

ALBUQUERQUE'S INTERNATIONAL BALLOON FIESTA!

✧ Chaser Club Seating for the Glowdeo and Mass Ascension ✧
Santa Fe and the Turquoise Trail ✧ Acoma Pueblo ✧ Sandia Peak

OCTOBER 6TH - 10TH, 2016

Every October, hundreds of hot air balloons of all shapes and colors paint the clear blue desert sky over Albuquerque during the International Balloon Fiesta. From its modest beginnings, the event now features over 700 colorful balloons in events ranging from the beautiful evening glow to the mass ascension that will take your breath away! Join TRIPS as we take you to the "Land of Enchantment" to experience the Fiesta the TRIPS way! You'll have reserved Chaser Club seating providing the best view possible! Traveling the Turquoise Trail, you head for Santa Fe, one of the top destinations in the country. Stroll the historic Plaza, the end of the famed Olde Santa Fe Trail, ringed by buildings in the Pueblo, Spanish and Territorial styles reflecting its diverse history. Visit the Acoma Pueblo and discover the traditional Native American culture. And no trip to Albuquerque is complete without traveling to the top of Sandia Peak via the tramway for views that truly go on forever! After just a short time here, you'll truly be Enchanted!

Itinerary

October 6, 2016 - It's a Glowdeo and Fireworks Show!

Your journey to the "**Land of Enchantment**" begins this morning as you depart for beautiful **Albuquerque**. On arrival, you'll be met by your TRIPS representative and will be assisted with your hotel transfer. After getting settled, depart for **Fiesta Field** to begin your Balloon Fiesta experience at the **Chasers Club**! You'll have guaranteed seating in a private patio located near the launch field with deluxe views! Enjoy a buffet dinner before the evening feature, the **Special Shape Glowdeo** and **AfterGlow Fireworks Show**. The fantastic special shape balloons are breathtaking in the glow of the early evening! Watch as balloons shaped like bees, birds, bears and more fire their burners and light up at the same time. It is perhaps the most spectacular single moment in all of Balloon Fiesta. Next, you'll be treated to New Mexico's most spectacular fireworks display! These are two of the most popular events at the Balloon Fiesta and with your Chasers Club seats, the view is unparalleled! Overnight: Albuquerque - Hyatt Place Uptown (D)

October 7, 2016 - Mass Ascension!

Today, see why Albuquerque is the **Balloon Capitol of the World**! Early this morning, you return to Fiesta Field and your Chasers Club seats to witness the **Dawn Patrol while enjoying breakfast**! Started

in 1978, Dawn Patrol pilots take off in the dark and fly until it is light enough to see landing sites. Then, just at dawn when the winds are calmest, watch a rainbow of colors during **mass ascension** as hundreds of balloons ascend in a spectacle of sound and color! After an exhilarating morning, set out on a **driving tour of Albuquerque**, "The Jewel of the American Southwest." See the downtown area as well as the University of New Mexico before stopping in **Albuquerque's Old Town**. With a tree-lined plaza and charming adobe buildings and churches, discover quiet hidden patios, winding brick paths, gardens and balconies in this 10 block area of historic adobe buildings. This afternoon, enjoy lunch on your own as well as some free time. This evening, enjoy a Balloon Fiesta tradition with dinner at the **El Pinto Restaurant**. Featuring a wide selection of New Mexican food, it has been voted Best of the City!

Overnight: Albuquerque - Hyatt Place Uptown

(B/D)

October 8, 2016 - Turquoise, Pueblos and Peaks!

Your day starts at the **Turquoise Museum** which focuses on the beauty, mythology and physical properties of this sought after gemstone. The semiprecious, but adored stone is reminiscent of the color of New Mexico's beautiful skies and is widely sought after. Your guided tour begins by entering a simulated mine shaft and leads you to one-of-a-kind showpieces and samples from more than 65 turquoise mines on four continents. Learn how to distinguish the real McCoy from plastic, and of

course, you'll have time to browse in the gift shop for that perfect piece. Next, visit the **Indian Pueblo Cultural Center**. The Museum here features an exhibit that provides an overview of the Pueblo world as well as a contemporary exhibit featuring original artwork and craftsmanship of the 19 Pueblos in New Mexico. Learn about the characteristics that are specific to each and see short films on the life of two distinguished Pueblo women. Internationally known potter Maria Martinez whose black ware pottery is much sought after and Pablita Velarde a well known painter whose works are in exhibited in the Smithsonian. Then, travel to **Sky City Cultural Center** and **Haak'u Museum**, the reception center for the **Pueblo of Acoma**, the oldest continuously inhabited settlement in North America. The museum showcases the history, art and lifestyle of these people, enduring for a thousand years. From stunning Pueblo pottery and Southwest Indian art and tribal celebrations, you will gain a deeper understanding of the Acoma People. Your visit includes lunch and you'll be able to visit the gift shop showcasing pottery and Native American turquoise jewelry. Return to Albuquerque and visit New Mexico's famous **Sandia Peak**, where you'll enjoy a tram ride that will whisk you 10,680 feet into the air for an unsurpassed view from the summit. On a clear day, you can easily see the wonderful New Mexico landscape in a 100-mile circle at your feet. Return to the hotel with the evening free in historic Old Town. Stop in at one of the many restaurants featuring delightful chile dishes or anything from an delicious burger to fine Continental cuisine!

Overnight: Albuquerque - Hyatt Place Uptown

(B/L)

October 9, 2016 - It's all about Santa Fe!

Today you're off to Santa Fe traveling along the **Turquoise Trail**. Your first stop of the day is the real-life **ghost town of Madrid**, looking exactly like a ghost town should! With empty, ramshackle houses that once housed three thousand miners and their families, the only signs of life today are the artists who come to paint this picturesque place. Continue on to **Santa Fe** the oldest capital city in North America and today a magical, exuberant place that holds its past near. Named by Travel and Leisure as the #1 Cultural Getaway, your tour includes the **Olde Santa Fe Trail**, the famed **Loretto Chapel** with its miraculous staircase and time to stroll the **Indian Market** where you'll find native arts and crafts available directly from the Indians who created them. There is plenty of shopping around town, and whether you're looking for cowboy boots or concho belts, salsa or turquoise jewelry, you'll find that and so much more! Of course Santa Fe is world renowned for it's art scene and you'll find galleries galore with art spilling out into yards and moving sculptures fueled by the wind. Too soon, you'll return to Albuquerque with some time to relax at your hotel before a delightful farewell dinner at a local restaurant.

Overnight: Albuquerque - Hyatt Place Uptown

(B/L/D)

October 10th, 2016 - Adios to New Mexico!

After breakfast, transfer to the Albuquerque airport for your flight home. **The Albuquerque Balloon Fiesta and your days in the "Land of Enchantment" won't soon be forgotten!**

(B)

Inclusions

- Roundtrip airport transfers
- Roundtrip airfare to Albuquerque (checked baggage fees are not included)
- 4 nights hotel accommodations in Albuquerque
- Breakfast daily
- 2 lunches
- 3 dinners, including dinner at the Chase Club
- Reserved Chase Club seating for Balloon Fiesta and Fireworks
- All sightseeing and admissions as listed in the detailed itinerary including Balloon Fiesta, Loretto Chapel, Acoma Pueblo, Sandia Peak Tramway, Turquoise Museum, Indian Pueblo Cultural Center, Ghost town of Madrid and more!
- Private, deluxe motor coach throughout your tour
- Tour Guide/Director throughout your tour
- TRIPS ticket wallet and luggage tags
- Portage of 1 suitcase per person
- All government taxes and fees

Albuquerque Balloon Fiesta \$2,398.00

Single Supplement is an additional \$598.00

***Trip cancellation/interruption available
and is strongly recommended.***

(For medical reasons only).

Insurance premium is \$193.00 per person
single or double occupancy.

Call today to reserve your space!!!

Reservations for **"Albuquerque Balloon Fiesta"** are accepted on a first come/first served basis.

An initial **\$500.00** deposit is required to hold space on this tour.

This deposit is fully refundable up to June 28, 2016. Final Payment is due on or before June 28, 2016.

50% non-refundable as of June 29, 2016. 100% non-refundable as of August 5, 2016.

Contact Linda Mattingly at 877-903-2265 (toll free) extension 6707 or email lmattingly@alliancebank.com.

We accept all major credit cards.

Make checks payable to Alliance Bank c/o Linda Mattingly

PO Box 500 Sulphur Springs, TX 75483-0500

Passport Name: _____ DOB: _____

Credit Card #: _____ Expiration Date: _____



CST # 2057913-10

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