



# ADVENTURE 2011

- HORSESHOE CANYON
- CANYONLANDS
- FALSE KIVA
- SHAFER TRAIL
- WHITE RIM TRAIL
- MULE CANYON
- GEMINI BRIDGES
- POTASH ROAD
- HOVENWEEP
- CHACO CANYON

**10/15/2011** Selma, NC      With Meggan & Melina

- Prepped to leave at 6:00 AM, found the battery dead in the grey Honda. Pulled the batter out of the red Honda and hit the road at 7:00. Fortunately we had the red Ford Ranger for Rita. We bought a vinyl and rubber car-top carrier for our camp supplies, it ratted and vibrated on the roof, made a terrible racket. Tried to secure it better before Raleigh, made little improvement. It was a rough start.
- Noon- At Charleston WV at noon. It was very windy, which made more roof noise.
- 9:00 PM at St. Louis. Traffic was a mess, had everything funneled down to one lane. It was crazy. Swore never to drive through this town again, and have kept to that. I used duct tape and taped the car-top carrier down, it helped a lot.

10/16 - Note : time changed messed up the co-pilot. We hit Kansas at 3:30 AM. I went to sleep in the back, let the girls drive. They noted that during my sleep the car-top noise got worse. 5:00 AM Melina and Meg ambushed by a tumbleweed in Kansas. By 9:30 am we are in Vail CO, and by 12:20 we hit Utah.



- We drove on to Hanksville, then Horseshoe Canyon car park, made it there by 2:00 PM. We scoped out the area, took some pics, and got everything ready for our early morning hike into Horseshoe Canyon. We talked to the Ranger, we had a nice sunset.
- 10/17 – Hiking at 6:40 using our headlamps, it was still dark. The trail down was easy, it was difficult hiking out, especially with our camera equipment. We walked in the sandy river bed, saw the High Gallery, Alcove Gallery and the Great Gallery. We were the first ones there, took photos. While we were there a single hiker showed up, said that he thought for sure he would be the first ones there. He left after sunrise. We left the canyon at 1:30 PM, it was about a 7 mile round trip hike. It was getting warmer, glad we started early. After the Gallery we headed for Moab at about 2:00 PM, got there at 5:00 PM.





- 10/18 – Left Moab heading to Canyonlands at 4:20 AM. We saw the sunrise from the White Rim overlook and left there at 9:00 AM heading to visitor center / Ranger Station to secure our White Rim permit. We were able to change our camp locations which made for a better trip. We then left to see Mesa Arch because it was there and easy, and had lunch at Upheaval Dome at 11:30. Noon – started towards False Kiva, our first trip to this site working off internet info. It was steep and cliff-like along the trail, there really was no trail, there was a lot of loose gravel. Melina wasn't keen on this hike. Took photos, stayed a while, girls signed the visitor log in the metal can. We headed back to camp in Moab.



- 10/19 We picked up our jeep at 9:19AM – it was Red 4 door with big tires (so the girls put in the notes). We drove first to Long Canyon and got there at 10:20. We started the video camera and taped the trip all the way down the canyon. Megan didn't turn on the camera so we drove around to Moab and back to the top of Long Canyon by 12:30 and Melina took a turn at pushing the on button. We then drove around again, but headed to the Canyonlands in were on the Shafer Trail at 1:45 and drove the 17 miles to our first campsite at the Airport Tower. We stopped at the Colorado Canyon overlook and walked on Mussleman Bridge. Setup camp at Airport C campsite at 6:30 PM and took pics of the stars.





- 10/20 - We drove to the Monster and Washer Woman rocks in the morning, then drove back to camp and took down the tent at 8:40 and drove on the White Rim Trail all day until we got to Murphy Hogback Camp A at 3:30 PM. A nice location, saw some ravens, took pics of the sunset.





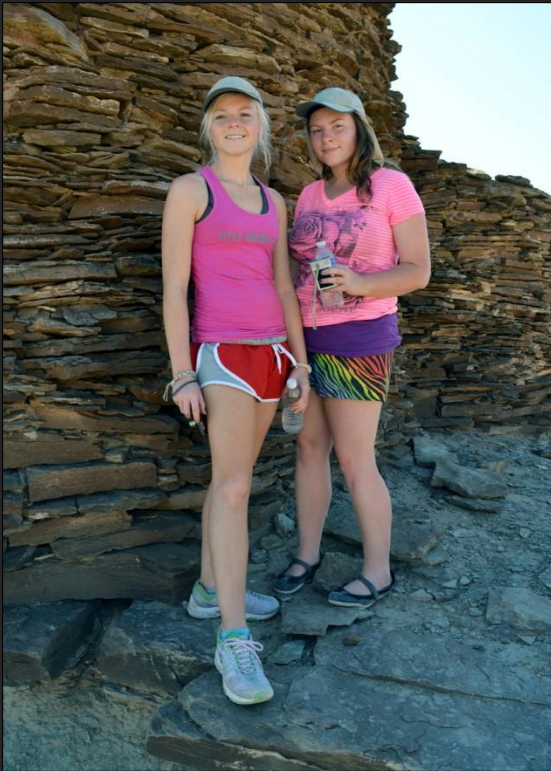


- 10/21 - I got up early and took pics in the morning. Melina and Meggan took down the tent and they left rocks in the tent. Note ? We left camp at 8:44 we drove past Candlestick and got to the Fort Bottom trail at 12:15. We hiked to the ruins and got back to our jeep at 2:30 PM. We finished the White Rim trail at 3:05 PM and were back at camp in Moab at 5:30 PM.





- 10/22 – Up and on the road at 4:30 headed for Mule Canyon. Got to the lower fork trail at 7:00 AM and hiked to the House of Fire and some smaller ruins down the trail. We left this area and headed back to Moab and walked along the road near Colorado River looking at the rock art at 4:00 PM. We left to see the sunset at Green River at 5:30 PM. Then back to Moab.





- 10/23 – Up at 5:00 AM headed to Hovenweep, got to Big Spring Canyon at 7:30 and to Hovenweep at 12:30 and ate our pack lunch. We walked around Hovenweep and were done there at 2:20 PM. Back to Moab by 5:15 the girls went shopping while I cleaned up and charged my batteries.





- 10/24 – We wanted to see the sunrise from False Kiva so we left Moab at 5:20 and were hiking at 6:30 with our headlamps on. We saw the sunrise, took a lot of photos and some 360 photos also. We were out by 10:00 AM and had lunch again at Upheaval Dome, they have a nice picnic site. After lunch we headed to the other side of the Colorado and looked at rock art at Moonflower and Kane Creek, saw the Birthing Scene. Back to Moab and the other side of the river we were exploring Jughandle at 3:30 PM. M & M found two ghost like art and some snake scenes. We left there at 4:30 and headed to the Grandview Point to see the sunset.







Jug –Handle Arch



## Gemini Bridges



- 10/25 – We rented another Jeep at 8:00 AM white 4 door soft top. It wasn't as nice as the hard top, and the wind kept beating the windows open and getting my camera equipment dusty. We drove the Gemini Bridges trail getting there at 10:00 and staying about an hour. We headed back to the Shafer trail getting there about 11:30 we stopped at one of the pulloffs to have lunch half way down. We drove to the Potash trail getting there at 12:30 and drove the Potash road till 3:00 PM. It started to rain, we stopped after we got back on the road at Jug Handle and stopped for more rock art photos. We dropped off the Jeep and took the car back to the Canyonlands and near the Mesa Arch we saw the best rainbow ever. We followed the rain and the rainbow to the Arch 5:00 PM and then to Buck Canyon at about 6:00 PM. We watched the sunset at Grandview Point and ate supper.











- 10/26 – Packed up camp and on the road at 8:15, in New Mexico at 11:45. We stopped at Chaco Canyon driving on the bumpiest road every. Went airborne once and broke the front bumper. We left Chaco at 5:00 PM heading home.
- 10/27 – Stopped to sleep a couple times, it was pretty uncomfortable. We drove into Texas and it snowed like crazy had to follow a state trooper to see the road. We were in Oklahoma City by 10:30, Little Rock at 4:00 PM, Nashville at 10:15 PM.
- 10/28 – Home at 8:15 AM.



Chaco Culture  
National Historic Park NM



Sunrise at the White Rim Overlook – Canyonlands National Park