

Shout Out

The Chile Shop

Santa Fe, NM



For many of us, one of the consequences of the ongoing pandemic and associated “social distancing” has been a heightened appreciation of those merchants who continue to supply both our basic needs and those welcome extras that inject a bit of spice into day-to-day life. This would seem to be an especially good time to express gratitude to at least some of those merchants.

Santa Fe is a feast for all the senses. The muted sounds accompanying the season’s first snowfall. The scent of pinyon pine burning in beehive fireplaces. The sight of red chile ristras vividly adorning thick wooden doors set within adobe walls.

The taste of Santa Fe is also something to be savored, and central to its cuisine are the delicious green and red salsas made from chiles grown in fields watered by the Rio Grande.

Years ago, while strolling around Santa Fe, I had the good fortune to stop by The Chile Shop at 109 East Water Street. Along with a wonderful array of salsas, the shop offers items running the gamut from red chili olive oil and green chili caramel corn to traditional and wreath ristras, chile pepper lights and Pipestone china.

Thus far during the pandemic I have ordered and thoroughly enjoyed 2 cases of assorted red salsas. My home in Maryland is a long way from Santa Fe, but snacking on that salsa and tortilla chips has given me a lot of simple pleasure.

Whether you already love New Mexican salsas or simply would like to sample a small portion of what Santa Fe has to offer, do yourself a favor during this time of restricted travel and go to www.thechileshop.com. I doubt you’ll be disappointed. **M**



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