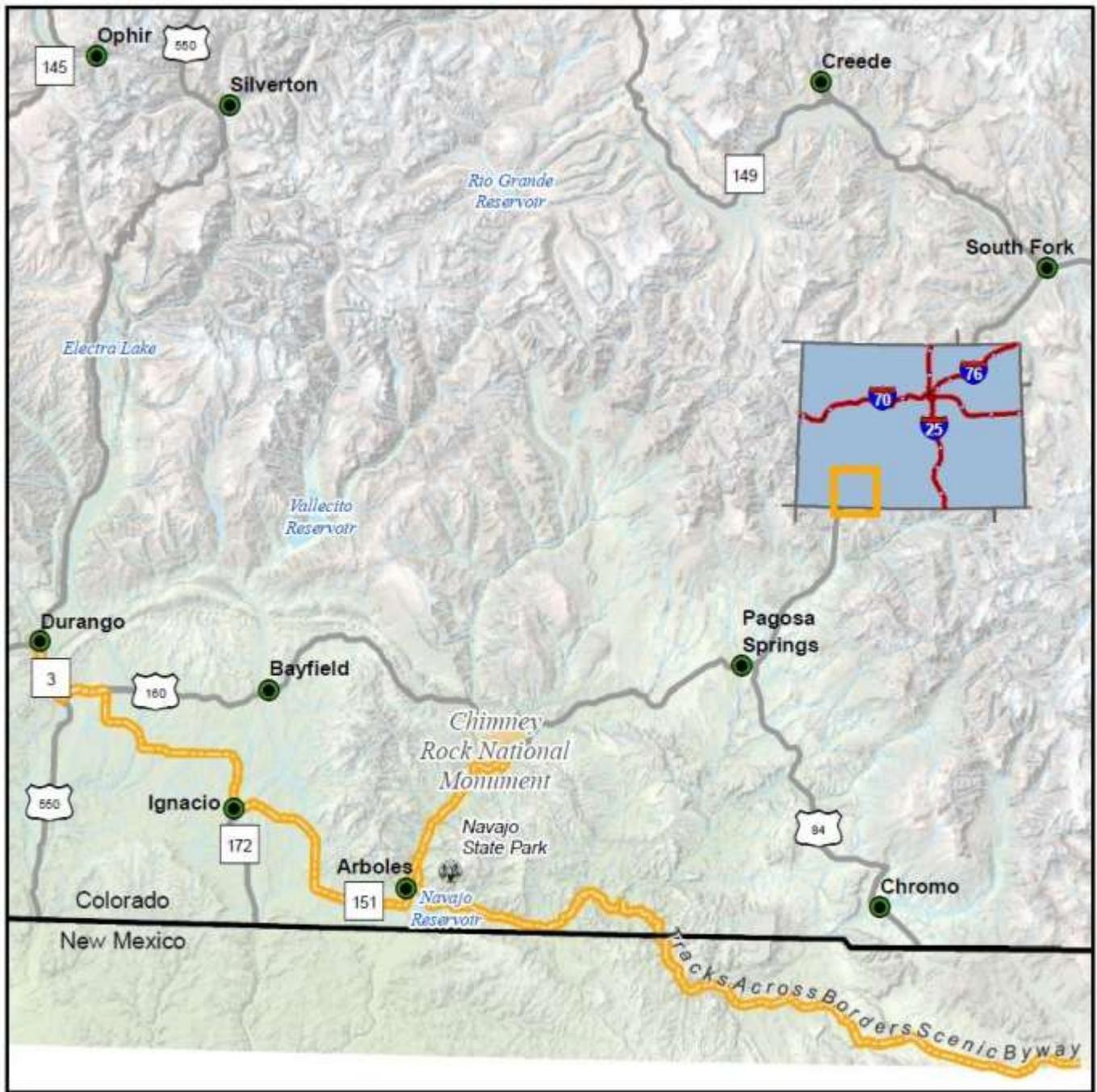




Tracks Across Borders Scenic and Historic Byway

Southwestern Colorado presents a unique opportunity to explore the rich culture of the oldest Ancestral Puebloan people in the United States, that included the original bands of the Mouache and Capote Utes and the Lianeros, the plains people and the Olleros, the mountain valley people of the Jicarilla Tribe. The Utes were the ancestors of the Southern Ute Indian Tribe, who are now the oldest continuous residents of Colorado. The Jicarilla are the present-day descendants of the larger Apache nation who moved with the seasons around the scenic mountains and rugged mesas of southern Colorado and northeastern New Mexico until they were given a permanent home in north central New Mexico. Tracks Across Borders Scenic and Historic Byway puts you on some the backroads of these ancient tribal lands, following the route of the railroad between Durango and Chama, which connects the Denver and Rio Grande Railroad with the Cumbres and Toltec Railroad.. High quality museums and ancient monuments along the way reveal timeless fascinating cultural stories. At Chimney Rock National Monument, you'll walk in the footsteps of the enigmatic Ancestral Puebloans of Chaco Canyon, following primitive pathways that haven't changed for 1,000 years.



Ride the Rails Experience



Driving the Byway

Your journey begins in Durango, gateway to Southwestern Colorado. After exploring Durango and riding the Durango and Silverton Narrow Gauge Railroad, on Day Two, you'll be passing through the La Plata Mountains headed toward Ignacio, home of the Southern Ute Cultural Center. It may be best to take a lunch with you, as there are few selections between Durango and your Day Two destination. From Ignacio, it's on to Arboles, where you will need to take a side trip to the Chimney Rock National Monument, a seven square mile preserve with 200 ancient homes and ceremonial structures. Then, it's on to Archuleta County Roads 500 and 551, which skirts Navajo State Park, with flat-topped buttes and canyons. Passing into New Mexico, the road becomes Rio Arriba County Road toward Dulce, home of the Jicarilla Apache Nation. After an overnight in Dulce, the route ends in Chama on US 64. Here you can ride the Cumbres and Toltec Railroad.

Day One



Durango

Founded in 1880 by the Denver and Rio Grande Railroad, Durango is the gateway to Colorado's Old West. Today walking in the Victorian charm you'll notice architectural styles which changed during eras of boom and bust. A collection of outstanding historic buildings like the railroad depot, the Wetter Building, several historic hotels, and the "Saloon District" have been carefully preserved. Even though the "jeans and cowboy hat dress code" will be immediately obvious, the town has more award-winning restaurants per capita than San Francisco. In fact, the high quality of life is the main reason that folks leave the big city for a more casual mountain life, with a multitude of scenic walking trails, a thriving arts community, and great historical and cultural offerings.

Day One

Durango and Silverton Narrow Gauge Railroad



Riding the train that brought over \$300 million in gold and silver down from the San Juan mountains is a must do. You'll see completely different scenery than you will driving the San Juan Skyway Scenic Byway. Constructed in 1881, the line parallels the Million Dollar Highway completed in 1887. Hauling of precious metals continued until 1893, when the bottom dropped out of silver prices. After facing various challenges for nearly 40 years, Hollywood discovered Durango and the railroad, showcasing the train in movies including Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid.

479 Main Avenue, Durango, CO 81301 970-259-0274
Departures at 9AM, 12:15PM, 3:15PM, Allow 3+ hours,
Starting at \$70 per person

Historic Downtown Walking Tour and Durango Art Galleries



One of the special things about Durango is the living heritage of the town on display along Main Avenue. The Historic Downtown Durango Walking Tour (pdf included with detailed itinerary) begins at the Railroad depot, where you can also visit the D&S Railroad Museum. As you enjoy the walking tour through town, you'll pass art galleries and alternative art spaces featuring contemporary to western to Native American art from local, regional and nationally recognized artists. The Durango Art Galleries Collective host events, workshops, shows and gallery walks throughout the year. Among others, members include Diane West Jewelry & Art, Durango Arts Center, Earthen Vessel Gallery, Sorrel Sky Gallery, Toh-Atin Gallery and Wildshots Gallery.

Tour starts at 479 Main Avenue, Allow 2 hours

Day One

Animas Museum



Located in the North Main District, the Animas Museum, delivers an overview of the area's Native Americans, Old West, fires, railroads, transportation and lifeways. The Joy Family Cabin and Peterson House which contrasts life in 1876 with life in the 1930s are also part of the campus.

3065 West Second Avenue, Durango, CO 81301
970-259-2402 Tuesday-Saturday 9AM- 4PM, Allow 1 hour,
\$5.00 per person

Optional Dining Experience



Bar D Old West Music Show and Chuckwagon Supper

8080 Country Road 250
Durango, CO 81301
970-247-5753

Eat on traditional tin plates, enjoying a choice of entrees, served with potatoes, baked beans, homemade biscuits with hone, applesauce, home baked cake, cowboy coffee or real lemonade.

Starting at \$29 per person, Dinner at 6:30PM

Durango Destination Distinctive Accommodations and Dining



Destination Distinctive Accommodations: General Palmer Hotel **567 Main Avenue, Durango, CO 81301 970-247-4747**

The prestigious Victorian era General Palmer Hotel has operated continuously since it was built in 1898. Named after Civil War General Palmer, it is the only Historic Four Diamond Hotel in Southwest Colorado. Step back in time and experience the unique nostalgia of the hotel while enjoying all the comforts of modern living.



Grassburgers

726 1/2 Main Avenue
Durango, CO 81301
970-247-1081

An award-winning farm to table restaurant featuring 100% grass fed burgers, with gluten free, vegan and allergy friendly options that is completely non-GMO.

Eolus

919 Main Avenue
Durango, CO 81301
970-259-2898

Considered the best restaurant in Durango, with exquisite food and excellent service.

Day Two

Southern Ute Cultural Center



A bit outside of Durango, in the opposite direction from the remainder of your trip, the Southern Ute Cultural Center illustrates exceptional architecture that incorporates cultural symbolism and a connection to the land. Inside, memories and history celebrate the Ute people. You'll first encounter plants important to native subsistence. Once inside, you'll be awed by Ponderosa pines rising 60 feet like a tipi, ending in a Circle of Life glass ceiling. The Permanent Gallery chronicles the story of the Ute people from prehistoric times to today. Photographic panels, audio-visual presentations, interactive electronics and life-size replicas enhance six themes in Ute life.

503 Ouray Drive, Ignacio CO 81137 970-563-9583 7 Days, except major holidays, 45 minute tour, Free

Chimney Rock National Monument



To walk among 200 ancient homes and ceremonial buildings, you'll need to take a side trip off the Byway to Chimney Rock National Monument. Definitely make the trip. Seven square miles of southwestern landscape surround the ancient settlement, that includes a Great Kiva, a Pit House, a Multi-Family Dwelling and a Chacoan style Great House Pueblo. Explore the visitor cabin and take a guided tour of the area. At 7,000 feet above sea level, a mile and a half hike rewards you with astounding 360 degree views, with the San Juan National Forest splaying out at your feet.

3179 Colorado Route 151, Chimney Rock, CO 81121
970-883-5359 7 Days 9AM-4:30PM, Allow 2-3 hours
Monument admission free, Self-guided enhanced tours \$12

Day Two

Navajo State Park



The area which is now Navajo State Park was once inhabited by Ancient Puebloans. Their settlement was abandoned for 300 years until the Utes came back to the area during the 14th century. The first Europeans to set foot here were laying out the route of the Denver and Rio Grande Western Railroad between New Mexico and California. The Navajo Dam was constructed in 1962 to provide water for the Navajo Indian Reservation, creating the nearly 15,000 acre lake.

1526 Country Road 982, Arboles, CO 81121 970-883-2208
7 Days 5AM-10PM \$5 per car

Day Two



Dulce

Dulce, New Mexico is the headquarters of the Jicarilla Apache Nation. Nomadic in nature until just before European contact, the Jicarilla wandered and traded as far east as Kansas until they settled deep in the northern Sangre de Cristo Mountains in the mid-1720s.

Dulce Destination Distinctive Accommodations and Dining



Destination Distinctive Accommodations: Wild Horse Casino and Hotel
13603 US Highway 64, Dulce, NM 87528 575-759-3663

Nestled in the scenic mountains of Northern New Mexico, the Wild Horse Casino and Hotel is an upscale full-service hotel, restaurant and lounge is committed to the best service.



Dinner at Wild Horse Casino

Enjoy dinner at the Wild Horse Casino dining room.



Day Three

Jicarilla Cultural Center



Explore the culture of the Jicarilla (Spanish for little basket, referring to the small sealed drinking vessels used by the tribe) Apache, one of the loosely organized autonomous bands of the Eastern Apache who speak a Southern Athabaskan language. To their Mescalero and Lipan neighbors, they were known as the Kinya-Inde - people who live in fixed houses. They called themselves Haisndayin - people who came from below – since they considered themselves the first people to emerge from the underworld. Their new cultural center featuring these stories, in a sustainable and engaging complex.

13533 Highway 64 and Narrow Gauge Road, Dulce, NM
87528 575-759-1343 8AM-5PM



Day Three



Chama

Founded in 1880 when the Denver and Rio Grande Railroad began construction on the San Juan extension, Chama immediately became a boomtown. Coal prospectors, lumbermen, laborers, engineers and contractors appeared on the scene, creating a rowdy and exciting place. In the prosperous early days, there were plenty of saloons, gambling houses, and moonshine stills. Outlaws like the Clay Allison gang regularly held up the railroad pay car carrying large construction camps payrolls. Today, Chama retains its lively Western atmosphere, with a unique blend of cultures. Listen carefully when you hear a mix of English, Spanish and Native languages, sometimes in the same sentence. Dulce to Chama-26 miles

Day Three

Cumbres and Toltec Scenic Railroad



Take a ride on a railroad that travels on a route through “off the grid” wilderness where no automobile can travel. Moving at a top speed of 12 miles an hour, you’ll have plenty of time to enjoy views into canyons and over ridges, aspen groves, wildflowers and plentiful wildlife. As you travel, you can move around the train to take in the majestic views ahead. Midway through the trip, enjoy a hot meal while you watch the scenery pass by and listen to the on-board docents explain the geology and history of the area.

500 South Terrace Avenue, Chama, NM 87520

575-756-2151 Full day trips from Chama to Antonito, one direction by train, opposite direction by motor coach, lunch included in ticket price, Departures at 8:30AM or 10AM Starting at \$105 per person

