.org](http://dv nha.org).

*The Death Valley Natural History Association is a nonprofit organization dedicated to preserving and interpreting the natural and cultural resources of the Death Valley region in cooperation with our government partners: Death Valley National Park and Ash Meadows National Wildlife Refuge.*

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*Image: Death Valley National Park entrance sign welcomes visitors on CA-Hwy 190. Courtesy of the National Park Service, Kurt Moses.*

