



# Albuquerque Balloon Fiesta

*See hundreds of Hot Air Balloons soar above the desert while staying warm in our reserved seats in the Chasers' Club!*

**October 11-14, 2023**

3 nights, 4 days air/motorcoach trip  
Activity level – 4 Sneakers

Up, up and away go the balloons into the New Mexico sky each October. Few spectacles on earth rival the Mass Ascension, when hundreds of multi-colored balloons lift off from Balloon Fiesta Park to drift in the crisp early-morning high-desert air. We'll see it in comfort from the Chasers' Club, as well as enjoying the evening balloon glow with fireworks, a trip to Santa Fe, and the culture and history of the Southwest.

## **Wednesday, October 11– To the Land of Enchantment!**

Meet the shuttle at Columbia and Waterloo to be taken to the St. Louis Airport for our flight to New Mexico, the Land of Enchantment! Upon arrival in Albuquerque, our local tour guide will meet us in the baggage claim area of the Albuquerque International Airport and lead us to our waiting motor coach. We visit the **Indian Pueblo Cultural Center**, dedicated to the preservation and perpetuation of Pueblo Indian culture, history and art. The Center is committed to educating all generations of visitors and is your gateway to the lifeways and culture of the indigenous inhabitants of New Mexico. The Center has a museum, gallery and gift shop. The museum documents the origins, spoken traditions, arts and crafts and cultural development of the Pueblo. Enjoy a traditional lunch in our own private room at the center. We then head towards our hotel to drop bags and refresh. We stay at the **Drury for all 3 nights. (L, Happy Hour at the Drury)**



*Optional Tour: If you want to take your own balloon ride during our time in ABQ, contact us for more information and we will put you in touch with the Rainbow Ryders. The only company that takes off from the actual Balloon Fiesta field.*

## **Thursday, October 12 – Los Alamos and Chimayo plus Glowdeo**



After our hot breakfast we head to **Los Alamos**, where the Atomic Bomb was developed and tested. Enjoy this scenic drive and learn about the life people working on the top-secret project lived where no one knew their actual location. Experience getting clearance to enter the area that still has security measures in place. We visit the Bradbury Science Museum Here we will learn how LANL scientists are using the latest technologies to deal with the complex challenges of today's world, including issues of national security, energy, transportation, and commercial applications of military technology. There are science demonstrations, a laser you can play with, and exhibits on DNA fingerprinting. We will enjoy an included lunch while in town and on the way back we will take a windy road to **Santuario**

**de Chimayo**, a religious shrine in the 17<sup>th</sup> century village of Chimayo. This beautiful adobe chapel with twin bell towers was erected in 1816 by Don Bernardo de Abeyta over earth that is said to have miraculous healing qualities. The many objects left by pilgrims give moving testimony to the power of faith. This evening we arrive at Balloon Fiesta Park for the evening **Glowdeo**. During the glow, balloons inflate at dusk, remain tethered, and light their burners in a synchronized fashion. The "glow" effect is created by the same burner system used in flight; however, pilots use various means to bypass the "pre-heat" coils on the burner. These coils help the burner work efficiently, but the flame is a dull blue and does not emit a lot of light. The first Balloon glow was held to celebrate the 75th anniversary of New Mexico's statehood. Guests will enjoy a **Dine and Glow** experience at the **Anderson Abruzzo International Balloon Fiesta**. After the glow, the **AfterGlow Fireworks Show** will dazzle and delight you. Return to the Drury after the fireworks. **(B, L, D)**



## Friday, October 13 – Heading to Santa Fe

We head out this morning along the **Turquoise Trail**. We meander along this windy stretch of road where you'll recognize scenery from movies and TV. Enjoy a **walking tour of Santa Fe**. See the historic Plaza, St. Francis Cathedral, the Loretto Chapel, with its famous "miraculous" staircase, and the San Miguel Mission. Founded in 1610, Santa Fe was the last stop on the Camino Real, the fabled Royal Road that stretched from Mexico City to the northernmost reaches of the Spanish Empire. Today it is the heart and soul of the Southwest, and "Santa Fe Style" is synonymous with all the best the region has to offer. Its historic Plaza, winding streets, covered arcades, hidden gardens and courtyards, and Pueblo-style architecture reflect the blending of Indian, Hispanic, and Anglo cultures. Enjoy a lunch together at a local favorite. We have a special treat—our friend, Clarice welcomes us for an afternoon treat in her home! A Texas native, Clarice moved to Santa Fe and has put on some amazing events, including celebrity weddings, and now hosting Are We There Yet? Tours. Her home was a highlight of our Route 66 tour, and after seeing her home and enjoying delicious food, you will understand why! Tonight we enjoy a farewell dinner at **El Pinto** where you'll enjoy a delicious Southwestern Mexican meal with plenty of choices. **(B, L, D)**



## Saturday, Oct 14 - Mass Ascension Day

We leave the hotel bright and early to enjoy the **Flight of the Nations Mass Ascension** at the **Albuquerque International Balloon Fiesta**. Few spectacles on earth rival the Mass Ascension of the Albuquerque International Balloon Fiesta, as upwards of 500 balloons lift off from Balloon Fiesta Park to drift in the crisp high-desert air of New Mexico. Ballooning enthusiasts from around the world converge on the Duke City each year to delight in the amazing range of balloons in every color, size, and shape imaginable. The thermal currents above Albuquerque make for some of the finest ballooning conditions in the world. The famous "Albuquerque Box" effect enables pilots to ascend from the field, move with the air currents at different altitudes and in different directions, and even backtrack along their original course to land in the spot they took off from. As we have tickets to the **Chasers' Club**, we have **guaranteed seating in a private patio** located on the north end of Balloon Fiesta Park, as well as **beverages, desserts and a hot food breakfast items**. They will also have alcoholic beverages for sale. Try the Bimbo bakery products. You'll see their guy in the sky. After the day's events we head to the ABQ International Airport for our flight home. Thank you for traveling with us! **(B)**



**NOTE: BALLOON FIESTA IS A WEATHER-DEPENDENT EVENT.** While early October weather is generally ideal for hot-air ballooning, strong winds or storms may delay or cancel balloon events. October in the high desert of New Mexico can be chilly so be sure to dress in layers, and bring sunscreen for when the sun comes up. The average low is 40°F and the average high is 71°F, however, you will be out on the open field during the event so plan on cooler temperatures. It is recommended you wear a coat, gloves, hat and scarf. *Itinerary subject to change as well as change of order and times. We will do our best to keep you updated.*

\$500 deposit plus cost of insurance per person\* (check or authorized debit from an FNB account) and Booking Form are required to secure your reservation. Once this tour fills, a wait list will be formed. After initial space is sold, pricing will be based on live air. Please include any dietary, walking restrictions & accommodation requests, TSA Pre-Check or Global Entry and Southwest Rapid Rewards number on booking form. \*Deposit amount has been changed to include the insurance premium.

Final payment is due no later than **March 20, 2023** and no refunds will be given after that time. If you need to cancel for a covered reason after the final payment is received, you may file a claim with proper documentation to request refund.

Double Occupancy—\$3,145    Single Occupancy—\$3,729    Triple & Quad Occupancy - \$2,969

Pricing is per person and are estimated until airfare and hotel rates are contracted.

**Presented by First National Bank of Waterloo Classic 55 Club**

**Darcy Fausz, Coordinator - 618-504-2363**

**[dfausz@fnbwaterloo.bank](mailto:dfausz@fnbwaterloo.bank)**



### **Tour price includes:**

- Round-trip airport shuttle from Monroe county to St. Louis Lambert Airport
- Round-trip flights on Southwest – where bags fly free!
- Round-trip airport shuttle between ABQ and the hotel
- Stay all 3 nights in Albuquerque Drury Inn – only unpack once!
- A day in Santa Fe, where we tour and explore town and visit Clarice's private home!
- Admission to the Glowdeo and Mass Ascensions WITH seating at the Chasers' Club
- 8 meals, including 3 Breakfasts, 3 Lunches, 2 Dinners, including two meals at the Balloon Field!
- Lunch and visit to the Indian Pueblo Cultural Center
- Tour of Santa Fe and Albuquerque's Route 66
- All other activities as indicated
- Baggage Handling
- Professional Tour Guides
- Classic 55 Club Bank Group Leader
- All gratuities including step-on guides, included meals, driver and tour directors
- Trip Protection

### **Classic 55 Club Travel General Information**

#### **Travel Protection:**

First National Bank of Waterloo has always believed the importance of Trip Protection Plans. Tour price represents cost with a trip protection.

#### **Methods of Payment:**

We accept cash, check or debit from a First National Bank of Waterloo account. We do not accept credit or debit cards.

#### **Cancellations:**

Our cancellation fees vary according to the type of tour. Your deposit is refundable up to the final payment due date unless previously noted. If you need to cancel for a covered reason after final payment, you may file a claim with proper documentation to request refund.

#### **Tour Inclusions:**

Classic 55 Club tour cost includes all attractions, lodging, motor coach transportation, meals as noted and gratuities for all included for any events or services that are provided. If the trip includes airfare the cost of the ticket is included unless otherwise noted. Some airlines charge for checked baggage, which is not included in the tour price unless noted.

#### **Motor Coach Pick Up Locations:**

All pick up points allow parking for your vehicle. Please park in the specified area of the parking lot as to not disrupt usual business. Neither First National Bank of Waterloo nor the parking lot owners assume responsibility for incidents occurring to parked cars. The motor coach usually originates from the Waterloo VFW, 406 Veteran's Drive. Please park in the rocked area of the VFW parking lot. Columbia pick up is at the Schnuck's Marketplace, 1000 Columbia Center, park towards the road, near the Post Office. The motor coach will pull up to the sidewalk of the post office. Please bring your luggage to the motor coach to be loaded.

#### **Seating on the motor coach:**

At this time, seating is assigned. We are currently trying to keep motorcoach to less than capacity. Special seating requests are honored on the basis of medical need and availability.

#### **Single Travelers requesting roommates:**

If you would like to travel with The Classic 55 Club, but do not have a roommate for a specific trip, let the coordinator know when you complete the reservation process and they can provide you with the names of other travelers of the same sex who are also looking for a roommate. If there is mutual agreement to room together, you will be charged the double rate. Of course, if you prefer to travel individually, you can still register for single occupancy.

#### **Pictures:**

By signing up for and participating in our tour, you are agreeing to have any pictures taken on tour published by First National Bank of Waterloo, printed or online (social media & our website). If you do not wish to have your picture used by us, please notify us prior to traveling.

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# First National Bank of Waterloo Classic 55 Club Booking Form



Return this form to the nearest banking center or mail to FNB, PO Box 507, Waterloo, IL 62298 with your deposit and necessary documents to secure your reservation. Contact Darcy at (618) 504-2363 with any questions.

Tour Name <b>Albuquerque Balloon Fiesta</b>		Tour Dates 10/11-14, 2023	
<b>PERSONAL INFORMATION – Travelers in same household</b>			
<b>Traveler #1 Name (as it appears on valid ID)</b>			
Name preferred on tour		Birthdate	
Address	City	State	Zip
Email Address	Home phone	Cell phone	
<b>Traveler # 2 Name (as it appears on valid ID)</b>			
Name preferred on tour		Birthdate	
Email Address	Home phone	Cell phone	
<b>REQUIRED DOCUMENTS FOR TOURS WITH DOMESTIC FLIGHTS</b>			
Emergency Information Form	Copy of REAL ID* OR Passport	Copy of current COVID vaccination card	
*Real ID - Please be aware that Illinois residents who fly domestically, the federal government has extended the deadline for to <b>May 3, 2023</b> that will require you to use a valid U.S. Passport <u>or</u> obtain a REAL ID from the Illinois Secretary of State's Office.			
<b>ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTS</b>			
TSA Known Traveler OR Global Entry OR Other Trusted Traveler Number		Southwest Airlines Rapid Reward #	
<b>PAYMENT OPTIONS</b>			
Debit FNB		Check Enclosed (payable to First National Bank of Waterloo)	
I authorize FNB Waterloo to debit my account (ending in ____ ____) immediately for listed deposit(s). Remaining balance will be debited on final payment due date listed in the brochure unless other arrangements have been made.			
x _____ Signature			
<b>MOTORCOACH/SHUTTLE PICK UP</b>			
Preferred Pick up location	Waterloo		Columbia
Motor coach seating preference	No preference	Front due to medical	Close to the front Rear
<b>ACCOMMODATIONS</b>			
Room Occupancy	Double		Single Triple/Quad
Please list roommate(s)	Bedding Preference		Hotel Room Location Request
	1 bed	2 beds	Close to Elevator First Floor Room
We will do our best to accommodate your room request but cannot make any guarantees.			
I am healthy and able to travel at this time		Yes	No
Signature		Date	
BANK USE ONLY: Deposit: Date _____ Method _____ Amount _____ Balance Due _____ Final Payment: Date _____ Method _____ Amount _____			

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