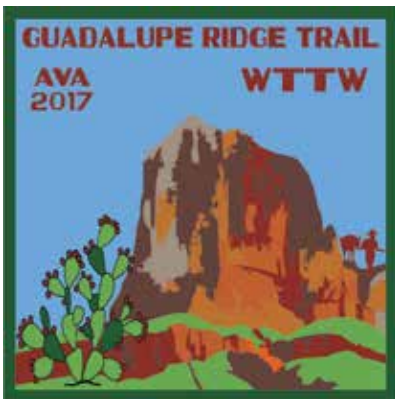


Guadalupe Mountains National Park is a remote, rugged wilderness park located in far West Texas on U.S. Highway 62/180, between El Paso, Texas and Carlsbad, New Mexico. There are no restaurants, service stations, or overnight lodging (except camping) available in Guadalupe Mountains National Park. The closest location for ice, groceries, showers, and lodging is 35 miles northeast in Whites City, NM. Gasoline is also available there. Consider the park's remote location and plan your trip wisely.



Guadalupe Ridge Souvenir Patch

WEST TEXAS TRAIL WALKERS
CELEBRATING 36 YEARS

Guadalupe Ridge Trail

October 6-8, 2017



Sitting Bull Falls

October 6th – SW17/108019 – 5k or 14k

Guadalupe Peak

October 7th – SW17/108020 – 17k

Smith Spring

October 7th – SW17/108021 – 5k or 10k

Guano Trail/Carlsbad Caverns

October 8th – SW17/108022 – 5k, 7k, 14k or 20k

westtexastrailwalkers.org



Eligible for credit toward IVV Achievement Awards

AVA 60, TX 19

westtexastrailwalkers.org

West Texas Trail Walkers is an incorporated non-profit sports organization dedicated to promoting outdoor recreation and good health in West Texas.

FEDERAL REGULATIONS PREVENT US FROM COLLECTING MONEY IN THE NATIONAL PARK.

MAIL-IN REGISTRATION ONLY. MUST BE POSTMARKED BY 9/16.

Guadalupe Ridge Trail (GRT): Ribbon cutting and dedication on May 6, 2017. Experience the wilds of Texas and New Mexico high country. This newly designated trail system winds through two national parks, a national forest and the desert landscape of BLM encompassing over 100 miles. It includes Guadalupe National Park, Sitting Bull Falls in Lincoln National Forest and continues through the rugged backcountry to Carlsbad Caverns National Park. Join us this year as we hike the highlights of this newly designated trail system.

Locations: Guadalupe Mountains National Park, Sitting Bull Falls and Carlsbad Caverns. Note all times listed will be in the Mountain Time Zone.

Eligibility: All persons and ages are welcome. Children under legal age must be accompanied by an adult. None of these events are suitable for strollers or wheelchairs. No smoking on the trails.

No Refunds: There will be no refunds for no shows and no transferring of fees between events. There will also be no refunds for those refused a start stamp due to non-compliance with minimum water requirements.

Event Fees: \$3.00 per walk (includes AVA credit).

Park Fees: Guadalupe Mountains National Park is \$5 per person and is good for 7 days. Sitting Bull Falls is \$5 per vehicle, per day. Carlsbad Caverns entrance fee is \$10 per person. National Park Passes accepted. You are responsible for paying your own park fees.

Pets: No pets allowed on trails in the national parks.

2017 Guadalupe Ridge Souvenir Patch: \$6. (see design on back cover)

HOST HOTEL

Fairfield Inn & Suites
2525 South Canal Street
Carlsbad, NM 88220

575-887-8000

Reservations must be made by September 1, 2017 to secure **\$99.00** rate. Call the main telephone number to make your reservations and mention that you are with the West Texas Trail Walkers, WTTW.

Price includes a full, hot breakfast that starts serving at 5:30 am. Other amenities include an outdoor pool with a whirlpool/hot tub and a gas outdoor fire pit for evening lounging and socializing. The gas/oil business is picking up and pricing for hotels is rising. Fortunately we are locked in at the \$99 rate. By October, Carlsbad hotels could be \$150 and up.

Or visit: www.carlsbadchamber.com



Annual Dinner & Meeting

Registrations must be postmarked by September 16th.

LIMITED TO 80 RESERVATIONS.

When: Saturday, October 7, 2016 @ 7:00 pm

Where: Power House at Riverwalk Recreation Center
400 Riverwalk Drive, Carlsbad, NM

Menu: Barbecue (\$25)
(no alcohol allowed in facility)

Directions: From Fairfield Inn & Suites, turn left on Canal Street. Slight right on S Canyon St. Right on W. Greene St. Left on Muscatel Ave. Left on Riverwalk Dr. (3.2 miles/9 min from Fairfield Inn & Suites)



Sitting Bull Falls

Dates: Friday, October 6, 2017

Walk Directors: Linda Fields, Joe Noonan

Start Point: Sitting Bull Falls Recreation Area
Eddy County, New Mexico (Lincoln National Forest)

Start Times: 8:30 am - 10:30 am

Finish Time: 3:00 pm

Distances: 5k (out & back) or 14k (loop)

Rated: 2D (rugged; elevation gain: 1,000')

Highlights: Experience an oasis hidden in the midst of the desert where a beautiful 130-foot waterfall pours over canyon walls. Also spring fed ponds and grottoes.

Trail Description: The trail begins with a gradual uphill climb to the top of Sitting Bull Falls. 5k turnaround will be a beautiful grotto with spring fed ponds. The 14k will continue up White Oak Trail with a 1,000' elevation gain and beautiful views. Then follow switchbacks down to White Oak Springs. Finish on Last Chance Canyon Trail back to the finish. After the walk, visit and explore the base of the falls.

Special Programs: Honoring Our Flag

Workers' walk: Thursday, Oct. 5th @ 8:30 am
Sitting Bull Falls Recreation Area.

Directions: (40 miles / 1 h 11 min from Carlsbad)
From Carlsbad, head south on National Park Hwy US-180E/62. Just past the Super 8 motel, turn right on Hidalgo Road/Co. Rd 672 (Look for HAPPY'S yellow sign on the SW corner.) Turn right on Co. Rd 408/Dark Canyon Rd. Turn left on NM-137/Queens Hwy. for 2.7 miles. Turn right at Co. Rd 409/Sitting Bull Falls Rd. (Park fee: \$5 per vehicle.)

PARKING IS LIMITED - PLEASE CARPOOL - GATE CLOSES AT 5 PM



Guadalupe Peak

Dates: Saturday, October 7, 2017

Walk Directors: Linda Fields, Dianne Duke

Start Point: Pine Springs Visitor's Center,
Guadalupe Mountains National Park Headquarters, TX

Start Times: 8:00 am - 9:00 am

Finish Time: 3:00 pm

Distances: up to 17k (out & back)

Rated: 4E (strenuous; elevation gain: 3,000')

Highlights: Fantastic views, several eco-systems from high desert to high forests. AA Monument.

Trail Description: Trail climbs to the "Top of Texas" at 8,749'. On a clear day, you can see the Davis Mountains. At the summit, there is a register and a small monument erected by American Airlines to commemorate the first transcontinental mail route which went through Guadalupe Pass. Outstanding views. Trail is good, but steep. Plan on 6 to 7 hour hike.

Special Programs: Amphitheatres, Doin' The Louisiana Purchase, Honoring Our Flag, National Parks Centennial Challenge.

Workers' walk: No workers' walk for this event. Volunteer assignments will be given out at the Smith Spring workers' walk.

Directions: (51.5 miles / 50 min from Carlsbad)
Follow U.S. Highway 62/180 56 miles southwest of Carlsbad, New Mexico to Park headquarters and Pine Springs Visitors Center. (Park fee: \$5 per person for duration of your stay. Keep stub in car window.)



Smith Spring

Dates: Saturday, October 7, 2017

Walk Directors: Randy Baker & Margie Kent

Start Point: Frijole Ranch,
Guadalupe Mountains National Park, Texas

Start Time: 8:00 am - 10:00 am

Finish Time: 3:00 pm

Distances: 5k or 10k

Rated: 2C (easy to moderate; elevation gain: 400')

Highlights: Extraordinary desert oasis. So much water seeps out it forms a small waterfall and live stream.

Trail Description: The rocky trail dips into a wash then gradually climbs almost 400 feet. After winding across a yucca- and cacti-covered hillside, the trail enters a lush riparian zone where Smith Spring appears below layers of percolating limestone. The seeping spring is surrounded by maidenhair fern and big-tooth maple and a good place to rest and spot wildlife.

Special Programs: Doin' The Louisiana Purchase, National Parks Centennial Challenge.

Workers' walk: 8:00 am Wednesday, October 4th. We will walk this trail only, but will give volunteer assignments for both Smith Spring and Guadalupe Peak.

Directions: (54 miles / 55 min from Carlsbad)
Drive north from the main entrance of Guadalupe Mountains National Park on US 62/180 for one mile and turn left (north). The turnoff is well signed as Frijole Ranch. Head up the well-maintained gravel road for about 0.5 miles until it dead-ends at museum. (Park fee: \$5 per person for duration of your stay. Keep stub in car window.)



Old Guano Trail/Carlsbad Caverns

Dates: Sunday, October 8, 2017

Walk Directors: Helen Hull, Gary Silkworth

Start Point: Whites City RV Park, New Mexico

Start Time: 7:00 am - 8:00 am (for 14k - 20k)
7:00 am - 9:00 am (for 5k - 7k)

Finish Time: 12:00 pm

Distances: 5k, 7k, 14k and up to 20k options

Rated: 2C (moderate; gradual 700' elevation gain)

Highlights: Visit the seldom seen trail above Carlsbad National Park and have the option of including the Caverns tour as part of your hike.

Trail Description: Hike the Old Guano Road trail from Whites City to the Caverns or the reverse from Caverns to Whites City, a distance of 7k each way. Once at the Caverns, take an optional tour of the caverns for an additional 2k, 4k, or 6k (National Park Pass or fee required). Shuttle service will be available to top (if hiking down), or from the top back to Whites City (if hiking up).

This is a "design your own hike". 5k (in/out), 7k (up or down between Whites City and Caverns), 14k (up and down), add 2-6k (Cavern options) for a total of 20k. Handouts will be available on Friday & Saturday so you can study the various options.

Special Programs: Amphitheatres, National Parks Centennial Challenge.

No Workers' walk

Directions: (20 miles / 24min from Carlsbad)
19 Carlsbad Cavern Hwy (US-62), then 1/4 mile West on Hwy-7 (road to Carlsbad Cavern N'tl Park). Look for signs to parking and check-in table.