

Friday, May 8

Friday Tour 1 – Salmon and Aztec Great Houses (with boxed picnic lunch served at Aztec Great House)

Leader: Tori Myers

Mobile:

Fee: \$30 per person (includes admission fees and boxed lunch)

Participants: 12

Meeting Time and Place: 10:00 am at Salmon Pueblo on US Highway 64 two miles west of Bloomfield. Total tour time of four hours.

Description: Easy walking to and around the sites. After visiting Salmon, we drive to Aztec. We will also enjoy a picnic lunch at Aztec. Bathroom facilities available at both sites. Salmon Pueblo brings the ancient world into a modern perspective, where visitors have a unique opportunity to walk through an excavated archaeological site, see some of the artifacts on display, visit a surviving New Mexico frontier homestead, and explore full-scale reconstructions of the habitations used by Native Americans in New Mexico going back to the end of the Ice Age. Aztec Pueblo has some of the best-preserved Chacoan structures of its kind. Learn more about the ancestral Pueblo people in the park's museum and explore the Aztec West great house to see exceptionally advanced architecture, original wooden beams, and a restored Great Kiva. Aztec Pueblo is a deeply sacred place to many Indigenous peoples across the American Southwest.

Friday Tour 2 – Pierre's Pueblo

Leader: Rob Weiner

Mobile:

Fee: None

Participants: 12

Meeting Time and Place: 10:30 am at the Sinclair gas station on US Highway 550 across from turn off to Chaco Canyon and returning about 3:00 pm–5:00 pm.

Description: Bring your own lunch and water. High clearance 4-wheel drive required. Carpooling is highly recommended. Moderate amounts of walking. No bathroom facilities available at the site. Pierre's Pueblo is a Chacoan outlier site featuring ancestral Puebloan room blocks, kivas, and signaling locations on pinnacle buttes. It was a key, high-visibility point on the Great North Road. Occupied during the height of the Chaco Culture (c. 850–1250 CE), it served as a major outpost along the Great North Road, an ancient 30-foot-wide thoroughfare linking Chaco Canyon to the Salmon and Aztec pueblos.

Friday Tour 3 – Crow Canyon

Leader: Jonathan Kelly

Mobile: 505-449-7070

Fee: None

Participants: 12

Meeting Time and Place: 9:00 am at the Marriott parking lot and returning about 3:00 pm–5:00 pm.

Description: Bring your own lunch and water. High clearance or high clearance 4-wheel drive recommended. All walking portions of the tour require traversing some uneven terrain. No bathroom facilities at the sites. Dinetah sites. Tour will head up Largo Canyon to the rock art and archaeological sites in Cuervo (Crow) Canyon with a few stops along the way. The tour will visit the Crow Canyon Main Panel and Big Warrior Panel, then travel up the canyon to the 44 Panel Trailhead where we will break for lunch while given a closer look by drone of one of many hidden granaries in the canyon. On our way out of the canyon, the tour will stop at the Crow Canyon Pueblito View Point and receive an aerial tour of the Pueblito to get a better look along with a hard to reach rock art panel adjacent to the Pueblito. Additional roadside rock art panels along Largo Canyon will be visited on the way back out as time permits. Please note, aerial portions of the tour will be dependent upon weather/wind conditions and will be viewed on a 27" portable TV attached to the drone controller, operated by a FAA certified remote pilot per FAA regulations. Sites visited should be primarily considered easy access, though everyone's grade of difficulty varies. Some minor obstacle traversal is required at the Crow Canyon Main Panel with the requirement to cross a short rockfall area near the beginning of the main panel.

Friday Tour 4 – Downtown Chaco Canyon

Leader: Rich Friedman

Mobile:

Fee: Chaco Canyon admission fee, \$25 per vehicle or \$15 per person.

Participants: 12

Meeting Time and Place: 9:00 am Chaco Canyon visitor center. Tour will last 4-6 hours.

Description: Bring your own lunch and water. High clearance or high clearance 4-wheel drive recommended. Moderate amounts of walking. Bathrooms at the visitor center. No bathroom facilities available at the sites. Chaco Great Houses. The tour will include Hungo Pavi (highlighting the stairway behind it), Pueblo Bonito, Talus Ruin, Chetro Ketl, Casa Rinconada, and at least one of the BC sites (in addition to the two we pass on the ridge going to Casa Rinconada).

Sunday, May 10

Sunday Tour 1 – Salmon and Aztec Great Houses (with boxed picnic lunch served at Aztec Great House)

Leader: Tori Myers

Mobile:

Fee: \$30 per person (includes admission fees and boxed lunch)

Participants: 12

Meeting Time and Place: 10:00 am at Salmon Pueblo on US Highway 64 two miles west of Bloomfield. Total tour time of four hours.

Description: Easy walking to and around the sites. After visiting Salmon, we drive to Aztec. We will also enjoy a picnic lunch at Aztec. Bathroom facilities available at both sites. Salmon Pueblo brings the ancient world into a modern perspective, where visitors have a unique opportunity to walk through an excavated archaeological site, see some of the artifacts on display, visit a surviving New Mexico frontier homestead, and explore full-scale reconstructions of the habitations used by Native Americans in New Mexico going back to the end of the Ice Age. Aztec Pueblo has some of the best-preserved Chacoan structures of its kind. Learn more about the ancestral Pueblo people in the park's museum and explore the Aztec West great house to see exceptionally advanced architecture, original wooden beams, and a restored Great Kiva. Aztec Pueblo is a deeply sacred place to many Indigenous peoples across the American Southwest.

Sunday Tour 2 – Penasco Blanco

Leader: Rich Friedman

Mobile:

Fee: Chaco Canyon admission fee \$25 per vehicle or \$15 per person.

Participants: 12

Meeting Time and Place: 8:00 am Chaco Canyon visitor center and returning by 2:00 pm–3:00 pm.

Description: Bring your own lunch and water. High clearance or high clearance 4-wheel drive recommended. This strenuous hike is approximately 8.2 miles round trip and will take about 6 hours. Bathrooms at the visitor center. No bathroom facilities available at the site. Peñasco Blanco, an unexcavated great house, has a unique oval design and a spectacular natural setting with a tremendous view from West Mesa. The longest trail in the park includes two spur trails to view numerous petroglyphs and pictographs. Please be prepared with ample food, water, and sun protection.

Sunday Tour 3 – Pueblo Canyon

Leader: Jonathan Kelly

Mobile: 505-449-7070

Fee: None

Participants: 12

Meeting Time and Place: 9:00 am at the Marriott parking lot and returning about 3:00 pm–5:00 pm.

Description: Bring your own lunch and water. High clearance or high clearance 4-wheel drive recommended. Vehicles will need to be limited to 3 vehicles at most due to limited parking on the road in Pueblo Canyon. All walking portions of the tour require traversing some uneven terrain. No bathroom facilities at the sites. Dinetah sites. Tour will head up Carrizo Canyon to rock art panels up the Delgadito Canyon and tributary Pueblo Canyon. Rock art visited include the Navajo pictograph panels in Pueblo Canyon and Navajo and Ancestral pictograph and petroglyph panels in Delgadito Canyon. Time and weather permitting, an aerial drone tour of two structural sites near the mouth of Pueblo Canyon can be provided with participant interest. Please note, aerial portions of the tour will be dependent upon weather/wind conditions and will be viewed on a 27" portable TV attached to the drone controller, operated by a FAA certified remote pilot per FAA regulations. Sites visited should be primarily considered easy access, though everyone's grade of difficulty varies. Some short steep slopes will be encountered to reach the Pueblo Canyon Panels.

Sunday Tour 4 – Blanco Canyon

Leader: Tim Mietty

Mobile:

Fee: None

Participants: 12

Meeting Time and Place: 9:00 am at the Marriott parking lot and returning about 3:00 pm–4:00 pm.

Description: Bring your own lunch and water. High clearance or high clearance 4-wheel drive recommended. Most sites are an easy walk, one site requires crossing a relatively deep wash. No bathroom facilities available at the sites. The Dinetah region of New Mexico features extensive 16th–18th century Navajo petroglyphs and pictographs, often located near defensible stone structures known as pueblitos. Located southeast of Farmington, this area contains panels depicting animals, supernatural beings, and ceremonies, along with older Ancestral Puebloan and later Spanish inscriptions.