# **MyBaseGuide** MILITARY RELOCATION

Welcome to Bernalillo County

### Home of Kirtland Air Force Base

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Please visit us at www.marcoa.com and www.mybaseguide.com.





## **Our Military**

#### in Bernalillo County

LYING IN THE SOUTHEAST corner of Albuquerque, New Mexico, Kirtland Air Force Base is adjacent to Albuquerque International Sunport, the largest airport in the state. The military base and the international airport share the same runways, making the airport a joint civil-military facility. Albuquerque is the most populous city in New Mexico and almost in the center of the state at the crossroads of major Southwest highways and interstates. Interstate 40 bisects the city west and east; I-25 is the major north-south corridor. In driving terms, Albuquerque is 790 miles east of Los Angeles on I-40; 644 miles northwest of Dallas by way of I-40 and U.S. 287; 1,006 miles west of Memphis, Tennessee, on I-40; 1,335 miles southwest of Chicago on I-40 and I-44; and 541 miles west of Oklahoma City on I-40.

Kirtland Air Force Base and its mission partners employ more than 22,000 people, including active-duty, civilians, Air National Guard and Reserve personnel, among them nearly 1,902 active-duty military and civilians with the Air Force Global Strike Command. Sandia National Labs, a tenant organization at Kirtland, employs

about half the workers on base. The base supports nearly 14,000 military retirees who live in central and northern New Mexico.

The base covers 51,585 acres with 750 miles of roads, 772 buildings, five fire stations, eight installation entry gates and four runways.

Kirtland Air Force Base, which began as an Army Air Corps training field, became Kirtland Army Air Field in 1942. In 1971, Kirtland merged with Manzano and Sandia bases, its neighbors to the east, creating a sprawling military complex known as Kirtland Air Force Base - the thirdlargest installation in the Air Force Global Strike Command and the sixth-largest Air Force base.

Today, the base is home to the Air Force Nuclear Weapons Center, part of the Air Force Materiel Command, and the 377th Air Base Wing, Kirtland's host organization, which supports more than 30 major mission partners. The 377th Air Base Wing, which reports to Air Force Global Strike Command, works in conjunction with the 58th Special Operations Wing under the Air Education and Training Command, the 150th Special Operations Wing (New Mexico Air National Guard) under the Air Combat Command and the 351st Battlefield Airmen Training Squadron, a pararescue training unit to ensure readiness of airmen worldwide.

Kirtland also hosts the Air Force Research Laboratory's Space Vehicles and Directed Energy directorates, the Defense Threat Reduction Agency and the U.S. Department of Energy's Albuquerque Operations Office.

#### **Economic Impact**

The annual local economic impact of Kirtland AFB averages more than \$6.7 billion due to Department of Defense payroll, expenditures and job creation, according to its 2018 Economic Impact Statement, its most recent. About \$4.1 billion of the total economic impact is local. The base has an annual payroll of \$2.2 billion. Employment associated with Kirtland represents one of every 14 jobs in New Mexico.

#### HISTORY

Kirtland Air Force Base began as an Army Air Corps training field near Albuquerque. With Continued on page 6

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#### **QUICK REFERENCE NUMBERS**

#### **KIRTLAND AIR FORCE BASE**

All phone numbers are subject to change. For more information, call Directory Assistance at 505-853-4636.

24-hour Check-in (Lodging Office)	505-846-9653
377th Medical Group	505-846-3397
Central Appointments	505-846-3200
Air Force Aid Society	505-846-0741
Airman & Family Readiness Center	505-846-0741
American Red Cross	505-265-8514
Auto Hobby Shop	505-846-1104
Base Chapel	505-846-5691
Bowling Center	505-846-6851
Child Care, Family Day Care	505-846-1802
Child Development Center	

Gibson	505-846-1103
Maxwell	505-853-5521
Civilian Personnel Office	505-846-9556
Commissary	505-846-4903
Dental Clinic	505-846-3027
Education & Training Center	505-846-9933
Exceptional Family Member Program	505-846-3418
Exchange	505-232-8771
Express	
East	505-265-9093
West	505-268-5012

#### **Fitness & Sports Center**

East	
West	505-846-1068
Golf Course	505-846-1169
Health Benefits Advisor/TRICARE	
Housing Management Office	505-846-8217
Information and Referral Program	505-846-0741
Kirtland Federal Credit Union	505-254-4369
Legal Office	505-846-4217
Lodging Office (Kirtland Inn)	505-846-9653
Military Clothing Store	505-846-6294
Navy Federal Credit Union	

Outdoor Recreation	505-846-1499
Personal Financial Management	505-846-0741
Relocation Counseling	505-846-0741
School Liaison Officer	505-846-6477
Separation/Retirement	505-846-0741
Sexual Assault and Prevention Response	505-846-7272
Suicide Prevention Hotline	
Transition Assistance Program	505-846-0741
Veterinary Services	505-846-4276
Youth Center	505-853-5437

#### **KIRTLAND AIR FORCE BASE ONLINE**

Official site: www.kirtland.af.mil

Kirtland Force Support: https://kirtlandforcesupport.com

#### **MYBASEGUIDE**



https://www.mybaseguide.com/installation/kirtland-afb/

#### **SOCIAL MEDIA**

Facebook

www.facebook.com/KirtlandAirForceBase



Twitter https://twitter.com/kirtland377abw

People around the world increasingly stay connected through social media,

whether it be with a deployed service member, with friends and families in locations around the world or with the bases where you have been stationed or expect to transfer.

Here are some safety tips for using social media:

- Never post confidential personal information such as your date of birth, address, Social Security number, or bank and credit card account numbers. Never provide this type of information when signing up for a social networking site. Most sites do not require it, and you should be wary of those that do.
- Don't invite people whom you do not know to be your "friend." You do not want strangers to know details about you or your family.
- Never share operational information, such as upcoming ports of call and military exercises. Such information can compromise operational security and the safety of our service members.

The Public Affairs Office can provide guidance on the type of information not to be shared in a public forum such as a social network or blog.

#### Continued from page 4

World War II on the horizon, construction of an Army Air Base began in January 1941, and by summer the first major occupants of the new base began to arrive.

First designated Albuquerque Army Air Base, the new base became Kirtland Army Air Field in 1942 in honor of pioneer Army aviator Col. Roy C. Kirtland, who was instrumental in the forming of the Army's aviation service. Kirtland died in May 1941 after his recall to active duty.

During World War II, personnel at Kirtland Field trained aircrew members for duty on the Army Air Forces' B-17, B-24 and B-29 bombers, which saw action in all theaters of the war. For most of World War II, the base's major training schools — including bombardier, multi-engine transition and combat crew training — operated at full capacity.

Kirtland Army Air Field was placed on standby basis after the war awaiting a new mission. In 1946, Army Air Forces leadership assigned the base to the Air Materiel Command.

The base's mission after World War II centered on flight test and support activities related to weapons development. Kirtland's role increased in 1947 as the Army Air Forces became the independent U.S. Air Force. Kirtland Army Air Field officially became Kirtland Air Force Base on Jan. 13, 1948. In 1949, Kirtland was named headquarters for a new Air Force major command, the Special Weapons Command. However, the major command status of the organization was short-lived as the Air Force evolved to face the realities of the Cold War.

The command became the Air Force Special Weapons Center in 1952.

During the 1950s and 1960s, Kirtland was also headquarters for regional air defense operations, which covered the southwestern United States. From a control center on Kirtland, Air Defense Command personnel could launch fighters stationed at Kirtland or other regional air bases.

To reduce the management costs of multiple bases near Albuquerque, DOD officials merged the adjacent Sandia and Manzano bases with Kirtland. The Air Force Special Weapons Center took charge of the vastly expanded Kirtland complex and oversaw the base until changes in national priorities led to the center's inactivation in 1976. The Air Force Contract Management Division of Air Force Systems Command, which had moved from Los Angeles, in 1972, became the Kirtland Air Force Base host for a brief period.

In 1977, to fill the void left at the base by inactivation of the Air Force Special Weapons Center, the 1606th Air Base Wing activated as the base host when Military Airlift Command took responsibility for operating Kirtland. Military Airlift Command leadership moved the 1550th Combat Crew Training Wing to Kirtland from Hill Air Force Base, Utah, to be the training center for the command's search and rescue personnel.

Through several reorganizations and reassignment to Air Education and Training Command, today's 58th Special Operations Wing continues the training of specialized combat aircrew members at Kirtland. The expanded Kirtland pararescue training campus continues to produce elite warriors whose skills ensure "that others may live."

After a major reorganization of the U.S. Air Force, the newly formed Air Force Materiel Command took over management of Kirtland AFB on Jan. 1, 1993. Air Force Materiel Command leadership reactivated the combat-decorated 377th Air Base Wing to serve as base host.

Soon thereafter, in summer 1993, the Air Force Inspection Agency and the Air Force



Safety Agency moved their operations to a new complex on Kirtland because their longtime home station, Norton Air Force Base, California, was scheduled to close.

Air Force leadership returned the heritage of the Air Force Special Weapons Center to Kirtland. In 2006, it activated the Air Force Nuclear Weapons Center and its subordinate 498th Nuclear Systems Wing to oversee the Air Force's nuclear acquisition and sustainment mission. The 377th Air Base Wing was reassigned to the Air Force Nuclear Weapons Center to remain the base host.

In December 2014, the Air Force announced plans to realign the 377th Air Base Wing under Air Force Global Strike Command and to restructure the Air Force Nuclear Weapons Center to improve the effectiveness of and support for the Air Force's Nuclear Enterprise.

#### ORGANIZATIONS 377TH AIR BASE WING

The mission of the 377th Air Base Wing, Kirtland's host organization, is to execute nuclear, readiness and support operations for American air power. Kirtland AFB is a center for research, development and testing of nonconventional weapons, space and missile technology and laser warfare. Some of the organizations involved include the Department of Energy, Sandia National Laboratories, the Air Force Research Laboratory, the Air Force Operational Test and Evaluation Center, the Space and Missile Systems Center, the Air Force Inspection Agency and the Air Force Safety Center.

In addition, the 377th ensures readiness and training of airmen for worldwide duty. It operates the airfield, prepares personnel to deploy worldwide on a moment's notice and keeps the base secure. Players in this mission include the 58th Special Operations Wing, the 150th Special Operations Wing (New Mexico Air National Guard) and the U.S. Air Force Pararescue School.

The 377th is made up of about 1,200 activeduty military, 591 federal civilians and 720 contractors assigned to the Medical Group, Mission Support Group, Security Forces Group, Maintenance Group and 13 wing staff agencies.

As the host organization, the 377th Air Base Wing is also responsible for providing support to base operations. It ensures that people living and working on Kirtland AFB have the necessary support to conduct their jobs and carry out missions. This includes such things as facility maintenance, personnel support, security, utilities and medical care.





#### AIR FORCE NUCLEAR WEAPONS CENTER

The Air Force Nuclear Weapons Center ensures that the nuclear weapons systems supporting the national command and the Air Force warfighter are safe, secure and reliable. Established in 2006, the Air Force Nuclear Weapons Center (AFNWC) is the Air Force Materiel Command's center of excellence for nuclear weapon systems. The AFNWC's responsibilities include acquisition, modernization and sustainment of nuclear system programs for both the Departments of Defense and Energy.

#### **AIR FORCE RESEARCH LABORATORY**

#### **Directed Energy Directorate**

The Air Force Research Laboratory (AFRL) Directed Energy Directorate is the Air Force's center of expertise for directed energy and optical technologies. The Directed Energy Directorate develops and transitions technologies in four core technical competencies: lasers systems, high power electromagnetics, weapons modeling and simulation, and directed energy and electro-optics for space superiority. The directorate is at Kirtland Air Force Base.

AFRL pioneered the first and only megawattclass airborne laser and is a world leader in ground-based space imaging, using adaptive optics with a 3.5-meter telescope in New Mexico and a 3.6-meter telescope in Hawaii. The directorate is transitioning game-changing counterelectronics weapon technologies through programs such as CHAMP (Counter-electronics High-powered Advanced Missile Project), which can disable electronic systems with minimum collateral damage.

#### Space Vehicles Directorate

The Space Vehicles Directorate serves as the Air Force's "Center of Excellence" for space technology research and development. The directorate develops and transitions space technologies to provide space-based capabilities. Primary mission areas include space-based intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance, space situational awareness, space communications, position navigation and timing, and defensive space control (protecting space assets from manmade and natural effects). The directorate also leverages commercial, civil and other government resources to stay one step ahead in space and to ensure America's advantage.

#### **58TH SPECIAL OPERATIONS WING**

The 58th Special Operations Wing is an Air Education and Training Command unit that trains mission-ready special operations, combat search and rescue, missile site support and UH-1 helicopter airlift crews. The 58th Special Operations Wing operates two types of helicopters, three specialized versions of the C-130 fourengine turboprop aircraft, and the tilt-rotor CV-22 Osprey aircraft.

The 150th Special Operations Wing of the New Mexico Air National Guard joined the 58th Special Operations Wing, an active Air Force unit, on Dec. 1, 2013, in an associate unit status.

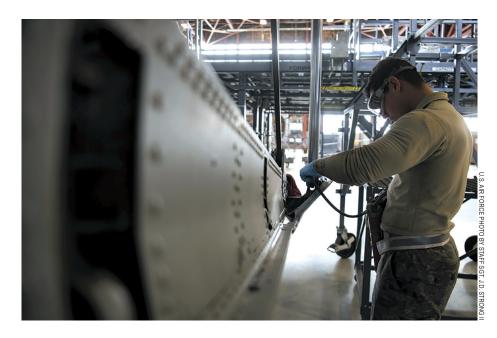
#### **MISSION PARTNERS**

- 21st Ordnance Company (EOD WMD)
- Advanced Systems and Development Directorate
- Air Force Office of Special Investigations, Det. 116
- Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps, Det. 510
- American Red Cross
- Area Defense Counsel
- · Civil Air Patrol, New Mexico
- Missile Defense Agency

#### 150th Special Operations Wing

The 150th Special Operations Wing's mission is to train mission-ready special operations and combat search and rescue crews through a total force integration with the 58th Special Operations Wing. The wing also includes the 250th Intelligence Squadron, which provides precision Targeting and Geospatial Intelligence to Air Force and Joint Warfighters. The 150th is also responsible for training and equipping more than 900 wing personnel to support both state and federal missions.





#### **Operationally Responsive Space**

The mission of Operationally Responsive Space is to plan and prepare for the rapid development of highly responsive space capabilities that enable delivery of timely warfighting effects and, when directed, to develop and support deployment and operations of these capabilities to enhance and assure support to Joint Force Commanders' and other users' needs for on-demand space support, augmentation and reconstitution.

#### Air Force Safety Center

This agency's mission is to preserve and enhance combat capability through resource preservation for both airmen and equipment through mishap elimination.

#### Air Force Operational Test & Evaluation Center (AFOTEC)

This center is the Air Force's independent test agency responsible for testing, under operationally realistic conditions, new systems being developed for Air Force and multi-service use. AFOTEC employs more than 600 military and civilian personnel at its headquarters and five detachments, including Kirtland, and multiple operating locations across the country.

#### 705th Combat Training Squadron

This squadron provides high-fidelity theater synthetic battle spaces and world-class exercise control to support joint distributed warfighter training, testing and experimentation across the operational and tactical levels of war.

#### 351st Battlefield Airmen Training Squadron

On June 14, 2016, the Air Force activated the 351st Battlefield Airmen Training Squadron and

deactivated Det. 1, 342nd Training Squadron. The 351st is responsible for training, mentoring and developing battlefield airmen in land warfare and technical recovery skills. It is one of four new squadrons that will report directly to the Battlefield Airmen Training Group, which activated June 2 and trains the Air Force's tactical ground component in technical rescue.

This squadron provides the highest quality pararescuemen and combat rescue officer personnel capable of worldwide deployment for rescue and recovery operations.

Air Force pararescuemen, also known as PJs, are the only DOD specialty specifically trained and equipped to conduct conventional or unconventional rescue and recovery operations. PJs are the force of choice for assisted survivor recovery. A pararescueman's primary function is as a personnel recovery specialist, with emergency medical capabilities in humanitarian and combat environments. They deploy in any available manner, including air-land-sea tactics, into restricted environments to authenticate, extract, treat, stabilize and evacuate injured personnel while acting in an enemy-evading, recovery role. PJs participate in conventional or nonconventional recovery, combat search and rescue, recovery support for NASA and conduct other operations as appropriate.

Their motto, "That Others May Live," reaffirms the pararescueman's commitment to saving lives and self-sacrifice.

#### Defense Threat Reduction Agency

The agency's mission is to safeguard the United States and its allies from weapons of mass destruction (WMD) by providing capabilities to reduce, eliminate and counter any threat and mitigate its effects. Its focus is to keep such weapons out of the hands of terrorists and other enemies by locking down, monitoring and destroying the weapons and their related materials. It also helps combatant commanders with their plans and responses to WMD events and develops and delivers cutting-edge technologies to assist with all these endeavors.

#### Sandia National Laboratories

Sandia National Laboratories, covering nearly 3,000 acres on Kirtland Air Force Base, develops technologies to sustain, modernize and protect the country's nuclear arsenal, prevent the spread of weapons of mass destruction, defend against terrorism, protect our national infrastructures, ensure stable energy and water supplies, and provide new capabilities to our armed forces.

#### ARRIVAL

See the Getting To & Around Bernalillo County chapter on Page 19 for information about local airports, train service and public transportation. The closest commercial flights land at Albuquerque International Sunport, which shares its runways with the base. If you

#### DOCUMENTS TO CARRY FOR INPROCESSING

- Several copies of your orders.
- Certified copies of birth certificates, adoption papers, naturalization papers, marriage license, divorce papers, etc.
- Copy of advanced pay or allowance paperwork.
- All moving paperwork including TMO information, self-move paperwork and all receipts associated with moving.
- Employment records or resumes of civilian family members.
- Medical and dental records of your entire family from your previous duty station.
- Immunization records for all children, activeduty members and pets.
- School records and transcripts for students.
- Copies of all insurance policies.
- Copies of all occupational licenses and certifications.
- Purchase agreements for vehicles, showing state sales tax paid.
- Vehicle registrations and titles.
- Household goods inventory.
- Letters of credit from utility companies.
- Copies of federal income tax forms.
- Copies of recent leave and earnings statements.

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#### **OUR MILITARY**



are arriving TDY, you can contact the Vehicle Operations Flight at 505-846-2297 before your arrival to request transportation to the base.

#### **SPONSORSHIP**

Contact your sponsor with your estimated arrival time and flight information, if applicable, prior to your arrival at Kirtland Air Force Base.

Sponsorship is vital to the relocation process. Don't PCS without talking to your sponsor before departing for Kirtland Air Force Base. Your sponsor will answer any questions you have about the base and the local area, make lodging/dorm arrangements and meet you upon arrival. Your sponsor will be there to help you and your family until you are settled into your new community.

If you have not been in touch with a sponsor and your departure is nearing, contact the commander of your new unit to have a sponsor assigned to you.

#### **DRIVING DIRECTIONS**

Cellphone use by the driver of a moving motor vehicle is prohibited on all Department of Defense installations, unless the cellphone is used with a hands-free device.

#### From Albuquerque International Sunport

If you drive from the airport, you can reach the base via Interstate 40 (east/west), Exit 164 South (Wyoming Boulevard) or via I-25 (north/south) at Exit 222 (Gibson Boulevard). Kirtland has two visitor control gates open 24/7: the Gibson Gate and the Truman Gate. The Wyoming Gate is open from 5:30 a.m. to 7 p.m. weekdays.

#### **CHECK-IN PROCEDURES**

Lodging Office (Kirtland Inn Lodging) Building 22016

18th Club Road SE......505-846-9653 www.kirtlandforcesupport.com

If you arrive at Kirtland AFB between 7:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. on normal duty days, report to your Command Support Section to begin inprocessing. After duty hours or on holidays, your first stop should be the lodging office, on the east side of the installation. Security Forces members at any visitor gate can direct you to the lodging office, which is open 24/7.

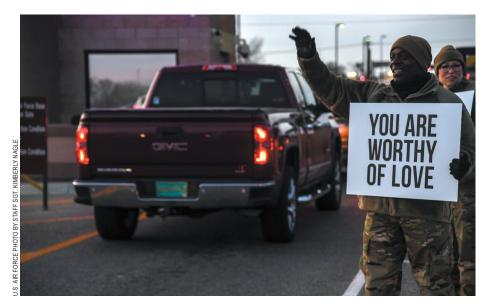
Your commander's support staff will schedule your inprocessing. You will need to take all

hand-carried records immediately to the Command Support Section so you can be scheduled for processing, which is conducted in the Consolidated Support Building. If you wish to take permissive temporary duty to hunt for housing after arriving, a leave form must be completed. Up to eight days permissive temporary duty may be approved by the gaining commander after signing in.

The Consolidated Support Building, in Building 20245 at 1451 Fourth St. SE, houses most of the offices you will need to visit upon arrival. The Military Personnel Flight, Financial Management, Travel Office, Pass and Identification, Family Support Center, Red Cross, Customer Service, Department of Motor Vehicles and Housing Office are all here for one-stop assistance.

#### **Newcomers Orientation Event**

Team Kirtland Newcomers' Welcome Orientation is conducted at the Mountain View Club. At orientation, you will be greeted by base leadership, meet community representatives and receive all mandatory inprocessing briefings, including medical. The event is required for military members, but spouses and new civilian employees are also encouraged to attend. Attendees must contact the Airman & Family Readiness Center to register by calling 505-846-0741/0751. Attendees will not be able to handle travel vouchers, TMO or 377th Medical Group inprocessing at orientation. For 377th Medical Group inprocessing, report to Public Health from 7 a.m. to noon Monday through Friday; for more information, call 505-846-3397. Before new personnel commit to housing on or off base, they must contact the Housing Management Office at 505-846-8217.







#### **TEMPORARY LODGING**

*Kirtland Inn Lodging* Building 22016 18th Club Road SE......505-846-9653 *https://kirtlandforcesupport.com/kirtland-inn-lodging* 

Kirtland Inn Lodging provides safe, comfortable and clean accommodations for students and active-duty military members and their families who are being assigned to Kirtland Air Force Base, as well as retired military personnel traveling in New Mexico. Check-in time is 2 p.m. Check-out time is 11 a.m. The inn accepts cash, check, Visa, MasterCard and USAF Services Proprietary Cards for payment. Space-available guests must pay in advance regardless of payment method. All lodging facilities are nonsmoking.

Temporary lodging facilities available to personnel on accompanied PCS status include two- or three-bedroom houses with washer/ dryer, cooking facilities, sofa sleeper and a crib and high-chair upon request. Pets are allowed, limited to two pets, for an additional fee. Pet shot records are required at check-in. Check the website for current room rates.

#### GETTING SETTLED HEALTH CARE

377th Medical Group	
1501 San Pedro Drive SE, Bu	uilding 47
Central Appointments	505-846-3200
Kirtland Military Treatment	
Facility Enrollment	877-988-9378

Pharmacy	
Dental Clinic	505-846-3027/3029
www.airforcemedicine.af.mil/MTF/Kirtland	

The 377th Medical Group provides primary health care to the 377th Air Base Wing, more

than 100 associate organizations, patients enrolled in TRICARE Prime and assigned to the Kirtland clinic, and temporary duty personnel. The clinic provides primary and specialty care on a space-available basis to other eligible beneficiaries. Its mission is to ensure a fit and medically ready force; to provide trained, current and extractable medics to meet local and global challenges; to build a healthier and safer community through preventive medicine; to provide responsive, costeffective care and service to patients; and to ensure a full spectrum of care with federal and civilian health care providers.

To that end, the wing provides a wealth of medical services, including dentistry, family health, flight medicine, immunizations, lab testing, mental health care, optometry, pediatrics, a pharmacy (including a robotic-assisted BX Satellite Pharmacy that opened in October 2015), physical therapy, radiology, women's health and more. All eligible beneficiaries can call between 6:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday for an appointment.

In January 2016, major construction began on upgrading and renovating about 81,000 square feet of the main clinic. The renovation, which provided updated exam rooms and equipment, was completed in 2018.

Dental services are available to active-duty military only. Family members of active-duty personnel are encouraged to use the TRICARE Dental Program. Family members of activeduty personnel are encouraged to use the TRICARE Dental Program. Program information is available by visiting www.tricare.mil/ CoveredServices/Dental/TDP.

#### HOUSING

#### *Housing Management Office* 1451 Fourth St. SE

Kirtland AFB, NM 87117 ...... 505-846-8217 www.housing.af.mil/Units/Kirtland

The Kirtland Air Force Base Housing Management Office (HMO) is ready to support you in the transition to your new home and community. Use its resources to become familiar with the housing options and support services available. When you arrive at Kirtland AFB, visit the HMO for invaluable information, counseling and guidance before you sign a written lease or rental/sales contract for housing.

#### **Unaccompanied Housing**

Building 20222

8201 Frost Ave.

Kirtland AFB, NM 87117 .....505-853-5479 www.housing.af.mil/Units/Kirtland

Unaccompanied housing is provided for unaccompanied airmen in the ranks of E-1 to E-3, and E-4 with less than three years of service. Each airman is provided a private sleeping room, furnishings, bed linens and supplies required for comfortable living. Permanent- party unaccompanied housing consists of 574 permanent party rooms and 208 pipeline student rooms.

Unaccompanied airmen in the rank of E-4 with more than three years of service will move into housing in the local community.

#### Kirtland Family Housing

1012 Golden Smoke Drive SE

Albuquerque, NM 87116 ........... 505-232-2049 www.kirtlandfamilyhousing.com

At Kirtland Air Force Base, military family housing is privatized. In addition to your option to purchase or rent housing in the local community, you can choose to live in privatized housing by signing a tenant lease agreement with Hunt Military Communities, which owns the family housing and is responsible for constructing, maintaining, repairing and managing the community.

Visit the website for comprehensive information about homes and amenities in the Kirtland privatized housing community.

#### MAIL

#### Post Office



office at 505-346-0561. To receive mail through general delivery, use the following address:

Your Rank/Name General Delivery 2050A Second St. SE Kirtland AFB, NM 87117-5524

If you plan to live permanently in the dormitory, request a PSC mailbox in advance. Send your sponsor a copy of your orders and ask the sponsor to obtain a PSC box assignment from the Postal Service Center for you. A locator card must be filled out to receive mail at the general delivery address. You may also call 505-846-7718 to have one filled out over the phone.

#### PETS

#### Veterinary Services Building 20168 950 Pennsylvania Ave. SE

The veterinary clinic provides outpatient care for privately owned animals of active-duty military and retired military. Services offered include vaccinations, deworming and heartworm testing, as well as radiography, blood analysis and other various outpatient diagnostics. Call for an appointment.

#### **RELIGIOUS GUIDANCE**

#### Kirtland Air Force Base Chapel

Building 20107

1950 Second St. SE

Kirtland AFB, NM 97117 .....505-846-5691 www.kirtland.af.mil/About-Us/Chapel

The U.S. Air Force Chaplain Corps is dedicated to preserving your right to worship. It provides, or finds a way to provide, for a broad spectrum of worshipers. If you are seeking spiritual support for any denomination or faith group, it will do its best to assist you.

The Kirtland Air Force Base chapel offers various types of counseling, including premarital, marital, religious, stress, grief and loss, etc. All counseling sessions are covered by privileged communication. While many airmen attend Catholic and Protestant services, Kirtland also offers spiritual consultation for those in search of Vedic, referred to by many as Hindu, services and education. Call the chapel for more information.

#### **VEHICLE REGISTRATION**

There is no longer a requirement to register your vehicles with Kirtland Air Force Base, but all privately owned vehicles on base must be insured, and a current license plate is required. New Mexico state traffic laws apply on base; see the Getting To & Around Bernalillo County chapter on Page 19 for more information. All vehicles entering or leaving base are subject to search.

#### SERVING YOU DINING

#### **Bogey Bar and Grill**

Tijeras Arroyo Golf Course Pennsylvania Street SE ......505-846-7835

#### Jitters Coffee Shop Consolidated Support Building 20245

1451 Fourth St	505-853-3223
Keva Juice	

East Fitness Center, Bu	ilding 20228
,	

#### Thunderbird Inn

Military Dining Facility (DFAC)	
Building 20350	
1450 First St. SE	505-846-8048
Flight Kitchen (24 hours)	505-846-8049

#### Mountain View Club

Building 22000 22000 Club Road SE......505-846-5165

#### Sparetime Grill

Building 20228

1451 Texas St. ......505-846-6851 For hours, menus and special event information, visit *www.kirtlandforcesupport.com* and click on selections under the "Dining/ Lodging" tab.

#### **EDUCATION**

Education & Training Cente	er
Building 20602	
1900 Wyoming Blvd	505-846-9933
Base training	505-846-5738
Distance learning	505-846-1748
CDC 5/7-level training	505-846-5738
www.kirtlandforcesupport.com	n/other-services/
education-center	

The Education Center provides educational opportunities and counseling services to all Air Force members assigned to Kirtland Air Force Base, active-duty personnel, DOD civilian employees, Guard and Reserves, Sandia Labs employees and adult family members and military retirees.

There are four on-base universities represented — Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, Lewis University, the University of New Haven and Wayland Baptist University — offering classes at lunchtime, evenings, weekends and through distance learning. Some provide college classes at the unit.

#### **FAMILY SUPPORT**

Airman & Family Readiness Center Consolidated Support Building 20245, Suite 126 1451 Fourth St. SE...... 505-846-0741 www.kirtland.af.mil/About-Us/Airman-Family-Readiness-Center

The Airman & Family Readiness Center offers programs and services to DOD employees and their families. Programs include information and referral, relocation assistance, career focus, *Continued on page 14* 



# Kirtland Family Housing Welcomes You Home!

**Nestled at the base of the Sandia and Manzano Mountains** in the city of Albuquerque, NM, residents of Kirtland Family Housing can effortlessly take advantage of all the recreation and community oriented activities Kirtland Air Force Base has to offer. Located within close proximity to amenities within the city including restaurants, shopping and historical sites, Kirtland Family Housing offers something for everyone. Our professional team is dedicated to making your time living here as carefree as possible.



A Hunt Military Community<sup>™</sup>

### **10 Reasons to Live at Kirtland Family Housing**

**Great Selection** Kirtland Family Housing (KFH) offers a variety of floor plans and home styles to meet your needs!

**Activity Rich** Living on base allows you to enjoy all the incredible amenities KAFB and KFH have to offer.

**Community** Enjoy family-friendly pathways and green spaces. Our pavilions, playgrounds, and basketball courts make it easy to make friends and feel right at home.

**Utilities** Water, sewer, and trash/recycling costs are included in each month's rent.

**5** Maintenance Routine and 24-hour emergency maintenance is provided as a service to all of our residents. We even go a step further with a preventative maintenance home checkup!

**Friendly Neighborhoods** Resident-friendly streets with mature trees, playgrounds, walking and bike trails, dog parks, a pool, and four community centers.

**No Fees** Active Duty Service Members save money with \$0 application fees and \$0 security deposits.

**The Ultimate Gated Community** People love the peace of mind from living on-base—and the camaraderie of having military neighbors.

**Pets are Welcome** We know dogs and cats are family, too! Plus, our dog parks and pet stations help your furry family feel right at home.

**Low Maintenance** Yard maintenance\*, garbage and recycling disposal are for us to worry about! Spend time with your family and friends while we take care of these chores.

\*Yard maintenance does not include fenced-in yards.

Call 505-232-2049 today to reserve your Kirtland Family Housing home! To learn more, visit us online at KirtlandFamilyHousing.com.





#### Continued from page 11

family life education, family readiness, personal financial management and transition assistance. The Relocation Assistance Program assists DOD employees and their families who are relocating, separating or retiring. Services include Smooth Move briefings, the Welcome to New Mexico Tour, sponsor training, Military Spouse Basic Training, one-on-one relocation assistance and the Standard Installation Topic Exchange Service. The center also has a loan closet.

The center serves active-duty military members from all services, Guard and Reserve members, retired military members and Department of Defense civilians and their family members. All services are free.

#### **Child Development Centers**

Gibson CDC Building 20160 8101 Gibson Blvd. SE...... 505-846-1103 https://kirtlandforcesupport.com/cdc

#### Maxwell CDC

Building 1914 1450 Maxwell Ave. SE..... 505-853-5521 https://kirtlandforcesupport.com/cdc

The Child Development Center offers weekly care for children 6 weeks to 5 years old, and hourly care is available on a space-available basis with reservations. The center provides a safe, nurturing environment that promotes the social, cognitive, language and physical development of youngsters. The centers are accredited by the National Association for the Education of Young Children, are certified by the Department of Defense and follow procedures based on Air Force Instruction 34-248, Department of Defense Instruction 6060.2, Air Force Inspection Checklist and local operation instructions.

Children of active-duty military personnel, DOD civilian personnel, reservists on active duty and DOD contractors are eligible. Fees are based on total family income. Registration requires a completed DD Form 2606, immunization records, leave and earnings statements, and emergency contact information.

#### **Exceptional Family Member Program** Building 47

1501 San Pedro Drive SE

This program provides special-needs families with information and referral services.

#### Family Child Care

#### Building 20160

8101 Gibson Blvd. ...... 505-846-1802 https://kirtlandforcesupport.com/fcc

Family Child Care provides an alternative to child development center care for families that need evening care, weekend care, care for children with special needs, infants and schoolage children, as well as care during swing and midnight shifts.

The program also offers an opportunity for spouses to contribute to the family income while caring for their own children.

FCC providers and their family members undergo a thorough background check and their homes are inspected for fire safety, health, safety and other requirements. Hours and compensation are negotiated between providers and parents. For a current listing of providers, contact the FCC coordinator at 505-846-1802. A listing of providers is also available at the Family Support Center, Pediatrics Clinic, Child Development Center and Youth Center.

#### School Liaison

The school liaison office is the connection between Kirtland AFB families and private and public schools. The office provides support to service members during all stages of transition and deployment to ensure their children receive every possible opportunity for quality education.

#### Youth Center

Building 20234

8001 G Ave. SE......505-853-5437 https://kirtlandforcesupport.com/youth-center

The Kirtland Air Force Base Youth Center is for young people of all ages. It offers a wide variety of activities that focus on character and leadership development, education and career development, health and life skills, informal youth sports, and fitness and recreation. Programs include before- and after-school care, Power Hour (help with homework) and sports.

#### **FINANCIAL SERVICES**

#### Navy Federal Credit Union

2600 San Pedro Drive NE Albuquerque, NM 87110 ...... 888-842-6328 www.navyfederal.org

#### **LEGAL SERVICES**

*Legal Office* Building 20604

Assistance with power of attorney and notary documents is provided on a walk-in basis. Wills and other legal assistance are provided by appointment. Appointments are offered between 1 and 3:30 p.m. Monday and between 8:30 and 11 a.m. Wednesday and Friday.

#### RECREATION

For information about the recreational programs at Kirtland Air Force Base, visit the Kirtland Force Support Squadron online at *www. kirtlandforcesupport.com.* 

*Tijeras Arroyo Golf Course and Clubhouse* Building 28054

ARE

Tijeras Arroyo is a regulation 18-hole golf course with a grass driving range, chipping and putting greens and a clubhouse. Golf lessons are available.

#### Fitness & Sports Centers

#### East Side

Building 20228

1451 Texas St. SE ...... 505-846-1102 https://kirtlandforcesupport.com/fitness-centers

The center offers aerobics, outdoor running track, fitness assessments cardio and Nautilus equipment, handball/racquetball courts, basketball/volleyball courts, free weight rooms, tennis courts, a cycling room and football and softball fields.

#### West Side

#### Building 585

4301 Aberdeen Ave. SE ......505-846-1068 https://kirtlandforcesupport.com/fitness-centers

Kirtland's West Side Fitness Center has a basketball/volleyball court, an outdoor basketball court, a softball field, a half-mile outdoor track, a sauna, a Jacuzzi, cardiovascular equipment, exercise equipment and free weights.

#### Information, Tickets & Travel

Find information and get military discount tickets for New Mexico attractions as well as those in Arizona, Texas, Florida, Georgia and California. Whatever the travel destination, the ITT staff can help you plan your trips with assistance with airline tickets, hotels, rental cars and even cruises.

#### **Outdoor Recreation**

#### Building 20170

8001 Gibson Blvd SE......505-846-1499 www.kirtlandforcesupport.com/outdoorrecreation

Outdoor recreation has sports equipment rentals, camping gear, adventure trips, family camping, pools, climbing gym, an outdoor adventure program, bike maintenance, ski and snowboard maintenance, and RV and vehicle storage. Services are available to military ID cardholders.

Equipment rental is one of the most popular programs; it offers everything from lawn and garden items to camping and boating equipment as well as sports gear and tools. Items may be reserved 30 days in advance. Call Outdoor Recreation for more information.

#### Kirtland Lanes Bowling Center

Strike up some family fun at the 12-lane bowling center, which offers shoe rental, bowling leagues, professional instruction, a pro shop and a cafe with daily specials, sweet tea, pizza and green chili stew.

#### Arts & Crafts Center Building 20206

#### Dunung 20200

The Arts & Crafts Center offers classes in arts and crafts, a full-service frame shop, after-school art clubs and a plaques and awards shop. Annual events include the AFMC Artist/ Craftsman Contest and the Photography Contest.

#### Auto Hobby Shop

#### Building 20206

2051 Texas St. SE ......505-846-1104 http://kirtlandforcesupport.com/auto-hobby-shop

Do your own automobile maintenance at the auto shop using its stalls, lifts and tools. The shop provides engine and computer diagnostics, tire repair and front-end alignments, and wheel balancing. The shop also offers auto classes for do-it-yourselfers and has mechanics if you prefer to leave the repairs in expert hands. Those who want to paint their vehicles have access to a paint booth and paint and body classes.

#### Flight Center (Aero Club)

Building 333	
3400 Clark Ave	505-846-1072
www.kirtlandflightcenter.org	

The Kirtland Flight Center is an official U.S. Air Force Aero Club on Kirtland Air Force Base. Whether you are a seasoned flying veteran, a flyer looking to upgrade your skills or a greenhorn looking to earn your wings, contact the club to get started. You must meet one of the following criteria to join the club: active or retired military member, DOD contractor, Department of Energy contractor or Civil Air Patrol volunteer.

#### SHOPPING

#### 

#### Kirtland Exchange

www.shopmyexchange.com

The Kirtland Air Force Base Exchange wants to be your first choice for shopping. It offers a price-match program that guarantees the lowest prices in town. Hours for services outside of the Main Exchange vary, so call or visit the website for detailed information.

#### Main Exchange

Building 20176	
7901 Gibson Blvd. SE	505-232-8771
Military Clothing Store	505-846-6294





### Welcome

#### to Bernallilo County

**WELCOME TO NEW MEXICO,** the Land of Enchantment! In the middle of New Mexico you will find Bernalillo County stretching from just east of the Sandia Mountains to the Volcano Cliffs on the west mesa. Bernalillo County has a population of 679,121 and is home to the city of Albuquerque, the county seat, and Kirtland Air Force Base.

The county offers many historical and cultural attractions, plus modern amenities. In addition to its wide-open landscapes, open skies and peaceful natural settings, there are archeological sites, museums and parks. Outdoor activities abound, including fishing, golfing, whitewater rafting and camping.

There are also shopping, dining and nightlife opportunities for residents to explore: Annual events and festivals celebrate everything from Native Americans to the hot air balloon fiesta that showcases the vibrancy of New Mexico.

#### HISTORY

Bernalillo County was one of seven partidos established during Mexican rule. In 1852, within

two years of the creation of the New Mexico Territory, Bernalillo became one of that territory's nine original counties. In 1876, it absorbed Santa Ana County. In 1906, years after the Land Revision Act of 1891 provided for the setting aside of forest reserves, the parts of Bernalillo County currently known as Cibola National Forest were established as reserves.

Albuquerque is the largest city in the state. Albuquerque was a farming community and strategically located military outpost along the Camino Real. The town was also the sheepherding center of the West. Spain established a presidio (military garrison) in Albuquerque in 1706. After 1821, Mexico also had a military garrison there.

After the American occupation of New Mexico, Albuquerque had a federal garrison and quartermaster depot, the Post of Albuquerque, from 1846 to 1867. During the Civil War, Albuquerque was occupied in February 1862 by Confederate troops under Gen. Henry Hopkins Sibley. During his retreat from Union troops into Texas, he made a stand on April 8, 1862, at Albuquerque and fought the Battle of Albuquerque against a detachment of Union soldiers commanded by Col. Edward R. S. Canby. This daylong engagement at long range led to few casualties.

When the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe railroad arrived in 1880, it bypassed the plaza in Albuquerque, locating the passenger depot and rail yards about 2 miles east in what quickly became known as New Albuquerque or New Town. Many merchants, mountain men and settlers slowly filtered into Albuquerque creating a major mercantile commercial center which is now downtown Albuquerque. New Albuquerque was incorporated as a town in 1885, with Henry N. Jaffa its first mayor, and it was incorporated as a city in 1891. Old Town remained a separate community until the 1920s when it was absorbed by the city of Albuquerque.

Kirtland Air Force Base's beginnings stem from three private airfields and are similar to that of other installations choosing to adapt existing



runways and hangars for military use. In 1928, Frank G. Speakman and William L. Franklin, two Santa Fe Railroad employees, had inaugurated a private venture for an airport. Working with the town of Albuquerque, they graded two runways on the East Mesa: one approximately 5,300 feet long and the other just under 4,000 feet. Immediately following construction of the airport, other individuals and promoters became interested in Albuquerque as a crossroads location for southwestern air traffic. James G. Oxnard, a New York air transportation promoter, bought Franklin's interest in Albuquerque Airport, expanding the facility toward the end of 1928.

As the decade closed, two airlines initiated competitive passenger, mail and cargo service between the Midwest and California, positioning Albuquerque as an important transcontinental airfield. Shortly after beginning activities, one of the companies, Western Air Express, decided to build its own airport on the West Mesa. This airport became known as Albuquerque Airport while the former Albuquerque Airport on the East Mesa took on the name Oxnard Field, continuing as a private venture.

As of late 1939, Army and Navy pilots began using Oxnard Field for refueling and maintenance during a variety of military flights. Later that same year, the Army Air Corps leased 2,000 acres neighboring Albuquerque Airport, 4 miles west of Oxnard Field. The Army eventually bought the Oxnard Field property, and its subsequent transfer to the federal government restricted the runways to military use only.

Construction of Albuquerque Army Air Base began in January 1941 and was completed in August 1941. The following month, the base received its first military aircraft. On April 1, 1941, a lone B-18 bomber, piloted by Lt. Sid Young, landed on the north-south runway. With the assignment of five pilots to the aircraft, the day marked the official opening of Albuquerque Army Air Base.

The summer of 1941 saw the arrival of the first troop train, loaded with 500 base support personnel, as well as arrival of the 19th Bombardment Group (19th BG) under the command of Lt. Col. Eugene L. Eubank. Business on the new airfield really began to boom with the arrival of 2,195 pilots, bombardiers and navigator trainees for the new B-17 "Flying Fortress." The 19th BG moved out shortly thereafter for duty in the Philippines and South Pacific, where many crewmembers were decorated for bravery. Even in the absence of the 19th BG, activity at Albuquerque Army Air Base increased. Just a week after the attack on Pearl Harbor, the first class of bombardiers began with the establishment of the Army's first wartime advanced flying school.

In February 1942, Albuquerque Army Air Base was renamed Kirtland Army Air Field in honor of Col. Roy C. Kirtland, one of the Army's oldest pioneers in aviation. Col. Kirtland was one of the early Army pilots, receiving Certificate No. 46 from the Federation Aeronautique Internationale in 1941. He also held Expert Aviator License No. 11 from the Aero Club of America. From April to June 1911, he was in charge of the U.S. Aviation School at College Park, Maryland. Since the airfield originally opened, Kirtland's aircraft inventory had grown to 50 AT-11s and 28 B-18s.

The war years at Kirtland continued to be filled with distinguished records of training entire flight crews for the B-17 and B-24 bombers, and the base's three schools advanced flying, bombardier training and the multi-engine school — operated at full capacity. In February 1945, Kirtland Field also engaged in training combat crews for the B-29. This was the "Superfortress" which eventually brought an end to the hostilities with Japan by dropping atomic bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

In February 1946, Kirtland was placed under the Air Materiel Command and its flying training

#### LOCAL CONNECTIONS

#### **Chamber of Commerce**

Use the chambers' online membership directories to connect with local businesses as you settle into your new community.

#### Albuquerque Convention & Visitors Bureau

#### East Mountain Chamber of Commerce

481 Route 66 Tijeras, NM 87059 ...... 505-281-1999 www.eastmountainchamber.com

#### Edgewood Chamber of Commerce

95 NM-344, Suite 3 Edgewood, NM 87015 ......505-596-0566 https://edgewoodchambernm.com

#### Greater Albuquerque

Chamber of Commerce 115 Gold Ave. SW Albuquerque, NM 87102...... 505-764-3700 www.abgchamber.com

#### **Rio Rancho Regional Chamber of Commerce**

4001 Southern Blvd. SE, Suite B Rio Rancho, NM 87124 .....505-892-1533 http://rrrcc.org

activities ceased. Its new job entailed flight test activities for the Manhattan Engineering District, the wartime organization that produced the atomic bomb. The new role for Kirtland was to develop proper aircraft modifications for weapons delivery and to determine ballistic characteristics for weapons of the future.

Kirtland's role in testing and evaluating these special weapons increased in 1947, as the U.S. Army Air Forces became the U.S. Air Force. At that time, Kirtland Army Air Field, with a population of 972 military and civilian personnel,



became Kirtland Air Force Base. Most of the weapon proving was conducted on a 46,000-acre tract in the Manzano Mountains, on the southern part of Kirtland AFB, including Forest Service lands withdrawn for testing purposes. Artillery emplacements were set up, observation stations were built, fragmentation areas were prepared and two 248-foot oak towers were erected near the present-day Starfire Optical Range. The establishment of such activities at Kirtland was considered ideal because of its proximity to Los Alamos Laboratory and to Sandia Base, where the Department of Defense had established the Armed Forces Special Weapons Command (AFSWC) to direct military employment of the new weapons to be built.

The story of Kirtland AFB is really the story of three bases, since the merger in 1971 of Kirtland, Manzano and Sandia bases that brought the three installations together under one command. Sandia Base was originally created in 1942 as Albuquerque Air Depot Training Station for aircraft maintenance personnel. By late 1943, however, Sandia was in a caretaker status. Less than two years later, the Manhattan Engineering District created the Armed Forces Special Weapons Project at Sandia Base to coordinate military special weapons activity.

AFSWC also constructed two operational sites. One was known as Site Able, located in the foothills of the Manzano Mountains, just east of Sandia Base. On Feb. 22, 1952, Site Able was renamed Manzano Base and came under operational control of the Air Force.

In December 1949, Kirtland AFB became headquarters for the newly created Special

Weapons Command. The nucleus of this organization was composed of pioneering Air Force agencies that had located here to determine future employment of special weapons. The command became the AFSWC on April 1, 1952, and was a unit of the Air Research and Development Command. The Special Weapons Center assumed management of Air Force Systems Command's test and evaluation facilities at Holloman AFB, near Alamogordo, New Mexico, during the summer of 1970. And, just one year later on July 1, 1971, Kirtland merged with Manzano and Sandia bases, its neighbors to the east, creating a sprawling military complex known as Kirtland Air Force Base - the third-largest installation in Air Force Materiel Command and the sixth-largest in the Air Force.

#### SAFETY

The Department of Public Safety's mission is to protect human life and property in New Mexico. The department includes the New Mexico State Police, the New Mexico Motor Transportation Police, the Law Enforcement Records Bureau, the Law Enforcement Academy and Special Investigations. This department is also the go-to source for information about and permits for carrying a concealed weapon.

#### Department of Homeland Security & Emergency Management



The purpose of the Department of Homeland Security & Emergency Management is to help New Mexico residents prepare for emergencies; to mitigate hazards and give help when needed; to prevent attacks; and to coordinate local, state and federal disaster response and recovery. This a primary source of guides for family emergency preparedness.

#### Bernalillo County

The Bernalillo County Office of Emergency Management/Homeland Security is responsible for protecting the lives and health of county citizens by planning and coordinating actions for disaster preparation, response and recovery. The office manages the Emergency Operations Center, plans and conducts emergency training and serves as a liaison with state and federal emergency agencies. Visit the office's website for the county's emergency operations plan and a handbook on how to prepare for an emergency.

#### WEATHER AND CLIMATE

Bernalillo County gets 12 inches of rain per year while the U.S. average is 37. The county averages about 17 inches of snowfall, slightly less than the national average of 25 inches of snow per year. The number of days with any measurable precipitation is 64. There are about 278 sunny days per year in Bernalillo County. The July high is around 90 degrees, and the January low is 22.

#### Local Hazards

Every second counts in a disaster so planning and preparation can be lifesavers.

The New Mexico Department of Homeland Security & Emergency Management provides residents, communities, public safety professionals, businesses and schools with invaluable information and resources for dealing with calamities, from floods to fires to earthquakes, hazardous waste and terrorism, to name just a few. Go to the website, *www.nmdhsem.org*, and click on "Preparedness Bureau" to learn how to confront specific emergencies, create an emergency plan and emergency kit, save your pet, and make necessary adaptations for the elderly and those with special needs.

Another great resource for natural disaster and severe weather information is the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention website at *www.cdc.gov/disasters*. Here you can find information on how to prepare for various weather emergencies.



### **Getting To & Around**

#### **Bernalillo County**

**MOST PEOPLE IN BERNALILLO** County opt to drive, and for good reason: New Mexico is home to 25 magnificent scenic byways, totaling over 2,900 miles across a diverse landscape. Route 66 slices across the entire state — from border to border — and before a 1937 realignment, it made a loop to Santa Fe then rejoined the main highway at Albuquerque.

For those flying, there is a major airport right in Albuquerque with numerous air carriers. There is a municipal airport about an hour outside of Albuquerque in Santa Fe, New Mexico.

The county has a reliable public transportation system, and the area is served by Greyhound and Amtrak.

#### **AIRPORTS**

#### Albuquerque International Sunport

2200 Sunport Blvd. SE Albuquerque, NM 87106 ...... 505-244-7700 www.abgsunport.com

Albuquerque International Sunport is less than 5 miles from Kirtland Air Force Base and is New Mexico's largest commercial airport, serving nearly 5 million travelers each year. Major carriers include Alaska Airlines, American Airlines, Delta Air Lines, JetBlue Airways, Southwest Airlines and United Airlines.

Ground transportation includes bus, taxi, shuttle, Amtrak and rental car service. A shuttle bus provides transportation to the rental car center, at 3400 University Blvd. SE, where there are 10 rental car companies to choose from.

#### Santa Fe Municipal Airport

#### 121 Aviation Drive

Santa Fe, NM 87507 .....505-955-2900 www.santafenm.gov/airport

Santa Fe Municipal Airport offers daily commercial flights on American Eagle and United Express that connect passengers to the world through connections in Dallas/Fort Worth, Denver and Los Angeles.

#### **PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION**

Albuquerque Rapid Transit 100 First St. SW Albuquerque, NM 87102 ......505-724-3100 www.brtabq.com Albuquerque Rapid Transit connects many of the city's biggest destinations together: downtown, University of New Mexico, Central New Mexico Community College, Presbyterian Hospital, Old Town, the BioPark, libraries, shopping and retail centers.

For more information on the system's service area and fares, visit ART's website.

#### New Mexico Rail Runner -

#### **Rio Metro Line**

113 Rio Bravo Blvd. SE

Albuquerque, NM 87105 ...... 505-843-1706 http://riometro.org/170/Bernalillo-County

The Bernalillo County/South Valley Rail Runner Station provides south valley residents with a quick ride to downtown Albuquerque. The station's location on Rio Bravo also allows for a quick bus connection to the Albuquerque International Sunport for people traveling to and from Valencia County.

For more information on fees and scheduling, visit the website.



#### **DRIVING AND COMMUTING**

Bernalillo County is traversed by two interstates and various state routes. Within Bernalillo County, Interstate 40 (Route 66) runs east and west through New Mexico and intersects Albuquerque. Interstate 25 runs north and south through Albuquerque. In addition to the interstates, numerous state routes in Bernalillo County join it to neighboring counties Santa Fe, Torrance, Valencia and Sandoval.

The New Mexico Department of Transportation offers commuter options at http://dot.state. nm.us/content/nmdot/en/Park\_and\_Ride.html.

NMDOT provides free, bilingual and realtime traffic information. Registered users can also create a personalized profile to receive phone, text or email updates about incidents on their specified routes at *http://nmroads.com* or by dialing 511.

#### New Mexico Motor Vehicle Division

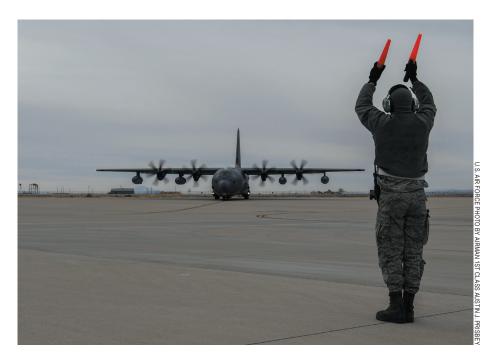
www.mvd.newmexico.gov

<image>

The New Mexico Motor Vehicle Division issues driver's licenses, identification cards and vehicle registration and provides other drivingrelated services. Find many of the required forms and general information at the division's website.

#### **Driver's Licenses**

Military personnel and their spouses who are stationed in New Mexico from elsewhere may continue to drive with a valid driver's



license from their home state, but in general, all New Mexico residents who want to drive must apply for a driver's license once residency is established.

FORCE PHOTO BY

JIM FISHE

The state spells out what is required for licensing and insurance under various scenarios in its New Mexico Driver Manual, which can be downloaded at www.mvd.newmexico.gov/ resources-forms-information-drivers.aspx.

#### **Distracted Driving**

The state of New Mexico does not prohibit drivers from making calls on handheld wireless telephones while operating a motor vehicle. However, because localities are allowed to enact their own cellphone laws, making or receiving calls without a hands-free device is illegal in some towns, including: Albuquerque, Santa Fe, Las Cruces, Gallup, Taos and Espanola.

Texting while driving is prohibited in all of New Mexico.

#### Vehicle Registration

Applications associated with driving and vehicle registration are available online at *www.mvd.newmexico.gov/drivers-forms.aspx*, including DMV forms, requests for driving records and more.

#### *New Mexico Department of Transportation www.dot.state.nm.us*

Visit the New Mexico Department of Transportation website for interactive maps, information about road closures and travel advisories, and to view live traffic cameras.





### **Housing & Real Estate**

#### in Bernalillo County

**AN UNEMPLOYMENT RATE THAT** is one percent below the national average, a relatively short commute and reasonable housing costs make Bernalillo County an ideal place to live. In 2019, an estimated 679,121 people called Bernalillo County home, the U.S. Census Bureau says. Population density in the county was 571 people per square mile in 2010, the Census found.

Kirtland Air Force Base occupies 51,558 acres and employs approximately 20,800 people, and an estimated 1,950 active-duty personnel live off base in surrounding communities, according to the U.S. Housing and Urban Development's Housing Market Analysis in 2013.

The county's communities give newcomers plenty of choices when selecting a home. Enlist the help of a reputable real estate agent to help you sort through the area's home options. The Realtors Association of New Mexico is a central source of local real estate information and services. Visit *www.nmrealtor.com* to find expertise and professional services for those interested in purchasing a new home.

#### **BERNALILLO COUNTY**

Bernalillo County is more than 1,160 square miles in the heart of New Mexico. It is the thirdsmallest county in size but the largest in population.

The average elevation in the county is nearly 6,000 feet above sea level. There are about 278 sunny days per year in Bernalillo County, with about 64 days when there is measurable precipitation. The sunny days and warm temperatures make this county an outdoor enthusiast's playground. For more information, check out the Bernalillo County website at *www.bernco.gov*.

Communities in Bernalillo County near Kirtland Air Force Base include Albuquerque, Rio Rancho, Edgewood and Tijeras.

#### Albuquerque

#### 1 Civic Plaza NW

Albuquerque, NM 87102 ...... 505-768-2000 www.cabq.gov

Albuquerque sits about 5 miles northwest of Kirtland Air Force Base. The city's 189.5 square miles are home to more than 560,218 residents, according to the U.S. Census Bureau.

Albuquerque was founded in 1706 as the Spanish colonial outpost of Ranchos de Albuquerque. Albuquerque was a farming community and strategically located military outpost along the Camino Real. The town was also the sheep-herding center of the West. The establishment of Kirtland Air Force Base in 1939, Sandia Base in the early 1940s and Sandia National Laboratories in 1949 would make Albuquerque a key player of the Atomic Age. Meanwhile, the city continued to expand outward onto the West Mesa, reaching a population of 201,189 by 1960. In 1990, it was 384,736, and in 2007 it was 518,271. In June 2007, Albuquerque was listed as the sixth fastest-growing city in America by the U.S. Census.

Homes in the area range from well-established neighborhoods to brand-new housing developments. Median rent is \$855, and selected monthly owner costs of housing units with a mortgage are \$1,341. Mean travel time to work for those living in Albuquerque is 21.6 minutes.



#### Edgewood

1911 Historic Route 66

Edgewood, NM 87015 ..... 505-286-4518 www.edgewood-nm.gov

Edgewood is a small town in Santa Fe County, New Mexico, and is the fastest-growing place in the state of New Mexico. Through annexations, its town boundaries now extend into Bernalillo and Torrance counties. Although in Santa Fe County, Edgewood is geographically closer to Albuquerque and in recent years has become a popular bedroom community for commuters. With a population of about 6,100, Edgewood is primarily made up of families. The town sits on 48.7 square miles and is approximately 30 miles east of Albuquerque and Kirtland Air Force Base.

Median rent in the town is \$1,080, and median monthly owner costs of housing units with a mortgage are \$1,367.

#### **Rio Rancho**

3200 Civic Center Circle NE

Rio Rancho, NM 87144 ...... 505-891-5000 www.ci.rio-rancho.nm.us

Rio Rancho is the largest city and economic hub of Sandoval County in the state of New Mexico. A small portion of the city extends into northern Bernalillo County. The city is approximately 20 miles from Kirtland AFB.

The Rio Rancho area was originally part of the Alameda Grant, which was founded by the Spanish in 1710. By the early 20th century, much of the land grant had been sold to land investment companies. Amrep Corporation purchased 55,000 acres in 1961 and turned the land into a housing development called Rio Rancho Estates with the first families moving in the early 1960s. Most of these early residents were New Yorkers, as the developers advertised heavily in New York media. The population grew tenfold between 1970 and 1980, and the city of Rio Rancho was incorporated in 1981.

Today, Rio Rancho is the third-largest and also one of the fastest expanding cities in New Mexico. The U.S. Census estimated that in 2018, Rio Rancho had a population of 98,023. Mean travel time to work for residents of Rio Rancho is 28.4 minutes. Median rent is \$1,106, and selected monthly owner costs of housing units with a mortgage are \$1,356.

#### Tijeras

481 Highway 66

Tijeras, NM 87059 ..... 505-281-1999 www.eastmountainchamber.com

Tijeras is a village in New Mexico about 15 miles east of Kirtland AFB. In October 2014, Tijeras gained national notoriety for a nearby musical road, a two-lane stretch of Route 66 with grooves in the roadway arranged to cause the sounds of "America the Beautiful" to be heard when vehicles drive on it at 45 mph.

The village of 547 residents sits on 1.2 square miles and is at the junction of Tijeras Canyon, leading to the west, toward Albuquerque, and Cedro Canyon, leading to the south, toward the Manzano Mountains. The cost of living in Tijeras is slightly higher than the state's average, and rentals are scarce. Average rents are around \$1,203 and selected monthly owner costs of housing units with a mortgage are \$1,361.

#### **PLANNING YOUR MOVE**

Relocating to a new home can be one of the most stressful situations in life. Whether moving across town or the nation, preparation and organization make all the difference.

For military moves, visit *www.move.mil* for information about moving resources and to learn about the allowances and responsibilities of a military-sponsored move.

Regardless of which method you choose, the first step should be to inventory your personal belongings. The list, with photographs of any valuables, will be important for both insurance purposes and to help keep you organized during transit.

Plan for one full day to pack each room though the kitchen and garage may take longer. Make a rough estimate of your packing schedule and then add 50 percent more time. It always takes longer than predicted to pack. Toss or donate unused items to lighten your load. Visit www.goodwill.org, www.salvationarmyusa.org



or *www.clothingdonations.org* for locations near you or to arrange a pickup.

#### **BUYING VERSUS RENTING**

The decision to buy or rent is the most important step in your relocation process. Purchasing a home entails a long-term financial and emotional commitment with various pluses and minuses. Advantages include the possibility of building equity and the freedom to design and decorate your property or landscape. And don't forget the tax benefits. Disadvantages include upkeep, property taxes and fluctuating property values.

Renting, on the other hand, makes moving easier and someone else maintains the property. Amenities such as laundry rooms, exercise rooms, swimming pools and tennis courts vary from one rental complex to another. The main disadvantage is a loss of control over the residence.

To determine your best choice, account for all of your needs, review your financial situation and research your options thoroughly.

#### **FINDING AN APARTMENT**

Be prepared when you meet with the leasing agent, property manager or owner. You will need to provide information and verification about your job, your income and your past rental history.

Use a written checklist with the landlord to document the condition of the rental before you move in, and keep a copy of the completed checklist to use when you move out.

The New Mexico Department of Health's website has a renter's guide at *www.nmhealth.org/ publication/view/guide/278*.

#### **BUYING A HOME**

Buying a home is a complex process and, as the recent housing crisis demonstrated, requires a thorough education on the part of the buyer.

The New Mexico Association of Realtors is a central source of local real estate information and assistance. Those interested in purchasing a new home can find the expertise and professional services they need at *www.nmrealtor.com*.

#### Greater Albuquerque Housing Partnership

The Greater Albuquerque Housing Partnership is dedicated to the development of affordable housing opportunities to qualified first-time home buyers. For more information, visit *www. abqgahp.org* or call 505-244-1614.

#### State Programs

New Mexico provides housing programs and incentives to help residents with home ownership. For more information, visit *http://portal. hud.gov* and select New Mexico from the "State Info" drop-down menu.





# **Employment & Economy**

#### in Bernalillo County

**THE MOST POPULOUS COUNTY** in the state of New Mexico, Bernalillo County is teeming with business creation potential. The economic landscape in the county is filled with mom-andpop shops, small manufacturers, major institutions and large-scale corporations. Some of the county's major private employers include Sandia National Laboratories, Presbyterian Healthcare Services and Lovelace Sandia Health System, and the major public employers include Albuquerque Public Schools, University of New Mexico and Kirtland Air Force Base. The county is one of the state's fastest-growing counties, with 19 percent growth between 2000 and 2010.

New Mexico was primarily an agricultural state until the 1940s, when military activities assumed major economic importance. Currently, major industries include manufacturing, petroleum and food. Tourism also continues to flourish. New Mexico's economy has an unusually large public sector, accounting for nearly 20 percent of total state product in 2014, compared with the national state average of 12 percent. The

state was relatively unaffected by both the boom of the late 1990s and the bust of 2001.

Albuquerque, located at the crossroads of the state's travel routes, is the largest city in Bernalillo County and in the state of New Mexico. Clear, sunny, dry days; an attractive mountain landscape; and a mostly healthy economy attract new residents from across the country. Not only is the physical climate excellent, but the area also has a favorable tax climate, and the state's fiscal health is among the best in the country. The area is a center for the high-tech industry and especially researchoriented activities, centered on the giant Sandia Laboratories nuclear research facility south of town. There are over 100 mostly small- and medium-size tech-related companies, and the area has experienced some vulnerability to tech industry economic cycles. Bernalillo County has a cost of living that is slightly higher than the nation's average, but the low unemployment rate, shorter commutes and affordable housing make it an ideal place to live.

The state is home to the New Mexico Department of Workforce Solutions, a site that contains a wealth of information about the state's workforce development services, employment and training resources, and unemployment insurance program. Visit *www.dws.state.nm.us/en-us* for more information and office locations. Some of the resources available through the site include job scam warnings, job fairs, apprenticeship programs, disability and unemployment program navigator, starting a new business and veteran programs.

#### Kirtland Air Force Base

There are more than 22,000 people who work at Kirtland Air Force Base — including uniformed military members, federal civilians and contract workers — making it one of the largest employers in New Mexico. Kirtland Air Force Base, including its mission partners, is estimated to have an annual economic impact of \$7.6 billion on the local economy, according to the 2018 Kirtland Air Force Base Economic Impact Statement.



#### **EMPLOYMENT RESOURCES**

#### National Resources

At the national level, websites such as *www. linkedin.com*, *www.monster.com*, *www.career builder.com* and *www.indeed.com* have extensive search capabilities as well as resume tips, forum support and professional networking options.

The National Military Spouse Network, a networking, mentoring and professional development organization, has a wealth of career information at its website, *www. nationalmilitaryspousenetwork.org.* The organization also features companies that are military spouse-owned or military spouse-friendly on its Homefront Business Listings page.

#### Local Resources

New Mexico Workforce Connection

Albuquerque Office 501 Mountain Road NE

Albuquerque, NM 87103 ...... 505-843-1900

www.dws.state.nm.us

The New Mexico Department of Workforce Solutions' website helps job seekers looking for work and for employers needing workers. Local offices of the New Mexico Workforce Connection are dotted across the state; the Albuquerque office serves the Bernalillo County region. The website serves as a one-stop integrated employment and training service with information in English and some in Spanish.

#### New Mexico State Personnel Office

2600 Cerrillos Road

Santa Fe, NM 87505 ..... 505-476-7759 www.spo.state.nm.us

This is the state's human resources office, which lists state jobs and has other useful aids for job seekers.

#### **Bernalillo County**

Human Resources Department

1 Civic Plaza NW, Suite 4012

Albuquerque, NM 87102 ........... 505-468-1500 www.bernco.gov/Human-resources/berncojobs.aspx

Bernalillo County's Human Resources Department is responsible for the administration and oversight of personnel and the county's system, which consists of approximately 2,450 employees. Jobs are posted online with benefits information, and applications are available for download with submission instructions.

#### City of Albuquerque

1 Civic Plaza NW Albuquerque, NM 87102 www.cabg.gov

From the main menu on the city's website, click "Jobs" to connect with city job opportunities and the online application process. In the jobs section you can also get information about how to become

#### **MAJOR EMPLOYERS**

Company	Industry	Employees
Kirtland Air Force Base	U.S. Defense	
University of New Mexico Board of Regents	Higher Education	
Sandia Corp	National Security	
Da Vita Medical Group NM	Healthcare	
Presbyterian Hospital	Healthcare	
New Mexico State University	Higher Education	
Albuquerque International	Airport	
Albuquerque Police Department	Law Enforcement	
Sandia Resort & Casino	Resorts, Gaming	
UNM School of Medicine	Higher Education	
Isletta Resort & Casino	Resorts, Gaming	
		Source: America's Careet InfoNet

an extra in a film, work for the fire or police department, and apply for swimming pool jobs.

#### City of Rio Rancho

3200 Civic Center Circle NE Rio Rancho, NM 87144

https://rrnm.gov/93/Human-Resources

From the city's human resources page, you'll find links to its Career Center and descriptions of city positions.

#### Town of Edgewood

1911 Historic Route 66 Edgewood, NM 87015

www.edgewood-nm.gov

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From the home page on the city's website, click "Residents" then "Employment Opportunities" to access information about job openings and to submit an application or resume.

#### **EMPLOYMENT AGENCIES**

An employment agency can offer posts ranging from high-level administration to warehouse work. Agencies advertise, interview, test and



manage payroll. A temp-to-perm arrangement allows the employer and prospective employee to evaluate each other before committing to permanent employment.

Municipal and regional chambers of commerce include local employment agencies in their member lists.

#### **CIVILIAN OPPORTUNITIES**

Federal Jobs

Visit www.usajobs.gov to search for Department of Defense jobs at Kirtland Air Force Base. Or call Kirtland AFB's NAF Human Resources at 505-846-1522 or visit http://kirtlandforcesupport. com/other-services/naf-human-resources for links to local job listings and other resources.

#### NAF Jobs

For information about service jobs, including openings in lodging, child development recreation areas and more, (nonappropriated fund positions), visit *www.nafjobs.org*.

#### **Exchange** Jobs

For Base Exchange jobs, visit the AAFES career page at *https://publicaffairs-sme.com/ applymyexchange* and search for Kirtland.

#### **SELF-EMPLOYMENT**

New Mexico Small Business Development Center

The New Mexico Small Business Development Center, *www.nmsbdc.org*, is another source of useful information and support, especially in networking.

The federal Small Business Administration, at *www.sba.gov*, has much information about loans and grants, starting and managing a business, contracting and local assistance. The SBA's New Mexico district office at 500 Gold SW, Suite 11301, Albuquerque, NM 87102, phone 505-248-8225, *www.sba.gov/offices/district/ nm/albuquerque*, can be of great service.





### **Health Care**

#### in Bernalillo County

THERE ARE MANY HEALTH care services in Bernalillo County for military, civilians and veterans, though implementation of the Affordable Care Act has changed established insurance options. Visit www.healthcare.gov for information on open enrollment for health care coverage under the national Affordable Care Act.

See the Advertiser Directory in this guide to connect with local hospitals and medical centers, health care centers and health care providers.

#### **COMMUNITY HEALTH CARE CLINICS AND RESOURCES**

A community health center or clinic is customarily the place to go for those who have no health insurance or have limited income or ability to pay medical fees. Such clinics accept most insurance and provide affordable, comprehensive health care by well-trained, professional staff. They also serve those who are uninsured and underinsured, and most are open to making sliding scale payment arrangements based on income and family size.

For more information on community health centers in New Mexico, visit the New Mexico Primary Care Association's website at www. nmpca.org.

#### **DENTAL CARE**

The New Mexico Board of Dental Health Care and the Dental Hygienist Committee's website, www.rld.state.nm.us/boards/dental\_ health\_care.aspx, can help you find a dentist with its roster lists. Visit www.rld.state.nm.us/ LicenseeSearchIndex.aspx to find or verify a dentist, hygienist or dental assistant. You can also seek referrals from people you know who've had dental care in the area.

The New Mexico Office of Oral Health can give you tips for oral health and low-cost dental care. Visit its website at www.nmhealth.org/ about/phd/pchb/ooh.

#### **FINDING A LOCAL DOCTOR**

Before arriving at your new assignment, check the New Mexico Medical Society

website, www.nmms.org, and use the "Find a Physician" option. You can browse for a provider by type or by location. That should give you an idea of local medical practitioners as well as where you might need to go for specialized care.

Personal referrals from friends or other medical personnel can add to your options.

You can check a doctor's certification at the American Board of Medical Specialties at www.abms.org. To see if anyone has registered a complaint or taken disciplinary action against the doctor, visit the New Mexico Medical Board at www.nmmb.state.nm.us or call 505-476-7220.

Treat finding a doctor as seriously as looking for a new job or a new home. You want to be comfortable with the person who will see you while you are most vulnerable.

#### FOR VETERANS

Veterans in Bernalillo County are served within the Veterans Integrated Service Network 22: Desert Pacific Healthcare Network,



#### **HEALTH CARE**

with the nearest major service center in Albuquerque. VISN 22 serves approximately 1.4 million veterans each year with four health care systems, five hospitals, 30 vet centers, one domiciliary and 12 outpatient clinics located throughout Southern California, Arizona and New Mexico.

### *Raymond G. Murphy VA Medical Center* 1501 San Pedro SE

Albuquerque, NM 87108 ..... 505-265-1711 www.albuquerque.va.gov

The Raymond G. Murphy VA Medical Center offers a broad spectrum of inpatient and outpatient health care services, ranging from disease prevention to primary care, complex surgical procedures and extended rehabilitative care. The closest community-based outpatient clinic is in Rio Rancho, New Mexico. For a full list of clinics and other facilities, go to *www. albuquerque.va.gov.* 

#### Northwest Metro Clinic 1760 Grande Blvd. SE Rio Rancho, NM 87124

New Mexico Department

#### of Veterans' Services

Bataan Memorial Building 407 Galisteo St., Room 142

Santa Fe, NM 87504	866-433-8387
VA Suicide Hotline	800-273-8255
www.dvs.state.nm.us	

505-896-7200

The Department of Veterans Affairs improves the quality of life for New Mexico's veterans, military and their families by increasing awareness and access to appropriate federal, state and local resources. Veterans within the state can receive health care from a variety of facilities including one hospital, 13 community clinics and a veterans home.

NMDVA operates two service offices in the area:



#### **Downtown Albuquerque Service Office**

500 Gold Ave. SW, Suite 3107 Albuquerque, NM 87102 ...... 505-346-4810

#### **HOSPITALS AND MEDICAL CENTERS**

Because emergencies can happen without warning, it is prudent to know where to go when they happen. Saving minutes in a crisis can mean saving a life. Knowing what services are available, and where, can make all the difference. Visit the following websites for more information on local hospital and medical center services.

#### Albuquerque Indian Health Center 801 Vassar Drive NE

Albuquerque, NM 87106 ......505-248-4000 www.ihs.gov/albuquerque/index.cfm/ healthcarefacilities/albuquerque

#### Kindred Hospital — Albuquerque

700 High St. NE Albuquerque, NM 87102 ...... 505-242-4444 www.kindredalbuquerque.com

#### Lovelace Medical Center

601 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Ave. NE Albuquerque, NM 87102 ...... 505-727-8000 www.lovelace.com/locations/hospitals/ lovelace-medical-center

#### Lovelace Westside Hospital

10501 Golf Course Road NW Albuquerque, NM 87114 ......505-727-2000 www.lovelace.com/locations/hospitals/ lovelace-westside-hospital

#### Lovelace Women's Hospital

4701 Montgomery Blvd. NE Albuquerque, NM 87109 ...... 505-727-7800 www.lovelace.com/locations/hospitals/ lovelace-womens-hospital

#### Presbyterian Kaseman Hospital

8300 Constitution Ave. NE Albuquerque, NM 87110 ...... 505-291-2000 https://kaseman-hospital.phs.org

#### University of New Mexico

Children's Hospital 2211 Lomas Blvd. NE Albuquerque, NM 87106 ......505-272-5437 http://hospitals.unm.edu/children





### **Family Resources**

#### in Bernalillo County

**PICKING UP FROM ONE** place and moving to another is always a hassle, especially when kids and pets are involved. Knowing whom to call or where to find information can help make the transition easier.

#### American Red Cross

#### www.redcross.org

The Red Cross helps members of the military, veterans and their families prepare for, cope with, and respond to, the challenges of military service.

The American Red Cross offers confidential services to all members of the military, veterans, and their families by connecting them with local, state and national resources through the network of chapters in communities across the United States and offices on military installations worldwide.

Local Red Cross offices develop and maintain relationships with key community partners. Military families rely on the Red Cross to help them identify their needs and connect them to the most appropriate Red Cross and community resources. This key Red Cross service includes responding to emergency needs for food, clothing, and shelter, referrals to counseling services (e.g., financial, legal, mental health), respite care for caregivers, and other resources that meet the unique needs of local military members, veterans and their families.

The American Red Cross Emergency Communications Center is available to help 24/7. Call 877-272-7337 or submit an online request at *https://saf.redcross.org/css.* 

#### Armed Services YMCA

www.asymca.org

The ASYMCA is made up of 13 branches and about 20 affiliate locations at local Y's and on some DOD facilities across the U.S.

It makes military life easier by providing programs and services to the young men and women of all five armed services: Army, Marine Corps, Navy, Air Force and Coast Guard.

ASYMCA programs, services and events are designed to help the family come together, stay together and have the ability to adjust, bounce back and thrive wherever the services send them — with a particular focus on junior-enlisted men and women, the individuals on the front lines of defending our nation. Programs are offered at low cost and require no dues or membership fees.

Signature programs include: Angels of the Battlefield Awards Gala, Art and Essay Contest, Military Family Month, Operation Hero, Operation Holiday Joy, Operation Kid Comfort, Operation Outdoors, Operation Ride Home, Parent and Me, Teddy's Child Watch and YMCA/DOD Military Outreach Initiative.

Find ASYMCA locations by visiting *www. asymca.org/locations.* 

#### New Mexico Children, Youth and Families Department 1120 Paseo De Peralta Santa Fe, NM 87501 ......505-827-7602 www.cyfd.org

The New Mexico Children, Youth and Families Department offers prevention, intervention, rehabilitative and after-care services to New Mexico children and their families. Child care assistance and child care licensing are the



#### FAMILY RESOURCES

department's responsibility. Its divisions are early childhood, protective and juvenile justice services, all of which strive to make life better for New Mexico residents.

### *New Mexico Human Services Department* 2009 S Pacheco St.

Santa Fe, NM 87505 ...... 800-283-4465 www.hsd.state.nm.us

The New Mexico Human Services Department aims to reduce the impact of poverty on New Mexicans by providing support services that aid families in breaking the cycle of dependency on public assistance. The department implements state and federal grants and programs in income support, medical assistance, Medicaid, behavioral health care and other public issues. It includes the Child Support Enforcement Division.

#### Bernalillo County Office of

Senior and Social Services

1 Civic Plaza NW

Albuquerque, NM 87107 ...... 505-314-0425 www.bernco.gov/community-services/office-ofsocial-services.aspx

Bernalillo County Social Services provides health and quality of life initiatives for Bernalillo County residents to improve economic well-being, education, health and family and community development. The county's Summer Lunch Program feeds hundreds of children every summer, and the Health Promotion team has led an initiative to reduce smoking and obesity, as well as maintaining anti-bullying and anti-teen-suicide programs in Bernalillo County.

#### Military OneSource

www.militaryonesource.mil

Military OneSource is your central hub and go-to-place for the military community. Get to know your benefits and prepare for the big stuff — deployments, reintegration, moves, parenthood, retirement and more. Browse by topic or



search for that strangely specific question you want to know the answers to. No matter where military life takes you, with Military OneSource you will always be in the loop.

#### **Operation Homefront**

www.operationhome front.org

Operation Homefront assists military families during difficult financial times by providing food assistance, auto and home repair, vision care, travel and transportation, moving assistance, essential home items, and rent-free transitional housing for wounded veterans and their families.

Helping military families gain long-term stability is a specific concern for Operation Homefront. Homes on the Homefront awards mortgage-free homes, impacting veteran families for generations to come. The caregivers for wounded warriors also need help and that is why Hearts of Valor was formed.

Operation Homefront's annual gala recognizes extraordinary military kids. The organization also hosts multiple Homefront Celebrations, Star-Spangled Baby Showers, Back-to-School Brigades and Holiday Meals for Military events each year to show appreciation to military spouses. Visit Operation Homefront online for more information.

#### United Service Organization www.uso.org

Since 1941, the USO has kept our military men and women connected to their families, home and country no matter where they are or under what conditions they serve. Programs for military families include Couples Seminars: Stronger Families, Comfort Crew for Military Kids, Operation That's My Dress, United Through Reading, Baby Showers: USO and What to Expect Present Special Delivery and The Sesame Street/USO Experience.

The USO also provides transition services to support Americans' return to civilian life after completing their military service. For more information, go to www.uso.org/programs/uso-pathfinder. Visit the USO's website to find a location near you.

#### PETS

Moves are stressful for everyone — including the family pet. Pets can sense stress and a change in routine can be difficult for them. If possible, keep your pets in a quiet, secure area while movers pack up or unload your belongings. Movers will have your door open while they move boxes and furniture, and a pet may slip out the door undetected. Make sure you keep a collar with an ID tag on your pet at all times. Ensure the tag has your current phone number on it. It is also a good idea to microchip your pets. Remember to keep the microchip's contact information up-to-date. If your pet escapes during any part of your move, you want the animal shelter that scans the chip to be able to contact you.

Your pet may face new outside dangers, like venomous coral snakes and rattlesnakes. Coral snakes have red, yellow and black bands. They are often confused with the milk snake, which is not venomous. A simple rhyme about the two reptile's coloring can help you tell the difference: "If red touches yellow, it can kill a fellow, but if red touches black, venom it lacks." Rattlesnakes are generally 2.5 to 4.5 feet long, have triangular-shaped heads and rattle if they feel threatened. So, keep your dog on a short leash outside, and stick to walking in cleared areas.

#### Animal Services

#### New Mexico Department of Game & Fish

The New Mexico Department of Game & Fish's mission is to provide and maintain an adequate supply of wildlife and fish in New Mexico. The website provides information on hunting and fishing regulations, as well as information on native wildlife species.

#### Bernalillo County Animal Care Services 1136 Gatewood SW

Albuquerque, NM 87105 ...... 505-468-7387 www.bernco.gov/animal-care-services

Bernalillo County Animal Care Services provides a variety of services, including low-cost spay and neuter service, investigation of animal neglect and cruelty, enforcement of county and state animal ordinances and laws, removal of animal remains and issuance of permits. For more information on the area's animal shelter and pet adoption, visit www.cabq.gov/pets.

#### Pets for Patriots

https://petsforpatriots.org

Pets for Patriots' vision is to end animal homelessness in the United States while giving our military veterans and their families the greatest "thank you" of all: the extraordinary love of a companion pet. It makes this happen through its nationwide shelter and veterinary networks, military and veteran organizations, and a public that values the lives of both the vulnerable and heroic among us.

To learn more about adopting a pet, visit *https://petsforpatriots.org/adopt-a-pet/how-it-works*.

#### Veterinary Services

Veterinary services in Bernalillo County are plentiful; see the Advertiser Directory in this guide to connect with local providers. Begin your search with the New Mexico Veterinary Medical Association website *www.nmvma.org*.

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## **Education & Academics**

#### in Bernalillo County

FOR THOSE MOVING TO a new location, it's important to know what educational options are available. This chapter outlines the public schools system in Bernalillo County, along with information about local libraries and higher education. There are private schools, charter schools and home schooling available to children in the county as well.

To be enrolled in a New Mexico school, a child must be at least 5 years old by Sept. 1 of the school year. Those wishing to register their child in school should bring the following to the school office: a birth certificate or other proof of the child's age, the child's previous school records and immunizations records. Check with the school for additional requirements. For details on New Mexico's minimum vaccine requirements for students in grades K-12, visit the New Mexico Department of Health's website at *http://nmhealth.org/about/phd/idb/imp/sreq.* 

In 2010, New Mexico, along with 42 other states, the District of Columbia, Guam, American Samoa, the Northern Mariana Islands, the U.S. Virgin Islands and the Department of Defense Education Activity adopted Common Core State Standards that provide a consistent set of educational expectations for students, regardless of ZIP code. When a family moves, a student's education is often disrupted because the student may be forced to repeat material or learn at a different level at the new school. With common standards across states, this disruption will be reduced — of particular interest to military families. At present, national Common Core State Standards exist only for English language arts and mathematics, with science and social studies in development, though New Mexico has state standards across the full curriculum. For more information, visit www.corestandards.org.

#### **Choosing a School**

Choosing the right school is very important, so be sure to research each one before deciding. Contact the school by phone or by visiting its website, which is a valuable source to learn about a school district's statistics and curriculum.

If the school shows promise, schedule a visit and bring a list of written questions about

student-teacher ratios, computer availability, extracurricular activities, sports programs, music programs, gifted programs and grading standards.

Discuss the potential school with your child: what they liked and what they didn't like. Your family's ability to readily adapt to a move and to find happiness in your new home may depend, in part, on how happy your children are in their new school.

#### **CHARTER SCHOOLS**

Charter schools are public schools of choice that are tuition-free, serve all students and have open enrollment. For more information and a listing of charter schools in New Mexico, visit the New Mexico Public Education Department's website at *https://webnew.ped.state.nm.us/ bureaus/charter-schools.* 

#### **HOME SCHOOLING**

For an introduction to home schooling in New Mexico, visit the New Mexico Public Education Department's website at *https://webnew. ped.state.nm.us.* Here you will find information

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on home-school rules and regulations, testing information, home-school curriculum providers and more.

#### **PRIVATE SCHOOLS**

To search for local private schools in New Mexico, visit the National Center for Education Statistics website and use the private school search tool at *http://nces.ed.gov/surveys/pss/privateschoolsearch*. Users may search by location, religious affiliation, school type and more.

#### **PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

#### Albuquerque Public Schools

6400 Uptown Blvd. NE

Albuquerque, NM 87110 ...... 505-880-3700 *www.aps.edu* 

Albuquerque Public Schools is the 31st largest district in the nation, with more than 85,000 students in 141 schools. There are 88 elementary schools, 27 middle schools, 21 high schools, two alternative schools and four combined elementary and middle schools.

#### **Bernalillo Public Schools**

250 Isidro Sanchez Circle

Bernalillo, NM 87004.....505-867-2388 www.bernalillo-schools.org

The Bernalillo Public Schools School District includes nine schools that serve 3,100 students in grades pre-kindergarten through 12th grade. There are four elementary schools, one middle school, one high school, two combined elementary and middle schools and one preschool.

#### **Rio Rancho Public Schools**

500 Laser Road

Rio Rancho, NM 87124 ..... 505-896-0667 www.rrps.net

Rio Rancho Public Schools has 10 elementary schools, four middle schools, three high schools

and one preschool. The district has an enrollment of more than 17,200 and is the third-largest in the state.

#### **UNIVERSITIES/HIGHER EDUCATION**

Bernalillo County offers plenty of opportunity for continuing education. The Kirtland Air Force Base Education Center is a one-stop service center for higher education. There are four universities offering graduate and undergraduate programs on base: Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, Lewis University, University of New Haven and Wayland Baptist University. Classes are available to active-duty military members, National Guard and Reserves, civilians, Sandia Lab employees and family members.

#### Embry-Riddle University

1900 Wyoming Blvd. SE Kirtland AFB, NM 87117 ..... 505-846-8946 http://worldwide.erau.edu/locations/albuquerque

#### Institute of American Indian Arts

83 Avan Nu Po Road Santa Fe, NM 87508 ...... 505-424-2300 www.iaia.edu

#### Lewis University

1900 Wyoming Blvd. SE Kirtland AFB, NM 87117 ...... 505-265-3947 www.lewisu.edu/campuses/albuquerque

#### St. John's College

1160 Camino Cruz Blanca Santa Fe, NM 87505 ...... 505-984-6000 www.sjc.edu

#### University of New Haven

1900 Wyoming Blvd. SE Kirtland AFB, NM 87117 ...... 505-228-7815 www.newhaven.edu/lee-college/ graduate-programs/national-security



#### **EDUCATION LINKS**

Find resources to help your student achieve academic success at these websites:

- New Mexico Public Education Department: https://webnew.ped.state.nm.us
- New Mexico PTA: www.newmexicopta.org
- Reading is Fundamental: www.rif.org
- U.S. Department of Education: www2.ed.gov/parents

Military Child Education Coalition: Ensures quality educational opportunities for all military children affected by mobility, family separation and transition. Visit *www.militarychild.org* for information on programs and resources.

**Tutor.com:** Eligible students and service members in U.S. military families around the world can work one-to-one with an expert tutor online 24/7. Get free help with homework, studying, test prep and proofreading in more than 40 subjects. Visit http://military.tutor.com.

#### University of New Mexico

1 University of New Mexico Albuquerque, NM 87131 ...... 505-277-0111 www.unm.edu

#### University of Phoenix

5700 Pasadena Ave. Albuquerque, NM 87113......505-821-4800 www.phoenix.edu/campus-locations/nm/newmexico-campus/new-mexico-campus.html

#### Wayland Baptist University

1900 Wyoming Blvd., SE Kirtland AFB, NM 87117 ...... 505-262-9282 www.wbu.edu/colleges-in-albuquerque

#### LIBRARIES

Public libraries in Bernalillo County offer learning, recreation, distance education, internet connections and other resources for users, and all for free. The New Mexico State Library, *www.nmstatelibrary.org*, supports libraries in the state with resources, interlibrary loan and other assistance.

Residents can enjoy and make use of more than 70 academic and public libraries in Bernalillo County. Get information about services, hours and events by visiting the branches' websites.

#### Public Library Albuquerque and Bernalillo County

https://abqlibrary.org/home

This public library system has 18 locations throughout Albuquerque and the county. Get information about services, hours and events by visiting the branches' websites.





# Living

in Bernalillo County

THERE ARE PLENTY OF entertaining activities in the Bernalillo County area - music, theater, museums, sports, parks and shopping. Make a splash in the Big Flush Water Coaster at Cliff's Amusement Park, for instance, or tee off at one of the many 18-hole golf courses in Albuquerque. Don't miss the New Mexico State Fair in Albuquerque or the hundreds of hot air balloons floating in the International Balloon Fiesta. And be sure to check out the American International Rattlesnake Museum.

#### ANNUAL EVENTS

Residents of Bernalillo County will enjoy a variety of annual events, festivals and community gatherings.

#### ABQ CiQlovía

www.abqciqlovia.org

ABQ CiQlovía (pronunciation: see-clo-vee-a) is the Albuquerque version of the global phenomenon known as ciclovía or open streets. The word refers to events where specific city streets are temporarily closed to cars and opened up

for people to walk, ride, play and reimagine our largest public space: streets. The October event also serves as a stage for demonstration projects to improve bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure in downtown Albuquerque. Other activities include bicycle rodeos to teach kids how to ride safely, a climbing wall, yoga and art.

#### Albuquerque Comic Con

http://albuquerquecomiccon.com

Albuquerque Comic Con, New Mexico's comics and comics-in-film convention, features media and comic guests that are second to none. There will be vendors, media and panels, gaming and celebrity autographs as well as photo ops. The event is held at the Albuquerque Convention Center over a weekend in January.

#### Albuquerque International Balloon Fiesta www.balloonfiesta.com

The International Balloon Fiesta takes place over nine days in the beginning of October with hundreds of hot air balloons taking flight from the 78-acre launch field. This event has been

around for more than 40 years and fills the sky with colorful balloons in addition to providing entertainment in the form of flamenco dancers, mariachis, drummers and live music.

#### Freedom 4th

#### https://bit.ly/2Ln8zmG

Come celebrate the Fourth of July with the city of Albuquerque at the Balloon Fiesta Park. This free, all-ages event hosts one of the largest firework shows in the state. Taste food from more than 25 vendors, cool off with a drink at the microbrew garden and walk through a car show. There are also activities for the kids.

#### Gathering of Nations Pow Wow

#### www.gatheringofnations.com

The largest gathering of Native Americans in the nation takes place in Albuquerque during the last weekend of April. The powwow is held at the University of New Mexico basketball stadium (The Pit) and includes drumming and dancing by some 500 tribes in traditional garb, concerts and the Miss Indian World pageant.



#### Water Lantern Festival

www.waterlanternfestival.com/albuquerque.php The Water Lantern Fest in October is an opportunity for thousands of revelers to join together as a community and create an unforgettable spectacle of light. Historically, lanterns were used to symbolize good fortune, request favorable weather or celebrate the life of a loved one. Families and friends can dance to music, roast marshmallows and munch on snacks provided by local vendors, all before watching the lanterns float away in an unforgettable release.

#### New Mexico State Fair

http://statefair.exponm.com

The New Mexico State Fair is held in September at Tingley Coliseum in Albuquerque. The fair features free concerts, a rodeo, livestock shows, a challenging haze maze, the green chile cheeseburger challenge and the Reithoffer Midway Carnival which includes the standard fair offerings of carnival rides, games and attractions.

#### Santa Fe Wine and Chile Fiesta

www.santafewineandchile.org

The Santa Fe Wine and Chile Fiesta brings together 90 wineries, 75 of the city's best restaurants and a history of culinary excellence to bring you a food-lovers mini-paradise. The festival takes place over five days in September and includes cooking demonstrations, seminars, tastings, lunches and dinners.

#### ARTS

Bernalillo County residents enjoy a wealth of artistic endeavors, from theaters to music to dance and more.

#### Albuquerque Little Theatre

224 San Pasquale Ave. SW Albuquerque, NM 87104 ............ 505-242-4750 http://albuquerquelittletheatre.org Albuquerque Little Theatre is a historic building that produces seven Main Stage shows each year, along with other special productions from time to time.

#### *Albuquerque Philharmonic Orchestra* P.O. Box 36893

Albuquerque, NM 87176 ..... 505-433-7445 www.nmapo.org

The Albuquerque Philharmonic Orchestra has enriched the community for more than 40 years by providing free symphonic and chamber classical music concerts throughout Albuquerque and Rio Rancho, in a variety of venues. APO also works with student visual artists as part of the annual Art and Music Concerts and provides opportunities for soloists, composers and guest conductors to share their talents.

#### New Mexico Ballet Company

#### 10410 Comanche Road NE

Albuquerque, NM 87111 ..... 505-292-4245 http://newmexicoballetcompany.com

The New Mexico Ballet Company is New Mexico's oldest professional company. The company has partnered with the New Mexico Philharmonic to produce full-length story ballets of "Alice in Wonderland" and "The Nutcracker," among other productions throughout the year.

#### New Mexico Philharmonic

3035 Menaul Blvd. NE, Suite 2 Albuquerque, NM 87107 ...... 505-323-4343

http://nmphil.org

The New Mexico Philharmonic partners with New Mexico Ballet Company to produce fulllength ballets, such as the "Wizard of Oz" in April 2017. In addition, the philharmonic is slated to perform at a series of zoo concerts, classical and pops concerts at Popejoy Hall, Sunday Afternoon Classics at the National Hispanic Cultural Center and neighborhood concerts.



#### **Opera Southwest**

423 Central Ave. NW Albuquerque, NM 87102 ...... 505-243-0591

www.operasouthwest.org

For the past 40-plus years, Opera Southwest has presented professional-quality opera from fall through spring, which complements the Santa Fe Opera's summer season, thereby making New Mexico one of the few states with year-round professional opera. Performances occur in the historic KiMo Theatre downtown.

#### MUSEUMS

Learn about New Mexico's history and cultural contributions by visiting any one of the many local museums.

American International Rattlesnake Museum 202 San Felipe St. NW Albuquerque, NM 87104 ...... 505-242-6569 www.rattlesnakes.com

The Rattlesnake Museum is an educational experience for the entire family. This animal conservation museum reveals the hundreds of ways that rattlesnakes and other "less desirable" animals have influenced our lives. Examples are given through artifacts, memorabilia and the largest collection of different species of live rattlesnakes in the world — the Rattlesnake Museum hosts more species than the Bronx Zoo, Philadelphia Zoo, National Zoo, Denver Zoo, San Francisco Zoo and San Diego Zoo combined! Hours vary by season; check the museum's website for more information.

#### Anderson-Abruzzo Albuquerque International Balloon Museum

9201 Balloon Museum Drive NE

Albuquerque, NM 87113 .....505-768-6020 www.cabg.gov/culturalservices/balloonmuseum

The Anderson-Abruzzo Albuquerque International Balloon Museum showcases a vast collection of balloons, artwork and aerial artifacts. Exhibits show the history of ballooning and highlight the science that has thrilled humans for more than a century.

#### *New Mexico Holocaust Museum* 616 Central Ave. SW

Albuquerque, NM 87102 ...... 505-247-0606 www.nmholocaustmuseum.org

The mission of the New Mexico Holocaust Museum is to combat hate and intolerance through education. Exhibits illustrate historical conflicts caused by prejudice, including the Holocaust, the Armenian and Greek genocides, the inhumane treatment of Native Americans and slavery in the United States.

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Veterans' stories are shared and celebrated with memories of loved ones at the New Mexico Veterans' Memorial museum. Exhibits and events at the museum honor veterans who have served over the years. Special celebrations are held on Memorial Day, MIA Recognition Day, POW Recognition Day and Veterans Day.

#### The Planetarium at the New Mexico Museum of Natural History & Science 1801 Mountain Road NW

Albuquerque, NM 87104 ..... 505-841-2800 www.nmnaturalhistory.org/visitors/planetarium

The Planetarium at the New Mexico Museum of Natural History & Science blends art, science and fun. The largest and most technologically advanced planetarium in New Mexico, the 55-foot Sky-Skan Definiti, full-dome theater features educational and entertaining multimedia presentations on astronomy and space science.

#### Tijeras Pueblo Archaeological Site

11776 Highway 337

Tijeras, NM 87059.....505-281-3304 www.friendsoftijeraspueblo.org

The Friends of Tijeras Pueblo, in partnership with the Forest Service, host a variety of events such as Saturday Afternoon at Tijeras Pueblo, Star Nights and special archaeology, pottery and flint-knapping workshops.

#### Tinkertown Museum

121 Sandia Crest Road

Sandia Park, NM 87047.....505-281-5233 www.tinkertown.com

Tinkertown Museum is a folk art museum created more than 40 years ago by the late Ross Ward. His miniature wood-carved figures are showcased in Tinkertown Museum, including an 1880s miniature animated western town and three-ring circus. Ward's wood-carved figures began as a traveling exhibit but are now housed in a 22-room legacy showcasing his life work. Some 50,000 glass bottles and other available recycled materials are used to form walls and to display an animated miniature western town, circus, saddle show and more.

#### PARKS

New Mexico offers many opportunities for residents to explore the great outdoors yearround. Check your community's parks and recreation listings to see more of what your local area has to offer.



#### Botanic Garden

2601 Central Ave. NW

Albuquerque, NM 87104 .....505-768-2000 www.cabq.gov/culturalservices/biopark/garden

There are nearly two miles of paths through formal and whimsical gardens to explore. Some of the garden's exhibits include Mediterranean and desert conservatories, 1920s farm, Japanese and formal gardens. Each summer, familiar orange and black monarch adults float through the Botanic Garden and flutter inside the Butterfly Pavilion.

#### **Cerrillos Hills State Park**

37 Main St.

Cerrillos, NM 87010.....505-474-0196 www.emnrd.state.nm.us/SPD/cerrilloshills statepark.html

Cerrillos Hills, New Mexico's 35th State Park, is a year-round, day-use park off the Turquoise Trail National Scenic Byway between Santa Fe and Albuquerque. You will cross paths with over 1,100 years of mining history along the 5 miles of trails and enjoy spectacular views of the Sandia, Ortiz, Jemez and Sangre de Cristo mountain ranges from a park elevation that ranges from 5,900 to 6,100 feet.

### *Rio Grande Nature Center State Park* 2901 Candelaria Road NW

Albuquerque, NM 87107 .....505-344-7240 www.emnrd.state.nm.us/SPD/riograndenature centerstatepark.html

Located on the Rio Grande flyway, the Rio Grande Nature Center State Park offers excellent birdwatching opportunities throughout the year. There are indoor and outdoor wildlife viewing areas overlooking ponds, and trail access to the Rio Grande. The bosque, or riverside forest, features 2 miles of nature trails which wind through tall cottonwoods and past willow thickets and open sand flats alongside the Rio Grande.

#### SHOPPING

In this area of the Southwest you can discover Native American quality jewelry and countless other fabulous finds. Authentic Southwestern pottery, weavings, rugs, art and more fill the picturesque adobe shops and galleries of historic Old Town. Wherever you shop, from traditional Southwestern art galleries to contemporary boutiques, you are sure to find something to treasure for years to come.

#### ABQ Uptown

2200 Louisiana Blvd. NE

Albuquerque, NM 87110 ...... 505-792-1929 www.simon.com/mall/abq-uptown

With approximately 220,000 square feet of retail shops, restaurants and New Mexico's premier day spa, ABQ Uptown has a unique mix of stores that create a completely new and refreshing shopping experience for the community and its citizens.

#### **Coronado** Center

6600 Menaul NE, Suite 1

Albuquerque, NM 87110 .....505-881-2700 www.coronadocenter.com

The Coronado Center offers more than 1.15 million square feet of shopping and dining options. It is anchored by four department stores and features more than 150 specialty stores, four restaurants, a food court and children's play





area. There is free Wi-Fi, ATMs and a mobile charging station.

#### **Cottonwood Mall**

10000 Coors Blvd. NW Albuquerque, NM 87114 ......505-897-6571 http://cottonwoodmall.com

Cottonwood Mall has six anchor stores, a 16-screen cinema and more than 135 specialty stores.

#### **SPORTS AND RECREATION**

Whether you're looking to take in a game or cool off with a whitewater rafting trip, Bernalillo County and its surrounding areas offer a variety of recreational opportunities.

#### Albuquerque Isotopes

1601 Avenida Cesar Chavez SE Albuquerque, NM 87106 ......505-924-225 www.milb.com/albuquerque

Albuquerque's minor league team's name recalls the fictional Springfield Isotopes from the long-running TV series "The Simpsons." The team, which plays in the Pacific Coast League, is the Triple-A affiliate of the Colorado Rockies. The team was previously affiliated with the Florida Marlins, from 2003 to 2008 and the Los Angeles Dodgers from 2009 to 2014. Visit the team's website for schedules, roster and ticket prices.

#### Cliff's Amusement Park

4800 Osuna Road NE

Albuquerque, NM 87109 ...... 505-881-9373 www.cliffsamusementpark.com

Cliff's Amusement Park has hundreds of ways for everyone to have a good time. Fun doesn't get more exciting than thrill rides such as Cliff Hanger, SideWinder, the Super Fire Ball and New Mexico Rattler, one of the top 25 wooden roller coasters in the world. There are also water rides like Rocky Mountain Rapids and Big Flush Water Coaster, Cliff's WaterMania, a water play area, and lots of rides in Kiddieland to keep the little ones amused. Visit the website for park hours and ticket prices.

#### Geronimo Trail Guest Ranch

1 Wall Lake Road

Winston, NM 87943......575-772-5157 www.geronimoranch.com

This New Mexico dude ranch is miles away from civilization, 85 miles from the nearest stoplight to be exact, in the Gila National Forest. Horseback riding here takes you through open meadows, tall ponderosa forests, up on high hills where the views go on forever across the 3.3 million acre national forest and down into deep canyons with sheer cliffs and crystal clear streams. After spending time with the horses, guests can enjoy seeing 1,000-year-old Mimbres archeological sites (pit houses and cliff dwellings with pottery shards and pictographs), campfires, unguided hiking, roping lessons, photography, swimming in the creek or just reading a good book on a bench swing.

#### Golf

This region features some of the best golf courses in New Mexico. The mild climate ensures that golf can be played throughout the year. Albuquerque is home to many award-winning public golf courses and two that rank in the nation's top 50: Twin Warriors Golf Club and the

#### GO, TEAM, GO!

You may carry your sports team loyalties with you, no matter where you go, but you can root, root, root for the local favorites too. Check out www.Govx.com for discounted sports and race tickets for current and former military members.

dramatic Paa-Ko Ridge Golf Club, which was awarded the only five-star rating in the Southwest by readers of Golf Digest. For a full list of public and private courses in New Mexico, visit *www.newmexicogolf.com/courses*.

#### New Mexico River Adventures

2217 Highway 68

New Mexico River Adventures offers halfday, full-day and multiday adventures for families and groups along the Rio Grande and Rio Chama. You can opt for a wild whitewater rafting trip or an easy float down the river. Visit the website for details such as destinations, schedules and more.

#### Wildlife West Nature Park

87 N. Frontage Road Edgewood, NM 87015 ..... 505-281-7655 www.wildlifewest.org

Wildlife West Nature Park is a 122-acre wildlife refuge and an enhanced rescued wildlife zoo featuring more than 20 species of native New Mexico animals. The zoo features cougars, wolves, bear, elk, deer, javelina, fox, raptors and more. The zoo provides a special look into the plants and animals that make up the ecosystems of New Mexico and the Southwest. Overnight adventures available by appointment. For more information on hours and ticket prices, visit the park's website.



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