



Welcome to Albuquerque!

Thriving Southwestern spirit, more than 300 years of history and a unique blend of cultures make Albuquerque one of the most colorful cities in the United States. At once playful and laid back, the classy bohemian personality of this city results from a mash-up of Latin, Indian and European flavors fused to road-trip-era Americana. Albuquerque is a modern city of a million residents where gentlemen ranchers don their finest Stetsons to visit the opera and lawyers saunter into work wearing hand-tooled boots. Downtown offers sassy, margarita-filled nightclubs and a few cool lounges, and every corner of the city is bursting with restaurants serving countless variations of the spectacular local cuisine.

Albuquerque offers a variety of events to appeal to tourists and locals alike. The Albuquerque International Balloon Fiesta, held in early October, is the largest hot air balloon gathering—and the most photographed event of any kind in the world. Albuquerque also hosts the New Mexico State Fair for two and a half weeks every September at Expo New Mexico, as well as the annual Gathering of Nations Pow-Wow, which attracts more than 3,000 Native American dancers and singers from 500 tribes every April. The Revolutions International Theatre Festival takes place every January, and hundreds of national and international performances take place throughout the year. Buy tickets to Albuquerque events. Concert tickets to the Journal Pavilion, Theater tickets to Popejoy Hall and more.

Fervently challenging the culinary supremacy of flashy cities like New York and San Francisco, the restaurant scene in Albuquerque is nothing short of excellent. Fans of South American and Mexican-inspired Southwestern food should definitely check out hotspots like Los Equipales, a dining establishment boasting a fantastic menu of authentic Mexican food, or McGrath's, which blends American favorites with Argentinean flair. The French fare at Le Café Mìche is out-of-this-world, and Scalo is celebrated for its preparations of traditional Italian cuisine. Wine lovers can enjoy snazzy bistros like Zinc Wine Bar and Savoy Bar & Grill. The short trip to Santa Fe offers an equally impressive array of restaurants. Albuquerque.com now features online dining reservations.

(From *Albuquerque.com* – <http://www.albuquerque.com/>)

Albuquerque is divided into 12 regions called neighborhoods. Neighborhoods closest to our hotel are: Old Town, Downtown, Nob Hill, and Uptown.

Old Town offers galleries, quaint shops, many places to eat and shop (i.e., jewelry, art, crafts, clothing, New Mexican fare). San Felipe de Neri Church was built in 1793 and is a historic site; there are also five museums in this area.

Downtown features the historic KiMo Theatre which includes Southwestern Pueblo Deco architecture. The area around 4th and Central Streets has structures that have survived from the Route 66 era. (Central Avenue was Route 66!)

Nob Hill has classic diners, chic bistros, swanky wine bars, and eclectic boutiques as well as original and restored neon lights on a mile-long strip of Route 66. Neon arches border each end.

Uptown is progressive and has many chain restaurants and malls containing major retailers. This area provides lots of opportunities to “people watch.”

For more information: contact www.ItsATrip.org

Hotel Information

Hotel Albuquerque at Old Town
Albuquerque, New Mexico
800 Rio Grande Blvd. NW
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87104
505-843-6300 phone
1-866-505-7829 toll free

Hotel check-in is **3:00 pm** and check-out is **12:00 pm** on the day of departure. ***Complimentary internet access is available for NCSE attendees and throughout meeting rooms.***

No-Host Dinners

Please plan to attend one of our “No Host” dinners with other NCSE attendees and NSTA leaders. NSTA District Directors may reach out to pre-registered attendees over the coming weeks with more details or you can stop by the NCSE registration desk to sign up. *Reminder: attendees will be responsible for paying for their portion of the bill for dinner.*

Dress and Temperature

Dress for NCSE meeting is business casual. The average temperature in Albuquerque in July is 92 degrees (highs) and 64 degrees (lows) with 42% humidity so please plan according. Also keep in mind that the meeting rooms may be cooler.