

# The New York Times

## It's Winter. Let's Go to the Farmers' Market!

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The Sante Fe Farmers' Market in New Mexico focuses on fresh food by capping the number of vendors who can sell products like baked goods and crafts. Santa Fe Farmers Market

## Santa Fe Farmers' Market

There are always reasons to go to Santa Fe, N.M.: The city's sublime views of the Sangre de Cristo Mountains and its roughly 325 days of sunshine a year make it almost a lock for good weather. So the [Santa Fe Farmers' Market](#) operates throughout the winter on Saturdays at the reimagined, city-owned [Santa Fe Railyard](#), where tourists and new Santa Fe residents once rolled in on sleeping and dining cars when the city was young.

In the winter months, said Debbie Burns, chief executive of the Santa Fe Farmers' Market, shoppers can find fresh-picked arugula, bok choy, cabbage, potatoes, sprouts, microgreens, carrots, kale, mushrooms, winter squash, spinach, greenhouse tomatoes and

“It used to be that hardly any vendors produced in the winter, but now so many people have greenhouses that we have over 40 vendors,” Ms. Burns said.

The market caps all products that aren't produce and meat (as in baked goods or crafts) at no more than 20 percent to keep space for what the market is meant for: fresh food.

“We are considered one of the best in the nation because we're a true farmers' market,” she said. “If people could taste the difference between the vegetables here and what they get at grocery stores or even at health food stores, they would understand, because all of that has to go through a distribution center.”





The weekend market is split between growers and artists. Saturday brings in produce and meat from regional farm and ranch vendors, and on Sundays, the [Railyard Artisan Market](#) attracts regional artists, jewelry makers and other craftspeople, and producers of health and beauty products. It's not unusual to find hand-thrown pottery, woven scarves and hats, and silver and turquoise jewelry.

Keeping funds within the community makes the market sustainable, Ms. Burns said. "We have no shareholders. All of the money we make goes back into the market."