

The Great Southwest

Featuring

Albuquerque Balloon Festival Santa Fe and Grand Canyon National Park

***Presented by Rocky River Senior Center
8 Days ~ October 1-8, 2022***

The dazzling landscapes of New Mexico and Arizona will leave you absolutely astonished with colorful canyons and breathtaking views of towering mountains. See Albuquerque at its best during the famous International Balloon Fiesta. Enjoy an exciting train journey aboard Amtrak's "Southwest Chief". Visit Sedona's old Wild West Main Street. Tour one of the USA's best National Parks – The Grand Canyon. Enjoy Cowboy and Indian lore. This autumn vacation will leave you with a lifetime of memories of spectacular artistic beauty.

HIGHLIGHTS INCLUDE:

Hot Air Balloon Grand Ascension ~ Albuquerque Afterglow Fireworks ~ Indian Pueblo Cultural Center ~ Acoma "Sky City" ~ Sandia Peak Aerial Tramway ~ Santa Fe Loretto Chapel and Miraculous Stairway ~ Historic Turquoise Trail ~ Palace of the Governors Chimayo Shrine ~ Amtrak's Southwest Chief Train ~ Grand Canyon National Park Sedona ~ Oak Creek Canyon ~ Route 66

TOUR INCLUDES:

- Round trip scheduled air transportation
- Deluxe motorcoach and rail transportation
- Hotels (2 nights Albuquerque, 2 nights Santa Fe, 3 nights Flagstaff - Grand Canyon)
- Eleven Meals: 7 breakfasts, 4 dinners
- All sightseeing, admissions, baggage handling and most gratuities
- Professional tour manager

TOUR FARE:

\$2999 per person based on double occupancy

\$3749 per person based on single occupancy

Payment Policy: A \$200 per person deposit is now due to secure your reservation. Balance due by July 5, 2022. Make checks payable to Wendt Touring and send to: Rocky River Senior Center, 21014 Hilliard Blvd., Rocky River, OH 44116 Attn: Deb Huff. For more information contact Rocky River Senior Center (440) 333-6660. All are welcome.

Refund Policy: Full refund on all monies paid (including insurance payment) on cancellations made by July 5, 2022. Optional trip cancellation insurance is available for \$184 per person double occupancy or \$234 single occupancy and is **due with deposit**.

Travel Arrangements made by Wendt Touring

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Day 1: Fly to Albuquerque, New Mexico. Travel north via motor coach along the picturesque Turquoise Trail to the historic city of Santa Fe: the oldest capital in North America and the second oldest city in the United States. See why Santa Fe is on many travelers "top 10 list". Later today we arrive at our hotel for a delightful two-night stay. Tonight, we gather for a special "Welcome to the tour" dinner at a local restaurant.

Day 2: Embark on a guided tour Santa Fe featuring the Palace of the Governors, Cathedral of St. Francis of Assisi, State Capital Building and Loretto Chapel with the "Miraculous Staircase". Visit Chimayo Shrine, a historic sanctuary for healing and spiritual growth. Later today we return to Santa Fe for a leisurely afternoon to explore this sophisticated city including its historic plaza, shops, museums and galleries.

Day 3: Travel to Albuquerque and embark on a comprehensive city tour (including historic Route 66) with a stop in Old Town which features Native American artwork, jewelry, food and specialty items. This afternoon, visit the Indian Pueblo Cultural Center. Later today, arrive at our Albuquerque hotel for a two-night stay. Dinner included.

Day 4: This morning we travel to Balloon Fiesta Park to witness the spectacular mass ascension of hundreds of colorful hot air balloons which take to the sky. Over 700 hot-air balloonists come from all over the world to fly at the annual Albuquerque International Balloon Festival. Later today we visit the Albuquerque Balloon Museum. Dinner included. This evening we return to Balloon Fiesta Park for the Afterglow Fireworks Display.

Day 5: This morning we journey to Acoma Pueblo – "Sky City". Experience a thrilling ride aboard the Sandia Peak Aerial Tramway. Enjoy the spectacular scenery of the Cibola National Forest. Later we board Amtrak's famous "Southwest Chief" train for a memorable journey on Superliner equipment. Rail highlights include the Rio Grande River, Red Cliffs of New Mexico, Painted Desert, Petrified Forest and Canyon Diablo. Enjoy dinner in the full-service dining car and witness breathtaking scenery from the panoramic observation car. Hotel in Flagstaff/Grand Canyon area for a 3-night stay.

Day 6: Today, enjoy a full day of sightseeing at one of America's great national parks – The Grand Canyon. Our guide is well versed in the ecology of the park, its history, geology, wildlife and legends. Stop at some of the best vantage points from which to view the forest and the canyon in all its vibrant glory above the Colorado River. Enjoy some free time to explore on your own.

Day 7: Sedona Red Rock territory is another of Arizona's crown jewels. Oak Creek Canyon has its own collection of impressive buttes, spires and sheer rock walls that shimmer with shades of stunning colors. The small authentic western town of Sedona is an artist's paradise and is quite spiritual. It is home to several vortexes. Farewell dinner included.

Day 8: Depart for the Phoenix, Arizona airport and begin our journey home to Ohio.