

26 DAYS  
DUAL ESCORTED  
FROM PERTH

alphatravel

KEVIN PEARCE TOURS

# Great AMERICAN RAILROAD

Fully Escorted Tour



**COAST TO COAST  
NEW YORK to SAN FRANCISCO**

including CHICAGO, NEW ORLEANS  
LAS VEGAS and LOS ANGELES

**COAST-to-COAST** rail travel in America is a 'rite of passage' for its locals and a special privilege for international travellers.

GREAT and historic railroads cross the USA's mountains, deserts and canyons and pass through a near, endless rollcall of the world's most alluring travel destinations from Nevada to Niagara, Chicago to San Francisco, Memphis to New Orleans.

ALPHA TRAVEL professionals have carefully planned this tour to fulfill the dreams of both avid train buffs and those who simply appreciate traversing some of earth's most majestic scenery in total comfort.

**Rail travel is a carefree and environmentally - friendly way to discover the USA.**



## EXPERIENCE OUR DEDICATION TO QUALITY AND SERVICE

### INCLUDED IN THE TOUR COST:

- Return flights with QANTAS Airlines.
- 4 & 5 star hotel accom throughout the tour in the USA.
- Meals as indicated on the daily itinerary.
- First class train travel in twin berth roomette sleepers with meals included.
- Tipping for local guides and drivers.
- Services of your tour escorts and local guides.
- Professional local Tour Manager throughout the tour.



TOUR COST  
**\$16,988**

PER PERSON SHARE TWIN  
SINGLE SUPP \$2895



SPECIAL guest on this year's tour will be GREG PEARCE - former Channel Nine news personality and current Curtin FM radio presenter

**DEPARTS PERTH - AUGUST 22, 2019**

## SPECIAL INCLUSIONS . . .



### 4 & 5 STAR HOTELS THROUGHOUT

Glance through our hotel list. Fantastic stays at QUALITY properties.



### NO TIPPING HASSLES

Tipping is included for guides, train staff, coach drivers and included meals.



### DINING OUT

Many meals are included throughout the tour, with some magnificent dinners at fine dining restaurants including Italian and French cuisine. We have even included drinks. We take care of the lot!



### SIGHTSEEING TOURS

We have included all of the best sightseeing tours in each region with some very special highlights such as a Mississippi River boat jazz cruise in New Orleans, and in most cities including the famous Napa Valley Wine train.



### FREE TIME

We have arranged at least one free day so you can shop, explore on foot, or just relax as you please. Ask us about any optional tours - we'll be pleased to assist.



Truly stunning rail journeys as well as convenient city centre to city centre train connections. We've chosen some of USA's most spectacular journeys.

alphatravel

KEVIN PEARCE TOURS

# Great AMERICAN RAILROAD

2019

Fully Escorted Tour

## DAY 1 - THURSDAY AUGUST 22 DEPART PERTH

Your tour escorts Kevin and Rory will be on hand this afternoon at the Perth Airport to assist with check-in formalities as you prepare to board your Qantas flight to New York via Sydney.

IN FLIGHT

## DAY 2 - FRIDAY AUGUST 23 ARRIVE NEW YORK

On arrival in New York we are met by our local Tour Guide and transferred to our central hotel for check-in. There is free time to relax before a special welcome reception at our hotel followed by dinner at a local restaurant.

SHERATON TIMES SQUARE HOTEL (D)

## DAY 3 - SATURDAY AUGUST 24 NEW YORK CITY SIGHTS

New York City is the most populous city in the US. Today we visit the 103 story Empire State Building which after its completion in 1931, remained the world's tallest building for nearly 40 years. We then take the ferry to Ellis Island, the gateway for millions of immigrants to the US until 1954. The Statue of Liberty, a colossal neoclassical sculpture dedicated in 1886, was a gift to the US by the people of France. Tonight we enjoy dinner at a local restaurant.

SHERATON TIMES SQUARE HOTEL (BD)

## DAY 4 - SUNDAY AUGUST 25 NEW YORK AT LEISURE

Today is a free day to explore the city at your own pace, there are so many things to see and do. Tonight will also be an opportunity to see a Broadway show. Our guide can assist you with booking information

SHERATON TIMES SQUARE HOTEL (B)

## DAY 5 - MONDAY AUGUST 26 NEW YORK to NEW ORLEANS ABOARD "THE CRESCENT"

There is some free time this morning before we check out from our hotel and transfer to the New York's Penn Station to board The Crescent train to New Orleans. Scenic highlights include vibrant northeast

cityscapes, the Blue Ridge foothills and the Louisiana bayou country. The cities of Philadelphia, Washington, Atlanta and Birmingham are all passed in daylight hours. The Crescent passes through a total of eleven states on its way to New Orleans. Why not meet fellow travelers in the lounge car for drinks and to enjoy the scenery before dinner is served in the dining car

THE CRESCENT (BD)

## DAY 6 - TUESDAY AUGUST 27 ARRIVE NEW ORLEANS

Today we enjoy a full day's travel on The Crescent with breakfast, lunch and dinner served in the dining car. We arrive in New Orleans in the early evening and transfer to our central hotel.

HOTEL MONTELEONE (BLD)

## DAY 7 - WEDNESDAY AUGUST 28 NEW ORLEANS SIGHTS

Located on the mighty Mississippi River, New Orleans is the largest city in the state of Louisiana and a major port. It is well known for its French Creole architecture and famous for its cuisine and music, being the birth place of jazz. A local guide joins us today for our city sights tour. We later enjoy a boat ride through Louisiana's swamp lands where lush marsh scenery and wildlife abound. You might also get the chance to hold a baby alligator! Tonight we enjoy dinner at the Court Of Two Sisters, a popular restaurant located in the French Quarter.

HOTEL MONTELEONE (BD)

## DAY 8 - THURSDAY AUGUST 29 NATCHEZ SIGHTS

Natchez adorns the banks of the Mighty Mississippi with her magnificent antebellum homes, fascinating history, romantic atmosphere, and southern charm! It is one of the few places that remained untouched during the Civil War. We visit one of the majestic mansions for a guided tour and later enjoy lunch at a local restaurant.

HOTEL MONTELEONE (BL)

## DAY 9 - FRIDAY AUGUST 30 NEW ORLEANS AT LEISURE

Today is a free day to explore New Orleans at your own pace. Your tour escort will provide you with a day pass for unlimited travel on the New Orleans historic tramway system, or "street cars" as they are known locally. This evening we transfer to the wharf to board the *PS Natchez*, a genuine steam powered Mississippi paddle boat. Dinner is served on board and then it's time to enjoy some traditional live jazz music on the upper deck whilst cruising the mighty Mississippi at sunset!

HOTEL MONTELEONE (BD)

## DAY 10 - SATURDAY AUGUST 31 DEPART NEW ORLEANS ABOARD THE "CITY OF NEW ORLEANS"

After breakfast there is free time before we check out from our hotel and transfer to the railway station to board *The City Of New Orleans* for the overnight rail journey to Chicago. Enjoy the scenery from the privacy of your room or the lounge car where drinks are available from the bar. Dinner is served in the dining car.

CITY OF NEW ORLEANS (BD)

## DAY 11 - SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 01 ARRIVE CHICAGO

After breakfast in the dining car, we soon arrive at Chicago's Union Station where our waiting coach transfers us to our central hotel. Early check-in has been arranged and the rest of the day is free at leisure to relax or explore the city on foot.

PALMER HOUSE HILTON HOTEL (B)

## DAY 12 - MONDAY SEPTEMBER 02 CHICAGO SIGHTS

This morning a local guide joins us for our city sights tour. We join a cruise along the historic Chicago River where your guide will showcase over 40 landmarks of modern American architecture. Dinner is not included this evening but your guide will be happy to assist you with a restaurant suggestion.

PALMER HOUSE HILTON HOTEL (B)

## DAY 13 - TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 03 DEPART CHICAGO "CALIFORNIA ZEPHYR"

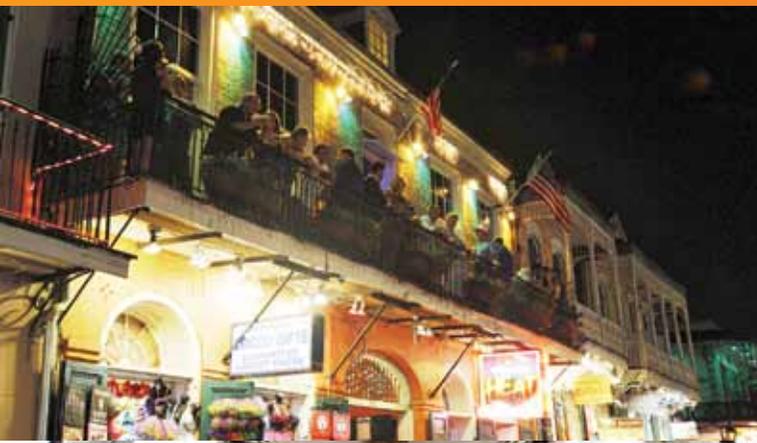
After breakfast there is some free time before checking out from our hotel for transfer to the Chicago's Union Station to board the *California Zephyr* for the two night journey to San Francisco. After settling in to your private room, why not meet fellow travelers in the lounge car before dinner is served in the dining car?

CALIFORNIA ZEPHYR (BD)

## DAY 14 - WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 04 SIERRA NEVADAS – ROCKY MOUNTAINS

The *California Zephyr* is considered one of the most beautiful train trips in all of North America. As you climb the snowcapped Sierra Nevada's through to the spectacular Rocky Mountains, it would be hard to disagree. The journey includes the great Moffat Tunnel, Colorado's Gore and the Byers and Glenwood Canyons. In the lounge car you can enjoy a conducted heritage appreciation talk presented by a local guide.

CALIFORNIA ZEPHYR (BLD)



**DAY 15 - THURSDAY  
SEPTEMBER 05  
ARRIVE SAN FRANCISCO**

Another full day of wondrous scenery before our train arrives into San Francisco late afternoon. On arrival we transfer to our hotel for the next four nights.

*HOLIDAY INN (BL)*

**DAY 16 - FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 06  
SAN FRANCISCO SIGHTS**

San Francisco is renowned for its cool summers, steep rolling hills, eclectic mix of architecture and landmarks including the Golden Gate Bridge, cable cars, and the former prison on Alcatraz Island. Today we enjoy a full day sightseeing including a bay cruise to the Golden Gate Bridge.

Dinner is not included tonight but if you enjoy seafood, there is an abundance of restaurants at Fisherman's Wharf close to our hotel.

*HOLIDAY INN (B)*

**DAY 17 - SATURDAY  
SEPTEMBER 07  
SAN FRANCISCO AT LEISURE**

Today is a free day to explore the city on your own. There is so much to see and do and your tour guide will be happy to offer suggestions on available optional tours.

This evening we travel by San Francisco's

famous cable cars to China Town where we enjoy a traditional Chinese banquet.

*HOLIDAY INN (BD)*

**DAY 18 - SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 08  
NAPA VALLEY WINE TRAIN**

Today we board the Napa Valley Wine Train for wine tasting in the lounge car before lunch is served in the beautifully restored 1917 Pullman Dining Car as you journey through the picturesque vineyards and wineries of the Napa Valley.

*HOLIDAY INN (BL)*

**DAY 19 - MONDAY  
SEPTEMBER 09 SAN FRANCISCO  
- BAKERSFIELD - LAS VEGAS  
"SAN JOAQUIN" DAY TRAIN**

An early start this morning when we check out from our hotel and transfer to the station to board the Amtrak train to Bakersfield. The *San Joaquin* provides a great way to travel through California's Central Valley. The Valley is California's premier agricultural region, bordered on the west by the coastal mountain ranges, and on the east by California's magnificent Yosemite, Kings Canyon, Sequoia, and Death Valley National Parks. At Bakersfield we transfer to road coach for the journey to Las Vegas where we check in to our hotel for the next three nights.

*MGM GRAND HOTEL (B)*

**DAY 20 - TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 10  
LAS VEGAS**

Las Vegas is an internationally renowned major resort city known primarily for gambling, shopping, fine dining, and nightlife and is one of the world's top tourist destinations.

Today is a free day to explore the sights yourself such as *Madame Tussauds*, or you might like to take an optional walk with our guide to see some of the major sights including the amazing recreation of the Venice canals.

*MGM GRAND HOTEL (B)*

**DAY 21 - WEDNESDAY  
SEPTEMBER 11  
LAS VEGAS - FREMONT STREET  
EXPERIENCE**

Another free day to explore on your own or you might like to take a scenic flight to the South Rim of the Grand Canyon. Our tour guide will be happy to assist.

This evening we enjoy the *Fremont Street Experience* with dinner at a local restaurant.

Enjoy the amazing light show the length of the street along with all the colourful entertainment of street artists.

*MGM GRAND HOTEL (BD)*

**DAY 22 - THURSDAY  
SEPTEMBER 12  
LAS VEGAS - LOS ANGELES**

After breakfast we check out from our hotel for our motor coach drive to Los Angeles.

We have arranged early check-in at our hotel with the afternoon free before tonight's dinner at a local restaurant.

*HYATT REGENCY HOTEL (BD)*

**DAY 23 - FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 13  
LOS ANGELES STUDIO TOUR**

Los Angeles is home to Hollywood, globally recognized as the epicenter of the motion picture industry. A testament to its pre-eminence in film, the city plays host to the annual Academy Awards, the oldest and one of the most prominent award ceremonies in the world. On our tour today we will visit the Warner Bros studio where you will discover some of the secrets in the magic of movie making

*HYATT REGENCY HOTEL (B)*

**DAY 24 - SATURDAY  
SEPTEMBER 14  
LOS ANGELES AT LEISURE**

Today is a free day to explore the city by yourself before our farewell dinner with drinks at a local French restaurant.

*HYATT REGENCY HOTEL (BD)*

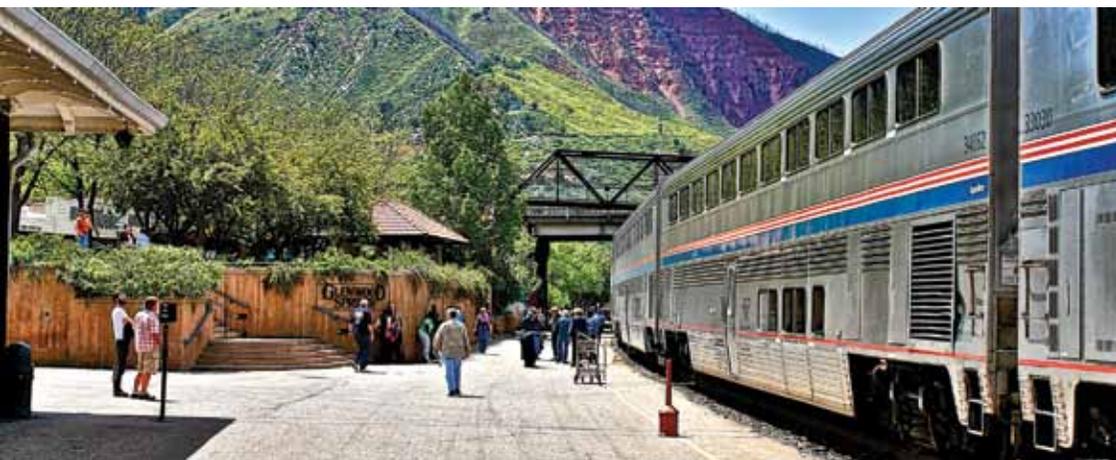
**DAY 25 - SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 15  
DEPART LOS ANGELES**

After breakfast there is free time before we check out from our hotel and transfer to the airport for our return flight home to Australia

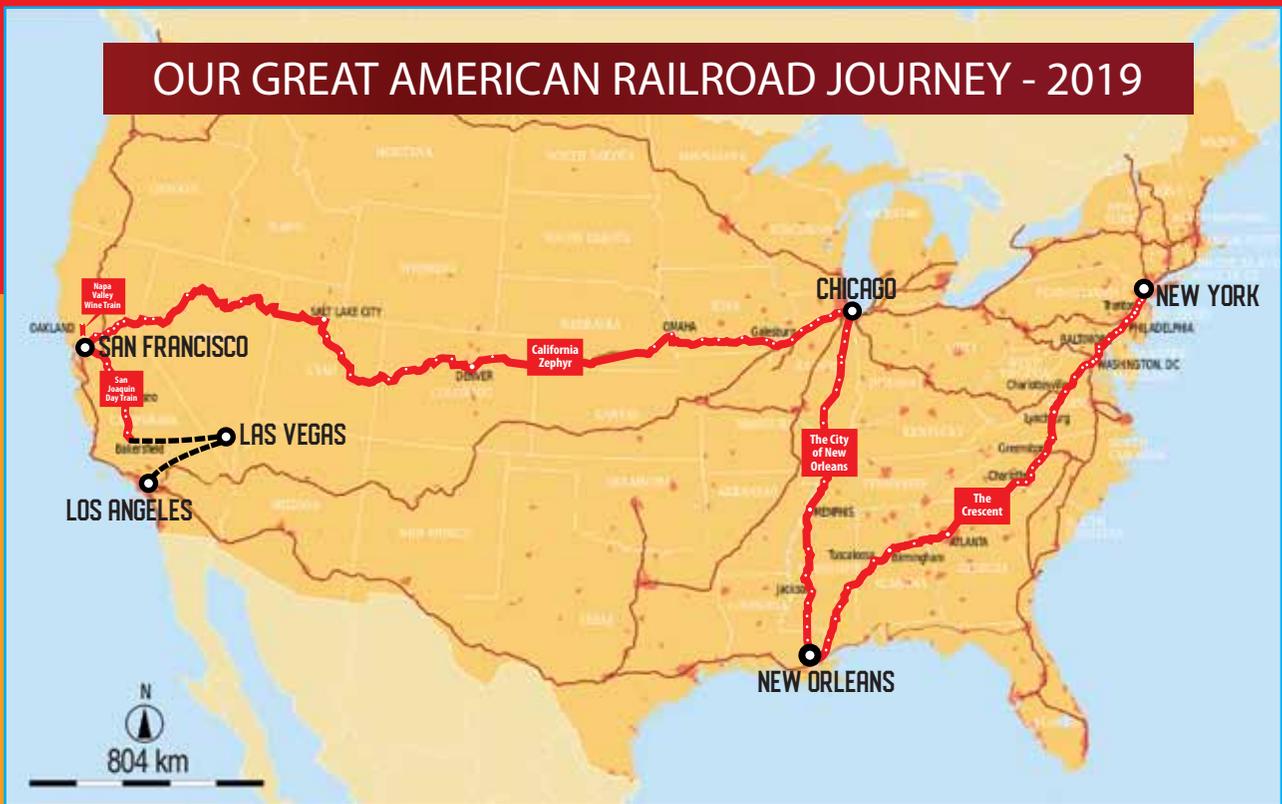
*(B)*

**DAY 26 - MONDAY SEPTEMBER 16  
IN FLIGHT**

**DAY 27 - TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 17  
ARRIVE PERTH**



# OUR GREAT AMERICAN RAILROAD JOURNEY - 2019



Most days incorporate iconic train journeys into a well-planned itinerary — including visits to popular destinations, comprehensive sightseeing, and more!

## “THE CRESCENT”

The Crescent follows Amtrak’s Northeast Corridor as far south as Washington, then heads southwest into Virginia, paralleling the Blue Ridge Mountains, continuing south through the Carolinas, Georgia and Alabama to New Orleans.

## “THE CITY OF NEW ORLEANS”

Is a nightly passenger train operated by Amtrak that travels 934 miles (1,503 km) between Chicago, Illinois and New Orleans and Louisiana.

The train currently operates on a 19½ hour schedule. Spacious Superliner accommodations make your trip extra enjoyable, with showers and thoughtful amenities and friendly service.

## “THE CALIFORNIA ZEPHYR”

Travels 2,438 miles (3,923 km) through seven states, an echo of the epic journey pioneers took to settle the American West. The Zephyr follows the canyons of the Colorado River down the western slope of the Rockies, crosses the deserts of Utah and Nevada, traverses the Donner Pass in the Sierra Nevada Mountains, and ends up in the lowlands of the California Central Valley.

Noteworthy: Passengers look down on the mile-high city of Denver from the railbed above; California State Railroad Museum docents give talks in the lounge car; the train winds through oil-painting-like coloured cliffs at Ruby Canyon, where eagles ride the thermals.

## “NAPA VALLEY WINE TRAIN”

The Napa Valley Wine Train provides a relaxing three-hour, thirty-six mile round-trip journey from the historic town of Napa, through one of the world’s most well known wine valleys to the quaint village of St. Helena and back.

The Napa Valley Wine Train’s tracks were originally built in the 1860s to bring guests to the hot spring resort town of Calistoga. While the track to Calistoga no longer exists, much of the rest of the route of the Napa Valley Wine Train is unchanged.

## “SAN JOAQUIN DAY TRAIN”

A great way to travel throughout California’s Central Valley. The Valley is California’s premier agricultural region, bordered on the west by the coastal mountain ranges, and on the east by California’s magnificent Yosemite, Kings Canyon, Sequoia, and Death Valley National Parks.

This train runs multiple times daily between the San Francisco Bay Area and Bakersfield.

You are always in safe hands with our Experienced, Professional escorts!

KEVIN PEARCE has been organising and conducting tours for many years. His knowledge and enthusiasm for all things ‘railway’ are legendary. His international and local expertise will assure you of many, happy memories throughout your holiday!



RORY OKTAVIONO has more than 10 years experience as an assistant tour director. With a likeable personality and strong love of travel photography, Rory will provide you with your own DVD photo compilation of the tour.



As well as our Australian escorts, from the moment we arrive in America, a highly experienced Tour Director will also accompany the group for the entire duration, right up until our departure from America. Professional local guides, experienced in their region will also join us along the way.



## TRAIN INFORMATION

Tour price includes Roomette sleeping cabins on overnight train journeys. Roomette cabins feature a large picture window and two reclining seats which convert to upper and lower beds at night. Toilet and showers are located at the end of the car. *Travellers on single supplement have sole use of a twin berth Roomette cabin.* A limited number of Bedrooms similar to Roomettes but with ensuite

### BOOKING CONDITIONS

#### DEPOSITS AND PAYMENTS

A non-refundable deposit of \$1800 per person together with a signed booking form is required to confirm your reservation. Final payment is required 95 days prior to travel. Credit card payments will attract a merchant fee.

Tour prices are based on land rates and exchange rates, current at the time of printing. These are subject to change without prior notice until final payment has been made.

#### CANCELLATION CHARGES

If cancelled outside of 90 days prior to travel a cancellation fee of the deposit applies. For cancellation 90 days or less 100% of tour cost applies. Comprehensive Travel insurance is compulsory and is available from Alpha Travel.

#### TOUR ESCORT

The tour will operate from Perth with a tour escort based on a minimum of 18 passengers travelling. Additionally, the special guest will accompany the tour subject to a minimum of 26 passengers travelling.

#### PORTERAGE

Hotel portorage of one suit case per person is included throughout the tour, however portorage cannot be provided at airports and some railway stations.

#### TIPPING

Tipping is included for guides, train staff, coach drivers and included meals.

#### REFUNDS

No refunds can be given to any passenger

shower and toilet are available at additional cost for twin share only. Please speak to your consultant for availability and cost of these upgrade cabins. As space in the Roomettes is very limited, we suggest you pack your overnight bag to take in to your cabin and check your luggage through for conveyance in the luggage van. Please book early, particularly for the latter option.

who joins the tour after its commencement, or for early departure from the tour. Additionally, refunds cannot be given for any accommodation, meals or excursions not partaken during the tour.

#### WHAT'S NOT INCLUDED

- Cost of compulsory comprehensive travel insurance
- Any expenditure of a personal nature such as telephone calls, laundry, mini bar, etc
- Any meals plus tipping which are not included in the itinerary
- All passport and visa application fees if necessary

#### RESPONSIBILITY

Alpha Travel reserves the right to alter or

omit any part of the itinerary or change of reservation, features and/or means of conveyance without notice and for any reason whatsoever. Alpha Travel acts only as a booking agent of Kevin Pearce Tours. Whilst acting in good faith, Alpha Travel does not accept any responsibility for default causing loss or injury to person or property whether by negligence or otherwise on the part of the operator or accommodation manager/owners or its employees. Alpha Travel shall not be liable for any dissatisfaction the passenger may have with the quality of accommodation and touring, or any injury, damage or loss caused by the change or withdrawal of any price, detail or other item or service.

# alphatravel | Your luxury travel destination

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