

places to fly ! try ...

Kodak Albuquerque International Balloon Fiesta

October 4-12, 2003

What is almost certainly the world's most breathtakingly beautiful aviation event is held in early October at Albuquerque, New Mexico, and it's an absolute joy to watch.



The designs and colors are breathtaking in their variety and beauty, and if you want to see balloons, the place to do it is Albuquerque, New Mexico, and the time to do it is the first or second week of October. It is then and there that the largest balloon convention in the world is held annually. This event is to ballooning what Airventure at Oshkosh is to airplanes. Started in 1971, this annual event has grown every year since the inception. It started out at the Fairgrounds with less than a score of balloons (thirteen total) until today there is a 355-acre park area set aside for the launches and over 850 colorful balloons in all kinds of shapes. This much space is needed for the mobs of people who attend the event, for parking, booths, food service, etc., as well as for the actual launching of balloons. Attendance has grown from fewer than ten thousand the first year to well over a million today. For more information: <http://www/aibf.org>

