



DAY TRIP TO WHITE OAKS

From Carrizozo · Lincoln County, New Mexico



GOLD MINING



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

A FEW RESIDENTS

A few residents. Buildings are private; seen from the public road.

White Oaks is under half an hour from Carrizozo, and a weekend afternoon covers it: a slow look at the old brick buildings from NM 349, then lunch at the No Scum Allowed Saloon. People live here and most buildings are private, so the town is seen from the road. Come Saturday or Sunday, when the saloon serves food.

A SAMPLE DAY

- ☐ 11:30 a.m. Leave Carrizozo north on US 54, then turn right on County Road A044, which becomes NM 349, about 25 minutes.
- ☐ **Noon** Drive slowly through town. Look for Brown's Store, the 1893 Hoyle House and the 1895 brick schoolhouse from the road.
- ☐ 12:30 p.m. Lunch at the No Scum Allowed Saloon, in a building of 1884.
- ☐ Afternoon Head back down NM 349 to Carrizozo.

Coming from Albuquerque? It's about 3 hours 15 minutes by I-25 and US 380, so leave by 8:45 a.m. for a noon arrival.

WHAT TO PHOTOGRAPH

- **The Hoyle House.** The two-story Victorian brick house of 1893, by legend built for a bride who never came. Use a long lens from the road.
- **The schoolhouse.** Brick, built in 1895 and closed in 1947. Shoot it from the road.
- **The saloon.** Shoot the front from the road, and ask before photographing people inside.
- **Drones.** No source addresses them. People live here, so don't fly over homes.



USGS topographic map, 1934 (public domain). The ring and pin mark the town.

DAY TRIP ESSENTIALS

DRIVE	12 mi, about 26 min each way from central Carrizozo. From Albuquerque: 163 mi, about 3 h 13 min.
SALOON HOURS	Friday 5 to 11 p.m., Saturday noon to 11 p.m., Sunday noon to 6 p.m. The saloon says it will open almost any day on special request. Phone 575-648-5583.
FOOD	Served Saturday and Sunday, noon to 6 p.m., with a full bar, by the saloon's own site.
ADMISSION	None. NM 349 runs through town.
MUSEUMS	Islands (May 2025) lists the White Oaks Schoolhouse Museum and the Miner's Home Museum as self-guided stops. We found no hours published by whoever runs them.
PRIVATE PROPERTY	Most buildings are private and some are lived in. Don't enter them or go past fences.
TIME ON SITE	No source gives one. The old buildings are along a short stretch of road, so an hour plus lunch is enough.

BEFORE YOU GO

- Check the status with the land manager before you go; conditions change.
- Keep out of unstable buildings and off fenced ruins.
- 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 33.74975, -105.73731 · 33°44'59"N
105°44'14"W

Full guide abandonedtowns.com/new-mexico/white-oaks/

Directions [Google Maps](#)

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