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## **Navajo Trails L.L.C. Southwest Indigenous Art Journeys (18 Days)**

**Tuesday, July 14<sup>th</sup> – Saturday, August 1<sup>st</sup>, 2009**

**\$4,090 USD - Double Occupancy (8 Night Hotel Stays)**

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### ***“Exploring the continuity, legacy and innovation of Native American Arts & Crafts”***

*You are invited to participate in a unique 18 day cross-cultural adventure to learn on-site about the rich cultural legacy of the Navajo, Acoma, Zuni, Hopi and Taos peoples of the American Southwest. Journeying through the timeless landscape of New Mexico, Northern Arizona, and southern Colorado, you will glimpse into the distinct worldviews and cosmology of the original peoples. Discover the natural monuments and places of pilgrimage, such as the world famous Mesa Verde National Park and the enchanting Canyon de Chelly that protect the many ancestral sites that are still revered by contemporary Native Peoples.*

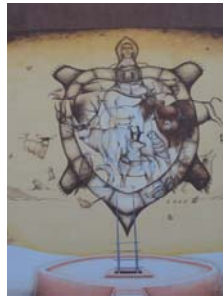
*The focus of this journey will enable our guests to learn of the various arts and crafts both their ancient and contemporary expressions that reveal the natives strong sense of place, history and pride. You will learn of the techniques, materials and cultural context of the ceramics, jewelry, textiles, architecture and visual arts created by members of these various communities. Visits will be made to prominent Native American art museums, and you will have the opportunity to meet with acclaimed regional artists. Most importantly you will experience first hand the natural beauty of the southwestern*



*landscape that has been the inspiration and sacred homeland to these tribal people.*

*Your main Native guide/cultural interpreter will be Mr. John Anthony Reyna, an educator from the Pueblo communities of Taos and Ohkay Owingeh in Northern New Mexico. He has an undergraduate degree in history, art and anthropology and has traveled extensively in the southwest and knows first hand many of the places and peoples of the communities we will visit.*

**Includes:** Fully Escorted 18 day Journey with 2 full-time tour guides, plus 5 regional guides on-location, as well as the Navajo Tour Owner & Operator, Paul Tohlakai at our home stay on the Navajo Reservation. Includes 8 hotel rooms, 6 days of camping, and 4 days in hogans or tipis. Includes 15 breakfasts, 3 lunches, and 9 dinners, including the “Welcome Dinner” upon arrival in Albuquerque. All national and State Parks, monuments, museums, cultural centers, pueblo entries, and activities listed are included. Airport shuttle transfer included. All camping equipment is provided.



## **Day 1 – July 14: Albuquerque**

Pick up at Albuquerque International Airport. Welcome dinner at Pueblo Cultural Center. Overnight stay at local hotel. **(Welcome dinner is included.)**

## **Day 2 – July 15th: Albuquerque >Acoma**

Our first stop will be to Petroglyph National Monument for a trail hike through sections of Albuquerque's West Mesa escarpment. The monument contains over 20,000 images etched on volcanic basalt boulders from centuries ago. The canyon's extensive petroglyphs vary from geometric designs to visible animal and figurative engravings.



Driving west, will make an overnight visit to the Acoma Pueblo, also known as Sky City. Built atop a sheer-walled, 367-foot sandstone bluff as a defense system against raiders, in a valley studded with sacred, towering monoliths, Sky City has remained suspended in time for two millennia. The mesa-top village is known worldwide for its unique art and profoundly rich



culture. The visit will include a guided tour by an Acoma historian. The night will be spent at Sky City Casino Hotel. (Note: Upon entry into Acoma, tour participant will have to pay still camera fee: \$10.) **(Breakfast included with hotel. All other meals at participant's expense.)**

### Day 3 –July 16th: Acoma> El Morro National Monument> Zuni> Cibola National Forest



During the morning hours we will visit El Morro National Monument, the castle like formation that ascends over the western New Mexico desert on the path of an ancient east-west crossroad. The sandstone formation reveals over seven centuries of human interaction with inscriptions from a legacy of travelers. Then we will travel to the nearby Zuni Pueblo. The Zuni are a deeply traditional people who live on the western slope of the Continental Divide in a scenic valley, surrounded by the enchanting mesas. Some Zuni still live in the old style Pueblos, while others live in modern flat-roofed houses. The Zuni refer to themselves in their own language as A:shiwi. Life for these Pueblo people revolves around their religious beliefs. They have a cycle of religious ceremonies which takes precedence over all else. The selling of pottery and other traditional arts and crafts is a major source of income for many of the Zuni. They make pottery, clothing, baskets, and Kachina dolls, and most importantly needle point and inlaid jewelry. We will visit the A:shiwi A:wam Museum & Heritage Center. We will then camp and enjoy the tranquility of Cibola National Forest. The evening will be spent around the campfire storytelling and singing. **(Breakfast included. Lunch at participant's expense. Dinner included.)**



### Day 4—July 17th: > Cibola National Forest >Canyon de Chelly

After a leisurely morning at the campground, our first visit will be to the town of Gallup, known to be the Silver Jewelry Capital of the World, a great stopover for those southwest jewelry enthusiasts. Next we will head to Window Rock, Arizona. Visitors will be treated to a scenic drive through the backroads. The stone arch and mystical rock formation that we will visit is an important part of the Dineh cosmology. The town of Window Rock is the site of the Navajo Nation Capital. We will visit the Council Chambers Museum, structured into the shape of a monumental Hogan, the traditional building of the Navajo, which stands as a tangible symbol of modern Indian Tribal self-government. Inside a mural depicts “The history and Progress of the Navajo Nation.”















