

INDIAN PLACE NAMES

Host of the names in this list come fro. [Utah Place Names](#) by John W. Van Cott. (You may want to look in [Utah Place Names](#) for more information.) Names from other sources have a * after them.

NAME	PLACE	TYPE	MEANING
Arapien Valley	Sanpete County, south of sterling	Piute	named for Arapien (Arapene, Arrapene)
Awappa Plateau.	Wayne County	Piute	stream or water hole along the cedars
Chepeta Canyon	Duchesne County, on the East Tavaputs Plateau	Ute	named for Chepeta (Chipeta)
Chepeta Lake	Duchesne County, head of Whiterocks River	Ute	rippling water, named for Chepeta (Chipeta)
Chinle Creek	San Juan County	Navajo	where water comes out
East of the Navajo	San Juan County, wilderness on the western slopes of Kaiparowits Plateau	Navajo	named after Navajo Canyon
East Tavaputs Plateau	Uintah & Grand Counties, north of Brown cliffs	Ute	named after a Ute headman
Fort Uintah	Uintah County, southeast of Whiterocks	Ute	established in 1832 by Antoine Robidoux, burned down in 1844 by Utes
Fort Wahweap	Kane County, near mouth of Paria River	Piute	alkaline seeps or salt licks
Greenwich	Piute County, south of Koosharem.	Piute	anglicized version of an Indian name
Gosiute*	Juab County	Shoshone	dust people
Hoskinnini Mesa	San Juan County, west of Gouldin	Navajo	from Hush-Kaaney, meaning Angry One
Hovenweep National Monument	San Juan County, east of Hatch Trading Post	?	deserted valley
Ibantik Lake	Summit County, near east end of Notch Mountain	Ute	?
Ibapah	Tooele County, near head of Deep Creek	Gosiute, (Goshute)	white clay water (Ai-bil-pa)
Ignacio	Uintah County, Utah, south of Bonanza	Ute	(ghost town site)
Ioka	Duchesne County, northwest of Myton	Ute	bravado
Juab	Juab County	Piute	flat or level plain (includes the meaning "thirsty")
Kachina Bridge	San Juan County, in Natural Bridges National Monument	Navajo	?
Kaiparowits Plateau	Garfield County, southeast of Escalante	Piute	"Big Mountain's Little Brother", "One-An" or "Hole of Our People"
Kamas	Summit County, northeast of Heber	?	an edible bulb, or a small grassy plain along hills
Kanab	Kane County	Piute	willow

Kanarraville	Iron County, southwest of Cedar City	Piute	named for Kanarra (Quanarrah), leader of a Piute Band
Kanosh	Millard County	Ute	kan = willow, oush = bowl, named for Kanosh
Koosharem	Sevier County, north of Greenwich	?	red clover, or an edible tuber
Lake Pagahrit	San Juan County	Piute	standing water
Lake Posy	Garfield County	Piute	named for Posy (Posey)
Levan	Juab County	Piute, French or Latin	East of the Sunrise, Land of the Sunrise, Rear Rank of a Moving Any, Frontier Settlement, or Little Water
Magotsu Creek	Washington County, north of Central	Piute	long slope, or end of a long slope (Ma-haut-su)
Markagunt Plateau	Garfield and Iron Counties	Piute	highland of trees
Moab	Grand County, near Arches National Park	Piute	mosquito (Moapa) (It lay have been named for "the land beyond Jordan" in the Bible.)
Moap Lake	Uintah County, in southeast Uintah Mountains	Piute	mosquito (Moapa)
Moqui Canyon	San Juan County	?	Hopi (less favored name)
Mount Timpanogos	Utah County	Piute	rocks and running water
MountTomasaki	San Juan County	?	named for an Indian guide
Mount Tuhnikivats	San Juan County	Piute	where the sun sets last
Mount Tuscarora	Salt Lake County	Tuscarora	named for a chief of the Tuscarora Indians in the eastern United States
Mukuntuweap Canyon (usually called "North Fork of the Virgin River")	Washington County	Piute or Navajo	"Straight Canyon", "The Place of the Gods", "God's Land", "Land of Mokum", "Soap Creek", or "Red Dirt"
Mussentucbit Flat	Emery County, south of Deadman Peak	?	?
Mytoge Mountains	Sevier County, near Fish Lake	?	moon
Nasja Creek	San Juan County, starts on Navajo Mountain	Navajo	the owls (noeshja)
Nasja Mesa	"	"	"
Navajo Canyon	Kane County, starts on western slopes of Kaiparowits Plateau	Spanish	navaja = knife, razor or tusk of a wild boar
Navajo Lake	Kane County, in Duch Creek Valley	"	" (The Indian name for the lake was Pah-cu- ay meaning "Cloud Lake".)
Navajo Twins	San Juan County, south of the junction of the Colorado and San Juan Rivers	"	"
Navajo Valley	Kane County, south of Kaiparowits Plateau	"	"

Navajo Wells	Kane County, east of Kanab	Spanish	navaja = knife, razor or tusk of a wild boar
Neola	Duchesne County, northwest of Roosevelt	?	niota = water's mouth*, "last stand", "this is the last move" or "move no more" (or it could be Greek for "new place")
Noki	San Juan County, starts in Arizona	Navajo	Mexican waters
Oljeto Wash	San Juan County, starts in Arizona	Navajo	moonlight (Oljato, Oljieto)
Onaque Mountains*	Tooele County	Gosiute (Goshute)	salt
Oowah Lake	Grand County, southeast of Moab	Piute	?
Oquirrh Mountains	Salt Lake County	Gosiute (Goshute)	"Wooded Mountain", "Cave Mountain", "West Mountain" or "Shining Mountains"
Ouray	Uintah County, at the junction of the Duchesne and Green Rivers	Ute	arrow, named after Ouray
Oweep Creek	Duchesne County, starts in Uinta Mountains	?	grass
Owiyukuts Mountains	Daggett County, north of Browns Park	?	?
Panguitch	Garfield County, near Sevier River	Piute	waters plenty with fish*
Panguitch Creek	Garfield County, starts at Panguitch Lake	"	"
Panguitch Lake	Garfield County, southwest of panguitch	"	"
Panguitch Valley	Garfield County, area around Panguitch	"	"
Paragonah	Iron County, northeast of Parowan	Piute	marshlands, or many springs thin stream of rapid water
Paria	Kane County, northeast of Kanab	Piute	muddy water or elk water (from Piute word Pahrea(h))
Paria Canyon	Kane County, southern Bryce Canyon	"	"
Paria River	Kane County, runs through Paria Canyon	"	"
Parowan	Iron County, northeast of Cedar City	Piute	from the Piute words "paragoons" (meaning "marsh people") and "pah-o-an" (meaning "bad or harmful water")
Parowan Canyon	Beaver and Iron Counties, starts near Brian Head	"	"
Parowan Canyon	Iron County, south of Minersville	"	"
Parowan Gap	Iron County, west of Little Salt Lake	"	"
Parunuweap Canyon	Washington County	Piute	Roaring Water Canyon
Paunsaugunt Plateau	Garfield and Kane Counties	Piute	place or home of the beavers
Pavant Plateau	Millard and Sevier Counties	Piute	water people (other spellings: Pah Vant, Pauvan, etc.)

Peoa	Summit County, north of Kamas	?	to marry (Pe-oh-a)
Peshliki Fork	Garfiled County, starts east of Mount Ellsworth in the southern Henry Mountains)	Navajo	silver (Peshlaki)
Peteetneet Creek	San Juan County	?	?
Piute County	next to Beaver County	Piute	water UTE, pure UTE (Pa-Ute, Pah ute, etc.)
Piute Creek	San Juan County, starts in Arizona	"	"
Piute Creek	San Juan County, starts east of Monticello	"	"
Piute Farms	San Juan County, northwest boundary of Monument Valley	"	"
Piute Mesa	San Juan County, between Piute Creek and Nokai Canyon	"	"
Piute Reservoir	Piute County, northeast of Junction	"	"
Piute Springs	San Juan county, east of Monticello	"	"
Podunk Creek	Kane County, starts in Bryce Canyon	Piute	named for Po Dunk who was lost for awhile there
Posy Canyon	San Juan County	Piute	named for Posy (Posey)
Posy Springs	Garfield County, east of Lake Posy	"	"
Quichapa Creek	Iron County, starts in the Harmony Mountains	"	"
Quichapa Lake	Iron County, west of Hamlton Fort	"	"
Quichapah Creek	Sevier County, starts at junction of Convulsion Canyon and Water Hollow	"	"
Sanpete County	middle of Utah	Ute	named for san pitch
Sanpete Valley	Sanpete County, south of Fairview	"	"
Santaquin	Utah County	Ute	named for Santaquin
Santaquin Draw	Duchesne County, starts in southwest Uintah Mountains	"	"
Santaquin Peak	Utah County, high point of Loafer Mountain	"	"
Santaquin Spring	Duchesne County, at head of Santaquin Draw	"	"
Seedskeedee liver	an Indian name for Green River (Seedskeedee-Agie, Seedskeeder, etc.)	?	?
Sbambip County	no longer exists, absorbed into Tooele County	Gosiute (Goshute)	water rushes and reeds
Shauntie	Beaver County, ghost town southwest of Milford	Piute	much or a whole lot

Shinob-Kiab Mountain	Washington County	?	named for Indian god
Shivwits	Washington County	?	named for Shivwits Indians
Skootspah (now Clarksdale)	Kane County	Piute	(The town was also named Skutumpah for the creek, because SkutUllaph leans a creek where squirrels and rabbitbrush are plentiful.)
Skutumaph Creek	Kane County, near junction of Mill and Mineral Creeks	?	from either "Skoots-pa", the creek where squirrels live or "Skoom-pa", the creek where rabbitbrush grows
Squaw Peak	Utah County, north of Provo	--	In February 1850 a white-Indian conflict developed near the mouth of the Provo River. Big Elk, a chief of the local Piute Indians, was killed and his squaw fled with others toward the foothills to the east. She died from a fall from the peak that was then named in her honor.
Tabby Canyon	Duchesne County, south of Duchesne	Ute	named for Tabby
Tabby Creek	Duchesne County	"	"
Tabby Mountain	Duchesne County, west of Tabiona	"	"
Tabiona	Duchesne County, west of Tabby Mountain	"	In 1860 a military fort was built on this site. The forts was named "Tabiona" but was also known as Tabbyville, and until 1915 was often called Tabby. The name refers to two Ute Chiefs, Tava (Tabby) and Tayneena. They lived in the area with their people. In 1915 Tabiona became the formal name. (Named after Tabby and his daughter, Iona.)
Tatow Knob	Millard County, north of Swasey Peak	?	ta-too, ta-taugh = big toe (of an Indian giant)
Ticaboo Canyon	Garfield County, east of Mount Ellsworth	Piute	friendly
Ticaboo Creek	Garfield County, east of Ticaboo Mesa	"	"
Ticaboo Mesa	Garfield County, between Cane Spring Desert and the Henry Mountains	"	"
Tintic	Juab County, west of Mona	Gosiute (Goshute)	Tintic, a Gosiute (Goshute) chief
Tintic Valley	Juab County, west of Eureka	"	"
Tokawana Peak	Uintah County, between East and West forks of Blacks Fork	Ute	Uintah Ute legend: there were once two Indian chiefs: one was good and one was bad. Tokawana was the name of the good chief, meaning "peace".

Tonaquint	Washington County, pioneer settlement at the junction of Santa Clara Creek and the Virgin River, also called "Never Sweat" because <i>it</i> was so hot, and "Lick Skillet" because <i>it</i> was so poor	?	Tonaquint Indians
Tooele	Tooele County, west of Oquirrh Mountains	?	some say <i>it</i> is named after Tuilla, a Goshute leader, and others say it means the rushes and reeds in the swamps
Tooele County	one of first six counties	?	"
Tooele Valley	Tooele County, south of Great Salt Lake	?	"
Topache Peak	Beaver County, southwest of Milford	?	?
Toquerville*	Washington County	Piute	black mountain
Tushar Canyon	Grand County, northwest of Moab	?	?
Tushar Mountains	Beaver County, between Beaver, Junction and Marysville	?	t'shar = white mountain
Tushar Ridge	"	?	"
Uinta Basin	Uintah County, south of Uintah Mountains	Ute	named for Uintah Utes (Uintah = pine land)
Uinta Mountains	northeast Utah	"	"
Uinta River	Duchesne and Uintah Counties, starts on the eastern slopes of Kings Peak	"	"
Uintah	Weber County, mouth of Weber River canyon	"	"
Uintah County	one of original six counties	"	"
Uintah Lake	Duchesne County, west end of Uintah Mountains	"	"
Utah County	one of the first six counties	Ute	named after Ute Indians
Utah Lake	Utah County	"	"
Utah State		"	"
Utah Valley	Utah County, south of Point of the Mountain	"	"
Utahn	Duchesne County, north of Duchesne	"	"
Uteland Butte	Uintah County, near Ft. Duchesne	"	"
Wah Wah Springs	Beaver County, eastern slopes of Wah Wah Mountains	?	good water
Wah Wah Valley	Beaver County / between Wah Wah Mountains and San Francisco Mountains	?	"
Wah Wah Valley Hardpan	Beaver County, north end of Wah Wah Valley	?	"
Wah Wah Wash	Beaver County, south end of Wah Wah Valley	?	"

Wahweap Marina	Kane County, on border of Utah and Arizona	?	good water
Wahsatch	Summit County, on border of Utah and Arizona	?	"
Wahweap Bay	Kane County, part of Lake Powell	Piute	alkaline seeps with stagnant or brackish seeps
Wahweap Creek	Garfield and Kane Counties, starts on southern slopes of Canaan Peak	"	"
Wanship	Summit County, at junction of Silver Creek and Weber River	Shoshone	named for Chief Wanship (leaning "good man")
Wasatch	Salt Lake County, southeast of Salt Lake City	Ute	mountain pass or low place in high mountains
Wasatch County	central Utah	"	"
Wasatch Mountain state Park	Wasatch County, west of Midway	"	"
Wasatch Mountains	north-south range. of mountains in central Utah	"	"
Washakie	Box Elder County, south of Portage	Shoshone	named for Chief Washakie
West Tavaputs Plateau	Carbon and Duchesne Counties, west of Desolation Canyon	Ute	named for a Ute Indian headman
The Wickiup	Emery County, on the Sinbad Swell	--	a hut made of reeds and mud
Wigwam Lake	Duchesne County, central Uintah Mountains	--	named because Uinta Utes often camped around the lake
Wonsits Valley	Uintah County, junction of White, Green and Duchesne Rivers	?	wonsits yu-av = antelope valley
Wynopits Mountain	Washington County, in Zion National Park	?	Indian deity of evil
Yampah Plateau	Uintah County, north-east of Jensen	Ute	named for the yampah plant, a staple of the Yampah Ute Indians
Yovimpa Pass	Kane County, south end of Bryce Canyon National Park	Piute	uimpabitz = pine tree ridge
Yovimpa	"	"	"

This list was compiled from [Utah Place Names](#) by John W. Van Cott, [The New Utah's Heritage](#) by S. George Ellsworth, and [A Teacher's Guide for the Maps and Chart Series Conquest for Indian America](#) by Doloris Riley and will Numkena.

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Special thanks to Rhoda and Lawrence DeVad of the Thorne studio in Vernal, Utah for the use of 100 photographs of Ute Indians of the Uintah Basin from the years 1880-1930.

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