

PACIFIC COAST ADVENTURE

Featuring:

Yosemite National Park, San Francisco, Pacific Coast Highway, Redwood National Park, Columbia River Gorge, Multnomah Falls, Mt. St. Helens Visitor Center, Seattle Tour, Ferry to Victoria, Butchart Gardens, Badlands National Park

July 30 – August 16, 2012

- Days 1-4 Travel to **Yosemite National Park**.
- Day 5 Our tour takes us to **Yosemite Valley**, where flat floor contrasts with nearly vertical granite walls over which pour several major waterfalls. In addition to the valley, Yosemite includes an extensive, high mountain wilderness of mountain peaks, rivers and groves of giant sequoia trees.
- Day 6 Our journey takes us high into the awesome **Sierra Nevada Mountains** then west from the foothills of this gold country across the fertile **San Joaquin Valley to San Francisco** for a two night stay. The evening is free for you to enjoy some of the favorite sights.
- Day 7 **San Francisco City tour – Twin Peaks, Seal rocks, Golden Gate Bridge, Chinatown, Fisherman’s Wharf, Alcatraz**. The heart of a great Pacific empire, San Francisco is the true capital of the West from the **Bay Bridge and Treasure Island** to the far side of the Golden Gate Bridge, the most beautiful bridge in the world, our city tour this morning will see it all. We’ll stop on top of Twin Peaks for a stunning view of the bay area, and then visit Vista Point, Cliff House and Seal Rocks. We catch a boat out to **“The Rock”**, Alcatraz, once home to such outlaws as Al Capone, “Machine Gun” Kelly, and public enemy #1 Robert Stroud, known as the “Birdman of Alcatraz.
- Day 8 **Avenue of the Giants, Eureka, Dinner at Samoa Cookhouse**. “I left my heart in San Francisco”. You’ll be singing and humming this song as we leave this fascinating city. Today we proceed north through redwood forests traveling the 33 miles of scenic “Avenue of the Giants” on the way to Eureka. We make a picture stop at the **Carson Mansion**, former estate of pioneer lumberman William Carson. One of the most written about and photographed Victorian houses in California, and perhaps in the United States, the Carson Mansion epitomizes the range of possibilities for eclectic design expression that created this American style of architecture. California’s motto is “Eureka” ... I found it! We spend the night in **Eureka**, the port for the largest fishing fleet north of San Francisco Bay.
- Day 9 **Redwood National Park, Coos Bay**. As we travel north along the rugged Pacific coast we will make picture stops along the way. Stops will be made in Redwood National Park, where the redwood trees are so tall they actually block out the sun from the forest floor. Redwood National park encompasses 110, 232 acres. Within its boundaries are the 34, 780 combined acres of **Del Norte Coast, Jedediah Smith and Prairie Creek Redwoods state parks**. In addition to dense forest of coast redwoods, the park embraces marshland, beaches, rugged coastline, rivers, streams, prairies and oak woodlands. Our destination today is **Coos Bay**, the international port that ranks among the world’s largest wood products exporting centers.

- Day 10 **Portland, Mt. Hood Loop, Columbia River Gorge, Bonneville Dam, Fish locks & ladders, Multnomah Falls, Timberline Lodge.** Today we follow the footsteps of **Lewis and Clark** as we tour the Columbia River Gorge and enjoy an exciting day of touring in the Portland area. On our agenda is the Mt. Hood Loop to the beautiful Columbia River Gorge. We'll see Mt Hood, Oregon's highest peak, dominating the horizon of the forest covered slopes of the Cascade Mountains. We visit Bonnaville Dam and see its fish locks and ladders. In the spring and fall huge runs of salmon, steelhead and other migratory fish use the ladders to continue up stream and spawn. We'll also see spectacular Multnomah Falls, tumbling some 620 feet. After our visit we return to Portland for our overnight.
- Day 11 **Mt St Helens, Seattle, Pike Place Farmer's Market, Space Needle.** Traveling north today we see Mount St Helens. We stop at the Visitors Center to learn the entire story of the eruption and to see a film on this geologically active area. In the spring of 1980 Mount St Helens erupted, blowing the top 1,300 feet off the mountain. We arrive in Seattle and visit Pike Place Farmer's Market, one of the oldest continuously operated markets in the country. Next we enjoy a spectacular view of the city and surrounding area from high atop the Seattle Space Needle. We will be spending three nights in the Seattle Area.
- Day 12 Today we will need our passports. We're going to ferry from **Seattle to Victoria** and visit **Butchart Gardens**. This is the most popular attractions in Victoria, 55 acres of beauty. This is a great place to relax and breathe the wonderful smells, and marvel at the beauty of the flowers. Ferry back to Seattle.
- Day 13 If **Boeing** is offering tours today, we'll do that tour. Also we will have a guide show us the Seattle area. You can choose a slower day or we'll show you much more of this beautiful city.
- Days - 14,15,16,17 & 18 – We journey home from Washington driving through the states of Idaho, Montana, Wyoming, South Dakota, Nebraska, Iowa, and Missouri. Many great stops and a tremendous amount of beautiful scenery on our way home.

If you have an interest in this trip and would like to fly to meet us, just give us a call and we will work with you on the schedule.

Price includes: motorcoach transportation, hotels, taxes, baggage handling for one bag, all listed tours, guides, park entrance fees, ferry to Victoria, 17 breakfast, 18 lunches or dinners. (Trip Cancellation insurance is highly recommended and can be purchased for ANY trip. If you purchase cancellation insurance at the time of deposit, insurance covers pre-existing medical conditions for you.)

Passport will be required for the day in Canada.

A Beautiful Northwest Adventure!

Price per person based on : **Single - \$3900 Double - \$3100 Triple - \$2800 Quad - \$2700**

Deposit of due: **May 1, 2012**

Final payment due: **June 15, 2012**



FRANCIS CUSTOM TOURS
 28 Ranch Road Arkadelphia, AR 71923
 870-246-3366 / 800-495-6035
 francistours@suddenlinkmail.com www.franciscustomtours.com

