

# CHASING THE SUN IN NEW MEXICO

June 7 - 16, 2026

Early  
Bird

Pay in Full By  
February 7  
**SAVE**  
**\$325 PP**



## Day 1: Journey Begins to Wichita, KS

Your adventure begins today as you set out across the wide-open heartland. Sit back, relax, and watch the changing landscape unfold — golden fields, small-town water towers, and glimpses of the Great Plains that once carried pioneers westward. Your Tour Director will share stories and insights about the sights along the way, weaving history and humor into the miles. By evening, arrive in Wichita, a city where the Old West meets modern charm, and enjoy your first night on the road, filled with anticipation for the journey ahead.

## Day 2: Wichita, KS to Amarillo, TX

The Wild West comes alive today in Dodge City, where gunslingers and saloon girls once ruled the dusty streets. At the **Boot Hill Museum**, built on the site of the infamous **Boot Hill Cemetery**, history isn't just on display — it's performed with flair. Stroll the recreated 1870s Front Street, lined with wooden boardwalks, and watch lively reenactments of gunfights and saloon antics. Explore exhibits honoring frontier lawmen like Wyatt Earp and Bat Masterson, and feel the grit and excitement of a time when justice was swift and towns were wild. Later, continue south into Texas, where the golden plains stretch endlessly to the horizon. Tonight, you'll rest in Amarillo, a city steeped in Route 66 nostalgia and cowboy heritage — where the stars seem impossibly close and the air hums with old-fashioned Western charm.

## Day 3: Amarillo, TX to Santa Fe, NM

Start your day with a stop at one of America's most whimsical roadside icons — **Cadillac Ranch**. Ten vintage Cadillacs rise nose-first from the desert floor, their rainbow layers of spray paint creating a living, ever-changing piece of art. Leave your own mark, snap a few photos, and revel in this quirky celebration of American creativity. Continue along the fabled **Route 66**, pausing at the gleaming Route 66 Monument, where a chrome 1950s tailfin sculpture captures the romance of the open road. As the plains give way to desert mesas, you'll arrive at **Pecos National Historical Park**, a sacred site that tells a thousand years of history. Walk among the ancient adobe walls of **Pecos Pueblo**, step into the haunting beauty of the **17th-century Spanish Mission**, and imagine the rumble of wagon wheels along the Santa Fe Trail. By evening, you'll reach Santa Fe, where art, culture, and history blend into something entirely unique.

#### Day 4: Santa Fe, NM

There's a reason **Santa Fe** wears the nickname The City Different so well — and today, you'll discover why. **Guided by a local expert**, step into a world where Spanish colonial charm, Native heritage, and creative spirit blend into something utterly enchanting. The city's historic Plaza — beating heart of Santa Fe since 1610 — brims with energy, surrounded by centuries-old adobe façades, artisan boutiques, and a rainbow of turquoise treasures. Wander through narrow streets where every corner tells a story, with sites such as the Loretto Chapel, the golden-hued stone of the Cathedral Basilica of St. Francis of Assisi, and art spilling from galleries that rival any museum. Then comes a rare and intimate treat — **lunch inside your guide's private home**. This personal invitation offers an unforgettable glimpse into Santa Fe's soul, where the flavors of the Southwest mingle with heartfelt hospitality. The afternoon is yours to follow your own inspiration. Meander along Canyon Road's gallery-lined lanes, sip a glass of local wine beneath a sun-warmed portal, or simply pause to inhale the high-desert air scented with sage and piñon. As twilight paints the horizon, step aboard the **Sky Railway's Sunset Serenade**. Glide through sweeping desert landscapes bathed in gold and rose, live music drifting through your private railcar. Nibble on light snacks and appetizers, raise a glass from the bar, and watch as the New Mexico sky performs its nightly masterpiece — a serenade you'll remember long after the last note fades.

#### Day 5: Santa Fe, NM to Albuquerque, NM

Begin your morning at the **Indian Pueblo Cultural Center**, where history, art, and tradition unite in stunning exhibits crafted by Pueblo people themselves. Discover murals that pulse with color and stories, shop for authentic handmade pottery and jewelry, and watch captivating Native dance performances that celebrate the rhythm and resilience of their heritage. This afternoon, prepare for a breathtaking experience aboard the **Sandia Peak Tramway**, one of the longest aerial tramways in the Americas. In just 15 minutes, you'll ascend nearly 3 miles from Albuquerque's desert floor to the 10,378-foot summit of the Sandia Mountains. As the city grows small beneath you, the view opens to an endless horizon — a sweeping panorama of the Rio Grande Valley bathed in golden light. At the top, breathe in the crisp mountain air and take in views that stretch more than 11,000 square miles — a memory you'll never forget.

#### Day 6: Albuquerque, NM

This morning, step into the fascinating world of innovation and history at the **National Museum of Nuclear Science & History**. The only congressionally chartered museum of its kind, it offers a deep dive into the story of nuclear discovery — from the Manhattan Project to modern medicine — with immersive exhibits, artifacts, and aircraft displays that bring science to life. After a bit of free time to wander **Old Town Albuquerque**, where adobe shops and shaded plazas invite exploration, your afternoon unfolds at the **ABQ BioPark Aquarium and Botanical Garden**. Here, the vivid beauty of the Southwest is on full display — from colorful tropical fish to serene desert gardens blooming along the banks of the Rio Grande. It's the perfect balance of wonder and tranquility in one unforgettable day.

#### Day 7: Albuquerque, NM to Raton, NM

This morning, history comes alive in Los Alamos, the secret city that helped shape the world. Pose for a photo at the replica Main Gate that once guarded the Manhattan Project's top-secret laboratories, then join your local historian for an insightful tour of the **Los Alamos Historic District**. Learn how a remote boys' school became the birthplace of the atomic age, visit preserved Ranch School buildings, and hear stories of the scientists and families who lived behind locked gates. Later, nature takes center stage at the **Rio Grande Gorge**, one of New Mexico's most spectacular natural wonders. The earth seems to split open before you, revealing an 800-foot-deep canyon carved by the mighty Rio Grande. Walk the **Rio Grande Gorge Bridge**, suspended high above the river, and gaze out at a world of volcanic rock, wild desert landscape, and the distant shimmer of mountains — a photographer's dream and a traveler's delight.





#### Day 8: Raton, NM to Colorado Springs, CO

As you cross into Colorado, the scenery shifts from sun-baked desert to cool mountain air and lush valleys. In Colorado Springs, meet your local guide for an inspiring visit to **Garden of the Gods**, one of the state's most breathtaking natural treasures. Towering red sandstone formations rise dramatically against the snow-capped peaks of **Pikes Peak**, creating a canvas of color and contrast that seems almost otherworldly. Learn about the region's ancient geology, local wildlife, and cultural history as you explore scenic viewpoints and walking paths. This is Colorado at its most majestic — and one of the true highlights of your western adventure.

#### Day 9: Colorado Springs, CO to Kearney, NE

The day begins at **Red Rocks Park and Amphitheatre**, a breathtaking National Historic Landmark carved into Colorado's crimson sandstone. Framed by the towering monoliths of Ship Rock and Creation Rock, this natural wonder is celebrated for its world-class acoustics and awe-inspiring vistas. As the morning light dances across the cliffs, you'll feel why legends have performed here for generations. Later, your journey continues north across the Great Plains, where an overnight stay in Kearney, Nebraska offers a peaceful pause amid the wide-open beauty of the heartland.

#### Day 10: Kearney, NE to Home

Before the final stretch toward home, experience one last touch of Americana at the **Great Platte River Road Archway Monument**, an extraordinary structure that spans Interstate 80. Inside, interactive exhibits bring the westward expansion to life — from the covered wagons of the pioneers and the galloping riders of the Pony Express to the iron rails of the Transcontinental Railroad. It's a fitting finale to your unforgettable journey — a celebration of courage, discovery, and the enduring spirit of the

spirit of the riders of the Pony Express to the iron rails of the Transcontinental Railroad. It's a fitting finale to your unforgettable journey — a celebration of courage, discovery, and the enduring spirit of the American West. As your motor coach rolls homeward, you'll carry with you more than souvenirs — you'll bring back memories of desert sunsets, mountain vistas, laughter with new friends, and a deep appreciation for the landscapes and legends that shaped a nation.



#### Activity Level: Active Traveler

4 Breakfasts 4 Lunches 1 Dinner 4 Drury Kickbacks

Occupancy	Price Per Person	Credit Card Price
Double	\$3,083	\$3,206
Triple	\$2,792	\$2,904
Quad	\$2,647	\$2,753
Single	\$3,948	\$4,106

#### High-Altitude Advisory

Travelers with heart, lung conditions, or pregnancy, should consult a doctor before visiting high elevations -10,500 feet. (Anyone with a history of altitude sickness is at higher risk. Due to thinner air and lower oxygen levels, guests may experience headaches, dizziness, or nausea.