



Good Times Travel

Utah's Canyons, Colors & Capitol Reef

Featuring Zion, Bryce & Capitol Reef National Parks, Escalante-Grand Staircase, Goblin Valley, Cedar Breaks, Valley of Fire

September 17-22, 2022 ~ 6 Day Tour

Tour Highlights

- ◆ Tour Zion National Park and marvel at its narrow gorges, dramatic canyons, sheer cliffs, checkerboard mesa and the historic tunnel
- ◆ Visit Bryce Canyon National Park and admire the colorful distinctive hoodoos, spires and towers that create an otherworldly landscape
- ◆ Explore Capitol Reef National Park, where giant white sandstone "dome" rocks cap massive, spectacularly colorful reef-like cliffs
- ◆ Visit Goblin Valley State and walk amongst thousands of strange "mushroom" or "goblin" like formations that defy description
- ◆ Travel Scenic Byway 12 through Escalante-Grand Staircase National Monument
- ◆ Marvel at the brilliantly-colored formations that appear as forests of rock at Cedar Breaks National Monument
- ◆ Explore Valley of Fire State Park's spectacular red sandstone formations and petroglyphs
- ◆ Stay three-nights just outside the national parks, and enjoy overnight stays with exciting gaming action in Las Vegas and Mesquite



Zion National Park



Las Vegas



Valley of Fire State Park



Bryce Canyon National Park

Itinerary

Every year, beginning in mid-September, Mother Nature unveils a rich tapestry of fabulous fall colors in Southern Utah. Combined with lower temperatures at these higher elevations (these Parks range in elevation between 6,000-10,000 feet), this is an ideal time to visit this incredible landscape of colorful canyons, mesas and whimsical shapes. We'll not only explore two of Utah's most well-known parks – Zion and Bryce Canyon National Parks – we'll also visit several of its least visited and most secluded, including Capitol Reef National Park, Goblin Valley State Park and Cedar Breaks National Monument. No airfare required on this spectacular 6-day autumn journey to discover a treasure chest of scenic wonders amongst Utah's enchanting canyonlands.

Day 1 – Welcome to Las Vegas!

We set off from our departure points this morning onboard a deluxe motorcoach and travel through the expansive Mohave Desert to **Las Vegas**, making a rest stop and a stop for lunch on your own along the way. Later this afternoon we'll arrive at the **Treasure Island Hotel & Casino**, one of the most distinctive and friendly resort destinations in Las Vegas. This exciting, upscale resort is located in the heart of the Las Vegas "Strip" and features a number of restaurants, bars and lounges, a heated tropical outdoor pool and spa, a 95,000 square foot casino and recently upgraded rooms with floor-to-ceiling windows. Enjoy the evening at leisure with many resorts within walking distance including *Wynn, Encore, Venetian, Palazzo, Bellagio, Caesar's Palace* and *Mirage*.

Day 2 – Zion National Park

Following an included breakfast, we'll travel north into southern Utah and continue through the spectacular **Virgin River Gorge** and the colorful mesas of Utah's "Dixie Country." This afternoon,

Tour Inclusions

- ◆ 5 Nights deluxe hotel accommodations
- ◆ 10 Meals – 1 dinner, 4 lunches, 5 breakfasts
- ◆ Services of a professional GTT tour director
- ◆ Comprehensive sightseeing
- ◆ Admissions per itinerary
- ◆ Transportation on a deluxe motorcoach
- ◆ Luggage handling throughout the tour

Tour Prices

Double Occupancy: \$1,699 per person
Single Occupancy (no roommate): Add \$550

Reservations



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Accommodations

- ◆ Night 1 **Treasure Island (TI)**, Las Vegas, NV
- ◆ Night 2 **Hampton Inn**, Springdale, UT
- ◆ Nights 3-4 **Capitol Reef Resort**, Torrey, UT
- ◆ Night 5 **Eureka Resort & Casino**, Mesquite, NV

Departure Information

Join this tour from one of our convenient departure points available in these cities:

- ◆Fountain Valley ◆Laguna Hills ◆Long Beach

Approximate Departure Time: 7-9 a.m.

Approximate Return Time: 6-8 p.m.

Payment Information

- ◆ Full payment due at time of booking by mailing a check to the above address, or by credit card at www.goodtimestravel.com

Cancellation/Travel Protection

A travel protection policy (which includes cancellation protection and other benefits) is highly recommended and available through a third-party. A travel protection brochure will be provided with your payment receipt and invoice. Regardless of the reason, cancellations, credits and transfers of paid bookings require us to retain an administrative fee (ranging from \$25-\$200 depending on the date of cancellation) in addition to all non-recoverable fees paid to our tour suppliers on your behalf. Those guests who have purchased travel protection and must cancel for a covered reason, will be reimbursed by the travel protection company the balance of any non-refunded or credited monies (minus the premium itself). Visit www.goodtimestravel.com or see our tour catalog for our full cancellation policy and other terms and conditions.

Health & Wellness

To better ensure the health and wellness of all guests, this tour requires all guests to wear face masks where required, provide proof of COVID-19 vaccination and complete a Wellness Pledge on the day of departure.

Tour Pace & Activity Level



Visit our website for further explanation of what each of these designations means to assist you in determining which tour is right for you based on your physical abilities and the pacing you prefer.

Itinerary Continued...

we'll arrive in **Zion National Park**, featuring a dramatic landscape of sculptured canyons and soaring cliffs. We'll stop at the Zion Visitor Center where we'll board the Zion Canyon Shuttle and continue into **Zion Canyon** – an incredible slot canyon that is 15 miles long and up to 2,640 feet deep. As we travel along **Zion Canyon Scenic Drive**, we'll marvel at massive sandstone cliffs of cream, pink, and red that soar into a brilliant blue sky. Enjoy time at leisure for lunch on your own at the **Zion Park Lodge** and a stop at the **Temple of Sinawava** where we can take a short stroll along the banks of the Virgin River. This evening we'll check into our hotel located just outside the park's entrance, with the balance of the evening at leisure and dinner on your own at a nearby restaurant. (Breakfast)

Day 3 – Zion & Bryce National Parks, Escalante-Grand Staircase Nat'l Monument

Enjoy an included breakfast this morning before we re-enter Zion National Park and travel the **Zion-Mount Carmel Highway** – one of the most awe-inspiring drives in all of America. This mind-blowing road between Zion Canyon and Mount Carmel features swirling, otherworldly rock formations, mounds, towers, hoodoos, and hilltops. Layered strata of rusty red, orange, cream, yellow and brown color the landscape that is dotted with desert pines, sagebrush, and wildflowers. We'll travel through the historic **Zion-Mount Carmel Tunnel**, a true engineering marvel that is over 5,000 feet long and rather narrow, allowing our motorcoach to just-barely fit. We'll continue through Zion's colorful **Checkerboard Mesa** – sandstone hills with an unusual crack pattern that resemble a grid much like you would see on a checkerboard. Later this morning we'll arrive at **Bryce Canyon National Park** (elevation 8,000 feet). We'll stop at the Visitor Center, enjoy an included picnic lunch and visit several viewpoints to admire the spectacular geologic formations and brilliant colors. Gazing down upon Bryce Amphitheater we'll see thousands of red, orange, and white "hoodoos" (irregular columns of rock) – in fact, Bryce Canyon National Park is home to the largest concentration of hoodoos found anywhere on Earth. The towering columns, narrow fins, and natural bridges seem to deny all reason or explanation, leaving our jaws agape in wondrous incredulity. We continue north this afternoon along Utah's incredible **Scenic Byway 12** through **Escalante-Grand Staircase National Monument**. Consistently rated one of the most scenic drives in North America, along the way we'll marvel at the jagged red-rock formations, deep slot canyons, green alpine forests, and seemingly endless slick rock. We arrive in Torrey this evening and begin a two-night stay with views of Capitol Reef National Park's red rocks from our private balconies. Enjoy the balance of the evening at leisure with dinner on your own at a nearby restaurant. (Breakfast, Lunch)

Day 4 – Capitol Reef National Park, Goblin Valley State Park

After an included breakfast we'll enter **Capitol Reef National Park** – one of the least visited and most remote national parks, it is a hidden treasure filled with cliffs, canyons, domes, and bridges. The park gets its name from the white domes of Navajo Sandstone that resemble capitol building domes, and the rocky cliffs which are a barrier to travel, much like a coral reef. This afternoon we arrive at **Goblin Valley State Park** to enjoy an included picnic lunch and time to explore this remote landscape covered with thousands of strange "mushroom" or "goblin" like formations that defy description. We return to Torrey and enjoy an included dinner at a locals' favorite. (Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner)

Day 5 – Cedar Breaks National Monument, Mesquite

Following an included breakfast, we'll travel south along scenic byways through Utah's "Color Country." We'll enjoy an included lunch in Panguitch at a locals' favorite before we continue to **Cedar Breaks National Monument**. Located atop the Colorado Plateau at over 10,000 feet in elevation, the views here are absolutely breathtaking. Millions of years of sedimentation and erosion continue to carve out a giant amphitheater that is three miles across and more than 2,000 feet deep. This time of year presents a great opportunity to view fall foliage – in fact Cedar Breaks is consistently rated as a top location to experience fall colors in the United States. We continue south through the Virgin River Gorge to the desert oasis of **Mesquite, Nevada** for an overnight stay at a resort featuring upgraded hotel rooms and a separate casino with non-stop gaming action. Enjoy the balance of the evening at leisure with dinner on your own at the resort restaurant. (Breakfast, Lunch)

Day 6 – Valley of Fire State Park, Journey Home

Following an included breakfast, we'll travel south and enter **Valley of Fire State Park** which gets its name from the spectacular bright red Aztec sandstone formations that appear to be on fire when reflecting the sun's rays. Since 300 BCE, Valley of Fire has been home to numerous prehistoric civilizations including the Anasazi. You'll see proof of this in the 3,000 year old petroglyphs visible near where we'll enjoy an included picnic lunch. We continue south to Southern California, returning to our drop-off points this evening with fond memories of our time exploring southern Utah. (Breakfast, Lunch)

While we make every effort to operate our tours as outlined in the itinerary, we ask for your patience, understanding and flexibility and to retain a sense of adventure while traveling with us. Situations may arise that necessitate changes to the itinerary. Should we need to adjust the itinerary either prior to or while on tour, these changes will be communicated to you and only done when absolutely necessary.