The Patagonia Museum
Tour to Mexico’s Banamichi and Rio Sonora
March 12-March 14, 2019

Please join us for a leisurely and flexible 3 day, 2 night tour by motor coach through historic areas surrounding the Sonora River in Mexico. Overnight stays are in the best hotels in Banamichi (Opata word for “where the river turns”). Two expert guides: Bill Steen and Rebecca Orozco will explain the history of this area. P.D.Ronstadt & The Company will accompany us on our tour providing musical entertainment as we go. Museum staff will accompany our guides to assist with arrangements as the trip progresses.

We depart from Patagonia, 317 Mckeown Avenue, at 8 am Tuesday, March 12, 2019 and return Thursday late afternoon, March 14. From Patagonia we proceed to Nogales, stopping in Magdalena for lunch in the church plaza. We then arrive at Banamichi where we stay, enjoying most of our meals at La Posada del Rio Sonora, the former residence of General Padilla. Wednesday morning we explore the local towns on the Rio Sonora and visit a local ranch for lunch. Wednesday evening we enjoy local entertainment at an open air plaza across the street from our hotel. On Thursday, we depart Banamichi for Arizpe, Sonora’s first capitol, and then proceed to Bacoachi for lunch, returning to Patagonia via Naco.

Some extended walking on uneven surfaces may be required.

Price ($600, double occupancy, $550 for museum members) per person includes transportation via USA licensed motor coach, meals, meal gratuities and lodging for one person. Additional beverages will be your responsibility.

There are 24 seats available for this tour with double occupancy at the hotels in Banamichi. Full payment secures your seat on the first come first served basis.

You will need a current passport to enter Mexico and return to the United States.

Both guides and museum staff are bi-lingual and experienced with travel in Mexico.

Seats and accommodations are transferable if your plans change and someone is available to go in your place.
Rebecca "Becky" Orozco is a third generation resident of the border in Arizona and currently teaches history and anthropology at Cochise College and the University of Arizona. Her master's program focused on the Chiricahua Apache and for several years she acted as a liaison for tribal members and historical groups. Her undergraduate degree in anthropology (1974) and graduate degree in history (1987) are from the University of Arizona. She has traveled widely and lived in Peru, Ecuador and Guatemala where she worked as an archaeologist.

Bill Steen has worked as a photojournalist, primarily in the southwestern United States and northern Mexico. His photographs have appeared in a number of books and newspapers including the New York Times. He has traveled extensively throughout the Rio Sonora region, his photographs of the area span a period of more than 25 years. He and his wife Athena operate a non-profit organization called The Canelo Project which is dedicated to “connecting people, culture and nature.” Together they have pushed books on vernacular, natural and straw bale building.

For additional information:

http://banamichimexico.com/

http://www.riosonora.com/banamichi.html

http://www.mexicoecoresort/

Suggested Reading:

Borderman: Memoirs of Federico Jose Maria Ronstadt edited by Edward F. Ronstadt

Beliefs and Holy Places by James S. Griffith

The Opatas: In Search of a Sonoran People by David A. Yetman

Sonora by Ignaz Pfefferkorn