



Epic National Parks of the Southwest

# Bryce, Grand Canyon & Zion Cultural Walking Adventure

**CLASSIC JOURNEYS**  
THE WORLD'S FINEST WALKING TOURS





“Classic Journeys provides unbeatable access to experiences around the globe.”

— *Travel + Leisure*

## Three American Adventures in One

Even as adults we play the "pioneer game" every time we visit this monumental trio of national parks. It goes like this: Imagine cresting the hill in your Conestoga wagon to behold these sights. How would you have reacted to canyons so deep, rock this red, bridges of stone and boulders poised on slender spires? These days, many visitors on Grand Canyon guided tours miss that sense of wonder as they RV past major points of interest. The Classic Journeys approach is different. We partner you with our knowledgeable guides who interpret what you see. (Did you know, for example, that the original Grand Canyon may have been created cataclysmically by the sudden draining of an inland sea?) We'll make sure you get to less visited areas and experience the richness of the area's geologic and human history. Yet we do it all without undue exertion. We've found easy trails—not to mention gracious lodges—to make certain that this journey of discovery is memorable in every way.

## DAY 1

### GRAND CANYON

- Savor a picnic lunch with panoramic views
- Soak in the incredible colors of the Grand Canyon during an afternoon walk

You'll gather in St. George, a pioneer town surrounded by colorful sandstone cliffs and located in the southwest corner of Utah. From here, set out for the Grand Canyon, where stately ponderosa pine forests welcome you and you can be on the lookout for condors that nest here. Get your first views of the Grand Canyon on approach to your perfectly sited rim-side lodge, while your guide shares insight on the geologic events that created this natural wonder.

An afternoon walk leads to your guide's favorite vista point overlooking Roaring Springs, Bright Angel Canyon and the South Rim. And the canyon is not the only draw, as the birding is terrific here, too. You can often spot bald eagles overhead, and swifts and swallows nest along the cliff faces. What your drink of choice that will match the grandeur of these views? Have a glass of that at the ready, and head to the lodge's veranda as you take in the spectacular views as far as the eye can see. Prefer a pre-dinner perambulation? Take a short sunset walk along the rim that highlights the natural history of this magnificent chasm.

**Overnight:** Grand Canyon

**Meals:** L, D

## DAY 2

### GRAND CANYON

- 'Only with Classic Journeys' walk to a foothpath with views all the way to the south rim
- Enjoy jaw-dropping views at the only spot where you can see the Colorado river on the North Rim

Very few tourists actually ever get to the best walking along the Grand Canyon's North Rim. Not so for you, because you're a Classic Journeys traveler and explorer. And so you enjoy the benefit of our intensive local knowledge and incredibly well-connected guides. With them, you're off on an adventure today to collect the most magnificent views on a series of curated walks.

Your handcrafted itinerary bookends a spectacularly-sited picnic lunch and leads you to Cape Royal, the only spot on the North Rim where you can look down and see the Colorado River, as well as the rapids created by Unkar Wash. Far to the south, the San Francisco Peaks tower above Flagstaff, Arizona. You'll come away from the day with a genuine appreciation for the canyon's rich natural beauty and immense size.

**Overnight:** Grand Canyon

**Meals:** B, L

## DAY 3

### BRYCE CANYON

- Enjoy Bryce Canyon on foot and at eye level
- Channel your inner Ansel Adams as you marvel and the incredibly-shaped Hoodoos
- Go star gaze with a genuine cowboy

Have your camera ready; over the course of the week you'll have amazing animal sightings that even include magnificent big horn sheep. Arriving into Bryce Canyon National Park, get ready to marvel at how nature has shaped colorful limestone and sandstone into thousands of spires, fins, pinnacles and mazes, called hoodoos. These are the landscapes that inspired Ansel Adams and a generation of photographers to capture the stark contrasts of the sunlit shadows on the stone and the vast blue sky in their iconic imagery.

Channel your inner photographer, geologist, explorer on a scenic walk that ventures below the rim into the heart of Bryce Canyon on gentle switchbacks along the trail known as 'Wall Street', appropriately named for its walls of red rock looming on either side. You'll continue to the canyon floor for an up-close exploration of the hoodoos, the ancient rose-colored pillars of sand and stone that resemble a city of spires and minarets. As you walk among the natural formations, it's fascinating to imagine the castle turrets, windows, bridges, domes and other architectural features created by the natural erosion of the rocks. Along the way, your guide points out specific hoodoos, like Thor's Hammer, named to reflect their form and grandeur.

This evening after dinner, join our friend, Kenny, a genuine cowboy and equally authentic poet. Get comfortable under a blanket of stars (and maybe even a snuggly ranch blanket too) as you enjoy a night of music and storytelling.

**Overnight:** Bryce

**Meals:** B, D

### DAY 4

#### BRYCE CANYON / CORAL PINK SAND DUNES

- Visit the home of a highly regarded painter
- Hike (or even surf) sand dunes reminiscent of the Saharan Desert

A morning walk follows our favorite portion of the Rim Trail overlooking the Bryce Amphitheater. Views of the cliff walls and rock formations come to life with vibrant gold colors as the sun rises above the rim walls in the distance. Then, en route to Zion National Park, visit Maynard Dixon's summer home and studio. Dixon was a well-known painter of Southwestern U.S. landscapes and native peoples during the first half of the 20th century. Here you can enjoy a private tour of his log home and grounds, and a savory picnic lunch outside his studio.

Not far away you'll feel as if you've been transported to the Saharan Desert, when you arrive in Coral Pink Sand Dunes State Park for a walk through stunning, coral-colored dune fields surrounded by red sandstone cliffs, blue skies, and juniper and pinyon forests. It's an opportunity to channel your own inner Lawrence of Arabia. And if you feel extra adventurous, your guide has snowboards along so that you can sand surf the dunes. It's a totally fun experience you won't forget. Later in the afternoon, you'll arrive in Springdale, a riverside oasis adjacent to Zion National Park.

**Overnight:** Zion National Park

**Meals:** B, L

### DAY 5

#### ZION NATIONAL PARK

- Experience an 'Only with Classic Journeys' walk up a cinematic hidden slot canyon
- Walk riverside paths past hanging gardens of wildflowers

Zion Narrows is justifiably famous and so attracts 5,000 people per day who are drawn to its iconic slot canyon, with walls 2,000 feet high and sometimes only 20 feet apart. And you'll have the chance to see it in a very personal way with your guide during the week. But today, you have the 'only with Classic Journeys' opportunity to have an entire slot canyon almost entirely to yourself. Zion National Park is characterized by a range of magnificent and colorful canyons, sandstone cliffs, rocky deserts and cool forested plateaus. An added benefit to this side of Zion is the herd of bison that graze on the grassy mesa that sits surrounded by the canyons.

The theme for today is water, and with a gourmet picnic in hand you set off for a truly spectacular riverside walk up a towering slot canyon. You'll see firsthand the power of water and how even a gentle, constant flowing river or stream can create fantasmic and otherworldly formations in the stone. You very well may vote this your best walk of the trip just on the views, and then the kicker is having it almost just for ourselves.

**Overnight:** Zion National Park

**Meals:** B, L, D

### DAY 6

#### ZION NATIONAL PARK

- Hike the Iconic Zion Narrows, or
- Explore the art galleries and shops filled with Southwestern art in Springdale.

You have a choice for how you spend the morning. Opt for a walk with your guide up the iconic Zion Narrows or explore on your own the local shops and art galleries that showcase the photography, ceramics, jewelry and Native American art created by local artists and inspired by the beauty of Zion.

If you opt for the Narrows, the walk is adorned with beautiful hanging gardens of wildflowers in the spring and summer, and vibrant foliage in the fall months. Everyone enjoys getting their feet wet on explorations up the famous Zion Narrows, a slot gorge 20 feet across at its narrowest point with canyon walls that extend up to 2000 feet above. But here is an important insider's tip: be very wary of companies that will send you up the Narrows on your own. They do that to avoid the permitting



## DAILY ITINERARY

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and limitations on group sizes that are required. The Narrows is spectacular, but the water level in it changes not just from one season to the next but even one day to the next. With Classic Journeys, you're in a small group, with our guides and gear, and permitted. It's not just one of the ways to go, it is the only way to experience the Narrows.

Round out the day with a short scenic drive to St. George, where you part company in time for dinner and overnight or a return shuttle to Las Vegas.

**Meals:** B



## Tour Hotels



### Grand Canyon Lodge (North Rim)

The Grand Canyon Lodge is warm and welcoming, with limestone walls and timbered ceilings that complement the North Rim's rugged beauty. The lodge's terrace, with rustic wooden rocking chairs, is the ideal setting for a glass of wine at sunset.

**OVERNIGHT:** North Rim | **NIGHTS:** 2



### Bryce Canyon Grand Hotel

Ruby's Inn was established in 1916, when rancher Reuben (Ruby) Syrett, built canvas shelters near the canyon's rim for visitors. The hotel, is still owned by the Syrett family is known for its western hospitality and friendly service.

**OVERNIGHT:** Bryce | **NIGHTS:** 1



### Desert Pearl Inn

A riverside oasis of sun hued stucco, old railroad timbers and native stone grace this beautiful property. Rooms feature private terraces or balconies and Adirondack chairs. Relax at the end of the day in the heated outdoor swimming pool or hot tub.

**OVERNIGHT:** Springdale | **NIGHTS:** 2

## Tour Dates & Prices

To see the full list of dates and prices for this tour, go to our website by clicking [here](#).

Want to travel with just your group on a date of your choosing? Visit [CLASSICJOURNEYS.COM/PRIVATE](https://www.classicjourneys.com/private) to learn more about Private Journeys.

## Trip Essentials

<b>TRIP LENGTH</b>	6 Days, 5 Nights
<b>START</b>	Lobby of Inn on the Cliff, St. George, Utah
<b>END</b>	St. George city center, St. George, Utah
<b>TERRAIN</b>	Easy to moderate on national park trails. An average of 2 - 4 hours of walking per day.

## What's Included

- All breakfasts, 4 lunches and 3 dinners
- Full-time experienced guide(s) who are with you throughout the trip and handle behind-the-scenes logistics
- Admissions to scheduled events as noted in the detailed daily itinerary
- Gratuities for hotels, meals, and baggage
- All land transportation during the trip
- Well-sited boutique hotels and lodges that provide you unrivaled access to the people and places, culture and natural environment you came to experience

## Above & Beyond Benefits

- Invisible Check-In
- Privileged Access Events

**READY TO BOOK?**  
**CLICK TO MAKE A RESERVATION**

## Or give us a call

**1-800-200-3887**

Mon-Fri 8:00AM – 5:00PM PST

[moreinfo@classicjourneys.com](mailto:moreinfo@classicjourneys.com)

### AMBASSADOR CLUB

As a Classic Journeys guest, you are invited to join the Ambassador Club after your first Classic Journeys tour. As a member, you'll have access to [a whole suite of Ambassador benefits](#) you can use immediately and as often as you like.

### ENJOY THE UNEXPECTED

When you travel with Classic Journeys, you can expect handcrafted surprises built into every trip, but some things just can't be anticipated. Unusual weather, a once-a-year festival or an unscheduled site closing will inspire us and your local guide to improvise and modify this itinerary. Likewise, the hotels named here are used on the majority of our trips, but occasionally one of them can't accommodate us. If that happens, you can count on us to let you know before departure and make sure you're in a hotel of equal or better quality. It's our goal to make your trip exceptional!

\*\*Any discount offered cannot be combined with other offers, and only applies to published (regularly scheduled public) departure dates in our catalogs or on our website.

# THE Classic Journeys Difference

## HANDCRAFTING TRIPS OF A LIFETIME.



At the end of the day, we fundamentally believe that every guest on every departure of every trip should have a trip of a lifetime. We're fortunate to play the role of well-connected friend, linking our guests with amazing guides, artisans, winemakers, hoteliers, restaurateurs, naturalists, and too many others to list here.

That's what motivates me and our team — in our La Jolla HQ and around the world — every day. Join Us!

*Franklin*  
President & Founder



## You can expect the highest standards:



### Luxurious Lodgings:

Ours include coveted properties that appear in "World's Best" and "Gold List" rankings.



### Included Activities:

You'll never be surprised with add-on fees on your activities that include snorkeling to cooking lessons.



### Local Guides:

Your guides are locals who are always at your side like well-connected friends.



### Small Group Travel:

With an average of just 10-12 guests, it's a small footprint that guarantees you access that's off-limits to larger groups.



### Amazing Cuisine:

From Michelin-starred restaurants to lunch in a farmhouse kitchen, you'll have a seat for the region's signature dishes.



### Unmatched Value:

"Excellent value" and "unbeatable access" are two of the reasons that Travel + Leisure has consistently voted us a World's Best Tour Operator.

## You'll enjoy these handcrafted travel experiences in Bryce, Grand Canyon & Zion...

- Getting your feet wet in the 2,000 foot deep Zion Narrows slot gorge
- Watching sunrise during a walk on a remote trail along the north rim of the Grand Canyon
- Exploring Bryce Canyon's natural gallery of red rock fins, spires, arches and mazes
- Marveling at the red rock towering over your private terrace at The Desert Pearl Inn
- Learning all about the interesting history and unique stories of the natural wonders around you from your expert local guides

"It's difficult to choose our favorite aspect of the trip. The scenery was magnificent, the guide perfect and the group very congenial. A great trip!"

-Bert and Jo Ann E., Red Lodge, MT