

# Attractions in Bodie, California

by Misty Fauchaux, Demand Media



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Bodie, California, is a ghost town near the border of Nevada and California. It once had more than 10,000 people living there, drawn in by gold mining. Bodie was founded by William S. Bodey in 1859 when he discovered gold on what is now Bodie Bluff. The State of California took over the ghost town in 1962 and converted it into a state park. Bodie State Historic Park offers a variety of activities for people of all ages.

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## Bodie Cemetery

Bodie Cemetery has 80 headstones dating from the 1800s to the early 1900s. The headstones display the names of many of the locals who lived and died in the town. Each headstone is different, and many have sayings inscribed on them. Visitors can take a self-guided walking tour of the cemetery, which gives the visitor a sense of the town's population during the height of the gold rush. Maps of the cemetery can be bought at the Bodie Store.

## Buildings of Bodie

Bodie had a reputation for being one of the most lawless towns of the Old West. A number of businesses were in the town, including restaurants, a barbershop and a bank. Visitors can get a feel of what a working boom town was like by strolling throughout it. The town got its name from a misspelling on Bodey's stables, and visitors can still see an old stable within the town. Main Street is nearly a mile long, and visitors can walk past what is left of the more than 60 saloons and a "red light district." The ghost town of Bodie has approximately 200 buildings in various states of decay. Visitors can take self-guided tours of the buildings and the town itself. Maps can be bought from the Bodie Store that provides information about the buildings.

## The Bodie Store

The Bodie Store is a bookstore in the ghost town. The store, the only business in operation in Bodie, sells books about the town, its people and mining. It also has material about a variety of other topics, including California, Nevada, Western women and maps and atlases of the area. The store also sells items such as greeting cards, posters and postcards.

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## References

- [The Bodie Bookstore](http://www.thebodiystore.com/)(<http://www.thebodiystore.com/>)
- [California State Parks: Bodie State Historic Park](http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=509)([http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page\\_id=509](http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=509))
- [Bodie, CA](http://www.bodie.com/)(<http://www.bodie.com/>)

## Resources

- [Bodie, Calif.: History and Research](#)

## About the Author

Misty Fauchaux became a freelance writer in 1998 and has been an editor since 2004. She has written for a variety of websites and blogs, specializing in topics ranging from digital photography to computer systems to digital media. Fauchaux received a Bachelor of Arts in communications from Loyola University New Orleans.

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