

TOURS & CRUISES

WYOMING

Yellowstone by kayak

Paddle into the backcountry of Yellowstone National Park on a five-day kayaking adventure that explores the park and Yellowstone Lake, one of North America's largest high-country lakes. The Spring Creek Ranch tour, which is available through mid-October, offers participants a chance to see Yellowstone's scenery, wildlife and geothermal activity. Kayakers camp on the lake's eastern perimeter and paddle into its various arms. The trip includes instruction by Jackson Hole Kayak School guides.

Dates: Through Oct. 15.

Price: \$1,499 per person, double occupancy. Includes two nights lodging at Spring Creek Ranch, two nights camping on Yellowstone Lake, all meals while camping, three meals at the ranch, use of kayaks and camping gear. Airfare not included.

Info: Spring Creek Ranch, (800) 443-6139, www.springcreekranch.com

— ROSEMARY McCLURE

UZBEKISTAN

Silk Road journey

Hardy travelers in search of an off-the-beaten-track destination may be tempted by a 15-day excursion across the Central Asian nation of Uzbekistan. The itinerary, offered by Mir Corp., includes the capital city of Tashkent and the Fergana Valley, known for its silk production and ceramic tiles; Samarkand, a major Silk Road trading post; Shakhrisabz, birthplace of the conqueror Tamerlane; the Kyzyl Kum Desert; Bukhara, a Silk Road site known for its mosques and monuments; and



JUAN KARITA Associated Press

TOURISTS can explore Lake Titicaca, South America's largest body of fresh water.

Nukus, home to the Savitsky Art Museum and its collection of avant-garde Russian art, one of the largest in the world. Highlights include a visit to a silk master's workshop, an overnight in a yurt camp and dinners in traditional Uzbek homes. Group size limited to 12.

Dates: Sept. 11-25

Price: \$4,495. Includes accommodations, all breakfasts, most lunches and dinners. International and domestic airfare (\$160) not included.

Info: Mir Corp., (800) 424-7289, www.lat.ms/1l6mAjn

— ANNE HARNAGEL

BOLIVIA

Off the grid

Explore Lake Titicaca, colonial cities and the wild, natural scenery of Bolivia on an eight-day private tour by Cox & Kings. The South American nation is one of the world's most diverse, known for its geographic, topographic, climatic and biological variety. The trip includes tours of the

colonial city of La Paz, the Valley of the Moon, Lake Titicaca and the city of Sucre. Participants will visit the otherworldly landscape of Salar de Uyuni, the world's largest salt flats, where they will stay in an Airstream camper while being attended by a private chef and crew.

Dates: This private tour can be booked any time.

Price: \$5,915 per person, double occupancy. Includes accommodations, most meals, activities, private guides and drivers. International and domestic airfare are not included.

Info: Cox & Kings USA, (800) 999-1758, www.coxandkingsusa.com

— ROSEMARY McCLURE

ARGENTINA

Tango tour

Dance your way through Buenos Aires during its Tango Festival, which takes place Aug. 12-25. Highlights of this five-night tour offered by JourneYou include a guided half-day tour of the capital city, a tango show and dinner at Café de los Angelitos, a wine-tasting tour and a guided midnight visit to a tango dance party. Participants will have two days on their own to experience Buenos Aires and the festival; a private tango lesson, dinner at an Argentine steakhouse or cooking class is available for an additional fee.

Dates: Aug. 21-26.

Price: From \$1,190 per person, double occupancy; single supplement \$280. Includes five nights at the tango-themed Tanguero hotel, daily breakfasts, one dinner, city and wine tours, and tango show. International airfare not included.

Info: JourneYou, www.lat.ms/1Md
bZDU

— ANNE HARNAGEL

