

Welcome



What's Your Trail Name?

G25110102

with Brandon Wert

November 2-8, 2025

Welcome to What's Your Trail Name: A Ghost Ranch Hiking Experience for Current and Aspiring CDT Hikers. If you are actively preparing to section hike or through hike the CDT then I had you front of mind while designing this course! If you are training / planning for another backpacking adventure or are fit enough to walk 15+ rugged miles a day, for 5 days back to back, and desire a training experience in a stunningly beautiful setting with a fun community, then I believe you will appreciate and benefit from this course. If there is any question in your mind that you belong to either of these groups then please consider finding an alternate course to take during your stay on the Ranch. We will be in wilderness areas, at high altitude (between 6-10K feet) and working hard all day to complete our hikes.

We'll camp together in the Ghost Ranch camp ground, an excellent opportunity to shake down new equipment before relying on it in a remote, unsupported setting. The camp ground has bathrooms with showers so we will be super comfortable each evening. We'll eat breakfast and dinner in the dining hall and take a prepared sack lunch with us each day (wrap or sandwich, piece of fruit, chips and / or cookie). Please feel free to supplement the sack lunch with your favorite trail calories, or new selections you want to test during the week.

You'll need a day pack to accommodate a few liters of water, calories, rain gear, warmth layer, and anything else you'd normally take with you for a 15 mile trek.

I'm excited to meet you and spend the week together exploring Ghost Ranch,

GHOSH RANCH EDUCATION AND RETREAT CENTER
280 Private Drive 1708, Abiquiu, New Mexico 87510 | 505.685.1000 | GhostRanch.org

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the Carson and Santa Fe NF adjacent to the Ranch and our relationship to our physical environment. Both the low desert of AZ and the high desert of NM have long been soul-scapes for myself and life partner, Jodi. We intentionally raised our daughters spending significant time in both places with the belief that our internal and external landscapes mirror one another and this relationship positively affects our psychological and spiritual well being.

If you have any concerns or questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to my email or mobile number: 919-200-0347 leftreverend@gmail.com

I look forward to meeting you and whatever adventures the trail presents...

Course schedule:

Sunday (0 mi)

Dinner

Ranch orientation

Course orientation

Monday: (13.5 mi)

Sunrise Chimney Rock (4 mi)

Am Box Canyon (4 mi)

Sunset Kitchen Mesa (5.5 mi)

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Tuesday: (+/- 15)

Salazar Canyon / Mesa de Las Viejas / Rim Vista Trail / Piedra Lumbre Trail

Wednesday (13.4 mi)

King's cove via Canjilon creek / Hayden Quarry / double track ranch road (6.7 mi / 13.4 mi)

Thursday (+/- 15)

Martinez Canyon / FS / Yeso Canyon Trail

Friday (8)

Cerro Pedernal (Elv 9,866)

Supply or materials list:

Headlamp (for night hike)

Sturdy walking shoes, close toed footwear is highly recommended.

Sun hat and sunscreen

Backpack or hydration system sufficient to carry at least 2 liters of water and an extra layer of clothing comfortably