



El Morro National Monument

Stories in Stone



El Morro rises out of a sea of sunflowers in mid-summer.

Importance of Place

Known by many names through the ages, this cuesta rises up from the desert and has meant oasis to centuries of travelers who then left their mark upon it. Imagine the comfort and refreshment of finding water after days of dusty travel. A reliable waterhole hidden at the base of a sandstone bluff made El Morro (the headland) a popular campsite for hundreds of years. Here, Ancestral Puebloans, Spanish, and American travelers carved over 2,000 signatures, dates, messages, and petroglyphs. We invite you to explore El Morro on your travels.

Windows into the Past

Take a short hike to the top of the sandstone cuesta for beautiful scenery and nature. Along the way, uncover the stories of past cultures, including the Ancestral Puebloan home known today as Atsinna.



Protecting a Legacy

You can help preserve and protect this national treasure by leaving no trace of your visit here. Take photographs of the inscriptions and remember that touching or marking on them is illegal. Stay on the trail to avoid damaging sensitive resources.

Begin Your Journey

Start at the El Morro Visitor Center to plan your visit. See the park DVD, listen to a park ranger program, stay in the first-come first-served campground, or look at the displays in the museum.

Located 42 miles from Grants, NM on Hwy 53. Open 7 days a week. Closed Thanksgiving, December 25 and January 1.



For park information:

El Morro National Monument
HC 61 Box 43
Ramah, NM. 87321
www.nps.gov/elmo
(505) 783-4226 ext. 801