

Upper Granary Canyon Day Pack Checklist

Use this as your simple, confidence building checklist for an Upper Granary Canyon day. Conditions and route variations change. When in doubt, choose the conservative option.

Tip: Print this or save it offline so you can reference it at the trailhead.

Today decision screen

Check these before you leave town.

- Weather looks stable for the entire region, not just Moab
- No thunderstorms in the forecast
- You have confirmed current wildlife guidance and seasonal restrictions
- Everyone in the group is comfortable with heights and rappelling
- You have an offline map and navigation plan
- You have a clear turnaround time

Turn around triggers

- Thunder or building storm clouds anywhere nearby
- Water rising or muddy flow appearing in the drainage
- The group is moving slower than planned and daylight margin is shrinking
- Anchors look unsafe and you cannot confidently rebuild
- Someone is panicking or freezing on exposure

Personal kit for each person

- Helmet
- Harness
- Rappel device you know well
- Backup friction or rappel safety plan you trust
- Personal tether or lanyard
- Gloves if you like them for rope handling
- Closed toe footwear with good grip for sandstone
- Small day pack
- Headlamp
- Sun protection: hat, sunglasses, sunscreen
- Warm layer or wind layer for the rim
- At least 3 liters of water in warm conditions, more if you run hot
- Food you will actually eat when tired and dry
- Electrolytes
- Small first aid basics plus blister care
- Any personal meds

Group technical kit

- Rope plan: one 60 m rope and one 30 m rope
- Pull cord if your system uses one
- Extra webbing for anchors
- Quick links or ring material if that is part of your practice
- Knife for webbing and emergency needs
- Lighter for webbing management
- Edge protection or a plan to manage abrasion
- Prusiks or ascending capability for a stuck rope scenario
- Small repair kit for packs and gear
- Emergency layer or space blanket
- Communication device and plan (cell may be unreliable)
- Leave a trip plan with someone in town

In canyon habits that prevent bad days

- Slow down at the first rappel and set the tone
- Every rappel gets an anchor check by at least two people
- Replace sun baked or questionable webbing
- Keep rope tails managed and communicate clearly
- Sip water early and snack before you feel behind
- Keep your group close near cultural sites
- Look but do not touch anything archaeological

After the canyon

- Do a headcount at the vehicle
- Hydrate and eat before the drive back
- Check for scrapes and hot spots before they become blisters
- Inspect rope and webbing for abrasion
- Log notes for next time: time, rope lengths used, anchor replacements, conditions