



DAY TRIP TO MOGOLLON

From Silver City · Catron County, New Mexico



SILVER MINING



Photo: Trbpearson, Wikimedia Commons, CC BY-SA 3.0

A FEW RESIDENTS

A few residents. The cafe closed for 2026 on October 18; businesses open again in the warm months. Most buildings are private.

Mogollon is a full day from Silver City: about two hours each way, with the last miles on a steep mountain road. Plan it for a weekend in the warm months. The cafe ended its 2026 season on October 18, so this plan is for next season.

A SAMPLE DAY

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| ☐ Morning | Leave Silver City on US 180 and follow it northwest through Cliff and past Glenwood. |
| ☐ Late morning | Turn right onto NM 159 north of Glenwood and climb into the canyon. Park in town and walk the main street. |
| ☐ Noon | Lunch at the Purple Onion Cafe if it's open, or a packed lunch. |
| ☐ Afternoon | The museum and shops if they're open, the J.P. Holland General Store from the street, then the walk up Graveyard Gulch to the old cemetery. |
| ☐ Late afternoon | Drive down before dark; the road is steep and narrow. |

WHAT TO PHOTOGRAPH

- **Main street.** Shoot down the street from the north end to stack the storefronts against the canyon walls.
- **Mine relics.** Carts, rails and chutes around town make good close-ups. Stay outside gated openings.
- **Graveyard Gulch.** The cemetery sits on a flat with sparse trees and red soil.
- **Drones.** No source we found addresses them. Most of the town is private, so ask before you fly.



USGS topographic map, 1910 (public domain). The ring and pin mark the town.

DAY TRIP ESSENTIALS

DRIVE	74 mi, about 2 h 04 min each way from downtown Silver City. From Tucson: 224 mi, about 5 h 11 min.
OPEN	The Purple Onion Cafe's Facebook page gave October 18 as its last day for 2026 and has posted openings of 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., but it lists no regular days. The other businesses post no current schedule. Travel sources put the season at weekends from May to October and disagree on Fridays.
ADMISSION	No town admission is published. We found no website or posted fee for the museum, which New Mexico Magazine reported in 2025 was for sale.
FOOD	The Purple Onion Cafe, when it's open. A store manager quoted by New Mexico Magazine recommends its green chile cheeseburger. Bring food in case it's closed.
LODGING	Silver City is the usual base. Camping and cabins are available in the Gila National Forest.
WALKING	The cemetery walk up Graveyard Gulch is about 1¼ miles each way on a rough, steep road from the old schoolhouse.
ELEVATION	About 6,500 feet. Bring layers and water.
RESTROOMS	No source we found says. Plan on the cafe when it's open.

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 33.39667, -108.79417 • 33°23'48"N
108°47'39"W

Full guide abandonedtowns.com/new-mexico/mogollon/

Directions [Google Maps](#)

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