

Trains & Parks of Colorado August 19th - 27th, 2023



Travel Colorado with train historian Mark Warther on this personally designed adventure featuring amazing trains, breathtaking scenery, fantastic hotels and great food! Mark's life long love of trains and the majestic beauty of Colorado makes this Colorado experience a trip like no other! Mark has been featured in "AAA Home & Away" magazine and PBS television for designing this one of a kind Colorado tour.

Some Highlights:

Durango & Silverton Scenic RR
Dinner on a canyon rim
Mesa Verde National Park
Cumbres & Toltec Scenic RR
Wine pairing dinner Wine Country Inn
Colorado National Monument
Georgetown Loop Scenic RR
Air Force Academy (if available)
Penrose Heritage Museum (if available)
Pikes Peak Cog RR
Sixteen Meals

Lodging:

Embassy Suites, Denver, 1 night Wine Country Inn, Palisade, 2 nights Strater Hotel, Durango, 2 nights Holiday Inn Express, Alamosa, 1 night Cliff House at Pikes Peak, 2 nights

Level of Difficulty: 3 out of 5. Most morning departures of 8:00 am, usually done by 5 pm.

Price Includes:

Roundtrip Group Transfer (Mundelein/ORD)

Deluxe Motorcoach Transportation

8 Nights Deluxe Hotel Accommodations

16 Meals

Tour Gratuities (including Driver & Escorts)

Luggage Handling at all hotels

Fully Escorted Tour

All Attractions, Tours and Admissions

Souvenir Photo Book of Tour

Optional Travel Protection (Highly Recommended)

For Registration Contact: Nadine Mihaljevic 847-902-8064 <u>destinationswithnadine@gmail.com</u>

\$3998 per person dbl (includes air) \$4698 per person sgl (includes air)

DWN reserves the right to make itinerary change

Day One – Arrive in Denver, The Embassy Suites Hotel

Welcome to Denver, Colorado, the "Mile High City." A welcome reception will be followed by a get-acquainted dinner with your fellow travelers hosted by Mark Warther. (*Dinner Included*)

Day Two - Palisade, Co. Two night stay at Wine Country Inn

This morning we experience the "Georgetown Loop Railroad". This railroad connected the thriving mining towns of Georgetown and Silver Plume with horseshoe curves, grades of up to 4%, and four bridges across Clear Creek, including the massive Devil's Gate High Bridge. Tonight we will experience a winemaker's dinner at the award winning Wine Country Inn, which is set amid acres of vineyards. (*Breakfast and Dinner included*)

Day Three - Palisade, Co. Wine Country Inn

Today we visit the "Colorado National Monument" where a special evening awaits us, an outdoor sunset dinner served on the rim of the canyon, with the most breath takings views of the west. (*Breakfast and Dinner Included*)

Day Four -Durango, Co. Two night stay at the famous "Strater Hotel Durango"

This morning we depart for the high country. The San Juan Mountains are a rugged mountain range in southwestern Colorado which is home to the "Durango & Silverton Scenic RR". This railroad has been voted one of the "Top Three Most Exciting Train Journeys in the World" by the Society of American Travel Writers. This amazing train winds through spectacular & breathtaking canyons in the remote wilderness of the two-million acre San Juan National Forest for an unforgettable adventure. Dinner is at the famous Palace restaurant. (*Breakfast and Dinner Included*)

Day Five - Strater Hotel Durango

Today is for Durango. From local history and railroad museums to the ancient cliff dwellings of Mesa Verde National Park, Durango is truly where the old west survived, and the new thrives. Steeped in history as Durango's most prominent downtown landmark, the Historic Strater is our place for dinner. (*Breakfast and Dinner Included*)

Day Six - Alamosa, Co. Holiday Inn Express

Today's adventure includes lunch on the mountain as we chug along America's highest and longest narrow gauge railroad, the "Cumbres & Toltec". The scenic journey unfolds as soon as the train, pulled by its powerful locomotive, leaves the Chama, Station. In just moments, the gradual climb into the mountains begins and another day of memories is born.

(Breakfast and Lunch Included)

Day Seven – Colorado springs. Two night stay at the Cliff House

Today we visit the stunning Garden of the Gods, and this afternoon we check into the "Cliff House", a "Four Diamonds" Historic Country Inn at the base of Pikes Peak. The afternoon is yours to enjoy and also shop in Manitou Springs. (*Breakfast and Dinner Included*)

Day Eight - Colorado Springs. Cliff House

Today is our last great rail experience on board the "Pikes Peak Cog Railroad". A trip up "America's Mountain" is certainly a bucket list experience, and you will discover what inspired "Kathryn Lee Bates" to write "America the Beautiful". Also included is a trip to either the U.S Air Force Academy or the Penrose Heritage Museum depending on availability. **Breakfast & Lunch Included**

Day Nine – Transfers to the airport and enjoy your trip home! (Breakfast Included)