

The Institute for Creation Research

GRAND CANYON

Creation Tour

April 11–20, 2008



Thank you for your interest in ICR's 2008 Grand Canyon Creation Tour. Enclosed is your information packet.

For additional information, please call 800.337.0375 or 619.596.6034, or send an email to cgabay@icr.org.

We look forward to serving you on this tour!



Testimonies from Previous Tours

I have seen your "desire" in everything you do and it is being blessed by God. All people associated with ICR have a wonderful maturity that shows they are obligated to God and His ways. Thank you very much! —Retired Businessman

Excellent tie-in of the Bible with physical evidence. —Mechanical Engineer

Thanks for an unforgettable week. Words fail to describe the vast magnificence of the Canyon's beauty. How awesome, fearful, and wonderful our God is, to show us evidence of His righteous judgment in the Flood! —Warehouse Foreman

I was impressed with the planning and execution of the trip, as well as instructor knowledge. —Businessman

Great teaching, singing, fellowship, and fun! —Recreation & Leisure Services Rep

THE INSTITUTE FOR CREATION RESEARCH GRAND CANYON TOUR

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GENERAL INFORMATION

History

The Institute for Creation Research (ICR) has led tours of the Grand Canyon since 1980. Originally conducted as faculty research projects, these excursions eventually became field studies for ICR students. In 1983, the Grand Canyon trips were offered for the first time to friends of ICR not enrolled in the ICR Graduate School. ICR has designed a spring tour that includes hiking groups, a bus tour, and a raft trip. During the last 28 years, over 3,000 people have discovered God's handiwork in the Grand Canyon, one of the world's greatest natural wonders.

Dates of Tour

Friday, April 11, through Sunday, April 20, 2008, with Sunday as a travel day for guests to return home. We selected these dates so that pastors and Christian lay people will have fewer conflicts with busy schedules. In addition, the weather at this time of year is pleasant and accommodations are more readily available.

Purpose of Tour

We will study the evidences of geology, biology, paleontology, human culture, and history in the Southwest—especially the Grand Canyon—as they relate to the Creation and Flood accounts of Scripture. You will be intellectually challenged, spiritually uplifted, and enjoy various levels of physical activity as you experience one of the earth's most amazing natural wonders.

The Bus Tour

Tour guests will travel by luxury motor coach and explore national parks and monuments of northern Arizona and southern Utah. The instruction is non-technical and emphasizes science, history, and the culture of the southwestern United States. The fellowship is sweet. (Details of the bus tour are given on pages 5 and 6).

Participants

Adult men and women 18 years and older may participate upon acceptance of their application. Children (12 years and older) must be accompanied by a parent, demonstrate maturity and responsiveness to adult instruction, and possess physical stamina.

Participating Scientists/Faculty:

- **John D. Morris, Ph.D.**, President of ICR, Professor of Geology
- **Larry Vardiman, Ph.D.**, Chairman of ICR Astro/Geophysics Department
- **William Hoesch, M.S.**, ICR Geologist
- **Frank Sherwin, M.A.**, ICR Science Editor/Zoologist

Guidebook

Our 284-page guidebook, *Grand Canyon: Monument to Catastrophe*, is provided to each adult participant. Numerous illustrations, maps, and photographs will help you interpret the geology, biology, and archaeology of Arizona from the creationist and catastrophist framework of Scripture. This resource will be sent to you in advance so that you may become familiar with the material.

Transportation

You will travel by luxury charter bus, with commentary provided by ICR faculty and scientists beginning in Las Vegas. Please note that we cannot discount the tour price of those who provide their own transportation to and from Grand Canyon Village.

Beginning of the Tour

Please register between 4:00–6:00 pm on Friday, April 11, at the Hilton Garden Inn, 7830 S. Las Vegas Blvd, Las Vegas, Nevada (702.453.7830). The cost of your room (double occupancy) is included in the tour price. ICR will host a buffet dinner from 6:00–7:00 pm, with the tour orientation following from 7:00–9:30 pm. *Please note that this orientation is an essential part of the tour.* After a breakfast buffet on Saturday morning, we will depart promptly at 9:00 am.

End of the Tour

The tour will conclude at the Hilton Garden Inn with a fellowship banquet on the evening of Saturday, April 19. We will enjoy a time of reflection and fellowship, as well as a final night's stay at the Hilton Garden Inn (included in tour price). The hotel offers shuttle service to the airport for your flight home. **Return flights should be scheduled on Sunday, April 20th.**

After-Tour Accommodations

We have secured a discounted rate on a block of rooms for Sunday, April 20, at the Hilton Garden Inn for those guests who may need to stay an additional night in Las Vegas. The price is \$129 (not including tax) for single or family. Please note that accommodations for the evening of April 20 are *not* included in the price of the tour.

Thunderbird Lodge at Grand Canyon Village

We will stay at the Thunderbird Lodge during our visit to the south rim of the Grand Canyon. This first-class lodge is within walking distance of the south rim, and offers one cafeteria and two restaurants.

Arizona Room at Grand Canyon Village

After a breakfast buffet on Sunday, April 13, we will gather together for a worship service in the Arizona Room, which is near the Thunderbird Lodge.

Rocks, Fossils, Plants, and Animals

Early spring is the best time to explore the Canyon, with blooming wildflowers and good weather. The Canyon is also a wonderland for the study of rock strata. We will take you to some of the best places, and our guidebook and the commentary of ICR scientists will introduce you to this area of God's creation. Most lectures will be non-technical; the material presented, including

the guidebook, will require no special preparation in biology, geology, paleontology, or archaeology.

Weather

Early spring daytime temperatures on the south rim usually exceed 60°F, although we have on occasion experienced light snow. At the bottom of the Grand Canyon, daytime temperatures often exceed 90°F. Mornings and evenings on the south rim (elevation 7,000 feet) are cold, with freezing temperatures at night. We recommend several layers of warm clothing. The National Park Service has a web cam for viewing current weather conditions at Grand Canyon, at www.nps.gov/grca/grandcanyon/weather.htm

Tobacco and Alcohol

Out of respect for others, we request that you refrain from the use of tobacco and alcohol. Smoking is allowed in your room if you select single occupancy and notify us in advance of your need for a "smoking room." No smoking is allowed on the bus.

Grand Canyon IMAX Theater

One of the tour highlights is *Grand Canyon—The Hidden Secrets*, a 34-minute adventure in IMAX depicting the experience of mankind in the Grand Canyon from the Native Americans' first descent into its vast depths, to the present. Shown at the Grand Canyon Theater, the IMAX film is projected onto an enormous screen 60 feet high and 82 feet wide, equivalent to the height of a six-story building. This immense screen size, with its attendant vast panoramas, makes IMAX a different and breathtaking experience. Admission is included in the tour price.

Graduate Course Credit

One semester unit of graduate credit is offered to ICR Graduate School (ICRGS) students who participate in the tour and turn in a tour research paper. To obtain an application for the Graduate School, please write to the Registrar at ICR. Students must apply early, and an additional \$50 credit fee is required, plus a \$30 graduate school application fee. Graduate students who are currently enrolled at ICRGS may be eligible for reduced tour prices. The course is listed as Geology 506/Biology 507 in the ICRGS catalog.

Tour Prices

You may **deduct \$50** from the listed tour price if full payment is mailed to ICR by February 28, 2008.

Double-Occupancy Room Accommodations:	\$1,750
Single-Occupancy Room Accommodations:	\$2,119

(All fees are payable in U.S. dollars)

Application Process and Deadlines

All applicants must complete the application form and pay the required fees according to the schedule below. Because past interest in the tour has been high, it is possible that late applicants may be denied. We recommend that you return your application and deposit as soon as possible to hold your place on the tour. The schedule is as follows:

1. Obtain application from ICR. (Available from January 2008).
2. Return your completed application and nonrefundable deposit of \$250 as soon as possible to ICR for processing and evaluation. If you must register after February 28, 2008, we suggest that you call ICR first to determine space availability.
3. Once your application has been accepted, you will receive a "Notification of Acceptance" letter from ICR.
4. Mail the full payment by February 28, 2008, or half payment by February 1 and the balance by March 11.

Refunds for Cancellations

Should you find it necessary to cancel, a full refund of all moneys paid to ICR in excess of the \$250 nonrefundable deposit* will be made if ICR is able to fill your space with another qualified guest. If ICR is unable to fill this space, a partial refund will be made of all moneys paid to ICR less our actual out-of-pocket expenses and the nonrefundable deposit.

Note: In the event there is insufficient interest in the tour, ICR reserves the right to cancel the tour. ICR also reserves the right to cancel the tour if park regulations change.

Although in 28 years we have never cancelled a Grand Canyon activity, if it becomes necessary, ICR will refund ALL moneys paid by an applicant not later than six (6) weeks prior to the scheduled tour departure date.

Please do not purchase nonrefundable airline tickets for your tour until after February 28, 2008.

* For unexpected, serious family emergencies, we refund even the "nonrefundable" deposit, when possible.

For Further Information/Questions:

General questions and details of the bus tour:

Tour Coordinator, Cindy Gabay
619.596.6034, cgabay@icr.org

BUS TOUR DETAILS

Words cannot describe what lies in store for those who are able to be part of the bus tour. Such things as "overwhelming" and "breathtaking" come to mind, but they are just not adequate. From the majesty of the grandest of canyons, to the rugged boldness of Zion National Park, to the intricate formations and beautiful coloring of Bryce Canyon National Park, all of this and more awaits those able to be part of the bus tour.

Bus Tour Itinerary

Friday, April 11

Registration at the Hilton Garden Inn in Las Vegas, Nevada (7830 S. Las Vegas Blvd, 702.453.7830), with orientation and an ICR host dinner.

Saturday, April 12

We will enjoy an IMAX film at the Grand Canyon Theater, then head to the Grand Canyon itself.

Sunday morning, April 13

We will eat breakfast together and then attend a worship service in the Arizona Room near Thunderbird Lodge. We will then board the bus and travel to the Desert View Tower, which overlooks the Canyon, for a series of mini-lectures.

Sunday afternoon through Saturday afternoon, April 13–19

Luxury cruising on a European touring coach to world-famous attractions in northern Arizona and southern Utah:

- Sunset Crater National Monument (a beautiful cinder-cone volcano)
- Meteor Crater (a three-quarter-mile-diameter asteroid impact crater)
- Painted Desert (noted for its extraordinary red landscapes)
- Lowell Observatory (weather permitting, we will view the moon through the telescope that was used to discover the planet Pluto)
- Petrified Forest National Park
- Bryce Canyon and Zion National Parks (both known for spectacular geologic formations)
- Wupatki Indian ruins
- Upper Antelope Canyon (we will take a jeep ride to this incredibly beautiful slot canyon—experiencing this beauty will leave you breathless!)

We will also see Glen Canyon Dam (major engineering accomplishment on the Colorado River) and Lake Powell, where we will spend three hours on the Colorado River floating through Marble Canyon on large, motorized rafts—no rapids!

Saturday evening, April 19

Our tour draws to a close with a fellowship banquet, a time of reflection, and one last night's stay at the Hilton Garden Inn, Las Vegas (included in the tour price).

Please schedule your flight home on Sunday, April 20.

Be sure to bring your camera and walking shoes. We will make plenty of stops each day for pictures and short walks. For those interested in light hiking, there will be many opportunities for that, as well. How about shopping for Indian artifacts and jewelry? You will never find a better selection from which to choose what's available at several of our stops!

Instruction

Non-technical discussions along the way and at the main points of interest will emphasize science, history, and the culture of the southwestern United States. ICR faculty and scientists Dr. John Morris, Dr. Larry Vardiman, Mr. Bill Hoesch, and Mr. Frank Sherwin will ensure that this is a week you won't forget. The accompanying guidebook contains maps, photos, and diagrams to help you understand and interpret the features of interest along our tour route.

Accommodations

We have reserved space at the finest places available for each night of the tour. Great care has been taken to insure pleasant surroundings for a good night's sleep. No baggage handling is available on this tour, except on April 16 at Ruby's Inn. **You will be responsible for your luggage at all other overnight stays.** ICR staff will be ready to help as you have need.

Meals

Two breakfasts, two box lunches, one lunch, and two dinners (including the fellowship banquet) are included in the price of the tour. All other meals are on your own. Our evening accommodations have adjoining or nearby restaurants or cafeterias. Please plan to bring about \$250 for additional meals.

Tips

Other than those associated with the meals you order, the only tip we ask you to consider is for your bus driver. It is customary to tip the driver approximately \$2.00 per day, per person. Your driver will be with the tour for eight days.

In conclusion

We at ICR sincerely enjoy the part that we play on the Grand Canyon tour. Friends from past years continue to rave about our time together, and we are confident that those who join us this year will be similarly blessed. We hope that you will be one of them!