

independent

colorado

by the people who really know the area

departs **saturdays** from the beginning of **June** to the end of **September**

The tour features four steam lines including the famous 3ft gauge Durango & Silverton and Cumbres & Toltec routes plus the newly open standard gauge La Veta Pass line. Wonderful scenery, historic towns and a full information pack to help you on your way.

Day 1: (Sat)

Arrival into Denver (we can arrange flights to suit your needs). After collecting your rental car stay overnight at a hotel near the airport.

Day 2: (Sun)

A 20 mile drive to the excellent Colorado Railroad Museum featuring narrow and standard gauge steam, diesels, coaches, two of the famous "galloping geese" narrow gauge railcars and a good bookstore. Continue onwards a further 30 miles to the 3ft Georgetown Loop with operational steam over the 197ft high Devil's Gate Bridge and up steep grades to Silver Plume. Stay overnight at a hotel in historic Georgetown.

Day 3: (Mon)

A scenic drive by way of Leadville, the highest town in the USA, Gunnison, Montrose and Ouray to Durango for two nights stay. There are many items of rail interest on today's route detailed in the tour information pack which comes with your tickets.

Day 4: (Tue)

A return ride over the 45-mile long 3ft gauge Durango to Silverton Railroad (upgrade to Presidential Class vintage Parlour car for £45 supplement). The route takes you along the famous "high line" – a ledge 200ft above the Animas River, finally through the deep Silverton Gorge past a waterfall and over the river. There are numerous "eateries" during the two hour layover in the fascinating old mining town of Silverton.

Day 5: (Wed)

Morning at leisure or to photograph the steam departures (scenic locations outlined in the information pack) or drive out to Mesa Verde National Park with its ancient Indian settlements before driving to Chama for two nights stay.

Day 6: (Thu)

A full day ride behind steam over the 64-mile Cumbres & Toltec Railroad from Chama to Antonito. (Upgrade to Parlour car for £29.00 supplement). The line features a stiff climb to Cumbres Summit at 10,000ft altitude. A lunch stop is made at Osier (meal payable locally) before a change of trains onwards through the dramatic Toltec Gorge to Antonito. Return to Chama by connecting railway bus service.

Day 7: (Fri)

An opportunity to lineside the Cumbres & Toltec Railroad from Chama to the Summit before continuing by road to Alamosa for two nights stay.



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TOUR COST:

2 persons £595.00 per person

3 or 4 persons £565.00 per person

5 or 6 persons £545.00 per person

These prices are "land only" Denver back to Denver

Single room supplement £295.00

Insurance: £55.00

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Day 8: (Sat)

Full day trip behind standard gauge 2-6-0 No. 1744 of 1901 from Alamosa over the scenic La Veta Pass line and return (Upgrade to Parlour car for £27.00 supplement).

Day 9: (Sun)

Drive from Alamosa to Denver with time to call in at Caboose Hobbies, the largest railway model shop in the world (open Sundays), or for sightseeing in Denver. Stay one night in Denver.

Day 10: (Mon)

Depart on your flight back to the UK.

The costs are based on:

- 2 persons sharing a compact car .
- 3 or 4 persons sharing a 4-door intermediate
- 5 or 6 persons sharing a 7-seater people mover

The Tour Cost Includes:

- Car rental for the full duration of the tour, unlimited mileage and Collision Damage Waiver (CDW) included.
- 9 nights hotel accommodation in rooms with private facilities, room only basis, though many hotels now offer a complimentary light breakfast.
- One way ride on the Cumbres & Toltec Railroad with return by bus
- Return ride on the Durango & Silverton Railroad
- Return ride on the La Veta Pass line
- Information pack

Not Included:

- Fuel for the rental car
- Meals
- Ride on the Georgetown Loop Railroad (\$20.00)
- Entrance to the Colorado Railroad Museum at Golden (\$9.00)

As flight costs can vary depending on the time of year and your departure airport please call the Travel Bureau for the latest air fares.

Why not continue your holiday by riding Amtrak's California Zephyr from Denver to Sacramento or Oakland (For San Francisco), with a return flight from the West Coast back to the UK. Call for details and prices.

A special independent departure will be arranged to coincide with Trains Unlimited Tours steam hauled photo-freight charters on the Cumbres, Silverton and La Veta Pass lines 23 September to 1 October 2008. Call for prices.