



CONTACT: Luanne Mattson
602-374-4371

OCTOBER EVENTS IN COCHISE COUNTY

COCHISE COUNTY, Ariz. (Sept. 2, 2008) – October in Cochise County is jam-packed with events. It begins and ends in flight. In **Douglas**, an **Air Show** features the **Canadian Snowbirds**, and Sierra Vista, it ends with the **Festival of Color**, a gathering of hot air balloons. Other events include **Rex Allen Days** in Willcox, **Butterfield Overland Stage Days and Rodeo** in Benson, Bisbee's **Stair Climb, Fiber Arts and Wine festivals**, Tombstone's **Corvettes & Ghost Riders**, plus **Helldorado Days**, which commemorates the anniversary of the gunfight of the O.K. Corral and more!

Oct. 1, Douglas Air Show featuring the Canadian Snowbirds, Douglas

The Canadian Forces Snowbirds will perform at the Douglas airport. During their 30-minute show, which is choreographed to music, the Snowbirds will perform more than 50 formations and maneuvers, including thrilling solo passes, graceful nine-plane formations and rolls and loops.

When: Wednesday, Oct. 1, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Where: Douglas Airport

Admission: Free

Info: 520-364-4481 or 520-234-3901

October 2-5, Cowboy Hall of Fame & Rex Allen Days, Willcox

The Cowboy Hall of Fame kicks off the weekend with a banquet and ceremony honoring local men and women in the ranching industry followed by a weekend of festivities honoring Rex Allen, beloved son of Willcox. Other activities include cowboy dances, a country music concert, a golf tournament, turtle races and a parade.

When: Oct. 2-5; call for schedule of events

Where: Various Willcox Locations

Admission: Varies per Event

Info: 520-384-2272 or 1-800-200-2272

Oct. 3 & 4, Turquoise Hunt, Bisbee

The annual Turquoise Hunt will take place in what locals call "Number 7," the dump of the Lavender Pit Mine. Each day, rockhounds can scour the earth for the rarest and, some would say, most valuable "Bisbee Turquoise," among other minerals. Reservations required—this event usually sells out!

When: 9 a.m. & 1 p.m.

Where: Bisbee Museum

Admission: \$15

Info: 520-432-7071 or info@bisbeemuseum.org

Oct. 9-12, Corvettes and Ghost Riders, Tombstone

Events include an Early Cowpoke Rendezvous, Welcome Rustlers Corral, Boardwalk Rally, People's Choice NCCC Car Show, Cochise County Road Tour and more!

When: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Where: Allen Street, Tombstone

Admission: Free
Info: www.corvettesandghostriders.com

Oct. 10-12, St. Patrick's Fall Festival, Bisbee

One of Bisbee's most historic churches hosts this annual family fun event, with prizes, silent auction, arts and crafts, children's games and food. A dance will cap off Saturday's entertainment.

When: All Day Event, 9 p.m. to Midnight Dance
Where: St. Patrick's Church, Bisbee
Admission: Free
Info: 520-432-5753

Oct. 11, 21st Annual Cars in the Park, Sierra Vista

More than 300 custom cars will be polished and shined at the 20th Annual Cars in the Park, considered the largest outdoor car show in Arizona. Vehicles in 22 classes will compete for trophies and prizes.

When: 8 a.m. – 3 p.m., Sat., Oct. 14
Where: Veterans' Memorial Park, Sierra Vista
Admission: Free for spectators
Info: 520-227-8318

Oct. 11, Butterfield Overland Stage Days, Benson

This event commemorates the 150th Anniversary of the Overland Mail Route. Pony express riders will take letters postmarked with a commemorative cancellation stamp on horseback from Benson to Dragoon. Entertainment will be provided in Lion's Park, with the Benson Fire Department marking its 101st birthday. Festivities begin with a parade and will include arts, crafts, food and fireworks.

When: 10 a.m.
Where: Downtown
Admission: Free
Info: 520-586-2842

Oct. 11, Cochise County Cycling Classic, Douglas

Ultra cycling event in Cochise County's high desert landscape of Dragoon and Chiricahua Mountains of southeastern Arizona. 45-, 92-, 157 and 252-mile rides Perimeter Bicycling Association of America, Inc. Cyclist participating in the 157- and 25- mile rides must have their own support crews. Benefits DARC.

When: 2 a.m., 6 a.m. and 8 a.m.
Where: Douglas, Ariz.
Info: 520-745-2033 or <http://www.perimeterbicycling.com!/CCCC/CCCChome.html>

Oct. 11, Butterfield Rodeo & Dance, Benson

The Benson Butterfield Rodeo Committee will host the annual Benson Butterfield Rodeo. Events include rough stock and timed events plus a kid's rodeo.

When: 5:30 p.m. Rodeo, 8:30 p.m. Dance
Where: Arena Bar, 250 N. Prickly Pear Ave., Benson
Admission: Adults, \$8; children, age 6-12, \$5
Info: 520-586-4293

Oct. 11, Vintage Bisbee Wine Festival, Bisbee

Visitors can sample more than 50 Old and New World wines and an afternoon of food, music and fun. Sponsored by the Bisbee Rotary Club, the festival's proceeds will benefit scholarship programs, community projects and help the world-wide fight against polio.

When: 4 – 7 p.m.

Where: City Park, Brewery Gulch

Admission: \$45 per person

Info: 520-432-3554, 1-866-2BISBEE or www.bisbeerotaryclub.org

Oct. 11, Annual Fiber Arts Festival, Bisbee

The juried show celebrating its 16th year includes more than 30 artists' works made from natural fibers such as wool, cotton, flax and paper. Vendors will have artists' materials and finished products for sale. Spinning and natural dyeing classes will be held Oct. 11 & 12 with Jill Holbrook and Alexandro Martinez, a Zapotec weaver from Oaxaca. Registration required for classes.

When: 8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m., Oct. 11

Where: Vista Park, in Bisbee's Warren district

Admission: Free

Info: 520-642-3603 or www.Bisbeefiberarts.com

Oct. 12, Butterfield Golf Tournament, Benson

Enjoy the day as a player or a spectator on a beautiful course! Applications to participate are available at the Benson Visitor Center.

When: 9 a.m.

Where: Turquoise Hills Family Golf Center

Info: Applications at 249 E. 4th Street or www.bensonchamberaz.com

Oct. 17-19, Helldorado Days, Tombstone

What started out as the town's 50th anniversary celebration in 1929 has turned into a famous tradition. Events include reenactments, a parade, fashion shows, carnival, live music, contests and street entertainment.

When: 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Where: Tombstone

Admission: varies per event

Info: 520-457-3291 or www.helldoradodays.com

Oct. 17 & 18, SAHR Biker Rodeo, Benson

Every year in October, the Southern Arizona Harley Riders put on their Biker Rodeo at The Arena in Benson. Featuring a bike show, games for kids and bikers, a charity auction, vendors and door prizes.

Where: Big Boy Arena

Admission: \$15

Info: <http://www.sahr.org> or contact Nick Confer at seminole@theriver.com

Oct. 18, Bisbee 1000 Stair Climb, Bisbee

This event can be a challenging competitive run or an explorative walk of Bisbee's over 1000 historic stairs. The Ice Man, "the event within the event," involves carrying blocks of ice with old-fashioned ice tongs up 153 stairs in a timed race—fun to participate in or just to watch!

When: 9 a.m. race start, Pre-registration: 7-8:30 a.m.

Where: Bisbee

Registration: \$25 in advance, \$30 on race day

Info: 520-432-1585 or www.bisbee1000.org

Oct. 18, Guided Tour of Buffalo Soldier Historical Sites, Sierra Vista

Learn about the accomplishments and history of Fort Huachuca's famous Buffalo Soldiers. Guided bus tours to historic post sites will be given by members of the Southwest Association of Buffalo Soldiers.

When: 11:15 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Where: Visitor's Center, 3020 East Tacoma St.

Admission: Adults \$12; children under age 12 free

Info: 520-417-6960 or www.visitsierravista.com

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

Oct. 18, Art Discovery Series Presents "The Tweaksters"

Travel into the future with The Tweaksters, two talented performing artists whose take on the world blends feats of ballet, precision juggling, acrobatics and creative choreography with odd objects. Their zany sense of humor is fresh, funny and all without words.

When: 7 p.m.

Where: Buena Performing Arts Center, 5225 Buena School Blvd.

Admission: \$22

Info: 520-417-6960 or www.visitsierravista.com

Oct. 19, Our People, Our Land, Our Images, Dragoon

The Amerind Foundation presents the opening of the exhibit of international indigenous photographers. Photographers Hulleah Tsinhnahjinnie, Will Wilson and Sama Alshaibi will be present. Curator, Veronica Passalacqua, will discuss the exhibit. A reception will follow.

When: 2 p.m., Oct. 19

Where: 2100 N. Amerind Road, Dragoon, Ariz. Exit 318 (Dragoon Rd.) off I-10, between Benson & Willcox

Admission: \$5/adults, \$4/seniors (60 & over), \$3/children 12-18, children under 12 are free

Info: 520-586-3666 or www.amerind.org

Oct. 25, High Desert Crafters 9th Annual Fall Craft Fair, Sierra Vista

Get a jump on Christmas shopping and browse through displays of fine art, photography, crocheting, quilting, wreaths, jewelry and more.

When: 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Where: Windemere Hotel & Conference Center, 2047 S. Hwy 92.

Admission: Free

Info: 520-803-7267

Oct. 31 to Nov. 2, 19th Annual Festival of Color - Hot Air Balloon Rally, Sierra Vista

A sky filled with color. Sierra Vista school flights on Friday, flights from Veteran's Park Saturday and Sunday and the evening Balloon Glow. All events weather permitting.

When: Balloon Glow 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Where: Veteran's Memorial Park, 3105 E. Fry Blvd.

Admission: Free

Info: 520-439-3069 or www.festivalofcolor.org

ONGOING

WWII -- Honoring Local Veterans," Sierra Vista

The Henry F. Hauser Museum presents the stories of honored World War II veterans. Discover the war's impact on Ft. Huachuca and the state of Arizona.

When: Wednesdays 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Fridays 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Where: 2950 E. Tacoma St.
Admission: Free
Info: 520-417-6960 or www.visitsierravista.com

Farmer's Market, Bisbee & Sierra Vista

Every Saturday morning until October's end, Bisbee area growers offer a variety of locally grown or handmade items, and a diverse array of workshops are given. Enjoy occasional live music, food, and community!

	Bisbee	Sierra Vista
When:	8 a.m. to noon, Saturdays	Noon – 4 p.m., Thursdays through October
Where:	Vista Park	Northwest corner of Willcox Dr. & Carmichael Ave.
Admission:	Free	Admission: Free
Info:	520-432-5421	Info: 520-378-2973 or vallimac@cox.net

Guided Walks, Ramsey Canyon Preserve, Sierra Vista

Owned by The Nature Conservancy is a hikers' and birders' paradise. Beginning in March and through to October guided nature walks are offered. Park opens to the public at 8am; call to confirm walk dates.

When: 9 a.m. Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays
Where: Ramsey Canyon Preserve
Admission: \$5, Cochise County residents and Nature Conservancy members \$3, children under 16 free.
Info: 520-378-2785

Friends of the Huachuca Mountains/Carr House, Sierra Vista

Explore the history Arizona's prospecting and mining eras with the restored Carr House and enjoy the stark beauty of the desert. Programs every other Sunday, with exhibits, nature trail, and children's Discovery Room. Call for program schedules and information.

When: 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sundays
Where: Carr Canyon Road
Admission: Free
Info: 520-366-5635

Oct. 5 & 19, Hummingbird Banding on Fort Huachuca, Sierra Vista

The public is invited to get an up-close look at the catch, band, weigh, measure and release of the birds for research purposes at the gazebo on Brown Parade Field, Fort Huachuca.

When: One-half hour after sunrise until approximately 10 a.m.
Where: Fort Huachuca
Admission: Free.
Info: 800-288-3861 or 520-417-6960

Note: Fort Huachuca is an active military installation and specific entrance requirements are enforced. US citizens may enter the post with a visitor pass, received from the guardhouse at the Main Gate. Required documentation includes: vehicle registration and insurance, as well as current and valid photo identification for driver and all passengers over the age of 13.

The Arizona Folklore Preserve Presents, Sierra Vista

This wonderful series spotlights artists and musicians of Arizona who are vocal historians of its legacy and history. Featuring Dolan Ellis, Arizona's Official State Balladeer and other invited guest artists. Reservations required.

When: 2 p.m. Saturdays & Sundays

Where: 44 E. Ramsey Canyon Road
Admission: \$15 Adults, \$6 students 17 and under
Info: 520-378-6165 or www.arizonafolklore.com

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

###