

MEDIA RELEASE

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Associates Art Tour: Art is at the heart of Santa Fe

May 19-25, 2015

Led by Michelle Jacques, AGGV Chief
Curator

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AGGV tour heading to Santa Fe for culture, cuisine and sun

At the heart of Santa Fe is art, which is why the Associates of the Art Gallery of Greater Victoria can't wait to explore New Mexico's sunny capital city this spring—and you can join them.

The AGGV's chief curator, Michelle Jacques, will lead a six-day tour of beautiful Santa Fe, New Mexico's art galleries and museums from May 19 to 25. The group will be immersed in the art of the region with visits to the New Mexico Museum of Art, Museum of Spanish Colonial Art, Museum of Contemporary Native Arts, Museum of International Folk Art, the Indian Arts Festival and other galleries. They will also enjoy a day trip to Taos and Georgia O'Keeffe's house, talks by local experts, visits to world-renowned restaurants, and visits to historic locations including Old Town Santa Fe and Santa Fe's Palace of the Governors—the oldest continuously occupied public building in the United States and officially named a national treasure. And of course, what would a trip be without a little shopping; the group will explore fabulous boutique shops and artisan marketplaces.

Set at the southern end of the Rocky Mountains, Santa Fe exists in a stunning high-desert landscape bordered by national forest and enjoys over 330 days of sunshine per year. It is home to Native American communities that existed before the arrival of the Spanish. Today these communities are centres of art, craft and culture, and provide a glimpse into centuries' old traditions. The city is similar in population size to Victoria and there are as many restaurants as there are galleries—Santa Fe is known internationally for the quality of its cuisine.

The tour is sure to be popular and expected to sell out. The package includes airfare, airport transfer, accommodation at the AAA four-diamond Eldorado Hotel and Spa, all-American breakfasts, one lunch, one dinner, taxes, gratuities, most museum entrance fees and the day trip to Taos and Georgia O'Keeffe's House. USD \$2,450 per person for AGGV members; non-members USD \$2,550. Prices are based on double occupancy (single supplement USD \$700).

Want to know more about Santa Fe before registering? Join the Associates at the Gallery, Thursday, March 12, from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. for a presentation by Andrew Beckerman. Now a Victoria resident, Beckerman lived in Santa Fe for more than a decade, and will share his knowledge of the city's rich history, landscape, culture and more.

The Associates of the Art Gallery of Greater Victoria were founded in 1952 to foster interest in, and give voluntary service to the gallery. Over the years, the Associates have raised well over \$800,000 to contribute to the Gallery as well as offering unique Art Tours in and around Vancouver Island, across Canada, and around the world.

For more information, visit aggv.ca/events/art-tours or call 250-384-4171.