“The stillness is a presence here, at first an unfamiliar companion as I walk. But with each passing mile, the recent memory of civilizations fades, leaving a canyon-walled world of quiet and beauty. The empty rooms and rock panels, abandoned by stone mason, and artists accent the stillness. I stop, make a photograph, smile and walk on, solitary, but not alone.”

~ John L. Ninnermann

“We’ve been waiting for your visit for over 1000 years”
“Roads to the soul aren’t paved.”

Transport yourself into another world, at Chaco Canyon. This UNESCO World Heritage Site and National Park lies on top of the southeastern Colorado Plateau’s physiographic province in the San Juan Basin. It had a diverse thriving culture from 850 A.D. to 1250 A.D. and it served as the heart of spiritual and ceremonial practices for the Chacoan people.

*Experience this major ancestral Puebloan center of migration, grand construction, and cultural integration and see why Chaco is a fascinating place of mystery.*

You will learn about the first excavators and their findings as you explore the important Room 28 where 111-cylinder jars, a tall and narrow form of pottery, were found. You will also visit the great houses of Chaco Canyon, like Pueblo Bonito and Casa Rinconada, a large round building complex. At Casa Rinconada, the symmetry of the axes creates a perfect circle and some speculate it physically represents the Ancestral Puebloan cosmos and served as an important religious center.

*Heritage Inspirations wishes to provide you with an authentic, culturally vivid encounter with the mystery of Chaco Canyon.*

Chaco distinguished itself within the regional ancestral Puebloan culture and dominated the area for more than four centuries. So, expect to be dismayed at the obvious societal advances and ponder what created their sudden failure and collapse.

Heritage Inspirations plans all the logistics so that you can simply experience a beautiful scenic drive. Our informative guides offer you special insight and knowledge into the area and will also provide you with the tools needed to dive deeper into the mysteries of Chaco.

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**Chaco Canyon Day Tour**

*Heritage Inspirations,* New Mexico’s premier travel company, intimately knows the art, culture, heritage and wild places of Northern New Mexico. And, a few years ago we began to offer these immersive cultural tours from Hotel Chaco to Chaco Canyon because we felt we had to provide an inspirational travel excursion to this special often-overlooked and hard-to-reach place.

This is your unique opportunity to explore and learn about the high level of complex infrastructure, architectural development, economic reach and social organization that was Chaco Canyon. No one knows what caused their sudden collapse in the 13th century, but underneath the expansive Northern New Mexico skies, you'll soak in this ancestral corridor and contemplate their expansive story.

Meeting in the Hotel Chaco lobby at 7:15 AM, expect a very full day, with a return back to the same location around 5:45 PM. And be forewarned, traveling to Chaco Canyon is not an easy journey because the three and half-hour drive Northwest of Albuquerque culminates on a dirt road leading into the park entrance. Your interpretative guided experience includes entry into the park, comfortable transportation, a breakfast snack, gourmet lunch, a Heritage Inspirations water bottle and interpretive pamphlets. We'll do our best to give you the tools and resources necessary to comfortably dive deep into the mysteries of Chaco.

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**Chaco Canyon Glamping**

There are many solstice and equinox markers at Chaco Canyon, demonstrating that the people of Chaco incorporated celestial movements into a variety of their architecture, their art and their culture. Discover how these alignments indicate the people possessed a well-developed knowledge of astronomy and its relationship to the seasons, while you have the special and unique privilege of overnighting in Chaco Canyon during a Spring or Fall Equinox.

*Your luxurious journey to the National Park of Chaco Canyon will transcend this ancient site, at its most special time.*

Our glamping experience allows you to witness the distinctive light patterns formed in the ancient sacred architecture as the sun rises. Plus, you'll also be astounded by a non-light polluted sky, being in one of the designated International Dark Sky Parks. Heritage Inspirations plans all the logistics and facilitates all of your luxurious glamping, i.e., glamorous camping, so that you can simply experience this memorable opportunity on Spring and Fall Equinox and witness the perfect alignment of light, architecture and symbolism.

Not only can you witness this most engineered moment as the equinox traces a beam of light aligning across kiva doors and shining on significant wall patterns, but you can also specially experience Chaco Canyon's International Dark Sky Park designation during new moons, which is why we've added two Spring new moon glamping itineraries to our calendar. We only offer four dates/year – the two Equinoxes as well as the April and May new moons, so book your tour now, as they fill up fast!