



DAY TRIP TO CLEATOR

From Prescott · Yavapai County, Arizona



RAILROAD AND
ROAD



Photo: Nic Lindh, Wikimedia Commons, CC BY-SA 3.0

PRIVATE · BAR OPEN

Privately owned town with a handful of residents. The bar is open to the public, with hours on its website.

Cleator is a short stop: a private town whose bar is open to the public. Time your arrival for the bar's 11 a.m. opening, then drive 13 miles on up Crown King Road to [Crown King](#) for lunch and the mountain village.

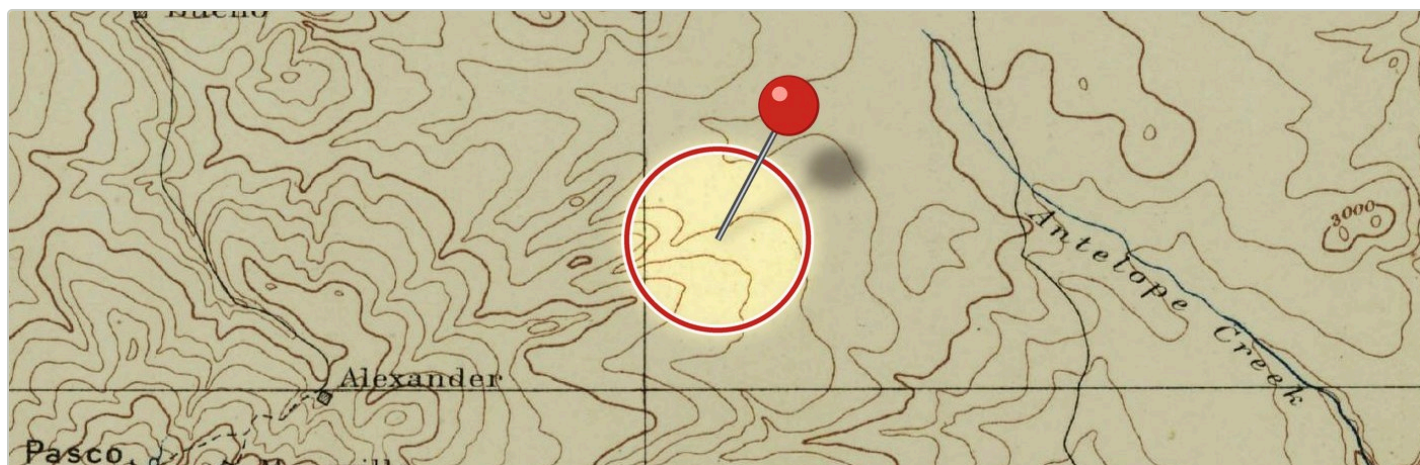
A SAMPLE DAY

- ☐ 9:30 a.m. Leave downtown Prescott east on Gurley Street, which becomes AZ 69. Our router turns off on Antelope Creek and Blue Bell Mine roads, a back way we haven't checked. It's about 1 h 30 min to Cleator.
- ☐ 11 a.m. The bar opens. Have a drink, look at the old general store next door and the Arizona historical marker, and stay off the private yards.
- ☐ Noon Drive about half an hour up Crown King Road, on the old railroad grade, to [Crown King](#) for lunch and a walk down Main Street.
- ☐ 2:30 p.m. Head back down. Our router's route from Crown King to Prescott runs back through Cleator and takes about 2 hours.
- ☐ 4:30 p.m. Back in downtown Prescott.

Coming from Phoenix? I-17 to exit 248 and Crown King Road takes about 1 h 35 min, so leave by 9:25 a.m. to arrive at opening.

WHAT TO PHOTOGRAPH

- **The bar and the store.** They stand side by side on the dirt street, as in the photo at the top of this page. Shoot from the road.
- **The yacht club joke.** In 2020 the back yard held a second bar built into an old pontoon boat. If it's still there, it's the shot.
- **The climb beyond town.** Crown King Road climbs through saguaro country into the Bradshaws above Cleator. It's often one lane, so pull fully off before you stop.
- **Drones.** The bar's website doesn't mention them. The whole town is private property, so ask before you fly.



USGS topographic map, 1887 (public domain). The ring and pin mark the town.

DAY TRIP ESSENTIALS

DRIVE	37 mi, about 1 h 29 min each way from downtown Prescott. From Phoenix: 65 mi, about 1 h 35 min.
OPEN	The town is private. The Cleator Bar & Yacht Club is open 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday to Thursday and 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Friday and Saturday (as of October 2026).
FEES	No admission. Visitors come for the bar.
FOOD AND RESTROOMS	The bar's website doesn't mention food or restrooms. Crown King, about half an hour up the road, has a saloon that serves food.
ROAD	Graded dirt Crown King Road from I-17, 2WD in dry weather. The Prescott route comes in on Blue Bell Mine Road, a back road we haven't checked.
SERVICES	No auto repair between I-17 and Crown King. Carry water.
CELL SIGNAL	Unreliable along Crown King Road, a Crown King lodging business says.
ON FOOT	The houses and yards are private. Stay on the road and in the bar.

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 34.27860, -112.23310 • 34°16'43"N
112°13'59"W

Full guide abandonedtowns.com/arizona/cleator/

Directions [Google Maps](#)

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