

# NEVADA

February-April 2022

Display until May 1, 2022

MAGAZINE & VISITOR GUIDE

## SPRING BREAK GETAWAYS

Uncommon Overnights

Iconic Road Trips



# THIS IS WHAT A WARRIOR LOOKS LIKE.

Your health is worth fighting for – and Renown Health is ready to lead the charge. We offer more specialists than any other health network in the region to help you combat and defeat whatever rises against you. We're in this together, and together we will FIGHT THE GOOD FIGHT.

[renown.org](https://renown.org)

**Renown**<sup>®</sup>  
HEALTH

Rolando Ania, MD



# CLEARLY,

exhilarating.

Clearly, the south shore of Lake Tahoe is the ultimate winter wonderland. Hit the slopes at three world-class ski resorts, slide down a snow-tubing hill, power up the mountain on a snowmobile, and top off your adventure with a fireside hot chocolate.

Plan your winter vacation at [TahoeSouth.com](http://TahoeSouth.com)



**Tahoe  
South**®

# NEVADA

MAGAZINE & VISITOR GUIDE

FEBRUARY-APRIL 2022  
VOLUME 82, NUMBER 1

401 N. Carson St. • Carson City, NV 89701-4291  
855-729-7117 • 775-687-5416 Ext. 2 • 775-687-6159 (fax)  
editor@nevadamagazine.com • nevadamagazine.com

**EXECUTIVE EDITOR** Megg Mueller

**ASSOCIATE EDITOR** Cory Munson

**ART DIRECTOR** Kippy S. Spilker

**SENIOR GRAPHIC DESIGNER** Alexandria Olivares-Wenzel

**BUSINESS MANAGER** Janet Kinney

**ADVERTISING & CUSTOMER RELATIONS MANAGER** Carrie Roussel

**Contributing Photographers:** Diego Amarosa, Lauren Arends, Shaun Astor, David N. Braun, Loretta Burden, Dave Burk, Larry Burton, C2 Photography, David Calvert, Christina Clack, Anthony Cupaiuolo, Brett Fisher, Lizzie Flower, Kat Galli, Asa Gilmore, Jackie Gorton, Sally Hanrahan, Kurt Kuznicki, Don McIntosh, Stefan McLeod, Josh Miller, Dotty Molt, Scott Mortimore, Nancy Munoz, Brian Oar, Krystle Ranson, Scott Sady, Scott T. Smith, Wade Snider, Brian Walker Photography, Mike Wetzel, Sandra Whitteker, Mark Vollmer, Garret P. Vreeland.

All photos not credited throughout are promotional images or provided by Travel Nevada and Nevada Magazine staff including, but not limited to, Sydney Martinez, Susan Mowers, Megg Mueller, Alexandria Olivares-Wenzel, and Kippy S. Spilker.

Nevada Magazine, a division of the Nevada Department of Tourism and Cultural Affairs, is self-funded and dependent on advertising revenue.

**Disclaimer:** Advertisements in this publication do not constitute an offer for sale in states where prohibited or restricted by law.

**All Rights Reserved.** Reproduction of editorial content without written permission is prohibited.

**Nevada Magazine** (ISSN 0199-1248) is published quarterly by the State of Nevada at 401 N. Carson St., Carson City, NV 89701-4291.  
Copyright © 2022 State of Nevada.

## NEVADA DEPARTMENT OF TOURISM AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

775-687-4322

TravelNevada.com • info@travelnevada.com

**CHAIRMAN** Lieutenant Governor Lisa Cano Burkhead

**DIRECTOR** Brenda Scolari

**DEPUTY DIRECTOR** M.E. Kawchack

**CHIEF MARKETING OFFICER, TRAVEL NEVADA** Mikalee Byerman

**ART DIRECTOR, TRAVEL NEVADA** Susan Mowers

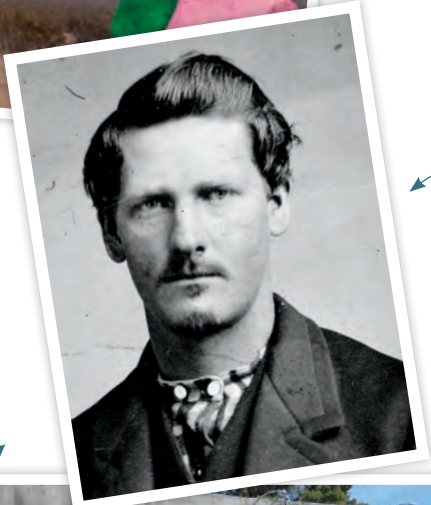
**TRAVEL NEVADA MARKETING TEAM** Tracie Barnthouse,  
Devon Blunden, Sydney Martinez, Kyle Shulz, Rachel Wright

**COMMISSIONERS:** Donald Contursi, Edward Estipona, Charles Harris, Steve Hill, Jane Moon, Cynthia Mun, Rick Murdock, Julie Pazina, Jill Rowland-Lagan, Jerry Schefcik, Robert Stoldal, Brian Wadsworth, Kristin Windbigler

The information listed in Nevada Magazine & Visitor Guide has been carefully compiled to ensure accuracy at the time of publication. Information herein that was supplied by Nevada businesses is subject to change without notice. The Nevada Division of Tourism cannot, and does not, guarantee the accuracy of all information furnished and will not be responsible for omissions or errors. The publisher assumes no responsibility or liability for errors, changes or omissions in the guide. Responsibility for performance of services will be with the individual businesses. The Nevada Division of Tourism shall have no liability for any claims or damages incurred prior to, during or following the conduct of any business listed in this guide, and the reader agrees to hold the department, its agents and employees harmless therefrom. Visitors should verify hours and admission policies with destinations.



*Seven Magic Mountains,  
see page 26*



*Ichthyosaur, see page 65*



PRINTED IN THE USA USING SOY-BASED INKS





Goldwell Open Air Museum,  
see page 14

## It is my distinct honor to introduce you to the all-new *Nevada Magazine & Visitor Guide*!

This is an exciting time for the Department of Tourism and Cultural Affairs, as Travel Nevada and *Nevada Magazine* have joined forces to create a quarterly publication with engaging information to showcase the amazing people, places, and adventures you can enjoy in Nevada. The team has been hard at work putting this first issue together, and I'm excited to show it off.

In the pages that follow, learn about off-the-grid Sagebrush Saloons, unique accommodations in the form of Uncommon Overnights, and stories of those who shaped the history of our state—people we call *Legendary Nevadans*. Plus, get ideas for Spring Break, hit an open trail, explore one of Nevada's many ghost towns, and dive in deeper to learn the history behind some of our state's town names.



BRENDA SCOLARI

"We affectionately call ourselves  
the Weirdest, Wildest West,  
and for good reason."

Wyatt Earp,  
see page 68

We affectionately call ourselves the Weirdest, Wildest West, and for good reason: From all-to-yourself highways and crowdless national parks to cowboys and counterculture, Nevada has always been about the road less traveled. So, if you're ready to satisfy your wanderlust, Nevada is here to welcome you with road trips and adventures that speak to your soul. Peruse these pages and use this guide as inspiration to plan your next Silver State getaway. And if you call this great state home, we hope you find some ideas to Discover Your Nevada.



Mural by Erik T. Burke  
More murals, see page 52

Welcome to Nevada!

Brenda Scolari, Director  
Nevada Department of Tourism and Cultural Affairs



*Nevada Travel Advisories*

# YOUR FUTURE MEMORIES ARE CALLING.

---

Ready to start planning your next adventure? We don't blame you.  
(What can we say, Nevada's a pretty amazing place to visit!)

The Silver State is excited to welcome you. And here at Travel Nevada, we strive to provide you with the most up-to-date information about traveling in the Weirdest, Wildest West, including any resources you need to make informed travel decisions. Because the safety of visitors and residents is our highest priority.

So, before you bucket-list your way around this guide, stop by our **Travel Advisories page** to get the lowdown.



## SAY HELLO TO WILDER, OPENER SPACES.





# TALK TO US

While there are plenty of things you'll want to keep to yourself during your vacation, we know there are must-post pictures your friends have to see. Here's how to share them and inspire a bit of envy about your trip to NV.

## WE'RE HERE

For all things social, find us at [@TravelNevada](#). If we love your pic, we might ask to reshare it or include it in our next guide!

## HASH IT UP

Nevada has so many reasons to blow up your friends' social feeds, from no-filter-needed scenery to selfies sure to induce a little FOMO. Tag your pictures, and while [#TravelNevada](#) always works, look for other tags geared toward your favorite theme.



@TRACIEB\_PR



@MRANDMRSADVENTURE

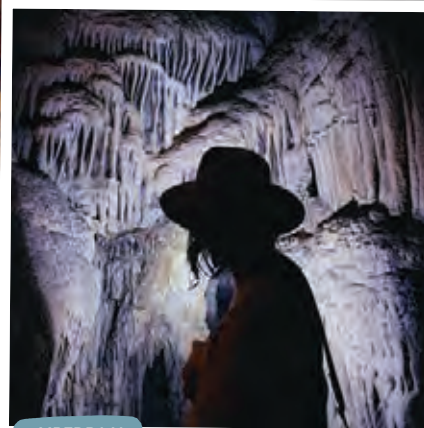
Dive deeper into the Silver State at [NevadaMagazine.com](#). For more than 85 years, we've mined a rich vein of stories on history, outdoor rec, cuisine, and more, with new stories added each month. If your adventure fits our deep dive, tag us at [#nvmag](#). See page 124 for more.



@IAMSIIERARED

## MAKE IT HAPPEN

Stay safe, learn the Dirt Road Code (see page 118), and get insider tips for your best vacation yet. [TravelNevada.com/plan](#)



@MPEDRAJA

## Nevada

### ROAD TRIP CAPITAL OF THE USA

Yeah, we said it. But no one else can compete with our stunning scenery, our oddball characters, our outdoor freedom, our intriguing towns, and the miles and miles of all-to-yourself roads connecting them. And we've mapped out plans to help you see all of it.

To get your head around all the options, turn to page 38.

**#NVROADTRIP**





# TONOPAH HISTORIC MINING PARK

Where else can you visit a museum  
in an off-road vehicle?



## LIMITED AVAILABILITY

Book your guided Polaris tour in advance by calling **775-482-9274**

*Tours are for up to 5 people and fees range from \$12-\$35.*



For more information,  
visit [TonopahMiningPark.com](http://TonopahMiningPark.com)

follow us on:







## QUICK HITS

**10** Nowhere But Nevada

**18** Eye Candy

**20** Food: Basque Delights

**24** Sagebrush Saloons

**26** Weird Nevada

**30** Uncommon  
Overnighters

**32** Museums

## ROAD TRIPS

**38** Road Trip Roundup

**40** Death Valley Rally

**42** Lake Tahoe Loop

**44** Free-Range Art  
Highway



## FEATURES

**46** What's in a Name?

How Nevada towns earned their monikers

**52** Arts & Culture

Mural districts, opera houses, and performing arts venues

**62** State Parks

Five state parks that dive into Nevada's history

**68** Legendary Nevadans

Wyatt and Virgil Earp: From Tombstone to Tonopah







Late winter and early spring in Nevada are a mixed-bag of goodies. From snow-covered hills in the north to perfectly balmy temps in the south, you'll also find carpets of wildflowers, and if you're lucky, you'll spot a new batch of wildlife babies.

## COVERS

**Front:** A well-known bouldering route at Red Rock Canyon National Conservation Area. **Back:** A set of

rays illuminate an early morning sunrise climb in Red Rock Canyon. **Photographer:** Al Baker. See more of his work on Instagram at @albakerphoto.



## PLANNING GUIDE

### 72 Nevada's State Animals

Five iconic animals that exemplify the Silver State

### 76 Spring Break Getaways

Roundup of the perfect spring vacation spots

### 82 Outdoor Recreation

Hike and backpack throughout the year, plus tips on cycling, fishing, and stargazing

### 88 Rural Wranglers

Adventures in and around the railroad town of Caliente

### 94 Towns with Spirit

Amazing remains of Delamar, plus 5 ghost towns you can't miss

### 100 Rock Out

Discovering gems and minerals in our rockhounding paradise

## SHOPPING & LEISURE

### 106 Golf Courses

### 108 Scenic Byways & Drives

### 110 Local Buys: Battle Born Pins

## RESOURCES

### 112 Events Calendar

### 114 Special Events: Dam Short Film Fest & SnowFest!

### 116 Wedding Chapels

### 118 Myth vs. Fact

### 119 Recreate Responsibly

### 120 CVA Directory

## 122 What's New?

Brand new attractions in Reno and Las Vegas

## 124 Coming Soon

Sneak peek of upcoming issues and web-only stories

## 128 The Final Word

A conversation with artist Melissa Melero-Moose









# Nowhere But Nevada

This is where you'll find neon metropolises, snow-capped mountains, and sagebrush-studded deserts crisscrossed by hundreds of miles of highway. Wherever you go in the Silver State, you're bound to come across the unexpected, bizarre, or stunning. Start your trip to Nevada here as we highlight what makes this state unique.

## NEON MUSEUM Las Vegas

Which element best describes Nevada? Ok, probably silver. But a close second might be neon (also our state element!), which is fully featured in this museum of iconic signage. **For other fantastic museums, see "Museums," page 32**



## SLEEP IN A CABOOSE

Ely

Nevada is full of fun, original, and immersive accommodations, including the Nevada Northern Railway's own overnigher: The Caboose. Sure, it lacks a TV and air conditioning, but it will make for a heck of a story. **For another "Uncommon Overnighter," see page 30**

## SEVEN MAGIC MOUNTAINS

Las Vegas

Seven pillars of rainbow-colored rock rise above the Mojave Desert. This open-air gallery was created by Swiss artist Ugo Rondinone in 2016 and has been extended through 2022 by popular demand. Just 30 minutes from The Strip, this makes for a perfect afternoon excursion. **See "Weird Nevada," page 26**







## RENO'S MURAL TOUR

Reno

Nevada's communities are packed with colorful murals created by renowned artists. From metro areas to small towns, these expressive pieces explore the state's history, society, and culture. **For mural districts throughout Nevada, see "Arts & Culture," page 52**

MURAL BY LOUIS MASAI



## LEGENDS OF THE VALLEY RAY and TONI ★ VAN WINKLE ★

**FULL-TIME EXCAVATORS**  
*part-time escape artists*

FOLLOWING UP A DAY OF ROCKS, DUST AND DIRT  
WITH AN EVENING OF ROCKS, DUST AND DIRT.  
SOUND LIKE HEAVEN OR WHAT?



FOR SOME, THE ADDITION OF BLUE SKIES, OPEN HILLS AND A FACE FULL OF DUST IS ALL IT TAKES TO UPGRADE THE DAY FROM GOOD TO GREAT. THEY'RE MODERN DAY ROUGH RIDERS SADDLED UP ON 1000 CC'S OF CREATURE COMFORT, COMMANDING FRONT ROW SEATS TO THE RAW PAGEANTRY THAT UNFOLDS IN THE HILLS BEYOND THEIR HOME. THAT'S HOW THE BUGGY BOUNCES IN THE BACKYARDS OF CARSON VALLEY.

  
**CARSON VALLEY**  
NEVADA  
[visitcarsonvalley.org](http://visitcarsonvalley.org)



## GOLDWELL OPEN AIR MUSEUM

Beatty

A ghostly life-size version of Leonardo Da Vinci's painting of "The Last Supper" hangs out in the desert near Beatty at the Goldwell Open Air Museum. Seven colossal sculptures mingle with a penguin and a giant woman: only in Nevada.

**Learn more about these visages along the Free-Range Art Highway road trip, page 44**



## BERLIN-ICHTHYOSAUR STATE PARK

Gabbs

How often do state parks give visitors a tour of the past—twice? Here, you can explore the well-preserved ghost town of Berlin, then jump a few million years back in time by coming face-to-face with Nevada's state fossil: the ichthyosaur. **See "State Parks," page 62**







## DESERT TORTOISE

Southern Nevada

The desert tortoise is the ultimate desert survivalist, so no wonder it became the state reptile. These long-lived creatures reside throughout southern Nevada, and while they're shy and reclusive, you're guaranteed to spot a few at nature preserves near Las Vegas. **See "Wild Things," page 72**



## PICON PUNCH

Northern Nevada

The beautifully bitter Basque-American libation is one of Nevada's most famous cocktails. **To find out which restaurants serve this cultural concoction, see "Basque Delights," page 20**





## EUREKA OPERA HOUSE

Eureka

Take a trip to Eureka and bask in this elegant monument to the High Victorian age. This central Nevadan theater once featured world-class thespians, musicians, opera singers, and lecturers. **For more performing halls, see “Arts & Culture,” page 52**

## TRAVEL NEVADA PRO TIP

Take a look “behind the scenes” downstairs for a unique representation of the history of past performers.





# 1864 EUREKA

You've found it!

## Upcoming Events

February 5th – Perdiz – Disgruntled Chukar Hunters  
 March 17th – St Patrick's Celebration  
 April 2nd – Perdiz – Jerry's Birthday Fun Shoot  
 April 17th – Eureka VFD – Easter Egg Hunt  
 April 16th – Perdiz – Fun Shoot  
 May 7th – Perdiz – Spring Fling Fun Shoot  
 May 6th-7th – Eureka Opera House – National Nevada Fiddlers Contest  
 May 7th – Mother's Day Tea – Clementine's Steak House  
 May 14th – Perdiz – May Fun Shoot  
 May 28th-29th – Perdiz – Nevada Bowhunters – Marked Yardage Shoot  
 May 30th – VFW – Memorial Day Service  
 May 28th – Alumni Dinner  
 June 4th – FFA Spring Shoot  
 June 10th-11th – Legends of the West Bike and Car Fest  
 June 18th – Perdiz – Fathers Day Shoot  
 June 25th – Perdiz – Nevada Bowhunters Jamboree  
 June 25th-26th – Eureka Gold Rush Games  
 July 3rd-4th – Perdiz – 4th of July Open Shooting  
 July 4th – Firemen's 4th of July  
 July 16th – Perdiz – Fun Shoot  
 July 16th-17th – VFW Softball Tournament



## Museums and Tours

Sentinel Museum  
 Eureka Opera House  
 Eureka County Courthouse  
 Tall Bike Ed's Historical Ghost Tours-April thru Nov.  
 Afterlife Antiques and Oddities-Tunnel Tours

## Motels, Vacation Rentals & RV Park

The Eureka Gold Country Inn  
 The 1877 Jackson House Hotel  
 The Ruby Hill Motel  
 The Sundown Lodge  
 The Colonnade Vacation Rental  
 The Doll House Vacation Rental  
 The Eureka Inn Vacation Rental  
 The Stone Church Lodge Vacation Rental  
 The Silver Sky Lodge and RV Park

## Restaurants

Clementine's Steak House  
 The Eureka Depot  
 The Owl Saloon Roadhouse & Gambling Hall  
 Raine's Market Deli  
 Sacha's Pizza and Sugar Shack  
 The Urban Cowboy Bar & Grill

## Markets, Services & Supplies

Economy Drug Pharmacy  
 Parts City Auto/Eureka Supply  
 Raine's Market & Ace Hardware Store  
 The Jackson House Hair Salon

## Gift Shops, Antiques and Tattoos

Afterlife Antiques and Oddities  
 The Eureka Tattoo Shop  
 180 Gift Shop & Art Gallery

## Fuel and Snacks

Chevron Fuel and Snacks  
 EZ Stop Fuel and Snacks



EUREKA TOURISM & RECREATION  
 775-230-2232 • ASK FOR MISS DANA



VISITEUREKANEVADA.NET





### LIVE LIKE A LOCAL

Rent a fat bike while you're visiting the Tahoe area, and try your hand at snow biking (awesome adventure dog not included in rental fees).



## WINTER WONDERLAND

This photo was snapped by Anthony Capaiuolo along the Tahoe Rim Trail. “My pup Emmie and I set out from Spooner Summit toward a panoramic overlook called The Bench. It’s incredibly scenic year-round, but it’s pretty special to see in the winter—especially by bike.”



Check out page 42 for Lake Tahoe Loop Road Trip and adventure ideas!



# BASQUE DELIGHTS

Discover the cuisine  
at the heart and soul of  
Nevada's Basque culture.





The Basque who came to Nevada seeking gold in the 1860s may not have all found riches, but the treasures they brought left an indelible, tasty mark. Many found work as shearers, forming communities with fellow Basque immigrants. Others started up boarding houses and kept alive their culture, language, and traditions. One tradition that outsiders came to embrace was the communal dining experience: picture enormous platters of steaks, steaming bowls of savory soup, and abundantly flowing homemade red wine. It's the kind of meal that makes you wish you grew up Basque.

"My favorite is the Basque Chicken. It's a classic Basque dish made with a fresh, delicious sauce of red and green bell peppers, onion, tomato, and herbs."

—Marie Louise Lekumberry

Marie Louise Lekumberry knows something about growing up Basque. Found along the Lake Tahoe Loop road trip in the historic town of **Gardnerville** is a building hauled over from Virginia City in 1896. Marie's parents, Jean and Shirley Lekumberry, along with Jean's uncle Pete, purchased the business in 1960. They kept the original name—The J.T.—and raised their children around the restaurant.

"As kids, we grew up working in the business washing dishes, bussing, and serving tables, then eventually running the place after our dad died in 1993," Marie says of the restaurant, officially known as **J.T. Basque Bar and Dining Room**. "It was something we have always been a part of."

Growing up Basque in the small town gave Marie and her brothers a strong sense of identity as both Nevada and Old Country Basque. That identity was forged from the beginning.

"Back in the day, our Basque hotel, bar, and dining room was crowded with retired shearers and the younger ones newly arrived from the homeland. Basques would gather to eat, drink, play cards, and dance."

Today, the Lekumberrys still honor their parents' traditions but have added a few personal touches.

"We have expanded the menu, evolving from just one entree served each night to your choice of seven or eight," Marie explains. "My favorite is the Basque Chicken. It's a classic Basque dish made with a fresh, delicious sauce of red and green bell peppers, onion, tomato, and herbs. It washes down well with the bottle of red table wine that accompanies the family-style lunches and dinners."

The building has been updated but has held onto its turn-of-the-century Nevada soul. Most importantly, as the town has grown and the world has changed, Marie and her brothers have held true to something they witnessed growing up.

"As more tourists come our way, we've built on our parents' tradition of welcoming all to the J.T."

SCAN FOR  
MORE INFO



BASQUE NEVADA





## THE MARTIN HOTEL

A staple in **Winnemucca** since the 1890s, the historic Martin delivers to-die-for lamb shanks and deep-fried sweetbreads for the real-deal Basque experience at lunch and dinner. House Burgundy wine comes with all full dinners, as does homemade bread pudding.

## THE STAR HOTEL

Built in 1910, The Star Hotel in **Elko** has been owned and run exclusively by Basques. Get ready to hear some of the language: it's definitely still spoken here. The family-friendly bar is small and can be a busy, noisy place, but when you're faced with a gorgeous steak the size of a dinner plate, everything else disappears.



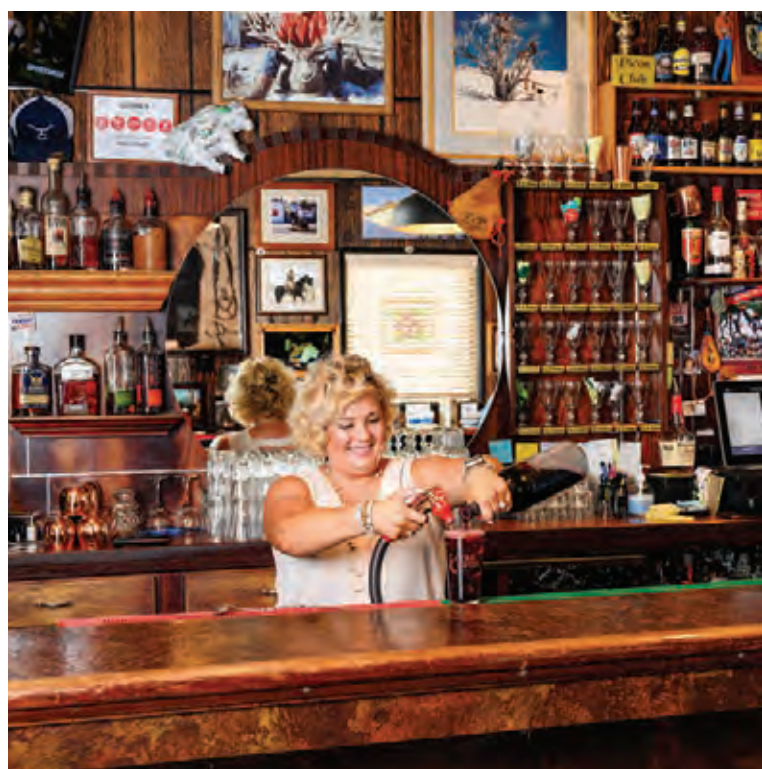
## VILLA BASQUE DELI AND CAFE

This capital city restaurant is famous for flavorful homemade chorizo; it's so good, you'll want to grab a pound or two from the deli to take home. The casual atmosphere and unique offerings—think burgers with beef and chorizo patties—make this the perfect breakfast and lunch spot in **Carson City**.



### LIVE LIKE A LOCAL

The unofficial state drink of Nevada is the Picon, a libation that packs more than a little punch. It pairs Torani Amer liqueur with a skosh of grenadine and soda water over ice, followed by a splash of brandy, and a garnish of lemon. Each Nevada Basque joint makes this legendary cocktail with slight differences, giving you all the more reason to check each place off the list during your visit.





## OGI DELI, BAR AND PINTXOS

For breakfast and lunch, authentic offerings at Ogi Deli in **Elko** include the Solomo sandwich—pork loin with sauteed onions, peppers, and tomatoes—and *pintxos*, which literally means "spikes." Think skewers of chicken or chorizo, fresh seafood, potatoes, and more, often served atop bread.



## QUICK HITS **FOOD**



## TOKI ONA

If you're searching for excellent lamb chops, this is the good place (that's a direct translation of Toki Ona) in **Elko**. The menu is a Basque-American combination, sure to please all palates.

## LOUIS' BASQUE CORNER

For rabbit just like *Amatxi* (grandma) used to make, Louis' is your spot in **Reno**. Since 1967, this has been one of Nevada's best-loved Basque restaurants. Try the oxtails, which are braised then baked and come with an out-of-this-world thick brown sauce. You'll fight over the bread to sop up every last drop.

Watch PBS Reno and PBS shows  
anytime and anywhere online  
or with the free PBS Video app.



Channels 5.1 • 5.2 • 5.3  
#PBSReno • pbsreno.org

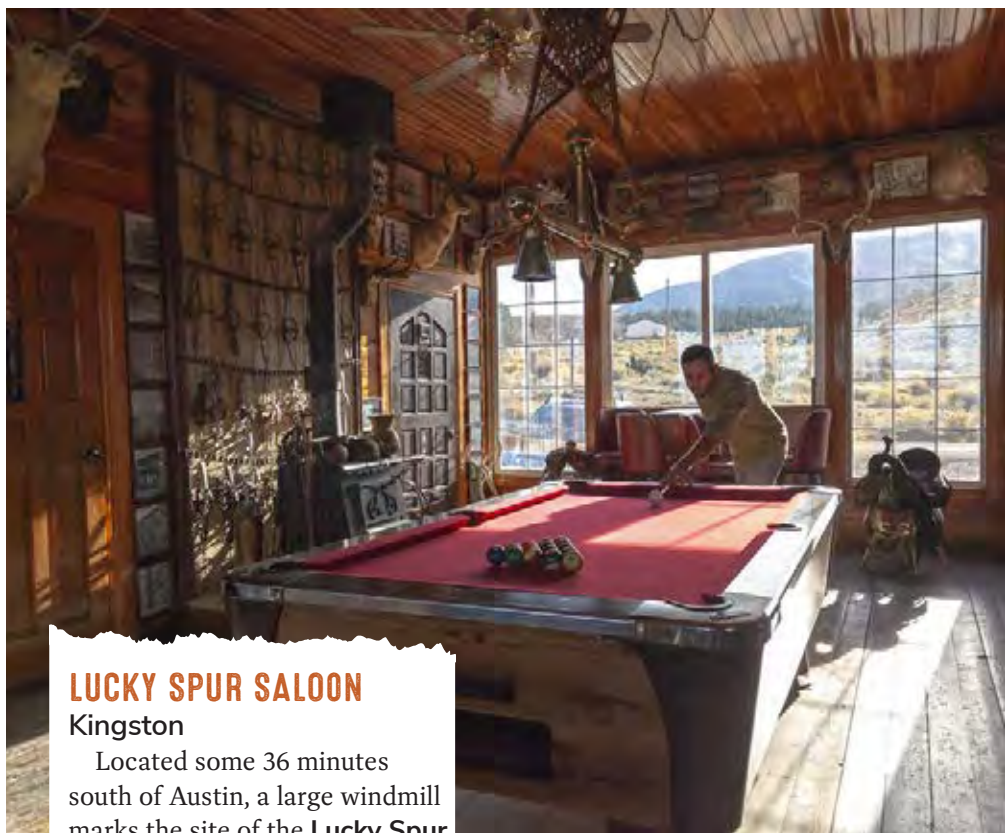




# Sagebrush Saloons

Wash down that dirt road adventure and drink in the history.

Traversing Nevada's myriad dirt roads is guaranteed to work up an appetite for a backroad beverage. Colorful characters invite you to pull up a barstool, wet your whistle, and listen to a tale or two. These Sagebrush Saloons serve up frosty brews, curated cocktails, and refreshing non-alcoholic drinks for the entire crew—driver included. As you wander the byways and backways, keep an eye out for these venerated thirst parlors.



## LUCKY SPUR SALOON

Kingston

Located some 36 minutes south of Austin, a large windmill marks the site of the **Lucky Spur Saloon** in Kingston. Get ready to be blown away by the view from the bar counter overlooking the spectacular Big Smoky Valley.

The decor features dozens of antique spurs hanging from every windowsill and chandelier, and it's easy to make conversation with the locals here. They'll more than likely tell you everything you want to know about the area: nearby fishing and camping, the pictograph-adorned Toquima Cave, Austin turquoise shops, and local hot springs.

**TRAVEL  
NEVADA  
PRO TIP**

Oh, and although this goes without saying: always sip—and adventure—responsibly.

SCAN FOR  
MORE INFO



SAGEBRUSH SALOONS





**PIONEER SALOON****Goodsprings**

Constructed in 1913, **Pioneer Saloon** is enveloped in history—complete with authentic bullet holes from its rowdier days. Celebrities have frequented the joint throughout the years, including actor Clark Gable, whose cigar burns still mar the solid wood Brunswick Bar relocated from its first home in Rhyolite.

The oldest bar in southern Nevada is just 45 minutes from Las Vegas. Step back and admire the original Sears and Roebuck manufactured stamped-tin walls, said to be one of—if not the—last buildings of its kind in the U.S. Enjoy a tasty beverage and the history that literally covers the walls of this Nevada treasure.

**TRAVEL  
NEVADA  
PRO TIP**

The Pioneer Saloon's cuisine has repeatedly been featured on *Food Network*. Swing by for a taste of Wild West barbecue, including breakfast, burgers, and even steak and lobster.

**HAPPY BURRO CHILI & BEER  
Beatty**

Award-winning chili and a cold Pabst Blue Ribbon out of a mason jar? Count us in. This historic shack is situated in the heart of the Bullfrog Mining District in Beatty. After a day exploring Death Valley National Park, grab a dog or burger, add chili (obviously), strike up a conversation with a regular at the bar, and keep an eye out for wild burros that roam the town.

**HAPPY BURRO CHILI & BEER****PIONEER SALOON****GENOA BAR & SALOON****Carson Valley/Genoa**

Toast your way back to 1853 at the **Genoa Bar & Saloon**, proudly known as “Nevada’s Oldest Thirst Parlor.” Boasting more than 160 years of history, this historic spot oozes charm out of every long-faded painting, vintage sign, floor creak, and crumbling brick.

The watering hole snuck its way through Prohibition—

operating under the guise of a soda fountain—and once separated guests into either the gentlemen’s saloon or ladies lounge. Gone are the days when bathtub gin was distilled in the cellar below, but the ambiance remains.

**GENOA BAR & SALOON****TRAVEL  
NEVADA  
PRO TIP**

Located in gorgeous Carson Valley, the bar bustles on sunny weekends as bicyclists and motorcyclists flock to the area’s bucolic views and quiet roads.



# WEIRD NEVADA

In the contest for weird, wild, and altogether unusual attractions, the Silver State takes the gold every time.

From haunted hotels and alien-occupied highways to mysterious museums and offbeat art installations, these aren't your traditional tourist attractions.



## SEVEN MAGIC MOUNTAINS

Near a dry lakebed just south of **Las Vegas** stand seven pillars of rock. Look on these works, and witness the Mojave's hottest large-scale art installation: **Seven Magic Mountains**. The rainbow-hued stonework was created by Swiss artist Ugo Rondinone in May 2016 for a two-year exhibition, but due to the site's popularity, it has been extended through 2022.

The stunning towers are presented in vivid fluorescent colors, and the boulders—sourced directly from the desert—are stacked an impressive three-stories tall. What does it represent, though? Are these technicolor towers simply “art for art’s sake”? The artist does have a message, and a clue is in its location: travelers on I-15’s busy Las Vegas-to-Los Angeles corridor are able to spot the exhibit from their vehicle. Seven Magic Mountains lies between the lakebed and the highway; it is a barrier between the natural and the manmade. If you plan on taking a pilgrimage, be sure to plan accordingly—there aren’t any services at the site, and it’s the desert, so bring water and sunscreen. The Nevada Museum of Art in **Reno** maintains the open-air gallery, which is free to the public. Once there, enjoy the self-guided cellphone tour to hear the full story from the artist, and remember to take plenty of pictures.

## THE CLOWN MOTEL

People with coulrophobia beware: this **Tonopah** motel is a love letter to red noses, powdered faces, and painted smiles. **The Clown Motel** was built in 1985 in honor of local clown enthusiast Clarence David, whose collection of 150 clown figurines inspired his children to establish one of Nevada’s most famous Uncommon Overnights. Over the decades, that original collection has multiplied: the lobby is adorned with thousands of grinning clowns, and each of the 31 rooms feature custom clown art. Oh, and did we mention it’s adjacent to a cemetery?



**TRAVEL NEVADA PRO TIP** If you’re looking to add “stay in possibly haunted room” to your clown experience, consider requesting rooms 108, 111, 210, or 214.



## GOLDFIELD HISTORIC CEMETERY

Let’s talk of graves, of worms, and epitaphs: **Goldfield Historic Cemetery** is one of the state’s most tour-worthy graveyards. Visitors might be interested to learn that they’re not actually walking the grounds of the original cemetery. When **Goldfield** was first founded, the deceased were interred in the center of the town. As Goldfield began to boom, residents determined they’d have to move the cemetery to a less trafficked location, so each grave was relocated by a group called the “Official Ghouls.” While inspecting the century-old graves of the town’s residents, remember to tread respectfully! The cemetery is still used as Goldfield’s modern-day burial ground.



UNKNOWN  
 MAN  
 DIED EATING  
 LIBRARY PASTE  
 JULY 14 1908



TRAVEL  
NEVADA  
PRO TIP

Admission to the Ordnance Museum is free, so you can easily justify splurging a few extra bucks at Hawthorne's El Capitan Restaurant or Old Nevada Pizza.

## HAWTHORNE ORDNANCE MUSEUM

Nevada is well known for its association with "The Bomb": there's even the National Atomic Testing Museum in Las Vegas. However, for military history fans interested in a smaller payload, prepare to have a blast at the **Ordnance Museum**. Hawthorne is home to the world's largest ammunition depot—clearly visible by the 2,400 bunkers dotting the landscape outside of town—so it comes as no surprise there's a museum dedicated to the history of these projectiles.

SCAN FOR  
MORE INFO

WEIRD NEVADA

HANDS  
OFF!

While visitors used to be encouraged to leave their own mark on these venerated vehicles, today the exhibit is curated, with new creations frequently cycled in.

## INTERNATIONAL CAR FOREST OF THE LAST CHURCH

When one abandoned car is left out in nature, it tends to blend into the landscape. When there are 30, you have the **International Car Forest of the Last Church**. It all started in 2011 when **Goldfield** artists Mark Rippie and Chad Sorg sank a car into the desert, planting the first seed in the world's largest car forest. This free, open-air gallery is one of the largest art installations in the state and continues to beckon a flock of passionate pilgrims.





A woman with blonde hair and sunglasses is lying on her back on a bright green inflatable ring, floating in a river. She has her arms raised in the air, holding a small bouquet of flowers. In the background, there is a wooden bridge with a lattice railing, and lush green trees line the riverbank. The sky is clear and blue. The overall scene is vibrant and summery.

# Replay Revive Refresh

Get ready to redefine your idea of the perfect summer vacation. In Reno Tahoe, you can wander through idyllic alpine forests, venture into endless desert landscapes and dive into refreshingly clear waters. Discover delightfully unexpected bars, restaurants and breweries. Lose yourself in the rhythm of vibrant, artistically inspired city streets. Once you begin to explore all Reno Tahoe has to offer, you'll wish the season would last forever.

**RenoTahoe**  
[VisitRenoTahoe.com](http://VisitRenoTahoe.com)



# UNCOMMON OVERNIGHTERS

## Old Pioneer Garden Country Inn

It's no secret that Las Vegas and Reno offer world-renowned white-glove hospitality at lavish resort-casinos and amenity-packed roadside hotels. But elsewhere in Nevada, our perks are also our quirks. If, instead, you're looking for a vacation that's irresistibly different, Nevada's array of unique retreats and unusual accommodations have got you covered.

At some point, we all feel the need to cut the cord to the 21st century and just get away from it all. Sure, there's always the prospect of pitching a tent in the wilderness, but for those who want to more comfortably connect with the past, a perfect little mountain retreat awaits.

**Old Pioneer Garden Country Inn** is one of the West's most charming overnights. The inn sits on verdant land that once fed the bustling silver mining town of Unionville. Even today, chickens and ducks chatter behind wicker fences, and fruit trees sway in the wind near a shaded creek.



### Meet Your Hosts

The Old Pioneer Garden embodies the dream of a family who moved to Unionville in the 1970s. Today, Mitzi and her son David still manage the inn. Mitzi, 98, is the business visionary: cottage design, property improvements, and décor are all her department. When she's not entertaining guests, she can be found gardening or reading.

SCAN FOR  
MORE INFO



UNCOMMON OVERNIGHTERS

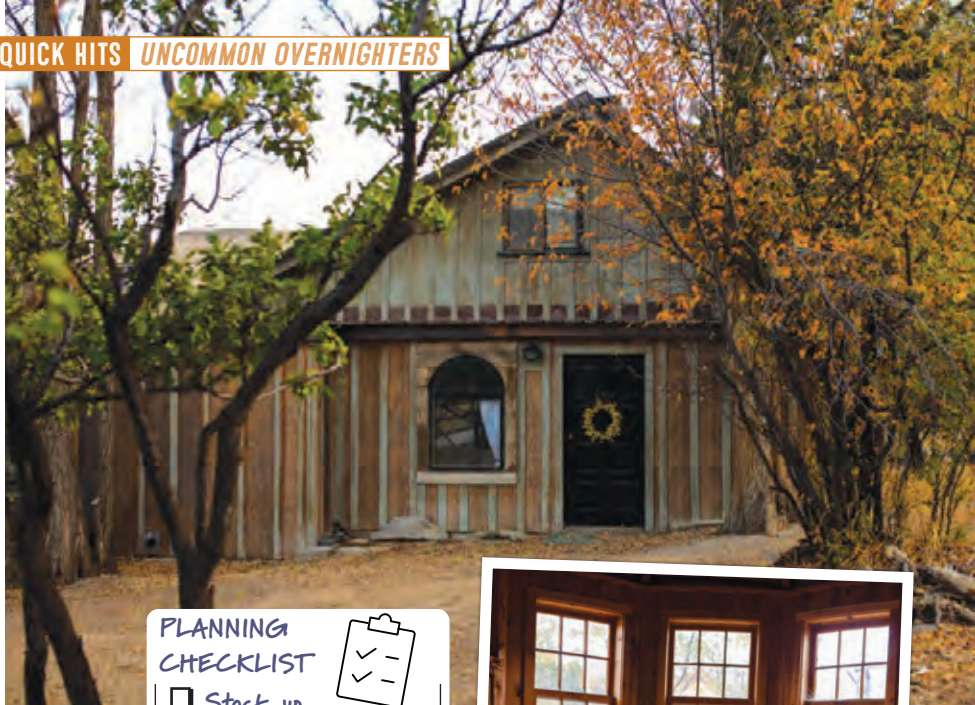




Ghost town enthusiasts will be delighted to find remains of the old town slumbering a short walk from their room. Even a shack briefly occupied by Mark Twain awaits inspection. While the crumbling brick walls and tilted shacks set a picturesque scene, you might ask yourself where the rest of the town is. At the Old Pioneer Garden, you'll actually be spending the night in it! The inn consists of a half dozen original homes and businesses dating back to the 1870s. While these residences exude a historic charm on the outside, their fully restored,

modern interiors offer visitors all the comforts of home.

The Hadley House—home of the town's first blacksmith—is where short-term guests often stay. This cottage is best recognized by its beautiful gazebo-



#### PLANNING CHECKLIST

##### ☐ Stock up on groceries

Guests cook their own meals in a fully modern kitchen. The closest grocery stores are in Winnemucca or Lovelock—each about an hour away.

##### ☐ Check availability

Old Pioneer Garden can accommodate one-night stays or large groups for an extended period.



style sunroom—the perfect place for a morning tea and book. The large common area boasts a carefully curated library, a grand piano, mid-century couches, and an inviting hearth. The kitchen is ready for every homecooked creation, and its long dining table begs for an evening of board games and storytelling.

It's no wonder the Old Pioneer Garden is a favorite getaway for couples, artists, sewing circles, hunters, and Hollywood alike. In this garden-like canyon, there is no cellphone reception nor internet. Days are filled with afternoon chats and tours of the bucolic canyon, and nights are spent in rustic splendor sharing meals and enjoying the brilliant starlit sky.





# MUST-SEE MUSEUMS FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY

Who doesn't love a quiet afternoon touring a museum? If that's your family, great news: Nevada has metropolitan museums with exhibitions ranging from history to ecology. If that doesn't sound like your family, no problem: Nevada also has museums that invite climbing, exploring, hiking, and building—and not just for the kids.

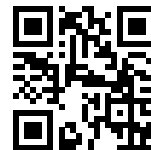


## THE MOB MUSEUM

When the federal government decided to sell its historic Las Vegas post office/courthouse building for \$1, it had two requests for the buyer: the building would need to be restored to its 1933 neoclassical glory, and it must become some sort of cultural center. Las Vegas' then-mayor Oscar Goodman—who had previously represented Mob members as a defense attorney—had an idea about how to use the building.

### CHECK THIS OUT

Before heading to this museum, use the QR code to figure out your mob nickname from the museum's website. You can also download the museum app to discover your "doppelgangster."



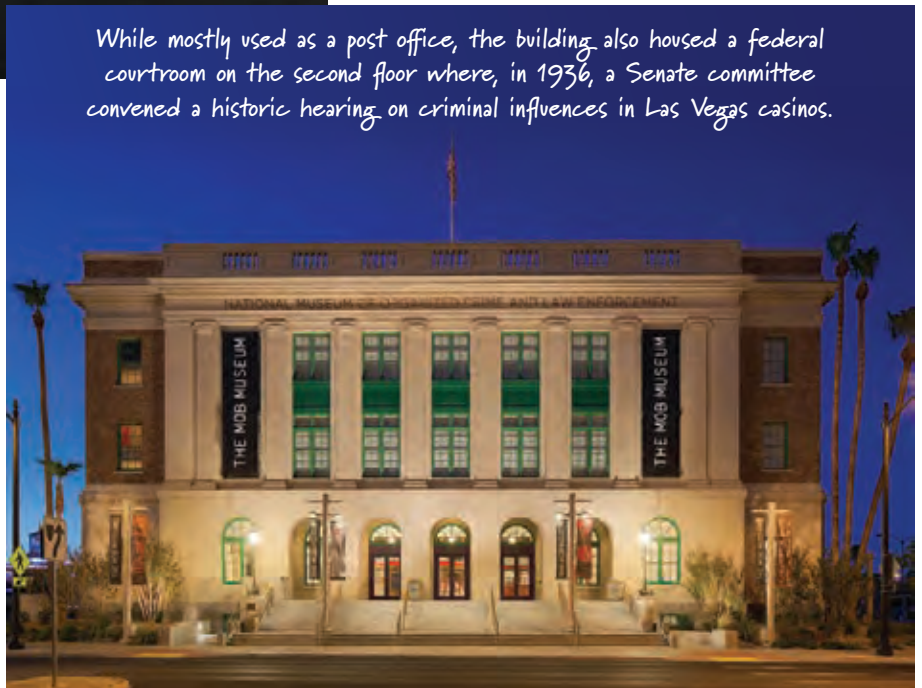




Roll up your sleeves and get to work at the museum's interactive exhibits. Experience how law enforcement has countered criminal encroachment with cutting-edge technologies like ballistics analysis and DNA profiling.

**The National Museum of Organized Crime and Law Enforcement** (its real name—every building needs an alias) offers visitors an unrivaled experience. While there, you'll get to visit the infamous brick wall from the St. Valentine's Day Massacre, get your picture taken in an electric chair, have a libation in the speakeasy, and learn about the birth of the Mob and its iron grip on early Las Vegas.

While mostly used as a post office, the building also housed a federal courtroom on the second floor where, in 1936, a Senate committee convened a historic hearing on criminal influences in Las Vegas casinos.





## LAS VEGAS NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM

Founded in 1991, the **Las Vegas Natural History Museum** has amassed a world-class collection that will take you around the globe. With exhibitions including the Young Scientist Center, the geology gallery, an ancient Egyptian tomb, and a trip across the African savannah, there is sure to be something for everyone in your group.



### PREHISTORIC EXHIBIT

Prepare to take a trip into the distant past where you'll encounter dinosaurs (yup, they've got a T-Rex), an ichthyosaur, prehistoric North American camels and sloths, mammoths, and much, much more.



## LAS VEGAS SPRINGS PRESERVE

Just a 10-minute drive from The Strip, **Las Vegas Springs Preserve** is dedicated to the conservation of Nevada's distinct ecology and natural history. The sprawling, 180-acre institution is home to botanical gardens, hiking trails, animal habitat exhibits, concerts, and a fantastic collection of interactive museums (both indoor and out!).

### TRAVEL NEVADA PRO TIP

If you plan to visit in the spring or fall, be sure to stop by the butterfly sanctuary—they'll be in full flutter mode!

### MORE TO SEE

The Las Vegas Springs Preserve has two museums for you to enjoy while you visit.

#### Origen Museum

At the Origen Museum, you'll find outdoor exhibits of critters who have mastered the desert lifestyle including Gila monsters, gray foxes, gophers, reptiles, and cottontails. While there, be sure to check out the flash flood simulator to see what it's like to be in a canyon during a sudden desert storm.

#### Nevada State Museum, Las Vegas

How many state museums have exhibits dedicated to showgirls and the Rat Pack alongside mining tycoons and atomic testing? The Las Vegas branch of the Nevada State Museum is a fantastic introduction to the state for first timers and equally enticing for lifelong residents, covering everything from the prehistoric Great Basin to the rise of the city, The Strip, and Hoover Dam.





# EXPLORATION *Awaits*

STILLWATER NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE



**FALLON, NEVADA**  
[VISITFALLONNEVADA.COM](http://VISITFALLONNEVADA.COM)



FREY RANCH DISTILLERY

**DOWNLOAD OUR NEW  
FALLON TOURS APP**



[TRAVELSTORYS.COM](http://TRAVELSTORYS.COM)

DOWNTOWN HISTORICAL WALKING AND  
ART & AGRICULTURAL TOURS



SAND MOUNTAIN RECREATION





At The Discovery's main atrium, you'll find an activity everywhere you look. The water cycle-themed Cloud Climber tends to be at the top of most kids' to-do list.

## TERRY LEE WELLS NEVADA DISCOVERY MUSEUM

Located in Reno's Midtown District, this museum is Nevada's largest hands-on science center. **The Discovery** (as locals call it) features dozens of exhibits focused on technology, engineering, art, history, and invention. While originating as a children's museum, The Discovery has morphed into an immersive experience for learners of all ages. If you can't decide where to start your visit, try Da Vinci's Corner for creative engineering projects or the Mindbender Mansion to solve puzzles, brainteasers, and complete collaborative challenges.



### TRAVEL NEVADA PRO TIP

For some grown-up shenanigans, check out their quarterly adults-only evenings. Past themes have included the 80s, phobias, CSI, and brewology.

## DISCOVERY CHILDREN'S MUSEUM

Clear your schedule: Las Vegas' **DISCOVERY Children's Museum** is the perfect place to bring the kids to keep them challenged and engaged all day. This three-story museum offers nine themed halls filled with puzzles and engaging exhibits. Young thinkers will get to solve an archeologic mystery, design and test an invention, tour a pirate ship, or create a beautiful work of art.

At Water World, discover the properties of water and create water currents of your own design. No swimsuit necessary!





## CLARK COUNTY MUSEUM

For a great primer on the history of Las Vegas, look no further than the **Clark County Museum**. As the oldest museum in the Las Vegas Valley, it offers guests an unrivaled glimpse into the area's development. Inside the museum, you can tour the dioramas that chart the county's history from inland ocean to the neon age. When you're done, head out on the 30-acre grounds to tour a resurrected ghost town, hike nature trails, and visit an outdoor classroom dedicated to the Mojave's fauna.



### TRAVEL NEVADA PRO TIP

Located just outside the museum, each house on Heritage Street has been fully restored and redecorated, allowing visitors to see what houses (and interior design choices) were like in Clark County throughout the 20<sup>th</sup> century.



## NEVADA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Located on the University of Nevada, Reno campus is the **Nevada Historical Society** headquarters and museum. The society houses some of the state's most precious artifacts (including 10 baskets from famous Washoe basket weaver Dat-So-La-Lee) as well as newspapers, manuscripts, and other records that can all be viewed or studied by appointment.

The museum features many exhibits that you won't find anywhere else in the state: miner relics including a miner's bathtub from the ghost town of Candelaria, rare photographs and gaming instruments, a map of John C. Fremont's 1842 expedition, a display of memorabilia from the family of Mark Twain, and—a popular attraction for the kids—the famous two-headed calf.



SCAN FOR  
MORE INFO

NEVADA ROAD TRIPS

# TAKE

Nevada road trips prove

A well-packed car and the open road... those who know, know. There is no better way to escape the daily grind than behind the wheel heading into the great wide open. With 10 classic road trips, Nevada has just the adventure you're looking for, whether you want to get your culture or your cowboy on. It's all here waiting for you, so put the pedal to the metal.



See page 6 for the full map of all 10 Nevada Road Trips.





## COWBOY CORRIDOR

400 miles | 2 to 4 days

Few road trips brim with as much Western heritage as the Cowboy Corridor. Nevada's Interstate 80 may be what some motorists blast down on their way to somewhere else, but that's their loss! Highway speed limits top 80 mph, but when you hit a town, slow down and take that exit. Beyond the off-ramps, you'll discover lively communities with museums, art galleries, and cuisine highlighting the confluence of buckaroo, Basque, and American Indian traditions.



## RUBIES ROUTE

30 miles to 375 miles | 2 to 5 days

Welcome to Nevada's majestic

northeastern corner. With Elko as your hub, follow this route's wild spokes to some of our most coveted scenic treasures. Recreation opportunities are as plentiful as the towering mountain peaks and alpine lakes. Tackle trails in glacier-carved Lamoille Canyon, watch wildlife at Angel Lake and Ruby Lake National Wildlife Refuge, or venture north to remote, rugged Jarbidge—one of the last true frontier towns—by way of some wondrous wilderness.



## BURNER BYWAY

110 to 250 miles | 2 to 4 days

Come trace the art-lined route Burners

take on their annual pilgrimage "home" to Burning Man, the wild arts event held in the mystical Black Rock Desert. Each fall, the pop-up metropolis of Black Rock City springs to life and—just as quickly—disappears. However, around northwestern Nevada, the Burning Man spirit never leaves. Road trip the Burner Byway any time of year and you'll discover how Nevada's "why not" attitude and unmatched freedom energize people to come create something magical.



## LONELIEST ROAD IN AMERICA

375 to 500 miles | 3 days

In July of 1986, "Life" magazine dubbed

Nevada's Highway 50 the Loneliest Road in America. The article claimed there were "no points of interest" along the route and told readers not to risk traveling it unless they were confident of their "survival skills." Nevada adventurers knew better—and still do. This famous road trip is your gateway to ghost towns, historic mining communities, stunning state parks, unsurpassed recreational opportunities, and a handful of Sagebrush Saloons, to boot.



## EXTRATERRESTRIAL HIGHWAY

100+ miles | Loop from Las Vegas

470 miles | 2 days

Welcome to Alien Country. We can neither confirm nor deny rumors of alien spacecraft, top secret technology, or little green dudes. But we can promise that when you pilot your vessel through this otherworldly wilderness, you'll get why a "visitor" would cross the galaxy to enjoy this slice of the Silver State. Dive into the final frontier and explore Extraterrestrial Highway landmarks like the Black Mailbox and Little A'Le'Inn.



## GREAT BASIN HIGHWAY

350 to 585 miles | 3 to 5 days

This route offers some of the West's most

majestic terrain, beginning with sandstone canyons and ending with ancient bristlecone pine forests below some of the nation's darkest skies. In five days, you'll steer from Las Vegas to Ely to Great Basin National Park, diving into the larger-than-life landscapes of several state parks including Valley of Fire and Cathedral Gorge, as well as charming communities and historic ghost towns.



## NEON TO NATURE

60 to 210 miles | 1+ day per loop

Las Vegas is good at keeping people occupied, but if you're looking for places beyond the glow, these three mini road trips will have you exploring the world-famous Hoover Dam, outdoor playgrounds like Red Rock Canyon and Valley of Fire, and charming towns—and still get you back in time for your dinner reservation, spa treatment, or Elvis-officiated wedding.

# THE WHEEL

it's all about the journey.





#DeathValleyRally  
TravelNevada.com/Death-Valley-Rally

# LIVE IT UP

## HIT THE ROAD

**Start:** Las Vegas

**Suggested Duration:** 3-4 days

**Distance:** 373 mi

Nevada is a state of extremes, and nothing highlights our delightful dichotomies better than a road trip from Las Vegas to Death Valley National Park. Sure, it could take just three hours to drive between the two points, but then we'd say you're missing the point. Slow down and savor the lowest point in North America paired with the nearly 12,000-foot peak of Mt. Charleston. Take a moment to stop at a rugged biker bar or an elegant winery in Pahrump. If you're really slowing your roll, we've got ghost towns and, well, Las Vegas. Now why would you ever want to rush through all that?

## From one extreme to another and back again.

After getting your fill of neon and noise, hit the road and find some sweet solace in the transition from asphalt to awesome. **Spring Mountain Ranch State Park** is nestled against the verdant hills and natural springs that once drew early settlers, as well as the burros, deer, and antelope you can still see today. Guided hikes are the perfect way to start your exploration of southern Nevada's truly wild side.

Next up, perched in Mountain Springs Canyon, is the world-famous **Mountain Springs Saloon**—a perfect pit stop and treasured biker bar. And if contrasts are your thing, plan for an overnight in **Pahrump**. This town with fine wine is the perfect overnight on your Death Valley Rally. **Sanders Family Winery** is one of the largest wineries in the state, and with your glass, you'll enjoy vintage views of the Spring Mountains and Nopah Range.

Back on the road, get ready for some more wild wonders. **Ash Meadows National Wildlife Refuge** in Amargosa Valley is a surprising desert oasis, that offers a safe haven for rare and endemic plants and animals. Historic cabins and prehistoric desert pupfish—the rarest fish on Earth—are just two of the many reasons to stop here. After the refuge, stop into the **Longstreet Inn & Casino** for a bite to eat, and make sure to take a photo with Big Bovine (don't ask, just trust us).

Time to hit the main attraction, **Death Valley National Park**. Leaving Amargosa, head into the park well-stocked with water, snacks, and sunscreen. The glories and dangers of the park are legendary, and both should be met with respect. Rolling sand dunes and spiky peaks are challenging enough for the desert tortoise, jackrabbits, and bighorn sheep, let alone humans. Take only pictures, and leave only your memories of this incredible landscape.





### PLANNING CHECKLIST



The most extreme road trip requires the most extreme packing list. From the hottest, driest place in the country to the potentially snowy slopes of a massive mountain, you're going to want options.

#### Don't forget:

- ☐ more snacks and water than you think you'll need
- ☐ paper map
- ☐ clothing layers (don't forget sandals & boots)
- ☐ sunscreen
- ☐ spare tire

Get the full itinerary, plus road trip essentials, including downloadable directions, maps, podcasts, and tunes for your adventure.

[TravelNevada.com/Death-Valley-Rally](https://TravelNevada.com/Death-Valley-Rally)



A spring visit to the park offers the best chance at viewing the annual wildflower bloom, which carpets the desert landscape in a testament to their hearty nature. And maybe you'll even be lucky enough to catch a once-a-decade superbloom.

**Beatty** is your next stop, and the Gateway to Death Valley is here to host your park adventure for as many days as you like. While you're in town, grab some grub at the **Happy Burro Chili & Beer** and stop at the **Beatty Museum and Historical Society** to learn about the Bullfrog Mining District and tour one of the best collections of historical photos in the state.

**Rhyolite Ghost Town** and the **Goldwell Open Air Museum** are required visits when in Beatty. Rhyolite's train depot is almost fully intact and worth the trip alone, but you'll also find other oft-photographed structures of considerable size, including Tom Kelly's bottle house, which was built from more than 50,000 bottles. Goldwell sits at the mouth of Rhyolite, and there's no missing Albert Szukalski's ghostly "The Last Supper" sculpture or the towering "Lady Desert—The Venus of Nevada," which appears to be made of Legos. Only in Nevada.

Heading back toward Las Vegas, make the detour to see 11,916-foot **Mt. Charleston**, Nevada's fifth-tallest peak and southern Nevada's only place to ski and snowboard. Hike through the bristlecone forests or get in some snow play at Lee Canyon, if the season holds.

Back to Las Vegas now, with your camera roll full, your shoes dusty, and your heart full of extreme adventures.

### TRAVEL NEVADA PRO TIP

There are seven climate zones on the Spring Mountains, a change in habitat that is similar to traveling from Mexico to the Canadian Arctic.





#LakeTahoeLoop

TravelNevada.com/Lake-Tahoe-Loop

# ALL AROUND LAKE TAHOE

*Drive to Big Blue and beyond.*

## HIT THE ROAD

**Start:** Reno

**Suggested Duration:** 2-4 days

**Distance:** 135 mi

*The Jewel of the Sierra.* In a world of hyperbole, this nickname doesn't come close to expressing the beauty that is Lake Tahoe. Summer, spring, winter, or fall, you'll be hard pressed to find a more picturesque, soul-affirming spot on Earth. There's reason enough to spend your vacation at this majestic lake, but why limit yourself when there's so much to see just a (very) short drive away? With its metropolis, quaint downtowns, and a seriously Wild West stop, the Lake Tahoe Loop is a deep dive into northwestern Nevada just waiting to be discovered.

Start your trip in Reno, northern Nevada's biggest, most happenin' town. Begin your exploration in downtown at the Truckee River, which flows from Lake Tahoe. Look for the **Biggest Little City in the World arches** (yep, more than one) to snap that only-in-Reno selfie. Wander through **Midtown** to check out murals, small shops, eateries, breweries, and wineries. Whatever your pleasure, Reno is ready to satisfy.

Next stop, spring skiing at **Lake Tahoe**. Sunny days are best spent flying down the slopes in short sleeves (don't forget sunblock!). If you're based on the South Shore, grab a photo from the top of **Heavenly Mountain Resort's** gondola. On the north side, **Diamond Peak Ski Resort** and **Mt. Rose Ski Tahoe** both offer views that will stop you in your tracks. Either way, start early; warm temps can make for slushy runs toward midday, plus morning skiing leaves plenty of time for exploration.

Stop a night in Stateline where you can straddle the border of Nevada and California. **Harrah's Lake Tahoe** and **Harvey's Lake Tahoe** both offer a swanky stay, perfectly located in the middle of all the action.





Next morning, drive into Carson Valley where your trip takes an idyllic turn along the scenic valley with its mountain-studded backdrop. First stop: **Genoa**. Pore (or pour) over history in Nevada's very first settlement at **Mormon Station State Historic Park** and Nevada's oldest "thirst parlor." Meander to Minden to check out artifact-packed **Dangberg Home Ranch Historic Park** and sip locally grown spirits at **Bently Heritage Estate Distillery**. Don't forget to hunt antiques along Gardnerville's flowery streets before heading north.

A short drive on US-395 carries you to Nevada's capital. Even before statehood in 1864, **Carson City** connected everywhere else on this road trip—from the lumber mills of Lake Tahoe to Virginia City's mines. Experience these stories at

one of **two state museums** (including one just about **railroads**) or on a **historic walking tour** that takes you past the house of Orion Clemens (Mark Twain's brother) and the home where John Wayne filmed "The Shootist"—his last movie.

Time for some elevation as you head up to **Virginia City**. Wandering the boardwalk-lined streets of the historic town (the whole place is on the National Register of Historic Places) it's easy to believe you've been dropped into the 19th century. Revive yourself at the **Bucket of Blood Saloon**,

tour a mine, peruse the shops, and get your picture taken with classic Western characters. Stay the night at **The Silver Queen**—built in 1876—and your immersion into the past will be complete.

Get a full itinerary, plus road trip essentials, including downloadable directions, maps, podcasts, and tunes for your adventure. [TravelNevada.com/Lake-Tahoe-Loop](https://TravelNevada.com/Lake-Tahoe-Loop)







#FreeRangeArtHighway  
[TravelNevada.com/Free-Range-Art-Highway](https://TravelNevada.com/Free-Range-Art-Highway)

# THE ART OF THE ROAD TRIP

Get ready for one far-out trip  
from Las Vegas to Reno.



Get a full itinerary, plus road trip essentials, including downloadable directions, maps, podcasts, and playlists for your adventure. [TravelNevada.com/Free-Range-Art-Highway](https://TravelNevada.com/Free-Range-Art-Highway)





The 8-hour drive on U.S. 95 from Las Vegas to Reno carries you to several funky towns, home to intriguing murals, top-notch art galleries, and plenty of iconic places to stay—including one with the world's largest private collection of clowns. Hands-down, few routes put the "trip" in "road trip" like Nevada's Free-Range Art Highway. Get ready for some serious adventure on U.S. 95, where psychedelic free-range art meets the American West.

## HIT THE ROAD

**Start:** Las Vegas

**Suggested Duration:** 1-3 days

**Distance:** 440-515 mi

Before you leave Las Vegas, first lay your eyes on vintage neon at **The Neon Museum**, then continue to Downtown Las Vegas' **Fremont East District** to walk several blocks buzzing with restored neon signs and eye-catching art. Then hit the Las Vegas Arts District, AKA 18b, to scope out **Graffiti Art Gallery Alley**, funky **Antique Alley**, and chic cafés.

Up the road, cruise into **Beatty** before checking out the **Goldwell Open Air Museum**, and rest on a mosaic couch as you ponder the meaning of the penguin amid the sagebrush—or any of the other seven colossal sculptures that include a ghostly life-size version of Leonardo Da Vinci's painting of "The Last Supper." Heading north, and just before you hit **Goldfield**, get a little spiritual at the **International Car Forest of the Last Church** where you'll find partially-buried vehicles that serve as a rotating canvas for visiting artists.

**Tonopah** is next, meaning you're halfway to Reno—making this the perfect overnight stop if clowns are your thing. The surreal **Clown Motel** is just one option, however, so for those less enthusiastic about clowns, you have choices: you can lay your head at **The Belvada**, which represents the height of luxury during the old mining town days, or the iconic **Mizpah Hotel**, home to historically preserved rooms (including the famous Lady in Red Suite, where guests occasionally catch ghostly glimpses of the room's namesake).

Another day, a lot more art to see. Gear up for galleries and offbeat attractions on the home-stretch to Reno. Look out for both cool neon and bighorn sheep en route to the free **Hawthorne Ordnance Museum** to examine explosive artifacts. Beyond picturesque Walker Lake lies **Fallon**, home to the artistic oasis of **Oats Park Art Center** and its three museum-style galleries with rotating exhibits. Then, roll on into **Reno** for its public art, fancy food, hip bars, and bohemian shops. The **Neon Line District** is Reno's newest arty offering with 20 blocks of Burning Man sculptures and art, vintage neon, hotels, restaurants, and shops in the Downtown District being developed. Make sure to get a snap with the giant steel horse, and look for free outdoor concerts at the **Glow Plaza**.



### LIVE LIKE A LOCAL

- Las Vegas' Graffiti Art

*Gallery Alley gets periodic makeovers, so if you like what you see, you better take a picture—it might not be there next time you come!*

- Stop at the Tonopah Liquor Company before bed for a nightcap selected from one of hundreds of available whiskeys.

- The Slanted Porch in Fallon has food that exceeds its humble settings. Fresh, locally-sourced and a large selection make this a great lunch option.





# WHAT'S IN A NAME?

*The backstory of how eight Nevada towns earned their names.*

BY CORY MUNSON

Just like superheroes, every town's name has an origin story. Some are straightforward: Mesquite is named for a tree found in the region; Carson City is named after the pioneer Kit Carson. For others, the tale has a little more to it: Yerington, for example, was originally called Greenfield, but had to be renamed when the postal service said there were already too many towns called that. Here's a look at other towns where the story is disputed, steeped in legend, or just downright fun.





## MINDEN

“Fred” Dangberg Jr. was delighted when the Virginia & Truckee Railroad (V&T) asked if they could build a station on his ranch in 1904. He had inherited the land from his father, a German immigrant who moved to Nevada and built a vast ranching empire. Dangberg was a savvy businessman and knew that a railroad would be a boon for the family estate. He immediately agreed to donate the land and then began to draw up plans for the town he would build around it.

His first instinct was to call the town Halle in honor of his father’s German birthplace. However, Henry Yerington—vice president of the V&T—was worried people would end up calling the town Hell. The two compromised and picked another German city called Minden. It is unclear if they chose Minden because it sounded nice or if it had something to do with Fred’s father—Halle and Minden are 180 miles apart.



MINDEN CIRCA 1910

### TRAVEL NEVADA PRO TIP

Step back into history and visit the iconic Minden Flour Milling Company. Still processing grain in a different manner, it is now the home of the Bently Heritage Estate Distillery. →



MINDEN FLOUR MILLING  
COMPANY CIRCA 1910

Nevada Historical Society



## VIRGINIA CITY

Virginia City received its name when it was but a meager mining camp, allegedly during an intoxicated outburst by one of the camp's first residents: Virginia native James Fennimore.

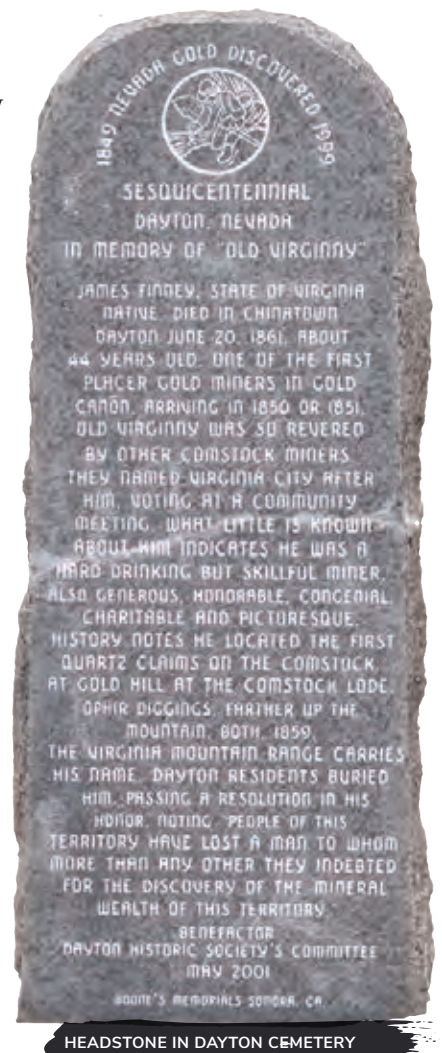
According to legend, Fennimore—who went by the name Old Virginny—was returning home after a night of drinking. Upon entering his cabin, Fennimore tripped and broke his bottle of liquor. He slowly raised himself to a kneeling position, pointed gravely to the broken glass, and declared in a commanding voice something along the lines of, “I baptize this place Ol’ Virginny Town.”

There is certainly no way to prove the veracity of this tale, but it makes for a good story; Dan De Quille even relates it in his history of the Comstock. Little is known about James Fennimore. He died in Dayton in 1861 after another night of hard drinking. The inscription on his memorial tells us he was a skilled miner, beloved among his cohort, and among the first to strike a claim on the Comstock.

## INCLINE VILLAGE

To get to the Comstock's silver, mines had to be carved into the surrounding hills. Scaffolding was needed to keep the vast network of tunnels supported, but good timber was scarce in the Great Basin. The trees they needed grew on the western slope of the Sierra Nevada—the other side of the mountain. To bring the wood to the Comstock required a marvel of 19th century engineering: a rail line called The Great Incline of the Sierra Nevada.

The 1,400-foot rail line was constructed on the north shore of Lake Tahoe. To process the trees, a mill town—named Incline Village after the rail—was built. After milling, the boards were loaded onto a steam-powered winch and carried up a staggering 35-degree slope. Once atop, the lumber was loaded into a flume, and gravity sent it down the other side of the Sierra.



READ MORE  
ABOUT IT



Read about a questionable 1875 decision by five men who chose to ride the Incline flume in hastily-rigged “boats” in the Jan-Feb 2017 issue of Nevada Magazine at [nevadamagazine.com](http://nevadamagazine.com)



INCLINE SAW MILL IN 1885



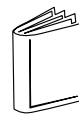


BOULDER CITY CIRCA 1930

## BOULDER CITY

Boulder City was established by the U.S. government to house the workers that built America's largest dam. The town is named after Boulder Canyon, which was first identified as an ideal location for the dam. Surveyors later determined Black Canyon 20 miles downstream as a better site, but by then Boulder City had more than 4,000 residents.

During the dam's construction, it was called both Boulder Dam and Hoover Dam. Hoover was an unpopular president, and it would take more than a decade for the official name to stick. When the project was completed, the government handed Boulder City over to the state, and it became a charming town named for a canyon without a dam and a dam with a different name.



### READ MORE ABOUT IT

More on the story of T'sawhawbitts and the history of Jarbidge can be found in the May-Jun 2009 issue of Nevada Magazine at [nevadamagazine.com](http://nevadamagazine.com)



## JARBIDGE

The beautiful, remote mining village of Jarbidge lies in a narrow canyon in the extreme northeast of the state. Long before the arrival of white settlers, the area was a popular hunting ground for the Shoshone. The hunters believed a giant called T'sawhawbitts—anglicized to Jarbidge—lurked in the canyon. The creature would prey on victims that strayed too far from camp, trap them in his basket, then devour them at its home in a nearby crater.



JARBIDGE EARLY 1900s



ASH MEADOWS NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE, OUTSIDE PAHRUMP

## TONOPAH AND PAHRUMP

Tonopah and Pahrump share a root word from the Shoshone language: “pah,” meaning water. Pahrump translates to “water rock” referring to the area’s many artisanal wells. Tonopah loosely translates to something like “brush water,” which could refer to the mountain mahogany or greasewood near the creek where ore was first discovered by Jim Butler. There is some confusion over the name Tonopah since the Shoshone language does not construct words in a way that would make Tonopah grammatically correct. It’s believed the word is a white settler construction, perhaps from Butler himself (who is alleged to have understood the language).



### LIVE LIKE A LOCAL

Jackpot is one of the biggest employers of southern Idaho natives, and for their benefit, clocks are set to Idaho time, one hour later than the rest of Nevada.

## JACKPOT

Jackpot was founded shortly after Idaho made gambling illegal in 1953. To accommodate the Gem State’s slot players, Idaho casinos moved their operation to the Nevada side of the border. By 1958, the community had a population large enough to warrant a town name. It had been informally called Horse Shu after the area’s first casino, but there was little agreement on an official name. After receiving no formal answer, Elko County christened the town Unincorporated Town No. 1. This spurred the casino owners to come up with something a bit more appealing, so they settled on Jackpot.

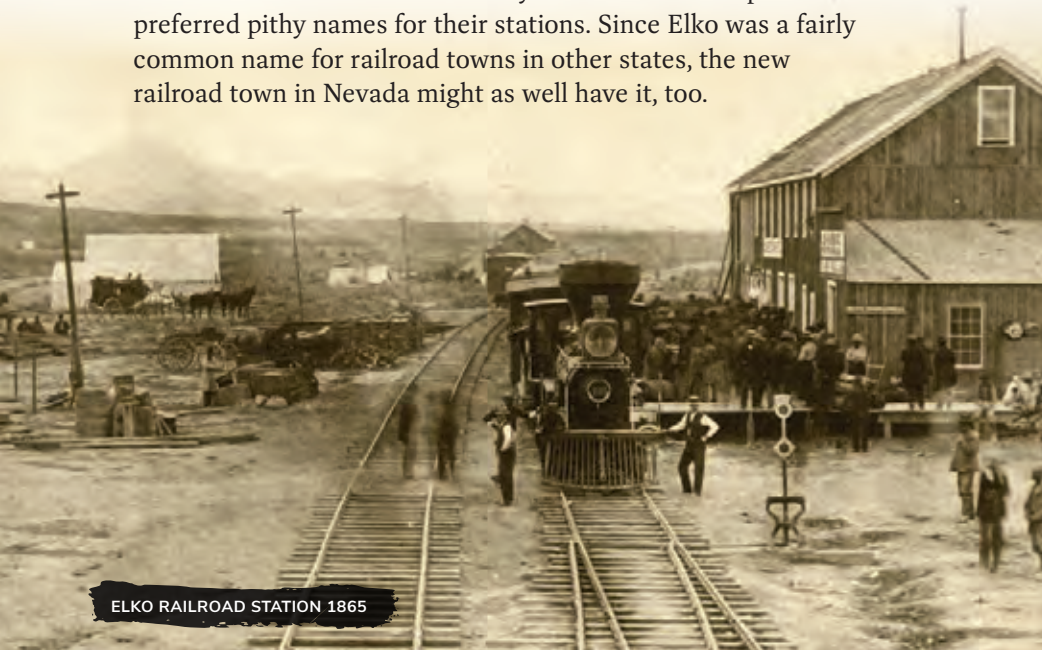


Shaun Astor (Ash Meadows), Cactus Pete's (Jackpot)



## ELKO

Add northeastern Nevada's largest city to the "nobody knows" pile. There are three theories for how Elko got its name. First, it's possible that Elko is a Shoshone word for "white woman" because—apparently—that's where they first saw one. Second, the name might refer to the region's elk population, but with an 'o' to make it sound fancier. The third—and most likely—is that railroad operators preferred pithy names for their stations. Since Elko was a fairly common name for railroad towns in other states, the new railroad town in Nevada might as well have it, too.



ELKO RAILROAD STATION 1865

## NAME THAT TOWN!

Many towns in Nevada are the surnames of ranchers, miners, politicians, businessmen, and explorers. Below you'll find a selection of these towns, however one is not named after a person—can you guess which one?

Austin	Hawthorne
Beatty	Henderson
Carlin	Lovelock
Crystal Bay	McGill
Dayton	Pioche
Ely	Reno
Fallon	Verdi
Gardnerville	Wells
Gerlach	Winnemucca

Wells was originally called Hum-Boldt Wells for the area's natural springs. If you guessed Crystal Bay, it's actually named for George Crystal (he staked a claim on the area's timber in the 1860s).



You won't just meet a jaguar.  
**YOU'LL MEET EL SANTO.**

Experience the wildlife sanctuary in your own backyard. Visit Animal Ark today, and let us share each animal's amazing story with you.

AnimalArk.org  
1.775.970.3111



Open April-October  
Tues.-Sun  
10AM-4:30PM



**Discover. Explore. Unwind!**



f i www.BoulderCityChamber.com





# Paint the Town

As a town ages, its buildings take on the patina of the years with faded bricks and paint. That, however, is where art can take center stage as buildings become multi-storied canvasses of artist expression. And don't forget one of the coolest things about public street art: it's free.

Artists are busting down the fourth wall and taking it to the streets.



MURAL ARTIST JOE C. ROCK SPEAKS DURING A MDTOWN MURAL WALK IN RENO.



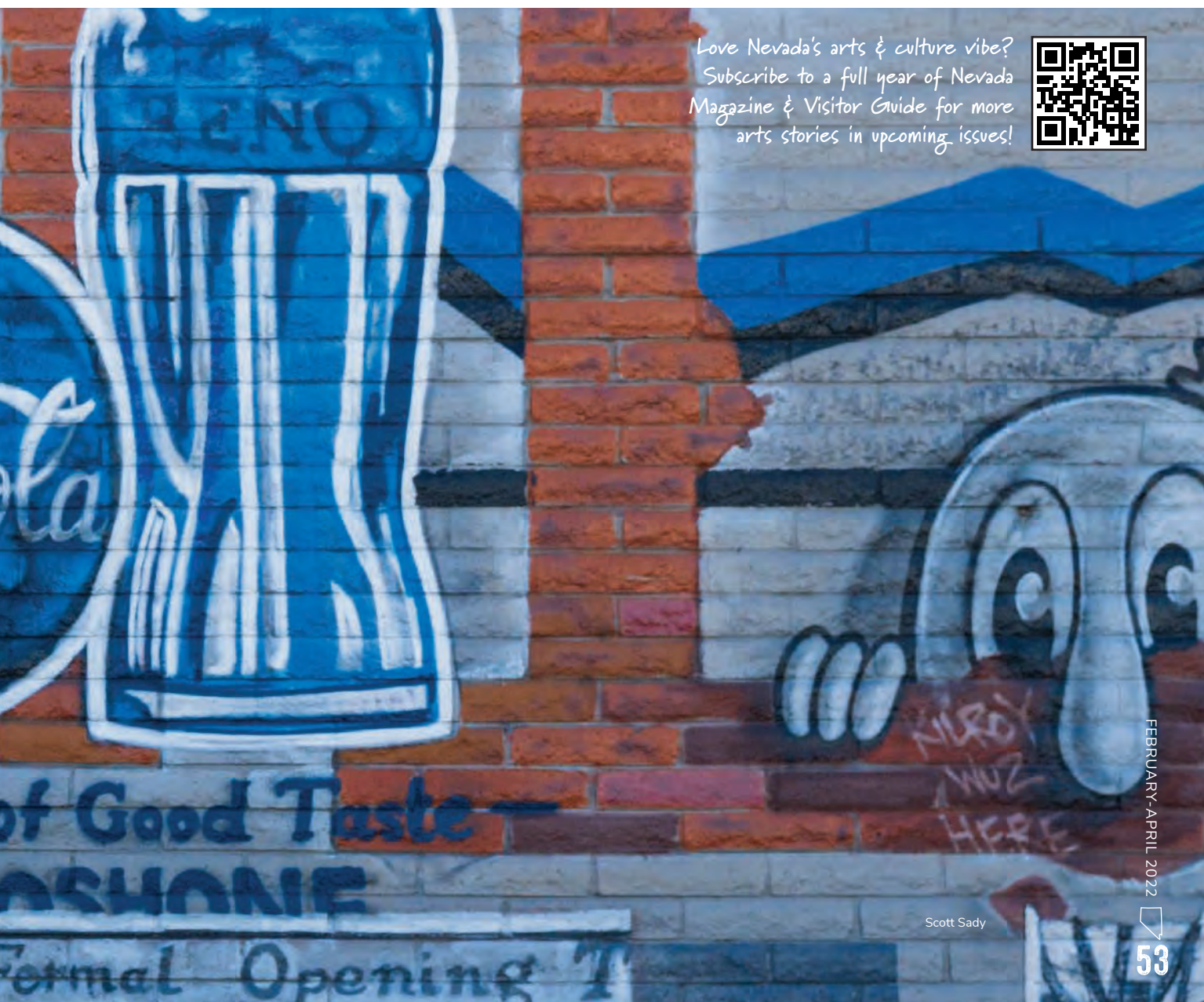
## RENO

Reno's downtown and midtown areas are home to more than 120 murals painted by local, national, and international artists. **Art Spot Reno** hosts guided walking tours each month, often with one of the muralists tagging along to share the arty details. Tour guides have an encyclopedic knowledge of the works and the artists, making the tours worth the incredibly low ticket price. If your schedule doesn't allow for a guided tour, check out the online mural maps and head out to do your own bit of art reconnaissance. Whatever way you choose to view these beautiful and evocative murals sprinkled throughout the Biggest Little City, prepare to have your mind blown and your eyes opened. Don't forget to visit the local cafes and shops along the way, and watch for the red and yellow Art Spot Reno flags: those are businesses that feature local art.

TRAVEL  
NEVADA  
PRO TIP

Grab your camera and set aside at least two hours to leisurely tour the murals. Plan your tour to culminate as the neon lights up Reno's skyline.

Love Nevada's arts & culture vibe? Subscribe to a full year of Nevada Magazine & Visitor Guide for more arts stories in upcoming issues!



Scott Sady





MURAL BY OKUDA



MURAL BY CRYPTK

## LAS VEGAS

Las Vegas may have commissioned its first mural in 1976, but it wasn't until the last decade that they became a big draw. As in 21-stories-high big, which for Las Vegas seems about right. The challenge in downtown today is finding a building without some spectacular painting adorning its walls. The Plaza Hotel has three, multi-story murals on its façade alone. Renowned artists from across the globe have come to leave their artistic flair on the city with commissioned works, many stemming from the Life Is Beautiful Music & Art Festival. The Graffiti Art Gallery Alley—part of the 18-block Las Vegas Arts District (or 18b for those in the know)—hosts free-for-all outdoor canvases which display a regular stream of updated street art.

### TRAVEL NEVADA PRO TIP

Start your tour on Fremont Street, and keep an eye out between Third and Ninth streets and Stewart and Carson avenues.



MURAL BY PWOZ

Diego Amarosa (Okuda & Cryptik murals), Nancy Munoz (PWOZ mural)



# CELEBRATE ALL THINGS NEVADA<sup>IN 2022</sup>

For 86 years, Nevada Magazine has been the keeper of our state's stories. With a digital subscription, you can access every single story we've ever published, and download it to your own device. That comes out to about 3¢ per issue!



[NevadaMagazine.com/Subscribe](https://NevadaMagazine.com/Subscribe)

[NevadaMagazine.com/Shop](https://NevadaMagazine.com/Shop)

- ☀ 2022 Nevada Historical Calendar: \$19
- ☀ Historical Nevada Book: \$20
- ☀ Great Nevada Picture Hunt Poster: \$15
- ☀ T-shirts M, L, XL, 2XL (limited quantity of each): \$23
- ☀ Ghost Town Book: \$22<sup>95</sup>
- ☀ Ghost Towns & Historical Sites Map: \$8<sup>99</sup>
- ☀ Ghost Town Book plus Ghost Towns & Historical Sites Map: \$28<sup>75</sup>

All prices include S&H.



[NevadaMagazine.com](https://NevadaMagazine.com) | 855-729-7117



## TONOPAH

The “Queen of the Silver Camps” has a long history, and the murals that can be found around town paint a multi-faceted picture. From paying homage to miners who lost their lives, to celebrating the New York-to-Paris Auto Race in 1908, Tonopah’s murals show both the good and bad of yesteryear. More than a dozen murals and monuments can be easily found from downtown, and a walking tour map is in the works, so stop by the visitor’s center for the latest.

*Jamie Vincek*  
@JAMIEVINCEK

MURAL ARTIST JAMIE VINCEK

Kat Galli





MURAL BY BRYCE CHISHOLM

## ELKO

If you're into rich western culture, grab a map and check out the 51 murals along the **Elko Mural Tour**. Born from the 2019 Elko Mural Expo, the thought-provoking and brilliantly colored scenes are all located within one square mile of downtown, making this a no-brainer whenever you're in town.

## ELY

Ely got its first mural in 1999 when Larry Bute—a well-known cowboy artist—painted a Western scene on the side of a private business: the city hasn't looked back since. Almost 30 murals, sculptures, and other pieces of public art make up the **Ely Art Trail**. Expect great depictions of pioneer Basques, Greek, and Italians with scenes from the area's early industries: mining, ranching, and the railroad.

### TRAVEL NEVADA PRO TIP

Tour Ely's Renaissance Village for a seriously real look at the town's past, or the Art Bank-hosted mural walking tour.



MURAL BY ERIK T. BURKE

Larry Burton (Ely mural)





# SMALL TOWNS, BIG CULTURE

Virginia City and Eureka  
marry the arts and arias  
at local venues.

## PIPER'S OPERA HOUSE

Virginia City's **Piper's Opera House** has stood as a monument to Comstock entertainment for almost 160 years. Withstanding two disastrous fires and suffering financially after the mines ceased operation, Piper's is a vibrant reminder of the past.

Piper's began as Maguire's Opera House in 1863 when Thomas Maguire built the venue on D Street. Maguire's was known for booking top talent from around the country including Adah Isaacs Menken, who wore a costume which made her appear almost naked as she rode a black horse across the stage. Her performance caused quite a stir.

In 1867, Maguire sold the opera house to John Piper, who gave Virginia City the best entertainment money could buy. Theatrical greats such as Maude Adams, Lotta Crabtree, Lily Langtry, Edwin Booth, and W.F. Cody (Buffalo Bill) all performed at Piper's. After a second catastrophic fire, a new building opened March 6, 1885, which stands today at B and Union streets.

Go behind the historic scenes with a personal guided tour and check out the event calendar so you can attend a performance in this incredible venue—including live music, murder mysteries, and more.

Asa Gilmore (Opera House exterior)





## EUREKA OPERA HOUSE

Built in 1880 and restored a few decades back, the **Eureka Opera House** was the crown jewel of this quiet mining town. Eureka's citizenry may have moved to the Wild West, but they weren't about to be deprived of a little culture. After its debut on New Year's Eve 1880, the venue settled into a series of regular live performances and events including plays, masquerade balls, dances, operas, concerts, and social events.

Motion pictures were shown from 1915—when the Opera House was renamed the Eureka Theater—to 1958, when the movie house was closed. Sadly, the building was vacant for more than 30 years until a massive renovation in 1993.

Today, the Eureka Opera House welcomes visitors as a stop on the Loneliest Road in America and serves as the town's cultural arts center. The lower levels house a permanent fine arts collection including autographed photos of famed performers from all over the world. The lower-level walls have been signed by thousands of performers, so make sure you do a thorough search. You never know whose name you might see.

**TRAVEL NEVADA PRO TIP** Make sure to spend some time admiring the original 1924 hand-painted stage curtain.





# PERFORMING ARTS VENUES

## CURTAIN UP!

Pull up a chair to some of the most creative, quirky, and renowned performances you're likely to see anywhere. Nevada is a performing arts destination with major venues sprinkled in with home-grown community locales, each delivering a satisfying cultural dip. Here are just a few.

SCAN FOR  
MORE INFO



NEVADA ARTS DESTINATIONS

## NORTHERN NEVADA

### Brüka Theatre

For 30 years, Brüka Theatre in Reno has been recognized for its fresh and spirited productions and acclaimed Theatre for Children.

### Reno Little Theater

With its first performance dating back to 1935, the Reno Little Theater is the community's oldest, offering comedy, mystery, and drama throughout the decades.

### Good Luck Macbeth

A small community theater in Reno, Good Luck Macbeth stages innovative works, original pieces, and classic productions.

### Pioneer Center for the Performing Arts

The gold geodesic-domed Pioneer Center was first completed in 1967 and has been

a mainstay of downtown Reno ever since. Along with a wide variety of musical shows and performances, the Pioneer offers touring Broadway plays and internationally renowned dance troupes.

### Yerington Theater for the Arts

Operating within the Jeanne Dini Cultural Center—a historic grammar school built in 1912—the theater is recognized as one of Nevada's finest arts organizations, offering performing arts, art exhibitions, and cultural heritage events.

### Oats Park Art Center

The Fallon venue serves as a hub for performing arts that hosts exhibitions by regional artists and concerts. The OPAC was built in the 1900s and originally served as a school.





## SOUTHERN NEVADA

### The Smith Center

Presenting the very best of music, theater and dance, The Smith Center has placed arts and culture in Southern Nevada on an international stage. The world-class center is home to the Nevada Ballet Theatre, Las Vegas Philharmonic, and hosts touring Broadway shows, concerts, and more.

### Las Vegas Little Theater

Since 1978, the oldest little theater in southern Nevada has offered performances to increase the awareness of theatre arts in Southern Nevada and provides hands-on opportunities in all facets of theater production.

### Mesquite Community Theatre

This rural theatre offers up big-city performances in a small-town venue. Visitors can expect to see comedy festivals, musical performances, and at least three plays a year from the Virgin Valley Theater Group.



Curiosity drives us to innovate, create and explore. It brought us everything from the light bulb to autonomous vehicles. And curiosity is what's fostered here at The Discovery every day. So, whether your passion is Nevada's rich history, world-changing inventions, or somewhere in between, a museum of possibilities awaits you.

 **THE Discovery**  
Terry Lee Wells Nevada Discovery Museum  
490 S. Center Street · Downtown Reno  
775-786-1000 · [nvdm.org](http://nvdm.org)



# Nevada's STATE PARKS

*Discover history while making memories at these parks.*

Nevada's parks celebrate the Great Basin's natural and human history, and for this issue, we're zeroing in on ones that tell the story of the state from prehistory to today. Get ready for a trek through time; along the way you'll meet ancient reptiles, tour military forts, and hang out in pioneer pit stops.

## MORMON STATION STATE HISTORIC PARK

When the 1849 gold rush began, Nevada was entirely unsettled by pioneers and served as mere pass-through country for fortune-seekers streaming toward California. This would all change in 1851 when John Reese, a shopkeeper from Salt Lake City, set up a small trading post in the eastern foothills of the Sierra Nevada.

One year earlier, a Mormon contingent had built an ad-hoc, roofless shelter to sell supplies to settlers preparing to cross the great Sierra Nevada. Though this group had limited wares, business boomed: the nearest town—Salt Lake City—was 500 miles away, so scarce goods could be sold at a premium. One of the men from this group returned to Salt Lake and told John Reese about his adventure. Reese saw the opportunity for great profit and immediately set off to Nevada.

Reese set up his trading post right on the California Trail, thereby establishing Nevada's first non-indigenous settlement. Weary travelers could find fresh horses, a blacksmith, general wares, hot meals, and comfortable beds—all available at a high price. Originally called Mormon Station after the Utah men who ran it, the trading post and fledgling community was renamed Genoa in 1854.

## A Walk in the Park

Though the original buildings were destroyed in a 1910 fire, visitors can enjoy the reconstructed trading post as it appeared 170 years ago.

Within the park are shaded, grassy areas with picnic tables, a group pavilion that can accommodate up to 300 people, and several excellent hiking trails and wildlife viewing opportunities.

The park also houses a replica stockade and a museum that contains a wealth of pioneer artifacts.





## FORT CHURCHILL & BUCKLAND STATION STATE HISTORIC PARKS

Fort Churchill was a U.S. Army fort built in 1861 to provide protection for immigrants, mail carriers, and the small communities that dotted eastern Nevada. Before its construction, tensions between settlers and the area's tribes—the Paiutes and the Bannocks—were high, culminating in violent encounters and pitched battles.

When the adobe fort was completed, it became a supply depot for the Union army. As the area became more developed and tensions abated, Fort Churchill was abandoned after only a decade of use.

### Repurpose, Reuse, Recycle

In 1870, the disused site, including the adobe walls, barracks, and storehouses, were auctioned off and sold for \$750 to Samuel Buckland. Buckland had moved to the area a decade earlier, purchasing a plot of land on the Carson River not far from the fort.

As construction materials were hard to come by, Buckland began dismantling the fortification to build his own fashionable two-story ranch house. The 19-room estate served as a travel lodge and residence for the large Buckland family and included a ballroom, classroom, and two parlors.

Buckland Station would change hands throughout the 20th century before being sold to the State of Nevada park system in 1997. Today, visitors can visit the remains of the old fort and tour the manor, explore walking trails, fish, and more.



### PHOTOGRAPHER TIP:

Use a headlamp or flashlight with a red light to maintain good vision while shooting at night.







## OLD LAS VEGAS MORMON FORT

In 1855, 30 Mormon missionaries entered Las Vegas Valley with a critical task issued from Salt Lake City: create a permanent Mormon settlement along the southern road to California. The party broke camp at Las Vegas Creek—the only free-flowing creek in the desert valley—and began construction of a fort.

The square fort was built from adobe: four walls, each 150 feet long, with defensive bulwarks and two-story rowhouses within. The missionaries created an irrigation system for farming and built services for weary travelers, including a post office and general store.

The Mormon experiment was not to last long, however: tensions within the group dissolved the project

after two years, and the fort was left to decay for nearly a decade.

In 1865, the fort and its surrounding land was developed into a large ranching operation. In 1902, the ranchland was sold to the railroad, and the area's first rail line was constructed. From these humble beginnings, the valley would quickly develop into one of the West's largest cities.

### Nestled in the Neon Capital

Located less than one mile from Fremont Street, Old Las Vegas Mormon Fort features perhaps the most dramatic time-travel experience in the state. Visitors can step from the 21st century into the 19th at the reconstructed fort.

The visitor center offers exhibits and artifacts with a history of the area that extends beyond the days of missionaries and ranchers:

Las Vegas Creek has served as an oasis to many groups over millennia, including Paiutes,

Spaniards, and Mexican traders. The museum also covers the rise of Las Vegas, the construction of the Hoover Dam, and life in the valley up to modern day.







Introducing Nevada's State Fossil: Ichthyosaur  
The Ichthyosaur—Greek for "lizard fish"—were not dinosaurs, but aquatic reptiles who ruled the seas 225 million years ago. Like reptiles, ichthyosaurs didn't have gills and had to surface to breathe air. Unlike reptiles, however, they did not lay eggs: they had live births like mammals. They were around 10 feet in length, though some reached up to 50 feet!

## BERLIN-ICHTHYOSAUR STATE PARK

During the American Civil War, a group of prospectors deep in the hills of central Nevada found silver in Union Canyon. Mining camps followed, which quickly grew into a community of tiny towns.

A few decades later, gold was discovered, and in 1896 the Berlin Mine was established. The town of Berlin enjoyed a decade of prosperity as miles of ore-filled tunnels were dug—by hand—in the hillside. At its peak, Berlin had a population of 300 people, and locals enjoyed all the trappings of modern life including grocery stores, a union hall, a post office, and an infirmary.

In all, about 42,000 ounces of gold were extracted near Berlin—a strong showing given the town's small population. However, by 1911, the winds of fortune had drifted, and prospects dried up. The town was abandoned, its residents moving on to the next big strike. Berlin was returned to the desert, and possibly would have fallen into obscurity if not for another type of mineral

hiding just below the surface: fossils.

### New Digs

In 1928, Dr. Siemon Muller was surveying the terrain near the ghost town of Berlin when he discovered the fossilized remains of a large creature. The find stayed quiet until 1952, when Fallon resident Margaret Wheat gathered some fossils and brought them to the attention of the University of California's Museum of Paleontology. Soon, paleontologists were on the site, and quickly uncovering 40 specimens—the largest concentration of ichthyosaur fossils in North America.

Wheat continued working with the paleontologists and advocated for the site to become a state monument, which was granted by the governor in 1957.

### Grand Reopening

The park has undergone a complete restoration project and is set to open in early 2022. Visitors can take the Fossil House tour or go on a self-guided exploration of the park including the ghost town. The park offers plenty of opportunities for hiking, picnicking, and camping.



Berlin is defined as a town "preserved in a state of arrested decay" so the buildings are in exceedingly good shape compared to other ghost towns. The Berlin Mill is the most impressive structure.



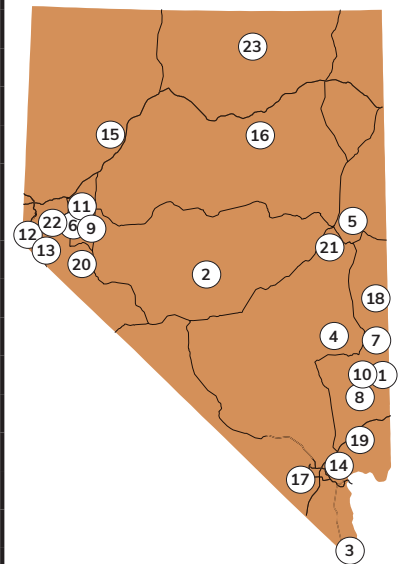
# STATE PARKS

## Directory

Camping  
RV Dump Station  
Flush Restrooms  
Group Camping  
Showers  
Visitor Center  
Boat Launch  
Trails  
Fishing  
Maximum Size  
RV Space

1. Beaver Dam State Park	•			•				•	•	28'
2. Berlin-Ichthyosaur State Park	•	•		•		•		•		25'
3. Big Bend of the Colorado State Recreation Area	•	•						•	•	60'
4. Cathedral Gorge State Park	•	•	•	•	•	•		•		40'
5. Cave Lake State Park	•	•	•	•	•			•	•	35'
6. Dayton State Park	•	•	•					•	•	35'
7. Echo Canyon State Park	•	•	•	•				•	•	35'
8. Elgin Schoolhouse State Historic Site								•		N/A
9. Fort Churchill State Historic Park	•	•		•		•		•	•	45'
10. Kershaw-Ryan State Park	•	•	•					•		30'
11. Lahontan State Recreation Area	•	•	•	•	•			•	•	60'
12. Lake Tahoe Nevada State Park	•		•		•	•	•	•	•	N/A
13. Mormon Station State Historic Park			•			•				N/A
14. Old Las Vegas Mormon Fort State Historic Park			•			•		•		N/A
15. Rye Patch State Recreation Area	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	45'
16. South Fork State Recreation Area	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	30'
17. Spring Mountain Ranch State Park			•			•		•		N/A
18. Spring Valley State Park	•	•	•		•			•	•	35'
19. Valley of Fire State Park	•	•	•	•	•	•		•		50'
20. Walker River State Recreation Area	•	•	•	•	•	•		•	•	50'
21. Ward Charcoal Ovens State Historic Park	•			•				•	•	30'
22. Washoe Lake State Park	•	•	•	•	•			•	•	45'
23. Wild Horse State Recreation Area	•	•	•		•	•	•	•	•	60'

Cathedral Gorge State Park



**Know Before You Go:**  
Park openings, hours, and services are subject to change. Before visiting, consult the Nevada State Parks website, or call the park ranger.



# NEVADA BACK COUNTRY WATERING HOLES WORTH VISITING!

*No doubt Nevada's urban cities dish up some lavish sips and eats. But, if you're craving something a little less refined and less confined, here's a list of some back country establishments that are sure to deliver that "REAL NEVADA" worth making a weekend trip for!*



DIRTY DICK'S BELMONT SALOON



SANTA FE SALOON



HAPPY BURRO CHILI & BEER



OVERLAND HOTEL & SALOON



## **DIRTY DICK'S BELMONT SALOON • BELMONT, NV**

If the name didn't peek your interest, how about the fact that this saloon is completely off-grid. That's right, it operates totally on generator and solar power, adding to the allure of the place. Serving up Nevada brewed beer, whiskey, tequila and their famous Bloody Mary using a recipe handed down from the bar's original owner.

## **SANTA FE SALOON • GOLDFIELD, NV**

Claiming to be the oldest continuously operating business in Goldfield is quite a feat considering it was established in 1905. The building has survived a flood, fire and the rowdiness of an early boomtown. Serving up favorites in the beer and liquor categories, it also offers up some tasty pizza. Stay the night in the adjacent Motel.

## **HAPPY BURRO CHILI & BEER • BEATTY, NV**

Located in the heart of Beatty, this saloon has a true Old West Saloon front. Open the creaky wooden door and walk into a bygone era. If you're lucky, you might bump into some of Beatty's cowboys who regularly roam the town performing Old West Shootouts. Happy Burro offers award-winning chili, an outdoor patio and a very "unique" touch in the men's restroom.

## **OVERLAND HOTEL & SALOON • PIOCHE, NV**

This is a place known for its spirits, and we're not just talking about the booze! Once the most rambunctious town in the West, Pioche is home to the now infamous Boot Hill Cemetery and regularly catches the interest of paranormal enthusiasts. The saloon, equipped with an original Brunswick bar counter, offers the perfect setting to grab a drink and listen to some of the towns crazy history from one of the local storytellers.



NEVADA SILVER TRAILS

LAS VEGAS

NEVADA



SILVER  
Trails

NevadaSilverTrails.com

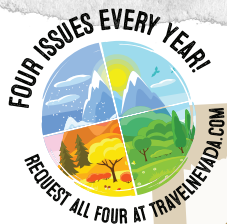


# Legendary Nevadans

Wyatt and  
Virgil Earp

All Nevada is a stage,  
and cowpokes, artists,  
activists, and visionaries  
are players in a drama  
centuries in the making.  
Whether born or raised,  
these special characters  
aren't just Nevadans: they're  
Legendary Nevadans.

WYATT EARP



Stay tuned for more tales  
of Legendary Nevadans. In  
our next issue, Mark Twain  
discovers his talent as a  
writer while working for  
the Territorial Enterprise  
in Virginia City. Later this  
year, we'll follow the lives  
of Sarah Winnemucca and  
Jessie Beck.



## SHOWDOWN

On a cold October day in 1881, four men approached a group of cowboys gathered in an alley. These four represented the law in Tombstone, Arizona: City Marshal Virgil Earp, his brothers Wyatt and Morgan, and Doc Holliday.

Reports of what happened next run the gamut from massacre to a fair fight, but 30 seconds later, three cowboys were dead and the West's most famous shootout at the O.K. Corral entered the history books—guaranteeing posterity would know the names Virgil and Wyatt Earp.





THE EARPS IN TONOPAH CIRCA 1902

**TRAVEL  
NEVADA  
PRO TIP**

While taking in the sights of Tonopah's historic downtown, be sure to try out some of the great local grub.

- Pittman Café
- Tonopah Brewing Company
- Hometown Pizza
- El Marques
- Bamboo Chinese Kitchen

**THE BROTHERS EARP**

The Earp brothers epitomized those who tried to scrape out a life on the frontier. Born of a stock of eight siblings—including Morgan, who was killed in retribution shortly after O.K. Corral—the brothers slowly drifted west, eventually ending up in Nevada.

At 21, Wyatt took his first job in law enforcement in Missouri, but his work as a constable ended abruptly when he was accused of embezzlement. Wyatt skipped town and spent the next few years drifting the Great Plains, taking up work on the other side of law as a horse thief, gambler, and all-around carouser. He ended up in Dodge City where he became assistant marshal.

A few years later, Wyatt moved to Tombstone to work alongside Virgil as a deputy—also running a Faro game on the side. In Tombstone, he met his future wife Josephine, who had just run away from home with an actor in a traveling troupe. Wyatt and Josephine fell in love, and she would be his traveling companion and adventuring partner for the next 49 years.

After the incident at the O.K. Corral, the brothers skipped town and went their separate ways (but not before killing two more cowboys on their way out). Virgil went to Colton, California, and ran for marshal. Losing that election, he returned to Arizona to try his hand at farming. Wyatt went north to Alaska and lived the life of a prospector alongside Josephine.

**What's Faro?**

Faro was a popular betting game. Thirteen sequential cards are put out on the table with a full deck nearby. Players place their chips on the cards, then the dealer draws two cards from the deck. The first card drawn determines which number loses all its chips. The second card announces the winner.

**WYATT EARP IN NEVADA**

In 1902, Wyatt and Josephine heard talk of a town called Tonopah—hardly 2 years old by then—in the Nevada desert. Gold and silver had been discovered, and the camp of 40 men in early 1901 quickly became a community of more than 3,000. The couple made their way to Nevada, arriving in Tonopah during a blizzard.

Once established, the old gunslinger took up work as a deputy marshal and co-founded a saloon called The Northern; the watering hole saw good business with his famous name attached to it. Local mining interests hired Wyatt to a private police force that principally operated to snuff out claim jumpers—individuals who mined at a site to which they had no legal claim.



When he wasn't working, he and Josephine enjoyed wandering the hills around town, prospecting and looking for the next big strike.

There are stories—likely urban legends—about Wyatt's stint as a lawman in Tonopah. One such tale: when informed he shouldn't shoot anyone except out of self-defense, Wyatt said that he would be the judge of when "self-defense" starts. Another tale goes that claim jumpers were working a mine when a man arrived and told them to leave at once. The miners indignantly asked who this man thought he was and told him to mind his business. When the figure responded, "I'm Wyatt Earp," the claim jumpers fled.

In summer 1903, Wyatt and Josephine decided they'd had enough of Tonopah. They sold their share in The Northern and slowly made their way to California, prospecting throughout Esmeralda County on their way. In all, their Nevadan adventure lasted a little less than two years.

## THE END OF AN ERA

Goldfield—originally called Grandpa—began as an offshoot of Tonopah. Perhaps one of Nevada's most famous boomtowns, Goldfield would grow into Nevada's largest metropolis by 1906 with 30,000 residents—its sister town 30 miles north would hardly reach 5,000.

Virgil Earp and his wife Allie moved to Goldfield in 1904. Virgil decided he too would start a saloon, but found he didn't have enough cash in a town where everything was expensive. He turned to gambling and soon found himself down to his last few dollars.



VIRGIL EARP



GOLDFIELD IN 1905



To make ends meet, Virgil returned to law enforcement, serving as deputy sheriff and working security at a saloon called The National. These positions were honorary, however: Virgil was in his early 60s and suffered chronic pain from his hard-fighting lifestyle.

In 1905, Goldfield suffered a pneumonia outbreak, and Verge—as the “Tonopah Sun” called him—died at the age of 62. His last words to his wife on October 19 were, “Light my cigar, and stay here and hold my hand.”



WYATT EARP CIRCA 1923

Josephine and Wyatt continued wandering the West, doing what made them most happy: prospecting. They settled in California, and toward the end of Wyatt’s life, set to work memorializing the lawman’s career.

Two years after Wyatt’s death in 1929 came the best selling, semi-true biography “The Life and Legend of Wyatt Earp.” The nascent American movie industry—recognizing the public’s appetite for Wild West legends—immortalized the Earp brothers, and they would be portrayed on the silver screen throughout the 20th century.



## TRAVEL NEVADA PRO TIP

Goldfield was once called the World’s Greatest Gold Camp and still stands as a monument to the gold rush days of Nevada. Visitors are encouraged to take the self-guided “Goldfield Historic Walking Tour.” Don’t miss the Goldfield Historic High School or the Esmeralda County Courthouse, and while you’re at it, consider signing up to become a member of the Goldfield Historical Society.



Access the walking  
tour booklet and map



# Where the **WILD THINGS** Are

These wild icons define the Silver State.

While the bald eagle serves as a national emblem for the U.S., the states tend to take icons to a new level. Sure, there's a state animal in Nevada, but there's also a reptile, fish, and even a state insect. Without further ado, here are five creatures that Nevadans chose to embody the spirit of the state.

## **STATE ANIMAL (1973)— DESERT BIGHORN SHEEP** *Ovis canadensis nelsoni*

It's tough to think of a better mascot than the desert bighorn sheep. These survivalists are perfectly at home in harsh environments and thrive in treacherous terrain. Their willingness to adapt to difficult conditions is the secret to their success: few predators are willing to meet these nomads on equal footing. The bighorn sheep is often found on canyon cliffsides, deep ravines, and steep washes.

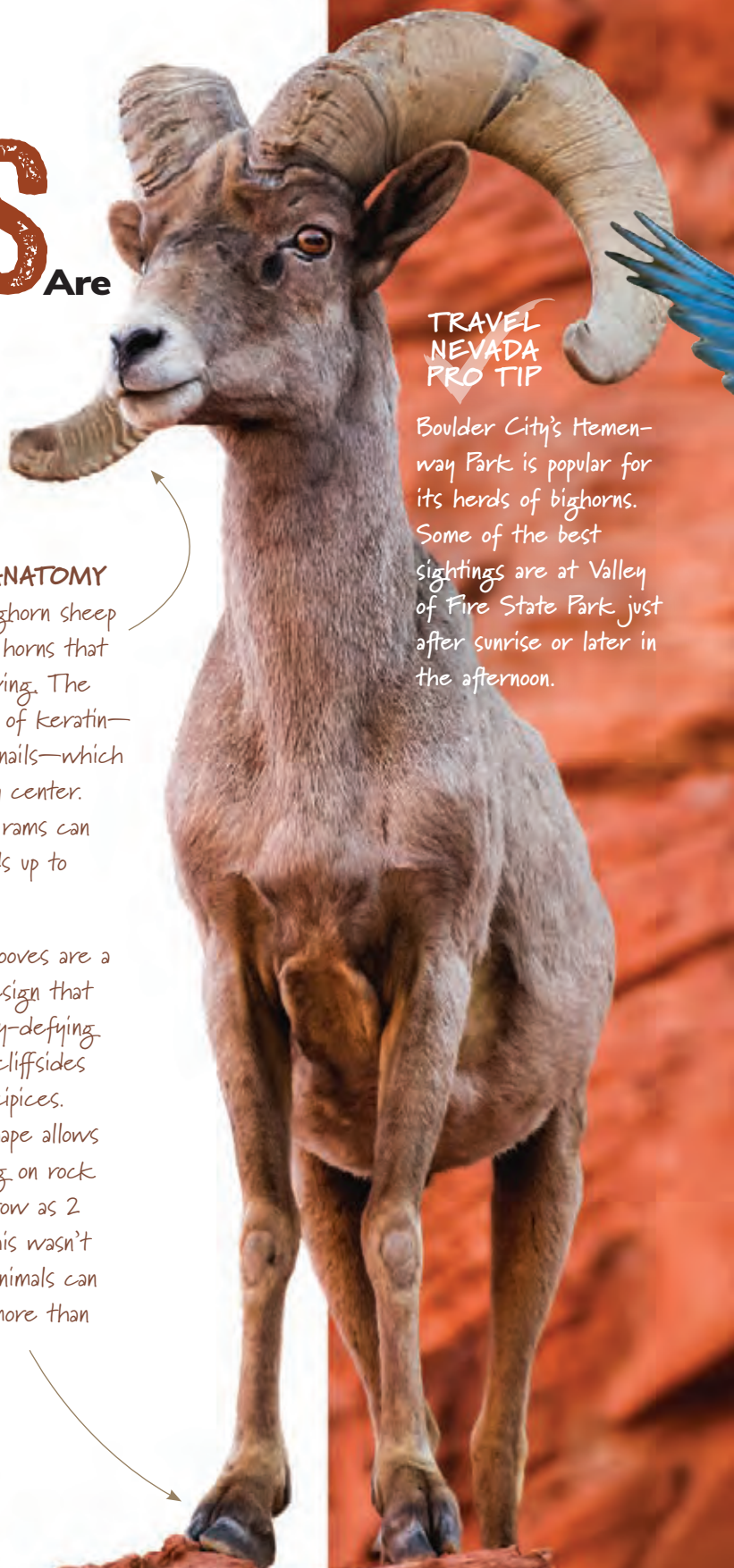
### **AWESOME ANATOMY**

Male desert bighorn sheep have C-shaped horns that never stop growing. The horns are made of keratin—like your fingernails—which envelops a boney center. When sparring, rams can collide at speeds up to 30 mph.

The bighorn's hooves are a sophisticated design that give it a gravity-defying ability to scale cliffsides and narrow precipices. The concave shape allows for easy gripping on rock surfaces as narrow as 2 inches! As if this wasn't enough, these animals can make leaps of more than 20 feet.

### **TRAVEL NEVADA PRO TIP**

Boulder City's Hemenway Park is popular for its herds of bighorns. Some of the best sightings are at Valley of Fire State Park just after sunrise or later in the afternoon.

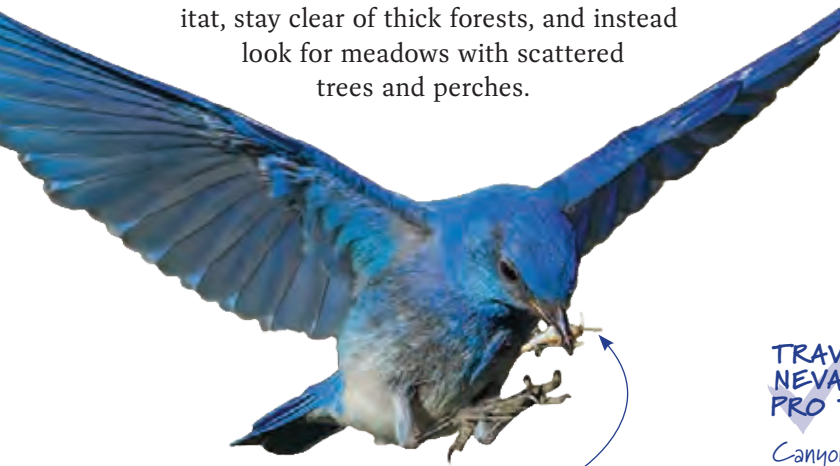




## STATE BIRD (1967)—MOUNTAIN BLUEBIRD

*Sialia currucoides*

Nevada's avian representative is well chosen—and not just because its powder-blue plumage matches our state flag. Preferring to nest at elevations between 5,000-12,000 feet, the bluebird finds itself at home in the state's numerous mountain ranges. If you're looking for its prime habitat, stay clear of thick forests, and instead look for meadows with scattered trees and perches.



**MEALTIME** Though they enjoy nuts and seeds, mountain bluebirds are primarily carnivores who enjoy a meal of grasshoppers, ants, and beetles.

**THE LADIES** Female mountain bluebirds feature a more muted, gray color scheme, though their wings still sport a splash of blue.



### TRAVEL NEVADA PRO TIP

Spot these birds in the Sierra Nevada near Reno and in the Rubies and Lamoille Canyon near Elko. Kingston Canyon south of Austin is also prime territory, as is Mt. Charleston in the summer.



### Missing the state fossil?

See page 65!

## STATE FISH (1981)—

### LAHONTAN CUTTHROAT TROUT

*Oncorhynchus clarkia henshawi*

The Lahontan cutthroat trout is Nevada's ultimate ecological comeback story. For thousands of years, this fish—native to the waters in and around

Pyramid Lake—was a vital food source for the Paiute and others living in the Great Basin.

By the late 1800s, however, settlers began overfishing and removed spawning grounds with the construction of dams. By 1943, the trout population was believed to be gone.

### IT WAS THIS BIG

The world record fish was caught at Pyramid and weighed 41 lbs.

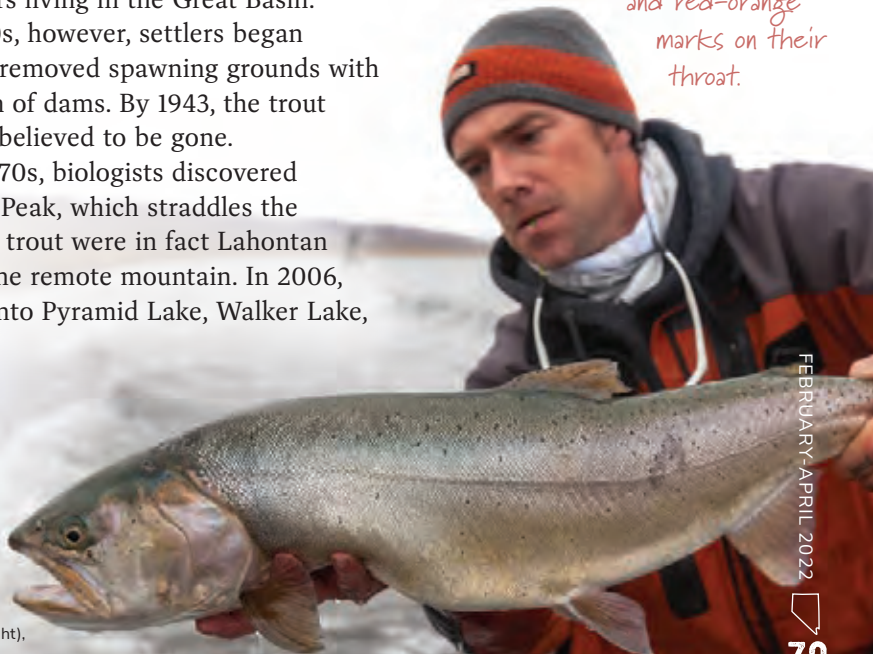
In the late 1970s, biologists discovered a species of trout inhabiting two creeks on Pilot Peak, which straddles the Utah-Nevada border. DNA testing verified these trout were in fact Lahontan cutthroats that someone must have brought to the remote mountain. In 2006, the Lahontan cutthroat trout was reintroduced into Pyramid Lake, Walker Lake, and rivers and streams throughout the state.

### TRAVEL NEVADA PRO TIP

Fishing at Pyramid Lake requires a license from the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe. All other waters require Nevada Department of Wildlife licenses.

### THE DIFFERENCES

Unlike other trout, the Lahontan cutthroat thrives in alkaline waters. They're identified by their greenish-gray scales, black spots, and red-orange marks on their throat.





**LIFECYCLE** For the first days of their lives, damselflies live underwater as larva that hunt and grow until ready to hatch from the larval shell. Damselflies live for several weeks, with their peak season in August.

### DRAGONFLY VS. DAMSELFLY

Although similar, damselflies are smaller than dragonflies. When dragonflies land, they leave their wings out like a plane while damselflies fold them up on their backs like a butterfly.

### STATE INSECT (2009)—**VIVID DANCER DAMSELFLY**

*Argia vivida*

Believe it or not, Nevada didn't have a state insect until a contest was held a decade ago to find the best bug representative. Students at Beatty Elementary School passionately took up the challenge, even testifying before the legislature that there was just one insect for the job: the vivid dancer damselfly. According to the students, it was the best because it's found everywhere, it's great at killing flies and mosquitos, and—of course—because it's blue.

### SERIOUS SAFETY



The desert tortoise is protected under the U.S. Endangered Species Act. There are a few things you can do to help as you travel through its habitat in southern Nevada and the Mojave Desert.

- Don't approach the tortoise. When alarmed, tortoises empty their bladders, which can deprive them of vital fluids.
- Like everyone else, tortoises enjoy shade on a hot day. Always check under your car while in tortoise territory.
- Tortoises are wild animals, not pets. Every year, desert tortoises are plucked from their habitat and taken into homes, further distressing the endangered population. Please enjoy them from a distance.

### STATE REPTILE (1989)—**DESERT TORTOISE**

*Gopherus agassizii*

Weighing up to 45 pounds, the desert tortoise is the largest reptile in the Mojave Desert, and also one of the longest living. They are known to live up to 50 years in the wild, with some reaching as old as 80. Scientists aren't sure why tortoises live so long, but it might have something to do with their slow metabolism.

Tortoises spend a lot of time—around 95 percent of their lives—relaxing in their underground burrows. When they come out to eat, it's usually after a rainstorm or when the desert is in bloom. Tortoises are herbivores and enjoy a healthy diet of leaves, grass, shrubs, and bark.

### TRAVEL NEVADA PRO TIP

To safely view the tortoises, check out the Red Rock Canyon National Conservation Area. You can also see them at the Las Vegas Springs Preserve and Animal Ark in Reno.



Photos: Krystle Ranson (damselfly), Scott T. Smith (tortoise)



# WANT LOCAL, NEVADA BEEF DELIVERED TO YOUR DOORSTEP?

Pasture raised. Grain finished.  
Verified natural. Certified Angus.

*Quality you can taste,  
from a family ranch in Ely, Nevada.*



**PERIGO**  
BEEF

**ORDER ONLINE**  
[www.perigohaycattle.com](http://www.perigohaycattle.com)

FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK & INSTAGRAM  
@PERIGOHAYCATTLE

## BABY FACE NELSON IN NEVADA

February 17, 2022 - Noon - ZOOM LECTURE

Guest Speaker: Dr. Michael Fischer,  
Nevada Historian



## AMERICAN DUDE RANCH: A TOUCH OF THE COWBOY AND THE THRILL OF THE WEST

March 23, 2022 - "Writers' Wednesday"

Reception: 4:30 to 5:30 | Talk: 5:30 to 6:30

Guest Speaker: Lynn Downey | Free to members

## CELEBRATING 40 YEARS OF OUR DOCENTS

Beginning in April 2022, learn about the origins  
of the Docent Council and how their educational  
work benefits the state of Nevada, our  
community, and the preservation of our history.  
Celebration programs throughout the year!



1650 N. Virginia St., Reno, 89503  
775-688-1190 • [nvhistoricalsociety.org](http://nvhistoricalsociety.org)

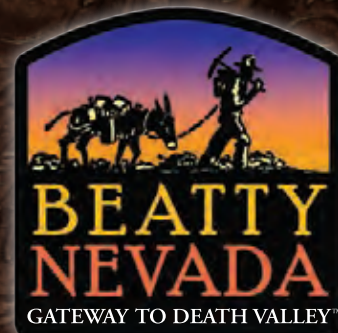
# BEATTY, NEVADA YOUR GATEWAY TO ADVENTURE!

Conveniently located near Death Valley National Park,  
Rhyolite Ghost Town, The Amargosa Big Dunes and  
Oasis Valley Trails. Beatty is in the center of it all!

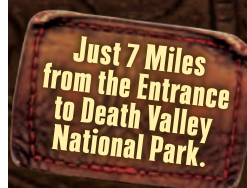


## BEATTY, NEVADA FEATURES:

Hotel/Motel Accommodations, RV Hookups, Restaurants  
& Diners, Casino, Museums, Local Gifts, Shopping & More



PH: 1.866.736.3716 • [WWW.BEATTYNEVADA.ORG](http://WWW.BEATTYNEVADA.ORG)  
JUST 98 MILES NORTH OF LAS VEGAS ON HWY 95.



Made possible by a Nevada  
Commission on Tourism grant.  
[www.travelnevada.com](http://www.travelnevada.com)





# Break Time!

Bring the kids and get a little up-close-and-personal time as you explore the Silver State.

By Megg Mueller

## Spring break.

The phrase conjures many thoughts, but for parents it's one simple question—where should we take the kids? The weather can be mercurial, much like the kids' moods, but staying home is just not an option. Across the Silver State, spring break can be celebrated indoors and out, with adventures both near and far. Here are just a few.

## ELKO

Elko is basecamp for the Ruby Mountains and Lamoille Canyon. Lamoille Canyon offers one of the state's most scenic drives into a host of mountain trails, alpine lakes, secluded valleys, and campsites. In late spring and into summer, the towering peaks are adorned with a sprawling blanket of wildflowers, making it a supremely scenic family destination.

### PARKS & OUTDOORS

**Ruby Crest Trailhead** – Families can embark on a short hike (2.8 miles roundtrip) to Dollar Lakes, or depending on your gusto, the Island Lake Trail—1.9 miles one way—is another enjoyable option. Bring binoculars to spot mountain goats dwelling on the cliffs above. Fish along the banks of Lamoille Creek or any of the beaver ponds in the canyon; permits can be bought at Elko's C-A-L Ranch store or Elko Fly Shop.

**Thomas Canyon Campground** – This is a popular base for exploring the rest of the Rubies, plus there are many places to hike and fish. The campground has more than 40 campsites with fire rings, grills, water, and simple restrooms. Lamoille Creek runs through the campground, and the Thomas Canyon trail (4.4 miles one way) is a good hike for adventurous families.

**The Ruby Crest National Recreation Trail** – If your family is into serious backpacking, consider the Ruby Crest Trail, which extends 43 miles along the rim of the Rubies. Most hikers start at Harrison Pass, hiking from north to south and finishing at the Lamoille Canyon Scenic Drive turnaround.

**Hastings Cutoff, the Pony Express Trail, and Ruby Valley** – If you're a family of history geeks, grab a good area map and retrace some of the steps the pioneers took on their way out west.



Check out page 39 for more things to do and see on the Rubies Route road trip!

RUBY CREST TRAIL

Scott Mortimore







## MUSEUMS

**Northeastern Nevada Museum** – Along with collections of Western art and stories of the area’s history, an impressive exhibit of wild animals is perfect for the kids.

### **The Western Folklife Center** –

Changing exhibits focus on the people who define the authentic American West. This stop is a must for cowboys and cowgirls.

**California Trail Interpretive Center** – The history of the brave pioneers who traveled the trail is told through hands-on experiences including exhibits, walking trails, and recreated encampments.



## FOOD

**Breakfast** – Start your day at the Coffee Mug, where kids get a menu full of puzzles, coloring, and tiny-people-approved dishes. McAdoo’s is another delicious option for breakfast and lunch.

**Lunch** – For a meal with a side of history, try B.J. Bull Bakery for some Cornish pasties area miners used to eat. It’s a simple but delicious meal served in a casual atmosphere, which means mom and dad can relax.



**Dinner** – If a taste of the local Basque culture is on the menu, hit The Star or Toki Ona. La Fiesta is your choice for Mexican, and tasty burgers are at Hunter Rays.

## LODGING

Elko has no shortage of inns, motels, and hotels (many have outdoor pools—if the weather cooperates). For a bit of retro fun, check out Stockmans Casino and Ramada Hotel. The Iron Horse RV Resort has a swimming pool and cottages, too.



**LAS VEGAS** While it may be true that just 10 percent of annual visitors to Las Vegas are under 21, that small percentage still equals more than 4 million visitors. So that’s 4 million kids who need to be entertained, exercised, fed, and watered. While there are a seemingly infinite number of diversions, it’s easy to get lost inside the excitement of The Strip. Once you’ve had your fill of the neon thrill, step outside and see what else there is to discover.

Photos: B.J. Bull Bakery, Springs Preserve, Las Vegas Museum of Natural History





## PARKS & OUTDOORS

### Centennial Hills

**Park** - Spanning 120 acres, this park has a bright, colorful play area with oversized flowers and plenty of things to climb on.

**Sunset Park** - Water features, interpretive trails, wildlife habitats, a lake for fishing, and bike rentals make Sunset Park a must-visit for families.

### Las Vegas Springs

**Preserve** - Welcome to 180 acres of natural wonder in the heart of the city. Botanical gardens, trails, historical structures, wetlands, and wildlife exhibits await your family.

## MUSEUMS

**Nevada State Museum Las Vegas** - Located on the Springs Preserve campus, this makes for a perfect two-fer day. Learn about area history dating back millions of years, plus the rise of Las Vegas as a tourist mecca, Hoover Dam, the atomic age, and more.

**Las Vegas Museum of Natural History** - This museum covers the world and brings it to Las Vegas. Mummies, dinosaurs, wildlife, aquariums, and amazing fluorescent minerals and rocks will keep even the most jaded tyke engaged.



**DISCOVERY Children's Museum** - A three-story museum full of fun, hands-on exhibits and so many things to touch, your kids won't know what to handle first.

**The Mob Museum** - This museum has plenty of intrigue and crime-related exhibits to interest older kids. Spotlighting how the Mob and law enforcement played roles in the city's development, the museum tells both sides of the tale.



Gather your people and hit the road as you participate in the ultimate outdoor experience: Travel Nevada's Death Valley Rally. On your first stop, explore the many offerings of Pahrump through exciting off-roading excursions, sample sips at any of our wineries, or give a toast at Stonewise Mead & Cidery or Desert Cane Rum Distillery.

Explore the endless possibilities of Pahrump at [VisitPahrump.com](http://VisitPahrump.com)

**PAHRUMP**  
true NEVADA



[travelnevada.com](http://travelnevada.com)

60 Miles West of Las Vegas. 180 Degrees Different.





## FOOD

**The Strip** – Buffets, and more buffets. Aside from those, plenty of obvious choices—such as Hard Rock Café or Rainforest Café—also keep kids occupied nicely while waiting for your meal.

**Du-Par's Restaurant and Bakery** – Located at the Suncoast Hotel & Casino, this diner has pancakes to die for. Du-Par's rocks it with simple, incredible food.

**Pizza Rock** – Pizza Rock is a local treasure with great pizza and a cool semi-truck that looks like it smashed through the wall. Sometimes, it's just that easy to please them.



## HOTELS

**The Strip** – Circus Circus has circus acts and an arcade; New York New York



has a roller coaster; Mandalay Bay has the Shark Reef Aquarium; the MGM Grand's pools are set on 6.6 acres

with winding rivers and grottos. Get the picture? If you want big adventure for your kids, The Strip properties are a sure bet.

**Red Rock Casino Resort & Spa** – If you want a little breathing room, try Red Rock. About 30 minutes off The Strip, the hotel has a huge pool, bowling alley, playground, and more, but best of all, it's situated near some of the most beautiful scenery (Red Rock Canyon) in the world.

# RENO & LAKE TAHOE

As a popular headquarters for northern Nevada summer vacationers, the Reno-Tahoe area caters to family fun. Gorgeous beaches, fishing holes, museums, hiking trails, eateries, and hotels aplenty are the perfect spring break diversion.

## PARKS & OUTDOORS

**Davis Creek Regional Park** – Located in Washoe Valley, Davis Creek Regional Park offers lots of hiking trails, fishing ponds, and a campground.

**Fuji Park** – In the heart of Carson City, this is a great place to picnic or barbecue. Baily Fishing Pond is perfect for young anglers, and a skate park challenges boarders.

**Idlewild Park** – Covering 49 acres near downtown Reno, Idlewild offers playgrounds, a swimming pool, walking and biking paths, a rose garden, a baseball diamond, and numerous special events along the Truckee River.

**Sand Harbor State Park** – With spacious sandy beaches at beautiful Lake Tahoe, plus ramps for boaters, water skiers, and anglers, Sand Harbor State Park is a great place for a beach day, even in spring temperatures.

## MUSEUMS

**Carson City** – Just a short drive away, The Children's Museum of Northern Nevada; Nevada State Museum, Carson City; and Nevada State Railroad Museum are three great options, depending on your kids' interests.

**Reno** – The **Terry Lee Wells Nevada Discovery Museum** has many hands-on activities and exhibits to stimulate children's minds. The Wilbur D. May Center at Rancho San Rafael Regional Park features a kid-friendly museum surrounded by an arboretum, playgrounds, and miles of gentle hiking trails.

## FOOD

**Breakfast** – Red Hut Café is perfect for families, and has locations in Reno, Stateline, and Carson City. Peg's Glorified Ham N Eggs is another great choice in Reno and Sparks.



**Lunch** – With locations in Reno, Sparks, and Carson City, Squeeze In is another excellent choice, offering a big lunch menu and lots of crayons to keep kids occupied. In Incline Village, stop at T's Mesquite Rotisserie. Their tri-tip burritos rival any in the area.

Photos: Pizza Rock Las Vegas, Mandalay Bay Shark Reef Aquarium, Squeeze In, Circus Circus Reno



**Dinner** – With locations in Reno and Sparks, Great Basin Brewing Co. has a lively atmosphere and plenty of choices for youngsters. For a swanky kids menu, head to Incline Village and the Lone Eagle Grille, where you'll find the glorious Baked Tahoe dessert—not to mention breathtaking views of stunning Lake Tahoe.



CIRCUS CIRCUS RENO

## HOTELS

**Reno** – Many of the downtown Reno casinos have restaurants, arcades, and cater to families. Circus Circus Reno—which offers a large arcade area and nightly circus shows—is a great bet, and for adventurous kids, try Whitney Peak Hotel. This non-gaming property is home to the world's tallest artificial climbing wall.

**Stateline** – Harvey's Lake Tahoe and Montbleu Resort are in the heart of Lake Tahoe's casino and ski resort area, offering myriad diversions.



TERRY LEE WELLS NEVADA DISCOVERY MUSEUM

# Quake Tower

*Nevada buildings have to stand up to earthquakes*

Have you ever felt an earthquake? Nevada ranks third in the country in the number of earthquakes. Most are so small you don't feel them. Still, buildings have to be able to stay up when the ground shakes!



Can you build a tower that holds the ball and stands up in an earthquake? Try to make the tallest, quakeproof tower!



# GET OUT(SIDE)

*Outdoor recreation calls from every corner of the Silver State.*

This is where you come to play, soak in the sun, slide down a snowy hill, reel in the monster of a lifetime, and stare into the heart of the solar system. This is Nevada, where the outdoors beckon 24/7, 365 days a year.

## HIKING AND BACKPACKING

Hiking in the desert? Sounds like a bunch of flat and dusty terrain, right? Wrong. Nevada is the most mountainous state in the contiguous U.S., so we've got terrain for every season and every skill set.

### NORTHERN NEVADA

The upper half of the state could still see some snow at this time of year and the weather can be mercurial, so plan your gear accordingly.

#### HUNTER CREEK TRAIL

Reno

Just 20 minutes from downtown, this trail is one of the most popular local hikes. Hunter Creek is a 6.4-mile, heavily trafficked, out-and-back trail featuring a spectacular 30-foot waterfall. With gorgeous mountain views, the trail is mostly used for day hiking and trail running from April through October. The trail is well-marked, making for a great easy-to-moderate hike for the whole family—dogs on leashes included.



RATTLESNAKE MOUNTAIN IN RENO

#### MOUNT ROSE WILDERNESS

Lake Tahoe

Named after the Carson Range's highest peak, this area frames Lake Tahoe's northeast rim. The 10,766-foot Mount Rose summit piques every Tahoe hiker's interest thanks to waterfalls, blazing midsummer wildflowers, and views of Lake Tahoe. Spend two weeks backpacking Lake Tahoe Rim Trail's 165-mile circuit, or simply enjoy a meadow stroll on any stretch of this trail: dozens of spur trails lead to spectacular views of the largest and clearest alpine lake in the U.S.



**MOUNT JEFFERSON**

Tonopah

As the fourth tallest peak in Nevada, the pinnacle of the Alta Toquima Wilderness is the south summit, which magnificently towers 11,949 feet over scenic Monitor Valley below. Hike to the summit, or choose something less strenuous from more than 50 miles of lightly maintained trails. About 50 miles outside of Tonopah, this rugged and isolated terrain dishes up fantastic views of canyons formed by glaciers, alpine mesas, and a variety of vegetation.





## SOUTHERN NEVADA

Spring is the perfect time to hike in the warmer temperatures of southern Nevada. Don't let the calendar fool you: the weather can be fickle, and carrying extra water is always advised.

### PINE CREEK

Red Rock Canyon National Conservation Area

A short drive from Las Vegas, Red Rock Canyon's Pine Creek Trail offers old growth ponderosa pines near an icy creek and a pioneer homestead amid a meadow of dancing grasses. Spring is perfect for wildflowers, and while you can up your game with some serious rock scrambling to access more advanced trails, staying on lower ground is also a perfect way to enjoy the beauty found here.



BACKPACKERS IN RED ROCK

## CATHEDRAL GORGE STATE PARK

Panaca

Cathedral Gorge keeps the hiking simple and the views otherworldly. Bentonite clay spires and slot canyons are the main attraction here. The remote portions of the park are accessible via a 4-mile loop trail, and a 1-mile trail connects the Miller Point overlook to the picnic area.



### TRAVEL NEVADA PRO TIP

If there's moisture on the ground, watch your footing, as the clay gets mighty slippery.



## EASTERN NEVADA

Eastern Nevada is inviting year-round, but it will hold on to winter's chill as long as possible. The rewards in spring are abundant wildflowers in the awakening landscape.

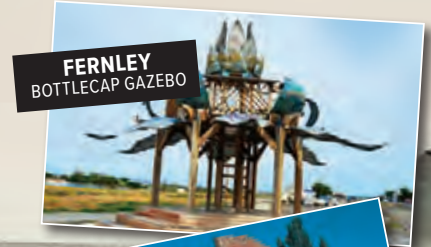
### GREAT BASIN NATIONAL PARK

Baker

One of America's most underrated national parks, Great Basin offers unparalleled views from its pleasantly uncrowded trails. The 4.3-mile Bristlecone-Glacier Trail ascends past the gnarled bristlecone pines to a stark, rock-rimmed cirque cradling Nevada's last active glacier. The Wheeler Peak Trail climbs to 13,064 feet and a vista stretching into Utah. For a gentler stroll, take the 2.7-mile Alpine Lakes Loop, which serves stunning vistas of clear blue pools set against some of Nevada's tallest peaks.



# THE ROAD GOES ON FOREVER



FERNLEY  
BOTTLECAP GAZEBO



DAYTON  
ODEON HALL



AUSTIN  
STOKES CASTLE



ELY  
NEVADA NORTHERN RAILWAY



BAKER / GREAT BASIN  
GREAT BASIN NATIONAL PARK



EUREKA  
EUREKA OPERA HOUSE

FALLON  
SAND MOUNTAIN



**The tradition continues** for the adventurous, and Nevada's Highway 50 is **WIDE OPEN** with plenty of room to roam. This is the route of the historic Pony Express Trail, where yesterday's legends were born, and today's OHVers, mountain bikers, and hikers find unbridled freedom. Make sure to pick up an official Highway 50 Survival Guide before traveling The Loneliest Road in America, or request one at [LoneliestRoad.us](http://LoneliestRoad.us).

[LoneliestRoad.us](http://LoneliestRoad.us) 1.888.359.9449





## CYCLING

When the snow lingers up north, head south for perfect temperatures. Hills or valleys, lush or rocky, easy or difficult... there's a single-track cycling trail waiting for you.

### LATE NIGHT TRAILHEAD

One of our spring favorites is Red Rock Canyon National Conservation Area, home to the Cottonwood Valley trail system. The Late Night Trailhead off State Route 160 has ample parking and pit toilets. Head southwest from the parking lot to 3-Mile Smile, which takes you under the highway via a tunnel. The ride to Badger Pass is a gentle, but consistent climb (about 660 feet of elevation gain) on easy singletrack. There are no fewer than 12 connecting trails in this system, so the choice of descent is yours. The ride down the lower half of Red Valley, toward White Rhino, includes switchbacks, rocky terrain, and incredibly fun, swoopy sections... these hills have it all.



LATE NIGHT TRAILHEAD

## FISHING

For the driest state in the U.S., Nevada's fishing opportunities are surprisingly numerous. Some of the best fly-fishing spots in the state are highly secretive, though the average angler doesn't need to travel to some exclusive backcountry stream to catch whoppers. A couple top spots for spring:

### WALKER RIVER STATE RECREATION AREA

The east fork of the Walker River is one of the best fly-fishing spots in the state. Rainbow trout, brown trout, and mountain whitefish spawn in the river, and can be fished with all different methods.



SCAN FOR  
MORE INFO



OUTDOOR RECREATION

## STARGAZING

On moonless Nevada nights, just look up and you'll be rewarded with stars, constellations, planets, nebulae, and galaxies. Even near metro areas, you'll find a surprising amount of stars — just 30 minutes outside population centers can serve up a starry show. The deeper into rural Nevada you go, of course, is where you'll find the best places to stargaze. Tonopah Stargazing Park or Sand Mountain Recreation Area are two of the easiest and most accessible spots for the darkest sky views. A little further afield, try Massacre Rim or Great Basin National Park.

### STARGAZING AT SAND MOUNTAIN

### SUNSET PARK POND

Located in the heart of Las Vegas, Sunset Park Pond offers a host of recreational activities, fishing included. The pond offers 14 surface acres and has a maximum depth of 12 feet. Fishable species include rainbow trout, channel catfish, bluegill, black crappie, and largemouth bass. Fly fishermen report success with emergers.



Jackie Gorton (woman fishing)






# IN THE 'HOT' SEAT: **CALIENTE**

Discover southern Nevada's hottest destination for trails and ghost towns.



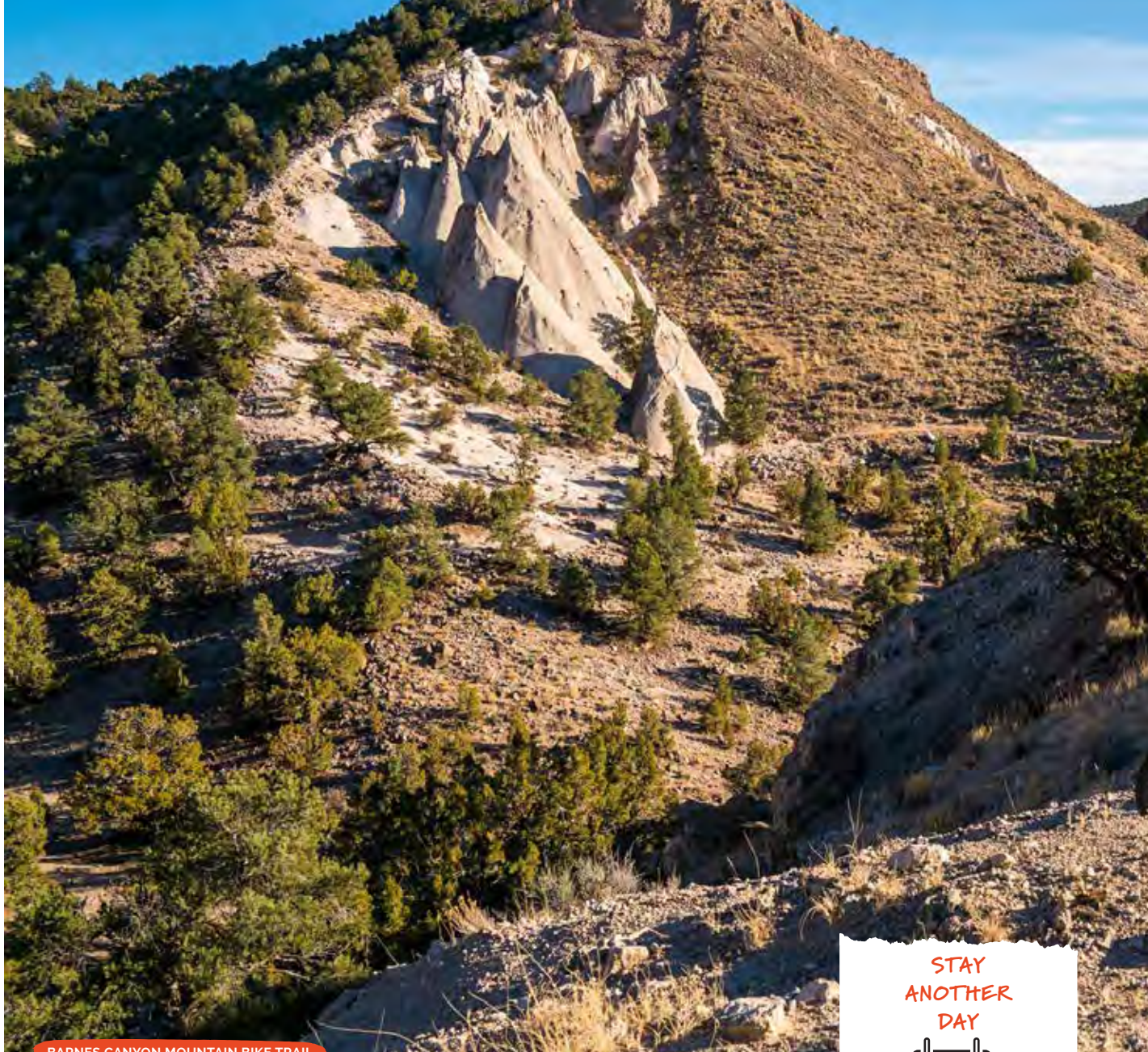


Caliente translates to “hot” in Spanish, and is aptly named for the area’s hot spring. It is no surprise that the settlers who found this lush landscape tucked amid rugged canyons and sweeping mountain ranges decided to call it home. In the 1860s, the area was full of dairies, orchards, and lush landscapes, but progress—and the trains that would bring it—was just around the corner. When the Transcontinental Railroad crossed the U.S. in 1869, the need for a north-south line between Los Angeles

and Salt Lake City became apparent. It took until 1901 for the first train to come through the newly christened town of Caliente, and the north-south line was completed in 1905. By 1910, Caliente was the largest town in Lincoln County with almost 1,800 residents, 47 saloons, two hotels, and four barber shops.

Today, Caliente is home to about 1,100 people. Union Pacific still runs freight trains through, but the town is riding high on another kind of track these days.





BARNES CANYON MOUNTAIN BIKE TRAIL

## THE CYCLE OF LIFE

Caliente, home to Barnes Canyon Mountain Bike Trails, has become a hotspot for mountain bikers. In the last decade, almost 50 miles of trails have been designed that the International Mountain Biking Association describes as ranging from “beginner-rated flow trails to rocky, technical, mountain-bike only singletrack.” The seemingly endless trails run along the ridges and over the hills surrounding the town, enticing those looking for off-road adventures—both motorized and human-powered.

The scenery along the trail changes from red clay to pine forests, leaving no wonder why Caliente and its surroundings have prompted annual races like the Caliente Mountain Bike Fest and the off-road Knotty Pine 250. There’s even a bike skills park downtown, complete with pump track and dirt jumps, plus direct access to the surrounding trails.

## STAY ANOTHER DAY



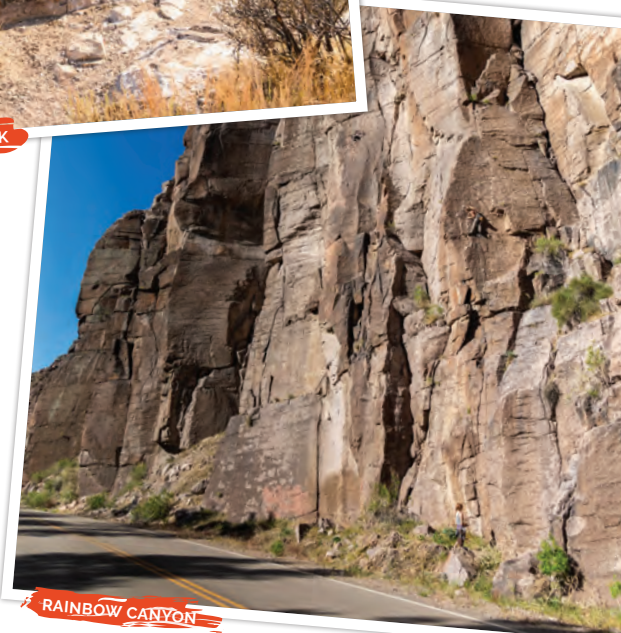
The largest concentration of Nevada State Parks are within short range of Caliente—in fact, six are all within 70 miles of each other, including

- ◆ Spring Valley
- ◆ Cathedral Gorge
- ◆ Echo Canyon
- ◆ Beaver Dam
- ◆ Elgin Schoolhouse
- ◆ Kershaw-Ryan





KERSHAW-RYAN STATE PARK



RAINBOW CANYON

More than a dozen ghost towns (see Delamar on page 98) are a short drive away, too, and the hillsides hide mining operations of those who chased fortune in the Nevada dirt.

Just south of town on your way to Kershaw-Ryan State Park is Rainbow Canyon, which offers one of the state's most scenic drives. The steep

canyon walls towering 3,000 feet above the valley floor display iron-rich red rock formations, limestone, natural caves, and even a handful of petroglyphs, complemented by huge groves of cottonwood trees. As if a bonus were needed, train buffs can count on seeing Union Pacific locomotives every 20 minutes or so, as the route parallels the mainline of the United Pacific Railroad.

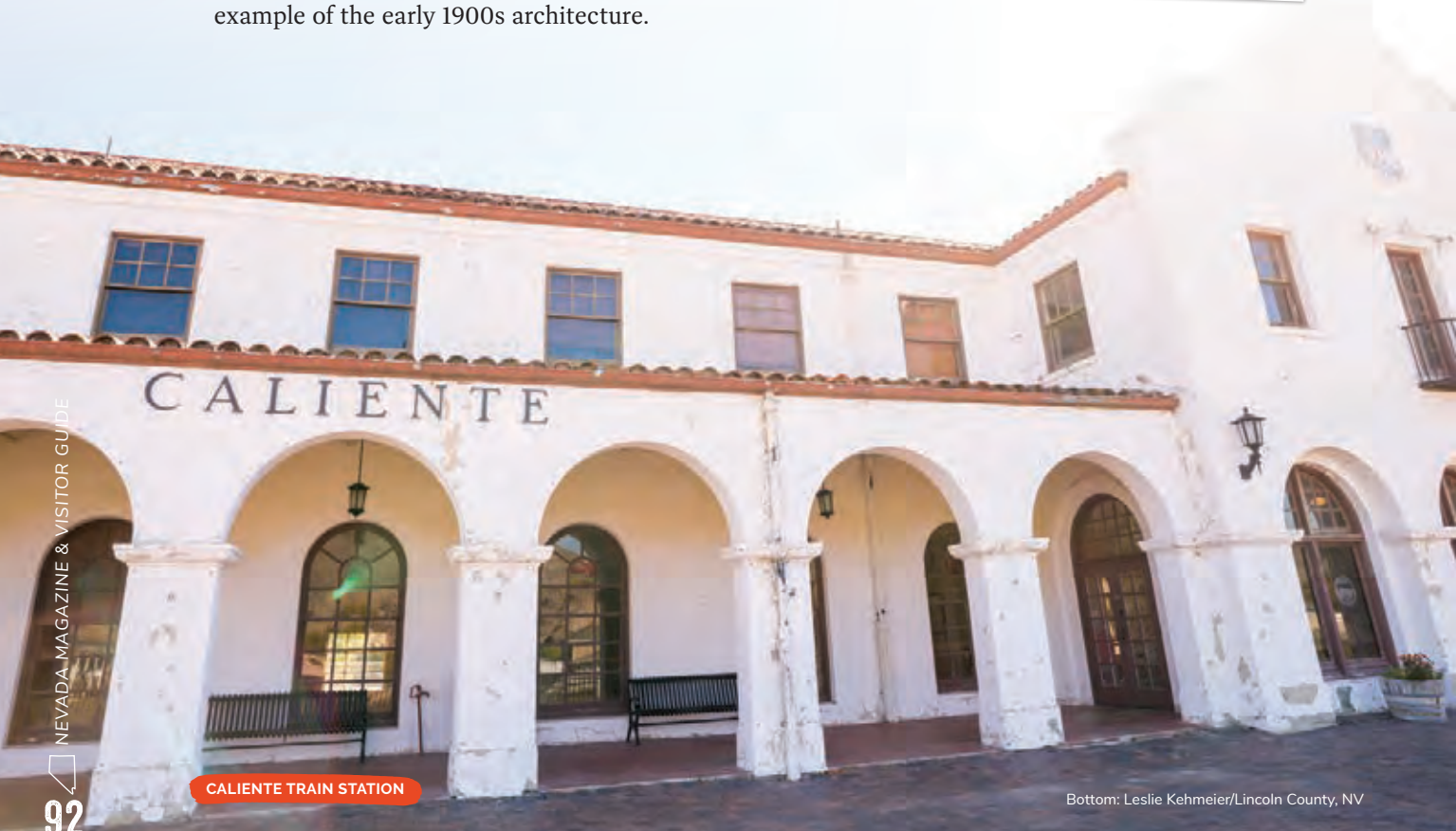
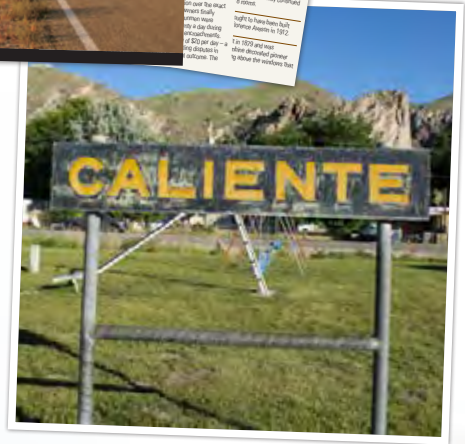
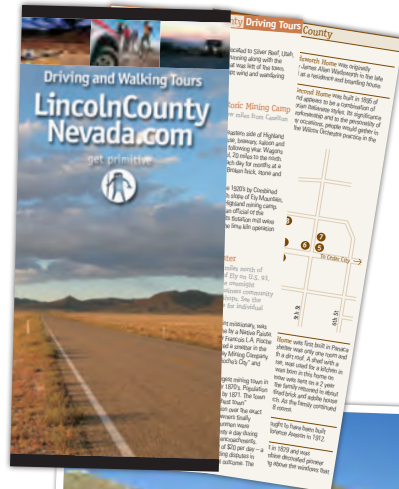


## HIT THE TOWN

Once the lure of state parks, ghost towns, and endless beauty has been sated, Caliente's small-town charm demands a day be spent discovering it. From the 1923 Mission-style depot—which once housed the railroad station and a hotel—to the quaint company row houses on U.S. 93 just past the depot, the railroad's impact is evident even today.

For DIY enthusiasts, download the Lincoln County Driving and Walking Tour guide. The walking tour through Caliente highlights many of the town's historic buildings, including:

- The **Culverwell Stone House**, constructed in the 1860s as one of the earliest stone shelters in the area.
- The **Richards Railroad Hotel**, built about 1910 and used as living quarters for railroad workers.
- The **Caliente Stone School** has undergone many changes while keeping the exterior stone wall intact. It was constructed in 1905 and is an excellent example of the early 1900s architecture.



CALIENTE TRAIN STATION

Bottom: Leslie Kehmeier/Lincoln County, NV





SIDE TRACK RESTAURANT



## MAKE YOURSELF AT HOME

Rainbow Canyon Motel and Shady Motel will get you rested and ready for adventure, or if you are bringing a big crew, Bahbee's Barn and Venue can be rented for up to 26 people. Young's RV Park is available for those that bring their home with them.

Fuel up for your day at Side Track Restaurant (don't miss the Side Car Speakeasy) or Knotty Pine Restaurant & Lounge.

Howdy! We all have to do our part so... mask up, stay safe, play safe.

## WENDOVER, NV ...PLAY IT SAFE!

**WENDOVER, NV**

Gaming • Dining • Golf  
Recreation • Historic Sites  
Bonneville Salt Flats  
Top Name Entertainment at  
Peppermill Concert Hall and More!

Just 90 minutes west of Salt Lake City on I-80  
866-299-2489 | [westwendovercity.com/playitsafe](http://westwendovercity.com/playitsafe)

RESORTS AT WENDOVER

RAINBOW Peppermill MONTGOMERY BAY

WENDOVER NUGGET RED GRANTLER TOIANA VISTA

wendoverresorts.com  
1-800-848-7300 775-664-2111 775-664-4300

# ELY FILM, ART & MUSIC FESTIVAL

[ELYFILMFESTIVAL.COM](http://ELYFILMFESTIVAL.COM)

**MARCH 11, 12, 13 2022**



# SPIRITED ADVENTURES

Nevada's distinct history is borne by the nearly 600 towns that rose and fell before the 1900s even had time to stretch its legs. The gold and silver fever that struck the nation resulted in a clamor that touched nearly every corner of the state. While most towns bore fruit only for short periods, they literally left their mark on the state's landscape. Many ghost towns may have no residents, but they are still full of stories, if you listen closely.

## IN THIS ISSUE SOUTHEAST NEVADA



**BASE CAMP –  
CALIENTE**  
(see page 88  
for details)

## JACKRABBIT

Just off U.S. Route 93, a Nevada historical marker announces **Jackrabbit**, but tall juniper and pinyon pines do their best to hide its remains. The town's story, if true, begins with one of the luckiest Nevadans ever. Lore states a prospector bent down to pick up a rock to throw at a jackrabbit, only to find himself holding high-grade silver. A small town sprung up in 1876, but by 1893, operations halted. Look for a massive mineshaft, complete with ore cart tracks that protrude from a giant shaft. The cold air coming from the mineshaft feels like someone turned on a powerful air conditioner. There are also remnants of a suspended aerial tram used to transport ore from the nearby silver camp of Bristol.



STAY OUT



STAY ALIVE



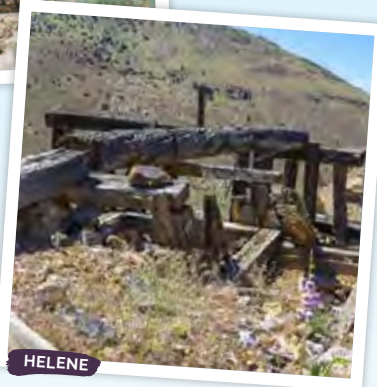


## BRISTOL WELL

A short drive from Jackrabbit, **Bristol Well** was the support community for the Bristol mining camp. In 1872, a furnace was built to treat silver-lead ore from the nearby mines, and by 1880, the town had a five-stamp mill, smelter, and three charcoal kilns. By 1890, the mines were extracting copper, leading to a population of around 400 before mining ended in the 1910s. The beehive-shaped kilns are in rough shape, but still an awesome sight. Treat them with respect and don't climb on them.



BRISTOL WELL



HELENE

## HELENE

Located just 1 mile to the north of Delamar (see page 98) are the remains of the tent camp of **Helene**—founded around 1892.

Though the operation was much smaller than that of Delamar, Helene had a post office and a newspaper called "The Ferguson Lode." The town was only active for a couple of years, fading before the start of the 20th century. There are several remnants of the town including stone buildings, wooden mining structures, and the entrance to the Magnolia Mine. Though not much remains of the town, the view at Helene is incredible.





## PIOCHE

While certainly not a ghost town, **Pioche** is too cool (and close by) to overlook. “Nevada’s liveliest ghost town” is a small, picturesque community just off U.S. 93. The friendly, inviting atmosphere found today stands in stark contrast to its reputation as the roughest, toughest mining town in the Old West. In the early 1870s, a silver boom catapulted Pioche into one of the largest mining camps in the area. Gunslinging was a favorite pastime, which earned the town its notorious reputation.

It’s said 72 people were buried before someone

died of natural causes. Other must visits: make sure to check out the Million Dollar Courthouse and Boot Hill Cemetery’s “Murderer’s Row.”



MILLION DOLLAR COURTHOUSE



BOOT HILL CEMETERY

## PANACA SUMMIT CHARCOAL KILNS

An absolute must for intrepid adventurers, the kilns at **Panaca Summit** were built by pioneers in the mid-1870s and supported nearby silver mills. The kilns owe their roots to skilled stonemasons that quarried rhyolitic tuff from area outcroppings before shaping the rocks and assembling them with mud and mortar into the familiar beehive shape. The giant ovens were operated by Swiss and Italian woodcutters—known as the *carbonari*—who perfected the charcoal-making process in Europe and brought their

skills to Nevada. Each stands about 20-feet tall, and they are in remarkable shape.



PANACA SUMMIT CHARCOAL KILNS



VISIT HISTORIC FALLON

### THE MAINE STREET EXPERIENCE

10am - 4pm | \$25 per person

Reservations Required ~ Book Today!

Spend the day enjoying a historic tour of Maine Street that includes:

- Admission & personal guided tour of Churchill County Museum
- Lunch at the museum catered by The Slanted Porch
- Tour of Historic Fallon Theater & viewing of a classic movie

*The Slanted Porch*

Available Saturdays  
Maximum capacity 35 people

Shop Maine Street Boutiques  
as you enjoy your day!



For information and reservations: Teri Hedgpeth  
director@ccmuseum.org | 775-423-3677



NOW OPEN  
5 DAYS A WEEK!  
[CALIFORNIATRAILCENTER.ORG](http://CALIFORNIATRAILCENTER.ORG)



TOUR THE TRAIL  
ON OUR  
MOBILE APP



## OUR HISTORY IS YOUR HISTORY.

For 86 years, Nevada Magazine has been the keeper of our state's stories. With a digital subscription, you can access every single issue we've ever published, and download it to your own device. Plus, access new web-only stories each month.



# NEVADA

MAGAZINE & VISITOR GUIDE

Telling the Silver State's story since 1936.

Visit [nevadamagazine.com/subscribe](http://nevadamagazine.com/subscribe)  
to sign up today.



## DELAMAR: THE SILENT KILLER

The ghost town of **Delamar** is, for a state full of ghost towns, an unusual site. The town died almost a century ago, yet there are dozens of decaying structures, mine frames, stone huts, and debris piles covering miles of hills. It is a town that deserves leisurely exploration, and even a return trip. Some ghost towns leave few clues to the scale of operations, but it's easy to get an idea of just how massive Delamar was.

Pahranagat Valley farmers struck gold in the area that would eventually become Delamar in 1890-91. The discovery initiated an onslaught of eager gold bugs, including Captain John De Lamar of Montana, who purchased prime claims in 1893 for \$150,000. Soon after his

acquisition, the town of Delamar quickly rose from the ground with many of the buildings constructed from native rock. Various businesses, a newspaper, post office, opera house, and 50-ton mill capable of handling up to 260 tons of ore per day provided work, but the American dream wasn't all it was cracked up to be.

Because of improper ventilation and high silica content in the mines, dust became deadly. Miners unlucky enough to inhale the dust developed a fatal condition known as silicosis, which included such symptoms as severe coughing spells. The situation was so serious that the lethal particles became known as "Delamar dust," and the town was labeled "The Widow Maker."







By 1897, Delamar's population reached 3,000, and the town was the largest ore producer in the state. However, in 1900 a fire destroyed much of the town, and just two years later, Captain De Lamar sold his mines. New owners managed to pull a few more millions out of Delamar, but by 1909, the last mine closed. After a short revival from 1929-34, the town became a ghost.

Getting to Delamar takes a bit of extra effort, so pack your high-clearance 4WD vehicle with plenty of water, food, and gas, because it's worth it. The town is about 12 miles off U.S. 93, and the road is a bit bumpy although not treacherous. Always recreate responsibly (see page 118) and tell someone where you're going.

**Your next  
adventure is waiting.**

**Discover all we have to offer  
at [ExploreElko.com](http://ExploreElko.com)**

Whether ice fishing or extreme skiing,  
cycling or hiking, wine walking or  
museum strolling...  
Explore Elko, Nevada today.



**775-738-4091 or 800-248-3556**



Matt McDowell



Katy Ann Fox



# Rock Out

*Dig these amazing mineral finds.*

By Megg Mueller

Getting down—and maybe dirty—in the hills of Nevada is one of the easiest, least expensive, and most rewarding pastimes you'll ever find. Hunting for gems and minerals can be an easy day trip from many towns, including Fallon, Ely, and Mesquite.

## RECREATE RESPONSIBLY

Nevada is more than 80 percent public lands and mostly safe, but please respect posted 'no trespassing' signage.



## WHERE THE RED STONE GROWS

Once, the ground in Nevada was littered with nuggets of gold and rich veins of silver (or so the history books tell us). It's a little tougher to find those precious metals lying about today, but if a beautiful gemstone will do, look no further than **Garnet Hill** just outside of Ely in White Pine County.

If an entire hill named after a gem isn't enough, Garnet Hill is a developed day-use area complete with accessible bathrooms and four picnic sites with grills. But let's be honest, you didn't come here for the picnic—you came for the garnets.





**GARNET HILL**

These almandine garnets are made of iron aluminum silicate and generally have a rich dark color. Flashes of red burn within the multifaceted stones that can be found lying on the ground. You read that correctly; they can be found on the ground as well as in the rhyolite rocks that populate the hillsides.

Locating the gemstones within the rhyolite can take practice and requires a rock hammer and some finesse. Don't smash willy-nilly or you can easily bust up the gems you seek. Looking for rocks with holes or pockets is a decent indicator, albeit not foolproof. The garnets found lying on the ground have extricated themselves from these pockets, so it can follow there will be others in nearby slabs of light-colored rhyolite, but not always.

Close inspection is also required for finding the loose stones. Search further away from the parking lot and look for stone deposits anywhere it appears water has been flowing.

**BASE CAMP – ELY**

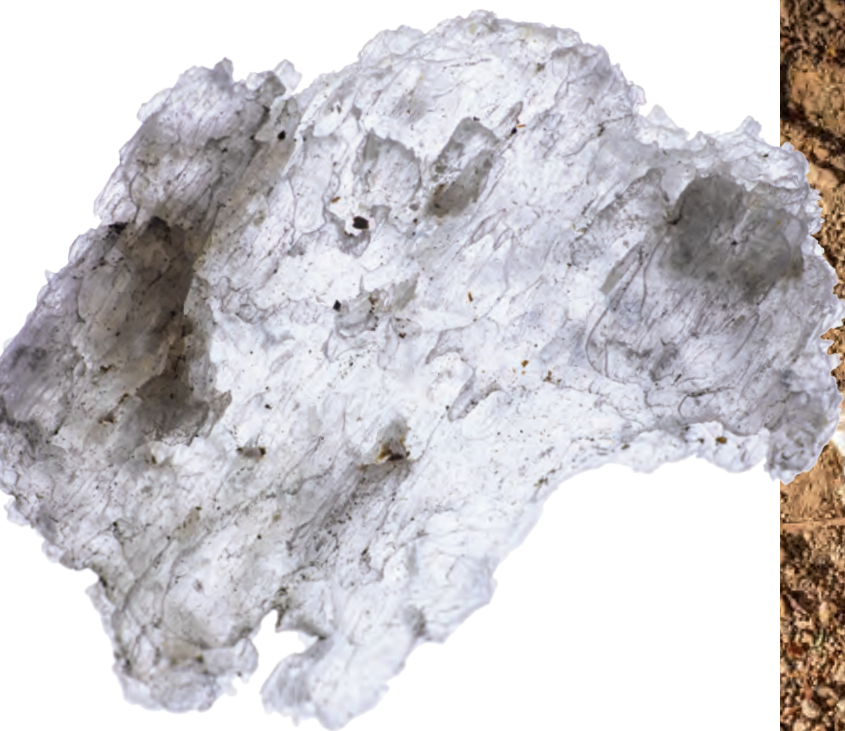
Celebrate your finds at Racks Bar & Grill with a great burger and a tasty beverage, then get a well-deserved night's rest at the Hotel Nevada. Make sure to start your day at Taproot and splurge on one of their many coffee drinks or indulge in a signature milkshake.

**TRAVEL  
NEVADA  
PRO TIP**

Didn't find anything in the wild? Pick up a local garnet at Garnet Mercantile in Ely. We won't tell.







## SPARKLES IN THE DESERT

One of the easiest rocks to hunt for is selenite, especially if you go on a sunny day when the glint off the crystals will do its best to blind you. Kids love its easy-to-spot, sparkly properties.

Selenite is found across Nevada, but good places to hunt include the **Weeks** site near Fernley and numerous locations within the **Gold Butte National Monument** at Mesquite.

### TRAVEL NEVADA PRO TIP

*Mine tailings—leftover piles of rock from mining operations—are a great place to search, but make sure you're not on private land.*

Selenite is a variety of gypsum, and specimens have been found up to 39 feet long in caves in Mexico. You likely won't find anything that long, but scattered all over the ground, the mostly clear, often perfectly flat material shimmers beautifully in the sun. The mineral is fairly soft, a 2 on the Mohs hardness scale, which means you can scratch it with your fingernail, and it has some flexibility but can be broken. Selenite is generally clear—depending on the other trace minerals that might be in the material—and has been used as windowpanes.





### ROCKHOOUNDING PACK LIST



- ☐ Rock Hammer
- ☐ Trowel + Rake
- ☐ Gloves
- ☐ Spray Bottle
- ☐ Bucket
- ☐ Paper Map
- ☐ Snacks, Water, Summer hat

### WHAT A 'WONDER'FUL ROCK

Wonderstone is made up of bands of orange, red, brown, purple, and creams—as if Nevada's rainbow-striped hills are presented in miniature form. **Wonderstone Mountain** (or **Rainbow Mountain**, as it's also called) is easy to access and less than an hour east of Fallon.

Head east from the Grimes Point/Hidden Cave Archaeological Site turnoff until you spy the orange hills. Keep your eye on the ground: you'll see rocks of every color and size, and the unmistakable colored layers of Wonderstone are everywhere.



### BASE CAMP - FALLON

Start your wonder-full excursion at the pet-friendly Holiday Inn Express, or park your rig at the Bonanza RV Park & Casino. Fuel up at Azteca Grill & Bakery (the super burrito is legendary), or grab a coffee and pastry at Stone Cabin Coffee.





You can see brilliant patterns made up of stripes, squares, and circles, which appear as if painted by artists. The ground samples are enough to take your breath away, but the larger rock formations are truly incredible.

There are numerous deposits of Wonderstone in the surrounding hills, so it's easy to spread out and find just what you're looking for. Agate, green rhyolite, and even jasper have also been found in the area, along with volcanic bombs—small rocks formed when lava was ejected from ancient volcanos—that are most likely from nearby Soda Lake.



Wonderstone



Agate



Part of what makes rockhounding in Nevada so awesome is the amount of public land available. It is so easy to get out and explore, plus the desert has very little dense vegetation, so rocks can be found much more easily. With so many different rocks to find in just this one area, the only tough part of the day is deciding where to look first. Oh, and how much you can possibly bring home with you.

**TRAVEL  
NEVADA  
PRO TIP**

Digging Nevada's rockhounding scene? Read about more sites in upcoming Nevada Magazine + Visitor Guide Issues!





WONDERSTONE MOUNTAIN

## DIG IT, THE RIGHT WAY

There's no greater tip than to respect the land. Always get permission to search on private property, and leave no trace. Make sure you have the right vehicle for the terrain, carry plenty of water and gas, and always tell someone where you're headed.



Rockhounding can be easy thanks to the tons of great specimens to be found, and it's so simple: do a little research and point your vehicle in the right direction. At the end of the road it's just you and your thoughts as you walk through serene landscapes, gathering stones, and, hopefully, a sense of how beautifully made this state truly is.

PLAN YOUR NEXT TRIP TO

*Austin, Nevada*



39.4924° N, 117.0672° W

For more information, visit [AustinNevada.com](http://AustinNevada.com)



# HIT IT!

From towering pines and snowcapped mountains to swaying palms and desert backdrops, Nevada is your premier golf destination. These diverse courses range from local favorites to luxury destinations and hit every skill level along the way.

## ITALIAN 101

Can you guess what *cascata* translates to? Here's a hint: The roar of the resort's 418-foot waterfall makes for a majestic backdrop.

## GOLF SUMMERLIN

Golf Summerlin is home to three well-conditioned, challenging courses: Highland Falls, Palm Valley, and Eagle Crest golf courses, all of which are nestled just minutes from the Las Vegas Strip. Highland Falls offers rolling hills and high elevations with a healthy dose of challenging, risk-reward shots. Play amongst the pine trees at Palm Valley on its challenging par-72 layout. For golfers looking to squeeze a round into their afternoon, tee-up at Eagle Crest's executive course and enjoy views of the Las Vegas skyline.

## CASCATA

Tuscany in the Mojave, anyone? Boulder City's elegantly themed course was rated among Golf Digest's 100 best public golf courses in America, and for good reason. Offering up gold-star visitor accommodations, the beautiful par-72 course snakes through southern Nevada's rugged mountain desert scenery.



EDGEWOOD TAHOE



GOLF SUMMERLIN



CASCATA





### LUXURY LINKS

Not a golfer? Come anyway. While the group's golfers are away, the rest can enjoy a rich, full day at Edgewood's resort: yoga, luxury-style spa, shopping, and s'mores at sunset.



LAKERIDGE GOLF COURSE



LAS VEGAS PAIUTE RESORT - SUN MOUNTAIN COURSE

### LAS VEGAS PAIUTE RESORT - SUN MOUNTAIN COURSE

Of the three courses available here, the Sun Mountain course is a favorite simply because of its secluded location. Sun Mountain offers a softer challenge than its sibling courses at the Paiute Golf Resort, but with its sweeping slopes and four sets of tees, it's by no means easy. The 18-hole championship course features more than 7,100 yards from the back tees making a par of 72.

### EDGEWOOD TAHOE

Offering stunning lakeside views and great golf, Edgewood is challenging but fair, with four sets of tees ranging from 5,567 to 7,555 yards. Overnight at the luxurious Edgewood Tahoe Resort, and don't miss the American Century Celebrity Golf Championship hosted here each summer. Tee times are available for resort guests and non-lodge guests.

SCAN FOR  
MORE INFO



NEVADA GOLF COURSES

### LAKERIDGE GOLF COURSE

Spend a day on the green at one of northern Nevada's highest-rated public golf courses. Lakeridge is nestled above Reno and boasts a par-71 course, with its signature hole No. 15, a par-3 perched on a ridge overlooking Lake Stanley and the Biggest Little City.

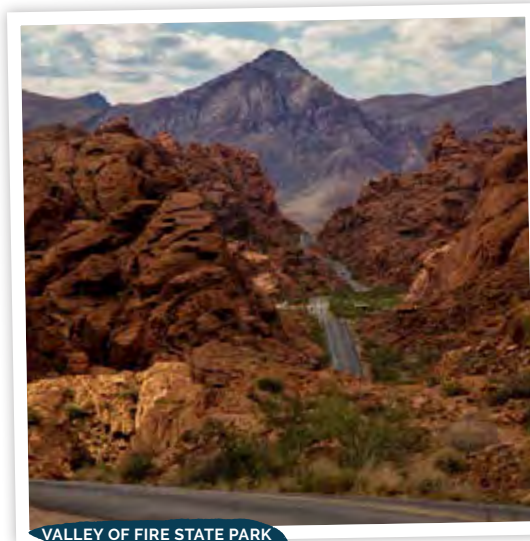




# BYWAYS & DRIVES

*Hit the asphalt and take in Nevada's backcountry beauty.*

Given its natural beauty and wide-open spaces, the Silver State is unrivaled when it comes to experiencing the great American road trip. Set the cruise control and load up your playlists; out here, there's always something on the horizon.



## SCENIC BYWAYS

The U.S. Department of Transportation established its Scenic Byway program in 1991 to promote America's roads less traveled. Highways with something special to offer make the short list, and Nevada is chock-full of them.

### VALLEY OF FIRE SCENIC BYWAY

**8 MILES | 2+ HOURS**

This may be one of the most breathtaking 8-mile drives you ever take. Roll through narrow canyons lined by wind-sculpted red sandstone into Harley Davidson commercial territory. Be sure to pull off and take in the arches and overlooks of Nevada's oldest and largest state park.

### ANGEL LAKE SCENIC BYWAY

**12 MILES | 30+ MINUTES**

Short but mighty State Route 231 (aka Angel Lake Road) begins in Wells and rises several thousand feet into the East Humboldt Range, up from the sagebrush-swept high desert to the paradise that is Angel Lake. Ascend through groves of pinyon pine, mountain mahogany, and aspen while Angel Creek flows downward. Along the way, keep your eyes peeled for bighorn sheep, mountain goats, and pronghorn antelope.







WHEELER PEAK

## SCENIC DRIVES

Nevada is a land of rainbow-hued deserts and towering mountains with enough alpine lakes and forests to satisfy the nature lover in all of us. Scenic drives highlight the best of the state, offering well-maintained paved highways on your tour of the state.

### WHEELER PEAK

12 MILES | 40+ MINUTES

The National Park Service calls it “driving into the clouds.” Probably because you climb 4,000 feet from a sagebrush steppe to a 10,000-foot alpine wonderland crowning Great Basin National Park. Take in panoramic views of Nevada’s second highest peak that include bristlecone pines—the world’s oldest trees—and glacially carved lakes.

### PLANNING CHECKLIST



#### ☐ Check road conditions

All routes are subject to closures and unsafe weather conditions. Know before you go and check with state highway resources before planning your next trip!



GOLD BUTTE NATIONAL MONUMENT



LOVELOCK CAVE

## BACKCOUNTRY BYWAYS

The Bureau of Land Management classifies these adventurous routes into four categories: the higher the number, the more rugged the route. Type I routes are paved roads, but they’re also windy and narrow. With Type II, you better hop in a high-clearance rig, preferably with 4WD.

### GOLD BUTTE BACKCOUNTRY BYWAY

TYPE II – 62 MILES | 5+ HOURS

This extremely remote road traverses Gold Butte National Monument, a stunning slice of pure Mojave Desert backcountry. Motor past colorful sandstone, thousands of ancient petroglyphs, and dreamlike formations at Little Finland that seem to ignite as the sun sets over nearby Lake Mead.

### LOVELOCK CAVE BACKCOUNTRY BYWAY

TYPE I/II – 20 MILES | 2+ HOURS

Pick up a free driving tour brochure from Lovelock’s Marzen House Museum before rumbling through an ancient lakebed turned to farmland. At the cave, you’ll find a modern viewing deck with interpretive signs that tell the stories of the 2,000-year-old artifacts found here.





# LOCAL BUYS: BATTLE BORN PINS

Nevadans are a passionate people, and for those blessed with a creative spirit, turning that passion into a business is often the next step. These enterprising individuals offer quality, Nevada-made products that can't be found anywhere else. Remember: when we buy local, we encourage talented visionaries to set up shop, and in return, we reap the coolest rewards.



Holly Vaughn is the owner of Las Vegas-based enamel pin company Battle Born Pins. Founding her business in 2016, Holly turned her hometown pride into jewelry she could wear and share.

**NM+VG:** How did you get into the enamel pin business? Did you do something else before this?

**HV:** My degree is in fine art and design, and I've been lucky to create several murals for Las Vegas. In doing those, I realized how much hometown pride meant to me, but I noticed a significant lack of items I could find to show it. My first enamel pins were designs I wanted to wear, like a tiny gold or silver outline of Nevada. I got so much support from the community that I was able to expand my design options, and I now sell more than 100 different items.

**NM+VG:** Why do you think people like shopping at Battle Born Pins?

**HV:** Something I hear from customers is they love the quality of the items I sell. I check every pin before I mail it to ensure it is perfect. I also spend a lot of time with each design because I never want to sell an item I'm not proud of and wouldn't purchase myself.

**NM+VG:** You sell other items besides pins, right?

**HV:** My most popular items are the enamel pins, but I have also expanded to stickers and T-shirts. I would love to continue making new things that bring joy to customers. It's been incredible connecting products with the history of Nevada and Las Vegas.

**NM+VG:** Where can people find your products?

**HV:** I have expanded to selling to a few small stores in Downtown Las Vegas including Local Oasis and All For Our Country, which both focus on local and artist-made goods.



Check out Holly's pins at [battleborn.shop](http://battleborn.shop)



# Like Adventure?

How about 100-tons of steam locomotive,  
with YOUR hand on the throttle?



Explore the Loneliest Road in America - U.S. Hwy 50!  
In Ely, **YOU** can **Be the Engineer** operating a century-old  
steam locomotive as the engineer! It's a **BLAST!**

## NEVADA NORTHERN RAILWAY MUSEUM

1100 Avenue A • Ely, Nevada  
[www.nnry.com](http://www.nnry.com) • (775) 289-2085

# Get Ely-Vated

FEBRUARY-APRIL 2022

FEB 5 : Rotary Club Annual Ice Fishing Derby

FEB 11 : NNRY Winter Steam Spectacular Photo Shoot

FEB 25 : NNRY Winter Steam Spectacular Photo Shoot

MAR 2 : White Pine County Birthday!

MAR 11-13 : Ely Film, Art & Music Festival

MAR 19 : Turkey Vulture Stretch 5k (Ely Outdoor Enthusiasts)

MAR 29 - APR 3 : International Dark Sky Week

APR 9 : Eastern Nevada Cornhole Championships

APR 16 : Chamber Easter Egg Hunt



WHEREVER YOU'RE  
HEADED IN NEVADA

## CHOICE HOTELS<sup>®</sup> IS THERE.

**BOOK DIRECT AND PAY IN  
ADVANCE TO SAVE UP TO 15%.\***

Visit [ChoiceHotels.com/Nevada-Hotels](http://ChoiceHotels.com/Nevada-Hotels)  
or call 1-888-846-9378 to get our  
lowest price guaranteed.\*\*



\*Rate Restrictions: Valid only for Choice Privileges members (program enrollment is free). The reservation must be made on ChoiceHotels.com at participating hotels and must be made at least 7, 14, 21 or 30 days in advance, which will vary based on the hotel for which a reservation is being made. Subject to availability, the rate starts at 15% off Best Available Rate, is non-cancellable, non-changeable and non-refundable. Your credit card will be charged for the total reservation amount within 24-48 hours of booking. This rate has a seven (7) night maximum length of stay. Rooms at this discount are limited. Offer is not available to groups and cannot be combined with any other discount. Choice Hotels reserves the right to change or discontinue this offer at any time. Eligibility restricted to U.S. and Canadian residents. Members must book direct at ChoiceHotels.com/Nevada-Hotels or call 1-888-846-9378. All Choice Hotels properties are independently owned and operated. \*\*Guarantee applies to Third Party Website standard rates for a Choice single or double occupancy room that are at least 1% and \$1.00 less than the Choice rate. Claims must be submitted within 24 hours of booking and 48+ hours prior to 6 PM check-in time the day of hotel arrival. Other terms also apply; see [www.choicehotels.com/legal/best-rate-rules](http://www.choicehotels.com/legal/best-rate-rules) for full terms and conditions.  
©2021 Choice Hotels International. All rights reserved.



# STATEWIDE EVENTS CALENDAR



VIRGINIA CITY ROCKY MOUNTAIN OYSTER FRY

## FEBRUARY

1-28

### ALPENGLOW SPORTS MOUNTAIN FESTIVAL

Palisades Tahoe, North Lake  
Tahoe

11-16

### CHINESE NEW YEAR IN THE DESERT

Las Vegas

12

### THE DEVIL MADE ME DO IT SALOON CRAWL

Virginia City

25-27

### DEATH VALLEY DARK SKY FESTIVAL

Death Valley

25-March 6

### SNOWFEST!

North Lake Tahoe

## MARCH

11-13

### ELY FILM FESTIVAL

Ely

12

### VIRGINIA CITY ROCKY MOUNTAIN OYSTER FRY

Virginia City

12

### DONKEY JAMBOREE

Mesquite

12-13

### SILVER STATE CHILI COOK-OFF

Pahrump

26

### BOULDER CITY BEERFEST

Boulder City

## APRIL

1-3

### WINTERWONDERGRASS TAHOE

Palisades Tahoe, North Lake  
Tahoe

9-Sept. 18

### TOP GUN RACEWAY DRAG RACING SERIES

Fallon

21-24

### GENOA WESTERN HERITAGE DAYS

Genoa

28-May 1

### PAHRUMP BALLOON FESTIVAL

Pahrump

30-May 1

### VIRGINIA CITY GRAND PRIX

Virginia City





From races and spectator sports to fairs and festivals, there's always something going on in Nevada. Keep in mind that dates and events are always subject to change, so be sure to double check our online events calendar before your trip.

## MAY

21-Sept 17  
SUNSET, STARS, AND  
CHAMPAGNE TRAIN  
Ely

21-22  
CHILI ON THE COMSTOCK  
Virginia City

25-29  
BLACK ROCK RENDEZVOUS  
Gerlach

## JUNE

16-25  
RENO RODEO  
Reno

18-Aug. 7  
RUBY MOUNTAIN RELAY  
Lamoille

## JULY

1-31  
ARTOWN  
Reno

## AUGUST

2-7  
HOT AUGUST NIGHTS  
Reno

29-Sept. 5  
BURNING MAN  
Gerlach

## SEPTEMBER

9-11  
GREAT BASIN  
ASTRONOMY FESTIVAL  
Great Basin National Park

9-11  
GREAT RENO BALLOON RACE  
Reno

9-11  
INTERNATIONAL CAMEL &  
OSTRICH RACES  
Virginia City

17-18  
EUREKA ART, WINE &  
MUSIC FESTIVAL  
Eureka

SCAN FOR  
MORE INFO



NEVADA EVENTS CALENDAR

## OCTOBER

1-2  
WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP  
OUTHOUSE RACES  
Virginia City

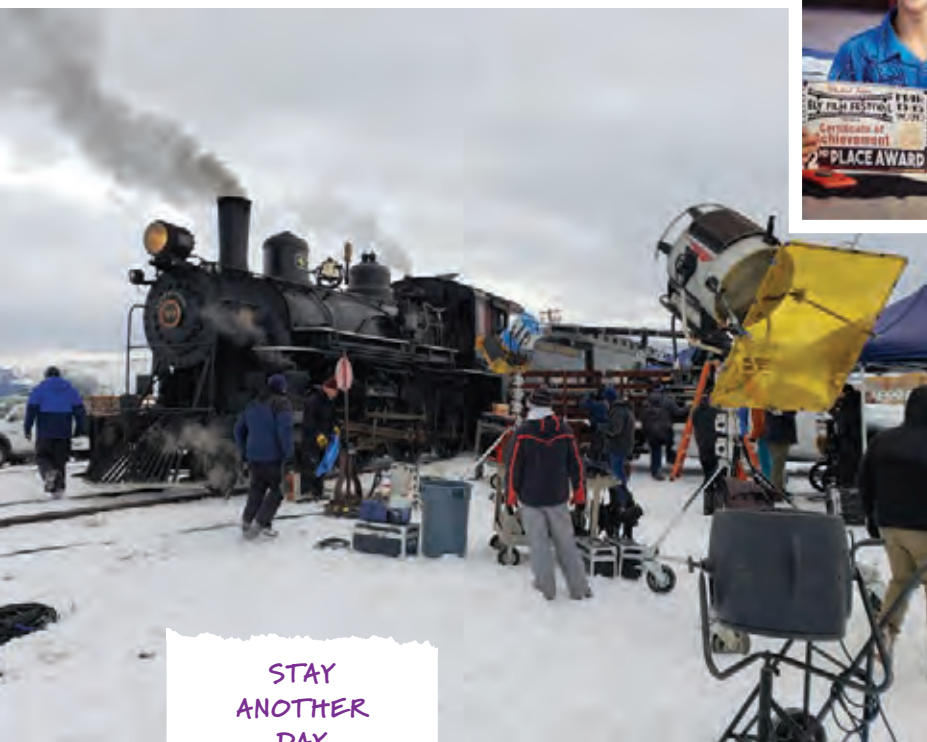
1-31  
HAUNTOBER IN VIRGINIA CITY  
Virginia City





# SPRING INTO SOMETHING SPECIAL

From small town soirees to weekend-long metropolitan bashes, Nevada's time-honored celebrations draw in the crowds. Here are a few can't-miss events going on during late winter and spring.



STAY  
ANOTHER  
DAY



Take to the rails on the Nevada Northern Railway while you're in Ely and enjoy one of many themed rides including a visit to the North Pole or a haunted journey on the ghost train.



## ELY FILMS, ART, AND MUSIC FESTIVAL

ELY

MARCH 11-13

Now in its third year, the Ely Film Festival is a wholesale celebration of culture from around the intermountain West. For three days, the festival is set to host 12 motion pictures filmed in and around the town, a short film contest, local art, and a night of live music featuring Hollywood's best soundtracks.

This year's short film contest is themed "Time Travel" and will feature regional talent—including local students—competing to take home the prize in three age categories. The Art Bank—a historic bank-turned-art gallery—also joins the festival this year with an impressive array of works from around the Great Basin. The celebration will take place in Ely's Historic Central Theater. Built in the 1930s, this building is one of Nevada's oldest Art Deco-style cinemas.





## SNOWFEST!

NORTH LAKE TAHOE  
FEB. 25-MARCH 6

Get acquainted with North Lake Tahoe's world-renowned mountain resort lifestyle with this 40-years-and-running annual event. Held every February, this alpine festival is a grand celebration of life in the High Sierra.

SnowFest! is made up of more than 100 events across 10 days. Despite being headquartered in Tahoe City, SnowFest! is a culmination of activities and events happening all along north shore communities, including Incline Village. Get in on a torchlight parade, fireworks, pancake breakfasts, live music and concerts, bar parties, ski races, dog and pet events, a Mardi Gras party, ice carving, a polar bear swim, and much more.

Admission varies—many events are free, and others require a minimal ticket cost.



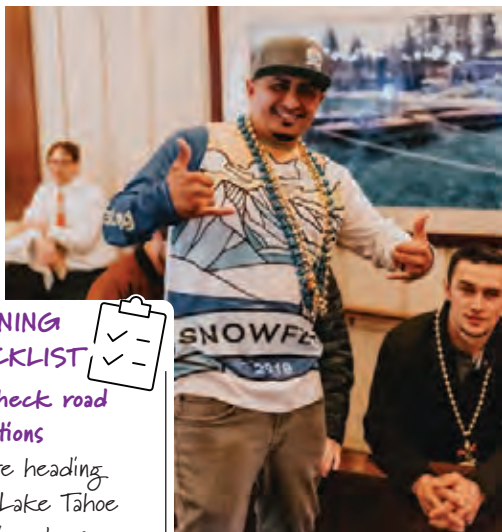
### BASE CAMP – INCLINE VILLAGE

While in Incline Village, take the time to warm up at Tunnel Creek Café. This one-stop shop brims with a cozy atmosphere, wide selection of coffees, and a delicious breakfast menu. If you're looking to fuel up on Mexican BBQ, T's Mesquite Rotisserie serves up Tahoe-sized portions and signature burritos, quesadillas, and tostadas.

### PLANNING CHECKLIST

#### ☐ Check road conditions

Before heading up to Lake Tahoe in spring, be sure to check road conditions and possible closures.





# PERFECT LITTLE CHAPELS

Weddings often require in-depth planning and—most likely—big price tags. Why not skip the headache and have your special day at one of Nevada's many wedding chapels?

Whether you're looking to renew your vows, host a small gathering, or have an Elvis impersonator officiate the ceremony, these classic wedding chapels will keep the process hassle-free and affordable.



CHAPEL OF THE FLOWERS

## A LITTLE WHITE WEDDING CHAPEL

### Las Vegas

This iconic Las Vegas spot is a one-stop shop for all your wedding needs. Beyond providing venues with romantic names like Cathedral L'Amor and The Crystal Chapel, this location offers a wide selection of rental gowns and tuxedos. And, of course, their drive-through Tunnel of Love sets the mood upon entry with its ivy-wrapped columns and cherubic murals.

## CHAPEL OF THE FLOWERS

### Las Vegas

Las Vegas' Chapel of the Flowers offers the betrothed and their guests a selection of four themed venues. The Victorian Chapel—the location's first, dating back to the 1960s—is the quintessential, classic wedding experience with its chandeliers and wooden pews. The Glass Gardens is their most popular chapel, offering a midsummer night's dream in a romantic garden setting. Several off-site locations are also available including The Gazebo on The Strip and ceremonies at Valley of Fire State Park and the Grand Canyon.





A LITTLE WHITE WEDDING CHAPEL



ARCH OF RENO WEDDING CHAPEL



LITTLE CHURCH OF THE WEST

## LITTLE CHURCH OF THE WEST Las Vegas

Interested in getting married in a chapel on the National Registry of Historic Places? What about entering into wedlock in the same building as the likes of Judy Garland and Richard Gere? The charming Little Church of the West was the first wedding chapel in Nevada and has offered guests an unrivaled experience in an intimate venue since 1942. The Old West-style venue is located near the “Welcome to Las Vegas” sign.

## ARCH OF RENO WEDDING CHAPEL Reno

The Arch of Reno prides itself on a low-stress experience that streamlines the whole process. This favorite venue in downtown Reno provides the wedding party with a complimentary drop-off limousine ride and offers three chapels to accommodate your guest list size—up to 60! If you’re planning on holding your wedding in the Reno area, they’ll even come to you.

## ANTIQUE ANGEL WEDDING CHAPEL Reno

The Antique Angel in Reno has three themed chapels to choose from: Victorian Grace, Lonesome Dove, and The Garden. If you’re looking to tie the knot with Reno’s picturesque Truckee River as a backdrop, look no further than their outdoor venue—appropriately called The River. Antique Angel has a passionate staff and affordable rates, so go splurge that money on the after-party!

### PLANNING CHECKLIST

Getting hitched is pretty easy in Nevada. There are no blood tests, no waiting periods, and anyone 18 or older is welcome.



☐ Check with the appropriate county clerk’s office for license requirements.

☐ Both parties need to appear in person to get the license.

☐ Licenses cost \$85 in Washoe County (Reno) and \$102 in Clark County (Las Vegas).

☐ If you are divorced or annulled, be sure you have the date and location of the legalized end.







# RECREATE RESPONSIBLY

In love with the Silver State as much as we are? Get the lowdown on how to explore it safely, as well as responsibly, to ensure Nevada's sacred spaces remain pristine and special for generations to come.



## STICK TO THE ROADS, TRAILS, AND TRACKS

If you head out into the desert, you'll discover there's going to be a road—paved or otherwise—that takes you where you need to be, so no need to blaze your own.

## EVERYONE'S LAND

More than 80 percent of Nevada is federally managed, which means this land is literally your land. But remember, whatever land you're on—private or public—it's owned and managed by a person or an agency. Please respect all posted No Trespassing signs.

## LEAVE NO TRACE (LNT)

Nothing is worse than driving across Nevada's pristine landscape and seeing a grocery bag stuck in the sage or a bottle on the side of the road. Familiarize yourself with the "Seven Principles" of LNT outdoor ethics. Always travel with extra garbage bags so you can pack out all your own—and anyone else's—trash: leave every place better than you found it.

*Finders does not mean keepers. Whether it's a ghost town mining relic, arrowhead, or any other kind of artifact, leave all objects where you found them (but take all the photos you'd like).*

## WATCH FOR WILDLIFE

Beyond the asphalt, Nevada's diverse fauna ranges from rabbits to rattlesnakes, burros to bighorns, reptiles to rare birds, cattle to coyotes, pronghorn aplenty, more wild horses than anywhere else, and an abundance in between. If you're going so fast that you miss them—or worse, that you can't when you need to—then you're going too fast.

*Feeding wildlife of any kind is not only extremely uncool, it's also illegal. Human food is not healthy for wild animals, and they do not need food from humans to survive.*

## FIRE DANGER

Fire season hits Nevada harder than ever these days, and catastrophic blazes can easily be started by campfire embers, vehicle undercarriages, hot bullet casings, and more. All of this is preventable. Always check local fire restrictions and use common sense.

## DIRT ROAD CODE

Study up on the Dirt Road Code if you plan on hitting the road outside of the metro areas for an unscripted adventure. You'll find packing tips, vehicle suggestions, and how to safely navigate Nevada backroads like a dusty ol' pro.

SCAN FOR MORE INFO



DIRT ROAD CODE

TRAVEL NEVADA PRO TIP

*Sometimes you'll come across a fence with a cattle guard gate. You're free to open it and drive through, just be sure to put the gate back how you found it.*

## STARLIGHT? TOO BRIGHT

Nevada's night skies are some of the darkest in the Lower 48. Many visitors take to remote campgrounds primarily for our unrivaled galactic view, so be aware of the light pollution you bring with you: it doesn't take much to blow out another camper's night vision. Help protect this disappearing natural resource by lighting your camp mindfully.

TRAVEL NEVADA PRO TIP

*Don't count on your phone to bail you out of a jam! Nevada's wild places are some of the country's most remote, which means they're often out of cell service and far from help. Plan accordingly.*

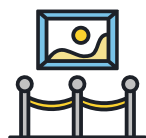


# MYTH VS. FACT

If you've never been to Nevada, don't let the erroneous word of mouth uttered by folks who've stuck to the interstate influence your perceptions. Instead, allow us to set the record straight and show that Nevada has quite a lot to brag about.

**MYTH:** Las Vegas is just a bunch of casinos.

**FACT:** Las Vegas is one of the most visited cities in America and draws in tens of millions of visitors a year. Sure, the casino resort experiences are a huge attraction, but the city has a **thriving arts district** (page 52 & 54) **world-class museums** (page 32) and **outdoor adventures** (page 82 & 84).



**MYTH:** Nevada is all about the silver.

**FACT:** While the Silver State appropriately produces more silver than any state except Alaska, Nevada is actually the U.S.'s largest gold producer—it's responsible for 3/4 of the country's gold extraction and is often one of the top-five gold producers in the world.



**MYTH:** Nevada is flat and boring.

**FACT:** The average elevation of Nevada is 5,000 feet, or nearly a mile. No wonder much of the state is called the high desert! Elevations in Nevada range from just-above sea level (481 feet to be exact) to 13,147 feet, which allows for diverse topography including alpine peaks, sand dunes, rivers—and everything in between.



**MYTH:** Las Vegas and Reno are the only destinations in the state.

**FACT:** Nevada is home to dozens of towns and communities outside of our two major metro areas, and each has its own distinct style and sights. Stroll through a quaint village in **Lamoille** or **Genoa**. Take a tour of an old cowboy town in **Elko** or **Winnemucca**, or step into the past in **Virginia City** or **Pioche**.

**MYTH:** Gambling is legal everywhere in Nevada.

**FACT:** You'll find no slot machines in **Boulder City**—they outlawed gambling when the town was established as a federal camp for workers on the **Hoover Dam**. The only other place in Nevada that prohibits gambling is the eastern town of **Panaca**.



**MYTH:** Nevada is hot all the time.

**FACT:** You might want to dip inside when visiting **Las Vegas** in the peak of summer, but one feature that draws visitors to the state is the predominantly mild climate. Here, all four seasons definitely get their spotlight. And have you seen the snow at **Lake Tahoe**?



**MYTH:** Nevada is all arid desert.

**FACT:** While its desertscapes are indeed stunning, mountains studded with forests and alpine lakes make for equally breathtaking scenery. In fact, Nevada is the most mountainous state in the contiguous U.S.!





# WHEN YOU'RE READY TO TRAVEL

Nevada is a land of wide-open spaces and amazing places to visit. Before you head out on your next adventure, we invite you to learn more from our Nevada tourism partners.

## LAKE TAHOE

LAKE TAHOE  
VISITORS AUTHORITY  
tahoesouth.com, 775-588-4591

NORTH LAKE TAHOE VISITORS  
BUREAU  
gotahoenorth.com, 775-832-1606

## NORTHERN NEVADA

CITY OF RENO  
reno.gov, 775-334-4636

RENO-SPARKS CONVENTION &  
VISITORS AUTHORITY  
visitrenotahoe.com, 800-367-7366

AUSTIN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE  
austinnevada.com, 775-964-2200

BATTLE MOUNTAIN, KINGSTON,  
AUSTIN (LANDER COUNTY  
CONVENTION & TOURISM  
AUTHORITY)  
battlemountaintourism.com,  
775-635-1112

BLACK ROCK DESERT (FRIENDS OF  
BLACK ROCK HIGH ROCK)  
blackrockdesert.org, 775-557-2900

CARLIN (CITY OF)  
explorecarlinnv.com, 775-754-6354

CARSON CITY CONVENTION &  
VISITORS BUREAU  
visitcarsoncity.com, 775-687-7410

CARSON VALLEY  
VISITORS AUTHORITY  
visitcarsonvalley.org, 800-727-7677

DAYTON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE  
daytonnvchamber.com,  
775-246-7909

ELKO CONVENTION &  
VISITORS AUTHORITY  
exploreeelko.com, 800-248-3556

EUREKA TOURIST INFORMATION  
visiteurekanevada.net,  
775-230-2232

FALLON CONVENTION &  
TOURISM AUTHORITY  
visitfallonnevada.com,  
775-423-5104

FERNLEY (CITY OF)  
cityoffernley.org, 775-784-9800

GARDNERVILLE (TOWN OF)  
townofgardnerville.com,  
775-782-7134

GENOA (TOWN OF)  
genoanevada.org, 775-782-8696

THE GREATER AUSTIN  
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE  
austinnevada.com, 775-964-2200

HAWTHORNE  
CONVENTION CENTER  
visitmineralcounty.com,  
775-945-5854

JACKPOT (CACTUS PETES)  
jackpotnevada.com, 800-821-1103

JARBIDGE  
visitjarbridge.org

LOVELOCK (CITY OF)  
cityoflovelock.com, 775-273-2356

MINDEN (TOWN OF)  
townofminden.com, 775-782-5976

PYRAMID LAKE  
INDIAN RESERVATION  
pyramidlake.us, 775-574-1000



#### SPARKS (CITY OF)

cityofsparks.us, 775-353-5555

#### SPRING CREEK (ASSOCIATION)

springcreeknv.org, 775-753-6295

#### VIRGINIA CITY TOURISM COMMISSION

visitvirginiacitynv.com,  
775-847-7500

#### WELLS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

cityofwellsnv.com, 775-752-3355

#### WEST WENDOVER (CITY OF)

westwendovercity.com,  
775-664-3081

#### WHITE PINE COUNTY TOURISM AND RECREATION (ELY)

elynevada.net, 775-289-3720

#### WINNEMUCCA CONVENTION & VISITORS AUTHORITY

winnemucca.com, 775-623-5071

#### YERINGTON

#### CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

yeringtonchamber.com,  
775-463-2245

### SOUTHERN NEVADA

#### CITY OF LAS VEGAS

lasvegasnevada.gov, 702-229-6011

#### LAS VEGAS CONVENTION & VISITORS AUTHORITY

visitlasvegas.com, 702-892-0711

#### BEATTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

beattynevada.org, 866-736-3716

#### BOULDER CITY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

bouldercitychamber.com,  
702-293-2034

#### GOLDFIELD CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

goldfieldnevada.org, 775-485-3560

#### HENDERSON (CITY OF)

hendersonlive.com, 702-267-2323

#### LAUGHLIN VISITOR INFORMATION CENTER

visitlaughlin.com

#### LINCOLN COUNTY

lincolncountynevada.com

#### MESQUITE (CITY OF)

mesquitenv.gov, 702-346-5295

#### MOAPA VALLEY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

moapavalleychamber.com,  
702-398-7160

#### NEVADA WELCOME CENTER AT BOULDER CITY

visitbouldercity.com, 702-293-2034

#### NEVADA WELCOME CENTER AT MESQUITE

visitmesquite.com

#### PAHRUMP

visitpahump.com, 775-523-1697

#### PRIMM (VALLEY RESORTS)

primmvalleyresorts.com,  
702-386-7867

#### RACHEL

rachel-nevada.com

#### TONOPAH (TOWN OF)

tonopahnevada.com, 775-482-6336

### TERRITORIES

#### COWBOY COUNTRY

cowboycountry.com

#### INDIAN TERRITORY

nevadaindianterritory.com,  
775-687-8333

#### LAS VEGAS TERRITORY

lvterritory.com

#### NEVADA SILVER TRAILS

nevadasilvertrails.com

#### PONY EXPRESS TERRITORY

loneliestroad.us, 888-359-9449

#### RENO-TAHOE TERRITORY

renotahoe.com



### NATIONAL PARKS

#### GREAT BASIN NATIONAL PARK

nps.gov/grba, 775-234-7331

#### DEATH VALLEY NATIONAL PARK

nps.gov/deva, 760-786-3200

#### LAKE MEAD NATIONAL RECREATION AREA

nps.gov/lake, 702-293-8990

### STATE RESOURCES

#### NEVADA STATE PARKS

parks.nv.gov, 775-684-2770

#### NEVADA ARTS COUNCIL

nvarsouncil.org, 775-687-6680

#### NEVADA DIVISION OF MUSEUMS & HISTORY

nvmuseums.org, 775-687-7340



# WHAT'S *New?*

One of the best things about Reno and Las Vegas is that they're always on the move to reinvent themselves and create new experiences. Ranging from casino openings to cultural adventures, here are some of the top new attractions in our state.

## FLYOVER

Take to the skies at this brand-new, family-friendly adventure located right on the Las Vegas Strip. Visitors will embark on an exciting journey as they soar through deserts, dip past skyscrapers, and fly above the West's most iconic imagery—all from the comfort of their seat. **FlyOver** is a totally immersive experience that satisfies all the senses: a 52.5-foot wrap-around screen, dynamic chair



motion, atmospheric effects, and unique scents. Current screenings include *The Real Wild West* and *Iceland*.

## THE GLOW PLAZA

From West Fourth Street to Keystone Avenue, downtown Reno is undergoing an artistic renaissance. This half-mile experience—called the **Neon Line**—will feature art installations, redeveloped hotel and



## RESORTS WORLD

Just opened in summer 2021, **Resorts World Las Vegas**' sleek and simple elegance beckons travelers around the world for an overnight stay. Offering more than 3,500 guest rooms and suites, an innovative next-generation gaming floor, more than 40 world-class food and beverage options, a 5,000-seat theater, exciting nightlife venues, and all kinds of retail shopping experiences to dive into, a stay at Resorts World separates itself from anywhere else on The Strip.







residences, retail stores, and restaurants. In the heart of this 20-block ribbon of color, light, and sound sits **The Glow Plaza**. This outdoor auditorium opened in summer 2021 and hosts a busy lineup of free summer music performances.



## WEIRD RENO TOUR

Less than a year old, the **Weird Reno Tour** is one of the most entertaining ways to become acquainted with the Biggest Little City's colorful past. Starting at **Renaissance Reno Downtown Hotel**, set foot on a 90-minute walking tour into the past. Along the way, your guides will dish the historic gossip and regale you with stories that connect Reno-then to Reno-now with a good dose of hilarity. Your guides are also illusionists, so consider the interactive magic a bonus.

CSD Architects (right)

## CLEARLY TAHOE'S WINTER KAYAK TOURS

Winter is the best time to enjoy the crystal waters of Lake Tahoe, and now visitors can enjoy the magical snow-globe ambience on a guided winter kayak tour. **Clearly Tahoe** invites guests on their 46-foot long, clear-bottom tritoon for an unrivaled view of the lake. Upon embarking, take in the lake's majesty in a cozy setting with blankets and a warm beverage. During the cruise, guests can head to the tritoon's floating docks and hop in a clear-bottom kayak to savor the sapphire waters and paddle along the scenic shore. Any level of kayak experience is welcome.

## BEVERLY THEATER

Las Vegas's \$30 million culture initiative on 6th Street just got a new resident. Next to quirky, independent bookstore **The Writer's Block** and colorful artist lofts, visitors will be able to scratch their fine arts itch at **The Beverly Theater**. Opening in 2022, this two-story, 14,306 square-foot film house and performance theater will showcase independent films and host musical happenings, artistic performances, and literary experiences with little-known Las Vegas artists.



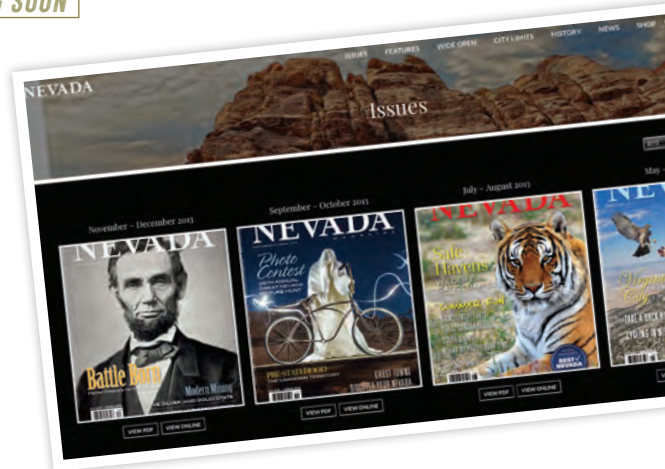
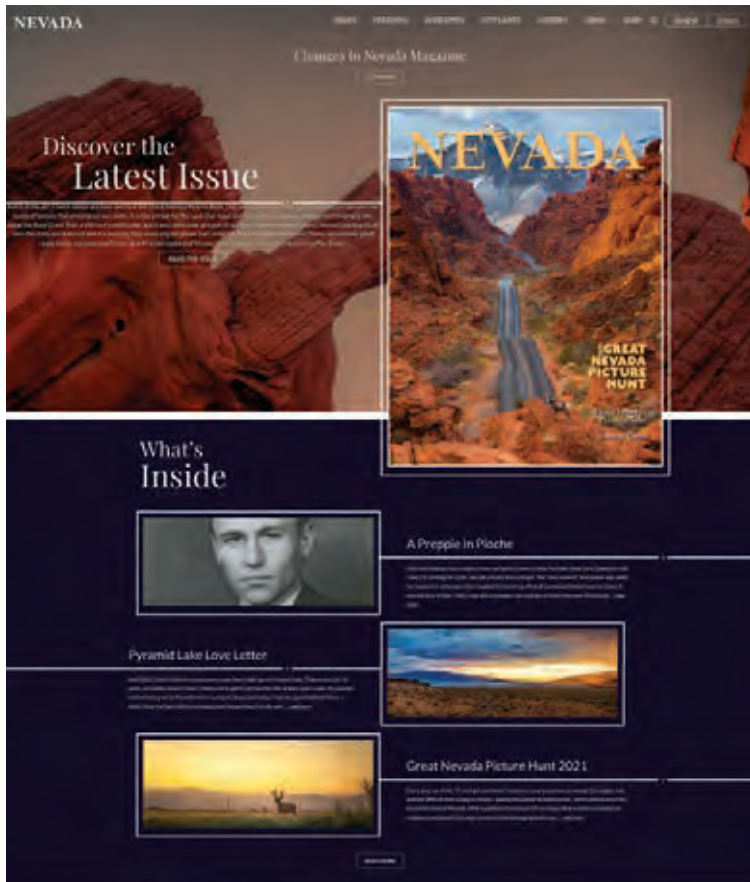
FEBRUARY-APRIL 2022



# ONLY AT NEVADAMAGAZINE.COM

Itching for more information about this great state?

Each month, head to **NevadaMagazine.com**  
to find new, web-exclusive articles.



## Austin Adventures –

On their way to Spencer Hot Springs, two friends set out on Highway 50—The Loneliest Road in America—to prove to themselves that they aren't boring people. Along the way, they experienced an

unexpected wine walk, braying wild burros, and some of Nevada's bizarre history.

By Rebecca Eckland

## A Paradise Named

**Galena** – For outdoor recreation, Galena Creek Regional Park outside Reno is a splendid playground that's hard to beat during any season. Moreover, Galena has a historical Nevada notch that's not so well-known.

By Jason Lopez



## Nevada's Mormon Goldmines—Success or Failure? –



During the economic depression in the 1890s, members of the Mormon church acquired a group of mining claims in Nye County. While these claims had promise, would they be the answer to the church's financial losses? By Dave McCormick



## NEVADA MAGAZINE ARCHIVES

For more than 85 years, *Nevada Magazine* has told the stories of the Silver State. We've seen it all, and you can, too. At NevadaMagazine.com, we have every issue ever published from 1936 to today available for viewing in a digital flipbook. If you like what you see, consider becoming a digital subscriber and receive full access to our website, including the stories listed on the opposite page and more added each month. Digital subscriptions are just \$9.95 per year. Your first three articles are on us!



**Thunder Mountain:** If you've ever traveled between Reno and Winnemucca, you've driven by it. Thunder Mountain Monument is an enigmatic roadside curiosity, a colossal sculpture (or series

of sculptures), a living quarters, a rock garden, a place of silence and mystery, and the life's work of one Nevadan. This story first appeared in our **March/April 2013** issue.

**The Duke's Last Ride:** Twenty-five years ago, John Wayne starred in his final movie in Carson City. While filming "The Shootist," the capital city was turned into a

Wild West town of the 1900s, and Wayne himself was seen about town during the 10 days of production. This story first appeared in our **November/December 2001** issue.



**Nevada Tourist Roads are Calling You:** In January 1946, *Nevada Highways and Parks* (now *Nevada Magazine*) resumed publishing for the first time since the end of WWII. An unknown author celebrates the end of the war and Nevada's offerings, and encourages nationwide travel and stimulus.

**Operation Haylift:** Almost 70 years ago, a group of determined Nevadans and a fleet of Flying Boxcars saved the state's livestock industry during a cold, snowy winter. Few Nevada winters have been as brutal as that of 1948-1949 when towering snowdrifts shut down the state's major highways and isolated many rural communities. This story first appeared in our **January/February 1999** issue.







# COMING SOON...

With four issues each calendar year,  
a **FREE SUBSCRIPTION**

to Nevada Magazine & Visitor Guide

will have you ready for adventures year-round.

Take a second to sign up to receive your copy every  
three months (you won't even pay for shipping)!

SCAN HERE  
FOR FREE  
SUBSCRIPTION



**NEXT THREE  
ISSUES  
COMING IN:**

**MAY  
AUGUST  
NOVEMBER**

## HERE ARE SOME SNEAK PEEK TO-DO LISTS:

### MAY-JULY

- ☐ Pick a **vegetarian/vegan** restaurant and finally try seitan.
- ☐ Snap a selfie with the **Downtown Container Park's** giant mantis.
- ☐ Make friends with a monster at an **oddball museum**.
- ☐ Hit the dirt and bike down the **Great Basin's** best trails.



SEITAN



TAHOE-PYRAMID TRAIL



LAS VEGAS DOWNTOWN CONTAINER PARK

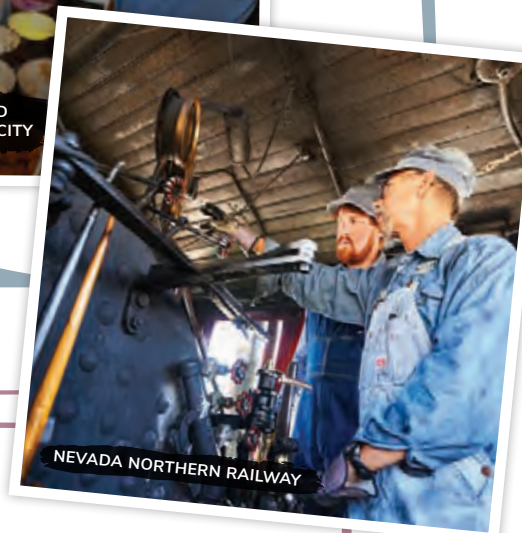


## AUGUST-OCTOBER

- ☐ Mark “see prehistoric fish at **national wildlife refuge**” off bucket list.
- ☐ Satisfy that sweet tooth with the desert’s **best desserts**.
- ☐ Sit under one of the **darkest skies** anywhere and look for shooting stars.
- ☐ Fulfill childhood fantasy and be a **train engineer**.



RED'S OLD-FASHIONED CANDIES IN VIRGINIA CITY



NEVADA NORTHERN RAILWAY



AMARGOSA PUPFISH

## NOVEMBER-JANUARY

- ☐ Get ironic and take a **boat tour** in the driest state in the U.S.
- ☐ Take a drive from **Neon to Nature**, just because you can.
- ☐ Save the diet for next year and devour an **amazing burger**.
- ☐ Stay in a **castle that's a ranch**, because labels aren't your style.



BURGER FROM SUNRISE CAFE IN RENO



PARADISE RANCH CASTLE



# The Final Word

To see Melissa's art or find a current exhibit, visit [melissamelero.com](http://melissamelero.com)



"I use willow and pine nuts and other gathered materials on my mixed media paintings."

## Melissa Melero-Moose

**NM&VG:** Can you tell us who you are and what you do?

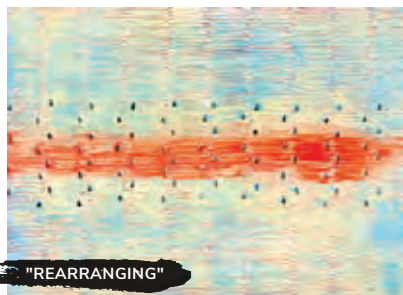
**MM:** My name is Melissa Melero-Moose, and I am a Northern Paiute (Fallon Paiute-Shoshone Tribe) living in Reno. I am a visual artist and founder/curator of the Great Basin Native Artists.



[DiscoverYourNevada.com](http://DiscoverYourNevada.com)

**NM&VG:** You're a writer and an artist, but which came first?

**MM:** I was working in Portland, Oregon with Indigenous at-risk youth while also going to school and pursuing an art career. After my son was born in 2002, I focused on my art and used my nonprofit experience to come back to my community in Nevada.



"REARRANGING"

I consider myself an artist first and found writing about my work and other Indigenous artists as a necessity. There is not much documentation out there so I wanted to tell our stories as American artists.

**NM&VG:** What's your favorite place in Nevada?

**MM:** That's a hard question. I love so many places in Nevada. One of the places I love to spend time is the Stillwater National Wildlife Refuge in Fallon. This place is so beautiful and important, and is a part of the Pacific Flyway where so many birds stop during their migrations.

**NM&VG:** What materials do you enjoy working with?

**MM:** I use willow and pine nuts and other gathered materials on my mixed media paintings. The gathering, I have always done since childhood. You know how when you are young and you collect a rock or a leaf? I continued doing this into adulthood.

**NM&VG:** Can you share some of your other endeavors?

**MM:** Some exciting things have come about this past couple of years. For one, the Great Basin Native Artists Gallery was established inside the Stewart Indian School Cultural Center and Museum in Carson City. We are

really excited to have a permanent space for artists and to curate our exhibits.

Since 2018, I have been working on the Great Basin Native Artists Archive and Directory, which gives researchers and museum curators access to so many regional Indigenous artists that were not being properly documented.

**NM&VG:** Anything else you want to get out to readers?

**MM:** People often ask how they can support me and the Great Basin Native Artists, and the short answer is to buy regional Indigenous art. Also, please come and visit the Stewart Indian School Cultural Center to support this unique place in our Nevada history and future.

Garret P. Vreeland (picture of Melissa)



the silver state

# SCAVENGER HUNT

## NEVADA MAGAZINE'S ANNUAL STATEWIDE SCAVENGER HUNT IS HERE!

The 2022 Silver State Scavenger Hunt returns once again sending adventurers to some of the most iconic and picturesque places in the state! In years past, Silver State Scavenger Hunt explorers have covered tens of thousands of miles across Nevada, visiting the state's ghost towns, natural wonders, railroads, and a host of other awesome destinations.

### Curious how it works?

We've split the state into two zones—Northern and Southern—and chose 12 notable destinations in each. Participants simply pick a zone, visit 6 of the 12 notable destinations in that zone, snap a photo holding the May-July issue of Nevada Magazine & Visitor Guide at each location, and email all 6 photos to us at [nvmaghunt@gmail.com](mailto:nvmaghunt@gmail.com).



The official list of destinations will be published in the May-July issue of *Nevada Magazine & Visitor Guide*.

### Need more reason to get out and hunt?

Prize packages will be awarded to two randomly chosen winners. Prizes are still being gathered so check our website for updates!

## Ready, Set, Hunt!

Visit [nevadamagazine.com/scavengerhunt](http://nevadamagazine.com/scavengerhunt) for complete rules.

**NEVADA**  
MAGAZINE & VISITOR GUIDE





**WE LOVE THE WAY NEVADA DARES TO BE DIFFERENT,  
WITH ALL THE HISTORY IN GHOST TOWNS,  
MINING TOWNS, NATURAL ROCK FORMATIONS,  
HOT SPRINGS, PETROGLYPHS, STARS,  
AND MILES OF OPEN LAND AND SKY.**

—MAUREEN MCMULLIN, RENO, NEVADA



Tell us what you think!

Take our visitor guide survey.