A WEEKEND IN
Mid-New Mexico Rural Outdoors

new mexico *out & allied* business alliance

SODA DAM

- A curved travertine formation that dams the Jemez River, unusual enough to draw a stop from almost every passing car.

JEMEZ SPRINGS VILLAGE

- A small village built around natural hot springs, with a public bathhouse and several trailheads nearby.

SPENCE HOT SPRINGS

- A short hike along the river to a series of natural hot spring pools.

BATTLESHIP ROCK

- A dramatic rock formation at the confluence of two canyons, with picnic tables along the river.

VALLES CALDERA NATIONAL PRESERVE

- A vast grassy volcanic caldera with elk herds, hiking trails, and fly fishing access.

CHIMNEY ROCK TRAIL, GHOST RANCH

- A red rock mesa trail through the landscape that inspired many of Georgia O'Keeffe's paintings, with a rock scramble near the top.

**These locations are easily accessible from Albuquerque and Santa Fe areas, check distance before planning*

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NORTH CENTRAL NEW MEXICO
(SANTA FE, TAOS, LOS ALAMOS, JEMEZ MOUNTAINS)

- Wheeler Peak, near Taos Ski Valley. Difficulty: strenuous.
- Rio Grande Gorge whitewater rafting, near Taos. Difficulty: varies
- Chimney Rock and Kitchen Mesa Trails, Ghost Ranch near Abiquiu. Difficulty: moderate
- Falls Trail, Bandelier National Monument near Los Alamos. Difficulty: moderate
- Valles Caldera National Preserve, Jemez Mountains. Difficulty: easy to moderate.
- Spence Hot Springs, Jemez Springs. Difficulty: easy
- Fenton Lake State Park, Jemez Mountains. Difficulty: easy

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CENTRAL NEW MEXICO
(ALBUQUERQUE AREA)

- La Luz Trail, Sandia Mountains. Difficulty: strenuous.

- Kasha-Katuwe Tent Rocks National Monument, near Cochiti Pueblo. Difficulty: easy to moderate.

NORTHWEST NEW MEXICO

- Chaco Culture National Historical Park, reached by a long unpaved road. Difficulty: moderate.

- La Ventana Natural Arch and lava tube caves, El Malpais National Monument near Grants. Difficulty: easy for the arch, moderate to strenuous for cave exploration

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SOUTH CENTRAL NEW MEXICO
(LAS CRUCES, WHITE SANDS, TRUTH OR CONSEQUENCES)

- White Sands National Park, near Alamogordo. Difficulty: easy
- Dripping Springs and Pine Tree Trail, Organ Mountains-Desert Peaks National Monument near Las Cruces. Difficulty: moderate to difficult
- Elephant Butte Lake State Park, near Truth or Consequences. Difficulty: easy.
- City of Rocks State Park, near Deming. Difficulty: easy.

SOUTHWEST NEW MEXICO

- Gila Cliff Dwellings and the Gila Wilderness, near Silver City. Difficulty: easy for the cliff dwellings, moderate to strenuous for backcountry

SOUTHEAST NEW MEXICO

- Carlsbad Caverns National Park, near Carlsbad. Difficulty: easy on the paved main cavern trail, strenuous for the ranger-led wild cave tours.

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