



Railroads of Colorado & New Mexico

9 Days September 19-27, 2021

This Railroad Adventure steams across Colorado and New Mexico. Travel on five scenic trains, some of the highest altitude railroads in America during the day and enjoy comfortable rooms and fine dining at night. It's an all-fun, all-natural Rocky Mountain High, combining adventure, history and romance into one great tour.

Tour Highlights:

- Five Scenic & Rugged Train Rides
 - The Georgetown Scenic Railroad
 - The Silverton - Durango Railroad
 - The Cumbres & Toltec Railroad
 - Royal Gorge Route Railroad
 - Pikes Peak Cog Railway
- Lebanon Silver Mine Tour
- Corkscrew Mountain Jeep Tour w/lunch
- Garden of the Gods
- Great Platte River Road Archway
- Golden Spike Tower
- Pony Express Museum
- Eight Nights First Class Lodging
- Eight Breakfasts
- Three Lunches
- Six Dinners including
 - Flying W Ranch Cowboy Dinner Show
- All Taxes and Tips on these services; Luggage Handling
- Motorcoach Transportation & Driver's Gratuities
- Professional Tour Manager
- Group Travel Video App
- Travel Protection Plan

Per Person Prices:

\$3,195 DOUBLE OCCUPANCY

\$3,995 SINGLE OCCUPANCY

\$300 per person deposit and completed application is due upon reservation. A second deposit of \$350 per person is due by June 18, 2021. Reservations are made on a first come, first served basis.

Reservations made after the first deposit date of March 19, 2021 are based upon availability. Final payment is due by August 13, 2021. Deposits are refundable up until June 18, 2021.

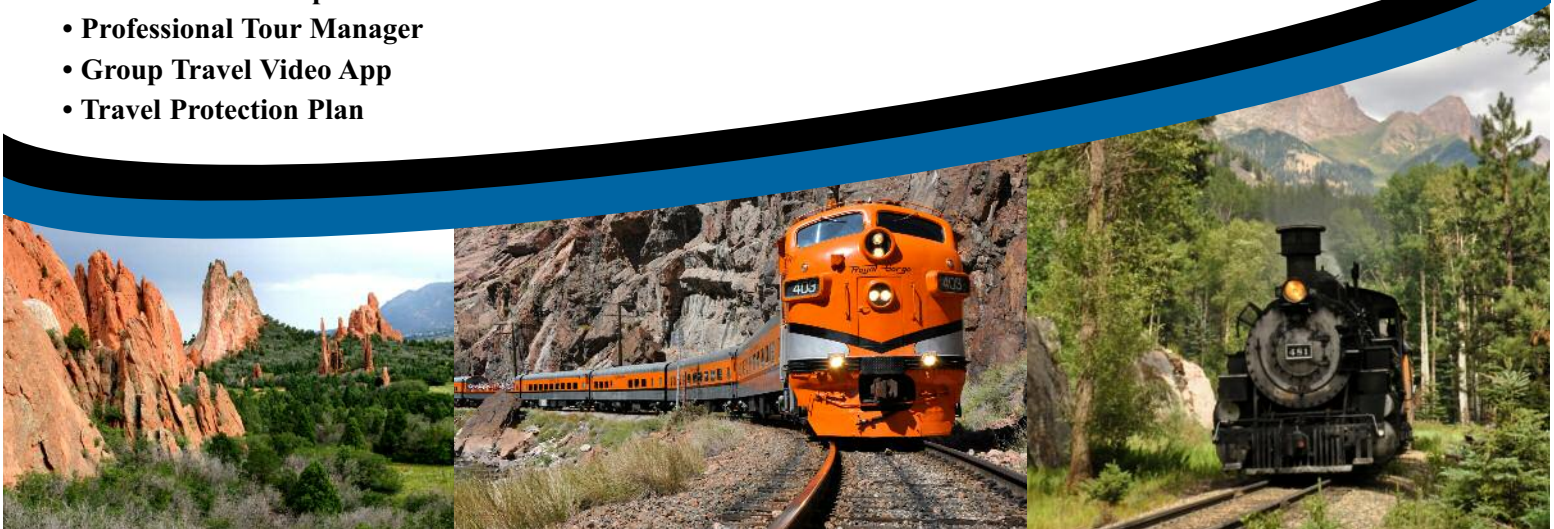
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Day 1 – Board the motorcoach this morning and travel to Nebraska. Meet your Professional Tour Manager who will be with you for the entire trip. First stop today is a visit to the Great Platte River Road Archway. Built over the top of I-80 this is best described as a splashy, brassy history museum that uses film, computer graphics, light and sound, life-size dioramas, re-enactors and classic cars to document over 150 years of transportation and communication across America. You also enjoy a buffet dinner at the Archway. Continue to Kearney, NE and your local hotel for the night. **(D)**

Day 2 – After breakfast, stop at the Golden Spike Tower offering a bird's eye view of the World's Largest Classification Yard. Take a ride up the elevator to the 7th floor open air observation deck to experience the sights and sounds of the rail yard, or the 8th floor for enclosed viewing. The Golden Spike Tower features a courtyard proudly flying the 23 flags representing each state Union Pacific Railroad serves.

Travel to Denver, CO this afternoon for an overnight stay at the Drury Inn. Dinner is on your own, but the hotel offers their "5:30pm Kickback" offering a rotating menu of hot foods and cold beverages served every evening from 5:30pm to 7:00pm. **(B)**

Day 3 - Today, head to Georgetown (at 8,500 feet she was once known as the 'Silver Queen of Colorado') here you ride the Georgetown Scenic Railroad. An old-time steam locomotive chugging its way up the canyon, hauling your train past the remains of several gold and silver mines. This open car train takes you between Georgetown and Silver Plume, over 2 miles apart, over mountainous terrain, requiring trestles, cuts, fills, loops, and curves totaling 3.1 miles of narrow gauge track.

You also tour the Lebanon Silver Mine, taking you 500 feet into a mine tunnel bored in the 1870s. Your guide will point out rich veins of silver and tell you about early-day mining. The temperature inside the mine is a constant 44 degrees Fahrenheit, so bring a jacket. End the day in Grand Junction, CO for the night. Dinner this evening is included at a local restaurant. **(B,D)**

Day 4 – Start the day with a three hour Jeep Tour over 12,000 foot Corkscrew Pass into the Red Mountains. You ride beside high mountain cliffs over hanging mining trails where the clear air and the color of the red mountains are simply astonishing. A picnic lunch will be included.

The jeep tour ends in Historic Silverton, CO where you board the Silverton-Durango Railroad. This steam locomotive travels along the Animas River winding through spectacular & breathtaking canyons in the remote wilderness of San Juan National Forest. You may feel as though you are reliving history as you travel on the same tracks that miners, cowboys and settlers of the Old West took over a century ago. Dinner is included this evening at a local restaurant.

After dinner, travel to Pagosa Springs, CO, a town in southwest Colorado known for its hot springs. It's surrounded by the rugged San Juan Mountains and vast areas of national forest. Enjoy the night at a local hotel. **(B,L,D)**

Day 5 - Early this morning you travel to Chama, NM for a ride on the Cumbres & Toltec Railroad. Perhaps the most beautiful ride in America, it is rugged, narrow gauge, coal-fired, steam powered mountain railroad traversing 64 miles of unparalleled scenery. You climb through an unspoiled landscape, past historic railroad structures dating back to the turn of the twentieth century.

You enjoy the grandeur of the Rocky Mountains as this sure-footed locomotive rolls through tunnels, above deep gorges and over Cumbres Pass. A stop is made for lunch at the lonely Osier Dining Hall near the halfway point.

Arriving in Alamosa, CO this evening, check into your hotel for an overnight stay. Dinner is included this evening at an area restaurant. **(B,L,D)**

Day 6 - Today ride the Royal Gorge Train for a scenic journey through the spectacular Royal Gorge. Since 1879, these tracks have followed the winding, tumbling Arkansas River deep within the soaring, 1,000-foot granite cliffs of Colorado's Royal Gorge. The Royal Gorge Route is a quality, Colorado attraction – no thrill rides or cotton candy – just rugged scenery. This ride also includes a delicious lunch.

This afternoon, tour the Garden of the Gods Park, a Registered National Natural Landmark in Colorado Springs. Learn of the park's geology with the 14-minute movie, and experience Native-American culture.

Check into the Drury Inn Colorado Springs for a two night stay. Dinner is on your own, however you may wish to take advantage of the 5:30 Kickback meal at the hotel. **(B)**

Day 7 – Following breakfast, tour the Manitou Cliff Dwellings, located at the foot of Pikes Peak, these mountain dwellings are a rare historical treasure.

Ride the newly refurbished Pikes Peak Cog Railway to the 14,110 foot summit. Keep your eyes open for big horn sheep and yellow bellied marmot once you get above the timberline. This 8.9 miles long ride begins along Ruxton Creek in Englemann Canyon. The track is built next to the stream where there are boulder fields on both sides. Conductors like to point out the various "faces" and shapes, which with a bit of imagination can be seen in them, during the first 1/3 of the trip. Then you pass Minnehaha Falls and through a natural gateway known as Hells Gate, past Lake Moraine and Mount Almagre before climbing above the timberline. You will spend 20-30 minutes at the 14,110 foot summit. From here, on a clear day, you can see the skyscrapers of downtown Denver and the Great Plains to the east.

Dinner this evening will be at the Flying W Ranch. Enjoy a real Chuckwagon Dinner and be entertained by the Flying W Wranglers. The Wranglers specialize in beautiful 3-part vocal harmonies about the romantic American Cowboy. **(B,D)**

Day 8 - Today, visit Gothenburg home to two original Pony Express stations. The Sam Machette station (museum) is located in the beautiful Ehmen city park/arboretum. The original log building was disassembled, moved, and reassembled at its current location in 1931. The station/museum has continued on as a nationally known tourist attraction since that time. Travel continues this afternoon to Grand Island, NE for an overnight stay. Dinner is included this evening at a local restaurant. **(B,D)**

Day 9 - After breakfast begin your travel home. Along the way, stop for an inspirational visit to the country of Lithuania through the eyes of the owners of Omaha's Lithuanian Bakery. You will hear from the Machevicius family about how their family escaped Germany in WWII and moved to Omaha to start a bakery business. Here you will taste some of the bakery's famous breads and enjoy their signature dessert which takes three days to make. **(B)**