



# LaunchQuest™



## 2009 Schedule of Events

Rev. 4/28/09

### Friday, May 1<sup>st</sup>

7:30 a.m. Depart SpringHill Inn Suites for Spaceport America

8:45 a.m. Arrive at **Spaceport America**

*Check out UP Aerospace Launch Control Building and see the SpaceLoft XL™ rocket containing your experiment up-close on the rail ready for launch!*

9:15 a.m. Depart Spaceport America for Las Cruces

10:30 a.m. Arrive in Las Cruces for a visit to historic **Mesilla**

*Enjoy the Cinco de Mayo Fiesta at the plaza of historic Mesilla!*

12:00 p.m. Depart Old Mesilla for the White Sands Missile Range Museum

1:00 p.m. Arrive at the **White Sands Missile Range Museum**

*The Museum traces the origin of America's missile and space activity and how the atomic age began. Displays also include the prehistoric cultures and the rip-roaring Old West. The onsite "**Missile Park**" has over 50 missiles tested on the White Sands Missile Range that you can walk right up to!*

2:30 p.m. Depart White Sands Missile Range Museum for Las Cruces

3:30 p.m. Arrive in Las Cruces for the **Zuhl Geological Collection**

*Located on the campus of New Mexico State University, the Zuhl Collection features thousands of beautiful specimens of petrified wood, fossils, and minerals, many hundreds of millions of years old!*

5:00 p.m. Evening with the **FLARE Rocket Building Workshop**

*FLARE (Fellowship of Las Cruces Area Rocketry Enthusiasts) will walk you through building your own model rocket, demonstrate some jumbo rocket motors and models, and answer your questions about model rocketry! Pizza and beverages will be provided.*

#### Recommendations:

We'll be in the desert under full sun, so bring bottled water, sunscreen, and a hat. Expect the temperature to be in the 50s in the morning and in the 80s in the afternoon, so wear short sleeves, but perhaps a light jacket, as well. Wear clothes you don't mind getting dusty, including light, comfortable pants. Do not wear heels, sandals, or open-toed shoes.

Some of the travel times are long. For talkative types, bring topics of conversation or think of travel games to play. Otherwise, bring video games, music, puzzles, or a book. A travel pillow is also recommended.

Have money for food and any souvenirs you might want to buy at the museum's gift shops.

A camera is recommended, although not everyone needs one if everybody shares after the trip.

## Saturday, May 2<sup>nd</sup>

- 4:45 a.m. Depart SpringHill Inn Suites for Las Cruces Kmart (*Light travel breakfast will be provided by CCAT.*)
- Note: Private vehicle access to the Spaceport is NOT allowed on the launch day. Leaving late from Las Cruces would risk missing the buses to the Spaceport, which would mean missing the launch.**
- 5:00 a.m. Arrive at Kmart in Las Cruces
- 5:30 a.m. Depart via bus for the Spaceport VIP viewing area
- 7:00 a.m. Arrive at the Spaceport for the **Launch Event:**
- 7:15 a.m. *Welcome and Introductions*
    - Steve Landeene – Executive Director, Spaceport America
    - Pat Hynes – Director, NM Space Grant Consortium
    - Eric Brachhausen – Executive Director, Spaceport America Institute
  - 7:30 a.m. *Additional Speakers, Activities, Etc.*
  - 8:00 a.m. *UP Aerospace SL-3 Rocket Launch!*
  - 8:20 a.m. *Post-launch Press Conference*
- 9:00 a.m. Depart the Spaceport for Las Cruces Kmart
- 10:30 a.m. Arrive at Las Cruces Kmart
- Depart Las Cruces Kmart for Model Rocket Launches in downtown Las Cruces
- 10:45 a.m. Arrive in downtown Las Cruces (NMSU) for **FLARE Model Rocket Launches**  
*Meet back up with FLARE to launch the rocket you assembled on Friday night!*
- 12:45 p.m. Depart Las Cruces for the White Sands National Monument
- 2:15 p.m. Arrive at the **White Sands National Monument (Part I)**  
*Check out the Museum at the Visitor's Center and watch the orientation video.*
- 2:45 p.m. Depart the White Sands National Monument for Alamogordo
- 3:15 p.m. Arrive in Alamogordo for the **New Mexico Museum of Space History**  
*See real space meteorites, stunning images of space, the Sonic Wind I rocket sled used in the Apollo program, equipment used for living in space, rockets, satellites, the X-Prize/X-Cup exhibit, an IMAX movie, and more!*
- 4:45 p.m. Depart Alamogordo for the White Sands National Monument
- 5:15 p.m. Arrive back at the **White Sands National Monument (Part II)**  
*Head down Dunes Drive to see great, wave-like dunes of white gypsum sand along with unique plants and animals. Ride a snow saucer down the dunes!*

### Recommendations:

In addition to Friday's recommendations, binoculars are recommended for the launch (for safety reasons, the VIP section is over a mile away).

CCAT will pay for admission into the White Sands Monument and the Museum of Space History, but still bring money for food and souvenirs.

## **Sunday, May 3<sup>rd</sup> (on your own):**

Head to the local mall for some shopping and food.

The Las Cruces Museum of Natural History has live animals.

For fans of railroads, there is the Las Cruces Railroad Museum.

Return to Mesilla's plaza for a Farmers and Crafts market.

See a fort from the late 1800s at Fort Selden National Monument (\$3 for ages 17+, free for ages 16 and under), less than 10 minutes from Las Cruces.

Space Murals, Inc. contains large water tower murals and a small museum honoring the space program 10 miles east of Las Cruces.

There are several ghost towns about an hour of Las Cruces.

At Rockhound State Park, 1 hour and 15 minutes west of Las Cruces, you can find and keep up to 15 pounds of rocks.