

NORTHEAST NEW MEXICO VISITOR INFORMATION CENTERS...

Angel Fire
 Centro Plaza, Hwy 434
 Angel Fire, NM 87710
 575-377-6661
 800-446-8117

Cimarron
 104 North Lincoln Avenue
 Cimarron, NM 87714
 575-376-2417
 888-376-2417

Clayton / Union County
 1103 South First
 Clayton, NM 88415
 575-374-9253
 800-390-7858

Eagle Nest
 54 West Therma Drive
 Eagle Nest, NM 87718
 575-377-2420 ph/fax
 800-494-9117

Glenrio
 37315 C, I-40
 Glenrio, NM 88434
 575-576-2424

Las Vegas / San Miguel County
 701 Grand Avenue
 Las Vegas, NM 87701
 505-425-8631
 800-832-5947

Mora Valley
 Route 518
 Mora, NM 87732
 575-387-6072

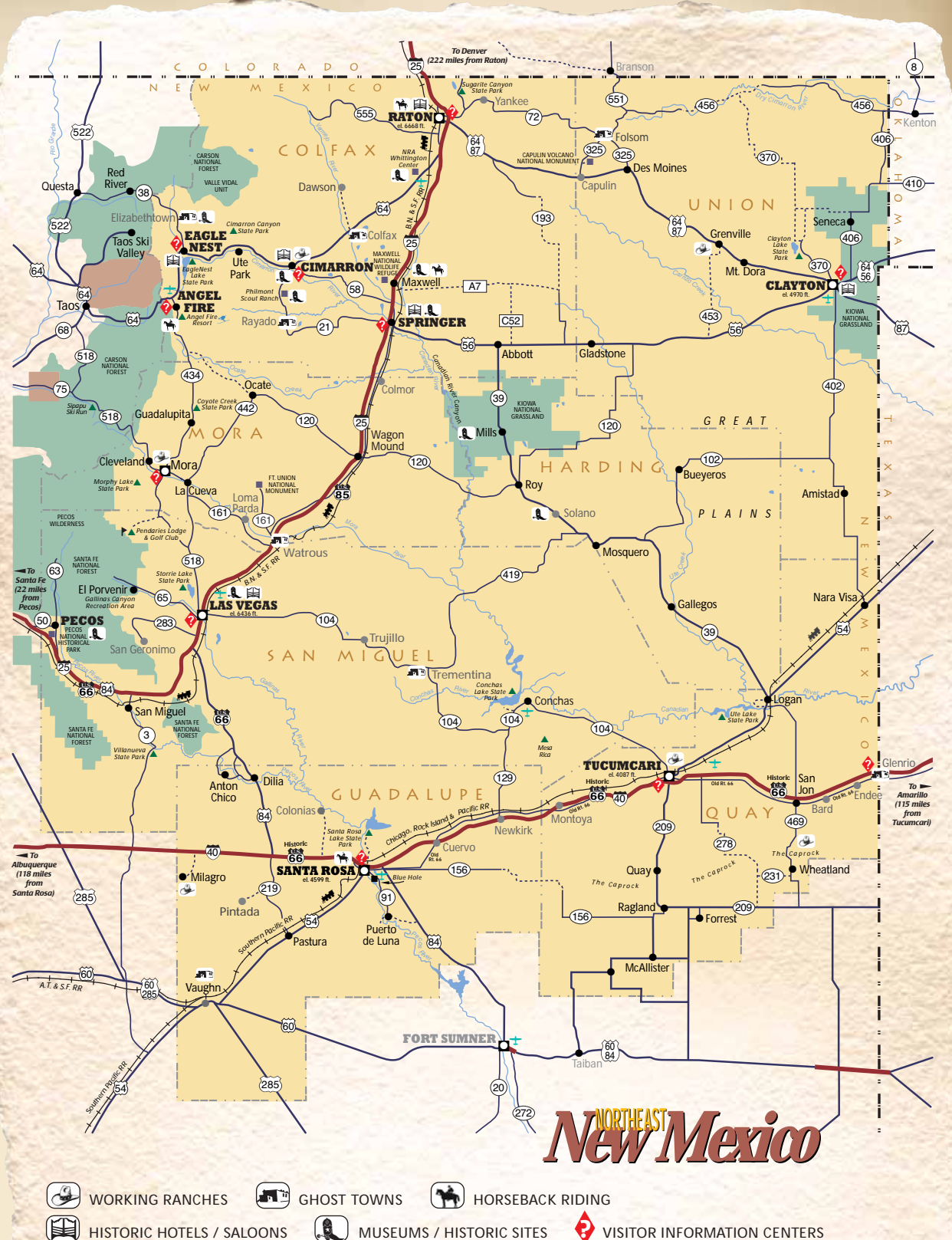
Raton
 100 Clayton Road
 Raton, NM 87740
 575-445-2761
 800-638-6161

Santa Rosa
 486 Historic Route 66
 Santa Rosa, NM 88435
 575-472-3763

Springer
 606 Maxwell Avenue
 Springer, NM 87747
 575-483-2998

Tucumcari / Quay County
 404 West Route 66
 Tucumcari, NM 88401
 575-461-1694

Working Cowboy brochure
 and website developed
 by Webb Design Inc., Taos.
 575-758-3447



NNewmexico.com

ON THE TRAIL OF THE WORKING COWBOY IN NORTHEAST NEW MEXICO



There is no better place to learn the values of discipline, patience and hard work than from the back of a horse or in a branding pen, from pitching hay or facing down one's fears in a rodeo arena.

—Max Evans

“MAKING A HAND: GROWING UP COWBOY IN NEW MEXICO”



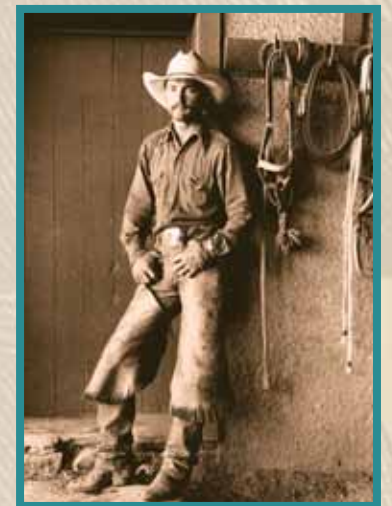
he cowboy lifestyle has been glorified in the movies for decades—Tom Mix, Roy Rogers, Gene Autry, Wallace Beery, Jimmy Stewart—bygone times. Not in Northeastern New Mexico! Here working cowboys continue the legacy of working the land and protecting it for future generations.

In our age of concern for sustaining the land and finding renewable energy resources, much can be learned from the ranchers of Northeast New Mexico. The modern-day cowboy was raised with a tradition for honoring the land and maintaining its balance. Good stewardship has kept these families on the land—and will for years to come.

Travelers can experience the lifestyle of the twenty-first century American cowboy at many locations throughout the seven counties that comprise Northeast New Mexico. From Harding County where residents claim there are more cows than people, to the vast ranches of Colfax County, one can sense the spirit that tamed the Wild West.

With the ghosts of pioneers, gold miners, outlaws, Civil War soldiers, and Indians never far from the mind, one can marvel at the big skies, vast plains, plateaus, mountains and rivers that are Northeast New Mexico. Here you can trace the footsteps of the *comancheros*, *vaqueros*, and the early homesteaders while discovering the reality of the working cowboy and his family.

Here is a brief guide to the ranches, ghost towns, activities, hotels and saloons that will enable you to experience the cowboy life, alive and well in Northeast New Mexico. Learn even more online at NNewmexico.com



ABOVE: NMRA TOUR FINALS IN CLAYTON / BRIAN HAND, BOTTOM: BELL RANCH COWBOY / DOUGLAS KENT HALL.

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WHERE THE GREAT PLAINS MEET THE ROCKY MOUNTAINS

WORKING RANCHES...

Experience what it's like to be a cowboy at these working ranches:

CAPROCK CREEK RANCH ADVENTURES, San Jon, 888-GIDDY-UP. Chuck wagon dinners, horseshoe tossing, hay rides. [Quay County](#)

CEDAR CREEK RANCH, Grenville, 575-278-2793. Working cattle and thoroughbred horse ranch. Guest ranch house for visitors; summer antelope hunts. [Union County](#)

CIMARRONCITA HISTORIC RANCH RETREAT, Cimarron, 866-376-2482. Art and literary workshops, cowboy/cowgirl weekends, Indian dances, campfire evenings. [Colfax County](#)

JX RANCH, Tucumcari, 575-487-2419. Experience day-to-day life on a cattle ranch. Maximum 4 guests. Cattle drives, make your own chaps. [Quay County](#)

ROCKING J RANCH, near Santa Rosa, 575-472-5127. Cattle drives, branding, hunting. [Guadalupe County](#)

VICTORY RANCH ALPACAS, Mora, 575-387-2254. Hands-on experience at the largest alpaca ranch in the Southwest. Yarns, clothing, gift shop. [Mora County](#)

GHOST TOWNS...

In your travels across this beautiful wide-open country, stop at these ghost towns along the way for a glimpse into New Mexico's colorful past.

COLFAX ~ Ruins of old buildings visible from highway. Nearby is Dawson Cemetery. [Colfax County](#)

ELIZABETHTOWN ~ Explore many original buildings and the cemetery of this 1868 gold town. (See Museums.) [Colfax County](#)

FOLSOM ~ In its day, the largest stockyard north of Fort Worth; archeology site of the 'Folsom Man,' a number of old buildings and museum. [Union County](#)

MONTOYA ~ On I-40 in the middle of cattle country. A number of buildings in ruins, boot hill cemetery. [Guadalupe County](#)

RAYADO AT PHILMONT RANCH ~ Est. 1848, stage and wagon stop. Museum, period costume tours. One of the largest ranches in the state—215 square miles. [Colfax County](#)

TREMENTINA ~ Many stone building ruins remain, cemetery dating back to the 1800s. [San Miguel County](#)

VAUGHN ~ Est. 1880s as a cattle drive stopover. Still populated; many old deserted buildings, lots of old neon signs, train depot, and cemetery. [Guadalupe County](#)

HORSEBACK RIDING...

Nuthin' like seeing the country from the back of a horse. Head off on a trail ride across the vast plains or into the mountains.

J&L LIVESTOCK, Santa Rosa, 575-472-8000. Horseback rides, children's rides, overnight boarding. [Guadalupe County](#)

JACKSON STABLES, Raton, 575-445-9789. Horseback rides and overnight horse boarding. [Colfax County](#)

PRAIRIE ROSE RIDING STABLES, Maxwell, 575-375-2728. Guided trail rides. [Colfax County](#)

ROADRUNNER TOURS, Angel Fire, 575-377-6416. Trail rides, wagon rides, wilderness trips. [Colfax County](#)



HISTORIC HOTELS & SALOONS...

There are a number of Wild West hotels still in operation where you can stay, have a meal, and belly up to the bar.

THE BROWN HOTEL, Springer, 575-483-2269. 1920s restored and refurbished hotel, 17 rooms with antique furnishings. Bakery and coffee shop. [Colfax County](#)

EKLUND HOTEL, Clayton, 877-355-8631. 1892 hotel, 26 rooms, loads of Wild West history, dining room with carved bar. [Union County](#)

EL PORTAL HOTEL, Raton, 888-362-7345. Built in 1903; 18 rooms all appointed with original antiques, chandeliers, and maid service. Restaurant. [Colfax County](#)

LAGUNA VISTA HOTEL, Eagle Nest, 575-377-6522. 1890s haunted hotel, restaurant; its saloon is still one of the best in the west. [Colfax County](#)

PLAZA HOTEL, Las Vegas, 800-328-1882. "The Belle of the Southwest" built in 1882 in grand Victorian style. Authentically restored hotel, saloon, and restaurant. [San Miguel County](#)

ST. JAMES HOTEL, Cimarron, 575-376-2664. Dine and stay where Buffalo Bill, Annie Oakley, Kit Carson, Jesse James, and Doc Holiday all holed up. [Colfax County](#)

MUSEUMS & HISTORIC SITES...

ELIZABETHTOWN MUSEUM, 575-377-3420. 1860s building filled with period antiques, clothing and memorabilia. Open Memorial Day through Labor Day. [Colfax County](#)

CITY OF LAS VEGAS MUSEUM, 505-454-1401, ext. 283. Chronicles the history of Las Vegas, including Rough Rider memorabilia. [San Miguel County](#)

HERZSTEIN MEMORIAL MUSEUM, Clayton, 575-374-2977. Cowboy photos, period exhibits, and genealogical documents of the northeast New Mexico area. [Union County](#)

MAXWELL WILDLIFE REFUGE. View migratory birds at this 2,800 acre refuge—ducks, geese, mallards, kingfishers, bald eagles. Camping, picnicking, hiking. [Colfax County](#)

MILLS CANYON, near Mills. Site of agricultural enterprise from the early 1900s, spectacular scenery, stone ruins. [Harding County](#)

NRA WHITTINGTON CENTER, Raton, 575-445-3615. The most comprehensive shooting facility in America. Camping, lodging, adventure programs, gift shop. [Colfax County](#)

OLD TOWN CIMARRON WALKING TOUR, Cimarron. 14 historic sites (jail, stagecoach stop, hotel, etc.) [Colfax County](#)

PECOS NAT'L. HISTORICAL PARK, Glorieta, 505-757-6414. Site of important Civil War skirmish. [San Miguel County](#)

PHILMONT RANCH, Cimarron, 575-376-2281. Boy Scout headquarters and working ranch. Tours of Villa Philmont mansion; gift shop. [Colfax County](#)

SANTA FE TRAIL MUSEUM, Springer, 575-483-5554. Honoring the pioneer men and women who rumbled across the plains of the western U.S.; bookstore. [Colfax County](#)

WAGON MOUND RANCH SUPPLY, Solano, 800-526-0482. Old time mercantile offering cowboy books and music, western jewelry, tack and farrier supplies. [Harding County](#)

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TOP LEFT TO RIGHT CLOCKWISE: HORSES AND BUTTE / BOB WALLACE, SANTA FE TRAIL / MIKE STAUFFER, EKLUND HOTEL / BRIAN HAND, CALUMET ANTIQUES IN LAS VEGAS / PAULA VALENTINE, WAGON RIDE AT CAPROCK CREEK, CALF ROPING / MIKE STAUFFER.