



Day One: South of Aztec
7 a.m.-7 p.m.

Breakfast at Main Street Bistro (122 Main Avenue.; 505-334-0109): Pastries and quiches are made fresh each morning. Lunch salads and sandwiches. Open 7 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Monday-Friday, 8 a.m. to Noon on Saturdays Closed Sunday

Aztec Ruins National Monument (Ruins Road; 505-334-6174): UNESCO World Heritage site was active from 900-1300 A.D.; ranger-led tours; 500-room pueblo; America's largest reconstructed Great Kiva; museum; bookstore; picnic area.

Salmon Ruins (12 mi. south of Aztec on U.S. 64; 505-632-2013): Ancestral Puebloan community of 300 rooms, elevated tower kiva and a Great Kiva. Site occupied until the 1280s then destroyed by fire and abandoned. Located just west of Bloomfield.

Chaco Culture National Historic Park (80 mi. south of Aztec on US Hwy. 550; 505-786-7014): UNESCO World Heritage site offers the largest excavated ancestral Puebloan ruins in the Southwest. Major ruins, petroglyphs, camping.

Dinner at Wonderful House (115 W. Aztec Blvd.; 505-334-1832): Chinese food with Szechuan-style favorites, including sweet and sour pork, chow mein dishes, and kung pao chicken. Open 11 a.m.-9 p.m. Closed Monday.

Day Two: Northwest of Aztec
6 a.m.-7:30 p.m.

Habanero Grill
910 N.E. Aztec Blvd.; (505) 334-4174
Mexican food breakfast through lunch includes breakfast burritos. Take Out or Drive Thru

Mesa Verde National Park (U.S. 160 east of Cortez, CO; 888-656-9694): UNESCO World Heritage site is America's largest archaeological preserve. Created in 1906, it features 4,000 known ancestral Puebloan sites. Full day experience.

Dinner at Karn Thai Café (104 S. Main Ave.; 505-334-1234): Highly rated curry dishes, pad Thai, vegetarian selections, egg rolls, and soups. Open 11 a.m.-9 p.m. Closed Sunday.



New Mexico, USA

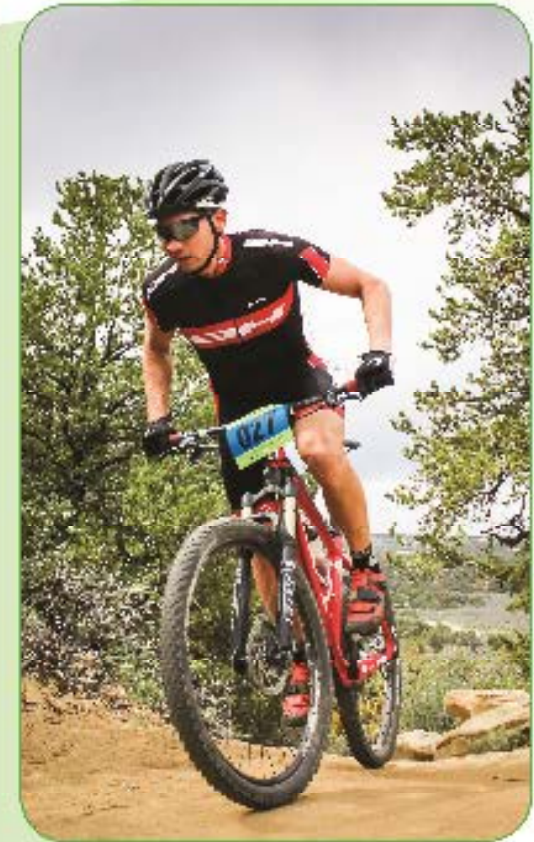
AZTEC VISITOR CENTER

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Day One: Quality Waters Experience 6 a.m.-6 p.m.

Breakfast at Main Street Bistro (122 Main Avenue.; 505-334-0109): Pastries and quiches are made fresh each morning. Lunch salads and sandwiches. Open 7 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Monday-Friday, 8 a.m. to Noon on Saturdays Closed Sunday

Navajo Lake State Park (25 miles east of Aztec on NM State 173; 505-632-2278): Nourished by the Pine and San Juan rivers, Navajo Lake is 25 miles long with over 200 camping and picnic sites, two improved boat ramps, and a marina. Boating, sailing and water skiing, plus fishing for trophy trout, bass, crappie, bluegill, catfish and kokanee salmon. Boat and water craft rentals available.

Fly Fishing at San Juan River Quality Waters: Stop at Abe's Fly Shop (505-632-2194) for fishing equipment, license, personal fishing guide, tips and transport. Quality Waters of the lower San Juan is ranked a U.S. Top-10 Fly Fishing Destination. Located downstream from dam's spillway.



Wine Tasting at Wines of the San Juan (233 NM State 511; 505-632-0879): Located 12 miles from Navajo Dam. Drive less than a mile northeast on NM 539, turn left and drive 11 miles south on NM 511. Celebrated for cabernets, blancs, and chardonnays. Open 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Closed Tuesday.

Dinner at Rubia's (116 S. Main Ave.; 505-334-0599): Mexican food including tacos, tamales, and enchilada plates to combine favorite sides of beans, rice and fries. Bar serves a New Mexican wine list, flavored margaritas, and microbrews. Patio seating. Open 11 a.m.-9 p.m. Closed Sunday.

Day Two: Arches & Mountain Biking 6 a.m.-6 p.m.

Breakfast at Aztec Restaurant (107 N.E. Aztec Blvd.; 505-334-9586): American and Southwest comfort food, including skillet and omelet breakfasts, and sandwiches, burgers, steaks and breaded fish for lunch and dinner. Open 6 a.m.-8 p.m.

Aztec Arches Self Tour: Immediate area offers nearly 240 sandstone arches, including popular Arch Rock in Hart Canyon and Anasazi Arch in Cox Canyon. Directions and turn-by-turn guides available at Aztec Visitor Center (505-334-9551) or at www.aztecnm.com. Easy/moderate hiking.



Alien Run Mountain Biking: Alien Run Trail is regarded among the best single tracks in the Southwest and is celebrated for annual mountain bike competition. Map available at Aztec Visitor Center 110 N. Ash Avenue; 505-334-9551

Downtown Aztec: Main Avenue and surrounds are a National Historic District with an eclectic shops for art, recreation, music, dining, specialty goods and services. Visit Aztec Visitor Center (505-334-9551) for a walking tour guide.

Dinner at Ruby's Family Dining (1901 W. Aztec Blvd, Aztec; 505-333-7517)
Family Dining - Mexican American breakfast, lunch and dinner Families welcome. Closed Mondays.