



experience new mexico

an exclusive trip for Alumni & Friends of Holy Cross

The ultimate New Mexican adventure offers a fascinating and enchanting blend of diverse cultures, ancient history, world-class art and a VIP experience at the world's largest hot air balloon fiesta! This six-day, five-night trip begins in Albuquerque and travels to Santa Fe, Taos and Abiquiú. Explore the Sangre de Cristo Mountains, the famed Museum Hill in Santa Fe and take a private guided tour of Georgia O'Keeffe's Home & Studio. Experience one of the world's premier art destinations, while connecting with Pueblo, Hispano and Anglo cultures with centuries of history.

Join fellow alumni and friends of Holy Cross and join us for an unforgettable week in New Mexico. We welcome you to The Land of Enchantment!

Register by February 1, 2020 to confirm your spot on this trip. This trip will be cancelled and you will be refunded if less than 10 people sign up.



blankcanvastours
TRIPS THAT ENGAGE YOUR CREATIVE SIDE



trip date

- October 8-13, 2020

what's included

- Two expert trip leaders
- Accommodations
- Luxury van transportation
- Private guided tours through museums and other venues
- Tickets and exclusive access to performances
- All dinners and breakfasts at top restaurants
- Snacks and beverages between meals
- All gratuities at hotels and restaurants
- Baggage transfer and portorage
- NOTE: Airfare is not included in the price

weather

- Average annual temperatures
High 72/Low 46

pricing

- \$2,500 per person for double occupancy room
- \$3,400 per person for single occupancy room

HIGHLIGHTS

ALBUQUERQUE INTERNATIONAL BALLOON FIESTA

Originally started in 1972 as a celebration of the 50th birthday celebration for a local radio station, the Albuquerque International Balloon Fiesta has grown to be the largest balloon festival in the world! Close to 1 million visitors come from around the world during this nine-day event to enjoy over 500 distinctively different and high quality hot air balloons.

MUSEUM HILL

A central destination where guests can explore four world-class museums presenting the art, history and culture of the Native American Southwest, the Spanish colonial past, and folk traditions from around the world.

THE SANTA FE PLAZA

A National Historic Landmark in downtown Santa Fe in the style of traditional Spanish-American colonial cities. Known as "the heart of Santa Fe", The Plaza encompasses an area with historic monuments, restaurants, businesses and art galleries.

GEORGIA O'KEEFFE MUSEUM

A museum dedicated to the artistic legacy of Georgia O'Keeffe, her life, American modernism, and public engagement. The collection includes the largest permanent collection of O'Keeffe's work in the world.

GEORGIA O'KEEFFE HOUSE & STUDIO

The principal residence and studio of artist Georgia O'Keeffe from 1945 until 1984. Dedicated as a National Historic Landmark in 1998, it is one of the most important artistic sites in the southwestern United States.

GHOST RANCH

Ghost Ranch encompasses 21,000 acres of towering rock walls, vivid colors and vast skies and is the landscape that inspired Georgia O'Keeffe to move from New York to New Mexico. The Cerro Pedernal, one of the most recognized landmarks in north-central New Mexico, was a favorite of O'Keeffe's to paint.

TAOS PUEBLO

An ancient pueblo and the only living Native American community designated both as a UNESCO World Heritage Site and National Historic Landmark. The pueblos are considered to be one of the oldest continuously inhabited communities in the United States by the Taos-speaking Native American tribe of Puebloan people.

NEW MEXICAN CUISINE

Cuisine of the Southwestern United States is primarily known for the fusion of Pueblo Native American with Hispano, Spanish and Mexican cuisine. The cuisine has had adaptations and influences through its history and developed in fairly isolated circumstances which has allowed it to maintain its indigenous, Spanish, and Mexican identity. It's not like any other Latin food originating in the contiguous United States!



Day 1: Thursday, October 8

Shuttles will transfer you from the Albuquerque Airport to the luxurious Hotel Chaco. Experienced trip leaders will greet you, get you checked in to your room and we'll gather as a group to introduce the tour and enjoy some light refreshments together. The day continues with a walking tour of Albuquerque's famed Old Town and a gourmet welcome dinner at Los Poblanos, a James Beard award finalist! We'll be joined by a special guest speaker to provide a historic overview on the Albuquerque International Balloon Fiesta—a featured event for the next day.

Accommodations for the night at Hotel Chaco

Day 2: Friday, October 9

After breakfast at the Hotel Chaco, we'll take in the majestic Balloon Fiesta from our own private viewing area. Following the performance, you'll have the option of getting on a hot-air balloon and taking in breathtaking views of New Mexico!

Following a catered lunch, we'll head up to Santa Fe, home to hundreds of unique art galleries and artisan shops. We'll have time to explore these lovely galleries and take a guided walking chapel tour. This includes the Loretto Chapel, a church turned museum that is known for its unique helix-shaped spiral staircase, and the San Miguel Chapel, the oldest church in the USA. In the evening, we'll enjoy a leisurely al fresco dinner at Restaurant Martin, a Santa Fe favorite!

Accommodations for the night at La Fonda on the Plaza

Day 3: Saturday, October 10

After breakfast at the La Fonda on the Plaza, located right in the heart of downtown Santa Fe, we'll head to Museum Hill. Four world-class museums in one space! Choose between the Museum of Spanish Colonial Art, the Museum of Indian Arts & Culture, the Museum of International Folk Art and the Wheelwright Museum of the American Indian. Or visit all four! Lunch is at your leisure in the complex and in the afternoon we'll head over to the Santa Fe Botanical Gardens for a private guided tour before dining at one of the state's best restaurants, The Compound. In the evening we'll take in a performance at the Santa Fe Symphony!

Accommodations for the night at La Fonda on the Plaza

Day 4: Sunday, October 11

After breakfast at the La Fonda on the Plaza, we'll take a private guided tour of the Georgia O'Keeffe Museum which offers insight not only into the artist's paintings, but also her creative process and the light and landscape that inspired her. The Museum's collections of over 3,000 works comprises 140 O'Keeffe oil paintings, nearly 700 drawings, and hundreds of additional works dating from 1901 to 1984, the year failing eyesight forced O'Keeffe into retirement.

Enjoy lunch at one of the many cafés dotting The Plaza and you'll have the opportunity in the afternoon to visit the IAIA MoCNA or the New Mexico Museum of Art, or experience Meow Wolf. We'll reconvene as a group and enjoy dinner at The Coyote Café and Cantina, a Santa Fe staple.

Accommodations for the night at La Fonda on the Plaza

Day 5: Monday, October 12

Enjoy breakfast at La Fonda on the Plaza before we depart for Abiquiú where we'll take a private guided tour of the Georgia O'Keeffe Home & Studio, a designated national landmark. The Abiquiú house, garden, and surrounding views were a great source of inspiration to Georgia O'Keeffe. It is a property that she put much time and love into, making it "a house of her own." Enjoy an al fresco lunch at the Abiquiú Inn before we travel to Ghost Ranch, where you'll see through your own eyes the scenes and locations of Georgia O'Keeffe's paintings interwoven with stories of her fifty years at Ghost Ranch. We'll take a lovely scenic drive up to The Old Taos Guesthouse Inn, a beautiful bed and breakfast hacienda and home for the evening. Enjoy dinner at The Love Apple, a New Mexico restaurant retrofitted from a 100-year-old Chapel. We'll return to the Inn to take in the tremendous night sky, a wonderful opportunity to do some star-gazing and revel in the beauty of the Milky Way galaxy.

Accommodations for the night at The Old Taos Guesthouse Inn

Day 6: Tuesday, October 13

Enjoy breakfast at The Old Taos Guesthouse Inn before departing for Taos Pueblo, a UNESCO World Heritage Site which is home to the Taos-speaking Native American tribe of Puebloan people. The pueblos are considered to be one of the oldest continuously inhabited communities in the US. This unique tour will take you back in time! We'll enjoy a farewell lunch at Antonio's right off the Taos Plaza. Our departure takes us along the iconic High Road back to Santa Fe where we'll also provide a shuttle to the Albuquerque Airport. What a wonderful week it has been!

Register by February 1, 2020 to confirm your spot on this trip.

CONFIRMATION PACKAGE: Once we receive your reservation and deposit, we will send you detailed information on what to bring, how to prepare for your trip, travel directions, a detailed itinerary including where and when we meet, and pre or post tour hotel ideas should you desire help.

Days Prior to Trip Start Date | Trip Cancellation Fee Per Person

91+ days | \$250
61-90 days | \$500
45-60 days | 75% of trip price
0-44 days | 100% of trip price

When you cancel a trip, you must notify us in writing. The post-mark or date stamp will be considered the valid date of cancellation. Exceptions to these policies cannot be made for any reason. Any eligible refund will be processed only after receipt of written notice of cancellation and may take up to 15 business days to process.

BLANK CANVAS TRIP CHANGES AND CANCELLATIONS: Blank Canvas reserves the right to make date, route, activity, and hotel modifications to any tour. This includes the details of itineraries as they appear on www.BlankCanvasTours.com. If unforeseen circumstances require a change to the trip itinerary, Blank Canvas will make every effort to select alternatives, including lodging accommodations, that are of the same standard and to keep modifications to a minimum. Blank Canvas reserves the right to cancel a trip for any reason. In such an instance, we will refund all payments received, which will constitute full settlement.

ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE: Each trip begins and ends in a town accessible by car. Meeting and ending locations are listed on each of the individual trip pages, as well as in your pre-departure information. If you prefer to arrive at the starting point the night prior to the trip departure date, we will be happy to provide you with instructions on how to contact the hotels directly, or to make these reservations for you, subject to availability. If you elect to have Blank Canvas make these reservations for you, the hotels and inns require that we provide them with a credit card number to hold these reservations or, in rare occasions, to send them a check in advance of arrival. We will advise you of specific hotel and inn payment policies. Rates may differ from those included in Blank Canvas trip prices.

ACCOMMODATIONS: Trip prices are based on double occupancy. If you are traveling alone, you will pay the single room supplement. There are a limited number of single rooms available on all trips. There is room for a single triple occupancy group per trip and will be available first come, first serve.

Trip Price Includes:

- Accommodations
- Breakfast, dinner daily, lunch all but two "free exploration" days
- All museum, theatre and concert venue admission/ticket fees
- Gratuities for hotels, meals and baggage
- Experienced guides
- All transportation during the trip by van

Trip Price Does Not Include:

- Air and land transportation to and from the trip
- Alcoholic beverages
- Personal expenses
- Non-scheduled activities or suggested activities

TRAVEL SERVICES: At the request of guests, Blank Canvas may recommend the services of other companies including hotels, transportation, restaurants, and other services outside the scope of our operations. While Blank Canvas takes care to recommend excellent and reliable external travel organizations, we do not guarantee services provided by these companies and are not liable for issues, or cancellations that may arise.

CHILDREN'S RATES: All minors must be accompanied by an adult. Anyone under the age of 18 on the date of first travel is considered to be a minor. Each adult on a booking with a minor is responsible for the behavior, well-being, supervision and monitoring of such a minor. Each adult assumes the terms and conditions for and on behalf of any minor on their booking, including all assumptions of risk and limitations of liability. The Tour Operator does not provide care services for minors and expressly disclaims any responsibility for chaperoning or controlling any minor. Children's rates are the same as standard adult rates.

MEDICAL AND HEALTH: Blank Canvas Tours does not employ medical personnel. Any medical attention you require while traveling with Blank Canvas Tours must be sought through a local medical facility, if/when available, for diagnosis. All related charges are at your expense. Blank Canvas Tours cannot guarantee the availability of medical facilities or for the quality of the care or services.

RESPONSIBILITY AND RELEASE: The liability of the President and Trustees of Williams College, as sponsor, and Blank Canvas Tours LLC, as tour operator, is strictly limited. Blank Canvas Tours LLC purchases transportation, hotel accommodations, and restaurant and other services from independent suppliers not under our control. We serve only as agents for these suppliers in securing tour arrangements, and therefore will not accept responsibility for wrongful, negligent, or arbitrary acts or omissions of these independent contractors, or of their employees, agents, servants, or representatives. The President and Trustees of Williams College and Blank Canvas Tours LLC are not liable for injury, damage, loss, accident, or delay that may be caused by events not within our control, including, without limitation, acts of terrorism, war, strikes, the defect of any vehicle, or the negligence or default of any third party. All coupons, receipts, and tickets issued are subject to the terms and conditions specified by the independent suppliers. We will make every effort to operate our tours as planned, but we reserve the right to make itinerary changes as necessary. If unforeseen circumstances require us to change a hotel, we will select alternative accommodations of the same or better quality.

Blank Canvas Tours LLC reserves the right to accept, remove, retain or decline services to any trip member at any time for any reason. In such a case, a refund equal to the actual cost of the unused services is the limit of Blank Canvas' responsibility. Payment of your deposit represents your acceptance of the terms and conditions included herewith, as well as all general information listed in the catalog, online at www.BlankCanvasTours.com and subsequent trip departure material.

TRIP INSURANCE: We strongly recommend that you purchase trip cancellation insurance. In the event that you must cancel your participation in a travel program, trip cancellation insurance may be the only source of reimbursement. Trip cancellation insurance is available for comprehensive coverage of such expenses in conjunction with cancellation due to illness or accident, and damaged or lost luggage. Williams College will send you insurance information upon receipt of your reservation.

TRAVELER CODE: *By submitting your deposit, you agree to the following Traveler Code:*

I have chosen a trip that suits my abilities, level of fitness, and state of health.
I do not have any physical conditions or disabilities that are a hazard to me or other travelers.
I will read all pre-trip materials about clothing, medical requirements, and culture specific etiquette.
I will make sure to communicate any special requests at least 30 days prior to travel. This includes dietary restrictions, medical requirements, and room preferences.
I understand that Blank Canvas will make every effort to accommodate special requests but cannot guarantee they will be met.
I will respect the laws and customs of states visited.
I will follow environmental guidelines and regulations while on the trip in accordance with guide direction.
I understand that group travel invariably involves compromise to accommodate the diverse desires, travel goals, personalities, and physical abilities of all group members. Blank Canvas guides may be required to improvise and exercise good faith, use discretion, and/or make decisions based upon group consensus. These decisions may not always please each individual but are intended to satisfy the larger desires of the group.
I understand that Blank Canvas reserves the right to refuse service during a tour to anyone whose health or behavior could impede the welfare or enjoyment of fellow guests. An individual may be asked to leave a trip if the leader determines that the person's continuing participation may prove detrimental to the individual or the group.
I understand the weather is out of Blank Canvas' control.
I will consume alcohol responsibly.
As of July 2004 in the State of Massachusetts smoking is banned from restaurants and bars. Several of the hotels and inns on the tours also have strict no-smoking policy. I will abide by all smoking regulations in these establishments.
I will be responsible for any and all damages made to a hotel or inn room.



Enclosed is my/our deposit for \$_____ (\$500 per person) for _____ person(s) on the **Holy Cross New Mexico Trip, October 8-13, 2020**. I/We understand the final payment is due at least 95 days prior to departure. Payment may be made by American Express, Discover, MasterCard, VISA, or by personal check. Please make check payable to Blank Canvas Tours, and send with completed reservation form, to: *Alumni Travel Program, Office of Alumni Relations, College of the Holy Cross, 1 College Street, Worcester, MA 01610*. Please contact Blank Canvas Tours at **(toll-free) 833-641-0855** or at **info@blankcanvastours.com** for questions or reservations.

Full Name _____ Date of Birth _____ Gender _____

Full Name _____ Date of Birth _____ Gender _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Home Phone (_____) _____ Cell Phone (_____) _____

Email(s) _____

Please Note: The undersigned has read the schedule of activities for the Holy Cross New Mexico Trip, October 8-13, 2020 and agrees that their signature below represents their acceptance of the General Terms and Conditions.

Signature(s) _____ Date _____

Method of Payment Check AMEX Discover MasterCard VISA

Account # _____ Security Code _____ Exp Date _____ / _____

Name of Cardholder _____

Signature _____

Final invoicing will be sent by our tour operator, Blank Canvas Tours. The balance of the program price must be paid to Blank Canvas Tours. Final payment is due 95 days prior to departure and is payable by check or credit card.