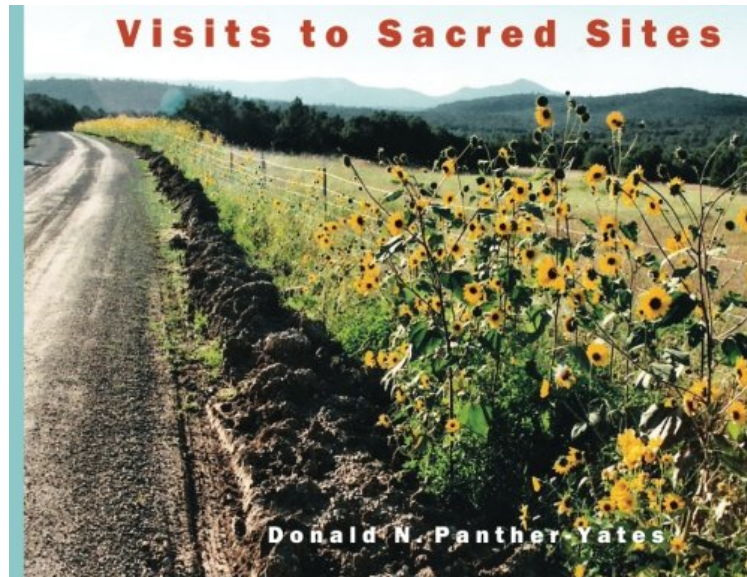


Visits to Sacred Sites: Articles and Photography from the Santa Fe Sun-News

Donald N. Panther-Yates
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Donald N. Panther-Yates : Visits to Sacred Sites: Articles and Photography from the Santa Fe Sun-News before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Visits to Sacred Sites: Articles and Photography from the Santa Fe Sun-News:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Descriptive and detailed By MSSJ like the descriptive nature of this book that covers every detail. I could almost picture the sites with the words alone and they describe the sites so beautifully that you feel excited to visit them. The little miracles and the other details filled in the book make you feel like you should visit the Native American sacred sites immediately. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Star Sacred Sites Southwest By DJPetroglyphs; ancient etchings found throughout the Southwest, tell the stories of ancient inhabitants. The stars, spirals, animals and spirits tell the tales of seen and unseen environments of the Natives. The untrained eyes of novices can erroneously interpret the symbols. Donald Panther-Yates shares his knowledge of his Ancestors and their symbol he finds along with stunning photography against the Southwestern sky. "The symbols of stars, parrots, and eagles "at Petroglyph National Monument tell the story of the Hopi rather than "cultural expressions of the Pueblo people". The Hopi Elders Book of the Hopi explains at the emergence into the present Fourth World, they were to wander the four pasos to pursue spiritual growth. Settlements were marked by a star representing their path, i.e. the symbol found at Chichen Itza in Yucatan shows the Maya round. The Eagle clan path four directions culminated at Oraibi on Third Mesa in Arizona, one of four principal Hopi clans. This is information not found in usual interpretations of petroglyphs. So begins your first visit to one of the sacred sites in the Four Corners region of the Southwest. I made a few visits myself to Arizona. My first sightings of Petroglyphs were at Tuzigoot, and the Petrified Forest. There is a place within called Newspaper Rock because of all its etchings. A newspaper for the ages to be sure. As far as I got into New Mexico was Black Hat and Window Rock at the Navajo Reservation with the monument to the Navajo Code Talkers at its base. A back roads trip to Gallup to visit the trading post and into Utah at Glen

Canyon Dam where there is a rock imbedded with a Dinosaur fossilized footprint at the entrance ended the day. A week is not long enough to take in the mysteries of this semi- arid area. Donald and Teresa Panther-Yates detoured to Santa Fe on the way to relocate in Phoenix, AZ. They lived in both places. Taking this extended opportunity they explored these Sacred Sites paying homage to their Ancestors. Highlights of these place visits include off the beaten path sites such as La Bajada, The Decalogue Stone (also a separate book: The Los Lunas Decalogue Stone), Chaco Canyon, Hidden Mountain, Mesa Verde, and Inscription Rock. It is seemingly inherent in human nature to leave graffiti on places visited or inhabited. The ancients only had rock etchings and art to communicate to contemporaries while leaving curiosities for the ages. Inscription Rock is unusual in the middle of nowhere but found by passersby of various periods leaving signatures and messages. The author was surprised to find Ogham, a stick writing used all over the ancient world from Egypt to Ireland and usually found in the eastern US. The example mentioned translated "In devotion". Perhaps a place of prayer in the wilderness by a very ancient traveler. The Indians called Inscription Rock "Place of the Strange Writings", an indication it predates the known indigenous people. Other modern strange inscription signs were found on the way. Fossil Corn was found by the author at Jemez. How did a 1.3 million years old fossil come to be in a place tossing theories of corns 6,000 yr. origin in Mexico get here? Even more unlikely, how did Sandia man- the oldest known human bones in the US get to a cave on the face of a cliff in the Sandia Mountains? Is it possible he was a European White man? Was Clovis European as well? Donald Panther-Yates with knowledge, wonder and wit takes one along on very special Visits to Sacred Sites showcased in the Four Corners Region of New Mexico, Arizona, Utah and Colorado. So, if you were born under a wandering star, visit these sites for yourself, bring this book to be your companion guide. It surpasses the published tourist info onsite.

With a combination of reverence and humor, Panther-Yates takes us on a tour of the Four Corners world-renowned and lesser known ancient sites. Originally published in the Santa Fe Sun-News, these columns testify to New Mexico's undeniable power and mystery. In addition to the usual Native American dances, kiva mysteries and petroglyphs, the author introduces us to the offbeat spiritualities of the Muslim-like Penitentes of Abiquiu, Chimayos santeros and a teaching coven of witches in Taos. We visit a Sikh temple, study the Phoenician Hebrew Ten Commandments Stone in Los Lunas and explore the hippie nirvana of Santa Fe.