Welcome



Hiking the 'Ologies

with Connie B. Burkhart G25050105 May 4-10, 2025

Hello and welcome to Hike the 'Ologies'. I'm excited to offer this program which focuses on geology, archaeology and paleontology of Ghost Ranch and the surrounding area. I have been leading hiking programs at the ranch for over 25 years and although all my events have components of the 'ologies', this week with be filled with specific visits to sites and areas of interest to each of the disciplines we are addressing.

Ghost Ranch boasts amazing sites to study about Triassic life as well as cultural sites where excavations have produced artifacts that are over four thousand years old! Located at the edge of three geologic zones, the rocks of the ranch and nearby Abiquiu tell intriguing stories of the earth's tectonic movements in North America. When we visit the various sites, we will hike to some locations and drive to others and some days will have multiple stops. As always, our adventures are weather permitting and we will be spending two days out on trails with sack lunches so we enjoy the full wilderness experience.

Be prepared to walk/hike 1 to 4 miles over uneven terrain at 6,500ft, although the hikes for this program will be less vigorous than other classes I lead. Below I have included a list of items that will be good to bring for our time out on the trail. Hikes will be in the mornings until lunch or longer if we are on our sack lunch days, which are Tuesday and Thursday. If you want to book an afternoon tour or horseback ride with the ranch, Monday and Wednesday are good days to do so. There will be some evening class opportunities after dinner during the week as well. The temperature can get chilly at night, but every year is different, so check the forecasts before packing your gear!

I look forward to our time together to explore the amazing sites in this beautiful time of year. Please don't hesitate to be in contact with me with any questions. Take care and safe travels!

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ITEMS TO BRING

- Multiple water bottles for long hikes
- Flashlight or head lamp
- Sunscreen
- Jacket
- A hat or bandana
- Good shoes for off trail hikes. Heavy duty tennis shoes are fine.
- At least one long sleeve shirt (for sun protection if needed)
- Rain poncho
- Baggies & TP for sometimes needed 'bush breaks' out on the trail
- Lip balm
- Sunglasses are a great idea too
- Camera / Phone: A note about cell phones. We know a lot of us use our phone as a camera, but now that there is more phone coverage at the ranch and the surrounding area, we ask that you turn off your ring and/or notification of texts while on the trails. It can be a HUGE distraction in the wilderness.

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Workshop Itinerary:

HIKE THE 'OLOGIES'

SUNDAY: Arrive at the ranch, orientation after dinner and short meet up with the class

MONDAY: 9am: Hike to the Coelophysis Quarry

Back for lunch at the ranch.

EVENING: 6:45pm Geology presentation in classroom

TUESDAY: Pick up your box lunch at breakfast for our geology locations.

(Gather at 9am in dining hall parking area) Back by 3pm

EVENING: FREE

WEDNESDAY: Hike to archaeology site.

Back to the ranch for lunch.

EVENING: lecture

THURSDAY: Pick up your box lunch at breakfast. Hike at 9am

On the trail until 3pm.

EVENING: 6:45pm Gathering & wrap up in classroom

FRIDAY: HIKE in morning - Back for lunch at the ranch

4PM Circle Up in classroom until dinner

SATURDAY: Depart after breakfast.