



DAY TRIP TO GLENRIO

From Tucumcari · Deaf Smith County, Texas



RAILROAD AND
ROAD



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RUINS

Empty buildings along the old Route 66 roadbed, a public road. The census counted no residents in 2010.

Glenrio is a short stop, best paired with a Route 66 drive. From Tucumcari it's 45 minutes east on I-40. Walk the old road, photograph the motels and cafes from it, and drive back. Bring food and water.

A SAMPLE DAY

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| ☐ Morning | Drive east from Tucumcari on I-40. |
| ☐ Late morning | Walk the old roadbed from the Texas Longhorn Motel west past the Texaco station into New Mexico. |
| ☐ Midday | Head back to Tucumcari for lunch, or continue east to Amarillo. |

WHAT TO PHOTOGRAPH

- **The motel sign.** The Park Service says the State Line Motel's sign reads "Motel, First in Texas" from the west and "Motel, Last in Texas" from the east. Get both sides.
- **The Texaco station.** The Park Service calls the 1950 Art Moderne station and its neighboring diner well preserved.
- **The state line.** The old road crosses the line in town. A wide shot with both sides makes the town's story.



USGS topographic map, 1954 (public domain). The ring and pin mark the town.

DAY TRIP ESSENTIALS

DRIVE	44 mi, about 45 min each way from central Tucumcari, New Mexico. From Amarillo: 73 mi, about 1 h 18 min.
OPEN	The old Route 66 roadbed is a public road with no posted hours.
ADMISSION	Free.
TIME ON SITE	No official guidance. The historic district covers about 32 acres along one road.
FOOD AND WATER	Wikipedia lists one active business in Glenrio, a cannabis dispensary on the New Mexico side. Bring food and water.
ON FOOT	Look from the road. The Park Service describes overgrown lots, missing windows and debris around many buildings, and says two buildings are occupied.

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 35.17889, -103.04222 · 35°10'44"N
103°02'32"W

Full guide abandonedtowns.com/texas/glen-rio/

Directions [Google Maps](#)

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