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Queen Mine Tour Facts

- February 1976 – the Queen Mine Tour opens as a tourist attraction; Chuck Eads, Bisbee’s mayor at the time, established the mine tour to keep miners employed
- More than 1 million visitors have toured the mine since it opened as a tourist attraction in 1976
- Currently, about 50,000 people tour the Queen Mine each year
- Visitors from all 50 states and more than 30 countries have toured the mine
- Tour participants travel 1,500 feet into the underground mine
- The Queen Mine Tour employs 12 people on a daily basis
- Bisbee’s mines, of which the Queen Mine is just one, include more than 2,500 miles of tunnels

Bisbee’s Mining History tidbits

In 1875, Hugh Jones discovers copper, but leaves, disappointed that it’s not silver.

Two years after Jones leaves, Army scout Jack Dunn finds ore, but is unable to leave his post. George Warren strikes a deal with Dunn and his partners to establish a claim. Later, he loses the stake in a horse race. A colorful character, Warren is on Arizona’s state seal.

San Francisco’s DeWitt Bisbee, purchases the Queen Mine with a group of investors in 1880. The town is later named for Bisbee, but he never visited.

Bisbee’s mines produced:

- 8 billion pounds of copper
- 2.8 million ounces of gold
- 77 million pounds of silver
- 30 million pounds of lead
- 371 million pounds of zinc