Ernest Hemingway first visited Sun Valley in the fall of 1939, and he kept returning for the rest of his life. He worked on *For Whom the Bell Tolls* and *A Moveable Feast* here in central Idaho, and he hiked and bird-hunted and dined with friends that he came to call “the family.”

For most of his time in Idaho, Hemingway stayed at the Sun Valley Resort or rented cabins in Ketchum. In 1959, he purchased a home along the Big Wood River. There he died by suicide in 1961. His widow, Mary, continued to own the house, dividing her time between Ketchum and New York City, until her death in 1986.

The Community Library has been the custodian of the Ernest Hemingway House and Preserve since 2017. It is managed as a private residence and as a contemplative, creative, non-commercial space. It is also the site of ongoing research and a residency program for writers, scholars, and artists.

The Community Library holds an extensive Hemingway Collection in the Jeanne Rodger Lane Center for Regional History. Visitors to the Wood River Museum of History and Culture will find extraordinary exhibits, including *A Writer in New Country: Hemingway in 1939*.

The Library has been the custodian of the Ernest and Mary Hemingway House and Preserve since 2017. It is managed as a private residence and as a contemplative, creative, non-commercial space. It is also the site of ongoing research and a residency program for writers, scholars, and artists.

The Community Library is privately funded, and brings information, ideas, and individuals together to enhance the cultural life of the community.

The Hemingway Legacy Initiative is funded by donations. To support this work go online: www.comlib.org/support-hemingway

---

**Recommended Reading**

- **Ernest Hemingway in Idaho: A Guide**
  by Marsha Bellevance
  A short booklet containing a concise biography, chronology, map, and sketches of his favorite places.

- **Hemingway in the Autumn**
  by David Butterfield
  A video featuring interviews with scholars, several of Hemingway’s Idaho friends, and his eldest son, Jack Hemingway.

- **Hemingway’s Sun Valley**
  by Phil Huss
  A look at Hemingway’s code through the stories of the locals who knew him.

- **Hemingway: The Final Years**
  by Michael Reynolds
  The fifth volume of a comprehensive Hemingway biography which encompasses the Idaho years.

- **High on the Wild**
  by Lloyd Arnold
  Recollections and photographs by one of Hemingway’s closest Idaho friends.

- **How It Was**
  by Mary Welsh Hemingway
  The autobiography of Hemingway’s fourth and final wife, who came to Idaho for thirty years.

- **The Idaho Hemingway**
  by Tillie Arnold
  A biography by his friend about the time Hemingway spent in Idaho starting with his arrival in Sun Valley to his death.

- **Misadventures of a Fly Fisherman: My Life With and Without Papa**
  by Jack Hemingway
  An intimate look inside the Hemingway family by his eldest son.

---

**Ernest Hemingway**

**The Community Library**

415 Spruce Avenue North
Ketchum, ID 83340
208.726.3493

**Wood River Museum of History and Culture**

580 Fourth Street E.
Ketchum, ID 83340
208.726.8118

[www.comlib.org](http://www.comlib.org)
Virtual Experiences

Use the QR codes below or go online at www.comlib.org to explore more.

**Hemingway in Idaho’s High Desert**
Download the TravelStories GPS App and listen to the audio tour to learn more about Hemingway and his time in the Wood River Valley.

**Hemingway House Sessions**
Enjoy a series of music videos recorded in the living room of Hemingway’s Ketchum home.

**Idaho Experience: Hemingway House 360**
Explore the private Ketchum home through this video created by Idaho Public Television.

**The Community Library: Hemingway House Virtual Tour**
Visit Hemingway’s final home through this virtual tour hosted by Library staff and filmed by Idaho Public Television.

**Idaho Experience: Idaho’s Hemingway**
Watch Idaho Public Television’s program about the untold story of Idaho’s influence on the lives, loves, and literary output of Ernest Hemingway.

**Hemingway and the Natural World**
View a PBS special with Ken Burns, filmmaker, Terry Tempest Williams, and Jenny Emery Davidson.

**#HemingwayLife**
Learn about Hemingway as an Influencer through the interactive lens of social media. Contribute your own references and be a part of the online exhibit.

---

**Ketchum and Sun Valley Sites**

**Wood River Museum of History and Culture**
In addition to other exhibits in the Museum, A Writer in New Country: Hemingway in 1939, examines who Hemingway was when he arrived in the Wood River Valley. Admission to the Museum is free, Tuesday-Saturday, 10:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m.

**The Community Library**
The Jeanne Rodger Lane Center for Regional History holds books, materials, and objects relating to Hemingway. www.comlib.org 208.726.3493 x111.

**Sun Valley Resort**
Lodge Room #206, the Ram Bar, Duchin Room, and Trail Creek Cabin all have Hemingway connections.

**Hemingway Memorial**
A sculpture of Hemingway overlooks Trail Creek, 1.5 miles from Sun Valley Lodge.

**Ketchum Cemetery**
Hemingway’s grave can be found centrally located, under large evergreen trees, with family and friends buried around him.

**Sawtooth Club, Whiskey Jacques**
These restaurants and bars on the former site of the Alpine Club and Café offered slot machine gambling while it was still legal in Ketchum.

**Casino Bar**
This drinking establishment has undergone few changes since Hemingway’s visits.

**Christiania Restaurant**
Hemingway had dinner here with his wife, Mary, on July 1, 1961, the night before his death.

**Ketchum Korral**
Originally named the MacDonald Cabins, Hemingway first stayed here in 1946.

**Silver Creek Preserve**
(25 miles south)
One of the first places Hemingway visited in 1939, the preserve is open to the public for fishing, picnics, and nature walks. Operated by The Nature Conservancy, there is a visitor center and a Hemingway Memorial. 208.788.2203.

COVER: Ernest Hemingway, Dorothy Boyle Collection, Jeanne Rodger Lane Center for Regional History
MAP: Evelyn Phillips 2023