

David Rutledge & Dale Yee
144 Upper Red River Valley Rd. (physical address)
P.O. Box 153 (mailing address)
Red River, NM 87558
No wall telephones. Dale's cell 626-372-2114

Extra notes on driving in New Mexico:

Use the right lane except to pass. People have been killed from on-coming cars illegally driving in the lane closest to the dividing line or in the passing lane. The hills obscure the view.

From Taos to Red River, you will see signs for the following:

1. Drive through Taos
2. At the end of town, there is the Kachina Lodge on your right. Follow 64 west, veering slightly to the left. There will be a blue sign on the right pointing to the left fork, 64 West. You do NOT want the right fork which goes to the Taos Pueblo.
3. You pass the Overland Sheepskin Company on your right.
4. You will see an intersection with lights; 64W to the left goes to the Rio Grand Gorge Bridge and Tres Piedras- 150 to the right, goes to the Taos Ski Valley and the town of Twining. GO STRAIGHT and 522 will appear after the intersection along with a sign of Costilla and Questa. Follow the signs to Questa for 20 miles

Road signs:

1. "Carson National Forest"
2. "Cebolla Ridge"
3. "Garrapata Ridge"
4. "Questa" (town), TURN RIGHT at the light (the only intersection in town)- cantina on left

On the right side of the intersection are a set of flags

5. "12 miles to Red River"
6. Cross the "Cabresto Lake" sign
7. town of Red River (watch for speed signs. Speed limits drop to 35 suddenly. It's a good way to get a speeding ticket)
8. At the end of town, take the right fork to 578 ; go 6.4 miles. The left fork goes to 38 to Eagle's Nest and Angel Fire.
9. Drive to the end of the highway and veer left, crossing the bridge.
10. Turn sharp left onto the dirt road back the way you came on the other side of the river. Do not go forward or right.

Getting there:

Drive to the town of Red River, New Mexico. If you come from the east, take state highway 38 from Eagle's Nest, then take state highway 578 to the left just before you enter the town of Red River.

If you come from the west, take highway 38 from Questa, drive through the town of Red River, then take state highway 578 to the right on the east edge of town. Take highway 578 up the Red River Valley to the **end of the road**, 6.4 miles from the turnoff. (Ignore the "Rutledge" sign on the left of the Highway. This cabin belongs to Dave's brothers and sister) The paved road ends at a concrete bridge, and you will have a choice of four unpaved roads. Cross the bridge, and take the road on the left (doubling-back from the way you came but you are now on the other side of the water), which goes up a slight hill, with a sharp drop to the river on your left. Follow the dirt road .6 miles through the woods, past a group of cabins called "Hidden Valley", until you see a four-foot tall totem pole with blue wings on the front porch of the cabin on the right. This is our guest cabin- the Totempole Cabin (150 Upper Red River Valley Road- number posted in Red on the upper right of the log cabin). The next cabin (144 Upper Red River Valley Road) on the right is ours. Be careful on the left side of the road. It is subject to erosion and drops off quite suddenly. The dirt road runs parallel to the highway and rejoins it 2 miles from the end of the highway. The dirt road may have a lot of potholes in it from the snow in the winter so it is best to go back to town the way you came.

The Taos Express has a shuttle bus between Taos and the Santa Fe Rail Runner depot, timed with the train's arrival, on Friday (1x/day), Saturday (2x/day) and Sunday (2x/day). You must book a reservation. Round-trip price is \$10, and you can transfer to the Taos Chile Line town bus for free. <http://taosexpress.com/>

The Rail Runner

<http://riometro.org/fares/train-fares/fares> 7 days per week commuter trail, ABQ to Santa Fe \$10 one way; \$5 Senior rate.

If you buy a Rail Runner ticket in advance online, there is a free shuttle from the Albuquerque Airport (ABQ). The normal fee is \$1.

<http://riometro.org/rio-metro-schedules/airport/about-the-airport>

Food & household items: Stock up on food at the Albertson's Supermarket which is on the west edge of Taos on the north side of the main street. When you shop for food, keep in mind that you will be cooking at an altitude above 9000'. There is a Walmart one block from the Albertson's. You can find everything from plastic rain ponchos, fishing gear, clothes, and microwave ovens, to aspirin, toys and food. There is a small supermarket in the town of Red River called Der Markt. There is a built-in 5-10% surcharge on groceries for trucking it up the mountains. Der Markt takes VISA and Mastercard. It is open 8AM-9PM daily. There is also a Costco in Albuquerque.

The Caretaker:

Joe Lancaster, is our caretaker. Joe lives in Costilla, NM. His cell phone number is (575) 779-4824. Joe is an electrician during the week. He has a key to our cabins and can help you out if there is a problem with the cabin when we are not there.

Neighbors:

The cabin across the river belongs to Dave's mother brothers and sister. You can reach this cabin by driving back to the bridge and up highway 578 (150) until you see a "Rutledge" sign on the right. It is a small sign and easy to miss. Be careful of large rocks and a steep drop off when you turn into their driveway. The Rutledge cabin is on the left and Dave's uncle & aunt's (Lee & Dana Freese), large cabin is on the right of this steep driveway. Dave's other uncle and aunt, John and Jane Freese, live north towards town, 3 cabins away from the Totempole cabin. It is a newer-styled, 2-story log cabin with a red roof. Their phone number is 575-754-2238.

Firewood:

In the shed are 3 cords of wood. Use the oldest and driest wood near the front. Please **DO NOT** feel obligated to split or saw logs.

Garbage:

There is no garbage service. The dirt road our cabin is on is 2 miles long and meets the highway at both ends. Behind the town hall in the middle of town, on the back road parallel to Main Street, and across from the fire station, is a green bear-proof dumpster the size of a big rig truck trailer. Please make sure you close the lid of the dumpster and close the hasp. We pay an annual fee for use of these dumpsters so you can dump there.

Hiking:

Listed from easy to strenuous: 1. Sawmill Park, 2. Lost Lake, 3. Middle Fork Lake, 4. Wheeler Peak. The difficulty here is not the distance but how far and fast you go up in altitude. The hike to Wheeler is an ascent of 4000'

Fishing:

out the front door and down the slope. Wild Brook, Cutthroat and hatchery-raised Rainbow trout available- licenses can be purchased in town. You can buy 1 day, 5 day, 1 year licenses.

Horses:

available at the stable in town at the Red River stables and up on Bobcat Pass at the Moreno Valley Ranch.

Santa Fe: There is a Trader Joe's in Santa Fe along the route you drive coming from Albuquerque. It is at: 530 W. Cordova Road, Santa Fe, NM 87505, Phone Number: 505 995-8145, Trading Hours: 8:00 am - 9:00 pm

Taos:

Shopping- Sew Good Fabrics, Bent St., Dunn's Stable, and other shops in this cluster, Moby Dickens Bookstore, also in this cluster on the end. There is tourist type shopping

on the plaza. There is also a Walmart at the west end of Taos, closer to Red River. There is an Albertson's and a Smith's supermarkets in town along the main road.

Red River:

Texas Reds is a steak house in the middle of Main street. First come first served. The Sundance is on the street parallel to Main. They have Mexican food. You can reserve by phone.

Money: There are cash machines in Der Markt (small supermarket) and at the Shamrock Diamond gas station at the Questa end of town. The town grocery store and normal stores and restaurants will take credit cards.