

Guw`aadzi Hauba! (Hello Everyone!)

On behalf of the Pueblo of Acoma Tribal Officials and Councilmen, welcome to our Feast of St. Stephen. We are happy that you have chosen to spend the day with us. Our culture and traditions are not only an integral part of our life – they are the essence of our existence. We ask that you honor and respect them during your visit.

We invite you to immerse yourself in the splendor and excitement of the Feast Day. You will observe traditional native dances at the plaza. The dances represent elements of our environment – land, sky, water, animals, sun and moon. The dances are performed in honor of Saint Stephen, patron saint of Acoma Pueblo.

Please observe the following rules of etiquette during your visit:

- Photography and sketching are **strictly prohibited** on this Feast Day.
- Pueblo feast day dances are expressions of religious beliefs. They do not begin and end at precise times and should be observed with respect.
- Applause after a dance is not appropriate. Please do not speak to, or attempt to touch the dancers.
- Please do not ask Tribal members about the significance of the dances.
- Visitors may leave the plaza, but please do not roam freely on the mesa top; refer to the map that was handed to you.
- For your own safety and to preserve our historic structures, please do not climb ladders or other structures.
- Possession of, and/or use of an illegal substance, including alcohol, is **strictly prohibited**.
- As you make your way off pueblo lands, please stay on the main roads as off-road sightseeing, camping and rock climbing are **strictly prohibited**.
- All visitors are expected to descend the mesa no later than 4:30pm.

We offer prayers and blessings to you and your families as you return home or travel to your next destination.

Thank you for joining us in the celebration of St. Stephen Feast Day!