

**Alamogordo** 

# Space Exploration ADVENTURE

Known as the cradle of America's space program, Alamogordo's fascination with space spans decades, dating back to the testing done at White Sands Missile Range in the late 1940s. Throughout the decades, Alamogordo has played an important role in the air and space history of the United States, and visitors are invited to explore space for themselves. Home to Holloman Air Force Base, and host of the New Mexico Museum of Space History, Alamogordo invites you to go galactic on your visit.

## **Day One**

### **MORNING**

☐ Head 15 miles west of Alamogordo to start the day with a bucket list experience at one of the most incredible natural treasures in the world—White Sands National Park. White Sands is breathtaking with sprawling white sand dunes covering 275 square miles. Make sure to stop into

the White Sands Visitor Center to stock up on water, snacks, adventure packs, hiking information, and information about White Sands.



Visitors often say that journeying through White Sands National Park makes them feel like they are on the face of the moon, as the wide open spaces that seem to go on forever are otherworldly.

#### NOON

☐ Before leaving White Sands enjoy a scenic and peaceful picnic in the dunes or on a vintage covered picnic table.

## **AFTERNOON**

☐ Drive out to the White Sands Missile Range Museum for your free tour of the museum and missile park. Just let the guard at the gate know you are going to the museum, and they will direct you. At the Museum, you can learn more about America's missile and space



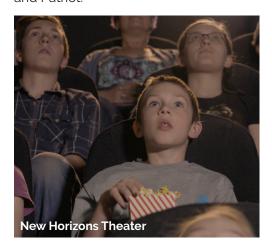
## **Alamogordo**

# Space Exploration ADVENTURE



activity and the development of the nuclear age.

You can also check out the Missile Park, which displays a variety of missiles and rockets tested at White Sands Missile Range. There are over 50 items on display, including the WAC Corporal and Patriot.



# LATE AFTERNOON/EARLY EVENING

☐ Return to Alamogordo to visit the **New Mexico Museum of Space History** for an evening show at the New Horizons Dome Theater and Planetarium, featuring the world's first Spitz Scidome 4k Laser full-dome planetarium projection system. You'll love "getting lost in space" with the theater's large format films, real-life views of the galaxy and other wonders of space.

## **Day Two**

#### **MORNING**

☐ Start your day off right with a coffee from one of Alamogordo's local coffee shops such as Mad Coffee or Plateau Espresso with an incredible view of the city.



☐ Then, go to the New Mexico Museum of Space History, where you can learn more about Alamogordo's rich history as the cradle of America's space program.

Check out history up-close with exhibits like the Apollo program's Little Joe II rocket and a fuel injector from one of Robert Goddard's rockets. The whole family will love trying on spacesuits for funny photos.

## NOON

☐ Grab lunch, as well as a little rest and relaxation at a local restaurant such as Pepper's Grill.



## **AFTERNOON**

☐ Take an hour drive into the Sacramento Mountains to the Sunspot Solar Observatory, one of the nation's premier solar research facilities since 1947. You can take a guided tour through the observatory, starting at 2pm each day. Visitors are welcome in the observing room to view the telescope's images.



# LATE AFTERNOON/EARLY EVENING

☐ On your way back to Alamogordo, make a quick stop-over in nearby Cloudcroft, New Mexico for a breath of fresh mountain air, along with dining and shopping options.

Return to Alamogordo after a full day of space exploration and catch a beautiful New Mexico sunset before you return to your hotel.

