Wendinger Travel invites you to the

Tournament of Roses Parade

December 29, 2023 - January 2

\$2,898 per Person

Only \$300 additional to add Palm Springs and return January 4,

Itinerary

Friday, December 29 Los Angeles, CA

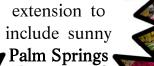
Early this morning, we take to the skies for Los Angeles, California. On arrival, we'll meet our local tour guide who will introduce us to the "City of Angels." As we'll soon find out, Los Angeles has something for everyone, with 75 miles of sunny coastline, a flourishing Downtown, lifestyle playgrounds for the rich and famous, trend-setting art and fashion scenes, and internationally flavored neighborhoods. Our stay at the *Doubletree By Hilton Hotel* in Torrance, is adjacent to Del Amo Fashion Center, one of the largest malls in Southern California. Your local guide will be happy to make dinner reservations for you at one of the many restaurants in the immediate vicinity.

Saturday, December 30 Los Angeles, CA

After a sumptuous breakfast, we depart the hotel to see what goes into the making of the spectacular bloom-covered floats of the Tournament of Roses Parade with an early morning, behindthe-scenes visit to the Parade Float Construction Barn in Pasadena. We'll view the floats up-close and in living color, always an exciting activity. It's amazing to see firsthand the variety of fruit, seeds, bark, grasses, and of course, breathtaking flowers being applied to the floats by hard working volunteers and experienced professionals. Afterward, we journey to the adjacent village of San Marino to tour Huntington Library and Botanical Gardens, a collections-based educational and research institution. In addition to the library, the institution houses an extensive art collection with a focus of 18th & 19th century European art and 17th to mid-20th century American art. The property also includes approximately 120 acres of specialized botanical landscaped gardens, most notably the "Japanese Garden", the "Desert Garden", and the "Chinese Garden" (Liu



Fang Yuan). See the art collections, exhibits and rare and exotic plants from around the world before returning to the hotel in the late afternoon.



Optional **2-Day**

Sunday, December 31

Los Angeles, CA

Kose Parade

After breakfast, we'll enjoy an exciting tour of Los Angeles, Hollywood and Beverly Hills, and Santa Monica. Our adventure begins with the drive to downtown Los Angeles., the hub of a metropolitan area with 10 million residents. Our first stop is the old Mexican Quarter known as Olvera Street, where Los Angeles was founded in 1769. We then pass the Music Center, Disney Concert Hall, designed by famed



architect Frank Gehry, and Staples Center, home to the Los Angeles Lakers, Clippers and Kings. Continuing past the Hollywood hills, we arrive at Farmer's Market & The Grove, where the food is the freshest, the produce the best and the shops unique! There is time for an extended lunch and shopping before entering Hollywood to see

Grauman's Chinese Theater, with its permanent collection of handprints, footprints and signatures of famous stars. And take a stroll along the Walk of Fame past the Dolby Theatre where each year the Academy Awards are presented. From Hollywood, we drive on the Sunset Strip into Beverly Hills. Adjacent to Beverly Hills is Century City, the business center of the entertainment industry and home of 20th Century Fox Movie Studios. Our tour continues to the community of Santa Monica, known as "Paradise by the Sea." We'll visit the Santa Monica Pier, the West Coast's oldest amusement pier, before traveling to the Third Street Promenade. Once a decaying

HOLLYWOOD

shopping street, the Promenade today is three pedestrian blocks lined with shops, cafes, bookstores and theaters - making it one of the liveliest places in Los Angeles. Our visit to Santa Monica will come to an end as we travel to beautiful Palisades Park, where 26 picturesque acres stretch along 1.6 miles on the bluffs overlooking the



Pacific. In the late afternoon, we return to the hotel to celebrate New Year's Eve with the east coast to ring in the new year, before retiring early in eager anticipation of the exiting events of the following day.

Monday, January 1

Los Angeles, CA

Happy New Year! Hot coffee and tea will be waiting for you in the hotel lobby along with box breakfasts for you to take along on the early morning departure to the Tournament of Roses Parade, for many a once in a lifetime experience. Known as "America's New Year Celebration," the parade has been a grand tradition since 1890. The smell of flowers will fill the air as the beautiful pageantry and tradition of magnificent floral floats, high-stepping equestrians and spirited marching bands highlight this popular holiday event. Be sure to bring your camera along for this amazingly beautiful photo-op of these vivid displays of floral extravagance. Following the festivities, we'll enjoy lunch at a local restaurant before returning to the hotel.

Tuesday, January 2

Home or Palm Springs, CA

Today, we bid farewell to Los Angeles and head east past Pasadena to the community of Sierra Madre, silhouetted against the foothills of the San Gabriel Mountains. A visit to Floatfest at Victory Park, allows up-close viewing of the floral and animated masterpieces of yesterday's Tournament of Roses Parade parked in a garden-like setting. Here you can truly see the design and workmanship that went into each float entry and learn more about the



float process from Tournament volunteers - "White Suiters" on hand. We spend the entire morning at Victory Park, with an opportunity for a light lunch from one of the many food vendors onsite. After lunch, we travel through the Coachella Valley to a winter paradise of Palm Springs. (Those flying back to Minneapolis today will be transferred to Los Angeles International Airport after lunch). Upon arrival to Palm Springs, we meet our step-on local guide and begin a tour of the area, passing many of the modern and famous homes from a storied past. Most of them were built between 1940 and 1960; among them, Elvis Presley's honeymoon house, Marilyn Monroe, Liberace, Dean Martin, Elizabeth Taylor, just to name just a few. Following the tour, we arrive at the resort hotel, Palm Springs Hilton, for a two-night stay in the sun. Our hotel is only steps away from luxury boutiques, art galleries and charming cafes. It is located in the town center of Palm Springs, where you will be able to enjoy views from our hotel.

Wednesday, January 3

Palm Springs, CA

After breakfast, the entire day is at your leisure to enjoy a hot air balloon ride, shopping, golf, Air Museum and/or the amenities at the hotel.

Thursday, January 4

Home

Following breakfast, we transfer to the Palm Springs Airport for the return flight to Minneapolis with your new found friends and fragrant memories.

Wendinger Travel recommends trip insurance to protect you and your investment. Our trusted partner, Travel Insured International, offers a variety of protection plans for your convenience.

General Information:

Tour price: \$2,898.00 per person based on double occupancy. Single accommodations are \$409 additional charge. To add the Palm Springs extension, it is an additional \$300 per person and \$170 more for single accommodations.



Deposit and Payments:

A deposit of \$350.00 per person is required to secure your reservation. Full payment is due by September 15, 2023. Credit cards will be accepted. A 3.5 % processing fee will be added.

On the reservation form, the <u>return date you write down</u> will indicate if interested in the 2-day extension to Palm Springs.

Responsibility: Wendinger Travel acts only in the capacity of an agent for travelers in all matters pertaining to hotel accommodations, sightseeing tours and transportation by motor coach and is not to be held responsible for damage, expense, or inconvenience caused by itinerary or schedule changes, nor for loss, injury, or damage to any person or property, from any cause whatsoever, including parked vehicles while on a Wendinger Travel tour. The right is reserved to decline to accept or retain any person as a member of this tour. Wendinger Travel is not responsible for individual needs of travelers. To ensure a safe and enjoyable experience, a travel companion MUST accompany all guests requiring special assistance.

Cancellation Policy: A full refund will be made up to 90 days prior to departure. Between 60-89 days prior 50% of the tour price will be refunded. 59 days before departure date no refund will be given.

Your Trip Includes:

- Roundtrip Airfare from Minneapolis
- Airport Transfers
- Five days deluxe motor coach transportation
- Four nights accommodations, based on double occupancy
- Breakfast each morning
- Excursions to Rose Parade Float Decorating Pavilions & Huntington Library and Gardens
- Full Day sight-seeing of LA and the surrounding areas.
- New Year's Eve Celebration
- Tournament of Roses Parade with an included lunch, seat cushion & program
- Post parade viewing at Victory Park
- Fully escorted and local tour guide for the duration of the tour

Palm Springs Extension: (returning January 4, 2024)

• 3-Hour Tour of Palm Springs

• 2 nights accommodations in Palm Springs

with two additional breakfasts.

