National Parks of the Southwest:
A Family Adventure in Zion, Bryce Canyon, Capitol Reef, Arches, Monument Valley, and the Grand Canyon

Maureen Long
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. We invite you and your family 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 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, 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.

The region has a rich and varied human history, learn about the native peoples, the incursion and explorations of the Spanish and later English-speaking Americans, and modern efforts to protect and defend both the local cultures and the spectacular landscapes.

**To maintain the spirit of “family” throughout this program,** we are limiting the number of participants to 30, so we encourage you to reserve space as soon as possible by visiting yaleedtravel.org/swparksfamily19. If you have any questions, please contact Yale Educational Travel at edtravel@yale.edu or 203-432-1952 to learn more.

Sincerely,

Lauren Summers
Senior Director of Alumni Lifelong Learning and Travel

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**Highlights**

**Marvel** at the Southwest’s breathtaking geology and fascinating natural history on interpretive walks at five national parks.

**Learn** about Native American culture and traditions from Navajo guides at Monument Valley and at the Grand Canyon’s Tusayan Ruins.

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

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[www.yaleedtravel.org/swparksfamily19](http://www.yaleedtravel.org/swparksfamily19)
Yale Study Leader

MAUREEN LONG, Professor of Geology and Geophysics at Yale, is an observational seismologist, using measurements of earthquake waves to study the structure and dynamics of the Earth's interior. She has led or participated in field experiments, expeditions, or research cruises in many places around the globe, including the Pacific Northwest U.S., Peru, Japan, Hawaii, the Caribbean, the Azores, the central Appalachian Mountains, New England, and the western Atlantic Ocean.

Professor Long earned her B.S. in geology from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute and her Ph.D. in geophysics from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. After postdoctoral research at the Carnegie Institution for Science in Washington, DC, she moved to Yale in 2009. At Yale, she teaches courses on seismology, geophysics, natural disasters, and forensic geoscience, and runs the Field Experiences for Science Teachers program, which provides field seismology experience for high school science teachers in Connecticut. She speaks frequently to the media and to public audiences on earthquakes, natural disasters, and deep Earth processes.

After having published several papers on the upper mantle structure and tectonic evolution of the western U.S., Professor Long is thrilled to be joining the Southwest National Parks trip, and sharing the experience with alumni and their families.

Upcoming Trips

Amazon & Machu Picchu
March 10–March 21, 2019
Prof. Mary Miller ’81 PhD
History of Art

A Rhine and Moselle Cruise aboard the Royal Crown
May 6–May 19, 2019
Prof. Carlos Eire ’79 PhD
History & Religious Studies

Shores of Iberia: Spain & Portugal aboard Sea Cloud II
May 16–May 29, 2019
Prof. K. David Jackson
Portuguese

Yale Educational Travel • Association of Yale Alumni
Box 209010, New Haven, CT 06520-9010
Reservations: (203) 432-1952 edtravel@yale.edu
Itinerary
July 7–July 16, 2019

WELCOME PHONE CALL
Tuesday, June 25 (tentative)
Join the group at 4:00 p.m. EDT for a pre-trip welcome call to learn more about what to expect and ask any questions you may have.

HOME / LAS VEGAS, NEVADA
Sunday, July 7, 2019
Fly to Las Vegas and transfer to the Cliffrose Lodge and Gardens, just outside the south entrance of Zion National Park. Meet other Yale families during an orientation and reception, followed by a welcome barbecue at the lodge.

ZION NATIONAL PARK
Monday–Tuesday, July 8–9
Spend two full days exploring the wonders of Zion, which was established as a national park in 1919. The park’s 229 square miles include a range of geological features, from mountains, canyons, buttes, and mesas to monoliths, rivers, slot canyons, and natural arches. Human habitation of the area has been traced back at least 8,000 years.

Enjoy interpretive walks and activities along the Emerald Pools Trail and Zion Narrows.
Cliffrose Lodge and Gardens (2B,2L)

Spend two full days exploring the wonders of Zion...Human habitation of the area has been traced back at least 8,000 years.

BRYCE CANYON NATIONAL PARK & ESCALANTE PETRIFIED FOREST STATE PARK
Wednesday, July 10
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. Learn how the forces of wind and water have created the pinnacles while hiking in the park. Depart later in the afternoon for Boulder for dinner and overnight.
Boulder Mountain Lodge (B,L,D)

CAPITOL REEF NATIONAL PARK & ARCHES NATIONAL PARK
Thursday, July 11
This morning view the famous Native American petroglyphs at Capitol Reef National Park, a long, somewhat narrow tract that encompasses Capitol Reef, a spectacularly rugged segment of the Waterpocket Fold, a warp in the earth’s crust that is 65 million years old. (“Reef” is a local word for any rocky barrier to travel.) Continue to Arches National Park, world-famous for its more than 2,000 natural sandstone arches. Overnight in nearby Moab.
Homewood Suites by Hilton (B,L)

COLORADO RIVER
Friday, July 12
Spend the morning 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. The afternoon is free for independent exploration.
Homewood Suites by Hilton (B,L)
MONUMENT VALLEY  
Saturday, July 13
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 cruise surrounded by the lake’s stunning rock formations.
Courtyard by Marriott Lake Powell (B,L,D)

GRAND CANYON NATIONAL PARK, ARIZONA  
Sunday-Monday, July 14-15
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 Puebloan people who inhabited this region 800 years ago. Hike into the canyon along the South Kaibab Trail; explore the Kolb Photography Studio, a national historic landmark that clings to the edge of the canyon, on a private tour; and take an interpretive walk into the canyon on the Bright Angel Trail. Optional activities include a bike ride along the canyon rim on Hermit Road or a visit to the Geology Museum at Yavapai Point. Enjoy a farewell reception and dinner on your final evening of this adventure.
Yavapai Lodge (2B,2L,R,D)

LAS VEGAS / HOME  
Tuesday, July 16
This morning transfer to the Las Vegas airport for flights home. (B)

Included meals indicated each day as
B,L,R,D = Breakfast, Lunch, Reception, Dinner

Reserve Your Trip To The Southwest Parks Today
Book online: www.yaleedtravel.org/swparksfamily19
WHAT IS INCLUDED:
- Educational program lectures and discussions with Yale study leader.
- All accommodations and meals as specified in the itinerary
- All excursions as specified in the itinerary
- One group hotel transfer on July 7 and airport transfer on July 16
- Baggage handling
- Gratuities to porters, wait staff, guides, and drivers
- Entrance fees
- Welcome and farewell wine receptions
- Wine, beer, or soft drinks with welcome and farewell dinners
- Bottled water on motor coaches
- Professional tour manager throughout the program
- Emergency medical evacuation services with UHC Global Assistance

WHAT IS NOT INCLUDED:
- Airfare to/from Las Vegas
- Travel insurance
- Optional excursions or deviations from the scheduled tour
- Excess baggage charges
- Transfers other than those specified as included
- Meals not specified in the itinerary; dishes and alcoholic beverages not part of the included meals
- Laundry or dry cleaning
- Telephone, email, and fax charges
- Room service
- Other items of a personal nature

ITINERARY CHANGES:
The itinerary presented for this tour is subject to modification and change by Yale Educational Travel and Criterion Travel (the tour operator). Every reasonable effort will be made to operate the program as planned; however, should unforeseen world events and conditions require the itinerary to be altered, Yale Educational Travel and the tour operator reserve the right to do so for the safety and best interest of the group. Any extra expenses incurred in this situation are the responsibility of the participant.

A NOTE ABOUT COSTS:
Tour costs are based upon current taxes, tariffs, and a minimum number of participants. While we will do everything possible to maintain the listed prices, they are subject to change. If there are significant changes, details and costs will be advised prior to departure.
To reserve, return the above form with credit card authorization or check payable to “Criterion Travel” to Yale Educational Travel, Association of Yale Alumni, P.O. Box 209010, New Haven, CT 06520-9010 or fax the completed form to (203) 432-0587. Deposits may be charged to a credit card. Reservations are acknowledged in order of receipt. Final payment is due March 7, 2019.

RESERVATIONS, DEPOSITS, AND FINAL PAYMENT: To reserve a space on this tour, please mail a deposit of $1,000 per person payable to “CRITERION TRAVEL,” along with the completed reservation form, to: Yale Educational Travel, Association of Yale Alumni, P.O. Box 209010, New Haven, CT 06520-9010 or fax the completed form to (203) 432-0587. Deposits may be charged to a credit card. Reservations are acknowledged in order of receipt. Final payment is due March 7, 2019.

CANCELLATIONS AND REFUNDS: All cancellations must be in writing to Yale Educational Travel. Refunds, less a cancellation fee of $300 per person, are made if we are notified in writing on or before March 7, 2019. No refunds are made after that date. There are no refunds for unused meals, accommodations, or other tour features.

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. Long-sleeved shirts, long pants, and a hat are strongly recommended to protect against sunburn, along with plenty of water to prevent dehydration. 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 F during the day, with the possibility of strong afternoon rain showers. Evening temperatures are cooler. If you have any questions about your ability to participate fully on this itinerary, please call Yale Educational Travel at (203) 432-1952.

INSURANCE: Yale Educational Travel 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.

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COVER PHOTO: GRAND CANYON
National Parks of the Southwest:
A Family Adventure
July 7–July 16, 2019

Maureen Long / Professor of Geology and Geophysics

Experience the Southwest’s amazing geology and natural history on interpretive walks at five national parks.

Enjoy behind-the-scenes access to the Kolb Photography Studio at the Grand Canyon.