



WESTERN UNITED STATES



www.JourneysClub.ca

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From purple mountains' majesty to the rolling waves of the Pacific, the wonders of the West are certainly beautiful to behold. Choose your own adventure: explore the wilds of Alaska, relax on Hawaii's white-sand beaches, retrace the steps of Old West pioneers, or wind your way through California's enchanting wine country. Wherever your Western adventure takes you, you are sure to discover some of the world's most awe-inspiring sights right here in your own backyard.

HOLIDAYS & FESTIVALS

January 1

The Tournament of Roses Parade
California rings in the New Year with floats decorated with tens of thousands of real flowers—a delight for all the senses.

January

Sundance Film Festival
More than 20,000 movie lovers and the industry's elite screen 125 feature-length films and 60 shorts.

March

North Lake Tahoe Snow Festival
The largest winter carnival in the West.

July

Festival of the American West
A time-warping adventure in Logan, Utah, will transport you back to the days of cow poking, bull roping and telling stories around the campfire.

August

Santa Fe Opera
Features a brilliant series of shows in a superb outdoor opera house.

October

Albuquerque Balloon Fiesta
Hundreds of colorful hot-air balloons light up the sky at this unique American celebration.

BOOKS

- *The Grapes of Wrath*, by John Steinbeck
- *The Lost Continent: Travels in Small-Town America*, by Bill Bryson
- *The Man Who Invented Las Vegas*, by W.R. Wilkerson III
- *National Geographic's Guide to the National Parks of the United States*

WESTERN UNITED STATES CONTINUED

VIDEOS

- *From Here to Eternity* (1953)
- *North to Alaska* (1960)
- *Sleepless in Seattle* (1993)
- *A Walk in the Clouds* (1995)
- *Oceans Eleven* (2001)
- *Sideways* (2005)

LOCAL TOURISM

WEB SITES

| | |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| <i>Alaska</i> | <i>www.travelalaska.com</i> |
| <i>Arizona</i> | <i>www.arizonaguide.com</i> |
| <i>California</i> | <i>gocalif.ca.gov</i> |
| <i>Colorado</i> | <i>www.colorado.com</i> |
| <i>Hawaii</i> | <i>www.gohawaii.com</i> |
| <i>Idaho</i> | <i>www.visitidaho.org</i> |
| <i>Montana</i> | <i>www.visitmt.com</i> |
| <i>National Parks</i> | <i>www.nps.gov</i> |
| <i>Nevada</i> | <i>www.travelnevada.com</i> |
| <i>Oregon</i> | <i>www.traveloregon.com</i> |
| <i>USA Tourism Sites</i> | <i>www.seeamerica.org</i> |
| <i>Utah</i> | <i>www.utah.com</i> |
| <i>Washington</i> | <i>www.experiencewashington.com</i> |

WEATHER

Weather in the western United States is a lesson in extremes—from Alaska’s chill to Arizona’s heat and year-round comfort in California and Hawaii. What you decide to pack when you travel to the West will depend largely on your destination. With wide-open spaces like these, however, might we suggest bringing along a well-traveled pair of tennis shoes.

AVERAGE

TEMPERATURES

| | January | | April | | July | | October | |
|-----------------|---------|------|-------|-----|------|-----|---------|-----|
| | High | Low | High | Low | High | Low | High | Low |
| Denver, CO | 45° | 10° | 59° | 27° | 83° | 49° | 66° | 30° |
| Fairbanks, AK | 1° | -13° | 41° | 19° | 72° | 50° | 32° | 17° |
| Honolulu, HI | 80° | 66° | 83° | 69° | 87° | 73° | 87° | 72° |
| Jackson, WY | 26° | 4° | 51° | 24° | 82° | 41° | 58° | 23° |
| Los Angeles, CA | 66° | 48° | 67° | 53° | 75° | 63° | 74° | 59° |
| Phoenix, AZ | 68° | 36° | 87° | 50° | 109° | 76° | 90° | 54° |

Temperatures are in °F. For specific weather information, visit www.accuweather.com.

WESTERN UNITED STATES CONTINUED

DID YOU KNOW?

- *Napa Valley boasts more than 200 wineries, including Stag's Leap Winery, famous for its 1973 Cabernet Sauvignon that beat the French in a blind taste test in Paris.*
- *Shrimp consumption in Las Vegas is more than 60,000 pounds a day—that's more than the rest of the U.S. combined.*
- *Denver has the largest city park system in the nation, with 205 parks within city limits and 20,000 acres of parks in the nearby mountains.*
- *Everyone knows that Los Angeles is the entertainment capital of the world, but it also boasts an eclectic mix of more than 300 fine-arts museums.*

NATIONAL PARK

SPOTLIGHT

Arches National Park

Location: Near Moab, Utah

Established: November 12, 1971

Area: 76,359 acres

Highlights: A landscape seemingly taken from the pages of a Dr. Seuss book, Arches offers a kaleidoscope of geological wonders—from sandstone arches to spires, pinnacles and curiously balanced rocks. For an unforgettable cap to your day, catch a spectacular sunset through the frame of the park's famous Delicate Arch.

Denali National Park

Location: South Central Alaska

Established: February 26, 1917

Area: 6 million acres

Highlights: Covering an area larger than the state of Massachusetts and having only one road to its name, Denali is wilderness at its best. View Mount McKinley, America's tallest peak, along with rushing rivers, flower-studded tundra and an incredible assortment of wildlife at this Alaskan wonderland.

Grand Canyon National Park

Location: Northern Arizona

Established: February 26, 1919

Area: 1.2 million acres

Highlights: The sheer magnitude of this, the grandest canyon, is perhaps the most overwhelming sensation you'll receive from your visit. Billions of years of erosion have created a geological history lesson told through the multifarious layers of rock. Sunsets here set the canyon walls aflame with a crimson hue that will stay forever burned in your memory.

