

OFFICIAL VISITORS GUIDE

Visit
LAS CRUCES
The Real New Mexico



A. NUÑEZ



Your Field Guide to **LAS CRUCES**

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WELCOME TO LAS CRUCES

The Real New Mexico

POPULATION

112,914

COUNTY

Doña Ana
County

ELEVATION

~3,900 ft

FOUNDED

1849

ESTABLISHED

1907

WEATHER

320 Days of
Sunshine

NEW MEXICO STATE UNIVERSITY

HOME OF THE

AGGIES

FOUNDED

1888

SPANS ACROSS

900 Acres

TOTAL STUDENTS

21,210

COUNTRIES

89

STATES

49

PROXIMITY TO...

46 Miles
EL PASO, TX

53 Miles
INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

41 Miles
US/MEXICO
BORDER

233 Miles
ALBUQUERQUE,
NM

Crossroads of
INTERSTATE 10 &
INTERSTATE 25

271 Miles
TUCSON, AZ

390 Miles
PHOENIX, AZ

Midpoint between
SAN DIEGO, CA
& DALLAS, TX
via Interstate 10



About Visit Las Cruces

Visit Las Cruces works to build Las Cruces, New Mexico as a year-round premier southwest destination for travelers, businesses, organizations, groups and those looking to put down roots. Our team is ready to assist you in all aspects of planning your meetings, conferences, sports events, and outdoor recreation and exploration of Las Cruces. Travelers also are welcome at our visitors center (336 S. Main St.) to ask questions and gather additional information about Las Cruces and its surrounding areas.

Visit Las Cruces is proud to be a program of the City of Las Cruces.



CITY OF LAS CRUCES

Visit LAS CRUCES

STAFF PICKS



ALBERT HERRERA Director of Sales

"On Sundays, casual biking through Highway 28 is one of my favorite things to do. I take in the peace and quiet of the shaded pecan trees on the way to one of several wineries along that stretch of highway. It's all just a pedal and sip away!"



ED CARNATHAN Sports Sales Manager

"My wife and I love playing golf. We have some of the best courses in the southwest right here in Las Cruces— New Mexico State University, Red Hawk and Sonoma Ranch. They are all challenging and well maintained. It's a favorite past time that we hope to hand down to our daughters. Fun for the whole family!"



HILARY DUTCHER Destination Experience Sales Manager

"I love watching independent and foreign films at the historic Fountain Theatre in Mesilla. The space is intimate, and the volunteer staff are warm and friendly. Being able to enjoy a cocktail from La Posta de Mesilla during the movie makes a visit to The Fountain an extra special treat!"



LESLIE GABALDON Administrative Assistant

"One of my favorite places in Las Cruces is Eyeconik Records! I love to spend weekend mornings digging through records."

Family-friendly pick: "Las Cruces has a great park system! I love to take my kids to Metro Verde Splash Pad and Park to play in the splash pad when it's warm. We also spend a lot of time skating and scootering around the Las Cruces Skate Park."



LORENA LOZANO Director of Marketing

"Dry Point Distillery is one of my favorite places to meet up with friends, have a perfectly crafted mixed drink, try their weekly specials and support two local businesses. The chef at Stone Crow offers a small food menu that features customer favorites, rotating options and friendly service."



NORM DETTLAFF Communications Specialist

"The Doña Ana Mountains bike trail system is the best the Mesilla Valley offers. Anyone from beginners to experienced riders will enjoy the many miles of single-track trails to test their abilities while soaking up the high-desert terrain and spectacular views."



ROCHELLE MILLER-HERNANDEZ Executive Director

"One of my favorite places to hang out and enjoy time with friends and family is Andele's Dog House in Mesilla. My furry babies can join us in their outdoor patio, the food is authentically delicious and there is an unlimited chips and homemade salsa bar! Need I say more?"

Family-friendly pick: "Monday night pizza specials at Luna Rosa Winery and Pizzeria is a family favorite. Mom and Dad enjoy award-winning wine, we all throw down on hand-tossed pizzas, and the kids finish it off with homemade gelato. When the weather is nice, we can sit in their spacious outdoor patio."



SERGIO SALINAS Distribution Specialist

"My wife and I like to climb the Tortugas "A" Mountain in December as a part of our Lady of Guadalupe festivities. The views of the Organ Mountains from the top of "A" mountain are spectacular!"



SONIA BAÑUELOS Visitor Information Specialist

"I love spending time with friends and family, especially my son. We enjoy the beautiful weather and exploring the outdoors, especially the Organ Mountains. Las Cruces also has so many events going on throughout the year that deciding where to go is the hardest part. Many of the events are at little to no cost like Movies in the Park, Music in the Park and more. The Downtown Plaza always has events, and the Splash Park for children is great!"



VERONICA QUEZADA Interim Event Manager

"I can't pick just one thing in Las Cruces to see! We have 320+ days of sunshine, beautiful Organ Mountains to explore and some great New Mexican cuisine across the Mesilla Valley."

Now Entering SUNSEEKER TERRITORY

DESERT EXPLORER PREPARATION

Las Cruces is in the northern portion of the Chihuahuan Desert—considered the most diverse desert in the Western Hemisphere and one of the most diverse arid regions in the world. The area is largely an arid climate with most of the rain falling between late June and early October. While the desert offers many opportunities for recreation and provides solitude and a surreal landscape, extreme temperature and changes in weather patterns can make it a dangerous place to be if one is not prepared. Follow these tips for a safe outdoor experience.



HYDRATE. Be sure to hydrate before you go and take plenty of water with you. Plan activities for cooler times of the day; avoid strenuous activity during extreme heat.



AVOID HIKING ALONE. If you do, let someone know where you are going and when you will return.



BE PREPARED. Learn the trail, know your limits and bring navigation aids.



BE PROTECTED. Wear clothing that fully covers your body to protect it from the sun. Wear hiking shoes or boots to protect from surface heat and injury.



CHECK THE WEATHER. Avoid rural and low-lying areas when there is a chance for rain. Monsoon rains can come in fast and furious, causing washouts and flooding.



WATCH FOR ANIMALS. Wild or domestic, give them their space.

While the Chihuahuan Desert can seem like a harsh environment, it's quite delicate. The sensitive flora and fauna respond quickly to seasonal changes and ecological damage, and degraded areas can take decades to be restored. Please take only photos, leave only footprints and follow Leave No Trace and Tread Lightly principles. *For more information, visit blm.gov/outdoorethics*

MONUMENTAL SIGHTS

WHITE SANDS NATIONAL PARK

Discover one of the world's great natural wonders, the glistening white sands of New Mexico. The seemingly endless sea of white sand engulfs nearly 275 sq. mi. of desert, creating the world's largest gypsum dune field. White Sands was established as a national monument in 1933 and re-designated as a national park in 2019. The park is open daily year-round except for December 25. Hours of operation vary throughout the year and unexpected closures may happen on occasion, so visitors are encouraged to check the park website before heading out.

The 16-mile round-trip down Dunes Drive takes about 45 minutes, but visitors are welcome to stop along the way for a picnic, to take some photos, go on a hike or slide down the dunes.

The park offers several ranger programs that allow visitors of all ages to experience the park in a more immersive way. Sunset strolls, full moon nights, full moon hikes, Lake Lucero Tours, Mothapalooza and a variety of community events take place throughout the year.

Make sure to stop by the visitor center, a great example of "Pueblo-Revival" architecture constructed in 1938. Learn more about the park's programs, browse the bookstore and gift shop or learn about the animals and plants that have adapted to survive in the harsh environment and the amazing geological processes that create the dunes through the interactive educational exhibit. Entrance fees apply.

www.nps.gov/whsa

PREHISTORIC TRACKWAYS

The Prehistoric Trackways National Monument includes a major deposit of Paleozoic Era fossilized footprints within approximately 5,000 acres. Fossil viewing is limited as many of the fossils have been moved to the New Mexico Museum of Natural History and Science, but visitors can enjoy spectacular views of the entire Mesilla Valley as well as hiking, mountain biking, horseback riding, and OHV use. Additional information about the Paleozoic Era fossils found at the site may be found at the Las Cruces Museum of Nature and Science.

Bureau of Land Management Las Cruces District
blm.gov/visit/ptnm

MONUMENTAL LOOP

The Monumental Loop is a 250-mile bikepacking route that takes riders through all four regions of the Organ Mountains Desert-Peaks National Monument. While the route was created for bikepacking, it is suitable for any non-motorized use.

<https://bikepacking.com/routes/monumental-loop>



ORGAN MOUNTAINS- DESERT PEAKS

THE ORGAN MOUNTAINS-DESERT PEAKS NATIONAL MONUMENT

Organ Mountains-Desert Peaks National Monument surrounds Las Cruces. Characterized by majestic desert mountains, rising boldly from flat plains, the 500,000-acre monument includes: the Organ Mountains, Robledo Mountains, Sierra de las Uvas, Potrillo Mountains and Doña Ana Mountains. The extensive ecological range of the monument allows for a variety of activity including hiking, mountain biking, bikepacking, horseback riding, OHV use, camping and wildlife viewing.

www.blm.gov/visit/omdp



INSTA-WORTHY

Areas

DOÑA ANA ARCH

This scenic rock formation is in the Doña Ana Mountains north of Las Cruces in an area popular for four-wheel drive and OHV users. Hiking is also allowed and the view from the arch captures breathtaking sights of the Mesilla Valley.

MESILLA VALLEY BOSQUE STATE PARK

This Audubon-designated 'Important Birding Area' offers several easy hiking trails for hiking and bird watching. Spend time at the visitor center and learn about the unique bosque (woodlands) ecosystem, history and culture of the area, or stroll through the native plant garden. Entrance is only \$5, or free for those who ride their bicycle in.

www.emnrd.nm.gov

THREE RIVERS PETROGLYPH SITE

Located about 100 miles east of Las Cruces near Tularosa, NM. Over 21,000 petroglyphs that are examples of prehistoric Jornada Mogollon rock art dating between about 400 and 1450 AD. Day use fee is \$5; tent and RV camp sites are available for an additional fee. Pets are allowed at the camp sites, but not the petroglyph site.

blm.gov/visit/three-rivers-petroglyph-site

DRIPPING SPRINGS

The Dripping Springs Natural Area is situated about 10 miles east of Las Cruces and has over four miles of easy hiking trails, accessible restrooms, 12 picnic sites, a large group site and a visitor center that showcases the history, flora and fauna of the area. The day-use fee is \$5 per car and hours are 7 or 8 a.m. to sunset, depending on the season. Pets are only allowed on one trail.

blm.gov/visit/dripping-springs-natural-area

GILA CLIFF DWELLINGS

Located about 150 miles west of Las Cruces and about 45 miles north of Silver City. A short, well-marked hike takes visitors to the site, which comprises 5 caves with 40 rooms built by the Mogollon People in about 1280. The Monument is surrounded by the Gila National Forest and near the edge of the Gila Wilderness with plenty of opportunity for outdoor recreation. There is no entrance fee and hours vary seasonally. Pets are not allowed on the trail to the dwellings. A visitors' center is located just a short drive from the dwellings.

nps.gov/gicl/index.htm



SHOP LOCAL OUTDOORS

Organ Mountain Outfitters

535 N. Main St. (575) 800-4895
organmountainoutfitters.com

Clothing and lifestyle shop focusing on New Mexico and Las Cruces-focused designs. (1)

Ride On Sports

2001 E. Lohman Ave.
(575) 521-1686 rideonsports.com

Bicycle shop with a large selection of hiking and backpacking accessories in addition to bike accessories and parts. (3)

Southwest Expeditions

(877) 808-6877 swexpeditions.com
Enchantingly fun, adventure tours, kayak tours, bike rentals, ghost tours and much more.

Las Cruces Motorsports

2125 S. Valley Dr. (575) 524-3626
motorsportsofnewmexico.com
New and used motorcycles, dirt bikes, scooters, ATVs, and UTVs, side-by-sides and more.

Outdoor Adventures

1424 Missouri Ave.
(575) 521-1922 bikelc.com

Bicycle shop with bike accessories, outdoor gear, on-site repair shop and bike rental. (2)

High Desert Outfitters

1836 W. Amador Ave.
(575) 527-2697
highdesert-outfitters.com

One stop shop for all of your archery, muzzleloader and precision rifle needs, as well as an indoor, air-conditioned 3D shooting range.

Throat Punch Performance

3985 S. Main St. (575) 639-5600
throatpunchperformance.com
Upgrade and repair of UTV's and side by sides. Used UTVs for sale.

YOU ARE HERE*

Things To Do

Las Cruces is rich in vibrant and seasonal events that celebrate the community's diverse interests and culture. Check out a few of the annual outings you may want to attend on your next visit!

ANNUAL EVENTS

Spring

LAS CRUCES INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

The best in independent cinema gather to attend workshops and panels, with celebrity appearances and VIP experiences. lascrucesfilmfest.com

¡MIRA! LAS CRUCES

A free, family-friendly event highlighting the art and culture, cuisine, music and outdoor recreation that make the city and its surrounding communities one of a kind. visitlascruces.com

COWBOY DAYS

This family-friendly event includes cowboy demonstrations, music, food, and activities that celebrate the state's ranching traditions. frhm.org

BATAAN DEATH MARCH

The Bataan Memorial Death March traverses the high desert terrain of White Sands Missile Range and Las Cruces in a challenging trek honoring the heroic service members who defended the Philippine Islands during World War II. bataanmarch.com

LAS CRUCES SPACE FESTIVAL

A celebration of all things aerospace, astronomical, suborbital, and light years away! The festival is celebrated in Southern New Mexico due to the area's rich history with space and the first purpose-built commercial spaceport: Spaceport America. lcspacefestival.com

LA VIÑA SPRING WINE FESTIVAL IN LA UNION, NM

A weekend of good music and good wine hosted by New Mexico's oldest winery located in the small town of La Union. lavinawinery.com

CINCO DE MAYO FIESTA IN HISTORIC MESILLA

A traditional Mexican fiesta experience with live entertainment, music, food, and dancing on the Historic Mesilla Plaza. mesillanm.gov

Summer

BLAZIN' BREW FEST

The New Mexico Brewer's Guild hosts a beer festival featuring live music, food, games, demonstrations and more. nmbeer.org

NEW MEXICO WINE FESTIVAL LAS CRUCES

Held Memorial Day weekend, visitors can sample wine from multiple New Mexico wineries while enjoying live entertainment and local vendors. nmwine.com/nm-winefestival-lascruces

FOURTH OF JULY ELECTRIC LIGHT PARADE

A free, family-favorite event the night before July 4, the parade includes floats and cars draped in lights lining Las Cruces' streets. www.lascruces.gov

FOURTH OF JULY CELEBRATION AND FIREWORKS

Annual July 4 firework display hosted by the City of Las Cruces with headlining music acts and family-friendly activities. www.lascruces.gov

Fall

HARVEST WINE FESTIVAL LAS CRUCES

Held Labor Day weekend, visitors can sample wine from multiple New Mexico wineries while enjoying live entertainment, take part in grape stomping and browse local vendors. nmwine.com/nm-winefestival-lascruces

HATCH CHILE FESTIVAL IN HATCH, NM

The Chile Capital of the World hosts a family-friendly event with a carnival, parade, vendors and live entertainment. hatchchilefestival.org

FRANCISCAN FINE ARTS FESTIVAL

Set among pecan orchards at the serene Holy Cross Retreat Center, artists display and sell paintings, ceramics, jewelry, photographs, quilts, woodwork, glasswork and more. Enjoy the beloved enchilada lunch, paella, wine garden, raffle, silent auction, information booths and more. franciscanartfestival.org

DIEZ Y SEIS DE SEPTIEMBRE FIESTA IN HISTORIC MESILLA

Historic Mesilla commemorates Mexico's independence with a celebration on the plaza. Enjoy folklorico dancing, mariachi music, food, shopping and activities. mesillanm.gov

LA VIÑA FALL WINE FESTIVAL IN LA UNION, NM

Enjoy good wine, live entertainment, food and more hosted by New Mexico's oldest winery located in the small town of La Union. lavinawinery.com

MESILLA VALLEY MAZE

Take a hayride to the pumpkin patch, enjoy family-fun activities, food and trek into the twists and turns of the corn field (design changes annually). Open throughout the fall season. mesillavalleymaze.com

LA UNION MAZE IN LA UNION, NM

A Fall season borderland tradition with a 13-acre maze, pumpkin patch, jumping pillow, cow train and multiple attractions. launionmaze.com

SOUTHERN NEW MEXICO STATE FAIR & RODEO

A reflection of the region's rich farming history, the fair highlights a midway, auction, livestock show, cowboy rodeo, live music, food, vendors and a carnival. snmstatefairgrounds.net

ZOOT SUIT PACHANGA & CAR SHOW

The Mesquite Historic District's annual event embraces the style & culture of the 30s & 40s, with live music, car show, bike show, best dressed contests & more. [Mesquite Historic District on Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/MesquiteHistoricDistrict)

ZOMBIE WALK

Participants dress as zombies and walk downtown Main Street. Live entertainment, vendors, food and music. downtownlascruces.org

DIA DE LOS MUERTOS IN HISTORIC MESILLA

The multi-day celebration of life includes a display of homemade altars on the plaza, live entertainment, candlelight procession, food, shopping and more. mesillanm.gov



Winter

RENAISSANCE ARTSFAIRE

Artisans gather to display and sell their artwork, put on live theater, dancing, live music and more. Also includes a beer and wine garden, children area, vendors and food all presented with a Renaissance theme. daarts.org

LAS CRUCES INTERNATIONAL MARIACHI CONFERENCE

An entertainment and learning experience, including workshops taught by renowned mariachi performers and educators, a student showcase and Mariachi Spectacular concert with international headliners. lascrucesmariachi.org

HOMEGROWN

A New Mexico food show and gift market featuring only local and state vendors, wine tasting, and full access to the New Mexico Farm & Ranch Heritage Museum. frhm.org

LAS CRUCES TREE LIGHTING

Free, annual tree lighting on Plaza de Las Cruces, with live music, giveaways, refreshments, family activities, a visit from Santa and more. www.lascruces.gov

MESILLA CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTING IN HISTORIC MESILLA

Annual tree lighting on the Historic Mesilla Plaza with live entertainment and vendors. mesillanm.gov

LAS CRUCES CHILE DROP

A New Year's tradition with a countdown displaying a 19-foot chrome chile with 400 feet of LED lighting over Plaza de Las Cruces. Will it turn red or green at midnight? The night features live entertainment, food and more. downtownlascruces.org

****Before making the trip make sure to verify the event information. Please check for updates online and for a full list of daily events.**



FAMILY OUTING

SPARKY'S BURGERS & BBQ For a fun-filled dining experience, drive the family to Sparky's Burgers & BBQ in nearby Hatch, New Mexico. Located in the chile capital of the world, the eatery is famous for its award winning green chile cheeseburger. No worries if you think it might be too spicy for the kids. You can get their famous burger without chile, and while you are at it, enjoy a milkshake or Italian soda. Make sure to take a family photo amongst the iconic figures including Ronald McDonald, KFC Colonel Sanders, aliens, dinosaurs & more than can be mentioned.

WHITE SANDS NATIONAL PARK A family trip to Las Cruces wouldn't be complete without a visit to White Sands National Park. Less than an hour's drive, White Sands encompass over 275 square miles of sparkling gypsum sand dunes, with about 230 square miles set aside as a national park for recreating purposes. When you arrive, make sure to stop by the visitors center so the kids can become "Junior Dune Rangers", enjoy a scavenger hunt and other fun activities. Afterwards, enjoy the exhilarating experience of sledding down the white dunes! Make sure to stay hydrated and wear lots of sunblock, even in the winter.

NEW MEXICO FARM & RANCH HERITAGE MUSEUM Voted one of the top attractions in Las Cruces, the New Mexico Farm and Ranch Heritage Museum was made for family adventure. The museum shares the 4,000-year-old history of farming in the region through interactive and inspiring exhibits and demonstrations. The 47-acre campus is home to live farm animal exhibits, indoor and outdoor play areas, a dairy barn exhibit and educational programs. Throughout the year, the museum hosts numerous events including Cowboy Days and the HomeGrown Market, exclusively featuring New Mexico products.

RAD RETROCADE A fun venue with pop culture references, munchies and sweet treats, and an abundance of iconic arcade games. A few doors down is **Zia Comics and Games**, featuring a huge selection of comic books, collectibles, games, and even an ice cream parlor.

COAS BOOKS If books are your thing, right down the street is COAS Books, New Mexico's largest new and used bookstore with over 500,000 books in stock! Just across the street, **Mew + Company** offers kids crafts as well as unique gifts.

THE LAS CRUCES RAILROAD MUSEUM The museum hosts year-round kid activities, including the Dino Train that allows young ones to be a conductor of its interactive model train. In the heart of downtown, you can awe at desert-dwelling creatures in the Las Cruces Museum of Nature & Science or gaze at curated exhibits at the Las Cruces Museum of Art.

HIKING Surrounded by the Organ Mountain-Desert Peaks National Monument, family outdoor adventure can be found throughout the city & the nearby areas. Dripping Springs Recreation Area, Soledad Canyon Trail, Aguirre Springs, Baylor Canyon, the Prehistoric Trackways National Monument, and the Mesilla Valley Bosque State Park are only a few of the options for rugged recreation.

LAS CRUCES FARMERS & CRAFTS MARKET If you happen to be downtown on a Saturday, take time to stroll the Las Cruces Farmers & Crafts Market. This year-round event is nationally recognized as one of the best of its kinds, spanning seven city blocks full of local art, wares, produce, baked goods, and food trucks offering diverse cuisine.



GIRLS GETAWAY

Time with the Besties

Las Cruces is full of places to see and things to do during your next girls getaway. Whether you enjoy an afternoon basking by the pool after a trip to the spa, hiking in the high desert, sipping wine and spirits, or strolling local shops and galleries, the City of Crosses has an experience for you and your girlfriends to remember for years to come.



RUBY SUN The ideal girls trip combines relaxation with lots of fun. Ruby Sun is the perfect place for rejuvenation. Treat yourself to a hot stone massage or a much-needed nap in the sauna dome. For those interested in a truly unique experience, book and enjoy a full body smudge and crystal chakra sound bath.

DWELL YOGA Recenter yourself through the art of yoga. Located in the heart of downtown Las Cruces, Dwell Yoga is made up of a collaborative of instructors, offering a variety of therapeutic techniques that allow you to twist, stretch, bend, and energize. Find your inner self as you practice ancient methods of exercise and meditation.

CALHOUN FLOWER FARM This family-owned and operated establishment is the largest specialty cut flower farm in southern New Mexico. As the season allows, there is an abundance of opportunities to pick flowers, create colorful bouquets, enjoy a guided tour, and even volunteer in the harvesting of the beautiful annual and perennial blooms.

SHOPPING & DINING If retail-therapy is part of the itinerary, explore the unique shops of Downtown Las Cruces. Located in the Mesquite Historic District, you will find many specialty shops. **Mandrake Fine Art & Botanica** features in-house infused perfumes, body oils, salt scrubs, candles and more. Only a few blocks away is **Mew + Company**, a boutique and studio offering a collection of modern handmade wares. Save time to enjoy their Paint & Sip with watercolors experience. If you are looking for vintage knick knacks, **Downtown Blues Coffee** offers a wide variety as well as records, T-shirts and other fun gear.

Feeling hungry? Drop by **Little Toad Brewery** or **Grounded** for a quick bite or take time for fun conversation while enjoying regional wine, beer or spirits and a bite to eat.

Nearby **Mesilla** offers its own unique shopping experience. Stores boasting local art, silver jewelry, Hispanic-inspired clothing,

locally grown pecans and wines, and regional pottery surround the historic plaza in the town's center. Peppered amongst these shops are a diverse selection of restaurants, ranging from locally roasted coffee and homemade pastries to sweets made by an in-house chocolatier and traditional New Mexican cuisine.

Enjoy poolside cocktails with views of the majestic Organ Mountains at **Hacienda de Mesilla Restaurant**. Share tapas and sip on creative cocktails at **Salud! de Mesilla**, known for its passion for food and flavors. **La Posta de Mesilla's** margarita flight is one-of-a-kind, boasting bold infusions including the Jalapeno Cucumber Margarita with an agave, honey, and crushed pecan rim. Tame the libation with traditional New Mexican cuisine, starting with their famous salsa and chips, enjoying green chile enchiladas and indulging in their version of flan, so delicate it melts in your mouth.





MOVIES IN THE PARK The City of Las Cruces Parks and Recreation Department presents Movies in the Park. The summer program starts at dusk on Saturdays from June through August at Young Park, 1905 E. Nevada Ave. Free to attend and family friendly.

MUSIC IN THE PARK The Music in the Park summer series highlights the talent and diversity of New Mexico's musicians. More than 70 percent of the musicians are from the Las Cruces area and the rest are artists from throughout the region, state and country. The series kicks off with the Mayor's Jazz Fest on Memorial Day weekend and continues through August.

PLAZA DE LAS CRUCES SPLASHPAD The summer months bring the heat in Las Cruces. Located in the heart of Las Cruces, take the kiddos to cool off at the city's main Splash Pad. Open during the summer months.

For more information about these free outings, visit www.lascruces.gov

HISTORIC MESILLA Mesilla is a small town by today's standards but 150 years ago it was the major stop for those traveling between San Antonio and San Diego. Mesilla hasn't changed much over the years, allowing visitors to see what an 1800's border town looked like.

Western Legend Billy the Kid stood trial for murder in a Mesilla courtroom, and the Mesilla Plaza was once a major stop for the Butterfield Stagecoach. Originally, the town was part of Mexico, but with the signing of the Gadsden Purchase in 1854, the village became part of the United States.

Mesilla is anchored by the Basilica of San Albino. The church, originally built of adobe in 1855, still offers masses today, both in English and Spanish. Outside the church is a memorial to parishioners who died in combat. Today, Mesilla is home to historical attractions such as the San Albino Basilica, but it also features a variety of contemporary boutiques, unique stores, galleries, wineries and specialty restaurants serving traditional New Mexican cuisine and American fare. mesillanm.gov



FOLKLORE



LA LLORONA PARK NEAR RIO GRANDE

The folklore of La Llorona tells the story of the spirit of a woman doomed to wander this earth searching for her children who drowned in the river. Retellings of the story may differ in detail. One popular version centers around Maria, a beautiful woman, who marries a handsome suitor. Together they have children and as time passes her husband becomes restless. Some stories speak of his infidelity while others talk of his longing for his wild bachelor life. Ultimately, she becomes resentful of his growing indifference and his warm and loving attentions toward their children. In a fit of revenge and anger, she then drowns her children in the river— although some retellings attribute their deaths to a tragic accident. Either way, the grief over her children's deaths overwhelms Maria and she drowns herself. Maria cannot enter the afterlife without her children and her spirit becomes trapped between this world and the next. To this day, she wanders the riverbanks and waterways at night searching for them, crying out “¿iMis niños?”

Another popular version claims the beautiful Maria becomes pregnant by a Spaniard above her class. He refuses to marry her and she drowns the child as an act of revenge before drowning herself. In this retelling, she also is refused entry into the afterlife and wanders the riverbank crying out for the child she drowned.

The legend is meant to caution children from lingering too close to open bodies of water and wandering alone at night. If they do, La Llorona might find them, thinking they are her child, and steal them away forever.

Does the ghost of La Llorona haunt the banks of the Rio Grande or is it just an urban legend? See for yourself at La Llorona Park at 3440 W. Picacho Ave.

La Llorona

Translation:

“Weeping Woman”

Famous words:

“¿iMis niños?”

Appearance:

Ghostly apparition, tall, thin woman with long black hair wearing a white gown



Just a DAY TRIP Away

Las Cruces has that relaxed, small-city charm, a variety of lodging choices and conveniences. Conveniently nestled at the crossroads of two major Interstates and a main highway, Las Cruces is a homebase that offers quick access to nearby getaways.

WHITE SANDS NATIONAL PARK

Via Highway 70: 53 minutes, 52 miles

White Sands National Park protects the world's largest gypsum dune-field, and the unique plants and animals that survive in this other-worldly place. The magnificent pure white dunes provide excellent recreation opportunities; visitors can picnic, "white sand surf" or just stroll through 230 square-miles of the 275 square-mile national park. Home to the oldest human footprints in North America, the park offers tours and activities such as the sunset stroll nature walk, full moon hikes, special events and more. www.nps.gov/whsa

HATCH, NM

Via New Mexico Highway 185: 50 minutes, 38 miles

Highlights of taking this route: It's a back road through pecan orchards, agricultural areas and along the Rio Grande. Stop and hike Slot Canyon, Broad Canyon or Faulkner Canyon. Get drinks and food at the popular Blue Moon Bar in Radium Springs. Closer to Las Cruces, the highway offers access to Prehistoric Trackways and Fort Selden.

Via Interstate 25: 40 minutes, 39 miles

Highlights: Hatch, NM is "The Chile Capital of the World." Stop by The Pepper Pot, the small town's signature restaurant for New Mexican food. Right off the highway, check out Sparky's Burgers, Barbeque and Espresso. Touting their green chile cheeseburger as "world famous," the playful atmosphere, live music and exuberant statues scattered throughout the property offer ample photo-ops and good eats while passing through. Walk Main Street and check out other local spots. www.newmexico.org

TRUTH OR CONSEQUENCES, NM

Via Interstate 25: 1 hour 10 minutes, 75 miles

Once called Hot Springs, NM, the town of Truth or Consequences was renamed after a game show hosted by Ralph Edwards. Known best though for its hot springs, the small community is an oasis in the desert. Offering soaks both indoors and outdoors, and a downtown area with galleries, shops and dining, this small town is worth a visit. www.torcnm.org

ELEPHANT BUTTE LAKE STATE PARK

Via Interstate 25: 1 hour 15 minutes, 79 miles

The largest of New Mexico's state parks, Elephant Butte provides opportunities for camping and RVing, boating, fishing, hiking and swimming in a magnificent oasis in the desert. The area is named for the rock at the center of the lake resembling an elephant. The town of Elephant Butte also welcomes visitors with restaurants and recreational services. www.emnrd.nm.gov

CLOUDCROFT, NM

Via Highway 70 and US Highway 82:

1 hour 33 minutes, 87 miles

A little closer to home, this small-town mountain getaway is perfect for outdoor recreation, hiking, biking, birdwatching, horseback riding and more. Walk along Main street and stop by local shops, dine and discover the history of logging and railroading at the town's museum. www.villageofcloudcroftnm.net

RUIDOSO, NM

Via Highway 70: 2 hours 8 minutes, 118 miles

Ruidoso, NM offers the perfect mountain getaway. Located nearly 12,000 feet above sea level, the small town is home to Ski Apache. Outdoor recreation is also a big part of its appeal with skiing in the winter, mountain biking in the summer, zipline tours, camping, golfing, fishing and more. Check out the idyllic mid-town, camping, cabin rentals, shops, dining, art galleries and nearby casino and theatre. www.ruidoso.net

CITY OF ROCKS STATE PARK

*Via Interstate 10, US Highway 180
& New Mexico Highway 61: 90 minutes, 96 miles*

Located just off Interstate 10, the "city" is described by the Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department as sculpted rock columns, rising as high as 40 feet & separated by paths resembling city streets. They are said to have been formed nearly 35 million years ago following a volcanic eruption. The park is perfect for camping, hiking, biking, birdwatching, stargazing, picnicking and more. Campers have access to restrooms and showers. www.emnrd.nm.gov

Las Cruces FARMERS AND

The Las Cruces Farmers and Crafts Market is one of the heartbeats of Las Cruces, and is an event that people look forward to weekly. Stretching over seven blocks on Main Street in downtown Las Cruces, the market has close to 300 vendors, with new ones added regularly. It was voted one of the "Top Farmers Markets in the Country" by Farmland.org.

Come be immersed in the culture of Las Cruces, and the local people who make it what it is.

The market first began in 1971 by farmers who wanted to sell their produce. After some time, bread made its way in, and eventually, more and more people came in wanting to sell their products.

The market has since continued to grow into a place to find handmade goods, art pieces, knick-knacks, baked goods, coffee, jewelry, food trucks and performers. Everything that is sold is made or produced by the vendor themselves, so each good is local, handcrafted, and unique. Local produce is still a large aspect of the market, and you can find several vendors with local fruits, vegetables, honey, nuts, grass-fed pork and beef and much more. Singers, jazz artists, guitarists, magicians, and others are set up along the market to showcase their talents by providing entertainment to everyone passing by. The market is dynamic, inviting, diverse, and a great time for those of all ages. farmersandcraftsmarketoflascruces.com

FOOD TRUCKS

Food truck fare in Las Cruces is delicious and sought-after by locals. Luckily, the market has several different ones lined up that serve Mexican food, baked goods, specialty drinks, and more. The food produced is authentic, local, and made by the vendors themselves. Some classic items that can be found are burgers, tacos, and all things green chile. The trucks are camped out throughout the market, and are a great stop for breakfast, lunch, or a refreshment while enjoying your time at the market.

CRAFTS MARKET

LOCAL GOODS

The market is also filled to the brim with original offerings. All are made by the vendor themselves, and they will often spend hours, or even days making and preparing their products. The goods sold are things such as homemade candles, hand knitted accessories, skincare items, soaps, wood pieces, leather pieces and more. There are also several vendors who create their own uniquely printed clothing items, many of which are New Mexico themed. You can find useful tools, self-care items, decorations for your house, and endless amounts and varieties of plants. There is something for everyone.

LOCAL ART

Las Cruces is home to several artists who create breathtaking and unique art pieces. The market is a place for these artists to showcase their talents and the beautiful inner workings of their mind. Paintings, sculptures, photography, prints, pottery and ceramics, are among the many kinds of art you will find. Each art piece showcases the individuality and creativity of the artist. There are art pieces for those of different ages and art backgrounds to enjoy.

JEWELRY

Jewelry items at the market are locally handcrafted and designed. They often have touches of New Mexico and its wonderful culture. Necklaces, earrings, bracelets, and anklets are among the large array of different jewelry options available. The jewelry found can be delicate, dainty, and simple, but also colorful, bold, and unique. There is something for any occasion, and to many different likings.



DOG DAYS



8 AM COFFEE AND BREAKFAST AT THE BEAN AT JOSEFINAS

2011 Avenida de Mesilla

Pair any freshly baked pastries or breakfasts option with locally roasted coffee on the patio with your pup.

9 AM HIKE AT PICACHO PEAK RECREATION AREA

blm.gov/visit/picacho-peak-recreation-area

Located just seven miles northwest of Las Cruces, the recreation area has over 15 miles of hiking, biking and equestrian trails. The 1.5 mile hike to the top of the peak provides fantastic views of the entire Mesilla Valley.

10 AM LAS CRUCES FARMERS & CRAFTS MARKET

Downtown Main Street, 8:30 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturday

farmersandcraftsmarketoflascruces.com

Local food, crafts, art and entertainment every Saturday in the heart of Las Cruces. The Saturday market spans seven city blocks. A smaller market takes place on Plaza de Las Cruces on Wednesdays.

12 PM LUNCH AT SPOTTED DOG BREWERY

2920 Avenida de Mesilla spotteddogbrewery.com

Enjoy a tasty meal and a craft beer at this locally owned brewery along Avenida de Mesilla.

2 PM HISTORIC MESILLA

Take a leisurely stroll through Historic Mesilla's plaza and enjoy a range of architectural styles from traditional adobe to territorial designs. Sundays there's a small, noon market and Fridays there's a small 4 p.m. market. You might even catch a performance or celebration!

5 PM SUNSET WALK

Head down to the Rio Grande and take a sunset walk along the river on the La Llorona multi-use path.

6 PM DINNER AT ANDELE'S DOG HOUSE

1983 Calle Del Norte in Mesilla, NM andelerestaurante.com

Taste some of the delicious Mexican food that southern New Mexico has to offer. You and your pup are sure to be comfortable on their festive and inviting patio.

8 PM CALICHE'S FROZEN CUSTARD

131 Roadrunner Pkwy — 590 S. Valley Dr. — 1000 Lenox Ave. caliches.com

After dinner treats for everyone! Caliche's offers a variety of frozen custard delights. Give their famous green chile sundae a try or customize your treat. While you're there grab a poochie cone for your furry friend!

More pet-friendly spots are listed online in our "A Doggy Day Out! Pet friendly things to do with your dog in Las Cruces, NM" blog.

SHOP LOCAL LIFESTYLE

NEW MEXICO SOAP

newmexicosoap.com

Detergent-free, wax-free, alcohol-free, no-nonsense Soap & Shea Butter.

Featured items include Pecan Shaped Massage Bar, Autumn Lodge, Pistachio Macaron, Mimbrres Ancient Art Soap and more. (1)

COAS BOOKS coasbooks.com

(575) 524-8471 | 317 N. Main St.

(575) 524-8471 | 1101 S. Solano Dr.

One of New Mexico's largest new and used bookstores. A variety of new, local, regional, rare, used and out-of-print books, CD's, DVD's, Vinyl, VHS, audio books and more.

KANDLE KARMA

kandlekarmaetc.com

Specialize in container candles, beeswax candles, incense sticks and candle accessories. (3)

FARMESILLA (575) 652-4626

1840 Avenida de Mesilla,

in Mesilla, NM | farmesilla.com

In addition to local produce, food and drink, FARMESILLA sells a variety of local and New Mexico body care products soaps, shampoo, lotions and more. (2)



SIP, SAVOR, UNWIND

Local Sabor

Let us help you find your new favorite dish, with a Southern New Mexican flavor, or *sabor*, you won't forget. Here's a crash course in the anatomy of a few local favorites.

THE ENCHILADA

Red or green, and everything in between.



WHAT IS CHRISTMAS STYLE?

This means the dish will be served with both red and green chile sauce. Do not mix. Ladle red on one side of the entrée or dish and ladle green on the other. It's the best of both worlds! Example:

Customer: *I'd like an enchilada plate, please.*
Waiter: *Red or Green (chile)?*
Customer: *Christmas!*

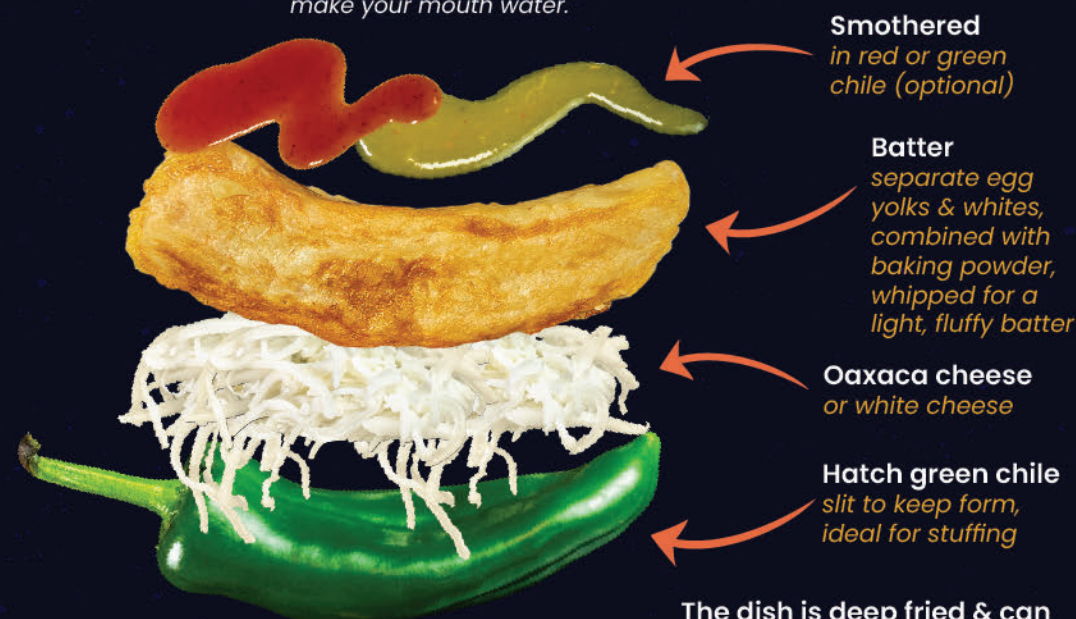
THE TACO

Crunchy or soft? Either way, you can't go wrong.



THE CHILE RELLENO

A deep-fried combo of chile and cheese that'll make your mouth water.



The dish is deep fried & can be eaten alone or wrapped in a warm flour tortilla

WE DON'T JUST GROW GREEN CHILE... WE INVENT IT.

Chile, pronounced "chee-leh," refers to the hot peppers found in much of our delicious regional food. Due to our proximity to Hatch, New Mexico, the green chile capital of the world, we have a special place in our hearts for the pepper.

In fact, you may find that Las Cruces is crazy about green chile! So much so, that we're home to the Chile Pepper Institute, a non-profit organization dedicated to researching chile peppers. They've even helped develop new varieties of chile, such as the ones shown below.

You can visit the Chile Pepper Institute at 113 W. University Ave., or the Visitor Center Gift Shop, located at 940 College Dr.

Learn more at cpi.nmsu.edu

Chile varieties invented here in Las Cruces and their heat levels.

Chile is measured in Scoville Heat Units, or SHU's



WALK of FLAME

Experience a traditional New Mexican green chile dish at a local restaurant, or go off the beaten path. Shop for unique products such as green chile jerkies, popcorn, chocolate bars, chips, dip mixes, salsas, spices, marmalades, & sundaes. Quench your thirst with green chile vodka straight up or blended into a New Mexico Bloody-tini, ice cold green chile beer, or green chile white wine. Want to get really roasted? Visit chile roasters at several local grocery stores across town in early fall. The aroma is addictive and will tickle your senses. Fire up your tastebuds and sample the green chile offerings native to Las Cruces.

EAT

Aqua Reef

1 • 141 Roadrunner Pkwy. #115
(575) 522-7333
facebook.com/aquareef1
New Mexico pecan green chile roll, Aqua Reef Roll

Boba Cafe

2 • 1900 S. Espina St.
(575) 647-5900

Boba 2

8 • 3115 N. Main St. B
(575) 888-4500
Green chile chicken wontons, green chile soup

Caliche's Frozen Custard

3 • 590 S. Valley Dr.
(575) 647-5066
A • 131 N. Roadrunner Parkway
(575) 521-1161
B • 1000 Lenox Ave.
(575) 680-2229
caliches.com
Green chile sundaes: vanilla custard with green chile marmalade

Cattle Baron

4 • 790 S. Telshor Blvd.
(575) 522-7533
cattlebaron.com
Green chile wontons

DH Lescombes Winery & Bistro

5 • 1720 Avenida de Mesilla
(575) 524-2408
lescombeswinery.com
Pasta New Mexico, Southwest meatloaf

Double Eagle

6 • 2355 Calle de Guadalupe
(575) 523-6700
doubleeagleonline.com
World's Largest Green Chile Cheeseburger, green chile wontons, green chile vodka, green chile Bloody Mary, green chile Margarita, Green Chile-Tini, Filthy Dirty Green Chile Martini, Border Berries Margarita

The Game Sports Bar & Grill

7 • 2605 S. Espina St.
(575) 524-4263
thegamebarandgrill.com

The Game II Sports Bar & Grill

8 • 4131 Northrise Dr
(575) 373-4263
thegamebarandgrill.com
Green chile wings, pecan encrusted green chile strips, green chile posole, green chile stew, cream of green chile, green chile mashed potatoes

La Posta de Mesilla

9 • 2410 Calle de San Albino
(575) 524-3524
laposta-de-mesilla.com
Mesilla Valley Cucumber Jalapeño Margarita

Lorenzo's Italian Restaurant

10 • 1753 E. University Ave.
(575) 521-3505
lorenzositalian.com
Green chile meat lasagna, sausage green chile soup, Fettuccini Alfonso

Pastaggio's Italian

11 • 300 Harrelson St.
(575) 522-5522
pastaggios.com
Green chile fettuccini alfredo, green chile meat tortellini alfredo, green chile cheese tortellini alfredo, green chile cheese or beef ravioli alfredo, green chile spinach artichoke ravioli alfredo, green chile meat lasagna

Pecan Grill & Brewery

12 • 500 S. Telshor Blvd
(575) 521-1099
pecangrill.com
Stuffed green chiles, green chile hummus, green chile vodka, green chile Bloody Mary, NM Bloody-Tini, Southwest salad, Southwest wrap, green chile chicken lasagna, Hatch chicken pasta, green chile wine, green chile beer

Salud! de Mesilla

13 • 1800 Avenida de Mesilla
(575) 323-3548
saludmesilla.com
Green chile pesto, green chile mac & cheese

The Shed

14 • 810 S. Valley Dr.
(575) 525-2636
Eggs Benedict with green or red chile Hollandaise

Sparky's Burgers, Barbeque & Espresso

15 • 115 Franklin St. Hatch, NM
(575) 267-4222
sparkysburgers.com
Green chile lemonade, green chile shake

PLACES OF INTEREST



16 • Chile Pepper Institute Garden
• 113 W University Ave.
(575) 646-3028
cpi.nmsu.edu

Visitor Center Gift Shop
• 940 College Dr.
(575) 646-3028
cpi.nmsu.edu

SHOP

The Ánde! Mercado

17 • 1950 Calle del Norte
(575) 541-3945
andelerestaurante.com/ande-mercado

FARMesilla

18 • 1840 Avenida de Mesilla
(575) 652-4626
farmesilla.com

Heart of the Desert

19 • 2350 Calle de Principal in Mesilla, NM
(575) 647-2115
heartofthedesert.com

Jerky and More Inc.

20 • 344 S. San Pedro
(575) 527-5143

Las Cruces Candy Co.

21 • 580 S. Valley Dr. Ste. 150
(575) 635-8256

NM Farm & Ranch Museum: Eagle Ranch

22 • 4100 Dripping Springs Rd.
(575) 522-4100
nmfarmandranchmuseum.org

New Mexico Pecan Company

23 • 102 Watson Ln.
(575) 525-9555

New Mexico Vintage Market

24 • 2310 Avenida de Mesilla
(575) 647-8004

Ristramnn Chile Co.

25 • 2531 Avenida de Mesilla
(575) 526-8667

Truck Farm & Cannons Sweet Hots

26 • 645 S. Alameda
(575) 523-1447



A Taste of Las Cruces

Las Cruces, New Mexico is rich in culinary diversity. From the best New Mexican food in the state to weekend brunch spots, margarita flights and more, it can be hard to know where to dive in. Here is a taste of what the Mesilla Valley has to offer and we invite you to check out our full listings online at VisitLasCruces.com.



BREAKFAST

THE SHED 810 S. Valley Dr. | ompctheshed.com

The Shed began over 25 years ago as Old Mesilla Pastry Café and grew into one of Las Cruces' favorite lunch and brunch spots. The Shed values using fresh, local ingredients and serving a variety of tasty foods to diners. They have several staple options such as eggs benedict with green or red chile hollandaise sauce, huevos rancheros, gingerbread pancakes, green eggs & ham, and more.

MILAGRO COFFEE Y ESPRESSO

1733 E. University Ave. | [@MilagrosCafe on Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/MilagrosCafe)

Milagro Coffee Y Espresso was established in 1998 and offers fresh coffee and delicious breakfast options. Milagro roasts beans from across the country, so you can try several varieties of coffee. Their breakfast burrito, almond croissant, and green chile bagel are favorites. Pairing one of these with a latte or good ol' cup of coffee will start your day off right!

A BITE OF BELGIUM 741 N. Alameda Blvd. #16 | abiteofbelgium.com

Bite of Belgium is unlike any other place in Las Cruces, serving a Belgian menu that is both scrumptious and unique! Among their many options are eggs Florentine, several varieties of quiche, and (of course) Belgian waffles that are made with beet sugar and topped with Bavarian cream. A Bite of Belgium also serves up coffee and espresso drinks and has gluten-free options available.



DINNER

LUNCH

LA NUEVA CASITA CAFÉ

195 N. Mesquite St. | lanuevacasitacafe.com

La Nueva Casita Café has been around since 1957 and is a local favorite. Their delicious Mexican food is made from scratch, and harbors authentic flavors. Mouthwatering meals to satisfy your tastebuds are the stacked enchiladas (red or green), tacos estrellas (their "star" tacos), and the shrimp and avocado salad.



EL SOMBRERO PATIO CAFÉ

363 S. Espina St. | elsombreropatiocafe.com

El Sombrero Patio Café was established by Ofelia Carrillo over 60 years ago and is run by her daughter today. Over these six decades, she has maintained all the original recipes. Their enchilada recipe (red and green) is original, as well as their award-winning salsa. Some other scrumptious choices are fiesta steak tacos, tostada compuestas and queso burgers.

DAYS HAMBURGERS 295 N. Main St. | dayshamburgers.com

Days Hamburgers has been around since 1932 and is a staple for All-American burgers. It was started by a woman named Mary Ann Day, who has passed the restaurant and original recipe down through the family. Day's is now run by her great granddaughter. They serve up classic cheeseburgers, hamburgers, and their Great Day burger which can be served with onions, lettuce, ketchup, bacon, cheese, and more. Other favorites include burritos and hot dogs like the Chile Con Carne Dog. You can find breakfast burritos and biscuits, as well as several side options, like their regular and sweet potato fries and onion rings.

AMADOR PATIO AND GRILL 302 S. Main St., Suite B | amadorpbg.com

Amador Patio and Grill is famous for hosting live music and entertainment and is a home for nightlife in Las Cruces. The complex itself includes expansive indoor and outdoor dining, entertainment stage, cocktail bar, rooftop bar, taphouse and house bar. There are several tasty dinner options including fried avocado tacos, 90-day aged 14oz ribeye, red chile shrimp scampi and the Crudo Burger (a beef and chorizo patty that has a fried egg, grilled ham, green chile bacon).

SALUD! DE MESILLA 1800 Avenida de Mesilla Suite B | saludmesilla.com

Salud! de Mesilla has a lively interior with fresh local and fusion dishes, making it a radiant and original spot for dinner. The restaurant specializes in several eclectic and flavorful foods like their Blueberry Turkey Sandwich, Green Chile Pesto, Mexican tiramisu and a full tapas menu— think chicharon nachos and add steak. They even have a breakfast burger with jalapeño, eggs and hashbrowns. Many gluten-free options are available as well, so it's a place most anyone can find something they will enjoy.

LA DULCE VIDA

The Sweet Life



CALICHES FROZEN CUSTARD is a classic spot to satisfy any sweet tooth. Caliche's has over 25 years of custard creations under its belt. The retro atmosphere makes it the perfect place for a fun date or a great family outing! Try their famous Green Chile Sundae, Mango Dango with salted pecans (touted as New Mexico's favorite sundae), a classic soda float (any flavor), or their best seller the Fudge Brownie Bliss! caliches.com

Locations:

590 S. Valley Dr. • 131 N. Roadrunner Pkwy. • 1000 Lenox Ave.

PALETERIA LA REYNA MICHOACANA provides several sweet and savory snacks that will brighten your day. Among their most popular sweet items are paletas and the "Mango Loco," which consists of mango ice cream, tamarindo candies, chamoy and fresh mango. Other options such as ice cream, shaved ice, agua frescas, choco bananas and funnel cake and more are served up in a fun parlor environment or grab it to go from the drive-thru. [facebook.com/lamichoacanaNM](https://www.facebook.com/lamichoacanaNM)

Location: 870 E. Madrid Ave.



LE RENDEZ-VOUS CAFÉ & FRENCH PASTRY

was established in 2008 by French Pastry chef Thierry Marceaux. Marceaux's family owned a bakery in the south of France, and after coming to the United States, he made pastries for some of the finest hotels in the country. Combining his mother's recipes with his own style, he brings an authentic and unique French touch to the Las Cruces restaurant scene. Some of the cafe's specialties include eclairs, macarons, frangipanes, beignets, a wide selection of cakes and tarts and more. The friendly staff and mouth-watering array of food and pastries make this a wonderful place to visit for a dessert fix or a dinner out. [@le.rendezvous.cafe on Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/le.rendezvous.cafe)

Location: 2701 W. Picacho Ave. #1



LUJAN'S BAKERY is a family-operated bakery that serves a delicious variety of Mexican and American baked goods. Including, empanadas, conos, piedras, donuts and muffins. [@LujansBakery on Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/LujansBakery)

Location: 442 E. Lohman Ave.

This is just a sample of the sweet life. For more options to satisfy your sweet tooth, check out visitalascruces.com



Take a tour inside a PANADERIA

Discover the treats you'll find at a Mexican bakery



CONCHA (KOH-CHA)

Often referred to as pan dulce or sweet bread, Conchas are a fluffy, butter brioche-like pastry topped with a colorful streusel topping.

MARRANITOS (MA-RA-NEE-TOES)

Gingerbread cookies flavored with molasses and shaped like pigs.



EMPANADA (EM-PA-NA-DAH)

A crescent-shaped, filled pastry that is either baked or fried. It can be filled with a sweet fruit or savory filling.



POLVORONES (POL-VO-RO-NEZ)

Also known as Mexican wedding cookies, these are melt-in-your-mouth, fall apart, very crumbly, soft cookies somewhat like shortbread. While still warm, these cookies are rolled in confectioner sugar.

BISCOCHOS (BEE-SKO-CHOZE)

Shortbread-like cookie with base flavors of anise, cinnamon and sugar. They are sometimes referred to as "biscochitos."



DESERT DRINKERIES

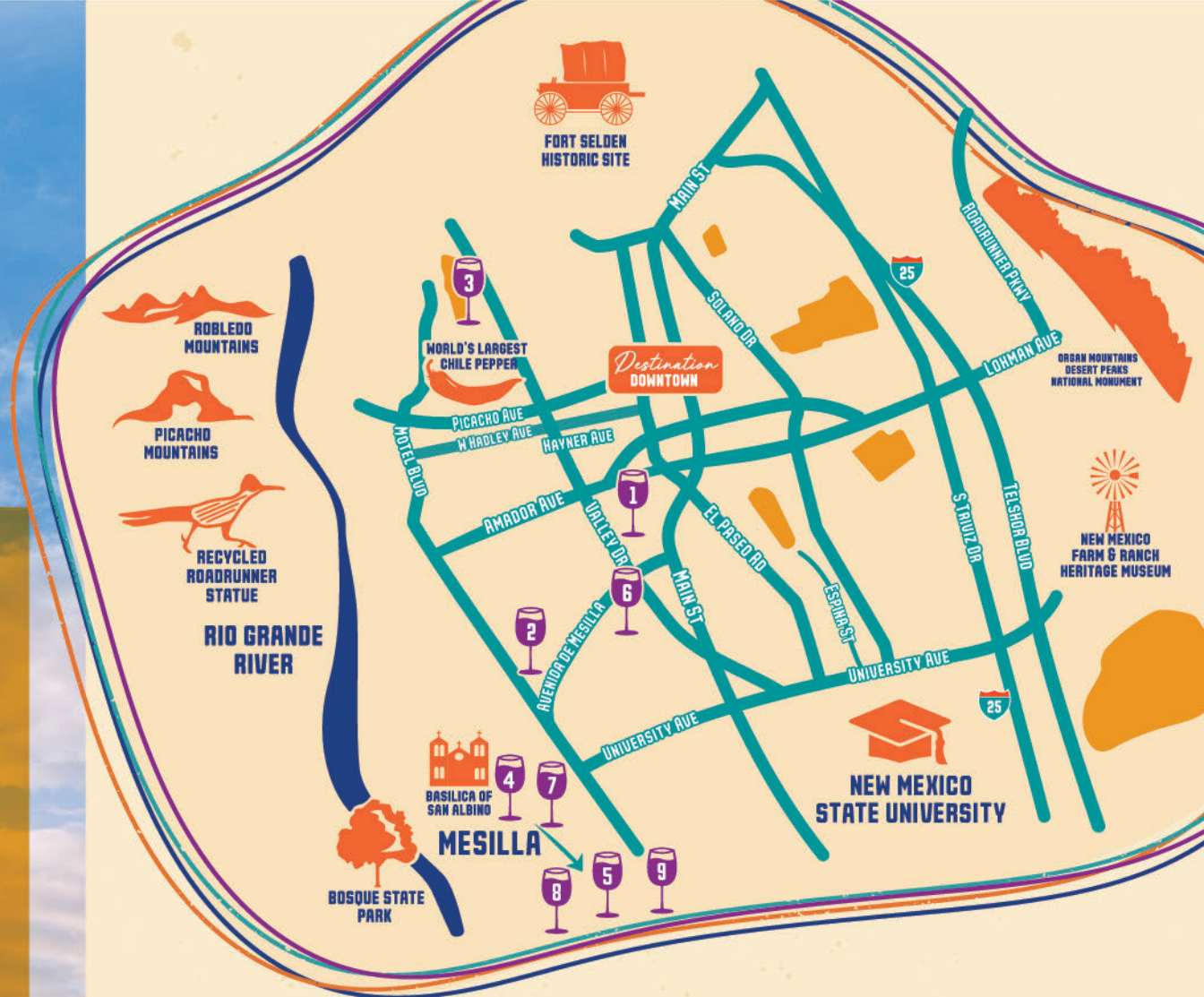
Heard it Through the GRAPEVINE

The adventurous history of winemaking in southern New Mexico began more than 400 years ago with the smuggling of Spanish grapevines by a Catholic monk and has now evolved into New Mexico's multi-million-dollar wine industry.

It started in the 1600's with the planting of the Mission grape used for ceremonial purposes and has expanded into the production of a diverse variety of award-winning wines made possible by a small group of winemakers, who in the 1970's saw the potential for wine production in the region.

Much of southern New Mexico's wines boast distinctive flavors only found in this region due to the rich and fertile Mesilla Valley soil. The area's climate is perfect for growing and production, bringing visitors from all over the world to sip and savor local blends. Whether you enjoy a traditional dry red or a flavorful sparkling white with a New Mexican twist, we have something to satisfy everyone's palate.

Today, the Las Cruces Wine Trail showcases locally-owned wineries and tasting rooms peppered through the city and Mesilla Valley. Annual wine festivals celebrate southern New Mexico's long and rich history of wine. Be sure to enjoy a glass, a flight or share a bottle during your stay!



WINE TRAIL

Amaro Winery
1 402 S. Melendres St.
(575) 527-5310
facebook.com/amarowinery

D.H. Lescombes Winery & Bistro
2 1720 Avenida de Mesilla
(575) 524-2408
lescombeswinery.com

Fort Selden Winery
3 1233 Fort Selden Rd.
(575) 647-9585
fortseldenwinery.com

Heart of the Desert Pistachios & Wines
4 2350 Calle de Principal
(575) 647-2115
heartofthedesert.com

La Viña Winery
5 4201 NM Hwy 28
(25 miles south)
(575) 882-7632
lavinawinery.com

Luna Rossa Winery & Pizzeria
6 1321 Avenida de Mesilla
(575) 526-2484
lunarossawinery.com

NM Vintage Wines
7 2461 Calle de Principal
(575) 523-9463
nmvintagewines.com

Rio Grande Vineyard & Winery
8 5321 NM Highway 28
(4.5 miles past Old Mesilla)
(575) 524-3985
riograndewinery.com

Sombra Antigua Vineyard & Winery
9 430 La Vina Rd.
(915) 241-4349
sombraantigua.com





ALE TRAIL

Bosque Brewing Co. Telshor Public House

1 2102 Telshor Ct.
(575) 556-9128
bosquebrewing.com

Bosque Brewing Co. University Taproom

2 901 E. University Ave.,
Bldg. 945, Ste. 3-A
(575) 888-4110
bosquebrewing.com

High Desert Brewing Co.

3 1201 W. Hadley Ave.
(575) 525-6752
highdesertbrewingcompany.com

Icebox Brewing Co. Picacho Taproom

4 2825 W. Picacho Ave.
(575) 526-7129
iceboxbrewing.com

Icebox Brewing Co. N. Main Taproom

5 3231 N. Main St.
(575) 556-9517
iceboxbrewing.com

Icebox Brewing Co. @ The Downtown Boneyard Cantina

6 139 N. Main St.
(575) 800-5967
iceboxbrewing.com

Little Toad Creek Brewery & Distillery

7 119 N. Main St.
(575) 556-9934
littletoadcreek.com

Picacho Peak Brewing Company

8 3900 W. Picacho Ave.
(Grapevine Plaza)
(575) 680-6394
picachopeakbrewing.com

Spotted Dog Brewery

9 2920 Avenida de Mesilla
(575) 650-2729
spotteddogbrewery.com

The Pecan Grill & Brewery

10 pecangrill.com
(575) 521-1072 or
(575) 521-1099
pecangrill.com

DISTILLERIES

Take a bit of Las Cruces home and try out these recipes from local distilleries!

BLUE CORN OLD FASHIONED

Dry Point Distillers' number one selling cocktail!

User-friendly and easy to make at home.

- 1 Lemon peel
- 1 Orange slice
- 1 Sweet cherry
- 1 Sugar cube
- Angostura Bitters
- 2 oz Blue Corn Bourbon

1. Soak sugar cube in 2 dashes of Angostura Bitters.
2. In a short glass add thin lemon peel, orange slice, sweet cherry and sugar cube.
3. Muddle lemon peel and orange slice into sugar, lightly smash cherry.
4. Add 2 oz Blue Corn Bourbon.
5. Top with ice.
6. The more you mix your drink the sweeter it'll become, dissolving the sugar.



Dry Point Distillers

1680 Calle de Alvarez, Suite C2
(575) 652-3414 | drypointdistillersnm.com

GILA RITA

Little Toad Creek Brewery & Distillery's signature margarita.

- 1.5 oz 5 Ducks Silver Agave Spirit
- .75 oz Tres Marias Orange Liqueur
- .75 oz Agave Nectar
- Juice from 1 whole lime

1. Shake all ingredients with ice & pour into a salt rimmed glass.



Little Toad Creek Brewery & Distillery

119 N. Main St.
(575) 556-9934 | littletoadcreek.com

SHOP LOCAL

FOOD & DRINK



FOOD

HONEY

Sun Mountain Honey

1425 N. Valley Dr. | (575) 526-1853

Produces raw, unfiltered, natural honey in Las Cruces, New Mexico.

Specializing in their famous red chile infused honey. Shipping options available.

Sold in local stores and Saturdays at the Las Cruces Farmers and Crafts Market.

PECANS

Legacy Pecans

2355 Calle de Guadalupe, Mesilla, NM

(575) 527-9129

legacypecans.com

Pecan coffee, salted roasted pecans, jams, chocolate covered pecans and more.

Also assists in corporate orders and customizable gift options with personalized labeling.

Sold in-shop.



CHILE

Young Guns Hatch Valley Chile

4611 Research Park Circle | (575) 267-3001

www.yghatchchile.com

Chile grown in the Hatch Valley. Made with simple ingredients garlic salt, tomato and world-famous Hatch green chile.

Branded "Aggie" local products, "Pete's Most Wanted Salsa."

Sold in local stores and markets.

Ol' Gringo Chile Company

1447 Certified Pl. Building 1-A

(575) 525-1542 or (877) 265-2771

olgringosalsacompany.com

Specializing in Hatch red and green products.

Sold in local stores and markets.

SAUCES

Lorenzo's Italian Restaurant

1753 E. University Ave. | (575) 521-3505

lorenzositalian.com

Locally produced pasta sauces— con sugo, con sugo with green chile and more.

Sold in local stores and markets.

CANDY

Las Cruces Candy Co.

580 S. Valley Dr. Suite 150 | (575) 523-1447

chilecandy.com

Locally produced sweet and spicy treats for Doña Ana County.

Specializing in famous peanut brittle, piñon brittle and green chile brittle.

Sold in local stores and Saturdays at the Las Cruces Farmers and Crafts Market.

WINE

D.H. Lescombes Winery

1720 Avenida de Mesilla

(575) 524-2408

lescombeswinery.com

Hatch Red Chile Wine

Hatch grown red chile is cold-soaked in red wine. Described as pepper and smoke on the nose.

Green Chile Wine

Fire-roasted, mild Hatch green chile is cold-soaked in white wine. (1)

Both wines sold in local stores and markets.

BEER

Bosque Brewing Co.

2102 Telshor Ct. | (575) 556-9128

www.bosquebrewing.com

Pistol Pete 1888 Ale

New Mexico State University official beer. A pale straw-colored ale with a light malt sweetness and late-addition hops. (2)



SPIRITS

Dry Point Distillers

1680 Calle De Alvarez | (575) 652-3414

www.drypointdistillersnm.com









Pistol Pete's 1888 6 Shooter Rye

New Mexico State University official spirit. A rye whiskey described as caramel, vanilla and spicy-sweet. (3)

LAY of the LAND



DID YOU KNOW?

-  No one knows exactly how the name "Las Cruces" was selected, but it translates to "the crosses".
-  Ft. Selden was built in 1865 and the original home of the Buffalo Soldiers.
-  The Three Rivers Petroglyph Site features more than 21,000 petroglyphs spread across 50 acres of the Chihuahuan Desert, making it one of the largest and most interesting petroglyph sites in the southwest.
-  The Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo ended the Mexican-American War, establishing Mesilla as a Mexican holding in 1848.
-  In 1989 U.S. State of NM made the "Biscochito" its official state cookie.
-  In 1629, the first grapevines were planted along the Rio Grande river and were originally smuggled from Spain by monks to make wine for ceremony and sacrament.
-  Pat Garrett, who became renowned for killing Billy the Kid, was the sheriff of Doña Ana County.
-  In 1996 New Mexico became the only state to establish an official state question as, "Red or Green?"

Muy Bien LAS CRUCES

"Very good, Las Cruces"

- '23**
 - Top 10 Best Places to Live & Work as a Movie Maker | MovieMaker.com
 - 11 Best Ale Trails in the U.S. | Seeker
 - Top 15 Best Cities in the Country to Raise a Family | Scholaroo.com
- '22**
 - White Sands National Park, The 21 Most Underrated, Crowd-Free National Parks in America | InsideHook.com
 - Best Places to Camp: Top 10 in the U.S., Sierra Vista Campground, Las Cruces, NM | The Dyr
 - Andele's Dog House #43, Top 100 Dog-Friendly Restaurants | Yelp
 - Best Places to Live in New Mexico | Niche.com NM
 - Bronze Bike Friendly Community | BikeLeague.com
 - Top 20 Best-Run Cities in America | WalletHub
 - New Mexico State University Best Colleges for National Universities | U.S. News & World

HEART

of the City

CULTURE

Museums & Historical Sites



BRANIGAN CULTURAL CENTER

Boasting exhibits showcasing the wonderful culture of New Mexico, the center displays a wide selection of diverse and meaningful art. While visiting, you also may see an exhibit about the local wildlife and their impact on the community. The center hosts regular educational classes as it serves as a resource for people of all ages to learn about Las Cruces, its history and culture.

Located: 501 N. Main St. www.lascruces.gov



MUSEUM OF NATURE & SCIENCE

The Museum allows visitors to explore and learn about New Mexico wildlife, prehistoric animals, space, history and more. Stop by and see live animals, fossilized trackways, and learn about the roles that native animals and humans have on local wildlife. There also are several interactive exhibits for visitors of all ages to enjoy.

Located: 411 N. Main St. www.lascruces.gov



THE NEW MEXICO FARM & RANCH HERITAGE MUSEUM

Find yourself engulfed in the wonders of New Mexico Agriculture and the Old West. Showcasing the wonderful world of agriculture and its 4,000-year history in the southern New Mexico region, the museum has several interactive exhibits for visitors to explore. They include topics on New Mexico farm life, wagons, rotating exhibits, the ways of transportation and more. There is a greenhouse, holding pens for sheep and goats, horse stables and a section completely devoted to dairy and everything it provides. Explore the giftshop, "Heart of the Desert," which has pistachios, wine, ice cream and other goodies. Enjoy fun hands-on learning for the whole family!

Located: 4100 Dripping Springs Rd. nmfarmandranchmuseum.org



THE RAILROAD MUSEUM

Devoted to helping people discover the history of railroads in New Mexico, the museum is an interactive and informative resource on the industry's impact on the state. View artifacts, miniature train models, featured exhibits and attend special events. The museum is engaging for all ages.

Located: 351 N. Mesilla St. www.lascruces.gov



THE FORT SELDEN HISTORIC SITE

In Radium Springs, NM, less than 15 miles outside Las Cruces explore what remains of Ft. Selden. See firsthand the grounds where several soldiers were stationed in the late 1800s. The land is also where Native American farmers lived starting in 400 A.D. Adobe remains can be seen upon coming to the site, and the visitor's center has pictures, artifacts, and provides even more history and information on the lives the fort's past residents.

Located: 1280 Fort Selden Rd. nmhistoricsites.org/fort-selden

THE CHILE PEPPER INSTITUTE

A one-of-a-kind place, the institute conducts research and educates people from all around the world about chile. Residents of the Mesilla Valley have been growing chile since the early 1900s and produced several varieties. The Institute gives visitors the opportunity to tour the gardens and learn about the peppers up close. See original varieties grown in-house, as well as some of the world's hottest peppers. Tours for groups of all sizes are available per reservation. The Chile Pepper Institute also sells seeds and different New Mexico and chile-themed goods at a shop located on the New Mexico State University campus.

Garden Location: 113 W. University Ave.

Store Location: 940 College Drive cpi.nmsu.edu



TRADITIONS

Spring

CASCARONES

Hollowed out colorful eggs filled with paper confetti. It's a tradition to chase your family around during the Easter season and crack an egg on their head.

BAYLOR CANYON PASS WILDFLOWERS

If the rains are generous enough, in spring, yellow poppies blanket the northern foothills of the Organ Mountains along Baylor Canyon Pass. All visitors are asked to be respectful and not step on, pick or crush the flowers while at the site.

Summer

CALABACITAS

Southern New Mexico has a great climate for growing squash and zucchini, making "Calabacitas" a perfect summer dish. Although it translates to "little squash," this dish often incorporates sautéed corn, tomatoes and onion. Chile and cheese are welcome additions.

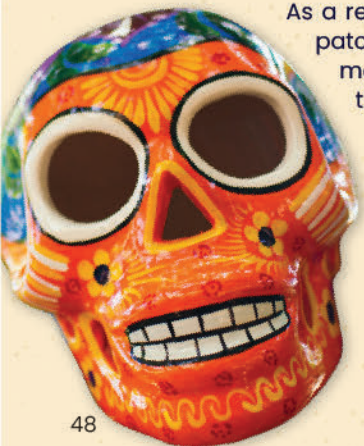
Fall

CORN MAZES

The Mesilla Valley becomes ripe with fall festivities during the season. As a renowned agricultural community, its corn fields and pumpkin patches are frequented throughout September and October, and made even better by the idyllic weather. Get lost in one of two of the area's corn mazes— La Union Maze or Mesilla Valley Maze.

DÍA DE LOS MUERTOS

In late fall, Mesilla and Doña Ana hold Dia de los Muertos celebrations. The holiday honors deceased loved ones. Ofrendas or small altars are built to honor their memory and consist of colorful decorations and offerings. It is celebrated over three days locally and encompasses Oct. 31, known as Day of the Dead; Nov. 1, known as All Saints Day; and Nov. 2, known as All Souls Day. The celebrations can vary by culture.



Winter

LUMINARIAS

Luminarias are traditional New Mexico holiday decorations. The paper lanterns are weighed down by sand with a candle nestled safely inside. Tealights or bulbs are used now. They are sometimes referred to as "farolitos."

BISCOCHOS

Every family seems to have their own "secret" recipe for these melt-in-your mouth, shortbread-style cookies. Anise, cinnamon and sugar create the base flavors to this holiday and family-gathering favorite. It's what each family adds to their own recipe that makes it special.

PONCHE NAVIDEÑO

This hot, spiced fruit punch is made with fruits like guava and tejocotes. It is flavored with piloncillo, cinnamon sticks, jamaica and sugar cane. Some recipes may also add dried plums, apples, oranges, tamarindo, cloves and alcohol.

CHAMPURRADO

This is another hot beverage perfect for warming those cold desert nights. Base ingredients include masa (corn dough), piloncillo, cinnamon and other spices. The masa adds a creamy consistency that makes the texture and flavor unique.

TAMALES

Tamale making is one way to involve family in the making of their own meal. The process consists of spreading masa on a dried corn husk, adding your filling— red chile meat, green chile cheese, green chile chicken and more— wrapping it, then steaming the tamales in large batches. The process is time consuming, but well worth the wait!

POSOLE AND MENUDO

Posole and menudo are cure-alls for a lot of people. The soups start off with a hominy and then deviate from there. Menudo has tripe and a red chile base, which sets the flavor apart from posole. Posole typically has chicken, pork or beef to flavor the broth along with either a red chile or green chile base. Lime, oregano, onion, radish, cabbage are toppings that add even more flavor and texture to the heartiness of the dish. Recipes can vary significantly from family to family, making it a staple dish during the holidays.





ART Museums

NMSU ART MUSEUM IN DEVASTHALI HALL

1308 E. University Ave. | (575) 646-2545 | uam.nmsu.edu

The University Art Museum curates original exhibitions and stewards with over 4,200 works in the university's permanent collection, including the country's largest collection of Mexican retablos. The Museum also hosts public lectures, gallery talks, workshops, films and symposia. Tours for schools and community groups are available upon request.

LAS CRUCES MUSEUM OF ART

491 N. Main St. | (575) 541-2137 | www.lascruces.gov

The Museum of Art hosts changing contemporary art exhibits and offers programs for visitors of all ages.

ART OBSCURA

3297 Harrelson St. | (575) 494-7256 | artobscuragallery.com

The place to go for contemporary fine art, antiques, handmade jewelry and unique collectibles.

THE HOOD

3206 Harrelson St. | (575) 621-0931 | thehoodnewmexico.com

This one-of-a-kind gallery and gift shop showcases mechanical art objects, model cars, curios, gadgets, trinkets, antique toys, paintings, jewelry and other collectibles.

MESQUITE ART GALLERY

340 N. Mesquite St. | (575) 640-3502 | mesquiteartgallery.com

Featuring photography of Mel Stone as well as selected local and national artists.

Events

THE FINE ARTS FLEA MARKET

fineartsfleamarket.com/home

Takes place the first Friday of each month 7-10 p.m. at Plaza de Las Cruces, located in downtown Las Cruces. Enjoy live music, artist booths, craft vendors and food trucks.

THE ANNUAL FRANCISCAN

FESTIVAL OF FINE ARTS franciscanartfestival.org

Takes place Labor Day weekend at the Holy Cross Retreat Center. The festival includes up to 90 artists showcasing painting, ceramics, jewelry, photographs, clothing, fiber arts and more. Food vendors, a beer and wine garden and live entertainment round out the event.

ART IN THE WILD



Public art can be found throughout Las Cruces, from tiled walkways to sky-high water tank murals and almost everything in between. The city's public art collection is constantly growing but you can keep up with the changes by visiting the City of Las Cruces' Public Art page and exploring the interactive map. www.lascruces.gov

Mosaics

JARDÍN DE MESQUITE (MESQUITE GARDEN)

1039 N. Tornillo St.

As the gateway to the Mesquite Historic District, the adobe-like walls enclose a pocket garden oasis with seating areas and tiled murals depicting the history of the neighborhood. Kevin Wolverton, Alma D'Arte Students, 2005.

ENTRADA DEL SOL 711 E. Hadley Ave.

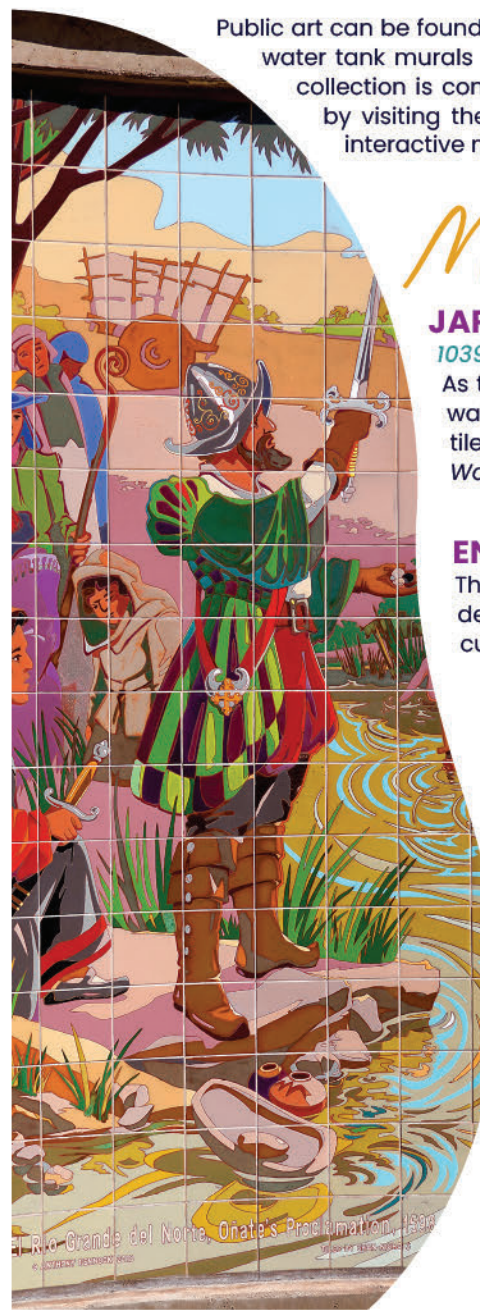
The historic neighborhood gateway located in a pocket park is detailed with handcrafted tiles designed with signature, local culture aesthetics in mind. Glenn Schwaiger, 2008.

MESILLA PARK COMMUNITY COLLABORATION: GATHERING 300 Bell Ave.

The artwork consists of six geometric forms covered in hand-crafted ceramic tiles representing a theme: architecture, food, family, future, animals, and desert. The 1700 tiles were made by children. Glenn Schwaiger, 1994.

EARTH & COSMOS 145 N. Main St.

The tiled mosaic walkway depicts an interplanetary scenario with abstracts of the sun, night sky, galaxies, and other elements of the earth. It paves the entire "La Placita" area from N. Main Street to N. Water Street in downtown Las Cruces. Glenn Schwaiger, 2010.



Murals

Murals of all kinds adorn Las Cruces— some by professional artists and some by amateurs, many are decades old while others are temporary. The nonprofit 'Murals of Las Cruces' catalogs the important murals that document the agricultural life in the Mesilla Valley, environmental awareness and vibrant indigenous and Hispanic street art. www.muralsoflascruces.com

WATER TANKS

Some of the largest, most visible murals are painted on the City's water towers. The depictions on these towers range from realistic and abstract representations of Native American history, flora and fauna of our region and New Mexico history.

WEST PICACHO ANTIQUES DISTRICT

Located in a working-class neighborhood between Hoagland Drive and Amador, & 1st and 17th Streets. The area is traditionally known for its antique stores, but the area has recently been increasing its murals.

DOWNTOWN LAS CRUCES

BRANIGAN LIBRARY

Near the entrance of the Branigan Library, "Tierra Sagrada (Sacred Earth)" is a vibrant mural illuminating the outdoor amphitheater. Over 300 people from the community helped paint the mural using a paint-by-number technique.

COLOR ME CRUCES

Color Me Cruces, located on the north side of Instacopy (318 Main St.), is an interactive postcard featuring iconic Las Cruces visuals.

GRATITUDE

This mural found on the north side of Coas Books (317 Main St.) features quotes submitted by community members.

CON AMOR

Con Amor show off some of Las Cruces' most recognizable features. Located on the east wall of Visit Las Cruces (336 S. Main St.)

Sculptures



EAGLE MAN

Created by Michael Naranjo of Santa Clara Pueblo, a blind veteran, this bronze statue stands in the courtyard between the Branigan Cultural Center and Museum of Art. *Michael Naranjo, 2011.*

REFUGE 701 W. Picacho Ave.

The cave-like structure features tiles made by elementary and high school students. A labyrinth-inspired bench inside the dome provides a resting place in the natural cooling station. This is an NM Arts Art in Public Places project. *Andrew Nagem, 1996.*

THE POWER OF DIFFERENCE –YOUNG PARK 850 S. Walnut St.

The art piece was commissioned as part of a contest held by NMSU. The winning design was inspired by the community's strong culture. Abstract depiction of diverse outlooks. *Cliff Flint, 1987.*

RECYCLED ROADRUNNER Interstate 10 eastbound rest stop

The Recycled Roadrunner is made from materials salvaged from a long-gone City landfill. The sculpture was relocated to rest stop and measures 20 feet tall and 40 feet long. *Olin Calk, 1993.*



SHOP LOCAL

ART & CULTURE

Original Pieces & Prints

MESILLA VALLEY FINE ARTS GALLERY

2470 Calle De Guadalupe in Mesilla, NM |
mesillavalleyfinearts.com | (575) 522-2933

A co-op gallery showcasing many media, oil, acrylic, pastel and watercolor painting and prints. They are one of the longest continuously operating co-op galleries in New Mexico.



Jewelry

IT'S FATE JEWELRY & CUSTOM EMBROIDERY

gkarlotta@yahoo.com

Items sold at the Las Cruces Farmers and Crafts Market. Custom embroidery, jewelry, bags, sewing, crafts, sales, linens, clothing, aprons, onesies, shirts, backpacks, etc.



Woodwork

FINE AND FUN WOOD PRODUCTS LLC

fineandfunprodcuts@gmail.com

Fine quality furniture and fun accessories. Items sold at the Las Cruces Farmers and Crafts Market. Items such as décor trays, cutting boards, side tables, custom pieces and more.

Unique Art Pieces

ART OBSCURA 3297 Harrelson St. | artobscuragallery.com

Featuring exhibits, events and featured art from local artists in the community, framed butterfly specimens, vintage camera straps, giant quartz, and other unique finds.

Antiques

THUNDERBIRD DE LA MESILLA

2136-2202 Calle De Parian, Mesilla, NM

Great selection of New Mexican crafts, pottery and antiques. Art, religious items and antiques are sold in the store located in the heart of Mesilla New Mexico.



SPACEPORT AMERICA



READY *for* LAUNCH

APPROXIMATELY 55 MILES AWAY FROM LAS CRUCES

Spaceport America is the world's first commercial spaceport designed and constructed for commercial space flight. It is 45 miles north of Las Cruces at an elevation of 4,600 above sea level. Built on 18,000 acres of land in the Jornada del Muerto desert basin, the spaceport is adjacent to the U.S. Army's White Sands Missile Range and under 6,000 square miles of protected airspace.

Spaceport America has FAA-licensed horizontal and vertical launch areas

that attract innovative entrepreneurial tenants including some of the most well-respected companies in the commercial space industry: anchor tenant Virgin Galactic, UP Aerospace, HAPSMobile, AeroVironment, SpinLaunch, and more.

On May 10, 2019 Sir Richard Branson announced that Virgin Galactic would be moving its California operations to Spaceport America near Las Cruces over the coming summer, in preparation for the world's first commercial space flights.

"New Mexico delivered on its promise to build a world-first and world-class spaceport," Branson said. "Today, I could not be more excited to announce that in return, we are now ready to bring New Mexico a world-first, world-class spaceline. Virgin Galactic is coming home to New Mexico, where together we will open space to change the world for good."

Although tenant operations remain private, public tours are offered of the

spaceport grounds. Final Frontier Tours departs from Visit Las Cruces, 336 S. Main St. Tour guides offer background of the site and visitors can experience the G-Shock simulator and see the runway to space—all in the beautiful high desert of southern New Mexico. Tours must be booked in advance at spaceportamerica.com/visit.

Spend "A Day at Spaceport America" by visiting our Blog at VisitLasCruces.com.

SIGHTSEEING SPACE

A trip to Las Cruces offers lots of open spaces, with one of the most enchanting being outer space. Southern New Mexico is full of space history, spanning from NASA test launches long before astronauts took flight and today's Spaceport America, the world's first purpose-built commercial spaceport to the discovery of Pluto and the first commercially manned Virgin Galactic spaceship flight.

SPACE MURALS MUSEUM

The museum is abundant in donated relics from the space program, historic photographs and interesting and fact telling objects. Outside it houses a 1.2M gallon water tank with murals of the U.S. Space program history, a 1/8 scale replica of the Challenger Shuttle and several other artifacts. spacemurals.net

TOMBAUGH OBSERVATORY

Home to the custom-built telescope by Clyde Tombaugh, the discoverer of Pluto, (which is still regarded as a planet in New Mexico) and operated by the Astronomic Society of Las Cruces. The group hosts several open houses throughout the year as well as viewing parties for celestial events. astro.nmsu.edu

SPACEPORT AMERICA

The world's first purpose-built commercial spaceport boasts a 12,000 by 200-foot runway, vertical launch complexes and tenants such as Virgin Galactic and SpinLaunch. It has been the site for numerous commercials and films as well as the home for the world's largest intercollegiate rocket launch competition. The only way to visit the complex is on an authorized tour that leaves from Las Cruces, so make sure to book ahead. spaceportamerica.com

LAS CRUCES NATURE AND SCIENCE MUSEUM

MoNaS is designed to inspire curiosity and life-long learning and discovery of nature and science. The three permanent exhibits include Desert Life with live animal displays and feedings, Light and Space with interactive exhibits, and Permian Trackways with life-size replicas of the amazing discovery and dinosaur fossils. www.lascruces.gov

NEW MEXICO MUSEUM OF SPACE HISTORY

In nearby Alamogordo is the New Mexico Museum of Space History, an affiliate of the Smithsonian Museum and home to both a museum and planetarium. Visitors can enjoy space flight and space age artifacts and displays, interactive exhibits, and the John P. Stapp Air & Space while learning more about the vast space history of the area. www.nmspacemuseum.org

SUNSPOT SCENIC BYWAY & NATIONAL SOLAR OBSERVATORY

The 15-mile stretch begins near Cloudcroft, New Mexico and ends at the Sunspot Visitor Center and Observatory. Follow the signs representing planets and you won't be able to lose your way. Upon arrival, enjoy the interactive exhibits, and next to the observatory currently operated by New Mexico State University. Take a self-guided tour of the grounds, making sure to stop at the lookout peak for an amazing view of White Sands National Park. sunspot.nmsu.edu



STARRY NIGHTS

Full Moon Nights

AT WHITE SANDS NATIONAL PARK www.nps.gov/whsa

Hike the dunes in the full moon light with one of the most popular programs at White Sands National Park. Offered once a month, the 90-minute program is a ranger-lead hike that begins at Dune Life Nature Trail. In addition to park entrance fees, the program is \$8 per person ages 16 and older and \$4 per child ages 15 and younger. Tickets go on sale online at 8 a.m. MST two months prior to the scheduled hike. Tickets sell out fast, so view the schedule for dates and plan ahead.

Stargazing Spots

Southern New Mexico's dark sky is ideal for stargazers. In fact, the state's sky is protected under the Night Sky Protection Act, enacted in 1999. Its purpose is to regulate outdoor lighting to ensure the sky remains dark for wildlife, viewing, research and educational purposes, and to conserve energy. The Astronomical Society of Las Cruces names the following locations as "Dark Sky Sites" for star gazing.

For more information, visit ASLC-NM.org

LEASBURG DAM STATE PARK

16 miles north of Las Cruces via Interstate 25 or New Mexico Highway 185

YOST ESCARPMENT

49 north of Las Cruces via Interstate 25 and Upham Exit 32 to County Road E-070

CORRALITOS ROAD

15 miles west of Las Cruces via Interstate 10 and Exit 132

AKELA AREA

33 mile west of Las Cruces via Interstate 10 and Exit 116 to County Road C001





MESILLA

A Historic Hub

Mesilla, NM is a neighboring small town that's a step back in time. It's home to historical attractions such as the San Albino Basilica, but it also features a variety of contemporary boutiques, unique stores, galleries, wineries and restaurants serving New Mexican cuisine, fine dining and American fare.

A hundred and fifty years ago it was the major stop for those traveling between San Antonio, TX and San Diego, CA. The small town hasn't changed much over the years, allowing visitors to see what an 1800's border town looked like. Western legend Billy the Kid stood trial for murder in a Mesilla courtroom, and the Mesilla Plaza was once a major stop for the Butterfield Stagecoach. Originally, Mesilla was part of Mexico, but with the signing of the Gadsden Purchase in 1854, the village became part of the United States.

The Mesilla Plaza is anchored by the Basilica of San Albino. The church, originally built of adobe in 1855, still offers masses today, both in English and Spanish. Outside the church is a memorial to parishioners who died in combat.

Today, Mesilla offers a wide range of experiences both inside and outside the plaza. The town's plaza is the central point, hosting many local and nationally recognized events honoring the area's culture. Dine on the plaza at the famous Double Eagle, nearby The Bean at Josefina's, Don Félix Café and La Posta de Mesilla, or check out Palacio Bar, Chala's Wood Fire Grill, Salud de Mesilla, Andele and more on the way into town. Shop the plaza, grab a drink, check out live music and more all while visiting one of the most historical locations in New Mexico.

DINING



CHALA'S WOOD FIRE GRILL 2790 Avenida de Mesilla | @ChooseChalas on Facebook & Instagram

Chala's Wood Fire Grill is all about gathering as a family. Frankie, the owner of Chala's, creates dishes that take after past family traditions and recipes. Chala's serves up a variety of New Mexican, Mexican and America food with their own touch— including their carne al pastor burrito, New York Strip fajita plate, and the Hefty Cuban Sandwich which has smoked pork, ham, Swiss cheese, and house-made bacon. For brunch, they have specials such as steak and Eggs, Smoked Carnitas Hash, and Crème Pancakes.

CAFÉ DE MESILLA

2190 Avenida de Mesilla | cafedemesilla.com

Café de Mesilla is a friendly breakfast and brunch spot that offers coffee and European-style espresso. This Mesilla classic is a wonderful place to have a relaxing morning with good company and food. Vegan options are also available.

PAISANO CAFÉ 1740 Calle De Mercado | paisanocafe.com

Paisano Café is the place to come for Mexican and Latin inspired dishes that are made using fresh and authentic ingredients. The flavors and variety you will find is unlike any other.

LUNA ROSSA WINERY & PIZZERIA

1321 Avenida de Mesilla | lunarossawinery.com

Luna Rossa Winery and Pizzeria brings a tasty Italian touch to Mesilla. Their flavorful dishes can be enjoyed in a casual atmosphere while sipping on wine grown from their vineyard in Deming, New Mexico. They serve different kinds of pizza, such as Margherita, Prosciutto Crudo, and their Luna Rossa pizza which consists of salaminio piccante, prosciutto cotto, mushrooms, and more. For dessert, check out the delightful Nutella pizza, or their many flavors of gelato (made in-house).



DOUBLE EAGLE

2355 Calle De Guadalupe | doubleeagleonline.com

Double Eagle is the epitome of fine dining in Las Cruces. The building has been around since 1849, and consists of several dining rooms that are decorated with intricate art pieces, portraits, and gold leaf mirrors. Each room is based on historic events and previous residents, and there are hand-cut chandeliers covering the restaurant, making it an unforgettable experience. In addition to the fine dining that The Double Eagle provides, there is a more casual patio dining option called Peppers. Peppers serves items such as Crispy Fish Tacos, St. Louis Ribs, and their Cactus Jack BBQ Burger.

ANDELE RESTAURANT

Andele Restaurant: 1950 Calle Del Norte #1-3

Andele's Dog House: 1983 Calle Del Norte | andelerestaurante.com

Andele Restaurant opened in 1996 as a take-out window owned by a father-daughter duo. It now serves patrons out of a very large dining room and boasts its own mercado and tortilleria. It has become a sought-after location for people to enjoy classic Mexican food, such as posole, enchiladas, and Andele's signature dish: Tacos Al Carbon. They are also famous for their homemade tortillas and salsa bar.

In 2011, they opened a separate patio-style location across the street called Andele's Dog House where you can bring your dog while you dine. The Dog House offers most of the dishes that the original location does, with some added items, such as specialty hot dogs, chicken wings and special baskets of fries.

HACIENDA DE MESILLA

1891 Avenida de Mesilla haciendademessilla.com

Hacienda de Mesilla is a grill, cantina, and inn, and is fashioned after the Old West, giving it a vibrant atmosphere! They offer a delicious variety of seafood, American, and Mexican dishes, each with their own unique twist. The Aggie Ale Battered Fish & Chips, Hacienda Fried Hot Chicken Sandwich, and Blue Crab Blue-Corn Green Chile Enchiladas are a few of the delicious lunch and dinner foods offered.



Find more Mesilla, NM dining at visitlascruces.com



LA POSTA DE MESILLA

2410 Calle De San Albino |
lapostademesilla.com

La Posta de Mesilla dates back to 1939, opened by a woman named Katy Griggs. It has grown from a hole-in-the-wall eatery along the Butterfield Trail to an expansive restaurant with two bars, a patio, meeting/event spaces, tequileria and access to a historic theatre. La Posta was built on recipes that were handed down through the family and is known for serving classic Mexican dishes. In addition to locals and tourists, movie stars and presidents have stopped by. Make sure and try the expansive margarita selection and order up the margarita flight to find your favorite. The restaurant is a beautifully colorful historic building that is filled with New Mexican artwork, plants, fish and caged birds, making it a beloved and popular southern New Mexico staple.

MARGARITA Masters

The debate over where the margarita got started continues, but there's one thing that nobody questions: La Posta de Mesilla is in a category all its own. With a dozen margaritas on its menu, it's no secret why La Posta is dominating the game. It all starts with the tequila.

The restaurant's Adobe Cantina and Tequileria is home to more than 100 tequilas, a full bar and six beers on tap. And it's where the award-winning margaritas are often made (it's one of two bars at the restaurant). It is also where you can try La Posta's signature Private Reserve Double Barrel Reposado.

From the Classico to the Chile 'Rita to everything in between, La Posta's margarita menu has something for everyone. But if you're stuck on a decision, the Margarita Mini Flight is for you. The flight screams indulgence serving up mini versions of La Patrona, Chile 'Rita, Coco Loco and the Blood Orange "Silver Coin." It includes:



LA PATRONA Made with La Posta's Signature Patron Añejo Barrel Select Tequila, Patron Citrónge, and freshly squeezed lime juice.

CHILE 'RITA An exotic blend of "Besito Caliente" blackberry/habanero sauce, lime juice, Hornitos 100% Agave Reposado Tequila & Patron Citrónge.

COCO LOCO 1800 Coconut Flavored Tequila, fresh squeezed lime juice, agave nectar & pineapple juice.

BLOOD ORANGE "SILVER COIN" A tasty blend of Herradura Silver 100% agave tequila, Cointreau, agave nectar, fresh squeezed lime juice & Blood Orange puree.



SHOPPING

NAMBE (575) 527-4623 | 2109 Calle de Parian | www.nambe.com

Purchase award-winning serveware, barware, home décor and gift items.

THUNDERBIRD DE LA MESILLA

(575) 524-1823 | 2380 Calle Principal | cafedemesilla.com

Gifts, jewelry, imports, home decor, religious décor and southwest art. (1)

BOWLIN'S MESILLA BOOK CENTER

(574) 526-6220 | 2360 Calle Principal | bookshop.org/shop/mesillabookcenter

Locally owned bookstore specializing in Southwest history and Children's books.

GALERI AZUL INC (575) 523-8783 | 2337 Calle de Guadalupe | facebook.com/GaleriAzulMesilla

Unique items for sale, hats, jewelry, pictures, tapestries, rugs and more. (2)

THE CHOCOLATE LADY

(575) 526-2744 | 2379 Calle De Guadalupe | mesillachocolatelady.com

Specializing in homemade caramel, truffles, turtles, toffee and more. (3)



Extend your

SOUTHWEST STAY

UNIQUE AIRBNB EXPERIENCES



SHIPPING CONTAINER HOMES

Located in Las Cruces, New Mexico, this shipping container loft was constructed from two 40-foot shipping containers and furnished with Ikea cabinets/furniture. This tastefully decorated residence is the perfect place to relax.

DESERT DOME HOME

Unique geodesic dome home central to NMSU, I-10 and Old Mesilla. Gated, secluded and secure. The home is a former caretaker's place and is located inside a fenced and gated four acre business yard. The business is at the other end of the property about 800 ft. away. The entire main floor which consists of two large bedrooms, full kitchen, large bath, dining and main room. Upstairs master bedroom and bath is being renovated for future use and is not currently available.



CASITA FLORECITA

Downtown Hacienda de Las Cruces- This authentic adobe casita with its own private entrance is on the grounds of an 1880's hacienda and is steps away from downtown, parks, museums, live theatre, farmers market, restaurants & shopping. This charmer has original, authentic touches such as beams in the ceiling, large plank wood floors, adobe plaster walls, bedroom, living/dining combo, tiny kitchen with all you need to cook up a meal, coffee and tea bar and private bath.



BED & BREAKFASTS

LUNDEEN INN OF THE ARTS

This one-hundred-year-old restored Mexican territorial inn is rated one of the top twenty Inns in the country. Combines Old World charm and western hospitality with one of the Southwest's largest Fine Art Galleries. This intellectual and cultural diversity creates a wonderful atmosphere for sharing. Any morning, breakfast promises stimulating conversations and exciting new acquaintances. The Inn is a place where all may come and feel at home.



UNIQUE HOTELS WITH UNIQUE FEATURES

HOTEL ENCANTO

705 S. Telshor Blvd. | www.hotelencanto.com

Hotel Encanto de Las Cruces is a unique New Mexico hotel with an ambiance reflective of Spanish and Mexican Colonial history and tradition. Conveniently located near a variety of attractions and businesses, Hotel Encanto offers luxurious accommodations and amenities including an on-site restaurant and bar, an outdoor swimming pool and more than 35,000 square feet of indoor and outdoor meeting and event space.

HACIENDA DE MESILLA

1891 Avenida de Mesilla | haciendademessilla.com

Hacienda de Mesilla is inspired by the grand old Haciendas of the Old West. Located near Las Cruces in Historic Old Mesilla, this charming boutique inn, grill, and cantina offers a very special experience to the traveler, full of charm and personal attention. Beautifully decorated to reflect the unique cultural diversity of where the Old West meets Old Mexico, Hacienda de Mesilla opened in the spring 2017 and is one of the most exciting additions to Historic Old Mesilla.

RV-ING & CAMPING BLM

LEASBURG STATE PARK emnrd.nm.gov

Leasburg Campground has 24 developed campsites (some with electric hook-ups), shelters, grills, fire pits, picnic tables. The campground has drinking water, flush toilets, a playground, group picnic shelter, cactus garden and an RV dump station.

Leasburg Dam features a 140-acre fishing lake straddling both sides of the Rio Grande near historic Fort Selden Historic Site. The Park offers year-round camping, picnicking and bird watching, as well as fishing, canoeing and kayaking in the Rio Grande from mid-March to mid-October. Nearby Fort Selden has a museum and trails at the site of a 19th-century army outpost.

LAS CRUCES KAMPGROUNDS OF AMERICA (KOA) JOURNEY koa.com

KOA of Las Cruces is conveniently located one mile from Interstate 10, overlooking Las Cruces and the scenic Mesilla Valley. Many upgrades have taken place over the last year, including wi-fi, paved streets and a playground. Choose from breathtaking view sites, big-rig friendly pull-thru sites, KOA patio sites with fire pits, tent sites or one-room camping cabins with refrigerator/freezer and fire pits. An RV wash area (donation encouraged), 24-hour laundry and heated pool (seasonal) complete the visit.

HACIENDA RV RESORT haciendarv.com

Hacienda RV Resort provides the perfect setting for rest and relaxation with stellar accommodations and breathtaking views. New Mexico's historic cultural activities combined with high-speed wi-fi makes the resort a perfect destination for tech-savvy tourists and explorers.

Enjoy a premium guest experience and plentiful accommodations. Paved roads lead to 113 RV sites with a variety of sizes, layouts and access to our community clubhouse. Check out the outdoor patio with a large hot tub, outdoor fireplace, workout facility and gift shop.

DISPERSED CAMPING www.blm.gov

Much of the public land that surrounds Las Cruces is managed by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and is open for dispersed camping only if it does not conflict with other authorized uses. One popular site for dispersed camping near Las Cruces is located at the Sierra Norte Trailhead (Sierra Vista Trail). Please follow leave no trace principles and avoid ground fires when camping on public lands. Check with the BLM Las Cruces District Office for details and limitations on dispersed camping throughout the Organ Mountains-Desert Peaks and Prehistoric Trackways National Monuments. (575) 525-4300

For more lodging options, go to visitlascruces.com

Thanks for the MEMORIES



Home to several business and event spaces, Las Cruces is the perfect city to host your next special occasion. Take advantage of the weather by booking an outdoor venue, winery for your intimate wedding or the convention center for your next conference. View a full list of available locations or connect online to one of the following venues by going to visitlascruces.com.

CONVENTIONS & CONFERENCES



LAS CRUCES CONVENTION CENTER

- 42,000 sq. ft. of functional space
- 17,236 sq. ft. exhibit hall
- 8,900 sq. ft. ballroom
- 10 meeting rooms
- On-site professional audio/video services
- Executive chef and full catering
- Wedding/reception options

HOTEL ENCANTO DE LAS CRUCES

- Over 10,000 sq. ft. of functional space
- 5,000 sq. ft. ballroom that breaks into four rooms
- Nine breakout spaces
- 2,200 sq. ft. of pre function space
- Outdoor event space
- Wedding/reception options

RAMADA BY WYNDHAM

Las Cruces Hotel & Conference Center

- 6,800 sq. ft. of ballroom space that breaks into six rooms
- One block from New Mexico State University
- Wedding/reception options
- Accommodating up to 930 conference guests or 475 banquet guests
- Across the street from the Las Cruces Convention Center

New Mexico

FARM & RANCH HERITAGE MUSEUM

- Museum open to guests, hands-on exhibits
- Over 18,000 sq. ft. of meeting space
- Museum offers hands on exhibits
- Outside courtyard offers 14,355 sq. ft. of outside space with views of the Organ Mountains
- Catering options
- Wedding/reception options



NEW MEXICO STATE UNIVERSITY

NMSU

- Up to 14 meeting spaces, including an auditorium with fixed seating
- Ballroom with a capacity of 900 people
- Catering options
- Larger groups are also accommodated through university special events venues with additional classrooms and lecture halls

CORBETT CENTER STUDENT UNION

- Primary campus meeting facility
- 14 meeting rooms and auditorium and ballroom space
- Multi-purpose meeting spaces and serves as the hub of student engagement

PAN AMERICAN CENTER

- Renovated in 2006-07
- Seating 13,140
- Hosts athletic and entertainment events
- Annex features offices, practice facilities and locker rooms, and a conference room

NMSU SPIRITUAL CENTER

- A non-denominational facility
- Center is open to the public from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m.
- Adjacent to the duck pond
- Religious services for campus and student groups, and ceremonial events for the public

STAN FULTON ATHLETICS CENTER'S VILLANUEVA VICTORY CLUB

- Small venue for meetings, receptions
- Dining area and bar
- Patio
- Panoramic views of Aggie Memorial Stadium & Tortugas "A" Mountain

NMSU GOLF COURSE & CLUBHOUSE PATIO

- Located on an 18-hole golf course
- Views of the Organ Mountains
- Views of Tortugas "A" Mountain
- Views of the greens from the outdoor patio
- 2,400 sq. ft. banquet room holds up to 168 guests

ATKINSON RECITAL HALL

- Recital hall seats up to 500 people
- Ideal for concerts, lectures and presentations

PETE'S PATIO

- Intimate, casual outdoor setting, 'cantina-style' restaurant
- Fire pit, lounge seating

MULTI-PURPOSE & WEDDING/RECEPTION

See "Conventions & Conferences" for more options.

BLUE DOOR VENUE

- Boutique wedding venue
- Romantic old-world Spanish, Southwest-style property
- Vendor flexibility
- Contera stone fountain, gardens, chandeliers and twinkle lights
- Accommodates up to 200 guests

D.H. LESCOMBES WINERY & BISTRO

- Spacious outdoor space with breathtaking views of the Organ Mountains
- Lawn
- Covered patio
- Brick patio
- Installed lighting enables evening and night events
- On-site vineyard
- Private room seats 40 people
- On-site catering

RIO GRANDE VINEYARD & WINERY

- Rural setting, located off New Mexico Highway 28
- 10-acre vineyard
- Accommodates up to 500 people
- Views of the Organ Mountains

RED HAWK GOLF CLUB

- Located on East Mesa with views of the Organ Mountains and Doña Ana Mountains
- Indoor venue
- Venue overlooking the golf course
- On site catering
- Accommodates up to 300 people

ORGAN VISTA VENUE

- Spacious outdoor space with breathtaking views of the Organ Mountains
- Lawn
- Covered patio
- Brick patio
- Installed lighting enables evening and night events
- On-site vineyard
- Private room seats 40 people
- On-site catering

THE GRAPEVINE PLAZA

- Onsite catering, brewery/pub, bar
- Outdoor and indoor venues
- Stage
- Ballroom accommodates up to 300 people

LA VIÑA WINERY

- Grounds & patio are suitable for picnics, special events
- Indoor setting accommodates up to 120 people
- Outdoor grounds accommodate groups up as large as 5,000 people

RUN WILD

Sports in Las Cruces

With a mild climate, 320 days of sunshine a year, and an average annual precipitation rate of just over 10", Las Cruces is the perfect place for year-round play. It also allows sporting event organizations to plan their next indoor or outdoor event or tournament with confidence. The city has over 25 sports facilities and welcomes sports from football and baseball to BMX and roller derby.

Explore more ways to play outside 365 at visitlascruces.com.



ON THE RISE

PICKLEBALL

Over the last several years pickleball has become a larger community in Las Cruces. The city has converted the Apodaca Tennis Center into eight pickleball courts. The new East Mesa Sports Complex will have 16 additional courts once it is completed.



WOMEN'S SPORTS

FAST PITCH

Girls Fastpitch has always been a huge mainstay in Las Cruces. Las Cruces is home to some of the largest tournaments in the state and region, as well as a Women's Professional Tackle Football team in the Cruces Regulators.



DIRTY SPORTS

BMX

The BMX Community has been active in Las Cruces for many years. The Wild Chile BMX Track is one of the top tracks in the state. Cycling around Las Cruces is year-round. There are many dirt trails and cement trails to put the rubber to the road or the dirt. Las Cruces has also changed some traffic laws so that the side-by-sides can go in the dirt and the streets.



Golf in Las Cruces

Nestled in warm southern New Mexico, Las Cruces is home to exciting championship-style golf at amateur prices, adding yet one more way to enjoy our 320 days of sunshine a year. Local courses take advantage of many desert characteristics, forcing golfers to steer clear of tricky desert brush and unforgiving desert rough. At almost 4,000 feet above sea level, golf balls travel farther, sometimes bringing into play unexpected obstacles that can require some creative shot making.



NEW MEXICO STATE UNIVERSITY GOLF COURSE

3000 Herb Wimberly Dr. | (575) 646-3219

Designed by Floyd Farley in 1963, the 18-hole course is framed by the majestic Organ Mountains to the east and the picturesque Mesilla Valley to the west. Measuring over 7,000 yards, the course provides a challenge to golfers of all skill levels with a unique combination of traditional and desert golf featuring large greens and generous fairways.

Course amenities:

- Driving range
- Putting green
- Full bar
- Pro shop
- Restaurant
- Snack bar

PICACHO HILLS COUNTRY CLUB

6861 Via Campestre | (575) 523-8641

Picacho Hills is the only private golf course in Las Cruces, offering reciprocal agreements with other private clubs. At nearly 7,000 yards, this par 72 desert-style course features lush bluegrass fairways and bent-grass tees and greens.

Course amenities:

- Driving range
- Putting green
- Full bar
- Pro shop
- Restaurant
- Snack bar

SONOMA RANCH GOLF COURSE

1274 Golf Club Rd. | (575) 521-1818

Designed by Cal Olson, Sonoma Ranch Golf Course is longish with rolling hills, strewn with bunkers and undulating bent grass greens. With five tee boxes, it offers a stimulating challenge for all levels of golfer. It is equipped with paved cart paths and a clubhouse with a full-service restaurant. *Course amenities:*

- Driving range
- Putting green
- Full bar
- Pro shop
- Restaurant
- Snack bar

RED HAWK GOLF COURSE

3601 Arroyo Rd. | (575) 513-7628

This 18-hole Ken Dye course is the newest addition to Las Cruces' golfing community. Opened in October 2011 and measuring in at 7,523 (from the tips), links-style course features rolling and generous greens with a challenging yet spacious design.

Course amenities:

- Driving range
- Snack bar
- Pro shop
- Full bar
- Putting green



On the GREEN



AGGIE UP!

NM STATE SPORTS IS ALMOST ALWAYS IN SEASON



Whether an Aggie past or present, or visiting Las Cruces, New Mexico State University athletics drive and determination are almost always on display. NMSU is an NCAA Division I university, the highest level of intercollegiate athletics sanctioned by the National Collegiate Athletic Association in the United States. Starting in July 2023 NMSU will be a part of Conference USA in every sport.

HIGHLIGHT REEL

- The football team has enjoyed recent success in football with winning the Arizona Bowl in Tucson in 2017 and the Quick Lane Bowl in Detroit in 2022.
- NMSU men's Basketball also has been very successful in recent years making it to the NCAA Basketball Tournament in eight out of the last 10 years.
- In 2022 NMSU Men's basketball scored a win over UConn in the first round of the NCAA Tournament.
- NMSU Baseball went undefeated throughout the 2022 tournament, heading back to the NCAA Tournament for the second time in five years.

SHOW YOUR SUPPORT

Fall

Winter

Spring

AUGUST-NOVEMBER

- Women's Soccer
- Volleyball
- Men's Cross Country
- Women's Cross Country
- Football

SEPTEMBER-MARCH

- Men's Basketball
- Women's Basketball
- Women's Swimming and Diving

JANUARY-MAY

- Baseball
- Softball
- Men's Tennis
- Women's Tennis
- Men's Golf
- Women's Golf
- Women's Track and Field (indoor/outdoor)

Tickets are available through Ticketmaster.
For more information, visit nmstatesports.com

SPORTS VENUES

Las Cruces has numerous sports facilities to handle just about everything under the sun. It has the manpower and facilities to host and manage events from local league play to National Championship events.



HADLEY SPORTS COMPLEX 1463 E. Hadley Ave.

Hadley Sports Complex is the diamond of Las Cruces facilities. It has 11 baseball/softball fields all in one spot with Harty, Paz and Maag Complexes. Two multi-purpose fields with Soldados and Provencio Van Dame. Ron Galla Tee-ball field, Wild Chile BMX track, Las Cruces Skate Park and Meerschmidt Center round out the area.



FIELD OF DREAMS 2501 Tashiro Rd.

The Field of Dreams is owned by Las Cruces Public Schools. It boasts a football stadium, a fastpitch four-plex and a baseball three-plex. There are also 12 soccer/multi-purpose fields adjacent with High Noon Soccer Complex.



EAST MESA SPORTS COMPLEX

550 N. Sonoma Ranch Blvd.

Coming in 2023, the EMPRC will include a baseball complex, pickleball courts, soccer and other multi-use fields, parking lots and a roadway to the complex. It is being constructed to the northeast of the East Mesa Public Safety Complex and near Camino Coyote Lane.

NEW MEXICO STATE UNIVERSITY

- Aggie Memorial Stadium
- Pan American Center
- Presley Askew Field
- NMSU Softball Complex
- NMSU Tennis Center
- NMSU Swimming & Diving Complex
- NMSU Track & Field Complex
- James B. Delamater Activity Center
- NMSU Soccer Complex





Anahy Nuñez and Aaron Valenzuela painting 'Con Amor'

Con Amor

Anahy Nuñez was one of 65 applicants from across the nation who submitted their design for Visit Las Cruces' 860 square foot mural. Her artwork, titled "Con Amor," a postage stamp-style concept, captured the colorful culture that draws visitors to the city.



"Born and raised in Las Cruces, I wanted to encompass everything that makes up the beauty of this city, the wonderful community, and its colorful landscape. I poured my heart onto a canvas for this mural and I created 'Con Amor,' a visual love letter for the city that made me the artist I am today."

- Anahy Nuñez, mural artist