



ALBUQUERQUE, NM AREA INFORMATION

Albuquerque is a gateway to the diverse cultures, rich history and breathtaking landscapes that make New Mexico the Land of Enchantment. Albuquerque's one-of-a-kind Southwestern culture is in everything, from the city's quaint shops, the Pueblo and Spanish inspired architecture, to world famous cuisine, music and art. In every way possible, the past seamlessly weaves through the fabric of present day Albuquerque, making it truly culturally rich and authentic.

A large and geographically diverse city, from rural to urban chic or suburban; you can live in the desert, the mountains, or by the river and still be in Albuquerque. With 310 days of sunshine a year on average and high elevation, Albuquerque is ideal for spending time outdoors and exploring.



Overview

- [Official website](#)
- [Visitors website](#)
- [Parks and Recreation](#) maintains golf courses, pools, and parks including dog and skate parks
- [Area Hospitals](#)
- Population 558,545 (2017)
- Semi-arid, 4 seasons with cold winters, and hot summers

Transportation

By Car

Most residents have a car for great access to many of New Mexico's scenic highways and byways. Albuquerque is served by "The Big I", the intersection of I40 and I25.

Public Transportation

- [Rail Runner Train](#) connects to Santa Fe, Sandoval, Bernalillo, and Valencia Counties.
- ABQ RIDE [bus routes and schedules](#).

By Bike

- The City of Albuquerque has more than 400 miles of [bike paths and trails](#).

By Air

Albuquerque International Sunport is 3 miles southeast of downtown.



Schools

Generally, to register your child for school you will need to have a passport and/or birth certificate, proof of immunizations, any applicable past school records and proof of residency. Most public schools have boundary areas, and you must show proof (i.e. copy of lease or home purchase agreement) to be allowed to register in that particular school. Please always confirm requirements with the school you are interested in before assuming that your child will be able to attend that school.

Grade level in the US public-school system is determined by the age of the child. School districts are usually very strict about the age requirement, but inquire with the school district you are interested in to determine if there are any exemptions for foreign students who are ahead in grade level. You may also want to ask about any gifted or advanced programs as well as their English as a Second Language (ESL) Programs. Some elementary schools also offer a pre-Kindergarten program for children who miss the deadline requirement. You may inquire at the school districts for availability, and contact your IOR Destination Services Consultant for more assistance with schooling questions.

- [Albuquerque Public Schools](#) offer traditional neighborhood schools and Magnet Schools for language immersion, science-based, and International Baccalaureate (IB) Programs.
- 83 [private schools](#) in Albuquerque serve 12,556 students.

Additional Resources

- www.greatschools.org
- www.eschoolprofile.com
- www.schooltree.org

Area Recreation

Albuquerque's creative scene overflows with visual arts, music, dance, film, ethnic, and craft organizations, museums, festivals and associations, but the annual [Balloon Fiesta](#) with over 800 hot air balloons is one of Albuquerque's biggest attractions.

Another "don't miss" is the stunning views of the city by taking a ride on the Sandia Peak Aerial Tramway.

The famous Route 66 rolls through Albuquerque, from the volcanoes on the city's far west side through historic Old Town to the trendy Nob Hill area, where you'll find many of the city's best restaurants, shops and boutiques.



The areas surrounding Albuquerque, including Rio Rancho and the East Mountains, provide many unforgettable experiences, such as the [Turquoise Trail](#) and [Tinkertown Museum](#).

- [Calendar of Events](#)
- [Culture and Museums](#)
- [Zoos and Nature Centers](#)



Driver's License

For general information and instructions on how to obtain a driver's license, visit the [New Mexico MVD](#).

Your IOR Destination Services Consultant will also assist you with the proper procedure.