



DAY TRIP TO BISBEE

From Sierra Vista · Cochise County, Arizona



COPPER MINING

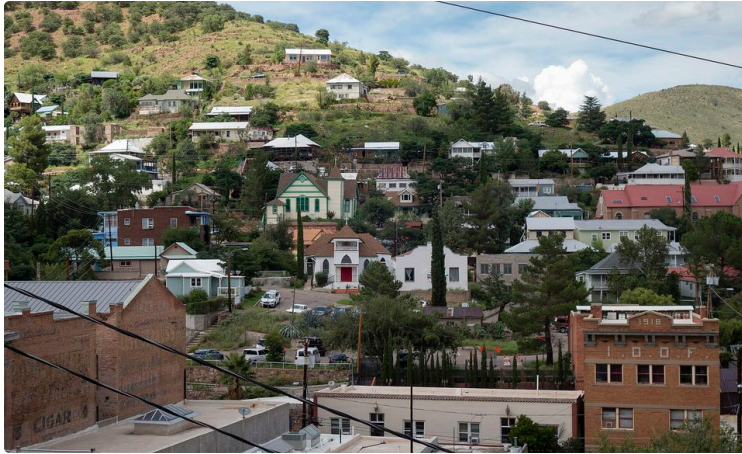


Photo: Nicholas Hartmann, Wikimedia Commons, CC BY-SA 4.0

LIVING TOWN

Incorporated city and county seat, with a historic district, an underground mine tour and a mining museum. Open to visitors year-round.

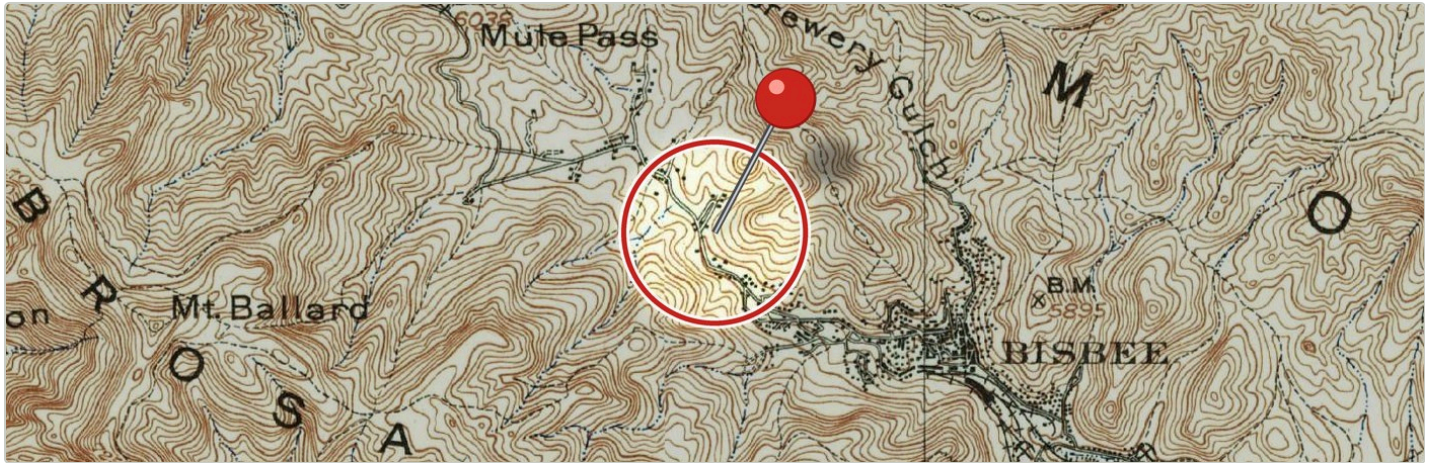
Bisbee is a full day from Sierra Vista on paved highways. Ride into the Copper Queen on the Queen Mine Tour, see the mining museum, look into the Lavender Pit and walk Old Bisbee's steep streets. It's a living town with restaurants and shops, so food is easy.

A SAMPLE DAY

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| ☐ Morning | Drive east from Sierra Vista on AZ 90 and AZ 80, about 40 minutes. |
| ☐ Late morning | Take the Queen Mine Tour. Book ahead. |
| ☐ Midday | Lunch in Old Bisbee. |
| ☐ Afternoon | The mining museum in the old Phelps Dodge General Office, then a walk past the Copper Queen Hotel and up Brewery Gulch. |
| ☐ Late afternoon | Stop at the Lavender Pit on the way out of town. |

WHAT TO PHOTOGRAPH

- **The canyon town.** Houses stacked on the canyon walls along Tombstone Canyon Road.
- **The Copper Queen Hotel.** Built in 1902, on Howell Street.
- **The Lavender Pit.** About 300 acres and 1,000 feet deep. Shoot from outside the fence.
- **Lowell.** What's left of Erie Street, at the edge of the pit.



USGS topographic map, 1902 (public domain). The ring and pin mark the town.

DAY TRIP ESSENTIALS

DRIVE	25 mi, about 37 min each way from Fry Boulevard, Sierra Vista. From Tucson: 94 mi, about 1 h 59 min.
MINE TOUR	Daily at 9 a.m., 10:30 a.m., noon, 2 p.m. and 3:30 p.m., about an hour, from 478 N. Dart Road. \$18 adults, \$9 ages 6 to 12; children under 6 aren't allowed underground. Reservations are required, and you should arrive 30 minutes early. Book at copperqueenmine.com or call (520) 432-2071.
MUSEUM	Bisbee Mining & Historical Museum, 5 Copper Queen Plaza. Open 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily, closed Thanksgiving and Christmas. \$12 adults, \$11 veterans, active military and seniors 60+, free under 10 with an adult.
FOOD AND WATER	Bisbee is an incorporated city with businesses in the historic district.
ON FOOT	Old Bisbee is compact and steep, laid out before cars. Park once and walk.
SAFETY	The Lavender Pit and old workings are dangerous. See the mine on the tour, and don't climb fences.
CITY HALL	City of Bisbee, 118 Arizona Street, (520) 432-6000.
WEBSITE	bisbeeaz.gov

BEFORE YOU GO

- Check the status with the land manager before you go; conditions change.
- Stay out of mine shafts, tunnels and unstable buildings.
- Leave artifacts where they lie. Removing them can be a crime.
- Carry water, a paper map and a charged phone; signal is often poor.

Coordinates 31.44810, -109.92830 · 31°26'53"N
109°55'42"W

Full guide abandonedtowns.com/arizona/bisbee/

Directions [Google Maps](#)

Details checked October 2026. Hours, prices and access change: confirm before you go.