

# American Deserts

Photography and Production

 Ken Chan

10. 2009 California

Music : Ennio Morricone

Automatic advance

This show illustrates the natural beauty of the deserts in the American southwest, covering the states of

Arizona, California, Colorado, Nevada, New Mexico and Utah

See if you recognize the following places

Arches

Black Canyon

Bryce Canyon

Canyon de Chelly

Canyonlands

Cedar Breaks

Death Valley

Grand Canyon

Mesa Verde

Monument Valley

Valley of Fire

Zion



Don't they remind you of your favorite western movies

This land is grand



Monument Valley at sunset



**Black Canyon**



**Grand Canyon**



Canyonlands looks equally grand

Want to get down to the bottom of a canyon?

Try Canyon de Chelly - it is accessible and beautiful





The colorful Navajo sandstone formation



I am sure you know  
the red color is due to  
the soil's iron content

iron + air + water = rust

Remember your high school chemistry?





Looks like this valley is on fire – it is so named **Valley of Fire**



This place near the Arizona-Utah border is called **wave**

It is a paradise for photographers

Would be a good place  
to play hide and seek





Delicate carving of the soft sandstone by wind and water



A massive display of nature's carvings in Bryce Canyon

Looks too fragile to lean on



Better pray they don't crumble  
when you are down there



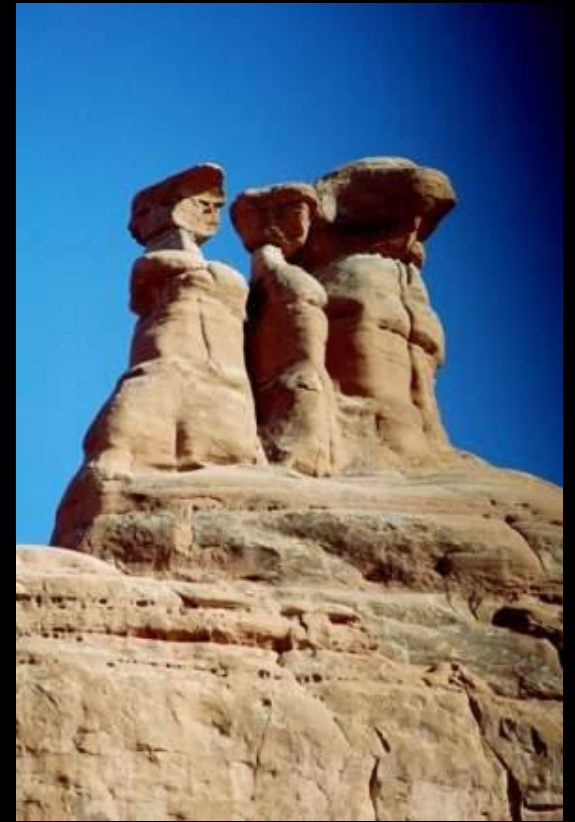




Balance rock



Pharaoh talking to  
a veiled woman



Three wise men



Round the clock sentry



King Kong's hand



No Match

The famous  
Delicate Arch

Arches National Park



Small one :  
a natural window



# Life of an arch / natural bridge

(from left to right)



A hole is formed by erosion



Over thousands of years the hole enlarges, forming a natural bridge



The bridge gets too thin and finally collapses

Notice two new holes are developing

Sand particles are produced by rock erosion  
Over millions of years, they are piled  
together by wind into

## Sand Dunes



small one



This one can swallow you



Big one



# Did people actually live here?

Yes, this land has been home to  
Native Americans for thousands of years



This dwelling ruin in **Mesa Verde** is well preserved

They left behind these petroglyphs



This spectacular view from Angel's Landing in Zion is your reward for hiking uphill for 3 hours



It does not look all dry and dead from here



There are even trees (Checker Board in Zion)



There were trees back million of years ago

The Petrified Wood is the evidence





This living cedar at Cedar Breaks is more than 1,000 years old



The giant **Saguaro Cactus** is a symbol of these deserts



Cactus flowers are beautiful close up

But watch out for those spines







Spring wildflower blossom forms a yellow carpet in Death Valley

Some of the  
Wild flowers in the region

Indian paint-brush



Desert 5 spots



Heard of **Columbine** ?

It is the name of the **state flower of Colorado**





Even these unknown species  
are equally beautiful



I am sure you don't mind  
these little creatures

Remember this is  
the wilderness



Trees thrive along riverbanks



There must be water  
under the dry soil



Plenty under the  
leaking roof of this cave





So there is water  
between these rocks





or on top of this mesa

A photograph of a sunset over a mountain range. The sky is a vibrant orange and red, with some light clouds. The mountains in the foreground are dark and silhouetted against the bright sky. The overall scene is a living desert landscape.

It is a living desert

The End

[kenchanimages@gmail.com](mailto:kenchanimages@gmail.com)