



# Northern California Family Adventure

**Curated for MT Sobek Custom Clients**

Thank you for checking out our adventures and for requesting this private itinerary. Please note that this itinerary may be subject to change. Be sure to check with us before scheduling any flights.

**We love talking travel!**

Contact [info@mtsobek.com](mailto:info@mtsobek.com)  
or call 510 594 6000.



# Feel the difference

with **Mountain Travel Sobek**

## **Unrivaled Expertise**

MT Sobek started it all! Since our first Everest Base Camp trek in 1969, we've been leading award-winning adventures and building authentic connections in far-flung locations around the world. We were named Best Adventure Tour Company in 2022 by USA Today's 10 Best Readers' Choice Awards.

## **Unique Trip Design**

Our adventures are perfectly paced, with incredible attention to detail—the right mix of fun, learning, and challenge that guarantees lifelong memories. Plan nothing, enjoy everything. We take care of all of the logistics so that you can have more time to do what's most important: relax, take in the experience, and enjoy!

## **Private Adventures**

Private MT Sobek adventures are perfect for travelers who enjoy the flexibility of traveling in their own group, but who want the peace of mind that comes with having all of the logistics handled by true experts. We offer an array of perfectly tailored custom adventures and scheduled dates that your group can easily take over.





## Northern California Family Adventure

On this 11-day custom family adventure venture off to a land of golden hues, giant sequoias, rugged cliffs, and ocean views. Begin your journey in the metropolitan city of San Francisco, rich in history, art and culture. Then discover the wildly scenic, glacially sculpted Yosemite Valley, deep in the heart of the Sierra Nevada Mountains. Yosemite is considered one of the crown jewels of the National Park System. Get out on the trail, taking in the highlights: Half Dome, El Capitan, all three of North America's tallest waterfalls, the "Wild and Scenic" Merced River, and the otherworldly Sequoia groves. Continue to Monterey where you will witness marine wildlife and explore the charming seaside towns.

### 11 Days

**Start:** San Francisco, California

**End:** San Francisco, California

**Activities:** Hiking, Rock Climbing, Rafting

**Lodging:** Comfortable Hotels

**ACTIVITY LEVEL:** 2

# Your Custom Itinerary



## Arrive San Francisco

Upon arrival in San Francisco, you will be met by a private driver who will escort you to your overnight accommodations.

**ACCOMMODATION:** The Argonaut or Similar

**TRANSPORTATION:** 15-minute private transfer

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## Exploring San Francisco and Muir Woods

Meet your private MT Sobek guide this morning for a full day tour of San Francisco and Muir Woods. Known for its diverse population, liberal atmosphere, and gorgeous location, San Francisco is a hip and exciting metropolitan city. Spend the morning exploring the city with your private guide, your day will be completely customized to fit your interests. See the city's famous "Painted Ladies", explore Chinatown, Ghiradelli Square, Fisherman's Wharf and the stunning Embarcadero. This afternoon travel across the Golden Gate Bridge through the rugged coastal mountains of Marin County, to discover ancient groves of Giant Redwoods while walking the nature trails through Muir Woods. Here you will experience the majesty of the famous coastal Old Growth Redwoods. You will return to the hotel in the late afternoon.

**ACCOMMODATION:** The Argonaut or Similar

**MEALS:** Lunch

**ACTIVITY:** Private vehicle touring

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## Bike the Golden Gate Bridge and Visit Alcatraz

Today you will experience the infamous Alcatraz Island home to the abandoned prison and the oldest operating lighthouse on the West Coast. Your tour begins with a short ferry ride to "The Rock" where you will explore the prison blocks, cells and outlying buildings that once made up the most infamous prison in the United States. Learn about the islands history as well as some of the most notorious inmates. After visiting the prison, explore the island on your own before taking the ferry back to the mainland.

This afternoon, you will have a guided bike ride along San Francisco's stunning waterfront. You will ride on the mostly flat National Park Bike Path through Fort Mason, the Marina, Presidio National Park, and onto the iconic Golden Gate Bridge. You will cross the bridge on the sidewalk with stunning views of the city and bay, followed by a 10 minute downhill ride taking you right into the charming bayside town of Sausalito. We recommend spending some time exploring Sausalito before taking your bikes on the ferry and returning to San Francisco.

**ACCOMMODATION:** The Argonaut or Similar

**ACTIVITY:** Shared biking tour and public tour of Alcatraz

# Itinerary *continued*

## DAY 04

### Drive to Yosemite National Park

After checking out of your hotel this morning, secure your rental car and drive to your overnight accommodations near Yosemite National Park.

**ACCOMMODATION:** Rush Creek Lodge or Similar

**TRANSPORTATION:** 4 hour drive

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## DAY 05

### Exploring Yosemite National Park

Meet your private MT Sobek guide this morning for a full day tour of Yosemite National Park. Yosemite is best known for its waterfalls and the spectacular valley, but it is also a shrine to human foresight, the strength of granite, the power of glaciers, the persistence of life, and the tranquility of the High Sierra. Within its nearly 1,200 square miles, you can find deep valleys, beautiful meadows, towering giant sequoias and vast wilderness. Today you will explore the highlights of the park including the major waterfalls, rock formations and portions of the high country. Your guide will seamlessly incorporate short walks or a guided hike into your day allowing you to truly immerse in Yosemite's spectacular beauty. You will return to the hotel in the late afternoon.

**ACCOMMODATION:** Rush Creek Lodge or Similar

**MEALS:** Lunch

**ACTIVITY:** Private vehicle touring

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## DAY 06

### Rafting the Merced River

This morning you will drive to the nearby town of El Portal where you will meet for a full day whitewater rafting adventure on the Merced River. The Merced tumbles and twists out of Yosemite Valley, gradually mellowing into a raftable whitewater river just 4 miles below the town of El Portal. Offering abundant whitewater confined by a narrow corridor, the river offers one of the best whitewater rafting experiences in California.

NOTE: Minimum age varies throughout the season depending on water levels.

**ACCOMMODATION:** Rush Creek Lodge or Similar

**ACTIVITY:** White water rafting

**TRANSPORTATION:** 1.5 hour drive (45 minutes each way)

# Itinerary *continued*

## DAY 07

### Rock Climbing in Yosemite National Park

Rock climbing in Yosemite National Park is legendary and today you will have the opportunity to experience it with a private climbing guide. Whether this is your first time climbing or are a seasoned expert, you will learn Yosemite-specific techniques to help you get more from your climbing experience and stay safer. Throughout the day, you will be climbing and rappelling under the watchful eye of your private guide.

**ACCOMMODATION:** Rush Creek Lodge or Similar

**ACTIVITY:** Private rock climbing instruction

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## DAY 08

### Hike in the Giant Sequoias and Drive to Monterey

This morning, meet your private MT Sobek guide for an afternoon hike in one of Yosemite's Giant Sequoia groves. Giant sequoias are the largest known trees living on earth and grow only on the western slope of the Sierra Nevada at elevations between 4,500 to 7,000 feet. They are closely related to California's coast redwoods, the tallest trees on earth. There are three groves of ancient Giant Sequoias in Yosemite National Park and several in the surrounding area. Your guide will choose the grove to best fit the current conditions and ability level of your group.

You will have the afternoon free to relax or explore more of Yosemite on your own.

Following your hike, drive to your overnight accommodations in Monterey

**ACCOMMODATION:** Intercontinental The Clement Monterey or Similar

**ACTIVITY:** Private customizable hiking

**TRANSPORTATION:** 4-hour drive

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## DAY 09

### Visit the Monterey Bay Aquarium

This morning you will have a private VIP tour of the nearby Monterey Bay Aquarium. Here you will have the opportunity to see playful sea otters, hundreds of species of fish, mesmerizing jellies and other awe-inspiring creatures that call the ocean home. Your expert guide will lead you through the Aquarium to explore the most popular exhibits and some exclusive areas behind the scenes so you can learn more about the aquarium. Along the way you will also learn about the different ocean habitats and some of the critical issues affecting ocean health. Your guide will also share some favorite animal stories and show you how the aquarium cares for more than 35,000 plants and animals. The non-profit Monterey Bay Aquarium's mission is to inspire conservation of the ocean. Following your tour, you will have free time to explore the Aquarium on your own. You will have the afternoon free to relax or explore more of the area on your own.

**ACCOMMODATION:** Intercontinental The Clement Monterey or Similar

**ACTIVITY:** 1 hour private tour

# Itinerary *continued*



## **Kayaking on Elkhorn Slough**

This morning you will head to nearby Moss Landing on Monterey Bay where you will meet for your private kayaking excursion. Elkhorn Slough is well known for its diverse marine wildlife; during your two hour kayaking you will see sea otters, harbor seals, sea lions and a variety of marine birds. The calm waters of the Slough make it the perfect destination for family kayaking. You will have the afternoon free to relax or explore more of the area on your own. You may consider strolling the quaint streets of nearby Carmel by the Sea

**ACCOMMODATION:** Intercontinental The Clement Monterey or Similar

**ACTIVITY:** Private kayaking

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## **Depart San Francisco**

After checking out of your hotel this morning, you will drive to the San Francisco Airport, return your rental car and board your homebound flight.

**TRANSPORTATION:** 2.5 hour drive



## Where You'll Stay

### **The Argonaut, San Francisco**

Ideally located in Fisherman's Wharf, The Argonaut is inspired by the rich history and adventurous spirit of San Francisco. The hotel is in the historic Haslett Warehouse, a grand building with exposed brick, Douglas fir beams, rough-hewn plank floors, and loads of seaside character. The generously sized rooms are infused with history, nautical prints, and upscale amenities. The on-site Blue Mermaid Restaurant features delicious, Earth-friendly prepared cuisine with a great ambiance.

### **Rush Creek Lodge, Yosemite**

Rush Creek Lodge is a superbly designed property located at the West Entrance of Yosemite National Park. The décor is inspired by the breathtaking expanse of nature surrounding its 20-acre wooded hillside setting. All rooms have been thoughtfully designed and tastefully appointed with modern amenities like comfy beds, feather pillows, gourmet coffee brewers, games, and books. Relax after the day's adventures in the outdoor pool and hot tubs or cozy up around the fire pit for stargazing and s'mores.

### **Intercontinental The Clement, Monterey**

The InterContinental Clement Monterey overlooks the sapphire waters of Monterey Bay on Cannery Row. The beautiful waterfront hotel features the perfect mix of urban energy, modern luxury and coastal charm. The well-appointed rooms and suites offer state-of-the-art technology, marble bathrooms with soaking tubs and separate showers and in-room Nespresso coffeemakers. The hotel also features a business center, spa and the on-site C Restaurant and Bar which has panoramic bay views, serves fresh seafood, premium meats and local produce.



# Pricing

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- **Rates depend on many factors, like time of travel and number of travelers. Please contact our Custom Trip Consultants for more information.** A 25% non-refundable deposit is due upon acceptance of services. Final payment is due 95 days prior to departure.
- Pricing is subject to change until receipt of deposit. To view our full Terms and Conditions, please visit [www.mtsobek.com/terms](http://www.mtsobek.com/terms).

## PRICE INCLUDES

- Expertise and services of our experienced adventure guides
- All accommodations as noted in the itinerary
- Meals as noted in the daily itinerary with taxes and gratuities
- Snacks and water between meals
- Additional regional guides and experts on many trips
- Comprehensive Trip Planner with detailed pre-trip information
- Private guided tours at historic sites, museums, wineries and other select attractions as noted in the itinerary
- Special events and other select attractions as mentioned in the itinerary
- All gratuities at hotels and restaurants
- Equipment and experienced guides for activities as described in the itinerary
- Park and other entry fees (unless otherwise noted)
- Fares for trains, ferries and other modes of travel as listed in the itinerary
- Select transfers as mentioned in the itinerary
- Baggage transfers and portage

## PRICE DOES NOT INCLUDE

- Additional meals not noted in the daily itinerary
- Alcoholic beverages (MT Sobek provides wine at select events)
- Entry fees to National Parks, museums and other attractions when not accompanied by a guide, unless listed on inclusions
- Airfare, airport taxes or baggage fees for all flights
- Optional activities and spa services
- Personal expenses such as medical immunizations, laundry or souvenirs
- Gratuities for MT Sobek guides and guide-drivers
- Travel protection program
- Rental car

# Payments

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## **PAYMENT SCHEDULE**

- A 25% deposit is due upon acceptance of services.
- Final payment is due 95 days prior to departure.

## **CANCELLATIONS & REFUNDS**

At the time we receive written notice that you must cancel your trip, the following fees will apply (all dates are from departure date):

- From time of reservation until 95 days prior to trip departure: 25% of land cost
- 94 to 61 days prior to trip departure: 50% of land cost
- 60 days or less prior to trip departure: 100% of land cost
- No refunds will be given for unused hotel rooms, meals, activities, or trek arrangements for any reason whatsoever. Land Cost is quoted as a package and credits are not given for services not used. Extra hotel nights cancelled within 60 days of departure are subject to up to 100% of the hotel cost. Internal Air, once purchased, is non-refundable.
- Cancellation and refund policy applies to the entire Land Cost of trip, including trip cost, internal airfare, park fees, permits, and taxes. We recommend you purchase the Optional Travel Protection Plan to protect your investment.

To view our full Terms and Conditions, please visit [www.mtsobek.com/terms](http://www.mtsobek.com/terms)