



UTAH'S

— NATIONAL PARKS —

JUNE 21-27, 2017



ITINERARY

June 21

LAS VEGAS TO CEDAR BREAKS NATIONAL MONUMENT

Arrive independently the previous night. Meet for an early morning orientation at the Las Vegas DoubleTree before we depart. After stopping in St. George for lunch, continue to Cedar Breaks National Monument, which encompasses a 5-mile wide natural limestone amphitheater. From its 10,000-foot-high rim, experience views across the multi-hued cliffs, spires, and arches of its eroded slopes. Hike the 2-mile Alpine Pond Trail, set amid spruce trees and bristlecone pines. Continue to Bryce Canyon National Park. *The Lodge at Bryce Canyon (L,D)*

June 22

BRYCE CANYON NATIONAL PARK

Visit the Bryce Canyon Visitor Center and hike the Rim Trail. Experience the canyon's intricate geological display from the rim at Bryce Point and Paria View, and below the rim on the Navajo and Queens Garden Trails on a 3-mile loop. This afternoon savor the ambiance of the Lodge, designed in 1924 by master architect Gilbert Stanley Underwood. The lodge and its cabins were recognized in 1987 as a National Historic Landmark. *The Lodge at Bryce Canyon (B,L,D)*

June 23

GRAND STAIRCASE-ESCALANTE NATIONAL MONUMENT

Travel along scenic highway 12 to Grand Staircase Escalante. Explore one of the narrow, steep-walled slot canyons characteristic of the Escalante Country, as it branches off of Long Canyon. Travel through pinyon-juniper woodlands to the rim of the 100-mile-long monocline known as the Waterpocket Fold, which once blocked the progress of emigrant wagon trains. *Lodge at Red River Ranch (B,L,D)*

June 24

CAPITOL REEF NATIONAL PARK

Visit the pioneer Mormon community of Fruita, including a stop at the old schoolhouse, in the verdant bottomlands of the Fremont River. View petroglyphs and take a 3-mile hike into the Fold on the Grand Wash Trail. Return via the 2-mile trail in Cohab Canyon. *Lodge at Red River Ranch (B,L,D)*

June 25

ANASAZI STATE PARK & ZION NATIONAL PARK

Visit Anasazi State Park, the anthropology museum, and the excavated site of a 1,000-year-old village. The Fremont prehistoric people occupied most of Utah during the same period as the Ancestral Puebloans. Artifacts recovered from this site, as well as its architecture, reflect a prehistoric "melting pot." Take a 3-mile, out-and-back hike along the Escalante River, crossing it several times before continuing on to Zion, the oldest of the parks on this tour. *Desert Pearl Inn (B,L,D)*

June 26

ZION NATIONAL PARK

Enjoy a 1-mile roundtrip hike up to the canyon rim for an overview of Zion. Explore the area along the Virgin River within Zion Canyon, the heart of the park. Take a shuttle bus ride to the Temple of Sinawava and continue on foot along the paved Riverside Walk trail to the Narrows of Zion Canyon. Enter the river for a unique hiking experience, traveling a few miles further through the river (water shoes needed) for a total of 4 miles roundtrip. This afternoon visit the Zion Human History Museum. *Desert Pearl Inn (B,L,D)*

June 27

ZION NATIONAL PARK TO LAS VEGAS

Relax at the hotel or head back into Zion for an optional 4-mile hike to Scout Lookout. After freshening up, depart for Las Vegas with a lunch stop on the way. Please book your flights for 6:00 p.m. or later. *(B,L)*

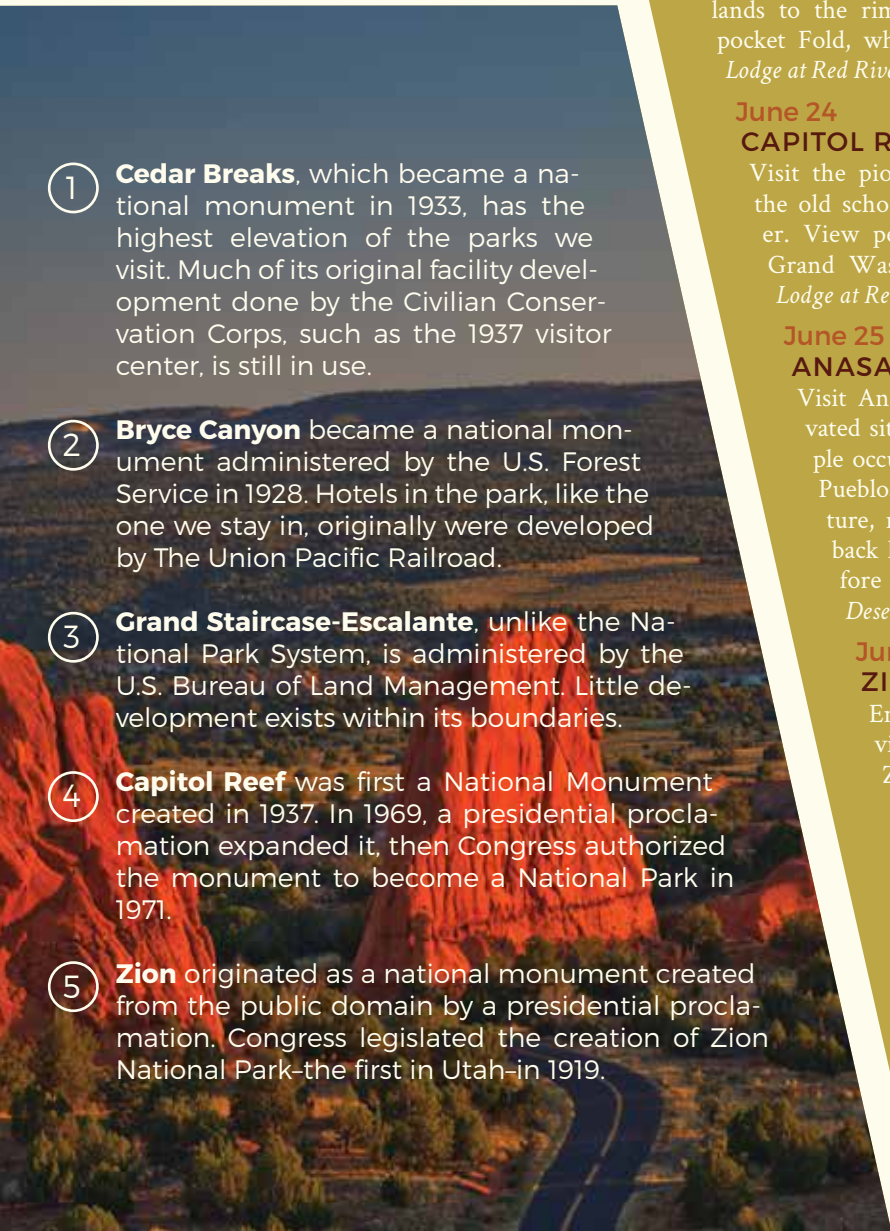
1 **Cedar Breaks**, which became a national monument in 1933, has the highest elevation of the parks we visit. Much of its original facility development done by the Civilian Conservation Corps, such as the 1937 visitor center, is still in use.

2 **Bryce Canyon** became a national monument administered by the U.S. Forest Service in 1928. Hotels in the park, like the one we stay in, originally were developed by The Union Pacific Railroad.

3 **Grand Staircase-Escalante**, unlike the National Park System, is administered by the U.S. Bureau of Land Management. Little development exists within its boundaries.

4 **Capitol Reef** was first a National Monument created in 1937. In 1969, a presidential proclamation expanded it, then Congress authorized the monument to become a National Park in 1971.

5 **Zion** originated as a national monument created from the public domain by a presidential proclamation. Congress legislated the creation of Zion National Park—the first in Utah—in 1919.



WHAT TO EXPECT

Average temperatures in June range from day-time highs in the 70s-90s and overnight lows down to the 40s-50s. We'll also be at a variety of elevations from 4,000 to more than 10,000 feet. Our transportation around the region is by van. Given the vastness of the area, there is some time to be spent in the van driving between parks, but we've designed it so you alternate days with longer drives (3 to 4 ½ hrs) with days with much less driving (1 to 2 hrs). Travelers should be in active good health to participate in this trip. Most hikes are between 2 to 5 miles with a 200 to 500 feet elevation gain. Walks are not too strenuous, but some are over uneven terrain and may require the use of hands and feet to climb over obstructions. Two hikes include walking through stretches of rivers, so closed-toe water shoes are needed. Our longest day of hiking is up to 5 miles, with approximately 1,000 feet in elevation gain. Most hikes are "out and back" so participants can go as far as they like, and then wait for the group to return. Optional trekking poles will be provided to all guests for the duration of the tour.

TRIP DETAILS

Dates:

June 21-27, 2017

Group Size:

Minimum 12, maximum 20

Cost:

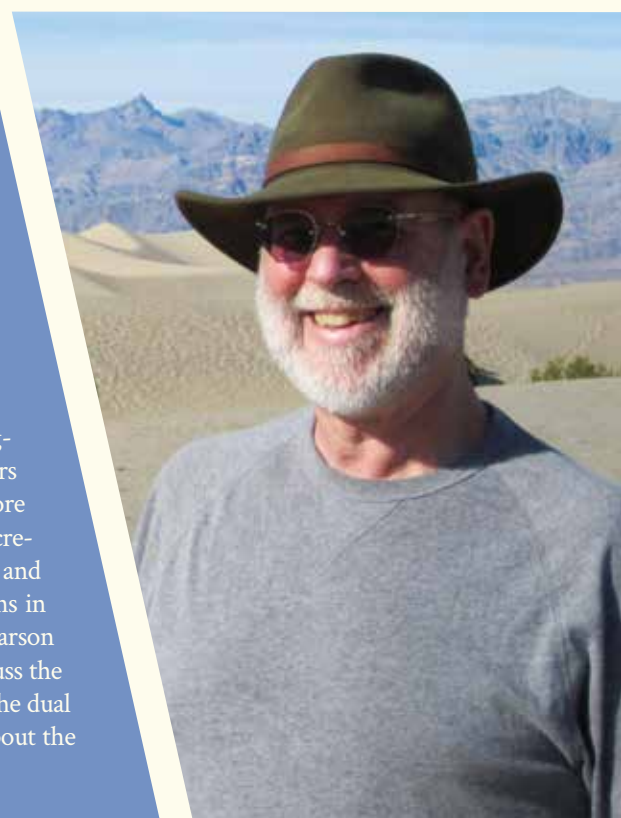
\$3,995 per person, double occupancy; \$795 single room supplement

Included: 6 nights accommodation as specified; round-trip transfers from Las Vegas to Utah's National Parks; all park admission fees; daily hiking activities; all ground transportation; daily breakfast (6) at the hotel or nearby, 7 lunches and 6 dinners, welcome and farewell dinners with beer and wine; tours, entrances, and events as specified in the itinerary; van transportation for all excursions; gratuities for hotel staff, restaurant staff, drivers and for all group activities; expert guide Frank Ackerman; services of a professional tour manager and assistant.

Not included: Air transportation to and from Las Vegas, Nevada; hotel accommodations in Las Vegas; meals and beverages other than those specified as included; optional excursions and other activities done independently; trip cancellation/interruption and baggage insurance; personal items such as email, telephone and fax calls, souvenirs, laundry; and gratuities for non-group services.

STUDY LEADER FRANK ACKERMAN

Study leader Frank Ackerman, pictured right, is a retired National Park Service Ranger. His 30-year career included posts at the Grand Canyon, Death Valley and Voyageurs National Parks. He finished his time with the Park Service at Cape Cod National Seashore where he served as the chief of interpretation. After his initial retirement, Frank helped create an award-winning interpretative program as part of a joint venture between Amtrak and the National Park Service to provide educational commentary on select passenger trains in the Northeast. He recently retired as director of the Nevada State Railroad Museum in Carson City, Nevada, and now lives in Fremont. As we journey between parks, Frank will discuss the evolution of park policy over the past 100 years and, in specific, the delicate balance of the dual mandate of preservation and promotion of visitation. He is also excited to teach you about the spectacular desert flora and fauna, and the geology and human history of the region.



NAME 1 _____

NAME 2 _____

ADDRESS _____ CITY/STATE/ZIP _____

HOME PHONE _____ CELL PHONE _____

E-MAIL _____

SINGLE TRAVELERS ONLY:

_____ I plan to share accommodations with: _____

_____ **OR** I wish to have single accommodations.

_____ **OR** I'd like to know about possible roommates. I am a smoker / nonsmoker (circle one).

DOUBLE OCCUPANCY ONLY:

We would prefer a room with:

_____ One bed

_____ Two beds

PAYMENT:

_____ Here is my deposit of \$ _____ (\$500 per person) for _____ place(s).

_____ Enclosed is my check (made payable to *Black Sheep Adventures, Inc.*) **OR**

_____ Charge my deposit to my: _____ Visa _____ MasterCard _____ AMEX _____ Discover

CARD # _____ EXP. DATE _____ SECURITY CODE _____

AUTHORIZED CARDHOLDER SIGNATURE _____ DATE _____

_____ I/We have read and agree to the terms and conditions for this program.

SIGNATURE(S)

We require membership to The Commonwealth Club to travel with us.
Please check one of the following options:

_____ I am a current member of The Commonwealth Club.

_____ Please use the credit card information above to sign me up or renew my membership.

_____ I will visit commonwealthclub.org/membership to sign up for a membership.

**PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM
ALONG WITH YOUR DEPOSIT TO:**

Commonwealth Club Travel,
P.O. Box 194210, San Francisco, CA 94119
You may also fax the form to (415) 597-6729

DEPOSIT & PAYMENTS:

To make a reservation, a deposit of \$500 per person is required by check or credit card. Please mail your check (payable to "Black Sheep Adventures, Inc") or charge instructions, with your completed reservation form to the address on the reservation form. You may also fax in your reservation form or call our office or call (415) 597-6720. Final payment is due no later than April 21, 2017. For those who pay by credit card, BSA will charge your card the balance due at 60 days prior if no other payment has been made. Charges will appear on your credit card statement as "BSA Tour 866-6474337" or "Stripe".

CANCELLATIONS AND REFUNDS:

Your deposit and payments are refundable, less the following cancel fees:

- 91+ days prior to trip start date, \$100 per person
- 61-90 days prior to trip start, \$500 deposit
- 0-60 days prior to trip start, No refund

We recommend trip-cancellation insurance; applications will be sent to you. Tour can also be cancelled due to low enrollment. Neither CWC nor Black Sheep Adventures accepts liability for cancellation penalties related to domestic or international airline tickets purchased in conjunction with the tour.

MEDICAL INFORMATION:

Participation in this program requires that you be in good health. It is essential that persons with any medical problems and related dietary restrictions make them known to us well before departure.

RESPONSIBILITY:

The Commonwealth Club of California and our ground operators and suppliers act only as agents for the travelers with respect to transportation and arrangements, and exercise every care possible in doing so. However, we can assume no liability for injury, damage, loss, accident, delay or irregularity in connection with the service of any automobile, motorcoach, or any other conveyance used in carrying out this program or for the acts or defaults of any company or person engaged in conveying the passenger or in carrying out the arrangements of the program. We cannot accept any responsibility for losses or additional expenses due to delay or changes in air or other services, sickness, weather, strike, war, quarantine, force majeure or other causes beyond our control. All such losses or expenses will have to be borne by the passenger as tour rates provide arrangements only for the time stated. We reserve the right to make such alterations to this published itinerary as may be deemed necessary. The right is reserved to cancel any program prior to departure in which case the entire payment will be refunded without further obligation on our part. No refund will be made for an unused portion of any tour unless arrangements are made in sufficient time to avoid penalties. The Commonwealth Club of California accepts no liability for any carrier's cancellation penalty incurred by the purchase of a nonrefundable ticket in connection with the tour.

