

BRYCE CANYON & ESCALANTE: HOODOOS & HIDDEN GEMS

7
DAYS

DATES
May 18 - 24, 2025

ARRIVE/ DEPART
Salt Lake City, UT

DIFFICULTY



COST
\$2950

TRIP HIGHLIGHTS

- Backpack through Coyote Gulch, one of Escalante's most stunning landscapes, where you'll be surrounded by towering cliffs, natural arches, and serene desert landscapes.
- Witness a breathtaking sunrise over Bryce Canyon's unique hoodoos and otherworldly rock formations.
- Hike through the iconic slot canyons of Utah, exploring narrow, winding passages and unbelievable red rock landscapes.

DAILY ITINERARY

DAY 1

JOURNEY TO ESCALANTE & CALF CREEK FALLS

Meet your Be Wyld guides and fellow adventurers at our host hotel in Salt Lake City. After a quick orientation, we hit the road, heading south through Utah's breathtaking canyon country. The drive sets the tone for the adventure ahead, with stunning natural landscapes unfolding at every turn.

Our first stop is Calf Creek Falls, a stunning 126-foot waterfall nestled in a scenic red rock canyon. The trail winds through towering sandstone cliffs and lush desert vegetation, and as we walk, we keep our eyes peeled for pictographs and granaries left by the indigenous Fremont Indians. Upon reaching the falls, we take in the sight of the cascading water plunging into a crystal-clear pool, a refreshing oasis perfect for photos and a brief rest. After our hike, we continue to the charming town of Escalante, the gateway to Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument. At our campsite, we settle in for the evening with a delicious dinner by the campfire and get to know our fellow travelers under a canopy of stars.

Accommodations: Escalante Campground

Hiking Details: 6.5 miles, varying elevation gains and losses

Drive Time: ~ 1.5 hours

DAY 2

SLOT CANYON ADVENTURE*

We wake up to a stunning desert sunrise and fuel up with a hearty breakfast at camp before heading out to explore Utah's iconic slot canyons.

Our journey begins with a rugged drive down Hole-in-the-Rock Road, revealing the hidden beauty of the Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument. At the trailhead, we descend into Dry Fork Wash and enter the mesmerizing Peek-a-Boo Canyon, with its narrow passageways, natural arches, and sandstone walls glowing in the sunlight.

Next, we cross the open desert to Spooky Canyon, where the canyon walls narrow even further, creating a thrilling and "spooky" experience. As we navigate these unique landscapes, our Be Wyld guides share fascinating insights into the area's geology and history.

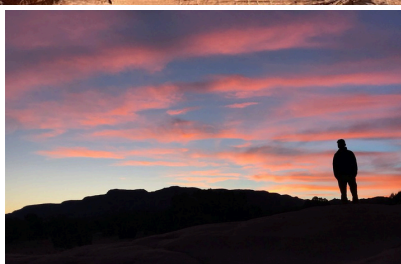
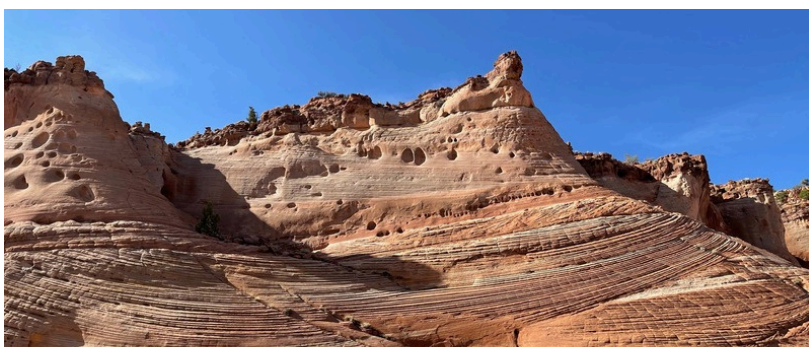
After a rewarding day of exploration, we return to camp to prepare for tomorrow's backpacking adventure, capping the evening with a delicious campfire dinner prepared by our guides.

Accommodations: Escalante Campground

Hiking Details: 6.5 – 8 miles, ~ 700' elevation gain

Drive Time: ~ 1.5 hours

**Please be advised that slot canyons, especially Spooky Canyon, can be extremely narrow and claustrophobic. It's essential to proceed with caution, as some sections may require squeezing through very tight spaces. Additionally, slot canyons can be dangerous in the event of rain or flash flooding. Flash floods can occur suddenly and with little warning, causing rapidly rising water levels within the narrow canyon corridors. Safety is our top priority, so if there's a chance of rain, we will adjust our plans accordingly.*



DAY 3

BACKPACKING COYOTE GULCH

We start the day early with a delicious breakfast and pack up camp. Once camp is packed and we are all loaded up, we head back down Hole-in-the-Rock Road to reach our trailhead for an unforgettable backpacking adventure through the world-famous Coyote Gulch. After filling our water bottles and gearing up, we set out on the trail, ready to immerse ourselves in one of Utah's most stunning landscapes.

The hike leads us through desert landscapes and dramatic natural amphitheaters, with towering cliffs and sculpted rock formations at every turn. Along the way, we marvel at hidden gems like the breathtaking Jacob Hamblin Arch, a massive sandstone formation that stands as a testament to nature's artistry.

As the day winds down, we set up camp deep in the canyon, surrounded by its serene beauty. Over dinner, we share stories and soak in the solitude, while the night sky dazzles us with countless stars—a perfect end to a day of exploration.

Accommodations: Backcountry Camping

Hiking Details: 7 – 10 miles, ~1,000 ft elevation gain/loss

Drive Time: ~ 1.5 hour

DAY 4

EXPLORING COYOTE GULCH & THE ESCALANTE RIVER

After a backcountry breakfast, we depart camp and hike deeper into Coyote Gulch. Today's hike takes us past several more natural arches, immense amphitheaters, and crystal-clear waterholes, each adding to the canyon's stunning allure.

As we reach the end of this famous canyon, we're greeted by the Escalante River. Crossing its cool waters, we take in the sight of Stevens Arch, an awe-inspiring natural wonder perched high in the red rock bluffs above. Spanning an incredible 225 feet, Stevens Arch is one of the largest natural arches in the world and a remarkable geological wonder that stands as a testament to the power of natural erosion and the timeless beauty of Utah's desert landscape.

After soaking in this view and the cool waters of the Escalante River, we retrace our steps through the canyon to return to camp for one last night in the backcountry.

Accommodations: Backcountry Camping

Hiking Details: 8–14 miles, ~700 ft elevation gain/loss



DAY 5

HIKING OUT, DEVIL'S GARDEN, & CELEBRATING OUR JOURNEY

Our morning begins with our hike out of Coyote Gulch, retracing our steps back to the trailhead we take in our final views of Escalante's majestic arches, amphitheaters, and winding canyon walls. Each step brings a sense of reflection and accomplishment as we leave behind this awe-inspiring wilderness landscape.

After reaching the trailhead, we pack into the van and make a quick stop to explore Devil's Garden, a fascinating landscape of sculpted rock formations and hoodoos. This short visit offers one last taste of Grand Staircase-Escalante's incredible geology before heading back to civilization.

Back at our campsite, we refresh with a well-earned shower and settle in for a relaxing afternoon. As the evening sets in, we treat ourselves to a well-deserved pizza dinner and enjoy some cold local brews. Together, we share stories, laugh about the trip's highlights, and toast to an unforgettable adventure in Utah's canyon country.

Accommodations: Escalante Campground

Hiking Details: 7–10 miles, ~1,000 ft elevation gain/loss

Drive Time: ~1.5 hour

DAY 6

BRYCE CANYON NATIONAL PARK EXPLORATION

After breakfast, we say goodbye to Grand Staircase-Escalante and drive to the breathtaking Bryce Canyon National Park. Our drive winds us through stunning landscapes, unexpected forests, and unique rock formations, offering us a wider glimpse into the beauty of southern Utah.

Upon arrival, we set up camp and head out for an afternoon hike among Bryce's iconic hoodoos — towering, colorful rock spires shaped by the elements over thousands of years. Surrounded by hues of red, orange, and pink, we explore the unique hoodoo formations and take in the park's striking beauty. As the sun sets, we find a prime spot to watch the canyon transform under a vibrant sky before returning to camp for dinner around the fire.

Accommodations: Bryce National Park Campground

Hiking Details: 2 – 4 miles, ~700 ft elevation gain

Drive Time: ~ 1.5 hour



DAY 7

SUNRISE AT BRYCE & FAREWELL

On our final morning, we rise early to witness a stunning sunrise over Bryce Canyon's unique landscape. The hoodoos glow as the first rays of sunlight paint the landscape in warm tones, a peaceful and magical end to our journey.

Afterward, we break down camp, savoring the last moments with our adventure companions before starting the return trip to Salt Lake City. As the journey concludes, we bid farewell to the Be Wyld team, carrying memories of breathtaking landscapes, newfound friendships, and an adventure to cherish forever.

Accommodations: On Your Own

Hiking Details: .5 –1.5 miles (Optional sunrise hike)

Drive Time: ~ 1.5 hour

PACKING LIST

IMPORTANT NOTE: Our adventure will take us into the great outdoors, where we'll spend most of our time immersed in nature and exposed to the elements. Having the right clothing and gear is essential for both your comfort and the success of the group. Once you've officially joined the trip, you'll receive a comprehensive Welcome Packet with packing list and glossary to help you prepare for your journey.

CLOTHING

- ☐ 1 Hiking Pants
- ☐ 3-5 T-shirts
- ☐ 1 Fleece / Down Jacket
- ☐ 4-6 Underwear
- ☐ 1 Beanie
- ☐ Sweatpants / Long Underwear
- ☐ 1-2 Hiking Shorts
- ☐ 1-2 Long Sleeve Shirt
- ☐ 1 Rain Jacket
- ☐ 1 Pair Lightweight Gloves
- ☐ 1 Hat / Baseball Cap

LUGGAGE & BEDDING

- ☐ Large Backpack (50 - 70 liters)
- ☐ Sleeping Bag / Quilt (rated to 40 - 50 range)
- ☐ Waterproof Rain Cover for Backpack
- ☐ Day Pack (20- 35 liters)
- ☐ Sleeping Pad
- ☐ Compression Sack for Sleeping Bag

OPTIONAL

- ☐ Backpacking Pillow
- ☐ Camp Chair
- ☐ Camera, Memory Card, & Charger / Extra Batteries
- ☐ Stuff Sacks
- ☐ Large Trash Bag
- ☐ Journal or Book

ESSENTIALS

- ☐ ID / Passport
- ☐ Medicines
- ☐ Money / Credit Card
- ☐ Phone

ACCESSORIES

- ☐ Headlamp
- ☐ Quick Dry Towel
- ☐ Chargers
- ☐ Personal First Aid Kit
- ☐ 2-3 Liter Water Reservoir
- ☐ Power bank
- ☐ Sunglasses
- ☐ Trekking Poles
- ☐ Mess Kit: Cup, Bowl, Plate, Eating Utensils

TOILETRIES

- ☐ Deodorant
- ☐ Hand Sanitizer
- ☐ Toothbrush & Toothpaste
- ☐ Sunscreen
- ☐ Lip Balm
- ☐ Menstrual Products
- ☐ Kula Cloth

FOOTWEAR

- ☐ 1 Hiking Boots / Trail Runners
- ☐ 1 Sandals with Heel Strap (Chacos, Tevas, Crocs)
- ☐ 3-5 Hiking Socks

**BRYCE CANYON & ESCALANTE:
HOODOOS & HIDDEN GEMS**

FAQ

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS



HOW MANY PEOPLE CAN THIS TRIP ACCOMMODATE?

We believe in small groups to create a more authentic and meaningful experience. For this trip to run, we require a minimum of 4 participants, with a maximum group size of 10. This adventure is designed for travelers aged 25–50. If multiple groups run simultaneously, we'll arrange them by age to ensure a more enjoyable and cohesive experience.



WHO ARE THE BE WYLD GUIDES?

Our Be Wyld Guides are passionate outdoors enthusiasts and travelers with extensive group leadership and wilderness experience. They're knowledgeable, fun, and thoughtful, creating a welcoming and engaging atmosphere for all levels of adventurers. All guides are trained in Wilderness First Aid, with many holding advanced certifications, ensuring not only your safety but an unforgettable adventure.



WHAT IS THE DIFFICULTY LEVEL OF THIS TRIP?

This trip is rated **Moderate (3)**. This trip is well-suited for those with a base level of fitness, looking to experience the beauty of Utah's canyon country while enjoying moderate physical challenges. Participants should be prepared for consecutive days of hiking and backpacking, with distances ranging from 6–14 miles per day. Daypacks will weigh 10–20 pounds, and the elevation gains and losses range from 500–1,000 feet. During the three-day backpacking portion in Coyote Gulch, adventurers will carry 30–45 pound backpacks over uneven and sometimes sandy terrain.



WHAT TYPE OF TRANSPORTATION WILL BE PROVIDED?

For the duration of your adventure, we'll travel in a 15-passenger van with an attached trailer for gear. This setup will serve as our home away from home, allowing us to move comfortably and efficiently between destinations. We'll provide all transportation from the starting hotel to the final hotel at the end of the trip, making it easy for you to focus on the experience without worrying about logistics.



WHAT TYPE OF FOOD WILL BE PROVIDED?

The majority of our meals will be prepared in a camp setting, with Be Wyld guides taking the lead on cooking. While we handle most of the work, we always welcome a helping hand from adventurers who want to pitch in! We will occasionally dine out at local restaurants to celebrate the group's successes.

We can easily accommodate vegetarian diets and other dietary restrictions, such as allergies or specific food preferences. Prior to your trip, we'll ask for details about any dietary limitations, so be sure to inform us in advance to ensure your needs are met.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS



WHAT WILL THE WEATHER BE LIKE?

In late May, the weather in Staircase Escalante and Bryce Canyon are perfect for adventures, with mild to warm days and cool evenings. Daytime temperatures generally range from 60°F to 75°F in the lower elevations of Escalante, while Bryce Canyon, at higher elevations, tends to be cooler, with daytime highs between 55°F and 65°F. Nights can get chilly, with temperatures dropping into the low 40s°F, particularly in Bryce. To stay comfortable, be sure to follow the packing list, which includes warm layers and rain gear to prepare for varying weather conditions.



WHERE WILL I BE SLEEPING?

For the duration of the program, we will be camping. Accommodations are based on double occupancy according to gender identity, which helps reduce gear, lighten our load while backpacking, and helps keep you warm during chilly nights. If you prefer a single occupancy tent, a supplemental fee will apply, and you will be responsible for carrying your tent during the backpacking portion of the trip.



WILL I HAVE PHONE SERVICE/INTERNET?

While traveling in wilderness settings, phone service will be sporadic and sometimes unavailable. We encourage you to embrace the adventure fully by using your phone sparingly, allowing you to connect with nature, your fellow adventurers, and immerse in your experience.



WHAT HAPPENS IF I NEED TO CANCEL MY TRIP?

As a small, employee-owned company, we understand that life can be unpredictable, and we'll do our best to work with you when possible. However, many trip expenses are incurred prior to travel, so we follow a clear refund policy. The full details of our cancellation and refund policy can be found on the Be Wyld website under the trip details, but here's a quick summary:

- 120+ days prior to departure: Full refund
- 61 - 120 days prior to departure: \$500 deposit is non-refundable
- 31 - 60 days prior to departure: 50% of the total trip cost is non-refundable
- 0 - 30 days prior to departure: No refund or transfer options

