

Ghostly Visions

by Jennaye Derge

Just a few hours south of Durango in northern New Mexico, there is a white limestone landmark known as Plaza Blanca. This geological gem can be easily explored by foot, offering hikers a view of towering spires, fields of white sand and rock, and small slot canyons. This area has inspired many visitors including famous 20th century artist Georgia O'Keeffe, who painted the area, not far from her Ghost Ranch home. The area also has served as the backdrop for a few well known movies such as "Cowboys and Aliens" and "The Lone Ranger." The rock formations that make up Plaza Blanca are on private land but can be accessed by the public as long as everyone is thoughtful, respectful and inspired by its ghostly beauty.



Is that a turtle eating a mushroom?



White limestone towers reach 60 feet into the sky.



The white rock formations makes for an other-wordly setting.



Exploring small slot canyons.