

THE LUXURY LIFESTYLE MAGAZINE OF TEXAS

PRIME

LIVING

seasonal
STYLE

FASHION FINDS
FROM LOUBOUTIN,
GUCCI &
BURBERRY

annual
**FOOD &
WINE
ISSUE**



artisan
**CHEESE
TRAIL**
TASTE YOUR WAY FRC
COAST TO COA

flavors OF
summer

TEXAS' MOST DELICIOUS FOOD BUZZ—FROM BOOZY
MILKSHAKES TO GOURMET HAUTE DOGS

JULY/AUGUST } \$5.95 US




 SUMMERTIME
FUN IN

Santa Fe

story | JESSICA MEBANE

Let's get out of town this season and conjure up some good ol' fashioned mysticism and magic for our world-weary, bad-news saturated lives. As you land in sun-drenched New Mexico and begin the trek upward to Santa Fe, feel the angst of the past few thousand news cycles slough off in favor of a lighter, more elevated frame of mind.

Stay Charming

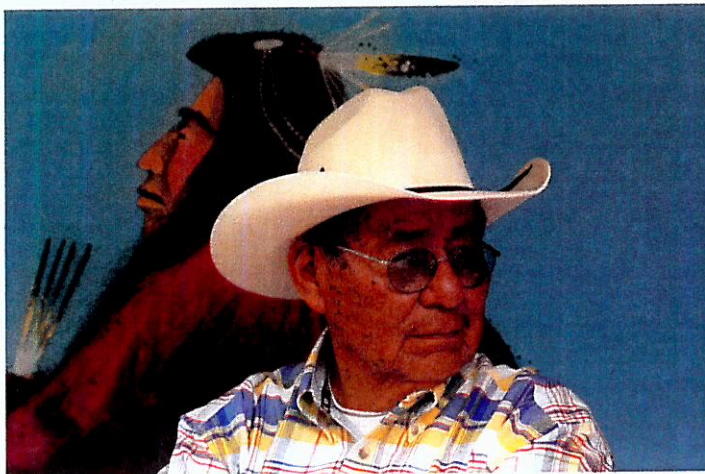
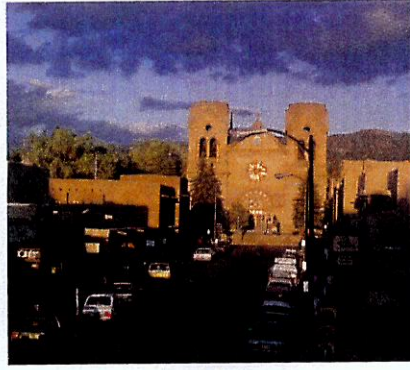
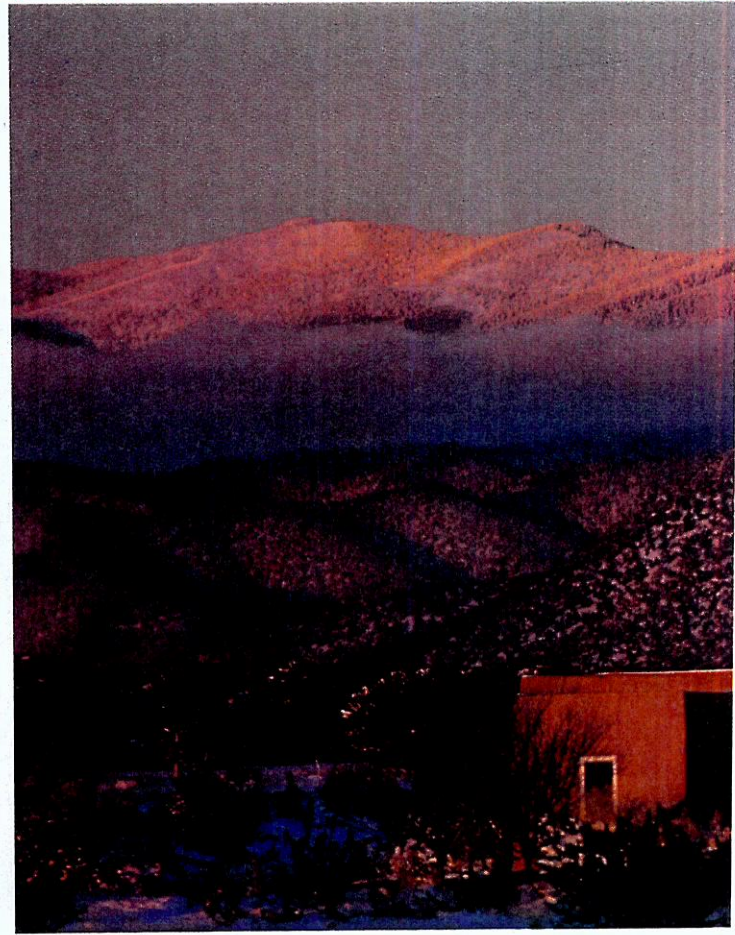
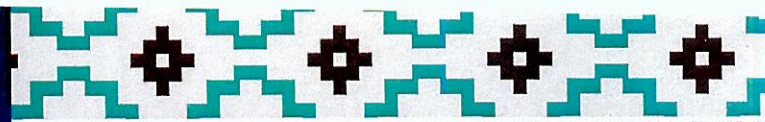
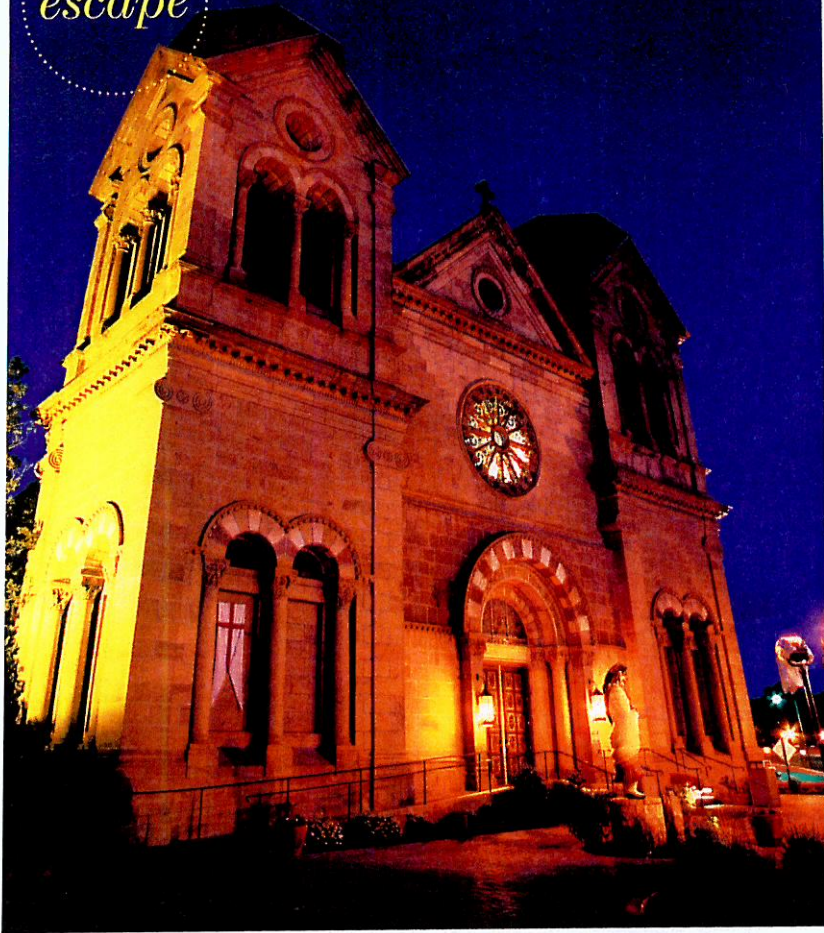
La Fonda on the Plaza is that unique grand dame of luxury hotels that welcomes guests with sleekly appointed rooms sporting a modern feel without losing one jot of its last-century charm. This legendary railroad inn's combination of old and new is anchored in part by a healthy respect for American artists such as Georgia O'Keeffe, with several priceless pieces curated on the walls in lobbies and hallways. Each suite has a hand-carved wooden bed frame painted in cheerful Crayola hues of Santa Fe sunsets and landscapes, and many rooms feature colorful, pencil art prints that would be important

pieces of any major Native American art gallery. La Fonda's commitment to the arts continues this summer, when a Frida Kahlo photography exhibit is prominently featured on property, with several images taken of the artist during various stages of her remarkable, resilient life.

Savor Dynamic Contrasts

The first order of business is enjoying the fresh Southwestern cuisine offered at La Fonda and around Santa Fe. La Fonda is proud of its reputation as home to some of the best table-prepared guacamole around that pairs nicely with tasty, smoky house

escape



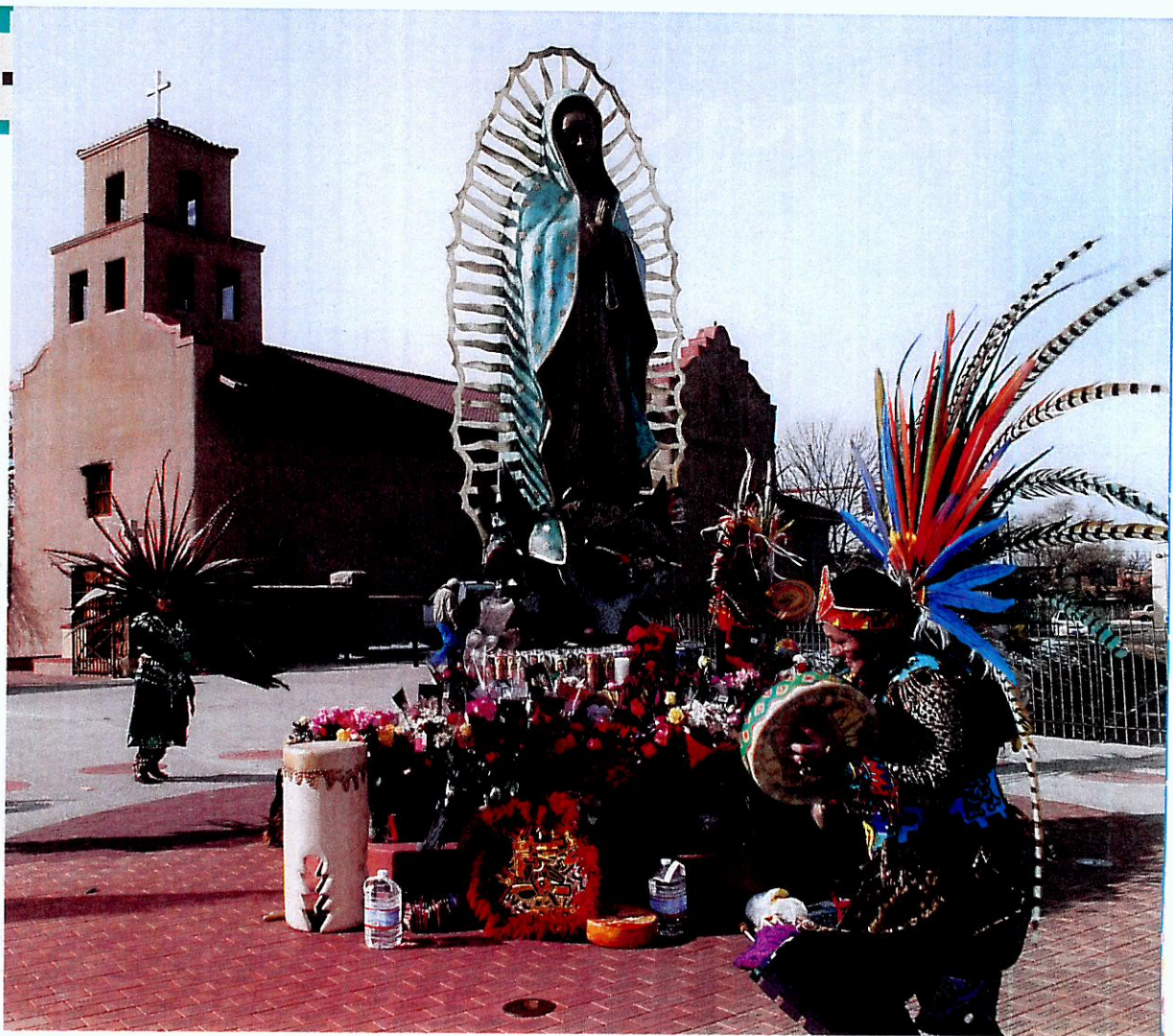
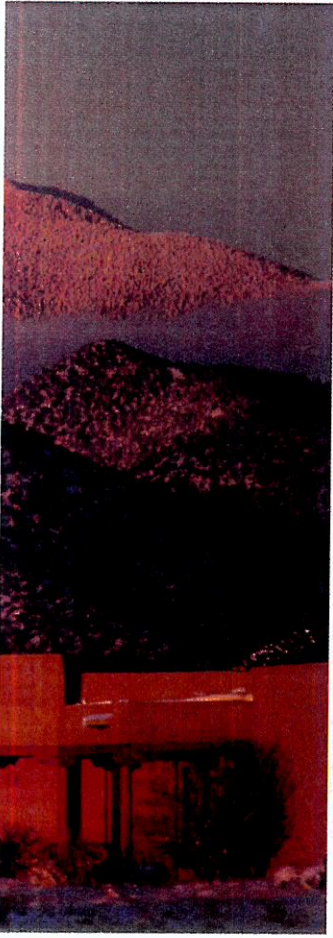
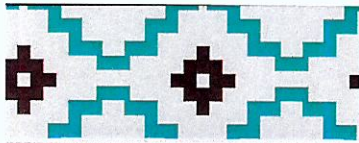
label tequila crafted in double barrels and carefully aged by Herradura Tequilas. Then climb a few steps to La Fonda's Bell Tower at early evening, and take in the friendly ambiance of the rooftop bar as you bask in another Santa Fe sunset that unfurls in fiery hues like a half-blown rose against the majestic silhouette of the Sangre de Cristo Mountains.

Feeling adventurous? Grab your Santa Fe Margarita Trail Passport and head out to one of the 31 restaurants and watering holes around the city just waiting to tempt you with their signature margarita recipes. Just remember that the 7,200-foot elevation of this town does tend to make the alcohol seem stronger, so sip slowly and carry a big water bottle. Also take advantage of the free Santa Fe Pick-Up shuttle bus, with service to the Historic Plaza, Museum Hill, arts-centric Canyon Road and the Railyard, where the smell of chili peppers

roasting floats through the farmers market like a heady, spicy calling card. Movies are screened during select summer evenings there on the Railyard Performance Green, where locals and tourists alike plop down on the lawn to enjoy a film alfresco.

Let Down Your Firewalls, and Listen

Santa Fe wears its crown well as the acknowledged oldest capital city in America, with its establishment by a Spanish governor in 1607, but its arts and music scene lives on the leading edge of what's possible in today's entertainment innovation. The Santa Fe Opera is that rarest of audiophile gems, a living performance space so exquisitely designed and acoustically placed that it exists entirely without any audio amplification equipment to assist onstage performers



nd musicians. This summer, however, will feature an opera based on Steve Jobs' remarkable life and career, entitled "The (R)evolution of Steve Jobs," and for the first time audio and visual equipment will be utilized for special effects as the American visionary's story is explored in music. In a poignant scene that takes place in Jobs' garage, Jobs and his best friend Woz dream about the future of their invention, and Jobs suddenly thinks of Bach, hoping that his computer is "like a musical instrument—one that doesn't play its users, but one that its users play."

Santa Fe will weave its smoky, adobe-flavored magic around you, given the chance, with the smells, sights and sounds of a place at once both ancient and youthful in its colorful vibrance. Patron artist Georgia O'Keeffe once attempted to describe her unique genius in her own way: "I found I could say

things with color and shapes that I couldn't say any other way—things I had no words for." But in some measure she could have been speaking of Santa Fe itself, and the way in which its riotously colorful palette depicts its own metaphorical portrait of America's great Southwest. ➔

If You Go

STAY
La Fonda on the Plaza
 100 E. San Francisco St.,
 Santa Fe, New Mexico
lafondasantafe.com

PLAY
 Shopping, Baca district,
 dining, art exhibits, craft
 beer, etc.
railyardsantafe.com

EXPERIENCE
 Santa Fe Opera, "The
 (R)evolution of Steve Jobs"
santafeopera.org

