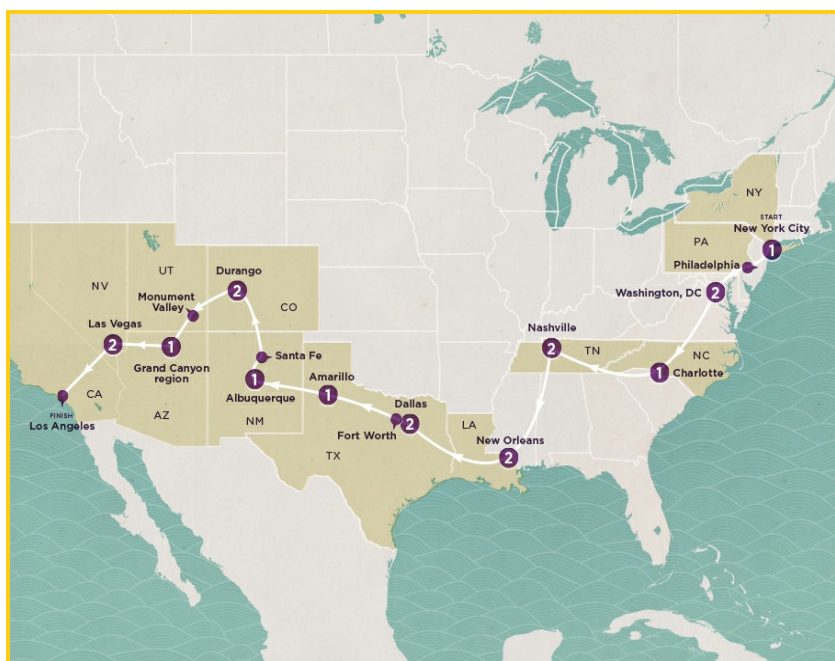


# Topdeck

## PLAY & PAUSE: USA EAST TO WEST



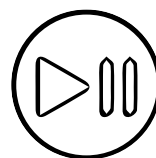
## TOPDECKER, meet North America (TD)

(Most similar to this previous trip: Road Trip USA (ex. New York))  
TRIP VIBE = the perfect mix of group activities and all-important YOU time. Life is a highway. And this 18-day all-American adventure is the route to living YOUR best life. From the iconic capitals of the big screen to the culture-infused cities everyone's raving about: this is one SUPERSIZED roadie. Get to know the big guns of the East, uncover the hidden gems of the South and lose yourself the otherworldly landscapes of the West – with plenty of free time thrown in the mix. If you really want to do the USA, this trip is it.

### WORTH NOTING...

A Sector trip is part of a larger journey, meaning your new friends might continue on or after you leave, or you might be joining a trip already in progress.

### WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW



Play & Pause



Nights



Android/iPhone app download info



This is a sector trip.

# Hi, and thanks for choosing to holiday with Topdeck

You can rest assured that we'll pull out all the stops to make your trip unforgettable.

Now it's time to get excited about your holiday...

## ABOUT YOUR TRIP NOTES

These Trip Notes contain everything you need to know before your trip departs – including where to meet and what to bring. We recommend that you read these notes thoroughly so you know what to expect on your trip of a lifetime. Also, you can easily download and print this document off so you can bring it with you when you travel.

Please bear in mind that some points should be taken as a guide only – after all, everyone's different! For example, daily spending money and clothing lists can vary from one person to the next, so don't be alarmed if you don't expect to spend (or even wear) so much!

**PLEASE NOTE:** We strongly urge you to refresh this document as close to the time of your departure as possible to ensure you have the most up-to-date accommodation list and information available.

### ON THE BUCKET LIST (INCLUDED)

- + Philadelphia highlights drive
- + Night illumination tour of Washington, DC
- + Driving/walking tour of Nashville with Trip Leader
- + Walking tour of New Orleans with Trip Leader
- + Orientation walk of Dallas with Trip Leader
- + Visit Fort Worth Historic Stockyards
- + Visit the Cadillac Ranch in Amarillo
- + Entry to Monument Valley Tribal Park
- + Entry to Grand Canyon National Park
- + Las Vegas Strip highlights drive

### MORE INCLUSIONS

- + Philadelphia highlights drive
- + Night illumination tour
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- + Visit the Cadillac Ranch
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- + Entry to Grand Canyon National Park
- + Las Vegas Strip highlights drive

## YOUR TRIP WILL START

### PICK UP:

New York City  
United States of America

## YOUR TRIP WILL FINISH

### DROP OFF:

Los Angeles  
United States of America

## TRIP CURRENCIES

- + United States of America -

# YOUR ITINERARY

## DAY 1 | NEW YORK CITY, NEW YORK

The Big Apple. One iconic city to kick off one UNbelievable cross-country USA adventure. Makes sense. First: meet the small bunch of trip mates sharing the ride. Then: dig into an included group dinner at Applebee's and get pumped for good times. Ready for over two weeks' worth of OG road trippin'? Hell yeah!



### MEALS:

+ Dinner

## DAY 2 | NEW YORK CITY TO WASHINGTON, DC, VIA PHILADELPHIA

Hitting the road bright and early, we're heading to the hub of American politics. But first: Philly. The home of Rocky and the Declaration of Independence, we'll tick off the top sights on a driving tour. Then: we'll arrive in DC just in time to see the Lincoln Memorial, the National Mall, the Whitehouse and Capitol Hill lit up like Christmas on an illumination tour. Need tips for tonight's feed? Your expert Trip Leader knows where it's at.



### MEALS:

+ Breakfast



### INCLUDED TODAY:

- + Philadelphia highlights drive
- + Night illumination tour

## DAY 3 | WASHINGTON, DC

You've got 24 hours. Your undercover mission, should you choose to accept it... ok, you get the gist. Our suggestion? Get yourself a set of wheels on a Segway or bike tour. Then, hit up the array of FREE museums. From the National Museum of American History to the National Air and Space Museum, and the International Spy Museum – there's something for literally everyone. Washington FTW! Tonight, find a local haunt for dinner.



### MEALS:

+ Breakfast



### OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

- + Bike or Segway tour: from \$40 USD

## DAY 4 | WASHINGTON, DC, TO CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA

Wave goodbye to ol' Lincoln – North Carolina is calling. A city with a tagline like "Charlotte's Got A Lot" means expectations are HIGH. But with urban forests, specialty museums, the NoDa art scene and two brewery districts – we'd have to agree, this place has a lot going on. Not to mention the revved-up optional tour of Charlotte Motor Speedway that's on the cards this afternoon. Ready for a crash course (hopefully not) in America's Home of Racing?



### MEALS:

+ Breakfast



### OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

- + Charlotte Motor Speedway tour: from \$25 USD

## DAY 5 | CHARLOTTE TO NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE

Sling on a cowboy hat and tune up that fiddle. This morning we're making a beeline for America's country music capital. Ngl – it's a bit of a drive there. Meaning? Your chance to catch some zzzzs or write a chart-topping country hit about working 9 to 5. Oh, turns out that's already been done. When we pull into Nashville, it's time for a tour of the city highlights. Then: dinner's on you, but your Trip Leader knows the hot spots.



### INCLUDED TODAY:

- + Driving/walking tour of Nashville with Trip Leader

## DAY 6 | NASHVILLE

Ya'll ordered: free time to do your thing. So here's another sweet slice! What's up first? Hit up the Country Music Hall of Fame for an education in all the folk and blues greats. Check out the Grand Ole Opry for an old-school country music experience. Or head to a legit Tennessee whiskey distillery for a glug of the smoky stuff. It'd be rude not to, right? This eve, get those toes-a-tappin' at an authentic honky-tonk bar. Ready to swing your partner round and round? Responsibly, obv.



### MEALS:

- + Breakfast

## DAY 7 | NASHVILLE TO NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA

Full disclosure: this is a drive day. But it'll be totally worth it when we roll into New Orleans. Trust us. Breakfast AND lunch are included today = sweeeet. Then: when we arrive in the 'Big Easy', dinner is up to you. Between gumbo and po-boys, jambalaya and muffulettas, beignets and bananas foster – it's safer to try them all. Your pants are elasticated, right? Later, the legendary party vibes of Bourbon Street await – arm yourself with a Hand Grenade cocktail for the real experience.



### MEALS:

- + Breakfast
- + Lunch

## DAY 8 | NEW ORLEANS

A city exploding with culture, history and seriously good food – this is a GREAT place to wake up. We'll kick things off with a walking tour around the buzzing French Quarter. Then: choice is yours. Check out the open-air gallery in Jackson Square. Hit up the French Market for shopping. Uncover your love for jazz along Frenchman Street. And get amongst the mayhem on Bourbon Street. Want more? Board an optional swamp tour for more 'gator spotting or learn to cook like a local at an optional cooking demonstration. That'll impress the Tinder dates back home. Whatever you choose, you can't go wrong.



### INCLUDED TODAY:

- + Walking tour of New Orleans with Trip Leader



### OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

- + Swamp tour: from \$22 USD
- + Cooking demonstration: from \$34 USD

## DAY 9 | NEW ORLEANS TO DALLAS, TEXAS

Truth bomb: the USA is B-I-G and we've got a bit of travel day today. Stock up on snacks, hop on board and bring out the AUX cord – Dallas is calling! When we hop off, it's time for a whip around town with our Trip Leader. And then? It's totally up to you. Our suggestion: get the crew together and head to Billy Bob's Texas – the World's Largest Honky Tonk. 30 bars. Live music. Bull riding. It's like real-life Footloose.



### INCLUDED TODAY:

- + Orientation walk of Dallas with Trip Leader

## DAY 10 | DALLAS (INCLUDING FORT WORTH)

Fill up at breakfast and practise your best yeee haaaa! – we're heading to the wild, wild west with a visit to the Fort Worth Historic Stockyards. Lasso your way around the original brick walkways and wooden corrals of 'Cowtown'. And when we return to Dallas? There's more free time to do your thing. Need recommendations? \*Grabs foam finger and points at Trip Leader\* – they've got them. Jump on the vintage (and free = win) McKinney Avenue Trolley and jump off to sample the local bars. Then jump back on again. You get the idea. Perfect your pano skills at Reunion Tower. Or grab some chill time back in the privacy of your accom. There's still eight days of adventuring left!



### MEALS:

- + Breakfast



### INCLUDED TODAY:

- + Visit Fort Worth Historic Stockyards

## DAY 11 | DALLAS TO AMARILLO

Is this the way to Amarillo? Hope so, or we're totally lost. Don't be fooled, our next stop is a 'go big or go home' kinda place. Tonight, shine up your sheriff badge – we're heading to The Big Texan for our included dinner. Think supersized steaks and allllll the saloon vibes.



### MEALS:

- + Breakfast
- + Dinner

## DAY 12 | AMARILLO TO ALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO

Ready for something a bit... different? On Route 66 we'll check out the quirky art installation at the Cadillac Ranch. Fan of Breaking Bad? We're rolling into Heisenberg's old stomping ground later today. Prepare to spice up your life when you hunt down dinner this eve: this place is also famed for its love of chilis. Pro tip: ask for 'Christmas' to get maximum hotness. Or don't. You do you.



### MEALS:

- + Breakfast



### INCLUDED TODAY:

- + Visit the Cadillac Ranch

## DAY 13 | ALBUQUERQUE TO DURANGO, COLORADO, VIA SANTA FE

Tongue still on fire? Pass on the hot sauce at this morning's included brekkie. First up today: the arty markets of Santa Fe – stop for lunch and a wander around the historic heart of the city. Then: glue your face to the window as we weave through the rugged Colorado mountains en route to Durango. When we pull in, we'll dine ranch-style at tonight's included meal.



### MEALS:

- + Breakfast
- + Dinner

## DAY 14 | DURANGO

Today, you've got options. Head out on horseback with an optional riding experience. Or take in allll the views from the Durango Silverton steam train. You can even go zip-lining if that's more your style. Here in winter? Jump on a snowmobile and explore the white stuff in style. And if road trip life has got you craving a bit of me-time – there are plenty of wide-open spaces to explore solo. Tonight's dinner is up to you, but we hear the burgers here are bloody good.



### MEALS:

- + Breakfast



### OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

- + Horse riding (summer only):  
from \$95 USD
- + Zip-lining (summer only):  
from \$130 USD
- + Snowmobile tour (winter  
only): prices available locally

## DAY 15 | DURANGO TO GRAND CANYON REGION, ARIZONA, VIA MONUMENT VALLEY

Arizona – this state is made for road trips. Stretches of endless sky. Expanses of red desert. Centuries-old history. And some pretty famous rock formations. Today's first stop = Mars. Actually –it's Monument Valley, but it may as well be another planet. This INCREDible red-sand desert is out of this world. Keen to explore it the real way? Opt for a jeep tour with a local Navajo guide and get totally lost (not literally) amongst the buttes and mesas of this magical place. And then? Grab some R&R back at the hotel and charge up for some BIG adventuring tomorrow.



### MEALS:

- + Breakfast



### INCLUDED TODAY:

- + Entry to Monument Valley  
Tribal Park



### OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

- + Monument Valley Navajo  
jeep tour: prices available  
locally

## DAY 16 | GRAND CANYON REGION TO LAS VEGAS, NEVADA

One word: iconic. The only way to see one of the world's most incredible natural wonders in its entirety, is from the sky. Lucky for you we've organised an optional heli-tour. After you've filled your SD card, it's time to turn our attention to the strip. The Vegas Strip. This place is so OTT it hurts to look at. But we'll do just that on a driving tour – before donning our sequin bowties and stilettos for a night on the town. Welcome to Vegas, baby!



### MEALS:

- + Breakfast



### INCLUDED TODAY:

- + Entry to Grand Canyon National Park
- + Las Vegas Strip highlights drive



### OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

- + Heli-tour over the Grand Canyon: from \$290 USD

## DAY 17 | LAS VEGAS

Anything goes in Vegas and you've got a full day to make the most of it. Our suggestions? Take an optional heli-tour over The Strip. Or catch a ride on the High Roller Observation Wheel. You can even check out a shooting range, if that's your thing. There's plenty of time to flash some plastic at the mall or hit up a Vegas-style pool party. Just save some energy for later 'cos we've got one last group dinner together – and one big-crazy-ride to toast to!



### MEALS:

- + Dinner



### OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

- + Heli-tour over the Las Vegas Strip: from \$130 USD
- + Ride the High Roller Observation Wheel: from \$40 USD
- + Visit a shooting range: from \$100 USD

## DAY 18 | LAS VEGAS TO LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

Wipe away the last traces of glitter and confetti – we'll make tracks for LA this morning. You've got the whole coach ride to plan next year's reunion trip. Get cracking!

## TIPPING

### NO TIP NECESSARY

Your Topdeck Trip Leaders and Drivers never expect tips, and they won't ask for any either. We also know how much tipping can cost you. So go ahead – spoil yourself with the money you save traveling with us (just don't forget Mum's souvenir).

## TOPDECK TRAVEL APP

Our app is available to download before you travel. With a range of cool features including a currency converter, budget planner, check-in tool and group chat, it'll help you plan your trip like a pro. Think of it as your very own

Topdeck Trip Leader in the palm of your hand.

### TRIP GROUP CHAT

Connect with your fellow Topdeckers before you depart and begin your magical friendship in the flash of a winking face emoji.

### ITINERARY VIEWER

Get the lowdown on where you'll be going and what activities you'll be doing on each day of your trip with this handy little tool.

### CHECK-IN

Plug in all your vital deets and we'll keep them safe for when you really need them. Making your life easier, one swipe at a time.

### BUDGET TRACKER

Keep an eye on your holiday spending, leaving you with more FUN-ds to play with. Think: elaborate Spanish feasts (not questionable supermarket sandwiches).

### MAPS

Navigate your way to meeting points and lesser-known local gems using pins dropped by your Trip Leader, seek out your own bucket list sites and take to the streets like a pro.

Once the trip is over, you'll need the app to give us feedback about your trip experience. We love to hear what you thought about your trip, as it helps to give us an idea of the things we're doing well and the things we could be doing better.

**PLEASE NOTE:** The Topdeck Travel App should only be downloaded once you have booked your trip. You will not be able to log in unless you have a Topdeck booking reference number.

[GET IT FOR IPHONE](#)

[GET IT FOR ANDROID](#)



## PASSENGER SAFETY

### NIGHTS OUT

One of the best parts of travelling is experiencing the nightlife and entertainment each city has to offer. However, amidst the fun and excitement, it's important to be aware of your surroundings and personal safety as well. Before you hit the road with us, be sure to familiarise yourself with the following safety information.

When you're on a night out, remember to avoid walking alone, particularly through deserted areas like beaches and back streets. Always stick together, take a registered taxi where possible, and keep a note of your accommodation details so you can find your way back to your fellow Topdeckers if you become separated. It's also a good idea to get your Topdeck trip mates' mobile numbers in case you need to get hold of them while out and about.

In some countries, alcoholic measures can be considerably larger than what you may be used to. Try to keep track of what you're drinking, and if you see one of your trip mates looking a little worse for wear, take them back to your accommodation. Never leave your drink unattended.

It's also important to be aware that what you might consider harmless flirting may be interpreted differently in some countries. Be yourself and have fun, but stay savvy – you don't want to find yourself in an uncomfortable situation.



## RESPECTING FELLOW PASSENGERS

Here at Topdeck, we're all about inclusivity. We want to make sure that everyone has a great time on our trips, and that everyone feels like they're part of one happy Topdeck family.

What we're not about is excluding people or making them feel like they don't belong – that's just not what families do. That's why we always encourage Topdeckers to be kind and courteous to their fellow passengers. The golden rules? Always remember to respect each other's space, be mindful of causing excessive noise in shared accommodation and treat others how you'd wish to be treated yourself. Easy!

## DRUG USE

Topdeck has a strict zero-tolerance drug policy. Passengers should not bring any illegal substances onto the Topdeck coach or into any of the accommodation we stay in on our trips. This includes marijuana, even if it is legal in some of the states your trip passes through. If you are found in possession of drugs, you will be removed from the trip. All instances of drug possession will be reported to Topdeck Head Office, who may consider alerting the relevant authorities.

**REMEMBER** – if you are found in possession of drugs, not only could you risk getting in trouble with the local police, but our Driver will also be held responsible if drugs are found on the Topdeck coach. Trust us, you wouldn't want that to happen to any of our Drivers – they're awesome.

## MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLBEING

Culture shock, homesickness, random periods of feeling down – these things happen and are totally normal. You can rest assured that if you're feeling low, your Topdeck crew will do their utmost to cheer you up again.

Measures you can take to look after your mental health and wellbeing while on the road with us are:

- + Call home. Sometimes it's nice to hear a familiar voice and have a good old-fashioned catch up with your loved ones
- + Eat well. Never underestimate the power of a good, wholesome meal. Nobody feels at their best when they're hungry!
- + Drink responsibly. Not only will you swerve the dreaded hangover, but by keeping an eye on what you drink, you could also avoid getting into any potentially uncomfortable situations
- + Talk to your Trip Leader. Don't forget, they're probably far from home, too – so they're sure to know of some tried-and-tested ways to beat the blues
- + Integrate with your fellow Topdeckers. This one is key! The more fun you're having on your trip, the less likely you are to feel homesick (trust us).

## HOW TO BE A RESPONSIBLE TRAVELLER

Responsible travel isn't difficult to achieve. With a little conscious thought and preparation, you can have an awesome holiday AND have a positive impact on the places you visit. Sweet!

Here are five things you can do to ensure you're travelling responsibly:

- + Conserve water. You know the drill – reuse your hotel towels, take short showers and remember to turn off the tap when you're brushing your teeth
- + Reduce your waste. Ditch the plastic bag, refuse unnecessary packaging, dispose of your waste responsibly and recycle as much as possible
- + Go local. Hunt down locally owned and operated restaurants and bars, shop in local markets and book tours and activities run by local guides
- + Consider the wildlife. Avoid any attractions that involve closely engaging with wild animals
- + Respect local people and culture. Obeying local laws is a given – but also remember to dress and behave in a manner appropriate to the community. Be polite and keep an open mind!

## OTHER INFORMATION

# INSURANCE

Before your trip departs, it's compulsory for all passengers to take out comprehensive travel insurance covering cancellation, medical expenses (including repatriation), loss or damage to baggage and personal belongings, money and personal liability.

World Nomads provides comprehensive travel insurance for people from over 140 countries. For more information, visit [www.topdeck.travel/travel-insurance](http://www.topdeck.travel/travel-insurance).

# PASSPORTS AND VISAS

Please make sure your passport is valid for at least six months after the last day of your trip. Some countries will refuse entry if you do not have at least six months validity remaining on your passport after your departure date. Depending on your nationality, you may require a visa to enter certain countries.

It is your responsibility to obtain visas prior to your trip departure. To determine which visas you'll need, you can consult either your own government's website or the government websites of the countries in which you will be travelling.

**PLEASE NOTE:** Some visas can take up to six weeks to acquire, so don't leave it until the last minute. Also, bear in mind that the validity of a visa often runs from its date of issue rather than the date of entry into the country. Please check with the appropriate embassy/embassies prior to departure, as requirements do change periodically.

# WHAT TO BRING

Based on our experience, these items are key. Everyone's different though – so if you want to bring more or less, go for it (as long as you don't exceed your 20kg allowance, that is!)

Heading on our Namaste India trip? Your luggage is capped at 15kg, so maybe leave the hairdryer at home.

- + 1 pair of comfortable walking shoes
- + 1 pair of smart casual shoes
- + 1 pair of thongs/jandals/flip-flops
- + 2 pairs of jeans/trousers
- + 2 pairs of shorts/skirts
- + 4 shirts/T-shirts
- + 2 sweaters/jumpers
- + Smart casual evening wear
- + 1 rainproof jacket
- + 1 warm jacket
- + Underwear and socks
- + Swimwear
- + Towel
- + Toiletries

- + Hat and sunscreen
- + Basic medical kit (including plasters, aspirin etc)
- + Insect repellent
- + Conversion plug
- + Reusable water bottle
- + Snow gear



**THAT'S IT!**