



California Deserts Joshua Tree & Death Valley Hiking Lodge Based

6 Days



The Adventure Company | EST. 1969


MT+SOBEKTM
MOUNTAIN TRAVEL SOBEK

CELEBRATING 50 YEARS
AS THE PIONEER OF ADVENTURE TRAVEL

➤ California Deserts Joshua Tree & Death Valley Hiking Lodge Based

Embark on an unforgettable journey where time slows, and the desert whispers tales of ancient landscapes and boundless adventure. Designed with the discerning traveler in mind, our expedition invites you to experience a captivating foray through the rugged beauty of Southern California's iconic desert landscapes. From the merging of two deserts in Joshua Tree National Park, to the Booming sands of the Mojave National Preserve, to the unique perspective of desert life below sea level in Death Valley, this immersive experience is crafted to ignite the spirit of exploration and rejuvenate the soul. At the heart of our expedition lies a commitment to providing a sanctuary of comfort and serenity amidst the rugged terrain. From charming accommodations steeped in history to restaurants epitomizing the soul of classic American cuisine.

Details

Arrive:	Palm Springs, California
Depart:	Las Vegas, Nevada
Duration:	6 Days
Group Size:	4-12 Guests
Minimum Age:	18 Years Old
Activity Level:	

Testimonials

MTS delivers remote adventure with the smoothest logistics and unrivaled depth of local experience. One call and you are expedition ready. Booking our eighth trip now!!

Helen S.

Mt. Sobek had us covered all the way from A to Z. We came in fully prepared thanks to all of the detailed and helpful guidance. The accommodations were amazing, the dining was phenomenal and our guides were such knowledgeable, impressive professionals. We felt safe everywhere we went and were able to forget about all the stresses at home on our amazing journey.

Susan H.

GOT QUESTIONS? SPEAK WITH AN EXPERT.

 1-800-974-0300

 info@mtsobek.com

Why Take This Trip With Us?

REASON #01

MT Sobek has been exploring US National Parks for more than 50 years, placing a strong emphasis on responsible travel practices that support local communities and

REASON #02

We deliver this stunning Mojave Desert experience in just six days - the perfect hiking trip for the short-on-time traveler. Explore Joshua Tree and Death Valley then unwind

REASON #03

Accompanied by our expert local guides, explore the most beautiful hidden corners of the region, and learn about its incredible geology and diverse

What to Expect



ACTIVITIES

Moderate hikes in stunning desert landscapes, cultural exploration, and nightly stargazing.



LODGING

Modern and comfortable properties in five-star settings.



CLIMATE

Death Valley is known for the hottest temperature on record, but spring and fall temperatures average highs of 75-85°F and lows of 55-65°F.

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.

A well-rounded guide and certified Wilderness First Responder, Asli ("Oz") spends her free time hiking, biking, running, and skiing the mountains of the west with her 3 beloved dogs (Max, Woody and Chia). When not on an adventure, you can find her managing Down to Earth, a residential composting company based in Reno, Nevada. Her love of animals, the outdoors, and sustainability are all passions she brings to the trail.

Asli Kupoglu

Matt is an adventure enthusiast who enjoys engaging in nature and the great unknown as an experienced rock climber, mountain guide, and professional outdoor photographer. Based in Las Vegas, he enjoys having Red Rock Canyon in his backyard, where you can also find him cycling, trail running, and bird watching. Matt is a certified Wilderness First Responder.

Matt Kuehl

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Itinerary

DAY 1

WELCOME TO THE MERGING OF DESERTS

Welcome to the gateway of adventure as we meet amidst the lush surroundings of the oasis of Palm Springs. Our first steps into the wilderness lead us along the Lost Palm Hike, where towering palms and rugged landscapes hold secrets of hidden waters and bygone eras. We continue our exploration at the Cholla Garden Trail which beckons with its prickly surreal beauty, showcasing the resilience and diversity of life in the desert. As the sun dips below the horizon, we arrive at the charming Pioneertown Motel, where rustic charm meets modern comfort, and our guide will set the stage for the rest of our adventures that lie ahead. Lunch and dinner included.

Activity: 7.4 miles hiking with 1,056' elevation gain and loss

Meals: L, D

DAY 2

EXPLORING JOSHUA TREE NPS, MAZES, DAMS & EPIC VIEWS

The tantalizing aromas of a local favorite restaurant help us awaken and prepare us for the day's adventures. Our journey continues with the Maze Loop hike, where winding trails lead us through a labyrinth of geological & natural wonders, each turn revealing new marvels carved by time, and we get our first up close view of the enigmatic Joshua Tree reaching towards the heavens. Barker Dam offers a glimpse into the ingenuity of early settlers, its tranquil waters in stark contrast to the harshness of carving out a life in the desert, but providing an essential life sustaining oasis. At Key's View, we stand in awe as panoramic mountain & valley vistas stretch before us, offering a breathtaking perspective of this diverse region. As the day draws to a close, we return to the comfort of Pioneertown Motel, where the warmth of enveloping hospitality awaits amidst the rugged landscape. All meals included.

Activity: 6 miles hiking with 509' elevation gain and loss; 1-2.7 miles hiking with 118' elevation gain and 217' loss

Meals: B, L, D

DAY 3

JOURNEY TO DEATH VALLEY VIA THE BOOMING KELSO DUNES

Today, we embark into the heart of the Mojave Desert as we journey towards the untamed beauty of Mojave National Preserve. Our first adventure awaits at Kelso Dunes, where the shifting sands create an ever-changing landscape that captivates the imagination, and if we are fortunate, we will hear and feel the deep eerie rumbling sounds the dunes are famous for. In Baker, we enjoy a break and a quirky piece of Americana, the towering edifice of the world's tallest thermometer. Continuing our odyssey, we arrive at the stark majesty of Death Valley, and Zabriskie Point where the fiery hues of sunset illuminate its otherworldly landscapes. Our haven for the night awaits at the Ranch at Furnace Creek, nestled amidst the stark beauty of the desert, offering respite under a canopy of twinkling stars. All meals included.

Activity: 3 miles hiking with 463' elevation gain and loss

Meals: B, L, D

DAY 4

HIKING BELOW SEA LEVEL IN GOLD CANYON & BADLANDS

Awaken to the gentle embrace of the desert dawn as we prepare to delve deeper into the wonders of Death Valley. Our day begins with a return to Zabriskie Point where we will begin our exploration of this alluring multihued landscape by climbing down below sea level into Gold Canyon & the Badlands. Next, we journey to the mesmerizing Mesquite Sand Dunes where the wind-sculpted sands create an ever-shifting landscape of timeless beauty. No booming here, but if you listen closely, you may just hear them sing! All meals included.

Activity: 5.8 miles hiking with 1,037' elevation gain and loss

Meals: B, L, D

DAY 5

HIKING IN THE SKY TO VISTAS OF BADWATER

Today, we rise with the sun as we set out for the remote reaches of Death Valley. Our adventure begins with a stop at Stovepipe Wells for a hearty breakfast, lifting our spirits for the challenge ahead. Wildrose Peak commands the skyline on the western slope of Badwater Basin and the hike up it's ever rising slopes rewards us with breathtaking views of the rugged landscape of Death Valley below. After hiking, we explore the historic Charcoal Kilns, gaining insight into the region's rich mining heritage and the resilience of those who once toiled in these remote mountains. As the day draws to a close, we return to our sanctuary for a celebratory dinner, savoring the flavors of the desert and reminiscing about all we have accomplished, learned, and experienced. All meals included.

Activity: 6.1 miles hiking with 1,621' elevation gain and loss

Meals: B, L, D

DAY 6

INSPIRATIONAL ARTISTS PALETTE & DANTE'S VIEW

As the first light of dawn teases the horizon, we bid farewell to our comfy beds to savor the quiet beauty of a desert at sunrise, an experience that should be on every adventurer's bucket list. After breakfast amid the wakening desert on the playa, our journey continues along Artist's Drive to witness the vibrant hues of Artist's Palette, where nature creates a mesmerizing tableau of color amidst the stark wind sculpted hills. We take time for a short hike here to explore the land made famous by Star Wars! A quick stop back at our hotel to pack and quickly freshen up and we are off to Dante's view as we prepare to enjoy our last meal here, and culminating our visit to the Valley of Death. A short after lunch hike will bring us to our spectacular farewell vistas. Our journey concludes in the vibrant energy of Las Vegas, where we bid farewell to the wilds of the California deserts and

embrace the contrast of the city, our hearts enriched by the experiences of the past days. Breakfast and lunch included.

Activity: 1.5 miles hiking with min. elevation gain or loss; 1 mile hiking with 247' elevation gain and loss; 1.7 miles hiking with 524' elevation gain and loss

Meals: B, L

Dates

Oct 27 - Nov 1, 2025

Dec 29, 2025 - Jan 3, 2026

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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