

Fly Ranch Survival Guide

The Desert is Real

Radical Self-reliance is one of Burning Man's core principles, and it is your responsibility to ensure your own care. [Daytime temperatures](#) can be high and humidity is low. The temperature at night is cold and often below freezing in winter.

Seek shade during the hottest part of the day. Wear sunscreen. Begin drinking water before you leave home. Continue drinking water after you arrive. Bring warm clothing if you'll be at Fly after dark. Wear long pants to protect your legs. Consuming alcohol, caffeine or other substances increases the risk of dehydration. There are dangers to be encountered including rattlesnakes, ticks, mosquitoes and plenty of rough terrain. Be prepared.

Radical Self-Reliance:

Bring what you need to survive and thrive. If you don't bring it, you won't have it. Be prepared for a wide range of weather and lots of walking. Bring gloves if you have 'em. Bring snacks for yourself.

Supplies:

For Camping Bring:	For Walks Bring:
<ul style="list-style-type: none">● 1 gallon of water per person per day● A reusable water bottle● Food & beverages● Plates, utensils, cups● A first-aid kit (the nearest full-service medical facility is over 70 mi away)● Sunscreen/sunblock & sunglasses● Insect Repellant● Warm clothing● Hand sanitizer● Garbage and recycling bags, and tools to clean up your campsite● Flashlights and spare batteries (headlamps are useful)● Portable ashtrays if you smoke (e.g. mint tin that closes securely)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● 1 gallon of water per person per day● A reusable water bottle● Food & beverages● A wide brim hat (a chinstrap is useful in the wind)● Sunscreen/sunblock & sunglasses● Warm clothing● Lotion and lip balm● MOOP bag or bucket● Prescriptions, contact lens supplies (disposables work great), and anything else you need to maintain your health in a remote area with no services● Stable, close-toed shoes● Common sense, an open mind, a sense of humor and a positive attitude

DO NOT Bring the Following:

- Dogs or other pets
- Guns
- Fireworks
- Amplified sound systems
- ATV's or motorcycles.
- Generators are *highly* discouraged. If you are camping and require a generator to survive, please let the camp host know so that you can be placed in an area that will be least impactful to other participants.

Where to Stay

If not staying on Fly Ranch itself, motel arrangements can be made [at Bruno's](#) in Gerlach or in Fernley (1.5hrs) or Reno (2hrs). There are many thousands of acres of camping available surrounding Fly Ranch on public land that is managed by the BLM ([MAP](#)). We recommend [the Black Rock City site](#) or [off of Soldier Meadow Road](#) . RV rentals can also be arranged [here](#).

Please note that the Playa can be impassable when wet or moist. Check with the Gas Station or [Visitor Center](#) in Gerlach for conditions. Some areas of the Playa remain wet well into summer. Be aware of color changes while driving. Darker= wetter. If you get stuck, the walk back to Gerlach can take a full day and your vehicle could remain for weeks. Better safe than sorry.

Being a Local

A good definition of a local is someone who gives back more than they take. Please help us by being respectful, curious, visiting local establishments, and being a good ambassador. You can get gas at [Bruno's Gas Station](#), snacks and provisions at the [Empire Store](#), pottery at [Planet X](#), food and drinks at [Bruno's](#), drinks and coffee at the [Miner's Club](#) and maps, last-minute camping equipment and sundries at the [FBR Visitor Center](#). Learn more about local businesses [here](#).

Fly Ranch is in the historical home of the Paiute Tribe. The Northern Paiutes are grounded in the environment and believe that power resides in natural objects such as animals, plants and geographical features. To learn more, please visit the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe Museum & Visitors Center, located at [709 State Street, Nixon, NV 89424](#).

The donation-based [museum](#) is on 447 on the way to Fly Ranch for those driving from Reno. The museum has displays on tribal history and culture, photographs, movies, books, and more. The museum is managed by Billie Jean Guerrero and is open 10 AM - 4:30 PM Monday through Friday in the winter, and Monday through Saturday, 10 AM - 4:30 PM in the summer.

If Someone Jumps A Fence Or Gate

If you encounter a trespasser, politely explain that Fly Ranch is private property and is not open to drop in visits. Give them background on the project, and suggest they visit [our website](#) to sign up for announcements about nature walks and other open activities. Let them know it's a delicate ecosystem. Apologize and empathize if they saw a website or picture that said it was open. We have

guidance that's easily found online, but people miss it and may feel upset after having driven several hours to be here.

On Immediacy

We increasingly spend time in front of screens and on our phones. Some communities are putting down their phones, and we're testing that out. Let's enjoy the property without distractions. Let's connect with the land, explore, and be in the moment with one another. Let's experience the land in real time together. For our nature walks, we give you a small sleeping bag for your phone, and ask that you put the phone in the bag when you come onto the property. At the end of walks and experiences, we'll have dedicated time for you to snap pictures. We support photography and telling stories through pictures, so in the future, we'll have trips specifically for photographing the land.

Leave No Trace

Black Rock City is a leave no trace event and activities at Fly Ranch are the same. There is no garbage service or trash cans at Fly Ranch. You will need to pack out everything that you bring. Leave plants, rocks, live animals or their remains (bones), and historical artifacts as you find them. If you find something that appears to be an authentic artifact, contact a Fly Ranch Guardian. Do not build unauthorized structures or furniture.

Fire

Much of Fly Ranch including the Geyser is surrounded by grass, which is dry and extremely flammable during most of the year. The threat of wildfire is a major concern. **DO NOT START CAMPFIRES.** There are several designated areas on the property where we can enjoy a fire if conditions permit. In this case, volunteers will be briefed on proper management techniques and expected to maintain a constant watch until the fire is fully extinguished.

Soaking

If soaking in the geyser pools will be a part of your visit, please keep in mind that they are an important part of a delicate ecosystem and their preservation is of the utmost importance. Rinse off insect repellent, sunscreen and anything else that may have an impact. Enter and exit the pools from docks or ladders and do not climb onto banks or formations. Waves created from jumping in or splashing can erode the banks and should be avoided. Please do not touch or climb on any of the geyser features. Before entering any of the pools, dip your toes. Temperatures can vary significantly from season to season and even day to day. If soaking in hot (>98°) water, limit your exposure, hydrate and be aware that alcohol can potentiate its effect. **NEVER SOAK ALONE.**

As is customary in many remote hot springs, clothing is optional. Please be respectful of others. And bring a towel.