

# CHIHUAHUA and the COPPER CANYON: From El Paso to El Fuerte ~ A Small Group Experience

**8 Day/7 Night Educational Adventure**  
**\$1295 ppd - \$1595 single**  
**Includes All Travel, Accommodations,**  
**Sightseeing, and 9 Meals**



Day 1, Saturday  
July 29, 2006  
Ciudad Chihuahua - 1 Night

Join us for UTEP's fifth unforgettable scenic journey to Mexico's legendary Copper Canyon by motor coach and rail - expanded to include the steepest part of the rail line, lovely colonial El Fuerte within 100 Km of the Sea of Cortez, and an additional night at a second canyon site.

Larger and deeper than the Grand Canyon of Arizona, enjoy many breathtaking panoramic views as we follow the rail line (rated in the top ten best train trips in the world) from heights reaching a little over 7800 feet to nearly sea-level. Experiencing changing climates and stunning locations in the camaraderie of our UTEP family, we find easy hiking and unique birds in the beautiful pine forests, unbelievable grandeur in the Sierra Madre, indigenous Tarahumara crafting their handiwork, and prized Colonial Spanish architecture in lovely El Fuerte.

During this unusual opportunity, we sense Mexico's past, present and future through our exploration of museums, historical sites, and wonders of nature – all supplemented with educational materials and talks given by our UTEP professor and local guides. A priceless experience for nature lovers, history buffs, and train enthusiasts!

A 9:00am departure from UTEP by motor coach takes us across the border to Cd. Juarez where we process through Mexican Customs and Immigration. A passport valid six months beyond this trip and official photo ID (driver's license) **or** a copy of an official birth certificate plus an official photo ID is required for U.S. citizens - others must consult the appropriate embassy or consulate. A stop half-way to Cd. Chihuahua is made for late breakfast or early lunch. Arrival around 2:30pm lets us visit the State and Revolutionary Museums before check-in to the beautiful Palacio del Sol Hotel, centrally located near the zocalo and cathedral. Meals on your own.

Day 2, Sunday  
July 30, 2006  
Cerrocahui - 1 Night

Depart Cd. Chihuahua by train at 6:00am for Cerrocahui where we stay at the comfortable Hotel Mision located near the rim of the Canyon. Arrival mid-afternoon allows time for a leisurely walk or bird-watching before the included dinner.

Day 3, Monday  
July 31, 2006  
El Fuerte - 2 Nights

A tour to the look-out point for Urique Canyon takes us to view the deepest part of the canyon. The rest of the day is at leisure until 3:00pm when we board the train to El Fuerte, descending over the steepest portion of the rail line to the coastal plain. Breakfast and lunch included.

Day 4, Tuesday  
August 1, 2006

Enjoy a walking tour around the center of El Fuerte with our Tour Educator before spending the rest of the day at leisure - perhaps poolside or shopping. Meals on your own.

Day 5, Wednesday  
August 2, 2006  
Posada Barrancas Mirador - 2 Nights

Early morning departure for the canyon rim gives us yet another perspective of one of the most famous train rides in the world. Passing through innumerable tunnels and over high trestles, we arrive at Posadas Barrancas Mirador just in time for late lunch. With the Mirador as our home for two nights, there is ample time for easy hiking along the canyon rim, bird watching, and watching the Tarahumara weave their handicrafts. Lunch and dinner included.

Day 6, Thursday  
August 3, 2006

Opt for a guided hike down into the canyon, horseback riding, tour of the area, or just relax and enjoy the natural beauty of our surroundings. Breakfast, lunch and dinner included.

Day 7, Friday  
August 4, 2006  
Palacio del Sol - 1 Night

Following breakfast, time is available for a short walk around the canyon lookout areas and viewing a Tarahumara dance and games demonstration. Our motor coach picks us up for a mid-morning departure to Creel where we have time to explore one of the last frontier towns in Mexico. As you walk the interesting streets, you can shop at Father Ver Planken's mission store, visit a couple of museums, and have lunch if you like. Motor coach back to Cd. Chihuahua and overnight again at the Palacio del Sol; approximate arrival is 7:00pm. Breakfast included.

Day 8, Saturday  
August 5, 2006

Depart by motor coach for El Paso following a tour of the residential and business sectors of Cd. Chihuahua and Government Palace. Arrival time is approximately 5:00pm depending upon traffic and time processing through US Immigration & Customs. A rest stop will be made again for a late lunch. Meals on your own.

**ABOUT OUR  
TRIP EDUCATOR**  
Robert H. Schmidt, Jr., Ph.D.

Robert H. Schmidt, Jr., Ph.D. has more than thirty-five years teaching at the university level and leading educational groups to Northern Mexico and the Sierra Madre Occidental. Rob, a physical geographer is currently Professor Emeritus, Department of Geological Sciences, University of Texas at El Paso. Widely published and traveled, he officially mapped most of the Sierra Madre Occidental, and was first to accurately measure Basaseachi Falls. An exhibit of Rob's photos giving more than a thirty year perspective of the Chihuahuan Desert, opened the *Chihuahuan Project: Faces and Places of the Chihuahuan Desert* at Chamizal National Memorial in April, 2003 and later exhibited at the Centennial Museum, University of Texas at El Paso. This project, funded by the National Park Service, National Endowment for the Humanities and other supporters is scheduled to be shown throughout the western U.S. and Mexico. Rob's intimate knowledge of the area that we will visit, makes him indispensable to understanding this region and its people.

---

---

**RESERVATION FORM**

Copy and complete a separate form for each registrant.

**Chihuahua and the Copper Canyon: From El Paso to El Fuerte**

[ ] \$1295 Per Person Double [ ] \$1595 Single

July 29 - August 5, 2006

\$350 Deposit Space Available- Final Payment June 21, 2006

Name as on Passport \_\_\_\_\_

Daytime Telephone # \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

Room mate's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Your Address \_\_\_\_\_

Ck. Or Credit Card # \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

[ ] Visa [ ] Master [ ] Discover Card/Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency Contact Name & Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

I am a current member of the UTEP Alumni Association.

I am not a current member; enclosed is \$ \_\_\_\_\_ for annual dues.

---

---

*Travel with the Movin' Miners is a benefit of membership in the UTEP Alumni Association; non graduates of UTEP join as 'Friends of the University' and non members will be charged \$30 for individual or \$50 per couple for annual dues. All trips are limited; reservations are taken in the order deposits are received.*

**Registration:** To reserve space, complete and send a registration form with a \$350 deposit for each person to Alumni Relations, Peter and Margaret de Wetter Center, UTEP, El Paso, TX 79968 or call 915:747-8600 to register with a credit card. This amount is refundable less \$50 through June 21 when final payment is due.

**Departure:** 9:00 A.M. from the C-7 parking lot on Sun Bowl Drive in front of the University Police Station, where cars may be left during the trip. Because of increased security on the part of both Mexican and U.S. Border Officials, a timely departure from El Paso is necessary. If you are coming from some distance, you may want to arrive the night prior to our early morning departure, and plan an overnight stay on our return. If for any reason your travel documents are not in order necessitating a delay longer than an hour, it will be your responsibility to make other arrangements to meet us in Cd. Chihuahua on the first day at your expense.

**Documentation:** A US passport valid more than 6 months past our return or an official birth certificate plus official photo ID is required of U.S. citizens; others need to consult the appropriate embassy or consulate. **Fees:** \$1295 per person double or \$1595 single occupancy includes educational materials, transportation, lodging, sightseeing, admissions, nine meals at the canyon, full-time Tour Manager, full-time Trip Educator, Local Guides in Cd. Chihuahua, and gratuities to hotel bellboys, housekeeping and wait staff. Not included are annual Alumni Dues for non-members, meals other than at the canyon, items of a personal nature, tips for bus driver and local guides, and approximately \$20 US Mexican Tourism Tax. **Payment:** may be made by check payable to UTEP or with a Visa, Master, AmEx or Discover Card.

**Cancellation:** requests for cancellation and a refund less \$50 must be received in writing by The Office of Alumni Relations no later than June 21; no refunds can be made after that. Note: although we intend to follow the itinerary as scheduled, unforeseen circumstances may require adjustments.

---

---

**UTEP Alumni Association**

**Peter and Margaret deWetter Center**

**University of Texas at El Paso**

**El Paso, Texas 79968**

# CHIHUAHUA and the COPPER CANYON: From El Paso to El Fuerte A Small Group Experience

---

Sponsored by  
The Alumni Association  
University of Texas at El Paso

---

Trip Educator  
Robert H. Schmidt, Jr., Ph.D.

---

July 29 - August 5, 2006  
Saturday - Saturday

UTEP  
Alumni  
Association

UNIVERSITY  
of TEXAS  
at  
El Paso

