

See the Total Solar Eclipse August 21, 2017

Sun Valley Idaho Eclipse

Tetons & Yellowstone • August 15-23, 2017



August 21, 2017

We invite you to join us on this fascinating adventure in the American West, including seeing the Total Solar Eclipse overlooking Sun Valley, Idaho!

On this expedition we will discover fascinating natural history and prehistoric sites from Grand Teton and Yellowstone National Parks to Boise.

We will first explore Jackson Hole to enjoy the scenic wonders and wildlife of Grand Teton and Yellowstone National Parks, and a wild west rodeo. We will also enjoy a morning float trip on gentle water on the Snake River in sight of the Grand Tetons.

We'll then follow the course of the Snake River to Pocatello to learn about the intact mammoth skeleton found in American Falls Reservoir in 2014. Our journey will continue to the innovative engineering and research lab near Idaho Falls for a special presentation about their research.

Just a short distance up the road we will explore the volcanic world of Craters of the Moon National Monument, which is linked to the geothermal pathways at Yellowstone.

We will have an evening eclipse lecture in Ketchum in preparation for the Total Eclipse the next day. We can take the gondola up Bald Mountain at Sun Valley, made famous by Hemingway and other celebrities in the 1930's, and see the Total Solar Eclipse at its 9,150 summit!

We'll then visit Hagerman Fossil Beds National Monument, which is one of the most important fossil sites in the world. Then continue to Boise along the Snake River, the prehistoric drainageway of the Pleistocene Great Salt Lake, and learn about one of the greatest floods ever to occur in North America.

The trip will culminate in Boise at Peregrine Fund's World Center for Birds of Prey where we will see endangered raptors from North and

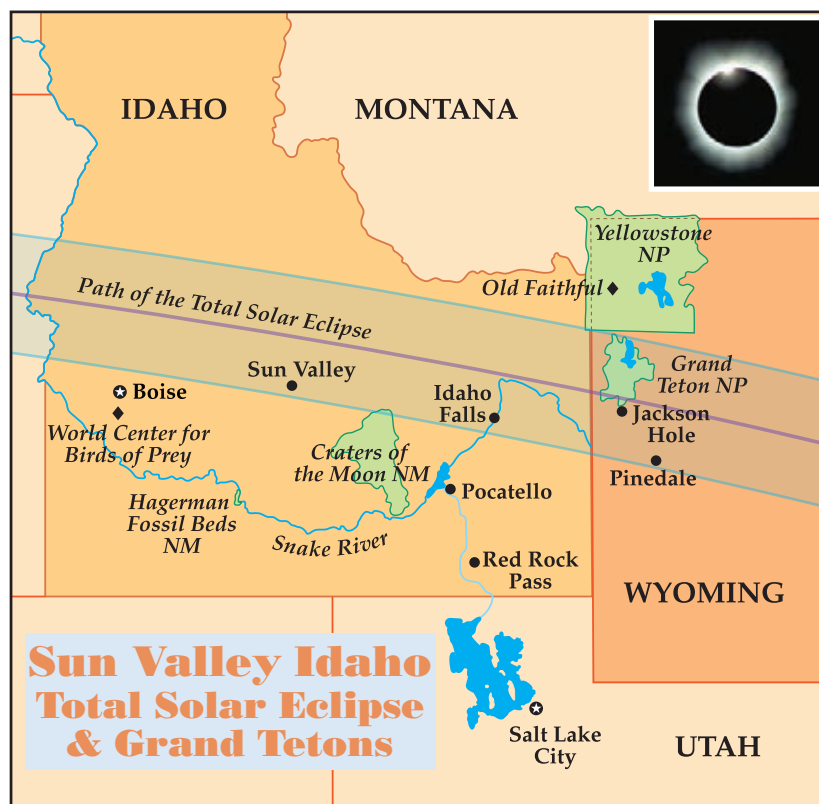
South America that they are breeding to help preserve the species, including California condors.

We'll also learn about the Peregrine Fund's spectacular results in bringing peregrine falcons back from near extinction.

We hope you will join us for an unforgettable adventure!

Margaret

Best Regards,
Margaret M. Betchart, President
Betchart Expeditions Inc.
for AAAS, Sigma Xi, ACS
& The Planetary Society



Sun Valley Idaho Total Solar Eclipse & Grand Tetons

LEADERSHIP

Leading this expedition will be **Don Starks & David Best**.

Don Starks has a B.A in Biological Sciences from San Jose State University and is former Executive Director of the San Francisco Bird Observatory. Don directed many of the research projects conducted at the observatory and has many years of experience with the wildlife and wild places of the American West.

Dr. David Best is a retired Professor Emeritus in geophysics, mathematical geology, and computer modeling of the geology of Central Arizona. David taught at Northern Arizona University in Flagstaff for 35 years and has explored the geologic wonders of the West from corner to corner.

Don and David have spent a lot of time in the Tetons and Yellowstone, and look forward to sharing their knowledge and enthusiasm with you.

ITINERARY

Day 1 Home to Jackson Hole

Fly from your nearest airport to Jackson Hole, Wyoming. Arrive by 4 pm. Transfer on own to Cowboy Village (3 nights). Enjoy a welcome social, trip orientation and dinner this evening! (D)

Day 2 Grand Teton National Park

Mountain men, fur trappers, and settlers came to Jackson Hole in the early 1800's as they explored the west. Today Jackson Hole is the center for exploring Grand Teton National Park and surrounding natural areas which protect scenic and wildlife wonders. The Teton Range is a fault-block mountain thrust upward along parallel fractures with sediments filling the valleys. Weathering by ice, snow, freezing, howling winds, and running water have

sculptured the range, making it magnificent in all seasons and at all times of day.

Today, we will explore the history, exquisite rock formations, and lush meadows. We'll drive up Signal Mountain, formed by volcanic ash fall from one of the eruptions of the Yellowstone geologic hotspot, which provides sweeping views of the Teton Range. We'll also visit Jenny Lake. We will then head to a rodeo with calf roping, bull riding, barrel racing, and cowboys and cowgirls strutting in their best attire. (B)

Day 3 Yellowstone National Park

Today we will explore the geologic wonders of Yellowstone that persuaded Congress to set aside this region in 1872 as the world's first national park—America's Best Idea. We look for the large



mammals of Yellowstone, including elk, bison, and always be on the look out for grizzly bears. We will walk among the greatest concentration of geysers in the world, some of the 580 geysers in Yellowstone. First see Old Faithful, though not as faithful as before since the earthquakes in 1959 and 1983. The colors of the hot springs range dramatically because of gradients of temperature, acidity, sunlight and water flows. As we explore, always be on the look out for wildlife in and around the lodgepole pine forests. (B,D)

Day 4 Tetons & Snake River Float Trip

This morning, we'll enjoy a 10-mile float trip on gentle water on the Snake River in sight of the Grand Tetons.

This peaceful adventure can be a wonderful way to look for wildlife and enjoy the morning activity along the Snake River. After a visit to Jenny Lake, you'll have time at leisure to grab a bite of lunch, explore the Town Square, and visit the Jackson Museum or National Museum of Wildlife Art. Enjoy the breathtaking scenery of the 13,000 ft. Teton Range as you take a look around Jackson Hole. In late afternoon, we will



follow the Snake River as it winds through the Caribou Mountains and past Palisades Reservoir to our *Hotel in Idaho Falls (2 nights)*.

Day 5 Mammoth Discovery & Experimental Breeder Reactor

Today, we will visit the Idaho Museum of Natural History in Pocatello and learn about the 2014 discovery of a nearly complete mammoth on the shores of American Falls Reservoir. We will then go see the US Experimental Breeder Reactor to learn about the research being conducted in the high desert to harness the energy of the atom. (B)

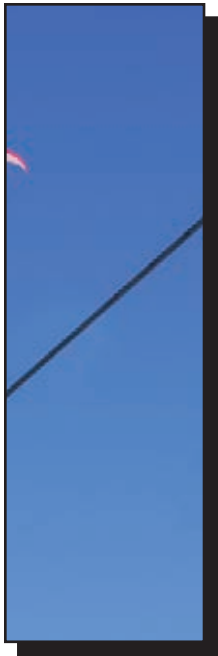
Day 6 Craters of the Moon

This morning, we will head to the Craters of the Moon National Monument, a massive ocean of lava with cinder cones and islands of sagebrush vegetation which extends for about 100 miles just north of the Snake River plain. The Craters of the Moon is part of a huge lava flow linked to Yellowstone by moving underground hotspots which led to eruptions starting about 15,000 years ago and stopping only about 2,100 years ago. The central portion of these lava beds and fissure cones is now preserved as a national monument which we can explore today. After a picnic lunch, we will depart for Ketchum and the Sun Valley Idaho resort area.

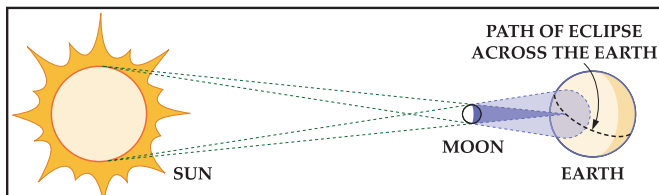
We will have a briefing with eclipse and photography hints this evening for the Total Solar Eclipse we will see tomorrow! *Hotel in Ketchum.* (B,L)

Day 7 Sun Valley Idaho Total Solar Eclipse

This morning, we will ride the lift to the 9,150 foot summit of



Bald Mountain at Sun Valley for a commanding view of the renowned Sun Valley area, made famous by Ernest Hemingway and other celebrities in the 1930's. The alpine country has ground hugging plants that flourish in this harsh environment. After a short walk we will prepare



for the August 21 Total Solar Eclipse.

Everyone will be given eclipse viewing glasses. The eclipse will start about 9:15 am with maximum Totality at 10:30 am, lasting 1 minute, 12 seconds. We will continue to view the Eclipse until the final moments, then take the lift back down to Ketchum for time to enjoy town. We will then head down the road to Twin Falls. (B)

Day 8 Hagerman Fossil Beds to Boise

This morning, we'll explore the Hagerman Fossil beds national natural landmark, which contains the world's richest fossil deposits from the late Pliocene epoch. The site includes some the world's richest known deposits of fossil horses, *Equus simplicidens*, which is thought to link prehistoric and modern horses. Many of the fossils here represent species just before the last Ice Age, the Pleistocene, and the earliest contemporary flora and fauna. It is one of the six most important sites in the world for the fossil history of horses. The Hagerman horse is the

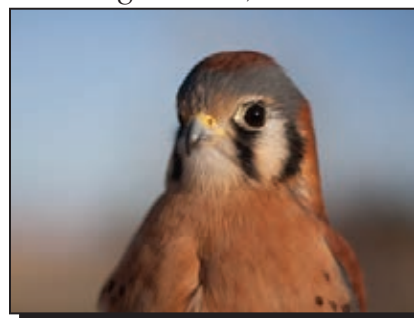
oldest known horse fossil and most closely resembles the Grevy's zebra.

We will have a special excursion to one of the fossil sites. Here we can imagine the conditions for the evolution of the North American horse, mastodon, camel, sloth, and sabertooth cats as we explore the site and learn about their research and discoveries!



After a picnic lunch we will depart for the World Center for Birds of Prey in Boise. It was established by the Peregrine Fund just outside of Boise near the Snake River Birds of Prey Natural Area. In 1982 Betchart started bringing groups to the Snake River area, working with Morley Nelson and Bill Meiners, the founders of the Birds of Prey area. Their great passion for birds of prey and Morley's association with the Peregrine Fund drew the Peregrine Fund to the Boise area for their World Center.

During our visit, we will learn about their



work raising peregrines and other highly endangered raptor species, and their enormous success with the peregrines



(which are no longer on the endangered species list). We will see birds of prey eye-to-eye and learn about the mysteries of these spectacular birds. Boise Hotel. Dinner in celebration of our Eclipse adventure! (B,D)

Day 9 Boise to Home

Group transfer to the Boise airport for flights home. (B)



RESPONSIBILITY

Betchart Expeditions Inc., the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS), Sigma Xi, The Scientific Research Society, the American Chemical Society (ACS), and The Planetary Society act only as agents for the passenger with respect to transportation and hotels, and exercise every care possible. However, we can assume no liability for injury, damage, delay, loss, accident or irregularity in connection with the services of any airplane, ship, motorcoach, or any other conveyance used in carrying out the arrangements of the tour. We cannot accept any responsibility for losses or additional expenses due to delay or changes in air or other services, sickness, weather, strike, war, quarantine, terrorism, acts of God, or other causes beyond our control. All such losses or expenses will have to be borne by the passenger, as tour rates provide for arrangements only for the time stated. We reserve the right to substitute another leader of similar expertise or reserve the right to cancel any tour prior to departure, in which case the entire payment will be refunded with no further obligation on our part. The right is also reserved to decline to accept or retain any person as a member of the tour. No refund will be made for the unused portion of any tour unless arrangements are made in sufficient time to avoid penalties. The price of the program is based on current tariffs and rates, and is subject to change. Any tariff, exchange rate, or fuel increases will be passed on to participants. Baggage is carried at the owner's risk entirely. It is understood that the air ticket when issued shall constitute the sole contract between the passenger and the airline concerned. The airlines concerned are not to be held responsible for any act, omission, or event during the time passengers are not on board their plane or conveyance.

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 Map by April Milne.

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RESERVATIONS

#1473

Yes! I/we want to join the **Sun Valley Idaho Total Solar Eclipse Expedition, August 15-23, 2017**, offered by **AAAS Travels, Sigma Xi, ACS, and The Planetary Society**. Please reserve ____ space(s). As a deposit, I/we enclose a check for \$____ (\$1,000 per person) payable to Betchart Expeditions Inc. Trust Account.

Name(s) _____ Age _____

_____ Age _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone: Home (_____) _____

Work (_____) _____

Email Address _____

Membership: ____ AAAS ____ Sigma Xi ____ ACS ____ Planetary Society

Accommodations Preference:

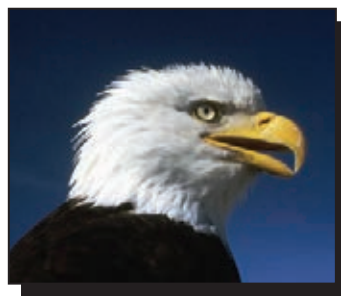
____ Twin ____ Single Twin Share: ____ with a friend or

____ Nonsmoker ____ Smoker ____ assign a roommate

Signature _____ Date _____

Signature _____ Date _____

**Mail To: Sun Valley Idaho Eclipse 2017
 Betchart Expeditions Inc.
 17050 Montebello Road
 Cupertino, CA 95014-5435**



**AAAS Travels
ACS & Sigma Xi Expeditions
The Planetary Society**

BETCHART EXPEDITIONS Inc.
17050 Montebello Road, Cupertino, CA 95014-5435

FIRST CLASS

**Sun Valley Idaho
Total Solar Eclipse**

**Tetons & Yellowstone
August 15-23, 2017**

COSTS & CONDITIONS

Trip Fee: \$4,595 per person twin share (plus air fare to Jackson, Wyoming, with return from Boise, Idaho).

Expedition Fee Includes: Land transport; accommodations twin share; meals as indicated; entrance fees; an excellent program of special lectures, special activities including a rafting trip, rodeo, and gondola to the summit of Bald Mountain to view the Eclipse; gratuities to guest lecturers and driver; baggage handling; leadership, administration.

Expedition fee Does Not Include: Air fare (quoted separately); independent transfers in Jackson or Boise; some meals; optional activities; gratuity to expedition leaders; personal items such as laundry, phone calls, beverages at meals, alcoholic beverages, snacks; or personal insurance.

What to Expect: This expedition is for travelers who would like to see the Total Solar Eclipse near Sun Valley, August 21, 2017, led by an excellent Betchart naturalist. We will see the Eclipse from the 9,150 foot summit of Bald Mountain, overlooking renowned Sun Valley, for a spectacular eclipse-viewing experience.

The whole trip is a rich natural history experience including special visits to the the World Center for Birds of Prey, at the renowned Hagerman Fossil Beds (where the world's most famous horse fossil was discovered), at the Craters of the Moon lava beds, at the Experimental Breeder Reactor to harness the energy of the atom, and at the 2014 find of an intact Mammoth fossil at American Falls Lake.

Also learn about the great Bonneville (Salt Lake) Flood and its impact on the Snake River plain, as well as the creation of the Grand Teton and Yellowstone National Parks. Look for wildlife of interest from antelope to elk, grizzly bears, and bald eagles. Walks will be at a leisurely pace suitable for discovery and photography.

The expedition will be a fascinating experience for travelers with an appetite for adventure. *There are good prospects for seeing the eclipse; however there could be rain or clouds which obscure the eclipse.* In any case, we will have a grand adventure of discovery! (No smoking in vehicles, during lectures, or meals please.)

Air Flights: Please book your flights to arrive in Jackson Hole, Wyoming on August 15, 2017 by 4 pm or earlier. Please book departing flights on the morning of August 23rd. Additional pre-tour reservations in Boise or post-tour reservations in Jackson are available on request.

Accommodations: Are in comfortable first class hotels and western style cabins and motels, twin share with a private bath. Limited single accommodations are available for a supplement of \$895.

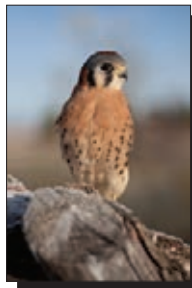
Reservations, Deposits, & Payments: Please mail a deposit of \$1,000 per person with the reservation form to:

**Sun Valley Eclipse 2017, Betchart Expeditions Inc.
17050 Montebello Road, Cupertino, CA 95014-5435**

The balance is due 150 days before departure.

Questions: Please call **Betchart Expeditions Inc.**

Telephone: (800) 252 4910 (USA)
or (408) 252 4910 (International)
Fax: (408) 252 1444
Email: Info@betchartexpeditions.com



Cancellations & Refunds:

The initial deposit is refundable up to 150 days before departure less a handling fee of \$250 per person.

There is no refund after that period unless your place is resold, then only the \$250 per person handling fee is withheld.

There are no refunds for unused meals or other expedition features. Travel insurance is recommended.