

NPCA TRAVEL



The Travel Program of the National Parks Conservation Association

2022 *Travel Collection*

CUSTOM-DESIGNED
ITINERARIES THAT GIVE
NPCA MEMBERS EXCLUSIVE
EXPERIENCES

*ON THE ROAD TO FREEDOM
CIVIL RIGHTS TOUR*

*ANCIENT FORESTS OF THE
OLYMPIC PENINSULA*

*NATURAL FORTUNES OF
THE FOUR CORNERS*

*THE NATIONAL PARKS OF
HAWAI'I*

*FA'A SAMOA
THE NATIONAL PARK
OF AMERICAN SAMOA*

*WILD CALIFORNIA ESCAPE
CHANNEL ISLANDS*

*THE BACKROADS OF
BIG BEND*

LAVA FLOWS INTO OCEAN
Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park


new trips!



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**On the Road to Freedom:
Civil Rights Tour**

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**Ancient Forests of the
Olympic Peninsula**

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**Natural Fortunes of the
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**The National Parks
of Hawai'i**

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**Why Travel
with NPCA**

LEFT: Hole-in-the-wall at Rialto Beach,
Olympic National Park, WA

From Our CEO



THERESA PIERNO
President & CEO,
National Parks
Conservation Association

Dear friend,

This past year we have seen how eager people are to get back out into our national parks, myself included. And we have also seen how much people have stepped up to protect them. We hope that our highly curated lineup of trips will give you a behind-the-scenes look at our work so you can truly experience the gift we are all leaving behind for our grandchildren's children.

With your help and so many like you across the country, we secured critical federal funding for deferred maintenance projects across the park system, from roads and bridges to visitor centers, with the passage of the Great American Outdoors Act. And together we restored important protections for Bears Ears National Monument in Utah, land that is as beautiful as it is sacred.

These are just two of the many victories we have secured together for our national parks, which take vigilance and commitment to protect.

We have thoughtfully selected destinations across the country that will immerse you in stunning landscapes and important history, as well as in our work to protect all that makes them so special. Each trip is led by NPCA staff experts and features exclusive access to our partners and other specialists that will help make your journey one-of-a-kind. And you'll walk away with a better understanding of the critical role you play in ensuring these sites remain safeguarded.

We hope you find our lineup both meaningful and inspiring. It would be our pleasure to host you on one or more of these trips you won't find anywhere else.

Inside this catalogue, you will find the dates and descriptions of our 2022 trip departures. For more details on each of the day-by-day itineraries or to reserve your space, please visit npca.org/travel or contact NPCA's Associate Director, Educational Travel Program, Jared Dial, at [1.800.628.7275](tel:18006287275) or travel@npca.org.

Safe and happy travels,

Theresa Pierno
Theresa Pierno

“WE HAVE CREATED
A NEW LINEUP OF
IN-DEPTH EXPERIENCES
BY PREPARING UNIQUE
ITINERARIES TO ICONIC
AND LESSER KNOWN
PARKS...”



On the Road to Freedom:

Understanding Civil Rights Through Our National Parks and Heritage Areas

Join NPCA experts on a remarkable journey through some of the most significant sites associated with American civil rights. We will have a unique opportunity to meet with NPCA partners, local historians and some of the faithful activists known as foot soldiers who actively played a role in the civil rights movement. You'll leave this tour with a deeper connection to untold stories of the civil rights era and NPCA's role in preserving them.

AVAILABLE DATES: September 9-16

Length of Tour: 8 days/7 nights | **Max:** 16 Travelers

NPCA Member Price: \$4,650 per person double occupancy; \$980 single supplement

Arrive: Birmingham, Alabama | **Depart:** Memphis, Tennessee

For a detailed itinerary, visit [NPCA.ORG/TRAVEL](https://www.npcanational.org/travel)

HIGHLIGHTS

- Explore national park sites and heritage areas commemorating the American civil rights movement
- Hear from three civil rights activists as they share their extraordinary stories of survival and bravery and their fight for justice
- Journey through the Mississippi Delta and find out first-hand why NPCA is prioritizing necessary protections for the region's abundance of civil rights history



National Memorial for Peace and Justice in Montgomery, AL

ITINERARY

DAY 1 SEPT 9: Arrive in Birmingham and kick off this transformative trip with a welcome reception, dinner and special speaking program hosted by NPCA. *Elyton Hotel*

DAY 2 SEPT 10: Visit **Birmingham Civil Rights National Monument** to begin your journey through the civil rights movement. Meet **Rev. Carolyn McKinstry**, a 16th Street Baptist Church Bombing survivor, and hear her gripping account of the tragic events of September 1963. Explore Historic **Kelly Ingram Park**, site of civil rights rallies and confrontations. *Renaissance Montgomery Hotel*

DAY 3 SEPT 11: Walk through Montgomery, Alabama, and learn about NPCA's current efforts to establish the Alabama **Black Belt National Heritage Area**. Visit **Dexter Parsonage Museum**, home of **Dr. Rev. Martin Luther King Jr.** Learn the history of racial inequality and economic injustice at the **Legacy Museum**. Gain access to exclusive experts and speakers at the **National Memorial for Peace and Justice**. *Renaissance Montgomery Hotel*

DAY 4 SEPT 12: Meet with **Joanne Bland**, the youngest person jailed during any U.S. civil rights demonstration, at the **Selma Interpretive Center**. Stop at **Brown Chapel African Methodist Episcopal Church**, then take a walk across historic **Edmund Pettus Bridge**. Tour **Medgar and Myrlie Evers Home National Monument**, where **Medgar Evers** was tragically assassinated in 1963. *The Westin Jackson Hotel*



DAY 5 SEPT 13: Experience the **Mississippi Civil Rights Museum**, **COFO Civil Rights Education Center** and **Vicksburg National Military Park**, meeting with historians and experts along the way. Listen to **Hezekiah Watkins** recount his extraordinary experiences as the youngest **Freedom Rider**. Enjoy local cuisine and culture at **Farish Street**, followed by a private blues performance. *The Westin Jackson Hotel*



DAY 6 SEPT 14: Head north along the **Mississippi Freedom Trail** for an exclusive meeting with the executive director of the **Mississippi Delta National Heritage Area**. Enjoy a private catered lunch at the **Museum of the Mississippi Delta**. Experience a private program at the **Emmett Till Interpretive Center** and **Sunner Courthouse**. Conclude your day with an uplifting evening of dinner and music in Clarksdale. *Travelers Hotel*



DAYS 7-8 SEPT 15-16: Tour five centuries of history, from slavery to the protests of the civil rights movement at the **National Civil Rights Museum** in Memphis, Tennessee. Discover the intersection of the civil rights movement and soul music at the **Stax Museum of American Soul Music** and hear from **Jeff Kollath**, the executive director of the museum. *Hu Hotel*

TOP DOWN:
Edmund Pettus Bridge, Selma, AL;
Commemorating Bloody Sunday, 55
years later, Selma, AL;
Medgar Evers home in Jackson, MS



Ancient Forests of the Olympic Peninsula

Welcome to the Pacific Northwest! From the city of Seattle, make your way to Olympic National Park, one of the most beautiful places on Earth. It is in this landscape that natural wonders, complex ecosystems and history come together to create a truly magnificent experience. Your NPCA experts and accompanying guides will show you a lesser-known side of the park as we explore by foot and on water, often with key local partners by our side. We'll explore the pristine beaches, crystal-blue lakes and rainforests, leaving with a deeper understanding of this landscape and its ongoing challenges.

AVAILABLE DATES: **September 12-18**

Length of Tour: 7 days/6 nights | Max: 16 Travelers

NPCA Member Price: \$4,690 per person double occupancy; \$935 single supplement

Arrive/Depart: Seattle, Washington

For a detailed itinerary, visit [NPCA.ORG/TRAVEL](https://www.npcaworld.org/travel)

HIGHLIGHTS

- Admire the astounding ecosystems and landscapes of this UNESCO World Heritage Site that holds deep ties to eight Indigenous tribes
- Join an expert local ecologist on an immersive retreat in “the quietest place in America”
- Gaze at otherworldly sea stacks, observe fascinating sea life and take leisure in the forested Sol Duc Hot Springs on special guided tours with experts



Marymere Falls, Olympic National Park, WA

ITINERARY

DAY 1 **SEPT 12:** Meet your NPCA group and board a shuttle to scenic Kalaloch Lodge after a stop to meet with local Tribal partners. NPCA staff hosts will brief you on the exciting days ahead as you enjoy dinner at **Creekside Restaurant, Kalaloch Lodge**

DAY 2 **SEPT 13:** Venture to the lush **Hoh Rain Forest**. Accompanied by acoustic ecologist **Gordon Hemp-ton**, you'll hike about three miles and find out why the forest is named “the quietest place in America.” Head to **Ruby Beach**, the crown jewel of **Olympic National Park**, to admire towering sea stacks and its distinct reddish sand. **Kalaloch Lodge**

DAY 5 **SEPT 16:** Take a memorable guided kayak excursion on the glacial waters of **Lake Crescent** or hike on **Spruce Railroad Trail** to the famous **Devil's Punch Bowl**. Observe coho, cutthroat and steelhead salmon in the turquoise waters of **Sol Duc River**. Listen to the thundering sounds of **Sol Duc Falls**. Surrounded by towering evergreens, relax in **Sol Duc Hot Springs**. **Lake Crescent Lodge**



LEFT TO RIGHT: Red Mushroom; Waterfall above Hoh River; Elk in Hoh Rain Forest



DAY 3 **SEPT 14:** Spend time looking for colorful critters in the tidepools of **Rialto Beach** with a local naturalist. Catch a glimpse of otters and seals as we journey to the otherworldly **Hole-in-the-Wall** formation. Find comfort and some relaxation time at Lake Crescent Lodge. **Lake Crescent Lodge**

DAY 4 **SEPT 15:** Experience striking panoramic views of the park at **Hurricane Ridge** and hear from **Tim McNulty**, a poet, essayist and nature writer based out of Washington's **Olympic Peninsula**. Learn about the world-class restoration of **Elwha River**. Enjoy dinner on the picturesque **Port Angeles** waterfront. **Lake Crescent Lodge**

DAY 6 **SEPT 17:** Depart the **Olympic Peninsula** and head to **Bainbridge Island**. Meet NPCA Northwest Regional Council Member, **Clarence Moriwaki** and receive an exclusive tour of **Bainbridge Island Japanese American Exclusion Memorial**. Enjoy Bainbridge Island's boutiques, galleries and wine tasting rooms. **The Marshall Suites**

DAY 7 **SEPT 18:** Adventure through the dark waters of **Puget Sound** on a scenic ferry ride back to Seattle. Cherish views of cascading mountains as you search for killer whales, porpoises and seals before your departure home.



Natural Fortunes of the Four Corners

Welcome to the Four Corners region, known for sweeping vistas, Ancestral Puebloan settlements and rich cultural traditions, internationally recognized dark skies and diverse plant and animal species. It is also an area increasingly at risk of oil and gas development, which threatens priceless cultural resources. On this trip, journey alongside NPCA experts to experience these unique places firsthand and get a behind-the-scenes look at how the organization is fighting to protect them.

AVAILABLE DATES: September 25 - October 1

Length of Tour: 7 days/6 nights | **Max:** 16 Travelers

NPCA Member Price: \$4,650 per person double occupancy; \$565 single supplement

Arrive/Depart: Durango, Colorado

For a detailed itinerary, visit [NPCA.ORG/TRAVEL](https://www.npcanature.org/travel)

HIGHLIGHTS



- Visit two UNESCO World Heritage Sites and learn about deep-rooted connections between Ancestral Puebloans and local modern-day tribes with NPCA and National Park Service staff experts
- Spend two full days exploring and learning about ancient cliff dwellings with expert guides at Mesa Verde National Park
- Wander through the Puebloan “great houses” at Chaco Culture National Historical Park as you learn about the compelling history of these storied places from a local expert

Balcony House at the ancient Anasazi ruins of Mesa Verde National Park

ITINERARY

DAY 1 SEPT 25: Meet with NPCA staff and partners for an introduction to the rich history of the **Four Corners** and an overview of NPCA’s present-day priorities in the region. You’ll get to know your fellow travelers over a welcome reception and dinner. The first two nights of the tour will be spent at a charming bed and breakfast in **Farmington**. *Casa Blanca Inn and Suites*

DAY 2 SEPT 26: Travel to **Chaco Culture National Historical Park**, a **UNESCO World Heritage Site**, for an immersion into **Ancestral Puebloan** society and architecture. Explore one of the richest and least developed archaeological sites in the country. Learn about the five Chacoan “great houses” on guided tours with local experts. Sample local cuisine in downtown **Farmington**. *Casa Blanca Inn and Suites*

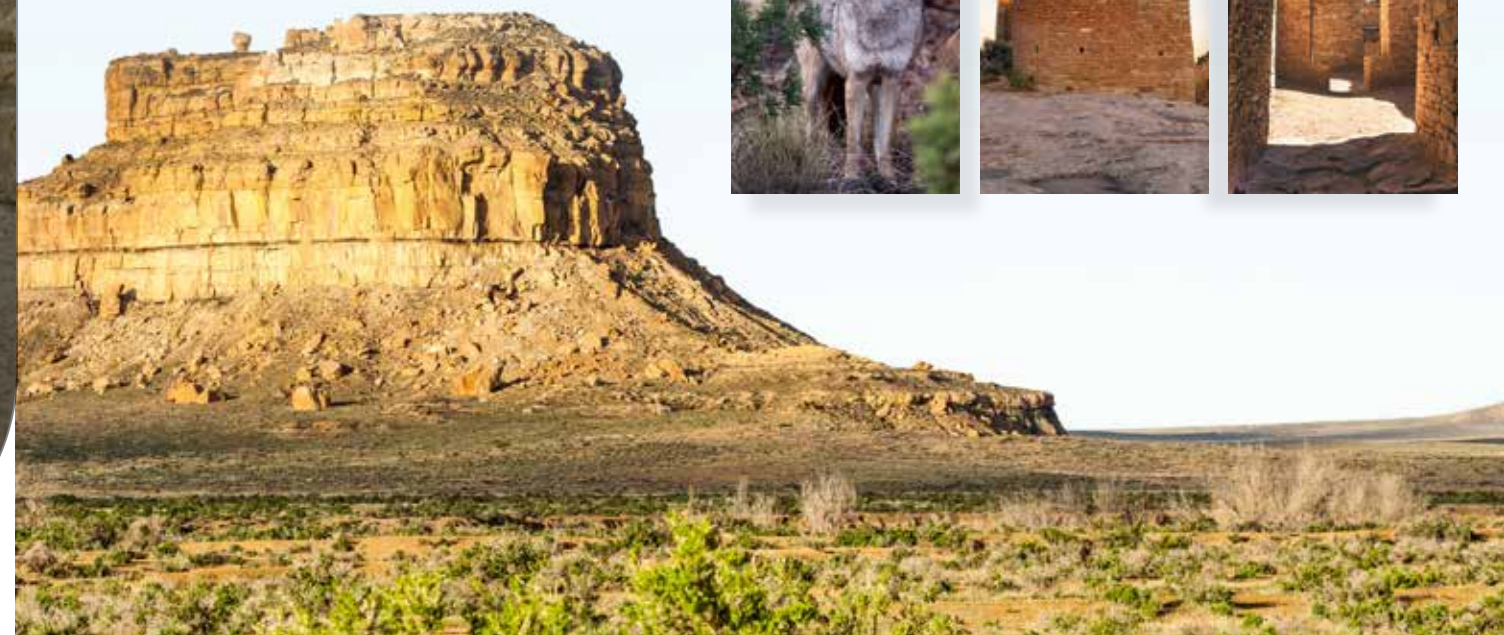
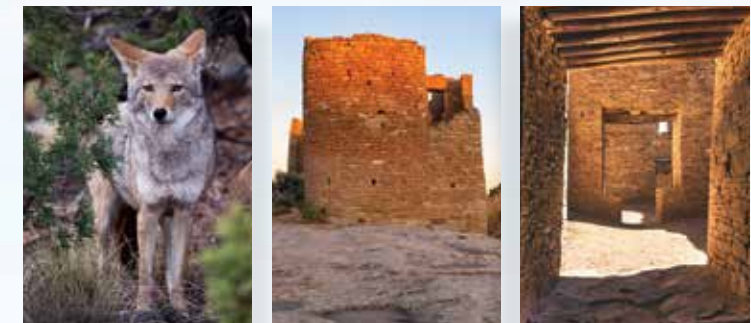
DAY 3 SEPT 27: Tour the ceremonial **Great Kiva** at **Aztec Ruins National Monument**. Meet with park staff to trek through **Mesa Verde National Park**, a **UNESCO World Heritage Site** and home to over 600 protected cliff dwellings typical of **Ancestral Puebloan** culture. Experience the true wonders of this **International Dark Sky Park** during a night sky program. *Far View Lodge*

DAYS 4-5 SEPT 28-29: With expert guides, witness the archaeological marvels of **Chapin Mesa** and meet the park’s superintendent, **Kayci Cook**. Go off the beaten path and explore **Wetherill Mesa**, known as “the quieter side” of **Mesa Verde** and tour **Long House**, the park’s second largest cliff dwelling. Journey through **Badger House Community**, a series of four mesa top sites that span 600 years of prehistory, and **Step House**, home to two separate construction periods in one site. Meet with NPCA experts and partners for a discussion about challenges the park faces from proposed oil and gas drilling in the surrounding area. Experience regional flavors at the excellent **Metate Dining Room**. *Far View Lodge*

DAY 6 SEPT 30: Visit **Canyons of the Ancients Visitor Center & Museum**. Venture west to renowned **Hovenweep National Monument**. Trek through the **Square Tower Group** observing beautiful and sophisticated structures with NPCA partners by your side. *The General Palmer Hotel*

DAY 7 OCT 1: Enjoy one last breakfast with your NPCA group before departures.

LEFT TO RIGHT: *Fajada Butte, Chaco Culture National Historical Park; Coyote, Mesa Verde National Park; Hovenweep National Monument; Pueblo Bonito, Chaco Culture National Historic Park*





Fa'a Samoa

The National Park of American Samoa

Talofa! Welcome to American Samoa and the only U.S. National Park south of the equator. On this tour, you'll have the rare opportunity to visit all three of the islands where the National Park of American Samoa is located. During this unforgettable NPCA small group tour, you'll feel the warm welcome of Samoan culture as a guest in an immersive experience of community, culture and conservation.

AVAILABLE DATES: October 6-13

Length of Tour: 8 days/7 nights | **Max:** 12 Travelers

NPCA Member Price: \$4,600 per person double occupancy; \$325 single supplement

Due to limited availability of accommodations on the islands of Ta'u and Ofu, clients paying single supplements must be willing to share double-occupancy rooms in the Manu'a Group (days 5-6).

Estimated Additional Cost of Internal Transportation: \$325 per person

Please note that the interisland transportation fee must be paid by all guests and is an estimated figure

Arrive/Depart: Honolulu, Hawai'i

For a detailed itinerary, visit [NPCA.ORG/TRAVEL](https://www.npsa.gov)

HIGHLIGHTS

- Experience the wonders of three different American Samoa islands while you enjoy a fascinating look into Samoan culture from village leaders and community members
- Adventure to hidden beaches and exciting geological sites on exclusive excursions with NPCA and local experts
- Learn about NPCA's role in safeguarding the natural and cultural resources of the National Park of American Samoa



Aerial of Manu'a Islands

ITINERARY

DAY 1 **OCT 6:** Arrive in **Pago Pago** on the main island of **Tutuila**. Begin your enchanting adventure in **American Samoa** with a welcome reception. *Sadie's by the Sea*

DAY 2 **OCT 7:** Explore the **Pago Pago** section of the national park with park staff. Take in views of lush, green mountains and deep blues of surrounding waters. Enjoy an educational tour of the **Tauese P.F. Sunia Ocean Center**. Learn about the **National Marine Sanctuary of American Samoa** and the critical role NPCA plays in protecting its diverse ecosystem. *Sadie's by the Sea*

DAY 3 **OCT 8:** By water taxi, journey to the island of **Aunu'u**. Enjoy a traditional "ava" welcome ceremony from residents of **Aunu'u** villages. Receive an insider's tour of traditional Samoan practices, customs and cherished island sites. Snorkel or swim in warm tropical waters. Residents will prepare a traditional "umu" meal for you to savor. *Sadie's by the Sea*



National Marine Sanctuary of American Samoa

DAY 4 **OCT 9:** Attend an optional church service to hear Samoan singers. Paddle an outrigger canoe in **Pago Pago Harbor**, bordered by the steep ridges of **Rainmaker Mountain** and **Breakers and Blunts Points World War II** historic landmarks. *Sadie's by the Sea*

DAY 5 **OCT 10:** Delight in secluded beaches, a littoral forest and archaeological sites in the largest portion of the park on **Ta'u Island**. Embark on a two-hour boat ride to **Ofu Island**, your home for the next three nights. *Vaoto Lodge*

DAYS 6-7 **OCT 11-12:** Spend two days on **Ofu Island**, seeing flora and fauna found nowhere else in the world. Find sweeping vistas as you hike up towering mountains. Dive into a world beneath the waves and visit a vibrant ecosystem of colorful fish and coral. Gaze at the **Southern Cross** and falling stars in the night sky of the Southern Hemisphere. *Vaoto Lodge*

DAY 8 **OCT 13:** Return to **Pago Pago** and set forth with a local guide on an historical tour through **U.S. Naval Station Tutuila Historic District (in Pago Pago Harbor)**. Relax on the beach, take a hike or explore town on your last day in **American Samoa**.



East Coast of Tutuila Island, American Samoa

The National Parks of Hawai'i

On this tour, you will travel to four different islands and experience the unique cultural and natural beauty within each of Hawai'i's seven national parks with expert biologists, naturalists and cultural interpreters. Access locations that are off the beaten path and not readily accessible to the general public. Leave with a greater appreciation of the islands and Hawaiian culture.

AVAILABLE DATES: October 16-24 with optional guided trip extension October 24-26

Length of Tour: 9 days/8 nights with optional extension of 2 days/2 nights

Max: 18 Travelers

NPCA Member Price: \$6,775 per person double occupancy; \$1,290 single supplement

Arrive: Hilo, Hawai'i | **Depart:** Kahului, Hawai'i or Honolulu, Hawai'i for optional extension

For a detailed itinerary, visit [NPCA.ORG/TRAVEL](https://www.npsa.org/travel)

HIGHLIGHTS

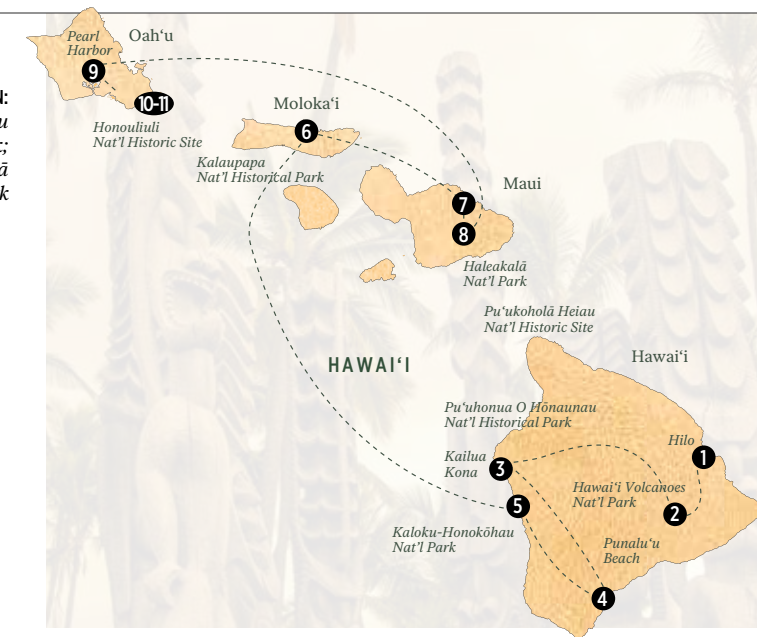
- Receive expert knowledge from Native Hawaiian guides as you explore Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park
- Witness the extraordinary intersection of Hawaiian culture and conservation in Haleakalā National Park
- Meet with park rangers and NPCA experts to learn about efforts to protect Hawai'i's endangered animals and plants

Haleakalā National Park, Maui, HI

ITINERARY

DAY 1 **OCT 16:** Arrive in **Hilo, Hawai'i**, and join NPCA hosts for a group welcome dinner overlooking the **Halema'uma'u Crater** of the volcano. *Volcano House*

DAY 2 **OCT 17:** Within **Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park**, follow an expert volcanologist through the geological wonders of two active volcanoes. Drive through the **Steam Vents** area and visit the overlook into **Kilauea caldera**. Hike **Devastation Trail**, formed by an eruption in 1959. Wander through a lush rainforest to **Nāhuku Lava Tube**. *Volcano House*



TOP DOWN:
Pu'uhooua o Hōnaunau National Historical Park; Banyan Tree, Haleakalā National Park

DAY 3 **OCT 18:** With an expert guide, hike to the floor of **Kīlauea caldera**, viewing endemic plants along the way. Traverse the 20-mile-long **Chain of Craters Road** – an extraordinary scenic route through some of the park's recent eruptive activity. Examine the ancient **Pu'uloa Petroglyphs**. *Volcano House*

DAY 4 **OCT 19:** Step onto the warm volcanic sand at **Punalu'u Black Sand Beach**. Look for endangered Hawaiian green sea turtles basking in the sun. Savor lunch in **Na'alehu**, the southernmost town in the United States. Follow a local guide through **Pu'uhooua o Hōnaunau National Historical Park**, which contains one of the most sacred *heiau* (a place of worship) in the islands. *Courtyard by Marriott King Kamehameha Hotel*

DAY 5 **OCT 20:** Visit **Kaloko-Honokōhau National Historical Park** to learn about its history and cultural resources from **Native Hawaiian experts**. Enjoy a special tour of **Pu'ukoholā Heiau National Historic Site** which houses the *heiau* that helped **Kamehameha the Great**, who was the first ruler of the **Hawaiian Kingdom**, unite the **Hawaiian Islands**. Picnic on the beach with local community members. *Courtyard by Marriott King Kamehameha Hotel*

DAY 6 **OCT 21:** Board a charter flight to the island of Molokai. Accompanied by an expert guide and surrounded by the tallest sea cliffs in the world, visit **Kalaupapa National Historical Park**, home to a former Hansen's Disease settlement (also known as Leprosy). *Royal Lahaina Resort*

DAYS 7-8 **OCT 22-23:** Walk through the colorful streets of Lahaina, Maui. Find astonishing views at "House of the Sun" **Haleakalā National Park**. Guided by a Hawaiian cultural expert, explore **'Īao Valley State Monument**, the historic location of a fierce battle between Maui warriors and Kamehameha the Great's army. *Royal Lahaina Resort*



OPTIONAL TRIP EXTENSION

DAY 9 **OCT 24:** Tour **Pearl Harbor National Memorial** and the **USS Arizona Memorial**, learning about the tragic events on and around December 7, 1941. Enjoy a cheerful night exploring the town of **Waikīkī**. *Queen Kapiolani Hotel*

DAYS 10-11 **OCT 25-26:** Visit **Honouliuli National Historic Site** which preserves the history of the **Honouliuli Internment Camp**. Savor dinner overlooking Diamond Head and **Waikīkī Beach** before your final departure the next day. *Queen Kapiolani Hotel*



Wild California Escape

Channel Islands National Park

Known by some as North America's Galápagos, the Channel Islands and their surrounding waters provide habitat for more than 2,000 species of plants and animals, including 150 species found nowhere else in the world.

Embark on an unprecedented five-day expedition into wildness and wellness in the remote and remarkable Channel Islands. Step aboard in Los Angeles and sail to three of the five wildlife-rich islands that make up Channel Islands National Park, plus Catalina Island. Everything you want is aboard — paddleboards, kayaks and Zodiacs; a welcoming crew; naturalists; a wellness specialist; and a certified photo instructor. You'll actively explore unmarred landscapes, revel in pure nature and rejuvenate mind, body and soul.

You'll learn how NPCA helped to remove ranching and hunting operations on Santa Rosa Island, allowing native species to flourish and providing the public with unhindered access to this beautifully isolated place.

AVAILABLE DATES: November 1-5

Length of Tour: 5 days/4 nights | **Max:** 100 Travelers total

NPCA Member Price: Starting at \$3,260 per person double occupancy; Single Supplement applies

Arrive/Depart: Los Angeles, California

For a detailed itinerary, visit [NPCA.ORG/TRAVEL](https://www.npca.org/travel)

HIGHLIGHTS

- Sail to three of the five islands that are so stunning, they were first protected as a national monument in 1938 and later became a national park in 1980
- Kayak, stand-up paddleboard, hike or relax ashore and enjoy the wild and remote island landscapes
- Learn how NPCA has worked to protect Channel Islands National Park and the 150 native plant and animal species from external threats

Undersea Landscape, Anacapa Island, CA

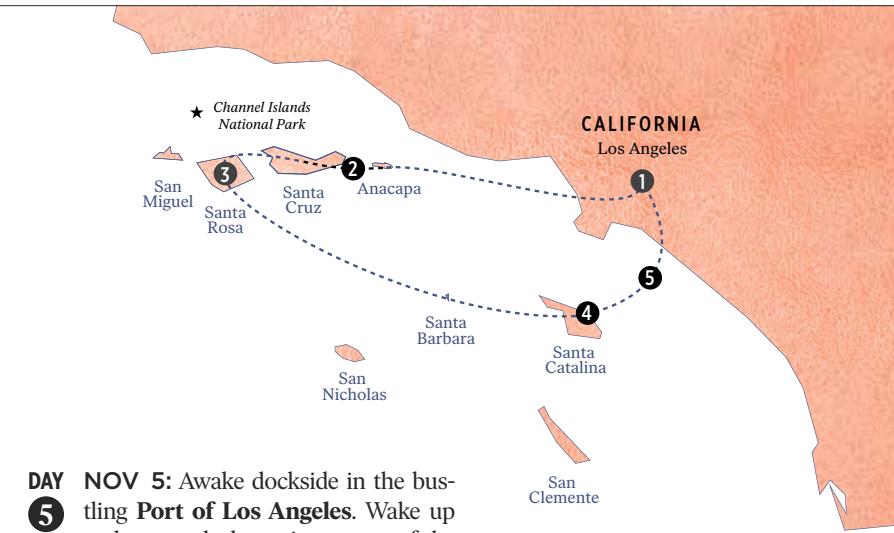
ITINERARY

DAY 1 NOV 1: Board the *National Geographic* *Venture* to embark on your thrilling **Wild California Escape**.

DAY 2 NOV 2: Join naturalists aboard Zodiacs to go ashore on **East Anacapa Island**. Trek to **Anacapa Island Lighthouse**, built in 1932 and the last major light station to be built on the West Coast. Soak in spectacular views from **Inspiration Point** or explore **Arch Rock** via Zodiac (rigid inflatable boat).

DAY 3 NOV 3: Kayak, hike or relax ashore on **Santa Rosa Island**. Catch a glimpse of the endemic fox species. Join naturalists for a hike to the base of **Torrey Pines State Natural Reserve**, which contains what is considered one of the world's rarest pines and is one of only two naturally occurring groves in the world. End the day with a sunset cocktail party.

DAY 4 NOV 4: Spend the day discovering the colorful history and natural wonders of **Santa Catalina Island**. Ninety percent of the island is protected by **Catalina Island Conservancy**. After a morning workout on deck followed by breakfast, meet a conservancy member to learn about their work on the island before heading out on the trail for spectacular views of the coastline and **Catalina** backcountry. Look for the elusive bison herd that has resided on **Catalina Island** since 1924. Head for the water to kayak or stand-up paddleboard. Enjoy a free afternoon in **Avalon Harbor** and explore downtown **Avalon**, the island's only incorporated city. Take a stroll up **Avalon Canyon** to visit the **Wrigley Memorial and Botanical Gardens**. Explore an architectural gem: the famous **Catalina Casino**. Cherish your last evening at sea under the stars with a farewell dinner.



DAY 5 NOV 5: Awake dockside in the bustling **Port of Los Angeles**. Wake up early to catch the action at one of the world's largest ports. Cherish a final breakfast on board before departing - refreshed by your getaway.

TOP DOWN: Channel Islands Fox; Channel Islands Scuba Diving; Anacapa Island Lighthouse





The Backroads of Big Bend

Welcome to West Texas and Big Bend National Park. Your guide and accompanying NPCA expert will show you a lesser-known side of the park, often with key local partners by our side. We'll also explore the complex legacy of race relations in this area. Leave with a deeper understanding of this landscape and the ongoing challenges that make Big Bend an NPCA priority area. Experience one of the wildest corners of America — and its unforgettable sights and solitude — with all the comfort of an NPCA small-group tour.

AVAILABLE DATES: November 9-15

Length of Tour: 7 days/6 nights | **Max:** 16 Travelers

NPCA Member Price: \$4,545 per person double occupancy; \$675 single supplement

Arrive/Depart: El Paso, Texas

For a detailed itinerary, visit [NPCA.ORG/TRAVEL](https://www.npcaparks.org/travel)



HIGHLIGHTS

- Enjoy exclusive tours of the Blackwell School and the rugged and striking landscape of West Texas with three full days in Big Bend
- Gaze at the brightest stars during a night sky program and take in the breathtaking Santa Elena Canyon as you paddle along the Rio Grande River
- Learn about the pivotal role NPCA takes in protecting Big Bend and preserving Mexican history

Rio Grande River
Big Bend National Park

More than 450 species of birds and 1,200 plant species can be found in Big Bend. When you're on the trails, keep an eye out for this remarkable diversity of life.

JARED DIAL, ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR,
EDUCATIONAL TRAVEL PROGRAM



ITINERARY

DAY 1 NOV 9: Begin your exhilarating adventure with a welcome reception at historic **Hotel Paisano in Marfa, Texas.** *Hotel Paisano*

DAY 2 NOV 10: On a private tour, learn about the **Blackwell School**, an historic three-room schoolhouse in **Marfa** that tells the story of segregated education in the state. Head south through **Persimmon Gap** into the rare beauty of **Big Bend National Park** to **Chisos Mountain Lodge**, the only lodge located within the park and our home for the next four nights. *Chisos Mountain Lodge*

DAY 3 NOV 11: Arrive at breathtaking **Big Bend National Park**. Embark on a scenic drive through the park to the **Boquillas Border Crossing**. Explore **Boquillas Canyon** and enjoy a picnic lunch before sitting down with local NPCA experts to learn about the complicated aspects of this border region. Soak your tired muscles at **Boquillas Hot Springs.** *Chisos Mountain Lodge*

DAY 4 NOV 12: Paddle the **Rio Grande** surrounded by incredible geography and deep canyon walls. Enjoy lunch on a sandy riverbank with stellar views. Experience a magnificent night sky program. *Chisos Mountain Lodge*

DAY 5 NOV 13: Hike alongside NPCA expert guides through the wondrous **Chisos Mountains** on the **Lost Mine Trail**. Climb through juniper, oak and pine forest to views of **Pine Canyon** and the Sierra del Carmen in Mexico. Enjoy a picnic lunch as you take in this spectacular landscape. Explore the ghost town of **Terlingua** and witness some of the best views in **Big Bend**. Delight in local music and cuisine at the famous **Starlight Theatre.** *Chisos Mountain Lodge*

DAY 6 NOV 14: Enjoy your last breakfast at **Chisos Mountain Lodge**. Admire extraordinary scenery along the way to **Fort Davis National Historic Site**, one of the best surviving examples of an **Indian Wars frontier military post** in the Southwest. Head to **Marfa** to settle in at **Hotel Paisano** for your last evening. Toast to a great week in West Texas over dinner at a local restaurant in downtown **Marfa.** *Hotel Paisano*

DAY 7 NOV 15: After breakfast at **Hotel Paisano**, transfer to El Paso for departures home.



TOP DOWN: Chihuahuan Desert; Cactus Wren on a Cholla in the Chisos Mountains; Roadrunner at the Rio Grande River; Purple Tinged Prickly Pear Cactus

Why Travel with NPCA?

1

EXCELLENT VALUE

Our tours offer NPCA members the opportunity for behind-the-scenes access and unique insights because of our intimate relationship with the national parks. A small portion of your trip cost supports NPCA's mission to protect the parks for present and future generations.

2

EXPERT TRIP LEADERS

Every trip will be led by at least one NPCA expert, as well as tour operators who provide professionally managed tours in and around our national parks. Your trip leaders, guest lecturers and savvy NPCA staff will give you insights into the flora, fauna and history of each destination, leading lively discussions and answering your questions.

3

ENVIRONMENTALLY CONSCIOUS TOURS

NPCA partners with tour operators that support cultural and natural heritage, maximizing the benefits to the communities where we travel and establishing guidelines for managing environmental impacts. Our goal is to ensure your travel will have a positive impact on the parks.

4

CONVENIENT TRAVEL

With NPCA, you can explore the parks without the hassle of planning or the frustration of crowds. Everything is included in your tour, such as meals, accommodations, snacks, expert speakers, transportation at the destination and all activities (unless otherwise stated).

5

SMALL-SIZED GROUPS

Group size on each of our trips is limited to no more than 18 people to maximize your interactions with the experts, enhance wildlife viewing and boost educational opportunities throughout your experience. Enjoy stimulating conversations with other NPCA members and supporters from around the country.

6

SAFETY AND FLEXIBILITY

Your health and safety are our top priority. We have worked with each of our travel partners to develop safety measures for our trips in response to the global pandemic. As conditions and guidelines continue to evolve, our travel partners are committed to easing concerns and creating flexible options for rescheduling travel.

NPCA EXCLUSIVE COLLECTION

Our custom-designed itineraries give NPCA members exclusive experiences that highlight NPCA's important contributions to park protection and provide special behind-the-scenes access to National Park Service staff, NPCA partners and other local specialists. Our goal is to offer premium itineraries in adventure and educational travel in the places we know best: America's national parks.

NPCA is the only independent, nonpartisan organization dedicated to advocacy on behalf of the National Park System. Over 70% of our funding comes from donations from individuals like you. NPCA trips are an exclusive NPCA member benefit. One traveler per group must be an active NPCA member to participate in an NPCA trip. An annual membership starts at \$15 per person. Please make dues payable to NPCA by check or credit card at npca.org.

Rock near Anacapa Island,
Channel Islands National Park, CA

TERMS & CONDITIONS



NPCA TRAVEL ELIGIBILITY

NPCA is the only independent, nonpartisan organization dedicated to advocacy on behalf of the National Park System. We are 100% privately funded, and we rely on donations from individuals like you. One traveler per group must be an active NPCA member to participate in an NPCA trip. For more information, visit NPCA.ORG.

MAKING RESERVATIONS

To find more details on each of the day-by-day itineraries or to reserve your space on a trip, please visit NPCA.ORG/TRAVEL, call 1.800.628.7275 or send us an email at TRAVEL@NPCA.ORG.

TRAVEL SAFE WITH NPCA

NPCA is always committed to providing high-quality tours that ensure the well-being and safety of our members and supporters. Each of our travel partners has developed robust safety protocols to protect the health of our guests and staff and the communities we visit. **AT THIS TIME, PROOF OF VACCINATION IS REQUIRED TO PARTICIPATE IN ALL NPCA TRIPS.** Specific guidelines such as health screenings and social distancing will be determined based on the trip's date of departure and group size. Please contact us for details.



Chisos Mountains, Big Bend National Park, TX

TRAVELER RESPONSIBILITY

Travelers are responsible for choosing an NPCA trip consistent with their ability, fitness and overall health. Our trips are appropriate for people in good health with overall good mobility. Travelers should be prepared for a full day of physical activity, which can include walking or standing for extended periods (sometimes on uneven terrain) and climbing stairs or ladders. Any physical conditions requiring special attention, diet or treatment should be reported when booking to determine what accommodations can be made.

DEPOSIT, FINAL PAYMENT & CANCELLATION POLICY

The deposit amount, final payment date and cancellation policy for each individual NPCA tour is outlined in the detailed trip brochure, which can be found at NPCA.ORG/TRAVEL. If final payment is not received by the invoice date, we reserve the right to cancel the reservation. In the case of billing errors, we reserve the right to re-invoice with correct pricing. Payment in full is required at time of booking for reservations made less than 45 days before departure. Prices are based on double occupancy. Although price changes rarely occur, guests will be liable for any applicable taxes, fees or surcharges that may be assessed by the tour operator or government agencies. Each of our tour operator partners have different dates and penalties for participant cancellation on their tours. Please check your tour terms and conditions about fees and note that all cancellations must be sent in writing. There will be no refund for unused portions of the tour.

TRAVEL INSURANCE

NPCA strongly recommends that you purchase trip cancellation insurance. Information on a comprehensive travel insurance coverage plan will be included with trip confirmation packets.

TRAVEL DOCUMENTS & FORMS

All travelers are required to complete and return their registration form, personal information form, flight form and liability waiver before being allowed to participate in a trip. Travelers also are responsible for reading and understanding all pre-departure materials and bringing appropriate clothing and gear. Travel documents will be issued upon reservation and approximately 21 days prior to departure date on fully paid reservations.

AIRLINE TICKETS

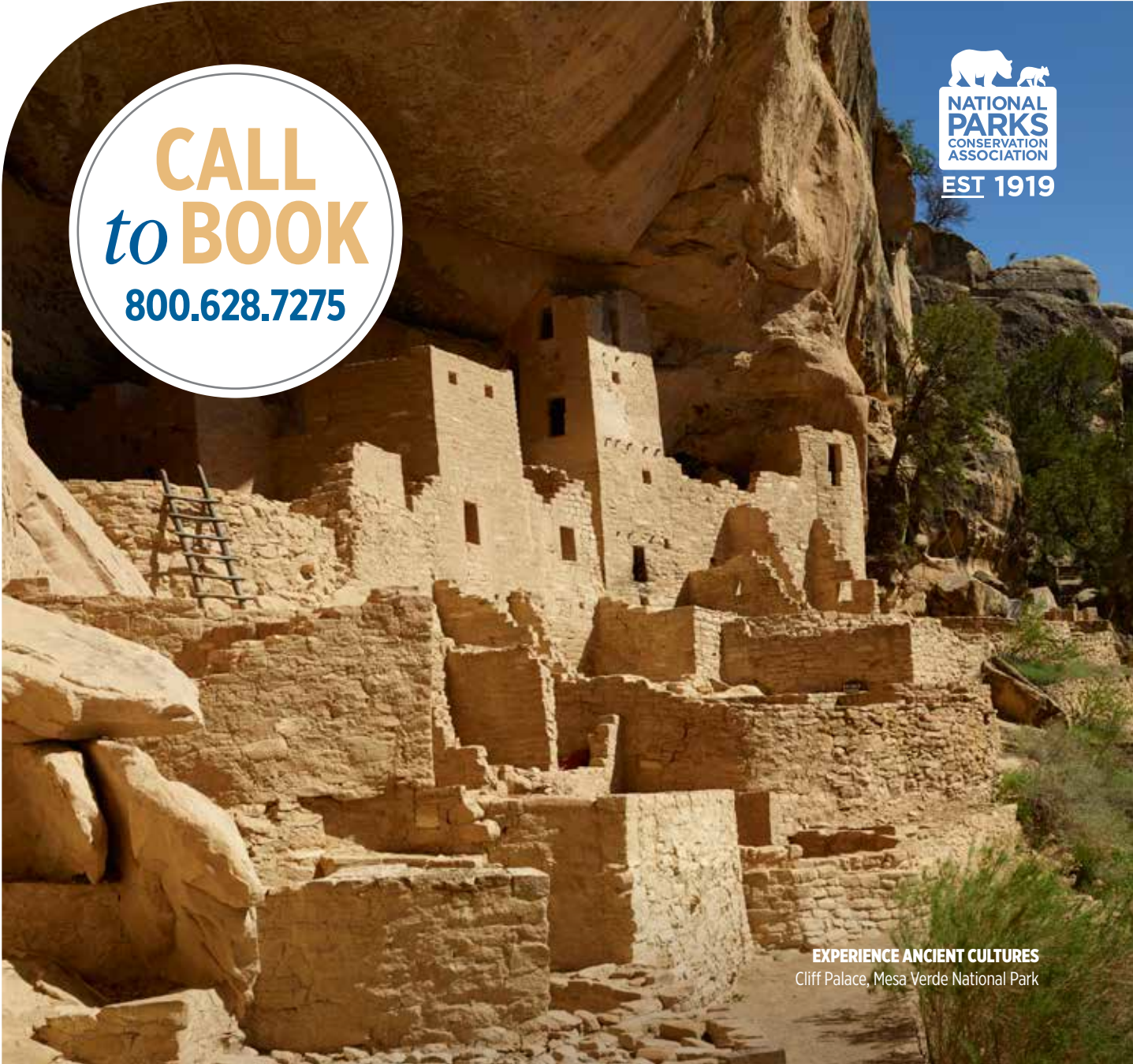
Neither NPCA nor the tour operator affiliated with any specific tour accepts liability for cancellation penalties related to airline tickets purchased in conjunction with a tour.

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