

Harvard Museum of Natural History

Discovering Utah's Anasazi Heritage: *Following In Search of the Old Ones*

May 1–10, 2004 Leader: David Roberts

ITINERARY:

(Meals Included: B=Breakfast, L=Lunch, D=Dinner)

Morning Schedule:

Each morning, we will depart the Desert Rose Hotel between 7:00 and 8:00 a.m. for our tour operator's headquarters where we will eat breakfast and make our lunches from a fine selection for the day.

Evening Sessions:

In addition to the days' outings, the leaders will chair three informal evening discussion groups (with slide shows) to discuss what the group has experienced during the day and to debate critical issues raised by the Anasazi back country. Topics may include: The Ethics of the Outdoor Museum; What Caused the 1300 A.D. Abandonment? What Does Rock Art "Mean"?

May 1, 2004

ARRIVE BLUFF, UTAH

Travel to Bluff, Utah. Bluff, population 300, an unspoiled gem of a town, and one of the most charming in the Southwest. It occupies a lovely setting between sandstone cliffs that border the cottonwood groves of the meandering San Juan River on the north and south. Bluff was founded by the Mormon pilgrims during the epochal Hole-in-the-Rock expedition of 1880, devised to get a foothold in southeast Utah and keep out the "Gentile" settlers who were beginning to creep into this region. Ironically, Bluff is the least-Mormon town in Utah. Instead, it has become a haven for counter-culture artists, outdoorsmen and women, a community of river guides, archaeologists, writers, painters, and canyon-country aficionados who have turned their backs on the urban rat race. Bluff will be a superb jumping-off point for our explorations.

At 5:00 p.m. we will meet for cocktails and dinner. After dinner there will be an orientation session to prepare us for our upcoming adventures. Retire to the Desert Rose for the night. (D)

May 2, 2004

COMB RIDGE & BUTLER WASH

Today we will take a relatively easy series of short hikes leading to some masterly rock art and surprising ruins along the spectacular Comb Ridge slickrock monocline — a geological anomaly that stretches north-south for 60 miles into Arizona. The Navajo believed that the Comb Ridge was the spine of the earth. Butler Wash runs along the eastern side of the dramatic redrock crest of Comb Ridge. Relatively abundant water sources and the large number of small side canyons made this area one of the most densely populated areas for the Ancestral Pueblo people and their predecessors. Containing more than 200 sites per square mile, Comb Ridge is rich in Basketmaker and Archaic sites, including extensive rock art dating from around 8000 B.C. to 1150 A.D.

We return to Bluff by 5:00 p.m. Enjoy dinner at your leisure in the charming town of Bluff (restaurant recommendations can be provided). (B, L)

May 3, 2004

CEDAR POINT & JOHNS CANYON BENCH

We head off to Cedar Point/Johns Canyon Bench where, at the foot of Cedar Mesa, Basketmaker artists before 500 A.D. pecked some of the finest panels of petroglyphs in the Southwest. This assemblage of boulders covered with rock art was rediscovered by Vaughn and a handful of associates only a few years ago. The Cedar Mesa country is a land of convoluted cliffs with arches, natural bridges, hoodoos, spires, hat rocks, ledges, and alcoves. It is also an unparalleled museum of geological features and Ancestral Puebloan culture. We will spend the day exploring this unique area. Tonight, enjoy dinner on your own. (B, L)

May 4, 2004

CEILING HOUSE & THE CITADEL

In one of the east-flowing canyons atop Cedar Mesa we'll explore Ceiling House and The Citadel. The former is a small ruin tucked into an obscure alcove, the ceiling of which forms a crazy swirl of natural pigmentations. Though still little-known, Ceiling House is becoming a photographers' mecca. The Citadel is a beautifully masoned room block at the point of a bold peninsula thrusting over the canyon below. It is the only ruin we know of with a

genuine 360-degree panorama. Following the day hike, we will have a cookout at Muley Point, the southernmost escarpment of Cedar Mesa. This cliff edge offers the most spectacular of all sunset vistas overlooking the San Juan River and Monument Valley. (B, L, D)

May 5, 2004

MESA VERDE

Today we will be joined by author and historian Fred Blackburn, the central character of *In Search of the Old Ones*, who will offer a personalized tour of the Anglo rediscovery of Mesa Verde, where his passion for Anasazi ruins began in the 1880s. Fred is the leading expert at deciphering the faded “signatures” the early explorers scratched into alcove walls with charcoal and bullet lead—graffiti by today’s standards, but thrilling testimonies to the exploratory past at the distance of a century. After a full and informative day we will have dinner (at your own expense) at a restaurant in Cortez, Colorado, and then return to Bluff for the night. (B, L)

May 6, 2004

RIVER TRIP ON THE SAN JUAN RIVER

Today’s excursion is a 23-mile rafting journey from Bluff to Mexican Hat on the San Juan River. Around Mexican Hat, the San Juan River is slow-moving and flows through a relatively shallow canyon with many wide curves. This will be a laid-back, delightful day—the only rapids are Class II, but this is the richest river in the Southwest for Anasazi traces. We will stop at such world-renowned rock art panels as Lower Butler Wash, indulge in a floating geology lesson through textbook upheavals, and have a good chance of spotting desert bighorn sheep. We’ll return to Bluff around 5 p.m.; dinner will be on your own in Bluff.

May 7, 2004

COLLINS CANYON & GRAND GULCH

We will have a full day of hiking, as we head into Grand Gulch by way of Collins Canyon. Discover a number of major rock art sites, including the “FBI panel,” a wall covered with some 350 handprints in red, yellow, green, and white paint, as well as historic signatures from the Wetherill expeditions of the 1890s. The winding, 700-foot canyon walls of Grand Gulch here enclose some of the finest scenery on Cedar Mesa. Bring plenty of film! The Anasazi flourished here between 700 and 2,000 years ago, and Grand Gulch is famous for the quantity and quality of their archaeological

sites, including rock panels depicting astounding pictographs and petroglyphs and remains of ancient cliff dwellings. There are few places in the world that offer such a remarkable combination of color, light, sound, history, geology, and spirit.

Our day will end with a cookout on the rim above Collins Canyon (another glorious sunset!) before we return to Bluff.

May 8, 2004

MONUMENT VALLEY

Today will be a Navajo day, as we visit Monument Valley, one of the southwest’s most photographed landscapes, where our guides will take us to the natural arches and the rock art sites that can only be seen with guides. We will enjoy lunch in the sunshade at the home of a Navajo family who will also demonstrate the fine art of rug weaving. We will return to Bluff in time for dinner on your own.

May 9, 2004

SLICKHORN CANYON, PERFECT KIVA

Our last hiking adventure —this time into Slickhorn Canyon to search for rock art and ruins. Our journey culminates with a visit to Perfect Kiva, one of the most astounding and best-preserved underground ceremonial chambers in the Anasazi Southwest. This will be an outstanding experience. We then return to Bluff for a final dinner at a local restaurant. (B, L)

May 10, 2004

DEPART BLUFF, UTAH

David Roberts is a Harvard graduate, Class of 1965, and the author of fifteen books, mostly about mountain climbing, adventure, archaeology, and history. During the last fifteen years, the American Southwest has become his favorite place in the world: he’s written some three dozen articles about the region, and is starting his third book, an inquiry into the Pueblo Revolt of 1680. David has made some 90 trips to the Southwest, the majority of them in search of new Anasazi sites in remote canyons. Although David has traveled worldwide writing for National Geographic, Outside Magazine and Smithsonian, he finds no other landscape in the world is equally compelling as the Southwest.



Photo courtesy of Utah Travel Council / Frank Jensen

travel

Discovering Utah's Anasazi
Heritage: Following *In Search*
of the Old Ones

May 1-10, 2004

Travel Program
26 Oxford Street
Cambridge, MA 02138



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Discovering Utah's Anasazi Heritage: Following In Search of the Old Ones

May 1-10, 2004

Name _____ Date of Birth _____

Name _____ Date of Birth _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Phones: Home _____ Office _____ Fax _____

E-mail _____

___ If possible, please assign a roommate: ___ Non-Smoker ___ Smoker
I understand that if a roommate is not secured for me by the final payment date,
I will be charged the single supplement amount.

___ I wish to pay an additional \$470 for a single supplement.

Enclosed is a check for _____ (\$500 deposit per person) payable to "Harvard Museum of Natural History" to hold
_____ place(s) on *Discovering Utah's Anasazi Heritage*.

I/We confirm that I/we have carefully read the information on refunds, general conditions, and the responsibility clause specified in the tour conditions.

Signature _____ Date _____

Signature _____ Date _____

Please return this form to with deposit check to:
Travel Program, Harvard Museum of Natural History, 26 Oxford St., Cambridge, MA 02138.

QUESTIONS? Please call us at (617) 495-2463 OR e-mail hmnhtravel@oeb.harvard.edu

HMNH MEMBERSHIP



We strongly encourage our travelers to be members of the museum. The Harvard Museum of Natural History offers the public world-class collections and research of the Museum of Comparative Zoology, the Harvard University Herbaria, and the Mineralogical Museum through exhibitions, educational programs, lectures, public events, and travel. Members support these innovative programs.

___ I am currently a member of the HMNH

___ I would like to become a member at the following level:

___ \$40 Individual ___ \$60 Household ___ \$125 Sustaining ___ \$250 Supporting ___ \$500 Patron

Please enclose a separate check made out to the Harvard Museum of Natural History for membership. *Thank you.*

GENERAL INFORMATION

PRICE: \$3,250 per person, double occupancy

SINGLE SUPPLEMENT: Please Call*

*Should you request to share a twin room, we will attempt to find a roommate for you. However, if at the time of final payment no roommate is available, the single supplement fee is charged.

AIRFARE: Please call for information on airfare to Bluff, Utah.

TOUR INCLUDES: Guides; daily transportation to and from Bluff to sites of field trips; all breakfasts and lunches; 3 dinners as indicated; permits; non-alcoholic beverages with meals; specialists as per the itinerary; \$50,000 of emergency medical and evacuation insurance.

TOUR EXCLUDES: U.S. domestic airfare; baggage or trip cancellation insurance; optional excursions or deviation from the scheduled tour; excess baggage charges; medical expenses; meals not specified in the program itinerary or special meals not on the menu; dishes and beverages not part of included meals; alcoholic beverages; telephone or fax charges; room service; and other items of a purely personal nature.

TOUR SIZE: This tour, exclusively designed for the Harvard Museum of Natural History, is limited to 16 participants on a first-come, first-served basis. The minimum group size is six. Should the minimum not be met, we reserve the right to cancel the program, levy a small group surcharge, and/or send the program without a HMNH representative.

WHAT TO EXPECT: Travelers should work with the HMNH to coordinate arrival in Cortez, Colorado, so we can arrange a group transfer from Cortez to Bluff, Utah. Should travelers opt not to arrive for the group transfer, then transportation to Bluff will be on their own account (approximately \$375 per vehicle). This exclusive expedition is designed for HMNH members and friends who are interested in learning about the history, culture, and natural history of Utah. This is an active program. All participants should have the physical ability to hike up to 8 miles per day and adjust to elevations up to 7,000 feet above sea level. The terrain may be broken and trails often do not exist, but there is no bushwhacking. Elevation gain and loss could be as much as 1,000 feet during a day. However, only Days 3, 6, and 8 require anything like this sort of exertion. Depending on the ambitions and abilities of the clients, it may be possible on those days to divide the group, with the fitter accomplishing the whole itinerary, the others only part of it—e. g., on Day 3, a hike to Ceiling House but not to The Citadel. The rooms at the Desert Rose Inn are basic, clean and comfortable. In order to enjoy this trip, a spirit of adventure and anticipation, and the desire to explore spectacular natural areas are musts.

RESERVATIONS, DEPOSITS, AND FINAL PAYMENT: To reserve a space on this tour, please mail a non-refundable deposit of \$500 per person payable to “Harvard Museum of Natural History,” along with the completed reservation form to: Travel Program, Harvard Museum of Natural History, 26 Oxford Street, Cambridge, MA 02138. Reservations are acknowledged in order of receipt until the maximum enrollment of 16 has been reached. Final payment is due March 1, 2004.

CANCELLATIONS AND REFUNDS: All cancellations must be made in writing to the Harvard Museum of Natural History. Refunds, less a

cancellation fee of \$500 per person, are made if we are notified in writing on or before March 1, 2004. No refunds are made after that date. There are no refunds for unused meals, accommodations, or other trip features.

INSURANCE: We highly recommend the purchase of trip cancellation insurance. An application for trip cancellation insurance will be available upon confirmation. Neither the Harvard Museum of Natural History nor the tour operator accept liability for any airline cancellation penalty incurred by the purchase of a non-refundable airline ticket or other expenses incurred by tour participants in preparing for the tour. As a service to our travelers we automatically provide emergency medical evacuation insurance. You will receive detailed coverage approximately 30 days prior to your departure.

PHYSICAL HEALTH: Participation on an HMNH program requires that passengers be in generally good health. It is essential that persons with any medical problems and related dietary restrictions make them known to us well before departure. We can counsel participants on whether an expedition is appropriate for them.

QUESTIONS: Please call the Travel Program at the Harvard Museum of Natural History (617) 495-2463.

RESPONSIBILITY: The tour operator, its owners and employees act only as agents for the various independent suppliers and contractors providing transportation, hotel accommodations, restaurant and other services connected with this tour. Such travel and services are subject to the terms and conditions under which such accommodations, services and transportation are offered or provided, and the Harvard Museum of Natural History and the tour operator and their respective, employees, agents, representatives, and assigns, accept no liability therefor. The Harvard Museum of Natural History and the tour operator, assume no liability for any injury, damage, loss, accident, delay or other irregularity which may be caused by the defect of any aircraft or vehicle or the negligence or default of any company or person engaged in carrying out or performing any of the services involved. Additionally, responsibility is not accepted for losses, injury, damages or expenses of any kind due to sickness, weather, strikes, local laws, hostilities, wars, terrorist acts, acts of nature or other such causes. All services and accommodations are subject to the laws of the country in which they are provided. The Harvard Museum of Natural History and the tour operator reserve the right to make changes in the published itinerary whenever, in their sole judgment, conditions warrant, or if they deem it necessary for the comfort, convenience or safety of the tour participants. They reserve the right to withdraw this tour without penalty. The right is also reserved to decline to accept or retain any person as a member of the tour, or to substitute another qualified leader or special guest. Baggage and personal effects are the sole responsibility of the owners at all times. The price of the program is given in good faith based on current tariffs and rates, and is subject to change. Any tariff, exchange rate, or fuel increases will be passed onto participants. Neither the Harvard Museum of Natural History nor the tour operator accept the liability for any airline cancellation penalty incurred by the purchase of a non-refundable airline ticket. The air ticket when issued shall constitute the sole contract between the passenger and the airline concerned. As part of the consideration and right to participate in this tour, each participant will be asked to sign a liability release.

For more information on this and other HMNH programs, please visit www.hmnh.edu/travel or call (617) 495-2463 for a catalog.



Harvard Museum of Natural History

Travel Program

26 Oxford Street
Cambridge MA 02138

(617) 495-2463 phone
(617) 496-8782 fax

www.hmnh.harvard.edu/travel

Dear Friends,

The prehistoric Anasazi — the “Cliff Dwellers” of Mesa Verde, Chaco Canyon, Keet Seel, and thousands of other sites — were the most advanced civilization ever to occupy the pre-Columbian Southwest. Their well-preserved ruins and rock art have beguiled and puzzled travelers through this harsh but unfathomably beautiful land since the 1830s. Severe historical ruptures have left profound mysteries about the Anasazi civilization unsolved. The greatest mystery of all is what caused the sudden, total, and irrevocable abandonment of the whole of the Colorado Plateau within ten years after 1290 A.D.

Join HMNH as we travel to the best place in the Southwest to find those ruins and rock art in their pristine state — on and around Cedar Mesa, in southeast Utah. We will see Anasazi rock art and hike to sites including Ceiling House, a small ruin tucked into an obscure alcove, Mesa Verde, and a site at the foot of Cedar Mesa where Basketmaker artists pecked some of the finest panels of petroglyphs in the Southwest before 500 A.D. Embark on a leisurely 23-mile Class II rafting journey from Bluff to Mexican Hat on the San Juan River, the richest river in the Southwest for Anasazi traces. Visit Monument Valley with short walks to see rock art, soaring buttes, and natural arches off-limits to tourists without Navajo guides, who will also introduce us to their culture.

This unique program is based on the book about the Anasazi, *In Search of the Old Ones*, by David Roberts. In that book, David melded his hikes through the Anasazi back country in quest of little-known ruins and rock art panels with interviews with the leading Anasazi archaeologists and encounters with today’s Puebloans. *Old Ones* has created a minor cult among devotees of the Southwest; hikers show up at the ranger station on Cedar Mesa, book in hand, hoping to use it as a treasure map. David will be joined by Vaughn Hadenfeldt, who knows Cedar Mesa and its environs better, possibly, than any other person alive, and can take us to places of whose existence no other guide has any knowledge.

This is an active program, and all participants should have the physical ability to hike up to eight miles per day and adjust to elevations up to 7,000 feet above sea level. However, only three days require this level of exertion and it may be possible to divide the group, with the fitter accomplishing the whole itinerary, the others only part of it.

We will be based out of Bluff, Utah, population 300, an unspoiled gem of a town and one of the most charming in the Southwest. The beginning of May in Utah is absolutely the best time of the year to be in the Southwest, and our “In Search of the Old Ones” tour would be a unique offering — a custom-made among Anasazi prodigies other guides don’t even know how to find. We hope that you will join us on this fantastic trip. Space is limited to 16 travelers, so be sure to send in your reservation form, or you can call us at (617) 495-2463 or e-mail us at hmnhtravel@oeb.harvard.edu today to reserve your space!

Kind Regards,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'LB', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Lauren Bruck
Head of Travel

Presenting the
collections and research
of the Harvard University
Herbaria, Mineralogical
Museum, and Museum of
Comparative Zoology.