

Travel and Transportation Tips

Santa Fe, New Mexico

Take it easy. The high altitude in Santa Fe (7,000 feet above sea level) means the air is rarefied. It usually takes about **48 hours to adjust** to the thinner air.

Stay hydrated. Santa Fe is very dry, often with less than 20% humidity. Be sure to drink at least eight **8-ounce glasses of water** per day. Most restaurants serve water only by request, so speak up!

Watch your alcohol intake. One drink here is the equivalent of **three at sea level**.

Use sunscreen and wear a hat. Due to the high altitude, Santa Fe is close to the sun, and the sun shines 300 days of the year. Don't forget to protect yourself.

Check the weather. The climate in Santa Fe can change rapidly and often. Be sure to check current conditions before traveling, as monsoon rains can quickly cool down a hot day and bring unexpected floods and rapid humidity.

Make reservations. A reservation is always recommended for upscale restaurants. Busiest dining hours are from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Casual dress is acceptable in most restaurants.

Plan ahead for transportation between the airport and the hotel. Since the Santa Fe Municipal Airport is open only to private aircraft and American Eagle, which offers nonstop daily flights from Dallas and Los Angeles, many travel to the city via Albuquerque. The **Sandia Shuttle Service** operates service between the Eldorado Hotel and Albuquerque airport on an almost hourly schedule. To make reservations, call 888-775-5696 or 505-474-5696 or visit www.sandiashuttle.com. Alternatively, you can rent a car; more information is available online at www.cabq.gov/airport/car-rental. Additional transportation options and tips can be found online at www.santafe.org/Visiting_Santa_Fe/Plan_Your_Trip/Getting_To_and_Around_Santa_Fe.

Call a cab. Taxi services are available in Santa Fe through **Capital City Cab** (505-438-0000 or www.capitalcitycab.com).

Use public transport whenever possible. Most attractions are within walking distance of downtown hotels. If you want to go farther, the public bus system, **Santa Fe Trails**, serves the city with a variety of routes, including specially decorated buses to Museum Hill. For schedule and fare information, visit www.santafemn.gov/transit.

Drive with caution. Many streets in the downtown area are narrow with an abundance of foot traffic. Go slow! Furthermore, **using hand-held phones while driving is illegal**. Hands-free devices are allowed.

Expect scarce parking downtown. There are convenient city-owned parking lots in the downtown area and meters available—but the competition for parking can be tough.

Know the hotel parking rates. Surface parking is free. Covered parking is \$12 per car per day, non-overnight, and \$20 per car per day, overnight. Valet parking is available for \$20 per car per day. For more information, call the hotel at 800-955-4455 or 505-988-4455 or visit www.eldoradohotel.com.