

**Join The History Place for a trip to Northern California**  
**June 24-July 1, 2011**  
**Approx cost \$1799 + airfare to/from San Francisco**

HIGHLIGHTS: See San Francisco's Victorian mansions and Fisherman's Wharf, Golden Gate Bridge, China Town, Lombard Street (the most crooked street in the world). In Napa Valley wine country enjoy a private winery tour & wine tasting. Ride the Napa Valley Wine Train and enjoy wine tasting followed by a gourmet dinner as you travel through the vineyards. See Lake Tahoe, Yosemite National Park, a Spanish mission church, Monterey and Carmel-by-the-Sea. See gigantic redwood trees and an 1880's logging camp. **You'll see the best of northern California.**

## What's Included

### Sightseeing Highlights

- **San Francisco** Tour the highlights of the City-by-the-Bay.
- **Sonoma Valley** Visit a local winery, enjoy wine tasting and see the beautiful historic Sonoma Plaza.
- **Napa Valley** Enjoy wine tasting and dinner aboard the elegant Napa Valley Wine Train.
- **Sacramento** Travel to Old Sacramento, a typical town of the Gold Rush era.
- **Lake Tahoe** Discover this amazing lake, the largest alpine lake in North America.
- **Yosemite National Park** Yosemite Valley and admire the iconic Half Dome, El Capitan and waterfalls.
- **San Juan Bautista** Discover the historic Old Mission San Juan Bautista.
- **Monterey** Visit Cannery Row and Fisherman's Wharf.
- **Carmel** Stop at the quaint seaside community of Carmel-by-the-Sea.
- **California Coast** Enjoy the scenic drive along Highway 1 to Big Sur.
- **Henry Cowell Redwoods State Park** Marvel at the famous giant coastal redwood trees.
- **Monterey Peninsula** Journey along the spectacular 17 Mile Drive.
- **Roaring Camp** Step back in time to a logging camp of the 1880's.

### Dining Highlights

- 7 full breakfasts
- Special Chinese banquet dinner in San Francisco
- Special dinner with wine tasting aboard the Napa Valley Wine Train.
- 'Be My Guest' specialty lunch with wine at a winery in the Sonoma Valley.

- Farewell Dinner with wine in Monterey.

### **11 included meals in total** (see day by day itinerary)

#### First Class Travel Highlights

- First Class hotel accommodation includes two-bedded rooms with private facilities, all hotel service charges and tips, baggage handling fees and local taxes.
- Touring by luxury air-conditioned motorcoach with reclining seats and onboard restroom.
- The services of one of Trafalgar's top professional Tour Directors.
- A stylish wallet, travel documents and Welcome on Tour book with map.
- Complimentary airport transfers are provided on Day 1 and Day 8.

#### Airport Transfers

- You will receive complimentary arrival and departure transfers by scheduled shuttle, minivan, private car, or taxi between designated airports and Trafalgar hotels on the scheduled starting and ending day of your tour. We regret that we are unable to provide complimentary transfers for anyone arriving before the scheduled starting day of the tour and/or leaving after the scheduled ending day of the tour. You may however purchase these transfers from Trafalgar provided that you also purchase your extra night(s) from Trafalgar. Flight information must be provided. San Francisco transfer cost is \$17 per person, each way

## **Day-by-Day Itinerary**

### Day 1 - Arrive San Francisco (2 nights)

Welcome to San Francisco! A complimentary transfer is provided to the tour hotel. Your Tour Director is at the hotel this afternoon to greet you and answer your questions. Join us at 6:00pm for a Welcome Drink at the hotel.

Hotel: Hyatt Regency San Francisco

### Day 2 - San Francisco sightseeing

This morning explore some of San Francisco's most famous landmarks. See Union Square, stately Victorian mansions, Lombard Street, Golden Gate Park, the Financial District, Chinatown and Fisherman's Wharf. This afternoon is free for you to pursue your own interests. This evening, join your Tour Director for a walking tour through Chinatown, the largest of its kind outside of Asia. Learn about the many streets and alleys, various Chinese-style buildings, tea and herbal shops; stop at the Golden Gate Cookie Factory to see how fortune cookies are made and sample freshly made cookies. Your visit to Chinatown

concludes with a delicious Chinese Banquet at a local restaurant. (Full breakfast / Highlight dinner)

#### Day 3 - San Francisco – Sonoma – Napa

Today your Tour Director reveals a Hidden Treasure. Heading north, travel across the Golden Gate Bridge into California's premier Wine Country. In Sonoma Valley, stop at a family-owned vineyard for an exclusive winery experience. Meet with the owners who take you on a private tour of their gravity flow winery. Sample estate-produced wines and olive oil served with local artisan cheeses and cured meats and savor a delicious luncheon served alfresco. Heading along the picturesque Carneros Highway, arrive in Napa and check in at your hotel. Later, board the superbly restored Napa Valley Wine Train and enjoy wine tasting followed by a gourmet dinner while taking in the wonderful vistas of the Napa Valley. (Full breakfast / Highlight dinner) Hotel: River Terrace Inn

#### Day 4 - Napa – Sacramento – Lake Tahoe

This morning an unforgettable optional hot air balloon excursion over the vineyards and wineries of the Napa Valley is available. Heading east, step back into the past in Old Sacramento, a typical town from the Gold Rush days. Continuing east, journey to amazing Lake Tahoe. Lake Tahoe is the highest lake of its size in the United States and the largest alpine lake in North America. The lake's water is 99.9% pure and so clear that a 10 inch white dinner plate would be visible at 75 feet below the surface. Perhaps take a gondola ride (seasonal) high up the mountain for dazzling views over Lake Tahoe's crystal clear waters and gorgeous scenery. This evening, why not join an optional dinner cruise on the lake? (Full breakfast) Hotel: MontBleu Resort & Casino

#### Day 5 - Lake Tahoe – Mono Lake – Yosemite

Travel south along the eastern side of the Sierra Nevada and stop at the Mono Lake Visitor Center. Learn about this hauntingly beautiful lake, its unusual formations called tufa towers and the lake's millions of migratory and nesting birds. Next, cross the Tioga Pass (weather permitting) and enter Yosemite National Park. Descending through Tuolumne Meadows, enter the legendary glacier-hewn Yosemite Valley. Explore the unequalled splendor of this valley where breathtaking rock formations and waterfalls abound. Marvel at Bridalveil Fall, the majestic Yosemite Falls, and the granite monuments of Half Dome and El Capitan. (Full breakfast) Hotel: Yosemite View Lodge

#### Day 6 - Yosemite – San Juan Bautista – Monterey (2 nights)

Heading back to the Pacific coast, travel through more of Gold Rush country and across the San Joaquin Valley, known as California's breadbasket. Stop at a historical fruit stand for a chance to buy fresh fruit and visit the historic Old Mission San Juan Bautista. Learn about the original 21 missions that were built by the Spanish along California's El Camino Real. On arrival in the beautiful city of Monterey, visit John Steinbeck's famous Cannery Row and quaint Fisherman's Wharf. (Full breakfast) Hotel: The Portola Hotel & Spa

#### Day 7 - Monterey – Carmel – Big Sur excursion

Enjoy the remarkable scenery as you drive along the stunning 17 Mile Drive, home to the Lone Cypress and Pebble Beach Golf Links. Stop at the quaint village of Carmel-by-the-Sea, stroll down Ocean Avenue and explore the shady streets lined with eclectic shops and cafes. Heading south along the famous Highway 1 to Big Sur, admire the stunning ocean vistas, rugged shoreline and the great redwood forests. Back in Monterey there is free time for an optional visit to the world-renowned Monterey Bay Aquarium before this evening's Farewell Dinner. (Full breakfast / Farewell dinner)

#### Day 8 - Monterey – Bear Mountain – Depart San Francisco

Traveling north past Santa Cruz and heading inland, arrive at Roaring Camp. Step back in time to an 1880's logging camp complete with depot, general store and other vintage structures. Just steps away is Henry Cowell Redwoods State Park which offers spectacular views of the famous giant coastal redwood trees. Marvel at the size of these towering, primordial trees. Your Northern California tour ends with a complimentary transfer to San Francisco International Airport and the tour hotel in San Francisco for passengers extending their stay. (Full breakfast)

Please do not schedule any flights before 3:00pm

We will be happy to arrange flights for you or you may arrange your own flights, if you wish.