

Coast to Coast Road Trip Eastbound - NUFY

22 days: San Francisco to New York

What's Included

- Your Welcome Moment: Welcome Moment - Meet Your CEO and Group
- Your Discover Moment: Yosemite National Park
- Your Discover Moment: New Orleans
- Your Discover Moment: Washington D.C.
- Entrance fees to all national parks with hiking and walking excursions
- Orientations to Las Vegas and Washington DC
- Sunset at the rim of the Grand Canyon
- Guided tour of Mesa Verde cliff dwellings
- Carlsbad Caverns visit
- Self-inflating mattresses and dome tents
- All transport between destinations and to/from included activities

The information in this trip details document has been compiled with care and is provided in good faith. However it is subject to change, and does not form part of the contract between the client and G Adventures. The itinerary featured is correct at time of printing. It may differ slightly to the one in the brochure. Occasionally our itineraries change as we make improvements that stem from past travellers, comments and our own research. Sometimes it can be a small change like adding an extra meal along the itinerary. Sometimes the change may result in us altering the tour for the coming year. Ultimately, our goal is to provide you with the most rewarding experience. Please note that our brochure is usually released in November each year. If you have booked from the previous brochure you may find there have been some changes to the itinerary.

VERY IMPORTANT: Please ensure that you print a final copy of your Trip Details to review a couple of days prior to travel, in case there have been changes that affect your plans.

VALIDITY: Valid for all trips departing January 1st, 2018 and onwards

Itinerary

NOTE: Accommodations vary per departure and are subject to change until tour start date; they are not final and should be used as examples only. Travellers may login to the G Adventures App to view accommodations specific to their departure.

Day 1 San Francisco

Arrive at any time. We highly recommend booking pre-tour accommodation to enjoy more of the city.

There's a lot to see and do in San Francisco, and we recommend spending extra time here if you'd like to explore the city; speak to your sales agent to book extra accommodation. Haight-Ashbury, Alcatraz, the Golden Gate Bridge, Fisherman's Wharf, and the city's famous cable cars await you.

Your Welcome Moment: Welcome Moment - Meet Your CEO and Group

19:00

Your opportunity to meet your CEO and fellow travellers, and learn more about your tour. Opt to join the group for a local meal afterwards. Don't forget to see the notice in the lobby (or ask reception) for the official time and place to meet up with the group.

Optional Activities - Day 1

Alcatraz Visit

San Francisco

33USD per person

Travel out to Alcatraz Island for a cell-house audio tour of the infamous federal penitentiary. While there, check out the natural side of the rock—with its gardens, tide pools, bird colonies, and stunning views of San Francisco Bay. Tours often sell out, so book a ticket online (far in advance!) to secure a spot.

Fisherman's Wharf Visit

San Francisco

Free

Visit San Francisco's famous Fishermen's Wharf, walk the piers, check out the marine life, shop and sample the fresh seafood.

Haight-Ashbury Visit

San Francisco

Free

Check out this neighbourhood known as the centre of counterculture ideals, drugs, and music during the hippie movement in the 60s. Today, find locally-owned restaurants and bars, boutiques, booksellers, head shops and record stores.

Bike Rental San Francisco

San Francisco 1h-5h 1-15km

8-32USD per person

Rent a bike to peddle across the Golden Gate Bridge, through the scenic Marina district or perhaps to Golden Gate park.

Golden Gate Bridge Visit

San Francisco

Free

What trip to San Fran would be complete without seeing the Golden Gate Bridge? Depending on time, step foot on this famous red suspension bridge or find a great viewing point to take some photos.

Cable Car Ride San Francisco

San Francisco 1h-3h

7USD per person

Iconic to San Francisco, travel back in time and hop on the world's last manually operated cable car system.

Day 2 San Francisco/Yosemite National Park

Catch a glimpse of the Golden Gate Bridge on the way out of one of America's most popular cities. Drive into the Sierra Nevada Mountains and set up camp.

Travel through California's Sierra Nevada Mountains on the way to Yosemite National Park. Set up camp for the night and get ready for a full day of exploring the next day.

Private Vehicle

San Francisco - Yosemite National Park 7h 225km

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

Meals included: Dinner

Day 3 Yosemite National Park

Enjoy a free day in Yosemite National Park.

Admire spectacular views of Yosemite National Park's magnificent peaks and granite domes. Yosemite has many trails to offer. Be inspired by this beautiful and amazing landscape and opt to rent a bike to better explore the Yosemite Valley.

Yosemite National Park Visit

Yosemite National Park

Picturesque valleys, vast wilderness, powerful waterfalls, elusive wildlife, ancient sequoias and more than 16 types of granite make up this internationally recognized national park. Hike the trails, get up close to ancient rock formations and take panoramic photos of this gorgeous landscape. Keep an eye out for black bears, deer, and coyotes.

Your Discover Moment

Yosemite National Park Full Day

Located in California's Sierra Nevadas, Yosemite is home to a variety of habitats and wildlife, including spotted owls, mule deer, bobcats and American black bears. Valley visitors come to hike, rock climb, raft, around the spectacular granite cliffs, waterfalls, and giant sequoias.

Optional Activities - Day 3

Yosemite National Park Hike

Yosemite National Park 1h-6h 1-15km

Free

Panoramic vistas, gushing waterfalls, and elusive wildlife await. Bring water, wear a hat and sunscreen, and hike Yosemite NP. Keep an eye out for black bears, deer, and coyotes.

Yosemite Bike Rental

Yosemite National Park

30-40USD per person

Set your wheels in motion with tandem, hand crank or mountain bikes, and opt to cycle some of the 20km (12mi) of paved trails throughout the valley floor. Bring a water bottle, stop to shoot photos, and enjoy some of the most picturesque spots in Yosemite NP.

Choose between a half-day rental or a full-day, and be aware that this activity is available on a first-come, first-served basis. Please note the price for a half-day bike rental is \$30 USD and the price for a full-day bike rental is \$40USD.

Meals included: Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner

Day 4 Yosemite National Park/Death Valley

Awe at the spectacular scenery along the Tioga Pass. Marvel at tufa rock towers at Mono Lake.

Marvel at the spectacular views of Yosemite National Park's magnificent peaks and granite domes while enjoying one of most scenic areas in California.

Note: we intend on using the Tioga Pass, a scenic route through the Sierra Nevada mountain range that connects Yosemite NP with Bishop. In the spring and autumn seasons, there's a chance that the pass will be closed due to poor weather conditions or even snow. In such a case, we use an alternate route south, and will spend the night in Lake Isabella instead of Bishop. The status of the road is monitored daily, and our travel plan for the area will be confirmed during the trip.

Private Vehicle

Yosemite National Park – Bishop 7h360km

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

Tioga Pass Drive

Tioga Pass – Yosemite National Park

Take this scenic route through the Sierra Nevada mountain range connecting Bishop with the Yosemite Valley floor. Pass by lakes, meadows, and groves, and keep your eyes peeled for wildlife along the way. (Seasonal July through mid October.)

Mono Lake Visit

Mono Lake 30m

Unusual rock towers created by underwater springs line the shore of this stunning lake. Walk along the shore and imagine what existed here nearly a million years ago. The salt waters are home to trillions of brine shrimp and alkali flies. Mono Lake also attracts nearly 100 species of migratory birds each year.

Meals included: Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner

Day 5 Death Valley/Las Vegas

Visit a land of extremes in Death Valley National Park. Explore Las Vegas and stroll along the famous Vegas Strip. Take an optional VIP party limo.

Visit one of the country's most rugged landscapes, legendary Death Valley, the hottest and driest spot on earth and home to the lowest point in North America.

For the nights in Las Vegas, we stay close to the action in a hotel either at the end of or just a few blocks off the Strip.

Private Vehicle

Bishop – Las Vegas 5h-6h 430km

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

Death Valley National Park Visit

Death Valley National Park

Death Valley is one of America's most extreme locations – from sand dunes and desert, to badlands, towering peaks, and a basin that actually registers below sea-level, this is sure to be an unforgettable stop. Hottest. Driest. Lowest. There's a bit of everything here on the border of California and Nevada.

Vegas Strip Visit

Las Vegas 1h

Walk along Las Vegas Boulevard and soak in the lights, energy and pulse of the Strip. With an ever-evolving architecture and multitude of hotels, casinos, restaurants, and entertainment, there's so much to see and do.

Optional Activities - Day 5

VIP Party Bus Experience

Las Vegas

45USD per person

Channel your inner celebrity and set off in this party on wheels. Luxuriate in the leather seats, and feel like a star with the neon lights, flat screen TV and booming stereo system. Tour the highlights of Vegas and love the limo life.

Meals included: Breakfast | Lunch

Day 6 Las Vegas

Free time in Las Vegas.

Full day to explore Las Vegas. Walk the strip and try your luck at the tables or slot machines. Or spend the day shopping, dining or poolside. In the evening, opt to see one of the wildly entertaining shows Vegas is known for.

Free Time

Las Vegas

Indulge in this Sin City your own way.

Optional Activities - Day 6

Las Vegas Show

Las Vegas 3h-4h

60-200USD per person

Leave the world behind, give in to your senses and prepare to be amazed. Take in one of the many shows available in this entertainment mecca. Live music, burlesque, comedy, magic, Cirque Du Soleil, and more. Whatever your passion, no other city can compete with the range and scale of shows on offer 24 hours a day.

Gambling at Vegas Casino

Las Vegas

Hold some cards, toss some dice, place a bet or sit at the slots. Try your luck at gambling in one of the many casinos along the Strip. (The legal age for gambling is 21 years of age.)

Hoover Dam Visit

Hoover Dam

65USD per person

Take a day trip to the Hoover Dam to learn more about this marvel of engineering.

Day 7 Las Vegas/Grand Canyon National Park

Travel Route 66, then arrive at the beautiful Grand Canyon and take in the sunset from the canyon's edge.

Considered among nature's most spectacular offerings, the Grand Canyon provides spectacular opportunities for exploration. Return to the campsite and recapture the experiences from this memorable day!

Private Vehicle

Las Vegas - Grand Canyon National Park 6h 460km

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

Grand Canyon Sunset

Grand Canyon National Park

Head to the rim of the Grand Canyon at sunset. Point your camera in any direction and capture memorable shots as the shifting light plays off the layers of red, yellow, and brown rock. This is truly one of the great wonders. Enjoy the moment.

Optional Activities - Day 7

Grand Canyon IMAX Movie

Grand Canyon National Park

14USD per person

On a giant six-story movie screen, watch the most viewed IMAX film of all time, "Grand Canyon: The Hidden Secrets". Escape, fly, and discover the history and beauty of this awe-inspiring landscape.

Meals included: Dinner

Day 8 Grand Canyon National Park

Enjoy free time in Grand Canyon NP.

Enjoy a free day to discover the Grand Canyon. Opt to wander throughout the park and take a hike. Hire a bike, check out a museum or see the canyon from the sky by helicopter.

Note: If you have pre-booked the Grand Canyon Helicopter Ride you will enjoy your 45-50min ride over the canyon today.

Free Time

Grand Canyon

Enjoy a full day in this Wonder of the World to explore your own way.

Grand Canyon South Rim Visit

Grand Canyon National Park – Grand Canyon

Visit the south rim of the canyon for a great first impression. Marvel as the Grand Canyon unfolds before you. Don't get too close. The land drops almost straight down for more than 1,000m (3,280 ft) into the serpentine canyons below! The gorge is filled with rocky buttes, sheer limestone cliffs, and deep canyons all arrayed in a rainbow of colors. Words defy. This is truly one of the most magnificent sights on earth.

Optional Activities - Day 8**Grand Canyon IMAX Movie**

Grand Canyon National Park

14USD per person

On a giant six-story movie screen, watch the most viewed IMAX film of all time, "Grand Canyon: The Hidden Secrets". Escape, fly, and discover the history and beauty of this awe-inspiring landscape.

Grand Canyon Hike

Grand Canyon 1h-4h 1-10km

Free

Opt to hike along the rim or down into the canyon. Experience breathtaking scenery with spectacular views. Bring lots of water, a hat and plenty of energy. Remember -- hiking down is optional, hiking back up is mandatory!

Grand Canyon Helicopter Tour

Grand Canyon

The Grand Canyon helicopter ride is a must! Enjoy a bird's-eye view for 45 to 50 minutes as you fly over the canyon, taking in the stark contrast of the blue-green Colorado River against the thousand shades of red rock found in the canyon. From above, you can fully appreciate the greatness of the gorge and see why it is one of the seven natural wonders of the world.

Meals included: Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner**Day 9 Grand Canyon National Park/Monument Valley**

Drive along the southern rim of the canyon, then opt to discover one of the most majestic places on earth, Monument Valley, on an optional overnight excursion.

Take an optional jeep tour led by a Navajo guide through Monument Valley and be inspired by a night under the stars while camping in this magnificent atmosphere.

Private Vehicle

Grand Canyon National Park – Monument Valley 4h-4h30m 200km

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

Optional Activities - Day 9**Monument Valley Overnight**

Monument Valley

150USD per person

Explore this magical and sacred place by 4x4. Tour the Tribal Park to see the magnificent colours, miles of mesas, buttes, and pinnacles that make Monument Valley a truly wondrous experience. Stay overnight in a traditional Navajo Hogan or sleep under the endless shooting stars. Wake for a breathtaking monumental sunrise.

Meals included: Breakfast | Lunch**Day 10 Monument Valley/Mesa Verde National Park**

Wind up the side of a mountain through Mesa Verde National Park's rocky slopes and inspiring vistas. Hike to ancient cliff dwellings in Mesa Verde.

Hike through history exploring Mesa Verde National Park, which offers a spectacular look into the lives of the Ancestral Puebloans.

Private Vehicle

Monument Valley – Mesa Verde National Park 7h

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

Mesa Verde Guided Tour

Mesa Verde National Park 1h-2h

Take a guided hike through history while exploring the cliff dwellings of Mesa Verde, some of the most notable and best preserved sites in North America.

Meals included: Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner

Day 11 Mesa Verde National Park/Santa Fe

Travel to Santa Fe and dive into the Southwest culture in this historic city.

Continue the journey back in time and explore one of America's oldest and most beautiful cities, Santa Fe. Take a stroll downtown and visit art galleries, or enjoy some world-famous roasted green chilies.

Private Vehicle

Mesa Verde National Park – Santa Fe 6h350km

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

Free Time

Santa Fe Afternoon

Take time to explore, shop, and eat in this cultural city.

Meals included: Breakfast | Lunch

Day 12 Santa Fe/Carlsbad

Look for aliens at infamous Roswell en route to exploring the Carlsbad Caverns, dodging the 400,000 bats heading out to hunt at sunset.

Private Vehicle

Santa Fe – Carlsbad 8h470km

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

Explore Roswell

Roswell

Explore the mystery-steeped Roswell. On the night of July 2, 1947, something (or someone) crashed into the desert outside of town. Was it a balloon, military craft, or really extra-terrestrial life? Find out what all the hype is about while passing through this funky town.

Carlsbad Caverns Tour

Carlsbad – Carlsbad Caverns National Park 1h-3h

Trek underground into the Carlsbad Caverns, one of the oldest and most famous cave systems in the world. Explore the caves and be fascinated by the underground chambers formed by sulfuric acid, which dissolved the surrounding limestone. Witness a stunning spectacle in the evening when nearly 400,000 Mexican free-tail bats exit Carlsbad Cavern.

Meals included: Breakfast | Dinner

Day 13 Carlsbad/Austin

Cross into the state of Texas, the birthplace of Tex-Mex food, 10-gallon hats, and Western movies.

Sit back and gaze at the scenery while travelling through the southern United States. Upon arrival in the 'Lonestar' state, settle in at the campsite for a night under the stars.

Private Vehicle

Carlsbad – Austin 9h764km

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

Meals included: Breakfast | Lunch

Day 14 Austin

Spend a free day in Austin. Opt to visit the SoCo area for thrift shopping, take a dip in the Barton natural pool, or let loose at a local country bar in the evening.

Free Time

Austin Full Day

Get out and explore Austin!

Optional Activities - Day 14

Tubing on the Guadalupe River

Grab a tube and enjoy how the locals like to beat the heat - floating down the Guadalupe River. Soak up the sun and take the occasional dip while slowly travelling down river from Austin to San Antonio.

SoCo Vintage and Thrift Shopping

Austin

Spend a few hours checking out the SoCo (South Congress) shopping area of Austin. This is a great area to people watch, grab a bite to eat, and search through the vintage stores to find that hidden gem. Check this out for some real local flavour!

Barton Springs Pool

Austin

8USD per person

Take some time to relax in the sun and go for a swim in to what locals call "nature's pool". Barton Springs is a natural reservoir that has created a crystal clear swimming hole inside Zilker Park. Hop into the pool to cool off before relaxing on the grassy knoll right at the water's edge.

BBQ Dinner

Austin

You can't visit the Southwest without trying some good ol', finger lickin BBQ. Texans like to brag that they have some of the best BBQ in the world - try for yourself and find out.

Country Dancing

Austin

Bring out your inner cowboy or cowgirl as you hit the town at an authentic country bar. Mosey up to the bar and grab a pint before heading to the dance floor (cowboy boots not required!). You'll be two-stepping like a local in no time.

Meals included: Breakfast

Day 15 Austin/New Orleans

Crank up the jazz and drive into the home of Mardi Gras. Explore the French Quarter, and join the revellers on Bourbon Street 'til the early hours.

The CEO will point out a few things on the drive in, then get out and experience the city at its best.

Private Vehicle

Austin - New Orleans 9h 820km

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

Optional Activities - Day 15

French Quarter and Bourbon St Visit

New Orleans

Free

Discover the charm of New Orleans' oldest neighbourhood. Admire the Spanish colonial architecture of this historic district—many of the buildings date back to the late 18th century. Visit Jackson Square, Bourbon St (known for its many bars), Lafitte's Blacksmith Shop and Pat O'Brien's (known for inventing the hurricane cocktail) as you explore this lively area, a National Historic Landmark.

Meals included: Breakfast

Day 16 New Orleans

Enjoy a free day to explore New Orleans.

New travellers may join you today for the rest of the adventure. You are welcome to join them at a group meeting this evening, followed by an optional dinner.

Your Discover Moment

New Orleans Full Day

There's plenty to see and do in New Orleans, and we wanted to make sure that you had some time to take it all in. Feel free to relax or try optional activities like a swamp and bayou tour, historical tours, and a creole cooking class. Your CEO has more ideas if you need them. Just ask!

Optional Activities - Day 16

Historical Tours

New Orleans 1h-4h

25-30USD per person

Learn more about this fascinating city by discovering its past. New Orleans has all kinds of tour options for all kinds of tastes. Opt for a voodoo tour, ghost tour, cemetery tour or vampire tour — you name it, there's probably a tour for it. All the tours bring a different historical side of New Orleans to life, with a little bit of creepy thrown in.

Creole Cooking Class

New Orleans 2h-3h

25USD per person

Learn to cook authentic Creole food and savour the fruits of your labour.

Optional Welcome Meeting for Travellers on Combos

You may be a seasoned pro at group travel by now, but there will likely be some new travellers joining the group. Sit in on the welcome meeting to meet the newest members of your group and learn about the next leg of your tour.

Café du Monde Visit

New Orleans

10USD per person

Grab a coffee and try a delicious beignet at Café du Monde – a New Orleans institution. The original stand was established in 1862 and is just as popular today.

French Quarter and Bourbon St Visit

New Orleans

Free

Discover the charm of New Orleans' oldest neighbourhood. Admire the Spanish colonial architecture of this historic district—many of the buildings date back to the late 18th century. Visit Jackson Square, Bourbon St (known for its many bars), Lafitte's Blacksmith Shop and Pat O'Brien's (known for inventing the hurricane cocktail) as you explore this lively area, a National Historic Landmark.

Ghost Tour

New Orleans

25USD per person

After the sun goes down, embark on a tour of mysterious and (possibly!) haunted spots around New Orleans. From century-old cemeteries to historical voodoo sites, see if you'll experience any paranormal activity.

Mississippi River Steam Boat Ride

New Orleans

31-42USD per person

Climb aboard an iconic steamboat and gain a new perspective on the Mississippi River.

Meals included: Breakfast**Day 17 New Orleans/Memphis**

Explore the vibrant cultural and musical melting pot of Memphis. Take an optional tour of Graceland, opt to relive history at the National Civil Rights Museum, or tour the Rock 'n' Soul Museum. Head to Beale Street at night for great food and live music.

Explore the birthplace of Rock 'n' Roll, the Home of Blues, and the starting point of soul. Music legends, including Elvis Presley, Johnny Cash and B.B. King, made their marks on Memphis. Optional activities include visiting the National Civil Rights Museum (located where the assassination of Martin Luther King Jr took place in 1968) or visiting the Rock 'n' Soul Museum.

Private Vehicle

New Orleans – Memphis 7h640km

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

Optional Activities - Day 17**Rock & Soul Museum Visit**

Memphis 1h-3h

12USD per person

Learn all about the birth of rock and soul music at the Memphis Rock 'n' Soul Museum. Discover the stories of this genre's musical pioneers, who blazed a path and created a cultural revolution.

National Civil Rights Museum

Memphis 1h-3h

15USD per person

Visit the National Civil Rights Museum, located at the Lorraine Motel, the assassination site of Dr Martin Luther King Jr. Tour exhibits and collections to learn about key episodes of the American civil rights movement and its legacy in inspiring global civil and human rights efforts.

Sun Studio Visit

Memphis

14USD per person

Visit the reputed birthplace of rock and roll and see where it all began. First opened in January of 1950, this historic recording studio will deepen your understanding of the origins of rock music in Memphis.

Graceland Visit

Memphis 2h-4h

41-61USD per person

Pay a visit to the ample Graceland estate and see how this rock and roll legend lived. Tour Graceland Mansion and see Elvis' living room, music room, kitchen and famous Jungle Room. Wrap up your visit with a stop at Meditation Garden where "the king" has been laid to rest.

Meals included: Breakfast | Lunch

Day 18 Memphis/Nashville

Take an optional tour of Graceland. Travel to the country music capital of the world and become immersed in local music in downtown Nashville.

In the morning, opt to walk in the footsteps of the King of Rock 'n' Roll at Elvis Presley's home, Graceland. If Graceland is not for you, enjoy the time to explore more of Memphis on your own. Travel to Nashville in time to check out the nightlife and visit a real country cowboy bar.

Free Time

Memphis Morning

Opt to tour Graceland or go your own way and explore Memphis.

Private Vehicle

Memphis – Nashville 4h380km

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

Optional Activities - Day 18

Cowboy Bar Visit

Nashville 1h-3h

Free-20USD per person

Hit the town and live it up in the country music capital of the world. This "Music City" will get you up and dancing and keep your toes tapping late into the night.

Country Music Hall of Fame

Nashville

25USD per person

Spend some time exploring the largest collection of country music memorabilia on the planet. The Country Music Hall of Fame is the epicenter of country music research and history, and a must visit for fans around the world.

Johnny Cash Museum

Nashville

18USD per person

Country music's favourite bad boy, Johnny Cash. Visit this museum dedicated to the famous musician, and learn more about the life of the Man in Black.

Meals included: Breakfast | Lunch

Day 19 Nashville/Appalachia

Travel the beautiful winding roads through the Appalachian Mountains and absorb their undisturbed natural beauty.

Experience the Appalachian Mountains on the drive. The mountains are a perfect place to relax and to enjoy the fresh, clean air and see the true beauty of North America.

Private Vehicle

Nashville – Appalachia 8h575km

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

Meals included: Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner

Day 20 Appalachia/Washington D.C.

Pass through Shenandoah National Park, and opt to take a short hike. Arrive in the US capital in time to wander the monuments by moonlight.

Continue on the Skyline Drive through Shenandoah National Park, a truly beautiful, historic national treasure. Standing on top of the peaks of Shenandoah National Park, gaze across the silent mountains. It's hard to believe Washington DC is just a short distance away.

Private Vehicle

Appalachia – Washington D.C. 7h480km

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

Monuments by Moonlight

Washington D.C. 1h30m 2km

See a different side of the city by moonlight. Take a tour after the sun sets to see some of Washington DC's most popular monuments and memorials all lit up.

Optional Activities - Day 20

Hike through Shenandoah National Park

Shenandoah National Park 1h-2h

Free

Enjoy a hike on one of the many trails and paths in Shenandoah National Park. Take in the tranquil natural beauty of its rolling green hills against a backdrop of mountains.

Arlington Cemetery Visit

Arlington National Cemetery 1h-2h

Free

Visit Arlington National Cemetery, a military cemetery in Arlington, Virginia. Wander through the tombs, see the eternal flame at John F Kennedy's grave, and visit the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, which represents the thousands lost in war. Spend some time at the memorial amphitheater or witness the changing of the guard.

Meals included: Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner

Day 21 Washington D.C.

Enjoy free time to explore.

There is so much to see and do in Washington DC that you can't see it all in one day. Take your time and spend a full day exploring this fascinating city.

Your Discover Moment

Washington D.C. Full Day

There's plenty to see and do in Washington DC, and we wanted to make sure that you had some time to take it all in. Feel free to relax or try optional activities like going to the White House, the Washington Monument, and checking out one of the museums in town. Your CEO has more ideas if you need them. Just ask!

Optional Activities - Day 21

National Mall Visit

Washington D.C. 2h-8h 1-15km

Visit the National Mall, a park in downtown Washington DC, that occupies the area between the Lincoln Memorial and the United States Capitol. Wear comfy shoes – there's lots to explore in this spectacular green space. The National Mall includes the Washington Monument, Vietnam Veterans Memorial, Constitution Gardens, World War II Memorial, the Korean War Veterans Memorial, the District of Columbia War Memorial, National Air and Space Museum, National Museum of American History, National Museum of Natural History, the Smithsonian, and much more.

Reflecting Pool and National Mall Visit

Reflecting Pool

Free

Visit the National Mall to see the Lincoln Memorial Reflecting Pool, a stunning 2,029 ft (618m) long pool lined with trees and walking paths, which reflects the Lincoln Memorial and/or the Washington Monument, depending on your vantage point.

Lincoln Memorial Visit

Lincoln Memorial

Visit the monument dedicated to the 16th US president, Abraham Lincoln, who was instrumental in the abolition of slavery.

White House Visit (Outside)

Washington D.C.

Free

Visit 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue and learn more about where the president of the US lives and works.

Washington Monument Visit

Washington Monument 2h-6h 2-10km

Free

Visit the massive obelisk built to honour George Washington, the United States' first president. The Washington Monument is the world's tallest structure made entirely of stone and the world's tallest obelisk. Reopened after suffering damage from an earthquake and hurricane, visitors can opt to travel to the top for a gorgeous view of the city.

Meals included: Breakfast

Day 22 Washington D.C./New York

Travel to New York, where the trip ends upon arrival. Opt to visit Times Square, stroll Central Park, check out Greenwich Village, or experience the famous nightlife of New York.

From the Statue of Liberty to Ground Zero to Chinatown, New York City is full of things to do and see. We recommend spending extra time here; please speak to your sales agent to book extra accommodation.

Please note this trip ends on arrival to New York. If you wish to spend the night in the city, speak to your sales agent about booking post-accommodation.

Private Vehicle

Washington D.C. – New York 6h375km

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

Departure Day

Depart on arrival to New York City. Your CEO can help with any onward travel arrangements you require.

Optional Activities - Day 22

Central Park Visit

New York 1h-3h

Free

Discover Central Park, an 843-acre masterpiece of landscape architecture. Much of the park appears natural, but it is almost entirely landscaped. Designed in the 19th century, it is one of America's greatest works of art and the nation's first public park. Explore its walkways and gardens, and, like many other visitors, fall in love with this spectacular green space. Central Park has become the most famous and beloved urban park in the world, featuring extensive walking tracks, bridle paths, an ice-skating rink, a swimming pool, the Central Park Zoo, the Central Park Conservatory Garden, a wildlife sanctuary, a large area of natural woods, and an outdoor amphitheater.

Times Square Visit

New York

Free

Come experience the hub of the city that never sleeps. Head to Midtown Manhattan at Broadway and Seventh Avenue – the heart of all the action. Covered in illuminated billboards and advertisements, Times Square is one of the world's busiest pedestrian intersections and a major centre of the world's entertainment industry.

9/11 Memorial Visit and One World Trade Center Observation Deck

New York

24-58USD per person

Remember 9/11 on a visit to Ground Zero. A Memorial and Museum have been created to commemorate those lost on 9/11.

Chinatown Visit

New York

Free

Lively and diverse, New York City's Chinatown has so much to see and do for urban adventurers. This growing community is considered to have the largest Asian population in a city outside of Asia.

Statue of Liberty Visit

New York

18USD per person

Pay a visit to “Lady Liberty”, dedicated in 1886 and a gift from the people France. Cruise through New York Harbor and stop off at Liberty Island to get a closer look at this iconic woman meant to welcome new immigrants to the United States. Opt to ride to the top and take in stunning views of the city.

Empire State Building Visit

New York 1h-3h

32USD per person

Soak in stunning views of New York and beyond from the top of one of the most famous landmarks in the world. The Empire State Building's Observatory is a main attraction of New York's skyline, stretching 1,250 ft (381m) high.

Brooklyn Bridge Visit

New York

Free

One of the most iconic structures in New York City, cross the East River from Manhattan to Brooklyn as you stroll along the Brooklyn Bridge. Make sure to bring your camera to snap shots of the iconic New York skyline and the bridge itself.

Top of the Rock

New York

26-32USD per person

The Rockefeller Center is a complex of commercial buildings, home to Radio City and Rockefeller plaza. Head up to the 70th floor of this New York City landmark for unobstructed views of this magical city.

Meals included: Breakfast

What's Included

Your Welcome Moment: Welcome Moment - Meet Your CEO and Group

Your Discover Moment: Yosemite National Park

Your Discover Moment: New Orleans

Your Discover Moment: Washington D.C. Entrance fees to all national parks with hiking and walking excursions. Orientations to Las Vegas and Washington DC. Sunset at the rim of the Grand Canyon. Guided tour of Mesa Verde cliff dwellings. Carlsbad Caverns visit. Self-inflating mattresses and dome tents. All transport between destinations and to/from included activities.

Highlights

Stroll the hills of San Francisco, look for wildlife in Yosemite, Enjoy Las Vegas's bright Strip and scenic Death Valley, marvel at the Grand Canyon, Soak in the history and Creole flavour of New Orleans, Brush up on your rock and roll legends in Memphis, relive history in Washington DC, gaze at the New York City skyline

Dossier Disclaimer

The information in this trip details document has been compiled with care and is provided in good faith. However it is subject to change, and does not form part of the contract between the client and the operator. The itinerary featured is correct at time of printing. It may differ slightly to the one in the brochure. Occasionally our itineraries change as we make improvements that stem from past travellers, comments and our own research. Sometimes it can be a small change like adding an extra meal along the itinerary. Sometimes the change may result in us altering the tour for the coming year. Ultimately, our goal is to provide you with the most rewarding experience. Please note that our brochure is usually released in November each year. If you have booked from the previous brochure you may find there have been some changes to the itinerary.

VERY IMPORTANT: Please ensure that you print a final copy of your Trip Details to review a couple of days prior to travel, in case there have been changes that affect your plans.

Itinerary Disclaimer

While it is our intention to adhere to the route described below, there is a certain amount of flexibility built into the itinerary and on occasion it may be necessary, or desirable to make alterations. The itinerary is brief, as we never know exactly where our journey will take us. Due to our style of travel and the regions we visit, travel can be unpredictable. The Trip Details document is a general guide to the tour and region and any mention of specific destinations or wildlife is by no means a guarantee that they will be visited or encountered. Aboard expedition trips visits to research stations depend on final permission.

Additionally, any travel times listed are approximations only and subject to vary due to local circumstances.

Important Notes

1. An essential part of your trip is participation - from putting up your tent (while camping) or packing it away in the morning, to helping with meal preparation and cleaning up - it is all part of your adventure and when everyone puts in a little effort the trip will run smoothly. Your CEO will do all the meal planning, but we do ask the clients to help with the preparation and washing up. Team spirit is part of the fun! All camping equipment (with the exception of your sleeping bag and pillow) is supplied. We supply dome tents and assembly/disassembly takes only 5 minutes. All tents have built-in insect nets. Self-inflating mattresses are also provided, which are approximately 4cm thick, warm and comfortable.
2. Sleeping bags are a necessary for this tour, and can be purchased upon arrival if required.
3. In order to cover the vast distance in North America to be able to visit several different parks and cities along our trip, we will have a couple of long driving days.
4. All walks and hikes proposed by our CEO will be easy to moderate level. You may choose to participate or not, but exploring our national parks on foot is part of our way of travelling. It's a healthy way to discover North America's beauty and landscape.
5. Tioga Pass is a route through the Sierra Nevada mountain range of California on the eastern edge of Yosemite National Park, and we travel through the pass en route. In the spring and autumn seasons, there's a chance that the pass will be closed due to poor weather conditions or even snow. In such a case, we use an alternate route. The status of the road is monitored daily, and our travel plan for the area will be confirmed during the trip.

6. Please note that some trips could be a combination of multiple G Adventure tours. You should expect some group members to join or leave the tour between tour segments.

7. The American west is generally known for warm weather, but temperatures do vary significantly in the mountain and desert areas especially. The day time temperature could exceed 30 C, while the night time temperatures do regularly decrease to single digits, or even possible below freezing. Please be prepared for such extreme conditions.

8. Regarding our wi-fi equipped vehicles: we have limited bandwidth, and in the interests of allowing all travellers to access the wi-fi, travellers should limit their access to reasonable levels. Please note that wi-fi is not always available due to areas with limited or no cell phone service (e.g. in parts of national parks).

9. Please note that the legal drinking age in the United States is 21 and in Canada, 19 (with Alberta and Quebec at 18). Many bars and clubs will ask for ID at the door, therefore listening to live music in certain bars or spending a night out in Las Vegas or New Orleans is not possible when you are under the legal age, even if you don't plan on consuming alcohol. Drinking laws in both countries are strictly enforced and our CEOs are unable to help those under age obtain alcohol of any kind.

While this should not stop those under legal drinking age from booking a tour, it is important to note that if a traveller is under-age there are certain optional nighttime activities that they may not legally be able to participate in. When trying to book the right trip, we recommend that travellers under legal drinking age take this into consideration when booking a tour that visits several big cities.

10. A NOTE ON HOMELESSNESS:

San Francisco hosts a considerable population of homeless. Homelessness is a crisis in America, and nowhere is it more evident than here; with as many as 10,000 people without permanent homes, San Francisco has become the homeless capital of America.

As you explore San Francisco with your G Adventures group, you will likely encounter the city's homeless. While we understand the urge to help those in need, we recommend that you not donate directly to people you meet on the street. The best response is to smile, say that you do not have any money and continue on your way.

San Francisco is a beautiful and safe city, and our hotel is ideally situated for further exploring on your own. That said, when exploring independently, we suggest you avoid the area to the southwest of the hotel.

We completely understand that stifling the urge to help out can make you uncomfortable. There are dozens of shelters, food banks and aid organizations dedicated to helping the city's needy, and your CEO will be more than happy to help you make a donation. It really is the best way to make a change.

Group Leader Description

This G Adventures group trip is accompanied by one of our group leaders, otherwise known as a Chief Experience Officer (CEO). The CEO will be the group manager, leader and sometimes the driver - this person is knowledgeable in the routes travelled and will organize and lead the meal preparations and has experience in cooking a variety of local and international dishes for large groups.

As the group coordinator and manager, the aim of the CEO is to take the hassle out of your travels and to help you have the best trip possible. While not being guides in the traditional sense, you can expect them to have a broad general knowledge of the countries visited on the trip, including historical, cultural, religious and social aspects. They will also offer suggestions for things to do and to see, recommend great local eating venues and introduce you to our local friends.

If a group exceeds 16 travellers, there will be a second CEO/CEO Driver co-leading the group to allow for a better overall experience.

While our CEOs are trained and have resources to assist them along the way, the United States is the fourth largest country on the planet, and it is impossible for them to know everything about this massive country. We recommend local guides where we think more specific knowledge will add to the enjoyment of the places we are visiting - we think it's the best of both worlds.

Please note that specific tour guide licenses are required to guide in certain cities and regions, and as such, our CEOs will oftentimes provide brief orientation walks or drives to point out useful places like supermarkets, main squares and ATMs but for more specific or in depth destination information, an official guided tour is recommended.

Group Size Notes

Max 22, avg 16.

Meals Included

18 breakfasts, 12 lunches, 9 dinners

Meals

All included meals will be prepared from goods bought en route from supermarkets, local shops and markets. Breakfasts will generally consist of breads and cereals, if time allows a warm breakfast may be prepared. Many lunches will be provided en-route and will be light meals such as sandwiches and/or salads. All evening meals will be freshly-prepared hot meals, and will consist of a variety of continental and local dishes.

Transport

Air-conditioned private vehicle, walking

About our Transportation

We use 25-passenger vehicles perfect for cross-country road trips on our 18-to-Thirtysomethings tours in the United States. Our new fleet of more cushy vehicles give travellers all the comfort of a big coach bus, but with a small-group experience. They put rider wellbeing first and foremost, with high-backed bucket seats and built-in headrests for all seats on board, huge 92cm-tall (36 in) windows that make every seat a window seat, an aisle way with enough headroom for most of stand upright, sliding seats that free up more shoulder room while on the road, A/C, charging stations, wi-fi, and loads of other features. We use a trailer to carry luggage and camping equipment. These are durable vehicles that allow us to drive on most types of roads in North America.

This is not a physically demanding journey. However, please take note of the travel times and distances in the itinerary. Despite some of the long days, most clients feel that the diversity of the North American landscape, culture and wildlife are all well worth the experience! A typical day of driving will include about six hours driving by one of the CEOs and two to five hours of stops along the way. Keep in mind that North America is a really big place – New York to New Orleans alone is the equivalent of driving across most of Europe, and we cover that much ground in a single week. Driving time is the perfect opportunity to catch up on sleep, relax, and swap stories with your fellow travellers.

While we try to travel into and out of cities during non-rush hour times, heavy traffic is a reality of some of the places we visit. As a result, some drives may be a bit longer than listed in the day-to-day itineraries. Bring your patience and a smile, and we'll get through it!

Solo Travellers

We believe single travellers should not have to pay more to travel so our group trips are designed for shared accommodation and do not involve a single supplement. Single travellers joining group trips are paired in twin or multi-share accommodation with someone of the same sex for the duration of the trip. Some of our Independent trips are designed differently and single travellers on these itineraries must pay the single trip price.

Accommodation

Hotels/hostels (5 nts, some multi-share), participation camping (16 nts).

My Own Room

Please note that if you have booked the "My Own Room/Tent" option for this tour, you will receive your own single room/tent for all nights, except for the below.

Rooming and "My Own Room" Exceptions

Please note that if you have booked the "My Own Room" option for this tour, you will receive your own single accommodation for all night stops, with the following exceptions: Days 1, 15, 16

About Accommodation

Accommodation will be varied throughout your adventure. We use a combination of hotels and hostels, but most of the nights on tour are spent camping in tents in public and private campgrounds.

Multi-share accommodation, on a single-sex basis (typically 4-6 people per room), is common in the U.S. and is the way you will be spending your hostel nights. We have specifically chosen unique accommodations to give local flavor to your trip.

Couples: Please note that due to the types of accommodation used in the U.S., couples will likely be split into separate rooms where we use multi-share hostels. Pending availability, couples may be able to pay extra while on tour to have their own room in some destinations.

All camping equipment (with the exception of your sleeping bag and pillow) is supplied, including camp mattresses, which are warm and comfortable. We supply dome tents that take only 5 minutes to assemble/disassemble. They are good quality, durable, industry-standard 2-person pop-up tents, each with 2 separate and convenient zip-up doors and vestibules, so that each person has his/her own entrance.

We use 2 types of campgrounds in North America:

1. Private campgrounds: These are privately run sites, usually with all services such as fire pits, picnic tables, drinking water, toilets & shower buildings. Some have small outdoor swimming pools and laundry facilities. These campgrounds are typically located near national park entrances or towns.

2. Public campgrounds: These are park-run sites, usually with basic facilities such as fire pits, picnic tables, and drinking water. In some cases, this type of campground doesn't have showers, only pit toilets and a lake! In other locations, toilet and shower facilities may be located outside the campground, or at times in another location a drive away. Some may have shower fees for onsite facilities (\$2-6/shower).

Joining Hotel

For details of your joining hotel please refer to your tour voucher, G Account, the G Adventures App or contact your travel agent.

Joining Instructions

The international airport in San Francisco is located 14 miles (22 km) from downtown San Francisco. When arriving at the International Airport in San Francisco, proceed to the Arrivals Hall, where you have three transport options; public Taxi, door-to-door shuttle or the public Bay Area Rapid Transit (BART).

Taxi

On the Arrivals/Baggage Claim Level continue to the designed taxi zones located at the roadway center islands right outside the Arrivals Hall. Uniformed taxi coordinators will help you with any questions you may have but it should be fairly easy to find a taxi. The approximate fare to downtown San Francisco is \$40 (depending on traffic) plus gratuity.

Door-to-Door Shuttle also known as "Shared-ride Vans"

This is probably the most convenient way to get to your hotel and definitely cheaper than a taxi ride from the Airport. From the Arrivals Hall make your way up one floor (Level 3) to the Departures/Ticketing Level. Proceed to the Center Island Transportation Zone located outside. Again, there will be uniformed coordinators to help you just in case you have any questions. You will see quite a few shuttle companies but wait for the Vans that say either "Go Lorries Shuttle" or "Super Shuttle". The fare to your hotel is between \$15 and \$17 plus gratuity. This shuttle service is on a walk-up basis so it might take a few minutes until you see the right shuttle that will take you to the heart of San Francisco!

BART (Bay Area Rapid Transit) public transportation

The cheapest and definitely the most adventurous way to get to your hotel is by BART. The fare to downtown San Francisco is \$8.10 (approximately 25 min). The BART station is located on the Departures/Ticketing Level of the International Terminal (Boarding Area G side). From any Terminal you can reach BART by taking the AirTrain to Garage G/Bart (no fare). Once at the station you need to get a ticket at the vending machine that accepts cash or credit card. Then you need to enter your ticket into the fare gate. The ticket will be returned to you since you will use the same ticket again when you exit BART at Civic Center/UN Plaza SF. From here you have approximately a ten minute walk. Enjoy the first glimpse of beautiful San Francisco!

Please note that Day 1 is an arrival day and no activities have been planned for that day other than your welcome meeting in the evening, so you can arrive at any time.

Your CEO will organize a short meeting soon after arrival, during which you will meet other tour participants and receive information about general and specific aspects of the trip. A welcome note will be left for you in the hotel so you have all the necessary information regarding the meeting time. If you arrive late, s/he will leave you a message detailing what time and where you should meet the next morning.

Emergency Contact

Should you need to contact us during a situation of dire need, it is best to first call the G Adventures Local Representative. If for any reason you do not receive an immediate answer, please leave a detailed message and contact information, so they may return your call and assist you as soon as possible.

EMERGENCY CONTACT NUMBERS

G Adventures Local Representative (Las Vegas)
From outside the USA: 1-412-423-8143
From within the USA: 412-423-8143

If you are unable for any reason to contact our local representative, please call the numbers listed below which will connect you directly with our Sales team who will happily assist you. Hours of operation by region can be found [here](#).

Toll-free, North America only: 1 888 800 4100
Calls from UK: 0344 272 0000
Calls from Germany: 0800 365 1000
Calls from Australia: 1 300 796 618
Calls from New Zealand: 0800 333 307
Outside North America, Australia, New Zealand, Germany and the UK: +1 416 260 0999

What to Take

You will be on the move a lot, so our advice is to pack as lightly as possible.

For days in the outdoors, we recommend the use of lightweight, breathable, moisture-wicking fabrics made of wool or synthetic fibers. Cotton is not recommended for days spent hiking as it does not allow for heat or moisture to enter or escape, and it will not dry easily once wet.

We recommend using a backpack for your convenience, or a medium-sized suitcase if you prefer. Heavy luggage is not recommended for the health of the CEO, who will take a lead in loading the storage trailer. Due to space in the trailer, we will not be able to accommodate more than one piece of main luggage per person. A good size day-pack (20-35L) is also essential to carry your personal gear for the day, as access to luggage between destinations will be limited. This daypack will be used to carry your personal gear for the day, your lunch and a water bottle.

The American west is generally known for warm weather, but temperatures do vary significantly in the mountain and desert areas especially. The day time temperature could exceed 30 C, while the night time temperatures do regularly decrease to single digits, or even possible below freezing. It is therefore important to pack clothes for warm days and cool evenings - a light jacket is necessary.

Seasonal temperature ranges:
March - May ; September to December: -7 C to +30 C
June - August: 0 C to + 35 C

Additionally, a set of smart casual clothes is also advisable.

Packing List

Camping:

- Bug net/ bug spray
- Day Pack (with water bladder or refillable bottle)
- Flashlight/torch (Headlamps are ideal)
- Hiking boots/sturdy walking shoes
- Sleeping bag and liner, 4 season
- Small travel towel
- Socks
- Sunglasses
- Sunscreen
- Thermal base layer
- Toiletries (Preferably biodegradable)
- Travel pillow
- Watch and alarm clock
- Waterproof daypack cover
- Windproof rain gear (Rain and Windproof rain gear - pants and jacket)
- Your own inflatable sleeping pad (or you can use the one provided)

Cold Weather:

- Long-sleeved shirts or sweater
- Scarf
- Snow Boots
- Warm gloves
- Warm hat
- Warm layers
- Warm waterproof jacket

Documents:

- Flight info (required) (Printouts of e-tickets may be required at the border)
- Insurance info (required) (With photocopies)
- Passport (required) (With photocopies)
- Vouchers and pre-departure information (required)
- Visas or vaccination certificates (With photocopies)

Essentials:

- Toiletries (required) (Shampoo, bodywash, soap, etc.)
- Binoculars (optional)
- Camera (With extra memory cards and batteries)
- Cash, credit and debit cards
- Day pack (Used for daily excursions or short overnights)
- Ear plugs
- First-aid kit (should contain lip balm with sunscreen, sunscreen, whistle, Aspirin, Ibuprofen, bandaids/plasters, tape, anti-histamines, antibacterial gel/wipes, antiseptic cream, Imodium or similar tablets for mild cases of diarrhea, rehydration powder, water purification tablets or drops, insect repellent, sewing kit, extra prescription drugs you may be taking)
- Flashlight/torch (Headlamps are ideal)
- Fleece top/sweater
- Footwear
- Hat
- Locks for bags
- Long pants/jeans
- Moneybelt
- Outlet adapter
- Personal entertainment (Reading and writing materials, cards, music player, etc.)
- Reusable water bottle
- Shirts/t-shirts
- Sleepwear
- Small travel towel
- Sunglasses
- Swimwear
- Watch and alarm clock
- Waterproof backpack cover
- Windproof rain jacket

Health & Safety:

- Hand sanitizer (required)
- Face masks (Clients will be only be required to wear a face mask where it is mandated by local regulations.)
- Pen (Please bring your own pen for filling out documents.)
- Quick Covid Test/Antigen Test

Warm Weather:

- Sandals/flip-flops
- Shorts/skirts (Longer shorts/skirts are recommended)
- Sturdy water shoes/sandals
- Sun hat/bandana
- Swimwear

Note: For evenings out in some cities there will be a dress code. If you wish to participate, please bring a nicer outfit for these occasions. We recommend a nicer pair of shoes and a collared shirt or blouse.

Laundry

Laundry can be done at least once a week while on tour. Some private campgrounds and most cities have laundromats where you can buy soap and wash your laundry in coin-operated machines. Your CEO will advise you along the trip where you will be able to do your laundry.

Visas and Entry Requirements

All countries require a valid passport (with a minimum 6 months validity). Contact your local embassy or consulate for the most up-to-date visa requirements, or see your travel agent. It is your own responsibility to have the correct travel documentation. Visa requirements for your trip will vary depending on where you are from and where you are going. We keep the following information up to date as far as possible, but rules do change and sometimes without warning. While we provide the following information in good faith, it is vital that you check the information yourself and understand that you are fully responsible for your own visa requirements.

Visa information specific to your destination and nationality can be found in our Important Pre-Departure Information page [here](#)

Spending Money

Every traveller is different and therefore spending money requirements will vary. Some travellers may drink more than others while other travellers like to purchase more souvenirs than most. Please consider your own spending habits when it comes to allowing for drinks, shopping and tipping. Please also remember the following specific recommendations when planning your trip.

Money Exchange

The United States currency is the US Dollar (USD).

Credit cards are accepted almost everywhere in the US and can be used to purchase small and large items. When purchasing products or services with a foreign credit card in the USA, you may be charged additional fees by your credit card company for foreign purchases.

Credit cards and debit cards are very useful for cash advances but you must remember to bring your PIN number (be aware that many ATM machines only accept 4-digit PINs). Both Cirrus and Plus system cards are the most widely accepted debit cards. Both Visa and Master Cards are the most widely accepted credit cards. While ATMs are commonly available, there are no guarantees that your credit or debit cards will actually work check with your bank before you travel. A visit to an ATM can be arranged on Day 1 and other days of the trip.

Do not rely on credit or debit cards as your only source of money. A combination of US Dollars as cash (preferably smaller bills, 5's, 10's and 20's), traveller's cheques and credit cards is best. Currency exchange is best obtained prior to travel or at the airport, currency exchange is very difficult to find in the USA and most banks do not accommodate.

Always take more rather than less, as you don't want to spoil the trip by constantly feeling short of funds.

As currency exchange rates can fluctuate often we ask that you refer to the following website for daily exchange rates: www.xe.com

Emergency Fund

Please also make sure you have access to at least an additional USD \$200 (or equivalent) as an 'emergency' fund, to be used when circumstances outside our control (ex. a natural disaster) require a change to our planned route. This is a rare occurrence!

Tipping

It is customary in North America to tip service providers such as waiters, bartenders and taxi drivers, at approximately 18-20%, depending on the service. Tipping is an expected - though not compulsory - component of your tour program and an expression of satisfaction with the persons who have assisted you on your tour. Although it may not be customary to you, it is of considerable significance to the people who will take care of you during your travels. There are times during the trip where there is opportunity to tip any local guides used. Recommendations for tipping local guides would range from \$2-8 USD per activity depending on the quality and length of the service; ask your CEO for specific recommendations based on the circumstances and culture.

Also at the end of each trip if you felt your G Adventures Chief Experience Officer did an outstanding job, tipping is appreciated. The amount is entirely a personal preference; however as a guideline \$5-10 USD per person, per day can be used as a guide. If your CEO(s) exceeded your expectations, feel free to tip more.

Optional Activities

San Francisco

- Alcatraz Visit (33USD per person)
- Fisherman's Wharf Visit (Free)
- Haight-Ashbury Visit (Free)
- Bike Rental San Francisco (8-32USD per person)
- Golden Gate Bridge Visit (Free)
- Cable Car Ride San Francisco (7USD per person)

Yosemite National Park

- Yosemite National Park Hike (Free)
- Yosemite Bike Rental (30-40USD per person)

Las Vegas

- VIP Party Bus Experience (45USD per person)
- Las Vegas Show (60-200USD per person)
- Gambling at Vegas Casino

Hoover Dam

- Hoover Dam Visit (65USD per person)

Grand Canyon National Park

- Grand Canyon IMAX Movie (14USD per person)

Grand Canyon

- Grand Canyon Hike (Free)
- Grand Canyon Helicopter Tour

Monument Valley

- Monument Valley Overnight (150USD per person)

Austin

- Tubing on the Guadalupe River
- SoCo Vintage and Thrift Shopping
- Barton Springs Pool (8USD per person)
- BBQ Dinner
- Country Dancing

New Orleans

- French Quarter and Bourbon St Visit (Free)
- Mississippi River Steam Boat Ride (31-42USD per person)
- Creole Cooking Class (25USD per person)
- Historical Tours (25-30USD per person)
- Café du Monde Visit (10USD per person)
- Optional Welcome Meeting for Travellers on Combos
- Ghost Tour (25USD per person)

Memphis

- Rock & Soul Museum Visit (12USD per person)
- National Civil Rights Museum (15USD per person)
- Sun Studio Visit (14USD per person)
- Graceland Visit (41-61USD per person)

Nashville

- Cowboy Bar Visit (Free-20USD per person)
- Country Music Hall of Fame (25USD per person)
- Johnny Cash Museum (18USD per person)

Shenandoah National Park

- Hike through Shenandoah National Park (Free)

Arlington National Cemetery

- Arlington Cemetery Visit (Free)

Washington D.C.

- National Mall Visit
- White House Visit (Outside) (Free)

Reflecting Pool

- Reflecting Pool and National Mall Visit (Free)

Lincoln Memorial

- Lincoln Memorial Visit

Washington Monument

- Washington Monument Visit (Free)

New York

- Central Park Visit (Free)
- Times Square Visit (Free)
- Empire State Building Visit (32USD per person)
- Brooklyn Bridge Visit (Free)
- Top of the Rock (26-32USD per person)

New York

- 9/11 Memorial Visit and One World Trade Center Observation Deck (24-58USD per person)
- Chinatown Visit (Free)
- Statue of Liberty Visit (18USD per person)

Safety and Security

Many national governments provide a regularly updated advice service on safety issues involved with international travel. We recommend that you check your government's advice for their latest travel information before departure. We strongly recommend the use of a neck wallet or money belt while travelling, for the safe keeping of your passport, air tickets, travellers' cheques, cash and other valuable items. Leave your valuable jewellery at home - you won't need it while travelling. Many of the hotels we use have safety deposit boxes, which is the most secure way of storing your valuables. A lock is recommended for securing your luggage. When travelling on a group trip, please note that your CEO has the authority to amend or cancel any part of the trip itinerary if it is deemed necessary due to safety concerns. Your CEO will accompany you on all included activities. During your trip you will have some free time to pursue your own interests, relax and take it easy or explore at your leisure. While your CEO will assist you with options available in a given location please note that any optional activities you undertake are not part of your itinerary, and we offer no representations about the safety of the activity or the standard of the operators running them. Please use your own good judgment when selecting an activity in your free time. Although the cities visited on tour are generally safe during the day, there can be risks to wandering throughout any major city at night. It is our recommendation to stay in small groups and to take taxis to and from restaurants, or during night time excursions.

Protests and Demonstrations- Protests and demonstrations, even those that are well intended, have the potential to turn violent with no warning. Counter protests can also turn violent. Action by security forces to disperse demonstrators and protesters may occur at any time. If you are in an area where demonstrators or protesters are gathering, avoid the temptation of staying for a good photo opportunity and leave the area immediately.

Water based activities have an element of danger and excitement built into them. We recommend only participating in water based activities when accompanied by a guide(s). We make every reasonable effort to ensure the fun and adventurous element of any water based activities (in countries with varying degrees of operating standards) have a balanced approach to safety. It is our policy not to allow our CEOs to make arrangements on your behalf for water based activities that are not accompanied by guide(s).

Swimming, including snorkeling, is always at your own risk.

We take all prudent measures in relation to your safety. For ways to further enhance your personal safety while traveling, please visit:

www.gadventures.com/travel-resources/safety/

A Couple of Rules

Illegal drugs will not be tolerated on any trips. Possessing or using drugs not only contravenes the laws of the land but also puts the rest of the group at risk. Smoking marijuana and opium is a part of local culture in some parts of the world but is not acceptable for our travellers. Our philosophy of travel is one of respect towards everyone we encounter, and in particular the local people who make the world the special place it is. The exploitation of prostitutes is completely contrary to this philosophy. Our CEOs have the right to expel any member of the group if drugs are found in their possession or if they use prostitutes.

Travel Insurance

Travel Insurance: Travel insurance is compulsory in order to participate on any of our trips. When travelling on a group trip, you will not be permitted to join the group until evidence of travel insurance has been sighted by your CEO, who will take note of your insurance details. When selecting a travel insurance policy please bear in mind that all clients must have medical coverage and that we require a minimum coverage of USD 200,000 for repatriation and emergency rescue. We strongly recommend that the policy also covers personal liability, cancellation, curtailment and loss of luggage and personal effects. If you have credit card insurance we require proof of purchase of the trip (a receipt of credit card statement) with a credit card in your name. Contact your bank for details of their participating insurer, the level of coverage and emergency contact telephone number.

Planeterra Foundation - the non-profit partner of G Adventures

Planeterra International Foundation is a non-profit organization committed to turning travel into impact by helping local communities earn an income from tourism. Planeterra connects underserved local communities to the benefits of tourism by developing and supporting small community-owned

businesses. These businesses support Indigenous people, empower women, grant youth access to employment opportunities, and protect the environment. Planeterra also works to ensure these businesses have a thriving customer base by integrating their projects into G Adventures' itineraries globally.

G Adventures is Planeterra's largest corporate donor, covering all operating costs, so 100% of your donation will bring opportunity to people in need.

G Adventures Dollar-a-day Program - Make Every Day Count - Turn your travel into impact with [Planeterra Foundation](#).

Did you know? Most communities around the world do not benefit from tourism. Give back to the places you visit on your travels by creating opportunities for local people to earn an income, and protect the environment.

Make every day count by donating \$1/day for the length of your trip, and join us in empowering the communities you will visit when you travel. 100% of your donation goes directly to Planeterra projects.

Feedback

After your travels, we want to hear from you! Your feedback information is so important to us that we'll give you 5% off the price of your next G Adventures trip if your feedback is completed on-line within 30 days of finishing your trip. Your tour evaluation will be e-mailed to you 24 hours after the conclusion of your trip. If you do not receive the tour evaluation link in the days after your tour has finished, please drop us a line at customersolutions@gadventures.com and we will send it on to you.

Newsletter

Our adventure travel e-newsletter is full of travel news, trip information, interesting stories and contests. To avoid missing out on special offers and updates from G Adventures, subscribe at www.gadventures.com/newsletters/

Stay current on how our company invests in our global community through our foundation - Planeterra. Sign up for [Planeterra's monthly news](#) to learn more about how to give back and support the people and places we love to visit.

Minimum Age

Minimum age of 18 years for this trip.

International Flights

Check-in times and baggage allowances/restrictions vary by airline and can change at any time. For the most up-to-date information for your flight, please contact your airline. We recommend checking in online in advance to avoid potential delays at the airport.