



BALBOA PARK

KALEIDOSCOPE OF WINTER WONDERS

Colorado Rockies • Sacramento • Yosemite National Park • San Diego • Santa Barbara • Seattle • Three Great Trains

You'll be warm and cozy as the **California Zephyr** winds and climbs through the snow covered **Colorado Rockies** and the Sierra Nevada's beautiful Donner Pass. Snow can be six to eight feet deep.

Yosemite National Park is one of America's most popular spring, summer, and fall destinations. You'll see its awesome natural wonders as few people do.

San Diego is a paradise on earth. It's one of America's premier cities and California's historic birthplace. Our sightseeing tour includes downtown's renowned Gaslamp Quarter, the Embarcadero, Balboa Park, Old Town and the famed Hotel Del Coronado. The San Diego Zoo is one of the finest in the world.

Fall in love with beautiful **Santa Barbara**. The flowers, the Spanish Architecture, the parks and the mild temperatures provide a wonderful experience.

The **Coast Starlight** is Amtrak's premier long-distance train. You'll be completely pampered from the time you step aboard until you disembark 32 hours later in Seattle.

Seattle's major attractions, including the popular Pike Market and the Space Needle, will highlight our day in the Emerald City.

The **Empire Builder's** routing near wintry **Glacier National Park** will highlight our relaxing return trip from Seattle to Chicago.

Days 1-3 Chicago to Sacramento
Day 4..... Yosemite National Park
Day 5..... En Route San Diego
Day 6..... San Diego
Day 7..... En Route Santa Barbara

Day 8..... Santa Barbara
Day 9..... En Route Seattle
Day 10..... Seattle
Days 11-12 Seattle to Chicago

TOUR DATE(S):

2018

Fri., Feb. 2 to Tues., Feb. 13

TOUR PRICE:

All prices are per person /double occupancy unless otherwise stated.

\$3,495 - 12 Days

Upgrades: Bedroom + \$1,395

\$4,895 SINGLE

FLY OPTION - Fly to Sacramento, return from Seattle. 8 Days

Price: \$2,595

Single: \$3,495

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

YOUR TRIP INCLUDES:

- Round-trip transportation by Amtrak rail and deluxe motor-coach.
- First-class hotel accommodations with private bath for six nights.
- Private Roomette sleeping accommodations (Roomette) on the trains for five nights.
- Sightseeing at Yosemite, San Diego, Santa Barbara and Seattle.
- Baggage handling, taxes & tips.
- 25 meals.
- Services of a professional America by Rail Tour Director.

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

Day 1: En Route

Kaleidoscope of Winter Wonders tour members will meet the Tour Director in the Metropolitan Lounge of Chicago's Union Station. They'll board the famous California Zephyr prior to its 2:00 p.m. departure. The Zephyr features double-decker Superliner equipment. Relax in your comfortable private Roomette. Bedrooms are available at an additional cost. After settling in, you may want to go to the glass-walled Sightseer Lounge car. Coffee, juice and water are available in your sleeping car. All meals on the trains are included beginning with dinner tonight. **D**

Day 2: En Route

You will awaken this morning to the sight of the towering, majestic Colorado Rockies in the distance. Plan to get up early, have a piping hot breakfast in the dining car and find a seat in the glass-walled lounge car for the spectacular scenery that will unfold before you.

The Zephyr will leave Denver this morning and begin its climb over the Front Range toward the Continental Divide. About an hour later we'll encounter the famous 6.2-mile-long Moffat Tunnel and go under the Continental Divide. Throughout the day the train will wind around sharp mountain curves and through numerous tunnels. You'll look down at roaring streams winding through valleys far below. **B, L & D**

Day 3: En Route / Merced

Today's awesome winter scenery will be spectacular as the Zephyr climbs over the high Sierra Nevada mountains through the famous Donner Pass. From rugged terrain and pine trees to lush greenery and palm trees . . . this landscape contrast will occur in just three hours. Our arrival in California's capitol city, Sacramento, is scheduled for early afternoon. Upon arrival we will board a San Joaquin train for Merced. Arrival



EL CAPITAN

is scheduled for 7:19 p.m. We'll transfer the Hampton Inn & Suites, our home for the next two nights. **B & L**

Day 4: Yosemite National Park

A Continental breakfast is included at the hotel. Today will be one of the most memorable days of your life. We'll board a sightseeing bus for the 82-mile journey into the Park. A box lunch will be served en route. El Capitan, Bridalveil Falls, Yosemite Falls and Half Dome are some of the most popular attractions. You'll see these breathtakingly beautiful sites with their coating of ice and snow. This afternoon we'll embark a two-hour narrated sightseeing tour of the Park.

Once or twice during the winter months, the road to Yosemite may be closed due



to snow accumulations. In the unlikely event our group should encounter such conditions, we will spend the day in Sacramento visiting the California State Rail Museum, Old Town and other sites.

Late this afternoon we'll return to our hotel. Dinner is included at the excellent Branding Iron Restaurant. **CB, L & D**

Day 5: En Route / San Diego

Enjoy a Continental breakfast this morning. Today is a relaxing day as we travel about 400 miles by train and motorcoach to San Diego. The first leg is 168 miles by rail from Merced to Bakersfield through the San Joaquin Valley, source of much of America's fruits and vegetables. An Amtrak Thruway motorcoach will transfer us 100 miles over the "Grapevine" from Bakersfield to Los Angeles. For the final 128 miles we'll travel by rail along the beautiful Pacific Ocean coastline to San Diego on a Pacific Surfliner from Los Angeles to San Diego.

Our home for the two nights in San Diego will be the Best Western Inn Plus Bayside. The hotel is conveniently located near a number of downtown San Diego attractions. **CB**

Day 6: San Diego

A Continental breakfast will be included each morning in San Diego.

Today is the day we'll visit the renowned San Diego Zoo, one of the greatest zoological gardens in the world. We'll depart from our hotel at 8:30 a.m. First, we'll take a tour of the entire zoo complex on a double-decker conveyance. You'll have time to explore the zoo on your own and have lunch.

At 1:00 p.m. we'll strike out on a San Diego city tour. Your stopovers include: downtown's famed Gaslamp Quarter, the Hotel del Coronado, the Embarcadero, Balboa Park and Old Town. **CB**

Day 7: San Diego / En Route

This morning you are free to relax in your hotel or do some sightseeing or shopping on your own.

At 11:00 a.m. we'll transfer to the Center City Amtrak station where we'll depart at noon on a Pacific Surfliner train. We'll travel 232 miles northbound along the Pacific Ocean shoreline and through Los Angeles to Santa Barbara,

one of our nation's most beautiful cities. Sandwiches, snacks and beverages are available on the train. Arrival is scheduled for 5:40 p.m. Upon arrival, we'll transfer to the Best Western Plus Pepper Tree Hotel. **CB**

Day 8: Santa Barbara

Following a Continental breakfast in our hotel, we'll embark on a two-hour sightseeing tour of what many consider to be America's most beautiful city. We'll see many examples of the city's Spanish past, including The Mission Santa Barbara and El Presidio de Santa Barbara Historical Park. The Court House, with its massive murals and tile floors and walls, is not to be missed.

Our city tour will conclude at the Santa Barbara Amtrak station where at 12:40 p.m. we'll board the famous Coast Starlight for the 1274-mile journey to Seattle.

Scenic highlights include several mountain ranges and 150 miles of rugged Pacific Ocean shoreline.

All dining car meals are included. You'll want to spend time in the Sightseer Lounge to enjoy the spectacular scenery.

At night – or any time you want some privacy – you'll have your private-room sleeping accommodations. **CB, L & D**

Day 9: Coast Starlight / Seattle

You won't want to miss the spectacular scenery of the towering, snow-covered Cascade Mountains (with the 22 tunnels and innumerable hairpin turns) that is just outside your wide train window this morning.

This afternoon we will continue to roll through the Willamette Valley, past Portland, and finally arrive in Seattle at mid-evening. Our comfortable accommodations for the night will be at the Mayflower Park Hotel. **B, L, & D**

Day 10: Seattle

Breakfast is included at the hotel. You're free until 11:00 a.m. when we'll board a motorcoach and transfer to Seattle's world-famous Space Needle. Enjoy a spectacular panorama of the city, Puget Sound and the Cascade and Olympic Mountains from the 520-foot high observation deck.

Following an "on-your-own" lunch, we'll embark on a three-hour sightseeing tour of the Seattle area. The journey will include Pike Place Market, Chinatown, concrete floating bridges, Lake Washington, the arboretum, the University of Washington and sweeping views of Puget Sound and Olympic Mountains.

Our travelers will arrive at Seattle's King Street Amtrak station around 4:00 p.m. Our departure on the Empire Builder for Chicago is scheduled for 4:40. The Empire Builder is one of Amtrak's premier trains. The dining side of riding the Empire Builder will begin at dinner and continue through tomorrow's three meals and breakfast and lunch the following day. Sleeping accommodations and all dining car meals are included. **B & D**

Day 11: En Route

Enjoy a delicious dining car breakfast and then head for the Sightseer Lounge car. About 8:00 a.m. a dramatic panorama of snow-covered 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 icy waterfalls, river gorges and other sights. The rest of the day we'll cross the remote flatlands of eastern Montana and western North Dakota. **B, L & D**

Day 12: En Route to Chicago

Breakfast and lunch on the train are included. We pass through Minneapolis this morning and head south along the west bank of the Mississippi River. The train winds between the river bank and high bluffs. The Empire Builder is scheduled to arrive in Chicago's Union Station this afternoon.

Many of our tour members will conclude their fabulous America by Rail vacation by transferring to other Amtrak trains bound for home cities. Some will spend the night in Chicago and continue home by air tomorrow morning. **B & L**

"THIS WAS OUR SECOND TOUR WITH ABR AND WE CONTINUE TO RECOMMEND YOU TO EVERYONE."

LINDA T.
DEWITT, MI

GENERAL INFORMATION

REGISTRATION AND DEPOSIT:

A deposit of \$200 per person, of which \$100 per person is non-refundable, is required to finalize registration. The balance is due 75 days prior to departure. If payments are not received by the due date(s) specified, reservations may be cancelled without notice.

TOUR CANCELLATIONS:

If cancellation is received by America by Rail more than 75 days prior to departure, \$100 of your deposit will be retained. For cancellations received within 75 days of departure, the following per person cancellation fees apply:

- 46-75 days prior to departure:
25% of total tour cost.
- 15-45 days prior to departure:
50% of total tour cost.
- 14 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.

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.

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.

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