

# THE INDEPENDENT ZION GUIDE

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**WOMEN'S ADVENTURES ARE ON THE RISE  
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## WOMEN'S ADVENTURES ARE ON THE RISE

Utah has a long history with women's leadership. Back in 1896, Martha Hughes Cannon became the United States' first-ever female State Senator. Fifteen years later, in 1911, Kanab made history by electing the United States' first ever all-female town council and woman mayor. It shouldn't come as a surprise then that Kanab continues its legacy of strong women leaders into the 21st century: from Julie Castle, the CEO of national non-profit and Kanab's largest private employer Best Friends Animal Society, to Camille Johnson, Kane County's Director of Tourism, and a female-led Chamber of Commerce - women abound in leadership roles in the region around Kanab.

Fitting right in is Kanab-based tour operator Dreamland Safari Tours ([www.DreamlandTours.Net](http://www.DreamlandTours.Net)), which incidentally is celebrating its 20th anniversary this year. Even though outdoor adventure is still a traditionally male-dominated field, Dreamland proudly counts five female desert guides among their staff - and more than 50% women employees overall when looking at guides and non-guide staff combined. And, the company is currently accepting

guide applications for the spring season and would love to hire more women guides. Dreamland co-owner Sunny Stroerer has long been an outspoken advocate for female participation in backcountry adventures (find her discussing women in the outdoors on NBC), and also runs a women's only high altitude expedition company called AWExpeditions.

For 2021 Dreamland Safari Tours is adding several



women's only trips to provide an opportunity for women to pursue big adventures in an all-female environment. On February 2-8, a small group of women will head out to navigate the length of the Paria River from White House to Lees Ferry in winter - a distance of roughly 40 miles. This will be a fabulous 4 night 5 day backpack in a stunning desert setting. All that's required is a healthy sense of adventure, the ability to hike 40 miles of uneven terrain and to carry a 35 pound pack, and be ready to have fun. Spots are still available.

International Women's Day has occurred for over a century, with the first celebration in 1911 supported by well over a million people. International Women's Day on March 8th of this year has the theme: Women in leadership: Achieving an equal future in a COVID-19 world. Dreamland strives to be a leader in the community and this is an important day for the company to celebrate its women leaders, and all women that make a difference. Dreamland has reserved all of its female guides to lead all-female trips on this day. Give them a call at 435-644-5506 to learn more.

Utah is magnificent, and women have played and continue to play an integral role in shaping it. Dreamland Safari Tours is carrying that legacy forward - because everyone wins when gender equality extends to the great outdoors.

Come play with us and come experience a land like no other!

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