



# America's National Parks by Train: Rocky Mountains, Arches & Zion

10 days | 13 days with Grand Canyon National Park & Phoenix extension

Towering mountains, otherworldly rock formations, ancient petroglyphs, and scenic train rides await on this journey through the American West. Begin your exploration in Colorado's Rocky Mountain National Park, where you'll walk along scenic trails and spot wildlife up close. Then, travel by train over rugged mountain terrain to Utah, where you'll explore the dramatic natural landscapes and Native American history of Arches, Canyonlands, Bryce Canyon, and Zion national parks. Round out your tour with an overnight in bright, bustling Las Vegas.



## Your tour package includes

- 9 nights in handpicked hotels
- 9 breakfasts
- 2 lunches
- 2 dinners with beer or wine
- 1 beer tasting
- 6 sightseeing tours
- Expert Tour Director & local guides
- Private deluxe motor coach & ride on Rocky Mountaineer train

## Included highlights

- Craft beer tasting
- Rocky Mountain National Park
- A ride on the Rocky Mountaineer
- Continental Divide crossing
- Moab Petroglyphs
- Arches National Park
- Bryce Canyon National Park
- Zion National Park
- Valley of Fire State Park

## Tour pace

On this guided tour, you'll walk for at least 2 hours daily across mostly flat terrain, including paved trails and dirt paths, with some hills and high altitudes.

## Group size

15-34

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## Rocky Mountain National Park Region, Colorado → 3 nights

### Day 1: Arrival in Denver & transfer to Rocky Mountain National Park Region

*Included meals: welcome dinner, beer tasting*

Welcome to Colorado! Arrive in Denver and transfer to your hotel in the Rocky Mountain National Park region. Then, meet your Tour Director and fellow travelers for a welcome dinner and beer tasting at a local brewery.

### Day 2: Rocky Mountain National Park

*Included meals: breakfast*

Set out to explore the wonders of Rocky Mountain National Park.

- Drive along Trail Ridge Road, which soars to 12,000 feet in elevation (*weather-dependent*)
- Stop to take photos and several short trail walks
- Try to spot wildlife, including elk, bighorn sheep, moose, and bears
- Enjoy free time in the college city of Boulder, known for its culinary scene, breweries, and vibrant downtown

### Day 3: Free day in the Rocky Mountain National Park Region

*Included meals: breakfast*

Spend a free day exploring the Rocky Mountain National Park region or add an excursion.

+ Top of the Rockies: Pikes Peak Cog Railway

## Glenwood Springs, Colorado → 1 night

### Day 4: Glenwood Springs via Rocky Mountaineer Train ride

*Included meals: breakfast, lunch*

This morning, board the Rocky Mountaineer train at Denver's Union Station for a scenic ride through the Rockies to Glenwood Springs.

- Admire canyons, towering mountain peaks, and reservoirs on your day-long journey
- Cross over the Continental Divide as you pass through Moffat Tunnel
- Enjoy an included lunch aboard the train

*Please note: Learn more about the benefits of upgrading to SilverLeaf Plus on the Rocky Mountaineer in our FAQ.*

## Moab, Utah → 2 nights

### Day 5: Moab via Rocky Mountaineer Train ride

*Included meals: breakfast, lunch*

Continue your scenic journey on the Rocky Mountaineer.

- Make your way to Utah, crossing through desert canyons, basins, plateaus, and mesas of western Colorado and Utah
- Spot Mount Garfield, a dramatic natural formation within the Book Cliffs mountain range, from the train

Arrive in Moab, then enjoy an included lunch at a local restaurant before heading out on a sightseeing tour.

- Explore some of Moab's beautiful rock art and petroglyphs, which date back as far as 3500 B.C.
- Learn about the history of regional Native American tribes from your local guide

Enjoy a free evening in Moab or add an excursion.

+ Red Rocks Sunset Hummer Safari

### Day 6: Arches National Park

*Included meals: breakfast*

This morning, gaze at the red rock sculptures carved by nature as you explore Arches National Park, home to more than 2,000 arches, spires, domes, pinnacles, and fins.

*Please note: The order of activities may vary based on season.*

Enjoy a free afternoon in Moab or add an excursion.

+ Colorado River Raft Trip

## Zion National Park Region, Utah → 2 nights

### Day 7: Zion via Bryce Canyon National Park

*Included meals: breakfast*

Make your way through scenic southwestern Utah to tour Bryce Canyon National Park by bus and on foot.

- Take in up-close views of the distinctive pink limestone and sandstone formations
- See the awe-inspiring arches, bridges, and pinnacles known as hoodoos

Then, continue on to your hotel near Zion National Park.

### Day 8: Sightseeing tour of Zion National Park

*Included meals: breakfast*

Take a tour of Zion National Park, which is located at the intersection of the Great Basin, the Colorado Plateaus, and the Mojave Desert.

- View the yellow- and orange-hued rocks during an open-air tram ride
- Hear commentary on the surrounding landscape from a local guide

## Las Vegas, Nevada → 1 night

### Day 9: Las Vegas via Valley of Fire State Park

*Included meals: breakfast, farewell dinner*

Stop in Valley of Fire State Park, Nevada's first state park, before continuing on to Las Vegas to celebrate your trip at a farewell dinner.

## Flight Home

### Day 10: Departure

*Included meals: breakfast (excluding early morning departures)*

Transfer to the airport for your flight home, or continue on to Grand Canyon National Park.

## + Grand Canyon National Park & Phoenix extension

Just when you thought America's landscapes couldn't get any more grand, enter the Grand Canyon. A mile deep and up to 18-miles wide, the canyon is laced with hiking trails that promise jaw-dropping scenery and photo ops aplenty. Soak in its massive size and scale, and its distinctive color palette, before capping off your adventure with a visit to Sedona and Montezuma Castle National Monument.

## Grand Canyon, Arizona → 2 nights

## **Day 10: Grand Canyon National Park via Hoover Dam**

*Included meals: breakfast*

Depart Las Vegas and make your way to the Hoover Dam, an iconic American landmark that separates the states of Nevada and Arizona. During this stop, enjoy free time to explore this engineering marvel on your own. Continue on to Grand Canyon National Park and get settled at your hotel.

## **Day 11: Grand Canyon National Park**

*Included meals: breakfast*

Set out to explore the Grand Canyon, one of the most-visited national parks in the U.S.

- Join your Tour Director for a walk along the South Rim
- Walk through a ponderosa pine forest and admire panoramic views of the sandstone landscape from a plateau at the end of the trail

Enjoy free time to hike other trails, explore the various museums and shops along the rim, or add an excursion.

+ Grand Canyon Helicopter Ride

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## **Phoenix, Arizona → 1 night**

## **Day 12: Phoenix Region via Sedona**

*Included meals: breakfast, farewell dinner*

Explore the Southwest landscapes of Arizona as you make your way toward Phoenix.

- Visit Sedona, a city known for its festive art scene, and enjoy free time to shop, eat, and explore its many galleries
- Make photo stops at the majestic rock formations surrounding Sedona, including Cathedral Rock, Bell Rock, and Courthouse Butte
- Stop at Montezuma Castle National Monument to view cliff dwellings of the Ancestral Puebloans, an ancient culture with ties to the Hopi and Yavapai tribe

Celebrate your trip with your group at tonight's farewell dinner.

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## **Flight Home**

## **Day 13: Departure**

*Included meals: breakfast (excluding early morning departures)*

Transfer to the airport for your flight home.

# Customize your experience

Customize your tour by adding excursion options. Excursions offered on the same day will occur at different times, so there's no need to choose. Save \$10 when you book your excursion up to three days before your tour departs.\* Excursions requiring advance reservation only list this discounted price. Call or go online to customize your tour: [goaheadtours.ca/RAM](https://goaheadtours.ca/RAM) | 1-800-754-5066

## Day 3: Top of the Rockies: Pikes Peak Cog Railway

\$149CAD/\$159CAD\* (10 hours, departs in the morning)

Head south to Broadmoor Manitou, where you'll board the historic Pikes Peak Cog Railway, the world's highest rack railway that has been operating since 1891. Ride to the summit of America's Mountain, Pikes Peak, at an elevation of 14,110 feet for stunning panoramic views of Pike National Forest, Engelmann Canyon, and the remains of the former Halfway House Hotel. Enjoy free time to explore the area and visitor center, where you can learn about the mountain's history. Afterwards, transfer to the Garden of the Gods, a public park and National Natural Landmark that features unique sandstone rock formations. You'll see some of the towering red, pink, and white rocks that sit against the backdrop of snow-capped Pikes Peak.

## Day 5: Red Rocks Sunset Hummer Safari

\$215CAD/\$225CAD\* (3.5 hours, departs in the evening)

Climb aboard a customized Hummer safari vehicle for a sunset adventure in Moab's famous rock canyons. You'll scale red rock fins, weave in and out of the canyons, and scale steep, sandstone hills. Along the way, you'll learn about the area's geology from your expert guides as you enjoy views over the gorgeous Canyonlands region. On your way back, stop and view ancient dinosaur tracks before having free time to relax with a snack—all while the setting sun casts a warm, golden glow on the surrounding landscape. Continue back to the adventure center, then transfer back to your hotel.

## Day 6: Colorado River Raft Trip

\$155CAD/\$165CAD\* (4 hours, departure time varies)

Take a leisurely rafting trip down a tranquil stretch of the Colorado River, where you'll admire some of the most majestic sights of the American West. You'll float through Castle Valley and past the Fisher Towers during your time on the river. Though your raft will ride a current, you'll travel through the river's mildest stretch. Please note: This excursion is seasonal and runs March through October.

## Extension excursion options

### Day 11: Grand Canyon Helicopter Ride

\$355CAD/\$365CAD\* (30 minutes, departs in the morning)

Enjoy a bird's-eye view of the Grand Canyon aboard a thrilling half-hour-long helicopter ride. Soar over the massive canyon, taking in a unique perspective of the striated terrain far below. From high above the canyon rim, you can begin to fully appreciate the immense scale of this natural wonder. Please note: This excursion is weather-dependent.

\*Optional excursions may be purchased up to three days prior to departure or while on tour. Pre-purchased optional excursions cannot be canceled within three days prior to departure or while on tour. Select optional excursions require advance booking and cannot be purchased or canceled after the advanced reservation deadline. GAT accepts payment by cash, Visa or MasterCard for optional excursions purchased on tour. Additional fees may apply for optional excursions purchased on tour. Excursions require a minimum number of participants to operate. Details and prices are subject to change. Due to seasonal hours of operation and availability, some excursions may not operate. If this occurs, you will be refunded any payments made for that excursion post-tour. Learn more at [goaheadtours.ca/terms](https://goaheadtours.ca/terms)