



**AMERICAN
TRIP**



American Trip 2024

9
Edition

**California
and National Parks**

I • August 18 - August 31 | II • August 25 - September 7
III • September 8 - September 21 | IV • September 22 - October 5



We connect participants of work&travel and create travels that we remember forever.

- 1** You have the support of our experienced tour leaders, who will share what's best to see and where.
- 2** We move around safely, with an experienced bus driver.
- 3** You can count on our help during, as well as before the trip.
- 4** When travelling, time is always limited, that is why we go on a smartly-planned route that we have been on many times.
- 5** You know exact cost of the whole trip, and when you are there, you don't have to worry about paying for accommodation, entrance tickets, and other components.
- 6** You stay at hotels and motels that we checked and tested.
- 7** You will experience an unforgettable night party in Vegas, and a ride on a Party Bus:)
- 8** No hidden fees.
- 9** We travel as a group, but at each place you choose the way you want to explore and experience, and you do that at your own pace.
- 10** You can easily join as a single participant... you will get to know lots of great people from all over the world.
- 11** Comfort during the trip. You don't worry about things like where to park your car, or even about safety of your luggage.
- 12** You will be a part of something GRAND!
- 13** Friendships for life... Each year we get together somewhere in the world for the Reunion

In other words, :)

We move around together and stay at the same hotels. But the way you discover each place, no matter if it's Vegas, Grand Canyon, Yosemite, or San Francisco – is your choice. We show you possibilities and you decide how to spend your time.



Why the West Coast ?

Words cannot fully describe the beauty of National Parks on the West Coast. The best solution is to have this expedition and witness all these wonders of nature for yourself. Hop on the bus and let's have the journey of our lives. Day by day, we will discover incredible states including California, Nevada, Utah, and Arizona. We'll cross 2000 miles in search of adventure and unforgettable experiences.

Each time we are in the US, we feel as if landed on another planet. We will spend a lot of time in California that, if detached from the rest of the States, would be the 6th biggest economy in the world, next to the United Kingdom. Aside from stays in Los Angeles and San Francisco, we will see the wonders of Yosemite with our own eyes, and experience how hot it can get in the Death Valley.

We will visit the Wild West, therefore there will be no shortage of views known from Western movies. Spectacular canyons attract tourists from all over the world, but we will also strive to show you the less attended trails and the more hidden pearls of nature. There is plenty of them in this part of the States! We are certain that people who love open spaces and freedom will love it. Beautiful landscapes of National Parks will satisfy the most demanding explorers. We want you to experience diversity and beauty of nature. That is why one day we will visit the Death Valley, where barren, desert lands dominate but 24 hours later we will be in Yosemite NP amongst grand mountains, green sceneries and waterfalls.

We will often start at dawn, because time is the biggest value during such a trip. We will move around as one group, but once we're at any place to discover, you are free to experience it how you like to. At each National Park, you decide what to see there: Zion, the Grand Canyon, Yosemite, or other ones. Our aim is that you have your dream summer, in a safe and smart way. Travelling in a well-integrated group of travellers where everyone is thirsty of American adventure, that is another important concept of ours.

That is why we encourage evenings when we spend time together, laugh, fool around, sing and dance, creating atmosphere of joy. We recognize that the pandemic has limited socializing for some time, and now it is time to make up for it and have fun. For everyone willing to join, there will be Party Buses in Vegas.

The US is made for such expeditions. Something exciting happens here every day and every day, new and variable adventures await us. There is not even a second for boredom, and this journey is a great big dose of adrenaline, and memories that will stay with you forever.



See what awaits you during this trip, how we spend time, day by day. Remember, you decide the details of your sightseeing and exploration, but you can always count on our help and tips.

Day 1

Arriving, meeting in Las Vegas

Your AmericanTrip adventure starts in Las Vegas. We will be waiting at a hotel to welcome you and show you to your room. We expect different arrival times – some travellers will join in the day, and some late at night and therefore there are no major plans for the day. We advise that you get a good night's sleep ahead of a busy day, but remember, punctuality is key for the rest of our adventure, so be prepared for an early start tomorrow! And what's also important – we will be back in Vegas soon enough :D



Day 2

Bryce Canyon & Zion

The day starts with a drive to Utah State, where we will see the first two National Parks of our itinerary. The first one is the fascinating Bryce Canyon National Park. Many travellers who have seen the West Coast mention this park as the one that they will remember the most for its spectacular views. It is no surprise that, since Bryce Canyon is a one-of-a-kind geological formation and one of the most recognizable places in the US.



What we'll find there, are many spectacular observation points and trails, including Navajo Loop that leads through rock formations known as Wall Street, and Silent City. The iconic Thor's Hammer of Bryce Canyon is also on our way.

Bryce Canyon is in a lower altitude and therefore it's quite colder here than, for example, in the nearby Zion. Traces of snow could be found here even in the summer. It's worth having an additional layer of jacket or sweater handy when visiting.





The second half of the day is about Zion National Park. We'll park near the Visitor Center and next, we'll take one of the Park's buses to go to where each of us wants to go; for most of us, that will probably be either starting points for Angels Landing hiking trail or the Narrows. Feel free to choose any other, and we will help you get there, too; Zion has plenty to offer. Surely, everyone will find the best way to explore and experience this place, as there is a variety of trails, from light and easy ones, to challenging and difficult ones; but each and every surrounded by the utmost picturesque views that you will hold in your memory for long. On our way to the hotel, we'll stop by a Walmart.

Day 3

Antelope Canyon & Horseshoe Bend

After breakfast, we check out of the hotel and head towards the town of Page. A day full of adventures is ahead of us, including meeting Native Americans from the Navajo Tribe.

The first stop is Glen Canyon Dam. 220 meters high and 480 meters long, it's one of the most curious objects like this in the world. It is not as recognizable as Hoover Dam, and many tourists come to Page not even knowing that right by the city, there's this enormous dam. We will also see the fantastic Glen Canon Dam Bridge. It was the tallest arch bridge in the world at the time when it was newly constructed and it's still one of the tallest in the US.





We then start our adventure to Antelope Canyon and Horseshoe Bend, two otherworldly destinations that will take your breath away. First, we'll head to the Lower Antelope Canyon where a Navajo Tribe guide will take us on a one-and-a-half-hour hike through this incredible place.



Be prepared to climb a few ladders and navigate narrow sections, but don't let that scare you off - the beauty of this canyon is well worth the effort.



After Antelope Canyon, we will stop for lunch and shopping in the town of Page. You can choose from a buffet place, pizza parlour, fast food restaurants, and more. There will be Walmart, too. In the afternoon, the last stop for the day will be Horseshoe Bend – a view worth a million dollars. This grand meander of Colorado River is one of the favorite photographic subjects of Wild West. We will begin with a short path – it's just 2,4 km both ways. It is also not difficult, but we need to get ourselves ready for high temperatures. Horseshoe Bend will appear as if out of nowhere, because you cannot see this narrow canyon from afar.



Fun fact!

The most famous meander in the US. Virtually vertical cliffs of Horseshoe Bend are staggering 300 meters high, which is almost as high as a 100-level skyscraper. The bend of Colorado River here is 270 degrees.

Colorado River needed a million years to form Horseshoe Bend. Research claims that the water flow will eventually brake through the meander, thus creating a shortcut and an enormous bridge like the ones in Natural Bridges Park. It would however cause the river to disappear from this picturesque bend.

Day 4

Grand Canyon National Park + Route 66

Get ready for an action-packed day at the South Rim of Grand Canyon National Park. After a quick visit to the Visitor Centre, you'll have three hours to explore the Grand Canyon at your leisure. Choose from Mather Point, Desert View Drive, Grand Canyon Village or Hermit Road to create your own personal itinerary.



After soaking in the beauty of the Grand Canyon, we'll hit the road to Las Vegas, but not before making a quick stop along the way on the legendary Route 66. There, we'll enjoy charming small shops, cafes and restaurants, with their spirit of olden days, and you'll feel as if time stopped in this place: Seligman Sundries, Cooper Cart, Supai Motel, Rusty Bolt, Roadrunner czy Delgadillo's Snow Cap Drive-In. In the evening we'll hop on the party bus and enjoy all that Sin City has to offer.



Day 5 **Las Vegas**

Get ready to be entranced by the bright lights and thrilling attractions of Las Vegas. Enjoy a day of rest and recharge or take advantage of the shopping options at North or South Premium Outlets, or at the nearby shopping centres. Indulge in the luxuries of your hotel, relax by the swimming pool, or take a scenic drive to popular landmarks like Red Rock Canyon, Valley of Fire, Seven Magic Mountains, or Hoover Dam.





As night falls, go on a tour of the city's most dazzling hotels, each with its own unique charm. Discover the grandeur of The Venetian, Caesars Palace, Aria, Treasure Island, Mirage, or Excalibur.

Don't miss the mesmerizing Bellagio Hotel dancing fountains show, and for a touch of adventure, visit New York, New York hotel for a thrilling rollercoaster ride. Consider taking a trip to The Strat for panoramic views of the city skyline and heart-pumping activities like bungee jumping. End the night with a bang by catching a mesmerizing performance by the famous Cirque du Soleil troupe. With so much to see and do, Las Vegas promises to be a day you'll never forget.



Day 6

Death Valley National Park



Day 6 is marked by a challenging route through The Death Valley. Luckily, views will be worth it. Unreal, beautiful rock formations, mountains scattered on the desert dominate this landscape. It is one of the most fascinating places on Earth. The valley is also the highest temperatures, secrets of nature, hit movie sets, and heat that melts concrete roads in the summer. Welcome to the hottest place on the planet.

The first stop will be Zabriskie Point. It is the most recognizable place in the Death Valley. From there, we will be able to admire the great golden, and the salt flats behind them. Driving ahead on road 190 we will reach Furnace Creek, a picturesque desert oasis, where Borax Museum is situated. Following that, one of the most interesting points of today's sightseeing – Badwater. This enormous salt pan lies 86 meters below sea level. We are sure to feel what heat means in the Death Valley.

The last stop that day is Mesquite Flat Sand Dunes. In Star Wars – A New Hope, Mesquite Dunes is the setting for planet Tatooine. It's where two druids argue which way to go after landing in an escape pod; no wonder, since the place is one big desert, with no trails marked.

For lunch, we will stop in the town of Ridgecrest. After this refreshment, we will continue on our way to Bakersfield. Sequoias are in store for the next day!



Another fun fact!

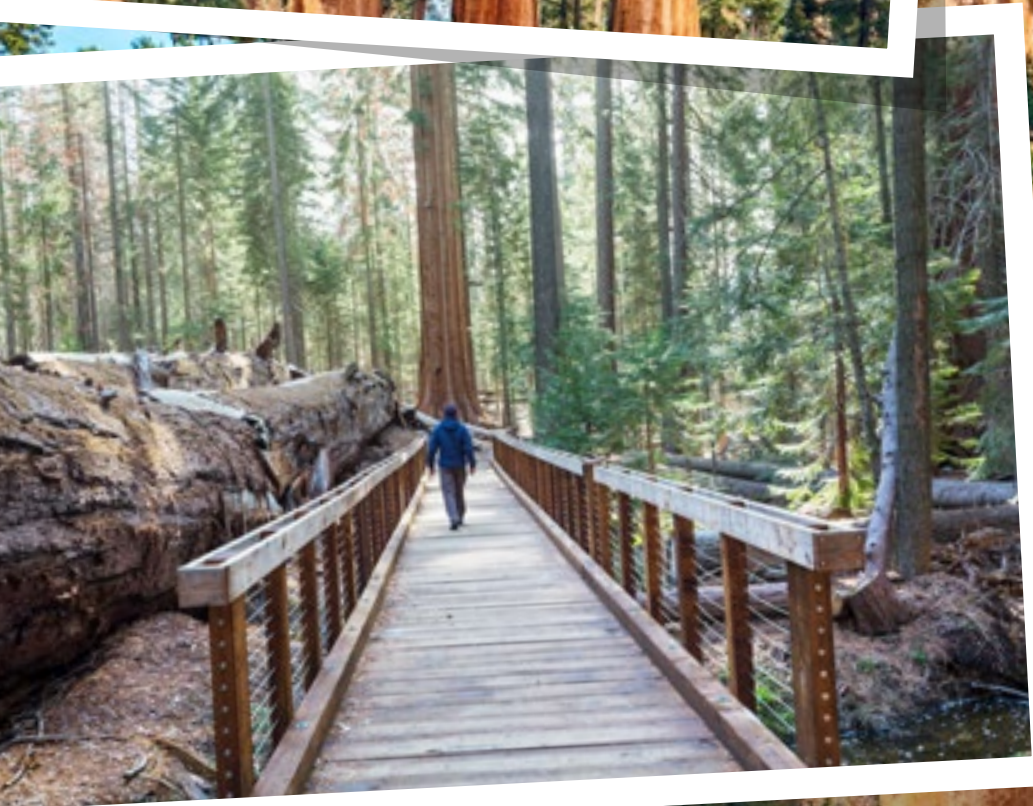
The Death Valley held the record for highest temperature on Earth since 1913, but on August 16, 2020, the Valley exceeded its own achievement. At 3:41 PM at the weather station next to Visitor Center in Furnace Creek, a temperature of 54,4 °C was noted, which is the new heat record on our planet.

Day 7

Sequoia National Park

Today will be spent amongst gigantic trees – Sequoias. They may reach even up to 95 meters high and weigh 200 tons. We will feel as if we've entered a fairytale forest, brought from a galaxy far away. Sequoia National Park is not only about these giant trees, but also massive rock monoliths, lakes, waterfalls and wild animals, with bears being especially common. But before we can experience all of these wonders, we ought to "climb" about 2000 meters high, driving narrow, curvy roads, thus we should also be ready for a demanding bus ride.





We'll start with Kings Canyon, a neighbor to Sequoia NP. We will see General Grant tree there, which is the second largest tree on Earth. Next, we will have a bit of rest and shopping. There will be time to get a full meal and hunt some souvenirs. Once we're done with these activities, we follow to the main point of the day. Our bus will take us to the very beginning of a trail that leads to the largest tree in the world. We will walk for about 10 minutes to see General Sherman tree with our own eyes. It is estimated to be 2100 years old, 84 meters tall, with circumference at ground of 31,3 meters, and its weight 1200-1300 tons. You will also see that taking a picture with it is quite a challenge. We will exit the park on road 180, which is less twisted and less steep than our previous route, which should make it easier to climb down. We will stop in Fresno for the night.

Day 8

Yosemite National Park

After breakfast, we head to Yosemite. On our way there, we will stop by Raley's store in the town of Oakhurst. Make sure you have snacks and beverages to take you through the day, but today it will be especially important to have energy reserves. Yosemite National Park is famous of its gorgeous waterfalls, and even though most of them have dried out in August, Vernal and Nevada Falls will make up for it, trust us ;)

Having parked our vehicles, we will transfer using the park's bus line to station 16 "Happy Isles". From there, we will begin the hike on Mist Trail and John Muir Trail until Vernal Falls. We will be walking on a quite steep path, but one that has an amazing overlook on the fall, enabling a close view. A rainbow is very common on a hot day. Even hot days are bearable here thanks to a chill of the falls' mist. We will be able to chill and rest, have a bit and sip of water on top of Vernal Fall. This part of the hike, with an easy pace will take us about 3 hours. Optionally, some of you and us will decide to continue the way up, with the final point being Nevada Fall.





Going back, we will make one more stop, by observation point Tunnel View. It is one of the most recognizable views in Yosemite; from there, we will see El Capitan and Half Dome, and Clouds Rest, Sentinel Dome and Bridalveil Fall. These are landmarks of Yosemite NP and some of the most beautiful places in California.

Day 9 San Francisco

We begin by checking out of the hotel. We hop on the bus and leave for San Francisco, where Alcatraz Island and Prison is first on the schedule. We will try to park as close as possible to Pier 33, from where we will take a ferry to the island. Onboard, we will be able to admire the wonderful panoramic view of San Francisco, and if we are lucky and the skies are clear, even Golden Gate Bridge will be visible. As we reach the destination, we get a 1,5-hour tour of the used-to-be prison. The tour includes jail cells where inmates were kept, including one where Al Capone spent his prison days. We will also see their recreational area, guard rooms, and the prison yard with the view of the city.





Once we're back from Alcatraz, there's time to walk around the city. Whoever prefers, they can tag along to Ferry Building, Coit Tower or North Beach (the last one known as San Francisco's Little Italy). Any further sightseeing of any of us will certainly lead to Lombard Street. A section of it is known as "the crookedest street in the world". Avid readers should not miss City Lights Bookstore – the most famous bookstores in the US. Across the street from it, you should stop by and have a cup of coffee at this legendary gathering spot of the beatnik generation, Café Vesuvio. If there's still enough time, go to Chinatown. At the end of the day, we will all wind up at Pier 39. It is a real pearl of San Francisco. We will see sea lions laying around the pier.



Day 10 San Francisco



The whole of the next day is also all about San Francisco. The first location that will take some of our time is nearby Golden Gate Bridge. This marvel of civic architecture is an icon of the city, and one the major symbols of California state. We'll start by checking out the Golden Gate Welcome Center. From there, we'll walk onto the bridge and take a short walk. Its length is almost 3 km, and it does not make much logistic sense to take a longer walk. To see the bridge from another perspective, we will go down in the direction of Fort Point National Historic Site. Anyone feeling like having some sand under your feet can go to Torpedo Wharf, and going further down the coast, we'll get to Crissy Field Beach. Both locations provide a nice view of the bridge in its entirety. Later, we'll cross the bridge to its other side, where we stop by the observation point "Golden Gate Bridge View Vista Point". If you enter Presidio Yacht in your navigation, you'd reach another interesting place with the bridge's view, after just 10 minutes of driving. And the cherry on top is Battery Spencer. We'll see the bridge linking both shores of the bay.



Once you're done appreciating Golden Gate Bridge, you spend the rest of the day in San Francisco the way you wish to. We would surely go to Golden Gate Park, Painted Ladies, take a ride on a streetcar, and the rest is up to you.



Day 11
Santa Barbara



We go to Santa Barbara for dinner and recreational activities such as volleyball game for whoever wants to join. Santa Barbara is a place where Hollywood's greatest stars have their mansions. We will spend a mesmerizing evening here walking around on the beach and gazing at the swaying yachts in the ocean. After relaxing on a beach, we head to Simi Valley for a cosy 3-night stay.

Day 12 Los Angeles



It's time for the "City of Angels", a place where people come to make their dreams come true. That is why we head out to see Hollywood Walk of Fame/ Hollywood Boulevard. The street is known for stars embedded in the sidewalks; they are to recognize various artists of movies, music, sports, and other categories. Another good reason to be there is the Oscar ceremony; every year the ceremony takes place at the Dolby Theatre, of which you will also get a good look.

Next, we transfer to Griffith Observatory. It will give us a real nice panoramic view of Los Angeles and the Hollywood sign. This location has also been used as setting for many Hollywood movie productions. Films like La La Land, Terminator and its 2 sequels, Back To the Future, Rebel Without A Cause and many, many more.

Next, on our way to Santa Monica we will make a stop in Beverly Hills. We will take a walk through the Rodeo Drive, where most expensive stores are located, including boutique shop Bijan. It is chosen by presidents and members of royal families, and you can shop only if you book your visit earlier. We will also visit the "Via Rodeo" street, that has a European city feeling.



The last stop that day is Santa Monica. As we arrive our gazes will be attracted by the iconic pier that was built in 1909. It is the heart of this city. This is where the historic Route 66 has its end, the other end being Chicago.



Day 13

More of Los Angeles!

The whole day about Los Angeles. Pick from sightseeing, sunbathing and other beach activities, hiking up to the Hollywood sign, or a full-day activity of having fun at the Universal Studios, or another theme/ amusement park. Needless to say, you will have our support in selecting what to see in LA, how to get to the sign, and best ways to enjoy Universal Studios to get the most out of that experience.



Day 14 „Lazy day“ and return to Las Vegas

After 14 exciting days of incredible adventures and discovering some of the greatest places on Earth, it is time to finish our trip. From the morning until around 1 PM we relax on Californian beaches and afterwards, we go back to Las Vegas. On that day, we will thank each other for the times we've spent together. A sad day, but we've learned from experience to have a set of tissues for each of you, so that we can live through this moment in more of dry conditions ;)

*If your flight is from Las Vegas, we will take you to the airport. We estimate to be in Las Vegas by 8 PM. Others, who plan to stay longer in Las Vegas, will be dropped off in the city center. We would like to highlight that returning home from Los Angeles is a much better option as you avoid the multiple hours on the road back to Vegas and sometimes additional costs of staying overnight in Vegas, due to limited number of flights during evening hours.



Budget for food during the trip

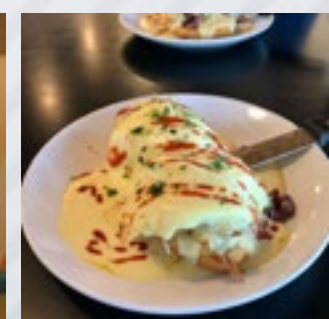
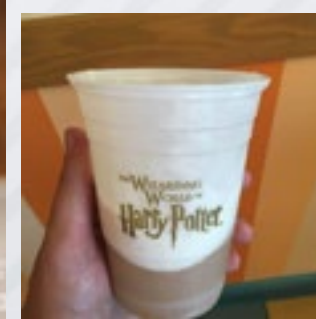
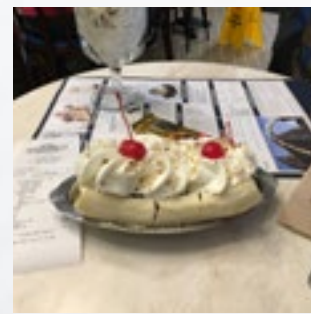
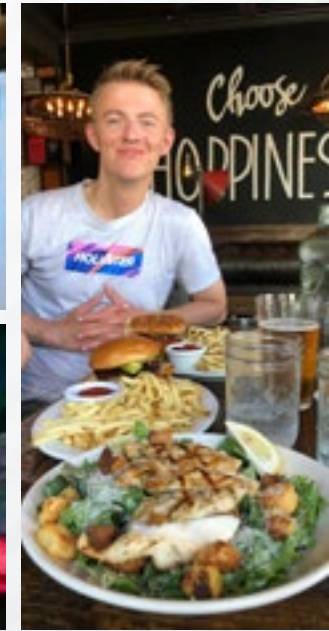
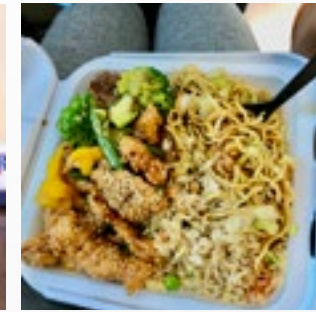
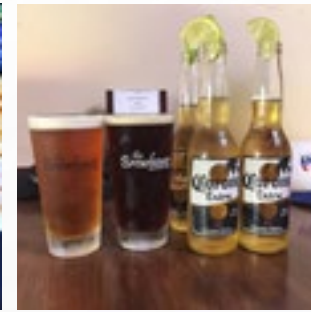
How much we spend is very much dependant on our choices. Usually, we estimate 20-30 dollars for an adult per day.

We wish to remind you that at some hotels and motels we have breakfast included in the stay. But do remember that American breakfast culture may be quite different than the one in Europe. Standard American hotel breakfast may often consist of coffee/ tea, juice, toast with butter and/ or jam, and breakfast cereal with milk. Therefore, we strive to find accommodation near convenient stores and supermarkets like Walmart or Target. Thanks to this, we can prepare our own breakfast, including veggies and fruits. In addition, almost every day we stop at a large food store during the day.

Throughout our journey, we will serve you with tips and clues about choosing a place to eat at, and about scheduled stops for meals. You will be able to try a variety of cuisines, from typical American fast-food spots to Indian cuisine, to healthy, nutritious and delicious dishes.



Have a look... you will not go hungry



Transportation during the trip



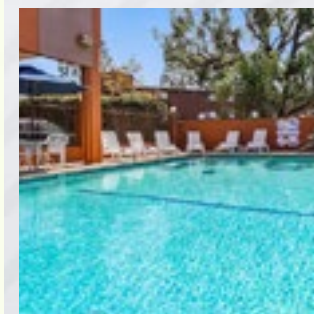
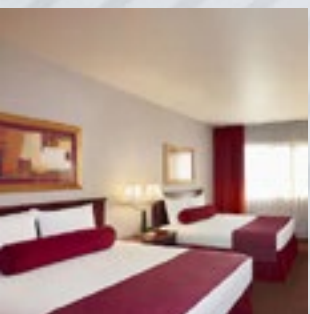
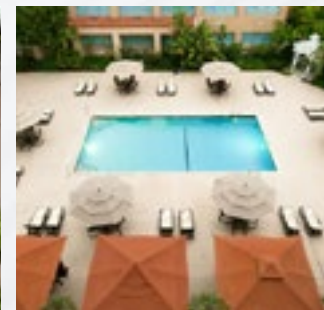
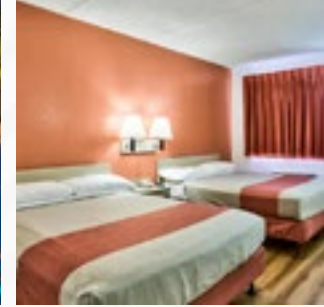
We go around on a luxury-class coach, capacity 40 or 56 depending on a given group. These vehicles are equipped with power sockets, comfortable seats, toilet and TV screens



Where we stay overnight

We select our stops for the night mainly according to their location. We want our hotels and motels to be as close as possible to the next highlight of our trip. Consequently, we usually start the day by sightseeing, and then we are back on the road. Another criteria is to have breakfast included as part of our stay, and when it's not possible, we choose a hotel with a convenient store or a restaurant in proximity.

We also want our accommodation to be diverse. Thanks to this, we plan some stays at places of high standard, and at other times we get to experience the movie-made legend of american motels. Usually, if the stay is for more than 1 night, places are of higher standard. In most cases, we pick well-known hotel chains, like Hilton, Best Western, Super 8, Days inn, Red Lion, whereas in Las Vegas we stay at Four Queens, and we have coopearted with their crew for many years.



California and National Parks

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4 people in a room

(amount per person)

- If you sign up before June 30th: 1299 USD
- If you sign up after June 30th: 1399 USD

This price applies if 4 people are placed in one room

* each room has 2 Queen-size beds

2 people in a room

(amount per person)

- If you sign up before June 30th: 1599 USD
- If you sign up after June 30th 1699 USD

This price applies if 2 people are placed in one room



The price includes

- expert tour guidance
- 13 nights in a variety of hotels
- breakfast in selected hotels
- transport to each destination
- activities during free time
 - including volleyball in Santa Barbara
- insurance
- entrance to all National Parks of the itinerary
- party bus in Las Vegas
- AmericanTrip-branded t-shirt

Costs not included in the price:

- \$2/ per day – tip for our driver
- meals, nutrition (estimated 20-30 USD per day per person)
- Admission ticket to Antelope Canyon: \$75 per person (optional)
- Cruise to Alcatraz Island and guided tour around: \$50 per person (optional)



Join the community: Explorers of the USA :)



You can book your spot at : [americantrip.net/how-to-travel-with-us](https://www.americantrip.net/how-to-travel-with-us)

In case of any questions, we encourage you to contact us via email:
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As you book, please remember to share your T-shirt size. Everyone gets a souvenir tee from their AmericanTrip :)





We are a group of EXPLORERS OF THE US
Think twice before you join... it's addictive ;)



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