

# Travel to a galaxy far, far away...

Wayward Nerd's guide to experience Tatooine right here on earth, in Death Valley National Park, CA



*Star Wars* filmed several iconic scenes here, including the Mos Eisley Overlook and Artoo's solo journey scenes. This itinerary focuses on these two main filming locations, both of which are easily accessible by car with very little hiking required, and primarily handicap accessible. While not difficult, keep in mind that this is the desert and plan accordingly.



## Day 1 — Travel to Las Vegas



One option for lodging is The Cosmopolitan of Las Vegas. It has a James Bond themed steampunk carnival on New Year's eve vibe.



## Day 2 — Death Valley National Park



Leave Las Vegas via I-15 to US-95, then NV-373/CA-127.

- Most of the drive consists of a smooth, two-lane highway.
- The trip to Death Valley National Park entrance is approximately 2 hours.



*Purchase your day pass at the self-service kiosk or buy a National Park Annual Pass before arriving. You'll save an hour by going to the Mos Eisley Valley Overlook (Dante's View) first before the Visitor Center.*

### Mos Eisley Valley Overlook

(Dante's View)  
N 36° 13.244' W116° 43.598'

Truly breathtaking. A pivotal moment in the film as Luke Skywalker is beginning his hero's journey, Obi-Wan Kenobi stands overlooking this view, and gives his famous warning to him.

### Visitor Center/Lunch

N 36° 27.70' W116° 52.00'

Furnace Creek is the location of the main visitor center. A few dining options and picnic tables are available.

### Artoo's Arroyo

(Artist Palette)  
N 36° 21.815' W 116° 48.169'

This is the canyon where we see R2-D2 as he makes his way solo before being taken by the Jawas. The viewing area is just steps from the north side of the parking lot.

- The Sandcrawler Station scene is Artist's Drive looking west.

### Sunset at Furnace Creek Inn

N 36° 27.70' W116° 52.00'



At the end of the day, stop for a cool drink (and bathroom break) and watch the sun set on your day on Tatooine. Furnace Creek Inn sits atop a hill above Furnace Creek.



## Day 3 — Nerd-out in Vegas

### Red Rock Canyon National Conservation Area

With picturesque views and overlooks of Las Vegas, you'll ponder if George came up with that line here. Las Vegas in the 1970s must have seemed like a wretched hive of scum and villainy.

### Where the Streets Have Star Wars Names

Southwest of I-515 and Tropicana Avenue in Las Vegas, you will find Star Wars street names. Look for: Lucas Avenue, Skywalker Avenue, Tarkin Avenue, Vader Avenue, Kinobe Avenue, and Leia Street.

### Toy Shack

A vintage toy store in the Fremont Street Experience. Shop for the vintage Star Wars toys to take home as a souvenir.

*Resources: Star Wars IV: A New Hope, Star Wars Insider #48, National Park Service, National Geographic Trails Illustrated Map, Death Valley National Park, Star Wars Road Trips: The Filming Locations of the United States*

## Pre-Trip

Watch "Star Wars: A New Hope" and take screen shots if you want to recreate the scenes exactly.

## Don't forget to Pack

- Maps\*
- Camera with video
- R2-D2s
- GPS device
- Cooler, snacks and beverages (water!)
- Jedi robe
- Star Wars soundtrack

\* A free Death Valley National Park map is available on-site or purchase a National Geographic Death Valley National Park map before you go. Nevada, California, and Las Vegas maps are also good to have.



The Area 51 Alien Center (truck stop) at Jct US-95 and NV-373 is a good place to stop for a bathroom break.



*Don't rely solely on your devices — parts of the area have no cellphone service.*

*It gets dark in Death Valley after sunset, as in pitch black. A flashlight may be needed to find your car!*

**Highest elevation:**  
5482 ft above sea level, Dante's View

**Lowest elevation:**  
190 ft below sea level, Furnace Creek