



Muraling Throughout Mystic San Luis Valley

3 days

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Delve into the Mystic San Luis Valley's diverse history while you tour the area's greatest murals and hop on some of the most scenic routes in southern Colorado. We'll walk you through historic towns and give you a glimpse into the lives of early settlers, miners and cowboys through the lens of local artists.

Sustainability Activity

How to Give Back to These Special Places:

The [Spanish Peaks Arts Council \(SPACE\)](#) is a local nonprofit that's dedicated to supporting artists and art education in the region. Their gallery is a rich display of artists throughout the area, with rotating exhibits throughout the year. When you're in La Veta be sure to stop by and check them out. You can also help support the arts by donating, or by purchasing one of their [vintage-style posters](#), which help fund the organization.

Sustainability Activity

Day 1

ACTIVITY

Public Health is a Puzzle

When Colorado's health department published its 51-page health assessment, they knew few people would read it. Instead, they decided to fund muralists to depict the main aspects of the report....

LUNCH

CoCo's Kitchen

Offering Cuban, Greek and traditional fare for lunch and dinner.

Insider's Tip

Insider's Tip

Take Flight

Under the shadows of the Spanish Peaks you'll find [Crafty Canary](#), a woman-owned microbrewery serving up some of the best batches of ale in town. Be sure to stop by and enjoy what's on tap for the day.

ACTIVITY

?Code of the West by Yul Jorgensen

Although this piece was a commercial project for a local real estate company, this mural is one of Walsenburg's standout designs. Yul Jorgensen was the artist behind this work, and the vertical...

Insider's Tip

Insider's Tip

Roll Out

Hop on the [Highway of Legends byway](#) to catch some serious scenery on your way toward La Veta. Be sure to stop by [Lathrop State Park](#) to squeeze in a quick hike.

DINNER

Legends on Main

Authentic New Mexican and international food in the European tradition. A small restaurant with an even smaller kitchen produces clean, quality, from scratch food from around the globe. Think...

ACTIVITY

?The Creative Process

Anyone who's delved into the arts knows how daunting the creative process can be at times, yet the reward almost always keeps artists coming back for more. This design explores the topic, and...

LODGING

La Veta Inn

This isn't your basic franchise cookie cutter property. Originally built as the La Veta Hotel and featuring the ledger in the lobby dating back to 1883, you're sure to find this property special...

Day 2

BREAKFAST

Ryus Ave Bakery

We are a small-town artisan bakery in the heart of Spanish Peaks Country serving artisan breads, pastries, breakfast and lunch.

Insider's Tip

Insider's Tip

Mosey on Down to San Luis

Make your way to San Luis, one of Colorado's most fascinating towns.

ACTIVITY

Sierras y Colores by Carlos Sandoval

One of the town's most celebrated works, "Sierras y Colores" walks onlookers through the history and culture that created the town of San Luis. Each panel tells a different story, from...

Insider's Tip

Insider's Tip

Next Stop: Antonito

Head west from San Luis to Antonito, a tiny town where an Indiana Jones scene was shot in 1988.

LUNCH

Dos Hermanas Restaurant

For two delicious decades, Dos Hermanas Restaurant has been a destination for Antonito's best homemade recipes and margaritas.

ACTIVITY

Wild Antonito by David Ocelotl Garcia

Intended to honor the beautiful ecosystem found in Antonito, this mural depicts the abundance of plants and animals that are found in the area. The piece also serves as a colorful reminder to...

Insider's Tip

Insider's Tip

On the Lookout

On your way north toward La Jara, see if you can spot a design that features a whooping crane on the side of a brick silo. The [mural](#) was made by celebrated muralist Fred Haberlien, whose designs you'll see all throughout the [Mystic San Luis Valley](#).

DINNER

Wagon Wheel Saloon

The best ribeye steaks, thick and juicy catfish, shrimp, fish sandwiches, large shrimp and the finest Southwest grub. Large parking lot for big rigs and RVs. You are only a stranger once.

ACTIVITY

Shepherd's Sunrise by Fred Haberlein

You can find many of Fred Haberlein's works through the region. It tends to feature San Luis Valley's rich history and its residents' connection to the scenic landscape. We like to think he's...

LODGING

Steam Train Hotel

Welcome to the Steam Train Hotel! Our hotel is located in Antonito, Colorado, part of the San Luis Valley, in the heart of Historic Conejos County. Surrounded by the majesty of the Rocky...

Day 3

BREAKFAST

Dutch Mill Restaurant

A favorite for breakfast burritos, as well as other Mexican specialties.

Insider's Tip

Insider's Tip

Aim Your Ride Toward Alamosa

A 30-minute drive north lands you in Alamosa.

ACTIVITY

Naming of the Sangre de Cristo Mountains

This piece tells the early history of the bloody conflict between the indigenous people of the San Luis Valley and early European settlers. From these wars, the Spanish are said to have...

LUNCH

San Luis Valley Brewing

Offers the finest in craft brews and fine food in an inviting atmosphere.

ACTIVITY

San Luis Valley Heritage by Ian Wilkinson

Representing the region's past, present and future, this massive piece is a collection of 85 individual murals that grace the exterior of the San Luis Valley Museum. It tells the story of...

Insider's Tip

Insider's Tip

Just Dune It

Before you head west toward Creede on the [Silver Thread byway](#), be sure to stop by the [Great Sand Dunes National Park and Preserve](#) for a glimpse of one of nature's greatest masterpieces.

DINNER

Tommyknocker Tavern & BBQ Bistro

The nightlife of Creede with 3-4 live music shows a week! The restaurant serves great food in the casual setting of an historic Creede building and patio. Delicious sandwiches, salads & our...

ACTIVITY

?The Four Seasons by Stephen Quiller

Creede and Mineral County are home to some of the most beautiful sights in Colorado, and this 30-year-old piece is a homage to the area's changing seasons. The mural was commissioned by Creede...

LODGING

Aspen Inn & Finding Gems Gift Shop

A small inn in a historic building of an old mining town offers accommodations in comfort and natural beauty while retreating from the modern world. The inn is listed on airbnb and booking.com...

Hello World.

Source URL: <https://www.colorado.com/colo-road-trips/muraling-throughout-mystic-san-luis-valley>