

# Cosmos Journal de bord

## Colorado, Utah & New Mexico

Wednesday July 9, 1997

Day 1 Montréal

Départ de Dorval par Air Canada, à 13:00. Arrêt à Toronto pendant 2 heures, pour finalement arriver à Denver à 18:30. L'aéroport de Denver a une architecture futuriste logé dans un immense champ loin de la ville. Notre hôtel est le Confort Inn au 16921 est 32 ième ave, Aurora

Thursday July 10, 1997

Day 2 Denver

Une journée de découverte de la ville de Denver par nos propres moyens. Très belle journée (91<sup>0</sup>F). Nous avons visité le jardin botanique et le musée d'histoire naturelle.

Friday July 11, 1997

Day 3 Denver

The tour starts at your tour hotel in Denver, the "Mile High City". The cosmos tour director is on hand to assist you on arrival. The rest of the day is at leisure. Alors allons visiter la brasserie "Coors" avec dégustation et soupçons à "Old Spaghetti house".

Saturday July 12, 1997

Day 4 Denver

A short drive north via Boulder to Rocky Mountain National Park at the Estes Park entrance. Take scenic Trail Ridge Road through this magnificent valley, once abundant with game, which attracted the likes of Kit Carson and his group of trappers. Cross the Continental Divide and behold incomparable vistas of lush meadows, alpine glaciers, and thundering waterfalls. By late afternoon reach the world-famous mountain resort of Vail. (Village touristique très bien coté).

Sunday July 13, 1997

Day 5 Vail

Continue west through the mountains and White River National Forest. Take a morning break in Aspen, an old mining town where miners had to stockpile their excess ore in the streets!. Be sure to see the splendid Victorian-style Hotel Jerome and the Wheeler Opera House. Colorado National Monument is next on the agenda of sights. Magnificent isolated monoliths and 1,000-foot deep canyons come into view as the coach winds along Rim Rock Drive. Overnight in Grand Junction.

Monday July 14, 1997

Day 6 Grand Junction

Proceed north this morning to prehistoric Dinosaur National Monument. Stop at the park headquarters to view an audiovisual presentation and listen to a short lecture by a park naturalist. Then on to the quarry to observe fossilized bones of brontosaurus and other prehistoric creatures excavated from the sandstone cliffs. Some of the complete skeletons are now exhibited in museums around the world. Vernal is next, with a visit to the impressive Utah field house of natural history, an indoor-outdoor museum designated to appear as the region did during the age of the dinosaurs. The evening is at leisure.

Tuesday July 15, 1997

Day 7 Vernal

Motor to Dead Horse Point, the famous setting in the movies "Thelma and Louise" and a prime lookout for panoramic views over Canyonlands National Park with its deeply eroded canyons and buttes of all shapes and sizes. Head south and reach Moab by early afternoon. Spend the rest of the day viewing the unique scenery of Arches National Park, 73,000 acres of wind-carved arches and windows. The most striking are Balanced Rock and Adam and Eve. This evening join an optional dinner cruise on the Colorado River through the nearby "Canyonlands".

Wednesday July 16, 1997

Day 8 Moab

Follow trails through southeast Utah, familiar to Butch Cassidy's Wild Bunch and other outlaw gangs. Along the way visit Capital Reef National Park with vast expanses of land, spectacular rock formations, and starting contrasts of colour... just how one would imagine the Wild West to be. In the afternoon, enjoy a nice swimming in Lake Powell.

Thursday July 17, 1997

Day 9 Bullfrog

For the more adventuresome we recommend an early morning optional flight over Monument Valley. Later enjoy a leisurely ferry crossing across lake Powell to the southern shore, where you reboard the motor coach for a short drive to natural Bridges National Monument. At various lookout points, watch as the three massive natural stone bridges come into view. Return to Colorado and stop in Dolores to visit the museum at the Anasazi Heritage Center, which traces the history and culture of this ancient tribe.

Friday July 18, 1997

Day 10 Mesa Verde

This morning see the well-preserved ruins of early Anasazi Indian cliff dwellings and stone kivas in Mesa Verde National Park. Then drive to Durango, once a gold and silver mining boomtown. Don't miss this afternoon's optional Silverton – Durango rail trip. Board the narrow gauge steam train for a scenic ride through San Juan National Forest and Rio de Las Animas Canyon.

Saturday July 19, 1997

Day 11 Durango

Head south into New Mexico and reach Albuquerque by early afternoon. The balance of the day is at leisure. Your tour director suggests several activities, including a visit to Old town Albuquerque, with its quaint mix of Victorian and adobe style buildings. Stroll through the many galleries and shops as well as stalls featuring arts and crafts and native foods of the region. Local Indians also sell their handicrafts at bargain prices. Tonight join our optional dinner excursion for a thrilling ride on the world's longest aerial tramway up 10,368-foot Sandia Peak.

Sunday July 20, 1997

Day 12 Albuquerque

Visit Bandelier National Monument for a walking tour of the fascinating remnants of 12<sup>th</sup> century cliff dwelling and Indian pueblos. Then on to Santa Fe, where the afternoon is free for exploring and browsing the array of Indian and Spanish boutiques, art galleries, and souvenir shops. Be sure to sample the world-renowned Santa Fe cuisine. Return to Albuquerque.

Monday July 21, 1997

Day 13 Albuquerque

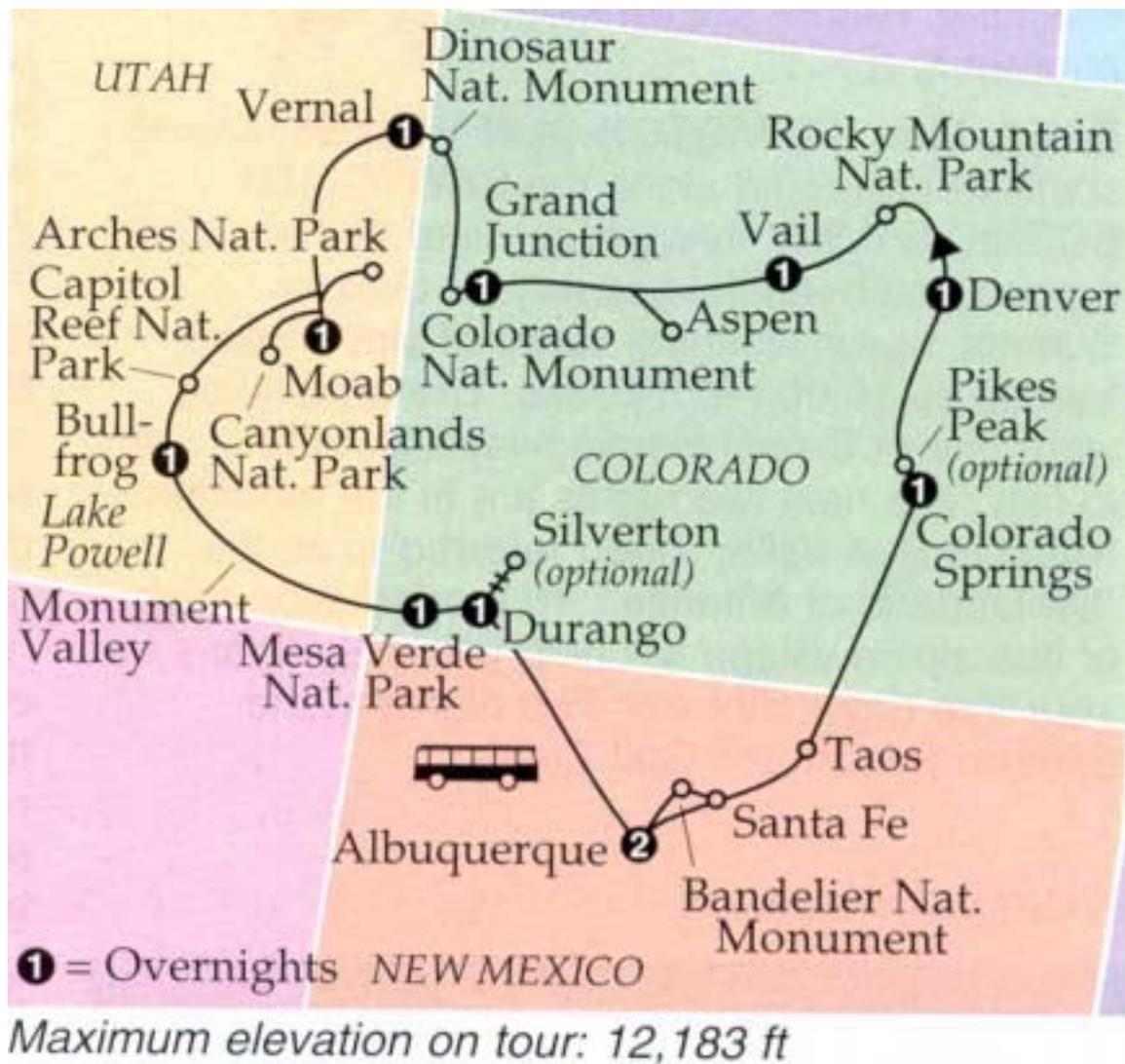
Stop at Santo Domingo Pueblo this morning, home to conservative Indians who still today shun the use of electricity and running water. Continue north to the charming artist colony of Taos to visit the historic plaza and its array of specialty shops and restaurants. Afterward stop at the impressive Rio Grande Gorge Bridge, suspended 650 feet above the river. Continue north, skirting Carson National Forest and the high plateau of the Colorado Rockies and San Juan Mountains. Arrive late this afternoon in Colorado Springs.

Tuesday July 22, 1997

Day 14 Colorado Springs

On our optional outing to Manitou Springs this morning ride the world's highest cog railroad up Pikes Peak. Later return to Colorado Springs for a leisurely drive through the unique red sandstone rock formations of the Garden of the Gods. Then visit the U.S. Air Force academy with its stunning chapel, a modern building consisting of 17 stained glass spires reaching 150 feet. Drive along the Front Range of the Rockies and on to

Denver International Airport for tour members with homebound flights. The tour ends at the tour hotel in downtown Denver in the late afternoon.



Visitez notre page personnelle pour quelques photos.

<http://www.cooptel.qc.ca/~veilleux/photo-1997.html>