

Wild Rivers Painting Location 2018

The painting area starts at Arroyo Hondo, 10 miles north of Taos, NM. You can then travel north on Hwy 522, through San Cristobal, past Lama and into Questa. If you continue north on Hwy 522 you will get to Rio Costilla and Amalia to the east on Hwy 196. From Questa, on Hwy 38 you can go east 12 miles to Red River or west on Hwy 378 to Wild Rivers Recreation Area. Please see map for a clearer view.

Precautions!!

Respect Private Property! Do not enter unless you have permission. The following locations are either public or I have gained permission for you to paint there during the paint out dates.

Fire Danger!! Be aware that we are in a severe drought. Make sure you do not drive on dry grass because of the possibility of sparks from your vehicle. Do not smoke outside your vehicle. Do not start any fires at any campsite.

Pests Be aware of the danger of our local pests including, rattlesnakes, ants and spiders.

Take care of yourself: Make sure you wear a hat, use sunscreen and drink lots of water!

While painting at Wild Rivers Recreation Area, please display your pass on your dashboard of your car.

Wild Rivers Recreation Area From Questa

North on Hwy 522 N 2.6 miles. Turn left onto Hwy 378

Continue to follow Hwy 378 West through Cerro 4.4 Miles to Wild Rivers entrance. This recreation area offers the painter strong and wild scenery of Northern NM. Here you will find the convergence of two canyons, the Rio Grande Gorge Canyon with the Rio Grande River and the Red River Canyon and the Red River. The park offers numerous hiking trails that lead to the bottoms of these two canyons, multiple campgrounds and a Visitor Center.

Cerro Vista Farms- On the way to Wild Rivers you will go through Cerro. In the middle of Cerro is road crb-039, turn north there for about 1 mile until you come to Middle Road, turn left, go .25 mile until you see a small sign for Cerro Vista Farms. This is a local, organic farm that feeds folks from Taos to the Colorado border. This is a working farm and you will find rows of veggies and rows of beautiful, colorful flowers. They usually work the fields and harvest in the mornings and sell at different locations around the county in the afternoons. Wednesday afternoon you can buy veggies at the farm. They are also always at the farmers markets in Taos on Saturday morning.

South of Questa



Wild Rivers Plein Air

Questa and Red River, NM

July 17-22

wildriverspleinair.com

1. **Arroyo Hondo- John Duns Bridge-**At Arroyo Hondo, take B-107 Road 2.6 miles to John Dunn Bridge. Here you dip down to the gorge canyon and cross the river at the base. Excellent rock, cliff formations and river view.

San Cristobal 8.5 miles south of Questa

1. **Cool Old House-** This is one of my favorite houses to paint. At San Cristobal turn east on Forest Road 493. Drive about 2 miles and the road will angle to the right. Stay on paved road to post office (on right). Immediately after post office turn left on Cam Del Medio. Go about 1/2 block and house is on the right. There is a good pull off right before the house that gives you a perfect view.

Lama- Turn-Off is 4 miles south of Questa - Up on the side of the mountains is Lama. Lama is an old community most famous for the Lama Foundation. Here you will find sweeping long views of the valley. The road will meet another dirt road. Here you can turn left or right.

1. If you turn right on State Road 3, you can head south for 2.9 miles to the Burn Scar Meadow. Great weave of mountains, vistas and low scrubs mixed in with pines.
2. If you turn left on State Road 3 go, north 1 mile to Upper Lama Road, turn right. Go up the road past old cemetery to Y in the road. If you go left you will come to grouping of old houses with beautiful vistas and good parking. If you go right you will be on the Lama Foundation Road with huge vista, parking on the edge of the road.

Cebolla Mesa- Turn-Off 4 miles south of Questa..across from Lama Turn-off...heading west This is open BLM land with many old dirt roads that wander through the mesa. Great views! The main dirt road takes you to a remote campground at the edge of the gorge overlooking the Rio Grande. Hiking trails and camping are few and rough but fine for the tough soul.

Questa-

1. Army House-On Hwy 522 past the dollar store about 1/2 mile, is historic property on the west side, across the street from the Community Center sign. The building is a long rectangle with shingled roof. On street side it only has a door and a couple windows but on back side has nice porch and dormer windows. Park on the side of the main road.
2. Romero House-At the stoplight at Hwy 522 and Hwy 38 turn east onto Hwy 38 going toward Red River. Go past Jays Thrift Store and down the hill and past the Post Office. On the right is a nice old house. You can pull off on the dirt road by the pink house. The road parallels the main road and passes right in front of the old home. Road can be rough after rain storms.
3. Eagle Rock Lake Great little lake with good parking. East on Hwy 38 at the edge of Questa.
4. St Anthony's Church- You can get to this beautiful, restored church three different ways. From Jays Thrift Store, go across the street, past the the Visitors Center, past the old white two story house (a great house to paint) keep on the paved road and wind through the old part of town. After a couple blocks you will need to turn left into the church area. You will see the steeples of the church. This is one of the most beautiful churches in Northern New Mexico and well worth the stop. The village, with guidance from Historic Renovation committees has completely remodeled it after a wall fell in 7 years ago. A true labor of love.

Red River Area

From Questa to Red River, 12 miles, are numerous places to paint. Here you will find rock cliff faces, the Red River, camping and hiking to name a few.

1. Columbine Campground and Trail head- 7 Miles east of Questa on Hwy 38 - Great area with fast moving creek and forest trail. Good parking.
2. Fawn Lakes- 9.6 miles east of Questa on Hwy 38 toward Red River is Fawn Lakes. Great little lakes, creek, forest, good parking
3. Red River- 12.2 Miles east on Hwy 38. This little mountain town offers many painting locations. Grassy ski slopes, the Red River, old mountain houses with ample parking locations. Don't miss the old school and museum at the east end of town.
4. Mallette Canyon Park - Across from the Brass Rail by the Edelweiss Condos is Mallette Road. Go up Mallette Road, past High Street. Keep going about .5 miles further and you will come to Mallet Canyon Park. It's a nice grassy area with a small stream, great rock cliffs and shade.

North of Questa- 20 Miles north of Questa on Hwy 522 is the small community of Costilla. The village offers the painter great views of Ute Mountain and some great churches.

1. Churches and Old Adobe structures- Once you get to Costilla turn left (west) onto Rd 516. This is right before the store/gas station which is on your right. Driving west on Rd 516 and you will pass two beautiful, old churches within 4 miles, Sacred Heart Church and, just over the Colorado line is Garcia Church.
2. If you turn to your right, before the store/gas station you will be on Rd196 going east. Up the road a bit is the old town square that has many old, interesting structures. Great location- good parking
3. Continue east on Rd196 for 8 miles to the picturesque valley and village of Amalia. This is a beautiful village at the base of the mountains full of great architecture, graveyards, fields and streams.