

Catholic Alumni Clubs International

SOUTHWEST ADVENTURES

Albuquerque, New Mexico

July 16 - 22, 2023



Post Convention

Aliens, Space, and National Parks Adventure, July 22 - 25

Plan now to join the adventure of the 63rd annual Convention of the Catholic Alumni Club International that will be based in **Albuquerque, New Mexico from Sunday, July 16, to Saturday morning, July 22, 2023**. CACers from coast to coast will enjoy a week of exploring the southwest region of the U.S. with special tours, social activities, daily liturgy, great food, shopping, friendships old and new, and much more. Experience both Hispanic and Mexican cultures as well as that of Native Americans and early pioneers. See the heritage of the Catholic missionaries and their work in the southwest.

This year we are offering **two exciting** offsite dinners. One to embrace the cowboy culture. A cowboy cookout at the Old Town Farm. Since 1977, Old Town Farm has operated as a horse facility and produce farm. Enjoy the beautifully landscaped grounds and abundant flowers. Play yard games like corn hole and horse shoes and enjoy the foot-tapping sounds of local musicians. The second offsite dinner will embrace the Hispanic culture. Dinner at El Pinto. Dinner is a buffet of the most favorite local area dishes: chile rellenos, beans, rice, red chile cheese enchiladas and green chile chicken enchiladas, garden salad and beef taco bar will overfill every plate. Dessert is a creamy confection unique to El Pinto. The New Mexican Marimba Band entertains us with background music during dinner and a show with audience participation after dinner.

Albuquerque is situated at over 5,000 feet above sea level and just west of the beautiful Sandia Mountain range. It has a mild, dry climate with very low humidity and average July temperatures ranging from the 60's to the 90's.

Albuquerque's airport (**ABQ**) is served by major airlines including Southwest and is located eight miles or 15 minutes from our hotel.

CACI's 2023 convention will be based at the Sheraton Albuquerque Uptown. Our hotel has 295 air-conditioned rooms featuring refrigerators. It also features free parking for guests, an indoor pool, a bar/restaurant, a fitness center and a business center. Additional amenities at this hotel include complimentary wireless Internet access, concierge services, and gift shop/newsstand.

The convention week package includes six nights at the hotel, five special buffet breakfasts, three hotel banquet dinners, two offsite dinners, dances, after hours parties, liturgies and much more.



Daily tours are planned for our Southwest Adventure week. See enclosed flyer for complete details and registration.



Old Town

The city tour is offered on both **Sunday/Tuesday** this year. A wonderful way to get acquainted with Albuquerque! We begin with an orientation of Old Town Plaza with some time to enjoy the shops and have lunch at the Sawmill Market (a renovated lumber warehouse). This afternoon we'll visit the Indian Pueblo Cultural Center, owned and operated by the 19 Pueblo tribes of New Mexico. We'll see a dance group performance and stroll through the museum, gallery and the gift shop. Then we continue with a driving tour of historic districts and beautiful neighborhoods. We'll stop for a panoramic view of the city and cruise on historic Route 66. This fully narrated tour provides demographic information as well as stories of "Burque's" history and growth.

Monday's tour is to the Pueblo of Isleta. The Puebloans of Isleta have lived in the Rio Grande Valley since migrating from the 4-corners area in the 1300's. Their Mission honoring their Patron Saint, San Augustine, was completed in 1613. The Pueblo has no formal tourism program. But they are welcoming us today for a special visit including: a traditional Feast, a traditional craft demonstration (weaving or pottery), a tour of the Mission by a Tribal member and the opportunity to shop directly with arts & crafts vendors. We continue the afternoon with a visit to the Guitierrez-Hubbell House. The House is a massive 5,700 square foot adobe structure that dates back to the 1860's and is on the National Registry of Historic Places. It was the home of Juliana & Santiago Hubbell. The couple had 12 children. Their third son, John Lorenzo, established the Hubbell Trading Post in Ganado, Arizona. A guest speaker will bring the history to life and we will view the current exhibit.



Pueblo of Isleta



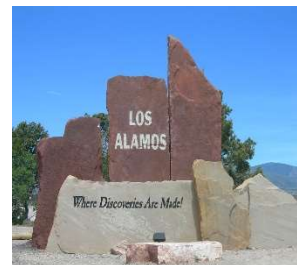
Loretto Chapel

Wednesday - A visit to New Mexico is not complete without experiencing the capital city of Santa Fe, with its unusual charm and historical significance. We will follow the Turquoise Trail with a stop to explore Madrid (previous ghost town now artist community and a popular NM filming location) on the way to Santa Fe. Our fully narrated tour includes valuable information on the way to Santa Fe. Topics discussed include a glimpse into the history and culture that truly make Santa Fe "The City Different". Upon arrival in Santa Fe, there will be a walking tour which includes the State Capitol - the only circular state capitol building in the United States, the Loretto Chapel Museum with its "miraculous staircase" and the Palace of Governors – America's oldest continuously occupied public building. The downtown is full of architecture, much of which is now inhabited by eclectic restaurants, galleries, boutiques, and bookstores. There will be approximately two hours of free time to explore with one's own interests in mind and have lunch before we head back.



State Capitol

Thursday - A visit to Los Alamos (Atomic City) is a special treat. We will obtain a pass at the security gate and enjoy lunch on your own at the only Los Alamos National Laboratory building open to civilians, Otowi Cafeteria. A longtime resident will be our guest guide for the afternoon. We will visit three highlights: Fuller Lodge, which served as the dining hall for the Los Alamos Ranch School and as a community center for Manhattan Project workers, Bradbury Science Museum, which includes 60 interactive exhibits that trace the history of the Manhattan Project, and nestled in the heart of bathtub row the Los Alamos Historic Museum, which presents stories from many eras: Homesteading, Los Alamos Ranch School, the Manhattan Project and the Cold War. We will drive by Robert Oppenheimer's (The Father of the Atom Bomb) home, not currently open to the public.



Los Alamos

Friday's tour starts with a visit to the Petroglyph National Monument's Boca Negra Canyon. See over 100 images. ADA view scope available under patio for those who do not wish to walk one of the 3 short uneven moderately strenuous paths. Trails vary from 5 to 30 minutes to walk. Next up is a visit to the Turquoise Museum. Located in a modern 'castle' that is as interesting as the exhibits. Our visit includes a behind the scenes look into gemstone cutting and silversmithing. Lunch on your own at Tin Can Alley, one of New Mexico's unique eating destinations. Tin Can Alley features tons of indoor and outdoor seating, live music, and patios with some of the best views in town – all under the roof of a building that looks like it was built by aliens. We will conclude our day with a visit to the International Balloon Museum. Hot air and gas balloons have been used for adventure, scientific experiments, the arts, warfare, espionage and the exploration of space. The museum's exhibits help visitors see and understand how all this happened.



Plan now for your Southwest Adventure with CACI in July!

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Post Convention



**Aliens, Space, and National Parks Adventure,
 July 22 to 25, 2023**



Southwest Adventure

Albuquerque, New Mexico

July 16 - 22, 2023



*Petroglyph National
Monument Visitor Center*



Petroglyph



San Felipe de Neri Church



Loretto Chapel



Hot Air Balloon Museum



Route 66 Albuquerque

CACI - **ABQ** - 2023
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