

SITES TO VISIT

The Box Recreation Area and other hiking trails

Six miles SW of Socorro off US-60, take Box Canyon Rd to the large parking area

Free · Trailhead at end of parking area · hikingproject.com/directory/8011537/socorro for maps

A 640-acre highly scenic, rugged area popular for technical rock climbing, bouldering, and hiking. Several trails of varying difficulty wind through the dramatic canyon terrain.

Bosque del Apache National Wildlife Refuge

1001 NM-1, San Antonio, NM 87832

\$5/vehicle · Refuge loop road open dawn to dusk

In winter this is a world-class birding site as waterfowl stop to rest during migration. By mid-March most birds have moved on. Hiking opportunities include the Chupadera Wilderness Trail (5.27 miles, challenging) and the Canyon National Recreation Trail (2.14 miles, gentle), which winds through Solitude Canyon in a northern Chihuahua Desert biome.

Mineralogical Museum, NMT

NMT Campus

Typically Mon–Fri 8am–5pm · Free

A great free museum for those interested in rocks and minerals.

EAT & DRINK

⌘: \$1-\$10/person

⌘⌘: \$10-\$20/person

⌘⌘⌘: \$20-\$30/person

Coffee

Que Suave Cafe ⌘

915 N. California St

Mon–Fri 7am–6pm · Sat 7am–12pm · Closed Sunday

A local coffee house with good specialty drinks. Also offers smoothies and dirty sodas.

Burgers and Fried Foods

M Mountain Grill ⌘–⌘⌘

1 Canyon Rd

Daily 6am–7:30pm

Golf course clubhouse restaurant with a menu of burgers, fried foods, and monthly specials.

New Mexican

Desert Diamond Restaurant ⌘–⌘⌘

602 S. Hwy 85

Mon–Sat 11am–9pm · Closed Sunday · Thurs/Fri/Sat kitchen open until 12:30am

New Mexican restaurant with long hours and occasional specials on weekends.

Don Juan's Cocina \$-\$\$

118 Manzanares Ave
Mon–Fri 9am–3pm · Closed weekends

A popular lunch spot known for spicier renditions of New Mexican dishes than most places.

El Camino Restaurant \$-\$\$

800 N. California St
Wed–Sun 6am–9pm · Full bar (El Matador Lounge)

New Mexican and American diner cuisine in a southwestern mid-century modern setting.

La Pasadita Cafe \$-\$\$

1012 N. California St
Mon–Fri 10am–7pm · Closed weekends

Popular spot for classic New Mexican cuisine.

Sofia's Kitchen & Burrito Tyme \$-\$\$

105 Bullock Ave
Dine-in daily 6am–1:30pm · Drive-through daily 6am–7:30pm

Especially popular for breakfast burritos, including one with a chile relleno inside. Dine-in also offers an array of classic New Mexican dishes.

Regional Mexican

Los Mario's Mexican Food \$-\$\$

1001 N. California St
Daily 7am–11pm

Counter service and drive-through spot offering Cali-inspired Mexican, not New Mexican.

Steaks and Contemporary American

Jackson Ranch Steakhouse \$\$-\$\$\$

1123 NW Frontage Rd (off I-25)
Tue–Sat 11am–8pm · Closed Sun & Mon · Reservations recommended on weekends

A western ranch-themed steakhouse. Very few vegetarian options.

Yo Mama's Grill \$\$-\$\$\$

913 N. California St
Mon, Wed–Sun 11am–8:30pm · Closed Tuesday

Contemporary American menu with New Mexican influences using local green chile. Limited vegetarian options but does have a black bean burger, veggie sandwich, and salads.

Craft Beer and Breweries

Capitol Bar & Brewery \$-\$\$

110 Plaza St

Mon 3–10pm · Tue–Sat 11:30am–midnight · Sun 11:30am–10pm · Espresso bar opens 8am Tue–Sat

One of the oldest continually operating bars in New Mexico, opened in 1896. At one point it was run by a justice of the peace who held court in the bar and jailed people in the back room, which now serves as the brewery. Usually offers 6–10 house taps plus other local beers, has mocktails and NA options, and food including pizzas, hot dogs, and sandwiches.

Also has coffee and pastries starting at 8AM Tues-Sat.

Box Canyon Brewing Company \$-\$\$

110 Manzanares Ave (1 block west of California St)

Sun 11:30am–9pm · Mon–Wed 4–9pm · Thu 11:30am–9pm · Fri–Sat 11:30am–10pm

A microbrewery with creative beers. Live music every Friday and Saturday evenings. Food includes sandwiches, wraps, and bean pies.

Baca House Brewery \$-\$\$

115 Abeyta Ave

Mon–Thu 3–8pm · Fri–Sat 12–9pm · Sun 3–8pm

A historic building with a courtyard. Food includes wood-fired pizza, chicken wings, chicken tenders, and BBQ.

Nearby

The Owl Bar & Cafe \$

US-380 at I-25, San Antonio, NM (~8 miles south)

Mon–Sat 8am–8pm · Closed Sunday · (575) 835-9946

Supposedly once a popular spot with scientists working at the Trinity test site in the 1940s, who the restaurant claims invented the green chile cheeseburger.

Buckhorn Tavern \$\$

San Antonio, NM (~8 miles south, same village as the Owl Bar)

Mon–Fri 11am–8pm · Sat 11am–3pm · Closed Sunday

Offers a more extensive menu than the Owl Bar, including some New Mexican dishes and the option to sub meat with a Beyond Burger. Good red chile and slightly more elevated burgers than Owl Bar, though both are worth the trip.

Tumbleweeds Diner \$\$

1408 Hwy 60 West, Magdalena, NM (~26 miles west, on the VLA road)

Wed 11am–3pm · Thu–Sat 11am–7pm · Sun 11am–5pm · Closed Mon–Tue

The best place to stop en route to or from the VLA. Known for burgers and a fried chicken sandwich, but sometimes has interesting specials influenced by Filipino and Czech cuisine. Draws people from Albuquerque and further for the quality of the food.

This Week in Socorro

All
March

Women's Art Showcase

Macey Center Gallery, NMT Campus · Free

Local artists featured throughout March in honor of Women's History Month.

Mon
Mar 16
4-7 PM

SPOKES Bike Shop Grand Reopening

Behind Puerto Seguro Thrift Store · 107 California St · Free · All ages

Food trucks, games, and prizes.

Tue
Mar 17
Food
at 6PM

St. Patrick's Day — Capitol Bar

Capitol Bar & Brewery

Drink specials all day. Live music 6–10pm: The Irish Setters 6–8pm, then Wredemppshun 8–10pm. Starting at 6pm: corned beef, cabbage, and potatoes plates included with any drink purchase, first come first served. Free mocktails for designated drivers.

Wed
6PM

Trivia + \$5 Pint Night

Box Canyon Brewing

Every Wednesday at Box Canyon: alternating trivia and music bingo, plus \$5 pints.

Thu
Mar 19
6-7:30
PM

Open Mic Night

Box Canyon Brewing

Email Robert at bcbsocorro@gmail.com to sign up if you want to perform.

Thu
March
19
7 PM

Trivia Night

Capitol Bar & Brewery

Bi-weekly pub trivia.

Fri
Mar
20
5 PM

Live Music: Johnny Dean + The Burt & Tim Show

Capitol Bar & Brewery

Johnny Dean from 5–7 PM, followed by The Burt & Tim Show.

Fri
Mar
20
6-8PM

Live Music: Big River Band

Box Canyon Brewing

Sat
Mar 21
6-8PM

Live Music: Billy & Bella

Box Canyon Brewing