



CROSS COUNTRY USA: SANTA BARBARA TO TAOS

EXPERIENCE THE FIRST STAGE OF RIDING ACROSS THE USA

We are excited to offer a limited number of spaces on the first leg of our Cross Country USA Santa Barbara to Myrtle Beach trip! Your trip will begin on the palm tree-lined streets of the American Riviera and meander inland through the vast basins of the Mojave Desert. Pedal along the most scenic stretches of Historic Route 66 through the Black Mountains to the ghost town of Oatman and over Sitgreaves Pass. After spending a rest day at the south rim of the Grand Canyon, you'll continue on past the mystic spires of Monument Valley and into southern Colorado before taking on that last epic ride to Taos. You'll cover 1,282 miles and 60,250 feet of climbing over 15 riding days as you make your way to New Mexico. That's an average of 85 miles and just over 4,000 feet of climbing per ride. It's just a taste of the wonders that the great Southwest has to offer. One thing is for sure, it will tempt you to do the whole thing next time.

TRIP WOWS

- Ride the most scenic sections of Historic Route 66, including the ghost town of Oatman and the epic climb over Sitgreaves Pass
- Discover the vast, colorful landscape of the Mojave Desert and the scenic treasures of Monument Valley and the Colorado Plateau
- Watch the sunrise from the south rim of the Grand Canyon and spend your rest day contemplating this natural wonder of the world

From
\$7699

Rider Type
Avid

Hotel Style
Explorer

Duration
17 days | 16 nights

Start | End
**Santa Barbara,
California | Taos, New
Mexico**

Dates
2020/Sep

Admire the rugged peaks of the Sangre de Cristo Mountains as you ride out of Durango and into the high desert of New Mexico



DAILY ITINERARY

2019

Day

1

TODAY'S RIDE:

Hope Ranch and Skofield Park Loops

Approximately 25 miles with 1,775 feet of climbing

TODAY'S DATE:

September 19

DESCRIPTION:

Your Trek Travel guides will meet you at the Hotel Californian (6 State Street, Santa Barbara, CA 93101) at 11:00 AM on the first day of the trip. You'll begin with a hearty welcome lunch and brief introductions, and your guides will take time to ensure you are comfortable on your bike. Following the bike fit, safety tips and some introductory information, it's time for a short scenic warm-up spin around Santa Barbara. This evening, the group will gather for social hour and dinner, where your guides will discuss your upcoming adventure in more detail and answer any questions you may have.

HOTEL:

Hotel Californian

[VISIT WEBSITE](#)

INCLUDED MEALS:

Lunch | Social Hour | Dinner

Day

2

TODAY'S RIDE:

**Santa Barbara, CA to
Valencia, CA**

Approximately 80 miles with 3,200
feet of climbing

TODAY'S DATE:

September 20

DESCRIPTION:

Your adventure begins oceanside, under the towering palms of Santa Barbara's harbor. Start with a ceremonial tire dip in the Pacific Ocean to mark the official start of the cross country journey, then ease into the first pedal strokes as you cruise south along the gently rolling coastline. Bid farewell to ocean breezes until the journey's end as you turn east and head inland toward Ventura and eventually through citrus, palm, and avocado orchards. Tonight you will enjoy dinner at Vines Restaurant at your Valencia hotel.

HOTEL:

Hyatt Regency

[VISIT WEBSITE](#)

INCLUDED MEALS:

Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner

Day

3

TODAY'S RIDE:

Valencia, CA to Victorville, CA

Approximately 102 miles with 4,125
feet of climbing

TODAY'S DATE:

September 21

DESCRIPTION:

A 25-mile gradual climb through beautiful Bouquet Canyon leads you out of California's Mediterranean climate, over the Transverse ranges, and into the vast and sublime Mojave Desert. After a brisk 12-mile descent, find yourself pedaling through the broad mountain-fringed Antelope Valley Basin, best known for wind farms, the California aqueduct, NASA Space Shuttle landings and the symbolic Joshua tree.

HOTEL:

Hilton Garden Inn

[VISIT WEBSITE](#)

INCLUDED MEALS:

Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner

Day

4

TODAY'S RIDE:

**Victorville, CA to Twentynine
Palms, CA**

Approximately 102 miles with 2,825
feet of climbing

TODAY'S DATE:

September 22

DESCRIPTION:

The heart of the Mojave Desert is your destination today. The breadth of the terrain may challenge you, yet you may also find yourself pleasantly surprised by the stark beauty of the desert in the Fall. The military town of Twentynine Palms rests near the northern gateway to Joshua Tree National Park.

HOTEL:

29 Palms Inn and Campbell House

[VISIT WEBSITE](#)

INCLUDED MEALS:

Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner

Day

5

TODAY'S RIDE:

**Twentynine Palms, CA to
Parker, AZ**

Approximately 114 miles with 2,325
feet of climbing

TODAY'S DATE:

September 23

DESCRIPTION:

Today you head due east, venturing through the most desolate ride of the whole trip. The seemingly barren and rugged landscape teems with life, including the desert tortoise, bighorn sheep, many species of cactus, and scattered relics of human attempts to tame this wild place. Your home for tonight lies on the banks of the mighty Colorado River.

HOTEL:

Hampton Inn

[VISIT WEBSITE](#)

INCLUDED MEALS:

Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner

Day

6

TODAY'S RIDE:

Parker, AZ to Lake Havasu City, AZ

Approximately 42 miles with 2,000 feet of climbing

TODAY'S DATE:

September 24

DESCRIPTION:

Relish a relaxed start today, as you and your new riding mates only have 42 miles to conquer! Today's active recovery ride takes you along the gently rolling banks of the Colorado River. After stopping for some photos as you cross over historic Parker Dam, climb along the edge of the Bill Williams Mountains before descending into the resort town of Lake Havasu City. You'll have time to check out the original London Bridge, brought over brick by brick and rebuilt here in 1967. Tonight, enjoy dinner on your own at one of the many choices near your hotel.

HOTEL:

London Bridge Resort

[VISIT WEBSITE](#)

INCLUDED MEALS:

Breakfast | Lunch

Day

7

TODAY'S RIDE:

Lake Havasu City, AZ to Kingman, AZ

Approximately 86 miles with 6,125 feet of climbing

TODAY'S DATE:

September 25

DESCRIPTION:

After heading north out of Lake Havasu City, you'll lay down some rubber on Historic Route 66! The Black Mountains lay ahead of you as you gradually climb up to the historic "living" ghost town of Oatman. Catch your breath, fill your bottles and snap some photos of the wild burros wandering among the remnants of this gold-rush boomtown. As you depart you'll be tackling serious grades as you climb up the switchbacks of Sitgreaves Pass. Soak in the epic views and enjoy the descent because you have more climbing (albeit more gradual) to do before arriving in Kingman at the end of the day.

HOTEL:

Springhill Suites

[VISIT WEBSITE](#)

INCLUDED MEALS:

Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner

Day

8

TODAY'S RIDE:

Kingman, AZ to Seligman, AZ

Approximately 84 miles with 3,225 feet of climbing

TODAY'S DATE:

September 26

DESCRIPTION:

Riding the longest intact section of Historic Route 66, you'll make your way through Hualapai Indian lands and up onto the Colorado Plateau. Mesas with multi-colored badlands will characterize today's ride. Take some time this afternoon to stroll the main street of this eclectic town and take in the local flavor before dinner at the Roadkill Cafe.

HOTEL:

Historic Route 66 Motel and Supai Motel

[VISIT WEBSITE](#)

INCLUDED MEALS:

Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner

Day

9

TODAY'S RIDE:

Seligman, AZ to Tusayan, AZ

Approximately 95 miles with 4,800 feet of climbing

TODAY'S DATE:

September 27

DESCRIPTION:

With the San Francisco Peaks—Arizona's highest mountains—as your backdrop, today's terrain will undulate through high desert landscapes dappled by fragrant sage, piñon pines and juniper. Experience the serenity of the largely unpopulated landscape after leaving Williams, as crisp desert air powers your lungs and legs to the edge of one of the world's most geologically revealing places. Relax in the village of Tusayan, just outside the gates of Grand Canyon National Park. If your legs are up for it, ride a few additional miles this afternoon for your first glimpse over the canyon rim. Read the pages of time, written in stone on the 5,000-foot walls of the Grand Canyon.

HOTEL:

Holiday Inn Express Grand Canyon

[VISIT WEBSITE](#)

INCLUDED MEALS:

Breakfast | Lunch | Social Hour | Dinner

Day

10

TODAY'S ACTIVITY:

Rest Day

Grand Canyon, AZ

TODAY'S DATE:

September 28

DESCRIPTION:

For those who wish to make the most of their rest day by exploring Grand Canyon National Park, your guides will offer a shuttle to the Park Visitor's Center, from which you can hike or catch a Park Service shuttle bus to other points on the South Rim. Or you may choose to catch up on some sleep, relax, and simply get some emailing and laundry done. Today is yours to explore, dine, and recover as you please.

HOTEL:

Holiday Inn Express Grand Canyon

[VISIT WEBSITE](#)

INCLUDED MEALS:

Breakfast

Day

11

TODAY'S RIDE:

Tusayan, AZ to Tuba City, AZ

Approximately 85 miles with 3,700 feet of climbing

TODAY'S DATE:

September 29

DESCRIPTION:

This morning's ride, which takes you through evergreen forests along the South Rim of the Grand Canyon, is absolutely unforgettable. Take your time soaking in the great views as the sun climbs into the sky. On the road, the haunting beauty of the variegated landscape is accentuated by legends of Native American spirits, such as the infamous trickster known as Kokopelli, which are said to inhabit the region. Your final destination for the day is a small town, perched on the border of Hopi tribal lands.

HOTEL:

Moenkopi Legacy Inn & Suites

[VISIT WEBSITE](#)

INCLUDED MEALS:

Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner

Day

12

TODAY'S RIDE:

Tuba City, AZ to Mexican Hat, UT

Approximately 117 miles with 4,125 feet of climbing

TODAY'S DATE:

September 30

DESCRIPTION:

Today you will know you are in the Wild West, as your route skirts the iconic mesas, buttes, and pillars of Navajo National Monument, commonly referred to as Monument Valley. Every pedal stroke of your brief experience in Utah will be rewarded with the awe and amazement of a truly epic ride. You will finish with a long descent to the banks of the San Juan River as a reward for a long but incredible day in the saddle. Grab a drink, kick up your feet, and soak in the great views of the river from your hotel as you celebrate a great day's ride and another state conquered!

HOTEL:

Mexican Hat Lodge and Hat Rock Inn

[VISIT WEBSITE](#)

INCLUDED MEALS:

Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner

Day

13

TODAY'S RIDE:

Mexican Hat, UT to Cortez, CO

Approximately 103 miles with 5,925 feet of climbing

TODAY'S DATE:

October 1

DESCRIPTION:

Another big ride today takes you very near the Four Corners—Utah and Arizona to the west, Colorado and New Mexico to the east. Along the ride, hunt for ancient cliff dwellings left by the Anasazi, the ancestral Pueblo Indians, or add a few miles and stand in the only place in the country where you can be in four states at once.

HOTEL:

Holiday Inn Express Mesa Verde

[VISIT WEBSITE](#)

INCLUDED MEALS:

Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner

Day

14

TODAY'S RIDE:

Cortez, CO to Durango, CO

Approximately 44 miles with 3,225 feet of climbing

TODAY'S DATE:

October 2

DESCRIPTION:

Today you'll bid farewell to the southwestern desert and enter the San Juan Range of the Rocky Mountains. After spinning your way up to 8,500 feet above sea level, you'll enjoy an epic descent into the Wild West outpost town of Durango. The ride is short and Durango is cool, so lunch and dinner are on your own today. Enjoy some time off the bike as you explore this quintessential Colorado mountain town.

HOTEL:

Doubletree

[VISIT WEBSITE](#)

INCLUDED MEALS:

Breakfast

Day

15

TODAY'S RIDE:

Durango, CO to Pagosa Springs, CO

Approximately 61 miles with 3,950 feet of climbing

TODAY'S DATE:

October 3

DESCRIPTION:

Today you'll continue your journey through the San Juans of southwestern Colorado. After conquering the climbs, you'll be duly rewarded with a soak in Pagosa's namesake natural hot springs! The shops and cafes of downtown Pagosa are a short walk away if you'd like to explore this small town. You will walk to dinner at a highly acclaimed local restaurant for a great meal before tomorrow's mammoth day.

HOTEL:

The Springs Resort & Spa

[VISIT WEBSITE](#)

INCLUDED MEALS:

Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner

Day

16

TODAY'S RIDE:

Pagosa Springs, CO to Taos, NM

Approximately 142 miles with 8,925 feet of climbing

TODAY'S DATE:

October 4

DESCRIPTION:

Today will be memorable and momentous, as it is the longest day of your cross country adventure. Views of distant cliffs, aspen-cloaked mountain passes and wildflower-fringed valleys provide a feast for your eyes as your legs do the work. The day finishes by crossing the broad plain of the Rio Grande River Valley west of Taos, providing stunning views of mountains to the east and west. Your well-seasoned legs and acclimated lungs have trained hard for today. Enjoy being in the best shape of your life!

HOTEL:

El Monte Sagrado

[VISIT WEBSITE](#)

INCLUDED MEALS:

Breakfast | Lunch | Social Hour | Dinner

Day

FAREWELL:**Taos, NM****TODAY'S DATE:****October 5**

17

DESCRIPTION:

A relaxed breakfast and leisurely morning in Taos offer you the opportunity to revisit the triumphs and challenges of the past 16 days. Your ride across the great Southwest has come to a close, but the memories produced by this epic journey have just begun.

INCLUDED MEALS:

Breakfast

2020

Day

TODAY'S RIDE:**East Mountain Drive Loop**

Approximately 21 miles with 1,725 feet of climbing

TODAY'S DATE:**September 17**

1

DESCRIPTION:

Your Trek Travel guides will meet you at the Hotel Californian (6 State Street, Santa Barbara, CA 93101) at 11:00 AM on the first day of the trip. You'll begin with a hearty welcome lunch and brief introductions, and your guides will take time to ensure you are comfortable on your bike. Following the bike fit, safety tips and some introductory information, it's time for a short scenic warm-up spin around Santa Barbara. This evening, the group will gather for social hour and dinner, where your guides will discuss your upcoming adventure in more detail and answer any questions you may have.

HOTEL:

Hotel Californian

[VISIT WEBSITE](#)**INCLUDED MEALS:**

Lunch | Social Hour | Dinner

Day

TODAY'S RIDE:**Santa Barbara, CA to
Valencia, CA**

Approximately 80 miles with 3,200 feet of climbing

TODAY'S DATE:**September 18**

2

DESCRIPTION:

Your adventure begins oceanside, under the towering palms of Santa Barbara's harbor. Start with a ceremonial tire dip in the Pacific Ocean to mark the official start of the cross country journey, then ease into the first pedal strokes as you cruise south along the gently rolling coastline. Bid farewell to ocean breezes until the journey's end as you turn east and head inland toward Ventura and eventually through citrus, palm, and avocado orchards. Tonight you will enjoy dinner at Vines Restaurant at your Valencia hotel.

HOTEL:

Hyatt Regency

[VISIT WEBSITE](#)**INCLUDED MEALS:**

Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner

Day

TODAY'S RIDE:**Valencia, CA to Victorville, CA**

Approximately 101 miles with 4,000 feet of climbing

TODAY'S DATE:**September 19**

3

DESCRIPTION:

A 25-mile gradual climb through beautiful Bouquet Canyon leads you out of California's Mediterranean climate, over the Transverse ranges, and into the vast and sublime Mojave Desert. After a brisk 12-mile descent, find yourself pedaling through the broad mountain-fringed Antelope Valley Basin, best known for wind farms, the California aqueduct, NASA Space Shuttle landings and the symbolic Joshua tree.

HOTEL:

Hilton Garden Inn

[VISIT WEBSITE](#)**INCLUDED MEALS:**

Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner

Day

4

TODAY'S RIDE:

Victorville, CA to Twentynine Palms, CA

Approximately 97 miles with 2,750 feet of climbing

TODAY'S DATE:

September 20

DESCRIPTION:

The heart of the Mojave Desert is your destination today. The breadth of the terrain may challenge you, yet you may also find yourself pleasantly surprised by the stark beauty of the desert in the Fall. The military town of Twentynine Palms rests near the northern gateway to Joshua Tree National Park.

HOTEL:

29 Palms Inn and Campbell House

[VISIT WEBSITE](#)

INCLUDED MEALS:

Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner

Day

5

TODAY'S RIDE:

Twentynine Palms, CA to Parker, AZ

Approximately 114 miles with 2,300 feet of climbing

TODAY'S DATE:

September 21

DESCRIPTION:

Today you head due east, venturing through the most desolate ride of the whole trip. The seemingly barren and rugged landscape teems with life, including the desert tortoise, bighorn sheep, many species of cactus, and scattered relics of human attempts to tame this wild place. Your home for tonight lies on the banks of the mighty Colorado River.

HOTEL:

Hampton Inn

[VISIT WEBSITE](#)

INCLUDED MEALS:

Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner

Day

6

TODAY'S RIDE:

Parker, AZ to Lake Havasu City, AZ

Approximately 42 miles with 2,000 feet of climbing

TODAY'S DATE:

September 22

DESCRIPTION:

Relish a relaxed start today, as you and your new riding mates only have 42 miles to conquer! Today's active recovery ride takes you along the gently rolling banks of the Colorado River. After stopping for some photos as you cross over historic Parker Dam, climb along the edge of the Bill Williams Mountains before descending into the resort town of Lake Havasu City. You'll have time to check out the original London Bridge, brought over brick by brick and rebuilt here in 1967. Tonight, enjoy dinner on your own at one of the many choices near your hotel.

HOTEL:

London Bridge Resort

[VISIT WEBSITE](#)

INCLUDED MEALS:

Breakfast | Lunch

Day

7

TODAY'S RIDE:

Lake Havasu City, AZ to Kingman, AZ

Approximately 86 miles with 6,125 feet of climbing

TODAY'S DATE:

September 23

DESCRIPTION:

After heading north out of Lake Havasu City, you'll lay down some rubber on Historic Route 66! The Black Mountains lay ahead of you as you gradually climb up to the historic "living" ghost town of Oatman. Catch your breath, fill your bottles and snap some photos of the wild burros wandering among the remnants of this gold-rush boomtown. As you depart you'll be tackling serious grades as you climb up the switchbacks of Sitgreaves Pass. Soak in the epic views and enjoy the descent because you have more climbing (albeit more gradual) to do before arriving in Kingman at the end of the day.

HOTEL:

Springhill Suites

[VISIT WEBSITE](#)

INCLUDED MEALS:

Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner

Day

TODAY'S RIDE:

Kingman, AZ to Seligman, AZ

Approximately 87 miles with 3,550 feet of climbing

TODAY'S DATE:

September 24

8

DESCRIPTION:

Riding the longest intact section of Historic Route 66, you'll make your way through Hualapai Indian lands and up onto the Colorado Plateau. Mesas with multi-colored badlands will characterize today's ride. Take some time this afternoon to stroll the main street of this eclectic town and take in the local flavor before dinner at the Roadkill Cafe.

HOTEL:

Historic Route 66 Motel and Supai Motel

[VISIT WEBSITE](#)

INCLUDED MEALS:

Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner

Day

TODAY'S RIDE:

Seligman, AZ to Tusayan, AZ

Approximately 94 miles with 4,800 feet of climbing

TODAY'S DATE:

September 25

9

DESCRIPTION:

With the San Francisco Peaks—Arizona's highest mountains—as your backdrop, today's terrain will undulate through high desert landscapes dappled by fragrant sage, piñon pines and juniper. Experience the serenity of the largely unpopulated landscape after leaving Williams, as crisp desert air powers your lungs and legs to the edge of one of the world's most geologically revealing places. Relax in the village of Tusayan, just outside the gates of Grand Canyon National Park. If your legs are up for it, ride a few additional miles this afternoon for your first glimpse over the canyon rim. Read the pages of time, written in stone on the 5,000-foot walls of the Grand Canyon.

HOTEL:

Holiday Inn Express Grand Canyon

[VISIT WEBSITE](#)

INCLUDED MEALS:

Breakfast | Lunch | Social Hour | Dinner

Day

TODAY'S ACTIVITY:

Rest Day

Grand Canyon, AZ

TODAY'S DATE:

September 26

10

DESCRIPTION:

For those who wish to make the most of their rest day by exploring Grand Canyon National Park, your guides will offer a shuttle to the Park Visitor's Center, from which you can hike or catch a Park Service shuttle bus to other points on the South Rim. Or you may choose to catch up on some sleep, relax, and simply get some emailing and laundry done. Today is yours to explore, dine, and recover as you please.

HOTEL:

Holiday Inn Express Grand Canyon

[VISIT WEBSITE](#)

INCLUDED MEALS:

Breakfast

Day

TODAY'S RIDE:

Tusayan, AZ to Tuba City, AZ

Approximately 84 miles with 3,625 feet of climbing

TODAY'S DATE:

September 27

11

DESCRIPTION:

This morning's ride, which takes you through evergreen forests along the South Rim of the Grand Canyon, is absolutely unforgettable. Take your time soaking in the great views as the sun climbs into the sky. On the road, the haunting beauty of the variegated landscape is accentuated by legends of Native American spirits, such as the infamous trickster known as Kokopelli, which are said to inhabit the region. Your final destination for the day is a small town, perched on the border of Hopi tribal lands.

HOTEL:

Moenkopi Legacy Inn & Suites

[VISIT WEBSITE](#)

INCLUDED MEALS:

Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner

Day

12

TODAY'S RIDE:

Tuba City, AZ to Mexican Hat, UT

Approximately 117 miles with 4,050 feet of climbing

TODAY'S DATE:

September 28

DESCRIPTION:

Today you will know you are in the Wild West, as your route skirts the iconic mesas, buttes, and pillars of Navajo National Monument, commonly referred to as Monument Valley. Every pedal stroke of your brief experience in Utah will be rewarded with the awe and amazement of a truly epic ride. You will finish with a long descent to the banks of the San Juan River as a reward for a long but incredible day in the saddle. Grab a drink, kick up your feet, and soak in the great views of the river from your hotel as you celebrate a great day's ride and another state conquered!

HOTEL:

Mexican Hat Lodge and Hat Rock Inn

[VISIT WEBSITE](#)

INCLUDED MEALS:

Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner

Day

13

TODAY'S RIDE:

Mexican Hat, UT to Cortez, CO

Approximately 102 miles with 5,750 feet of climbing

TODAY'S DATE:

September 29

DESCRIPTION:

Another big ride today takes you very near the Four Corners—Utah and Arizona to the west, Colorado and New Mexico to the east. Along the ride, hunt for ancient cliff dwellings left by the Anasazi, the ancestral Pueblo Indians, or add a few miles and stand in the only place in the country where you can be in four states at once.

HOTEL:

Holiday Inn Express Mesa Verde

[VISIT WEBSITE](#)

INCLUDED MEALS:

Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner

Day

14

TODAY'S RIDE:

Cortez, CO to Durango, CO

Approximately 44 miles with 3,250 feet of climbing

TODAY'S DATE:

September 30

DESCRIPTION:

Today you'll bid farewell to the southwestern desert and enter the San Juan Range of the Rocky Mountains. After spinning your way up to 8,500 feet above sea level, you'll enjoy an epic descent into the Wild West outpost town of Durango. Enjoy some time off the bike as you explore this quintessential Colorado mountain town. Tonight's dinner is your choice so, armed with recommendations from your guides, you can find the perfect recovery meal.

HOTEL:

Doubletree

[VISIT WEBSITE](#)

INCLUDED MEALS:

Breakfast | Lunch

Day

15

TODAY'S RIDE:

Durango, CO to Pagosa Springs, CO

Approximately 61 miles with 3,900 feet of climbing

TODAY'S DATE:

October 1

DESCRIPTION:

Today you'll continue your journey through the San Juans of southwestern Colorado. After conquering the climbs, you'll be duly rewarded with a soak in Pagosa's namesake natural hot springs! The shops and cafes of downtown Pagosa are a short walk away if you'd like to explore this small town. You will walk to dinner at a highly acclaimed local restaurant for a great meal before tomorrow's mammoth day.

HOTEL:

The Springs Resort & Spa

[VISIT WEBSITE](#)

INCLUDED MEALS:

Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner

Day

16

TODAY'S RIDE:

Pagosa Springs, CO to Taos, NM

Approximately 142 miles with 8,500 feet of climbing

TODAY'S DATE:

October 2

DESCRIPTION:

Today will be memorable and momentous, as it is the longest day of your cross country adventure. Views of distant cliffs, aspen-cloaked mountain passes and wildflower-fringed valleys provide a feast for your eyes as your legs do the work. The day finishes by crossing the broad plain of the Rio Grande River Valley west of Taos, providing stunning views of mountains to the east and west. Your well-seasoned legs and acclimated lungs have trained hard for today. Enjoy being in the best shape of your life!

HOTEL:

El Monte Sagrado

[VISIT WEBSITE](#)

INCLUDED MEALS:

Breakfast | Lunch | Social Hour | Dinner

Day

17

FAREWELL:

Taos, NM

TODAY'S DATE:

October 3

DESCRIPTION:

A relaxed breakfast and leisurely morning in Taos offer you the opportunity to revisit the triumphs and challenges of the past 16 days. Your ride across the great Southwest has come to a close, but the memories produced by this epic journey have just begun.

INCLUDED MEALS:

Breakfast

WHAT'S INCLUDED

For us, the details matter most

Every moment of a Trek Travel bike trip has more than you could have ever dreamed. More romance. More scenery. More choice. It's the little additions to every Trek Travel cycling vacation that make it truly special. And that's how we help you create more memories.

What's Included

- 16 nights of accommodation at handpicked hotels
- Two experienced guides to provide local knowledge, support, and camaraderie
- Daily route support with both guides and our support van
- Daily breakfast, 14 lunches and 13 dinners
- 3 social hours of drinks and hors d'oeuvres
- Ride a Trek Domane SL 7 disc
- Snacks and drinks for each day's ride
- Custom Cross Country Trek Travel Bontrager cycling jersey and socks to keep
- Trek Travel water bottles to keep
- Cinch sack day bag to keep
- Each bike is equipped with a Garmin Edge 1030 GPS computer, flat pack, front and rear Bontrager Flare R lights, a Bontrager saddle and pedals (Shimano clipless road pedals, Shimano clipless mountain pedals, caged or flat pedals)
- Bontrager WaveCel helmets
- All gratuities for drivers, local experts and hospitality staff
- All luggage transfers and transportation during your trip
- A personalized photobook of your trip
- Entrance fees for all activities, private tours and events

Gear

- Trek Domane SL 7 disc carbon road bike with Shimano Di2 electronic shifting
- Custom Cross Country Trek Travel Bontrager cycling jersey and socks to keep
- Trek Travel water bottles to keep
- Shimano clipless road pedals, Shimano clipless mountain pedals, caged or flat pedals
- Bontrager WaveCel helmet
- Bontrager men's and women's specific saddles

- Bont rager front and rear Flare R lights and a flat pack
- Garmin Edge 1030 GPS computer
- Cinch sack day bag to keep
- Upgrade your bike to include carbon wheels (+\$200)
- Coupon valued up to \$500 off a new Trek Bicycle. Your coupon will be delivered via email prior to your trip.
- *For the most comfortable ride, we recommend bring your own pedals, saddle, and helmet on the trip. Your guides will install your gear on the first day during your bike fit.*

THANK YOUR GUIDES, BY TIPPING

Gratuities for your Trek Travel guides are not included in your trip price. We recommend tipping 7.5-10% of your trip price for the guide team. Local currency is preferred and unless you want to tip separately, guides will divide tips amongst themselves. Please tip your guides at your discretion, based on their level of professionalism, guest care and service.

What's Not Included

- Airfare and transportation to and from the trip pick-up/drop-off locations
- Lodging before and after the trip
- Personal items purchased during the trip
- Optional activities not scheduled by Trek Travel
- On select trips some meals are not included. On these trips, Trek Travel invites you to explore the local cuisine at your leisure.

HOTELS

First, last and rest day hotels are listed below.



HOTEL CALIFORNIAN

SANTA BARBARA, CALIFORNIA

Flourish. Romance. Panoramic coastal views. This hotel may be called the Californian, but it's pure Santa Barbara from its Funk Zone location to its two signature restaurants. You'll lavish in every luxurious touch, whether it's taking a break on the rooftop pool with a panoramic view of the palm trees and Pacific shoreline or treating your skin to a decadent purist oil blend at the surreal spa. This is truly one of the most impressive, incredible hotel options we've ever offered. The rooms are a magical mix of Spanish Colonial Revival architecture and Moroccan flourishes, with modern touches from celebrity designer Martyn Lawrence Bullard. And even the facade tells a special story, with history dating back to the original 1925 hotel itself. Will it make you fall in love with the city? No doubt. Will you want to leave and actually see the sights? That might be up for debate.



HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS GRAND CANYON

TUSAYAN, ARIZONA

The Holiday Inn Express Hotel & Suites Grand Canyon is located in Tusayan, just a mile from the South Rim entrance. Standard rooms with two queen beds feature large windows, triple-sheeted beds and black-out shades for a comfortable, restful stay. The hotel is situated near a number of tour agencies, offering airplane, helicopter, jeep, horseback riding and rafting excursions and the front desk will be happy to assist with making reservations.



EL MONTE SAGRADO

TAOS, NEW MEXICO

This boutique hotel can truly be regarded as a luxury sanctuary. Set on a vast property beneath the sacred Taos Mountain and shrouded in old cottonwood and aspen trees, no comfort, amenity or standard of service is overlooked. Located three blocks from shops, galleries, museums and the historic Taos Plaza, it makes the perfect base for exploring town. For those who simply cannot get enough spa relaxation, the Living Spa and Aquatic center is for you. El Monte Sagrado is a unique property that employs sophisticated green architecture and global accents and is downright cool! From the spacious rooms to the lively Anaconda bar there is a little something for everyone here.



How To Get There

We suggest that you arrive at least one day prior to the trip start, which will enable you to adjust to the time zone and minimize the risk of missing the trip start due to flight-related delays.

We recommend flying into Santa Barbara Municipal Airport (SBA) in Goleta, approximately 8 miles from downtown Santa Barbara. A cab to downtown will cost approximately \$50. We suggest calling Shah at S R Transportation at 805-708-1403 to prearrange a taxi. Please be sure to mention that you are a guest of Trek Travel.

Due to better connections from most major cities, you may alternatively fly into Los Angeles (LAX) and take the Santa Barbara Airbus to Santa Barbara. Visit www.SBAirBus.com for more information. Alternatively, you may book a private car service through S R Transportation at 805-708-1403 for approximately \$200 one way. Please be sure to mention that you are a guest of Trek Travel.

Before: Santa Barbara, California

P: Santa Barbara is a lively cosmopolitan city with plenty of opportunities for shopping, nightlife and outdoor recreation. You can also explore some of southern California's other coastal cities, including Ventura, Oxnard, or the big one, Los Angeles, which is located approximately 90 minutes south of Santa Barbara. We recommend the following accommodations for your pre and post-trip hotel:

Meeting Time And Location

Your Trek Travel guides will meet you at the Hotel Californian (6 State Street, Santa Barbara, CA 93101) at 11:00 AM on the first day of the trip. We will start with a welcome lunch, and your guides will do a thorough bike fit to ensure your comfort before we set off on a warm-up ride. Please come prepared with pedals, shoes, saddle, bike fit measurements, and anything else you would like affixed to your bike. Have these items and your riding clothes packed in a small, easily accessible bag. The hotel can store your larger pieces of luggage until check-in time.

If you will be late for the pick-up or are going to miss it altogether, please inform your guides. You will receive an email a week before the trip start with their names and contact details. If you cannot reach them, please call our first hotel, Hotel Californian ((805) 882-0100), and leave a message with your expected arrival time and contact details. Your guides will be aware that you are late and will be in contact with the hotel.

Departing Time And Location

You will say farewell to your guides at El Monte Sagrado in Taos and board a private shuttle to Albuquerque International Sunport. The shuttle will depart at 10:00 AM, arriving at the airport by 12:30 PM. Please do not book a flight prior to 3:00 PM to allow time for check-in and unforeseen delays.

THE HOTEL CALIFORNIAN

This hotel may be called the Californian, but it's pure Santa Barbara from its Funk Zone location to its two signature restaurants. You'll lavish in every luxurious touch, whether it's taking a break on the rooftop pool with a panoramic view of the palm trees and Pacific shoreline or treating your skin to a decadent purist oil blend at the surreal spa. The rooms are a magical mix of Spanish Colonial Revival architecture and Moroccan flourishes, with modern touches from celebrity designer Martyn Lawrence Bullard. And even the facade tells a special story, with history dating back to the original 1925 hotel itself.

www.TheHotelCalifornian.com | ~\$350

HOTEL MILO

The colorful grounds of Hotel Milo blend beach-chic décor and classic Spanish Colonial architecture in an enviable waterfront location. This cozy property is located just a short walk from the Marina, Stearns Wharf, State Street and many other Santa Barbara attractions and activities. Open your windows or sit in the courtyard or in a poolside cabana to take in the refreshing sea breeze and the vibrant atmosphere along the oceanfront of this wonderful city.

www.HotelMiloSantaBarbara.com | ~\$200

BELMOND EL ENCANTO

Indulge yourself with a stay in a private bungalow at this beautiful and exclusive property. One of only 4 Belmond hotels in the US, El Encanto offers beautiful views of the city and ocean from its accommodations, lounge, and restaurant. Treat yourself at the full-service spa, walk in the gardens, or simply take in the views from the infinity pool as you relax in classic 1920s style.

www.belmond.com | ~\$500

After: Santa Fe, New

Mexico

There are few places in North America quite like Santa Fe. It's a town of vibrant culture, color and texture, and offers a world class experience for any traveler. Santa Fe is the oldest Capital city in the US with buildings dating back to the late 1500's and a founding date of 1610 by the Spanish. Steeped in Native American, Spanish and Mexican History, Santa Fe has a unique character of earthen Adobe architecture that forms the organic grid of its charming streets. Many would say one night is not enough in Santa Fe as there is simply so much to see and do. Often competing as the 2nd largest art market in the US, as well as one of the culinary meccas of North America, Santa Fe is truly the cultural capital of the Southwest. We recommend the following accommodations for your pre and post-trip hotel.

INN OF THE TURQUOISE BEAR

New Mexican and Southwestern history are alive and well at the Inn of the Turquoise Bear. This is the stomping ground and homestead for some of the region's, and America's, most culturally influential guests, including O'Keefe, Cather, Millay, Lawrence, Stravinsky, O. Henry and many others. The adobe walls trace back to the 1800s, when Witter Bynner, a local icon and celebrity persona, built his home as a venue for the area's most Gatsby-esque parties. Today it's a vibrant, peaceful and fascinating escape that stands as a colorful reminder of the artistic community it originally supported. Its 11 bedrooms all treat you to something truly Santa Fe, with the smell of piñon burning in your kiva fireplace, the 40-inch mud adobe walls, meandering stone walkways and colorful gardens, which inspired these literary and musical legends in their art.

www.turquoisebear.com | ~\$250

ROSEWOOD INN OF THE ANASAZI

An authentic pueblo experience like this isn't available anywhere else. What other hotel boasts an Anasazi restaurant based on native heritage and fresh, seasonal ingredients? What other retreat can offer interior design that includes authentic, handcrafted textiles, paintings, carvings and baskets? There's no other hotel in the world with the same cultural look and feel as this one, only steps away from the city's historic plaza, and a short drive from Canyon Road, Taos and Bandelier National Park.

www.rosewoodhotels.com | ~\$425

VILLAS DE SANTA FE

Villas de Santa Fe provide maximum control and convenience with the heart of the true Southwest. Accommodations are comfortable and peaceful, and come complete with a two-burner stove top, toaster, refrigerator, microwave, and even a dishwasher. But once you venture outside the Villas' walls the city comes alive with the adventures of Santa Fe and the Sangre de Cristo mountains, including hot air ballooning, river rafting, cycling, hiking and fishing in the background.

www.diamondresortandhotels.com | ~\$175

* Hotels listed above are local properties we love. We do not have special rates available.



FAQS

What Are The Daily Rides Like?

- Rider Type | 4 - Avid
- Average Daily Mileage | 85
- Terrain | Hilly
- Average Daily Elevation | 3,968 feet
- Total Miles | 1,272 miles
- Total Elevation | 59,525 feet

The terrain is extremely varied, including rolling roads along rivers, long gradual climbs and descents across the plains, as well as long and steep climbing and descending in the Rockies and the Appalachians. Roads

What are the options for a non-rider travel companion?

This destination is best suited to guests who want to cycle every day. Because of the terrain and/or remoteness of the hotels and riding routes, there are no non-riding options available on this trip. If a non-rider wants to accompany a rider guest on this trip, they would need to spend many hours in the van and/or at the hotels on the trip. Due to this, we strongly discourage non-riders from this destination. As an alternative, call a Trek Travel Trip Consultant at 866.464.8735 for trip suggestions where more non-rider activities are available.

Trip Changes

See itinerary for specific daily ride distances and elevation options. On all of our vacations, Trek Travel strives to find quiet, paved secondary roads or bike paths to experience a region; busy roads are avoided as much as possible. Due to the nature of this trip, highways and busy roads are sometimes unavoidable. Our

are primarily two-lane secondary highways with good shoulders, but also include stretches of primary highways (particularly out west) with wide shoulders, and smaller local roads and surface streets with little or no shoulder. Some road surfaces may be rough. Cross Country USA is best suited for our Type 4 Riders, due to the extreme physical demands of the trip.

Itineraries are an approximation of our trips. Trek Travel strives to offer every guest a vacation of a lifetime on every trip. The routes, hotels, activities, etc. listed here are subject to change based on hotel availability, road construction and the discretion of the trip designer or guides.