

Itinerary for Southwest (AZ, UT, NV) Trip, April 2011
From kimdawley.com

Day 1 - Thursday, 4/14

Park at Pre-flight Airport Parking, 111 Eastern Ave, Chelsea, MA

Southwest Flight 1544, departs Logan at 6:30am, arrives Denver at 9:20am

Southwest Flight 1653, departs Denver at 11:35am, arrives Phoenix at 12:35pm

Rental car pickup: Hertz @12:45pm

Drive from Phoenix to Sedona (120 miles, 2 hours, 5 mins)

Spend time in town, dinner. Pool in hotel.

Check into: Best Western Plus Arroyo Roble Hotel & Creekside
400 N Highway 89A, Sedona, AZ 86336
Phone: 928-282-4001
2 nights, check out 4/16

Day 2 - Friday, 4/15 - Sedona

Sedona Pink Jeep Tour – 10:00am (arrive at 9:30)

204 N. State Route 89A in uptown Sedona

Broken Arrow 2 hour tour

ONE OF THE BEST THINGS WE DID. HIGHLY RECOMMEND THIS.

Options for afternoon:

- Red Rock State Park - 4050 Red Rock Loop Road, Sedona, AZ 86336
- Montezuma's Castle Nat'l Monument - 1620 W. Finnie Flats Road, Camp Verde, AZ 86322, 520-567-3322 WE CHOSE THIS. COOL AS A SIDE TRIP.
- Slide Rock State Park - 6871 N. Highway 89A

Staying again at Best Western Plus Arroyo Roble Hotel & Creekside

Day 3 - Saturday, 4/16 – Jerome, Sunset Crater Volcano, drive to Grand Canyon

- Drive to Jerome – sightseeing, shopping, lunch

FUN ARTSY TOWN TO VISIT

- Drive from Sedona to Grand Canyon (109 miles, 2 hours, 35 mins)

- Stop at Sunset Crater Volcano National Monument

Directions - From Flagstaff, take U.S 89 north for 12 miles (19km), turn right on the Sunset Crater - Wupatki Loop road and continue 2 miles (3km) to the visitor center.

VERY COOL, DEFINITELY WORTH THE STOP. VERY DIFFERENT FROM ANYTHING ELSE IN THE AREA.

- Dinner reservations at El Tovar @ 5:15pm, 928.638.2631, ext. 6432, Sunset at 7:00pm

Check into: Best Western Grand Canyon Squire Inn
100 Highway 64, Grand Canyon, AZ 86023, 928-638-2681

Day 4 - Sunday, 4/17 – Grand Canyon National Park

Spend day at the Grand Canyon. Find a good tour option.

Contemplate seeing the IMAX video

DIDN'T FIND A TOUR, TOOK THE BUS AND WALKED BACK. SAW THE IMAX VIDEO MID-DAY, WHICH WAS COOL TO SEE AFTER SEEING THE GRAND CANYON IN PERSON (AND WORTH THE SHORT RIDE BACKWARDS), AND HAD LUNCH IN THAT AREA.

Drive to Page, AZ (139 miles, 2 hours, 31mins)

Check into: Days Inn and Suites
961 North Highway 89, Page, AZ 86040, 928-645-2800
1 night, check out 4/18

Day 5 - Monday, 4/18 – Page, AZ - Antelope Canyon, Horseshoe Bend

Spend the day in Glen Canyon/Lake Powell

- Lower Antelope Canyon – but not if rain is forecast (flash floods)

Drive there and sign up for the guide there. Ask for a photographers pass? Tripod? ISO 1600
Tight spaces and stairs. Ken's guided tour - Take highway 98 toward Kaibeto, pass the Upper
Antelope Canyon turnout, go another 1/4 mile, then turn left on Navajo Route N22B (Antelope
Point Road) for about 1/4 mile. The entrance sign is on the left. (928) 606-2168

Adults \$26, Kids \$18 (\$88) <http://www.lowerantelope.com/>

DID THIS AND IT WAS A FAVORITE THING ON THE TRIP - STUNNING. CATE AND I WENT ON A
PHOTOGRAPHER'S PASS WHICH MEANT WE DIDN'T HAVE TO STICK WITH THE TOUR, WHICH
CATE LOVED.

- Kayaking Antelope Canyon

Antelope Point Marina, Navaho Route 22B, 928-645-5900, \$25/day to rent kayak

www.antelopepointlakepowell.com

TOO WINDY OUR DAY TO DO THIS.

- Hike Horseshoe Bend Trail – best in early am

Off U.S. 89 about two miles south of Page. Just south of mile marker 545, turn west on the dirt
road and drive a couple of hundred yards to the parking area. Sandy hike, bring water.

No railings.

WAS CRAZY WINDY AND YOU CAN'T GET CLOSE ENOUGH TO THE EDGE TO SEE THE WHOLE
HORSESHOE (EVEN WHEN IT'S NOT WINDY). THAT SAID QUITE PRETTY, JUST NEED TO STAY
BACK. WAS COOL THAT IN VEGAS WE SAW PHOTOGRAPHER PETER LIK'S GALLERY/SHOP IN THE
CAESAR PALACE MALL IN VEGAS THAT HAD AN AWESOME PHOTO OF THIS SITE, AS WELL AS
MANY OTHER SITES WE SAW.

Other option:

- Glen Canyon Half Day Float Trip - now leaning against due to cost/time
 - One daily departure at 11:00 a.m., be there at 10:30
 - Trips return to Page, AZ by 4:30 p.m.
 - Adults \$85, Children 4 - 11 \$75 (\$320)
 - DID THIS WHEN WE WENT IN 1993 – FUN, PRETTY, LOW KEY.

Drive from Page to Bryce (151 miles, 2 hours, 35 mins)

Check into: Best Western Bryce Canyon Grand Hotel
30 N 100 E, Bryce Canyon City, UT 84764, 435-834-5700
2 nights, check out 4/20

Day 6 - Tuesday, 4/19 – Bryce Canyon National Park, Utah

Spend the day at Bryce Canyon

(look at Things to do in Bryce Canyon on Trip Advisor for trail reviews)

SUCH A UNIQUE PLACE, WELL WORTH THE TIME. BUT MUCH COOLER HERE THAN EVERYWHERE ELSE SO
NEED TO DRESS APPROPRIATELY/WARMLY.

Stay again at Best Western Bryce Canyon Grand Hotel

Day 7 - Wednesday, 4/20 – Las Vegas

If we need a sleep-in day this would be it.

Drive to Las Vegas (4 hours)

Take Highway 12 – very scenic – and see the Grand Staircase Escalante

Check in: MGM Grand Hotel
3799 Las Vegas Boulevard South
Las Vegas, Nevada 89109
702-891-1111
3 nights, check out 4/23, confirmation # 191144354

Day 8 - Thursday, 4/21 – Las Vegas

See Vegas – ideas below

“O” at the Bellagio @ 7:30pm

Section 101, Row A

THIS SPLURGE WAS DEFINITELY WORTH IT. AMAZING!

Stay at MGM Grand

Day 9 - Friday, 4/22 – Las Vegas

See Vegas

SPENT AFTERNOON AT THE VERY COOL POOL. KIDS NEEDED SOME LAZY TIME AND IT WAS GOOD FOR US TOO.

Stay at MGM Grand

Day 10 - Saturday, 4/23

Drop off car around 6am.

DIDN'T USE THE CAR IN VEGAS, WOULD HAVE MADE MORE SENSE TO DROP IT OFF EARLY AND TAKE A TAXI TO THE AIRPORT – SAVE TIME AND MONEY.

Southwest Flight 5105, departs Las Vegas at 6:55am, arrives Denver at 9:45am

Southwest Flight 5031, departs Denver at 10:35am, arrives Phoenix at 4:30pm

Vegas Ideas

Lion Habitat

MGM Grand Hotel, 11:00am - 7:00pm daily

Mandalay Bay Shark Reef Aquarium

10:00AM - 8:00PM Sunday - Thursday

10:00AM - 10:00PM Friday and Saturday

Admission: Adults \$16.95, Children 12 years old and younger \$10.95

Pinball Museum

1610 E. Tropicana, Las Vegas NV 89119

Hours: 11am till 11pm, Sunday to Thursday.

11am till Midnight, Friday and Saturday.

Free entrance, play for game

Madame Tussauds

3377 Las Vegas Boulevard South, Las Vegas

(702) 862-7800

10am – 9:30 Sun- Thurs, 10am-10:30pm Fri-Sat

Adult \$25 \$20 Child: Ages 7-12 \$15 \$12 - book online for second price

Secret Garden and Dolphin Habitat at the Mirage

3400 S. Las Vegas Blvd, Las Vegas

(702) 791-7188, Siegfried & Roy

\$15 for adults, \$10 for children 4-12 (\$50 total)

New York-New York Hotel Rollercoaster

Dancing Fountain at the Bellagio

Best easy access viewing is from the sidewalk directly in front. The best spots, the public area balconies on the ground floor of the hotel are often closed off for private functions. Performances begin Mon-Fri at 3pm and Sat-Sun at 12pm and continue every half hour until 6pm and then every 15 minutes until 12am.

Flamingo Hilton Wildlife Habitat

Right in the heart of the Strip, is where you will find this built for nature wildlife habitat. Check out the antics of the penguins, yes, penguins in Las Vegas! See gorgeous pink flamingos, of course, as well as swans, turtles, fish and a variety of birds on this 15 acre desert menagerie. Penguin feeding daily at 3:00 pm. Admission FREE. 702-733-3111.

The Forum Shops at Caesars Palace - Foremost are the animated statues and laser show at the center pavilion. "Statue Animations" are about every half hour and are nearly unbelievable (or should we say believable). Watch Bacchus come to life and chat amongst the other gods and goddesses while above you a fantastic laser light show brings the ceiling to life too. There is also the free Atlantis show outside the IMAX Theatre. Here you can watch an animated statue tale of Atlantis rising from the sea and as the Gods decreed sink back to the ocean bottom. Afterwards venture into the IMAX for an atlantis oriented thrill ride. Also while there, keep an eye on the sky-like ceiling which very subtly changes from dawn to dusk over the course of about a half an hour. Great arcade (downstairs at the far end) for kids, a magic shop with constant demonstrations and one of the largest remaining FAO Shwartz toy stores. 702-731-7990.

STATUES NOT WORTH THE TIME, BUT THE PETER LIK STORE/GALLERY WAS VERY COOL.

Circus, Circus Hotel - Circus Acts - Watch skilled circus performers at the Carnival Midway. **Carnival Midway** - Adults and children will find a variety of fun things to do at the Carnival Midway, with over 200 games surrounding the circus stage.

Gameworks - Located next to the MGM Grand Hotel this large arcade offers plenty of games and big screens that keep the adults as well as the kids entertained.

Paris Las Vegas - Eiffel Tower Experience - Take an elevator ride for a view of the Strip from this replica of the Eiffel Tower at 460 feet.