

SANTA FE § STUDIOS

MovieMaker

The Best Places to Live and Work as a Moviemaker 2019

By Ryan Stewart
17 January 2019

Small Cities and Towns:

3. Santa Fe, New Mexico

Multiple Emmy wins for Netflix's limited series *Godless* this fall will only continue to bolster Santa Fe's reputation as a go-to locale for thinking Westerns after the similarly contemplative *Hostiles*, with Christian Bale, also lensed here before opening to acclaim. Add to that the Coen brothers Western anthology, *The Ballad of Buster Scruggs*, and there's a trend forming. Even a simple cowhand can appreciate a refundable tax credit of up to 30 percent and a small-budget-friendly lack of minimum spend.

Santa Fe's competitive incentives and proactive, engaging Film Office are only a couple of reasons one might choose to call this UNESCO-recognized area home; its high-culture delights such as the Santa Fe Opera and Aspen Santa Fe Ballet are matched by the natural architectural beauty of places like Taos Pueblo, a Native American settlement at the base of the Sangre de Cristo Mountains established 1,000 years ago. You can also visit the San Geronimo Chapel, built in 1619 and destroyed during the Mexican-American War. Perhaps the biggest

wonder about Santa Fe is that a cultural treasure like this has a population of only 83,000 souls.



Tim Blake Nelson as the misnamed "Misanthrope" in this scene from *The Ballad of Buster Scruggs*, shot at **Santa Fe Studios**. Courtesy of Netflix