

TRAVEL + LEISURE

CITY GUIDES

LAS VEGAS • PHOENIX • SANTA FE

SPECIAL
PULLOUT
SECTION

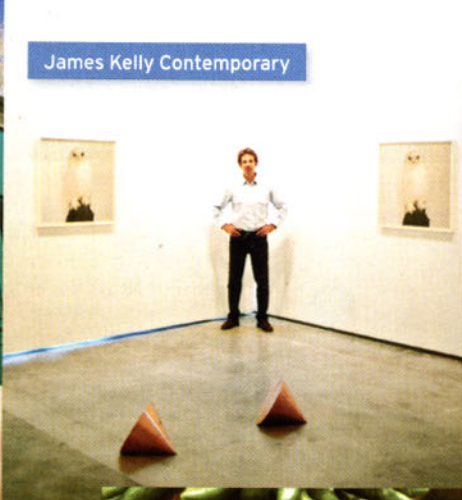
THE LATEST ON WHERE TO EAT | WHERE TO SHOP
WHERE TO STAY | WHAT NOT TO MISS



Railyard



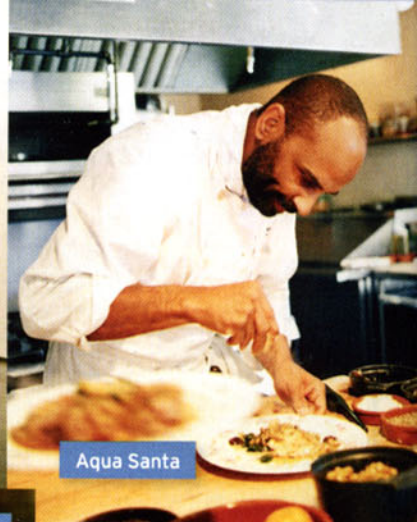
Block Mercantile



James Kelly Contemporary



Santa Fe Farmers' Market



Aqua Santa



SITE Santa Fe

WHAT'S NEW IN SANTA FE

SANTA FE MAY BE THE PINUP TOWN for the Southwest, but those plump adobe walls camouflage a brainy vortex of science and culture, with a side of freaky-deaky New Age shamanism. Of late, some notable intelligent life has landed—Microsoft cofounder Paul Allen, writer Cormac McCarthy, former CIA agent Valerie Plame—and if Hillary doesn't make it to the Oval Office, you can bet the Clintons will be arriving, too. Join the jubilee: in June, American Airlines commences nonstop flights from Los Angeles, Dallas, and Salt Lake City. And by December, the high-speed **Rail Runner** (nmrailrunner.com) will be whisking passengers between Albuquerque and Santa Fe in a flash.

THE RAILYARD The town's historic Plaza has a brand-new \$125 million sibling, the refreshingly modern **Santa**

Fe Railyard (sfrailyardcc.org). Located on Old West holy ground—the storied stop of the Atchison, Topeka, and Santa Fe Railway—the complex is home to a performance space, museums, and the spectacular **Santa Fe Farmers' Market**. Meanwhile, the surrounding **Railyard Park** is now fringed with boutiques and blue-chip galleries, such as **James Kelly Contemporary** (1601 Paseo de Peralta; 505/989-1601) and **SITE Santa Fe** (1606 Paseo de Peralta; 505/989-1199), the daredevil nonprofit whose biennial (June 22–October 26) will install works by 22 artists—from nearly as many countries—around town. Occupying an old warehouse, **Block Mercantile** (418 Montezuma Ave.; 505/982-7477) traffics in the exquisite and exotic: 1920's beaded dresses, Karl Lagerfeld couture, Santa Fe quartz jewelry. Hole up at the **Hotel Santa Fe** (1501 Paseo de Peralta;

800/825-9876; hotelsantafe.com; doubles from \$149)—its new **Hacienda** has villa-size suites and a spa that opens in June.

AROUND THE PLAZA Après gallery openings, the art pack follows the crooked burro-path streets to **Aqua Santa** (451 W. Alameda St.; 505/982-6297; dinner for two \$85) for braised Abiquiu lamb, pastured on native sage. Arising nearby: architect Beverly Spears's **Santa Fe Convention Center** (201 W. Marcy St.; 505/955-6200), which hosts the UNESCO Creative Cities Conference in August. Also under construction is the **New Mexico History Museum** (nmhistorymuseum.org), an adobe-revival extension of the Plaza's Palace of the Governors.

OUT IN TESUQUE Debuting this August: **Encantado** (198 State Rd.; 877/262-4666; encantadoresort.com; casitas from \$475), an Auberge du Soleil resort seven miles north of town, in the foothills of trendy Tesuque. Its 65 casitas evoke Kit Carson without forsaking Miuccia Prada. Private terrace with views of the sapphire Jemez Mountains, anyone?