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# Bryce Canyon Country

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## Facts & Figures

Garfield County, Utah is known as Bryce Canyon Country.

Garfield County is located in south central Utah. The county's western border lies between Cedar Breaks National Monument and Panguitch Lake. To the east, the Colorado River and Lake Powell form the natural boundary.

### Scenic Attractions in Bryce Canyon Country

- Bryce Canyon National Park
- Capitol Reef National Park
- Lake Powell
- Dixie National Forest
- A small remote section of Canyonlands National Park
- Grand-Staircase-Escalante National Monument
- Glen Canyon Recreational Area
- 3 Scenic Byways and 9 Scenic Backways
- 3 State Parks: Kodachrome, Escalante Petrified Forest and Anasazi Indian Village

**County Seat:** Panguitch

**County Population in 2010:** 5172

**County Area:** 5,175 square miles; 98% of the land is government owned.

**Time Zone:** Mountain Daily Saving Time and Mountain Standard Time.

**Towns:** Antimony, Boulder, Bryce Canyon City, Cannonville, Escalante, Hatch, Henrieville, Panguitch, Tropic

**Unincorporated Areas:** Bryce, Panguitch Lake, Red Canyon, Ticaboo

### **Of Special Interest:**

- Garfield County was named in honor of assassinated president, James A. Garfield
- Garfield County was one of the last areas to be explored and settled in the continental United States
- The Escalante River system was the last to be discovered in the lower 48 states. It is named after Father Escalante who, with Father Dominguez, explored southwestern Utah looking for a route from Santa Fe to California.
- The town of Boulder was the last area in the United States to receive mail by mule in 1935.
- The Henry Mountains, named by John Wesley Powell, are home to the only free roaming buffalo herd in America.
- Kodachrome Flat (which later became Kodachrome Basin State Park) was named in a September 1949 National Geographic article entitled, "Motoring into Escalante Land." The National Geographic Society's expedition also named the nearby double arch 'Grosvenors Arch' after the society's president, Dr. Gilbert Grosvenor. The arch is located in the Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument.

### **Famous People:**

- The outlaw Butch Cassidy grew up in the area. His childhood home is located about 25 miles north of Panguitch on US 89.
- Ebenezer Bryce had a ranch in Tropic near the base of what locals called "Bryce Canyon." His cows occasionally wandered into the rocky area to which Ebenezer remarked that it was "a hell of a place to lose a cow." The area became known as Bryce Canyon. Ebenezer's cabin still stands. It is located along Scenic Byway 12 in the town of Tropic.
- Some of the explorers who traveled through parts of Garfield County include John Wesley Powell, John Fremont, Almon Thompson and George M. Wheeler.