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Lost
San Francisco
Golden Gate Bridge, Fisherman's Wharf, Venetian Gardens, Sights & Activities, Shopping, Entertainment, Eating, Drinking & Nightlife

San Francisco
Walk on the Street
San Francisco Ferry Building, Sonoma Plaza, Sights & Activities, Shopping, Entertainment, Eating, Drinking & Nightlife

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Chicago
The Windy City will blow you away with its cloud-scrapping architecture, lakefront beaches and world-class museums. But its true mojo is its blend of high culture and earthy pleasures. Is there another city that dresses its Picasso sculpture in local sports-team gear? Where residents queue for hot dogs in equal measure to some of North America’s top restaurants? Sure, the winters are brutal, but come summer, Chicago (p155) fetes the warm days with food and music festivals.

Jay Pritzker Pavilion (p159), designed by Frank Gehry

Miami
How does one city get so lucky? Most content themselves with one or two highlights, but Miami (p179) seems to have it all. Beyond the stunning beaches and Art Deco Historic District, there’s culture at every turn. In cigar-filled dance halls, Havana expats dance to son and boleros; in exclusive nightclubs stiletto-heeled, fiery-eyed Brazilian models shake to Latin hip-hop; and in the park old men clack dominoes. To top it off, street vendors and restaurants dish out diverse flavors from the Caribbean, Cuba, Argentina and Spain.
Plan Your Trip

Ten-Day Itinerary

Big Apple to the Big Easy

Delve into two of the USA’s most fascinating cities – New York City and Washington, DC – for their world-class museums, iconic buildings, and top-notch food and entertainment options. Then head south for sparkling beaches, Disney magic and Cajun cooking on a ramble through Miami, Orlando and New Orleans.

New York City (p35)

Spend two days exploring the metropolis, visiting memorable people-watching ‘hoods such as Chinatown, the West and East Villages, SoHo, Nolita and the Upper West Side. Museum-hop down the Upper East Side. Wander in Central Park, along the High Line and across the Brooklyn Bridge. Prioritize iconic sights, including the Statue of Liberty and MoMA. In the evenings, catch a Broadway show or a concert at legendary Carnegie Hall or the Lincoln Center.

New York City to Washington, DC

3½ hrs Amtrak Northeast Regional train

Washington, DC (p127)

Take two days to see the nation’s capital. Spend one day on the National Mall, exploring the monuments, memorials and Smithsonian museums. On the next day, head to Georgetown for shopping, café-hopping and ambling along atmospheric tree-lined streets. At night, seek out eating and drinking hot spots in Logan Circle, Shaw and Capitol Hill.

Washington, DC to Miami

2½ hrs

Miami (p179)

Get ready for two days in body-beautiful Miami. Stroll the Technicolor backdrop of the Art Deco Historic District, delve into
the contemporary art scene in Wynwood and connect with Miami’s Latin roots in Little Havana. Set aside plenty of downtime for playing in the waves, and for long walks on Miami Beach, and plan at least one night out in South Beach.

Miami to Walt Disney World

4hrs Head north along Florida’s Turnpike toll road

4 Walt Disney World (p201)
So many theme parks, so little time. You’ll have to make some tough choices for your two-day stay. The safe bet: spend day one in the Magic Kingdom, seeing Cinderella’s Castle, Pirates of the Caribbean and nightly fireworks; on day two go on safari at Animal Kingdom and see a show in the Tree of Life. Epcot is another top option.

Walt Disney World to New Orleans

9hrs West via I-75 and I-10

1½ hrs From Orlando

5 New Orleans (p213)
By day explore the French Quarter and Jackson Square, or head to the Tremé to learn about New Orleans’ deep African American roots. Ride the St Charles Avenue Streetcar and ogle the mansions. In the evenings, have a Cajun feast at Cochon or Coop’s, and then go to hear live jazz at a club on Frenchman St.
Plan Your Trip

If You Like...

Local Delicacies

**Union Oyster House**
Guess what gets shucked and sucked in this Boston restaurant? (p108)

**Coop’s Place**
Prime New Orleans spot to sample jambalaya and other Cajun dishes. (p230)

**Lobster Dock**
You just can’t beat a Maine seaside shack for cracking into a crustacean. (p124)

**Giordano’s**
Chicago’s deep-dish pizza behemoth. (p174)

**Exquisito Restaurant**
Roast pork and plantains in Miami’s Little Havana. (p197)

Architecture

**Chicago**
Birthplace of the skyscraper, Chicago has magnificent works by many of the great 20th-century architects. (p155)

**New York City**
The much-photographed classics include the art-deco Chrysler Building, the majestic Brooklyn Bridge and the spiraling Guggenheim. (p35)

**Miami**
Miami’s art-deco district is a Technicolor dream come to life. (p186)

**San Francisco**
See elegant Victorians, cutting-edge 21st-century masterpieces and possibly the most beautiful bridge in the world. (p289)

**New Orleans**
A gorgeous French colonial center, plus grand mansions reached via a historic streetcar. (p213)

Historic Sights

**Freedom Trail, Boston**
Visit Paul Revere’s home, an 18th-century graveyard and 14 other Revolutionary War sites along the 2.5-mile path. (p96)

**Washington, DC**
See where Lincoln was assassinated, Martin Luther King Jr gave his famed speech and Nixon’s presidency was undone. (p127)

**Alcatraz**
Catch a ferry to the notorious island prison where D-block solitary cells raise goosebumps. (p296)

**John F Kennedy National Historic Site**
Immerse yourself in the Kennedy lifestyle in the house where Jack and various siblings were born. (p106)
Plan Your Trip

Need to Know

When to Go

High Season (Jun–Aug)
- Warm days across the country, with generally high temperatures.
- Busiest season, with big crowds and higher prices.
- In ski resort areas, January to March is high season.

Shoulder Season (Oct & Apr–May)
- Milder temperatures, fewer crowds.
- Spring flowers (April); fiery autumn colors (October) in many parts.

Low Season (Nov–Mar)
- Wintry days, with snowfall in the north, and heavier rains in some regions.
- Lowest prices for accommodations (aside from ski resorts and warmer getaway destinations).

Currency
US dollar ($)

Language
English

Visas
Visitors from Canada, the UK, Australia, New Zealand, Japan and many EU countries don’t need visas for less than 90-day stays. Other nations see http://travel.state.gov.

Money
ATMs widely available. Credit cards accepted at most hotels, restaurants and shops.

Cell Phones
Foreign phones that operate on tri- or quad-band frequencies will work in the USA. Or purchase inexpensive cell phones with a pay-as-you-go plan once you’re there.

Driving
Drive on the right; the steering wheel is on the left side of the car.