

NEVADA

Winter 2022-2023

Display until February 1, 2023

MAGAZINE & VISITOR GUIDE

**THE 2022
GREAT
NEVADA
PICTURE
HUNT**

**HAMBURGER HEAVEN
NEVADA'S PUBLIC LANDS**



EVEN HIS BUCKET LIST HAS A PROJECT LIST.

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1013 Winters Parkway, Dayton, NV

New Construction with a 45ft deep RV garage! This brand-new home has it all! With 3010 Sq Ft open floor plan with 9ft ceilings, a large walk-in pantry, spacious laundry room, and tons of room for storage with 3 Large bedrooms, 3 baths, all on 2 acres located in the beautiful Santa Maria Ranch, this home has easy access to multiple trails and the Carson River, close to Carson City and Lake Tahoe and Reno Tahoe Industrial Center.

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5. No inventory taxes for corporations
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7. 15 Ski Resorts
8. Carson/Dayton/Reno/Lake Tahoe
9. Horseback riding
10. Open Trails, Lakes, and Streams



227 Cecina, Dayton

New Construction! Move in today! Located in stunning Santa Maria Ranch, this open floor plan home includes 3-Bedrooms 2 baths 3-car garage, RV parking.



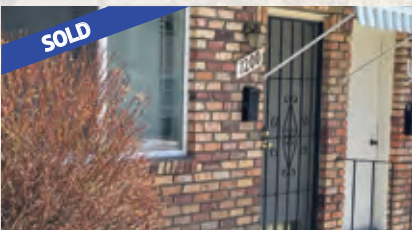
104 Denio, Dayton

Located at the end of the cul-de-sac, this home includes a large master suite, relaxing soaker tub, spacious bonus room with ¾ bath, and attached RV garage. Move In Ready.



409 Milano, Dayton

Quality construction in Santa Maria Ranch, this brand-new home has a 3 bedrooms 3 baths 3-car garage and still time to pick your colors. 9 foot ceilings and solid core doors.



1200 S Curry St, Carson City

End unit, located within walking distance of shopping, food, entertainment, and much more, 2-story town home, 2 bedrooms, 1 bath, washer and dryer.



710 W Washington, Carson City

For Sale or Lease, located in Carson City's westside, this recently remodeled 5,000 sq ft, 13-unit office has ample parking and a great west side location for any business.



3705 Hobbyhorse, Carson City

5 acres with dramatic views of the Sierra Nevada and the Carson River, includes a complete 2nd floor guest house and 5 bedrooms and 5 bathrooms with room to grow.

Bob Fredlund
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Bob@NevadaStyle.net
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NEVADA STYLE

NEVADA

MAGAZINE & VISITOR GUIDE

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Where are the
public lands and
what can you
do on them?
We'll tell you
on pg. 66.



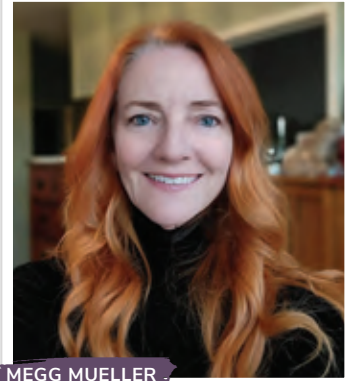
Nevada-made
gifts are always
a hit! Check out
our gift guide on
pg. 92.

Wrap up the Year SILVER STATE STYLE

Follow the life story of Sarah Winnemucca on pg. 62.

Welcome to winter in Nevada, where snow-packed ski slopes await in the north (and one 45 minutes from Las Vegas) and in the south, perfectly mild temps beckon. Whatever your winter vacation plans entail, it all happens here.

For this issue, we've taken a trip to Sutro Tunnel, a 19th century engineering marvel now open to visitors. If you're into fishing our countless lakes or rivers, you'll find advice for anglers of all styles in this issue. If you're looking for a great road trip, we've moseyed through the Cowboy Corridor along I-80 and chosen eight great reasons to slow down and sit a spell.



MEGG MUELLER

All that backroad driving and hiking is certain to take you through public land, and we've got a story that clears up what it means when people say Nevada is mostly public.

If you're not familiar with *Nevada Magazine*, you're in for a treat: our 45th Great Nevada Picture Hunt results are in. This annual photography contest showcases so many beautiful photos, you'll be ready to grab your camera for next year's contest. And just in time for holiday giving, check out our gift guide for all your souvenirs and presents.

There are so many more stories inside, but this is just a sample of all there is to discover in Nevada. For those joining for the first time, this is our first year publishing *Nevada Magazine & Visitor Guide* four times a year. For the former subscribers of *Nevada Magazine*, I hope you've enjoyed our new magazine. It's been a year of change, and we'll continue to write the stories Nevadans and visitors love about this great state. If you want to continue (or start!) receiving this guide in the mail, visit this link to sign up for the next four issues coming in 2023.



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LOOK FOR EASY-TO-USE QR CODES THROUGHOUT THIS GUIDE.

Using your mobile device, open the camera app and point it at the QR code. Once the QR code is recognized, it will either give you the option to click a link or automatically take you to the corresponding web page.



Welcome to Nevada!

Megg Mueller, Executive Editor

Fall 2022 issue correction: The photo on pages 12 & 13 was mis-identified as Jobs Peak. It is actually Job Peak, the highest in the Stillwater Range.

Discover some of the Silver State's best burgers on pg. 16.



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.



@LIV_WOLFF

MAKE IT HAPPEN

Stay safe, learn the Dirt Road Code (see page 103), and get insider tips for your best vacation yet. [TravelNevada.com/plan](#)



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@NVKAIT

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 94 for more.

THE ROAD GOES ON FOREVER



FERNLEY
BOTTLECAP GAZEBO



DAYTON
ODEON HALL



FALLON
SAND MOUNTAIN



AUSTIN
STOKES CASTLE



EUREKA
EUREKA OPERA HOUSE



ELY
NEVADA NORTHERN RAILWAY



BAKER / GREAT BASIN
GREAT BASIN NATIONAL PARK



The tradition continues with great **Winter 2022-23 events!** Nevada's Highway 50 is **WIDE OPEN** with plenty of room to roam and things to do and see. 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.

DAYTON

November 6 6th Annual Veterans Appreciation Dinner
December 3 Dayton's Small Town Christmas Tree Lighting

FALLON

November 5-6 Fallon Trap Club Basque Shoot
December 2 Fallon City Hall and The Douglass Open House
December 2 Fallon Christmas Tree Lighting
December 3 Santa's Workshop
December 31 Fallon New Year's Eve Fireworks
January 1 New Year's 5K Fun Run

AUSTIN

November 25 3rd Annual Tree Lighting
December 13 Live Nativity

EUREKA

November 18-19 Holiday Craft Bazaar
November 20-21 Thanksgiving Turkey Shoot

ELY

November & December Santa's Reindeer Flyer
December 2 Festival of Trees Auction
December 3 Christmas Crafter's Festival
December 3 Community Christmas Tree Lighting
December 3 Christmas Parade
December 25 Community Christmas Dinner
January 13-15 Fire and Ice Winter Festival

BAKER

Lehman Cave Tours Available for reservation up to 30 days in advance

NEVADA'S HIGHWAY 50

November 4-5 Taurids Meteor Shower
November 17-18 Leonids Meteor Shower
December 13-14 Geminids Meteor Shower
December 21-22 Ursids Meteor Shower



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TO BOISE

TO TWIN FALLS

TO SAN FRANCISCO

TO SALT LAKE CITY

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Nevada

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To get your head around all the options, turn to page 98.

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Awe



and then Some



Come alive on the South Shore of Lake Tahoe. Experience the largest alpine lake in North America surrounded by snow-capped mountains. Spend your days on skis, snowshoes or a snowmobile. Enjoy nights by a bonfire, at the bar or at the Blackjack table. It's all sorts of awesome. It's Awe and then Some.



Learn more at [VisitLakeTahoe.com](https://www.VisitLakeTahoe.com)

Visit
lake
tahoe[®]



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The tale of a 19th century engineering marvel



Lizzie Flower (Snowy Mount Rose, top left), Jesse Smith (Red Rock Canyon, top right)

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Winter in Nevada means plentiful snow—particularly in the northeast and the Sierra—for all kinds of outdoor fun, but winter is also a time to enjoy beautifully balmy days down south. Whichever way you recreate in winter, Nevada is sure to please.

COVERS

Front: Winter in the Spring Mountains.

Photographer: Paula Lawlor

Back: Friends having fun on Mt. Charleston.

Photographer: Betsy Pettet, Getty Images



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A conversation with the owner of J.M. Capriola Co.



DID YOU KNOW?

THE NEVADA NATIONAL SECURITY SITE

In the early 1950s, the U.S. Government needed a large tract of land to test its brand-new nuclear weapon technology. They chose a portion of the Las Vegas Bombing and Gunnery Range, renamed it the Nevada Test Site, and tested weapons there for more than 40 years. In 2010, the Nevada Test Site was renamed the Nevada National Security Site (NNSS).

THE U.S. CONDUCTED ITS LAST
NUCLEAR TEST AT THE SITE ON
SEPT. 23, 1992

TRAVEL NEVADA PRO TIP

Visit the National Atomic Testing Museum in Las Vegas to get immersed in the history, technology, and pop culture of the Atomic Age in Nevada. For a digestif, visit Atomic Liquors, the city's oldest freestanding bar and a favorite of atomic-era tourists for blast-watching parties.

MORE THAN

820

DETONATIONS
IN TOTAL

One of the most
cratered landscapes
on Earth

Detonations were a
popular spectacle in
Las Vegas

JUST **65** MILES
SOUTH

AT **1,280'** WIDE
AND
320' DEEP
SEDAN CRATER
COULD EASILY
HIDE THE STATUE
OF LIBERTY

To accommodate test site employees
and their families, a town called
Mercury was built in the 1950s
**AT ITS PEAK, MERCURY
HAD MORE THAN**

10,000
RESIDENTS

Today, the NNSS is part of the massive
Nellis Air Force Base Complex
THIS OFF-LIMITS AREA COVERS

4,500

SQUARE MILES—ABOUT
THE SIZE OF CONNECTICUT



WITH
ONLY **30** MILES OF
RESTRICTED
DESERT BETWEEN
IT AND AREA 51,

the town of Rachel is a hub for
extraterrestrial enthusiasts

HOME TO THE MYSTERIOUS

AREA 51

In 2013, declassified documents
finally confirmed the base's existence



NO

CONFIRMED ALIEN HARDWARE
OR UFOs AT AREA 51 (that we know of)

Officially, this base was used to test U-2 spy planes

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For events & other things to do, check TonopahNevada.com

EYE CANDY



INTO THE NORTH

Scott Mortimore took this photo near Nevada's remote northwestern corner. "In Nevada's outback, jagged peaks give way to mesas and occasional springs: landscapes favored by pronghorns and sage grouse. This late September photo captures a hunter and English Setter covering the grassy tabletops in search of sage grouse."

 Nikon D40, 1/400s, f/10, ISO 200




Check out page 66 for more information about Nevada's public lands and their many uses.



NEW SIGHTS

Jesse Smith snapped this shot outside Las Vegas. “I love Mount Charleston and have spent years hiking there, so it’s always nice to find new vantage points that make it seem like a new experience. This picture was taken near Fletcher campground in Kyle Canyon.”

 Canon T3i, 1/160s, f/16, ISO 400


WINTER BEACH

Martin Gollery captured this image at Lake Tahoe. “It was a quiet, still day in January. The storm had left a blanket of snow on all the rocks, leaving them looking fresh and new. At the water’s edge, I found my composition of the Thunderbird Lodge framed between frosted boulders.”

 Olympus E-M5 Mark III, 1/125s, f/7.1, ISO 200

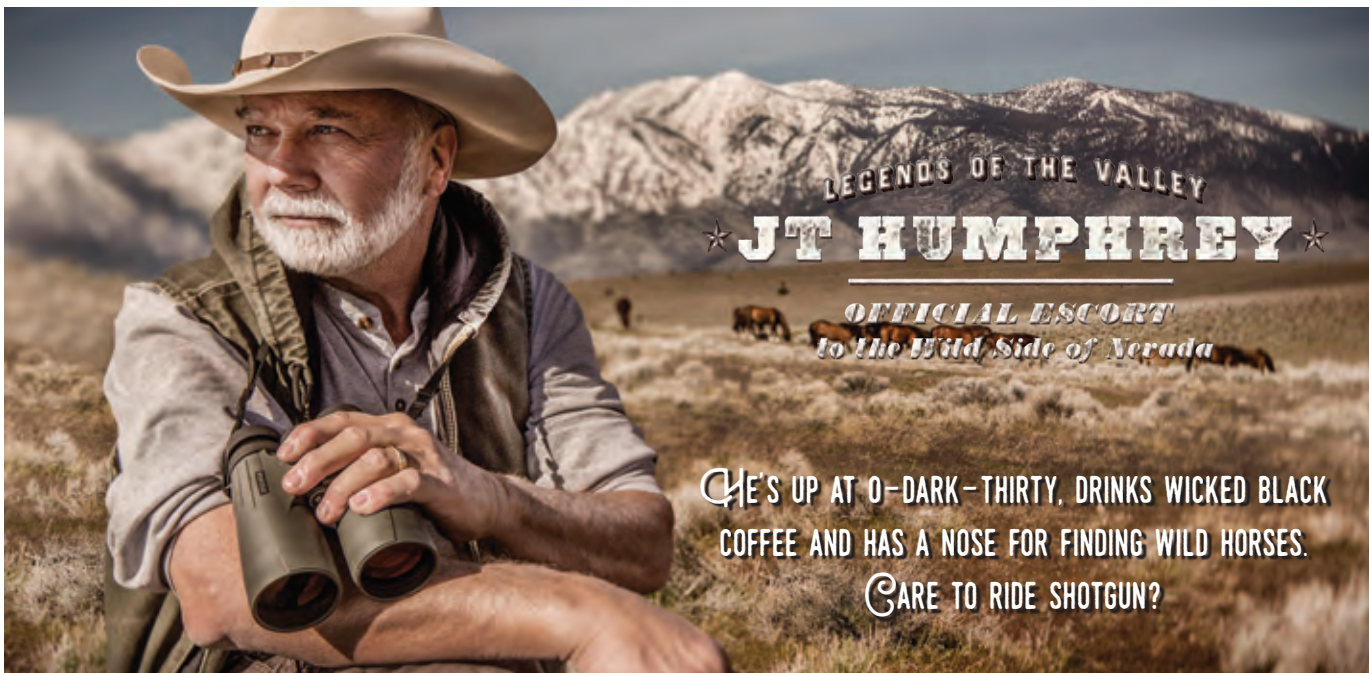
VIRGIN SUNSET

John Bolier captured this amazing sunset shot 100 feet above the Virgin River near Bunkerville.

 Hasselblad (drone), 1/20s, f/2.8, ISO 100



QUICK HITS **EYE CANDY**



WHILE CERTAIN OTHER PLACES IN NEVADA ARE JUST WINDING DOWN AROUND 6 AM, JT HUMPHREY IS ROLLING OUT. IN TOW ARE PHOTOGRAPHERS, BIOLOGISTS AND A TRUCKLOAD OF THE TERMINALLY CURIOUS WHO FEEL A DAY ENCOUNTERING EAGLES, MUSTANGS AND PETROGLYPHS TRUMPS A FULL HOUSE AND THE JOY OF BINGO. UNTIL LATER TONIGHT, THAT IS. SUCH IS THE PACE OF CARSON VALLEY, WHERE LIFE IS SERVED COMFORTABLY RAW.




CARSON VALLEY
NEVADA
visitcarsonvalley.org

HAMBURGER HEAVEN

Tracking down the Silver State's best burgers.

America's favorite food was born in the mid-1800s when vendors started serving "steak in the Hamburg style," which meant lower-quality beef that was ground, spiced, cooked, and served between bread. First popular with immigrants and sailors, hamburgers soon swept the nation as a meal for the common folk that was cheap, tasty, and portable.

Today, hamburgers are ubiquitous: a culinary staple nearly guaranteed on every restaurant menu in the country (and many abroad). Despite this proliferation, burger tourism is a rewarding venture because every region offers a unique spin on the classic. Such is the experience across Nevada, and while every community has at least one great burger option, we HIGHLY recommend these.



MIDDLEGATE STATION

Between Fallon and Austin



Middlegate originated as a stagecoach station for travelers across the Great Basin and even served as a pitstop for the Pony Express. Today, this must-try roadhouse serves Highway 50 travelers with a historic saloon and a tasty menu packed with comfort food.

Of course, you can't talk about Middlegate without mentioning their famous burger challenge. For the brave—and hungry—among you, don't miss their 3.5-pound, triple-decker beast: the Middlegate Monster Burger.

The Monster consists of Angus beef on a sourdough bun, lettuce, tomatoes, red onions, pickles, cheese, peppers and olives, two large onion rings, and a pile of fries. Translation? Seriously good eats, and a lot of it.

Eat it all and walk away with a T-shirt and total bragging rights. It's estimated that only one in 10 make it, but even if you don't finish, you can look forward to plenty of leftovers.

What's it like
to stare a
monster in
the face?
Check out the
GoPro view!



Cory: 77 inches tall

Monster Burger: 7.5 inches tall



STAY ANOTHER DAY

Looking for a basecamp for your Loneliest Road adventures? Middlegate Station offers fuel, motel rooms, an RV Park, and a free camping area. You'll also find excellent accommodations and grub at the Cold Spring Station Resort located 14 miles east.

LA CASITA

Mina



Trekkers on Nevada's Highway 95 are familiar with the long, quiet drive between Reno and Las Vegas. Only a handful of towns dot this north-south corridor, one being Mina.

Some might roll past this old railroad town not knowing it's home to one of the state's best burgers. In fact, this little shack offers a popular selection beyond its burgers including Mexican cuisine, cheesesteak and shakes.

How does La Casita achieve a darn-near 5-star reputation? They specialize in crafting a satisfying kick with the freshest Ortega chili, jalapeños, and pepper jack cheese served alongside their special blend of spices. For those looking for more tang than heat, try the bacon cheeseburger—the most popular item on the menu.

QUICK HITS FOOD



LA CASITA

SICKIES GARAGE

Las Vegas



Suffice it to say, there is plenty of competition for the title of Las Vegas' best burger. Sickies Garage puts its thumb on the scale with its massive menu offering more than 30 burger choices.

You'll find plenty of classic and indulgent choices, including the famous Sickies Burger: a hillock of bacon, eggs, pulled pork, onion rings, hot sauce, and melted cheese. For the more refined burger connoisseurs among us, a range of Kobe beef burgers will certainly please.

But Sickies Garage also takes the humble hamburger into a near-surrealist reimagining. Don't miss the Glazed Donut Burger, the Macaroni and Cheese, or the County Fair (cheese curds and fried jalapenos). We recommend the Twin Cam, which swaps out traditional buns for two grilled cheese sandwiches.



TWIN CAM FROM SICKIES GARAGE



SICKIES BURGER FROM SICKIES GARAGE

Sickies Garage (Twin Cam)

WENDOVER WILL

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70TH ANNIVERSARY OF WELCOMING
VISITORS TO WEST WENDOVER**

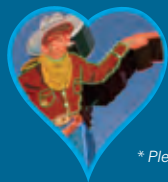


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RACKS BAR & GRILL

Ely

Located in the heart of historic Ely, Racks Bar & Grill is one of those rural Nevada establishments where all the talk seems to center on one menu item: the Basque Chorizo Burger.

Basque heritage runs deep in northern Nevada, and anything with chorizo is practically a

homemade hit. Racks' Chorizo burger is no different. The chorizo—crafted from a top-secret recipe—is served on a fresh pretzel roll with a roasted red pepper and chipotle mayo.

The signature dish alone is reason enough to recommend Racks, but you'll find a wide array of gourmet burgers complete with toasted buns, delicious sauces, and a heaping portion of fries.

**SCAN FOR
MORE INFO****BEST BURGERS**



THE EL PAPA GRANDE FROM BEEFY'S

**TRAVEL
NEVADA
PRO TIP**

Visiting with your best canine pal? No problem! The back patio at Beefy's is dog-friendly. We can't guarantee a drool-free experience, though—for anyone in your party!

Lizzie Flower (El Papa Grande) and Franz Carver (Rustler)

BEEFY'S**Reno**

This Midtown diner sources its top-tier beef directly from Ponderosa Meat Co., located right next door. Beefy's menu has everything from poutine and fried pickles to stuffed hotdogs and chicken sandwiches, but the burgers are a house specialty.

Offering more than a dozen delectable concoctions, Beefy's has a burger for all palate preferences. Love eggs and bacon? Order the Breakfast Burger. Looking for marinara and pepperoni? Try the Pizza Burger. Need sweet and spicy sauce and kimchi? That'll be the Korean Burger.

If you're prone to choice paralysis, you can't go wrong with the Awesome Awesome. This local favorite presents two patties, four different types of cheese, grilled onions, and plenty of Thousand Island.

A VERY GOOD GIRL WITH
A RUSTLER FROM BEEFY'S

Sagebrush Saloons

SANTA FE SALOON

In the early 1900s, Goldfield was home to 20,000 people—including Virgil Earp and Jack Dempsey. The discovery of gold brought opulence and wealth, along with paved sidewalks, electricity, and drinking fountains. There were a few famous bars, too, like Tex Rickard's Northern Saloon, and the Santa Fe Saloon—built in 1905 and the oldest continually operating business in Goldfield.

The building has survived a flood, fire, and the rough-and-tough life of the early boomtown. Today it features the basics: beer, liquor, video-poker machines, and pizza. Don't be surprised to see cattle dogs relaxing at the feet of their owners, and don't be shy about snagging a Wild Turkey neat as Goldfield's locals bend your ear about the town's glory days. This is certainly the type of place where you'll be going home with more stories than souvenirs.



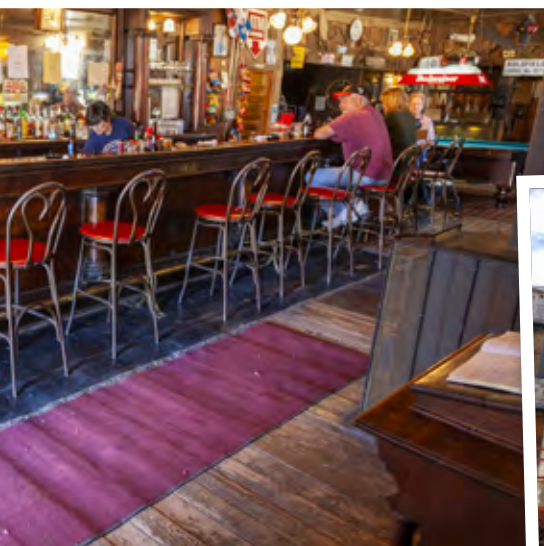
STAY ANOTHER DAY



There's no reason to rush through your visit with the Goldfield Stop Inn now open. This comfortable overnighter offers three quaint, refurbished cabins ready for your stay.



INSIDE SANTA FE CLUB



GOLDFIELD HISTORIC HIGH SCHOOL

SCAN FOR
MORE INFO



SAGEBRUSH SALOONS

GET SCHOOLED

Tours of the Goldfield Historic High School are in full swing, and the chance to roam the halls of this gorgeous building should not be missed. In 1907, renowned architect J.B. Randall's 3-story, 19,656-square foot high school debuted. The property featured 12 classrooms, an auditorium, two offices, and two bathrooms. Altogether, the school had a seating capacity of 450, and during the first year of operation, a whopping 125 students enrolled, staffed by 25 faculty members.

WEIRD NEVADA

Embrace your inner oddball with eccentric exhibits, curious collections, and historic haunts found around the state.

The ‘Stolen’ Belmont Church

One town’s church is another town’s treasure.

TRAVEL NEVADA PRO TIP

Belmont and Manhattan are living relics of Nevada’s early days, and both are well worth a visit. While in Manhattan, be sure to stop at the old bank and the library where you can peruse the museum and enjoy a cup of coffee. The Manhattan Bar—built in 1906—is open Thursday–Sunday.

Belmont’s tale of boom and bust is well-trodden in the annals of Nevada’s mining towns. Shortly after its founding in 1865 after a major silver strike, Belmont blossomed into a county seat of at least 2,000 residents. Its main street boasted banks, restaurants, a telegraph office, and—in 1878—a magnificent brick courthouse.

Within a few decades, however, the town’s fortunes soured, and most residents moved on to the next strike. The few who remained watched as much of Belmont was disassembled and hauled away; lumber was too valuable (and scarce) to be left unused.

But perhaps it wasn’t until 1908 when Belmont’s dwindling citizenry realized the end had finally come. That was the year the church was carefully placed on a wagon and taken away.

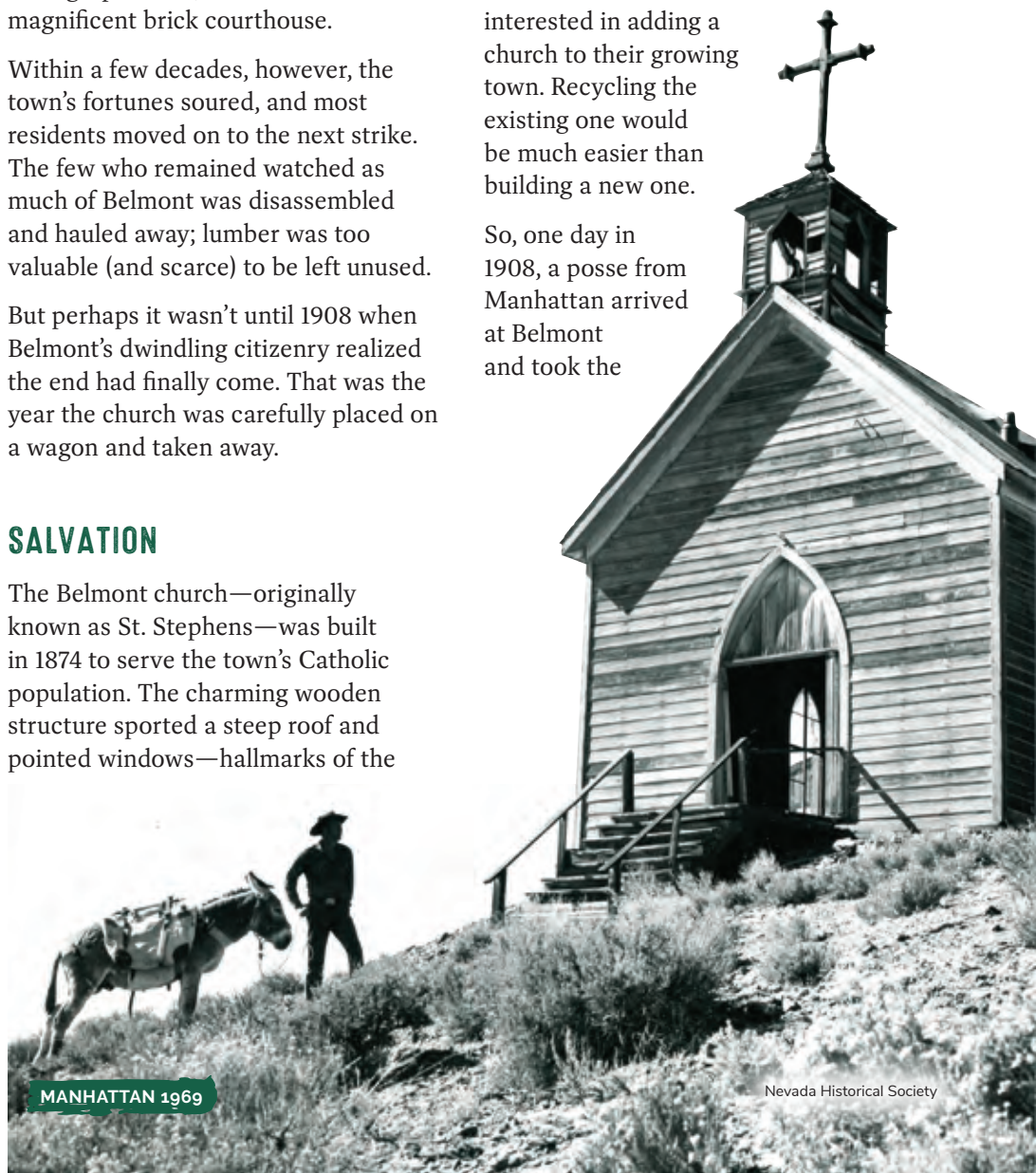
SALVATION

The Belmont church—originally known as St. Stephens—was built in 1874 to serve the town’s Catholic population. The charming wooden structure sported a steep roof and pointed windows—hallmarks of the

Gothic Revival period—and could seat 42 worshippers. However, as Belmont fell into decline, so too did the church, and services ceased in 1901 after the last parishioner left town.

Shortly after the decline of Belmont, a brand-new boomtown called Manhattan popped up about 15 miles west. Residents—including plenty of former Belmonsters—became interested in adding a church to their growing town. Recycling the existing one would be much easier than building a new one.

So, one day in 1908, a posse from Manhattan arrived at Belmont and took the



MANHATTAN 1909

Nevada Historical Society



SCAN FOR
MORE INFO



WEIRD NEVADA

CHURCH (FAR LEFT) IN BELMONT PRE-MOVE. CIRCA 1880

church away. Some tales speak of the building being sawed in two and carted off on trucks or rolled off on logs. However, it's more likely the church was simply lifted off its foundation and relocated 15 miles by wagon and mule.

In Manhattan, the church was renamed the Sacred Hearts Mission and placed on a hill directly on top of a depleted mine. In fact, the mine's open

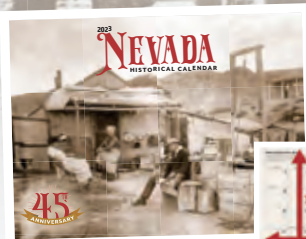
shaft was located just beneath the floorboard of the pulpit, reinforcing the leap toward marriage. From its perch, the church commands a scenic view of the surrounding countryside.

This landmark of central Nevada enjoyed services until the 1950s. In 1971, locals worked to renovate the building and fill in the mine shaft. In 1976, the church was donated to the county as a historic site and was featured as a symbol of America's bicentennial in European newspapers.

As for the residents of Belmont, their story ends on a bright note. The church could not be replaced, but it could be replicated. In the 1990s, a 4/5 size reproduction of the church was built just outside town.

While the churches don't host regular services, both are open to the public and have become popular venues for events and weddings.

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UNCOMMON OVERNIGHTERS

Vacationing in Nevada often means luxurious stays at ritzy hotels or sprawling casino resorts. But outside the neon, a world of unique retreats and unusual accommodations offers an irresistibly different kind of stay.



BY CORY MUNSON

Monitor Valley is one of the most remote and sparsely populated valleys in the lower 48. On any given night, fewer than a dozen souls rest in ranch houses along its 85-mile course.

Ike's Canyon Ranch sits in the foothills on the valley's western side. A conspicuous totem pole planted above the house comes into view long before the turn off.

ALONE IN THE DESERT

Near the house, a saloon building with batwing doors—a bank house in a previous life—sits next to a dirt aircraft landing strip. A nearby dry pond has a sign warning guests of loose alligators.

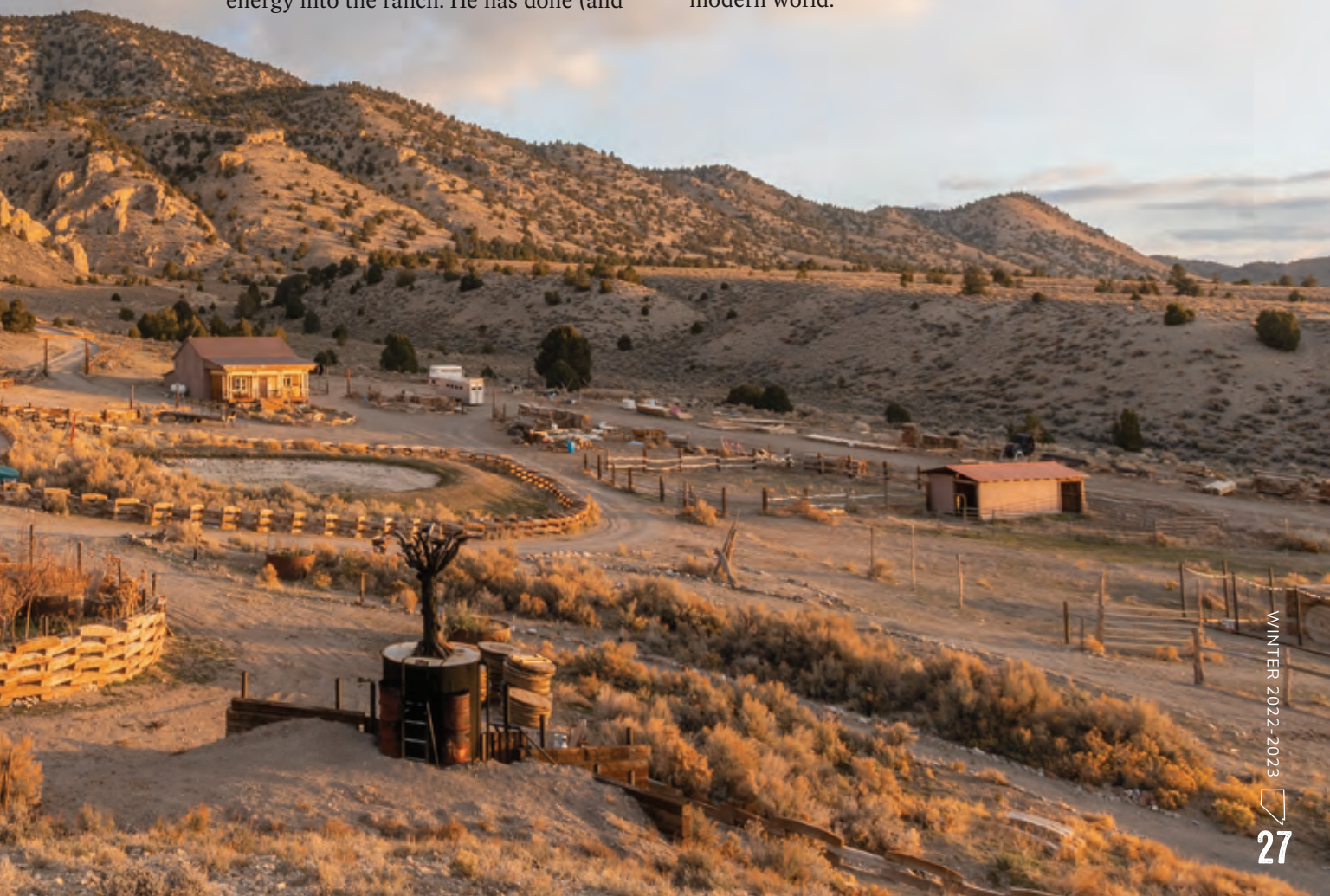
This is the home of couple Robin McClean and Jerry Elkins. In one of Nevada's most isolated places, they made their dream house into a guest retreat brimming with personality and serenity.

McClean is a writer and a ceramics artist—her kiln is located just behind the (fully stocked) saloon. Ike's Canyon Ranch is advertised as a writing retreat: not a difficult sell given the inspiring views, quiet landscapes, and resident author.

Elkins was a globetrotting hot air balloon pilot and a surveyor of Nevada's backroads before pouring his energy into the ranch. He has done (and

seen) it all, and when he's not charming guests with stories, he's hard at work on new projects. For Elkins, life here is wide-open and self-paced: if he can dream it, he can do it.

"In this place, you can wake up with an idea and keep it all day," he says. "That doesn't happen in the modern world."





Ike's Canyon Ranch has three comfortable rooms—each with a queen bed—in the main house and a studio-like room with multiple beds in the Stone Cabin, which was once a stagecoach mail stop.

TRAVEL NEVADA PRO TIP

Adventure awaits further south on the Belmont Road. Stop in at the old boomtowns of Belmont and Manhattan. You can learn more about these well-preserved relics of Nevada's mining past on page 24.

Elkins admits the lifestyle here takes time getting used to, and he doesn't recommend people stop in for just one night.

"After the first day, guests are mostly focused on how quiet and remote this place is. It takes about three days for that lightbulb to go off where people get what this place is about."

A NIGHT AT IKE'S

Visitors from around the world come to Ike's for extended stays. Today, Elkins is showing a French guest how to use a stick shift. The young man had already been visiting for a few weeks and was helping Elkins get things ready for the season.

As dusk arrives, the house lights up—a lone candle in the high desert. There is virtually no light pollution here, and the Milky Way soon blinks into view.





Jerry Elkins and Laurinne Radigue look on as Thomas Hoareau tries his first ever hard-shell taco.



Lots of laughs as Elkins, Radigue, and Charlotte Ergon play cards.

STAY ANOTHER DAY



Monitor Valley and the adjacent Big Smoky Valley form the spine of central Nevada. Their corresponding mountain ranges are part of the Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest, a vast wilderness of hidden canyons and scenic views.

Inside, guests and hosts come together for a communal dinner—tonight is tacos—and everyone pitches in to prepare the meal. Dinner is complemented by laughter, and the French and Americans are bemused at the condiments the other is willing to put on a tortilla—Thousand Island and mayonnaise for the former, ranch dressing and ketchup for the home team.

The table is soon cleared, and the cards come out. There are too many people to play together, so leagues are formed, and a tournament bracket is haphazardly scrawled out. The night slowly passes in good company.

What will the next day bring? That's up to the guests at Ike's Canyon Ranch. There are green canyons to explore, a deck to help build, and maybe a new chapter to write.

SCAN FOR MORE INFO



UNCOMMON OVERNIGHTERS

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CURATOR'S CORNER

Favorite exhibits from the professionals.

NEVADA STATE MUSEUM, CARSON CITY

This issue, we're talking to museum curators and directors to learn about the exhibits they most enjoy. Whether it's a personal attachment or just a great story, here's a few must-see attractions straight from the museum experts.

NEVADA STATE MUSEUM, CARSON CITY



MINA STAFFORD-CURATOR OF EDUCATION

Nevada State Museum
Carson City

Mina Stafford's favorite part of the museum is in the basement of the old mint.

"In the 1950s, this subterranean section was transformed into the museum's first permanent exhibit: a replica Comstock mine tunnel. With its dim lighting, low roof, and labyrinthine corridors, the mine makes for an immersive experience, and kids love it.

The best part is a glass window in the tunnel's wall. Behind the glass is a mine stope: a long channel used to transport ore. It's not a real stope, of course—it's only a few feet deep—but it's a convincing recreation.

While staring down this stope, guests don't feel like they are in a museum or a basement—they're in a mine. The best exhibits transport us, and that immersion is what builds curiosity and lasting memories."



LOST CITY MUSEUM

Willis Evans
Pit River Indian and Archaeologist

Lost City Museum (Old portrait and Willis Evans showcase)

VIRGINIA LUCAS- ARCHAEOLOGIST AND CURATOR

Lost City Museum
Overton

Virginia Lucas selected the Willis Evans exhibit, which tells the story of a relatively unknown archaeologist.

“In the U.S., there were, and still are, few Native American archaeologists, making Willis Evans truly exceptional. Evans was not a famous author nor associated with a major institution, and therefore his contributions have largely remained unknown. Despite this, his work defines much of what we know about the Ancestral Puebloans.

Just before the pandemic, Lost City Museum staff were contacted by Evans’ grandson, who wanted to loan a cradleboard that was made by Evans’ father. We began thinking about how to incorporate the cradleboard into an exhibit about Willis Evans.

SCAN FOR
MORE INFO



MUSEUMS

Clark County Museum lent a deputy badge belonging to Evans, and Lake Mead National Recreation Area supplied photos and field notebooks. The family also contributed much to the exhibit.

The best part was Evans' family finding out about the recorded oral history that Evans' wife gave in 1974. One of the children grew very emotional when she heard the voice of her grandmother, who had passed away before many of the grandchildren and great grandchildren were born. It was wonderful to work with the family to create this exhibit."

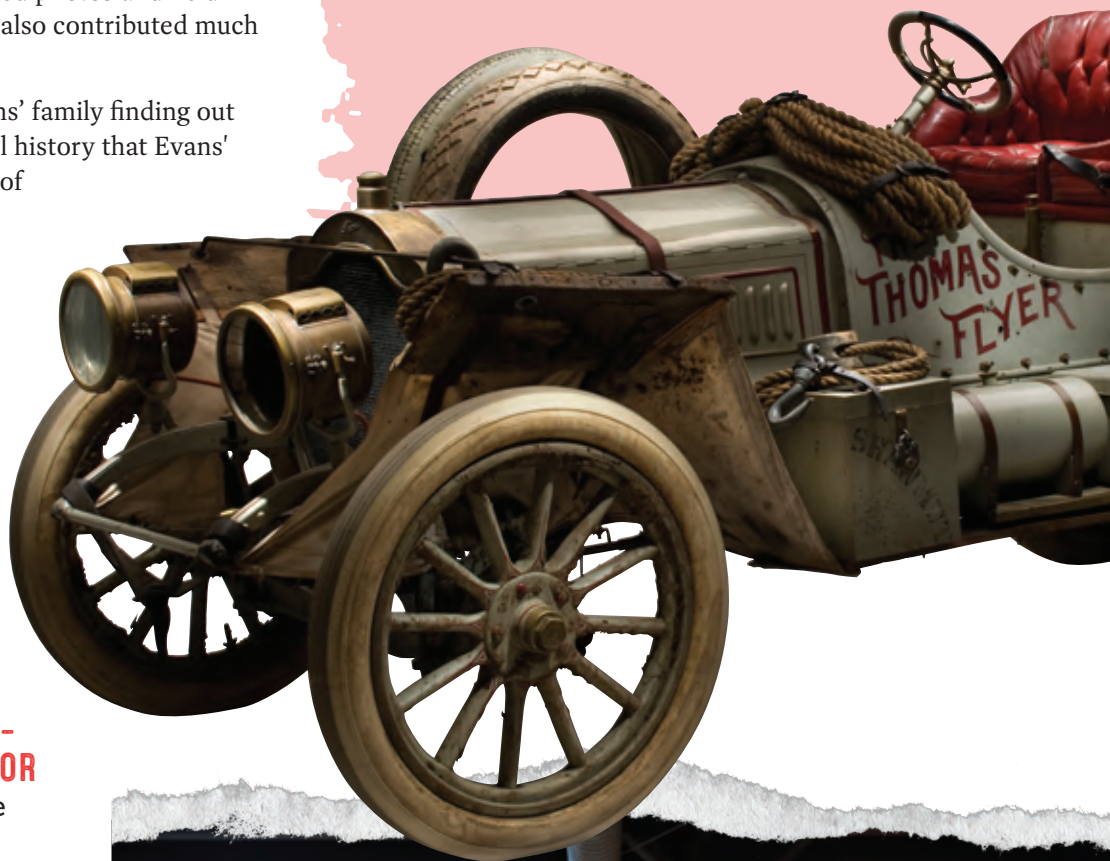
PHIL MACDOUGALL- EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

National Automobile
Museum
Reno

Phil MacDougall chose the 1907 Thomas Flyer, winner of the 1908 New York to Paris Automobile Race.

"This race was the first of its kind and a considerable challenge given the primitive automobiles and roads that were usually unpaved and without signage.

The 22,000-mile trek across North America, Asia, and Europe featured six teams from Germany, Italy, France, and the U.S. More than a quarter of a million spectators gathered in Times Square to see the racers off.



Randy Rascati (Couple by automobile)
National Automobile Museum (Car and Exterior)



The four-cylinder, 60-horsepower Thomas Flyer represented the U.S. and was modified to accommodate extra gas tanks and spare tires. A protective iron frame was welded on, and a giant searchlight was mounted atop.



NATIONAL AUTOMOBILE MUSEUM

This exhibit is wonderful because it represents the dawn of the fledgling automobile industry in the U.S. The Thomas Flyer gave American car makers prestige and proved that this new technology could operate across all terrain and all seasons.”

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JANET VANCAMP-CURATOR

White Pine Public Museum
Ely

Janet VanCamp doesn't hesitate when asked about her favorite exhibit: it's the petrified foot.

"Our charming, little museum has a lot to offer to history buffs of all ages, but my favorite object offers a rather creepy—but cool—twist. It's not because of what it is, but because of the reaction it causes in children.

Near the back of our mining exhibit lies an old shoe with half a petrified foot inside. When we have young children visiting, I always ask if they would like to see something creepy and gross, and of course they do.

I take them to the cabinet and pull out the dried up, mangled foot and tell them what we know. I love to watch the looks on their faces. They're puzzled, intrigued, and hungry for more information. Then they start asking questions:

"What happened? Did he get blown up? Did he cut his own leg off? Was he murdered?"

Since we know so little about the foot, I ask them what they think happened. The stories they come up with are wonderful.

I know when they leave our museum, they will tell their family what they saw and talk about it for a long time. And isn't that what museums are for?"



WHITE PINE PUBLIC MUSEUM



PETRIFIED FOOT

Want more history? Read about Sarah Winnemucca on page 62.



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<u>May</u>	<u>September</u>
Run-A-Mucca - Motorcycle Rally	Tri-County Fair & Stampede
<u>June</u>	<u>November</u>
Winnemucca Basque Festival	Western States Ranch Rodeo Finals



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COWBOY CORRIDOR



Gear Up for the Drive of Your Life

The trip from Reno to West Wendover via Interstate 80 crosses the state from the California border to Utah. The drive can be made in around seven hours. To do it so quickly, however, would be a terrible waste of what could be the time of your life.



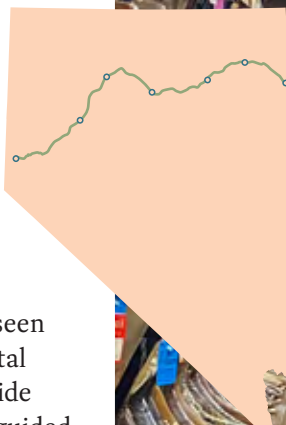
To cruise across I-80 is to travel across the state's history. Follow the footsteps of the pioneers who crossed the California Trail, view the countryside seen from the first transcontinental railroad, and wander alongside the Humboldt River, which guided prospectors in the 1840s. If you're looking for true western heritage, this is not a route to be rushed. Discover the Basque's lasting influence and experience Native American traditions along the way. These eight great towns are reason enough to slow your roll and enjoy the ride through Cowboy Corridor. Giddy up!

RENO

Get geared up with the perfect pair of cowboy boots and a stylish wild rag at **D Bar M Western Store**, where the real cowboys shop. Fuel up before you hit the trail at **Louis' Basque Corner**, which has been serving up tasty Basque cuisine and the perfect Picon Punch (Nevada's unofficial state drink) since 1967.

FERNLEY

Cruise into Fernley and check out the **Main Street Art Park**—home to a 25-foot-long by 17-foot-tall desert tortoise and the Bottlecap Gazebo. Before getting back on the road, stop at **Mary and Mo's Wigwam Casino** for a tasty butterscotch milkshake or quick meal, then seek out the town's 27 beautiful new murals.



D BAR M WESTERN STORE



MAIN STREET ART PARK



MARY AND MO'S WIGWAM CASINO



LOUIS' BASQUE CORNER

**LOVELOCK DEPOT****LOVERS LOCK PLAZA****LOVELOCK CAVE**

LOVELOCK

Visit **Lovelock Cave** where 11 tule duck decoys—the oldest of their kind ever found—were recovered. Back in town, “lock your love” to a never-ending chain at **Lovers Lock Plaza** and take a gander at the **depot** built in 1868.

TRAVEL NEVADA PRO TIP

Visit the #WeirdNevada wonder that is **Thunder Mountain Monument** in **Imlay**. Right off the freeway, this must-see is part political protest, part homage, and pure Nevada.

WINNEMUCCA

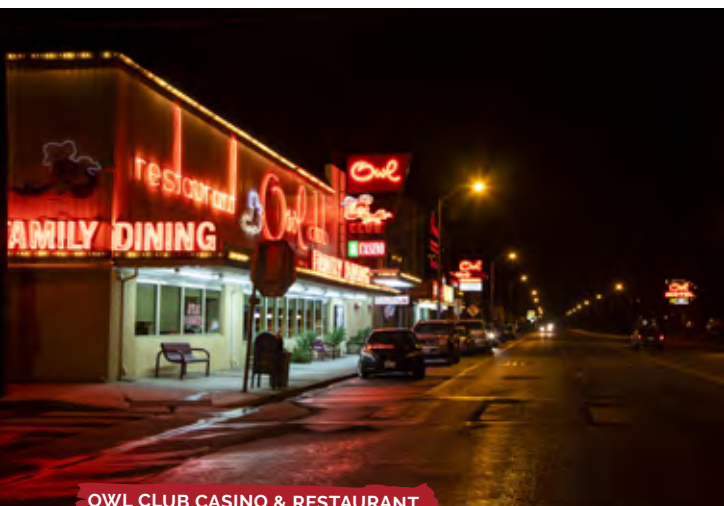
Pull into town and get ready to saddle up for a delightfully decadent Basque meal at **The Martin Hotel**. Open since 1898, this is a true Nevada institution. Work off that lamb shank at the artifact-packed **Humboldt Museum** and **Buckaroo Hall of Fame** before settling down for the night at **Winnemucca Inn**.

**THE MARTIN HOTEL**

Mark Vollmer (Lovelock Depot)

BATTLE MOUNTAIN

Back on the road, it's a short drive to Battle Mountain, where the **Owl Club Casino & Restaurant** will deliciously sate a cowboy-sized hunger. Before you mosey, scope out the ephemera-filled **Cookhouse Museum** housed in an authentic 1920s ranch cookhouse.



OWL CLUB CASINO & RESTAURANT

ELKO

Get ready to park that car, because this ain't no drive by. Elko is home to the annual **National Cowboy Poetry Gathering** (see page 48), museums, the legendary **J.M. Capriola Co.**, more than 70 pieces of **public art**, and traditional Basque restaurants. And that's just scratching the surface, so get ready to hang your hat for the night at the **Stockmen's Casino** or **Maverick Casino Hotel**.



ANGEL LAKE



J.M. CAPRIOLA CO.

Read more about J.M. Capriola Co. on page 104.



Ryan Donnell (J.M. Capriola)
C2 Photography (Elko Boot)

WELLS

Start your day with a short drive to the ghost town of **Metropolis**—just 15 miles north of Wells—and find the remnants of a town that in the 1930s was ravaged by biblical-type plagues. Afterward, it's time for an angelic retreat: **Angel Lake**, to be exact. Located some 8,500 feet up (but just 12 miles off the interstate), this beauty is only accessible from approximately May to October, but just one visit steals the hearts of hikers, photographers, fishermen, and wildlife watchers.

**METROPOLIS****ROAD TO ANGEL LAKE****HAWK RELEASE AT GOSHUTE RANGE****WEST WENDOVER**

Wend your way to West Wendover, home to military history at **Historic Wendover Airfield**, the famed **Bonneville Salt Flats**, flashy casinos, and big-name live entertainment. The nearby **Goshute Range** hosts a migratory bird station, where you can help track and release wild hawks. On your way out, be sure to wave to **Wendover Will**, the 63-ft-tall neon cowboy (to learn about Will's Laughlin counterpart, see page 78), to officially wrap up your Cowboy Corridor excursion.

SCAN FOR MORE INFO**COWBOY CORRIDOR**

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




Get ready to discover the work of talented photographers who have captured the soul of this state. This year was one of the toughest for Nevada Magazine & Visitor Guide to select a winner and runner-up of eight categories: the submissions were phenomenal.

Do you have a piece of Nevada you want to show off? Don't hesitate to send in your photo to next year's Great Nevada Picture Hunt.



MARYLOU SCHINDLER, GRAND PRIZE

“I was in Carson Valley as the snow was coming down heavily. I stopped at a favorite local barn and was taking ordinary snapshots. All at once, the wind came up and blew all the snow off the trees and shed. It was beautiful—I just love the peaceful and cozy feeling it evokes.”

 Pixel 6 Pro, 1/640s, f/3.5, ISO 37

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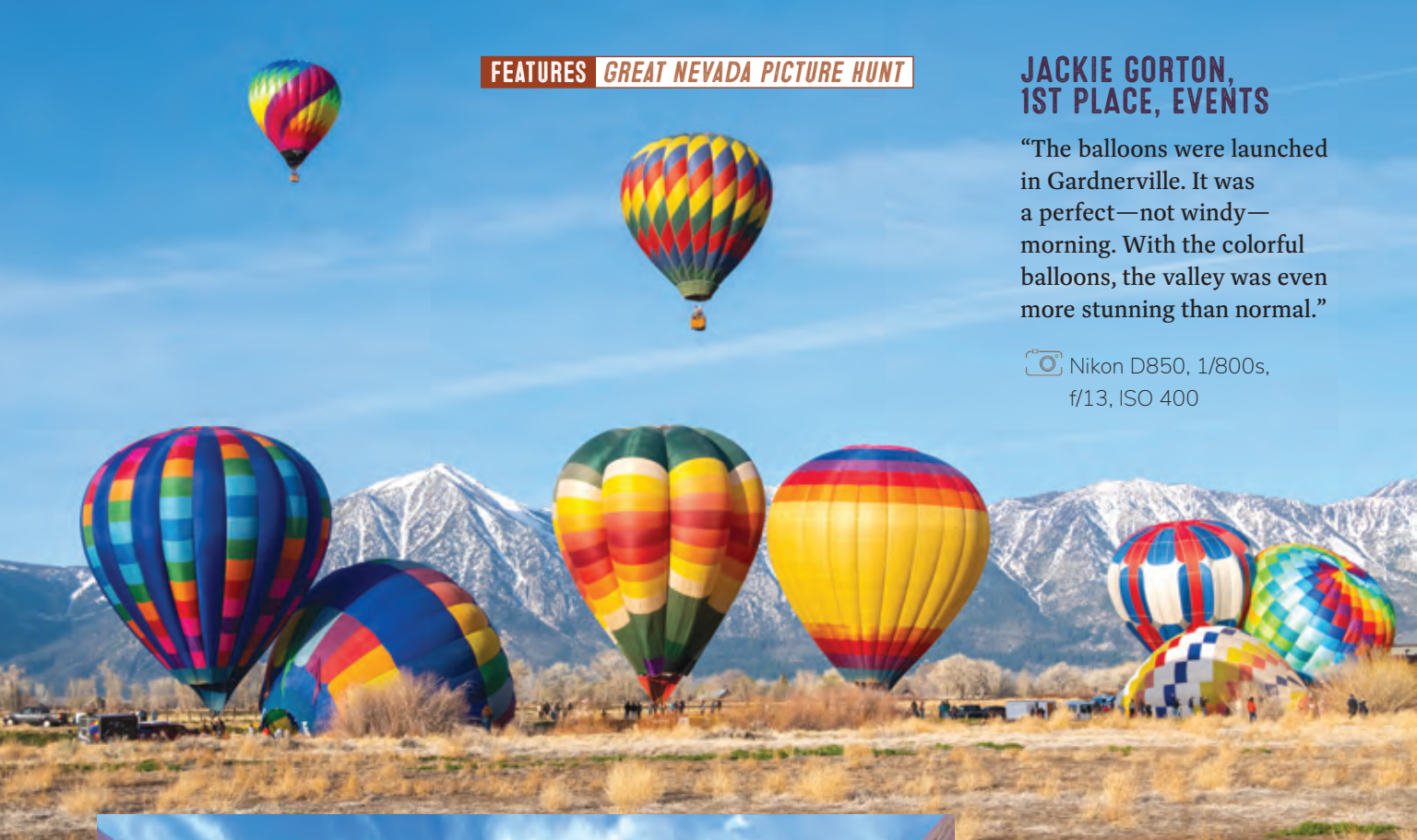


**HOME MEANS
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JACKIE GORTON, 1ST PLACE, EVENTS


“The balloons were launched in Gardnerville. It was a perfect—not windy—morning. With the colorful balloons, the valley was even more stunning than normal.”

 Nikon D850, 1/800s, f/13, ISO 400



CLAYTON PEOPLES, 1ST PLACE, MOBILE/CELL

“This gorgeous canyon at Valley of Fire State Park has smooth walls and rock colored in pastel pink and orange. The light was almost perfect, and there were beautiful, wispy cirrus clouds gracing the sky.”

 iPhone, 1/120s, f/2.4, ISO 80

VIJAY MOORTHY, 1ST PLACE, LANDSCAPE


“Outside Genoa, the clouds built up as the day progressed and added a dimension that rendered a beautiful evening scene. Seeing the path meander its way through the colorful windswept grass and brush, the words ‘nature’s easel’ popped into my head.”

 Canon 5DSR, 1/250s, f/6.3, ISO 640



CANDACE MERLINO, 1ST PLACE, PEOPLE

"I got up early to get some shots of my brother-in-law and his assistant Tess working around the ranch at Fish Lake. Tess was coming to get a horse, and as she walked toward me, dust was floating in the air and the sun made its appearance."

 Sony Alpha a7R iii,
1/5000s, f/3.2, ISO 2000






MARYLOU SCHINDLER, 1ST PLACE, WILDLIFE

"Summer 2021 was dry and also the worst for smoke because of all the wildfires, but it made for great backgrounds. This band of wild horses came running to Washoe Lake, and I was fortunate to catch the beautiful reflections as they ran through the water."

 Canon 90D, 1/8000s, F/2.8, ISO 800

MARIE NYGREN, 1ST PLACE, GHOST TOWNS


"I was successful in finding the Poinsettia Mine on a bluebird day in May. The sign created an interesting foreground with the structures nestled behind and the hills scattered with mine tailings in the distance."

 Canon EOS 6D, 1/400s, f/9, ISO 100



JACKIE GORTON, 1ST PLACE, CITIES/TOWNS

"This was taken at the Tonopah Historic Mining Park. I encourage everyone to visit the 100-acre park, which overlooks the town."

 Nikon D850, 10s, f/5.6, ISO 1600

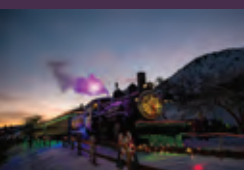


KALEIGH TAYLOR, 1ST PLACE, UNDER 18

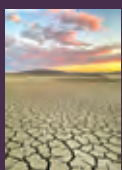
"I took this picture of Dock 6 band members at the Jim Butler Days celebration in Tonopah. I helped the band members move equipment and pass out flyers, and not long after I took this picture, they called me up on stage and gave me the white electric guitar that is on stage for helping them out."

 Google Pixel 2, 1/60s, f/1.8, ISO360

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runners-up online at
nevadamagazine.com/gnph22



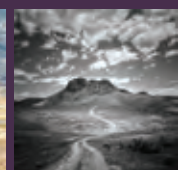
Nancy Flores
Events



Marie Nygren
Mobile/Cell



Jackie Gorton
People



Michele Barney
Landscape



Tami Force
Wildlife



Tami Force
Ghost Towns



Melody Hoover
Cities/Towns

Western Art Comes Alive

Cowboy culture is on full display in Elko.

The image of a cowboy is synonymous with the West. Romantic images of hardscrabble men and women who lived on the land, rode majestic horses, drove cattle across landscapes covered with brush, and camped beneath endless starlit skies... that's a cowboy. The culture is celebrated across the state, but in Elko, it's truly a part of everyday life. From annual celebrations to routine social settings, if you're searching for the real deal, Elko is the place for you.



David Braun (Woman's Thing)
Jennifer Browning (Man's Thing)

NATIONAL COWBOY POETRY GATHERING

For almost four decades, the National Cowboy Poetry Gathering (NCPG) in Elko has drawn cowpokes and urban cowboys alike to its lyrical blend of the Wild West, the spoken word, music, and more. Evolved from the earliest storytelling of the buckaroos who ranched and rode the western U.S., the art form has earned an international audience.

The annual event features many workshops including writing, gearmaking, and cooking, special sessions, exhibits of western art and gear, and films about the West. But wait, there are also lectures by prominent speakers, open-mic sessions, dances, and late-night jam sessions. And don't forget the shows, where some of the best poets, storytellers, and musicians take to the stage in both ticketed and non-ticketed performances. It's one jam-packed week of all things cowboy.

The 38th National Cowboy Poetry Gathering will be held Jan. 30-Feb. 4, 2023. The preliminary schedule will be available in October, and ticketed events often sell out.

TRAVEL NEVADA PRO TIP

You can buy tickets to individual shows or day passes, though the best way to truly experience this celebrated annual event is with a 3-Day Deluxe Pass. You'll get access to dozens of daytime poetry and music performances Thursday through Saturday. The Gathering is free for Western Folklife Center members—consider becoming one today!



WESTERN FOLKLIFE CENTER

The Western Folklife Center hosts NCPG each year, but all year long it's home to an exemplary display of contemporary cowboy craftsmanship, ranch life, and American Indian art. The Western Folklife Center—a non profit organization—was founded in 1980 and succeeds thanks to dedicated staff, members, donors, and dozens of volunteers.

Comprised of a 300-seat theater, 20-seat black box theater, rotating art gallery, and treasure-packed gift shop, the location was once the historic Pioneer Hotel, an iconic 19th-century building that housed the classic Pioneer Saloon. While the bar famously goes into the wee hours during the National Cowboy Poetry Gathering, if you plan to visit outside of the event, call ahead to see if it will be open during your trip.



WESTERN FOLKLIFE CENTER GALLERY



PIONEER SALOON



COWBOY ARTS & GEAR MUSEUM

COWBOY ARTS & GEAR MUSEUM

The culture of the cowboy is not romantic fantasy, but a life lived daily by many men and women. Nevada has always celebrated and honored their contributions, and the Cowboy Arts & Gear Museum continues to pay homage.

The museum is not only home to some of the finest saddles and silver works ever created, but it's also housed in the actual shop of one of the most famous saddle makers ever, G.S. Garcia. The museum is replete with memorabilia from Garcia: family photographs, historic images, saddles, bits, spurs, vintage bridles, belt buckles, and many other items. Changing exhibits and more from the town's past can be found in this gem.

Holiday events in Eureka



EUREKA OPERA HOUSE:

Annual VFW Veterans Dinner • November 11, 6 pm

Holiday Bazaar • November 18-19, 9 am – 5 pm

Christmas Concert with Michael Mears
and Ralph Cuda • December 15, 6 pm

Fireman's New Year's Eve Party • December 31, 9 pm

PERDIZ SPORT SHOOTING:

Thanksgiving Turkey Shoot • November 19-20

Community Christmas Tree Lighting • December 3

EUREKA, NEVADA

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Visit THE COWBOY ARTS & GEAR MUSEUM

Showcasing the rich history, culture, and traditions of the Cowboy of the American West – connecting the past to the present.

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NORTHEASTERN NEVADA MUSEUM

One of Elko's most robust museums, the Northeastern Nevada Museum includes fascinating permanent displays that showcase the remnants of a Spring Creek mastodon, compelling collections of historic firearms, and full-scale panoramas of life in the West. See the historic press from the "Elko Daily Free Press," along with all kinds of cultural artifacts that tell the story of the region's first American Indian, Chinese, Basque, and pioneer residents. The Wanamaker Wildlife exhibit is particularly fascinating, featuring hundreds of taxidermied animals from across Nevada's Great Basin and the globe. Don't miss the exhibit on Bing Crosby, who was Elko's honorary mayor and lived on a ranch in the region, too.



Upstairs, peruse several rare and valuable works of art, including one of only 100 collections of Ansel Adams' Portfolio One—complete with original signatures—a collection of Edward Weston photographs, and 56 original Will E. James drawings and paintings with an estimated value of more than \$1 million. The museum also features three rotating art galleries with collections that highlight both local and international artists.

Can't get enough museums? Find more exciting exhibits on page 30.

CALIFORNIA TRAIL INTERPRETIVE CENTER

Memorializing and telling the story of more than 250,000 brave pioneers that made their way west on the California Trail, this Bureau of Land Management-run facility provides a detailed look into what it was like traveling the trail from 1841-1869. Learn the stories of the pioneers who survived this 2,000-mile journey—some seeking land, some gold, and some even adventure. Work your way throughout a multitude of extremely-well-done interactive exhibits to learn what it would've been like to endure this famed route.



For more Western cool,
head to page 36 to
learn about the Cowboy
Corridor Road Trip.



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NEVADA'S RETRO THEATERS

Enjoy these silver screen experiences in the Silver State.

BY CORY MUNSON

Walking into an old movie theater is enough to give anyone waves of nostalgia. The smell of the lobby, the buzz of the crowd, the colorful concessions: this is what makes a night out at the movies worth it. Nowhere is this truer than in these historic movie theaters found throughout the state.

Ely's first theater was the Capital Theater, built in 1916. You'll find this stately structure on main street, where it has since been converted into a commercial space.

CENTRAL THEATER (1941)

Ely

With its step-like roof and vertical marquee, Central Theater strikes a familiar silhouette straight from cinema's golden age. Throughout the 1930s, these ultra-sleek, Art Deco-style movie houses graced the skyline of countless towns across the country.

Today, few Art Deco theaters are still used—many were repurposed, torn down, or simply abandoned. Even Central Theater saw closures due to economic slumps in 1993 and again in 2006.

Today, Central Theater welcomes a fifth generation of moviegoers. Popcorn and other concession mainstays are available, as is pizza and a full menu of beer and wine. Despite its historical roots, this 400-seat theater offers modern digital projection and sound. Its single screen offers the latest releases, which run for a week each.



CENTRAL THEATER

FALLON THEATER (1920)

Fallon

Nevada's oldest-operating movie theater opened hardly a decade after the first nickelodeons, a testament to the meteoric rise of this farming community.

The 805-seat theater—designed by renowned architect Frederic DeLongchamps—dazzled audiences with the latest silent films, but the silver screen shared equal time with acrobats, dancers, and singers.

After the live acts ended in the 1940s, the balcony was removed to improve acoustics, and in 1984, the great hall was split in half to accommodate two screens.

In 2017, local enthusiasts purchased the theater to renovate and revitalize the historic building. The 35mm film projector—still used up to that point—went digital.

In a return to its roots 103 years ago, the stage is again home to live acts, concerts, and local bands. To enjoy a movie on this historic screen, stop in on a Friday or Saturday night.



FALLON THEATER



DAM SHORT FILM FESTIVAL

Boulder City

Feb. 16-20

Dam Short Film Festival is your chance to access one of Nevada's best-preserved theaters: the 400-seat Boulder Theatre. This building was a fixture of southern Nevada since the 1930s and ran until it shuttered in the 90s. In 1997, the theater was purchased and restored by Desi Arnaz Jr.—son of Lucille Ball. Although it no longer operates as a daily movie theater, it has long hosted the film fest, which takes place over four days and features more than 200 short films of all styles and genres.



BOULDER THEATRE



WEST WIND DRIVE-IN THEATERS

Sparks (1950)

Las Vegas (1966)

During the mid-20th century, drive-in theaters ruled the land. Post-WWII American life was on wheels, and the movie experience reflected that. At peak popularity, more than 3,000 drive-ins operated across the country.

After the 1960s, drive-ins saw a marked decline. Many businesses found it difficult to compete with the rise of multi-screen theaters, and drive-ins that were once on the outskirts of cities were slowly swallowed up by urban growth. Today, only around 300 remain, but two can be found in Nevada.

The drive-in experience is immersive for nostalgia seekers, but newcomers are quickly converted to the lifestyle. The Las Vegas and Sparks locations—both operated by West Wind Theaters—screen the latest releases, and the remarkably economical tickets usually include a double feature.





Both locations offer classic concessions—popcorn, candy, ice cream, burgers, pizza, nachos—with the modern ability to skip the line and order through a mobile device. Even with this convenience, guests are welcome to bring snacks and meals to create their own unique pairings. Spaghetti and a Western, anyone?

Whether you are stress-testing your seat's recline lever or having a picnic on the tailgate, a visit to the drive-in makes for the perfect night out. Best of all, if a phone goes off during the show, you only have yourself to blame.

Pioche's Gem Theater has been shuttered for almost 20 years, but that's about to change. Read about the revitalization of this 85-year old silver screen treasure.



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at Lake Tahoe and Kershaw/Ryan

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For families, parks are an obvious choice when looking for something to do. With 24 state parks, Nevada is sure to offer an outdoor experience for every taste and adventure level. Whether you're a casual weekender or adventurer enthusiast, check out these parks that will tantalize visitors both young and young at heart.

TRAVEL NEVADA PRO TIP

Nevada State Parks will be rolling out a reservation system in early 2023 for camping and day-use permits. Check the park you plan to visit to see if it requires a reservation.



KERSHAW-RYAN STATE PARK

Located just south of Caliente, craggy hills loom above a canyon that leads to an incredibly verdant valley. Natural springs in the surrounding rock have created an unexpected oasis at Kershaw-Ryan State Park.

Perfect for families of all stripes, this lush spot features a cool spring-fed wading pool, abundant fruit trees (including an apple tree planted by the

original owners), picnic areas, horseshoe pits, a volleyball net, and plenty of gentle trails. Hikers can head to the backcountry on the easy 1.5-mile Overlook Trail. Campers can take their pick of 15 sites.

TRAVEL NEVADA PRO TIP



Nestled in Rainbow Canyon, some 20 miles south of Kershaw-Ryan, sits Elgin Schoolhouse State Historic Site. This one-room schoolhouse accommodated first-through-eighth grades from 1922 to 1967 and became a state historic site in 2005. Open by appointment only (contact Kershaw-Ryan for appointments), the nearly 100-year-old building contains many original items from the schoolhouse.





Get it stamped!



The Nevada State Parks Passport can be picked up at any Nevada State Park and serves as a travelogue for visitors. It includes photos, park descriptions, amenity lists, and spaces for validation stamps. Once you have your booklets stamped at 15 different parks, you earn one free annual pass to all Nevada State Parks! Call 775-684-2770 for more information.



SCAN FOR
MORE INFO



NEVADA STATE PARKS

SAND HARBOR STATE PARK



TRAVEL
NEVADA
PRO TIP

Between Oct. 15–April 15, Sand Harbor is a dog-friendly destination, so bring your four-legged friends!



LAKE TAHOE NEVADA STATE PARK

The majesty of Nevada's portion of Lake Tahoe is so resplendent, it requires four parks to cover it all. Starting at the north end, **Sand Harbor State Park** is Reno's closest access point to the crystal-blue waters. Popular thanks to its wide and sandy beach, ample parking, numerous restrooms, and accessible walkways, this is the ultimate family-friendly destination. Visitors can rent paddleboards and kayaks during the summer for on-the-water views of the crystal-clear Lake Tahoe.

Sand Harbor and its visitor center are open year-round, and in the winter, visitors can take advantage of short hikes, uncrowded beaches, and—when the snow is plentiful—horse-drawn sleigh rides.

The next park is a short drive southeast of Lake Tahoe. **Spooner Lake** and its massive backcountry are perfect for the outdoor-adventure family.



SPOONER LAKE



LIVE LIKE A LOCAL

For some sweet and easy access to Lake Tahoe's gorgeous scenery, hop on the Tahoe East Shore Trail. This 3-mile path between Incline Village and Sand Harbor State Park is open to non-motorized bicycles, foot traffic, and pups on a leash. With 17 spectacular vista points and 23 interpretive panels, this family-friendly path is just the ticket.



VAN SICKLE

Spooner is a hiking, mountain biking, and equestrian paradise with more than 50 miles of trails, some of which connect to the Tahoe Rim Trail. Three walk-in campgrounds are available, and there are two reservable backcountry cabins.

Fishing is popular at Spooner Lake, as well as at nearby Marlette Lake and Hobart Reservoir. Each area has its own restrictions on limits or catch-and-release policies, so be sure to check before you throw your line. When the snow flies, the park becomes a popular cross-country skiing and snowshoeing destination with many groomed trails.

For watersports lovers, head to **Cave Rock**, a popular boat launch with 40 trailer parking spots. The rocky shoreline offers great fishing, a small beach for swimming and launching crafts, and three picnic areas with tables and barbecue pits.

The last Nevada state park in the Lake Tahoe quartet is **Van Sickle**. A two-state park, Van Sickle is easily accessed from Stateline and its casinos. A short drive puts you in the middle of the forest, far removed from the lights and noise of the casino corridor. Equestrians, hikers, and mountain bikers can connect to the 165-mile Tahoe Rim Trail, or just combine trails to fit their desired distance and even cross into that other state next door. Picnic areas and restrooms are available.



SPOONER LAKE



CAVE ROCK

WINTER 2022-2023



From adventurers and gunslingers to writers and thinkers, Nevada's history was shaped by individuals with grit and drive. Each issue, we look at one of these notable heroes from the past. Whether born or raised, these aren't just Nevadans: they're Legendary Nevadans.

Nevada Historical Society (Sarah Winnemucca, background)
Library of Congress (John C. Frémont)

SARAH WINNEMUCCA

Meet the writer, teacher, and advocate who dedicated her life to Paiute rights.



Sarah Winnemucca was born around 1844, near what is today Lovelock. Her name at birth was Thocmetony, and she was a daughter of the leading family of the Kuyuidika-a—a band of the Paiute people.

Within a year of her birth, Winnemucca's grandfather encountered John C. Frémont—one of the area's first white explorers—at what is now Pyramid Lake.

Winnemucca's grandfather believed the coming of white settlers portended good things and attempted to create friendly relations between the Paiute and the new arrivals. His good nature and status earned his family limited privileges, which included opportunities for the young Winnemucca to grow up in American settlements.

Winnemucca learned the customs, mannerisms, and dress of these new people. She also learned English and proved to be a talented speaker and writer.

She would forever straddle two worlds, but she would never be entirely accepted in either. She could wear formal attire and attend dinner parties, but her Paiute blood would forever make her an outsider. Even her own people found it difficult to relate to her privilege and relatively lavish lifestyle.



JOHN C. FRÉMONT

SARAH'S GRANDFATHER, "OLD WINNEMUCCA"

TENSIONS RISE

Winnemucca's life coincided with the U.S.'s westward expansion into Nevada. By the time she was an adult, the Paiute people had lost much in their way of life and resided on reservations in the northwestern Great Basin.



The discovery of silver in western Nevada resulted in a stream of settlers in the Paiute's territory. The massive migration disrupted their access to hunting grounds and pine nut groves, and the Paiute were forced into hunger.

Despite attempts by Winnemucca's family to avoid violence, tensions rose. In 1859, two Paiute children were kidnapped by white settlers. The girls'

families found and killed the captors, prompting a group of 100 militiamen to attack the Paiute to put down an apparent uprising. Winnemucca's cousin Numaga did not want war, but he led his people into battle and defeated the militia at Pyramid Lake.

Soon, 700 soldiers were dispatched from California, and the Paiute coalition was brought down.

By 1864, most of the Paiute in Nevada had been placed on reservations at Pyramid Lake and Walker River.

A VOICE FOR CHANGE

When Winnemucca arrived at the Pyramid Lake Reservation, she discovered the federal agents were withholding food and supplies. With the help of her brother, she asked an army captain for better conditions and was invited to bring her people on a 300-mile trek north to Fort McDermitt.

At Fort McDermitt, Winnemucca became an

interpreter. Her ability to speak Shoshone, Paiute, Washoe, English, and Spanish was rare, and combined with her ability to read and write, allowed her to find work.

While at the fort, the 27-year-old Winnemucca wrote letters about conditions inside the reservation. Her clear, frank descriptions were compelling, and the letters were soon reprinted in newspapers and books across the country.

Winnemucca and her family became symbols of the Paiute struggle. She moved her work to the stage and gave lectures in Virginia City and San Francisco. In 1880, Winnemucca brought her family to Washington D.C. to meet the president and make him aware of problems on the reservations.

Throughout the 1880s, Winnemucca gave hundreds of lectures and wrote countless letters advocating for change. In 1883, she published her book "Life Among the Piutes: Their Wrongs and Claims." This was the first book to be published by a Native woman.

WINNEMUCCA TODAY

While her efforts are celebrated today, they were not nearly as effective as she hoped. Although she did raise public awareness, nothing really changed. People were still displaced and treated as second-class citizens, and mismanaged reservations became a fact of life for a new generation of Native Americans.

Winnemucca was a polarizing figure among the Paiute. She did not act, speak, or live like them, and openly preferred living among the whites. For all her claims of representing their interests, daily life for them did not improve. She promised much but delivered little, though perhaps she often only repeated unkept promises made by American politicians.

Apart from her life as a speaker and a writer, Winnemucca was also a talented teacher. Across many reservations and federal schools, she worked to give native children the same access to literacy and language that had allowed her to be a voice for the Paiute.



SARAH WINNEMUCCA, CIRCA 1875

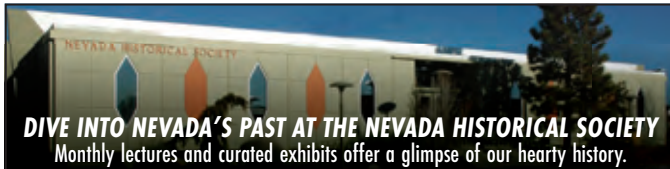
Learn about "Under One Sky," an exhibit that tells the Native American story in their own words at the Nevada State Museum, Carson City.



Statuary Hall in Washington, D.C. hosts the visages of two important figures from each state. In 2005, a statue of Sarah Winnemucca was unveiled to represent Nevada. A replica of the statue can be found at the capitol building in Carson City.



Stay tuned for more tales of Legendary Nevadans! In the next issue, we'll follow the life of casino magnate and eccentric billionaire Howard Hughes.



UPCOMING LECTURES

CHANGING GALLERY EXHIBITION

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Geographical Divides: Finding Common Ground



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November 3, 2022 | Jeadene Solberg,

Ghost Hunting at historic Nevada locations

December 1, 2022 | Myron Freedman, The Carson City State Museum and its ties to the NHS

January 5, 2023 | TBA

HIGH NOON SERIES | Virtual

November 17, 2022 | Frank X. Mullen Jr., Fake News: Twain, DeQuille, hoaxes and tall tales in Comstock newspapers

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Roam Means Nevada

Nowhere is ‘this
land is your land’
more true than in
the Silver State.

BY MEGG MUELLER

One of the greatest appeals of the American West has always been that sense of unbridled freedom and room to roam. In the crowded world we live in today, it might be hard to picture that solitude and deep connection with nature, but for the modern-day pioneer, it is still within reach in a place called Nevada.



While it may be just the seventh largest state, Nevada is the unrefuted king of public lands in the contiguous U.S. More than 48 million acres of land are managed by federal agencies. As the largest public land manager in Nevada, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) manages national monuments and national conservation areas, national scenic and historic trails, and more than 50 wilderness areas.

Only Alaska has more public land, but as the BLM's Nevada Recreation Program Lead Miles Gurtler points out, Nevada still has an advantage.

"A lot of Nevada areas, you can drive to," he notes. "In Alaska they're much harder to reach. We're much more accessible."

Gurtler's statement can lead to a question for people unfamiliar with the concept of public lands, however: "Accessible for what, exactly?"



TRAVEL NEVADA PRO TIP

Other agencies—such as the National Park Service, the Forest Service, and the Fish and Wildlife Service—also manage Nevada’s public lands, promoting areas within their domains. Check with them if you have questions about plans that take you onto their managed areas.

PRIVATE AND PUBLIC AND FEDERAL, OH MY

Some U.S. states have a very small percentage of public lands—consider Kansas, which has just under 2 percent. Nevada, on the other hand, has more than 67 percent public land managed by the federal government. When faced with a BLM (or Fish and Wildlife Service, or Forest Service) sign, many believe that means the area is federally owned land, therefore off-limits to any recreational pursuits. Wrong, says Gurtler. He says he hears the flip side, too, where people believe if it’s BLM land, you can do whatever you want. Wrong again.

“More than 99 percent of those 48 million acres is open to the public for recreation and hunting,” he says. “But along with that comes a serious responsibility to recreate responsibly. (That responsibility) is very important because there’s a lot of freedom on BLM land: in many areas, you may not find rangers or law enforcement. You can really get out there and enjoy the solitude.”

SCAN FOR
MORE INFO



RECREATE RESPONSIBLY



The easiest type of land to understand is private. Any privately owned lands are likely well signed and likely even gated, giving plenty of warning to anyone hoping to wander freely. But speaking of gates...

Many areas in Nevada’s miles and miles of space have fences, for a handful of reasons. The most obvious is to denote the boundaries of a privately owned section of land, but there is also a lot of fencing that exists to restrict grazing animals from accessing roadways. Other fences are more historic in nature and don’t reflect actual legal boundaries. Whatever the reason for the fence is, there are many roads that traverse the public lands in Nevada. If met with a gate that has no locking mechanism or signage, it’s an indicator that land can be accessed by the public. The most important consideration is to leave the gate as you found it; if it was open, leave it open, and if it was closed, well you weren’t born in a barn, so close it.



NOW WHAT?

OK, there's all this land that can be used, so what is there to do? As noted, wilderness areas, historic and scenic trails, national monuments, and more await on Nevada's public lands. Some of these areas require serious trekking to access, but others are close to (or even on) paved roads. The question goes back to the user: what do you want to do?

"People want to use public land for all kinds of different purposes," Gurtler says. "Our goal is to try and meet people where they are. For instance, around Reno, a big chunk of the eastern side of the Truckee Meadows is BLM land. It's basically in people's back yard."



In that big back yard, the activities are limited only by the imagination: from hiking trails to OHV and ATV roads, horseback riding to bird watching, the only caveat is "know before you go." That adage extends to contacting BLM to confirm the land is public before camping, knowing the restrictions on removing artifacts (the short answer is don't), checking the weather, and planning for the terrain conditions you hope to visit.

One of the most sought-after activities on public lands is dispersed camping. The majority of the state is open to people looking to camp away from designated campsites. If it's public land, Gurtler notes, you can use it. While there are some places with more restrictions, it's pretty simple.

Lizzie Flower (Bicyclist with Reno in the background)

“You’ve got to follow the recreate responsible guidelines, and you can only stay 14 days in any spot,” he says.

To read about tips on how to recreate responsibly, see page 102.

Everyone who visits Nevada’s public lands must practice good stewardship. It’s a crucial aspect that keeps the land remaining public and conflict free.

“Recreation isn’t the only thing that happens on BLM lands,” Gurtler says. “There’s active mining, grazing, and wild horses. Some of those activities are not compatible with people recreating around them.”

Following posted signage is incredibly important. It’s up to adventure seekers to know who owns the land before they go, and to that end, he adds, hunters in Nevada are some of the savviest recreationalists about land ownership.

While a good portion of Nevada’s vast landscapes feature rugged, remote terrain (think no cell service, water, or gas), public lands are for everyone. You don’t have to try and bag a soaring mountain peak to be an adventurer; a family picnic overlooking one of the state’s sweeping valleys is enough to earn bragging rights, too.

“We really try to serve a lot of different public goals, from trailheads to people overlanding. We are trying to promote destination tourism,” Gurtler says.



CAMPING ON PUBLIC LANDS

- Don’t drive off existing roads to camp
- Use a previously used campsite if possible
- Always follow local fire restrictions
- Leave No Trace

To view BLM’s Nevada Map, scan this code.





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Time to Get Reel



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David Braun (Woman fishing)
Jennifer Browning (Man fishing)



RECREATE RESPONSIBLY

Always check conditions before venturing onto any body of water in the winter.

SCAN FOR MORE INFO



RECREATE RESPONSIBLY

ICE FISHING

For the hearty angler, there's no reason to stop casting a line when winter hits. Many high-desert alpine lakes and reservoirs freeze over, making for excellent ice fishing.

At **Wildhorse Reservoir State Park** north of Elko, temperatures have been known to get to 20 degrees below zero (and lower), but that doesn't stop diehards. Look for rainbow trout, German brown trout, smallmouth bass, yellow perch, and catfish. **South Fork State Recreation Area** south of Elko near Spring Creek is known for its trophy-sized rainbow, brown, and bowcutt trout—along with catfish and bass.

For more great places to fish, see the state park list on page 97.

FLY FISHING

Picture this poetic scene: fly fishing in a pristine mountain stream as the sun smiles down. Each cast is artistic, and nearly every flick of the line leads to a plump trout on the other end.

That is not what fly fishing is like at all.

Fly fishing is dirty, awkward, and can be indescribably frustrating at times. Want to wade out to the perfect spot? Have fun falling in the river. Have a fish on the line and want to get it into the net? Watch it break free and swim away.

But the beauty of fly fishing is that it allows access to all types of fishable waters. It would be near impossible to lure or bait fish most places in a small mountain creek, but fly fishing is possible in almost any water—tiny creeks, large rivers such as the Humboldt and Truckee, and even lakes. In fact, at Pyramid Lake, fly anglers are known for placing ladders and step stools a couple dozen yards out into the lake to get closer to the fish.

TENKARA FISHING

The lightweight Tenkara fly rod is made for anglers on the move. With no reel, these super portable rods are perfect for any small creek or river you might come across while exploring. In fact, Tenkara fishing has helped popularize trends like hikefishing and bikefishing. These rods tend to be quite long, and the line is about equal length, making this Japanese style of fishing similar to fly fishing but with elegant differences.



The Nevada Department of Wildlife claims there are some 600 rivers and streams spread across the state. With so many possibilities and relatively scant equipment needed (don't forget a license) anyone can give fishing a shot. Just remember to practice patience, and never forget: "The worst day fishing is always better than the best day working."

TRAVEL NEVADA PRO TIP

Before you cast a line, visit the Nevada Department of Wildlife's website at ndow.org. You'll find maps, tips, regulations, licensing information, and enough inspiration to get you completely hooked.



WALKER RIVER

LIVE LIKE A LOCAL

A few of our favorite locations for all anglers

NORTH

1. Martin Creek

Located near Paradise Valley, the 48-mile Martin Creek holds brown trout, brook trout, cutthroat trout, rainbow trout, and bowcutt (rainbow-cutthroat hybrid) trout and offers seasonal fishing dependent on snowpack. Nymph and dry flies mimicking local insects are a good bet.

2. Jarbidge River

The remote Jarbidge River is special because it is home to three of Nevada's native fish: redband trout, mountain whitefish, and the endangered bull trout. This is the only location for the bull trout in Nevada, and fishing is strictly catch and release.

SOUTH

3. Sunset Park Pond

Located in the heart of Las Vegas, you'll find 14 surface acres of water with a maximum depth of 12 feet. Fishable species include rainbow trout, channel catfish, bluegill, redear sunfish, black crappie, and largemouth bass. Fly fishermen report success with emergers.

4. Big Bend of the Colorado State Recreation Area

Nevada's southernmost state park has a vast swath of fishable shoreline. Species include striped bass, small and largemouth bass, channel catfish, rainbow trout, bluegill, and redear sunfish.



EAST

5. Echo Canyon State Park

About 20 minutes east of Pioche, the reservoir offers boat and shore fishing at the mouth of the scenic Echo Canyon. Gamefish include rainbow trout, brown trout, white crappie, largemouth bass, and black bullhead.

6. Beaver Dam State Park

This eastern Nevada treasure offers a host of small-stream fishing opportunities. The waters are stocked with rainbow trout, but because the streams are so small, the fish are skittish when they see an angler. This is the perfect place to use the Tenkara rod: try sneaking up on the small streams and bouncing a dry fly along the surface of the water.

WEST

7. Walker River State Recreation Area

The east fork of the Walker River is one of the best fly-fishing rivers in the state, and most of it is located within the Walker River State Recreation Area. Rainbow trout, brown trout, and mountain whitefish spawn in the river and can be fished with all different methods. The Elbow is a great place to start.

8. Squaw Creek Reservoir

Located northwest of Gerlach, Squaw Creek Reservoir is a popular destination for anglers of all methods. The gamefish selection is vast, including largemouth bass, green sunfish, bullhead, channel catfish, rainbow trout, brown trout, and bowcutt trout. Float tubes are a popular method for fishing the reservoir.

LAUGHLIN

8 great things we love about
this southern Nevada gem of a town.



While Las Vegas and Reno offer white-glove hospitality and world-class entertainment, it's our rural destinations that give visitors a glimpse into the heart and soul of our state. Each issue, you'll find one of our smaller-but-no-less-incredible towns highlighted.

Laughlin is just 58 years old, and unlike so many Nevada towns, its beginning came about not through mining, but water. In 1964, founder Don Laughlin owned a small club in Las Vegas but was on the search for some border property. He flew his plane as far as Jackpot and Lake Tahoe, but it was a little hotel on the banks of the crystal-clear Colorado River that caught his eye. Laughlin bought the bankrupt property and built the Riverside Resort. By 1968, two more casinos opened, and today, 10 casinos dot the riverbank.

With Laughlin at the helm, the town continued to grow slowly. In 1987, he ponied up \$3.5 million to build a bridge across the river to Bullhead City, Arizona, and in 1991, he was instrumental in the construction of the Laughlin Bullhead International Airport. Laughlin passed in 2018, still living in his namesake town.

You can't get much further south in Nevada than Laughlin, and it's worth every minute it takes to get there. Below, find eight of our favorite things to do in Laughlin.

1 CLEAR? CRYSTAL

Move over Lake Tahoe, Laughlin is giving you a run for your money. The clarity of the Colorado River is staggering. This impressive water source flows alongside the Laughlin "strip," as locals call the casino district. Watercraft rentals, riverboat tours, canoeing, kayaking, jet skiing, and paddle boarding prove the river is the town's fun center.

2 A RIVER RUNS BY IT

The Laughlin Riverwalk offers visitors a rousing way to cruise the Laughlin strip. The waterfront path is chock-full of various restaurants, casinos, and provides a scenic view of the Colorado River. Guests who don't feel like walking can even traverse the riverwalk by water taxi.



3 IT'S A CELEBRATION!

Visitors have the chance to sail upon the Celebration—a paddle wheel-style boat that provides a different perspective of the river. The vessel—capable of accommodating 149 passengers—offers 90-minute cruises along casino row to Davis Dam, leisurely dinner cruises, riverboat weddings, and group charters. (See more boat tours on page 90)

4 THE SOUNDS OF MUSIC



The entertainment life in Laughlin is dynamic. Live music lines the strip at venues plenty large enough for dancing, and several nightclubs provide late-night entertainment. The Laughlin amphitheater attracts such headliners as Toby Keith, Gabriel Iglesias, and Alabama, to name a few.

5 RICK ROLLIN' ON THE RIVER

An iconic symbol of Nevada, River Rick (aka Laughlin Lou) greets visitors to the Laughlin Riverwalk. Displaying the same familiar appearance as his neon Nevada counterparts Vegas Vic and Wendover Will (see him on page 41), River Rick has been standing proudly at the Pioneer Hotel & Gambling Hall since 1981.



6 YOU BUILT A TIME MACHINE OUT OF A DELOREAN?

You don't have to be a motorhead to enjoy the Riverside Classic Auto Exhibition Hall at Don Laughlin's Riverside Resort. More than 80 rare, antique, and historic automobiles, trucks, and motorcycles (spread out across two locations) are available for viewing by the public

WELCOME TO LAUGHLIN, NV.





HARRAH'S LAUGHLIN'S BEACH

daily. Don't miss the Ford Model Ts and an iconic Delorean, popularized by the film "Back to the Future."

7 DESERT OASIS

A soft, sandy beach isn't easy to come by in the Silver State. However, at Harrah's Laughlin, guests can enjoy access to a riverfront beach, complete with cabana rentals and access to two outdoor swimming pools. Just minutes south, you'll find Big Bend of the Colorado State Park, too. Set right on the river, the shoreline is dotted with covered

shelters, picnic benches, horseshoe pits, and sandy beaches.



*Check out
the Neon
to Nature
Road Trip
on page 98.*

8 CANYON CANVASES

Less than 30 minutes from Laughlin lies Grapevine Canyon, one of Nevada's most interesting and accessible (via easily traversable dirt roads) archeological sites. This distinct area contrasts the normal landscape of the Mojave desert, giving visitors a chance to view hundreds of petroglyphs carved into the canyon walls.



GRAPEVINE CANYON
PETROGLYPHS

Ronda Churchill (Laughlin Event Center & Harrah's Laughlin),
James Marvin Phelps (Welcome to Laughlin & Grapevine Canyon petroglyphs),
and Ryan Jerz (River Rick)

A PORTAL THROUGH TIME

Sutro Tunnel is a Western icon.

BY TAMI FORCE



Some structures are immediately identifiable: The Eiffel Tower, Westminster Abby, and the Space Needle among them. For Nevada ghost town enthusiasts and historians, it's the façade to the Sutro Tunnel. The tunnel and adjacent ghost town were closed to visitors for decades, yet the portal remained as a reminder of Comstock Lode and Nevada history. In 2021, Friends of Sutro Tunnel acquired the 150-year-old property, and today, visitors are invited to wander back in time to explore this historic site.

**TRAVEL
NEVADA
PRO TIP**

You can explore this historic site through tours hosted by the Friends of Sutro Tunnel. Tickets can be purchased at thesutrotunnel.org or by calling (775) 900-0507.



THE WATER CURSE

Water is crucial in ore processing, and mines often go to extensive lengths to secure access to it. Water below the earth is another story: mine shafts can fill with water, making them inaccessible to miners.

At The Comstock Lode near Virginia City—the richest silver strike in U.S. history—pumps could alleviate some of the flooding, but they often could not keep up with the rate of flow.



In 1860, Prussian engineer Adolph Sutro proposed a new solution. Instead of pumping water to the surface, a giant tunnel could not only drain water out of the mines, but also allow for ventilation and transportation of ore and supplies.

Sutro's miles-long tunnel would be blasted straight through the mountainside. When completed, it would connect the mines of Virginia City and Gold Hill to Dayton and the Carson River.

Sutro fought an uphill battle to finance the tunnel. He won legislative approval for it in 1865; however, mining companies wavered in their support of the project, fearing it would compete with their monopoly. Regardless, Sutro tirelessly promoted the tunnel in America and Europe and raised funds for construction.

YELLOW JACKET FIRE

The Yellow Jacket Mine fire on April 7, 1869, was one of the worst mining disasters in Nevada history. The fire—ignited by an unattended lamp—broke out 800 feet below the surface, filling the mine with poisonous gasses. As the unsuspecting day crew was lowered into the mine, timbers smoldered and collapsed.

Firefighters attempted to rescue miners and extinguish the fire but were pushed back by heat and flames. The few survivors described the horrendous scene of miners fighting to survive. More than 35 people died, and 11 bodies were never recovered.

Had the Sutro Tunnel been available, miners may have been able to escape to safety. Companies and fraternal organizations looking for safer conditions in the mines provided additional funding for Sutro's tunnel.



SUTRO TUNNEL SITE, 2022

SUTRO'S LEGACY

After almost nine years of construction, the nearly-4-mile-long Sutro Tunnel was completed on Oct. 19, 1869. In 1888, the portal's classic Greek design was changed to a modern Spanish style: constructed brick overlaid with plaster. Heavy metal doors covered two openings, the left side for rail cars and the right for water drainage.

Sutro moved to San Francisco following completion of the tunnel, and his brother Theodore continued to supervise operations. By 1887, the Sutro Tunnel Company profited \$773,367—\$25.5 million today—and the tunnel was draining nearly 3.5 million gallons of water a day.

The Sutro Tunnel continued to operate for 65 years, draining water and transporting ore from Comstock mines. With the onset of WWII, non-essential operations were discontinued, including mines. Sutro Tunnel was closed in 1943, and equipment was repurposed to support the war effort.

VISITING SUTRO TODAY

Over the decades, the once-beautiful face of the Sutro Tunnel deteriorated. Plaster covering fell, exposing the bricks to the elements. Trees grew around the portal, their roots further degrading the structural integrity.



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Mule Barn

Sutro's mules were given the best care and had a green meadow to enjoy and an expansive barn. The barn could comfortably house 20 mules and included a hayloft, granary, tack rooms, and a wing for a coach and carriage-house.

In 2016 volunteers began restoring and preserving the Sutro Tunnel. In 2001, the tunnel portal and adjacent 28 acres were donated to the nonprofit Friends of Sutro Tunnel. They have been working tirelessly to restore this amazing piece of Nevada history, and because of their efforts, the site can be explored and toured today.

A visit to Sutro goes beyond the tunnel itself. It is a ghost town—also named Sutro—with many remaining structures and plenty of stories of the people who made it all happen.



MULE TEAM CIRCA 1869-1878



Warehouse and Machine Shop

This 1872 structure included an office and sleeping area for staff. It was well stocked with a variety of equipment including drills, air compressors, saws, and several lathes. The building now serves as a museum with pictures, artifacts, and information.

Sutro Frog Pond

Adolph Sutro was never one to let an opportunity or resource pass. He created a pond below his mansion—the remains of which are near the tunnel site—and raised frogs to sell to restaurants in Virginia City.



MUSEUM AND GIFT SHOP



VIEW OF THE FROG POND FROM THE REMAINS OF SUTRO MANSION

STATEWIDE EVENTS

Winter in Nevada means alpine adventures up north and perfectly mild temperatures down south. No matter your interests, there are plenty of great events to keep you engaged throughout the season. 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.



PAHRUMP SOCIAL POWWOW

PAHRUMP SOCIAL POWWOW

Pahrump
Nov. 18-20

This free cultural celebration is open to all and kicks off with a spiritual ceremony followed by three days of dancing, music, and art. Booths with mouthwatering cuisine and colorful wares will be present throughout the festivities.



POLAR EXPRESS ON THE V&T RAILROAD

POLAR EXPRESS ON THE V&T RAILROAD

Carson City
Nov. 18-Dec.24

What better way to start the holiday season than with a ride to the North Pole on a historic rail line? As the train winds its way along this historic rail line, the whole family can enjoy hot chocolate, a visit from Santa, and a reading of the classic children's book. Get your tickets soon; this event sells out fast!

HEAVENLY HOLIDAYS

South Lake Tahoe
Nov. 25-Dec. 31

Enjoy a month of festivities with live music and holiday activities for the whole family including ice sculpture contests, build-a-bear workshops, dances, and Breakfast with Santa.

WRANGLER NATIONAL FINALS RODEO

Las Vegas
Dec. 1-10

Ever since 1985, this world-famous rodeo has entertained diehard crowds with steer wrestling, bronco riding, barrel racing, and bareback riding. Each day offers a new event, plus you'll find plenty of live music, good food, and entertainment throughout.

CHRISTMAS ON THE COMSTOCK

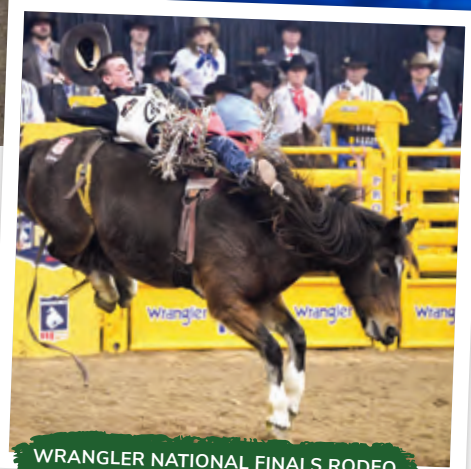
Virginia City
Dec. 1-31

This month-long Victorian celebration rewards repeat visits to Virginia City over the holiday season. Bring the family along to enjoy window shopping, parades, old-fashioned carriage and train rides, historic town tours, concerts, and saloon crawls.

Jay Aldrich (Christmas on the Comstock)



HEAVENLY HOLIDAYS



WRANGLER NATIONAL FINALS RODEO



CHRISTMAS ON THE COMSTOCK

SCAN FOR
MORE INFO



NEVADA EVENTS CALENDAR



JACKSON HOUSE AFTERNOON TEA

Eureka
Dec. 24-31

Don't miss Jackson House Hotel's Afternoon Teas during the holiday season. Hosted in its historic dining room, the whole family can enjoy a spread of fancy tea sandwiches, scones, muffins, clotted cream, seasonal fruits, and a signature Trifle dessert.

EAGLES AND AGRICULTURE

Gardnerville
Jan. 26-29

Ready for Nevada's premiere wildlife photography event? Held each January in the heart of Carson Valley, this spectacular festival offers an uncommon opportunity to get up close and personal to area ranches and the raptors who visit each winter.



EAGLES AND AGRICULTURE



NEW YEAR'S EVE IN NEVADA

Dec. 31

Las Vegas

You know it's going to be a big party when The Strip is closed for traffic. Join in on the excitement as more than 300,000 celebrators take in a brilliant, choreographed firework display launched across the skyline.

Lake Tahoe

New Year's Eve at America's largest alpine lake is overflowing with parties, concerts, and fireworks throughout the Lake Tahoe Basin.

Reno

In northern Nevada, Downtown Reno is the place to be when the clock strikes midnight—especially beneath the iconic Reno Arch.

Fallon

Fallon's New Year's Eve Bonfire not only serves as a toasty and fun warm-up for the coming year, but also functions to get rid of old wood and Christmas trees. The fireworks start at 6 p.m., and the bonfire is lit immediately following the grand finale.

Neil Lockhart (Fireworks)



NORTHEASTERN NEVADA MUSEUM

Visit our website to learn about monthly events and new exhibits.
www.MuseumElko.org

MUSEUM HOURS
 Tuesday-Saturday 9am-5pm
 Sunday 1pm-5pm

CURRENT EXHIBITS

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 40 custom exhibit cases displaying natural and regional history artifacts

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 Sun 10-3

Nov-Feb
 Tue-Sat 10-4
 Sun 10-3



Our Communities. Our Stories.

Set a Course for ADVENTURE

The driest state in the U.S.
is also rife with watery charms.

Whether you've got the whole fam in tow or have your sights set on a romantic getaway for two, embark on a boating tour along some of the country's most famous waterways.

LAKE TAHOE

Cruise the "Jewel of the Sierra" aboard the 570-passenger **M.S. Dixie II**. Offering five cruises daily, this old-school paddle wheeler presents a narrated history of Emerald Bay and Lake Tahoe, all framed by unmatched views. Tours include daytime scenic, sunset dinner, and sundown sipping cruises.

LAKE MEAD

What better way to experience the country's largest National Recreation Area and see the amazing Hoover Dam than from a climate-controlled Mississippi-style paddle-wheel boat? **Lake Mead Cruises** offers fine dining and spectacular sights with your choice of a mid-day sightseeing cruise, champagne brunch cruise, or sunset dinner cruise, each lasting between 90 and 120 minutes.



LAKE MEAD CRUISES

SCAN FOR
MORE INFO



SHOPPING & LEISURE



M.S. DIXIE II



LONDON BRIDGE JET BOAT TOURS

LAUGHLIN

There are a few boat tours along the mighty Colorado River in Laughlin, so you can choose your favorite excursion (or two!). To learn more about this delightful river town, see page 76.

London Bridge Jet Boat Tours whisk you 58 miles down the Colorado River to Havasu City, Arizona, with ample chances to spot wildlife. A two-hour lunch layover at the London Bridge awaits before you head back to Laughlin.

The Celebration River Boat is a deluxe, 112-passenger vessel in business for 23 years. Choose from scenic, cocktail, and dinner cruises on this comfortable watercraft while you enjoy the views topside from Laughlin River Tours.

If you're looking to learn about the Colorado River's history while enjoying a fully narrated cruise, hop onboard **The USS Riverside**. Four cruises daily take you up to Davis Dam on



THE USS RIVERSIDE

the only casino cruiser designed to go under the Laughlin Bridge.

TRAVEL NEVADA PRO TIP

Get a different view of Lake Tahoe in a clear-bottom boat when you take a guided kayak tour with Tahoe Paddle Sports.





GIFT GUIDE



Give everyone on your list (including yourself!) a piece of Nevada.

Everyone loves giving presents, but some souvenirs are just too good to give away. These gifts and goodies are perfect for friends and family, but it's OK to be a little stingy and grab your own cache of Nevada-made memories. Nevada Magazine & Visitor Guide staff have made a few recommendations to get the ball rolling, so happy shopping!

"My go-to Nevada gift: a matted print of a hand-drawn Reno skyline created by a nun...because that's a story!"



GREETINGS GALORE

This monastery turns handmade art into cards for birthdays, holidays, and just-because. Carmel of Reno, \$1-\$10



SPIRITED TOGS

Show off your Battle Born pride (and look good doing so) with shirts, hats, hoodies, home goods, and more. Home Means Nevada Co., Reno and Henderson, \$28-\$60

"The Sagebrush and Pinion Soap is the closest thing I've found to what the desert smells like after it rains."

BREATHE IN...

Sagebrush Soap Factory, Gardnerville, \$5-\$6

TRAVEL NEVADA PRO TIP

Petrichor: a pleasant smell that frequently accompanies the first rain after a long period of warm, dry weather.



SPOTLIGHT HOLIDAY GIFT GUIDE



"Since we discovered this local salsa, it's the only one we buy."

GETTING SPICY

Try tasty flavors like Vaquero Verde, A Kick in the Kiss, and The Smokeout. **Killer Salsa, Gardnerville, \$5.99**

"I use my chef's knife EVERY SINGLE DAY."



SERIOUSLY EDGY

Find stunning, one-of-a-kind knives for home chefs, campers, and fans of METAL—all hand-forged. **Holford METAL Works, Sparks, \$125-\$200**



LUSCIOUS LIBATIONS

Sip more than a dozen meads and ciders on the patio, then grab some cans or a growler for your friends. **Stonewise Mead & Cider, Pahrump, prices vary**

SCAN FOR MORE INFO



NEVADA-MADE GIFTS

DECADENTLY DELICIOUS

Grab tantalizing treats to go, like rocky road bars, peanut butter bombs, and caramel macadamias, or splurge on a monthly subscription box. **Dorinda's Chocolates, Reno, \$5-\$85**



ROCK STARS

You've heard of the Grammys, but have you heard of the Candy Grammys? ChocoRocks—a candy-coated chocolate and international best seller—won "Product of the Year" at the annual candy awards. **Kimmie Candy, Reno, \$3-\$45**



"I adore my jewelry from NV-US Silver Works. Each design is created with Nevada at its core, so no matter what you love about the Silver State, something will resonate with you."

BEAUTIFUL BLING
NV-US Silver Works, Gardnerville, prices vary



MEAT LOVE

Alpine Ranch, Fallon, prices vary



"The locally raised and processed beef and pork have ruined us for store-bought! We bought a standup freezer, just so we could keep more of their meat on hand."

ONLY AT NEVADAMAGAZINE.COM

In our archives, you'll find great stories like this one, which first appeared in our February 1985 issue.

THE CASE OF THE SKY HIGH PROSPECTOR

The question is, can a down-and-out Italian kid from the streets of New York come out West, stake his claim on the thoroughly picked-over mineral belt of Central Nevada, and live happily ever after in the almost-ghost-town of Austin?

Back in the territorial days when "New York Times" publisher Horace Greeley issued his famous injunction, "Go West, young man," the answer would likely have been yes. But that was more than a century ago, and the prospects didn't seem so bright in the summer of 1969 when Al Lombardo hit town with precious little mining experience under his belt and 17 cents in his pocket. Fresh out of the Marine Corps, he had spent some time prospecting for gold in Alaska and was knocking around Nevada when his pickup truck broke down in Austin.

"I didn't have enough money to fix it," recalls the 37-year-old Lombardo. "But I guess when you're down and out of luck, when you hit bottom, you start pullin' rabbits out of hats. That's when you work best."

After looking for regular employment without much success, Al decided to strike out on his own as a self-employed prospector. Ed and Louise Vigus at the hardware store agreed to stake him with a pick and shovel, and for the most part he subsisted on a diet of spaghetti and beans while peddling his nuggets and rocks to passersby from a humble roadside shop.

Find out if Al Lombardo strikes it rich at NevadaMagazine.com. Your first 3 articles are free!





Nevada Magazine is available online as a digital flipbook. To freely explore every issue in our 86-year history, consider becoming a digital subscriber for just \$9.95 a year. Your subscription also grants access to new articles published every month. This makes the perfect stocking stuffer for students and Nevada history fans of all ages.



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WHAT'S *New?*

All around Nevada, you'll find exciting things happening. Keep an eye out for these new additions!

NASHVILLE SOCIAL CLUB

Carson City

The spirit of Music City beats in the heart of the state capital at the Nashville Social Club (NSC). Part music venue, part eatery, and part cocktail lounge, NSC dishes up hip “southern comfort” cuisine, live Americana Roots-style music, and down-home hospitality. Wild smoked salmon pizza and “Sexy Fries” topped with crispy pulled pork means it just got Nashville hot in Carson City.



220 TOURS

Laughlin

Experience Laughlin's only unguided adventure tour while driving a Polaris Slingshot roadster. With the roof and door off, the Slingshot is perfect for a desert road trip, and 220 Tours has programmed multiple scenic routes into the navigation system.

SLEDNV

Elko

When the powder calls your name and you just have to get out there, SledNV has you covered. Rent a snowmobile (the cool kids call them sleds) for half a day or full day, or for the greatest adventure of your snowiest dreams, work with the staff to personalize your own backcountry experience.



LEGENDS BAY CASINO

Sparks

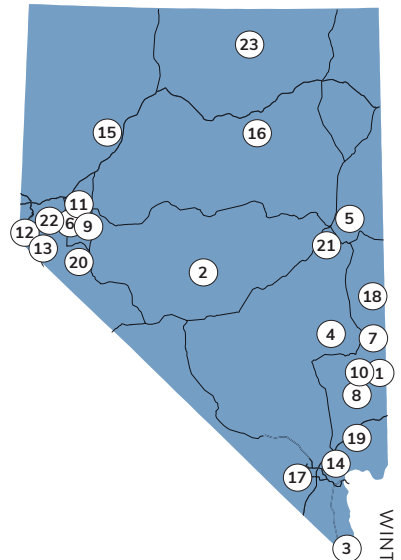
The first new casino built in the Reno-Sparks area in more than 20 years has opened. Legends Bay Casino is a 5,000-square-foot culinary and entertainment destination featuring quick options from vintage restored trucks.

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'

Wild Horse State Recreation Area



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.



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.



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.



DEATH VALLEY RALLY

Up to 370 miles | 3 to 4 days

Nothing is more extreme than a road trip from Las Vegas to Death Valley National Park—or rather, nothing has more extremes. On this dive into the state’s southwest, you’ll cruise from the lowest point in North America to the nearly 12,000-foot Mt. Charleston, imbibe at rugged biker bars and elegant wineries, and explore sprawling sand dunes and ancient bristlecone pines.



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.



FREE-RANGE ART HWY

440 to 515 miles | 1 to 3 days

“Fear and Loathing” hallucinations have nothing on the real-world wackiness along US-95, where psychedelic free-range art meets the American West. We’re talking kaleidoscopic boulder towers, a “forest” of junk cars, “post-Playa” Burning Man sculptures, and beyond. The 500 or so miles also wander through several colorful towns, home to intriguing murals, top-notch art galleries, and iconic places to stay—including one with the world’s largest private collection of clowns.

For more adventures along the Cowboy Corridor, turn to page 36.

TAKE THE

Nevada road trips prove it's all about the journey.

SCAN FOR MORE INFO



NEVADA ROAD TRIPS



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



WHEEL

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.



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.



LAKE TAHOE LOOP

145 miles | 2 to 5 days

Kick things off in always-hip Reno, then cruise around world-famous Lake Tahoe, the "Jewel of the Sierra Nevada." Vast, crystal-clear, and encircled by alpine peaks, Lake Tahoe is a summertime paradise, a winter wonderland, and a year-round haven for resort-goers and outdoor enthusiasts alike. Just over the hill lie some of Nevada's most intriguing destinations, iconic history, and best-kept secrets—including idyllic Carson Valley, the capital town of Carson City, and wildly Western Virginia City.



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.



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.



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.

While we packed this guide full of wonderful things to do, there's no way we could include everything Nevada has to offer. If you were hoping for something else, here's a few more great topics you can find at TravelNevada.com. And don't forget, we publish four times a year, so sign up to get every issue—each one offers new ways to explore #ThatNevadaLife.

WANT



WINTER SPORTS

Snow time like the present to get outside.

If you dig gemstones, this is the place.



ROCKHOUDING



It's always tee time somewhere.



GOLF

Festivals, gatherings, races and more happen each year here...discover your favorite.



ANNUAL EVENTS



MORE?



We've got everything
to get you to the
altar on time.

WEDDINGS



RV PARKS

Find the right spot
for that mobile abode.

ALL THIS AND
MUCH MORE AT



HOT SPRINGS

Take a soak while
the snow flies;
repeat indefinitely.



MUSEUMS

From relics to
pop culture,
it's time for
some mental
stimulation.



In love with the Silver State as much as we are?

Get the lowdown on how you can do your part to protect the places we love and keep the land pristine for your next trip (and the next generation).



RECREATE RESPONSIBLY

TRAIL UP GOSHUTE

FIRE DANGER

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

STAY ON ALL TRAILS, TRACKS, AND ROADS

As you head into the desert, you'll find a world of existing roads and trail systems—no need to blaze your own.

THIS LAND IS YOUR LAND

More than 80 percent of Nevada is public lands—the highest percentage among all states, meaning this

When exploring Nevada's backroads, you might come across a fence with a cattle guard gate. So long as there are no posted No Trespassing signs, go ahead and go right on through. Just be sure that, whether the gate was open or closed, leave gates the way you found them.

land is literally your land. Whatever land you're on—private or public—it's owned and managed by a person or an agency. Be a good land steward and respect all posted No Trespassing signs.

LEAVE NO TRACE

Nothing is worse than driving across Nevada's perfect

Finders does NOT mean keepers. Whether it's a ghost town mining relic, arrowhead, or other kind of artifact, regardless if it looks historical or not, it's a vital piece of the Silver State story. Take all the photos you like but leave all objects where you found them. Taking—aka stealing—artifacts is illegal.

TRAVEL NEVADA PRO TIP

Don't count on your cell 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.



landscape and seeing a grocery bag stuck in the sage or a bottle on the side of the road. Along with leaving every place better than you found it, familiarize yourself with the “Seven Principles” of LNT outdoor ethics (lnt.org).

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.

anywhere else, and an abundance in between. If you're going so fast that you miss them—or worse, that you can't stop when you need to—then you're going too fast.

WATCH FOR WILDLIFE

Beyond the asphalt, Nevada's diverse fauna ranges from rabbits to rattlesnakes, burros to bighorns, cattle to coyotes, pronghorn aplenty, more wild horses than

STARLIGHT? TOO BRIGHT

Nevada's night skies are some of the darkest in the Lower 48. Many visitors take to remote campgrounds 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, sacred natural resource by lighting your camp mindfully.

DIRT ROAD CODE

Study up on the Dirt Road Code if you plan on venturing outside 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

The Final Word

THE FINAL WORD JOHN WRIGHT

John Wright

Here's our conversation with John Wright, western heritage artisan and the owner of J.M. Capriola Co. in Elko.



NM&VG: How long has J.M. Capriola been in business?

JW: Joe Martin Capriola was an apprentice of the famous saddle maker G.S. Garcia. In 1929, he opened his own shop just a few doors down from Garcia Saddlery. Capriola operated the shop until my grandparents purchased it in 1958. The store has been in my family ever since, and I—along with my wife Susan and our two kids, Charlie and Audrey—plan to keep it this way. The store is 93 years old, and we have big plans for a 100-year celebration.

NM&VG: Do people stop in just to look around?

JW: We get plenty of foot traffic from tourists and people making the trip as a destination. We are the oldest western store in the state, and we strive to make our store unique for those traveling to see the saddle shop and manufacturing aspect of our business.

NM&VG: How big is your team?

JW: We have 12 employees. Our store is 10,000 square feet of retail and shop space. Our employees include retail clerks, bookkeepers, saddle makers, silversmiths, bit and spur makers, and last but not least, the freight room employees.

NM&VG: What does it take to create a J.M. Capriola product?

JW: This trade requires artistic, hard-working people who take pride in making quality items that are built to last generations and withstand the rigors of cowboying. All artwork and tooling is free hand. All our saddles, spurs, and bits start as a side of leather or sheet of steel and are crafted from start to finish by one artisan.

NM&VG: What else do you make beyond saddles, bits, and spurs?

JW: If you can think it, we can build just about anything. We do plenty of belts, wallets, chaps, jewelry, headstalls, spur straps, purses, and canvas products. Our canvas cowboy bedroll is our No. 1 seller. It's made all in-house and sewn by hand.

NM&VG: Is it just Western cowpokes who buy your products?

JW: We sell most of our products domestically, but we have a huge international clientele. We ship goods to Japan, to working cowboys in Australia, and to horse enthusiasts who ride the remote trails of Germany.

NM&VG: Do you see the saddle and bit business going strong 100 years from now?

JW: The great unknown question. It may have been a worthy question in 1929 when cars were all the rage, and I can only imagine what the answer may have been then. If I was to have been asked this question then, I likely would have answered no. In reality, cars will never entirely replace horses. Cowboys now and always will exist to manage the herds on arid desolate lands. It's been said that the cowboy is a dying breed, but we refuse to believe it. As long as there are people to feed, cowboys will always be there to manage and care for the livestock and the land.



SO MUCH. SO CLOSE. SO NEVADA.

Trek along hundreds of miles of trails. Cruise or cast a line on the waters of Lake Mead. Paddleboard, jet pack, or kayak at Lake Las Vegas. Play at one of our nine championship golf courses. All of this, just minutes from the Las Vegas Strip.

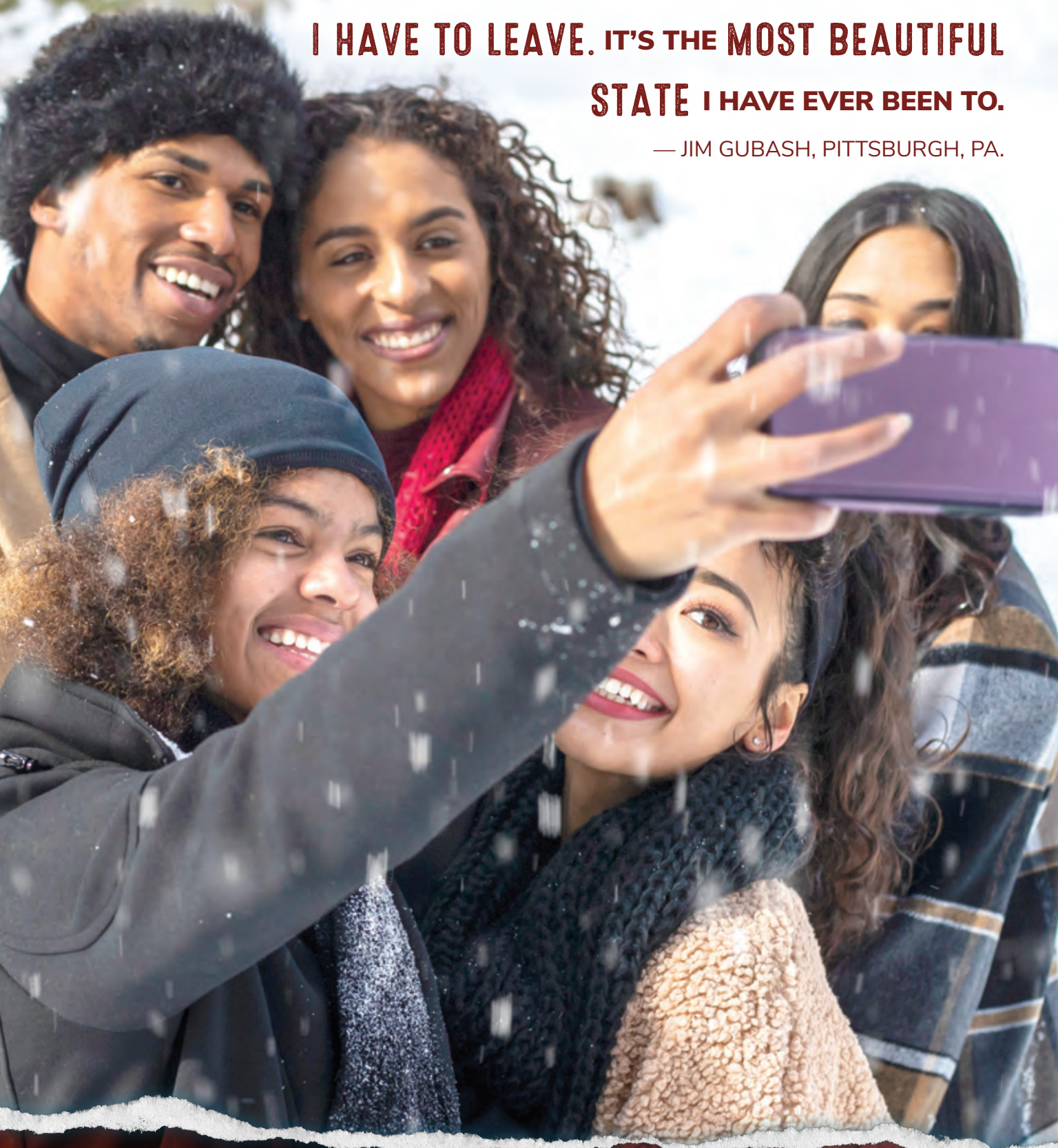


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**I CAN TELL YOU I HAVE NEVER HAD A ROUGH TIME UNTIL
I HAVE TO LEAVE. IT'S THE MOST BEAUTIFUL
STATE I HAVE EVER BEEN TO.**

— JIM GUBASH, PITTSBURGH, PA.



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