



TOPDECKER, meet North America

There are regular vacays. And then there's The Big Easy. No comprende? Let us break it down. On this gem of a trip you can compare the Cuban eats of Miami with the Cajun flavours of New Orleans, get your dose of palm trees and Prada in LA, scratch beneath the surface of über-cool Austin and gawk at the bright lights of Vegas. Throw in a stop at the Grand Canyon and you've got yourself one tasty, sun-filled adventure. Let's go!

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW



Delve Deep



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

- Driving tour of the Las Vegas Strip
- Las Vegas party bus
- Day trip to Grand Canyon National Park
- Entry to Monument Valley Tribal Park
- Monument Valley Navajo Jeep tour
- Ranch visit
- Spray paint cadillacs at Cadillac Ranch
- Visit Fort Worth Historic Stockyards
- Visit the Sixth Floor Museum in Dallas
- Driving tour of Austin
- Visit Houston Space Center (home of NASA)
- Orientation tour of Baton Rouge
- Driving tour of Miami

YOUR ITINERARY

DAY 1 | LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA TO LAS VEGAS, NEVADA

Start in the one and only LA, then it's straight to Las Vegas. We'll kick things off with a driving tour of The Strip, then it's time to board the party bus for the hottest night on wheels.



MEALS:

- Dinner



INCLUDED TODAY:

- Driving tour of the Las Vegas Strip
- Las Vegas party bus



OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

- Club entry

DAY 2 | LAS VEGAS

Anything goes in Vegas. Today's options: go high with a heli-tour over The Strip, ride the High Roller Observation Wheel or swing by a shooting range. Just remember to save some energy for tonight – all of those casinos won't visit themselves, you know.



OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

- Ride the High Roller Observation Wheel
- Heli-tour over the Las Vegas Strip
- Visit a shooting range

DAY 3 | LAS VEGAS TO GRAND CANYON REGION, ARIZONA

From The Strip to the red stripes of the grandest of canyons. If you choose to take the chopper tour, you'll get a 360-degree view – or you could always stay grounded and hike the rim.



MEALS:

- Dinner



INCLUDED TODAY:

- Day trip to Grand Canyon National Park



OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

- Heli-tour over the Grand Canyon

DAY 4 | GRAND CANYON TO DURANGO, COLORADO

Hear stories from our Navajo guide on today's Jeep tour of Monument Valley before tucking into a traditional Navajo lunch. Afterwards, it's time to make tracks to Durango, where a ranch visit awaits.



MEALS:

- Breakfast
- Lunch
- Dinner



INCLUDED TODAY:

- Entry to Monument Valley Tribal Park
- Monument Valley Navajo Jeep tour
- Ranch visit

DAY 5 | DURANGO

Ready for an adrenaline rush? Durango has some options for you. Take your pick from hiking, biking, horseriding or whitewater rafting on the Animas River. Tonight, there's even an optional Chuckwagon Dinner Show (two words: singing cowboys).



MEALS:

- Breakfast



OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

- Horse riding (summer only)
- Whitewater rafting (summer only)
- Ziplining (summer only)
- Chuckwagon Dinner Show
- Mountain bike tour (summer only)
- Snowmobile tour (winter only)

DAY 6 | DURANGO TO ALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO

Breaking Bad fans, rejoice: today we roll on to Heisenberg's old stomping ground, Albuquerque. But first, we'll make a pit stop at Santa Fe.



MEALS:

- Breakfast

DAY 7 | ALBUQUERQUE TO AMARILLO, TEXAS

Time to get your graffiti on. Hit up Cadillac Ranch and go crazy with the spray paint on the way to Amarillo. Later: prepare to chow down Texas-style at the Big Texan Steak House.



MEALS:

- Breakfast
- Dinner



INCLUDED TODAY:

- Spray paint cadillacs at Cadillac Ranch

DAY 8 | AMARILLO TO DALLAS/FORT WORTH

Step into a real life Western movie as we pay a visit to the Fort Worth Historic Stockyards. Can we get a yee-haw?



MEALS:

- Breakfast



INCLUDED TODAY:

- Visit Fort Worth Historic Stockyards

DAY 9 | DALLAS/FORT WORTH TO AUSTIN

Today we'll take a look at The Sixth Floor Museum: the spot where JFK was assassinated. Then, it's off to Austin. We'll drive you around to see the sights, then treat you to a slap-up Texan BBQ dinner.



MEALS:

- Breakfast
- Dinner



INCLUDED TODAY:

- Visit the Sixth Floor Museum in Dallas
- Driving tour of Austin

DAY 10 | AUSTIN

A free day to spend your way. Fact: Austin's slogan is 'Keep Austin Weird'. Sounds like a challenge to us! Nudists, boot scooters, cheese makers and a cathedral of junk are just a few of the things you might see on your travels.



MEALS:

- Breakfast

DAY 11 | AUSTIN TO LAKE CHARLES, LOUISIANA

Take one giant leap for Topdecker-kind as we pay a visit to the Houston Space Center en route to Lake Charles. Later, prepare for rice, spice and all things nice as we sit down to some Cajun style cuisine.



MEALS:

- Breakfast
- Dinner



INCLUDED TODAY:

- Visit Houston Space Center (home of NASA)

DAY 12 | LAKE CHARLES TO NEW ORLEANS

First up: find your bearings in Baton Rouge on an orientation tour. Tonight, roll into New Orleans and lose yourself in the party atmosphere on Bourbon Street.



MEALS:

- Breakfast
- Dinner



INCLUDED TODAY:

- Orientation tour of Baton Rouge

DAY 13 | NEW ORLEANS

What's it going to be today? You have a few options. Head out on a swamp tour, tantalise those taste buds with a cooking demo or sit back and drink in the scenery on a paddleboat cruise.



MEALS:

- Breakfast



OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

- Swamp tour
- Cooking demonstration
- Paddleboat cruise

DAY 14 | NEW ORLEANS TO PANAMA CITY BEACH, FLORIDA

We're off to to Panama City Beach to seek out turquoise waters and sandy beaches. Spend the afternoon shopping, exploring or just plain lying around.



MEALS:

- Breakfast
- Dinner

DAY 15 | PANAMA CITY BEACH TO FLORIDA GULF COAST

If Panama City Beach did the job of recharging your batteries, throw yourself into the nightlife at one of Florida Gulf Coast's many beach bars. Whatever you do, enjoy this balmy bit of beachside heaven.



MEALS:

- Breakfast

DAY 16 | FLORIDA GULF COAST TO MIAMI

Bienvenidos a Miami, where the weather is hot and the characters are colourful. Ice cream-toned art deco buildings? Check. Beach vibes? Check. Driving tour? You bet.



MEALS:

- Breakfast



INCLUDED TODAY:

- Driving tour of Miami

DAY 17 | MIAMI

Miami, it's been a pleasure. Say goodbye to the crew after breakfast and start planning the next adventure.



MEALS:

- Breakfast

MEALS

Your included meals are detailed in the 'Included Essentials' section of this document.

Breakfasts (usually continental breakfasts) are included every day, except on the first morning of your trip. A typical continental breakfast may consist of cereals with milk or yogurt, bread, croissants, cold meats, and cheese – with fruit juice, tea or coffee to drink. It is rare to get a hot breakfast, though on some occasions some hot food may be available.

Included meals will be provided in a mixture of local restaurants and places in which we stay. In most cases, table water is provided with meals. If you wish to purchase additional drinks, you can do so at your own expense.

If you have any dietary requirements, we'll make every effort to cater to your needs – as long as you advise your travel agent or Customer Service Consultant when you book. You can also make a note of dietary requirements in the Topdeck app when you check-in.

PLEASE NOTE: Although we'll do everything in our power to cater to your needs, we cannot guarantee this will be possible in every restaurant we visit. We also cannot cater to tastes or dislikes, as most of our included evening meals feature a set menu.

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

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 travelling with us (just don't forget Mum's souvenir).

TIPPING CULTURE IN NORTH AMERICA

In North America, tipping is customary. Please bear in mind that you will be expected to leave a tip for optional meals and activities, as well as during nights out.

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!