



Sierra County New Mexico's 2026 Annual Events

For additional information contact: Sierra County Recreation and Tourism
575-894-1968 | director@sierracountynewmexico.info | sierracounty.info

1/2/2026

First Day Hike

Elephant Butte Dam

Once a year, walk across the dam as part of NM State Parks' First Day Hike event. **Contact:** 575-744-5923.

2/26/2026 - 2/27/2026

Gathering of Quilts

Truth or Consequences Civic Center

Beautiful work by local quilters and historic quilts on display; demonstrations, vendors and quilt appraisals available throughout the weekend. **Contact:** Melissa Rucker, 575-740-3245.

3/7/2026 - 3/8/2026

Sierra County Rock & Gem Show

Sierra County Fair Barn

Sponsored by the Sierra County Rock & Gem Society. 20+ Vendors, Rough & Finished Rock, Slabs, Cabs, Beads, Jewelry, Fossils. Field Trips, Presentations, Demos. Gold and Sapphire Panning. Wheel of Fortune. Family Friendly. **Contact:** Megan Holden at 978-335-2899 or scragssierracounty@gmail.com.

4/17/2026 - 4/18/2026

Sierra County Student Art Show

Truth or Consequences Civic Center

A showcase of talent by local kids. All Sierra County students grades 6 through 12—traditional and homeschooled—are invited to submit up to 3 original works of art. **Contact:** The Center Gallery, 505-428-8418.

5/1/2026 - 5/3/2026

Truth or Consequences Fiesta

Held annually since 1950, Truth or Consequences comes together to celebrate with a parade, rodeo, 2-days worth of music, a junk boat race, games and vendors in the park, and much more! **Contact:** City of Truth or Consequences, 575-894-6863 or info@annualtorcfiesta.com.

5/15/2026 - 5/17/2026

Kayak Fishing Tournament

Elephant Butte Lake State Park

Cash prizes are awarded in this fishing tournament that is open to anglers in any kind of water craft that isn't gas-powered: canoe, kayak, rowboat, etc. Prize categories include largest & smallest largemouth bass, smallmouth bass, white bass. Friday night: Captain's Meeting 7pm. Saturday: Tournament Day. Sunday: Awards. **Info:** ziakayaks.com. **Contact:** Russ Trager, 575-744-4185.



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6/19/2026 - 6/21/2026

Junior Open Fishing Tournament

Elephant Butte Lake State Park

Tournament action from 6am - noon both days. Registration is on Friday evening. Youth grades K-12 are encouraged to participate in this annual Father's Day Event. A cookout is held after weigh-in on Saturday; awards are given after tournament action is complete on Sunday. Each contestant must furnish his or her own boat or kayak, additional contestants can share boats as long as capacity is not exceeded. Sponsored by the Elephant Butte Bass Anglers. Park admission fees apply. **Contact:** Russ Finney, 575-740-2266.

7/4/2026

4th of July Fireworks at the Lake

Elephant Butte Lake State Park

Dusk. Come and see the state's biggest fireworks show reflected off the largest body of water in New Mexico! Usually occurs on Saturday evening of "July 4 weekend." **Contact:** Friends of Elephant Butte Lake, 575-744-5923.

8/21/2026 - 8/23/2026

Elephant Butte Balloon Regatta

Elephant Butte Lake State Park

7:30-9am all three days at Lions Beach. Cost: park entrance fee. **Contact:** Jimmy McCarthy, elephantbutteregatta@gmail.com, 505-908-0909.

9/4/2026 - 9/6/2026

Pickamania

Black Range Lodge, Kingston

A regional music festival featuring Bluegrass, Americana and Folk music over the course of three days. Beverages provided by the Black Range Winery. Sponsored by the Sierra County Arts Council. **Contact:** 575-895-5652, cat@blackrangelodge.com.

9/13/2026 - 9/16/2026

New Mexico Open

Turtleback Mountain Golf & Resort, Elephant Butte

ProAm Tournament on Sunday, Championship Monday Tuesday Wednesday. Spectators are welcome and volunteers are needed. **Contact:** 575-895-5652, eli.e@turtlebackmountaingolfresort.com, 575-744-4653.

10/8/2026 - 10/11/2026

Sierra County Fair

Sierra County Fair Barn

Arts, crafts, livestock, food vendors, community groups and fun. **Contact:** Sierra County Extension Service, Diane Ham, 575-894-2375, ext. 6, sierracofair@gmail.com.



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10/14/2026 - 10/17/2026

Annual Chile Challenge 4-Wheel Drive Trail Event

Caballo Lake State Park and the Caballo Mountains, Old Highway 187 (19 miles south of Truth or Consequences)

An opportunity for 4-wheel drive operators of all levels to participate in trail rides in a supervised, nationally-recognized, 4-wheeling event. Camping, camaraderie, family-friendly. **Info:** chilechallenge.org. **Contact:** info@chillechallenge.org.

11/7/2026 - 11/8/2026

Studio Tour: Artists of Sierra County

Studios around the county

Visit the working spaces of local artists on this tour featuring creative spaces in Truth or Consequences, Hillsboro, Caballo, and Elephant Butte. **Info:** aosc-studiotour.com. **Contact:** info@aosc-studiotour.com.

11/28/2026

Elephant Butte Art & Crafts Show

Bigfoot Restaurant & Elephant Butte RV Resort Event Center, Elephant Butte

9am - 4pm. A huge array of hand-made items in two locations. **Contact:** Steph Ross, 575-740-3971, srfoxie@gmail.com.

12/5/2026

Hillsboro's Christmas in the Foothills

Hillsboro Community Center, Elenora Street, Hillsboro

10am - 4pm. A festival featuring the famous \$49.99 art sale, raffles, food and vendors selling handmade holiday wares. **Contact:** Janice Richmond, hillsborocommunitycenternm@gmail.com.

12/5/2026 - 12/13/2026

Monticello Holiday Store

Monticello Plaza

10am - 3pm the first two Saturdays and Sundays in December. Bring cash or checks to shop from a range of organic & locally made or raised wares, from balsamic vinegar to beef to fine art and decor. **Contact:** Claudia Jefferey, south4059@windstream.net.

12/11/2026

Old-Fashioned Christmas

Downtown Truth or Consequences

6pm - 9pm. The evening begins with the annual Christmas Tree lighting in Evelyn Renfro park, after which all can enjoy bonfires, drawings, a visit from Santa, carolers and other performers, and holiday refreshments in downtown T or C. Businesses are open for holiday shopping. **Info:** torcmainstreet.org. **Contact:** director@torcmainstreet.org.



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12/12/2026

Elephant Butte Luminaria Beachwalk

Elephant Butte Lake State Park

The Luminaria Walk, sponsored by Friends of Elephant Butte Lake State Park and Elephant Butte Lake State Park, features 3000 thousand luminarias lining paths on the beach leading to community-sponsored campsites with posole, chile, cocoa, cookies, s'mores, and more! Join the carolers, visit Santa, or stop by designated campsites to make a donation to Make-A-Wish. State Park day use entrance fees apply. **Contact:** Elephant Butte Lake State Park, 575-744-5421.

12/31/2026

New Year's Eve Turtle Ascension

Healing Waters Plaza, Truth or Consequences

Gather at the Plaza starting at 8pm for festivities prior to the 10pm ascension of The Turtle. **Contact:** picachewy@gmail.com.