

California Coast and Yosemite Park

8 Days from \$1,195

Day 1 – San Francisco, California

See the very best of the Golden State on a fun-filled one week vacation. Fly to San Francisco, the romantic city by the bay. Enjoy a relaxing two night stay at your hotel, located near lively Fisherman's Wharf. Rooms are available for check in after 3:00 p.m. Join us for a 6:00 p.m. welcome briefing. Evening is at leisure to explore San Francisco.

Day 2 – Wine Country, Bay Cruise

After breakfast, enjoy a brief morning sightseeing tour of San Francisco highlights. See Union Square, Chinatown and Nob Hill. Then, head over the Golden Gate Bridge, an engineering masterpiece over two miles long. Stop at the Golden Gate Bridge Overlook. Continue to Sonoma wine country. Enjoy a wine tasting at a local vineyard. On your return to San Francisco, drive through Golden Gate Park. Free time at Fisherman's Wharf. Then, enjoy a cruise on San Francisco Bay. See Alcatraz Island and the San Francisco skyline. The remainder of your afternoon and evening are at leisure in San Francisco. **B**

Day 3 – Yosemite National Park

Head east this morning into the Sierra Nevada Mountains. Pass through the historic gold mining towns of the great California Gold Rush. Arrive at Yosemite National Park. Established in 1890, Yosemite's 1,000 square mile park is an enduring legacy to the conservation efforts of naturalist John Muir, founder of the Sierra Club. Free time for lunch. Enjoy an open-air tram tour of the wonders of Yosemite Park. During this valley floor tour, your park ranger guide will describe Yosemite Valley's history, geology, and plant and animal life. Look for waterfalls, including Yosemite Falls and Bridalveil Falls, and marvel at the two towering granite monoliths known as Half Dome and El Capitan. The remainder of your afternoon is at leisure to explore Yosemite Park. Hike the nature trails through giant cedar, pine and fir trees or just simply relax in the splendor of Yosemite Park. Overnight at Yosemite View Lodge. **B**



Day 4 – Monterey Bay Aquarium

This morning, pass through the fertile San Joaquin Valley and by the San Luis Reservoir, part of the vast California irrigation project. Arrive in Monterey, home of John Steinbeck, who chronicled the adventures of this colorful fishing village. Stop at Cannery Row. Visit the world-renowned oceanfront Monterey Bay Aquarium. See coastal marine life in the Aquarium's 1.3 million gallon giant kelp tank. Look for sharks, stingrays, jellyfish, starfish, and sea otters. Enjoy a relaxing two night stay at your hotel on Monterey Bay. **B**

Day 5 – 17-Mile Drive, Big Sur, Redwoods

After breakfast, wind along the coast on Pacific Grove's Sunset Drive. Then, enjoy Monterey's famous Seventeen Mile Drive. See delightful natural wonders, including Seal Rock and the Lone Cypress. Stop at the Pebble Beach Golf Course. Next, drive to charming Carmel by the Sea and visit the beautifully restored Carmel Mission. Then, a spectacular drive on the Big Sur, one of the most awe-inspiring coastal drives in the world. On one side is the sparkling turquoise Pacific Ocean with its pounding surf, dramatic cliffs and endless horizon, and on the other is the Santa Lucia Mountain Range. Drive over Rocky Creek Bridge and Bixby Bridge. Photo stop at a Big Sur scenic viewpoint. Stop at a redwood grove for close-up views of these towering trees. Return to Monterey via the Big Sur for a second opportunity to see dramatic vistas. **B**



Day 6 – Santa Barbara, Los Angeles

This morning, head south to Santa Barbara, home to many stars and celebrities. Lunch on your own in Santa

Barbara. Afternoon drive along the Malibu coastline to Santa Monica. Drive along Ocean Avenue and see the Santa Monica Pier, which appears in many Hollywood films and TV shows, including "Baywatch." Santa Monica is a favorite hangout for celebrities, their entourage and the ever-present paparazzi. Enjoy free time. Next, to your hotel in the fashionable West Side of Los Angeles, near Rodeo Drive and adjacent to Beverly Hills. You stay two relaxing nights at the glamorous InterContinental Century City. Evening at leisure. **B**

Day 7 – Hollywood, Beverly Hills

You explore behind-the-scenes Hollywood on your morning visit to Sony Studios, home to the popular shows "Wheel of Fortune" and "Jeopardy," as well as many blockbuster movies, including "Spider-Man." Enjoy a rare glimpse of old Hollywood's glory days as you walk on sound stages where movie history was made. Then, continue to Hollywood. See the famous Hollywood sign on the hills above. Stop at the Chinese Theater (Grauman's). Here you see the imprints of Jimmy Durante's nose, John Wayne's fist, and Betty Grable's legs. Stroll Hollywood's most famous sidewalk, known as the Walk of Fame, where you see the stars of Elvis Presley, Marilyn Monroe, Michael Jackson and many more. Enjoy a private guided tour of the Dolby (Kodak) Theatre, home of the Academy Awards. Next, drive along the Sunset Strip to Beverly Hills. Drive along Rodeo Drive, America's most celebrated shopping district, one mile from your hotel. Return to the InterContinental Century City. Remainder of your afternoon is at leisure. Farewell dinner tonight. **BD**

Day 8 – Los Angeles

Your tour ends after breakfast. Thanks for vacationing with us. **B**

Arrival Transfers

Company does not provide arrival transfers from the San Francisco, California airports to the Holiday Inn Fisherman's Wharf (1300 Columbus Avenue) or the Hyatt Fisherman's Wharf (555 North Point Street) in San Francisco. You can transfer by taxi, shuttle or the Bay Area Rapid Transit system (BART):

From San Francisco Airport (SFO), taxis cost approximately \$50 to \$60, and take 40 to 60 minutes. Super Shuttles (800-258-3826 or 800-BLUEVAN) cost \$17.00 for each person. The shuttle takes approximately 1 hour, no advance reservations necessary. Blue Super Shuttle vans depart every 15 to 20 minutes from the upper level of the airport just outside United, U.S. Air and the International terminal. The BART station at the San Francisco Airport is located just beyond the International Terminal. Take the Red AirTrain from your domestic terminal or walk and follow the signs to the International terminal. The walk takes between 5 minutes (Terminal 3) and 15 minutes (Terminal 1). Take a San Francisco bound BART train to the Embarcadero Station (a 30 minute ride). Get off at Market and Embarcadero. Board a F-Market street car towards Fisherman's Wharf, and get off at the end of the line. From there, walk to your hotel (two blocks to the Holiday Inn or one block to the Hyatt). BART costs \$8.10 and the street car costs \$2.25 per person. For more information see www.bart.gov.

From Oakland Airport (OAK) to San Francisco, taxis cost approximately \$70, and take 60 to 90 minutes. Super Shuttles (800-258-3826 or 800-BLUEVAN) cost \$27.00 for the first person and \$15.00 for each additional passenger. The shuttle takes 90+ minutes, advance reservations required. Upon arrival at the Oakland Airport, call Super Shuttle for pickup instructions. The Oakland Airport is linked to the Coliseum Station (the nearest BART station) by the AirBART Bus. Take a San Francisco-bound train to the Embarcadero Station (a 30 minute ride). Get off at Market and Embarcadero, and take the F-Market street car towards Fisherman's Wharf, and get off at the end of the line. From there, walk to your hotel (two blocks to the Holiday Inn or one block to the Hyatt). The AirBART Bus costs \$2.00 (\$.50 for Children & Seniors) per person; BART costs \$3.80; and the street car costs \$2.25 per person. For more information see www.bart.gov.

Departure Transfers

Company does not provide departure transfers from the InterContinental Century City Hotel to the Los Angeles International Airport (LAX). Super Shuttles cost \$14.00 per person and should be arranged in advance through the hotel concierge or by calling Super Shuttle (800-258-3826). Taxis cost \$35 to \$40.00 and travel can take anywhere from 30 to 45 minutes, depending on traffic.

included in the tour price:

Hotels, most meals, all of the activities described in the itinerary pages, airport transfers in select cities, gratuities to hotel porters, restaurant staff and local guides. Professional Tour Directors and local guides will be with you every step of the way, ensuring a worry free vacation.

not included in the tour price:

Prices do not include air travel, country entry or departure fees, airport porter fees, visas, phones, valet, all items of a personal nature, food and beverages not on the regular menu and tips to the Tour Director and Driver. General fees and taxes are additional and listed separately beneath each tour's price.