

# ALBUQUERQUE BALLOON FIESTA, SANTA FE & TAOS!

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**OCTOBER 7 - 11, 2019**

**\$629 DOUBLE OCCUPANCY; \$799 SINGLE; \$599 TRIPLE (RATES ARE PER PERSON)**

**MORNING MASS ASCENSION, OLD TOWN ALBUQUERQUE, SANTA FE, TAOS & SO MUCH MORE**

*For the past 45 years, for nine days in October, the New Mexico skies are painted as hundreds of balloons lift off from Fiesta Park. Nothing rivals the power of Mass Ascensions of the Albuquerque International Balloon Fiesta on crisp early mornings as these graceful giants leave the ground to take their place in the cerulean desert sky. For ballooning fans worldwide, the Albuquerque International Balloon Fiesta is a pilgrimage.*

**MEALS= LD MONDAY - DAY 1 – OCTOBER 7, 2019 – SAGEBRUSH INN, TAOS, NM**

TODAY IS A TRAVEL DAY BUT WE WILL BREAK IT UP WITH STOPS EVERY HOUR AND A HALF OR SO. BOTH MEALS TODAY ARE INCLUDED, WITH DINNER BEING CATERED AT THE HOTEL. ON OUR WAY TO NEW MEXICO WE WILL VISIT THE STATIONS OF THE CROSS IN SAN LUIS COLORADO. THE STATIONS OF THE CROSS ARE A SERIES OF GRAPHIC MEDITATIONS OF THE LAST HOURS OF CHRIST'S LIVE – HIS JUDGEMENT, SUFFERINGS, DEATH AND RESURRECTION.

**MEALS= BD TUESDAY - DAY 2 – OCTOBER 8, 2019 - RAMADA, ALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO**

THIS MORNING WE WILL VISIT THE TAOS PUEBLO; A LIVING NATIVE AMERICAN COMMUNITY AND HOME TO THE TAOS PUEBLO PEOPLE FOR OVER 1000 YEARS. FOLLOWING OUR GUIDED TOUR, YOU WILL HAVE TIME TO VISIT A COUPLE OF THE HOMES WHERE PEOPLE OPEN THEIR HOMES TO SELL THEIR WARES. ANCIENT RUINS IN THE TAOS VALLEY INDICATE THESE PEOPLE LIVED HERE NEARLY 1000 YEARS AGO. THE MAIN PART OF THE PRESENT BUILDINGS WERE MOST LIKELY CONSTRUCTED BETWEEN 1000 AND 1450 A.D. WE WILL HEAD TO THE HISTORIC TAOS PLAZA FOR TIME ON YOUR OWN TO GRAB A BITE TO EAT & EXPLORE THE MANY SHOPS AND GALLERIES. THIS AFTERNOON WE WILL MAKE OUR WAY INTO ALBUQUERQUE WHERE A CATERED DINNER AWAITS AT OUR HOTEL.

**MEALS= BD WEDNESDAY - DAY 3 – OCTOBER 9, 2019 - RAMADA, ALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO**

WE WILL DEPART BY 5:30AM, ARRIVING AT FIESTA PARK FOR DAWN PATROL, THE MORNING GLOW AND MASS ASCENSION. YOU WILL BE TREATED TO HOT COFFEE/CHOCOLATE AND KRISPY KREME DONUTS FOLLOWED BY BREAKFAST IN THE CHASERS CLUB. THE BALLOONS WILL BE SENT UP IN WAVES AND YOU WILL BE RIGHT IN THE MIDDLE OF IT ALL, RUNNING FROM BALLOON TO BALLOON WAVING GOODBYE AS THEY LAUNCH RIGHT OVER YOUR HEAD, IT IS THRILLING! AFTER VISITING THE VENDORS AT THE PARK WE HEAD TO OLD TOWN ALBUQUERQUE. ARTISANS, DANCERS AND MUSICIANS WILL FILL THE SQUARE FOR YOUR PLEASURE. THIS AFTERNOON OUR GROUP WILL VISIT THE NATIONAL ATOMIC TESTING MUSEUM. THIS TOUR FOCUSES ON SCIENTIFIC DISCOVERIES OF THE ATOM, THE MANHATTAN PROJECT AND TRINITY TEST, AS WELL AS THE COLD WAR ERA AND THE AIRPLANES, MISSILES AND ROCKETS ON DISPLAY IN THE MUSEUM'S HERITAGE PARK. BACK TO THE HOTEL FOR ANOTHER GROUP DINNER AND THEN WE WILL CALL IT A DAY... AND WHAT A DAY THIS WILL BE!

**MEALS = BD THURSDAY – DAY 4 – OCTOBER 10, 2019 – HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS, LAS VEGAS, NEW MEXICO**

WE WILL MEET OUR STEP ON GUIDE FOR A TOUR OF SANTA FE BEFORE BEING TURNED LOOSE TO EXPLORE THE SANTA FE OLD TOWN SQUARE. YOU HAVE THE DAY TO EAT AND EXPLORE, DO NOT MISS THE SPIRAL STAIRCASE AT LORETTO CHAPEL OR THE CATHEDRAL BASILICA OF ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI. AFTER A BUSY DAY WE WILL HEAD TO OUR HOTEL FOR A QUICK BITE BEFORE CALLING IT A NIGHT!

**MEALS = BL FRIDAY – DAY 5 – OCTOBER 11, 2019**

HOMEWARD BOUND, WE WILL MAKE COMFORT STOPS AS WELL AS OUR LAST INCLUSIVE GROUP MEAL. YOU WILL BE HOME IN TIME FOR DINNER WITH GREAT MEMORIES AND STORIES TO SHARE.

Rate Includes: Motor Coach, Tour Hostess, All Admissions, 8+ Meals, Hotels, and All Meal and Event Gratuities. Driver, Tour Guide and Step-on Gratuities have not been included in the rate on this trip.