

## NORTHERN CALIFORNIA 8 Days 1 Country 8 Cities

SAN FRANCISCO, MONTEREY AND THE BEAUTY OF BIG SUR, YOSEMITE AND LAKE TAHOE FEATURE IN THIS REGIONAL EXPLORER TRIP.



### THE ITINERARY

#### **Day 1** Arrive San Francisco (2 Nights)

From the iconic to the unexpected, the city of San Francisco never ceases to surprise. Kick-start your effortlessly delivered Northern California holiday in the cosmopolitan hills of 'The City'. Join your Travel Director and fellow travellers for a Welcome Reception at your hotel.

- ★ Hotel – Cliff Royal Sonesta
- ★ Included Meals - Welcome Reception

#### **Day 2** San Francisco Sightseeing

Admire the eclectic mix of architecture, culture and cuisines of one of the world's most livable cities. Embark on a morning exploration that takes you from the lively tourist hotspot of Fisherman's Wharf to Union Square, a historical landmark linked to the American Civil War. Spend some time at leisure this afternoon.

- ★ Included Meals – Breakfast

#### **Day 3** San Francisco – Napa

Today, we'll visit a local winery and enjoy unique experience and exploration of wine with a tasting. This evening, enjoy a Regional Dinner with your fellow travellers.

- ★ Hotel - Embassy Suites Napa Valley
- ★ Included Meals – Breakfast, Regional Dinner

#### **Day 4** Napa – Lake Tahoe

Travel through the fertile Sacramento River Valley to the alpine splendour of Lake Tahoe, its clear blue waters surrounded by evergreen pines and rocky outcrops. This evening, enjoy a Regional Dinner cruise on beautiful Lake Tahoe.

- ★ Hotel - Lake Tahoe Resort Hotel
- ★ Included Meals - Breakfast, Regional Dinner

### Day 5 Lake Tahoe – Yosemite National Park

Touch the sky and embark on a scenic road-trip into the Sierra Nevada, winding along the Tioga Pass to California's UNESCO-listed Yosemite National Park. (Weather conditions may cause the Tioga Pass to be closed to traffic, typically from mid October to the end of May. In this case, an alternate entry point to Yosemite will be used.) Marvel at the incredible natural beauty that inspired naturalist John Muir to dub Yosemite Valley the "Incomparable Valley", passing the colossal granite faces of El Capitan and the misty splendour of Bridal Veil Fall. Tonight, our 'Stay with a Story' sees us overnight in the park, just a short stroll from Yosemite Falls.

- ★ Hotel - Yosemite Valley Lodge
- ★ Included Meals – Breakfast

### Day 6 Yosemite National Park – Salinas Valley – Monterey (2 Nights)

Tempt your taste-buds today with a visit to the Salinas Valley where you'll join a Local Specialist for an agricultural education tour to learn about fruit and vegetable production and advanced farming techniques of the region that is known as the "Salad Bowl of the World". Continue to Monterey where we'll 'Connect with Locals' for a farm-to-table 'Be My Guest' dinner including the freshest local ingredients.

- ★ Hotel - The Portola Hotel and Spa at Monterey Bay
- ★ Included Meals – Breakfast, Be My Guest

### Day 7 Monterey, Carmel and 17-Mile Drive

The pinch me moments continue as we follow the sun-kissed California coast, cruising scenic 17-Mile Drive. We return to Monterey for a visit of Cannery Row, immortalised in the John Steinbeck novel. The rest of the evening is yours to explore Monterey's vibrant street life or consider an optional visit to the world-renowned Monterey Bay Aquarium. Tonight, we join our Travel Director and fellow travellers for a festive Farewell Dinner.

- ★ Included Meals - Breakfast, Farewell Dinner

### Day 8 Monterey – Roaring Camp – Depart San Francisco

California's towering redwoods provide an imposing backdrop for this morning as we journey back in time to the era of lumberjacks and sawmills in a re-created 1890s logging camp, complete with general store and railroad depot. We continue to Henry Cowell Redwoods State Park where we'll have an opportunity to walk amongst these giants that have stood for hundreds of years. We return to the golden city of San Francisco. Take a transfer to San Francisco International Airport or consider extending your stay.

- ★ Included Meals - Breakfast

## **ABOUT THIS TRIP**

### **What's included**

- **7 NIGHTS** Accommodation
- **12 MEALS** 7 breakfasts, 1 lunch, 4 dinners
- **ON-TRIP TRANSPORT** Land transportation included. Where applicable, Intra-air between cities are not included.

### **The Trafalgar difference**

- **CONNECT WITH LOCALS** Learn about California's organic food scene and watch two food preservationists prepare your meal using fresh ingredients. (Day 6)
- **LOCAL SPECIALIST** Embark on an agriculture tour in Salinas Valley. (Day 6)
- **STAYS WITH STORIES** Stay at the Yosemite Valley Lodge located within Yosemite National Park. (Day 5)

### **Sightseeing highlights**

- CITY TOUR of San Francisco
- VISIT "The Salad Bowl of the World" in Salinas Valley, Lake Tahoe, Yosemite National Park, Monterey, Roaring Camp, Henry Cowell Redwoods State Park
- SEE quaint Carmel-by-the-Sea, Napa Valley
- SCENIC DRIVE along spectacular 17-Mile Drive, through Napa Wine Country

### **Travel highlights**

Specific transfer information can be found here:

- ✓ Audio Headsets for flexible sightseeing
- ✓ Luxury air-conditioned coach with Wi-Fi in most countries or alternative transportation (such as rail journeys)
- ✓ Handcrafted Highlights
- ✓ All portorage and restaurant gratuities
- ✓ An expert Travel Director and professional Driver
- ✓ Airport transfers on the first and last day of your guided holiday
- ✓ Daily breakfast and an average of 50% of evening meals
- ✓ Cherry-picked hotels, all tried and trusted
- ✓ Optional Experiences and free time
- ✓ Must-see sightseeing and surprise extras
- ✓ All hotel tips, charges and local taxes
- ✓ VIP entry to many sights