

# IDAHO HOTEL

## Silver City, Idaho

The Idaho Hotel opens her doors for business every Memorial Day Weekend through the beginning of October (weather permitting).

Come join us for an hour or two, or an entire weekend. Whether you're a history buff, a nature lover, a mining hobbyist, an ATVer, or all around outdoor enthusiast, there is something here for you!



Humming birds feeding just outside the dining room window.

Here for just the day? Join us for lunch and dine with some of the Hotel regulars. Snacks, short orders, soft drinks, beer, wine, served in the dining room. You don't want to miss out on a slice of one of Jerri's famous homemade pies!

Interested in an overnight stay? Overnight guests should make reservations in advance. There are 13 guest rooms available. Silver City has been without electricity



since the 1940's. Currently we operate on Solar Power with 12-volt lights. Three showers, hand-washing sinks and several flush toilets have been added for overnight guests. The bedrooms are furnished with vintage furniture. Several rooms have propane heaters. Staying in the hotel is a first hand experience of life in the nineteenth century.

**Room rates vary from \$75.00 to \$150.00 per room.** There is absolutely **NO SMOKING** allowed inside the hotel. **No pets please.**



Family-style dinner meals are available with reservations of a week in advance, minimum. Please call or view our web site, to request family style dinner menu and prices. Hours of restaurant operation are varied.

We have helped plan weddings, family reunions, and other social events. Let us help you plan a romantic weekend getaway for an anniversary.

Need an unforgettable birthday surprise? We can help you have your cake and eat it too!

Come join us for our annual Wine Dinner. Jerri shares her passion for exceptional wine and food pairings. It is a culinary delight.



Roger and Jerri Nelson are the current proprietors and are slowly restoring her to her former grandeur. They purchased the Idaho Hotel in 2000 from then proprietor Edward Jagel, who purchased and reopened it in 1972. The hotel was closed from 1942 to 1972. Jerri and Roger's dream is to continue Ed's legacy and preserve the old hotel as he had intended for future generations to enjoy. They are very thankful to those individuals who donate time, funds and supplies to help keep the hotel open. Without outside donations, the hotel could not continue to stay in operation.

### Hotel History

The Idaho Hotel was originally established in Ruby City in 1863. In 1866 Ruby City lost the county seat to its two-year-old rival, Silver City, a mile up Jordan Creek. Soon, many homes and buildings were moved from Ruby City to Silver City in order to capitalize on the business generated in the new county seat. Later that year, the hotel's new wing was dismantled, loaded piece-by-piece onto sleds and skids, and pulled up the snow and ice covered road by oxen to its new site in Silver City. It was reassembled, and a three-story addition was added.

Spring water was piped to the hotel by 1868. A bar room and "piazza" were added in 1871. A commodious new kitchen was built in the basement

“containing all the modern improvements and conveniences”, and a “new set of bathrooms were built so that hot or cold baths could be had at all hours everyday”. The bar room was “ornamented with the costliest and handsomest mirror ever brought to Silver City” in 1874; all of the interior woodwork was hand-grained in 1882; and a billiards parlor-gambling room was added in 1889. In front of the icehouse, “A fine stone cellar” for storage of food and drink was completed in 1890. A five-story addition containing a new dining room with two stories of bedrooms above was finished in 1898, and a storage tunnel connecting the cellar with a mine tunnel beneath the street in front of the hotel was excavated in 1901. For more Silver City History, visit the website listed at the front of this brochure.

### Directions to Silver City

To reach Silver City from the east (the Idaho Side), exit 184, take the Murphy Exit, go through Nampa – 12<sup>th</sup> Ave. southbound turns into Highway 45; follow until it forks with State Highway 78 – left at the fork to Murphy. Approximately 4.3 miles past (south) Murphy, turn to the west (right). (If your route takes you through Murphy, be sure to visit the Owyhee County Historical Society Museum there.) Upon turning off the highway, you will encounter 7.5 miles of paved road, and then 12.5 miles of graveled road (rough in places) that winds through desert, foothills, spectacular canyon lands and forest-covered mountains, before reaching Silver City.

If you are coming from the west, exit U.S. 95 to the east through Jordan Valley, Oregon. Twenty-five miles of travel include a few miles of paved narrow county road, a few miles of improved oiled gravel road, and then a narrow, rougher dirt road that for about the last half of the trip follows Jordan Creek through canyons and mountains to Silver City.

Check locally, preferably by calling into Silver City: **IDAHO HOTEL (208) 583-4104** for road and weather conditions. The roads are closed by heavy snowfall from about November until May. **There are no gas stations, repair shops or towing services in Silver City**, so fill your tank in Jordan Valley, OR. Dan’s Ferry Service, Murphy or in Grandview, ID. Properly prepared, you will have a safe and very enjoyable visit to Silver City.

### Special Dates of Interest

**Opening weekend:** Saturday of Memorial weekend.

**July 4th:** Town celebration, horseshoe tournament, old-fashioned games. A great family get together.

**Owyhee Cattlemen’s Association:** The last weekend in July. OCA meeting and dance.

**Labor Day Weekend:** A local tradition to be stopped by the traffic light by the local self appointed law. A judge is on hand for any disputes, fines or donation – all proceeds help fund the water system.

**Silver City Open House:** Ten or more private buildings open to the public for tours the second weekend after Labor Day. (September 18-19, 2010)

**The Hotel closes** mid October, depending on the weather conditions.

The roads are not maintained in the winter (November to the end of May), so traffic is limited to snowmobiles, cross country skiers, winter hikers or ATV’s only.

### Silver City Area Phone Numbers:

Sinker Creek Outfitters 208.863-7960

Pats’ What Not Shop 208.583-2510  
Cell 208.850-5679 or 208.375-0162

Silver City Fire & Rescue 208.890-6718

Silver City Property Owners Association  
P.O. Box 1196, Nampa, ID 83651

Our Lady Of Tears c/o Father Gerald Funke  
at St. Pauls in Nampa 208.466-7031

Winter message phone for the Idaho Hotel  
208.863-4768.



Idaho Hotel circa 1890

## **IDAHO HOTEL**

In Historic

**Silver City, Idaho**

“Queen of the Old Mining Towns”

23936 Jordan Street

Mailing address:

P.O. Box 75, Murphy, Idaho 83650

Telephone: (208) 583-4104

We accept VISA and Master Card.

Visit our web site:

[www.historicsilvercityidaho.com](http://www.historicsilvercityidaho.com)

Email us at:

idahohotel@historicsilvercityidaho.com