

MESA VERDE

5/21 & 23/2023

I HAVE AVOIDED A RETURN TO MESA VERDA BECAUSE OF ALL THE LIMITATIONS. WEATHERILL MESA IS ALMOST ALWAYS CLOSED AND THIS YEAR DUE TO ROAD WORK THE MESA TOP LOOP WAS ALSO CLOSED LEAVING ONLY CLIFF PALACE AND BALCONY HOUSE OPEN FOR TOURS. WE DIDN'T SIGN UP FOR ANY TOURS AND VISITED WITH THE INTENT TO SEE FROM THE OVERLOOK LOCATIONS. THERE ARE MORE RESTRICTIONS, RECONSTRUCTION AND SIGNS THAN I AM USED TO BUT, IT IS MESA VERDE.

I HIKE TO THE SODA CANYON OVERLOOK TO SEE CLIFF PALACE AND ALSO SCRAMBLED AROUND LOOKING FOR OTHER BELOW LEDGE RUINS. I DID FIND A COUPLE BUT THEY WERE DIFFICULT TO REACH AND OFF-LIMITS.

THE FEATURE FOR ME WAS THE HIKE TO PETROGLYPH POINT WHICH WAS BETTER THAN EXPECTED AND THE PETROGLYPHS MADE IT WORTH THE EFFORT.



NEAR PAGOSA SPRINGS & CHIMNEY ROCK





FAR VIEW RUINS



HERE IS YOUR SIGN







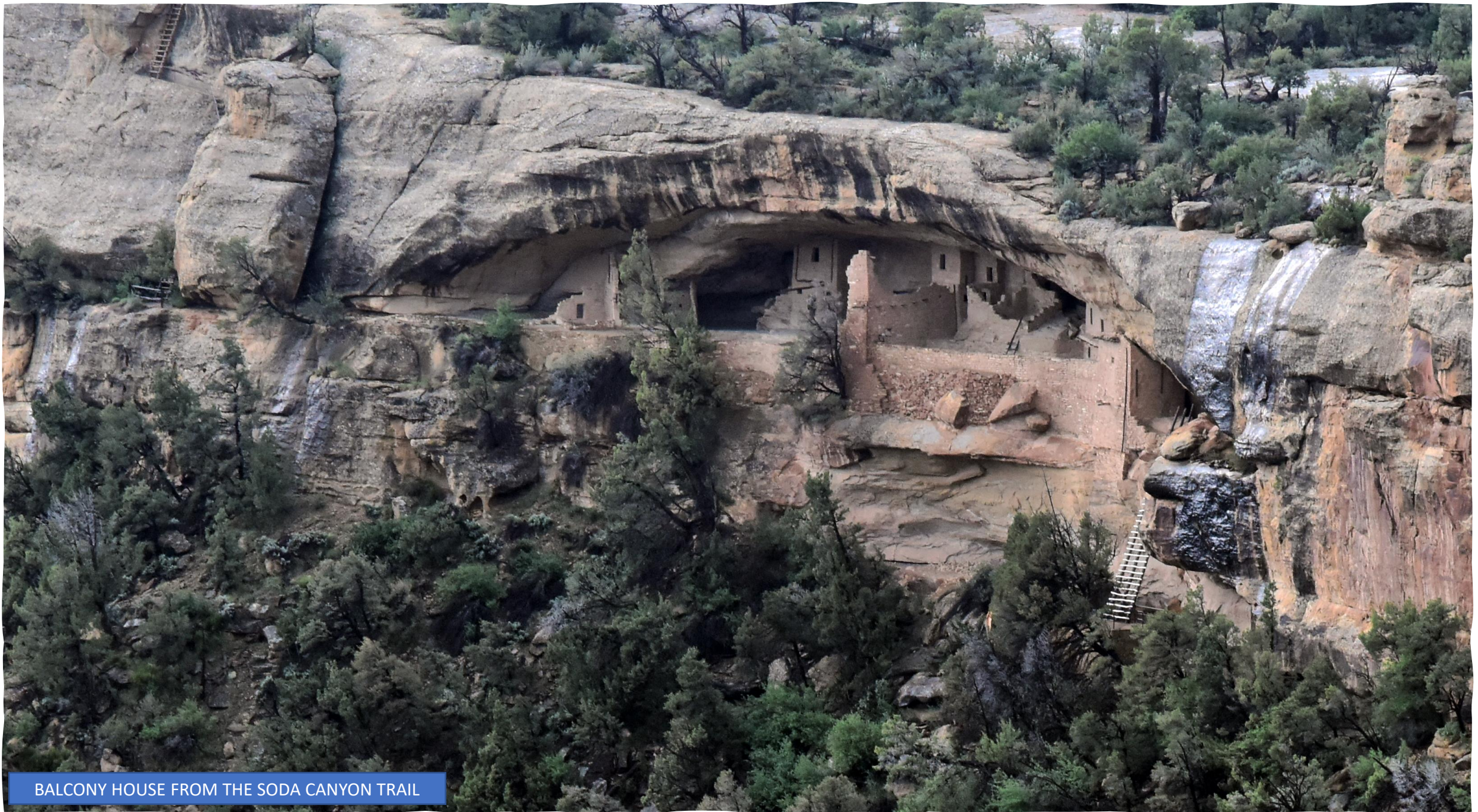
SPRUCE HOUSE



SPRUCE HOUSE TRAIL IS CLOSED







BALCONY HOUSE FROM THE SODA CANYON TRAIL

CLIFF PALACE









MANY WINDOWS





HEMENWAY HOUSE



PETROGLYPH POINT TRAIL

















