

## 2012 - EAST MEETS WEST (2 WEEKS)

### GENERAL ITINERARY

7-Sep	Day 1	Friday	fly out JFK (evening) --> San Francisco
8-Sep	Day 2	Saturday	San Francisco
9-Sep	Day 3	Sunday	San Francisco
10-Sep	Day 4	Monday	San Francisco
11-Sep	Day 5	Tuesday	San Francisco Vicinity
12-Sep	Day 6	Wednesday	San Francisco to Monterrey Drive
13-Sep	Day 7	Thursday	Monterrey to Morro Bay Drive
14-Sep	Day 8	Friday	Morro Bay to Los Angeles Drive
15-Sep	Day 9	Saturday	Los Angeles
16-Sep	Day 10	Sunday	Los Angeles
17-Sep	Day 11	Monday	Los Angeles (Universal Studios)
18-Sep	Day 12	Tuesday	Los Angeles to Las Vegas Drive
19-Sep	Day 13	Wednesday	Las Vegas
20-Sep	Day 14	Thursday	Las Vegas
21-Sep	Day 15	Friday	Las Vegas (Hoover Dam and Grand Canyon West Rim)
22-Sep	Day 16	Saturday	Las Vegas
23-Sep	Day 17	Sunday	fly back to JFK

\* Detailed Itinerary is done from my memory, trip notes, and my pictures. Some sights could be in slightly different order

\*\* Many restaurants, bars, gelaterias, food stands where I dined are not mentioned in the itinerary

\*\*\* Many hotels, motels, bed and breakfast... are also not mentioned

### DETAILED ITINERARY

7-Sep	Day 1	Friday	fly out JFK (evening)
			- arrive San Francisco
			- pick up car rental and check into hotel
8-Sep	Day 2	Saturday	San Francisco:
			- Lombard Street
			- Fisherman's Warf
			- Pier 39
			- walk along piers with views to Golden Gate Bridge and Alcatraz
			- Ghirardelli Chocolate Factory
			- walk around city
			- Chinatown
			- Transatlantic Tower (Transamerica Pyramid)

			- Embarcadero's Vaillancourt Fountain
			- Cable Car (San Francisco Tram)
			- San Francisco City Hall
			- Castro District
9-Sep	Day 3	Sunday	San Francisco:
			- Coit Tower and go to the top
			- Grace Cathedral
			- Riding Tram from city center to Pier
			- Exploratorium
			- walk from Exploratorium to Golden Gate Bridge
			- Cross Golden Gate Bridge by foot
			- on the other side of the bridge
			- walk back to Fisherman's Warf and Clam Chowder dinner
10-Sep	Day 4	Monday	San Francisco:
			- boat tour to Alcatraz
			- Golden Gate Park
			- Japantown
11-Sep	Day 5	Tuesday	San Francisco Vicinity:
			- Muir Woods (with giant sequoia trees)
			- Sonoma & Napa Valley
12-Sep	Day 6	Wednesday	San Francisco to Monterrey Drive:
			- leave San Francisco in the morning
			- Stanford University
			- San Jose
			- Silicon Valley (Google, Microsoft, Yahoo, Computer History Museum)
			- Santa Cruz (birthplace of surfing)
			- Monterrey (stay overnight)
13-Sep	Day 7	Thursday	Monterrey to Morro Bay Drive:
			- leave Monterey in the morning
			- 17 mile scenic drive with ocean views
			- Carmel
			- Big Sur
			- drive along coast line (Route 1)
			- San Simeon (Hearst Castle tour)
			- Cambria
			- Morro Bay (stay overnight)
14-Sep	Day 8	Friday	Morro Bay to Los Angeles Drive:
			- Morro Rock
			- Santa Ynez Wineries
			- Solvang (Dutch Village)
			- Santa Barbara
			- Malibu
			- arrive Los Angeles (Santa Monica, Pier, Beach, Muscle Beach)

			- drive by Manhattan Beach and stay at hotel in Long Beach
15-Sep	Day 9	Saturday	Los Angeles:
			- drive to central LA
			- Hollywood Boulevard
			- Hollywood Walk of Fame
			- TCL Chinese Theatre
			- Egyptian Theatre
			- Dolby Theatre
			- walk by Paramount and other Studios
			- Rodeo Drive
			- Hollywood Boulevard at night
16-Sep	Day 10	Sunday	Los Angeles:
			- Long Beach Navy Pier (Queen Mary)
			- Downtown LA with Chinatown and Japantown
			- Griffith Observatory (with great views of LA, Hollywood sign and hills)
			- get close to Hollywood sign, and very close by climbing hill to restricted zone
			- Beverly Hills and Bell Air
			- Rodeo Drive
			- Mulholland Drive
			- Hollywood at night and late night
17-Sep	Day 11	Monday	Los Angeles (Universal Studios)
			- full day at Universal Studios (with skip the line passes)
			- Griffith Observatory with spectacular views of LA at night
18-Sep	Day 12	Tuesday	Los Angeles to Las Vegas Drive through Death Valley: (610 miles, 14 hrs)
			- leave LA at 10am
			- Joshua trees
			- Scotty Castle
			- Salt Flats
			- Sand Dunes
			- Golden Canyon
			- Artist Drive and Palette
			- Devil's Golf Course
			- Badwater Basin (lowest point in North America)
			- check in Las Vegas hotel at 12am
19-Sep	Day 13	Wednesday	Las Vegas:
			- walk around Vegas on the Strip; from Hotel to Hotel; in the daylight and at night
			- free shows at Mirage, Treasure Island, Bellagio Fountains..
20-Sep	Day 14	Thursday	Las Vegas:
			- continue exploring The Strip and hotels-casinos
			- go to top of Paris Hotel (Eiffel Tower at night for great views of Strip)
			- "Fantasy" Show at Luxor
21-Sep	Day 15	Friday	Las Vegas (Hoover Dam and Grand Canyon West Rim):
			- drive to Red Rock Canyon

			- drive to Hoover Dam and take a tour (go down to generators)
			- continue driving to West Rim of Grand Canyon
			- West Rim of Grand Canyon:
			a. fantastic views of Canyon and Eagle Point
			b. Skywalk (NOT worth it - absolute rip-off)
			- drive back to Las Vegas
			- go to Downtown - Freemont Street (better experience than The Strip)
			- drive on the Strip at night
22-Sep	Day 16	Saturday	Las Vegas:
			- peaceful and relaxing day in Las Vegas:
			a. walk around the Strip
			b. gamble a little: cards, slot machines...
			c. The Strip in the evening
			d. Cirque du Soleil "Mistere" show
			e. Freemont Street
23-Sep	Day 17	Sunday	drop off car rental and fly back to JFK