

## Flanders' Road Trip to California – Spring 2000

All Itinerary Details Subject to Change without Notice

### Friday, March 24

- 3:00 – Dress for trip – royal blue T-shirts, jeans, summer plaid
- 3:30 – Load Suburban/ pray/ set trip odometer to 000
- 4:00 – **Tyler, TX → Mesquite, TX** via I-20 (99 mi)  
Listen: George Washington Carver biography tape (1 hr)  
Travel bags: coloring books and markers
- 5:30 – Dinner out with Cowans and Hancocks – Tony Roma's (coupon)
- 7:00 – Visit @ Nana & Papa's
- 8:00 – **Mesquite, TX → Arlington, TX** via I-30 (about 30 mi)
- 8:30 – Hotel check-in  
Springhill Suites – 1975 East Lamar (next to Fairfield) – (817) 860-2737  
One room, 2 double beds, 1 fold-out couch, 1 crib - \$69  
Confirmation # 8098 8233 (7 kids “no problem”)
- 9:00 -- Swim in heated pool before bed?

### Saturday, March 25

- 7:00 – Up and dress – teal diabetes T-shirts, summer plaid
- 8:00 – Continental breakfast at hotel
- 8:45 – Pray/ Check gas
- 9:00 – **Arlington, TX → Abilene, TX** via I-30 to Ft Worth, then I-20 (170 mi)  
Listen: John Bunyan's HOLY WAR (3 hrs)  
Snacks: cheese-n-crackers, water in sipper cups, Doritos  
Travel bags: puzzles, stickers, gum, books
- 12:00 – Lunch in Abilene
- 1:00 – Visit Grace (Children's) Museum  
102 Cypress Street – (913) 673-4587  
Open Tue-Sat 10-5, Thurs until 8:30  
No charge with DSP card
- 3:00 – **Abilene, TX → Big Spring, TX** via I-20 (108 mi)
- 4:30 – **Big Spring, TX → Eunice, NM** via Hwy 176 (100 mi)
- 6:00 – Reset watches to Mountain time (back one hour)
- 5:00 – **Eunice, NM → Carlsbad, NM** via Hwy 62/180 (70 mi)
- 6:00 -- Eat dinner in Carlsbad
- 7:00 – **Carlsbad, NM → Whites City, NM** via Hwy 62/180 (18 mi)
- 7:30 – Hotel Check-in  
Best Western Cavern Inn (505) 785-2291, (800) 730-2851  
17 Carlsbad Cavern Hwy: 62 /180 at jct. SR 7  
Military rate \$55 per room per night + \$8 crib fee  
Two adjoining rooms reserved w/ 2 double beds ea.

Breakfast not included  
Confirmation # 113-359-996

- Dusk – watch bats?

### **Sunday, March 26**

- 6:30 – Up and eat breakfast food (fruit cups, granola bars, juice)
- 7:00 – Dress – dark green polos, green plaid
- 7:30 – Pack up/ Hotel Check-out
- 8:00 – Pray/ Check gas
- 8:30 – Carlsbad Caverns opens: Big Room Tour  
Admission \$5 adult, \$3 ages 6-12, under 6 free [\$22 total]  
Bring jackets; allow 1 ½ hours
- 10:30 – **Whites City, NM → El Paso, TX** via Hwy 62/180 (150 mi)  
Listen: Sing Down the Moon  
Snacks: beef jerky, juice, granola bars, raisins  
Travel bags: beady buddies, markers
- 1:00 – Lunch in El Paso
- 2:00 – Magoffin Homestate Historical Site  
1120 Magoffin Ave, (915) 533-5147  
No charge with DSP card
- 3:00 – **El Paso, TX → Las Cruces, NM** via I-25 (46 mi)
- 3:45 – **Las Cruces, NM → Tucson, AZ** via I-10 (about 280 mi)
- note – If we happen to run significantly ahead of schedule, we will tour Amerind Foundation Museum in Dragoon (closes at 4 pm. \$3/adult, under 12 free)
- 6:00 – Dinner on the road
- 8:30 – Hotel check-in  
Clarion Hotel Tucson Airport – (520) 746-3932, (800) 536-0550  
One room w/2 queen beds, 1 crib (no charge), \$75  
Includes free kids, breakfast buffet, late night snacks/drinks  
Confirmation # JH 031500

### **Monday, March 27**

- 6:30 – Up and dress – kelly green T-shirts, jeans, green plaid
- 7:30 – Breakfast buffet/ check-out
- 8:00 – Pray/ Check gas
- 8:30 – Visit Sonora Desert Museum (open 7:30-6:00)  
Tucson Mountain Park – allow 2 hrs. min  
Admission: \$8.95 adult, \$1.75 ages 6-12, under 6 free [\$24.90 total]
- 11:00 – Lunch out with Henry and Imogene? – (520) 883-0293
- 1:00 – **Tucson, AZ → El Centro, CA** via I-8 (292 mi)  
Listen: Louis L'Amour  
Snacks: water in sipper cups, oatmeal cookies, cheetos  
Travel bags: Crosswords, math drills, stickers, yarn crafts, legos

- 5:30 – Reset watches to Pacific time (back another hour)
- 4:30 – **El Centro, CA → San Diego, CA** via I-8 (114 mi)
- 6:30 – Eat dinner??
- 8:00 – Hotel Check-in:  
     Holiday Inn Express – 3950 Jupiter Street – (619) 226-8000, (800) 320-0208  
     One room, 2 double beds + crib, \$89/night, includes continental breakfast  
     AAA Tour Book, p. A451. Confirmation # 64959194
- 8:30 – Ask concierge about discounts to Zoo and Legoland ?

## **Tuesday, March 28**

- 6:00 – Up and dress – red polos, red plaid
- 7:00 – Breakfast at hotel
- 8:00 – Pray/ Check gas
- 8:15 – Walk around Balboa Park – listen for Carrion Bells
- 9:00 – San Diego Zoo opens – off I-5 at Pershing Dr. exit – (619) 234-3153  
     General admission: \$13 adult, \$6 ages 3-11  
     Deluxe: (incl. bus tour, aerial tram, children’s zoo): \$19 adult, \$11 ages 3-11  
     [\$56 total general/ \$93 total deluxe]  
     Ask about group rate/ family membership?
- 1:00 – Drive to Old Town – eat on the way?  
     Robinson-Rose House – 4002 Wellas – (619)220-5422
- 2:00 – Walking tour of Old Town (free)
- 4:30 – Eat at Casa de Pico in Old Town (Jeske’s recommendation) – 2754 Calhoun St  
     (619)296-3267
- 6:00 – Swim in hotel pool?

## **Wednesday, March 29**

- 6:00 – Up and dress – yellow polos, jeans, red plaid
- 7:00 – Breakfast at hotel
- 8:00 – Pack up/ hotel check out?
- 8:15 – Pray/ Check gas
- 8:30 – **San Diego, CA → Carlsbad, CA** via I-5 (30 mi)
- 9:15 – Stop at Beachview Lodge to get discounted Legoland tickets? (\$25 ea)  
     Go North on I-5, exit Carlsbad Village Drive. Go west, TR on Carlsbad Blvd,  
     hotel is next right – must fill out paperwork, then get tickets at sister hotel 4  
     blocks away??
- 10:00 – Legoland in Carlsbad, CA  
     30 million bricks; 5000 models, 40 attractions  
     Open 10 am – 5 pm. Information: (760) 918-5346 [\$210 total]  
     Admission: \$34 adult, \$27 ages 3-16, under 3 free; parking \$7 (MC/V)  
     Ask about group rates?
- 5:00 – Eat dinner
- 6:00 – Hotel check-in:

Best Western Beachview Lodge – 3180 Carlsbad Blvd – (800) 535-5588  
One suite with King bed, foldaway sofa, crib? \$154, includes breakfast  
Confirmation # 26777 ??

- 6:30 – Walk along the beach? Swim?

### **Thursday, March 30**

- 6:00 – Up and dress – New Orleans T-shirts
- 7:00 – Continental breakfast at hotel
- 8:00 – Pack up and check out
- 8:15 – Pray/ Check gas
- 9:00 – **Carlsbad, CA → Laguna Beach, CA** via I-5 to Doheny/ Hwy 1 (50 mi?)
- 10:30 – Laguna Beach?  
Park and walk to beach. See sea lions, sea anemones, urchins, starfish.  
Play with balloons?
- 11:30 – **Laguna Beach, CA → Los Angeles, CA** via Hwy 1 to I-110 (30 mi?)  
Listen: Your Story Hour
- 11:30 – Eat lunch on the road
- 12:00 – Visit Exposition Park (off I-110)
- 12:30 – Tour Natural History Museum of LA – 900 Exposition Blvd. (213) 744-3466  
Tue-Sun 10-5, Admission: \$6 adult, \$3 ages 5-11 [\$24 total]
- 2:45 – Tour California Museum of Science and Industry? -- 700 State Drive  
Open daily 10-5. Free admission to museum
- 3:30 – Leave downtown before rush hour
- 4:00 – Hotel Check-in – Best Western Golden Key – Glendale  
123 W Colorado – (818)247-0111, (800)528-1234  
One room w/ 2 Q beds + crib: \$116.10 first night (SAM's Club)  
Includes: free continental breakfast, free video movies (hundreds of titles),  
popcorn and peanuts. Reservations show 2 adults and 2 children – although I  
warned them we have 7, that was all the computer would accept.  
Check-in at 1pm, Check out at noon. Cancel by 4 pm date of arrival.  
AAA Travel Guide p. A244. Confirmation # 534-940-290
- 5:00 – Eat dinner
- 6:00 – Do laundry at hotel

### **Friday, March 31**

- 6:00 – Up and dress – yellow polos, jeans, red plaid
- 7:00 – Eat breakfast at hotel
- 8:00 – Pack up/ hotel check-out
- 8:15 – Pray/ Check gas
- 8:30 – Tour Forest Lawn Memorial Park – 1712 S. Glendale Ave – (213) 254-3131  
Park open daily 8-5, Museum open daily 10-5 (Admission: donation)  
Artwork: “Last Supper shown every ½ hour 9:30-4  
Artwork “Crucifixion and Resurrection every hour 10-4

- 9:30 – Last Supper?
- 10:00 – Resurrection?
- 11:00 – Lunch
- 12:00 – NBC Studio in Burbank? (p.103)  
3000 W. Alameda Ave – (818) 840-3537 – Mon-Fri 9-3  
1 hr.15-min. tour: \$7 adult, \$3.75 ages 5-12, under 5 free
- 2:30 – Stop by Visitors Bureau in Beverly Hills – get free driving tour guide  
239 S. Beverly Drive – (310) 271-8174, (800) 345-2210
- 2:45 – Tour Beverly Hills/ Hollywood
- 4:00 – See Mann’s Chinese Theater – 6925 Hollywood Blvd.
- 5:00 – Eat Dinner  
6:00 – **Los Angeles, CA → Tulare, CA** via I-5 (170 mi)
- 9:30 – Hotel Check-in:  
Best Western Town & Country – 1051 N. Blackstone Ave – (559) 688-7537  
One non-smoking room with 2 Queen beds + 1 crib, \$58  
Confirmation # TRACY  
(Bakersfield room cancellation # 77797 – Natasha)

## **Saturday, April 1**

- 6:00 – Up and dress – red polos, red plaid
- 7:00 – Breakfast/ hotel check-out
- 8:00 – Pray/ Check gas
- 8:15 – **Tulare, CA → Sequoia National Park, CA** via Hwy 63 to 198? (50 mi?)
- 9:15 – See Sequoias
- 10:30 – **Sequoia National Park, CA → Las Vegas, NV** via Hwy 198 to Hwy 65 to Hwy 58 @ Bakersfield to I-15 @ Barstow to Vegas (about 360 mi)  
Snack: goldfish, juice  
Travel bags: yarn crafts, activity books
- 12:00 – Eat lunch on the road
- 4:30 – Leid Discovery Children’s Museum? – 833 Las Vegas Blvd  
Open Tue-Sat 10-5  
No charge with DSP card
- 5:00 – Eat Dinner – Rainforest Café? Use coupon.
- 6:30 -- Hotel Check-in:  
Fairfield Inn – 3850 Paradise Road – (702)791-3600, (800)443-6000  
Non-smoking King Suite w/ sofa sleeper + crib: \$80  
Includes free continental breakfast. Cancel by 6 pm date of arrival  
AAA Guide p. A688. Confirmation # 8287 1458
- 7:00 – Tour Casinos – see map on p. 230  
(#31 Treasure Island, #26 Mirage, #25 MGM, #11 Ex Caliber, #23 Luxor)
- 7:30 – TREASURE ISLAND HOTEL  
“Battle of Buccaneer Bay” shows every 90 minutes from 1:30-10:30  
MIRAGE  
Rainforest, waterfalls, volcano erupts every 15 min. dusk – 11:00,

Aquariums, dolphins, white tigers

EX CALIBER

Castle with 14 spires and 4 stone turrets, enter across moat guarded by fire-breathing dragon – see jousting tournament

LUXOR

Pyramid, 10-story sphinx, King Tut's tomb (9 am – 11 pm, \$3 admission)

MGM GRAND

One of largest hotels on earth (over 5,000 rooms), 88 ft-high lion's head entrance, 33-acre amusement park, 7-story recreation of Emerald City from Wizard of Oz

## Sunday, April 2

- 1:00 – Reset watches for Daylight Savings Time (forward one hour)
- 6:00 – Up and Dress – dark green polos, jeans, green plaid
- 7:00 – Breakfast at hotel
- 8:00 – Pack up and Check-out
- 8:15 – Pray/ Check Gas
- 9:00 – Tour Hoover Dam – (702)293-8321  
Park along US 93 and ride free shuttle  
40-min. tour: \$5 adult, \$2.50 ages 10-16, Under 10??
- 11:00 – Crossing into Mountain time (no time change – no daylight savings in AZ)
- 11:00 – **Las Vegas, NV → Flagstaff, AZ** via US 93, I-40 (251 mi)  
Listen: Scott O-Dell book  
Snack: Cheerios, raisins, nuts, water in sipper cups
- 4:00 – Flagstaff – Lowell Observatory  
1400 West Mars Hill Road, (520) 774-3358  
(This observatory was founded by Percival Lowell, a Boston aristocrat and amateur astronomer who built it back in 1894, hoping to find life on Mars. In the past century, Lowell Observatory has helped discover Pluto, map out the moon, locate the rings of Uranus, and provide evidence of an expanding universe.)  
No charge with DSP card, open noon-5:00
- note – If we're running significantly ahead of schedule, we will see Tuzigoot National Monument before heading back to Williams. It's open 8-5, \$2 adult, kids free (520)-634-5564
- 5:00 – **Flagstaff, AZ → Williams, AZ** via I-40 (30 mi)
- 5:30 – Dinner
- 6:30 – Shop Safeway – 637 W Rte 66 – get picnic food for tomorrow
- 7:00 -- Hotel Check-in:  
Best Western Inn of Williams – 2600 W. Bill Williams – (800) 635-4445  
Railway/ room package -- \$402.66  
Includes two non-adjoining rooms with 2 double beds each + crib, continental breakfast, drinks, round-trip RR passage for 2 adults, 5 children, 2 lap children  
See AAA Tour Book p A17\*\*\*\* Original room cancellation # 317 CXL

Confirmation # 402 TPD 169 B2

### **Monday, April 3**

- 7:00 – Up and dress – kelly green T-shirts, green plaid
- 8:00 – Breakfast at hotel
- 9:00 – Gunfight in front of Grand Canyon Depot?
- 9:30 – Board train
- 11:45 – Arrive at Grand Canyon
- 12:00 – Eat lunch – Picnic??
- 1:00 – Trek around Grand Canyon Village, trails, and Visitors Center
- note – In event of inclement weather, we can hop a bus to the Grand Canyon IMAX Theater in Tusayan and see 34 minute film. Tickets \$8 adult, \$6 ages 3-11
- 3:15 – Train leaves Grand Canyon
- 5:30 – Back in Williams
- 6:00 – Eat dinner

### **Tuesday, April 4**

- 7:00 – Up and dress – New Orleans T-shirts, jeans
- 8:00 – Breakfast at hotel – check out
- 9:00 – Pray/ Check gas
- 9:15 – **Williams, AZ → Albuquerque, NM** via I-40 (356 mi)  
Listen: Anne of Green Gables  
Snack: malt balls, Wheat Thins, juice  
Travel bags: books, flash cards, travel games
- 12:00 – Reset watches for Daylight Savings Time (forward one hour)
- 4:30 – Visit Explora Science Center in Albuquerque  
800 Rio Grande, (505) 842-1537  
No charge with DSP card
- 5:30 – Eat dinner
- 6:30 – **Albuquerque, NM → Tucumcari, NM** via I-40 (about 174 mi)
- 9:30 – Hotel Check-in:  
Holiday Inn Tucumcari – Exit 335 (East of town) – (505) 461-3780  
One room with 2 double beds \*request crib, \$50.50 (Gov. discount)  
Two Adults, 7 children, includes full breakfast  
Confirmation # 6495 7015  
(Amarillo Best Western room cancellation # 892-331-395-62)

### **Wednesday, April 5**

- 7:00 – Up and dress – teal diabetes T-shirts, summer plaid
- 8:00 – Breakfast @ hotel, check-out
- 9:00 – Pray/ Get gas

- 9:15 – **Tucumcari, NM → Amarillo, TX** via I-40 (100 mi)  
Listen: Anne of Green Gables  
Snack: oatmeal cookies, crackers  
Travel Bags: stickers, postcards
- 10:45 – Reset watches to Central time (forward one hour)
- 11:45 – Visit American Quarterhorse Museum  
2601 I-40 E at Nelson St exit 806, (806) 376-5181  
Open Mon-Sat 10-5  
No charge with DSP card
- 12:30 – Eat lunch
- 1:15 – See Don Harrington Discovery Center  
1200 Streit Drive, (806) 355-9548  
Open Tue-Sat 9-5  
No charge with DSP card
- 2:15 – Look at Helium monument – world’s largest quantity
- 2:30 – **Amarillo, TX → Oklahoma City, OK** via I-40 (245 mi)
- 6:30 – Hotel Check-in:  
Best Western Tradewind? – 1800 E Reno (at I-40/I-35 jct.) – (405) 235-4531  
One room with 3 double beds + crib, \$58.50.  
Cancel by 4pm day before arrival  
Confirmation # 224-940-891

### **Thursday, April 6**

- 8:00 – Up and dress – royal blue T-shirts, summer plaid
- 9:00 – Breakfast at hotel?? Check out
- 10:00 – Pray/ Check gas
- 10:15 – **Oklahoma City, OK → Sulphur** via I-35/ Hwy 7 (90 mi)  
Listen: Your Story Hour
- 12:00 – Visit Aunt Gwen
- 3:00 – **Sulphur, OK → Madill, OK** via Hwy 177/ 199 (almost 40 mi)
- 4:00 – Visit Aunt Irene
- 6:00 – **Madill, OK → Tyler, TX** via Hwy 70 to Durant, then 69 home (about 170 mi)
- 9:00 – THERE’S NO PLACE LIKE HOME!!!