



# COLORADO RAILS & NEW MEXICO ENCHANTMENT ... LET'S GO RIDE THE ROCKIES!

**HISTORIC DURANGO TRAIN, SANTA FE, MESA VERDE, TAOS PUEBLO, GREAT SAND DUNES & MORE!**

**7 DAYS / 6 NIGHTS**

**AUGUST 14 - 20, 2023**

Teddy Roosevelt once described a train journey through Colorado as a "trip that bankrupts the English language!"

You'll find truer words were never spoken as you experience the thrill of riding on the historic Durango to Silverton railway, coupled with the magnificent scenery of the Rocky Mountains! There's something undeniably intriguing about trains — the familiar old whistle with its promise of high adventure, and the gentle rocking on the rails as you travel through colorful canyons and alongside tumbling rivers!

Your tour showcases magical northern New Mexico as well as the most scenic Rocky Mountain roads in southwestern Colorado. Explore the historic mining towns of Durango and Silverton. Gaze in awe at the primitive majesty of the Taos Pueblo and the shifting sands of Sand Dunes National Park. Walk in the footsteps of "The Ancient Ones" at Mesa Verde, descending below the cliffs to dwellings inhabited 1000 years ago. Join TRIPS as we share with you the land that inspired these famous words ...

*O beautiful for spacious skies, for amber waves of grain! For purple mountain majesties, above the fruited plain!*

## Itinerary

### **August 14, 2023 - Welcome to New Mexico - Santa Fe!**

Your journey to the "**Land of Enchantment**" begins today as you arrive in beautiful **Albuquerque** - then you're off and away to experience the marvels of **Santa Fe**! Named by Travel and Leisure as the #1 U.S. Cultural Getaway, Santa Fe is the **oldest capital city in North America** and today it's a magical, exuberant place that celebrates its long, unique past. Of course, Santa Fe is **world-famous for its thriving art scene**, so you'll see galleries galore with art spilling out into yards and moving sculptures fueled by the wind. You'll also find there are five museums, walking tours, and relaxing spas. And with plenty of shopping all around, whether you're searching for cowboy boots or concho belts, salsa or turquoise jewelry, you'll find it and so much more! After checking in to the renowned **Inn of the Governors**, prepare to enjoy your **welcome dinner** nearby in the historic **Santa Fe Plaza**!

Overnight: Santa Fe - Inn of the Governors

(D)

### **August 15, 2023 - Santa Fe, Taos Pueblo + Great Sand Dunes!**

Enjoy breakfast at the Inn before check-out, then your guided tour of **Santa Fe** that includes the famed 1878 **Loretto Chapel** and its "miraculous" spiral staircase! Afterward you're off to visit spellbinding **Taos Pueblo**, the only living Native American community designated both a **World Heritage Site by UNESCO** and a National Historic Landmark, and whose multi-story adobe buildings have been **continuously inhabited for over 1,000 years!** The main part of the present buildings were most likely built between 1000 and 1450 A.D., and appeared much as they do today when the first Spanish explorers arrived in 1540. The Pueblo is made entirely of adobe - earth mixed with water and

straw, then either poured into forms or made into sun-dried bricks. The walls are frequently several feet thick, and continuously maintained by re-plastering with thin layers of mud. The Pueblo is actually many individual homes, built side-by-side and in layers, with common walls but no connecting doorways. In earlier days there were no doors or windows, so entry was gained only from the top. After this, you'll head up to Colorado with lunch provided along the way. Here you'll visit **Great Sand Dunes National Park**, Colorado's very own sandbox - of epic proportions! Covering more than 30 square miles, these are the highest mountains of sand in North America, with the **tallest dunes towering at 750 feet!** These continuously shifting golden sands sit at the foot of the **Sangre de Cristo Mountains**, and are truly an unexpected delight! Later today you'll travel to picturesque **Salida**, known as the "**Heart of the Rockies**," to check in for the night with your dinner included.

Overnight: Salida - Gateway Inn

(B/L/D)

### **August 16, 2023 - Crested Butte, Rocky Mtn. Vistas & Durango!**

This morning after your breakfast and checkout, you'll leave Salida with views of 14,000-foot peaks to climb over **Monarch Pass**, at an elevation of 11,312 on the Continental Divide, to reach **Crested Butte**. Once bustling with coal and silver miners, Crested Butte sits in an **alpine meadow surrounded by majestic peaks** and is host to festivals showcasing art, music, mountain biking, film and wildflowers. Here at the "**Last Great Colorado Ski Town**," you can explore historic Elk Avenue with many fun choices for shopping and lunch in this magical Old West setting. You'll also travel through the highly scenic Rocky Mountain towns of **Gunnison, Montrose** and **Ouray**. Afterward, you'll set off for the historic old west railroad town of **Durango**.

Downtown Durango is a Nationally Registered Historic District and home to colorful brewpubs, art galleries, museums and shops. This afternoon you'll check in to your hotel where you may dine nearby, or perhaps stroll down Main Street to enjoy dinner on your own tonight.

Overnight: Downtown Durango Hotel (B)

#### **August 17, 2023 - Spectacular Mesa Verde and more Durango!**

Following your hotel breakfast and check-out, you'll travel to amazing **Mesa Verde**, the **ancestral home to Pueblo people for over 700 years** and one of America's greatest wonders. It's the **nation's largest archeological preserve** with an astounding 600 cliff dwellings, ranging from a single room to villages that housed more than 150! At the Visitors Center you'll get an introduction to the culture of the **"Ancient Ones"** before taking a guided tour through some of the most famous ruins. In the late 1190s, after living on the mesa top for six centuries, many Pueblos began moving down into **pueblos they built right beneath Mesa Verde's overhanging cliffs!** Still farming up on the mesa tops, they resided in these amazing cliff dwellings for nearly a century before migrating south to New Mexico and Arizona. After your full day exploring incredible **Mesa Verde**, you'll return to your hotel in colorful **Durango**, and then enjoy tonight's included dinner.

Overnight: Downtown Durango Hotel (B/D)

#### **August 18, 2023 - All Aboard to Silverton!**

After your breakfast at the hotel, it's time to ride the historic **Durango and Silverton Narrow Gauge Railroad**, in continuous operation since 1882! Built to haul silver and gold ore from the **San Juan Mountains**, passengers soon realized what was truly precious were the views. Your 45 mile journey along the **Animas River** boasts some of **Colorado's most striking canyon scenery**, as your steam engine train crosses the river

five times with spectacular vistas on both sides. You'll pass through fertile farm lands, old stagecoach roads and mining camps along the way. On arrival in **Silverton**, you'll have time for lunch on your own as well as a bit of shopping and roaming around its quaint downtown boutiques and vintage buildings. Built in the late 1800's, Silverton luckily never experienced a major fire so most of the structures from that era are still standing! Later on you'll travel back to **Durango** along the spectacular **"million dollar highway,"** with great views of **crystal lakes** and **rugged peaks rising over 14,000 feet**, then return to your hotel with tonight's dinner on your own.

Overnight: Downtown Durango Hotel (B)

#### **August 19, 2023 - Native Lands, Museums and Albuquerque!**

This morning after your hotel breakfast and check-out, you'll bid farewell to Colorado, then learn about the three main **Native groups of New Mexico** as you travel through **Navajo, Apache and Pueblo** lands on the way to **Albuquerque** in time for lunch. This afternoon, you'll visit the **Indian Pueblo Cultural Center**, the gateway to the 19 Pueblos of New Mexico, to visit their museum and enjoy a dance performance. In **Old Town Albuquerque**, you'll see the historic Plaza and visit the **Albuquerque Museum of Art and History**, before checking in to your hotel. Your **New Mexico farewell dinner** tonight will be at a sprawling hacienda with enormous cottonwoods!

Overnight: Albuquerque - Drury Inn (B/D)

#### **August 20, 2023 - Homeward Bound!**

Following your hotel breakfast, you'll transfer to the Albuquerque airport for your flight home. **Memories of your enchanted days in Colorado and New Mexico will be with you for years to come!** (B)

**\*\*Please note that itineraries are subject to change.**

#### **Inclusions**

- Roundtrip airport transfers including gratuities
- Roundtrip airfare to Albuquerque (checked baggage fees are not included)
- 6 nights lodging in Santa Fe, Salida, Durango and Albuquerque
- Breakfast daily, 4 dinners and 1 lunch
- Tickets for the Durango and Silverton Narrow Gauge Railroad and Indian Pueblo Cultural Center
- All sightseeing and admissions as listed in the detailed itinerary including Taos Pueblo, Great Sand Dunes National Park and Mesa Verde National Park
- Private, deluxe motor coach throughout your tour
- Tour Guide/Director throughout your tour
- TRIPS ticket wallet and luggage tags
- Portage of 1 suitcase per person
- All government taxes and fees

Be prepared for cooler weather and higher altitudes, often above 7,000 feet.

## **COLORADO RAILS & NEW MEXICO ENCHANTMENT!**



# **\$4,598.00**



PER PERSON / DOUBLE OCCUPANCY

**SINGLE SUPPLEMENT IS AN ADDITIONAL \$998.00**

**Trip cancellation/interruption Travel Protection is available and recommended.**

Check with your club representative for details.

#### **Call today to reserve your space!!!**

Reservations for **"Colorado Rails & New Mexico Enchantment!"** are accepted on a first come/first served basis.

An initial **\$650.00** deposit is required to hold space on this tour.

This deposit is fully refundable up to May 5, 2023. **Final payment is due in the TRIPS office on or before May 5, 2023.**

**Therefore, please make sure that payment is submitted to your club director at least 10 days prior to this date.**

100% non-refundable on May 5, 2023.

Make checks payable to **First State Bank / Travel and Leisure Club**

c/o Brook McCarty - Penny James

PO Box 506 / Waynesboro, MS 39367

(601) 671-2050 - Brook McCarty or Penny James

CST # 2057913-10

The taxes, fuel surcharges, and other fees imposed by airlines and cruise lines have been included in the cost of your tour as of printing on June 10, 2022. Any increases in these fees or baggage fees imposed by any air carriers or cruise lines are the responsibility of the individual passenger. TRIPS makes arrangements with airlines, hotels and other independent parties to provide travel services you purchase. We do not own or operate any of the accommodation, transport or other facilities used in connection with our programs. We therefore cannot accept liability for negligence of the staff of these organizations. These parties are independent suppliers over whom we have no direct control. TRIPS is not liable in the event of any failure by any person or company to render any transportation, accommodation or other travel service provided on tours, or for expenses incurred due to delays caused by weather, strikes, war, civil disturbances, natural disasters, flight delays, government actions, mechanical failures or any acts of God. TRIPS cannot assume any responsibility for flight delays, cancellations or missed connections and is not liable for any expenses or consequences resulting therefrom, and such expenses are to be borne by the traveler. Specific airline Conditions of Carriage will apply. These conditions are the subject of International Agreements and may limit or exclude liability. The participant waives any claim against TRIPS for any damage to, or loss of, property or injury to, or death of, due to any act or negligence of any airlines, surface transportation companies, hotels or any person rendering any of the services or accommodations included. TRIPS cannot be held responsible for any claims, losses, damages for delay of baggage or other properties, inconvenience, loss of enjoyment, upset and disappointment, distress or frustrations, whether physical or mental, resulting from the act or omission of any party providing services. The participant assumes and understands that all travel has inherent risk that may result in injury or death and that participation in activities, including but not limited to: driving, hiking, walking, touring, visiting archaeological sites, walking on uneven surfaces, riding on rough roads, rafting, boating, riding in helicopters, on trains, boats, swimming, horseback and any other activities. The information contained in this brochure and online has been compiled with all reasonable care, is accurate to the best of our knowledge and is given in good faith. All services are subject to the laws of the countries in which services are rendered. Payment for any TRIPS tour shall constitute consent to all provisions in these Terms & Conditions and is binding on all travel participants.



## Travel & Leisure Club

### Colorado Rails & New Mexico Enchantment

Please complete and return with your \$650 **per person** deposit.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**(MUST BE EXACTLY AS IT IS ON YOUR DRIVER'S LICENSE THAT WILL BE USED FOR THIS TRIP.)**

**Any charges by airline for name changes will be the responsibility of the passenger.**

Name on Badge: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (Home): \_\_\_\_\_ (Work): \_\_\_\_\_ (Cell): \_\_\_\_\_

I am a Travel and Leisure Club Member (Circle one)      YES      NO

#### Travel Companion Information

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Lodging preference: \_\_ Double      \_\_ Single

Emergency Contact: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please note if your birthday or anniversary occur during the tour:**

Occasion: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of celebration: \_\_\_\_\_

**Group Seating on Flights: Each air carrier has a different policy for group seating. Many times, group seats are allocated in blocks by the airline. In some instances, seats are not allocated at all in advance of travel. We understand that each passenger has personal preferences in regards to airline seating. However, aircraft group seating is dictated exclusively by each carrier and we are not permitted to request any special seating in regards to group travel. Our goal is to provide a travel experience that exceeds your expectations. However, the seating policies of the air carriers are beyond our control.**

**Travel Protection: ( ) Yes, I wish to purchase Travel Protection ( ) No, I decline Travel Protection**

**PLEASE NOTE:** Due to new rules by the insurance company, the **decision** to opt in for Travel Protection is required at the time of deposit. Trips will handle notifying TripAssure on your behalf. If you decide to take Travel Protection at any later date, any pre-existing conditions will not be covered. If you accept Travel Protection at time of sign-up, your deposit will still be totally refundable until the day of final payment.

**SIGNATURE REQUIRED:** I have read, received a copy of, understand, and accept the terms and conditions stated in the Operator/Participant Agreement located on the specific tour brochure.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Deposit Amount: \_\_\_\_\_ Date Received: \_\_\_\_\_

Reservations can only be confirmed when full deposit amount and insurance decision has been received.