



Albuquerque: Welcome to the Land of Enchantment

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Your visit to Albuquerque for the 19th Annual IPMBA Conference will allow you to experience the authentic Southwest. One of the oldest cities in the U.S., Albuquerque boasts a unique multicultural heritage and history where Native American, Hispanic & Latino, Anglo and other cultural influences are a part of everyday life. Recognized as one of the most culturally diverse cities in the country, Albuquerque's ethnic tapestry is reflected in its architecture, artwork, cultural centers and cuisine. Countless customs and traditions passed down over generations are a vibrant part of daily life in the city, and make Albuquerque an epicenter of authentic Southwestern culture. Nowhere is the confluence of past and present more dramatic than here in Albuquerque, where the modern city skyline is set against a backdrop of the ancient Sandia Mountains and an endless, timeless blue sky.

Spectacular weather, with 310 days of sunshine, makes Albuquerque an ideal destination for outdoor activities, especially biking! Combine the sunshine with very low humidity, and it is always comfortable. The average annual rainfall is about 9 inches, and the average relative humidity is only 44%. Average temperatures in April are in the mid-70's. Be aware however, that low humidity and lots of sunshine means you will need to drink lots of water as well and use lots of sunblock.

Our unique weather features also make Albuquerque the hot air ballooning capital of the world. Balloons dot our clear blue skies almost every morning, revealing a myriad of colors year-round. At night, the city is bathed in the glow of neon signs, relics of Albuquerque's place on historic Route 66. Locals and visitors kick up their heels in our bustling downtown entertainment district, go out for a night of entertainment by one of our international theater and dance companies, or visit one of the many casinos surrounding the metropolitan area. When the lights go down, the fun is just beginning in Albuquerque. Downtown is densely packed with brewpubs, wine bars, restaurants, billiards and dance clubs closely clustered within walking distance of the host hotel, the Doubletree Hotel Albuquerque (www.doubletree.com), and the closest Albuquerque casinos are just a 10-minute drive from downtown and several offer free shuttle service.

Every meal in Albuquerque presents you with an opportunity to experience the exotic, addictive flavors of America's most unique and historic regional cuisine at one of Albuquerque's restaurants. The smoke-kissed flavor of freshly roasted green chiles and the earthy fruitiness of red chile sauce are essential to our favorite dishes, like breakfast burritos, stacked enchiladas and stuffed sopapillas. When asked if you want red or green chile, say "Christmas", and you'll get both!

Albuquerque and the surrounding mountainous terrain is a paradise for cyclists. Challenging elevation changes plus dramatic scenic vistas with flats and hills make Albuquerque a haven for amateur and professional cyclists. Mountain bikers need to look no further than the Sandia foothills in northeastern Albuquerque, which offer miles of gravel and single-track trails leading to National Forest land overlooking the city. Albuquerque also has a vast network of paved bike trails throughout the city, including the gem of the network, the Paseo del Bosque Trail. Traversing the city for approximately 15 miles along the Rio Grande, the Bosque Trail winds through mature cottonwoods, wetlands and ample open space, where roadrunners, lizards and coyotes can often be spotted. Bike lanes on many of the city's streets and miles of open road on the outskirts are more reasons that Albuquerque has earned a solid reputation as an excellent city for cyclists.

The Albuquerque Police Department conference planning team invites you to come Rise Above the Rest at the 19th Annual IPMBA Conference!

For more information about Albuquerque, visit www.itsatrip.org.

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