



nileGUIDE

ALL YOU NEED TO PLAN YOUR PERFECT TRIP



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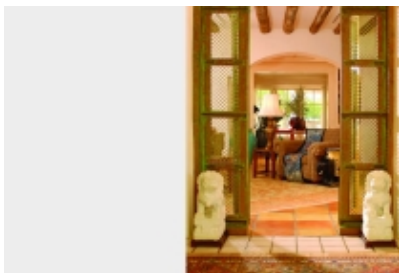
Best things to do in Santa Fe

Santa Fe, 3 Days

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Guide Description









AUTHOR NOTE: Start the day in Santa Fe with a traditional breakfast. That can be as basic as enchiladas and eggs at Tia Sophia's to something more imaginative with chile at Café Pasqual's. The place to start exploring the town is the Plaza. This can easily take all day but let's say it's a morning's worth. Wandering around the several square blocks radiating from the Plaza reveals some of the city's history as well as some of what it has to offer visitors. A stroll along the portal at the Palace of the Governors where Native American artists sell their work most every day of the year is a good place to find authentic Indian craft. The Palace is the oldest public building in the country and is now a history museum, which is worth a visit for some context in understanding how Santa Fe developed. Other museums downtown are the New Mexico Museum of Art, across the street from the Palace, the Georgia O'Keeffe Museum, and the Institute of American Indian Art, dedicated to contemporary Native art. Other downtown area highlights include the Loretto Chapel, the Basilica and Cathedral of St. Francis of Assis, and the San Miguel Mission. Shopping is key and it would take days to find what's hidden in every nook and cranny around the Plaza. The only challenge to lunch downtown is coming to a decision. A couple of favorites are the buffet in the Fiesta lounge or the beautiful space in La Plazuela, both at La Fonda; The Shed for real regional food; San Francisco Street Bar & Grill for soups, salads, and sandwiches, or something more upscale at Il Piato or the restaurant at Inn of the Anasazi.

Itinerary Overview

things to do
restaurants
hotels
nightlife




Day 1 - Santa Fe

DAY NOTE: Santa Fe is the third largest art market in the country with something for every taste and budget. A visit to the Project Tibet center at 403 Canyon includes art and social consciousness as this center for Tibetan culture holds a small gallery and is set next to a wondrous garden of wind sculptures. The Farrell Fischhoff gallery offers contemporary art and sculptures.

	Plaza Cafe (The) Popular Hang Out
	Georgia O'Keeffe Museum Modern Art Museum
	O'Keeffe Cafe Local-Style Dining
	Farrell Fischhoff Gallery Sense & Sensibility
	Santa Fe Opera Bravo! Encore!
	The Inn On The Alameda Spanish Colonial-Style Lodging

Day 2 - Santa Fe




DAY NOTE: The Santa Fe School of Cooking is a must-do for visitors. Guests enjoy learning to create traditional New Mexican, Native American, Mexican, Spanish, vegetarian and contemporary Southwestern entrees. The classes conclude with a hearty lunch full of class creations.

	Nidah Spa at Eldorado Hotel Well-appointed spa in the Eldorado Hotel.
	Santa Fe School of Cooking Learn From The Best
	St. Francis Cathedral Historic Landmark

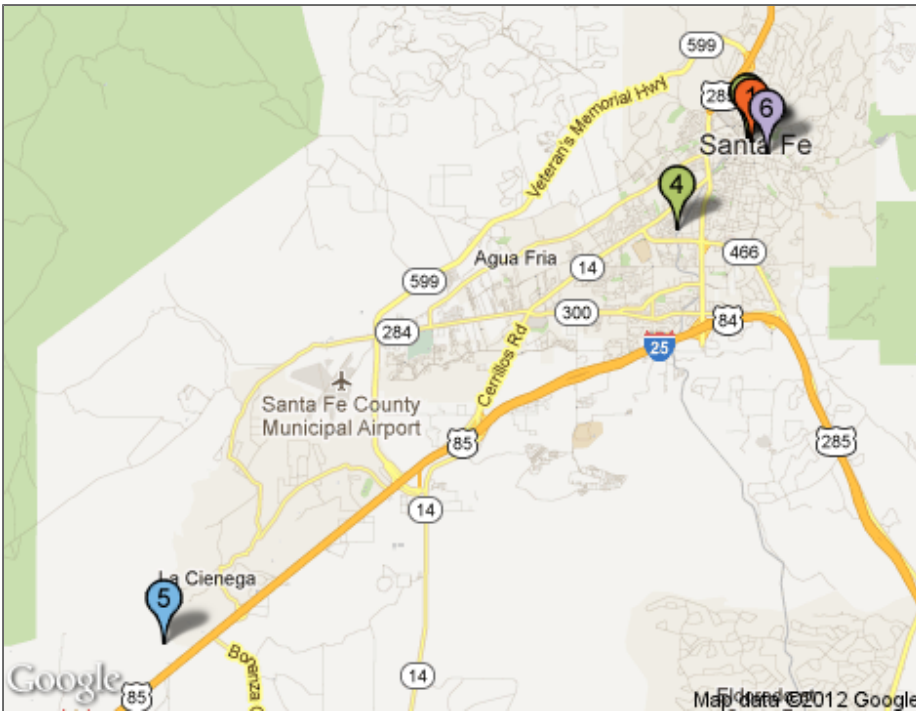
	Cafe Pasqual's Traditional Mexican cuisine
	Catamount Bar & Grille Breakfast Served All Day & Night!

Day 3 - Santa Fe

DAY NOTE: If outdoor time is required, the Santa Fe National Forest offers most everything to do within its 1.5 million acres. The boundary is just 7 miles from the Plaza and there are local outfitters for hiking, mountain biking, white water rafting, llama trekking, fly fishing, birding, and other seasonal activities.

	Coyote Cafe Southwestern Gourmet Dining
	Borrego/Bear Wallow Trail This pleasant four mile hike traverses some beautiful streams and aspen/conifer forests of the Sangre de Cristo mountains not far from Santa Fe.
	The Shed Reviews Rave About The Shed!

Day 1 - Santa Fe



QUICK NOTE

DAY NOTE: Santa Fe is the third largest art market in the country with something for every taste and budget. A visit to the Project Tibet center at 403 Canyon includes art and social consciousness as this center for Tibetan culture holds a small gallery and is set next to a wondrous garden of wind sculptures. The Farrell Fischhoff gallery offers contemporary art and sculptures.

contact:

tel: +1 505 982 1664

fax: +1 505 982 8791

<http://www.thefamousplazacafe.com/>

location:

54 Lincoln Avenue
Santa Fe NM 87501

hours:

Daily 7a-9p; Summer: M-Th
7a-9p F, Sa 7a-10p

1 Plaza Cafe (The)

DESCRIPTION: Santa Fe's best example of diner-style eating, this cafe has excellent food in a bright and friendly atmosphere right on the plaza. A restaurant since the turn of the 20th century, it's been owned by the Razatos family since 1947. The decor has changed only enough to stay comfortable and clean, with red upholstered banquettes, Art Deco tile, and a soda fountain-style service counter. Service is always quick and conscientious, and only during the heavy tourist seasons will you have to wait long for a table. Breakfasts are excellent and large, and the hamburgers and sandwiches at lunch and dinner are good. I also like the soups and New Mexican dishes, such as the bowl of green-chile stew, or, if you're more adventurous, the pumpkin posole. Check out the Greek dishes, such as vegetable moussaka or beef and lamb gyros. Wash it down with an Italian soda, in flavors from vanilla to Amaretto. Alternatively, you can have a shake, a piece of coconut cream pie, or Plaza Cafe's signature dessert, cajeta (apple and pecan pie with Mexican caramel). Beer and wine are available. © Frommer's



contact:

tel: 505 946 1000
fax: 505 946 1091
<http://www.okeeffemuseum.org>

location:

217 Johnson St
Santa Fe NM 87501

hours:

M-Th & Sa-Su 10a-5p, F
10a-8p

2 Georgia O'Keeffe Museum

DESCRIPTION: The Georgia O'Keeffe Museum, inaugurated in July 1997, contains the largest collection of O'Keeffes in the world: currently 1,149 paintings, drawings, and sculptures, and 1,851 works by other artists of note. It's the largest museum in the United States dedicated solely to an internationally known woman artist. You can see such remarkable O'Keeffes as Jimson Weed, painted in 1932, and Evening Star No. VI, from 1917. The museum presents special exhibitions that are either devoted entirely to O'Keeffe's work or combine examples of her art with works by her American modernist contemporaries. My favorite in recent years brought together works of O'Keeffe and photographer Ansel Adams. The rich and varied collection adorns the walls of a cathedral-like, 13,000-square-foot space -- a former Baptist church with adobe walls. O'Keeffe's images are tied inextricably to local desert landscapes. She first visited New Mexico in 1929 and returned for extended periods from the '20s through the '40s. In 1949 she moved here permanently. An excellent film at the museum depicts her life. © Frommer's



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contact:

tel: 5059862008
fax: +1 505 992 1067
www.okeeffecafe.com

location:

217 Johnson Street
Santa Fe NM 87501

hours:

Lunch: Monday - Friday:
11:30am - 2:30pm; Dinner:
Sunday - Saturday: 5:00pm -
8:30pm; Brunch: Saturday -
Sunday: 11:30am - 2:30pm

3 O'Keeffe Cafe

DESCRIPTION: Following Georgia O'Keeffe's appreciation for sparse interiors, this restaurant has refined minimalist decor, with much more elaborate food. It's a place of clean lines and innovative color use. Large black-and-white photographs of O'Keeffe stirring stew and serving tea adorn the walls. This is a good place to stop in between museums or, in the warm months, to sit on the open patio and watch the summer scene pass by. The food is excellent, but for a nice dinner (in winter), the atmosphere lags behind that of places in a similar price range, such as Santacafé and Geronimo. The menu is eclectic, with a good balance of chicken, lamb, fish, and vegetarian dishes, some in salad and sandwich form (at lunch), along with more elaborate entree offerings. Most recently for lunch I had the crab cakes with chipotle aioli. Dinner might start with a crispy shrimp and watercress salad and move onto fennel-crusted halibut with Parisienne potatoes. Finish with a coconut crème brûlée. There's also a children's menu. The restaurant has a notable wine list and offers periodic wine tasting menus. © Frommer's



wcities

contact:

tel: 505 995 0620
fax: 505 955 8487
<http://www.farrellfischhoff.com>

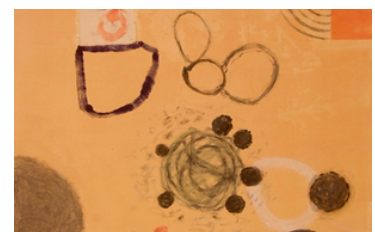
location:

1807 Second Street #29
Santa Fe NM 87505

hours:

4 Farrell Fischhoff Gallery

DESCRIPTION: The Farrell Fischhoff gallery will interest all art aficionados. From contemporary art, to sculptures and paintings, to watercolors and mixed media, this gallery features the eclectic work of emerging artists. Works of modern artists are displayed as well. The hours of this small gallery are by appointment only, so call ahead if you'd like a viewing. © wcities.com



Farrell Fischhoff Gallery

9a-5p Tu-Sa

contact:

tel: 505 986 5900 / 505 986 5955

fax: 505 986 5999

<http://www.santafeopera.org/>

location:

The Santa Fe Opera
Santa Fe NM 87506

hours:

9a-5p M-F

5 Santa Fe Opera

DESCRIPTION: Many rank the Santa Fe Opera second only to the Metropolitan Opera of New York in the United States. Established in 1957, it consistently attracts famed conductors, directors, and singers. At the height of the season, the company is 500 strong. It's noted for its performances of the classics, little-known works by classical European composers, and American premieres of 21st-century works. The theater, completed for the 1998 season, sits on a wooded hilltop 7 miles north of the city, off US 84/285. It's partially open-air, with open sides. A controversial structure, this new theater replaced the original, built in 1968, but preserved the sweeping curves attuned to the contour of the surrounding terrain. At night, the lights of Los Alamos can still be seen in the distance under clear skies. The 8-week, 40-performance opera season runs from late June through late August. Highlights for 2009 include the world premiere of *The Letter*, composed by Paul Moravec, the first performance at the Santa Fe Opera of Gluck's *Alceste*, and new productions of Verdi's *La Traviata* and Donizetti's *The Elixir of Love*. All performances begin at 9pm, until the end of July when performances start at 8:30pm and the last week of the season when performances begin at 8pm. A small screen in front of each seat shows the libretto during the performance. A gift shop has been added, as has additional parking. The entire theater is wheelchair accessible. © Frommer's



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contact:

tel: +1 505 984 2121 / +1 888 984 2121 (Toll Free)

fax: +1 505 986 8325

<http://www.innonthealameda.com/>

location:

303 East Alameda Street
Santa Fe NM 87501

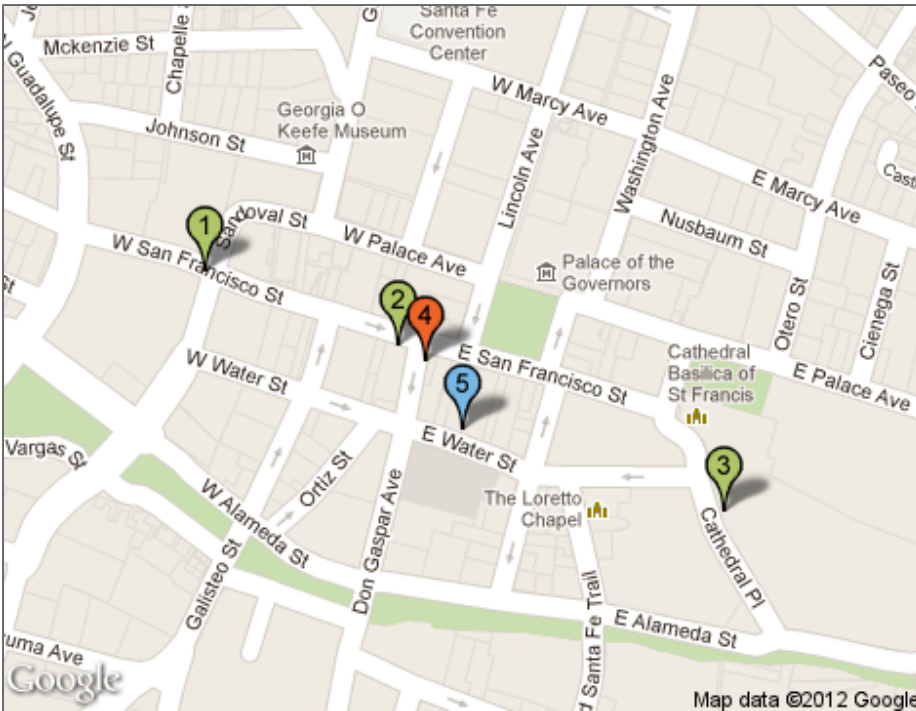
6 The Inn On The Alameda

DESCRIPTION: Just across the street from the bosque-shaded Santa Fe River sits the Inn on the Alameda, a cozy stop for those who like the services of a hotel with the intimacy of an inn. Built in 1986, with additions over the years, it's now a little like a village, with a number of buildings and casitas. All are pueblo-style adobe, ranging in age, but most were built in the late 1980s. The owner, Joe Schepps, appreciates traditional Southwestern style; he's used red brick in the dining area and Mexican equipae (wicker) furniture in the lobby, as well as thick vigas and shiny latillas in a sitting area set around a grand fireplace. The rooms follow a similar good taste, some with refrigerators, CD players, safes, and kiva fireplaces. All rooms have comfortable beds, good linens, robes, and well planned bathrooms with tile. The trees surrounding the inn -- cottonwoods and aspens -- add a bit of a rural feel to the property. If you're an art shopper, this is an ideal spot because it's a quick walk to Canyon Road. A full-service bar is open nightly. Breakfast is delicious, with bakery items and always a hot dish. © Frommer's



Hotels.com

Day 2 - Santa Fe



QUICK NOTE

DAY NOTE: The Santa Fe School of Cooking is a must-do for visitors. Guests enjoy learning to create traditional New Mexican, Native American, Mexican, Spanish, vegetarian and contemporary Southwestern entrees. The classes conclude with a hearty lunch full of class creations.

contact:

tel: +1 505 995 4535

fax: +1 505 995 4577

<http://www.eldoradohotel.com/spa/index.htm>

location:

309 West San Francisco
Santa Fe NM 87501

1 Nidah Spa at Eldorado Hotel

DESCRIPTION: Nidah means 'your life' in native American. Located at the Eldorado Hotel, the spa offers treatments which are connected to the native American Medicine Wheel. The directions north, south, west and center mean restoration, vitality, purification and harmony respectively. Fresh plants and herbs (aloe, desert clay, juniper and blue corn) found in New Mexico are sourced for each of the treatments as also are semi-precious stones like turquoise, which have healing properties for the mind and body. The spa offers a Vichy shower, salon services, caviar manicure and pedicure, salt scrubs, massages, body wraps, facials, and head to toe treatments. Appointments are recommended. © wcities.com



contact:
tel: 505 983 4511
<http://www.santafeschoolofcooking.com>

location:
116 West San Francisco Street
Santa Fe NM 87501

hours:
10a-5p daily by appt.

2 Santa Fe School of Cooking

DESCRIPTION: Offering culinary tours of Santa Fe and the surrounding area, the Santa Fe School of Cooking has earned national awards for its light-hearted approach to cooking instruction. The Farmers Market class is a day trip to the Santa Fe Farmers Market, where you learn to select the best produce. Then, back at class you will be shown award-winning methods for preparing a mouth-watering salsa. The school also offers a six-day tour of Northern New Mexico's villages and traditional cooking. © wcities.com



contact:
tel: 505 982 5619
fax: +1 505 989 1952
<http://www.cbsfa.org/>

location:
131 Cathedral Pl
Santa Fe NM 87501

hours:
M-Sa 6a-6p; Su 7a-7p

3 St. Francis Cathedral

DESCRIPTION: Just east of the Santa Fe Plaza lies one of North America's oldest Catholic churches: Cathedral Basilica of St. Francis of Assisi. The basilica dates back to 1598 when Franciscan friars entered what is now New Mexico in the company of Spanish colonists from Mexico City. Archbishop Lamy commissioned this French Romanesque cathedral in 1869, and it took more than 15 years to complete. It is still maintained by the archdiocese of Santa Fe. This long-standing landmark houses many religious relics including the chalice used by Lamy and the oldest Madonna in the United States. Daily masses are held in the Cathedral and the public is welcome for tours and prayer. Outside the huge front doors is Our Lady of Conquistadora, the oldest representation of the Virgin Mary in the United States. Admission is free. © NileGuide



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contact:
tel: +1 505 983 9340 / +1 800 722 7672
fax: +1 505 988 4645
<http://www.pasquals.com>

location:
121 Don Gaspar Avenue
Santa Fe NM 87501

hours:
Daily 7a-9p

4 Cafe Pasqual's

DESCRIPTION: For a taste of the flavors and atmosphere of a Mexican Cafe, this is a fantastic place to eat. Do not let the lines out front deter you. They are an indication of the special treat that awaits you inside. This award-winning cafe serves breakfast, lunch, dinner and Sunday brunch. For breakfast the Fresh Char-grilled Trout or Huevos Rancheros are delicious. A lunchtime favorite is the Grilled Salmon Burrito. The dinner menu includes entrees like Niman Ranch Filet Mignon, Chile Rubbed Salmon Filet and a wonderful combination plate. © wcities.com



wcities

contact:

tel: 505 988 7222

<http://www.theatomicgrill.com/>

location:

103 East Water Street
Santa Fe NM 87501

hours:

M-Sa 11a-2a; Su 1p-mid



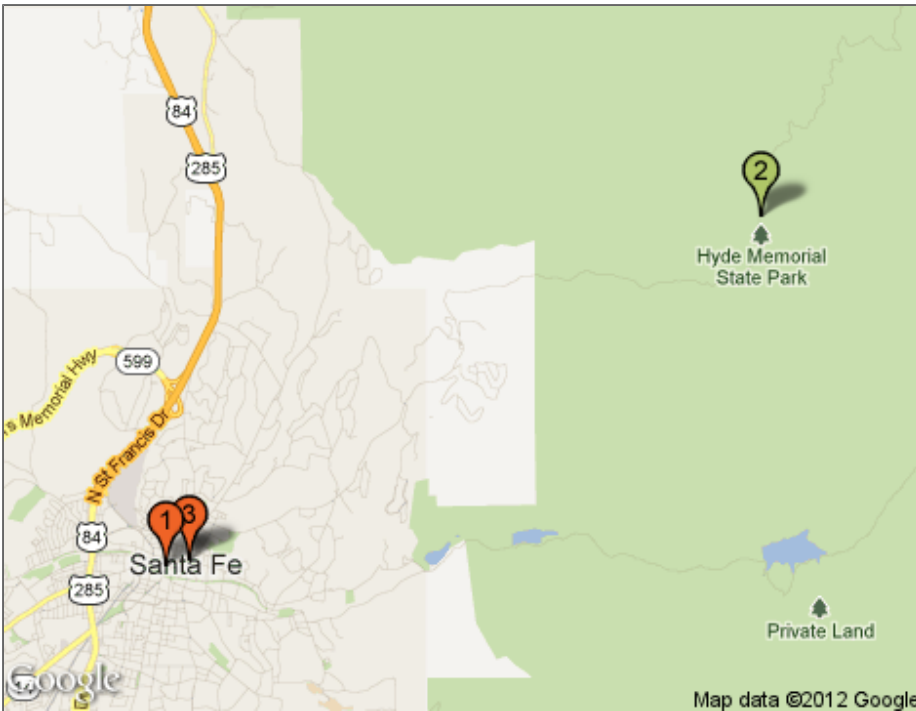
Catamount Bar & Grille

DESCRIPTION: The post-college crowd hangs out at this bar, where live rock and blues music play on weekends. Food is served until 11pm, and there is also a billiards room. © Frommer's



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Day 3 - Santa Fe



QUICK NOTE

DAY NOTE: If outdoor time is required, the Santa Fe National Forest offers most everything to do within its 1.5 million acres. The boundary is just 7 miles from the Plaza and there are local outfitters for hiking, mountain biking, white water rafting, llama trekking, fly fishing, birding, and other seasonal activities.

contact:

tel: 505 983 1615
fax: 505 989 9026
coyotecafe.com

location:

132 West Water Street
Santa Fe NM 87501

hours:

Rooftop Cantina daily
11:30am-9:30pm. Dining
room daily 5:30-10pm

1 Coyote Cafe

DESCRIPTION: World-renowned chef and cookbook author Mark Miller put this place on the map decades ago. Now under new ownership, it has gained new popularity as a place for innovative food in a festive environment. The atmosphere blends warm colors and creative lighting to make for a memorable meal. The waitstaff is efficient and friendly. The menu changes seasonally, so the specific dishes I mention may not be available. Past favorites have included sautéed Italian porcini or prawns over corn cakes with chipotle butter and guacamole. For a main course look for delights such as pan seared white miso halibut with roasted lobster jus, wasabi mashed potatoes, and braised baby bok choy, or the "Cowboy Cut," a rib-eye with "borracho" beans, red chile onion rings, and roasted fingerling potatoes. You can order drinks from the full bar or wine by the glass. Coyote Café has an adjunct establishment. In summer, the place to be seen is **La Nueva Cantina**, where light Mexican fare and cocktails are served on a festively painted terrace. Try the guacamole and chips, the crispy calamari strips, or the jalapeno rellenos with buttermilk roasted garlic sauce. © Frommer's



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contact:

tel: 505-983-7175

http://www.santafe.org/Visiting_Santa_Fe/Things_to_Do/Hiking/

location:

740 Hyde Park Road
Santa Fe NM 87501

2 Borrego/Bear Wallow Trail

DESCRIPTION: Over the course of this trail, there is an 800 ft elevation change of mostly vertical relief. In fall, the aspen trees are awash with gold, making this trail a stupendous way to revel in autumn's glory. The length of this hike can be extended by taking one of a myriad of trails intersecting with it.



Borrego/Bear Wallow Trail

contact:

tel: +1 505 982 9030

<http://www.sfshed.com>

location:

113 & 1/2 East Palace
Avenue
Santa Fe NM 87501

hours:

Daily 11a-9p

3 The Shed

DESCRIPTION: This longtime locals' favorite is so popular that during lunch lines often form outside. Half a block east of the plaza, a luncheon institution since 1953, it occupies several rooms and the patio of a rambling hacienda that was built in 1692. Festive folk art adorns the doorways and walls. The food is delicious, some of the best in the state, and a compliment to traditional Hispanic and Pueblo cooking. The red chile cheese enchilada is renowned in Santa Fe. Tacos and burritos are good, too. The green-chile stew is a local favorite. The Shed's Joshua Carswell has added vegetarian and low-fat Mexican foods to the menu, as well as a variety of soups and salads and grilled chicken and steak. Don't leave without trying the mocha cake, possibly the best dessert you'll ever eat. In addition to wine and a number of beers, there's full bar service. The cantina style bar is a fun place to schmooze, and the brick patio is well shaded. © Frommer's



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Santa Fe Snapshot

Local Info

Whether it's snow blanketing sensual adobe walls, spring flowers painting the historic Plaza a kaleidoscope of color, fiestas lasting long into warm summer nights or golden aspens coating the surrounding Sangre de Cristo Mountains, Santa Fe is a city for every season. Lovingly called the City Different, Santa Fe offers a weaving of history stretching from pre-Columbian contact to the nuclear age, and a beauty that draws visitors from all over the world.

La Villa Real de Santa Fe- the Royal Town of Santa Fe- was established by Spanish governor Don Pedro de Peralta in 1608, making the city the oldest continuous capital in what is now the United States. The site at the foothills of the Sangre de Cristo Mountains was once home to an Indian Pueblo that had since been abandoned. Humble adobe buildings were built around a central plaza that is still the focus of the city today. One of those buildings, the Palace of the Governors, served as the capitol building for Spanish, Mexican and Territorial U.S. governors. Gov. Lew Wallace wrote his epic book Ben Hur while serving here.

One of the best ways to get to know Santa Fe is to visit the city's museums. Today, the Palace of the Governors is a museum(505-476-5100) and displays more than 15,000 artifacts from the Spanish colonial(1540-1821), Mexican(1821-1846) and U.S. Territorial(1846-1912) periods of New Mexico's history. Weapons, armor, documents, clothing, furniture and items of daily life from the Spanish through U.S. statehood in 1912 are proudly displayed. In fact, the museum itself is an archaeological site, with on-going excavations being conducted before a new annex is to be built. Items ranging from Pueblo pottery sherds to china dinnerware are being uncovered, attesting to the cultural and historic mix upon which Santa Fe is literally built. To think that just down the street is where scientists working on the top secret Manhattan Project at Los Alamos during World War II would report for duty can be heady for history buffs.

After learning a bit about New Mexico's founding history, visit the New Mexico Museum of Fine Art(505-476-5072), where the works of early Santa Fe masters underscore how the city earned

its international reputation as a haven for art. In the 1920s, luminaries such as John Sloan, Andrew Dasburg and Russell Cheney trickled into Santa Fe based on word of mouth. The living was easy and the light spectacular. Georgia O'Keeffe is honored with her own museum(505-946-1000) that features her bold and redefining work. On Museum Hill, the Museum of Indian Arts & Culture(505-476-1250) highlights contemporary Native American art such as that of R.C. Gorman, and the Museum of International Folk Art(505-476-1200) features just that, amazing folk art from around the world, including the donated collection of Alexander Girard. An entire room is dedicated to his thousands of clay figurines that depict Pueblo dances complete with camera-wielding tourists, Mexican Day of the Dead celebrations and a scene of Heaven and Hell where even the devils look cheery. The nearby Wheelwright Museum of the American Indian(505-982-4636) and the Museum of Spanish Colonial Art(505-982-2226) display pieces from New Mexico's Native American and Spanish history. Don't miss the Governor's Gallery on the Fourth Floor of the current state capitol, where contemporary artists from across New Mexico are featured. The internationally acclaimed Santa Fe Opera(505-986-5900) and 1930s ornate Lensic Theater(505-988-1234) are just a few of the venues where the performing arts shine.

Does seeing all of this art and history make you want to take some home? Santa Fe is world renowned for its shopping. From pieces of hand-made Native American turquoise jewelry purchased directly from the artist under the Palace of the Governor's portal to exquisite sculptures and paintings found along Canyon Road, beautiful things abound in the City Different. Shops surrounding the Plaza sell Native American pottery and jewelry, fashionable Southwestern-style clothing, books and gifts. Make sure to explore the side streets beyond the Plaza, as many shops filled with treasures are tucked away waiting to be discovered. Galleries line narrow Canyon Road, perhaps the oldest street still in use in the country. The road follows a 13th-century Indian trail leading from the pueblo that Santa Fe was built upon

to the mountains. The Spanish named it El Camino del Cañon- Canyon Road- and began building along it. Firewood was brought from the mountains to Santa Fe via this route. In the 1920s, artists began moving into the small, then-inexpensive houses, and the road's artistic heritage continues today. Gallery after gallery, many in historic buildings, offers some of the best artwork found in America, and has certainly helped Santa Fe solidify its place as the third largest art market in the country. One of the best things serious shoppers can do for themselves in Santa Fe is to bring a good pair of walking shoes.

If all of this walking and shopping makes you hungry, that's not a problem. Santa Fe boasts many romantic restaurants that constantly garner international praise for their exciting blending of tastes from around the world. Almost always at the center of these creations is New Mexico chile. Many of the chefs have written their own cookbooks so you can try their art at home. From lavish gourmet feasts to a quick handheld breakfast burrito, Santa Fe can easily accommodate whatever craving you may have.

Of course an entire trip can be spent discovering the made-made beauty of Santa Fe, but its surrounding natural beauty is also well worth exploring. At 7,000 feet, Santa Fe is cradled by aspen-covered mountains that provide a cool respite in the summer. In the fall, the mountains turn a blaze of yellows and reds, providing a striking backdrop for the city against the almost always brilliant blue sky. You can drive into this display by following Hyde Park-Ski Basin Road. Come winter Santa Fe offers some of the most rewarding skiing, snowboarding, snow shoeing and cross-country skiing in the nation. Near the end of Canyon Road is the trailhead for the new Dale Bale trail system. Winsor Trail has been called one of the best mountain biking trails in the nation. Anglers, rafters and kayakers enjoy a watery playground on the nearby Río Grande. Santa Fe has several shops that specialize in hiking, biking, skiing, fishing and all other forms of outdoor recreation. These shops are a great place to visit for tips on where to go.

After all of this exploring, treat yourself to any one of Santa Fe's world-class spas, especially if you've never been to one.

Santa Fe Snapshot continued

Luxuriate with any number of massages and treatments, from classic Swedish to Southwestern hot rock treatments. Reflexology, scalp and the latest in spa techniques are also easily found. If it's one thing Santa Fe knows how to do, it's how to melt away stress.

Educated, exercised, well fed and relaxed, the only thing left to do is to get a good night's rest so you can do it all again tomorrow. Santa Fe has a number of attentive hotels to choose from, as well

as quaint beds and breakfasts, many in historic homes. In Santa Fe, it's never hard to rest easy.

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