

MUSEUMS

Albuquerque Museum of Art & History

The Albuquerque Museum of Art & History, located in the heart of historic Old Town, features art of the Southwest as well as 400 years history of Albuquerque and the Rio Grande Valley through permanent displays and traveling exhibitions. (505) 243-7255 www.cabq.gov/museum

Anderson-Abruzzo Albuquerque International Balloon Museum

The “Hot Air Ballooning Capital of the World” is home to the Anderson-Abruzzo Albuquerque International Balloon Museum. The museum, located at Balloon Fiesta Park, houses engaging exhibitions and informative programs on the history, science and art of ballooning worldwide. (505) 768-6080 www.cabq.gov/balloon

New Mexico Museum of Natural History & Science

Located within walking distance of Old Town, the New Mexico Museum of Natural History & Science features a Journey Through Time, eight permanent exhibit halls that take guests through the formation of the universe, the age of the dinosaurs, and geologic changes including volcanoes and ice ages. The Extreme Screen DynaTheater is the largest movie screen in New Mexico and brings guests face-to-face with the film. The museum’s planetarium is the only one in the world to project high-definition digital imaging over an entire domed screen while a second imaging system, Digistar II, creates a sense of motion through space. The museum also features a comprehensive exhibit about the evolution of the personal computer called “Startup: Albuquerque and the Personal Computer Revolution,” which overviews Albuquerque’s role in the beginning of the personal computing era. (505) 841-2800 www.nmnaturalhistory.org

National Atomic Museum (National Museum of Nuclear Science & History)

The National Atomic Museum is transforming into the National Museum of Nuclear Science & History. Visitors can explore how nuclear science continues to influence our world and explore the development of the Atomic Age through the Manhattan Project, the scientific engineering project centered in New Mexico that developed, produced and tested the first atomic bomb.

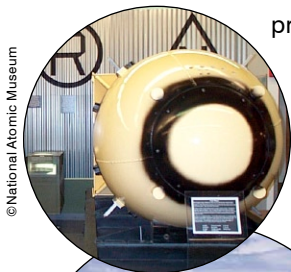
In 2009, the museum moves into a new 30,000 square foot facility with 18 exhibitions on nuclear history and technology. It will also include a Heritage Park, a nine-acre outdoor exhibition area for aircraft, missiles, railcars and nuclear submarines. (505) 245-2137 www.atomicmuseum.com

iexplora!

iexplora! is New Mexico’s premier hands-on learning center with more than 250 interactive exhibits, educational programs and activities encouraging creativity, imagination, inspiration and inquiry into science, technology and art. (505) 224-8300 www.explora.us



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National Hispanic Cultural Center

The National Hispanic Cultural Center (NHCC) is the only national cultural institution dedicated to the study, advancement and presentation of Hispanic culture, arts and humanities. NHCC offers both permanent and traveling exhibits that showcase visual arts, performing arts, history and literary arts, media arts and education. The center is also home to a restaurant and indoor and outdoor performing arts spaces. At the entrance to the NHCC, the Torreón Fresco is being transformed into a massive painting depicting the cultural development of Hispanic heritage from prehistory to present day. The painting is being created by internationally renowned artist Frederico Vigil in the ancient “fresco” technique. It is expected to be completed in 2009. (505) 246-2261 www.nhccnm.org



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Indian Pueblo Cultural Center

Located minutes away from historic Old Town, the Indian Pueblo Cultural Center is dedicated to the preservation and perpetuation of Pueblo Indian culture, history and art. The museum displays feature the Pueblo Indian cultures from prehistoric times to the present through a variety of fascinating exhibits and artifacts and represents all 19 pueblos found in New Mexico. The center also features a recently expanded restaurant, which serves meals throughout the day and special weekend brunches accompanied by Native American music. (866) 855-7902, 505-843-7270 www.indianpueblo.org

Maxwell Museum of Anthropology

Specializing in the cultural heritage of the Southwest, this museum on the University of New Mexico campus also features a reconstructed cave setting complete with Ice Age drawings and sculptures, and a spectacular collection of prehistoric pottery. The museum is world-renowned for its holdings of art and artifacts from this region. (505) 277-4405 www.unm.edu/~maxwell

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American International Rattlesnake Museum

Learn about snake bites, venom and fangs at the world’s largest collection of live rattlesnakes. Dedicated to animal conservation and preservation through education, the museum also offers a large array of snake-related artwork, artifacts and memorabilia. (505) 242-6569 www.rattlesnakes.com



Turquoise Museum

Adventure through a mine tunnel replica and see rare and spectacular turquoise specimens from around the world and learn the truth about turquoise before purchasing jewelry. (505) 247-8650 or (800) 821-7443



The Institute of Meteoritics (IOM) - Meteorites Museum

The Institute of Meteoritics (IOM) is a premier research institution for the study of early solar system and planetary evolution. IOM research focuses on a wide variety of extraterrestrial materials and the IOM meteorite collection now totals more than 600 different meteorites, including one of the largest meteorites in the world. Located on the University of New Mexico campus, visitors can also take a virtual tour online. (505) 277-1644 <http://epswww.unm.edu/meteoritemuseum/index.htm>

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New Mexico Holocaust & Intolerance Museum and Study Center

Learn about the Holocaust, genocides and other forms of bullying that have affected people around the world. Exhibits include the Holocaust, Native Americans, Armenian genocide, Black Slavery and the Bataan Death March. Content is not limited to one religion, culture, geographic area, or time. The museum is located downtown next to the KiMo Theatre.
(505) 247-0606 www.nmholocaustmuseum.org

Museum of Archaeology & Biblical History

Examine 3,000 years of evidence for the historical authenticity of the Biblical text displayed through ancient near Eastern artifacts.
(505) 217-1330 www.mabh.org

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Archeology & Material Culture Museum

Discover archaeology excavation through analysis. Follow America's first inhabitants through a 12,000-year timeline, ending in 1890 at Wounded Knee. The museum is located in Cedar Crest along the Turquoise Trail National Scenic Byway.
www.byways.org/explore/byways/2094/places/3069

Tinkertown Museum

Ross Ward spent more than 40 years of his life carving, collecting and constructing what is now Tinkertown Museum. During the 1960s and 1970s, his miniature wood-carved figures traveled to fairs and carnivals around the country. Tinkertown is located in Sandia Park on Sandia Crest Road.
(505) 281-5233 www.tinkertown.com

Unser Racing Museum

One of Albuquerque's most well-known families, the Unser family, is prominent in the world of car racing. The museum lays out the history of the Unser racing legacy from the early days at Pikes Peak to the dynasty they have carried on at the Indy 500. Changing and permanent exhibits provide a look at the technology and design of race cars.
(505) 341-1776 www.unserracingmuseum.com