

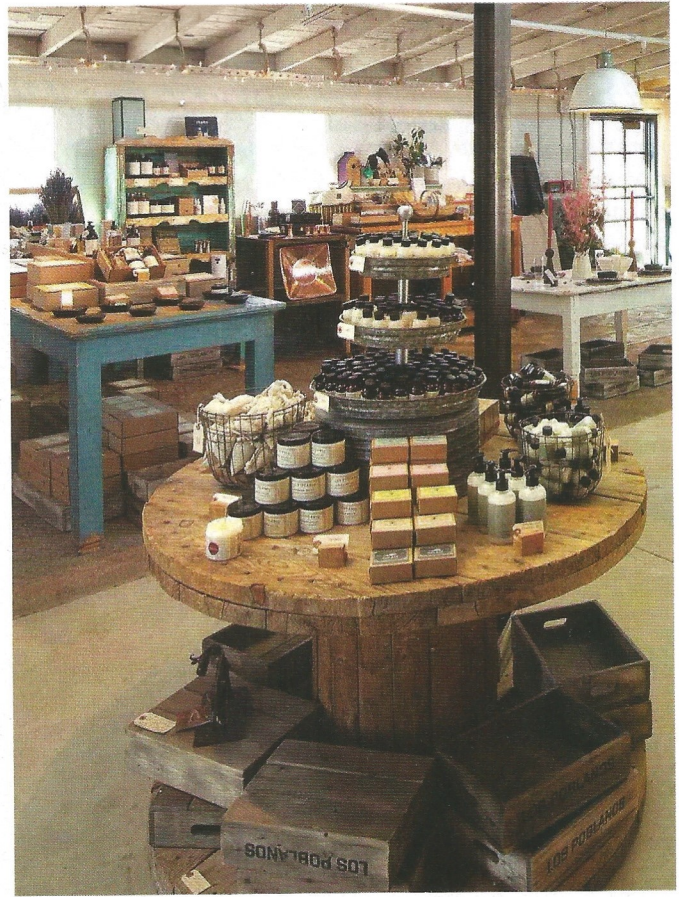
Lovely Lavender

Move over, chiles. There's another New Mexico crop that's worthy of celebration.

At **Los Poblanos Historic Inn & Organic Farm** in Albuquerque, a heritage property that dates to 1934, employees nurture a low-water strain of lavender that's particularly suited to this agricultural region. This lavender is infused into a full line of hair and body-care products, some of which are carried by upscale hotels in California, Texas, and New Mexico.

The hybrid Grosso lavender comes to its full purple bloom in late June or early July. "That is like our Christmas around here, and it's super exciting," says Lauren Kemner, Los Poblanos marketing manager. Lavender-focused offerings at the inn include treatments at the new spa and a lavender-themed dinner at the on-site restaurant, Campo.

Los Poblanos planted its first lavender in 1999, and the farm's first body product was a lavender hand salve created by inn cofounder Penny Rembe to soothe her hands after intensive gardening. Production of shampoos, conditioners, and other products are made at a new facility in downtown Albuquerque. With a wider distribution outside the state, employees say, the products draw new visitors to Los Poblanos and New Mexico, like bees to lavender. lospoblanos.com. **C. J. D.**



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