

Escape to the Sierra Blanca Mountains

Ruidoso and Alamogordo

August 14 - 17, 2024
(4 days - 3 nights)



Wed, Aug 14

Ruidoso, NM

Anticipating the mild days and cool nights of Ruidoso we board our motorcoach, meet our fellow travelers and route toward the “Land of Enchantment”. The mountain resort town of Ruidoso lies in the rugged Sierra Blanca mountain range where it merges with the Sacramento Mountains to the south. Ruidoso has been experiencing explosive growth and currently, is the 4th fastest growing city in New Mexico, after Albuquerque, Rio Rancho and Las Cruces. Upon arriving in Ruidoso, we will check in at our hotel, our home for 3 nights. This evening we will go to the nearby Flying J Ranch for a Chuckwagon Supper and Western Show. Our supper will consist of brisket, bbq chicken, beans, biscuits, dessert and tea, coffee or lemonade. For over 30 years the Wranglers have been taking audiences back to the Old West with fantastic fiddling, banjo plunking, guitar picking, world-champion yodeling and amazing harmonizing as they sing western ballads telling stories about the great American cowboys of old. Having been in operation since 1982, the Flying J is known for great food and excellent family entertainment.

Thu, Aug 15

Ruidoso, NM

After enjoying a good night’s rest, we board our

Highlights Include:

- 3 nights in Ruidoso, NM
- Ruidoso Downs Horse Racing
- Lunch at Ruidoso Downs
- Flying J Chuckwagon Supper and Show
- Eagle Ranch Pistachio Farm Tour
- Heart of the Desert Vineyards
- White Sands, NM
- Shopping time in Ruidoso
- Spencer Theatre of Performing Arts
- Inn of the Mountain Gods Casino (optional)

motorcoach and route to Alamogordo where we stop at the Eagle Ranch Pistachio Farm. Our tour will take us to the trees so we may learn about the Pistachios and how they are grown and harvested. Inside we will see the machinery needed to get them ready for packaging, Eagle Ranch Pistachio Farm has been in business since 1974 and opened Heart of the Desert Vineyards in 2002. After a catered lunch at Desert of the Vineyards Tuscan patio, we will venture out to White Sands, NM; “like no place else on earth. This scenic park rising from the heart of the Tularosa Basin is one of the world’s great natural wonders with its great wave-like dunes of gypsum; engulfing 275 square miles of desert. Returning to

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Ruidoso, we have leisure time in downtown for browsing in some of the unique shops where arts and crafts abound.

Fri, Aug 16

Ruidoso, NM

Today we are ready for a full day of excitement starting with a visit to the Spencer Theatre. Opened in 1997, the theatre houses the largest private collection in the Southwest of Dale Chihuly, Seattle based artist. Chihuly's variegated glass sculptures, blazing with color and squirming with life, are considered the foremost glass art in the world. His amazing hand-blown creations are the only fine art to adorn the monumental Spencer Theater and his Glowing Sunset Tower is a 14-foot glass tower of squiggling bows of red and orange. The 564-piece sculpture dominates the theater's Crystal Lobby. Lunch awaits us at the Ruidoso Downs before the horse racing begins. Ruidoso Downs hosts both Thoroughbred and Quarter Horse racing, notably the All American Futurity, the richest race in Quarter Horse racing. It also hosts the Grade 1 All American Derby in early September, which carries a purse of \$1,900,000 and was won in 2023 by Missouri-bred gelding, Whiskey Creek. This evening you will have free time for dinner on your own and perhaps try your luck at Inn of the Mountain Gods Casino. The premier resort and casino is located near Ruidoso, in Mescalero, and is owned by the Mescalero Apache Tribe.

Sat, Aug 17

Return Home

The time has come to load our bags, board the motorcoach and re-route toward Texas. Sit back, enjoy the ride and reminisce with travelers about the variety of attractions included in our tour to the beautiful resort town of Ruidoso and its surrounding area.

**Thank you for traveling with
Bilbrey Tours!**



Price Includes:

- Roundtrip transportation from: **Abilene, Big Spring, and Midland**
- 3 nights hotel accommodations
- Baggage handling for one piece of luggage
- Meals: 3 breakfasts, 3 lunches or dinners
- Admissions to all included attractions as per itinerary
- Services of a tour escort
- Gratuities for driver and local guides

Cost per person:

\$1129 (2 people per room)

\$1469 (1 person per room)

\$25 deposit due upon booking

Final payment due May 10, 2024

Travel Insurance

An optional Travel Insurance plan is available for purchase on overnight tours through TripAssure. Bilbrey Tours encourages the purchase of a Travel Protection Plan to help protect your investment, your belongings and most importantly you! Bilbrey Tours makes the Tour & Cruise Travel Protection Plans easily available. For complete details and to purchase a plan, follow this link:

<https://atc.tripassure.com/main/?welcome=BILB3262TX>

Cancellation Policy

All cancellations must be reported to Bilbrey Tours, Inc. and TripAssure when the problem causing the need to cancel arises.

Tour Activity Level: EASY 1 2 3 4 ACTIVE

Luggage tags and a detailed itinerary will be mailed 2 weeks prior to the tour.

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