

GRAND CANYON, ALBUQUERQUE BALLOONS

9 Day Rail/Motorcoach Tour

Oct. 1-9

\$1639 Double

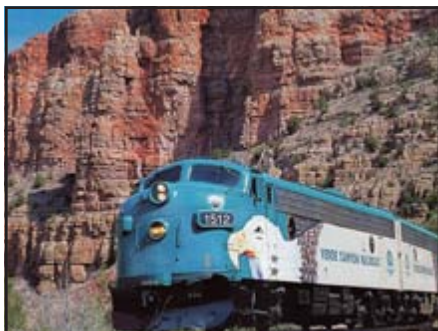
\$1619 Triple

\$2039 Single

Amtrak Coach Seat* Chicago-Flagstaff,
Albuquerque-Chicago
Verde Canyon Railroad
Grand Canyon National Park South Rim
Albuquerque Balloon Fiesta
2 Launch Events and Glowdeo
Albuquerque Old Town, Santa Fe Tour
Petrified Forest, Painted Desert
10 Meals, Earn \$45 "Travchecks"

\$300 per person due at booking. Final payment due Aug. 16 after which cancellation fees apply.

Days 1-2: Southwest Chief. Home pickups take us to Chicago Union Station for the afternoon departure of Amtrak's westbound *Southwest Chief*. A reclining coach seat* is yours for the night. The diner offers full meals, or buy snacks in the Sightseer Lounge as Southwest scenery rolls by. After mid-evening arrival at Flagstaff, AZ, on day two we transfer to the new Drury Hotel and unpack for three nights.



Day 3: Verde Canyon Railroad. Enjoy a continental breakfast before we ride through Oak Creek Canyon to red rocks of Sedona, AZ. At Clarkdale, we board the Verde Canyon Railroad. This train includes open-air cars for viewing sheer rock walls and wildlife. Tonight we enjoy dinner at a local restaurant on Route 66. (CB,D)

Day 4: Grand Canyon! After the hotel's breakfast we ride to Grand Canyon National Park. At South Rim Village we have free time for gazing ten miles across and 4,500 feet down. Explore shops and historic buildings or stroll the nature trails. Lunch is on your own before our motorcoach tour along the South Rim. Return to Flagstaff via the Cameron Trading Post for dinner. (CB,D)

Day 5: Petrified Forest, Albuquerque. We leave Flagstaff after breakfast and head east to Petrified Forest National Park with a scenic drive through the Painted Desert. In Albuquerque's historic Old Town we unpack for three nights at the Rio Grande Inn, where we also have dinner. (CB,D)

Day 6: Balloon Fiesta, Santa Fe. It's up and out early for the pre-dawn glowing kaleidoscope of our first hot air balloon ascension. Later we head to Santa Fe to see sights including the Loretto Chapel and the Palace of the Governors. After free time on the Plaza, we return to Albuquerque for a free evening in the Historic District. (B,L)

Day 7: Balloon Fiesta, Albuquerque. Hot air balloons come in many different shapes and we see them at this morning's unique liftoff. A guided tour of Albuquerque precedes an evening at the Fiesta's Glowdeo, a fascinating forest of glowing, tethered balloons. (B)

Days 8-9: Southwest Chief. Breakfast is included at the hotel before a mid-morning transfer to Albuquerque's new station for Amtrak's eastbound *Southwest Chief* and the scheduled 25-hour ride back to Union Station then transfers home. (B)

* Sleeping car private rooms are offered at additional cost and include meals on Amtrak. Call Mid-America for details.

WEST VIRGINIA FALL RAILROADING

7 Day Rail/Motorcoach Tour

Oct. 5-11

\$1489 Double

\$1459 Triple

\$1719 Single

Amtrak Coach Seat* Chicago-White Sulphur
Springs, Cumberland-Chicago
National Radio Astronomy Observatory
Deluxe Motorcoach Transportation in West Virginia
5 Excursion Train Rides: *Durbin Rocket*,
Salamander II, Cass Scenic Railroad, *Potomac
Eagle*, Western Maryland Scenic Railroad
11 Meals, Earn \$35 "Travchecks"

\$300 per person due at booking. Final payment due Aug. 22 after which cancellation fees apply.

Day 1: Cardinal. Home pickups take us to Chicago Union Station for the late afternoon departure of Amtrak's eastbound *Cardinal*. Your reclining coach seat* has a leg rest, foot rest and folding tray table. The cafe car is open for supper on your own.

Day 2: New River Gorge. As the train rolls through the Appalachians, the cafe sells breakfast and snacks. Scenic highlight is the ride through the New River Gorge. On arrival at White Sulphur Springs, WV, we board our motorcoach to the Inn at Snowshoe, WV, for two nights' lodging and a get-acquainted dinner. (D)

Day 3: Durbin Rocket, Cheat Mountain Salamander. This morning we ride the *Durbin Rocket* behind its 97-year-old steam engine. After lunch in the Durbin Depot we catch the *Salamander II* antique railcar. It goes through Cheat Mountain Tunnel then follows the river valley. We dine at the Rail Yard Restaurant in Elkins then enjoy great family entertainment at the American Mountain Theater. (B,L,D)

Day 4: Cass Scenic Railroad, NARO. After breakfast we visit the National Radio Astronomy Observatory before reaching the Cass Railroad State Park. Restored to its early 1900's appearance, the park is a working museum of lumber railroading. Board the open air Cass Scenic Railroad for the ride behind a Shay steam locomotive. Our lodging for the next two nights is the Holiday Inn Cumberland, MD, by the busy CSX train tracks. Dinner tonight is at a Cumberland restaurant. (B,D)

Day 5: Potomac Eagle. Enjoy breakfast before heading to Romney, WV, to board the *Potomac Eagle*. This diesel-powered, three-hour excursion train runs through the wilderness along the Potomac River South Branch. The Penn Alps Restaurant hosts our farewell dinner this evening. (B,L,D)

Day 6: Western Maryland Scenic Railroad. After breakfast we see the C&O Canal Museum in Cumberland's restored Western Maryland Railway Station. From that station, catch the Western Maryland Scenic Railway up into the Allegheny Mountains. At the end of the line in Frostburg, MD, enjoy lunch in a restored dining car. Back aboard the motorcoach, we return to Ridgeley, MD, for a tour of the Western Maryland's maintenance shops. This evening at Cumberland, we board Amtrak's westbound *Capitol Limited* Superliner for the overnight ride to Chicago. (B,L)



Day 7: Capitol Home. The *Capitol* has a dining car available for breakfast on your own before a mid-morning Union Station arrival and transfers home.

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