

DISCOVERING THE NATIONAL PARKS

DAY 1 LONDON TO LAS VEGAS

Fly to Las Vegas. You will be met on arrival by your guide and transferred to your hotel. We will have time to explore some of the many themed hotels - why not spend some time in Paris, Venice, Egypt or the Circus!

DAYS 2/3 LAS VEGAS - ZION NATIONAL PARK

We will have this morning to enjoy a tour of the glitz and glitter of Las Vegas. There are also great shopping opportunities available here, as well as time for some of the rides - try the roller coaster at New York, New York, or The Big Shot at the top of the Stratosphere, which gives fantastic views of the Strip and the whole area. We then travel eastward and into Utah's canyon country. We will begin with Zion National Park, whose towering sandstone cliffs inspired early Mormon settlers to name this place after the city of God. In sheer magnitude and colour, Zion is one of the most awe-inspiring National Parks in the world. We will take a hike along the Virgin River, or Angels Landing - one thousand feet above the river canyon.

DAY 4 BRYCE CANYON

Continuing north to Bryce Canyon we enter this hidden park, which is a marvel of red and orange rock 'hoodoo' spires that stand sentinel over eons of erosion. The National Park is a scientist's laboratory with unique rock formations. From Rainbow Point the entirety of the park stretches out before you. We will walk to Yovimpa Point to study the sequence of rock layers called the Grand Staircase. We'll have time for a short hike along the rim.

DAY 5 MONUMENT VALLEY

Monument Valley is a Navajo Nation tribal park, which preserves the Navajo way of life and has some of the most striking and recognisable landscapes in the Southwest. The mesas and buttes stand straight up from the red desert floor and the massive monoliths of this sacred land have been the backdrop for many Hollywood Western movies. The area provides a perfect opportunity for a jeep trek with a Native American guide.

DAY 6 GRAND CANYON

We continue on to the high desert of northern Arizona to visit one of the world's greatest natural wonders, the Grand Canyon. Desert View Drive follows the canyon rim for 26 miles and offers spectacular views of the canyon. We stop at the excellent Visitor Center for full geological background information and for some more breathtaking viewpoints, and then we will have a chance either this afternoon or tomorrow morning to go for a short hike into the Canyon rim.

DAYS 7/8 DEPART LAS VEGAS - ARRIVE LONDON

We continue back to Las Vegas where we will be transferred to the airport for the flight home. Your flight arrives back in the UK early this morning.