



CONTACT: Luanne Mattson
602-374-4371

DECEMBER AND JANUARY EVENTS IN COCHISE COUNTY

COCHISE COUNTY, Ariz. (Nov. 6, 2008) – Join Cochise County residents this winter for events full of small town flavor that warm the heart. Celebrate the holidays in Benson, Bisbee, Douglas, Sierra Vista, Tombstone and Willcox.

Dec. 1-4, 9th Annual Festival of Trees, Sierra Vista

Christmas trees, wreaths, and centerpieces are donated by business and individuals and are placed on display. Entries are judged and winners are presented with ribbons that are displayed with their entry. The beautiful items are then sold through silent auction, and proceeds benefit the Sierra Vista Regional Health Center Foundation.

When: Mall Hours; call for details
Where: Mall at Sierra Vista, 2200 El Mercado Loop
Admission: Free
Info: 520-417-4990

Dec. 5 & 6 Christmas Apple Festival, Willcox

A country crafts fair featuring handcrafted arts and crafts and quality reproductions. Art Show, door prizes and loads of holiday fun!

When: 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.; Christmas Lighted Parade: 6 p.m. on Dec. 6
Where: Downtown Willcox
Admission: Free
Info: 520-384-2272

Dec. 5-7, Amahl and the Night Visitors, Bisbee

Join the Bisbee Repertory Theatre and the Bisbee Community Chorus for a night of music and entertainment!

When: 7 p.m. Fri. & Sat.; 3 p.m. Sun.
Where: Bisbee Repertory Theatre
Admission: Free
Info: 520-432-3554 or 1-800-2BISBEE

Dec. 6, Christmas Lighted Parade, Willcox

Kick off the Christmas season with a lighted parade in downtown Willcox. Enjoy music and get free hot dogs, hot chocolate and apple cider for the kids.

When: 6:30 p.m.
Where: Downtown Willcox
Admission: Free
Info: 520-384-2272

Dec. 6, 50th Annual Christmas Night of Lights, Sierra Vista

An evening parade starts the holiday season at Sierra Vista's "Christmas Parade of Lights."

When: 5:30 p.m.

Where: Fry Blvd from Buffalo Trail to Coronado Blvd.

Admission: Free

Info: 520-458-6940

Dec. 7, Holiday Tour of Officers' Homes, Fort Huachuca

A uniformed soldier will greet you at each officer's home, beautifully decorated for the holiday season.

When: 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Where: Brown Parade Field

Admission: \$10 in advance, \$12 day of tour

Info: 520-417-6960

Note: Fort Huachuca is an active military installation. Visitor passes are available to US citizens at the post's main gate with a valid driver's license, vehicle registration and proof of insurance (or rental car agreement). All passengers over 13 must have photo identification.

Dec. 13, Christmas on Main Street, Benson

A favorite since 2004, the Benson Chamber of Commerce presents Christmas on Main Street once again! Street vendors, local entertainment and the Saint David High School Choir make downtown Benson a holiday delight, culminating in a visit from Santa Claus.

When: 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Where: Downtown Benson

Admission: Free

Info: 520 586-2842 or www.bensonchamberaz.com

Dec. 20, Guided Tour of Buffalo Soldier Historical Sites, Fort Huachuca

Learn about the accomplishments and history of Fort Huachuca's Buffalo Soldiers from members of the Southwest Association of Buffalo Soldiers.

When: 520-417-6960

Where: Fort Huachuca Museum, Sierra Vista

Admission: Call for Details

Info: 520-417-6960

Note: Fort Huachuca is an active military installation. Visitor passes are available to US citizens at the post's main gate with a valid driver's license, vehicle registration and proof of insurance (or rental car agreement). All passengers over 13 must have photo identification.

Dec. 27 & 28, Arizona Folklore Preserve Presents, Sierra Vista

Dolan Ellis, Arizona's Official State Balladeer, presenting "Home for the Holidays." Reservations required.

When: 2 p.m.

Where: 44 E. Ramsey Canyon Road, 6 miles south of Sierra Vista.

Admission: \$15 for adults, \$6 students 17 and under.

Info: 520-378-6165

Jan. 9-11, Annual Olympic Senior Games, Sierra Vista

America's first Olympics for seniors! Participants from the U.S. and Canada compete for prizes and awards. Games are held at various locations.

When: Call for Event Schedule

Where: Various Locations

Admission: Free to spectators; registration fee for participants

Info: 520-458-7922

Jan. 15-18, Wings Over Willcox, Willcox

The sandhill crane migration is the hallmark of this annual birding and nature festival. It features birding tours, trade show, seminars and much more.

When: Call for event schedule

Where: Willcox Community Center, 312 W. Stewart Street

Admission: Fees for tours; other activities free. Call for details.

Info: 520-384-2272 or <http://www.wingsoverwillcox.com>.

Jan. 25, Cowboy Cowgirl Roundup, Benson

The Singing Wind Book Shop presents their "Cowboy/Cowgirl Round-up," a day full of readings and music. Poets and writers will satisfy cravings for Western history and culture.

When: 1 p.m.

Where: Singing Wind Bookshop

Admission: Free

Info: 520-586-2425

Jan. 29-31, World Blacksmiths Championship, Willcox

Blacksmithing is a traditional cowboy trade in the 21st Century. Blacksmiths from all over the world hone their craft with competitions and clinics.

When: Daily competition and clinics

Where: Quail Park Rodeo Grounds, Willcox

Admission: Free for spectators

Info: 1-800-200-2272

Located in southeastern Arizona, Cochise County is one of the most culturally, historically and geographically diverse areas in the American Southwest. Its legendary communities—Benson, Bisbee, Douglas, Tombstone, Sierra Vista and Willcox—were strategically located less than a day's journey by stagecoach and are now just a short drive from one another.

For more information about the area, contact the Cochise County Tourism Council at 1-800-862-5273 or visit their website at www.explorecochise.com.

###