

# Blaine County

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# Sandy Shores

Sandy Shores is an unincorporated community located along the Alamo Sea in the heart of [Blaine County](#), [San Andreas](#). Known for its arid climate, rural character and eccentric locals, it provides services for surrounding desert areas.



## History

Originally founded in the late 1800s as a railroad stop, Sandy Shores saw activity surge during the 1920s Alamo Sea dam construction. But declines followed until the town reinvented itself as a gambling resort town in the 1960s.

When [Blaine County](#) outlawed gambling in 1992, Sandy Shores weathered hard times again. Its isolation attracted drug labs and biker gangs filled the area with



thriving in the remote area.

Sandy Shores retains its lightly populated, barren landscape. A boneyard, trailer parks and scattered houses dot the desert scrubland. The core town consists of basic shops and services along a short main street.

The economy relies on passing motorists stopping for gas, the Yellow Jack Inn bar, and local industries like cooking methamphetamine and other drugs. Some residents endeavor in legitimate businesses, though crime persists.

Locals take pride in their renegade attitude far from [Los Santos](#) regulations. Nights bring ghostly echoes across the Alamo Sea's lifeless desert shores. For outsiders, Sandy Shores' desolation harbors unease, yet many call it home.

# About Blaine County

Blaine County is a rural county located in the northern region of the state of [San Andreas](#). With a land area of over 3,000 square miles, it is the largest county in the state, though relatively sparsely populated.

Blaine County contains mountainous forests, lakes, rivers, and high desert landscapes. It is best known for outdoor recreational activities as well as isolated small towns and settlements. Below are details on some of its major population centers.

**Sandy Shores** - A desert town along the Alamo Sea that serves as the county seat. Its economy revolves around serving travelers along Route 13 with motels, trailer parks, and RV camping.

**Paleto Bay** - Situated in a forested valley, Paleto Bay is the most populous town in Blaine County with agriculture and lumber as top industries. It features a historic main street and harbor area.

**Grapeseed** - Primarily a farming town, Grapeseed produces crops like grapes and olives. It consists mostly of cultivated farmland with a main street and small residential areas.

**Harmony** - Founded by hippie communities, Harmony is known for spiritual retreats, new age shops, yoga studios, and organic farms. The relaxed, eccentric culture contrasts with Blaine County's prevailing rural conservatism.

**Stab City** - An illegal shantytown with open drug use and crime. The isolation allows it to exist outside formal governance despite periodic calls to dismantle it.

# Challenges

Blaine County grapples with issues common in remote communities:

- Limited job opportunities and access to services
- High rates of poverty and addiction
- Underfunded schools, libraries, and social programs
- Overreliance on polluting extractive industries
- Lack of high-speed internet connectivity

Nevertheless, natural beauty and small town living continue attracting residents seeking refuge from [San Andreas](#)' urban sprawl.

# Paleto Bay

Paleto Bay is a seaside town located along the western coast of [Blaine County](#), [San Andreas](#). With a population of just under 5,000 people, it is the largest town in [Blaine County](#).

## History

Paleto Bay was founded in 1823 by a group of fishermen and loggers settling in the area. Its economy centered around fishing, logging, and some light industry. In 1868, the famous Paleto Bay Lighthouse was constructed on the shoreline, helping guide ships into the bay.

In the early 20th century, tourism started to grow in Paleto Bay, with city folk coming to enjoy the seaside setting and take fishing trips. The town slowly transitioned to catering more to these tourists. By the 1970s, it had become a popular weekend getaway destination for residents of Los Santos looking to escape the big city.

Despite growth in tourism, Paleto Bay has retained much of its small-town charm and slower pace of life. Many lifelong residents continue to work in traditional industries like fishing, logging and agriculture. The downtown area along the shoreline has several locally-owned businesses, restaurants, and bait shops.

## Geography

Paleto Bay is situated on a small natural bay, providing calm waters sheltered from ocean waves. The shoreline spans approximately 1.5 miles around the bay. The coastal areas back onto heavily forested mountains of the Mount Chiliad range.



The town itself consists of a small downtown with retail stores, government buildings, restaurants, and marina. The residential areas spread inland up into the foothills. The total area of Paleto Bay is roughly 4 square miles.

## Climate

Paleto Bay enjoys a temperate oceanic climate, with cool summers and mild, rainy winters. Average summer highs are in the 80s Fahrenheit, while winter highs are in the 50s. Rainfall averages 50 inches per year, with the most precipitation occurring between November and March. Occasional snowfall can dust the area but seldom accumulates much.

## Government

Paleto Bay has a traditional local government, with a 5-person Town Council and elected Mayor. The Town Hall is located on the downtown Paleto Boulevard. Public services include a volunteer fire department, elementary school, Church and a small public library.





Law enforcement is provided by the [Blaine County Sheriff's Office](#), which has a large station near the main highway leading that goes through the town.

## Tourism and Attractions

Paleto Bay's small-town charm and seaside setting continue to attract tourists and weekend travelers.

Popular attractions include:

- Paleto Bay Beach – Wide sandy beach with a boardwalk, snack bars, and areas for swimming and fishing. Lifeguards are on duty in summer.
- Paleto Lighthouse – Historic 68-foot tall lighthouse first lit in 1868 and still actively maintained by the Coast Guard. Tours available.
- Paleto Forest – Over 6,000 acres of mountain forest with hiking trails leading to scenic overlooks. Popular for hunting and camping.
- Bobcat Creek – Calm creek running through town, ideal for kayaking and fishing. Guided kayak tours available.
- Fishing – Charter boats available for deep sea fishing tours. The bay and

Bobcat Creek are also stocked with trout, bass, and perch.

- Paleto Bay Museum – Located in a historic waterfront building, the museum celebrates the town's history and maritime heritage.





# Grapeseed

A remote farming town in [Blaine County](#), Grapeseed is a quaint rural community often overlooked in favor of [Los Santos](#)' bright lights. But the dusty plains and open fields around Grapeseed see their share of action, especially at the notorious O'Neil farmhouse.

## History

Grapeseed emerged in the late 1800s as a farming hub feeding the growth of [Los Santos](#). Remote and isolated, its location was ideal for cultivating crops. Generations of farm families like the O'Neils put down roots that remain today.

## Today

Beyond its central farmsteads, there is little infrastructure in the area surrounding Grapeseed. The landscape is dominated by dirt roads, fields, and the occasional barn or silo. Daily life moves at a slow pace according to the cycles of planting and harvesting.

The only gas station servicing Grapeseed is an outdated [LTD](#) filling station along Seaview Road. The aging pumps and faded [LTD](#) signs hearken back to simpler times decades ago. The gas station remains a gathering spot for locals to trade gossip and complain about the wider changes in [Blaine County](#) leaving Grapeseed behind.

To the east, the railroads cutting through the farmland are primarily used for freight transportation. However, proposals for commuter lines into [Los Santos](#) occasionally arise in county planning meetings as potential economic development. But longtime Grapeseed residents oppose such moves, believing it would disrupt their way of life.

# Character

Beyond fields of grain, soy and corn, Grapeseed itself is a sleepy single stoplight town. It consists of little more than a diner, bar, gas station, church and post office along its main strip. Residents are known for being old-fashioned, plainspoken and wary of outsiders and the government.

## The O'Neil Farmhouse

The dilapidated O'Neil farmhouse outside Grapeseed holds significance as a backcountry meeting spot and shootout site. Its remote location suited discreet exchanges between criminals like drug and weapons deals.

As police caught on, its isolation also lent itself to dramatic standoffs. A botched sale between biker gangs in 2013 led to a legendary shootout involving dozens of injuries. The farmhouse still bears bullet holes and scorch marks from various confrontations over the years.

Though uncommon these days, the O'Neil farmhouse remains ingrained in Blaine County lore as a landmark tied to the criminal underworld. Both police and crooks know its dirt approach road by heart for the events that unfolded there.

Overall, Grapeseed embraces its peaceful, isolated nature. The slow rhythms of rural life appeal to those uninterested in the rat race of Vinewood and [Los Santos](#). And the open countryside provides room for activities and exchanges that benefit from discretion. For these reasons, Grapeseed persists as a unique holdover to [Blaine County](#)'s roots.

# Harmony

Harmony is an unincorporated community in eastern Blaine County focused on spiritual retreats, new age services, and organic food. Its alternative culture contrasts with the prevailing rural conservatism across much of Blaine County.

Harmony began in the 1970s as members of the San Andreas hippie movement migrated to the remote area to establish art communes and meditation retreats. An eclectic, eccentric community soon emerged.

Today, Harmony offers yoga studios, spiritual counselors, acupuncture, artisanal goods, and organic farms supplying regional markets. The relaxed, communal vibe draws open-minded visitors from across the state.

However, limited amenities and infrastructure partly due to resistance from more traditional county residents inhibits extensive development. Harmony retains a small permanent population.

Supporters in Harmony would like to see more inclusion and reduced stigma from surrounding communities. But many also wish to maintain the town's idyllic scale and focus on holistic living.