

Popular Activities



Known as the **Pride of the Pecos**, Carlsbad, NM, is full of fun and unusual activities that people of all ages can enjoy, both above and below ground. From a thriving arts scene to its famous **Carlsbad Caverns National Park**, Carlsbad is a friendly city with a wide array of attractions waiting to be explored.



Carlsbad Caverns National Park

Top 10 Activities Above & Below Ground

1. The most popular attraction in the area, **Carlsbad Caverns National Park**, lies outside of Carlsbad and about 750 feet (230 m) underground. A teenager named Jim White, who initially explored them in 1898, named most of the rooms inside the caverns. Dedicated as a National Monument in 1929, this limestone cavern is a cool 56°F all year long.
2. **Pearl of the Pecos Arts & Culture District** offers a thriving arts scene featuring local artists' work in a variety of styles and mediums. From sculptures and pottery to painting and photography, you'll surely find something special to take home with you.
3. The natural flora and animal life of the **Living Desert Zoo & Gardens State Park** provide a glimpse into the plants and animals that have called the Chihuahuan Desert home for centuries. This 1,200-acre desert garden is home to wildlife that have been injured or orphaned, and are unable to survive in the wild.



Living Desert Zoo & Gardens State Park

Carlsbad New Mexico

Pride of the Pecos

Popular Activities



Slaughter Canyon



Lake Carlsbad Municipal Golf Course



Chalk drawing near the Pecos River Recreation Area

4. **Cavern Theater & Performing Arts Center** was once the center of entertainment, offering the latest movie releases. Now being restored to its original splendor, this theater will soon be utilized as a multi-service, community-oriented performing arts center.
5. With its landmark monument, El Capitan, rising more than 8,000 feet above the desert, **Guadalupe Mountains National Park** is an outdoors lover's paradise. Whether you're a hiker, a nature buff, rock hound or animal lover, this oasis for nature enthusiasts is located 50 miles south of Carlsbad.
6. **Carlsbad Museum & Art Center** is home to a collection of Native American ceramics, including historic period pottery, as well as work from early 20th Century New Mexican artists. A unique rotating temporary exhibit schedule gives many reasons for repeat visits.
7. Work on your swing at the **Lake Carlsbad Municipal Golf Course**. Choose between a nine-hole par three course along the Pecos River and a regulation 18-hole course in the foothills. You'll also find a driving range, putting green and pro shop.
8. Featuring easy to moderate trails in rolling terrain, **La Cueva Trails** is the place for mountain bikers, hikers and trail runners. This fun desert terrain series of trails runs 12.5 miles through limestone foothills.
9. **Brantley Lake State Park** will capture your attention during both day and night. Lake activities like boating, kayaking and fishing are popular during sunlit times. At night, get ready for amazing sunsets and some of the best dark sky viewing in the area.
10. For those seeking live entertainment, **Carlsbad Community Theater** offers a plethora of dynamic productions from its own theater troupe. The venue is also home to popular summer musicals and a spotlight for local talent.