

Great Explorations



Trip Dates

2012

Apr 8-15
April 29- May 6
May 13-20
Sep 9-16
Sep 23-30

2013

Apr 7-14
April 28- May 5
May 12-19
Sep 8-15
Sep 22-29

Self-guided and custom trips also available and can start any day. Call or email for details.

Trip Size

8-16 participants

Total Days:

8 days/ 7 nights

Arrive/Depart:

Grand Junction/Moab

Activity Level:

48 km daily average distance (30 miles)

Utah, Biking

Grand Junction to Colorado River

Journey to the spectacular canyonlands of southern Utah visiting three national parks or monuments. Pedal amongst towering mesas and red cliffs, graced with ancient petroglyphs. Picnic under stone arches and follow the course of the mighty Colorado River. Enjoy high desert vistas and breathtaking views from mountain tops. Immerse yourself in the beauty of the American south west and take home memories that will last a lifetime.

Itinerary



Getting there :

Grand Junction: Grand Junction can be reached by air via Denver, Phoenix, and Salt Lake City with America West, Skywest/Delta Connection, United Express, and Great Lakes Airlines. It can also be reached by Greyhound Bus from Denver, Durango, Los Angeles, Las Vegas, and Salt Lake City.

DAY 1:

Grand Junction - Arrival in Grand Junction, located amongst a dazzling array of natural wonders — rushing rivers, rocky mesas, ancient paleontological sites, and golden deserts. But, surprisingly, this is also wine country and there are 13 wineries in the Grand Valley. Take some time to explore the town and its shops, admire Navajo rugs and Anasazi pottery, or take a stroll along the river.

DAY 2:

Grand Junction - Today enjoy a fabulous, exhilarating ride in the Colorado National Monument, 20,500 acres of the towering monoliths and deep canyons, home to soaring eagles and bighorn sheep. Pedal past ranches and old orchards, and even a herd of llamas on your way to Rim Rock Drive and up into the high desert. The ride takes you back to Grand Junction where you'll spend tonight.

DAY 3:

Moab - There are two possibilities today. You can follow the Colorado River downstream to Moab, riding through a deep gorge of vertical red cliffs. Or you can be shuttled up into the La Sal Mountains, topped with pines and aspens, and then enjoy a long, thrilling descent to Moab, where you'll stay for three nights.

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Terrain:

The rides are on a variety of terrain, including gravel, dirt, and rock.

There are some climbs every day, some of them quite challenging.

Cost

Land Cost (current year):

US \$2850

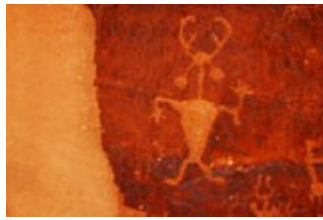
Includes 7B/2L/6D

Single Supplement:

US \$520

Bike Rental:

US \$160



DAY 4:

Arches National Park - Today begins with a shuttle to Arches National Park, where there are over 2000 natural sandstone arches. Erosion has also produced pinnacles and balancing rocks. You'll begin your ride at Devil's Garden and ride back to Moab, with opportunities for hikes to explore the amazing rock formations around you. Be sure to visit the Delicate Arch viewpoint, where you'll see the most famous arch in the park. You'll also see this arch on the Utah license plate.

DAY 5:

Canyonlands National Park - Another day in Moab takes you into Canyonlands National Park with a choice of return rides to Moab. All end on the Potash Road squeezed between the Colorado River and steep red cliffs where you can see ancient petroglyphs. Spend some time hiking on slickrock to Corono and Bow Tie and climb almost 1000' to Portal Overlook for a breathtaking view of Moab as an option.

DAY 6:

Cisco - This morning you'll be shuttled to Cisco, Utah, a ruined, old railroad town, in the high desert. You'll descend into the spectacular gorge of the Colorado River. Wind between cliffs of red rock and over a rolling plateau above the river. Your destination is a remote lodge beside the Colorado River, The sorrel River Ranch.



DAY 7:

Colorado River - Enjoy several day rides designed to take you deeper into red rock country, where you'll swear you've wandered onto an old western movie set. This is ranch country. You'll climb away from the river into the Castle Valley and, if you need additional challenges, you can climb 4000' above the Colorado River. You could also enjoy a wide variety of outdoor recreational activities including horseback riding, mountain biking, whitewater rafting & kayaking on the Colorado River, and find relaxation at the resort, with their swimming pool and hot tub, tennis courts, gym and

aerobics studio...

DAY 8: Enjoy your last morning at the sorrel river ranch before taking the shuttle back to Grand Junction.



What's Included in the Cost of Your Trip?

- services of one or more experienced Great Explorations guides and support vehicle
- 7 nights camping
- all breakfasts, 2 lunches, and all dinners but 1
- entrance fees for selected historical sites and museums
- detailed map and route instructions
- all baggage transportation
- all transportation from initial meeting point to final drop-off (see arrive/depart cities)

Please note: Final itinerary is subject to revision; any changes made are done so in an attempt to provide the best possible trip given route conditions and available services. Due to the nature of our business and exchange rates, prices are subject to change. All prices quoted are U.S. dollars but we gladly accept payment in Canadian dollars also. Due to cancellations and waiting lists, trip availability fluctuates daily. If you have any questions or would like to confirm space on this trip before making your reservation, please contact us at info@great-explorations.com or by telephone at **604.730.1247**

E-mail: info@great-explorations.com—Website: <http://www.great-explorations.com>
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Accommodations



Two Rivers Winery, Grand Junction

Located in the Redlands area of Grand Junction, this upscale hotel, situated amid vineyards, has beautiful views of the Colorado National Monument. The large rooms are tastefully furnished with beautiful hardwood beds. The architecture and décor create the feel of a French country chateau.



Sunflower Hill B&B, Moab

An inviting country Inn filled with antiques that features two beautifully restored buildings – the historic Ranch House and spacious Garden Cottage. Enjoy a serene setting with lush flower gardens, shade trees and a spectacular outdoor pool. The Inn has been awarded a 4-diamond rating by AAA each year since 1997.



Sorrel River Ranch Resort, Moab

This luxurious ranch has extensive facilities which include a gourmet restaurant, a full-service health spa, tennis courts, a riverside swimming pool, and a full equestrian facility. Setting a new standard for luxury and adventure travel, the 160 acre resort is surrounded by towering red rock buttes and dramatic mesas, all beneath a vast desert sky.