

Sunday June 24 – Day 1**L D**

Depart Grand Rapids Gerald R Ford International Airport on **Frontier Airlines** at 10 AM. **Everyone should have their government issued photo ID.** We are scheduled to arrive in Denver at 11 AM and will travel via motorcoach to Durango Colorado. After leaving the Denver airport we eat a box **LUNCH** enroute. Let's take time for a short hike at the **Garden of the Gods** in Colorado Springs...a registered National Natural Landmark. Imagine dramatic views, 300' towering red sandstone rock formations against a backdrop of snow-capped Pikes Peak and brilliant blue skies. **Several hours later** we stop for **DINNER** at Calvillos in Alamosa for a genuine Mexican feast.

Accommodation: Comfort Inn & Suites Durango Colorado

Monday June 25 – Day 2**B L D**

After a **BREAKFAST** buffet in the hotel we take a 45 min. drive to the **Mesa Verde park entrance and another 45 min. drive to the Visitor Center.** Enjoy the adventure in this UNESCO World Heritage Site and discover our nation's richest archeological preserve. We have tickets for 2 Ranger guided hikes today:

1. Cliff Palace, the largest cliff dwellings in North America.
2. Balcony House, one of the best preserved and most unique cliff dwellings in the Park.

During the tour you gain insight – Why did people thrive here for seven centuries, evolving from hunters-gathers into a culture known for its agriculture, intricate artistry, d architecture and brilliant use of indigenous materials? Why did they leave? And where did they go?

We eat a healthy box **LUNCH** (from the Yellow Carrot) near the **museum** in **Mesa Verde National Park.**

We travel back to our hotel in Durango and slip into our evening attire...a red bandana, jeans and a shirt and we are off to a fun evening at the Famous Old West Stage Show and a delicious barbeque "**SUPPER**" with BAR D Chuckwagon.

Accommodation: Comfort Inn & Suites Durango Colorado

Tuesday June 26 – Day 3**B D**

After a **BREAKFAST** buffet in hotel we board the **Durango & Silverton Narrow Gauge Railroad.** We experience a ride back through time on a historic coal-fired, steam-powered locomotive. The train winds through 46 scenic miles of magnificent canyons in the San Juan National Forest to the old mining town of Silverton CO. Lunch is on your own in this historic mining town. Then we board the motorcoach and head north on the Million Dollar Highway arriving in Ouray mid-afternoon. Ouray is located at an elevation

of 7,770 feet nestled in the San Juan mountain range of SW Colorado. They average 285 days of sunshine and summer highs are rarely above 85 and lows are in the 50's. We check into the Ouray Chalet Inn located in the heart of town.

DINNER is at **Buen Tiempo Restaurant...**a fun Tex/Mex cuisine. Perhaps the outdoor hot tub will be a good place to congregate tonight.

Accommodation: Ouray Chalet Inn

Wednesday June 27 – Day 4**L**

Breakfast is on your own. We spend the day hiking the Ouray Perimeter Trail, a unique 4.2 mile hike which features the town and surrounding cliffs and mountains. Along the trail, we will cross a suspended bridge over Canon Creek's gorge, and follow the cairns to a rocky upland studded with cactus and wildflowers to the trail's highest elevation at 8,500 feet. After our **LUNCH** stop we continue the hike to Box Canyon Falls Park Water is the lifeblood of all species so bring plenty with you on this day-hike. Heading back to the Inn you can either soak in the outdoor hot-tub or experience the sulphur-free hot springs in the Ouray public pool containing over a million gallons of water with soaking sections at a variety of temperatures.

Accommodation: Ouray Chalet Inn

Thursday June 28 – Day 5

B D

Happiness is one more day in Ouray!

Rise and Shine to **BREAKFAST at Bachelor-Syracuse Mine** followed by an interesting Mine Tour. Ride the Mine Train and travel 1,800 feet in to Gold Hill. This Mine was featured in *National Geographic*.

Spend the day on various hiking trails around Ouray, or just relaxing! Ouray is the home of many outstanding artists, craftsmen and innovative shop owners.

Tonight we are treated to an **Outlaw Cookout Dinner**. Slip on your jeans and a vest and hop into a four-wheel drive vehicle to a beautiful location in the mountain along Canyon Creek. Rib-eye steaks, chicken or fish are cooked on an open grill and served with several side dishes.

Accommodation: Ouray Chalet Inn

Friday June 29 – Day 6

B L

We load the motorcoach for an early departure from Ouray. Enjoy a leisure **BREAKFAST** enroute to Grand Junction. We travel along I-70 back to Denver and check in at the airport for our 3:10 PM departure on **Frontier Airlines** with arrival in Grand Rapids at 7:37 PM.



Tour Cost:

Grand Rapids departure

\$1,365 pp/double occ.

\$1,660 single occ.

\$1,290 pp/triple occ

Tour cost includes:

1. Rd-Trip Air transportation on Frontier Airlines
2. Deluxe Motorcoach transportation
3. 12 meals: 4B, 4L, 4D
4. Attractions listed in the itinerary
5. Five nights lodging -2 nights in Durango CO - 3 nights in Ouray CO

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Women's Hiking Southwest Colorado

June 24-29, 2012

Sunday - Friday

Featuring:

Hiking in Garden of the Gods,
Colorado Springs

Hiking in Mesa Verde National Park

Durango & Silverton Narrow Gauge
Railroad

Hiking in Ouray CO...*Switzerland of
America*

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