



Western Wonderland 2013

<p>Day 1: Las Vegas - Welcome to Las Vegas, the world-renowned city of lights, shows, gambling, world class shopping, and more! Meet in the lobby of our base hotel at 6:00pm. Travel Dream West invites you to dinner where we will get to know each other and your tour guide will hand out tour documentation.</p>	 <p>Las Vegas Strip</p>
<p>Day 2: Las Vegas – Valley of Fire – Panguitch - Drive to Bryce Canyon National Park. On the way, visit and do a short hike at unique red colored Valley of Fire State Park with petroglyphs and marvelous sculpted sandstone cliffs. Continue on to St. George, Utah before driving up to the Colorado Plateau where for two nights at comfortable cabins near Bryce Canyon.</p>	  <p>Valley of Fire State Park St. George</p>
<p>Day 3: Bryce Canyon National Park - Explore Bryce Canyon, one of the most beautiful National Parks of the West. Stop at the visitor center with interactive displays and a movie, drive and walk along the scenic rim trails, and for those more adventurous types hike through the deep canyons of Bryce. Optional horseback ride through the canyons. 2nd night near Bryce Canyon.</p>	  <p>Bryce Canyon N.P. hike Bryce Canyon</p>
<p>Day 4: Panguitch – Escalante NM – Torrey - Drive on beautiful, most scenic Highway 12, one of the few designated All American Highways. Stop at photogenic Kodachrome Basin State Park for a walk. At Escalante Petrified Forest State Park discover colorful fossilized tree trunks. Depending on temperatures, we plan an optional longer afternoon hike to Lower Calf Creek Falls – shorter walk available. Night in Torrey, gateway to Capitol Reef National Park.</p>	  <p>Highway 12 Calf Creek waterfall</p>
<p>Day 5: Torrey – Capitol Reef – Moab - Explore Capitol Reef National Park on a 1 ½ hour easy hike through a gigantic slot canyon (weather permitting). Discover Goblin Valley State Park on an hours' walk through fun goblin-like rock formations. Stop at seldom visited Sego Canyon and see amazing petroglyphs and pictographs. Drive to Moab, a lively western town and gateway to both Arches and Canyonlands National Park. Utah. Stay for 2 nights in Moab downtown.</p>	  <p>Capitol Reef N.P. Goblin Valley State P.</p>
<p>Day 6: Moab – Arches National Park - Spend the morning in Moab, a city of native art galleries, optional whitewater adventures, mineral and rock shops, restaurants and more. Today's highlights are walks and hikes in Arches National Park including the famous Delicate Arch.</p>	  <p>Arches NP Colorado River</p>
<p>Day 7: Canyonlands National Park – Durango, Colorado - in the morning walk in Canyonlands National Park to famous view points including Mesa Arch. Then visit Dead Horse Point State Park overlooking the Colorado River Plateau, where the Green and Colorado Rivers meet. Enjoy fantastic views. On to the Wild West town of Durango, Colorado, where we stay for 2 nights. Enjoy the evening strolling through historic downtown with its many galleries, shops and good restaurants.</p>	  <p>Mesa Arch Canyonlands, N.P.</p>

<p>Day 8: Durango – Silverton - Main attractions are the historic towns of Durango and Silverton. An optional ride on the historic Durango & Silverton narrow gauge railway steam train is highly recommended. This train has been in operation for 128 years and was used in 1882 to transport silver and gold from the San Juan mountains. Another night in attractive Durango.</p>		
<p>Day 9: Durango – Mesa Verde National Monument – Bluff Visit the ancient dwellings of Native Americans at Mesa Verde National Monument and participate at a ranger led tour. Stop at the Four-Corners-Monument for pictures and great-priced Native American art and fry bread. Evening and night in or near small pioneer town Bluff.</p>		
<p>Day 10: Bluff – Gooseneck State Park – Monument Valley Drive through and take photos of Valley of the Gods, a largely undiscovered version of Monument Valley. Stop by Gooseneck State Park for views of over-entrenched San Juan River. Visit Goulding’s Lodge and the John Wayne Museum. Then experience firsthand the fantastic landscapes of Monument Valley. Enjoy Navajo hospitality on a jeep tour and memorable stay for the night within Monument Valley at a tradition Hogan (shared accommodation, hotel room outside Monument Valley available upon request), Navajo dinner, campfire entertainment and breakfast included.</p>		
<p>Day 11: Monument Valley – Lake Powell - Drive to Page at Lake Powell. Short hike to the famous viewpoint Horseshoe Bend of the Colorado River. Participate at an optional tour of world famous Antelope Canyon. Enjoy Lake Powell on an optional boat trip or visit Glen Canyon Dam. Night in Page, Arizona</p>		
<p>Day 12: Page – Grand Canyon National Park – Kanab - Leave for a great adventure at Grand Canyon National Park, along the North Rim. First stop at deep Marble Canyon, touch Colorado water at Lees Ferry before driving up to the National Park at an elevation of 8800 feet. Explore the park on a short hike and walks, enjoy marvelous views and an unforgettable sunset (weather permitting). Participate at an evening ranger talk at Grand Canyon Lodge. Two nights in historic wild west movie town Kanab, Utah</p>		
<p>Day 13: Pipe Springs National Monument – Coral Pink Sand Dunes – Participate at a guided tour through Mormon Fort at Pipe Spring N.M. and learn about pioneers and natives. Picnic with BBQ prepared and offered by your tour guides at Coral Pink Sand Dunes and enjoy a walk through pink sand dunes. 2nd night in Kanab.</p>		
<p>Day 14: Zion National Park – Las Vegas - A scenic drive along Mt. Carmel highway leads to Zion National Park, a wonderland of towering cliffs and deep gorges all colored in shades of crème, orange and red. Walk to a great view point, then take a ranger led shuttle bus through Zion Canyon and enjoy a short hike. In the later afternoon drive back to Las Vegas.</p>		
<p>Day 15: Las Vegas – Death Valley – Sierra Nevada – Bishop - Traverse the lowest point on the continent in Death Valley, a rare, hot, and world famous place. Morning walk near Zabriskie Point, and several scenic stops. Our journey then climbs up to the Sierra Nevada of California to the base of continental US's tallest mountain, Mt. Whitney. See Alabama hills with its famous movie backdrops. Night in Bishop, California.</p>		

<p>Day 16: Keough Hot Springs – Laws – Bodie State Park – Bridgeport - Enjoy a swim in natural hot mineral waters at historic Keough Hot Springs. Explore historic Laws railroad station and picnic in the shade under old cotton wood trees. Take a walk among wondrous Tufa spires at alkaline Mono Lake. Drive on to Bodie State Park for a special ghost town treat. Spend the night in Bridgeport, a small farming community.</p>		
<p>Day 17: Mono Lake – Yosemite National Park – Mariposa –Highlight today is Yosemite National Park. Drive over 9900 feet (3000 meter) high Tioga Pass crossing the Sierra Nevada mountain range to Yosemite Park. Walk and experience views of glacier meadows, Half Dome, Yosemite Falls, giant Sequoia trees, and many more famous sights. Night in historic Mariposa.</p>		
<p>Day 18: Mariposa – San Luis Reservoir – San Juan Bautista – Steinbeck Center – Monterey/Pacific Grove - Relax at a picnic and swim in a warm water reservoir. Experience culture at San Juan Bautista Mission and Salinas' John Steinbeck Center before arriving at the scenic Pacific coast in Monterey where the fresh sea breeze will blow away all dust collected from canyons and deserts. Evening at the Fisherman's Wharf in Monterey. 2 nights near Monterey.</p>		
<p>Day 19: Monterey -17-Mile-Drive The morning is open for a stroll through the famous Cannery Row, an optional visit to Monterey Bay Aquarium or whale watching tour. Afternoon drive and walk along the most beautiful coast at Pebble Beach along 17-mile drive. Visit to historic Carmel mission's beautiful gardens. Evening in Monterey.</p>		
<p>Day 20: Monterey – Santa Cruz – Golden Gate Bridge – Sausalito – San Francisco - Spend the day driving North along scenic Pacific Coast Highway. Visit Santa Cruz Boardwalk and on to San Francisco with a beach stop along the way. In the evening we will cross Golden Gate Bridge to Sausalito and say good-bye at dinner.</p>		
<p>Day 21: Today, the tour ends. Independent travel or flight back home.</p>		<p><i>Goodbye und Aufwiedersehen!</i></p>