

Utah – Mighty Five National Parks



Trip Summary

Journey through red rock heaven on this multisport adventure featuring Utah's "Mighty Five" national parks – Canyonlands, Arches, Capitol Reef, Bryce, and Zion. The surreal scenery and variety of activities, all located within a relatively small geographical area, make this unforgettable adventure an easy way to check 5 of America's 59 parks off your bucket list!

Itinerary

Day 1: Grand Junction / Canyonlands National Park / Moab

Begin your trip with early-morning pickups in Grand Junction by your guides, followed by a welcome meeting • Sit back and relax on a 2.5 hour shuttle to our first national park of the trip – Canyonlands! • We'll explore Utah's largest national park with a few short hikes, eyeing the skyward-jutting spires and needles, deep craters, majestic buttes and blue-hued mesas that dot the landscape • Check into your accommodation and head to your first group dinner in Moab • *Overnight at Canyonlands Inn (L, D)*

Day 2: Fisher Towers / Moab

After a hearty breakfast, depart Moab for a hike to Fisher Towers • These towers are world renowned for their exciting rock-climbing routes and have been a favorite subject of photographers for years • After this beautiful hike, we settle in for a BBQ lunch at a nearby lodge • Mid-afternoon, enjoy some downtime during the heat of the afternoon by either relaxing poolside, exploring downtown Moab or grabbing a drink at a local brewery • Tonight, we meet back up for dinner at one of our favorite restaurants in town • *Overnight at Canyonlands Inn (B, L, D)*

Day 3: Arches National Park / Red River Ranch

We check out of our hotel early this morning to beat the crowds and the heat at Arches National Park • Hike into Delicate Arch for an awe-inspiring sunrise viewing, perfect for photographers • Then we head to Devil's Garden where we'll be sure to not only happen upon famous Landscape Arch, but also a few of our guides' favorite arches in the area • After lunch, we shuttle through the heat of the afternoon to Capitol Reef National Park (3.5 hour transfer) • Check in to Red River Ranch and enjoy dinner in the quaint town of Torrey nearby • *Overnight at Red River Ranch (B, L, D)*

Day 4: Capitol Reef National Park / Bryce Canyon National Park

This morning, we enjoy a short hike into our third national park, Capitol Reef • Native Americans once called this colorful landscape of tilted buttes, jumbled rocks and sedimentary canyons the Land of the Sleeping Rainbow • Early afternoon, we drive to Bryce Canyon National Park (3 hour transfer) • Upon arrival, embark on an introductory trek taking in Bryce Canyon's sorbet-colored, sandcastle-like hoodoos and spires • Check into your Bryce Canyon lodging before a casual dinner with the group • *Overnight at Bryce Canyon Grand (B, L, D)*

Day 5: Bryce Canyon National Park

After a hearty breakfast, embark on a hike through the magical hoodoo rock formations of Bryce's Peek-A-Boo and Queens Garden trails • Trek through natural sculpted rock gardens of brilliantly colored spires, cliffs, and natural amphitheaters and take in the jaw dropping views from Rainbow Point • Share your favorite parts of Bryce Canyon with the group as you dine with everyone at



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Bryce Pines • If you are a night owl, be sure to take advantage of one of the clearest night skies around and try your hand at finding some of the constellations • *Overnight at Bryce Canyon Grand (B, L, D)*

Day 6: Bryce Canyon National Park / Zion National Park

This morning, we look for the fifteen small arches along the aptly-named Arches Trail just outside Bryce • Shuttle into Zion through an entrance that will leave you in awe as you wind through the magnificent canyon walls and towering cliffs that make up this majestic park (2 hour transfer) • Hike to Angel's Landing, one of the top-rated hikes in the world, before checking into your lodging for the next two nights, SpringHill Suites • Take the evening to enjoy dinner on your own in Springdale • *Overnight at SpringHill Suites (B, L)*

Day 7: Zion National Park

Explore more of the wonders that Zion has to offer today • Spend a full day walking and wading along the Virgin River, into the sheer walled canyon of the Narrows • Soak up the captivating scenery as you pass waterfalls, natural springs and hanging gardens • The Narrows hike is recognized as one of America's best adventures by *National Geographic* and is one that you will not soon forget • Take time to relax and reflect at the Inn before our farewell dinner at Bit & Spur • *Overnight at SpringHill Suites (B, L, D)*

Day 8: Zion National Park / Las Vegas

Take one last hike through Zion National Park before we shuttle to Las Vegas for drop-off at the airport in Las Vegas (3 hour transfer w/ 1 hour time change) • *No overnight (B)*

**Trip itineraries are subject to change without notice due to road, weather and other factors outside of our control, for the safety and enjoyment of our guests, as deemed necessary and appropriate by Austin Adventures.*

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Activities

Hiking: 1 to 8 miles per hike, easy to strenuous terrain (sometimes multiple shorter hikes will be completed within one day).

Discovery: Learn about how the Canyonlands contain over 200 million years of geological history, and continues to serve as an outdoor laboratory for scientists from all over the world. From the Island in the Sky's Upheaval Dome to the Grabens area of the Needles, Canyonlands possesses many uncommon landforms. Stare up in awe at the 900 foot Titan at Fisher Towers: the first climb took place in 1962 and was sponsored by the National Geographic Society! Discover why Moab, with its unique combination of beautiful red rock scenery, two national parks, and the cool waters of the Colorado River, is one of the most sought out vacation destinations in the west. Check out Capitol Reef National Park's centerpiece – the Waterpocket Fold, a 100-mile monocline (buckle in the earth's crust) that blocked explorers' westward migration as a reef blocks a ship's passage. Learn about Canyon Country geology, including hoodoos, arches, alcoves and fins. Known for its slot canyons, soaring towers and monoliths, and scenic sandstone, Zion National Park is full of unique formations begging to be explored. Delve into the 150 million year old history of Zion canyon's geologic formations. Bryce Canyon National Park, named after Ebenezer Bryce, a Mormon homesteader in the 1870's, will satisfy your adventurous spirit with its options for awe- inspiring hikes. Discover your inner thrill seeker as you ascend the narrow switchbacks to Angel's Landing. Absorb the magnificence of one of the most legendary canyons in all of Zion National Park, the Zion Narrows, as you walk and wade along the North Fork of the Virgin River in the midst of towering canyon walls. Come explore Red Rock Country and five national parks with Austin Adventures to witness for yourself what all the hype is about!

Austin Adventures guides are experienced facilitators and regional experts. They will take the time to explain the details of each activity, answer any questions, and demonstrate the use of all equipment. Each activity has been carefully planned to include options for all levels. Most importantly, your guides will help you select the distance that's right for you.

Meals

The hallmark of an Austin Adventures vacation is our exceptional dining. All meals: breakfasts, lunches, snacks, dinners, refreshments and receptions – except one dinner on your own – are included as indicated by itinerary. (B = Breakfast, L = Lunch, D = Dinner). Alcoholic beverages and related gratuities are not included in the trip price.



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Distinctive Accommodation

Nights 1 & 2: Canyonlands Inn

Located in the heart of downtown Moab, this hotel is within walking distance of many local restaurants and souvenir shops. This hotel will serve as our base camp for exploration of Arches National Park and Canyonlands National Park. Your room was styled to capture and reflect the natural beauty of the surroundings. A warm palette featuring earthy browns and greens accented by luxurious natural granite is highlighted with photography by renowned local artist Tom Till.

Night 3: Red River Ranch

Built on the grand scale of the great western lodges, The Lodge at Red River Ranch blends rich western history with modern convenience. You will find the accommodations comfortable, the food and service outstanding, the location breathtaking, and the overall experience, well... unforgettable. The lodge offers 15 unique guest rooms decorated with antique furnishings, western artwork and authentic artifacts. Every room includes its own fireplace and features a step-out balcony or patio and in-room music.

Nights 4 & 5: Bryce Canyon Grand

Located in southwest Utah just north of Bryce Canyon National Park, the Bryce Canyon Grand Hotel is surrounded by fantastic scenery, most notably rock spires of every shape and size, known locally as "hoodoos." Experience for yourself Bryce Canyon's newest and most luxurious accommodations and amenities with the best in western hospitality. The Bryce Canyon Grand offers an enclosed courtyard offering guest privacy for the pool, whirlpool, and patio areas. You're invited to experience Bryce Canyon City's newest lodging facilities while visiting the breath taking Bryce Canyon National Park.

Nights 6 & 7: SpringHill Suites Springdale Zion National Park

The award-winning SpringHill Suites Springdale Zion National Park offers a comfortable, elegant setting for travelers seeking inspiration, family adventure and relaxation. Located only one mile from Zion's gate in the town of Springdale, this hotel is centrally located to explore all that Zion National Park has to offer. The outdoor pool and hot tub with amazing canyon views are the perfect way to relax after a day of exploring Zion!

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Arrival & Departures

Please plan on arriving at least one day prior to your trip departure. Day one of your itinerary starts in Grand Junction, CO at 7:00 or 7:20 am, depending on your hotel. Your trip ends with a drop-off at the Las Vegas Airport at 1:00 PM on Day 8. Please make flights out Las Vegas for 3:00 PM or later.

Trip Price

\$3,698 (\$680 single supplement)

Trip Length

8 days/7 nights

2020 Dates

September 6 – 13

September 15 – 22**

September 24 – October 1

** *Runs in Reverse*

Host City

Start: Grand Junction, CO (GJT)

End: Las Vegas, NV (LAS)

Reservations & Availability

1-800-575-1540

*Check FIVE national parks
off your bucket list during
this eight-day red rock adventure!*



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Trip Reservations

Reservations, Deposits and Balances Due

To make a reservation, contact Austin Adventures with your choice of trip and dates. A \$500 per person deposit is required to confirm your reservation. **Some Custom and International programs may require additional deposits.** Full payment is required at the time of booking if your trip departs within 90 days. Choose one of the following contact methods:

Toll free: 800-575-1540

Phone: 406-655-4591

Online: austinadventures.com

Email: reservations@austinadventures.com

Mail: Austin Adventures, P.O. Box 81025, Billings, MT 59108

* You may also book your Austin Adventure with your preferred travel professional.

** We accept most major credit cards and personal checks (U.S. funds made payable to Austin Adventures). Please do not send cash.

Included in the Trip Price

- Double occupancy rooms with private baths.
- All meals: breakfasts, lunches, snacks, dinners, refreshments and receptions.
- Fully trained, first-aid certified professional guides and knowledgeable local partners.
- Any necessary equipment – all safe and well maintained.
- Vehicle support and land transportation during the trip.
- Austin Adventures T-shirt, water bottle, luggage tags and luggage service.
- Pre-departure and packing information.
- Incidental expenses such as taxes, dining and housekeeping gratuities, local partner and expert gratuities and national park entrance and permit fees.

Not Included in the Trip Price

- Gratuities to Austin Adventures guides.
- Alcoholic beverages and related gratuities.
- One dinner on your own during the trip.
- Pre-and post-trip accommodations and associated expenses.
- Air and land transportation to/from host cities.
- All types of personal insurance.
- Personal expenses.

Pre-departure Information

After receiving your reservation and deposit, we'll send you a pre-trip planner with general information about the area you'll be visiting, a packing list, exercise guidelines, a guest information questionnaire and a liability release agreement for you to sign and return within 10 days.

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Private Custom Trips

Maybe your vacation schedule doesn't fit our list of trips and dates. Or perhaps you'd prefer a slightly different itinerary or level of luxury and activity. A Custom Adventure is the perfect answer. You pick the date and destination and brief us on the size of your group, what activities you want, your "must haves" and just how you like to relax and unwind. No detail is too small, no idea too outrageous. Our staff of experts will help create a tailor-made vacation that's just right for you and your group. In short, if you can dream it, we can make it happen.

Room Occupancy, Single Supplements, and Shared Room Assignments

All trip prices are based on double occupancy. Single rooms are available for an additional charge, referred to as a "single supplement." If you're traveling alone and wish to share a room, make the request at the time of booking. Austin Adventures will attempt to find a suitable roommate for you. If you book 90 days before the trip and we cannot find you a suitable roommate, we will take care of the single supplement. **some restrictions may apply*

Minimum Age

The minimum age on our non-family designated adult and teen adventures is sixteen years old.

Cancellations and Refunds

The following cancellation policies and cancellation fees are in effect:

***As with deposits on some international and custom programs, refund schedule may vary, speak with your Adventure Consultant for details.

Cancellation 91 days or more before trip departure – Full trip payment refunded less a \$300 per person administration fee

Cancellation 61-90 days before trip departure – Full trip payment less 25% per person is refunded

Cancellation 31-60 days before trip departure – 50% of the trip payment is refunded

Cancellation 0-30 days before trip departure – No refund is given

Our Guarantee

Exceeding your expectations is our number one priority. In the unlikely event that you are dissatisfied with something during your trip, immediately notify your guide(s). If he or she is unable to resolve the issue, call our main office and give us the details of the problem, and a chance to correct it. We will do our best to find a resolution. If we are unable to do so during your trip, we will work with you upon your return home to arrive at a fair and equitable solution, including up to a full refund.