America the Beautiful Military Pass Program

Background
The Department of the Interior, in partnership with the Department of Defense, has made a commitment to support military families and expand their opportunities to engage in outdoor experiences in national parks by establishing the America the Beautiful military pass program. This program provides access, at no cost, to more than 2,000 federal recreation sites — all national parks and national wildlife refuges, national forests and grasslands, and lands managed by the Bureau of Land Management, Bureau of Reclamation and Army Corps of Engineers. It is available to all active-duty, National Guard and reserve members of all armed services to include the Coast Guard.

Highlights
The America the Beautiful military pass program and installation Morale, Welfare and Recreation programs provide military families with outdoor opportunities to be active, learn and have fun together. They also promote the following key messages:

- Active living, positive self-esteem and esprit de corps contribute to mission readiness.
- Feeling healthy and fit — physically and emotionally — helps build resilience and contributes to personal and professional success.
- National parks provide a variety of educational, recreational, cultural and conservation experiences in locations across the country.
- Park activities, like hiking and camping, help families stay active and can strengthen family relationships.

No-cost admission dates
All military families, regardless of activation status, can enjoy access to national parks at no cost on key dates throughout the year:

- Jan. 18: Martin Luther King Jr. Day
- April 16-24: National Park Week
- Aug. 25-28: National Park Service birthday
- Sept. 24: National Public Lands Day
- Nov. 11: Veterans Day

Additional information
The National Park Service
http://www.nps.gov/findapark/passes.htm