



*Colorado Family*  
**DINOSAUR**  
*Adventure*

**UNAWEEP CANYON | DOUGLAS PASS | COLORADO RIVER**



**JOHNS HOPKINS**  
UNIVERSITY

**JULY 11-17, 2015**

**ATA: 1 (800) 556-7896**

**[www.alumni.jhu.edu](http://www.alumni.jhu.edu)**





## Program Highlights

This western Colorado adventure provides a perfect opportunity for families to vacation deep in red-rock country while learning about a subject that children never tire of—the mysterious dinosaur! The program is based in the Grand Valley of the Colorado River—a region teeming with dinosaur fossils and an incredible variety of natural wonders from fanciful rock formations to lush alpine forests.

Families with children ages 7 - 16 will dig side-by-side with scientists in an active, productive quarry where bones from eight species of dinosaurs have been found. Travelers will explore the entire science of paleontology from prospecting to laboratory preparation of fossils in the lab of the Dinosaur Discovery Museum. The dynamic field staff is expert at tailoring activities and instructions for all age levels. Families work together at times, and separate for age-appropriate activities, with emphasis on both learning and fun.

Resident director and paleontologist Jonathan Cooley will provide expert and engaging instruction. He earned his B.A. in paleo-biology and M.S. in geology from Montana State University. He has extensive experience teaching field techniques and accompanying expeditions to such exotic dinosaur localities as the Gobi Desert and the north slope of Alaska. Jonathan and his staff bring a contagious excitement to the program with their flexible teaching styles and broad academic backgrounds.

This program also includes a wonderful array of activities outside of the quarries. Families will raft on the spectacular Colorado River, hike in awe-inspiring Colorado National Monument, and travel to 9,000 feet to prospect for plant and animal fossils on high mountain Douglas Pass.

- Excavate dinosaur fossils at the Mygatt-Moore Dinosaur Quarry, where eight different species of dinosaurs have been found.
- Hike the Trail Through Time, where portions of dinosaur skeletons remain imbedded in the rock where they have been for 150 million years.
- Learn about the science of paleontology from paleontologist Jonathan Cooley, who has helped collect a variety of dinosaurs from Jurassic super-giants to Cretaceous embryonic babies.
- Prepare fossils and cast bones and teeth in a professional lab.
- Take an exciting float trip on the Colorado River through beautiful canyons, concluding with a barbecue at the river's edge.
- Hunt for insect and plant fossils from the Green River Formation on the 9,000-foot, alpine Douglas Pass.
- Make rubbings of dinosaur tracks at an actual dinosaur track site where sediments have preserved tracks for millions of years.



## Dear Johns Hopkins Alumni and Friends,

We invite you to join us in western Colorado this summer on an exciting expedition designed for families to discover the world of paleontology in one of the richest dinosaur domains in the country. Travel back in time to the era when dinosaurs roamed the Colorado plateau on an adventure designed for you and your future scientists.

The Colorado Family Dinosaur Adventure is full of hands-on, active learning experiences for you, your children, and your grandchildren as you explore Western Colorado's beautiful Grand Valley, a region teeming with dinosaur fossils. Dig side-by-side with scientists in a quarry where incredible discoveries have been made, including bones from eight species of dinosaurs. The field staff will guide you from prospecting to quarrying to preparation of fossils in the lab, with emphasis on both fun and learning. To round this Western experience, we also include a rafting trip on the Colorado River, hiking in the awe-inspiring Colorado National Monument, and horseback riding through a beautiful, secluded valley.

This exclusive expedition is limited to 22 participants. Join us in this unique opportunity to create unforgettable summer memories for you and your family.

Sincerely,

*Marguerite I. Jones*

Marguerite I. Jones, A&S '74, Bus '88  
Travel Program Director  
Office of Alumni Relations  
The Johns Hopkins University

# Itinerary



**July 11**

**D**

## GRAND JUNCTION

Arrive in Grand Junction, Colorado, and gather for a welcome dinner and orientation. Doubletree Grand Junction.

**July 12**

**B | L**

## SPLIT ROCK

Spend the morning hiking the “bone yard” at the Split Rock dinosaur area. Learn to distinguish bone from rock in this prehistoric landscape. Enjoy lunch at the Museum of Western Colorado’s Dinosaur Journey Museum, and spend the afternoon encountering its life-size robotic dinosaurs and exploring hands-on exhibits. Finally, tour the spectacular red-rock canyons of the Colorado National Monument.

**July 13**

**B | L**

## GRAND VALLEY/UNAWEEP CANYON

Take a horseback or wagon ride to the base of the sandstone cliffs forming the edge of the 10,000-foot Uncompahgre Plateau. Visit a dinosaur track site where you will make track rubbings and learn about dinosaur locomotion. Picnic on the banks of West Creek in Unaweep Canyon, and afterward enjoy a swim in the creek’s cool, flowing waters. Later, stop at the “bone boulder” to see perfect molds of bones from another species of dinosaur.



**July 14**

**B | L**

## MYGATT-MOORE QUARRY

Excavate with paleontologists in the Mygatt-Moore Quarry, where eight distinct species of dinosaurs have been discovered. Then hike the “trail through time,” where we’ll identify large fragments of dinosaur skeletons, embedded in sediments for more than 145 million years. Tonight, cheer on the wranglers at the local rodeo.





# Itinerary



**July 15**

**B | L**

## **DOUGLAS PASS**

In a private paleontology lab, learn how fossils are made ready for museum curation and display. Then, continue to an artist's studio to watch how casts of fossils are prepared. Depart the Grand Valley and journey up the 9,000-foot Douglas Pass. Hunt for plant and insect fossils in a high alpine forest.



**July 16**

**B | L | D**

## **RUBY AND HORSETHIEF CANYONS**

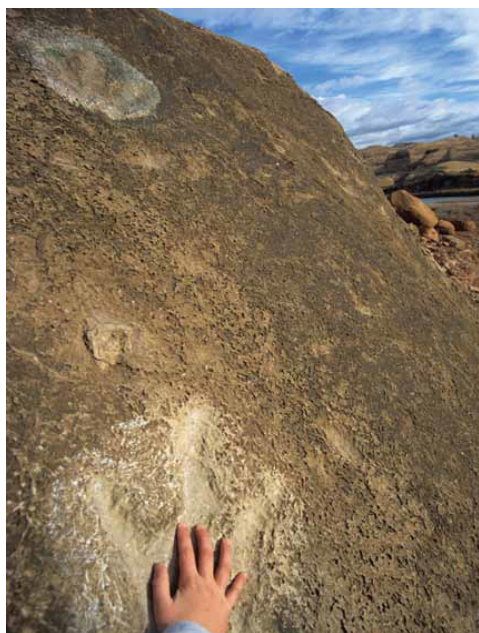
Take a gentle float trip down the Colorado River as it twists and turns through the red-rock country of Ruby and Horsethief Canyons. A festive farewell dinner is served by the river to celebrate our prehistoric adventure and new friends.

**July 17**

**B**

## **GRAND JUNCTION**

Depart Grand Junction for your return flight home.



*Note: Portions of this itinerary take place on land administered by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM).*



## **STUDY LEADER**

Jonathan Cooley studied geology and paleontology at the University of Colorado and at Montana State University, where he completed his thesis on the world-famous Morrison Formation. Jonathan developed a field techniques course for the Museum of the Rockies paleontology field school at Egg Mountain. In addition to leading family programs and camps in the American West for over fifteen years, Jonathan has led numerous groups to fossil sites in Alaska, Mongolia, Argentina, and Mexico.



# Accommodations



This family adventure is based at Hilton's Doubletree Hotel Grand Junction, overlooking the Grand Valley and bluffs of the Grand Mesa Plateau. The hotel features an outdoor swimming pool, lighted tennis courts, sand volleyball, basketball court, and a children's playground. Recently refurbished guestrooms have two queen-size beds, with roll-away beds available upon request. The hotel also provides complimentary airport transfers.







## Land Program

**Adult: \$3,650**

**Child: \$3,175**

**Single Supplement: \$525**

All prices quoted are in USD, per person, based on double occupancy and do not include air transportation costs. Single accommodations are an additional \$525 (limited availability).

### **TO RESERVE TODAY**

To register your interest and receive more details as they become available, call Academic Travel Abroad at 202-785-9000 or 1-800-556-7896. You may also email us at [travel@academic-travel.com](mailto:travel@academic-travel.com). We accept VISA, MasterCard, and American Express credit cards. Early reservation is recommended to ensure your space on this program.



## **ACCOMMODATIONS**

See detailed itinerary for Colorado Family Dinosaur Adventure

### **WHAT IS INCLUDED**

- Professional on-site guides
- All accommodations and meals as outlined in the itinerary
- All ground transportation within the itinerary unless otherwise indicated
- All sightseeing as specified in the itinerary
- Entrance fees
- Gratuities to porters, drivers, and guides
- Transfers to and from airports for those arriving or departing according to the designated itinerary
- Baggage handling for one checked piece and one carry on piece per person
- The assistance of ATA's professional travel team to assist with pre-trip questions and travel arrangements including flights, extra hotel nights, and other services
- Comprehensive pre-departure information about the destination and what to expect on the trip, including a suggested reading list

### **WHAT IS NOT INCLUDED**

- Airfare from the United States to Grand Junction, CO and return home. Airport transfers and baggage handling for travelers arriving before or after the planned group transfer or departing the trip before or after the planned group transfer
- Travel and trip cancellation insurance
- Passport, visa, airport departure and excess baggage fees
- Meals not specified in the itinerary; food and beverages not part of the included meals
- Personal items such as telephone, fax and internet charges, laundry, room service, alcoholic or other beverages not specified as included
- Gratuities for non-group services
- Expenses resulting from delays due to bad weather, road conditions, sickness, government action, and flight delays
- Expenses incurred in making individual travel arrangements in conjunction with the trip

### **SINGLE ROOMS**

A limited number of single rooms are available at extra cost on a first-come, first-served basis, but availability cannot be guaranteed. Please understand that, in some hotels, single rooms are very small. The premium you pay is for privacy, not spaciousness.

### **PAYMENT SCHEDULE**

\$500 deposit upon application. Balance due upon receipt of invoice, 90 days before departure. Acceptable forms of payment for the deposit are personal check, wire transfer, Visa, MasterCard, or American Express. Final payment may be made by credit card, check or wire transfer. If final payment is not received by 60 days prior to departure, your space is subject to cancellation. If you are making a reservation within 90 days of the trip's departure, full payment will be required upon confirmation.

## **CANCELLATION AND REFUNDS**

All cancellations must be submitted in writing (email or fax) to Academic Travel Abroad, Inc. (ATA). Per person cancellation fees are based on the date of the cancellation notice reaching ATA. More than 120 days prior to departure; refund of deposit less an administration fee of 50% of deposit. Cancellation between 119-91 days before departure: 100% of deposit is forfeited. Cancellation between 90-61 days, 50% of the tour price if forfeited. Cancellation within 60 days of departure: no refund. Cancellation on day of departure or after tour departs: no refund. No refund for unused portions of tour, including, but not limited to, missed meals, hotel nights and sightseeing. Cancellation of program by the Johns Hopkins University and ATA: full refund. Reservations are not transferable without the explicit approval of the JHU and ATA.

NOTE: Neither the Johns Hopkins University nor ATA accepts liability for any airline or train cancellation penalty incurred by the purchase of a nonrefundable airline or train ticket to the tour departure city or return.

## **INSURANCE**

We strongly recommend the purchase of trip cancellation insurance, which is available for coverage of expenses in conjunction with cancellation due to illness or accident. Baggage insurance is also recommended. In the event that you must cancel your participation in a travel program, trip cancellation insurance may be the only source of reimbursement. We will send you a brochure from Travel Insurance Services, or you may obtain coverage through a company of your choice. All ATA trips include Emergency Evacuation Insurance as part of the trip price.

## **A NOTE ABOUT THE ITINERARY**

While every effort will be made to carry out the program as planned, the nature of travel is unpredictable and we must be prepared for changes. The itinerary as described is subject to modification by ATA. Rest assured that, should any changes be needed, we commit to deliver an experience as outstanding as the one originally planned.

## **HEALTH RECOMMENDATIONS**

To enjoy your travels to the fullest, you should be in good physical and mental health. Any physical condition requiring special attention, diets, or treatment must be reported in writing when the reservation is made. We reserve the right to decline to accept or retain any person as a participant should such a person's health, mental condition, physical infirmity, or attitude jeopardize the operation of the travel program or the enjoyment of other participants. All health information is protected and treated as confidential.



## **RESPONSIBILITY**

This JHU Alumni Travel program “Colorado Family Dino Adventure” is managed by Academic Travel Abroad, Inc. (ATA), a professional travel company, hired as an independent contractor. ATA and the Johns Hopkins University act only as agents for the passenger with respect to all transportation, hotels, and all matters of reservations and trip operation. We and our agents accept no responsibility for loss, damage, injury, accident, delay or irregularity, expense or liability caused by the defect of any vehicle or negligence or default of any independent contractors, their employees, agents, or representatives. Nor do we accept responsibility for losses or delays arising from sickness, pilferage, acts of terrorism, weather conditions or acts of God. All such losses or expenses shall be borne by the program participant. We reserve the right to cancel any trip prior to departure in which case the entire payment will be refunded without further obligation on our part. We likewise reserve the right to decline to accept or retain any trip participant at any time without being under any obligation to assign any reason therefore. In the event of the exercise of this right, we shall be under no liability to such person(s) except to refund such amount as our absolute discretion deems reasonable to attribute to the uncompleted portion of the trip. Baggage is carried at the owner’s risk entirely. It is understood that air, ship or train tickets when issued shall constitute the sole contract between the passenger and carrier concerned. The airlines and all other transportation companies involved in this trip are not to be held responsible for any act, omission, or event during the time the passengers are not on board their plane or conveyances. All services are subject to the laws of the country in which they are rendered. The participant agrees on behalf of herself/himself, her/his dependents, heirs, executors, administrators and assigns to abide by the above conditions and to release and hold harmless, the Johns Hopkins University and Academic Travel Abroad, Inc., and any of their representatives from any and all liability for any delays, damage, loss, injury or death occurring in relation to this tour.

# About Your Tour Operator



**ACADEMIC TRAVEL ABROAD, INC.®**  
TRUSTED INNOVATORS IN CULTURAL TRAVEL SINCE 1950

## **ATA'S MISSION**

At Academic Travel Abroad, Inc., we have one mission: to create unparalleled, educational travel programs to satisfy sophisticated, curious travelers. For more than 60 years, our creative programs have helped educated travelers unveil the splendors the world has to offer. The result: tours of the highest quality and excellent value for distinguished travelers.

## **OUR HISTORY**

More than 60 years in the travel industry have given us a broad perspective of the world. In 1947, when more Americans wanted to start traveling abroad after World War II, ATA pioneered programs throughout Europe, from Norway to Portugal. In 1956, ATA opened the doors to cultural travel in the former USSR, and soon thereafter in China. For more than a half century, we have continued to offer innovative programs to new and favorite destinations to help travelers delve beyond the surface of these treasured places to explore the hidden riches unique to each.

## **OUR SUPERIOR STAFF**

ATA's uncommon staff is truly "at home" in the world. Combined, we have over 325 years experience in the travel industry, and we speak 15 different languages – from Mandarin to French, Arabic to Japanese, our staff knows virtually no language barriers! The fact that we have lived in, and traveled to more than 40 countries gives us an insider's view that helps us share our love of our destinations with you. Because we are committed to offering superior travel programs, our experienced, professional Program Managers create tours that uncover the behind-the-scenes culture, history, art, architecture, cuisine, and peoples of each locale, and our Tour Communication Specialists will assist you with all your tour-related needs prior to your departure. You will also benefit from having one of our expert Tour Managers, who have lived and studied in our destinations, accompany each tour. Every member of the ATA staff is devoted to making your tour with ATA a truly memorable experience.

## **OUR EXTENSIVE RESOURCES**

When you travel with ATA, you'll reap the benefits of our extensive network of global resources, both in academia and the travel industry. Because our contacts span the globe, we can ensure that you enjoy the most in-depth and hassle-free travel experience. From Beijing to the British Isles, St. Petersburg to Seville, our trusted resources abroad allow us to offer you behind-the-scenes access at private collections, museums, universities, galleries, and embassies. Hoteliers, concierges, and restaurateurs with whom we share long-standing relationships make your logistics seamless and your travel experience superior.