DAY TRIP TO GOLDFIELD

From Tonopah · Esmeralda County, Nevada

GOLD MINING

Photo: Rick Cooper, Wikimedia Commons, CC BY 2.0

LIVING TOWN

Unincorporated county seat of 225 people (2020 census). Historic district open to walk; many buildings private.

Goldfield is 35 minutes from Tonopah, and the free historic walking tour fills a morning. Start at the visitor center on US 95 for maps.

A SAMPLE DAY

☐	9 a.m.	Leave Tonopah on US 95 south, about 35 minutes.
☐	9:45 a.m.	Pick up a walking-tour map at the visitor center, or use the booklet you downloaded.
☐	10 a.m.	Walk past the courthouse and the Goldfield Hotel, then the Santa Fe and Mozart saloons.
☐	Noon	Visit the old high school and the Gans–Nelson fight marker.
☐	Afternoon	Head back to Tonopah, or continue south on US 95 toward Beatty and Rhyolite.

Driving from Las Vegas? It's about 3 hours 30 minutes on US 95. Rhyolite is on the way, near Beatty.

WHAT TO PHOTOGRAPH

- **The Goldfield Hotel.** The four-story brick front faces the highway. Cross the road to fit it in.
- **The courthouse.** Opened in 1908 and still in use by the county.
- **The old mines.** Dumps and workings surround the town. A long lens from the edge of town keeps you off private claims.
- **Drones.** No published rule for the town. Don't fly over private buildings or people.

USGS topographic map, 1908 (public domain). The ring and pin mark the town.

DAY TRIP ESSENTIALS

DRIVE	27 mi, about 33 min each way from central Tonopah. From Las Vegas: 184 mi, about 3 h 27 min.
WALKING TOUR	Self-guided, sunrise to sunset, seven days a week. No admission. Maps and guides at the visitor center.
VISITOR CENTER	On US 95 at the northwest edge of town. It has historical displays, walking-tour guides and information on mine tours. We found no posted hours, so download the walking-tour booklet before you go.
GOLDFIELD HOTEL	Private and closed, with no tours offered. See it from the street.
HIGH SCHOOL	A stop on the walking tour. Travel Nevada says 90-minute historical and paranormal tours run year-round, by appointment only.
EVENTS	Goldfield Days is held each August.

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 37.70861, −117.23556 · 37°42′31″N 117°14′08″W

Directions Google Maps

Full guide abandonedtowns.com/nevada/goldfield/

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