

Peak Blooming Periods for California Desert Wildflowers

Jan	February	March	April	May	June
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.....**Imperial Valley**.....

Best Areas: Holtville, Algodones Dunes, south of Hwy. 80 between Calexico and Ocotillo.

Dominant Species: desert lilies, evening primrose, lupine, phacelia.

.....**Anza/Borrego (lower elevation)**.....

Best Areas: base of Superstition Mts., west of Imperial, Borrego Valley.

Dominant species: desert lilies, lupine, verbena, primrose.

.....**Death Valley (lower elevation)**.....

Best Areas: Jubilee Pass, Hwy. 190 near Furnace Creek Inn, base of Daylight Pass.

Dominant species: desert star, blazing star, geraea, mimulus, encelia, poppies, verbena, evening primrose.

.....**Coachella Valley**.....

Best Areas: North shore of Salton Sea, Box Canyon, Del Sol Rd.

Dominant species: verbena, evening primrose, geraea, hairy-leaved sunflower.

.....**Antelope Valley**.....

Best Areas: Quartz Hill, east and west of Palmdale, Fairmont, Hi Vista.

Dominant species: poppies, phacelia, coreopsis, desert aster, gilia, primrose.

.....**Anza/Borrego (higher elevation)**.....

Best Areas: Anza, Julian, Warner Springs.

Dominant species: poppies, buttercups, lupine, penstemons, mallows.

.....**Morongo/Yucca Valley**.....

Best Areas: along Twentynine Palms Hwy., Old Woman Springs

Dominant species: encelia, poppies, blazing star, yucca, joshua tree.

....**Death Valley (2000-4000 ft. elev.)**....

Best Areas: Panamints.

Dominant species: paintbrush, desert rue, lupine.

.....**Joshua Tree/East Mojave**.....

Best Areas: along Hwy. 66 from Barstow to Needles, Joshua Tree Natl Park.

Dominant species: desert sunflower, sage, asters, poppies, verbena, yucca, joshua tree.

.....**Death Valley (above 4500 ft)**.....

Best Areas: High Panamints

Dominant species: wildrose, golden rabbitbrush, Panamint daisies, mariposa, lupine.

.....**Owens Valley**.....

Best Areas: Lone Pine, Alabama Hills
Dominant species: gillias, phacelias, daisies.

SOME YEARS the desert is spectacular with wildflowers; other years the blossoms are almost nonexistent (but never totally absent). A "good" wildflower year depends on three things: well-spaced rainfall through winter and early spring months; sufficient warmth from the sun; and the lack of desiccating winds.

