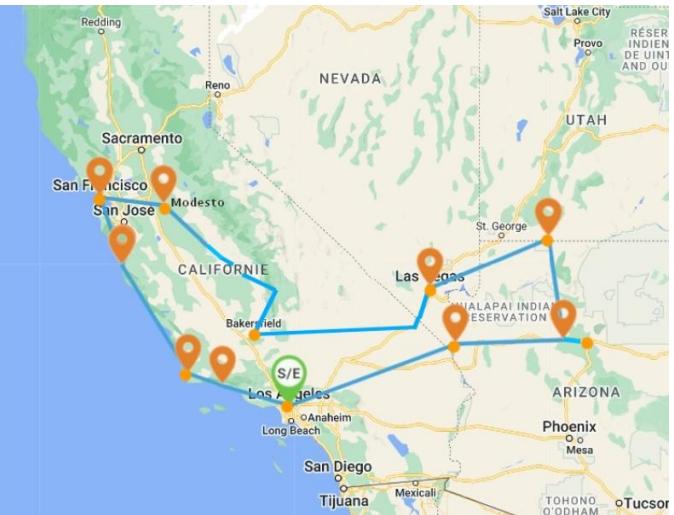


Icons of the American West



Starting from the **City of Angels**, set off on an escorted trip to discover the great wonders of the **West**: the **Grand Canyon**, **Route 66**, **Monument Valley**, **Bryce Canyon National Park** and its famous '**hoodoos**', then **Las Vegas**, **Death Valley**, **Yosemite National Park**, and **San Francisco**, before heading back down along the **Pacific Coast** via **Monterey** and **Carmel**. Return to **Los Angeles** via **Santa Barbara**. French-speaking accompaniment. BUOC



Day 1

Arrival in Los Angeles, the largest city in the USA! Los Angeles is a patchwork of neighborhoods with no real downtown.

Transfer to the hotel. Free time.

Dinner on your own and overnight in Los Angeles (out-of-town hotel in Norwalk, near Long Beach).



Day 2

Guided tour of Los Angeles: discover Beverly Hills, the billionaire neighborhood home to many movie actors and producers, and its famous Rodeo Drive.

Drive along Sunset Boulevard to see the bright signs celebrating the music and film industry.

Head to Hollywood Boulevard, known for its hand and footprints in cement. The Chinese Theatre and the Walk of Fame, with its pink stars and names in golden letters.

Downtown with its Pueblo, the historic heart of the city, and its main artery Olvera Street.

Lunch.

Drive to Laughlin via the Mojave Desert, with a stop at the Bagdad Café. Arrival in Laughlin, the 'mini-Las Vegas'.

Dinner on your own and overnight in Laughlin (or Kingman).



Day 3

Depart for the Grand Canyon, one of the most extraordinary places on Earth!

Stop in Seligman on the legendary Route 66. Lunch.

Walk along the South Rim of the Grand Canyon, with its many viewpoints. At 2,125 m (6,972 ft) elevation, it is the result of millions of years of erosion by wind and water. Surrounded by a magnificent forest, the canyon seems protected by this green belt. The Colorado River flows more than 1,500 m below! This will be one of the highlights of your trip.

The exposed multicolored sedimentary layers change shades depending on the sun angle and shifting shadows throughout the day. Several photo stops to enjoy beautiful views over the Colorado and the Painted Desert.

Optional: helicopter or airplane flight over the Grand Canyon (not included, to be booked and paid on site).

Dinner and overnight in Flagstaff.



Day 4

Depart for Monument Valley, a mythical place of the Far West, in Navajo territory. Beautiful views over Mittens & Merrick Butte. Many films were shot among these sublime sandstone 'mesas' (monoliths)—especially westerns, of course!

Lunch.

Optional: guided tour of this impressive site along the Valley Drive in a pick-up truck, to fully enjoy this incredible place (not included: to be booked and paid on site).

In the afternoon: drive to Lake Powell, with a stop at the Glen Canyon Dam. Lake Powell is a huge man-made reservoir, deep blue waters set within an impressive landscape of colorful cliffs.

Optional: scenic flight over the lake (not included: to be booked and paid on site).

Drive to Kanab. Dinner on your own and overnight in Kanab.



Day 5

Departure for Bryce Canyon National Park. Visit this fabulous site, considered one of the most beautiful in the American West. It is a series of amphitheatres featuring rocky columns, pillars and tunnels carved in red sandstone.

Well protected, the park stretches over 24 km in the southwest of Utah. The colors, shades and shapes change constantly from dawn to dusk. Lunch.

Dinner at leisure. Overnight in Bryce City.



Day 6

Depart for Las Vegas. Stop en route in St. George to visit the welcome center of the Mormon temple.

Head to the Valley of Fire, a magnificent park packed with eroded red volcanic rocks. You'll feel like you're on another planet! Wildlife is abundant and the flora is truly desert. Many films and commercials were shot here, including Star Trek!

Lunch.

Drive to Las Vegas, a surreal metropolis straight out of a fairy tale, where a miniature New York, a condensed Paris, an Egyptian pyramid and Venetian gondolas stand side by side. There's something for everyone: gamblers splurge in casinos, lovers get married in 2 hours, and families enjoy the attractions.

Dinner on your own. Overnight on the Las Vegas 'Strip'.



Day 7

Depart for a crossing of the Mojave Desert.

Visit Calico, a small 'Ghost Town' that boomed thanks to its silver mine at the end of the 19th century.

The setting recalls the greatest westerns with its wooden houses. With its saloons, school, church, and even a jail and the sheriff's office, you'll feel like you're reliving the days of the pioneers who braved nature to conquer the place.

Lunch on your own. Shopping stop at an outlet mall (Outlet Center).

Drive to Bakersfield, a prosperous city in the southern Central Valley, known for its oil and agriculture.

Dinner. Overnight in Bakersfield.



Day 8

Drive to Sequoia National Park, one of California's most beautiful parks.

Sequoia lies on the western slopes of the Sierra Nevada, whose peaks rise above 4,000 m (13,000 ft).

The park features alpine lakes and groves of giant sequoias, majestic trees that are among the oldest living beings on our planet!

Their name is associated with extraordinary longevity and impressive size: some specimens are several centuries old and can reach 85 m (279 ft) in height (and exceed 30 m / 98 ft in circumference!).

Picnic lunch in the park.

Drive to Modesto.

Dinner on your own. Overnight in Modesto.



Day 9

Drive to San Francisco, arguably the most captivating of America's major cities.

It stands out for the Victorian architecture of its residential neighborhoods, its exceptional panoramas, the city-center vibe, and the beauty of its bay, spanned by the legendary Golden Gate Bridge.

Guided city tour including Union Square, Chinatown, Nob Hill and Russian Hill, plus the picturesque Victorian houses on Alamo Square (the famous 'Painted Ladies').

Then Twin Peaks for its extraordinary view over the city, the vast Golden Gate Park, Pacific Heights, the Golden Gate, Fisherman's Wharf with its sea lions basking in the sun... Not to mention the famous switchbacks of winding Lombard Street.

Typical lunch in Chinatown during the tour. Late afternoon and dinner at leisure. Overnight in San Francisco (out-of-town hotel in South San Francisco, near the airport).

Optional: night tour of the city (not included, to be booked and paid on site).

Day 10

Free day in the city: take the opportunity to visit Alcatraz (ask us), the famous rock that housed, until 1963, the legendary prison known for having held Al Capone.

“Frisco” is a city we love. Future-oriented and delightfully cosmopolitan, it is built on hills like Rome, and is easy to explore on foot—or by public transport (very easy using the dedicated app).

Stroll through the Mission and Castro neighborhoods south of Downtown, especially around Dolores Mission Park. They are, in our view, the nicest...

Hop on a cable car, walk the streets of Telegraph Hill with the famous Coit Tower offering great views over the city and the bay, and over the other major bridge spanning the San Francisco Bay, the Bay Bridge, linking the city to Oakland and Berkeley.

Dinner at leisure. Overnight in San Francisco (out-of-town hotel in South San Francisco, near the airport).



Day 11

Depart for Monterey, sheltered by the bay of the same name.

Thanks to its privileged location and climate, Monterey has become a very popular seaside resort. You will take the private "17-Mile Drive" road along the ocean, dotted with magnificent villas, golf courses (including the famous Pebble Beach Golf Club) and the strange Lone Cypress, a tree literally sculpted by the wind.

Stop at Seal & Bird Rocks, home to pelicans, cormorants, seals and sea lions.

Visit Carmel, an elegant resort frequented by many artists since the last century. Former mayor Clint Eastwood is now its most famous resident.

Lunch on your own in Carmel. Free time, then drive to Lompoc.

Dinner. Overnight in Lompoc.

Day 12



Depart for Santa Barbara, a very popular spot among wealthy Californians and movie stars.

A seaside resort on the California coast, Santa Barbara lies on a mountainside facing the ocean, in a superb setting with lush tropical vegetation.

From its Spanish past, it has kept a distinctive atmosphere: a beautiful mission, adobe houses, arcaded plazas and little streets perfect for strolling. Lunch.

Drive to Malibu, whose beaches were made famous by Pamela Anderson in the TV series Baywatch. Arrival in Los Angeles.

Afternoon discovering the beach communities of Marina Del Rey, Venice Beach and Santa Monica.

Dinner on your own. Overnight in Los Angeles (out-of-town hotel in Norwalk, near Long Beach).



Day 13

Depending on your flight schedule: free time in the city.

Meet at the hotel for the transfer to the airport. Assistance with check-in and boarding formalities.

Lunch on your own. Flight back to Europe (arrival the next day).

Stay extension: contact us

Accommodation