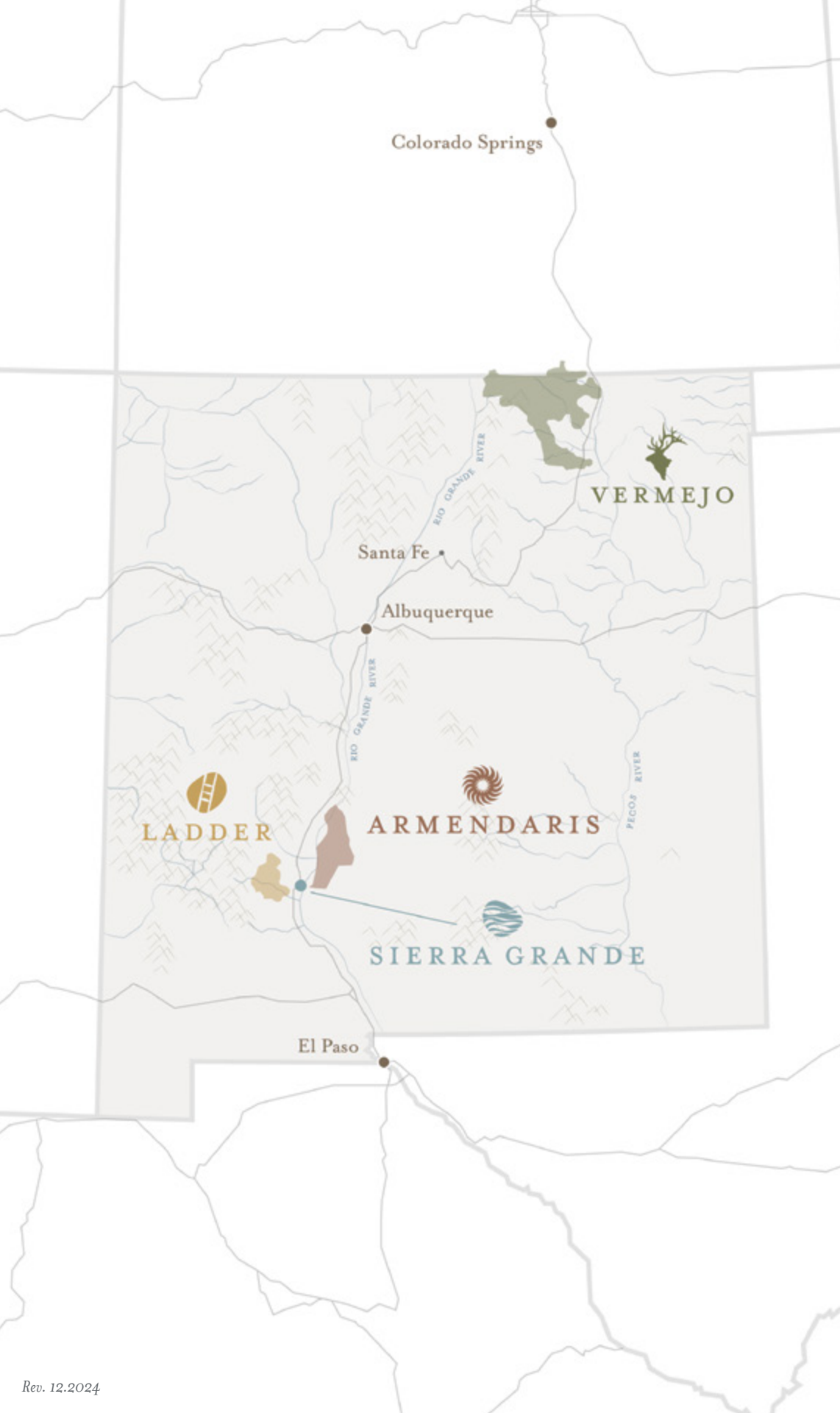




VERMEJO

A TED TURNER RESERVE

PROPERTY GUIDE



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FIND
YOURSELF
IN NATURE.

SAVE EVERYTHING

*“When we connect with nature,
we heal ourselves. When we protect
nature, we heal the planet.”*

— Ted Turner

Ted Turner’s appreciation for nature runs deep, compelling him to work tirelessly in support of land and species conservation. Turner wishes to share his love of nature and discovery in the hope that those visiting his properties will develop a deeper appreciation for and awareness of what our Earth has to offer and, just as importantly, a shared responsibility for the well-being of our environment.



A JEWEL OF NEW MEXICO

Located in northern New Mexico and southern Colorado, Vermejo is rich in history, diverse wildlife, and majestic landscapes. Our unique location in the southern Rocky Mountains and extraordinary size, over 550,000 acres, allow for ample year-round outdoor activities and opportunities for guests to enjoy and explore nature.

Ted Turner purchased Vermejo in 1996, with a commitment to conserving both the land and the threatened species that call it home. Because of these efforts, Vermejo is a special place where the ecosystem is balanced and respected.

Our mission is *connecting people with nature*, and perhaps the only thing we love more than Vermejo itself is sharing it with others. When you visit Vermejo, you become part of that legacy.





ACTIVITIES

With a property larger than most national parks, Vermejo's outdoor activities are nothing short of spectacular. You'll have 920 square miles at your doorstep and knowledgeable activity guides ready to show you all that the property has to offer. From hiking across rugged mountain terrain and riding horses through our property's mighty canyons to observing Vermejo's incredible and diverse wildlife and snapping photos of the stunning Sangre de Cristo sunsets, there's an experience for everyone.



TAILORED EXPERIENCES

All stays include the services of a Reserve Ambassador to help in curating a bespoke itinerary perfectly suited to your needs. Prior to arrival, our team will work with you to build a personalized adventure featuring activities and amenities catered to your interests, such as a high-country horseback ride with a curated picnic crafted with your dining preferences in mind.

GUIDES

Two half-day or one full-day activity is included with each day of your stay. Beyond our standard guest-to-guide ratios, additional guides or custom private Elevated Experiences can be scheduled for an extra fee. Our seasoned guides are well-versed in Vermejo's history, land, and wildlife and will tailor activities and explorations to your skill level, ability, and interests.



FISHING

With over a dozen fishable lakes and 30 miles of pristine streams, Vermejo is a world-class fishing destination and fly-fishing haven. In the early 1900s, previous owner William Bartlett constructed many of our well-known trout fishing venues on the property, which continue to provide unparalleled sport for anglers of all types.

BEFORE YOU GO

We've made fishing simple for all angling skill levels. Grab a map and gear from our fish house and head out on your own or schedule a private guide to take you right to the best spots. Walk the lakes' banks and sight cast for Rio Grande cutthroat trout, browns, and brookies, enjoy world-class dry fly fishing and nymphing, or cast from one of our many boats.

MOVING WATER

If moving water is your game, our 30 miles of stream provide a casting adventure across varying terrain, where you can reel in wild trout from the meandering waters in the high country or the iconic setting of the Vermejo River. Guests will often notice wildlife such as bison and bald eagles while fishing and enjoying the incredible views of Vermejo's mountain peaks.

SAVE EVERYTHING

Vermejo collaborated with several conservation partners in a 15+ year project to restore the Rio Grande cutthroat trout to the entire Costilla Creek watershed on the property. The Rio Grande cutthroat trout restoration project encompasses more than 100 miles of stream habitat and 18 lakes, providing future generations an opportunity to encounter and catch this native North American trout.



TOURING

Whether you're looking for an adventurous UTV ride, an immersion into the property's history, or an up-close, North American safari-style wildlife experience, Vermejo has something for everyone. Given the vastness of the reserve, you could explore here for a lifetime and still not see everything.

SAVE EVERYTHING

One of the largest concerns with the conservation of native species is habitat loss. During your visit, you can get an up-close look at the work the Turner Endangered Species Fund and our scientists and land managers are doing on the property, and understand how your visit is helping protect and restore wildlife and the land.





CONSERVATION TOURS

When Ted Turner purchased Vermejo in 1996, his goal was to restore the land to a healthy, rewilded state. To combat the effects of overgrazing on the riverbanks, cattle were removed and enclosures were built along the Vermejo River to keep out grazers and allow vegetation to recover. This new growth prevents erosion, creating deeper, narrower channels that support cool-water fisheries and food for riparian species. Witness the new growth, beaver ponds, and catch a glimpse of a Rio Grande cutthroat trout, a species that is thriving on Vermejo due to this work.

HISTORIC TOURS

Vermejo is rich in ancient history dating back to the earliest settlers from centuries ago. Explore abandoned 1900s coal mines and logging operations with remnants of the communities that worked them. Visit adobe ruins, pit houses, charcoal kilns, and other encampments to view some of their artifacts. The property possesses a rich Western history, with cowboy camps and abandoned cabins built in the 1920s. From shortgrass prairie to alpine tundra, the incredibly diverse ecosystems of Vermejo provide an unparalleled backdrop for exploring cultural history.

WILDLIFE TOURS

Vermejo provides habitats for dozens of mammals and hundreds of bird species. Mule deer, bison, pronghorn, wild horses, elk, and more make Vermejo one of the best vacation spots in the U.S. to see wildlife. Black bears roam the property, alongside rarely seen mountain lions and bobcats. The high country is home to bighorn sheep, pika, an occasional marmot, and restored native Rio Grande cutthroat trout.

Our five distinct ecosystems are home to hundreds of bird types, from the colorful western tanager to the elusive mountain plover.



BIKING & RECREATION

Touring on two wheels is one of the best ways to see the property, as the measured pace and quiet travel lets you blend into the landscape and more easily roll up on wildlife. Not only does Vermejo have bikes for every ability (even e-bikes!), but there's also terrain to suit all tastes, from easygoing Headquarters cruises to heart-pumping climbs and backcountry singletrack for the experienced. Don't miss the other opportunities to connect with nature on the Via Ferrata, disc golf course, or in one of our outdoor fitness classes.





NATURE FIT

Start your day with Nature Fit for a heart-pumping workout that combines functional strength training, cardio, and stretching. At Vermejo we always prefer to be outdoors, so fitness classes on the River Trail, Headquarters lawns, the Casa Grande Courtyard, and even the cliff-top Gazebo are common. Our Reserve Ambassadors will help you schedule the fitness option that's right for you.

VIA FERRATA OR DISC GOLF

Via ferrata, which is Italian for “iron way,” is a fun way to try out the sport of rock climbing. Our horizontal course is an approachable, yet thrilling introduction, with balance-beam walks, a swinging-bridge crossing, and a rock prow traverse that puts you almost 30-feet off the ground!

A short walk from the Lodge, our sprawling 18-hole disc golf course is tucked alongside the River Trail which is a great place for a morning jog with five obstacles along the path.





HIKING

Vermejo is a hiker's paradise! Choose from self-guided hikes near Headquarters or guided full-day peak hikes. The opportunities to explore Vermejo's 550,000 acres of picturesque land on foot are almost endless.

Despite Vermejo's expansiveness, you don't have to go far to experience the wilderness.

SELF-GUIDED HIKES

Despite Vermejo's expansiveness, you don't have to go far to experience the wilderness. Headquarters alone is 10,000 acres—bigger than almost every state park in New Mexico—and is home to almost 25 miles of trails. Grab a map or GPS instructions from the front desk and head out for a self-guided adventure or drop in on our guided group nature hikes.

GUIDED PEAK HIKES

Boundless hiking opportunities are scattered far and wide across Vermejo and are mostly untamed experiences on rugged paths and game trails, which is why these excursions are exclusively guided. Whether you're looking to summit some of Vermejo's signature peaks or simply check out some wildflower-laced alpine meadows and creeks, we'll pack a picnic lunch, likely spot some game on the way to and from, and make a day of it. Your Reserve Ambassador and guide will help you choose a peak or destination that is the perfect skill level and terrain to match your preferences.

HORSEBACK RIDING

Experience the romance of life in the West with a horseback ride in the Rockies. An hour-long tour of some quiet trails around Headquarters may be enough for some. But we also offer longer walks, both in the nearby canyons and also below craggy peaks in the high country. There's no better view of the ranch than from the saddle of one of our quality trail horses.





SPORT SHOOTING

Rooted in local history, the tradition of shooting in the American West comes to life in Vermejo's range of shooting sports. Whether you want to try your skills with shotguns at our 5-stand or Wobble Deck, or plink metal at 1,000 yards with our long-range rifles, there are options for everyone from novices to expert marksmen.



ARCHERY

Shooting 3D targets is an excellent way to hone your skills by teaching you to shoot at varied distances and angles and through obstacles such as trees and bushes. First, guides size and fit each guest with a bow, compound or recurve depending on your preference, and demonstrate proper safety handling. Then we walk the course, a series of targets depicting animals endemic to the ranch on a short stroll along a lightly forested hillside. It's a perfect way to spend time in nature with friends and family of all ages.



TEAMBUILDING

Bring a group of family, friends, or coworkers for an experience that will build camaraderie, relationships, and memories they'll look back on again and again. Many of our activities can be adapted into fun teambuilding experiences. Choose a Survival or Sharpshooter Challenge, Via Ferrata climb, or 4 Peaks in 5 Days hiking experience, or create your own teambuilding experiences with the help of your Reserve Ambassador.

TURNER TRAILBLAZERS

Vermejo is an outdoor playground for kids and parents alike. Whether it's searching out native plants and animals, learning to ride a horse, exploring historic towns and forgotten mines, or creating arts and crafts using things found in nature or upcycled materials, all of our activities are crafted for both fun and learning. Parents must accompany children unless prior arrangements are made.

Choose from the following activities and more:

- IT'S A BUG'S LIFE
- GEOCACHING
- JUNIOR TRACKERS
- JUNIOR WRANGLERS
- NATURE CRAFTS
- TURNER TREATS



WELLNESS

Nature heals, and Vermejo provides the perfect locale for self-guided restorative wellness through natural connection. Whether challenging your stamina with mountain fitness, centering mind and body while forest bathing, practicing grounding through the healing practice of earthing, or just indulging in a relaxing massage with one of our skilled therapists, our rewilded landscape is the ideal setting to reconnect with you.

Take some time for yourself. The Vermejo Spa offers rejuvenating massages and deeply therapeutic experiences as well as privately scheduled yoga classes in nature.

TO SCHEDULE YOUR SPA SERVICE, PLEASE CALL THE FRONT DESK AT 575.445.3097

Availability is limited—to ensure you have the opportunity to enjoy the spa's services, please make your reservation well in advance. We are happy to cancel or reschedule your service at no charge with at least 24-hour notice.



C U I S I N E

“The act of putting into your mouth what the earth has grown is perhaps your most direct interaction with the earth.” – Frances Moore Lappé

With locally sourced flavors inspired by the land and the seasons, and greens and veggies grown in our own greenhouse and gardens, every meal is a chance to connect with nature at Vermejo.



VERMEJO DINING

Vermejo's talented chefs are dedicated to using the finest and freshest local ingredients to prepare exceptional dishes to please all palates. Vermejo's on-site greenhouse and gardens allow our culinary team to showcase seasonal flavors and diverse menu options. Our staff will be happy to recommend a wine pairing for each entrée from our extensive wine collection.

TAILORED EXPERIENCES

We recommend that all our guests use our complimentary itinerary building service by talking with our Reserve Ambassador Team before they arrive. Our team will work with you to build a personalized adventure featuring dining and food-forward experiences catered to your palate and preferences.

THE DETAILS

Guests receive three meals each day included with your stay. A visit to Vermejo wouldn't be complete without adding a few Culinary Adventures. Please book at least 14 days in advance with your Reserve Ambassador. Changes in date or guest count may be accommodated based on availability. Alcohol is not included, and is charged on consumption. Offsite events are weather dependent and subject to cancellation.





CULINARY ADVENTURES

Connecting with nature in Vermejo's vast restored wilderness creates space and time to appreciate earth's bounty with all of your senses, including taste! Our Culinary Adventures take that experience to the next level as our chefs prepare fresh locally harvested foods for you to experience in settings that elevate the aromas, flavors, and textures of the fare fueling you for your next activity.

Choose from:

- COWBOY BREAKFAST
- CURATED OR SELF-SERVED PICNICS
- LAKESIDE FISH FRY
- SUNSET COCKTAIL TOUR
- OPULENCE TASTING MENU
- HIGH TEA & HISTORY
- CANAPES & COCKTAILS
- MIXOLOGY MAGIC
- COOKING CLASSES
- & MORE!



ACCOMMODATIONS

An adventurous vacation experience, a stimulating corporate retreat, or an exhilarating weekend getaway—whatever your reason for visiting our property, Vermejo promises outstanding guest service matched by our magnificent setting, spectacular wildlife, and exceptional cuisine.

Vermejo has several accommodation options to choose from when planning your perfect getaway. Whether you're looking to stay at the luxurious 25,000-square-foot Casa Grande estate, the LEED-certified mountaintop Costilla Lodge, or an intimate historic cottage or cabin, Vermejo staff is happy to assist in selecting the perfect option for you.





CASA GRANDE

Mr. Turner's former residence offers a uniquely grand experience for guests at Vermejo. Meticulously remodeled in its original Shingle and Victorian style, this 25,000-square-foot house offers seven guest rooms, each with a private bath. The mansion was originally constructed between 1907-1909 by Joseph Lyman Silsbee (1848-1913), mentor to legendary architect Frank Lloyd Wright. Special features of Casa Grande include a stately great room, a billiard room, a conservatory, and two pianos—a 1905 Steinway Concert Grand piano and an 1886 Steinway upright.

Casa Grande is the ideal setting for a group of family, friends, or a corporate retreat and is available to book per room, or as a buyout. Exclusive buyouts of Casa Grande feature private, chef-prepared meals in-residence.



COSTILLA LODGE

Located at an elevation of 10,200 feet and twenty-five miles from the Main Lodge, Costilla Fishing Lodge offers the ultimate high-country getaway. Constructed using the property's own timber and stone, Costilla includes eight private guest rooms and baths, with grand views and a balcony from each room. Surrounded by alpine prairie and rocky mountain wildlife, with an impressive two-story central living area complete with an elaborate stone fireplace, this is the perfect respite for your family vacation.

SAVE EVERYTHING

Costilla is solar-powered and built largely from building materials indigenous to Vermejo. The U.S. Green Building Council has given it a Silver LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) rating.

Costilla Lodge is an ideal setting for a group of family and friends or a corporate retreat. It is available to book as an exclusive buyout, which includes private, chef-prepared meals in-residence. Costilla Community Days offer summer periods in which guests may experience Costilla Lodge by room — call for available dates.





BERNAL LAKE CABIN

Newly restored in 2024, be one of the first to stay at the lake and enjoy Vermejo's rich history. Exclusively lakeside, at Bernal Lake Cabin you'll be transported to a simpler time, listening to the wind in the trees and stories by the fire with all comforts you've come to enjoy at Vermejo. The rustically luxurious cabin includes two Primary Suites with views of Bernal Lake, private decks, a gas fireplace, heated floors, and in-suite soaking tubs. An outdoor cedar soaking tub and dining area beckon guests to while away the hours outdoors, immersed in Vermejo's natural beauty. Private chef and guide service is included with options for meal delivery to make your experience even more private.

SAVE EVERYTHING

Bernal Lake Cabin is solar-powered and completely off-grid.

Bernal Lake Cabin is an ideal setting for a secluded romantic sojourn, small multi-generational retreats.





THE COTTAGES

William H. Barlett, a grains dealer from Chicago, purchased the Vermejo property in 1901. Barlett's first step to building his ideal mountain hideaway was to develop cottages for his family and staff. To this day, Barlett's five cottages still stand, offering the perfect setting for parties seeking a bit more privacy. Each cottage is fashioned as a charming home away from home and has a special tie to Vermejo's history.

CHANDLER COTTAGE

Originally built for Vermejo's secretary in the Bartlett era, this graceful two-story guest cottage is just across the lawn from the Main Lodge. The newly renovated four-bedroom house is named after Harry Chandler, former Los Angeles Times publisher who formed the Vermejo Club, a group of individuals including Herbert Hoover, Harvey Firestone, Cecil B. DeMille, Douglas Fairbanks, and Mary Pickford, who used Vermejo as a private haven in the late 1920s and early 1930s. Chandler Cottage features a King Suite and a single Queen Suite downstairs, alongside a welcoming living room and wet bar. Upstairs, it has two single Queen rooms with their own baths.

BARTLETT COTTAGE

Formerly the men's quarters, this two-story, five-bedroom, recently renovated cottage reflects the elegant style of Casa Grande. Bartlett Cottage includes King bedroom suites each with large private baths, and one room with two Queen beds and a private bath. A large living space with a wet bar provides a delightful gathering spot, perfect for families or groups.

GOURLEY COTTAGE

This five-bedroom accommodation once housed Vermejo's staff butler. Three of the rooms have private baths, while the two downstairs bedrooms share a bath. Like most of the other buildings within short walking distance to the Main Lodge, Gourley Cottage sits in dignified solitude across the manicured lawn.

PENNZOIL COTTAGE

Former property owner William Bartlett built this home to accommodate the physician treating Barlett's ailing son, Norman, at the time. With spectacular views of the Vermejo Valley, this four-bedroom house offers a cozy living room and complete privacy.

MAXWELL COTTAGE

Once a historic washroom, Vermejo guests now enjoy Maxwell Cottage's spacious living area and three bedrooms. Maxwell also features a small kitchen equipped with a full-sized refrigerator, flat-top stove with four burners, microwave, and coffee pot. A large side yard allows guests to catch glimpses of elk and deer while sipping their morning coffee.

TURNER HOUSE

The newly renovated Turner House exudes old-world grandeur with elegant interiors. Soak in the luxury of fully renovated bathrooms, and cozy common areas, both indoors and out. With 10 guest rooms, sitting areas, coffee and breakfast bars both upstairs and down, and housing Vermejo's spa treatment room, Turner House is sure to be a favorite place for you and your guests to relax.

Turner House is the ideal setting for individual guests, families and friends, or a group seeking adjacent rooms, and is available to book per room, or as a buyout.





ABOUT TED TURNER

Founder of CNN, Professional Sports Team Owner, Sailing Champion, Restaurateur, Philanthropist, Conservationist—Ted Turner’s many titles are as diverse and impressive as his renowned legacy.

Ted Turner’s appreciation for nature runs deep, compelling him to work tirelessly through his private company, Turner Enterprises, and his various foundations in support of land and species conservation. Turner has given millions to programs for improving air and water quality, developing a sustainable energy future to protect our climate, safeguarding environmental health, and protecting wildlife and habitats to maintain biodiversity.

Ted Turner wishes to share his love of nature and discovery in the hope that those visiting his properties will develop a deeper appreciation for and awareness of what our Earth has to offer and, just as importantly, a shared responsibility for the well-being of our environment.


 TED TURNER
 RESERVES


 VERMEJO


 SIERRA GRANDE


 LADDER


 ARMENDARIS

CONNECTING PEOPLE WITH NATURE.

As stewards of spectacular biodiverse lands, we are committed to restoring, sharing, and safeguarding America’s wild places for future generations, while providing an inspiring guest experience that showcases our planet’s natural treasures. We proudly collaborate with the important environmental preservation and wildlife restoration projects, funded by the Turner Foundation and Turner Endangered Species Fund, to make a positive impact on the world around us. We welcome you to witness conservation in action while enjoying the holiday of a lifetime.

BOOK YOUR ADVENTURE

1.877.288.7637

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