National Parks & Lodges of the Old West

10 DAYS OF SPECTACULAR SCENERY & LODGES

* Relive the Old West, minus the saddle burn *
Dear Alumni and Friends,

Join us on a journey that celebrates the American West’s magnificent National Parks, tracing legends and storied monuments along the way. In 2016, the National Park Service turns 100. Celebrate the results of their conservation and historic preservation efforts, and participate in this special Centennial of some of the most beautiful places in America.

From Old Faithful to Mount Rushmore and from Spearfish Canyon to the Snake River, you will see the best of the Old West and traverse its beautiful vistas in style and comfort. Wonderfully historic hotels and lodges are a highlight of this program, including landmark lodging within the parks themselves.

Space is limited. Our rate for Rice Traveling Owls guests on this departure represents a significant savings (more than $600 per couple), so be certain to reserve your spot today and share this brochure with family and friends who may be interested in traveling with you! Please reserve your space online at http://rice.orbridge.com, by calling 713-34-TRIPS (87477) or by returning the enclosed reservation form.

Warm regards,

Dan Stypa
Associate Director
Rice University

Free Expedition Library
AN EARLY RESERVATION BONUS

Reserve your space by March 31, 2016 and receive the FREE Orbridge Expedition Library we’ve assembled for this program.

This exclusive gift is to thank you for joining us early. Guests who reserve after the specified date may purchase libraries. Call for details.
Trace the legends and natural splendors of the American West.

The country our ancestors dreamed about—and that still resides in our nation’s great parks—is filled with beautiful scenery, abundant wildlife, hiking, storytelling, and incredible historic lodges you will long to write home about.
Your 10-Day Itinerary*

**Day 1:** Arrive in Rapid City, SD (R)  
Meet fellow travelers for a welcome drink  
Overnight: Adoba Eco Hotel

**Day 2:** Badlands National Park / Custer State Park (B,D)  
Buffalo safari, canyon cookout  
Overnight: Custer State Game Lodge

**Day 3:** Custer State Park / Hot Springs (B,D)  
Mammoth dig site, Crazy Horse Memorial  
Overnight: Custer State Game Lodge

**Day 4:** Custer State Park / Spearfish Canyon (B,D)  
Mount Rushmore, Tatanka Museum  
Overnight: Spearfish Canyon Lodge

**Day 5:** U-Cross Ranch / Cody, WY (B,L)  
Ranch life, Bighorn Mountains  
Overnight: Holiday Inn Cody

**Day 6:** Cody / Yellowstone National Park (B,D)  
Buffalo Bill, Old West, Old Faithful  
Overnight: Yellowstone Lodging

**Day 7:** Yellowstone National Park (B,D)  
Geothermal highlights, park sightseeing  
Overnight: Yellowstone Lodging

**Day 8:** Grand Teton National Park / Jackson (B)  
Scenic drive: western plains and mountains  
Overnight: Rustic Inn

**Day 9:** Jackson (B,D)  
Leisure activities, farewell dinner  
Overnight: Rustic Inn

**Day 10:** Depart Jackson (B)

Optional Extension: Days 10-12 in Jackson

**Program Highlights**

- Experience the diverse wonders of our National Parks accompanied by an Orbridge Expedition Leader.
- Overnight in landmark lodges that are national treasures themselves.
- Enjoy a chuck wagon cookout after a visit to Custer State Park, a wildlife reserve with scenic lakes, dramatic granite spires, and lush grasslands where bison herds roam.
- Marvel at the grandeur of Mount Rushmore and the Crazy Horse Memorial.
- Visit the world's largest mammoth site, where scientists are excavating remains of Columbian and woolly mammoths from 26,000 years ago.
- See the dramatic effects of Yellowstone’s volcanically active caldera with visits to otherworldly geothermal sites including Fountain Paint Pot and Old Faithful Geyser.
- **What’s included:** 9 nights hotel and lodge accommodations; 9 breakfasts, 1 lunch, and 6 dinners; full guiding services of an Orbridge Expedition Leader; admission to national parks and all activities as described in program itinerary; luggage porterage; all gratuities; and airport transfers for guests arriving and departing during the suggested times.

*Subject to change.

**Activity Level:** Guests should be able to walk up a flight of stairs, and get in and out of a motor coach without assistance. Maximum altitude: 9,000 feet.
Your Expedition Leader:
From identifying a wildflower to recalling details about Mt. Rushmore’s making, the company and keen eyes of an expert Orbridge Expedition Leader will make all the difference in your educational experience. Enriched by their wealth of expertise, you’ll bring home a deeper understanding of the flora, fauna, natural history, and cultural narrative of the Old West.

Historic Lodges (subject to change)

ADOBA ECO HOTEL (RAPID CITY)
Situated near Rapid City’s entertainment, shopping, and dining, this hotel features a café, award-winning restaurant, and lounge.

CUSTER STATE GAME LODGE
Set in a beautiful mountain valley in Custer State Park, it served as the “Summer White House” for President Calvin Coolidge and was visited by President Dwight D. Eisenhower.

SPEARFISH CANYON LODGE
Nestled alongside lofty pines and spectacular limestone cliffs, this property features heavy log walls and a 40-foot stone fireplace. Follow the hiking trails that meander through the forest to a Black Hills waterfall or the canyon rim.

HOLIDAY INN CODY
Near the Buffalo Bill Center of the West, Old Trail Town, and other local attractions, this hotel offers well-appointed rooms with all the comforts of home, as well as an outdoor pool, bar/restaurant, and lounge.

YELLOWSTONE LODGING
Confirmed by the National Park Service in 2016, you’ll stay at one of the following Yellowstone facilities: Lake Yellowstone Hotel, Old Faithful Inn, Old Faithful Snow Lodge, Mammoth Hot Springs Hotel (all pictured to right), or Canyon Lodge & Cabins, Grant Village, Lake Lodge Cabins, or Old Faithful Lodge. Each offers comfortable lodging and modern amenities.

RUSTIC INN AT JACKSON HOLE
CREEKSIDE RESORT & SPA
Rustic Inn offers the finest Western accommodations, 12 lush acres adjacent to the National Elk Refuge, and nearby access to Jackson’s downtown scene.
Optional Extension
Jackson Hole

With two added days in Jackson Hole, enjoy the area’s vibrant cultural offerings, jaw-dropping scenery, abundant wildlife, and outdoor activities.

**Extension Itinerary***

**Day 10:** Jackson / Grand Teton Wildlife Excursion (B)
Wildlife experts will guide you to the park’s viewing hotspots while also providing details about the area’s history, landmarks, and geography.

**Day 11:** Jackson / Leisure (B)
Take advantage of the wildlife viewing, enjoy various outdoor activities, or relax at the resort and spa at Rustic Inn.

**Day 12:** Depart Jackson (B)
After breakfast, guests departing during the suggested times take a complimentary transfer to the airport for flights home.

**What’s Included**

- Two nights accommodations at Rustic Inn at Jackson Hole Creekside Resort & Spa (shown below) or similar, with breakfast each morning
- A half-day guided wildlife excursion through Grand Teton National Park
- Refreshments and park entrance fees for guided wildlife excursion
- All gratuities
- Transfers for guests departing during the suggested times

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Early Reservation Bonus:
See reverse for details.
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JUNE 1-10, 2016
Jackson Hole Extension: June 10-12, 2016

☐ Option 1: Reserve online at now at http://rice.orbridge.com or call 713-34-TRIPS (87477).

☐ Option 2: Secure your reservation with a deposit charged to the credit card below, or with an enclosed check payable to: Orbidge LLC.

Guest Information:
Guest #1 (as printed on passport): ________________________ Class Year __________
Guest #2 (as printed on passport): ________________________ Class Year __________
Address:
City: ___________________________ State: ___________ Zip: ___________
Email: __________________________ Phone: ___________ Alt. Phone: ___________
Category Preference (if applicable): 1st choice ___________ 2nd choice ___________

Deposit:
(#) __________ guests joining program ($850/person) +
(#) __________ guests joining extension ($500/person) = Total deposit: $ ___________

Deposit Payment:
☐ Check enclosed ☐ Online Check/ACH ☐ MasterCard/Visa ☐ American Express ☐ Discover
Card #: __________________________ Exp. date: ___________ CVV: ___________
Name (as printed on card): __________________________
Billing address (if different from above): __________________________
City: ___________________________ State: ___________ Zip: ___________
I/we have read, understand, and agree to the full Terms & Conditions at http://terms.orbridge.com and detailed in program documents; and that Orbidge LLC is authorized to charge my credit card above and/or take my/our deposit for this program.
Signature: __________________________ Date: ___________

Mail or fax reservation form and deposit to:
Rice Alumni Traveling Owls
Office of Alumni Affairs MS 520, P.O. Box 1892
Houston, TX 77251-1892
Fax: (713) 348-5210

For questions and to learn more, call the Traveling Owls at 713-34-TRIPS (87477) or email travelingowls@rice.edu.

Place your reservation by March 31, 2016 to receive your FREE Orbidge Expedition Library.*

Registration, Deposits and Final Payment. To confirm and secure your reservation, a deposit of $850 per person per program, a deposit for any extension(s), and any non-refundable advanced payments, payable by check, online check/ACH, money order, wire transfer of same day U.S. funds, or major credit card, is due at the time of registration. Final payment, including any extension(s) and optional(s), is payable by check, online check/ACH, money order, or wire transfer of same day U.S. funds ONLY and due no later than 90 days prior to the scheduled program departure date. If your reservation is made fewer than 90 days prior to departure, the entire cost of the program, including any extension(s) and optional(s), is due at the time of registration by check, money order, or wire transfer of same day U.S. funds ONLY. If final payment is not received by Orbidge LLC at least 90 days prior to the scheduled program departure date, Orbidge LLC may, at any time and with or without notice, cancel your reservation in its sole discretion with no right of refund. All payments we receive from you are herein defined as “Payments.” CST#2098750-40 WST#602828994

Cancellations and Refunds. All cancellations must be submitted to Orbidge in writing and will be subject to a cancellation fee ("Cancellation Fee") as follows: (a) if the cancellation notice is received by Orbidge 151 or more days prior to the scheduled departure date, the cancellation fee will be $500 per person per program, $300 per person per extension, and any non-refundable advance payments(s); (b) if the cancellation notice is received by Orbidge between 150 and 91 days prior to the scheduled departure date the cancellation fee will be forfeiture of the full deposit per person per program including any extension(s) and non-refundable advance payment(s); (c) if the cancellation notice is received by Orbidge 90 or fewer days prior to the scheduled departure date, the cancellation fee will be the full program price, including any extension(s) and non-refundable payments. Cancellation fees and terms for Options vary and are detailed separately. In addition to and in lieu of the foregoing, a Cancellation Fee equal to 100% of the carrier charge applies to all non-refundable airfares due to your cancellation made at any time prior to the scheduled program departure date, as applicable. Refunds, if any, of any Payments in excess of the aggregate Cancellation Fee shall be processed within 30 calendar days of our receipt of your written notice.

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*Special group rate; limited offer. Rates are per person based on double occupancy except where noted as Single, in U.S. dollars. Airfare not included. Single availability limited. **A complement to the educational component of this journey, Expedition Libraries are curated collections of useful resources and background reading tailored to this program. Place your deposit on or before the specified date, and one Expedition Library per room will be sent upon receipt of final payment. Libraries may be purchased; please call for details.
What Guests Are Saying...

I was very impressed by Orbridge as a tour operator. The staff was very helpful prior to the trip. Everything was handled extremely professionally and with compassion.
~ Ellen G., Rice Traveling Owls guest on our 2015 Orbridge Tanzania Adventure trip

I was impressed by the pre-trip reading materials! Usually you just get a reading list but I appreciated actually being provided with great materials to read prior to departure.
~ Rice Traveling Owls guest on our 2015 Orbridge Tanzania Adventure trip