



## **BEST RV ROAD TRIPS IN NORTH AMERICA**

**INCLUDES DETAILED TRIP PLANS FOR NORTH  
AMERICA'S MOST POPULAR RV ROUTES**



**NATIONAL RV OWNER'S ASSOC.**

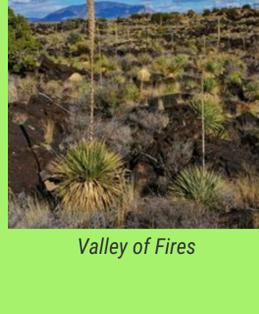
# New Mexico's Scenic South

In this land of stunning contrasts, pinon-spotted plains meet alpine peaks, and vast ridges of black lava share azure skies with a sea of dazzling dunes.

Named after famous outlaw that lived in this area, Billy the Kid Scenic Byway is a short but spectacular mountain loop through the Lincoln National Forest in central New Mexico.

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## Highlights & Facts For The Ideal Experience



Valley of Fires

**Trip Length:** Roughly 210 miles, plus side trips

**Best Time To Go:** Year round.

**What to Watch Out For:** Government testing at White Sands Missile Range can cause brief closures along Rte. 70 between Las Cruces and Alamogordo.

**Must See Nearby Attractions:**

- 1 Mescalero Cultural Center (Mescalero)
- 2 International Space Hall of Fame (Alamogordo)

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## Traveler's Notes



Three Rivers Petroglyph Site

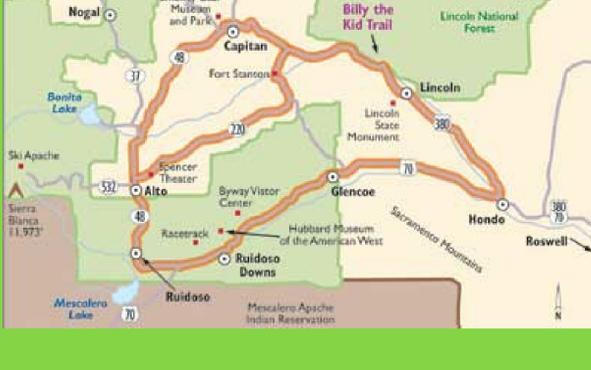
In Ruidoso Downs, stop at the Hubbard Museum of the American West which offers a fascinating glimpse into the wild-west and the history of Native American, Hispanic, and Pioneer life in the region. Conveniently located next door, is the Byway Interpretive Center for information and questions about this route.

In Capitan, don't miss a stop at Smokey Bear Historical State Park which honors the well-known Smokey Bear. Found clinging to a tree after a forest fire in 1950, the cub was rescued and cared for. The bear image had been used since 1944 to promote awareness on fire prevention, but now the world had a real live version. Visit the original Smokey's grave and Visitor Center which features exhibits about forest health, ecology and fire prevention.

The Tularosa Basin has the most petroglyphs of any region in the United States. If you are heading north, don't miss the Three Rivers Petroglyph Site made by the Jornada Mogollon Native Americans and the beautiful surroundings.

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## What To See Along the Way



- Organ Mountains
- White Sands National Monument
- Cloudcroft
- Ruidoso
- Sierra Blanca
- Smokey Bear Historical State Park
- Valley of Fires
- Three Rivers Petroglyph Site

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## Facts & More Information To Plan Your Trip!



Ocotillo in bloom near the Organ Mountains.

- Organ Mountains:** A small and rugged 9000-foot high, 32 million-year-old range in south-central New Mexico just east of Las Cruces, NM.
- White Sands National Monument:** Trails through the dunes include the raised Interdune Boardwalk and the Dune Life Nature Trail, dotted with interpretive exhibits on wildlife and other features. Dunes Drive is a looped road from the White Sands Visitor Center to the dune field.
- Cloudcroft:** A village in Otero County, New Mexico, and is within the Lincoln National Forest.
- Ruidoso:** At nearly 7000 feet, the town is a cool mountain oasis away from the heat of surrounding desert.
- Sierra Blanca:** A range of volcanic mountains in Lincoln and Otero counties of south-central region of New Mexico. It has the highest mountain in Southern New Mexico and the seventh-highest peak in the state.
- Smokey Bear Historical State Park:** The park is a true celebration of Smokey's legacy! At the visitors' center, guests find fascinating exhibits about forest health and wildfires, the science of fire ecology, and a historical look at forest fire prevention. The theater features a short film about how forest health and fire impacts our lives today.
- Valley of Fires:** A lava flow that originated in the central part of New Mexico. It is a lava flow that is approximately 2 miles wide and over 20 miles long.
- Three Rivers Petroglyph Site:** One of the few locations in the Southwest set aside solely because of its rock art. It is also one of the few sites giving visitors such direct access to petroglyphs.

# Ready, set, go!