



# PALM DESERT

VISITOR SERVICES

## Wildflower Resources

It is difficult to predict if and when wildflowers will bloom in the desert. Each year it takes the right combination of sun, wind, rain and temperature to set the stage for the springtime bloom. Assuming the desert receives enough rain and warm (but not hot) temperatures, wildflowers generally bloom from late February through March. For up-to-date wildflower reports, check out the resources listed below.



### General California Desert Wildflower Information

<http://www.desertusa.com>, then Click on the Desert Wildflowers Updates link found under Plants, and select the area of interest.

### Anza Borrego Desert State Park

[http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page\\_id=638](http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=638). Click on the “Wildflowers” link under Related Pages. Updated regularly during bloom.

Wildflower Hotline: (760) 767-4684.

Places to look for wildflowers in Anza Borrego Desert State Park include the Borrego Palm Canyon Trail and the Cactus Loop Nature Trail, and along Henderson Canyon Road off SR22 outside of Borrego Springs. Coyote Canyon is another great location, but is a dirt road is best suited for trucks, SUVs or similar vehicles.

### Joshua Tree National Park

<http://www.nps.gov/jotr/>

Due to the variety of terrain in Joshua Tree National park, the wildflower season there may last longer. Wildflowers may begin blooming in the lower elevations of the Pinto Basin and along the park’s south boundary (as shown in the picture on the right, taken at the Bajada Nature Trail) in February and at higher elevations in March and April. Desert regions above 5,000 feet may have plants blooming as late as June. The Joshua Trees themselves begin blooming at the end of February, and continue through March in higher elevation areas.



### Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument

51-500 Highway 74, Palm Desert

760-862-9984

The Friends of the Desert Mountains hosts an annual Wildflower Festival on the first Saturday in March at the Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument Visitor Center. Activities include hikes, mountain biking, a 5K Trail Run, wildflower workshops and a Kids’ Zone. They also lead guided hikes on Thursdays and Saturdays during the tourist season. Call the Monument’s Visitor Center for the current schedule and additional details.