



Dawn Patrol/Dawn Patrol Show

Watch balloons take flight in a celestial predawn dance during this choreographed display. The Dawn Patrol is more than an airy promenade; it is also a chance for pilots to determine the day's winds aloft conditions and for early bird guests to send our balloonists off with a cheer. The Dawn Patrol Show occurs on Mass Ascension Days.

Mass Ascensions

Witness hundreds of prismatic balloons lift off and fill the horizon in this unforgettable, two-wave mass ascension. An excellent photo op be sure to experience the drama and serenity of ballooning in this popular weekend and Wednesday morning event lasting up to two hours.

Special Shape Rodeo™ and Glowdeo™

We wouldn't be a Balloon Fiesta without a little rodeo thrown in, or should we say Glowdeo™! These unique events showcase some of the most uniquely shaped balloons at our event, such as a family of bees, stagecoach, cow, and whales, in an AM flight and a PM glow.

America's Challenge Gas Balloon Race

The America's Challenge is one of two premier distance races for gas balloons in the world. The other is the Coupe Aéronautique Gordon Bennett, the world's oldest air race, founded in 1906. The America's Challenge was founded by the Albuquerque International Balloon Fiesta in 1995 to provide a consistent American venue for gas ballooning. The results of the America's Challenge event are used as a qualifier for US teams to enter the Gordon Bennett.

Flight of the Nations – Mid-Week Mass Ascension

During this mid-week flight, preceding the Mass Ascension, select pilots of participating countries will carry their country's flag during this multinational flight. This exciting event recognizes the international ballooning community that participates in Balloon Fiesta to help make it the largest of its kind in the world.

Twilight Twinkle Glow, Balloon Glow™, and Night Magic™ Glow

Celebrated for their ethereal whimsy, these events are among the most widely anticipated of the Balloon Fiesta. At twilight the burners of tethered balloons are ignited, illuminating the night with colorfully glowing envelopes that guests can wander amongst before enjoying the AfterGlow™ Fireworks show.

Competitions

Double launches on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday offer the best shows at the Balloon Fiesta. They combine the launch of hundreds of balloons from the Launch Field with the allure of hundreds more maneuvering to the Launch Field for their chance at prizes and fame, creating a theatrical ebb and flow of color in the sky. Through our various competitions during the Balloon Fiesta, pilots can demonstrate their flying finesse, control, and accuracy while competing with international peers for points and prizes.

AfterGlow™ Fireworks presented by Sandia Resort & Casino

Following each glow event the night blooms with the most spectacular fireworks show in the state. Bring your blankets and chairs for this popular extravaganza. Shows begin as soon as the Launch Field is clear of balloons. Once the balloons are glowing, only outbound traffic is allowed, so attendees who wish to watch the show must arrive at the park for the beginning of the evening's glow event. Starting times are approximate and subject to change without notice.

Main Street

During ballooning events, be sure to visit this one-third mile stretch at Balloon Fiesta Park where you will find a plethora of great food vendors, unique merchandise, and hands-on exhibits, including the Balloon Discovery Center where kids can learn balloon basics.

The Gondola Club presented by Sysco

Make Balloon Fiesta the most comfortable experience possible by purchasing a morning or evening session at the Gondola Club where you can watch the festivities from the most scenic location at the park. The club is a V.I.P. area that offers convenient parking, private seating, gourmet food service and open bar, luxury bathrooms, shuttle service, and live entertainment during evening sessions.

Chasers' Club

With the purchase of a Chasers' Club AM or PM session, you get the chance to upgrade your Balloon Fiesta experience to a more upscale setting. This club is in a reserved area at the north end of the field. It includes, luxury bathrooms and an outdoor patio with an exceptional view of the field from which you can enjoy a cocktail and light buffet and pastries while watching the day's balloons take to the sky or glow.

Concierge Program

For the ultimate, insider's 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 and end your session with a visit to the Balloon Museum. 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.

Glamping

Experience the Albuquerque International Balloon Fiesta in a whole new way - Glamping! Tents are 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.

The Albuquerque International Balloon Fiesta is the world's largest celebration of man's first flight technology - the hot air balloon. During this nine-day fiesta in Albuquerque, New Mexico, balloon enthusiasts from around the world come together to enjoy an art form that has delighted spectators and participants for two centuries. Whether on the ground or in the sky, the allure of the hot air balloon is undeniable. The whimsy and showmanship that surround this colorful event inspires spectators of all ages, inflating the imaginations of children and inner children alike.



During October in New Mexico, the soft Autumnal light, changing leaves, and crisp blue sky make a breathtaking backdrop for hundreds of vibrant balloons that ascend daily from Balloon Fiesta Park. Whether you are watching The Dawn Patrol lift off as the sun breaks over the Sandia Mountains, or the evening Glowdeo begins against a neon sunset, there is a special charm at Balloon Fiesta that draws you in and leaves you forever changed by its magic.

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 the best possible location for ballooning at this time of year. The lower altitude of the river valley to the west and surrounding mountain ranges 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.



Schedule of Events

October 3-11, 2020



FRIDAY, OCTOBER 2

7:00 am Albuquerque Aloft (at local elementary schools)

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 3

6:00 am Dawn Patrol Show, presented by Route 66 Casino Hotel and RV Resort
 6:30 am Krispy Kreme Morning Glow
 6:45 am Opening Ceremonies
 7:00 am Mass Ascension, presented by Canon
 8:00 am - noon AIBF Chainsaw Carving Exhibition
 11:00 am AIBF Chainsaw Carving Auction
 2:00 pm America's Challenge Gas Balloon Inflation
 3:00 - 6:00 pm AIBF Chainsaw Carving Exhibition
 5:00 pm Team Fastrax Skydiving
 6:00 pm America's Challenge Gas Balloon Race Launch
 6:00 pm Twilight Twinkle Glow™, presented by Albuquerque Journal
 7:30 pm Team Fastrax Skydiving
 8:00 pm AfterGlow™ Fireworks Show, presented by Sandia Resort and Casino

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4

6:00 am Dawn Patrol Show, presented by Route 66 Casino Hotel and RV Resort
 6:30 am Krispy Kreme Morning Glow
 7:00 am Mass Ascension
 8:00 am - noon AIBF Chainsaw Carving Exhibition
 9:00 am Fiesta of Wheels Car Show (located on north end of Launch Field)
 11:00 am Balloon Fiesta Pin Trading (Group Tour Tent north end of Main Street)
 11:00 am AIBF Chainsaw Carving Auction
 3:00 - 6:00 pm AIBF Chainsaw Carving Exhibition
 5:00 pm Team Fastrax Skydiving
 6:00 pm Balloon Glow, presented by XTO Energy, Inc.
 7:30 pm Team Fastrax Skydiving
 8:00 pm AfterGlow™ Fireworks Show, presented by Sandia Resort and Casino

MONDAY, OCTOBER 5

6:00 am Dawn Patrol
 7:00 am Balloon Launch from Park
 8:00 am Fly In Competition
 8:00 am - noon AIBF Chainsaw Carving Exhibition

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 6 COCA-COLA DAY

6:00 am Dawn Patrol
 7:00 am Balloon Launch from Park
 8:00 am Fly In Competition
 8:00 am - noon AIBF Chainsaw Carving Exhibition

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 7

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

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 8 KIDS' DAY presented by KOB-TV

4:30 am Kids' Day Goodie Bag Distribution begins (South of Main Street Stage)
 6:00 am Dawn Patrol
 7:00 am Special Shape Rodeo™
 8:00 am Fly In Competition
 8:00 am - noon AIBF Chainsaw Carving Exhibition
 11:00 am AIBF Chainsaw Carving Auction
 3:00 - 6:00 pm AIBF Chainsaw Carving Exhibition
 5:00 pm Team Fastrax Skydiving
 6:00 pm Special Shape Glowdeo™
 7:30 pm Team Fastrax Skydiving
 8:00 pm* AfterGlow™ Fireworks Show, presented by Sandia Resort and Casino



FRIDAY, OCTOBER 9

6:00 am Dawn Patrol
 7:00 am Special Shape Rodeo™
 8:00 am Fly In Competition
 8:00 am - noon AIBF Chainsaw Carving Exhibition
 11:00 am AIBF Chainsaw Carving Auction
 3:00 - 6:00 pm AIBF Chainsaw Carving Exhibition
 5:00 pm Team Fastrax Skydiving
 6:00 pm Special Shape Glowdeo™
 7:30 pm Team Fastrax Skydiving
 8:00 pm* AfterGlow™ Fireworks Show, presented by Sandia Resort and Casino

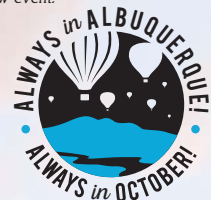
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 10

6:00 am Dawn Patrol Show, presented by Route 66 Casino Hotel and RV Resort
 6:30 am Krispy Kreme Morning Glow
 7:00 am Mass Ascension, presented by XTO Energy, Inc.
 8:00 am - noon AIBF Chainsaw Carving Exhibition
 11:00 am Balloon Fiesta Pin Trading (Group Tour Tent north end of Main Street)
 11:00 am AIBF Chainsaw Carving Auction
 1:00 - 5:00 pm Music Fiesta
 3:00 - 6:00 pm AIBF Chainsaw Carving Exhibition
 5:00 pm Team Fastrax Skydiving
 6:00 pm Night Magic™ Glow, presented by Canon
 7:30 pm Team Fastrax Skydiving
 8:00 pm* AfterGlow™ Fireworks Show, presented by Sandia Resort and Casino

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 11

6:00 am Dawn Patrol Show, presented by Route 66 Casino Hotel and RV Resort
 6:30 am Krispy Kreme Morning Glow
 7:00 am Farewell Mass Ascension
 8:00 am - noon AIBF Chainsaw Carving Exhibition

* 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 watch the AfterGlow™ fireworks shows from the Park, plan to arrive at the Park in time for that evening's glow event.



WWW.BALLOONFIESTA.COM

The latest schedule, hotel information, balloon ride information, maps and directions, ticket information and ticket purchasing, photo galleries, travel and parking information, free news updates, history, and much more...

Admission for balloon sessions is \$15 per session for guests 13 and older. Children 12 years and under are FREE. No refunds are available but tickets for cancelled sessions may be used for future sessions.

For Music Fiesta admission prices, please visit www.balloonfiesta.com/Music-Fiesta.

PARKING

There is a \$20 cash fee for parking for each session. All session parking passes may be purchased in advance in the Gift Shop at the Balloon Fiesta office.

FIESTA EXPRESS PARK & RIDE

The fastest way into the park! Leave from one of several convenient locations around the city. Pricing, locations, schedules, and tickets are available online at www.balloonfiesta.com/Park-Ride.

BALLOON RIDES

Rainbow Ryders
 Official Balloon Ride Company
 Toll Free 1.800.725.2477
www.rainbowryders.com

TRAVEL & HOTEL RESERVATIONS

www.balloonfiestahotels.com
 Toll Free 1.833.229.9777

VISITOR INFORMATION

Visit Albuquerque
 Toll Free 1.800.284.2282
www.visitabq.org

RV TRAVEL

Toll Free 1.888.422.7277 or
 505.821.1000, ext. 117
www.balloonfiesta.com/RV-information

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