



Hiking the Harmonies of The Land G230524 Connie Burkhart

MAY 10 - 14, 2023

My name is Connie B. Burkhart and I am thrilled to have you join us for this unique week as we 'jam with the land' and enjoy the music of Bluegrass Camp at Ghost Ranch. With over 25 years of instructing various workshops at Ghost Ranch and decades of leading wilderness/archaeology/geology expeditions with other organizations through the 4-corners region, I am excited to have the opportunity to share this amazing location in the high desert of northern New Mexico with you. Ghost Ranch is indeed a place that begs for exploration, so here we go!

This workshop will be a blend of hiking, stories of the land and people of the ranch, campfires, conversation, and adventure through exploration of rare sites of Ghost Ranch and the surrounding area, topped off with the bluegrass music concert!

You will be led off the marked trails with stories of the history, geology and archaeology of the region. Hikes will be not more than 4 miles in one day, on uneven terrain over 6,500ft elevation.

Time will be given to find quiet space in the wilderness, where the experience is often more about the journey rather than the destination we are heading toward. There will be time to breathe and sit in silence to hear the songs of the desert on the wind. We will pay attention to the ancient stories of the land and people and there will be opportunities to explore and discover the treasures of this land, possibly finding fossils or artifacts that speak of ancient days.

The day you arrive, we look forward to meeting you after dinner at orientation where we will circle together and discuss the days to come. Our adventures will start the next morning with some a lecture on the geology of the area followed by a hike. At least two days we will be away from the dining hall for lunch, which means that we will pack our sack lunches at the ranch after breakfast before we head out to our destination of the day. Food is provided for us, but if you want extra 'snacks' on the trail you may bring them along as well. We should arrive back to the ranch in plenty of time each day to have some 'down time' before dinner and any evening time together.

Please find below a list of things that would be good to consider having for this adventure. Some items are available to purchase at the Ghost Ranch trading post, down the road at Bodes store or at the Family Dollar store you'll see as you near Abiquiu. Also included below is a

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SAMPLE itinerary. Weather will dictate our final itinerary and length of time out on trails. Hikes will range from 1 to 4 miles with spring storms being our main focus of concern and safety.

We are going to have a wonderful experience together. We look forward to sharing some of our most cherished areas of the ranch with you.

Take Care and enjoy your day.

Connie B. Burkhart

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Please don't hesitate to contact me for any other questions or information that you may need.

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ITEMS TO BRING FOR

HIKING THE HARMONIES OF THE LAND

- Multiple water bottles for long hikes
- Flashlight or head lamp
- Sunscreen
- Bug Spray
- A hat or bandana
- Good shoes for off trail hikes. Heavy duty tennis shoes are fine.
- At least one long sleeve shirt (for sun protection if needed)
- Rain poncho or jacket
- Light weight fleece or jacket - believe it or not, evenings can get chilly
- Lip balm
- Sunglasses are a great idea too
- Baggies for used TP on the trails

Camera / Phone : A note about cell phones. We know a lot of us use our phone as a camera, but now that there is more phone coverage at the ranch and the surrounding area, we ask that you turn off your ring and/or notification of texts while on the trails. It can be a HUGE distraction in the wilderness. Thank you!

SAMPLE ITINERARY:

Daily Options may vary due to weather or ranch road access

WEDNESDAY: ARRIVAL DAY - Orientation and a breakout circle for our class to meet one another and begin our journey together, time to be determined. We'll go over the schedule for the week as well.

THURSDAY: 9 am – 2 pm

LECTURE - Where am I? A brief orientation of the lay of the land, the rocks, the rivers, and the volcanoes - let the stories begin.

HIKE - Pack a lunch after breakfast, bring your rain gear, water, etc and prepare to be out in the wild and return to the ranch for the afternoon.

EVENING - Campfire at Staff Circle / Smore's, Stories & Sunsets - weather permitting

FRIDAY: 9am – Noon

HIKE - We'll hit the trail to one of the amazing areas of the ranch. Bring plenty of water and any snacks you may want. We will be back to the ranch for lunch. This is a great afternoon to plan a museum visit or book an O'Keeffe tour or horseback ride. (Advanced bookings are recommended)

EVENING - Free R&R time to enjoy the ranch and any Bluegrass event in the works!

SATURDAY: 9 am – Noon

HIKE – Pack a lunch for our last adventure. Bring your rain gear, water, etc and prepare to be out in the wild until about 3pm.

CIRCLE UP/ 4:30 pm - Gifting Circle & Class closing before dinner

EVENING - Bluegrass concert

SUNDAY: DEPARTURE – I know, I always want it to last longer too!

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