NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC | G Adventures
EXPEDITIONS
FAMILY JOURNEYS

Last Updated: October 31, 2026



SOUTHWEST FAMILY JOURNEY: SEDONA, ZION & THE GRAND CANYON

8 days, Phoenix to Las Vegas

Trip code NUPNF

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- Your Welcome Moment: Welcome Moment - Meet Your Expedition Leader and Group, Phoenix
- Your Family Journeys Moment: Verde Canyon Train Ride, Sedona
- Your Family Journeys Moment: Antelope Canyon Kayaking Adventure, Page
- Arrival transfer
- National park fees (other than non-resident national park fees)
- Zion National Park visit and guided hike
- Antelope Canyon guided kayak visit
- Horseshoe Bend hike
- Grand Canyon National Park visit
- Verde Canyon train ride
- Free time in Sedona, Zion, and the Grand Canyon
- All tips included for activities and meals, except for Expedition Leaders and porterage
- 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, 2028 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.

Itinerary Notes

Prices are based on double occupancy; all other room configurations are on request and cannot be guaranteed. We will accommodate triples/quads whenever possible. Please call for further details.
Family Journeys are designed for groups traveling with children between the ages of 7 and 17. Your group must include a child in order to book, and anyone under the age of 18 must be accompanied by an adult.

Day 1 PHOENIX

Welcome to Phoenix–your arrival transfer to the hotel is included. Check in and get excited to meet your fellow travelers during a welcome meeting this evening where all families can bond before the Journey ahead.

TODAY'S ACTIVITIES

ACTIVITY

Your opportunity to meet your National Geographic Expedition Leader 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.

Arrival Transfer | Phoenix | 15m | 8km

Sit back and scan the scenery during your included arrival transfer from the airport to your joining hotel in Phoenix.

Day 2 PHOENIX/SEDONA

Your day begins with a visit to Montezuma Castle to explore a window into the region's past. The castle was the third National Monument dedicated to preserving Native American culture and was established in December 1906. Depart for Verde Canyon, where you'll climb aboard a private afternoon train car and ride the rails of the historic route from Clarkdale to Perkinsville. Continue through a protected corridor along the rippling green waters of the Verde River, bordered by towering red rock pinnacles, fortified bridges and a tunnel carved through solid rock. n the evening, arrive at the hotel, where dinner will be at your leisure. Return to the hotel in Sedona and enjoy an evening at your leisure.

Meals included

Breakfast | Lunch

TODAY'S ACTIVITIES

Private Vehicle | Phoenix – Sedona | 2h15m | 238km

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

Montezuma Castle Visit Montezuma Castle National Monument 1h

Glimpse back in time over 800 years, to view one the most preserved ancient cliff dwellings in North America. Once a 45-50 room residence, some 20 rooms remain tucked into the side of a limestone cliff.

ACTIVITY

See the abundance of flora, fauna, and rugged, high-desert rock formations in a canyon only accessible by rail. Step aboard a private train car and travel for four hours and 20 miles through the untouched and unspoiled Verde Canyon. Watch the daylight as it glimmers over the rippling green waters of the Verde River. Look up the canyon walls into the brilliant blue skies of this deep gorge and travel from Clarkdale to Perkinsville and back. On the return journey the canyon takes on an entirely new appearance as the shadows grow taller in the shifting sun. This heritage railroad has existed in harmony with nature and its inhabitants since 1912.

Day 3 SEDONA

Enjoy a morning on your own to explore Sedona with your family. You may choose to hit the trails on a hike, where you can explore the area's stunning scenic surroundings, which includes everything from caves to canyons, red rocks and natural bridges. Reconvene for a picnic lunch before taking to the terrain on a guided jeep tour, where you'll travel down unpaved trails and canyons while learning about the native landscape, wildlife and geological history of the area. You'll also get spectacular views of Sedona's iconic red rock formations. Return to the hotel in Sedona and enjoy an evening at your leisure.

Meals included

Breakfast | Lunch

TODAY'S ACTIVITIES

Free Time Sedona

Enjoy a free morning to explore Sedona on your own as a family, and perhaps walk along some of the nearby hiking trails

Sedona Jeep Tour Sedona 2h

Set off on an adventurous 2-hour jeep tour through Sedona's iconic red rock landscape. Enjoy spectacular views, explore canyons, winding trails, and learn about the geological history and wildlife of the native landscape.

Day 4 SEDONA/GRAND CANYON

Spend the day exploring one of nature's most spectacular natural formations—the Grand Canyon. Marvel as the vastness unfolds before you and the land drops almost straight down for more than 3,280 ft (1,000 m) into the rainbow-colored canyons below. In the morning explore along the rim of the canyon, then spend the afternoon on your own. Choose to view iconic park structures at the Historic Village District, then descend below the canyon rim on your own along the Bright Angel Trail to see 2,000-year-old rock art and 250-million-year-old fossils. Other options include a visit to the Yavapai Geology Museum, a walk along the South Rim or watching a documentary at Grand Canyon IMAX Theater. In the evening, there will be an optional pizza dinner on the rim of the canyon overlooking the setting sun—an unforgettable experience for your entire family.

Meals included

Breakfast

TODAY'S ACTIVITIES

Private Vehicle Sedona – Grand Canyon National Park 2h 192km

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

Grand Canyon National Park Visit Grand Canyon

Spend the day exploring the Grand Canyon. Marvel as the land drops almost straight down for more than 3,280 ft (1,000 m) into the canyons below. Choose to walk along the South Rim, watch a documentary at the IMAX theater, visit the Yavapai Geology Museum, or descend below the rim along the Bright Angel Trail.

Optional Activities - Day 4

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 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 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.

Bright Angel Trail Hike Grand Canyon National Park Free 3h-9h 14-19km

Hike towards the heart of the Grand Canyon on the spectacular Bright Angel Trail. Descend into the canyon to experience its natural beauty in a way most visitors miss. Journey to Indian Garden, and depending on group fitness and the season, continue on to Plateau Point.

Grand Canyon Sunset Pizza Grand Canyon

Find a spot to sit and dig in to the most scenic dinner you've ver had! Enjoy some pizza as the sun sets over the Grand Canyon offering breathtaking views while the canyon walls glow red and orange in the fading light. This is truly one of the great wonders. Enjoy the moment.

Day 5 GRAND CANYON/ZION NATIONAL PARK

Get an early start to the day with a visit to the mighty Horseshoe Bend on the way to Page, Arizona. Stand on the steep vermillion cliffs overlooking the horseshoe bend in the Colorado River, which was formed 5 to 6 million years ago. Enjoy a picnic lunch in Page before an unforgettable, private kayak adventure through a section of Antelope Canyon that is only accessible by water. Paddle alongside your knowledgeable and experienced guides as you explore this stunning sandstone slot canyon while learning about its history. Along the way, jump into the refreshing water for a swim in the

shadows of the massive canyon walls. This evening, arrive at your accommodations in Zion and have dinner at your leisure.

Meals included

Breakfast

TODAY'S ACTIVITIES

ACTIVITY

Hop aboard a kayak for a 2.5-hour private, guided trip through the very scenic Antelope Canyon. This canyon is one of the most famous slot canyons in the entire world. Float through the waters of the Colorado River alongside your experienced guides. Pass by sandstone canyon walls with the orange and red hues contrasting against the deep blue water below. Paddle through calm water and listen to an insightful interpretation of the canyon and its history. Part way through there will be an opportunity to jump in the water for some swim time and a much needed cool down. Splash in the refreshing water and marvel at the thick walls of the canyon high about you against a cloudless sky.

Private Vehicle Page – Zion National Park 2h 176km

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

Private Vehicle Grand Canyon National Park – Page 2h30m 216km

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

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.

Day 6 ZION RANCH

Enjoy a full free day exploring the many amenities and activities at the ranch. Opt in for activities like, horseback riding, hiking, jeep tours, canyoneering and more! You may also choose to relax with a rejuvenating yoga flow, sit by the pool or just admire the magnificent landscape that surrounds you. You may also choose to go on a walk in search of the diverse plants and animal life in the area of the

park that transitions from desert to forest. In the evening, join together with your fellow travelers for dinner. At night, be sure to head outside for some stargazing beneath the infinite sky.

Meals included

Breakfast | Dinner

TODAY'S ACTIVITIES

Free Time Zion

Spend the day free in Zion and opt to indulge in the many amenities at the Ranch in Zion where the group will be staying. Choose to go horseback riding in the vast property, hike along the available trails, jump on a jeep tour, try canyoneering, or sign up for a relaxing yoga section. At night there will be time to stargaze into the infinite dark sky above.

Day 7 ZION NATIONAL PARK/LAS VEGAS

Travel further into Zion National Park for a guided hike along the Emerald Pool Trail. This 3-mile loop features a striking desert oasis in the middle of the park. The trail follows along a small, verdant stream, which collects in a series of pools. There are 3—upper, middle and lower—making this hike one of the most peaceful destinations in Zion Canyon. Lunch will be on your own in Springdale before you continue on to Las Vegas. In the evening, attend a farewell dinner with your fellow travelers.

Meals included

Breakfast | Dinner

TODAY'S ACTIVITIES

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.

Hiking Zion National Park 3h-5h 5km

Set out on a guided hike with your Expedition Leader along the Emerald Pool Trail in Zion National Park. Enjoy the three-mile loop featuring a striking desert oasis in the middle of southwestern Utah. Wander along a trail that follows a small stream that collects in a series of pools along the way.

Private Vehicle Zion National Park – Las Vegas 3h 256km

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

Day 8 LAS VEGAS

Depart at any time.

Meals included

Breakfast

TODAY'S ACTIVITIES

Departure Day

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

What's included

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What are the main highlights of this trip?

Embark on a jeep tour through Sedona discovering the area's landscapes wildlife and geological history, Take a private train car ride on the Verde Canyon Railway travelling along the historic route and admiring red rock pinnacles desert foliage and rugged terrain, Explore the rocky buttes limestone cliffs and colorful ravines of the iconic Grand Canyon, Hop aboard a kayak for a guided tour of Antelope Canyon where you'll explore sections that are only accessible by water, Set out on a guided hike along a striking desert oasis in the very center of Zion National Park.

Itinerary Notes

Prices are based on double occupancy; all other room configurations are on request and cannot be guaranteed. We will accommodate triples/quads whenever possible. Please call for further details.

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

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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.

Are there Itinerary notes?

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

All parents/guardians are required to supervise their children at all times throughout the tour and may not leave their child under the supervision of the Expedition Leader, local guides, drivers, etc. Children are not to be left unattended.

Please note that on all Family Adventures one adult can only accompany up to two minors. If you have over two minors planning on travelling then a second adult will be required to attend.

NON-RESIDENT NATIONAL PARK FEES :
Standard entrance fees to the National Parks visited on this trip are included in your trip price. From January 2026 onward, the US National Park Service is introducing an additional 'US Non-Resident Fee' to enter National Parks included in this trip. This fee is applicable to passengers who are not US residents and separate from the entrance fees included in your trip. These fees range from USD 100 to USD 250 per person. These fees need to be paid locally (USD cash) and are in addition to your trip payment. On Day 1, your Expedition Leader will facilitate the processing of these fees for all travelers who are impacted

TRAVEL DAYS
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.

WALKS AND HIKES - OPTIONAL
All walks and hikes proposed by our Expedition Leader 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.

LAS VEGAS HOTELS
Las Vegas is known for glitz and glamour, and is an adult's playground for the senses. However, hotel standards are different than in many other cities. Most hotels have thousands of rooms and an onsite casino open 24 hours a day, which can cause large crowds and excessive noise. Smoking is also permitted indoors in casinos. Although we only use non-smoking rooms on our tours and do our best to offer a smoke free environment, please be aware that standards may result in smoke permeating non-smoking areas of hotels.

ACCOMMODATION NOTE:
Please be aware that properties we stay in with only two stories may not have elevators installed and climbing the stairs with your luggage will be necessary.

What is the role of the group leader during this trip?

All National Geographic Family Journeys with G Adventures group trips are accompanied by two of our National Geographic Expedition Leaders. The aim of the Expedition Leader is to take the hassle out of your travels and to help you have the best trip possible. They will provide information on the places you are travelling through, offer suggestions for things to do and see, recommend great local eating venues and introduce you to our local friends. 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. We also use 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.

What is the maximum and typical number of participants on this tour?

Max 20.

What meals are included in this trip?

7 breakfasts, 2 lunches, 2 dinners

What are the modes of transportation on my trip?

Private vehicle, 4x4 vehicle, hiking, walking, train.

Where will we stay during the trip?

Hotels (7nts).

If I choose to purchase My Own Room, are there any exceptions during the trip?

Please note that if you have booked the "My Own Room" option for this tour, you will receive your own single room for all night stops

What should I expect from the accommodations on this trip?

Rooming is based on double occupancy (2 passengers / 2 beds per room); all other room configurations are on request and cannot be guaranteed. We will try to accommodate triples/quad requests whenever possible and it's important to note that rooming configuration can change from city to city and 2 single beds are the standard configuration in a room.

Please remember that hotel/lodge standards can be different from what you are used to in your home country, which is part of the appeal of adventure travel.

This trip uses comfortable 3 star hotels, well located in cities and close to National Parks. Our chosen hotels vary in size, character, and amenities, but are of a very good standard, and the rooms are double occupancy with a private bathroom.

What are the joining instructions?

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

An arrival transfer is included when you arrive on Day 1, or if you arrive up to three days prior provided that you have booked your pre-accommodation through National Geographic Journeys in our joining hotel. Due to customer experience and quality considerations, all services related to the tour must be continuous.

Our driver will be waiting for you with a National Geographic Journeys sign, and they will be waiting for you outside the luggage hall. If for any reason you are not met at the airport, please call our local support line. If you are unable to make contact for whatever reason, please make your way to the joining point hotel via taxi.

WELCOME MEETING TIME: 18:00

Please note that day 1 is an arrival day and no activities have been planned on this day.

Upon arrival to your Joining Hotel (note that check-in time will be in the afternoon), look for a note or bulletin board in the reception with a note from your National Geographic Expedition Leader. This note will give the details of your Welcome Meeting on day 1 (usually between 5pm and 7pm), where you will get a chance to meet your Expedition Leader and other travellers, as well as learn more about how the tour will run. If you don't see a note, please ask reception for details!

If you are arriving later and will miss the Welcome Meeting, your Expedition Leader will leave a note at reception for you with any information you may need, and with morning instructions for the next day.

What should I do if I can't find my airport transfer or experience arrival issues?

We don't expect any problems, and nor should you, but if for any reason you are unable to commence your trip as scheduled, please refer to the emergency contact details provided in this dossier and contact us as soon as possible. If you have a pre-booked transfer, and you have not made contact with our representative within 30 minutes of clearing customs and immigration, we recommend that you make your own way to the Starting Point hotel, following the Joining Instructions. Please apply to your travel agent on your return for a refund of the transfer cost if this occurs.

Who do I contact for arrival issues or in the event 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.

AIRPORT TRANSFER
If you have purchased an arrival through G Adventures or if an arrival transfer is included in the cost of your tour, please note that:

Your arrival transfer has been arranged based on flight information provided to us. If you are advised of a flight schedule change or flight cancellation within 48 hours of your scheduled arrival time, please call the emergency contact number to advise of your new arrival flight information. If you do not, we will not be able to rearrange your arrival transfer and you will need to make your own way to the starting hotel at your own expense. If your arrival transfer does not arrive within 30 minutes after you have exited the arrivals area please take a taxi to your start point hotel.

EMERGENCY CONTACT NUMBERS

G Adventures Local Representative (Las Vegas)
From outside the USA: 1-725-201-1494
From within the USA: 725-201-1494

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

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

What are the packing guidelines and luggage restrictions?

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 Expedition Leader, 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.

It is important to pack clothes for warm days and cool evenings, as well as a light jacket. A set of smart casual clothes is also advisable.

What should I pack for this trip?

Cold weather:

- Long-sleeved shirts or sweater
- Scarf
- Warm gloves
- Warm hat
- Warm layers

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:

- Footwear (required) (Closed toe suggested)
- 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
- 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

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.)

Warm Weather:

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

Where can I do my laundry on this trip?

Your Expedition Leader 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), 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

What emergency funds do I need access to 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!

What are the tipping guidelines for this trip?

Local tipping is included on this Family trip which covers local guides, drivers and gratuity for included meals. At the end of your trip if you felt your two National Geographic Expedition Leaders did an outstanding job, tipping is appreciated. The amount is entirely a personal preference; however as a guideline $10-15 USD per person, per day can be used as a guide. If your Expedition Leaders exceeded your expectations, feel free to tip more.

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.

What activities are optional on this trip?

Grand Canyon National Park

- Grand Canyon South Rim Visit
- Grand Canyon IMAX Movie
  (14USD per person)
- Bright Angel Trail Hike (Free)

Grand Canyon

- Grand Canyon Hike (Free)
- Grand Canyon Sunset Pizza

What general safety tips and free-time guidelines should I follow?

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 jewelery 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 group leader has the authority to amend or cancel any part of the trip itinerary if it deemed necessary, due to safety concerns. Your National Geographic Expedition Leader 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 and explore at your leisure. While your Expedition Leader 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 judgement 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. 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 Expedition Leaders 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. Read more about travel safety for ways to further enhance your personal safety while traveling.

What are the mandatory group rules regarding laws and behaviour?

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 people in the sex trade is completely contrary to this philosophy. Our Expedition Leaders have the right to expel any member of the group if drugs are found in their possession or if they utilize the services of paid sex workers, in any capacity.

What are the mandatory travel insurance requirements for this trip?

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 leader, who will take note of your insurance details. When selecting a travel insurance policy we require that at a minimum you are covered for medical expenses including emergency evacuation and repatriation. A minimum coverage of USD200,000 is required. We strongly recommend that the policy also covers personal liability, cancellation, curtailment and loss of luggage and personal effects. Some tours include adventure activities that require extra coverage (e.g. crampon use); please review your itinerary and make sure that you are covered for all included activities. 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.

What are the age restrictions for this trip?

Minimum age of 7 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 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.