Where the arts thrive: Taos Arts & Culture

You can tell that you’re entering an art town the second you arrive in Taos, New Mexico. The streets are lined with banners showcasing works of all shapes and sizes from the huge pool of local, artistic talent and there’s a gallery or museum nearly everywhere you look. Taos has hosted a long line of visionaries like Georgia O’Keeffe, Ansel Adams and Mabel Dodge Luhan who were inspired by the soft color palette, dramatic skies and ethereal light of Taos. Now it’s your turn to get inspired in Taos! Visit Taos and see what an art town really looks like. Breathe in the air that inspired the greats and who knows, you just might end up creating your next masterpiece.

Morning

At its heart, Taos is and always has been an art colony. From paintings, sculptures, photography and metals to pottery, multimedia and Native American art, Taos has truly got it all. A small detour off of Taos Plaza will take you to Ledoux Street, a historic row of galleries of all varieties, where you can create your own gallery adventure, or you can opt for a guided artisan walking tour that explores Taos’ artistic past while also showcasing its present-day studio and gallery scene. Wander through the world-class Harwood Museum of Art for 12 unique galleries showcasing art ranging from the Taos Society of Artists to the Taos Moderns, from Pueblo to Hispano, from traditional to cutting edge.

Afternoon

Consider exploring the Taos arts scene through the eyes of an experienced guide. Heritage Inspirations offers a Taos Artisans Walking Tour which provides an immersive look in the local eclectic artistic community. The tour finishes with an artisan version of happy hour at Chokola Bean to Bar, a gourmet chocolatier that makes organic, small-batch chocolate confections. Historic Taos Trolley Tours also offers culturally-inspired tours if strolling town in a trolley-style bus is more your speed.

Taos Pueblo is your next stop for a cultural experience unlike any other. The Pueblo has been continuously inhabited for more than 1,000 years and is a must-visit to gain a deeper understanding of life in a culturally-rich tribal dwelling. Make sure to visit the local merchants for Puebloan handcrafted art and goods.

Evening

Before the sun sets, check out the San Francisco de Asis Mission Church and test your photography skills at the iconic church. The church may look familiar because it is often referred to as “the most photographed church in the world.”

End the night at Taos Center for the Arts, the local hub for community art events like film screenings, exhibition openings, theater, concert performances and more. Make sure to check out their events calendar to see what they have scheduled.
Where the arts thrive: TAOS ARTS & CULTURE, cont’d

MORNING

It’s time to take a light trek to Kit Carson Road – a haven for art lovers and collectors. This area of Taos is steeped in rich history. Discover the Kit Carson Home and Museum and Couse-Sharp Historic Site, to explore the home and studios of important founding members of the Taos Society of Artists.

AFTERNOON

To end the afternoon, make sure to visit any of the local museums to come face to face with Taos’ roots as a mecca for culture and the arts. Taos Art Museum at Fechin House and Millicent Rogers Museums are both examples of living history and creative energy.