

Aztec Ruins National Monument



House of the Ancients



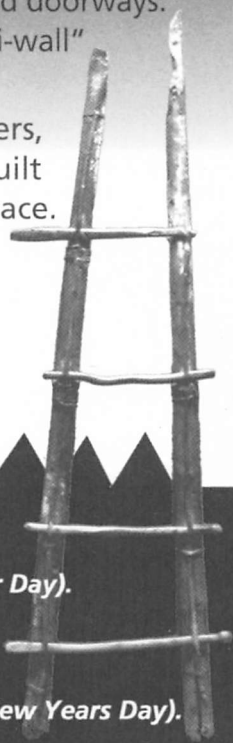
Long ago this was a center place, a cultural capital. The West Ruin alone housed 450-rooms. It still stands three stories tall. 900-year old roof timbers cover rooms with intact plaster. See exquisite masonry. Pass through mysterious "T"-shaped doorways. Contemplate the meanings of a "tri-wall" kiva. Explore a "Great Kiva."

Mistakenly called "Aztec" by others, the ancestors of Pueblo people built and lived at this ancient center place.

Explore the Roots of Civilization in North America

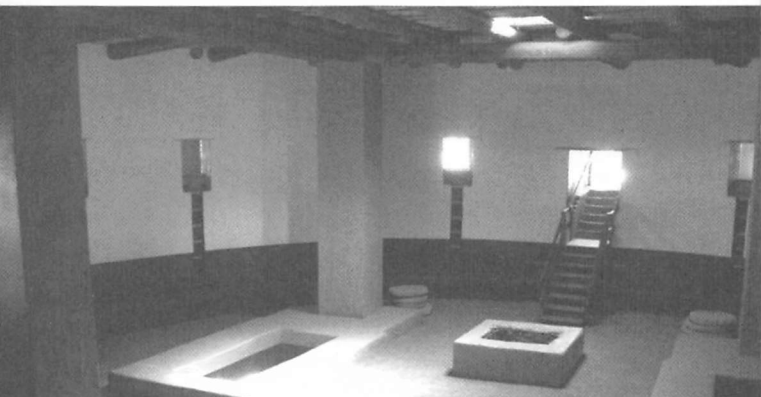
Summer Hours:
8:00 AM to 6:00 PM
(Memorial Day Weekend through Labor Day).

Winter Hours:
8:00 AM to 5:00 PM
(Closed Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Years Day).



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Preserved for the
"Enlightenment and Culture of the Nation."
President Warren G. Harding - 1923



The Great Kiva is a semi-subterranean structure used long ago as a ritual and social community gathering place and sanctuary of sorts. Light streaming through the windows gives this place a sublime feel. Modern Pueblo people regard this as a sacred space - please be respectful.

The West Ruin Trail winds 800-yards through a massive "great house" built early in the twelfth century. West Ruin stands three-stories tall and wider than a football field across the back! Inside explore dark chambers roofed with timbers cut 900 years ago. Trail guide available at visitor center.



The Hubbard Site nearby is three concentric walls encircling a ceremonial kiva. Dating back to the 1100s, the purpose of this unique structure is unknown.

Entrance Fee: \$5.00 per-person. Children under 16 free. Annual, Senior, and Access Interagency passes honored.

The Visitor Center features ancient pottery, weavings, and an original ladder from the site. Watch the video, *Hisaatsinom*, presented daily. Books and postcards available at the bookstore. A shaded picnic area is nearby.

For More Information:

Superintendent
Aztec Ruins National Monument
84 County Road 2900
Aztec, New Mexico 87410
505 334-6174
<http://www.nps.gov/azru>

Programs: Ranger presentations, cultural demonstrations, evening programs, and more offered in the summer.

