

Vzpomínka (4)

Národní památník PETROGLYPH

se táhne v kaňonu Boca Negra 17 mil podél města Albuquerque v americkém státě Nové Mexiko. Památník otevřen 27. 6. 1990. Nachází se v něm 300 petroglyfů, rozloha 7276 akrů.

Památníkem vede několik stezek.

Petroglyf - obraz ve skále, který je vytvořen v peravěku nebo později opracováním povrchu kamenem řezáním, dlabáním, tesáním, obrušováním nebo malbou.

Petroglyph

Official Map and Guide

National Monument
New Mexico
National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior
Open Space Division
City of Albuquerque



Images created in the rock centuries ago are found primarily in concentrations on the east- and south-facing slopes of the West Mesa. The petroglyphs include animals (above), people, insects, and geometrics.



Tom Swan

Tom Swan

As you walk among the petroglyphs, you are not alone. This world is alive with the sights and sounds of the high desert—a hawk spirals down from the mesa top, a road-runner scurries into fragrant sage, a desert millipede traces waves in the sand. There is another presence beyond what we can see or hear. People who have lived along the Rio Grande for many centuries come alive again through images they made on the shiny black rocks. Petroglyph National Monument is a natural gallery of some 15,000 images—some recognizable as animals, people, or crucifixes, others more mysterious. All are inseparable from the landscape and from the spirits of the people who created them.

“Each of these rocks is alive, keeper of a message left by the ancestors...There are spirits, guardians; there is medicine...”

William F. Weahkee, Pueblo Elder

The West Mesa, a 17-mile-long table of land rising west of the Rio Grande, emerged about 110,000 years ago when lava flowed from a large crack in the earth. Layer upon layer flowed over and around existing landforms of sedimentary rock. In a final burst of activity, five volcanic cones erupted atop the mesa. Over time, the relatively soft sedimentary layers on the mesa's eastern edge eroded away, leaving a scalloped edge—an escarpment—strewn with basalt chunks broken away from the lava flows. This is the setting for the petroglyphs.

Long ago people discovered that chipping away the rocks' thin “desert varnish” reveals the lighter gray beneath—and leaves a lasting mark. The earliest rock images, abstract patterns of

For more information on the Petroglyphs, contact:



Open Space Division
Parks and Recreation Department
City of Albuquerque
P.O. Box 1293
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87103
(505) 873-8620



or



National Park Service
Petroglyph National Monument
6001 Unser NW
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87120
(505) 899-0205



The National Park Service
Visitor Center is located at:

Las Imagines Visitor Center
4735 Unser NW (at jct of Western Trail)
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87120
(505) 899-0205

The Department of the Interior and the City of Albuquerque encourage participation in all programs and activities and do not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, ancestry, sex, religion, age, or disability in employment or the provision of services, programs, or activities.



1034-4102

Western National Parks Association
www.wnpa.org

PETROGLYPH NATIONAL MONUMENT



BOCA NEGRA CANYON TRAIL GUIDE

Oficiální stezky v Památníku

provide a good sample of petroglyphs and to reduce the impact on the escarpment. Boca Negra Canyon was originally built as Indian Petroglyph State Park in 1973 and contains just 4 percent of all the petroglyphs found on the escarpment.

Mesa Point Trail

This trail climbs to the top of the lava flow and is a moderate strenuous trail (approximately 20 minutes). The elevation at the top is one mile (5,280 feet) above sea level. Sandia Crest is 10,678 feet above sea level, and downtown Albuquerque is at 4,950 feet above sea level.

At the beginning of the trail you may see a square enclosing a step-shaped cloud, four-pointed star with zigzag line, and other designs. Notice the numerous designs on several sides of this boulder, including handprints, animal figures, and a mask placed on the corner of the rock to "see both ways."

Grinding spots are found throughout the escarpment. These areas can be identified by light grey, smooth patches on the basalt rock. The grinding areas may have been used to sharpen tools, grind corn or seeds, make pigments, or prepare medicines used in ceremonies.



Further along the trail are several petroglyphs, including two small animal figures and crosses. The outlined cross is a prehistoric symbol. Christian style crosses were made by Hispanic shepherders, but are not enclosed by an outline.

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Notice the low, rock structure at the top of the trail. Conclusive identification of this cleared area surrounded by low walls cannot be made because no artifacts were found here. It could be an ancient ceremonial area or a corral. Several of these east-facing structures have been found on escarpment promontories and some still have importance to modern Pueblo peoples. Similar structures elsewhere were used by Hispanic shepherders as sheep pens. This point provides an excellent view of the Sandia Mountains to the east. To the west are the cinder cones of the Albuquerque volcanoes. They erupted about 130,000 years ago but are now extinct. Boulders that were part of the caprock have broken off and tumbled down as a result of erosion by the Rio Grande.



Historic Christian crosses may have been made by shepherders in the 1700s or 1800s and closely resemble Latin crosses of the patriarchal style (with two horizontals, both ending in crosslets). As you continue down the trail, notice a mask and a grinding spot.

Macaw Trail

The trail is located on the north side of the ramada (approximately 5 minutes).

This trail is named after the two parrot, or macaw, petroglyphs, identifiable by the long-plumed tails. The smaller macaw appears to be in a box or cage. Parrots are not native to the Southwest. Their natural habitat is in Mexico. Parrots and their feathers were important trade items from Mexico and are shown prominently in kiva mural paintings, made



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