

VOYAGE

THE CRUISE
PROFESSIONALS

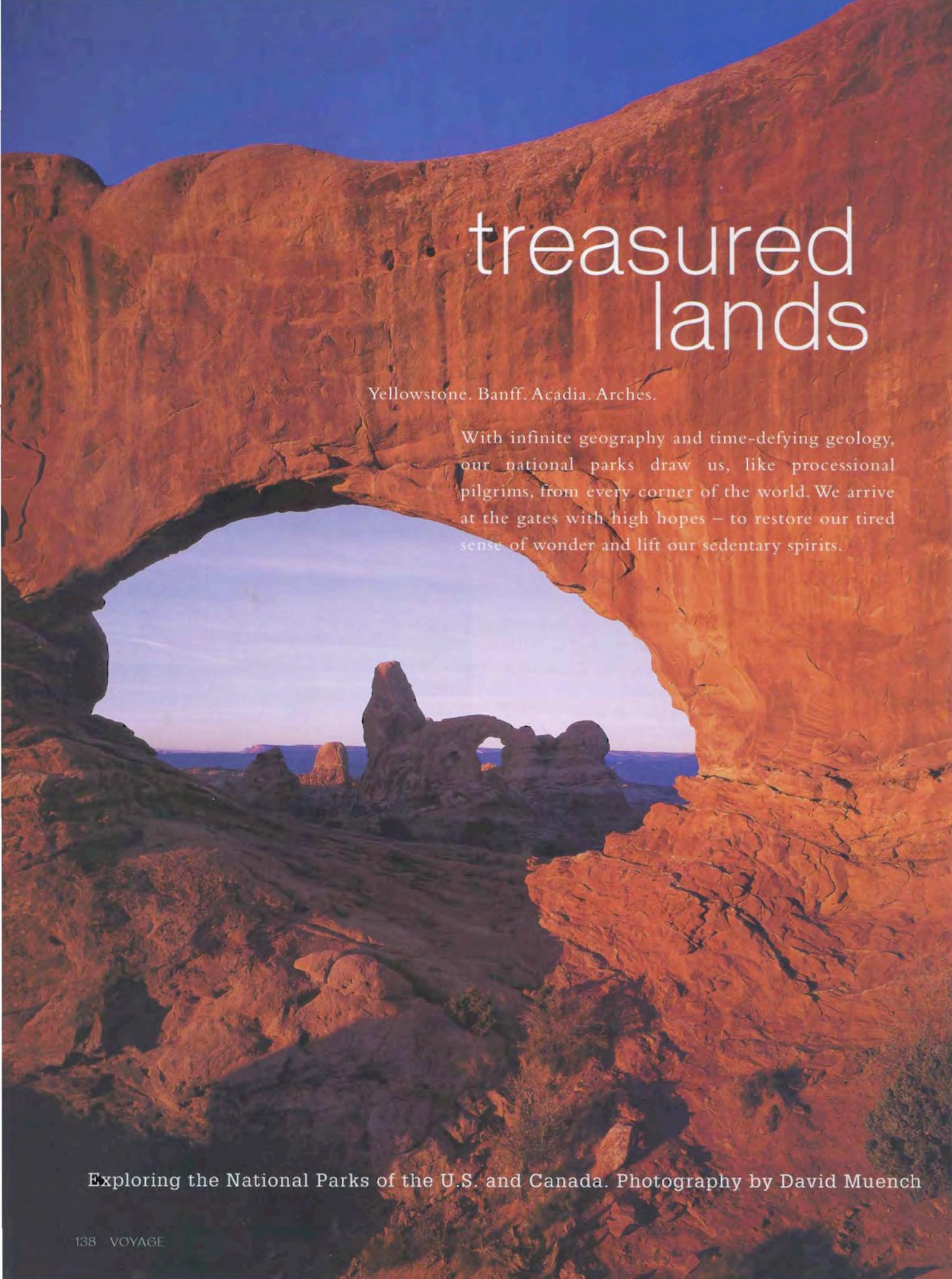
WINTER 2001

Brilliant Britain

FUN TOURS **FAB HOTELS** AND
FAVORITE SON **RICHARD BRANSON**

MICHAEL YORK REVISITS **DUBROVNIK**
PARADING AT THE **PALIO**

PLUS LYNNE LEAKEY'S AFRICA CRUISING EUROPE NATIONAL PARKS

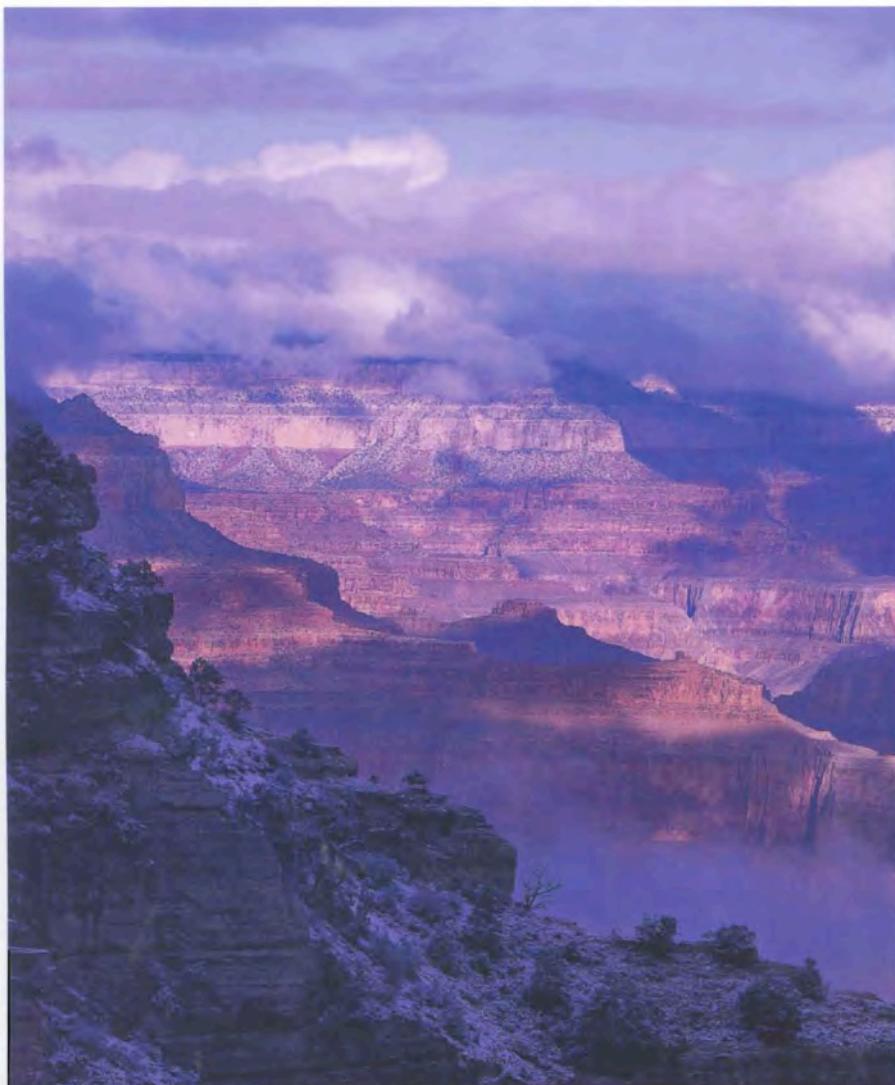


treasured lands

Yellowstone. Banff. Acadia. Arches.

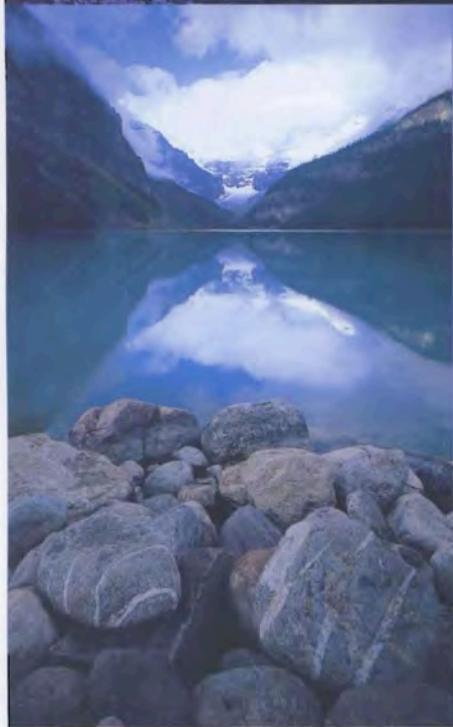
With infinite geography and time-defying geology, our national parks draw us, like processional pilgrims, from every corner of the world. We arrive at the gates with high hopes – to restore our tired sense of wonder and lift our sedentary spirits.

Exploring the National Parks of the U.S. and Canada. Photography by David Muench



"TAKE NOTHING
BUT PHOTOGRAPHS,

LEAVE NOTHING
BUT FOOTPRINTS..."



In these last sanctuaries of original Mother Earth, we set our senses free to see, feel, taste, smell and hear the very Nature of things. And we play again as children — climbing, swimming, paddling, hiking, fishing, riding in places that virtual reality couldn't begin to imagine.

By their establishment — with Yellowstone as the first — the national parks of North America represent the best of who we are, intent actualized. And by our collective and continued preservation, they become a proud legacy, not only of their pristine beauty, but also of our own honor and respect.

Clockwise from left: North Window, Arches National Park; South Rim view, Grand Canyon National Park; trillium blooms; Lake Louise, Banff National Park.

U.S. National Parks

THE EAST

Acadia National Park, Maine Acadia wears its superlatives like the proud Down Easter' Yankee she is: Cadillac Mountain, the high point in the park, is the first place in the United States the sun kisses daily. It is the first national park east of the Mississippi. It's the only one "built" by the efforts and donated funds of the public – the residents of nearby Bar Harbor. And Somes Sound, a long-fingered waterway, is the only fjord found on the East Coast.

Mount Desert Isle, home to most of Acadia, is a moody, glacier-constructed landscape covered in birches and spruce trees and bordered by dramatic headlands, pink granite cliffs and secret coves. John D. Rockefeller had carriage roads, linked by picture-perfect stone bridges, built throughout the park.

THE SOUTHWEST

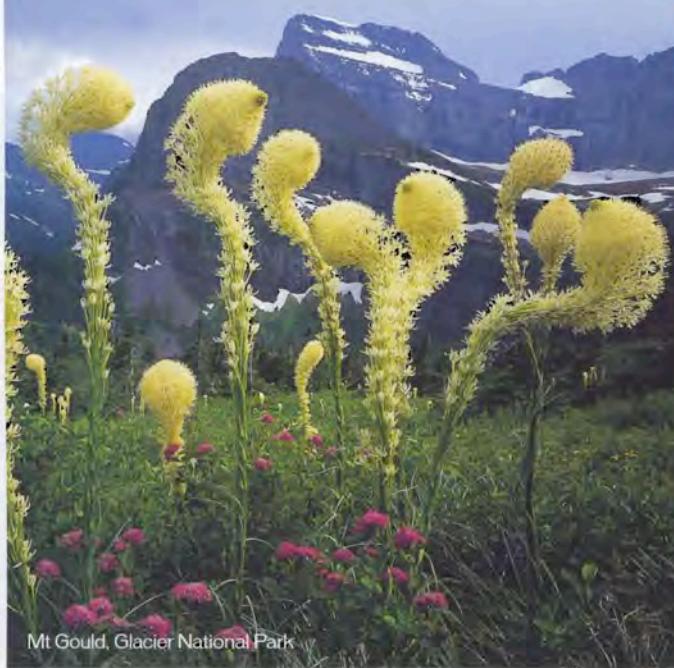
Grand Canyon National Park, Arizona Not only is the Grand Canyon, as Teddy Roosevelt proclaimed, "the one great sight every American should see," but it may well be the single most awe-inspiring view in the world.

The statistics themselves seem unreal: the canyon walls reach 5,800 feet down to the river that carved it. The layers of rock reach back two billion years. And the rocks lining the bottom of the Inner Gorge are perhaps the oldest exposed rocks on the earth. Stand at one of the Canyon viewpoints at sunrise or sunset and watch the choreographed play of light and shadow upon the theaters of stone.

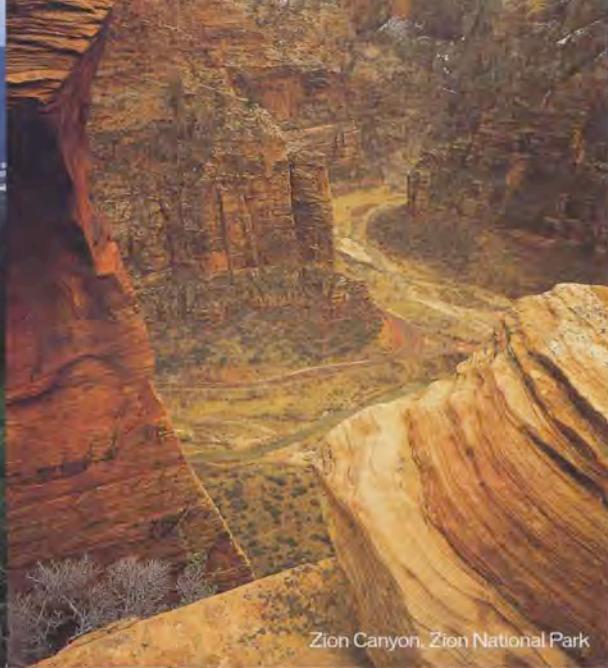
Glacier National Park, Montana It straddles the Continental Divide and shares the Canadian border with its sister, Waterton Lakes National Park. It sports 50 remaining glaciers and is traversed by one of the most beautiful drives in the world, the Going to the Sun Road. Composed of verdant slopes and valleys, serene lakes and flowering meadows, Montana's masterpiece is also home to more than 1,200 plant species and 65 native mammals, among them the 200 or so grizzly bears that comprise the greatest concentration in the U.S.

Arches National Park, Utah Rock and more rock in every size, shape, act of balance and hue of red characterize Utah's 300 million-year-old terrain. So do the words otherworldly, bizarre, incomprehensible and utterly magical.





Mt. Gould, Glacier National Park



Zion Canyon, Zion National Park

The greatest concentration of stone arches on the planet – more than 200 (and nearly 2,000 stone openings) – lend Arches National Park its name. The eroding forces of water and wind act as sculptors here, and visitors can witness their handwork in a wide variety of stages. The park's most famous namesake, Delicate Arch, soars higher than a seven-story building. Cowboys of earlier days called it "Schoolmarm's Bloomers."

Bryce National Park, Utah Sixty million years of freeze-and-thaw erosion created today's fantasy in stone. Pink, white, gold and iron-red blend together in thousands of vertical spires, minarets, towers, knobs and spikes that baffle the imagination. The Paiute Indians named this spectacle "red rocks standing like men in a bow-shaped canyon." And an early settler, Ebenezer Bryce (after whom the Canyon was named), proclaimed the area to be "a helluva place to lose a cow!"

Canyonlands National Park, Utah A park of many faces, Canyonlands can point to the Colorado and Green Rivers for building its sandstone shapes, deep gorges, and vast horizon-to-horizon spreads of flat, red rock. Not to be outdone by Utah's other erosional masterpieces, the region known as Needles boasts thousands of red and white striped spires and balanced rocks. Explorer John Wesley Powell documented this wild terrain and author Zane Grey made it the background for many of his stories.

Zion National Park, Utah "The land of the rainbow canyons" is a kaleidoscopic feast and the photographer's paradise. The demure-seeming Virgin River spent 13 million years cutting 3,000 feet of rock into chasms and narrow canyons, whose walls rise toward the heavens in shades of red, purple, pink, orange and yellow. Dramatic waterfalls, the Great Arch, Checkerboard Mesa and cliff-hanging gardens of columbine and shooting-star flowers all add to the stunning beauty of Zion.

Grand Teton National Park, Wyoming The youngest mountains in the Rockies, the Tetons create quite the vista in a 40-mile-long chain of serrated snow-capped peaks, topping off at 13,770 feet. The town of Jackson Hole, with its own breed of high-flying western style, enjoys one of the most gorgeous settings in America, while the Snake River reflects the surrounding mountain majesty. Moose, elk, pronghorn and bison call the area home and 17 species of fish lure anglers from around the country.

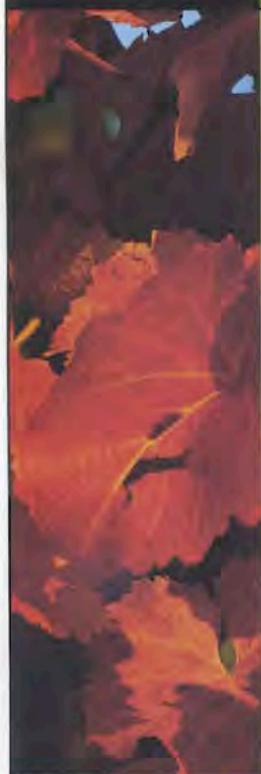
Steamboatin' Through the Heartland

The Delta Queen Steamboat Company gives a uniquely American experience along the rivers immortalized by Mark Twain. Stylized period elegance aboard the paddle-wheel steamers recalls the steamboatin' days of the 1800s and a wide range of eight-day itineraries immerse you in the culture, character and hospitality of our country's heartland.

Along with the timeless scenery and the impeccable antebellum architecture, history buffs will love the Lower Mississippi River cruise from New Orleans to Memphis. A visit to Vicksburg's National Military Park, which commemorates a critical point in the War between the States, offers a moving look at one of America's best preserved Civil War battlefields. Cruise prices start at \$1,070.

ready to go

pick your park and start packing



Lake Powell

AMERICAN WEST AND THE NORTHWEST

Tauck's extraordinary eight-day journey, *Canyonlands*, highlights a fantasy world of stone and scale that only the landscapes of the American West can achieve. The accommodations near or "on location" mean you'll have time to truly savor the atmosphere. Itinerary includes the ancient cliff dwellings of Montezuma Castle National Monument; the red rock riot of Sedona; sunrise and sunset over the Grand Canyon; the reflective colors of Lake Powell (including flightseeing and cruise); a Glen Canyon raft trip; and the amazing spectacle of Bryce and Zion national parks. Grand finale? Las Vegas! Price is \$1,750 per person; travel March through October.

Triple Creek Ranch's raison d'être is to make lasting Montana memories in an atmosphere of blessed tranquility. To this they add personal attention and exquisite dining. Surrounded by millions of acres of wilderness at the base of Trapper Peak in the Bitterroot Range, the ranch has easy access to both Yellowstone and Glacier National Parks. Individual log or cedar cabins sport unique interior design, and offer complete wooded privacy in utmost in comfort. Enjoy trail riding, wilderness hiking, fly fishing, heated swimming, cross-country skiing, sleigh rides and everything else you might enjoy in any season. All-inclusive nightly rates for couples begin at \$550.* Open year-round.

Clipper's *From the Pacific Northwest to the Canadian Rockies* adventure marries sea and mountains in a superb ten-day combination of cruise and rail travel. Sail from Seattle through the peaceful San Juan Islands to British Columbia's charming capital city, Victoria. Visit the dazzling display of flora at Butchart Gardens, then sample the international flavors of Vancouver. From here, board the Rocky Mountaineer and enjoy Gold Leaf service as you travel past Hell's Gate and along Fraser Canyon. Overnight hotel stays mean you'll travel by daylight to maximize Mother Nature's drama as you ride the rails over glacier-rimmed Rogers Pass to Lake Louise and Banff. There,

you'll spend two nights at the lovely Banff Springs Hotel. (Also operates in reverse.) Prices begin at \$3,140 per person; travel September 19, 20, 21 or 30.

WESTERN CANADA

Canadian Mountain Holidays Heli-Hiking has turned adventure into fine art. Find yourself in the heart of a pristine wilderness, accessed by helicopter, surrounded by glorious wildflower meadows and humbled by the scale of almost-touchable mountain peaks. Expert guides lead your daily hikes customized to each group. At the end of the day, return to one of three spectacular lodges located around Banff. Here superb cuisine and a friendly atmosphere await. Choose from three- to seven-night holidays between late-June and September, with prices starting around \$1,025.**

SNV International introduces The Canada Collection's independent holiday, *Rockies Escapade*. With a full-size rental car at your disposal for six days, enjoy the breathtaking scenery between Calgary and Jasper. Discover secret blue-green lakes encircled by soaring stone peaks. Keep a record of the wildlife that crosses your path – from moose to marmot, bear to elk, mountain goat to big-horn sheep. And drive the Icefields Parkway, one of the world's most spectacular routes. In-between, the Banff Springs Hotel, Jasper Park Lodge and world-famous Chateau Lake Louise will cater to your every whim in Canada's most indulgent style. Prices start at about \$573.**

Jasper Park Lodge is, in itself, a destination. Situated within venerable Jasper National Park, the largest mountain park in Canada, the embracing atmosphere is warm, elegant, serene and sophisticated. From boating on lovely Lake Beauvert to trophy fishing in any of the area's myriad lakes ... horseback riding to 18-hole world class golf ... whitewater rafting to hiking – not to mention the superb winter sporting possibilities – The Lodge offers a quintessential Canadian Rockies experience. Please call us for advantageous 2001 prices.

THE AMERICAN EAST COAST AND EASTERN CANADA

Meet the landscape on Mother Nature's level – and at your own speed – with **Backroads**. During the six-day *Maine Multisport* itinerary, you'll bike, walk and sea kayak in Maine's stunning Acadia National Park and along picture-perfect Penobscot Bay. Tour departs June through August; price is \$1,898, with \$60 bike rental fee.

Or stroll through Canada's "New Scotland" on the six-day *Nova Scotia Walking* tour. Wander through Kejimkujik National Park, along with Brier Island and Blomidon Provincial Park.

Enjoy superb regional cuisine and charming inn accommodations. The *Nova Scotia Walking* tour departs every week between July 14 and September 8. Price is \$1,698.

Princess Cruises' popular ten-day *Canada/New England* cruises and the *Canada, New England and the Atlantic Coast* cruise showcase a tapestry of culture, history, and lovely countryside in Grand Class style. Choose to sail from New York to Montreal or on a reverse itinerary with highlighted ports of call at Newport, Boston, Bar Harbor, St. John, New Brunswick, Halifax, Nova Scotia, Quebec and Montreal. Or sail ten days roundtrip from Boston, with stops at Sydney and St. John. With departure dates designed to bring out the best in autumn colors, these cruises sell out quickly. Be sure to reserve now for early booking savings! Prices start at \$1,595 per person.

Holland America Line's superb new Amsterdam sails the perennially favorite fall route, *Canada and New England*. Choose from a variety of September or October cruises between New York and Montreal when fall's golden light casts a magic spell over the land- and seascapes. Enjoy the picturesque fishing villages of Canada's Maritime Provinces, glorious Acadia National Park, and the lively cosmopolitan ambiance of Boston, Quebec and Montreal. Enjoy an early booking savings – but remember, these cruises are in high demand! Ten days; prices from \$2,223.



Yellowstone Falls, Yellowstone National Park

Yellowstone National Park, Wyoming She is the Queen of Hearts in our park system, the one who wins the beauty pageant for charm, talent and figure. As the first national park in the world, Yellowstone set the standard and literally paved the way for a public mindset toward preservation.

Among its more than 2.2 million acres lies some of the greatest natural diversity on the globe. More than 300 geysers dance in syncopated rhythm, with Old Faithful flaunting her "bigger is better" (and timing is everything) fame internationally. And nearly 10,000 other hot springs and bubbling mud pots give the park claim to being the world's most extensive geothermal area.

The Grand Canyon of the Yellowstone River offers other vistas of drama and scenic beauty, and the park's legendary wildlife population encompasses 94 mammal species (including the reintroduction of the gray wolf in 1994), more than 300 species of birds, and fighting cutthroat trout.

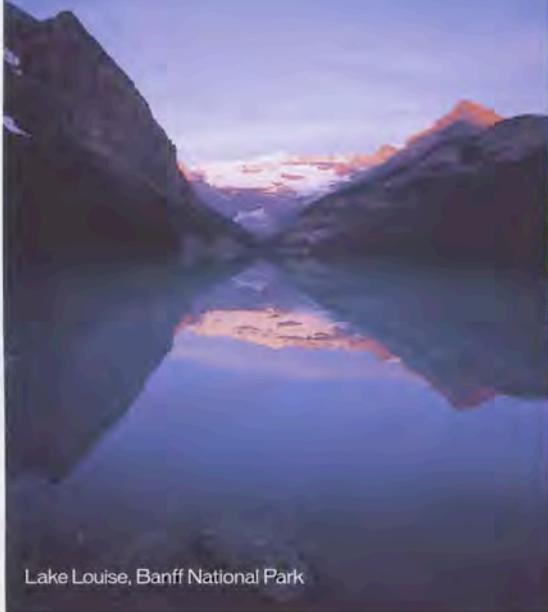
America's Parks by Rail

The American Orient Express recreates the golden era of train travel with its superbly renovated rail cars, its impeccable level of service, and the most scenic rail routes in America. Travel in the gracious style of the 1940s and '50s on a number of national parks itineraries.

Exceptional tour leaders make your journey delightfully worry-free and a host of guest lecturers – geologists, historians, naturalists, and cultural experts – bring to life the past and present of each region you visit. Choose from:

- The eight-day, seven-night **Northwest and Glacier** route between Salt Lake City and Seattle, on which you'll visit Yellowstone, the Grand Tetons, the impressive Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail and Interpretive Center, and Glacier National Park. Early booking prices start at \$3,190.
- **Rockies and Yellowstone** is an eight-day adventure that combines the geologic wonderlands of Colorado and Utah with the drama of Yellowstone and the Grand Tetons. Priced from \$2,890 when you book early with us.
- **The National Parks of the West** covers a rainbow of treasured parklands, from Yellowstone and Grand Teton to the magical red glow of Bryce Canyon, the sheer faces of red rock in Zion and the incomparable Grand Canyon. Book early for best prices: from \$3,190.

Call us to book your rail adventure!



Lake Louise, Banff National Park



Mt. Athabasca, Jasper National Park

Canadian National Parks

ALBERTA AND BRITISH COLUMBIA

Banff National Park The first of Canada's parks (established in 1885) and part of the great Rocky Mountains, Banff is a symphony of vertical limestone peaks born of glaciers and geologic upheaval. Color-defying waters such as Moraine Lake and Lake Louise bewitch the eye, as do high Alpine meadows smothered in late-summer flowers.

Venerable glaciers hug vertical precipices, taunting gravity. And abundant wildlife is easy to spy: elk, caribou, deer, mountain goats, big horn sheep, marmots, grizzly and black bear, moose and dozens more.

Jasper National Park The 142-mile Icefields Parkway connecting Banff to Jasper is heralded as one of the world's most spectacular. The Columbia Icefields Visitor Center faces the Athabasca Glacier; take a Sno-Coach out on to the Icefields and walk on ice compacted by the centuries.

Jasper's wilderness is heavy on the wild. Because of its isolation, the parklands are home to the largest population of mammals in the Rockies. Both Sunwapta and the Athabasca Falls are inspiring sights, and Maligne Lake – the largest glacial body of water in the Rockies – offers up its 17-mile blue surface to the surrounding guardianship of sky-piercing peaks.

Enveloping a vast portion of the Canadian Rockies, Banff and Jasper join Yoho and Kootenay National Parks as a designated UNESCO World Heritage Site.

EASTERN CANADA

New Brunswick Two small, but stunning national parks bless New Brunswick. Within Kouchibouguac's (koosh-e-boo-gwack) 92 square miles are barrier islands that serve as home to a variety of seabirds and gray seals, wetlands and forest where moose, beavers, bear and deer reside.

Fundy National Park, established in 1948, is most famous for its bay, which embraces the world's largest tides – rising and falling as much as 55 feet every 12 hours and moving 100 billion tons of water. Some 350 species of birds live or migrate through here and one-third of the world's entire population of Right Whales (the most endangered species on the planet) call Fundy's waters home.

Nova Scotia Nova Scotia's one national park, Kejimkujik, boasts some of the most scenic canoeing in eastern Canada, 300 year-old hemlocks, and three species of turtle. But far more visitors, who come to the island for just a day or two, head for the two National Historic Sites.

Since its founding in 1749, the Halifax Defense Complex, run by Parks Canada, has been one of the British Empire's four principal naval stations. And the Marconi National Historic Site honors the inventor's role in pioneering global communications. At the Wireless Hall of Fame, you can witness the place where the first official wireless message was sent across the Atlantic to England. ☺