



## TOPDECKER, meet North America (TD)

TRIP VIBE = fast-paced fun with tons of socialising, bucket-list sights and good times all round. There are road trips. And then there are USA road trips. This country was built for awesome drives and that feeling of being FREE. This 19-day adventure's no different. We're gonna hit cities with serious main character energy (Las Vegas, baby!), sway to blues (and ghouls) in New Orleans and go A-List hunting in Hollywood. PLUS: there are some epic views (and food) to feast your eyes on along the way. If you're after iconic sights with a stars 'n' stripes edge AND a coach full of travel besties, you're in the right place.

### WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW



Get Social



Nights



Download app



Meals

# Thanks for choosing to holiday with Topdeck

Ready for the time of your LIFE?  
The countdown's on...

## ABOUT YOUR TRIP NOTES

These Trip Notes contain everything you need to know before your trip departs – from where to meet your Topdeck fam to what we suggest you bring.

Read them on the train, in the supermarket queue or on the loo – we don't mind, just look through them carefully so you know what to expect on your trip. We recommend you download this document so it's with you when you travel (and give a copy to your MVPs so they know what you're up to).

**IMPORTANT:** please refresh this doc as close to your departure as possible. This means you'll have the most up-to-date info available.

### INCLUDED EXPERIENCES

- Las Vegas Strip highlights drive
- Meow Wolf light show
- Entry to Grand Canyon National Park
- Orientation tour of Monument Valley Tribal Park
- Entry to Monument Valley Tribal Park
- Sante Fe highlights drive
- Visit the Cadillac Ranch
- Visit Fort Worth Historic Stockyards
- Dallas highlights drive
- Visit Billy Bob's Texas
- Walking tour of the French Quarter
- Walking tour of Memphis
- Driving/walking tour of Nashville with Trip Leader
- Night illumination tour
- Philadelphia highlights drive

### YOUR TRIP WILL START

PICK UP:

Los Angeles  
United States of America

### YOUR TRIP WILL FINISH

DROP OFF:

New York City  
United States of America

## TRIP CURRENCIES

- United States of America - USD

# YOUR ITINERARY

## DAY 1 | LOS ANGELES (CALIFORNIA)

La la land: a city characterised by its blissful lack of touch with reality. It's the perfect place to ditch your everyday routine and catapult into a cross-country USA adventure! First: meet your Topdeck fam. This lot? They're your people. Then: we'll dig into our included group dinner and get pumped for good times. Ready for over two weeks' worth of OG road trippin'? Hell yeah!



### MEALS:

- Dinner

## DAY 2 | LOS ANGELES – LAS VEGAS (NEVADA)

Stock up on snacks, hop on board and dig out the AUX cord – Vegas is calling! Get to know your trip mates better during the ride and soak up those all-American wide-open spaces before the crazy of Sin City. Seriously, this place is so neon it hurts to look at. But we'll do just that on a driving tour – before donning our sequin bowties and stilettos for a night on the town. Psyched?



### MEALS:

- Breakfast



### INCLUDED TODAY:

- Las Vegas Strip highlights drive

## DAY 3 | LAS VEGAS

From big-budget stage shows, Michelin-star restaurants and Eiffel Tower clones – Vegas is the definition of OTT. But you can't help love it anyway. Anything goes here and you've got a full day to make the most of it. Our suggestions? Take an optional heli-tour over The Strip. Flash some plastic at the mall. Or truly show your new travel bestie how much you love 'em at a little white chapel. Tonight? Gather the gang and be dazzled by Meow Wolf (Google it). The immersive light show is out of this world...



### INCLUDED TODAY:

- Meow Wolf light show



### OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

- Heli-tour over the Las Vegas Strip: prices available locally

## DAY 4 | LAS VEGAS – GRAND CANYON NATIONAL PARK (ARIZONA) – FLAGSTAFF

Arizona – this state is made for road trips. Stretches of endless sky. Expanses of red desert. Centuries-old history. And some pretty famous rock formations. Today we're heading to the home of the Grand Canyon. One word to describe this place: legendary. Group pics nailed and bellies grumbling, quiz your in-the-know Trip Leader on where to head for tonight's feed in Flagstaff.



### INCLUDED TODAY:

- Entry to Grand Canyon National Park

## DAY 5 | FLAGSTAFF – GRAND CANYON NATIONAL PARK – FLAGSTAFF

Can't get enough of the canyon? You're in luck. Today, you'll have a full day to explore more of one of the world's most incredible natural wonders. The only way to see it in its entirety is from the sky. Lucky for you, we've organised an optional heli-tour. Prepare to be wowed by AWESOME vistas of the canyon's iconic landscape.



### MEALS:

- Breakfast



### INCLUDED TODAY:

- Entry to Grand Canyon National Park



### OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

- Heli-tour over the Grand Canyon: prices available locally

## DAY 6 | FLAGSTAFF – MONUMENT VALLEY – DURANGO (COLORADO)

After another included brekkie, today's first stop = Mars. Actually – it's Monument Valley, but it may as well be another planet. This INCREDible red-sand desert is out of this world. See for yourself during a guided orientation tour. Afterwards, you've got options. Head out on horseback with an optional riding experience or go zip-lining. Here in winter? Jump on a snowmobile and explore the white stuff in style. Then, it's time to make tracks to Durango where the evening is yours.



### MEALS:

- Breakfast



### INCLUDED TODAY:

- Orientation tour of Monument Valley Tribal Park
- Entry to Monument Valley Tribal Park



### OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

- Horse riding (summer only): prices available locally
- Zip-lining (summer only): prices available locally
- Snowmobile tour (winter only): prices available locally

## DAY 7 | DURANGO – SANTA FE – ALBUQUERQUE (NEW MEXICO)

Wave bye to the rugged Colorado mountains from the back of the coach. First up today: arty Santa Fe. After we've checked out the highlights on a driving tour, grab some lunch and wander around the historic heart of the city. Fan of Breaking Bad? We're rolling into Heisenberg's old stomping ground later today. Prepare to spice up your life when you hunt down dinner this eve: this place is also famed for its love of chilis. Pro tip: ask for 'Christmas' to get maximum hotness. Or don't. No one wants a bawling trip mate.



### MEALS:

- Breakfast



### INCLUDED TODAY:

- Sante Fe highlights drive

## DAY 8 | ALBUQUERQUE – AMARILLO (TEXAS)

Ready for something a bit... different? On Route 66 we'll check out the quirky art installation at the Cadillac Ranch. Then: is this the way to Amarillo? Hope so, or we're totally lost. Don't be fooled, this is a 'go big or go home' kinda place. Speaking of going big, how does an optional hot air balloon ride over the Texas desert sound? Tonight, there's another included group feed on the cards \*stuffs napkin into shirt\*.



### MEALS:

- Breakfast
- Dinner



### INCLUDED TODAY:

- Visit the Cadillac Ranch



### OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

- Hot air balloon ride: prices available locally

## DAY 9 | AMARILLO – FORT WORTH

Fill up at breakfast and practise your best yeee haaaa! – we’re heading to the wild, wild west with a visit to the Fort Worth Historic Stockyards. Lasso your way around the original brick walkways and wooden corrals of ‘Cowtown’ before watching Texan cowboys in action during the daily cattle drive. Tonight is totally up to you. Our pick? Fully commit to Tex-Mex and get stuck into all the tacos, enchiladas and chimichangas you can handle. RIP white T-shirt.



### MEALS:

- Breakfast



### INCLUDED TODAY:

- Visit Fort Worth Historic Stockyards

## DAY 10 | FORT WORTH – DALLAS – FORT WORTH

Down that cup of Joe. Today, ‘Big D’ is yours for the taking. First up, a drive around the city’s highlights. The rest is up to you. Need recommendations? \*Grabs foam finger and points at Trip Leader\* – they’ve got them. Jump on the vintage (and free = win) McKinney Avenue Trolley and jump off to sample the local bars. Then jump back on again. You get the idea. Top up your culture levels at the Perot Museum of Nature and Science. Or perfect your pino skills at Reunion Tower. Tonight, you’ll head back to Fort Worth to check out Billy Bob’s Texas – the World’s Largest Honky Tonk. 30 bars. Live music. Bull riding. Ready to swing your partner round and round? Responsibly, obvs.



### MEALS:

- Breakfast



### INCLUDED TODAY:

- Dallas highlights drive
- Visit Billy Bob’s Texas

## DAY 11 | FORT WORTH – NEW ORLEANS (LOUISIANA)

Full disclosure: this is a drive day. But it’ll be totally worth it when we roll into New Orleans. Trust us. We’ll start with a walking tour of the French Quarter (aka New Orleans’ Crown Jewel). Wanna know what’s on the menu for dinner? Between gumbo and po-boys, jambalaya and muffulettas, beignets and bananas foster – it’s safer to try them all. Your pants are elasticated, right? Later, the legendary party vibes of Bourbon Street await – arm yourself with a Hand Grenade cocktail for the real experience.



### MEALS:

- Breakfast



### INCLUDED TODAY:

- Walking tour of the French Quarter



## DAY 12 | NEW ORLEANS

A city exploding with culture, history and seriously good food – you’ve got 24 hrs of freedom, so don’t muck about. Check out the open-air gallery in Jackson Square. Hit up the French Market for shopping. Uncover your love for jazz along Frenchman Street. Get amongst the mayhem on Bourbon Street. You could even fill your belly with more local bites during an optional cooking class. Wanna get a little bit outta your comfort zone? Board an optional swamp tour for more ‘gator spotting. Or, if you’ve booked a winter trip, get a behind-the-scenes look at the city’s most ICONIC event at Mardi Gras World. Whatever you choose, you can’t go wrong.

### ★ OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

- New Orleans cooking class:  
prices available locally
- Swamp tour in New Orleans  
(summer only): prices available  
locally
- Visit to Mardi Gras World  
(winter only): prices available  
locally

## DAY 13 | NEW ORLEANS – MEMPHIS (TENNESSEE)

Say goodbye to New Orleans and hello to the birthplace of rock n’ roll. Ng! – it’s a bit of a drive to Memphis. Meaning? Your chance to impress the fam with your best Elvis impression (lucky them!). When we pull into Memphis, it’s time for a walking tour. We’ll stick to the iconic Beale Street area: a former red-light district turned home of the American Blues. Dinner’s on you, but your Trip Leader knows the hot spots.

### 🌟 INCLUDED TODAY:

- Walking tour of Memphis

## DAY 14 | MEMPHIS – NASHVILLE

This morning, do your own thing or hit up Graceland on an optional tour. Elvis Presley’s former-mansion-turned-museum is one of the most ICONIC musical heritage sites in the Deep South. There’s also an optional trip to the National Civil Rights Museum on the cards if you fancy swotting up on an important era of American history. Afterwards, sling on a cowboy hat and tune up that fiddle. Why? Cos we’re making a beeline for America’s country music capital: Nashville. Your Trip Leader will take you on a tour of its highlights. Then, why not practice your scoots and brushes with an optional line dancing class at the Wildhorse Saloon? Yeehaw!

### 🍽️ MEALS:

- Breakfast



### INCLUDED TODAY:

- Driving/walking tour of  
Nashville with Trip Leader



### OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

- Morning visit to Graceland:  
prices available locally
- Visit National Civil Rights  
Museum: prices available locally
- Line dancing class at the  
Wildhorse Saloon: prices  
available locally

## DAY 15 | NASHVILLE

It's your day, your way. What's first? Hit up the Country Music Hall of Fame for an education in all the folk and blues greats. Go star spotting on a stroll around the Music City Walk of Fame Park. Check out the Grand Ole Opry for an old-school country music experience. Or head to a legit Tennessee whiskey distillery for a glug of the smoky stuff. It'd be rude not to, right? This eve, show off your own singing skills at a Nashville karaoke bar. Dolly Parton, anyone?



### MEALS:

- Breakfast



### OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

- Grand Ole Opry show: prices available locally
- Visit Country Music Hall of Fame: prices available locally
- Visit Music City Walk of Fame Park

## DAY 16 | NASHVILLE – CHARLOTTE (NORTH CAROLINA)

Room still spinning? Our included brekkie should sort you out this morning. Then: onwards to Charlotte! A city with a tagline like "Charlotte's Got A Lot" means expectations are HIGH. But with urban forests, specialty museums, the NoDa art scene and two brewery districts – we'd have to agree, this place has a lot going on. So, get exploring! Afterwards, meet back up with the gang for an optional evening out at the Slingshot Social Game Club. Cue: supersized cheeseburgers, tenpin bowling and heaps of laughs.



### MEALS:

- Breakfast



### OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

- Visit Slingshot Social Game Club in Charlotte: prices available locally

## DAY 17 | CHARLOTTE – WASHINGTON, DC

Hitting the road bright and early, we're heading to the OG of American politics. We'll arrive in DC just in time to see the Lincoln Memorial, the National Mall, the Whitehouse and Capitol Hill lit up like Christmas on an illumination tour. Then: round up the squad and swing by Ben's Chili Bowl for traditional DC hot dogs and chili cheese fries \*drools uncontrollably\*.



### INCLUDED TODAY:

- Night illumination tour

## DAY 18 | WASHINGTON, DC

You've got 24 hours. Your undercover mission, should you choose to accept it... ok, you get the gist. Our suggestion? Nab yourself a set of wheels on a bike tour. Then, hit up the array of FREE museums. From the National Museum of American History to the National Air and Space Museum, and the International Spy Museum – there's something for literally everyone. And this far into the trip, you know the bud who'll be into it too... Tonight, it's our last dinner with the group. Time to give this epic American adventure the send-off it deserves.



### MEALS:

- Breakfast
- Dinner



### OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

- Bike tour: prices available locally

## DAY 19 | WASHINGTON, DC – PHILADELPHIA (PENNSYLVANIA) – NEW YORK CITY (NEW YORK)

The Big Apple is calling. But first: Philly. The home of Rocky and the Declaration of Independence – this place is crawling with colonial history and culture. Get the lowdown on a driving tour before we wrap up our road-trip-of-a-lifetime in iconic NYC. Where's the highway taking us next? Get that reunion trip locked in!



### INCLUDED TODAY:

- Philadelphia highlights drive



# OTHER INFORMATION

## TOPDECK APP

Feeling appy? Download the Topdeck app and get PUMPED for the adventure ahead. Best bit is: from 45 days before departure you'll be able to chat with your soon-to-be tripmates.

Plus, get your itinerary at your fingertips – so you know where you'll be going and what you'll be doing on each day of your trip. Nice!

Links:

Apple <https://apps.apple.com/gb/app/topdeck/id994727866>

Android <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.FlexiTechSolutions.TopDeck&hl=en>



## YOUR SAFETY

### NIGHTS OUT

We love a good night out – experiencing the nightlife and entertainment places have to offer is a big part of travelling. But alongside the fun it's important to be aware of your surroundings and personal safety.

When you're out late, remember to avoid walking alone – particularly through deserted areas like beaches and back streets. Always stick together, take a registered taxi where possible, and keep a note of your accommodation so you can find your way back to your fellow Topdeckers if you become separated. Make sure you have your trip mates' mobile numbers in case you need to get hold of them while out and about.

In some countries, alcoholic measures can be considerably larger than what you may be used to. Try to keep track of what you're drinking – and if you see one of your trip mates looking a little worse for wear, take them back to your accommodation. Never leave your drink unattended.

It's also important to be aware that what you might consider harmless flirting may be interpreted differently in some countries. Be yourself and have fun, but stay savvy – you don't want to find yourself in an uncomfortable situation.

### DRUG USE

Topdeck has a strict zero-tolerance drug policy. Customers should not bring any illegal substances onto the Topdeck coach or into any of the accommodation we stay in on our trips. This includes marijuana – even if it is legal in some of the states your trip passes through. If you are found in possession of drugs, you will be removed from the trip immediately. All instances of drug possession will be reported to Topdeck Head Office, who may consider alerting the relevant authorities.

**REMEMBER:** if you are found in possession of drugs, not only do you risk getting in trouble with the local police, but our Driver will also be held responsible if they are found on the Topdeck coach. Trust us, you don't want that to happen to any of our Drivers – they're awesome.

### MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLBEING

Culture shock, homesickness, random periods of feeling down – these things happen and are totally normal. You can rest assured that if you're feeling low, your Topdeck crew will do their utmost to cheer you up.

Measures you can take to look after your mental health and wellbeing while on the road with us are:

- Call home. Sometimes it's nice to hear a familiar voice and have a good old-fashioned catch up with your loved ones
- Eat well. Never underestimate the power of a good, wholesome meal. Nobody feels at their best when they're hungry!

- Drink responsibly. Not only will you swerve the dreaded hangover, but by keeping an eye on what you drink you could also avoid getting into any potentially uncomfortable situations
- Talk to your Trip Leader. Don't forget, they're probably far from home too – so they're sure to know some tried- and- tested ways to beat the blues
- Integrate with your fellow Topdeckers. This one is key! The more fun you're having on your trip, the less likely you are to feel homesick (fact!)

## TRAVEL SINCE COVID-19

Travel looks a bit different since COVID-19. That's why we've put some new procedures in place to help keep you safe on the road.

What remains the same? Your Topdeck trip will be run hygienically, responsibly, and with your safety at the forefront of everything we do. End of.

Here's the info: <https://www.topdeck.travel/resources/travel-safely>

# RESPECT ON THE ROAD

## RESPECTING FELLOW TRAVELLERS

Our trips are for everyone. We're a family – and we want every Topdecker to have an incredible time.

What we're not about is excluding people or making them feel like they don't belong. That's why we always encourage Topdeckers to be kind and courteous to their fellow tripmates . The golden rules? Respect each other's space, be mindful of causing excessive noise in shared accommodation, and treat others how you'd wish to be treated. Easy!

## HOW TO BE A RESPONSIBLE TRAVELLER

Responsible travel isn't difficult to achieve. With a little conscious thought and preparation, you can have an awesome adventure AND a positive impact on the places you visit. Sweet!

Here are five things you can do to ensure you're travelling responsibly:

- Conserve water. You know the drill – reuse your room towels, take short showers and remember to turn off the tap when you're brushing your teeth
- Reduce your waste. Ditch the plastic bag, refuse unnecessary packaging, dispose of your waste responsibly and recycle as much as possible
- Go local. Hunt down locally owned and operated restaurants and bars, shop in local markets, and book tours and activities run by local guides
- Consider the wildlife. Avoid any attractions that involve closely engaging with wild animals
- Respect local people and culture. Obeying local laws is a given – but also remember to dress and behave in a manner appropriate to the community. Be polite and keep an open mind!

# INSURANCE

Before your trip departs, it's compulsory for all passengers to take out comprehensive travel insurance covering cancellation, medical expenses (including repatriation), loss or damage to baggage and personal belongings, money and personal liability.

Head to our FAQ for more info: <https://www.topdeck.travel/resources/faqs-0>

Got more Qs? Chat with our Customer Service team: <https://www.topdeck.travel/about-us/contact>

## PASSPORTS AND VISAS

Please make sure your passport is valid for at least six months after the last day of your trip. Some countries will refuse entry if you do not have at least six months validity remaining on your passport after your departure date. Depending on your nationality, you may require a visa to enter certain countries.

It is your responsibility to obtain visas prior to your trip's departure. To determine which visas you'll need, you can consult either your own government's website or the government websites of the countries in which you will be travelling. Check out our handy interactive map showing global visa requirements:

<https://www.topdeck.travel/resources/latest-border-restrictions>

PLEASE NOTE: some visas can take up to six weeks to acquire, so don't leave it until the last minute. Also, bear in mind that the validity of a visa often runs from its date of issue rather than the date of entry into the country. Please check with the appropriate embassy/embassies prior to departure, as requirements do change periodically.

## TIPPING

Basically: it's not necessary.

Your Trip Leader and Driver don't expect tips, and they won't ask for any either. Meaning? More dollar to spend on optional activities (and a souvenir for your nan).

## WHAT TO BRING

Based on our experience, these items are key. Everyone's different though – so if you want to bring more or less, go for it (as long as you don't exceed your 20kg allowance, that is!).

Off to Japan? Your luggage must be no bigger than 160cm in total (height x width x length). So maybe leave the hairdryer at home.

Psst: this is a packing list for Topdeck trips in general. Obv you'd look silly splashing around the Greek islands in a snowsuit.

- 1 pair of comfortable walking shoes + 1 pair of smart casual shoes
- 1 pair of thongs/jandals/flip-flops
- 2 pairs of jeans/trousers
- 2 pairs of shorts/skirts
- 4 shirts/T-shirts
- 2 sweaters/jumpers
- Smart casual evening wear
- 1 warm jacket + 1 rainproof jacket

- Underwear and socks + swimwear
- Towel
- Toiletries
- Hat and sunscreen
- Basic medical kit (including plasters, aspirin etc)
- Adaptor plug
- Reusable water bottle
- Snow gear



**THAT'S IT!**