



Albuquerque to El Paso

June 4 – 10 and September 12 – 18, 2013

7 days/6 nights

Often referred to as “The Land of Enchantment”, New Mexico presents a special mix of culture, history, geography and people which together, create a unique and memorable travel adventure. Experience all of them as you travel to the top of 10,378 ft Sandia Peak, sample the traditional lifestyle of the 1,000 year old culture of the Pueblo Indians in Acoma, and marvel at the exhibits at the International Balloon Museum. Explore the culture and history of Santa Fe and Taos, re-live the excitement of “Billy The Kid” in Ruidoso and taste Southwestern culinary delights in Las Cruces. This is the perfect New Mexico Sampler!

Day 1 Arrive Albuquerque

Welcome to Albuquerque, the gateway to your fascinating New Mexico journey. Begin your adventure with an exhilarating ride to the top of 10,378 foot Sandia Peak Mountain on North America’s longest aerial tramway. The amazing panoramic view is a prelude to the vistas you will experience on your tour. Your introduction to Albuquerque continues with a visit to the world famous Anderson-Abruzzo Albuquerque International Balloon Museum before some “free time” in the Old Town marketplace section of the city. Tonight enjoy a special Welcome Dinner.

Overnight Albuquerque – Dinner

Day 2 Albuquerque

Be prepared for a truly incredible experience as you travel west to visit the Acoma “Sky City” Pueblo. This is a trip back in time for a brief glimpse of the traditional lifestyle of the Pueblo Indians. Situated on a 360 foot sandstone rock, it is considered one of the oldest continuously inhabited villages in the US. In the afternoon return to Albuquerque. Take a walking tour of “Old Town” with its maze of cobblestone streets, historic buildings and renowned Museum of Art and History. Explore the galleries and fine jewelry shops.

Overnight Albuquerque – Breakfast/Dinner

Day 3 Albuquerque to Santa Fe

This “Land of Enchantment” is rich in history, culture and dramatic scenery. Today’s adventure starts with a scenic drive along the famed Turquoise Trail Byway. Arriving in Santa Fe, tour historic Old Town and view the State Capitol Building, Cristo Rey Church, and the Loretto Chapel with its miraculous staircase and the Governor’s Palace. Visit the Georgia O’Keeffe Museum, explore the 300 year old plaza and shop for silver and turquoise jewelry crafted by Native American artists. Tonight enjoy a special Santa Fe culinary experience.

Overnight Santa Fe – Breakfast/Dinner

Day 4 Santa Fe & Taos

What a way to start the day! The picturesque drive along the Rio Grande River Valley and spectacular views of the Sangre de Cristo Mountains create the perfect preview for your arrival in Taos. The home of frontiersman Kit Carson and novelist D H Lawrence, Taos is a magical blend of Indian and Spanish Cultures. You’ll visit the 1,000 year old Taos Pueblo UNESCO Site, tour the historic Plaza and have free time to explore the shops and museums of this mecca of arts and culture before returning to Santa Fe. Tonight you are free to enjoy the culinary delights of Santa Fe on your own.

Overnight Santa Fe - Breakfast

Day 5 Santa Fe to Ruidoso

Today begins with a fascinating journey south across the desert to the Sacramento Mountains of south-central New Mexico. This is “Billy the Kid Country”; rich in the history of the Mescalero Apache, Buffalo Soldiers and the Lincoln County War. Take some time for lunch and a walk through historic Lincoln before continuing on to the popular mountain resort of Ruidoso. Enjoy some free time exploring the shops and galleries in mid-town before heading to the exciting Flying J Ranch for a chuck wagon dinner and entertainment.

Overnight Ruidoso – Breakfast/Dinner

Day 6 Ruidoso to Las Cruces

Begin the day with a short journey to the Tularosa Basin on the western slopes. Tour the New Mexico Museum of Space History in Alamogordo which explains the city’s vital role in NASA’s space program. Then, marvel at 60 ft high wave-like dunes at White Sands National Monument where the world’s largest gypsum sand field has engulfed 275-square miles of desert. Early afternoon brings us to Las Cruces, nestled in the beautiful Mesilla Valley. Enjoy the region’s colourful past in Old Mesilla and the New Mexico Farm and Ranch Heritage Museum. Salute your New Mexico adventure tonight as you enjoy the wines, peppers, nuts and other culinary treats of the region.

Overnight Las Cruces – Breakfast/Dinner

Day 7 Las Cruces/El Paso – Home

Your New Mexico adventure ends with a short ride to El Paso and your flight home.

Breakfast

TOUR HIGHLIGHTS:

- Sandia Peak Tramway
- Anderson-Abruzzo Albuquerque International Balloon Museum
- Acoma “Sky City”
- The Turquoise Trail Byway
- Santa Fe walking tour
- Georgia O’Keefe Museum
- Taos Pueblo UNESCO Site
- Lincoln & “Billy The Kid”
- Alamogordo & NM Space Museum
- White Sands National Monument
- Las Cruces – Mesilla Old Town

INCLUDED FEATURES:

- Deluxe accommodation for 6 nights
- 6 Breakfasts and 5 dinners including gratuities
- All attractions and activities as listed on the itinerary
- Private deluxe motorcoach for the duration of the tour
- Services of a professional
- Tour Manager
- 10 % commission on Package

NOT INCLUDED:

- Airfare
- Luggage Fees
- Medical and Trip Insurance
- Gratuities for Tour Manager

TOUR COSTS:

\$1,379 per person Double
\$1,279 per person Triple
\$1,699 per person Single