



national parks by RAIL

Presented by the National Park Foundation
and the Yankee Leisure Group



national parks

by RAIL

The connection

between our nation's national parks has always been strong. Before the invention of planes and automobiles, train travel was the main means of getting travelers to and from these majestic destinations. But, what most people don't know is that America's early railroad companies were instrumental in the creation of our national parks. The Northern Pacific Railroad aided in getting **Yellowstone** deemed a national park in 1872. The Southern Pacific Railroad worked diligently behind the scenes to help **Yosemite** get national park status in 1890 and 1902 respectively. And, the Great Northern Railway paved the way for the creation of **Glacier National Park** in 1910.

Amtrak® and national parks truly go hand in hand. So, see our great nation's national parks the way they were meant to be seen, by train. Hop aboard the Amtrak Empire Builder® and enjoy a scenic ride that follows the footsteps of Lewis and Clark as the train makes its way to destinations like **Glacier National Park**. Embark on the Southwest Chief® for a majestic ride through the desert to **Grand Canyon National Park**. Even enjoy the stunning sceneries of Rocky Mountains and the countryside along Interstate 80 aboard the California Zephyr®.



Our national parks are truly amazing sites to behold, and Amtrak is the perfect way to get up close and personal with them!

grand canyon

GETAWAY

Arguably one of the world's most beloved attractions, Grand Canyon National Park is home to unique combinations of geological colors and shapes carved out over millions of years of history. Stretching 277 miles long, one-mile-deep, and up to 18 miles wide, the Grand Canyon never fails to dazzle its visitors. There's always plenty to do in Grand Canyon National Park, including taking a hike around the Canyon's majestic Southern Rim or into the canyon itself; embarking on a river trip; or taking in the breathtaking aerial views of the canyon on a helicopter tour. Keep an eye open for wildlife, like bighorn sheep, bears, and elk. And above all, don't forget to bring a camera to capture this amazing Natural Wonder of the World!

day one

MORNING

Welcome to Williams, Arizona, A.K.A "The Gateway to the Grand Canyon!" Be sure to spend some time taking in the beautiful desert landscape that lies on the Historic Route 66.

AFTERNOON

Just west of Flagstaff, Williams spreads 43.8 square miles. This majestic town is also home to the Bill Williams Mountain range, which rises more than 9,000 feet above the ground. Use this opportunity to see why Williams is considered an outdoor paradise by taking a stroll through the largest Ponderosa Pine Forest in the world!

EVENING

Settle in for the night at the world-famous Grand Canyon Railway Hotel, which is one of the finest in the area. This 298-room historic dwelling has been welcoming visitors from all around the world since 1908. Make sure to check out the indoor pool and hot tub, and don't forget to get in a delicious meal before a good night's rest for the adventures ahead.

day two

MORNING

Begin the day with a hearty breakfast at the Grand Canyon Depot Café, the perfect starting place for any Grand Canyon adventure! Make sure to have a bag packed, a water bottle filled, and sunscreen on hand as the Grand Canyon Railway will take travelers right into the heart of the Grand Canyon National Park immediately following breakfast.

AFTERNOON

With 277 miles of supreme landscape, the Grand Canyon is full of some of the most iconic scenery in the world. A motorcoach tour is the perfect way to enjoy the grandiose of this stunning national park.

EVENING

It would be an incomplete Grand Canyon experience without taking advantage of one of the iconic and historic Grand Canyon lodges located in the South Rim. The El Tovar has hosted some of the most brilliant minds in history, such as: Theodore Roosevelt, Albert Einstein, Zane Grey, and numerous others.

day three

MORNING

Make sure to wake up bright and early to take in the fresh canyon air and more astounding sights. Put time aside to visit Yavapai Geology Museum and get any last minute gifts or souvenirs.

AFTERNOON/EVENING

Sadly, it's time to say goodbye to the Canyon and take the Grand Canyon Railway back to Williams. Make sure to be on the lookout for semaphore signals and classic railway signals, both of which date back to the 1800s. Spend one last night enjoying a hearty dinner, and if it's a clear night, look for some shooting stars to wish upon.

travel details

For more information on this Amtrak Vacations® package and other **GRAND CANYON RAIL JOURNEYS** please visit www.amtrakvacations.com or call 1-800-268-7252.





grand canyon

DISCOVERY

Grand Canyon National Park is arguably one of the most amazing sites in not just the United States, but in the entire world. And, with 1,904 square miles of breathtaking geographical formations that have been around for more than 5 million years and over 500 different species of animals living in its bounds, it's clear why the Grand Canyon has been deemed one of the Seven Natural Wonders of the World. Come see why millions of people visit Grand Canyon National Park each year and spend some time getting up close and personal with this marvelous national park.



day one

CHICAGO: THE JOURNEY BEGINS

Spend the day getting to know Chicago! A hop-on/hop-off tour is the perfect opportunity to see all the Windy City's hotspots. Plus, it provides transportation all around the city! There is a plethora of amazing things to see and do in Chicago. History buffs can head to Pullman National Monument which tells the story of American opportunity. Those interested in Chicago's famous architecture can partake in a Chicago architecture cruise.

day two

CHICAGO

Itching to check out something a little more natural? Like a national park? The Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore is only about 40 miles outside of Chicago and features 15 miles of pure Lake Michigan coastline. Visitors can swim, hike along

the dunes, climb the famous Mt. Baldy, and observe more than 90 different endangered plant species. If time allows, the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore is definitely a must see!

day three

CHICAGO TO SANTA FE

All aboard! Leave Chicago's Union Station and head to Santa Fe aboard the Southwest Chief®. This gorgeous train ride, which travels along parts of the Mighty Mississippi River, winds through curving canyon passages that are only a few feet wider than the train itself. These spectacular landscapes and pristine vistas are not visible from any highway. Settle in for the day and enjoy the beautiful scenery for your overnight aboard the train.

day four

SANTA FE

Santa Fe is nestled in the foothills of the Sangre de Cristo Mountains and was founded over 400 years ago; however, it was inhabited by the Pueblo Indians for over 1000 years before its founding. During your free time, experience the history and culture of our ancestors by following the Santa Fe Trail, previously used as a commercial highway used by traders in the 1800's. Interested in a tour of Santa Fe? Visitors can see a guided tour of the city via foot and really experience everything Santa Fe has to offer.

day five

SANTA FE

Enjoy your last day in Santa Fe relaxing and enjoying some of the world renowned cuisine. If you are feeling more adventurous, take a ride to Bandelier National Monument. Just less than an hour away, the monument will not leave you disappointed offering diverse ecosystems, wildlife and a vast amount of history.

day six

SANTA FE TO WILLIAMS: YOU'RE ALMOST THERE!

The route from Santa Fe to Williams aboard the Southwest Chief® is full of more stunning Southwest scenery. Be sure and take advantage of the amazing views of ranches, pueblos, and, of course, the



majestic mountains, by visiting the renowned Sightseer Lounge Car.

EVENING

Welcome to Williams: “The Gateway to the Grand Canyon. Located just 60 miles from the Grand Canyon’s Southern Rim, Williams is nestled in a Ponderosa pine forest right at the base of Bill Williams Mountain. This charming little town is bursting with beautiful desert landscape, making it an outdoor paradise. Spend some time this evening getting acquainted with Williams and its one-of-a-kind sights. Route 66, which runs right through Williams, is a great place to start. After a little sightseeing, settle in at the historic Grand Canyon Railway Hotel for a good night’s rest.

day seven

WELCOME TO GRAND CANYON NATIONAL PARK!

MORNING

Start the day off right, with a hearty breakfast and then board the Grand Canyon Railway, which ventures right into the heart of Grand Canyon National Park. Enjoy the breathtaking views into the deep inner gorge of the Colorado River as the train makes its way to the Canyon’s majestic Southern Rim.

AFTERNOON

Enjoy a motorcoach tour of the Southern Rim that hits many of the Canyon’s most treasured spots. The Grand Canyon boasts some of the most breathtaking scenery



in the nation. After the tour, take advantage of the Canyon’s gorgeous landscape by going for a hike along one of the Canyon’s many trails. The Rim Trail, which extends from the village area to Hermits Rest, is perfect for beginner and experienced hikers alike and offers lovely views of the inner canyon. Or, hop on a mule for a leisurely ride that will allow for taking in some of the most spectacular vistas in North America. Interested in a self-guided audio tour? There are several available at popular sites throughout the park. Just look for the “Park Ranger Audio Tour” signs located at various hot spots and enter the

displayed phone number along with the designated stop number. Another option is a helicopter tour, which will provide sweeping panoramic views of the entire Canyon.

EVENING

Spend a relaxing evening unwinding at the Maswik Lodge. This cozy dwelling also features a sports bar, cafeteria, and a gift shop. Have something a little more natural in mind? With the Grand Canyon’s clear skies and up to 110-mile visibility, evenings in the Canyon are perfect for stargazing.

day eight

GRAND CANYON TO FLAGSTAFF

A gorgeous sunrise is definitely a sight to behold. But, a sunrise from the Grand Canyon’s South Rim takes gorgeous to a whole new level. Take advantage of staying overnight in the Canyon by starting the day with a majestic sunrise.

Enjoy your morning by taking in the fresh mountain air and exploring any sights missed yesterday. Interested in learning something new? The South Rim offers a variety of museums and information centers that house exhibits and provide fascinating park information. They are also full of festive souvenirs that will bring back the wonderful memories of this trip to the

Grand Canyon for years to come.

After a fun-filled morning in the Grand Canyon, it’s time to move on to the next destination. Enjoy a scenic ride to Flagstaff. This 90-mile ride is the perfect opportunity to relax and rejuvenate before a fun-filled evening exploring Flagstaff.

day nine

FLAGSTAFF/SEDONA

Flagstaff is a gorgeous city that offers many invigorating outdoor recreation activities and fascinating cultural attractions. If time allows, head to Walnut Canyon, which is only about 10 miles from downtown Flagstaff. This National Monument is a fascinating ancient geological formation made from

Kaibab limestone. Visitors can also hike along the Rim or Island Trails for even more stunning views. Flagstaff also offers some of the best stargazing in the entire country, and the Lowell observatory is the perfect place for stargazers. Another destination that can not be missed is the Red Rocks of Sedona which offers stunning views and unique landscapes.

day ten

THE GRAND CANYON DISCOVERY JOURNEY ENDS IN FLAGSTAFF

You can choose to extend your trip or end in any of the more than 500 Amtrak rail stations across the country.



travel details

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glacier national park

ROUNDTrip GETAWAY FROM CHICAGO

Spend some quality time exploring a natural gem, Glacier National Park. Known as the “Crown of the Continent,” Glacier National Park is a nature-lover’s paradise and perfect for travelers seeking some much-needed time in the great outdoors. Glacier National Park is located in Montana’s Rocky Mountains and is considered by many to be the one of the most beautiful places in North America. And with over 700 miles of hiking trails, 130 lakes, pristine forests, 1,000 species of plants, alpine meadows, and glacier-carved mountain peaks, it’s clear why! Come spend some time in Glacier National Park and get in touch with the natural world.

day one

CHICAGO TO MONTANA

Board the Empire Builder for a scenic ride to Montana’s Glacier National Park. Traveling daily between Chicago and the Pacific Northwest along major portions of the Lewis and Clark Trail, the mighty Empire Builder promises riders an exciting adventure full of stunning views and breathtaking scenery. So, sit back and relax as the train forges its way through the majestic wilderness.

day two

THE TRAIN TO GLACIER NATIONAL PARK

MORNING

Spend the morning on the train taking in the stunning scenery of the North Dakota Plains as the Empire Builder crosses into Big Sky Country. Be sure to take advantage of the observation car as these views are not to be missed.

AFTERNOON/EVENING

After spending most of the day on the train, visitors can head over to the iconic Glacier Park Lodge and settle in for a good night’s rest. This century-old dwelling is located just 3 miles outside of Glacier National Park and features an onsite golf course, outdoor pool, gift shop, gardens, and so much more! Hungry? The Lodge’s Great Northern Dining Room is a full-service restaurant that features delicious comfort food served in an elegant atmosphere.

day three

GLACIER NATIONAL PARK

MORNING

Welcome to Glacier National Park, the “Crown of the Continent!” Visitors can finally start exploring this national treasure and enjoy the fresh, clean mountain air. Can’t wait to hike? This is the perfect place. Glacier National Park features 700

miles of hiking trails. There are more than 60 different trail routes that range from easy to strenuous.

AFTERNOON

Explore the serene sights of Glacier National Park’s Two Medicine Valley. Enjoy a relaxing boat cruise on Two Medicine Lake and learn all about the fascinating Blackfoot Indian folklore surrounding the area while taking in the majestic mountain scenery and calm turquoise waters. Before heading back to the Lodge, stop by the Two Medicine General Store to grab a souvenir to commemorate this wonderful day.

EVENING

Enjoy another relaxing evening at Glacier Park Lodge. Grab a bite at the Great Northern Dining Room or Empire Bar. If weather permits, take a relaxing dip in the Lodge’s sparkling outdoor pool.

day four

GLACIER NATIONAL PARK

MORNING/AFTERNOON

See all the best sites in Glacier National Park on a Big Sky Circle Tour. This bus tour features a breathtaking ride along the famous Going-to-the-Sun Road, wildlife viewing at Goat Lick, a tour of the historic Izaak Walton Inn, and more!

Tour the hemlock forests of Lake McDonald Valley. Enjoy a breath-

taking drive over Maria’s Pass, a mountain pass that crosses the Continental Divide. Snap some great pictures during a leisurely stop at Wild Goose Island Overlook.

And, of course, stare out the window in awe as the bus travels over the Going-to-the-Sun Road at Logan Pass. This 50-mile drive provides some of the best scenery in all of Montana as it takes visitors through the park’s interior while winding around the snow-capped mountainsides. A ride along Going-to-the-Sun Road is considered to be one of the most amazing highlights of Glacier National Park.

EVENING

Settle in for the last night at Glacier Park Lodge. Spend some time warming up by the fireplace in the Lodge’s historic lobby. Take a stroll through the Lodge’s beautiful gardens. Don’t forget to stop by the Lodge’s Native American Trading Post, which carries great souvenirs, such as Black-foot crafts, jewelry, and music.

day five

MONTANA TO CHICAGO

Hop back aboard the Empire Builder®. Spend the day relaxing and reflecting upon this fabulous Glacier Park Getaway as the train crosses the gorgeous Northern Plains back to the Midwestern city of Chicago.

day six

YOUR JOURNEY ENDS IN CHICAGO

You can choose to extend your trip or end in any of the more than 500 Amtrak rail stations across the country.

travel details

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glacier national park

EXPRESS

Calling all nature lovers! A trip to Glacier National Park is the perfect getaway for those seeking stunning landscape and fresh mountain air. Located in Montana's Big Sky Country, Glacier National Park is home to two different mountain ranges, 130 lakes, 1,000 species of plants, 700 miles of hiking trails, and 16,000 square miles of protected land. Spend some time getting up close and personal with the Continental Divide. Tour the park's stunning cedar and hemlock forests. Discover the history of Two Medicine Valley. Drive along the famous Going-to-the-Sun Road and take in some of the best scenery in all of Montana. Come see why Glacier National Park is known as the "Crown of the Continent!"

day one

CHICAGO: THE JOURNEY BEGINS

Welcome to Chicago! The Windy City is truly one of a kind, so spend some time really getting to know it. Enjoy a leisurely sightseeing architectural cruise of the Chicago harbor where you'll learn all about the city's rise from the Great Fire of 1871 and how it eventually became "Home of the Skyscraper" and the cradle of modern American architecture. For a dose of industrial history take the time to visit Pullman Historic District and see the Pullman National Monument as this district represents the first planned industrial community in the United States. Hungry? Scope out Navy Pier for tasty food and fun attractions and don't forget to ride the Ferris wheel for sweeping views of the entire city.

day two

CHICAGO

The Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore is only about 40 miles outside of Chicago and is a great place to spend a free day in the Chicago area if time allows. This stunning park features 15 miles of sparkling Lake Michigan coastline. There are so many things for visitors to do and see at the Indiana Dunes. Take a dip in the pristine waters of Lake Michigan. Hike along the 15,000 acres of sand dunes. Rent a bike and go for a ride along the Calumet Bike Trail. Visit the Nature Center and learn all about wildlife living on the Indiana Dunes National

Lakeshore's grounds and see all the fascinating shipwreck artifacts on display. Climb the famous Mount Baldy. A day at the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore promises to be a day well spent.

day three

CHICAGO TO GLACIER NATIONAL PARK

Find your way to Chicago's Union Station, board the Amtrak Empire Builder® and settle in for a relaxing day on the train. Enjoy the wonderful scenery as the train careens along major portions of the Lewis and Clark Trail. Today promises to be full of stunning views of the majestic wilderness as the train follows the brave footsteps of early pioneers as they forged their way into the unknown.

day four

THE TRAIN TO GLACIER NATIONAL PARK

MORNING

Spend the morning on the train taking in the stunning scenery of the North Dakota Plains as the Empire Builder® travels over the spectacular Gassman Coulee Trestle and crosses into Big Sky Country!

AFTERNOON/EVENING

Arrive at East Glacier Park Station and give a big hello to Glacier National Park, the "Crown of the Continent!" After spending most of the day on the train, visitors can finally start exploring this national treasure and enjoy the fresh, clean

mountain air. Take a stroll on one of the park's 700 miles of hiking trails. Check out one of the ranger-led evening talks to learn more about the park. Or, just head over to the iconic Glacier Park Lodge and settle in for a good night's rest. This century-old dwelling is located just 3 miles outside of Glacier National Park and features 161 guest rooms that can accommodate over 500 people.

day five

GLACIER NATIONAL PARK

MORNING/AFTERNOON

For a true wilderness experience, spend the day in Two Medicine Valley. Take a scenic hike along the northern shore of Two Medicine Lake. Keep a lookout for Twin Falls. This double waterfall that cascades down the steep mountainside is a hidden gem and a must see.

Enjoy a relaxing boat cruise on Two Medicine Lake aboard the charming and historic Sinopah. Take in the majestic scenery and calming turquoise water while learning all about the Blackfoot Indians and the fascinating history surrounding the Two Medicine area. Don't forget to stop by the Two Medicine General Store for souvenirs and keepsakes to remember this fun-filled day.

EVENING

Head back to Glacier Park Lodge for another relaxing evening. The Lodge's Great Northern Dining Room is a full-service restaurant that features delicious comfort food served in an elegant atmosphere.

day six

GLACIER NATIONAL PARK

MORNING/AFTERNOON

Continue exploring Glacier National Park on a Big Sky Circle Tour, which is the perfect way to see all of the park's hot spots. The 8-hour bus tour kicks off with a breathtaking drive over Maria's Pass, a mountain pass that crosses the Continental Divide. Spend some time viewing the wildlife at Goat Lick. Check out the historic Izaak Walton Inn. Tour the stunning cedar and hemlock forests as the bus makes its way to Lake McDonald Lodge.

And, what tour would not be complete without a drive along the Going-to-the-Sun Road at Logan Pass? Considered one of the most amazing highlights of Glacier National Park, this 50-mile drive provides some of the best scenery in all of Montana as it takes visitors through the park's interior while

winding around the snow-capped mountainsides.

Enjoy the great photo opportunities as the bus travels down into St. Mary Valley. A leisurely stop at Wild Goose Island Overlook is another incredible opportunity to snap some great pictures.

EVENING

Arrive back at Glacier Park Lodge

for the final night's stay. If weather permits, take a relaxing dip in the Lodge's outdoor pool. Or spend some time warming up by the fire-place in the Lodge's historic lobby. Grab a casual dinner at the Lodge's Empire Bar, which offers sandwiches, burgers, salads, and lots of different appetizers.

day seven

GLACIER NATIONAL PARK TO SEATTLE

MORNING

Enjoy a relaxing day at the Glacier Park Lodge before transferring to the East Glacier Station and boarding the Amtrak to Seattle. Play a round of golf on the Lodge's 9-hole course. Take a stroll through the Lodge's beautiful gardens. Don't forget to stop by the Lodge's Native American Trading Post, which carries great souvenirs, such as Blackfeet crafts, jewelry, and music.



AFTERNOON/EVENING

Welcome back aboard the Amtrak Empire Builder! Settle in for a calming evening as the train makes its way to the Emerald City. Don't forget to stop by the observation car for spectacular views of the Columbia River Gorge.

day eight

SEATTLE

Welcome to Seattle's King Street Station! Ready to get to know the "Emerald City?" A hop-on/hop-off tour is the perfect place to start. This fully-narrated excursion features famous landmarks, including Pike Place Market, Pioneer Square, Seattle's Great Wheel, the waterfront, and many more popular destinations.

day nine

SEATTLE

Step back in time and learn all about Seattle's role in the infamous Gold Rush. Located right in Seattle within the Pioneer Square Historical District, Klondike Gold Rush National Historical Park is an excellent way to explore more of Seattle while learning a little bit of our nation's history. The Visitor's Center is a great place to start as it's full of indoor exhibits and fascinating

displays. After touring the Visitor's Center, grab a map and take the Trail to Treasure Walk. This 1.5 km walk takes about 45 minutes and weaves through the city's historic district.

day ten

YOUR JOURNEY ENDS IN SEATTLE

You can choose to extend your trip or end in any of the more than 500 Amtrak rail stations across the country.



travel details

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yellowstone

GETAWAY

Spend some time getting to know Yellowstone National Park, the oldest park in the United States. In fact, Yellowstone is so big, it's located in three different states! While it's mostly situated in Northwest Wyoming, sections of Yellowstone technically reside in parts of Idaho and Montana as well. Founded in 1872, Yellowstone National Park covers 3,472 square miles of hot springs, rushing waterfalls, sparkling lakes, exotic plants, deep canyons, lush forests, and of course, natural geysers. Yellowstone is actually home to more than 500 geysers, including Old Faithful. Visitors can hike, kayak, fish, ski, snowshoe, and of course, tour the natural wonders of the park.

day one

SALT LAKE CITY

Welcome to Salt Lake City, "The Crossroads of the West!" Sitting in a large valley between two mountain ranges, Salt Lake City offers all kinds of outdoor recreation. Its downtown area is also home to several great attractions. Interested in getting up close and personal with some history? Make sure to check out Timpanogos Cave National Monument, less than an hour away from Salt Lake City. After spending some time getting to know Salt Lake City, visitors can head back to the hotel to rest up for the exciting adventure ahead.

day two

SALT LAKE CITY TO YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK

The ride through the desert from Salt Lake City to Yellowstone National Park promises tons of gorgeous scenery. So, sit back, relax, and enjoy the stunning desert views. Once the motorcoach arrives, visitors can check into one of the local hotels.

day three

YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK

MORNING

Welcome to Yellowstone National Park! Spend the first part of the day getting up close and personal with Old Faithful Geyser, one of nearly 500 geysers in Yellowstone. Old Faithful truly lives up to its name, erupting every 35 to 120 minutes. Tour the fascinating exhibits about the geologic forces behind Old Faithful and the other geysers in Yellowstone at the Old Faithful Visitor Center.

The Old Faithful Historic District is a great place to do some sight-seeing. Check out the more than century-old Old Faithful Inn, which is considered a masterpiece of rustic architecture and a National Historic Landmark. Take a stroll on the Observation Point Trail for unique vantage points of the



Head to the Lower Hamilton Store, the oldest structure in the Old Faithful area that's still in use today. This dwelling was built in 1897 and still operates as a general store.

AFTERNOON

Interested in a little history? Take a walk along the self-guiding trail around Fort Yellowstone, located right in the Mammoth Hot Springs area. The Fort Yellowstone Historic Trail takes visitors around the Mammoth Hot Springs' historical buildings, many of which were constructed between 1886 and 1918 as part of Fort Yellowstone. Today, the buildings are home to the park's headquarters.

EVENING

What trip to Yellowstone National Park would be complete without a visit to Firehole Canyon? Take a drive along Firehole Canyon Drive, which follows the Firehole River upstream right to the stunning Firehole Falls, a 40-foot waterfall that cascades down into the river. The scenic ride also promises deep canyon views and a glimpse of an ancient 800-foot thick lava flow. If weather and time allows, Firehole Canyon is also home to a natural swimming hole.

day four

YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK TO SALT LAKE CITY

Welcome back to Salt Lake City! Still craving some nature? Check out the nearby Wasatch Mountain State Park. Located just 45 miles from Salt Lake City, Wasatch Mountain State Park is a 23,000-acre preserve that offers year-round recreation. Visitors can camp, hike, golf, and even go horseback riding.

day five

YOUR JOURNEY ENDS IN SALT LAKE CITY

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travel details

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yosemite

GETAWAY

Experience nature at its finest at Yosemite National Park. Designated a National Park in 1890 and located within California's Sierra Nevada Mountains, Yosemite is home to nearly 2,000 miles of preserved wilderness in the form of gorgeous valleys, grand meadows, astonishing waterfalls, breathtaking ancient giant sequoias, and of course, soaring granite cliffs, like the famous Half Dome.

Stare in awe at the rushing waterfalls. Explore the granite cliffs of El Capitan. Experience the tranquility of the High Sierra. Visitors looking to spot some wildlife can look forward to seeing black bears, mule deer, coyotes, peregrine falcons, and golden eagles. The park offers a variety of outdoor adventures from rock climbing to rafting to horseback riding. Come see why four million people visit Yosemite each year.

day one

ARRIVE IN YOSEMITE NATIONAL PARK

MORNING/AFTERNOON/EVENING

Welcome to Yosemite National Park! Depending upon the time of arrival, visitors can check into the hotel and either hang out in El Portal or head to the park to get started exploring this natural wonder.

Yosemite View Lodge, located in El Portal, is just outside of the entrance of Yosemite National Park. Many of the Lodge's 335 rooms offer dramatic views of the Merced River.

If heading to the park, try one of the Yosemite Ranger Walk & Talks. Led by park rangers, these free walks run about 60-90 minutes and typically include stories about the park's geology, first native people, early settlers, and wildlife.

day two

YOSEMITE NATIONAL PARK

MORNING

Prepare for an exciting tour of Yosemite Valley, home to many of the park's famous cliffs and waterfalls! This comprehensive tour provides access to some of Yosemite National Park's most captivating sights, like Tunnel View, El Capitan



Meadow, the Merced River, and Sentinel Bridge, just to name a few. Scope out the most famous view in all of Yosemite: Tunnel View. Here, visitors can see El Capitan and Bridalveil Fall rising from the valley. Enjoy unparalleled views of Cathedral Rocks from El Capitan Meadow. Spend some time at Sentinel Bridge, which offers stunning views of Half Dome. The valley Visitor Center is open year round and has a ranger-staffed information desk, bookstore, and exhibit hall, where visitors can learn all about the park's geology, history, and plant and animal life.

AFTERNOON

Enjoy a nice afternoon in Crane Flat, a pleasant forest and meadow area of the park. Crane Flat is a great place for bird watching and, of course, hiking. Visitors looking to get up close and personal with some of the park's ancient sequoia trees can take two different hiking trails in Crane Flat. Located on Big

Oak Flat Road just west of Crane Flat is a 1.5 mile hiking trail that leads to the Merced Grove of Giant Sequoias. Additionally, about two dozen mature giant sequoias (the Tuolumne Grove of Giant Sequoias) can be seen after a one-mile hike down Tioga Road, which is just east of Crane Flat.

EVENING

Spend some time in Half Dome Village tonight. Check out one of the park's evening presentations, held in Half Dome Village's amphitheater. These free programs are typically about an hour long.

Tired? Head back to El Portal for a relaxing evening at the Lodge. Take a dip in the indoor pool or one of the three outdoor pools. Or, kick back and relax in one of the Lodge's six outdoor spas.

day three

YOUR JOURNEY ENDS TODAY IN YOSEMITE NATIONAL PARK

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travel details

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yellowstone to yosemite

Explore two famous national parks: Yellowstone and Yosemite along with other amazing attractions along the way.

See the breathtaking beauty of Yellowstone National Park and get up close and personal with famous sites, like Old Faithful and the Continental Divide.

Yellowstone is the oldest national park in the United States. In fact, it's located in three different states: Wyoming, Idaho, and Montana. Founded in 1872, Yellowstone National Park covers 3,472 square miles of hot springs, rushing waterfalls, sparkling lakes, exotic plants, deep canyons, lush forests, and natural geysers.

Spend a day soaking up the stunning natural world of Yosemite National Park. Designated a National Park in 1890 and located within California's Sierra Nevada Mountains, Yosemite is home to nearly 2,000 miles of preserved wilderness. Soak up the nature. Stare in awe at the towering redwoods. Tour the gorgeous valleys. And of course, enjoy the stunning views of El Capitan and Half Dome.

day one

CHICAGO: THE JOURNEY BEGINS

Welcome to Chicago! Breeze into the “Windy City,” and explore all this amazing place has to offer. A hop-on/hop-off tour is a great way to see all the most popular destinations in Chicago, from historic underground streets to internationally-acclaimed skyscrapers. Those looking to walk around a bit can take a leisurely stroll down the Magnificent Mile, which offers world-class shopping, dining, and other great attractions. History buffs can head to Pullman National Monument which tells the story of American opportunity. Those interested in Chicago's famous architecture can partake in one of the Chicago Architecture Foundation's River Cruises aboard Chicago's First Lady. There's so much to do and see in Chicago!

day two

CHICAGO

Those looking to get out of the city for the day can head to the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore, which is only about 40 miles outside of Chicago and features 15 miles of sparkling Lake Michigan coastline. There are so many things for visitors to do and see at the Indiana Dunes. Take a dip in the pristine waters of Lake Michigan. Hike along the 15,000 acres of sand dunes. Go for a bike ride along the Calumet Bike Trail. Visit the Nature Center and learn all about wildlife living on the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore's grounds. Learn about all the fascinating ship-

wrecks that occurred in Lake Michigan throughout history. Climb the famous Mount Baldy. The Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore is definitely a must see!

day three

THE TRAIN TO SALT LAKE CITY

Leave Chicago's Union Station and board the Amtrak California Zephyr® to journey towards Salt Lake City's Intermodal Hub Station. On the way enjoy America's majestic landscapes as the California Zephyr® makes its way through the lovely Great Plains. Experienced travelers say this train route is one of the most beautiful in all of North America. So, sit back and relax as the train climbs through the heart of the Rocky Mountains on its journey to the “Great Salt Lake.”

day four

SALT LAKE CITY

Welcome to Salt Lake City, “The Crossroads of the West!” Sitting in a large valley between two mountain ranges, Salt Lake City is the perfect place to experience the great outdoors. Its downtown area is also home to several great attractions.

Or, if time allows, visitors can spend some time in Great Salt Lake State Park. Located just 16 miles from the heart of Salt Lake City, this natural gem is one of the most asked-about tourist destinations in all of Utah. The Great Salt Lake is the largest lake between the Great Lakes of the Midwest and the Pacific Ocean. It's also the largest saltwater lake in the entire Western Hemisphere.



day five

SALT LAKE CITY TO WEST YELLOWSTONE

MORNING/AFTERNOON

The ride through the desert from Salt Lake City to Yellowstone National Park is simply stunning and will not disappoint.

day six

WEST YELLOWSTONE

MORNING/AFTERNOON

Welcome to Yellowstone National Park, the first national park in the United States and home to the most impressive geothermal features in North America. Today, visitors will be treated to a full day touring Yellowstone's lower loop. Highlights of this tour include Old Faithful Geyser, Isa Lake on the Continental Divide.

The Old Faithful area of the park is full of great sites to see, including Old Faithful Geyser. One of nearly 500 geysers in Yellowstone, Old Faithful truly lives up to its name, erupting every 35 to 120 minutes. Take some time to scope out the fascinating exhibits that explain the geologic forces behind Old Faithful and the other geysers in Yellowstone at the Old Faithful Visitor Center. If time allows, do some sightseeing in the Old Faithful Historic District. Check out the more than century-old Old Faithful Inn,

which is considered a masterpiece of rustic architecture and a National Historic Landmark. Take a stroll on the Observation Point Trail. The Old Faithful area is also a great place to grab a bite to eat as well as stock up on park souvenirs.

Spend some time soaking up the serene natural surroundings at Isa Lake. Straddling the Continental Divide, Isa Lake is believed to be the only lake in the entire world that drains backwards into two different oceans. The east side of the lake drains into the Lewis River, which travels to the Pacific Ocean. And, the west side of the lake drains into the Firehole River, which flows to the Atlantic Ocean. Because the Pacific Ocean is actually on the West Coast, and the Atlantic is on the East, Isa Lake technically drains backwards into these respective bodies of water.



EVENING

Unwind at the hotel after an exciting day touring the beauty and wonder of Yellowstone National Park.

day seven

WEST YELLOWSTONE TO SALT LAKE CITY

Enjoy a leisurely ride back through the desert to Salt Lake City. Then, spend the evening exploring all this gorgeous city has to offer. Shoppers hoping to snag some souvenirs can head to the City Creek Center covered mall. Stargazers should definitely stop by the Clark Planetarium. After spending some time getting to know Salt Lake City, visitors can head back to the hotel to rest up. Tomorrow promises another fun-filled day of sightseeing.

day eight

SALT LAKE CITY TO SAN FRANCISCO

Discover all Salt Lake City has to

offer on a guided sightseeing tour of all the city's hot spots. Hear the renowned Tabernacle Organ at the magnificent Salt Lake Mormon Temple. Step back in time at Pioneer Park. Get up close and personal with dinosaurs at the National History Museum of Utah. Tour Brigham Young's Territorial Governor's Mansion.

Later in the day, visitors will transfer to the Amtrak Station and board the train to Emeryville Station in sunny California for a relaxing evening's ride.

day nine

SAN FRANCISCO

Welcome to the "City by the Bay!" Depending on the time of arrival, visitors can either get started exploring San Francisco or head to the hotel to rest up for an exciting day of sightseeing at Yosemite National Park!

day ten

SAN FRANCISCO TO YOSEMITE

MORNING

Get ready to spend some quality time exploring one of America's most iconic landmarks, Yosemite National Park. The drive kicks off with breathtaking panoramic views of San Francisco. The rest of the drive to

Yosemite offers stunning scenery of the snow-capped Sierra Nevada Mountains. Relax and enjoy the views!

AFTERNOON

Welcome to Yosemite National Park! Visitors will have the entire afternoon to scope out the popular sites and, of course, hike! A guided tour of Yosemite Valley is a great way to see many of the park's famous sites. Scope out the most famous view in all of Yosemite: Tunnel View, where visitors can see El Capitan and Bridalveil Fall rising from the valley. Spend some time at Sentinel Bridge, which offers stunning views of Half Dome. If time allows, head to the Valley Visitor Center, which features an exhibit hall where visitors can learn all about the park's geology, history, and plant and animal life.

Don't forget to stop by Yosemite Village to grab some souvenirs to remember this wonderful day!

EVENING

Arrive back at the hotel just in time for a spectacular San Francisco sunset.

day eleven

YOUR JOURNEY ENDS IN SAN FRANCISCO

You can choose to extend your trip or end in any of the more than 500 Amtrak rail stations across the country.

travel details

For more information on this Amtrak Vacations® package and other **YOSEMITE AND YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK RAIL JOURNEYS** please visit www.amtrakvacations.com or call 1-800-268-7252.



rocky mountains

DENVER GETAWAY

The Rocky Mountains, commonly known as the “Rockies,” is a majestic mountain range located in Western North America. Stretching more than 3,000 miles from the northernmost part of British Columbia in Western Canada all the way to New Mexico, the Rocky Mountains are full of exciting landmarks, like the 14,400-foot-tall Mount Elbert. The majority of the Rockies are protected land in the form of Rocky Mountain National Park, which contains five different visitor centers. Rocky Mountain National Park is definitely not short-handed when it comes to activities. This popular destination is especially known for hiking, camping, hunting, mountain biking, rock climbing, and skiing. Visitors often feel on top of the world at Rocky Mountain National Park. And, with crests over 12,000 feet, including many overlooks that allow visitors to experience the subalpine and alpine worlds, how could they not?

day one

DENVER

Welcome to Denver, Colorado, “The Mile High City!” With landmark attractions and 19th century buildings flattering Larmier Square, the city’s oldest block, this breathtaking town mixes history, art, and unprecedented skiing opportunities. Take the time to gander around the area and visit the Denver Art Museum (DAM), one of the largest art museums between the Pacific and Chicago. If museums are an itinerary must, make sure to take a stroll through the Molly Brown House Museum to relive the famed Titanic survivor’s old stomping ground. As history plays a big role in this American metropolis, take time to experience the Money Museum at the Federal Reserve Bank of Denver and the United States Mint by booking a free tour and soaking up centuries of fascinating information.

Even though there is plenty to explore indoors, make it a point to capture the stunning City Park. Get some great pictures of the gold-domed State Capitol building. And, if time and talent permits, hit the nearby ski slopes as renowned resorts accompany the powdered Colorado Rocky Mountains. When it is all said and done the “Queen City of the West” is nothing short of breathtaking. Make sure to get some rest tonight as the next level of adventure is still ahead.

day two

ROCKY MOUNTAIN NATIONAL PARK

Welcome to Rocky Mountain National Park! Boasting 415 square miles in the Front Range of the Rocky Mountains, Rocky Mountain National Park is so grandiose, it’s jaw dropping. The park is dominated by Longs Peak, which towers at 14,259 feet over this alpine world. A guided tour is a great way to explore all the park’s must-see attractions. Check out Winter Park, an alpine ski resort masterpiece. Sharing three interconnected peaks, this resort is the most popular amongst locals and visitors as a single lift ticket can provide endless skiing access to all three slopes. While exploring the slopes of the Rockies, take note of Berthoud Pass, a one-

of-a-kind setting where the Continental Divide and a major highway cross trails and provide some of the softest powder in North America.

Just as snow seems like the highlight of Rocky Mountain National Park, Grand Lake steals the show. Taking title as Colorado’s biggest and deepest natural lake, Grand Lake takes claim to 600 acres and stands strong as the headwaters of the Colorado River. Stunning pictures are of unlimited availability since Grand Lake is surrounded on three sides by Rocky Mountain National Park. So, make sure a camera is available, a jacket is on hand, and a back pack is filled with provisions as the adventures in Rocky Mountain National Park are countless.

day three

YOUR JOURNEY ENDS IN DENVER

You can choose to extend your trip or end in any of the more than 500 Amtrak rail stations across the country.

travel details

For more information on this Amtrak Vacations® package and other **DENVER NATIONAL PARK RAIL JOURNEYS** please visit www.amtrakvacations.com or call 1-800-268-7252.



peaks to pacific

JOURNEY

Welcome to Yellowstone National Park! Located in three different states, Yellowstone is situated in Wyoming, Idaho, and Montana. Founded in 1872 and considered the oldest national park in the United States, Yellowstone covers 3,472 square miles of hot springs, rushing waterfalls, sparkling lakes, exotic plants, deep canyons, lush forests, and natural geysers. Yellowstone National Park is actually home to more than 500 geysers, including the famous Old Faithful. Explore all Yellowstone has to offer and get up close and personal with amazing sites like the Continental Divide, Mammoth Hot Springs, and Fort Yellowstone, just to name a few. When it comes to Yellowstone National Park, there is no shortage of majestic sites to see.

day one

THE JOURNEY BEGINS IN DENVER

Welcome to Denver, A.K.A, the “Mile High City.” Denver offers majestic views of the stunning Rocky Mountains and is the perfect blend of historic western town and thriving modern city. Spend some time today really getting to know this amazing place. Explore the beautiful City Park, which also houses the Denver Zoo, the Denver Museum of Nature and Science, two pristine lakes, several historical monuments, and multiple picnic sites. Hoping to catch a ball game? Head to Coors Field to see the Colorado Rockies take on the opposing team.

day two

DENVER

Want to feel on top of the world? Then head to Rocky Mountain National Park. Located in the Front Range of the Rocky Mountains, Colorado’s north-central region, Rocky Mountain National Park offers 415 square miles of fresh mountain air, over 350 miles of hiking trails, and stunning tundra wildflowers. Hiking is quite popular here, and the trails range from easy flat hikes around serene lakes to hard backpacking trips that include climbing. Stop by Moraine Park Discovery Center and Museum, which offers interactive exhibits on the past and present landscape of the park. A trip to Denver would not be complete without a stop at Rocky Mountain National Park.

day three

DENVER TO SALT LAKE CITY

Depart from Denver’s Union Station, say goodbye to Denver, and get ready to say hello Salt Lake City! Board the Amtrak California Zephyr® for a peaceful ride along the Union Pacific Railroad’s Central Corridor to Salt Lake City. Keep an eye out for breathtaking scenery as the train climbs the Rocky Mountains and crosses the Continental Divide. Other highlights of the trip include the Colorado River, Ruby Canyon, and the Wasatch Mountains. Kick back, relax, and enjoy this scenic ride.

day four

SALT LAKE CITY

Welcome to Salt Lake City, “The Crossroads of the West!” Visitors can either explore this amazing city or head to Wasatch Mountain State Park, which is just 45 miles from Salt Lake City. This 23,000-acre preserve offers year-round recreation. Visitors can camp, hike, golf, and go horseback riding.

Those that decide to stick around and check out all Salt Lake City has to offer, have lots of options for entertainment. Its downtown area is home to several great attractions, like the City Creek Center covered mall and the National History Museum of Utah. The Red Butte Garden and Arboretum is the perfect stop for nature lovers. And, with more than 100 acres of both display and natural gardens, how could it not be? Looking for something to do tonight? Head to the Clark Planetarium for some of the best stargazing in the country!

day five

SALT LAKE CITY TO WEST YELLOWSTONE

The 5-hour ride through the desert from Salt Lake City to Yellowstone National Park is simply stunning and will not disappoint.

day six

WEST YELLOWSTONE

MORNING/AFTERNOON

Welcome to Yellowstone National Park! Enjoy a full-day touring the park’s Lower Loop.

First stop: Old Faithful Geyser! Get up close and personal with Old Faithful, a geyser that truly lives up to its name, erupting every 35 to 120 minutes. Head to the Old Faithful Visitor Center to tour the fasci-nating exhibits about the geologic forces behind Old Faithful and the



other 300+ geysers in Yellowstone. Stop by the Old Faithful Historic District to check out the more than century-old Old Faithful Inn, which is considered a masterpiece of rustic architecture and a National Historic Landmark. Grab a snack at the Lower Hamilton Store, the oldest structure in the Old Faithful area that's still in use today. This dwelling was built in 1897 and still operates as a general store. And, last, but certainly, not least, make a trip to the serene Isa Lake. Straddling the Continental Divide, Isa Lake is believed to be the only lake in the entire world that drains backwards into two different oceans.



EVENING

Unwind at the hotel after an exciting day touring the beauty and wonder of Yellowstone National Park.

day seven

YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK TO SAN FRANCISCO

Enjoy a leisurely ride back through the desert to Salt Lake City. Then, hop back aboard the California Zephyr for a scenic ride to San Francisco. Relax in comfy private Roomette sleeping accommodations as the train makes its way to sunny California, following the beautiful countryside along Interstate 80. Scenery highlights of the trip include the south shore of the Great Salt Lake, the Toano Range, Goshute Valley, the northern edge of the Ruby Mountains, and the Sierra Nevada.



day eight

SAN FRANCISCO

Welcome to the “City by the Bay!” Depending on the time of arrival, visitors can either get started exploring San Francisco or head to the hotel to rest up for an exciting day of sightseeing at Muir Woods and Sausalito. Those looking to check out this glorious city, should stop by Fisherman’s Wharf, a gorgeous waterfront community, rich in both culture and entertainment. The Golden Gate Bridge is a must see for anyone visiting San Francisco. This world famous suspension bridge spans the Golden Gate strait, the one-mile-wide, three-mile-long channel between the San Francisco Bay and the Pacific Ocean. Fort Baker, located just north of the bridge is a historic site with over 25 historic army buildings and a sight to be seen.



day nine

SAN FRANCISCO: MUIR WOODS AND SAUSALITO

Spend the day exploring two gorgeous locations: Muir Woods and Sausalito. Considered “A Tree Lover’s Monument,” Muir Woods is part of the Golden Gate National Recreation Area and is often referred to as a “Cathedral of Redwoods.” The trees here range from 400- to 800-years-old and can be up to 250-feet-tall. This forest

also consists of red alders, California big leaf maples, tanoaks, and Douglas fir trees. Visitors interested in viewing wildlife can look forward to seeing endangered coho salmon fingerlings, Pacific wren, woodpeckers, owls, deer, chipmunks, river otters, and squirrels, just to name a few.

Next stop, Sausalito! Just outside of San Francisco, just across the Golden Gate Bridge Sausalito is a must see. After spending some time getting to know Sausalito, visitors

can head back into the city via a lovely bay cruise. Majestic views of the San Francisco Bay await!

day ten

YOUR JOURNEY ENDS IN SAN FRANCISCO

You can choose to extend your trip or end in any of the more than 500 Amtrak rail stations across the country.

travel details

For more information on this Amtrak Vacations® package and other **YELLOWSTONE AND DENVER NATIONAL PARK RAIL JOURNEYS** please visit www.amtrakvacations.com or call 1-800-268-7252.

the californian

JOURNEY



Enjoy a wonderful trip to the iconic Yosemite National Park. Designated a National Park in 1890 and located right in the heart of California's Sierra Nevada Mountains, Yosemite is home to nearly 2,000 miles of pristine preserved wilderness in the form of gorgeous valleys, grand meadows, astonishing waterfalls, and breathtaking ancient giant sequoias.

Here, visitors can experience nature at its finest. View the rushing waterfalls. Explore the granite cliffs of El Capitan. See wildlife, like black bears, mule deer, coyotes, peregrine falcons, and majestic golden eagles. Yosemite National Park also offers a variety of outdoor adventures from rock climbing to rafting to horseback riding. About four million people visit Yosemite each year, and after spending a day in this natural wonder, it will be clear why!

day one

SAN FRANCISCO

Welcome to the "City by the Bay!" Take the time to check out this glorious city, a gorgeous waterfront community, rich in both culture and entertainment. The Golden Gate Bridge is a must see for anyone visiting San Francisco. This world famous suspension bridge spans the Golden Gate strait, the one-mile-wide, three-mile-long channel between the San Francisco Bay and the Pacific Ocean. Fort Baker, located just north of the bridge is a historic site with over 25 historic army buildings and a sight to be seen.

day two

SAN FRANCISCO

A trip to San Francisco wouldn't be complete without spending some quality time at Golden Gate Park. This world-renowned common gets more than 13 million visitors each year and is one of San Francisco's greatest treasures. Its 1,017 acres offers gardens, playgrounds, lakes, picnic groves, monuments, hiking trails, museums, and an all around amazing atmosphere.

Head to Oak Woodlands Natural Areas to see some of the oldest coast oak trees in San Francisco, located in the park's Northeast corner. Art lovers should make a beeline for de Young's Museum, which has an impressive collection of American paintings, sculptures, and decorative arts from the 17th century to the present. The Conservatory of Flowers houses over 1,700 species of



aquatic and tropical plants, many of which are very rare. It also has a lovely display of orchids and giant water lilies. A stop by the Japanese Tea Garden, five acres full of gorgeous and well-manicured plants, is also a must.

day three

SAN FRANCISCO TO YOSEMITE NATIONAL PARK

MORNING

Get ready to spend some quality time exploring one of America's most iconic landmarks, Yosemite National Park. The drive kicks off with breathtaking pan-oramic views of San Francisco. The motorcoach stops in the Central Valley, the most productive agricultural valley in the entire nation, for a leg-stretch and refreshment break. The rest of the drive to Yosemite offers stunning scenery of the snow-capped Sierra Nevada Mountains. Relax and enjoy the views!

AFTERNOON

Welcome to Yosemite National Park! Visitors will have the entire afternoon to explore this iconic national park and all it has to offer. A guided tour of Yosemite Valley is a great way to see many of the park's famous sites, like Tunnel View, Sentinel Bridge, and Yosemite Village.

Tunnel View is perhaps the most famous view in the entire park. From its bounds, visitors can see El Capitan and Bridalveil Fall rising from the valley. Sentinel Bridge, which offers stunning views of Half Dome. The Valley Visitor Center features an exhibit hall where visitors can learn all about the park's geology, history, as well as plant and animal life. Yosemite Village is the perfect place to grab a bite to eat and pick up any park souvenirs. Hoping to hike?

EVENING

Arrive back at the hotel just in time for a spectacular San Francisco sunset. Grab dinner at one of the many great restaurants in Fisherman's Wharf.

day four

NAPA VALLEY

Get ready for a fun-filled day of wine tasting! First, enjoy a ride across the Golden Gate Bridge through the tranquil hills surrounding Sonoma Valley. Take in the beauty of the countless family wineries.

Next stop, Napa Valley! More than 400 wineries are located in this famous wine region. Explore up to three different Napa Valley vineyards, which includes tours and tastings at each site. This promises to be a relaxing day full of stunning landscape and delicious wine!



day five

SAN FRANCISCO TO LOS ANGELES

Board the Amtrak Coast Starlight® to Los Angeles. The Coast Starlight ventures right along the gorgeous California coastline and offers unparalleled views of lush forests, fertile valleys, and long stretches of Pacific Ocean shoreline. Upon arrival in the "City of Angels," visitors can check into the hotel and start exploring this fascinating city that so many movie stars call home. Check out the iconic Grauman's Chinese Theatre, famous Hollywood Walk of Fame, fancy Rodeo Drive, and the always fun Santa Monica Pier.



day six

LOS ANGELES

Los Angeles is known as the entertainment capital of the world, so there is much to see and do here. But, those looking to connect with nature and escape the urban jungle that is LA, should head to Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area. Located just a little over an hour outside of Los Angeles, Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area offers more than 500 miles of trails, historical sites, and exotic wildlife, like bobcats, quail, coyotes, and mountain lions. It's the perfect place to connect with the natural world.

day seven

LOS ANGELES TO SAN DIEGO

Board the Amtrak Pacific Surfliner® at Los Angeles Union Station to make way to San Diego. This three-hour train ride offers even more stunning views of the California coast. Upon arrival, visitors can start exploring San Diego and learn why it is called "America's Finest City." Tour the historic Gaslamp Distric. Make sure to take the time to visit the world-renowned San Diego Zoo, which houses over 3,700 animals of more than 650 species and subspecies.

day eight

SAN DIEGO

Those looking for serenity in a fast-pasted city should spend the day at Cabrillo National Monument, a San Diego natural gem. Located right in San Diego, at the southern tip of the Point Loma Peninsula, this historical dwelling offers stunning views of San Diego's harbor and skyline and provides opportunities for visitors to explore the natural and cultural history this city. Enjoy the calming sight of the sea by heading to Whale Overlook, which offers amazing views of the Pacific Ocean and the New Point Loma Lighthouse. Embark on the self-guided two-mile walk through a coastal sage scrub forest. Check

out the 422-foot tall Old Point Loma Lighthouse, which now functions as a museum where visitors can learn its fascinating story through the interactive exhibits on display.

day nine

YOUR JOURNEY ENDS IN SAN DIEGO

You can choose to extend your trip or end in any of the more than 500 Amtrak rail stations across the country.



travel details

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american

HERITAGE

Embark on a historical journey through the charming East Coast and explore four history-rich cities. Walk in the footsteps of Paul Revere, John Adams, and other patriots of the Revolutionary War along the famous Freedom Trail. Spend some time on the Lexington Battle Green, where the first battle of the American Revolution took place.

Take in spectacular views of Manhattan from the Empire State Building in New York City. Cruise out to Ellis Island, where visitors can honor their families' heritage on the American Immigrant Wall of Honor. See where the U.S. Constitution, our nation's founding document was brought to life in Philadelphia and learn the exciting history of the Liberty Bell. Spend some time in our Nation's Capital, Washington, DC, and get up close and personal with famous sites, like Arlington National Cemetery and the Smithsonian. From the celebrated streets of Boston to the gorgeous monuments of the Nation's Capital, this American Heritage Journey is a must for history lovers.

day one

YOUR JOURNEY BEGINS IN BOSTON

Welcome to Boston! Otherwise known as "The Cradle of Liberty," Boston is the birthplace of the American Revolutionary War. Spend some time today exploring this historic city. Take a journey into the city's revolutionary past by walking along the Freedom Trail. If time permits, make sure to check out the Boston Harbor Islands which is the home to tide pools, lush hiking trails and a beautiful place to picnic.

Despite Boston's British roots, it is home to one of the most famous Italian American neighborhoods in the country, the North End. Visitors looking for delicious Italian food should venture to the North End where the culinary opportunities are endless.

day two

BOSTON

Venture outside of Boston today to explore the historic towns of Lexington and Concord. Home to two famous battles of the Revolutionary War, Lexington and Concord are full of significant sites to see. Take the Liberty Ride, a 90-Minute tour that ventures through the birthplaces of American liberty along the historic Battle Road, while a costumed guide recounts the exciting events of April 19, 1775.

Spend some time on the Lexington Battle Green, where the first battle of the American Revolution took place at dawn on April 19, 1775. Lex-



ington Battle Green is also home to the Revolutionary War Monument, which was erected in 1799.

Stroll along the Battle Road Trail, a 5.5-mile pathway that follows a part of the route taken by the British Regulars on their march from Boston to Concord and back. Highlights of the trail include the site of Paul Revere's capture during his famous ride and the house of Captain William Smith of the Lincoln Minute Men.

day three

BOSTON TO NEW YORK CITY

Take some time this morning to see any missed "Beantown" sights, like the Boston Public Garden. Established in 1837, the Public Garden was the first public botanical gar-

den in America and is home to over 80 species of plants.

Hop aboard Amtrak from Boston to New York City! Use this 4-hour ride to rest up as NYC is bursting with fun things to do and see. Upon arrival, start exploring the "Big Apple" or head to the hotel to get a good night's sleep.

day four

NEW YORK CITY

Experience firsthand what the excitement of the Big Apple is all about on a hop-on/hop-off sight-seeing tour. This narrated excursion points out the city's major landmarks and attractions and also provides the history and background on this exciting metropolis. Stops include the Empire State Building,



Rockefeller Center, Times Square, and the posh Fifth Avenue.

If time allows, take a trip over to Castle Clinton National monument, standing where New York City began or visit the National September 11 Memorial Museum displaying artifacts associated with the events of 9/11 and truly explores the impact of those events.

day five

NEW YORK CITY

Spend some time today experiencing the historical side of New York City.

History fans should definitely spend some time on Ellis Island. Considered the “Island of Hope,” Ellis Island was America’s largest and most active immigration station from 1892 to 1924. Over 12 million immigrants were processed here

before entering the United States. Sadly, for some, Ellis Island was also known as the “Island of Tears” as many families were separated or denied entry into the country here. Ellis Island is the only place in the United States where individuals can honor their families’ heritage at a national monument. Visitors can actually look for their own families’ names on the American Immigrant Wall of Honor, which lists over 700,000 names of those that immigrated to the United States.

A trip to New York City wouldn’t be complete without a visit to the iconic Statue of Liberty. “The Statue of Liberty Enlightening the World” was gifted to the United States by the good people of France in 1886. Today, it is recognized as a universal symbol of freedom and democracy. The Statue of Liberty Exhibit, located on the second floor of the Statue’s pedestal, features a great

collection of photographs, prints, and artifacts that tell the story of this glorious monument and its complete history. If time allows, head to the crown of the Statue, which offers astounding views of the New York Harbor out of its 24 windows.

day six

NEW YORK CITY TO PHILADELPHIA

Spend the morning hitting up any NYC sights missed over the last two days. Make sure to indulge in a New York bagel as they are considered the best in the world!

This afternoon, head to the Penn Station and board Amtrak to Philadelphia. Relax on board and enjoy the lovely East Coast landscape as the train makes its way south to the “City of Brotherly Love.” Upon arrival in Philly, visitors can start exploring all this remarkable city has to offer or go relax at the hotel.



day seven

PHILADELPHIA

Philadelphia is a city rich in American history. As the first capital of the United States and the birthplace of the American Constitution, Philadelphia offers much to see and explore. Spend some time today at Independence National Historical Park. This 55-acre park is home to several historical sites associated with the American Revolution, including Independence Hall, the Liberty Bell, and the National Constitution Center. Nicknamed “America’s most historic square mile,” Independence National Historical Park is located within the Old City and Society Hill neighborhoods of Philadelphia.

Tour the spirited Independence Hall, the centerpiece of Independence National Historical Park. Independence Hall is where the Declaration of Independence and the United States Constitution were debated and eventually adopted in the late 18th century. It also served as the principal meetinghouse of the Second Continental Congress from 1775 to 1783.

Next stop: The Liberty Bell Center! Located across the street from Independence Hall, the Liberty Bell Center is home to the iconic Liberty Bell. Known as a symbol of American independence, the Liberty Bell was originally placed on the steeple of the Pennsylvania State House



and was used to summon lawmakers to legislative sessions and to alert citizens to public meetings and important proclamations.

day eight

PHILADELPHIA TO WASHINGTON, DC

This morning, be sure to check out any other Philly hot spots before heading off to the train station. This afternoon, enjoy a relaxing ride on Amtrak to our Nation’s Capital, Washington, DC.

Welcome to Washington, DC! Start exploring this miraculous city this evening or head to the hotel to rest up for tomorrow’s sight-seeing adventure.

day nine

WASHINGTON, DC

There is no shortage of sites to see and things to do in Washington, DC. A great place to start is at the National Mall. Considered “America’s Front Yard,” the National Mall is home to several great DC landmarks, including the Washington Monument. The Thomas Jefferson Memorial is one of the most popular sites at the National Mall and a must-see. Dedicated by President Franklin Delano Roosevelt on April 13, 1943, the memorial honors Founding Father and 3rd President of the United States, Thomas Jefferson.

day ten

YOUR JOURNEY ENDS IN WASHINGTON, DC

You can choose to extend your trip or end in any of the more than 500 Amtrak rail stations across the country.

travel details

For more information on this Amtrak Vacations® package and other **NATIONAL PARK RAIL JOURNEYS** please visit www.amtrakvacations.com or call 1-800-268-7252.

our partnership

Yankee Leisure Group and its brands, Amtrak Vacations and Yankee Holidays, are proud partners of the National Park Foundation (NPF), the official charity of America's national parks. As most travelers think to fly or drive to their destinations there is a tendency to forget about the historic way to travel across the country and discover the land we love, and that's by rail. The National Parks and railroads have a historic relationship as America's early railroad companies played a pivotal part in establishing our national heritage.

Amtrak Vacations is the leading supplier of vacation packages featuring Amtrak® rail services and together with Yankee Holidays, offers over 55 unique itineraries to many of the US National Parks. These parks include the Grand Canyon, Glacier National Park, Yellowstone, Yosemite and more. Amtrak Vacations combines the thrill of rail travel with inclusive travel packages for one-of-a-kind vacations throughout North America with options to depart from more than 500 Amtrak rail stations across the country.

NPF will receive a portion of revenue from any Amtrak Vacations or Yankee Holidays National Park programs. The donation will help NPF protect national parks, connect people from all backgrounds to parks and National Park Service programs, and inspire the next generation of park stewards.

There is nothing better than surrounding yourself in desert landscape, peaks and valleys of mountain ranges, gorgeous sunsets and breathtaking sunrises. Seeing the National Parks by rail is not only an alternative to traditional travel options, but a new way to have an all-encompassing experience as you pay homage to America's heartland!

Whether you are looking to have a simple National Park experience, short weekend getaway, or looking to immerse yourself in all of nature's glory, Amtrak Vacations and Yankee Holidays provide a personable adventure for everyone and anyone who is looking to add another check to their bucket-list.

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