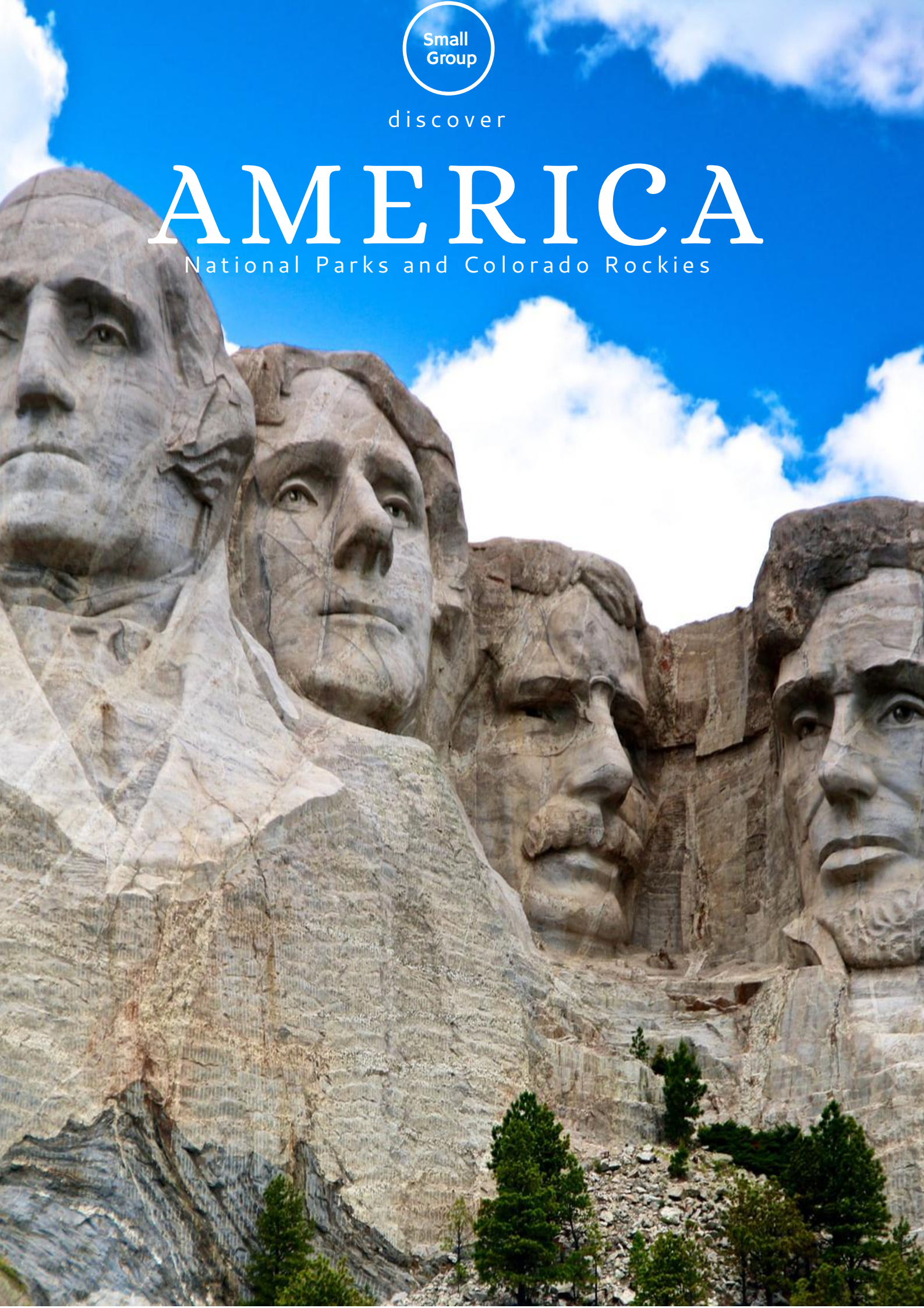


Small  
Group

discover

# AMERICA

National Parks and Colorado Rockies





# Facts About THE NATIONAL PARKS OF AMERICA

- Yellowstone was the first national park in the U.S. and is also widely held to be the first national park in the world.
- The National Park Service today manages 84 million acres across all U.S. states and territories, and has served as a model for countries around the world.
- Local historian Doane Robinson came up with the idea for Mount Rushmore in 1923 in order to promote tourism in South Dakota.
  - Arches were designated a national monument before being changed to a national park in 1971 by President Nixon. Native Americans lived in this region further back in history for thousands of years. The Arches National Park lies on top of a salt bed which underwent extreme climate changes millions of years ago.

# ARIZONA

-

# UTAH

## **Day 1 - 11th September - Depart Sydney - Scottsdale, Arizona - Tour Begins**

Depart Sydney International Airport. Join us on a journey through five of America's most incredible national parks. Your tour opens in Arizona where you will enjoy a stay in the world-famous resort town of Scottsdale. This evening, join your fellow travellers at a welcome dinner. (D)

## **Day 2 - 12th September - Scottsdale - Sedona - Grand Canyon**

Begin the day with a visit to the artists' colony of Sedona where you will see the amazing rock formations change hue with each turn in the road. Afterward, travel through the beautiful scenery before arriving at one of the Seven Natural Wonders of the World, the spectacular Grand Canyon.\* Upon arrival, relax at one of the many public seating areas overlooking the immense and colourful canyon. Take a moment to reflect as you stand in awe of this iconic natural treasure. Before dinner you may wish to take a short hike to explore the area. (B,D)

## **Day 3 - 13th September - Grand Canyon - Lake Powell**

Today, travel to Carl Hayden Visitors Centre and look out over Glen Canyon Dam and see to the end of Lake Powell. Later today, arrive at Lake Powell where you'll enjoy dinner and sunset views of the lake. (B,D)



## **Day 4 - 14th September - Lake Powell - Zion National Park, Utah**

This morning, embark on a delightful breakfast cruise on scenic Lake Powell. Today's destination is the red and white sandstone cliffs of Zion National Park.\*\* Zion is very likely one of the most awe-inspiring national parks in the world, just in sheer magnitude and colour. You'll have time for a leisurely hike on the Lower Emerald Pool Trail to see the lower pool and waterfalls. Then enjoy the view from the floor of the canyon as you ride along on the Zion tram.

## **Day 5 - 15th September - Zion National Park - Bryce Canyon - Salt Lake City**

En route to Salt Lake City we will stop at Bryce Canyon National Park,\*\* truly one of the most spectacular scenic wonders of the world. The formations within the park, called Hoodoos, are the creation of wind and water erosion over eons of time. Iron oxidizing within the rock causes the natural orange and red hues that colour these formations. A drive north takes you to Salt Lake City, the "City of the Saints," for a 2-night stay. (B,D)

# UTAH - WYOMING

---

## **Day 6 - 16th September - Salt Lake City**

Enjoy a tour of Salt Lake City featuring the Great Salt Lake, the State Capitol and the residential district. Then, take the rest of the day to relax or independently explore. Perhaps you will choose to explore Temple Square: this beautifully landscaped 10-acre plot of ground in the heart of downtown Salt Lake City is one of Utah's most visited attractions. The square's centrepiece is the 6-spired granite Salt Lake Temple, and adjacent to this imposing edifice is the domed Tabernacle, home of the famous Mormon Tabernacle Choir and the great Tabernacle organ. (B)

## **Day 7 - 17th September - Salt Lake City - Jackson Hole, Wyoming**

En route to Wyoming you will see the majestic Bear Lake Summit. Later, arrive in the cowboy town of Jackson Hole. Tonight, experience a fun-filled evening of cowboy entertainment and a traditional chuck wagon\*\*\* dinner. (B,D)

## **Day 8 - 18th September - Jackson Hole**

The day is yours to enjoy Jackson Hole. Optional activities include shopping, canoeing, hiking and river-rafting trips. Of course, your Tour Manager will be ready with suggestions. (B)

## **Day 9 - 19th September - Jackson Hole - Grand Teton & Yellowstone National Parks**

From Jackson Hole, pass through Grand Teton National Park. Towering more than a mile above the valley of Jackson Hole, the Grand Teton rises to 13,770 feet. Twelve Teton peaks reach above 12,000 feet and support a dozen mountain glaciers. The Teton Range is the youngest range in the Rockies and displays some of North America's oldest rocks. Later, arrive at the amazing Yellowstone National Park\*\*\*\* and explore the incredible sights of this magnificent park. One of the many highlights is the world-famous Old Faithful Geyser, a fountain of steam that rises more than 130 feet in the air. (B)

## **Day 10 - 20th September - Yellowstone - Cody - Sheridan**

A delightful day of sightseeing begins with a trip along Yellowstone Lake and over Sylvan Pass. From the mountains to the prairies, the scenery is simply amazing. As you pass through Cody, a stop will be made at the Buffalo Bill Centre of the West, a tribute to one of the most colourful figures of the Old West, Buffalo Bill Cody. Before turning in for the night in Sheridan, drive through the incredible Bighorn Mountains and journey through the territory of the Great Sioux Nation. (B)





\_\_\_\_\_

Visit Crazy Horse Memorial, a monument dedicated to the Native Americans of this great land. You'll also have the opportunity to visit the Native American Cultural Centre to learn about their culture and customs. Here, Native Americans discuss the movements of their dances and the significance of wearing different feathers and clothes. Later, see one of the country's most famous landmarks, Mount Rushmore, whose four figures carved in stone represent the first 150 years of American history. At tonight's farewell dinner you will meet a local Lakota Native American and learn all about their fascinating way of life, past and present. (B,D)

Spend the next few days exploring in and around Rapid City. This is the perfect opportunity to relax and unwind before the second part of your tour or take this time to be a little adventurous. This area is packed full of things to do that really caters to everyone, from the stunning hiking trails, to interesting museums!

Adventure awaits as we explore the towering peaks and rolling meadows of Colorado and Utah. This tour (which features four national parks) opens in the “Mile High City” of Denver where you will gather for a welcome dinner with your fellow travellers. (D)

Today we travel through Boulder, a scenic university town known for its iconic landmark, the striking, reddish-brown foothills known as the Flatirons. We'll stop in Estes Park, a mountain resort town and home of the Stanley Hotel, the inspiration for Stephen King's *The Shining*. Our adventure in Rocky Mountain National Park starts on the Trail Ridge Road, the highest paved, continuous highway in North America. It's a drive that should be on everybody's bucket list. At Rainbow Curve you'll marvel at the majestic mountains that stand in contrast to deep, rugged canyons. Later, return to Denver for a free evening in this dynamic city. (B)

# COLORADO

---

## **Day 17 - 27th September - Denver - Colorado National Monument - Grand Junction**

The spectacular Rocky Mountains are your Travelling companion as we make a scenic drive from Denver to Grand Junction, passing through many of Colorado's famous ski resorts. Our journey also takes us to one of the grand landscapes of the American West – Colorado National Monument. Continue along the monument's historic Rim Rock Drive to see a colourful panorama of deep, sheer-sided canyons and high rock towers. Gather for dinner at a favourite local hangout in Grand Junction, a town that attracts outdoorsmen, foodies and all manner of free spirits. (B,D)

## **Day 18 - 28th September - Arches National Park, Utah-Canyonlands National Park-Grand Junction**

Today, one amazing park follows another! In Arches National Park, see the world's largest concentration of natural sandstone arches. Next up is Canyonlands National Park, a vast landscape of gorges carved by the mighty Colorado River. From the Island in the Sky mesa – sandstone cliffs that soar 1,000 feet above the surrounding canyons – take in the seemingly endless views. (B)

## **Day 19 - 29th September - Grand Junction - Silverton - Durango**

Head south to Silverton, a former silver mining town and now a National Historic Landmark. Hidden high in the San Juan Mountains, this town blends spectacular scenery, Victorian charm and historic architecture. Then it's "all aboard" the Durango & Silverton Narrow Gauge Railroad. This 1881 coal-fired, steam-powered locomotive made its name hauling silver and gold ore from the San Juan Mountains, but you will soon realize it is the view that is its most precious asset. (B)

## **Day 20 - 30th September - Durango - Mesa Verde National Park - Durango**

An incredible day awaits in Mesa Verde National Park (UNESCO), home of the ancient Ancestral Puebloan civilization. Today, it's your choice! Join a local guide on a drive through the park making several photo stops including views of the famous Spruce Tree House, one of Mesa Verde's best preserved cliff dwellings; and Cliff Palace, the largest in the park -OR- if you are feeling more adventurous, join a National Park Ranger on a short hike down the canyon into one of the cliff dwellings; as you walk, soak in views of the valley along with some of the 600 homes carved along the cliffs. This evening, experience a farm-to-table dinner on a family-owned ranch surrounded by red mountain peaks and lush green pastures. (B,D)



# COLORADO

---

## **Day 21 - 1st October - Durango - Colorado Springs**

Sit back and relax during a scenic ride to Colorado Springs. En route, marvel at the landscape as we make our way from the San Juan National Forest and across Wolf Creek Pass, a section of the Continental Divide that would take pioneers two to three weeks to cross. Continue on through the Rio Grande National Forest, a vast expanse of wilderness named for the 1,800 miles of Rio Grande River that cuts through the forest. Your day concludes in Colorado Springs, an artistic and cultural hub. (B)

## **Day 22 - 2nd October - Colorado Springs - Canon City - Colorado Springs**

This morning, travel to the Garden of the Gods to take in the view of towering sandstone formations that dot the landscape set against the backdrop of majestic Pikes Peak. Later, depart for Canon City, home of the Royal Gorge Route Railroad. Get ready for a memorable train ride that follows the tumbling Arkansas River deep within the soaring 1000-foot granite cliffs of Colorado's grandest canyon. Tonight, join your fellow travellers for a farewell dinner and celebrate your adventure. (B,D)

## **Day 23 - 3rd October - Colorado Springs - Tour Ends**

Your tour comes to a close in Colorado Springs. Transfers will be available to the airport or talk to us about extending your trip! For those of you flying home, board your homeward flight.

## **Day 24 - 25 - 4th - 5th October - Colorado Springs - Tour Ends - Arrive Sydney**

Day 24 - In flight.

Day 25 - Arrive in Sydney.



## **Frequently Asked Questions:**

### **How fit do I have to be to go on tour?**

You should be able to comfortably walk 2-3 hours, on any given day, on uneven ground without the use of any aid, and climb several flights of stairs.

### **Do I have to be a certain age to book?**

We recommend travellers are fit to travel, have a positive attitude and are ready to delve into an adventure of a lifetime, no matter the age!

### **How much luggage can I bring with me on tour?**

We recommend bringing no more than 20kg. We also suggest a small carry-on bag with you that can be used throughout the duration of your tour.

# WHAT'S INCLUDED

---

## Sightseeing

- Spend a night at the spectacular Grand Canyon
- Visit Yellowstone National park, home to the famous Old Faithful Geyser
- See one of the country's most famous landmarks, Mount Rushmore
- Explore the Buffalo Bill Centre of the West, a tribute to Buffalo Bill Cody
- Meet Native Americans and discuss their unique and colourful culture
- Explore the massive and rugged Rocky Mountain National Park
- At Arches National Park, see the world's largest concentration of natural sandstone arches
- Travel to the majestic Island in the Sky mesa at Canyonlands National Park
- Spend two nights in Durango, a fun-filled cowboy town where you can relive the excitement on the Old West
- Journey on the Royal Gorge Route Railroad through stunning scenery in the Colorado Rockies

## Inclusions

- All internal transport, sightseeing and entrance fees
- Fully escorted
- 31 Meals - 20 Breakfasts - 11 Dinners
- International flights



# WHAT'S NOT INCLUDED

---

- Passport and visa fees\*
- Travel insurance\*
- Meals not specified
- Tipping and portage is collected separately and at your own discretion
- Any item of a personal nature such as room service, telephone calls, beverage or bar service and any other incidentals.
- \*Travel insurance is compulsory for travel to America.
- \*Visas are required for travel to the USA.

## PAYMENT DATES AND INFORMATION

---

**\$12,995 per person**

- Price per person is based on twin share
- Single supplement - \$3855
- Deposit per person is \$1500 within 7 days of booking
- Final payment is due before the 24th of July 2020
- **Price is based on a minimum of 20 passengers travelling. Price may need to be adjusted if numbers are not met.**





**Jane Ryan**  
**Boutique Travel**

- W: [www.travelandtourhunters.com.au](http://www.travelandtourhunters.com.au)
  - E: [jane@travelandtourhunters.com.au](mailto:jane@travelandtourhunters.com.au)
  - PH: (02) 49330874
  - M: +61412130419
-