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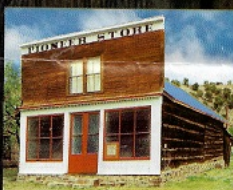
GHOST TOWNS - SIERRA COUNTY, NEW MEXICO, USA (Okres SIERRA)

WINSTON - CHLORIDE - HILLSBORO

Sierra County

Silver Boom to Ghost Towns

From the eastern slope of the Black Range Mountains across the Rio Grande to the state's largest Lake, Sierra County offers Historic Mining Ghost Towns, Hot Mineral Baths, Camping, fishing, boating and festivals galore. Once the home of Apache tribes, Spanish settlers and Buffalo Soldiers, today's Sierra County is an exceptional recreational and cultural visitor destination.



GHOST TOWNS

From 1870 to 1890 millions of dollars in Gold & Silver were extracted from Sierra County Mines including The Bridal Chamber, the Solitaire, the Ready Pay, Silver Monument, and Opportunity. When the Silver market fell these booming mining towns of saloons & brothels faded to just a few hearty inhabitants.

WINSTON - (38 miles NW of T or C on Hwy. 52) First settled in 1881 boasted a population of 3100 by 1884. Frank Winston's home and carriage house still stand along with an 1890 Old School house & other buildings. Each April the town puts on an annual fiesta with "Cow Chip Poker", BBQ, games, entertainment & dancing.



CHLORIDE - (2 miles SW of Winston on Forest Road 226) Founded in 1881 after silver chloride ore was discovered nearby. Despite Indian attacks the town grew to 2000 people. During its heyday Chloride had 8 saloons and 3 general stores. There were 12 producing mines including the Silver Monument and the St. Cloud which is still in operation. The "hanging tree" still stands in the center of Wall Street. Present day Chloride has twenty residents.



HILLSBORO - (32 miles SW of T or C on NM 152) Born in 1877 when gold was found at the nearby Opportunity & Ready Pay mines. It grew quickly and became the county seat in 1884. About 225 people live in Hillsboro today. There are gift shops, restaurants, the Black Range Museum, and a Bed & Breakfast. There is a 120 year old General Store and remains of the County Courthouse. Each year on the 1st week end of September is the Hillsboro Apple Festival.

KINGSTON, CUCHILLO, PLACITA, CHISE & MONTICELLO

Historic small ranching towns along Hwy. 52 & 142 with churches, plazas & other old buildings. Cuchillo has an annual Pecan Festival on the 4th weekend of February.



CAMPING & STATE PARKS

CABALLO LAKE STATE PARK - 16 miles South of T or C along I-25 - offers primitive and RV camping, picnicking, swimming, boating, year round fishing, and is home of Southern New Mexico's Wind Surfing enthusiasts.

PERCHA DAM STATE PARK - 20 miles South of T or C along I-25 - has campsites, scenic vistas, picnicking, hiking, and fishing. There is a comfort station with showers and a playground.

ELEPHANT BUTTE STATE PARK - Five miles northeast of T or C off I-25 - is home to NM largest Lake (38,000 acres). Elephant Butte Lake offers excellent fishing, sandy beaches, 3 Marinas, boating, RV sites with hook ups, water-skiing, restaurants, and golf.