HOLIDAY and VACATION PLANNING GUIDE to the federal parks of the Southwest:

Arkansas
Louisiana
New Mexico
Oklahoma
Texas and the
Navajo Reservation

prepared especially for
Tourist Information Desks
Travel Writers
Travel Agents

by the
PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE
Southwest Region
National Park Service ★★★★★★
U.S. Department of the Interior

United States Department of the Interior
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
SOUTHWEST REGION
P.O. Box 728
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501

IN REPLY REFER TO:

Memorandum

To: Tourist Information Desk Operators
Travel and Vacation Writers
Travel Agents

From: John Cook, Regional Director, Southwest Region

Subject: Helping the people *you* serve.

I am pleased to send you copy no. of our HOLIDAY AND VACATION PLANNING GUIDE to the Federal Parks of the Southwest. It was prepared by our Public Affairs Office to help you present more accurate and up-to-date information about the areas we administer to the people you serve. We hope you will find it a valuable aid and we welcome your comments on ways we can make it better.

This Guide is part of our RIGHT AROUND HOME program, an effort we began two years ago to encourage fuel conservation by holiday and vacation travelers. We stress the great areas, preserved by your federal government, that are within a tank of gas of where you live. They are not all Yellowstones or Statues of Liberty . . . but each has been set aside by the President or the Congress because of unique values of national significance. Collectively, they are the greatest tourist attraction in America today.

We sincerely hope that you will contribute to this effort to conserve fuel by encouraging the people you serve to consider the RIGHT AROUND HOME approach to their holiday and vacation travel this year.

John E Cook

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The red bluffs, high above the Canadian River, held a secret which proved to be a most important discovery by ancient Americans in the Texas Panhandle.

12,000 years or more ago, small bands of nomadic hunters passed through the area in search of wild game which was abundant in this region. Animals which today are extinct, such as mammoth and camel, roamed side by side with bison, pronghorn, and deer which are still found locally.

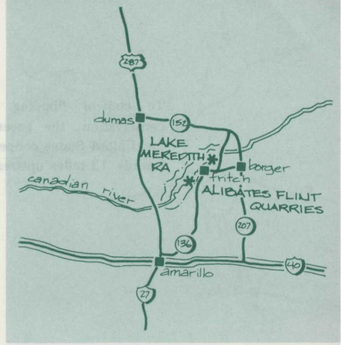
These hunters used sharp-edged stone weapons shaped from rock such as obsidian, quartzite and flint. They were important commodities and they carried them with them wherever they went.

Temporary camps were established and the hunters would leave to stalk the game, turning at night with their kill. Perhaps it was one of these hunting expeditions which first stumbled on to the secret which was to help provide them with a living and a commodity to trade to other bands of hunters. This was the multi-colored Alibates flint.

In the following years, over 500 small quarry pits were dug to expose the unweathered flint so vital to their existence.

Today you can take a guided tour into this area which was so important to these people of the past.

It has been set aside by your government and is being preserved for your enjoyment by the National Park Service as the Alibates Flint Quarries and Texas Panhandle Pueblo Culture National Monument.



ALIBATES FLINT QUARRIES National Monument, Texas

What To See and Do

The Monument is undeveloped, but you may visit the quarry pits on guided walking tours conducted by Park Rangers. They begin at the Bates Canyon Information Station, off State Route 136 and are limited to not more than 20 persons. Between Memorial Day and Labor Day, tours leave the Information Station at 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. Off-season tours may be arranged by writing to the Superintendent, Lake Meredith Recreation Area, P.O. Box 1438, Fritch, TX, 79036.

Nearby Attractions

Lake Meredith Recreation Area. Here a variety of outdoor activities are offered, especially during the summer months, including boating, swimming, camping, hunting, exploring and nature study.

Facilities are available for boat launching, boat storage and picnicking. There is a marina with a snack bar at Sanford-Yake, near the dam.

The Panhandle Plains Historical Museum contains exhibits of archeological material of this region and a model of what a Panhandle Pueblo structure may have looked like. On the campus of west Texas University in Canyon, TX, 16 miles south of Amarillo on State 217 just east of U.S. 87.

Palo Duro Canyon State Scenic Park, south of Amarillo and west of Canyon on State Highway 217. The area is famous for its sheer cliffs of bright red color. Facilities for scenic auto tours, hiking, camping, picnics, horseback rides and nature study.

Buffalo Lake National Wildlife Refuge, 12 miles southwest of Canyon. Canada geese, pintails, mallards and bald and golden eagles winter here. Open daily, 6 a.m. to 10 p.m.

How To Get There

Alibates Flint Quarries National Monument is located in the north-central section of the Texas Panhandle. It is reached over the Alibates Road; the Bates Canyon Information Station is 5 miles west of State Route 136. The intersection of the Alibates Road with State 136 is 32 miles north of Amarillo, 6 miles south of Fritch and 18 miles south of Borger.

Stay a While

Overnight facilities are available in Fritch, Borger, Sanford, Dumas, Amarillo and other surrounding towns.

Primitive and semi-developed campgrounds are available at Lake Meredith Recreation Area.

Nearby towns also have private campgrounds with trailer hook-ups.

For Meals and Snacks

There is no food service available in the Monument. Good restaurants are found in the nearby communities and snacks can be purchased at the Sanford Yake Marina at Lake Meredith.

The Weather

Overall, the climate is pleasant. Summer highs are in the 90's, winter lows in the teens. Occasionally a visit is marred by temperature extremes or severe weather conditions. The average annual rainfall is only 20 inches; there may be several snows during a winter.

Need To Know More?

Alibates Flint Quarries — A History Sketch Mimeographed. . . . . .FREE

For your copy write to Alibates Flint Quarries National Monument Information, c/o Lake Meredith Recreation Area, P.O. Box 1438, Fritch, TX, 79036.

For Your Safety

Please be careful on the trail. Loose rocks make for unsure footing and steep slopes add to the chances of a fall.

High-topped shoes or boots and a canteen of water are recommended for your safety and comfort.

Some forms of wildlife can be dangerous in close contact. Keep an eye out for rattlesnakes, skunks, porcupines and other creatures which might spoil your visit. Remember that many wild animals may harbor diseases which could harm you or your family, don't pet an animal which seems friendly.

This is dry country, and many plants have sharp thorns. Be especially careful of cactus, yucca, goatheads and sandburs.

Just a Few Rules !

You won't have a good time if our Rangers have to remind you about rule infractions. So for your fun, and ours, keep these few rules in mind:

The rocks are a natural resource. Please do not remove them from the Monument.

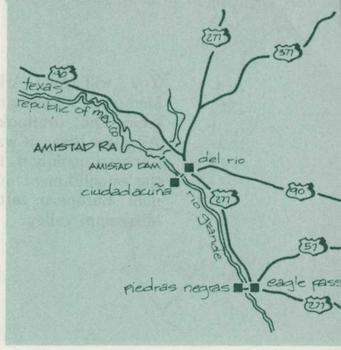
The Monument is a wildlife sanctuary. That means you cannot molest or disturb any of the wildlife in any way.

The presence of firearms is prohibited.

Pets are not allowed on the trail. Arrange some method to allow your pets the most comfort for the time you are on the trail.

To control flooding and for general water conservation, the governments of Mexico and the United States cooperativley dammed the Rio Grande 12 miles upstream from Del Rio, Texas, and Ciudad Acuna, Coahuila. Behind the dam, the Rio Grande backed up a beautiful, clear lake some 74 miles long, the third-largest international man-made lake in the world.

Around the Unites States' shore, the National Park Service was given the responsibility of managing the facility for the use and enjoyment of all our people.



A MISTAD Recreation Area, Texas

What To See and Do

Water-oriented recreation is the attraction of Amistad Recreation Area. You can boat, scuba dive, fish, and swim. Camping is provided so you can enjoy the water sports. And to enhance your visit, the National Park Service offers a variety of interpretive programs.

Boating. Flooding of this country opened up to the boating and sailing public many areas that were once part of large private ranches. Included are interesting canyons with strange rock formations, lake side caves with 7,000-year-old paintings by prehistoric Indian inhabitants, the Rio Grande canyons at the west end of the reservoir, and short sections of the beautiful Devils and Pecos Rivers.

Fishing. The principal sport and eating fish are bass, channel catfish, yellow catfish, crappie, sunfish and carp. The season is open and year-long, but it's at its best in spring and early summer. A Texas license is required and all State regulations must be obeyed. A Mexican license is required for fishing in Mexican waters. Commercial fishing is prohibited.

Swimming. You can swim anywhere at your own risk, but for your convenience, a public beach with shelters, tables, restrooms and a diving float is located at the east end of the dam.

Scuba Diving. Amistad is generally considered a clear water lake with good fresh water visibility. Divers must have certification from an approved diving organization, a diving buddy, and display a diving flag. Diving is not permitted in harbors, swim beaches or around docks. Check with a Ranger for up-to-date information and requirements.

Water Skiing. You can water ski during daylight hours provided there is a competent observer in the boat in addition to the operator. Water skiers must wear an approved lifesaving device. Skiing is not permitted in channels, within 500 feet of harbors, swimming beaches or mooring areas, or within 100 feet of any person in the water.

Camping. You may camp anywhere along the shore line below the maximum flood pool level (the 1144.3 contour line). The Park maintains primitive campgrounds. Commercial campgrounds are located near Diablo East, Pecos Canyon and the Pecos ramp.

Hunting. Dove, quail, and waterfowl may be hunted in accordance with Texas law and seasons in areas opened and so designated by the Park Superintendent. There is a special season for bow hunting of deer.

Interpretive Programs. The National Park Service offers visitors a variety of programs at various times and places. Schedules are available at Headquarters. These activities include audio-visual programs, guided tours (led by a Ranger Patrol Boat) and nature walks.

Nearby Attractions

The Bronze Eagles, placed on the dam to signify the friendly cooperation between Mexico and the United States.

"Tlaloc," the large stone carving of the Aztec Rain God, located at the west end of the Dam on the Mexican side.

"Playa Tlaloc," just off the Dam on the road to Ciudad Acuna. It includes a beach area, docks and boat gasoline, and a motel.

The Whitehead Memorial Museum in Del Rio. Formerly an old trading post, it presents a variety of frontier artifacts.

The Val Verde Winery. Ancestors of the present owners brought the vines from Italy in the 1880's and it was for years the only operating winery in Texas.

The Judge Roy Bean Exhibit, Langtry, 60 miles west of Del Rio on U.S. 90.

Seminole Canyon State Archeological Park, 40 miles west of Del Rio on Highway 90 on the Seminole Canyon branch of Lake Amistad.

Ciudad Acuna, Mexico, sister city of Del Rio, just across the Rio Grande. It offers curio shops, restaurants and motel accommodations.

How To Get There

Amistad Recreation Area is located on the Rio Grande, 12 miles northwest of Del Rio. It is reached over U.S. 90 (San Antonio is 153 miles to the east, Van Horn, 305 miles to the west) and U.S. 277 (Sonora is 90 miles to the north, Eagle Pass, 56 miles south).

Stay a While

Hotels, motels and restaurants are available in Del Rio, Texas, and Ciudad Acuna, Mexico, just across the Rio Grande.

The Park maintains campgrounds at Rough Canyon and Diablo East, and you may camp anywhere along the shoreline below the maximum flood-pool level.

For Meals and Snacks

There are no food concessions in the Park, but service is available in Del Rio.

The Weather

Summers are hot, July thru September the hottest. Daytime temperatures vary from the high 90's to the low 100's.

March through June and October through most of December are the most pleasant months.

From December thru February it is generally cold, with temperatures in the low 30's at times.

Most of the rainfall comes as violent thunderstorms. Winds are generally from the southeast in the summer and northwest in winter. They vary in intensity up to 28 mph, gusting to 30. Higher wind speeds generally are during the winter storms.

Storms occur suddenly, so use caution, judgment and watch for storm warning flags at the major launch ramps.

Consider Off-Season

Amistad is considered excellent for water-oriented recreation 9 months of the year. December thru February will occasionally have temperature drops to the low 30's.

Need To Know More?

If you have specific questions, write to Amistad Recreation Area Information, P.O. Box 1463, Del Rio, TX78840.

For Your Safety

The sudden windstorms cause heavy waves, making it a difficult lake for boats under 16 feet in length.

Be sure you have adequate life jackets on your boat and wear them.

Amistad is the home of rattlers, coral snakes and copperheads, scorpion, tarantula, black widow spider, brown recluse spider, ticks, wasps, and Javalina (wild pigs). The Javalina is particularly dangerous when they have young. *Watch your dogs!*

If you hike, wear high top leather boots. Cacti and thornbushes *do* have thorns.

Do not eat any wild plant fruit unless you are sure what it is. Many wild fruits are poisonous.

When hiking, watch for sharp and sudden drop-offs of the high cliffs. Some drop 100 or more feet into the lake.

Watch for sink holes and caverns when hiking or walking at night.

Good hiking boots are a necessity; the terrain is rough and broken rocks are sharp.

Algae covered rocks or pavement is slippery; watch your step.

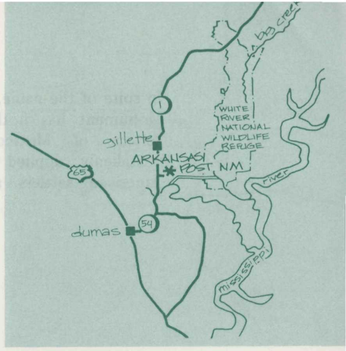
Water depth often varies from knee deep to over 100 feet in a very short distance; watch for sudden drop-offs when wading or swimming.

You will find Arkansas Post National Memorial a pleasant, quiet, tree-shaded scenic spot overlooking the waters of the Arkansas River. It was created by an Act of Congress on July 6, 1960, to commemorate the establishment of the first semi-permanent European settlement in the lower Mississippi Valley.

The settlement here came under five flags: Bourbon France in 1680, Spain in 1763, Republican France in 1800, the United States in 1803 and briefly under the Confederacy during our Civil War. The area was established as an Arkansas State Park in 1929 and turned over to the National Park Service in 1964.

Stand at the Great Cross Exhibit and, in your imagination, think back to the time of the French explorers as they discovered the first high land as they paddled their canoes up the Arkansas from the Mississippi River.

Stand quietly and remember what followed: a thriving town and an important trading center, the seat of Arkansas County, the first meeting place of the Arkansas Territorial Legislature, the starting point for the first overland road into the interior of America, a river port of note.



ARKANSAS POST National Memorial, Arkansas

What To See and Do

As you drive through the park entrance, look for the small Visitor Center on your right. Stop here for a brief audio-visual message about the history of Arkansas Post. A few artifacts are on display and you can purchase appropriate publications. The attendant will answer your questions.

Continue into the park on the entrance road. The right turn takes you to the 25-site picnic area overlooking Moore Bayou, created by the damming of the Arkansas River. Until 1964, this was farm land. Straight ahead is the looproad into the historic zone. This road skirts a 7-acre artificial pond.

In the historic zone is a half-mile foot trail leading to the archeological site of old Post of Arkansas and the Great Cross Exhibit. The latter is a wooden cross that overlooks Post Bend, and has an audio-message telling about Henry De Tonty's explorations in 1684 and the settlement he founded several miles downstream.

Nearby Attractions

You'll pass the Arkansas County Museum when you turn off Arkansas 1 onto 169 on your way to the Memorial. Here is a cluster of buildings representing a typical homestead of 1800, including the main house, kitchen, smokehouse, and carriage house. All except the carriage house are open, free of charge, and are furnished. Mothers will especially enjoy visiting the kitchen with its collection of early cooking utensils.

Also on the Arkansas County Museum grounds is the Refeld-Hindman cabin, relocated here from the old Arkansas Post State Park. It has been restored to its original appearance and furnished.

A gallows is also on display, donated by the City of DeWitt.

Navigation Pool 2 of the McClellan-Kerr Arkansas River Navigation System has several recreation sites in the general proximity of Arkansas Post, at Dam No. 2, Notrebes Bend, Pendleton, Moore Bayou, Merrisach and Big Bayou Meto. Visitors will find picnicking and boat launching facilities at most, camping at some, and marinas at a few. Swimming and water sports are not possible, due to below-health-standard water quality.

No State Parks are nearby; the closest is Lake Chicot, about 70 highway miles south on the Mississippi River. Closer are several State wildlife management areas and the White River National Refuge, with some opportunities for fishing and hunting.

How To Get There

Arkansas Post National Memorial is located in the extreme southern part of Arkansas County, Arkansas, on a prominent peninsula overlooking the Arkansas River. It is reached by automobile over two-lane blacktop State highways. Arkansas 1, "The Great River Road," is a north-south artery that passes 3 miles west of the Memorial. A spur road, Arkansas 169, leads from Arkansas 1 directly to the Memorial. "The Great River Road," generally parallel to the Mississippi River, intersects with many major east-west highways.

Stay a While

The closest accommodations are in Gillett, 9 miles north on Arkansas 1, and Dumas, 14 miles south at the intersection of State 54 and U.S. 65.

Shoreside campsites are available along Navigation Pool 2, part of the McClellan-Kerr Arkansas River Navigation System.

For Meals and Snacks

Food not available in the Park. We have the picnic sites but you will have to bring the lunch. The nearest restaurants are in Gillett and Dumas.

The Weather

The climate is moderate; the average annual temperature is about 62 degrees F. There are short periods of severe cold in winter and high temperatures in summer, often relieved by thunderstorms. (It's a good idea to have rainwear handy.) The average annual rainfall is about 43 inches, but droughts do occur in late summer and fall. Snowfall is light and remains on the ground for only a short time. Tornadoes are known to occur, but should not deter your visit.

Consider Off-Season

Peak travel months are may through August, with most people visiting on Sundays. Most visitors arrive between 1 and 4 in the afternoon; as many as 400 persons have been counted during this period on peak days. In 1974, total visitation was 48,740. About 1/5 of the visitors use the picnic facilities, mostly as family groups.

Need To Know More?

The Battle of Arkansas Post (1863), A Civil War Times reprint. . . . . .$.35
The Colbert Incident, mimeo. . . . . .FREE
Historical Notes, mimeo. . . . . .FREE
TO ORDER, send stamps or coin to: Arkansas Post National Memorial, Information, Gillett, AR, 72055.

For Your Safety

Please be careful around the water. The land slopes steeply down to the water's edge around most of the perimeter of the peninsula. The water is below State standards, so water recreation is prohibited. The pond, while small, only 7 acres, is deep, with depths averaging 12 to 20 feet.

Drive carefully, as young visitors enjoying the Memorial may dart in front of your vehicle. Keep an eye on your children so they are not the darters.

There is poison ivy in the woods.

The entire region abounds with mosquitoes. Spray or roll-on repellent is a good idea.

Skunks live in the Memorial. You know what they can do!

Our wildlife includes three poisonous snakes: copperheads, cottonmouths and timber rattlers. To be safe, stay away from all snakes; above all, don't try to kill them if you spot one. They are protected, like all the wildlife in the park.

Just a Few Rules !

You won't have a good time if our Rangers have to remind you about rule infractions. So for your fun, and ours, keep these few rules in mind:

The park is a wildlife sanctuary. That means you cannot molest or disturb any of the wildlife in any way. The presence of firearms is absolutely prohibited.

An *Arkansas license* is required for fishing.

You may bring your pets, but you must *keep them on a leash* or otherwise restrained.

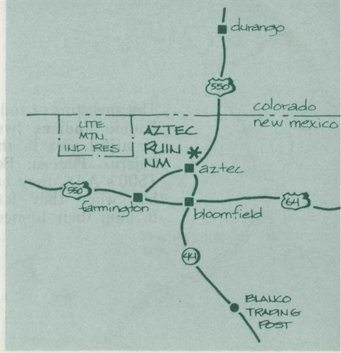
Boat launching and other water sports is *not permitted* from the Memorial grounds.

You can have a fire, as long as you build it in one of the grills provided in the picnic area. *No fires anywhere else!*

AZTEC RUINS National Monument, New Mexico

In spite of the name, Aztec Ruins National Monument has nothing to do with the Aztecs of Mexico. The name was mistakenly applied to these ruins by American settlers a century ago. The Anasazi, or ancient Pueblo Indians, built this dwelling.

The pueblo was first built and occupied by people of the Chaco Canyon culture in the early 12th Century. For reasons not yet clear to us, they abandoned their village and it lay deserted for many years. In the 13th Century, the pueblo was reoccupied by people from the Mesa Verde area, before being again abandoned at the end of the Century.



What To See and Do

Whether your visit to Aztec is an exciting experience — as it can be — or not, will depend to a degree on your taking the time to learn a little of the great wealth of knowledge the archeologists have uncovered about this community. The Visitor Center will make this possible. Exhibits will tell you a little about their architecture, their way of life, and their relationship with the other Indian people who live in this part of North America. You will see some of the things they made and used — pottery, baskets, stone tools, bone implements, woven fabrics and jewelry. The Ranger on duty is a trained interpreter; he'll be glad to answer your questions and help you better understand the community you are about to enter.

Before leaving the Visitor Center, get a copy of the printed trail guide. You can purchase one and take it along when you leave, or you may borrow a copy and drop it off at the end of your tour.

This was a large pueblo complex, built of hand-cut sandstone blocks laid in walls 2 to 3 feet thick, with adobe mortar. One pueblo of this complex is a quadrangle of stone apartments three stories high, covering two acres. It contained 500 rooms averaging 10 to 12 feet, and was occupied by more than 1,000 people.

A feature of Aztec is the restored Great Kiva. This is the only restoration of the giant ceremonial chambers in North America. It was restored under Earl H. Morris of the American Museum of Natural History in 1934. Excavation of the ruin had been completed under his direction between 1916 and 1921. As you enter this impressive chamber you can, with little imagination, feel something of the emotion of the people who used it 800 years ago.

Nearby Attractions

Since representatives of the Chaco Canyon and Mesa Verde cultures lived here; you'll want to visit these two National Park Service-administered areas. Chaco Canyon is located 65 miles to the south, via New Mexico Highways 44 and 57. Mesa Verde is 90 miles to the north, via U.S. 550 and 160.

Ten miles to the south, near Bloomfield, is the Salmon Ruins, being developed by San Juan County. Excavation of this ruin is being carried out by Eastern New Mexico University. During the summer months you may see the archeologists at work.

Other nearby attractions include the Bureau of Land Management's Angel Peak Recreation Area, Navajo Lake State Park, the Denver & Rio Grande Narrow Gauge Railroad, and the San Juan National Forest, with many opportunities for hiking, camping, skiing, hunting and fishing.

How To Get There

The National Monument is on the outskirts of the small city of Aztec in northwestern New Mexico. The town is served by U.S. 550, connecting Durango, Colorado, and Framington, New Mexico. New Mexico 44 runs southeast 60 miles to Bernalillo, which is 17 miles north of Albuquerque on I-25, providing access from the south.

The National Monument is about 3/4 mile off U.S. 550 on Ruins Road.

Stay a While

Motel accommodations are available in the city of Aztec and in Farmington, 15 miles west.

The city of Aztec operates a small campground about a mile from the Monument. Campgrounds are also available at Navajo Lake State Park, about 25 miles east.

For Meals and Snacks

Food service and grocieries are available in the city of Aztec.

The Weather

Summers in northwestern New Mexico are warm and dry, with high's in the upper 90's and cool evenings. Afternoon and evening thunderstorms can be expected in late summer.

Winters are cold, but not much snow falls. When the sun shines it is amazingly pleasant.

Spring and fall are moderate but spring also brings heavy winds, up to 40 MPH.

Consider Off-Season

Peak visit months are June thru August, with as many as 800 people during a day.

In spring and fall the weather is nice and the ruins uncrowded, contributing to an especially enjoyable experience.

Need To Know More?

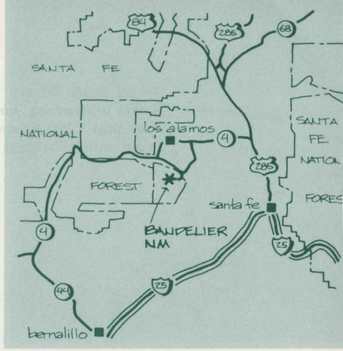
Aztec Ruins Handbook. . . . . .$.62
Aztec Ruins Trailguide. . . . . .$.26

To order send a check payable to Southwest Parks and Monuments Association to Aztec Ruins National Monument Information, P.O. Box U, Aztec, NM, 87410.

For Your Safety

The 800-year-old walls of these prehistoric Indian ruins are held together with mud and crumble easily if disturbed. Please stay on the trails, and remain alert. Exercise individual caution for yourself and your children. Your safety and that of your children are of primary concern to us.

The ancestors of today's Rio Grande Valley Pueblo Indians lived in a spectacularly beautiful area in the canyonlands of the Pajarito Plateau. Between 1200 and the 1500's A.D., they built large communities, but when they left, nature took over, turning their homes into ruins. In 1916, your government set these late prehistoric ruins aside to be preserved forever as Bandelier National Monument. Today more than 46 square miles of this beautiful country at the foot of the Jemez Mountains looks much like it did when the ancient people lived here. Late last Fall, your Congress set aside about four-fifths of the Monument as part of our National Wilderness System. Bandelier National Monument beckons you to explore it on foot, the way the ancient people did: leisurely and with a reverence for this land.



BANDELIER National Monument, New Mexico

What To See and Do

Bandelier's entrance road drops 534 feet into Frijoles Canyon, an oasis in the dry country of New Mexico. The walls of this Canyon are volcanic ash — tuff— and in them, for about two miles, the Indians gouged out cave rooms. On the floor of the Canyon, beside Rito de los Frijoles — Bean Creek — they planted and tended small fields of corn, beans and squash. A self-guiding trail takes you along this cliff, with opportunities for closeup examination and great photographic shots.

The ruins trail leaves from the Visitor Center. Before you examine the ruins you should take time to study the exhibits and the 10-minute orientation program. A Ranger will answer your questions and you can buy publications relevant to Bandelier.

Between the Visitor Center and the cliff homes are the Tyuonyi Ruins. Just before the arrival of the Spanish to New Mexico, this was a large and prosperous pueblo.

Off the Park Entrance Road on the mesa as you enter is Juniper Campground, a delightful spot with trails leading to Frijoles Canyon and the backcountry.

Most of Bandelier — about 90 per cent — is virtually undisturbed wild land, rugged and scenic. It is criss-crossed with more than 65 miles of hiking trails, providing opportunities for backpacking or one-day trips.

Nearby Attractions

The Tsankawi Section of Bandelier National Monument. Here are unexcavated ruins of another large pueblo. Tsankawi is located about 11 miles from the Visitor Center just off State Route 4; you'll pass it on your way to or from Santa Fe. A 2-mile-round-trip trail leads from a parking area.

Recreational opportunities available in adjacent Santa Fe National Forest.

The Bradbury Science Hall and Museum at Los Alamos; open daily.

Valle Grande, a caldera resulting from the volcano that created this terrain. You can drive into it on State Route 4, about 15 miles west of the Monument.

How To Get There

Bandelier National Monument is located in New Mexico's Upper Rio Grande Valley, in the north-central portion of the State. It is adjacent to State Route 4. State Route 4 intersects U.S. 285 at Pojoaque, about 16 miles north of Santa Fe, and State Route 44 at San Ysidro, about 24 miles northwest of Bernalillo (which is 15 miles north of Albuquerque). From Pojoaque, the monument is about 20 miles; from San Ysidro, about 56 miles.

During winter months the approach from San Ysidro may be closed by the weather. Be sure to check road conditions before attempting this route.

The park entrance road is well marked and leads directly 3 miles to the Visitor Center.

Stay a While

Overnight accommodations are available in White Rock (10 miles south on State Route 4) and Los Alamos (10 miles north and east on State Route 4).

Juniper Campground offers 93 developed sites for family units. There are no trailer hookups, but there is a dump station. The fee is $3 per night with a 14 day limit. Campfire programs are presented nightly in the amphitheater. It is open from March 15 thru November 1. No reservations.

Backpackers are invited to camp in most of the wilderness backcountry. Obtain a free permit and interpretive folder at the Visitor Center. Backcountry etiquette is essential in this fragile environment — pack out everything you pack in, keep fires small, and leave your pets at home.

For Meals and Snacks

From May 1 thru September 30, a Snack Bar is operated adjacent to the Visitor Center in Frijoles Canyon.

Food service is available in Los Alamos and White Rock, both 10 miles from the park.

A delightful picnic area is maintained along Rio de los Frijoles. No fires are permitted.

The Frijoles Canyon Snack Bar also carries a limited supply of groceries for campers.

The Weather

From May to September, temperatures range from highs in the 80's and 90's to overnight lows in the low 50's. July and August are the rainy months with frequent thunderstorms of short duration.

Winter temperatures range from 30 to 60 in the daytime to below freezing at night. Snow is common.

It should be kept in mind that the elevation of Bandelier ranges from 5,300 to 8,000 feet.

Consider Off-Season

Peak visitation months are April through August. Spring and fall are beautiful and are recommended if you want to miss the rush.

Need To Know More?

The Delight Makers by Adolf Bandelier is the novel about the Indians who lived here in pre-historic times, and gave the monument its fame. $4.95

Trail Guide — will help your understanding of the ruins. . . . . .$.20

Send your check or money order to Bandelier National Monument Information, Los Alamos, NM, 87544, made payable to the Southwestern Monuments Association. Prices include tax.

For Your Safety

Remember that the altitude is over 6,000 feet in most of the park. This throws an additional burden upon the heart and lungs, so make sure to consider this when planning long hiking trips if you come from lower elevations.

Before going on long walks or overnight trips, get trail information and register with a Ranger at the Visitor Center. Wear comfortable shoes and carry plenty of water. Also please register *in and out* at trail heads.

There are only a few streams in the park. Don't drink the water unless adding a purifier.

Drive carefully. There is a lot of wildlife in the park.

There are snakes in the park, — rattlers and non-poisonous ones. Be safe and avoid them all.

All animals in New Mexico have been exposed to the plague. Don't handle any animals that seem sick or act unusual.

Backpackers in the backcountry are permitted to have campfires but please make sure they are out before leaving the area.

Geologic formations are volcanic ash. They are highly unstable. Do not climb formations off trail; watch for loose and falling rock.

Just a Few Rules !

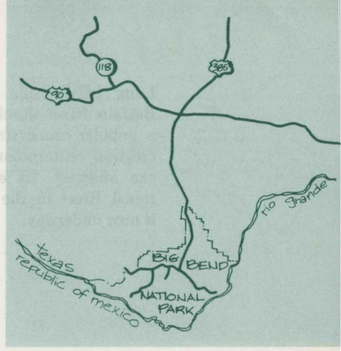
You will have a much better time if our Rangers don't have to remind you about rule infractions. So for your fun, and ours, keep these rules in mind:

You must pay an entrance fee of $1.00 for a private, non-commercial vehicle or 50 cents per person by foot, bus or other means. The Golden Eagle Passport is accepted, but does not cover camping or other use fees.

The park is a wildlife sanctuary. That means you cannot molest or disturb any of the wildlife in any way.

The presence of firearms is prohibited. All artificats and archeological sites are protected. That means you cannot disturb any archeological site or collect artifacts.

At Big Bend National Park, your National Park Service is preserving, for your use and enjoyment, more than 1,100 square miles of the Chihuahuan Desert within the great curve of the Rio Grande. It's a vast natural area, almost as big as our smallest State. This is not a park for a short visit; you can begin to feel its mood only after you've stayed here awhile.



BIG BEND National Park, Texas

What To See and Do

Big Bend has four major developed areas for your enjoyment: Panther Junction, Chisos Basin, Rio Grande Village and Castolon.

Panther Junction is the Park Headquarters. This is your primary orientation center and a main source of help with special problems, information about the Park, road conditions, scheduled programs and the place to get backcountry and float permits.

Chisos Basin is a bowl-shaped depression, 3,600 feet above the surrounding desert in the Chisos Mountain. A woodland retreat, it offers the only food and lodging accommodations in the Park, camping, hiking, horseback riding, picnicking, great photographic opportunities and just plain relaxing for enjoyment. In the summer months: evening naturalist programs and guided nature walks.

The 5-mile-round-trip Lost Mine Trail is self-guiding and offers breathtaking views from the Lost Mine Ridge.

The 14-mile horseback trip to the South Rim rewards you with a view of a large part of Texas and a larger slice of Mexico.

Rio Grande Village is a peaceful, grassy area in a grove of tall cottonwood trees on the banks of the Rio Grande. You can camp, picnic, fish, and through selfguiding trails, explore the contrasts between jungle-like flood plains and arid desert. In winter: outdoor evening naturalist programs and nature walks.

Downstream and across the river in Mexico is Boquillas, a small, rustic community of a few adobe homes, a school, church and several cantinas. At Boquillas crossing is a U.S. Customs Station, the only legal port of entry for Mexico in the Park. For a small fee you can be rowed across the river and then walk the 3/4 mile to the village — or rent a burro and travel in style!

About four miles downstream from Rio Grande Village is Boquillas Canyon, the longest of the river's three major gorges. A paved road runs to a parking area where a trail will lead you into the Canyon.

A side trip from the Village takes you to the old Hot Springs historic site, developed in the early 1900's as a health resort. The narrow, rough road leads to the old deserted trading post, motel and other buildings.

Castolon, in the early 1900's was a farming-ranching community, but most of the remaining buildings were built by the U.S. Cavalry when it moved in to restore and keep the peace. It is reached over Camino Buena Vista, the "road of beautiful views." You can camp, picnic and fish.

Eight miles upstream is Santa Elena Canyon, one of the river's deepest gorges. Drive to the parking area and take the short hike into the Canyon.

You are invited to backpack into Big Bend's backcountry and float the Rio Grande. Permits are required, available at Headquarters or at any Ranger Station.

You are permitted to drive the primitive dirt roads — but be warned that some are *very* rough and not recommended for ordinary cars. These roads frequently wash out during the rainy season (July thru September). Check conditions before you start and get a permit if you plan to camp.

How To Get There

Big Bend National Park can be reached only by automobile. The closest commercial airport is at Midland-Odessa; bus and rail service is available as far as Alpine, 73 miles from the North Entrance.

The Park has only two entrances. The North Entrance at Persimmon Gap is 40 miles south of Marathon on U.S. 385. This is a north-south highway passing through Fort Stockton and Odessa. At Marathon it intersects with U.S. 90, an east-west highway with connections to Interstate 10.

The west entrance at Study Butte is 80 miles south of Alpine via State Route 118. Alpine is 33 miles west of Marathon on U.S. 90.

Stay a While

and it should be, the only conventional lodging is the Chisos Mountain Lodge (34 units) at Chisos Basin. Reservations should be made well in advance by writing: National Park Concessions, Inc., Big Bend National Park, TX, 79834.

Developed campgrounds are at Chisos Basin and Rio Grande Village; no hookups, no reservations. Trailers over 20 feet should not attempt the road into Chisos Basin.

There is limited camping at Castolon and Santa Elena Canyon.

The concessionaire operates recreational vehicle sites with hookups at Panther Junction. Reservations are not accepted.

At the concessionaire-operated Rio Grande Village trailer court you must hook up to electricity, water and sewer. No reservations.

Along the primitive roads, 46 sites have been designated for vehicle camping but there are no facilities. A permit is required. Ask for locations when you get your permit.

If you pack into backcountry, you must register and get a permit.

For Meals and Snacks

A concession-operated dining room and coffee shop are located in Chisos Basin.

General stores at Panther Junction, Chisos Basin, Rio Grande Village and Castolon carry limited groceries. For your convenience, these stores also carry camping supplies and gasoline.

The Weather

Big Bend National Park is in the Chihuahuan Desert with only slightly over 13 inches of rain a year. Sunshine is abundant. June and July are the hottest months, with average highs of 94.6 and lows of 69.4. Along the river, temperatures often exceed 100 degrees.

December thru February are the cold months, with highs averaging 64 and lows about 36. There are infrequent and brief periods of cloudy weather.

July through September is the rainy season, with flash flooding. Relative humidity is low, averaging about 50 per cent.

Consider Off-Season

Visitation to Big Bend is probably more evenly distributed over the year than at most units of the National Park System. In the heaviest visitation month there are only 1.2 persons per square mile of Park, but they're not distributed that way — most are in the three developed areas. So if you like to rough-it, there is no off-season.

From May 1 thru June 30, Big Bend receives 44 per cent of its visitors; another 36 per cent come between September 1 and December 30. June receives 14.6 per cent of the total visitation. During the Easter, Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays the Park is crowded.

Need To Know More?

Hikers Guide to Big Bend, 36 pp. . . . . $.50
Road Guide to Big Bend (paved), 36 pp . . . $.50
Guide to the Backcountry Roads & The River, 36 pp. . . . . $.50
The Big Bend of the Rio Grande, Guidebook 7, 138 pp. $2.50
Terlingua-Chisos Mountains Map, 1:130,000, revised from USGS 1904 map $1.00

Order from the Big Bend Natural History Association, Inc., Big Bend National Park, TX, 79834. Check or money order should be made payable to the Association. Include 20 cents postage for the first book and 5 cents for each additional book.

For Your Safety

Poisonous reptiles are seldom seen during the day; after dark, stay on trails and use a flashlight.

Carry a first aid kit; the nearest hospital is 108 miles from Park Headquarters.

Flash floods are common in the rainy season, June thru September; avoid fast running water and be alert for washouts.

Be alert for wildlfe when driving at night.

Do not climb rocks. They crumble easily and are hazardous even for experienced climbers.

Stay on the trails.

Just a Few Rules !

The Park is a nature preserve; plants and animals are protected. Collecting rocks and artifacts and the use of mineral/metal detectors is prohibited.

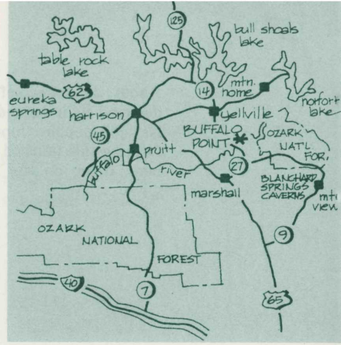
Hunting or the use or display of firearms is prohibited.

Pets must be kept under physical restraint at all times and are not permitted on trails or in public buildings.

Motorized vehicles can be used only on park roadways open for public use; absolutely no off-road motorized travel.

Long before our Congress decided the Buffalo River should be preserved, it was a popular canoe stream and a favored recreation centerpoint for the lower American Midwest. Its establishment as a National River in the National Park System is now underway.

Buffalo National River will eventually include more than 95,000 acres of rolling hill country. Today, 40 per cent of this is still privately owned. Please respect owner's privacy; do not trespass upon their lands.



BUFFALO National River, Arkansas

What To See and Do

Canoeing is still *the* activity on the Buffalo. Canoe rental services operate in or near the park; rentals average $10 to $13 a day. Extreme dry periods excepted, the Lower River (east of Highway 65) can be floated almost any time; the Upper River is usually too low to canoe after May 1.

Buffalo Point (formerly Buffalo River State Park) contains 2,020 acres of ruggedly wild and beautiful terrain, with caves, nature trails, springs and the Buffalo River. Facilities include a modern campground, picnic area, three pavilions, canoe launch area, hiking trails and a swimming beach. During summer months, National Park Service rangers conduct guided nature walks, campfire and related interpretive programs.

Lost Valley (formerly Lost Valley State Park) is a wildly rugged narrow gorge carved through sheer limestone cliffs over eons of time by spring-fed waters of Clark Creek. This fragile ecological unit is in the heart of the most rugged section of the Ozark Mountains. The primitive campground is used by those who enjoy roughin' it!

Nearby Attractions

Blanchard Springs Cavern, an underground fantasy world of cave formations. Located in and operated by the Ozark National Forest, east of the National River, about 15 miles northwest of Mountain View. The National Forest also operates public campgrounds.

A visit to the Ozark Folk Center just outside Mountain View is a cultural must. Operated by the State of Arkansas, the Center features Ozark craftsmen, good ol' mountain music, and an appreciation of the distinctive Ozark culture.

Beaver and Table Rock Reservoirs and Bull Shoals and Norfolk Lakes — all north of the National River — offer an abundance of water-oriented recreational opportunities, with some of the best boating and fishing found in America.

How To Get There

The Buffalo National River flows for some 132 miles through four counties of northwestern Arkansas. East-west highways serving the region are U.S. 62 on the north and I-40 on the south. U.S. 65 crosses, north-south, through the region, intersecting U.S. 62 five miles southwest of Harrison and I-40 near Conway, 25 miles north of Little Rock. State Highway 7 (north-south) also crosses the region, connecting with U.S. 62 at Harrison and I-40 near Russellville.

Buffalo Point, the principal site of Service programs and activities, is best reached from Yellville, on U.S. 62. Turn south on State Route 14 about 14 miles to State Route 268, then east directly to the area. From the south, turn off U.S. 65 at Marshall onto State Route 27. At Harriet (12 miles) turn left (north) on State Route 14 about 10 miles to Route 268, leading to Buffalo Point.

Lost Valley is reached via State Route 43 south out of Harrison, or State Route 74, west from Jasper (on State Route 7, 5 miles south of the River).

Stay a While

Harrison is the largest town near the National River and offers all visitor needs. The larger towns of the four county region are Jasper, Marshall, Yellville and Mountain Home. All offer at least minimal overnight and restaurant accommodations.

Limited lodging and dining facilities are operated by a concessionaire at Buffalo Point from April through November. Accommodations should be reserved in advance by writing: Buffalo Point Concessionaire, Route A, Box 214, Yellville, AR, 72687.

The National River operates campgrounds at Buffalo Point (123 sites with tables, grills, flush toilets and showers) and Lost Valley (15 sites, primitive). All are on a first-come-first-served basis, with a 14-day limit. A per night fee of $3 is charged at Buffalo Point.

There are several private campgrounds along Highway 7 between Harrison and Jasper.

The Weather

Summers along the Buffalo are humid. Daytime temperatures are in the high 80's and 90's with nights moderate. Winters are generally moderate but there are short periods of severe cold.

The average annual rainfall is 45 inches, but droughts do occur in late summer and fall. Snowfall is light and remains on the ground only a short time.

Consider Off-Season

Peak visit months at Buffalo Point are May through September, with most people coming for weekends. During this period the campground is generally full by early afternoon. Try winter camping here; the campgrounds are not heavily used and floating is often possible.

Lost Valley's busy season is in the spring, when floating on the Upper River is at its best. During this time we find it necessary to turn visitors away when the campground is filled. Fall and winter here often offer floating on the Upper River — and not often taken full advantage of.

Visitors and residents alike agree that the most pleasant time to visit the Buffalo River country is in spring, when buds are abustin', or fall, when the folliage takes on its red and gold coloring.

Need To Know More?

Write the Ozark Society, Box 2914, Little Rock, AR, 72203, for information about their publications on the Buffalo River.

For Your Safety

IF YOU CANOE

. . .wear a life jacket; don't float in dangerous waters; watch for heavy rains causing high waters; take a partner, a first aid kit and a litter bag.

IF YOU SWIM

. . .always swim with a buddy; be careful of submerged rocks when you dive; and be careful that you don't step in a deep hole.

IF YOU HIKE OR CAMP

. . .wear proper clothing and take proper equipment; stay on the trails; stay away from cliff edges; and don't climb the bluffs.

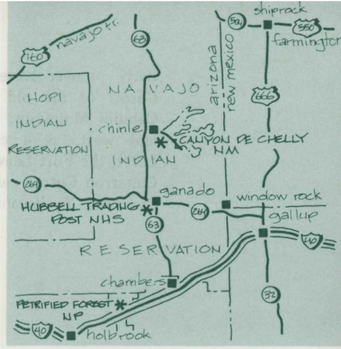
Always, please, leave wildlife alone. Three of the four poisonous snakes found in the United States are found here: rattlesnakes, copperheads and cottonmouth water moccasins.

Just a Few Rules !

Much of the land adjoining the River is still in private ownership. Use of private lands without owner permission can have serious consequences. If in doubt, don't trespass.

About 25 years before the United States declared its independence from Britain, the Navajo people moved into and began farming this unusual canyon. They are still here, living on the rim during the severe winter and moving back into the canyon with the arrival of spring.

Canyon de Chelly is owned by the Navajo Nation and when you visit, you visit as a guest of the Navajo people. While some 131 square miles are designated a National Monument, the responsibilities of the National Park Service are only for the preservation of prehistoric ruins (dating back almost 2,000 years) and the care and accommodation of visitors.



CANYON DE CHELLY National Monument, Arizona

What To See and Do

Three broad, irregular canyons — Canyon de Chelly (pronounced *shay*), Canyon del Muerto (Canyon of Death) and Monument Canyon — cut deeply into the flat country of northeastern Arizona. It is an ancient and traditional home of the Navajo Indians, still living here almost undisturbed by white man's civilization beyond the steep canyon walls.

Canyon de Chelly is also a photographer's paradise. High, sheer red rock cliffs rise 1,200 feet in ageless majesty from the canyon bottom. Each hour of the day presents a new tint, ranging from dark red to bright pink to brillant crimson to deep purple.

You enjoy this scene from paved drives on the mesa with overlooks at scenic and educational spots. Printed tour guides, available at the Visitor Center, describe the scenes before you. Along the South Rim Drive, the most popular overlooks are White House and Spider Rock; on the North Rim Drive they are Antelope House and Mummy Cave.

White House, on the South Rim, is the only ruin open to visitors. This is also the only place you can hike to the ruin and on down to the canyon floor without a guide.

Except at White House, visitors are not permitted into the canyon without an authorized guide. Guides are not provided by the National Park Service, but we will assist you in hiring one; a day's advance notice is requested. Fees are paid directly to the guide: $2.75 per hour for motorized tours, $3 per hour for hiking parties of up to 6 persons. In addition to a guide, it is necessary to secure a free permit at the Visitor Center.

The concessioner operates half day (about 25 miles) and full day (about 60 miles) trips into the canyons.

Canyon travel usually takes place from May through October. It is usually impassable during winter and spring and may be impassable during the summer at times of high water.

The Visitor Center is located at the Chinle entrance. It is open daily except on Christmas and New Year's day. It contains a small museum and is the place to get information and assistance in arranging for guide service.

Nearby Attractions

Hubbell Trading Post, operated for many years by Lorenzo Hubbell and now continued as an active trading post by the National Park Service. South of Ganado, off Arizona Route 264.

Many Farms, Ganado, Round Rock, Wheatfields and Tsaile Lakes. All 5 offer recreational opportunities within 70 miles of Canyon de Chelly. Any size boat and motor may be used for water sports and fishing on Many Farms Lake; the others require electric motors.

Fishermen must have a valid Arizona State license and a Navajo Tribal permit.

Limited camping facilities are available at Wheatfields and Tsaile Lakes.

How To Get There

The Headquarters for Canyon de Chelly National Monument is located 3 miles east of Chinle in northeastern Arizona.

Travelers from the north or south enter Chinle over Arizona Route 63. To the north, this route intersects with U.S. 160 just west of Mexican Water. On the south, it intersects with Arizona Route 264, 2 miles west of Ganado.

Travelers using Navajo Route 12 between Window Rock and Round Rock should turn west onto the recently paved Navajo Route 64 at Tsaile. It is possible to reach the Monument over Navajo Route 7 from Fort Defiance but this is a dirt road and not recommended for tourist travel.

Stay a While

Justin's Thunderbird Lodge is the Monument concessioner and offers year-round overnight accommodations. Reservations should be made directly with the lodge by writing Justin's Thunderbird Lodge, Box 548, Chinle, AZ, 86503.

The town of Chinle, 3 miles west of the Monument Headquarters, has one motel.

Cottonwood Campground, just south of the Visitor Center, is operated by the Monument. It contains 90 units, available on a first-come-first-served basis. There is water and restrooms; sites are equipped with picnic tables and fireplaces, but firewood is not provided.

Evening programs are conducted nightly at the campground from June 15 through Labor Day.

For Meals and Snacks

The Thunderbird Lodge operates a cafeteria from April 1 through October 31.

There are two cafes in Chinle.

Groceries may be purchased at any of the three trading posts in Chinle.

The Weather

June through August are the warm months, with highs in the low to mid 90's and lows in the low to mid 50's. Short but heavy thunderstorms occur during July and August.

Winters are mild but snow can be expected from January through March.

Spring, especially April and May, can be pleasant and dry. Occasional dust storms, however, can make some days absolutely miserable.

Fall is the prettiest time of the year and the weather usually remains excellent through mid-November.

Consider Off-Season

For many people, the best time of the year to visit Canyon de Chelly is the fall. Days are neither hot nor cold, nights are pleasantly cool, and the canyon colors are at their best. And the visitation is off — the peak visitor season begins in mid-May and continues through September.

Need To Know More?

To prepare for your visit, you may enjoy reading:

Canyon de Chelly: The Story Behind the Scenery by Anderson and Supplee $1.00

Canyon de Chelly: The Story of Its Ruins and People by Zorro Bradley $1.25

Order from Canyon de Chelly National Monument Information, P.O. Box 588, Chinle, AZ, 86503. Checks and money orders should be payable to the Southwest Parks and Monuments Association.

For Your Safety

On the Rim Drive you travel adjacent to deep canyons with vertical walls.

At overlooks, when you approach the canyon rims, use extra caution. Control your children and your pets. A fall would be fatal.

Just a Few Rules !

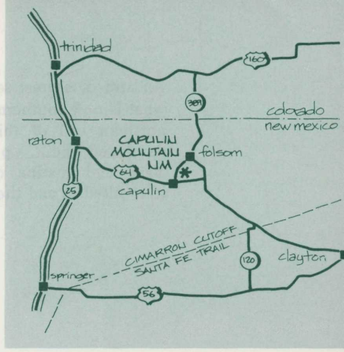
Canyon de Chelly is owned by the Navajo people. You are their guests when you visit here.

You must have a guide when you enter the canyon at any place other than the White House Trail.

Rock climbing is not permitted in the Monument.

Early pioneer travelers on the Cimarron Cutoff of the old Santa Fe Trail knew Capulin Mountain, 30 miles to the north and west, as a conspicuous landmark. Later, the Fort Leavenworth branch of the Cimarron Cutoff passed closer — a mile to the east. It became a principal freight route between Forts Union, Dodge and Leavenworth.

This landmark is the 1,000-foot high cone of a geologically recent cinder cone. It is preserved by your National Park Service for its geological interest.



CAPULIN MOUNTAIN National Monument, New Mexico

What To See and Do

To appreciate your visit to Capulin Mountain National Monument, you should begin at the Visitor Center, a half-mile on your right after you enter the Monument. Here a 6-minute audio-visual program shows volcanic eruptions similar to those that created this cone. In the museum you'll see exhibits on geology, volcanism, the Santa Fe Trail and Folsom Man. A uniformed Ranger will answer your questions.

The Crater Road circles and climbs the mountain two miles to a parking area near the rim of the crater. Two hiking trails start here. One, only a fifth-of-a-mile long, goes down into the crater. The other, about a mile long, circles the rim and returns to the parking area. To best enjoy this one, get a trail guide at the shelter or at the Visitor Center. From the high point on this trail you can see five states.

Nearby Attractions

The Folsom Museum, 6 miles north of the Monument in the town of Folsom on State Route 325. This is primarily a pioneer and historic museum but it contains a small section on the Folsom Man.

How To Get There

Capulin Mountain National Monument is located in the extreme northeastern New Mexico. It is three miles north of the town of Capulin, on State Route 325. The town of Capulin is on U.S. 64-87, which connects Raton and Clayton. North-south Interstate 25 passes through Raton, 28 miles to the west.

Stay a While

The nearest overnight accommodations are in Raton, about 30 miles west of the Monument.

The nearest campground is a privately operated facility in the town of Capulin. Other private campgrounds are at Raton and Clayton.

For Meals and Snacks

There are no refreshments available at the Monument. A small picnic area — 11 sites — is maintained about a quarter mile beyond the Visitor Center along the Mountain Road. We invite you to come with a picnic lunch and enjoy it in our unusual environment.

In the town of Capulin you can purchase sandwiches and cold drinks.

The nearest restaurant is in Des Moines, 12 miles east of the Monument on U.S. 87. Food service is also available in Raton and Clayton.

The Weather

The climate here in northeast New Mexico is cool. Our average annual precipitation is 16 inches. The average annual temperature is about 50 degrees.

Summers are pleasant, with the temperature seldom reaching 90. There are occasional summer thunderstorms.

Winters have periods of severe cold. The average annual snowfall is 42 inches, with the snow remaining on the ground for varying periods. From November through April there is usually considerable wind.

Spring and fall are the dry periods at Capulin Mountain.

Consider Off-Season

The peak visitation occurs between Memorial Day and Labor Day, with most people coming on weekends. High visitation days may see 600 people.

Most visitors arrive between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. About 10 per cent use the picnic area, mostly as family groups.

Need To Know More?

Crater Rim Trail Guide . . . . . $.26

To order, send coins (no stamps, please) to Capulin Mountain National Monument Information, Capulin, NM, 88414.

For Your Safety

Be alert to potential hazards. The trails are well maintained but loose, cinders on them can be hazardous.

Drive carefully on the Crater Road and be alert when backing your car in the parking lot.

Be on the lookout for rattlesnakes if you wander away from established trails!

Just a Few Rules !

It is unlawful to remove or disturb geological specimens.

Pets must be kept leashed. No pets are permitted in public buildings.

Fires are permitted only in the grills provided in the picnic area. Wood gathering is prohibited!

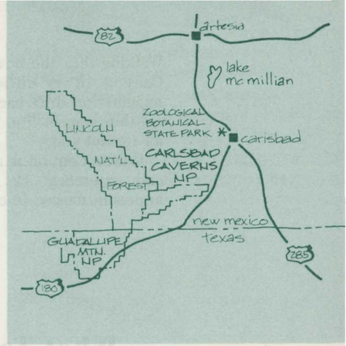
Use the trash bags and trash cans provided.

The use or display of firearms is prohibited

The Monument is a wildlife sanctuary; it is unlawful to destroy, injure or disturb any plant or animal life.

An arm of a great sea once extended into what is now southern New Mexico. At the northern end of this arm a barrier reef developed, built up by a lime-secreting algae and marine organisms. Then this inlet silted in and the reef was buried. Still later, forces inside our earth shoved the reef above the water table, forming today's Guadalupe Mountains. More than 47,750 acres of this fossil limestone reef is now preserved for our enjoyment as Carlsbad Caverns National Park.

In this area are more than 60 caves, formed as water dissolved the limestone when the reef was buried. The largest of these, Carlsbad Caverns, is one of the largest cavern systems in the world.



CARLSBAD CAVERNS National Park, New Mexico

Nearby Attractions

You have your choice of two ways to view the Caverns:

You can walk in through the Natural Entrance and make the complete 3-mile tour, a 2½ to 3 hour experience.

Or you can descent the 750 feet to the Big Room in a modern elevator. The Big Room tour is a relatively level walk of 1¼ miles and takes about 90 minutes.

Both ways end at the Underground Lunchroom.

Visiting the Caverns takes time, so the following schedule is important:

	Labor Day to May	May	June thru Labor Day
	Mornings		
Trips start	8:00	8:00	7:00
	Afternoons and Evenings		
Last walk-in trip	2:00	2:30	4:30
Last elevator:			
down	3:15	4:00	6:00
up	4:25	5:30	7:30
V.C. closes	5:00	6:00	8:00

On all trips you must leave the caverns by the elevator. All trips are self-guiding. You start when you arrive and travel at your leisure. Rangers continuously patrol the caverns for your protection and to answer your questions.

You may photograph the cave so long as you remain on the paved trails. If you use time exposures you will need a tripod; you are prohibited from using cave features for a camera support.

At sunset, from mid-May through September, bats leave the natural entrance en masse. This flight is a popular attraction; a schedule is posted in the Visitor Center.

Above ground is a vast backcountry. Hikers will enjoy this but it should not be attempted without a topographic map as the trails are not well defined. There is no water in this backcountry; carry a canteen. A backcountry camping permit is required for overnight stays.

The Park maintains a picnic area at Rattlesnake Springs and you may picnic at the Walnut Canyon Road turnouts. Fires are prohibited except at Rattlesnake Springs.

As you approach Carlsbad Caverns, turn your radio dial to 1610 for up-to-date information about program schedules, activities and weather conditions.

What To See and Do

The Living Desert State Park on Ocotillo Heights at the west edge of Carlsbad. A dozen different types of animals, many birds, an extensive reptile exhibit — all in natural environment. Over 1,000 varieties of cactus.

Lake Carlsbad on the Pecos River on the east side of Carlsbad offers the Municipal Museum, the Municipal Beach Park with swimming, boating, water skiing and fishing, and the President's Park. You can take a 2-mile trip along the Lake on an 1880 vintage narrow gauge steam train, visit the train museum, ride the 1903 "Teddy Roosevelt Carousel". or go for a steamboat ride on an authentic paddle wheeler.

Guadalupe Mountains National Park is about 35 miles southwest of White's City off U.S. 62-180 in Texas. Guadalupe Peak (el. 8,751) is the highest point in Texas. The Park is not yet developed for visitors, unless you enjoy roughing it, just drive by and enjoy the view.

Adjacent Lincoln National Forest offers opportunities for outdoor recreation, including a picnic area at the beautiful Sitting Bull Falls.

How To Get There

Carlsbad Caverns is entered over a paved road from White's City which is 18 miles southwest of the city of Carlsbad on U.S. 62-180, the highway to El Paso. The city of Carlsbad is on east-west U.S. 62-180 and north-south U.S. 285. The city is served by air and bus and bus transportation is available to the Park.

Stay a While

There is a range of overnight accommodations available in the city of Carlsbad and in White's City at the entrance to the Park.

The Park does not operate a campground but privately operated camping facilities are available at both White's City and Carlsbad. The city of Carlsbad operates a campground on Lake Carlsbad.

For Meals and Snacks

A concessioner operates a restaurant in the Visitor Center and the Underground Lunchroom in the Caverns. You can enjoy a meal, a box lunch, or individual sandwiches.

The Park operates a picnic ground at Rattlesnake Springs, but it is not convenient to visitors to the Caverns. It is located off the main highway, about 9 miles southwest of White's City.

A variety of dining facilities are available in White's City and the city of Carlsbad.

The Weather

The climate of southeastern New Mexico is moderate; the average annual temperature is 63 degrees. In summer there are short periods of high temperatures and occasional brief but heavy downpours. Winters have occasional short periods of severe cold; snowfall is usually light and doesn't last long.

The temperature in the Caverns is a constant 56. A light jacket or sweater is recommended for the trip.

Consider Off-Season

Except for holiday periods, visitation is lowest from early September to mid-May. The greatest visitation comes during the summer months and on the Christmas and Easter holidays.

Need To Know More?

In preparation for your visit you might enjoy reading:

Carlsbad Caverns National Park (color illustrated) by John Barnett. . . $1.25

What About Bats? by. . . . . $.75

You may order these from the Carlsbad Caverns Natural History Association, 3225 National Parks Highway, Carlsbad, NM, 88220. Payments must include 25 per cent of the total purchase for handling and postage. Your check or money order should be made payable to the Carlsbad Caverns Natural History Association.

For Your Safety

Wear shoes with rubber soles or heels on the Cavern trip to avoid slips.

Do not run or stray off the paved trails in the Cavern.

Parents, please keep small children by your side.

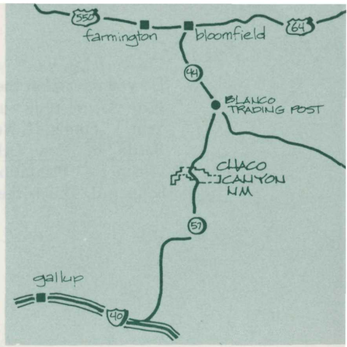
Should electric power fail while you are underground, stop and stand quickly. Standby lights will come on in a few moments. You need not worry; lighting failures are rare.

Observe posted speed limits when driving park roads. Be alert for visitors enjoying views or taking pictures and for wildlife crossing the road.

Walking thru the now quiet ruins of Chaco Canyon, it is difficult not to let your imagination drift back to another time and another way of life. The evidences of it are all around you.

Chaco Canyon is about a half-mile wide and stretches 12 miles between two imposing mesas. It contains a number and variety of prehistoric remains, including some of the largest and most imposing masonry structures found anywhere in Pre-Columbian North America. From these remains, which cover a period of about 10 centuries, it is possible to trace the development of a culture from big game hunters to hunting and gathering desert dwellers to agricultural Basketmakers to a complex and highly urbanized Pueblo Culture.

Most visitors spend about 5 hours at Chaco Canyon, possibly because of its isolation and the time involved in getting here. So plan accordingly.



CHACO CANYON National Monument, New Mexico

What To See and Do

Start your visit at the Visitor Center at the east end of the Canyon. The museum will prepare you for what you will soon see. National Park Service personnel will help you plan your stay and answer questions.

The ruins lie west of the Visitor Center. Most unique is Pueblo Bonito, once a 5-story structure of 800 rooms, 30 ceremonial chambers, and large plazas covering more than 3 acres and probably housing more than 1,200 people. A trail guide leads you through a one-hour tour.

Between the Visitor Center and Pueblo Bonito you pass smaller but similar ruins you may visit. Chettro Kettle offers a self-guiding trail; allow yourself an hour if you stop.

Across the canyon from Pueblo Bonito is Casa Rinconada, an isolated great kiva (ceremonial chamber) where significant religious, social and political activities were believed to have been held. There is a trail guide and this too takes about an hour.

Just beyond (west) of Pueblo Bonito is Kin Kletso, a ruin of migrants from the San Juan area who settled here not more than 200 years before the Canyon was abandoned. It is worth stopping here to compare the work of the two peoples.

During summer months, interpreters conduct tours through the ruins. A schedule is posted at the Visitor Center.

Walking trails lead to some of the outlying pueblos. Always check with a ranger before starting these trips and carry a canteen — there's no water.

Nearby Attractions

Angel Peak Recreation Area, along State 44 about 42 miles north of Chaco Canyon, offers camping, picnicking and hiking.

The Salmon Ruin Museum, at the west end of Bloomfield on State 64, about 55 miles north of Chaco Canyon. A large ruin with a museum and ongoing excavations in the summer.

Aztec Ruins National Monument, in the town of Aztec, 7 miles north of Bloomfield on State 44 (62 miles north of Chaco Canyon). A fully excavated townsite with a reconstructed great kiva.

Navajo Lakes State Park, 25 miles east of Aztec via State 173. Facilities for camping, picnicking and boating.

How To Get There

Chaco Canyon is in northwestern New Mexico and is reached from the north or south over *unpaved* State Route 57. This is 30 miles of rough "washboard" dirt road but passable by passenger cars. When wet it is extremely slippery and sometimes impassable. State Route 57 is entered from the north at Blanco Trading Post, 41 miles southeast of Farmington on State 44. From the south State Route 57 is entered at Thoreau on I-40. It is 60 miles to Chaco Canyon, 20 of which are dirt.

If weather is questionable, we invite you to telephone for information on road conditions: Area code 505 786-5384.

Due to road conditions, trailers over 30 feet should not attempt this trip. There is a smaller trailer facility at Crownpoint, 24 miles north of Thoreau on State Route 57.

Stay a While

Conventional accommodations are available at Farmington, Bloomfield or Aztec, about 70 miles north of the Monument.

For campers, the Monument operates a 36 site first-come-first-served campground about a mile east of the Visitor Center. Between April 15 and October 15, $2 per night; free in winter, but water in restrooms is cut off.

For Meals and Snacks

There are no commercial services of any kind — meals, groceries or gas — within the Monument. Closest services are at Nageezi or Blanco Trading Posts, 30 miles north on State 44 and Crownpoint, 40 miles south on State 57. Keep in mind that none are open on Sundays.

The Weather

The climate of northwestern New Mexico is moderate. Average annual rainfall is about 8.42 inches. The mean maximum temperature is 68 degrees, the mean minimum, 34.

Summers have short periods of high temperature. In August and September, these periods are relieved by thunderstorms. This is when driving on Route 57 becomes hazardous.

Winters have short periods of severe cold but snowfall is light and remains on the ground for only a short time. Melting snows make dirt roads very slippery.

Consider Off-Season

Chaco Canyon is seldom crowded, so don't let the threat of people keep you away. Summertime is the busiest, even with its warm temperatures and thunderstorms.

April, May, September and October are good months to visit — the weather is pleasant and visitors are few. And these are the months of change, with cottonwoods either in bright new green of spring or in rich fall gold.

Not many people visit Chaco in winter — cold temperatures and road damaging snows are discouraging, but for quiet solitude, this is the time to come.

Need To Know More?

In preparation for your visit you might enjoy reading:

Chaco Canyon by Douglas and Barbara Anderson

Excellent easy reading on the story of Chaco $3.00

The Secret Story of Pueblo Bonito by Mary Elting and Michael Folsom is a good children's book . . . . . $.75

To order, send a check or money order payable to the Southwest Parks and Monuments Association to: Chaco Canyon National Monument Information, Star Route 4, Box 6500, (New Mexico residents include 4 per cent State tax), Bloomfield, NM, 87413.

For Your Safety

Please drive courteously, carefully and obey all signs.

Dirt roads can cause you to loose control when traveling too fast, and is extremely slippery when wet.

The sandstone walls of the Canyon are loose and dangerous; climbing is discouraged.

Our wildlife includes poisonous scorpions and prairie rattlesnakes. Be safe; stay away from all snakes. Don't try to kill them if you see them.

When in doubt, please ask a Ranger.

Just a Few Rules !

You won't have a good time if our Rangers have to remind you about rule infractions. So for your fun, keep these few rules in mind:

The Monument is a wildlife sanctuary. This means that you cannot molest or disturb any of the wildlife in any way.

You may bring pets but they must be kept on a leash or otherwise restrained.

Pets are prohibited from most ruin trails.

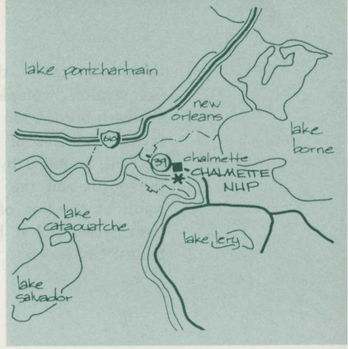
Fires are permitted only in the campground, in stoves and the fire grills provided.

Firewood is not provided and the collection of wood is prohibited. Plan ahead and bring your own if you need it.

Camping is permitted only at the sites provided in the campground.

The posession of weapons is prohibited unless they are unloaded and cased or otherwise packed in such a way as to prevent their use within the Monument.

Do you remember the refrain of a song that goes "O, we fired our guns but the British kept a' comin'"? Well, that song is "The Battle of New Orleans," and here at Chalmette Plantation is where it all happened. This is the battlefield that made "Old Hickory" Jackson a folk hero, preserved America's claim to the Louisiana Territory and kept the Mississippi River from becoming our western boundary. It is hallowed ground and worth a visit anytime you are in the New Orleans area.



CHALMETTE National Historical Park, Louisiana

What To See and Do

Chalmette National Historical Park is a small area, only 141 acres. There is one entrance, off St. Bernard Highway, about 6 miles from the heart of New Orleans.

The entrance road runs straight toward the Mississippi. Along your left is a restored section of the earthworks General Jackson's men hastily threw up using fence rails, posts, wooden kegs and mud. This was the most important part of "the American Line," but then it was about six times as long as what you now see.

At the end of the entrance road is a 100-foot marble obelisk commemorating the Battle of New Orleans. On the riverside is a parking area.

From the parking area a trail leads to the ante bellum Beauregard House, used as a Visitor Center. Upstairs is an auditorium where you can view a 6-minute audio-visual program that tells you about the American defense and the heart-rending test of human endurance of the British soldiers who fought and died here.

The Beauregard House itself is worth the visit. Quiet and serene, it captures the hospitable warmth and inner glow characteristic of the culture that produced it. It is a remarkable example of French-Louisiana architecture of the 1830-50 period.

Beyond the House the trail continues a short distance to the levee with a view of the Mississippi. In 1815 the shoreline was about 900 feet beyond today's seawall. The site of General Jackson's headquarters is now underwater, to your right. The site of the buildings of the old Chalmette Plantation is also underwater, to your left.

As you leave Chalmette, the battlefield is on your right. A one-mile, one-way tour road takes you over the field of the British charge. Four stops with interpretive markers help you better understand the events of 161 years ago.

From the third stop of the tour road a trail leads east to Chalmette National Cemetery, established as a last resting place for Union soldiers who died in the many Civil War hospitals that were located nearby.

The Park is open daily from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. All gates are closed promptly at 5 p.m.

Nearby Attractions

Lake Pontchartrain, a beautiful 625-square mile lake that is the north boundary of the City of New Orleans and a major recreation center.

The Pontchartrain Causeway is the longest overwater highway bridge in the world. Along its 24 miles across open water are 3 overpasses and two opening spans to allow boats to pass. The drive takes you out of sight of land for 8 miles. It is a toll bridge.

Fountainbleau State Park, reached via U.S. 190 east from the north end of the Causeway, offers opportunity for water-oriented recreation in Lake Pontchartrain.

And, of course, New Orleans itself. Founded in 1718, it was under the French and Spanish rule before being acquired by the United States as part of the Louisiana Purchase in 1803. New Orleans has many fine museums, art galleries and restaurants. The French Quarter is a tourist mecca with many examples of old world architecture. The city is a major sea port, with many opportunities for river sightseeing on a number of commercial cruiseships.

How To Get There

Chalmette National Historical Park is about 5 miles southeast of the heart of New Orleans. From Canal Street, follow the main thoroughfare that begins at Rampart Street and merges into St. Claude Avenue, then into St. Bernard Highway. St. Bernard Highway passes directly in front of the Park; it is marked as Star Route 46.

Your visit will be more enjoyable if you avoid the rush hours of downtown New Orelans: 7 to 9 a.m. and 4:30 to 6 p.m. Especially to be avoided at these times is I-10, the Eastern Expressway and bridges across the River.

Stay a While

Like all major cities, you will find a variety of overnight and dining accommodations in and around New Orleans.

There are no nearby camping accommodations. Fountainbleau State Park, on the north shore of Lake Pontchartrain, 3 miles east of Mandeville, has camping and picnicking facilities.

For Meals and Snacks

Chalmette has no picnic area, and no food concession, but soft drinks are dispensed from a machine. Adequate food service is available outside the Park within a mile or two.

The New Orleans area is a year-round resort with a subtropical climate. In the summer months the average high is just over 90. From October through March, the average daily temperature is just under 62. The average annual rainfall is 63 inches; humidity averages 63 per cent. In any season, keep your raincoat and unbrella handy. The hurricane season extends from June through September.

Consider Off-Season

Strictly speaking, Chalmette does not have an off-season. Nearly 60 per cent of our visitors come between March 1 and September 1, mostly on Sundays.

During the school year, Chalmette receives many school tours. They generally arrive between mid-morning and are gone by mid-afternoon.

A river cruiseship docks at the Park twice each day, at 10:30 a.m. and 4 p.m.

Need To Know More?

Chalmette National Historical Park, a National Park Service Historic Handbook . . . . . $.50

Address your requests to Chalmette National Historical Park Information, Box 429, Arabi, LA, 70032. Make your check or money order payable to the Eastern National Park and Monument Association.

For Your Safety

Do not allow your visit to be spoiled by an accident. While every effort has been made to provide for your safety, there are still hazards which require your alertness and vigilance. Exercise common sense and caution.

Drive carefully and be alert for pedestrians.

We have no shortage of mosquitoes; bring a good repellent.

Stay off the seawall; it is considered unsafe.

Our location invites snakes, both harmless and poisonous, although they are rarely seen.

Just a Few Rules !

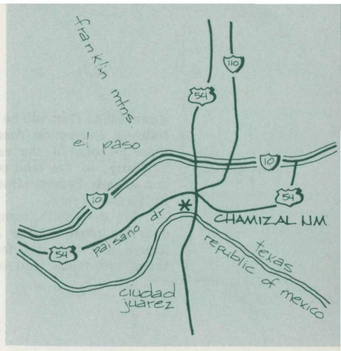
Chalmette Battlefield is considered hallowed ground. For this reason we do not permit games or picnicking.

Sometime after the Joint Boundary Commission completed surveying our southern border, the Rio Grande shifted its course. An area of about 600 acres was isolated, bounded by the old river bed on the north and the new channel on the south. A question of sovereignty over the tract arose. Did it belong to the United States? Or Mexico?

For a hundred years the question remained unsolved. Every practical means of settlement is believed to have been explored at one time or another. Efforts to reach agreement in 1895, 1911 and 1930 were unsuccessful. Finally this international boundary dispute was resolved with the Chamizal Treaty of 1963. It provided for relocation of 4.3 miles of the Rio Grande in a concrete lined channel. About 630 acres of land were transferred to Mexico and 193 acres to the United States.

Both nations dedicated the lands thus acquired for public use: for schools, parks, roads and public buildings.

Chamizal National Memorial was created by our government to commemorate this peaceful solution to a problem that, between some countries, would have been the cause of war. It proved that *"men of good will, working together, can reach equitable solutions to mutual problems. And in working together, they will find friendship and gain understanding."*



CHAMIZAL National Memorial, Texas

What To See and Do

The Chamizal National Memorial is located on the flood plain of the Rio Grande between El Paso, Texas, U.S.A., and Ciudad Juarez, Chihuahua, Mexico, on 55 acres acquired by the United States under the *Convention between the United States of America and the United States of Mexico for the Solution of the Problem of the Chamizal.*

In the Visitor Center are exhibits depicting the series of treaties by which boundary disputes have been settled and the waters of the boundary rivers equitably divided and utilized by the peoples in both countries for domestic and irrigation uses. A documentary film, "This Most Singular Country," complements the exhibits.

The Memorial is a showcase for the peoples of both countries and of the world to see and learn and appreciate that the boundary between the United States and Mexico is not a dividing line, but connecting line of cooperation and mutual respect for the well-being of the peoples of the two great nations.

Directly across the border the Monumento Commemorativo en El Chamizal of approximately 750 acres includes complementary facilities. The two parks work closely together in the spirit of the Chamizal Treaty of 1963.

Nearby Attractions

El Paso Museum of Art offers a permanent collection plus changing exhibits of arts, crafts and cultural history; 1211 Montana Avenue. Closed Mondays and holidays; open daily 10 to 5 (opens 1 p.m. Sundays). Free.

Fort Bliss Replica Museum has exhibits depicting surveying of routes to the West and early military units. On Pleasanton Road in Fort Bliss. Open daily 9:45 a.m. to 4:45 p.m. (Closed Easter, Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's Day). Free.

Monumento Commemorativo del Chamizal in Ciudad Juarez, Mexico, is Chamizal's matching park across the Rio Grande.

ProNaF Center, Ciudad Juarez, Mexico, is the Mexican Government Border beautification project. The Centro Artesanal is an outstanding crafts center; open daily except Christmas, 10 to 8. Free.

The Museo de Arte e Historia exhibits the archeology, arts and crafts of Mexico. Daily 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Admission.

How To Get There

Chamizal is along the Rio Grande, immediately to the west of the Cordova Island Port of Entry into Mexico, between Paisano Drive and Delta Drive. Interstate 10 is marked to direct you to the Memorial.

Stay a While

El Paso offers a wide range of accommodations. For the camper, private campgrounds are located on I-10 both east and west of the city.

For Meals and Snacks

Refreshments are not available at the Memorial except on special occasions.

El Paso offers a wide range of dining facilities and fast food services.

The Weather

The climate is generally mild.

Summers have hot days but the evenings are generally cool. For outdoor activities, a protective hat is recommended. In late summer there are occasional torrential thunderstorms.

Consider Off-Season

The Memorial is open to the public daily throughout the year. During the fall, winter and spring, cultural arts programs are presented in the Visitor Center Theater; these programs are recessed from late July until early September.

During the first weekend of October, the Memorial hosts the annual Border Folk Festival.

For Your Safety

Don't run inside the Memorial Theater; there are places where the footing is tricky, especially in dim light.

Watch your step while in the building and on the grounds, as areas are still being developed.

CHICKASAW National Recreation Area, Oklahoma

Your visit to Platt will be more than just a trip to a National Recreation Area. You'll go back to the scene of one of the earliest villages in Indian Territory, to the land of the Chickasaw Nation, and to early Federal efforts to preserve a community's water supply.

In the 1880's, many people were concerned over the plight of the American Indian. It was argued that the only fair treatment was to give them individual landholdings, citizenship, and absorb them into our culture. This position was advocated by the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs, and in 1887 Congress passed the Dawes Act to make this possible.

Reluctantly, the Chickasaw Tribe agreed to the provisions of the Dawes Act and in 1902 signed a formal agreement. As part of this agreement, the natural springs in and about the village of Sulphur were to be preserved and protected by the Federal government as a common water supply. For ceding this, the Chickasaw Tribe was paid $20 an acre for the reserved lands.

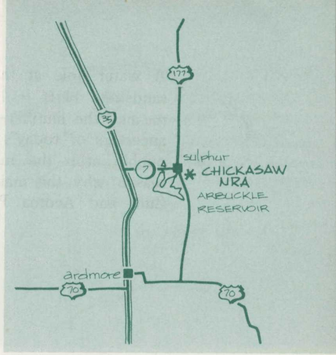
Two years later, white settlers of the village of Sulphur living within the reserved lands were also required to move.

In 1906 the Sulphur Springs Reservation was renamed Platt National Park to honor Orville Hitchcock Platt, the Connecticut Senator who worked diligently to achieve better treatment for the American Indians. The next year, 1907, Indian Territory became part of the new State of Oklahoma.

In 1962, the Department of the Interior's Bureau of Reclamation was instructed by the Congress to dam south-central Oklahoma's Rock Creek. Nearly 2.9 million cubic yards of earthfill went into this dam which rises 140 feet above the stream bed. At normal pool level the Lake of the Arbuckles covers 2,350 acres and has a shoreline of about 40 miles.

Our Congress also decided that the new lake should be available to all the people for recreational use. In 1965 the National Park Service took over management of the 5,646 acres of land and water as the Arbuckle Recreation Area.

On March 17, 1976, Platt National Park and the Arbuckle Recreation Area were combined into one unit and renamed the Chickasaw National Recreation Area in honor of the Chickasaw Indians.



What To See and Do

Lake District

Visitors come here to camp, boat, fish, swim, water ski, skin dive — and just to loaf.

Boats may be launched from public ramps at The Point, Guy Sandy and Buckhorn areas These areas also have courtesy docks for loading and unloading purposes only.

You can swim anywhere, but at your own risk. Two beaches, at The Point and Buckhorn, have been specially designated for swimming, but there are no lifeguards.

You may water ski or tow similar devices provided the skier wears a life saving device and you have an observer, in addition to the operator, in the boat. (Ski mirrors do not count!) For your safety, and the safety of others enjoying the lake, you cannot water ski within 100 feet of swimmers, 500 feet of the swimming beaches and mooring areas, or in any of the boat harbors.

Scuba and skin divers must have a permit, issued only at The Point Ranger Station.

You can fish the lake at any time of the year provided you have a State fishing license; fishing laws are enforced. Channel catfish, largemouth bass, bluegill, sunfish and crappie are native; Northern Pike and Walleye Pike have been stocked. Trotlines are permitted — State regulations apply — in the coves and upper arms of the lake above the 5 mph buoys, but not in the main body or across main channels. Your name and address must be on the trotline. Free-floating lines, such as jug lines, are dangerous and strictly prohibited.

Hunting is permitted in accordance with Federal and State hunting laws except in developed and concentrated public-use areas. Closed areas are clearly posted.

During the summer months, campfire programs are conducted at the campgrounds. Check park bulletin boards for schedules.

Travertine District

Chickasaw National Recreation Area is a natural area and the activities and programs offered are nature-oriented. Headquarters for your activities will be the Travertine Nature Center — low, rambling stone and rough-sawn wood building with a shake shingle roof and an equally informal atmosphere. It is a nature museum *plus*. Out of here are conducted self-guiding nature walks, adult and children's programs. A schedule of current programs and activities is available at the information desk.

Chickasaw Natonal Recreation Area has three campgrounds, each with outdoor lighting, city water and comfort stations: Rocky Creek, Central and Cold Springs.

There is no swimming pool, but children are permitted to wade and splash in the creeks.

Hiking is a popular activity. The Park has more than 8 miles of good trails.

You can fish in the streams within the Park without a license.

Picnicking is popular. The many tables are for your use, free of charge.

Make time, early in your visit, to take the Perimeter Drive. It's only 6 miles and orients you to the interesting and scenic areas of this small park. Your guide for this drive is available at the Nature Center.

The Perimeter Drive takes you by the grazing area of the Park's small bison (buffalo) herd, a favorite attraction for most visitors.

Nearby Attractions

The nearest State Park to Chickasaw is *Lake Murray*. It is just east of I-35, about 32 miles south of the Sulphur Interchange.

Lake Murray is a 6,000-acre artificial lake created when a 130-foot-high dam was built across Anadarche Creek in a gap known as Lower Devil's Kitchen. It's deep enough for heavy boats and water skiing is a popular sport here. But camping, hiking and riding are as popular as the water-oriented activities.

Lake Texoma is about 25 miles due east of Lake Murray and covers 93,080 acres. A State Park is located near the south end and offers many recreational opportunities.

Fort Washita, on the east side of Lake Texoma is worth a special trip. It was activated in 1842 at the request of the Chickasaw and Choctaw Indians who wanted the protection we had promised when they were relocated here. In 1962 the Oklahoma Historical Society purchased the 115-acre site and appointed the Fort Washita Commission to manage it. It is well preserved and/or restored.

How To Get There

Chickasaw National Recreation Area is located on the south side of the City of Sulphur, entered through the City. Sulphur is 12 miles east of I-35; the Interchange is 71 miles south of Oklahoma City, 52 miles north of the Texas State Line.

Stay a While

The City of Sulphur offers a variety of motel and restaurant accommodations.

Many visitors coming to Chickasaw National Recreation Area come to camp. In the Travertine District, tent and trailer (no hook-ups) sites are available at Rock Creek, 111 sites; Central, 64 sites; and Cold Springs, 64 sites. Each site has a table, fireplace and parking spur. There are no hook-ups for trailers but a sanitary dump station is available in the Bromide Pavilion area of the Recreation Area.

Sulphur concessioner will rent and set up camping equipment; you make your own arrangements for these services. Contact Hicks' Service, 300 West Muskogee.

At the Lake District, tent and trailer sites (but no hook-ups) are available at Buckhorn Rock, 183 sites; The Point, 52 sites; and Guy Sandy, 39 sites. Some facilities include flush toilets, wash basins and drinking fountains, some have only chemical toilets. You take whatever is available upon arrival.

Telephone reservations for campsites are accepted: Area code 405 622-6121. A fee of $2 per night is charged at the Travertine District at the Lake District; you are limited to 14 days in any year.

For Meals and Snacks

There are no concession facilities in the Recreation Area. Groceries, meals, snacks, bait and gasoline are available in the City of Sulphur.

Summers in south-central Oklahoma are hot and humid. Temperatures over 100 degrees are frequent; humidity usually exceeds 50 per cent. Winters are usually mild and rarely subject to prolonged freezing temperatures. From May through June, severe thunderstorms are frequent.

Consider Off-Season

If you enjoy solitude — or the illusion of it — consider visiting Chickasaw National Recreation Area between September 1 and March 31. During this period less than 250 people a day use the Lake District facility and the Travertine District receives only 20 per cent of its annual visitation. In density, this is better than 23 acres of recreation area for each visitor! Visitation more than triples in March and April but it's far from crowded and this is a delightful time of year. Between May 1 and August 31, Chickasaw receives 80 per cent of all its use.

Need To Know More?

There is a new book, *Platt National Park, Environment and Ecology* by Barker and Jamerson, available from the University of Oklahoma Press, Norman, OK, 73069, for $5.95.

For information about the State-operated areas write Oklahoma Tourist Information, Will Rogers Memorial Office Building, Oklahoma City, OK, 73105.

For Your Safety

Waters of the several sulphur and bromide springs are for your use, but you are cautioned not to take them in abundance without prior recommendation of a physician.

Drive carefully on the roads, children may be playing.

When walking along park roads, always walk on the left side, facing on-coming traffic. Be especially careful at night.

U.S. Highway 177 runs through the Travertine District. All roads are posted and patrolled, but not all drivers observe the speed limits. Caution your family to be very careful crossing this road.

Please don't leave small children unattended. *Do not swim alone;* use the buddy system.

Operate your boat cautiously, obeying all Coast Guard regulations.

Water skiers must *wear a life saving device*. Also, there must be an observer — in addition to the operator — in the boat.

Boat harbors are closed to water skiing. You cannot ski within 500 feet of swimming beaches or mooring areas, or within 100 feet of swimmers.

Just a Few Rules!

Firearms are prohibited unless adequately sealed, cased, broken down or otherwise packed to prevent their use.

Boat operators are responsible for compliance with Federal and State operation and safety requirements.

Docks are for loading and unloading only; do not tie-up for unreasonable periods of time.

Swim at your own risk.

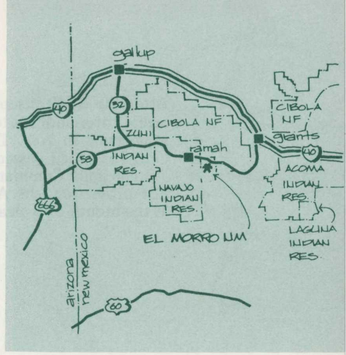
A State license is required for fishing at the Lake District.

A water hole at the base of this huge sandstone bluff — El Morro, in Spanish means "the bluff!" — was the reason the ancestors of today's Zuni Indians built a pueblo atop the mesa. It was also the reason why the main route between the Zuni and Acoma Pueblos ran by here.

When the Spaniards came to the "Land of Cibola" they took full advantage of this water hole. And after them came the Anglos of America's Westward Expansion.

While they rested as their stock watered, Europeans inscribed their names on this massive autograph album. The earliest inscription is in 1605 and was made by Don Juan de Onate while exploring America's Southwest.

El Morro was established as a National Monument to preserve these many engravings on "Inscription Rock" on December 8, 1906.



EL MORRO National Monument, New Mexico

What To See and Do

Exhibits in the Visitor Center and the friendly National Park Service Ranger on duty at the information desk will prepare you for your visit to this historic "autograph album." This, of course, is the reason most people come here. "Inscription Rock" rises some 200 feet above the Tinaja Valley floor.

A loop trail begins directly behind the Visitor Center and leads to the historic pool and the inscriptions. In 1942 a heavy rockfall filled the waterhole but was later removed and a modern dam constructed. Originally there was a sandbank around the pool, making it possible for travelers to inscribe their names. Allow yourself at least 45 minutes to make the round trip to this attraction.

The urge to inscribe one's name is always great, and perhaps more so when you can add yours to such illustrious company as those already here. We cannot allow that, of course, but we have provided for this urge. In front of the Visitor Center is a "miniature inscription rock" where you are invited to carve your name.

The trail continues another 1½ miles to the top of the mesa and the ruins of the homes of the pre-historic Zuni Indians. The larger of the two pueblo ruins is called Atsinna, a Zuni word referring to the "writing on rock." Several hundred people lived here — it's about the size of some city blocks — in three-story buildings. (You can stand on the second story, about 10 feet above the ground level; the collapsing upper-stories have filled in the lower rooms.) From this promontory you can get a great view of the mesa-clad country which makes up the Tinaja Valley. Allow yourself a full two hours to make this trip.

The Monument maintains a small campground and picnic area about a mile east of the Visitor Center.

Nearby Attractions

El Malpais — the bad country — the lava formation southwest of Grants and previously known as Grants Lava Flow.

This is an area of recent (less than a thousand and possibly as recent as 400 to 600 years) volcanic activity. Ice caves occur within the flow. One, of astonishing magnificence with a 30-by-50 foot ice crystal ceiling, is in private ownership but is open to the public for a fee.

The same owner also owns Bandera Crater, a magnificent volcanic cinder cone nearly a half-mile across, a thousand feet deep and very fresh in appearance.

The trail to the Ice Cave is 500 yards; the trail to Bandera Crater is one mile.

Acoma Pueblo — "Sky City" — is believed to be the oldest continuously inhabited village in New Mexico. It is located 13 miles south of Interstate 40 on State Route 23. The Route 23 exit is 52 miles west of Albuquerque, 27 miles east of Grants. Handicrafts made at the pueblo are on display and guided tours are provided. A fee is charged.

Zuni Pueblo is the home of the descendents of the people who lived atop the sandstone bluff at El Morro. You can visit their present home, 35 miles west of El Morro on State Highway 53. Zuni-made jewelry and other handicrafts are on display at the various trading posts located within the village.

The closest State Park is Bluewater Lake, 7 miles south of I-40 on State Route 412 from the intersection 20 miles west of Grants. Facilities include camping, picnicking, boating, fishing and water sports. You swim at your own risk; there is no graded beach.

How To Get There

El Morro National Monument is located in the Tinaja Valley on the Ramah Navajo Indian Reservation in west-central New Mexico. State Route 53 passes right by the Monument, roughly paralleling I-40 to the north. From the east, NM 53 turns south at Grants; it is 42 miles to the Monument. From the west, turn south from I-40 onto U.S. 666 at Sanders, Arizona, and continue 24 miles to the intersection of State Route 61 (which becomes NM 53 at the state line). Another 62 miles brings you to the Monument.

State Route 32, running south from Gallup, intersects NM 53, 30 miles south. Turn east 25 miles to the Monument.

Stay a While

The small campground at the Monument (9 sites) is free. It has drinking water and pit toilets. First-come, first-served.

Overnight accommodations are available at Grants (42 miles) and Gallup (58 miles).

For Meals and Snacks

The nearest restaurant is in Ramah, 13 miles west of the Monument on State Route 53. A small trading post two miles from the Park carries basic foodstuffs if you want to assemble a picnic lunch or if you are camping.

The Weather

El Morro is at an elevation of 7,200 feet. Don't hurry your walks as you may be bothered by the altitude.

Summers are quite pleasant. June is the warmest month with temperatures averaging 89.

Winters are moderate in both snowfall and temperature. The coldest month is January with an average daytime temperature around 42.

Consider Off-Season

El Morro is hardly an overused park; during June, July and August, the heavy use months, visitation averages only 150 people a day. Peak hours during this period are 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The warm, sunny days of spring and fall are ideal times for an off-season visit to El Morro.

Need To Know More?

El Morro Trails, a guidebook . . . . . $.20

To order, send coin or stamps to El Morro National Monument Information, Ramah, NM, 87321.

For Your Safety

Be careful hiking the mesa-top trail; high winds are usually prevalent. And watch your step! The sandstone is uneven and slippery when wet.

Be extra careful if you're hiking in leather or plastic soled shoes.

Stay on marked trails.

Rattlesnakes are occasionally seen — but they're as afraid of you as you are of them.

Just a Few Rules !

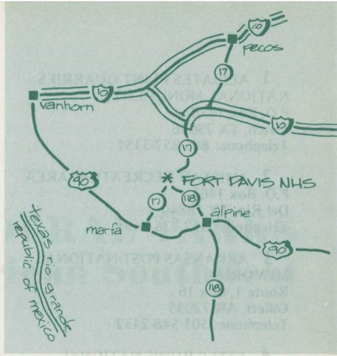
Don't add your name — or any message — to Inscription Rock. If you can't resist the temptation, use the sandstone block in front of the Visitor Center.

FORT DAVIS National Historic Site, Texas

After the 1849 discovery of gold in California, overland routes westward became important. In West Texas the San Antonio-El Paso road passed through the heart of Apache and Commanche raiding country. For protection, the Army built Fort Davis at the mouth of a pleasant box canyon near Limpia Creek in the scenic Davis Mountains.

Fort Davis was active from 1854 to 1891, performing scouting duties, escorting the mail, providing protection for stagecoaches and wagon trains and to the surveyors and construction crews building the Texas and Pacific and the Southern Pacific Railroads. When it was abandoned it consisted of more than 50 adobe or stone buildings.

In 1961 it was determined that the ruins of Fort Davis was the best preserved of all the old forts of the Indian Wars of the Southwest and was made a National Historic Site, to be managed and preserved for all generations by the National Park Service.



What To See and Do

Many of the old buildings are gone — the stone foundations will show you where they stood — but enough remains to bring Fort Davis back to life in your mind's eye.

The remaining buildings have been preserved and in some cases restored. You can stand and look down the row of officer's residences facing the Parade Ground. One of these is open during the summer months and you can learn about the life of an officer in a remote station through costumed interpreters. (If your visit is "off-season," you can check out a key at the Visitor Center and still see these quarters, but without the interpretation.)

Two enlisted men's barracks have been restored. One now serves as a Visitor Center. It's the building nearest the parking area, across the small wooden bridge. You should begin your visit here. Thru displays of photographs and a diorama, you'll learn the history of old Fort Davis. And you can examine what is considered to be one of the finest collections of frontier military artifacts anywhere. National Park Service interpreters are on duty to answer your questions.

If you visit, during the summer months, in addition to the living history interpretation of the Officer's Quarters, there are similar interpretations of an Officer's Kitchen and Servant's Quarters and the old Commissary. Off-season you can see but not enter these buildings.

But any time you visit, the highlight will probably be the haunting sounds of an 1875 Dress Retreat Parade. It will come when you least expect it, interrupting the silence of your own thoughts. You'll hear the noise and the music and, in your mind, old Fort Davis will come alive. You will relive one of the most colorful and dramatic periods in our 200-year history.

If you have lots of time you might enjoy one of the several self-guiding trails located on the grounds of the Fort. Diagnolly across the Parade Ground from the Visitor Center is the start of the Tall Grass Nature Trail, and just beside it, the Cemetery Trail. From the Nature Trail the North Ridge Trail leads you to the trail system of Davis Mountains State Park.

Nearby Attractions

The Overland Trail Museum in the town of Fort Davis, only 2 blocks south of the Historic Site, operated by the Fort Davis Historical Society. It contains a fine collection of pioneer and early ranching artifacts. Admission ($1 per carload or 50 cents for adults and 25 cents for children). Open 10 a.m. to noon; 2 to 5 p.m., Thursdays thru Sundays during the summer months.

If your time permits, drive the 74-mile Scenic Loop around and thru some of the most spectacular parts of the Davis Mountains. From Fort Davis, the Loop follows State Route 118 north for 29 miles. Turn left on State Route 166 and continue to State Route 17. Turn left again, which brings you back to your starting place at Fort Davis. Along this route you'll see the *Davis Mountains State Park, Harvard University's Radio and Astronomy Observatory, the University of Texas' McDonald Observatory, Madera Canyon Roadside Park, Mount Livermore, Blue Mountain and Rockpile Roadside Park.*

The McDonald Observatory atop the summit of Mount Lockehouses, the third largest telescope in America. It is open daily for your enjoyment.

How To Get There

Fort Davis National Historic Site is located in southwest Texas less than 40 miles south of east-west Interstate 10. State Routes 17 and 118 intersect with I-10 and lead directly to Fort Davis. The Historic Site is on the north edge of the town, on a short section where the two State Routes come together.

Stay a While

Motel accommodations are available in the town of Fort Davis, adjoining the Historic Site, and in the towns of Alpine, 25 miles southeast on State Route 118, and Marfa, 21 miles southwest on State Route 17.

The Indian Lodge, a pueblo-style lodge and restaurant, is operated in Davis Mountains State Park, adjacent to the Historic Site.

Campsites are available in Davis Mountains State Park (81 tent sites and 27 trailer sites with hook-ups) and at Balmorhea State Park, 32 miles north on State Route 17.

For Meals and Snacks

No refreshments are available at the Historic Site but, for your convenience, we offer the Corral Grove Picnic Area. It's on your left as you enter the Fort.

Food service is conveniently located in the town of Fort Davis, less than a quarter of a mile away.

The Weather

An elevation of 4,900 feet and relatively low humidity gives Fort Davis a delightful year-round climate. The average annual temperature is 63 degrees.

Summer temperatures run from overnight lows in the 60's to daytime highs in the high 80's.

Winter nights can be quite cold but by afternoon the temperatures are often in the 50's and 60's. Snow is infrequent and usually scant.

Light to moderate winds may prevail during the spring and fall.

Consider Off-Season

Avoiding heavy visitation is not a reason for off-season visits to Fort Davis. In off-seasons visits, you'll miss the living history demonstrations but spring and fall in the Davis Mountains help make the visit worthwhile.

For Your Safety

Stay on Established Trails. Falls are a major cause of serious injury or death in the National Parks. Most are caused by not staying on the trails. Do not take shortcuts or climb cliffs.

Do Not Climb on Walls of Ruins or In Old Trees. Walls can collapse and limbs can give way. Climbing on the ruins seriously damages them.

Please Watch Your Children. Keep them with you; don't let your vacation end in tragedy. It only takes a moment for a child to be injured. . .help us make your visit a memorable experience and not a tragic memory.

Do Not Eat Fruits or Berries. Several plants in the area have fruits that are colorful and attractive to small children. Some are very poisonous.

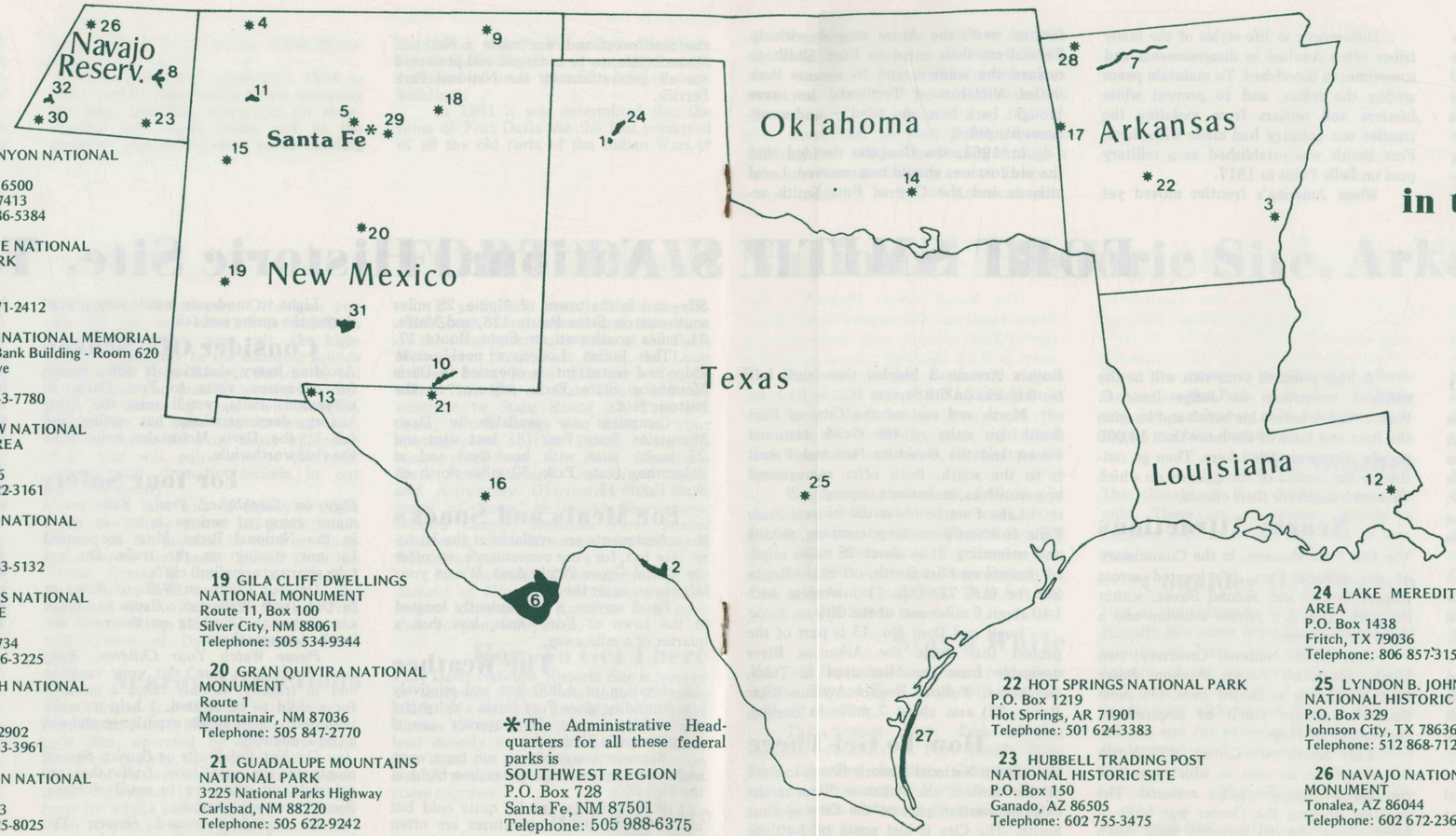
Be Careful Around Horses. The horses used at Fort Davis weigh about 1,200 pounds. They are gentle — but can be startled by unexpected movements. Avoid being stepped on — don't approach unattended animals.

Avoid Dangerous Animals. There are four kinds of poisonous snakes and two kinds of dangerous spiders in the rocks around the Fort. Remember that mammals (furred animals) can carry rabies or plague. Do not touch them.

Weapons and Tools Are Dangerous. The knives, guns, wood stoves and other equipment used in our living history demonstrations can be dangerous. Do not touch or handle them without permission.

Do Not Over-Exert. You will be at an elevation of almost 5,000 feet. The altitude, often combined with high temperatures, can add to the danger of heat exhaustion, heat stroke or heart problems. Take your time and see more!

FEDERAL PARKS in the American Southwest



1 ALIBATES FLINT QUARRIES NATIONAL MONUMENT
P.O. Box 1438
Fritch, TX 79036
Telephone: 806 857-3151

2 AMISTAD RECREATION AREA
P.O. Box 1463
Del Rio, TX 78840
Telephone: 512 775-7491

3 ARKANSAS POST NATIONAL MEMORIAL
Route 1, Box 16
Gillett, AR 72055
Telephone: 501 548-2432

4 AZTEC RUINS NATIONAL MONUMENT
P.O. Box U
Aztec, NM 87410
Telephone: 505 334-6174

5 BANDELIER NATIONAL MONUMENT
Los Alamos, NM 87544
Telephone: 505 672-3861

6 BIG BEND NATIONAL PARK
Big Bend National Park, TX 79834
Telephone: 915 477-2251

7 BUFFALO NATIONAL RIVER
P.O. Box 1173
Harrison, AR 72601
Telephone: 501 741-5443

8 CANYON DE CHELLY NATIONAL MONUMENT
P.O. Box 588
Chinle, AZ 86503
Telephone: 602 674-5436

9 CAPULIN MOUNTAIN NATIONAL MONUMENT
Capulin, NM 88414
Telephone: 505 278-2781

10 CARLSBAD CAVERNS NATIONAL PARK
3225 National Parks Highway
Carlsbad, NM 88220
Telephone: 505 622-9242

11 CHACO CANYON NATIONAL MONUMENT
Star Route 4, Box 6500
Bloomfield, NM 87413
Telephone: 505 786-5384

12 CHALMETTE NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK
P.O. Box 429
Arabi, LA 70032
Telephone: 504 271-2412

13 CHAMIZAL NATIONAL MEMORIAL
1st City National Bank Building - Room 620
300 East Main Drive
El Paso, TX 79901
Telephone: 915 543-7780

14 CHICKASAW NATIONAL RECREATION AREA
P.O. Box 201
Sulphur, OK 73086
Telephone: 405 622-3161

15 EL MORRO NATIONAL MONUMENT
Ramah, NM 87321
Telephone: 505 783-5132

16 FORT DAVIS NATIONAL HISTORICAL SITE
P.O. Box 1456
Fort Davis, TX 79734
Telephone: 915 426-3225

17 FORT SMITH NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE
P.O. Box 1406
Fort Smith, AR 72902
Telephone: 501 783-3961

18 FORT UNION NATIONAL MONUMENT
Watrous, NM 87753
Telephone: 505 425-8025

19 GILA CLIFF DWELLINGS NATIONAL MONUMENT
Route 11, Box 100
Silver City, NM 88061
Telephone: 505 534-9344

20 GRAN QUIVIRA NATIONAL MONUMENT
Route 1
Mountainair, NM 87036
Telephone: 505 847-2770

21 GUADALUPE MOUNTAINS NATIONAL PARK
3225 National Parks Highway
Carlsbad, NM 88220
Telephone: 505 622-9242

*The Administrative Headquarters for all these federal parks is
SOUTHWEST REGION
P.O. Box 728
Santa Fe, NM 87501
Telephone: 505 988-6375

22 HOT SPRINGS NATIONAL PARK
P.O. Box 1219
Hot Springs, AR 71901
Telephone: 501 624-3383

23 HUBBELL TRADING POST NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE
P.O. Box 150
Ganado, AZ 86505
Telephone: 602 755-3475

24 LAKE MEREDITH RECREATION AREA
P.O. Box 1438
Fritch, TX 79036
Telephone: 806 857-3151

25 LYNDON B. JOHNSON NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE
P.O. Box 329
Johnson City, TX 78636
Telephone: 512 868-7128

26 NAVAJO NATIONAL MONUMENT
Tonalea, AZ 86044
Telephone: 602 672-2366

27 PADRE ISLAND NATIONAL SEASHORE
10235 South Padre Island Drive
Corpus Christi, TX 78418
Telephone: 512 937-2621

28 PEA RIDGE NATIONAL MILITARY PARK
Pea Ridge, AR 72751
Telephone: 501 451-8122

29 PECOS NATIONAL MONUMENT
P.O. Drawer 11
Pecos, NM 87522
Telephone: 505 757-6414

30 SUNSET CRATER NATIONAL MONUMENT
Tuba Star Route 3, Box 149
Flagstaff, AZ 86001

31 WHITE SANDS NATIONAL MONUMENT
P.O. Box 458
Alamogordo, NM 88310
Telephone: 505 437-1058

32 WUPATKI NATIONAL MONUMENT
Tuba Star Route 3, Box 149
Flagstaff, AZ 86001
Telephone: 602 774-7000

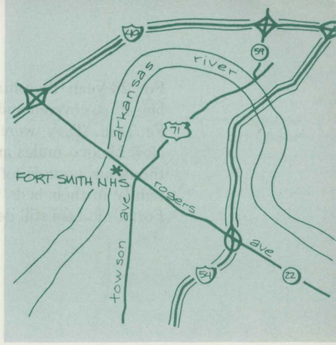
When the white settlers took over Indian lands and hunting grounds along the Atlantic coast, the Cherokee Nation asked for and was given a new home west of the Mississippi River. Soon many other tribes migrated to these western lands to escape from the white man and his confusing ways. Eventually, the Federal government required all the Eastern Indians to move into Indian Territory.

Differences in life styles of the many tribes often resulted in disagreements and sometimes in bloodshed. To maintain peace among the tribes, and to prevent white hunters and settlers from violating the treaties our country had made with them, Fort Smith was established as a military post on Belle Point in 1817.

When America's frontier moved yet farther west, the Army moved with it. Federal marshals came to Fort Smith to replace the soldiers and to assume their duties. Violators of Territorial law were brought back here and tried — and sometimes hanged.

In 1961, the Congress decided that the old fort area should be preserved. Local citizens and the City of Fort Smith acquired and gave to the people of America the Belle Point site of the first fort. This is now managed for your benefit and enjoyment as a unit of your National Park System.

Your visit to Fort Smith National Historic Site will be like peering through a window into an exciting — but in many ways tragic — period of America's past.



FORT SMITH National Historic Site, Arkansas

What To See and Do

The original Fort Smith was a log stockade that long ago vanished from the scene. But you can stroll over Belle Point and visit the site where a company of the U.S. Rifle Regiment landed on Christmas Day, 1817, and began work on the first post. The archeological ruins are preserved just as they were excavated.

Parts of the second Fort Smith, begun in 1838, still stand and you'll see them on your visit. The oldest structure is the old Commissary, now the Old Fort Museum.

The major preservation is a two-story red brick building that was the enlisted men's barracks and later served as the U.S. Federal Court and Jail. You can visit the old jail, restored to what it was like when it was in use and frequently filled. In the old barracks the park operates a small museum and offers an audio-visual presentation on the history of old Fort Smith.

A high point of your visit will be the restored courtroom of Judge Isaac C. Parker. Stand before his bench and imagine the lives and fates of the more than 13,000 people who were tried here. Then go outside to the replica of the gallows on which 79 were hanged for their crimes.

Nearby Attractions

The Old Fort Museum, in the Commissary of the Second Fort. It's located across Rogers Avenue and Second Street, within the park. This is a private museum and a small fee is charged.

Fort Smith National Cemetery, two blocks south on Rogers Avenue. Judge Isaac C. Parker is buried here. On most national holidays you'll be inspired by the Avenue of Flags.

Fort Smith Art Center, 423 North 6th Street, in an area in which many of the old homes are being restored. The building housing the Center was built in 1855. From the old barracks, walk down Rogers Avenue 3 blocks, then turn left for 6 blocks on 6th Street.

North and east of the City of Fort Smith are units of the Ozark National Forest and the Ouachita National Forest is to the south. Both offer recreational opportunities, including camping.

Lake Fort Smith is the nearest State Park. It offers picnicking, camping, fishing and swimming. It is about 28 miles north of downtown Fort Smith, off State Route 282 or U.S. 71. U.S. 71 intersects with I-40 about 6 miles east of the City.

Lock and Dam No. 13 is part of the project that made the Arkansas River navigable from the Mississippi to Tulsa, Oklahoma. Follow Rogers Avenue (Star Route 22) east about 7 miles to Barling.

How To Get There

Fort Smith National Historic Site is located on the bank of the Arkansas River in the extreme western part of the City of Fort Smith. The City is just south of I-40, on the Oklahoma border. Eastbound visitors on I-40 should exit onto U.S. 64 East in Oklahoma. As soon as you cross the Arkansas River Bridge, turn right onto 2nd Street for one block, then left to the Park.

Westbound visitors on I-40 should exit onto I-540 and continue south about 9 miles to Rogers Avenue (State Route 22) Exit. Turn west about 4 miles; as you approach the Arkansas River Bridge the Park will be on your left. Turn left one block on 3rd Street.

Stay a While

You will find many motels and restaurants in the City of Fort Smith within a few miles of the Park.

The nearest State Park offering camping facilities is Fort Smith State Park, described elsewhere. Campers might want to stay in one of the National Forest campgrounds and make their visit to Fort Smith a day trip.

There are numerous facilities for refreshments near the Park. In the Visitor Center you can purchase a cold drink or candy from a machine dispenser.

The Weather

The climate of Fort Smith is generally mild. There are, of course, periods of extreme cold in winter and heat in summer.

Consider Off-Season

Half of the visitors to Fort Smith National Historic Site come here during the summer months of June, July and August. The balance of the year averages only about 165 people a day. So if you want a leisurely visit, with lots of time to look and reflect, and for personal interpretation by the trained staff, consider an off-season visit.

For Your Safety

Fort Smith National Historic Site is located in a downtown area; there is much traffic on the streets within the park. Please be careful when walking or crossing these streets.

When going to the Belle Point area, be very careful as you cross the two sets of railroad tracks.

Beyond the Park you will see the rivers, the Poteau and the Arkansas. Both are unsafe for swimming or water sports. Caution your family accordingly.

Due to the closeness to the river, snakes have been seen in the tall grass surrounding the Park on rare occasions.

Just a Few Rules !

Have a good time and help us keep the park in good shape for the next visitors.

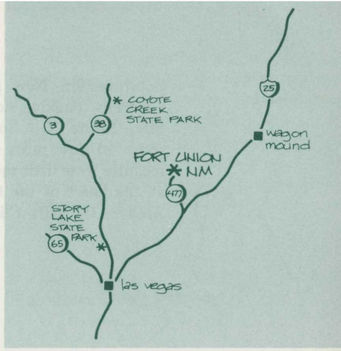
Please don't
Litter
Build Fires
Molest Wildlife
Disturb Historical Structures

You may being your pets, but keep them on a leash or otherwise restrained.

For 28 years they lumbered by here, those big, dust covered red wagons of the Santa Fe Trail. They were pulled by 10 or 12 New Mexico mules and loaded with 5 to 7 thousand pounds of merchandise packed tightly in their beds. The grasslands around Fort Union are still deeply marked with the ruts of the old Santa Fe Trail.

This great wilderness highway started from the banks of the Missouri River 800 miles to the east. Each spring the traders backed their wagons up to warehouses, loaded, mounted the box and cracked their "Missouri pistols" over the ears of the mules and headed for the great southwest.

Near the junction of the Mountain and Cimarron Branches of the Trail, where the mountains meet the plains, the Army's 1st Dragoons built Fort Union. In 1880, thirty years later, the first steam engine chugged into Lamy, station for the New Mexico capital, and the Santa Fe Trail passed out of existence. With it went the need for Fort Union. Today its ruins, maintained for your enjoyment by the National Park Service, provide an impressive memorial to the men who won the West.



FORT UNION National Monument, New Mexico

What To See and Do

Be sure to make your first stop the Visitor Center, and take time to study the museum exhibits before touring the ruins. The time spent will help make your visit come alive. Trained interpreters at the Information Desk will help answer your questions about the old Fort.

With the story fresh in mind, go out and roam the 74 acres of adobe ruins at your leisure; there is no set tour route. Stand in the shadow of 20-foot adobe walls and listen, as in your mind's eye a drill sergeant prepares his troops for a scouting patrol along the Santa Fe Trail. This was the largest military post guarding the southwest frontier and played a key role in shaping the destiny of the Southwest.

North of the Fort you can walk about a half-mile portion of the old Santa Fe Trail ruts. Travel back in your imagination to the arrival of the dusty red wagons with their load of trade goods or military supplies.

South of the Fort are the contours of the old "Star Fort" earthworks — the second Fort Union. Examine this ruin and imagine the excitement here as the troops passed rumors that Confederate Col. Sibley's mounted Texas Riflemen were headed this direction.

If your visit to Fort Union is during the summer months, uniformed Rangers conduct tours of Fort Union and present talks about his history. Check at the Visitor Center for the schedule.

We suggest your visit to Fort Union be combined with a picnic — the closest food service is 30 miles away and walking through the ruins builds up an appetite. Picnic tables are provided and we have a machine that dispenses cold soft drinks.

Fort Union is a designated Federal Fee area. This means you must pay a nominal entrance fee: 50 cents if you're a loner, $1 for the family if you come as a group. Golden Eagle and Golden Age Passports are honored, of course.

Nearby Attractions

Old Town Plaza, in Las Vegas, 26 miles to the south on Interstate 25, listed in the National Register of Historic Places. In 1846, Stephen Watts Kearney stood on the roof of a building overlooking this place and claimed the Province of New Mexico for the United States.

The Rough Riders Museum in Las Vegas. Look for it next door to the Chamber of Commerce as you drive through town on I-25. Many of the men who rode with Col. Teddy Roosevelt's Rough Riders in the Spanish American War came from right around here. Free admission; open daily except Sundays.

Storrie Lake State Park, 6 miles north of Las Vegas on State Route 3, offers camping, picnicking, fishing, boating (with ramps) and water sports. There is no guarded beach but you can swim at your own risk.

Villanueva State Park is located on State Route 3, 31 miles southwest of Las Vegas. It offers facilities for camping (May through November), picnicking and fishing.

If you enjoy *mountain scenery*, take State Route 3 out of Las Vegas to Taos, 70 miles to the northwest. This trip takes you through the Santa Fe National Forest; you'll like it!

A shorter trip is State Route 65, also out of Las Vegas, to the base of 10,263-foot Hermit Peak.

Fort Union National Monument is located in northeastern New Mexico, 8 miles west of Interstate 25. State Route 477 leads directly into the Monument. The intersection of State Route 477 with I-25 is 22 miles northeast of Las Vegas and 21 miles southwest of Wagon Mound.

Stay a While

The nearest overnight accommodations are in Las Vegas, 30 miles southwest, and Raton, 95 miles north. (Springer, 45 miles north, has limited overnight accommodations.)

Storrie Lake State Park, 6 miles north of Las Vegas on State Route 3, offers year-round camping. Villanueva State Park, 31 miles southwest of Las Vegas on State Route 3, offers camping from May thru November. At both, the fee is $2 per night.

For Meals and Snacks

At the Monument you can purchase cold soft drinks from a machine dispenser. Picnic tables are provided to make your visit more enjoyable. Bring a lunch and eat with us.

Full food service is available in Las Vegas, 30 miles south, and Wagon Mound, just off I-25, 28 miles to the north.

The Weather

Fort Union is at elevation of 6,700 feet. It is windy most of the year.

Summer temperatures range between 70 and 90. Rain is frequent during July and August.

Winter temperatures range between 20 and 50. Heavy snowfall is infrequent (3 to 5 times a year) but can occur anytime between October and April.

Consider Off-Season

Peak visitation to Fort Union occurs between May and September, with most people coming on weekends. The Fort is open every day except Christmas and New Year's Day, 8 a.m. till 5 p.m.

Need To Know More?

Fort Union Handbook . . . . . $.80
Santa Fe Trail, by H.L. James . . . . . $.75

To order, send a check or money order payable to the Southwest Parks and Monuments Association to Fort Union National Monument Information, Watrous, NM, 87753.

For Your Safety

Although stabilized, the ruins will fall if climbed on.

During the summer months, an occasional rattlesnake is spotted within the Fort area.

While every effort is made to provide for your safety in these surroundings, you must remain alert and exercise caution for your own safety and that of your children.

Just a Few Rules !

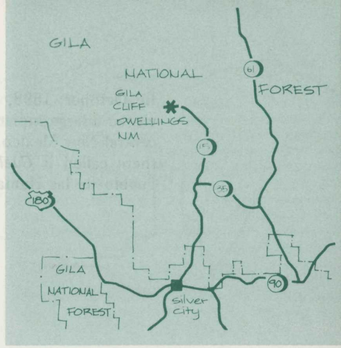
Natural and historical specimens and artifacts are protected under the Antiquities Act. They cannot be collected.

Pets must be restrained by leash or other means. Pets are not permitted in the Visitor Center.

Stay off adobe ruins. The National Park Service has a perplexing problem in preserving adobe from summer rains, winter snows and the erosive effects of continuous winds. Climbing over the wall ruins only adds to this problem.

Southwestern New Mexico is a land of contrasts. Snaking north from Silver City, State Route 15 follows a narrow corridor some 40 slow miles over routes that until recently were little more than trails. It ends at the heart of the Gila River Recreation Area — the Gila Cliff Dwellings National Monument. Here, withdrawn from the Gila National Forest to be preserved for the enjoyment and wonder of visitors, are prime examples of prehistoric Indian dwellings.

Seven natural caves occur high in the southeast-facing cliff of Cliff Dwelling Canyon, and five of these contain ruins totalling about 40 rooms. All were built in the 1280's. It is believed that these rooms were occupied by not more than 10 or 15 families, but that the rooms were occupied for several generations. By 1400 the dwellings had been abandoned.



GILA CLIFF DWELLINGS National Monument, New Mexico

What To See and Do

Visitors to Gila Cliff Dwellings National Monument have the opportunity for a double-barrelled experience. This is a unique area and a unique situation.

The National Monument was set aside from the National Forest to be preserved forever for its archeological and historical interest. It's a small area, only 533 acres, within the vast Gila National Forest, and you have all the advantages of visiting both a Monument and a Forest. Further, part of the National Forest was set aside as our nation's first designated wilderness area.

For many years both the National Park Service and the U.S. Forest Service cooperatively operated a Visitor Center here. Within the last year, in one of the efforts you don't read about in the newspaper, the two bureaus decided that your interest would be better served if the Gila National Forest operated both areas. So now when you visit you will meet and talk with Forest Rangers. It's an example of intra-agency cooperation that is exemplary. You'll be pleased with what you see.

The Cliff Dwellings are toured by a self-guiding trail that winds a half-mile along Cliff Dwellers' Creek. You buy or borrow a trail leaflet that by means of numbered stakes, explains this early community. The trail is steep in places — some of the dwellings are 180 feet above the canyon floor. To take the round trip you will need about an hour.

You should also plan to take the nature trail that follows the West Fork of the Gila River. The trail takes you through an environment that looks much the same as when people lived in the cliffs.

Nearby Attractions

the recreational opportunities available in the Gila National Forest, the Gila Wilderness, and the Gila and Black Range Primitive Areas. A total of 750,000 acres of the Forest is maintained in its natural state. No mechanized equipment can be used in any of these areas. It is for those willing to travel by foot or horseback, the price for enjoyment of nature, the mountain country as it was when the pioneers first saw it, undeveloped, unmarked by the works of modern man.

Among National Forest Wildernesses, the Gila has special status. It was the first area in the nation to be set aside as a natural museum, an example of the fast-disappearing primitive America. In 1924, Forester Aldo Leopold succeeded in having the Gila Wilderness designated, protecting for future generations a large slice of the past, the raw land upon which our country was built.

How To Get There

Gila Cliff Dwellings National Monument is located in the middle of the Gila National Forest. It is 44 miles north of Silver City at the end of State Route 15, a two-lane blacktop highway; the trip takes about two hours through this mountainous country. Silver City is located on U.S. 180, about 120 miles (airline) northwest of El Paso, Texas.

Because of road conditions, trailers over 20 feet are advised to use State Route 35 through the scenic Mimbres Valley instead of State 15. This is reached from State Route 61, north from San Lorenzo which is 19 miles east of Silver City on State Route 90.

The nearest conventional overnight facilities are in Silver City, 44 miles south of the Monument.

Scorpion Corral Recreation Site, in the National Forest adjacent to the Monument has a 10-family unit campground available on a first-come-first-served basis. This is an access area to the Wilderness and the Gila Primitive Area.

Forks Recreation Site, about 4 miles south of the Visitor Center, also has 10 developed sites.

For Meals and Snacks

There are no refreshment facilities in the Monument. At Gila Hot Springs, about 3 miles south of the Visitor Center, is a store offering groceries, snacks, soft drinks, camping and picnicking supplies, ice and gasoline.

The Weather

Daytime summer temperatures vary between 90 to 100 degrees; at night it will cool down to about 60. At the higher elevations it drops to about 45 at night.

Winter nights in all parts of the Gila area are cold!

Spring and autumn daytime temperatures are usually mild but cold nighttime temperatures require a selection of cool and warm clothing. Warm bedding is a necessity — even in summer.

Consider Off-Season

The most beautiful seasons at Gila Cliff Dwellings are early spring and late summer, when extra moisture has greened up the vegetation, and early fall, when hardwood leaves change colors.

Need To Know More?

Wilderness of the Gila $1.56
Forever Frontier $1.04

Send your check or money order, payable to the Southwest Parks and Monuments Association, to Gila Cliff Dwellings National Monument Information, Route 11, Box 100, Silver City, NM, 88061.

For Your Safety

Yes, there are rattlesnakes here — four species. They may be out as early as April and as late as October. Do not put your hands where you cannot see. Long trousers will often prevent a bite if a snake does strike. (They also help guard against the effects of stinging nettle and cactus.) Leave snakes alone and they will leave you alone.

While camping in the National Forest, skunks and raccoons may investigate your camp. Keep all food well covered and packed to minimize odor and you will have little trouble. Keep food out of sleeping bags and sleeping places.

During lightning storms, stay off ridges and away from tall trees.

Use water purification tablets for river water if you drink it.

Just a Few Rules!

Removing or marring any natural or man-made object is prohibited.

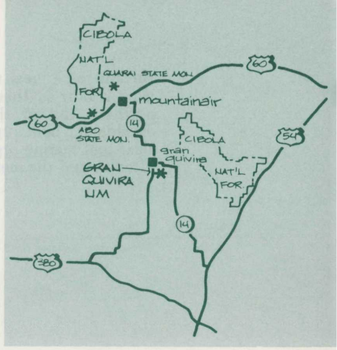
Hunting, camping and campfires are not permitted within the Monument.

Pets are not allowed in the Cliff Dwellings; kennels are available.

Speed limit within the Gila area is 25 miles per hour. Drive carefully — and enjoy the scenery.

In October 1598, Don Juan de Onate visited a large Indian village atop a mesa in central New Mexico. The people who lived there called it *Cueloze;* he named it the Pueblo de las Humanas. It was the largest community in that part of the country and an important trading center. It was almost 800 years old when he arrived.

Today we know this as a ruin, set aside in 1909 by President William Howard Taft to be preserved for your enjoyment and the enjoyment of your children, and their children. We know it as Gran Quivira National Monument.



GRAN QUIVIRA National Monument, New Mexico

What To See and Do

Cueloze — Gran Quivira — was a spot where cultures met and blended. After it was "discovered" by Onate it became an important link in the Spanish Mission System and today stands as a memorial to this system which partially succeeded in Christianizing the Indians.

You should begin your visit at the National Park Service Visitor Center. The short audio-visual presentation will set the stage for your tour through the ruins. Without this preparation you may see only a collection of crumbling ruins. And while you're there, take time to view the exhibit of artifacts of this earlier age. Before you leave for the 30 minute walk through the ruins, get a copy of the trail guide. You can buy it or borrow a copy.

You will first walk through a small section of excavated ruins. There are 21 separate pueblo ruins in the 611 acres of the Monument; most of them remain unexcavated.

Beyond these ruins is the ruin of the first or old church. This was started in 1628 by the Franciscan Father Alonso de Benevides, the year before he preached a sermon in the plaza and reported that "the whole pueblo was converted." This is the ruin of San Isidro. Your walk takes you through this ruin and into the Campo Santo, the burial ground.

A side trip takes you through more massive pueblo ruins and a plaza. Imagine what this scene looked like in 1598. The contrast between cultures as Don Juan de Onate, governor of New Mexico and the first known European to visit here, strode into this plaza and accepted the fealty of this 800-year-old village to the Crown of Spain. There's a kiva in the center of the plaza. Ponder the indomitable will of the men who raised the cross above the kiva roof to carry on the will of Pope Pius IX in an attempt to Christianize an entire nation of people.

Back on the main walk, you next go through the ruins of San Buenaventura, the larger church and convento begun about 1160.

Gran Quivira, for its 800 years before the coming of European man, was a community where various Indian cultures met and blended. The arrival of Onate presented just another culture to be blended into the life of the Pueblo.

Nearby Attractions

The story of Spain's colonization of the New Mexico Indians is no better told than in the Salinas Province, that part of New Mexico lying just east and south of the Manzano Mountains. Here 11 missions were built and the remains of these can still be seen.

In addition to Gran Quivira, there are two State Monuments nearby. Quarai, 8 miles north of Mountainair on State Route 14, and Abo, 10 miles west of Mountainair on U.S. 60.

While you're near, a visit to and hike along the trails of the Manzano Mountains in the Cibola National Forest can be a rewarding experience.

How To Get There

Gran Quivira National Monument sets atop Chupadera Mesa, a grassland area surrounded by pinon pine and juniper in central New Mexico. It is most conveniently reached from Mountainair, with which it is connected by State Route 14 (26 miles). Mountainair is located on U.S. 60, the east-west route through central New Mexico. It is 39 miles east of Bernardo on I-25 and 46 miles west of Encino, on U.S. 285.

Stay a While

The nearest convenient overnight accommodations are in the town of Mountainair, 26 miles north of the Monument on State Route 14.

If you're camping, the nearest campgrounds are 38 miles north on State Route 14. You have a choice of a site in the National Forest or a State Park. You'll like them both.

For Meals and Snacks

There are no refreshments available at the Monument; the nearest food service is in the town of Mountainair.

We do maintain a picnic area and offer clean air and serenity to go with the lunch you bring with you.

The Weather

The climate of central New Mexico is generally moderate. But not always — extremes of 103 and -26 have been recorded, but they were the unusual.

The average annual precipitation is 14 inches. Snowfall is light and remains on the ground only a short time.

Consider Off-Season

Peak visit months are May through August, with most people visiting on weekends. During May, many schools in the region bring student groups to the Monument on weekdays.

Most visitors arrive between 11 a.m. and 5 p.m.

The total visitation in 1974 was only 32,260, so you will seldom feel crowded, no matter when you come. Only a very small percentage of visitors use the picnic facilities.

For Your Safety

Please drive carefully, as young visitors enjoying the Monument may dart in front of your vehicle. Keep an eye on your children so that they are not the darters.

There are cacti, just off the trails. Skunks live in the Monument; you know what they can do!

Our wildlife includes one poisonous snake, the prairie rattler. To be safe, stay away from all snakes. Above all, don't try to kill them if you spot one. They are protected, like the wildlife in the Monument.

Just a Few Rules !

You won't have a good time if our Rangers have to remind you about rule infractions. So for your fun and ours, keep these few rules in mind:

The Monument is a wildlife sanctuary. That means you cannot molest or disturb any of the wildlife in any way.

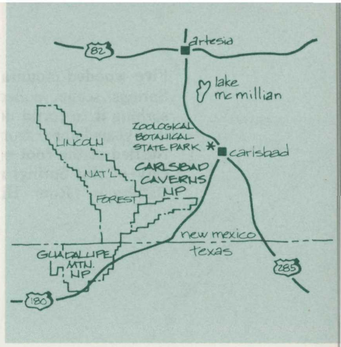
The presence of firearms is absolutely prohibited.

You may bring your pets, but you must keep them on a leash or otherwise restrained.

You may have a fire as long as you build it in one of the grills provided in the picnic area. No fires anywhere else!

An arm of a great sea once extended into what is now southern New Mexico. At the northern end of this arm a barrier reef developed, built up by a lime-secreting algae and marine organisms. Then this inlet silted in and the reef was buried. Still later, forces inside our earth shoved the reef above the water table, forming today's Guadalupe Mountains. More than 47,750 acres of this fossil limestone reef is now preserved for our enjoyment as Carlsbad Caverns National Park.

In this area are more than 60 caves, formed as water dissolved the limestone when the reef was buried. The largest of these, Carlsbad Caverns, is one of the largest cavern systems in the world.



CARLSBAD CAVERNS National Park, Texas

What To See and Do

You have your choice of two ways to view the Caverns:

You can walk in through the Natural Entrance and make the complete 3-mile tour, a 2½ to 3 hour experience.

Or you can descent the 750 feet to the Big Room in a modern elevator. The Big Room tour is a relatively level walk of 1 1/4 miles and takes about 90 minutes.

Both ways end at the Underground Lunchroom.

Visiting the Caverns takes time, so the following schedule is important:

	Labor Day to May	May June thru	Labor Day
	Mornings		
Trips start	8:00	8:00	7:00
	Afternoons and Evenings		
Last walk-in trip	2:00	2:30	4:30
Last elevator:			
down	3:15	4:00	6:00
up	4:25	5:30	7:30
V.C. closes	5:00	6:00	8:00

On all trips you must leave the caverns by the elevator. All trips are self-guiding. You start when you arrive and travel at your leisure. Rangers continuously patrol the caverns for your protection and to answer your questions.

You may photograph the cave so long as you remain on the paved trails. If you use time exposures you will need a tripod; you are prohibited from using cave features for a camera support.

At sunset, from mid-May thru September, bats leave the natural entrance en masse. This flight is a popular attraction; a schedule is posted in the Visitor Center.

Above ground is a vast backcountry. Hikers will enjoy this but it should not be attempted without a topographic map as the trails are not well defined. There is no water in this backcountry; carry a canteen. A backcountry camping permit is required for overnight stays.

The Park maintains a picnic area at Rattlesnake Springs and you may picnic at the Walnut Canyon Road turnouts. Fires are prohibited except at Rattlesnake Springs.

As you approach Carlsbad Caverns, turn your radio dial to 1610 for up-to-date information about program schedules, activities and weather conditions.

Nearby Attractions

The Living Desert State Park on Ocotillo Heights at the west edge of Carlsbad. A dozen different types of animals, many birds, an extensive reptile exhibit — all in natural environment. Over 1,000 varieties of cactus.

Lake Carlsbad on the Pecos River on the east side of Carlsbad offers the Municipal Museum, the Municipal Beach Park with swimming, boating, water skiing and fishing, and the President's Park. You can take a 2-mile trip along the lake on an 1880 vintage narrow gauge steam train, visit the train museum, ride the 1903 "Teddy Roosevelt Carousel", or go for a steamboat ride on an authentic paddle wheeler.

Guadalupe Mountains National Park is about 35 miles southwest of White's City off U.S. 62-180 in Texas. Guadalupe Peak (el. 8,751) is the highest point in Texas. The Park is not yet developed for visitors, unless you enjoy roughing it, just drive by and enjoy the view.

Adjacent Lincoln National Forest offers opportunities for outdoor recreation, including a picnic area at the beautiful Sitting Bull Falls.

How To Get There

Carlsbad Caverns is entered over a paved road from White's City which is 18 miles southwest of the city of Carlsbad on U.S. 62-180, the highway to El Paso. The city of Carlsbad is on east-west U.S. 62-180 and north-south U.S. 285. The city is served by air and bus and bus transportation is available to the Park.

Stay a While

There is a range of overnight accommodations available in the city of Carlsbad and in White's City at the entrance to the Park.

The Park does not operate a campground but privately operated camping facilities are available at both White's City and Carlsbad. The City of Carlsbad operates a campground on Lake Carlsbad.

For Meals and Snacks

A concessioner operates a restaurant in the Visitor Center and the Underground Lunchroom in the Caverns. You can enjoy a meal, a box lunch, or individual sandwiches.

The Park operates a picnic ground at Rattlesnake Springs, but it is not convenient to visitors to the Caverns. It is located off the main highway, about 9 miles southwest of White's City.

A variety of dining facilities are available in White's City and the city of Carlsbad.

The Weather

The climate of southeastern New Mexico is moderate; the average annual temperature is 63 degrees. In summer there are short periods of high temperatures and occasional brief but heavy downpours. Winters have occasional short periods of severe cold; snowfall is usually light and doesn't last long.

The temperature in the Caverns is a constant 56. A light jacket or sweater is recommended for the trip.

Except for holiday periods, visitation is lowest from early September to mid-May. The greatest visitation comes during the summer months and on the Christmas and Easter holidays.

Need To Know More?

In preparation for your visit you might enjoy reading:

Carlsbad Caverns National Park (color illustrated) by John Barnett $1.25

What About Bats? by James K. Baker . . . . . $.75

You may order these from the Carlsbad Caverns Natural History Association, 3225 National Parks Highway, Carlsbad, NM, 88220. Payments must include 25 per cent of the total purchase for handling and postage. Your check or money order should be made payable to the Carlsbad Caverns Natural History Association.

For Your Safety

Wear shoes with rubber soles or heels on the Cavern trip to avoid slips.

Do not run or stray off the paved trails in the Cavern.

Parents, please keep small children by your side.

Should electric power fail while you are underground, stop and stand quietly. Standby lights will come on in a few moments.

Observe posted speed limits when driving park roads. Be alert for visitors enjoying views or taking pictures and for wildlife crossing the road.

Be alert for rattlesnakes when hiking in the Park. Do not try to kill them; detour around them and be sure.

Beware of cactus and other desert plants; their spines can inflict painful injury. The knife-like lechuguilla agave can even pierce leather shoes.

Just a Few Rules !

Do not touch or tap cave formations; smaller formations are fragile and all are stained by repeated handling.

Collecting or disturbing rocks, plants or wildlife is prohibited.

Smoking in the Caverns is prohibited.

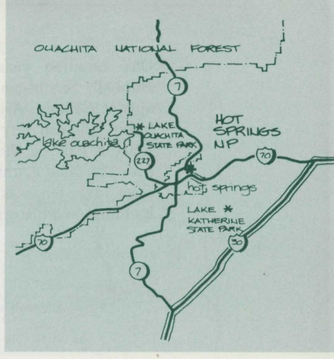
Pets are prohibited in the Caverns and public buildings. Kennel service is available. Outside the prohibited areas, pets must be kept on a leash.

Entering backcountry caves is prohibited without written permission of the Park Superintendent.

The Park is a wildlife sanctuary. Hunting, molesting wildlife and the use of firearms is prohibited.

Prospecting for mining claims and the use of metal detectors is prohibited.

Five wooded mountains dominate the Hot Springs scene, collecting rain water, absorbing it to torrid depths, and discharging it — years later — from 47 steaming springs. Nestled at the foot of the mountains is the City of Hot Springs and the world famous Bathhouse Row Historic District in a formal setting of magnolias and holly trees and hedges. In 1832, when similar spas were reaching popularity in Europe, our government "reserved" this natural heritage for all people for all time. Your visit can be an enjoyable and educational experience.



HOT SPRINGS National Park, Arkansas

What To See and Do

Paved roads — many paved horse-carriage routes from the past century — carry you on scenic drives with panoramic views and picnic areas on North, Hot Springs and West Mountains. Miles of good trails offer hikers a more intimate visit to these hardwood-clothed slopes.

In Gulpha Gorge, between North and Indian Mountains, the National Park Service operates a 57-site campground for visitor convenience. Evening programs are conducted in the campground amphitheater during the summer season.

Forty-five of the 47 hot springs have been capped to provide thermal waters for the many bath houses. The bath houses on Bathhouse Row are concessionaires of the Federal government and are available for use for a fee. It is recommended, however, that you consult with a physician first.

The two Display Springs are kept open for you to get an idea of what it was like here when all flowed down the mountainside. They are located just off the Grand Promenade.

The Promenade is a pleasant, wide brick walk of about a half-mile at the foot of Hot Springs Mountain just behind Bathhouse Row.

Nearby Attractions

Hot Springs can be your gateway to a large and diversified recreation area. To the north and west is Ouachita National Forest, with 17 forest recreation areas, all offering camping and picnicking facilities. Eight have swimming facilities. U.S. Highway 270 runs west from Hot Springs to Lake Ouachita in the heart of the Forest.

About five miles west of downtown Hot Springs, on U.S. 270, State Highway runs north 12 miles to Lake Ouachita State Park, with camping, picnicking and swimming facilities.

The Hot Springs Chamber of Commerce sponsors many special events, including a 10-day Fun Festival in early June and a 3-day Octoberfest in late October.

Five golf courses challenge both pros and duffers. A 50-day horse racing season in February and March attracts record crowds.

How To Get There

Hot Springs National Park is located at the hub of highway network in west-central Arkansas. U.S. 70 and 270 and State Route 7 all intersect at Hot Springs. All intersect with I-30 on the east and south. AR-7 intersects I-40 at Russellville, 73 miles to the north.

Hot Springs is served by Trailway buses. Their depot is only 2 blocks from the Park Visitor Center.

Frontier and Texas International Airlines serve the Hot Springs Municipal airport. Hotel and motel limousines will meet incoming planes.

Stay a While

The City of Hot Springs offers a wide range of overnight and dining accommodations. Lists are available from the Hot Springs Chamber of Commerce, P.O. Box 1500, Hot Springs, AR, 71901.

For campers, the Park operates a modern, 57-site campground in Gulpha Gorge, 2 miles northeast of the center of the City. Tables and fireplaces are provided; there are no hook-ups for trailers. You are limited to 14 days; no reservations are accepted. A nominal use-fee is charged.

The nearest State installation offering camping is at Lake Ouachita State Park, 17 miles north of the City on AR-227.

For Meals and Snacks

You will find many opportunities for picnicking throughout the Park, but you'll have to bring your own picnic lunch. There are no food concessions in the Park. A wide variety of snack shops and restaurants are available in the City of Hot Springs.

How To Get There

Hot Springs is located at the foot of the mountains and far enough inland to have the advantages of regular weather variations. Summers are hot but extended heat waves are uncommon. Winter storms from the north moderate quickly. Fall and spring seasons have long periods when temperatures approximate the average annual temperature of 63 degrees. Average rainfall is 53 inches; you can expect sunshine 65 per cent of the time.

The Weather

Summers at Hot Springs are the festive season with intensive visitation. Nearly 2 of every 5 visitors to Hot Springs come during the summer months.

April and May, in contrast, receive only 17 per cent of the visitation. And spring, with redbud, dogwoods and shadblow, mixed with red maple buds, a profusion of violets and phlox, make this a colorful season. Bird watchers find this a good time to visit. Mild weather and signs of spring come as early as February.

September and October receive another 17.5 per cent of the visits. Fall, with its invigorating weather, is the prime time for hikers. Squirrels and chipmunks are active, leaves take on flaming coloration, and falling leaves open views not seen during the summer months.

Need To Know More?

Valley of the Vapors $1.50
(include 30 cents for postage)
Bath Rates, mimeograph . . . . . FREE
Physical Therapy Rates,
mimeograph . . . . . FREE
Flower Blooming Periods,
mimeograph . . . . . FREE
Bird Checklist, mimeograph . . . . . FREE
Reptile Checklist, mimeograph. . . . . FREE
Mammal Checklist, mimeograph. . . . FREE
Amphibian Checklist, mimeograph. . FREE
Composition of Thermal and Cold Water Springs, mimeograph . . . . . FREE
Geology of Hot Springs,
mimeograph . . . . . FREE

Your check or money order should be made out to the Eastern National Park and Monument Association. Address your requests to Hot Springs National Park Information, P.O. Box 1860, Hot Springs, AR, 71901.

For Your Safety

Few people are hurt visiting the Park, but those who are will assure you it's no way to enjoy a vacation. So. . .

Drive defensively to avoid automobile accidents. Be especially careful to keep speed low enough to negotiate sharp curves, take steep grades, and consistently stay on your side of the road.

Poisonous snakes are very uncommon; nevertheless, keep alert when clambering in rocks.

Yellow jacket stings cause severe reactions in many people.

Learn to recognize and be alert for poison ivy.

Watch your children around Gulpha Creek. It can rise quickly and foot-cutting rocks project from the creek bed.

Elderly visitors should be aware of limited agility and reduced strength which makes them prone to trips and falls.

Just a Few Rules!

Please assist Rangers to protect Park features and allow others to appreciate the Park by. . .

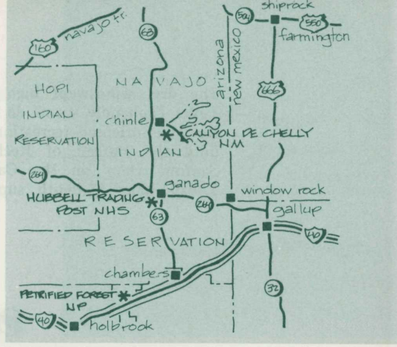
leaving rocks, flowering plants, and animals unmolested.

keeping your pets on a leash.

One hundred years ago, John Lorenzo Hubbell, Sr., began trading with the Navajos of Ganado, Arizona. Today, a century later, you can buy a soda pop, a bar of soap, a pair of sheep shears, or a saddle over the same counters where J. L. himself once did business. Not only have the buildings and historic scene been preserved, but in this unique National Historic Site the "history" is still going on.

Hubbell Trading Post continues to do what all reservation trading posts did . . . perform the role of broker between cultures, enabling the Navajo people to exchange their marketable goods for the products they need from outside Navajoland. The products now brought to Hubbell are mostly rugs and other craftware. But the sights and sounds and smells of the trading post are much as they were when Hubbell was influential in creating a market for the large Navajo rugs of fine quality.

HUBBELL TRADING POST National Historic Site, Arizona



What To See and Do

You enter the Trading Post the same way thousands of customers have entered it in the past — through the main door into the "bull pen," the main grocery and hardware sales area of the store. On your right, in front of the moccasins, below the Pendleton shawls, and before you reach the yards of velveteen, will be a National Park Service employee who will orient you to what is available for you to do at the time you arrive.

Year-round, the Trading Post and grounds are yours to discover on your own. In summer, the non-profit cooperating association that operates the Trading Post sponsors rug weaving demonstrations in the wareroom, reached through the sliding door to the left of the one with the steer's skull over it.

The ceilings and walls of the Hubbell Home are covered with the immense personal collection of art and artifacts accumulated by Mr. Hubbell. This assemblage, spanning all of Southwest history, may be viewed on guided tours conducted hourly — except noon — from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. (9 to 5 in summer) on all days but Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year's. The tours usually last 30 to 45 minutes and a guide fee of 50 cents per person between 15 and 62 years is charged. Tour groups are limited to 15 persons.

Don't forget that the Navajo Nation observes the season of daylight saving time.

Nearby Attractions

The Capitol of the Navajo Nation is at Window Rock, Arizona, 28 miles east of Hubbell Trading Post on State Route 264. In addition to seeing the famed "Window Rock," you might wish to visit the Navajo Tribal Museum which features displays on Navajo culture and history and on the prehistory of Navajoland. An excellent variety of publications on these subjects is available there.

About 8 miles east of Ganado, on a side road north of Route 264, is Kinlichee Tribal Park, interpreting the remains of a prehistoric pueblo.

Breath-taking Canyon de Chelly National Monument, with its prehistoric cliff dwellings and modern Navajo hogans, is 38 miles north of Hubbell, at Chinle, Arizona.

Westward lies the Hopi Land, with their villages clinging tenaciously atop the flat-topped mesas. Here one should not miss the Arts and Crafts Center, on Second Mesa.

Sixty miles to the south is the famed Painted Desert and the equally famous Petrified Forest National Park.

How To Get There

Hubbell Trading Post National Historic Site is one mile west of Ganado, Arizona, just off State Route 263 and 63, both of which are two-laned blacktop highways.

State Route 264 runs east-west through Navajoland and through Ganado. State Route 63 connects with Interstate 40 at Chambers, 38 miles to the south.

Stay a While

Conventional accommodations are few and scattered. There is one motel about 75 miles west on Route 264 at Second Mesa; there are two about 30 miles east at Window Rock, and there is a motel and lodge in Chinle, 38 miles north on State Route 63.

Campers are a little more fortunate. There is a campground at Summit, 20 miles east of Ganado on Route 264 (and 7,000 feet high!) There is also a campground at Canyon de Chelly, near Chinle.

For Meals and Snacks

Limited refreshments — soda and something to munch on — are available at the Trading Post. Otherwise, the same places where you can get overnight accommodations have dining facilities.

The College of Ganado serves meals when school is in session. A cafe is open on weekdays.

The Weather

Hubbell Trading Post is at an elevation of 6,300 feet. Generally the climate is mild, but recorded extremes are 100 and 30 below. Even in summer it cools down rapidly after the sun goes down.

In spring, high winds from the southwest are common, and blowing sand may obscure visibility, smart the eyes and clog nasal passages.

Consider Off-Season

Things get pretty slow around Hubbell Trading Post between the end of October and Easter. Most of the over 70,000 annual visitors come in the summer. There's a special feeling about those wintry days when people come stomping into the warm trading post from the cold blustery outdoors, especially if they have the time to spread out half-a-dozen rugs to really look at, or to just visit a while. Groups touring the home are usually smaller in winter, too, allowing more opportunity for everybody's questions to get answered.

Need To Know More?

Indian Traders by Frank McNitt . . . $8.95
Smoke Signal by David M. Brugge. . $1.00

To order, send a check or money order made payable to the Southwest Parks and Monuments Association to Hubbell Trading Post Information, P.O. Box 388, Ganado, AZ, 86505.

For Your Safety

Please refrain from smoking in the historic buildings. They are very old, very dry and very flammable.

Remember, the elevation is 6,300 feet. Don't overexert yourself!

Wear shoes or sandals. Not only are there chickens, peafowls, guinea fowl, dogs, cows, and horses to watch out for, but there also burrs and the tiny bits of glass and metal that are the inevitable residue of a hundred years of living, farming and trading.

Watch your step. The walking surfaces inside and out are uneven and often include sills and short steps. Sidewalks may be icy in winter.

If you normally get a toxic reaction from bee stings, be alert for wasps during the warm weather.

As you arrive and depart, watch out for ambling cows, darting children, and other drivers thinking about other things.

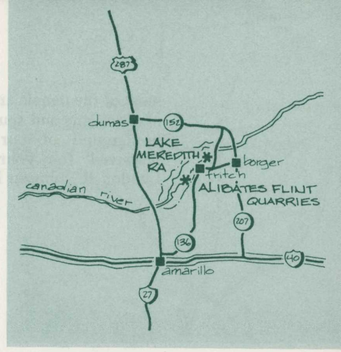
Just a Few Rules !

The *sale and consumption* of alcoholic beverages is prohibited on the Navajo Reservation.

The Tribal Antiquities Act is one of the toughest in the nation, prohibiting the possession of any antiquities taken from the lands of the Navajo Nation.

The objects in the Hubbell collection are national heirlooms. Please help us save them for your descendants by not touching them.

The dry, windswept high plains of the Texas Panhandle seems an unlikely place for water-oriented recreation — and it was until the Bureau of Reclamation built Sanford Dam on the Canadian River. Today Lake Meredith supplies drinking water to a number of cities and towns and offers you the opportunity to enjoy fishing, boating, water skiing, sailing, swimming, scuba diving, camping, picnicking, hunting, nature study and back-country exploration.



LAKE MEREDITH Recreation Area, Texas

What To See and Do

In any season, Lake Meredith can fill a weekend — or a longer visit — with a tempting mixture of healthy exercise.

During the summer months, a protected swimming beach with lifeguard service is available near Sanford Dam. Launching ramps are available at Sanford-Yake, Cedar Canyon, Fritch Fortress, and Blue West. (In periods of high water, you can also launch a boat at Plum Creek and Bates Canyon.)

A marina, boat storage, dump station and snack bar is operated at Sanford-Yake.

Fishing and hunting are regulated by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department in cooperation with the National Park Service. Texas licenses are required.

Anglers may fish for largemouth and smallmouth bass, white bass, crappie, sunfish, carp, walleye, and catfish.

The portions of the Recreation Area open to hunting offer the only public hunting lands in the vicinity. Game includes geese, ducks, quail, dove, turkey, whitetail and mule deer. The terrain is rugged, and large game is scarce, so chances of taking big game or turkey are slim.

Areas have been established along the Canadian River at Rosita and in the Creek bed at Blue Creek for motorcycles, dune buggies and other types of off-road vehicles.

Nearby Attractions

Alibates Flint Quarries National Monument was the site of pre-historic Indian flint quarries for more than 12,000 years. The colorful flint was used for axes, points, hammerstones, scrapers, awls and other tools. It can be visited only by guided tours at 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. during the summer months or by advance arrangement during the winter months. It is located off State Highway 136.

Palo Duro Canyon State Scenic Park, south of Amarillo and west of Canyon on State Highway 217. The area is famous for its sheer cliffs of bright red color. Facilities for scenic auto tours, hiking, camping, picnics, horseback rides and nature study.

The International Helium Centennial Time Columns, a 6-story stainless steel monument built to commemorate the discovery of helium in 1868. A public pavilion features exhibits on the uses of helium in industry, medicine, defense, and atmospheric, marine and outerspace exploration. On the east side of Amarillo on I-40 at Nelson Street.

Buffalo Lake National Wildlife Refuge, 12 miles southwest of Canyon. Canada geese, pintails, mallards and bald and golden eagles winter here. Open daily, 6 a.m. to 10 p.m.

The Panhandle-Plains Historical Museum, in Canyon, on State Route 217; just east of U.S. 87. Features an authentic reassembled Pioneer Village.

The Square House Museum, Panhandle, 23 miles south of Borger on State Route 207, is one of the oldest houses in Carson County and contains exhibits of the Texas Panhandle as it was when the railroad first came through. Free.

The Lake Meredith Aquarium and Wildlife Museum, in the town of Fritch, displays the fish and wildlife of the Recreation Area. It was a Bicentennial project of the people of Fritch.

How To Get There

Lake Meredith is in the middle of the Texas Panhandle, about 33 miles north of Amarillo, off State Route 136. Local roads lead to different points on the Lake.

From Dumas, northwest of the Lake, take State Route 152 to FM 1319 which leads to Sanford Dam. A second road, FM 1913, branches off for access to the northwestern side of the Recreation Area.

From Stinnett, northeast of the Lake, take State Route 152, to FM 687, which leads directly to the dam.

The Rosita Off-Road Vehicle Area is reached by taking U.S. 87-287 north from Amarillo or south from Dumas to the Canadian River bridge.

Stay a While

Overnight facilities are available in Fritch, Borger, Sanford, Dumas, Amarillo and other towns surrounding the Recreation Area.

Primitive and semi-developed campgrounds are available within the Recreation Area.

Nearby towns also have private campgrounds with trailer hook-ups.

For Meals and Snacks

Snacks are available at the Sanford-Yake Marina. There is no other food service in the Recreation Area. Good restaurants are found in the nearby communities.

The Weather

Overall, the climate is pleasant. Summer highs are in the 90's, winter lows in the teens. Occasionally a visit is marred by temperature extremes or severe weather conditions. The average annual rainfall is only 20 inches; there may be several snows during a winter.

Boaters should be aware of the possibility of sudden storm winds that can reach up to 80 MPH — so fast that boats may have trouble getting off the Lake.

Consider Off-Season

Peak visit months are May through August — with thousands of people in the Recreation Area in one day, especially on weekends. Spring and fall are relatively mild as are many days in winter. These are your opportunities for a visit with few people around.

Need To Know More?

Special brochures on hunting, nature study, boating and other activities — should you need more information — can be obtained by writing to Lake Meredith Recreation Area Information, P.O. Box 1438, Fritch, TX, 79036.

For Your Safety

Please be careful around the water. Operate your boat in a cautious manner, and be courteous to others. Coast Guard regulations are enforced.

Drive carefully. Many roads are narrow, and some are rough. Part of the drive may be through open range, so watch for cattle.

Look out for rattlesnakes and skunks. These creatures usually try to avoid people, but close contact could ruin your visit.

Avoid animals which appear too friendly. This could be a sign of disease which might be spread to you.

Recognize and avoid poison ivy.

Just a Few Rules !

You won't have a good time if our Rangers have to remind you about rule infractions. So, for your fun and ours, keep these few rules in mind:

Off-road use by motor vehicles is permitted only at the established areas at Rosita and Blue West. Elsewhere, vehicles may be driven only on established roadways.

Hawks, owls, migratory birds, horned lizards, some turtles and tortoises, certain rare and endangered species are protected by State and Federal laws. Know what is legal to hunt before you shoot.

Netting of fish is prohibited.

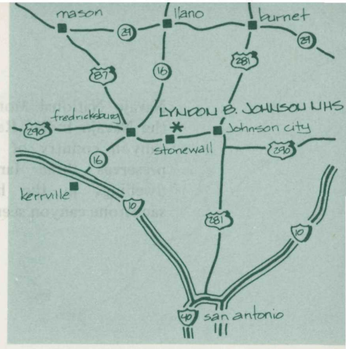
Rock collecting is restricted to one handful of rocks per person per day.

Do not discharge toilet wastes into the Lake.

Most of the people are now gone, but many of the sights and sounds that made up the background of our 36th President are preserved for your enjoyment at the Lyndon B. Johnson National Historic Site.

You'll enjoy your visit to the Texas hill country. Give yourself plenty of time — at least a full day.

Large organized groups who wish to visit the Park are requested to contact the Headquarters (512 868-7128) or write the Superintendent, Lyndon B. Johnson National Historic Site, P.O. Box 329, Johnson City, TX, 78636, for special arrangements.



LYNDON B. JOHNSON National Historic Site, Texas

What To See and Do

The Park is in two units, about 14 miles apart. It is impossible to view the scene chronologically without excessive running back and forth. Stop at the first unit you come to, enjoy it, and then go on to the next. By the end of your visit it will all fall into place.

The Johnson City Properties

Begin your visit at the Visitor Center on the west side of town. Here you can get all the information you need about tour times, on-going programs and services available to help you get the most out of your visit.

The Boyhood Home, across the street from the Visitor Center, is where the Johnson moved when Lyndon was five years old and where he lived until he left for college 14 years later. It is preserved essentially as he knew it.

The Johnson Settlement preserves the scene of his grandparents: the 5-year cattle kingdom headquarters of Sam and Tom Johnson (1867-72) and the James Polk Johnson farm and ranch (after 1872). It's a quarter-mile walk or you can make the trip into the past riding in a horsedrawn freight wagon. At the Settlement you will see the log cabin of Grandfather Johnson, the old barns, smokehouse, cooler house and blacksmith shop, all brought alive by costumed demonstrators, live Texas Longhorn cattle and the other sights and sounds of a century ago.

The Boyhood Home is open every day of the year except Christmas, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., with extended hours in the summer. During fall and winter, the Johnson City Visitor Center and the Johnson Settlement are open only on weekends.

The Stonewall Properties

Begin your visit at the *Visitor Center of the LBJ State Historical Park.* (Your visit at Stonewall is a wonderful example of cooperation between the State and the Federal governments for your total experience.)

From the Visitor Center, free Tour Buses, on regular schedules, take you to see. . .

The one-room *Junction School*, where LBJ got his first taste for education, at the age of four.

The *Johnson Birthplace*, a reconstructed two-bedroom farmhouse similar to the one where Lyndon was born August 26, 1908.

The *Johnson Family Cemetery*, and the grave of our 36th President.

The *LBJ Ranch* with its registered Hereford cattle.

The "Texas White House," or the LBJ Ranch where Lyndon retired after his Presidency.

The 90 minute tours begin at 10 a.m. and end at 5:30 p.m. in summer and 4 p.m. the rest of the year. All take you over the ranch lands; Tuesday through Saturday tours go by the Ranch House. Hours for most of the structures are 9 a.m. to 7 p.m., 5 p.m. in the fall and winter.

Nearby Attractions

Recreational opportunities available in the Lyndon B. Johnson State Park include swimming (a nominal charge is made to enter the pool), tennis, nature trails, picnic areas and living history programs at the Sauer-Beckman House.

The Admiral Nimitz Center, in Fredericksburg. Operated by an independent Texas State Commission, this memorial museum commemorates the life and achievements of World War II Fleet Admiral Chester W. Nimitz, whose grandfather was one of the area's early German settlers.

Fredericksburg reflects the rich cultural legacy of the German immigrants who first arrived in central Texas in the late 1840's. Besides many historic structures, German food and festivals perpetuate a European atmosphere.

The Lyndon Baines Johnson Library, on the campus of the University of Texas at Austin. It is operated by the National Archives and Records Service, and is a center of scholarly research and a historical museum. Three floors of the 8-story structure contain exhibits highlighting President Johnson's 40-year public career.

Many natural attractions are located in the Hill Country. You may want to visit Pedernales Falls and Blanco State Parks, Longhorn Caverns, drive along the Highland Lakes, or view the abundant wild flowers in the spring and summer.

How To Get There

Johnson City and Stonewall are almost due north of San Antonio about 60 miles, and west of Austin, about 50 miles. Both are located on U.S. 290, a good, 4-lane east-west highway, connecting Austin and Fredericksburg. U.S. 281 is a north-south highway connecting San Antonio and Wichita Falls.

Stay a While

A range of overnight accommodations are available in Johnson City, Stonewall, Blanco and Fredericksburg.

Campers may spend the night in Lady Bird Municipal Park in Fredericksburg, Pedernales Falls State Park (east of Johnson City), and Blanco State Park. There are a number of other State and commercial facilities in the immediate area.

For Meals and Snacks

There are no food concessions in any units of the Park, but picnic tables are provided. Food service — much specializing in German-style foods — is available in Stonewall, Johnson City, Blanco and Fredericksburg.

The Weather

The weather in the Texas Hill Country is moderate. Summer temperatures are in the mid to upper 90's, but there is a light breeze most of the time. Winters average around 40, with occasional showers. There is very little snow, but rain occasionally freezes on the roads.

Consider Off-Season

Fifty-six per cent of the visitors come in the 5 months from May through September; 42 per cent in the three summer months, when visitation averages about a thousand people a day.

From October through March, visitation drops to about 300 people a day. During this off-season we operate the Johnson City Information Center and the Settlement only on weekends.

Need To Know More?

The Lyndon B. Johnson National Historic Site interpretive folder is given to you when you visit the Park. Should you want to learn more about what you will see, you can secure an advance copy of this folder by writing to Lyndon B. Johnson National Historic Site Information, P.O. Box 329, Johnson City, TX, 78636.

For Your Safety

We want your visit to be a pleasant and rewarding experience. We'll do all we can, but you can help by observing a few safety precautions.

When riding on the horse-drawn freight wagons or the tour buses, remain seated while the vehicle is in motion.

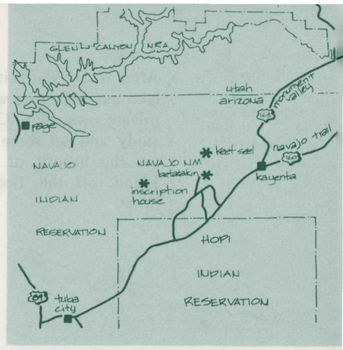
Do not stick your arms or head out of the windows of moving vehicles.

NAVAJO National Monument, Arizona

Navajo National Monument is located on the Navajo Indian Reservation in the deep canyon country of northern Arizona. It preserves three large prehistoric cliff dwellings in the heart of spectacular sandstone canyon scenery.

The three dwellings were built in the late 1200's by the Anasazi — the "Ancient Ones" — ancestors of some of today's Hopi Indians. They are some of the best preserved and most impressive examples of prehistoric architecture in America and are well worth a visit. But your visit must be planned, and you will have to allow enough time, for the Monument is located in a remote and rugged area.

Driving through sparsely populated *Navajoland* you will be surrounded by the wild sandstone terrain of the upper Reservation. It's an arid and picturesque land, where settlements and gas stations are 20 to 30 miles apart — and there is little evidence of modern man between. The vista stretches for miles in all directions, taking in striking bluffs and mesa formations. Along the road the bright colors of seasonal wild flowers will catch your eye. And you will take home memories of picturesque places like Tuba City, Red Lake, Kayenta and Baby Rocks.



What To See and Do

The Monument Headquarters and Visitor Center — and the most accessible of the cliff dwellings is on the mesa overlooking Tsegi (SAY gee) Canyon. The Monument entrance road, State Route 564, ends with a one-way loop and parking area.

Begin your stay at the Visitor Center. Here you can enjoy appropriate exhibits, a 5-minute slide program about the Monument and have your questions answered by the Ranger on duty. The Navajo Arts and Crafts Guild operates a shop here during the summer months.

From the patio behind the Visitor Center the Sandal Trail, the easiest trail at the Monument, takes you to Betatakin Point Overlook. Here you get a spectacular view of the Tsegi Canyon system and the closest look at any of the cliff dwellings. It's about a one-mile round trip.

Twice each day tours of not more than 20 people leave from the Visitor Center to the Betatakin (BE tah' ta kin) Ruin across the canyon. It's only about 2½ miles but it's not easy. You climb down — and back up — over 700 *steep* stairs, about the equivalent of a 70-story building! The tour takes about three hours and is Ranger led. You cannot go into the canyon or the ruin without a Ranger.

Keet Seel, the largest cliff dwelling in Arizona, is about eight miles north of the Visitor Center. It can be reached only on foot or horseback; the trail is rugged and the elevation change is over a thousand feet. You cannot go to Keet Seel without an Indian guide. All travel is by reservation and there is a limit of 25 people per day. So write or phone ahead if you want to make this trip.

The third ruin is Inscription House, about 30 miles from the Visitor Center. This cliff dwelling is not now open to the public, nor is there a distant viewpoint. *Do not be misled by road signs indicating the route to Inscription House. They lead to a Trading Post, not the ruin.*

During the summer months, evening campfire programs are held near the Visitor Center.

Nearby Attractions

Monument Valley, several thousand square miles of isolated monoliths of red sandstone, some towering as much as 1,000 feet above the valley floor. A Navajo Tribal Park. Self-guiding tours, camping and picnicking facilities. From Kayenta take Navajo Route 1 and 18 to the Visitor Center.

The Goosenecks State Reserve are "gooseneck" canyons of the San Juan River, with a spectacular view from cliff-top overlooks. Camping, picnicking and hiking — buy you'll have to bring your own drinking water. Nine miles northwest of Mexican Hat, Utah, which is 46 miles northeast of Kayenta on U.S. 163.

How To Get There

Navajo National Monument is located in north-central Arizona, south to southeast of Lake Powell and the Glen Canyon Recreation Area, It is reached from U.S. 160 which diagonals through the Navajo Reservation. At Black Mesa — 50 miles northeast of Tuba City, 22 miles southwest of Kayenta — you turn north onto Route 564. Route 564 dead-ends at the Monument Headquarters.

Stay a While

The nearest motel accommodations are at Kayenta, about 31 miles northeast of the Monument on U.S. 160. Accommodations are also available at Tuba City, 59 miles southwest on U.S. 160.

The Monument maintains a campground at the end of the loop road at the Headquarters area. Trailers up to 25 feet in length can be accommodated. Because of freezing, the water is usually turned off from late September to early May, but the campground is available for use year-round. There is a second "dry campground" about a mile from the Visitor Center at the corral area.

For Meals and Snacks

There are no food services available in the Monument. The closest place to get refreshments and groceries (and gas) is at the shopping center at Black Mesa, where you turn off U.S. 160 to get to the Monument.

If your visit will be over a meal period, we suggest you stop at Black Mesa and buy the fixings — we have a nice picnic area right near the Visitor Center.

The Weather

Navajo National Monument is at an elevation of over 7,000 feet. Winter comes early and stays late. Snow accumulation is heavy, especially in the small canyons which provide access to the cliff dwellings. All canyon trails are closed after the first snowfall and remain closed until all snow melts in the spring.

The Visitor Center is open year-round. The Sandal Trail to the overlook is open if the snow and ice are not too severe.

For Your Safety

This is a natural area of steep canyons and rough terrain. Please be aware of the hazards. But you need not worry about snakes or wild animals.

When you hike, remember that the altitude is 7,200 feet. The air is thin. You may find that if you're not used to this elevation, walking can tire you out a lot quicker than you might expect. Pace yourself, eat well and don't try to rush.

We don't recommend any of the more strenuous trips for anyone who has heart or respiratory ailments.

The Visitor Center area is congested with small children and picnickers, so do be extra careful — and remember the one-way signs.

On the Navajo Reservation you should always watch out for sheep and other stock on the highway.

Just a Few Rules !

These rules are for your protection and the preservation of the Monument. Please keep them in mind.

No pets are permitted on the trails or in the buildings. Pets may be walked on a leash in the campground area.

Wood fires are not permitted but charcoal may be used.

The use or presence of firearms is prohibited.

Hiking on the Navajo Reservation is prohibited. The land is private property.

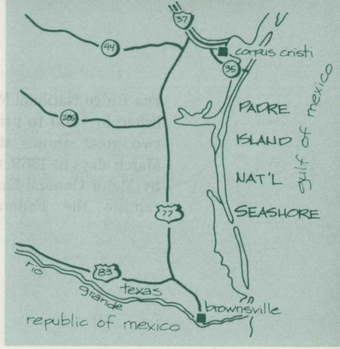
Camping is permitted only in the designated campgrounds.

You are not permitted into the canyons or the ruins without a Ranger guide.

After World War II it became apparent that lake and seashores were rapidly going into private ownership. Our Congress ordered a study and set some remaining areas aside for the benefit of all the people. Padre Island, off the Texas coast, was one of these.

Padre Island National Seashore preserves 67½ miles — the mid-section — of a beautiful barrier island. Stand at the water's edge, with the surf curling around your feet and imagine the beach as it was when Karankawa Indians camped on its shore, when Spanish explorers sailed offshore, and how it was when cows roamed the beaches and grasslands as an open range cattle ranch.

PADRE ISLAND National Seashore, Texas



What To See and Do

Begin your visit at the Ranger Station-Visitor Center, about 4 miles after you enter, on your left. Here is up-to-date information on programs, a few exhibits, and publications to help you better enjoy your visit.

Malaquite Beach is just south of the Ranger Station. During the summer, lifeguards are on duty from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. There is a bathhouse and beach equipment can be rented. Stretching north for 4 miles the beach is open daily only to pedestrian and bicycle traffic.

Just south of Malaquite Beach the paved road ends. But unless it is one of those rare periods of extremely high tides or other unusual circumstances, you can travel safely another five miles — even pulling a trailer.

The remaining 60 miles are available to you only on foot or if you have a 4-wheel drive vehicle. Before continuing, even with 4-wheel drive, get the latest beach condition information from a Ranger. (4-wheel drive vehicles can usually be rented in Corpus Christi or on the north end of the Island; the usual fee is about $40 a day.)

You can swim, fish, surf, beachcomb and study nature throughout the seashore, throughout the year. Over 360 species of birds have been reported and over 300 species of plants identified. Checklists are available at the Ranger Station.

Nearby Attractions

The camping, swimming, and fishing opportunities available at the two Nueces County parks — Port Aransas and the County Park as you come off the Causeway. Both have fishing piers where equipment can be rented.

Aransas National Wildlife Refuge, north of Rockport (which is 30 miles north of Corpus Christi). This is the winter home of the Whooping Crane, one of the world's rarest birds.

Lake Corpus Christi State Park, 6 miles southwest of Mathis (which is 28 miles northwest of Corpus Christi on State Route 9). Camping, picnicking, hiking, and lake boating, fishing and swimming.

Goose Island State Park, on the Aransas Bay, offers camping, fishing, swimming and boating (with a public ramp). 44 miles north of Corpus Christi off State Route 35.

The Gulf Intracoastal Waterway passes through Laguna Madre, between the Island and the mainland. It begins at Carrabelle, Florida, and runs 1,116 miles to Brownsville. Freight barges and pleasure boats travel the Waterway, safe from the dangers of the open sea. It was completed in 1949 at a cost of $80-million.

The 960,000-acre King Ranch, one of the world's largest and richest. A loop-road winds through a portion west of Kingsville (34 miles southwest of downtown Corpus Christi). Famous for its quarter horses and Santa Gertrudis cattle.

How To Get There

Padre Island is east and south of Corpus Christi. From the city take the South Padre Island Drive (State Route 358) east to Park Road 22 and follow the signs. Park Road 22 crosses the John F. Kennedy Causeway and runs south into the Seashore.

Stay a While

On Padre Island you will find accommodations near the junction of Park Roads 22 and 53. Additional facilities are at Port Aransas and in Corpus Christi.

A campground just north of Malaquite Beach offers paved parking spaces, tables, grills, water, restrooms, rinse-off showers and a trailer dump station. A fee of $2 a night is charged.

The Nueces County Parks (Port Aransas and at the end of the Causeway) have campgrounds with trailer hook-ups.

Camping is permitted between the Gulf and the dunes throughout the Seashore but the only facilities are trash receptacles and chemical toilets.

No reservations for camping are accepted, but you'll have no trouble finding a site, regardless of the season.

For Meals and Snacks

Malaquite Beach has a fast food service snack bar. There are restaurants at the north end of the Island, at Port Aransas and in Corpus Christi.

The Weather

Summers are hot and humid: temperatures near 90 and humidity above 60 per cent. A year-round southeast wind (10 to 15 MPH) usually moderates the heat. Water temperature exceeds 85 degrees.

Winters are mild but temperatures occasionally drop to uncomfortable levels for short periods. Water rarely drops below 60.

Gulf coasts have occasional tropical storms and hurricanes from June through November, but don't let this scare you. There are usually several days warning — plenty of time to find a safe haven inland.

Consider Off-Season

During the spring and fall, the weather is usually beautiful and the beaches practically deserted except on weekends. These are some of the most pleasant days of the year. Peak visit months are June through August.

Need To Know More?

Specific questions about the Seashore will be answered by Padre Island National Seashore Information, 9405 South Padre Island Drive, Corpus Christi, TX, 78418. For information about motels, restaurants or other commercial facilities, write the Corpus Christi Area Tourist Bureau, P.O. Box 1147, Corpus Christi, TX, 78403.

For Your Safety

Use suntan lotion and avoid prolonged exposure to the mid-day sun. Work up to a good tan; don't try to do it in one day!

Be careful around the water; never swim alone. Don't swim when the surf is exceptionally rough. Parents, keep an eye on children.

Alive or dead, in the water or on the beach, the beautiful, blue, balloon-like Portugese Man-of-War Jellyfish can inflict an extremely painful sting. Avoid it.

The sound of surf drowns out the sound of your automobile. Drive safely and watch for children — they won't hear you.

Just a Few Rules!

The Seashore is a wildlife sanctuary; all plants and animals are protected.

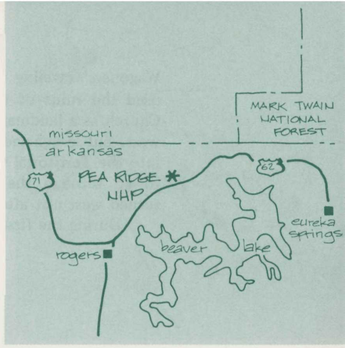
Metal detectors and treasure hunting are prohibited. You may keep anything that washes in with the tide that is not of historical or archeological significance.

Pets must be kept under restrictive control, out of buildings and off the beach in front of the campground.

Pea Ridge National Military Park was established in 1960 to preserve the scene where two great armies struggled for two cold March days in 1862. Confederate forces led by Major General Earl Van Dorn hoped to capture the Federal base for western operations at St. Louis. Federal troops under Brigadier General Samuel R. Curtis were determined to see that they didn't succeed.

If you are a Civil War buff, or if you just enjoy history, you'll like Pea Ridge. If you just enjoy the beauty of nature and the Ozark country in particular, this is well worth the trip. You can ride or hike over 4,200 acres of beautiful rugged Ozark hills that look today nearly the same as they did on those eventful days 115 years ago.

PEA RIDGE National Military Park, Arkansas



What To See and Do

You should plan to begin your visit at the native stone Visitor Center, on your right as you enter the Park from U.S. 62. The orientation program presented in the auditorium will enhance your visit. After your orientation, take time to view the exhibits in the museum. Personal information service is available for the asking and a sales desk offers a selection of Civil War and related publications.

Then take the 7-mile, self-guiding auto tour that begins outside the Visitor Center. It circles the Park, taking you through the fields and forests where "the Gettysburg of the West" erupted. You'll pass the place where McCullough and McIntosh were killed, where Slack was mortally wounded, where men fought hand-to-hand for their very survival.

A part of your tour will be over the Old Wire Road — or Telegraph Road — that stretched from St. Louis to Fort Smith. Until the Civil War ended its usefulness, this was the main artery of commerce and carried the Butterfield Mail Stage after 1858.

Your tour will take you to the Elkhorn Tavern, a local landmark that saw bitter fighting during the battle. During the summer months it is open and features living history demonstrations. A three-quarter mile self-guiding trail from the Tavern gives an insight into the events that shaped lives here in this remote corner of Arkansas.

Bicycles may be ridden on the tour road.

A 10-mile hiking trail and a 11-mile bridle trail offer additional opportunities to view the battlefield with a different perspective.

Pea Ridge National Military Park is open daily from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m., except on Christmas and New Year's Day.

Nearby Attractions

Beaver Lake, a 30,000-acre reservoir on the White River. It offers swimming, fishing, boating, camping and picnicking opportunities. Local roads off U.S. 62 lead directly to the Lake, southeast of Pea Ridge.

Eureka Springs, "Little Switzerland" of the Ozarks. An outdoor drama of national renown is staged here during the summer months, 30 miles east via U.S. 62.

Lake Wedington Recreation Area in the Ozark National Forest, about 15 miles west of Fayetteville (which is about 30 miles south of Pea Ridge) off State Route 16. Here too are swimming, fishing, boating, camping and picnicking opportunities.

Table Rock Lake, in Missouri's Mark Twain National Forest, offers a variety of water-oriented recreational opportunities. It is reached via State Route 23 north out of Eureka Springs (30 miles) or local roads east from Cassville, Missouri (45 miles).

Native arts and crafts are available throughout the Ozarks, with many fall shows.

How To Get There

Pea Ridge National Military Park is located in northwest Arkansas, only 3 miles south of the Missouri state line, 35 miles east of Oklahoma. Most of the Park lies along the north side of U.S. 62, 10 miles northeast of Rogers.

U.S. 62 intersects with U.S. 71 in Rogers. U.S. 71 is a north-south highway, intersecting I-40, 6 miles east of Fort Smith and I-44 at Joplin, Missouri.

Stay a While

Overnight and dining accommodations are available in the communities of Pea Ridge, Rogers and Bentonville on the west, and Eureka Springs to the east.

Public campgrounds are available at Beaver Lake, ten miles from the Park. There is a commercial campground one mile from the Park.

For Meals and Snacks

The Park maintains a pleasant picnic area, but there are no food concessions on the Battlefield. Adequate facilities are nearby.

The Weather

The climate of northwest Arkansas is most often described as moderate. From May through September, temperature averages are 81 degrees, daytime, and 61 degrees, overnight minimums. Rainfall, fairly evenly distributed throughout the year, averages 45 inches.

Consider Off-Season

Just about one-half of all the visitors to Pea Ridge arrive in the three summer months; 7 of every 10 between May 1 and September 30. To enjoy Pea Ridge at your leisure, consider visiting between October 1 and April 30. The weather is usually mild - springs and falls are beautiful — and Park interpreters will have more time to talk with you about the importance of "the Gettysburg of the West."

Need To Know More?

The Battle of Pea Ridge, a reprint from the *Civil War Times*, 12 p. . . . . $.50

The Battle of Pea Ridge, a National Park Service Historic Handbook, 44 p. .$.50

Order from Pea Ridge Military Park Information, Pea Ridge, AR, 72751. Checks or money orders should be made payable to the Eastern National Park and Monument Association.

For Your Safety

Copperheads and rattlesnakes are occasionally seen in the Park, although they are very rare. Avoid them. Above all, never try to kill any kind of snake you might see — they are protected, the same as all wildlife.

Poison ivy is widespread. You can avoid the severe reactions by staying on the established trails.

Ticks, chiggers and mosquitoes are common. You can minimize this discomfort by applying insect repellent to your pant cuffs and shoe tops and your ankles and lower legs.

On the Park Tour Road, please be alert for hikers, cyclists and horseback riders.

Just a Few Rules !

You won't have a good time at Pea Ridge National Military Park if our Rangers have to remind you about rule infractions. So for your fun, and ours, keep these few rules in mind:

Federal laws prohibit the removal of artifacts. Therefore, metal detectors have been banned from the area.

The Park is a dynamic, outdoor museum wherein natural processes are allowed to proceed with minimal interferences by man. All plants and wildlife are protected.

You are permitted to pick fruit and nuts for your own personal consumption.

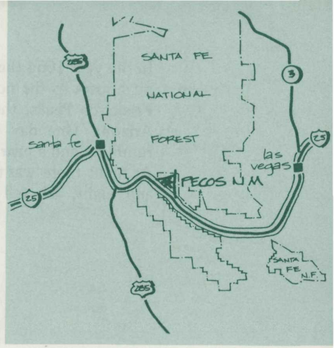
Firearms are strictly prohibited.

Keep your pets on a leash or otherwise restrained.

Wagoners traveling the old Santa Fe Trail used the ruins of the Franciscan Mission Church as a landmark. The Trail lay to the west, but it signaled a turn for the last leg into the Territorial Capital. Some detoured to go through the village of Pecos and turned west just after they passed the ruin.

During the first 17 years of the Trail's history, the wagoners may have noticed a little activity, as a remnant of the original inhabitants still lived here. But in 1838 the last 17 survivors moved to Jemez, abandoning what had been a thriving community for over 500 years.

In 1921 eighty acres containing the pueblo ruin and the ruin of the old church were deeded to the Museum of New Mexico and the School of American Research, an offshoot of the Museum, on the condition it be preserved and maintained as a historic monument. Forty years later the Museum found it necessary to discontinue funding of the State Monument and approached the Federal government with the proposition it be made part of the National Park System. Our Congress agreed and in June 1965, President Lyndon B. Johnson signed the Act making the ruins at Pecos a National Monument.



PECOS National Monument, New Mexico

What To See and Do

Today you can walk through the partially excavated ruins of the old pueblo, the two churches (one built on the ruins of the other) and the convento. During the warm months you will see archeologists and stabilization experts at work. From June through August, craftsmen demonstrate basket weaving, pottery making and baking bread in the old beehive ovens.

You should begin your walk at the small Visitor Contact Station. The path to the ruin takes you right by and it's worth the time to get the brief orientation from the Ranger on duty. After you've taken the ¾-mile tour, you will want to stop in again to have specific questions answered.

If you would study the ruins of the old church, the first ruin you come to, and compare it with the old written descriptions, you'd be puzzled. Archeologists were too — until in 1967 they discovered the foundations of another church and realized the ruins you see were not what was being described. The earlier, grande church, was completely destroyed and the second built where it had stood. Watch for the evidence of this earlier building as you stroll through these ruins.

It is also difficult, walking through the pueblo ruins, to imagine the size of this community and the activity that once took place here. Here's how Gaspar Castano de Sosa described what he saw in 1590-91:

"The houses in this pueblo are in the manner of houseblocks. They have doors to the outside all around, and the houses are back to back. The houses are four and five stories. In the galleries (covered porches) there are no doors to the streets (on the ground floor level). They go up little ladders that can be pulled up by hand through the hatchways. Every house has three or four apartments (on each story) so that from top to bottom each house has 15 or 16 rooms. The rooms are worthy of note, being well white-washed."

Unscheduled guided group tours are available from mid-May through August. If you're interested, ask at the Visitor Contact Station.

Nearby Attractions

For most of the year the picturesque Pecos area is rich with recreational alternatives. Quaint, small Spanish villages whose origin may date to the 18th or 19th century dot Pecos Valley. Opportunities for fishing, camping and backpacking are available in the Upper Valley and the Pecos Wilderness. Nearby, Santa Fe is rich in tri-cultural history.

How To Get There

Pecos National Monument is located in north-central New Mexico, just 2 miles west of the famous Pecos River, between Las Vegas and Santa Fe. Interstate 25 passes just south of the Monument. Two interchanges serve the Monument: visitors coming from the east should exit at the Rowe Interchange, 3 miles east of Pecos; visitors from the west use the Glorieta Interchange, 8 miles west. After leaving I-25 both routes are well marked.

Stay a While

Conventional overnight facilities are available in the village of Pecos, adjacent to the Monument and in Santa Fe, 25 miles west, and Las Vegas, 35 miles east.

In the Upper Pecos Valley are campsites administered by both the U.S. Forest Service and the New Mexico Game Department. Private campgrounds and trailer parks are found at San Jose, 15 miles east off I-25 and in the vicinity of Santa Fe.

For Meals and Snacks

There are no refreshments available at the Monument but a small picnic area is maintained for your use and convenience. The nearest restaurants are located in the village of Pecos.

Open fires are not permitted in the picnic area but you may use camp-type stoves to prepare your meal.

The Weather

Pecos National Monument is at an elevation of 7,000 feet. This means that although daytime summer highs get into the 80's and 90's, the evenings are cool. July and August are the rainy months, but our average annual rainfall totals only 15 inches.

Winter temperatures are variable, ranging from zero to the mid-40's. Snowfall is heavy at times but travel across this windy mesa country is possible during all seasons.

Consider Off-Season

Peak visitation is from mid-May through August with a daily average of 200 people. About 10 to 25 people use the limited picnic facility each day.

During the off-season there are few visitors so the living history demonstrations are discontinued. But the message of the Monument is not lessened and our interpreters have more time to talk with you. We are always happy to arrange for group tours during this period, but please make your request in advance of your visit.

Need To Know More?

Colony on the Move by Schroeder and Matson $6.72
Geology of Pecos . . . . . $.62

Prices include tax. To order, send a check or money order made payable to the Southwest Parks and Monuments Association to Pecos National Monument, Information, P.O. Drawer 11, Pecos, NM, 87552.

For Your Safety

There are very few hazards on the ¾-mile trail at Pecos. Visitors should practice caution due to a few trail irregularities, an occasional prairie rattlesnake and when using the ladders into the restored kivas.

Just a Few Rules !

Under the 1906 Federal Antiquities Act, it is unlawful to appropriate, excavate, injure, or destroy "any historic or prehistoric ruin or monument, or any object of antiquity" on Federal lands. This simply means you may look but not take artifacts or natural objects.

Ruins are fragile; do not climb or stand on them.

Pets are allowed if they are kept on a leash or in your car and out of public buildings.

The use or display of firearms is not permitted.

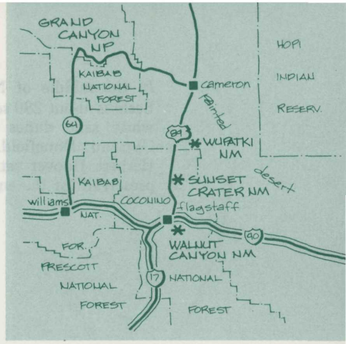
In the year 1064 there were people living in pit houses to the north and east of the San Francisco Peaks, the highest mountains in Arizona. One day they noticed the earth rumbling and a pilar of smoke to the north. At night there was the glow of fire and day and night, ash fell upon them. Whatever was happening was too terrifying to stay around to watch. They fled.

We know what scared these people. It was the youngest eruption of the San Francisco Peaks Volcanic Field. From a new vent, fiery globs of molten lava, cinders and ash were being blown "sky high." The heavier objects fell around the vent, building a mass of smoking black rocks and cinders.

After perhaps five years or so it stopped. A 1,000-foot high cinder cone had been formed and the land about — for hundreds of square miles — was covered with a layer of black ash.

In the declining years of activity, hot springs and vapors continued to seep from inside the earth. Around the rim of the crater the cinders were stained with minerals, causing it to glow with the hues of a perpetual sunset.

This 1,000-foot crater is now preserved for your enjoyment by your government as the Sunset Crater National Monument.



SUNSET CRATER National Monument, Arizona

What To See and Do

To help you better understand what you see at Sunset Crater, the National Park Service operates a Visitor Center about 2 miles west of the crater amid the Bonito Lava Flow. If you're entering the Monument at the southern end of the loop road, you will come to it about 2 miles in after you turn off U.S. 89. If you're coming south on the loop road, from Wupatki National Monument, you should pass up the urge to stop at the crater, visiting the Visitor Center first.

Here are exhibits and trained personnel who will tell you about the great forces that brought this into being. After you've seen these exhibits you'll be prepared to continue — or backtrack — to the foot of Sunset Crater and walk the Lava Flow Nature Trail and see, firsthand, a volcanic crater that's so new it has the appearance of having barely cooled.

The Trail is a loop that begins and ends at the parking area. Here you pick up a booklet that explains, through the use of numbered stakes, what you see. It leads you to spatter cones, lava drag marks, volcanic blisters, a lava tube, and the squeezeups — jagged dikes of lava formed when molten rock was forced through cracks in the earth's surface.

Except for the trees and plants that have gained a foothold amid the cinders and lava, Sunset Crater looks much like it did when the Indians got enough courage to come back after the eruption ceased. Don't rush through this experience. Take your time. Try to imagine what the eruption was like and how it affected those people living at the foot of San Francisco Peak over 900 years ago.

Nearby Attractions

Wupatki National Monument, 18 miles north on the Loop Road: the ruins of a large pueblo that flourished after the eruption ceased.

Walnut Canyon National Monument, about 10 miles east of Flagstaff off I-40: a 400-foot deep, steep-walled canyon with cliff dwellings that were already a settled community when Sunset Crater erupted.

The Museum of Northern Arizona, just north of Flagstaff on U.S. 180, the scenic route to the South Rim of the Grand Canyon. Archeological, geologic and special exhibits of great interest to all ages. Closed December 24 to March 1 but after January 5, it can be seen by appointment if you're interested. Free.

The Pioneer Historical Museum, near the Museum of Northern Arizona. Open, free of charge, from April 16 to September 30.

How To Get There

Sunset Crater National Monument is located in north-central Arizona, about 12 miles north of Flagstaff. The entrance road runs east from U.S. 89. From Sunset Crater, this road continues 18 miles to Wupatki National Monument, then returns to U.S. 89, intersects about 14 miles north of the Sunset Crater entrance or about 26 miles north of Flagstaff. This scenic route adds only 22 miles to your trip if you're "goin' by," but offers rewards U.S. 89 can't match. . .even if you can't stop long with us.

Stay a While

Flagstaff offers a wide range of overnight accommodations. If your visit is during the summer months, we suggest you make advance reservations or at least plan to look early for a room for the night. This is a very popular tourist area.

Bonito Campground is in adjacent Coconino National Forest but is managed by the National Park Service. It is directly across the Loop Road from the Sunset Crater Visitor Center. There are only 44 sites and in the summer months, they are generally filled by 5 p.m. No reservations are accepted. It is operated from April 1 to November 15.

For Meals and Snacks

There are no food concessions in the Monument. Nearest dining or snack facilities are in Flagstaff and Gray Mountain.

There are 3 picnic areas along the Loop Road. Have a picnic with us.

The Weather

Sunset Crater is at an elevation of 7,000 feet. Summers are pleasantly mild but you will need a jacket at night. Thunderstorms occur almost daily in July and August. They never last long — but bring your raincoat anyhow.

Winters are cold! Heavy snow is common — enough that the Monument is occasionally temporarily closed.

Consider Off-Season

The most pleasant days of the year come in September and October. Except on weekends, you might even have the Monument to yourself.

Spring is accompanied by high winds that can make a visit unpleasant. If you're thinking spring, check with the weather bureau for wind forecasts.

Winters — with the covering of snow — are beautiful. But come prepared for winter driving!

During the summer the Monument is quite crowded. It is always open — except when snow closes the road — but the Visitor Center is closed on Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's Day.

For Your Safety

Should you have ideas about climbing about the Bonito Lava Flow, think again. It's as sharp as razor blades.

On the Lava Flow Nature Trail, stay on the trails and don't run. And parents, please keep your children under control. They, especially, don't realize the dangers of the sharp lava.

If you enter the ice cave, carry at least two lights with you — just in case.

There are poisonous snakes and insects around. Avoid reaching into blind spots and watch where you walk and sit.

Don't leave your pets in locked cars parked in the sun. We don't permit them in the buildings or on the trails but you can tie them in a shady spot.

Just a Few Rules!

We invite you to look and touch. But don't take. Collecting of anything is prohibited.

Fires are permitted only in fireplaces in the campground and picnic areas.

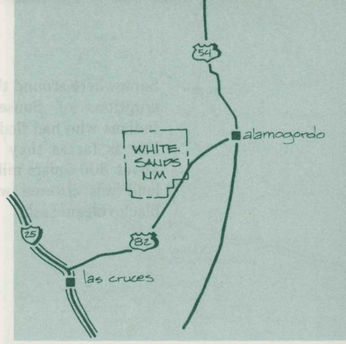
Firearms are an absolute no-no.

Vehicles are restricted to established roads.

Pets are not permitted in buildings or on trails.

In the middle of New Mexico's Tularosa Basin is about 280 square miles of beautiful white sand dunes — the world's largest Gypsum Dunefield. In 1933, President Herbert Hoover set this area aside, to be preserved for the enjoyment of all, forever, as the White Sands National Monument.

You cannot visit White Sands without wondering about the hows and whys of the great white carpet covering the floor of this desert basin. We'll try to answer some of these questions for you during your visit, but you need not be a geologist to explore and enjoy the white sands. If you simply want to take a walk in a different world, White Sands National Monument can provide you the opportunity.



WHITE SANDS National Monument, New Mexico

What To See and Do

When you near the Monument — within 8 to 10 miles — turn your radio to 1610 on the AM band for up-to-date information about scheduled programs, activities and weather conditions.

As you enter the Monument, you will see an impressive adobe building. This is our Visitor Center and museum, built by the WPA in 1938 and one of the truly fine examples of adobe architecture in New Mexico. Stop, and through the exhibits, learn something about the geology and history of this unique area. Park Rangers will try to help you better understand what you are about to experience. And if you're really interested, an assortment of sales publications are available to take along home for further study.

From the Visitor Center a 16-mile round trip scenic loop drive — the only road into the dunes — leads to the heart of the white sands. Along the drive on your right you will notice posts with numbers. These correspond to those in the guide leaflet you will be given as you begin your tour and explain what you see.

About 3 miles in on the drive is a small parking area. This is the trail head of the Big Dune Trail. A leisurely one hour walk takes you through the marginal area of the dunes, then atop one of the highest dunes for a spectacular view before you return to your car. A guide book is available at the trail head.

Continuing on the drive you enter an area of larger dunes. Another 3 miles (about 6 miles from the Visitor Center) are several picnic shelters. Beyond, the road divides to form a 2-mile loop into the heart of the dunefield. Interpretive markers are found along the route.

This is one area where the National Park Service encourages you to get off the beaten path and explore. Walk over the crest of a dune and descend the other side. Suddenly you are alone in a world so unlike any other that your mind can once more be free to discover and experience for itself. And you don't have to worry about disturbing the environment. Tonight's breezes will erase every indication that you were ever there. We even encourage you to rent "sand surfboards" at the Visitor Center and "ride the dunes."

During the summer season, naturalists conduct guided walks and present evening programs at designated points within the dunes.

For the hiking enthusiast, a primitive backcountry campsite is available. Inquire at the Visitor Center for more information if this is your thing.

Wherever you go at White Sands, carry your camera. The photography is terrific!

Nearby Attractions

Missile Park, a static display of the different missiles tested by your government at the White Sands Missile Range. 34 miles west on U.S. 70.

For a contrast, visit the Valley of Fires State Park, 2 miles west of Carrizozo (which is 59 miles north of Alamogordo) on U.S. 380. The black lava flow is one of the most recent in New Mexico — only 2,000 years old.

The Old Lincoln State Museum — an entire town virtually unchanged from the days when "Billy the Kid" and Pat Garrett trod its wooden sidewalks back in the nostalgic times of the "old west" — is 40 miles east of Carrizozo on U.S. 380.

U.S. 70 crosses the Sacramento Mountains and passes through the Mescalero Apache Indian Reservation. In the town of Mescalero you can visit their Cultural Center.

There are several winter sports areas on the Sacramento Mountain and State Parks in the general area.

How To Get There

White Sands National Monument is 15 miles west of Alamogordo on U.S. 70-82. Alamogordo is in south-central New Mexico on east-west U.S. 82 and north-south U.S. 54. Commercial airlines and buses serve the city.

Stay a While

The nearest overnight accommodations are in the cities of Alamogordo, 15 miles to the east, and Las Cruces, 54 miles west. Both offer a range of accommodations and services.

The closest public campgrounds are in the Lincoln National Forest near Cloudcroft, 35 miles to the east, and Aguirre Spring, near the summit of San Augustin Pass, about 38 miles west on U.S. 70-82.

Privately operated campgrounds are available in both Alamogordo and Las Cruces.

For Meals and Snacks

Refreshments can be purchased in the Gift Shop at the Visitor Center. Your closest spot for a complete dinner is Alamogordo, 15 miles east.

The Weather

This high desert basin, 4,000-foot elevation, is subject to harsh and rapid weather changes. Summer highs frequently top 100 degrees, but the evenings are usually cool and comfortable. Most of the 8 inches annual precipitation occurs in summer as thunderstorms and hail.

Winters are usually mild, but evening temperatures often go below freezing. Snow is infrequent, but heavy falls have occurred.

During the spring, wind and dust storms may last for several days.

Consider Off-Season

If you really want to get to know the White Sands, consider a visit when crowds won't interfere with your experience. Ninety per cent of the visitors come between Memorial Day and Labor Day. During the remainder of the year temperatures are milder

Need To Know More?

In preparation for your visit, you may enjoy reading:

White Sands, of Wind, Sand, and Time by Richard Atkinson $1.83

Big Dune Nature Trail Guide . . . . . $.11

Lake Lucero Trail Guide . . . . . $.52

Prices include tax. Send your orders to White Sands National Monument Information, P.O. Box 458, Alamogordo, NM, 88310. Include 25 cents for postage and handling. Checks or money orders should be made payable to the Southwest Parks and Monuments Association.

For Your Safety

Drive with caution. The Visitor Center and picnic areas are often congested and the road has many curves. Children are busy being children; let's give them a chance.

Do not tunnel in the face of the dunes. The sand will collapse and you may be buried. This is a very real temptation for children, so parents, please keep an eye on them.

If you plan to hike into the backcountry, notify a Ranger before you leave. Take plenty of water — and don't hike alone.

Three species of poisonous rattlesnakes, desert centipedes and scorpion inhabit the Monument. Stay away if you see them. Above all, don't try to kill them. They will avoid you if at all possible.

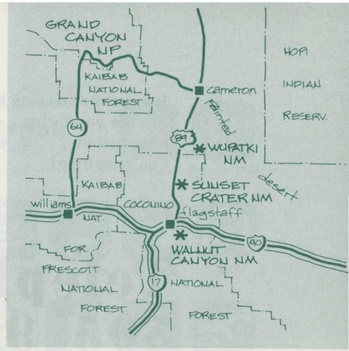
WUPATKI National Monument, Arizona

Somewhere around the year 1070, after the eruptions of Sunset Crater ceased, the Indians who had fled in fear ventured back. For as far as they could see — actually, about 800 square miles were affected — the land was covered with a blanket of fine black volcanic ash.

This was not unknown to these people. The entire region is part of the San Francisco Peaks Volcanic Field; the black ash has been present around older eruptions. The Indians knew it trapped moisture in the soil and made farming possible. The catastrophe that drove them from their homes was now a blessing.

Villages cropped up. In the 56 square miles preserved as Wupatki National Monument there are more than 800 ruins. Within one square mile of the Citadel Ruin are more than 100 sites, from earthen lodges to large pueblos.

One of the earliest of these villages is the one preserved as Wupatki — a Hopi word meaning *"tall house."* From a small pueblo standing on a rock outcrop, Wupatki grew to become the largest in the area. In places, it was a "tall house," three stories high.



What To See and Do

Although Wupatki National Monument contains 56 square miles and more than 800 ruins, you are limited to driving through the southern and western parts and examining only 5 of the ruins. The outlying areas of the Monument are closed to visitors.

The biggest ruin and the attraction for most visitors to the Monument, is Wupatki, "the tall house." Begin your visit at the Visitor Center located here. The exhibits will explain the life of this pueblo and trained personnel will answer your questions.

With an understanding of these people, take the self-guiding trail to the ruins behind the Visitor Center. An illustrated booklet ties in with numbered stakes to explain what you see as you go along. You will walk through the remains of what was a large pueblo of more than 100 rooms. You will be on the site of an unusual circular open-air amphitheatre, located to protect it from prevailing winds and believed to have been used for ceremonies. And you will see a stone-masonry ball court, one of only two found in northern Arizona, possibly a Southwestern version of the Mexican ball court.

From near the Visitor Center a dirt road leads 3 miles to the Wukoki Ruin.

Nine miles northwest of the Wupatki Ruin, but still in the Monument, is the Nalakihu-Citadel Ruins, and opposite them, reached by a dirt road, the Lomaki Ruin.

The Citadel, yet unexcavated, was a fortified apartment house, probably 1 or 2 stories high and with about 50 rooms.

Just below the Citadel is a small pueblo ruin, Nalakihu — Hopi for "house standing alone." A self-guiding trail leads you through the Citadel and Nalakihu ruins.

Nearby Attractions

Sunset Crater National Monument, 18 miles south on the Loop Road: the cone of the volcano that changed this landscape in 1064 A.D.

Walnut Canyon National Monument, about 10 miles east of Flagstaff off I-40: a 400-foot deep, steep-walled canyon with cliff dwellings that were settled communities before the first settlement at Wupatki.

The Museum of Northern Arizona, just north of Flagstaff on U.S. 180, the scenic route to the South Rim of the Grand Canyon. Archeological, geologic and special exhibits of great interest to all ages. Closed December 24 to March 1 but after January 5, it can be seen by appointment if you're interested. Free.

The Pioneer Historical Museum, near the Museum of Northern Arizona. Open, free of charge, from April 16 to September 30.

How To Get There

Wupatki National Monument is located in north-central Arizona, about 40 miles north of Flagstaff. The entrance road runs east from U.S. 89, about 26 miles north of Flagstaff, continues 18 miles southwest to Sunset Crater, then returns to U.S. 89, intersecting about 12 miles north of Flagstaff. This scenic route adds only 22 miles to your trip if you're "goin' by," but offers rewards U.S. 89 can't match. . . even if you can't stop long with us.

Stay a While

Motel accommodations are available at Gray Mountain, 14 miles north on U.S. 89. Flagstaff offers a wide range of accommodations, but reservations should be made as this is a popular tourist area.

Bonito Campground, opposite the Sunset Crater Visitor Center, has 44 sites available on a first-come-first-served basis. It is open from April to November 1; if you are traveling in the summer months, try to get there before 5 p.m. if you want a site.

For Meals and Snacks

There are no food concessions in the Monument. Nearest dining or snack facilities are in Gray Mountain or Flagstaff.

There are three picnic areas along the Loop Road. Buy the makings and have a picnic with us. You'll enjoy the experience.

The Weather

Wupatki is at an elevation of 4,700 feet. Summers are hot and shorts are comfortable.

Winters are mild and usually a jacket is sufficient. Snow is unusual.

Thunderstorms occur almost daily in July and August. They don't last long, but bring a raincoat anyway.

Consider Off-Season

The most pleasant days of the year come in September and October. Except on weekends, you might even have the Monument to yourself.

Spring is accompanied by high winds that can make a visit unpleasant. If you're thinking spring, check with the weather bureau for wind forecasts.

Winters are mild — but you have to drive through snow areas to get here. Come prepared.

During the summer the Monument is quite crowded. It is always open — except when snows block the highways — but the Visitor Center is closed on Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's Day.

For Your Safety

While visiting Wupatki you are in an archeological area, preserved in a conditon as authentic and natural as possible. These inherent conditions may be hazardous to you. While every effort is made to provide for your safety and comfort, you must remain alert and exercise individual caution. Your safety and that of your children are of primary concern to us.

Stay off the ruin walls; they could collapse on top of you.

There are poisonous snakes and insects around. Avoid reaching into blind spots and watch where you walk and sit.

Don't leave your pets locked in cars parked in the sun. We don't permit them in the buildings or on the trails but you can tie them in a shady spot.

We invite you to look and touch. But don't take, collecting of anything is prohibited.

Fires are permitted only in fireplaces in the campground and picnic area.

Firearms are an absolute no-no.

Vehicles are restricted to established roads.

Pets are not permitted in buildings or on trails.

Is someone standing by, waiting for information . . . are you facing a deadline and need more information, . . . or want to confirm something you've written?

Then. . .

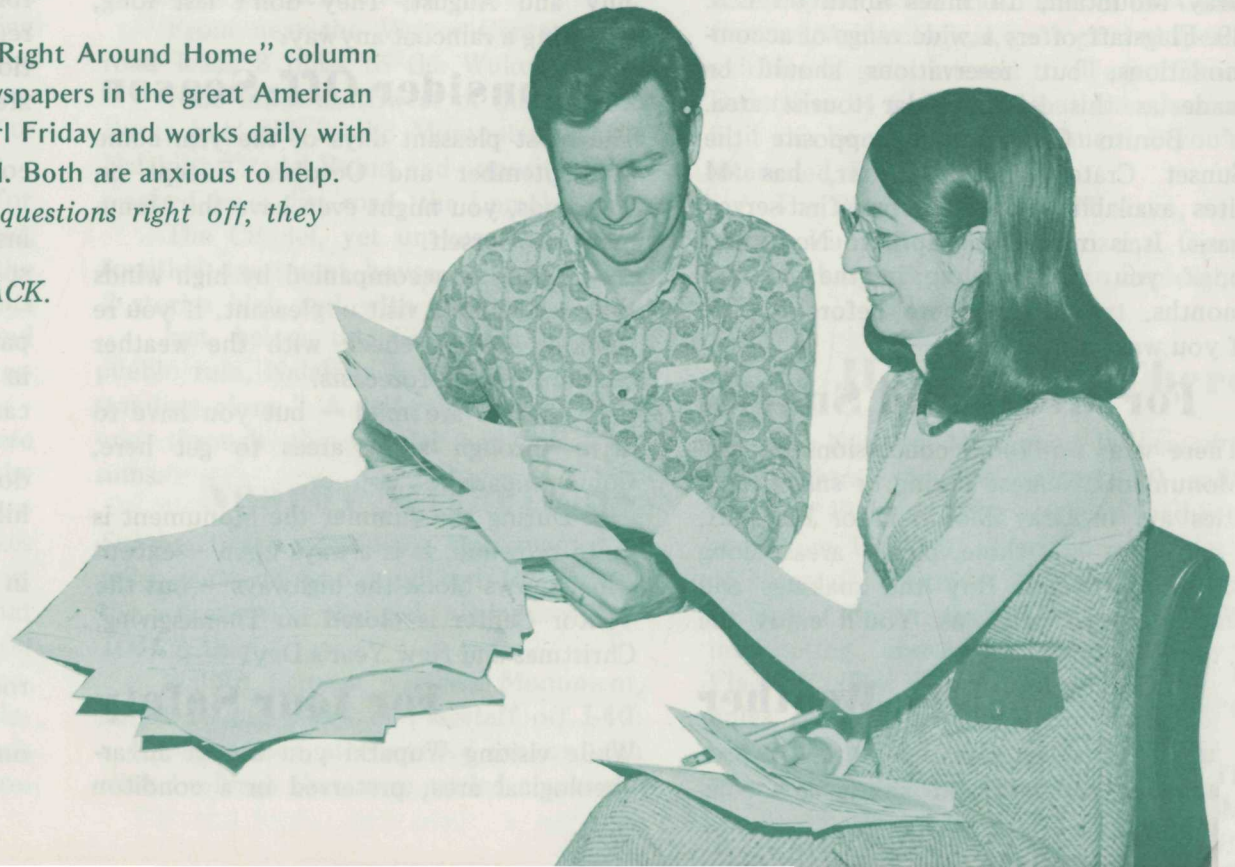
your national parks
Right Around Home
by ben moffett

Telephone 505 988~6375

and talk with Ben Moffett or Cecilia Matic

Ben Moffett writes the popular "Right Around Home" column now appearing weekly in 241 newspapers in the great American Southwest. Cecilia Matic is our girl Friday and works daily with the kind of information you need. Both are anxious to help. *And if they can't answer your questions right off, they promise to find the answer*

AND CALL YOU RIGHT BACK.



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FEDERAL RECREATION SYMBOLS

General

Firearms
Smoking
Automobiles
Trucks
Tunnel
Lookout Tower
Lighthouse
Falling Rocks
Dam
Fish Hatchery
Deer Viewing Area
Bear Viewing Area
Drinking water
Information
Ranger Station
Pedestrian Crossing
Pets on Leash
Environmental Study Area

Accommodations or Service

Lodging
Food Service
Grocery Store
Men's Restroom
Restrooms
Women's Restroom
First Aid
Telephone
Post Office
Mechanic
Handicapped
Airport
Lockers
Bus Stop
Gas Station
Vehicle Ferry
Parking
Showers
Viewing Area
Sleeping Shelter
Campground
Picnic Shelter
Trailer Sites
Trailer Sanitary Station
Campfires
Trail Shelter
Picnic Area
Kennel
Laundry
Litter

Land Recreation

Horse Trail
Trail Bike Trail
Bicycle Trail
Recreation Vehicle Trail
Hiking Trail
Play ground
Amphitheater
Tramway
Hunting
Stable
Interpretive Trail
Interpretive Auto Road
Point of Interest
Rockclimbing
Climbing
Rock Collecting
Spelunking

Water Recreation

Marina
Launching Ramp
Motor Boating
Sailboating
Row Boating
Water Skiing
Surfing
Scuba Diving
Swimming
Diving
Fishing
Canoeing
Boat Tours
Wading

Winter Recreation

Snow Shoeing
Winter Recreation Area
Ski Touring
Downhill Skiing
Ski Jumping
Sledding
Ice Skating
Ski Bobbing
Snowmobiling

A SLASH through a symbol means the activity is prohibited.

As the Nation's principal conservation agency, the Department of the Interior has responsibility for most of our nationally owned public lands and natural resources. This includes fostering the wisest use of our land and water resources, protecting our fish and wildlife, preserving the environmental and cultural values of our national parks and historical places, and providing for the enjoyment of life through outdoor recreation. The Department assesses our energy and mineral resources and works to assure that their development is in the best interests of all our people. The Department also has a major responsibility for American Indian reservation communities and for people who live in Island Territories under U. S. administration.

HAVE A SUPER* VISIT

***Safely**
Use
Preserve
Enjoy
this Resource

The SUPER acronym reflects the mission of the National Park Service: preservation, use and enjoyment. We use it widely. We hope you will too.