



Welcome

Hi, my name is, Chris, and I've lived all over the country, but most recently *Colorado, New Mexico, Oregon* and now *Phoenix, Arizona*.

In all of my traveling I've come to know the *Four Corners Region of Arizona, Utah, Colorado* and *New Mexico* quite well. I've frequented such sites as *Montezuma's Well, Tuzigoot National Monument, Canyon de Chelly*, the *Grand Canyon, Monument Valley, Navajo National Monument, Mesa Verde National Park, Antelope Canyon, Chaco Culture National Historical Park*, and various towns in Arizona such as *Sedona, Jerome, Flagstaff, Winslow, Tuba City, and Page*, plus *Cortez, Colorado*, and *Farmington* and *Sante Fe, New Mexico*. But out of all of the places that I've visited, my favorite are the Hopi villages at First, Second and Third Mesa in Arizona, also known as **Hopi Land**. (www.hopi-nsn.gov/)

The first time I visited Hopi was in April of 2008. I was living in Denver, Colorado and decided to take a trip through the Desert Southwest. I ended up in Sedona, Arizona, and met a woman that owned a company that offered various types of tours. For reasons unknown I was naturally drawn to Hopi, so I scheduled an all-day tour with a Hopi couple. We met at the Cultural Center, and I instantly felt at home. Coincidentally, I attended my very first Kachina dance on this day. I fell in love with Hopi at first sight.

My second visit to Hopi took place three years later, in July of 2011. I was living in Phoenix, Arizona, and decided to schedule a second tour for myself and a friend. This particular experience was very different from the first; much more professional and educational. My third visit to Hopi took place the following year, in May of 2012, after a friend invited me to meet her at Hopi to help a family plant their spring corn. It was during that visit something magical took place, but I'll save the story for your journey to Hopi.

Four years into this friendship my Hopi friends asked me if I would be interested in bringing people to visit Hopi. I couldn't say no. And that's how **Journey To Hopi** came to be.



A Friendly, Spiritual Road Trip

To keep things simple, I've designed this journey so that my guests are allowed to manage the cost of the trip. Guests are responsible for all transportation and lodging during the trip. I basically go along for the ride and offer myself as a personal guide.

Lodging, Transportation and Various Expenses

Here are some basics:

The Drive: All trips depart from Phoenix, Arizona. The drive from Phoenix to Hopi Land, without stops or heavy traffic, takes approximately four hours one-way, eight hours round-trip. With this in mind, it's very stressful to make the trip up and back in one day. It's much more enjoyable to include other stops along the way, and make it a two or three day road trip.

Transportation: Guests are required to pay for gas and provide transportation by either renting a vehicle or using their own.

Lodging: Once travel dates and plans have been submitted I will provide a tentative itinerary and a list of suggestions of places to stay. Guests are responsible for paying for all lodging (including mine), and taking care of any cancellations. Again, this allows the guest to manage the cost of the trip and make it as expensive, or inexpensive as they like.

For example, depending on the number of guests, it may be more comfortable and cost effective to rent a house in the Flagstaff area using www.airbnb.com, than staying at the Hopi Cultural Center. Flagstaff and Winslow are great hubs and are centrally located to everything in the area.

Park Fees: Guests are responsible for paying any and all park entrance fees. Most fees can be found online. Some parks like the Grand Canyon charge per vehicle, instead of per person.

Hopi Visit Expenses:

- **Meals:** Meals are optional and not required. The cost for a traditional Hopi lunch or dinner may cost around \$20.00 per person and must be booked in advance. Please remember that you're paying for more than just food. Special diets *cannot* be accommodated.
- **Handmade Hopi Crafts:** These items can range anywhere from \$10.00 to over \$100.00 per item, depending on what our hosts have to offer. Please bring cash!
- **Cash gratuities** for our Hopi hosts at the end of each visit is greatly honored and appreciated.



Visitor Etiquette

The Hopi welcome you as visitors to their land. Here are few things to remember so that your visit will be an enjoyable one.

Please remember common courtesy. Looking into windows or wandering into homes is as rude at Hopi as it would be if a stranger helped himself to a tour of your home. When you visit Hopi land you are a guest on private land. Liberties taken by visitors in the past have led to strict enforcement of regulations

by the Hopi. It is a privilege to visit Hopi communities, especially during ceremonies, and visitors must respect regulations. With respect, the visitor to Hopi can enjoy a rewarding experience unlike any other in the world.

Recording and Photography

No recording of any type while in and around Hopi villages is allowed. These include, but are not limited to: picture taking, video recording, audio recording, sketching, and note taking. These are strictly prohibited especially during ceremonies. Visiting Hopi is a wonderful time to use your mind and heart to record what you are privileged to see. Please note, publication of these observations and/or recordings is both exploitative and prohibited without prior consent from the Hopi Cultural Preservation Office.

Witnessing a Hopi ceremony is a privilege, not a right. When viewing a ceremony First of all, please note that not all ceremonies are open to the public. Often posted signs indicate who is welcome. If no signs are posted, seek information from local shops or the village community. At ceremonies open to the public, be aware that there are behavioral guidelines to follow.

Well meaning people, who would never think of going up to the altar during a wedding to ask questions, have nonetheless interrupted, distracted, or simply gotten in the way of Hopi ceremonies. Unless you are invited, the simplest rule is to stay out of the way of kivas (ceremonial rooms) and stay on the periphery of dances or processions.

Remember that you are here to watch; there is no more rewarding or thoughtful way to visit ceremonies than to be inconspicuous and quiet. Wear appropriate clothing. Just as you would when going to a wedding or other ceremony, you should consider what you wear when you go to a Hopi ceremony. Long pants or a skirt are favored over shorts or a short skirt, for instance. The desert Southwest is prone to extreme temperature swings, so if you are spending an evening be sure to bring warm clothes and many layers. Sunblock is a good idea year round.

Please Do Not Touch

If you aren't sure, don't touch it. A visitor to the Southwest might see shrines from many different cultures, including highway markers remembering lost loved ones. Some types of shrines are more easily recognized than others, however. Hopi spirituality is very intertwined with daily life, and objects that seem ordinary to you might have deeper significance to the person who placed them. Shrines are placed by sincere individuals and not meant to be disturbed. If you come upon a collection of objects at Hopi and you aren't sure what to do, respect the wishes of the person who left the offerings and take your attention elsewhere. What to bring when you visit Hopi land – If you are planning to visit the Hopi Reservation in the summer, please take certain precautions. Bring lots of water, a hat, and sunscreen. The sun can be very intense, and the air is very dry. Wear comfortable walking or hiking boots because vehicles are not generally allowed in all villages. In the winter months, dress warmly especially at night. It can get extremely cold and windy on the mesas. Bring extra layers, you can always leave them in your vehicle if you don't need them.



What To Expect

The First Day: In an attempt to avoid rush-hour traffic and to make the trip not feel so rushed, I recommend departing Phoenix anytime between 9:00 AM and 12:00 Noon. Our one and only required stop of the day will be Montezuma's Well, where we will offer a prayer and leave a small peace-offering. This park is located a couple of hours north of Phoenix, near Camp Verde, Arizona. The park closes at 5:00 PM, so we have to allow enough time to arrive at the park, perform our ceremony and exit the park before they close the gates.

The First Two Hours: To make our road trip interesting and fun, and to kick off the spiritual aspect of the journey, I will ask guests to write down 5 questions or things that they would like to change or improve in their lives. Then I will ask them to keep a journal of everything that they notice during our adventure; traffic, animal sightings, climate conditions, certain things that come up in discussions, everything of significance will need to be written in the journal.

Storytelling: Throughout our road trip I will share stories of some of the more mysterious circumstances surrounding my friendship with the Hopi, what took place when we met, and what I'm allowed to share with the public regarding their beliefs, traditions, and their relationship with the Grand Canyon. I will also share some of the more mystical experiences I've had at Hopi Land.

Here's a sample of a **Three-Day Journey**:

Sample: Day One

- **Depart Phoenix, Arizona** at 9:00 AM
- **First stop:** Montezuma's Well to offer a prayer and peace offering. (Required.)
- **Second stop:** Tuzigoot National Monument for a brief tour.
- **Third stop:** *Standing on the Corner* museum in Winslow, Arizona, and a brief stop at Little Painted Desert.
- **Final stop:** Hopi Cultural Center. Guests are on their own for the evening.
- **Stargazing:** If the weather permits we may take a 5-minute drive to one of the mesa's for some spectacular stargazing.

Sample: Day Two

- Guests are on their own until checkout, which is at 11:00 AM. The Cultural Center has a museum and various gift shops to explore.
- **First Stop:** A visit with my Hopi friends in their home. The visit will include the following:
 - A traditional Hopi lunch (Optional)
 - A sit-down visit in their home that will last about an hour, sometimes longer.
 - An opportunity to purchase handmade Hopi crafts.
 - A short walking tour of their village if there are no private ceremonies taking place that day.
 - A Hopi Kachina Dance if scheduled at the right time of year.
- **Next Stop:** Spend the rest of the day visiting various Hopi art galleries on First, Second or Third Mesa.
- **Third Stop:** Depart for the Hopi village of Moenkopi near Tuba City, Arizona. Depending on weather conditions and the amount of daylight left, we may get to stop at Coal Mine Canyon for some spectacular views of this very rustic canyon. (Requires a SUV-type vehicle.)
- **Final Stop:** A night at the Moenkopi Legacy Inn & Suites. After we've checked into the hotel, guests are on their own for the evening.

Sample: Day Three

- Guests are on their own until check-out.
- **First Stop:** A quick tour of the Hopi village Moenkopi.
- **Next Stop:** The Grand Canyon; spend the afternoon exploring views of the Grand Canyon.
- **Third Stop:** Dinner in Flagstaff, Arizona.
- **Final Stop:** Phoenix, Arizona. And finally, during the last hour of our adventure we will revisit the 5 things that each guest wrote down in their journal at the beginning of the journey, to try and determine if our journey revealed any new insights or direction.

PHOTOGRAPHY: Photographs, photo books and videos will be available for purchase several days after the journey is complete.



Basically, there are two different types of journeys that I offer:

Option One: A Planned Itinerary

The first journey is one where everything is planned out very specifically. You get to choose the places that you would like to visit, and I put together the following itinerary. **Note:** I will take photographs and aerial drone footage at certain locations during the journey. Photographs, photo books and videos will be available for purchase several days after the journey is complete.

Sample: Day One

- Depart Phoenix, Arizona at 9:00 AM on Sunday, October 16.
- **First stop: Montezuma's Well to perform a peace offering. (A required stop on all journeys.)**
- Second stop: Tuzigoot National Monument for 1 hour and 30 minutes.
- Third stop: Lunch in Sedona, Arizona
- Fourth stop: Little Painted Desert near Winslow, Arizona.
- **Final stop:** Hopi Cultural Center. Guests are on their own for the evening, or may join me for a visit to one of the Mesa's for stargazing.

Sample: Day Two

- Breakfast at the Cultural Center. Guests are on their own until checkout at 11:00 AM.
- 11:30 aM: Depart for Mishongnovi village where we will have a traditional Hopi lunch with our Hopi hosts.
- After lunch there will be an opportunity to sit down and visit with our hosts. Handmade crafts will be available for purchase, and if time permits our hosts may offer a brief tour of their village, or their fields (depending on the time of year).
- We would then spend the day on the First, Second or Third Mesa and depart Mishongnovi and Second Mesa two hours before sunset. We would then head towards the Hopi village of Moenkopi near Tuba City, Arizona, for a night at the Moenkopi Legacy Inn & Suites Depending on weather conditions, we may get to stop at Coal Mine Canyon for a spectacular view of the sunset.

- After we've checked into the hotel, guests are on their own for the evening.

Sample: Day Three

- Guests are on their own until 10:00 AM. (Breakfast is available in the hotel or at Denny's, which is next to the hotel.)
- Depart hotel at 10:00 AM. Take a quick tour of Moenkopi, and then head to the Grand Canyon. (Typically an hours drive from Moenkopi.)
- Visit the Grand Canyon until 3:00 PM.
- Depart the Grand Canyon at 3:00 PM and head to Flagstaff, Arziona for dinner.
- After a nice dinner in Flagstaff, a two-drive back to Phoenix, where the tour will come to an end upon arrival.



Option Two: A Spiritual Quest

A Journey Through Nature, Time and Space

This journey starts out with a 30-minute meditation, which will either take place the night before the adventure begins, or the morning of. During this journey I will ask my guests to bring with them a list of 5 things that they would like to change or improve in their lives. Then I will ask them to keep a journal of everything that they notice during our adventure. Traffic, animal sightings, climate conditions; everything will need to be written in the journal. In addition, I will also provide various intuitive messages for each individual during the journey that can be added to the journal. Together, we will read the "signs" put in front of us by nature, the elements and the circumstances that take place during the adventure.

Once the journey is complete we will sit down and discuss the 5 things that each individual listed in the journal, and everything that took place during the journey. And then together, come to a conclusion of

those things that the journey tried to bring to light. And finally, if time permits, there will be final 30-minute meditation at the very end. **Note:** I will take photographs and aerial drone footage at certain locations during the journey. Photographs, photo books and videos will be available for purchase several days after the journey is complete

Sample: Day One

- Depart Phoenix, Arizona at 9:00 AM on Sunday, October 16.
- **First stop: Montezuma's Well to perform a peace offering. (A required stop on all journeys.)**
- All stops between **Montezuma's Well** and the **Hopi Cultural Center** are determined by the "signs" lead by the elements, nature, and time. Frequent stops are possible. Everything is a group decision. Anything is possible. Guests are asked to keep a journal
- **Final stop: Hopi Cultural Center.** Guests are on their own for the evening, or may join me for a visit to one of the Mesa's for stargazing.

Sample: Day Two

- Breakfast at the Cultural Center. Guests are on their own until checkout at 11:00 AM.
- 11:30 aM: Depart for Mishongnovi village where we will have a traditional Hopi lunch with our Hopi hosts.
- After lunch there will be an opportunity to sit down and visit with our hosts. Handmade crafts will be available for purchase, and if time permits our hosts may offer a brief tour of their village, or their fields (depending on the time of year).
- We would then spend the day on the First, Second or Third Mesa and depart Mishongnovi and Second Mesa two hours before sunset. We would then head towards the Hopi village of Moenkopi near Tuba City, Arizona, for a night at the Moenkopi Legacy Inn & Suites Depending on weather conditions, we may get to stop at Coal Mine Canyon for a spectacular view of the sunset.
- After we've checked into the hotel, guests are on their own for the evening.

Sample: Day Three

- Guests are on their own until 10:00 AM. (Breakfast is available in the hotel, or at Denny's, which is next to the hotel.)
- Depart hotel at 10:00 AM. Take a quick tour of Moenkopi, and the rest of the journey will be determined by the "signs" lead by the elements, nature, and time. Frequent stops are possible. Everything is a group decision. Anything is possible.
- Return to Phoenix, where the tour will come to an end upon arrival.

The Four Corners is a region of the United States consisting of the southwestern corner of Colorado, southeastern corner of Utah, northeastern corner of Arizona, and northwestern corner of New Mexico. The Four Corners area is named after the quadripoint where the boundaries of the four states meet, where the Four Corners Monument is located. It is the only location in the United States where four states meet. The Four Corners region is part of a larger region known as the Colorado Plateau and is mostly rural, rugged, and arid.

In addition to the monument, commonly visited areas within Four Corners include Monument Valley, Mesa Verde National Park, Chaco Canyon, and Canyon de Chelly National Monument. The most populous city in the Four Corners region is Farmington, New Mexico, followed by Durango, Colorado.

Most of the Four Corners region belongs to semi-autonomous Native American nations, the largest of which is the Navajo Nation, followed by Hopi, Ute, and Zuni tribal reserves and nations. The Hopi Indians are the oldest Native American tribe in the World. Just like the Ancient Egyptians and Ancient Mayans, they trace the roots of their culture back to the lost civilization of Atlantis.

Additional Points of Interest:

- Montezuma's Well
- Tuzigoot National Monument near Sedona, Arizona
- Walnut Canyon National Monument
- Meteor Crater
- Homolovi State Park
- Petrified Forest National Park
- Wupatki National Monument
- Grand Falls
- Moenkopi/Tuba City
- Zuni/Window Rock
- Antelope Canyon in Page, Arizona
- Navajo National Monument
- Canyon de Chelly
- Monument Valley
- Four Corners Monument
- Mesa Verde National Park near Cortez, Colorado
- Chaco Culture National Historical Park near Farmington, New Mexico, and
- **First, Second and Third Mesa, Arizona (Hopi)**

Rates:

My daily rate for accompanying guests on these friendly, spiritual road trips are \$100.00 per day + lodging. I pay for all of my own meals.