



California Yosemite Grand Traverse Trekking

8 Days



The Adventure Company | EST. 1969

MT+SOBEKTM
MOUNTAIN TRAVEL SOBEK

CELEBRATING 50 YEARS
AS THE PIONEER OF ADVENTURE TRAVEL

➤ California Yosemite Grand Traverse Trekking

Explore the legendary high points of the Sierra Nevada carrying nothing but a daypack. With pack mules hauling your gear, enjoy the awesome scenery on this trans-Sierra trek through Yosemite National Park and the Ansel Adams Wilderness. Start off in southern Yosemite, far from the crowded Valley floor, then hike the high country to emerge near the majestic Cathedral Lakes in Tuolumne Meadows. Along the way walk sections of the John Muir Trail and cap the trip with a summit hike to Cloud's Rest.

Details

Arrive: Fresno, California

Depart: Fresno, California

Duration: 8 Days

Group Size: 6 - 11 Guests

Minimum Age: 16 Years Old

Activity Level:



Testimonials

"This trip exceeded every expectation! I learned a tremendous amount about Yosemite and High Sierra flora, fauna and ecology. I was challenged to stretch and grow physically, mentally and emotionally. Our guides were amazing with their boundless energy and enthusiasm for their job!"

Margaret F.

"Traveling with MT Sobek is like gaining a new set of close friends that have shared an incredible experience together."

Mark N.

GOT QUESTIONS? SPEAK WITH AN EXPERT.

☎ 1-800-974-0300

✉ info@mtsobek.com

Why Take This Trip With Us?

REASON #01

On this trans-Sierra hiking adventure, MT Sobek offers travelers memorable exclusivity: the trip is fully mule-supported.

REASON #02

You get full immersion in the Sierra's wilderness by lodging at our well-equipped camps for six nights straight.

REASON #03

This itinerary was designed to showcase the most renowned sights and experiences within Yosemite National Park

What to Expect



ACTIVITIES

Strenuous trekking through Yosemite's gorgeous landscapes at high altitudes, sprinkled with scenic drives and relaxation.



LODGING

Full-service airport hotel gather and kick off the adventure, followed by MT Sobek camps at altitudes up to 10,000' with spellbinding views and stargazing. Optional post-tour hotel near Fresno



CLIMATE

Camping between 8000-10,000' there can be snow year round on the ground. Average temperatures are 70°F-80°F in the daytime & 40°F- 50°F at night.

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.

Alex grew up in Concord, New Hampshire exploring the mountains of New England. It was here that his spirit and passion for adventure began. Alex's love for shared wilderness experiences has culminated in a degree in Outdoor Education and certifications from the American Mountain Guiding Association (AMGA). Moving to California was the culmination of a dream come true, where he is able to combine his passion for climbing with a career in guiding. He has a tremendous amount of experience in the backcountry and great leadership qualities.

Alex Kendall

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. She went on to graduate from UC Santa Cruz with a degree in Ecology and Plant Biology. During this period, she worked at 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

Arrive in Fresno, California, and check in on your own at our hotel near the Fresno air terminal. Meet the guides at 6:00pm for a summary of the trip. Get a good night's sleep in preparation for upcoming days of hiking.

Meals: D

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DAY 2

EXPLORE KNOBLOCK MEADOWS

After breakfast take a scenic van ride to the trailhead, at about 7,100 feet in elevation. Get acquainted with the pack animals and their guides. Loading these horses is really an art form; put what you need for the day into a small backpack, and the packers will strap the rest of the gear onto the animals using the unique diamond-hitch system. After 6 miles of hiking, reach Knoblock Meadows (8,200') where the guides prepare dinner in the mountain twilight. Today ends with stargazing beneath the high mountain peaks.

Activity: 4-5 hours/6 miles hiking, +1,800' / -300'

Meals: L, D

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DAY 3

CLIMB ISBERG PASS & CAMP AT LAKE 10K

Spend today in the heart of the Ansel Adams Wilderness, established in 1964 as part of the original Wilderness Act, and renamed in 1984 for the famed nature photographer. Today's hike is hard but rewarding, climbing the switchbacks over Isberg Pass (10,500') and crossing into Yosemite National Park itself. Camp at Lake 10K, so named because of its elevation (10,005'). Take a dip in the frigid waters of the lake, or else just sit back and enjoy the views of Isberg (10,996'), Long Mountain (11,502'), and Forester Peak (12,057').

Activity: 5-6 hours/8 miles hiking, +2,300' / -800'

Meals: B, L, D

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DAY 4

DESCEND TO THE TRIPLE FORK OF MERCED RIVER CAMP

After yesterday's climb, today's downhill trek comes as a welcome relief. Hike through the creek drainages that eventually form the mighty scenic Merced River, which, along with the Tuolumne River, drains Yosemite National Park. Along the way take in majestic views of the north-south running Clark Range, named after Galen Clark who discovered the Mariposa Grove of Giant Sequoias and was known as the "Guardian of Yosemite" for 21 years in the mid-1800s. Camp at 7,400 feet on the shores of the Triple Fork of the Merced River.

Activity: 4-5 hours/6.8 miles hiking, +150' / -2,500'

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Meals: B, L, D

DAY 5

REACH SUNRISE CREEK

Today make a westerly turn and begin trekking in the direction of Cloud's Rest, a peak with visual prominence in the Yosemite Valley. 10.5 miles of gradual ups and downs leads to the Sunrise Creek area (7,200'). Enjoy dinner here and turn in early to get ready for the big climb tomorrow.

Activity: 6 hours/10.5 miles hiking, +1,565' / -1,385'

Meals: B, L, D

DAY 6

CLOUD'S REST

Before the sun rises, be up and hiking towards Cloud's Rest (9,926'), a narrow, almost razor-like, ridge of rock formed by eroding glaciers. The route is difficult but well-maintained, and completely doable for hardy hikers. The peak is a 3.5-mile round trip spur from the main trail. Take in unparalleled 360-degree panoramic views from the top. Travel back to basecamp for a relaxing afternoon.

Activity: 5-6 hours/8-8.5 miles hiking, +2,746' / -1,591' including the summit side trip

Meals: B, L, D

DAY 7

HIKE A PORTION OF THE JOHN MUIR TRAIL

Today we connect with the famous John Muir Trail in the Tuolumne Meadows region of the park. We will pass glaciated granite peaks and alpine meadows en route to iconic Cathedral Lakes (9,600). We will have time to explore the area on our own, go for a brisk swim, or relax and enjoy the lakeside vistas this afternoon.

Activity: 4-5 hours/6 miles hiking, +1322' / -896'

Meals: B, L, D

DAY 8

FAREWELL YOSEMITE

After a final celebratory camp breakfast, we embark on our last 4-mile hike to the trailhead in Tuolumne Meadows. Here we rendezvous with our driver for our 4-hour drive back to Fresno, where we bid farewell upon arrival, and where you may pick up your car (which can be parked here at no charge), connect to your evening flight, or opt to overnight. Drop-offs to the airport or a nearby hotel can be arranged upon request.

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Meals: B, L

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Dates

Jul 24 - 31, 2022

For full terms and conditions please visit www.mtsobek.com/terms. Please note that our itineraries may be subject to change.

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Inclusions & Exclusions

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
- 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 portorage

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.

Awards



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