

Welcome to Albuquerque!!

Martha and I would like to welcome you to our town, Albuquerque, and give you a few pointers for getting around, eating, and having fun here!

Bob & Martha Cummings



Weather – Albuquerque is blessed with about 300 days of sunshine per year. But the first thing you need to know is that in early March, it will probably be in the mid to upper 50s to mid 60s during the day (when sunny) and upper 20s to mid-30s at night. If it is cloudy, the temperature will only get into the 40s during the day. It is also the windy season (when Arizona tries to move to Texas through the air), so don't be surprised. If we have showers or a storm comes through, you might get a chance to see "raining mud!"

Clothing – It is always best to pack with layers for Albuquerque weather.

Rental Cars – Albuquerque is a big, sprawling city. Although not absolutely necessary, if you have one, it greatly expands your ability for good eats!

Santa Fe – The New Mexico state capitol is an easy 70 mile drive (75 mph speed limit) north of Albuquerque along I-25. If you have the time, it is a nice drive, giving you a feel of the expansiveness of the West. The Plaza is the center of tourism with the Cathedral worth seeing. For New Mexican food, try La Choza, 905 Alarid, Santa Fe, NM 87505 – (505) 982-0909.

Casinos – New Mexico is home to several (19) Pueblo tribes, a number of them in the Albuquerque area. The local Pueblos run casinos that are within easy drives:

- Sandia Resort and Casino – North on I-25 (about 11 miles) at Rt. 556 (Tramway Blvd.)
- Isleta Resort & Casino – South on I-25 (about 11 miles) at Rt. 47 South (Broadway Blvd.)
- Santa Ana Star Casino – North on I-25 (about 20 miles) at US-550 (exit 242) North, west of Bernalillo

Golf – Some of the prime golf courses are:

- Sandia Golf Club – see Sandia Resort and Casino above (505) 798-3990
- Santa Ana Golf Club – see Santa Ana Star Casino above (505) 867-9464
- Twin Warriors Golf Club – see Santa Ana Star Casino above (505) 771-6155
- Isleta Eagle – see Hard Rock Hotel and Casino above (505) 848-1900
- Championship Golf Course at the University of New Mexico – 3601 university Blvd. SE, Albuquerque – South on I-25 to Exit 221 (Sunport Blvd.) – (505) 246-4546

Shopping – Souvenirs abound in Old Town, but if you are looking for something in Jewelry or pottery, or just something fanciful:

- Candy Lady – Candy shop in Old Town with Breaking Bad candy and souvenirs
524 Romero St NW, Albuquerque
- Palms Trading Company – jewelry, art and pottery, near downtown Lomas at 15th St.
1504 Lomas Blvd NW, Albuquerque
- Gertrude Zachary – Look honey! Jewelry! (Martha Favorite)
1501 Lomas Blvd NW, Albuquerque, near downtown Lomas at 15th St.
3300 Central SE, Albuquerque, in the Nob Hill area

Also, there is the Uptown shopping area at I-40 East, Exit 162.



Restaurants

We've organized these into areas across the city, noting ones that are our favorites.

Food and Chile – Albuquerque has LOTS of great restaurants. Don't be confused by the term "New Mexican" – it is unique, it is not Tex-Mex, it is not California-Mex, it is a blend of three cultures: Spanish, Pueblo Indian, and Anglo. New Mexico also has an official State Question: "red or green?" which refers to what kind of chile (yes, that is the correct spelling) you want on your meal. A unique, often used answer is "Christmas" meaning both types. Despite many telling you that red or green are hotter, that really depends on the restaurant, chef, and the season (chile varies). **WARNING:** if you order a bowl of chile, it is probably NOT what you are used to getting!

Old Town Area

- Pueblo Harvest Café – in the Indian Pueblo Cultural Center (truly unique)
2401 12th St NW Albuquerque NM 87104
(505) 724-3510

- Season's Rotisserie & Grill
2031 Mountain Road NW, Albuquerque, NM 87104
(505) 766-5100
- Hacienda del Rio Restaurant & Bar – New Mexican
302 San Felipe St NW, Albuquerque, NM 87104
(505) 243-3131
- High Noon Restaurant & Saloon - Steak House
425 San Felipe St NW, Albuquerque, NM 87104
(505) 765-1455

Downtown Area

- Forque Kitchen & Bar in the Hyatt Hotel
330 Tijeras NW, Albuquerque, NM, USA, 87102
(505) 842-1234
- La Oja Restaurant in the Doubletree – New Mexican & California Coastal Cuisine
201 Marquette Avenue NW, Albuquerque, NM, 87102-2248
(505) 247-3344
- Tucano's Brazilian Grille
110 Central Ave. SW, Albuquerque, NM 87102
(505) 246-9900 – at corner of 1st and Central
- Lucia (Mediterranean) – in Hotel Andaluz
125 Second Street NW, Albuquerque (2 blocks from Hyatt)
(505) 242-9090 – reservation recommended
- Gold Street Café
218 Gold Ave SW Albuquerque
(505) 765-1633
- Slate Street Café
515 Slate Ave. NW Albuquerque
(505) 243-2210 – between 5th and 6th street, one block North of Lomas (longer walk)
- Villa di Capo Italian
722 Central Ave SW Albuquerque
(505) 242-2006 – Central at 8th SW (longer walk)

Special Outliers

All over the city, requires car but well worth going to:

- Frontier Restaurant – Bob & Martha's Favorite for breakfast – the BEST cinnamon rolls anywhere!, as featured on TV's "Man versus Food"
2400 Central Ave Se, Albuquerque (at Cornell, across from UNM)

- El Pinto (New Mexican) – A long drive up 4th St.
10500 4th St NW, Albuquerque
(505) 898-1771 – reservations recommended
- Sadie's (New Mexican)
6230 4th St NW, Albuquerque, and also in the Santa Ana Casino
(505) 345-5339 – reservations recommended
- Quarters (barbeque)
 - 801 Yale Blvd SE, Albuquerque
(505) 843-6949
 - 4516 Wyoming Blvd NE, Albuquerque
(505) 293-5818
- Prairie Star – Bob Favorite (near Santa Ana Casino)
Jemez Dam Rd, Bernalillo, NM
(505) 867-3327

Outer Downtown

On Central, just east of the railroad tracks:

- Standard Diner – featured on “Diners, Drive-ins and Dives with Guy Fieri” in 2009
320 Central Ave SE, Albuquerque
(505) 243-1440
- Artichoke Café – Bob Favorite
424 Central SE, Albuquerque
(505) 243-0200 – reservations recommended
- Farina Pizza – Martha Favorite
510 Central Ave SE, Albuquerque
(505) 243-0130

Uptown Area

In the “Uptown” shopping district (also known as Winrock area) – I-40 East to Exit 162 North (Louisiana Blvd.) – Many more restaurants than listed here, like Macaroni Grill, Genghis Mongolian Grill, and California Pizza Kitchen.

- Garduno's (New Mexican) – Bob Favorite
2100 Louisiana Blvd Ne, Albuquerque
(505) 880-0055 – reservations recommended
- BJ's Restaurant and Brewhouse
Winrock Loop NE, Albuquerque
(505) 872-8600 – no reservations available, but call-ahead seating is available
- Elephant Bar Restaurant
2240 Louisiana Blvd NE, Albuquerque
(505) 884-2355

- Bravo Cucina Italiana
2220 Louisiana Blvd Ne, Albuquerque
(505) 888-1111

I-25 Corridor

North on I-25 to Exit 229 (Jefferson Blvd.) – Many more restaurants than listed here, like, Landry's, Fuddruckers, Genghis Mongolian Grill, Texas Land and Cattle Steakhouse, and Mimi's Cafe

- Nick & Jimmy's – Bob Favorite
5021 Pan American West Freeway NE (frontage road), Albuquerque
(505) 344-9169 – reservations recommended
- Chama River Brewing Company (brewpub) – Bob Favorite
4939 Pan American Freeway NE (frontage road), Albuquerque
(505) 342-1800 – reservations recommended
- P.F. Chang's
4440 The 25 Way NE, The Shops at 25, Albuquerque
- Pappadeaux
5011 Pan American Freeway (frontage road) NE, Albuquerque
(505) 345-0240

Foothills

About 15-20 miles from downtown...easy driving:

- Savoy Bar & Grill – Bob Favorite
10601 Montgomery Blvd. NE, Albuquerque
(505) 294-9463 – reservations recommended
- El Patron (New Mexican)
10551 Montgomery Blvd NE, Albuquerque, NM 87111
(505) 275-0223
- Sandiago's (New Mexican) At the base of the Tram – spectacular night views of city
40 Tramway Road, Albuquerque
(505) 856-6692 – reservations recommended
- High Finance – At the TOP of the Tram (requires Tram ticket) – bring a coat!
40 Tramway Rd Ne, Albuquerque
(505) 243-9742 – reservations necessary

Old Town

- Seasons – Bob Favorite
2031 Mountain Rd NW, Albuquerque
(505) 766-5100 – reservations recommended
- St. Clair Winery and Bistro – Bob Favorite
901 Rio Grande Blvd. NW, Albuquerque (at Rio Grande Plaza)
(505) 243-9916
- High Noon Restaurant and Saloon
425 San Felipe St NW, Albuquerque
(505) 765-1455 – reservations recommended
- Antiquity Restaurant
112 Romero St NW, Albuquerque
(505) 247-3545 – reservations recommended

Nob Hill

Straight up Central past the University of New Mexico.

- Frontier Restaurant – Featured on the Food Channel's "Man versus Food"
2400 Central Ave SE, Albuquerque, NM 87106
Across Central from UNM – a great favorite with the University crowd
(Cinnamon Rolls to die for!)
(505) 266-0550
- Yanni's – Greek and Mediterranean – Bob Favorite
3109 Central Ave NE, Albuquerque
(505) 268-9250 – reservations recommended

- Kelly's Brew Pub – Bob Favorite for burgers
3222 Central Ave SE Ste A, Albuquerque
(505) 262-2739
- Nob Hill Bar & Grill – Bob Favorite for burgers
3128 Central Ave. SE Albuquerque
(505) 266-4455
- Flying Star – Bob Favorite
3416 Central Ave SE, Albuquerque
Walk-in, order at counter
- Scalo – Italian
3500 Central Ave SE, Albuquerque
(505) 255-8781 – reservations recommended
- Zinc
3009 Central Ave NE, Albuquerque
(505) 254-9462 – reservations recommended
- Monte Vista Fire House
3201 Central Ave NE, Albuquerque
(505) 255-2424 – reservations recommended

New Mexico's flag is symbol called the Zia.

