



PEORIA CHARTER TRAVEL

Albuquerque Balloon Fiesta

October 1 – 9, 2026

9 Days / 8 Nights

Day #1 – Thursday, October 1st:

- 4:30 AM** Depart Urbana from Peoria Charter, 1910 N. Federal Drive
5:30 AM Depart Normal from Schnuck's off Raab Road, 1750 Bradford Lane
5:45 AM Depart Peoria from Peoria Charter, 2600 NE Adams Street
6:10 AM Depart Morton from Wal Mart, 155 E. Courtland St. (Behind Culvers)
6:40 AM Depart Lincoln from Steak 'n' Shake, I-55, Exit 126 after transferring Urbana and Normal passengers to the Main Coach. We'll make rest & meal stops along the way to our overnight stop.
5:00 PM Arriving in Miami, Oklahoma, we check into the **Hampton Inn*** for the night. Dinner is on your own this evening.

Day #2 – Friday, October 2nd:

Breakfast* is served at the hotel before we check out and depart for our next overnight stop in Amarillo, Texas. We'll make rest and meal stops along the way as needed. We arrive at the **Holiday Inn Express Amarillo West*** for our overnight stay.

Day #3 – Saturday, October 3rd:

Enjoy **Breakfast*** before we check out and depart for Albuquerque, New Mexico. This afternoon, we'll check into **Holiday Inn Express Old Town*** for the next 4 nights. This evening you'll enjoy an **Evening Session at the Balloon Fiesta***. The Balloon Glow happens when all the balloons fire their burners and light up at the same time. Probably the most spectacular



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single moment in all of Balloon Fiesta. Followed by the After Glow Fireworks, New Mexico's most spectacular fireworks display – now among Balloon Fiesta's most popular events. During the Balloon Fiesta, you'll enjoy a nice **Dinner on a Private Outdoor Patio*** located next to the launch field. Your upgraded ticket grants you access to seating in a comfortable outdoor patio next to the launch field where you can indulge in hot food items, dessert and refreshments. Located at the northeast corner of the Launch Field, a session in this private patio provides a prime vista of the launch site. We return to the hotel later in the evening.

Day #4 – Sunday, October 4th:

Breakfast* is served at the hotel. This morning we'll **tour* the Anerson Abruzzo Balloon Museum***. Set on the southern edge of Balloon Fiesta Park, the balloon museum is a focal point in the Balloon Fiesta, but its scope is much more broad. As the world's premier balloon museum facility dedicated to the art, culture, science, history, sport and spectacle of ballooning. The museum features one of the world's finest collections of ballooning equipment and memorabilia. Next, we'll enjoy the **Old Town Plaza Tour*** as you learn the secrets, sights, sounds, flavors, shops, products, photo opportunities, and all the unique things at Old Town. Lunch is on your own while here. Afternoon finds us **visiting the Indian Pueblo Cultural Center for a tour***. The center is owned and operated by the 19 Indian Pueblos of New Mexico and is dedicated to the preservation and perpetuation of the Pueblo Indian Culture, History & Art. The center features daily dances, art markets, exhibitions, live entertainment, museums, native food and more. **Dinner*** is included this evening at a local restaurant.

Day #5 – Monday, October 5th:

This morning you'll enjoy the **Morning Session at the Balloon Fiesta***. It's an early morning today, starting before dawn at the Albuquerque Balloon Fiesta. The Dawn Patrol Show is choreographed inflation & launch set to music. Followed by the morning glow. **Breakfast*** is included this morning at the Balloon Fiesta. Next, you'll enjoy a **ride on the Sandia Peak Aerial Tramway***, as it transports you above deep canyons and breathtaking terrain at a distance of 2.7 miles. See some of nature's more dramatic beauty unfold before you! **Dinner*** is included this evening at a local restaurant. We head back to the hotel following dinner.



Day #6 – Tuesday, October 6th:

Breakfast* is included this morning at the hotel. This morning we'll travel north to **Santa Fe via the Turquoise Trail**. The Turquoise Trail National Scenic Byway encompasses 15,000 square miles in the heart of central New Mexico, linking Santa Fe & Albuquerque. The drive is approximately 50 miles along Hwy 14. Upon arrival we'll visit the world-renowned **Loretto Chapel***, famous for its miraculous floating staircase. You'll also visit the **Palace of the Governors and the Historic Santa Fe Square***. Originally



constructed in the early 17th century as Spain's seat of government in the American Southwest, the Palace of the Governors chronicles the history of Santa Fe. An adobe structure, it is now the State's history museum and sits opposite the Santa Fe Plaza. The Loretto Chapel is a former Roman Catholic Church that is now used as a museum and wedding chapel. It is known for its unusual helix-shaped spiral staircase, that may have been created by carpenter "Frenchy" Rochas, however the Sisters of Loretto credit its

construction to St. Joseph. Regardless, the story is as fascinating as the stairway is unique. Following our tours, we return to Albuquerque where your afternoon & evening are free and dinner is on your own.

Day #7 – Wednesday, October 7th:

Breakfast* is included before we check out and start our journey towards home. We'll make rest & meal stops en route to our destination in Clinton, Oklahoma. Upon arrival, we check into the **Hampton Inn and enjoy dinner at Lucille's Roadhouse***.

Day #8 – Thursday, October 8th:

Breakfast* is included and then we check out and continue our journey towards home. We'll make rest & meal stops along the way as needed. Upon arrival in **Springfield, Missouri, we check into the Drury Inn & Suites***. **Dinner*** is included this evening at **Lambert's***.

Day #9 – Friday, October 9th:

Breakfast* is included.

- 9:00 AM** We check out, board our coach and depart for home making necessary rest & meal stops along the way.
- 4:30 PM** Approximate arrival time in Springfield, IL
- 5:15 PM** Approximate arrival time in Lincoln where the shuttle bus/van will be waiting to take Normal & Urbana passengers home.
- 5:45 PM** Approximate arrival time back in Morton.
- 6:15 PM** Approximate arrival time back in Peoria.
- 6:15 PM** Approximate arrival time back in Normal.

7:15 PM Approximate arrival time back in Urbana.

Cost Per Person:

Single: \$4662.00 Double: \$3495.00 Triple: \$3150.00 Quad: \$3035.00

Tour Includes: Deluxe Motorcoach Transportation, Professional Driver & Tour Hosts, Hotel Accommodations, All Attractions & meals in bold print and marked with an asterisk*

If you feel the Driver & Tour Hosts have done a good job, it is appropriate & appreciated if you tip them. We suggest \$4 per customer per day for the Driver & \$4 per customer per day for the Tour Hosts on this trip.