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# CALIFORNIA

March 16-30, 2015

INSURANCE INCLUDED IF YOU SIGN UP BY 1/15/15



San Francisco Travel Association

## Day 1 Las Vegas, NV

A Riley Bus will bring us to the airport where we will board our **flight to Las Vegas, Nevada**. Upon arrival, a Riley bus will be awaiting our arrival. We will check into our hotel and you have the evening on your own to explore or try your luck at a casino.

## Day 2 Las Vegas, NV

This morning we board our motorcoach and head to the **Hoover Dam**, a concrete arch-gravity dam in the Black Canyon of the Colorado River, on the border between the U.S. states of Arizona and Nevada. We will get a professional tour and learn about the workings of the massive Dam, how it was built and the horrendous conditions the builders had to endure. The rest of the day is at your leisure. (B)

## Day 3 San Diego, CA

This morning we head to the Golden State of California. We will pass by the unique terrain of the Mojave National Preserve before we arrive in San Diego. Our first stop will be at the **USS Midway Museum**. We will walk in the footsteps of 225,000 Midway sailors who served our country and upheld the American ideals of strength, freedom and peace. Explore more than 60 exhibits with a



Photo Courtesy of USS Midway Museum

USS Midway

collection of 29 restored aircrafts. Take a self-guided audio tour, narrated by Midway sailors, that will bring the carrier's history to life. Afterwards, we will check into our accommodations located across from the North San Diego Bay. (B)

## Day 4 San Diego, CA

Our day begins with **guided tour** of the birthplace of California. We will see Cabrillo National Monument, Old Town and Seaport Village, where will stop for lunch on your own. Afterwards, we will continue our tour seeing the San Diego Harbor, Balboa Park, Downtown, Horton Plaza-Gas Lamp Quarter and Mission Bay. Next, we'll head to the big bay of San Diego for a **harbor cruise** with a professionally narrated tour of popular landmarks. We pass by Seaport Village, Shelter Island, ship-building and dry-docking facilities, Coronado Island, Point Loma, and Cabrillo National Monument, among many others. As we sail, we'll see delightful marine animals and majestic sea birds. (B)

## Day 5 San Diego, CA

Our adventure today is at the famous San Diego Zoo. The 100-acre Zoo is home to over 3,700 rare and endangered animals representing more than 650 species and subspecies, and a



San Francisco Travel Association/Jack Hollingsworth

Fisherman's Wharf

prominent botanical collection with more than 700,000 exotic plants. You will have the day to take a bus tour of the Zoo, enjoy the Skyfari Aerial Tram and enjoy the animal exhibits. Tonight, dinner is on us! We'll enjoy an **included dinner** with a great view of the Bay. (B, D)

## Day 6 Thousand Oaks, CA

We depart San Diego today. Sit back and relax as we travel the scenic coastal drive to Las Angeles. Upon arrival, we will pick up a local guide who will give us a **guided tour**. Afterwards, we will retire to our hotel and you will have the rest of the evening on your own. (B)

## Day 7 San Simeon, CA

Back on the road again this morning, heading farther north. Our first stop is in **Solvang**, the Danish capital of America. The city is home to a number of bakeries, restaurants, and merchants offering a taste of Denmark in California. The architecture of many of the facades and buildings reflects traditional Danish style. There is a copy of the famous Little Mermaid statue from Copenhagen, as well as one featuring the bust of famed Danish fable writer Hans Christian Andersen. A replica of Copenhagen's Round Tower can be seen in the town center. Afterwards, we head to **Hearst Castle**, also known as La Cuesta Encantada, "The Enchanted Hill" high above the ocean. It was the creation of two extraordinary individuals, William Randolph Hearst and architect Julia Morgan. They transformed an informal hilltop campsite into the world-famous Hearst Castle, a

magnificent 115-room main house plus guesthouses, pools, and 8 acres of cultivated gardens. The main house itself, "La Casa Grande," is a grand setting for Hearst's collection of European antiques and art pieces. It was also a most fitting site for hosting the many influential guests who stayed at Hearst's San Simeon ranch. Guests included President Calvin Coolidge, Winston Churchill, George Bernard Shaw, Charles Lindbergh and Charlie Chaplin. After our tour, we will check into our hotel in San Simeon where you will have the evening on your own. (B)

**Day 8 San Francisco, CA**

Our travels take us north on the famous **17 Mile Drive**, a scenic road that leads Pebble Beach and Pacific Grove on the Monterey Peninsula, much of which hugs the Pacific coastline and passes famous golf courses, mansions and scenic attractions, including the Lone Cypress, Bird Rock and the 5,300-acre Del Monte Forest of Monterey Cypress trees. We will stop for lunch on your own and some free time in Monterey. We continue our trek north to San Francisco, where we will spend the next two nights. Our hotel is located on **Fisherman's Wharf**, San Francisco's #1 destination. Enjoy the sea salt air and fabulous views, San Francisco's freshest seafood at world-class restaurants, rich maritime history. Watch local fishermen, explore the sights at historic piers and lots of unique attractions and shops. The evening is on your own to explore and have dinner on Fishermans Wharf. (B)

**Day 9 San Francisco, CA**

This morning a **local guide** will

give us a **tour of San Francisco**. Sights included are Golden Gate Bridge, Fisherman's Wharf, Embarcadero, Pier 39, Cliff House, Coit Tower/Telegraph Hill, Nob Hill, Civic Center, Opera House, Chinatown, Union Square and Presidio Park. After lunch on your own, we hop aboard a boat for a harbor cruise. After a busy day, you have the evening on your own to head back to Fisherman's Wharf or relax at the hotel. (B)

**Day 10 Reno, NV**

We're headed to wine country today! We'll visit the **V. Sattui Winery**, located in Napa Valley, for a tour, wine tasting and lunch. V. Sattui is a 38-acre organically farmed vineyard in St. Helena, and produces more than 60 different highly rated wines from 20 different varieties of grapes. Afterwards, we will continue our drive to our overnight destination, traveling through, the capital city of Sacramento and Tahoe National Forest to the border state of Nevada. Our overnight is in Reno, where you will have the evening on your own. (B, L)

**Day 11 Sandy, UT**

We travel through the desert state of Nevada for most of the day. Sit back and enjoy the scenery as we travel to our home for the evening in Sandy, UT, a suburb of Salt Lake City. With the exception of the Dead Sea, the Great Salt Lake is the saltiest body of water on earth. We will make picture stops on the **Salt Flats** and at the **Great Salt Lake**. Upon arrival, we will check into our accommodations before an **included dinner** at our hotel. (B, D)

**Day 12 Moab, UT**

This morning we are joined by a **local guide** who will give us a

**tour of Salt Lake City**. Sights included are **Temple Square, State Capitol Building, Pioneer Heritage State Park, Historic Mansions, University of Utah, Pony Express Station, historic Fort Douglas, Trolley Square and the Union Pacific Depot**. We will head southeast to our next destination, Moab, Utah's adventure capitol. We'll do a **tour of Arches National Park**, a wonderland of red rock. We'll see a landscape of contrasting colors, landforms and textures unlike any other in the world. There are over 2,000 natural stone arches, along with hundreds of soaring pinnacles, massive fins and giant balanced rocks. Afterwards, we'll check into our accommodations and the evening is yours to relax. (B)

**Day 13 Denver, CO**

Our travels take us into Colorado today. We'll trek across the state to the capital city of Denver, our home for the evening. Our hotel offers the **Drury Kickback**, enjoy complimentary beverages and some hot food. (B)

**Day 14 Rapid City, SD**

We head north, eventually traveling through Wyoming into South Dakota to Rapid City, where we will stay for the evening. (B)

**Day 15 Home**

Our last day on the road takes us across South Dakota to take those last photos and say goodbye to our new found friends as we reminisce on our beautiful tour to the Golden State of California. (B)

PRICE PER PERSON	
Reservation Deposit:	\$200.00
Double:	\$2589.00
Triple:	\$2569.00
Quad:	\$2549.00
Single:	\$3800.00
Final Payment Due:	1/30/15
<i>Cancellation: 30 days prior for full refund</i>	

