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Steve Larese

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Steve Larese : Balloons Over Albuquerque before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Balloons Over Albuquerque:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Introduced New Zealand to ABQ Ballon FiestaBy Michael NoonanI bought this as a thank you to a travel agent in New Zealand and introduce her to what ABQ is best known for, other than Breaking Bad, the Unser racing family, drunk driving and teen pregnancies. The book is well made with great pictures and relatively current, compared to others available on . Regardless of how many times you have experienced the balloon fiesta, this is a great memento to share.1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. The photos are fantastic!By CustomerThis book was a Christmas gift to my husband. He loves it. The photos are fantastic!

From the festival founder's boast at a party in 1971 that he could fly his newly bought balloon, to an annual celebration that now draws more than half a million people to New Mexico, the Albuquerque International Balloon Fiesta is a story of good times and friendships formed over decades of ballooning. An average of 700 balloonists from scores of nations participate in the October event, lifting off with the rising sun in the crisp Albuquerque air and floating against the turquoise skies and salmon-pink Sanda Mountains. Traditional balloons mix with specially designed balloons such as shade-wearing suns and Darth Vader to thrill the tens of thousands of spectators below. The excitement continues into the nights with balloon glows and fireworks. More than 150 images capture the colors, crowds, and camaraderie that have made Albuquerque the ballooning capital of the world.

About the AuthorSteve Larese is an Albuquerque-based travel journalist who is editor of GuestLife New Mexico, and

is a correspondent who covers New Mexico for Forbes Travel Guide and USA Today Travel.