Travelrite International invites you to join for the

## **RAILWAY JOURNEYS OF**



# California and Colorado's **Rocky Mountains**

3 to 20 July 2024

San Diego, Los Angeles, San Francisco, Sacramento, Denver, Silverthorne, Durango, Alamosa and Colorado Springs





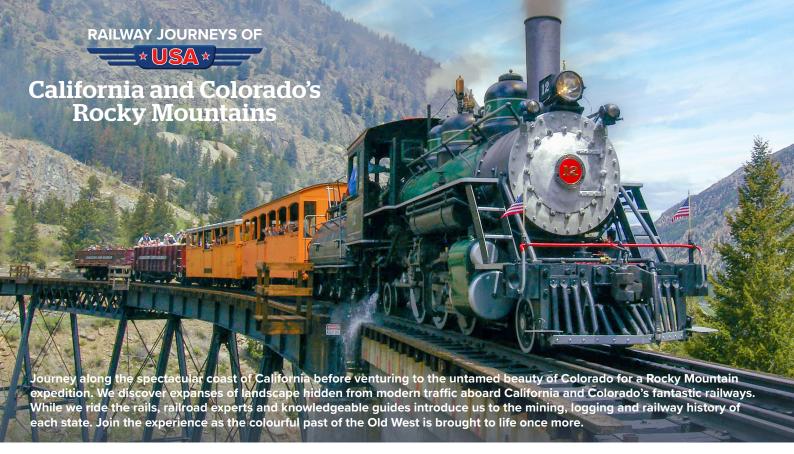
## Rail Journeys California

- Pacific Surfliner
- Coast Stralight
- Niles Canyon Railway
- Roaring Camp Railroad, Santa Cruz Cumbres & Toltec Scenic Railroad
- Napa Valley Wine Train
- · River Fox train Railbikes

## Rail Journeys Colorado

- Georgetown Loop Railroad
- · Leadville, Colorado & Southern Railroad
- Durango & Silverton Narrow Gauge Railroad
- Royal Gorge Route Railroad
- · Manitou and Pikes Peak Railway





#### DAY1 Wednesday 3 July, 2024

#### Departure/San Diego

This morning we depart on our flight to Los Angeles. As we cross the International Date Line we arrive on the same day. Upon arrival we transfer to San Diego for a sightseeing tour. We will see Balboa Park, the cultural heart of the city and the Gaslamp Quarter, the centre of downtown. We also visit the Old Town, site of the original Spanish settlement near the San Diego River. More than twenty buildings have been restored to form the interesting Old Town San Diego State Historic Park. We check into our hotel late afternoon.

## DAY 2 Thursday 4 July, 2024

#### San Diego

This morning we visit the USS Midway Museum. Aboard this enormous aircraft carrier we will see 29 restored aircraft and over sixty exhibits. The self-guided audio tour narrated by Midway sailors brings the aircraft carriers history to life. This afternoon we visit the Pacific Southwest Railway Museum in La Mensa. The La Mesa Depot Museum is La Mesa's oldest building in its original form and is the sole surviving San Diego and Cuyamaca Railway Station in existence. We will see the steam locomotive and a string of freight cars on the nearby track and pass through the ticket/waiting area and view the telegrapher's station and a small exhibit area in the baggage room. This evening enjoy a welcome dinner to meet the group.

#### DAY 3 Friday 5 July, 2024

#### Los Angeles

Today we board the Amtrak Pacific Surfliner and travel along the Californian coast to Los Angeles. The Amtrak Pacific Surfliner travels 351 miles through a six-county coastal region in Southern California. The route offers breathtaking views of the ocean, beaches, rolling hills and canyons. We overnight in LA.

#### DAY 4 Saturday 6 July, 2024

#### San Francisco

We start a new journey today on the famous Amtrak Coast Starlight. A grand west coast train adventure travelling daily between Los Angeles and Seattle, the Coast Starlight train passes through Santa Barbara towards the San Francisco Bay Area and onwards. Widely regarded as





one of the most spectacular of all train routes, the Coast Starlight links the greatest cities on the West Coast. The scenery along the Coast Starlight route is unsurpassed. The dramatic mountain ranges, lush forests, fertile valleys and long stretches of Pacific Ocean shoreline provide a stunning backdrop for your journey. We arrive into San Francisco late evening.

## DAY 5 Sunday 7 July, 2024

## San Francisco

This morning we will enjoy a sightseeing tour of San Francisco, including key sights such as Fisherman's Wharf, the Golden Gate Bridge and a ride on a cable car. This afternoon visit the Niles Canyon Railway, a heritage railway running on the first transcontinental railroad alignment through Niles Canyon, between Sunol and the Niles district of Fremont across the bay from San Francisco.

## DAY 6 Monday 8 July, 2024

## San Francisco

A full day of rail travel as we visit Roaring Camp railroad. In the morning enjoy the Santa Cruz Beach train. Departing from the Santa Cruz Mountains, travel through Henry Cowell Redwoods State Park, down the scenic San Lorenzo River Gorge, across a 1909 steel truss bridge and through an 1875 tunnel before arriving at the Santa Cruz Beach Boardwalk. In the afternoon we board the Redwood Forest Steam Train. Travel over trestles, through towering redwood groves and up a winding narrow-gauge grade to the summit of Bear Mountain as conductors narrate the history of Roaring Camp, the railroad and the forest. In the 1880s, narrow-gauge steam locomotives were used to haul giant redwood logs out of the mountains. Roaring Camp's steam engines date from 1890 and are among the oldest and most authentically preserved narrow-gauge steam engines providing regularly scheduled passenger service in America.

## DAY 7 Tuesday 9 July, 2024

#### Sacramento

We transfer to Sacramento today. Along the way we will enjoy a spectacular lunch and rail experience on the Napa Valley Wine Train. A decadent journey aboard an elegant vintage train through the Napa Valley and back to another time with an included gourmet lunch. After our rail experience we continue onto Sacramento.



#### DAY 8 Wednesday 10 July, 2024

#### Sacramento

This morning we enjoy a panoramic sightseeing tour of Sacramento including a visit to the California State Railroad Museum, home to rail exhibits and beautifully restored railroad cars and locomotives which illustrate railroad history in California and the West. This afternoon we visit River Fox Train Line for a Railbike experience (subject to availability). Pedal your way down the tracks on a journey unlike any other! We cruise along the Sacramento River and the Yolo Countryside.

## DAY 9 Thursday 11 July, 2024

#### Denver

There is free time this morning in Sacramento before we fly from Sacramento to Denver, the capital of Colorado. We enjoy a panoramic sightseeing tour of Denver upon arrival before transferring to our hotel.

#### **DAY 10** Friday 12 July, 2024

#### Silverthorne

This morning we transfer to Golden, CO, by coach to explore the Colorado Rail Museum. A tour through its featured exhibits, extensive collection of rolling stock and Roundhouse restoration facility offers an insider's perspective of this fascinating site. Departing the museum, we immerse ourselves in the mining history of the Rocky Mountains aboard the Georgetown Loop Railroad. This narrow-gauge, two coil loop railway was completed in 1884 and takes us on the original 4 1/2-mile loop between Georgetown and Silver Plume. An included lunch is served in Georgetown before a scenic drive through the rugged landscape to the resort town of Silverthorne

## **DAY 11** Saturday 13 July, 2024

#### Silverthorne

Step back in time and discover the mining and railroad past of Leadville, CO, today as we join the Leadville, Colorado & Southern Railroad. We follow a course through San Isabel National Forest, traveling into thick groves of alpine trees as we follow alongside the Arkansas River. Views of Colorado's tallest peaks, Mt. Massive and Mt. Elbert, come into view as the train continues through the lush valley, and we even cross the Continental Divide during the 21/2-hour tour. Photo opportunities abound along the scenic route - as do the conductor's ghost stories and lore that highlight the colorful history of the region. Upon return to Silverthorne, take the remainder of the day to enjoy the wild surroundings of the town. There are endless hiking trails to embark upon, including some that



#### **DAY 12** Sunday 14 July, 2024

#### Durango

We depart Silverthorne this morning and enjoy a leisurely day of travel by deluxe motorcoach bound for Durango near the Colorado/New Mexico border. Our route includes inspiring vistas of the Rockies, lush National Forests and protected Grasslands. We pass through quaint mining towns and make several stops to stretch our legs and to admire the scenery on foot. First stop is South Park City in Fairplay to see an amazing authentic restoration of a Colorado boomtown. Our route continues south, passing through the Rio Grande National Forest before we arrive in Durango late this afternoon. The evening is yours to explore Historic Downtown Durango, which is brimming with Wild West history, restaurants and unique shops to explore.

#### **DAY 13** Monday 15 July, 2024

#### Durango

This morning, we board one of the most scenic railroads in the Southwest, the Durango & Silverton Narrow Gauge Railroad. This journey takes us on a route along the Animas River from Durango to Silverton. Sights of canyon country, San Juan National Forest, protected wildlife areas and beautiful mountain vistas overtake the landscape during the ride, and it is not uncommon to see wildlife. Bring your camera! A true highlight of this journey is the ride through the Animas River Gorge. The train travels above the gorge on a manmade ledge on the side of a canyon, offering spectacular views of the gorge down below. Silverton, CO, an 1874 mining town located high in the San Juan Mountains, is our destination. While this locale is now a hotspot for tourists and winter sports, its gritty past is still visible in its historic buildings and adventurous atmosphere. After returning to Durango, the remainder of the day is at leisure.

#### **DAY 14** Tuesday 16 July, 2024

#### Alamosa

An unforgettable journey lies ahead today as we set out on the Cumbres & Toltec Scenic Railroad, the longest and highest narrow-gauge steam railroad in North America and voted the #1 Top Attraction in Colorado and New Mexico by USA Today. The Southwest's scenes are on full display on this 64-mile ride, including glimpses at steep canyons, colorful meadows, ranches, grassy hills, beautiful mountain ranges, rushing waterways and brilliant blue skies. We cross over Cascade Creek Trestle and pass through charming mountain towns and abandoned villages. This route crosses the Colorado/New Mexico border 13 times and allows passengers to get a feel for what a daily train ride would have been like in the heyday of steam train travel. As the tour concludes, we continue our heritage rail voyage through Colorado into the San Luis Valley, the oldest settled area in Colorado, en route to Alamosa. We enjoy an included lunch and dinner today.



## DAY 15 Wednesday 17 July, 2024

## Colorado Springs

Find yourself surrounded by the breathtaking beauty of the Royal Gorge on the Royal Gorge Route Railroad. We board our coach this morning and travel to the station in Canon City - a route that offers another look at the stunning forests and mountains that make Colorado so beloved. We get a unique perspective of the stunning scenery from our seats in the train's first-class vista-dome car. Travel along the Arkansas River and see the Hanging Bridge at the narrowest point in the chasm. We enjoy lunch in the train's dining car. The excursion concludes with a stop underneath the soaring Suspension Bridge from the rim to the river's edge. After our journey, we continue by coach to Colorado Springs, a hub for culture and adventure. Spend the rest of the day exploring the offerings of this lively city, perhaps checking out the exciting dining options or visiting one of the local museums.

#### DAY 16 Thursday 18 July, 2024

#### Colorado Springs

Take in incredible 360-degree vistas from 14,115 feet above sea level today as we travel to the summit of Pikes Peak, the mountain that inspired the song "America the Beautiful." Our rail excursion is aboard the newly re-opened Manitou and Pikes Peak Railway. The nine-mile journey to the top passes Ruxton Creek in Englemann Canyon, Minnehaha Falls, Deer Park and a wide range of wildlife. At the summit there will be time to take in views from every angle, visiting the gift shop and sampling world-famous doughnuts. Just as with the trip up the mountain, the ride down is also narrated by a knowledgeable Conductor who is chock-full of facts about Pikes Peak, the Rockies and Colorado as a whole. Before returning to Colorado Springs, we visit Garden of the Gods — a National Natural Landmark site - for a drive through the dramatic red rock formations that reach up to 300 feet tall. The remainder of the day is at leisure

#### **DAY 17** Friday 19 July, 2024

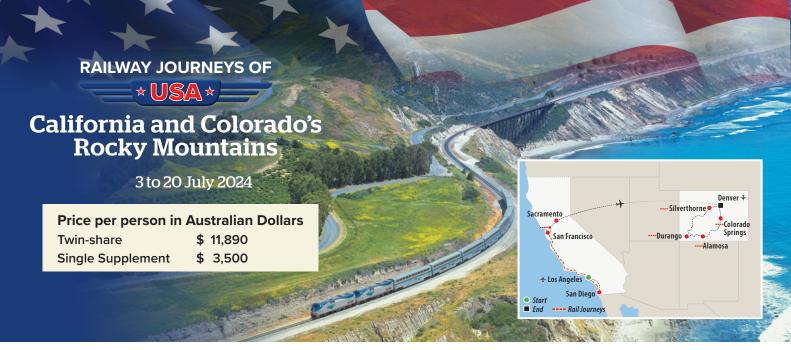
#### Departure

After breakfast we are transferred to Denver Airport for our return flight to Australia.

#### **DAY 18** Saturday 20 July, 2024

Arrival

We arrive back in Australia and the tour concludes.



#### Included in the price:

- Economy-class return air travel from Melbourne, Sydney, and Brisbane to Los Angeles and return from Denver
- Flights from Sacramento to Denver
- Rail travel as listed in the itinerary
- Accommodation in first and moderate first-class accommodation throughout the tour including breakfast
- Welcome dinner and two lunches
- Sightseeing tours as listed in the itinerary
- Entrances to museums and attractions as detailed in itinerary
- Tour management by Travelrite International.

## Not included in the price:

- Passport and visa fees
- Travel insurance
- · Meals unless specified in the itinerary
- Sightseeing and general expenses unless specified in the itinerary
- Additional travel arrangements not in the detailed itinerary.
   These will be quoted for separately.

Extending: You can stay longer in the USA for minimal extra cost Please contact Travelrite on 1800 630 343 for more information.

## General information and booking conditions

International touring can involve a considerable amount of walking and stair-climbing in the places visited and it is important that all tour participants have a level of physical fitness that allows them to take part in this activity without the need of assistance from others.





**TOUR OPERATOR:** Travelrite International Pty Ltd (ABN 64 005 817 078) is the tour organiser. The rail component in Colorado is organised by Vacations by Rail.

DEPOSIT AND PAYMENT: A deposit of \$1200 per passenger should be sent with a booking form that lists your requested cabin category. As soon as the booking is confirmed (usually within 24 hours) a cruise confirmation advice will be forwarded to the client. Final payments are due to be paid to Travelrite International 90 days prior to the commencement of the tour. A 1.5% administration fee will be added to all payments by credit card. If fares and air taxes change due to government and airport regulations and currency fluctuations Travelrite International reserves the right to charge additional amounts. All passengers must complete the Vacation by Rail booking form as well as a Travelrite International booking form.

## CANCELLATION CHARGES:

Number of days before departure.

Days prior to Departure Cancellation Fee 91 days or more loss of deposit 90 - 65 days 50% of full fare 65 days or less 100% of full fare Nonappearance/no written notice 100% of full fare

**REFUNDS:** The cruise is based on arrangements that do not allow for any refunds in respect to accommodation,

meals or other services not utilised after the tour has commenced.

TRAVEL DOCUMENTS: All passengers will require a valid passport .lf not an Australian passport holder,

**TRAVEL INSURANCE:** Adequate travel insurance is highly recommended to cover tour members for the consequences of unforeseen events during the tour and for cancellation fees which could result from such events such as illness, accident, death etc.

check with Travelrite International for visa requirements.

**BAGGAGE:** Passengers qualify for a 23kg free baggage allowance on flights to join or return from the tour.

MINIMUM TOUR NUMBERS: The cruise arrangements have been made on the basis of a minimum number of passengers travelling. In the event that less than the

required number of passengers have confirmed their booking 90 days from the date of departure, Travelrite International reserves the right to cancel the tour, giving a full refund of monies paid, or offer arrangements to proceed with the tour at a modified fare.

RESPONSIBILITIES: Travelrite International Pty Ltd is the tour organiser. Travelrite International Pty Ltd, it's agents, officers, affiliates, and/or suppliers of services pursuant to or in connection with these fly/tour/stay holidays shall act only as agents in making arrangements for hotels, transportation including transportation by rail, restaurants, or any other service and do not assume any liability whatsoever for any injury, damage, death, loss, accident or delay to person or property due to an act of negligence or a default of any hotel, carrier restaurant company or person rendering any services included in fly/tour, or by act of God. Further no responsibilities are accepted for any damage or delay due to sickness, pilferage, labour disputes, machinery break-down, quarantine, government restraints, weather, terrorism or other causes beyond their control. No responsibility is accepted for any additional expense, omission, delays, re-routing or acts of any government authority. Baggage is at owners risk throughout the fly/tour/stay holiday. The passage contract between the carriers concerned when issued shall constitute the sole contract between the carriers and the purchasers of these flv/tour/stav holidays and/or the passengers. The right is reserved to withdraw any fly/tour/stay holiday and/or make such changes in the fly/tour/stay holidays as may be found desirable or necessary for the convenience of the parties and the proper carrying out of the fly/cruises. This contract shall be construed in accordance of the laws of the State of Victoria, Australia and any legal action must be undertaken in Victoria. Attention is also directed to the terms and conditions of the Vacations by Rail passage contract, detailed on Vacations by Rail website. **DELAYS AND UNFORESEEN EVENTS**: You engage Travelrite to book this tour on your behalf and you acknowledge that Travelrite acts as your agent for the

purpose of making contracts between you and the

various providers of accommodation, transportation

and other services that comprise the tour. Travelrite may without reference to you provide or make available to you, or may as your agent engage any third party to provide or make available to

you, any good or service which Travelrite reasonably believes is necessary for your benefit to maintain the tour itinerary, repatriate you or otherwise accommodate, transport or sustain you in circumstances in which the tour itinerary fails wholly or partly for any reason. You appoint Travelrite your attorney for this purpose. You agree to pay Travelrite any cost thereof and you indemnify Travelrite in respect of any cost it incurs in this regard. Travelrite advises you to obtain travel insurance generally including in respect of the risk that any such good or service may become required.

**HOW TO BOOK**: Bookings can be made by completing a booking form and sending it with a deposit of \$1200 per person to:

Travelrite International Pty. Ltd. 423 Whitehorse Road Balwyn, Victoria 3103

Further information can be obtained by telephoning

Toll Free 1800 630 343
Phone: (03) 8803 6868
Email: sales@travelrite.com.au
www.travelrite.com.au

ABOUT TRAVELRITE INTERNATIONAL: Travelrite International Pty Ltd(ABN 64 005 817 078) is a well-established travel company which has been marketing throughout Australia for over 30 years and operating in Victoria for more than 40 years. It has a fully licensed (ATAS No. 10538) office at Balwyn which is accredited with IATA. As such we directly represent the major airlines of the world and all major domestic and international hotel, tour and transport operators. Travelrite International Pty Ltd is a full member of the Australian Federation of Travel Agents – AFTA.