

PRESS RELEASE

Explore Mesa Verde Country's Trail of the Ancients Scenic Byway to Enjoy ColorFALL Colorado

By car, RV, or motorcycle, Trail of the Ancients showcases the best of southwest Colorado

Cortez, Colo. – Fall is already in full swing in Southwest Colorado's [Mesa Verde Country](#), which encompasses the communities of Cortez, Dolores, and Mancos. To experience the full effect of fall's glory, Mesa Verde Country invites visitors to take a drive on [Trail of the Ancients Scenic Byway](#) via RV, car, or motorcycle.

About Trail of the Ancients

Trail of the Ancients (TotA) is a 114-mile route across the broken, arid terrain of the Ancestral Puebloan people. Along the route, which offers a complete Mesa Verde Country experience along a single roadway, visitors can see clues about the ancient civilization with cliff dwellings, rock art and pottery sherds. Attractions along the byway include Hovenweep National Monument and Mesa Verde National Park, which both contain dense clusters of remains. The Canyons of the Ancients National Monument Visitors Center and Museum (CANM) in Dolores offers background and interpretive information. One branch of the byway leads to the Four Corners Area, connecting with Utah's Trail of the Ancients byway.

Motorcycle Travel in Mesa Verde Country

The Mesa Verde Country region of southwest Colorado is a [motorcyclist's paradise](#), with endless open roads winding through stunning canyons, forests, and high desert. The towns of Dolores, Mancos, and Cortez serve as gateways to adventure for exploring TotA on two wheels. TotA offers a chance to learn about the architecture, culture, and history of the ancestral Puebloan peoples who inhabited this Four Corners region centuries ago. It's an ideal ride for history buffs!

RV Travel in Mesa Verde Country

There's nothing quite like the convenience of taking your home with you on the road. Mesa Verde Country boasts a range of [RV Parks and Campgrounds](#), and we recommend you plan to check out a number of them for the full Mesa Verde Country experience. The [Outpost Motel, Cabins & RV Park in Dolores](#) has been family-owned since 1960 and features full RV hookups, covered picnic areas, river access, laundry facilities, and a daily happy hour. Sundance RV Park is conveniently located in the heart of downtown Cortez. The [Riverwood RV Resort](#) is located near the Mancos River and walking distance to downtown Mancos. The well-maintained resort features paved and spacious roads for easy pull-through or back-in.

Where to Stay in Mesa Verde Country

If you're not traveling in your sleeping quarters for the night, Mesa Verde Country has you covered. [Mesa Verde Motel](#) in Mancos provides quirky, clean, and comfortable accommodations at reasonable prices. Located in the heart of Dolores, the Dolores Mountain Inn features clean, quiet, and cozy rooms and friendly service. The [Retro Inn](#) in Cortez is a little different from the norm and features clean, groovy, and comfortable rooms and easy access to everything Cortez has to offer. Learn more about lodging in Mesa Verde Country [here](#).

Fueling Up in Mesa Verde Country

Mesa Verde Country has a range of restaurants, breweries, cideries, and wineries that showcase the taste of the Southwest. With so many local foods and regional flavors from our local Mesa Verde Country restaurants, you'll be planning your next meal before you've finished your first! [Thai Cortez](#) is a treat for the tastebuds that brings the flavors of Thailand to Southwest Colorado. Also in Cortez, the [Farm Bistro](#) has been serving the best produce and meat from Montezuma County since 2009. In Mancos, you won't want to miss [Absolute Bakery](#) for delicious lunch and breakfast options. [Kelly's Kitchen](#) in Dolores is a must for excellent breakfast and lunch food and a community-minded atmosphere. Kelly's Kitchen is also the pop-up restaurant in the winter and food truck in the summer at the Dolores River Brewery. Speaking of breweries, don't forget to satisfy your thirst, too, by sampling a variety of the [locally crafted wines, beers, and spirits](#) in Mesa Verde Country.

For more information on planning a trip to Mesa Verde Country, call 970-565-8227 or visit www.mesaverdecountry.com.

Tips for Responsible Travel to Mesa Verde Country

Just as traveling to Mesa Verde Country will leave a positive impact on you, there are many ways you can leave a positive impact on the places you visit. Please do this by: limiting your water usage, practicing fire safety, leaving archaeological artifacts where you find them, [leaving no trace](#) by disposing of waste properly and being considerate of wildlife, and finally being respectful of the local people and cultures you encounter. To learn more about responsible travel tips, click [here](#).

About Mesa Verde Country (www.mesaverdecountry.com)

Mesa Verde Country is in southwest Colorado near the entrance to Mesa Verde National Park. Named the "Number One Historic Monument in the World" by *Conde Nast Traveler* and one of the "50 Places of a Lifetime-The World's Greatest Destinations" by *National Geographic*, the park is one of the nation's first World Heritage sites and the largest archaeological preserve in the country. In addition, Mesa Verde Country is loaded with other archaeological attractions, including: Hovenweep National Monument, Canyons of the Ancients Visitor Center & Museum, Ute Mountain Tribal Park, Crow Canyon Archaeological Center, and the Cortez Cultural Center. Mountain biking enthusiasts have recognized Mesa Verde Country as one of the next great mountain biking destinations. The towns of Cortez, Dolores and Mancos provide accommodations, dining, outdoor fun and visitor services. Two national byways pass through Mesa Verde Country. Additionally, Mesa Verde Country has two podcasts that offer an introduction to Southwest Colorado and all its wonders. Download the Ancient Voices Podcast here: <https://mesaverdecountry.com/blog/podcasts/ancient-voices-podcast/> or listen to the Mesa Verde Voices Podcast here: <https://mesaverdecountry.com/blog/podcasts/mesa-verde-voices-podcast/>.

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Contacts

Christy Nielson, Ore Communications, 206-399-1914, christy@orecommunications.com