



# California High Sierra Odyssey Trek

8 Days



*The Adventure Company* | EST. 1969

**MT•SOBEK™**  
MOUNTAIN TRAVEL SOBEK

**CELEBRATING 50 YEARS**  
AS THE PIONEER OF ADVENTURE TRAVEL

# ➤ California High Sierra Odyssey Trek

Lace up your boots for an epic high-altitude adventure, traversing 50 miles in the stunning John Muir Wilderness — just south of Yosemite National Park. Follow rugged trails, with pristine lakes and epic mountain scenery at every turn, and navigate two high passes: Silver Pass (10,745') and Goodale Pass (11,001'). Marvel at views of the Silver Divide, a granite and slate spur rising majestically from the tree line, and enjoy a thermal backcountry soak at Iva Bell Hot Springs. At night, experience camp comforts at tranquil spots surrounded by spectacular vistas. This loop-style itinerary includes remote alpine terrain that thru-hikers wish they had more time to explore!

## Details

Arrive: Fresno, California

Depart: Fresno, California

Duration: 8 Days

Group Size: 5–11 Guests

Minimum Age: 16 Years Old

Activity Level:



## Testimonials

*"A prominent reason we have chosen MT Sobek as our favorite adventure travel company has been the excellent travel guides."*

Carol & Burt D.

*"I have traveled extensively around the world. The experience with MT Sobek was by far the best I have ever had. Thank you for such excellence."*

Marianne W.

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## Why Take This Trip With Us?

### REASON #01

We have 30 years of experience guiding adventures on the John Muir Trail and in the High Sierras.

### REASON #02

This adventure is fully supported by guides and pack mules, so you'll have the luxury of exploring without carrying a heavy pack.

### REASON #03

Experienced professional guides will take you on spectacular and remote trails in the heart of the John Muir Wilderness.

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## What to Expect



### ACTIVITIES

Rewarding hikes through California's High Sierra, relaxing in hot springs and swimming in lakes, camping under the stars.



### LODGING

A full-service hotel in Fresno to kick off the adventure and camps in pristine wilderness settings along the way.



### CLIMATE

Temperatures range from 65-75°F in the day with evenings dropping to 35-45°F. Showers and thunderstorms are a possibility.

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## Meet Our Guides

Our expert guides and trip leaders are truly the key to our trips' success. Many are locals who live in-country year-round; others have made it their second home—all are passionate, enthusiastic and endlessly knowledgeable. Meet two of the guides that might be on your trip.

Fred enjoyed his first backpacking trip in college, walking 20+ miles in inappropriate footwear and spent a few cold nights in front of the fire without a sleeping bag, and caught the bug from there. Soon, he was spending most of his free time and some not-so-free time plotting and executing adventures to the endless wild places of California. Fred is now an EMT with a certification in wilderness medicine. He's hiked and climbed thousands of miles around the Sierra including a solo 200+ mile hike of the Sierra High Route. Fred's familiarity of the High Sierra and deep passion for the backcountry consistently endears him to MT Sobek hikers.

**Fred Ackerman**

Sierra was born and raised on the entrance road to Joshua Tree National Park and spent her early years hiking, rock climbing, and horseback riding in the park and the nearby high Sierra. She went on to graduate from UC Santa Cruz with a degree in Ecology and Plant Biology. During this period, she worked UC Santa Cruz's Adventure Outings Department where she led climbing, backpacking, and river trips. She now spends her summers in the High Sierra leading trips and exploring the beautiful landscape. In her free time you can find her rock climbing, botanizing, or birdwatching in the mountains.

**Sierra Zacks**

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# Itinerary

## DAY 1

### ARRIVE IN FRESNO, CALIFORNIA

Arrive in Fresno, California, where you'll meet your guide and group. Learn more about the days ahead at a trip orientation and enjoy a welcome dinner at the hotel.

**Meals:** D

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## DAY 2

### JOURNEY TO SIERRA NATIONAL FOREST & HIKE TO MONO CREEK

Rise for a private shuttle transfer to Thomas A Edison Lake (7,843') in the beautiful John Muir Wilderness, also part of the Sierra National Forest. Marvel at epic mountain and lake scenery before setting off on a rugged trail up to Mono Creek (7,500') and our camp at Pocket Meadow. Enjoy your first night here, under the stars.

**Activity:** 6 hours/6 miles hiking with 1,527' elevation gain and 246' loss

**Meals:** B, L, D

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## DAY 3

### CROSS SILVER PASS TO THE SILVER DIVIDE

Experience the first of two high passes as you follow a spectacular trail over Silver Pass (10,745'). Marvel at the expansive crest of the Silver Divide, a stunning granite and slate spur that rises above the tree line. Continue hiking north to your alpine camp.

**Activity:** 7-8 hours/7 miles hiking with 2,400' elevation gain and 1,941' loss

**Meals:** B, L, D

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## DAY 4

### HIKE IN CASCADE VALLEY

Descend on rugged trails through the beautiful and glaciated Cascade Valley. Its steep, wooded sides make it particularly picturesque. Tonight, we'll camp in Cascade Valley at the confluence of Duck and Fish Creek.

**Activity:** 6-8 hours/7.5 miles hiking with 248' elevation gain and 1,478' loss

**Meals:** B, L, D

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## DAY 5

### UNWIND AT IVA BELL HOT SPRINGS

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Soak up the views as you soak yourself in the thermal waters of Iva Bell Hot Springs. With your expert guide leading the way, you'll enjoy the best of this remote backcountry delight. Enjoy camp along picturesque Fish Creek.

**Activity:** 2-4 hours/ 4 miles hiking with 730' elevation gain and 1416' loss

**Meals:** B, L, D

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## DAY 6

### HIKE TO WILBUR MAY LAKE

Climb to higher elevations today and spend the evening at Wilbur May Lake (9,783'), tucked in a cirque just below the Silver Divide.

**Activity:** 7-8 hours/8.7 miles hiking with 3176' elevation gain and 781' loss

**Meals:** B, L, D

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## DAY 7

### TRAVERSE GOODALE PASS & HIKE TO GRAVEYARD LAKES

Reach the highest point on your adventure as you traverse Goodale Pass at 11,000 feet. Cross back over the Silver Divide and hike down Cold Creek before reaching the basin of Graveyard Lakes. Explore the upper lake basin this afternoon and enjoy opportunities for swimming and/or fishing.

**Activity:** 6-7 hours/7 miles hiking with 2228' elevation gain and 2053' loss

**Meals:** B, L, D

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## DAY 8

### HIKE COLD CREEK & RETURN TO FRESNO

Make a final descent along Cold Creek and through Graveyard Meadows, where you'll get a first-hand lesson on fire ecology as you observe the aftermath of the 2020 Creek Fire. Enjoy a hearty trailhead lunch before transferring back to Fresno. Arrive back to Fresno for a late connecting flight (no earlier than 8pm) or an early connection the following morning.

**Activity:** 6-7 hours/7.7 miles hiking with 300' elevation gain and 2581' loss

**Meals:** B, L

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## Dates

Jul 24 - 31, 2022

For full terms and conditions please visit [www.mtsobek.com/terms](http://www.mtsobek.com/terms). Please note that our itineraries may be subject to change.

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## Pricing

2022

from \$5,395 per person dbl. occ.

### Additional Cost

from \$300 Single Supplement

#### PRICE INCLUDES

- Expertise and services of our experienced adventure guides
- All accommodations as noted in the itinerary
- All breakfasts, almost all lunches and dinners as noted in the itinerary
- 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

#### PRICE DOES NOT INCLUDE

- International airfare, airport taxes, and excess baggage fees
- Alcoholic beverages (MT Sobek provides wine at select events)
- Gratuities for MT Sobek guides and guide-drivers
- Travel Protection Program
- Personal expenses

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## ➤ The World of MT Sobek

At Mountain Travel Sobek, we believe life is an adventure and adventure is life.

As the originators, innovators and leaders in adventure travel for more than five decades, we passionately create, craft and share indelible, transformative journeys to the world's most memorable places. Our more than 200 unique and once-in-a-lifetime trips are designed to inspire and exhilarate, enliven and excite--opening eyes and minds through profoundly personal connections with nature and culture.

Our small group and custom adventures span the globe, and the spectrum—of interests, environments and activities—every one expertly planned and knowledgeably and passionately guided. And our commitment to making every experience a remarkable one has earned us preferred travel outfitter status for National Geographic Active Expeditions, Active New York Times Journeys, and Smithsonian Active Journeys.

We are *the* adventure company.

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### Awards



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**SEVEN CONTINENTS.**

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