Find your United States of America

INCLUDING CANADA SPECIAL FEATURE



United States of America

Contact your travel agent to book your Lusso holiday

Specialists in unforgettable travel experiences

Lusso launched in 2010 as the UK's first specialist tour operator selling luxury holidays exclusively through independent travel agents.

In doing so we broke the mould and we haven't stopped since. We are continuously redefining what you can expect from a luxury tour operator. Our team of specialists will work in partnership with your expert travel agent to help you plan the perfect holiday, one that is carefully thought out and seamlessly executed. At Lusso, high expectations and meticulous attention to customer service come as standard.

At the heart of all we do are our travel advisors. True specialists in their craft, most have over 25 years' experience within the industry and travel regularly to the destinations and properties within our portfolio, staying in the hotels, taking the tours, talking to the locals and sniffing out those one-of-a-kind experiences that make travelling with Lusso far more than just a holiday. Their first-hand, up-to-date and intimate knowledge allows them to truly advise you, from helping you choose the optimum room or suite to designing the most complex of multi-centre holidays, complete with private transfers, guided excursions and chosen activities.

Our close working relationships with all our partners mean that every effort is made to confirm even the smallest of special requests, adding that all-important personal touch to your truly bespoke holiday. We are incredibly discerning about the partners we work with, endeavouring only to use the best of the best, from airlines and accommodation to local experts on the ground who will take you to the heart of the countries they call home.

We also recognise the importance of complete peace of mind when you go away on holiday. That's why all our holidays that include flights are fully ATOL-protected, with non-flight packages protected by way of a bond held with ABTA, meaning your money is always safe in our hands.

At the end of the day our aim is simple – to help you create your ideal holiday and to organise it flawlessly.



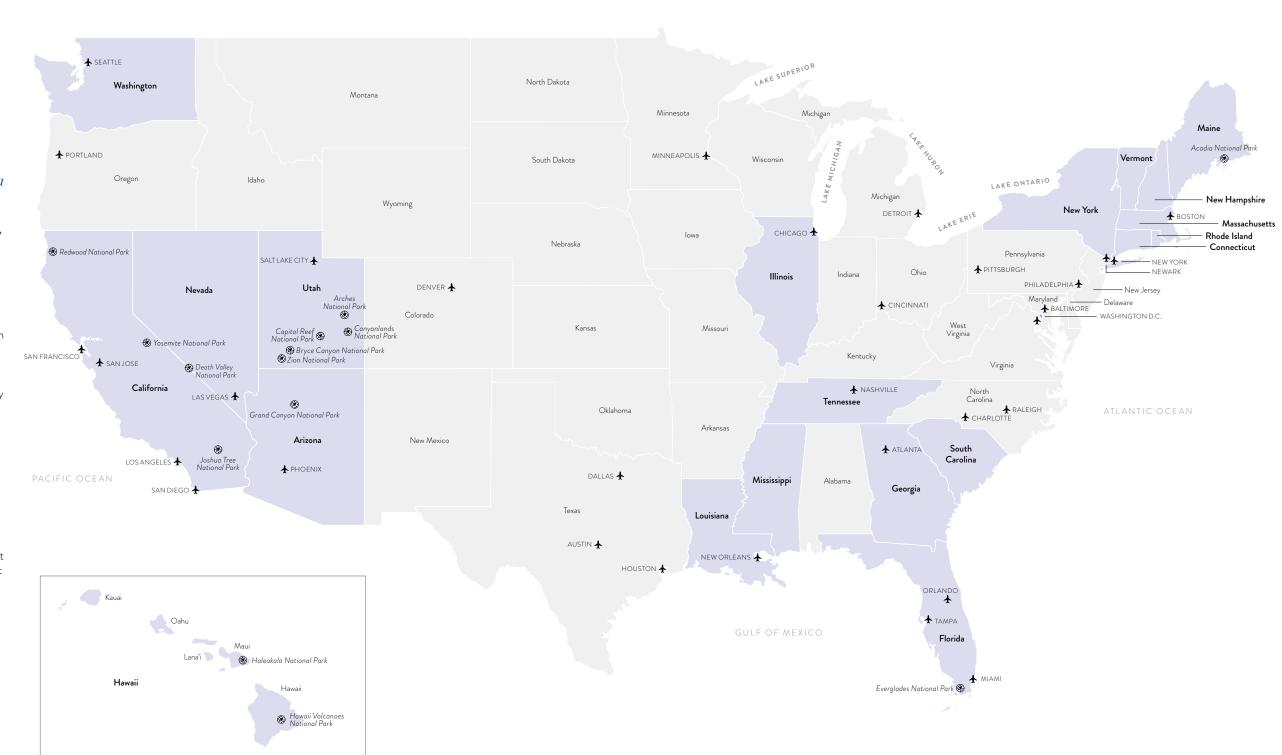
Welcome to the United States

So pervasive is American culture that we all have an idea of what to expect when we visit. In fact, it's often seeing the familiar with our very own eyes that provides the greatest thrill when travelling in the States: iconic yellow taxis waiting in line in Times Square, cable cars heaving their passengers around San Francisco, paddle boats steaming up the Mississippi River, or jazz musicians playing on the streets of New Orleans.

Whether you're looking for a fun family holiday, a scintillating city break, an outdoor adventure or a romantic escape for two, the United States has an answer for everything. For here is a country masquerading as a continent, where just about every type of holiday imaginable is possible, from the bright city lights of New York and Las Vegas to the autumn colours of leafy New England and the reefs and rainforests of heavenly Hawaii.

Yet in a country so large, it's often hard to know where to start when planning a holiday. That's where our USA specialists come in. Our travel advisors have journeyed extensively across America and regularly return to the regions and properties within our portfolio, meaning you can be assured of a first-hand, honest and up-to-date opinion. You'll find their personal recommendations for what to see and do in this vast and varied country on pages 6, 36 and 78 of this brochure.

One thing is for sure though, travelling in America is almost always about the journey, which is why we've filled these pages not just with hotels but with suggested itineraries for each of our destinations. These are merely examples of what's possible in the region. They can of course be booked as you see them on the page, but they can also be adjusted to suit your own tastes, interests, budget and timeframe. Such is the beauty of tailor-made travel.



★ Cities with direct UK flights

Inside the USA with

Julie Hammond

Why should I visit the United States?

I can think of at least 50 reasons – the states themselves. Each one is different, with its own identity and personality.

What's your fondest memory from your time in America?

Definitely bottling my own wine in California's Sonoma Valley. I had the chance to do so at Buena Vista Winery and found the process so fascinating I've been recommending it ever since.

What's your favourite US state and why?

More of a collection than a single state but I adore New England, especially in autumn – or 'fall' as they say there. Boston makes a wonderful base from which to explore the area, though the real fun lies in making your own discoveries along quiet leafy byways – stopping at cider mills, stocking up on maple syrup, and posing for photos by quaint covered bridges and iconic, red barns.

Which places live up to the hype?

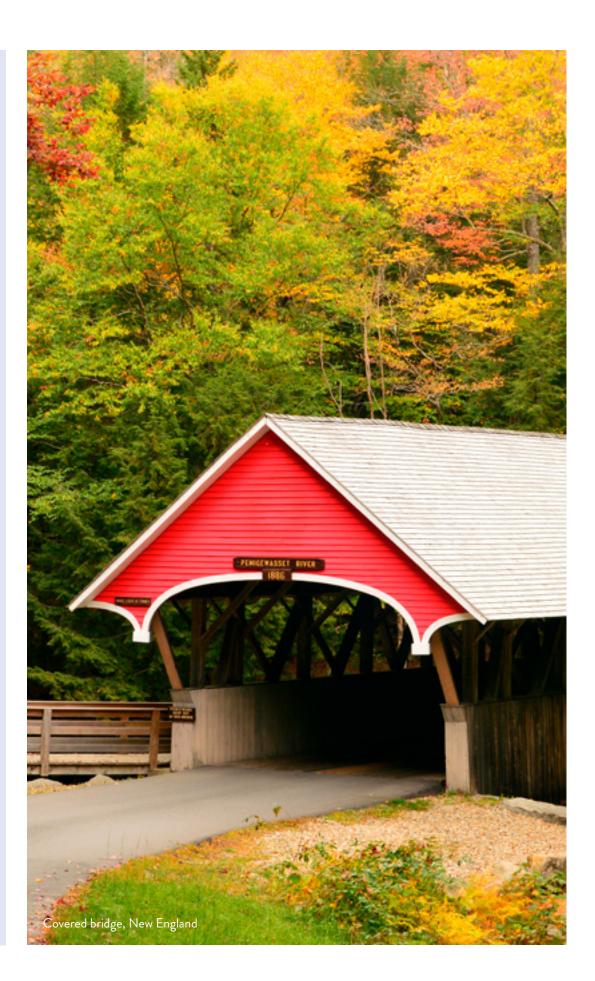
It's got to be Las Vegas. Sin City is brash, fun and strangely alluring. It's also a launchpad for visiting the Grand Canyon, best seen from the air on a helicopter tour – a worthwhile indulgence if ever there was one.

What's your favourite city and what must I do while I'm there?

For me it's the City by the Bay, glorious and bohemian San Francisco. Go in autumn or winter for the clearest days (summer fog often obscures the views), hire a bike and cycle across Golden Gate Bridge.

Where should I go if I'm looking for adventure?

Arizona is America's adventure capital, from hiking to the floor of the Grand Canyon and white-water rafting on the Colorado River to hot-air ballooning in the Sonoran Desert.



Discover the USA your way



Road Trips

It's no surprise to us that many of the holidays we sell in the States are self-drives. Distances between places of interest in America are often huge and hiring a car – whether it be a luxury SUV or a classic convertible Mustang – gives you the freedom to explore at your own pace, stopping when and where you want. Classic routes like Highway 1 down the coast of California and the Overseas Highway that connects the Florida Keys are among the world's most celebrated road trips. But there's just as much fun to be had exploring the scenic byways of leafy New England, the desert roads of Arizona or the juke joints and honky-tonks that pepper the Deep South. Lusso can arrange car hire to suit your travel needs, with pick-ups and drop-offs in multiple destinations across the United States.



Motorhomes

Hiring a motorhome – or an RV as they're known in the States – is a wonderfully exciting way to tour around America. As with hiring a car, you have the freedom and flexibility to go where you want when you want, but with a motorhome your choice of where to spend the night is virtually limitless. There are RV campgrounds right across the States, including within most national and state parks. Fancy sleeping on the shores of Lake Michigan, near the rim of the Grand Canyon or by the beach in California? You can with an RV. Our partner, Cruise America, has 50 years' experience delivering motorhome holidays. Their top-of-the-line motorhomes come in multiple sizes, each custom manufactured to be as safe, comfortable and reliable as possible. All offer sleeping, cooking, shower and toilet facilities and come with a free app to help you find campsites and local points of interest. And with pick-up and drop-off sites in 32 locations across 22 states, there's almost nowhere you can't go.

Motorcycle Tours

For those of you who prefer two wheels to four, we offer a wide range of self-guided and fully supported guided motorcycle tours through our partnership with EagleRider, the world's largest motorcycle touring company, from classic journeys from Chicago to Los Angeles along Route 66 to mountain rides through the rearing Rockies down to Yellowstone National Park. We work with EagleRider because we think they're the best in the business. They've got 150 locations in the US and a fleet of more than 4,000 motorcycles, including the latest models from Harley-Davidson, BMW, Indian, Honda, Triumph and more. Their guides are second to none, their support teams are excellent and there are tours available for all levels of rider.



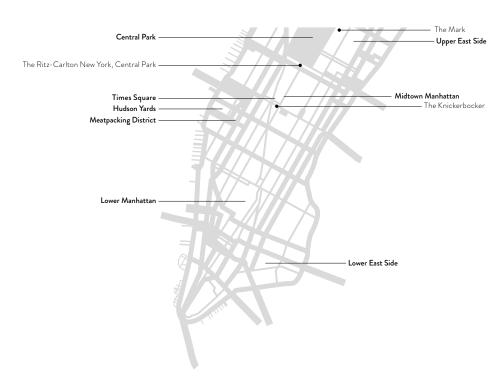
Attraction Tickets

We can make planning your holiday even easier by securing you tickets in advance to many of America's top theme parks and attractions. In Florida alone we can arrange tickets and multi-day passes to the likes of Walt Disney World Resort, Universal Orlando Resort, LEGOLAND Florida Resort, Busch Gardens Tampa Bay and the Kennedy Space Center. Beyond the Sunshine State, options include Disneyland Resort and Universal Studios Hollywood in California, and the Empire State Building, Edge New York and SUMMIT One Vanderbilt in New York. We can also arrange a host of bucket-list experiences to enhance your holiday, several of which are highlighted on the itinerary pages throughout this brochure, such as helicopter trips to the Grand Canyon, hot-air balloon flights over the deserts of Arizona, and whale-watching tours off the coast of New England.



Ask your travel agent for more details about booking car hire, motorhomes, motorcycle tours or attraction tickets as part of your Lusso holiday.

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New York

It's often said that you can tell the difference between a tourist and a local in New York because the tourists are always gazing upwards. And with so many breathtaking new additions to the skyline in recent years, it's easy to see why.

SUMMIT One Vanderbilt, until recently the tallest building in Midtown Manhattan, offers awe-inspiring views from its transparent, glass-enclosed sky decks. It's a similar story in New York's newest neighbourhood, Hudson Yards, home to Edge, the highest outdoor observation deck in the western hemisphere. Not to be outdone, the Empire State Building has undertaken a four-year renovation project and offers a totally revitalised visitor experience, with observation decks on the 86th and 102nd floors, a wide range of restaurants, plus exhibits on everything from the building's construction to its place in the films, TV shows, adverts and comics of popular culture. Closer to the ground but also new is Little Island at Pier 55 on the Hudson River, a three-acre oasis that floats above the water on 132 tulip-shaped stilts.

Of course, it's not all new. All the wonderful old reasons to visit New York are still there too: the bright lights of Broadway, the billboards of Times Square, horse and carriage rides through scenic Central Park, and shopping until your feet hurt at Bloomingdale's and Macy's. A visit to the moving 9/11 Memorial & Museum is an absolute must, as is taking a cruise past the Statue of Liberty, taking in museums like MoMA and the Met, and taking a stroll along the elevated High Line, an abandoned railway line that's been cleverly transformed into one of the city's best green spaces.

With so much on offer – not to mention some of the best hotels and restaurants in America – it doesn't matter when you visit either. Come in summer for picnics in the park. Come in winter for festive traditions like the lighting of the tree at Rockefeller Center. But above all, come, for you haven't seen America until you've experienced New York.

Important Information

Best time to visit April to May and September to October are the most pleasant times of the year, as the city experiences distinct seasons; summers can be hot and humid while winters are cold with frequent snow. December is popular for Christmas shopping and is festively chilly.

Average temp 22°C (spring & autumn)

How to get there American Airlines and Virgin Atlantic from Heathrow to JFK • British Airways from Heathrow to JFK and Newark and from Gatwick to JFK • United from Heathrow and Edinburgh to Newark • Virgin Atlantic and Aer Lingus from Manchester to JFK • Delta from Heathrow, Gatwick and Edinburgh to JFK • JetBlue from Heathrow and Gatwick to JFK

Average flying time 8 hours

 GMT -5 hours

Tourist office www.nycgo.com

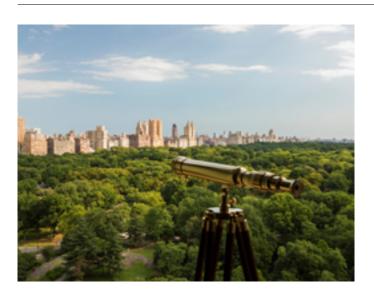
Ideal for Culture, History, Art, Cuisine, Shopping and Nightlife



Times Square

The Knickerbocker

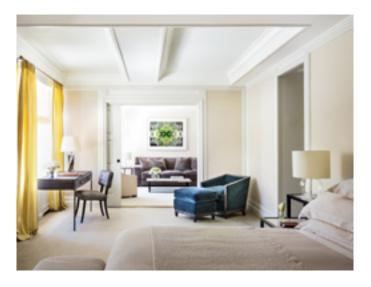
Located right by Times Square, The Knickerbocker offers easy access to the best of Broadway, Bryant Park, Rockefeller Center, Radio City Music Hall and the many shops of Midtown. Behind its original 1905 facade lies a chic and contemporary interior, with impressively sound-proofed rooms and suites, decorated in taupe and silver and equipped with comfy beds, bespoke furnishings and generous rain showers. Celebrity chef Charlie Palmer heads the hotel's culinary programme, from his elegant namesake restaurant to the artisanal coffee shop adjacent to the lobby and the hand-crafted cocktails on offer at St. Cloud, the rooftop bar that's built a well-earned reputation as one of the best places in the city to watch the New Year's Eve ball drop.



Midtown Manhattan

The Ritz-Carlton New York, Central Park

With an enviable location overlooking Central Park and close to the famed shops of Fifth Avenue, this landmark hotel offers newly imagined rooms and suites with townhouse-inspired spaces, Central Park views and bespoke furnishings. Rooms feature telescopes pointed at the park while suites showcase works from local artists. The new Club Lounge provides an exclusive setting where guests can enjoy food from a range of local talent. La Prairie Spa offers facials, scrubs and indulgent treatments like a Caviar Massage, while the redesigned fitness centre and movement studio make it easy to stay healthy. Dining options range from picnics in the park to the gastro lounge Contour, which offers small plates and cocktails from morning until night.



Upper East Side

The Mark

Set in the exclusive Upper East Side on the corner of 77th Street and Madison Avenue, the super-stylish Mark is just a well-dressed stroll from a convoy of highend boutiques, including Vera Wang, Missoni and Christian Louboutin. While the glamorous lobby makes a bold statement with its striped marble flooring and abstract artwork, the rooms and suites are more calming and understated, ranging in size from comfortable doubles to a five-bedroom penthouse. The restaurant by acclaimed chef Jean-Georges Vongerichten holds its own against any in the city, while experiences range from cycling to Central Park with a picnic prepared by Jean-Georges himself to private pedicab tours of Manhattan's top shops, museums and galleries.

IEW YORK

Essential Experiences - Our Suggestions



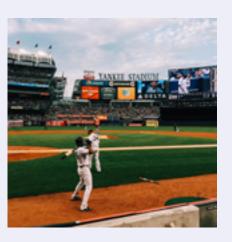
SUMMIT One Vanderbilt

Rising 1,401 feet above the streets of New York, SUMMIT One Vanderbilt is one of the tallest buildings in Midtown Manhattan and offers breathtaking views from its transparent skyboxes. The most daring can ride the world's largest glassfloor lifts even further, to the highest panoramic viewing point in Midtown. There are also art installations and cocktails to enjoy.



Broadway Shows

There's no more quintessential a New York experience than catching a show beneath the bright lights of Broadway. Given the popularity of some shows, we recommend pre-booking tickets through us before you travel. We can even arrange for you to join a cast member for a private backstage tour after the performance to see sets, costumes and props close up.



Sports Events

Sport is a huge part of American culture and New Yorkers are hugely passionate about their home-town teams. Whether it's watching the Yankees play baseball in the Bronx or the Rangers or the Knicks play ice hockey and basketball at Madison Square Garden, we can get you tickets for the greatest games in town.



Architectural Tour

Skyscrapers may have been invented in Chicago but they were perfected in New York. We can arrange architectural tours in various districts of New York, in which local experts guide you through the city's many architectural styles, from stately Federal and exuberant Beaux Arts to brutalist postmodern and contemporary projects from international 'starchitects'.



9/11 Memorial Private Tour

The events of 9/11 were perhaps the most pivotal in modern history. We can arrange private guided tours of Ground Zero featuring stops at St Paul's Chapel, the 9/11 Memorial, the FDNY Memorial Wall, the 9/11 Museum, the Oculus and more, led by New Yorkers with personal connections to the tragic events of 11 September 2001.



Hudson Yards

Explore one of New York's hottest new neighbourhoods, Hudson Yards. Highlights include the interdisciplinary arts centre The Shed; Vessel, an Instagram-ready basket of infinite staircases; and Edge, the highest outdoor sky deck in the western hemisphere. The really brave can even scale the outside of the skyscraper, 1,200 feet above the ground.

New England

When it comes to holiday destinations, New England has it all. Autumn – or fall as they call it in the States – is an excellent time to go, when the leaves on a million trees turn a vibrant tapestry of scarlet, gold, purple and orange. The colours start to turn in the northern states of Maine, Vermont and New Hampshire around mid-September, peaking around mid-October. In the southern states of Massachusetts, Rhode Island and Connecticut, the change starts later and the incredible colours often last until November. These are perfect months for self-drive itineraries, with the air crisp and cool and the farm stalls piled high with apples and swollen pumpkins.

But New England is more than a one-season wonder. The long coastline is an ideal summer playground, with opportunities for everything from whale-watching tours to swimming and sea kayaking. From Maine's rocky shoreline, past the stylish seaside resort of Kennebunkport to the broad sandy beaches of Cape Cod and upmarket islands of Martha's Vineyard and Nantucket, New England's coast is ripe for summer exploration.

There is history, too. New England has born witness to many a nation-forging moment. The Pilgrim Fathers (and Mothers) landed in Plymouth, Massachusetts in 1620. The first shots of the Revolution were fired just outside Boston in 1775. And Fenway Park, the country's oldest baseball stadium, opened for the Red Sox in 1912.

Boston makes for a wonderful city break, offering world-class museums, galleries and concert halls, as well as the famous Freedom Trail that links the city's historic sites. But it's also the gateway to the wider region. From Boston you can head out onto the quiet leafy backroads, exploring scenic villages with steeple-topped churches, clapboard houses and iconic covered bridges, where historic inns and boutique hotels guarantee a warm welcome.

Then there is the food, regarded as some of the finest in America. It was New England chefs that piloted the farm-to-fork movement and right across the region you'll find fresh local produce being championed in restaurants, hotels, markets and farm stores. The seafood is especially sublime; the lobster rolls are quite possibly worth the price of a plane ticket alone.



Important Information

Best time to visit Without doubt, the most popular times to travel to New England are the summer season, from mid June through to August, or for the autumn foliage season, from late September into October and even early November in some areas. The winter months are cold and snowy, while spring months can be unpredictable.

Average temp 24°C (summer & autumn)

How to get there British Airways, Virgin Atlantic, American Airlines and United from Heathrow to Boston • Delta from Heathrow and Edinburgh (seasonal) to Boston • JetBlue from Heathrow and Gatwick to Boston

Average flying time 7 hours 30 minutes

GMT -5 hours

Tourist office www.visitnewengland.com

Ideal for Culture, History, Art, Cuisine, Beaches, Hiking, Natural Beauty and Autumn Colours





Boston, Boats & Beaches

Everyone thinks of New England in the 'fall' but its glittering coastline and well-earned reputation for sensational seafood makes it a perfect beach holiday destination at almost any time of year. This seaside and city break combines the historic sites of Boston with the wide sandy beaches of the Cape Cod peninsula, the salty Yankee charms of Martha's Vineyard and Nantucket, and the grandiose mansions of Newport, Rhode Island.

DAYS 1-3 BOSTON

Arrive in Boston and enjoy a private transfer to the Fairmont Copley Plaza for a three-night stay. Opened in 1912, this stately landmark is the grand dame of Boston hotels, combining Beaux Arts interiors with modern creature comforts. Spend the following days exploring the city's varied sights and attractions. Follow the Freedom Trail linking its principal historic sites, shop among the boutiques of Newbury Street, join a whale-watching cruise from the harbour, or take a tour around Harvard, one of the most prestigious universities in the world.

DAYS 4-6 CAPE COD

Collect your hire car and head down the coast for a three-night stay at the charming **Chatham Bars Inn**, set on a vast sandy beach with arresting views of the yawning Atlantic. Wealthy Chatham, with its boutiques, galleries and old country stores, sits at the bottom of Cape Cod's National Seashore, which has enjoyed federal protection since 1961. Its curving coastline is one of America's most beautiful, offering wide, open beaches, rippling sand dunes and crashing waves all the way north from Chatham to Provincetown.





NUMBER OF DAYS

14

PRICES FROM

13 nights / 14 days from £4,595 per person

YOUR ITINERARY INCLUDES

Price is based on two adults sharing a standard room and includes economy flights from London, private transfer on arrival in Boston, compact car hire with insurance for 11 days, inter-island ferries/flight and hotel accommodation as detailed.



Designed by

Julie Hammond

"The food in New England is some of the best I've experienced anywhere in America, especially on the coast, where the clam chowder and lobster rolls are to die for!"

DAYS 7-8 MARTHA'S VINEYARD

Drive to Hyannis, leave your hire car and catch a ferry to Martha's Vineyard for a two-night stay at the **Nobnocket Boutique Inn**, an elegant B&B set in a renovated turn-of-the-century home. Far less developed than Cape Cod yet more cosmopolitan than neighbouring Nantucket, Martha's Vineyard offers wonderful opportunities for cycling, riding and romantic sunset cruises. It's also home to the West Tisbury Farmers Market, the oldest and largest open-air market in New England.



DAYS 9-10 NANTUCKET ISLAND

Take a short flight to Nantucket Island and check in to the iconic White Elephant. A two-night stay affords time to explore Nantucket Town, a National Historic District encompassing more than 800 historic structures within a single square mile. Beyond its boutiques and fabulous array of restaurants, the wider island offers picturesque beaches, wild open moors, sea captains' mansions and clear waters for swimming.

DAYS 11-13 NEWPORT

Ferry back from Nantucket to Hyannis, collect your hire car and drive to Newport for a three-night stay at The Vanderbilt, a boutique hotel just minutes from the waterfront. Tourists travel from all over to walk Newport's famous Cliff Walk, past the grandiose mansions of 19th-century America's richest families. The most impressive of these is undoubtedly The Breakers, tours of which can be arranged through the hotel.

DAY 14 BOSTON

Enjoy a final breakfast before returning to Boston to drop your car at the airport in time for your flight home.

ESSENTIAL EXPERIENCES - OUR SUGGESTIONS



Newport Mansions

In the 19th century, wealthy families like the Astors and Vanderbilts descended on Newport to escape the summer heat. The mansions they built – modestly dubbed 'summer cottages' – are perfect examples of America's Gilded Age. Several are open for both public and private tours, including Marble House, The Elms and the undisputed showstopper, The Breakers.



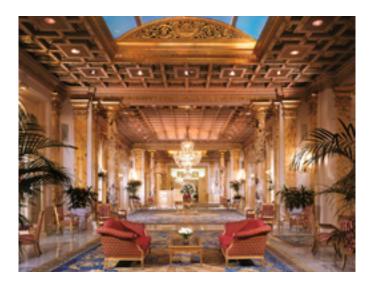
Whale Watching

The seasonal home to humpback, finback and minke whales, the waters off New England are ranked as one of the world's premier whale-watching destinations. Charter your own private yacht for a day or join a sightseeing cruise with a naturalist guide out of Boston, Cape Cod and other coastal destinations for an up-close view of the ocean's gentle giants.



Harvard Tour

Have you ever wondered what it's like to walk the hallowed halls of Harvard University; to get a glimpse of college life at one of the most prestigious institutions in the world? This ultimate tour covers the history and architecture of the lvy League campus and includes the chance to talk with a Harvard professor and enjoy lunch at the famous Faculty Club.



Boston, Massachusetts

Fairmont Copley Plaza

This stately landmark is the grand dame of Boston hotels. While the exterior is commanding, the interior is spectacular, complete with glittering chandeliers, gilded mirrors and columns of Italian marble. Rooms and suites are modern-classic in style with elegant furnishings, curated artworks and marble bathrooms. For the most discerning guests, Fairmont Gold rooms offer dedicated staff plus a private lounge serving complimentary breakfast and evening hors d'oeuvres. The OAK Long Bar + Kitchen is one of Boston's best restaurants, and though former guests include Elizabeth Taylor and Richard Burton, the star of the show now is undoubtedly Cori Copley, the canine ambassador who sleeps in the grand lobby.



retreat is beautifully located on the banks of the Ottauquechee River, just two miles from the picturesque village of Woodstock and surrounded by six acres of gorgeous Vermont countryside. All rooms have river views and a private patio or balcony complete with two rocking chairs. The five suites are in a separate building and boast full kitchens, living rooms and a covered outdoor terrace. Facilities include an indoor pool, sauna and hot tub, a library and fitness room, a games and entertainment lounge, and a wonderful bar and bistro that's become a popular local dinner spot.



Cape Cod, Massachusetts

Chatham Bars Inn

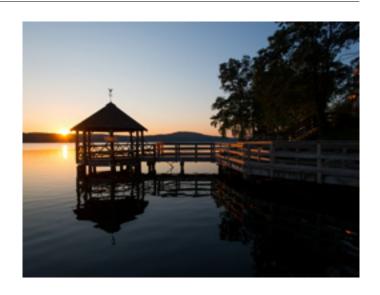
Set on a vast sandy beach with arresting views of the Atlantic Ocean, Chatham Bars Inn is one of the oldest and best of Cape Cod's luxury hotels. Some of the most atmospheric rooms occupy the photogenic main house, built in 1914, while classic New England-style cottages are spread along a quarter of a mile of private beach. The newer Spa Suites are upstairs from the spa itself and are more contemporary in style, complete with saunas, steam showers and whirlpool baths. The spa itself is superb, set in a Zen garden with private steam showers, an outdoor pool and hot tub. Restaurants range from the more formal Stars with its panoramic views of Chatham Harbor to the Sacred Cod Tavern and the seasonal Beach House that spills out onto the sand.

Meredith, New Hampshire

Woodstock, Vermont

Church Landing at Mill Falls

Located along the shores of Lake Winnipesaukee in the quaint town of Meredith, Church Landing is the most luxurious of the four properties that comprise the Mill Falls at The Lake resort. Guestrooms at the Adirondack-style inn were completely renovated in 2020 and feature private lakefront balconies, cosy fireplaces and soft, down bedding. The Lakehouse offers gourmet dining within the hotel itself, though guests can also take advantage of the wider resort restaurants, like the beautifully located Waterfall Café, which overlooks the lake and a 40-foot waterfall. Other highlights include two indoor/outdoor pools, a full-service spa and activities ranging from roasting s'mores round the campfire to hiking in summer and skiing in winter.





Newport, Rhode Island

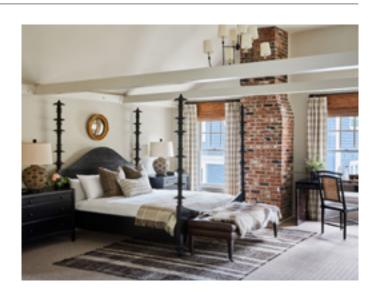
The Vanderbilt

Everything here is a delicious reminder of Newport's heyday 100 years ago, when the town was the essential summer destination to see and be seen. Gilded Age touches are everywhere, from the wood-panelled walls and the books in the library to the art on the walls and the secret drinks cabinet, operated on an honesty basis. The epic Roof Deck is one of the best-kept secrets in Newport, serving oysters and champagne as you watch the sun set over the harbour. For dining after, choose from either award-winning gastro-pub fare at The Dining Room or classic dishes like Rhode Island clam chowder at The Conservatory. There's also rooftop yoga, indoor and outdoor pools and a blissful spa offering an innovative range of treatments and therapies.

Kennebunkport, Maine

White Barn Inn

Not for nothing has White Barn Inn been blessed with just about every hospitality and dining award possible. This charming estate on the Kennebunk River has been a draw for couples seeking enchantment and celebrities seeking discretion for over 150 years. Guests can choose between a stand-alone cottage with views of the river and a room or suite in the historic main house, many with welcome touches like double-sided fireplaces, vases of fresh flowers and spa-like bathrooms with jet-tubs for two. The tempting outdoor pool is surrounded by greenery and the spa is one of the best in the region, but even these are trumped by the headline-grabbing restaurant, where indulgent four-course set menus are triumphant celebrations of the finest Maine produce.







Florida

Nowhere on earth has better theme parks than Orlando. At Walt Disney World Resort alone you'll find Magic Kingdom Park, EPCOT, Disney's Hollywood Studios and Disney's Animal Kingdom Park, not to mention the two water parks, Disney's Typhoon Lagoon and Disney's Blizzard Beach. Then there's Universal Orlando Resort, home to the hugely popular Wizarding World of Harry Potter, as well as Marvel Super Hero Island, the Jurassic World VelociCoaster (Florida's tallest and fastest rollercoaster) and Universal's Volcano Bay water park. Plus of course there's LEGOLAND Florida Resort, home to more than 50 rides, shows and attractions, including the world's first Peppa Pig theme park.

Away from the theme parks, the Sunshine State is all about having fun in the sun. As the only state with two coastlines, its 1,200 miles of magnificent beaches are the envy of the other 49 stars on the flag. We especially love the quiet, white-sand beaches of the Gulf Coast – places like St. Pete Beach near Tampa, Sarasota and Naples – where days can be spent searching for dolphins and manatees in weather that's rarely anything but perfect.

Things get a lot livelier across on the east coast where South Beach, Miami remains America's cool kid, famous for its Art Deco architecture, turquoise Atlantic shoreline, vibrant Latin culture and exciting restaurant scene.

Starting virtually in Miami's backyard are the Florida Everglades, America's greatest wetland, while unfurling to the south-west are the Florida Keys, a string of tropical islands connected by an ocean-skimming highway. Key Largo is the closest to Miami and the self-proclaimed dive capital of the world. Islamorada is the place to head to for the best in sport fishing. Marathon is one for the history buffs, thanks to its fascinating museum on Pigeon Key. While colourful Key West, the southernmost point of the continental United States, is famous above all for its fiery red sunsets, raucous nightlife and as the former home of Ernest 'Papa' Hemingway.

Important Information

Best time to visit With warm temperatures and sunshine throughout the year, Florida is a wonderful year-round destination. Winters are mild and sunny while summers are warm and humid with short heavy showers.

Average temp 28°C

How to get there British Airways, Virgin Atlantic and American Airlines from Heathrow to Miami • British Airways from Gatwick and Heathrow (seasonal) to Orlando and from Gatwick to Tampa • Virgin Atlantic from Heathrow, Manchester and Edinburgh (seasonal) to Orlando and from Heathrow to Tampa • Aer Lingus from Manchester to Orlando

Average flying time 9 hours 30 minutes

 GMT -5 hours

Tourist office www.visitflorida.com

Ideal for Beaches, Theme Parks, Golf, Shopping, Nightlife, Fishing, Snorkelling and Diving





Magic of Florida

Proving that there's more to Florida than just the House of Mouse, this 15-day self-drive takes you from the theme parks of Orlando to cultured, sophisticated and stylish Naples before ending amid the white-sand beaches and endlessly sunny days of the glorious Gulf Coast.

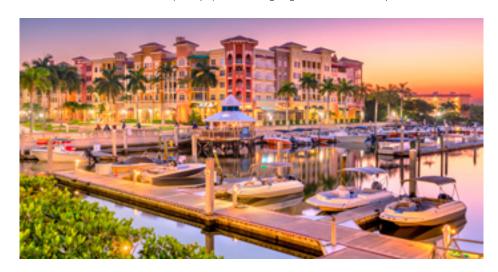
DAY 1 ORLANDO

Arrive at Orlando Airport, collect your hire car and make your way to the luxurious Loews Portofino Bay Hotel at Universal Orlando for a seven-night stay.

DAYS 2-7 ORLANDO

The next week has been left free for the child in you to enjoy the many theme parks and attractions that Orlando has to offer. A stone's throw from the hotel, Universal Orlando Resort boasts two theme parks, Universal Studios Florida and Islands of Adventure, as well as a water park and the shops and restaurants of Universal CityWalk. Disney choices range from Disney's Magic Kingdom Park – with Cinderella Castle at its heart – to Disney's Animal Kingdom Park and the two family friendly waterparks, Disney's Typhoon Lagoon and Disney's Blizzard Beach. Other options include LEGOLAND Florida and, slightly further afield, the Kennedy Space Center. Just be sure to ask your travel agent about booking multi-day passes in advance as this can often save you time and money.

In the evenings – or if you want a day off from park-based amusement – you'll find plenty elsewhere to entertain you in Orlando, including trendy craft breweries, eclectic shops and cutting-edge restaurants. The Milk District and Mills 50 are two especially up-and-coming neighbourhoods that really come alive after dark.



NUMBER OF DAYS

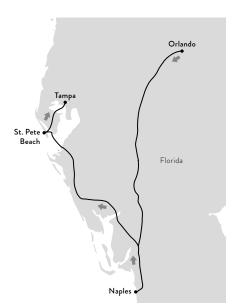
15

PRICES FROM

 $14\,\mathrm{nights}/15\,\mathrm{days}\,\mathrm{from}\,\pounds3,\!200\,\mathrm{per}\,\mathrm{person}$

YOUR ITINERARY INCLUDES

Price is based on two adults sharing a standard room and includes economy flights from London, compact car hire with insurance for 15 days and hotel accommodation as detailed.



Designed by

Natalie Bradburn-Lewis

"This itinerary offers the best of both worlds: a week of full-on family fun amid the theme parks of Orlando, followed by some well-deserved downtime relaxing on Florida's incredible beaches."

DAYS 8-11 NAPLES

Drive south to Naples and check in for four nights at Naples Bay Resort. Located close to downtown, the resort offers almost every amenity under the sun, including a tennis club, fitness centre, full-service spa and a number of great restaurants. It's also the only hotel in Naples with a marina offering direct access to the Gulf of Mexico, making it perfect for boat trips and watersports enthusiasts. Naples itself is a stylish, upmarket town known for its white-sand beaches, championship golf courses, good selection of restaurants and high-quality boutiques. It also makes a great base from which to explore the Everglades.



DAYS 12-14 ST. PETE BEACH

Take a leisurely drive up the Gulf Coast to St. Pete Beach and **The Don CeSar** hotel, affectionately known as the 'Pink Palace', where you'll stay for the next three nights. Home to glorious white-sand beaches, including the longest undeveloped stretch of public beach in the county, clear gulf waters and 361 days of sunshine a year, St. Pete Beach is a coastal delight. Get out on the water by glass-bottom kayak or stand-up paddleboard. Visit the nearby Salvador Dali Museum, the 26-acre St. Pete Pier or the award-winning Fort De Soto Park. Head to the Corey Avenue shopping district to browse speciality shops and unique boutiques. Or plan a day out in Tampa at another of Florida's most beloved theme parks, Busch Gardens, famous for its heart-racing rollercoasters and animal encounters.

ΔΥ 15 ΤΔ Μ ΡΔ

Say a final goodbye to the deep blues of the Gulf of Mexico before returning your hire car to the airport in Tampa in time to catch your flight home.

ESSENTIAL EXPERIENCES - OUR SUGGESTIONS



Kennedy Space Center

The Kennedy Space Center brings the epic story of the US space programme to life. Not only can you stand nose to nose with the Space Shuttle Atlantis, meet the latest Mars Rover and relive the final moments leading up to the moon landing, we can even arrange for you to chat with a real astronaut and hear exactly what it's like to live and work in space.



Everglades Tour

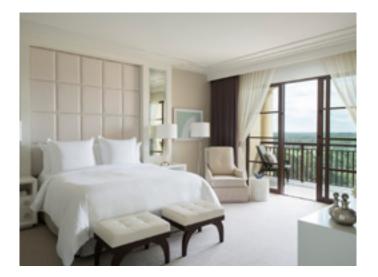
Join an experienced airboat captain for a private tour through the Florida Everglades, the only subtropical preserve in North America. Enjoy speeding through the sawgrass as you look out for alligators, turtles, snakes, birds and even manatees. Night-time tours are also available, when the guides use torches to find the telltale glow of alligators' eyes.



Diving & Snorkelling

Take a short boat ride from Key Largo to explore the shallow reefs of the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary with a master diver or certified snorkel guide. The reefs off Key Largo have been protected by the state for over four decades and are home to a multitude of sea life, several historic shipwrecks and the iconic bronze statue, *Christ of the Abyss*.

Visit our website to view these and other Florida hotels



Orlando

Four Seasons Resort Orlando at Walt Disney World® Resort

Located within the grounds of Walt Disney World Resort, the Four Seasons is one of Orlando's most enticing hotels, with a fabulous choice of contemporary rooms and suites whose furnished balconies offer scenic views of the surrounding parkland. Rooms above the fifth floor even offer views of the nightly Disney fireworks. Facilities include tennis courts, two elegant infinity pools, a lazy river, a five-acre water park, a sumptuous spa plus a private golf course. A choice of six restaurants ensures variety at mealtimes, with options ranging from the rooftop restaurant Capa to the Italian Ravello, which offers twice-weekly breakfasts with some of Disney's favourite characters.



Orlando

Waldorf Astoria Orlando

Set on 482 emerald-green acres and surrounded on three sides by Walt Disney World Resort, the Waldorf Astoria Orlando offers a wealth of luxurious amenities, including three pools, a lazy river, a superb spa, kids' club, fitness centre and a championship Rees Jones-designed golf course. Rooms and suites are contemporary in design and boast spacious bathrooms with Italian marble bathtubs and glass-fronted showers. The six dining venues live up to the standards set by the original Waldorf Astoria in New York, as indeed does the highly attentive service. The resort offers complimentary daily transport to the Disney theme parks, while the Universal parks are just a 15-minute car ride away.



Orlando

Disney's Animal Kingdom Lodge

There's nothing else in Florida like Disney's Animal Kingdom Lodge, where giraffe, zebra, gazelle and other wildlife are seen frequently from the guestrooms. A total of about 200 animals roam across the 74 acres of this highly imaginative safari-themed resort, which includes hundreds of pieces of African artwork, an 11,000-square-foot pool with a waterslide, and some of Disney's most exciting dining options, including Jiko – The Cooking Place, where African-inspired dishes are paired with an exceptional wine list. Other highlights include watching your favourite Disney films beneath the stars, roasting marshmallows around the fire as you listen to traditional storytelling, and complimentary bus transport to most of the Disney areas.



The Don CeSar

Affectionately known as the 'Pink Palace', this iconic hotel has been welcoming guests to the sugar-white beaches of Florida's Gulf Coast for nearly a century. The imposing exterior might be full Roaring Twenties but the newly refurbished rooms have a cool, coastal theme, with whimsical murals of tropical birds behind soft whitewashed headboards; suites boast extra space and stunning sea views. The sophisticated Maritana, named one of the top ten seafood restaurants in the US, is one of six excellent food and drink spots spread throughout the resort, including a beachfront cafe and an ice-cream parlour. Facilities include a private beach, two outdoor heated pools, a full-service spa and activities for kids, teens and adults alike.



Sarasota

The Resort at Longboat Key Club

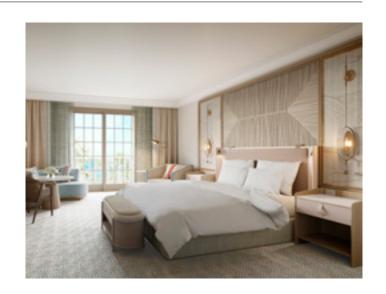
With panoramic views of the Gulf of Mexico, The Resort at Longboat Key Club offers elegantly appointed one- and two-bedroom suites, junior suites and standard rooms, all with private balconies and views of either the beach, nearby lagoon or golf course, of which there are two – The Harbourside, which borders Sarasota Bay, and the Links on Longboat, which runs along the Gulf of Mexico. Spike 'N Tees is a great spot for a celebratory drink after a day on the greens and is one of five great restaurants at the resort. Away from the fairways, the water is the main draw here, which explains the resort's 291-slip marina, ocean-facing pool and fully serviced beachfront, where activities range from yoga and tai chi to kayaking and paddleboarding.



Naples

The Ritz-Carlton, Naples

There's no shortage of luxury at The Ritz-Carlton, Naples, which sits on a three-mile stretch of beachfront overlooking the Gulf of Mexico. Only here it's served with a relaxed formality and a hugely impressive range of facilities for children, including a lovely family pool and an educational, interactive nature-based programme that includes beach combing, aquarium visits and microscope time in a kid-sized laboratory. For older kids and adults there's everything from jet skis and paddleboards to top tennis facilities, as well as a huge spa, a 24-hour fitness centre and an entertainment lounge with the latest virtual reality games. Almost all rooms have balconies and dining options range from delicious grilled steaks to seafood with sea views.





Palm Beach

The Breakers

Situated on the exclusive island of Palm Beach, The Breakers occupies 140 acres of sun-drenched oceanfront and has been the leading hotel in the area for well over a century. Built by railroad visionary Henry Morrison Flagler, its range of facilities is truly something to behold. Two championship golf courses, a tennis complex, a 20,000-square-foot spa and a Mediterranean-style beach club are just for starters. You'll also find four oceanfront pools, a sea-view fitness centre, a high-end shopping arcade and no fewer than eight restaurants, including the amazing HMF. Rooms are a blend of soft pastels and dark woods, with the exceptional Flagler Club adding tempting extras like breakfast, snacks and pre-dinner cocktails on a private roof terrace.



South Beach

The Setai. Miami Beach

Right by the water in the historic Art Deco district of South Beach, The Setai, Miami Beach offers sweeping ocean views and a host of luxury amenities. Drawing inspiration from Asia, suites are split between the hotel's landmark 1930s Art Deco building and its modern 40-storey tower. Those in the former offer city and courtyard views while tower suites range from one to four bedrooms, offer world-class ocean views and enjoy exclusive benefits like complimentary breakfasts and round-trip airport transfers. Dining options include the excellent pan-Asian restaurant Jaya as well as the beachfront Ocean Grill. Three pools, an award-winning spa, a gallery of shops and a wide selection of land and watersports round out the facilities.



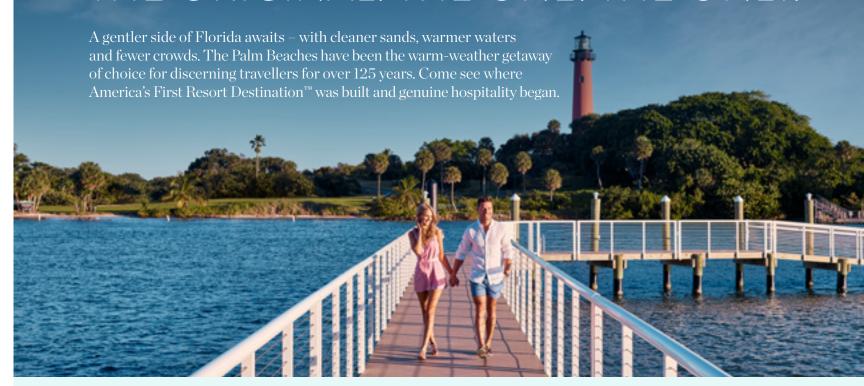
South Beach

The Betsy - South Beach

Anchoring one end of iconic Ocean Drive, The Betsy is in the heart of the bustling Art Deco district and offers a refreshing, more intimate alternative to Miami's towering resort hotels. Its 130 rooms and suites combine elegant design with the simple beauty of a tropical hideout, with marble bathrooms, walnut floors and artwork from the owner's own collection. Restaurants range from the appropriately named LT Steak & Seafood to a casual trattoria serving pizzas, pasta, charcuterie and salads. Facilities, meanwhile, include an intimate courtyard pool, a spa and fitness centre, a skyline deck that's perfect for sunrise yoga, regular literary events and jazz evenings, plus a rooftop pool with 360-degree views of Miami and the ocean.

The Palm Beaches, Florida

THE ORIGINAL. THE ONE. THE ONLY.



Beautiful Beaches

With 47 miles of gorgeous coastline, The Palm Beaches are home to some of the finest stretches of sand in southern Florida. Searching for seclusion? Relax on the remote beaches of Ocean Cay Park in Jupiter, or at Atlantic Dunes Park in Delray Beach. Need entertaining? Stroll the promenade at Singer Island Municipal Park. Want fun for all the family? Find child-friendly swimming at Red Reef Park in Boca Raton, or follow the Underwater Snorkel Trail at Riviera Beach.

Fun in the Sun

Outdoor activities abound in The Palm Beaches. Get your thrills on the coast with a speedboat tour or flyboarding experience. Slow things down with a kayak, canoe or stand-up paddleboard. Or swim alongside sea turtles and dive historic shipwrecks. On land you'll find hiking, biking and riding trails, the world's largest croquet facility and over 160 golf courses, including The Champion, a Jack Nicklaus-designed course that features the Bear Trap, one of the most challenging three-hole stretches in golf.

World-class Shopping

Better leave room in your suitcase to enjoy shopping in The Palm Beaches. Worth Avenue rivals the best shopping districts in the world, with everything from Chanel and Gucci outlets to fine jewellery and home furnishings. Beyond Palm Beach, fashionistas flock to the Town Center at Boca Raton. Pineapple Grove in Delray Beach boasts eclectic finds from local artisans. Treasures are unearthed along Antique Row. And savings can be found on over 100 brands at the Palm Beach Outlets.

Food & Drink

Some of the best restaurants in south Florida are located in The Palm Beaches. Take Guanabanas in Jupiter, for example, famous for its fresh seafood, live music and waterfront setting, or the always-packed Avocado Grill in West Palm Beach, known for its ultra-fresh raw bar and delicious small plates. For dessert, try chocolate tasting on a free tour of the Hoffman's Chocolates factory. Then wash it all down at one of The Palm Beaches' 20 excellent craft breweries.

"The Palm Beaches have something for everyone. A must is a visit to HMF, The Breakers hotel's hottest gathering place, for a night of amazing food and cocktails to die for. Or if you're after some pampering, I recommend a treatment at Spa Palmera at another great hotel, The Boca Raton. It will leave you feeling like you're floating on air."

Sarah Gibbons, Senior Product Manager

SPEAK TO YOUR TRAVEL AGENT ABOUT BOOKING A LUSSO HOLIDAY TO THE PALM BEACHES



GETTING THERE AND AWAY

It couldn't be easier to reach The Palm Beaches thanks to regular flights into Palm Beach International Airport via hubs including Atlanta, New York and Boston. Alternatively, fly direct to Orlando year-round from London or Manchester, or seasonally from Edinburgh, or fly direct to Miami from London and transfer by private car in 2.5 hours or 50 minutes respectively.



Islamorada

Cheeca Lodge & Spa

Situated on a narrow peninsula surrounded by shimmering waters and marine life, Cheeca Lodge & Spa has it all: a gorgeous stretch of sandy beach, three heated pools, a nine-hole golf course and the longest pier in the Florida Keys, from which George H.W. Bush used to run fishing tournaments. Guests are still welcome to fish from the pier, where they can also borrow kayaks and paddleboards free of charge or board a sunset cruise or sailing charter. Spacious rooms and suites are spread between the main lodge and bungalows; the pick of the bunch are the oceanfront suites with their private balcony bathtubs. Dining options range from the flagship seafood restaurant Atlantic's Edge to Italian and sushi options and two open-air tiki bars.



Duck Key

Hawks Cay Resort

A stunning natural lagoon greets guests on arrival at this tropical resort, situated on the small, secluded island of Duck Key, about midway between Miami and Key West. Rooms and suites feature Caribbean-style décor, furnished patios or balconies and either island or waterfront views. Family rooms come with bunk beds, the new penthouse suites boast breathtaking rooftop terraces, while villas come with two to four bedrooms, living rooms and kitchens. There are five swimming pools, including one exclusively for adults, as well as tennis courts, a spa and fitness centre, fishing and snorkelling charters, bikes, kayaks, paddleboards and a popular kids' club. Seafood, as you'd imagine, features strongly across the multiple restaurant options.



Key West

Ocean Key Resort & Spa

Sunset Pier would be reason enough to book a stay at this charming hotel in the heart of Key West's Old Town. It's by far and away the best place to catch the sunset and is a wonderful dinner option before a night on the tiles in nearby Duval Street. There are plenty of reasons to stay put in the hotel, though, including more refined dining at signature restaurant Hot Tin Roof, a boutique spa that draws heavily on influences from Bali and Thailand, plus an oceanfront pool and cocktail bar. Rooms and suites feature private balconies with stunning views of the Gulf of Mexico or historic Duval Street, as well as pastel-hued walls, cheery floral and striped fabrics, colourful rugs and generous bathrooms with luxurious marble tubs.

FIND YOUR FLORIDA KEYS

Stretching in a graceful arc from mainland Florida south-west into the Gulf of Mexico, the Florida Keys are connected by the legendary 113-mile-long Overseas Highway, thus setting the stage for one of America's greatest road trips.



Key Largo

Best for diving and snorkelling

Key Largo is the gateway to the Everglades and a mecca for divers and snorkellers, who come to explore its shipwrecks and the John Pennekamp Coral Reef State Park, America's first underwater park, where the sunken statue *Christ of the Abyss* stands surrounded by corals and colourful tropical fish.



Islamorada

Best for fishing

Islamorada is considered the sport-fishing capital of the world, with expert fishing guides ready to take you across the backcountry's shallow flats in search of bonefish, snook, tarpon and other game fish, or out into the Atlantic, where the swift-moving Gulf Stream attracts marlin, sailfish and swordfish.



Marathon

Best for history and conservation

Marathon's Dolphin Research Center and Turtle Hospital are both great examples of the many conservation projects and animal rehabilitation centres found throughout the Keys. Also worth a visit is the museum on Pigeon Key, which tells the story of the original Overseas Railroad from Miami to Key West.



Big Pine & The Lower Keys

Best for nature

The Lower Keys are known for their wild spaces and tropical beauty. Walk the trails of the National Key Deer Refuge, swim and snorkel in the gin-clear waters Bahia Honda State Park, or search for dolphins and manatees by kayak or paddleboard in the Great White Heron National Wildlife Refuge.



Key West

Best for sunsets and nightlife

You know the sunsets are good when there's a nightly celebration devoted to them. Head to Mallory Square two hours before dusk to soak up the festival-like atmosphere. Then paint the town red on mile-long Duval Street, hitting legendary bars like Sloppy Joe's and Captain Tony's Saloon, where Hemingway used to drink.



DRIVING THE FLORIDA KEYS

11-Day Self-Drive ltinerary
This laidback itinerary follows the
Overseas Highway from Art Deco
Miami to the sun-and-sand playground
of Key West, the southernmost point of
the continental United States.

Day 1 Miami Arrive in Miami, collect your hire car and check in to Fontainebleau Miami Beach for one night.

Day 2 Key Largo Drive to Islamorada and check in for three nights at Cheeca Lodge & Spa, perhaps stopping on the way in Key Largo to snorkel or dive in the Keys' protected waters.

Days 3-4 Islamorada Go backcountry fishing for bonefish and tarpon, or deep-sea fishing for grouper and giant tuna. Alternatively, try kayaking or paddleboarding, relax at your hotel, or visit the Florida Keys History & Discovery Center.

Days 5-7 Duck Key Continue down to Duck Key for a three-night stay at Hawks Cay Resort. Enjoy boating, swimming, snorkelling and other watersports. Or head beyond the hotel to the Turtle Hospital or Dolphin Research Center on pearly. Marathon

Day 8 Big Pine & Lower Keys Cross Seven Mile Bridge to Big Pine, perhaps stopping to enjoy the beauty of Bahia Honda State Park or the Looe Key National Marine Sanctuary. Continue to Key West and check in for three nights at Ocean Key Resort & Spa.

Days 9-11 Key West Enjoy the nightly spectacle of fire-eaters, sword-swallowers and street performers at Mallory Square. Tour Hemingway's former home and studio. Visit the Little White House, the former vacation home of President Truman. Or strike out by seaplane to Dry Tortugas National Park, seven beautiful small islands adrift in the Gulf of Mexico.

10 nights / 11 days from £2,865 per person including economy flights from London, 11 days' car hire and 10 nights' accommodation in a standard room on a room-only basis.

SPEAK TO YOUR TRAVEL AGENT ABOUT BOOKING A LUSSO HOLIDAY TO THE FLORIDA KEYS & KEY WEST





Georgia & South Carolina

History comes thick and fast in the charming Southern states of Georgia and South Carolina. Residents will tell you that the Civil War general W.T. Sherman spared Savannah, Georgia, because of its beauty, a story easily believed when you walk through its rich Historic District, where parades of houses reveal 200 years of architectural styles. A particular favourite is the Owens-Thomas House, considered the best Regencystyle house in America.

Savannah's squares are at their best in spring, when the azalea, dogwood and magnolia trees are in full bloom. But even in the thick of an August heatwave, as greenery grows wildly up cast-iron balconies, Savannah's charm is relentless. And if the mugginess gets too much, there's a host of great restaurants in which to fortify yourself, many serving up classic Lowcountry fare such as fresh shrimp and grits, fried green tomatoes and succulent roasted oysters.

Across the state border, Charleston is equally charming, with its colourful houses, cobblestone streets and horse-drawn carriages. A remarkable 73% of its pre-revolutionary buildings remain intact, making it the best-preserved colonial city in America. Around the city are several antebellum mansions now open to the public, including Magnolia, Drayton Hall and Boone Hall Plantation. While out in the harbour is historic Fort Sumter, where the first shots of the Civil War were fired.

Between these two cities are a string of alluring islands and breathtaking beaches. Closest to Savannah is Tybee Island, home to Georgia's tallest and oldest lighthouse. Travelling north, both Hilton Head Island and Kiawah Island offer world-class hotels as well as miles of white-sand beaches. While just south of Charleston, Folly Beach teems with oceanbased attractions, including the 1,000-foot Folly Beach Pier, a pelican rookery and seafood restaurants of every stripe imaginable.

With so much action on the coast, it's easy to forget Atlanta. But the so-called capital of the South has a lot to offer too, from the Georgia Aquarium and the World of Coca-Cola to a string of sites associated with the city's most famous son, Martin Luther King Jr.

Important Information

Best time to visit Georgia and South Carolina have subtropical climates. With hot and humid summers and short mild winters, spring and autumn are the most comfortable times to visit.

Average temp 23°C

How to get there Virgin Atlantic from Manchester and Heathrow via Atlanta to Savannah and Charleston • United from Heathrow and Edinburgh via Washington D.C. or Newark to Savannah and Charleston • American Airlines from Heathrow via Charlotte or Philadelphia to Savannah and Charleston • Delta from Heathrow and Edinburgh via Atlanta, Boston or JFK to Savannah and Charleston

Average flying time 11 hours 30 minutes

GMT -5 hours

Tourist office discoversouthcarolina.com | exploregeorgia.org

Ideal for Beaches, Watersports, Fishing, Golf, Culture and History



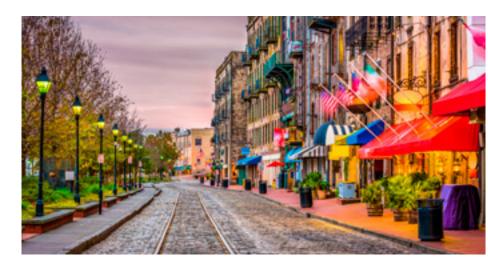


Historic Georgia & South Carolina

From avenues of oak trees and antebellum mansions to pristine beaches and subtropical sea islands, this lesser-visited region of eastern USA offers history, charm and spectacular scenery in generous, equal measures.

DAYS 1-3 SAVANNAH

Collect your hire car upon arrival at Savannah Airport and make your way to The Westin Savannah Harbor Golf Resort & Spa, set on the banks of the Savannah River, where you'll enjoy a three-night stay. Shaded by old oak trees draped in Spanish moss, perfumed by magnolias and filled with historic buildings, public squares and pretty gardens, few American cities are more arresting than Savannah. Many of its attractions are in the highly walkable Historic District, including the Owens-Thomas House, one of the best examples of Regency architecture in America, and the tall brick warehouses of the waterfront, many of which have been tastefully transformed into seafood restaurants and riverfront bars. Guided walking tours come highly recommended, as does a visit to old Fort Jackson, which has stood in Savannah's skyline for nearly two centuries.



DAYS 4-5 BLUFFTON

Head north across the border into South Carolina and enjoy the scenic drive up to Montage Palmetto Bluff, a former hunting lodge on the May River set in 20,000 acres of protected maritime forest. It's the ultimate Lowcountry retreat and your base for the next two nights, allowing ample opportunity to explore its lagoons and secret beaches, to relax with a massage, or to try your hand at anything from kayaking and golfing to clay pigeon shooting.

NUMBER OF DAYS

12

PRICES FROM

11 nights / 12 days from £3,160 per person

YOUR ITINERARY INCLUDES

Price is based on two adults sharing a standard room and includes economy flights from London, compact car hire with insurance for 12 days and hotel accommodation as detailed.



Designed by

Natalie Bradburn-Lewis

"I was taken aback by just how beautiful the cities of Charleston and Savannah really are, with their historical houses, cobblestone streets and pretty horse-drawn carriages."

DAYS 6-8 HILTON HEAD ISLAND

Continue to the coast and check in for three nights at **The Westin Hilton Head Island Resort & Spa**. One of the most popular resort areas on the eastern seaboard, Hilton Head Island is a seaside playground with over 20 championship golf courses, some 200 tennis courts, numerous spas, quaint museums, historic buildings, shops and art galleries. A wide range of bike and nature trails criss-cross its sea marshes, lagoons, forests and sandy beaches, all of which can be explored in the island's warm, subtropical climate.

DAYS 9-12 CHARLESTON

Enjoy the scenic drive up the honeycombed coastline of South Carolina – past peninsulas, channels and subtropical sea islands – to the colonial city of Charleston and check in for three nights at **The Charleston Place**. Oozing with charm and dripping with history, Charleston's famed Historic District contains one of the nation's largest collections of antebellum architecture, and a fair share of distinctive Victorian buildings as well. Walking tours are a wonderful way to get to know the city. Almost all visit Fort Sumter, where the Civil War started in 1861, and Rainbow Row, a terrace of bright pastel houses dating back to the 1740s. But they also dip down back alleys and explore cobbled streets, revealing hidden gardens and courtyards, graveyards, churches and antebellum mansions. Charleston also boasts a lively entertainment scene with a great choice of music venues, bars and excellent restaurants, while just beyond the city are some magnificent plantations that are well worth a visit. Return your hire car at the airport on day 12 in time to catch your flight home.



ESSENTIAL EXPERIENCES - OUR SUGGESTIONS



World-Class Golf

Golfers will find more than 33 world-class golf courses in the Lowcountry area, including championship courses on Hilton Head and Kiawah islands designed by such legendary course architects as Robert Trent Jones Sr., Gary Player and Jack Nicklaus. Expect an array of leisurely and challenging rounds, with enough variety to cater to golfers of all abilities.



Private Sailing Charter

Set sail from Hilton Head Island on a sailing trip like no other, on an authentic America's Cup-winning vessel. Cruise under full sail around the island's picture-perfect coastline, have a turn taking the helm, or simply sit back and enjoy the ride as the experienced crew demonstrate what these classic 12-metre yachts are really capable of.



Fort Sumter Tour

Take a ferry ride across Charleston Harbor – perhaps even spotting dolphins along the way – and see where the first shots of the Civil War were fired on a privately guided tour of Fort Sumter. Learn about the events that led up to the war – the deadliest in America's history – and listen to park rangers recount the stories of its first bloody battle.



Charleston, South Carolina

The Charleston Place

Occupying an enviable location within walking distance of Charleston's famed historic sights and downtown shopping district, this iconic property treats guests to an effortless blend of gentility and modern comfort. Rooms and suites come with antique furnishings, marble bathrooms and cloud-like king beds. The Club Level occupies the top two floors, where guests enjoy added extras like all-day dining in the two-storey lounge complete with marble bar. Elsewhere, the award-winning Charleston Grill embodies the best of Southern cooking, while the Palmetto Café offers alfresco dining in an attractive, garden-like courtyard. A rooftop spa and a saltwater pool beneath a retractable glass skylight are the icing on the cake.



Charleston, South Carolina

Hotel Bennett

The Bennett stands imposingly on the corner of King Street, Charleston's main drag, and Marion Square, site of the lively Saturday farmers' market. Though newly built there's a sense of tradition here, evidenced by the jacketed doormen ushering guests inside past hand-painted murals of 18th-century Charleston. Rooms and suites are more modern, offering luxury bed linens, capacious oval bathtubs and large walk-in showers. Two roof terraces, one quieter and on the third floor, the other more sociable and on the ninth, look out across downtown, the latter featuring a stunning heated pool with luxurious private cabanas. There's also a spa, a salmon-pink champagne lounge, a delicious patisserie and the signature restaurant, Gabrielle.



Kiawah Island, South Carolina

The Sanctuary at Kiawah Island Golf Resort

Located along the pristine shores of Kiawah Island, just 21 miles from downtown Charleston, this elegant oceanfront hotel combines luxury living with Southern style and charm. Interiors evoke the grandeur of a coastal mansion, with sweeping staircases, hand-painted murals and treasured antiques. Most rooms and suites come with ocean views and a private balcony, as well as walk-in showers and separate soaking tubs in the bathrooms. Facilities include the plush Sanctuary Spa, a fitness centre with indoor pool, tennis, watersports and an outdoor infinity pool and hot tub. There are numerous award-winning restaurants to choose from, not to mention several beautiful beaches, miles of cycling and walking trails and five championship golf courses.

Bluffton, South Carolina

Montage Palmetto Bluff

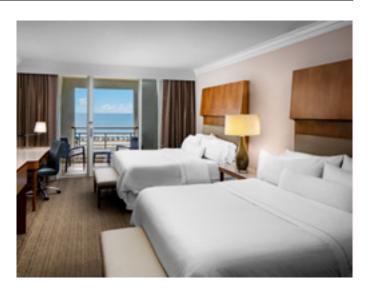
Set on the May River within 20,000 acres of maritime forest, about midway between Hilton Head Island and Savannah, Georgia, lies Montage Palmetto Bluff. The resort appears at the end of a long cinematic road lined with the Lowcountry's signature live oaks, whose twisted boughs are festooned with Spanish moss. Spacious rooms, suites and cottages blur the lines between indoor and outdoor luxury. Interiors boast pine floors, fireplaces, massive plush beds and palatial bathrooms, while the screened, furnished terraces and balconies afford unparalleled views of the surrounding forest and lagoon. When not relaxing at the spa or dining across a choice of restaurants, options include golfing, riding, biking, kayaking and scenic yacht cruises.



Hilton Head Island, South Carolina

The Westin Hilton Head Island Resort & Spa

Located on a rugged stretch of Atlantic beachfront, this smart yet laidback resort provides the perfect base from which to explore Hilton Head Island. Sun-filled guestrooms and suites feature private balconies with views of the island, resort or in many cases, the ocean. Both farm- and sea-to-table dining are championed at the resort's on-site restaurants, including Lowcountry favourites in The Carolina Room. Three outdoor pools with private cabanas are just steps from the white sandy beach. The revitalising spa offers a wide array of treatments. And some of the best golf and tennis facilities on the island are just a stone's throw away. Bikes are also available to discover the island's many creeks, lagoons and forests.



Savannah, Georgia

Mansion on Forsyth Park

Buildings in Savannah don't get much more Southern Gothic than this redbrick Victorian mansion turned luxury boutique hotel. Rooms, however, are not in the 19th-century main building but in an additional building next door, one that adheres remarkably closely to the style of the original. As a result, they're very spacious, boasting luxury bed linens, marble bathrooms and in many cases views of the adjacent Forsyth Park. The restaurant 700 Drayton has a focus on Southern fare, cocktails can be savoured in the elegant Bösendorfer Lounge, and afternoon tea enjoyed in the Marble Garden Courtyard. There's also a tranquil spa, an on-site cooking school, a marble-framed pool and an art gallery showcasing works from both local and international artists.



Inside the USA with Natalie Bradburn-Lewis

What's your favourite US state and why?

I adore Florida as it truly has something for everyone. Once you've tired yourself out in the theme parks of Orlando, Florida's beaches offer year-round relaxation. I especially love the quiet, white-sand beaches of the Gulf Coast – places like St. Pete Beach near Tampa, Sarasota and Naples.

Do you have a favourite American hotel?

There's a special place in my heart for the Four Seasons Resort Hualalai on the Big Island in Hawaii. I saw probably the best sunset of my life there while sipping cocktails just steps from the ocean.

Where should I go to get off the tourist trail?

That's easy – Kauai in Hawaii. Home to just 5% of Hawaii's population, it looks exactly how you imagine a tropical island to be, probably because it's been the backdrop to films like *Jurassic Park, Kong: Skull Island* and *Pirates of the Caribbean: On Stranger Tides.* Pack a picnic, have a boat drop you off on a deserted beach and play Robinson Crusoe for a day. Bliss!

Where is best for a beach holiday?

For somewhere a bit different, the South Carolina coastline is a beach-lover's dream, with fabulous spots like Folly Beach and Kiawah all easily accessible from Charleston, not to mention Hilton Head Island, with its 12 miles of gorgeous, rugged beaches.

What's the best way to sample American culture?

Philadelphia is packed full of art, culture and American history. The Declaration of Independence was signed here in 1776 in what's now Independence Hall, across the street from another of America's most famous symbols, Liberty Bell. Festivals and jazz concerts are held regularly at Penn's Landing, and spread around the city are over 3,000 murals, in effect turning Philly into the world's largest outdoor art gallery. Plus, of course, you've got duty-free shopping, the legendary Rocky steps, and the famous Philly cheesesteaks – surely the best steak-and-cheese rolls on the planet?











The Deep South

It's hard to imagine a more seductive city than New Orleans – a sultry melting pot of French, Spanish, Creole and Southern styles. Arrive for Mardi Gras and you'll witness one of America's most spectacular celebrations; a season of parades and carnivals that starts on Twelfth Night and ends on Shrove Tuesday. But New Orleans is wonderful at any time of year. Just consider the lively French Quarter, a compact neighbourhood of narrow cobbled streets laid out in the 1720s, where gloriously faded buildings with wrought-iron balconies house stores selling everything from museum-quality antiques to voodoo paraphernalia. The soundtrack to it all is the sweet strain of jazz, which spills out of bars, is played on street corners and hangs in the air on paddle-steamer cruises down the Mississippi River.

As important as music to the state of Louisiana is its place in the history of the civil rights movement. The Louisiana Civil Rights Trail launched in 2021 to commemorate the places and people that blazed a trail for equal rights in the 20th century. Visiting sites along the trail is a wonderful way to engage with their stories. There is a marker, for example, outside the Old State Capitol in Baton Rouge, the site of the nation's first bus boycott, which inspired Doctor King's landmark Montgomery bus boycott two years later.

Head north to Mississippi and you'll soon reach Natchez, famous for its wealth of grand plantation properties, which survived the Civil War when the city surrendered without a fight. From here Elvis fans may want to detour to Tupelo, the singer's Mississippi birthplace, or head straight to Graceland, his world-renowned mansion in Memphis, Tennessee. It's one of the many music-related landmarks for which Memphis is famous. Others include the Rock 'n' Soul Museum, the live music venues of Beale Street and the iconic Sun Studio, which discovered the talents of Johnny Cash, Jerry Lee Lewis and Roy Orbison among others.

For a different kind of tune, continue north to Nashville, the home of country music and of the Grand Ole Opry, the world's longest-running live radio show. The city has had quite the boom in recent years, with new attractions like the National Museum of African American Music and swanky, revitalised neighbourhoods like The Gulch adding a progressive, renaissance flair to its stalwart Southern charms.

Important Information

Best time to visit The Deep South generally has sunny weather throughout the year with the highest rainfall and hottest temperatures occurring during summer months. Spring and autumn seasons are pleasantly warm during the day and cooler at night.

Average temp 25°C

 $How \ to \ get \ there \ British \ Airways \ from \ Heathrow \ to \ New \ Orleans \ and \ Nashville$

Average flying time 9 hours 30 minutes

GMT -6 hours

Tourist office www.deep-south-usa.com

Ideal for Music, History, Nightlife, Culture, Cuisine and River Cruises





Rhythm of the Deep South

Explore the musical and historical landscapes of America's Deep South on this 13-day self-drive itinerary. From the country music capital of Nashville through Elvis's birthplace, Tupelo, and the blues towns of Memphis and Natchez to the Big Easy itself, vibrant New Orleans, the stops on this tour can't help but sing the story of America.

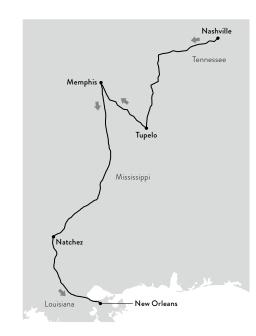
DAYS 1-3 NASHVILLE

After arriving in Nashville, collect your hire car at the airport and drive to the **Thompson Nashville** hotel for a three-night stay. Located in the trendy Gulch neighbourhood, this boutique hotel offers easy access to restaurants, bars and famous Station Inn, Nashville's foremost home of bluegrass since 1974. Spend the next two days exploring all that Music City has to offer. Enjoy Lower Broadway, where honky tonks play live music seven days a week. Take a behind-the-scenes tour of the Grand Ole Opry. Or visit the Johnny Cash Museum and Country Music Hall of Fame.

DAY 4 TUPELO

Drive from Nashville to Tupelo and check in for a night at **Hotel Tupelo**. Tupelo has become something of a pilgrimage site for those who kneel before the King, as it was here, in a humble two-room structure, that Elvis Presley was born in 1935. The house, now a museum, is well worth a visit, with plenty of photographs, family heirlooms and Elvis-worn apparel.





NUMBER OF DAYS

13

PRICES FROM 12 nights / 13 days from £2,870 person

YOUR ITINERARY INCLUDES

Price is based on two adults sharing a standard room and includes economy flights from London, compact car hire with insurance for 13 days and hotel accommodation as detailed.

Designed by

Julie Hammond

"I adore the Deep South. Memories of dancing to live music in the bars of New Orleans never fail to bring a smile to my face. Graceland is one tourist destination that actually lives up to the hype. And I still dream about the food at B.B. King's Blues Club in Memphis, Tennessee!"

DAYS 5-7 MEMPHIS

Next stop is Memphis, the birthplace of rock 'n' roll and the home of the blues. Check in for three nights at The Peabody Memphis, then set out to explore the city. We challenge you not to dance your way around the Rock 'n' Soul Museum, which tells the story of the musical pioneers who overcame racial and socio-economic obstacles to create music that changed the world forever. Be sure also to visit Graceland, the King's beloved mansion, the world-famous Sun Studio and lively Beale Street, the heart of the city's historic district and home to many of its best live music venues.

DAYS 8-9 NATCHEZ

From Memphis, drop back into Mississippi and make your way to Natchez, the oldest settlement on the Mississippi River. Your base for the next two nights will be **Monmouth Historic Inn & Gardens**, an antebellum mansion set in 26 acres of manicured gardens. From here we recommend visiting some of the plantation homes around Natchez, which grew more and more extravagant in the 18th and 19th centuries as wealthy planters aimed to outdo each other.

DAYS 10-13 NEW ORLEANS

End your dive into the Deep South in the city of New Orleans with a three-night stay at **Hotel Monteleone** in the heart of the historic French Quarter. Take a riverboat ride on a traditional paddle steamer, soak up the nightlife of bustling Bourbon Street, dine on Cajun and Creole cuisine in any number of great restaurants, or simply follow your ears to one of the city's many juke joints playing New Orleans jazz at all hours of the day. Return your hire car at the airport on day 13 in time to catch your flight home.



ESSENTIAL EXPERIENCES - OUR SUGGESTIONS



Graceland VIP Experience

Enjoy a VIP tour of Graceland, Elvis's Memphis mansion. See the house how it was in 1977, the year Elvis died. Step aboard the King's private planes to see how he travelled in luxury. Walk among his collection of classic cars. And look back at his career through an amazing collection of gold and platinum albums, flashy stagewear and film memorabilia.



New Orleans Music Tour

Jazz as we know it was born in New Orleans in the late-19th century and is the soundtrack to any visit to the city. This noteworthy tour, guided by a local music expert, is a toe-tapping trip through the Big Easy's most musical neighbourhoods, stopping along the way at popular bars and clubs, or to listen on street corners to brass bands and buskers.



Plantation Tour

The plantations of the Deep South offer a poignant insight into the lives of the wealthy estate owners, their families and the enslaved forced to work there during the 18th and 19th centuries. This well-balanced tour out of New Orleans visits two of the most important plantations in the region, Oak Alley Plantation and Houmas House Plantation and Gardens.



New Orleans, Louisiana

Hotel Monteleone

An icon on the New Orleans hotel scene, the Monteleone first opened its doors in 1886 and has been treating guests to timeless luxury ever since. Situated in the heart of the French Quarter, this historic family-owned property commands a prime location on Royal Street, just a block away from Bourbon Street and a short walk from Jackson Square and the French Market. The decadent lobby sets the tone for your stay here and leads to a selection of elegantly appointed rooms, plus suites embellished with period furniture. Take in the views from the rooftop pool, unwind in Spa Aria, dine to live jazz at restaurant Criollo, or sip cocktails at Carousel, the hotel's famous revolving bar.



New Orleans, Louisiana

Royal Sonesta New Orleans

With its Art Deco styling, striking abstract art and grand floral arrangements, this much-loved hotel brings a touch of class to the carnival of Bourbon Street. Rooms and suites are light and spacious, with options to look onto the secluded pool or tropical courtyard, or to gaze down at Bourbon Street from your wrought-iron balcony. Restaurant R'evolution is one of the city's most innovative fine-dining establishments. A more casual affair but well worth ducking into is the Desire Oyster Bar serving seafood and Creole classics, while the drinks and live music of Le Booze and The Jazz Playhouse provide nightly entertainment. A heated outdoor pool, poolside bar, coffee shop and 24-hour fitness centre round out the facilities.



Natchez, Mississippi

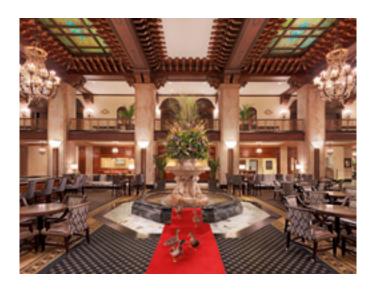
Monmouth Historic Inn & Gardens

Step back in time with a stay at this imposing early-19th-century antebellum mansion set in 26 acres of manicured gardens. The charming property is home to 30 rooms and suites, split between the main house and seven outbuildings, repurposed as cottages and guest homes. Suites are a vision of old Southern grandeur with canopied wooden beds, original artworks, exquisite antiques and other period furnishings. Guests gather in the evenings for pre-dinner drinks in the Quitman Lounge & Study before heading to the award-winning Restaurant 1818 to enjoy seasonal Southern fare in what were once the old parlour rooms. A great alternative, however, especially in summer, is to opt for a romantic picnic in the beautiful hotel grounds.

Memphis, Tennessee

The Peabody Memphis

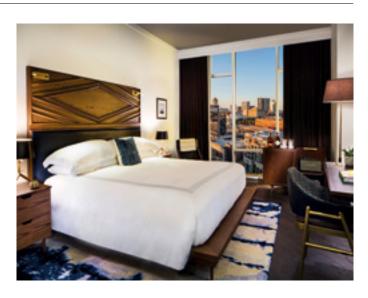
Located in the heart of downtown Memphis, just a five-minute walk from Beale Street, The Peabody is a Memphis institution and has been welcoming guests since 1869. Everyone who's anyone has stayed here, from A-list celebrities to British royalty. Integral to the hotel's charm are the twice-daily duck parades, when the Peabody's five resident mallard ducks march around the marble fountain in the lobby. Get beyond the lobby, however, and you'll find rooms and suites decorated with rich textures and specially commissioned wall art, both formal French and casual Italian dining options, a heated indoor pool, the wonderful Feathers Spa, and on Thursday nights through the summer, the best rooftop party in the city.



Nashville, Tennessee

Thompson Nashville

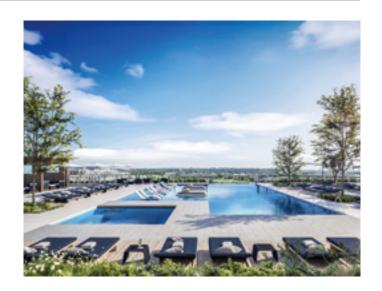
With 12 floors and 224 rooms, the size of Thompson Nashville may stretch the definition of 'boutique', but it certainly fits the bill in terms of artistry and attention to detail, from the local artwork in the lobby to the dark wood floors, colourful woven rugs, claw-foot bathtubs and rooftop bar serving craft cocktails and Southern-brewed beers. In the rooms, floor-to-ceiling windows look down on The Gulch, one of Nashville's most desirable neighbourhoods, filled with bars, shops and restaurants. Not that you need to stray from the hotel to get a good meal, or even a good coffee. Killebrew Coffee is a hipster-style coffee shop just off the lobby, while the Marsh House restaurant has built its reputation on sustainable Southern seafood.

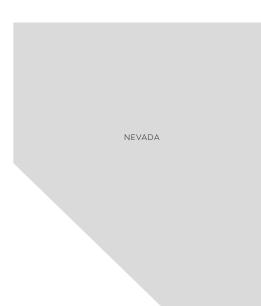


Nashville, Tennessee

Four Seasons Hotel Nashville

Opened in late 2022, Four Seasons Hotel Nashville is one of the most exciting new hotels to reach the South in recent years. The 235 rooms, including 42 suites, are all elevated on the 7th to 14th floors to offer far-reaching views of the city or Cumberland River and feature clean-lined designs with hints of local black walnut, leather and burnished metal. The all-day dining restaurant focuses on seafood with a Southern influence, while the spa seduces with six sunlit treatment rooms, including a couple's suite. Most impressive of all, however, is the expansive rooftop terrace, complete with private cabanas, buzzing bar and grill, year-round heated hot tub and dazzling infinity-edged pool.





Arizona & Nevada

A year-round destination with a lot to shout about, Arizona is famously an outdoor state. Few things on earth are as staggering to behold as the Grand Canyon. The mile-deep chasm carved by the Colorado River is 277 miles long and up to 18 miles wide. Its striated walls change colour by the hour and its numerous hiking trails are virtually peerless when it comes to dramatic views.

But the state's natural wonders don't stop at the Grand Canyon. The giant Saguaro cacti of the Sonoran Desert can grow up to 50 feet tall. The twin-humped peaks of Camelback Mountain reward those who make the climb with spectacular views over Scottsdale to the south and the dreamy desert landscapes of the McDowell Sonoran Preserve to the north. While on the border with Utah, the vast barren plain of Monument Valley is punctuated by magnificent monoliths and eroded spires with names like Totem Pole, the Mittens and Elephant Butte.

Linking it all together are a string of lavish resorts with exceptional facilities and a couple of key hubs. Scottsdale is an adventure, spa and wellness destination par excellence. Its thriving Old Town is packed full of bars, restaurants, Native American art galleries and reminders of the Old West. It's also something of a golfing mecca, with players taking advantage of the city's 330 days of sunshine a year to enjoy its dozens of desert courses. To the north, Sedona stands tall against a backdrop of pine-green hillsides and red-rock towers. It's especially known for its energy vortexes, whose healing properties are channelled by the town's many spas and retreats.

Any trip to Arizona can easily be combined with a visit to Las Vegas in neighbouring Nevada. One of the world's most remarkable cities, Las Vegas dazzles with theatrically themed hotels, timeless casinos, fabulous floor shows and celebrity-chef restaurants. Most of the action centres around the world-famous Strip, which is perhaps best appreciated from the air on a night-time helicopter tour. And if you need a break from neon, a number of Nevada attractions are easily discovered by private excursion, including the Hoover Dam, Lake Mead, the Mojave Desert and Red Rock Canyon.



Important Information

Best time to visit The deserts of Arizona and Nevada can lead to some very high temperatures during the summer months, so the best times to visit are spring and autumn. March and April and October and November are ideal times to visit Las Vegas, Scottsdale and other parts of these states, with warm days, mild nights and very little rainfall year-round.

Average temp 25°C

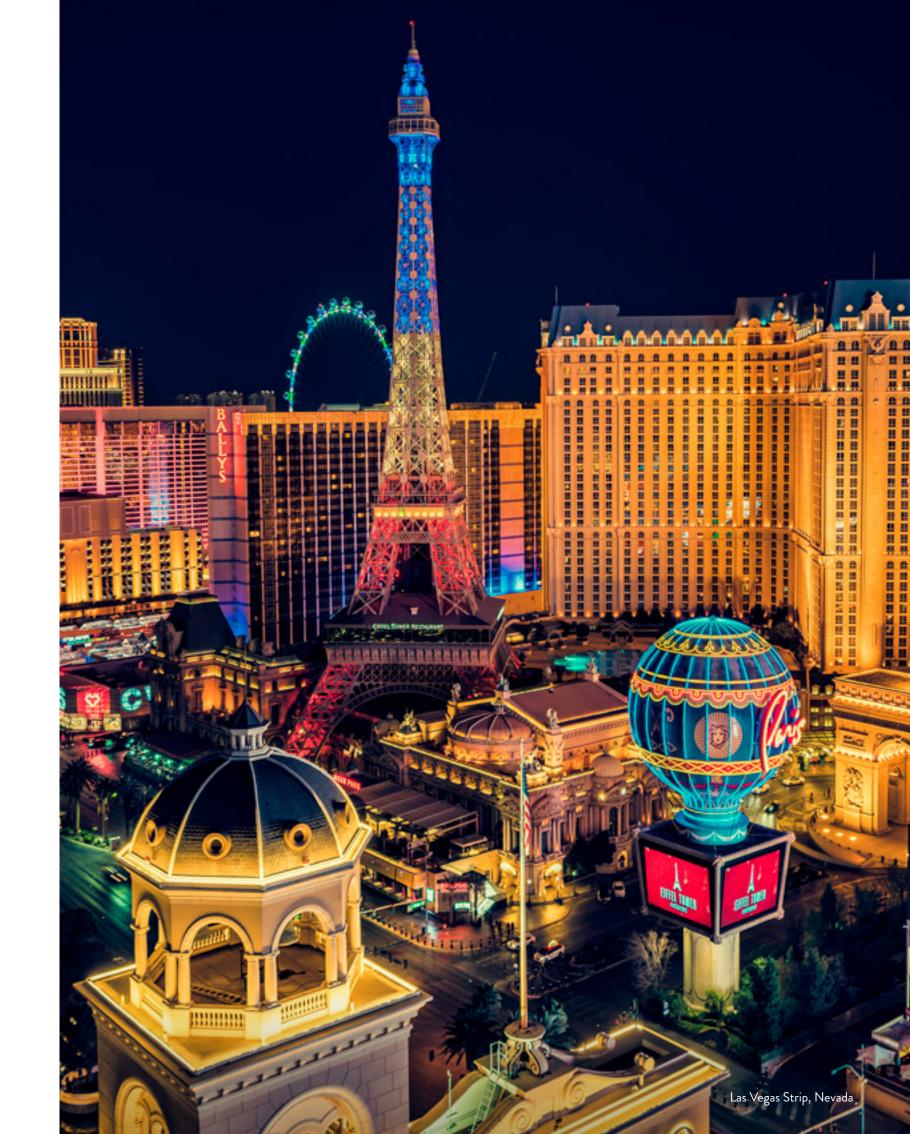
How to get there British Airways and American Airlines from Heathrow to Phoenix • British Airways and Virgin Atlantic from Heathrow to Las Vegas • British Airways from Gatwick (seasonal) to Las Vegas

Average flying time 11 hours

GMT -8 hours

Tourist office visitarizona.com | visitlasvegas.com | travelnevada.com

Ideal for Nightlife, Casinos, Golf, Cuisine, Culture, Shopping, Adventure, Hiking and Natural Beauty





Bright Lights & Desert Sights

With over 300 days of sunshine a year and a staggering mix of breathtaking scenery, Arizona is primed for outdoor adventures. This 13-day self-drive itinerary combines the best of the state with a three-night stay in glamorous Las Vegas in neighbouring Nevada. Stare in awe at the Grand Canyon, marvel at the giant Saguaro cacti of the Sonoran Desert, and feed your taste for adventure with boundless opportunities for rafting, riding, hiking, biking, hot-air ballooning and private jeep safaris.

Upon arrival in Las Vegas, a private transfer will take you to The Cosmopolitan of Las Vegas, one of the most luxurious hotels on the city's famous Strip. Rising from the desert like a neon oasis, Las Vegas is home to the world's largest casinos, most flamboyant floor shows, and such eclectic attractions as the X-Scream rollercoaster (the third highest in the world) and a permanent exhibition of Lady Gaga's wardrobe. Take it all in during a three-night stay.

DAYS 4-5 GRAND CANYON NATIONAL PARK

Collect your hire car from the airport and make the scenic drive to El Tovar Hotel, an historic lodge perched dramatically on the south rim of the Grand Canyon. There are numerous ways to take in the splendour of perhaps nature's greatest wonder. Hike to the bottom of the canyon floor, book a rafting trip on the Colorado River, or soar above it all on a helicopter tour.







NUMBER OF DAYS

13

PRICES FROM

12 nights / 13 days from £3,845 per person

YOUR ITINERARY INCLUDES

includes economy flights from London, private airport transfer days and hotel accommodation as detailed.

Designed by

Clare Sheldrick

"Forget London or New York, *Vegas is home to the most* spectacular stage shows on the planet. Last time I was there I watched Michael Jackson ONE by Cirque du Soleil and was completely blown away by the mix of dance, acrobatics and visual effects – all set to the music of the *legendary King of Pop!*"

DAYS 6-7 SEDONA

Drive to Sedona and check into the Enchantment Resort for a two-night stay. Famous for its huge sandstone rock formations, which blaze red and orange in the fiery desert sun, Sedona is a mecca for outdoor activities, with everything on offer from horseback tours and private jeep safaris to mountain biking, hiking and three championship golf courses. For souvenirs, we recommend a visit to Tlaquepaque Arts & Shopping Village, styled after a traditional Mexican village.

DAYS 8-9 SCOTTSDALE

Continue south to Scottsdale for two nights at The Phoenician, a sensational hotel with its own 18-hole golf course, all set against the backdrop of Camelback Mountain. With such favourable weather, hot-air balloon rides are especially popular here, with guests treated when they land to a champagne breakfast in the Sonoran Desert. Scottsdale itself offers theatres, museums, art galleries and Arizona's largest shopping centre, Scottsdale Fashion Square.



DAYS 10-12 MARANA

A three-night stay at **The Ritz-Carlton**, **Dove Mountain** near the high desert city of Tucson affords time to explore one of Arizona's greatest natural attractions, Saguaro National Park, home to an iconic emblem of south-west America, the giant Saguaro cacti, which can grow up to 50 feet tall. Other highlights in the area include daily re-enactments at the site of the Gunfight at the OK Corral, the San Xavier del Bac Mission, a well-known pilgrimage site founded in 1692, and visits to the Pima Air & Space Museum, one of the largest museums of its kind in the world.

DAY 13 PHOENIX

Enjoy a final spot of shopping or sightseeing in Tucson before returning your hire car at the airport in Phoenix in time for your flight home.

ESSENTIAL EXPERIENCES - OUR SUGGESTIONS



Bubbles & Balloons

There's no better way to experience Arizona's stunning desert scenery than aboard an exhilarating hot-air balloon flight, capped off upon landing with a celebratory champagne breakfast in the wild. Soaring thousands of feet in the air, the unobstructed desert views are quite simply breathtaking, and the calm and serenity of ballooning is unparalleled.



Maverick Helicopter Tours

An absolute must in Arizona and Nevada is a helicopter tour with Maverick Helicopters, the limousines of the skies. Popular options include flights above the neon lights of the Las Vegas Strip, and out over the Hoover Dam, Lake Mead and Mojave Desert to the Grand Canyon, where you'll land for champagne on a private bluff above the Colorado River.



Las Vegas Foodie Tours

Indulge the senses with a range of Las Vegas foodie tours. Get the red-carpet treatment as you're whisked to VIP tables at the hottest restaurants in town to enjoy signature dishes from some of the city's top chefs. Leave the casinos behind to explore the farm-to-table fare of the booming downtown area. Or enjoy a boozy brunch at three of the city's best brunch spots.

Visit our website to view these and other Arizona & Nevada hotels



Sedona

Enchantment Resort

Enchantment Resort's remote location, nine miles from Uptown Sedona, is key to the magic of staying here. Rustic adobe guestrooms with beehive fireplaces and private decks look out at arguably the most spectacular canyon in Sedona's Red Rock Country. The landscape was considered a place of healing by the Native Americans, a theme carried forward in the excellent Mii amo spa, which recently completed a major renovation and expansion. Incredibly, there are over 100 weekly activities to choose from, from hiking and mountain biking to stargazing, art classes, tennis, golf and tours of the local area. It's certainly enough to work up an appetite, something you'll want with you in the resort's three highly praised restaurants.



Scottsdale

The Phoenician, A Luxury Collection Resort

Set against the backdrop of Camelback Mountain, The Phoenician has real wow-factor, especially Canyon Suites, a highly exclusive boutique hotel that sits within the wider resort. Back in the main building, Italian linens and oversized marble bathrooms come as standard, as do deep sunken bathtubs big enough for two. Many rooms have private patios or balconies with mountain views. There are also freestanding villas with parking on the doorstep. Children will love the Funicians Club, Game Room and the poolside Kids Zone complete with treehouse and spray guns, while adults can choose between eight delicious restaurants, tee off on the 18-hole golf course, unwind at the spa, swim in any of the nine pools, or explore the desert on an eco-tour.



Maran

The Ritz-Carlton, Dove Mountain

Seamlessly woven into the Tortolita Mountain slopes just 30 minutes from Tucson, The Ritz-Carlton, Dove Mountain is a casually luxurious oasis set high in the Sonoran Desert. The 253 rooms, suites and casitas offer exceptional desert and mountain views, with interiors that take their cues from the scenery outside – think burnt orange hues and Native American patterns. The destination spa is wrapped by bouldered ravines, the inviting pool complex sits at the convergence of cactus-studded canyons, and guests have access to over 25 miles of breathtaking hiking trails. If that weren't enough, there are also three nine-hole golf courses and four terrific restaurants, including CORE Kitchen & Wine Bar with its 2,800-bottle wine cellar.



The Venetian® Resort

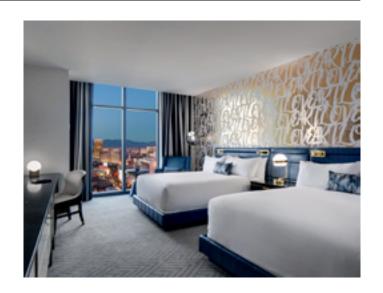
The Venetian Resort has spared no expense in replicating Venice's most famous landmarks, including St Mark's Square with its iconic clock tower and a Grand Canal stocked with singing gondoliers. Add to this over 4,000 suites – the most basic of which are nearly double the size of your average Las Vegas hotel room – and you've got yourself a truly monumental hotel. Celebrity chefs rule the restaurant roost here, with offerings from Thomas Keller, Wolfgang Puck and David Chang among others, while facilities include a state-of-the-art casino, four large pools spread across two acres, a 134,000-square-foot spa with more than 90 treatment rooms, and an ever-changing roster of shows, events and nightly entertainment.



Las Vegas

The Cosmopolitan of Las Vegas

One of the newer hotels on the Las Vegas Strip, The Cosmopolitan is chic and contemporary, with digital art installations, illuminated staircases and interactive sculptures set to dazzle from the outset. It's also huge, with a glamorous 100,000-square-foot casino, several floors of shops and designer boutiques, two fitness centres, outdoor tennis courts, three rooftop pools overlooking the Strip (one of which doubles as the hotel's lively Day Club), an indulgent spa with its own hammam, plus a one-of-a-kind collection of 26 restaurants. Rooms are spacious, warm and welcoming, offering views of the Strip and millennial-friendly touches like iPad-controlled lighting, provocative artwork and black marble bathrooms.

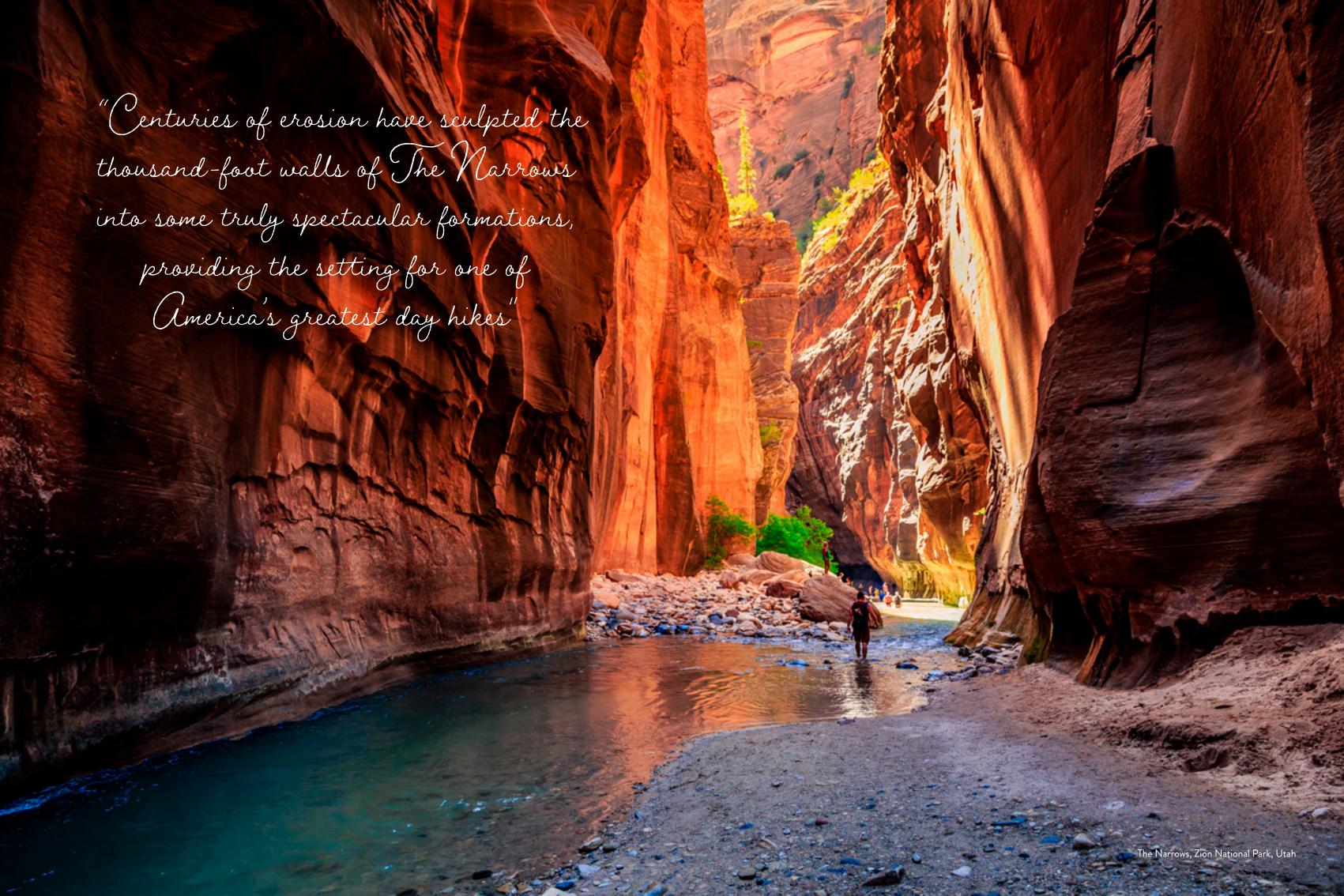


Las Vegas

Wynn & Encore Las Vegas

Situated at the northern end of the Strip, the Wynn set a new standard for luxury hotels in Las Vegas; lavish standards that have been rigorously maintained by its younger sister Encore. Interiors are a mix of gleaming marble floors, arched domed ceilings and bold floral displays. Rooms come with floor-to-ceiling windows, implausibly plush beds and touch-screen controls, while the premium Tower Suites have exclusive benefits like breakfast credit and access to the private Tower Suites pool. There's a mall packed full of designer boutiques, a 2,000-seat theatre, a three-acre multimedia overwater experience, an 18-hole golf course, temperature-controlled pools with fully stocked cabanas, a brigade of great restaurants and of course a casino.





Utah

It's hard to pick a favourite among Utah's five national parks. From west to east, Zion is the oldest and perhaps the most beautiful. Cut through by the Virgin River, its spectacular rock formations, rugged canyons and pine-clad peaks provide a breathtaking backdrop for walking, climbing and canyoning.

Next up is Bryce Canyon National Park, known for its thousands of multihued hoodoos – tall, thin spires of rock that come in every possible shade of white, pink, red and purple. Named after the white sandstone domes that reminded early settlers of Washington, D.C.'s Capitol building, Capitol Reef National Park is the middle of the five, a hidden treasure filled with cliffs, canyons, domes and bridges.

Continue east and you'll reach the largest of Utah's parks, Canyonlands, whose fissures and faults, flat-topped mesas and eerie arches provide plenty to admire. The drive from the main road to the Needles (sandstone pinnacles east of the Colorado River) may be the prettiest in Utah. Last but by no means least is Arches National Park, famous for its 2,000+ natural rock arches, including Delicate Arch, a great spot to watch the sunset, and Landscape Arch, one of the longest stone arches in the world.

Great news for travellers is that all the parks are conveniently close together, making them easy to combine in a single self-drive holiday. In the west, Zion and Bryce Canyon are less than 90 miles apart, while over to the east, Arches is just a ten-minute drive from Moab, the adventure travel capital of canyon country, and just 30 minutes from Canyonlands.

North, away from Red Rock Country, is Salt Lake City, Utah's capital and the gateway to the state. At its heart is Temple Square, as revered by Mormons as the Vatican is by Catholics. Within an hour's drive east are at least 10 terrific ski resorts, including pretty Park City and ultra-plush Deer Valley. While just an hour and a half west are the Bonneville Salt Flats, proving beyond doubt the incredible diversity of America's Beehive State.

Important Information

Best time to visit For the national parks and scenery in southern and eastern Utah, the best time to travel is during late spring and late summer, with more comfortable temperatures from May to June and September to October. Salt Lake City is a year-round destination, while the ski season for resorts including Park City and Deer Valley usually lasts from the end of November to mid-April.

Average temp 25°C

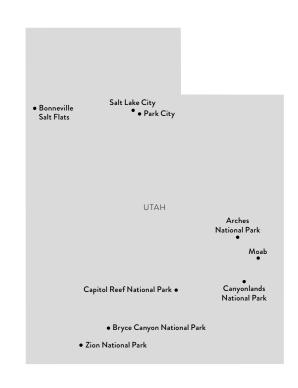
How to get there Delta from Heathrow to Salt Lake City • United from Heathrow via Denver to St George • Utah is also easily accessible via Las Vegas and Denver

Average flying time 10 hours 30 minutes

GMT -7 hours

Tourist office visitutah.com

Ideal for Hiking, Natural Beauty, Culture, Adventure and Winter Sports







Canyon Country

This 12-day self-drive itinerary takes you right across Utah from Salt Lake City in the north to the neon lights of Vegas in neighbouring Nevada. In doing so you'll travel through some of America's most spectacular desert landscapes – a geological kaleidoscope of twisted rock formations, huge stone arches, narrow slot canyons and soaring sandstone cliffs.

DAYS 1-2 SALT LAKE CITY

Fly into Utah's state capital, collect your hire car at the airport and drive to the Kimpton Hotel Monaco Salt Lake City for a two-night stay. A modern hotel housed in an historic downtown building, the Kimpton is perfectly placed for exploring Salt Lake City and its nearby attractions, such as Temple Square, the ski resorts of Park City and Deer Valley, and the otherworldly Bonneville Salt Flats, where several land-speed records have been set.



DAYS 3-5 ARCHES & CANYONLANDS NATIONAL PARKS

Drive south to Moab for a three-night stay at Hoodoo Moab, Curio Collection by Hilton, just 10 minutes from the entrance to Arches National Park. The park features more than 2,000 natural stone arches, many of which are near the park road, though we recommend a guided hike to really get immersed in the red rock landscape. Only a little further afield is Canyonlands National Park, the largest of Utah's parks and arguably the most magnificent. Split into three sections by the confluence of the Green and Colorado rivers, it covers more than 500 square miles of canyons, fissures, plateaux and faults, scattered with flat-topped mesas, ancient rock art, winding roads and hiking trails.



NUMBER OF DAYS

12

PRICES FROM

 $11\,nights$ / $12\,days\,from\,\pounds3,780\,per\,person$

YOUR ITINERARY INCLUDES

Price is based on two adults sharing a standard room and includes economy flights from London, compact car hire with insurance for 12 days and hotel accommodation as detailed.

Designed by

Gina Riley

"If you love the outdoors then you'll adore this route through Utah's parks and monuments. If you're fit and adventurous, don't miss the trek along Angels Landing in Zion National Park, one of the most spectacular out-and-back day hikes in the world. Equally aweinspiring but far less strenuous is the mesmerising drive along Scenic Byway 12, 123 miles of twists and turns, desolate landscapes and breathtaking views."

DAY 6 CAPITOL REEF NATIONAL PARK

From Moab, drive west to spend the day exploring Capitol Reef National Park. Maybe lace up your boots for a hike to Hickman Bridge, a natural sandstone arch 125 feet high and 133 feet long, or cruise along the eight-mile Capitol Reef Scenic Drive, stopping to take photos at breathtaking viewpoints. Check in for the night at the 58-acre Capitol Reef Resort near Torrey, which as well as rooms offers glamping opportunities in cabins, teepees or even Conestoga wagons.

DAY 7 GRAND STAIRCASE-ESCALANTE NATIONAL MONUMENT

Spend the day exploring Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument en route to **The Lodge at Bryce Canyon**, where you'll stay for the next two nights. The monument offers more exceptional hiking and scenic driving opportunities. It's home to the most extensive network of slot canyons in Utah and is awash with active waterfalls, sculpted slickrock, prehistoric sites and abandoned old Western movie sets.

DAY 8 BRYCE CANYON NATIONAL PARK

Discover Bryce Canyon National Park. Despite its name, the park does not protect a canyon but a series of natural amphitheatres that the elements have sculpted into a forest of bizarre rock pinnacles known as 'hoodoos' – one of the most surreal yet spectacular sights you'll see in the Southwest.

DAYS 9-12 ZION NATIONAL PARK

End your trip with three nights at Cliffrose Springdale, Curio Collection by Hilton, just 200 metres from the entrance to Zion National Park. Many of the park's greatest geological wonders are best seen on hiking trails such as Emerald Pools, The Narrows, The Watchman and Angels Landing. We recommend booking a private guided walking tour. Drive to Las Vegas on day 12 to catch your flight home.



ESSENTIAL EXPERIENCES - OUR SUGGESTIONS



Slot Canyons

Utah is home to the largest concentration of slot canyons in the world – narrow gorges in the soft sandstone sculpted into unimaginable shapes by wind, rain and flash floods. We can arrange visits to suit all levels, including hikes through neighbouring Arizona's Antelope Canyon with a Navajo guide, and technical trips for the wouldbe adventurer using ropes and harnesses.



Dark Sky Parks

After the sun sets and the sandstone has cooled, Utah's internationally recognised Dark Sky Parks offer a chance to see the night sky as you may never have seen it before, unobscured by the glow of urban settlement. A lot of national and state parks offer ranger-led stargazing tours.

Bryce Canyon National Park even holds an annual Astronomy Festival in June.



Rockies To The Red Rocks

Journey through two days of extraordinary landscapes between Moab and Denver aboard luxury train the Rocky Mountaineer. Vast canyons, inspiring deserts, stone archways and enchanting hoodoos are just the start. You'll spend time in Moab, Glenwood Springs and Denver, cross the Continental Divide and enjoy the legendary Rocky Mountaineer hospitality.

Visit our website to view these and other Utah hotels



Salt Lake City Kimpton Hotel Monaco Salt Lake City

Situated in an historic building in the heart of the city, the Kimpton Hotel Monaco Salt Lake City offers stylish interiors with views of the city skyline and surrounding mountains. The building may have old bones but the look inside is contemporary boutique through and through. Rooms feature a navy and gold palette with bold patterns and modern furnishings. Suites step things up with separate living areas, sofa beds and deep-soaking bathtubs. The restaurant, Bambara, serves American cuisine in what was once a marbled bank lobby, while bar and lounge The Vault mixes some of the best cocktails in the city. Appreciated extras include free tea and coffee in the lobby every morning, a yoga mat in every room and complimentary use of kick scooters for children.



Moab Sorrell River Ranch Resort & Spa

The most luxurious hotel in the Moab area, Sorrel River Ranch is set on 240 acres of ranchland, surrounded by some of the most spectacular scenery in the United States. Cabin-style studios and larger suites are imbued with cowboy charm and boast private decks, large picture windows, custom-made, bright wooden furniture and views either to the Colorado River or Professor Valley and La Sal Mountains. Off-road driving, guided hikes and horse riding in the nearby national parks are top of most guests' agendas, with a relaxing spa and yoga classes ready to help you recover from miles on the trails. There's also an excellent farm-to-fork restaurant, a petting zoo for kids, a variety of lawn games and nightly campfires for roasting marshmallows.



Moab Hoodoo Moab, Curio Collection by Hilton

Just 10 minutes from Arches National Park and less than 40 minutes from Canyonlands, this smart and modern hotel provides easy access to two of the finest parks in Utah while maintaining a convenient location off Main Street in the heart of Moab's quaint downtown. Comfortable rooms have coffee makers, 55-inch HD TVs and either a king or twin queen beds, while suites offer a separate living area, a balcony or patio off the bedroom and spectacular views of Moab's red rocks and dramatic landscapes. Joise Wyatt's Grille serves sumptuous steaks and sushi alongside a menu of hand-crafted cocktails. Plus there's a full-service spa and outdoor pool that's heated year-round, perfect for relaxing after action-packed days spent hiking, canyoning or off-road driving.



Cliffrose Springdale, Curio Collection by Hilton

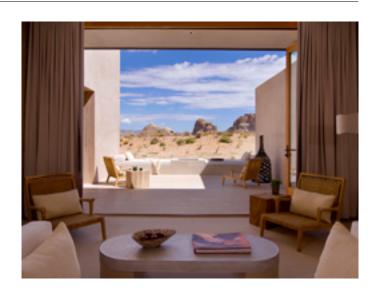
Sitting on the banks of the Virgin River, just 200 metres from the entrance to Zion National Park, this rock- and wood-covered sanctuary blends perfectly with the surrounding sandstone mountains that can't help but steal the show. Inside the rooms, suites and villas, simple modern furnishings are paired with more upscale amenities like private decks with views into the park, large soaking tubs and – in the case of the Grand View Villa – vaulted ceilings and a full kitchen. Outside, hummingbird feeders hang from patio rafters, providing live entertainment as you sip your morning coffee; the riverside pool and hot tub are open year-round offering unobstructed views of the surrounding peaks; while the Five Petals Spa boasts a hiker-friendly range of massages and facials.



Canyon Point

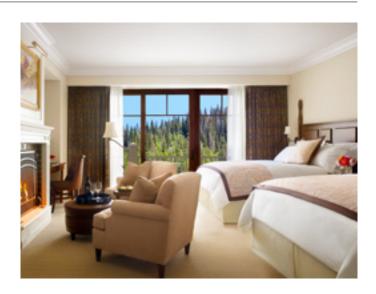
Amangiri

Set in the otherworldly landscape of Utah's southern deserts, a stone's throw from Lake Powell and the Arizona border, this impressive feat of architectural daring is one of the most exclusive hotels in America. Rather than try to temper the hard edges of the desert with ornate, plush interiors, Aman have gone the other way, offering stylised suites whose white stone floors, concrete walls and natural timber furnishings strain the very limits of minimalism, while offering breathtaking views of the desert surroundings. An attractive central pool curves dramatically round a tower of natural sandstone. The 25,000-square-foot Aman Spa offers treatments shaped by the traditions of the Navajo. And experiences range from boat trips on Lake Powell to via ferrata challenges high in the desert mountains.



Park City Montage Deer Valley

An elegant mountain getaway, Montage Deer Valley provides unrivalled ski-in/ski-out access to one of America's premier ski resorts. With only a limited number of ski passes sold each day, Deer Valley is the crème de la crème of American skiing, with miles of pristine, well-groomed slopes. The hotel's ski shop helps with rentals and lift tickets, and even the ski school has an office on site. Of course, the alpine setting is equally appealing come summer, when activities range from hiking and mountain biking to fly-fishing, horse riding and white-water rafting. Whatever the season, rooms are large and luxurious, with gas fireplaces and marble baths standard from top to bottom. Additional highlights include a capacious spa complex, an alpine pool, a bowling alley and a host of great restaurants.



California

From the misty redwood forests and gently rolling vineyards of the north to the sweeping deserts and sun-kissed beaches of the south, California's diversity makes it one of the most exciting states to visit in the whole of the USA.

If America has an answer to Tuscany then the celebrated wine regions of Napa Valley and Sonoma are it, where the quality of the vintages is easily matched by the excellent calibre of the hotels and restaurants. Away to the east, shimmering in shades of green and blue, is spectacular Lake Tahoe, a lure for watersports enthusiasts in summer and skiers in winter. To the south, the natural attractions of Yosemite National Park have become icons of the American landscape, from El Capitan, the largest single granite rock on earth, to Yosemite Falls and magnificent Half Dome

Below wine country lies the City by the Bay, sensational San Francisco, home to vintage cable cars, Alcatraz, Fisherman's Wharf and the Golden Gate Bridge. The city also marks the start of one of the world's greatest road trips – 500 miles of breathtaking seascapes along America's dream drive, the Pacific Coast Highway, from San Francisco to San Diego. An uncontested highlight is the astonishing stretch of coast from Monterey to San Simeon, a serpentine ribbon of highway winding hundreds of feet above the roaring Pacific through the wilds of Big Sur. From here it's on to the 'American Riviera', stylish Santa Barbara, before setting your sights on the Hollywood Hills and the glamour of LA.

Los Angeles has something for everyone, from the designer boutiques of Rodeo Drive in Beverly Hills and the carnival-esque amusements of Santa Monica, to the family attractions of Universal Studios Hollywood and nearby Disneyland Resort. Yet it's not the only city worth stopping at in the south. Lost in the desert, the oasis town of Palm Springs is a much-loved retreat of the Hollywood elite, while stylish San Diego offers beautiful broad beaches, a world-famous zoo and safari park, and one of the most exciting downtown areas in America.

Important Information

Best time to visit Southern California can be visited year-round; summers are hot and dry while winters are slightly cooler with a small amount of rain. Northern California has a more temperate climate with warm summer days but cold winters. The northern coast experiences rain and fog during the winter while the mountains have some snowfall.

Average temp 21°C

How to get there British Airways from Heathrow to San Francisco, Los Angeles, San Diego and San Jose • Virgin Atlantic and United from Heathrow to Los Angeles and San Francisco • American Airlines and Delta from Heathrow to Los Angeles

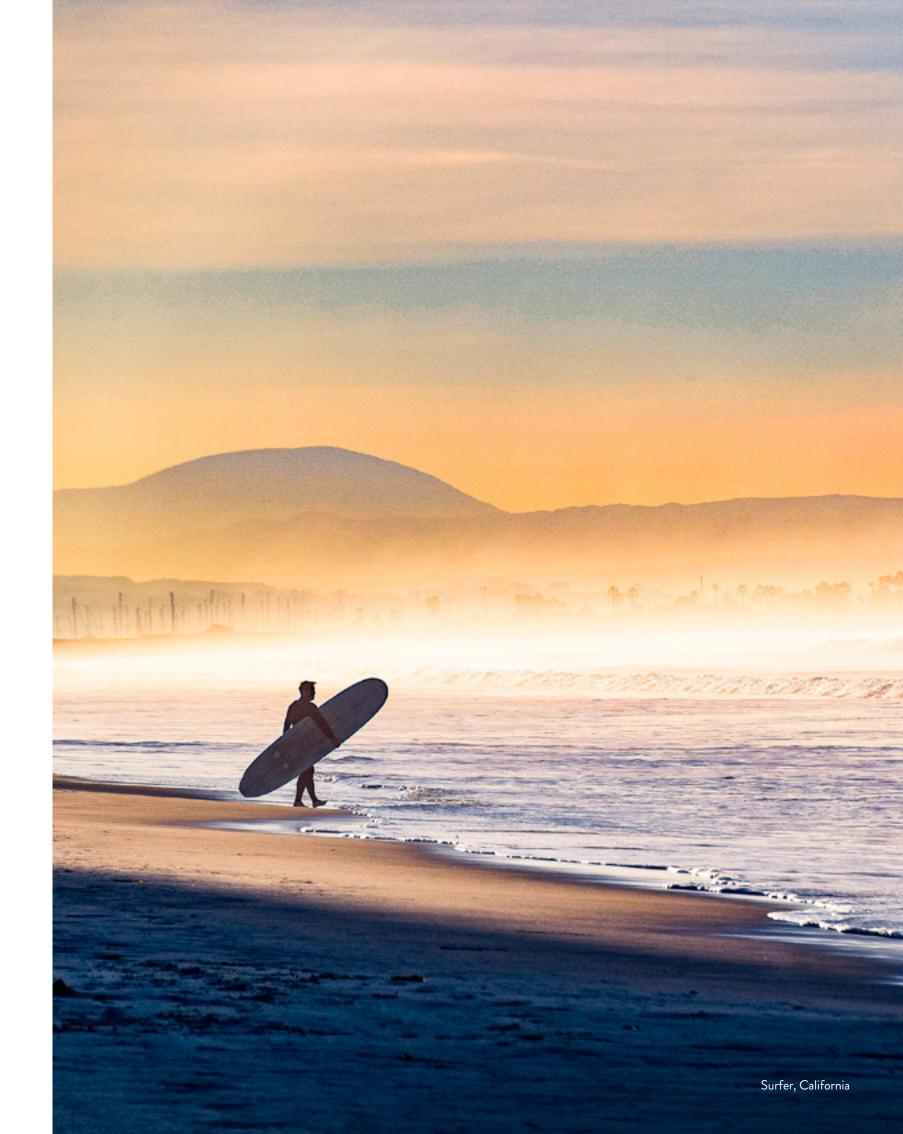
Average flying time 11 hours

GMT -8 hours

Tourist office www.visitcalifornia.com/uk

Ideal for Beaches, Surfing, Culture, Art, Cuisine, Nightlife, Shopping, Natural Beauty and Hiking







California Dreaming

Three iconic cities, the rolling vineyards of the Central Coast, and the chance to drive arguably the finest coast road in the world all combine perfectly to create this classic road trip from San Francisco in the north to San Diego in the south.

DAYS 1-3 SAN FRANCISCO

After arriving in San Francisco, a private transfer will take you to the **Argonaut Hotel** for a three-night stay. The hotel offers views of the Golden Gate Bridge and easy access to many popular attractions. Walk to Fisherman's Wharf and Pier 39, hop on a cable car over the hill to Union Square, ride a streetcar along the Embarcadero, or board a ferry to infamous Alcatraz.

DAYS 4-5 CARMEL

Collect your hire car and head off down the coast past Monterey Bay to Carmel Valley Ranch in the heart of California's Central Coast wine country. The ranch sits on a hill amid 500 acres of rolling hills and farmland, complete with river, lakes and vineyards. It makes a wonderful contrast to the busy coastal villages of Monterey, Carmel-by-the-Sea and Pebble Beach, which are a short 10-minute drive down the valley to the sea.





UMBER OF DAYS

16

PRICES FROM

 $15\,\mathrm{nights}\,/\,16\,\mathrm{days}\,\mathrm{from}\,\pounds6,\!605\,\mathrm{per}\,\mathrm{person}$

YOUR ITINERARY INCLUDES

Price is based on two adults sharing a standard room and includes economy flights from London, private airport transfer on arrival in San Francisco, compact car hire with insurance for 13 days and hotel accommodation as detailed.

Designed by

Joanne Dodd

"If you're always dreaming of the open road and the freedom of a world-beating road trip then this journey down the California coast is the perfect trip for you. From the Golden Gate Bridge to the Hollywood Hills, cultured Santa Barbara to stylish San Diego, it's the Golden State at its absolute best."

DAY 6 PISMO BEACH

The route today from Carmel to Pismo Beach is easily one of the most spectacular coastal drives in the world. It follows the legendary Pacific Coast Highway, which literally clings to America's western edge, snaking its way above the surf-carved seascapes of Big Sur, a coastal wilderness where the Santa Lucia Mountains meet the roaring Pacific Ocean. Look out for elephant seals at Point Pedras Blancas just north of San Simeon, then check in for the night at Vespera on Pismo Beach, Autograph Collection.

DAYS 7-8 SANTA BARBARA

Continue south to Santa Barbara, an idyllic town set between the mountains and the sea, sometimes referred to as the 'American Riviera'. Check in for two nights at El Encanto, A Belmond Hotel, Santa Barbara. Enjoy wonderful wines from the surrounding vineyards and dine on the delicious food that's synonymous with the area.





DAYS 9-10 LOS ANGELES

Prepare to feel like a movie star as you settle into the **Beverley Wilshire**, A Four Seasons Hotel for a two-night stay. Shop till you drop on Rodeo Drive, walk among the stars on the Hollywood Walk of Fame, go behind the scenes of a real working movie set at Universal Studios Hollywood, or soak up the sun in playful Santa Monica.

DAYS 11-13 LAGUNA BEACH

A short drive will take you to Laguna Beach, famed for its secluded coves and surf spots, not to mention its galleries and trendy arts festivals. Take time to relax here with a three-night stay at Montage Laguna Beach. The beach and ocean views are the main attractions, though the excellent Loft restaurant and ocean-inspired spa never fail to disappoint.

DAYS 14-16 SAN DIEGO

The trip ends in style with a two-night stay at the iconic **Hotel del Coronado**, which sits on 26 acres of prime Pacific beachfront a stone's throw from San Diego. Perhaps visit the USS *Midway*, LEGOLAND or San Diego Zoo, or venture downtown to the bars and restaurants of the historic Gaslamp Quarter. Return your hire car at the airport on day 16 in time for your flight home.

ESSENTIAL EXPERIENCES - OUR SUGGESTIONS



Alcatraz Night Tour

This exclusive evening visit to the infamous prison island includes a live narration as the ferry takes a special 'around the island' route to Alcatraz – both perks not offered during the daytime tour. Once docked, enjoy the worldfamous audio tour, cell door demonstrations, talks by expert historians and other optional activities not offered during the day.



Universal Studios VIP Tour

Star treatment awaits on this exclusive behind-the-scenes tour of Universal Studios Hollywood. Tour famous movie sets and hop off the trolley to access areas not normally open to the general public. Express access to theme park rides, priority seating for select shows, VIP dining and complimentary valet parking are among the other perks.



Napa Valley Wine Train

Part museum, part fine-dining restaurant, the Napa Valley Wine Train is made up of exquisitely restored 100-year-old rail cars and offers timeless journeys through one of the top wine-producing regions of the world, stopping for tastings at celebrated Napa Valley wineries and serving a decadent, multi-course, farm-to-table meal along the way.

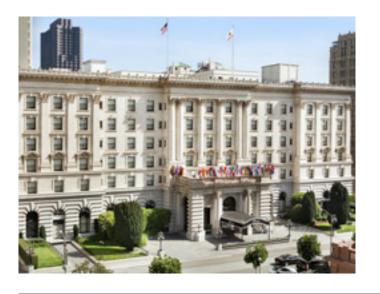
Visit our website to view these and other California hotels



San Francisco

Argonaut Hotel

Housed in an historic red-brick warehouse, this boutique hotel is just steps from Fisherman's Wharf, Ghirardelli Square and Pier 39. A nautical theme brings genuine charm without sliding into kitsch, with vintage steamer trunks, antique telescopes and braided ropes aplenty. Several of the rooms enjoy views of Alcatraz and the Golden Gate Bridge and some even have whirlpool baths. This being California, there's a yoga mat in every room as well as an on-site fitness centre open 24/7. Spa treatments are offered in the privacy of your room and complimentary bikes are available from reception. The restaurant specialises in sustainable seafood, including creamy chowders served in edible sourdough bread bowls.



San Francisco

Fairmont San Francisco

With impressive views of both the city and the bay, Fairmont San Francisco occupies a coveted spot atop well-heeled Nob Hill, near the only spot where each of the city's cable car lines meet. The 606 rooms range from standard doubles to one-of-akind suites worthy of celebrating life's special occasions. These include a spectacular sprawling penthouse and a truly special suite named after the singer Tony Bennett, who first sang *I Left My Heart In San Francisco* in the hotel's lavish Venetian Room. Standout facilities include the legendary tiki bar and restaurant the Tonga Room & Hurricane Bar, and a wonderful rooftop garden – a true city oasis complete with lawns, palm trees, a central fountain and comfy lounge seating.



Forestville, Sonoma

Farmhouse Inn

This boutique hotel is romantic and stylish in equal measure. Rooms are ideal to cosy up in with feather beds and fine linens, oversized fireplaces and exquisite bathrooms with jetted tubs and steam showers. Suites step things up with country-chic interiors and double-sided fireplaces to both warm you in your room and out on your private balcony. The original farmhouse, built in 1873, is home to the hotel's Michelin-starred restaurant; s'mores are served at nightfall around the communal firepit; and the nightly turndown includes chocolate-chip cookies and a glass of cold milk. There's an award-winning spa with complimentary products to take back to your room and try, plus exclusive access to some of Sonoma's finest wineries.



Meadowood Napa Valley

Situated on a 250-acre estate and a proud member of Relais & Châteaux, Meadowood Napa Valley has been one of California wine country's leading retreats for over half a century. Known for its sophisticated elegance and unsurpassed hospitality, its 36 lodge-style rooms and suites feature charming details such as fireplaces and window seats, as well as private decks or balconies with scenic woodland views. Most guests come to be wined and dined, choosing between the excellent Forum restaurant, eating alfresco at the Terrace Café or romantic in-room dining. Facilities include The Wine Center, where guests can explore the nuances of Napa Valley wines, a state-of-the-art spa, five tennis courts, three pools and a fitness centre.



North Lake Tahoe

The Ritz-Carlton, Lake Tahoe

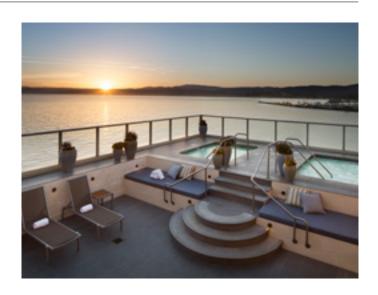
This year-round destination offers scenic beauty and adventure in abundance. In winter it's a ski lover's dream, with a ski-in/ski-out location, a daily après-ski hour with champagne and oysters, marshmallow toasting around a cosy fire pit, and activities ranging from snowshoeing and snowmobiling to cross-country skiing. In summer the three outdoor pools come into their own, as does the Lake Club, a separate lakeside property exclusively for Ritz-Carlton guests, offering direct beach access, private boat trips, complimentary kayaks and stand-up paddleboards as well as gourmet food and drink. Back at the resort you'll find rooms and suites with floor-to-ceiling windows and cosy fireplaces, a relaxing spa and a choice of top restaurants.



Monterey

Monterey Plaza Hotel & Spa

This grand dame of Monterey Bay isn't just by the bay, it's been built right over its crashing surf, deep in the heart of Cannery Row. Stand on the balcony of an ocean-view room here and you could be on a cruise ship, with the waters of the bay both before and beneath you. Upgrade to a suite and enjoy such luxuries as expansive sundecks, elegant living spaces and spa-like marble bathrooms. The views are key to the rooftop spa too, one of the best in North America. Located on the penthouse level, it boasts a panoramic terrace with outdoor hot tubs, nine treatment rooms and an ocean-view couples' tub room. Other highlights include the oceanfront restaurant Coastal Kitchen and complimentary bikes for getting out and exploring.



Visit our website to view these and other California hotels



Carmel Valley Carmel Valley Ranch

A place for wine lovers, families and outdoor enthusiasts alike, Carmel Valley Ranch sits on a hill with its facilities spread across 500 acres of Central Coast wine country, complete with rivers, lakes, forests and vineyards. There's nothing but suites here, all of which come with spacious outdoor decks, romantic fireplaces and anywhere from one to four bedrooms. An organic approach is championed across the resort's several restaurants, with much of the produce grown within the hotel grounds. The excellent climate lends itself to outdoor activities, with options ranging from tennis, golf, hiking and horse riding to beekeeping, falconry and vineyard tours. There are also three outdoor pools and an excellent spa with a wide array of treatments.



Big Sur Post Ranch Inn

Perched on the cliffs of Big Sur, 1,200 feet above the Pacific and encircled by mountains and towering redwoods, this boutique bolthole commands possibly the most dramatic location of any hotel on the California coast. Each of its 40 guestrooms is an architectural marvel offering jaw-dropping ocean or mountain views. Cliff Houses offer outdoor decks suspended above the ocean; Ocean Houses blend into the hillside with grasses and wildflowers covering their roofs; Tree Houses are built on stilts nine feet from the forest floor; one building is even shaped like a butterfly with rooms beneath its wings. The views continue at the clifftop restaurant Sierra Mar, a favourite with locals and as renowned for its wine list as for its locally sourced menus.



*Pismo Beach*Dolphin Bay Resort & Spa

With a clifftop position halfway between San Francisco and Los Angeles, Dolphin Bay Resort & Spa is about as close to the Pacific Ocean as you can get – it's quite possible you'll see dolphins leaping out of the water right in front of your balcony. The hotel was originally designed as an apartment building and as a result all the suites are unusually large, boasting spacious terraces, living rooms, dining rooms and full gourmet kitchens. The spa offers everything from facials and massages to guided wellness rituals, while the restaurant pairs locally sourced cuisine with over 800 local and international wines. Next to the restaurant is the outdoor pool and a coastal path that's great to explore on the resort's complimentary bikes.



El Encanto, A Belmond Hotel, Santa Barbara

This elegant hilltop hideaway could scarcely feel more different from Los Angeles, just a 90-minute drive away. For starters, no road is either visible or audible, and from the moment you walk in you're immediately met by views of the Pacific Ocean, glittering beyond the large restaurant terrace. This air of tranquillity is carried through to the rooms and bungalows, which are spread across seven acres of lush sloping gardens. Many have balconies or outdoor terraces; the best have patio gardens. The main restaurant is one of the best in southern California, though afternoon tea in the lounge and a gourmet picnic in the hilltop gardens are well worth leaving room for. A destination spa and an especially pretty pool round out the facilities.



Beverly Hills

Waldorf Astoria Beverly Hills

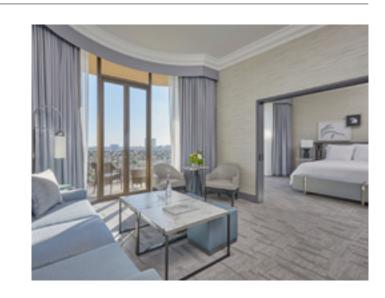
Set right at the heart of Beverly Hills where the Wilshire and Santa Monica boulevards meet, this elegant Art Deco-inspired hotel opened in 2017 and represents the very best in California luxury. Rooms and suites are effortlessly elegant and feature giant walk-in closets, the latest tablet technology, floor-to-ceiling windows and private balconies overlooking the city. Guests can dine at the signature Jean-Georges Beverly Hills restaurant, a romantic choice for couples, alfresco at The Rooftop by JG, or even poolside on the rooftop lounge deck beside panoramic views of the Hollywood Hills. Rodeo Drive is just half a mile away, and when you're done with shopping there, the lavish La Prairie Spa will be waiting on your return.



Beverly Hills

Beverly Wilshire, A Four Seasons Hotel

The backdrop to *Pretty Woman* and the setting for Wolfgang Puck's Michelinstarred steakhouse CUT, this Italian Renaissance masterpiece is one of the most famous hotels in America. The elegant 1920s building is divided into two wings: the Beverly Wing looks out at the residents of Beverly Hills while the Wilshire Wing commands breathtaking views of the Los Angeles skyline. Together, they offer 395 beautifully appointed guestrooms, including some very spacious suites. Hotel experiences include 'Pretty Woman For A Day' and 'A Night With The Stars', where guests spend a night in a romantic tent for two, with the entire 10th-floor terrace at their disposal. There's also a world-class spa and a Mediterranean-style pool with private cabanas.



Visit our website to view these and other California hotels



Santa Monica

Shutters on the Beach

As one of only two luxury hotels on the beach in Santa Monica, Shutters offers breathtaking ocean views in a beach-house setting that combines the barefoot ease of the west coast with the elegance of Cape Cod and the north-east. Stylish rooms and suites feature hardwood floors and are as luxe as can be. The ONE Spa is a favourite among residents and celebrities, the pool deck boasts private cabanas and spectacular ocean views, while local activities range from cycling and volleyball to yoga on the beach. The restaurants are equally impressive, from the refined 1 Pico to the more casual Coast and the multi-purpose Living Room with its views of the Pacific. The service is stellar, the setting idyllic – sometimes the classics are classic for a reason.



Newport Beach

The Resort at Pelican Hill®

Located just north of Newport Beach on over 500 acres of California coastline, The Resort at Pelican Hill knows how to make an impression. Italian influences are everywhere. The manicured hills and terracotta roofs give a luxury Tuscan vibe, while the massive circular pool, inspired by the Colosseum in Rome, boasts breathtaking ocean views and is ringed by terraced decks and private cabanas. Stylish bungalows offer wood-beamed ceilings, limestone-framed fireplaces and deep-soaking tubs. Villas are next level, with ocean views, kitchens, dining rooms and private butlers. The excellent spa offers daily beach walks, golfers have access to two 18-hole courses, and diners can choose between California classics and the flavours of northern Italy.



Laguna Beach

Montage Laguna Beach

Perched on a coastal bluff with white-sand beaches below, Montage Laguna Beach fuses excellent amenities with genuine warmth and character. Proximity to the beach and ocean is one of the main attractions and guestrooms, suites and villas all feature patios or balconies with panoramic views. Dining areas have exceptional vistas too: through floor-to-ceiling windows at the excellent Loft restaurant, and from the terrace of the Mosaic Bar and Grille, at the edge of the bluff just 50 feet above the ocean. Naturally the spa is ocean-facing too and offers everything from massages to yoga and tai chi. To this you can add three sparkling pools, a comprehensive kids' club and activities ranging from surfing and kayaking to whale and dolphin watching.



The Ritz-Carlton, Rancho Mirage

Sitting atop a bluff overlooking Palm Springs and the Coachella Valley, The Ritz-Carlton, Rancho Mirage offers sweeping desert views, fine dining and one of the best spas in the area. Rooms and suites are elegantly decorated in dark browns, sandy tones and green accents, all of which complement the mountain and desert vistas from the patios and balconies. More stunning cliffside views are on offer at The Edge Steakhouse, with casual eats available at State Fare Bar & Kitchen. With 16 treatment rooms, many with private terraces, plus zones for yoga and meditation, the spa is exceptional. Other highlights include two outdoor pools (one for adults only) and plenty of stone fire pits – perfect for making s'mores or curling up with a glass of wine.



San Diego

Hotel del Coronado

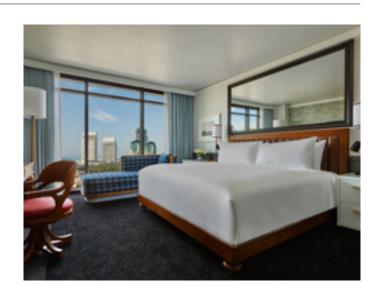
Having recently emerged from a \$400 million renovation, this landmark hotel just keeps on getting better. Popular among celebrities and beach-loving families for over 130 years, The Del is ideally located on the powdery white sands of the Pacific coast yet is only a stone's throw from sizzling San Diego. The 757 guestrooms are split between a number of distinctly different buildings, including the original Victorian beachfront hotel built in 1888, the modern Cabanas building just steps from the pool, the beachfront Views building complete with sunset-facing balconies, and the private, luxurious and exclusive Beach Village. Facilities include a slew of great restaurants, numerous outdoor pools, an award-winning spa, shops, watersports and even an ice rink in winter.



San Diego

Pendry San Diego

The very first Pendry to open, this fashionable hotel is located in the heart of the historic Gaslamp Quarter, close to downtown attractions and an eclectic mix of restaurants, shops and nightlife. Not that you need to leave the hotel to be wined and dined. There's casual all-day dining at Provisional; high-end seafood at Lionfish; craft beer and pretzels at Nason's Beer Hall; Vegas-style partying at the Oxford Social Club; the lively rooftop Pool House; classy cocktails at Fifth & Rose; even a Moët & Chandon vending machine. Rooms are bright and welcoming with plenty of natural wood and Pendry-print wallpaper. The rooftop pool is the envy of the neighbourhood, and the intimate spa is the perfect retreat from the demands of daily life.





Hawaii

With nearly 140 islands spread over 1,500 square miles of Pacific Ocean, Hawaii offers visitors a huge variety of things to see and do, from verdant jungles and active volcanos to swimming with manta rays and surfing some of the world's wildest waves.

Of the major islands, most visits start in Oahu. The name literally means 'gathering place' and from the early days when Hawaiian royalty chose Waikiki Beach to build their first houses, to today, when nearly 350,000 people call Honolulu home, the island has been the centre of Hawaiian culture. A visit to the moving Pearl Harbor National Memorial offers a fascinating insight into one of the most pivotal moments in US history. A hike up Diamond Head provides breathtaking views of Waikiki Beach. And from November to March, the island's legendary North Shore is pounded by some of the most monstrous waves on the planet, from Haleiwa to Sunset Beach, past Waimea Bay and the notorious Banzai Pipeline.

Second largest in terms of population, Maui ticks a lot of boxes, with whale-watching experiences, beautiful beaches and some of Hawaii's swankiest resorts among its trump cards. Watching sunrise from the top of hulking Haleakala Volcano is an absolute must, as is driving the corkscrew Hana Highway, a zig-zagging route along Maui's north-east coast that offers awe-inspiring views of waterfalls, beaches and tropical rainforests.

Though if it's rainforests you want, you might prefer the island of Kauai. Hawaii's 'Garden Isle' is the greenest and oldest in the Hawaiian archipelago, with a laidback vibe that's a million miles from the hubbub of Honolulu. About two thirds of the island is carpeted in jungle, with the other third home to some truly dramatic scenery, including the jaw-dropping cliffs of the Na Pali Coast and the spectacular Waimea Canyon.

Then there's Hawaii Island (aka Big Island) whose biggest draw is unquestionably Hawaii Volcanoes National Park, home to two of the world's most active volcanoes, including Kilauea, where molten lava flows can still be seen today.

Important Information

Best time to visit The islands remain warm throughout the year, with little seasonal variation. Heavy rainfall can occur in some mountainous areas from December to February, but most areas only experience short showers while others remain dry.

Average temp 28°C

How to get there American Airlines, United and Delta via Los Angeles or San Francisco to Honolulu (Oahu), Maui and Kona (Hawaii) • American Airlines and United via Los Angeles or San Francisco to Kauai

Average flying time 18 hours

GMT -10 hours

Tourist office www.gohawaii.com/uk

Ideal for Beaches, Surfing, Snorkelling, Diving, Culture, Natural Beauty, Adventure and Hiking





Aloha Hawaii

Hop, skip and hula through the heavenly Hawaiian islands on this 15-day tour that demonstrates the breadth of the 50th state – from the historical sites of Oahu and the plunging cliffs of Kauai, to the smouldering calderas of the Big Island's volcanos and the humpback whales that visit Maui in their thousands.

DAYS 1-5 OAHL

Upon arrival in Honolulu, you'll be taken by private car to the 'First Lady' of Waikiki hotels, Moana Surfrider, A Westin Resort & Spa for a five-night stay. Spend the next few days sightseeing, relaxing and enjoying all that Oahu has to offer. Get a glimpse into Hawaiian culture at a traditional *luau*. Enjoy time at the beach trying everything from parasailing and surfing to snorkelling and catamaran cruises. Tap into Hawaiian history with visits to the Iolani Palace, the former residence of Hawaiian royalty, and the Pearl Harbor National Memorial. Take in panoramic views of Oahu from the summit of Diamond Head, the ancient volcanic cone that rises from the end of Waikiki Beach. Visit the fabled North Shore to watch surfers test their metal at big-wave spots like Waimea Bay and the Banzai Pipeline. Or find your island style among the luxury boutiques of Kalakaua Avenue.

DAYS 6-8 KAUAI

Transfer to Honolulu for your flight to Kauai where you'll be met and transferred to Ko'a Kea Hotel & Resort for a three-night stay. It's not for nothing that Kauai is known as the 'Garden Isle' of Hawaii. The fertile island – the backdrop to everything from South Pacific to the Jurassic Park series – is mostly covered in tropical rainforest and as such is a mecca for outdoor enthusiasts. Highlights include Waimea Canyon, dubbed the 'Grand Canyon of the Pacific', and the Na Pali Coast, 22 miles of vibrant green valleys, thundering waterfalls and concertinaed cliffs 4,000 feet high. The coast can be explored by kayak or paddleboard, but by far the best way to take in the whole island is on a helicopter tour – something our experts will be happy to book for you.





NUMBER OF DAYS

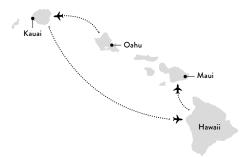
15

PRICES FROM

 $14\,nights/15\,days\,from\,\pounds 7{,}045\,per\,person$

YOUR ITINERARY INCLUDES

Price is based on two adults sharing a standard room and includes economy flights from London, private airport transfers throughout and hotel accommodation as detailed.



Designed by

Joanne Dodd

"It's almost impossible to pick Hawaii's best beaches, but this tour provides ample opportunity to visit some of the front runners, including Lanikai Beach on Oahu (reportedly Barack Obama's favourite), Poipu Beach on Kauai, Hapuna Beach on the Big Island and Kapalua Bay on Maui."

DAYS 9-11 HAWAII ISLAND (BIG ISLAND)

A private transfer will take you to the airport for your flight to Hawaii Island (aka Big Island), where you'll be met and transferred to Fairmont Orchid for a three-night stay, a coastal resort with a protected lagoon, huge pool and excellent amenities. It's the perfect base from which to explore the island. Follow Crater Rim Drive through Hawaii Volcanoes National Park to Kilauea Volcano, which has been spewing lava almost continuously since 1983. Hike to the spectacular Akaka Falls or along the Kona Coast to the Captain Cook Monument, which marks the site where the British explorer who discovered the Hawaiian islands was killed in 1779. Or pleasure your sweet tooth at Original Hawaiian Chocolate, the world's only producers of 100% Hawaiian chocolate.



DAYS 12-15 MAUI

End your Hawaiian journey with a three-night stay at the Fairmont Kea Lani, a stunning property on 22 beautiful, ocean-facing acres. When not enjoying the outdoor pools and acclaimed spa, options include helicopter trips over Haleakala Crater, which is big enough to fit all of Manhattan inside it; segway tours of laidback Lahaina, an old whalers' town now lined with boutiques and waterfront restaurants; whalewatching tours to spot humpbacks in winter; and the zig-zagging drive along the scenic Hana Highway, past dozens of waterfalls and hidden-away beaches. Transfer to the airport on day 15 in time for your flight home.

ESSENTIAL EXPERIENCES - OUR SUGGESTIONS



Pearl Harbor VIP Tour

This VIP tour includes time at the USS Arizona memorial, which commemorates the lives lost in the attack on Pearl Harbor in 1941; a trip below deck of the USS Bowfin submarine, dubbed the 'Pearl Harbor Avenger' for its successful attacks on the Japanese; and access to the battleship USS Missouri, where the Japanese surrender was finally signed in 1945.



Big Island Volcano Adventure

Nowhere is the power and beauty of Hawaii better expressed than in Hawaii Volcanoes National Park, home to two of the world's most active volcanoes, including Kilauea, which erupted continuously from 1983 to 2018. This adventurous tour gets you off the beaten track with an experienced guide for a blend of culture, history and awe-inspiring nature.



Helicopter Sightseeing

There's no better way to view Maui than from the air with Maverick Helicopters. Tours range from 55 to 75 minutes. Highlights include a remote landing in the Hana Rainforest, seeing the world's highest sea cliffs on neighbouring Molokoi, staring into the Haleakala Crater, and flying over hidden valleys, scenic waterfalls and the big-wave surf break, Jaws.

Visit our website to view these and other Hawaii hotels



Oahi

Moana Surfrider, A Westin Resort & Spa, Waikiki Beach

Known as the 'First Lady of Waikiki', Moana Surfrider combines Victorian elegance with contemporary comfort. Tastefully appointed rooms and suites are spread across three wings, with many offering breathtaking ocean views. Waikiki Beach is right on the doorstep, just beyond the sizeable outdoor pool, though the star of the show is the Moana Lani Spa, one of the best on Oahu, complete with relaxation lounges, saunas, steam rooms and two wonderful couple's suites with private hot tubs and panoramic views. The fitness centre offers daily morning yoga, while on-the-water options include surfing and paddleboarding. Dining choices range from afternoon tea on the elegant veranda to oceanfront dining at the island-inspired Beachhouse.



Oahu

Halekulani

All but a handful of rooms at heavenly Halekulani enjoy wonderful sea views. Spacious guestrooms come in natural, neutral tones; suites offer more space with one or two bedrooms, extra-large bathrooms and at least one balcony, while premier suites offer breathtaking views of Waikiki Beach and imposing Diamond Head. There's an array of dining options, including La Mer, one of the most awarded restaurants in Hawaii, as well as the more casual options, Orchids and House Without a Key. Attendants are always ready poolside with sunscreen and towels. There are numerous water and beach activities, Mindbody classes, signature sleep treatments, a comprehensive spa, plus excursions that tap into the history, culture and nature of Hawaii.



Kaua

Koʻa Kea Hotel & Resort

Known as the 'Garden Isle', Kauai is beloved for its tropical rainforests, wild, dramatic scenery and long sandy beaches. It's on one of these beaches that you'll find Ko'a Kea, regarded as one of the most romantic hotels in America. Most of the 121 rooms and suites offer at least partial sea views and all promise private *lanais* and marble bathrooms. The award-winning Red Salt Restaurant & Sushi Bar makes the most of the fresh local seafood. The spa includes beachfront cabana treatment areas, candlelit treatment rooms and a romantic couple's suite. Outside firepits maintain the romance at night, yoga and Pilates are conducted by the beach, and there's everything on offer from bikes and beach chairs to snorkels and surf lessons.



Four Seasons Resort Maui at Wailea

Set on one of the finest sweeps of sand in all Hawaii, this luxurious resort offers grand ocean views, nightly hula shows, contemporary rooms and the high levels of service you'd expect from a Four Seasons resort. Facilities include an oceanfront spa, an adults-only infinity pool with a swim-up bar, an open-air cardio and fitness deck, two additional pools, a tennis centre, kids' club and a trio of designer boutiques. Dining highlights include Spago, the Hawaiian outpost of Wolfgang Puck's signature LA restaurant, and Ferraro's, offering fine Italian dishes beneath the stars. Perhaps best of all though are the unique experiences on offer to guests, like a coffee plantation tour on neighbouring Hawaii Island by private helicopter.



Maui

Fairmont Kea Lani

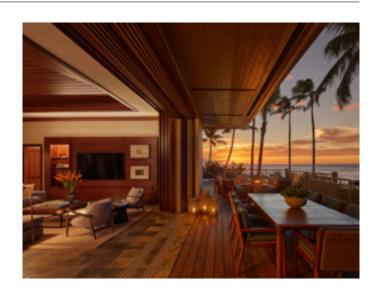
Situated on 22 acres of tropical landscape in upscale Wailea, the Fairmont Kea Lani is Maui's only oceanfront all-suite-and-villa resort. Island and Ocean Suites feature separate bedrooms and living rooms as well as oversized marble bathrooms and a massive lanai (balcony) with furniture for dining and lounging. Two- and three-bedroom villas up the ante with private outdoor plunge pools, barbecues and full kitchens. Of the four dining venues, standouts include signature restaurant Kō, known for its award-winning Hawaiian fusion, and Nick's Fishmarket Maui, famed as much for its 2,000-bottle wine cellar as its gorgeous fresh seafood. Other notable offerings include a top-notch spa, outrigger canoe experiences and hula and ukulele lessons.



Hawaii

Four Seasons Resort Hualalai

Spread among tropical palms between a lava-blackened volcano and a half-mile stretch of white-sand beach, the Four Seasons Resort Hualalai is an out-of-the-way Eden on Hawaii's Big Island. It offers everything you'd want from a tropical island holiday, including an impressive cultural centre, a snorkelable lagoon full of colourful fish, and a garden spa with innovative experiences that combine excursions to nearby salt flats or native forests with treatments using locally sourced products. There are over 20 room, suite and villa categories to choose from. Complimentary clinics are available at the PGA golf course. And amazingly, 80% of menu items in all of the resort's restaurants are sourced from the waters and farms around Hawaii.









Chicago

After New York, Chicago is America's most vital cultural capital and is a hard-to-beat choice for a scintillating city break. Fabulous restaurants like three-Michelin-star Alinea, memorable museums like the Art Institute of Chicago, parades of Frank Lloyd Wright architecture, and a jazz, blues and music scene that's second to none are all just a few of the Windy City's highlights. For a bird's eye view of it all from a glass-floored floating balcony, visit Skydeck Chicago on the 103rd floor of the Willis Tower, or walk the shore of Lake Michigan for stunning views back at the rising city skyline.



Philadelphia

There's a lot to love about the City of Brotherly Love. History fans can stand in the room where the Declaration of Independence was signed in 1776, or in the crumbling cell that once held Al Capone. Movie buffs can climb the famous 'Rocky Steps' or get their picture taken by the Rocky Balboa statue. At the Barnes Museum, art lovers can see the largest number of privately owned impressionist paintings in the world. Shoppers can run wild at the King of Prussia Mall, one of the largest in America. While foodies can weigh in on the greatest debate in town: who exactly serves the finest Philly cheesesteak?



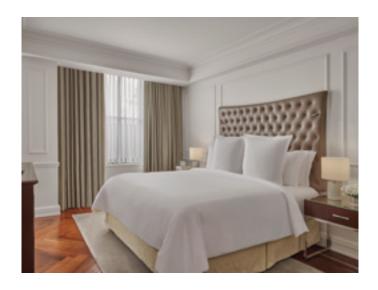
Washington, D.C.

America's capital is teeming with iconic monuments, museums, parks and broad boulevards. In springtime, cherry blossoms bloom along the city's centrepiece, the National Mall, home to such imposing landmarks as the Washington Monument and Lincoln Memorial, where Daniel Chester French's massive sculpture of the brooding president sits, the stirring words of his Gettysburg Address etched behind him. Other places of interest include the world's largest library, the Library of Congress, the Neoclassical White House and the US Capitol, which holds the House and Senate chambers of government.

Washington, D.C.

Rosewood Washington, D.C.

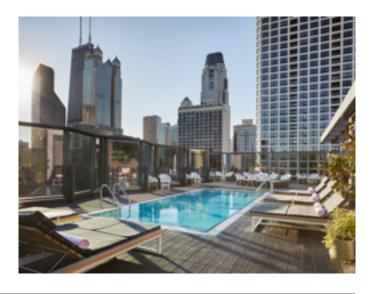
Set on the banks of the C&O Canal, Rosewood Washington, D.C. combines the intimacy of a boutique retreat with the service and facilities of a larger hotel. The understated brick facade barely hints at the grandeur inside: opulent wood panelling, parquet flooring from a French chateau, and plush leather chairs that give the feel of an old clubhouse. The 55 rooms, including 12 suites and six townhouses, offer more square footage than most urban hotels and come with high-end comforts like touch-panel technology, Nespresso machines and glass-enclosed rainfall showers. Celebrity chef Wolfgang Puck helms the F&B offerings, while facilities range from in-room spa treatments to a rooftop pool with views of the Potomac and Washington Monument.



Chicago

Viceroy Chicago

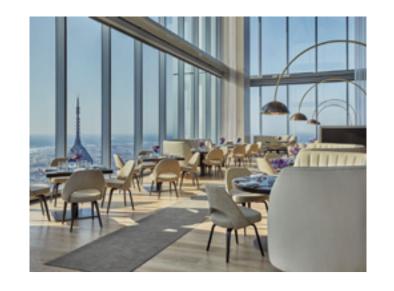
Conveniently located in the exclusive Gold Coast neighbourhood, Viceroy Chicago is a swanky mix of vintage and contemporary, with the upper floors a gleaming glass tower that's pure modern luxury - sitting atop the meticulously preserved facade of the 1920s hotel that was here before it. Design flourishes throughout are both polished and playful, from the towering blue wall of Proustian poetry in the avant-garde lobby, to the wallpaper art behind the beds in the rooms, where attention is focused on the jaw-dropping views from the floor-toceiling windows. The restaurant, Somerset, serves seasonal American dishes, while the rooftop lounge Devereaux offers cocktails and light bites beside an outdoor pool with sensational skyline views.



Philadelphia

Four Seasons Hotel Philadelphia at Comcast Center

Designed by Norman Foster, this fabulous Four Seasons is the highest hotel in North America and consequently offers breathtaking views over the city of Philadelphia; they're especially arresting from the rooftop infinity pool, reserved exclusively for hotel guests. Rooms and suites are spread over 10 floors and boast floor-to-ceiling windows, minibars with cocktail-making ingredients and the latest touch- and voice-activated technology. Local chef Greg Vernick helms the buzzy oyster bar and brasserie, while acclaimed chef Jean-Georges Vongerichten offers tantalising tasting menus at the fine-dining restaurant. To relax, visit the peaceful spa complete with 700lb of healing crystals built into the walls. To explore, ask the concierge about the raft of local tours and activities available.





There are few cities in the world blessed with a more beautiful setting than Seattle. Sitting at the edge of picturesque Puget Sound, America's Emerald City is the gateway to the Pacific Northwest and the spectacular landscapes of Olympic, Mount Rainier and North Cascades national parks, all of which lie within a few hours' drive of the city. Several cruises to Alaska also start from the Seattle waterfront, while a little offshore, the gloriously scenic San Juan Islands offer some of the best orca watching in the world, as well as chances to spot seals, sea lions and porpoises.

Of course there's plenty to explore in Seattle itself too, not least the world famous Pike Place Market, one of the oldest farmers' markets in America; the original Starbucks, which began in 1971 as a simple hole-in-the-wall coffee shop before spawning a caffeine revolution that spread around the world; the iconic Space Needle, 605 feet high and home to the world's first and only revolving glass floor; and the immersive Museum of Pop Culture, whose detailed exhibits cover everything from musicians and their instruments to science fiction, video games and influential films.



"Seattle is undoubtedly one of my favourite US cities. An organised food tour is a great way to experience Pike Place Market, still home to the best seafood chowder I've ever tasted. From there head up the Space Needle for panoramic views of downtown and – on a clear day – mighty Mount Rainier in the distance. I also recommend taking a seaplane flight over pretty Puget Sound. As well as more terrific views, we spotted Tom Hanks's house from Sleepless in Seattle."

Gina Riley, Senior Travel Advisor



SPEAK TO YOUR TRAVEL AGENT ABOUT BOOKING A LUSSO HOLIDAY TO SEATTLE, WASHINGTON

A TASTE OF SEATTLE

4-Day City Break

Dive into the best of the Emerald City with three days of seafood, culture and outdoor adventure.

Day 1 Arrive on a direct flight from London and transfer to Lotte Hotel Seattle. Venture up the Space Needle to take in your surroundings then head to the waterfront to sample Seattle's famous seafood trifecta: Dungeness crab, wild salmon and oysters.

Day 2 Start the day with a private food tour of Pike Place Market, getting the inside scoop from its merchants, chefs and store owners. After lunch, embrace the city's art and museum scene with visits to the Museum of Pop Culture or the sleek and contemporary Seattle Art Museum. Then toast the city's culture in the Ballard Brewery District.

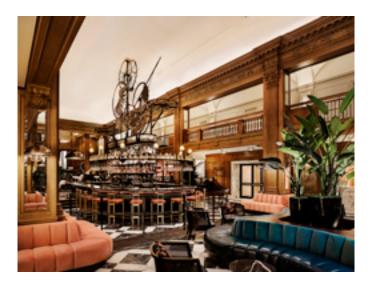
Day 3 Cross pretty Puget Sound for a fullday tour of Olympic National Park, taking in its moss-draped forests, piercing azure lakes and striking mountain peaks.

Day 4 Enjoy views of the downtown skyline, Space Needle and Elliott Bay from beautiful Kerry Park before transferring to the airport for your flight home.

Seattle

Fairmont Olympic Hotel

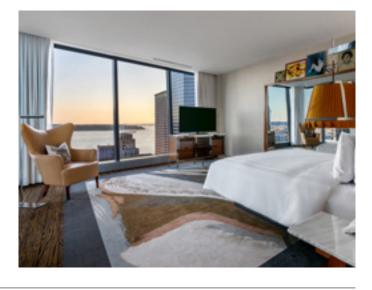
Among the city's most celebrated landmarks, this luxury hotel commands a great location in downtown Seattle, within walking distance of the waterfront and Pike Place Market. Built in the 1920s but fully refurbished in 2016, it strikes the right balance between old-world glamour and contemporary luxury. The glamour is most evident in the two-storey lobby, with its oak-carved panels, domed ceilings and gilded chandeliers. More modern are the rooms, around half of which are suites, complete with plush duvets and marble bathrooms with powerful rainfall showers. Dining options range from modern brasserie The George to the oyster bar Shuckers, while facilities include an indoor pool and hot tub, fitness centre, salon and excellent day spa.



Seattle

Lotte Hotel Seattle

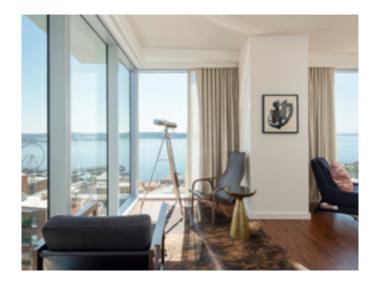
This Philippe Starck-designed hotel occupies 16 floors of the flashy 44-floor F5 Tower in the heart of downtown Seattle, within walking distance of Pike Place Market. Floor-to-ceiling windows with sprawling views of Elliott Bay make the rooms feel even bigger than they are, while heavy marble bathrooms, light-wood touches and splashes of colour add a sense of fun to the unquestionable stamp of luxury. The 32 suites are particularly sleek and spacious; the Presidential Suite even comes with its own baby grand piano. Charlotte Restaurant & Lounge elevates the classic dishes of the Pacific Northwest using fresh, local ingredients, while the spa and fitness centre offers a full slate of massages, facials, aromatherapy treatments plus hair and makeup options.



Seattle

Thompson Seattle

Just a stone's throw away from Pike Place Market, Thompson Seattle is ideally located for making the most of the Emerald City. Stunning views of Puget Sound, the Seattle Great Wheel, the dramatic city skyline and of ferries criss-crossing Elliott Bay are on full display through floor-to-ceiling windows in the hotel's rooms, suites and residences, which also feature hardwood floors, sleek midcentury furniture and luxurious rainfall showers. Rooftop bar The Nest serves hand-crafted cocktails and small bites before views that stretch as far as the Olympic Mountain Range, while signature restaurant Conversation Kitchen & Bar champions the best produce of the Pacific Northwest, from freshly caught fish to freshly foraged mushrooms.





What's your favourite US city and what must I do while I'm there?

New York without a doubt. Be sure to picnic in Central Park, gaze in awe at Times Square and ride the ferry to Liberty Island. But leave time for some of the newer attractions too, like walking the High Line, a 1.5-mile urban park that snakes through the Meatpacking District 30 feet above street level.

Which of the tourist hotspots live up to the hype?

If you're in San Francisco you should certainly visit Alcatraz. Once home to such notorious criminals as Al Capone, America's most famous prison makes for a wonderful half-day excursion, and the self-guided audio tour gives a fascinating insight into life on 'The Rock'.

Where should I take the family?

For a good old-fashioned family holiday, head to the beaches of Cape Cod in New England. The powdery sand and calm waters of the cape's south side are especially child-friendly, and there are great opportunities for biking, fishing, boating and whale-watching.

Where should I go to get back to nature?

Southern Florida is amazing for nature lovers. Head into the Everglades with a naturalist guide to spot pelicans, alligators, dolphins and manatees. Or head further south to the Florida Keys, which offer some of the best marine life encounters in the States. Dive the Shipwreck Trail off Key Largo. Kayak or paddleboard through the mangrove islands of the Great White Heron National Wildlife Refuge. And snorkel among rainbow-coloured parrotfish in the Looe Key National Marine Sanctuary.

What's the best way to travel around the States?

The most convenient and flexible way is to self-drive, which allows you to go at your own pace, stopping at whatever takes your fancy along the way. We'll help you find the vehicle that's right for you and your companions, be it a soft-top convertible for cruising in the sunshine or an SUV for better sit-up-high views. We can even arrange motorhome and motorcycle hire.











With several Canada specialists on the Lusso team, we're excited to now offer bespoke luxury holidays to the world's second largest country. And there's a lot more to Canada than just maple syrup and Mounties.

A self-drive itinerary through the rearing Rocky Mountains from Jasper to Banff offers access to some of the most spectacular mountain scenery in the world, including the 30-square-mile Columbia Icefield and the jade-green waters of magical Lake Louise.

The scenery's just as good aboard luxury train, the Rocky Mountaineer, whose two- and three-day, all-daylight journeys from Vancouver to either Banff or Jasper are widely regarded as some of the best – and most indulgent – rail journeys in the world.

On the unforgiving tundra of the Hudson Bay coast, guests can spot polar bears on their annual migration and may even catch a glimpse of the ethereal Northern Lights. In British Columbia, remote luxury lodges offer rare opportunities to watch grizzly and spirit bears catching salmon in the wild.

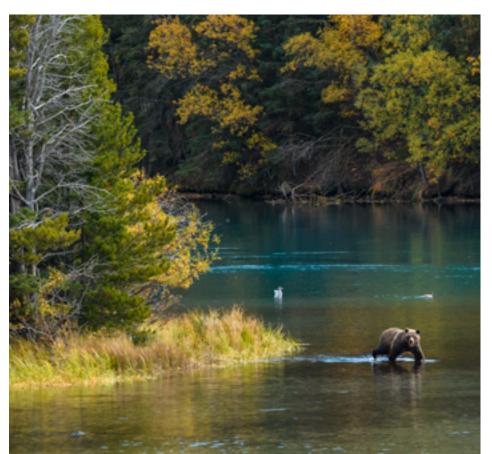
You can kayak with killer whales off Vancouver Island and spot humpbacks, belugas and even blue whales in the salty waters of Quebec's Saguenay Fjord. In Ontario, Niagara Falls plunges 20 storeys as if into oblivion. While in the maritime province of Newfoundland, folk stock their freezers with fragments of passing icebergs.

It's not all about wildlife and wilderness though. In musical Montréal, Parisian flare mixes with the bustle of a cutting-edge city. Built by the French in the 17th century, Québec City is the only walled city in North America and a UNESCO World Heritage Site. In Toronto, there are breathtaking views from the top of the CN Tower. While Vancouver enjoys one of North America's most exciting and cosmopolitan restaurant scenes.

Turn to the next page for a taste of what a luxury, tailor-made journey to Canada might look like.









Specialists You Can Trust

From east coast to west, we have excellent relationships with the best travel providers in Canada, from leading hotel brands including Fairmont, Four Seasons and Rosewood to boutique hotels, remote wilderness lodges and the legendary train, Rocky Mountaineer. Whether you're looking for an escorted tour or city break, a luxury cruise or bespoke itinerary crafted solely around your interests, our Canada specialists are ready to assist you.



The Rockies by Rail & Road

Combine a two-day journey aboard the legendary Rocky Mountaineer train with some of the world's most breathtaking mountain scenery on this 13-day rail-and-road epic through the heart of the Canadian Rockies.

DAYS 1-3 VANCOUVER

Arrive in Vancouver and transfer to the Fairmont Waterfront for a three-night stay, a luxurious harbourfront hotel with gorgeous views of the North Shore Mountains. Spend the next two days exploring Vancouver. Walk amid the ancient cedars and totem poles of Stanley Park, or wander the stalls of bustling Granville Island Public Market, the epicentre of Vancouver's renowned food scene.





DAY 4 KAMLOOPS

Board the Rocky Mountaineer, one of the most famous trains in the world, for your Journey Through the Clouds to Kamloops. Enjoy SilverLeaf service in a glass-domed coach with oversized windows that make photography a breeze. Or maybe upgrade to GoldLeaf (see page 83). The journey starts by following the Fraser River as breakfast is served in the comfort of your seat. As the fertile farmlands give way to dramatic landscapes, the train's hosts will serve you a three-course lunch and entertain you with stories about the region. After miles of stunning scenery you'll pull into Kamloops and transfer to a comfortable hotel for the night.



NUMBER OF DAYS

13

12 nights / 13 days from £5,155 per person

YOUR ITINERARY INCLUDES

Price is based on two adults sharing a standard room and includes economy flights from London, private transfers on arrival, Rocky Mountaineer two-day journey in SilverLeaf with all station transfers, compact car hire with insurance for eight days and hotel accommodation as detailed.

Designed by

Gina Riley

"There's so much to love about this part of Canada, from its majestic mountains and picturesque lakes to its vibrant, safe cities and amazing wildlife, including moose, whales and grizzly bears. But it's the people I love most. They're so laidback and friendly, you can't help but make friends wherever you go."

DAYS 5-6 JASPER

Continue east aboard the *Rocky Mountaineer* to Jasper, passing stunning lake views and mighty Mount Robson, the tallest peak in the Canadian Rockies. Enjoy breakfast and lunch on board and hear about the history of the railway. Upon arrival, transfer to Fairmont Jasper Park Lodge for a two-night stay. Collect your hire car the next morning and spend the day exploring Jasper National Park. Highlights include mirror-still Maligne Lake, the largest of the Rockies' glacier-fed lakes, and the deafening Athabasca Falls.



DAYS 7-8 LAKE LOUISE

Drive the breathtaking Icefields Parkway to Lake Louise and check in for two nights at the Fairmont Chateau Lake Louise. One of the most scenic roads in the world, the parkway runs along the Continental Divide, offering jaw-dropping views of glacier-topped peaks, tumbling waterfalls and crystalline lakes. Be sure to stop at the Columbia Icefield, where you can drive on the Athabasca Glacier in a massive allterrain vehicle and walk above the ice on a glass-bottomed Skywalk. Spend the next day soaking up the majesty of Lake Louise, known for its jade colour and dramatic setting at the foot of the Victoria Glacier.

Continue along the Icefields Parkway to Banff and check in for three nights at the luxury-hotel-cumstorybook-castle, Fairmont Banff Springs. Spend the next two days exploring Banff National Park, including stunning Moraine Lake, nestled beneath soaring 10,000-foot peaks.

DAYS 12-13 CALGARY

Continue east to Calgary for a night at Fairmont Palliser. This vibrant city boasts great shopping and wonderful views from the top of the Calgary Tower. Drive to the airport on day 13 in time to catch your flight home.

DISCOVER THE CANADIAN ROCKIES WITH ROCKY MOUNTAINEER



Upgrade to GoldLeaf

Upgrade to GoldLeaf for service every bit as memorable as the majestic mountain views. Enjoy unobstructed viewing from your spacious seat on the upper level of your two-level glassdomed coach. Step onto the exclusive outdoor viewing platform to get closer to the action, and enjoy gourmet meals and complimentary drinks in the dedicated dining room.



First Passage to the West

Like the route featured in our sample itinerary, this two-day, all-daylight journey starts in Vancouver and winds its way to Kamloops. The second day, however, sees you heading to Lake Louise and Banff rather than Jasper, passing memorable landmarks like Castle Mountain, named by early explorers for its resemblance to a medieval castle.



Rainforest to Gold Rush

This three-day journey takes you from Vancouver to Jasper via the world-famous mountain resort of Whistler (where you can ride the record-breaking 4.4-kilometre Peak 2 Peak Gondola) and historic town of Quesnel. Along the way you'll pass scenic fjords, rushing rivers, soaring mountains and gold-flecked canyons once teeming with gold prospectors.

TAUCK ESCORTED TOURS Tauck have been organising luxury escorted tours since 1925, making them tried and tested experts in their field. Their USA and Canada tours offer endless opportunities for cultural connections and authentic experiences, from majestic mountain landscapes and treasured national parks to historic cities and seaside attractions.

On a Tauck tour it's not just about the places you visit, it's about how you experience them. Thanks to nearly a century of relationship building, Tauck can provide special access to hidden gems and sites not normally accessible to the public. They can show you sides to the USA and Canada you simply wouldn't see if travelling independently. A lot of this is down to the connections they have with local people and their communities, who share their insights, secrets and stories with Tauck guests. As impressive as America's iconic sights are, it's often encounters like fishing for lobster off the Portland coast with a genuine local lobsterman that guests remember most.

Equally impressive are the excellent Tauck guides. Tauck Directors average 10 years of service, come from 41 countries and collectively speak 52 languages. Their expertise in local culture, customs and traditions is what turns a Tauck tour from a trip to a trip of a lifetime. Add the reassurance of luxurious accommodation each step of the way, inclusive benefits like airport transfers, a wide choice of excursions – many exclusive to Tauck – and meals at restaurants that offer a true taste of each region you visit, and you quickly understand why Tauck have been named in Travel + Leisure's 'World's Best' list for 25 consecutive years.



Trending Tours to the USA & Canada

America's Canyonlands

Delve into the heart of the American West on this eight-day tour beginning with a luxury stay in Scottsdale and ending amid the bright lights of Vegas. Hear insider stories with narratives by filmmakers, stay in three of America's most iconic national parks: Grand Canyon, Bryce Canyon and Zion, enjoy a private dinner cruise on Lake Powell, and learn about the ecology of the inspiring Grand Canyon from an expert geologist.



Grand New England

This comprehensive 12-day tour has something for everyone. Beginning and ending in Boston, you'll visit classic New England destinations such as Bretton Woods, Stowe, Mount Washington and Bar Harbor. Visit the Berkshire retreats of Norman Rockwell and Edith Wharton, explore the wilderness of Acadia National Park, enjoy a farm-to-fork cooking demonstration and dinner in Vermont, and fish for lobster off the Portland coast.



In Freedom's Footsteps

Explore the meaning and history of freedom in America on this 11-day tour from Philadelphia to Washington, D.C., crafted by Tauck and filmmaker Ken Burns. Enjoy a behind-thescenes experience in the National Archives, private tours of the Museum of the American Revolution and Virginia's historic State Capitol building, and visit iconic sites such as Independence Hall, Gettysburg, Shenandoah National Park and Colonial Williamsburg.



Southern Charms

This unforgettable eight-day tour from Savannah to Charleston along the honeycombed coastline of Georgia and South Carolina sees you enter a world of 19th-century mansions, magnificent magnolias and avenues of oak trees draped in Spanish moss. Enjoy dinner in Savannah's oldest hotel, a hands-on demonstration of Low Country cuisine, a tour of the sea islands off Beaufort, South Carolina, and a private cruise in Charleston Harbour.



Nova Scotia & Prince Edward Island

Picturesque fishing hamlets, colourful timber houses and wildlife-rich waters form the backdrop to this eight-day summer tour of Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island on Canada's east coast. Enjoy a private tour and dinner at the Halifax Citadel National Historic Site, learn of Canada's rich immigration history at Pier 21, visit the farmhouse immortalised in *Anne of Green Gables*, and join a whale-watching cruise in the beautiful Bay of Fundy.



Canada's Capital Cities & Niagara Falls

This enthralling 10-day tour combines four distinctly different cities in eastern Canada – Toronto, Ottawa, Montréal and Québec City – with the tranquil lakes and forests of the Thousand Islands and the mighty roar of Niagara Falls. Highlights include multiple-night stays at Fairmont hotels in the heart of each city, including the legendary Château Frontenac in Québec City, and a private, after-hours docent-led tour of the Royal Ontario Museum.









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