



Morning Ascension



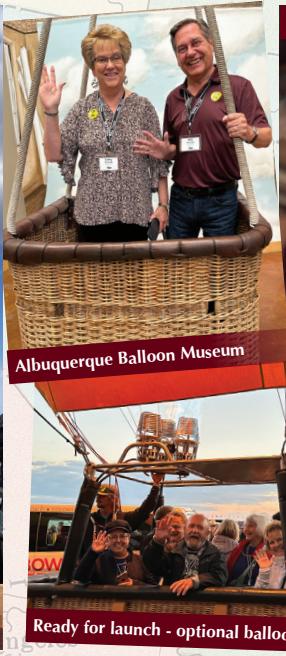
San Miguel Chapel in Santa Fe

Albuquerque Balloon Fiesta

October 5 - 14, 2026 (10 days)



Groom Cross



Awesome Optional Opportunity! Balloon Fiesta Balloon Rides are available!

Rainbow Ryders — Official Balloon Ride Concession
Price includes pilot gratuity. *Call after Feb. 20 for pricing.

R&J has reserved a limited number of Balloon Rides. These are first come, first paid. Additional rides based on availability.

ALL BALLOON SEATS FIRST CLASS!
So come join the fun - embark upon a journey of uniqueness!

FALL
104

HIGHLIGHTS

- * Three Visits to the Balloon Fiesta
- * Exclusive Reserved Hospitality at the Fiesta
- * Special Shapes Rodeo & Glowdeo
- * Mass Ascension
- * Balloon Fiesta Fireworks
- * Anderson-Abruzza International Balloon Museum
- * Day Trip to Santa Fe with Step-on Guide
- * Old Town Albuquerque
- * Four Nights in Albuquerque
- * National Cowboy Western & Heritage Museum featuring "Party on the Prairie" BBQ Dinner & Live Entertainment
- * Oklahoma City National Memorial
- * Indian Pueblo Cultural Museum
- * Garden of the Gods
- * Archway Museum



Cadillac Ranch

Why Albuquerque for the Fiesta?

Part of the reason for the success of the Fiesta is the cool Albuquerque morning temperatures in October and the Albuquerque box. The "box" is a set of predictable wind patterns that can be exploited to navigate the balloons. At low elevations the winds tend to be southerly (from the south), but at higher elevations they tend to be northerly. Balloonists use these winds to navigate in a vertical box: they ascend slightly from the launch park, move south, ascend further, move north, descend, and repeat the box or land back in the launch park or quite nearby.

Day 1 - Home to Overland Park, KS

A travel day through Iowa to Kansas will begin our adventure to Albuquerque and the International Balloon Fiesta. We'll make a lunch stop in Iowa before arriving at the Drury Inn. Enjoy the Drury's evening "Kickback" Reception, which is a complete light meal.

Included Meals: Drury Kickback

Hotel: Drury Inn

Day 2 - Kansas City to Oklahoma City, OK

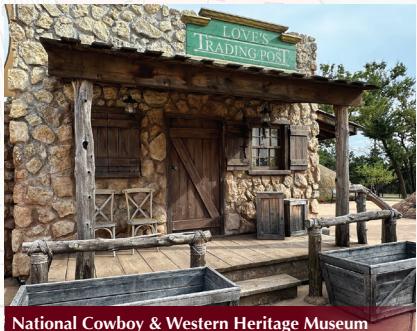
We will depart Kansas City and travel to Oklahoma City, enjoying comfort stops and lunch along the way. After checking into the Embassy Suites, we'll head to the National Cowboy & Western Heritage Museum, America's premier institution of Western history, art, and culture. As special guests for the museum's "Party on the Prairie," we'll have the entire museum to ourselves as we're welcomed with a hearty Western-style BBQ dinner and live entertainment from a local Western musician! We'll also be free to wander their extraordinary collections of renowned Western art, artifacts, and cultural treasures.

Included Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

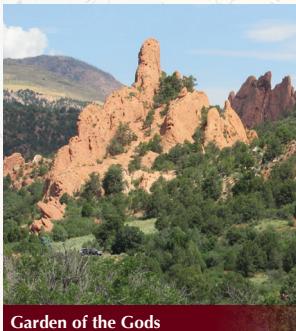
Hotel: Embassy Suites

Day 3 - Oklahoma City to Amarillo, TX

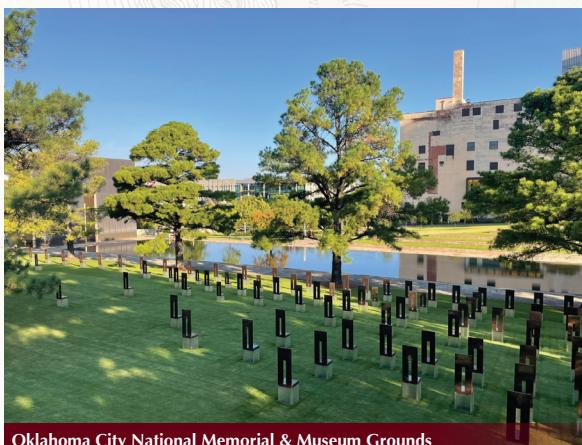
After breakfast at the hotel, we will depart for the Oklahoma City National Memorial, a memorial that honors the victims, survivors, rescuers, and all who were affected by the Oklahoma City bombing.



National Cowboy & Western Heritage Museum



Garden of the Gods



Oklahoma City National Memorial & Museum Grounds

ing on April 19, 1995. After visiting the memorial we will visit The Memorial Museum, which is an interactive learning experience that takes you on a chronological self-guided tour through the story of April 19, 1995, and the days, weeks and years that followed the bombing of Oklahoma City's Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building. The story tracks the remarkable journey of loss, resilience, justice and hope. A delicious lunch is included in Oklahoma City before we depart for a visit to the Groom Cross, a 19-story cross located next to Interstate 40. This 190-foot-tall, free-standing cross can be seen from 20 miles away. Surrounding the base of the cross are life-sized statues of the 14 Stations of the Cross. Our journey will then continue on to Amarillo, TX where we will spend the night. Enjoy the Drury's "Kickback" Reception.

Included Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Drury Kickback

Hotel: Drury Inn

Day 4 - Amarillo to Albuquerque, NM

This morning will begin the last leg of traveling days to Albuquerque! After breakfast at the hotel we will continue West on Interstate 40 (old Route 66). This afternoon we head to the Anderson Abruzzo International Balloon Museum. Let your imagination soar as you discover the world of ballooning. This world class museum showcases a vast collection of balloons, art work, and aerial artifacts. The exhibits show the history of ballooning and highlight the science that has thrilled human imagination for more than a century. On our way to the hotel, we will stop in Old Town Albuquerque and pick up our local, step-on guide for a short tour of Old Town. We'll then check into the Drury Inn, our comfy home the next four nights. It has been selected for its convenient location just a short distance from the Balloon Fiesta Park. This evening our included welcome dinner is served at Mimi's Cafe. Founded in 1978, Mimi's is a neighborhood bistro offering fresh, hand-prepared comfort food and bistro classics. They're famous for their bakery items, including muffins and croissants.

Included Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

Hotel: Drury Inn of Albuquerque (4 Nights)

Day 5 - Albuquerque

We rise early this morning! Breakfast is ready! (For those who purchased the optional balloon ride, your adventure is right away this morning!) R&J has arranged for our group to enjoy the morning session at the Chasers Club, which gives us guaranteed private seating in an outdoor patio located next to the launch field on the north end of the field. Here we can enjoy hot food items & refreshments. The morning session features the largest exhibition of Custom Shaped Balloons in the world as well as the "Flying Competition." Get out on the field and experience not only the excitement but the actual process of inflating the balloons. We depart the Fiesta and head to the Route 66 Diner for lunch! The Route 66 Diner is full of nostalgia, history, and great food! Next is some relaxing time

Glowdeo - So many unique and colorful hot air balloons!

"Everyone should see the Balloon Festival at least once in their lifetime!"
Lorelle, Paynesville MN



