

# TEXAS

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## EXPLORE SANTA FE THE CITY DIFFERENT

By Gabi De la Rosa

**S**anta Fe, New Mexico, Texas' closest neighbor to the west, is a hub of history, culture, art, food and breathtaking scenic views. The city embraces its history and has found a way to pair its historical roots with a modern lifestyle allowing visitors to explore both.

Just as it was hundreds of years ago, Santa Fe's downtown plaza is the heart of the city. Anchored on one side by a large church and on another by the Plaza of the Governors, visitors can buy handmade items from Native American artisans, visit museums and explore historic sites. Shopping is also a big part of the plaza experience where everything from high-end art and jewelry, to five and dime trinkets are available. Plan your visit around one of the many festivals that take place in a city where each season has a highlight; the International Folk Art Festival, Santa Fe Indian Market and ART Santa Fe to name a few.

You might have caught a glimpse of the large and flourishing art scene in the plaza, but Santa Fe has art in every nook and cranny of the city. Canyon Road, the third largest art market in the U.S., behind New York and Los Angeles, is a half-mile stretch of road located in the foothills of the Sangre de Cristo Mountains.

Fine art galleries, sculpture gardens, boutiques, and restaurants are a

small part of what there is to explore on this beautiful stretch of road.

Santa Fe is a foodie's paradise, especially if you have an affinity for red and green chilies. The peppers have historical and cultural significance in New Mexico and will pop up on every menu in every restaurant. If you don't want it for every meal, you will still eat well and often at many of the award-winning restaurants all over town.

Although Santa Fe is famous for its art and history, its scenic landscape might be its greatest treasure. No matter the season, there is always something to enjoy outdoors; snow skiing at Ski Santa Fe, hiking the Sangre de Cristo Mountains, fishing, golf and mountain biking, are just a sampling of what the outdoor enthusiast has to look forward to around the area.

The state boasts over 320 days of sunshine each year and, because of its high altitude, both the evenings and mornings are crisp and comfortable.

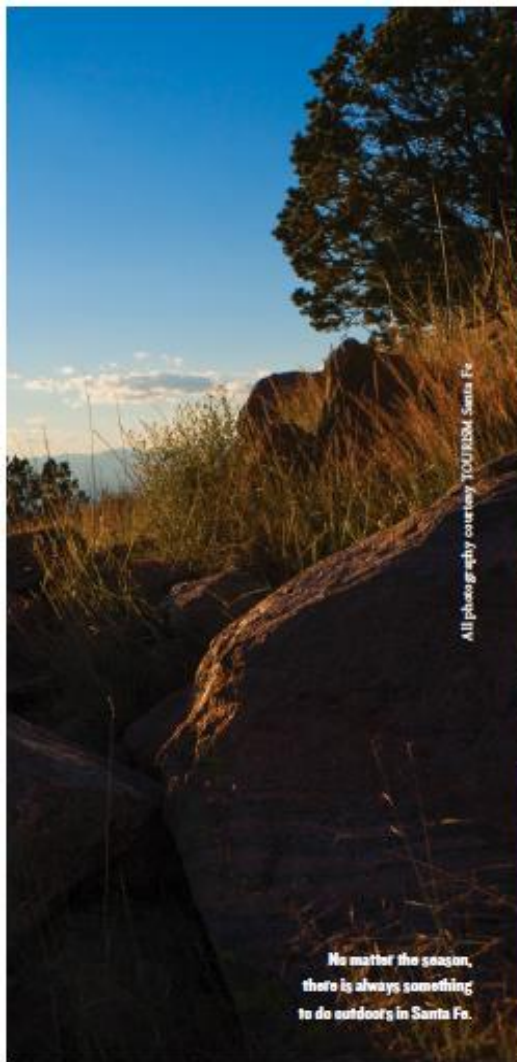
Santa Fe is a destination that caters to the sensibilities of different travelers and special interests: food, art, culture, history and more. As Texans, we are lucky that we are a road trip (or short plane ride) away from this cultural adventure.

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No matter the season,  
there is always something  
to do outdoors in Santa Fe.

Outdoor markets and  
festivals are one of  
Santa Fe's specialties.



Plan to spend a few hours  
at Santa Fe's #1 visitor  
attraction, Meow Wolf.



The **number one** visitor attraction in Santa Fe is Meow Wolf. The 33,000 square-foot immersive art exhibit has a permanent installation called "The House of Eternal Return" which features labyrinths, secret passages, interactive exhibits and even a magical cave system. Largely funded by George R. R. Martin of "Game of Thrones" fame, this one-of-a-kind art experience can't be missed.

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Treat yourself to shopping in  
Santa Fe's downtown plaza.

