Los Alamos Historic District

Los Alamos has several specialty parks where you can enjoy a picnic, play a round of disc golf or mini golf, let your four-legged friends play off the leash in a dog park, enjoy skateboarding, or play tennis by yourself or with a friend! Stop by the Aquatic Center to rent disc golf or mini golf sets, or to learn more! For a fun winter outing, swing by the Aquatic Center and rent snowshoes and poles for the whole family. Then take a 5-minute drive to the Los Alamos County Golf Course for a great place to snowshoe and cross-country ski! Afterwards, warm up with snacks and drinks at the Cottonwood restaurant inside the Golf Course Community Building.

Leave No Trace - LNT.org

When enjoying the outdoors in and around Los Alamos, please remember these seven principles:

- Plan ahead and be prepared for terrain and weather
- Beware of areas prone to flooding
- Dispose of waste properly (pack in, pack out)
- Leave what you find—ancient artifacts, wildflowers, etc
- Abide by fire restrictions, and put campfires dead out
- Do not disturb wildlife—help protect their habitat
- Maintain courtesy toward other visitors

Wildlife Encounters

In the Jemez Mountains and on the Pajarito Plateau, there are black bears, mountain lions, elk, deer, bobcats, coyotes, and more. Approaching, feeding, or disturbing wildlife is dangerous. Always keep a safe distance, and be aware of your surroundings.

Pets in the Parks

Pets are not permitted on any park trails within Bandelier, but are allowed on the La Jara, Valles Grande, and Coyote Call trails in the Valles Caldera. Pets are also allowed in the parking lots outside the Bandelier Visitor Center and the Valles Caldera Entrance Station, as well as in the Upper Compound and the picnic area across Pajarito Creek. Pets must be kept under physical control at all times—crated or on a leash not to exceed six feet in length.

Travel Truths

When visiting Los Alamos on the weekdays, remember our unique little town almost doubles in size as commuters and visitors spend the day with us. During mornings heading into town, and evenings heading out of town, Trinity Dr., Diamond Dr., Central Ave., and NM-4 can be very busy. In addition, the lunch hour in downtown is a bustling time, with friends, students, families, and coworkers eating together at the local restaurants. Plan ahead to avoid delays.

Helpful Hints

High-Altitude Health

Bring your water bottles, and drink water all day to prevent dehydration. You can refill water bottles at all of the local attractions. Also make sure to wear and reapply sunscreen. Visiting locations at high elevations than you are used to increases the chance of dehydration, sunburn, headaches, nausea, dizziness, and the aggravation of pre-existing medical conditions.

Tips From the Locals

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Know Before You Go

How to Drive on Lab Property (see inset map above)

When using NM501 (aka East & West Jemez Road) to travel between Los Alamos and the mountains, you will need to enter the Los Alamos National Laboratory’s Vehicle Access Portals. Think of it as a little part of the Secret City’s past you can still experience today! Public access is permitted. Just have your license, passport, or federal/DOE badge available for drivers of cars, large trucks, and the mountains, you will need to enter the Los Alamos National Laboratory’s Vehicle Access Portals. Think of it as a little part of the Secret City’s past you can still experience today! Public access is permitted. Just have your license, passport, or federal/DOE badge available for drivers of cars, large trucks, and the mountains, you will need to enter the Los Alamos National Laboratory’s Vehicle Access Portals. Think of it as a little part of the Secret City’s past you can still experience today! Public access is permitted. Just have your license, passport, or federal/DOE badge available for drivers of cars, large trucks, and the mountains, you will need to enter the Los Alamos National Laboratory’s Vehicle Access Portals. Think of it as a little part of the Secret City’s past you can still experience today! Public access is permitted. Just have your license, passport, or federal/DOE badge available for drivers of cars, large trucks, and the mountains, you will need to enter the Los Alamos National Laboratory’s Vehicle Access Portals. Think of it as a little part of the Secret City’s past you can still experience today! Public access is permitted. Just have your license, passport, or federal/DOE badge available for drivers of cars, large trucks, and the mountains, you will need to enter the Los Alamos National Laboratory’s Vehicle Access Portals. Think of it as a little part of the Secret City’s past you can still experience today! Public access is permitted. Just have your license, passport, or federal/DOE badge available for drivers of cars, large trucks, and the mountains, you will need to enter the Los Alamos National Laboratory’s Vehicle Access Portals.

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