Virginia Shenandoah National Park Hiking - Lodge Based

4 Days



CELEBRATING 50 YEARS AS THE PIONEER OF ADVENTURE TRAVEL

Virginia Shenandoah National Park Hiking -Lodge Based

This journey into the heart of the Blue Ridge Mountains reveals Shenandoah National Park's natural beauty, rich cultural history, and incredible vistas. Point-to-point hikes enable us to explore more fully. We summit the park's highest peak, visit President Hoover's private retreat, and cool ourselves in the spray of waterfalls. You may even catch glimpses of black bears foraging, hear the call of wild turkeys, or see salamanders plodding along in the undergrowth. Each night we dine in unique, historic lodges with views that can't be beat. After a strenuous day on the trail, nothing is better than a delicious meal and a soft bed!

Details

Arrive:	Dulles, Virginia
Depart:	Dulles, Virginia
Duration:	4 Days
Group Size:	4-12 Guests
Minimum Age:	18 Years Old
Activity Level:	

Testimonials

I would highly recommend Mt Sobek for an amazing travel adventure. It was truly worth the money. Every detail was taken care of. It made for a stress free trip and one where you can truly enjoy the beauty and culture around you.

Kristin W.

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 were able to forget about all the stresses at home on our amazing journey.

Susan H.

Why Take This Trip With Us?

REASON #01

Our expert guides provide travelers with helpful hints, techniques and hiking tips, plus knowledge on local wildlife, geology, and history. MT Sobek's legacy of preservation and protection enables us to operate over 30 Global National Park adventures.

REASON #02

REASON #03

This adventure covers the best of the iconic Shenandoah National Park, including classic trails and hidden gems.

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ACTIVITIES

Hiking 5-8 hours each day, up to 10 miles.

What to Expect

LODGING Spend three night in historic National Park lodges



CLIMATE

Daytime temperatures in the 70s-80s with nighttime temperatures in the 50s-60s.

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.

Ansley grew up in the city of Atlanta and spent weekends and holidays in the southern Appalachian mountains. After college she worked in Wilderness Therapy in the North Carolina mountains with troubled youth. In the winters, Ansley goes out west to Utah to ski. She has hiked all around the United States, but the Smoky Mountains always call her back. Her favorite activities include, rock climbing, whitewater kayaking, rafting, scuba diving, yoga, canyoneering, skiing and, of course, backpacking. Jack Lloyd was raised in Shelby, North Carolina. He grew up playing in creeks and chasing critters in the foothills of Western North Carolina. Before coming to A Walk in the Woods, Jack was a head guide for the Nantahala Outdoor Center, leading ziplining trips and guiding rafts down the river. Over the winters, Jack is a ski instructor working with kids on the slopes. As an avid whitewater paddler, he loves spending hot summer days on the water. He also enjoys gardening and foraging.

Jack Lloyd

Ansley Still

GOT QUESTIONS? SPEAK WITH AN EXPERT.

Itinerary

DAY 1 WELCOME TO SHENANDOAH NATIONAL PARK AND HIKE THE APPALACHIAN TRAIL

Meet your guides and fellow hikers this morning for a short introduction and orientation. We load into our van and set off for Sperryville, a quaint community nestled in the foothills of Shenandoah National Park and the start of our adventure. After a quick stop to fuel up with a hot drink or delicious local pastry we continue on to the Appalachian Trail. Today's hike takes us along the Appalachian Trail which a short detour to explore Stoney Man. Hiking on the Appalachian Trail affords us sprawling views of the Shenandoah River Valley and the mountains beyond and allows us to hike directly into the Skyland Resort. The Skyland Resort was built in 1895 on the site that would later become the highest point on Skyline Drive at 3,680 feet. Sunset views from the lodge's balconies and restaurant are sure to leave a lasting impression.

Activity: 5.1 miles hiking with 1,444' elevation gain and 1,094' loss

Meals: L, D

DAY 2 DISCONNECT WHILE EXPLORING DARK HOLLOW FALLS, HISTORIC RAPIDAN CAMP, AND BIG ROCK FALLS

Kickstart your day with breakfast at the lodge, preparing to lace up your boots for another day of adventure. After a brief transfer, we hit the trail, making our way towards Dark Hollow Falls, Big Rock Falls, and historic Rapidan Camp. Rapidan Camp holds a rich history, having been constructed in 1929 by President Herbert Hoover and First Lady Lou Henry Hoover as their secluded retreat. Here, they hosted trusted friends and advisors, in a space prime for recreation. After a day on the trail we unwind with time exploring the park's historic exhibits and dinner at Big Meadows Lodge with stunning views from the dining room.

Activity: 8 miles hiking with 1,708' elevation gain and 1,878' loss

Meals: B, L, D

DAY 3 VIBRANT VIEWS OF HAWKSBILL PEAK AND THE TUMBLING FALLS OF WHITEOAK CANYON

Start the day with a delicious breakfast and watch as the fog burns away opening to spectacular views of the Shenandoah Valley. We start with a short warm-up hike to Hawksbill Summit, the highest point in Shenandoah National Park at 4,050 feet. From Hawksbill Summit we traverse across Skyline Drive to one of Shenandoah National Park's most iconic hikes to Whiteoak Canyon Falls, where we can hike along a series of waterfalls. We keep our eyes peeled for wildlife and soak in each new waterfall along the way.

Activity: 6.7 miles hiking with 628' elevation gain and 3,131' loss

Meals: B, L, D

DAY 4 SKYLINE DRIVE AND HIKING DICKEY RIDGE INTO FRONT ROYAL

Today is our final day in Shenandoah National Park, but the adventure is not over. After breakfast we depart Skyland for a scenic drive on the most iconic section of Skyline Drive. What trip to Shenandoah is complete without enjoying Skyline Drive? Our hike today starts near Lands Run Gap and has us hiking parallel with Skyline Drive on Dickey Ridge towards the entrance to Shenandoah National Park and Front Royal. Today we relish views of the Shenandoah Valley and river, lush meadows, and a long gradual descent to the park's entrance. Tonight, we have dinner in historic Front Royal, an incredibly quaint town that was a focal point during the Civil War. After dinner we return to our host hotel where we say goodbye to our guides and fellow travelers.

Activity: 8.5 miles hiking with 1,114' elevation gain and 2,518' loss

Meals: B, L, D

Dates

Sep 20 - 23, 2025

Oct 18 - 21, 2026

Oct 14 - 17, 2025

Oct 20 - 23, 2025

Oct 27 - 30, 2025

May 25 - 28, 2026

May 31 - Jun 3, 2026

Sep 14 - 17, 2026

Sep 20 - 23, 2026

Oct 12 - 15, 2026

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

GOT QUESTIONS? SPEAK WITH AN EXPERT. 1-800-974-0300

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 porterage

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.

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Awards









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