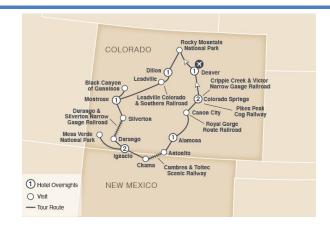


### Colorado 's Historic Trains

July 21 - 29, 2023

## **Featuring Six Different Scenic Rail Excursions**



DAY ONE – ARRIVE IN DENVER WELCOME TO DENVER, COLORADO, THE "MILE HIGH CITY." Meet your fellow travelers at 5:00 p.m. for a get-acquainted dinner hosted by your Tour Manager. (Dinner)

DAY TWO – ROCKY MOUNTAIN NATIONAL PARK Departing Denver we venture into Rocky Mountain National Park, a living showcase of the grandeur of the Rocky Mountains. With elevations ranging from 8,000 feet on the wet, grassy valleys to 14,259 feet at the weather-ravaged top of Longs Peak, the park is filled with breathtaking scenery and experiences. Following the Trail Ridge Road a stop at the Alpine Visitor Centeroffers an opportunity to learn more about this fascinating place. (Breakfast)

DAY THREE – LEADVILLE COLORADO & SOUTHERN RAILROAD Today we travel to historic Leadville to board the Leadville Colorado & Southern Railroad. While onboard, learn about the fascinating history of the railroads, ghost stories and tales of the wild from your conductor while traveling north along the Arkansas River Valley. Rising up 1,000 feet from the valley floor you will be greeted by spectacular views of Fremont Pass and the two tallest peaks in Colorado, Mt. Massive and Mt. Elbert. Later, we travel through scenic Monarch Pass and Curecanti National Recreation Area while en route to Montrose. (Breakfast and box lunch)

DAY FOUR – DURANGO & SILVERTON NARROW GAUGE RAILROAD This morning we visit the Black Canyon of Gunnison National Park, Then, it's "full steam ahead" today as we board the Durango & Silverton Narrow Gauge Railroad. Voted one of the "Top Ten Most Exciting Train Journeys in the World" by the Society of American Travel Writers, this route winds through the spectacular and breathtaking canyons in the remote wilderness of the two-million acre San Juan National Forest. The locomotives used today remain 100% coal-fired, steam-operated and are maintained in their original condition. Later, we check into the Sky Ute Casino Resort where you may wish to give Lady Luck a try. (Breakfast and dinner)

DAY FIVE – MESA VERDE NATIONAL PARK Today we visit the land of the ancient Pueblo Indians in Mesa Verde National Park. The fascinating cliff dwellings and culture of these people provide us with a look into a society that existed approximately 1400 years ago. Building elaborate stone communities, the Pueblos developed their own society that existed for some 700 years, before disappearing. Archeologists called them Anasazi, from a Navajo word sometimes translating as "the ancient ones." (Breakfast)

DAY SIX – CUMBRES & TOLTEC SCENIC RAILROAD Our day begins as we board our motorcoach and ride to the Cumbres & Toltec Scenic Railroad, the original Rio Grande Line. This is America's most spectacular narrow gauge steam railroad. Explore 50 miles of wild and rugged territory between Chama, New Mexico and Antonito, Colorado, the highest point on the railroad. (Breakfast and lunch)

DAY SEVEN – ROYAL GORGE ROUTE RAILROAD & THE GARDEN of the GODS board the Royal Gorge Railroad follow the 12-mile route along the old Denver and Rio Grande Western train line. Ride through the "Grand Canyon of the Arkansas" on an unforgettable journey over the famous Hanging Bridge, which clings precariously to the steep granite walls of Royal Gorge.

Enjoy a drive through the stunning Garden of the Gods. This 1,300 acre park reflects the rich diversity of the terrain and red sandstone formations tell a unique geological story. (Breakfast)

DAY EIGHT – CRIPPLE CREEK & PIKES PEAK COG RAILWAY Begin the day with a ride on the Cripple Creek & Victor Narrow Gauge Railroad. Scenic wonders await around every curve and this century-old steam locomotive is reminiscent of the gold mining days of the area. Then "Ride to the Clouds" aboard the Pikes Peak Cog Railway, the highest cog railroad in the U.S. which stretches nine miles long as it vertically climbs to almost 14,000 feet. This evening assemble for a farewell dinner, sharing memories of this unforgettable scenic rail adventure. (Breakfast and dinner)

DAY NINE – DENVER AND HOME Following breakfast we say goodbye to Colorado with fond memories of our western railroads adventure with a group transfer to the Denver airport for our flight home after 12:00 p.m. (Breakfast)

#### **Inclusions**

14 Meals (4 dinners, 2 lunches and 8 breakfasts)

Round trip airfare from Philadelphia (airline luggage charges and skycap tips are not included)

Round trip airport transfers (gratuities for Philadelphia transfers are included)

Services of a Mayflower Tour Manager and motorcoach driver (traditional gratuity not included)

Gratuities for hotel bellmen and wait staff for included meals are included

Experience six scenic rail excursions following historic routes of the Old West

Travel north along the Arkansas River Valley aboard the Leadville Colorado & Southern Railroad

Durango & Silverton Narrow Gauge Railroad, voted one of the "Top Ten Most Exciting Rail Journeys in the World"

Ride through the Rockies aboard the Cumbres & Toltec Scenic Railroad

Ride the Royal Gorge Route Railroad across the famous Hanging Bridge

Relive the gold mining days aboard the Cripple Creek & Victor Narrow Gauge Railroad

Climb 14,000 feet on the Pikes Peak Cog Railway

Visit the beautiful Rocky Mountain National Park, a living showcase of the grandeur of the Rocky Mountains
Tour Mesa Verde National Park with its amazing cliff dwellings, home to "the Ancient Ones," the Anasazi Indians
Visit the Black Canyon of Gunnison National Park

Drive through Garden of the Gods Park with its unique red sandstone formations

### Accommodations

Day 1 DoubleTree Hotel, Denver, Colorado

Day 2 Comfort Suites, Dillon, Colorado

Day 3 Hampton Inn, Montrose, Colorado

Days 4 - 5 Sky Ute Casino Resort, Ignacio, Colorado

Day 6 Hampton Inn, Alamosa, Colorado

Days 7 - 8 Radisson Hotel, Colorado Springs, Colorado

Price Per Person \$3799 Double Add \$1049 for Single Room

Deposit: \$500 per person to secure your reservation

Optional Trip Cancellation and Interruption Insurance will be offered and is recommended.

**For Reservations Contact:** 

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