

# HARVARD

ALUMNI TRAVELS



## **SOUTHERN UTAH: MIGHTY 5 NATIONAL PARKS ADVENTURE**

**OCTOBER 20-27, 2021**

**DETAILED ITINERARY**

Adventure through the epic scenery of Southern Utah on this Mighty Five Adventure. Explore five of the nation's most stunning National Parks. From slot canyons and hoodoos to sandstone and Native American rock art, each park has their own unique features. Significant historical and cultural sites are scattered in the beautiful landscape waiting to be explored. Not only will you visit national parks, but you will witness the most beautiful, fascinating and diverse topography in the world; Zion, Bryce Canyon, Capitol Reef, Canyonlands and Arches National Parks, all on the Colorado Plateau. Each day varies and offers breathtaking photo opportunities, incredible scenic views, natural and culture historical sites. Prior to your arrival in Moab, make an "off the beaten path" stop in San Rafael Swell and Goblin Valley State Park, truly giving you a chance to experience the best that Southern Utah has to offer.

**ACTIVITY LEVEL:** Level 4

**STUDY LEADER:** To be Announced

**ACCOMMODATES:** 8–14 guests. *This is a Harvard exclusive program.*

**PRICING:** \$6,995 per person double occupancy / \$8,395 single occupancy

# SCHEDULE BY DAY

*B=Breakfast, L=Lunch, R=Reception, D=Dinner*

## WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 20

ARRIVE LAS VEGAS, NV / SPRINGDALE, UTAH

Meet your guide and fellow travelers at the designated meeting spot at McCarran International Airport in Las Vegas (LAS) and start the drive to Springdale, UT—stopping to visit the ghost town of Grafton on the way. Spend the afternoon resting from your travels or visit the Zion National Park visitor's center before your welcome dinner reception tonight.

Overnight: *Cliffrose Springdale (D)*

## THURSDAY, OCTOBER 21

ZION NATIONAL PARK

Today visit Zion National Park, Utah's oldest National Park. Spend the day exploring the Virgin River, Emerald Pools, and the Scout Overlook. There is something for everyone in Zion and is considered a mecca for adventurers.

In the afternoon, take the scenic drive to Bryce Canyon National Park. Upon entering Bryce Canyon, you will have the opportunity to visit sunset point and take in the inspiring view and the site of tomorrow's adventure.

Overnight: *Bryce Canyon Inn (B, L, D)*

## FRIDAY, OCTOBER 22

BRYCE CANYON NATIONAL PARK

Explore Bryce Canyon National Park, a glistening jewel of hoodoos and amphitheaters casting hues of pink, orange and yellow. Today hike amongst the rock formations and explore this hiker's paradise. Enjoy a picnic lunch on the rim overlooking the cliffs and columns of Bryce.

In the afternoon, relax your tired legs as you take in the sites on the scenic drive to Capitol

Reef National Park. Along scenic byway 12, pass through Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument and make some stops for incredible photo opportunities.

Overnight: *Red River Ranch (B, L, D)*

## SATURDAY, OCTOBER 23

CAPITOL REEF NATIONAL PARK

Spend today exploring Utah's hidden gem, Capitol Reef National Park. Enjoy hiking a variety of trails in the Waterpocket Fold on the Colorado Plateau. Learn why this is considered Utah's hidden gem as you explore the sites; Hickman Bridge, the Fremont River and the Pioneer Register. Go back in time as you view ancient Native American rock art and visit the orchards and historic village of Fruita.

Overnight: *Red River Ranch (B, L, D)*

## SUNDAY, OCTOBER 24

SAN RAFAEL SWELL / MOAB

As you continue across the Colorado Plateau, venture into the San Rafael Swell, one of the nation's most stunning geographical wonders. Explore the swell as you hike into the narrowing walls of Little Wild Horse slot canyon. Enjoy a group picnic lunch while gazing over the hoodoos at Goblin Valley State Park.

As you continue your journey into the Southeastern side of the state, the rock formations will grow redder as you descend into the slick rock of Moab and continue into the historic downtown for the evening.

Overnight: *Hoodoo Moab (B, L, D)*

## MONDAY, OCTOBER 25

ARCHES NATIONAL PARK

Arches National Park showcases the highest concentration of natural sandstone arches in the world. Hike through the Devil's Garden and numerous natural arches. Explore this amazing landscape of balanced rocks, soaring

red rock cliffs, monumental towers, and sandstone fins.

This evening, enjoy strolling downtown Moab, exploring shops and galleries, and a leisurely dinner on your own.

Overnight: *Hoodoo Moab (B, L)*

## **TUESDAY, OCTOBER 26**

### **CANYONLANDS NATIONAL PARK**

Today tour Canyonlands National Park. Visit the famous Newspaper Rock Historical Site, an ancient rock panel with the largest known petroglyphs collection. Continue on to Canyonlands National Park and explore the needle-like pinnacles and parallel canyons of the Needles District on a hike from Elephant Hill to Chesler Park.

We'll enjoy a celebratory dinner at the historic Sunset Grill, former home of Uranium King, Charlie Steen, who built his hilltop mansion after hitting it big discovering uranium in 1952.

Overnight: *Hoodoo Moab (B, L, D)*

## **WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 27**

### **DEAD HORSE POINT STATE PARK**

After a sunrise breakfast, visit the stunning overlook at Dead Horse Point State Park. Enjoy stunning views of the Colorado River and Canyonlands National Park. Gaze out at the immense mesas, buttes, sandstone fins, spires, and canyons carved by the Colorado River; the Green River, and their tributaries.

Enjoy a lunch at Ray's Tavern, a local river runner's favorite, since 1946, on your scenic drive back to Salt Lake City for evening departure flights home (B, L).