National Parks of the West

AMID THE NATURAL SPLENDORS OF THE AMERICAN WEST

June 15 to 25, 2016

a program of the stanford alumni association
The vast wilderness that beckoned early American pioneers ever westward still exists in our nation’s great parks; they are filled with beautiful scenery, abundant wildlife and remarkable landscapes found nowhere else on earth. Ferdinand Hayden, Yellowstone’s first and most enthusiastic advocate, believed in “setting aside the area as a pleasure ground for the benefit and enjoyment of the people,” and on March 1, 1872, our nation’s first national park was established. 2016 marks a monumental year in the history of these inspiring places as the National Park Service celebrates its 100th anniversary. Come with us as we explore some of the extraordinary natural treasures that have been so carefully preserved and can be found in our very own backyard!

BRETT S. THOMPSON, ’83, DIRECTOR, STANFORD TRAVEL/STUDY
TIM DUANE, ’82, MS ’83, PHD ’89, a professor of environmental studies at UC-Santa Cruz, is also an attorney with more than three decades of professional experience in the fields of energy, climate, land use, natural resources, water, and environmental policy, planning and law. He began working in the renewable energy industry in 1979 and published his first reports on climate change in 1990. He is a leading expert on “greening the grid” and the regulatory permitting challenges of renewable energy development, as well as issues of public land and resource management throughout the western United States. His book, Shaping the Sierra: Nature, Culture, and Conflict in the Changing West, explores how private land development in rapidly growing rural regions threatens a wide range of environmental values as well as how planning and policy can be adopted to reduce the social conflict over such growth. On this trip, Tim will explain how the National Park System has evolved over the century since its creation in 1916 and how the national parks of the west relate to the national forests, private lands and other public lands that separate and connect them.

— Professor of environmental studies, UC-Santa Cruz
— Visiting professor of law, University of San Diego
— Previous teaching appointments at UC-Berkeley, Seattle University School of Law and Vermont Law School
— BA, human biology, MS and PhD, civil engineering, all from Stanford University; JD, UC-Berkeley

"The Stanford staff, stimulating lectures and tours, excellent service and nice people made it an exceptional trip."

CAROL, MA ’62, AND NOEL STEVENS, MBA ’62, HUDSON RIVER, 2014

STANFORD TRAVEL / STUDY

OR BY PHONE: (650) 725-1093

SOUTH DAKOTA BLACK HILLS
**Itinerary**

**WEDNESDAY, JUNE 15**
**HOME / RAPID CITY, SOUTH DAKOTA**
Fly on independent flights from home to Rapid City and gather with fellow travelers for a welcome reception at our hotel. ADOBA ECO HOTEL

**THURSDAY, JUNE 16**
**BADLANDS NATIONAL PARK / CUSTER STATE PARK**
Head to Badlands National Park, which features some of the most spectacular scenery in the region. Visit the Ben Reifel Visitors Center with exhibits focusing on the cultural history, prairie ecology and paleontology of the White River Badlands. Travel into the backcountry of Custer State Park this afternoon to enjoy beautiful vistas where herds of bison and other wildlife can be observed, followed by a chuck wagon cookout. Tonight, stay at the Custer State Game Lodge in the Black Hills near Custer. The lodge, built in 1920 and listed on the National Register of Historic Places, served as the “Summer White House” for President Calvin Coolidge in 1927 and was visited by President Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1953. CUSTER STATE GAME LODGE (B,D)

**FRIDAY, JUNE 17**
**HOT SPRINGS / CUSTER STATE PARK**
This morning, travel south to the town of Hot Springs to visit the site of the world’s largest mammoth dig. After a short tour, stroll on the boardwalk over the dig area and visit the paleontology laboratory. Then head north to the Crazy Horse Memorial, which has been under construction since 1948. When it’s completed it’s likely to be the world’s largest sculpture. The remainder of the day is free to explore Custer State Park independently. CUSTER STATE GAME LODGE (B,D)

**SATURDAY, JUNE 18**
**MOUNT RUSHMORE / SPEARFISH CANYON**
Today visit one of the world’s largest stone monuments, iconic Mount Rushmore. Between 1927 and 1941, sculptor Gutzon Borglum and more than 400 workers sculpted the 60-foot-high carvings of U.S. presidents Washington, Jefferson, (Teddy) Roosevelt and Lincoln into the
granite face of Mount Rushmore. These four presidents were chosen by Borglum to represent the first 150 years of American history and because of their roles in preserving the Republic and expanding its territory. Spend tonight deep in the heart of Spearfish Canyon, located on the edge of Black Hills National Forest and one of the most breathtakingly beautiful canyons in the world. SPEARFISH CANYON LODGE (B,D)

THURSDAY, JUNE 23
GRAND TETON NATIONAL PARK / JACKSON
Head south this morning through a vast unspoiled wilderness to Grand Teton National Park, its jagged mountain peaks forming a perfect backdrop rising above Jenny and Jackson lakes. Continue on to the town of Jackson. JACKSON LAKE LODGE (B)

FRIDAY, JUNE 24
JACKSON
Spend all day today exploring independently. Choose, perhaps, to wander around Jackson’s lively town square and browse the local art galleries and boutiques, or take part in a wide range of optional outdoor activities including horseback riding, fly fishing or a float trip down the Snake River. This evening enjoy a farewell reception and dinner with fellow travelers. JACKSON LAKE LODGE (B,D)

SATURDAY, JUNE 25
JACKSON / HOME
Following breakfast, transfer to the Jackson Hole Airport for independent flights home. (B)
Trip Information

**DATES**
June 15 to 25, 2016 (11 days)

**SIZE**
40 participants (single accommodations limited—please call for availability)

**COST** *
$6,495 per person, double occupancy  
$8,190 per person, single occupancy  
*Association nonmembers add $300 per person

**INCLUDED**
10 nights of deluxe hotel accommodations  
- 10 breakfasts, 3 lunches and 7 dinners  
Welcome and farewell receptions  
Gratuities to guides, drivers and porters for all group activities  
All park fees, tours and excursions as described in the itinerary  
Transfers and baggage handling on program arrival and departure days  
Minimal medical, accident and evacuation insurance  
Educational program with lecture series and pre-departure materials, including recommended reading list, a selected book, map and travel information  
Services of our professional tour manager to assist you throughout the program

**NOT INCLUDED**
Airfare  
Meals and beverages other than those specified as included  
Independent and private transfers  
Trip-cancellation/interruption and baggage insurance  
Excess-baggage charges  
Personal items such as internet access, telephone and fax calls, laundry and gratuities for nongroup services

**AIR ARRANGEMENTS**
Airfare is not included in the program cost. Round-trip, economy-class airfare from San Francisco to Rapid City, South Dakota, and return from Jackson, Wyoming, is approximately $700 as of December 2015 and is subject to change without notice.

**WHAT TO EXPECT**
We consider this program to be mildly active. Most of our touring is done by motorcoach, and some excursions involve short walks of up to a mile. Hotels and lodges may offer optional longer walks or hikes for participants who wish to be more active. Our journey at times requires several hours of travel by motorcoach, the longest drives being up to nine hours (with stops). It is important to note that this itinerary takes place at elevations ranging from 3,200 to 9,000 feet above sea level. Participants must be physically fit, active and in good health. We welcome travelers 15 years of age and older on this program.
Deposit & Final Payment
A $1,000-per-person deposit is required to hold your space. Sign up online at alumni.stanford.edu/trip?parks2016 or call the Travel/Study office at (650) 725-1093. Final payment is due 120 days prior to departure. As a condition of participation, all confirmed participants are required to sign a Release of Liability.

Cancellations & Refunds
Deposits and any payments are refundable, less a $500-per-person cancellation fee, until 120 days prior to departure. After that date, refunds can be made only if the program is sold out and your place(s) can be resold, in which case a $1,000-per-person cancellation fee will apply.

Insurance
Stanford Travel/Study provides all travelers who are U.S. or Canadian citizens with minimal medical, accident and evacuation coverage under our group-travel insurance policy. Our group policy is intended to provide minimal levels of protection while you are traveling on this program. You may choose to subscribe to optional trip-cancellation and baggage insurance. Information will be provided to travelers with their welcome materials. The product offered includes special benefits if you purchase your policy within 14 days of written confirmation of your participation on the trip.

Eligibility
We encourage membership in the Alumni Association as the program cost for nonmembers is $300 more than the members’ price. Families and trip companions may travel on one membership. For more information or to purchase a membership, visit alumni.stanford/goto/membership or call (650) 725-0692.

Responsibility
The Stanford Alumni Association, Stanford University and our operators act only as agents for the passenger with respect to transportation and exercise every care possible in doing so. However, we can assume no liability for injury, damage, loss, accident, delay or irregularity in connection with the service of any automobile, motorcoach, launch or any other conveyance used in carrying out this program or for the acts or defaults of any company or person engaged in conveying the passenger or in carrying out the arrangements of the program. We cannot accept any responsibility for losses or additional expenses due to delay or changes in air or other services, sickness, weather, strike, war, quarantine, force majeure or other causes beyond our control. All such losses or expenses will have to be borne by the passenger as tour rates provide arrangements only for the time stated. We reserve the right to make such alterations to this published itinerary as may be deemed necessary. The right is reserved to cancel any program prior to departure in which case the entire payment will be refunded without further obligation on our part. The right is also reserved to decline to accept or retain any person as a member of the program. No refund will be made for an unused portion of any tour unless arrangements are made in sufficient time to avoid penalties. Baggage is carried at the owner’s risk entirely. The airlines concerned are not to be held responsible for any act, omission or event during the time that passengers are not onboard their plane or conveyance. Neither the Alumni Association, Stanford University nor our operators accept liability for any carrier’s cancellation penalty incurred by the purchase of a nonrefundable ticket in connection with the tour. Program price is based on rates in effect in December 2015 and is subject to change without notice to reflect fluctuations in exchange rates, tariffs or fuel charges.

California Seller of Travel Program Registration #2048 523-50
The trip was incredibly educational, the scenery and wildlife exquisite, and there was a real feeling of the trip being an outing of friends, not a tour group of individuals.

Joe, MS '60, and Diane Rolfe, National Parks of the West, 2014

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