

BEWITCHING B&Bs • SHIRLEY MACLAINE • BAUHAUS ADOBE

SANTA FEAN

\$4.95

MARCH 2004

Things
We
Love

ABOUT
SANTA FE

\$4.95

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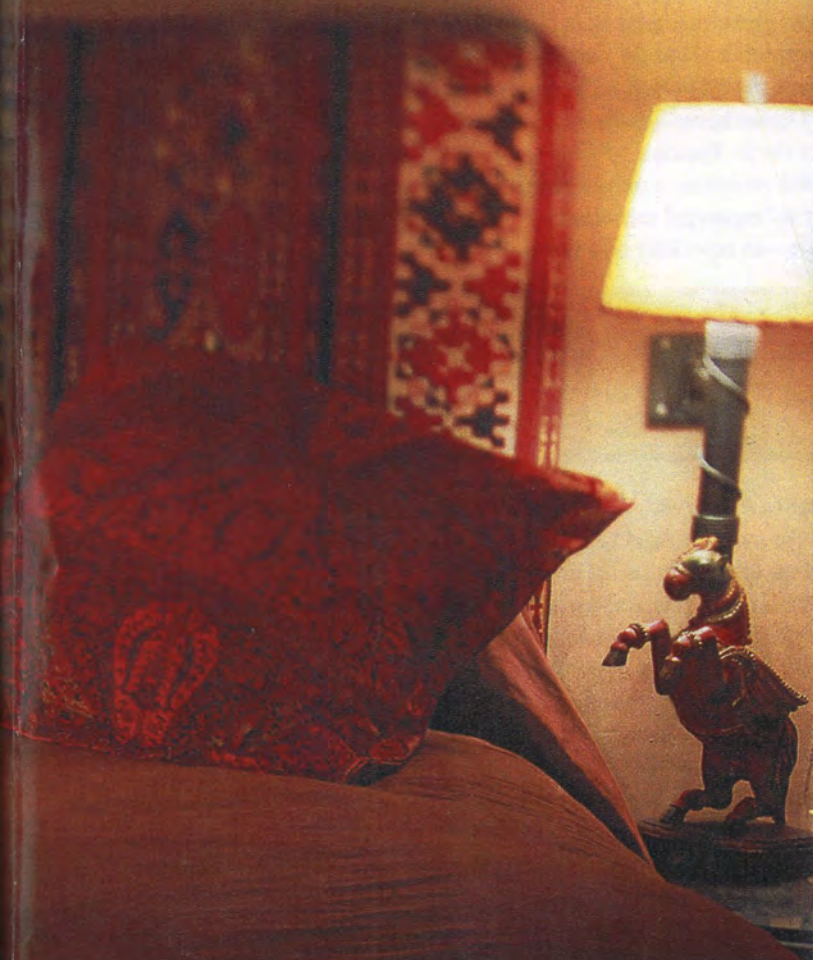
OVERNIGHT SENSATIONS

SANTA FE'S BEWITCHING B&Bs OFFER COMFORT,



SCOT ZIMMERMAN/COURTESY INN OF THE FIVE GRACES; OPPOSITE: DAVID HOFFMAN / COURTESY EL FAROLITO

CHARM, CONVENIENCE ... AND COFFEE



Feast for the senses:
Inviting accommodations
at the Inn of the Five Graces.
Right: A portal at El Farolito.



BY ELAN HEAD

CALL IT THE SANTA FE DAYDREAM.

If you're far from the City Different and wishing you were here, you may find yourself fantasizing, from time to time, about how it would be to live in this uniquely appealing part of the world—whether for the first time, or once again. You think about the spring mornings you'd savor, with a cup of coffee, on your flagstone patio, looking up at a sky so blue it seems unreal; the strolls you'd take through enchanting adobe-lined streets; the farolitos you'd light on Christmas Eve.

Until this daydream becomes full-time reality, you can always get a taste of Santa Fe's intoxicating charm by staying at one of the city's wonderful bed-and-breakfasts—accommodations that, like the city itself, are intimate yet cosmopolitan, richly historic, and utterly, fabulously unique. Many occupy notable buildings, some just a minute or two

HERE'S A LIST OF TEN B&Bs WITHIN THE SANTA FE CITY LIMITS. It's by no means comprehensive, but it should give you an idea of the variety of our B&B lodgings, which range from the budget-priced to the ultra-luxe. Each is unique; all of them offer a gracious stay. Whether you live in Santa Fe or wish you did, what better way to enjoy the City Different?

EL FAROLITO

514 Galisteo
505-988-1631 or 888-634-8782
www.farolito.com
Rooms from \$150 to \$220

FOUR KACHINAS

512 Webber
505-988-1631 or 888-634-8782
www.fourkachinas.com
Rooms from \$110 to \$190



Walt Wyss and his partner, Wayne Mainus, own and manage these classy sister properties. From the exquisite retablos in Four Kachinas' Chimayó Room, to the meticulously laid flagstones in the patio areas, to the New Mexico Piñon coffee served at breakfast, an unerring aesthetic is visibly at work.

"I think that what really sets El Farolito and Four Kachinas apart is the quality of our original art and handcrafted furniture, which we have in every room," says Wyss, a former environmental engineer. Indeed, so notable are most of these pieces that a B&B, it seems, is just the owners' roundabout way of having a gallery. That makes the properties—and the proprietors—a natural fit for visiting art collectors.

Wyss and Mainus purchased the eight-room El Farolito complex in 1997 and remodeled it completely. In 1999, they acquired a 1910 Digneo house—built by the legendary Carlo Digneo, one of the Italian stonemasons who helped construct the St. Francis Cathedral—which is now part of Four Kachinas.

All rooms offer private baths and entrances; a number of them boast private patios. Four Kachinas also features a hot tub. Breakfast is "expanded continental," and many of the rooms have fireplaces, with fires set up and ready to light—an especially nice touch.

INN OF THE FIVE GRACES

150 E De Vargas
505-992-0957
www.fivegraces.com
Rooms from \$295 to \$470



The Inn of the Five Graces calls itself a luxury inn, rather than a bed-and-breakfast. But because guests are provided with a nice meal in the morning, and because the service here is as thoughtful and personalized as at any B&B, it meets our criteria for inclusion.

Tucked away in Santa Fe's oldest neighborhood, the Barrio de Analco, the wonderfully secluded complex of historic buildings that form the Inn is just a few blocks from the Plaza. (Locals may remember this property as the opulent Seret's 1,001 Nights.) The Near East-meets-Old West theme has been maintained by its new owner, the Garrett Hotel Group, which renamed it with reference to Tibetan tradition, wherein the five graces are the senses, or "the five ways to experience the splendor of the world." Each of the 22 guest suites is designed to engage those senses, whether touch (guests enjoy plush robes and high-thread-count sheets), sight (rooms are gloriously furnished with Near Eastern antiques), taste (margaritas and chips welcome your arrival), smell (the aroma of fresh-baked chocolate-chip cookies), or sound (the atmospheric strains of live flamenco guitar drifting from the front patio in the evenings).

GRANT CORNER INN

122 Grant
505-983-6678 or 800-964-9003
www.grantcornerinn.com
Rooms from \$130 to \$240



This venerable inn is housed in a three-story home, built in 1898, that radiates a century's worth of living and, as a B&B, 22 years of loving care. "Every year we do a little more," says owner Louise Stewart, who recently upgraded the eight rooms in the original building to "deluxe" status (two additional rooms occupy a freestanding hacienda). The daughter of Arizona innkeepers, Stewart believes that "hospitality goes beyond service into the field of heart and soul." It's this philosophy that has made the