



Experience the Enchantment of National Park, Monuments and Trails in New Mexico

The Land of Enchantment is an unforgettable and fascinating state, with a great diversity of landscapes and a rich cultural history. New Mexico's national parks, monuments, and other sites of the National Park System offer a wide variety of outdoor and educational experiences. You'll find the world's largest gypsum dune field, dormant volcanoes, ancient lava flows, ice caves, archeological digs, and unique geology.

*It's all out there — come discover the enchantment
YOUR New Mexico national parks offer*

Get your ticket

America the Beautiful

The National Parks and Federal Recreational Lands Pass Series

Your ticket to more than 2,000 federal recreation sites managed by the National Park Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Bureau of Land Management, Bureau of Reclamation, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and U.S. Forest Service. Up to 100 percent of the pass program's proceeds are used to improve and enhance visitor recreation services.



- The passes series includes these passes:
- America the Beautiful Annual Pass – The National Parks and Federal Recreational Lands Pass – \$80 per year
 - Annual "Every Kid in a Park" 4th Grade Pass – Free
 - Annual Pass for Military – Free
 - America the Beautiful – Senior Pass – \$20 (annual) or \$80 (lifetime)
 - America the Beautiful – Access Pass – Free
 - America the Beautiful – Volunteer Pass – Free

For more information on any of these passes, please visit <http://www.nps.gov/findapark/passes.htm>. Passes can also be obtained in person at any federal recreation site that collects an entrance fee, or by telephone: 1-888-ASK USGS (1-888-275-8747), ext. 3 (hours of operation are: 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Mountain Time. Passes are non-transferable.

Volunteers-in-Parks

There are many ways you can help care for your national parks, from one-time to recurring volunteer opportunities for youth, families, groups, and individuals. The National Park Service Volunteers-In-Parks program draws people from all over the United States and the world. They share their time, talent, and skills in helping to protect and preserve these special places.



To learn more about volunteering with the National Park Service and to get started, visit www.nps.gov/volunteer or contact a national park near you.

The National Trails System

The National Trails System is a network of scenic, historic, and recreation trails created by the National Trails System Act of 1968. For more information about the nationally recognized corridor and the three national historic trails that traverse New Mexico, visit the links below.

Route 66 Corridor Preservation Program
<http://ncptt.nps.gov/rt66/>

Santa Fe National Historic Trail
<http://www.nps.gov/safe/>

El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro
<http://www.nps.gov/elca/>

Old Spanish National Historic Trail
<http://www.nps.gov/olsp/>

Mailing address:
National Trails Intermountain Region
National Park Service
PO Box 728
Santa Fe, NM 87504-0728

Phone:
505-988-6098 (National Historic Trails)
505-988-6701 (Route 66 Corridor Preservation Program)

New Mexico's 15 national park areas, three national historic trails, and a nationally recognized corridor are among 410 magnificent sites across America administered by the National Park Service for the benefit of the American people. The National Park Service preserves unimpaired the natural and cultural resources and values of the National Park System for the enjoyment, education, and inspiration of this and future generations.

New Mexico's national parks differ dramatically from one another in landscape, topography, and natural and cultural resources. For instance, Carlsbad Caverns National Park features 119 known caves, including Lechuguilla Cave — at 1,604 feet deep (489 meters), America's deepest and third-longest limestone cave. Chaco Culture National Historical Park is a World Heritage Site and preserves a major center of prehistoric Ancestral Puebloan culture that flourished in and around Chaco Canyon between 800 and 1250 AD. At El Morro National Monument, the massive, multicolored sandstone bluff that rises 200 feet from the valley floor provided a reliable waterhole that welcomed diverse peoples for centuries. Many of them left a legacy carved

into stone that provides a window into El Morro's past. In northeastern New Mexico, where the swales of the Old Santa Fe Trail pass, territorial-style adobe remnants of the region's largest 19th-century military fort still stand. For 40 years (1851-1891), Fort Union was a key stopping point for travelers along the route. It was witness to countless expeditions, Indian raids, and commercial gatherings during its short but storied existence.

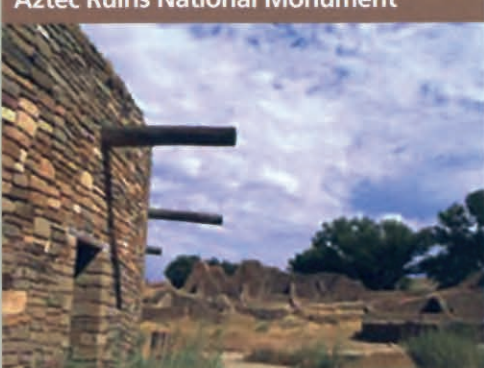
Speaking of trails, the National Trails Program staff in Santa Fe administers the Route 66 Corridor Preservation Program and the Santa Fe, El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro, and the Old Spanish National Historic Trails, all of which traverse the state. These routes are managed in partnership with American Indian tribes, federal, state, and local agencies, non-governmental organizations, and private landowners.

Rich in natural and human history, New Mexico's diverse national parks and monuments await your exploration. We invite you to Find Your Park and discover the enchantment, spectacular scenery and countless opportunities for adventure, education, recreation, and enjoyment.





Aztec Ruins National Monument



El Morro National Monument



Fort Union National Monument



Gila Cliff Dwellings National Monument



Manhattan Project National Historical Park



Pecos National Historical Park



Petroglyph National Monument



Salinas Pueblo Missions National Monument



Valles Caldera National Preserve



White Sands National Monument



Bandelier National Monument



Capulin Volcano National Monument



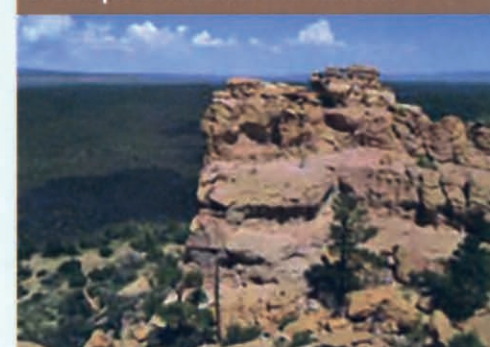
Carlsbad Caverns National Park



Chaco Culture National Historical Park



El Malpais National Monument



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Aztec Ruins National Monument

Aztec Ruins, built and occupied by ancestral Pueblo people over a 200-year period, preserves an extensive and planned community. Included are several large, multistory public “great houses,” many smaller residential structures, ceremonial kivas, remnants of linear “roadways,” and earthen berms. Thousands of well-preserved artifacts, original wood beams, and the reconstructed Great Kiva hint at the lives of the remarkable 12th- and 13th-century inhabitants.

Today, Aztec Ruins National Monument connects people of the past with people and traditions of today. Many southwestern Native American tribes maintain deep spiritual ties with this ancestral site through oral history, prayer, and ceremony. This archeological site offers visitors opportunities to learn about the community at Aztec Ruins by walking in the footsteps of its architects.

Visitor information:
Phone: 505-334-6174
www.nps.gov/azru
www.facebook.com/AztecRuinsNM

Mailing address:
725 Ruins Road
Aztec, NM 87410

Bandelier National Monument

Just over a million years ago, the Jemez Volcano covered hundreds of square miles with ash flows, creating a broad plateau. Erosion quickly cut sheer-walled canyons into the plateau, resulting in Bandelier’s spectacular canyon-and-mesa landscape. For thousands of years groups of hunter-gatherers lived there, and from the mid-1100s to the mid-1500s, it was home to Ancestral Pueblo people.

Before Spanish explorers arrived, they had moved on and settled along the Rio Grande. Present-day Pueblo people hold a close connection to this area. Bandelier National Monument includes more than 23,000 acres of designated wilderness, with 70 miles of trails and several permanent streams. With elevations ranging from 5,000 feet at the Rio Grande to 10,000 feet at the volcano’s rim, the park is home to a great diversity of native plants and animals.

Visitor information:
Phone: 505-672-3861 ext. 517
www.nps.gov/band

Mailing address:
15 Entrance Road
Los Alamos, NM 87544

Capulin Volcano National Monument

Born of fire and forces continually reshaping the earth’s surface, Capulin Volcano National Monument offers views of some of nature’s most awe-inspiring work. Located in the heart of the 8,000-square-mile Raton-Clayton Volcanic Field, Capulin Volcano rises more than 1,200 feet above the shortgrass prairie. A two-mile paved road winds to the crater’s rim, with breathtaking views of the surrounding lava flows and distant landscape of four states.

Although Capulin is known primarily for its volcanic geology, the park contains a rich diversity of plants and wild animals. The grasslands of the Great Plains and the forests of the Rocky Mountains meet at Capulin Volcano to form a unique ecotone that is habitat for a variety of birds, in addition to numerous other wild species.

Visitor information:
Phone: 575-278-2201
www.nps.gov/cavo
www.facebook.com/CapulinVolcanoNPS

Mailing address:
P.O. Box 40
Des Moines, NM 88418

Carlsbad Caverns National Park

Established to preserve Carlsbad Cavern and numerous other caves within a Permian-Age fossil reef, Carlsbad Caverns National Park contains 119 known caves, including Lechuguilla Cave — the nation’s deepest limestone cave, at 1,604 feet (489 meters) and its third longest. The Big Room of Carlsbad Cavern is one of the world’s largest and most accessible underground chambers.

Carlsbad Cavern is also a sanctuary for several hundred thousand Mexican (Brazilian) free-tailed bats. During the day, they crowd together on the ceiling of Bat Cave, where they can be seen by only a few scientific researchers. At nightfall, however, the bats leave the cave in gigantic swarms from May through October. Silhouetted against the night sky like a dark, swiftly moving cloud, the bats make their most dramatic display. These are extraordinary creatures and are one of 16 bat species that have been found in the park.

Visitor information:
575-785-2232
www.nps.gov/cave

Mailing address:
3225 National Parks Highway
Carlsbad, NM 88220

Chaco Culture National Historical Park

Chaco Culture National Historical Park preserves one of America’s most significant and fascinating areas of prehistoric culture. Chaco Canyon was a major center of Ancestral Puebloans between 800 and 1250 A.D. It was a hub of ceremony, trade, and administration for the entire Four Corners area—unlike anything before or since.

Chaco is a UNESCO World Heritage Site, remarkable for its monumental public and ceremonial buildings and distinctive public architecture. Its builders ingeniously combined pre-planned architectural designs, astronomical alignments, geometry, landscaping, and engineering in a spectacular site that amazes and inspires a thousand years later. Chaco is remote, isolated, and with few amenities, so come prepared. You will find the rewards unlimited.

Visitor information:
Phone: 505-786-7014 ext. 221
www.nps.gov/chcu
www.facebook.com/nps.chcu

Mailing address:
P.O. Box 220
Nageezi, NM 87037

El Morro National Monument

Known by many names through time, this distinctive *cuesta* (steep cliff on a sloping hill) has been an oasis to centuries of travelers who left their mark upon it. A reliable waterhole hidden at the base of its sandstone bluff made El Morro (the headland) a popular refuge for hundreds of years. Native Americans, Spanish explorers and missionaries, and American soldiers and pioneers carved more than 2,000 signatures, dates, messages, and petroglyphs. Atop the *cuesta* are the remains of the 14th-century pueblos of Astinna and North Astinna, where ancestors of today’s Puebloan communities once lived.

The National Park Service has been entrusted with protecting and preserving this extraordinary landscape since 1906.

Visitor Information:
Phone: 505-783-4226, ext. 801
www.nps.gov/elmo
www.facebook.com/elmorro.nps

Visitor Center address:
East Hwy 53, Mile Marker 44.6
Ramah, NM 87321

El Malpais National Monument

Spanish conquistadors traveling through New Mexico in the 17th century called this land El Malpais, “the badlands” At first glance, it is easy to see why. Volcanic eruptions from 700,000 years ago to as recently as 1,500 years ago created a blackened landscape of lava flows, cinder cones, and lava tube caves. Wilderness and beauty await your exploration of this mysterious and strange land by hiking, caving, or enjoying a scenic drive.

If you find beauty and value in this so-called “bad land,” you will be in good company. You will follow in the footsteps of people who created their home here for more than 10,000 years. Cultures including the Zuni and Acoma people trace their ancestry across this rugged land, and they continue to consider it sacred.

Researchers continue to study this geological wonder and unravel the stories of human ties to place, helping us better understand a rich cultural legacy on an active, ever-changing corner of our planet.

Visitor information:
505-876-2783
www.nps.gov/elma
www.facebook.com/elmalpaisnps/

Mailing address:
1900 E. Santa Fe
Grants, NM 87020

Fort Union National Monument

Fort Union was established in 1851 as a guardian and protector of the Santa Fe Trail. During its 40-year history, three different forts were built within close proximity. The third and final Fort Union was the largest in the American Southwest and functioned as a military garrison, territorial arsenal, and military supply depot. Constant military conflict and continuous cultural exchange made the region legendary in American folklore. As a military post established to protect travel and settlement, Fort Union witnessed many fascinating events in western American history.

Today, the remnants of Fort Union stand in testimony to the American frontier experience. Visitors to Fort Union National Monument use a self-guided tour to explore the second Fort Union and the large, impressive remnants of the third Fort Union.

Visitor Information:
Phone: 505-425-8025
www.nps.gov/foun
www.facebook.com/FortUnionNM

Mailing address:
P.O. Box 127
Watrous, NM 87753

Gila Cliff Dwellings National Monument

For thousands of years, the caves and overhangs of the Gila River area provided shelter for many humans. More than 700 years ago, a group of Tularosa Phase Mogollon people built their homes in the caves. They hunted wild animals, gathered wild plants and grew their own domesticated crops in the surrounding lands. Within roughly 20 years of their arrival, the Mogollon people moved on, leaving us just a short glimpse through this window of time in their history.

Gila Cliff Dwellings National Monument is the only site in the national park system that shares and preserves the dwellings and lifestyle of the Mogollon culture.

Visitor Information:
Phone: 575-536-9461
www.nps.gov/gicl

Mailing address:
HC68, Box 100
Silver City, NM 88061

Manhattan Project National Historical Park

The Manhattan Project was a top-secret program during World War II to design and build an atomic bomb. The Manhattan Project National Historic Park signifies an extraordinary partnership between the Department of the Interior and Department of Energy to provide public access to and interpretation of significant historic sites in three different locations: Oak Ridge, TN, Los Alamos, NM, and Hanford, WA.

The park includes three sites in Los Alamos in northern New Mexico, where more than 6,000 scientists and support personnel worked to design, research and build atomic bombs. At present, there is no public access to those facilities, but walking tours of the town of Los Alamos, where those scientists and personnel lived, are available.

Visitor Information:
Phone: 505-661-6277
www.nps.gov/mapr

Mailing address:
Manhattan Project
National Historical Park - Los Alamos
475 20th Street, Suite C
Los Alamos, NM 87544

Pecos National Historical Park

Pecos National Historical Park preserves 12,000 years of history, including the ancient Pecos Pueblo, two Spanish colonial missions, Santa Fe Trail sites, the 20th-century ranch history of the Forked Lightning Ranch, the pre-1937 Route 66 corridor, and the site of the Civil War Battle of Glorieta Pass.

The park visitor center contains exhibits (in English and Spanish), park store sales, and a 10-minute introductory film. The park has a self-guiding, 1.25-mile trail through the pueblo and mission ruins, and a 2.25-mile self-guiding trail on the hallowed Glorieta Pass battleground. Visit the park’s website (www.nps.gov/peco) for a complete list of ranger-led guided walks, talks and tours.

Visitor Information:
Phone: 505-757-7241
www.nps.gov/peco
www.facebook.com/PecosNHPnps

Mailing address:
P.O. Box 418
Pecos, NM 87552

Petroglyph National Monument

Petroglyph National Monument protects a variety of cultural and natural resources, including five volcanic cones, hundreds of archeological sites, and an estimated 20,000 images carved into rock by native peoples and early Spanish settlers. These images and associated archeological sites provide glimpses into a 12,000-year story of human life in this area. Many images are recognizable as animals, people, brands, and crosses. Others are more complex, their meanings possibly known only by the carver.

Petroglyph National Monument stretches 17 miles along Albuquerque’s West Mesa, a volcanic basalt escarpment that dominates the city’s western horizon. Lands in the monument are cooperatively managed by the National Park Service and the City of Albuquerque.

Visitor Information:
Phone: 505-899-0205
www.nps.gov/petr
www.facebook.com/whsa/Petroglyph-National-Monment-147007951983967/

Mailing address:
6001 Unser Blvd. NW
Albuquerque, NM 87120

Salinas Pueblo Missions National Monument

Salinas Pueblo Missions National Monument preserves and interprets largely undisturbed Pueblo mounds, and some of the best remaining examples of Spanish Franciscan mission architecture of the 1600s in the United States. Centuries ago, thriving trade communities of Tiwa, Tompiro, and Jumano Puebloan peoples inhabited this remote frontier area of central New Mexico. Early in the 17th-century, the Franciscans began their missionary efforts in the Salinas District, named by the Spanish for the vast salt beds in the area. By the late 1670s, the area was depopulated of both Puebloans and Spaniards as a result of widespread famine.

What remains today are austere yet beautiful reminders of the earliest contact between Pueblo Indians and Spanish colonists: the ruins of three missions at Quarai, Abo, and Gran Quivira, and the partially excavated pueblo of Las Humanas, or, as it is known today, the Gran Quivira pueblo.

Visitor Information:
505-847-2585
www.nps.gov/sapu

Mailing address:
P.O. Box 517
Mountainair, NM 87036

Valles Caldera National Preserve

About 1.25 million years ago, a spectacular volcanic eruption created the 13-mile wide circular depression now known as the Valles Caldera. Today’s preserve is known for its huge mountain meadows, abundant wildlife, and meandering streams. The area also preserves the homeland of ancestral native peoples and embraces a rich ranching history.

Visitors to the preserve enjoy activities such as hiking, biking, fishing, hunting, cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, wildlife viewing, and simply enjoying this southwest geologic gem. The busy season in Valles Caldera runs from May through October.

Visitor Information:
Phone: 575-829-4100
www.nps.gov/vall

Mailing address:
Valles Caldera National Preserve
P.O. Box 359
Jemez Springs, NM 87025

White Sands National Monument

At the northern end of New Mexico’s Chihuahuan Desert lies the mountain-ringed Tularosa Basin. In the heart of this basin is one of the world’s great natural wonders, the glistening dune fields of White Sands National Monument.

Over the millennia, great wave-like dunes of gypsum sand have engulfed 275 square miles of desert, creating the world’s largest gypsum dune field. The brilliant white expanse is ever-changing. The dunes grow, crest, slump and always advance. Driven slowly and relentlessly by strong southwest winds, the sand covers everything in its path.

In the dune field’s extremely harsh environment, tenacious plants and animals have adapted and survived. A few plant species grow rapidly enough to survive burial by moving dunes. Others grow tall to rise above the advancing sand. Several small animals, including lizards and rodents, have evolved a white coloration that camouflages them in the snow-white gypsum sand.

Visitor information:
Phone: 575-479-6124
www.nps.gov/whsa
www.facebook.com/White-Sands-National-Monument-by-White-Sands-Park-Rangers-174432742589952/

Mailing address:
P.O. Box 1086
Holloman AFB, NM 88330