

Sent: Friday, August 26, 2011 10:19 PM
Subject: Postcard 2011-08-26

Last night we ate penne pasta with fresh mozzarella, basil and cherry tomatoes marinated in olive oil with garlic and red pepper flakes. Sheila makes it and we always carry it with us on the first day to eliminate at least one night of restaurant angst. Unfortunately, there's no room left in our cooler for any chocolate decadence so, after supper, one of us wanted dessert and went to the vending machine in our Hampton Inn. I'm not saying what she picked but its initials are M and M.

So you know those spirally widgets that push out the goodies. Naturally the package hung up and wouldn't fall. Machine weighed 7 tons and wouldn't shake. So we went to the desk for help because we weren't going to throw another buck into the game. The clerk wasn't going to throw a buck in either. He apologized but it wasn't Hampton's machine and the hotel would be out a dollar. Couldn't believe it. Still can't believe it. Hotel would be out a buck. Mumble, mumble, cuss words...

Hey, today we went to Chimney Rock! No, not that one in New Mexico again! This one, in Colorado!



But in order to get there we had to make a 50 mile construction detour that took us through Rocky Ford on US-50. Rocky Ford is renowned for its cantaloupes so we stopped at an outside market and picked one up to have with lunch.



(Note the sign on the tree)



I enjoyed it all.



Then we drove part way up, hiked the rest of the way, and endured 2 hours of archeology from our guide.



Before we started down it began to rain. And also some lady with her new titanium knee fell trying to navigate the rocks. They hauled her down to the visitors cabin. Not for treatment, but to fill out the accident report. The Chimney Rock concession is probably managed by Hampton's.

We made her an ice pack from the ice in our cooler.

That's all.

D&S