

**Contact:** Mara Begley/Erin McKeon  
MMG Mardiks  
212/219-7560, ext. 6766/6767  
[mbegley@mmgmardiks.com](mailto:mbegley@mmgmardiks.com)  
[emckeon@mmgmardiks.com](mailto:emckeon@mmgmardiks.com)

Jena Marquez  
Hyatt Regency Tamaya Resort & Spa  
505/771-6039  
[jena.marquez@hyatt.com](mailto:jena.marquez@hyatt.com)

## THE STORY OF THE TAMAYAME

**SANTA ANA PUEBLO, NM** – Countless centuries ago, when this world was still brand new, the people of Tamaya (Tamayame) were born into it from another; an underworld. This place of emergence was to the north, tradition holds, and its name was Shipapu (Si-Pa-Puh).

While the Hanu (The People) were still at Shipapu, they were given instructions on how to live in this new world, including religion, religious leaders and a system of self-government was given to the people. The Hanu were told they could not live at this place of emergence, rather they had to find the place that best suited them - their place in this world.

As the Hanu traveled through this new world, they saw that it was rich and abundant with plants and animal life. Whenever they felt hungry, they stopped to nourish themselves with surrounding vegetation or by hunting. These early travelers made their way through lands lush and verdant, and lands that were arid and sparse. They finally settled at a place called White House and set the fundamental foundations of how they were going to live in this world. But, because White House was not their place, the Hanu had to continue their journey.

They continued their migrations toward the south, and eventually the Hanu decided to settle on the eastern side of the majestic Sandia Mountains. The people of this new settlement, called Paak'u, lived and worked for more than a century. The land was rich and fertile, and game animals in the highlands of the Sandias were abundant. However, not all of the people at Paak'u were completely satisfied, and they decided to continue on their great journey.

From that point, the Hanu were split into two groups: the ones who chose to remain at Paak'u, and those who would continue migrating. Those who left, traveled to the Rio Grande river valley and settled in a small village. This village, called Tamaya Kuwasaya or Tamaya Village, was situated across the Rio Grande from present day San Felipe Pueblo. The people stayed only a short while before moving on to several settlements such as Kwiiste Puu Tamaya and Kwiiste Kene'ewa, where they encountered either opposition from neighboring tribes or land unsuitable for long-term settlement. The Hanu, traveling as far south as present day Socorro, made their way back to Paak'u.

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Upon their return, they found Paak'u much different than when they had left. Due to the short growing season on the east side of the Sandia Mountains, the people of Paak'u had begun to build small farming villages and slowly moved out of the village of Paak'u and into small settlements along the Rio Grande Valley. Another major settlement of the Hanu was at Kwiiste Haa Tamaya, where the people lived for a short time, until they eventually crossed the Rio Jemez and settled at what is now called Tamaya; and its people Tamayame.

The Tamayame prospered in their new location, and decided that this was the place that was designated for them. This was their place in the world. However, their open and welcoming way towards all visitors almost brought an end to their way of life. When foreigners came with strange animals, plants and beliefs, the people of Tamaya welcomed them. The Tamayame shared belief systems and ceremonies, as well as their modest adobe homes. The Tamayame finally realized the foreigners wanted no part of their belief system or culture. Instead, the foreigners wanted to force their belief system upon the Tamayame. Soon many of the Tamayame became sick and many died from strange new illnesses brought by these foreigners. Meanwhile, others were forced into submission by the now unwelcome visitors.

The ideas of forced labor and having to speak a foreign tongue in their own land was new to the Tamayame. Also new was the idea of The Church, a structured religious belief that set aside only one day for worship, because the people of Tamaya lived their religion every single day. The foreigners also gave the Tamayame a new name – Santa Ana, the name of their patron saint.

As more and more of these foreign people began to settle in the area surrounding Tamaya, the Tamayame realized that they would have to change and learn from the foreigners. The Tamayame discovered new ways of thinking and living. New foods like peaches, apples, grapes and watermelons augmented the traditional diet of corn, beans, squash and chilies. Some Tamayame became cattle herders, some shepherders, while most remained agricultural farmers. Improvements such as metal tools also came from the arrival of the foreigners.

Tamayame, during most of the year, spent their time at the Ranchitos settlement, but the Tamaya Settlement remains the spiritual home of the people. To this day all ceremonies of religious significance are conducted there.

In this modern time, the people of Tamaya saw a need to be self-sufficient. The Tribal government, now modeled through foreign-influence, approved a measure that would change and reshape the future of the Tamayame. In addition to a discount smoke shop, Garden Center, and Blue Corn enterprise, the people of Tamaya now have a casino. The casino's revenue has enabled further growth in all aspects of the life for the average tribal member.

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As well as a casino, there is a twenty-seven-hole golf course, a fine dining restaurant and a clothing enterprise dedicated to showcasing Native American artists. The people of Tamaya, proud and determined to show the best they have to offer, have taken the time to make sure that all of these businesses are high-quality enterprises.

To showcase their tradition of hospitality, the pueblo of Santa Ana, Tamaya, created Hyatt Regency Tamaya Resort and Spa. The moment guests step into the entry courtyard, modeled after the dance plaza at the Tamaya village where ceremonies have been performed for centuries, they will feel the history of the surrounding lands that date to the very beginning of time. Welcome to the place where the culture and the land are one; and both overwhelm the senses. Welcome to Hyatt Regency Tamaya Resort and Spa.

Hyatt Regency Tamaya Resort & Spa is one of the largest resorts ever developed on Native American Land and it's the premier destination resort in New Mexico. Located between Albuquerque and Santa Fe, Tamaya rests along the Rio Grande River with the Sandia Mountains as the backdrop. Along with it's unique cultural environment offering traditional pueblo bread baking demonstrations and tastings and tribal dance performances Tamaya is home to the award winning Tamaya Mist Spa & Salon and the nationally ranked Twin Warriors Golf Club.

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