

Save the Date
2026 Rocky Mountaineers Annual Gathering
October 12-14 in Alamosa, CO

This is the first time we've held the Annual Gathering on the Rio Grande N.F. It's also the first time we've ridden a train as a part of an Annual Gathering.

We hope to catch the peak of Fall aspen colors.

Monday, October 12

- Travel to Alamosa in the a.m. If you have a really long drive or want to do lots of leaf-peeping on the way or want to play golf in the morning, you may want to leave on Sunday.
- Lunch at 1:00 p.m. at Kneeknockers Bar & Grill at the Cattails Golf Course in Alamosa. We will eat "make them yourself" tacos.
- Business meeting, other speakers at the same location from about 2:00 - 4:00 p.m. We hope to have someone (Forest Supervisor) talk to us about what's happening on the Rio Grande.
- We are not organizing a golf outing, but if some members want to play in the morning, we can find a volunteer to be in charge. If that is of interest and someone would like to organize an outing, please contact Debbie Gardunio at (303) 990-1741.

Tuesday, October 13

- Ride the Cumbres/Toltec Railroad from Antonito, CO to Chama, NM.
- The Antonito train station is about 30 miles south of Alamosa.
- The train will depart from Antonito at 10:00 a.m.
- The train ride is 64 miles long and crosses the southern portion of the Rio Grande N.F. You will spend about 6 hours on the train. We will have our own train car(s) depending on the number of riders (we need at least 40).
- The train will stop about halfway at Osier station for a hot lunch (included).
- There are numerous aspen stands at higher elevations of the ride, so the colors could be excellent.
- The train crosses Cumbres Pass at an elevation of 10,022 ft. The train cars are not heated.
- We will ride a coach bus back from Chama to Antonito which takes about an hour, arriving at 6:00 p.m. The bus route back to Antonito is mostly north of the train route and eventually follows the Conejos River as it flows through the Rio Grande N.F.
- If you want more details on the train ride, go to their website - <https://cumbrestoltec.com>

Wednesday, October 14

- There are no events planned for today, so you are on your own to wander or to travel home.

- If you've seen enough aspen leaves, you can head over to the Great Sand Dunes N.P. which is nearby.

Places to Stay

- We did not block any rooms for our group. You can make your own arrangements. There are numerous hotels/motels in Alamosa and the surrounding area.
- There are numerous bus tour groups passing through during aspen season and have already blocked rooms at some of the larger hotels (Holiday Inn Express, Fairfield Inn, Hampton Inn) so you may want to book your room early.
- Here is a list of some of the available hotels in Alamosa. Please call them directly to make your reservations or you can shop around online. There are other places to stay in Monte Vista or South Fork.

Quality Inn, Alamosa – (719) 496-1404

Holiday Inn Express, Alamosa – (719) 589-4026

Fairfield Inn, Alamosa – (719) 215-1220

Best Western, Alamosa – (800) 780-7234

Hampton Inn, Alamosa - (719) 480-6023

Comfort Inn & Suites, Alamosa – (719) 937-4002

Camping

If you would prefer to camp out on your visit, Steve Deitemeyer has a 500-acre spread a few miles south of Alamosa for anyone that would like to rough it. No facilities, but it is free! It could be chilly.

What's It Going to Cost Me?

There may be members that don't want to ride the train, so we are offering two pricing options.

- Lunch on Monday plus train on Tuesday (with lunch) - \$150 per person
- Lunch on Monday, no train on Tuesday - \$20 per person

Registration

We will begin registration through our website starting in July. Because we need to finalize numbers for Monday lunch and Tuesday train ride 30 days in advance, and to get a group discount, everyone will need to pay their registration in advance. We'll provide more details later.