

Welcome



Weaving at Trail's End

G25010107

with Lisa Trujillo

January 5-25, 2025

Welcome,

For many years Abiquiu and Northern New Mexico were endpoints for important trade routes and blankets were an important trade item on those routes. People who may have had agricultural responsibilities during the rest of the year could spend the cold months of winter spinning and weaving wool for blankets. This was true for many families well into the 20th century. We can settle into January at Ghost Ranch and do the same.

We'll try our hand at spinning, although we'll be doing it on spinning wheels rather than on traditional spindles called malacates. Hopefully we'll produce a doubleweave blanket on a sit-down 4 harness loom, using handspun wool. We also do a two-piece seamed blanket on a walking loom. These projects we can do as a group, to get the experience of these two kinds of blankets. And we can do some smaller "congitas" in the Chimayo tradition woven on traditional walking looms that we can go home with.

We can go visit some of the "end of the trail" spots that matter. The New Mexico History Museum in Santa Fe is at the end of the Santa Fe Trail, and should give us a good big picture understanding. In Las Vegas, we can see where the train came into the state and learn about the implications on our weaving tradition. In Abiquiu we can visit the end of the Old Spanish Trail, which happens to be where Georgia O'Keefe's house in town was. I think this will be a lot of fun, and an exciting way to immerse ourselves in Rio Grande textile history and techniques in an ideal setting to do it in.

I'll bring wool for us to work with, Churro wool to spin, and yarns to weave with. I'll bring spinning wheels for us to work on, and we can work on looms that Ghost Ranch has available.

(see the next page for the schedule)

Welcome



Weaving at Trail's End

G25010107

with Lisa Trujillo

January 5-25, 2025

Schedule:

Week 1

- We'll introduce ourselves to Rio Grande and 4 harness looms and we'll warp and get started weaving striped blankets.
- We'll try our hand at spinning at a wheel. Hopefully by a cozy fireplace.
- We'll take a trip to Santa Fe to the NM History Museum

Week 2

- We'll introduce tapestry elements into our Rio Grande blankets on the walking looms, and keepup weaving on the 4 harness doubleweave blanket.
- We'll keep spinning at least some, hopefully improving our skills, and scouring any finished skeins.
- We'll take a trip into Abiquiu to the end of the Old Spanish Trail, and walk around town a bit.

Week 3

- We'll try our hand at Chimayo style "congitas" on our walking looms.
- We'll keep spinning at least some, hopefully improving our skills, and scouring any finished skeins.
- We'll take a trip out to Las Vegas, and learn about the impact the trains had on our weaving tradition, by bringing new materials