

# The Grand Canyon & The Canyonlands

*Developing Itinerary*

June 11<sup>th</sup> – June 21<sup>st</sup>, 2019

## Day 1 - Thursday June 11<sup>th</sup> -St. Christopher Tours

We are on our way to see one of the “grandest” of parks in America’s West - The Grand Canyon, and our Southwest Canyonlands adventure. A spectacular journey filled with sensational, scenic vistas and natural wonders. En route we’ll travel along **Historic Old Route 66**, our first night’s near **Springfield, MO.** (B, D)

## Day 2-Friday, June 12<sup>th</sup> -Roadside Attraction Kicks

We continue our cross country adventure along **Rt. 66** through Oklahoma and stop in **Amarillo, TX.** We’ll visit the offbeat roadside attraction, **The Cadillac Ranch**; it features 10 graffiti-covered Cadillacs standing upright in a row. The Mother Road’s **Big Texan Motel** is our destination for dinner and lodging. Get a true taste of Texas. *One of our travelers is already on board to take the 72oz steak challenge!* (B, D)

## Day 3 – Saturday, June 13<sup>th</sup> – More Mother Road

Did you have enough to eat last night? Our day continues westward. We continue along Rt. 66, traveling thru New Mexico and later, the **Petrified Forest** before our night’s stay near **Winslow, AZ.** (B, D)

## Day 4 – Sunday, June 14<sup>th</sup> – The Grand Canyon

Today we head to the north rim of **The Grand Canyon and the Colorado River**, one of the largest outstanding spectacles. In form, size and flowing colors, it is unsurpassed. Take in the amazing views of the Canyon while dining at the **Grand Canyon Lodge** for lunch. We’ll spend the night in **Page, AZ** with its wonderful view of Lake Powell. (B,L,D)

## Day 5 – Monday, June 15<sup>th</sup> -Lake Powell & Zion National Park

Spend the morning at **Lake Powell** as we set sail on the **Antelope Canyon Boat Tour.** Visit astounding **Zion National Park** with a narrated shuttle; hop on & off as you choose. Our night’s stay will be just outside Bryce Canyon National Park, UT. (B,D)

## Day 6 – Tuesday, June 16<sup>th</sup> -Bryce Canyon National Park, Scenic Hwy 12 & Canyonlands by Night River Tour

We will head to **Bryce Canyon National Park** where you will find more beautiful photo opportunities, including towering spires, the famed “pink cliffs” and distinctive geological structures called hoodoos. Scenic Hwy 12 takes us towards Moab, UT. Tonight, after our cowboy style Dutch oven dinner in a dining room overlooking the Colorado River, we’ll board the flat

bottomed boat **Canyonlands by Night River Tour.** Once darkness settles in, the evening begins with 40,000 watts of natural light illuminating the canyon wall, definitely a night to remember. The next two nights we’ll be at the **Red Cliffs Lodge** in **Moab, UT.**

## Day 7 – Wednesday, June 17<sup>th</sup> -Arches National Park and White Water Rafting (optional)

As we settle in to Moab, we enjoy waking up by the serene Colorado River. For those looking to boost your adrenaline, get out on the water and enjoy a **Fisher Tower white water rafting** experience. If not rafting, enjoy relaxing at the lodge or explore/shop downtown Moab. The afternoon will be spent marveling at the breathtaking canyons, great colored pinnacles, and endless vistas in **Arches National Park** (B,D)

## Day 8 – Thursday, June 18<sup>th</sup> -Cripple Creek, Colorado

Today we continue our travels East to Colorado. We enter the town of **Cripple Creek**, near Colorado Springs. Experience how gold miners lived and take in the history of a once lively gold mining town. Tonight’s option is to enjoy the Casino at our Hotel in Cripple Creek. (B,D)

## Day 9 – Friday, June 19<sup>th</sup> - Garden of the Gods and Pikes Peak

Today is devoted to sightseeing around Colorado Springs. We begin with a narrated bus ride through the historic **Garden of the Gods** known for their abundance of plant and animal life found throughout its 1,340 acres. We will then take an adventure on the **Pikes Peak Highway** where you will experience more breathtaking views. (B,D)

## Day 10 – Saturday, June 20<sup>th</sup> - Lincoln, NE

After our hotel breakfast, enjoy a scenic travel day from the great mountains of Colorado to **Lincoln, Nebraska** where we will stay for the night. (B,D)

## Day 11 – Sunday, June 21<sup>st</sup> - Midlothian, IL

As we make our journey home we’ll enjoy the famous Machine Shed meal in Davenport, Iowa and share our memories of the great National Parks. (B,L)