



CHASERS' CLUB GROUP INFORMATION SHEET

Albuquerque International Balloon Fiesta®

Chasers' Club Group Package

The Chasers' Club Group Package includes admission to the event, access to the Chasers' Club and premium parking for your bus. Once your registration is complete with payment, a packet that includes wristbands, parking passes and instructions for your driver will be mailed at the end of August. It is important to note that the wristbands you are issued will allow your clients admission to the event and access to the Chasers' Club, but they must enter the park through the designated gate indicated on your parking pass. The Chasers' Club wristbands will not allow admission through any other gate. Upon your arrival, a crew of volunteers and Balloon Fiesta staff will welcome your group.

Weather

October average daytime high: 75°F degrees; average nighttime low: 45°F degrees. Dress accordingly, layering is recommended as Albuquerque mornings at the Balloon Fiesta Park are cool! Hats and gloves are recommended especially for those taking balloon rides.

Chasers' Club Hours

- Morning sessions: 5:30 am – 10 am
- Evening Glows: 5 pm – 9 pm
- The catering tent closes 30 minutes prior to session end.

* Due to NM state alcohol laws, there will be no alcohol service on Sunday mornings before noon.

Seating

- In order to offer a prime viewing area for our guests, all seating is outdoors.
- The Chasers' Club is located on the north end of Balloon Fiesta Park, next to the Group Tour Hospitality Tent.

Parking Passes

- Groups arriving by bus will be issued (1) X-Parking Pass per session.
- A parking attendant will collect your parking pass upon arrival.
- The X-Parking Pass will allow you to park in the Group Tour Parking lot only, so it is important you follow the directions provided in your packet.

Driver Instructions /Group Welcome

The map provided on the back of your X- Parking Pass illustrates a designated route for coaches. If stopped by a traffic control officer, please show your parking pass so you will not be diverted from this route. A Balloon Fiesta volunteer will greet your group as you enter the coach parking area. It is essential that you advise your driver and/or escort to exercise caution in this heavily congested area. Due to extremely tight parking conditions, drivers will be allowed to park **only** where instructed by our volunteers, being careful to watch for pedestrians and control speed, especially in the dark hours before sunrise.

Estimated Travel Times

- **Weekend Mass Ascensions**

Allow 30-40 minutes in transit from your Albuquerque hotel to the site due to heavy traffic, making sure to follow the route we designate on your parking pass. **If you are attending the opening day ceremony, please add 30 minutes to this estimate.**

- **Weekday Mornings**

There is less traffic and more flexibility during weekday sessions. Transit time from hotel to site is 20-30 minutes depending on your hotel location. Suggested arrival time for these sessions is 5:30 am.

- **Balloon Glow & Special Shapes Glowdeo**

Transit time from hotel to site is 30-45 minutes depending on your hotel location. Suggested arrival time for these sessions is 5:00 pm.

- **Departing Balloon Fiesta Park**

Departures may be delayed following each session from ½ hour to 1 hour due to heavy congestion. Plan your itinerary accordingly for any activity you may have scheduled directly following each session.

Cancelled Sessions

We do not offer refunds for cancelled sessions, but we do issue rain checks to groups. Rain checks provide admission to the event, bus parking and access to the Group Tour Hospitality Tent. This option can be used for any session in the current year. It is a good idea to have a flexible itinerary for the morning after your scheduled Balloon Fiesta session, should inclement weather cause a cancellation you will have the opportunity to use your rain check. An “official cancellation” is not based on whether balloons fly. If balloons are able to inflate for a static display but are not cleared to fly that is not considered a cancelled event.

Balloon Rides

Rainbow Ryders is the official balloon ride company for the Balloon Fiesta. If you have scheduled a morning ride for your guests, we suggest you DO NOT book space in the Chasers' Club during the same morning session. Your guests will be required to check in with Rainbow Ryders by 5 am and their return from flight will be between 10-11am. This time frame will not allow your guests enough time to take advantage of the Chasers' Club amenities. If you are interested in including a balloon ride in your tour program, please contact Rainbow Ryders directly at 800.725.2477.