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For nine days in October the Albuquerque International Balloon Fiesta creates an enchanted world of special shape balloon rodeos, twilight balloon glows, and vibrant balloon-filled skies. Brisk autumnal mornings in the Rio Grande Valley create an otherworldly backdrop for the breathtaking majesty of our most popular event, Mass Ascension at the Albuquerque International Balloon Fiesta. The experience of watching hundreds of gentle airy giants take flight is at once humbling and inspiring. It’s the allure of these magical moments and more that have continued to bring ballooning fans worldwide together for more than 47 years.

Our Geography Makes it Ballooning Central

Autumn is one of the most enjoyable times of year in New Mexico. This peaceful prelude to winter means that brisk mornings give way to warm afternoons with mild temperatures throughout the day and typically still winds. This ideal weather combined with its diverse altitudes and geography, makes Albuquerque an ideal location for ballooning at this time of year. The lower altitude of the river valley to the west, higher altitude of the mountain range to the east and the prevailing winds aloft create the legendary “Albuquerque Box,” in which gentle winds blow in a box pattern, sometimes leading balloons right back to where they started. This natural phenomenon makes Albuquerque home to some of the best ballooning in the world.
WHAT IS THE ALBUQUERQUE INTERNATIONAL BALLOON FIESTA?

Any local will tell you that October is the most beautiful time of year in New Mexico, made so in large part by the much anticipated sight of colorful balloons punctuating the skyline. During this season, the sky is bluer, the days are gentler, and the mornings crisper -- almost as though the landscape has taken a deep sigh -- and on the desert's warm breath sails the annual Albuquerque International Balloon Fiesta. For nearly half a century, this age-old form of flight, which has captured the human imagination for hundreds of years, is celebrated in a 9-day event that draws the devout, the curious and the novice balloonists to the world-famous Balloon Fiesta Park.

Balloon Fiesta Park’s launch field alone is comparable to the size of 54 football fields, but that 60+ acre area is necessary to accommodate the 500+ balloons that launch during the event. The total expanse of the Park is a whopping 365 acres, custom designed to facilitate the largest ballooning event on earth. Since its humble inception at a shopping mall parking lot in 1972, with a total of 13 balloons, the Albuquerque International Balloon Fiesta has grown into the most photographed event in the world.
SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 4
7:00am  Albuquerque Aloft (at local elementary schools)

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 5
6:00am  Dawn Patrol Show presented by Route 66 Casino Hotel and RV Resort
6:30am  Krispy Kreme Morning Glow
6:45am  Opening Ceremonies
7:00am  Mass Ascension, presented by Canon
8:00am - noon  AIBF Chainsaw Carving Exhibition
1:00 - 5:00pm  AIBF Chainsaw Carving Exhibition
2:00pm  America's Challenge Gas Balloon Infl...ation
5:00pm  Team Fastrax Skydiving
5:00pm  AIBF Chainsaw Carving Auction
6:00pm  America's Challenge Gas Balloon Race Launch
6:00pm  Twilight Twinkle Glow™ presented by Albuquerque Journal
7:30pm  Team Fastrax Skydiving
8:00pm*  AfterGlow™ Fireworks Show* presented by Sandia Resort & Casino

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 6
6:00am  Dawn Patrol Show presented by Route 66 Casino Hotel and RV Resort
6:30am  Krispy Kreme Morning Glow
7:00am  Mass Ascension
8:00am - noon  AIBF Chainsaw Carving Exhibition
1:00 - 5:00pm  AIBF Chainsaw Carving Exhibition
9:00am  Fiesta of Wheels Car Show (located on north end of launch field)
11:00am  Balloon Fiesta Pin Trading (Group Tour Tent, north end of Main Street)
5:00pm  Team Fastrax Skydiving
5:00pm  AIBF Chainsaw Carving Auction
6:00pm  Balloon Glow
7:30pm  Team Fastrax Skydiving
8:00pm*  AfterGlow™ Fireworks Show* presented by Sandia Resort & Casino

MONDAY, OCTOBER 7
6:00am  Dawn Patrol
7:00am  Balloon Launch from the Park
8:00am  Fly In Competition
8:00am - noon  AIBF Chainsaw Carving Demonstration

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 8  COCA-COLA DAY
6:00am  Dawn Patrol
7:00am  Balloon Launch from the Park
8:00am  Fly In Competition
8:00am - noon  AIBF Chainsaw Carving Demonstration

*A AfterGlow™ Fireworks Shows will begin as soon as the launch field is clear of balloons, thus the starting times are approximate and subject to change without notice. Additionally, local police will modify traffic flows to utilize all traffic lanes for outbound traffic only at the conclusion of each glow event. So if you want to
SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 9
6:00am  Dawn Patrol Show presented by Route 66 Casino Hotel and RV Resort
6:30am  Krispy Kreme Morning Glow
7:00am  Flight of the Nations Mass Ascension
8:00am  Fly In Competition
8:00am - noon AIBF Chainsaw Carving Demonstration

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 10
4:30 am  Kids’ Day Goodie Bag Distribution begins (South of the Main Street Stage)
6:00am  Dawn Patrol
7:00am  Special Shape Rodeo™
8:00am  Competition Flying
8:00am - noon AIBF Chainsaw Carving Exhibition
1:00 - 5:00pm AIBF Chainsaw Carving Exhibition
5:00pm  Team Fastrax Skydiving
5:00pm  AIBF Chainsaw Carving Auction
6:00pm  Special Shape Glowdeo™
7:30pm  Team Fastrax Skydiving
8:00pm*  AfterGlow™ Fireworks Show* presented by Sandia Resort & Casino

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 11
6:00am  Dawn Patrol
7:00am  Special Shape Rodeo™
8:00am  Competition Flying
8:00am - noon AIBF Chainsaw Carving Exhibition
1:00 - 5:00pm AIBF Chainsaw Carving Exhibition
5:00pm  Team Fastrax Skydiving
5:00pm  AIBF Chainsaw Carving Auction
6:00pm  Special Shape Glowdeo™
7:30pm  Team Fastrax Skydiving
8:00pm*  AfterGlow™ Fireworks Show* presented by Sandia Resort & Casino

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 12
6:00am  Dawn Patrol Show presented by Route 66 Casino Hotel and RV Resort
6:30am  Krispy Kreme Morning Glow
7:00am  Mass Ascension
8:00am - noon AIBF Chainsaw Carving Exhibition
11:00am  Balloon Fiesta Pin Trading (Group Tour Tent, north end of Main Street)
1:00 - 5:00pm Music Fiesta™
1:00 - 5:00pm AIBF Chainsaw Carving Exhibition
5:00pm  Team Fastrax Skydiving
5:00pm  AIBF Chainsaw Carving Auction
6:00pm  Night Magic™ Glow, presented by Canon
7:30pm  Team Fastrax Skydiving
8:00pm*  AfterGlow™ Fireworks Show* presented by Sandia Resort & Casino

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 13
6:00am  Dawn Patrol Show presented by Route 66 Casino Hotel and RV Resort
6:30am  Krispy Kreme Morning Glow
7:00am  Farewell Mass Ascension
8:00 - 11:00am AIBF Chainsaw Carving Q & A
Transportation services to the park include convenient Fiesta Express Park & Ride Service and Bike Valet. Balloon Fiesta public parking sites are also available and guests are encouraged to purchase advance admission tickets to avoid lines at the gates.

Please note: Routes and assignments are subject to change. Please refer to our website at www.balloonfiesta.com/Maps-Directions
Beating the Balloon Fiesta traffic can seem daunting at first, but with some careful advanced planning, you’ll find that getting to and from Balloon Fiesta Park can be an easy and painless experience. We are here to help!

USE BALLOON FIESTA PARK & RIDE SERVICES

As attendance has grown, creating an influx in traffic congestion and parking issues, Albuquerque International Balloon Fiesta has teamed with several locations citywide to facilitate park and ride services. Balloon Fiesta offers guests special prices to park their vehicles at one of several Albuquerque locations and take the Balloon Fiesta Express Park & Ride bus to Balloon Fiesta Park.

Please check www.balloonfiesta.com/Park-Ride for schedule or location changes, and tickets. Be aware there is no Park & Ride service Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday.

WHERE: (subject to change)

• East-side location: Coronado Mall (Southwest corner) - 6600 Menaul Blvd NE, Albuquerque, NM 87110
  Hoffmanttown Church; 8888 Harper NE; Albuquerque, NM 87111
• West-side location: Cottonwood Mall - 10000 Coors Bypass NW, Albuquerque, NM 87114
  Intel (South Parking Lot) - 1600 Rio Rancho Blvd. SE, Rio Rancho, NM 87124

PARK & RIDE TICKETS- Note: A Convenience fee is added to all online ticket purchases.

Tickets can be purchased online at: www.balloonfiesta.com/Park-Ride or by calling 1-855-725-1824. We can also do an online purchase in our Gift Shop location at 4401 Alameda Blvd. NE; Albuquerque, NM 87113

TICKETS CANNOT BE PURCHASED IN PERSON AT THE REMOTE LOTS

All riders must have a ticket before boarding the bus for arrival and departure. For more information call 505-821-1000.

(Valid online before 12 Midnight for morning sessions or before 12 Noon for afternoon/evening sessions)

**Balloon Fiesta Park admission is included.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Group</th>
<th>Price</th>
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<td>Adults (13-61)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Seniors (62 &amp; older)</td>
<td>$12</td>
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<tr>
<td>Children (6-12)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Children (5 and under)</td>
<td>Free</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bus Only</td>
<td>$12</td>
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</tbody>
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RIDE SHARING OPTIONS

You can utilize your Ride Share App for access to and from the park. The designated drop off and pick up area is south of the park and east of the intersection of Alameda Blvd. NE and Horizon.
Morning Sessions:
Check in at remote lots at 4:00 am and 5:30 am

Afternoon Sessions:
Check in at remote lots at 3:00 pm and 4:30 pm

THERE WILL NOT BE ANY TICKET SALES AT THE BUSES/REMOTE LOTS

For more Park & Ride information, please visit: www.balloonfiesta.com/Park-Ride
TICKETS AND HOSPITALITY

GONDOLA CLUB - Note: A Convenience Fee is added to all online ticket purchases.

The Gondola Club provides a true VIP experience you can’t find anywhere else at Balloon Fiesta. This exclusive offering ensures the most comfortable, convenient, and private location for enjoying Balloon Fiesta. For those who want to escape the crowds and take in the experience in comfort, a session at the Gondola Club includes first-class amenities.

A Gondola Club ticket includes the following:
• The best viewing of the launch field available
• Private parking near the Gondola Club
• Admission to the park
• A gourmet buffet (breakfast or dinner, depending on the session) and a hosted bar (except Sunday mornings per NM state law)
• Shuttles to Main Street
• A collectible pin
• Private bathrooms and
• A Gondola Club souvenir gift

Individuals:
Adult - $110 per person, per session
Child (ages 4-12) - $55 per person, per session

Groups 14+ People:
Adult - $95 per person, per session
Child (ages 4-12) - $47.50 per person, per session
Children ages 3 and under are free.

CHASERS’ CLUB - Note: A Convenience Fee is added to all online ticket purchases.

The Chasers’ Club is a special package option designed to help guests make the most of their Balloon Fiesta experience. This upgraded ticket grants you access to seating in a comfortable outdoor patio next to the launch field where you can indulge in hot food items, dessert, and refreshments. With a valid ID you can also enjoy a Bloody Mary or Margarita on any day except Sunday mornings (NM state law), while you sit back, relax, and watch the day's beauty unfold. Located at the northeast corner of the Launch Field, a session in this private patio provides a prime vista of the launch site for a relaxing day of fun and balloon viewing.

A Chasers’ Club ticket is only $45 a session and includes the following:
• Admission to the event if purchased in advance
• Guaranteed seating in our private patio at the north end of Balloon Fiesta Park for excellent viewing
• A hot food item, dessert and beverages and
• The option to purchase and leisurely enjoy a cocktail while you watch the balloon action unfold
GLAMPING - Note: A Convenience Fee is added to all online ticket purchases.

Experience the Albuquerque International Balloon Fiesta in a whole new way - Glamping! Glamping tents are now available in an exclusive location in Balloon Fiesta Park. Enjoy spectacular views of the balloons flying high against a stunning background of the Sandia Mountains from the tent village. No need to battle the traffic, you’ll be walking distance to the launch field. In this exclusive location you will have access to restroom and shower trailers, as well as a hospitality area with grills, games and lounge chairs.

Your glamping experience will also include:
• 3 night stay in a 168 sq ft safari tent
• Admission to the event for all sessions during your stay
• Premium Parking
• Welcome gift
• Choice of queen bed or 2 single beds
• Linens, comforter and pillows
• Heater and refrigerator and
• Lamp and lantern

Cost: $1,500 (3 nights for 1 - 2 people) Each additional night stay: $500 Additional guests: $100/ per person per night
(4 guests maximum per tent)

CONCIERGE -
For the ultimate VIP experience you can arrange for your own concierge to be your tour guide while at the Balloon Fiesta. You will experience the event from all angles of the launch field. You can shop at our many concession booths, check out the chainsaw carvers, visit the Artisans’ Tent and Balloon Discovery Center. You will have an insider's view of this spectacular event. This service is perfect for Balloon Fiesta first-timers, photographers, guests with mobility issues or guests who want to see all they can in one session.

With this service you will receive:
• A personal concierge for the duration of your session
• Golf cart transportation with driver
• (1) Premium Parking Pass
• (2) General Admission Tickets
• Balloon Fiesta gift

Cost for this service: $350 per session (1-2 people) + $50 per additional person (4 maximum per package).

For more information about Gondola Club, Chasers’ Club, Glamping and the Concierge Program please contact:
Shamaine Giannini
888.422.7277, ext. 106
sgiannini@balloonfiesta.com
**MUSIC FIESTA AT BALLOON FIESTA AND MORE**

**MUSIC FIESTA™** - Note: A Convenience Fee is added to all online ticket purchases.

Naturally the balloons are always the stars of the show at Balloon Fiesta. However, we also bring in amazing headlining music artists to entertain our guests during those times when balloons are off the field. In the past, we’ve had the honor of hosting musical guests Old Dominion, Darius Rucker, The Band Perry, Chris Young, Billy Currington, Josh Turner, Sawyer Brown, David Nail and Gloriana.

Our signature music feature, Music Fiesta™, takes stage at the north end of the field on the 2nd Saturday of the event, between the morning and evening sessions. (The Night Magic Glow™ is included in your Music Fiesta™ ticket.)

Several types of Music Fiesta™ tickets are available:
- Albuquerque (Dance) Box: $70
- Reserved Seating: $50 - $60 in advance
- Premier Lawn Area: $25 in advance
- General Admission: $10
- Ultimate Music Fiesta™ Package: $499

For more details, visit: [www.balloonfiesta.com/FAQs-Music-Fiesta](http://www.balloonfiesta.com/FAQs-Music-Fiesta)

**MORE EVENT ENTERTAINMENT**

Balloon Fiesta also features other great local and national performers on the Main Street Stage, located in the center of Main Street. You can hear a variety of genres ranging from military brass bands, salsa, funk, soul, rock, jazz, and more during morning sessions on the weekends, and evening sessions.

And be sure to watch for exciting strolling performers along Main Street. Capture a glimpse and capture a photo of New Mexico culture with Native American dancers, Flamenco ensembles, Mariachi troupes, and so much more.

Entertainment at the Main Street Stage and along Main Street is free and included with admission into Balloon Fiesta.

To see the full lineup of performances, visit: [www.balloonfiesta.com/Entertainment-Schedule](http://www.balloonfiesta.com/Entertainment-Schedule)
**WHAT IS THE COST AND WHERE DO I BUY TICKETS?**

- General admission: $10 for persons 13 and older;
- Children 12 years old and under are admitted free;
- General Parking: $15 per car;
- Advance admission tickets are available in packs of five: A Five-Event Ticket pack is $45 (a $5 discount);
- Tickets are **NON-REFUNDABLE**, however, your ticket may be used as a rain check if an individual session must be canceled due to weather or other safety considerations and the tickets can be used for any other session during the 2019 Balloon Fiesta.

**To purchase tickets:**
Purchase them online at [www.balloonfiesta.com](http://www.balloonfiesta.com), call 1-855-725-1824, pick them up at the Balloon Fiesta’s Gift Shop at 4401 Alameda Blvd. NE or at the Park Gates during the event. For additional purchase locations, call the corporate office at 505-821-1000.

For additional information: [www.balloonfiesta.com/Purchase-Tickets](http://www.balloonfiesta.com/Purchase-Tickets)

**DO TOUR GROUPS GET SPECIAL RATES?**
Our Group Tour Hospitality Package makes the Balloon Fiesta experience easy for your planner and extra special for your customers. The package includes admission tickets, access to the Group Tour Hospitality Tent and parking in a lot near the tent. [www.balloonfiesta.com/Group-Tours](http://www.balloonfiesta.com/Group-Tours)

**WHERE IS THE LAUNCH FIELD LOCATED?**
The launch field is located in north Albuquerque, west of I-25, approximately 10 miles north of the Albuquerque Sunport (Airport), 8 miles north of downtown Albuquerque.

**WHAT ARE THE GPS COORDINATES OF BALLOON FIESTA PARK?**
Latitude: 35º 11.8N Longitude: 106º 35.8W

**WHEN SHOULD I ARRIVE?**
For some of our most popular events, such as Mass Ascension, crowds have reached nearly 80,000 people, so arriving early is advisable. For weekend events, plan to arrive at the park by 4:30am. During evening events, plan to be at the park by 4:00pm. Gates open at 4:30am and 3:00pm.

**IS THE PARK HANDICAP ACCESSIBLE?**
Yes. We have hard surface handicap parking close to the entrance gates at the general parking fee of $15. We also have a limited number of scooters and wheelchairs available to rent and can be reserved through [www.vistamobility.net](http://www.vistamobility.net), if needed, as well as shuttles that operate around the Park. But please be aware Balloon Fiesta Park consists of more than 360 acres and the launch field itself is more than 60 acres.

**ARE THERE PLACES TO EAT ON THE FIELD?**
There are a multitude of food concessions serving a variety of food on Main Street.

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**HOW DO WE CONTACT THE BALLOON FIESTA DIRECTLY?**
E-mail us at balloons@balloonfiesta.com for the quickest response
4401 Alameda Boulevard NE, Albuquerque, NM 87113
Toll-Free 1-888-422-7277 Phone 505-821-1000 Fax: 505-828-2887
WHAT ARE SOME OF THE ACTIVITIES HAPPENING AT THE PARK?
• Artisans at Balloon Fiesta is a free exhibit housed in a tent located at the North end of Main Street, just east of the Balloon Discovery Center. Inside you can shop the juried artists who are selected to participate each year.

• Main Street is where you will find 100 hand-selected merchandise and food concessions ranging from one-of-a-kind souvenirs to sweet-tooth satisfiers. You will also find performers wandering along Main Street, such as flamenco dancers, Native American dancers, mariachis and other entertainers to make for non-stop fun.

• The Main Stage is located at the center of Main Street Stage and features a variety of bands and performances throughout Balloon Fiesta.

• The Fiesta of Wheels car show takes place on the north end of the Launch Field after the Balloon Launch on Sunday, October 6th.

• The 7-Eleven® Balloon Discovery Center is an educational center located at the north end of Main Street, offering guests of all ages interactive and educational fun-filled activities.

• The Chainsaw Carving Competition at the north end of the Launch Field brings a unique element to Balloon Fiesta with multiple sessions to keep things lively.

• Music Fiesta™ features headline performances from some of today’s most sought after groups. Music Fiesta is scheduled for the 2nd Saturday afternoon of Balloon Fiesta.

WHAT IS A SESSION?
There are two sessions daily, which are divided into morning events and evening events. For example, the Dawn Patrol and Mass Ascension are a part of the morning session, while the Balloon Glow is a part of the evening session.

Although there are no ballooning activities between the morning and evening sessions, we welcome guests to stay at the park between sessions. Please note, there are no evening sessions on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday and concessions will close down midday.

WHAT ARE THE SAFETY PRECAUTIONS AROUND THE BALLOONS?
Because of our 47-year safety record, we are one of the only balloon (aviation) events where you are actually able to walk among the balloons as they are inflating and talk to the pilots. Please be respectful of the hot air balloons. Do not touch them or step on or over any of them. Please follow the directions of the pilots, crews and Launch Directors (Zebras).

ARE LARGE PACKAGES AND BACKPACKS ALLOWED AT THE PARK?
Yes, but they are subject to inspection upon entering the Park.

ARE PETS ALLOWED AT BALLOON FIESTA PARK?
The Only animals allowed at Balloon Fiesta Park are ADA service animals. Note: Emotional support animals are not classified as service animals. NMSA 1978, Section 28-11-6

IS SMOKING ALLOWED AT BALLOON FIESTA PARK?
City ordinance prohibits smoking in all city parks and Balloon Fiesta Park is a city park. There is no smoking allowed on the Launch Field.

CAN YOU BRING IN OUTSIDE FOOD & DRINKS TO THE PARK?
Yes, but glass and alcohol are not allowed. Bags and coolers are subject to search.
ARE LAWN CHAIRS ALLOWED AND IS THERE SEATING AVAILABLE?
Yes. Lawn chairs and blankets are permitted in the Park. There are a limited number of picnic tables and benches located on the east side of the Launch Field along Main Street.

ARE THERE ATMS IN THE PARK?
Yes. There are ATMs at the north and south ends, as well as near the middle of Main Street. See Survival Guide map on page 6.

WHERE DO I PARK?
General parking is $15 a car, every time you park. There are no “in and out” privileges. General parking lots are located on the north, east and south ends of the Park. Each parking lot is color-coded and the gates are numbered, so please remember the color and number of the gate through which you entered the field. We suggest taking a photo with your phone to refer to when you leave the park. You can download the Balloon Fiesta App before you leave home, when you arrive, use our App to mark the location of your car.

IS TRANSPORTATION TO BALLOON FIESTA AVAILABLE? (See Page 8)
Yes, we offer a session-specific Park & Ride from multiple locations throughout Albuquerque.

BIKE VALET
Conveniently located bike trails end just north of the Balloon Museum, where you will find the Bike Valet area. We have created this free service as another way to help guests beat the traffic and make the most of their time with us. Bike Valet hours of operation are as follows:
Morning Sessions 4:30AM to 10:30AM
Evening Sessions 4:30PM to 9:00PM
For more information and route, go to: www.balloonfiesta.com/Bike-Valet

HOTEL SHUTTLE SERVICE
We do not partner with hotels to provide shuttle service. However, the hotel where you are staying may provide this service through their individual establishment and it is worth checking with them to find out. Otherwise, please view our Park & Ride information on page 8.

ARE THERE RENTAL CAR COMPANIES IN ALBUQUERQUE?
Don’t let the special shape cactus and stage coach balloons fool you, New Mexico isn’t really the old west. Most major car rental companies have an office in Albuquerque. For more information on travel help go to www.balloonfiesta.com/Hotels-Travel-Help

WHO ORGANIZES THE BALLOON FIESTA?
Albuquerque International Balloon Fiesta, Inc. organizes the Balloon Fiesta each year. It is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization with 18 full-time staff members, many volunteers and about 120 officials who all work together to make every year an amazing experience for all.

WHO ARE THE ZEBRAS AT BALLOON FIESTA PARK?
Zebras are Balloon Fiesta's launch directors, identified by the black and white striped shirts they wear. They help launch the balloons every morning, and make up half of all the 120 officials on the field.

HOW BIG IS BALLOON FIESTA PARK?
Balloon Fiesta Park is over 360 acres. The Launch Field itself is about 60 acres.

WHAT DO CHASE CREWS DO?
A chase crew helps the pilot inflate and deflate his/her balloon for each flight. If you are interested in being on a chase crew, you can register online at www.balloonfiesta.com/Crew-Registration (starting July 15). On-site crew registration is 5:30 - 7:30am and 4:30 - 6:30pm daily at the Crew Corral located just north of the Sid Cutter Pilots’ Pavillion.
WHAT IS DAWN PATROL?
Dawn Patrol occurs every morning weather permitting

The sponsored Dawn Patrol Show occurs on Mass Ascension days. The Dawn Patrol consists of a group of selected balloons that launch prior to sunrise every morning.

WHAT IS MASS ASCENSION?
Our most popular event, the Mass Ascension is when all 500+ balloons launch from Balloon Fiesta Park during the same time frame. It usually takes less than two hours for all 500+ balloons to launch. Mass Ascension is scheduled on weekend mornings and Wednesday morning. On other days during Balloon Fiesta, all balloons are allowed to fly, the difference is half of the balloons will launch at the park and fly away and the others will launch away from the park and fly into the park.

WHAT IS ALBUQUERQUE ALOFT™?
On the Friday before Balloon Fiesta starts, registered pilots of Balloon Fiesta launch from designated elementary schools throughout Albuquerque and Rio Rancho as community flights.

I SEE DIFFERENT TYPES OF BALLOON GLOWS, WHAT’S THE DIFFERENCE?
Each Glow is a static display of the balloons after sunset in which their burners illuminate them. The Balloon Glow is the original and largest of this type of event and occurs on the first Sunday night. The Twilight Twinkle Glow™ occurs on the first Saturday night, the Night Magic Glow™ occurs on the second Saturday night and includes musical performances (it is included in a Music Fiesta™ ticket), while the AfterGlow™ after each glow involves a fireworks show.

For evening events, bring a flashlight. Also, take note of where you have parked your car — it may be more difficult to find in the dark.

WHAT IS THE SPECIAL SHAPE RODEO™/GLOWDEO?
Due to their whimsical quality, some of the favored events at Balloon Fiesta are the Special Shape balloon events, which are showcased on Thursday and Friday mornings and evenings. The Special Shape Rodeo™ is the morning flying event, followed by the Special Shape Glowdeo™ in the evening.

A Glowdeo is a static display of the special shape balloons in which their burners illuminate them. The special shape balloons have included a stagecoach, larger than life animals and space creatures.

WHAT IS FLIGHT OF THE NATIONS?
This event honors all of the countries that are represented at Balloon Fiesta with up to two balloons per country displaying their nation’s flag. The Flight of the Nations occurs on the Wednesday prior to Mass Ascension after the “Sponsor of the Day” balloon launches.

WHAT OTHER COMPETITIONS HAPPEN AT BALLOON FIESTA?
Other competitions for pilots include the Ring Toss, Balloon Fiesta Golf, Multiple Judge-declared Goal, Fly-in Task and Minimum Double Drop. All competitions are based on flying accuracy rather than speed.

WHERE CAN I PURCHASE OFFICIAL BALLOON FIESTA SOUVENIRS?
Souvenirs may be purchased at the Park at the official Balloon Fiesta Souvenir tents, online at www.balloonfiestastuff.com, or at Balloon Fiesta’s gift shop year-round.

WHAT IS BALLOON FIESTA LIVE!?
For those that cannot make it to the Balloon Park you can still be a part of all the spectacle of everything that is the Balloon Fiesta by watching our live stream of each session’s activities. Just go to www.balloonfiesta.com and start watching from the comfort of your hotel or home.
WHAT DO I NEED TO KNOW ABOUT TAKING PHOTOS?
Photography is welcome and encouraged at Balloon Fiesta. We take great pride in being the most photographed event in the world.

Tips: To achieve bold, intimate photos that are not cluttered with crowds and movements, move in closer, or have your subject move closer to the camera with a balloon filling the frame as the background. Close ups of detail capture unique, unexpected moments, while an overall view can show the magnitude of the experience.

The best times of day to capture incredible photos are during the “magic hours” of dusk and dawn, when the warm glow of the balloons blends with the richness of the sky. This technique has been coined the “jewel box effect,” and is best shot with a tri-pod and high-speed film or ISO because of the low light.

WHAT ARE THE GONDOLA & CHASERS’ CLUBS? (See Page 10)
The Gondola and Chasers’ Clubs are two different options to upgrade your Balloon Fiesta experience during a morning or evening session. Depending on the venue you select, you will enjoy a variety of VIP treatments and a special viewing area of the day’s events. See the complete details on page 10.

To buy Gondola Club tickets, visit the Gondola Club page on our website www.balloonfiesta.com/Gondola-Club
To purchase Chasers’ Club tickets, visit the Chasers’ Club page on our website www.balloonfiesta.com/Chasers-Club

WHAT DO I WEAR AND WHAT IS THE WEATHER?
Generally, temperatures in the morning are around 40°F, warming up to about 70°F by noon. Bring a jacket and dress in layers. Also remember to wear comfortable walking shoes. Bring sunscreen to put on after the sun is up. You will be at a high altitude and are at risk for sunburn. Bring appropriate eye protection. Sun and wind could be your enemies on a bright, sunny or windy day. For further weather information, visit www.balloonfiesta.com.

WHERE SHOULD I STAY?
Contact Balloon Fiesta Travel to reserve a hotel, www.balloonfiesta-hotels.com, or at 505.346.0522.

CAN YOU PARK AN RV AT THE FIELD?
RV’s can be parked in our general parking for an individual session but not overnight. The cost will be determined by the number of spaces used.

WHAT ARE THE DATES OF FUTURE BALLOON FIESTAS?
2020 October 3–October 11
2021 October 2–October 10 (Our 50th celebration!)
2022 October 1–October 9

WHERE CAN I LEARN MORE ABOUT ALBUQUERQUE?
Visit the website of Visit Albuquerque at www.visitalbuquerque.org to browse an online version of the Official Albuquerque Guest Guide, or request a printed copy by calling Visit Albuquerque’s office at 1-800-284-2282. Visitor’s Guides are also distributed at their exhibit booth located on the south end of Main Street and the Information Booths on our Park during the Balloon Fiesta.
ALBUQUERQUE FACTS

Albuquerque is the largest city in New Mexico, the state known as the Land of Enchantment. It is situated at 5,000 feet (1,539 meters) above sea level and is a prime location for hot-air ballooning because of the “Albuquerque Box.” The Albuquerque area is home to more than 900,000 residents, and its vibrant cultural diversity can be seen in the many aspects of daily life here. People are drawn to the area for its unique and varying landscape, including the majestic Rocky Mountains, red rock mesas, high desert vegetation and the picturesque Rio Grande river valley.

The area is known for its high quality of life and fair weather. It is also one of the nation’s most dynamic art communities. Albuquerque is centrally located and is an easy drive from Denver, Dallas-Ft. Worth, Phoenix, Tucson, El Paso, Oklahoma City, Colorado Springs and Las Cruces, which cities boast a combined metro population of more than 12 million.
ALBUQUERQUE FACTS

Albuquerque's major streets run on a grid system. Most of the main streets will run either north-south or east-west. The address numbers start at Central Avenue at the railroad tracks in downtown Albuquerque and emanate outward. Sandia Mountains are to the east. Apps such as Google Maps are accurate and reliable and can help navigate you around town. Please review our traffic maps because during Balloon Fiesta sessions roads may be temporarily closed, so be sure to follow our signs.

The Balloon Fiesta Office and Gift Shop are located on Alameda Blvd. one mile west of I-25. During the event, the access routes into Balloon Fiesta Park will change based on the day of the week (weekday or weekend), as well as the direction from which you are coming (east or west). Please view our Getting to the Park section starting on page 7 for maps and directions.

LOCAL EDITORIALS AND CURRENT EVENTS

The Albuquerque Journal
www.abqjournal.com

Alibi
www.alibi.com

INTERESTING NEW MEXICO STATE FACTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fact</th>
<th>Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Flower</td>
<td>Yucca</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tree</td>
<td>Pinon Pine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bird</td>
<td>Roadrunner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nickname</td>
<td>Land of Enchantment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Official Question</td>
<td>Red or Green (Chile)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tie</td>
<td>Bolo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Statehood</td>
<td>January 6, 1912 (47th state in the Nation)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Capital</td>
<td>Santa Fe (At nearly 7,000 ft. above sea level, it is the highest and oldest U.S. capital.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Highest Point</td>
<td>Wheeler Peak, 13,161 ft.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aircraft</td>
<td>Hot Air Balloon</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Albuquerque is in the north-central part of New Mexico and is bisected by east-west Interstate 40 and north-south Interstate 25.

how do i navigate around albuquerque?

TRAIN

NM Rail Runner Express
(505) 245-7245
www.nmrailrunner.com

The Railrunner is a commuter rail running through the heart of Albuquerque. Spanning 100 miles from Santa Fe to Belen through the beautiful Rio Grande Valley, the train corridor has 13 stations, operating seven days a week. For more information on this excellent transportation option, please follow the link to Rail Runner Express or call (505) 245-7245.

PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION

For ABQ Ride bus schedules and routes, call (505) 243-RIDE (7433).

For Sun Tran bus schedules and routes, call (505) 843-9200.
www.cabq.gov/transit/tran.html

TAXI SERVICES

Albuquerque and Santa Fe are serviced by multiple cab companies:

ABQ Metro Taxi Service..............(505) 450-8580
Checker Cab............................(505) 243-7777
Giant Cab...............................(505) 243-6800
NM Black Car Service..............(505) 316-1100
Rio Rancho Cab........................(505) 506-1111
Yellow Cab..............................(505 633-6430

RIDE SHARE SERVICES

Please use your Ride Share Apps for scheduling rides with Ride Share services.

SHUTTLE SERVICES

Santa Fe Shuttle (505) 243-2300 / 1-888-833-2300 or online at www.shuttlesantafe.com Provides safe, comfortable travel between Albuquerque and Santa Fe.
MUSEUMS

The Anderson Abruzzo Balloon Museum
At Balloon Fiesta Park
View the development of ballooning through historic, scientific & artistic exhibits.
(505) 768-6020 | 9201 Balloon Museum Dr NE

Albuquerque Museum
A collection of contemporary and historical art
(505) 243-7255 | 2000 Mountain Road NW

Explora Museum
A children's science museum
(505) 224-8300 | 1701 Mountain Road NW

Hispanic Cultural Center
Dedicated to the study, advancement, and presentation of Hispanic culture
(505) 246-2261 | 1701 4th Street SW

Indian Pueblo Cultural Center
Dedicated to the preservation of Pueblo Indian culture, history and art
(505) 843-7270 | 2401 12th Street NW

Maxwell Museum of Anthropology
Offers exhibits and programs relating to cultures around the world
(505) 277-4405
University of New Mexico, University Blvd.

National Museum of Nuclear Science & History
A place to learn, imagine, think and draw your own conclusions
(505) 245-2137 | 601 Eubank Blvd. SE

New Mexico Museum of Natural History and Science
Learn the story of the diverse natural history of New Mexico
(505) 841-2800 | 1801 Mountain Road NW

Tinkertown Museum
Man-made eccentric memorabilia museum
(505) 281-5233 | 121 Sandia Crest Road, Sandia Park, NM

University of New Mexico Art Museum
Our efforts allow people throughout the world to enjoy our acquisitions
(505) 277-4001
University of New Mexico, Center for the Arts

Unser Racing Museum
All about the Unser family and their racing history
(505) 341-1776 | 1776 Montano Road NW

Meow Wolf
Unique & immersive art installations with multimedia elements
(505) 395-6369 | 1352 Rufina Circle, Santa Fe, NM

Fun for the Whole Family

Albuquerque Aquarium and Rio Grande Botanical Garden
(505) 764-6200 or (505) 768-2000
2601 Central Avenue NW

Hinkle Family Fun Center
Rides, games, lazer tag, bumper cars, and mini golf
(505) 299-3100 | 12931 Indian School Road NE

Main Event
(505) 884-3114
4040 Pan American Frwy NE

Dave & Busters
(505) 881-0205
2100 Louisiana Blvd. NE

Sandia Peak Tramway
The world's longest aerial tramway
(505) 856-7325 | 10 Tramway Loop NE

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Movie Venues
Cinema venues include Century 14 Downtown, Century Rio 24, Rio Rancho Premier Cinema, UA High Ridge 8, Icon Cinema Four Hills, UA Cottonwood Mall Stadium, Cinemark Movies 8, Regal Winrock Stadium 16, Cinemark Movies West, and Flix Brewhouse. For more information, check local newspapers or visit www.fandango.com.

Old Town Plaza
Shopping and arts in the original City Plaza
(505) 243-3215
One block N.of Central Avenue, at Rio Grande Blvd

Popejoy Hall
New Mexico’s grandest multi-use theater
(505) 277-9771 | University of New Mexico, Popejoy Hall

Rio Grande Nature Center State Park
270 acres flourishing with native grasses, wildflowers, and cottonwoods
(505) 344-7240 | 2901 Candelaria Road NW

Rio Grande Zoo
Encounter more than 250 species of exotic and native animals
(505) 764-6200 or (505) 768-2000 | 903 Tenth Street SW
WHAT CAN I DO AFTER THE BALLOONS?

BREWERIES

When you want to sip on something locally made, you’ll find plenty of options in and around Albuquerque. The craft beer scene has exploded here, earning such accolades as a Top 10 beer destination from Travelocity and one of America’s best beercation spots from Beer & Brewing Magazine. A number of local brewers have been awarded medals at prestigious events like the Great American Beer Festival.

There are dozens of breweries scattered around the city. If you want to hit multiple breweries in a single stop, drop by the bustling Brewery District, which can be found on Candelaria between Edith and I-25.

Here are a few of the city’s award-winning breweries.

Steel Bender Brewyard
8315 2nd Street NW
Albuquerque, NM 87114

Rio Bravo Brewing Company
1912 2nd Street NW
Albuquerque, NM 87102

Desert Valley Brewing Co.
5700 Ellison Rd NW
Albuquerque, NM 87114

Toltec Brewing Co.
10230 Cottonwood Park NW
Albuquerque, NM 87114

Boxing Bear Brewing Co.
10200 Corrales NW
Albuquerque, NM 87114

Casa Vieja Brewing
4541 Corrales Rd
Corrales, NM 87048

Drifty Kilt
4814 Hardware Drive NE
Albuquerque, NM 87109

Nexus Brewery
4730 Pan American Freeway NE
Albuquerque, NM 87109

Starr Brothers Brewing
5700 I-25 & I-40
Albuquerque, NM 87109

Red Door Brewing Co.
1001 Candelaria Rd NE
Albuquerque, NM 87107

Ponderosa Brewing Co.
1751 Belen Road NW
Albuquerque, NM 87104

Canteen Brewhouse
2381 Aztec Rd NE
Albuquerque, NM 87107

Marble Brewery – 3 locations
Downtown
1111 University NW
Albuquerque, NM 87102
Westside
5740 North Whisper Rd NW
Albuquerque, NM 87114
NE Heights
9984 Montgomery Blvd NE
Albuquerque, NM 87111

Bore & Arrow Brewing Co.
602 McKnight Ave NW
Albuquerque, NM 87104

Broken Trail Spirits + Brew
2921 Stanford Dr NE
Albuquerque, NM 87107

Lava Rock Brewing Co.
2220 Unser Blvd
Albuquerque, NM 87107

Santa Fe Brewing Co.
3610 Cerrillos NE
Albuquerque, NM 87110

High and Dry Brewing Co.
529 Adams St NE
Albuquerque, NM 87108

Quarter Celtic Brewhub
1100 San Mateo Blvd NE, Suite 50
Albuquerque, NM 87110

Allen Brewhub
6601 Uptown Blvd NE
Albuquerque, NM 87110

Black Snout Brewhouse
11500 Menaul Blvd NE
Suite M-2
Albuquerque, NM 87120

San Mateo Tap Room
8500 San Mateo Blvd NE
Albuquerque, NM 87113

Nob Hill Public House
106 Girard Blvd NE
Albuquerque, NM 87106

Bosque North
834 U St
Bernalillo, NM 87004
TOURS
Discover the many ways to explore Albuquerque.

**Albuquerque Tourism & Sightseeing Factory**
505.200.2642
Offering daily city tours, a top rated Breaking Bad tour and ghost tours.

**Routes & Rentals Bike Tours**
505.933.5667
Themed tours offered in Albuquerque and Santa Fe. Themes range from history, culinary and Breaking Bad tours.

**ABQ Glide Tours**
505.967.7705
Eco-friendly city tours of ABQ using Segways.

**NM Jeep Tours**
505.633.0383
Mountain and Mesa guided jeep tours.

**NM Food Tours**
505.465.9474
Guided culinary tour of Old Town Albuquerque.

**History and Ghost Tours of Old Town**
505.246.8687
Guided walking tours in Old Town Albuquerque.
WHAT CAN I DO AFTER THE BALLOONS?

CASINOS

Sandia Resort & Casino
30 Rainbow Road NE
Albuquerque 3.8 miles
Off I-25, exit 235 at Tramway
(505) 796-7300 / 1-800-526-9366

Isleta Resort & Casino
Pueblo of Isleta 20.3 miles
11000 Broadway Blvd. SE
(505) 724-3800

Route 66 Casino Hotel
14500 Central Ave. NW
Albuquerque 16.7 miles
W. on I-40, exit 140
(505) 352-7866

Black Mesa Casino
25 Hagen Rd 22 miles
San Felipe, NM 87001
(505) 867-6700 / 1-877-529-2946

Santa Ana Star Casino
54 Jemez Canyon Dam Road
Santa Ana Pueblo, Bernalillo 13.4 miles
N. on I-25, exit 242
One mile W. on Hwy. 550
(505) 867-0000

Dancing Eagle Casino
Interstate 40 Exit 108
Casa Blanca, NM 87007 59.9 miles
1-877-440-9969

Buffalo Thunder Resort & Casino
30 Buffalo Thunder Trail
Santa Fe, NM 87506 69 miles
15 minutes north of Santa Fe Plaza
Exit 177 off highway 84/285
(877) 455-7775

Sky City Casino
I-40 Exit 102
Acoma, New Mexico 71.1 miles
W. on I-40, exit 102
(505) 552-6123
TRAVEL HELP

HOW DO I FLY INTO ALBUQUERQUE?

Albuquerque’s Airport / Albuquerque International Sunport (ABQ)
Sunport Information (505) 244-7700
2200 Sunport Blvd. SE, Albuquerque, New Mexico 87106

AIRCRAFT THAT FLY INTO ALBUQUERQUE

Allegiant Air
1-702-505-8888

Skywest Airlines
435-634-3000

Southwest Airlines
1-800-I-FLY-SWA (435-9792)

American Airlines
1-800-433-7300

Delta Airlines
1-800-325-8224

United Airlines
1-800-864-8331

Alaska Airlines
1-800-252-7522

United Express
1-800-864-8331

Volaris Airlines
1-855-865-2747

JetBlue
1-800-538-2583

US Airways Express
1-800-433-7300

Frontier Airlines
1-801-401-9000

TRAIN:

Amtrak provides service to Albuquerque. Online information
at www.amtrak.com or call 1-800-USA-RAIL
(or TDD/TTY 1-800-523-6590).
The station is located at 214 First Street SW.

WHERE DO I STAY IN ALBUQUERQUE?

For your convenience in locating hotel accommodations, we offer the assistance of Balloon Fiesta Travel, located through our Travel Link at www.balloonfiestahotels.com, or call 505.346.0522 for further assistance.

CAR RENTALS:

Advantage Rent a Car
855-580-5110

Alamo Rent A Car
1-800-GO-ALAMO
1-844-366-0504

Avis Car Rental
1-800-366-7900
Hearing Impaired/TDD
1-800-331-2323

Budget Rent a Car of NM, Inc
www.budget.com
1-800-826-5510
Hearing Impaired/TDD
1-800-872-9541

Dollar Rent a Car
1-800-800-4000
Hearing Impaired/TDD
1-800-232-3301

Enterprise Rent a Car
1-844-366-0505

Hertz Corporation
1-800-842-4235
Hearing Impaired/TDD
1-800-654-2280

National Rent a Car
1-844-366-0506

Thrifty Car Rental
www.thrifty.com
1-877-283-0898