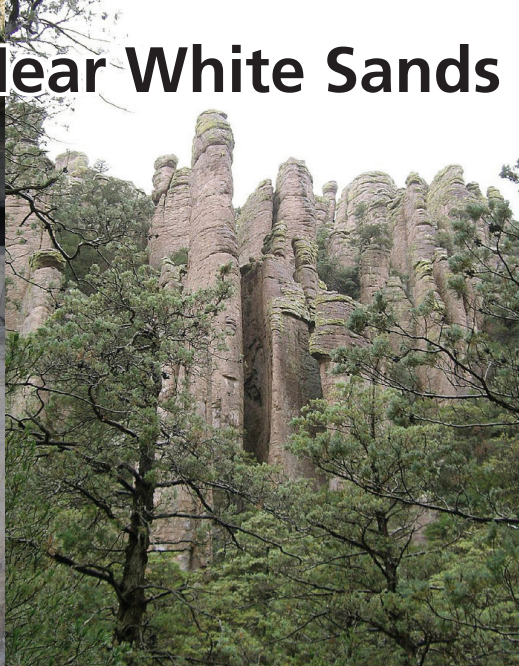
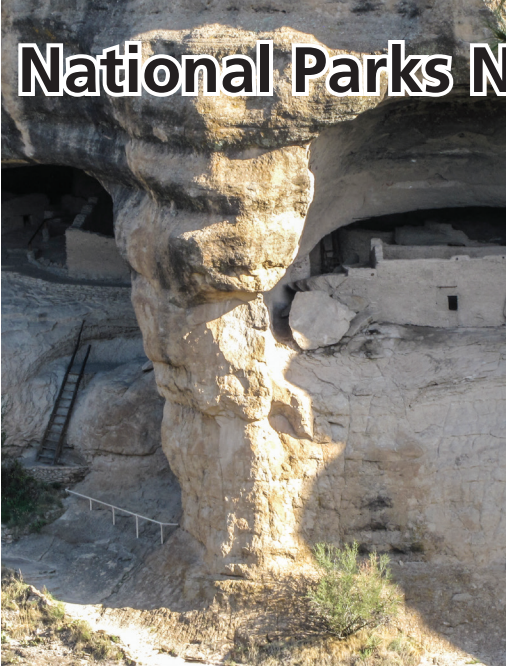




## National Parks Near White Sands



**H**ave you ever needed to just get away from everything for a day or two? Would you like to hike to the top of the highest peak in Texas, or explore a historical memorial? Within a half a day's drive or less from White Sands, you can enjoy special places cared for by the National Park Service. By preserving and protecting the nature, history, and culture of America for present and future generations, the National Park Service preserves our American story. Each national park represents a special chapter in this story.

### Chamizal National Memorial

Chamizal National Memorial commemorates the Chamizal Convention of 1963, which peacefully and diplomatically ended a century-long boundary dispute between the United States and Mexico. Chamizal also celebrates the culture and heritage of the U.S.-Mexico border. The visitor center, galleries, and Chamizal are located 100 miles south of White Sands, which is about a one and a half hour drive.

For more information:  
Call 915-532-7273  
Visit [www.nps.gov/cham](http://www.nps.gov/cham)



### Carlsbad Caverns National Park

Carlsbad Caverns National Park preserves a network of caves full of mystery and awe. You will see features such as stalactites and stalagmites, soda straws, and cave popcorn. A bat "fly out" program is offered nightly during the summer. Hiking trails and a scenic drive through the Chihuahuan Desert. Carlsbad Caverns is located 187 miles southeast of White Sands, which is about a three and a half hour drive from White Sands.

For more information:  
Call 575-785-2232  
Visit [www.nps.gov/cave](http://www.nps.gov/cave)



### Guadalupe Mountains National Park

Guadalupe Mountains National Park preserves an ancient marine fossil reef (the Permian Reef) that was formed 265 million years ago. The highest point in Texas is found within the park. The park has many animal species including black bear, peregrine falcon, and elk. Guadalupe Mountains is located 208 miles southeast of White Sands, which is about a three hour drive.

For more information:  
Call 915-828-3251  
Visit [www.nps.gov/gumo](http://www.nps.gov/gumo)



## **Gila Cliff Dwellings National Park**

Gila Cliff Dwellings National Monument preserves one of the finest examples of Mogollon culture cliff dwellings in the American Southwest. The Mogollon people lived in the area for centuries, moving into the cliffs around A.D. 1275. Explore this significant part of New Mexico history. Only 25 years later, they left and never came back. Gila Cliff Dwellings is located 210 miles west of White Sands.

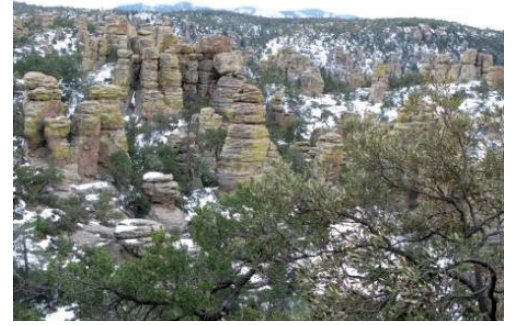
For more information:  
Call 575-536-9461  
Visit [www.nps.gov/gicl](http://www.nps.gov/gicl)



## **Chiricahua National Monument**

A “Wonderland of Rocks” is waiting for you to explore at Chiricahua National Monument. The 8-mile paved scenic drive and 17-miles of day-use hiking trails provide opportunities to discover the beauty, natural sounds, and inhabitants of this 11,985 acre site. Visit the Faraway Ranch Historic District to discover more about the people who have called this area home. Chiricahua National Monument is located 252 miles southwest of White Sands and is about a four hour drive.

For more information:  
Call 520-824-3560  
Visit [www.nps.gov/chir](http://www.nps.gov/chir)



## **Fort Davis National Historic Site**

Fort Davis National Historic Site preserves a sliver of the “old west.” The fort was occupied by the U.S. Army from 1854 to 1862 and again from 1867 to 1891. The soldiers stationed here fought American Indians for control of the land and also protected stagecoach travelers, emigrants, and mail coaches. Fort Davis is located 249 miles southeast of White Sands, which is about a four and a half hour drive from White Sands.

For more information:  
Call 432-426-3224  
Visit [www.nps.gov/foda](http://www.nps.gov/foda)



## **Bandelier National Monument**

Bandelier National Monument protects over 33,000 acres of rugged but beautiful canyon and mesa country as well as evidence of a human presence here going back over 11,000 years. Petroglyphs, dwellings carved into the soft rock cliffs, and standing masonry walls pay tribute to the early days of a culture that still survives in the surrounding communities. Bandelier National Monument is located 274 miles northwest of White Sands, which is about a four and a half hour drive.

For more information:  
Call 505-672-3861  
Visit [www.nps.gov/band](http://www.nps.gov/band)



## **El Malpais National Monument**

The richly diverse volcanic landscape of El Malpais offers solitude, recreation, and discovery. Explore cinder cones, lava tube caves, sandstone bluffs, and hiking trails. While some may see a desolate environment, people have been adapting to and living in this extraordinary terrain for generations. Come discover the land of fire and ice! El Malpais is about 291 miles northwest of White Sands and is about a four and a half hour drive.

For more information:  
Call 505-876-2783  
Visit [www.nps.gov/elma](http://www.nps.gov/elma)

