National Parks of the Southwest

A Family Adventure in

Zion, Bryce Canyon, Capitol Reef, Arches, Monument Valley, and the Grand Canyon

June 23–July 2, 2015

Jay Ague / Yale Professor of Geology and Geophysics
Dear Yale Traveler,

The Southwest has some of the most fascinating geological features and intriguing cultural history in our country. I invite you and your family to join me on a 10-day exploration of five superb national parks—Zion, Bryce Canyon, Capitol Reef, Arches, and the Grand Canyon—plus time to marvel at the fossils at Escalante Petrified Forest State Park and the iconic American landscapes of Monument Valley and Lake Powell. Led by local guides who specialize in leading families through the American Southwest, we will enjoy a variety of excursions including walks, hikes, bike rides, tubing, and river rafting, all tailored to the interests and abilities of our group, as well as educational activities and fun adventures for family members of all ages.

Yale Professor Jay Ague will contribute his considerable expertise in the geological history of our planet, its natural resources, and how we can protect and preserve our natural environment to your explorations, enhancing and enriching your appreciation of the world we live in.

To maintain the spirit of “family” throughout this program, we are limiting the number of participants to 32, so I encourage you to contact yaleedtravel.org/nationalparks15 as soon as possible to reserve space for your family. If you have any questions, please email edtravel@yale.edu to find out just how much fun, and how much you will learn, on this exciting adventure in the American Southwest.

Happy travels,

Kathy Edersheim ’87
Senior Director, International Alumni Relations and Travel Association of Yale Alumni

www.yealeedtravel.org/nationalparks15

Yale Professor of Geology and Geophysics Jay Ague serves also as Curator-in-Charge of Mineralogy at the Yale Peabody Museum of Natural History. He is a co-author of a popular book on rock formation and has written many scientific papers published in scholarly journals. He designed and implemented a new undergraduate curriculum for his department, one that takes an integrative approach to understanding Earth, the environment, and life on a regional and planetary scale. Professor Ague will use this approach in a series of lectures on the billions of years of Earth’s history recorded in the rocks of the area; the formation of the Grand Canyon and other geological wonders; and the natural resources of the West and their sustainability.

(Cover) Spectacular views over the Grand Canyon are among the many highlights of this family exploration of the American Southwest’s national parks.
and activities along the Emerald Pools Trail, Zion Narrows, and in the northern section of the park encompassing the Kolob Canyons. Cool off with a tube float down the Virgin River, just outside the park.

Cliffrose Lodge and Gardens (2B,2L)

Bryce Canyon National Park & Escalante Petrified Forest State Park

Friday, June 26
A 90-minute drive takes you through the eastern part of Zion to Bryce Canyon National Park. More remote and at a significantly higher elevation than Zion, Bryce Canyon is most renowned for its distinctive and colorful geologic structures known as hoodoos. Continue to Escalante Petrified Forest State Park to view the amazing petrified wood fossils, along with Fremont Indian relics, 1,000-year-old petroglyphs, and Jurassic-era dinosaur bones.

Best Western Canyonlands Inn (B,L)

COLORADO RIVER

Sunday, June 28
Spend the day rafting along the Colorado River by Fisher Towers, a series of sandstone towers caked with red mud, prized by both photographers and rock climbers. The water here is mostly flat with some small Class I rapids suitable for children and beginners.

Best Western Canyonlands Inn (B,L)

MONUMENT VALLEY

Monday, June 29
Monument Valley has become part of the collective American experience for its appearance in many old Western movies and television shows. A Navajo guide will lead a walking tour to see the valley’s stunning vistas and Native American petroglyphs. Afterward, drive to Lake Powell, a reservoir on the Colorado River that straddles the border between Utah and Arizona. Enjoy a dinner cruise, surrounded by the lake’s stunning rock formations.

Lake Powell Resort (B,L,D)

GRAND CANYON NATIONAL PARK, ARIZONA

Tuesday–Wednesday, June 30–July 1
Enter Grand Canyon National Park through the East Entrance for two days of exploration. Enjoy the breathtaking scenery from Desert View Watchtower and visit the Tusayan Ruins and Museum, whose exhibits provide a glimpse into the life of the Hopi tribe and the Ancestral Pueblo people who inhabited this region 800 years ago. Hike into the canyon along the South Kaibab Trail; tour the Kolb Photography Studio, a national historic landmark that clings to the edge of the canyon and is not open
RESPONSIBILITY

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Reader’s Corner

What to learn more about America’s national parks? Here are some selections to get you started.

Colorado Plateau, Wild and Beautiful
by John Annerino
A coffee-table tribute to the geological wonderland of “Red Rock Country.” Award-winning photographer and writer John Annerino takes you through the echoing canyons, towering hoodoos, and cliff dwellings of the region’s beautiful parks and reserves.

Desert Solitaire
by Edward Abbey
One of the great works on the value of the desert, eloquent and laugh-out-loud funny. Although Abbey writes specifically about his experiences as a ranger at Arches National Park outside Moab, Utah, his message is universal.

Recommendations from Longitude Books.
Enclosed is a deposit for $______ ($1,000 per person) to hold_______
place(s) on the Yale “National Parks of the Southwest” trip,

Payment Options
- Pay by check made out to “Criterion Travel.”
- Please charge the deposit of $1,000 per person to
  - AMEX
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Name on Credit Card

Card #: ____________________________ Expiration Date: ____________ Security Code: ____________

Accommodations

Once we receive your request for space, we will contact you regarding your rooming preferences at the lodges providing accommodations for this program.

I/We confirm that I/We have carefully read the Terms and Conditions and Responsibility section of this brochure and agree to their terms.

Signature __________________________ Date: ____________

Signature __________________________ Date: ____________

I would like to receive more information about the following trips:
- Roatan Submarine Excursion
  - March 7–14, 2015
- In Search of Ancient Lost Cities: Rome to Lisbon
  - April 27–May 15, 2015
- A Yale Week in Barcelona
  - May 11–18, 2015
- Private Villages of Italy
  - May 19–26, 2015
- Scandinavian Seafaring featuring Sea Cloud
  - June 19–26, 2015
- A Family Adventure in Borneo and Bali
  - July 19–August 8, 2015

To learn more about these and the many other travel opportunities offered by Yale Educational Travel, please visit www.yaleedtravel.org.

Visit www.yaleedtravel.org/nationalparks15

to book online or return the above form with credit card authorization or check payable to “Criterion Travel” to
Association of Yale Alumni, P.O. Box 109010, New Haven, CT 06520-9010. Phone: (203) 432-1952. Fax: (203) 432-0587.

Insurance: Yale Educational Travel provides travelers with basic Emergency Medical Evacuation coverage under a group travel insurance policy. Yale Educational Travel also highly recommends the purchase of trip cancellation insurance. If participants purchase trip insurance, and we hope that they do, participants are free to purchase the insurance of their choice. Most travel insurance must be purchased within 7-10 days of paying a deposit in order to include certain provisions including pre-existing conditions. Neither the Association of Yale Alumni nor Criterion Travel accepts liability for any airline cancellation penalty incurred by the purchase of nonrefundable tickets.

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- Zion Narrows © Pancake Tom; Bryce Canyon © Chip Clark; Lake Powell © Yobroto; Petroglyphs © Minyun Zhou; Jackrabbit © Davthy.

Program Cost Does Not Include: Airfare; Medical expenses and immunizations; Airport transfers for those not arriving or departing on designated dates; Travel insurance; Optional excursions or deviations from the scheduled tour; Excess baggage charges; Meals not specified in the itinerary, and food and beverages not part of the included meals; Liquor or soft drinks; Laundry or dry cleaning; Telephone, email, and fax charges; Room service; Other items of a personal nature.

Program Cost Includes: Educational program of lectures and discussions by Yale Professor Jay Ague; All accommodations, meals, and excursions as specified in the itinerary; Scheduled group transfers for all participants on arrival and departure days; Baggage handling at hotels; Gratuities to porters, wait staff, guides, and drivers; Entrance fees; Welcome and farewell wine receptions; Bottled water on excursions; Complete packet of pre-departure information; Professional tour manager throughout.

What to Expect: The pace of this program is active, with up to four miles of walking each day over uneven terrain on hiking trails. Participants must be in good health and able to keep up with the group without assistance from tour staff. Depending on location, temperatures can range from the low 60s to the high 90s, with the possibility of strong afternoon rain showers. If you have any questions about your ability to participate fully on this itinerary, please call Yale Educational Travel at (203) 432-1952.

Program CST #2088800-40

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I/We confirm that I/We have carefully read the Terms and Conditions and Responsibility section of this brochure and agree to their terms.

Signature __________________________ Date: ____________

Signature __________________________ Date: ____________
Marvel at the Southwest’s breathtaking geology and fascinating natural history on interpretive walks at five national parks and one state park.

Learn about Native American culture and traditions from Navajo guides in Monument Valley, at the Grand Canyon’s Tusayan Ruins and Museum, and during a tour of Flagstaff’s Museum of Northern Arizona.

Participate in fun, active adventures including tubing down the Virgin River, river rafting on the Colorado River, and bicycling along the South Rim of the Grand Canyon.

Enjoy behind-the-scenes access to the Kolb Photograph Studio at the Grand Canyon and to the Museum of Northern Arizona’s Easton Collections Center, both of which are closed to the public.