Albuquerque’s International Balloon Fiesta
October 8 – 12, 2019

Presented by UWM at Washington County & Waukesha Continuing Education

5 Days, 4 Nights in Albuquerque, New Mexico

Tuesday, October 8 (dinner)

6:00 AM ------------ Board bus for O’Hare shuttle

10:20 AM ----------- American flight 4224

12:15 PM -------- Arrive in ABQ

1:30 PM ---------- Check into Homewood Suites

3:30 PM ---------- Depart for Sandia Tramway

4:00 PM -------- Dinner at Sandiago’s Mexican Grille
Even if the sunset and views atop Sandia Peak wasn’t experience enough, Sandiago’s Mexican Grille will offer our group a perfect Welcome Dinner.

5:30 PM -------- Tramway
Sandia Peak Aerial Tramway transports us above deep canyons and breathtaking terrain. The 2.7 miles allows us to see some of nature’s more dramatic beauty. At sunset the desert skies produce a spectacular array of color, and your vantage point from the observation deck atop 10,378 foot Sandia Peak in the Cibola National Forest affords an 11,000 square-mile panoramic view of the Rio Grande Valley and the Land of Enchantment.

8:30 PM -------- Return to the hotel
**Wednesday, October 9** (breakfast, lunch and dinner)

5:00 AM----------Depart hotel for Fiesta Park

5:30 AM----------Balloon Fiesta Park Ascension
Mass Ascension, a launch of all the participating balloons, have been a feature of Balloon Fiesta since its earliest days and is the most spectacular display of sound and color in all of aviation. During mass ascensions, balloons launch in two waves. Launch directors, also known as zebras because of their black-and-white-striped outfits, serve as traffic cops, coordinating the launch so balloons leave the field in a safe and coordinated manner. Our group will have special V.I.P. treatment as elite members of the Chasers’ Club. Chasers’ Club will give us guaranteed seating in private outdoor patio located next to the launch field where we can enjoy a hot food item along with desert and refreshments. The Chasers’ Club is located on the north end of the field with a deluxe view of the launch site.

AIBF Chainsaw Carving Invitational: Chainsaw Sculpture is a relatively new art form that has gained enthusiasts all over the world. The delicate ballet the carvers perform with a powerful chainsaw is mesmerizing. We’ll see what all the buzz and chips flying is all about!

10:30 AM----------Balloon Museum

12:30 PM----------Lunch at Cultural Center
A contemporary twist on authentic Indian and Southwest standards. The group will be treated to Indian tacos, roast turkey, Santa Ana enchiladas, or kale salad.

1:30 PM----------Indian Pueblo Cultural Center
*About Indian Pueblo Cultural Center*  [http://www.indianpueblo.org/](http://www.indianpueblo.org/)
The Indian Pueblo Cultural Center is the keeper of Pueblo people heritage. The museum collection represents the dynamic and ever-evolving history of Pueblo people to preserve this heritage and share it with future generations. There are 19 Pueblo tribes in New Mexico, and each Pueblo is a sovereign nation. Today Pueblo people are located primarily in New Mexico, however, at one time their homeland reached into what is now Colorado and Arizona, where they established incredible dwellings and trading centers like those located at Chaco Canyon in northwestern New Mexico and Mesa Verde in southwestern Colorado. Pueblo people have preserved their identity in the face of multiple colonizing nations, and today, as always, they value their identity and traditional ways of life. At the same time, they live in modern houses, working and living both on and off reservations. Their beliefs and actions are still guided by Pueblo Core Values, which include Love, Respect, Compassion, Faith, Understanding, Spirituality, Balance, Peace and Empathy.

3:00 PM----------Visit to Old Town
Historic Old Town has been the heart of Albuquerque since the city was founded here in 1706. Today, historic Old Town Albuquerque is the city’s cultural center, with five museums and more than 100 shops, galleries and restaurants.

5:30 PM----------Return to hotel

6:30 PM----------Dinner at Homewood Suites
Thursday, October 10 (breakfast, lunch and dinner)
6:00 AM----------------Leave hotel for hot air balloon ride

6:30 AM----------------World Balloon
If you opt to join the group on a hot air balloon flight, you will float serenely above Albuquerque’s scenic Rio Grande and enchanting southwestern vistas. (additional $250 plus release form from World Balloon required)

*Missing a balloon flight in Albuquerque would be like going to Paris and not seeing the Eiffel Tower!*

11:00 AM-------------Visit Acoma Pueblo (with box lunch)
Acoma Pueblo is a Native American pueblo approximately 60 miles west of Albuquerque, New Mexico in the United States. Three villages make up Acoma Pueblo: Sky City, Acomita, and Mcartys. The Acoma Pueblo tribe is a federally recognized tribal entity. The historical land of Acoma Pueblo totaled roughly 5,000,000 acres. The community retains only 10% of this land, making up the Acoma Indian Reservation. Acoma Pueblo is a National Historic Landmark.

5:00 PM---------------Return to Balloon Fiesta Park Evening Glow
The events now known as balloon glows were invented in Albuquerque in 1979, when local pilots inflated balloons on Christmas Eve night as a thank you to local residents. The sight of balloons lit from within at night like giant holiday ornaments is breathtaking, and glow events are now held all over the world. Fiesta Glow all burns when all the balloons fire their burners and light up at the same time are perhaps the most spectacular single moment in all of Balloon Fiesta

10:00 PM-------------Return to Homewood Suites
Friday, October 11 (breakfast and dinner)

7:30 AM---------------Depart for Santa Fe

9:00 AM---------------O’Keefe Museum

10:30 AM---------------Guided tour of Santa Fe and Georgia O’Keefe Museum
Jerry Rightman will lead us on Santa Fe city tour with emphasis on Georgia O’Keefe’s paintings and life in Santa Fe area.

12:30 PM---------------Free Time in Santa Fe (lunch on own)
UW Colleges will suggest activities, including galleries, museums, walking tours, and more for your five-hour exploration of this culturally rich city.

6:30 PM---------------Dinner at La Casa Sena

8:00 PM---------------Depart Santa Fe

9:30 PM---------------Return to Homewood Suites

Saturday, October 12 (breakfast)

10:30 AM---------------Depart hotel for airport

1:35 PM---------------American 4224

5:32 PM---------------Arrive in O’Hare
Shuttle

7:30 PM---------------Return to UWM at Waukesha