

# New Mexico Outdoor Recreation







## Outdoor Activities

From the stark, arid beauty of southern New Mexico's deserts to some of the country's finest ski slopes, this land of breathtaking contrasts offers a myriad of outdoor activities year-round. We have world class whitewater rafting, fly fishing, kayaking, golfing, hiking, rock climbing, mountain biking, skiing, snowboarding, ballooning, wind surfing, cycling and even scuba diving. If it's an outside activity and you like doing it, you can do it here in abundance.

### Birding

With about 500 different birds on New Mexico's state bird list –one of the highest– it should come as no surprise that there are a lot of favorite places!

Birds are magical. They inspire us and have the ability to motivate us into action. Birds are a gateway to engage people in our natural world – through festivals, events, birding trails, volunteer opportunities, classes and bird clubs.

### Camping & Hiking

New Mexico's hiking and camping spots exude diversity, from rugged mountaintops to grassy plains to lowland desert. Encompassing six of the world's seven life zones, the state's landscapes offer a taste of nearly all climes. Open space, along with diverse wildlife and plant species are plentiful in this vast and sparsely populated state. Many who call New Mexico home seek out its scenic beauty and countless outdoor recreation activities regularly.

Federal and state lands offer an abundance of public hiking trails and campgrounds, and several Native American reservations and pueblos permit camping, hiking, hunting and fishing. You can also drive on roads and pitch a tent in most areas of national forests and BLM property.

"The proximity of everything I hold dear in life was before me. I could imagine myself running along the ridge tops, skiing the basin, kayaking the Rio Grande, taking my horses and dogs camping in the Sangre de Cristos and right on up the spine of the Rockies to Montana. I could breathe. I could be Western. Hell, I could be a cowboy.

Santa Fe's empty beauty and dramatic sky were in stark contrast to my hometown of concrete canyons and heavy, damp skies. Out among the tabletop mesas and jagged barrancas of New Mexico, it seemed as if I could almost get in touch with the primitive roots of our ancestral past, where early civilizations had scratched a living out of the earth. It would be easy to let the currents of New Mexico take me on a magic carpet ride to distant and exotic lands. A tingle of excitement shot up the back of my neck, summoning up feelings I'd enjoyed as an ex-pat."

Larry Burke  
Editor-in-Chief, *Outside Magazine*  
From an article appearing in *New Mexico Magazine*, January 2014  
*Where the Outsiders Belong*

### Culture

Some of the New Mexico's most unique events involve its undeniable culture and offer outdoor recreation opportunities, such as Santa Fe's Indian and Spanish Markets, Native American dances at the pueblos, and the many fiestas held on town plazas throughout the state. Of course, one of our most picturesque events, the Albuquerque International Balloon Fiesta, fills the sky with unforgettable beauty each October. Find your next great adventure now. Adventures that feeds the soul begin here.

### Fishing

New Mexico fishing has so much to offer and a year-round season for most waters. The state has a broad variety of species from panfish to trout, bass and catfish, northern pike and walleye, and stunning spots from the San Juan Basin to the Pecos River and everywhere in between.

The state has a few lakes and parts of some streams are designated "Special Trout Waters," more commonly referred to as "Quality Waters." Many Indian pueblos and reservations also offer public fishing, mostly for rainbow trout, some with bass or catfish.

### Golf

New Mexico's best-kept secret is its stunning golf courses. With magnificent vistas surrounding all of the best courses the only question to ask is, "Should I play 18 or 36?" Whether you like mountain, desert, or links courses New Mexico has everything you need. With over 300 days of sunshine any season is golf season in the Land of Enchantment.

No matter what part of the state you may be exploring there is world-class golf everywhere. If you are in the southern part of the state, Ruidoso and Las Cruces provide both desert and mountain terrain to test your abilities. In the northern part of the state see how far you can hit a ball at elevation, while playing Pendaries or Angel Fire. If your New Mexico adventure takes you to the four corners be sure to make time to play Pinon Hills in Farmington. Pinon Hills is a Pete Dye design and has consistently garnered honors over the last 20 years at one of the top municipal courses in the country. New Mexico is home to 19 Native American pueblos and a more than a few have built stunning golf courses, namely Sandia Golf Club on the Sandia reservation and Twin Warriors on the Santa Ana reservation.

### Health & Wellness

In New Mexico, there is an oasis of sacred springs and world-renowned spas, rich with traditional and Native-inspired services. Here, the unexpected opportunities to be restored and rejuvenated are delightfully countless.

New Mexico has an abundance of hot springs that span the gamut from wilderness hot springs to luxurious spas. The state is blessed with some of the finest hot springs on earth from Truth or Consequences in the southern part of the state, to Jemez Spring and Ojo Caliente in the north. There are beautiful springs at the end of a long hike in the wilderness, lovely gems that are only a short hike, and world-class spa resorts that include Ten Thousand Waves and Ojo Caliente Mineral Springs Resort and Spa.

New Mexico is a yoga-friendly state, and New Mexican's love yoga. The cultural richness, landscape and climate have long drawn artists, writers and many creative types. But it has also fostered a unique and harmonious way of living. In fact, Yogi Bhaijan introduced Kundalini Yoga to the United States and did most of his teaching in New Mexico. Kundalini's spiritual center, 3HO (Healthy, Happy, Holy), is located in Española and the Summer Solstice Sadhana Celebration is hosted there annually.

### Hunting

New Mexico has great assets for the hunting industry. The NRA's Whittington Center in Colfax County is the largest research and gun facility in the world. They host many competitive, educational and recreational activities in all shooting disciplines. The best gunsmithing school in the U.S. is in a small town in Colorado near the New Mexico border. The state's taxes and incentives favor hunting and gun-related companies looking for low operating costs, good logistics, and an existing industry. Elysium Arms, a gun barrel manufacturing company, decided to locate in Raton as a result of all these advantages.

### Mountain & Road Biking

Whether your preference is street or trail, the wide expanses of New Mexico offer some of the best bicycling opportunities in the world. There are thousands of accessible locations to ride, 310 days of sunshine, minimum rain and an abundance of riding opportunities in a diverse range of topographies.

In 2012, Santa Fe was the backdrop for the International Mountain Biking Association (IMBA) World Summit. While Santa Fe is known around the world for its art and culture, it's also an incredible mountain biking destination and during the event the nearby trails were enjoyed by riders of all abilities. And in the southern part of the state, Silver City is home to New Mexico's premiere road cycling race, Tour of the Gila.

### Rock Climbing

While often overlooked as a climbing destination, New Mexico has an abundance of quality stone. The excellent crags beckon climbers from all over the world. Stunning alpine and desert scenery, high-quality rock, no crowds, and year-round climbing are but a few features that will draw you to places like Cochiti Mesa, Socorro's Enchanted Tower, the Organ and Doña Ana mountains to name just a few.

New Mexico offers some of the most diverse and adventurous rock climbing in North America. An amazing variety of rock and everything from bouldering to one thousand-foot walls await the climber here. The state offers hundreds of routes ranging from 5.6 to 5.14, appealing to both traditional and sport climbers. The mountains and crags of New Mexico are unrivaled in terms of quality climbs, solitude, adventure, beauty, and variety of rock and terrain.



## Skiing

New Mexico is truly an eye-opening place for skiing. The state's natural beauty, friendly service, uncrowded trails, unique culture, and easy access to ski areas combine to make New Mexico a surprisingly perfect place to ski. With over 300 inches of snow each winter and over 300 days of sunshine, winter sports in New Mexico include exceptional downhill skiing and riding, picturesque high-mountain Nordic skiing, snowmobiling, inner tube riding, and snowshoeing.

New Mexico boasts eight downhill ski resorts and three Nordic resorts, including the world famous Taos Ski Valley. Among the others are Ski Angel Fire, Red River Ski Area, Ski Santa Fe, Sipapu Ski & Summer Resort, PaJaRito Mountain, Sandia Peak, Ski Apache, Enchanted Forest Cross Country Ski Area, Valles Calderas, and Chama Cross Country.

In northern New Mexico, both Taos and Los Alamos made the ranks of National Geographic. Taos was on the list of the World's 25 Best Ski Towns and Los Alamos, the Best Secret Ski Towns of North America. Taos was rated "best for art-loving skiers and boarders with a taste for steep runs," and Los Alamos "for Cold War history buffs." Not surprisingly, both were noted for those with a taste for green chile.

Taos Ski Valley offers some of the finest steep skiing and boarding in the U.S., with powder that rivals Utah's for lightness. While Pajarito Mountain in Los Alamos isn't huge, the mountain has some 35-degree, black-diamond plunges that will entertain advanced skiers.

## Whitewater Rafting

Not only are New Mexico's infrequent rivers lifeblood to the arid state, but they're also a source of wet ecstasy for intrepid adventurers who regularly ply their waters in all manner of craft, from kayaks to canoes to hypalon rafts.

Given that nearly all of the waterways rely on melting mountain snowpack for sustenance, it makes sense that the most exciting whitewater runs abound in the northern part of the state where most of the mountains are located. The unbridled Rio Grande west of Taos is the river of choice for experienced whitewater enthusiasts, while those seeking a gentler ride prefer a tributary, the dam-controlled Rio Chama. Apart from these two premier runs, which are regulated by the BLM, an assortment of smaller rivers can be navigated during the short spring runoff season, which typically begins in April.



## Climate

New Mexico's weather is as varied as its landscape. Its elevation provides for the four seasons throughout the state. Most parts of the state enjoy a very moderate climate and low precipitation. Desert snows rarely include ice storms, with minimal impact on everyday business activities. Natural disasters are almost nonexistent. In fact, according to the National Weather Service, unlike other southern states New Mexico averages 'zero' deaths due to tornadoes annually.

## Lifestyle

Few places on earth offer the rich history and cultural diversity found in New Mexico. Visitors are drawn to the state's many historical sites, museums, and celebrations every year. New Mexico is home to 22 Native American tribes. Their rich history is celebrated today in museums, ceremonial dances, arts and crafts, language, and traditional villages.



In 1996, BTI took the chance and moved operations from Ashland, OR to Santa Fe. As a supplier of recreational equipment, we were seeking an ideal location to serve both the east and west coasts, and in particular the Rocky Mountain region. With a standard three day outbound time-in-transit to any point in the continental U.S. and a reliable local workforce, we have grown to be one the nation's top parts suppliers from our home base in New Mexico. The area's amazing history, diverse landscape and reputation for uncrowded outdoor recreation have all been influential in recruiting world class talent from outside New Mexico.

Preston Martin  
Vice President, Bicycle Technologies International  
bti-usa.com

## Incentives

In February 2012, Governor Susana Martinez signed new legislation creating a gross receipts tax deduction on consumables used in the manufacturing of a product and construction. While more recently, the Governor and the State Legislature authorized a phase-in of the single sales factor for manufacturing. New Mexico also offers no inventory tax, an investment tax credit on equipment used in a manufacturing facility, several tax credits for the creation of new jobs, and incentives specific to the manufacturing industry.

### Job Training Incentive Program (JTIP)

JTIP is one of the most aggressive job training programs in the nation, with a forty year history of assisting businesses with customized workforce training and has trained more than 42,000 participants. JTIP funds classroom training and on-the-job training for newly-created jobs in expanding or relocating businesses for up to six months. JTIP reimburses 50-80% of trainee wages. Custom training at a New Mexico public educational institution may also be covered.

### Single Sales Factor for Manufacturers

New Mexico will provide a phased-in election for manufacturers to utilize a single sales factor income apportionment methodology. The double weighted sales factor has been replaced by the more straightforward election, which becomes triple weighted in 2015, multiplied by seven (over ten with the property and payroll factors times 1.5) in 2016, by eight (over 10) in 2017, and 100% weighted in 2018.

### High Wage Jobs Tax Credit

This credit gives companies who hire employees at salaries of \$28K or higher in rural areas, and \$40K or higher in urban communities, tax credits equal to ten percent of the combined salary and benefits package for the year in which the job is created, and for the three qualifying periods following.

### Manufacturer's Investment Tax Credit

Manufacturers may take a tax credit of 5.125 percent of the value of qualified equipment and other property used in their operation. The credit can be applied against compensating, gross receipts or withholding tax up to 85% of the total. Any remaining available credit may be claimed in subsequent reporting periods.

### R&D Small Business Tax Credit

A qualified R&D small business is eligible for a credit equal to the sum of all gross receipts taxes or up to fifty percent (50%) of withholding taxes due. Qualified research is defined as that undertaken for the purpose of discovering information that is technological in nature and the application of which is intended to be useful in the development of a new or improved business component and in which substantially all activities constitute elements of a process of experimentation related to new or improved function, performance, reliability or quality, but not related to style, taste, cosmetic or seasonal design factors.



## Outdoor Retailers

### Biking

- The Bike Co-op, Albuquerque
- Bike Doctor, Santa Fe
- Bike N Sport, Santa Fe
- Bike World, Albuquerque
- Broken Spoke, Santa Fe
- Cycle Cave Inc., Albuquerque
- Duke City BMX, Albuquerque
- Fat Tire Cycles Inc., Albuquerque
- Fusion Sports, Los Alamos
- Gearing Up Bicycle Shop, Taos
- High Desert Bicycles, Albuquerque
- Northeast Cyclery, Albuquerque
- Northside at Taos Ski Valley, Taos Ski Valley
- Melo Velo, Santa Fe
- Rob & Charlie's, Santa Fe
- Sirius Cycles, Santa Fe
- SpinDoc, Santa Fe
- Trek Bicycle Superstore, Albuquerque
- Universal Cycles (online retailer), Santa Fe

### Diving

- Scuba Center, Albuquerque

### Hunting & Fishing

- Calibers Shooters Sports Center, Albuquerque
- Charlie's Sporting Goods, Albuquerque
- High Desert Angler, Santa Fe
- Los Pinos Fly and Tackle Shop, Albuquerque
- Los Ranchos Gun & Tackle, Albuquerque
- The Outdoorsman, Santa Fe
- Precision Arms, Albuquerque
- The Reel Life, Santa Fe
- Shooters Den, Albuquerque
- Taos Tack & Supply, Taos

### Running

- ABQ Running Shop, Albuquerque
- Heart & Sole Sports, Albuquerque
- Bosque Running Shop, Albuquerque

### Winter Sports

- Adventure Ski & Snowboard, Taos
- Alpine Sports, Santa Fe
- Alpine Xtreme, Taos
- Boot Doctor, Taos
- Cottam's Ski Shop, multiple locations: Santa Fe, Angel Fire, Taos Ski Valley & Taos
- Fusion Sports, Los Alamos
- Mountain Sports, Angel Fire
- Northside at Taos Ski Valley, Taos Ski Valley
- Santa Fe Mountain Sports, Santa Fe
- Taos Mountain Outfitters, Taos
- Winter Mill, Santa Fe

### General Outdoor

- Big 5, Albuquerque & Santa Fe
- Cimarron West, Cimarron
- Dick's Sporting Goods, Albuquerque
- Fusion Sports, Los Alamos
- G & G Sports, Taos
- Mar Iguana Skate Shop, Española
- Mr. D's, Taos
- Mud n Flood Mountain Shop, Taos
- My Sports Shack, Española
- The North Face, Albuquerque
- REI, Albuquerque & Santa Fe
- Running Hub, Santa Fe
- Sports Authority, Albuquerque & Santa Fe
- Sports Systems
- Sportsman's Warehouse
- Viva Sports, Taos

## Outdoor Companies & Outfitters



### Adventure Partners | Santa Fe

Offers travel packages including hikes, mountain biking and archeological tours for varying levels of difficulty. Partners with the Four Seasons Rancho Encantado.

### Anconia Manufacturing | Los Alamos

Produces various consumer products including outdoor, recreational and firearms accessories.

### Axle Canyon Preserve | Silver City

Ecological preserve that specializes in ecotourism and education. Offers hunting and space for off-road vehicles as well.

### Bicycle Technologies International (BTI) | Santa Fe

Specializes in the distribution of cycling products and accessories to bike dealers globally.

### Great Southwest Adventures | Santa Fe

Offers day tours to Santa Fe to Taos, Abiquiu, Bandelier National Monument, Pecos National Historic Park, Chaco Canyon, and other fascinating cultural and natural landscapes of northern New Mexico, and the Four-Corners states.

### Great West Trail | Silver City

Provides base camps for backpackers going through Southeast New Mexico. Assists with other outfitting services.

### Los Rios River Runners | Taos

Whitewater rafting with trips on the Rio Grande and the Rio Chama.

### Orange Tackle | Española

Manufactures snagging fishing hooks and equipment.

### Santa Fe Mountain Adventures | Santa Fe

Specializes in adventure tours including whitewater rafting, hiking and mountain biking.

### Sci-Tac | Los Alamos

Manufactures and sells high Title-1 firearms and accessories.

### Siriusware | Taos

Leading provider of integrated ticketing, point-of-sale and guest management software to ski resorts and amusement parks.

### Southwest Expeditions | Anthony

Ecotour adventures including biking and river rafting.

### TCR Precision Race Management | Albuquerque

Planning, packaging and management of participant sporting events (foot races, duathalons, triathalons, etc.).

### Universal Cycles | Santa Fe

Online bicycle retailer which relocated to the Santa Fe area four years ago to be strategically closer to a major components supplier, BTI.

### Wicked Edge | Santa Fe

Designs and manufactures high end knife sharpeners for hunters and outfitters to take into the field.

### About Us

The New Mexico Partnership is contracted by the New Mexico Economic Development Department to be the one stop shop for locating businesses in New Mexico. We simplify the site selection process by providing information and support regarding incentives, workforce training programs, and real estate sites and buildings.

The State of New Mexico offers aggressive incentives to bring businesses to New Mexico and works in conjunction with the New Mexico Partnership to encourage companies to invest in New Mexico.

Please contact us to receive our confidential assistance.

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