A NORTHERN NEW MEXICO ROAD TRIP
Serene spa retreats and a sensational high country great estate

We checked out and drove two hours south to Sunrise Springs Spa Resort 20 minutes from downtown Santa Fe. This wellness retreat features a contemporary design with Native American accents and is arranged around a natural lily pond, lush gardens, fountains, cottonwood trees and a medicine wheel.

The Casitas are more luxurious than the Garden View rooms and come with private courtyards, gas fireplaces, Southwestern blankets and wall hangings, natural-wood elements and clean-lined furnishings. The main draw of the hotel is the extensive list of fitness and wellness classes. The spa is first-rate — as might be expected at a destination health retreat — but the main experience not to be missed is a soak in one of the mineral-infused open-air soaking tubs, or the Japanese-style wooden tubs. We were pleasantly surprised by the meals served at the restaurant. This serene oasis naturally encourages you to slow down, and we left feeling thoroughly rejuvenated.

LIKE The outdoor soaking tubs overlooking the manicured grounds; the wide range of daily activities.
DISLIKE Buzzing fluorescent lights in the bath.
GOOD TO KNOW Day passes to the resort’s sister property, Ojo Caliente Mineral Springs, with access to its mineral pools and mud pools are available.
LOWEST RATE: GARDEN ROOM, $230; EDITOR’S CHOICE: CASITA, $370 (MEAL PLANS AVAILABLE). 242 LOS PINOS ROAD, SANTA FE. TEL. (505) 780-8145. SUNRISESPRESIONS.OJOSPA.COM

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Ginger-carrot bisque with smoked guajillo chile oil and pepita powder, and our one-bedroom Casita, Sunrise Springs Spa Resort