

## MAY 19 - WINTER CAMPING & SEDONA, AZ

Surprise, surprise... 1½" of snow last night in Williams. I thought we were done with winter camping, but I guess not. I think 6,700+ feet of elevation might have something to do with this white stuff.



Today we travel east a short distance towards Flagstaff on I-40 then turn south to Sedona. This interstate is in very poor shape in some areas. Trying to avoid the potholes and rough spots was very tiring. The rig definitely took a beating this morning.

Sedona was recommended by the Tourist Centre in Kingman - "Monument Valley on steroids" so we just had to come and check it out. It did not disappoint.

Heading south from Flagstaff, we dropped about 3,400' into Sedona. The drive down through the canyon was twisty to say the least. Parts of the road surface were in atrocious condition. If I were a local, I'd be wondering where my gas tax money was going!

Unfortunately while the scenery was awe-inspiring, the pictures just look like more of the same, so here are some of the more interesting ones to give you an idea of the area.





The first appearance of humanity was Uptown Sedona. We stopped at the tourist centre to inquire about campsites, etc. Turned out the one RV park in town was full.



We passed through West Sedona and its myriad of Safeways, Staples, and other stores. Not someplace we want to spend any amount of time. However, Uptown might have been fun to explore, but we need to find a site for the night.

We headed to Dead Horse Ranch State Park in Cottonwood, about 20 miles south. The "Campground Full" sign was displayed but I asked at the booth anyway. Turned out that one of the handicap sites had just become available, so off we went. (Many State Parks have handicap sites they keep open for handicap campers. At a certain point, if the site has not been reserved or occupied, it's open to all campers. We arrived just at the right time!)



It's nice to be back in the lower elevations. I don't think it will snow tonight - the temperature this afternoon was 28C with a lovely cool breeze. I could get used to this!

Tomorrow we continue our trip south to Camp Verde on the Verde River, before we turn north and head back towards Flagstaff.