9 Days of Spectacular Scenery & Lodges

NATIONAL PARKS & LODGES OF THE OLD WEST

AUGUST 13-21, 2020

with optional
JACKSON HOLE POST-TOUR
Dear Alumni and Friends,

Please join fellow alumni and friends on a journey that celebrates the American West's magnificent National Parks, tracing legends and storied monuments along the way.

From Mount Rushmore to Old Faithful 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.

Experience ranch life in the Big Horn Mountains. Indulge in the geological phenomena of hot springs in South Dakota, and journey through Badlands National Park, known as nature's surreal masterpiece, where impressive herds of bison roam, and dazzling, dramatic pinnacles rise over the largest undisturbed mixed-grass prairie in the United States.

Space is limited. With significant savings of more than $600 per couple, we anticipate this tour will fill quickly, so be certain to reserve your spot today. Share this brochure with family and friends who may be interested in traveling with you.

Please reserve online at rice.orbridge.com, by calling 713-34-TRIPS (87477) or by returning the enclosed reservation form.

Sincerely,
The Rice Alumni Traveling Owls

Free Expedition Library
AN EARLY RESERVATION BONUS

Reserve your space by December 20, 2019 to 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.

Orbridge takes seriously the responsibility to minimize our global environmental impact. Starting in 2019, we will annually plant 100,000 trees in U.S. State Forests with afforestation needs as an on-going initiative among our evolving sustainability efforts.
Trace the legends and natural splendors of the American West—an awe-inspiring expanse filled with beautiful scenery, abundant wildlife, hiking, storytelling, and incredible historic lodges you will write home about.
Your 9-Day Itinerary (subject to change)

Day 1: Arrive in Rapid City, SD (D)
Settle in, welcome dinner
Overnight: Hotel Alex Johnson

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

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

Day 4: Custer State Park / Mount Rushmore (B,D)
Monument exploration
Overnight: Spearfish Canyon Lodge

Day 5: Clearmont, WY / Cody (B,L)
Ranch at Ucross, Bighorn Mountains
Overnight: Holiday Inn Cody-At Buffalo Bill Village

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 (B,D)
Scenic drive: western plains and mountains
Overnight: Jackson Lake Lodge

Day 9: Grand Teton National Park / Jackson / Depart Jackson (B)

(B=Breakfast, L=Lunch, D=Dinner)

Activity Level: The majority of the program’s activities will take place outdoors and a fair amount of walking on varying terrain is to be expected. Many of the parks have dirt trails, but they are usually fairly smooth for walking, some do have paved pathways and boardwalks. It is our expectation that guests on this program are able to walk a mile at a moderate pace, get in and out of a motor coach, and walk up a flight of stairs without assistance. Also keep in mind that you will experience varying altitudes, rising up to 9,000 feet, to which you may not be accustomed.

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 during a visit to Custer State Park—a wildlife reserve with scenic lakes, dramatic granite spires, and lush grasslands where bison herds roam.

• Visit the world’s largest mammoth site, where scientists are excavating remains of Columbian and woolly mammoths from 26,000 years ago.

• Marvel at the grandeur of Mount Rushmore and Crazy Horse Memorial.

• See the dramatic effects of Yellowstone’s volcanically active caldera with visits to otherworldly geothermal sites including Fountain Paint Pot and Old Faithful Geyser.

• Explore Grand Teton National Park—host to flora and fauna that date back to prehistoric times.

• What’s included: 8 nights hotel and lodge accommodations; 8 breakfasts, 1 lunch, and 7 dinners; full guiding services of an Orbridge Expedition Leader; all activities as described in the program itinerary; admission to national parks; private deluxe motor coach with air conditioning and comfortable seating; luggage porterage; all gratuities; and airport transfers for guests arriving and departing during the suggested times.
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.

Accommodations (subject to change)

HOTEL ALEX JOHNSON
Located in downtown Rapid City, this historic hotel features a casual Irish pub, fitness center, and rooftop bar overlooking town.

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-AT BUFFALO BILL VILLAGE
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, you’ll stay at one of the following Yellowstone facilities: Old Faithful Inn, Old Faithful Snow Lodge, or Canyon Lodge & Cabins. Each offers comfortable lodging and modern amenities.

JACKSON LAKE LODGE
Embrace breathtaking views from the comfort of Jackson Lake Lodge’s lobby featuring 60-foot floor-to-ceiling windows that frame pristine Jackson Lake and the majestic Teton Range.
With two additional days in Jackson Hole, enjoy the area’s vibrant cultural offerings, jaw-dropping scenery, abundant wildlife, and outdoor activities.

**Post-Tour Itinerary (subject to change)**

**Day 9:** Jackson
Wildlife experts will guide you to the park's viewing hotspots while also providing details about the area’s history, landmarks, and geography.

**Day 10:** Jackson (B)
National Museum of Wildlife Art, wildlife viewing, various outdoor activities, or relax at the property.

**Day 11:** 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 scenic Snake River float trip, including transportation to and from the hotel
- Admission to and docent-led tour of the National Museum of Wildlife Art, including transfers to and from the hotel
- Luggage porterage
- Airport transfers for guests departing during the suggested times
National Parks & Lodges of the Old West

AUGUST 13-21, 2020
Jackson Hole Post-Tour: August 21-23, 2020

Reserve by Credit Card:
Online: rice.orbridge.com
Phone: 713-34-TRIPS (87477)
Fax: (713) 348-5210

Reserve by Check:
Made payable to Orbridge, LLC
Mail to: Rice Alumni Traveling Owls
Office of Alumni Relations, MS 520
P.O. Box 1892, Houston, TX 77251-1892

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

GUEST INFORMATION:
Guest #1 Name (Title/Salutation): __________________________
Email: __________________________________________________
Home Phone: __________________________ Alt. Phone: __________
Address: __________________________________________________________________________________
City: __________________________ State: _______ Zip: __________
Guest #2 Name (Title/Salutation): __________________________
Email: __________________________________________________
Home Phone: __________________________ Alt. Phone: __________

DEPOSIT PAYMENT:
☑ Check ☐ ACH (Automated Clearing House) ☐ MasterCard/Visa ☐ American Express ☐ Discover
Card #: __________________________ Exp. Date: _______ CVV: _______
Name (as printed on card): __________________________
Billing Address
(if different from above): __________________________
City: __________________________ State: _______ Zip: __________

DEPOSIT:
# _________ guests joining program ($850/person) +
# _________ guests joining post-tour ($500/person) = TOTAL DEPOSIT: $________
I/we have read, understand, and agree to the full Terms & Conditions at terms.orbridge.com and detailed in program
documents; and that Orbridge, LLC is authorized to charge my credit card above and/or take my/our deposit for this program.
Signature: ___________________________________________ Date: ______________________

Reserve by December 20, 2019 to receive the FREE Orbridge Expedition Library**

Registration, Deposits and Final Payment. To confirm and secure your reservation, a deposit of $850 per person and $500 per person per pre-tour and/or post-tour is due at the time of registration, payable by check, automated clearing house (ACH), money order, wire transfer of same day U.S. funds, or major credit card. Final payment, including any pre-tour and/or post-tour and optional excursion(s) fee(s), is payable by check, ACH, money order, or wire transfer of same day U.S. funds, and is due no later than 90 days prior to the scheduled program departure date. If your reservation is made between the final payment due date and the date the program starts, 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. Final payments made by credit card are subject to a 2% transaction fee. If final payment is not received by Orbridge by the final payment due date, Orbridge 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.”

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Cancellations and Refunds. All cancellations must be submitted to Orbridge in writing and will be subject to a cancellation fee (“Cancellation Fee”) as follows: (a) if the cancellation notice is received by Orbridge 275 or more calendar days prior to the scheduled departure date, all deposits will be fully refunded; (b) if the cancellation notice is received by Orbridge between 274 and 151 days prior to the scheduled departure date, the Cancellation Fee will be $500 per person per program and $300 per person per program for extensions; (c) if the cancellation notice is received by Orbridge between 150 days prior to the scheduled departure date and the day before the final payment due date, the Cancellation Fee will be the full deposit per person per program including any extension; (d) if the cancellation notice is received by Orbridge on the final payment due date or closed to the scheduled departure date, the Cancellation Fee will be the full program price. In addition to and not 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 the Expedition Library per household will be sent after receipt of final payment. Libraries may be purchased; please call for details.
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AUGUST 13-21, 2020

Special Alumni Rate: Save more than $600 per couple

When you reserve by December 20, 2019**

Rice Alumni Traveling Owls
Office of Alumni Relations, MS 520
P.O. Box 1892
Houston, TX 77251-1892

Rice Traveling Owls guests on Orbridge's 2018 Discover Southeast Alaska travel program.