



THE AMERICAN EMPRESS®

LUXURY ON THE COLUMBIA RIVER

Vancouver, Astoria, Stevenson, The Dalles, Tri-Cities, Clarkston, The American Empress®

Seven nights aboard the **American Empress®** steamboat on the Columbia and Snake Rivers.

Astoria is known to be the oldest American Settlement west of the Rocky Mountains. For thousands of years, the Clatsop Indians inhabited this land.

Located in the heart of the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area, **Stevenson** is surrounded by a stunning backdrop of water and forested mountains.

Dalles is known as the end of the Oregon Trail. It is where pioneers loaded their wagons onto rafts or barges and floated down the Columbia to the mouth of the Willamette River.

Day 1-3..... Chicago to
Vancouver, WA
Day 4..... Embarkation
Day 5..... Astoria, OR
Day 6..... Stevenson, WA

Spend the day exploring **Richland**, located at the confluence of the Yakima and the Columbia Rivers.

Clarkston is known as “The Gateway to Hells Canyon,” North America’s deepest gorge.

Relax and enjoy traveling over 3800 miles aboard Amtrak’s **Empire Builder**. The Rocky Mountain peaks become increasingly dynamic as we approach Glacier National Park. We travel 7.8-miles through the Cascade Tunnel.

Day 7..... The Dalles, OR
Days 8-9 Tri-Cities, WA
Days 10-11 Clarkston, WA
Day 11..... En Route to Kalispell
Days 12-13 En Route to Chicago

TOUR DATE(S):**2018**

Fri., June 8 to Wed., June 20

TOUR PRICE:*All prices are per person / double occupancy unless otherwise stated.***\$6,395 - 13 Days**

Ship upgrades:

Cabin: D + \$400; \$800 single

C + \$500; \$1,000 single

B + \$1,800; \$3,600 single

A + \$2,400; \$4,800 single

Train Bedroom + \$995

SINGLE \$10,995

See above for ship upgrades.

FLY OPTION - Fly to Portland and return from Kalispell. 10 Days

Price: \$5,395

Single \$9,345

America by Rail will be happy to arrange your flights. Airfare is not included in above price.

YOUR TRIP INCLUDES:

- Round-trip transportation by Amtrak rail, and connecting motorcoach.
- Private Roomette on Amtrak for three nights.
- First-class hotel accommodations for two nights.
- Outside Category E cabin aboard the American Empress® for seven nights.
- 33 meals.
- Sightseeing tours at each destination.
- Baggage handling, taxes, tips.
- Services of a professional America by Rail Tour Director.

Full payment for this tour will be March 8, 2018. Cruise cancellation policy is applicable.

AMERICA BY RAIL WILL BE HAPPY TO MAKE ARRANGEMENTS FOR YOUR CONNECTING TRANSPORTATION TO CHICAGO AND BACK BY RAIL OR AIR.

Day 1: Depart Chicago

Luxury on the Columbia River tour members will meet the Tour Director in Chicago's Union Station. The Metropolitan Lounge will be our base in Chicago. The Willis Tower, one of the world's tallest buildings, is close by. Other Chicago attractions are a cab ride away.

This afternoon we'll board Amtrak's Empire Builder for a 2:15 p.m. departure. Our 2205-mile journey crosses seven states to Seattle. Relax in your private Roomette sleeping accommodations. Bedrooms are available for an additional cost. Coffee, juice and water are available in your sleeping car. Go to the glass-walled Sightseer Lounge car for spectacular viewing. All dining car meals are included beginning with dinner tonight. You'll have time for a train-side walk when we arrive in Minneapolis-St. Paul this evening. **D**

Day 2: En Route

During the day we will roll across the remote flat lands of North Dakota and eastern Montana. This evening a dramatic panorama of Rocky Mountain peaks will begin to rise above the horizon, becoming increasingly dynamic as we approach Glacier National Park. The scenery is striking as we wind past waterfalls, river gorges and other sights. The glass-walled lounge or dining car is an excellent vantage point. **B, L & D**

Day 3: En Route / Seattle

You may want to rise early to watch the sun come up over some spectacular scenery. This morning the Empire Builder will enter the 7.8-mile long Cascade Tunnel. Over the next two hours we'll wind through the scenic Cascade Mountains and then through the lush Puget Sound area and ease into Seattle late morning.

You will have time for an "on-your-own" lunch prior to our 2:10 p.m. departure on Amtrak Cascades train to Vancouver, WA. Arrival is scheduled for 5:10 p.m.

Upon arrival we will check into the Hilton Vancouver hotel, our home for the night.

A welcome dinner will be hosted by your Tour Director this evening. **B & D**

Day 4: Embarkation

Following an included breakfast at our hotel this morning we will transfer to the American Empress.

You'll have time for an "on-your-own" lunch or a pre-cruise shore excursion. Sample optional Pre-Cruise Premium tours include: Mount Saint Helens Tour, The "Rose City" Portland tour.

We'll board the ship prior to the 6:00 p.m. departure. **B & D**

Day 5: Astoria, OR

Astoria is known to be the oldest American Settlement west of the Rocky Mountains. For thousands of years the Clatsop Indians inhabited this land. In 1805, Lewis and Clark led their expedition through the town and spent the winter at Fort Clatsop. In 1813, a British warship sailed into the Columbia River, gaining possession of the city and holding control until 1818, when they finally agreed to a joint occupation of the land.

*Sample included shore excursions include: Riverwalk, Flavel House and Carriage House Museum, Astoria Column, Heritage Museum, Columbia River Maritime Museum. **B, L & D***

**ASTORIA COLUMN**

Day 6: Stevenson, WA

Located in the heart of the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area, Stevenson is surrounded by a stunning backdrop of water and forested mountains. Six parks are within walking distance of the pier and can all be accessed via a walking path. The Columbia Gorge Interpretive Center features exhibits and artifacts highlighting the area's natural history, early inhabitants and industrial progress. Outdoor displays include a diesel train, logging equipment and cedar log carvings.

Sample included shore excursions include: Columbia Gorge Interpretive Center, Bonneville Dam, Downtown Stevenson, Washington, Skunk Brothers Spirits. **B, L & D**

Day 7: Dalles, OR

Dalles is known as the end of the Oregon Trail. It is where pioneers loaded their wagons onto rafts or barges and floated down the Columbia to the mouth of the Willamette River, then upriver to Oregon City. Later the Barlow Toll Road was constructed to permit a much safer overland crossing.

Sample included shore excursions include: Columbia Gorge Discovery Center & Museum, Original Courthouse Museum, Fort Dalles Museum and Interpretive Center, Sunshine Mills Winery, Downtown Shopping. **B, L & D**

Day 8 & 9: Tri-Cities (Richland), WA

Richland is located at the confluence of the Yakima and the Columbia Rivers. Spend the day exploring the many attractions and shops that line the streets of the city. At the Hanford Reach National Monument you will witness a diverse landscape of sweeping vistas and towering bluffs, blended with an abundance of wildlife.

Sample included shore excursions include: Sacajawea State Park, Franklin County Historical Society and Museum, The Reach Interpretive Center, Downtown Richland including a River Walking Trail. **B, L & D**

Day 10: Clarkston, WA

Clarkston is known as "The Gateway to Hells Canyon," North America's

deepest gorge. The twin communities of Clarkston, Washington and Lewiston, Idaho lie along the Snake River on the historic path of Lewis and Clark. The low elevation provides a winter climate that few people would associate with the Pacific Northwest, so mild in fact, that they can often golf year round!

Sample included shore excursions include: Nez Perce National Historical Park, First Territorial Capitol Interpretive Center, Lewis and Clark State College Center for Arts & History. **B, L & D**

Day 11: Clarkston, WA

Following breakfast we will say goodbye to the American Empress. We will board our motorcoach and enjoy spectacular Rocky Mountain Scenery as we travel to Kalispell, MT.

We will stop for an "on-your-own" lunch en route.

Our home for the night will be the Hilton Garden Inn in Kalispell, MT.

A farewell dinner will be included tonight. **B & D**

Day 12: En Route

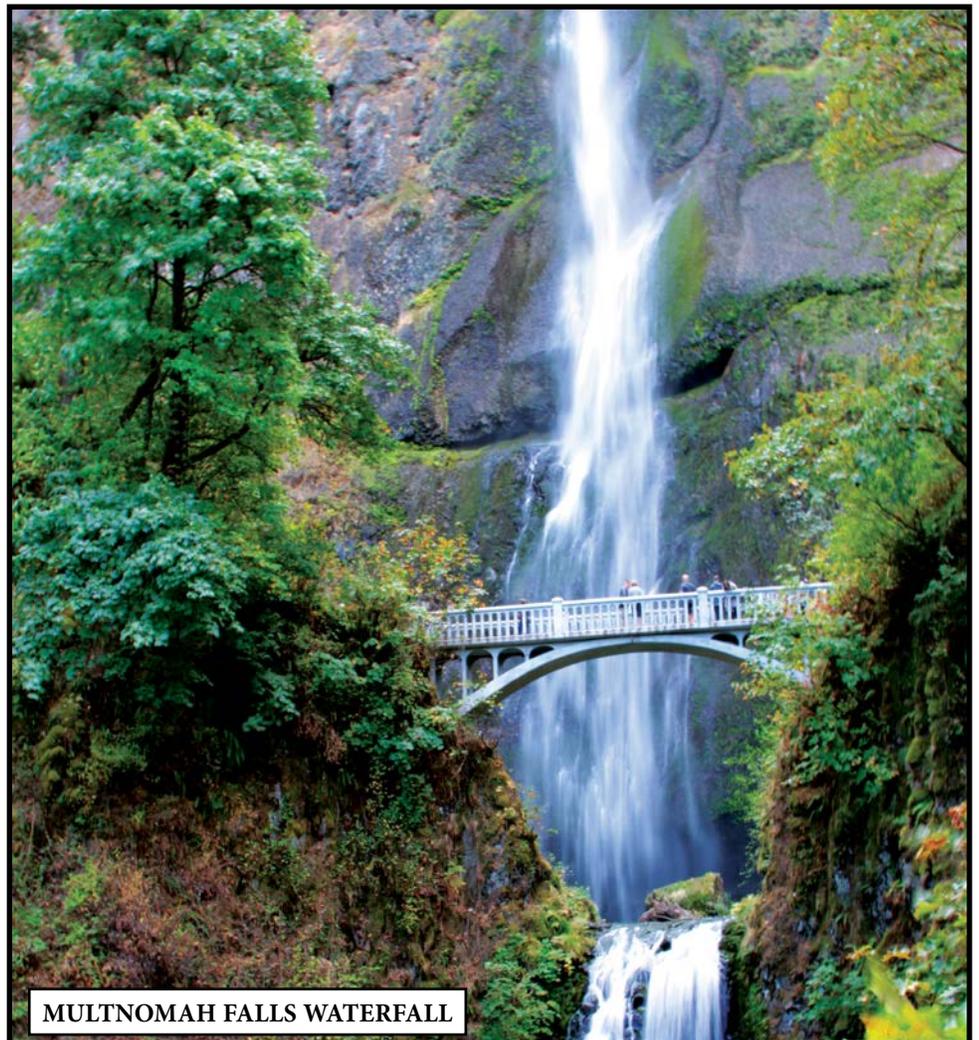
Early this morning we will board the Empire Builder in Whitefish for the 1620-mile journey across five states to Chicago. Departure is scheduled for 7:41 a.m.

You will enjoy the same type of accommodations you enjoyed on your westbound trip. You'll want to spend some time in the Sightseer Lounge to view the passing scenery.

During the day we will roll across the remote flatlands of eastern Montana and North Dakota. **B, L & D**

Day 13: En Route to Chicago

We'll arrive in Chicago's Union Station at 3:55 p.m. Tour members will depart for home destinations throughout the day. **B & L**



The American Empress Steamboat Distinctions

The largest, most elegant riverboat in the Pacific Northwest

Included shore excursions in every port of call

Included deluxe hotel stay before your voyage - including breakfast, taxes, portage and transfers to the American Empress

Complimentary wine and beer with dinner

Complimentary cappuccino, espresso, bottled water and soft drinks throughout your voyage

Regional Pacific Northwest cuisine utilizing fresh ingredients creatively combined with a contemporary flair

Gracious service and warm hospitality from a friendly, all-American staff

Country club casual ambiance, no formal wear required

Daily lectures by the Riverlorian, our onboard history and culture expert

Broadway caliber entertainment every evening, including featured guest performances by sensational local artists

All staterooms feature a balcony or picture window with dramatic scenery unfolding before your eyes

Our own dedicated fleet of deluxe motorcoaches

The Passenger Vessel Association recognizes American Queen Steamboat Company as a member of its Green WATERS Program for the vessel operation's dedication and commitment toward a cleaner, greener marine environment.

Dining Options Venue:

Traditional Breakfast Service..... Astoria Dining Room

Traditional Luncheon Astoria Dining Room

Alfresco Lunch..... The River Grill & Bar

Traditional Dinner..... Astoria Dining Room

Alfresco Dinner The River Grill & Bar

SUITE AND STATEROOM CATEGORIES

E Veranda stateroom - open veranda - Vista View Deck

D Outside stateroom with window - Explorer Deck

C Deluxe Veranda (private) stateroom - Discovery and Frontier Decks

B Superior Veranda (private) stateroom - Vista View, Discovery and Frontier Decks

A Suites with Veranda (open) - Vista View Deck

LS Luxury Suites with Veranda (private) - Discovery and Frontier Decks

GENERAL INFORMATION RAIL/SAIL TOURS

REGISTRATION AND DEPOSIT:

A deposit of \$500 per person is due at time of reservation, \$100 of which is non-refundable. Final payment is due 90 days prior to departure.

TOUR CANCELLATIONS:

For cancellations received within 90 days of departure the following per person penalty applies:

- 76-90 days prior to departure: 25% of total tour cost.
- 61-75 days prior to departure: 50% of total tour cost.
- 31-60 days prior to departure: 75% of total tour cost.
- 30 days or less prior to departure through duration of the tour: 100% of total tour cost.

The total tour cost includes tour price, add-ons and upgrades.

Air cancellations after ticketing are subject to the carrier's policy.

Refunds will be made approximately 30 days after the conclusion of the tour.

Payment / cancellation exceptions are noted on tours.

All pricing is per person / double occupancy unless otherwise stated.

TOUR PRICE INCLUDES:

TRANSPORTATION

Rail transportation over the tour route and motorcoach, van, or other modes of transportation where specified in the tour.

TRAIN ACCOMMODATIONS

All tours except those categorized as Coach Class include private Roomette on Amtrak overnight trains and Bedrooms (double occupancy) or Roomettes (single occupancy) on VIA Rail Canada overnight trains. Bedrooms on Amtrak are available at an additional cost. Reclining coach seats are included on U.S. and Canadian trains used only during the daytime except for those categorized as Coach Class. Coach Class tours include reclining coach seats with leg rests on Amtrak trains. Meals on the trains are included for those traveling Coach Class on the North American tours as indicated in the itinerary.

CRUISE ACCOMMODATIONS

Rail / Sail tours include inside staterooms (double occupancy) on cruise ships. Upgraded staterooms may be available at an additional cost.

HOTELS

Accommodations are based on two persons sharing a room. Two-bedded rooms are provided in most instances. However, sometimes their availability is limited. If a two-bedded room is required, please notify America by Rail at time of registration.

America by Rail reserves the right to substitute hotels for those named in any tour description, when necessary. Every effort is made to have hotel rooms available for occupancy upon arrival. There may be instances when rooms are not available until later.

SINGLE ROOMS

Single rooms at hotels and Amtrak Roomettes on a single basis are available at a single cost.

SIGHTSEEING / ADMISSIONS

Sightseeing, as outlined in the itineraries, will be provided by motorcoaches in most instances. Admission fees are included as specified. Sightseeing tour arrangements may be altered if required.

MEALS

All included meals are listed in the tour itinerary. Persons requiring a special diet must inform America by Rail at the time of registration. Not all restaurants / trains will be able to honor special requests. Due to events beyond our control, trains are sometimes delayed and supplies may become limited. If you have special dietary requirements, please make sure you have a sufficient supply of nourishment to meet your dietary needs.

In the itineraries, the meals are listed at the end of each day using CB for Continental breakfast, B for breakfast, L for lunch, and D for dinner.

BAGGAGE

For your convenience and to expedite movement, baggage handling is limited to one suitcase per person. Transfer and portage of one suitcase per person is included at overnight stopovers. On most tours the one suitcase per person is handled by America by Rail and is checked through to the next destination. An overnight bag is used while en route. America by Rail is not responsible for loss or damage to your baggage or for any lost, stolen or destroyed item. Specified transfers between rail stations and hotels are included.

TOUR DIRECTORS

Services of a qualified America by Rail Tour Director are included for all matters pertaining to the tour. Tour Directors will meet all tour members at the origination city.

TIPS AND TAXES

All gratuities to hotel staff (except to chambermaids), sightseeing guides and drivers are included. Gratuities for sleeping car attendants and meals aboard the train are included. Gratuities for meals specified in the tour itinerary are included on escorted portions of the tour. Gratuities for cruise ship stateroom stewards and dining waitstaff are included.

TOUR PRICE DOES NOT INCLUDE:

Transportation and tips between your home city and the official origination city; charges for excess baggage; health, accident or baggage insurance; tips to chambermaids and for personal services; items of a personal nature such as laundry; meals, except those specified as included; gratuities for special services; charges for room service, and alcoholic beverages with included meals.

Gratuities for the America by Rail Tour Directors are at your discretion; \$3-\$10 per person per day is the industry standard. They should be extended on an individual basis, not as a group.

RAIL SCHEDULES:

The routing and features described in tour descriptions may be altered to adjust to rail schedules in effect at the time of the tour. America by Rail reserves the right to substitute motorcoach or air travel for unavailable rail schedules, misconnections, delays or other causes.

TRAVEL DOCUMENTS :

A valid passport will be required for any trip crossing international borders. i.e. into or out of the United States. At time of reservation we will need your date of birth; gender, passport number, passport expiration date and issuing country.

HEALTH, MOBILITY AND FITNESS TO TRAVEL:

America by Rail will make reasonable efforts to accommodate the special needs of tour participants. Such participants, however, should be aware that the Americans with Disabilities Act is inapplicable outside of the United States and facilities outside the United States for disabled individuals are limited. Any type of disability requiring special provisions must be reported to America by Rail at the time of registration. America by Rail is not required to provide participants with personal devices, such as wheelchairs or individually prescribed devices such as prescription eyeglasses, or to provide services of a personal nature including assistance in eating, toileting or dressing. Accordingly, all participants are responsible to participate without assistance of the America by Rail Tour Director or other attendant. Tour Directors are prohibited from providing physical assistance or accommodations (beyond normal civil courtesies, such as holding doors open for passing). It is recommended that participants requiring assistance, including those requiring the use of a mobility device, be accompanied by a travel companion who will be responsible to provide required assistance. Participants will be asked to submit a confidential medical form for each tour. Those travelling with oxygen are required to advise America by Rail at least two weeks prior to departure. Amtrak requires all equipment, including oxygen concentrators, must be able to operate a minimum of four hours without available onboard electrical power (in the event of a power disruption onboard). Oxygen equipment must be

Underwriter's Laboratory (UL) or Factory Mutual (FM) listed. The total weight of all tanks may not exceed 120 lbs. Within this limit, no more than 2 tanks 50 lb each, or no more than 6 tanks 20 lbs each

SMOKING:

Smoking is not permitted on America by Rail motorcoaches. Those who smoke may do so at any of the frequent stops we make. All Amtrak and VIA Rail trains are entirely smoke-free. If time is available at station stops, it will be announced by the conductor. Cruise ships policies vary from line to line, but all have designated areas to accommodate smokers.

PLEASE NOTE:

America by Rail reserves the right, at its sole discretion, to accept or retain any individuals as members of the tour. The acceptance of any service provided as part of an America by Rail tour, or any ticket or voucher, shall be deemed to be acceptance of and consent to these conditions.

All rates published herein are in U.S. dollars and based on tariffs and exchange rates in effect on the printing date of the tour brochure. Prices and arrangements are subject to change without notice.

No persons, other than a representative of America by Rail, authorized by a document in writing, may vary, add or waive any term or condition set forth in the preceding provisions. A \$50 per person fee will be assessed for each itinerary alteration requested after final arrangements are confirmed. It is our company policy to issue a tour roster to all tour participants containing all tour participants' names and addresses. If you do not want your address included, you must let us know at time of reservation.

Times, schedules, entertainment and activities are subject to change without notice.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING FUEL SUPPLEMENT:

Please be advised America by Rail reserves the right to apply a fuel supplement for all guests should the price of oil warrant it.

RESPONSIBILITY CLAUSE:

America by Rail acts only in the capacity as an agent for the owners and contractors providing means of transportation, hotel or other services. All tour services, tickets and vouchers are subject to any and all terms and conditions under which such means of transportation, hotel or other services are offered or provided. America by Rail shall not be or become liable or responsible in any way whatsoever, for any loss, injury or damage from acts of God, sickness, theft, weather, strikes, war, or quarantine however caused or arising.

America by Rail reserves the right to cancel a tour in the event tour participation does not meet minimum requirements.

America by Rail shall not be obligated to honor any booking resulting from, nor shall be responsible or liable whatsoever in connection with, misprints or errors of any kind, whether in brochures, advertisements, on the Internet, during the booking process or otherwise, that result in traveler being undercharged for the tour. America by Rail reserves the right, prior to departure, to collect the correct fare or cancel the booking and refund any payment made by traveler.

AMTRAK STATEMENT:

The National Railroad Passenger Corporation (Amtrak) is not to be held responsible for any act, omissions, or event during the time passengers are not on board their trains or conveyance. The passenger contract in use of the National Railroad Passenger Corporation (Amtrak) when issued, shall constitute the sole contract between the National Railroad Passenger Corporation (Amtrak) and purchaser of these tours and / or passenger. All conditions are subject to the laws of the District of Columbia, U.S.A.

America by Rail® is the registered trademark of America by Rail, Inc.