



Sunglow Ranch provides a unique and picturesque base from which to explore the Chiricahua Mountains and all of southeastern Arizona. Follow in the footsteps of the legends that once called this region home, and explore the very heart of the Old West in the colorful and resolute communities of Tombstone and Bisbee.

This is an area where you will feel a true closeness to nature, along with a richness of history. Here, great struggles occurred among Native American, Mexican and later American cultures. Today, agriculture and a rapidly growing viticultural area predominate between the Dragoon and Chiricahua Mountains creating a scenic backdrop for life in Cochise County.

The following are **suggested travel itineraries** that are easily modifiable to suit your personal interests. Let us know if you'd like us to create a customized program with additional recommendations especially for you! Please note that some advance notice is required for nature and birding guides, massage therapy, and horseback trail rides.

SUNGLOW RANCH ADVENTURE ITINERARY HIKING EXPLORATION HORSES

This is an itinerary that will test your endurance levels! Let us know if you preference is for more [cycling](#) or even more hiking. Warning: this is not an itinerary for the faint of heart! Note: Sunglow's elevation begins at 5,340 feet.

2 Night Stay, Day 1 **PM** Welcome to Sunglow Ranch! Get settled in your room, and then head out on the **Sunglow Nature Trail** on one of our mountain bikes, or on foot for a leisurely warm up. Back at the Ranch, savor a cocktail or a glass of wine, either at the edge of the pond or under the ramada. Look off to the east for the Fire Tower at the top of the Chiricahuas. You can see it from the Café Porch. It's calling you to adventure! Join us for dinner in the Sunglow Café you first evening!

2 Night Stay, Day 2 **AM** After an early morning stretch in the **Fitness Room**, or a refreshing dip in the pool followed by breakfast, prepare for Adventure today! Set out by car for the nearby [Chiricahua National Monument](#) (pack picnic lunches from the Sunglow Café.) Are you ready for the 8.5 mile, 5 hour, [Big Loop Trail](#)? If so, drive to the top of Bonita Canyon Drive to an elevation of 6,776 feet, and begin your excursion on foot from Echo Canyon. These are some amazing trails that provide distant views into Arizona and New Mexico, and incredible geologic scenery along the way.

PM Saddle up back at the Ranch for a Sunglow Sunset Ride! Your guided horseback trail ride adventure will take you up into the 200,000 acre Coronado National Forest that surrounds Sunglow Ranch. Enjoy a toast to the scenery, and to the sunset!

2 Night Stay, Day 3 **AM** (If departing today, after breakfast and check-out:) head straight for the [Cochise Stronghold](#)--once the refuge of legendary Apache Chief Cochise and his

Chiricahua people. Park at the trail head, and begin your hike on the other side of the bridge to the left. The 4 mile long (one way) Indian trail passes from the East Cochise Stronghold Campground, over the Stronghold Divide (in the Dragoon Mountains) and down into the West Stronghold Canyon.

3 Night Stay, Day 3

PM Need a break yet? Relax at the pool or get the kinks out with a massage in our treatment room. If you're still ready to go, pedal Sunglow Ranch mountain bikes out Sunglow Road and take a right onto Turkey Creek heading east. Stop at the grave site of famous OK Corral outlaw, [Johnny Ringo](#) just ahead on your left. Go through the gate and ahead to the marker by the creek. Ringo was found dead there on July 14th, 1882 with a bullet in his right temple proving once again that crime doesn't pay. Continue on down the road into the lovely Turkey Creek canyon to the Coronado National Forest trailhead (about 6 miles), or head back to the Ranch—you'll be back this way in the morning.

3 Night Stay, Day 4

AM & PM The [Chiricahua Peak to Monte Vista Peak / Fire Tower](#) trail beckons. This is a 13.5 mile hike to the Fire Tower accomplished by a rare few Sunglow Ranch guests. This is an all day hike of approximately 13.5 miles round trip, with a vertical ascent of 4,423'. Bring lunches from Sunglow, a hat, and plenty of water and sunscreen!

Once back at Sunglow, help yourself to some refreshments (you'll need them!) Enjoy an early dinner in the café, perhaps followed by a long soak in the hot tub while admiring the stars. Regroup!

4 Night Stay, Day 4

AM After breakfast, and/or check-out make the drive 40 minutes north to [Fort Bowie](#), site of the conflict between Chiricahua Apaches and the U.S. Military. This is an easy, three to four mile walk through the grounds on marked trails via the main trail and/or the Overlook Ridge Trail. Here is the historic site of the [Battle of Apache Pass](#), the [Bascom Affair](#), and the [Tom Jeffords](#) Indian Agency (during the brief time this land was an Apache Reservation.) The Fort Bowie Museum has a fine collection of memorabilia from the period. Plan another mile of walking, or so, as trails wind throughout the grounds of the fort.

PM Enjoy some free time back at the Ranch. Consider a game of **Bocce** on our regulation bocce ball court, or have a seat and let the birds come to you. A glass of local Grenache, or Petite Syrah will help make it even more enjoyable!

If time allows, consider heading further north to the town of Willcox, Arizona and sample some local wines at the tasting rooms along the railroad tracks. **Keeling Schaefer Vineyards** has a wonderful tasting room located in the historic 1917 Willcox Bank and Trust building, on Railroad Avenue just over the railroad tracks to the right. Open Thursday-Sunday, 11-4. 520-766-0600. Enjoy local art at the **Trust Gallery** inside the tasting room. The [Carlson Creek Vineyard](#) Tasting Room is located across the tracks from the Rex Allen Cowboy Museum.

4 Night Stay, Day 5

AM After your breakfast and departure, more exploration lies ahead at the remarkable [Kartchner Caverns](#) located an hour from Sunglow Ranch to the west, 9 miles south of Interstate 10 and Benson, Arizona just off Route 90. In November 1974, two young cavers, were exploring the limestone hills at the

base of the Whetstone Mountains. In the bottom of a sinkhole they found a narrow crack leading into the hillside. Warm, moist air flowed out, signaling the existence of a cave. After several hours of crawling, they entered a pristine cavern. It wasn't until February 1978 that they informed the property owners, Mr. and Mrs. Kartchner, about their amazing discovery.

During their four years of secret exploration, the discoverers realized that the cave's extraordinary variety of colors and formations must be preserved. The cave's existence became public knowledge in 1988 when its purchase was approved as an Arizona State Park. Extraordinary precautions have been taken during its development to conserve the cave's near-pristine condition.

Suggestion: if you're headed back in the direction of Tucson today, we recommend a visit to the [Singing Wind Book Shop](#) a few miles north of Benson.