

# Cycling Escalante & Capitol Reef NP

## The Basics

**State:** Utah  
**Mileage:** 176-241 Miles  
**Duration:** 6 days/5 Nights  
**Season:**  
**Type:** All Inns  
**Elevation:**  
**Airport:** Las Vegas



## Meeting Information

**Location:** Rubys Inn  
**Address:** 26 South Main St  
Bryce Canyon, UT 84764  
435-834-5301  
**Time:** 2:30 pm

Shuttle info \$75 round trip,  
Desert Garden Inn  
1450 South Hilton DR  
St George, UT 84770  
435-688-7477  
10:30 am

\* We will **return** to Ruby's between 2 and 3 pm and return to the Desert Garden Inn around 6 pm on the last day.

## Bike Rentals

Specialized bikes included

## 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.](#)



entral Utah has one of the largest stretches of true backcountry left in the nation. This area remained uncharted until the mid-1800s and still harbors many natural treasures yet to be discovered. From the alpine heights of Dixie National Forest to the slickrock canyons of Escalante National Monument, central Utah is a quiet paradise reserved for the few willing to venture this far.

Our cycling tour goes eastward through contrasting desert scenery and high alpine forests along **Utah Highway 12 (Voted one of Americas top 10 most scenic highways)** to Capitol Reef National Park. Named for the white sandstone dome that bears a striking resemblance to our nation's capitol building, this national park protects an immense uplift known as the Waterpocket Fold. Long winding roads cut through a maze of canyons and an assembly of arches and monoliths make it seem as if this natural uplift was custom-made just for cyclists! Between rides, we relax in the quaint hamlets of Boulder and Escalante. Remote and sparsely populated, this trip is for anyone looking for un-crowded roads and a backcountry experience.

## Trip Amenities

The Escalante Cabins have running water and showers in a shared bathhouse and a pay phone. Cell phone service is poor for most of this trip. The other Inns on this trip are often remote and appropriate to the locations in which we ride. They have been chosen for comfort, scenery, and proximity to our activities.

## Meals

All dinners and breakfasts on this Inns tour are in local restaurants except for nights 2 and 4. Picnic lunches will be prepared by your experienced guides.

# Daily Itinerary

## 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 Bryce, Utah. Remember there is a one hour time difference.
- We recommend arriving at your meeting location at least 12 hours prior to your departure time in order to have time to rest before the tour. Tours usually end in the late afternoon on the last day.

## What sets us apart?

**Our People:** Our guides are the best in the business, hands down.

**Our Commitment:** We don't just preach environmental awareness, we live it! We recycle 90% of our waste, fuel our support van with recycled vegetable oil, 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!

## Offset Your Airfare

We've got your trip covered, but use our online [Carbon Calculator](#) to offset your travel to and from the trip

## Day 1 | Orientation - Bryce Canyon

The evening begins with a pre-trip meeting at Ruby's Inn, our hotel for the first night and meeting location. After a safety orientation and introductions, a short evening ride takes us to the boundary of Bryce Canyon where we watch the sunset over Powell Point - the highest plateau in North America!

**Total Mileage** | 19-37 miles

**Inn** | Ruby's Inn

**Total ascent:** 1365-4100 ft

## Day 2 | Escalante to Bryce Canyon

**The ranching communities of Tropic, Cannonville, and Henryville** make up Bryce Valley, which lies just outside the east entrance of Bryce Canyon National Park. Our ride today is nothing short of spectacular as we cycle through the new Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument and the Dixie National Forest to Escalante!

**Total Mileage** | 49 miles

**Inn** | Escalante Outfitters

**Total ascent:** 2397 ft

## Day 3 | Escalante to Boulder UT, The Burr Trail

Today's ride takes us along one of the west's most scenic roads - The Hogback. This road, with panoramas of vast slickrock "oceans" and scenic canyons, was cut by the Escalante River over millions of years of erosion. Our ride along the Hogback passes above Calf Creek Falls - a canyon filled with petroglyphs, pictographs, and granaries left by the Anasazi Indians nearly 1000 years ago. We will have lunch along the Hogback then descend into Boulder. The tiny town of Boulder, Utah, was the last community in America to receive its mail by mule train. Boulder today still feels remote, and undiscovered!

Our late afternoon ride takes us down the Burr Trail. The Burr Trail follows a wide valley beneath the towering white slickrock of Durffey Mesa, before dropping into the Gulch. From here, the road follows along the base of the aptly named Long Canyon, a narrow, sheer-sided drainage filled with colorful

fallen rock. Following these spectacular sights, we will shuttle back to Boulder for an evening sunset and delicious dinner.

**Total Mileage** | 28-46 miles

**Inn** | Boulder Mountain Lodge

**Total ascent:** 2878-4990 ft

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#### Day 4 | Boulder to Torrey

This spectacular ride will take us high in the mountains of Boulder, Utah where views are amongst Utah's finest! Along our ride, Escalante National Monument will unfold before your eyes!

Our climb is followed by a descent into Torrey - just west of Capitol Reef National Park.

**Total Mileage** | 26-37 miles

**Inn** | Austin's Lodge

**Total ascent:** 1758-4500 ft

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#### Day 5 | Relax - Capitol Reef National Park

Our ride today is fun and relaxing descent into Capitol Reef National Park. Capitol Reef is a grand and colorful geologic feature, as well as the spectacular eroded jumble of cliffs, domes, monoliths, twisting canyons and graceful arches. We will have all day to enjoy the park with opportunities to pick fresh fruit, ride out and back to Egyptian Temple (optional 20 total miles), and enjoy a cascading waterfall on the Fremont River. We will shuttle back to Torrey.

**Total Mileage** | 19-37 miles

**Inn** | Austin's Lodge

**Total ascent:** 1000-2010 ft

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#### Day 6 | Torrey to Fishlake

Our last day takes us up to beautiful Fish Lake. This lake is a large natural lake, 6 miles long and 1 mile wide, situated 8,800 feet up in the heavily forested Fishlake Mountains. The lake is a bit too cold for swimming, but it makes for a great lunch site and benediction to our inspiring adventure! We will shuttle the beautiful back roads to Panguitch arriving between 3-4 p.m.

**Total Mileage** | 35 miles

**Total ascent:** 2995 ft

**Trip Cost Includes:** Two guides, all meals starting with lunch on the first day through lunch on the last day, support vehicle, snacks, first-aid, bike maintenance, community gear, and a souvenir shirt.

**Trip Cost Does Not Include:** Airfare to and from our departure point, lodging before or after the tour, personal camping gear, 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.

*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 unforeseen reasons that may affect the quality of the trip and/or safety of the participants. Inns are subject to change.*