



**BLACK
SHEEP**
ADVENTURES

HIKE. BIKE. RAIL. TRAVEL EWEPHORIA.

Hike.

Colorado's National Parks

June-September

TOUR RATING: **MODERATE**



TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- Scenic drives in Rocky Mountain National Park, Colorado National Monument, and Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Park
- Hiking in each park to fully experience the grandeur of these parks
- Climb the 700+ foot sand dunes in Great Sand Dunes National Park
- Walking amongst petrified redwoods and thousands of fossils at Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument

The national parks of Colorado feature mountainous splendor of alpine lakes, towering peaks, rolling meadows, and captivating wildlife at Rocky Mountain National Park; red rock canyons in Colorado National Monument; 2,000-foot deep, sheer-walled canyons at Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Park; and rugged mountain vistas and massive dunes at Great Sand Dunes National Park. We will explore each of these national parks including fantastic scenic drives and lacing up our boots to get a closer look at the highlights of each park on many of the iconic trails.

Questions?

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

info@BlackSheepAdventures.com

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Based in Piedmont, California



DAY
1

Arrival and Estes Park

This morning you will be picked up from your Denver airport hotel and head west to Estes Park, the gateway community to Rocky Mountain National Park. We will stretch our legs this afternoon on a short hike to acclimatize to the elevation before relaxing over dinner in town. Meals included: Lunch & Dinner

DAY
2

Rocky Mountain National Park

We start off the day with a hike in the park before traversing the famed Trail Ridge Road, which forms the highest continuous highway in America. This celebrated "Roof of the Rockies" offers views of massive peaks and rugged canyons as you cross the continental divide. In the afternoon we explore one of the many trails on the west side of the park. Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

DAY
3

Grand Lake to Grand Junction

Another scenic drive is on tap for this morning before a hike near Frisco, CO the halfway point of our drive to Grand Junction. After lunch in Frisco we continue west through White Mountain National Forest and cross the Colorado River numerous times arriving in time to relax before dinner near our hotel. Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

DAY
4

Colorado National Monument

Just west of Grand Junction is a hidden gem of the National Park System, Colorado National Monument. Spend the day exploring the towering monoliths, red rock canyons, and larger-than-life vistas. We start with a 23-mile scenic drive along Rim Rock Drive where we may see some resident bighorn sheep and golden eagles and of course stop at many of the scenic overlooks along the way. Several short hikes will give us an even deeper look into some of the highlights of the park including Window Rock, the Canyon Rim, and Coke Ovens. Depending on how much time we spend in the park we may visit the Museum of the West in downtown Grand Junction before a relaxing evening. Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

DAY
5

Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Park

We head to the southern entrance of Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Park. Established in 1999 for its deep cultural history and natural beauty. The park features two scenic drives, the South Rim Drive which is 7 miles and has 12 overlooks. Also, the East Portal Road which brings us down to the Gunnison River where due to steep, close-set walls, some parts of the river only get 33 minutes of direct sunlight each day. Along the way we will get out to explore on foot as well and walk amongst a variety of plant life from sagebrush and Gambel oak to pinyon pine and Utah juniper. In the afternoon we will follow the path of the Gunnison River as it passes through Curecanti National Recreation Area which offers fantastic views of the river and an opportunity to hike to the Dillon Pinnacles. Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

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Great Sand Dunes National Park

This morning we introduce you to the newest of the four National Parks in Colorado. Like Black Canyon of the Gunnison, this area had been designated a national monument decades before it became National Park in 2004. In it are the tallest sand dunes in North America, set against the dramatic alpine peaks of the Sangre de Christos Mountains. We will venture up the dunes to get amazing views of the mountains and dunes that stretch farther than they eye can see. Our destination for this evening is the town of Salida situated along the banks of the Arkansas river. Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner



Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument

On our way back to Denver we will make a stop at Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument. The park has one of the richest and most diverse fossil deposits in the world including petrified redwoods stumps and thousands of fossils of insects and plants. From there we will drive through Colorado Springs to Denver International Airport for evening departures. Meals included: Breakfast & Lunch

Pricing

TRIP COST	PAYMENT TERMS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$3,495 each based on double occupancy • Single Supplement: \$595 	<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 • Snacks and beverages • Park admission and museum admissions for all included activities • Services of professional trip leader(s) • Ground transportation for all included events during the trip & portorage service • Black Sheep Adventures reusable water bottle, wool (baaaah) socks, & luggage tags 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pre & post tour travel • Alcoholic beverages • Gratuities for your BSA guides

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Lodging

Discovery Lodge - 1 night

Located a short distance from the entrance of Rocky Mountain National Park. This lodge is situated around beautiful pond and each room features views of the mountains, cable tv, wifi, and a mini fridge. The lodge also has a hot tub on site to relax after a day of hiking.

Gateway Inn - 1 night

Situated just above Grand Lake, this casual, lodge-style hotel has unassuming rooms, most of which are lakeside, feature cable TV and free Wi-Fi. The hotel's location just south of Rocky Mountain National Park means you will be surrounded by the beauty of nature and mountain vistas.

Comfort Inn, Fruita - 2 nights

Right at the doorstep of Colorado National Monument this hotel provides simple rooms that feature comfortable beds, tv, wifi, mini fridges. The hotel also has a pool and hot tub and is located just a couple blocks from the Colorado Welcome Center.

Inn at Tomichi Village - 1 night

This hotel features tastefully appointed furnishings, luxurious bedding, and large flat screen TVs. Unwind in the atrium enclosed pool and hot tub offering panoramic views of the area. Sit out and relax in the beautiful, tree lined courtyard.

Palace Hotel - 1 night

The Palace Hotel is Salida, Colorado's, premier historic boutique hotel established in 1909. Uncompromised elegance and "Old West" charm create a bastion of comfort and class deep in the heart of the Rocky Mountains. Here, vintage chic meets the modern amenities, located in Historic Downtown Salida.

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/bsahike2022/>

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.

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