

“Balloon Walk”

Description & Requirements

A balloon walk consists of a hot air balloon (not the same one I fly) that is in anchored at **the top end, and at the bottom end, and then inflated with cold air by use of an inflation fan**. Rather than standing the balloon with air that is heated by the burner, the balloon is kept inflated with just the cold air. A large heavy mat is placed over the “skirt” at the bottom end of the balloon, making it easily accessible for children of all ages, including those in wheelchairs. The public can then enter and view the balloon from the inside (without shoes). To make the experience even more fun for children, we typically introduce large inflatable balls for them to play with while they are in the balloon.

Balloon walks are especially popular at community events and private parties involving young school age children. Additionally, balloon walks can be set up in winds that would keep a tethered balloon operation on the ground. Even so, calm or light winds are preferable. No precipitation can be occurring or expected within the time of operation.

Balloon walk operations vary in length of time. Generally, 1-2 hours is most common, but some events may encompass numerous hours.

A 100’ diameter space is preferable for operation. A level, well drained, mowed, grassy area is the best surface for a balloon walk. Pavement is not acceptable unless padding can be supplied. Areas of dirt, sand, mud or standing water are just a bad idea.

For best results, a balloon walk should be placed close to the “action” as opposed to being in the “back forty”. Staying within easy walking distance is the name of the game for good attendance.

For everyone’s safety:

- No smoking is allowed near or in the balloon.
- Drinks or food are not permitted in the balloon (they usually end up on the balloon).
- Balloon walk operations will be discontinued any time threatening weather approaches (rain, wind, thunderstorms).

I am always happy to look at a site prior to booking the event to be sure it is suitable for both of us.

Thank you.