



DISCOVER LIFE ALONG THE TRAIL



The Pony Express Trail, The Old Lincoln Highway, and The Loneliest Highway in America: with a variety of names, you would think that Highway 50 might have an identity crisis but just the opposite is true. This route cuts through the middle of Pony Express Territory, an expanse of Nevada's most historic and picturesque country.

Pony Express Territory is home to some of the Old West's liveliest towns including Fernley, Dayton, Fallon, Austin, Eureka, and Ely. Each of these communities has its own story to tell with heroes and villains and times of booms and busts. The country surrounding these communities is just as colorful. Side roads and highways branch from Highway 50 and lead to destinations like Pyramid Lake, Fort Mason, Soda Lake, The Toiyabe Mountain Range, and Great Basin National Park.

Today's travelers can walk in the footsteps of gold miners, cattlemen, gunmen, and the area's first farmers. They can drive the routes of explorers, pioneers, American Indians, and Pony Express riders. Pony Express Territory offers a glimpse of Old West history along with wide-open vistas and a variety of recreational opportunities.

Highway 50. It's more than a highway—it's an adventure.

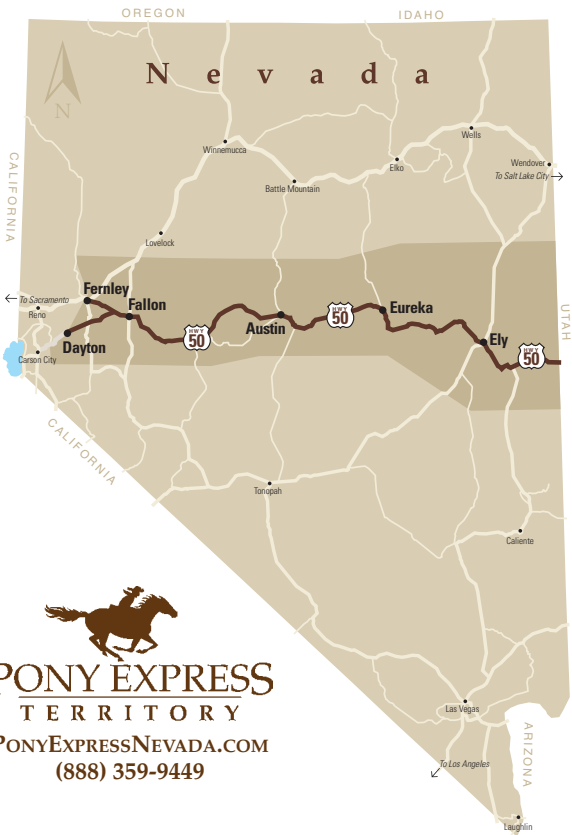


FERNLEY NEVADA

Born as a result of railroad construction, the City of Fernley was established in 1904 and later developed into an agricultural and ranching community. Today, its proximity to Reno has helped the city continue to flourish.

Much of the farmland in the Fernley area was developed as a result of the Newlands Reclamation Act of 1902. The Newlands Irrigation Project established an irrigation system that delivers water to an area stretching from Derby Dam, along the Truckee River, to the Lahontan Reservoir near Fallon. Construction and expansion of the system took place from the initial inception through the 1960s.

FERNLEYCHAMBER.ORG (775) 575-4459



DAYTON NEVADA

Old Town Dayton lies at the mouth of Gold Cañon on the Carson River. It's the site of Nevada's first gold discovery and a contender for being the state's earliest Euro-American permanently inhabited settlement. Old Town Dayton's structures haven't changed much since the late 1800s—it's a place where you can step back in time.

WHAT TO SEE

OLD SALOON

160 W. Main Street

Originally the Europa Saloon built in 1885 (first located at site #22), it was rumored to have been one of Mark Twain's haunts. It was moved to its present site in the early 1900s and used as a bar and restaurant through the years. A bar/steakhouse occupies the premises today.

DAYTONNVCHAMBER.ORG (775) 246-7909



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FALLON NEVADA

At the turn of the 20th century, Fallon was a dusty crossroads between St. Clair and Stillwater. But in 1901, President Theodore Roosevelt signed papers that established the Reclamation Act of 1902 to reclaim the land from the desert and settle the west with small farms. Fallon became a large farming community and was officially incorporated in 1908.

WHAT TO SEE

OVERLAND HOTEL

125 E. Center Street

Constructed in 1907 by Dan Griffin, the Overland was the major gathering place for politicians and miners as well as Lincoln Highway travelers. Guests arriving in Fallon by train were met by horse-drawn carriage and brought to the hotel. In 1999 it was listed on the Nevada Register of Historic Places.

FALLONTOURISM.COM (866) 432-5566 (775) 423-4556



EUREKA NEVADA

Eureka was settled in 1864 by silver prospectors from nearby Austin who discovered rock containing a silver-lead ore on nearby Prospect Peak. The town site in Horse Thief Canyon was surveyed in 1869. The town was originally named "Napias" on January 13, 1870. On January 27, when the post office was established, the name was changed to "Eureka."

WHAT TO SEE

EUREKA OPERA HOUSE

31 S. Main Street

Built in 1880, this opera house sits on the ashes of the Odd Fellows Hall. It was a movie theater in the 1940s, then stood idle until Eureka County purchased and restored it in 1993. The Eureka Opera House serves as a full service convention center and cultural arts center.

EUREKACOUNTY.COM (775) 237-5484



AUSTIN NEVADA

Austin was once the mother of mining camps and a flourishing Old West town. William Talcott, an agent for the Overland Mail and Stage, discovered a ledge of silver ore at this spot on May 2, 1862. He was hauling wood out of Pony Canyon when he made the strike that set off the famous "rush" to the Reese River Mining District.

WHAT TO SEE

STOKES CASTLE

1 Castle Road

Stokes Castle is an exact replica of a tower outside of Rome, Italy, and was built out of hand-hewn native granite. The huge slabs were raised by a hand-operated windlass. The castle was built in 1897 for Anson Phelps Stokes, an eastern financier who had mining interests in the Austin area.

AUSTINNEVADA.COM (775) 964-2200



ELY NEVADA

Ely is another great Nevada mining town, its growth cycles dependant upon the boom and busts so common in the West. The Ely Renaissance Society has financed more than twenty outdoor murals and sculptures in the downtown area. They also maintain a historical village that displays the history of the various ethnic groups that worked for the railroad and mine.

WHAT TO SEE

REQUA-ELY RAILROAD DEPOT, COUNTY PARK

1000 Campton Street

Mark Requa realized the need for a railroad for development of the mines, and in 1906 the Requa-Ely Railroad Depot was built. When the first train of the Nevada Northern Railway arrived from Salt Lake City on September 29, 1906, a three-day celebration was held and dignitaries included Governor Sparks.

ELYNEVADA.NET (800) 496-9350