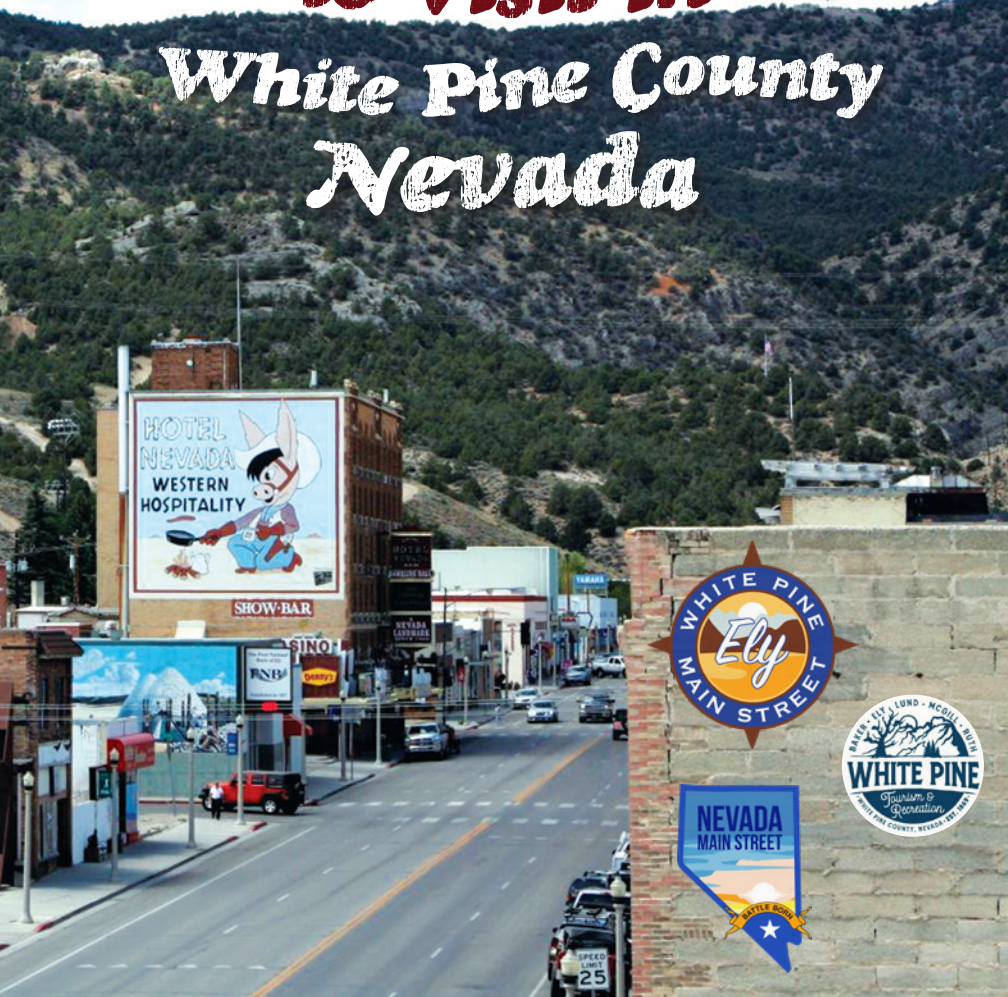


50 Fabulous Places to Visit in White Pine County Nevada





Richfield Gas Station, 1st & Aultman Streets, Ely, NV

Welcome!

There are an abundance of fabulous places to explore in White Pine County, Nevada. This guidebook highlights 50 of them that will inspire you to plan your next best adventure. Whether you're a local resident or a first time visitor; whether you have an afternoon, a weekend or a week; whether you're on foot, bike, OHV, horseback or in the car, you'll find places to visit that highlight the arts and culture of the area and the plethora of outdoor recreation opportunities in the Great Basin desert. White Pine County offers four seasons of spectacular vistas, enchanted forests, pristine alpine lakes, fresh air, solitude, wide open skies and dark starry nights.

Please read the **“Know Before You Go”** page, and visit the websites or call the phone numbers at the bottom of each page for more detailed information on each site. We want you to have a fabulous and safe experience.

And we want to see where you've been! Use the hashtag **#50fabWPC** when posting photos on social media. The time for adventure is now!

White Pine Main Street is proud to support these places where we live, shop, stay, play and explore, and we are grateful for funding from Nevada Main Street that made this guidebook a reality.

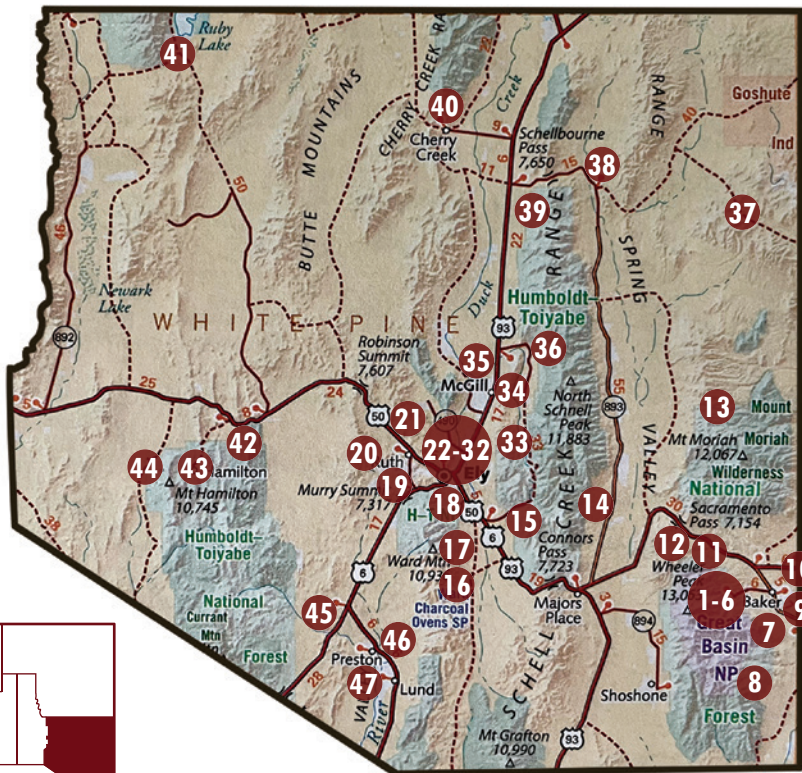
*Additional copies of this guidebook are available at the
White Pine Visitor Center, 636 Aultman Street, Ely, NV 89301
or call 775-289-8878*

#50fabWPC

For more information: whitepinemainstreet.com

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Know Before You Go

These travel tips will help you have fabulous and safe adventures while exploring White Pine County. It's always wise to plan ahead and be prepared.

- ➔ Cell phone service is limited and sometimes non-existent in many areas of White Pine County. Always tell someone your route and destinations. Let them know when you've returned.
- ➔ Do not rely on your GPS. Have a paper map handy and study your route.
- ➔ Check weather and road conditions before you go.
- ➔ Make sure you fuel up. Gas stations are few and far between on the open road.
- ➔ Always bring plenty of water, food, and proper clothing.
- ➔ When driving on dirt roads it is best to have a high clearance or 4-wheel drive vehicle, especially on soft ground and on rocky terrain. Come prepared with a shovel and spare tire.
- ➔ Stay on the trails. Watch where you put your hands and feet. Rattlesnakes and scorpions live here, too.
- ➔ Respect all land use regulations that protect cultural sites, wilderness areas, campsites and trails. Avoid creating new trails or fire rings.
- ➔ Respect private land and be considerate of other visitors.
- ➔ All-terrain vehicles are restricted to signed routes.
- ➔ Trash: Pack it in. Pack it out. All of it.



Wheeler Peak Scenic Drive

White Pine County is home to Great Basin National Park, established in 1986. From the 13,063-foot summit of Wheeler Peak, to the sage-covered foothills, this park is a place to experience the stunning diversity of the larger Great Basin desert. A drive along the Wheeler Peak Scenic Drive is the perfect way to get an introduction to all the park has to offer. Starting at the park boundary, the Wheeler Peak Scenic Drive takes you on a paved 12 mile, out and back road to an elevation exceeding 10,000 feet, to the face of Wheeler Peak.

As you travel along the road, take time to stop at the many pullouts along the way. These paved parking areas highlight important ecological, geological and historical highlights of the Great Basin region. Pullouts provide excellent viewing and photography opportunities of Mount Moriah, Lehman Creek, Wheeler Peak, Doso Doyabi, and the Snake Valley below. Use the Wheeler Peak Scenic Drive to access popular hiking trails to the Osceola Ditch, Sky Islands Forest Trail (wheelchair accessible), Alpine Lakes, Bristlecone Trail, and Wheeler Peak Summit Trailhead.

For your safety, please stop only at pullouts. Vehicles and trailers over 24 feet in length are not permitted beyond the Upper Lehman Creek Campground (mile marker 3). The road is usually open by Memorial Day weekend and closes at the first snowfall.

From Ely, travel 60 miles east on Hwy 50, turn right on Hwy 487 to Baker, then right on Hwy 488. Travel 5 miles to the park entrance, then turn right on Wheeler Peak Scenic Drive.

For more information: [nps.gov/grba](https://www.nps.gov/grba); 775-234-7331



Wheeler Peak

Wheeler Peak is the tallest mountain in White Pine County. The summit elevation of 13,063 feet makes it the second-highest peak in Nevada, just behind Boundary Peak at 13,147 feet. The mountain is located in Great Basin National Park in Baker and was named for George Wheeler, the 27 year old leader of the mountain survey in 1869.

Wheeler Peak Summit Trail is an 8.6 mile out and back groomed trail that brings hikers to new heights! It is easiest to begin the hike from the Summit Trailhead parking area at the top of the Wheeler Peak Scenic Drive. Starting at 10,160 feet the trail gains 2,900 feet to the summit. The last 1/4 mile is the steepest part of the trail climbing up quartzite boulders. The 360° views and the altitude will take your breath away!

This hike should be started very early in the day because of the risk of afternoon storms. Hikers should be in good shape for the climb, and carry plenty of food, water, and layers of clothing. In winter, the scenic drive is closed, but the Wheeler Peak area can be accessed by hiking/snowshoeing the Lehman Creek Trail which begins at the Upper Lehman Creek Campgrounds.

From Ely, travel 60 miles east on Hwy 50, turn right on Hwy 487 to Baker, then right on Hwy 488 for 5 miles to the park entrance. Take the Wheeler Scenic Drive for 11 miles to the Summit Trailhead parking area.

For more information: [nps.gov/grba](https://www.nps.gov/grba); 775-234-7331



Bristlecone Pines

Great Basin Bristlecone pines are the oldest species on the planet. These magnificent trees, shaped by the wind, snow, and rain can live up to 5,000 years old! Their ability to survive harsh environments and adverse growing conditions is their secret to longevity. The Great Basin Bristlecone pines are an extremely rare species found only in California, Nevada and Utah and typically considered a timberline tree found from 9,000 to 11,500 feet in elevation.

The tree gets its name from its cones, whose scales are each tipped with a claw-like bristle—hence, the “bristlecone.” Bristlecone pines and Limber pines are often confused with one another. They grow side by side, along the same elevation, often sharing the same groves. The best way to distinguish the Bristlecone pine is to look at the cones and needles. The needles are about one-inch-long and grow in packets of five. They completely surround the branches in tightly bunched tufts and often extend back a foot or more along the branch, giving it the appearance of a bottle brush.

You can get up close to these trees on the Bristlecone Trail at Great Basin National Park. Park at the end of the Wheeler Peak Scenic Drive for trailhead access. There are interpretive signs that explain the lives and significance of these ancient trees. Other groves can be found in the Mt. Moriah Wilderness Area north of the park in the Snake Range and in the Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest in White Pine County.

For more information: [nps.gov/grba](https://www.nps.gov/grba) ; [fs.usda.gov](https://www.fs.usda.gov)



Rock Glacier

Great Basin National Park is home to the only glacier in Nevada, and one of the southernmost glaciers in the United States. The Wheeler Peak Glacier sits at the base of Wheeler Peak, in a protected cirque around 11,500 feet in elevation and is about 2 acres in area.

A glacier is a body of ice that lasts from year to year and that flows under its own weight. Glacial ice is made of crushed and recrystallized snowflakes. There are two types of glaciers. Continental ice sheets cover large areas with ice. Alpine glaciers, like the Wheeler Peak Glacier, are smaller, and found in mountainous terrain.

The Bristlecone/Glacier Trail (4.6 miles roundtrip) will take you to the foot of the glacier. The trailhead for this hike is located at the end of the Wheeler Peak Scenic Drive. The trail begins at an elevation of 9,800 feet and climbs another 1,100 feet. To see the ice in the alpine glacier, late fall is best, after the mantle of snow melts.

The Wheeler Peak Overlook on the Wheeler Peak Scenic Drive is the only vantage point of the glacier from the road. The rock glacier is seen at the bottom of the sheer rock face of Wheeler Peak.

From Ely, travel 60 miles east on Hwy 50, turn right on Hwy 487 to Baker, then right on Hwy 488 to the park entrance. Take the Wheeler Scenic Drive for 12 miles to the trailhead parking area.

For more information: [nps.gov/grba](https://www.nps.gov/grba); 775-234-7331



Alpine Lakes

There are 4 alpine lakes in Great Basin National Park that guarantee refreshing adventures: Stella Lake, Teresa Lake, Baker Lake and Johnson Lake.

The most popular and stunning is the Alpine Lakes Loop Trail (2.7 mile loop) that brings you to Stella and Teresa Lakes. You'll hike through forests and meadows until you reach the lakes where Wheeler Peak towers above and is reflected in the water below. Trailhead parking is at the end of the Wheeler Peak Scenic Drive, near the Wheeler Peak Campground.

The Baker Lake Trail (12 miles out and back) begins at the end of the Baker Creek Road. It offers incredible views of the surrounding peaks and ends at Baker Lake, an alpine lake surrounded by beautiful cliffs.

Johnson Lake Trailhead is at the end of Snake Creek Road south of Baker. This route extends up the Snake Creek drainage and passes through the historic Johnson Lake Mine area before reaching the lake. (7.4 miles).

Bring plenty of food, water and layers of clothing. Please visit website for directions to these inspirational locations.

For more information: [nps.gov/grba](https://www.nps.gov/grba); 775-234-7331



Lehman Caves

Travel back in time, way back in time, on a Lehman Caves tour! Found within Great Basin National Park and named after an early settler and explorer, Absalom Lehman, these caves offer a dazzling display of limestone stalactites, columns, draperies, flowstone, and rare shield formations that can be traced back 600 million years when a warm shallow sea covered most of what is now Nevada and Utah. Over the next 400 million years, sea creatures lived and died, piling layers of calcium carbonate-rich sediment on the ocean floor which gradually solidified into limestone rock. Then rain and melting snow soaked through the soil forming cracks that reached the water table. The limestone around these water-filled cracks slowly dissolved and cracks grew into the rooms and passageways that make up Lehman Caves. The Lehman Caves were originally protected as a national monument in 1922, which was combined with the national park in 1986.

Tours of the cave is open to all ages. Visit the Lodge Room, the Inscription Room, the Cypress Swamp and the Grand Palace. The tour is limited to 20 visitors. White Nose Syndrome screening is mandatory. The temperature in the cave is constant 50°F year round so a light jacket is recommended. Please wear shoes with good traction as trails may be wet and slippery. Children under 16 must be accompanied by an adult.

From Ely, travel 60 miles east on Hwy 50, turn right on Hwy 487 to Baker, then right on Hwy 488 for 6 miles to the Lehman Caves Visitor Center.

For more information: [nps.gov/grba](https://www.nps.gov/grba); 775-234-7331
To make cave tour reservations: [recreation.gov](https://www.recreation.gov)



Snake Creek

South of the main attractions in Great Basin National Park is Snake Creek, which offers breathtaking views of Mt. Washington, Pyramid Peak, Baker Peak, Wheeler Peak and Doso Doyabe. Snake Creek Road leads to trailheads, camp sites and a historic cabin. A gem in this area is the Serviceberry Trail, a 3-mile loop trail that begins off of Snake Creek Road, 5.5 miles from the Park boundary. This trail winds through Serviceberry and Mountain Mahogany hillsides, Aspen forests and then along the creek for a cool finish. Trailheads to the Johnson Lake Trail and the Shoshone Trail are accessible at the end of Snake Creek Road. Bring plenty of water, food and layers of clothing as the temperature changes at higher elevations.

Be sure to stop at the Tilford Cabin wayside exhibit, 3 miles from the Park boundary. The cabin was built in 1912 by John Tilford, after he and his partners discovered tungsten here. It represents an important period in our country's history. Small mining operators like John Tilford supplied minerals for the development and industrialization of the United States. The cabin has been recently restored and is a short walk from the wayside exhibit.

Individual and group camp sites are also available in Snake Creek at a first come, first serve basis. There are pit toilets but no potable water available.

From Baker, drive south 5 miles on Hwy 487, then turn right (west) on the signed, graded dirt road. It is 6 miles to the park entrance. The road continues for another 6 miles. Please park in designated areas.

For more information: [nps.gov/grba](https://www.nps.gov/grba); 775-234-7331



Lexington Arch

Lexington Arch is an incredible six-story limestone arch at the south end of Great Basin National Park. In this rarely visited section of the park, you will most likely have the place to yourself. To get to the trailhead, drive 13 miles south of Baker on Nevada Hwy 487 and Utah Hwy 21.

Turn right (west) at the Lexington Arch sign just after Pruess Lake. Travel 10 miles on this dirt road to the parking lot. Follow the washed-out gully to the left (south). The trail will be hard to follow due to flash flood damage. Look for orange trail markers on trees to guide you towards the trailhead through the washout. Once you reach the trailhead, the trail is clearly marked and has switchbacks as the trail climbs in elevation. There will be grand views of the arch along the way. Continue on until you're standing under the arch and taking in the valley views below. (About 5.5 miles round trip).

As always, check weather conditions, bring plenty of water, food and layers of clothing. Cell service is spotty to non-existent in this area. Tell someone where you're going and let them know when you return. Treat yourself to a dip in Pruess Lake on your way home!

For more information: [nps.gov/grba](https://www.nps.gov/grba); 775-234-7331



Baker

The town of Baker has a robust past. Once on the shores of ancient Lake Bonneville, it has been inhabited by Fremont and Shoshone Indians; early explorers, miners and ranchers; and adventure seekers. Today, Baker is home to a creative community of ranchers, business owners, and artisans. It is also the welcome mat to Great Basin National Park whose mountains rise to the west of town. Residents and visitors can dine at a delicious variety of local restaurants and travelers have multiple options of places stay while exploring the park and surrounding attractions. Keep your eyes open for eclectic roadside art; learn more about Baker history at the Ranching Exhibit on Hwy 488 just a few miles west of town; and spend some moments of reflection walking the Peace Path at the Baker Community Church. Make sure you stop by the Snake Valley Farmers Market held every Saturday, 9am-noon, June-October, where everything is locally grown and made. After one visit to Baker it will feel like home.

Baker is located 5 miles south of Hwy 50 on Hwy 487.



Baker Archaeological Site

The Baker Archaeological Site contains the remnants of a Fremont Indian village that was built in this valley over 800 years ago. The Fremont Indians lived in a well-planned community of several small pit houses and granaries surrounding a main big house, and practiced agriculture. The site was excavated by Brigham Young University's Office of Public Archaeology in cooperation with the Bureau of Land Management from 1991 to 1994. Recovered artifacts are currently stored at BYU's Museum of People and Cultures in Provo, Utah.

After the excavations, the site was reburied with the dirt that was removed during excavation, a necessary step in protecting the site. The walls visible today are modern walls, built in 2002.

Brochures and an information kiosk are located at the parking area. A restroom, picnic tables, and a sun shelter are available for day use. No water is available.

The Baker Archaeological Site is located on a cut-off road that runs between Hwy 487 and Hwy 50 in Baker.

**For more information: blm.gov/visit/baker-archaeological-viewing-site;
775-289-1800**



Sacramento Pass Recreation Area

Sacramento Pass Recreation Area is centrally located in the Snake Range with Weaver Creek Basin and Great Basin National Park as an impressive backdrop. A network of two-track roads allows hikers, bicyclists, horseback riders and OHV enthusiasts a chance to explore this beautiful country and see some historic mining ruins. There are 3 non-motorized trail loops of various lengths where you can meander through the unique quartzite rock formations. There is a 6 mile multiple use trail that extends into Weaver Creek Basin and the National Park. The upper campground has amenities for equestrian users. At the lower campground there is a small pond for fishing. This pond is stocked with trout from the nearby Spring Creek Fish Hatchery. Other amenities include picnic tables, grills, shade structures, trash cans and restrooms. No potable water. Camping is free with a 14-day limit.

Sacramento Pass Recreation Area is located along Highway 50 about 40 miles east of Ely or 15 miles west of Baker. Look for the sign on the south side of the Hwy.

**For more information: ohv.nv.gov/trails/sacramento-pass-recreation-area;
775-289-1800**



Osceola Cemetery

Osceola, a small town just to the northwest of Great Basin National Park, was once a bustling gold mining town. Gold was first discovered here in 1872, and the town quickly grew. Legend has it that Nevada's largest nugget, weighing 26 lbs, was found in Osceola. The story goes that the miner who discovered this nugget then stole it and had it melted down into bars, so the true weight is unknown. In 1886, construction began on an 18-mile ditch to bring the water required for placer mining to the mine. The Osceola Ditch cost \$250,000 and took 300 laborers to build. It was only used for a few years before leaks and other damage forced the mine to abandon it. By 1900, the town's population had dropped to only 100 residents, and a fire in the 1950s destroyed most of the buildings that remained.

Today you can hike the Osceola Ditch trail in Great Basin National Park that follows the path of this man-made canal. You can also see the ruins of a few buildings on the old town site and visit the Osceola Cemetery. There is still one local resident, as well as intermittent mining, so please respect private property.

Directions from Ely: Travel east on Hwy 50 for 34 miles to Spring Valley. Turn east at the Osceola Historic Marker on a gravel road to the Osceola site. If you want to explore further, travel 3 miles of slow rocky dirt road to top of pass. Continue five miles on a gravel road to Hwy 50 at Sacramento Pass Recreation Area.

For more information: travelnevada.com/ghost-town/osceola-ghost-town/



Mt. Moriah Wilderness Area

Mount Moriah provides ample opportunities for solitude on miles of mountain bike and OHV trails along with hiking in the Mt. Moriah Wilderness Area. The trailhead to the plateau known as “The Table” is northwest of Mount Moriah, the third highest peak in Nevada at 12,050 ft. On The Table you’ll find a unique world of sub-alpine vegetation lined with Bristlecone and Limber pines. Pinyon and Juniper forests dominate a large part of the lower elevations here. Four year-round creeks provide homes for Bonneville cutthroat trout, but the heart of the area tends to be dry, requiring you to carry all your water.

There are a myriad of roads and trails on all sides of this wilderness area that require four-wheel-drive vehicles. Have a good map, plenty of food and water and let someone know your plans.

Directions from Ely: Take Highway 50 east for approximately 45 miles, turn left at the dirt road (County Road 37) at the base of Sacramento Pass and head north. Access to The Table and other trails can be gained from the 4-Mile and 8-Mile roads. For trails on the east side of this wilderness area continue east over Sacramento Pass on Hwy 50. Cross over the Nevada/Utah border and turn left onto the Gandy Road. Take Gandy Road north until you see signs for Hampton, Hendry’s, Horse and Smith Canyons respectively.

For more information: fs.usda.gov/htnf; 775-289-3031



Cleve Creek Campground

Cleve Creek is on the eastern side of the Schell Creek Range in Spring Valley. This is an ideal place to camp while exploring the area's deep canyons and high peaks. The relaxing sounds of Cleve Creek run through the campground lined with large cottonwood trees. There are 12 campsites and 1 group site with picnic tables & fire grills. The campground has some sites suitable for trailers and large RVs. Restrooms are available but no potable water.

Camping is permitted and limited to 14 days. Gathering wood for campfires, when permitted, is limited to dead and down material. Live vegetation cannot be cut. Please help preserve Nevada's fragile environments, park your vehicle or set up camp in previously used sites, minimize impacts by practicing Leave No Trace ethics. Hunting, fishing, and trapping are allowed under state and local laws. Pets are allowed, but please keep your pets under control at all times. Horses are permitted, however you need to carry feed. Certified Weed Free Feed is required for all stock and pack stock on the Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest.

Directions from Ely: Travel 26 miles south east on Hwy 50, then north on Rte 893 for 12 miles. Turn left at the Cleve Creek Recreation Area sign.

For more information: blm.gov/visit/cleve-creek-campground; 775-289-1800



Cave Lake State Park

Cave Lake State Park offers outstanding recreational opportunities seven days a week, 365 days a year. Stocked with rainbow trout and home to German brown trout, the 32-acre reservoir provides outstanding fishing and boating. Other summer activities include swimming, hiking, mountain biking and camping. Once winter arrives, enjoy ice fishing, skating, snowmobiling and cross-country skiing. The park is also home to abundant and diverse wildlife.

The American Discovery Trail winds its way through Cave Lake State Park. The Nevada portion of this 6,800+ mile trail covers 500 miles of Nevada's remarkable landscape, traversing 14 mountain ranges and challenging its explorers to a total climb of 34,000 feet! Six of Nevada's State Parks can be accessed by way of this route. This trail is a great way to experience Nevada's beautiful and rugged backcountry. .

Cave Lake State Park is located seven miles south of Ely on Hwy 50, then 7 miles east on Rte 486.

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For more information: parks.nv.gov/parks/cave-lake; 775-289-1693

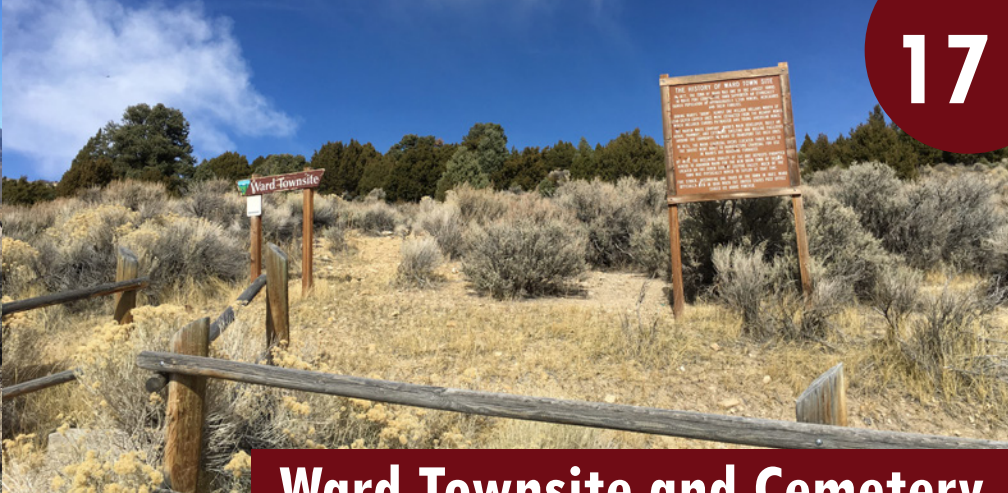


Ward Charcoal Ovens State Park

Perched in the Egan Mountain Range, Ward Charcoal Ovens State Historic Park is a scenic, forested retreat. The park features six beehive shaped charcoal ovens that were used from 1876 through 1879 to burn wood into charcoal which was necessary to process the rich silver ore discovered in the area. Once mining ended, the ovens were used to shelter travelers and even had a reputation as a hideout for stagecoach bandits. Today these ovens are remarkably well preserved and are safe enough to walk right inside! Summer activities include hiking, mountain biking, and fishing, while in the winter, cross country skiing and snowshoeing are popular. The park has access to ATV trails and a campground that is open year-round.

Directions from Ely: Travel south for 6 miles on Hwy 50 and turn west at the State Park sign. Then drive 10 miles on a maintained dirt road to the park entrance.

**For more information: parks.nv.gov/parks/ward-charcoal-ovens;
775-289-1693**



Ward Townsite and Cemetery

In 1877, the town of Ward was one of the largest towns in White Pine County. The town supported an ethnically varied population of approximately 1,500 miners, merchants and their families. During Ward's "boom" almost one million dollars worth of lead-silver-copper ores were extracted from the nearby mines. The Martin White company, Ward's main developer, built an aerial tramway, and extensive smelting and milling facilities around the community of Ward to transport these rich ores. In 1876, the Ward Charcoal Ovens (located three miles to the south) were built to manufacture charcoal for use in Ward's ore roasting furnaces. By 1878, the declining quality of the ore deposits prompted miners to abandon Ward for the new boom town of Taylor, located on the other side of Steptoe Valley. Much of the town was physically moved to Taylor at that time. Then fire struck, destroying one-third of the town in 1883. In 1888 the United States Post Office closed its doors in Ward forever.

You can read more information on the Nevada Historical Marker, 13 miles south of Ely on the west side of Hwy 50. To explore the townsite and cemetery from here, continue on the dirt road toward Ward Charcoal Ovens State Park. In 5 miles, turn right onto Cave Valley Rd and then in 1.7 miles turn left. Travel 2.5 miles further to reach the Ward Townsite and Cemetery.

For more information: nvexpeditions.com/whitepine/ward.php



Comins Lake

Comins Lake is the perfect place to enjoy a day of fishing while you relax under the wide open skies of Steptoe Valley. This body of water is a catch basin fed by several streams and springs. The abundant water supply helps in the preservation of the surrounding wetlands. At capacity, the lake covers 410 surface acres with a maximum depth of 14 feet. Average depth is 6 to 8 feet. Largemouth bass and trout are the primary game fish along with northern pike. Bass fishing is most productive in summer using weedless or surface lures. For pike, spinners and spoons (the flashier, the better) are popular, and remember to use a heavy leader.

Fishing is allowed year around. Daily and possession limits are 5 trout and 5 bass. There is no limit on northern pike.

Comins Lake is located 6 miles southeast of Ely, just off of Hwy 50.

#50fabWPC

For more information: ndow.org; 775-777-2300



Disc Golf Course

Disc golf is one of the fastest growing sports in America. Played much like traditional golf in terms of rules, scoring, and etiquette; disc golf differs by throwing a specialized plastic disc off the tee and eventually landing it into a chain-catching metal basket. You can get in on the action right here in White Pine County!

The newly renovated 18 hole disc golf course at Ward Mountain Recreation Area climbs quickly out of the sage into the Pinyon and Juniper forests. There are a variety of shots and elevations. Arrows hanging below the basket point to the next tee.

Ward Mountain Recreation Area is 6 miles southwest of Ely on Hwy 6. Just before you reach Murry Summit on Hwy 6 take the spur road to the north where you'll find the parking lot and disc golf course. Ward Mountain Campground is on the south side of the highway.

**For more information: blm.gov/visit/ward-mountain-recreation-area;
775-289-1800**



Ruth

Every town in White Pine County has a unique and intriguing story. Ruth was named after the daughter of D.C. McDonald, the original mining claim owner in this area in 1897. The town then became a settlement for workers of the White Pine Copper Company in 1903. With the opening of the Nevada Northern Railway in 1906 copper production began to boom. By 1910 the settlement was relocated a small distance from the first site. Saloons and bordellos were not permitted in this company town making it a safe and peaceful place to live and work. In 1916, two pits were combined to create the massive Liberty pit. People from diverse ethnic backgrounds came to this country to work and prosper in White Pine County. Workers with Asian, Slavic, Hispanic, Italian and Western European heritage all worked together to retrieve the copper from the mountain. The current mining operation is an impressive sight to behold.

Be sure to visit the Fallen Miners Memorial in Ruth that includes a list of over 600 people who dedicated their lives to working in the mine.

The boundaries of the town of Ruth shifted many times due to the expansion of the mine for over a century and is currently located 5 miles west of Ely.

For more information: nvexpeditions.com/whitepine/ruth.php



Garnet Hill

Garnet Hill is the only designated rock hounding area in White Pine County and is an internationally known site for gem collectors looking for garnets. Here you may find the ruby red semi-precious gems in the rocky volcanic outcrops. Garnets can be found either through careful rock breaking or searching the surface and drainages for the dark colored stones. The garnets will usually occur as single crystals attached to small cavities in the rhyolite rock, though they may weather out of the rock, and wash downhill. Bring a rock hammer or just search the ground to locate these crystals. Although most of the garnets found here are not of perfect gem quality, most people go home happy with their finds. Garnet Hill is also an excellent location to view the excavations of the massive open pit copper mines near Ruth, Nevada.

There is a picnic table and pit toilet at the top of the hill. No water available. The access road is suitable for use by passenger vehicles, though it is winding and somewhat steep. Significant upgrades to the site are planned beginning in 2023.

Directions from Ely: Travel west for 6 miles on Hwy 50. T21. Turn right at the wooden sign to Garnet Hill Recreation Site. Travel about 1.5 miles and turn right at the next Garnet Hill sign and travel about 1.5 miles to the site.

For more information: blm.gov/visit/garnet-hill; 775-289-1800



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White Pine Aquatic Center

Make a splash all year round at this modern indoor facility that offers something for everyone. A shallow wading pool for younger children allows them to gain confidence in the water. They can also test their engineering skills while building canals and bridges with a variety of water friendly play structures. There is also a beautiful Olympic sized pool to lap swim, open swim and for lessons. Practice rock climbing skills on two rock walls that reward you with a jump in the pool after reaching the top! Certified life jackets are available for people of all ages, and lifeguards are on duty. This facility is a well-managed, safe, family friendly environment. There are locker rooms, showers, and a banquet room as well.

Located in Ely next to the high school campus. Call for a schedule of pool hours, lessons and fees.

1111 Veterans Blvd, Ely

For more information: whitepinecounty.net; 775-289-7700



Ely Renaissance Village

The Ely Renaissance Society was founded in 1999 by a group of local residents with the vision to create an attractive downtown area that would be representative of the art and culture belonging to the diverse group of people who had built and strengthened the small community through the years. One of their first projects was the commissioning of several large art murals to cover Ely's buildings. These murals showcase life in Ely from historical perspectives with the theme, "Where the World Met and Became One."

This group also purchased a piece of property made up of 12 houses and a barn which is now the Ely Renaissance Village. The small houses have been made into unique museums celebrating the turn-of-the-20th-century immigrant population from Asian and European countries who made Ely their home. The interior of each house is accurately decorated to depict the cultural heritage of the people who lived and worked here. Start your tour at the General Store and then wander through this historic village.

Open Fridays and Saturdays, 10am-4pm
400 Ely Street, Ely

For more information: Call the White Pine Visitor Center 775-289-8878



Ely Art Bank/Garnet Mercantile

There are many reasons to open the doors to these two shops. The Garnet Mercantile is a cooperative space that offers local artists and craftspeople an opportunity to display and sell their work. Next door, the Ely Art Bank — a former art-deco bank building turned into a gallery — features a variety of local artwork and special exhibits. These community-owned stores were restored to their 1920s character. The facade was designed by artist, Anthony Ithurrealde, who also created the Greek Heritage mural on the east side of the building.

That's all pretty special in itself, but you must continue on to the unique art exhibition in the basement of Garnet Mercantile that showcases the most extensive art collection on public display in all of rural Nevada. Discover 160 drawings and paintings by more than a dozen artists that all illustrate Nevada's varied natural landscapes and rural communities. The collection was donated to the Ely Renaissance Society by Wally Cuchine, an art collector and former Ely resident who now lives in Eureka.

Open Fridays and Saturdays, 10:00am-4:00pm

388 Aultman Street, Ely

For more information: [Facebook.com/Ely.Art.Bank](https://www.facebook.com/Ely.Art.Bank)



Ely Mural Tour

Take a slow stroll through downtown Ely on this 11-block art walk. All along Aultman Street are murals and sculptures by a variety of artists in different styles that depict the town's rich history and cultural diversity. They honor the settlers who arrived in the 1800s, and the years that followed, who had a goal to build a thriving community. The murals showcase the many cultures that emigrated to Ely. Citizens from Europe and Asia created a bustling town with numerous family owned businesses. They also worked for the mines and ranches; and left their legacy for future generations.

At each audio tour location, dial the phone number on the marker, 775-242-5625, and press the mural number to hear the stories that celebrate where the world met and become one.

#50fabWPC

For more information: whitepinemainstreet.com



Labyrinth

The Ely Renaissance Society Sculpture Park contains six sculptures and a labyrinth. A labyrinth is a meandering singular path leading to a center. Labyrinths are an ancient archetype dating back over 4,000 years and used symbolically as a walking meditation, choreographed dance, or site of rituals and ceremony. The Nevada Division of Forestry provided a prisoner crew to lay the bricks for this plaza and labyrinth. The workers got so inspired by this project that they had a ceremonial walk of the labyrinth when they were finished and several brought family members to the Sculpture Park when their prison term ended. We invite you to walk the labyrinth with an open mind and an open heart. There is no right or wrong way to walk. Simply enter and follow the path, and watch where it leads you. Open yourself to the experience with gracious attention.

Corner of Aultman and 7th Streets, Ely

For more information: elynevada.net/project/public-art/



Central Theatre

Built in 1941, Ely's Central Theatre evokes the grandeur of the Art Deco movement. Originally built as a 725-seat theater, the Central Theatre was advertised as "The Finest Theater in Eastern Nevada." The one story building features its original vertical central neon sign over the marquee. Preserved over the years, visitors still can experience lavish colors, decor, and rich fabrics. It was listed on the National Register of Historic Places on August 5, 1993, and celebrated its 80th birthday on March 29, 2021. Today you'll enjoy watching current movies and old classics while eating the best popcorn in White Pine County! Many other snacks and beverages are available. The Ely Central Theatre is also available for private parties and screenings.

145 W 15th St, Ely
For more information: elycentraltheatre.com; 775-289-2202



White Pine Public Museum

Celebrate the area's cultural and natural history at the White Pine Public Museum, founded by a group of Ely residents in 1959. The museum is a time capsule of treasures that features a wide variety of indoor exhibits of Native American culture, geology, art, and mining history. The bones of a giant short-faced bear (*Arctodus simus*) were discovered in a White Pine County cave in 1982. A 3-D cave bear mural painting greets you at the entrance of the museum and a 3-D model of the 12,000-year-old "Cave Bear" is on display in the museum.

Outside exhibits include a jail cell from the old Ely City Jail, the original one-room school house from Baker, the historic bell from Hamilton (now a ghost town), a caboose from the Nevada Northern Railway, the Cherry Creek train depot, a 3-story well-drilling rig, the historic "Fourth of July" mural on the side of the museum and much more!

Open 7 days a week, 11am-4pm

2000 Aultman Street, Ely, NV

For more information: wpmuseum.org or call 775-289-4710



Ely City Cemetery

White Pine County is filled with historic cemeteries, specifically those contained within our many ghost towns (Hamilton, Osceola, and Cherry Creek, to name a few) but documentation and wild west stories lend themselves to the Ely City Cemetery. Cemetery records date as far back as 1908. This doesn't come as a surprise, as there were no mortuaries in Ely before the early 1900s. At that time, it was left to the churches to take care of this matter. Originally located on the outskirts of town, the Ely City Cemetery is now surrounded by modern day Ely. Before taking a self-guided tour, visit the website below to read the back stories of the dangerous history and colorful characters who are buried here. Can you find the oldest headstone in the cemetery?

2004 Campton St, Ely
For more information: elynevada.net/the-history-and-tales-of-ely-cemetery

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Sunset Lanes Bowling

Get ready for some strikingly fun times at Sunset Lanes Bowling! Locally owned and operated in Ely for 35 years, it is one of the few existing bowling centers around that still has the original wooden lanes. Sunset Lanes offers something for all levels of bowlers. Come and bowl just for fun, join a league, or book a party. On Saturday nights, Sunset Lanes is illuminated with black lights for a truly cosmic bowling experience! Your needs will be met at the Pro Shop, snack shop and full service bar. Visit the website for seasonal hours, fees and league information.

1240 E Aultman St, Ely

For more information: elynvbowl.wixsite.com/bowl; 775 289-8811



Nevada Northern Railway

The Nevada Northern Railway is a living, breathing, working historic railroad. Operating since 1906, this railway complex is the best preserved, least altered, and most complete train yard remaining from the steam railroad era. It was established in 1905 to support the area's booming copper mining industry. The era of dieselization of the railroad industry during the second half of the 20th century led to alterations and demolitions of railroad yards and shops nationwide, but the East Ely yard escaped modernization because of its geographical remoteness and the decline of the mining industry it once served.

Today you can ride the trains during the day or under the stars at night. You can even be the engineer! Open all year round, Nevada Northern Railway offers photography workshops, Hy-Rail experiences, hand's on workshops and holiday-themed train rides. Looking for a unique place to stay? Make reservations at the railway's bunkhouse or caboose! And make sure you visit the Engine House where you will be greeted by Dirt, the cat, King of the Shop, and his young assistant, Dirt Jr!

Visit the Nevada Northern Railway website or call for all schedule information.

1100 Avenue A, East Ely
For more information: nnry.com; 775-289-2085

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White Pine Golf Course

No Tee Times, No Dress Codes, No Stress. The White Pine Golf Course is recognized as the most isolated 18-hole golf course in America, but seclusion has its benefits! Don't expect to run into too many people while you play. At 6,500 ft elevation, the temperatures stay cooler in the summer, the ball travels a little farther and the course stays in great shape. Located just off Hwy 93 north of Ely, the course is built on the historic Georgetown Ranch. Beautifully restored red barns and towering mountains provide a striking backdrop, and part of the front 9 runs along the train yard for the Nevada Northern Railway. White Pine Golf Course offers a full-service pro shop, club house, driving range and events throughout the playing season. Call for information on hours, fees and tournament dates.

51 N. Golf Course Drive, East Ely
For more information: 775-289-4095



Success Loop

The Success Loop Scenic Drive is a 38 mile road that takes you past Cave Lake State Park, over Success Summit, through Duck Creek Basin and ends just north of McGill on Highway 93. A drive on Success Loop is a perfect way to spend the day and it also offers many opportunities to explore side roads, and access trailheads and campgrounds in the Schell Creek Range. At the 8,968 ft. Success Summit there are fabulous views of the Schell Creek Range and Steptoe Valley. This route offers a dazzling display of wildflowers during the spring and summer. In the fall, the Aspen forests delight travelers with their vibrant quaky foliage! The Ely Outdoor Enthusiasts sponsor the annual "Take It To The Lake" half marathon that begins in Duck Creek Valley, climbs over the summit and ends at the shores of Cave Lake.

Directions from Ely: Travel 7 miles south on Hwy 50. Turn left (east) on Rte 486. The road is paved on both ends at the lower elevations, but as it starts to climb the mountain, it turns to gravel. The upper portion of the road is usually closed in the winter due to snow. The lower, paved portions of the road are open year round.

#50fabWPC

For more information: travelnevada.com



McGill

The town of McGill was originally a ranch established in 1872 and was named after one of the owners, William McGill. In 1891 a post office was opened and McGill became a company town starting in 1906 when the Nevada Consolidated Copper Company built a reduction mill and smelter here to process ores from Ely copper mines. The site was chosen both for its access to water and for the large tract of flat land where tailings ponds could be built.

As with many other towns in rural Nevada, the fortunes of McGill are linked to the ups and downs of the metal mining industry. Starting in the 1950's, changing company policies led to Kennecott's sale of employee housing to another company, which subsequently gave current occupants the opportunity to buy their own houses. After the 1950's workable copper reserves became depleted and costs of production increased, leading to the closing of the reduction/smelting operation in 1983. Today you can walk around town and see remnants of the mining industry's history here.

Another unique feature in McGill is the McGill Drugstore Museum. Featuring a working soda fountain as well as antique pharmacy items and prescription records that date back to 1915, McGill is proud to have such a well preserved historic museum among its downtown businesses. You can take a tour of the McGill Drug Store by contacting the White Pine Public Museum.

For more information: mcgillnevada.com

For McGill Drugstore Tours: wpmuseum.org; 775-289-4710



McGill Swimming Pool

McGill Swimming Pool is a naturally warm spring-fed pool that opened in 1930 and has been enjoyed by generations of Nevadans and visitors ever since. Under the wide-open desert skies you can play on the beaches, catch some rays, enjoy the large slides and diving boards, take swimming lessons, look for guppies in the shallows, have a picnic, and make memories with friends and family. There is a large grass covered park with picnic tables and BBQ's. Be sure to reserve a spot for special events. Certified life jackets are available for people of all ages, and lifeguards are on duty. This facility is a well-managed, safe, family friendly environment.

Call for current schedule of pool hours and fees.

5535 North McGill Highway, McGill
For more information: whitepinecounty.net; 775-235-7600



Duck Creek Basin

Duck Creek Basin is your gateway to an abundance of outdoor recreation opportunities in North Creek, East Creek, Bird Creek, Timber Creek and Berry Creek. The trails in these areas are ideal for hiking, biking, OHV excursions, horseback riding, and winter backcountry skiing and snowshoeing. Camp in solitude among the Aspens and sleep under the high peaks of the Schell Creek Range. The high windswept ridges with dramatic limestone cliffs lead into deep canyons and remote valleys. This mountain range supports diverse wildlife and is home to the largest Elk herd in the state of Nevada.

Directions from Ely: Travel north on Hwy 93 for 18 miles. Turn right at Rte 486, the Duck Creek Valley turnoff, and follow the road through the valley. Access can be gained to East Creek, Bird Creek Day Use Area, Timber Creek Campground and Berry Creek, respectively.

#50fabWPC

For more information: fs.usda.gov/htnf; 775-289-3031



Blue Mass Scenic Area

Blue Mass Scenic Area is located in the Kern Mountains close to the Nevada/Utah border. At an elevation of 7,000 feet, this area is far removed from the fast pace of everyday life. The tall granite cliffs and green meadows welcome you to spend the afternoon or enjoy some primitive camping. The valley is crisscrossed by streams filled with lush vegetation and is home to several historic cabins. Wild horses abound and during the spring the flowers are a sight to see! Popular activities include fishing, hiking, stargazing, and OHV adventures. No services and rough roads mean you must come prepared to this area. Blue Mass Scenic Area is open all year round, but the roads are not maintained in the winter.

Directions: From your location find the most direct route to Tippet, NV, then travel southeast on Pleasant Valley Road for 12 miles. The entrance is on west side of the Highway 4 miles in.

#50fabWPC

For more information: blm.gov/visit/blue-mass-scenic-area; 775-289-1800



Old Lincoln Highway

Every time you drive on Hwy 50, you're a part of history! Originally known as the Lincoln Highway, this road was the first transcontinental route for automobiles in the United States, dedicated in 1913. It winds its way over 3,000 miles between New York City and San Francisco. The Lincoln Highway traveled across central Nevada, linking historic towns from Ely to Reno. It was designed to improve the bumpy dirt roads outside cities so people could enjoy the freedom of the open road and travel to new and exciting places. Funding for this monumental project came from cash donations from auto manufacturers and accessory companies. The public could also become members of the highway organization for five dollars. This was a national movement to improve the infrastructure of roads and bridges.

While much of the Old Lincoln Highway coincides with modern Hwy 50, you can explore older sections east of the Schellbourne Rest Station towards Tippet.

**Lincoln Highway Map at lincolnhighwayassoc.org/map/
For more information: [nevadalcolnhighway.org;](http://nevadalcolnhighway.org/)
lincolnhighwayassoc.org/nv/**



Pony Express

The Pony Express Trail comes right through northern White Pine County. In fact, Ely was founded as a stagecoach station along the Pony Express route! In the 1800s, mail delivery between the east and west had to either be taken over land by slow stagecoach or spend months inside a ship during a long sea voyage. The Pony Express, meanwhile, had an average delivery time of just 10 days. To achieve this remarkable speed, company owners set up a string of nearly 200 relief stations across what is now Missouri, Kansas, Nebraska, Colorado, Wyoming, Utah, Nevada and California. Lone horsemen would ride between stations at breakneck pace, switching mounts every 10-15 miles and then handing their cargo off to a new courier after 75-100 miles. Despite operating for only 18 months, its riders had successfully delivered some 35,000 pieces of mail and traveled more than half a million miles across the American frontier. Then in 1861, Western Union Telegraph Company completed the first Transcontinental Telegraph Line thus eliminating the need for the Pony Express.

Ride on up to the Schellbourne Rest Area, 40 miles north of Ely on Hwy 93, and feel the excitement of this iconic mail delivery service. At the rest area, there is a path from the parking lot that leads to a silhouette of a rider on his horse. Interpretive panels along the path have information on the Pony Express.

**For more information: @ponyexpressnevada on Facebook or
nationalponyexpress.org**

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Cherry Creek

The Cherry Creek region in northern White Pine County is one of Nevada's oldest mining areas. Gold was mined here as early as 1859 and a Pony Express station was located five miles south of Cherry Creek in 1860. The town of Cherry Creek was established in 1872 and by 1873 the town had a livery stable, blacksmith, hotel, boarding houses, and more than twenty saloons. Cherry Creek's initial boom period only lasted 2 years, then production at the mines began to decline. The district was quiet until 1880 when new discoveries stimulated the local mining industry and gave the town new life. Cherry Creek has had more resurgences than most Nevada mining towns and the mining industry remained the mainstay of the local economy until the 1940s. A post office operated here from 1873 to 1974. Cherry Creek still has a small population of around 70 residents, but no operating businesses. The historic school house, built in 1872, is one of the oldest one-room schoolhouses in Nevada and is now the Cherry Creek Museum, open by appoint only. As in all rural towns, please respect private property.

Cherry Creek is located 53 miles north of Ely on Hwy 93 and west on Rte 489.

For more information: Call the White Pine County Visitor Center at 775-289-8878



Ruby Lake Wildlife Refuge

Ruby Lake Wildlife Refuge was established primarily to protect migratory birds and other native wildlife. Over 220 species of birds have been observed, with 15 species of waterfowl nesting here each year. The 17,000 acre freshwater marsh is the dominant habitat that attracts a variety of wildlife. The marsh receives cool, clean water from about 200 springs emanating near the base of the Ruby Mountains. Relict Dace, the only native species of fish at Ruby Lake, has reduced populations due to introduction of several non-native species. A project is underway to preserve the biological integrity of the Relict Dace.

The refuge and area mountains are perfect for birdwatching, hiking, fishing, boating, and hunting. Open year-round to fishing except in areas posted as closed. The South Ruby Lake Campground is managed by the US National Forest Service. There are picnic tables, pit toilets and potable water.

Directions from Ely: Travel west on Hwy 50 for 29 miles. Take Ruby Valley Road/ County Route 3 north 50 miles to the south end of the refuge. From Hwy 50 the road is mostly unpaved dirt and tends to be a bit rough, but it is well worth the drive. All-wheel drive is recommended. Roads may be impassable during wet, snowy or snowmelt weather.

For more information: fws.gov/refuge/Ruby_Lake; 775-779-2237
Camping: recreation.gov/camping/campgrounds/232091; 877-444-6777



Illipah Reservoir Recreation Site

At 6,840 ft. elevation, Illipah Reservoir is a perfect high desert escape and is known for great fishing and camping. It's also in close proximity to the area's best ghost towns, Hamilton and Belmont Mill. Illipah Reservoir was first created in 1953 when Illipah Creek was diverted for irrigation purposes. At capacity, Illipah covers 70 surface acres to a maximum depth of 50 feet. Rainbow trout, are stocked twice annually by Nevada Department of Wildlife, and a self-sustaining population of brown trout currently inhabit the reservoir. Good fishing can be found year-round, but peaks in the spring and fall. Enjoy ice fishing in the colder months. Boats are allowed (electric motors only) but are not essential as many fish are captured from shore.

There are fifteen campsites suitable for large trailers and RVs. Grills, picnic tables, and shade structures are available at most of the sites. Restrooms are available, but no potable water. Trash cans are provided.

Illipah Reservoir is 37 miles west of Ely on Hwy 50. Turn south at the sign for Illipah Reservoir and continue .1 mile to a road junction, turn left and continue 1.3 miles to the campground.

**For more information: blm.gov/visit/illipah-reservoir-recreation-area;
775-289-1800**



Hamilton Ghost Town

One of the true ghost towns in Nevada, Hamilton was the first White Pine County seat, holding that title from 1869 until 1887. This mining district was the site of one of the shortest and most intensive mining booms in the West. A boom town, Hamilton was established after rich silver deposits were discovered. In just a few years, Hamilton's population had surged to 12,000 and supported many businesses, saloons, general stores, and a post office. Quickly, the silver deposits were found to be shallow, and the town rapidly declined. By 1873 only 500 inhabitants remained. The post office closed in 1931, and today it is an official ghost town.

A few miles south of Hamilton is another abandoned mining town, Treasure City, which at its peak had 6,000 residents and a short boom in mining silver ore from 1867-1880. Stone buildings remain near the site of Treasure Hill.

Directions from Ely: Travel 37 miles on Hwy 50, then turn left following the signs for Hamilton and continue on the dirt road for 11 miles. A four-wheel-drive vehicle and a good map are required to navigate these rough roads. Take the advice of the editor of the Hamilton newspaper (1870) who had this to say about stagecoach travel in the area: *"Those wearing wigs are advised to take seats on the inside."* It is a bumpy ride, so take it slow, and let people know where you are going.

For more information: fs.usda.gov/htnf; 775- 289-3031



Belmont Mill

The Belmont Mill was built in 1926 by the Tonopah Belmont Development Mining Company to process silver and lead-zinc ore from the Belmont Mine. Belmont Mill is a spectacular example of Nevada mining history and a remnant of the area's prestigious mining booms that enticed westward pioneers to grab onto their piece of the American Dream. The mill office, superintendents home, and the boarding house still stand, along with the four level mill. Aerial ore buckets traveling on cables suspended between the two sites delivered ore to the mill.

In 2007, the Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest took ownership of the Belmont Mill, and in 2012 some restoration work was done to better preserve the historic mill site. It remains one of the most remarkable mills standing in Nevada, and is well worth the trip. Please stay out of unsafe buildings and leave everything where you find it so that others can enjoy it.

Directions from Ely: Travel 37 miles on Hwy 50, then turn left following the signs for Hamilton and the Belmont Mill. Follow this dirt road for about 10 miles. At the fork, stay to the right and continue a few miles into the canyon to the mill site.

For more information: fs.usda.gov/htnf; 775- 289-3031



White River Valley

There are many hidden gems in White Pine County. The White River Valley and Currant Mountain Wilderness are among the most striking and least traveled areas that offer recreational activities including river/stream fishing, hiking, biking, horseback riding and OHV excursions. This area boasts steep, white limestone cliffs banded with beautiful layered strata in a fault-block range of uplifted volcanic sediments. The spine of the mountains is a long, sheer, narrow white limestone ridge.

White River Valley is a perfect place to spend the day or an off-the-grid weekend. Take Hwy 6 and travel 30 miles southwest of Ely. Turn right at the White River Campground sign. Follow this road 11 miles to the dispersed campground. There are five camping sites, which include picnic tables and campfire rings. There are no formal trailheads established to date, but roads in the area offer access to endless adventures. For an easy loop, follow NF-405 over Beef Pass and take a right at the junction of the old Ellison Guard Stagecoach Station. Continue on NF-402 past Washburn Station, through a steep-walled canyon which leads you back to Hwy 6.

#50fabWPC

For more information: <https://fs.usda.gov/htnf>; 775-289-3031

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Preston

The town of Preston grew out of a Mormon settlement founded at the Maddox Ranch in 1876. The Mormon Church would become the moving force behind the development of Preston and nearby Lund. The settlement began to grow rapidly after 1898 with the building of its first frame house, its first store, and a post office. At the beginning of the 1900s, a sawmill, and a combination social hall—church, and a four-room school were built. Preston has maintained a serene existence as ranching community through the decades. Several buildings from Preston's beginnings remain. Take time to discover the Preston Relief Society, Community Center and park, and the Preston Cemetery.

Preston is located 32 miles south of Ely on Hwy 6 and just off of Hwy 318.

#50fabWPC

For more information: nvexpeditions.com/whitepine/preston.php



Lund

The town of Lund was established in 1898 and named for Anthon H. Lund, an early Mormon settler. The first settlers were Latter-Day Saints and in 1903 the first church was built. In 1908, a more substantial 30 by 50 foot church was constructed. The Mormon Church would become the driving force behind Lund and nearby Preston. An old bunkhouse was converted into Lund's first schoolhouse. Stores catering to local ranches opened, the most successful of them being the Lund Mercantile Company. Buildings from Lund's early years still remain and Lund continues to be a prosperous ranching and farming town.

The Lund Grade School, at 30 W Center Street, was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 2018. It was built in 1915 and was operated as a school by the White Pine County School District until 2005. It was the longest continuously operated public educational facility in the county.

Mark your calendars for the annual Lund Pioneer Days Rodeo on the last weekend in July. Established in 1898, it's the oldest amateur rodeo in Nevada!

Lund is located 35 miles southwest of Ely. Take Hwy 6 south then a left on Hwy 318.

For more information: whitepinecounty.net/385/Lund



Mountain Biking

White Pine County is celebrated by mountain bikers in-the-know as a bucket list destination. Riders have access to dozens of miles of trails leading right from downtown Ely and dozens more within a short drive. In the spring, Ely hosts the oldest and longest running Enduro Race in the country, "Fears, Tears, and Beers." In the fall, "Race the Rails" pits human grit against the power of a Nevada Northern Railway locomotive. And in the winter, riders can compete in the fat bike category of the Bristlecone Birkenbeiner. All year, cyclists can also shuttle their bikes via train at the Nevada Northern Railway, thanks to the new Trains to Trails ticket. Travel by train to the end of the line and then enjoy a leisurely gravel bike ride back to Ely.

Sportsworld's bicycle department will take care of all your cycling needs:
1500 Aultman Street, Ely; 775-289-8886

You can find all our trails on Trailforks App or at [trailforks.com](https://www.trailforks.com)
For more information: [elynevada.net](https://www.elynevada.net); 775-289-3720



OHV/ATV

There are many places to explore in White Pine County that are too remote to get to by regular vehicles, so you'll need an All Terrain Vehicle or an Off-Highway Vehicle. ATVs and OHVs are classified as any wheeled motorized vehicle not designed for use on a highway and capable of cross-country travel on land, snow, ice, marsh, swampland, or other natural terrain. Just because a vehicle can go off-road doesn't mean it necessarily should. Stick to designated routes, as blazing your own trail can upset fragile ecosystems.

Get the most out of your OHV experience while in White Pine County and go where the locals go by joining the High Desert Trail Blazers on one of their group rides. Or if you're looking to branch out on your own, you can rent an OHV from Eastern Nevada Adventures. The Nevada OHV Commission webpage is a great resource for maps and information on trails available for your enjoyment and safety.

Please remember to respect our mountains, wildlife, and open spaces. Ride responsibly and get home safely. And it goes without saying that responsible drivers of ATVs and OHVs pack out what they pack in and leave their surroundings as close as possible to an unspoiled state.

Eastern Nevada Adventures: easternnevadaadventures.com

Nevada OHV Commission: ohv.nv.gov

For more information: elynevada.net; 775-289-3720



Stargazing

After the sun goes down it's time to get outside and Look UP! Nevada has some of the darkest skies on the planet. While 80% of Americans can no longer see the Milky Way due to light pollution where they live, stargazing in rural Nevada is a spectacular nightly occurrence. Because of the remoteness of White Pine County you can see thousands of stars, complete constellations, the Milky Way and entire galaxies with your naked eye.

Thanks to recently passed state legislation, a new Dark Sky Designation Program will help recognize and protect such celestially rich regions of Nevada so that we will be able to marvel at the cosmos for generations to come.

Camping under the stars from the multitude of mountain ranges in White Pine County is a stellar way to bask in the glow of the Milky Way. You can also have an incredibly unique stargazing experience on the Great Basin Star Train and the Sunset, Stars and Champagne Train at the Nevada Northern Railway in Ely! Great Basin National Park in Baker is an International Dark Sky Parks and offers seasonal astronomy programs and an annual Astronomy Festival in September. Visit the websites below for details and schedules.

When planning your stargazing adventures, check a moon phase calendar to see when new moons, late moonrises and early moonsets occur to optimize stargazing potential. The darker the sky, the better.

For more information: Great Basin National Park: nps.gov/grba; 775-234-7331
Nevada Northern Railway: nnry.com; 775-289-2085

Annual Events

January

- Fire and Ice Winter Festival
- Bristlecone Birkebeiner Winterfest

February

- NNRy Steam and Photography
- Rotary Ice Fishing Derby
- Elks Crab Crack

March

- Ely Film Festival
- Turkey Vulture Stretch 5K

April

- Eastern Nevada Cornhole Championships
- 4-H Easter Egg Hunt

May

- Ward Mountain Disc Golf Tournament
- Nevada Open Road Challenge
- Renaissance Village Open Friday/Saturday May-September
- NNRy Star Trains - May-September

June

- Snake Valley Farmers Market, Baker, Saturdays June - October
- Fears, Tears and Beers Mountain Biking Enduro Race
- Ward Mountain Scramble Trail Run
- Bristlecone Bowman Archer Shoot
- Ely Rock & Gem Swap
- Bristlecone Bricks & Train Show

July

- 4th of July Parade and Community Events
- Ely Volunteer Firemen Cornhole Tournament
- Lund Pioneer Days and Rodeo
- Boys & Girls Club Wine Walk
- Color Me Ely 5K
- Rotary Golf Tournament

August

- Sagebrush Quilt Show
- Society of Mining Engineers Golf Tournament
- Bristlecone Arts in the Park
- White Pine Rodders' Car Show
- Sky High Tri
- White Pine County Fair & Horse Races

September

- McGill Labor Day Weekend
- Great Basin National Park Astronomy Festival
- Race the Rails Bike Race
- Silver State Classic Challenge
- Take it to the Lake Half Marathon

October

- NNRy Haunted Halloween Ghost Trains
- Trick or Treat the Streets

November

- NNRy Santa's Reindeer Flyer

December

- NNRy Santa's Reindeer Flyer
- Christmas Parade
- Christmas Crafters Festival
- Festival of Trees

For more information: elynevada.net

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