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Sorry! There are no remaining departures for "Canyon Country & Coasts – Las Vegas to San Francisco" (NUFV), [but here are some similar trips](#).



## **Canyon Country & Coasts – Las Vegas to San Francisco**

16 days, San Francisco to Las Vegas

Trip code NUFV

## What's included

- Your Welcome Moment: Meet Your CEO and Group
- Entrance fees to all national parks, state parks and national monuments with hiking and walking excursions
- Orientation walk in Las Vegas
- Sunset at the rim of the Grand Canyon
- 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, 2016 - October 15th, 2016

# Itinerary

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**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.

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.



## Today's Activities

### ACTIVITY

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.

Day 2

## San Francisco/Big Sur

Catch a glimpse of the Golden Gate Bridge on the way out of one of America's most popular cities. Stop in Monterey before following the winding roads of the coast and checking out Big Sur.

Crashing waves, rolling fog, and sheer rocky cliffs make this journey down California's Coast Highway 1 an unforgettable experience. Marvel at the beautiful coastline and mountain ranges of Big Sur.

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### Meals included

Dinner

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### Today's Activities

Private Vehicle

San Francisco - Big Sur

7h

Approximate distance to Monterey: 185km (115 mi) ; approximate distance from Monterey to Big Sur: 50km (31 mi)

Monterey Visit

Monterey

1h-3h

Look out across the bay, check out the marine life and window shop along Cannery Row. Feeling hungry? Be sure to sample some of many varieties of clam chowder on offer.

Day 3

## Big Sur/Lake Cachuma

Explore Julia Pfeiffer Burns State Park. Continue the impressive journey along Highway 1, which offers breathtaking views of the classic Californian coast. Camp out at Cachuma Lake.

Witness a waterfall cascading from granite cliffs into the ocean at Julia Pfeiffer Burns State Park.

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### Meals included

Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner

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### Today's Activities

Private Vehicle

Big Sur - Lake Cachuma

7h

380km

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

Elephant Seal Rookery

San Simeon

30m

Marvel at this coastline consistently overflowing with marine-life. Once hunted for their blubber to the point close to extinction, elephant seals are now back in droves. Throughout the year, more than 17,000 elephant seals show up on this stretch of beach to give birth, breed, and moult. Bring your camera and capture some memorable moments.

Day 4

## Lake Cachuma/Los Angeles

Be on the lookout for celebrities while passing a few popular sites on the way into California's most glamorous city, Los Angeles.

The CEO will point out a few famous neighbourhoods and landmarks on the drive into town.

For our night in Los Angeles, we give up camping in favour of a more comfortable experience in a hotel.



### Meals included

Breakfast



### Today's Activities

Private Vehicle

Lake Cachuma - Los Angeles

6h

195km

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

Hollywood Visit

Los Angeles

1h

Wander around this iconic locale to find stars along the Walk of Fame; celebrities' handprints, footprints, and signatures in front of Grauman's Chinese Theatre; and views of the Hollywood sign.

Free Time

Los Angeles

Spend the afternoon exploring Los Angeles.



### Optional Activities - Day 4

Santa Monica Pier Visit

Los Angeles

Free

Check out the pier, boardwalk, and some of the city's best shopping at 3rd St Promenade in this beachfront city.

Universal Studios Hollywood

Los Angeles

90-150USD

2h-4h

Get ready for the ultimate Hollywood experience at Universal Studios, home to thrilling theme park rides, live shows, and a real working movie studio. In the evening, check out some of Los Angeles' best shops, restaurants, and cinemas at CityWalk.

Day 5

## Los Angeles/San Diego

Enjoy a free morning in LA. Cruise through Orange County then along the incredible Pacific coastline to San Diego.

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### Meals included

Lunch | Dinner

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### Today's Activities

Free Time

Los Angeles

Enjoy some free time. It's yours to use any way you want!

Private Vehicle

Los Angeles - San Diego

4h

190km

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

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### Optional Activities - Day 5

Venice Beach Visit

Los Angeles

Free

Explore this hangout for the creative and the artistic. Venice is known for its circus-like Ocean Front Walk, and pedestrian promenade highlighting street performers, fortune tellers, artists, and vendors.

Old Town San Diego Visit

San Diego

Free

1h-2h

Learn about San Diego while visiting its many historic sites. Enjoy local food and drinks in the heart of Old Town.

Santa Monica Pier Visit

Los Angeles

Free

Check out the pier, boardwalk, and some of the city's best shopping at 3rd St Promenade in this beachfront city.

Day 6

## San Diego

Enjoy free time in San Diego. Try the fish tacos the city is famous for, and check out the Old Town.



### Meals included

Breakfast | Dinner



### Today's Activities

Free Time

San Diego

Use free time to have an adventure or just sit back and relax on the beach.



### Optional Activities - Day 6

Surf and Boogie Board Rental

San Diego

8-20USD

Boardwalk, bay, beach or surf, rent whatever you need to soak up the sun. Hire a surf board, paddle board, boogie board or kayak to catch the waves your way. Don't forget your sunscreen.

Coronado Island Visit

Coronado

Free

Coronado Island's white-sand beach, mild surf and postcard worthy sunsets, is consistently rated one of the best beaches in the world. If the acclaimed beaches aren't enough, check out the charming bayside district with breathtaking views of the San Diego skyline. Walk, ride, motor in a golf cart; there are many options to get around that don't involve a car.

Old Town San Diego Visit

San Diego

Free

1h-2h

Learn about San Diego while visiting its many historic sites. Enjoy local food and drinks in the heart of Old Town.

Mission Beach Visit

San Diego

Free

Yearn for a classic California beach experience complete with boardwalks, beach cruisers and even a historic roller coaster? Built on a sandbar between the Pacific Ocean and Mission Bay, this beach is perfect for swimmers, surfers, paddle boarders and kayakers alike.

Day 7

## San Diego/Scottsdale

Visit the Imperial Sand Dunes, the largest mass of sand dunes in California. Travel to Scottsdale, touted as "The West's Most Western Town."

In the evening, enjoy a night out in historic downtown Scottsdale. Inspired by America's famous country music, opt to experience a real Western town.

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### Meals included

Breakfast | Lunch

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### Today's Activities

Private Vehicle

San Diego - Scottsdale

8h

600km

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

Imperial Sand Dunes Visit

North Algodones Dunes Wilderness

1h-2h

1km

The Imperial Sand Dunes are part of the Algodones Sand Dune system, beginning in southeastern California near the Arizona border and stretching south to Mexico's state of Baja California. In summer, prepare for temperatures over 38°C (100°F). But luckily it's a dry heat and the nights are cool. Climb the dunes and look for beetles, weevils and wasps endemic to the area.

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### Optional Activities - Day 7

Western Bar Visit

Scottsdale

Free

Nighttime is the best time to experience Scottsdale's Western roots, especially in historic old-time saloons.

Day 8

## Scottsdale/Grand Canyon National Park

Enjoy a picnic, and cool off at Slide Rock State Park. Continue to the Grand Canyon and explore this natural wonder. Enjoy a sunset at the canyon rim.

Get out the camera for this next breathtaking experience while taking in Arizona's famous scenic drive through Oak Creek Canyon to the Grand Canyon.

Note: If you have pre-booked the Grand Canyon Helicopter Ride you will enjoy your 45-50min ride over the canyon either today or tomorrow. Check in with the CEO.



### Meals included

Lunch | Dinner



### Today's Activities

Private Vehicle

Scottsdale - Grand Canyon National Park

8h

400km

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

Slide Rock State Park Visit

Sedona - Lake Havasu City

Jump, swim or slide into the refreshing natural waters at Slide Rock State Park. The red sandstone rock walls and swimming hole create the perfect place for an afternoon dip.

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 8

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.

Day 9

## Grand Canyon National Park

Enjoy free time in Grand Canyon National Park.

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.



### Meals included

Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner



### Today's Activities

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 9

Grand Canyon IMAX Movie

Grand Canyon National Park

14USD

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

Free

1h-4h

1-10km

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.

Day 10

## Grand Canyon National Park/Lake Powell

Travel to Lake Powell and enjoy its deep blue water surrounded by orange-red cliff walls. Take an optional tour of Antelope Canyon.

Opt to take a tour to Antelope Canyon and wander through this breathtaking cave to see beams of light, flowing rock walls, and spiral arches created by flash flooding, wind, and rain.

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### Meals included

Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner

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### Today's Activities

Private Vehicle

Grand Canyon National Park – Lake Powell

4h

240km

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

Free Time

Lake Powell

Relax at the the lake or the pool. Soak up the sun.



## Optional Activities - Day 10

Powell Horseback Riding

Lake Powell

75-135USD

Take scenic trail rides into an area of unspoiled natural beauty with isolated mesas, valleys, buttes, and narrow canyons.

Antelope Canyon Tour

Antelope Canyon

105USD

Named for the pronghorn that used to roam the land, Antelope Canyon is a natural sandstone cathedral created by years of flash flooding, wind, and rain. Tour this breathtaking canyon to discover beams of light, flowing rock walls, and spiral arches and soak in the natural beauty of this surreal place. Book this optional activity on-site with your CEO.

Glen Canyon Dam Visit

Glen Canyon Dam - Lake Powell

Free

Visit this concrete arch dam, the second largest dam of its kind in North America, built to provide hydroelectricity and flow regulation on the Colorado River in Northern Arizona.

Day 11

## Lake Powell/Monument Valley

Take a short hike to Horseshoe Bend, which is shaped by the Colorado River. Opt to discover one of the most majestic places on earth, Monument Valley.

Explore Monument Valley on an optional 4x4 tour led by a Navajo guide. Stay overnight in the Tribal Park to see the sun rise from a perspective very few ever experience!



### Meals included

Breakfast | Lunch



### Today's Activities

Horseshoe Bend Hike

Horseshoe Bend

1h

1km

Take a short hike to this spectacular horseshoe-shaped meander of the Colorado River. Stand atop steep orange-coloured sandstone cliffs and look out at Horseshoe Bend. Peer down more than 300m (1,000 ft) at the emerald river below.

Private Vehicle

Lake Powell - Monument Valley

4h

225km

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



### Optional Activities - Day 11

Monument Valley Overnight

Monument Valley

150USD

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.

Day 12

## Monument Valley/Moab

Magnificent views await in Canyonlands National Park. Catch a gorgeous sunset at Dead Horse Point State Park.

Travel amid spectacular views along the paved scenic drive. Take a break and escape to one of the many trails, providing an unforgettable Canyon Country experience that will last a lifetime.

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### Meals included

Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner

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### Today's Activities

Private Vehicle

Monument Valley - Moab

6h

255km

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

Canyonlands National Park Visit

Canyonlands National Park

Uncover a wilderness of endless canyons and striking buttes carved by the Colorado River and its tributaries. Four distinct districts make up this National Park, preserving a colourful landscape eroded into countless canyons, mesas, and buttes by the Colorado River, the Green River, and their tributaries.

Day 13

## Moab

Hike through the surreal rock formations of Arches National Park. Opt to go rafting, mountain biking or on a Hummer tour.

Explore Arches National Park, carved and shaped by eons of weathering and erosion. It contains the world's largest concentration of natural stone arches. Explore the park's viewpoints and hike to sandstone fins, massive balanced rocks, and soaring pinnacles.



### Meals included

Breakfast



### Today's Activities

Arches National Park Visit

Arches National Park

1h-5h

Wander throughout this red rock wonderland filled with countless arches, hundreds of soaring pinnacles, massive fins, and giant balanced rocks carved and shaped by eons of weathering and erosion. Explore viewpoints and hike in this National Park that contains the world's largest concentration of natural stone arches.

Free Time

Moab

Free time to explore Moab or have an adventure in the great outdoors.



### Optional Activities - Day 13

Rafting

Moab

57USD

4h30m-5h

Take the opportunity to hit the rapids and whitewater raft on the mighty Colorado River through red rock canyons and inspiring scenery. Get your adrenaline pumping while crashing through the waves aboard a raft with a highly trained river guide.

Mountain Biking

Moab

103USD

7-20km

Take a professionally guided tour in this mountain biking mecca and set your wheels in motion. Ride through stunning red rock terrain among views that go on forever.

Hummer Tour

Moab

88-180USD

2h-4h

Experience a rush of freedom travelling by Hummer. Climb to the top of seldom-seen enchanting overlooks and visit secluded canyons and hidden arches.

Day 14

## Moab/Bryce Canyon National Park

Drive along isolated Scenic Byway 12 into the heart of the American West before reaching Bryce Canyon National Park.



### Meals included

Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner



### Today's Activities

Private Vehicle

Moab - Bryce Canyon National Park

8h

445km

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

Capitol Reef National Park Visit

Capitol Reef National Park

Travel through twisting canyons, massive domes, monoliths, and spires of sandstone in this stunning and surreal National Park. Stop to look at petroglyphs etched in rock walls and painted pictographs that are sacred remnants of ancient Indians.

Day 15

## Bryce Canyon National Park/Las Vegas

Travel past towering cliffs and massive canyon walls in Zion National Park, and hike diverse and exciting trails (weather permitting). Explore Las Vegas and stroll along the famous Vegas Strip. Opt to take a VIP party limo experience.

Boasting endless hiking possibilities, the region that the Virgin River has sculpted into a profound landscape masterpiece is a great setting to spend the afternoon. High plateaus, striking towers, temples, mesas, and the earth's tallest-known sheer sandstone walls surround visitors with their awe-inspiring beauty.

For the night 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.



### Meals included

Breakfast | Lunch



### Today's Activities

Private Vehicle

Bryce Canyon National Park - Las Vegas

7h

Approximate distance to Zion: 144km (89 mi); approximate distance from Zion to Las Vegas: 270km (168 mi)

Zion National Park Visit

Zion National Park

Admire monumental sandstone cliffs of cream, pink, and red that tower into the sky. Experience diverse plant and animal life, and wade through water in a narrow slot canyon as the park transitions from desert to forest. Gaze at the awe-inspiring beauty of the high plateaus, striking towers, temples, mesas, and the earth's tallest-known sheer sandstone walls.

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 15

VIP Party Bus Experience

Las Vegas

45USD

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.

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.)

Day 16

## Las Vegas

Depart at any time.

We highly recommend booking post-accommodation to fully experience this entertaining city.



### Today's Activities

Departure Day

Not ready to leave? Your CEO can help with travel arrangements to extend your adventure.

## What's included

- Your Welcome Moment: Meet Your CEO and Group
- Entrance fees to all national parks, state parks and national monuments with hiking and walking excursions
- Orientation walk in Las Vegas
- Sunset at the rim of the Grand Canyon
- Self-inflating mattresses and dome tents
- All transport between destinations and to/from included activities

## **What are the main highlights of this trip?**

Stroll the streets of San Francisco, stargaze in Los Angeles, peer over the Grand Canyon rim, hike the best of the West's national parks, drive California's scenic Highway 1.

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## **Is there a disclaimer I should read before booking this trip?**

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**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.

## **Is there a travel disclaimer for my itinerary I should review before booking this trip?**

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.

# What important notes should I be aware of before the trip?

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. Proper sleeping bags are necessary for this tour. Evening temperatures can reach -9°C - 0°C. Please ensure that your sleeping bag is rated to (-17°C for spring and fall trips and 0°C for trips June - Sept). If you prefer you can purchase a proper sleeping bag on the first day of the trip. Prices range from \$40-\$60USD.
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. 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.
6. 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.
7. 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).
8. 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.

## 9. 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.

## **What is the group leader like?**

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.

## **How large will the group be?**

Max 22, avg 16.

## **What meals are included in this trip?**

11 breakfasts, 10 lunches, 9 dinners

## What are the meals like on this trip?

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.

## What are the modes of transportation on my trip?

Air-conditioned private touring van

## What transportation will we take on this trip?

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!

## Is there an extra cost for travelling solo?

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.

## Where will we stay during the trip?

Hotels/hostels (4 nts, some multi-share), participation camping (11 nts)

## Will I get 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.

## Do any exceptions apply to Rooming or “My Own Room” on my tour?

Day 12

## What kind of accommodation can I expect on this trip?

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).

## What is the 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.

# What are the joining instructions?

## Taxi

Taxis are available at Terminal 1 (Level 1) at the door exits 1-4 on the east side of the baggage claim (follow signs). Uniformed coordinators are there to help you if you have any questions. The fare will be approximately \$30-\$40. Most taxis accept credit cards as well but make sure you ask before you want to use it otherwise it's easier with cash. Be in awe as you see Las Vegas, the city of lights for the first time close up!

## Shuttle Service

All shuttle transportation is located at Terminal 1 (Level 1) on the west side of the baggage claim between door exits 7-13 (follow signs). It really doesn't matter which one you choose, they all cost about \$18-\$20 (excluding tip) to your Joining Hotel.

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.

\*\* Please note that if your tour starts at Golden Nugget Hotel, you should head to the Gold Tower front desk, Keys/Mail window and mention that you are with the G Adventures group and ask for the Hotel Manager or Asst Manager for group check in.

# Who should I contact in case of an emergency?

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

## Are there any additional packing suggestions I should consider?

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.

# What should be on my 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
- 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
- Headphones (Noise-cancelling recommended)
- 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

**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.

## **When can I do my laundry on this trip?**

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.

## **What are the visas and entry requirements for my trip?**

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](#)

## **What should I consider when planning my personal expenses and discretionary spending for this itinerary?**

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.

## What should I know about currency, credit cards, and exchanging money while on this tour?

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](http://www.xe.com)

## How much emergency money should I bring on this trip?

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!

## Should I be tipping on my trip?

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.

## What activities are optional on this trip?

- Optional activity prices are subject to change and can fluctuate in relation to the high/low season and the number of people on a specific excursion. Not all excursions listed here may be available, due to season or weather conditions. As generally not a lot of time is spent in start/end cities, you may want to arrange to arrive early, or stay longer after the trip in order to allow sufficient time to participate in optional activities there. Please see the full itinerary for information on optional activities, descriptions and estimated pricing.

## What do I need to know to about safety and security on my trip?

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/](http://www.gadventures.com/travel-resources/safety/)

## What rules should I know before joining this trip?

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.

## Is travel insurance required for my trip?

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.

## What is Planeterra?

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.

## How can I share feedback about my trip experience?

Earn 5% off your next G Adventures Tour (up to \$100 USD)\*

After your travels, we want to hear from you! Your feedback information is so important to us and to thank you for your time, we are pleased to offer a 5% discount (up to a maximum of \$100 USD) off your next G Adventures holiday. All you need to do is submit the form within 4 weeks of the completion of your tour, and you'll be able to join the thousands of travellers who have taken 2, 3, 4 or even 10 or more tours with us!

Discount cannot be combined with other offers or applied to 'Independent' style trips. Maximum discount value is \$100 USD (or equivalent currency). Valid for new bookings only. G Adventures reserves the right to withdraw or modify this offer at any time without notice. Limited to one discount per person.

## Does G Adventures have an email newsletter I can subscribe to?

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/](http://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.

## How old must I be to join this trip?

Minimum age of 18 years for this trip.

## Are international flights included in this trip?

No, international flights are generally not included in the price of your tour.

However, on some combo tours travelling between two different countries, international flights are included as part of the itinerary and price of the tour. Please speak to your GCO or booking agent for further details.

In addition, 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.

## What should LGBTQ+ travellers know about safety and travel considerations on this trip?

The safety and well-being of all of our travelers is a priority at G Adventures and that includes our travelers who identify as part of the LGBTQ+ community. We recognize that there are specific concerns and questions you may have about your adventure in terms of safety and security. We encourage you to visit our [LGBTQ+ page](#) for useful resources to ensure you feel safe and comfortable throughout the duration of your trip. The Equaldex tool linked on this page can be of particular help when deciding where you may want to visit next.

## 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.