

WORLD AFFAIRS COUNCIL
of Philadelphia

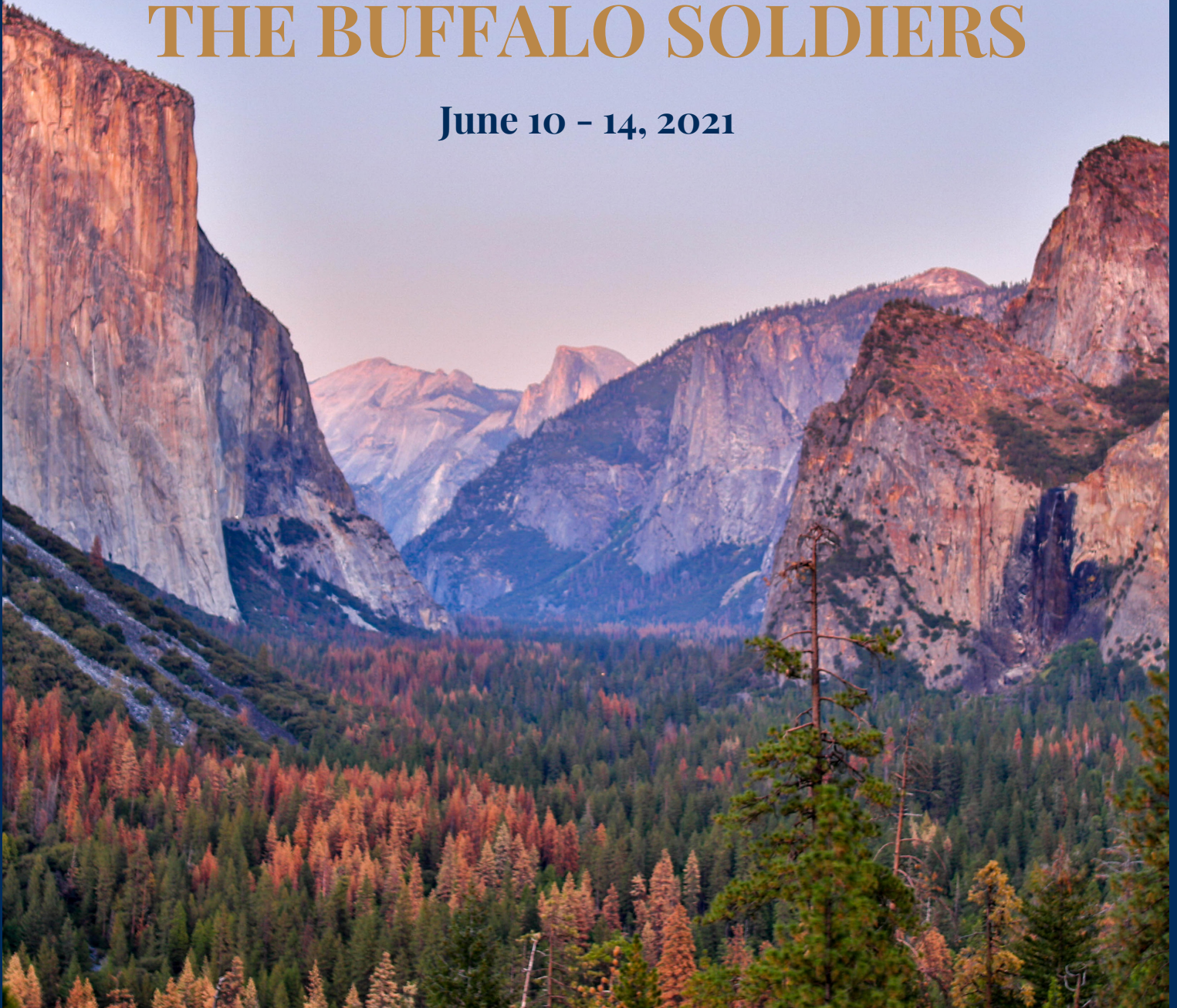


& Cooperating Councils
DEMOCRACY DEMANDS DISCOURSE

YOSEMITE

THE AMERICAN LEGACY OF THE BUFFALO SOLDIERS

June 10 - 14, 2021



RETRACING THE LEGACY OF THE BUFFALO SOLDIERS

Yosemite is a land where history was made—our nation's first land dedicated to public recreation and enjoyment. Now a beloved natural treasure, the early days of these protected lands reveal a powerful story of its first guardians, the Buffalo Soldiers. In the late 19th century, African-American troops patrolled the wilderness of Yosemite and Sequoia National Parks, becoming the first "park rangers"—before the term even existed. On this exclusive National Park tour, you will witness the same magnificent features that amazed these first frontiersmen from the Wawona Tunnel to Half Dome. And you'll traverse the Giant Sequoia Forest, horseback ride along western wagon trails, and marvel at the granite monolith El Captain.

Throughout the journey, delve into the history and legacy of the Buffalo soldiers, stewards of this incredible landscape who created the foundation for the National Park Service, conservation, habitat restoration, and ultimately served the public good of all Americans, regardless of color or ethnicity.



Buffalo soldiers of the 9th Cavalry, while stationed at Yosemite National Park. ca. 1899

ITINERARY

JUNE 10 — WELCOME TO THE VALLEY

Arrive in Yosemite Valley, one of the greatest wonders of nature in the entire world famed for its breathtaking hiking trails, majestic waterfalls, stunning granite cliffs, and ancient sequoia trees.

Check-in at our luxurious lodge and home for the duration of the trip. Settle in and enjoy your first sunset in Yosemite valley over a Welcome Dinner and Reception. Our local guides and hosts from the Yosemite Conservancy will join us for an overview of the trip ahead.

Transfers can be arranged from FAT, SFO, OAK, or other nearby locations

Overnight: Tenaya Lodge or similar

Meals: D

JUNE 11 — WALK AMONGST GIANTS

Enjoy breakfast at the lodge and journey deeper into the Valley for a 2 hour hike to see the massive, ancient giant sequoias (some of which are over 2,000 years old!). After a picnic lunch we'll be joined by a local naturalist from the Yosemite Conservancy who will give us a lesson in flora and fauna 101 and explain the modern restoration and preservation efforts behind maintaining this magnificent and delicate ecosystem.

As we wind through Yosemite Valley our guide will provide some geological context and historical highlights. We'll stop at iconic Tunnel View and the 617 foot Bridaveil Falls, where Ahwahneechee folklore advises that inhaling the mist of the waterfall would improve one's chance of marriage. A famed vista for good reason. Dinner will be on your own, with a variety of options available around the property.

Overnight:

Tenaya Lodge or similar

Meals: B, L



JUNE 12 – IT'S SHOWTIME

Enjoy a leisurely breakfast at the Lodge and an afternoon of free time relaxing outdoors or poolside. In the early afternoon we will depart for a visit to the Pioneer History Center, featuring horse-drawn wagons, a covered bridge, and historic buildings from Yosemite's past. The Pioneer History Center has a plethora of unique and beautiful photo opportunities, especially around the covered bridge, have your camera ready!

See the park through a new lens with a special showing at the Yosemite Theater. Experience Yosemite's past and present through talented rangers, historians and storytellers, as they bring history to life on stage, sharing true tales and inspiring insights. It was on this stage that award winning Ranger Shelton Johnson portrayed this history of the Buffalo Soldier in a live performance - a program that garnered national attention around diversity in national parks and new wave of activism for getting more people of color into the outdoors.

After the performance, take a scenic drive to Glacier Point and catch a beautiful sunset overlooking Yosemite Valley, Vernal and Nevada Fall, and the Sierra Nevada mountains including Half Dome and El Capitan. Enjoy a hot chocolate and snack at the Glacier Point Shop. Return to the lodge for a night of rest and reflection. Dinner is at your leisure on the property.

Overnight: Tenaya Lodge or similar

Meals: B, L



JUNE 13 — RIDE WITH THE COWBOYS

Rise and shine this morning, and energize with breakfast at the lodge in preparation for an adventurous day of hiking and horseback riding. Ready your daypack and head out for a full day of glorious guided hiking, breaking up into small groups for varying levels of hiking intensity.



Over lunch, the rangers will provide a historical presentation on the legacy of the Buffalo Soldiers and their role in the creation of today's National Park Service. You'll have an opportunity to ask any of your questions about the week's adventures.

Our afternoon is a classic Western adventure - to experience the beautiful terrain of Yosemite on horseback! Ride through tall pines, along western wagon trails, and along the banks of Big Creek. Connect with nature the way John Muir and Teddy Roosevelt did, from the high saddle of a trusty Sierra steed. Real Yosemite Cowboys will be our equestrian guides and storytellers; a brief training will be available for any first time riders. After this big adventure, we'll have a celebratory group dinner with wood-fired pizza, salad, and drinks.

Overnight: Tenaya Lodge or similar

Meals: B, L, D

JUNE 14 — A FOND FAREWELL

Enjoy a final breakfast at the lodge before we depart back to San Francisco.

Optional extension and hikes are available for those interested

Meal: B



World Affairs Council | Registration Form

Yosemite, The American Legacy of the Buffalo Soldier, June 10 - 14, 2021

Full Legal Name as it appears on your passport

Address

City/State/Zip

Phone

E-mail Address

Date of Birth

Passport Number

Passport Expiration Date

Nationality

Gender

Emergency Contact Name, Phone Number & Email

Dietary Allergies or Restrictions

Medical Allergies/Physical Limitations/ Health Issues

Full Legal Name of companion traveler (if applicable)

I am a member of _____ Council

FILL OUT ONLY IF ALSO REGISTERING FOR COMPANION:

Traveler 2 Phone Number

Traveler 2 E-mail Address

Traveler 2 Date of Birth

Traveler 2 Passport Number

Traveler 2 Passport Expiration Date

Traveler 2 Nationality

Traveler 2 Gender

Traveler 2 Emergency Contact Name, Phone Number & Email

Traveler 2 Dietary Allergies or Restrictions

Traveler 2 Medical Allergies/Physical Limitations/ Health Issues

ROOMING OPTIONS:

____ I will be sharing a room with my travel companion, and will required: ____one bed in our room OR ____ two beds in our room.

____ I would like to be paired with another traveler of the same gender. I understand if that is not possible, I will have a room to myself and agree to pay the \$499 single room supplement.

____ I prefer to have a private room to my self and agree to pay the \$499 single room supplement.

PAYMENT:

Here is my deposit of \$_____ (\$200 per person) for ___ place(s)

____ Charge my deposit to my ____ Visa ____ MasterCard ____ American Express

Card Number

Expires

Security Code

Authorized Cardholder Signature

Date

To make your reservation: Mail, scan, or fax your completed form to World Affairs Council, One Penn Center, 1617 John F. Kennedy Blvd., Suite 1055, Philadelphia, PA 19103. Email: travel@wacphila.org, fax: 215-561-5660, or call us at 215-561-4700 x 209.

Note: The Council is moving offices Jan. 31, 2021. Please call if you are mailing your reservation after this time.

____ I / We have read the Terms and Conditions for this program linked [here](#) and agree to them.

Signature

Signature Traveler 2 (if applicable)

Date



PROGRAM DETAILS

THIS PROGRAM INCLUDES

- All activities, sightseeing, and entry fees listed in the itinerary.
- Accommodations as described in the itinerary.
- All meals listed in the itinerary, including wine and beer at the welcome dinner and reception.
- Transportation by private motor coach.
- Bottled water during all excursions.
- Comprehensive cultural information and reading materials.
- The services of World Affairs Council tour managers and hosts.
- All gratuities for participants and staff to cover drivers, wait staff at group meals, guides, and tour directors.

THIS PROGRAM DOES NOT INCLUDE

- Transportation to and from Yosemite, California
 - *Airport transfer assistance is available*
- Personal expenses (including cab fares, laundry, personal items, room service charges).
- Food and beverage other than that specified in the itinerary.
- Travel insurance (we strongly advise that each participant arrange for their own travel insurance).
- Medical expenses.
- Costs associated with trip interruption or modification due to weather, travel conditions, political/civil disputes, medical emergencies or other causes beyond our control.

HEALTH

- All travelers must be at least 18 years of age by the date of travel. Trip participants must ensure that they are suitably fit to allow full participation.

Rates

\$2,849

per person

based on double occupancy

Single Supplement

\$499

CANCELLATION POLICY

- Final payment is due 90 days before the trip, March 12th, 2021. Cancellation after this period incurs cancellation fees. The deposit is non-refundable but may be transferred to future credit on another trip.
 - 50% non-refundable if cancelled after March 12th, 2021
 - 100% non-refundable if cancelled after April 11th, 2021

TRAVEL INSURANCE

- We strongly recommend the purchase travel insurance, including trip cancellation insurance. Information on recommended travel insurance will be shared in the welcome email and made available upon request.

SPECIAL NOTE ON COVID-19

We understand that travelers are wary of booking arrangements because of the growing concern of COVID-19. If authorities deem it unsafe to travel to Yosemite, we will cancel the trip no later than 30 days before departure as safety is always our number one priority. In the event of cancellation on our end due to COVID-19 concerns, we will fully refund all participants less any unrecoverable costs.