

Albuquerque International Balloon Fiesta Announces All Special Shapes attending the 52nd event

Including 16 New Special Shapes with the first-ever representation from North Macedonia and cultural icons from around the world.

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Albuquerque, NM - The 52nd Albuquerque International Balloon Fiesta, powered by ExxonMobil will host the largest gathering of special shape balloons as a part of the world's premier balloon event, October 5-13, 2024. This year's event will include 106 special shape balloons; 16 of those shapes will make their first Balloon Fiesta appearance.

Notable new special shape balloons will share the air with the event's first-ever pilot from North Macedonia, Borche Paunovski who will be flying the pink Gnome balloon. Météo, piloted by Alain Bard from Canada, is a "weather balloon," featuring meteorological features. Churro, piloted by Heather Watkins is a dog-shaped balloon with Churro the dog as co-pilot. As a nod to New Mexico tradition, the new Zozobra special shape balloon is set to fly in the October events as well.

With sixteen countries represented in this year's event, one special shape in particular is bringing their culture to the Albuquerque International Balloon Fiesta. Mazu, representing Taiwan (Republic of China) is shaped as the Chinese sea goddess Mazu, deeply rooted in Taiwanese culture and traditions. Mazu will be making her appearance for the first time culturally representing her country.

Special shape hot air balloons and the pilot's home country making their inaugural appearance at Balloon Fiesta include:

Balloon Name	Country
Macaw Red	Brazil
Macaw Blue	Brazil
Météo	Canada
Police Dog	United States of America
Barx	United States of America
Mazu	Taiwan (Republic of China)
Hunter, The Fox	Brazil
Capitao Carverna	Brazil
D-Ohtb	Germany
Frank Boy	Brazil
Turtle	Brazil
Churro	United States of America
Candy House	Brazil
The Brain	United States of America
Zozobra	United States of America
Duke City Redi Mix	United States of America

In addition to these new balloons, many Balloon Fiesta Special Shape fan favorites will also be making their return. These include Airabelle the Creamland Cow, Darth Vader, Master Yoda Balloon, Montie the Black Sheep, Allycorn, and many more.

Special shape hot air balloons and the pilot's home country returning to Balloon Fiesta include:

Balloon Name	Country
Bud E Beaver	United States of America
Steggy	Brazil
Montie the Black Sheep	United States of America
Jota Balloon	Brazil
Hug A Bear	Belgium
Conair	United States of America
Spunky	United States of America
Tall Steve	United States of America
Darth Vader	United States of America
Kermie The Frog	United States of America
Space Cowboy	United States of America
Bella The Bulldog	United Kingdom
Carousel	United States of America
Wags	United States of America
Beagle Maximus	United States of America
Yellow Hawk	United States of America
Freedom Flight V	United States of America
Billy the Kid	United States of America
Chris P. Bacon	United States of America
IVO	United States of America
Balloonaful Sunrise	United States of America
Sushi	United States of America
Tico the Sloth	Canada
Buzzy	United States of America
Amelia Bearhart	United States of America
Ham-Let	United States of America
Tiny Fire Dog	United States of America
Off the Wall	United States of America
Puddles	United States of America
Pico	United Kingdom
Astro the Alien	United Kingdom
Allycorn	United Kingdom
Pigasmus	United States of America
Baby T-Rex	United States of America
Snobird	United States of America
Bandit	United States of America

Milkyway	United States of America
Wally	United States of America
Belzebuth	France
Master Yoda Balloon	Belgium
Keystone Willy	United States of America
Humpty Dumpty	United States of America
Mango the Seahorse	United States of America
Just Fun Cat	United States of America
Buster the Bulldog	United Kingdom
Tiger	United States of America
Wes the Wolf	United Kingdom
Owlbert Eyenstein	United States of America
Frankenstein	Brazil
Gnome	North Macedonia
1 Down 8-2 Go	United States of America
Splash	United Kingdom
Lulu	United States of America
Party!	United States of America
Peg Leg Pete	United States of America
Pokey the Turtle	United States of America
Airabelle, The Creamland Cow	Canada
Betty Jean Butterfly	United States of America
Pencil Boy	United States of America
Little D	United States of America
Vampirella	Belgium
Coco The Clown	United States of America
Buzzy the Bee	United States of America
Tom Cat	United States of America
Cockoo Mag	Brazil
Cheezy	United States of America
Clown	Germany
Daz	United States of America
Mister Z	United States of America
Little Dog	Brazil
Itsy Bitsy	United States of America
Hyla the Frog	United Kingdom
Ms. Autumn	United States of America
Lindy	United States of America
Elvis Tribute Balloon	United States of America
Cutie Dink	United States of America
Lawrence Bear	United States of America
Luna Balloon	Brazil
Te Amo	United States of America

Princess Nelly	Belgium
Smokey Bear	United States of America
Jolley	United States of America

Finally, don't forget about the remote-control (RC) balloons. Balloon Fiesta's third annual remote-control balloon rally will feature at least 57 tethered balloons, which are scale model balloons, about 20 feet tall. These "globitos" are miniature marvels, with 14 special shapes of their own, like Dolly the Donkey, Steggy the Dino-Soar and Pengiunette.

Remote Control Special Shape "Globitos" balloons and the controller's home country at Balloon Fiesta include:

Buscuit	United States of America
Penguinette	United States of America
Airiel	United States of America
Hotspot	United States of America
Perry A. Normal	United States of America
Peter Porker	United States of America
Baby Burd	United States of America
Dolly the Donkey	United States of America
Fred the Ladybug	United States of America
Cork the Puppy	United States of America
Steggy the Dino-Soar	United States of America
Lil Shamrock	United States of America
Bit-O-Mischief	United States of America
Muffin	United States of America
Piggy	United States of America

"My favorite part about Balloon Fiesta is seeing the enjoyment and the excitement from somebody who's experiencing Balloon Fiesta for the first time and seeing the Special Shapes, where else can you walk amongst giant toys," says Jennifer Garcia, Albuquerque International Balloon Fiesta Event Director.

While many of the special shapes will be flying throughout the event, Balloon Fiesta has several events featuring special shape balloons. The Special Shape Rodeo™ (morning) and Glowdeo™ (evening) events will take place on Thursday, October 10 and Friday, October 11. For more information about Albuquerque International Balloon Fiesta, visit <https://balloonfiesta.com/>.

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About the Albuquerque International Balloon Fiesta

The Albuquerque International Balloon Fiesta, powered by ExxonMobil is a festival of hot air balloons that takes place in October in Albuquerque, New Mexico, USA. It is the largest gathering of balloons and balloonists in the world. The 2022 event generated \$203.19 Million into the Albuquerque and the State of New Mexico economies. For details on events, schedule,

entertainment and photographs visit our website www.balloonfiesta.com and follow us on Twitter [@BalloonFiesta](https://twitter.com/BalloonFiesta) and [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/BalloonFiesta).