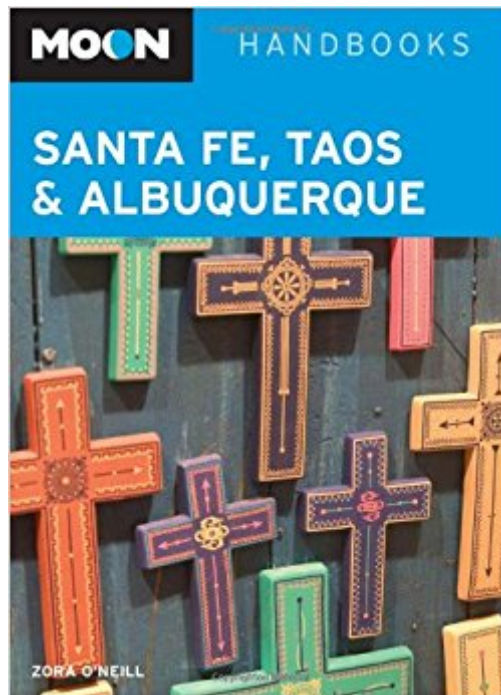




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Moon Santa Fe, Taos, And Albuquerque (Moon Handbooks)



Synopsis

New Mexico native Zora O'Neill shares her appreciation for the Land of Enchantment, from exploring Acoma Pueblo, the 12th century Native American settlement built upon a 367-foot mesa, to watching hundreds of hot-air balloons take flight during the Albuquerque International Balloon Fiesta. O'Neill offers a variety of trip strategies such as the American Indian Heritage Tour and a itinerary devoted to Mesas and Mountaintops. Her understanding of the remarkable history and culture of the region also shines through as she guides travelers to sites like the D.H. Lawrence ranch and to the many ceremonial dances throughout the state. From enjoying the range of flavors present in Santa Fe cuisine to driving through red rock canyons on the Jemez Mountain Trail, Moon Santa Fe, Taos, and Albuquerque gives travelers the tools they need to create a more personal and memorable experience.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Please visit my update website for the book. I can't list the URL here, but if you search for "moon albuquerque update," you'll hit it. I visit New Mexico frequently, and often get news from people I know there. So on the update website, I list businesses that have closed and other major changes as I hear about them, to keep the book fresh.

This is a very good book if you are hitting New Mexico's big three. There may be other books that just focus on one city in more depth, but if you are looking for the convenience of only one book, this

is it. I usually travel with Michelin guides. This is not at that level but it is better than anything else I found.

Very good

Maybe I'm just way too used to Fodors and the rest but I found this handbook sadly lacking. Zora seems to have included her top 5 or so restaurants and inns and left out all the rest. I purchased the book after researching places to stay on the internet and the ones I ended up booking based on the reviews of up to 100 travelers each were mostly missing from the handbook. Now I know you can't cover everything but the limited number included was just ridiculous! This leads me to wonder, what else has she left out as unimportant? We're making just a short trip from out of state with my kids to sprinkle my father's ashes but I felt my own limited knowledge was more extensive in some ways than this book. Maybe if I had no experience or more time I'd have found it more helpful.

I used this guidebook for a recent 5-day/4-night trip to Santa Fe and Albuquerque and was very impressed with the accuracy of the information. It was a great guide to the best spots in each city, with a healthy dose of opinion that set it apart from most of the bland guides out there all playing it safe with interchangeable descriptions. I think this is the first trip where the two of us chose dining spots based solely by what was in our book; time after time, we got what we were told to expect and it was great. The Moon guides are known for having more depth and expertise than others and employing writers who really know their stuff. This one is no exception: the Albuquerque native who wrote it has a confidence and a strength of opinion that is sorely lacking in many guides where the writer is rushing to research everything from scratch. To the first reviewer's point, I actually stayed at the Hilton because I scored a deal on Priceline, but did I really need a book to tell me what a chain hotel is going to be like? If I had just booked a hotel on my own direct, I would have gone with one of the author's recommendations: a locally owned place with plenty of New Mexico flavor.

I live in Santa Fe and think Zora absolutely chose the best the city has to offer in so many different categories. I love the stories and history that she weaves in among her reviews, so you get a really great sense of the place you're going to visit. I'm also learning a few things I didn't already know and will tuck them away, especially for the next time visitors come. Plus, I have regretfully not done enough exploring of Albuquerque and know that now all I have to do is open this book to find the best of that city too. And I'm happy that Zora included a section in the front called American Indian

Heritage--and lists events later in the book such as dates of dances at pueblos in the area--because it's a very important part of the history and culture in New Mexico.

I live in Albuquerque and have been writing about Albuquerque, Santa Fe and Taos for 10 years. I think Zora O'Neill nailed it with this book. It's not comprehensive (thank GOD), but when I think of the top five restaurants or sights I'd recommend in a particular area, and then check the book, I find Zora has written about the exact same ones. Sure, you can do a whole lot of extra research if you WANT to, but why bother? She really did pick the cream of the crop. So buy this book and forget about what you might possibly be missing. If you just follow her advice you'll have a fantastic trip.

This Moon Handbook on Santa Fe, Taos & Albuquerque was our Bible during our trip. I liked Zora's style of writing, I could feel her passion for New Mexico and that made her a great tour guide. For example under - "recent history" she described the hippies of the 60's as those who "fantasized about getting back to the land but had no clue how to do it." I found that sooo funny and it had conviction, which I rarely see in a guide book. I don't always follow guide books to the `t but her recommendations were so good there didn't seem to be a reason to stray from the ease of having Zora be our guide. What a wonderful place Santa Fe is...

Lots of good tips. I wish there were less time or writing about foods - places to eat and shopping and more written on sites and cultural information.

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