Self-Guided trip to Santa Fe's Museum Hill

The Museum of Spanish Colonial Art

The Spanish Colonial Arts Society collections were initiated in 1928. Today with 3,000 objects, the collections are the most comprehensive compilation of Spanish Colonial art of their kind. Dating from the Middle Ages to the New Millennium, the collections span centuries in art, place and time. Among the various media featured are *santos* (painted and sculpted images of saints,) textiles, tinwork, silverwork, goldwork, ironwork, straw appliqué, ceramics, furniture, books and more. A host of comparative objects from Spain and Latin America as well as Asia, Bulgaria, France and other worldly locales further illustrate the faraway influences that converged during the colonial era to inspire artists and art forms. All combined, the collections represent the artistic history and ongoing evolution of Hispano culture in New Mexico while firmly establishing its important place within the global arts landscape.

The Museum of International Folk Art

To experience the color and excitement of the world's cultures, go to the Museum of International Folk Art and see an unparalleled collection that includes toys, textiles, household goods and religious art.

Needles and Pins: Textiles and Tools

This exhibition explores the processes, techniques, tools and equipment-spinning wheels, bobbins, looms -used in creating and producing weavings, lace work, and other forms of needlework. The tools will be juxtapositioned with examples of the beautiful textiles that result. The exhibition will feature pieces from the Museum's unsurpassed collection of textiles and costumes from many cultures and regions.

The Museum of Indian Arts & Culture

The Museum of Indian Arts & Culture in Santa Fe, New Mexico, tells the stories of the Native American people of the Southwest from pre-historic through contemporary times. Its changing exhibitions draw from an unparalleled collection of Native American art and material culture representing the Pueblo, Navajo, Apache, and other indigenous cultures of the Southwest.

Secrets of Cases Grandes: Mystery surrounds Casas Grandes

Located in northwestern Chihuahua, Mexico, Casas Grandes was once a bustling village with sophisticated adobe architecture, Mesoamerican-style ball courts, and a complex system of stone-lined canals. By the time the Spanish arrived in the 1500s, however, this important regional center was an abandoned ruin. Secrets of Casas Grandes explores questions which have baffled archaeologists for decades, and is the first exhibition to highlight not only an array of beautiful pottery, but also utilitarian objects.

The Wheelwright Museum of the American Indian

The Wheelwright Museum of the American Indian hosts changing exhibitions of contemporary and historic Native American art with an emphasis on the Southwest. Main gallery exhibitions change twice a year. Smaller galleries feature one-person shows by Native American artists and photographers, or items relating to the main gallery exhibition. *Arthur Amiotte: Collages, 1988-2006*

Arthur Amiotte is one of the most renowned Native American artists working today. Born on the Pine Ridge Reservation, he was educated at Northern State University, Aberdeen, South Dakota and the University of Montana, Missoula. Profoundly influenced by traditional Lakota artistic spiritual traditions, his mentors included his maternal grandmother, Christina Standing Bear, who tutored him in the women's arts of tanning, beadwork, and quilling; and the great Lakota shaman and Sun Dance priest Pete Catches.

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Bus instructions:

To travel between Museum Hill and the Santa Fe Plaza, take the "M" line operated in collaboration with Santa Fe Trails (SFT), the city's bus line. Its departures start weekdays at 7:45 am and 10:10 am from the Downtown Transit Center on Sheridan St., the first street west of Lincoln Ave, the western boundary of the Plaza. Sheridan St is reached by crossing the Plaza diagonally to Palace Ave and walking west away from the plaza. Turn right on Sheridan, and the Downtown Transit Center will be on your left near Marcy St. The M bus leaves every 35 minutes for a short 15-minute ride through Santa Fe's beautiful neighborhoods. (FARE: \$1 for ages 18-59; seniors and students .50; children under 5 free)

Driving directions

Coming out of the La Fonda parking garage, turn right. At stop sign, turn right again, and at the next street, Water St., right again. Then at the very next intersection, turn left onto Old Santa Fe Trail. Shortly on your left, Old Santa Fe Trail branches off. If you miss this turn, at the next stoplight, turn left on to Coronado St. When the road ends, turn light and then right at the next street. Go up the hill until you see the "Museum Hill" sign on your right.