

# Arizona Grand Canyon Phantom Ranch South Rim Hiking 5 Day - 2026

## The Ultimate Hike to the Floor of the Grand Canyon

Thank you for checking out our adventures and for downloading this itinerary. Please note that this itinerary and accommodations may be subject to change depending on the specific departure date. Be sure to check with us before scheduling any flights.

**We love talking travel!**  
Contact us at [info@mtsobek.com](mailto:info@mtsobek.com)  
or call **800-974-0300**





# Feel the difference

with **Mountain Travel Sobek**

## Unrivalled 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 Travel Company by Newsweek 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!

## Small Groups

We keep our groups intentionally small — usually fewer than 10 people. This allows you a more intimate experience with the people and wildlife you encounter. With a smaller group size, we can take advantage of many unexpected invitations and opportunities that would be impossible with larger groups.







## Leading the Way

### World-Class Local Guides

Our knowledgeable and passionate expert guides effortlessly create an immersive local experience for you. They are trained to the highest professional standards and are at the heart of everything we do. They make it possible to meet the challenges of adventure travel, and help create lasting memories and lifelong friendships... we can confidently say our guides are the best in the business.







# Why take this trip with us?

## REASON 1

Conservation is a core value at MT Sobek, and allows us to operate trips in protected national parks

## REASON 2

A delightful two-night stay at historic Phantom Ranch makes you the envy of other hikers descending to the canyon floor

## REASON 3

Gain insight into the incredible geology, flora and fauna of the canyon with expert guides who are with you every step of the journey

## At A Glance

### ACTIVITIES

Challenging hiking on steep canyon trails up to 10 miles and 4,300' of elevation gain. Rest day at the bottom of the canyon with an optional easy hike.



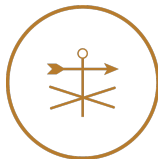
### LODGING

Stay within the park while on the South Rim of the canyon. Your lodging at Phantom Ranch is in shared, mixed gender cabins reserved exclusively for MT Sobek guests and guides.



### CLIMATE

Be prepared for anything as the weather varies. South Rim temperatures range from 27 F to 62 F. Phantom Ranch temperatures range from 42 F to 82 F.



## KNOW BEFORE YOU BOOK

### Phantom Ranch Accommodations

During your stay at Phantom Ranch, you will occupy shared, mixed-gender cabins reserved exclusively for MTS guests and guides. Single rooms are unavailable for the nights in the canyon. Each cabin varies in size, accommodating anywhere from two to ten occupants, and is equipped with bedding, a cold-water sink, a toilet, liquid soap, and hand towels. Showers, hot-water sinks, bath towels, and a combined liquid soap and shampoo are provided at a central facility available to all ranch guests.





# Arizona Grand Canyon Phantom Ranch South Rim Hiking 5 Day - 2026

## The Ultimate Hike to the Floor of the Grand Canyon

For centuries, travelers have been drawn to the Grand Canyon's hidden depths. This adventure takes you deep into its heart, descending to the spectacular Colorado River through sensational scenery and intriguing rock formations. Your journey begins with incredible canyon views and a night near the South Rim. Then, carrying only your backpack, follow the stunning South Kaibab Trail, crossing over the Colorado to historic Phantom Ranch for an idyllic two-night stay with plenty of time to explore hidden trails, relax along the riverbanks, and soak in the canyon's wild beauty. Ascend scenic Bright Angel Trail back to the South Rim for a last night to reflect on completing your journey through one of the world's most awe-inspiring natural wonders.

### 5 Days

**Start:** Phoenix, Arizona

**End:** Phoenix, Arizona

**Departing:** January, February, March, December

**Activities:** Hiking & Trekking

**Lodging:** Comfortable Hotels, Rustic Lodging

**Group Size:** 3-8 Guests

#### ACTIVITY:



Check [mtsobek.com](https://mtsobek.com) for date-specific pricing.

“

*Thank you for a wonderful trip!  
The guides, the meals and the prep  
materials were great.*

- Fay S.



# The Itinerary

## DAY 01

### Arrive at the Grand Canyon After Exploring Wupatki Pueblo & Desert View Watchtower

Today you will enjoy an exciting drive to the Grand Canyon National Park after meeting up with your guides and group in Tempe or Flagstaff, AZ—both within easy reach of Phoenix. Travel through the tranquil hues of the Sonoran Desert, passing into the stark volcanic terrain of Sunset Crater National Monument, where a cinder cone towers on the horizon. As you reach Wupatki National Monument you'll break for lunch and get a look at the ancient stone Pueblo and an intriguing natural blowhole, where air gusts out of the earth. Groundbreaking architect Mary Coulter's 1932 Desert Watchtower greets you as you arrive at the park. Inside the 70-foot-tall structure you'll discover murals depicting Hopi traditions. At the South Rim you'll have time to take in phenomenal canyon views before dinner and a briefing on your exciting descent to Phantom Ranch.

**ACCOMMODATION:** Maswick Lodge

**MEALS:** Lunch | Dinner

**TRANSPORTATION:** 4.5 hours private van transfer

**ACTIVITY:** 3 miles hiking with 100' elevation gain and loss

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## DAY 02

### Hike to Phantom Ranch on Spectacular South Kaibab Trail

Today's amazing descent is 7 miles and 4,780 feet into the grandest of canyons. Your route takes you down a ridgeline, offering jaw-dropping 360-degree views of the labyrinth of amphitheaters, temples, and buttes. The trail begins with a series of switchbacks to breathtaking Ooh Aah Point, descending another 1,200 feet—traveling back 40 million years in the geologic record—to Cedar Ridge. From here, traverse the Tonto platform before dropping into the inner gorge, finally hiking along the Colorado River and over a suspension bridge, where you'll find Phantom Ranch at trail's end. Nestled on the banks of Bright Angel Creek, the bucket-list camp was designed by Mary Colter and completed in 1922. Reservations can be a challenge to come by on your own (often sold out a year in advance) but relax in the knowledge that this piece of history will be your home for the next two nights.

**ACCOMMODATION:** Phantom Ranch

**MEALS:** Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner

**ACTIVITY:** 7 miles hiking with 4,780' elevation loss

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### Enjoy a Full Day Exploring on Clear Creek & River Trail

Spend a full day at the bottom of the Grand Canyon, surrounded by towering rock walls that create a sense of serenity and seclusion. You can hike the stunning Clear Creek Trail and River Trail or simply relax and soak in the beauty of this extraordinary place. Many choose to unwind, watch river rafters navigate the rapids, chat with fellow adventurers, or lounge in the shade with a book and a cold beer. This lush riparian habitat, framed by sheer red rock cliffs, offers incredible opportunities for photography and birdwatching. Whether you seek adventure or relaxation, the day is yours to enjoy at your own pace. Your guides will be available throughout, ready to share their knowledge and reveal the hidden wonders of one of the world's most breathtaking landscapes.

**ACCOMMODATION:** Phantom Ranch

**MEALS:** Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner

**ACTIVITY:** 3-5 miles hiking with 1,000' elevation gain and loss

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### Ascend Bright Angel Trail through Havasupai Gardens to the Rim

As the sun rises, prepare for the ultimate challenge—hiking out of the Grand Canyon via iconic Bright Angel Trail. After crossing the Colorado River, the trail winds upward through the inner gorge to the lush oasis of Havasupai Gardens. Here, you'll rest, refuel, and replenish your water before tackling the steep ascent up Jacob's Ladder through the Redwall layer. This climb is demanding, but your guides will offer expert advice, strategies, and encouragement to help you succeed. With steady pacing, proper hydration, and determination, you'll soon find yourself cheering your group on as you each reach the rim. Relax and regroup at your lodge, close to the canyon's edge before gathering for a celebratory dinner, reflecting on your shared adventure, then retiring to your room for a well-earned rest.

**ACCOMMODATION:** Thunderbird Lodge or Kachina Lodge

**MEALS:** Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner

**ACTIVITY:** 10 miles hiking with 4,300' elevation gain

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### Enjoy More Canyon Views Before Departing

For those craving more canyon views, the Rim Trail offers a stunning walk along the South Rim, with panoramic overlooks perfect for reflection. Alternatively, stop by historic Mary Colter-designed Hopi House or visit interpretive centers to dive deeper into the canyon's rich geology and history. Savor a relaxed morning, soaking in the sights one last time before departing for your drop-off location in Flagstaff or Tempe, arriving in the late afternoon. As your adventure comes to a close, you leave full of memories of the awe-inspiring beauty of the Grand Canyon.

**MEALS:** Lunch

**TRANSPORTATION:** #4 hours private van transfer

**ACTIVITY:** 3 miles hiking with minimal elevation gain and loss (optional)





# Where You'll Stay

**These accommodations may be subject to change depending on your date of travel.**

## **Thunderbird Lodge**

Built near the Bright Angel Trail head and the Vercamps Visitor Center, the Thunderbird is a popular South Rim lodge. Contemporary 1960s architecture coupled with a wonderful vantage point ensure an unforgettable stay on the very edge (literally) of a natural wonder of the world. Comfortable rooms have all the expected amenities but the biggest draw is the location.

## **Kachina Lodge**

Perched on the Grand Canyon's South Rim, the Kachina Lodge boasts a contemporary setup near the historic district, and rooms complete with amenities like full baths and flat-screen TVs. The lodge is a convenient and comfortable hub for guests eager to immerse themselves in the beauty of the Grand Canyon.

## **Maswick Lodge**

Maswick Lodge is a welcoming, rustic-style lodge nestled in the scenic forest just a short walk from the South Rim of the Grand Canyon in Arizona. Located within Grand Canyon National Park, it offers a tranquil retreat surrounded by towering ponderosa pines and the natural beauty of the canyon's rugged landscape.



# Where You'll Stay

**These accommodations may be subject to change depending on your date of travel.**

## **Phantom Ranch**

Founded in 1903 as a hunting camp, Phantom Ranch is a National Park Service-owned and operated outpost in the depths of the Grand Canyon, and the only lodging below the canyon rim. Made up of a main lodge and shared dorm-style cabins, it's known for its hearty meals prepared by the rangers. The cabins are traditional and very comfortable, providing a peaceful place to rest your head.



# Departure Dates

This trip is available to run in: January, February, March, December

**Book early for a greater choice of available dates.**

Once you book, your price is GUARANTEED!

December 31, 2025-January 4, 2026  
January 3-7, 2026  
January 6-10, 2026  
January 16-20, 2026  
January 18-22, 2026  
January 21-25, 2026  
January 25-29, 2026  
January 26-30, 2026  
January 29-February 2, 2026  
January 31-February 4, 2026

February 10-14, 2026  
February 28-March 4, 2026  
March 7-11, 2026  
March 10-14, 2026  
March 13-17, 2026  
March 18-22, 2026  
March 29-April 2, 2026  
March 31-April 4, 2026

# What's Included

## 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 portage

## 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 Adventure Company | Est. 1969

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