Sunday Tours
The TAS Tour committee has set up a varied selection of Sunday tours for your enjoyment.

Raft the Rio Grande - 2 choices!!

Trip #1 - Middle Box Full Day - Petroglyph viewing

The Middle Box is pristine wilderness, the most remote and rarely-visited section of the Gorge. As dramatic as the Taos Box, with old-growth trees and soaring eagles – and Indian petroglyphs too. There is no road access, so the trip begins with a one-mile hike downhill into the canyon. Only two companies are allowed to launch here each day. Our party will probably be the only human beings you see. There are also many petroglyphs close to the trail down to the river and we will have a person knowledgeable leading the hike down to the river.

A bus will take participants from the Sagebrush to Wild Rivers, north of Questa) and return folks to the Sagebrush from the John Dunn Bridge take-out area.

It is a very step trail (Little Arsenic Trail) down to the river at Wild Rivers, you might want to have walking sticks. Lunch is included and prepared by the Los Rios River Runners.

**WHITEWATER RATING:** Class 3 (one rapid; otherwise Class 2)

Cost: Full Day & Lunch: $135

In early May the “Middle Box” trip may not be possible, due to weather conditions or river levels. If the Middle Box trip is cancelled for these reason, a full refund will be given. If you make reservations for the full day trip and it is cancelled, your deposit can be used to cover the 1/2 day Orilla Verde trip (Trip #2).

Trip #2 - Orilla Verde Float - Half Day

A mellow and scenic trip, perfect for small children, seniors, and those who just want to relax on the river. Placid waters glide along past towering bluffs and buttes. Swallows skim the surface and dart past the raft in a dazzling display of avian acrobatics. Indian petroglyphs too.

This is an afternoon trip and participants will drive to the Taos Junction Bridge area and be returned to there by bus. If the Middle Box tour is cancelled due to river conditions we can schedule a morning float trip is there is enough interest.

**WHITEWATER RATING:** Class 2

Cost: Half Day & Lunch: $65
Reservations for Trips 1 & 2

A deposit of $65 is required for Trip #1 - the Middle Box trip, the full payment of $65 is required for the 1/2 day trip (Trip #2).

To reserve a spot on either one of these trips:

Write a check out to Los Rios River Runners

Mail this check to: Phil Alldritt, PO Box 659, Arroyo Hondo, NM 87514

Questions: Email Phil at taoscuba@hotmail.com

Last date for signing up for the raft trips is April 15th

Signup for all other Sunday trips will take place Friday and Saturday at the Conference.
**Trip #3**

Tour of the Taos Junction Bridge (TJB) area and BLM Archaeologist-led hike of the La Vista Verde trail. Easy hiking, 30 minutes south of Taos, morning trip.

Learn more about the Native American presence, petroglyphs, and the 1930 Gold Mining history of this site at the junction of the Rip Grandee and Rio Pueblo rivers.

This is where the Orilla Verde Float trip (Trip #2) starts, so the TJB tour can be done in the AM, followed by lunch and then the Float trip. If you are not taking the Float trip you can still purchase lunch from the Los Rios River Runners for $10.00.

**Trip #4**

**Wells Petroglyph Preserve**

Located on Mesa Prieta (Black Mesa) just north of San Juan Pueblo, the Preserve is a world class rock art area with over 6000 petroglyphs. The tours are two hours long and are led by docents familiar with the preserve and the history of the area.

A $10 donation per participant is requested.

This tour will take place in the early afternoon, allowing people to participate in some of the other trips and visits to the Pueblo, the Millicent Rogers Museum and/or the Hacienda. Moderate to up and down hiking involved, one steeper trail. Hiking sticks recommended.
Trip #5

Pot Creek

T'aitdna, or Pot Creek Pueblo, has long been recognized as an important center for population aggregation. This, along with being acknowledged as an ancestral site to both the Taos and Picuris Puebloan groups, highlights the importance of this site in understanding this period of social restructuring in the northern extent of the Puebloan Southwest and in the development of later Puebloan communities.

Pot Creek Pueblo is the largest prehistoric adobe pueblo north of Santa Fe and was formerly home to several hundred ancestral Puebloan peoples approximately seven hundred years ago. At the height of its occupation (AD 1260-1320), Pot Creek Pueblo would have looked somewhat like Taos Pueblo does today, with multiple-storied roomblocks and an estimated 400 ground-floor rooms.

The visible remains of Pot Creek Pueblo are only part of the story, however. Buried beneath the remains of the adobe rooms are subterranean structures called pit houses that were occupied by a few family groups between AD 1100 and AD 1200. These structures were roughly circular and dug quite deeply into the earth, an adaptation to the cold Taos winters.

Pot Creek is located 7 miles southeast of the Sagebrush Inn.

Trip #6

BaahKu Archaeological site

Visit the BaahKu Archaeological site on private land in nearby Arroyo Seco, consisting of at least two pithouses, a roomblock, and a shrine, with archaeologist and presenter Catrina Whitley. BaahKu was occupied at the turn of the 13th century, a time of population increase, shift in cultural materials, increase in structure and complexity of surface structures, and eruption of violence. Whitley will show results of sampling and excavations carried out during the last four field seasons and discuss how interpretation of the site continues to evolve.

Meet at 8:30 AM at the KTAO Radio Station parking lot on the north side of Taos for carpooling and transfer to the nearby site. (KTAO is 7 miles north of the Sagebrush. Turn right onto Route 150/Ski Valley Road and right again into the parking lot.)

Time: 1 - 1 1/2 hours.
Other recommended Taos events and places to visit

Taos Pueblo Santa Cruz Feast Day
Blessing of the Fields, Corn Dance, and foot races
The Taos Pueblo celebrates this day with a morning foot race (at around 7:30AM) and then with the Corn Dance in the afternoon. There will be guides available after the Corn Dance for the normal Taos Pueblo historical tour. No Cameras or cell phones.

Millicent Rogers Museum
Free admission all weekend is available to Conference registrants with registration badge. Special 1 PM tour with the Executive Director. Located 4 mile north of Taos Plaza.

Hacienda de los Martinez
The Hacienda de los Martinez is one of the few northern New Mexico style, late Spanish Colonial period, "Great Houses" remaining in the American Southwest. This fortress-like building with massive adobe walls became an important trade center for the northern boundary of the Spanish Empire. The Hacienda was the final terminus for the Camino Real which connected northern New Mexico to Mexico City. The Hacienda also was the headquarters for an extensive ranching and farming operation.

Open Sunday 10 - 5 PM, 2 miles southwest of Taos Plaza. Admission: $8.00.

Activity - Sunday

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<th>Time</th>
<th>Middle Box Raft Trip &amp; Lunch</th>
<th>Orilla Verde Float Trip &amp; Lunch</th>
<th>Taos Junction Bridge, Lunch and La Vista Verde hike</th>
<th>Wells Petroglyph Preserve</th>
<th>Pot Creek and Museum</th>
<th>Baahku Archaeology Site</th>
<th>Taos Pueblo Santa Cruz Feast Day</th>
<th>Millicent Rogers Museum</th>
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Free Admission all weekend 1 PM - Tour led by Ex. Dir
Open 10 to 5 PM