



**GIPPSLAND  
TRAVEL**

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# **WEST COAST USA NATIONAL PARKS**

**2<sup>ND</sup> TO 25<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2023**

**PERSONALLY ESCORTED BY JACQUEY TURNER**



**This tour heads to the west coast where you'll find  
towering redwoods, mighty waterfalls and  
dramatic vistas.**

**From canyons to lakes, majestic mountains and  
beautiful beaches, from sightseeing to wildlife  
watching, there's a lot to discover while travelling  
through the National Parks of Western USA.**

Gippsland Travel Centre Pty. Ltd. ABN 70 065 385 337  
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## WEST COAST USA NATIONAL PARKS – SEPTEMBER 2023

**Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> September**

**MELBOURNE – SEATTLE**

**(WD)**

We shall have a morning departure from Gippsland to Melbourne for our flight to Seattle. On arrival, we shall be met and transferred to the KIMPTON MONACO HOTEL, or similar, for the next four nights.

**Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> – Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> September**

**SEATTLE, Washington**

**(BBBBD)**

Seattle is nicknamed The Emerald City. The city is a damp green gem, with an abundance of evergreen trees throughout, and spectacular views of the Cascade mountains to the east and the Olympic mountains to the west. The cultural and business centre of the Pacific Northwest, the city and its surrounding areas are the home to many major corporations such as Boeing, Microsoft, Amazon, Costco, Nintendo of America, Starbucks plus the University of Washington, as well as a vibrant arts and music scene and an excellent park system.

During our time in Seattle, we shall explore far and wide, visiting many highlights such as Pike's Market, and the Space Needle to experience a fantastic view of Seattle. Highlights will be Boeing Backstage Pass, a harbour cruise and Beneath The Streets Underground History Tour.

Along with our Seattle City Tour, we will spend time on day trips to Olympic National Park, encompassing nearly a million acres, the park protects a vast wilderness, thousands of years of human history and to Mt. Rainier, the most glaciated peak in the contiguous U.S.A., spawning five major rivers.

**ACCOMMODATION:**

**KIMPTON MONACO, or similar, for 4 night stay**



**Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> September**

**CANNON BEACH, Oregon**

**(BD)**

We depart Seattle after breakfast and cross the Columbia River and spend some time in the small town of Astoria. We shall see some spectacular views of the Columbia River while we enjoy a tour on the Astoria Riverfront Trolley before some free time for lunch.

In the afternoon we head to Cannon Beach, a famous, quaint small town with beautiful art galleries, boutiques and bookshops to explore. It is commonly recognized as one of the best beaches in Oregon and is most famous for towering Haystack Rock, a seasonal haven for tufted puffins and Hug Point waterfall has sea caves.

**ACCOMMODATION:**

**SURFSAND RESORT, or similar, for overnight stay**



## WEST COAST USA NATIONAL PARKS – SEPTEMBER 2023

**Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> – Friday 8<sup>th</sup> September**

**PORTLAND, Oregon**

**(BBD)**

Today we leave the coast and head to Portland, "the City of Roses", the largest city in Oregon and the second largest city in the Pacific Northwest after Seattle. On our first night we shall enjoy a dinner cruise. There is plenty to see during our time in Portland; International Rose Test Garden, Pittock Mansion, Pioneer Courthouse Square, Forest Park, Washington Park, Pearl District, Multnomah Falls, Distillery Row and Portland Aerial Tram to name a few.

Mount Hood's volcanic peak is an icon of Oregon and one of the most breathtaking sights in all the West. Our day tour takes us round, and under the mountain, showing all the breathtaking sights the region has to offer. We shall visit the Ski Lift area and take a cable car ride to the mountain peak.

**ACCOMMODATION:**

**KIMPTON RIVER PLACE, or similar, for 2 night stay**



**Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> – Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> September**

**FLORENCE, Oregon**

**(BBD)**

We head down the Oregon Coast to Florence with a stop along the way in Newport, where you can take photos of the spectacular Yaquina Bay Bridge.

Florence is a small city at the mouth of the Siuslaw River, on the Oregon coast. Its vast Sea Lion Caves are home to Steller sea lions. Nearby, trails around the restored 19th-century Heceta Head Lighthouse offer views of seabirds and migrating whales and hopefully we can see a little closer on our Whale Watching Cruise.

Shops and galleries fill the city's Historic Old Town district. Across the river are the towering sand mounds of the Oregon Dunes National Recreation Area.

**ACCOMMODATION:**

**DRIFTWOOD SHORES, or similar, for 2 night stay**



## WEST COAST USA NATIONAL PARKS – SEPTEMBER 2023

**Monday 11<sup>th</sup> – Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> September**

**KLAMATH FALLS, Oregon**

**(BBD)**

We drive south along the coast before heading inland to Klamath Falls. The city itself is in the large Klamath Basin. At the northern end of the city is gorgeous Klamath Lake. The views in Klamath are spectacular, if you look to the south, you can see snow covered Mt. Shasta. The outlying areas of the city are almost completely filled with acres upon acres of farm land.

We shall have a full day trip exploring the marvellous sights of the Crater Lake National Park in the Cascade Mountains of southern Oregon. It's known for its namesake Crater Lake, formed by the now-collapsed volcano, Mount Mazama.

**ACCOMMODATION:** [RUNNING Y RESORT, or similar, for 2 night stay](#)

**Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> – Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> September** **SHASTA LAKE, California**

**(BBD)**

We cross the border from beautiful Oregon to Shasta Lake in the state of California. Shasta Lake is one of the dominant features in Northern California.

We will be able to see the lake from Antlers Bridge and the Pit River Bridge. We shall explore inside the Shasta Lake Caverns and cruise the dam.

Soaring to 14,179 feet high, Mt. Shasta acts as a totem from almost anywhere in the northern part of the state. And while some mountains climb gradually, this one rises from surrounding flatlands with such towering, snow-capped majesty that it seems almost unreal.

We shall venture to the Lassen Volcanic National Park on a full day tour. It's rich in hydrothermal sites like Bumpass Hell, with its acres of bubbling mud pots. The summit of Lassen Peak Volcano offers views over the surrounding wilderness. Nearby, the Devastated Area is littered with lava rocks from its last eruption. We also visit the historic Loomis Museum and Visitor Centre.

**ACCOMMODATION:** [MT SHASTA RESORT, or similar, for 2 night stay](#)



**Friday 15<sup>th</sup> September**

**ARCATA, California**

**(BD)**

This morning we head west to the California coast through Arcata to the Redwood National Park. Most people know Redwood as home to the tallest trees on Earth. But the Parks also protect vast prairies, oak woodlands, wild rivers, and 40 miles of rugged coastline.

There will be time for a picnic lunch and a visit to the Kuchel Visitor Centre.



## WEST COAST USA NATIONAL PARKS – SEPTEMBER 2023



There will be time to walk along the Lady Bird Johnson Grove and Tall Tree Grove before we head south to overnight in Arcata where we can visit The Arcata Marsh & Wildlife Sanctuary which offers quiet trails and superb birdwatching.

**ACCOMMODATION:** [RAMADA BY WYNDHAM ARCATA, or similar, for overnight stay](#)

**Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> – Monday 18<sup>th</sup> September** **NAPA VALLEY, California** **(BBBLDD)**

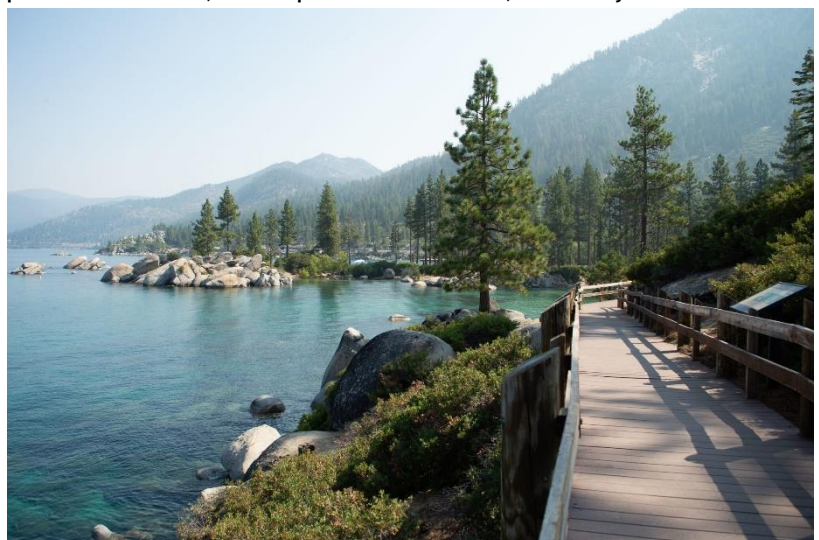
We have a full day drive today, along the Californian Coast and then heading inland to Sonoma in the Napa Valley. Napa County is north of San Francisco. It's known for hundreds of hillside vineyards in the Napa Valley wine region. In the city of Napa, Oxbow Public Market features regional gourmet food. During our time in the Napa Valley, we shall enjoy a lunch on The Napa Valley Wine Train, a vintage locomotive and traveling restaurant that runs through the valley. We shall also sample some local products on a full day wine tour and learn about the Spanish Mission System that laid the foundation for grape growing and wine production in California.

**ACCOMMODATION:** [THE LODGE AT SONOMA, or similar, for 3 night stay](#)

**Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> September** **LAKE TAHOE, Nevada** **(BD)**

On our drive to Lake Tahoe, we shall stop in Sacramento, the capital of California, for a city tour. We continue on to Lake Tahoe, a large freshwater lake in the Sierra Nevada Mountains, straddling the border of California and Nevada. It's known for its beaches and ski resorts.

On the southwest shore, Emerald Bay State Park contains the 1929 Nordic-style mansion Vikingsholm. Along the lake's northeast side, Lake Tahoe Nevada State Park includes Sand Harbor Beach and Spooner Lake, a gateway to the long-distance Tahoe Rim Trail.



We shall also experience one of the greatest views of Lake Tahoe with a Scenic Gondola Ride.

**ACCOMMODATION:** [LAKE TAHOE RESORT, or similar, for an overnight stay](#)



## WEST COAST USA NATIONAL PARKS – SEPTEMBER 2023



**Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> – Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> September**    **YOSEMITE, California**

**(BBD)**

We travel south on an unforgettable California road trip that takes us from the mesmerizing blue waters of Lake Tahoe to the raging waterfalls of Yosemite. With so much to see in Yosemite we shall have a full day exploring Yosemite National Park's incredible natural beauty, iconic vistas, waterfalls, and towering granite cliffs.

Yosemite National Park is famed for its giant, ancient sequoia trees, and for Tunnel View, the iconic vista of towering Bridalveil Fall and the granite cliffs of El Capitan and Half Dome. Not only will we take in the breathtaking beauty, we shall learn about the history, wildlife and geology of Yosemite Valley's most famous sights.

**ACCOMMODATION:**                      [OAKHURST INN, or similar, for 2 night stay](#)

**Friday, 22<sup>nd</sup> September**

**MONTEREY, California**

**(BFD)**

Today we head back to the California coast to Monterey for our last night of the tour. Monterey is a city on California's rugged central coast. Its Cannery Row, one-time centre of the sardine-packing industry, was immortalized by novelist John Steinbeck. Today, it's a popular strip of gift shops, seafood restaurants and bars in converted factories. Also famous is Monterey Bay Aquarium, with thousands of marine animals and plants on display in underwater and interactive exhibits.

We shall also venture just a little further south to the charming village of Carmel-By-The-Sea. We can wander through storied streets to discover unique boutiques, world-renowned local art galleries, adorable inns and hotels.

Tonight, we can reminisce about all that we have seen, at our Farewell Dinner at a local restaurant.

**ACCOMMODATION:**                      [HOTEL ABREGO, or similar, for overnight stay](#)





## WEST COAST USA NATIONAL PARKS – SEPTEMBER 2023



**Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> September**

**MONTEREY – SAN FRANCISCO AIRPORT**

**(B)**

Our National Parks adventure has come to an end and this morning, we will travel north to the San Francisco Airport for our flight back to Melbourne.

**Monday, 25<sup>th</sup> September**

**Arrive MELBOURNE**

**(in flight meal)**

We arrive in Melbourne in the early morning and shall be transferred back to Gippsland by coach.



### USA BASED TOUR DIRECTOR

Bill Eakins grew up on the East Coast (Delaware) and has been a tour director for over 15 years. In addition to travel directing, he also works for a motorcycle mapping company, producing printed maps for motorcycle touring and guides motorcycle tours.

An avid hiker & bicyclist he always wants to know what's over the next hill. On a personal note, Bill is married and has a beautiful 15-year-old daughter, Maya.

*"I'm excited to be showing your group some awesome places in this great country."*

### YOUR TOUR LEADER

Jacquey Turner is a highly-experienced travel agent and tour leader with more than 36 years' industry experience.

Jacquey's attention to detail and personal care ensure that everyone travelling in her group will have a most enjoyable holiday experience.



## HIGHLIGHTS

- Olympic National Park
- Mount Rainier National Park
  - Seattle Harbour Cruise
- Space Needle Observation Deck
- Beneath The Streets Underground Tour
  - Boeing Backstage Tour
  - Portland Aerial Tramway
    - Mount Hood, Oregon
- Cable Car to Mountain Peak
  - Sea Lion Caves
  - Whale Watching Cruise
    - Klamath Falls
- Crater Lake National Park
- Lassen Volcanic National Park
  - Shasta Lake & Mt Shasta
  - Historic Loomis Museum
  - Redwood National Park
    - Napa Valley, California
    - Napa Valley Wine Train
- Scenic Gondola Ride over Lake Tahoe
  - Yosemite National Park





# WEST COAST USA NATIONAL PARKS

**Tour costs**                    **\$22,899 per person on a twin share basis**  
**\$ 5,056 Single supplement (limited single rooms)**

- ◆ Upgrade to premium economy or business class – cost on application
- ◆ Extensions and additional arrangements available on request
- ◆ Should you travel on flights other than the group flights, the airfare component will be adjusted.

## PAYMENT DETAILS

<b>Initial deposit</b>	due by Monday, 20 February 2023	\$2000 per person
<b>Second deposit</b>	due by Friday, 14 April 2023	\$2000 per person
<b>Balance of payment</b>	due by Wednesday, 31 May 2023	
<b>Next Information Night:</b> Wednesday, 12 April 2023 6.30pm		

## INCLUSIONS

- Personally escorted throughout entire tour by Jacquey Turner – in the unlikely event that Jacquey is not available to escort all or part of the tour, she will be replaced with a well trained tour escort.
- Melbourne/Seattle and San Francisco/Melbourne economy airfare and taxes
- Coach transfers from Gippsland to Melbourne Airport and return
- 4 & 5 star hotel accommodation in twin or double bedded rooms with private facilities
- All sightseeing and entrance fees as detailed in the itinerary
- Experienced and knowledgeable Local Tour Director from Seattle to San Francisco
- Luxury 56 seat air-conditioned motorcoach with rest room.
- **36 Meals** as per itinerary 22 Breakfasts (B), 2 Lunches (L), 12 Dinners (D)
- Porterage (one suitcase per person)
- **Tipping** of the Tour Director, coach drivers and restaurant staff at included meals
- **Tipping** of local guides
- **Maximum of 22 tour participants** - Minimum 15 participants.



## WEST COAST USA NATIONAL PARKS – SEPTEMBER 2023

### **EXCLUSIONS**

- Travel Insurance. Please note that it is a condition of our tour that all participants have comprehensive travel insurance. All details are available from our office.
- US Visa Waiver-current cost US\$21 per person
- Any meals not included in the itinerary
- Telephone calls, laundry and any expenses of a personal nature

### **SPECIAL NOTES**

- Flight schedules are subject to change.
- The order of the sightseeing may vary depending on local conditions.
- The tour will only operate subject to a minimum of 15 participants. In the unlikely event that minimum numbers are not reached, a full refund of the deposit is applicable.

### **CANCELLATION FEES**

Notice of cancellation must be made in writing to Gippsland Travel Centre.:

Date of Cancellation	Cancellation Fee
21 Feb 2023 to 13 April 2023	\$2000 pp deposit non-refundable
14 April 2023 to 30 May 2023	\$4000 pp non-refundable
31 May 2023 to 2 September 2023	100% non-refundable

Costs based on exchange rates prevailing on 10 February 2023.

## GIPPSLAND TRAVEL ESCORTED TOURS - TERMS & CONDITIONS

### **INTRODUCTION:**

This contract is governed by Gippsland Travel Centre Pty Ltd and all members of the travelling parties as listed on your itinerary.

Gippsland Travel Centre acts as the agent selling and coordinating products on behalf of a third-party travel supplier/s. A separate contract with the supplier/s will apply and will be governed by the supplier's Terms and Conditions. Gippsland Travel cannot guarantee the performance of any third-party supplier/s. Gippsland Travel may receive fees, commissions, gifts or financial incentives from third party supplier/s under this contract.

### **COVID POLICY**

If the tour cannot operate due to COVID-19 border closures and restrictions, the tour will be rescheduled and any funds paid will be transferred to the new tour date.

Gippsland Travel advises you will need to show proof of being fully vaccinated against COVID-19.

You are considered fully vaccinated for air travel to the United States if travel is:

2 weeks (14 days) after your dose of an accepted single-dose vaccine

2 weeks (14 days) after your second dose of an accepted 2-dose series

### **LATE BOOKINGS**

Higher deposit payments are required for late bookings. A guarantee of full payment is required at the time of booking for all bookings received within 4 weeks of departure.

### **GOVERNING LAW**

These booking conditions are governed by the law in force in Victoria, Australia.



# WEST COAST USA NATIONAL PARKS – SEPTEMBER 2023

## FLIGHT SCHEDULES

Airlines schedules are subject to change without notice. Voluntary date changes will incur fees. Gippsland Travel is not liable for delays or disruption of air travel.

## BOOKINGS SOLD ON A SHARE BASIS

Bookings may be accepted on a share room basis on the proviso that the person requesting the share reservation agrees that while every effort will be made to match suitability of the passengers there is no guarantee that a share room can be provided. If a share room is not available at the time of final payment, either the single room supplement will apply, or the cancellation conditions detailed in your itinerary will apply.

## PASSPORT and VISA

A valid passport is required for all international travel.

If you do not hold an Australian passport, you may require a resident return visa. Some countries require a visa to be issued before you depart Australia. Gippsland Travel will advise you of all passport and visa requirements for this tour.

The Australian Government through the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade regularly updates travel advice on various destinations. We recommend that you refer to [www.dfat.gov.au](http://www.dfat.gov.au) for the latest updates before choosing to travel and prior to departure.

## HEALTH & FITNESS

A minimum level of fitness is required to be able to participate on a Gippsland Travel Tour, you are required to at least:

- Be able to walk at least 1 hour on uneven surfaces without the use of any walking aid (walking stick for stability is acceptable)
- Walk up flights of stairs and short, steep hills
- Stand for 20 minutes without needing to sit down, often in hot/humid climates
- Carry your own hand luggage / handle your own suitcase when portage is not supplied eg. at airports.
- Get on and off various modes of transport without assistance, including small boats. Assistance will be offered where necessary.

Passengers must inform us of any medical conditions which may affect your ability to participate in the tour.

At our discretion we can exclude you from a tour or any activity if we consider that you are unable to safely participate in that tour or activity or we consider your participation may place the safety of other guests at risk. You will be requested to supply a letter from your doctor indicating your prescription medication and your reason for taking it, which shall be carried in the event of an emergency. This information will remain confidential and can be supplied in a sealed envelope.

## UNUSED COMPONENTS OF THIS TOUR

We regret refunds will not be given for any unused component of this tour, such as meals, entry fees, accommodation or transfers.

## ITINERARY CHANGES and ITINERARY VARIATIONS

Gippsland Travel reserves the right to amend the hotels, itinerary and excursions if deemed advisable or necessary due to adverse weather conditions, road conditions or other unforeseen circumstances. Any necessary alternative arrangements will be made to a similar standard. Occasionally circumstances beyond the control of Gippsland Travel make it necessary to change airlines, hotels or amendments to daily activities. We will inform you of any changes as soon as they occur.

## WEST COAST USA NATIONAL PARKS – SEPTEMBER 2023

### GENERAL CONDUCT

Gippsland Travel reserves the right to remove a traveller from a tour if they are acting in a way that interferes with the general operation of the tour or compromises the general enjoyment of the tour by other travellers in any way

### FORCE MAJEURE:

Force Majeure means the occurrence of an event that is beyond Gippsland Travel's reasonable control and which could not have been reasonably prevented by Gippsland Travel. Force majeure includes, but is not limited to: acts of God, accident, riots, war, terrorist act, epidemic, pandemic, quarantine, outbreaks of infectious disease or any other public health crisis, civil commotion, breakdown of communication facilities, natural catastrophes and natural disasters (including but not limited to flooding, fire, earthquake, landslide), adverse weather conditions, high or low water levels; government directed travel restrictions or omissions, changes in laws or regulations, national strikes, explosion, generalised lack of availability of raw materials or energy, nuclear or other industrial accident causing environmental pollution or

contamination; change in law, meaning, enactment, amendment (including repeal) in the law or administration of any law in Australia or any jurisdiction or territory relevant to the booking contract, which includes changes in statute, regulation, determination, by-law, declaration, licence and the common law as applicable from time to time.

For the avoidance of doubt, Force Majeure shall not include (a) financial distress nor inability of either party to make a profit or avoid a financial loss, (b) changes in market prices or conditions, or (c) a party's financial inability to perform its obligations hereunder.

In the event that a Force Majeure is declared, the customer will be bound by the third-party supplier/s Terms and Conditions, if applicable.

### TERMINATION OF BOOKING CONTRACT OR CHANGE OF TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS DUE TO FORCE MAJEURE

If Gippsland Travel, in its reasonable opinion, considers that any Force Majeure event prevents Gippsland Travel (whether directly or through its employees, contractors, subcontractors and agents) from lawfully or safely providing any products or services subject of the booking contract with you, Gippsland Travel may immediately by written notice; (a) terminate the booking contract (in whole or part of); or (b) change your travel arrangements as reasonably practicable to ensure your safety and invoice for any additional costs.

If you are eligible for a refund once a booking has been cancelled, the balance less any non-refundable amounts will be forwarded to you once received by Gippsland Travel from the third-party supplier/s.

Gippsland Travel is not responsible for any delays of refunds from the third-party supplier/s. Refunds from third party supplier/s can take in excess of 6 weeks. Refunds will be processed as per original form of payment. Travel insurance policies may provide cover for cancellation fees subject to their terms and conditions.

### LIMITATION OF LIABILITY:

Subject to Australian Consumer Law, Gippsland Travel does not accept any liability in contract, tort or otherwise for any injury, damage, loss, delay, additional expense or inconvenience caused by a third-party supplier/s over who we have no direct control. Gippsland Travel is not liable for Force Majeure or any other event which is beyond our control or which is not preventable by us.