



Photo by [Geraint Smith](#)

Pictured above is the back, iconic façade of the San Francisco De Asis Church, Ranchos de Taos (just 2 miles south of Taos Plaza).

Often depicted by Georgia O'Keefe, Ansel Adams, and other internationally famous artists, the Church has regular Sunday services. It is open to the public and hosts Las Posadas ceremonies in the winter. No photos inside.

The rectory houses the famous "Mystery Painting", brought over from Europe by Mrs. Griffith. This one-time art salon patroness was the owner of what is now the Adobe & Pines Bed and Breakfast, which was built in 1832 in Ranchos. Call the Church for more information, (575) 758-2754

Calendar

March 6, 2009

Larry Bell: The Last Women

Opens the New Encore Gallery at Taos Center for the Arts. This is the inaugural exhibit for TCA's new renovated art center and will be held from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m., followed by live performances by Robert Mirabal and others at 7:30 p.m.

Location: [Taos Center for the Arts](#)



Robert Mirabal

March 17, 2009

St. Patrick's Day Celebration at Taos Ski Valley

Kicks off at 4 p.m. at the Martini Tree Bar, with green beer, prize giveaways and help from Guinness and Bushmills. Call 866-968-7386.

Location: [Taos Ski Valley](#)

March 21, 2009

Spring Beer Festival at Tenderfoot Katie's and Martini Tree Bar at Taos Ski Valley

Sample a variety of beers from around the world from 4:30 to 7 p.m. \$25 entry fee includes souvenir glass, tons of food and beer. Call 866-968-7386.

Location: [Tenderfoot Katie's and Martini Tree Bar](#)

April 5, 2009

Closing day and Pond Skimming Championship at Taos Ski Valley

Call 800 633-7463.

Location: [Taos Ski Valley](#)

April 25, 2009

World Tai Chi and Qigong Day

World Tai Chi & QiGong Day is a global health and healing event that will unfold in more than 65 nations and in hundreds of cities around the world. In Taos it will be held at Kit Carson Park at 9:30 a.m. For more information call Carmen at (575) 737-5749 or Martha at (575) 758-9197

Location: [Kit Carson Park](#)

May 1-31, 2009

26th Annual Taos Spring Arts Celebration

Museum exhibitions, gallery openings, musical events, stage performances and fine dining. Call (575) 751 8800.

Location: [Throughout Taos](#)

May 3, 2009

Santa Cruz Feast Day

Blessing of the fields and corn dance at Taos Pueblo (no cameras or cell phones). Call (575) 758 1028.

Location: [Taos Pueblo](#)

May 9, 2009

Taos Summer of Love Kick Off with Dennis Hopper at The Harwood

Two shows: Silver Gelatin Prints by Hopper and Hopper Curates, artwork by five artists. Call (575) 758-9826 for more information.



Want to come to Taos later this year? Check out the Taos Summer of Love 2009, learn about this great celebration with roots 40 years ago, and [register](#) for our \$4,000 travel sweepstakes.

Location: [Throughout Taos](#)

May 16, 2009

Folk Life Festival

Traditional arts and crafts demonstrations by American Indian and Hispanic artists. Call (575) 758-2462.

Location: [Millicent Rogers Museum](#)

May 22-25, 2009

26th Annual Memorial Day

Motorcycle Rally/Run features thousands of motorcycles, live music, food and beautiful scenery, along with a 25-mile parade to the Vietnam Memorial in Red River. Call (575) 754-3030.

Location: [Red River](#)

[Click here](#) for more events.

When the Keystone Symposia Descends

What do some of the world's smartest people know about Taos, NM? That it's a great place to meet and learn, a great place to ski, a great place for art and shopping and has some of the best dining options in New Mexico!

When the [Keystone Symposia](#) descend on Taos each winter, they bring their scientific inquiries and a great sense of fun, taking over the town from mid-January through early March. And since many of these researchers and scientists are from Europe, Asia, South America as well as North America, they are unique ambassadors for spreading the word about how special Taos is...and a great place to hold meetings, too!

To learn more about great meeting options for your company, in Taos [click here](#).

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Learn more about all of the wonders of New Mexico. Check out New Mexico Tourism Deputy Cabinet Secretary, Jen Hoffman's blog [here](#).



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for more information, visit

[Taos Vacation Guide](#)

No Place Like Taos for Spring Break

Every year, millions contemplate that eternal question...Where do I go for Spring Break?

Taos offers a perfect value-added Spring Break escape for travelers that's like traveling internationally without the expense, stress or hassle. Whether you live in Albuquerque, Oklahoma City, Denver, Phoenix or Amarillo, Taos is a relatively quick road trip away, but millions of miles away from the "usual" Spring Break experience. [Click here](#) to find travel distances.



Photo courtesy of Seth Bullington

The [Taos Ski Valley](#) is world renowned and open to both skiers and snowboarders through April 5th. Plus, just a \$1 [shuttle ride](#) away. The Town of Taos offers snow enthusiasts loads of packages, [click here](#) for a full listing, and plenty to do beyond skiing or snowboarding – there's world class spas, historic and cultural sites and museums, exceptional shopping, some of the best art and galleries in the nation and, of course, outstanding cuisine and entertainment.



Photo Courtesy El Monte Sagrado

This year, book yourself for a one-of-a-kind retreat to relax your mind and body. Relax, rejuvenate and reconnect in Taos (and be kind to your wallet too).

Plan Your Four-Day Get Away



Photo Courtesy of Geraint Smith

You know you need a vacation, but just can't see spending too much money (particularly right now)? Taos is the answer. With so many unique and relaxing options, from inexpensive lodging, to dining and entertainment, your Taos vacation will make you wish you'd gone to Taos sooner!

The Taos Ski Valley stays open until April 5th and offers great packages for skiers and snowboarders alike. [Click here](#) for a full listing of packages you can't afford to miss.

Transportation is a snap with the Chile Line taking skiers and snowboarders to and from the Taos Ski Valley and the Town of Taos for only \$1. [Click here](#) for a full schedule/map.

Great food is everywhere you turn in Taos. The country's best chefs and decadent cuisine can be found on almost every corner. Don't let the five star restaurants intimidate your pocketbook, Taos also offers the best budget food options to fit your budget. [Café Loka](#) offers scrumptious organic baked goods, all inside a contemporary artspace. The cafe also boasts fun free events, including art openings and musical performances, and free internet.

Want some more? The Taos County Chamber [Web Site](#) also lists fun free Taos happenings as does [The Taos News.com](#).

So what are you waiting for? Book your Taos vacation today!

Tourism Drop-Off Weathered Well By Northern New Mexico's Enchanted Circle



Photo Courtesy Geraint Smith

Communities in the Enchanted Circle in Northern New Mexico – Taos, Red River, Angel Fire, Eagle Nest, Questa, Taos Ski Valley and Taos Pueblo – report that attendance at their resorts, events, destinations and visitor centers, plus lodging and gross receipts taxes, continue to hold their own in an economy that has badly beaten up other tourism-dependent areas in the U.S.

"We've been working hard to be smart and aggressive about marketing for our area over the last year, and it's paid off," said Cathy Connelly, Town of Taos Public Relations Director and member of the Enchanted Circle Intergovernmental Council and its Enchanted Circle Marketing

"Of course it helps that the Taos area has been a multi-cultural visitor destination with a great travel brand for over 1,000 years," she said, "and that Taos Pueblo is the only United Nations Living World Heritage site in the U.S.

The greater Taos area is known internationally, and it continues to be a popular destination for exploring fine art, southwest history, culture, wild outdoor beauty – and of course inner life surprises.

"We're a spiritual place that speaks to what's authentic. And it's all wrapped around our Enchanted Circle offerings – world-class food, natural beauty, diverse offerings, entertainment, and accommodations for every price range," said Connelly. More information about the Enchanted Circle and what it offers can be found at [www.enchantedcircle.org](#).

If you're interested in taking a driving tour of the Enchanted Circle, [click here](#), for a details, including must see stops and directions.