

## Self-Guided: Best of Southwest (M-ID: 2555)

<https://www.motourismo.com/en/listings/2555-self-guided-best-of-southwest>



**from €5,895.00**

Dates and duration (days)

On request

17 days

### Do you want to experience the real feeling of freedom and adventure? Motorcycle Tour - Best of Southwest 17 days/16 nights from/to Las Vegas

From the Nevada desert to the Pacific Ocean and across the beautiful national parks back to the lights of Las Vegas! Enjoy the natural wonders of the American Southwest as well as the beautiful California beaches. Visit the majestic Grand Canyon, ride through the Painted Desert, which lives up to its name, and see the magnificent Monument Valley with its red-orange monoliths of sandstone. Also awaiting you are the steel-blue waters of Lake Powell, the bizarre rock spires in every imaginable shade of red in Bryce Canyon, and the gigantic smooth rocky peaks of Zion National Park. The famous metropolises of Las Vegas, Los Angeles, and San Francisco are of course also on the agenda!

#### Tour itinerary:

**Day 1: Arrival in Las Vegas, Nevada.**

From the Las Vegas airport, you will directly go to your hotel located near the airport and the rental station. Two overnights.

**Day 2: Pick up your motorcycle and explore Las Vegas.**

In the morning, visit the Strip and its hotels or go shopping in one of the city's outlets. In the afternoon you take over the motorcycle(s). Take a ride in the middle of the city or relax at one of the beautiful spots on the "Strip".

**Day 3: Las Vegas - Death Valley National Park - Mammoth Lakes, California (approx. 520 km)**

From Las Vegas, ride to Death Valley National Park, home to Badwaters, the lowest point in the Western Hemisphere, before heading to the western town of Lone Pine at the foot of Mount Whitney, the highest mountain in the US at 4421m

outside Alaska. On the map of Death Valley, you'll find names like Funeral Mountains, Coffin Peak, Hell's Gate, Starvation Canyon, and Dead Man Pass - they speak for themselves. The valley has a dramatic past. The names reflect the hardships faced by the early pioneers who traversed, inhabited, and mined this inhospitable landscape in the late 19th century. The region arguably has an ominous reputation, but visitors looking at the valley today find an amazingly beautiful landscape of colorful cliffs and canyons, miles of pristine sand dunes, unique formations of salt rock, and even a diverse fauna. Many relics bear witness to 150 years of history and offer a glimpse into the rugged life of early settlers - these include former borax and iron ore mines, ghost towns, charcoal kilns, and other ruins. Rock paintings and historic footprints bear witness to the Shoshone Natives who lived here much earlier. Next, head to the town of Mammoth Lakes, located in the heart of the Eastern California Sierra. It offers guests wonderful scenic contrasts thanks to its location in the middle of the high desert, lush forests and a mountain landscape dotted with lakes, as well as being a very nice ski resort. Please note that during the months of June-July-August-mid-September, driving/riding through Death Valley is not permitted. We offer you a shorter beautiful and, for motorcyclists, very interesting alternative route.

**Day 4: Mammoth Lakes - Yosemite National Park - Mariposa (approx. 225 km)**

The best way to reach Yosemite National Park (approx. 3080 km²) from Mammoth Lakes is to take Tioga Road (Highway 120 East), which is usually open from the end of May/beginning of June until about the beginning of November. After receiving park information and maps at the entrance gate, take the scenic 65km road from Tuolumne Meadows to Crane Flat through forests and past

meadows, lakes, and granite rock outcrops. Numerous stopping bays offer breathtaking views as far as the eye can see. The park offers a variety of scenic roads with magnificent overlooks, as well as hiking trails that lead to natural treasures such as hidden waterfalls and more. The Yosemite Valley is about 11 km long and 1.6 km wide. It is framed by granite walls that tower 600 - 1200 m high. If you ride along the southern side of the valley, you can see most of the most famous sights: the 190 m high Bridalveil Waterfall and the 490 m high Ribbon Waterfall as well as the rocky peaks El Capitan, Cathedral Spires, and Half Dome. Yosemite Falls plunges a total of 740m. In spring and early summer, the falls are particularly spectacular.

Please note that you are not allowed to ride through Yosemite National Park in April and May, and sometimes in June, due to possible snowfall in the Sierra Nevada. We will offer you an alternative route.

Day 5: Mariposa - San Francisco (approx. 270 km)

Cross the Central Valley today to get to San Francisco. For many, San Francisco is considered the most beautiful city in the United States of America. Two nights (parking fees: approx. USD 20,-/night not included)

Day 6: San Francisco

San Francisco is probably the American city best discovered on foot. Alcatraz, Golden Gate Bridge and Park, Fisherman's Wharf, Union Square, and Chinatown - are just some of the must-see sights. Walk or take one of the famous cable cars. Recommendation: Book a city tour, boat trip, excursion to Muir Woods, or a Pier 39 pass (not included) in advance.

Day 7: San Francisco - San Simeon (approx. 350 km)

The next destination - Monterey. See Fisherman's Wharf and Cannery Row with its many shops and restaurants. The wharf (Fisherman's Wharf) originally served as a pier where schooners that had sailed around Cape Horn moored and unloaded their cargo. It was also used for the whale and sardine industry. Author John Steinbeck made Cannery Row immortal. Ride along the famous 17-Mile Drive to Carmel. Landmarks along the way include Cypress Point, Ghost Tree, and Lone Cypress. On the outskirts of Carmel is Mission San Carlos Borromeo del Rio Carmelo, a restored historical testament to California's Spanish past. The mission's founder, Father Junipero Serra, was buried here. After visiting the mission, enjoy the white sands of Carmel Beach before continuing south on the famous Highway No. 1. The 160 km that follow are breathtakingly beautiful: from the northern coast (Ragged Point, San Simeon, and Cambria) to the striking cliffs of Morro (Morro Bay, Cayucos) to the soft white southern beaches (Oceano, Grover Beach, and Pismo Beach) - there is plenty of variety along this route. You'll spend the night tonight in San Simeon, home to the famous Hearst Castle.

Day 8: San Simeon - Los Angeles (approx. 410 km)

After a 50-minute ride, you will reach San Luis Obispo. Here Father Junipero Serra founded his 5th mission in 1772. The shops "Ah Louis Chinese Store" and "Sinsheimer Brothers Store" are the last remnants of the pioneer days. The creek "Luis Obispo Creek" meanders through the shopping area and past the Mission Plaza. The nearby vineyards and

striking shoreline make this spot especially worth seeing. The history of grape growing began in 1797, and today there are 39 wineries in the region with thousands of acres of vineyards, some of which offer tours and wine tastings. The journey now continues to Santa Barbara. Be sure to visit Mission Santa Barbara, it is called the "Queen" of California's 21 missions. The original Spanish fort, blessed by Father Serra in 1782, includes El Presidio de Santa Barbara, El Cuartel, and Canedo Adobe. Stearns Wharf, a restored pier that juts about 700 yards into the Pacific Ocean, was built in 1872. It is California's oldest commercially used pier. Now look forward to Malibu, home of the "rich and famous" with its special flair. Thanks to Malibu's location on the slopes of the Santa Monica Mountains, its innovative architecture comes into its own. Before heading to Santa Monica, don't miss the surf beaches of Surfriders or Zuma Beach. The extremely dynamic Santa Monica is located directly on the coast (Santa Monica Beach). The 3rd Street Promenade is a very attractive port of call and offers an excellent mix of chic restaurants, shops, and street performers.

Day 9: Los Angeles - Palm Springs - Twentynine Palms (approx. 350 km)

Leave Los Angeles behind and ride to the Coachella Valley. The date palms growing here originate from palms imported from Arabia and the Sahara around 1900. The climate in this region is also ideal for grapefruit, for example, which is grown here under the palm trees according to the principle of so-called "two-story" agriculture. It is said that this valley is the sunniest place in the United States. Not surprisingly, it is also a popular year-round recreational destination. First, visit nearby Joshua Tree National Park: it's where the Sonoran and Mojave deserts meet. In the higher part of the park, the Mojave Desert, you'll see a variety of Joshua Trees and a series of unique rock formations called "inselbergs." In the lower park portion, the Pinto Basin in the hotter Sonoran Desert is where you'll find plants typical of this region. After enjoying this magnificent national park, you will spend the night at the park exit in Twentynine Palms.

Day 10: Twentynine Palms - Lake Havasu City (approx. 250 - 285 km)

Now you have the agony of choice. Either you ride via Amboy and Route 66 from the north or you ride afterward to the Colorado River, the natural border between California and Arizona. Thanks to the numerous dams along the Colorado River, large reservoirs have been created in this extremely arid part of the country, where there are no natural large bodies of water. The lakes offer unique recreational opportunities and provide a stark contrast to the surrounding desert landscape. One of the most popular lakes on the Colorado River in Lake Havasu, which is best known for the historically significant London Bridge. Over 2.5 million visitors come here each year to enjoy the beautiful scenery, cooling waters, and countless recreational activities. These include water sports, hiking, off-roading, and the region's exciting cultural and natural history.

Day 11: Lake Havasu City - Grand Canyon National Park (approx. 370 km)

A short stage takes you back in time today, to Oatman in Arizona, a historic Western-style mining town. Visit the

Oatman Hotel, where Clark Gable and Carole Lombard honeymooned in the 1960s. Also, don't miss the staging of a shootout between bank robbers and the local sheriff and his deputies - a real Western you can witness live. Along the former Route 66, you'll find plenty of art and souvenir shops to browse. After only a few kilometers you will reach the Gold Road Mine. A walk takes you about 100 meters under Route 66 and a few hundred meters into the gold mine. Learn interesting facts about the history of the mine as well as about the grueling work in the depths of the past and present. Then head to Kingman, located in the middle of the longest continuous stretch of Route 66 in Arizona, once created by mining and railroad construction. In this thriving charming small town, historic sites and the conveniences of modernity lie close together. Now make your way to the Grand Canyon, one of the world's most impressive examples of erosion. It is a UNESCO World Heritage Site. The views from the canyon rim are simply indescribable.

Day 12: Grand Canyon National Park - Monument Valley, Utah (approx. 290 km)

Today the journey takes us along the south and east rims of the Grand Canyon, with more phenomenal views, into the Navajo Indian Reservation area. Riding through the Painted Desert, we will reach Monument Valley, located entirely within the Navajo Reservation on the Utah-Arizona state line. It is one of the most extraordinary, beautiful, and famous landscapes in the world, discovered by Hollywood very early as a breathtaking backdrop for western movies.

Recommendation: Book a jeep tour through Monument Valley in advance (not included)! Overnight stay in the Monument Valley/Mexican Hat area

Day 13: Monument Valley - Page/Lake Powell (approx. 200 km)

On the way to the beautiful Lake Powell, a stop at the Navajo National Monument is recommended. It protects three of the best-preserved cliff dwellings of the Anasazi Natives (Hatsinom). As far as the eye can see, the beautiful steel-blue waters of Lake Powell are framed by towering red rock formations - a fascinating landscape full of contrasts. Recommendation: Book an evening boat trip on Lake Powell in advance (not included)!

Day 14: Page/Lake Powell - Bryce Canyon National Park (approx. 250-320 km)

On the way to the next highlight, you will pass through Kanab, which is also called "Little Hollywood", as numerous westerns have been filmed here. See for yourself - southern Utah is "Cowboy Country". Take a detour to Coral Pink Sand Dunes State Park: the coral-colored sand dunes are stunningly beautiful against the backdrop of the surrounding red sandstone cliffs and magnificent juniper forests under a blue sky. In the afternoon, you will arrive at Bryce Canyon National Park. In this southern Utah park at the eastern end of the Paunsagunt Plateau, a series of fantastic natural horseshoe-shaped amphitheatres have formed. Erosion has sculpted the colorful limestone, sandstone, and clay into a unique maze of bizarre spires and towers. Recommendation: Book a morning tour through the Antelope Slot Canyon in advance (not included)!

Day 15: Bryce Canyon National Park - Zion National Park -

Hurricane/St. George (approx. 230 km)

Take the Zion - Mt. Carmel Junction Highway to get to Zion National Park. You will be amazed by the combination of natural and man-made highlights: The road was completed in 1930 after being considered an "almost impossible project" - a true marvel of engineering at the time! It was built over rough terrain and connects lower Zion Canyon to the higher plateaus to the east. The ride through the long tunnel in Zion National Park is virtually one landscape after another: on one side are smooth ridges of rock in shades of white, orange, and red pastel, uniquely shaped thanks to erosion and oddly patterned by cracks and furrows. The sandstone Checkerboard Mesa mountain is the most famous example of these natural "rock sculptures." On the other side of the tunnel is Zion Canyon with its massive rock walls. It impresses with a height of 600 - 900 m, especially when you stand at its foot. The day's destination is Washington/St. George area.

Day 16: Washington/St. George - Valley of Fire - Lake Mead - Las Vegas (approx. 310 km)

At the end of the day, you will ride a very beautiful route. Ride through the beautiful gorge of the Virgin River, which leads you back into the Nevada desert and back to civilization. Before that, be sure to visit the Valley of Fire State Park and approach Las Vegas through the beautiful motorcycle trail of Lake Mead National Park. The city, whose sea of lights sparkles and dazzles around the clock, needs no introduction. It has it all: the most fabulous hotels, a never-ending entertainment program, and countless attractions for the whole family: Las Vegas. In the early afternoon - the motorcycle return.

Day 17: Las Vegas

End of the tour. Return flight or start of your connecting stay.

- Route/accommodations/services are subject to change. -

Countries	USA / United States of America
Category	Motorcycle Tour
Terrain	Onroad
Vehicle	motorcycle rent incl.
Tourguide / Coach	no (self-guided)
Accommodation	Hotel / B&B or similar
Flight to / from	no, not incl.
Ferry	no, not incl.
Support vehicle (luggage/service)	no
Customer payment protection	yes
* PRICING	Minimal without optional extras, see pricing

## Pricing

For desired dates in the periods 01.10. - 31.10.2023:

per person for 2 persons in double room with 2 motorcycles	€5,895.00
per person for 2 persons in double room with 1 motorcycle	€3,955.00
per person, in single room, alone on motorcycle	€7,595.00
Surcharge for Grand Touring class motorcycles	€280.00

-

For desired dates in the period 01.08. - 30.09.2023:

per person for 2 persons in double room with 2 motorcycles	€6,395.00
per person for 2 persons in double room with 1 motorcycle	€4,375.00
per person, in single room, alone on motorcycle	€7,825.00
Surcharge for Grand Touring class motorcycles	€280.00

## Included

16 nights as per description incl. local taxes

Breakfast, if the hotels offer it (A frank word on the subject of breakfast in the USA: We would like to point out that breakfast as an included service in American or Canadian hotels is not a matter of course. There are all different varieties of breakfast. Some hotels offer coffee and some kind of roll, toast or a piece of cake, plus maybe some jam. If one is lucky, there is some fruit or dairy products. Some accommodations only offer coffee with a coffee maker in the room. Other hotels offer a varied breakfast. Many hotels decide in the middle of the season to launch this service, to abolish it or even to change it. There is generally everywhere a possibility to buy breakfast for little money. We write in the services "Partial breakfast", because we can not guarantee which hotel all of a sudden decides for it or against it.)

14 days motorcycle with motorcycle class guarantee (surcharge 280 € only for the Grand Touring Class)

Unlimited free miles

Additional liability insurance over EUR 2 million

TOP PROTECTION: ZERO insurance (In case of damage you have no excess. The deductible in case of theft is a maximum of 1000 US \$ on site and must first be paid by the customer in case of damage (theft). After the tour, the damage will be submitted and after inspection, the costs will be reimbursed by our German insurer. Please note: in order to avoid much higher costs, you must present the motorcycle key and a police report at the rental station in the event of theft, among other things.)

TOP PROTECTION: Deductible in the event of theft through our German insurer (The deductible in case of theft is a maximum of 1000 US \$ on site and must first be paid by the customer in case of damage (theft). After the tour, the damage will be submitted and after inspection, the costs will be reimbursed by our German insurer. Please note: in order to avoid much higher costs, you must present the motorcycle key and a police report at the rental station in the event of theft, among other things.)

TOP PROTECTION: 2 million EUR supplementary liability insurance

TOP PROTECTION: Flat Tyre Protection (Our Flat Tyre Protection includes 100% tyre repair/labour time. Any recovery/towing costs are covered up to a maximum of 100 USD. Costs above this are to be paid by personally! An additional emergency towing service coverage is included in your tour price. Therefore these additional costs are not being applied for you.)

TOP PROTECTION: Towing and assistance insurance (e.g. no more petrol? Battery dead? Lost your key? No problem, it will be delivered for free, only the costs for the gasoline, the battery or the key have to be paid. If the bike breaks down due to mechanical problems, puncture or due to an accident? A free towing service will pick it up and take it to the nearest garage or rental station that can take care of the problem.)

Local taxes

Provisioning costs

Saddlebags and safety lock

Detailed roadbook with extensive information and road maps in our specially developed TRAVEL APP (offline use possible) for every rider

Road atlas and guidebook per rider

Exclusive PIN per participant

Guarantee certificate for package tours

## **Not included**

Flights

Transfers

Petrol

Supplementary insurance

Motorway tolls

Parking fees

Entrance fees

Meals

Personal effects

Everything that is not specified under services

## More details

Tour duration: 17 days

Minimum age: 21 years

-

Motorcycles on this tour:

Please note: Not all types are available at all motorcycle stations. As we are not the direct service provider for the motorcycles, we cannot guarantee for the "first motorcycle wish".

So that everything is clear in advance: Our partner requires the specification of a substitute desired machine mandatory at the time of booking and gives us a MOTORCYCLE CLASS GUARANTEE. This means that we will confirm your initial request (if available on the day of booking) and as an alternative a guarantee within the booked / requested category.

OPTIONAL MOTORCYCLE MODEL GUARANTEE: If the desired model is available, our partner will confirm the booking for the desired model, however, he reserves the right to offer an alternative model from the same category, if your desired model is not available. This can happen, for example, if the previous renter returned the motorcycle with damage. If choosing a specific model is very important to you, then this model will be guaranteed to you for an extra charge of 125 EUR per rental.

In the unlikely event that this service does not work out on the spot, you will get a motorcycle from the same category and the fee will immediately be returned to you.

Motorräder bei unserem Partner - die Fahrzeuge im Überblick nach Klassen sortiert:

HD GRAND TOURING CLASS: These Harley-Davidson® models are best equipped for longer rides or multi-day trips. All Touring Class machines are equipped with very comfortable seat backs for the pillion passenger. These American motorcycles are very well balanced and easy to ride for an experienced rider. They offer plenty of space in the saddlebags and a top case. Please note: the models of this class can be booked with an extra charge. You will find the exact amount in the inclusive services of your tour:

Harley-Davidson® Ultra Glide® Classic

Harley-Davidson® Ultra Glide® Limited

Harley-Davidson® Road Glide® Ultra

-

HD STREET TOURING CLASS: These Harley-Davidson® models are also equipped for longer rides or multi-day trips. All Touring Class machines are equipped with comfortable seat backs for the pillion passenger, but without the top case and touring seats. These American motorcycles are very well balanced and easy to ride for an experienced rider. They offer plenty of space in the saddlebags:

Harley-Davidson® Street Glide®

Harley-Davidson® Road Glide®

Harley-Davidson® Road King®

-

HD CRUISER TOURING CLASS: The quintessential American bike. These models have become famous through movies and enthusiasts around the world. Very easy to ride for people who are used to a smaller machine, sport or sport-touring. Almost all models available with pillion backrest and windscreen. Excellent for long rides and tours, weekend rides, day trips and city rides:

Harley-Davidson® Heritage Softail®

Harley-Davidson® Low Rider®

-

**INDIAN TOURING CLASS:** The second American motorcycle brand. Long disappeared from the market, but it still has fans firmly in its grip. The Indian® motorcycles are equipped with comfortable seat backs for the pillion passenger. These American machines are very well balanced and easy to ride for an experienced rider. Excellent for long rides and tours, weekend rides, day trips and city rides. Not available everywhere. Please ask us about them beforehand. **IMPORTANT:** Indian® Roadmaster® and Challenger® can only be booked with a surcharge and belong in the Grand Touring Class. Indian® Chieftain® and Chief Vintage® belong in the Street Touring Class:

Indian® Chief Vintage®

Indian® Challenger®

Indian® Roadmaster®

-

**STREET CLASS:** The quintessence of American bikes. These models have become famous through movies and enthusiasts around the world. Very easy to ride for people who are used to a smaller machine, sport or sport-touring. Almost all models available with pillion backrest and windscreen. Excellent for long rides and tours, weekend rides, day trips and city rides. Not available everywhere and not possible for every tour. Please ask us beforehand:

Harley-Davidson® Sportster 1200®

Indian® Scout®

-

**HD THREE WHEEL CLASS:** Some tours can also be ridden with a HARLEY DAVIDSON® TRI-GLIDE® ULTRA for an additional charge (depending on the station from 120 EUR/rental day). Appropriate experience is a prerequisite. Very limited availability of maximum 1-2 trikes per station. Not available everywhere. Please ask us beforehand:

Harley-Davidson® TRI-Glide® Ultra

Harley-Davidson® Freewheeler®

-

**Important to know:**

A valid credit card (VISA / MASTERCARD or American Express) is required for the motorcycle pick-up. The deposit of 100 USD can only be paid by credit card.

Your additional super - tour companion: the specially developed Travel - App (In the travel documents you will find both a road atlas and a travel guide of the region. In addition, you will receive our specially developed app for your tour. It works on and offline and uses the GPS from your mobile phone to make sure that you are on the right biking route. It also has some tips and information about the place where you are. Works with all major iOs and Android phones. For copyright reasons, the password of the tour on the app will be deactivated by the manufacturer about 2 weeks after the end of the trip, but you will get enough additional material from us so you can keep your memories.)

-

**Insurance:**

We generally recommend that you take out travel cancellation insurance.

-

**Upon request:**

We are happy to accept your change requests. Changes (max. 3) are possible for an extra charge of 25 € per service (plus the cost of the additional service).

On certain dates surcharges may have to be applied. They will be calculated on request. Please ask and we will inform you on the exact valid price for your date.

-

Entry requirements:

Please pay attention to the applicable entry regulations in the USA.