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Continental Divide Trail (New Mexico) Section Hike

Itinerary (subject to change)

Five Days/Four Nights

September 26 to October 1, 2020

Saturday, September 26th – Meet and Greet – to be scheduled

Participants will meet the Lead Guide. During our Meet and Greet we will discuss the chosen route, safety perimeters, *Leave No Trace* overview, review and distribute gear and equipment and pack our backpacks. A goal for this evening will be to have everyone packed and ready to go for an on-time Sunday morning departure.

Sunday, September 27th – Day One/Night One

Approximately 3-hour drive to the trailhead with a possible car drop at the northern terminus. Focus is to get into the parks with a manageable pace for all participants. Packs will be heaviest on this day and the elevation gain exceeds 2,000-feet. We will camp in the meadows near the tree edge. *Hike approximately 5.5-miles.*

Monday, September 28th – Day Two/Night Two

The morning is a rolling pathway. Trail spends time near flowing creeks and grassy meadows before reaching the trail highpoint and descending into old dark forest with cursive drawings dating back to the early 1900's on now dying aspen trees. We will camp in transitioning forest. Much of today's hike will have limited water access. *Hike approximately 8.7-miles.*

Tuesday, September 29th – Day Three/Night Three

The landscape has changed as we continue north. Rolling hills transition to grassy flats, ponderosa forest and hidden water in lush canyons. We will carry water from the last stream for dinner and next day breakfast. Camp will be in pinon pine forest. *Hike approximately 8.8-miles.*

Wednesday, September 30th – Day Four/Night Four

We will climb to the mesa top for reliable water and a short jeep road walk before a zig zag descent to the canyon with its high colorful mesas and spits of sand. Camp is in ponderosa forest. *Hike approximately 9-miles.*

Thursday, October 1st – Day Five/Final Day

We leave the hidden canyon depths on soft footing to the Wild and Scenic Chama River. *Hike approximately 4.8-miles.*