

Tour 7: Mountains Canyons and Deserts 1375 miles

by Church Village Travel



Day 1 Fly from United Kingdom to Denver. Then an overnight at an Airport Hotel.

Day 2 Drive to Colorado Springs (78 Miles) for 2 nights. On the way visit Garden of the Gods, a National Landmark with dramatic 300 feet towering rock formations that backdrop the snow capped Pikes Peak and brilliant blue skies. In the afternoon visit Seven Falls. These falls cascade 181 feet in seven distinctive steps down solid cliffs of granite. Crystal clear waters from the Rockies have carved this unique scenic masterpiece.

Day 3 Take the Cog Railway up to the Summit of Pikes Peak, an eighteen mile round trip to over 14000 feet, travelling through different geological life zones. Afterwards visit Cave of the Winds, one of Americas most important show caves. These Colorado caves feature adventure and geology rolled into one. Close by visit the Manitou Cliff Dwellings built by the Anasazi Indians over 700 years ago under red sandstone overhangs.

Day 4 Drive to Aspen (157 miles) for 1 night over the Continental Divide. Explore the many shops and bars in this mountain resort. Try and find the Saloon where The Eagles composed their famous song "Lying Eyes". Take a gondola ride over 13000 feet for magnificent views of the Rockies.

Day 5 Drive to Moab (239 miles) for 1 night. Visit Canyonlands National Park, a colourful landscape eroded into countless canyons, mesas and buttes by the Colorado River. Then visit Arches National Park which preserves over 2000 natural sandstone arches and unusual rock formations.

Day 6 Drive to Durango (160 miles) for 2 nights a magnificently preserved western town. Check in for White Water rafting on the Animas River.

Day 7 In the morning take the train from Durango to Silverton through glorious view of the San Juan Mountains. The train has been in continuous operation for over 128 years carrying passengers behind vintage steam locomotives and rolling stock.

Day 8 Drive to Page (261 miles) for 2 nights. If you missed out on the Manitou Cliff Dwelling visit Mesa Verde National Park which has over 600 preserved cliffs dwelling built by the Ancestral Pueblo People. Alternatively drive through Monument Valley, famous for its Giant Red Buttes and Mesas which have appeared in countless Western Movies.

Day 9 Take a Cruise on Lake Powell to Antelope canyon. This is one of the most breathtaking and tranquil places on earth. Visit the Glen Canyon Dam to experience the workings of a Hydro Electric Powerplant.

Day 10 Drive to Bryce canyon (160 miles) for 1 night through the Grand Staircase Escalante, an austere, remote and rugged landscape. In the afternoon visit the canyon which has often been called a cave without a ceiling. In the evening spend time Star Gazing. Because of its location and darkness, 7500 stars can be seen on a moonless, cloudless night.

Day 11 Drive to Zion National Park (154 miles) for 1 night. This park, with its Massive Canyon Walls, ascends towards a brilliant blue sky. To Experience Zion you will need to walk among the towering cliffs. These unique sandstone cliffs range in colour from cream to pink to red. They are described as sand castles crowning desert canyons.

Day 12 Drive to Las Vegas (166 miles) for 2 nights on the Famous Strip which comes alive at nightfall. If you prefer spend the 2 nights on a luxury resort located 15 minutes from downtown for the best of both worlds.

Day 14 Fly from Las Vegas to United Kingdom to arrive the next day.

