



**BLACK
SHEEP**
ADVENTURES

HIKE. BIKE. RAIL. TRAVEL EWEPHORIA.

Bike.

Colorado's San Juan Mountains

July-September

TOUR RATING: **INTERMEDIATE/ADVANCED**



TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- Experience stunning vistas of the Rockies as you pedal along mountain roads
- Stay in charming Colorado mountain towns including Ouray in “the Switzerland of America” and Durango
- Visit the cliff dwellings and stay in Mesa Verde National Park
- Optional historic train ride along the Durango & Silverton Narrow Gauge Railroad

Visit Colorado's San Juan Mountains riding some of the most scenic terrain available and paying visits to historic towns and cultural sites along the way. You'll have some spectacular rides to tackle throughout the Rocky Mountains largest range – sure to offer up both high alpine splendor and a true challenge!

Questions?

Call 866-OH-SHEEP (866-647-4337)

info@BlackSheepAdventures.com

BlackSheepAdventures.com

Based in Piedmont, California



DAY
1

Welcome to Grand Junction – Let's Get Acclimatized

Make your way independently to Grand Junction where you will meet your guides. At 4,600 ft, Grand Junction, is a great gateway and stepping stone to get acclimatized on our way to the higher elevations of the Rockies. Get settled and we'll reconvene for a welcome dinner where we'll have an overview of the trip, discuss logistics and raise a glass to toast together towards a great week ahead. Meals included: Dinner

DAY
2

Colorado National Monument – 35 miles

This morning we'll depart from the hotel and kick off our week of cycling with a ride into the nearby Colorado National Monument. Pedal along Rim Rock Drive and take in views of wildlife amongst the piñon and juniper forests from high atop the Colorado Plateau. Soak up the visual grandeur of Monument Canyon and experience first hand how this route was named Tour of the Moon. We'll cycle to neighboring Fruita to conclude the ride and enjoy lunch before our 2 hr 30 min transfer to Ouray – the incredibly picturesque, "Switzerland of America" – where we'll spend the night after enjoying another great dinner together. Breakfast & Dinner

DAY
3

Hooray for Ouray, But Let's Ride to Telluride – 50 miles

This morning we'll pay a visit to the easily accessible Box Canyon Falls and take in the wonderful 285-foot waterfall as it plummets into the gorge below. We'll then grab our bikes and our ride today is an incredible route that climbs from Ridgway to Dallas Divide before descending to the San Miguel River. It's then another ascent from Placerville to the high-mountain paradise of Telluride, our home for the night. This area has a prominent mining history, well-preserved historic district, and some great riding. Meals included: Breakfast & Dinner

DAY
4

Telluride to Cortez: A Very Looooooooooooong Descent – 75 miles

We've got another magnificent treat in store for you today as we tackle the longest ride of the week, but don't let the distance fool you! Heading over Lizard Head Pass you'll embark on one of the longest descents, if not the longest, you've ever encountered, nearly 60 miles long and with close to 5,000 feet of elevation loss. Topping out at over 10,000 feet you're sure to enjoy this epic and exhilarating drop to Cortez, and it's a short transfer to Mesa Verde National Park, where we'll spend the night. Meals Included: Breakfast & Dinner

DAY
5

Exploring the past at Mesa Verde National Park – Optional Hiking

Today you'll take a step back in time as you visit our country's largest archaeological preserve at Mesa Verde National Park, home to more than 4,000 sites and over 600 cliff dwellings. We'll enjoy a private tour with our local step-on guide explaining how the ancient ancestral Puebloan people lived off the land as we hike around to various sites and get up close to the artifacts and ruins these ancient people called home. Making our way via van to nearby Durango you can enjoy the afternoon and evening as you see fit in this funky mountain town, also known for its mining roots and railroad history. Meals included: Breakfast & Lunch

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**DAY
6**

Dissecting Durango, Optional Train Ride to Silverton – 52 miles

The legs have certainly appreciated yesterday's downtime and today's it's back out on the road for a two-wheeled tour of Durango. We'll explore a local bread & butter ride, the Durango-Bayfield loop, a route that climbs out to the Vallecito Reservoir before returning to town. With your free time this afternoon, you may want to explore the Animas River Trail on foot or learn about the town's history at the railway museum. If you'd rather skip the bike ride, you can take the historic train ride from Durango to Silverton this morning and return in the afternoon. It offers up big views and amazing scenery from an open-air gondola car. Depending on how many people want to ride the train, and the needs of the group, we may be able to shuttle you back from Silverton if you don't want to ride the train roundtrip. It's another night on the town together this evening to enjoy a final group dinner at a regional culinary hot spot. Meals included: Breakfast & Dinner

**DAY
7**

Planes, Trains (yesterday) & Automobiles – 36 miles

Today you'll sample another stunning ride through the lush Animas Valley out to Baker's Bridge returning via Honeyville and Hermosa. You'll have a chance to freshen up before our transfer to the Grand Junction. Bid your guides farewell and catch a flight home or continue your travels as you see fit. In these seven days, we'll have explored the region quite thoroughly and you'll have a great taste of southwestern Colorado living to take back home with you. Meals included: Breakfast & Lunch

Pricing

TRIP COST	PAYMENT TERMS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$3,295 each based on double occupancy • Single Supplement: \$695 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$750 deposit due to hold space • Balance due 90 days prior to departure (can be auto-collected if you pay by credit card)

TRIP PRICE INCLUDES	TRIP PRICE EXCLUDES
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lodging as outlined in lodging section below based on double occupancy • Meals as noted in itinerary above • Non-optional activities as outlined in itinerary above • Ride-friendly snacks and beverages throughout each day • Hybrid or alloy road bike rental – carbon road bike or E-bike available for an upgrade fee • Services of professional trip leader(s) • Van support during the trip & portering service • Black Sheep Adventures T-shirt, wool (baaaaah) socks, water bottles & luggage tags 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pre & post tour travel • Alcoholic beverages • Optional activities such as spa treatments • Gratuities for your BSA guides

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Lodging

La Quinta Inn & Suites in Grand Junction - 1 night

This modern hotel has coffeemakers in each colorful room, as well as pillow-top mattresses, free WiFi and flat-screen TVs with HD channels. A fitness center as well as an outdoor pool are available.

Box Canyon Lodge & Hot Springs - 1 night

This cozy lodge-style hotel has scenic mountain views. Rooms feature rustic decor and free Wi-Fi and satellite TV, plus microwaves, minifridges and coffeemakers. There are also 4 spring-fed hot tubs with fantastic views.

Camel's Garden Hotel - 1 night

Located next to the San Miguel River the hotel features modern, airy rooms have free Wi-Fi, cable TV and Italian marble bathrooms with oversized tubs.

Far View Lodge in Mesa Verde National Park - 1 night

The only hotel in Mesa Verde National Park has a southwestern style and offers easy access to explore the park. Each room has park-view balconies, handcrafted furnishings, and come with Wi-Fi, minifridges and coffeemakers.

Best Western Plus Rio Grande Inn in Durango - 2 nights

A short walk from the Durango & Silverton Narrow Gauge Railroad this hotel has straightforward rooms with microwaves, minifridges and coffeemakers, plus free WiFi and flat-screen TVs with premium channels.

Terms

CANCELLATION POLICY

If you cancel for any reason the following refund schedule applies:

- 91+ days prior to trip start: A \$100 fee per person will be deducted from any refund.
- 61-90 days prior to trip start: Cancellation fee equal to 25% of trip cost
- 31-60 days prior to trip start: Cancellation fee equal to 50% of trip cost
- 0-30 days prior to trip start: No refund

TRAVEL INSURANCE

We recommend travel insurance. For more information and to purchase, go to <http://my.travelinsure.com/bsaselect>

WAIVER

All participants must complete our waiver online at <https://www.smartwaiver.com/v/bsabike2022/>

DISCLAIMER

The above itinerary is subject to change depending on a variety of factors. In every case, Black Sheep Adventures will endeavor to make you aware of changes as soon as possible, but, occasionally, changes must be made immediately prior to, or during, a departure. We strive to offer the best quality trip for each area and will make every effort to offer a comparable or better vacation. Rest assured our goal is to leave you with the best possible experience so you choose to travel with us again and tell your friends all about us. Black Sheep Adventures acts only as an agent for the various independent suppliers that provide hotel accommodations, transportation, sightseeing, activities, or other services connected with this tour. Such services are subject to the terms and conditions of those suppliers. Black Sheep Adventures and their respective employees, agents, representatives, and assigns accept no liability whatsoever from any injury, damage, loss, accident, delay, or any other incident which may be caused by the negligence, defect, default of any company or person in performing these services. Responsibility is not accepted for losses, injury, damages or expenses of any kind due to sickness, weather, strikes, hostilities, wars, terrorist acts, acts of nature, local laws or other such causes. All services and accommodations are subject to the laws and regulations of the country in which they are provided. Black Sheep Adventures is not responsible for any baggage or personal effects (including bicycles or bicycle gear) of any individual participating in the tours arranged by Black Sheep Adventures. Individual travelers are responsible for purchasing a travel insurance policy, if desired, that will cover some of the expenses associated with the loss of luggage or personal effects.

IMPORTANT NOTE ON BRINGING YOUR OWN BIKE

If you are bringing your own bike, per the above disclaimer, it is at your own risk. BSA will transport it, and our guides will endeavor to protect your bike as best they can. If you have a custom bicycle, rare bike or one that you are just terribly fond of, we encourage you to carefully consider the choice to bring it. If you do choose to bring your own bike, please ensure your homeowner's, renter's or trip insurance policy will cover the bike for loss to your satisfaction. Alternatively, please consider renting a bicycle from us. We have some nice full carbon and alloy road bikes for rent at a reduced rate.

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