

National Parks of New Mexico



AZTEC RUINS NATIONAL MONUMENT

A large multi-story archeological site dating from early 1100's. Reconstructed Great Kiva, self-guiding trail, museum. Day-use only. Reached via NM 550 in Aztec, New Mexico which has full services. Three to four-hour drive north of Albuquerque. (Superintendent: P.O. Box 640, Aztec, NM 87410; telephone (505) 334-6174).

BANDELIER NATIONAL MONUMENT

Ancestral Puebloan building complexes, both free-standing and cliff dwellings, located in forested Frijoles Canyon, 45 miles northwest of Santa Fe. Ruins date from early 12th century. Visitor Center, hiking trails, concession services, and camping. (Superintendent: HCR 1, Box 1, Suite 15, Los Alamos, NM 87544; telephone (505) 672-3861).



CAPULIN VOLCANO NATIONAL MONUMENT

Geologically recent cinder cone in the Raton-Clayton volcanic field of northeastern New Mexico. Trails around and into the crater. Visitor Center. Day-use only. Park is 30 miles east of Raton and 58 miles west of Clayton. (Superintendent: P.O. Box 40, Capulin, NM 88414; telephone (505) 278-2201).

CARLSBAD CAVERNS NATIONAL PARK

One of the world's great cave systems offers both self-guided and ranger-led tours. Cave is accessible via trail or elevators with paved, handicap-accessible trails. Day-use only, with concession services and Visitor Center. 27 miles from Carlsbad, New Mexico. Full services 7 miles away in White's City. (Superintendent: 3225 National Parks Highway, Carlsbad, NM; telephone (505) 785-2232).

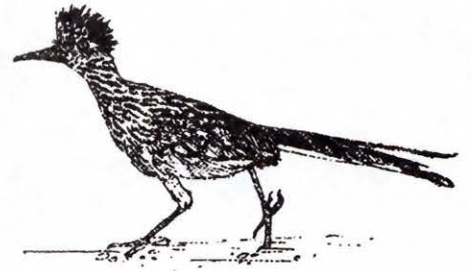
CHACO CULTURE NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK

Superlative example of ancestral Pueblo villages, remarkably constructed with stone and timber between the early 9th and late 12th centuries. Camping, hiking and Visitor Center. Accessible from north via NM 44. Route includes 20 miles of unpaved road. Check road conditions ahead of time. (Superintendent: P.O. Box 220, Nageezi, NM 87037; telephone (505) 786-7014).



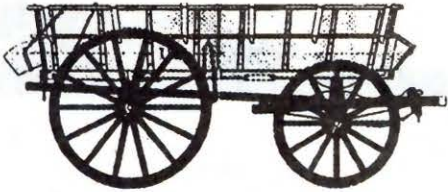
EL MALPAIS NATIONAL MONUMENT

Located near Grant's, New Mexico, an hour's drive west of Albuquerque. Examples of recent vulcanism including extensive lava flows, lava tubes and ice caves. Sandstone bluffs offer superb views and walks to Ventana Arch. Day-use only. BLM Visitor Center and scenic drive on NM 117. NPS Visitor Center on NM 53. Headquarters in Grants. (Superintendent: P.O. Box 939, Grants, NM 87020; telephone (505) 285-4641).



EL MORRO NATIONAL MONUMENT

Hundreds of petroglyphs, names and messages carved into the base of Inscription Rock document the ancient Pueblos, Spanish explorers, U.S. Army Officers, and American immigrants moving west. Trail to inscriptions and pueblo ruin. Visitor Center. Small campground. Park is 40 miles from Grants via NM 53. (Superintendent: Route 2, Box 43, Ramah, NM 87321; telephone (505) 783-4226).

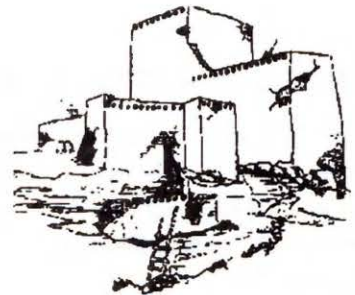


FORT UNION NATIONAL MONUMENT

Adobe ruins of U.S. Military outpost that provided protection for travelers along the western terminus of the Santa Fe Trail for nearly 40 years. Visitor Center. Interpretive trail. Day-use only. (Superintendent: P.O. Box 127, Watrous, NM 87753; telephone (505) 425-8025).

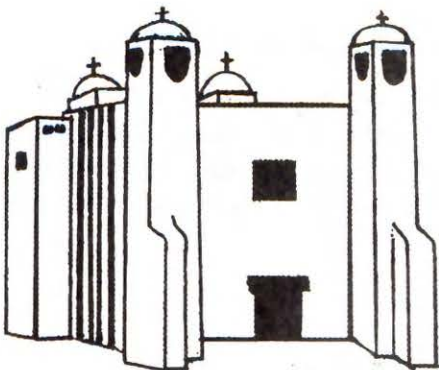
GILA CLIFF DWELLINGS

Remains of dwellings built into natural caves by the Mogollon people between 1270 and 1280 A.D. Day-use only. Camping is available nearby. No services available. Park is 44 miles north of Silver City, New Mexico on NM 15 or 66 miles on better roads via U.S. 180. (Superintendent: Route 11, Box 100, Silver City, NM 88061; telephone (505) 536-9461 or 9344).



PECOS NATIONAL HISTORIC PARK

An ancient pueblo, a Spanish Colonial mission, an historic cattle ranch and a Civil War battle site are all included in this national park site which is an hour's drive from Santa Fe. Visitor Center. Self-guiding trail. Day-use only. (Superintendent: P.O. Drawer 418, Pecos, NM 87552; telephone (505) 757-6032).



SALINAS PUEBLO MISSIONS NATIONAL MONUMENT

Three associated Pueblo/Spanish Colonial sites with extensive ruins at Abo, Quarai, and Gran Quivira. Visitor Centers. Self-guiding trails. Day-use only. Headquarters in Mountainair, NM. (Superintendent: P.O. Box 496, Mountainair, NM 87038; telephone (505) 847-2585).

PETROGLYPH NATIONAL MONUMENT

Preserves over 15,000 petroglyphs carved along Albuquerque's West Mesa escarpment by ancient Pueblos, Hispanic settlers, and others. Self-guiding trails. Visitor Center. Ranger-led programs. Day-use only. (Superintendent: 6001 Unser Blvd. NW, Albuquerque NM 87120; telephone (505) 899-0205).



WHITE SANDS NATIONAL MONUMENT

Extensive fields of snow-white sand dunes created by gypsum salts, carried from an ancient evaporating sea and piled up by prevailing winds. Hiking, self-guiding trails. Visitor Center. Walk-in camping only. Full services in Alamogordo. (Superintendent: P.O. Box 458, Alamogordo, NM 88310; telephone (505) 479-6124).

