

HOW DO YOU SPELL ALBUQUERQUE?

Sunday morning was departure time from Val Verde Thousand Trails. We headed North to Flagstaff, AZ. The elevation for the day averaged 6 to 7 thousand feet. The rule of thumb for temperature difference is 3 degrees per thousand feet. We were 21 degrees cooler than sea level for the day. We also managed to make it to Gallup, NM where we stayed at the Red Rock State Park.

Monday evening found us at Santa Fe, NM in an RV park 4 ½ miles from the center of town. After we parked and set up, the skies opened up with a thunder and lightning storm that rained as much in a half hour as Redlands has in a month!



Tuesday found us traveling to Los Alamos, NM. Prior to the 1950's this was "the city that never was". In 1943 the US established this city for research scientists to secretly develop the atom bomb. To the world, it never existed.

The Bradbury Museum in Los Alamos documents the history of the bomb's development, and displays the projects that are currently being worked on.

The picture at the left shows the container for the atom bomb dropped on Hiroshima. It was named Fat Boy,

because of its shape.

This town is so remote and such an unlikely location one would not even think it was there. Also visible was the devastation caused by the gigantic fires a few years ago.

A few more miles from this town, is the Bandelier National Monument. In the canyon was discovered the ruins of an ancient civilization of the Pueblo People. They were cliff dwellers, living in caves carved out of the walls of the canyon. This tribe was sometimes referred to as the Anazazi Indians by the Navajo. It meant "people who are not like us". The Pueblo People finally broke up and moved to different locations. This upsets the myth that the Anazazi Indians disappeared to nowhere.

When you are in New Mexico, you must go to Roswell and see all about the UFO's. We will go through the museum and make up our minds about them. So, Wednesday we are off to Roswell!

Dave & Bonnie
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