



SHEEP PRODUCTION AND MANAGEMENT TOUR

California

Travel Itinerary

September 30 – October 7, 2017

**Saturday
September 30**

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Home Airports – San Francisco, California.

Ohio group: Arrive at the Columbus Airport two hours before flight departure to check-in for your flight. Delta Airlines flight 2799 departs at 7:00AM and arrives in Los Angeles at 8:45AM local time. Proceed to your connecting flight, Delta 4906 departing at 10:00AM and we land in San Francisco Airport at 11:30AM.

Pacific NW Group: We are waiting to see who will be traveling and work on a departure from Portland, Spokane, and/or Boise. Current Prices for that time frame will range from \$300 to \$500. Agro-tours will work to find the best possible group rate and time so that both the Ohio group and the PNW group will arrive at the same time to start our tour.

Upon arrival, collect your luggage and we proceed outside to the ground transportation to board our waiting motor coach.

We drive into San Francisco for a welcome lunch on the private outdoor patio at Souvla's NoPa location (531 Divisadero Street), a fine-casual Greek restaurant serving up lamb gyros made with Superior Farms Lamb. Enjoy all-you-can-eat from a selection of salads and sandwiches made from spit-roasted lamb, pork, chicken, and roasted white sweet potato; a selection of sides including Greek fries, juicy potatoes, sides salads or warm pita with roasted white sweet potato; Greek frozen yogurt with a selection of toppings: baklava with honey syrup, sour cherry, Greek olive oil and sea salt, or Cretan wildflower honey; along with a bottomless selection of the full beverage menu, including Souvla's Greek red, white, and rosé wines, Greek beer, and non-alcoholic beverages [1-4PM].

Following this, we continue to the hotel and check-in to our rooms. The balance of the day is free to rest or explore the area on your own. You may want to walk to Fisherman's Wharf for a cup of delicious clam chowder served in a sourdough bowl, accompanied by a tasty beverage of your choice. You could take the Alcatraz Night Cruise and experience the infamous prison by night! Or perhaps enjoy a sunset cruise on the San Francisco Bay, sailing past the Golden Gate Bridge, Alcatraz and Angel Island. You decide!

Overnight at:

Sheraton Hotel Fisherman's Wharf
2500 Mason Street



	San Francisco, CA 94133
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<p>Sunday October 1</p> <p>-, -, D</p>	<p>San Francisco – Fairfield – Dixon.</p> <p>Get breakfast in the hotel restaurant or at the IHOP across the street from the hotel, then check-out of your rooms. At 9AM we meet our local guide in the lobby, and board our private coach to embark on a four-hour sightseeing tour of San Francisco. Our guide will provide interesting commentary on the neighborhoods, history, diversity, and geography of the area, while we see many of the city's highlights, including North Beach – home of Little Italy; Chinatown – the largest in the USA; Haight Ashbury – origin of the hippie culture; The Mission – known for its colorful murals; the Castro – one of the first gay neighborhoods in the USA; Pacific Heights – home to Billionaire's Row; the Presidio – former military base and now a beautiful park, and more! There will be several stops for photo opportunities.</p> <p>We finish our tour at the Ferry Plaza Farmers Market, where there is time to find yourself some lunch. Check out the many stalls and shops selling fresh produce, meats, and just about anything your heart could possibly desire.</p> <p>At 2:30PM we depart for Dixon, about 1.5 hours' drive northeast of San Francisco. En route we make a stop at the Jelly Belly Factory in Fairfield for a self-guided tour, free samples, and a chance to purchase candy to bring back home.</p> <p>Check-in to our hotel, and this evening we have dinner at Buckhorn Restaurant in nearby Winters.</p> <p>Overnight at: Best Western Plus 1345 Commercial Way Dixon, CA 95620</p>
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<p>Monday October 2</p> <p>B, L, D</p>	<p>Dixon – Fresno.</p> <p>Continental breakfast is available at the hotel. We check-out at 8:30AM and board the coach with our luggage.</p> <p>This morning at 9AM we will tour the new processing plant of Superior Farms, North America's largest processor and marketer of lamb. Opened in 2015, the new facility uses green technologies such as ergonomics, natural lighting, wind power and water reduction, to reduce the company's total carbon footprint.</p> <p>Lunch is at Bud's Pub and Grill from 11:15-12:30.</p> <p>This afternoon at 1PM we visit Emigh Lamb, a 4th generation lamb producer in Dixon who processes their grass-fed lambs at Superior Farms. The Emigh family runs from 2-3,000 ewes on non-irrigated hill ground during the winter and spring months, and when the lambs are a few weeks old, they are moved to irrigated pasture. They are moved back to the hills when the grass is replenished, and then they are weaned and finished out on the irrigated pasture.</p> <p>Board the minibus at 2:30PM, and we drive three hours southeast to Fresno. Check-in to our hotel, and enjoy the complimentary beer, wine, and appetizers served in the lobby.</p> <p>Dinner this evening is at Sante Fe Basque Restaurant at 7:30PM.</p> <p>Overnight at: Hampton Inn and Suites 327 E Fir Avenue Fresno, CA 93720</p>
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<p>Tuesday October 3</p> <p>B, - , D</p>	<p>Fresno – Kings Canyon National Park – Yosemite National Park.</p> <p>A hot breakfast buffet is served at the hotel.</p> <p>This morning we drive to Clovis where we visit the sheep ranch of Ryan Indart, a fourth-generation sheep farmer and President of California Wool Growers Association.</p> <p>Lunch on own in the area, and then we head east on Highway 180 into Kings Canyon National Park, home to the largest trees in the world. We will make a stop at the Grant Grove Visitor’s Center before hiking the General Grant Tree Trail into a spectacular Sequoia grove to see the General Grant Tree, the third largest tree in the world by volume.</p> <p>Return to the bus, and we continue driving north to Yosemite National Park. Check-in to the Yosemite Valley Lodge, whose close proximity to Yosemite Falls makes it the perfect base camp for exploring Yosemite National Park.</p> <p>Dinner tonight is at the Majestic Yosemite Dining Room, about a 15 minutes’ drive from the hotel.</p> <p>Overnight at: Yosemite Valley Lodge 9006 Yosemite Lodge Dr. Yosemite National Park, CA 95389</p>
<p>Wednesday October 4</p> <p>B, L, D</p>	<p>Yosemite National Park.</p> <p>Breakfast at the hotel restaurant, then check-out. At 10:00AM we depart on a four-hour tour of Yosemite National Park, going from Yosemite Valley to Glacier Point—a 3,200-foot elevation gain (conditions permitting). Highlights of the tour include El Capitan, Bridalveil Fall, Half Dome, Yosemite Falls in Yosemite Valley, Tunnel View, and Glacier Point. Be sure to bring your camera to capture awe-inspiring photos of Yosemite’s famous waterfalls and the distant High Sierra mountains! We will have a picnic lunch during our tour.</p> <p>We get back to Yosemite Valley Lodge at 2PM, then depart for Merced, about two hours away.</p> <p>Check-in to our hotel and dinner tonight is at the Branding Iron Restaurant, a steak restaurant celebrating California’s ranching history.</p> <p>Overnight at: Courtyard by Marriott 750 Motel Dr. Merced, CA 95341</p>



<p>Thursday October 5</p> <p>B, - , -</p>	<p>Merced – Sonoma County – Bodega Bay.</p> <p>Breakfast at the hotel, then check-out. This morning at 9AM we will visit Jacobsen Ranch, a purebred and niche marketer in Le Grande, east of Merced. The Jacobsens offer direct-from-the-grower farm fresh lamb from their maintained flock of approximately 60 Montadale and Suffolk brood ewes and wether type brood ewes. Their lambs are finished at Superior Farms in Dixon.</p> <p>Next we visit one of the Club Lamb Producers in the area, such as Leventini in Modesto, Beams in Escalon or Bianchi in Oakdale.</p> <p>Lunch on own in Modesto.</p> <p>This afternoon we continue our drive into Sonoma County, where we enjoy a winery tour and tasting.</p> <p>We continue to the sheep farm of Dr. Fred Groverman, 83, who has spent a lifetime as a beloved large and small animal veterinarian but also as a shepherd of his Shropshire flock, which he raises on a 50-acre farm that's been in his family since the early 1900's. The Groverman Shropshire sheep flock is the oldest continuously-owned pure Shropshire flock in the world, and the only truly pure Shropshire flock in the US.</p> <p>Check-in to our hotel located on the Pacific Coast at Bodega Bay. All rooms and suites provide free Wi-Fi, coffee makers, and outdoor balconies. Dinner on own this evening.</p> <p>Overnight at: Bodega Coast Inn and Suites 521 CA-1 Bodega Bay, CA 94923</p>
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<p>Friday October 6</p> <p>B, L, -</p>	<p>Bodega Bay – Valley Ford – Point Reyes – San Francisco Airport.</p> <p>Deluxe continental breakfast is served at the hotel.</p> <p>This morning we will visit Joe Pozzi’s ranch, located on the quiet hills overlooking the town of Bodega, in Sonoma County. For over 40 years, Joe Pozzi has raised natural, grass-fed lambs and cattle on the pastures of Pozzi Ranch and other grasslands throughout Sonoma and Marin County.</p> <p>Continue our drive south, and we have lunch at Nick’s Cove Restaurant, set on the east shore of Tomales Bay.</p> <p>In the afternoon, we will tour Hog Island Oyster Farm to learn all about oysters, the marine environment, and how they use sustainable aquaculture techniques to raise their shellfish.</p> <p>Next we visit a cheese processor in Point Reyes, before we continue to our hotel located at San Francisco International Airport. Dinner at the hotel restaurant (not included).</p> <p>Overnight at: DoubleTree by Hilton San Francisco Airport 835 Airport Blvd. Burlingame, CA 94010</p>
<p>Saturday October 7</p> <p>-, -, -</p>	<p>San Francisco Airport – Home.</p> <p>Early wake-up call this morning, as we check out of the hotel at 4AM and we transfer to San Francisco airport for our return flight home.</p> <p><u>Ohio group:</u> Delta 2786 departs at 6:30AM, arriving in Minneapolis at 12:05PM. Your connecting flight, DL 5704, departs at 3:15PM, and arrives in Columbus at 6:10PM.</p> <p><u>Pacific Northwest Group:</u> Details to follow.</p> <p>Thanks for traveling with Agrotours and welcome home!</p>

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Your tour information:

MEAL CODE: B = breakfast; L = Lunch; D = dinner; S=snack; * assumes with hosts; **airline meal.
Breakfast includes coffee or tea; for other meals beverages are ordered and paid separately.

We reserve the right to substitute technical visits if circumstances require.

Many of the technical visits are hosted by people who give their time quite freely. A small gift on behalf of the passengers is appreciated, and considered good etiquette.