

OUT OF TOWN

Full steam ahead near Gerlach

In 2016, Burning Man bought Fly Ranch, a property near Gerlach with an other-worldly, geothermal geyser. Since then, two Reno art crews have installed giant sculptures there, marking the

beginning of what may one day be an art park. Jessi Janusee and crew re-built Baba Yaga's House, an opulently detailed story-book cottage from Slavic and Russian folklore, perched on giant steel chicken legs, and Matt Schultz's Pier Group re-erected The Pier, a gently sloping boardwalk to nowhere, replete with bouys and fishing nets. (Disclosure: This author pitched in a little labor on that project.)

For most of the year,



visitors can explore the geyser and The Pier on a ticketed nature walk. Baba Yaga's House is in sight, but docents are still working out the logistics of offering up-close access.

Fly Ranch Operations Manager Zac Cirivello said that ticket sales will be suspended for the duration of this year's Burning Man event, as, last year, "It proved logistically messy."

There are other ways to explore these artworks, too. "We do work weekends throughout the year," said Cirivello. "Friends [of Black Rock High Rock] hosts public campouts, and we have a Guardians program where folks in small groups can be trained as stewards of the property and come camp ... for a few days at a time year-round."

Made in the shade in Fernley

In 2012, Bay Area artists Max Poynton and Andrew Grinberg gathered about 100 volunteers to flatten 75,000 bottle caps, wire them into petal-shaped sheets, and assemble them into a lotus flower atop a sturdy, climbable wooden pavilion. "Bottlecap Gazebo" has been stationed in Fernley, 34 miles from

Access to "Baba Yaga's House" is limited to volunteer groups—at least for now.
PHOTO/COURTESY OF BURNING MAN

Reno, for a few years now. To reach it, take Exit 46 from I-80 and

drive two miles on North Main Street. In addition to being a testament to recycled materials and community efforts, the gazebo is also a lovely place to enjoy what we unequivocally deem the standout sandwich of Lyon County—tandoori chicken on fresh-made naan from Gourmet Deli in the 76 gas station, directly across the street from the sculpture.

Portal to a desert tech park

"Transition Portal" never actually showed at Burning Man. It was commissioned by the Nevada Department of Transportation. But we're going to count it anyway because its creator, Kate Raudenbush, is a frequent Burner artist who's reconciled a strong, Eastern-esque festival aesthetic with the needs of public art and gallery art. Raudenbush aimed to bridge humanity and technology, and the piece is a gateway to a developed industrial park that's home to the Nevada branches of tech companies like Tesla, Google and Switch, situated amid thousands of acres of open space and a lot of wild horses. To find it, Exit I-80 on USA Parkway and drive approximately a quarter mile south. It's on the right. You can't miss it. But be ready to soak it in quickly. There's no parking and no stopping, so this is a drive-by viewing experience only. □

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