

## **Santa Fe Tour, 5-nights/6-days**

**Day 1:** Fly to Albuquerque Sunport Airport (ABQ). You are responsible for booking your own flight. You will be met at the airport and transferred to the hotel in Santa Fe where we will spend 6-nights. Activities for the day depend on arrival time in ABQ

**Day 2:** Getting to know the nature and culture of Santa Fe. Stops include the Randall Davey Audubon Center, Santa Fe Botanical Garden, historic Santa Fe Plaza, museums and galleries along the plaza, La Cieneguilla Petroglyphs, and Aspen Vista ski area.

**Day 3:** Getting to know the nature and culture of Santa Fe. Stops include the Leonora Curtin Wetland Preserve, Santa Fe Canyon Wetlands, Hyde Park, and visiting the historic plaza, museums, and galleries in Santa Fe.

**Day 4:** Visiting the nature and culture that is north of Santa Fe. These locations are about a 1-hour drive north of Santa Fe. Stops include Echo Amphitheater, Abiquiu, Georgia O'Keeffe's Ghost Ranch, White Rock, Tsankawi Prehistoric Sites, Valles Caldera National Preserve, Bandelier National Monument, and the Los Alamos area. There are numerous museums and cultural sites in Los Alamos to visit including the Los Alamos Nature Center, Manhattan Project National Historical Park, and the Bradbury Science Museum.

**Day 5:** Visiting Albuquerque and significant sites south of Santa Fe such as Petroglyph National Monument, Galisteo Basin Preserve, Pecos National Historic Park, Kasha-Katuwe Tent Rocks National Monument, Cochiti Lake, La Bajada Hill, El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro National Historic Trail, and Albuquerque International Balloon Museum. Some of these stops can be visited at the start of the trip. On this day it is possible to take a balloon ride.

**Day 6:** Shuttles to the Albuquerque (ABQ) airport for flight home.

**Elevation:** The elevation of the city of Santa Fe is 7,200 feet. Most of the daily birding tours will be at elevations from 6,300 - 7,800 feet. There will be one day of birding tour that reaches 10,300 feet. If you might be sensitive high elevation, we recommend arriving in Albuquerque (5,312 feet) or Santa Fe a day or two early to help you better acclimate and you can always skip the birding days that are at high elevation. Please contact us for more info about elevation.

**Beautiful Walks:** There will be visits to the La Cieneguilla Petroglyphs, the Rio Chama Valley, Santa Fe National Forest, Valles Caldera National Preserve, Bandelier National Monument, Hyde Memorial State Park, Randall Davey Audubon Center, Georgia O'Keeffe Museum in Santa Fe, Georgia O'Keeffe's Ghost Ranch in Abiquiu, Pecos National Historic Site and historic walking tours of Santa Fe.

**Audubon Center:** At the edge of Santa Fe is the Randall Davey Audubon Center & Sanctuary. Birds to see: Steller's Jay, Spotted Towhee, Northern Mockingbird, Sage Thrasher, Canyon Towhee, Vesper Sparrow, Northern Roughed-winged Swallows and Yellow-headed Blackbirds.

**Santa Fe Mountains:** About 30 minutes outside of Santa Fe are the arid Ponderosa Pine mountains of the Southwest. This is the southernmost area of the Southern Rockies. Home to many unique birds that love the arid west: Juniper Titmouse, Pinyon Jay, Cordilleran Flycatcher, Clark' Nutcracker, Mountain Chickadee, Cassin's Finch, Western Tanager and Townsend's Solitaire.

**Georgia O'Keeffe:** The Ghost Ranch, just outside Santa Fe was the home, studio, and inspiration for many of Georgia O'Keeffe's paintings. The 21,000 acres ranch is a museum is open to the public, where you will enjoy birding, walking and being inspired by this wonderful landscape. Favorite birds here: Woodhouse's Scrub Jay and the Broad-tailed Hummingbird.