



# NATIVE LANDS ADVENTURE



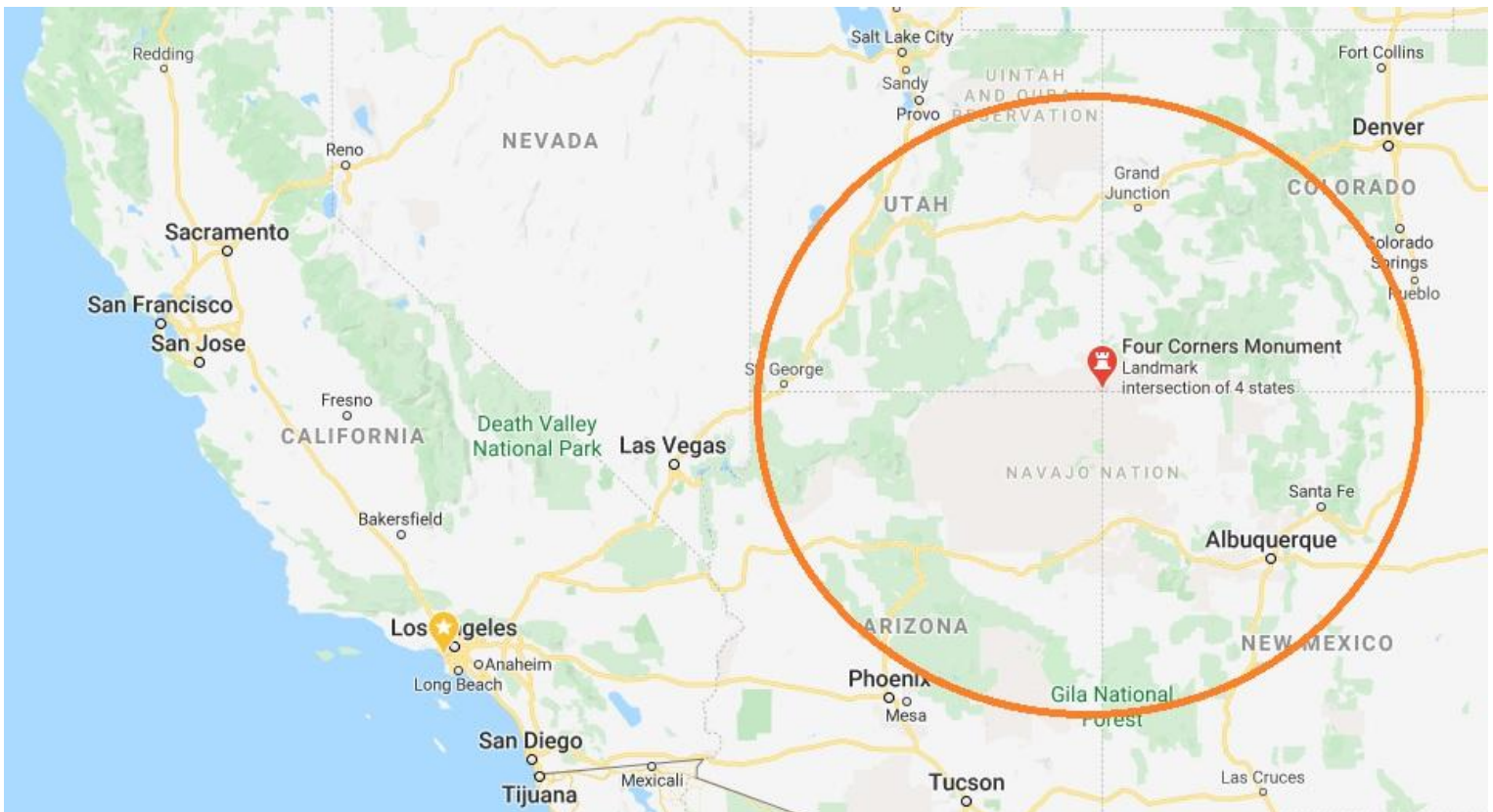
A ROAD TRIP ITINERARY PLANNING GUIDE

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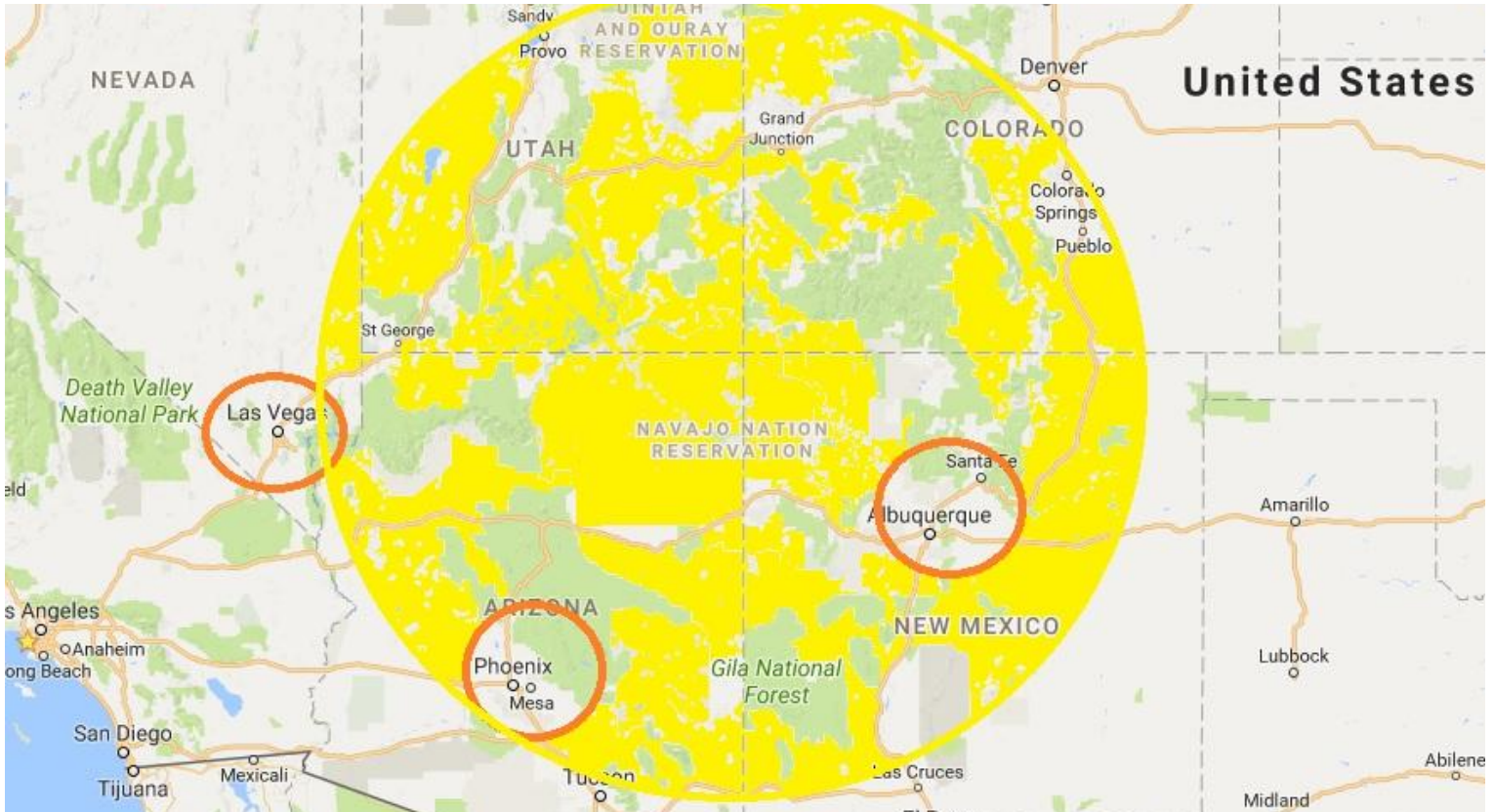
# NATIVE LANDS ADVENTURE

Geographically, this tour focuses on a region in the Southwest of the US encompassing the native lands of a number of major American tribes, spread over the states of Arizona, Colorado, Utah and New Mexico. The confluence of these four states is an area called “The four Corners”. This is a vast place of wild landscapes, of red buttes and mesas, of pueblo villages, Anasazi dwellings under rocky arches, of deep canyons accessible only on horseback or 4x4 rugged vehicles, of traditional thousand years-old paintings and stories,, of kachina dolls and silver jewelry.

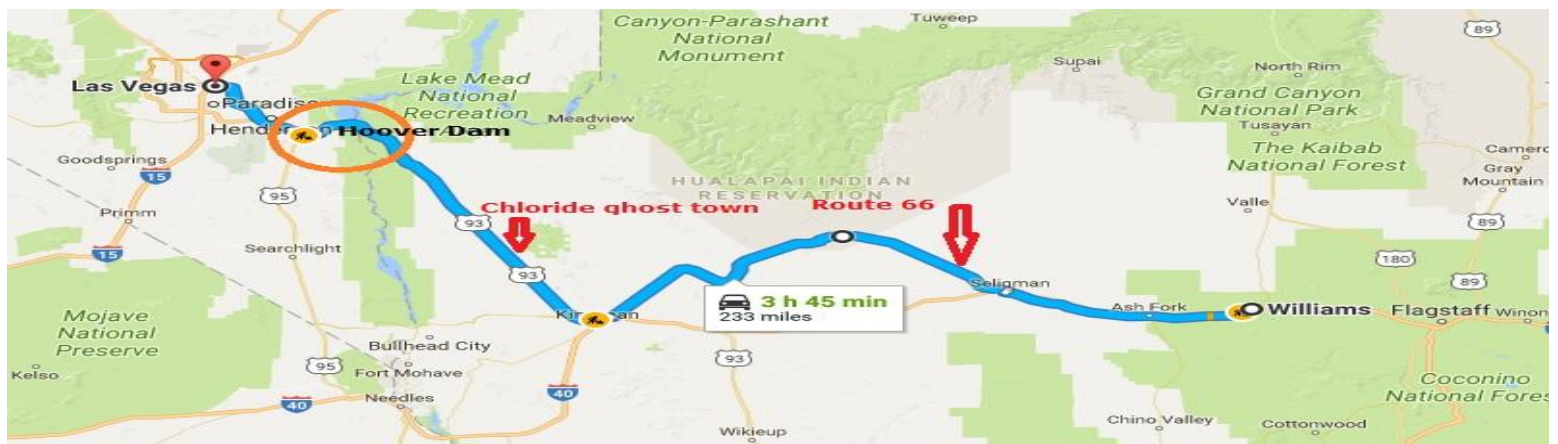
Culturally, this is the ancestral home of the ancient peoples and civilizations that inhabited this region for millennia. This is the land of the sovereign Navajo Nation, Hopi, Zuni and Pueblo Indians. It is home to some of the most celebrated cultural and natural wonders in the world like the Grand Canyon and Mesa Verde. But it is also a place for the discovery of less-known sites among the general tourist population, sites that require efforts and knowledge to get to get to and appreciate such as Hopi D’Walpi village, Chaco Canyon or Window Rock.



Depending on the travelers' requirements, this trip could be 12 to 15 days in length (or more). The group would fly to either Las Vegas, Phoenix or Albuquerque (Santa Fe) and fly back from any of these. For example, a typical tour with start in Phoenix (Arizona) and end in Santa Fe (New Mexico) or the other way around.

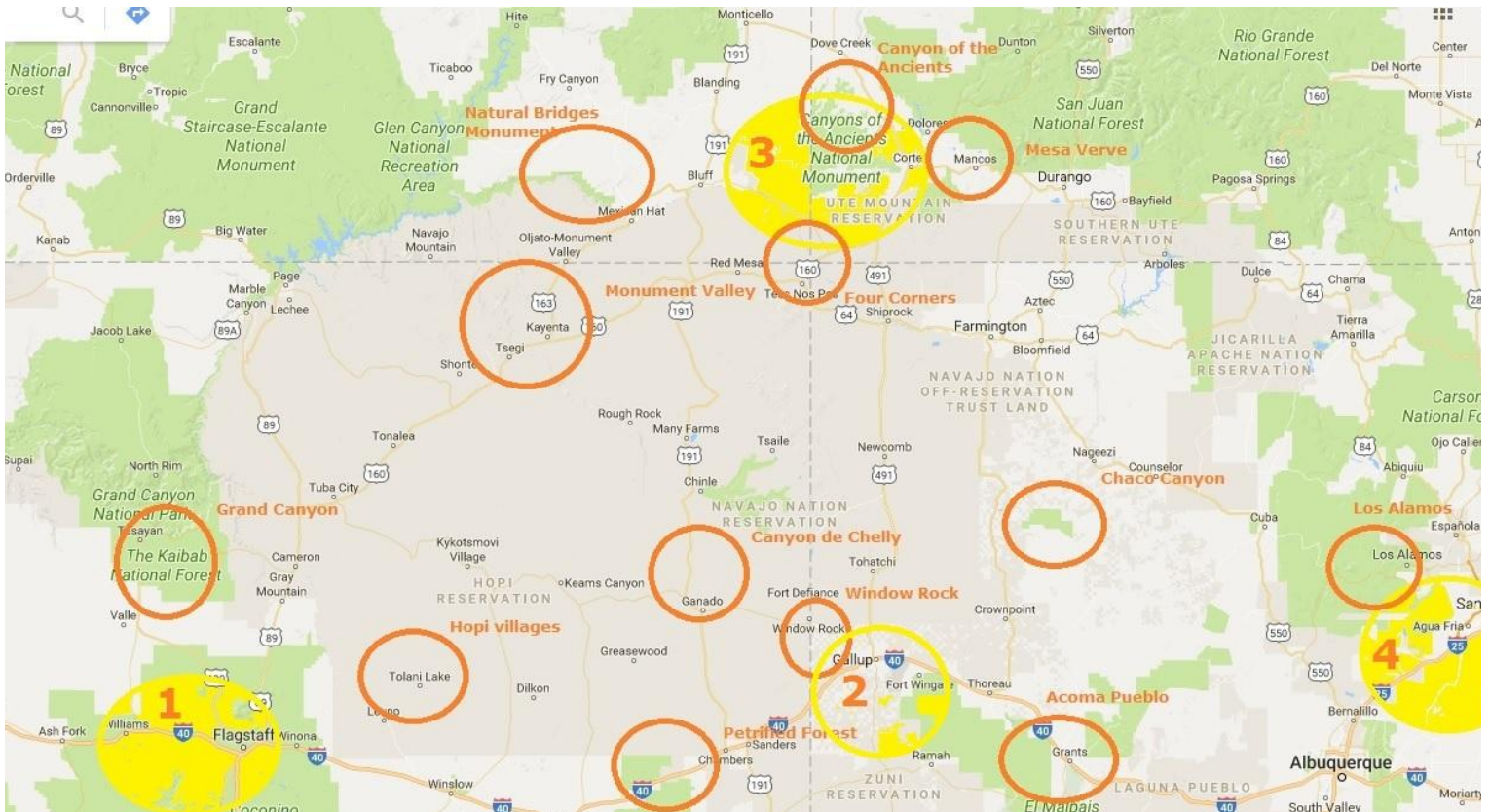


Landing or departing from in Las Vegas would add a couple of days (or spending less days in one of the hubs) and will include a day in Las Vegas (The Strip, Old Town and a show), a visit of Hoover Dam, lunch in the ghost town of Chloride and a drive along famed Route 66 to Hub 1 (see next)



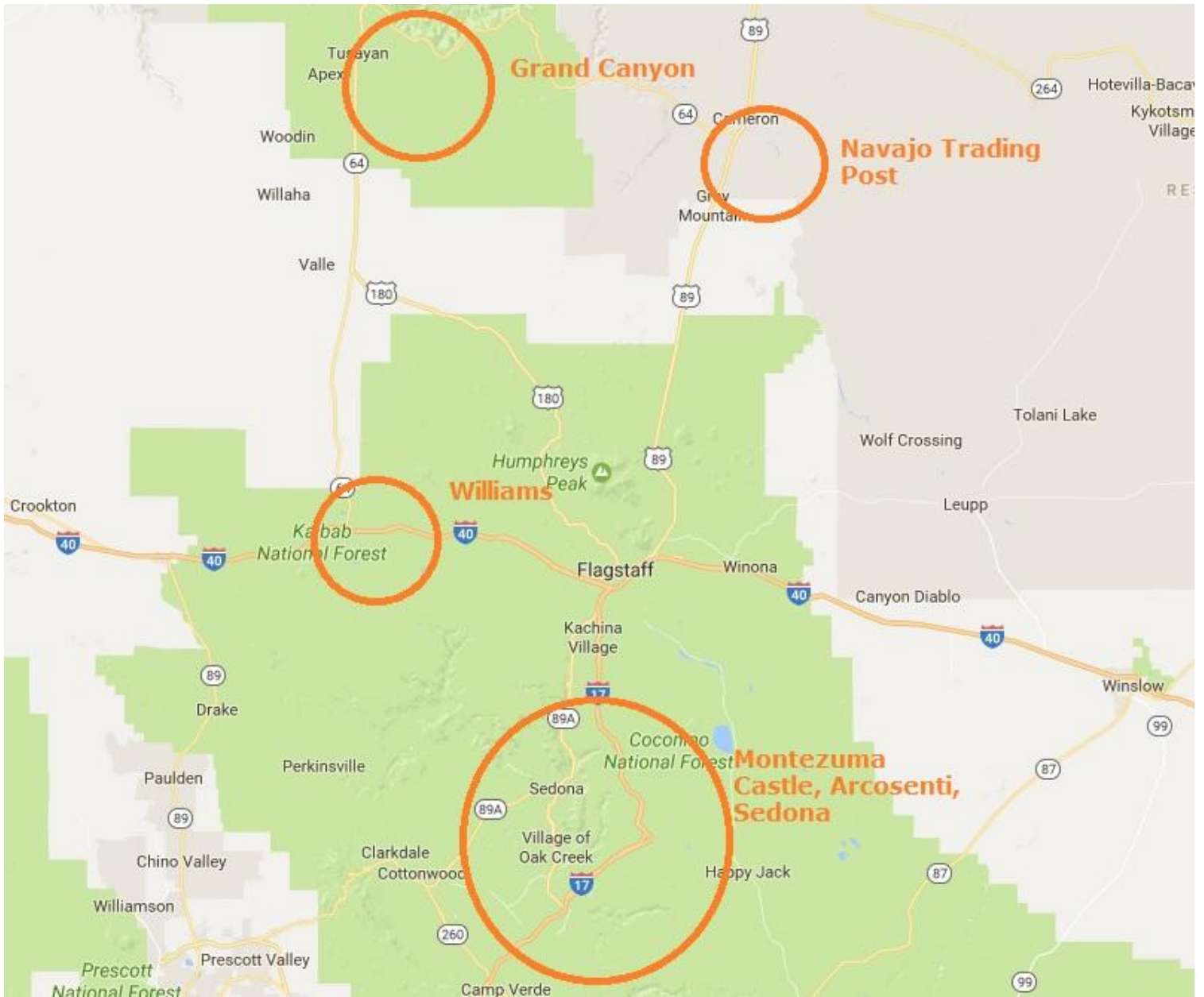
This is a very vast area to explore. Instead of a typical “road-trip” with daily changes of hotels, we propose a travel formula based on staying for a few days at a time in “hubs”. This way, we can keep the number of hotel changes to a minimum, while taking daily excursions to sites located within a reasonable and manageable driving distance. This will also allow for a better management of time for exploration and relaxation periods at the end of the day. The 4 hubs (not including Las Vegas) are:

- Hub 1: Flagstaff/Williams
- Hub 2: Gallup
- Hub 3: Cortez/Bluff/Blanding
- Hub 4: Santa Fe



The following draft itinerary starts in the west at Hub 1 (Phoenix and/or Flagstaff-Williams) and ends in the east at hub 4 (Santa Fe). There is a certain logic to this flow: after a fairly intense schedule of site visits, hiking in nature, etc, the trip could end with more urban, cultural activities in Santa Fe, with time allocated for independent sightseeing and relaxation. But with little tweaking, this trip could equally be undertaken in the opposite direction.

# Hub 1





## DAY 1 • Arrival in Phoenix (Arizona)

Welcome to the US Southwest!

Arrival at Phoenix Airport

Depending on the time of arrival:

Option A:

Transfer and installation in the rooms at the hotel in Phoenix

City visit and welcome dinner

Night at the hotel in Phoenix

Or

Option B:

Transfer and drive to Hub 1 / Flagstaff/Williams area (about 2.5 hours)

City visit and welcome dinner

Night at the hotel in Phoenix



## DAY 2 • Hub 1 - Montezuma Castle, Arcosenti, Sedona

Option A from Phoenix

Morning visits in Phoenix.

Depending on interest:

- Heard Museum of American Indian Culture
- Taliesin West (Architect Frank Lloyd Wright)

Then drive to Hub 1 / Flagstaff/Williams

With (short) stops on the way in Montezuma Castle, Arcosenti and Sedona

Relax at hotel

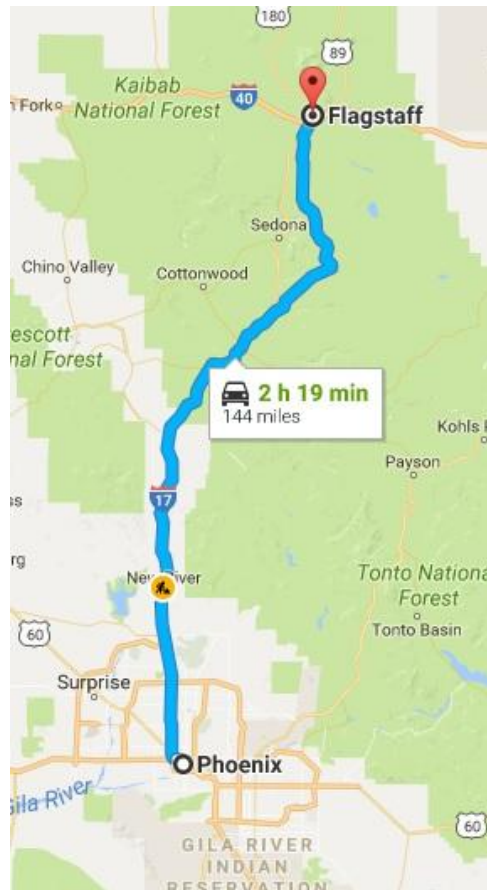
Option B from Hub 1 / Flagstaff/Williams

Day excursion to Montezuma Castle, Arcosenti and Sedona.

Return to hotel

Relaxation, swimming pool, dinner in town

Night hotel Hub 1 / Flagstaff/Williams



## DAY 3 • Hub 1 - Grand Canyon loop

Depart early in the morning

Drive to the Grand Canyon via Valle (Flight Museum) and Tuyen

Note: depending on the interest, there is the possibility of taking the historical train from Williams to the Grand Canyon. Starts with a morning "farwest show" by the train depot. "Singing cowboys" provide entertainment during the ride (about 2 hours) through beautiful high-country landscape.

Arrival at Grand canyon.  
Visit of the Visitor Center and other major points of interests.  
Selected hikes (wheelchair accessible) along the eastern part of the South Rim.  
Visit of the Navajo Watchtower.

Visit and traditional dinner at the Navajo Indian Cameron Trading Post.

Return and night hotel Hub 1 / Flagstaff/Williams



## DAY 4 • Hub 2 Gallup

Check out and depart early from hotel Hub 1

Drive along HW 40 and side roads toward Gallup with stops and selected visits:

- Sunset Crater Volcano
- Walnut Canyon
- Meteor Crater
- Petrified Forest National Park and the Painted Desert
- Black Rock / Zuni Pueblo

Arrive Hub 2 Gallup area in late afternoon.

Check in and installation at hotel

Relaxation and dinner

Night hotel Hub 2 Gallup area



# Hub 2







## DAY 6 • Hub 2 - many options

This is a vast area to explore. We can choose of the 2 options OR spread the excursions over 2 days.

Option 1: Excursions to the south of Hub 2  
Black Rock, Zuni Pueblo, Acoma Pueblo (the "Sky City")

Option 2: Day excursion to the vast site of the ancient Pueblo city of Chaco Canyon

Return evening to hotel

Relaxation and dinner

Night hotel Hub 2 Gallup area



## DAY 5 • Hub 2 - Window Rock and Canyon de Chelly

Tour and visit Window Rock site

Visit and lunch at Hubbell Trading Post

Afternoon excursion and guided tour of Canyon de Chelly, with a Navajo Indian guide (Leon Skyhorse). Possibility of 4X4 vehicles and/or horses. Transfers necessary.

Return evening to hotel

Relaxation and dinner

Night hotel Hub 2 Gallup area



## DAY 7 • Hub 3 - Cortez/Bluff area

Check out and depart from Hub 2 Gallup

Drive north along Route 491 and side roads towards Hub 3 Cortez/Bluff area

With selected stops and visits:

Four Corners site

Shiprock

Aztec Ruins National Monument

Arrive evening Hub 3 Cortez/Bluff area

Check in and installation at hotel

Relaxation and dinner

Night hotel Hub 3 Cortez/Bluff area



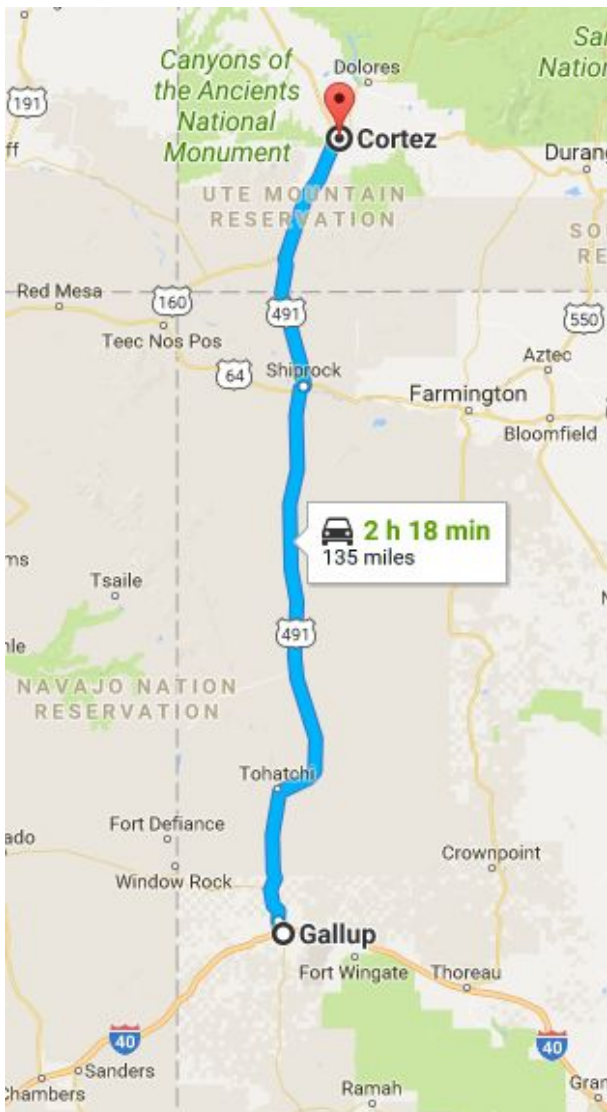
## DAY 8 • Hub 3 - Mesa Verde

All day excursion to Mesa Verde National Park  
Anasazi culture and cliff dwellings

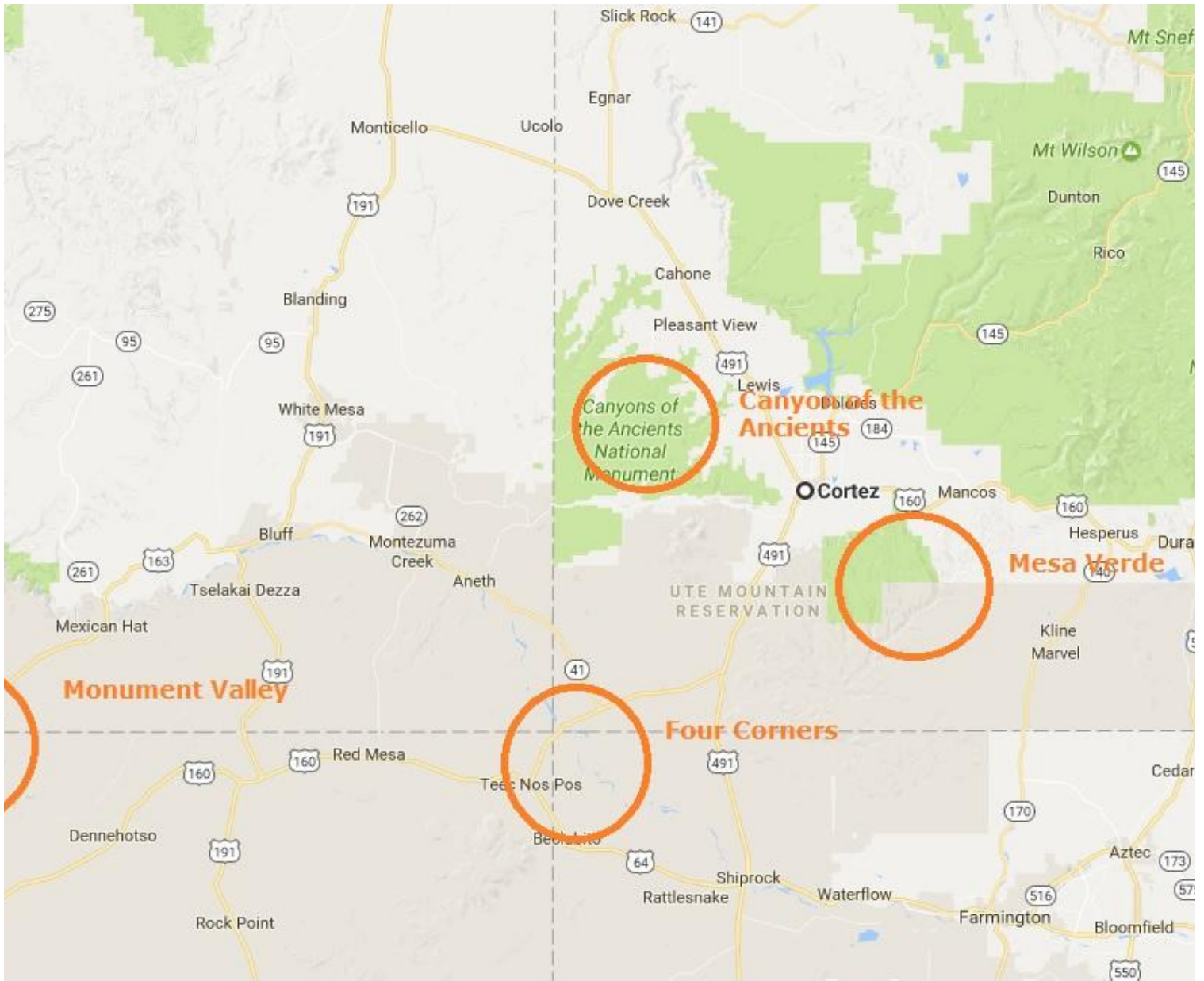
Visits and dinner in Cortez

Relaxation

Night hotel Hub 3 Cortez/Bluff area



# Hub 3





## DAY 9 • Hub 3 - Many options

This is a vast area to explore.  
Depending in interest:  
Canyon of the Ancients  
Hovenweep  
Natural Bridges National Monuments

Back to hotel afternoon

Relaxation and dinner

Night hotel Hub 3 Cortez/Bluff area

## DAY 10 • Hub 4 - Santa Fe

Check out and depart hotel Hub 3

This is a long drive from Hub 3 to hub 4m but it traverses beautiful landscapes and numerous uniquely interesting sites.

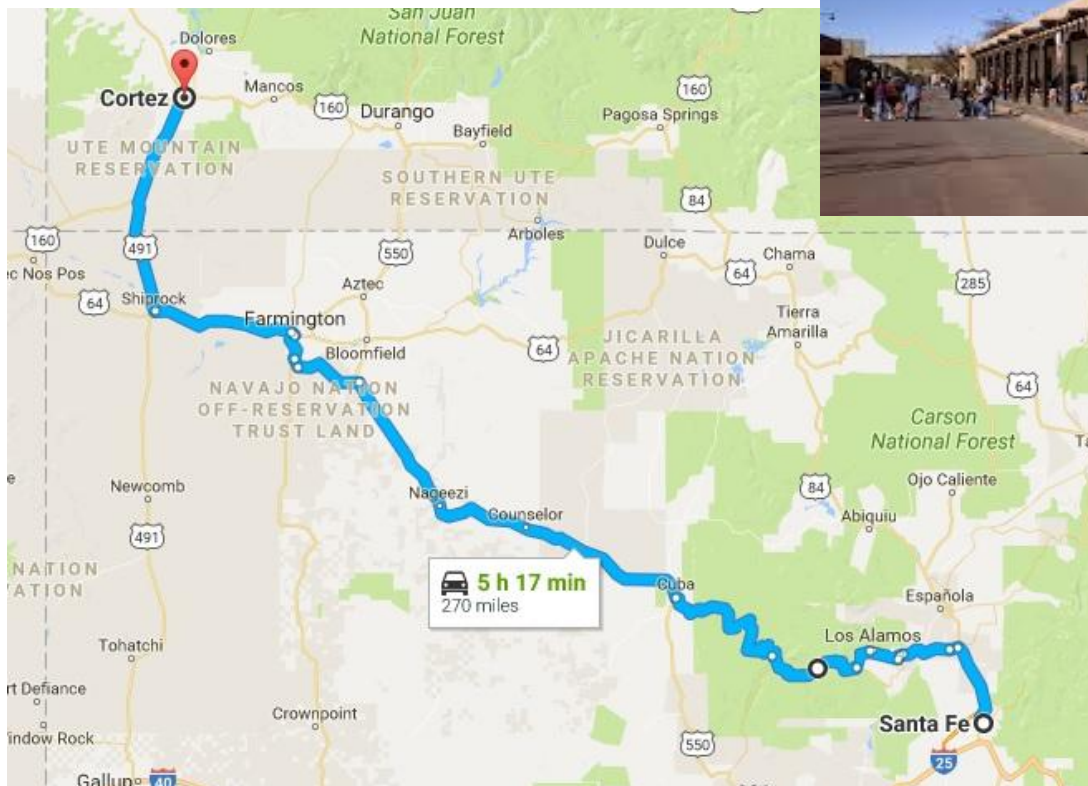
We will plan the journey with many stops along the way for lunch, relaxation, visits and sightseeing.

Arrival in the evening in Santa Fe

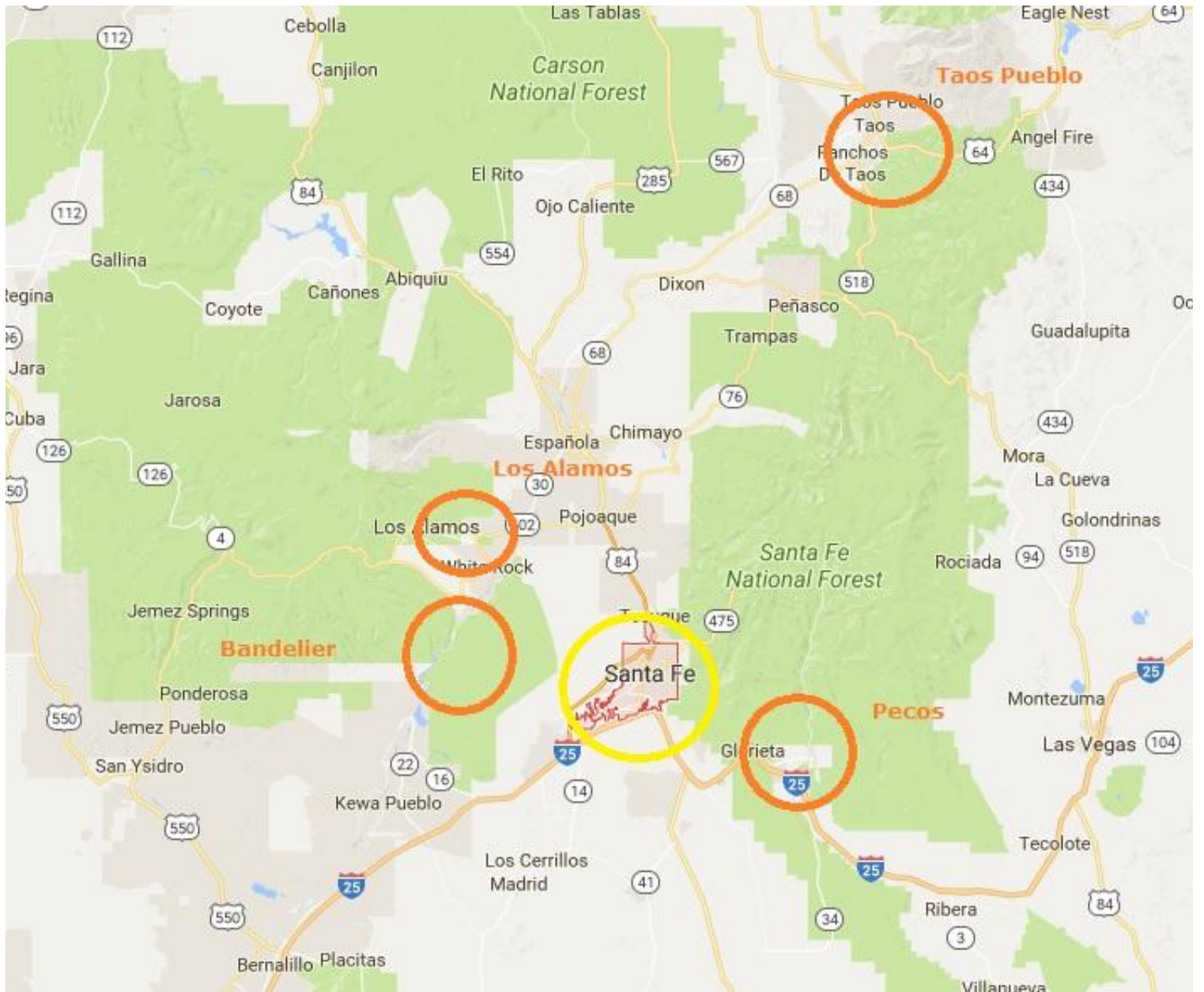
Installation in the rooms.

Dinner and relaxation

Night hotel Hub 4 Santa Fe



# Hub 4





## DAY 12 • Hub 4 - Santa Fe

Additional visits in Santa Fe and its surroundings:

- Los Alamos
- Bandelier National Park
- Pueblo de Taos
- Pecos National Historic Park
- etc.

Dinner and relaxation

Night hotel Hub 4 Santa Fe

## DAY 11 • Hub 4 - Santa Fe

All day activities and visits in Santa Fe

Selected tours:

- The Plaza and the Palace of Governors
- Santa Fe Opera House
- Museum of Folk Art
- New Mexico History Museum
- Indian Culture Center
- etc.

Dinner and relaxation

Night hotel Hub 4 Santa Fe





## DAY 14 • Depart

Depending on the flight arrangements:

Free time then drive to Santa Fe airport or Albuquerque airport (about 1 hour).

Transfers and depart

## DAY 13 • Hub 4 - Santa Fe

All day free time activities and visits in Santa Fe

- Artists Colony
- Museums and galleries
- Food and wine tour
- Shopping

Festive end of trip dinner

Night hotel Hub 4 Santa Fe



**FOR MORE INFORMATION**

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