

Campground Q & A's

How have we chosen the campgrounds on our itineraries?

Many campgrounds are in here because of the personal recommendation of a member of Cruise America's staff – Camplands in San Diego for instance. Every single one we have featured has been checked with one or other of the sites which give ratings to campgrounds. Of course it has to be said that these ratings will have been based on reports by customers who have visited in the past; things change, campgrounds are bought and sold. However, we feel confident that those we have suggested will be to your satisfaction. If you feel you would like to choose your own campgrounds, or check the ratings on the ones we have chosen, by all means do so. The Website address for our suggested overnight campground is listed at the end of each day.

How did we choose what itineraries to put in?

With 40 years experience of helping people with their motorhome vacations in North America, we believe we have the knowledge and experience to know where people want to travel. While it is important that where you stay overnight is clean and comfortable, it's the daytime journey and the sights you will see, that will make your holiday a success. So we have highlighted must see experiences or 'Visit' on each day to show you what you won't want to miss.

How have we constructed our itineraries?

The majority of our itineraries shows one night at each campground. We know, however, that not all of you will be taking 7-10 night holidays! So we have left it to you to decide how many nights you will spend at each campground, thus lengthening our itineraries into the perfect trip for you. All mileages shown in the Tourbook are approximate and may vary depending on route chosen.

How long should we spend at each campground then?

That's a tough question! If you are going to visit the Grand Canyon, for instance, you will probably want to spend at least three nights. You may be happy to view the Canyon from the top of the South rim or you may want to take a day trek down into the Canyon, a helicopter ride over the Canyon is



Capital Reef Campsite

Photo: Willem Pompert

breathtaking and can be booked with several operators such as Maverick Helicopters. Yes, there is an airport right there with helicopter tours going all day. In fact all of the National Parks are going to be places for more than just one night. On all of our itineraries we have shown a 'must not miss' place – and this may guide you on how long you wish to spend at each place. It has to be said that some campgrounds are 'break your journey'



The Grand Canyon

Photo: Vicki Westgate

stops – in which case one night is enough.

Are there any times we should definitely book our campgrounds in advance?

If wanting to stay near big attractions – Disney, Universal Studios, Niagara Falls – or close to popular cities, we would always recommend advance booking.

Otherwise, if travelling in July and August or on the following holiday weekends, booking ahead is a very good idea:

USA & Canada: Christmas and Easter.

USA: Memorial Day in May, Independence Day in July, Labor Day in September, Thanksgiving in November.

CANADA: Canada Day in July, Labor Day in September, Thanksgiving in October – plus a myriad of other holidays in certain Provinces.



Marshmallows in Yellowstone

Photo: Shane Morrison



Lake Havasu, Arizona

Photo: Willy Lowe

How do we book in advance?

You can often book our selected campgrounds on-line or by email. Only rarely will you need to telephone. If calling, be sure to have all the information you need at your fingertips. You will need to know the day of arrival and number of nights you wish to stay; if they ask about electricity amps "What Amps do you want?" you will need to tell them 30 amps (all Cruise America vehicles are 30 amps). You will be asked for your credit card details to pay in advance. Each campground has its own cancellation policy so be sure to find out what that is and make a note.

Do we need full hook-ups every night?

If your fresh water tank is full, there is no need to hook up to city water. If your grey and black water waste tanks are empty, there is no need to use the waste disposal at the site. It's probably only electricity you would plug into on such an occasion. Obviously if your waste tanks are full and your fresh water tank is empty, you will want all hook-ups!

For complete directories on campsites in various States in the USA and Canada please contact the relevant tourist boards.

Here are some useful websites:

www.visitflorida.com
www.visitcalifornia.com
www.britishcolumbia.travel
www.travelalberta.com
www.koa.com
www.byways.org
www.recreation.org
www.rvparkreviews.com
www.arvc.org
www.gorving.ca



Orlando/Kissimmee KOA Campground, Florida