



Zion National Park/Gooseberry Weekend

LENGTH: 3 Days / 2 Nights

ACCOMMODATIONS: Camping

FITNESS LEVEL: Intermediate

[For up-to-date pricing and dates, please visit our website.](#)



This fun-filled weekend is your ticket to the amazing vistas and backcountry riding around Zion National Park!

We have created two great itineraries – one for spring & fall, and one for summer - to get the most out of the amazing trails in the area. In summertime we avoid the scorching heat below, riding at higher elevation at Brian Head before descending into Zion. In spring and fall, we approach Zion from the south, riding Gooseberry Mesa's fantastic slickrock perched above panoramic scenic vistas.

Trip Amenities

Cell phone service is unreliable.

Spring & Fall Trip – Camping on this trip is in primitive campsites with no running water and pit toilets.

Summer Trip – First nights' camp is primitive, second night is at an improved campsite with running water and flush toilets. There are no shower facilities on either trip, but solar showers will be available.

Meals

Most dinners and breakfasts on this Inns tour are in local restaurants except when in Panguitch Lake and Duck Creek, where your guides prepare dinner and breakfast for you. Picnic lunches are prepared each day by your experienced guides.



Spring & Fall Zion Backcountry Weekend Tour

Day 1 | Gooseberry Mesa

After meeting in St. George, our shuttle takes us to the Gooseberry Mesa Slickrock trailhead. We'll set up camp, eat lunch, and go through a quick orientation. After lunch, we head out onto Gooseberry's comprehensive network of slickrock and singletrack. These trails are incredibly scenic with views of southern Utah's Grand Staircase and Zion in the distance. Your guides will customize the weekend's routes based on the groups technical and fitness levels. There is something out here for everyone, and the scenery is second to none!

Total Mileage | 10-15 miles

Inn/Camp | Gooseberry Mesa

Terrain | Mixture of slickrock, singletrack and doubletrack, No Van Support

Day 2 | More Gooseberry or the Jem/Guacamole Trail

Today we ride the foothills of Gooseberry Mesa on the Jem and Guacamole trails. Jem Trail is a fast flowy singletrack while Guacamole Trail has a mix of slickrock and rock features. Both of these purpose built trails network through classic desert scenery with Zion National Park as your backdrop! After our day of amazing riding we shuttle back to our camp atop Gooseberry Mesa.

Total Mileage | 8-25 miles

Camp | Gooseberry Mesa

Terrain | Mixture of slickrock, singletrack, and doubletrack

Day 3 | Zion National Park

Get ready for Zion National Park's most aggressive hike, Angel's Landing. Gentle switchbacks give way to a challenging climb as we near the hike's apex. A final scramble brings us to breathtaking 360° views of Zion. After our hike, we'll enjoy lunch and shuttle back to St. George.

Total Mileage | 5 miles hike



Summer Zion Backcountry Weekend Tour

Day 1 | Brian Head to Duck Creek

After meeting in St. George, we'll travel to Brian Head Resort for a light lunch, introductions, and a pre-trip meeting. Our riding adventure begins at Brian Head Peak where we descend down the exciting Lowder Ponds and Right Fork Trails. This singletrack descends 2,800 feet, with some minor climbs mixed in. After regrouping at the bottom, we'll descend once again. We lose 800 vertical feet over 17 miles as we carve through forests of ponderosa pine, fir, aspen, and spruce trees enroute to Tippets Valley. Tonight, our camp will be at Te-Ah, overlooking Navajo Lake.

Total Mileage | 12-35 miles

Camp | Te-Ah, Navajo Lake

Terrain | 80% Single-track, No Van Support

Day 2 | The Virgin River Rim Trail and Navajo Lake

A ride on the Virgin River Rim lets us experience some of the freshest cut singletrack in the West. The trail has challenging climbs and switchbacks, but you will be well rewarded with incredible view of Zion from the Red Cliffs area. A 3-mile descent takes us back to Navajo Lake where'll we'll rest and enjoy a hearty guide-prepared lunch. After lunch, we'll complete the Navajo Lake Loop. This aspen-forested singletrack is a fun 12-mile loop around the scenic shoreline.

Total Mileage | 12-21 miles

Camp | Te-Ah, Navajo Lake

Terrain | 100% Single-track, No Van Support

Day 3 | Zion National Park

Descending from Navajo Lake, we ride through the backcountry to Zion National Park on logging roads. The first 15-mile section is an excellent 3,000-foot descent. A short shuttle ride will take us to the blacktop at the East Entrance of Zion National Park. This stretch of road must be one of the prettiest in America. We'll ride through Zion and have lunch in the park before shuttling back to St. George.

Total Mileage | 30 miles

Terrain | Jeep Road and Pavement



The Basics

State: Utah

Duration: 3 days/2 Nights

Type: Camping

Airport: Las Vegas, NV

Mileage: Spring/Fall 20-35 Miles,
Summer 55-85 Miles

Elevation: 3,000–11,300ft

Season: Spring/Fall

MEETING INFORMATION

Location: Desert Garden Inn

Address: 1450 Hilton Dr, St George, UT 84770

Time: 11 am (MST)

* We will return to St. George around 4:00pm on the last day and Las Vegas around 6pm.

OPTIONAL ADD-ONS

Round-trip shuttle from Las Vegas to St. George: \$75

The shuttle will leave from the Element Hotel* in Las Vegas, (Summerlin), at **7:30am** on the first day of the tour. This hotel is located next door to our world class tour center and bike shop. Element offers a free breakfast and an excellent rate for guests of Escape Adventures.

*Single Supplement is available. Ask for pricing.

BIKE RENTALS

We offer Santa Cruz and Specialized bikes. Please click for more information.

[Learn more about our rental gear on our website.](#)



CAMPING RENTALS

- Three-man tent with fly and ground tarp
- 30 degree sleeping bag
- Camp Pillow
(BYO pillowcase)
- Self-inflating ground pad

Bringing or shipping your own gear? [See our shipping policy.](#)

WEATHER

You will be riding and sleeping at elevations over 7,000 ft for the first 4 nights of this trip. Weather predictions in this area are often unreliable due to the elevation, so it is best to be prepared for cold evenings and inclement weather. Please use the following locations when checking the weather online:

Panguitch, UT (Day 1) Duck Creek Village, UT – Springdale, UT

WHAT SETS US APART?

Our People: Our guides are the best in the business! Trained personally by the owners, our guides understand the areas you ride and the safety of the group.

Our Commitment: We don't just preach environmental awareness, we live it! We recycle 90% of our waste, run our facilities with solar and wind power, and we are the world's 1st carbon-neutral outfitter.

Our Food: Our guides lovingly prepare meals for the trip with an emphasis on fresh, local and organic foods, ensuring you have the fuel you need to ride, and a delicious meal at the same time- including dessert!



Specific Trip Tips

- Las Vegas, Nevada, is the closest city with a major airport and car rentals. We recommend that you fly into Las Vegas and drive or take our shuttle to St. George.
- Visit our Las Vegas departure page on our website for more information, directions, hotel listings and more.
- Please arrive in Las Vegas or St. George at least 12 hours prior to your departure time in order to have time to rest before the tour.

Use our [Pre-Trip Information Center](#) for packing lists, how to prepare, FAQ and more!

TRIP COST INCLUDES: Two guides, all meals starting with lunch on the first day through lunch on the last day, except dinner on day 5, which is on your own, support vehicle, snacks, first-aid, bike maintenance, community gear, and a souvenir shirt.

Gratuities to local restaurants, hotels, transportation, and additional activities mentioned on this itinerary are paid by Escape Adventures. If you engage in an activity that is not part of this trip as outlined, then you are responsible for tipping.

TRIP COST DOES NOT INCLUDE: Airfare to and from our departure point, lodging before or after the tour, rental bike, or gratuities to Escape Adventures guides. Tips to the guides are given at your discretion and based on the quality of your experience. We suggest 10-20% of your trip cost to be divided between the guides.