

Out & About with Lori Sunflower

What freedoms have you experienced living in Crestone?



Nicolas Seckel

I can wear any hat I want - without anybody noticing. 😊

Al Sutherland

Well, we have mother nature here in full bloom and the trees, the rivers and the fishing, and a small town. I go back east and it's insane. You got traffic, and people are much more wired up. You get into New Mexico and southern Colorado and it's a whole different flow. We do have our insanity here, I will tell you that, but we're out here and it's a lot different. We can lead a pretty good close life to nature with gardening, and we got all the wildlife here. To me, that's freedom – having nature around you and good people. It's a special place. There's a little chaos here, but it's pretty damn good.

Lily Farhangi

Moving to Crestone was like taking a deep breath for the first time in a long time. I felt an overwhelming sense of freedom — freedom to be myself, to slow down, and to truly connect. What amazed me most was how easily I made friends. From the very beginning, people were warm, open, and welcoming in a way that felt genuine and rare. It didn't take long before I felt like I belonged. In Crestone, I didn't just find a new place to live; I found a community that felt like home from the very first moment.

A Poem on Freedom by Lily Farhangi

It feels like sunlight through open pine,
Where silence hums and stars align.
It's walking barefoot on sacred land,
No burdened past, no heavy hand.
It smells like sage and mountain air,
A breath so wild, it clears despair.
It tastes like truth on an honest tongue,
A song remembered, once unsung.
It moves like wind through open doors,
No locks to turn, no closing wars.
It's laughter spilling without a plan,
And strangers greeting you like clan.
It's letting go of schemes,
To live inside your truest dreams.
It's dancing where your soul feels right—
Uncaged by day, unchained by night.



Nathan Garcia

My reasons for being here may be fairly common to some degree - the scenery and closeness to nature, art, music, good food. Most of my reason is in line with some of the more romantic notions associated with the valley - peace, open-mindedness, community of creative doers and thinkers. Most important is a notion of liberty and freedom unique from any other place that I have experienced. It is defined, for me, as a freedom from the perpetual static that is present where streetlights and storefronts tend to multiply; an escape from the world where leaf blowers, overly-loud music and machinery drown the feral sounds of birds, bugs, wild creatures and the wind through the leaves. There is a sense of liberty by being so close to wilderness, to experience stars without the pollution of town to diminish this splendor. There is a sense of liberty to be able to sit, on a bucket, in the sun, and hear almost nothing and be content - no horns, no TV, no radios, no sirens, no shouting - to see no one if you wanted - and be content. Here, there is still a degree of liberty to define freedom. Here, there is a degree of liberty from the collective definitions of other places.

Nick Carpenter

Well, we originally moved from Texas to Colorado for the cannabis laws. Because of my wife's health issues, we needed to have access and somehow, like everybody, Crestone called to us and we ended up here. The 3rd day we were here, we were lucky enough to attend Karen Potter's pyre [Crestone End of Life Project (CEOLP) – open air cremation], and that was one of the most special things I've ever been to. To have that freedom of access to the pyre by living here and being a property owner, I love the fact that that's an option for us here. Crestone has so many great freedoms and it's just an awesome place to live.



Maureen "Mo" Bergschneider

I'm enjoying the freedom to be retired, freedom to just be myself. Freedom to express my creative side, my love of nature and mountain life in this small town. Freedom to meet new friends. Thanks, Crestone, for welcoming me!



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