



NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF
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NEW TABLAO FLAMENCO ALBUQUERQUE OPENS

United States First Premium Authentic Flamenco Tablao

Opens at Hotel Albuquerque at Old Town

ALBUQUERQUE, NM – (JUNE 2016) – The National Institute of Flamenco (<http://www.nationalinstituteofflamenco.org>) in partnership with Heritage Hotels & Resorts, Inc. (<http://www.hhandr.com>) is proud to announce the opening of Tablao Flamenco Albuquerque (<http://www.tablaoflamenco.org>), an intimate performance space at Hotel Albuquerque at Old Town (<http://www.hotelabq.com>). This space marks the beginning of a new 10-year partnership between these two entities, dedicated to supporting flamenco artistry.

This unique tablao opened at the beginning of June in conjunction with the Annual Festival Flamenco de Albuquerque, now in its 29th season. This theatrical performance space will continuously feature artists of the highest caliber, both local and international; it will be an incomparable platform for people to see flamenco year-round.

National Institute of Flamenco founder and Executive Director Eva Encinias notes, “The tablao is key in any flamenco community, and adds an important element to the thriving community in Albuquerque. Through this venture, we will create jobs for artists, present the best artists from Spain and the United States, and create a sustainable source of revenue for our non-profit organization.”

“The partnership with the National Institute of Flamenco is a natural fit for Hotel Albuquerque. We are excited to offer visitors and locals this new premium immersive performance venue to showcase flamenco, one of the most unique performing arts. Outside of Spain, the greatest flamenco in the world occurs in New Mexico and has been an important art form in New Mexico for over half a century. Performances will be held weekly on a year round basis. International flamenco stars to our excellent home grown talent will share an important stage,” says Jim Long, CEO and Founder of Heritage Hotels & Resorts. “We hope that guests to the tablao come away with a deeper understanding and appreciation of the art and culture of Flamenco and Spain that has such an extensive and rich history in New Mexico. Tablao Flamenco continues the work of Heritage Hotels to provide its guests an opportunity to experience our cultural heritage in the most authentic way possible. This will be the first of many such cultural performance collaborations that Heritage will undertake.”

The Tablao Flamenco Albuquerque will feature performances every Thursday to Sunday with a special youth programming during the daytime on Sundays. Tickets for each performance range from \$10 to \$500. A range of seating is available from 16 two-top stage front premium tables, an exclusive elevated VIP area with table seating, tufted seating along the back wall and a long community table in the center of the L-shaped room.

The space, designed by Heritage Hotels & Resorts Interior Designer, Adriana Long, features a blend's a of contemporary design elements combined with Spanish Colonial influences.

"We wanted the space to reflect not only the rich and raw Gypsy influences of flamenco but also a contemporary take on Spanish Colonial design elements blended with modern design aesthetic." said Adriana Long, Interior Designer of Heritage Hotels & Resorts. "The entire space was intentionally designed to highlight the performance stage space and there are views from the entire room of the stage."

Guests to the Tablao will also be immersed in Spanish culture through authentic Spanish cuisine and beverages created by the world-renowned Chef Mark Miller of Santa Fe's Coyote Cafe and Hotel Albuquerque's Chef Gilbert Aragon. The food menu will feature a variety of authentic Sevillian tapas with the finest quality ingredients sourced from Spain like iberco ham, nora chiles and imported cheeses. The beverage menu will feature multiple kinds of Spanish Sangria recipes as well as a variety of Gin and Tonic combinations that are also popular in the Seville region of Spain.

The tablao is a model that emerged in Spain in the early 20th century as a platform to develop and cultivate the essence of the art of flamenco. The built-in intimacy between performers and artists has seen the emergence of master artists throughout generations. While accentuating flamenco's innate vibrancy and energetic downpour, our in-home venue will continue to contribute to the cultural heritage that abounds in our state; enriching the experience for both locals and visitors year-round. A tablao (colloquial term for the Spanish "tablado", floorboard) is an intimate venue where flamenco shows are performed, highlighting the improvisation between the baile (dance), cante (song), and toque (guitar). The tablao was made popular during the 1960s throughout Spain.

The tablao is expected to employ more than 20 people in the Old Town Albuquerque area in addition to compensating the performers and will seat 100 but can accommodate up to 200 people. Tablo Flamenco can also be booked for group events outside of the regular performance schedule.

PHOTOS AND MORE:

To line up an interview with Heritage Hotels & Resorts, or to plan a tour, contact:
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About Heritage Hotels & Resorts

Founded by Jim Long in 2005, Heritage Hotels & Resorts, Inc. is a collection of culturally distinct hotels in New Mexico and is the largest independent hotel brand in New Mexico. Through their

architecture, interior design, landscaping, cuisine, art, entertainment and music, Heritage Hotels & Resorts properties provide guests with a very rich, authentic, cultural experience. Hotel Albuquerque at Old Town, Nativo Lodge and Hotel Chaco (opening 2017) are located in Albuquerque, NM; Hotel St. Francis, Eldorado Hotel & Spa, Hotel Chimayo de Santa Fe and The Lodge at Santa Fe are located in Santa Fe, NM; Hotel Encanto de Las Cruces is located in Las Cruces, NM; and Palacio de Marquesa and El Monte Sagrado are located in Taos, NM. Each Heritage hotel donates a percentage of its revenue to a cultural cause. The company and its affiliate companies provide over 1,500 jobs in NM. You can find Heritage on Twitter at @HeritageHtIs, on Facebook at [Facebook.com/HeritageHotelsandResorts](https://www.facebook.com/HeritageHotelsandResorts) or at hhandr.com.