

# COLORADO THE KOKOPELLI TRAIL MOUNTAIN BIKE TOUR

# Mountain Biking

- Private Tours and Custom Tours Solos, Couples & Friends
- Departure: Grand Junction, CO
- 🛗 Tour Offered: Apr, May, Sep, Oct
- Ե Departs On: Monday

- Ouration: 5 Days
- 🛤 Lodging: First-Class Camping
- 😵 🛛 Fitness Level: 3-5
- 💑 Technical Level: 3-5
- Elevation Range: 4,000 9,000 ft.

The legend of Kokopelli begins near present day Grand Junction, Colorado (195-miles west of Denver), at the confluence of the Colorado and Gunnison rivers. Known in Native American cultures as a trickster god and a fertility deity, Kokopelli could shape-shift into numerous forms: most often, a swaybacked or humped figure playing a flute. His appearance was made even more conspicuous by his feathered head.

Ranging westward on more than 142-miles of secluded trails and jeep roads, we follow and visually interpret Kokopelli's walkabout, a supernatural quest to spread prosperity and fertility. If you've heard or read about the superb mountain biking near Fruita, Colorado (12-miles northwest of Grand Junction), here's your chance to live and breathe it. Home-range of the Ute Tribe, final resting spot for "Doc"



Holliday, quirky Fruita (pop. 12,000) celebrates its rodeo as much as dinosaurs; not to mention a headless chicken—named Mike—who lived for 18-months. Mike lives on though, honored with a yearly festival.

The riding here reflects a sharp fusion of both Utah and Colorado: Utah's Mars-evoking rocky desert given big-time lift by the Colorado Rockies. After a refreshing stop along the banks of the Colorado River, we climb into Utah's Canyon Country. Like a fast-moving survey party, we put optics on large iron and copper cliffs which loom overhead on the amazing Onion Creek ride. Pressing on, we ride from the 5000-ft desert floor past great sweeps of buttes and sandstone reefs higher into the snow-capped Manti La Sal Mountains. The payoff: hugging a fast, flowy ridgeline at 8500-ft, looming over endless rolling red desert. Our campsite is set atop scenic Porcupine Rim. Phenomenal.

On this classic bikepacking route, you can expect 14,000 vertical feet of climbing, all told. Our out-of-this-world journey culminates in Moab, given 24-pica, boldface punctuation by an exhilarating descent down Sand Flats Road!

Mixing moderate, and some longer ascents, along with two days of moderately challenging singletrack, the Kokopelli Trail is perfect for mountain bikers in need of a challenge!

800-596-2953 | www.escapeadventures.com



# THE ESCAPE ADVENTURES EXPERIENCE

For over 25 years, the hallmark of an Escape Adventures tour is personalized, hands-on service, before, during, and after each trip.

#### OUR PEOPLE

Our Trip Leaders are the best in the business. Trained personally by the owners, our WFR certified Leaders 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 and run our LEED Platinum facilities with solar and wind power. Additionally, our facilities are net zero energy (we produce more energy than we consume) which makes us the only commercial outfitter in the world who is net positive energy.

#### OUR FOOD

Our Leaders prepare meals on 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.

## OUR SUPPORT VEHICLES

We provide a support van and trailer for every 9 guests on all of our trips so you can count on us to be there when you need us.





# DAY 1 | Fruita to Rabbit Valley

After meeting at our hotel in Grand Junction, we'll take a shuttle to the trailhead in Fruita, have a brief orientation, and begin a beautiful and moderately technical singletrack ride along the Colorado River. The Fruita Loops are widely recognized as some of the best singletrack anywhere. This trail has sections of short steep climbs and descents, creating a true mountain biking adventure. After lunch, we return to the Kokopelli Trail for a challenging yet scenic ride to our camp in Rabbit Valley.

Total Mileage | 21 MilesFeet Gain | 2297Terrain | Singletrack & Jeep Road, No Van SupportFirst-Class Camping | Rabbit Valley



# DAY 2 | Rabbit Valley to Fish Ford

After a delicious breakfast we start the day with a rolling singletrack followed by a progressively harder and rougher jeep road along the low regions of the Colorado River plains. The views of the Manti La Sal Mountains linger in the distance for a truly incredible landscape. Most of the day is broken double track and fire road with one steep climb. A freshly prepared dinner awaits us at tonight's camp is on the Colorado River.

Total Moderate Mileage | 22 Miles Total Seasoned Mileage | 40 Miles Terrain | Doubletrack, Some Van Support First-Class Camping | Fish Ford Feet Gain | 1363 Feet Gain | 1920





## DAY 3 | Fish Ford to Fisher Valley

Leaving our Colorado River camp, we ride sections of doubletrack and singletrack to the historic Dewey Bridge. Built in 1916, Dewey Bridge is Utah's longest suspension bridge and, at the time of its construction, was the 2nd largest suspension bridge west of the Mississippi. Unfortunately, the bridge was destroyed by fire in 2008. From Dewey Bridge, a 10 mile cruise on the scenic "River Road" highway 198 takes us to one of our favorite trails - Onion Creek! Tall red cliffs of Cutler sandstone and intriguing rock formations line the canyon. We spend the afternoon climbing up through the canyon crossing Onion Creek over 20 times. Our camp is in Fisher Valley, which borders the Manti-La Sal Mountains. From our camp, a short hike takes us to a well-hidden Anasazi ruin.

Total Moderate Mileage | 19 MilesFeet Gain | 1302Total Mileage | 38 MilesFeet Gain | 4947Terrain | Doubletrack, Singletrack, & Jeep Road, Some Van SupportFirst-Class Camping | Fisher Valley



# DAY 4 | Fisher Valley to Castle Valley

Today's ride involves climbing over 4,000 feet to the high Manti-La Sal Mountains! From our vantage point atop the mountain, we'll take a quick look at real dinosaur tracks that seem to "walk" off the edge of a cliff! We'll also have great views of Castle Valley and Fisher Valley. We'll descend into camp in Castle Valley, where a refreshing dip in a mountain stream awaits us.

Total Moderate Mileage | 13 Miles Total Seasoned Mileage | 31 Miles Terrain | Jeep Road, Some Van Support First-Class Camping | Castle Valley Feet Gain | 2175 Feet Gain | 6151





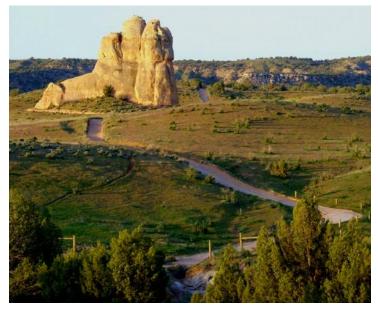
# DAY 5 | Castle Valley to Moab

Today's ride is your reward for yesterday's tough climb. We descend one of the most popular mountain bike trails in the world, Porcupine Rim. Catching a quick short-cut, we bypass half of the uphill section for 14 miles of pure, fast downhill on very challenging doubletrack and singletrack. Views, of course, are unsurpassed as we view Castle Valley and the Colorado River from high above. We'll enjoy a delicious lunch in Moab then shuttle back to Grand Junction, Colorado. We should arrive in Moab around 2:00 p.m. and in Grand Junction at approximately 5:00 p.m.



Total Easy Mileage | 21 MilesFeet Gain | 274Total Seasoned Mileage | 28 MilesFeet Gain | 2055Terrain | Doubletrack & Singletrack, Very Little Van Support





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# THE IMPORTANT STUFF

# **Daily Activities**

Day	Activity	Easy		Moderate		Seasoned	
		Miles	Feet Gain	Miles	Feet Gain	Miles	Feet Gain
1	Mountain Biking			21	2297		
2	Mountain Biking			22	1363	40	1920
3	Mountain Biking			19	1302	38	4947
4	Mountain Biking			13	2175	31	6151
5	Mountain Biking	21	274			28	2055

# Mountain Bike Tour Technical Levels

Level		Description		
sy	1	Maintained Gravel Roads, Easy Grades		
ű	2	Level 1 PLUS Unmaintained Dirt Roads, Maintained Singletrack Trail		
Moderate	3	Level 2 PLUS Moderate Grades, Some Unmaintained Singletrack		
Seasoned	4	Level 3 PLUS Rocky Terrain – PLUS Longer, Steeper Ascents & Descents		
Seas	5	Level 4 PLUS Some Exposed Sections Of Trail, Some Loose Climbs & Descents		



# Mountain Bike Tour Fitness Levels

Level		Hours of Activity	Total Elevation Feet Gain	Mountain Bike Miles	Hiking Miles
Easy	1	1-3	700	5-10	1-5
	2	2-4	1200	10-15	5-8
Moderate	3	3-5	1800	15-25	8-10
Seasoned	4	4-6	2200	25-35	10-12
ë	5	5-7	3000	35-50+	12-16+



## HOW TO PREPARE

#### MOUNTAIN BIKE

For optimal physical preparation, we recommend that you ride at least several hours per week during the month preceding the tour. During the tour you will be on your bike every day, and we can assure you that an unprepared bottom is a sore one! If you can't ride your bike, or don't own one, take a spin class at your local gym a few times a week.

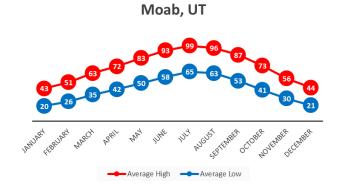
#### HIKING

To prepare for the tour, we recommend that you hike, jog or run at least several hours per week during the month preceding the tour. Walk/run in the shoes and sock you are brining on the trip. This will help prevent blisters and sore feet.



#### WEATHER

You will be riding and sleeping at elevations over 4,000 ft. for 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 location when checking the weather online: **Moab, UT** 



## PACKING

Luggage is limited to one small soft-shelled suitcase or medium/large sized duffel bag (no heavier than 40 pounds). Please ensure your luggage container is water repellant. We also suggest bringing a hydration daypack or small backpack for valuables.

A complete list of what we consider essentials for every trip, as well as items that can be rented from Escape Adventures, is available at www.escapeadventures.com/packing-lists/

## **BICYCLE RENTALS**

Escape Adventures rents quality bicycles. We will fit you with a high quality, durable and safe ride. Our chosen bike is equipped with an aluminum frame designed for a smooth, comfortable ride. Our mountain bikes are full-suspension, lightweight, equipped with a dropper post and adjustable. Availability of bikes are specific to your destination and should be confirmed in your itinerary. For more information call 800-596-2953.

## Specialized Stumpjumper - 29er



The new Stumpjumper is the ultimate trail bike. It's supple over small bumps, yet it possesses a firm mid-stroke and exceptional bottom-out support.

# • All bicycle rentals are equipped with flat pedals and a complimentary water bottle.

- Helmet and clipless pedals are available upon request and are included in the rental.
- Please specify your individual needs when confirming your reservation.



Santa Cruz 5010 - 27.5

## Santa Cruz Tallboy - 29er



The Tallboy muddles the line between XC and trail. The Tallboy climbs almost as well as an XC bike, but shows its true colors when the trail turns downward.



An agile trail whip that turns on a dime and loves to pop and play. Turning trails into pumptracks the 5010 begs to spend as much time above the ground as on it.

# TRIP COST INCLUDES

All meals starting with lunch on the first day through lunch on the last day, support vehicles, snacks, first-aid, bike maintenance, community gear, and a custom sublimated Limited Edition Jersey.



MOUNTAIN, ROAD AND MULTI-SPORT TOURING

# TRIP COST DOES NOT INCLUDE

Airfare to and from departure point, lodging before or after the tour, personal camping gear (if applicable), or gratuities to Escape Adventures Trip Leaders. Tips to the Trip Leaders 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 all Trip Leaders.

# MEALS

Our Trip Leaders prepare all of your meals on our camping trips. Expect three delicious meals a day consisting entirely of freshly prepared foods. These include fresh organic fruits and vegetables as well as meats.

# TRIP AMENITIES

First-class campers will enjoy wellmaintained public campgrounds. Cell service for this tour is spotty. Verizon is the best service to have for this area.



# KEEPING YOU UP TO DATE

We are always seeking opportunities to enhance this itinerary. We'll notify you of any changes prior to departure; other changes may be communicated on the trip by your Trip Leaders.

This is a general itinerary and may vary. Escape Adventures reserves the right to make changes due to weather, local conditions, government intervention, or any other unforeseen reasons that may affect the quality of the trip and/or safety of the participants. Inns are subject to change.

## FIRST-CLASS CAMPING



There is nothing better than rolling into camp to fresh made chips and salsa, homemade guacamole and Dutch oven enchiladas. Then making your way to the inviting campfire, sharing your favorite anecdote or image from the day's activities while marshmallows roast. Enjoy a small-batch local beer before retiring to your tent where inside a sturdy raised cot, fluffy sleeping bag, and a plush full size pillow await.

We choose well-maintained public campgrounds with scenic vistas. The majority feature indoor facilities and showers. However, in more remote backcountry camping scenarios, we'll provide portable toilets and private solar showers.

## CAMPING GEAR RENTALS



Camping gear may be rented or you may bring your own. Our camp gear package includes a three-man tent with ground tarp, sleeping bag, bag liner, full size pillow, raised cot and self-inflating ground pad.

# GATEWAY CITY: GRAND JUNCTION, COLORADO

Grand Junction is a city in Colorado's Western Slope region. From breathtaking red rock scenery and thrilling outdoor adventure, to cultural attractions and farm-to-table dining, Grand Junction is a premier destination on Colorado's Western Slope. The city sits along the Colorado River. It's known as the hub of Colorado's wine country. The Museum of the West displays prehistoric pottery and 19th-century firearms.



#### **GRAND JUNCTION AIRPORT**

GRAND JUNCTION REGIONAL AIRPORT 2828 Walker Field Drive (970) 244-9100 www.gjairport.com

Grand Junction Regional Airport is located three miles northeast of Grand Junction, in Mesa County, Colorado. It is the largest airport in western Colorado and third largest in the state.



## **GRAND JUNCTION HOTELS**

MARRIOTT FAIRFIELD INN & SUITES 225 Main St. (970) 242-2525 https://www.marriott.com

MEETING AND DEPARTURE INFORMATION

#### MEETING LOCATION

DOUBLE TREE GRAND JUNCTION 743 Horizon Dr, Grand Junction, CO 82506 (970) 241-8888 https://doubletree3.hilton.com/

DEPARTURE TIME 9:00 AM on the first day of the tour.

RETURN TIME Around 5:00 PM on the last day of the tour. TRAVELODGE 718 Horizon Dr. (970) 243 -5080 www.travelodgegrandjunction.com



Driving from Grand Junction to Moab is just over 100 miles and takes less than two hours. The main thoroughfare, I-70 W to US-191 S, is the quickest and most direct route. Kids will appreciate a pit stop in nearby Fruita, home to the Dinosaur Journey Museum and other fun finds. For those that seek the road less traveled, allocate an additional 15 minutes (one way) and take the picturesque Upper Colorado Scenic Byway U-128 W. The views are spectacular (especially during sunrise) and definitely worth the added travel time.

## CANCELLATION POLICY

In order to keep our tours affordable and provide proper notice to our lodging partners, we must adhere to this timeline, no exceptions. After our refund deadline has passed we cannot provide a refund for any reason, including circumstances beyond your control such as weather-related travel delays, family emergency, or injury. There is also no partial refund if you arrive late to your tour, or depart early. Insurance agencies however, offer a full or partial refund in many circumstances if you purchase travel insurance to cover your tour. Payment in full is due 60 days prior to trip departure.

IF YOU CANCEL YOUR TRIP	YOU WILL RECEIVE
Up until 60 days prior to trip departure	100% of what you have paid minus a \$200 processing fee per person
59-45 days prior to trip departure	50% of what you have paid minus a \$200 processing fee per person
45-30 days prior to trip departure	15% of what you have paid minus a \$200 processing fee per person
29-0 days prior trip departure	No Refund

#### TRAVEL INSURANCE

We strongly encourage you to purchase travel insurance to protect against extenuating circumstances such as illness and injury-believe us, they do come up! We have a special arrangement with TravelGuard insurance so that you may purchase reasonably-priced travel insurance at the same time you place your tour reservation. For a detailed description of the TravelGuard policy we offer, visit our website or call 866-385-4839 and ask about product **007715**.

#### TRANSFER POLICY

If you would like to change to a different tour or departure date after signing up, we will be happy to transfer you on a space available basis up until 60 days prior to your tour. Please provide your transfer request in writing - email is sufficient. Please note, a \$25 transfer fee will be deducted from your previous payments for each transfer, and if you later choose to cancel your tour, the cancellation deadlines will apply to the date of the originally scheduled tour.

#### TOUR CONFIRMATION

Escape confirms tours 60 days prior to tour departure; prior to this time, tours may be cancelled due to low enrollment. After your tour is confirmed, it will not be cancelled for low-enrollment, but in rare cases may be cancelled due to weather, government intervention, unsafe trail conditions, or any other reason that would affect the quality of the scheduled tour or the safety of its participants. If we are forced to cancel your tour, we will provide a 100% refund and work to add you to another trip that works for you.

#### TRAVEL PLANS

We advise you to avoid non-refundable flights and other travel arrangements and are not responsible for the costs of such arrangement in the event your tour is cancelled. The travel insurance offered in conjunction with our tours covers the cost of your tour but does not cover additional costs such as travel to and from your tour departure location, and hotel stays prior to or following your tour. Please consider purchasing additional insurance coverage.



## SIMILAR TRIPS FROM ESCAPE ADVENTURES

## **GRAND CANYON – 5 DAY** NORTH RIM OF THE GRAND CANYON

#### Mountain Biking 🕺 Hiking

- Families with Older Kids Families with Younger Kids Private Tours and Custom Tours Solos, Couples & Friends
- Departure: St. George, UT
- m Tour Offered: May, Jun, Jul, Aug, Sep, Oct
- 🔁 Departs On: Monday

- Ouration: 5 Days
- 🛤 Lodging: First-Class Camping or Casual Inns
- 😵 Fitness Level: 1-3
- ♂ Technical Level: 1-2
- ↑ Elevation Range: 6,000 9,000 ft.

Providing gently rolling terrain of lung-expanding dimensions, the North Rim of the Grand Canyon has been long-held as almost sacred ground to hikers and cyclists. For trekkers and active travelers of all levels, the chance to experience this singular section of Eternity is nothing less than the opportunity of a lifetime.



## BEST OF MOAB MOUNTAIN BIKE THE MOUNTIAN BIKE CAPITAL OF THE WORLD

- Families with Older Kids Solos, Couples & Friends
- 🗧 Departure: Moab, UT
- 🛗 Tour Offered: Mar, Apr, May, Sep 🛛 🚸 Technical Level: 2-4
- 💆 Departs On: Monday
- Ouration: 5 Days
- Private Tours and Custom Tours 📙 Lodging: First-Class Camping, Casual Inns, or Luxury Inns & Restaurants
  - Fitness Level: 2-4

  - ↑ Elevation Range: 4,000 7,000 ft.

Our tour is like a Moab's Best Of/greatest hits album. Signature slickrock trails offer challenging, if fun rides for all levels of riders, marked by seemingly endless singletrack that shade each day.

