



# BALLOON FIESTA FAQS

## WHEN SHOULD I ARRIVE?

It's always best to arrive early. For weekend events, plan to arrive at the park by 5 a.m. During evening events, arrive at the park by 4 p.m. Gates open at 4:30 a.m. for morning sessions and 3 p.m. for evening sessions.

## WHERE DO I PARK?

General parking is located on the north and south ends of the park. Parking costs \$20 per session, and it is cash only. Each parking lot is color-coded with numbered gates.

## ARE THERE OTHER WAYS TO GET THERE BESIDES DRIVING?

Balloon Fiesta offers a Park and Ride from a handful of locations in Albuquerque. Visit [balloonfiesta.com/Park-Ride](http://balloonfiesta.com/Park-Ride) for more information. There is also a free bike valet for those who want to bike to Balloon Fiesta. For more information visit [balloonfiesta.com/Bike-Valet](http://balloonfiesta.com/Bike-Valet).

## WHAT CAN BE BROUGHT INTO THE PARK?

Food and drinks are allowed in the park, but glass containers and alcohol are prohibited. Bags, backpacks and coolers will be searched. Lawn chairs are allowed.

## WHERE DO I GET TICKETS?

Tickets are sold for sessions. Morning sessions include all of the activities from 4:30 a.m. to noon. Evening sessions include all activities from 3 p.m. to 9 p.m. Tickets can be purchased online at [balloonfiesta.com/Purchase-Tickets](http://balloonfiesta.com/Purchase-Tickets), or at the gate.

## WHAT HAPPENS IF THE BALLOONS DON'T GO UP?

If the balloons don't inflate due to weather conditions, you can still enjoy the other activities at Balloon Fiesta. Your ticket will get rain checked, and your ticket will be valid at any remaining session in the current year. The City Guide and the Visitors Guide are great resources to find other things to do around the city.

## WHAT SHOULD I WEAR/WHAT IS THE WEATHER LIKE?

Generally, temperatures will be around freezing in the morning, and warm up to 60 to 70 degrees Fahrenheit (16 to 21 degrees Celsius) by noon. Dress in layers, and wear comfortable walking shoes. Be sure to apply sunscreen and bring eye protection. Hats and gloves are recommended in the morning as it can be very cold.

## ARE PETS ALLOWED AT THE PARK?

Only trained service animals are allowed at Balloon Fiesta Park.

## HOW CAN I SIGN UP FOR A BALLOON RIDE?

Rainbow Ryders is the only company that offers balloon rides to the public from Balloon Fiesta Park. To make a reservation, visit [RainbowRyders.com](http://RainbowRyders.com). Other balloon companies offer hot air balloon rides from other locations in the city. World Balloon offers flights throughout the week of Fiesta. To book a flight, visit [WorldBalloon.com](http://WorldBalloon.com).

## MORE QUESTIONS?

Visit [BalloonFiesta.com](http://BalloonFiesta.com) for more information on Balloon Fiesta. For more FAQs, visit [BalloonFiesta.com/FAQs](http://BalloonFiesta.com/FAQs).

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# TOP THINGS TO DO IN ALBUQUERQUE

## INDIAN PUEBLO CULTURAL CENTER

Learn about the 19 Pueblos of New Mexico, tour a collection of murals by Pueblo artists and dine at the Indian Pueblo Kitchen. Special events and cultural dances during Balloon Fiesta. [indianpueblo.org](http://indianpueblo.org)

## NATIONAL HISPANIC CULTURAL CENTER

Explore art created by Hispanic, Chicano and Latinx artists. Visit the Torreón, where the largest fresco in North America is housed. [nhccnm.org](http://nhccnm.org)

## SANDIA PEAK AERIAL TRAMWAY

Soar to the 10,300-foot crest of the Sandia Mountains aboard the Sandia Peak Aerial Tramway, the longest tram in North America. Hiking trails and TEN 3 restaurant are available at the peak. [sandiapeak.com](http://sandiapeak.com)

## OLD TOWN ALBUQUERQUE

Old Town Albuquerque is the cultural heart of the city, and where it was originally founded in 1706. Explore museums, shops, galleries and restaurants. Special events and programming during Balloon Fiesta. [albuquerqueoldtown.com](http://albuquerqueoldtown.com)

## NOB HILL

Nob Hill is a walkable neighborhood with quirky shops, dining and nightspots. You'll find Route 66 architecture and neon signs along Central Ave. running straight through Nob Hill. [nobhillmainstreet.org](http://nobhillmainstreet.org)

## ROUTE 66

The Mother Road will turn 100 in 2026, but you can celebrate now along Central Avenue, the longest continuous urban stretch of Route 66 in the country. Find beloved neighborhoods, eclectic shops, unique restaurants and historic neon signs. [route66abq.com](http://route66abq.com)

## ABQ BIOPARK

The ABQ BioPark consists of the Aquarium, Botanic Garden, Zoo and Tingley Beach. It encourages visitors to connect with the natural world, and is a refuge for experts who lead science-based conservation work. [cabq.gov/artsandculture/biopark](http://cabq.gov/artsandculture/biopark)

## FLAMENCO

Albuquerque is the flamenco capital of North America. Experience flamenco during Balloon Fiesta at Tablao Flamenco or at Casa Flamenca. [visitabq.org/abq365/blog/post/experience-authentic-flamenco-in-albuquerque](http://visitabq.org/abq365/blog/post/experience-authentic-flamenco-in-albuquerque)

## PETROGLYPH NATIONAL MONUMENT

Visit one of the largest petroglyph sites in North America. Hike and view designs and symbols carved by Native Americans and Spanish settlers 400 to 700 years ago. [nps.gov/petr](http://nps.gov/petr)

## NEW MEXICAN CUISINE

New Mexican cuisine is a unique blend of Native American and Spanish flavors featuring red and green chile. Stop by a New Mexican restaurant to sample this one-of-a-kind food. [visitabq.org/restaurants/all-restaurants/new-mexican](http://visitabq.org/restaurants/all-restaurants/new-mexican)

## TAKE A GUIDED TOUR

There are numerous opportunities to take sightseeing and guided tours in Albuquerque with professional tour companies or volunteer guides. Get to know ABQ with a professional guide. [visitabq.org/things-to-do/tours-sightseeing](http://visitabq.org/things-to-do/tours-sightseeing)

## OTHER EVENTS IN ALBUQUERQUE

Visit [visitabq.org/events](http://visitabq.org/events) to find many of the events happening across the city.

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