

From the Taos County Chamber of Commerce:

## Taos, NM: #1 Best August Destination in World, as Named by *USA Today*

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TAOS, NM—The small town of Taos, New Mexico has earned major recognition as *USA Today's* #1 pick for "Top 10 August Destinations" in the entire world.

*USA Today* chose Taos as their top pick from thousands of other possibilities in the world because, "...the charming town of Taos offers a cooler mountain retreat. Warm temperatures and plentiful sunshine make August an ideal month for hiking in the nearby Sangre de Cristo Mountains or tour the picturesque Taos Pueblo. If that occasional afternoon thunderstorm strikes, Taos has plenty of excellent galleries and restaurants for waiting out the rain."

In the month of August, several Taos galleries are launching exhibitions including: Act 1 Gallery's "Cletus Smith Solo Exhibition" (Aug. 2); Pressing On Gallery's "Ten Contemporary Taos Printmakers" (Aug. 16); Old Martina's Hall for the "Art through the Loom Weaving Guild Show" (Aug. 20) and Taos Center for the Art's "Venice: A Reality of a Different Order - Works by Robbie Steinbach" (Aug. 29).

Docent-led tours of the "Highlights of the Gus Foster Collection" at Harwood Museum of Art will also take place in August on the 10th, 17th and 24th. The collection features 121 works donated by collector, connoisseur and supporter of the Harwood. The tour begins at 1 p.m. on each of the days. There is no charge.

The historic Couse-Sharp home, gardens and studio will be open for tours from 3–5 p.m. on Aug. 9, where famous Taos artist E.I. Couse once lived. The "E.I. Couse, the Painter and His Craft" exhibition will be on display, featuring Couse's painting techniques and examples of his photographs, drawings and studies he used. The exhibit runs through Oct. 11, 2014. There is no charge to attend.

On Aug. 16, singer-songwriter Mary Gauthier will perform at the Old Taos County Courthouse at 7:30 p.m., as part of Taos Pride. Tickets are \$15 and can be purchased online at [taoslifestyleproductions.com](http://taoslifestyleproductions.com).

For a complete list of August events in Taos, visit [taosartcalendar.com/events](http://taosartcalendar.com/events).

In order of ranking behind Taos, USA Today's remaining choices for their "Top 10 August Destinations" were: Cartagena, Colombia; the state of Montana; New York City, NY; Saugatuck, Mich.; Banff, Canada; Riga, Latvia; Key West, Fla.; Chicago, Ill.; and Sedona, Ariz.

In the past three months alone, Taos has topped numerous "Best" lists including: "10 Cool Nature Retreats with Unbelievable Views" (*Huffington Post*, May 2014); "Best Places to Experience Native American Culture" (CNN, April 2014); "America's Coolest Desert Towns" (Yahoo.com, April 2014); and "15 Best Places to Keep Your Kids Happy" (Aol.com, April 2014).

*USA Today* is a national newspaper with the widest circulation of any paper in the United States with more than 1.4 million print readers and more than 15 million unique visitors online per month. To read the article in its entirety, visit [10best.com/interests/travel-now/10best-top-august-destinations/](http://10best.com/interests/travel-now/10best-top-august-destinations/)

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