



## Rotary Youth Exchange West Coast USA 2018

(Revised itinerary 12/12/17)

July 11 2018	<p>Depart Rochester airport for San Francisco.</p> <p>Welcome to <b>San Francisco</b> a city known for its cool summers, fog, steep rolling hills and eclectic mix of architecture and landmarks. Today we begin at the <b>Cable Car Museum</b> where you'll learn about the inventor technologies, builders, rapid expansion, near loss and the ongoing efforts to save and rebuild the cable cars of San Francisco.</p> <p>Next you'll stretch your legs at one of the most picturesque places in the city. <b>Filbert Steps</b> is a charming and quirky street that is made entirely of stairs. Our next stop will be <b>Fisherman's Wharf</b> where you'll shop and explore San Francisco's northern waterfront area. This is also the best place to visit San Francisco's sea lions as the boisterous barking pinnipeds sun themselves on the docks at Pier 39.</p> <p>Overnight San Francisco Meals: D</p>
July 12 2018	<p>This morning we step back in time and experience the legendary Island that has been a civil war fort, a military prison and one of the most notorious federal penitentiaries in US history, <b>Alcatraz Island</b>. Nicknamed The Rock, this small island in the San Francisco Bay is now a national park. After taking a ferry to the island, we follow the audio guide, available in ten languages. You'll go through the inside of the old prison's facilities, which include a lighthouse, military fortifications, and cellblocks. Though long considered escape-proof, the prison suffered an irreparable blow to its reputation in 1962, when three inmates mysteriously disappeared using a makeshift raft.</p> <p>Later we'll visit <b>The San Francisco Maritime Museum/Aquatic Park Bathhouse Building</b> where you'll explore everything seaworthy and see how everything has evolved in the city by the bay.</p> <p>We'll close the day with a visit to one of San Francisco's most iconic structures, the <b>Golden Gate Bridge</b>. With it's 746 foot tall towers, sweeping main cables, signature International Orange color and Art Deco styling it's a sensory experience featuring color, light and sound.</p> <p>Overnight in San Francisco Meals: B,D</p>
July 13 2018	<p>Depart San Fran for Yosemite.</p> <p>You won't want to forget your camera today as we start the day out with</p>

	<p>a visit to <b>Olmsted Point</b> located in <b>Yosemite National Park</b>. A viewing area offers an incredible south west view into Tenaya Canyon toward the northern side of <b>Half Dome</b>. Next we'll visit <b>El Capitan</b>, a vertical rock formation which is 900 meters from base to Summit and one of the world's favorite challenges for rock climbers. Lastly, we'll visit <b>Bridalveil Fall</b> one of the most prominent waterfalls in the Yosemite Valley at 188 meters tall. It is believed that inhaling the mist of Bridalveil Fall would improve one's chance of marriage. Breathe at your own risk.</p> <p>Overnight Yosemite Meals: B,D</p>
July 14 2018	<p>Today we visit the massive and ancient <b>giant Sequoias</b> in one of the three groves of Yosemite National Park. Enjoy the tranquility of nature and see some of the oldest and largest trees that are unique to this part of the country.</p> <p>Check out of hotel and board motor coach Depart for <b>Los Angeles</b>, CA Overnight Los Angeles Meals: B,D</p>
July 15 2018	<p>Today's adventure begins with a visit to the <b>La Brea Tar Pits</b> where tar has seeped up from the ground for thousands of years. Over many centuries the bones of animals that were trapped in the tar were preserved.</p> <p>Our next stop is <b>Pierce Brothers Westwood Village Memorial Cemetery</b> where some the biggest names in Hollywood are laid to rest. <b>Marilyn Monroe, Farrah Fawcet</b> and <b>Truman Capote</b> are just a few of the celebrities interred here.</p> <p>Our last stops of the day are in Santa Monica where you'll enjoy <b>Santa Monica Pier</b> founded in 1909 where you can ride the historic carousel and ferris wheel or take many other action packed rides at Pacific Park. Then enjoy some sun and white sand at <b>Santa Monica Beach</b> a favorite among television and movie producers.</p> <p>Overnight Los Angeles Meals: B,D</p>
July 16 2018	<p>Start your day enjoying and exploring the world's most famous sidewalk and the celebrities it honors along the <b>Hollywood Walk of Fame</b>.</p> <p>Then we'll explore <b>Bronson Caves</b> located in the southwest section of Griffith Park best known as a filming location for many movies and television shows from the early days of motion pictures to the present. It's craggy and remote looking setting has made it a prime choice for filmmakers.</p> <p>Board motor coach for Nevada Overnight Nevada Meals: B,D</p>
July 17 2018	<p>Welcome to Nevada, where you will see two very different sides of this incredible state. We'll begin a visit to <b>Las Vegas</b> and enjoy some shopping</p>

	<p>and/or lunch (on your own) at one of the unbelievable restaurants in the Entertainment Capital of the World. Take a picture in front of the world famous Bellagio Hotel. And remember, “What happens in Vegas... gets reported directly back to your parents via the tour director!” But dare to dream!!!</p> <p>Next we will visit the <b>Valley of Fire</b>, a public recreation and nature preservation which derives it’s name from the red sandstone formations caused by shifting sand dunes 150 million years ago. These features are the centerpiece of the park and often appear to be on fire when reflecting the sun’s rays.</p> <p>Overnight in Nevada Meals: B, D</p>
July 19 2018	<p>Today’s explorations start with <b>Havasu Falls</b>, one of the most famous and most visited of the various falls along Havasu Creek. The falls consist of one main chute that drops over a 90to 100 ft. vertical cliff into a series of plunge pools. High levels of calcium carbonate in the water create an incredible vivid blue-green color and the natural travertine dams that you’ll see in various places.</p> <p>Next we are off to <b>Grand Canyon National Park</b> where unique combinations of geologic color and erosional forms decorate a canyon that is 277 river miles long and up to 18 miles wide and a mile deep. We’ll visit <b>the Rim Trail</b> a 13.1 mile point to point trail featuring breathtaking views of the canyon. From many of the overlooks you’ll have unrestricted views to the other side of the canyon. You’ll want to take advantage of fantastic photo ops at <b>Yaki Point</b> located on the south rim.</p> <p>Overnight Grand Canyon area Meals: B,D</p>
July 20 2018	<p>We begin today with a visit to the Grand Canyon’s South Rim which is the most popular part of the park. This area includes the desert view, <b>Hermit’s Rest</b> and the <b>Grand Canyon Village</b>. We’ll visit Hermit’s Rest, a structure built in 1914 originally built as a rest area for tourists and named for Louis Boucher a Canadian born prospector who staked claims below present day Hermit’s Rest. Next we’ll visit <b>Lookout Studio</b> which currently operates as an observation station and gift shop for visitors. Our last stop of the day will be <b>Kolb Studio</b> a historic structure situated on the edge of the South Rim. Built between 1904 and 1926 by Emery and Ellsworth Kolb this structure was both a home and photographic studio. The Kolb brothers successfully navigated the Colorado River and filmed their journey. The building now operates as an art gallery and bookstore and features a tribute to the Kolbs’ photographs.</p> <p>Overnight Grand Canyon area. Meals: B,D</p>
July 21 2018	<p>Depart Grand Canyon National Park . East of Page, Arizona on Navajo land is where today’s adventures begin in Antelope Canyon. The</p>

	<p>Navajo name for Upper Antelope Canyon is Tse bighanilini which means “the place where water runs through rocks.” Today we’ll investigate the amazing things that water can do through erosion of the Navajo Sandstone. Primarily a result of flash flooding, rainwater runs into the basin above the slot canyon sections, picking up speed and sand as it rushes into the narrow passageways causing them to become deeper and smoother over time. You won’t want to forget your camera today.</p> <p>Welcome to <b>Monument Valley</b> a region of the Colorado Plateau characterized by a cluster of vast sandstone buttes located on the Arizona-Utah border. Here you’ll explore this valley used in many forms of media since the 1930’s via a photography tour where you’ll capture some of the most astounding images of the geological formations of the Southwest. Next we’ll visit Monument Valley Navajo Tribal Park where there are nearly 92000 acres of reservation cacti, arches and Navajo traditions to explore and experience. This is also the location of <b>Four Corners monument</b> where it’s possible to stand in four states at once: Utah, Colorado, New Mexico and Arizona. Overnight in Page, AZ Meals: B,D</p>
July 22 2018	<p>We begin today with a trip to <b>Canyon del Muerto</b> located in Chinle, Arizona where a prehistoric Indian burial ground was found in 1882. The walls of the canyon are covered with etchings, carvings and paintings from ancient cultures.</p> <p>Board motor coach bound for Flagstaff, AZ Overnight Flagstaff Meals: B,D</p>
July 23 2018	<p>We start today with a visit to <b>Wupatki National Monument</b>. Nestled between the Painted Desert and ponderosa highlands of northern Arizona Wupatki is a landscape of legacies. In an area where food and water seem impossible to find people built pueblos, raised families, farmed, traded and thrived. Today, if you linger and listen, earth and artifacts whisper their stories to us still. Before we leave Flagstaff we’ll visit <b>Walnut Canyon National Monument</b> where you’ll view remarkable geological formations of the canyon itself and you see the former homes of ancient inhabitants. Along the trail, you can imagine life within Walnut Canyon while visiting actual pueblos and walking in the steps of those who came before.</p> <p>Then we head out to Winslow Arizona (no, not to stand on a corner!), come on, no Eagles fans out there? We are going to see "Best Preserved Meteorite Impact Site on Earth". Formed 50,000 years ago by a giant meteor weighing several hundred thousand tons, this crater is 550 feet deep, 2.4 miles in circumference and nearly a mile across.</p> <p>Overnight Flagstaff Meals: B,D</p>

July 24 2018	<p>After breakfast board the coach for Phoenix</p> <p>Arriving in Phoenix, we'll visit the <b>Desert Botanical Garden</b> where you'll explore the breathtaking desert landscape and learn about research, exhibition and conservation of desert plants of the world.</p> <p>Now for something out of a movie, we are going to visit the ghost town of <b>Goldfield</b>. a historical former mining village brought back to life. When gold ore was discovered in the surrounding area in the 1890s, the boomtown quickly grew thanks to the influx of treasure-seekers and fortune-hunters heading out west. Though the town itself only really lasted about 5 years, you'll find that its saloons, shops, and other wooden buildings have been restored accurately.</p> <p>Overnight in Phoenix</p> <p>Meals: B,D</p>
July 25 2018	<p>Check out of hotel transfer to Phoenix Airport</p> <p>Return flight to Rochester</p> <p>Meals: B</p>

Total cost of this tour is: \$3200 per student based on a minimum of 20 students and includes two comped adult chaperones.

Tour package includes:

- Round trip airfare from Rochester NY and return
- Transportation as outlined in the itinerary
- Thirteen night's hotel accommodations (students in quads and adults in double occupancy)
- Meals as listed in the itinerary (lunches on your own)
- Admission to all attractions/venues listed in the itinerary
- All taxes and gratuities
- Services of a professional tour director from start to finish
- All taxes and gratuities

Not included:

- Lunches
- Beverages other than water, tea, or soft drinks with included meals
- Souvenirs, personal expenses
- Any type of insurance