



## — ACTIVITIES —

*“In every walk with nature one receives far more than he seeks.” – John Muir*



FISHING



SPORTING & FITNESS



HIKING



TOURING



HORSEBACK RIDING



TEAM BUILDING



SHOOTING



JUNIOR TRACKERS



## — FISHING —

*“Many men go fishing all of their lives without knowing that it is not fish they are after.” – Henry David Thoreau*





## FISHING

**Duration:** Half or Full Day

**Price:** Included if self-guided  
or \$350-\$475 guided for up to 4 guests

**Skill-Level:** Beginner - Advanced

**Age:** all ages

**Attire:** Comfortable layered attire and walking shoes

**Don't forget:** camera, water, sunscreen, sunglasses and a hat, and a boxed lunch ordered at dinner the previous night if you plan to make a day of it

With 19 fishable lakes and over 30 miles of pristine stream, Vermejo is a world-class fishing destination and fly fishing lodge, where anglers have flocked for over a century.

To fish on your own, just grab a map and gear directly from our fish house and you're ready for a day on the water. If moving water is your game, walk the river banks and sight cast to our rare, native Rio Grande Cutthroat Trout, which were almost extinct prior to our restoration project. Our streams provide a casting adventure across varying terrain, from the meandering waters in

the High Country, to the iconic setting of the Vermejo River. Guests will often encounter wildlife such as bison, bears, and bald eagles while fishing and enjoying the incredible views of Vermejo mountain peaks.

If the serenity of a glassy lake is calling, you can cast from one of our many boats in lakes stocked with rainbow trout, browns, and brookies. You may also schedule a private guide to help you find the best water and teach you the finer points of fly selection and casting. The fishing options at Vermejo are endless.





## ICE FISHING

Fishing at Vermejo is a one-of-a-kind adventure, but frosty weather adds a whole new twist to the sport.

One of our expert guides will help you choose a frozen lake, drill a hole in the ice and cast a line. You'll be able to see your line spiraling down to the fishes' normally hidden life under water.

Pulling a cold slippery fish out of a frozen lake is something you have to try to understand just how much fun it can be!

**Duration:** Half or Full Day

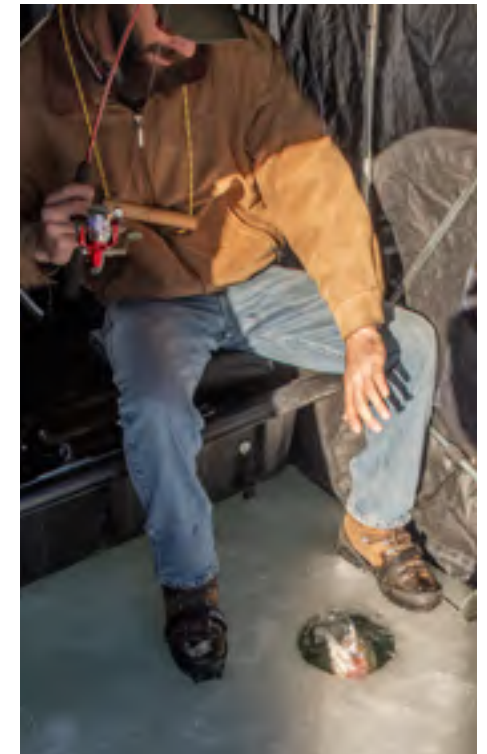
**Price:** \$350 - \$475 guided for up to 4 guests.

**Skill-Level:** Beginner - Advanced

**Age:** all ages

**Attire:** Warm, comfortable layered attire hiking boots or tennis shoes, coat, hat, gloves

**Don't forget:** camera, water, sunscreen, sunglasses, hat and gloves







## — HIKING —

*“Of all the paths you take in life, make sure a few of them are dirt.” – John Muir*





## ADAMS LAKE SELF-GUIDED HIKE

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**Distance:** 2.6 miles

**Ascent/Descent:** 200 ft.

**Drive Time:** 30 minutes

**Hiking Time:** 60-90 minutes

**Skill-Level:** Beginner - Intermediate

**Price:** Included, Self-guided

**Season:** All-seasons, provided roads are passable

**Attire:** Layered clothing, hiking boots or tennis shoes

**Don't forget:** sunscreen, sunglasses, hat, chapstick

Meander around Adams Lake with or without a guide while taking in spectacular views of sweeping vistas and the lake itself. This gentle hike is the perfect addition to a few hours of fishing or boating, and a picnic lunch at the Adams Lake gazebo.







## RIVER TRAIL SELF-GUIDED HIKE

A beautiful trail for a leisurely stroll, a heart-pounding strength and cardiovascular workout, or anything in between. The fitness trail is a perfect place to spend an hour or two in nature without venturing far from Headquarters. There are five obstacles along the way to test your skills, as well as a bench overlooking the river for a break or snack. The trailhead is just north of the lawn in front of Turner House.

**Duration:** 1.5 hours

**Price:** Included

**Skill-Level:** Beginner - Intermediate

**Attire:** Clothes you can move in, layers you can shed or add depending on weather, hiking boots or tennis shoes

**Don't forget:** sunscreen, sunglasses, chapstick







## GAZEBO TRAIL – SELF-GUIDED HIKE

A quick hike up to the gazebo is an invigorating way to spend a spare hour while getting your heart pumping and taking in a gorgeous view.

Built in the early 1900s, William Bartlett used to have musicians perform for guests from this vantage point with great acoustics. This short, but steep hike is a perfect way to start the day, reinvigorate after a nap, or watch the sunset.

**Distance:** 1.75 miles

**Ascent/Descent:** 300 ft.

**High Point Elevation:** 7840 ft.

**Hiking Time:** 40-60 minutes

**Skill-Level:** Intermediate

**Price:** Included

**Season:** All-seasons

**Attire:** Layered clothing, hiking boots or tennis shoes

**Don't forget:** Sunscreen, sunglasses, hat, chapstick



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## NATURE TRAIL SELF-GUIDED HIKE

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**Hiking Distance:** 0.5 to 3.75+ miles

**Ascent/Descent:** not significant

**Hiking Time:** 30-90 minutes or more

**Skill-Level:** Beginner

**Price:** included

**Season:** All seasons

**Attire:** Layered weather-appropriate clothing, hiking boots or tennis shoes

**Don't forget:** sunscreen, sunglasses, hat, chapstick

The Nature Trail is a perfect place to create your own hike, wandering through the environment without a big climb. You can make the hike as long or as short as you please. Just turn around when you decide you've gone halfway. Be sure to look for wildflowers, a variety of pine trees, and listen for some of over 300 species of birds on Vermejo.





## SECRET RAIN CANYON LOOP

### GUIDED HIKE

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**Hiking Distance:** 3.5 miles round trip

**Ascent/Descent:** 300 ft.

**Hiking Time:** 80 - 120 minutes

**Skill-Level:** Beginner-Intermediate

**Price:** \$200 for up to 10 people

**Season:** All seasons

**Attire:** Layered weather-appropriate clothing, hiking boots or tennis shoes

**Don't forget:** sunscreen, sunglasses, hat, chapstick

The Rain Canyon Loop begins on the Nature Trail and then takes you back into a hidden canyon that sometimes holds a trickle of water and leads to a dazzling viewpoint that overlooks Butler Flats. Towering rock walls and abundant flora and fossils make you feel like you are truly in the "backcountry" when you are really just a short walk from headquarters. Don't miss this chance to visit a beautiful and secluded place on Vermejo.





# RADIO TOWER GUIDED HIKE VIA REED CANYON OR FOSSIL CANYON

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**Hiking Distance:** up to 8.6 miles  
**Ascent/Descent:** up to 1076 ft.  
**Hiking Time:** Half or Full day  
**Skill-Level:** Beginner - Advanced  
**Price:** \$350-\$475 for up to 4 guests  
**Season:** All seasons  
**Attire:** Layered weather-appropriate clothing, hiking boots or tennis shoes  
**Don't forget:** sunscreen, sunglasses, hat, chapstick

Radio Tower is one of the most spectacular viewpoints near Headquarters. You'll get a bird's-eye view of the Lodge and surrounding area, as well as purple mountains in the distance that mark the boundaries of Vermejo. You have a choice of two routes: Reed Canyon which is slightly shorter (6.10 miles round-trip, 1004 ft. elevation gain) or Fossil Canyon for a route that's just a little longer (8.6 miles, 1076 ft. ). A shorter option is to just enjoy the many treasures in the canyons, choosing your own turnaround point. Keep an eye out for fossils of ancient sea creatures and plants, as well as wildlife or shed antlers along the way.





## ASH MOUNTAIN GUIDED HIKE

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**Hiking Distance:** 5.8 miles

**Ascent/Descent:** 500 ft. or 1100 ft.

**Drive Time:** approximately 1 hour

**Hiking Time:** 2-5 hours

**Skill-Level:** Beginner - Advanced

**Price:** \$475 for up to 4 guests

**Season:** Summer, Fall

**Attire:** Layered clothing, jacket, hiking boots or tennis shoes

**Don't forget:** sunscreen, sunglasses, hat, chapstick, your boxed lunch

Ash Mountain is one of the most easily recognized on Vermejo with its grey colored peak. Witness those grey boulders up close with the Ash Mountain hike. There's more to it than meets the eye.

The hike begins in a meadow just below 10,400 ft. that is filled with mountain iris and wildflowers in early summer. A gradual incline takes you up 500 ft. in elevation through mixed conifer forest and then opens into Vermejo's stunning Elk Meadows, named for the elk who frequent the location. Here, less seasoned hikers might choose to stop near McCrystal Creek, eat lunch and head back. More adventurous hikers will want to continue on to Ash Mountain's 11,430 foot summit. The final leg of the hike is the steepest, comprised of large boulders and fallen rocks.





## STATELINE PEAK GUIDED HIKE

**Hiking Distance:** 2.9 miles

**Ascent/Descent:** 1200 feet

**Drive Time:** 1.5-2 hours

**Hiking Time:** 1-2 hours

**Skill-Level:** Intermediate-Advanced

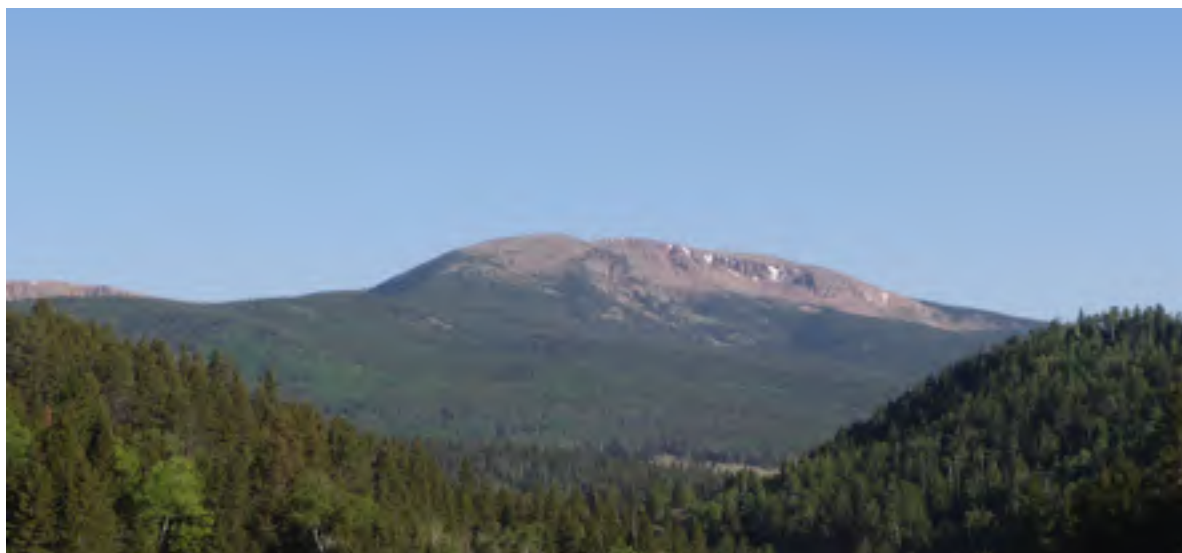
**Price:** \$475 for up to 4 guests

**Season:** Summer, Fall

**Attire:** Layered clothing, jacket, hiking boots or tennis shoes

**Don't forget:** sunscreen, sunglasses, hat, chapstick, your boxed lunch

Begin with a beautiful drive to alpine Glacier Lakes at 11,600 feet. The main challenge with this high-country trail is altitude. The final ascent brings you to 12,867 feet providing incredible views into the Colorado portion of the Sangre de Cristo range.





## CASIAS LAKES UTV & HIKING TOUR

**Hiking Distance:** 4.1 miles or 2 miles

**Ascent/Descent:** 1400 ft. or 300 ft.

**Drive Time:** 2-3 hours round trip

**Hiking Time:** 2-5 hours round trip

**Skill-Level:** Beginner - Advanced

**Price:** \$475 for up to 4 guests

**Season:** Summer, Fall

**Attire:** Layered clothing, jacket, hiking boots or tennis shoes

**Don't forget:** sunscreen, sunglasses, hat, chapstick, your boxed lunch

Your day begins with a truck ride up to Costilla Lodge, where your UTV is waiting. Head deeper into the high country in a UTV while watching for wildlife and enjoying the spectacular views as you wind your way up the mountainside to the Casias lakes trailhead at about 11,600 ft. elevation.

A short hike of 1-2 miles takes you to any of the 4 crystal clear glacier lakes just in time for a lakeside picnic lunch. Be sure to notice the bristlecone pines with their unique purple pine cones.

Now you face a choice, try to catch a fish in the lakes, take a little nap, hike around the other lakes and streams, head back to the UTV, or take the Casias challenge and tackle the climb along the ridgeline over steep talus switchbacks and finally moderately inclined tundra to reach the highest point on Vermejo at 12,931 feet.





## 4 PEAKS IN 5 DAYS - GUIDED GROUP ADVENTURE

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**Skill-Level:** Intermediate - Advanced

**Price:** \$1500 to add this package to your stay

**Season:** July through Early September

**Attire:** Layered clothing, hiking boots or tennis shoes

**Don't forget:** water bottle, sunscreen, sunglasses, hat, chapstick

Vermejo's 4 Peaks in 5 Days Tour is perfect for those looking for a fitness challenge hiking through some of the most natural wilderness in America. This program is designed for the outdoor enthusiast accustomed to high elevations and rugged terrain.

Ascend four of Vermejo's signature peaks, with a rest day between hikes two and

three, when you can try some of other activities or schedule a rest and relaxation day, perhaps with a visit to the Vermejo spa.

You may also plan your own custom 4-peaks itinerary with our Reserve Ambassadors. Each evening, return to world-class guest services, accommodations and dining at Vermejo headquarters.



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## — HORSEBACK RIDING —

*“No hour of life is wasted that is spent in the saddle.” – Winston Churchill*







## HEADQUARTERS HORSEBACK RIDES

**Duration:** 1-2 hours

**Time on Horseback:** 45-90 min.

**Price:** Included

**Skill Level:** Beginner

**Attire:** Weather-appropriate layers you can move in, boots if you have them.

**Don't forget:** camera, water, sunscreen, sunglasses, hat, chapstick.

Take a stroll down to our recently remodeled activity barn and meet one of our wranglers and a horse chosen to suit your horseback riding style and skill level.

Spend an hour exploring some of the beautiful paths close to headquarters with a view from between the ears of one of our quality trail horses.







## HIGH COUNTRY HORSEBACK RIDING

**Duration:** 4-6 hours

**Time on Horseback:** 1-4 hours

**Price:** \$475 for up to 4 people,  
\$100 for each additional rider

**Skill Level:** Beginner - Advanced

**Attire:** Weather-appropriate layers  
you can move in, boots if you have  
them

**Don't forget:** camera, water,  
sunscreen, sunglasses, hat, chapstick

After a hearty breakfast in the lodge,  
meet your driver at the front desk for a  
scenic drive to Vermejo's majestic high  
country.

View lush vegas, glistening creeks,  
authentic cowboy camps and ample  
wildlife from atop one of our quality trail  
horses as you taste the crisp mountain  
air and listen to the breeze and the birds  
in the trees. Take a break at a scenic  
viewpoint for a tasty picnic lunch.







## SEVEN LAKES HORSEBACK & FISHING EXCURSION

**Duration:** Privately guided, full-day, with picnic lunch included.

**Price:** \$700 for up to 4 people. \$100 per additional guest. Add a curated picnic for \$50-\$100 pp.

**Skill-Level:** Beginner-Advanced

**Attire:** weather appropriate layers, boots if you have them

**Don't forget:** camera, water, sunscreen, sunglasses, chapstick

Fuel up with a hearty breakfast before meeting up with your guide for this full-day excursion.

It all begins with a beautiful scenic drive up to Vermejo's high country. Be sure to keep your eyes open for bison, elk, or bobcat sightings along the way.

Your horse will be ready and waiting to escort you through some of Vermejo's most spectacular wilderness with views

of snow-capped mountains, rippling streams and abundant wildlife. At the end of your ride a peaceful high-country lake awaits. It's the perfect place to enjoy your boxed lunch, or opt to have a catered picnic lunch set up and waiting in the shade of the gazebo.

Don't forget to breathe in the crisp mountain air and take in the spectacular view while casting for fish, or meandering around the lake.



  
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## — SHOOTING SPORTS —

*“Talent hits a target no one else can hit; genius hits a target no one else can see.” – Arthur Schopenhauer*





## ARCHERY

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**Duration:** 60-90 minutes

**Price:** Included

**Skill-Level:** Beginner-Advanced

**Age:** all ages

**Attire:** Comfortable weather appropriate layers, closed-toed walking or hiking shoes

**Don't forget:** Camera, water, sunscreen, sunglasses

Everyone should experience Vermejo's 3D archery course. This unique course is different than most that simply offer target shooting from one fixed location. Our course has a series of well-placed stations of 3D targets depicting different types of animals along a trail. Guests hike through a forested hillside from one station to the next, and test their shooting ability from varying distances and angles and through obstacles such as trees and bushes.

Our archery guides will size and fit each guest with a proper bow, either compound or recurve, right or left-handed, and the correct size and weight, then educate guests on proper safety handling.

This course is a perfect way to spend a few hours with friends or family of all ages out in nature.



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## 5-STAND SHOTGUN SHOOTING

**Duration:** 60-90 minutes

**Price:** Included  
(2 boxes of shells per person)

**Skill-Level:** Beginner - Advanced

**Age:** 16 and up, unless  
accompanied by a parent/guardian

**Attire:** Comfortable attire, closed-  
toed shoes, layers for weather

**Don't forget:** Camera, water,  
sunscreen, sunglasses

Rooted in local history, the tradition of shooting in the American West comes to life in a variety of shooting sports offered at Vermejo.

The five-stand is a great place for a first-time shooter to learn firearm safety and take a crack at hitting a flying target. It also gives experienced marksmen a place to test their skills with shots of varying difficulty levels, including a "running-rabbit," just a short drive from

headquarters. Our expert guides meet guests at the Front Desk and bring them to the range where 12, 20, and 28 gauge shotguns as well and safety glasses and hearing protection are provided.

After safety and shooting instruction, guests enjoy practicing a variety of shots with the different targets and then play a competitive game of Annie Oakley.







## RIFLE SHOOTING

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**Duration:** 60-90 minutes

**Price:** Included

**Skill-Level:** Beginner-Advanced

**Age:** 16 and over unless accompanied by a parent/guardian

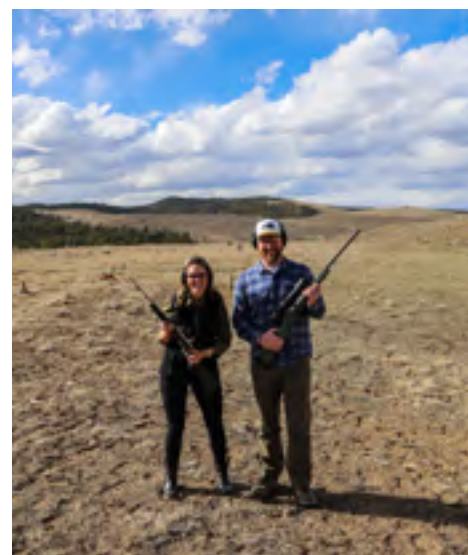
**Attire:** Comfortable attire, closed-toed walking or hiking shoes, layers for weather

**Don't forget:** Camera, water, sunscreen, sunglasses

In the tradition of the Old West, practicing your marksmanship is a fun way to spend an afternoon.

The long-range at Vermejo has reactive rifle targets up to 1000 yards out and includes a pistol range as well.

Suitable for beginners and experts alike. Our small caliber rifles, handguns and reactive targets make this one of the most exciting ways to enjoy shooting, while also learning proper techniques on how to safely handle different types of firearms.







## WOBBLE DECK

### SHOOTING

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**Duration:** 60-90 minutes

**Price:** Included

**Skill-Level:** Beginner-Advanced

**Age:** 16 and over unless accompanied by a parent/guardian

**Attire:** Comfortable attire, closed-toed walking or hiking shoes, layers for weather

**Don't forget:** camera, water, sunscreen, sunglasses

Channel your inner Wyatt Earp in this fun clay-shooting activity that takes your five-stand skills to the next level.

During the game, the trap "wobbles," or oscillates widely, creating random clay flight paths.

While it can be a challenge even for advanced marksmen, the wobble deck is fun for shooters of all experience levels, with 12, 20 or 28 gauge shotguns. This is a great way to spend an hour or two while also learning proper techniques on how to safely handle different types of firearms.







## — SPORTING & FITNESS —

*“A little recreation never hurt anyone.” –Professor Horace Slughorn*





## DISC GOLF

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**Duration:** 1-2 hours

**Price:** Included, self-guided

**Skill-Level:** Beginner - Advanced

**Age:** all ages

**Attire:** Comfortable athletic attire, walking or hiking shoes, layers for weather

**Don't forget:** camera, water, sunscreen, sunglasses

Located near the River Trail within our Headquarters complex, is a sprawling 18-hole disc golf course. Disc golf is played much like traditional golf; however, instead of a traditional golf ball and clubs, players use a flying disc. The object of the game is to complete each hole in the fewest number of throws. (Ours are all par-3s.)

Our course is set up among rolling hills and forest, providing a great opportunity for guests to enjoy an afternoon walk in the woods. Our front desk team will provide you with everything you need to play on your own or with a group. It's a great game for all ages!







## SELF-GUIDED RIVER TRAIL

**Duration:** 1.5 hours

**Price:** Included

**Skill-Level:** Beginner - Intermediate

**Attire:** Clothes you can move in, layers you can shed or add depending on weather, hiking boots or tennis shoes

**Don't forget:** sunscreen, sunglasses, chapstick

A beautiful trail for a leisurely stroll, a heart-pounding strength and cardiovascular workout, or anything in between. The fitness trail is a perfect place to spend an hour or two in nature without venturing far from Headquarters. There are five obstacles along the way to test your skills, as well as a bench overlooking the river for a break or snack. The trailhead is just north of the lawn in front of Turner House.







## HEADQUARTERS MOUNTAIN BIKING

**Duration:** 1-3 hours or whatever you choose

**Price:** Included

**Skill-Level:** Beginner-Intermediate

**Attire:** Clothes you can move in, layers you can shed or add depending on weather, hiking boots or tennis shoes

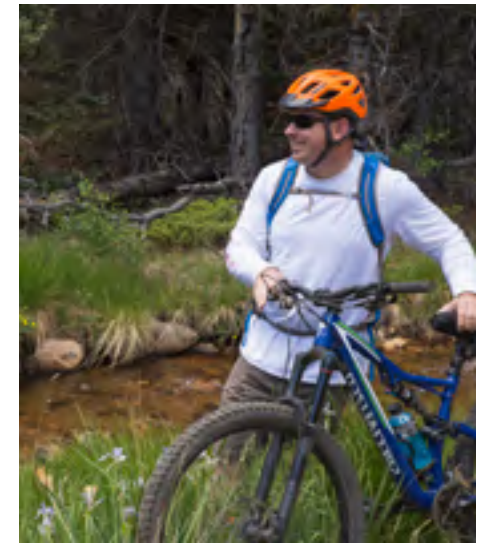
**Don't forget:** sunscreen, sunglasses, chapstick, camera

Your guide will meet you at the Front Desk and get you fitted with a properly sized bike and helmet. A short drive will bring you to either the Butler Flats Loop, Nature Trail, or Spring Canyon Trail for a ride suited to your skills and desires. Or you can just ride around the roads near Headquarters.

Bikes may also be checked out to keep at your accommodation and ride at your leisure during your visit.







## HIGH COUNTRY GUIDED MOUNTAIN BIKING TOUR

**Duration:** Privately guided, full-day, with lunch included.

**Price:** \$475 for up to 4 people.

**Skill-Level:** Beginner

**Attire:** Clothes you can move in, layers you can shed or add depending on weather, hiking boots or tennis shoes

**Don't forget:** camera, water, sunscreen, sunglasses, chapstick

Begin the day with a scenic truck ride to a hilltop over 10,000 feet in altitude near Costilla reservoir.

Breathe in the crisp mountain air and the sights and sounds of nature as you enjoy a gentle bike ride perfect for beginners. The trail is mostly flat or slightly downhill and runs near a rippling stream flanked by piney forest and grassy fields. Take a break to soak your feet in the creek, gaze out at green rolling vistas or stretch

your legs in shaded meadows. Catch a glimpse of the elk that frequent the meadows and hillsides nearby.

At a leisurely pace, taking breaks for water, snacks and photos, the ride will last about 3 hours. When you reach Costilla Reservoir, enjoy a boxed lunch prepared by our master chefs and a couple of hours fishing or soaking in the beautiful scenery before making your way back to the lodge.





## YOGA OR PIYO

**Duration:** 45-60 minutes

**Price:** \$25 per person, minimum of three

**Skill-Level:** Beginner-Intermediate

**Attire:** Stretchy clothes you can move in, athletic shoes for power yoga

**Don't forget:** Ponytail holders are great for long hair. We'll bring you a water bottle.

Start your day with a strengthening and stretching workout catered to your yoga abilities. Or choose PIYO for a heart-pumping combination of Pilates, Yoga and Cardio. At Vermejo we always prefer to be outdoors, so fitness classes on the Headquarters lawns, trailside, or in the Casa Grande Courtyard are common, but we'll move inside if inclement weather arises. Our Reserve Ambassadors will help you schedule the wellness option that's right for you.







## —TOURING —

*“When we spend time in nature, we heal ourselves. When we protect nature, we heal the planet.” – Ted Turner*





## GUIDED BISON EXPEDITION

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**Duration:** Privately guided, half-day, with boxed lunch included

**Price:** \$350 up to 4 people

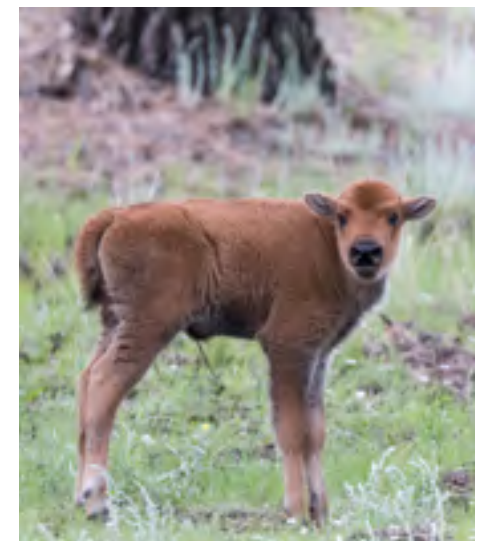
**Ages:** All ages

**Attire:** Comfortable attire, weather appropriate layers, hiking boots or tennis shoes

**Don't forget:** camera, water, sunscreen, sunglasses, chapstick

Hear the story of how Ted Turner brought back the American Bison from the verge of extinction, intertwined with fun facts about these unique animals. See the genetically unique Castle Rock Herd we have here at Vermejo and learn about the low-stress methods we use to manage them.

Witnessing these iconic creatures in a rewilded setting much like they inhabited before the "West was won" is an inspiring way to spend a half-day at Vermejo.





# CATSKILL KILNS HIKING & HISTORY GUIDED TOUR

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**Tour Time:** 4-5 hours

**Drive Time:** 30-60 minutes each way

**Hiking Distance:** 0.5 miles

**Hiking Time:** 45 minutes round trip

**Ascent/Descent:** not significant

**Skill-Level:** Beginner

**Price:** \$350-\$475 for up to 4 guests

**Ages:** All ages

**Season:** all-seasons, provided roads are passable

**Attire:** Layered clothing, hiking boots or tennis shoes

**Don't forget:** sunscreen, sunglasses, hat, chapstick

This tour and guided hike takes you to the stunning Canadian River valley via Spring Canyon, where you will pass the Dead Easy mine and the homes of tons of wildlife from black bears to elk, mountain lions, deer and more!

Touch the famous Catskill Kilns that were used to turn over 3000 logs a day into charcoal and learn about bustling community of homesteaders who settled here over a hundred years ago and why they left. A short hike will take you through a beautiful valley to a rarely-seen cemetery and remnants of the town of Catskill.

Vermejo's wild horses frequent this area, so keep your eyes peeled.





## KOEHLER MINING CAMP GUIDED TOUR

**Duration:** Privately guided, full day with boxed lunch included

**Price:** \$350 or \$475 up to 4 guests.

**Season:** All seasons

**Ages:** All

**Attire:** Comfortable attire, weather appropriate layers, hiking boots or tennis shoes

**Don't forget:** camera, water, sunscreen, sunglasses, chapstick

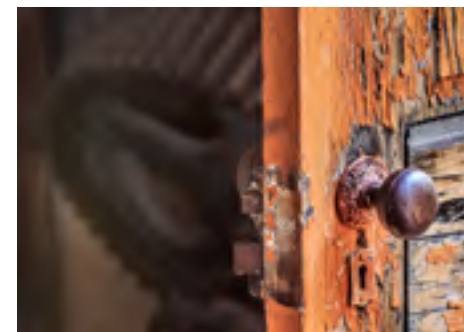
Named for Harry Koehler chairman of the Maxwell Land Grant Company Board of Directors, Koehler began as a success.

In 1906, the first coal mine was opened and the town soon claimed 1,000 residents, a post office, company store, a two-story schoolhouse and more. It grew to employ close to 400 men and boys, most working underground. There were 219 beehive coking ovens and a coal

washing plant.

Frequent strikes, the depression, and a fire that burned down the schoolhouse eventually caused the camp to close in 1924.

A visit to Koehler includes a beautiful scenic drive, with wildlife viewing en route, and time to wander through the remnants of the lives of the people who built their version of the American dream in Koehler, living in rows of company homes and toiling to produce fuel for the





# RIVERBANK RESTORATION GUIDED TOUR

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**Tour Time:** Half Day

**Price:** \$350 or \$475 for up to 4 guests

**Ages:** All ages

**Season:** all-seasons, provided roads are passable

**Attire:** Layered clothing, hiking boots or tennis shoes

**Don't forget:** sunscreen, sunglasses, hat, chapstick

When Ted Turner purchased Vermejo in 1996, his goal was to restore the land and habitats to a healthy rewilded state. The riverbanks had been overgrazed due to an overpopulation of elk and cattle.

To create healthy waterways for fish and other species like beaver, cattle were removed and riparian (riverbank) restoration projects begun. Ten half-mile exclosures were built along the Vermejo River to keep elk from overgrazing and allow vegetation to grow. This new vegetation prevents erosion, allowing for deep, cool, narrow waterways that support cool water fisheries and food for riparian species.

Don't miss the chance to see these projects in action. Witness the new growth, beaver ponds, and catch a Rio Grande Cutthroat Trout, one of the species that is now thriving on Vermejo due to this work.





## GUIDED SHED HUNTING

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**Duration:** Privately guided, half or full-day with boxed lunch included.

**Price:** \$350 or \$475 for up to 4 guests.

**Season:** March - April

**Ages:** All ages

**Attire:** Comfortable attire, weather appropriate layers, hiking boots or tennis shoes

**Don't forget:** camera, water, sunscreen, sunglasses, chapstick

Each spring, adult male elk and deer shed their old antlers and grow a new set. They are among the fastest-growing animal tissue on the planet.

With over 7,000 Rocky Mountain Elk and 3,000 Mule Deer on Vermejo, about half of them male, there are well over 7,000 new shed antlers waiting to be found each year. We only find about half of them annually so there are still thousands left over from previous years.

While spring is the time when the animals are dropping new sheds, they can be found any time of year.

Let one of our private guides lead you to the prime shed-hunting areas of Vermejo, and you might just find one of these natural treasures.

If you find a "matched set," both antlers from the same animal you'll know you've hit the jackpot!



  
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## TASTE OF VERMEJO GREENHOUSE TOUR

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**Duration:** 60 minutes

**Price:** Included

**Attire:** Weather-appropriate layers, and comfortable shoes

**Don't forget:** hat, sunglasses, sunscreen, chapstick

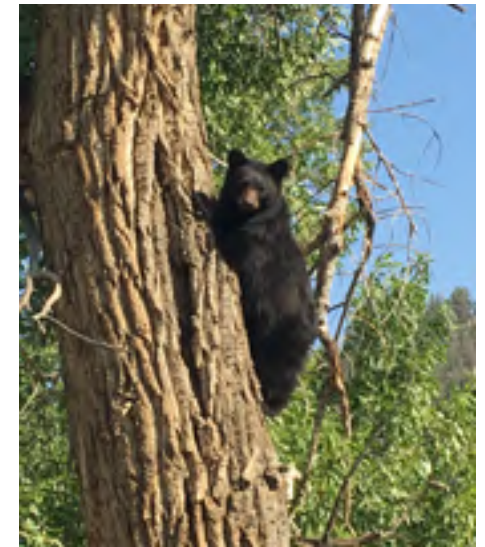
Each Thursday at 1:30pm, our greenhouse specialist hosts a tour of this week's harvest, and see, smell, touch and

taste the fresh veggies and greens that will be in our greenhouse salad and other menu items this week.

Learn about our organic, chemical-free growing methods and greenhouse-to-table menu planning. If you can't make the Saturday group, check with the front desk to find another time. We are happy to give you a tour whenever we're working in the garden.







## GUIDED WILDLIFE TOUR

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**Duration:** Privately guided, half or full day, with boxed lunch included.

**Price:** \$350 or \$475 for up to 4 guests.

**Attire:** Comfortable attire, weather appropriate layers, hiking boots or tennis shoes

**Don't forget:** camera, water, sunscreen, sunglasses, chapstick

Let one of our expert private guides show you the bounty and variety of wildlife on Vermejo, telling stories of how some have come back from the verge of extinction and others are managed to keep their populations from endangering the other plant and animal species here.

Wildlife tours are best early in the morning or around dusk, when the animals are most active.







## — GROUP ACTIVITIES & CONTESTS —

*"It's always better when we're together." – Jack Johnson*





## VERMEJO SURVIVOR CHALLENGE

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**Duration:** 2 - 4 hours.

**Price:** \$475 for up to 5 people

**Skill-Level:** Beginner - Advanced

**Age:** all ages

**Attire:** comfortable attire and shoes, layers for weather

**Don't forget:** camera, water, sunscreen, sunglasses, hat, and a boxed lunch ordered at dinner the previous night

Test your survival skills and backcountry knowledge in this fun, family friendly competition.

The contest starts with a canoe race across the lake to locate a stash of potentially life-saving gear. Learn to use just flint and steel to start a fire, then stoke the flames high enough to boil and purify water.

Scavenge for materials to build a makeshift structure strong enough to withstand the harsh mountain weather. Then practice your archery skills on a life-size target to prepare yourself for harvesting your own food. Only one team can win, but everyone will walk away with some backcountry knowhow.







## —JUNIOR TRACKERS —

*“At the end of the day, your feet should be dirty, your hair messy and your eyes sparkling.” – Shanti*







## IT'S A BUG'S LIFE, KIDS FISHING TOUR

**Duration:** Privately guided, half-day, with boxed lunch included

**Price:** \$475 for up to 4 people.

**Attire:** Comfortable attire, weather appropriate layers, hiking boots or tennis shoes.

**Don't forget:** camera, water, sunscreen, sunglasses, chapstick.

This tour for kids or families starts at the water's edge where you'll learn about the life cycles of aquatic and terrestrial insects and how important they are to fish. Scoop up a tankful of water and observe the critters you've caught, then learn about the different bugs fish eat throughout the year as various fly hatches occur. Finally, choose a fly to put on your line and see if you can catch a fish.







## GEOCACHING

Use a Global Positioning System (GPS) to play hide and seek for containers or “geocaches” at specific locations around Vermejo.

Find old mines and hidden cemeteries, historic cabins, adobe ruins and more.

Each location contains a waterproof box with a logbook where participants are encouraged to leave behind their signature, tales of their adventures, and any small items they wish future “geocachers” to see.

The boxes also contain Geocoins to be kept as a souvenir or redeemed for a prize in the Vermejo Company Store.

See our activities crew for the GPS coordinates and a few extra clues.

You can borrow a GPS device from us, or use your own GPS if you prefer.



**Tour Time:** 2-3 hours

**Price:** Included

**Ages:** all ages

**Season:** all-seasons, provided roads are passable

**Attire:** layered clothing, hiking boots or tennis shoes

**Don't forget:** sunscreen, sunglasses, hat, chapstick





## JUNIOR TRACKERS ADVENTURE

**Duration:** Half-Day

**Price:** Self-guided is included, or \$350 for up to 4 guided junior trackers.

**Skill-Level:** Beginner

**Attire:** sturdy weather-appropriate layers, and hiking boots or tennis shoes

**Don't forget:** hat, sunglasses, sunscreen, chapstick

Pick up a Junior Trackers Booklet from the Front Desk and create your own tracking adventure. Or hire one of our expert tracking guides to take your little ones on a half-day tracking tour. Ride in a UTV searching for animals, the signs they leave behind and other natural treasures.

Earn a Junior Tracker t-shirt by finding everything on the list.







## FAMILY NATURE CRAFTS

There's no limit to the things kids can dream up with a few materials and all of the great stuff in nature. Pinecone creatures, pressed flower necklaces, leaf prints, stick snowflakes, the list goes on and on. Join us for crafts and snacks on Saturdays at 9 a.m. during the summer or schedule your own crafting sessions at another time for an additional charge.







## INTRO TO HORSEMANSHIP

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**Duration:** 1 hours

**Time on Horseback:** 0-45 min.

**Price:** Included

**Skill Level:** Beginner, Ages 4 -12

**Attire:** Weather-appropriate layers you can move in, boots if you have them

**Don't forget:** camera, water, sunscreen, sunglasses, hat, chapstick

First, get comfortable with your horse while brushing him smooth and shiny.

Next, learn how to saddle-up and hop on for a loop around the arena while your wrangler walks beside you holding the rope.

Progress to a riding lesson and maybe even a trail ride depending on your comfort level.







## BARN CRAFTS

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**Duration:** 1-2 hours

**Price:** Included

**Skill Level:** Beginner, Ages 4-2

**Attire:** weather-appropriate comfy layers and closed-toed shoes

**Don't forget:** your most creative ideas

Come on down to the Activity Barn and get crafty making DIY horse treats to feed the horses, or a horse you can take home, made from a pool noodle. Horseshoes combined with a little imagination become picture frames and wind chimes.

Kids can sign up for a craft session on their own or bring the whole family along for the fun.