BE AWARE OF HAZE

There's a lot of atmosphere between your camera and the Canyon, so the image on your camera's LCD screen may appear more washed out than you expected.

WATCH OUT FOR CONTROLLED BURNS

Be sure to check on any plans for controlled burns so you can avoid reduced visibility due to smoke.

BALANCE YOUR LIGHTING PROPERLY

A properly exposed Canyon shot will likely result in a white sky, so use your tripod and exposure bracketing to capture lowlights and highlights.

WATCH OUT FOR WILDLIFE

Keep an eye on the sky for the California Condor. If you see one, consider making a quick dash to the rim so you can capture both bird and Canyon in a single shot.

CONSIDER A WINTER VISIT

Snow may make taking photos more challenging, but you may be rewarded with a rare and beautiful shot of the Canyon blanketed in snow. Plus, there are fewer visitors competing for golden photo opportunities in the winter.
MISTAKES TO AVOID

QUANTITY OVER QUALITY
The more photos you take, the less time you'll have to pause and reflect on what might make for an interesting composition. Take a few moments before deciding.

IGNORING THE FOREGROUND
Including something in the foreground, such as wildflowers, trees, rocks, or even people adds perspective and scale, helping viewers to experience the Canyon more completely.

WHAT TO PACK

TRIPOD
Tripods will prevent blurry photos. They're essential for sunrise, sunset, or night shots.

POLARIZER
This will help separate the clouds from the blue sky and reduce glare on the Canyon.

NEUTRAL DENSITY FILTER
The Canyon can appear dark next to the sky. A neutral density filter can help you properly expose your photo.

CABLE RELEASE
This will help you take multiple shots and reduce camera shake. You'll need one for sunset photos!

FLASH
You'll need fill light for proper exposure to snap photos of people with the Canyon in the background.

AIR BLOWER
It gets dusty around the Canyon.