



TOPDECKER, meet North America (TD)

TRIP VIBE = fast-paced fun with tons of socialising, bucket-list sights and good times all round. 'You could travel the world, but nothing comes close to the golden coast'. And yes, Katy Perry – we'd have to agree. Roll from the sun-soaked and painfully attractive Pacific Coast, through the red expanses of the desert, and on to some straight-up ICONS (looking at you Grand Canyon, Vegas and San Fran). Plus: do it all with an awesome bunch of Topdeckers just as hungry for adventure as you are. West is best? It's time to find out.

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW



Get Social



Nights



Download app



Meals

Thanks for choosing to holiday with Topdeck

Ready for the time of your LIFE?

The countdown's on...

ABOUT YOUR TRIP NOTES

These Trip Notes contain everything you need to know before your trip departs – from where to meet your Topdeck fam to what we suggest you bring.

Read them on the train, in the supermarket queue or on the loo – we don't mind, just look through them carefully so you know what to expect on your trip. We recommend you download this document so it's with you when you travel (and give a copy to your MVPs so they know what you're up to).

IMPORTANT: please refresh this doc as close to your departure as possible. This means you'll have the most up-to-date info available.

INCLUDED EXPERIENCES

- San Diego highlights drive
- Visit Barrio Logan
- Visit San Diego Old Town
- Stargazing tour at Lowell Observatory
- Entry to Grand Canyon National Park
- Las Vegas Strip highlights drive
- Meow Wolf light show
- Entry to Yosemite National Park
- San Francisco highlights drive

YOUR TRIP WILL START

PICK UP:

Los Angeles
United States of America

YOUR TRIP WILL FINISH

DROP OFF:

San Francisco
United States of America

TRIP CURRENCIES

- United States of America - USD

YOUR ITINERARY

DAY 1 | LOS ANGELES (CALIFORNIA)

La la land: a city characterised by its blissful lack of touch with reality. You never know who you're gonna rub shoulders with here. Hint: the bigger the sunnies, the bigger the star. It's also the perfect place to sack off your everyday routine and catapult into a two-week Californian adventure. First: meet your Topdeck fam. Then, it's time get to know the gang a little better with an included group dinner.



MEALS:

- Dinner

DAY 2 | LOS ANGELES – SAN DIEGO

Jump on the coach amigos, today we're heading down the Pacific Coast to San Diego. After a drive around town, we'll park up at Mission Beach. Your next mission? Explore this beaut of a city! Ride the rollercoaster at Belmont Park. Stretch your legs along the beachfront boardwalk. Tuck into a California Burrito – they were born here. Or get your culture fix at Balboa Park that's chock-a-block with alllll the museums and galleries. And tonight? Get stuck into an authentic Mexican feast. Technicolour flags, tortillas and tequila = good times all round.



INCLUDED TODAY:

- San Diego highlights drive

DAY 3 | SAN DIEGO

Fuel up at brekkie cos we've got a busy morning exploring two of the city's oldest and most vibrant neighbourhoods: Barrio Logan and San Diego Old Town. Then, after an included lunch at ¡Salud! (the so-called 'King of All Tacos'), the afternoon is yours. Need some suggestions? There's an optional San Diego Harbor cruise to get on board with. Or take Fleetwood's advice and go your own way – slip on the Nikes and hit the lesser-known hiking trails around Balboa Park. Wanna try the local tippie? Sign up for an optional tequila tasting tour. This eve, find out why they call this place 'America's Craft Beer Capital' on a micro-brewery crawl with your trip mates (spoiler: there are over 150 to pick from...).



MEALS:

- Breakfast
- Lunch



INCLUDED TODAY:

- Visit Barrio Logan
- Visit San Diego Old Town



OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

- San Diego Harbor cruise: prices available locally
- Tequila tasting: prices available locally

DAY 4 | SAN DIEGO – PRESCOTT (ARIZONA)

There's time for one last dip in the Pacific Ocean before we roll onto 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. It'll be a big driving day, but we'll break it up with a rest stop at Space Age Restaurant. If you're feeling peckish, their burgers are out-of-this-world. Next: straighten your neckerchief and shine up that sheriff badge. When we pull up in Prescott, the saloons of Whiskey Row await. During the Cali Gold Rush, this place was heaving with cowboys and miners searching for a shot (or a shoot). After going down in a blaze of flames in 1900, it was rebuilt to its heyday glory. Ready for a real wild (west) experience? Get out there, partner!



MEALS:

- Breakfast

DAY 5 | PRESCOTT – FLAGSTAFF

Stock up on snacks and share around the AUX cord – we're going to blast some banging tunes on our way to Flagstaff (the gateway to the Grand Canyon). Want a small taster? En-route, we'll pass Sedona's Red Rock State Park where you'll have a chance to admire its fiery-red canyons during an optional jeep tour. Later: get all starry-eyed with a night-time tour at Lowell Observatory. Stargazing got you feeling tiny? We'll continue the theme tomorrow – you've seen the pictures, but nothing can prepare you for the feels you'll have standing on the edge of the mighty Grand Canyon.



MEALS:

- Breakfast



INCLUDED TODAY:

- Stargazing tour at Lowell Observatory



OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

- Sedona Red Rock jeep tour: prices available locally

DAY 6 | FLAGSTAFF – GRAND CANYON NATIONAL PARK – FLAGSTAFF

This is it folks, the moment you've been waiting for. The grandest of canyons awaits! One word to describe this place: mesmerising. And the only way to see one of the world's most incredible natural wonders in its entirety, is from the sky. DW we've organised an optional heli-tour for you. Get ready to max out your iCloud with group shots (again...).



INCLUDED TODAY:

- Entry to Grand Canyon National Park



OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

- Heli-tour over the Grand Canyon: prices available locally

DAY 7 | FLAGSTAFF – LAS VEGAS (NEVADA)

Today, we'll make tracks to Sin City. Seriously, this place is so neon it hurts to look at. But we'll do just that on a driving tour before giving you the whole afternoon to explore. Snap a selfie next to the 'Welcome to Las Vegas' sign or enjoy an epic bird's eye view of The Strip during an optional heli-tour. Feeling hangry yet? We'll regroup for another included meal. How does an Italian feast at Buca di Beppo sound? The portions are HUGE so you might wanna wear your elasticated pants.



MEALS:

- Breakfast



INCLUDED TODAY:

- Las Vegas Strip highlights drive



OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

- Heli-tour over the Las Vegas Strip: prices available locally

DAY 8 | LAS VEGAS

From big-budget stage shows, Michelin-star restaurants and Eiffel Tower clones – Vegas is the definition of OTT. But you can't help love it anyway. Today, America's Playground is ALL yours. So get out there and make the most of it! Our suggestions? Hit up a Vegas-style pool party. Or, if you're feeling crazy in love, get married. By Elvis, obvs. Anything goes in this town. Tonight, regroup with the gang and be dazzled by Meow Wolf (Google it). The immersive light show is out of this world...



INCLUDED TODAY:

- Meow Wolf light show

DAY 9 | LAS VEGAS – YOSEMITE NATIONAL PARK REGION (CALIFORNIA)

Shake the confetti from your hair, hop on the coach and belt out the trip song (in perfect harmony, obvs) – we're outta here. Next stop? The Sierra Nevada Mountains. This place is Disneyland for outdoor enthusiasts. Where sheer-faced granite walls reign supreme, giant sequoia trees loom over dense forest floors and the sound of thundering waterfalls fill the air. Over dinner tonight, make a plan of attack for your free day tomorrow – your expert Trip Leader has plenty of suggestions.



MEALS:

- Dinner

DAY 10 | YOSEMITE NATIONAL PARK

There aren't enough adjectives to describe this place – so we're not going to try. You've got a full day to experience the magic of Yosemite (yo-sem-it-ee) for yourself. Don't waste a second. Start with the Mist Trail for incredible views that compensate for the burning calves. Follow the trail to the top of Vernal Falls and be rewarded with a refreshing dip in Emerald Pool. Want more of a challenge? Follow 'nature's staircase' to the top of Nevada Falls. DW if walking isn't your thing – there's a free shuttle to get around. Keep your eyes peeled for deer, bears and golden eagles. David Attenborough wannabes eat your heart out. Worked up an appetite? Dinner's on us tonight – time to swap stories with the fam.



MEALS:

- Breakfast
- Lunch
- Dinner



INCLUDED TODAY:

- Entry to Yosemite National Park

DAY 11 | YOSEMITE NATIONAL PARK REGION – SAN FRANCISCO

Up and at 'em – the adventure sure as hell isn't over yet! We've got our eye on San Fran next. Home of Alcatraz prison and one famous red bridge that's pretending to be golden (we see you). Learn the who's who of 'The City' on a driving tour – including Pier 39, the Fisherman's Wharf and The Painted Ladies. Then: have a pinch-me moment watching the sunset over the Bay on an optional catamaran cruise. All that sailing made you hangry? Gather the gang and track down a steaming plate of Joe's Special. What happens when you throw eggs, spinach and ground beef together? THIS.



MEALS:

- Breakfast
- Lunch



INCLUDED TODAY:

- San Francisco highlights drive



OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

- Sunset catamaran cruise: prices available locally

DAY 12 | SAN FRANCISCO

This is our last full day. So, don't hang about! Fuel up with a stack of pancakes that'll put your elastic waistbands to the test. Then, history buffs will want to tour Alcatraz (get your tix in advance!). Or wander the waterfront and get a pic with the locals at Pier 39. Union Square is the place to flash some plastic before you head home. And tonight? It's our final group din at North Beach Cantina – let's give this epic adventure the send-off it deserves with burritos and margs!



MEALS:

- Dinner



OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

- Visit Alcatraz: prices available locally (must pre-book)

DAY 13 | SAN FRANCISCO

You tried the food. Stood on the edge. Said yes to new adventures. New experiences. New friendships. And all in under two weeks! Time to say our goodbyes, swap those TikTok handles and start planning next year's reunion. Our Get Social: Canadian Rockies trip is pretty sweet. Just putting it out there...



OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

- Shuttle to Los Angeles: from \$60 USD

OTHER INFORMATION

TOPDECK APP

Feeling appy? Download the Topdeck app and get PUMPED for the adventure ahead. Best bit is: from 45 days before departure you'll be able to chat with your soon-to-be tripmates.

Plus, get your itinerary at your fingertips – so you know where you'll be going and what you'll be doing on each day of your trip. Nice!

Links:

Apple <https://apps.apple.com/gb/app/topdeck/id994727866>

Android <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.FlexiTechSolutions.TopDeck&hl=en>



YOUR SAFETY

NIGHTS OUT

We love a good night out – experiencing the nightlife and entertainment places have to offer is a big part of travelling. But alongside the fun it's important to be aware of your surroundings and personal safety.

When you're out late, 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 so you can find your way back to your fellow Topdeckers if you become separated. Make sure you have your 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.

DRUG USE

Topdeck has a strict zero-tolerance drug policy. Customers 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 immediately. 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 do you risk getting in trouble with the local police, but our Driver will also be held responsible if they are found on the Topdeck coach. Trust us, you don'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.

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 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 (fact!)

TRAVEL SINCE COVID-19

Travel looks a bit different since COVID-19. That's why we've put some new procedures in place to help keep you safe on the road.

What remains the same? Your Topdeck trip will be run hygienically, responsibly, and with your safety at the forefront of everything we do. End of.

Here's the info: <https://www.topdeck.travel/resources/travel-safely>

RESPECT ON THE ROAD

RESPECTING FELLOW TRAVELLERS

Our trips are for everyone. We're a family – and we want every Topdecker to have an incredible time.

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

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 adventure AND 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 room 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!

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.

Head to our FAQ for more info: <https://www.topdeck.travel/resources/faqs-0>

Got more Qs? Chat with our Customer Service team: <https://www.topdeck.travel/about-us/contact>

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's 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. Check out our handy interactive map showing global visa requirements:

<https://www.topdeck.travel/resources/latest-border-restrictions>

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.

TIPPING

Basically: it's not necessary.

Your Trip Leader and Driver don't expect tips, and they won't ask for any either. Meaning? More dollar to spend on optional activities (and a souvenir for your nan).

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!).

Off to Japan? Your luggage must be no bigger than 160cm in total (height x width x length). So maybe leave the hairdryer at home.

Psst: this is a packing list for Topdeck trips in general. Obv you'd look silly splashing around the Greek islands in a snowsuit.

- 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 warm jacket + 1 rainproof jacket

- Underwear and socks + swimwear
- Towel
- Toiletries
- Hat and sunscreen
- Basic medical kit (including plasters, aspirin etc)
- Adaptor plug
- Reusable water bottle
- Snow gear



THAT'S IT!