

SCENIC BY-WAYS OF NORTHERN UTAH

September 17-24, 2016



Total cost: **\$1,200** if 18-24 Paid Participants
Total Cost: **\$1050** if 25 or more Paid Participants
Single supplement: **\$575** (paid at time of registration)
Deposit: **\$350** (paid at time of registration)
Final Payment: **\$850/\$700 due by June 15, 2016**
Rider limit: **30**

Tour Leaders: Ken Condray, Ralph Nussbaum & Pat Matson
Tour Rating: Advanced/Expert (Read Level of Difficulty below.)

REGISTER NOW

OVERVIEW:

This tour starts and ends in Salt Lake City. It is highlighted by some of the most beautiful mountain scenery Utah has to offer. During this week of September, the mountains should be wrapped in their brilliant fall colors. We leave Salt Lake by way of the shores of Utah Lake where herds of antelope roam through the fields. After a night in Payson we spend the day climbing the Nebo Scenic Byway Loop which some consider the most beautiful byway in Utah. We continue our journey climbing up Skyline Drive with its panoramic views before the long downhill through the spectacular fall colors of Huntington Canyon. After three challenging days you now have the option of a day off enjoying a day at the pool and visiting the local museums or exploring petroglyphs in nearby Nine Mile Canyon. The next day we will visit the little coal mining/railroad town of Helper and take a tour through their Museum of History, before heading up Dinosaur Diamond Prehistoric Hwy to the town of Duchesne. Due to lack of choices our evening will be spent in a below standard hotel before heading to Park City for a night at the luxurious Marriott Hotel. You will earn your stay with a pleasant ride through a lush valley before tackling the climb into Park City. The last day has one last big climb before dropping back down to Salt Lake City. This tour offers panoramic views of mountain tops and valleys while enjoying the changing colors of aspen trees and includes a challenging climb each day followed by long exhilarating descents.

WHAT TO EXPECT:

LEVEL OF DIFFICULTY:

The ride is intended rated **Advanced/Expert** and is not for the novice cyclist. It requires training even for the veterans to assure a pleasant and memorable end to your bike touring season. Elevations range from ~4,300 ft. at SLC to over 10,000 ft. on Skyline Drive. Although the route generally traverses very lightly travelled rural roads, there are occasional stretches with no shoulder and/or significant traffic.

WEATHER:

Weather in the Northern Utah can be very warm in September. But we will be riding at high elevation where weather can change rapidly and for the worst. Riders should also be prepared for rain and cold conditions.

MEALS:

This tour will provide both snacks and lunch on riding days. Breakfast and dinner are your responsibility; however, some of our accommodations provide a complimentary warm breakfast.

LODGING:

Quality of lodging varies from basic to traditional motel chains similar to Holiday Inn Express and Best Western. In one place we find ourselves very limited as to what is available and we will just have to deal with it. This tour includes the lodging in Salt Lake City on the last day of riding.

DAY BY DAY ITINERARY: (Mileages & Elevation gains are approximate – route may vary slightly due to unforeseen circumstances.)

Saturday, September 17 – Orientation Meeting in Salt Lake City

We meet the first night in Salt Lake City for an 8:00 PM briefing meeting. Folks may wish to get together for dinner informally beforehand.

Sunday, September 18 – Salt Lake City to Payson, 87 miles - ~2,300 ft. climbing

The first day is designed to let you adjust to the elevation before starting any major climbing. We will bike along the Jordan River bike path through Salt Lake City to Utah Lake where we will spend most of the day enjoying the lake and open farm lands inhabited by herds of antelope. Once we get to Payson we should have time to visit some of the local shops and relax.

Monday, September 19 – Payson to Mount Pleasant, 65 miles - ~6,700 ft. climbing

Most of the day will be enjoying the Nebo Loop Scenic Byway. We will warm up as we leave Payson climbing 2% to 4% grades before getting serious with an overall twenty-seven-mile climb enjoying views of the Wasatch Range and 11,877 foot Mt. Nebo. We will view flat bottomlands, high-alpine conifers, red rock formation, gray sandstone cliffs and salt flats all in the same day. Sights include Devil's Kitchen, Walker Flat and Mt. Nebo Wilderness. We will descend 14 miles into the valley passing through Fountain Green and Moroni before entering Mount Pleasant.

Tuesday, September 20 – Mt. Pleasant to Price, 77 miles - ~4,000 ft. climbing

We start off the day with a warm up of 6 or 7 miles before heading up Eccles Canyon Scenic Byway with around eight miles of 6% to 9% percent grades before reaching the Skyline Drive where we will continue to climb for another 6 or 7 miles before starting our 26+ mile decent into Huntington with its famous mining history. (See www.mossback.com under Huntington mines.) From Huntington we will travel through the dry plateau to Price.

Wednesday, September 21 - Day Off in Price

You can choose to relax by the pool, check out the outstanding local museums, ride out Nine Mile Canyon to look at dozens of petroglyphs or take a relaxing walk.

Thursday, September 22 – Price to Duchesne, 55 miles - ~3,600 ft. of climbing

We leave Price getting a late start and a ten mile warm up with hopes of stopping in Helper at the [museum](#) to find out how Helper got its name. We then cycle up Dinosaur Diamond Prehistoric Hwy for a 16-mile climb to Reservation Ridge Rd before descending about 27 miles into the town of Duchesne which is very small with just the basics.

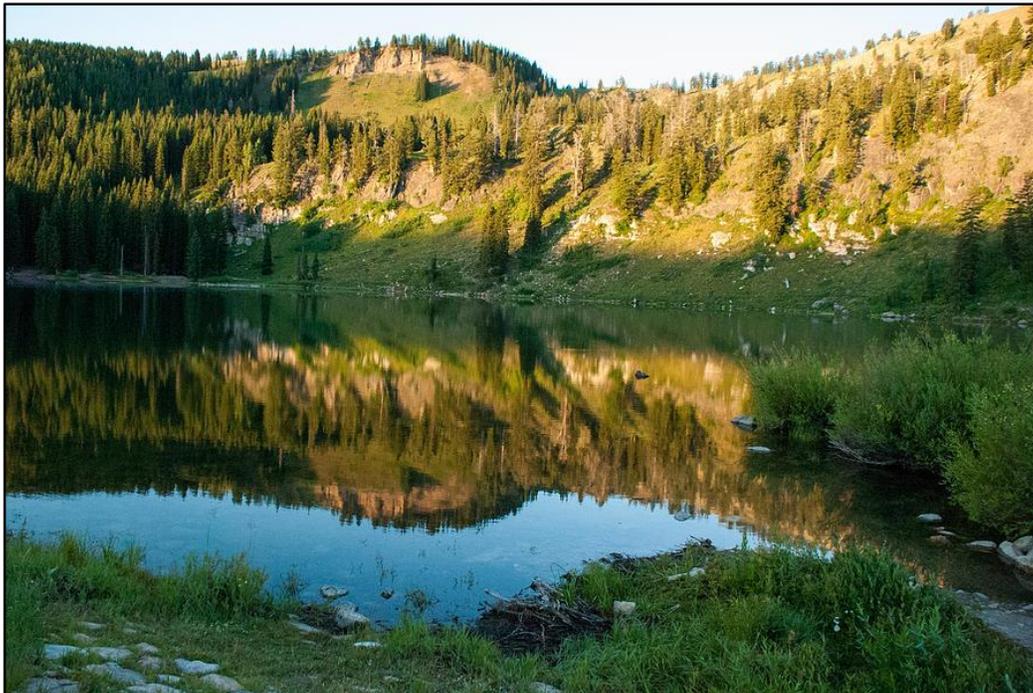
Friday, September 23 – Duchesne to Park City, 85 miles - ~5,500 ft. climbing

Today is another day to enjoy the beautiful mountain scenery. We leave the hotel starting up a slight grade until we turn left on Hwy 35 continuing through a lush valley floor for a few miles. Before you know it we have traveled 46 miles to the top of first climb and head downhill for 40 miles with a of couple bumps before reaching Park City.

Saturday, September 24 – Park City to Salt Lake City 42 miles - ~3,800 ft. climbing

Let's spend the morning enjoying this world renown mountain resort – site of the 2012 Winter Olympics. Perhaps you'll rent a mountain bike, go for a slide down a ski run or hike the beautiful trails. For the less energetic, there are shops, restaurants, and brew pubs to explore. Leaving after lunch we'll have a short but tough climb to near the top of the Deer Valley ski area before heading down via Empire and Guardsman Passes onto Big Cottonwood Canyon Rd to Salt Lake City. Be careful, it's a thrilling and technical descent! Remember Saturday night's lodging is included in the tour cost so plan to head home on Sunday, September 25.

For more information, contact Ken Condray at Condray3@gmail.com or Ralph Nussbaum at RENussbaum@outlook.com.



2016 NORTH UTAH CANYONLANDS TOUR

