

House Rules (for visiting archeological sites)

Scattered across the mesas and canyon country of the Southwest are remnants of the once-thriving Anasazi culture: dwellings and storage rooms, pictographs and petroglyphs, pot sherds, corn cobs, and baskets. These ruins and ancient items are a legacy, linking us with the past. It is important to preserve this legacy for future generations. So, when visiting archeological sites, please observe the following:

House Rules

1. **Keep your feet off the furniture.**
Archeological sites are very old, and they are fragile. Walls erode easily. Edges of kivas are brittle and may break under your feet. Walk carefully and avoid treading on walls, storage rooms, buildings, and kiva edges.
2. **Don't touch the paintings.**
Oils from your skin are damaging to pictographs (paintings) and petroglyphs (rock carvings). Never deface artwork in archeological sites. It ruins irreplaceable masterpieces, and it is illegal.
3. **Don't eat in the living room.**
Avoid picnicking in archeological sites unless you make sure that you pick up and carry out **all** of your trash and garbage.
4. **Don't take the knickknacks.**
Leave artifacts for others to enjoy. Out of context, artifacts mean little to the archeologist. It is important to leave artifacts just exactly where you find them. It is illegal to remove them.
5. **No slumber parties.**
Avoid camping in the ruins. It's easy to destroy walls and artifacts in the dark. Smoke from campfires stains walls and cliffs, and charcoal leaves a mess. Never use wood from archeological sites in campfires.
6. **Don't pee in the parlor - or any other room.**
Human waste left at archeological sites is unsightly and unsanitary. Utilize restrooms before you visit.
7. **Tell Mom if you see something wrong.**
Contact a ranger or other law enforcement official if you find archeological sites defaced or someone removing artifacts. Call 1-800-582-4351 to report an incident.

Thanks for being a courteous guest!

