

Family Fun



Carlsbad, NM, offers plenty of activities and attractions the whole family will enjoy. From the underground adventures of Carlsbad Caverns National Park to a wide variety of offerings on both land and water, Carlsbad is the ideal destination for fun in the sunshine of Southeastern New Mexico.



Carlsbad Caverns National Park

Top 10 Activities for the Whole Family

1. **Carlsbad Caverns National Park** is a cool place to start. With a year-round temperature of 56°F, come experience cave formations of all shapes and sizes on either self-guided or ranger-led tours. From May until October, you can also witness thousands of bats as they exit the caves at dusk.
2. Get an up-close view of wildlife and plants native to the Chihuahuan Desert when you tour the **Living Desert Zoo & Gardens State Park**. You'll also find beautiful hiking trails and picnic areas, making it an ideal place to spend several hours.
3. **The Pecos River Recreation Area** offers a wide range of activities for water lovers. Enjoy boating, waterskiing and fishing on Lake Carlsbad. You can also rent kayaks and paddleboats or book a boat tour. The nearly 5-mile path along the water meanders along nearby parks, golf courses and picnic areas.



The Pecos River Recreation Area

Carlsbad New Mexico

Pride of the Pecos

Family Fun



Pirates of the Pecos



Sitting Bull Falls Recreation Area



Carlsbad Water Park

4. Take a look back in time and visit the **Carlsbad Museum & Art Center**—the oldest municipal museum in New Mexico. See pottery, artifacts and archaeological findings from the area that provide a glimpse into life years ago. Admission is free.
5. Make a splash at **Carlsbad Water Park**. Five water slides, including two speed slides, provide exciting options for thrill seekers. A lazy river, pool area and zero entry children's play area are ideal for those looking to stay cool. Poolside lounge chairs and picnic areas create a fun day in the sun.
6. **Riverwalk Recreation Center** is one of Carlsbad's biggest recreational facilities with activities for all ages. Shoot hoops, play racquetball or ping-pong, catch an exercise class or hit the skate park. There's no admission charge for any public activities.
7. Ahoy, mateys! **Pirates of the Pecos** offers a swashbuckling adventure on the Pecos River. Hop aboard this pirate ship and set sail on a cruise that includes water guns, pirate games, treasure hunts and more. There's even a sunset cruise to experience one of the most beautiful sunsets on the horizon.
8. Take a hike in **Guadalupe Mountains National Park**. Located a short drive from Carlsbad, the Guadalupe Mountains offer more than 80 miles of trails through wooded canyons and along riparian springs. For the adventurous, Guadalupe Peak offers amazing views to the west and south.
9. Cool off at the **Sitting Bull Falls Recreation Area**. The oasis features pools of cool waters and the Sitting Bull Falls. Picnic tables, water and restrooms are located in the area for your convenience.
10. Climb nearly 3,000 feet by car along the **Guadalupe Backcountry Scenic Byway**. It's a great way to see the wild and varied landscape of the Chihuahuan Desert on the way to the Guadalupe Mountains from the comfort of your vehicle.