

# BEST OF THE WEST

# ROCKYS & PIKES PEAK

Registered State of Florida as Seller of Travel #ST12255

## Travel Is Fun Tours

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St. Petersburg FL 33710 (727) 347-1600



**15 DAYS – SEPTEMBER 21 – OCTOBER 5, 2023**

**Includes:** 29 Meals (14B, 4L, 11D) Visit 13 States, Rocky Mountain National Park, Pikes Peak Cog Railway, Stanley/Overlook Hotel visit, Lunch and tour at the Southfork Ranch as featured on “Dallas”, Garden of the Gods, US Air Force Academy, US Olympic Museum, Cadillac Ranch, The Bug Ranch, Big Texan, Lafayette LA Tour, Guided tours of Dallas, Colorado Springs, Denver, Lafayette, LA! Last night Pizza Party! And so much more!!! All Breakfasts are included!

**DAY ONE** – On our first day of touring, we will enjoy a one-night stay at **Drury Inn & Suites Atlanta Marietta** with evening food & drinks. Drury Inns are offering their guests an incredible array of amenities including arrival refreshments, complimentary in-room coffee, deluxe continental breakfast (hot & cold), free long-distance calls (60 minutes per room, per night) also, evening beverages and the **FREE 5:30 KICKBACK!** from 5:30 – 7:00 PM. Drury has increased their evening food offerings to always include salad, nacho bar & hot dogs. There will also be items such as soup or chili, grilled chicken strips, meatballs, Pasta & sauce & BBQ Sliders offered on a rotating basis. Drury Inn also provides beer, wine cocktails and soft drinks at no cost to you (during 5:30 Kickback! We call this our “Drury Dinner”. The delicious, very deluxe continental breakfast Drury has always offered includes eggs, sausage, self-serve waffle maker, yogurt, fresh fruit, juices, milk & cereal, bagels, biscuits, gravy & more.

**DAY TWO** – After our delicious Drury Breakfast we’ll make our way North & West passing through Chattanooga, Nashville, Land Between Lakes, Paducah, and much more. We will visit the states of Georgia, Tennessee, Kentucky and arrive in Illinois! We will cross from East Coast time to Central time today also. Scenic Hills and mountains to enjoy as your guide tells you about the areas we pass through. Tonight, we will arrive at the Drury Inn - Mt Vernon, IL for a one-night stay.

**DAY THREE** – Today after our included Drury Breakfast we will continue our Trek West visiting the starting point of Lewis & Clark’s historic adventure to discover the American West with their guide Sacagawea! St Louis MO and the famous St Louis Arch – Gateway to the West! While here we will have a visit to one of the original Drury Hotels and take in the display and sculpture commemorating Lewis & Clark’s epic journey in their lobby while we have a short rest break. We will pass the Eisenhower Presidential Museum and Bob Dole’s birthplace, time permitting. Our home tonight will be the Endeavor Inn in Topeka, KS



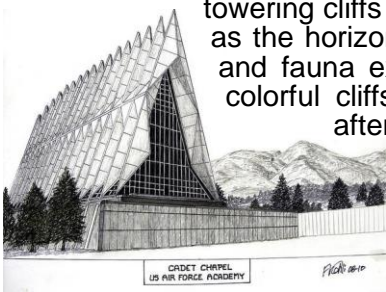
**DAY FOUR** – Today we will arrive in Colorado! We will also cross into the Mountain Time Zone – the farthest time zone we will experience on this trip. We will climb closer and closer to the Rocky Mountain range as the scenery gets more exciting! We will have scenic rest breaks and appropriate lunch stops before arriving at our home for the next two nights – the Drury Inn - Westminster, CO

**DAY FIVE** – After breakfast at our hotel we start our Rocky Mountain Adventure! First up we’ll start the day with a drive by the famous Stanley Hotel in Estes Park Colorado to visit the wild Elk that tend to gather on the lawn! The Stanley hotel is a beautiful historic hotel and was featured in the Jack Nicholson movie “The Shining”! Is the Stanley Hotel haunted? We’ll find out this afternoon....

Our morning will be spent driving into the amazing Rocky Mountain National Park! We will drive into the park and stop at multiple scenic overlooks to take in the splendor and majesty of one of America's most beautiful parks! Rocky Mountain National Park in northern Colorado spans the Continental Divide and encompasses protected mountains, forests, and alpine tundra. It is known for the Trail Ridge Road and the Old Fall River Road, drives that pass aspen trees and rivers. The Keyhole Route, a climb crossing vertical rock faces, leads up Longs Peak, the park's tallest mountain. A trail surrounding Bear Lake offers views of the peaks. We will go to the spectacular Alpine Visitor Center for Lunch on your own. On our way back down the mountains we will get even more breathtaking views of this incredible natural wonder. After our entertaining tour we will head back to our beautiful home again, the Drury Inn Westminster, CO

**DAY SIX** – Today we will visit the Mile High City! Denver Colorado! We will spend the morning exploring this beautiful Western city located at the base of the Rocky Mountains with an expert local step-on guide. There will be spectacular scenery, stories, and sights to remember! After an included lunch at a popular local restaurant, we will have time in one of Denver's world class museums and a little free time in a downtown shopping area. Then it is off to our home for the next three nights, the Drury Inn, Colorado Springs, CO located near the United States Air Force Academy!

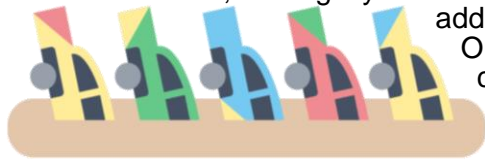
**DAY SEVEN** – After our delicious Drury Breakfast we head out for today's adventures! We will begin the day with an expert local tour guide taking us to the Air Force Academy, and many other things.... We will have an included lunch at the **Cathedral Rock BBQ** at the **Garden of the Gods** visitors center with time to explore. With a name like "Garden of the Gods," you would expect this park to be something spectacular, and you'd be right. It is filled with breathtaking rock formations that include everything from craggy mountain passes to towering cliffs and canyons of white, pink, and red sandstone. The sights will stretch as endlessly as the horizon. We will check out the visitor center with its Native American artifacts and floral and fauna exhibits. There is even a Geo-Trekker Theater to teach you how these uniquely colorful cliffs were formed! How can anything else compete with such divine sights? This afternoon we will visit the fantastic Penrose Heritage Museum which showcases the history and heritage of the Pikes Peak region through the personal artifact collection of Colorado Springs' philanthropists and entrepreneurs Spencer and Julie Penrose. The museum exhibits 30 carriages alongside 15 race cars that competed in the infamous Race to the Clouds, one of the oldest motorsport events in the U.S! Tonight, we are back at the Drury - Colorado Springs, CO



**DAY EIGHT** – What a day we are going to have today!!! Today's adventures start with a ride up the Cog Railway to the top of Pikes Peak! Pikes Peak elevation 14,115 feet! The highest summit of the Front Range of the Rocky Mountains and the highest point east of its longitude! We will get another spectacular view of Garden of the Gods from our high-altitude perch! The approximately one-hour ride will be in the comfort of our Pikes Peak Railway Cog Train. No worries, we will be in good hands, and you'll get a goody bag with treats that will help you adjust to the altitude with no discomfort. While we enjoy the views from the top, you will have time for lunch (on your own). Maybe try a unique Pikes Peak Donut, but make sure to finish it before we head back down! After Pikes Peak our afternoon will take us to the US Olympic Training facility and museum. Opened in 2020 and dedicated to telling the inspiring stories of our countries Olympic and Paralympic athletes. As we travel through the Guggenheim inspired monument to achievement, you'll feel an incredible sense of pride in our nation's incredible athletes! Dinner tonight is back at our Drury Hotel!



**DAY NINE** – After our Great Drury Breakfast we pack our bags & get back on the road. Today's travels take us past Capulin Volcano, an extinct Cinder Cone Volcano visible from highway 64. After a nice lunch stop (on your own) we go to an incredible outdoor art exhibit! The Cadillac Ranch! We will stop for photos at the famous Cadillac Ranch; 10 brightly decorated Cadillacs buried nose down in the Texas desert. We'll have a chance to add our own flair to the art while we're here! Next, we will tour along the Original Route 66 with the nostalgic motels, gas stations and more! Then, continuing to our hotel for tonight, **Holiday Inn Amarillo**, for a one-night stay, with breakfast included in the morning. This evening, we will visit **"The Big Texan"** – Home of the 72 oz. Steak Challenge! This will be our stop for dinner, on your own, and great photo ops and a gift shop too!



**DAY TEN** – Time to depart Amarillo, on our way to the Dallas suburb of Richardson we'll travel some more along historic Route 66, We'll pay a visit to the **Bug Farm**, a whimsical answer to the Cadillac Ranch. After a nice lunch stop and some great Texas scenery, we'll skirt along the Texas Oklahoma border defined by the Red River to our North arriving at our home for the next two nights, the **Drury Inn - Richardson, TX**

**DAY ELEVEN** – Our day in Dallas will be a treat! This morning, we will enjoy an informative Dallas City Tour & Kennedy Tour with a local, knowledgeable step-on guide. This tour will feature the “Chisholm Trail” with its famous painted cattle statues. You will need your camera today, for sure! After our Dallas Tour we are visiting the famous “Southfork Ranch” as seen in the wildly popular 1980’s TV show “DALLAS”! Can anyone tell me “Who shot JR?” Not only are we touring Southfork Ranch today, but lunch is also included at Miss Ellie’s at the Ranch. This visit is sure to bring back memories. Our home again for tonight is the Drury Inn in nearby Richardson TX. Enjoy the 5:30 Kickback! & hot breakfast.



**DAY TWELVE** – After another delicious Drury Breakfast we bid adieu to the republic of Texas! Crossing into Louisiana we’ll have a lunch stop in Shreveport and continue to our destination for the next two nights, the Drury Inn - Lafayette, LA

**DAY THIRTEEN** – Today we get to know Cajun country a bit! Our local professional step on guide will show us the sights & sounds of the Louisiana Swamp People plus we’ll finish our tour with a great included Cajun Country lunch! After lunch we will explore some of Lafayette’s museums starting with the Acadian Cultural Center, the Eunice Museum & more! After an exciting Cajun day, it’s back to our Drury Inn for our 5:30 kickback & a good night’s rest!

**DAY FOURTEEN** – After a great Drury breakfast, our tour continues toward home, and we’ll be in four states today! Louisiana to Mississippi to Alabama to Florida! Once we get on Interstate 75, this will be the only part of the entire tour route we are repeating. We plan to stop for lunch in Pensacola, FL. This afternoon, continuing toward home, we will stop for our last night away from home at the Comfort Suites in Marianna Florida with an included, hot breakfast. Travel Is Fun Tours is hosting a Pizza Party Dinner tonight with beer & wine! Enjoy your travelling companions, new and not as new, share your pictures, show each other how to look up the Travel Is Fun Tours website at: [WWW.TIFTOURS.COM](http://WWW.TIFTOURS.COM) and get started planning your next adventure!

**DAY FIFTEEN** – After breakfast, our travel day ending at our respective homes will feature a lunch break in Gainesville (on your own), followed by a rest break at the Russell Stover Candy Outlet in Wildwood, with its great Ice Cream Counter!! Thank you for choosing Travel Is Fun Tours!

**COST: \$3199 PER PERSON TWIN/\$4259 PER PERSON SINGLE/\$2999 TRIPLE**

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