



Why you should experience

Aztec and Salmon

Above: Salmon Ruins

The Chacoan great house sites at Aztec and Salmon are truly monumental buildings. Although I now live north of Taos, New Mexico, I am lucky to visit these ancient Puebloan communities frequently and I always leave with a renewed sense of awe. Chacoan migrants skillfully built these amazing dwellings in the last few years of the eleventh century and during the beginning years of the twelfth century. Descendant Pueblo communities of today, including Acoma, Hopi, Santa Ana, Santa Clara, Taos, and Zuni, among others, consider these sites to be special, ancestral places imbued with deep importance and meaning.

Both Aztec and Salmon are listed on the National Register of Historic Places.”

—Paul Reed

What will I see?

Visitors can tour the amazing Aztec and Salmon great houses and surrounding landscapes. The sites are within modern communities in northwest New Mexico—Salmon Ruins is just outside Bloomfield and Aztec Ruins National Monument is within the town of Aztec—with lodging, camping, and restaurants close at hand.

How can I learn more?

Learn more about Salmon: <https://www.archaeologysouthwest.org/explore/salmon-ruins-and-heritage-park/>

Learn more about Aztec: <https://www.archaeologysouthwest.org/explore/aztec-ruins-national-monument/>

Learn more about both with Paul Reed and Gary Brown’s new edited book: *Aztec, Salmon, and the Puebloan Heartland of the Middle San Juan*: <https://bit.ly/2M0PsQB>

What else is nearby?

Chaco Culture National Historic Park is located 1.5 hours drive from the town of Bloomfield. Chaco is a remote destination with no services; camping is encouraged.



Aztec

Ownership: National Park Service

Telephone: (505) 334-6174

Hours: Open daily, except major holidays. Hours vary by season.

Guided tours: Self-guided

Entrance Fee: No

Salmon

Ownership: San Juan County

Telephone: (505) 632-2013

Hours: Open daily. Hours vary by season.

Guided tours: No

Entrance Fee: Yes

