



Santa Fe & Vicinity

INTRODUCTION BY JOHN O'HERN

or years friends would say "You have to go to Santa Fe. You'll love it." My response was always "Who the hell wants to go to Santa Fe?" When an artist friend invited me to visit him and his family there. I took advantage of the opportunity. I was in love with the landscape before I'd left the airport. There are many reasons why New Mexico is called the "Land of Enchantment." For me it has been the "Land of Entrapment" since I've lived here for 16 years in a small adobe casita that was converted from an old goat shed. Heaven.

Creative people of all sorts live here. Visual artists carry on the traditions of generations of Native Americans, Mexicans and European Americans, and others break into new frontiers. Writers, musicians, movie stars, moguls and young people just starting out all contribute to the creative mix.

We have over 250 art galleries that show the traditional arts of the Southwest as well as galleries that show work recognized internationally. Blue Rain Gallery and Evoke Contemporary in the Railyard District show regional and international work from



paintings and sculpture to glass. NüArt Gallery on Canyon Road introduces international artists to the local market and features some of Santa Fe's finest. Just down the street, Zaplin Lampert Gallery shows the early work of the Taos Society of Artists and the Santa Fe Art Colony, as well as American paintings of the 19th and early 20th centuries. Downtown near the historic Santa Fe Plaza, Hecho Gallery features art from New Mexico and Oaxaca that is "at the intersection of innovation and tradition." Not far away is Niman Fine Art, showing the work of Dan Namingha and his sons Arlo and Michael, descendants of the great Hopi-Tewa potter Nampeyo, and each contributing to Santa Fe's creative art scene.

Between Hecho and Niman galleries are the New Mexico Museum of Art and the New Mexico History Museum. The Museum of Art will open its contemporary branch in the Railyard District later this year. Across the plaza and facing the historic Cathedral Basilica of St. Francis of Assisi is the IAIA Museum of Contemporary Native Arts. A few miles away is Museum Hill, home to several museums and across the street from the Santa Fe Botanical Garden.

Santa Fe is the oldest capital city in the U.S. The Palace of the Governors, facing the Plaza, was built in 1610 by order of the Spanish Crown and is the oldest public building in continuous use, constructed by European settlers in the continental United States. Native American artists sell their pottery, jewelry and weavings under the portal.

After seeing the sites, there's a wide variety of restaurants to choose from. I don't know when I last went to one that's part of a national chain. They run from traditional Northern New Mexico cuisine to restaurants with internationally recognized chefs. There are small venues like Dolina Bakery & Café whose proprietor is from Slovakia and Calfouti, operated by a couple from France. Many larger venues

Destination Santa Fe & Vicinity





have wonderful outdoor patios like SantaCafé, a short stroll from the plaza. La Fonda on the Plaza is the city's oldest hotel and occupies a site that has been occupied by hostelries since around 1610. Its courtyard has been enclosed with a glass skylight. The lobby, hallways and meeting rooms of the hotel are home to a growing collection of primarily Native American art.

You may not feel the earth move under your feet but the Sangre de Cristo mountains on the east are still growing from tectonic shifts and the volcanic activity that crated the Jemez Mountains to the west still warm hot springs not far from town.

Taos is about 70 miles away and reachable either along the Rio Grande through the Rio Grande Gorge or by the High Road to Taos. Driving up out of the gorge just outside Taos there is a spectacular view of the northern part of the gorge created not by the river, but by a still active geological rift. Dixon, along the river route and Truchas on the High Road are both centers of impressive artistic activity.

I have to agree with English novelist D.H. Lawrence who lived in Taos in the 1920s. "I think New Mexico was the greatest experience I ever had from the outside world. It certainly changed me forever."

72 Hours in Santa Fe

YOU CAN'T SEE IT ALL **BUT YOU CAN TRY...**

After breakfast at a local favorite

Dolina Bakery & Cafe, get acquainted with downtown Santa Fe on a guided tram or walking tour to get a great overview of the city's history, culture and architecture.

Then doing some exploring on your own—the Georgia O'Keeffe Museum is a good place to start. It's small and easily seen within an hour, showcasing the works of the country's most famous female artist. Then take your pick of other downtown museums, like the New Mexico Museum of Art which features work by historic and contemporary Southwest artists. Nearby is the New Mexico History Museum, which includes the Palace of the Governors, and the IAIA Museum of Contemporary Native Arts, home to the most progressive work of contemporary Native artists.

It's no wonder that Santa Fe has been ranked among the 10 best cities in the

world for art lovers. Before heading out, start with a hearty breakfast at diner-style landmark Tia Sophia's. Then head out for

Canyon Road, a half-mile-long stretch packed with galleries and boutiques. You'll find contemporary and traditional works by some of the best artists working today in every genre you can think of.

When it's time for lunch, you'll find several restaurants

on Canyon Road amid all the art such as The Teahouse. Or make the short drive up to Museum Hill, where there is not only a great cafe with extraordinary views, but four worldclass museums and a botanical garden.

Then relax over a delicious dinner in one of Santa

Fe's acclaimed restaurants such as the intimate La Boca. followed by some live music, a Flamenco performance or Meow Wolf's House of Eternal Return which certainly adds credibility to Santa Fe's moniker, "The City Different."

It's time to check out the eclectic and vibrant Railyard District, home

to contemporary galleries, art spaces and parks. You'll find SITE Santa Fe, a contemporary art museum that

hosts exciting exhibits and on select days, the Santa Fe Farmers' Market, open on Tuesdays and Saturdays from early morning to noon.

Finish up your afternoon in the downtown Santa Fe Plaza,

where you'll find more galleries devoted to Native American art as well as contemporary and traditional arts of the Southwest. At the Native American Artisans Portal Program, you can meet the artists behind an ever-changing array of handcrafted items including pottery, textiles and jewelry.

Close out the day catching one of Santa Fe's spectacular

sunsets from the top of the Cross of the Martyrs, an outdoor park on the northeast side of Paseo de Peralta. Then head out to enjoy the creative local fare at Sazón, where the food itself can be a work of art.





SORREL SKY **GALLERY**

125 W. Palace Avenue Santa Fe. NM 87501 (505) 501-6555 info@sorrelsky.com www.sorrelsky.com

The team at Sorrel Sky Gallery believes art matters, and that surrounding ourselves with beautiful things or giving them to others promotes positive feelings and emotions.

Featuring contemporary and traditional Western and Native American fine art, jewelry, photography, sculpture and more, Sorrel Sky makes finding those beautiful objects a joyful experience.

In addition to representing acclaimed artists such as Kevin Red Star, David Yarrow, Star Liana York and former U.S. Senator Ben Nighthorse, Sorrel Sky welcomed several new artists this past year. Among these are Michael Blessing, Keith Huey, Russ Ball and Tom Gilleon, whose renowned luminescent style and authentic portrayal of Northern Plains tribes have made him one of the most sought-after artists amongst contemporary Western art collectors. With its focus on beauty and lasting connections between artists and art lovers, Sorrel Sky is one of the must-see galleries in historic downtown Santa Fe.



Sorrel Sky Gallery, Pegasus, acrylic and oil on canvas, 60 x 46", by Russ Ball.

Sorrel Sky Gallery exterior view.

Sorrel Sky Gallery, Skull Society, oil on canvas, 32 x 24", by Tom Gilleon.





TOURISM SANTA FE

Santa Fe Community Convention Center 201 W. Marcy Street Santa Fe. NM 87501 (800) 777-2489 www.santafe.org

"The City Different" boasts a colorful art scene that is as diverse as it is captivating. The streets are lined with countless galleries and art studios that showcase the works of local and international artists alike. As you immerse yourself in the art of Santa Fe, you are transported to a world beyond the ordinary-a place where art and imagination converge, creating a world of breathtaking beauty and ethereal wonder.

The artists here are not afraid to push the boundaries of their work, experimenting with textures, shapes and materials to create pieces that are both visually stunning and thought-provoking. As you walk through one of the many galleries you'll be met with a rainbow of hues and a multitude of mediums. Here, every piece is one of a kind



and tells a tale of the land and the people who have called it home for centuries. The artists are masters of their craft, weaving together ancient traditions and modern sensibilities to create pieces that are both timeless and innovative.

Each piece of art tells a

unique story that transports you to a world of wonder. The art scene in Santa Fe offers something for everyone and provides a unique window into the cultural and artistic richness of the region. So come see for yourself all that the City Different has to offer.

- Two women admiring artwork at the GF Contemporary Gallery.
- A woman examining handwoven blankets at Shiprock Santa Fe.
- George Alexander talking about his painting at Ofuskie Studio.