

# VIDA BONITA PECOS

## *Guest Welcome Guide*

---

*Luxury Cabin Rentals in the Heart of the Santa Fe National Forest*

2444 NM HWY 63 · Terrero, New Mexico 87573

[pecosbnb.com](http://pecosbnb.com)

### AT A GLANCE

Check-In: 3:00 PM (Summer) / 2:00 PM (Winter)

Check-Out: 11:00 AM (Summer) / 10:00 AM (Winter)

Door Code: Last 4 digits of booking person's cell + "Nice Digi" button

WiFi: "Vida Bonita Pecos" (password in your booking message)

Quiet Hours: 11:00 PM – 7:00 AM

Emergency: 911 · Message Duc through Airbnb/VRBO

# 1. WELCOME TO VIDA BONITA PECOS

---

Welcome! We are so grateful you chose to spend your time with us. You are about to experience something truly special: the peaceful hum of the forest, the sound of the river in the distance, and the kind of starry nights that make you forget your phone even exists.

"Vida Bonita" means the beautiful life. We built this retreat because we believe the most powerful medicine is reconnecting with nature. Our 12 private acres in the Santa Fe National Forest are our home — we live here year-round and pour our hearts into every single stay.

Come ready to slow down. The mountains have been waiting for you.

*Warmly,*

**Dr. Duc Vuong & Erica — Your Hosts**

## 2. ARRIVAL INSTRUCTIONS & PARKING

---

Please send us a message through your booking platform when you leave Pecos — we love to know you're on your way! Cell service drops off after the village of Pecos, so this is your last chance to reach us by phone.

### Finding Us

Our address is 2444 NM Hwy 63, Terrero, NM 87573. Head north on Highway 63 from the village of Pecos. We are the second driveway on the right after mile marker 24 — look for the "2444 Vida Bonita" sign at the driveway entrance. If you reach Cowles Ponds, you've gone just a hair too far — simply turn around, we're right there.

### Once Through the Green Gate

After you pass through the green gate you will see the Retro Camper on your right. Continue to the fork in the driveway:

- Go LEFT at the fork → Guest Parking Area (Ponderosa, Twin Pines)
- Stay RIGHT at the fork → Upper cabins road (Aspen Elevated, Crestview via Pecos Lane)

---

### PONDEROSA MAIN LODGE

- Go LEFT at the fork to the Guest Parking Area
- Park front-in in the large flat gravel area — do not block ingress/egress
- The logs along the edge mark the grassy yard — please do not drive onto the grass
- To unload: temporarily pull up to the upper roadway on the second level, then return vehicle to Guest Parking
- Walk up the metal stairs on the side of the cabin to the front door keypad

---

### TWIN PINES DUPLEX

- Stay RIGHT at the fork and drive to the large log Ponderosa Main Cabin
  - At the Ponderosa make a hard 160-degree turn to the RIGHT
  - Head toward the pink shed — your cabin is right there
  - **⚠ DO NOT continue up the hill toward the brown cabin — that is a different cabin**
  - Park on the right side in front of the pine tree
  - Walk around to the BACK of the cabin — your room entrance is on the back side
-

## ASPEN ELEVATED CABIN & ASPEN OUTPOST

Trucks and SUVs with AWD/4x4 are recommended to park next to the cabin. Low-clearance cars are not recommended for the hill road. Unsure? Send Duc your make and model and he will advise. No truck or SUV? Park in the Guest Parking Area and walk up — it's a short scenic walk!

If parking next to your cabin (truck/SUV):

- Stay RIGHT at the fork and drive past the Ponderosa Main Cabin
- Turn right and go up the steep hill to the brownish-purple Aspen Elevated cabin
- The Aspen Outpost is right next door
- Park in designated areas only — do NOT park on the green septic tank cover

If parking in Guest Parking Area (sedan or your choice):

- Go LEFT at the fork
- Look up the hill — the brownish-purple Aspen Elevated cabin is visible just above the chicken coop
- Walk up the road directly toward it

---

## CRESTVIEW CABIN

Trucks and SUVs with 4x4 or AWD can drive directly to Crestview via Pecos Lane — no need to stop at 2444 first:

1. Continue past the "2444 Vida Bonita" sign toward Cowles Ponds
2. Turn into the Cowles Ponds parking lot on your left
3. Make a U-turn and head back south on Highway 63 for about 200 feet
4. Pecos Lane will now be on your left — drive up the rocky road for about 300 yards to Crestview (green roof cabin)
5. **If you encounter a chain across the road halfway up — it is a dummy lock! Simply unhook it, drive through, and rehook it behind you.**

Sedans and low-clearance vehicles — come to the Guest Parking Area at 2444:

- ⚠ **IMPORTANT: Do not walk toward any cabins you can see from the parking area — those are not Crestview!**
- Walk through the Ponderosa Main Cabin's back yard, past the trout pond, and continue up the hill
- Crestview is the green roof cabin at the top — it is not visible until you pass the trout pond, so keep walking!

Winter conditions: If Pecos Lane is icy or snowed in, ALL vehicles must park in the Guest Parking Area at 2444. Duc will notify you in advance.

---

## **Check-In**

For all cabins: Enter the last 4 digits of the booking person's cell phone on the keypad, then press the "Nice Digi" button to unlock. Duc will meet you at your cabin to show you around!

### **3. HOUSE RULES**

---

- Shoes-off indoors — bring slippers or thick socks
- No smoking indoors. Smoke outside and dispose of butts properly.
- Quiet hours: 11:00 PM – 7:00 AM
- Trout pond: gazing and feeding only — no fishing in the pond
- Feed food scraps to the chickens and turkeys — they love it!
- All trash tied in bags → our garbage trailer. Leave no trace.
- Park only in designated parking areas
- No surprise parties — advance notice required for gatherings
- Pets must be arranged in advance and supervised around our free-roaming flock
- Ask for anything! Extra towels, firewood, toiletries — we're here to help.

## **4. WIFI & CELL SERVICE**

---

Cell service drops off after the village of Pecos — this is normal and part of the experience! Starlink WiFi is fast and reliable at the property.

### **Connecting to WiFi**

- Network name: "Vida Bonita Pecos" (connect to whichever signal is strongest)
- Password: provided in your booking confirmation message
- FaceTime, WhatsApp, Zoom, streaming — all work great
- Many guests work full remote days here without issues

## 5. PETS & ANIMALS

---

We love pets and welcome them — just please arrange in advance so we can coordinate timing around our property animals.

### **Our Property Animals**

- Luna & Max: our two large white Great Pyrenees ranch dogs. Super friendly and love belly rubs! They roam at night to protect against bears and mountain lions. Tied up 9AM-5PM (winter) / 9AM-dusk (summer).
- Free-roaming chickens, turkeys, and ducks — please supervise your pets around our flock
- Max has been known to steal food off the grill — keep an eye on those burgers!

## 6. CAMPFIRES & FIREWOOD

---

Campfires are one of the best parts of staying at Vida Bonita Pecos!

### Firewood

- Free firewood: Ponderosa, Crestview, Aspen Elevated
- \$10 unlimited firewood: Twin Pines, Aspen Outpost, Blue Jay — our wood is cured for 1+ year and burns beautifully. Add to your Airbnb booking.

### Fire Safety

- We follow all Santa Fe National Forest fire guidelines
- Large bonfires are not permitted — contained fires in designated fire pits only
- During fire bans, no open fires or wood grilling (propane usually still OK)
- Check [nmfireinfo.com](http://nmfireinfo.com) for current fire restrictions
- Never leave fire unattended. Fully extinguish before bed.

## 7. FISHING

---

Fishing is one of the crown jewels of a Vida Bonita Pecos stay!

### Where to Fish

- Pecos River: 5-minute walk across the wildflower meadow. Crystal clear, mountain cold, uncrowded.
- Cowles Ponds: 10-second drive. Forest Service stocks weekly in summer, sometimes twice weekly in July.
- Kids pond (ages 12 & under + 65+): 5-fish limit, kids almost always catch fish!

### Licenses & Rules

- Age 11 & under: FREE
- Age 12+: License required. Buy online at [nmdgf.state.nm.us](http://nmdgf.state.nm.us), Walmart, or local gas station.
- Daily limit: 5 fish per person. Catch & release encouraged.
- Fish species: Native cutthroat trout and German brown trout

## 8. HIKING & ACTIVITIES

---

- Windsor Trail: Series of freshwater mountain lakes. Spectacular vistas.
- Panchuela Trail: Easy ~2-mile hike. The river enters and exits CAVES at the end!
- Road cycling: Hwy 63 freshly paved, excellent with little traffic
- Stargazing: Zero light pollution — extraordinary night sky
- Sledding: Sleds on-site for kids. Great spot ~8 miles away.
- Santa Fe Ski Resort: ~1 hour away

Bear safety: Carry bear spray, make noise, never approach wildlife, store food securely.

## **9. DINING & GROCERIES**

---

Stock up before heading up — no delivery services reach us!

### **Village of Pecos (45 min back down — last stop!)**

- Phillips 66: beer, wine, and spirits
- Dollar General & Family Dollar: light groceries and essentials
- Casanova: local New Mexican cuisine
- Dairy Queen
- Three food trucks — very good!

### **Larger Shopping**

- Santa Fe: 1 hour away — Walmart, Whole Foods, full restaurants
- Las Vegas, NM: 1 hour 15 min — full grocery options

Spring water is on-site at the property — you do not need to bring bottled water!

## **10. LOCAL ATTRACTIONS**

---

### **Santa Fe (1 hour)**

- Meow Wolf: immersive art experience — absolute must-see
- Santa Fe Plaza: Native American artists, world-class restaurants, shopping
- Santa Fe Opera House: stunning architecture, world-class performances

### **On the Drive**

- Hot Springs at Cañoncito: right off I-25, short hike down — hidden gem!
- Glorieta Pass Battlefield: "Gettysburg of the West" — Civil War history

### **Near the Property**

- Pecos National Historical Park: preserved Native American ruins, free admission
- Cowles Ponds: fishing, picnicking, beautiful mountain setting
- Windsor Trail & Panchuela Trail: world-class hiking

## **11. WILDLIFE & SAFETY**

---

You are in the wilderness — spectacular wildlife is one of the most unexpected parts of the experience!

### **Commonly Seen**

- Hummingbirds, Steller's Blue Jays, finches, chipmunks, gray squirrels
- Deer, coyotes, eagles, falcons, hawks
- Our flock: chickens, turkeys, ducks

### **Safety Notes**

- Predatorial animals have never been spotted on or near our property
- Luna & Max guard the property nightly — zero predator encounters
- On hikes: carry bear spray, make noise, never approach wildlife
- Store all food securely and never leave food out overnight

## **12. CHECKOUT INSTRUCTIONS**

---

Check-out time is 11:00 AM (Summer) / 10:00 AM (Winter). Here is what we ask before you head out:

### **Indoors**

- Strip used bed linens and pile on the bathroom floor — leave comforters on the beds
- Pile all used towels (including kitchen and bath) in the bathroom
- Wash dirty dishes and do a light kitchen cleanup
- Return any moved furniture to its original position
- Turn off all lights, fans, and heating/cooling units
- The door locks automatically behind you

### **Outdoors**

- Tidy up the outdoor seating, deck, and picnic areas — return chairs and tables to original positions
- Clear the grill and fire pit area of food scraps, foil, charcoal bags, or debris
- Bag all trash tightly and place in our garbage trailer

### **Before You Leave**

Do a quick sweep for personal items — phone chargers, medications, sunglasses. We are remote and returning forgotten items is genuinely difficult.

## 13. EMERGENCIES & CONTACTS

---

- Police / Fire / Ambulance: 911
- Contact Duc: message through Airbnb or VRBO (fastest — monitored continuously)
- Medical clinic: village of Pecos (45 min) for minor issues
- Major medical: Santa Fe (1 hour) or Albuquerque (2 hours)
- Fire restrictions: [nmfireinfo.com](http://nmfireinfo.com)
- NM Fishing licenses: [nmdgf.state.nm.us](http://nmdgf.state.nm.us)
- Weather forecast: [weather.com](http://weather.com) (ZIP: 87573)

---

*We hope the mountains give you exactly what you came for.*

*Come experience la vida bonita.* 🏞️

Dr. Duc Vuong & Erica — Vida Bonita Pecos