



Discovering Our Planet Together



Grand Canyon & Sedona Escape

A Colorful Encounter with the Arizona High Desert, Including the Petrified Forest



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Trip Details:

Days
5 Days / Apr–
May & Sep–Oct

Price
From \$4795

Physical Requirements
Moderate

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Carved by wind, rain and 5 million years of the Colorado River’s erosive force, the Grand Canyon is immense—a mile deep and 277 miles long, its walls etched in layers of ochre, cream, gold and vermillion. To the south lies the red rock wonderland of Sedona, where the desert palette adds rust, rose and maroon to the imposing sandstone buttes, accented with green chaparral and junipers in the valleys and arroyos below. More colors lie to the east, where the Painted Desert’s sculpted formations rise in stacks of orange, blue and lavender, among fallen fossilized trees. Delve into these entrancing landscapes on an itinerary that weaves together the most scenic settings of Arizona’s high desert—including a classic train journey to the Grand Canyon’s South Rim through the largest Ponderosa pine forest in the world.

Trip Highlights

Explore geology, archaeology, paleontology and more on this compact yet in-depth journey into northern Arizona’s most dramatic natural and cultural settings

Aboard this famous vintage train, enjoy deluxe treatment and panoramic views from our glass dome car as we ride to the Grand Canyon, then stay on the South Rim

Wander trails through the Painted Desert in Petrified Forest National Park, and examine ancient Singua cliff dwellings at Walnut Canyon National Monument



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Itinerary At A Glance

Day 1

Flagstaff, Arizona

Day 2

Petrified Forest National Park

Day 3

Coconino National Forest /
Sedona & the Verde Valley /
Flagstaff

Day 4

Luxury Dome Train to Grand
Canyon / South Rim Hike & Sunset
Overlook

Day 5

Grand Canyon Sunrise / Flagstaff /
Depart

Grand Canyon & Sedona Escape Itinerary

A Colorful Encounter with the Arizona High Desert, Including the Petrified Forest



Day 1: Flagstaff, Arizona

Our high desert adventure begins in Flagstaff, which sits at nearly 7,000 feet in the mountains of northern Arizona. Long before the town's founding, the area was home to Indigenous people, including the Hopi, Navajo, Western Apache, and the ancestral Sinagua, who built dwellings, carved intricate petroglyphs and established trade networks that shaped the region. Today, their cultural presence remains woven into the landscape and history of the region. Surrounded by Ponderosa pines in the vast Coconino National Forest, Flagstaff was founded in the 1880s when sheep ranchers moved into the area and the Atlantic and Pacific Railroad began to lay track westward on its way to California. The historic town blends Native American, pioneer and Route 66 heritage and is a popular gateway to the South Rim of the Grand Canyon, which lies 80 miles to the north. We spend the next three nights enjoying the Old West ambience of Flagstaff, which is our base for activities in the region.



Guests who arrive before 1 pm have the option to take a guided excursion to Sunset Crater Volcano National Monument. This fascinating landscape offers a striking contrast to Arizona's high desert, showcasing lava flows, cinder fields and the dramatic remnants of an eruption that reshaped the region a thousand years ago. Following the Lava Flow Trail, get a close-up view of the crater's unique geological features. This evening, join your Expedition Leaders for a welcome dinner.



Day 2: Petrified Forest National Park

Our day opens with a drive along historic Route 66, soaking in the nostalgia of classic roadside Americana on our way to Petrified Forest National Park. This legendary highway, once a vital artery of cross-country travel in the mid-20th century, offers a journey into a storied past, with remnants of vintage motels, neon signs and roadside attractions evoking the golden age of road trips. As we enter the national park, we find a landscape rich with fossilized trees, ancient petroglyphs and colorful rock formations. Named for its extensive deposits of petrified wood, the park holds a trove of geological and archaeological wonders. Fossilized trees from the Late Triassic Epoch, dating back 225 million years, provide a glimpse into prehistoric ecosystems, and fauna fossils include giant reptiles and early dinosaurs. More than 1,000 archaeological sites, including petroglyphs and Ancient Puebloan architecture, reveal human presence stretching back 13,000 years. We explore a sampler of sites including the Rainbow Forest Museum, the Giant Logs Trail, and the striking Blue Mesa Trail through a portion of the Painted Desert, with its multicolored bands of sedimentary deposits and rainbow-tinted quartz.

Continue to Walnut Canyon National Monument, where ancient cliff dwellings built by the Sinagua people over 700 years ago are carved into the canyon walls. With 25 of them visible along the trail, the site offers a direct connection to the region's enduring human history. By evening, we return to Flagstaff for dinner, then head out to experience its renowned night skies. Designated the world's first International Dark Sky City, Flagstaff offers superb stargazing. Weather permitting, we'll witness a dazzling display of stars, planets and the Milky Way, with our Expedition Leader showing us constellations rarely seen in urban settings. In the silence of the high desert, we pause to wonder at the vast beauty of the cosmos.

Day 3: Coconino National Forest / Sedona & the Verde Valley / Flagstaff

This morning, we follow the scenic byway south through Oak Creek Canyon into Coconino National Forest. Spanning more than 1.8 million acres, the forest's diverse landscapes encompass ponderosa pine and juniper woodlands, mesas and ancient volcanic peaks. A sampler of hikes takes us deep into pine-studded canyons and up to panoramic viewpoints. In the cobalt sky overhead, look for hawks gliding on high. Emerging from the forest, we're surrounded by soaring sandstone ramparts that shift color in shades of maroon, red and orange as the sun moves across the sky.

Continue south to Sedona, set amid dramatic red rock formations and lush green canyons of chaparral and cottonwoods. Celebrated for its vibrant arts culture and its reputation as a locus for spiritual energy, Sedona has long drawn travelers seeking inspiration and renewal. Before dinner, browse Sedona's many art galleries, featuring local and Indigenous artwork and handcrafted jewelry. As the day winds down, we enjoy dinner in Sedona amid the stunning beauty of our surroundings before returning to Flagstaff to spend the night.



Day 4: Luxury Dome Train to Grand Canyon / South Rim Hike & Sunset Overlook

A highlight of our desert adventure is a ride in a luxury dome car on the Grand Canyon Railway. This historic train route from the town of Williams to the South Rim, established in the early 20th century, offers a nostalgic travel experience through the largest Ponderosa pine forest in the world. From Flagstaff, we drive north to board the train in Williams, which still looks much as it did during its mid-20th century heyday as a stop along famous Route 66.

Once we arrive at the Grand Canyon, we are on the edge of one of the world's most awe-inspiring natural wonders. Searching its shadowy depths for the silver ribbon of the Colorado River thousands of feet below, we have a sense of our own tiny instant in geological history. The canyon's sedimentary layers, stacked more than a mile thick, are a calendar for the millennia, formed by the erosive power of water and wind over eons. While this region is known as Red Rock Country, the canyon walls glow gold, rose, rust and purple, ever-changing as the high desert light works its transformative magic. A hike this afternoon offers a close encounter with the canyon's grandeur, surveying its vast expanse and dramatic formations. At sunset, the scene becomes even more wondrous as the rays cast a warm glow over the chasm. We spend our final night on the rim of the Grand Canyon, soaking in the peace and beauty under a sky full of stars.

Day 5: Grand Canyon Sunrise / Flagstaff / Depart

Greet the day with an experience that will surely be among the most aesthetic nature encounters in your life: sunrise over the Grand Canyon. Watch the ethereal light of dawn illuminate the ancient rock layers, over a mile deep. This vantage point showcases the canyon's immense depth and geological history, which our Expedition Leader brings to life with fascinating insights. Later this morning, our Arizona adventure moves toward a close as we drive back to Flagstaff, which you can explore further on your own before your departure, if time permits.



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Accommodation Details:

Maswik Lodge

Kachina Lodge

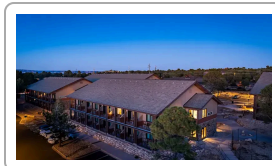
Thunderbird Lodge

Residence Inn Flagstaff

For detailed descriptions, visit nathab.com/us-national-parks-tours/grand-canyon-sedona-tour/accommodations

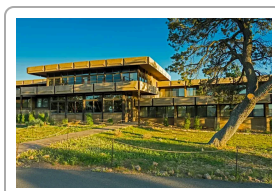
Grand Canyon & Sedona Escape Accommodations

A Colorful Encounter with the Arizona High Desert, Including the Petrified Forest



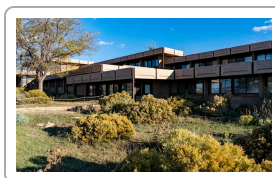
Maswik Lodge

Situated in Grand Canyon Village, Maswik Lodge is a 280-room complex that recently completed a \$30 million renovation. It features eco-friendly accommodations and is dark sky compliant.



Kachina Lodge

A mid-century modern lodge with contemporary accommodations, canyon views, essential amenities and a prime location near the South Rim from which to explore the surrounding natural beauty.



Thunderbird Lodge

Situated directly on the Grand Canyon's South Rim in the heart of the historic district, Thunderbird Lodge offers rooms with partial canyon views and direct access to the Rim Trail.



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Residence Inn Flagstaff

Conveniently situated for the start and end of our Arizona adventure, the Residence Inn features spacious suites in an ideal downtown location with easy access to surrounding nature.



A More Meaningful Way to Experience Arizona's Desert Wonders

Most visitors keen to see the Grand Canyon and other famous sights of the American Southwest find themselves relegated to bus tours or navigating crowded park roads in their own vehicles, along with heavily traveled trails and the almost impossible challenge of trying to secure coveted accommodations that often fill a year in advance. We offer a different—and better!—alternative.

1 Experience All the Wonder & None of the Hassle

The Grand Canyon and Sedona are some of the most popular destinations in the Southwest. Most visitors end up fighting to see the sights with hundreds of others, trying to plot routes while juggling maps and guidebooks. With Nat Hab, you'll worry about none of that: You get a stress-free trip with outstanding interpretation and access to quieter corners of this region others often miss, via our "insider" knowledge.

2 A Small Group Led by Two Expedition Leaders

Our trips are limited to 13 travelers. Each is guided by two Expedition Leaders, for the utmost in personal attention, flexibility and quieter nature encounters. We divide into even smaller groups, traveling in two vehicles that can access places larger tours can't reach, with opportunities to pursue different activities to suit varying physical ability levels.

3 Our Guides Know the Grand Canyon and Arizona High Desert Like None Other

With decades of collective experience, our naturalist guides know where to find the "paths less traveled." They have secret spots where we avoid the swarms of tourists that besiege the most crowded locations, and they'll inform you about every aspect of the region's geology, wildlife, natural history, archaeology and Indigenous cultures. With lots of surprises up their sleeves, our Expedition Leaders share a side of these enchanting landscapes that most visitors miss. See Expedition Leader bios with traveler comments regarding the quality of our leaders.

4 Ride the Grand Canyon Railway—and Leave the Reservations to Us

Not only will you get to enjoy the 360° view from a luxury dome car aboard the historic train from Williams to the South Rim of the Grand Canyon, you won't have to battle to get scarce reservations—we've taken care of that!



5

Stay on the South Rim of the Grand Canyon and Watch the Sunrise

It's next to impossible to get reservations for coveted national park lodging on the Grand Canyon's South Rim. But we've done it for you. After our train ride to the canyon, disembark to spend a peaceful night at a classic park lodge under the stars. And since we are situated right here, we wake before dawn the next morning to witness the sunrise over the canyon from Yavapai Point—a life highlight!

6

Nat Hab's Exclusive Custom Vehicles Enhance Viewing

Our are customized luxury vans that are exceptionally comfortable and equipped with either a pop-top roof or wide roof hatches that open for unimpeded sightseeing and photography. Designed for exploring America's national parks, they offer the best of both necessities: an expedition-ready exterior and a spacious, luxurious interior for the ultimate in comfort. We never fill them to capacity, so every guest gets a window seat plus plenty of room for your personal belongings.

7

Our Quality-Value Guarantee Ensures Your Superlative Experience

With Nat Hab, you receive our exclusive guarantee that clearly states that we will meet the high expectations we set forth in our promotional materials. To our knowledge, this is the most ambitious guarantee made by any adventure travel company. Read our important promise.

8

Feel Good About Your Carbon-Neutral Journey

We care deeply about our planet, as we know you do. When you travel with us, the carbon emissions from your trip are 100% offset—including your round-trip flights from home. Natural Habitat Adventures has been the world's first carbon-neutral travel company since 2007.

9

Natural Habitat Adventures Is World Wildlife Fund's Travel Partner

Because of our commitment to environmentally friendly travel, as well as the exceptional quality of our small-group nature adventures, World Wildlife Fund, the world's leading environmental conservation organization, has named Natural Habitat Adventures its worldwide travel partner—a designation that makes us exceedingly proud!



Make It Private with Your Family or Friends

Travel privately, exclusively with your immediate family, multi-generational family or group of friends. And when you choose a private departure, you're assured the most exclusive and authentic Grand Canyon & Sedona adventure on offer. Request your private departure by completing the form below.

Please note that on Make It Private departures we have a minimum group size of approximately half the maximum size of our regularly scheduled departures.

Also, please be aware that your per-person cost on a Make It Private trip will vary depending on the number of travelers in your group and may be as much as 10%-30% higher (ship-based trips may be even higher) than our normal trip cost unless you fill the trip.

This **Make It Private** option is available on nearly every Nat Hab trip for family and friend groups. Call an Adventure Specialist at 800-543-8917 or look for the "Make It Private" icon in the **pricing section** of a trip online at nathab.com to see prices based on your specific group size.



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Dates & Pricing Summary:

Prices:
From \$4795

Group Size:
Limited to 14 Travelers

Physical Requirements:
Moderate

Grand Canyon & Sedona Escape Dates, Pricing & Info

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2025 Departures

Departure	Return	Notes
Apr 30, 2025	May 4, 2025	Habitat Club Pricing Available
May 7, 2025	May 11, 2025	
Sep 24, 2025	Sep 28, 2025	
Oct 1, 2025	Oct 5, 2025	Habitat Club Pricing Available
Oct 8, 2025	Oct 12, 2025	Women's Journey
Oct 15, 2025	Oct 19, 2025	



Pricing

2025 Prices

➤ Trip Price
\$4795



Single Occupancy: For a single room add \$995. [Click here](#) to learn how you can avoid the single supplement.

Deposit: \$500 per person

2026 Prices

We're still in the process of confirming 2026 pricing, which we plan to announce soon. Contact an Adventure Specialist for more details: 800-543-8917.

Included

Accommodations, meals from dinner on Day 1 to breakfast on final day, drinking water throughout the trip, services of Nat Hab Expedition Leader, airport transfer on Day 1 and final day, some gratuities, all permits, entrance fees and taxes.

Not Included

Travel to and from start and end points of trip, alcoholic beverages, some gratuities, passport and visa fees, optional activities, items of a personal nature (phone calls, souvenirs, etc.), airline baggage fees, airport and departure taxes, optional travel insurance.

Physical Requirements

Moderate

In order to participate, travelers should be able to walk at least three miles unassisted over uneven terrain and inclines, with some altitude gain, and at elevations up to 7,000 feet above sea level. Most of the trip takes place in an arid desert environment, and the sun can often be intense. Our days generally start quite early and are very full with activities, including a few long drives. While travelers are not required to participate in all activities, should you opt out of the day's scheduled activities, we cannot always guarantee that alternatives will be available.

Additionally, please note that spring and fall weather in canyon country can be highly variable, with rain or snow possible, or strong sun and 90° temperatures. Temperatures also vary with changes in elevation, and day and night temperatures may differ by more than 30°F. Higher elevations (7,000+ ft.) mean cooler temperatures, stronger UV rays and the possibility of afternoon thunderstorms.

Important Information About This Trip

Guests who arrive before 1 pm on Day 1 will have the option to explore Sunset Crater Volcano with our Expedition Leader. This national monument tells the story of a powerful eruption that reshaped the region 1,000 years ago, leaving behind barren volcanic terrain that manages to support resilient life.



Getting There & Getting Home

Arrival: Arrive in Flagstaff, Arizona by 4 pm in order to attend a welcome dinner beginning at 6 pm on Day 1.

Departure: You may depart Flagstaff, Arizona any time after 10:45 am on the final day.



Natural Habitat & WWF: Discovering Our Planet Together

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