



DAY TRIP TO TOMBSTONE

From Sierra Vista · Cochise County, Arizona



SILVER MINING



Photo: Packbj, Wikimedia Commons, CC BY-SA 4.0

LIVING TOWN

Incorporated city, 1,308 residents (2020 census).
Historic district, state park and private attractions
open year-round.

Tombstone fills a day from Sierra Vista, 35 minutes away on Charleston Road. The courthouse museum, the O.K. Corral and the Bird Cage Theatre all open by 9 a.m. Allen Street is closed to cars between 3rd and 6th Streets, so park once and walk. Most attractions are privately run and set their own prices.

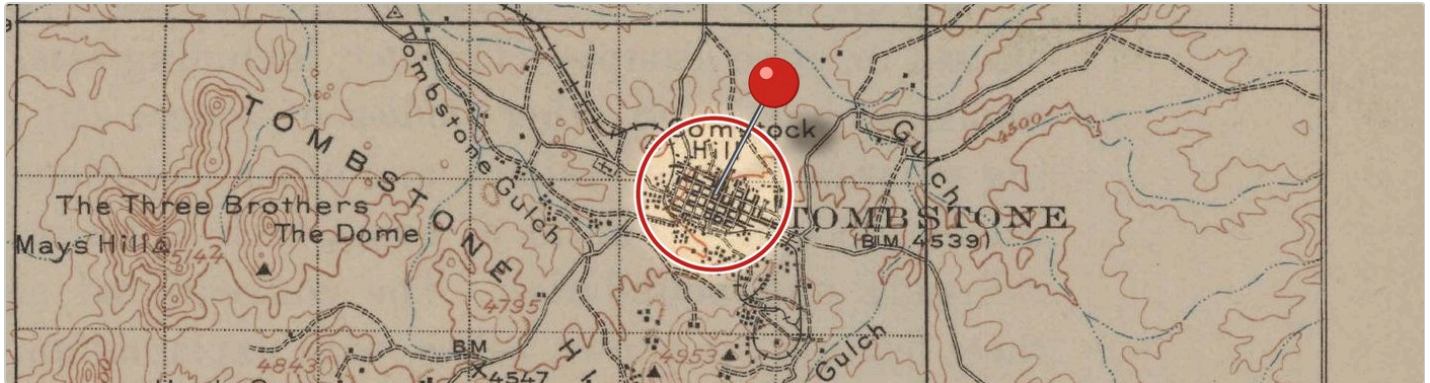
A SAMPLE DAY

- ☐ 8:20 a.m. Leave Sierra Vista. Charleston Road crosses the San Pedro at the Charleston townsite and climbs to Tombstone, about 35 minutes in all.
- ☐ 9 a.m. The courthouse park opens. Start with the museum and the gallows yard.
- ☐ 10:30 a.m. Walk Allen Street. Pick up a map at the visitor center at 395 E. Allen Street.
- ☐ 11 a.m. First gunfight reenactment at the O.K. Corral. The \$10 ticket also covers the Historama and the Epitaph museum, with re-entry all day.
- ☐ 12:15 p.m. Lunch on Allen Street. The Longhorn Restaurant and Big Nose Kate's Saloon both serve food through the afternoon.
- ☐ 1:30 p.m. Tour the Bird Cage Theatre, which opened in 1881.
- ☐ 3 p.m. Drive to Boothill Graveyard on AZ 80 at the north edge of town.
- ☐ 4 p.m. Head back on Charleston Road. With daylight left, stop at the [Millville](#) trailhead for the short walk to the mill ruins that processed Tombstone's ore.

Coming from Tucson? Allow about 1 hour 30 minutes, and leave by 7:30 a.m. to arrive at opening.

WHAT TO PHOTOGRAPH

- **Allen Street.** The covered boardwalks make strong leading lines. Shoot along them from the end of a block.
- **Stagecoaches.** Tour coaches use Allen Street, as in the photo at the top of this page. Wait for one to pass the old storefronts.
- **The courthouse.** The 1882 brick front faces Toughnut Street. Cross the street to fit it in with the trees.
- **The gunfight.** The reenactments are the best video in town. Get there early for a clear view.
- **The Bird Cage.** The balcony boxes inside are dimly lit. Raise your ISO rather than reaching for flash.
- **Boothill.** Rows of rock-covered graves with wooden markers. A wide lens from the path takes in the rows and the hills beyond.
- **Drones.** Recreational drones are banned in Arizona state parks, which includes the courthouse grounds.



USGS topographic map, 1915 (public domain). The ring and pin mark the town.

DAY TRIP ESSENTIALS

DRIVE	19 mi, about 35 min each way from central Sierra Vista. From Tucson: 72 mi, about 1 h 29 min.
COURTHOUSE PARK	Tombstone Courthouse State Historic Park opens daily 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. from October 1 to May 31, and 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. in summer. Closed Christmas. Adults 14 and over \$10, ages 7 to 13 \$5, under 7 free. The park warns of construction noise and crews.
O.K. CORRAL	Open daily 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., closed Thanksgiving and Christmas. Gunfight reenactments at 11 a.m., 1 p.m. and 3 p.m., with a four-show schedule on busy days. Tickets are \$10 with the reenactment and \$6 without; 5 and under free.
BIRD CAGE THEATRE	Open daily 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Self-guided admission \$19, or \$17 for ages 8 to 18 and seniors 60 and over.
VISITOR CENTER	395 E. Allen Street. Open 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday to Thursday and 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday to Sunday.
RESTROOMS	The courthouse park has accessible restrooms.
FOOD AND FUEL	Restaurants and saloons line Allen Street. The Circle K at 15 W. Bruce Street sells gas and diesel and is open 24 hours.
ON FOOT	Park near Allen Street and walk. Boothill Graveyard is on AZ 80 at the north edge of town.
PETS	Not allowed in the courthouse park.
PHOTOGRAPHY	Noncommercial photography is allowed inside the courthouse. Arizona State Parks bans recreational drones in its parks.
WEBSITE	cityoftombstoneaz.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 31.71290, -110.06760 · 31°42'46"N
110°04'03"W

Full guide abandonedtowns.com/arizona/tombstone/

Directions [Google Maps](#)

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