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USA & Canada Road Trip: West Coast Discovery

21 days, Los Angeles to Vancouver

Trip code NUUC

What's included

- Your Welcome Moment: Meet Your CEO and Group
- Your First Night Out Moment: Connect With New Friends
- Your Big Night Out Moment: Spring Break , Lake Havasu
- Your Discover Moment: Banff
- Entrance fees to all national parks with hiking and walking excursions
- London Bridge visit (Lake Havasu)
- Sunset at the rim of the Grand Canyon
- Death Valley visit
- Columbia Icefield stop
- Half-day canoeing excursion in Wells Gray PP
- Half-day whale watching tour by Zodiac
- Self-inflating mattresses and dome tents while camping
- 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 May 2nd, 2017 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

Los Angeles

Arrive at any time.

Tonight head out in La La Land and party like the stars. Get to know your fellow travel tribe in a place where the buzzing nightlife is just begging to be explored. Your only goal this evening is to sit back, relax, eat some grub, down a margarita, and get to know your newest friends as the adventure begins.

Enjoy free time in Santa Monica, where the hostel is located, and check out the famous pier or hit the beach. Consider booking pre-tour accommodation if you'd like to see all of the popular sights in the area.



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.

ACTIVITY

Connect with new friends on your first night out in a new destination. Only available on 18-to-Thirtysomethings tours.



Optional Activities - Day 1

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.

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.

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 2

Los Angeles/Lake Havasu

Wake up in the “City of Angels” before heading inland to the desert. Don't forget to watch for celebrities on the way out of California's most glamorous city. Gear up for your visit to Joshua Tree National Park. It might be short and sweet but no less impactful. Trek amongst the boulders and famous Joshua trees and find the unexpected beauty and serenity of such a barren landscape. Then cool off with some of your buddies in the crystal-clear waters off Lake Havasu.



Meals included

Dinner



Today's Activities

Private Vehicle

Los Angeles - Joshua Tree National Park

3h

435km

Includes stops

Joshua Tree NP Hike

Joshua Tree National Park

1h-2h

2km

Hike the trails in Joshua Tree NP, get up close to the iconic trees, climb a rock outcrop and watch for desert wildlife.

ACTIVITY

Release your inner “spring breaker” and let loose with your group at a spring break themed party at camp in Lake Havasu. Share some throwback stories of your younger party days, play some games, and laugh around the fire together as the milky way joins you in the night sky.

Start your day by visiting London Bridge (an exact 1800s replica shipped to Arizona from London) before heading off to Grand Canyon National Park. Grab a buddy or set off on your own into one of the deepest canyons in the world. Flip a coin to decide if you should hike along the rim or down into the canyon itself (just remember if you hike down you must hike up). All that effort will be worth it because guess what? You will get to enjoy a pizza dinner at the rim while watching sun set before you. The South Rim might end up being the best spot you have ever eaten a slice of 'za!

In the morning, discover something unexpected, the London Bridge, in Lake Havasu City. Continue across vast desert landscapes to one of the earth's greatest on-going geological spectacles: the Grand Canyon. Take short hikes at the most spectacular gorge in the world and enjoy a pizza dinner at the rim as you view the stunning sunset.



Meals included

Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner



Today's Activities

London Bridge Visit

Lake Havasu City

30m

From spanning the Thames to crossing the Colorado River, check out the 1800s London Bridge shipped from England and rebuilt in Lake Havasu City, Arizona.

Private Vehicle

Joshua Tree National Park - Grand Canyon

9h

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

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.

Grand Canyon Hike

Grand Canyon

1h-4h

1km

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!

Another day, another adventure! Not feeling a hike this morning? That's cool, you have the option to splurge on an unforgettable helicopter ride over the Grand Canyon. Get ready to feel incredibly small as the world opens up at your feet. Then cruise along historic Route 66 en route to... Vegas baby! Discover ghost towns and funky roadside attractions and bask in the fading sun as you head into "Sin City". Explore the Las Vegas strip for a truly unforgettable evening of fun with your fellow trip mates. If you decide you want to cruise Vegas in style head out on an optional VIP party limo ride.

For our night in Las Vegas, we stay close to the action in a hotel in the city centre.

Pre-book a bird's-eye view of the Grand Canyon with an optional helicopter flight, or a Vegas strip Party Bus experience on the checkout page ahead of time to include this optional on your tour.



Meals included

Breakfast



Today's Activities

Private Vehicle

Grand Canyon - Las Vegas

6h-7h

480km

Includes stops along Route 66.

Seligman (Route 66) Visit

Seligman

Take a trip back in time to the birthplace of Route 66. Established in the early 1900s as the first transcontinental highways in the U.S, Route 66 has a lot of history on it's original length of almost 2,500 miles. Starting in Chicago, Illinois and travelling through Missouri, Kansas, Oklahoma, Texas, New Mexico, and Arizona, before ending at the ocean in Santa Monica California. The creation of the Interstate system bypassed the majority of Route 66, creating ghost towns along it's original route, though there are a few iconic Americana towns still delivering experiences from the past. Check out the historic general store, original motels, and don't forget to get your kicks!

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 4

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.

Las Vegas Show

Las Vegas

60-200USD

3h-4h

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.)

Vegas Strip Visit

Las Vegas

Free

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.

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 5

Las Vegas/Sierra Nevadas

Experience a land of extremes in Death Valley National Park. Visit the driest, the hottest, and the lowest places in the U.S. From Badwater Basin to Zabriskie Point and Dante's View to Furnace Creek – it is easy to fall in love with this desolate landscape. The adventure doesn't stop here you'll continue on to Bishop for a night of campfires, stories, and don't forget s'mores!



Meals included

Lunch | Dinner



Today's Activities

Private Vehicle

Las Vegas – Bishop

7h

450km

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.

Sierra Nevadas/Yosemite National Park

Yosemite can best be described as out of this world. Catch a glimpse of the beauty on the drive from Bishop through the Sierra Nevadas along Tioga Pass. Once in the park itself let your mind wander as you hike past roaring waterfalls and giant sequoias. Gaze in wonder at Yosemite's magnificent peaks and granite domes before turning your attention to the tranquil nature of the valley floor. Snap photos or simply take in the splendour of one of the country's most beautiful national parks.

With a keen eye, you may be lucky enough to spot black bears, deer or coyotes.

We intend to use the Tioga Pass, a scenic route through the Sierra Nevada mountain range that connects Bishop with Yosemite NP. In the spring and autumn seasons, there's a chance the pass will be closed due to poor weather conditions or even snow. In this case, we use an alternate route, and 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.



Meals included

Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner



Today's Activities

Private Vehicle

Bishop - Yosemite National Park

7h

305km

Includes stops

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.



Optional Activities - Day 6

Yosemite National Park Hike

Yosemite National Park

Free

1h-6h

1-15km

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

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.

Day 7

Yosemite National Park/San Francisco

Catch a glimpse of the Golden Gate Bridge on the way into one of America's most popular cities. Ride a cable car, walk down winding Lombard Street, indulge in some erotic shaped treats in the Castro District, get lost at the botanical garden, chill out at Baker's Beach and simply enjoy being in the moment.

Opt to pre-book the "Sunset Sailing - San Francisco" activity on the checkout page ahead of time to include this optional on your tour.



Meals included

Breakfast | Lunch



Today's Activities

Private Vehicle

Yosemite National Park - San Francisco

6h

225km

Includes stops.

Free Time

San Francisco

Spend the afternoon exploring this incredible city.



Optional Activities - Day 7

Alcatraz Visit

San Francisco

33USD

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.

Cable Car Ride San Francisco

San Francisco

7USD

1h-3h

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

Bike Rental San Francisco

San Francisco

8-32USD

1h-5h

1-15km

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.

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.

Sunset Sailing San Francisco (Mon-Wed)

San Francisco

Depart from Fisherman's Wharf and catch a glimpse of marine life as we sail around San Francisco Bay. Admire the city's remarkable skyline, get up close and personal with the infamous Alcatraz Island, and sail underneath the Golden Gate Bridge. Enjoy the sunset and make a mental note to return.

Day 8

San Francisco/Calgary

Bid farewell to the States and fly north of the border to Calgary. Get to know new members of your group on a night out together. Hit up the Ship and Anchor Pub—a Calgary institution. Enjoy live music, great entertainment, local ales, and some pretty tasty grub in an authentic pub. So grab a beer sit on the patio or at the bar and make some endless connections as the next leg of your adventure begins.



Today's Activities

Plane

San Francisco - Calgary

Look! Up in the sky! It's a bird! It's a plane! It's... yup, it is a plane, actually.



Optional Activities - Day 8

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.

Day 9

Calgary/Banff

As the day begins spend some of your time discovering the quiet beauty of Banff, a resort town located within Banff National Park. Take some pictures of the wildlife, stroll the shop-lined streets, or hike up a mountain for some spectacular views of the town below. Finish the day off with a dip into a natural hot spring or treat yourself to some pampering at one of the many spas in town.



Meals included

Lunch



Today's Activities

Private Vehicle

Calgary - Banff

1h30m-2h

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

Banff National Park Visit

Banff

Magnificent Banff—Canada's first and most famous National Park. Rocky Mountain peaks, turquoise glacial lakes, scenic drives, and a quaint mountain town. First, gaze in wonder, then immerse yourself in a park that has it all! Hike alongside picture-perfect mountains, glaciers, lakes, ice fields, canyons, and even hoodoos. Keep an eye out for wolves, grizzly bears, elk, and mountain lions. Banff's blend of towering peaks and flower-strewn meadows make it a dream location to enjoy the great outdoors and mountain scenery.



Optional Activities - Day 9

Tunnel Mountain Hike

Tunnel Mountain

Free

2h-3h

1-5km

Hike up the well marked trail for a central view of the town of Banff and the surrounding mountains.

Cycling

Banff

36.75-93.45CAD

1h-3h

1-10km

Rent a bicycle to see a bit more of Banff. Be sure to be on the lookout for elk and deer on the trails.

Canoeing

Banff

57.75CAD

2h-3h

Rent a canoe and leisurely enjoy the scenery on Vermillion Lakes.

Hot Springs Soak

Banff

17.32CAD

Take a dip in Banff's world famous hot spring mineral pools, which have brought weary travellers to this place since the 1800's. There's no better way to unwind after a long day of exploring than to simmer in these water's with an epic mountain view.

Johnston Canyon Hike

Johnston Canyon

Free

1h30m-2h30m

1-5km

Johnston Canyon is certainly an area that shows the power of nature and time; rushing water carves a path through the limestone canyon and potholes form over the years from plunging waterfalls.

Banff Gondola Ride to Sulphur Mountain

Banff National Park of Canada

75-90CAD

2h-3h

Take a gondola to the famous Sulphur Mountain and enjoy the spectacular view of the whole mountain range and the village below.

Day 10

Banff/Lake Louise

Grab a camera or simply gaze in wonder at the beauty of Lake Louise. Hike with a group to the Agnes Lake Tea House, or lose your sense of time along the Plain of Six Glaciers Trail.



Meals included

Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner



Today's Activities

Private Vehicle

Banff - Lake Louise

1h30m

90km

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

Lake Agnes Tea House Hike

Lake Louise

2h30m-5h

6km

Originally built in 1901 by the Canadian Pacific Railway, the Lake Agnes Tea House has been serving fine loose-leaf teas to visitors for over one hundred years. Hike along a forested trail as you make your way past Mirror Lake and cascading waterfalls, to the shores of Lake Agnes. This lovely log building serves up a great cup (over 100 loose-leaf teas!) as well as finger food. The hike to the Tea House is free, but it costs between 5-10 CAD if visitors wish to buy loose-leaf tea while there.



Optional Activities - Day 10

Plain of Six Glacier Hike

Lake Louise

Free

4h-6h

10-14km

This historic trail follows the shores of Lake Louise, eventually pushing out into a scenic assembly of peaks and glaciers. Stop and enjoy a cup of tea at the cozy, remote Plain of Six Glaciers Tea House.

Day 11

Lake Louise

You'll be skipping with joy into the beauty of Yoho NP. Visit Emerald Lake, whose vibrant waters rival those of famed Lake Louise and Takkakaw Falls – the second highest waterfall in Canada. Choose to go whitewater rafting in the afternoon along the Kicking Horse River or take advantage of a rare opportunity to visit a Grizzly Bear refuge. Skip the crowds, sip a cold beer by the aquamarine waters, and simply enjoy the untamed beauty of this lesser-known Canadian park.



Meals included

Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner



Today's Activities

Private Vehicle

Lake Louise – Yoho National Park of Canada

1h-2h

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

Takkakaw Falls Visit

Takakkaw Falls

Get ready for an awesome sight: Takkakaw Falls is one of the highest waterfalls in Canada, with a free fall of 254m (833 ft)!

Emerald Lake Hike

Emerald Lake Lodge

1h30m-2h

5km

Discover the beautiful wilderness setting of Emerald Lake and its surroundings, popular for sightseeing, canoeing, and hiking. Skirt around the lake and enjoy the incredible scenery.

Private Vehicle

Yoho National Park of Canada – Lake Louise

1h

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



Optional Activities - Day 11

Kicking Horse River White Water Rafting

Kicking Horse River

110-135CAD

3h-4h

Raft on one of the most famous rivers in Canada. The Kicking Horse River is the ultimate whitewater rafting destination in the Rocky Mountains and is guaranteed to provide the thrill of a lifetime.

The Fairmont Chateau Lake Louise Visit

Lake Louise

Free

Visit one of the most iconic hotels in Canada. This beautiful hotel was rebuilt after a fire in 1924 and stands looking out at the breathtaking Lake Louise and the Victoria Glacier.

Grizzly Bear Refuge Visit

Golden

40CAD

Visitors are given the opportunity, as part of a one-of-a-kind interpretive tour, to watch a grizzly bear interacting much as it would in the wild: foraging, hunting, playing, swimming, and, of course, snoozing.

Make your way to stunning Jasper via the Icefield Parkway. The beauty is so spectacular you may find yourself holding your breath as you drive one of the most scenic mountain landscapes on Earth. The parkway offers an unforgettable journey through a vast wilderness of magnificent peaks, pristine mountain lakes, and broad sweeping valleys. Along the way you will stop at Bow Lake and the Columbia Icefield Centre, where you can choose to walk with an expert guide atop the still active Athabasca Glacier. Tonight, kick back and relax near a campfire in Jasper.

To travel the icefield parkway is to experience one of Canada's national treasures and most rewarding destinations. Stretching 230km (155 mi) between Lake Louise and the town of Jasper, the parkway offers easy access to one of the most spectacular mountain landscapes on Earth. This is a wonderful journey through the heart of the Canadian Rockies, a vast wilderness of magnificent peaks, pristine mountain lakes, and broad sweeping valleys. Stop at Columbia Icefield for an unforgettable experience. Continue on to Jasper. In the evening, set up your camp and enjoy a nice warm campfire.



Meals included

Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner



Today's Activities

Private Vehicle

Lake Louise - Jasper

9h-10h

290km

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

Bow Lake Visit

Bow Lake

30m-1h30m

1km

Visit the stunning turquoise waters of this mountain-rimmed lake.

Columbia Icefields Center Visit

Columbia Icefield

1h-2h

View one of the Rockies' largest and most accessible active glaciers. The Athabasca Glacier recedes at a rate of nearly 5m (16.4 ft) a year. See this natural beauty while you still can.

Icefields Parkway Drive

Banff - Jasper

The Icefields Parkway is a breathtaking drive situated between Banff and Jasper National Parks in Alberta, Canada. Experience the wild beauty of the Canadian Rockies on a winding drive through jagged mountain peaks and past glaciers feeding into brilliant blue lakes. Along the way expect to see postcard mountain vistas, huge valleys, and loads of hiking trails that will get you out and about in this truly incredible area.



Optional Activities - Day 12

Athabasca Glacier Ice Walk

Athabasca Glacier

112CAD

3h-4h

2-5km

At the Columbia Icefields, enjoy a glacier walk with an expert guide on the lower Athabasca Glacier to explore and understand the life of this active glacier. Walking on this glacially carved landscape is an experience you won't soon forget.

Glacier Adventure

Columbia Icefield

99CAD

Travel onto the glacier in an oversized ice rover. Get out and experience the stunning alpine glacial vistas at the mid-point of your journey. Afterwards, bask in the view of a lifetime on the epic Glacier Skywalk, a glass bottom viewing platform stretching out into the Rockies.

Day 13

Jasper

Wake up in the alpine town of Jasper amid snow-capped mountains and glacier lakes. Stroll through Maligne Canyon, the deepest gorge in the Canadian Rockies. The trail is an easy loop that is full of waterfalls, bridges, dense pine forests, and streams that seem to pop out of nowhere. Take the rest of the morning to explore Jasper NP. Rent a canoe and get out on Maligne Lake with your friends, seek some thrills whitewater rafting on the Athabasca River, or simply take it all in. Then spend the afternoon losing yourself in this lively mountain town.



Meals included

Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner



Today's Activities

Maligne Canyon Hike

Maligne Canyon

30m-1h30m

1km

Maligne Canyon follows an interpretive trail with several bridges. Hover over the Maligne River that, over thousands of years, has eroded the canyon to over 60m (197 ft) in some spots.

Free Time

Jasper

Stroll the streets of beautiful Jasper.

Jasper National Park Visit

Jasper National Park

Jasper National Park might be less known, but no less mighty. As the largest park in the Canadian Rockies, Jasper is wild in every sense of the word. Experience mountain landscapes complete with waterfalls, canyons, glacier lakes, and the Columbia Icefield. Get out and explore on rugged backcountry trails chock-full of wildlife and take part in outdoor activities like, mountain biking, or skiing, to experience the true essence and beauty of this impressive park.



Optional Activities - Day 13

Whitewater Rafting on Athabasca River

Jasper National Park

65-110CAD

Pass through many small sets of rapids and calm stretches, which allow your National Park Licensed guide to point out the natural and human history of Jasper. The Athabasca River is the same route that was used by the fur traders many years ago.

Bald Hills Hike

Jasper National Park

Free

13km

The Bald Hills hike has a fairly steep incline. The 10km (6.2 mi) round trip will showcase the best panoramas of Maligne Lake and numerous mountains surrounding the lake.

Canoe Ride

Maligne Lake

84-215.25CAD

1h-3h

1-4km

Rent a canoe from the longstanding Boathouse on Maligne Lake.

Boat Cruise to Spirit Island & Maligne Lake

Maligne Lake

75.60-109.20CAD

Glide across the beautiful blue waters of Maligne Lake, the Canadian Rockies' largest glacial fed lake, on your way to the famous Spirit Island.

Day 14

Jasper/Wells Gray Park

Get an early start today as you and the group head further west towards British Columbia. Pass the majestic peak of Mount Robson, the tallest mountain in the Canadian Rockies. Stop at the visitor centre and grab your next “Insta” photo on the large viewing deck before jumping back in the van to continue on to Wells Gray PP.



Meals included

Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner



Today's Activities

Private Vehicle

Jasper - Wells Gray Park

10h

380km

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

Mount Robson Visit

Mount Robson

30m-1h

1km

Stop at the visitor centre and, if it's a clear day, see the top of the Mount Robson, the tallest peak in the Canadian Rockies.



Optional Activities - Day 14

Spahats Creek Falls Visit

Wells Gray Park

Free

Visit an impressive waterfall in Wells Gray Park. Spahats is the First Nations term for bear, which has is the name of the stream that flows to the falls.

Head out for an exciting adventure canoeing in the Canadian wilderness. Take this time to laugh and be silly with your friends or paddle off to quieter coves for some peace and reflection. After a lunch on the shore overlooking Clearwater Lake you will stop at some of the most fascinating waterfalls in the park, including Helmcken Falls – world famous for being three times taller than Niagara Falls.



Meals included

Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner



Today's Activities

Canoeing in Wells Gray

Clearwater Lake – Wells Gray Park

4h-6h

2km

Get in a boat and start paddling! Enjoy canoeing on beautiful Clearwater Lake with local guide and an included shore lunch.

Dawson Falls Visit

Wells Gray Park

30m-1h

1km

Enjoy a visit to this wide waterfall that spans the Murtle River. In spring and early summer, thousands of litres of water rush over the falls every second -- it's a spectacular sight.

Helmcken Falls Visit

Helmcken Falls

30m-1h

1km

Set in a lush canyon, the world famous Helmcken Falls is the most iconic in the "Waterfall Park" -- it's three times the height of Niagara Falls! Enjoy the spray and beautiful scenery on your visit here.

Day 16

Wells Gray Park/Whistler

Today, is a travel day, but never fear you'll have no time to be bored. There will be plenty of opportunities for conversation, reflection, and taking photos as you drive from the densely wooded forests of Wells Gray PP through the Canadian desert and into the coastal mountains of BC. Remember, it's often the longer days that create the best bonding experiences for you and your new mates.



Meals included

Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner



Today's Activities

Private Vehicle

Wells Gray Park - Whistler

7h30m-8h

Estimated Travel Time to Whistler: 10 hrs (including lunch stop in Marble Canyon Provincial Park)

Marble Canyon Visit

Marble Canyon

30m-1h

1km

The clear waters of Turquoise Lake in Marble Canyon PP make it an ideal spot to stop for a swim in the summer.

You can opt out of today's hike if you'd prefer to spend the whole day exploring other parts of Whistler.



Meals included

Breakfast | Lunch



Today's Activities

Free Time

Whistler

Get out and explore beautiful Whistler.

Whistler Hike

Whistler

Hike on your own along one of the many beautiful trails in the Whistler area. The scenery here is stunning. You can also opt for the Train Wreck Trail or take the peak to peak gondola to hike one of the many alpine trails accessible from the summit. Your CEO will NOT be guiding you on this hike. You can opt to do it solo or with your group. Ask your CEO to point you in the right direction.



Optional Activities - Day 17

Whistler Hike

Whistler

Free

Hike on your own along one of the many beautiful trails in the Whistler area. The scenery here is stunning. You can also opt for the Train Wreck Trail or take the peak to peak gondola to hike one of the many alpine trails accessible from the summit. Your CEO will NOT be guiding you on this hike. You can opt to do it solo or with your group. Ask your CEO to point you in the right direction.

Rafting

Whistler

145.60-196.00CAD

4h-5h

Get your adrenaline fix on on this exhilarating white water rafting trip. Enjoy the amazing scenery along the way, and keep your eyes peeled for bears.

Peak 2 Peak Gondola Ride

Whistler

95.20CAD

1h30m-3h

Soak up the scenery with 360-degree views of mountains, lakes, and glaciers. Hop out at the top and take a short hike or grab a coffee and snack at the mountaintop restaurant. Catch a glass bottom gondola to get an even better view.

Squamish Lil'wat Cultural Centre Visit

Whistler

22.40CAD

Take a trip back to a time of ancient traditions, and learn about the history and culture of two First Nations groups who have called this region home for centuries. Try playing drums, making traditional crafts, and listen to stories from members of the Squamish and Lil'wat communities for an authentic First Nations experience.

Ziplining and Treetop Adventures

Whistler

155.68CAD

1h-4h

Spend the day in the sky, floating through Whistler's rainforest on one of Canada's longest ziplines.

The outdoor adventures are far from over. Take a ferry across to Vancouver Island and dance beneath ancient Douglas firs in MacMillan Provincial Park. You'll arrive in time to witness a gorgeous west coast sunset. In the morning take a short drive to the ferry terminal before embarking to Nanaimo, also on Vancouver Island. Continue driving to Tofino on the far west of the island and experience stunning scenery, wildlife, and some pretty awesome photo ops along the way.

In the morning, drive a short distance to the ferry terminal. Taking a ferry to Nanaimo on Vancouver Island is an exciting part of the adventure of getting here. BC Ferries offers an outstanding service that travels through some of the most beautiful scenery in the world. In the afternoon, continue to drive to Tofino, just in time for sunset.



Meals included

Breakfast | Dinner



Today's Activities

Private Vehicle

Whistler - Horseshoe Bay

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

Ferry

Horseshoe Bay - Nanaimo

1h30m-2h

55km

Hop on a ferry from Horseshoe Bay to Nanaimo.

Private Vehicle

Nanaimo - Tofino

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

The Old Country Market

Coombs

Come by this beloved Vancouver Island attraction near Parksville to grab a meal, explore the market, and watch the goats on the roof -- yes, really!

MacMillan Provincial Park Visit

MacMillan Park

30m-1h30m

1km

Enjoy a visit to beautiful MacMillan Provincial Park. Cathedral Grove, located in the park, is one of the most accessible stands of giant Douglas fir trees on Vancouver Island. Stroll through a network of trails under the shadow of towering ancient Douglas fir trees, majestic pillars untouched by the modern world, some more than 800 years old.

Day 19

Tofino

Get up close and personal with mother nature today on a half-day whale watching tour by Zodiac. Make a bet with your group and see who can spot the most orcas and other wildlife off of Tofino's coast. In the afternoon soak in views of this rugged and untamed landscape and spend time exploring endless stretches of beach. From hikes through rainforests to catching waves out in the Pacific Ocean Tofino is an outdoor adventurers' paradise. Whatever you decide the time is yours just make sure to grab your fill of this unique surfer town before it's time to move further south.



Meals included

Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner



Today's Activities

Whale Watching Zodiac Tour

Tofino

2h30m-3h

Your excursions take you through the pristine waters of Clayoquot Sound, revealing sensational scenery and wildlife, such as gray whales, sea lions, seals, porpoise and killer whales (orcas).

Free Time

Tofino

Get out and leave no stone unturned.

Day 20

Tofino/Victoria

It's off to Victoria today! Breathe in the lush smell of old growth forests and daydream as the island scenery passes you by. Stop at the Old Country Market in Coombs where you can buy souvenirs, grab a bite to eat, or simply sit and watch goats amble by on the roof above. Arrive in Victoria just in time to watch the sunset over the water. Then take the rest of the evening to relax in the city or hangout with your group and tell stories because there's no doubt you have some by now!



Meals included

Breakfast | Lunch



Today's Activities

Private Vehicle

Tofino - Victoria

6h

325km

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

The Old Country Market

Coombs

Come by this beloved Vancouver Island attraction near Parksville to grab a meal, explore the market, and watch the goats on the roof -- yes, really!

Free Time

Victoria

Get out and explore Victoria.



Optional Activities - Day 20

Butchart Gardens Visit

Victoria

44.24CAD

Visit this famous National Historic Site of Canada. The Butchart Gardens are absolutely stunning floral show gardens.

Royal British Columbia Museum Visit

Victoria

20.16CAD

1h-3h

Filled with local human and natural British Columbian history, the BC Royal Museum always has a unique cultural and artistic exhibit on showcase.

Hop on a ferry back to the mainland. The trip ends upon arrival in Vancouver, but we recommend taking some time to discover this beautiful, moody, and invigorating city before you head home. Visit top sights like Stanley Park, Gastown, and the Vancouver Lookout as the day carries on. Not ready to say good-bye yet? Book some additional post-trip accommodation nights to keep your adventure going...because let's face it, taking one more day off is always worth it before heading back to reality.

Please note this trip ends on arrival to Vancouver. If you are interested in exploring Vancouver and its nearby attractions, it is recommended you book additional post-trip accommodation nights.



Meals included

Breakfast



Today's Activities

Private Vehicle

Victoria - Swartz Bay

30m-45m

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

Ferry

Swartz Bay - Tsawwassen

2h

Get to the next spot on your route aboard a convenient and efficient ferry boat.

Private Vehicle

Tsawwassen - Vancouver

1h

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

Departure Day

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

What's included

- Your Welcome Moment: Meet Your CEO and Group
- Your First Night Out Moment: Connect With New Friends

- Your Big Night Out Moment: Spring Break , Lake Havasu
- Your Discover Moment: Banff
- Entrance fees to all national parks with hiking and walking excursions
- London Bridge visit (Lake Havasu)
- Sunset at the rim of the Grand Canyon
- Death Valley visit
- Columbia Icefield stop
- Half-day canoeing excursion in Wells Gray PP
- Half-day whale watching tour by Zodiac
- Self-inflating mattresses and dome tents while camping
- All transport between destinations and to/from included activities

What are the main highlights of this trip?

Stargaze in Los Angeles, experience a Grand Canyon sunset, roll the dice in Las Vegas, hike in Yosemite National Park, create a postcard-perfect photo in Jasper National Park, be awed by the mighty Rockies, get up close and personal with Canadian wildlife.

What are the main highlights of this trip?

Stargaze in Los Angeles, experience a Grand Canyon sunset, roll the dice in Las Vegas, hike in Yosemite National Park, create a postcard-perfect photo in Jasper National Park, be awed by the mighty Rockies, get up close and personal with Canadian wildlife.

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

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.

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. Comfortable, self-inflating mattresses are also provided, which are approximately 4cm thick.
 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 \$60-\$150USD.
 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 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 in the US: 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).
- Wifi is only available in vehicles during the US portion of this tour.
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. Please note that luggage fees are NOT included on domestic flights in the USA. Fees can range from \$25 - \$50 USD for standard checked-bag fees. Additional fees may be required for bags weighing more than 23 kg/ 50 lbs. In some cases, a fee may be charged for carry on bags as well.

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?

16 breakfasts, 15 lunches, 13 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 vehicle, hiking, ferry, plane, walking.

What transportation will we take on this trip?

UNITED STATES

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.

CANADA

For this part of the trip we use 15-passenger vans for up to 12 people plus the CEO/Driver. For groups of 8 and more travellers, we also use a trailer to carry luggage. These durable vehicles allow us to drive on most types of roads in North America.

Each van has a front passenger seat and 4 benches that will accommodate 3 people each with mandatory seat belts to keep us secure and safe. No standing is permitted in these vehicles.

This is not a physically demanding journey, but with limited space in the van, long drive days can be difficult. Please take note of the travel times and distances in the above itinerary. There is air conditioning to cool things down on warm days to keep everyone more comfortable. Despite some of the long days, most travellers feel that the diversity of the North American landscape, culture and wildlife are all well worth the experience!

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 make the most of 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 (2nts), hostels (2nts, multi-share with 4-6 people, participation camping (16 nts).

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

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 day 1, 7

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 Canada 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 North America, 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 comfortable camp mattresses. We supply dome tents that take only 5 minutes to assemble/disassemble. They are good quality, durable, industry-standard, oversized 2-person tents, each with 2 separate and convenient zip-up doors, 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).

For our nights in Tofino, BC we will be staying at a campground that does not have showers. The campsite offers amazing access to the beach and surrounding areas. Showers are available in town for a fee

For our nights camping in Banff there may not be a shower at the campground. If this is the case the CEO will arrange for a trip to town for showers.

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?

When arriving at the Los Angeles International Airport (LAX) proceed to the Arrivals Hall. From LAX, you have a few transportation options to get to the Joining Hotel, which is 25 miles away: public taxi, door-to-door shuttle also known as “Shared-ride Vans”, or a ride sharing app such as Uber or Lyft.

Taxi

The taxis are located outside of each terminal on the Lower/Arrival Level islands marked with a yellow sign. The cost is approximately \$50 plus gratuity but can vary greatly depending on arrival times.

Door-to-Door Shuttle also known as “Shared-Ride Vans”

This is probably the most cost effective way to get to your hotel and definitely cheaper than a taxi ride from the Airport. You will see quite a few shuttle companies, but you can save money and receive detailed joining locations by pre-booking at www.supershuttle.com. The fare to your hotel is around \$15-20 plus gratuity.

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.

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.

NOTE: Mountains in the Canadian Rockies can have unpredictable weather with snow and heavy rain even in Summer time. Spring time could be snowy (until end of June) and fall season could start as soon as mid-August. Make sure you have equipment and clothing for all conditions!

What should be on my packing list?

Health & Safety:

- Face masks (Clients will be only be required to wear a face mask where it is mandated by local regulations.)
- Hand sanitizer
- Pen (Please bring your own pen for filling out documents.) 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), and in Canada the currency is the Canadian Dollar (CAD).

Credit cards are accepted almost everywhere in North America and can be used to purchase small and large items. When purchasing products or services with a foreign credit card, 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

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?

Los Angeles

- Universal Studios Hollywood (90-150USD per person)
- Venice Beach Visit (Free)
- Santa Monica Pier Visit (Free)

Las Vegas

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

Grand Canyon

- Grand Canyon Helicopter Tour

Yosemite National Park

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

San Francisco

- Alcatraz Visit (33USD per person)
- Bike Rental San Francisco (8-32USD per person)
- Sunset Sailing San Francisco (Mon-Wed)
- Fisherman's Wharf Visit (Free)
- Golden Gate Bridge Visit (Free)
- Optional Welcome Meeting for Travellers on Combos
- Cable Car Ride San Francisco (7USD per person)
- Haight-Ashbury Visit (Free)

Tunnel Mountain

- Tunnel Mountain Hike (Free)

Banff

- Cycling (36.75-93.45CAD per person)
- Canoeing (57.75CAD per person)
- Hot Springs Soak (17.32CAD per person)

Johnston Canyon

- Johnston Canyon Hike (Free)

Banff National Park of Canada

- Banff Gondola Ride to Sulphur Mountain (75-90CAD per person)

Lake Louise

- Plain of Six Glacier Hike (Free)
- The Fairmont Chateau Lake Louise Visit (Free)

Kicking Horse River

- Kicking Horse River White Water Rafting (110-135CAD per person)

Golden

- Grizzly Bear Refuge Visit (40CAD per person)

Athabasca Glacier

- Athabasca Glacier Ice Walk (112CAD per person)

Columbia Icefield

- Glacier Adventure (99CAD per person)

Jasper National Park

- Whitewater Rafting on Athabasca River (65-110CAD per person)
- Bald Hills Hike (Free)

Maligne Lake

- Canoe Ride (84-215.25CAD per person)
- Boat Cruise to Spirit Island & Maligne Lake (75.60-109.20CAD per person)

Wells Gray Park

- Spahats Creek Falls Visit (Free)

Whistler

- Whistler Hike (Free)
- Rafting (145.60-196.00CAD per person)
- Peak 2 Peak Gondola Ride (95.20CAD per person)
- Squamish Lil'wat Cultural Centre Visit (22.40CAD per person)
- Ziplining and Treetop Adventures (155.68CAD per person)

Victoria

- Butchart Gardens Visit (44.24CAD per person)
- Royal British Columbia Museum Visit (20.16CAD per person)

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/

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/

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.