

Albuquerque International Balloon Fiesta October 10 - 14, 2018



Pictures Courtesy of New Mexico Tourism Department

Tour Highlights:

- Two Balloon Fiesta events, one morning and one nightglow and fireworks
- Field-side Hospitality Tent and reserved Chasers Club seating for nightglow event
- Sandia Peak Aerial Tramway
- Turquoise Museum
- Trolley tour of Old Albuquerque
- One day in Santa Fe

Trip Includes:

- 4 nights lodging at Nativo Lodge, Albuquerque, NM
- 4 breakfasts, 3 dinners
- All sightseeing and admissions as noted on final itinerary
- Transportation by private, deluxe motor coach, air conditioned and restroom equipped
- Bottled water and snacks on motor coach
- Smoky Hills Public Television escort with minimum of 24 passengers

Items Not Included:

- Meals not included in itinerary
 - Tips for driver, hotel maid service, etc.
 - Balloon rides are not part of this itinerary, but can be scheduled during free time.
- Rainbow Riders 800-725-2477

Pricing:

\$1,110 per person (based on double occupancy)

\$1,570 single - \$980 triple - \$915 quad

Pick up stops in Russell, Great Bend, Dodge City and points south

Early Reservations a Must

Because of the popularity of the Balloon Fiesta, hotel rooms are at a premium during this time. In addition, to enhance your experience at the Balloon Fiesta, admission to both Fiesta events at Balloon Park include admission and access to the hospitality tent and evening seating in the Chasers Club. Seating fills up by June 1 so reservations must be made early to guarantee our spot. **Early Reservation Special \$100 deposit if made by May 31, 2018.** Reservations received June 1 through July 31, deposit is \$200. Reservations are payable by check to Smoky Hills Public Television or Pack and Go Tours.

Final Payment and Refund Policy

Final Payment is due on or before August 25, 2018. All deposits made are fully refundable if cancelled before May 31, 2018. Deposits made or cancelled June 1- August 25 are 50% refundable. Cancellations after final payment is made are 50% refundable if cancelled prior to September 1, 2018; after this deadline non-refundable. Trip cancellation and interruption insurance is NOT provided with this trip. Individuals may purchase trip cancellation insurance online at www.travelguard.com. The trip is a guaranteed departure with a minimum of 24 travelers reserved by July 31, 2018.

We reserve the right to alter or rearrange tour due to circumstances beyond our control.

Albuquerque International Balloon Festival Itinerary

Oct 10-14, 2018

Day 1 Wednesday Oct 10

We will board our deluxe motor coach this morning. Planned pick up stops will be made in Russell, Great Bend, Dodge City and points south as needed. As we travel southwest we will get acquainted with our fellow travelers. We will arrive in Albuquerque that evening at our home for the next four nights, The Nativo Lodge. This hotel offers the best of modern amenities mixed with the hospitality and charm of the Native American culture. Settle in and get to bed as tomorrow our full day begins early!

Day 2 Thursday Oct 11 B, D

Grab an early cup of coffee and boxed breakfast at the hotel because we will leave before dawn to travel to enjoy the beauty and spectacular of the Balloon Fiesta. This morning as the sun rises and balloons lift off into the New Mexico sky we will see the most popular event of the Balloon Fiesta – Special Shapes Rodeo and Flying Competition and pre-dawn laser light show. Stroll through the launch field and observe what it takes to prepare the balloons for launch, talk and ask questions of the participants, stand within a few feet as the balloons launch or watch from one of the many observation points. As part of your Balloon Fiesta experience you will have access to the group hospitality tent where you will find complimentary coffee, tea, cocoa and donuts. There will be time for you to stroll the Main Street and look for something special to take home, or listen to one of the many musical performers at the Main Stage. After our morning of high flying we will head back to our hotel to put our feet up and relax for a bit. You will have lunch on your own, either at the hotel or dining choices within an easy short walk from the hotel. After lunch we will visit the Turquoise Museum. This privately owned museum contains one of the largest turquoise collections in the world. Next we will travel to the Sandia Peak Tramway for our own birds eye view of Albuquerque and the surrounding area. A trip on the tram transports you above deep canyons and affords a panoramic view of the Rio Grande Valley. The evening meal is an included dinner at El Pinto. This beautiful restaurant sits on twelve acres and it includes a 5,000 square foot manufacturing facility to produce salsa and sauces for retail.

Day 3 Friday Oct 12 B,D

This morning pick-up a boxed breakfast at the hotel and then board our motor coach as we travel north to discover the sights of historic Santa Fe. Upon arrival we will have a Santa Fe guide step on the bus for a city tour. We will arrive back at the Historic Plaza where you will be on your own to spend the afternoon at the Plaza, the heart of Santa Fe for nearly 400 years. Enjoy a leisurely lunch on your own, explore historic buildings such as the Palace of the Governors (built in 1610), or one of the many museums in the area such as the New Mexico History Museum. There will be plenty of shopping opportunities. We will meet back at the Visitors Center to board our bus to enjoy dinner in Santa Fe before returning home to the hotel

Day 4 Saturday Oct 13, B, D

After breakfast at the hotel, we will board the bus for the short drive to Old Albuquerque Town. You may choose to take a guided tour via Trolley (included) or spend your time exploring on your own. After a short break at the hotel, we will be off to Balloon Fiesta Park for another evening with the hot air balloons. Celebrate this last night in Albuquerque with special seating in the Chasers Club, which includes a complimentary dinner buffet, a cash bar and music.

Day 5, Sunday, Oct 14 B

Upon rising enjoy breakfast before boarding our motor coach for the return trip to Kansas, with memories soaring as we recall the colorful balloons, the sights, tastes and smells of the Land of Enchantment.



QUESTIONS?

Please contact Malinda at 800-337-4788 or mwalker@shptv.org
or Pack 'n Go Tours, Jayne Heller at 785-529-2382 or rjheller53@yahoo.com