



## NATIONAL PARKS STARGAZING ADVENTURE WITH HOST GUY EARLE

7 DAYS ■ OCTOBER 15, 2023



AAA Travel invites you to experience this unique celestial adventure at our mesmerizing National Parks with an expert host, Guy Earle. Explore fascinating landscapes in the day and in the evening explore the stars. Take a driving tour through Zion National Park with a nighttime visit to the Stellar Vista Observatory in Kanab for an unforgettable Stargazing Party! Enjoy touring Bryce Canyon National Park, the city of stone cathedral spires. You'll discover the Dark Ranger Telescope Tour that will share the wonders of our universe and in Salt Lake City, take a trip through space at the Clark Planetarium Museum.

From **\$3,699\*** per person, land, based on double occupancy

### AAA EXCLUSIVE HIGHLIGHTS

- 6 night hotel accommodations
- Transportation by Deluxe motorcoach
- Las Vegas Skypod and Observation Deck
- Las Vegas Downtown Foodie Tour
- Zion National Park
- Star Party at Stellar Vista Observatory
- Bryce Canyon National Park
- Dark Ranger Telescope Tour
- Capitol Reef Private Stargazing with an Expert
- Clark Planetarium
- Expert Guide in Astronomy
- Meals: 6 Breakfasts, 1 lunch, 3 dinners
- Services of a Professional Tour Director
- Services of Expert Host, Guy Earle



## NATIONAL PARKS STARGAZING ADVENTURE WITH HOST GUY EARLE

### Day 1

#### Welcome to Las Vegas, NV

Upon arrival, meet the group transfer from the airport. Take a tour of "The Strip" to get an overview of the city and stop for a ride on the SkyPod at The Strat. The Observation Deck at The Strat is 1,149-foot-tall and is the tallest freestanding observation tower in the United States. Here you can enjoy expansive views of the city. This evening we will eat downtown on a Lip-Smacking Foodie Tour. (D) Overnight Las Vegas Hotel - 1 night

### Day 2

#### Zion National Park - Star Party

This morning, we'll follow the Zion Park Scenic Byway state Route 9 through the towns of Hurricane, LaVerkin, Virgin, Rockdale and Springdale. Zion translates to "The Promised Land". Take a driving tour of Zion and then enjoy the complimentary Shuttle to explore Zion Canyon on your own. Tonight we'll go to the Stellar Vista Observatory in Kanab for an unforgettable Stargazing Party! (B) Overnight in Kanab, UT, Hotel - 1 night

### Day 3

#### Bryce Canyon National Park

After a leisurely morning, we'll depart Kanab and enter Bryce Canyon National Park. Stand on the edge of the Paunsaugunt Plateau, where before you lies a city of stone cathedral spires, delicately tinted in shades of pink, red, and orange. Spend the day hiking and exploring Bryce. There will be a dinner & show at Ebenezer's Barn & Grill this evening. (B, D) Overnight in Bryce Canyon, UT, Hotel - 1 night

### Day 4

#### Bryce Canyon - Dark Ranger Telescope Tour

Today, enjoy touring Bryce Canyon National

Park. Drive out to the Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument where there will be time for touring and hiking the many wonderful trails that descend into the canyon and trace the rim. At the resort, there are optional activities such as horseback riding, ATV tours, flight tours, etc. (B)

Tonight the Dark Ranger Telescope Tour includes:

- Viewing planets and bright stars in the twilight for practice focusing the telescopes
  - Outdoor Multimedia Show
  - Laser Constellation Tour
  - Back to telescopes for deep space objects (nebulae, star clusters, galaxies, etc.)
- Overnight in Bryce Canyon, UT - 1 night

### Day 5

#### Capitol Reef National Park

After a leisurely morning and a delicious breakfast, we'll take the Utah Scenic Byway 12 to Capitol Reef National Park. We'll stop for a picnic lunch to enjoy a scenic spot and then explore the Park. There are rock art petroglyphs in the midst of Capitol Reef's red rocks and they tell the story of the early indigenous people, the Fremont culture. Visit the large orchards of Fruita, an early pioneer settlement, and now headquarters for the Park. Here, a variety of fruit may be picked in season, and visit the old Fruita Schoolhouse and enjoy a fresh-baked pie at Historic Gifford Homestead. Tonight, enjoy a private Stargazing Tour with an expert and it will be followed by a bonfire and s'mores! (B, L) Overnight in Torrey, UT - 1 night

### Day 6

#### Salt Lake City, UT

After breakfast, we'll drive to Salt Lake City, the capital of Utah. While there, we'll visit the Clark Planetarium Museum Exhibits: Explore

the Earth, Explore the Universe Near Earth, Exploring Beyond our Planet, Hansen Dome Theater Show. Dome-shaped theater that is 55-feet in diameter 360-degree immersive experience can display accurate star fields, animated presentation, and even take visits on a trip through space. (B, D) Tonight, share stories at a Farewell Group Dinner. Overnight in Salt Lake City, UT - 1 night

### Day 7

#### Farewell Salt Lake City, UT

After breakfast, transfer to Salt Lake City International Airport. (B) Your Host Guy Earle has been an amateur astronomer and member of the St. Petersburg Astronomy Club since 1993, and currently has served as the editor of its newsletter. He is a staff member of the Saunders Planetarium at the Museum of Science and Industry and has been actively building telescopes and taking part in outreach events. Currently, Guy specializes in planetary and lunar photography and visual deep sky observing. He has a myriad of telescopes that are used for both visual and photographic uses. (B)

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