



# DELICATE ARCH

Delicate Arch in Arches National Park is perhaps Utah's most iconic image. It is a towering 52 ft. natural sculpture made out of Entrada sandstone and is featured on Utah license plates. During the torch relay for the 2002 Salt Lake City Winter Olympic Games, the torch actually went through the arch. Eric captures the Arch with an assortment of Utah visitors from the past and present, including boy scouts, Ute Indians, cowboys, and of course, the ever-present photographers.

1. Delicate Arch stands 52 feet tall. The opening inside the arch is 46 feet high.
2. Delicate Arch is made of Entrada Sandstone, a rock that breaks down easily, a perfect element for erosion.
3. The Olympic torch relay for the 2002 Winter Olympics passed through the arch.
4. Names for the icon include "Cowboy's Chaps," "Old Maid's Bloomers," and "Salt Wash Arch." The first time the arch was called "Delicate" was in a magazine article in 1934. The writer noted that the arch was "the most delicately chiseled arch in the entire area."
5. Nearly 1.4 million people visit Arches National Park every year.
6. Delicate Arch (*and the other arches and rock formations here*) get their red color from iron oxide. It takes as little as 1% of iron oxide to give the sandstone its color.
7. The park once considered covering the arch in a plastic coating to better preserve it. This crazy idea, hatched in the 1950s, was quickly abandoned.
8. Located in Arches National Park near Moab, Utah, USA.