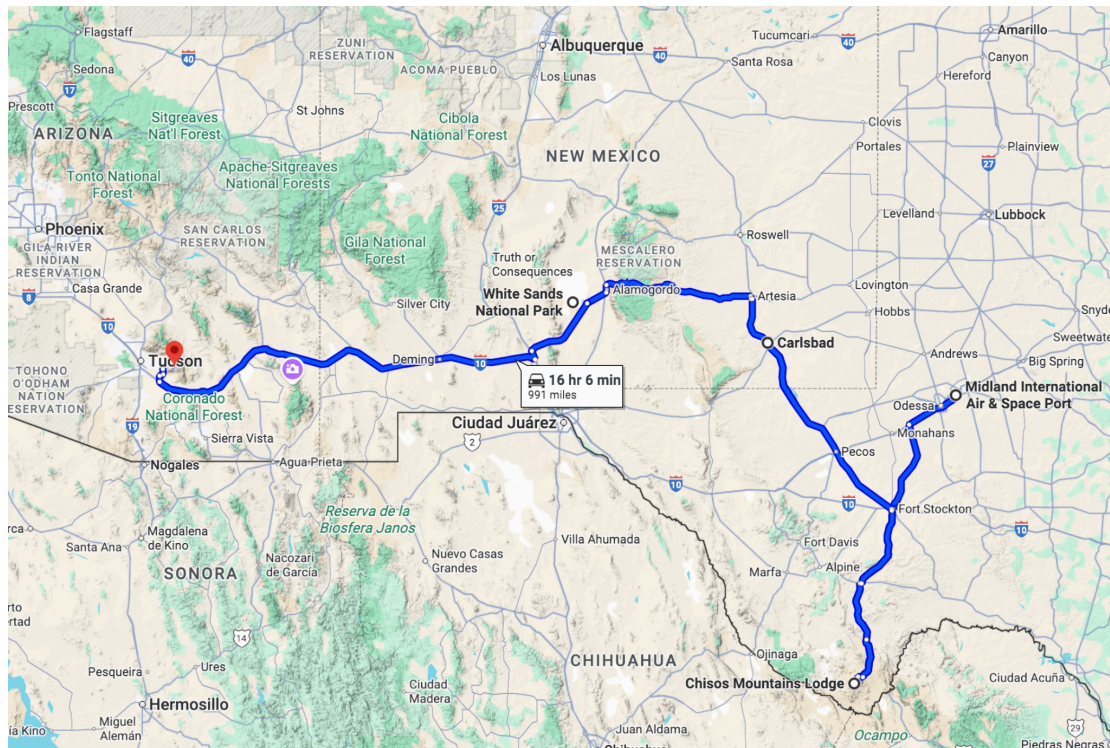


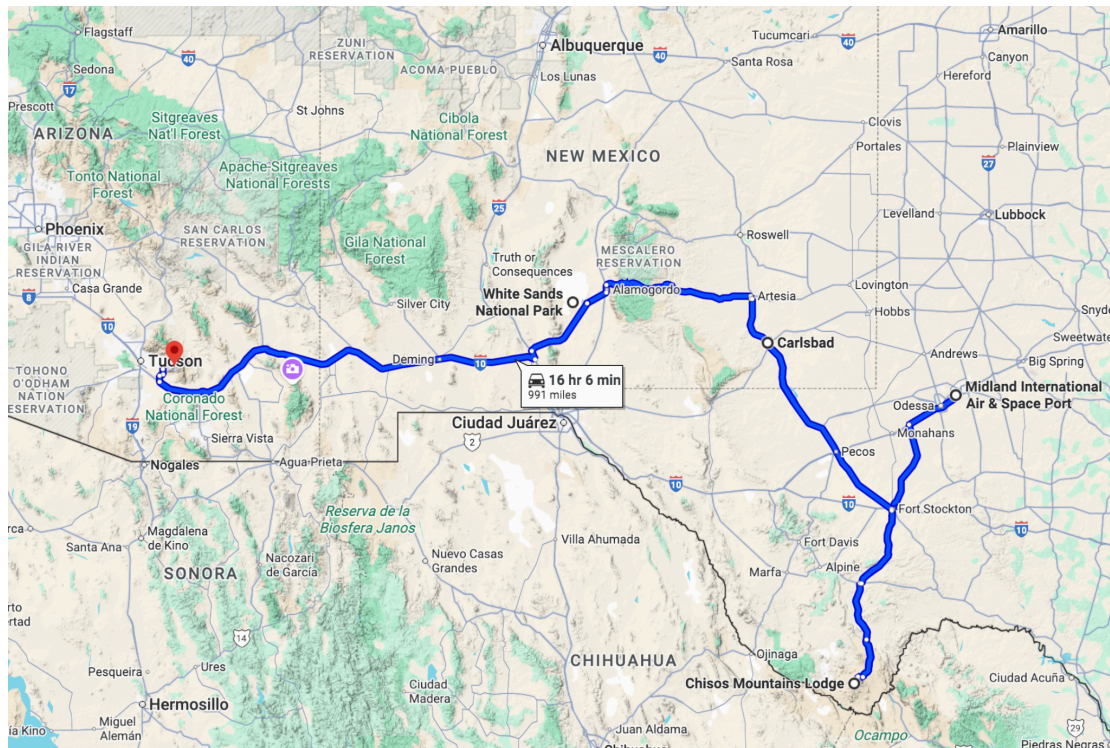


4/2 - Long Travel Day: Fly to Midland, drive to Terlingua (3hr 51mins of driving)

- **WEATHER:** High 80s evening, mid 60s overnight.
 - Drive all the way to Terlingua, TX within the park (~4hr)
 - Dinner/groceries in Alpine, TX
 - Sunset is 811pm.
 - **Warm Night (Starting high 80s at sunset, 63F at dawn)**
 - Stay Buzzard's Roost – [Teepee](#)

4/3 - Big Bend National Park Day - [NPS Park Map](#) | [1-day Itinerary Driving Map](#) | [Google Map](#)

- **WEATHER:** Weather 63 at dawn with high of 90 around 5pm.
 - Hikes are at 5000-7000ft in Chisos Mtns (80-58F). Terlingua Teepee is at 2,890ft.
- Coffee at Espresso Y Poco Mas
- 730-830a: Drive Terlingua to Chisos Basin (50min)
- 830-1200p: Hikes from Chisos Basin Trailhead (near Chisos Mountain Lodge)
 - [Lost Mine Trail](#) (4.8mi | 1131ft | 4.9*) – [NPS](#) slightly up road from others – **says to get to trail early for parking (like 6:45am – TRUE!)**
 - [The Window Trail](#) (5.5mi | 961ft | 4.8*) – [NPS](#) Good for sunset. **We did this mid-day and it was beautiful**
 - [Emory Peak Trail](#) (9.9mi | 2493ft | 4.8*) – highest point in park - **shady but scrubby at the end – Didn't have time for this one.**
 - [Pinnacles Trail](#) (9.0mi | 2020ft 4.8*) – to base of Emory peak - **Didn't have time for this one.**
- ~~1200-100p: Drive Terlingua to Boquillas Canyon (50m – Not worth it? Adds 1h20m total)~~
- ~~100-200p: [Boquillas Canyon Trail](#) (1.4mi | 295ft | 4.5*)~~



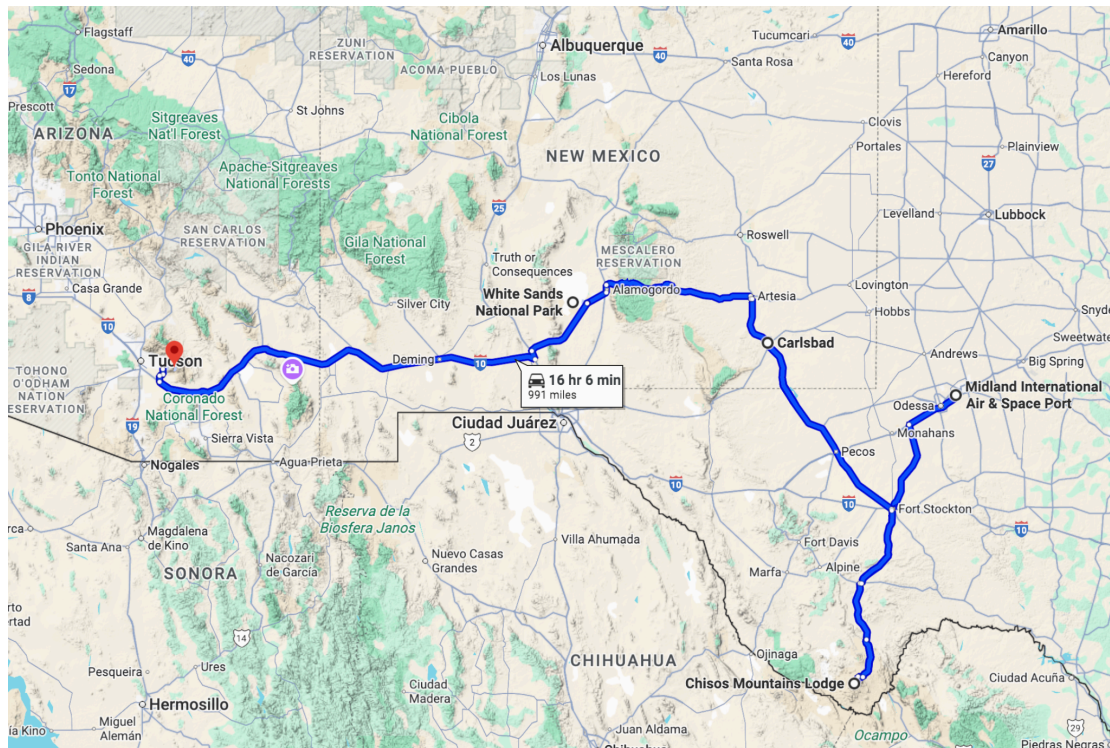
○ 200-300: "Langford Hot Springs" ([Trail](#))

○ We can also do more hiking at Chisos instead of Boquillas area: the drive + hike + hot springs = 3h30m we can have back for another hike.

- 300-430p: Drive Ross Maxwell Scenic Dr. to Santa Elena Canyon (1h37 from Boquillas, 1h9m Chisos)
- 430-530p: [Santa Elena Canyon Trail](#) (1.6mi | 219ft | 4.7*) - Can have a river crossing required – we didn't have this as the river was low.
- 530-630: Drive from Santa Elena Canyon back to Terlingua
 - Use Old Maverick Dirt Road + See Luna's Jacal (50m)
- 730-830
 - Dinner in Terlingua
 - Taqueria Milagro @ 7pm
 - StarLight Theater
 - DB's Rustic Iron BBQ
- Stay Buzzard's Roost – [Teepee](#)

4/4 - Drive to Guadalupe Mountains + Explore **CHANGE TO THIS ITINERARY: We didn't end up getting to do any hiking in Guadalupe Mountains due to weather and low cloud deck. We did a small hike in Big Bend State Park and then went straight to Carlsbad Caverns to do the caves.**

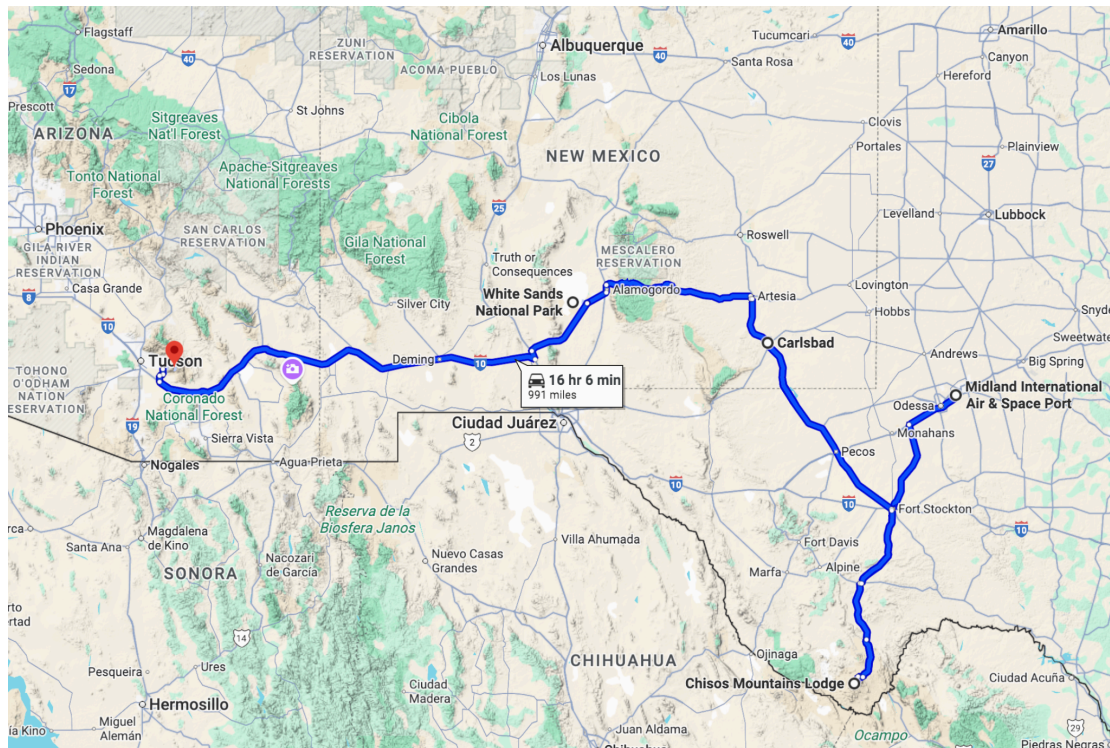
- [WEATHER](#): 63 Waking up, but 53F/42F + Rainy in Carlsbad NM.
 - Colder in Mtns (5500-8700ft in mtns vs 3200ft in Carlsbad)
- Breakfast at Espresso Y Poco Mas
- 700a-1100a - Drive Guadalupe Mountains NP (~4hr)
- 1100-600: Explore and hike Guadalupe NP
 - [Smith Springs Loop](#) (2.5mi loop | 393ft | 4.6*) – says go counterclockwise
 - [Devil's Hall Trail](#) (3.5mi | 593ft | 4.7*) - This one seems fun. Hiking + scrambling.



- [Guadalupe Peak Trail](#) (8.1mi, 2,949ft | 4.8*) - recommends poles?
- [McKittrick Canyon Trail](#) (7.0mi | 496ft | 4.7*) - people pair with Guadalupe Peak (this one is easyish and flat but long)
- 630-715: Drive 45 mins to Carlsbad Cavern
- 715-830: Bat Flight Amphitheater at Carlsbad Cavern
 - No Ranger led Program (not peak season), but should be some bats waking up leaving cave – around sunset.
- 830-900 Drive to Carlsbad
 - Dinner: Carniceria San Juan de Los Lagos
 - <https://maps.app.goo.gl/rzUHKmGpZ1rTLCfo6>
 - Stay at [Hyatt House, Carlsbad NM](#)

4/5 - Carlsbad Caverns + Drive to White Sands ([WEATHER](#)) - Cold.

- **Feels like 39 at dawn. Light rain. Cave @ 56F. At White Sands afternoon Thunderstorms and clearish evening feels like low 40s, high 30s.**
- Bat's at Pre-Dawn? Probably not, with light rain.
- [Carlsbad Caverns Morning a Tour \(Reserve 3/5\)](#)
 - Reservation #0768025989. 930-1030am Recreation.gov
 - [Guided Lower Cave Tour Reservation](#) 830-1130 – Cancelled by DOGE
 - [Guided King's Palace Reservation](#) – Cancelled by DOGE
- **CHANGE TO ITINERARY - We did all the above the afternoon before so we went straight to White Sands NP and continued the itinerary below.**
- Drive 3h12m to White Sands
 - Weather High 60s afternoon, high 50s in evening.
 - Drive “Dunes Drive” (main road into park)
 - Stop at Visitor Center to get a sled
 - Sled/Shred the Dunes



- [Alkali Flat Trail](#) at Sunset (4.8mi | 52ft | 4.8*)
- Stay near White Sands in Tularosa - [Covered Wagon](#) (AirBnb)

4/6 - Sunrise White Sands + Driver to Saguaro, stopping in Las Cruces + Fly from TUC ([Weather Las Cruces](#) | [Tucson](#))

- Weather about in high 20s! in morning (Wagon has heater).
 - Low/mid 70s near Tucson hiking in afternoon.
- 630-730: Watch Sunrise at Wagon or Dunes
- 730-800: Drive to Las Cruces (30m)
- 800-930: Breakfast @ The Shed + Visit Gmah's House Las Cruces
- 930-130: Drive to Saguaro National Park (4h)
- 130-500: Explore Cactus Forest Driving Loop
- Hikes
 - [Loma Verde and Squeeze Pen Loop](#) (3.6 miles, 154ft, 4.6*) – **We did this one.**
 - [Bridal Wreath Falls](#) (5.9miles, 1076ft, 4.7*) - no waterfall currently but shady for second part of trail
 - [Mica View Trail to Cactus View Trail](#) (2 miles, no elevation, 4.6*)
 - 500-530: Drive to Tucson and Fly home (7:10- 8:40PM, 1h30m, MST but no DST)