

W. RECREATIONAL AND CULTURAL FACILITIES

1. Museums (Table W-1)

Table W-1 lists 17 existing museums in 11 different locations that focus on aspects of the Valley history. A regional museum association has formed to present a more complete Valley package of offerings.

2. Theatres and Galleries (Table W-2)

The San Luis Valley is home to three theatres, including the Creede Repertory Theatre, which is entering its 49th season. The CRT opened a second venue in 2011, building the Ruth Humphreys Brown Theatre, which sits just a few blocks down Main Street from the company's main stage. Adams State University's Theatre department puts on productions throughout the academic year. And the Ute Theatre in Saguache also holds live plays in addition to movies.

For this study we were able to confirm 17 art galleries in the Valley, with many of them clustered in Saguache and Creede. We would emphasize however that many restaurants and a few coffee shops in the area also display art work for purchase.

3. Golf Courses, Recreation Centers, and Community Centers (Table W-3)

Four golf courses as shown in the table are located in valley and mountain settings. Alamosa and South Fork have 18-hole courses, and 9-hole courses are available in Monte Vista and Crestone. Boys and Girls Club facilities are located in Alamosa. Hooper and Blanca/Fort Garland have year-round pools, and seasonal pools are operated in Alamosa and Sanford. Swimming facilities at Monte Vista's Ski Hi Park have been closed for several years now, mainly due to high maintenance costs and tighter budgets.

Alamosa and Blanca/Fort Garland both have public recreation centers. Creede and Saguache have community centers for public meetings and events.

4. National Heritage Area and Proposed historic park.

The Sangre de Cristo National Heritage Area was designated in 2009 as a means of preserving and promoting the culture and natural landscape in Alamosa, Conejos and Costilla counties. The heritage area is a non-profit organization that offers grants of up to \$25,000 for projects that restore historic buildings, provide interpretation, restore or promote scenic and recreational resources or document culturally significant components of the way of life in the Valley.

So far the board of the heritage area has awarded grants to the Antonito Depot, the Alamosa Masonic Hall, the Alamosa Community Gardens, La Puente, Sangre de Cristo Heritage Area, Alamosa County Convention and Visitor Bureau, the Paleo Cultural Research Group -Baca Mountain Tract of the Rio Grande National Forest, Los Caminos Antiguos, Adams State University - CASA, Our Lady of Guadalupe, and the Town of San Luis.

Valley native and former Secretary of the Interior Ken Salazar first raised the possibility of a national historic park for the area in 2012. U.S. Sen. Mark Udall ended the year by introducing legislation for the creation of the park, which calls for the park to feature nine discreet sites, including: The Sangre de Cristo Heritage

Center in San Luis; The Sociedad Proteccion Mutua de Trabajadores Unidos building in Antonito; the Fort Garland Museum; The Denver & Rio Grande Antonito Depot; Los Caminos Antiguos Scenic and Historic Byway; the Dario Gallegos House in San Luis; the Trujillo Homestead in Alamosa County; Pike's Stockade in Conejos County; and portions of the Old Spanish National Historic Trail where it crosses federal land. The measure has yet to receive a committee hearing.

Table W-1

San Luis Valley Museums

Facility	Location	Description
Conejos County Agricultural Museum	La Jara	A collection of farm equipment.
Conejos County Museum	Antonito	Artifacts on the railroading history of Antonito, home of the narrow gauge Cumbres and Toltec Scenic Railroad.
Creede Historical Society Museum	Creede	Located in a former train depot exhibiting memorabilia of Creede's days as a mining town.
Creede Underground Mining Museum	Creede	Built underground, the museum has displays about mining and mining equipment.
Crestone Historical Museum	Crestone	The museum is devoted to the history of the Crestone-Baca area on the eastern margin of the San Luis Valley, at the base of the Sangre de Cristo Mountains.
Fort Garland Museum	Fort Garland	Established in 1858 in southern Colorado, Fort Garland, with its garrison of over 100 men, served to protect the earliest settlers in the San Luis Valley.
Hazard House Museum	Saguache	This home depicts the affluent lifestyle and furnishings of the wealthier Saguache families of the 1920s and 1930s.
Jack Dempsey Museum	Manassa	A museum in honor of heavyweight boxing legend Jack Dempsey has articles from his career housed in the cabin he was born.
Luther E. Bean Museum	Alamosa	Tucked away on campus, on the second floor of historic Richardson Hall, the museum features a collection of Native American and Hispano Southwest arts, paintings and bronzes by nationally and regionally known artists, and European decorative arts.
Monte Vista Historical Society History Center	Monte Vista	An index of over 1,500 photographs, history reference books, and memorabilia.
Rio Grande County Museum	Del Norte	The museum offers visitors a glimpse into the cultural and natural history of the area from the Indians and Hispanic settlers, the mountain men fur trappers and traders, to the later settlers who came in search of land, freedom, gold, and silver.
Ryan Geological Museum	Alamosa	A collection of more than 5,000 fossils and minerals donated to Adams State University for academic and public use.
Saguache County Museum	Saguache	The factual story of the past is revealed as you wander from the 1860s kitchen, with the table set for dinner, and through six more rooms until you reach the Memorial Room where past citizens of Saguache are honored.
San Luis Museum and Cultural Center	San Luis	The Museum features murals and works of art from its own collection and on loan from various artists and collectors, many of whom are local residents, including a replicated morado with a collection of santos and blutos.
San Luis Valley Museum	Alamosa	Contains collections on the Valley's people and other memorabilia, combined with selected items of natural, artistic, and cultural interest of the region, state and world.
Transportation Museum of the West	Monte Vista	The museum incorporates early modes of transportation used in the San Luis Valley from the floor of the valley to the mining camps.
Veterans History Center Museum	Homelake	Featuring the history of Colorado and American Veterans.

Source: San Luis Valley Museum Association.
www.museumtrail.org/museums.asp

Table W-2

Theatres and Art Galleries

Facility	Location	Description
Theatres		
Creede Repertory Theatre	Creede	For over 48 seasons, the nationally-recognized Creede Repertory Theatre has produced plays in repertory, which allows visitors to see five or six different plays in week. Only a handful of theatres in the United States currently attempt this rigorous schedule.
Adams State University - Theatre Department	Alamosa	From classics to cutting-edge, improv to social change, the ASU Theatre Department and its students presents a variety of productions from a state-of-the-art theatre building.
Ute Theatre	Saguache	A small movie theatre with a stage that host theatrical events, talent reviews, music, and conferences.
Galleries		
Firedworks Gallery	Alamosa	Prints, originals, jewelry, folk-art, pottery, weavings, furniture, framing, artist profiles, and educational tips.
Cloyde Snook Gallery	Alamosa	The gallery on the Adams State University campus hosts student art work in a variety of mediums.
Forest Tango Art Works	Blanca	Fine art, crafts and custom furniture.
Ewing Gallery of Fine Arts	Antonito	Fine art painting, sculpture, prints and framing.
Quiller Gallery	Creede	The Quiller Gallery was established in 1970 by Stephen Quiller, a painter who has lived and worked in the southern Colorado mountains for over thirty years.
Gallery at the Windsor	Del Norte	Traditional western fine art.
Lovering Thompson Gallery	Creede	Lovering's Gallery features Jan Thompson's pastel and oil paintings, originals and prints, along with her husband, John's silver jewelry. Loverings also carries a line of art supplies, Don Swanson's pottery, and LaRocca skin care products.
Rare Things Gallery of Treasures	Creede	Gallery of jewelry, antiques, decorative arts, photography, paintings, stained glass, pottery, woodwork, furniture, rocks, minerals, and wonderments of nature.
The Studios at Bristol	Creede	Gallery and studio featuring fiber, pottery, furniture, painting and other art.
The Frame Shop Creede	Creede	Fine art gallery and framing featuring works by well-known regional artists.
Abbey Lane Gallery	Creede	An extensive selection of jewelry, pottery, paintings, and woodwork by local, regional, and national artists.
Meerfeld Stoneware	Saguache	Meerfeld Stoneware features the ceramic work of Blair Meerfeld and the paintings and drawings of Marty Mitchell.
Within Clay Walls Gallery	Saguache	Fenton studio pottery.
Smith Market Gallery	Saguache	Art and fine craft featuring woven baskets and gourds, as well as work by area artists and craftpeople.
Hauck/Pederson Art Gallery	Saguache	Expressionist figurative art.
Maggie Gallery/Judith Page Art	Saguache	Featuring the art of Judith Page and African collectibles.
Crestone Artisans Gallery	Crestone	A so-op owned and operated gallery with a mix of wall art, hand woven fabrics, whimsical and high end wood work, furniture, organic sculpture, jewelry in many styles and composition, leather work, indigenous instruments, award winning glass work and more.
Ventero Open Press Fine Art	San Luis	Includes print presses and a fine art gallery featuring regional artists.

Source: Organization Web sites and community directories.

Table W-3

Golf Courses, Recreation Centers, Community Centers

County/Place	Facilities/Features/Comments
Alamosa County Alamosa	<p>Cattails Golf Course - Public course with 18 holes, clubhouse, restaurant/bar. Pro shop, cart & equipment rentals, driving range. Open 7 days/wk.</p> <p>Boys and Girls Club - For youth 6-18, capacity 200. Recreation/games, gym, arts/crafts, photo lab, pottery, drafting, computers/Internet, and summer programs. Closed weekends.</p> <p>Splashland - Geothermally heated pool for recreational, lap swimming, swim lessons. Open 6 days/wk, May through Sept.</p> <p>Alamosa Family Recreation Center - All ages, capacity 700. Cardio room, suspended track, gym, locker rooms, multi-purpose spaces, accommodations for children/infants, arts/crafts, fitness and education programs. Closed Sundays.</p> <p>Adams State University - The ASU swimming pool is available to the public at scheduled times. Other recreational facilities and programs are also available for public use including outdoor recreational equipment.</p>
Conejos County Capulin Manassa Sanford	<p>Valle del sol Community Center - Community programs and activities for youth.</p> <p>Manassa Community Center - Community center for meetings and events.</p> <p>Sanford Community Center - Community center for meetings and events.</p>
Costilla County Fort Garland	<p>Blanca/Ft. Garland Community Center - All ages. Swimming pool, hot tub, dry sauna, work-out room gymnasium, arts/crafts, meeting rooms, dance studio, billiards room and ceramics room. Open daily.</p>
Mineral County Creede	<p>Underground Mining Museum accommodates a number of community meetings and events.</p>
Rio Grande County Monte Vista South Fork	<p>Monte Vista Golf Course - Public course with 9 holes, clubhouse, snack bar, cart & equipment rentals, driving range. Open 7 days/wk.</p> <p>Rio Grande Club - Semi-private course with 18 holes, clubhouse, restaurant/bar, pro-shop, cart & equipment rentals, driving range. Open 7 days/wk.</p>
Saguache County Crestone/Baca Saguache	<p>Challenger Golf Club - Public course with nine holes, clubhouse, restaurant, cart and equipment rentals, driving range. Open seven days a week.</p> <p>Saguache Community Center hosts meetings and events.</p>

Source: SLV Development Resources Group, December 2013.