

46 ITINERARIES TO BUILD  
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9 SCENIC &  
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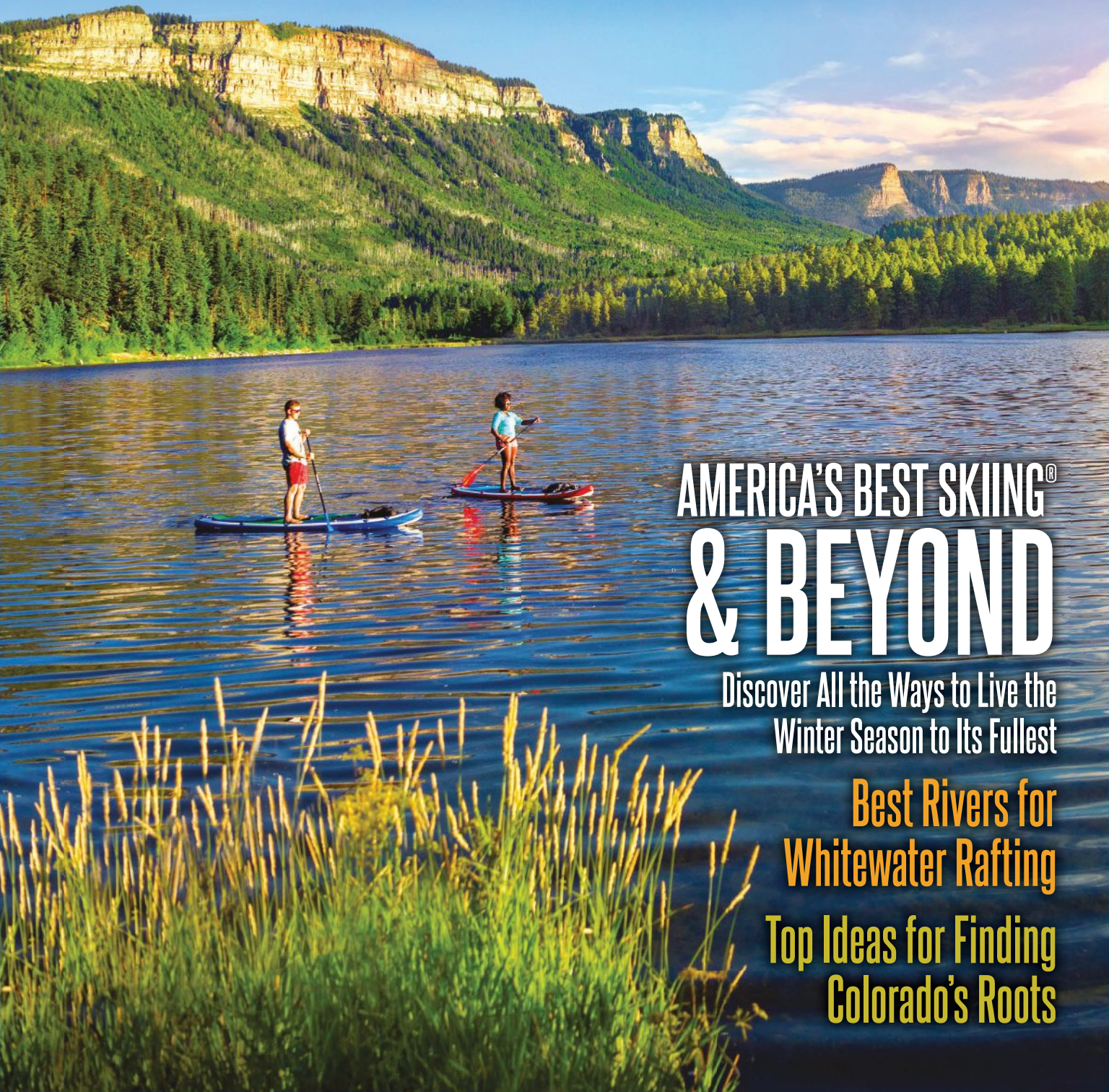
30 HOT SPRINGS  
FOR SERIOUS SOAKS

17 MAGIC MOMENTS  
ON PUBLIC LANDS

# COLORADO

2018 OFFICIAL STATE VACATION GUIDE

Colorado.com



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Whitewater Rafting

Top Ideas for Finding  
Colorado's Roots





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## LEAVE NO TRACE

There are special places and unique vistas around nearly every Colorado corner. You can help ensure these places exist for generations to come by staying on roads and trails, keeping speeds in check, leaving campsites and picnic spots just as you found them, and following informational signs while you're out and about in our state and national parks and other natural attractions. For more on the Leave No Trace movement, visit [LNT.org](http://LNT.org).



To find volunteer opportunities in areas you plan to visit, download the YourCo app.

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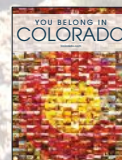
## on the covers



**Summer:** Stand-up paddleboarding on Haviland Lake between Durango and Silverton.  
©Jeff Martin



**Winter:** Backcountry skiing in the 10th Mountain Division Hut System near Leadville.  
©Jason J. Hatfield



**You Belong in Colorado:** Photos by fans of Facebook.com/VisitColorado. Learn more at Colorado.com/GuideCover.



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BLACK CANYON OF THE GUNNISON NATIONAL PARK, TIM KEMPLE.



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ARKANSAS RIVER NEAR BUENA VISTA, TIM KEWPLE





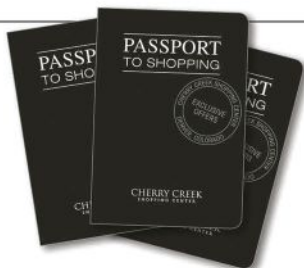
### DENVER'S PREMIER SHOPPING DESTINATION

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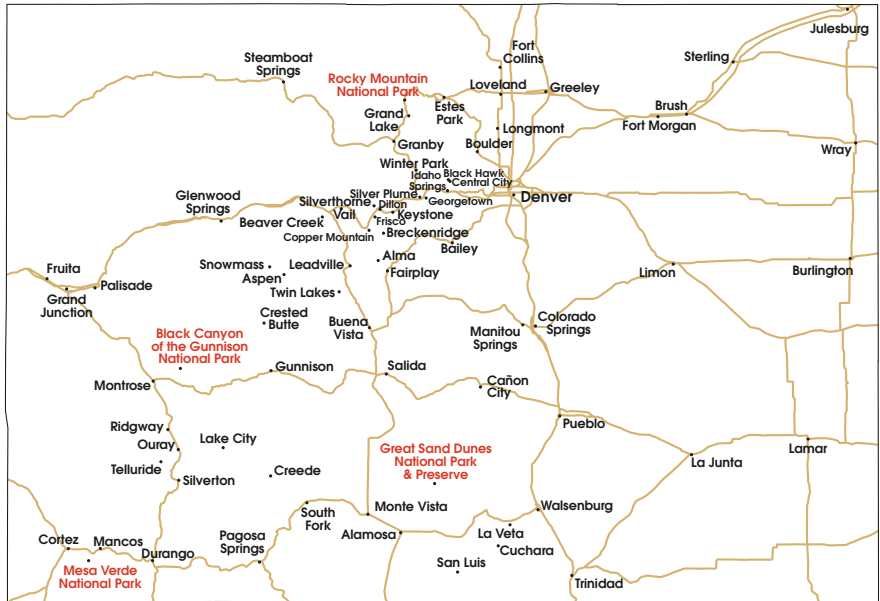
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CLOCKWISE FROM TOP: LEFT: ZAPATA RANCH IN MOSCA, TIM KEMPLE; FISHING NEAR STEAMBOAT SPRINGS, TIM KEMPLE; COTTONWOOD LAKE NEAR BUENA VISTA, TIM KEMPLE.





**STATE OF COLORADO**

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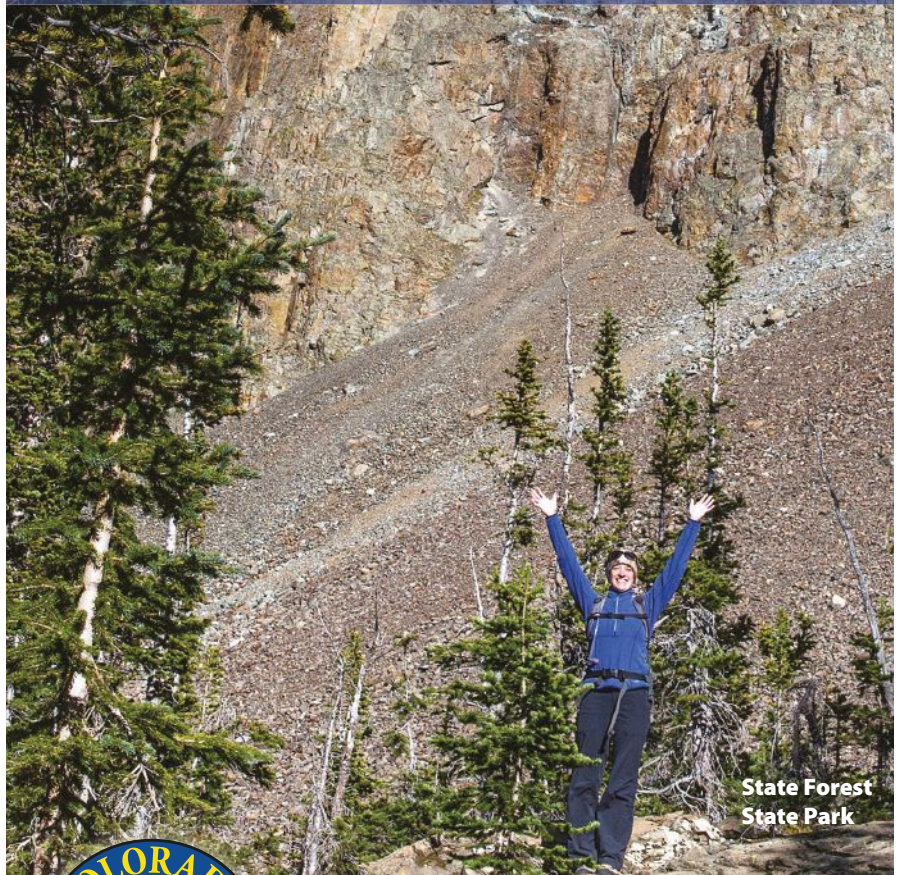
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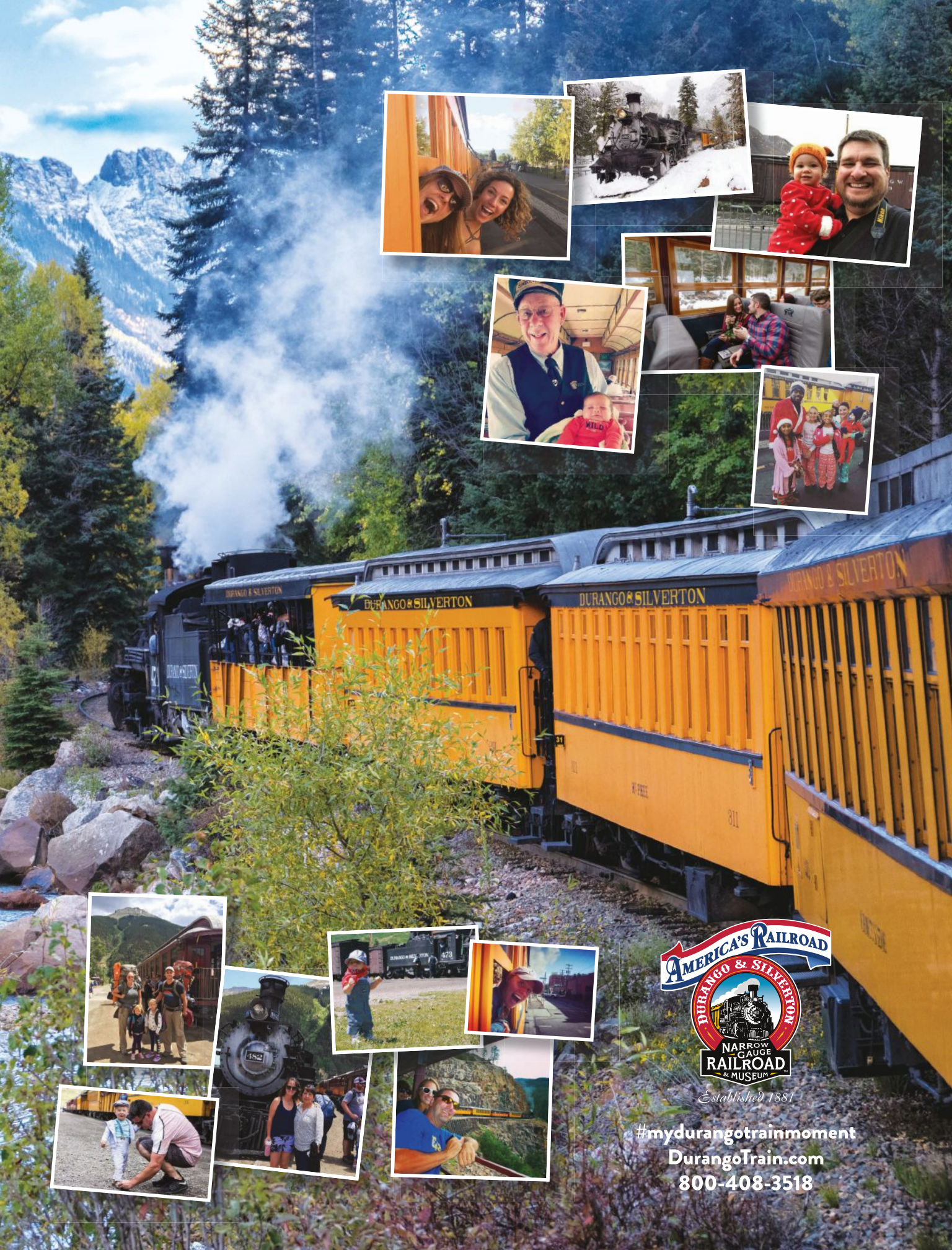


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*Background photo by Bryan Burton*

*Guest photos courtesy of Nancy, Karlee, Ryan, Cristina, Jon, Jeff, Kurt, Maliah, Grace, Lucas, A\_C, Meagan, Heidi, Jeromey, Chad, Brian, Laura, and Angela who've shared their #mydurangotrainmoments.*





Established 1881

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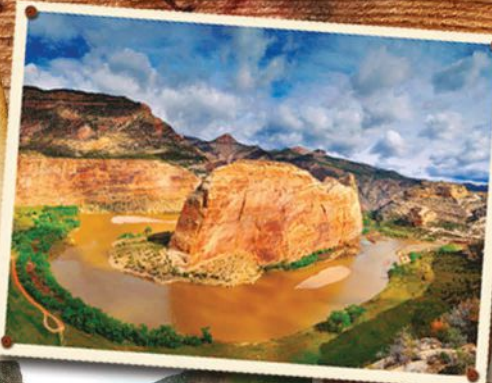
DurangoTrain.com

800-408-3518



**Where the West Runs Wild**

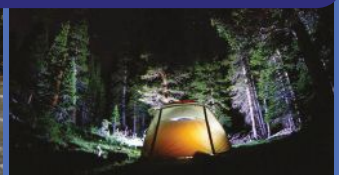
The pioneers called it Colorado's last frontier. It still is. Up in the northwest corner of Colorado, this is where the west runs wild. Wild, untamed rivers wrap through scenic canyons. Wild Horses and migratory elk count as some of the world's largest herds. Get out and hike in Dinosaur National Monument, hide out like an outlaw in Browns Park, or ride the range with some real cowboys. The treasures of Moffat County are yours to explore.



Moffat County Tourism Association  
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# HOW TO USE THIS GUIDE

## COLORADO FIELD GUIDE

ESTABLISHED IN 2017

We have even more itineraries on our website that will get you around Colorado with the ease of a local — especially to the places many visitors don't even know about! Visit [COLORADO.com/FieldGuide](http://COLORADO.com/FieldGuide).

## COLORADO ESSENTIALS

Pages 23–73

These articles are a good overview of all the kinds of things there are to see and do in Colorado, including a few places you can see and do them.

## DETAILED ITINERARIES

Pages 74–84

These trip itineraries are arranged around specific activities and interests.

Pages 88–187

And these ones are arranged around geographical regions. The map on page 88 is a good place to get your bearings before digging into those.

## BUSINESS DIRECTORY

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Arranged alphabetically by city, these business listings will help you locate specific businesses to visit as you plan your trip.

## MAPS!

We know you love maps. Here are four handy ones:

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**STATE & NATIONAL PARKS:**

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## GETTING HERE & AROUND

Pages 13–16

Get tips for navigating this great state.

## INDEXES

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These indexes can help you find content throughout the guide that's related to an area you'd like to visit.





## DOWNLOAD OUR APPS

Take us on the road with you! Head to Apple's app store, Google Play and Amazon's Appstore and search "Colorado vacation guide" for the complete guide.



## VIEW THE VIRTUAL GUIDE

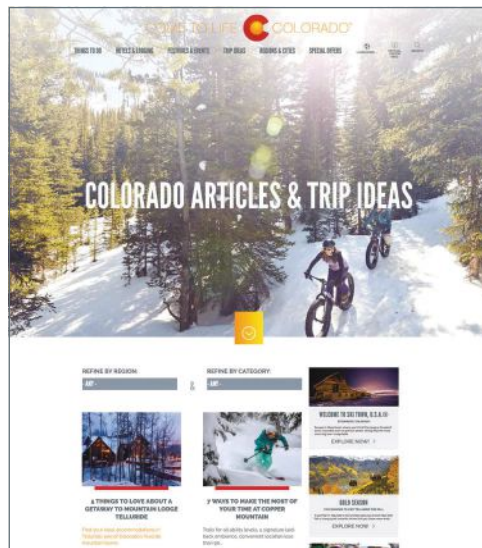
This guide is also available online in case you don't want to share it with your friends. Just send them to [COLORADO.com/Guide](http://COLORADO.com/Guide) where they can see each page in all its virtual glory.

# COLORADO TRAVEL TOOLS

## All You Need to Plan Your Trip

This guide is just one part of your travel-planning toolkit. Get more information about things to see and do, fun events and festivals, and more on [COLORADO.com](http://COLORADO.com), from our apps and on our social media channels.

## COLORADO.COM



### WHAT YOU'LL FIND

- ▶ Get trip ideas from articles and detailed itineraries
- ▶ Find events and special offers to take advantage of during your stay
- ▶ Sign up for our monthly newsletter, which is also packed with trip ideas, events and travel deals
- ▶ Locate restaurants, outdoor outfitters, tour companies and more in the cities and towns you plan to visit



### WHAT'S NEW

- ▶ Check out our new Colorado Outdoor Adventure Blog, with posts by Coloradans doing amazing Colorado things! [BLOG.COLORADO.COM](http://BLOG.COLORADO.COM)
- ▶ Create your own itinerary with our Colorado Field Guide Trip Planner — build, save and share with your vacation companions. [COLORADO.COM/FIELDGUIDE](http://COLORADO.COM/FIELDGUIDE)
- ▶ Share your #ColoradoLive moments and photos on Twitter and Instagram to be entered into random drawings for awesome prizes. [COLORADO.COM/COLORADOLIVE](http://COLORADO.COM/COLORADOLIVE)



## SOCIAL MEDIA

## JOIN THE COLORADO CONVERSATION





# GETTING HERE & GETTING AROUND

Colorado is well connected with the rest of the U.S. and major international destinations. With a strong network of airports, highways, buses and trains, traveling to and around the state is a breeze.



**DENVER HAS NONSTOP SERVICE TO 26 INTERNATIONAL DESTINATIONS IN 11 COUNTRIES:**

- Belize
- Canada
- Costa Rica
- France
- Germany
- Iceland
- Japan
- Mexico
- Panama
- Switzerland
- UK

## TRAVEL BY AIR

**DENVER INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT (DEN)**  
**FLYDENVER.COM, 303-342-2000**  
 As the nation's sixth-busiest airport, DIA offers 190 nonstop domestic and international destinations. Access to mountain resorts and other destinations is easy, and the airport can be reached from downtown Denver via the new Train to the Plane — RTD's A Line commuter rail.

**COLORADO SPRINGS AIRPORT (COS)**  
**FLYCOS.COM, 719-550-1972**  
 Serving Colorado's second-largest city, COS makes the Pikes Peak area easily accessible. Rental car and other transportation options abound. **Year-Round From:** Denver, Atlanta, Chicago (ORD), Dallas (DFW), Fort Myers, Houston (IAH), Las Vegas, Los Angeles, Orlando, Phoenix (AZA & PHX), Salt Lake City, San Diego, San Francisco, Seattle, Tampa, Washington (IAD)

**ALAMOSA-SAN LUIS VALLEY REGIONAL AIRPORT (ALS)**  
**ALAMOSACOUNTY.ORG, 719-589-4848**  
**Good for Visiting:** Alamosa, Monte Vista, Great Sand Dunes National Park and Preserve, South Fork, Crestone, Salida, Wolf Creek and Pagosa Springs **Year-Round From:** Denver, Albuquerque

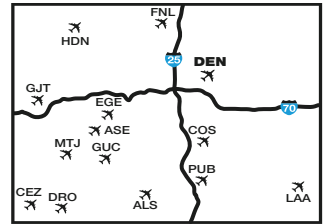
**ASPEN/PITKIN COUNTY AIRPORT (ASE)**  
**ASPENAIRPORT.COM, 970-920-5384**  
**Good for Visiting:** Aspen, Snowmass, Basalt, Leadville and Glenwood Springs **Year-Round From:** Denver, Chicago (ORD), Dallas (DFW), Los Angeles **Seasonal From:** Atlanta, Houston (IAH), Minneapolis - St. Paul, Salt Lake City, San Francisco

**CORTEZ MUNICIPAL AIRPORT (CEZ)**  
**CITYOFCORTEZ.COM, 970-565-7458**  
**Good for Visiting:** Cortez, Dolores, Mesa Verde National Park and Mancos **Year-Round From:** Denver, Phoenix (PHX)

**DURANGO/LA PLATA COUNTY AIRPORT (DRO)**  
**FLYDURANGO.COM, 970-382-6050**  
**Good for Visiting:** Durango, Cortez, Mesa Verde National Park, Silverton and Pagosa Springs **Year-Round From:** Denver, Dallas (DFW), Phoenix (PHX) **Seasonal From:** Los Angeles

**EAGLE COUNTY REGIONAL AIRPORT (EGE)**  
**FLYVAIL.COM, 970-524-8246**  
**Good for Visiting:** Vail, Beaver Creek and Glenwood Springs **Year-Round From:** Denver **Seasonal From:** Atlanta, Chicago (ORD), Dallas (DFW), Houston (IAH), Los Angeles, Miami, New York (JFK), Newark, Phoenix (PHX), Toronto, Washington (IAD)

**GRAND JUNCTION REGIONAL AIRPORT (GJT)**  
**GJAIRPORT.COM, 970-244-9100**  
 GJT is the largest airport in Western Colorado and the third largest airport in the state. Five major airlines offer non-stop service to six destinations. **Year-Round From:** Centennial (APA), Denver, Dallas (DFW), Las Vegas, Phoenix (PHX), Salt Lake City **Seasonal From:** Los Angeles



**GUNNISON-CRESTED BUTTE AIRPORT (GUC)**  
**GUNNISONCOUNTY.ORG / 131/AIRPORT, 800-814-7988**  
**Good for Visiting:** Gunnison and Crested Butte **Year-Round From:** Denver **Seasonal From:** Chicago (ORD), Dallas (DFW), Houston (IAH), Los Angeles

**MONTROSE REGIONAL AIRPORT (MTJ)**  
**MONTROSEAIRPORT.COM, 970-249-3203**  
**Good for Visiting:** Montrose, Ouray, Ridgway, Telluride and Delta **Year-Round From:** Denver **Seasonal From:** Atlanta, Chicago (ORD), Dallas (DFW), Houston (IAH), Los Angeles, Newark, New York (LGA), Phoenix (PHX), San Francisco

**NORTHERN COLORADO REGIONAL AIRPORT (FNL)**  
**FLYNOCO.COM, 970-962-2852**  
**Good for Visiting:** Fort Collins, Loveland and Greeley **Year-Round From:** TBA

**PUEBLO MEMORIAL AIRPORT (PUB)**  
**FLYPUEBLO.COM, 719-553-2760**  
**Good for Visiting:** Pueblo, Cañon City, La Junta and Walsenburg **Year-Round From:** Denver

**TELLURIDE REGIONAL AIRPORT (TEX)**  
**TELLURIDEAIRPORT.COM, 970-728-8600**  
**Good for Visiting:** Telluride **Year-Round From:** Denver

**YAMPA VALLEY REGIONAL AIRPORT (HDN)**  
**YAMPAVALLEYREGIONALAIRPORT.COM, 970-276-5001**  
**Good for Visiting:** Steamboat Springs and Craig **Year-Round From:** Denver **Seasonal From:** Atlanta, Austin, Chicago (ORD), Dallas (DFW), Houston (IAH), Kansas City, Los Angeles, Minneapolis - St. Paul, Newark, San Diego, San Francisco, Seattle, Washington (IAD)

DESTINATIONS SUBJECT TO CHANGE





## TRAVEL BY TRAIN

In addition to historic and scenic railroads, Colorado offers modern and convenient train-travel options. Amtrak's California Zephyr line makes the trip from Chicago, to Emeryville, California. On its way, it makes a stop in Denver and passes through Fort Morgan, Fraser, Granby, Glenwood Springs and Grand Junction. The South-west Chief goes from Chicago to Los Angeles, with Colorado stops in Lamar, La Junta and Trinidad.

*In 2016, the wildly popular "ski train" returned to ferry skiers and boarders from Denver's Union Station right to the base area of Winter Park Resort. The Winter Park Express, as it's formally known, zips winter lovers straight to the slopes in just two hours on Saturdays, Sundays and select Mondays or Fridays, typically January through March.*

Visit [amtrak.com](http://amtrak.com) and see page 58 for scenic and historic railroads.

## TRAVEL BY BUS & LIGHT RAIL

Several options exist for travel between Colorado's cities.

RTD, Denver's public transportation network is easy and inexpensive, and you can get pretty much anywhere in Denver by light rail or bus. The system of buses and light rail also serves cities and towns in the six counties that surround Denver, including Boulder, Longmont, Aurora, Littleton, Lakewood, Golden, Arvada and others. Additionally:

- ▶ The RTD A Line is the new Train to the Plane, running between downtown Denver and DIA. For \$9, riders have access to the entire RTD system. There's also the SkyRide Bus, which runs between DIA and Thornton, Brighton, Boulder, the Denver Tech Center and Aurora. [rtd-denver.com](http://rtd-denver.com)
- ▶ The Flatiron Flyer rapid-transit bus connects Denver and Boulder. [rtd-denver.com/flatiron-flyer.shtml](http://rtd-denver.com/flatiron-flyer.shtml)
- ▶ Bustang connects Denver, Colorado Springs, Loveland, Fort Collins, Idaho Springs, Frisco, Vail, Eagle, Glenwood Springs and more. [ridebustang.com](http://ridebustang.com)
- ▶ FLEX is a regional bus route between Fort Collins, Loveland, Longmont and Boulder. [ridetransfort.com/flex](http://ridetransfort.com/flex)
- ▶ The Prospector connects Idaho Springs and Georgetown, as well as the Idaho Springs Bustang stop. [co.clear-creek.co.us](http://co.clear-creek.co.us)
- ▶ Summit Stage is a free bus between Keystone, Dillon, Silverthorne, Frisco and Breckenridge. [summitcountyco.gov](http://summitcountyco.gov)
- ▶ Road Runner Stage Lines runs daily between Durango, Cortez, Telluride, Montrose, Delta, Grand Junction and more. [roadrunnerstagelines.com](http://roadrunnerstagelines.com)
- ▶ The Gunnison Valley RTA runs between Denver, Fairplay, Buena Vista, Salida, Pueblo and Gunnison. [gunnisonvalleyrta.com](http://gunnisonvalleyrta.com)
- ▶ The Roaring Fork Transit Authority runs between Aspen, Carbondale, Glenwood Springs, Snowmass, Rifle and more. [rfta.com](http://rfta.com)
- ▶ The Front Range Ski Bus has service Wednesday to Sunday from Denver to Loveland Ski Area and Copper Mountain Resort in the winter. [frontrangeskibus.com](http://frontrangeskibus.com)
- ▶ Greyhound buses run between Denver and Colorado Springs, Fort Collins, Pueblo and Grand Junction. [greyhound.com](http://greyhound.com)
- ▶ Several private shuttles run between Colorado cities, ski towns and airports. [COLORADO.com/Shuttles](http://COLORADO.com/Shuttles)

## DRIVE DISTANCES IN MILES

	ALAMOSA	BURLINGTON	COLO. SPRINGS	DENVER	DURANGO	FORT COLLINS	GLENWOOD	GRAND JCT.	JULESBURG	LAMAR	PUEBLO	STERLING	TRINIDAD
ALAMOSA	-	296	163	212	149	274	204	249	393	202	122	335	109
BURLINGTON	296	-	150	163	445	224	324	412	123	107	191	141	237
COLO. SPRINGS	163	150	-	70	302	132	198	287	240	159	42	182	127
DENVER	212	163	70	-	332	65	159	248	182	203	112	125	197
DURANGO	149	445	302	332	-	394	231	169	512	351	271	454	259
FORT COLLINS	274	224	132	65	394	-	220	308	162	264	174	102	259
GLENWOOD	204	324	198	159	231	220	-	89	339	345	227	280	283
GRAND JCT.	249	412	287	248	169	308	89	-	427	405	287	379	334
JULESBURG	393	123	240	182	512	162	339	427	-	230	280	59	336
LAMAR	202	107	159	203	351	264	345	405	230	-	119	224	136
PUEBLO	122	191	42	112	271	174	227	287	280	119	-	221	86
STERLING	335	141	182	125	454	102	280	379	59	224	221	-	277
TRINIDAD	109	237	127	197	259	259	283	334	336	136	86	277	-



# COLORADO WEATHER

With 300 days of annual sunshine, mild temperatures and record snowfalls, there's never a bad time to come to Colorado. Here's some helpful Colorado weather information to help you when planning your next Colorado adventure.

**SHARE WITH US!**  
Share your #ColoradoLive moments and cool Colorado photos on Twitter and Instagram to be entered into random drawings for awesome monthly prizes.

Each year Colorado receives:

**300 DAYS OF SUNSHINE**



**MORE THAN 300 INCHES OF SNOW AT EACH MOUNTAIN RESORT**



**AN AVERAGE OF 16.5 INCHES OF PRECIPITATION**  
(8 at lower elevations and 23 at higher elevations)



**33 PERCENT AVERAGE HUMIDITY**



**FIRST SNOW USUALLY ARRIVES IN SEPTEMBER**

(though it usually snows somewhere in the state every month, except maybe August)



## AVERAGE HIGH/LOW TEMPERATURES

	summer temperatures °F						winter temperatures °F					
	APRIL	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG	SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR
ASPEN	49/20	61/29	72/34	79/40	77/39	69/32	58/23	42/13	33/4	31/0	35/2	40/12
BURLINGTON	61/33	71/43	82/54	88/59	85/57	76/48	66/36	51/24	41/15	40/13	44/17	51/23
DENVER	61/34	70/43	81/52	88/58	85/56	76/47	66/36	52/25	44/14	43/16	46/20	52/25
DURANGO	61/26	71/33	83/41	87/49	84/47	76/39	65/29	51/20	41/10	38/6	44/13	52/20
STEAMBOAT SPRINGS	51/23	62/31	72/38	77/45	75/43	68/35	57/26	42/16	32/7	31/5	35/7	41/14

## Colorado Weather Resources

**ROAD CONDITIONS:** Visit [cotrip.org](http://cotrip.org) (or call 511 when in Colorado)

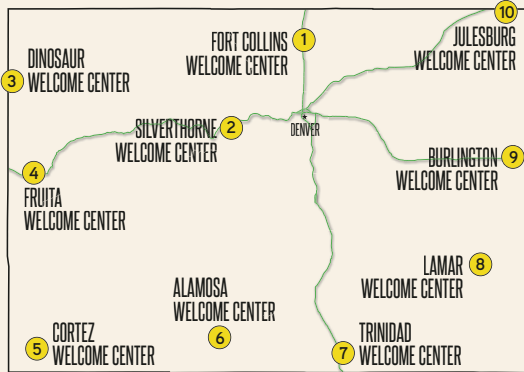
Colorado Department of Transportation Travel Center (road conditions/closures, winter driving tips, rest areas, etc.)



# COLORADO WELCOME CENTERS

If you want to get in touch with knowledgeable locals during your visit, all you need to do is head to one of the 10 Colorado Welcome Centers. There's one located in each corner of the state and at both ends of the major interstates that bisect the state — I-25 and I-70.

Stop by for personable, face-to-face travel advice, and take your pick from scores of maps, brochures and regional guides. The coffee is always hot, and each center has Internet access and clean restrooms, as well as information on weather and road conditions.



- (1) FORT COLLINS**  
3745 E. Prospect Rd.,  
I-25 at exit 268, 970-491-3583  
Situated near the Wyoming border.
- (2) SILVERTHORNE**  
246 Rainbow Dr.,  
970-468-0353  
Located just off I-70 in Summit County.
- (3) DINOSAUR**  
101 E. Stegosaurus St.,  
U.S. Hwy. 40, 970-374-2205  
Located near Utah and Dinosaur National Monument.
- (4) FRUITA**  
340 Hwy. 340, I-70 at exit 19,  
970-858-9335  
Located near the Utah border.
- (5) CORTEZ**  
928 E. Main St., U.S. Hwy.  
160/491, 970-565-4048  
Located near the Four Corners area.

- (6) ALAMOSA**  
610 State Ave., U.S. Hwy. 160  
and State Ave., 719-589-4840  
On your way in from New Mexico at the intersection of highways 160 and 285.
- (7) TRINIDAD**  
309 Nevada Ave., 719-846-9512  
Found near the New Mexico border.
- (8) LAMAR**  
109 E. Beech St., U.S. Hwy. 50,  
719-336-3483  
Situated near the Kansas border.
- (9) BURLINGTON**  
48265 I-70, I-70 between  
exits 437 and 438, 719-346-5554  
Located along the Kansas border.
- (10) JULESBURG**  
20934 C.R. 28, I-76 at exit 180  
970-474-2054  
Found in the northeast corner of Colorado.

## GET THE GEAR

As you travel Colorado's roads, keep an eye out for the locally made products that help Coloradans explore our great outdoors:

### SKIS, SNOWBOARDS & ACCESSORIES:

Icelandic (Golden), Wagner (Telluride), Meier (Denver), Apex Ski Boots (Golden), Bishop Binding Co (Edwards), Never Summer (Denver), All Boards Sports (Boulder), Faction Skis (Breckenridge), Folsom Custom Skis (Denver), High Society (Aspen), Liberty Skis (Avon), OZ Snowboards (Wheat Ridge), Rocky Mountain Underground (Breckenridge), Sick Stickz (Denver), Unity Snowboards (Silverthorne), Venture Snowboards (Silverton), Grace Skis (Gypsum)

### PACKS & BAGS:

Osprey (Cortez), Kelty (Boulder), MHM (Denver), Topo Designs (Denver), Mountainsmith (Golden)

### BIKES:

Yeti Cycles (Golden), Moots Cycles (Steamboat Springs)

### PERFORMANCE CLOTHING & OUTERWEAR:

Smartwool (Steamboat Springs), Shredly (Carbondale), Melanzana (Leadville), Voormi (Pagosa Springs), Pearl Izumi (Louisville), Spyder Active Sports (Boulder), Mountain Standard (Boulder), Pactima (Greenwood Village), Loki (Grand Junction), Janska (Colorado Springs), CG Habitats (Denver), Dynafit (Boulder), Flylow Gear (Denver), Obermeyer Ski Clothing (Aspen), Point6 (Steamboat Springs), Strafe (Aspen), Freeride Systems (Leadville)

### FOOTWEAR:

La Sportiva (Boulder), Crocs (Niwot), Newton Running Company (Boulder), Pakems (Highlands Ranch)

### OUTDOOR-ADVENTURE GEAR:

Big Agnes (Steamboat Springs), Sea to Summit (Boulder), Purl Wax (Dillon), Tenkara fly-fishing equipment (Boulder), Sierra Designs (Boulder), Scott Fly Rods (Montrose), OtterBox waterproof cases (Fort Collins), Ultimate Direction hydration packs (Boulder), Backcountry Access (Boulder), Ecovessel (Boulder), Badfish Stand Up Paddleboards (Salida), Native Eyewear (Longmont), Zeal Optics (Boulder)



FROM TOP: MELANZANA; SPYDER SKI APPAREL; TOPO DESIGNS; TOPO DESIGNS



# NAVIGATE COLORADO

Colorado is the eighth-largest state in the U.S., measuring 380 miles east to west and 280 miles north to south. Yes, that's more than 100,000 total square miles to explore. Luckily, with so much to see and do, Colorado is very easy to navigate. The itineraries starting on page 88 will give you ideas for exploring each corner of the state — and everywhere in between. Turn to page 41 for a map of Colorado State Parks and National Parks.

If you already know exactly where you want to go, use the list below to locate a specific city or town. Then, check the index on page 208 to locate articles and businesses in the cities you plan to visit.

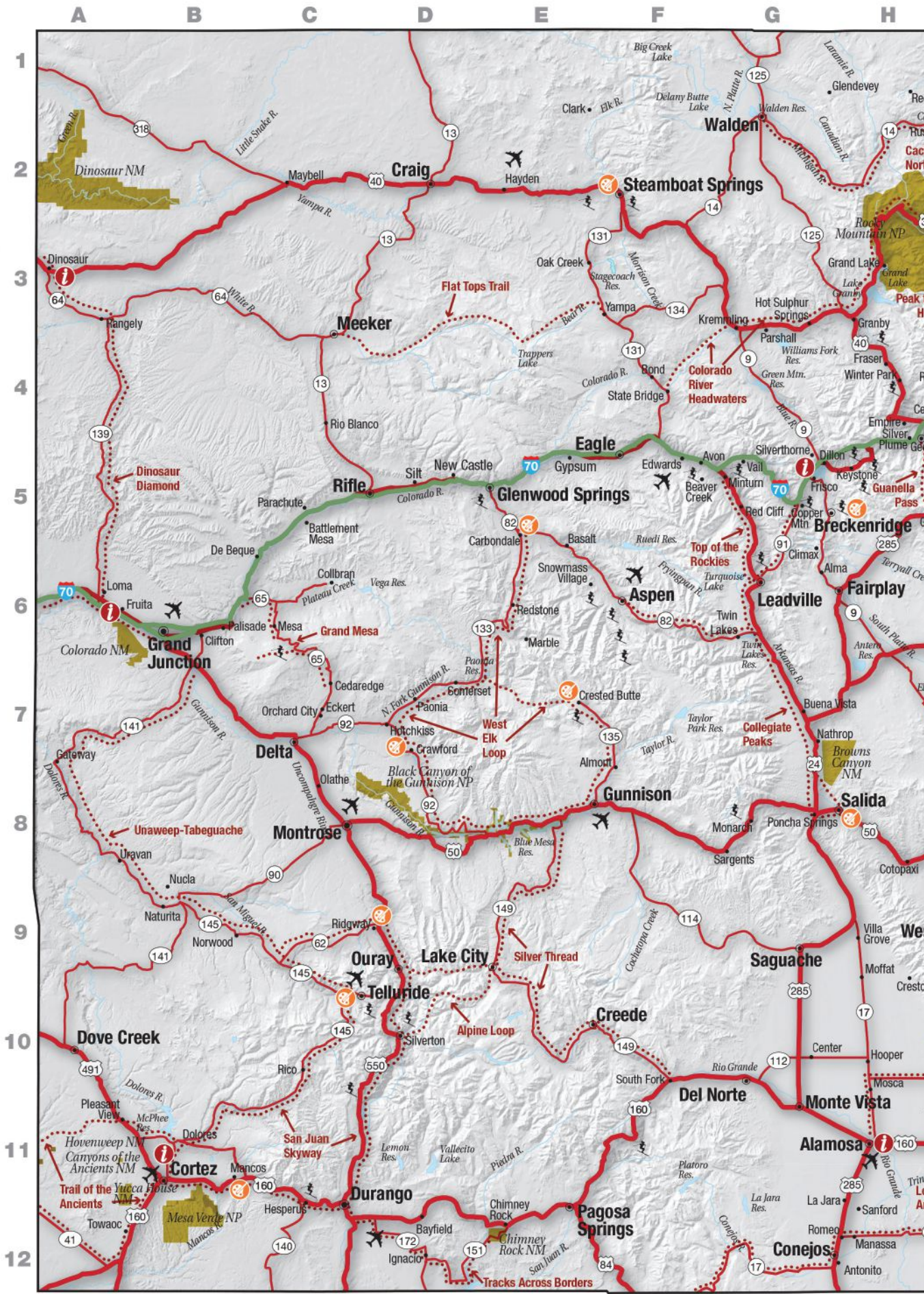


Alamosa..... 719-589-4840.. H-11  
 Burlington..... 719-346-5554..... P-6  
 Cortez..... 970-565-4048... A-11  
 Dinosaur..... 970-374-2205..... A-3  
 Fort Collins.... 970-491-3583..... J-2  
 Fruita..... 970-858-9335..... A-6  
 Julesburg..... 970-474-2054..... P-1  
 Lamar..... 719-336-3483..... O-9  
 Silverthorne.. 970-468-0353..... G-5  
 Trinidad..... 719-846-9512.... K-12

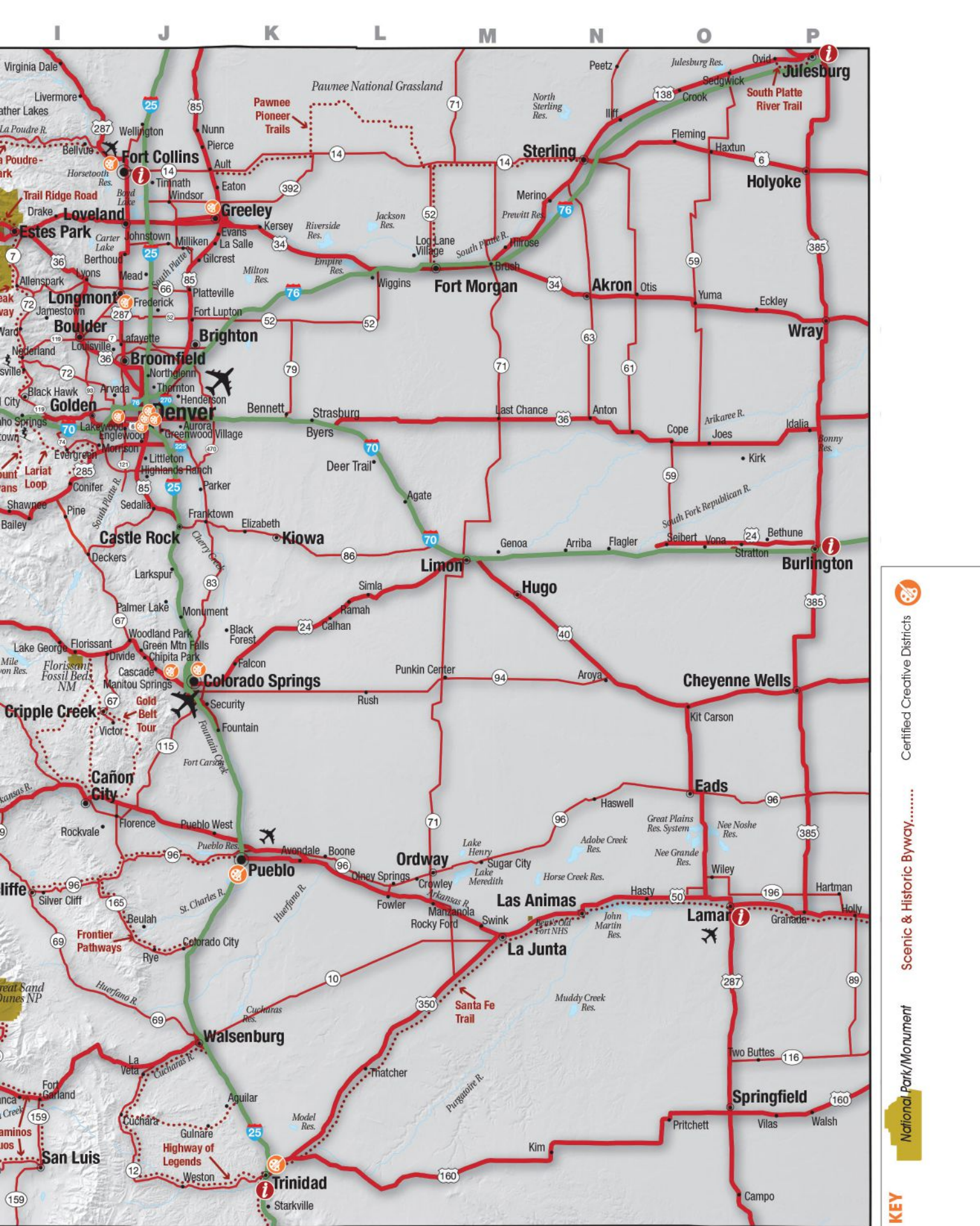


City	Map Location	City	Map Location	City	Map Location	City	Map Location
Agate.....	L-5	Conifer.....	I-5	Glenwood Springs.....	E-5	Mancos.....	B-11
Aguilar.....	K-11	Cope.....	N-5	Golden.....	I-4	Manitou Springs.....	J-7
Akron.....	N-3	Copper Mountain.....	G-5	Granada.....	P-9	Manzanola.....	L-9
Alamosa.....	H-11	Cortez.....	A-11	Granby.....	H-3	Marble.....	E-6
Allenspark.....	I-3	Cotopaxi.....	H-8	Grand Junction.....	B-6	Marshall.....	I-4
Alma.....	G-6	Craig.....	D-2	Grand Lake.....	H-3	Maybell.....	C-2
Almont.....	E-7	Crawford.....	D-7	Grant.....	H-5	Mead.....	J-3
Anton.....	N-4	Creede.....	E-10	Greeley.....	J-3	Meeker.....	C-4
Antonito.....	G-12	Crested Butte.....	E-7	Green Mtn. Falls.....	J-7	Merino.....	M-2
Arboles.....	D-12	Crestone.....	H-9	Greenwood Village.....	J-5	Mesa.....	C-6
Aroya.....	N-7	Cripple Creek.....	I-7	Grover.....	K-1	Mesa Verde.....	B-12
Arriba.....	N-6	Crook.....	N-1	Gunnison.....	E-8	Milliken.....	J-3
Arvada.....	J-4	Crowley.....	L-9	Gypsum.....	E-5	Minturn.....	J-2
Aspen.....	F-6	Cuchara.....	J-11	Hartman.....	P-8	Moffat.....	H-9
Aspen Park.....	I-4	Dacono.....	J-3	Hasty.....	N-9	Monarch.....	G-8
Ault.....	J-2	De Beque.....	C-5	Haswell.....	N-8	Monte Vista.....	G-11
Aurora.....	J-5	Deckers.....	I-6	Haxtun.....	O-2	Montrose.....	C-8
Avon.....	F-5	Deer Trail.....	L-5	Hayden.....	E-2	Monument.....	J-6
Avondale.....	K-9	Del Norte.....	G-10	Heeney.....	G-4	Morrison.....	I-5
Bailey.....	I-5	Delta.....	C-7	Henderson.....	J-4	Mosca.....	H-10
Basalt.....	E-5	Denver.....	J-4	Hesperus.....	C-12	Mountain View.....	I-4
Bayfield.....	D-12	Dillon.....	G-5	Highlands Ranch.....	J-5	Mt. Crested Butte.....	E-7
Battlement Mesa.....	C-5	Dinosaur.....	A-3	Hillrose.....	M-3	Naturita.....	B-9
Beaver Creek.....	F-5	Divide.....	I-7	Holly.....	P-9	Nathrop.....	G-8
Bellvue.....	I-2	Dolores.....	B-11	Holyoke.....	P-2	Nederland.....	I-4
Bennett.....	K-4	Dove Creek.....	A-10	Hooper.....	H-10	New Castle.....	D-5
Berthoud.....	I-3	Drake.....	I-2	Hotchkiss.....	D-7	Niwot.....	I-3
Bethune.....	O-6	Durango.....	C-12	Hot Sulphur Springs.....	G-4	Northglenn.....	J-4
Beulah.....	J-9	Eads.....	O-8	Hudson.....	K-4	Norwood.....	B-9
Black Forest.....	J-6	Eagle.....	F-5	Hugo.....	M-6	Nucla.....	B-9
Black Hawk.....	I-4	Eastlake.....	J-4	Idaho Springs.....	I-4	Nunn.....	J-2
Blanca.....	H-11	Eaton.....	J-2	Idalia.....	P-4	Oak Creek.....	E-3
Blue River.....	G-5	Eckert.....	C-7	Ignacio.....	D-12	Olathe.....	C-8
Bond.....	F-4	Eckley.....	O-3	Iliff.....	N-1	Olney Springs.....	L-9
Boone.....	K-9	Edgewater.....	J-5	Jamestown.....	I-3	Orchard.....	L-2
Boulder.....	I-4	Edwards.....	F-5	Joes.....	O-5	Orchard City.....	C-7
Bow Mar.....	J-5	Elbert.....	K-6	Johnstown.....	J-3	Ordway.....	M-9
Breckenridge.....	G-5	Eldorado Springs.....	I-4	Julesburg.....	P-1	Otis.....	N-3
Brighton.....	J-4	Elizabeth.....	K-6	Keenesburg.....	K-3	Ouray.....	D-9
Bristol.....	P-9	Empire.....	H-4	Kersey.....	K-3	Ovid.....	O-1
Broomfield.....	I-4	Englewood.....	J-5	Keystone.....	G-5	Pagosa Springs.....	E-12
Brush.....	M-3	Erie.....	J-4	Kim.....	N-12	Palisade.....	C-6
Buena Vista.....	G-7	Estes Park.....	I-3	Kiowa.....	K-6	Palmer Lake.....	J-6
Buford.....	D-4	Evans.....	J-3	Kirk.....	O-5	Paonia.....	D-7
Burlington.....	P-6	Evergreen.....	I-5	Kit Carson.....	O-7	Parachute.....	C-5
Byers.....	K-5	Fairplay.....	G-6	Kremmling.....	G-4	Parker.....	J-5
Calhan.....	K-7	Falcon.....	J-7	Lafayette.....	I-4	Parshall.....	G-3
Campo.....	O-12	Federal Heights.....	J-4	La Jara.....	H-12	Peetz.....	N-1
Cañon City.....	I-8	Firestone.....	J-3	La Junta.....	M-10	Pierce.....	J-2
Carbondale.....	E-5	Flagler.....	N-6	La Salle.....	J-3	Pine.....	I-5
Cascade.....	J-7	Fleming.....	N-2	La Veta.....	J-11	Pitkin.....	F-7
Castle Rock.....	J-6	Florence.....	I-8	Lake City.....	D-9	Platteville.....	J-3
Cedaredge.....	C-7	Fort Carson.....	J-8	Lake George.....	I-7	Poncha Springs.....	G-8
Centennial.....	J-5	Fort Collins.....	I-2	Lakewood.....	J-5	Pritchett.....	O-11
Center.....	G-10	Fort Garland.....	I-11	Lamar.....	O-9	Prowers.....	O-9
Central City.....	I-4	Fort Lupton.....	J-3	Larkspur.....	J-6	Pueblo.....	K-9
Cheraw.....	M-9	Fort Morgan.....	L-3	Las Animas.....	N-9	Pueblo West.....	J-8
Cherry Hills Village.....	J-5	Fountain.....	J-8	Last Chance.....	M-4	Punkin Center.....	M-7
Cheyenne Wells.....	P-7	Fowler.....	L-9	Leadville.....	G-6	Ramah.....	I-6
Chimney Rock.....	D-12	Franktown.....	J-5	Limon.....	M-6	Rangely.....	A-3
Chipita Park.....	J-7	Fraser.....	H-4	Littleton.....	J-5	Red Cliff.....	G-5
Clark.....	E-1	Frederick.....	J-3	Livermore.....	I-2	Red Feather Lakes.....	H-1
Clifton.....	B-6	Frisco.....	G-5	Lochbuie.....	J-4	Redstone.....	E-6
Climax.....	G-5	Fruita.....	A-6	Log Lane Village.....	L-3	Ridgway.....	C-9
Colbran.....	C-6	Gateway.....	A-7	Loma.....	A-6	Rifle.....	D-5
Colorado City.....	J-10	Genoa.....	M-6	Longmont.....	I-3	Rio Blanco.....	G-4
Colorado Springs.....	J-7	Georgetown.....	H-5	Louisville.....	I-4	Rockvale.....	I-8
Columbine Valley.....	J-5	Gilcrest.....	J-3	Loveland.....	I-3	Rocky Ford.....	M-9
Commerce City.....	J-4	Glendale.....	J-5	Lyons.....	I-3	Rollinsville.....	I-4
Conejos.....	G-12	Glendevy.....	G-1	Manassa.....	H-12	Romeo.....	G-12









**KEY**

- National Park/Monument
- Scenic & Historic Byway.....
- Certified Creative Districts



# Blue Sky's the Limit



When you're in The Mile High City, you'll see that art extends beyond gallery walls, and you can experience music just as Mother Nature intends at Red Rocks Park & Amphitheatre. Explore the city's craft beer on the Denver Beer Trail, check out chef-driven restaurants and find adventures for all ages. Learn more at [VISITDENVER.COM](http://VISITDENVER.COM)

## Summer Holidays

**MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND**  
May 25–28  
Denver Day of Rock

**4<sup>TH</sup> OF JULY CELEBRATION**  
June 30–July 4  
Independence Eve Fireworks

**LABOR DAY WEEKEND**  
Aug. 31–Sept. 3  
A Taste of Colorado

## Blockbuster Events

**DENVER RESTAURANT WEEK**  
Feb. 23–March 4  
Throughout Denver

**CHERRY CREEK  
ARTS FESTIVAL**  
July 6–8  
Cherry Creek North

**DENVER BEER FEST**  
Sept. 14–22  
Throughout Denver

**RED ROCKS SUMMER  
CONCERT SERIES**  
All Summer Long  
Red Rocks Park & Amphitheatre

**VELORAMA &  
COLORADO CLASSIC**  
Aug. 16–19  
RiNo Neighborhood

**DENVER ARTS WEEK**  
Nov. 2–10  
Throughout Denver

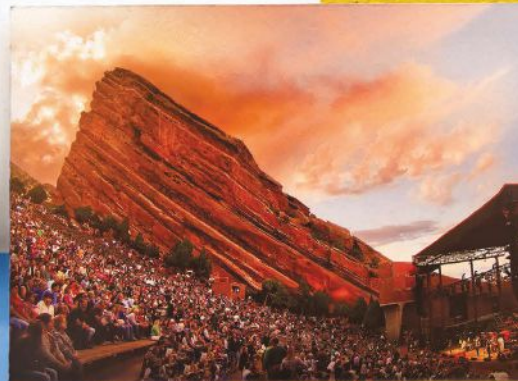
## Cultural Exhibitions

**DEGAS: A PASSION FOR PERFECTION**  
Feb. 11–May 20  
Denver Art Museum

**CREATURES OF LIGHT**  
Feb. 23–June 17  
Denver Museum of Nature & Science

**THE DEAD SEA SCROLLS**  
March 16–Sept. 3  
Denver Museum of Nature & Science

**DIOR: FROM PARIS TO THE WORLD**  
Nov. 18–March 3, 2019  
Denver Art Museum



Soak it all in  
[VISITDENVER.COM](http://VISITDENVER.COM)





# TRANSLATING COLORADO

Coloradans have a funny way of saying lots of things. Here's a short list of terms to know that will make you feel right at home in the Centennial State *(see definition below!)*.

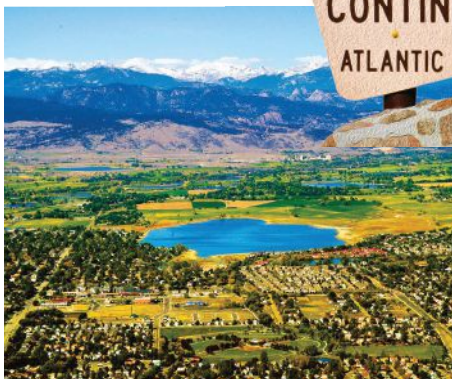
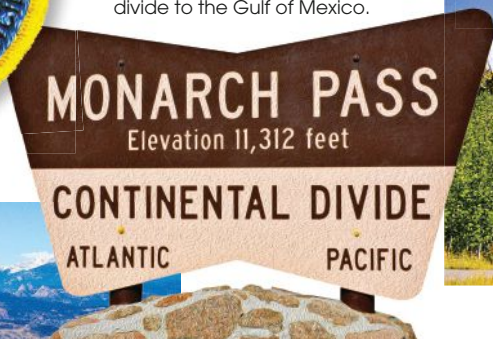
## ▼ FOURTEENER

These are peaks that rise more than 14,000 feet above sea level. We've got 58 of them, more than any other state. Hardy hikers aim to "bag" — or summit — all of them.



## ▼ THE DIVIDE

Also known as the Continental Divide, this ridge runs along the crests of the Rocky Mountains north to south; rivers and streams west of the divide flow to the Pacific Ocean, and east of the divide to the Gulf of Mexico.



## ◀ 5280

Denver is the Mile High City because it sits 5,280 feet (or one mile) above sea level. If you like to be precise, the 13th step of the Colorado State Capitol Building will put you exactly at 5280. *(Pronounced: fifty-two eighty)*



## ▲ WESTERN SLOPE

This region is found on the western side of the Continental Divide. It's home to the Grand Mesa, the largest flattop mountain in the world (around Grand Junction).

## ◀ FRONT RANGE

Where the Rocky Mountains gently slope down and transition to the eastern plains. Home to Denver and other populous cities like Fort Collins, Boulder, Colorado Springs and Pueblo.



## ▲ FOUR CORNERS

The point where the borders of Colorado, New Mexico, Arizona and Utah come together at one point in our extreme southwest corner.

## ▶ CENTENNIAL STATE

Colorado's official nickname refers to the year we were admitted to the union. That happened in 1876, which was the centennial anniversary (100 years) of the United States' Declaration of Independence.



## ▶ HIGH COUNTRY

A fancy way to say "the mountains." This term is uttered mostly by local weathermen or folks along the Front Range headed to the mountains' higher altitudes for a getaway.

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP RIGHT: 5280 MARKER ON CAPITOL STEPS; GRAND MESA NATIONAL FOREST; MILES; FOUR CORNERS MARKER; FLICKR; SAN JUAN MOUNTAINS; CLASSIC VISIONS; COLORADO STATE SEAL; VIEW OF BOULDER AREA; O'HARA PHOTOGRAPHY; MONARCH PASS SIGN; ISTOCKPHOTO; COLORADO FOURTEENER CLUB.





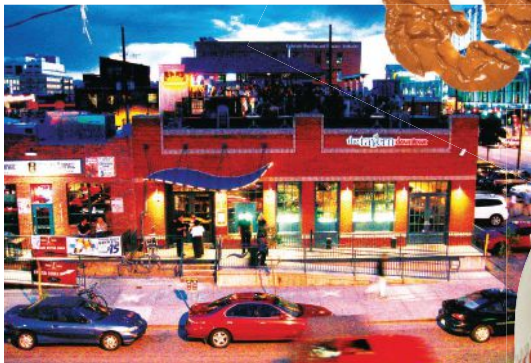
### ▲ THE TUNNEL

If you are headed to or from the High Country on I-70, you'll likely pass through the 1.7-mile Eisenhower/Johnson Memorial Tunnel. Since 1973, the tunnels have been providing easy access to mountain activities through the Continental Divide.



### ▶ MUD SEASON

This glorious harbinger of spring is typically slotted on the calendar for late April or May. It occurs when winter's snow starts to melt and rivers swell, making for amazing fishing, thrilling whitewater rafting and great High Country lodging deals.



### ▲ LODO

Shorthand for Lower Downtown, LoDo refers to Denver's lively, walkable, historic downtown. Filled with restaurants, bars, shops and beautifully restored buildings, it's a must-see destination for any Denver vacation.

### ▼ OPENING DAY

We've got two opening days in Colorado, both of which are a grand occasion for celebration: **1.** The first day the lifts open at each of Colorado's 27 ski resorts, usually in late October or early November. **2.** The Colorado Rockies' first home game at LoDo's Coors Field, or April 6, 2018.



### ◀ POWDER DAY

Powder days follow snowy nights. That fresh snowfall means the conditions are set for skiing and boarding that feels like you're floating down the slopes on air. Our deep, dry, fluffy powder is what makes us home to America's Best Skiing® (and is also good for cushioning the occasional fall).

### ▼ CORDUROY

Ski slopes freshly groomed by snowcat have the look and texture of corduroy material. Skiers and boarders who like speed seek out corduroy for fast runs.



### ▼ LILYDIPPER

In whitewater-rafting parlance, a lilydipper is one who doesn't dip their paddle into the water. This is not a compliment: It means you're not pulling your own weight!



### ◀ THE HUMIDOR

When the Colorado Rockies baseball team debuted in 1993, they delighted fans with abnormally high-scoring games. Because the air is thinner at this altitude, balls were flying out of the park at record pace (something for golfers to take advantage of as well!). The excess ended in 2002, when the team began storing baseballs in a humidator that enabled them to better control their moisture content — and made pitchers less afraid of a home-run parade.



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP: LEFT: EISENHOWER MEMORIAL TUNNEL ROAD SIGN. FLICKR: COLORADO ROCKIES; SKIS: ISTOCKPHOTO; CORDUROY: FLICKR; PADDLE: ISTOCKPHOTO; BASEBALL: ISTOCKPHOTO; LODO: VISIT DENVER; SHOEPINIS: ISTOCKPHOTO; BEAVER CREEK SKIING: JACK AFLECK.



# 2018 CALENDAR OF EVENTS & FESTIVALS

Coloradans celebrate heritage and holidays with great fanfare.

The events below are just a few of our annual festivities.

Visit [Colorado.com/events](http://Colorado.com/events) for more.



## ASPEN

**WINTERSKÖL JAN. 11-14** Aspen's annual toast to winter celebrates our unique Nordic lifestyle with an eclectic weekend of festivities. ▶ 970-920-7146, [aspenchamber.org](http://aspenchamber.org)

**OLD FASHIONED 4TH OF JULY CELEBRATION JULY 4** Celebrating Independence Day with small-town appeal and in true American style, including a parade, live music, picnics, a kids' carnival and fireworks over Aspen Mountain. ▶ 970-925-1940, [aspenchamber.org/events/acra-annual-events/old-fashioned-4th-july](http://aspenchamber.org/events/acra-annual-events/old-fashioned-4th-july)

**JAS ASPEN SNOWMASS AUG. 31-SEPT. 2** The mission of JAS is to present and preserve jazz and related forms of music through world-class events, performances and education programs. ▶ 970-544-9800, 866-527-8499, [jazzaspensnowmass.org](http://jazzaspensnowmass.org)

**12 DAYS OF ASPEN DEC. 20-31** Downtown Aspen comes alive with a variety of free holiday activities, special treats and, of course, a visit from Santa! Join the Aspen community to celebrate the joys of the season. ▶ 970-925-1940, [aspenchamber.org/events/acra-annual-events/12-days-aspen](http://aspenchamber.org/events/acra-annual-events/12-days-aspen)

## BRUSH

**64TH ANNUAL BRUSH RODEO JULY 2-4** More than 400 contestants compete in the largest Colorado rodeo in its class. 2,500 spectators, fireworks, a spectacular parade, art show and more occur every Fourth of July. ▶ 970-542-3508, [morgancountytourism.com](http://morgancountytourism.com)

**36TH ANNUAL BRUSH OKTOBERFEST SEPT. 21-23** Enjoy German music, polka dancing, food and, of course, beer. Celebrate Oktoberfest and the Car & Motorcycle Show. Crafts, entertainment, an authentic Volksmarch, dog show and more! ▶ 970-542-3508, [morgancountytourism.com](http://morgancountytourism.com)

## BUENA VISTA

**PADDLEFEST MAY 25-28** On and around the Arkansas River, the event for those wanting to learn, play and watch others on the water. Music, gear swaps, pro kayaking, speakers, races, vendors and more. ▶ 719-395-9206, [ckspaddlefest.com](http://ckspaddlefest.com)

**COLLEGIATE PEAKS STAMPEDE RODEO JUNE 8-10** This fully sanctioned CPRA small-town rodeo offers mutton bustin', calf roping, barrel racing, steer wrestling, bronc busting and more. Saturday at 6pm and Sunday at 1:30pm. ▶ 719-395-6612, [buenavistacolorado.org](http://buenavistacolorado.org)

**GOLD RUSH DAYS AUG. 11-12** Free live music, historical reenactments, a beer garden, the third leg of Triple Crown Burro Race, duck race (win monetary prizes), toilet-seat races, 100 vendors, gem panning and more. ▶ 719-395-6612, [buenavistacolorado.org/buena-vista-gold-rush-days](http://buenavistacolorado.org/buena-vista-gold-rush-days)

**COLORADO HISTORIC ATV/OHV COLOR TOUR SEPT. 18-22** An annual community event. Come to this off-road rally and mountain festival to visit the area's old mining sites and ghost towns on self-guided OHV tours. ▶ 719-395-6612, [buenavistacolorado.org/atv-historic-color-tour](http://buenavistacolorado.org/atv-historic-color-tour)

## CENTRAL CITY

**GILPIN COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY - SUMMER SEASON MAY 26-SEPT. 30** Explore Gilpin County's History Museum, go back to 1895 at the Thomas House, tour the Teller and Opera Houses and visit the Coeur d'Alene Mine Shaft House. ▶ 303-582-5283, [gilpinhistory.org](http://gilpinhistory.org)

## CRAIG

**GRAND OLD WEST DAYS MAY 25-28** A Memorial Day weekend full of fun for the whole family with the Ranch Bronc Riding, carnival, concert, parade, barn dance, live music, Ranch Rodeo, draft-horse show and more. ▶ 970-326-6368, [grandoldwestdays.com](http://grandoldwestdays.com)

**WHITTLE THE WOOD RENDEZVOUS JUNE 15-16** Whittle the Wood in Craig features head-to-head competition between a dozen experienced chain-saw carvers producing years' worth of static art displays throughout Moffat County. ▶ 970-826-2029, [whittlethewood.com](http://whittlethewood.com)

**MOFFAT COUNTY BALLOON FESTIVAL AUG. 4-5** Great summer event in Moffat County! Hot-air balloon event in Loudy-Simpson Park includes music, vendors and festival. ▶ 970-824-4444, [mcballoonfestival.com](http://mcballoonfestival.com)

## CRESTED BUTTE

**CRESTED BUTTE MUSIC FESTIVAL JUNE 4-AUG. 4** Outstanding performances, diverse musical genres with accompanying educational programs each summer that enrich, educate and inspire with arrifirms that celebrate the human spirit. ▶ 970-349-0619, [crestedbuttemusicfestival.org](http://crestedbuttemusicfestival.org)

## DENVER

**NATIONAL WESTERN STOCK SHOW & RODEO JAN. 6-21** A nationally recognized Western-heritage event with one of the world's richest regular-season pro rodeos, one of the country's largest horse shows and a Western tradeshow. ▶ 303-892-1505, [visitdenver.com](http://visitdenver.com)



**DEGAS: A PASSION FOR PERFECTION** FEB. 11–MAY 20 Degas: A Passion for Perfection will showcase prolific French artist Edgar Degas' work at the Denver Art Museum. Well-known masterpieces will be on view including pieces that focus on his strong interest in opera and dance. ▶ 303-892-1505, [visitdenver.com](http://visitdenver.com)

**DENVER RESTAURANT WEEK** FEB. 23–MARCH 4 A 10-day celebration of the culinary scene in Denver. Hundreds of participating restaurants offer multi-course dinners at three different fixed prices: \$25, \$35 and \$45 per person. ▶ 303-892-1505, [denverrestaurantweek.com](http://denverrestaurantweek.com)

**CREATURES OF LIGHT** FEB. 23–JUNE 17 Delve into the world of living things that blink, glow, flash and flicker at the Denver Museum of Nature & Science, from tiny fireflies in the backyard to strange creatures in the ocean's depths. ▶ 303-892-1505, [visitdenver.com](http://visitdenver.com)

**DEAD SEA SCROLLS** MARCH 16–SEPT. 3 Don't miss this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity at the Denver Museum of Nature & Science to see authentic Dead Sea Scrolls, ancient manuscripts that include the oldest known Biblical documents dating back more than 2,000 years. ▶ 303-892-1505, [visitdenver.com](http://visitdenver.com)

**RED ROCKS SUMMER CONCERT SERIES** APRIL 1–OCT. 31 No summer is complete without at least one trip to awe-inspiring Red Rocks, flanked by enormous sandstone formations. Check the star-studded concert schedule and get tickets early. ▶ 303-892-1505, [visitdenver.com](http://visitdenver.com)

**DENVER COMIC CON** JUNE 15–17 This 3-day, family-friendly fan convention features the best in comics, popular sci-fi and fantasy TV shows, movies, Japanese animation, cosplay, toys, gaming and celebrity panels. ▶ 303-892-1505, [visitdenver.com](http://visitdenver.com)

**PRIDEFEST** JUNE 16–17 In the heart of downtown, a two-day celebration of Denver's LGBTQ community includes a festive parade, family fun, music and entertainment. Show your pride in The Mile High City. ▶ 303-892-1505, [visitdenver.com](http://visitdenver.com)

**CHERRY CREEK ARTS FESTIVAL** JULY 6–8 A world-class, award-winning celebration of visual, culinary and performing arts. Meet international juried visual artists and enjoy fine cuisine, live music and demonstrations. ▶ 303-892-1505, [visitdenver.com](http://visitdenver.com)

**SLOW FOOD NATIONS** JULY 13–15 Taste and explore a world of good, clean and fair food for all, with the energy of a street-food festival, the rigor of an academic conference and the inspiration of a cultural exchange. ▶ 303-892-1505, [visitdenver.com](http://visitdenver.com)

**DENVER BEER FEST** SEPT. 14–22 Nearly 200 beer-related events at area breweries, restaurants, tap houses and attractions, concluding with the Great American Beer Fest, the premier US beer festival and competition. ▶ 303-892-1505, [denverbeerfest.com](http://denverbeerfest.com)

**DENVER ARTS WEEK** NOV. 2–10 Discover seven vibrant art districts and more than 300 unique events across music, theater, film, dance, museums and more — including First Friday Art Walks and free Night at the Museums. ▶ 303-892-1505, [denverartsweek.com](http://denverartsweek.com)

## DURANGO

**DURANGO FILM – AN INDEPENDENT FILM FESTIVAL** FEB. 28–MARCH 4 Bringing a community together with independent filmmakers for the opportunity to experience and discuss global, innovative and diverse films. The ideal location for fun and film. ▶ 970-375-7779, [durangofilm.org/wp](http://durangofilm.org/wp)

**DURANGO WINE EXPERIENCE** MAY 3–5 Celebrate food and wine in Durango! Experience three delicious days of seminars, wine dinners and unique tastings featuring hundreds of wineries, artisan spirits and craft beers. ▶ 970-946-2408, [durangowine.com](http://durangowine.com)

**MUSIC IN THE MOUNTAINS FESTIVAL & CONSERVATORY** JULY 8–29 An exceptional summer classical music festival and conservatory with musicians of the highest caliber. See unbelievable performances in a variety of spectacular venues. ▶ 970-385-6820, [musicinthemountains.com](http://musicinthemountains.com)

**DURANGO COWBOY POETRY GATHERING** OCT. 4–7 A celebration of the rich culture and heritage of the American Cowboy. Poets, storytellers and musicians from throughout the country grace us with classic and contemporary performances. ▶ 970-749-2995, [durangocowboypoetrygathering.org](http://durangocowboypoetrygathering.org)

**POLAR EXPRESS™** MID-NOV.–MID-JAN. Based on the award-winning book, the story of a child's Christmas Eve journey comes alive aboard this historic steam train to the North Pole! Visit our website for specific dates. ▶ 970-247-2733, 888-872-4607, [durangotrain.com](http://durangotrain.com)

## EL JEBEL

**LIFT OFF 4 LIFT-UP BALLOON FESTIVAL** JUNE 23–24 This uplifting festival will bring hot-air balloons, live music, kids' activities, food and more to the Aspen valley. Family, individual or VIP experiences available. ▶ 970-625-4496, [liftoff4liftupballoonfestival.org](http://liftoff4liftupballoonfestival.org)

## ESTES PARK

**ESTES PARK WINTER FESTIVAL & WINTER TRAILS DAY** JAN. 13–14 Celebrate the winter season in Estes Park! Taste award-winning chili at the chili cook-off, dance to great music, enjoy family activities and sip a variety of Colorado beer & wine. ▶ 970-577-9900, [visitestespark.com/winter-fest](http://visitestespark.com/winter-fest)

**RAILS IN THE ROCKIES** FEB. 17–18 Clanging bells & tooting whistles fill the air, as trains chug along a variety of model railroad scenes, kids explore with a scavenger hunt & all ages marvel at the massive Lego train model. ▶ 970-577-9900, [visitestespark.com/events-calendar/special-events/rails-in-the-rockies](http://visitestespark.com/events-calendar/special-events/rails-in-the-rockies)

**ESTES PARK DUCK RACE** MAY 5 With a drop from a giant bucket, thousands of little yellow rubber ducks are ceremoniously dropped into Fall River at Nicky's Resort, where they begin their journey. ▶ 970-577-9900, [visitestespark.com/events-calendar/special-events/duck-race](http://visitestespark.com/events-calendar/special-events/duck-race)

**SCANDINAVIAN MIDSUMMER FESTIVAL** JUNE 23–24 Guests will enjoy traditional dances, the Maypole, handcrafted Scandinavian art & goods, children's activities, a vintage Volvo & Saab car show, delicious foods, Vikings and more! ▶ 719-221-9893, [estesmidsummer.com](http://estesmidsummer.com)

**FINE ARTS & CRAFTS FESTIVAL** SEPT. 15–16 For more than 40 years the Fine Arts Guild of the Rockies has sponsored the Fine Arts & Crafts Festival, a juried show providing outstanding artists with a venue to showcase their work. ▶ 970-699-1509, [fineartsguild.org](http://fineartsguild.org)

**PUMPKINS & PILSNERS** OCT. 6 The perfect place to pick your pumpkins with live music and craft beer for the adults, as well as games, crafts and a bounce house for the little ones. ▶ [visitestespark.com/events-calendar/special-events/pumpkins-and-pilsners-festival](http://visitestespark.com/events-calendar/special-events/pumpkins-and-pilsners-festival)

**ESTES PARK ELK FEST** OCT. 6–7 The calls of the bull elk fill the air during crisp fall days. Celebrate the elk rut at this free event with gold leaves, music, craft beer, elk-themed activities & a variety of vendors. ▶ 970-577-9900, 800-443-7837, [visitestespark.com/elktobter](http://visitestespark.com/elktobter)

**FALL BACK BEER FEST** NOV. 3 Enjoy fun seminars, talk with the brewers, watch beer being made, taste endless varieties of brews and swing to bluegrass at this celebration of beer and the people who make it! ▶ 970-577-9900, 800-473-7837, [visitestespark.com/events-calendar/special-events/fall-back-beer-festival](http://visitestespark.com/events-calendar/special-events/fall-back-beer-festival)

**CATCH THE GLOW PARADE & CELEBRATION** NOV. 23 Celebrate the holidays in festive, fun Estes Park! Enjoy visits with Santa, pony rides & carolers downtown. The parade features floats, music & thousands of twinkling lights. ▶ 970-577-9900, 800-443-7837, [visitestespark.com/events-calendar/special-events/catch-the-glow-holiday-parade](http://visitestespark.com/events-calendar/special-events/catch-the-glow-holiday-parade)

## FORT MORGAN

**BOBSTOCK** JULY TBA Come out and enjoy live bands, vendor booths, food booths and a beer garden. Strut Your Mutt, Poker Run and Zumba. Kids jump house, water obstacle course and bungee. 97.5 BOB FM. ▶ 970-867-5674, [morgancountytourism.com](http://morgancountytourism.com)

**FALL HARVEST CAR SHOW** SEPT. 14–16 The Fall Harvest Car Show is a wonderful and fun car show held in northeastern Colorado, featuring around 275 entrants each year. Held on the third weekend in September. ▶ 970-768-7469, [fallharvestcarshow.org](http://fallharvestcarshow.org)

## FRISCO

**COLORADO CIDER CIRCUS** AUG. 24–25 Festivities kick off on Friday night with the Big Top Cheese Pairing. Saturday ticket holders have access to more than 75 different craft ciders, beers and live entertainment. ▶ 215-287-7046, [cidercircus.com](http://cidercircus.com)

## FRUITA

**FRUITA FAT TIRE FESTIVAL** MAY 4–6 Ride miles of pristine mountain-bike trails and meet friends from around the world in western Colorado. VIP party, live bands and a top cycling expo in the USA. ▶ 970-585-3663, [fruitafatirefestival.com](http://fruitafatirefestival.com)

**MIKE THE HEADLESS CHICKEN FESTIVAL** JUNE 1–2 Celebrate the amazing story of one chicken's will to live in the 20th year of the event. Includes a 5k run, disc-golf tournament, live music, delicious food, booths and more! ▶ 970-858-3663, [miketheheadlesschicken.org/mike](http://miketheheadlesschicken.org/mike)

**FRUITA FALL FESTIVAL** SEPT. 21–23 The Fruita Fall Festival began more than 100 years ago as a celebration of the harvest for the farming community. The event has grown to include a carnival, crafts, food, music & more. ▶ 970-858-3894, [fruitafallfestival.com](http://fruitafallfestival.com)

**RIM ROCK MARATHON** NOV. 3 A 26-mile point-to-point marathon along Rim Rock Drive through the Colorado National Monument, finishing at James M. Robb Colorado River State Park. ▶ 970-248-1469, [rimrockmarathon.com](http://rimrockmarathon.com)

# Do more with your vacation.

From building a trail atop a 14er to planting gardens in the Mile High City, volunteering outside is a true Colorado experience that lets you enjoy all our state has to offer, from meeting new people to exploring scenic vistas.



## Be Kind to Colorado.

Find volunteer opportunities for all ages and abilities, in every corner of Colorado, at [voc.org/volunteer](http://voc.org/volunteer)



## GLENWOOD SPRINGS

**3RD ANNUAL FERMENTATION FEST**  
**JUNE 29-30** With a Rocky Mountain backdrop and live music, the festival will feature some of the best fermented potables from across the region, including craft beer, cider, wine and liquor. ▶ 970-989-2233, wildwestfermentationfest.com

## GRANBY

**3 LAKES ICE FISHING CONTEST**  
**JAN. 26-28** 30th Annual tournament. Vie for more than \$21,000 in cash and prizes at the best ice tourney in Colorado! Multiple adult and kids categories. Entries are \$35-50. ▶ 970-887-2311, granbychamber.com/fish

**JULY 4TH PARADE AND PARTY IN THE PARK** **JULY 4** Please join us for the best small-town parade in Colorado! The parade goes down Main Street (Agate Ave.) in Granby on Wednesday, July 4, 2018, followed by a party in Town Park. ▶ 970-887-2311, granbychamber.com

## GRAND JUNCTION

**GRAND JUNCTION OFF-ROAD MOUNTAIN BIKE ENDURANCE EVENT & DOWNTOWN MUSIC FESTIVAL**  
**MAY 18-20** The Grand Junction Off-Road Endurance Mountain Bike Event and Downtown Music Festival, scheduled for May 18-20, 2018, with 3 days of festival, an industry expo and live music. ▶ 520-623-1584, epicrides.com

**JUNIOR COLLEGE BASEBALL WORLD SERIES (JUCO)** **MAY 26-JUNE 2** The Junior College World Series draws amazing young baseball players full of talent and commitment from around the United States. ▶ 970-245-9166, jucogj.org

**COLORADO PORK 'N HOPS BBQ CHALLENGE** **SEPT. 7-8** Buy barbecue from award-winning cooking teams, enjoy your favorite regional microbrews and listen to some of your favorite local bands! ▶ 970-242-7788, porkandhops.com

**DOWNTOWN GRAND JUNCTION CAR SHOW** **SEPT. 22** Outdoor car show featuring hundreds of classic cars, hot rods, exotic sports cars and more. ▶ 970-245-9697, downtowngj.org

**TOUR OF THE MOON CYCLING CLASSIC** **SEPT. 29** Considered one of the premier recreational road-cycling events in the western US. The breathtaking Colorado National Monument makes an epic day of cycling near Grand Junction. ▶ 303-282-9020, touroffthemoon.com

**DOWNTOWN GRAND JUNCTION ART FESTIVAL** **OCT. 5-6** This new event focuses on the area's abundant artists and local galleries. Downtown shops become weekend art galleries. Enjoy street art and wine tasting from local wineries. ▶ 970-245-9697, downtowngj.org

## GRAND LAKE

**GRAND LAKE WINTER CARNIVAL** **FEB. 10** This year Grand Lake Goes Hollywood in our Winter Carnival festival! Enjoy bed sledding, snow golf, parade, music and fireworks. Activities for kids of all ages. ▶ 970-627-3402, grandlakechamber.com

**GRAND LAKE ARTS AND CRAFTS FESTIVAL** **JUNE 9-10, JULY 7-8, AUG. 4-5** Handmade articles from talented craftsmen. Join us in Town Park for a wonderful array of high-quality goods. It's also a great opportunity to explore Colorado's No. 1 authentic small town! ▶ 970-627-3402, grandlakechamber.com

**BUFFALO BBQ WEEKEND!** **JULY 14-15** Join Grand Lake for our annual Buffalo Days festival featuring music, activities, 5K Buffalo Stampede, a parade with a water-zone water fight and, of course, delicious buffalo food! ▶ 970-627-3402, grandlakechamber.com

## GREELEY

**GREELEY STAMPEDE** **JUNE 22-JULY 4** The Greeley Stampede is Colorado's premier summer Western celebration. Rodeo, concerts, carnival, shopping, food, Kids Korral, demolition derby, Western Art Show and more. ▶ 970-356-7787, greeleystampede.org

## KREMMLING

**KREMMLING DAYS FESTIVAL** **JUNE 15-16** Escape to Kremmling and experience free live music, vendors, a Kidzone, parade, fireman's barbecue & games, mud bog, Mustang Mile road race, cliff golf, beer garden & much more! ▶ 970-724-3472, kremmlingchamber.com

**FIRE UP THE CLIFFS** **JULY 4** Begin your celebration with a barbecue dinner, home-baked pies, live music and games for the kids. End it with a spectacular fireworks display off the famous Kremmling Cliffs at dark. ▶ 970-724-3472, kremmlingchamber.com

**DEMOLITION DERBY** **AUG. 18** Come get smashed at the Demolition Derby! Cars and trucks actually try to wreck into each other and the last car running takes the cash prize. ▶ 970-724-3472, kremmlingchamber.com

## LAKE CITY

**LAKE CITY UNCORKED WINE & MUSIC FESTIVAL** **SEPT. 15** Good friends, music and wine under the fall leaves of historic downtown. Seven bands, more than 100 wines for tasting, beer from San Luis Valley Brewing Company and unique food. ▶ 970-596-9071, lakecityfestival.org

## LOVELAND

**LOVELAND FIRE AND ICE FESTIVAL** **FEB. 9-11** Celebrate Valentine's Day weekend in Loveland! Fireworks, bands, brews, live entertainment and the arts headline this award-winning, family-friendly, free festival. ▶ 800-980-4155, lovelandfireandice.com

**SCULPTURE IN THE PARK** **AUG. 10-12** Join us for the 35th-annual largest juried sculpture show and sale in the US at Benson Sculpture Garden, which brings artists and art lovers from around the globe together to inspire. ▶ 970-663-2940, sculptureinthepark.org

**THUNDER IN THE ROCKIES BIKE RALLY** **AUG. 31-SEPT. 3** The Thunder in the Rockies Bike Rally is Labor Day weekend. An action-packed, four-day event featuring 50,000 motorcycle enthusiasts, live music, vendors, Colorado riding and more! ▶ thunderintherockies.com

## LYONS

**LYONS OUTDOOR GAMES** **JUNE 2** Lyons is a mecca for outdoor enthusiasts. The Lyons Outdoor Games features a kids' zone, trail running, biking, kayaking, yoga, 50-plus craft breweries and on-site camping. ▶ 303-823-8250, lyonscolorado.com/outdoorgames

**ANNUAL HOLIDAY PARADE OF LIGHTS AND FIREWORKS** **DEC. 1** Revel in the old-fashioned values of community that make Lyons such a magical place during the holiday season. The Parade of Lights goes down Main St. and is followed by fireworks! ▶ 303-823-8250, lyonscolorado.com/paradeoflights

## MANITOU SPRINGS

**2018 MANITOU SPRINGS COLORADO WINE FESTIVAL** **JUNE 1** Sample & purchase wine from 30 Colorado wineries; enjoy entertainment, food and gift vendors at the base of Pikes Peak America's Mountain. Breathtaking views with an amazing atmosphere. ▶ 719-685-5089, 800-642-2567, manitouspringswinefestival.com

**COMMONWHEEL ARTS FESTIVAL** **SEPT. 1-3** Commonwheel Art Festival is rated the best place to buy exceptional juried fine art, pottery, jewelry, sculpture & photography, all while enjoying live music on our stage. ▶ 719-577-7700, 877-685-1008, commonwheel.com

**2018 EMMA CRAWFORD COFFIN RACES & PARADE** **OCT. 27** Build a coffin, dress up, then race up Manitou Avenue to compete for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place. The legend of Emma Crawford lives in downtown Manitou Springs! ▶ 719-685-5089, emmacrawfordcoffinfest.com

## MAYBELL

**SOMBRERO RANCHES GREAT AMERICAN HORSE DRIVE & MAYBELL HERITAGE DAYS** **MAY 6** Experience 600-800 ranch horses trotting through the heart of Maybell, then stay for Heritage Days in the Maybell Park. Don't miss Sand Wash Basin wild horses or Browns Park area. ▶ 970-985-9924, visitmoffatcounty.com

## MEEKER

**MEEKERPALOOZA ARTS & MUSIC FESTIVAL** **JUNE 2** Fun for the whole family! Events include live music, workshops & demonstrations, Kids Art Zone, Arts & Craft Fair, Taste of Meeker, Park to Art Races and Metal Art Competition. ▶ 970-439-0183, meekerpalooza.com

**32ND ANNUAL MEEKER CLASSIC SHEEPDOG TRIALS** **SEPT. 5-9** Premier event for northwest Colorado. 130 dog/handler teams compete against tough Meeker sheep. Artisan, craft and food festival, art contest, silent auction and daily demos. ▶ 970-878-0111, meekersheepdog.com

## MONTE VISTA

**SAN LUIS VALLEY POTATO FESTIVAL** **SEPT. 8** Celebrate potato harvest in beautiful Monte Vista at the San Luis Valley Potato Festival on Sept. 8, 2018! There will be fun activities all day long and a concert to wrap it up! ▶ 719-852-3322, coloradopotato.org/potatofestival

## MONTROSE

**FUNC (FUN ON THE UNCOMPAGHRE) FEST** **JULY 14** Watersports enthusiasts, competitors and fun-loving spectators are invited to enjoy the FUNC Fest at the Montrose Water Sports Park. Music, food and a whole lot of fun awaits! ▶ 970-497-8558, coloradofuncfest.com

## PAGOSA SPRINGS

**PAGOSA PINTS AND POOLS** **APRIL 27-29** Enjoy craft beer tasting from many Colorado breweries and soaking in 23 individual outdoor hot-springs pools in the heart of downtown Pagosa Springs. ▶ 970-585-1200, visitpagosasprings.com

**FOLK N' BLUEGRASS FESTIVAL** **JUNE 8-10** The 12th-annual festival provides three days of great music on scenic Reservoir Hill Park in downtown Pagosa Springs. Children under 12 attend the festival for free. ▶ 970-585-1200, folkwest.com

**COLORFEST WEEKEND** **SEPT. 14-16** Balloons rise against the backdrop of the San Juan Mountains and early signs of autumn. Featuring mass hot-air balloon ascensions, live music, beer, wine, food and much more. ▶ 970-585-1200, visitpagosasprings.com

## PALISADE

**PALISADE PEACH FESTIVAL** **AUG. 17-18** The 50th Annual Palisade Peach Festival on August 17-18, 2018. Peach pies, peach cobbler, peach ice-cream, peach drinks, peach cuisine, peach jams, peach salsas & peachy music. ▶ 970-464-7458, palisadepeachfest.com

**COLORADO MOUNTAIN WINEFEST** **SEPT. 13-16** Sample an array of Colorado wines and participate in a variety of events such as winery tours, winemaker competitions, dueling chefs, grape stomps, wine-and-food pairings, music and more. ▶ 970-464-0111, coloradowinefest.com

## PARKER

**PARKER DAYS FESTIVAL** **JUNE 7-10** The Parker Area Chamber of Commerce is excited to celebrate the 41st year of Parker Days Festival at O'Brien Park in Parker. ▶ 303-841-4268, parkerdaysfestival.com

## PUEBLO

**34TH ANNUAL NSRA ROCKY MOUNTAIN STREET ROD NATIONALS PLUS** **JUNE 22-24** The premier street-rod event of the Rocky Mountain region; with more than 2,000 custom street rods in attendance, this event is sure to be fun for the whole family! ▶ 901-452-4030, nsra-usa.com/events

**COLORADO STATE FAIR** **AUG. 24-SEPT. 3** Bring the family for 11 days and nights of Colorado's biggest summer party! Enjoy concerts, rodeos, carnival, livestock, ag exhibits, flea, free attractions and fabulous fair food. ▶ 719-561-8484, 800-876-4567, coloradostatefair.com

**24TH ANNUAL PUEBLO CHILE AND FRIJOLE FESTIVAL** **SEPT. 21-23** Celebrate Pueblo's favorite crop — the infamous Mirasol chile pepper. Enjoy farmers' markets, carnival food, chili and salsa showdowns, a jalapeño-eating contest, live music and more! ▶ 719-542-1704, festival.pueblochamber.org

## SALIDA

**ARK VALLEY PRIDE** **JUNE 2-7** Ark Valley Pride supports and celebrates the diversity of the Upper Arkansas River Valley through a variety of events. ▶ 719-221-9893, gopfca.com

**70TH ANNUAL FIBARK FESTIVAL** **JUNE 14-17** America's oldest and boldest whitewater festival. Four days of free music, river, running and mountain-bike races, including the famous Holligan Race. Something for everyone! ▶ fibark.com

**SALIDA ART WALK** **JUNE 21-24** Celebrating 26 years of art receptions, music, entertainment and artist demonstrations in numerous participating venues around town. Don't miss the Mini Masterpiece Auction! ▶ 719-530-0933, salidaartwalk.org

**22ND ANNUAL COLORADO BREWERS RENDEZVOUS** **JULY 14** The 22nd Annual Colorado Brewers Rendezvous at Riverside Park in historic downtown Salida will feature more than 75 Colorado brewers, live music and great food. ▶ 719-539-2068, 877-772-5432, salidachamber.org



**7TH ANNUAL SALIDA WINEFEST SEPT. 1**

The 7th Annual Salida WineFest celebrates Colorado wineries, art, merchandise and food with great live music to set the mood. All at Riverside Park in historic downtown Salida. ▶ 719-539-2068, [salidachamber.org](http://salidachamber.org)

**4TH ANNUAL SALIDA FIBER FESTIVAL SEPT. 8-9**

We have more than 70 fiber vendors — yarns, fibers, finished goods, equipment. We offer fiber-related classes (spinning, knitting, etc.), demonstrations and activities. ▶ 719-221-9893, [salidafiberfestival.com](http://salidafiberfestival.com)

**SILVERTON**

**STEEL HORSE SISTERHOOD'S ROCKY MOUNTAIN WOMEN'S MOTORCYCLE SUMMIT JUNE 10-16** Six days of motorcycle riding and adventure for women of all ages, all skill levels and all bikes. All designed to challenge and transform one into a better rider ... and person. ▶ [womensmotorcyclisummit.com/2018-rocky-mountain-schedule](http://womensmotorcyclisummit.com/2018-rocky-mountain-schedule)

**SNOWMASS**

**TOYOTA U.S. GRAND PRIX JAN. 10-14** A new addition to the Toyota U.S. Grand Prix's lineup, Aspen Snowmass will host five qualification events on the four at Snowmass, home to an award-winning park and pipe setup. ▶ [gosnowmass.com/event/toyota-u-s-grand-prix](http://gosnowmass.com/event/toyota-u-s-grand-prix)

**SNOWMASS CRAFT BEER RENDEZVOUS JUNE 9** This festival summons 30 Colorado craft breweries from all over the state up into the mountains of Snowmass for a perfect day of beer tasting and live music. ▶ [gosnowmass.com/event/snowmass-craft-beer-rendezvous](http://gosnowmass.com/event/snowmass-craft-beer-rendezvous)

**SNOWMASS RODEO JUNE 13-AUG. 22**

The longest running rodeo in Colorado. This Western event takes place every Wed. in the summers through mid-Aug. Includes saddle bronc bull riding, team roping and barrel racing. ▶ 970-923-8898, [gosnowmass.com/activity/the-snowmass-rodeo](http://gosnowmass.com/activity/the-snowmass-rodeo)

**STEAMBOAT SPRINGS**

**OLYMPIAN SEND-OFF JAN. 27** Steamboat Springs, Ski Town USA®, has produced 89 winter Olympians and counting, the most of any town in North America! Come celebrate with us and wish our athletes good luck. ▶ 800-922-2722, [steamboat.com/events](http://steamboat.com/events)

**105TH ANNUAL WINTER CARNIVAL FEB. 7-11** Racing, ski jumping, a parade, ski joring events down Lincoln Ave., and the night show's legendary Lighted Man and fireworks display — one of the largest fireworks in the country! ▶ [steamboat.com/events](http://steamboat.com/events)

**STEAMBOAT MARDI GRAS FEB. 10** The good times are definitely ready to roll in Ski Town, U.S.A.® when the Steamboat Mardi Gras comes marching in February 10 with free concerts, a parade and Mardi Gras party. ▶ 970-871-5444, [steamboat.com/events](http://steamboat.com/events)

**BUD LIGHT COWBOY DOWNHILL DEC. 15** More than 100 of the best pro-rodeo cowboys compete in the most unique ski rodeo in the country. Cowboys compete in the dual slalom followed by the exciting chaos of the Stampedo. ▶ 970-922-2722, [steamboat.com/events](http://steamboat.com/events)

**STERLING**

**LOGAN COUNTY FAIR AUG. 2-12** Largest fair in northeastern Colorado. Enjoy the carnival, night-show concert, PRCA rodeo, bull riding and demo derby, vendors and 4-H activities. There's something for everyone! ▶ 970-522-0888, [lcfair.org](http://lcfair.org)

**TABERNASH**

**STAGECOACH CLASSIC AT DEVIL'S THUMB RANCH JAN. 20** The Stagecoach Classic is a 30km/15km cross-country-ski race & tour starting at Devil's Thumb Ranch and finishing at a post-race barbecue with live music in downtown Winter Park. ▶ 970-726-4118, 800-903-7275, [playwinterpark.com](http://playwinterpark.com)

**TELLURIDE**

**TELLURIDE JAZZ FESTIVAL AUG. 3-5** Telluride Jazz Celebration ranks among the world's most memorable music festivals. Performances on two outdoor stages during the day and in historic theaters and clubs at night. ▶ 970-369-2105, [telluridejazz.org](http://telluridejazz.org)

**TELLURIDE BLUES AND BREWS FESTIVAL SEPT. 14-16** The festival takes over beautiful Telluride Town Park for a celebration of music, craft beer and mountains. Artists, brewers and fine folks converge to create profound moments. ▶ 970-728-8037, [tellurideblues.com](http://tellurideblues.com)

**VAIL**

**TASTE OF VAIL FALL WINE & FOOD CLASSIC APRIL 4-8** The nation's premier spring food-and-wine festival held at locations throughout Vail's mountain resort, showcasing the finest chefs in Vail and the nation's top vintners. ▶ 970-401-3320, [tasteofvail.com](http://tasteofvail.com)

**WINTER PARK**

**WINTER PARK RESORT UPHILL CHALLENGE ADVENTURE RACE FEB. 10** Join us at Winter Park Resort for this brand-new uphill adventure race with either snowshoes or skis — challenge yourself and race others up the mountain! ▶ 970-726-5514, [winterparkresort.com](http://winterparkresort.com)

**TEQUILA & TACOS JULY 7** The annual Tequila & Tacos event will feature tequila and taco tasting as well as live music, entertainment and more. VIP and GA tickets available. ▶ 970-726-4118, 800-903-7275, [playwinterpark.com](http://playwinterpark.com)


**WINTER PARK JAZZ FESTIVAL JULY 21-22** The annual Winter Park Jazz Festival will be a weekend packed with live music & entertainment from world-class artists to up and coming favorites. A must-attend for jazz lovers! ▶ 970-726-4118, 800-903-7275, [playwinterpark.com](http://playwinterpark.com)

**WINTER PARK UNCORKED AUG. 18** It doesn't get much better than an afternoon of wine-and-food tasting accompanied by the live music and a champagne cork-off in the mountains of Colorado. VIP & GA available. ▶ 970-726-4118, 800-903-7275, [playwinterpark.com](http://playwinterpark.com)


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# AMERICA'S BEST SKIING®

## 27 Reasons Colorado Owns This Title

If the Rocky Mountains are Colorado's defining geographic feature, skiing and snowboarding must be its signature activities. Colorado is, after all, the No. 1 destination for skiing and riding in the country.

### 1 ARAPAHOE BASIN

Known for having one of the longest ski seasons in North America (often mid-October to early June), A-Basin also boasts North America's highest elevation terrain park and its own "beach," a home base for concerts, parties and tailgating, as well as a new 468-acre experts and intermediate expansion.

### 2 ASPEN HIGHLANDS

When new snow at Aspen Highlands reaches mammoth proportions, you're in for an epic day of Colorado's signature light-and-dry powder. Insiders at the ski area recommend studying the trail map to find hidden gems that drop into gladed, untouched expert areas.

### 3 ASPEN MOUNTAIN

While Aspen is known throughout the world as a posh winter playground, more skiers are discovering the mountain's challenging double blacks and chutes — and its on-mountain pop-up champagne bar rewards tired legs — all steps from downtown Aspen.

### 4 BEAVER CREEK RESORT

You can tell from its slogan, "Not Exactly Roughing It," that BC charms with fantastic extras. Heated moving walkways, fresh-baked cookies and 20-hours-a-day grooming result in acres of corduroy and powder waiting for skiers and riders to swish through.

### 5 BRECKENRIDGE SKI RESORT

Breckenridge is beloved for its variety of terrain: long groomed trails, monster mogul runs, steep chutes, glades and plenty of beginner areas. The resort was one of the first to allow snowboarding, and its Freeway Terrain Park is arguably one of the best.

### 6 BUTTERMILK

With a reputation as a great venue for beginner skiers and snowboarders, wide, rolling trails are ideal for those just getting their snow legs. For an unprecedented 17 straight years, it has been the home of ESPN's Winter X Games.

FROM TOP: KEYSTONE SKI RESORT, JOSH HUMMEL; BRECKENRIDGE, JACK AFFLECK; BACKCOUNTRY SKIING ABOVE THE OPUS HUT NEAR SILVERTON, KENNAN HARVEY.



**7 COPPER MOUNTAIN**

Skiers and riders love to tout Copper's perfect layout. Mother Nature arranged its slopes quite adeptly: Beginner, intermediate and expert runs are each clustered with like-leveled terrain, ensuring beginners won't make a surprise trip down a too-steep run.

**8 CRESTED BUTTE MOUNTAIN RESORT**

Crested Butte has it all: wide-open green and blue trails, expert bowls, plenty of unexplored lines and uncrowded slopes. Take advantage of the free guided mountain ski tours to ski like a local.

**9 ECHO MOUNTAIN**

The closest ski mountain to Denver, Echo Mountain near Idaho Springs is an affordable option along the Front Range with six trails on 60 acres and a redesigned lodge with a restaurant and bar. For those who can't get up there before the work day ends, the slopes are open til 9pm for skiing under the stars (and lights).

**10 ELDORA MOUNTAIN RESORT**

Proximity to Boulder and Denver is one of the reasons Eldora is known as a "locals' mountain." Terrain to keep the whole family busy all day doesn't hurt, and neither does nearly 25 miles of cross-country and snowshoe trails steps from the downhill ski area.

**11 HOWESEN HILL SKI AREA**

Howelsen's pedigree is well established. Open since 1915 in Steamboat, it's the state's oldest ski area, has the largest natural ski-jumping complex in North America and has long been a training ground for Olympic skiers. It's also one of a few resorts to offer night skiing.

**12 KEYSTONE**

Keystone boasts three mountains full of bowls, steeps, trails, lift-served tubing and one of the longest ski days — watch the sun set at 11,000 feet and ski into the night. The resort's daily Kidtopia programs range from snowball launches to night-sky exploration.

**13 LOVELAND SKI AREA**

One of Loveland's favorite things to brag about is that it averages nearly 400 inches of snow each season, more than any other Front Range ski area. The other thing is their free snowcat skiing perk along the Continental Divide.

**14 MONARCH MOUNTAIN**

Perched atop the Continental Divide, Monarch is one of the best spots for fresh powder. A short walk from the parking lot to the lifts, roomy slopes and laid-back attitudes make it a hit with families. Ride to the top of the Panorama Lift for 360-degree views of the divide.

**15 POWDERHORN RESORT**

This resort near Grand Junction has one of the most unique views in Colorado's ski country. Located on the Grand Mesa, the largest flat-top mountain in the world, skiers and riders will see something more like the Grand Canyon than the typical alpine view.

**16 PURGATORY RESORT**

Purgatory's unimposing slopes, Old West fun park and Pitchfork Terrain Garden beginners' park are a few things that make it a hit with families in Durango. Within its boundaries are 88 trails, five terrain parks, a racing course and 35,000 acres of snowcat playland.

**17 SILVERTON MOUNTAIN**

As Silverton's motto proclaims, this southwest Colorado ski area is "All thrills, no frills." Colorado's highest and steepest ski mountain serves up un-groomed, no-easy-way-down expert terrain

for those who prefer skiing the old-school way.

**18 SKI COOPER**

The former training site in Leadville for the 10th Mountain Division, the legendary World War II ski troops, has sweeping runs that follow some of the same paths used by the soldiers who skied Europe's mountain battlefields. Today, it's popular with families looking for a cheerful and low-stress ski holiday.

**19 SKI GRANBY RANCH**

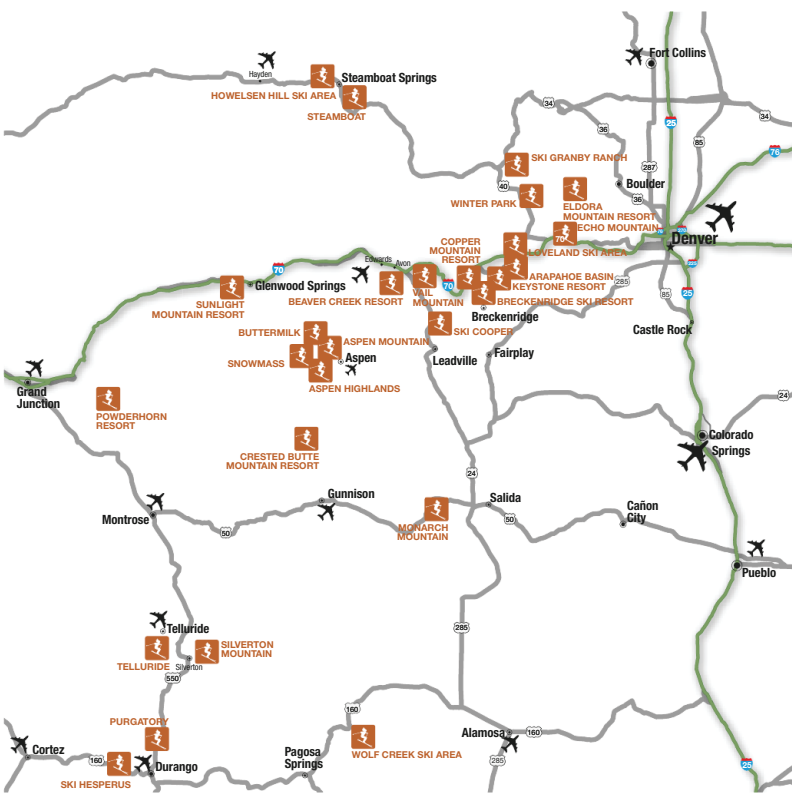
Ski Granby Ranch's fun lesson programs, easy pace and affordable prices make it a long-time family favorite. There's no better place to wind down at the end of the day than the fire pit at the base of the mountain, where the hot cocoa flows while you recount the day's snowy triumphs.

**20 SKI HESPERUS**

Eleven miles west of Durango, Hesperus has been an especially great option for families in the southwest part of Colorado since 1962, and it's the region's largest night-skiing operation. Hesperus' unassuming, small-ski-area ambiance makes its 26 trails and 160 acres an idyllic winter escape.

**21 SNOWMASS**

The mountain itself is enormous. Snowmass trumpets that 36 Disneyland could fit within its boundaries. At 4,406 feet, "Snowmassive" also has one of the highest vertical rise of any ski area in the country, and one of the longest runs — 5.3 miles of peaceful schussing before you even have to think about the lift line.



BACKCOUNTRY SKI TOUR IN VELOCITY BASIN BELOW SILVERTON MOUNTAIN SKI AREA, KENNAN HARVEY.





**22 STEAMBOAT**

Steamboat feels so confident about the special-ness of its powder, it trademarked it so you'd know just where to find the genuine article: Champagne Powder™. It's light, dry, smooth and only found in this 118-year-old Western town, which still manages to stay true to its friendly, down-home roots.

**23 SUNLIGHT MOUNTAIN RESORT**

Affordability and a mix of terrain are Sunlight's hallmarks. Hundreds of acres of mild greens, intermediates and black-diamond extremes satisfy all abilities. Proximity to the great hot springs let you reward ski muscles' big day with a long soak.

**24 TELLURIDE**

Driving into the Victorian-era town of Telluride, it's hard to imagine 2,000 acres of ski terrain and modern resort amenities are moments away — because it's all hidden behind a soaring mountain ridge. A quick gondola ride ferries you to skiing and riding bliss.

**25 VAIL**

Vail sets the standard for ski resorts in North America, and the bar is only getting higher. With its seven back bowls, 193 trails and a staggering 5,289 skiable acres, it's one of the nation's largest, not to mention luxury accommodations, shopping and dining, and endless off-slope activities.

**26 WINTER PARK**

Winter Park boasts diverse terrain, deep snow and, top-notch lodging and dining. For a bumpy ride, Winter Park is your destination. *Skiing Magazine* rated its Mary Jane peak No. 1 in North America for mogul skiing. And for easy access from Denver's Union Station, hop on the Winter Park Express, which runs right to the base area.

**27 WOLF CREEK SKI AREA**

Famous for the most snow of any Colorado resort, Pagosa Springs' Wolf Creek sees an astounding annual average of 430 inches for powder floaters. Wolf Pups ski school is the ideal way to ensure the kids become lifelong powder lovers.

WANT MORE? GO TO [COLORADO.COM/5REASONS](http://COLORADO.COM/5REASONS) FOR MORE DETAILS ON AMERICA'S BEST SKIING®.

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COLORADO'S LAST GREAT SKI TOWN IS CALLING.

ASPEN POWDER TOURS, SCOTT MARKIEWITZ.

© Nathan Ellow





1

## SNOW TUBING

Get a giggle-inducing thrill of a different sort — one experienced while zooming down a hill on an inner tube or sled at the speed of light. Several Colorado ski resorts have lift-served hills that save your energy for more runs.

**Where to Go:** Copper Mountain Resort ■ Snowmass Mountain ■ Winter Park Resort and Snow Mountain Ranch ■ Frisco Adventure Park ■ High Country Tubing Park in Pagosa Springs ■ Purgatory Resort and Ski Hesperus in Durango ■ Adventure Ridge in Vail ■ Steamboat Resort ■ Keystone Resort ■ Powderhorn Mountain Resort in Grand Junction ■ Ski Granby Ranch ■ Colorado Adventure Park in Fraser ■ Kendall Mountain Recreation Area in Silverton ■ Winter Wonderland in Aspen

*More: [COLORADO.com/SnowTubing](http://COLORADO.com/SnowTubing)*

2

## ICE SKATING

From ice-skating locales with only sun-soaked winter skies and far-as-the-eye-can-see mountain views to urban and resort settings surrounded by busy shops and restaurants, Colorado's outdoor ice rinks bring back-to-basics joy to this classic winter pastime.

**Where to Go:** Arcadia Park in Colorado Springs ■ Skyline Park in Denver ■ Evergreen Lake ■ The Rink at Belmar in Lakewood ■ Teahouse Plaza in Boulder ■ Rotary Park in Ouray ■ Stanley Park in Estes Park ■ ski-resort villages of Keystone, Breckenridge, Beaver Creek, Winter Park and Crested Butte ■ Colorado State Parks: Yampa River in Hayden, Golden Gate Canyon in Golden, Highline Lake in Loma, Jackson Lake near Fort Morgan, Cherry Creek in Aurora and Eleven Mile in Lake George ■ Kendall Mountain Recreation Area in Silverton ■ River Center ponds in Pagosa Springs ■ Aspen Ice Garden ■ Devil's Thumb Ranch in Tabernash ■ NedRink in Nederland

*More: [COLORADO.com/OutdoorIceSkating](http://COLORADO.com/OutdoorIceSkating)*



# WINTER BEYOND THE SLOPES

## Create Your Winter Vacation Wish List

Skiers and snowboarders aren't the only outdoor adventurers doing snow dances in anticipation of white winter months.

Colorado's brilliant sun-soaked skies, pristine powder-filled valleys and iconic snowcapped peaks make it a proverbial winter wonderland, beckoning all to discover its spectacular landscape.



3

## HORSE-DRAWN SLEIGH RIDES

Warm blankets, crisp winter air and the gentle jingle of bells tinkling to the stride of the horses are hallmarks of Colorado sleigh rides. So are elegant dinners, local wines, roaring fires and decadent desserts. Dude ranches are some of the best places to find fun sleigh rides.

**Where to Go:** Beaver Meadows Ranch in Red Feather Lakes ■ Snow Mountain Ranch and Dashing Thru the Snow Sleigh Rides in Winter Park ■ 2 Below Zero in Frisco ■ Saddleback Ranch in Steamboat Springs ■ Winding River Resort in Grand Lake ■ 4 Eagle Ranch in Wolcott and Bearcat Stables in Edwards, both near Vail ■ Rapp Corral and Buck's Livery in Durango ■ Astraddle A Saddle in Pagosa Springs ■ M Lazy C Ranch in Lake George ■ Keystone Resort ■ Lazy F Bar Ranch in Crested Butte ■ Breckenridge Stables and Nordic Sleigh Rides in Breckenridge

*More: [COLORADO.com/SleighRides](http://COLORADO.com/SleighRides)*







4

**SNOWMOBILING**

Combine the thrill of a high-speed ride with the beautiful scenery of the snowy alpine environment. With miles and miles of trails in nearly every region of the state, you won't have trouble renting equipment and taking a ride.

**Where to Go:** Grand Lake ■ Winter Park ■ Leadville ■ Monarch ■ Buena Vista ■ South Fork ■ Steamboat Springs ■ Breckenridge ■ Grand Junction ■ Glenwood Springs ■ Kremmling ■ Gunnison ■ Crested Butte ■ Pagosa Springs ■ Meeker ■ Creede ■ Lake City ■ Vail ■ Copper Mountain ■ Durango ■ Telluride ■ Estes Park ■ Hayden ■ Silverthorne

*More: [COLORADO.com/Snowmobiling](http://COLORADO.com/Snowmobiling)*



6

**FAT BIKING**

Also known as snow biking, fat biking allows exercise-zany Coloradans to keep their wheels spinning, no matter the season. Those fat tires keep you atop the snow, and though they aren't built for speed, they can go just about anywhere. Many trails are open to fat bikers whenever there's snow, but here are a few sure things.

**Rent/Tours/Trails:** BootDoctors and Paragon Outdoors in Telluride ■ The Hub Bicycle Shop in Colorado Springs ■ Orange Peel Bicycle Service in Steamboat Springs ■ Devil's Thumb Ranch in Tabernash ■ Golden Bike Shop ■ Colorado Bike Service in Vail ■ A Culture of Speed in Idaho Springs ■ Rocky Mountain Ski & Raft in South Fork ■ Kokopelli Bike & Board in Cortez ■ University Bikes in Boulder ■ Cycles of Life in Leadville ■ Pagosa Mountain Sports ■ Absolute Bikes Adventures in Salida ■ Front Range Ride Guides in Boulder ■ Breck Bike Guides in Breckenridge ■ Fat Bike Adventures in Fort Collins ■ Durango Nordic Center ■ Winter Park Resort ■ Steamboat Resort ■ Gold Run Nordic Center in Breckenridge ■ Devil's Thumb Ranch in Tabernash ■ Latigo Ranch in Kremmling ■ Howelsen Hill Nordic Center in Steamboat Springs

*More: [COLORADO.com/SnowBiking](http://COLORADO.com/SnowBiking)*

5

**SNOWSHOEING & CROSS-COUNTRY SKIING**

Backcountry trails lead to fluffy-snow-covered valleys and peaceful stands of evergreen and aspen trees, where the only sounds you hear are chirping birds and your own heartbeat. Dozens of Nordic centers, including many at the ski resorts, are a great way to get started with rentals, trail maps and warming areas. For more intense endeavors, try a hut trip!

**Where to Go:** Nordic centers in Breckenridge, Crested Butte, Keystone, Vail, Aspen/Snowmass, Tennessee Pass in Leadville, Frisco, Never Summer in Walden, Eldora (near Nederland), Gunnison, Beaver Creek and Grand Lake, ■ Vista Verde Ranch in Steamboat Springs ■ TopAten Snowshoe & Nordic Area in Telluride ■ Vail Nordic School ■ Ski Granby Ranch in Granby ■ Winter Park Resort ■ Steamboat Resort ■ Purgatory Resort in Durango

*More: [COLORADO.com/NordicCenters](http://COLORADO.com/NordicCenters) & [COLORADO.com/HutTrips](http://COLORADO.com/HutTrips)*



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: SNOWMOBILING NEAR SOUTH FORK. JEFF CRICCO; FAT BIKING NEAR FRISCO. LISA SEAMAN; SNOWSHOE. ISTOCKPHOTO; 10TH MOUNTAIN DIVISION HUT SYSTEM'S FOWLER-HILLIARD HUT. JASON J. HATHFIELD.





7

**UPHILL SKIING**

Uphill skiing, also known as “skinning,” “alpine touring” or “ski mountaineering,” involves bypassing the trusty old ski lift and climbing to the top of each run — under one’s own power — before schussing back down (because some people like to do things the hard way).

**Where to Go:** Arapahoe Basin ■ Aspen/Snowmass ■ Breckenridge Ski Resort ■ Copper Mountain Resort ■ Crested Butte Mountain Resort ■ Keystone Resort ■ Powderhorn Mountain Resort in Grand Junction ■ Steamboat Resort ■ Sunlight Mountain Resort in Glenwood Springs ■ Monarch Mountain near Salida ■ Vail Resort ■ Beaver Creek Resort

More: [COLORADO.com/Uphill](http://COLORADO.com/Uphill)



8

**DOG SLEDDING**

Barking dogs eagerly speed you along the trail, and within moments of embarking on your dog-sledding expedition, you’ll experience a rush unlike any other. Dog sledding is fast becoming a popular Colorado adventure.

**Where to Go:** Mountain Musher in Wolcott, near Vail ■ Durango Dog Ranch ■ Snow Caps Sled Dogs and Good Times Adventures in Breckenridge ■ Pagosa Dogsled Adventures ■ Dog Sled Rides of Winter Park ■ Snow Buddy Dog Sled Tours in Oak Creek near Steamboat Springs ■ Grizzle-T Dog & Sled Works in Steamboat Springs ■ Alpine Adventures Dogsledding in Leadville

More: [COLORADO.com/DogSledding](http://COLORADO.com/DogSledding)

9

**URBAN EXPERIENCES**

Colorado’s cities aren’t as focused on the powder needed for winter play, but the cooler weather is still embraced with great enthusiasm. Holiday concerts, performances and markets, winter brew fests, downtown ice rinks, restaurant weeks and spend-all-day shopping destinations make city life merry and bright — not to mention endless places to warm up near the fire with a cuppa tea, hot cocoa or an adult beverage. Bonus: All are within easy reach of the other activities described in this section

**Where to Go:** Find yourself in the charming and diverse neighborhoods of Denver ([denver.org/about-denver/neighborhood-guides](http://denver.org/about-denver/neighborhood-guides)) and the downtown areas of Grand Junction, Boulder, Fort Collins, Colorado Springs, Pueblo, Aurora, Lakewood, Loveland, Greeley and Longmont. See page 64 for other ideas.

More: [COLORADO.com/UrbanExperiences](http://COLORADO.com/UrbanExperiences)



FROM TOP: UPHILL SKIING, ASPEN SNOWMASS; DOG SLED RIDES OF WINTER PARK; BETH SCHNEIDER; CAROLERS, VISIT BRECKENRIDGE





10

**SKI BIKING**

Another way to experience the beauty of a Colorado winter and also get your adrenaline flowing, it's simply a bike with the wheels replaced by skis. Many ski areas offer lessons with staff instructors; the bikes' three-point stance and low center of gravity make it an easy activity to pick up.

**Where to Go:** Purgatory Resort in Durango ■ Winter Park Resort ■ Vail Mountain ■ Keystone Resort ■ Steamboat Resort ■ Telluride Ski Resort

*More: COLORADO.com/SnowBiking*



11

**ICE FISHING**

The main season for ice fishing is December to late February, when the ice is typically sure and conditions are right. Before layering up and heading out, pop into a tackle shop for advice on the best places to go, the best bait to use and plenty of fish tales.

**Where to Go:** Chambers Lake near Walden ■ Eleven Mile Reservoir in Lake George ■ Harvey Gap Reservoir in Glenwood Springs ■ Trinidad Lake State Park ■ Chatfield State Park in Littleton ■ Crawford Reservoir ■ Lake Granby ■ Twin Lakes Reservoirs

*More: COLORADO.com/IceFishing*



12

**WILDLIFE WATCHING**

Moose, deer, marten, ermine, jays, woodpeckers, owls and others often move to lower elevations as the snow piles up in the high country. Several winter festivals celebrate eagles, bighorn sheep, snow geese and cranes.

**Where to Go:** All State and National Parks (page 41) ■ All Colorado Birding Trails ■ Winter festivals: Lake Pueblo Eagle Days (Feb.), Barr Lake Bald Eagle Festival (Feb.), Colorado Springs Bighorn Sheep Day (Feb.), Lamar's High Plains Snow Goose Festival (Feb.), Monte Vista Crane Festival (March), Pueblo's Colorado Owl Fest (Oct.), Chatfield State Park Big Sit (Oct.), Georgetown Bighorn Sheep Festival (Nov.) and Christmas Bird Counts in various locations (Dec.)

*More: COLORADO.com/WildlifeTripldeas*



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: SKI BIKING, PURGATORY RESORT; ICE-FISHING TACKLE, ISTOCKPHOTO; ICE FISHING NEAR DURANGO, KENNAN HARVEY; YAMPA VALLEY CRANE FESTIVAL; BIGHORN SHEEP NEAR ROCKY MOUNTAIN NATIONAL PARK, JAMES FRANK.

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# 16 WAYS TO LOVE SUMMER

## Warm Days & Cool Nights Lure You Outside

Colorado's beauty stirs a thirst to get out and enjoy every moment. Come to life hiking in Colorado's dense backcountry, paddling canyon-carving rivers, grinning next to a wildflower-lined waterfall or wrangling a feisty rainbow trout.

### 1 HIKING

Let your legs move you through Colorado's hidden gems, protected wilderness areas, red rocks and high-mountain desert landscapes.

#### A Few Favorite Spots:

Any Colorado State Park or National Park or Monument (page 40) ■ Wildflowers: Yankee Boy Basin near Ouray, Shrine Pass near Vail, Lake Isabel near Colorado City ■ Waterfalls: Bridal Veil Falls in Telluride, Helen Hunt Falls in Colorado Springs, Fish Creek Falls in Steamboat Springs, Zapata Falls near Alamosa ■ Ancient sites: Canyon Pintado near Rangely, Picketwire Canyon near La Junta, Ute Petroglyph Trail near Palsade ■ Wildlife: Mount Evans Wilderness Area near Idaho Springs, Left Hand Trail in Boulder, Comanche National Grassland near Springfield

More: [COLORADO.com/Hiking](http://COLORADO.com/Hiking)

### 2 RAFTING & BOATING

Landlocked Colorado will surprise you with its rushing rivers, mountain basins and deep blue reservoirs.

#### A Few Favorite Lakes:

Grand Lake ■ Lake Dillon ■ Boulder Reservoir ■ Lake Granby ■ Horse-tooth Reservoir near Fort Collins ■ Lake San

Cristobol near Lake City ■ Vallecito Lake near Durango ■ McPhee Lake near Cortez ■ Blue Mesa Reservoir near Montrose and Gunnison ■ Grand Mesa Lakes (more than 300 of them) near Grand Junction, Paonia, Delta, Cedaredge and Hotchkiss ■ Many Colorado State Parks, including: Cherry Creek, Staunton, Barr Lake, Boyd Lake, St. Vrain, Elkhead, Harvey Gap, Highline, Pearl Lake, Rifle Gap, Stagecoach, Sylvan Lake, Vega, John Martin, Lake Pueblo, Lathrop, Trinidad Lake, Crawford, Mancos, Navajo, Paonia, Ridgway, Sweitzer Lake, Eleven Mile, San Luis and Spinney Mountain

See page 54 for the full whitewater rundown.

More: [COLORADO.com/Boating](http://COLORADO.com/Boating)

### 3 BACKPACKING & CAMPING

Colorado makes it easy to get lost (intentionally, of course) in its voluptuous sand dunes, craggy peaks, rugged mining sites and forested resort-town outskirts. Grab a backpack, a tent and your favorite people and set up camp in one of Colorado's 41 State Parks, 30-plus Wilderness Areas, 22 million acres of National Forests and expansive public lands.



#### A Few Favorite Sites

**With:** No amenities (backcountry): West Fork Campground in the Weminuche Wilderness near Pagosa Springs, Trappers Lake in the Flat Tops Wilderness near Meeker, Ansel Watrous Campground in Roosevelt National Forest west of Fort Collins ■ Lakeside sites: Elk Creek Campground in Grand Lake, Cherry Creek State Park in Aurora, Wupperman RV Campground near Lake

City ■ Epic views: Great Sand Dunes National Park and Preserve, Silver Bar Campground near Aspen, Mueller State Park in Divide

More: [COLORADO.com/Camping](http://COLORADO.com/Camping)

### 4 WILDLIFE WATCHING & BIRDING

Few other places in North America offer such a bounty of wildlife-watching opportunities as Colorado. Who in your group will win the

5

## FISHING

River, lake, stocked pond or on ice, Colorado's large-mouth bass, bluegill, channel catfish and famous rainbow trout await just below the surface. See the lakes above and page 44 for a lineup of cast-worthy locales.



eagle-eye award by spotting some of Colorado's most majestic residents?

**A Few Favorite Sites:**

Moose in State Forest State Park near Walden ■ Bighorn sheep in Bighorn Sheep Canyon and Browns Canyon near Buena Vista ■ Everything from sandhill cranes to greater prairie chickens, snow geese, eagles, hawks, sage grouse, lark buntings and more on Colorado Birding Trails around the state ■ Any National Wildlife Refuge (see page 42) ■ Elk in Rocky Mountain National Park

**More:** [COLORADO.com/WildlifeViewing](http://COLORADO.com/WildlifeViewing)

**6 ROCK CLIMBING**

Reach the state's most stunning pinnacles with your own two hands. For first-time rock climbers,

Colorado has plenty of outfitters who can hook you up with the appropriate gear and lead you to routes you'll never forget.

**A Few Favorite Sites:**

Castlewood Canyon State Park east of Castle Rock ■ Rifle Mountain Park ■ Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Park near Montrose ■ Garden of the Gods in Colorado Springs ■ Ouray Ice Park (winter) ■ North Table Mountain in Golden ■ Rocky Mountain National Park near Estes Park ■ X Rock in Durango ■ Falls Gulch near Buena Vista ■ Colorado National Monument near Fruita and Grand Junction ■ Eldorado Canyon State Park near Boulder

**More:** [COLORADO.com/RockClimbing](http://COLORADO.com/RockClimbing)

**7 BALLOONING** Cool summer mornings in Colorado make the perfect atmosphere for hot-air balloons. Floating serenely along in a basket suspended from a beautiful balloon could be one of the most romantic flights you ever take.

**A Few Favorite Spots:** Boulder ■ Breckenridge ■ Colorado Springs ■ Ridgway/Ouray ■ Longmont ■ Steamboat Springs ■ Pagosa Springs ■ Fort Collins ■ Winter Park/Fraser

**More:** [COLORADO.com/Balloonning](http://COLORADO.com/Balloonning)



**8**

**RV ROAD TRIPPING**

An RV trip through Colorado means inspiring views and unmatched experiences. Myriad roadways all lead to adventure, but if you need a few ideas to get started, consider heading along one — or several — of Colorado's 26 Scenic and Historic Byways. Often taking you alongside the state's most scenic vistas and to or near its 12 National Parks or Monuments, the byways are a tried-and-true family favorite. RV parks along the way will offer as many or as few amenities as suit your travel style, so get behind the wheel and get moving!

**More:** [COLORADO.com/RVing](http://COLORADO.com/RVing)



**7**



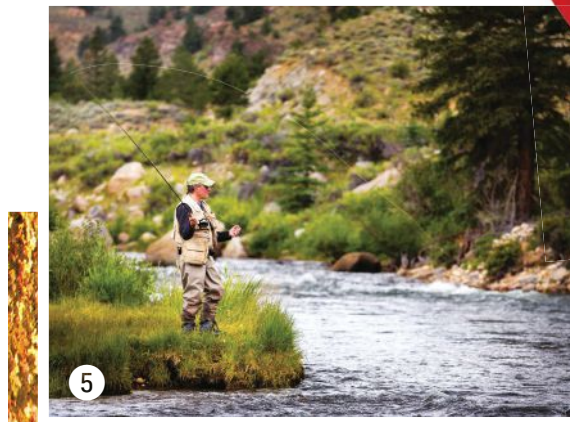
**9**

**GOLF**

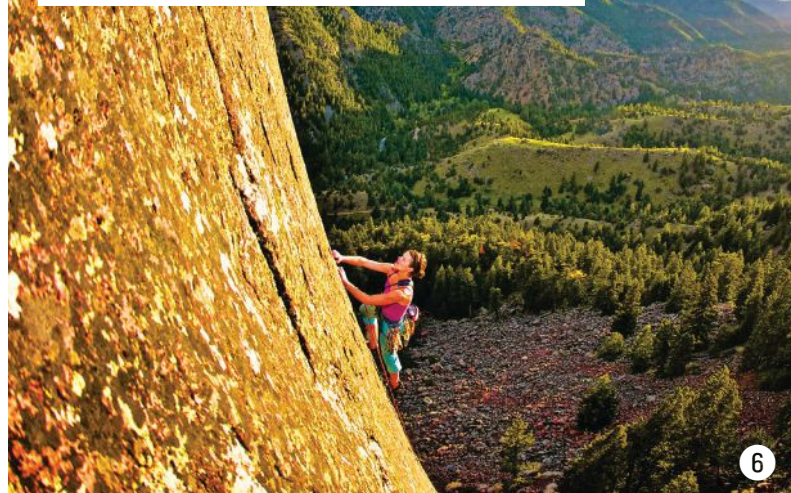
Golf flourishes in Colorado's varied terrain, where each contour becomes an opportunity for inspiring course design. Traditional courses are plentiful, but tucked away in canyons and mountainsides lay true creative gems, where innovation melds with Colorado scenery to push golf's imagination to its very boundaries — and its ball farther into the high altitudes.

**A Few Favorite Places:** Ironbridge Golf Course in Glenwood Springs ■ Keystone Resort ■ Vail Golf Club ■ Telluride Golf Club ■ Red Sky Ranch in Edwards ■ The Broadmoor in Colorado Springs ■ Northeastern 18 in Sterling ■ Highland Hills Golf Course in Greeley ■ Redlands Mesa in Grand Junction ■ Mt. Massive Golf Course in Leadville ■ Castle Pines Golf Club in Castle Rock ■ Denver Country Club

**More:** [COLORADO.com/Golf](http://COLORADO.com/Golf)



**5**



**6**

OPPOSITE PAGE: CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: HIKING THE AMERICAN LAKES TRAIL NEAR WALDEN, KENNAN HARVEY; CAMPING NEAR CRESTED BUTTE, JASON J. HATFIELD; FLOATING THE HANGING FLUME OF THE DOLORES RIVER, KENNAN HARVEY. THIS PAGE: CLOCKWISE FROM TOP RIGHT: RECREATION VEHICLE INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION; GOLFING AT BEAVER CREEK RESORT, VAIL RESORTS/JACK AFLECK; ELDORADO CANYON STATE PARK, CELIN SERBO; FLY-FISHING ON THE ARKANSAS RIVER, JIM DAVID; HOT-AIR BALLOON, ISTOCKPHOTO.



**10 ZIPLINE & AERIAL**

**PARKS** Fly through the air with the greatest of ease on a fast and fun zipline through the treetops and over breathtaking canyons, rushing rivers, wildlife and wide valleys. Many zipliners have added aerial parks, with other options for navigating scenic canyons like swinging bridges, catwalks and flying trapezes.

**A Few Favorite Spots:**

Epic Sky Trek in Castle Rock ■ Royal Gorge in Cañon City ■ Browns Canyon Adventure Park in Buena Vista ■ Soaring Treetop Adventures in Durango ■ Colorado Adventure Center in Glenwood Springs and Idaho Springs ■ Steamboat Zipline Adventures ■ Many ski resorts, including Vail, Breckenridge, Copper Mountain, Keystone, Purgatory in Durango and Snowmass (coming summer 2018)

**More:** [COLORADO.com/Ziplines](http://COLORADO.com/Ziplines)

**11 4X4, ATV & JEEP**

**TOURS** Let an experienced guide take you over hill and dale — and boulder and stream — to see ghost towns or the view from the top of the Continental Divide. Tour companies can provide trails and excursions for all levels of ability. Companies offer guided tours or self-guided rentals for your own high-adrenaline off-roading or a scenic Sunday drive.

**A Few Favorite Spots:**

Lizard Head Pass near Telluride ■ Grand Mesa Trails near Grand Junction ■ Red Feather Lakes west of Fort Collins ■ Hardscrabble near Eagle and Vail ■ Wagon Wheel trail system in Meeker ■ Bachelor Loop Historic Tour near Creede ■ Summitville Ghost Town in Del Norte

**More:** [COLORADO.com/AdventureSports](http://COLORADO.com/AdventureSports)



**12 STAND-UP PADDLEBOARDING**

Stand-up paddleboarding has water lovers standing on surf boards with a long paddle on rivers and lakes around Colorado. SUP tour companies will get you the gear you need and set you to paddlin'.

**A Few Favorite Spots:**

Lake Dillon ■ Union Reservoir in Longmont ■ Chatfield State Park in Littleton ■ Prospect Lake in Colorado Springs ■ Boulder Reservoir ■ Colorado River near Palisade ■ Trout Creek Reservoir near Buena Vista ■ Keystone Lake

**More:** [COLORADO.com/SUP](http://COLORADO.com/SUP)

**13 MOUNTAIN & ROAD BIKING**

That earthy scent of pine needles warming in the sun is best absorbed while twisting along on two wheels. Communities such as Fruita and Crested Butte come together over a love of singletrack while hard-core riders reunite to crank out 60-mile sections of highway in annual high-altitude road-biking races. Find your path and join the Colorado way of life. See page 72.

**14**

**MOTORCYCLE TOURING**

Tour any of Colorado's designated scenic highways and byways from the back of a hog, feeling the wind in your hair and the sun on your face. Colorado boasts 26 different scenic drives in all corners of the state, highlighting some of the most breathtaking scenery imaginable. Taking it all in on two wheels could be the adventure of a lifetime. See page 70.

**More:** [COLORADO.com/MotorcycleTours](http://COLORADO.com/MotorcycleTours)







CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: PADDLEBOARDING ON HAVILAND LAKE NEAR DURANGO, KENNAN HARVEY; SAN JUAN SCENIC JEEP TOURS; HORSEBACK RIDING, GATEWAY CANYON RESORT & SPA; FRISBEE GOLF AT BEAVER CREEK RESORT; VAIL RESORTS/JACK AFFLECK; CYCLING RACE NEAR ASPEN, C2 PHOTOGRAPHY;



**15**

**HORSEBACK RIDING**

Find your giddyup at a sprawling dude ranch or trot along in the shadows of 14,000-foot mountain peaks in a national park. Dramatic backdrops and trusted trails make Colorado the perfect place to get in the saddle.

**A Few Favorite Spots:** Chalk Creek in Buena Vista ■ Garden of the Gods in Colorado Springs ■ Sylvan Dale Guest Ranch in Loveland ■ Snow Mountain Ranch in Winter Park ■ West Snowmass Creek in Snowmass ■ Engineer Mountain near Silverton ■ Saddleback Ranch in Steamboat Springs ■ Beaver Creek Lake ■ West Tennessee Creek near Leadville ■ Glacier Basin in Rocky Mountain National Park

**More:** [COLORADO.com/HorsebackRiding](http://COLORADO.com/HorsebackRiding) & [COLORADO.com/DudeRanches](http://COLORADO.com/DudeRanches)



**16**

**SUMMER AT SKI RESORTS**

Nearly every sky-high resort that brings us thrilling adventure each winter remains open in the summer with gondola-accessed mountain-top yoga, gourmet hiking lunches, bike parks and trail systems, disc golf, adventure courses, mountain coasters and more — all of which come with a hearty helping of panoramic Rocky Mountain views.

**More:** [COLORADO.com/27Resorts](http://COLORADO.com/27Resorts) & [COLORADO.com/SummerAtSkiResorts](http://COLORADO.com/SummerAtSkiResorts)

**WANT MORE? COLORADO.COM/ SUMMERACTIVITIES & BLOG.COLORADO.COM.**



# 14 WAYS TO FIND COLORADO ROOTS

Historic, culinary, ranch and farm activities are inviting travelers all over the state to get to know our roots — some of the reasons the state was chosen for Bravo's *Top Chef* Season 15.

## 1 COME TO THE PARTY

From strawberries to sage grouse, it doesn't take much to convince Coloradans to throw a festival. Schedule stops in your trip to coincide with a super-Colorado-y celebration.

### A Few Favorites:

Ute Mountain Birding Festival in Cortez (May) ■ Leadville Boom Days (Aug.) ■ Palsade Peach Festival (Aug.) ■ Colorado State Fair in Pueblo (Sept.) ■ Salida Fiber Festival (Sept.)

More: [COLORADO.com/Events](http://COLORADO.com/Events)

## 2 GET CREATIVE

Twenty-one Colorado Certified Creative Districts happen to coincide with 21 of the most charming areas in the state. Find them on page 46 or at [COLORADO.com/CreativeDistricts](http://COLORADO.com/CreativeDistricts).



7

## 3 EXPERIENCE SEED TO SIP

Colorado has a remarkable collection of 90-plus distilleries, more than 330 breweries, 140 wineries and a growing number of cideries. Each one has its own characteristics that will vie to make it your favorite.

### A Few Favorites:

Woody Creek Distillers in Basalt ■ Jack Rabbit Hill Farm Wines in Hotchkiss ■ Oskar Blues Brewery in Longmont ■ Spring 44 Distilling in Loveland ■ San Luis Valley Brewing in Alamosa ■ Snow Capped Cider in Cedaredge

More: [COLORADO.com/SeedToSip](http://COLORADO.com/SeedToSip)

## 4 SAVOR, SAMPLE & STAY

Farms and ranches are opening their barn doors to travelers looking for genuine experiences that can include a range of activities from cheese-making to picking dinner's veggies, taking a sausage-making class, enjoying a group picnic and shoeing horses to a (delicious and relaxing) bed-and-breakfast stay.

### A Few Favorites:

Mesa Winds Farm & Winery in Hotchkiss ■ Zapata Ranch in Mosca ■ Gunnison River Farms in Austin ■ Leroux Creek Inn



9





5

in Hotchkiss ■ Mountain Goat Lodge in Salida

More: [COLORADO.com/FarmStays](http://COLORADO.com/FarmStays) & [COLORADO.com/DudeRanches](http://COLORADO.com/DudeRanches)

**5 WANDER GHOST TOWNS**

Colorado ghost towns offer a peek into the foggy windows of a once-rowdy brothel, an ATV trek on roads no one bothered to pave on their way out of town and stories of intense standoffs in gulches that will remind you why this was the Wild West.

**A Few Favorites:**

- Ashcroft near Aspen
- Animas Forks near Silverton and Lake City
- Tomboy near Telluride
- Pitkin near Gunnison
- Uptop near La Veta ■ Dearfield east of Greeley

More: [COLORADO.com/GhostTowns](http://COLORADO.com/GhostTowns)



1

**6 BOARD A DINNER TRAIN**

Call it old-fashioned, but there's something romantic about winding through the Rockies on rail lines and many offer Colorado menus aboard their routes. See page 58 for scenic and historic train offerings.

**7 LIVE THE WILD WEST DREAM**

The hospitality and activities at Colorado dude and guest ranches are unlike anywhere else. Where else can you go on a cattle drive followed by a soak in a cast-iron tub with champagne flutes in hand? Chefs prepare farm-to-table cuisine, and the rustic, relaxing atmosphere meets all expectations you have about Western livin'.

**A Few Favorites:**

- 4UR Ranch in Creede
- Vista Verde Ranch in Clark
- Rawah Colorado Wilderness Ranch in Glendevy
- Colorado Cattle Company & Guest Ranch in New Raymer
- 4 Eagle Ranch in Wolcott
- Deer Valley Ranch in Nathrop

More: [COLORADO.com/DudeRanches](http://COLORADO.com/DudeRanches)



8

**8 GO PICKIN' & TOURIN'**

The peaches from the Western Slope around Palisade are legendary for juicy goodness, but they're not the only things ripe for pickin'. Farms across the state invite guests to pick pumpkins, apples and other delicious items — or to just learn about the farming itself.

**A Few Favorites:**

- Delicious Orchards in Hotchkiss
- 63rd Street Farm in Boulder
- Ya Ya Farm and Orchard in Longmont
- Uncle Johnny's U-Pick Farm in Cedaredge
- Orchard Creek Ranch in Glenwood Springs
- The Living Farm in Paonia

More: [COLORADO.com/FarmRanchActivities](http://COLORADO.com/FarmRanchActivities).

**9 YOU MUST EAT THIS**

Colorado's got the goods when it comes to succulent fruits, fresh produce and hearty local game, not to mention the creative masterminds behind exquisitely crafted menus that travelers and locals can't get enough of.

**A Few Favorites:**

- Rocky Ford melons from stands along Hwy. 50
- Pueblo green chiles
- Palisade peaches
- Olathe sweet corn
- Front Range apples and apple cider

More: [COLORADO.com/YouMustEatThis](http://COLORADO.com/YouMustEatThis)

# HISTORIC ATTRACTIONS

Some of the best things to do on a Colorado vacation revolve around the past. Once roamed by mighty dinosaurs, then formed by native people, westward exploration and expansion, historic landmarks are waiting to be discovered.

- ▶ Stand in the footsteps of our oldest residents — the dinosaurs! Dig sites, museums and other family attractions offer access to fossils. [COLORADO.com/SeeDinos](http://COLORADO.com/SeeDinos)
- ▶ Hit the mother lode of mining history at museums and on mine tours across the state to discover the colorful stories of the founding of many Colorado towns during the 1800s Gold Rush. [COLORADO.com/GoldRushTowns](http://COLORADO.com/GoldRushTowns)
- ▶ The state is home to three unique National Heritage Areas: South Park, Sangre de Cristo and Cache la Poudre. Learn about their roles in our nation's history. [COLORADO.com/NHA](http://COLORADO.com/NHA)
- ▶ Each January for more than 100 years, Denver's National Western Stock Show has celebrated our Wild West heritage with rodeos, dog shows, livestock competitions and more. [COLORADO.com/NWSS](http://COLORADO.com/NWSS)
- ▶ From dinosaur fossils and historic homesteads to Santa Fe Trail artifacts and curiosities, Colorado history museums are bound to have something you haven't seen anywhere else. [COLORADO.com/Museums](http://COLORADO.com/Museums)



**WANT MORE? SEE PAGE 51 AND [COLORADO.COM/HISTORY](http://COLORADO.COM/HISTORY).**





**SHARE WITH US!**

Share your #ColoradoLive moments and cool Colorado photos on Twitter and Instagram to be entered into random drawings for awesome monthly prizes.



**10 DON'T EAT THIS**

Search for Colorado-made delights you shouldn't eat, even if they smell so good you might want to, from lavender sachets and hand creams to alpaca-wool socks.

**A Few Favorites:** Alpaca yarn from Little Circle Farms in Penrose ■ Naked Goat Farm's Lemon Lime Whipped Body Butter in Elbert ■ Lavender Hydrosol Essential Oils from Halfpint Naturals in Edwards

**More:** [COLORADO.com/DontEatThis](http://COLORADO.com/DontEatThis)

**11 WATCHABLE WILDLIFE**

Colorado's mountains, forests, plains, rivers and mesas harbor 960 different wildlife species. Ensure at least a couple of them are part of your vacation by following a birding trail, attending a wildlife festival, taking a ranger tour or goin' fishin'. See page 50.

**More:** [COLORADO.com/WildlifeTripldeas](http://COLORADO.com/WildlifeTripldeas)

**12 LEARN SOMETHIN'**

Old dogs can learn new tricks! Try your hand at something new with classes offered in Colorado — lavender growing, fiber arts, goat husbandry, foraging for wild edibles, horsemanship and more.

**A Few Favorites:** The Art of Cheese cheesemaking classes in Longmont ■ Weaving, spinning and felting

workshops at The Living Arts School in Boulder and Entwine in Colorado Springs ■ Foraging and preserving classes from The Growing Project in Fort Collins ■ Painting and drawing retreats at Anderson Ranch Arts Center in Snowmass

**More:** [COLORADO.com/Events](http://COLORADO.com/Events)

**13 GET THE HIGH PLAINS HIGHLIGHTS**

From bass fishing and wildlife encounters with the likes of lesser prairie chickens and golden eagles to historic Cheyenne and Arapaho Indian sites and canyons lined with petroglyphs to dark-sky sites for stargazers, our often-understated eastern third is anything but plain.

**More:** [COLORADO.com/HighPlains](http://COLORADO.com/HighPlains)

**14 TAKE A PIECE HOME**

Antique shops around the state offer the chance to take home a piece of the past, from vintage snowshoes and wooden ski poles to old steamer trunks and Victorian-era clothing.

**A Few Favorites:** Ski Country Antiques & Home in Evergreen ■ Faded Rose Antiques in Ault ■ American Classics Marketplace in Colorado Springs ■ South Broadway's Antique Row in Denver

**More:** [COLORADO.com/AntiqueShops](http://COLORADO.com/AntiqueShops)

WANT MORE COLORADO ROOTS? DOWNLOAD OUR COLORADO ROOTS E-GUIDE AT [COLORADO.COM/ROOTS](http://COLORADO.COM/ROOTS).

FROM TOP: MOUNTAIN GOAT NEAR MOUNT EVANS, MILES/MATT INDEN; ANDERSON RANCH ARTS CENTER; GREAT SAND DUNES NATIONAL PARK AND PRESERVE. C2 PHOTOGRAPHY.



# CARE FOR COLORADO

We don't need to tell you Colorado is a pretty special place. And we don't mind telling you that you're a pretty special person if you want to help us keep it that way while you're roaming around it.



You already know that you can help ensure these places exist for generations to come by staying on roads and trails, keeping speeds in check, leaving campsites and picnic spots just as you found them, and following informational signs while you're out and about in our state.

But if you want a Colorado Gold Star to pin in your hiking cap/bicycle helmet/ski beanie, here are a few ways you can help steward and restore our old friend that have a distinct advantage: Not only is your vacation a feel-good experience, you also get to see some Colorado's most beautiful scenery.

## 1 VOLUNTEERS FOR OUTDOOR COLORADO



Download the YourCo app to find outdoor volunteer

opportunities in the areas you plan to visit, from trail restoration and construction to planting, fence removal and weed removal — many of the opportunities combine with activities like family camping, canoeing and more. No experience necessary!

## 2 COLORADO PUBLIC LANDS DAY

Colorado is the first state to have an actual holiday recognizing the value of its public lands. The third Saturday in May each year (that's May 19, 2018), events and celebrations include things like photo scavenger hunts, river clean-ups, fundraisers, trail projects, group hikes, astronomy programs and pairings of land stewardship and barbecues, beer samplings, story times and more. [copubliclandsdays.com](http://copubliclandsdays.com)

## 3 COLORADO FOURTEENERS INITIATIVE

Colorado is endowed with 58 mountains whose peaks rise at least 14,000 feet above sea level. Adventure seekers have been challenging themselves to climb these behemoths for decades and the heavy foot traffic on these high-altitude trails can be hard on the ecosystems. Volunteer vacations range from three-day trail builds to wildflower-seed collection.

## 4 COLORADO TRAIL FOUNDATION

The Colorado Trail stretches 500 miles from Denver to Durango. It's a pathway for hikers who want to travel the majority of the state on foot, passing over mountains, around lakes and through a number of Colorado communities. Volunteers are continually working on maintaining its varied terrain. The foundation's volunteer crews make improvements to the trail, and visitors to Colorado are welcome to take part in the weeklong trips.

## 5 CONTINENTAL DIVIDE TRAIL ALLIANCE

The Continental Divide Trail follows the United States' claim to the Continental Divide from Montana to New Mexico. In all, more than 3,000 miles of hiking trails constitute this grand route. As with the other trail-stewardship programs, no previous experience is required to help out. Projects range from repairing damaged sections to scouting missing trail links to building unfinished sections.

## OTHER IDEAS

- ▶ American Hiking Society's National Trails Day (first Saturday in June), dedicated to connecting more people to the nation's trails: [nationaltrailsday.americanhiking.org](http://nationaltrailsday.americanhiking.org)
- ▶ Friends of Dillon Ranger District coordinates projects each summer to construct new trails, install structures and maintain general drainage in Summit County's forests: [fdra.org/volunteer](http://fdra.org/volunteer)
- ▶ Wildlands Restoration Volunteers organizes ecological-restoration projects from seed sowing and willow harvesting to flood and habitat restoration: [wlvr.net](http://wlvr.net)
- ▶ The Greenway Foundation hosts two Family RiverSweeps per year, which involve a volunteer project at a Denver park, then games, crafts and lunch: [thegreenwayfoundation.org](http://thegreenwayfoundation.org)
- ▶ Boulder Mountainbike Alliance projects include trail building, repairing and cleaning in Boulder County: [bouldermountainbike.org](http://bouldermountainbike.org)
- ▶ Colorado Parks & Wildlife has varied opportunities, from developing outdoor interpretive signs to removing invasive weeds: [cpw.civicore.com/public](http://cpw.civicore.com/public)
- ▶ Walking Mountains Science Center hosts weekly volunteer days at the Vail Nature Center for removing invasive plant species, planting native vegetation, cleaning up litter and building and improving local hiking trails: [walkingmountains.org](http://walkingmountains.org)
- ▶ Roaring Fork Outdoor Volunteers hosts trail-restoration projects that range from one to four days: [rfov.org](http://rfov.org)
- ▶ Denver City Parks & Recreation gives groups and individuals the opportunity to keep Denver parks and green spaces beautiful through a variety of community cleanup events: [denvergov.org](http://denvergov.org)

For more: [COLORADO.com/Care](http://COLORADO.com/Care).



# 17 MAGIC MOMENTS ON COLORADO'S PUBLIC LANDS

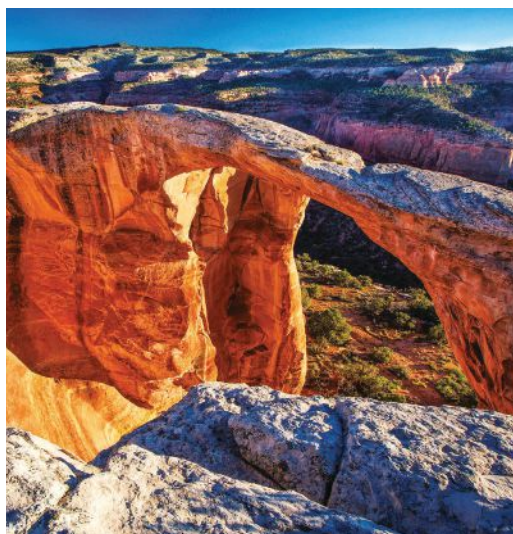
**LEAVE NO TRACE**  
HELP US SAVE THESE SPECIAL  
PLACES FOR GENERATIONS TO  
COME BY STAYING ON TRAILS AND  
ROADS, PICKING UP TRASH AND HEEDING SIGNS.  
VISIT [LNT.ORG](http://LNT.ORG) FOR MORE INFORMATION.



To find volunteer opportunities in areas you plan to visit, download the YourCo app.

There's nothing like a hike through rugged, untamed wilderness or a peaceful picnic amid colorful wildflowers to awaken the imagination and stir the senses.

**1** Feel an exhilarating stomach somersault as your boat shoots the whitewater rapids in **BROWNS CANYON NATIONAL MONUMENT** — the state's newest, near **Salida**. One of the nation's most popular locations for rafting, this Arkansas River-carved beauty also hosts fishers, campers, mountain bikers, ATVs, cross-country skiers, hikers and Collegiate Peaks Scenic Byway drivers. The canyon is also a great place to see bighorn sheep (Colorado's state mammal), elk, deer, eagles, falcons and many other wildlife species. ▼



**2** Frame photos through the arches in **MCINNIS CANYONS NATIONAL CONSERVATION AREA**. North America's second-largest concentration of natural arches can be found in this area near Grand Junction. There are no paved roads or high-tech visitor centers, but 4x4 trails and a rugged hike can lead prepared adventurers to the most spectacular red-rock arches, spires, rock bridges and caves. ◀



**3** Behold a sea of shortgrass swaying in the wind in **PAWNEE NATIONAL GRASSLAND**. The only interruption in the endless flat horizon is two 300-foot-high mesas, visible from miles around. These "two sentinels of the plains," as dubbed by author James Michener, are the only companions of the remote area's pronghorns, coyotes, kit foxes, hawks and falcons, located west of Sterling. ◀

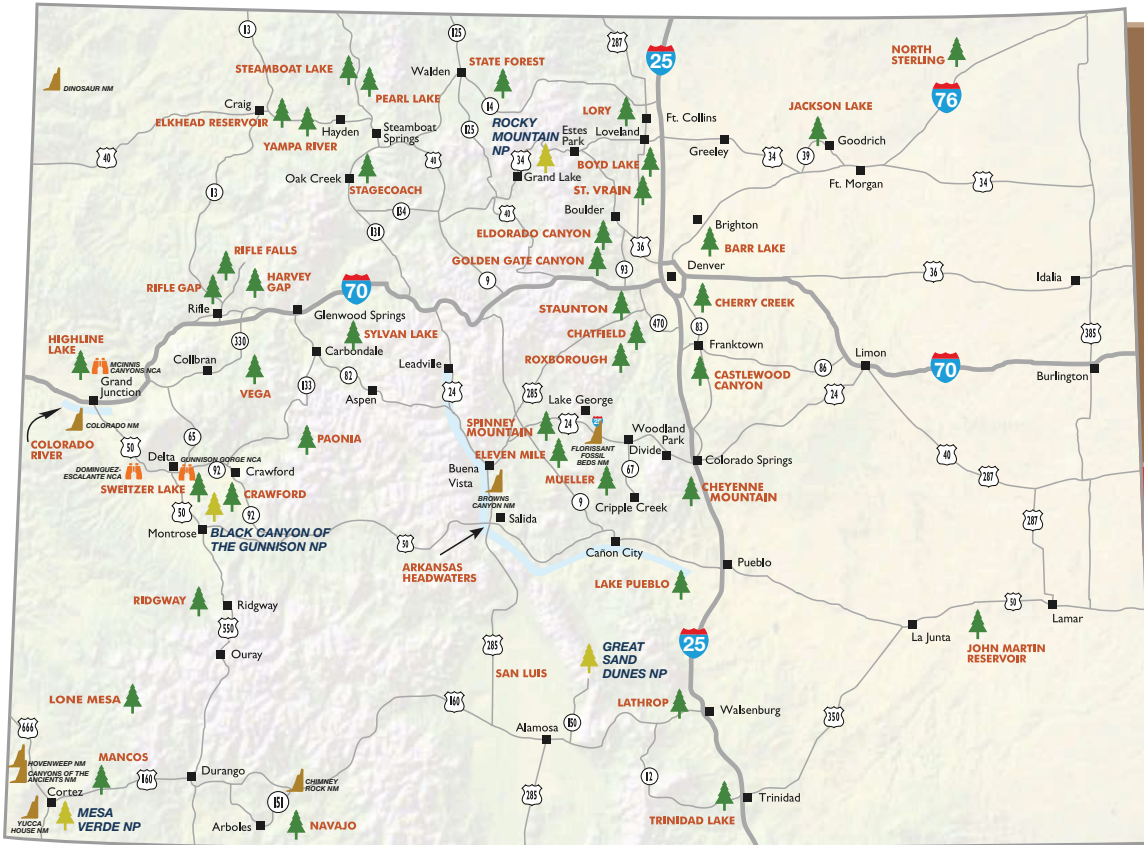
**4** Watch for wildlife in the **MOUNT ZIRKEL WILDERNESS**. With 170 miles of trails that vary in elevation by 5,000 feet, it may seem as though this area near Clark would lure only the most experienced trekkers. But it's not quite as rugged as it sounds — gradual rises in elevation make it a good first-time (albeit well-prepared) backpacking adventure, with almost guaranteed moose and elk sightings. ►



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP RIGHT: BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT; GLENN RANDALL; LISA SEAMAN; BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT.



With more than a third of Colorado's 100,000 square miles made up of public lands, it's easy to find an adventure in our 41 state parks, four national parks, eight national monuments and other public lands. Get inspired by Colorado's spectacular natural backdrop with these 17 amazing experiences and find others on the map below.



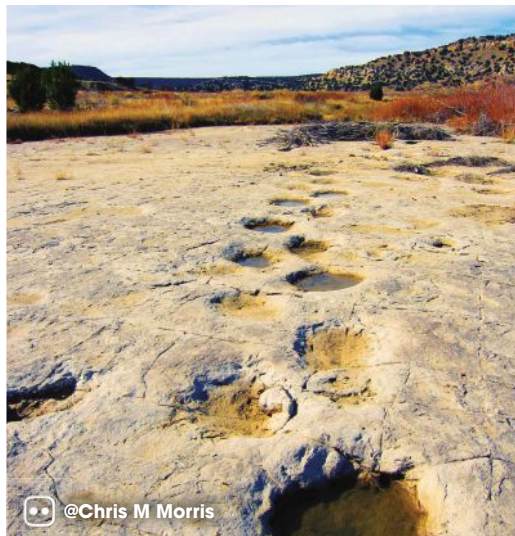
**COLORADO STATE & NATIONAL PARKS**

- Colorado State Parks
- National Parks
- National Monuments
- National Conservation Areas

See the full state map on page 16A and city index on page 208.

**5 Walk in dinosaur footprints in COMANCHE NATIONAL GRASSLAND.**

Standing in Picketwire Canyon with your foot swallowed by a three-toed impression left in the bedrock by a brontosaurus 150 million years ago, one's imagination runs wild picturing what it might have looked like when dinosaurs inhabited the area near today's La Junta. The footprints are reached after a flat 5-mile hike, bike or horseback ride. ▶



@Chris M Morris

**6 Zip along the uncrowded waters of NAVAJO STATE PARK.**

Expansive stretches of water wrap around flat-topped mesas and steep-sided canyons. Treat yourself to a glowing orange and pink sunset hike on the scenic Piedra Trail, climb alongside Navajo Lake from Windsurf Beach to Arboles Point and gaze out over the streaming river. ▼



FROM LEFT: FLICKR/CHRIS M MORRIS; CLASSIC VISIONS PHOTOGRAPHY.

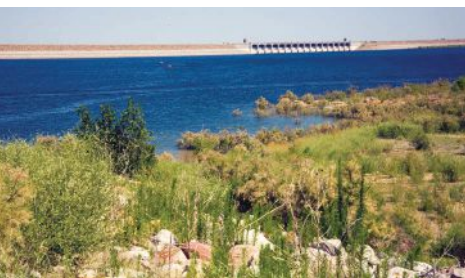
WANT MORE? GO TO [COLORADO.COM/OUTDOOR-ACTIVITIES](http://COLORADO.COM/OUTDOOR-ACTIVITIES).





**7 Cool off in the brisk water at GREAT SAND DUNES NATIONAL PARK & PRESERVE.** Each spring Medano Creek emerges from the mountains behind the dunes near Alamosa to form a gently flowing stream. Visitors cool hot feet after tromping around the dunes, build sandcastles and splash around in its rhythmic waves before it retreats back into the mountains in July. ◀

**8 Hear the crescendo of the powerful triple waterfall in RIFLE FALLS STATE PARK.** On a hot summer day, the mist that drifts from the exhilarating gush of water over 70-foot-high limestone cliffs and the dark caves below are a sublime natural air conditioner. These geologic attractions near Rifle draw photographers, spelunkers, fishers and campers to this singular state park. It's an understatement to say the scene created by the waterfalls is picture perfect. ▼



**9 Feel true enchantment on the high-desert plains, where sweeping grasslands and vast blue skies point the way to JOHN MARTIN RESERVOIR STATE PARK.** In winter, watch thousands of snow geese migrate in formation and effortlessly glide into the water. Summer months are ideal for watching the sunrise over glistening, dew-covered plains near Las Animas. ◀



**10 Commune with the subtle charms of the WEMINUCHE WILDERNESS AREA.** At nearly 500,000 acres near Durango, Silverton and Pagosa Springs, it's our largest wilderness area and has natural marvels that leave folks speechless. But it's the quieter things that draw you in: Snowshoe rabbits scampering across a path. Beavers slapping tails on the water. The shaking of a tree branch when a rose finch has just departed it. Visit [COLORADO.com/Wilderness](http://COLORADO.com/Wilderness) to find others. ▶



**11 Experience the profound quiet of snowy BLACK CANYON OF THE GUNNISON NATIONAL PARK.** Stewards of the park near Montrose do winter explorers a generous favor: They don't plow one of its main roads. When the snow starts falling, South Rim Road becomes a track for snowshoers and cross-country skiers who make their way across pristine powder to a canyon overlook. ▶



**12 Waltz among the wildflowers at LORY STATE PARK.** Despite its closeness to Fort Collins, you feel like you've been airlifted into serenity on Lory's 26 miles of hiking and biking trails, which meander through green valleys, scenic gulches and pine forests. Collect images of every hue from the canary-yellow blossom atop a prickly pear cactus and fiery orange blanket flower to the pale-pink gayfeather and Caribbean-sea-blue larkspur. ▲

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: GREAT SAND DUNES NATIONAL PARK AND PRESERVE; FLICKR/JOSH HUNTER; COLORADO PARKS & WILDLIFE; LU ANNE TYRRELL; ERIC WUNROW; MILES/ANNA ZOROWSKI.





@carfull...home from Mongolia

**13** Roll the window down and feel the breeze along the Rivers Edge Wildlife Drive in **BROWNS PARK NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE**. About as northwest as you can get and still be in Colorado, Browns Park sits in a valley along the remote Green River 60 miles west of Maybell. Solitude-seeking hunters, fishers, photographers, campers and wildlife watchers commune on lands once home to Fort Davy Crockett. ◀

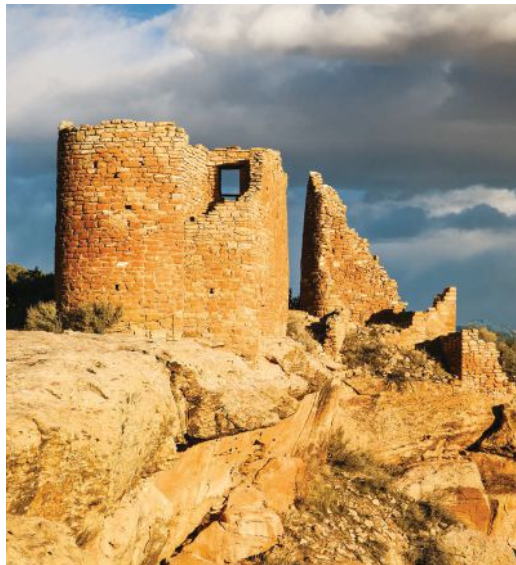
**14** Raft the tumbling rapids of the **CACHE LA POUDE RIVER**. Colorado's only nationally designated Wild and Scenic River, it carves down Poudre Canyon through narrow sections flanked by alpine mountainsides and natural rock cliffs west of Fort Collins. The triumph of paddling over a rapid named Devil's Staircase is second only to the views and the chance to spot bighorn sheep and deer scampering along its rocky hills. ▼



**15** Feel the first pole pull of a foot-long walleye at **NORTH STERLING STATE PARK**. Fishers relish lazy summer days perched on the shore of North Sterling Reservoir, surrounded by wide-open short-grass prairie near Sterling. One of the state's best warm-water fisheries, North Sterling sends anglers back to their campsites with more than fish tales — walleye, catfish, largemouth bass, rainbow trout, bluegill, northern pike and yellow perch are on the menu for lucky anglers. ▶



**16** Marvel at the masonry of Colorado's ancient people at **HOVENWEEP NATIONAL MONUMENT**. So adept were the construction skills of the ancient Ancestral Puebloans who lived near today's Cortez, that parts of their structures still stand more than 700 years later. Those who tour the area's mesas and canyons today are left to speculate about the purpose of the multistory brick towers. Archaeologists think they could have been homes, storage silos for crops, defensive forts or ceremonial structures. ▶



**17** Follow the **LOST CREEK WILDERNESS** Lost Creek's red-rock formations near Bailey aren't as dramatic as those at better-known spots like Garden of the Gods and Red Rocks parks, but there are a whole lot more of them. Many of the area's domes, knobs, spires and buttresses have eroded in such a way that creeks seem to disappear between their hidden crevices — hence the name. Visit [COLORADO.com/Wilderness](http://COLORADO.com/Wilderness) to find others. ▲



## VISITING ANY COLORADO STATE PARKS WITH THE KIDS?

Twenty-nine of the 41 parks have Family Activity Backpacks available for check out at the park visitor centers. With bug boxes, magnifiers, guide books, binoculars and more, the packs help explorers of any age discover how fun the journey through the great outdoors can be. [COLORADO.com/CSPBackpacks](http://COLORADO.com/CSPBackpacks)

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: FLICKR/CARFULL...HOME FROM MONGOLIA; MOUNTAIN WHITEWATER; ETHAN WELTY; ERRAIN M. PADRÓ; MILES/ANDREA BUIROLIA



# FAMILY FISHIN'

## 9 Spots to Fish With the Kids

Load up your tackle box and picnic basket to create lasting family memories on a Colorado fishing adventure.

The fishing is great at these spots, but they made the list because they offer much more.

Colorado Parks and Wildlife provides a wealth of information about fishing with your little ones. Take a look at their suggestions for making the most of the family fishing experience and their interactive map of the top 101-ish places to take a kid fishing.

Fishing licenses are available the first of April each year and are good through March 31 of the following year; everyone 16 and up must have one. One-day and five-day passes can also be purchased. [cpw.state.co.us/placestogo/Pages/Fishing.aspx](http://cpw.state.co.us/placestogo/Pages/Fishing.aspx)

**1 LATHROP STATE PARK** Nestled in the shadow of the Spanish Peaks in Walsenburg, this park offers a gentle climate and a youth fishing pond for kids 15 and under — as well as two lakes for the older folks.

**2 WONDERLAND LAKE** Ringed by an easy hiking loop, this north Boulder foothills gem is just the right speed for families not wanting to drive too far. The lake is a popular paragliding spot and you can watch the gliders launch from the top of Wonderland Hill.

**3 CORN LAKE** Just outside Grand Junction, the lake is stocked with rainbow trout and offers restrooms, a bike trail and picnic tables. Nearby are the Colorado River Wildlife Area's hiking, wildlife watching and educational activities.

**4 ST. VRAIN STATE PARK** This Firestone site's Sandpiper and Mallard ponds win best spots for kids thanks to the nearness of the parking lot and restrooms. There are easy hiking trails and camping for making a night of it.

**5 ANTICLINE FISHING POND**

Lake Pueblo State Park is a mecca for boating, but this smaller pond's pier is an ideal family perch. Only steps away: a swimming beach, playground, public restrooms and picnic tables.

**6 BEAR CREEK LAKE PARK**

Denver's cityscape gives way to scenic foothills in Lakewood. The fam will love fishing on the piers and the park has a visitor center, swim beach and trails.

**7 PA-CO-CHU-PUK PONDS AT RIDGWAY STATE PARK**

The park's two rainbow-trout-stocked ponds are close to two important sites: a bathroom and a fish-cleaning station. There's also a swim beach and summer programs for kids, including archery, birding walks, hawk quests and more.

**8 AKRON POND** This northeastern site keeps things cool with shady areas, sheltered picnic tables and regularly stocked trout in the summer months, as well as good-size bass and catfish so everyone comes away a winner.

**9 SYLVAN LAKE STATE PARK**

Close to I-70 and the town of Eagle, but far enough removed to feel one with nature, this park has fishing poles to lend to kids that don't have their own.

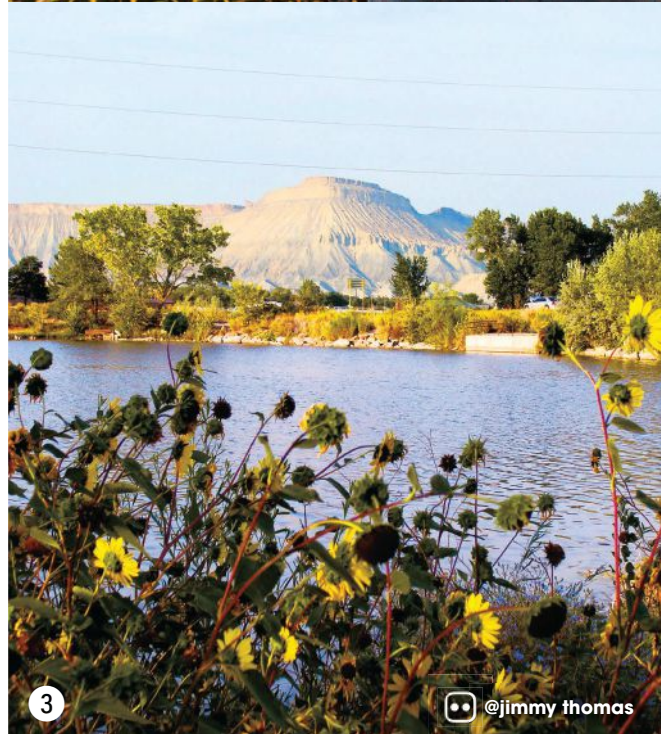
**FOR MORE SERIOUS FISHERS**

► [COLORADO.com/WesternCOFlyFishingHotSpots](http://COLORADO.com/WesternCOFlyFishingHotSpots)

► [COLORADO.com/8LakesForIceFishing](http://COLORADO.com/8LakesForIceFishing)

► [COLORADO.com/GreatPlacesToFishInColorado](http://COLORADO.com/GreatPlacesToFishInColorado)

► [COLORADO.com/RoaringForkFlyFishingVideo](http://COLORADO.com/RoaringForkFlyFishingVideo)



FROM TOP: CHIPETA LAKE STATE WILDLIFE AREA, LU ANNE TYRELL; CORN LAKE, FLICKR/JIMMY THOMAS.

**322** Number of miles of Gold Medal streams providing angling opportunities for large trout. These waters are managed by Colorado Parks and Wildlife to ensure populations of big fish and big smiles for anglers.



# SCOUTING IT OUT

## Steps to Hunting & Seeing the Secret Side of Wilderness

There are very few sensations on this green earth that compare with seeing an elk in the wild. Colorado's public lands include 23 million acres of pristine pines, plentiful pocket meadows and pure-water ponds, so it's no wonder our state hosts the world's largest elk herd and the best chance at hunting, or simply viewing, these majestic animals in motion. Find your path, see what it's all about and choose your own adventure.

### CHOOSE

- A SPECIES:** Mule deer in the mountains, whitetail on the plains or the legendary elk of the Rockies — these are only some of many species that call Colorado home.
- B METHOD OF TAKE:** Go primitive with a longbow, stay modern with a centerfire rifle or split the difference with muzzle-loading. Colorado is accommodating to most types and styles of take as long as you have that handy hunter education card (from Colorado or your home state).
- C SEASON:** It's hard to resist hunting among golden aspen leaves in early season bow and muzzle loading seasons, but cool weather and snow often help in a successful hunt. Big-game seasons run from August through January.

### LOCATION

- A SCOUT IT OUT:** Make a preseason basecamp in one of Colorado's welcoming small towns and bring friends or family along. Staying stealthy any time of year can reveal the secret side of wilderness, which loud or talking hikers rarely encounter.
- B FISH SIDE DISH:** Big-game habitat almost always overlaps with small-game and fish habitat. Bring along that shotgun or rod and experience the richness of Colorado's varied terrain.



NEAR GLENWOOD SPRINGS, JACK AFLECK.

**WANT MORE? GO TO [CPW.STATE.CO.US/THINGSTODO/PAGES/HUNT.ASPX](http://CPW.STATE.CO.US/THINGSTODO/PAGES/HUNT.ASPX).**

## TOOLS

1



### LOVE AT FIRST "SITE":

Adherence to Colorado's hunting and fishing guidelines is extremely important to the overall health of the wilderness. The first responsibility on any trip is to visit [cpw.state.co.us](http://cpw.state.co.us) or pick up a printed manual to stay up to date on changes in the law.

2

**LEARN:** Colorado Parks and Wildlife offers Elk Hunting University, instructional videos and a whole lot more to get you ready for the hunt. Go to [cpw.state.co.us/thingstodo/Pages/hunt.aspx](http://cpw.state.co.us/thingstodo/Pages/hunt.aspx) to find information on outdoor survival, a guide to Colorado's game-management units, scouting tips and numbers to call when you have questions.

3

**PLAN:** Apply by mail or online for the big-game limited-draw licenses, always due on the first Tuesday in April. For more information on dates and fees, visit [cpw.state.co.us/thingstodo/Pages/hunt.aspx](http://cpw.state.co.us/thingstodo/Pages/hunt.aspx).

To find a directory of hunting outfitters who can lead you on guided or semi-guided hunts, as well as Colorado Parks and Wildlife field offices, visit [COLORADO.com/Hunting](http://COLORADO.com/Hunting).



# CREATIVE COLORADO

## Explore 21 Certified Colorado Creative Districts

These communities brim with galleries, artists in residence and special arts events.

**ART DISTRICT ON SANTA FE** With more than 60 galleries, art studios, theater companies and other creative organizations, this Denver area becomes more of an arts destination each year. Its First Friday Art Walk has burgeoned into an all-out street party.

**CORAZÓN DE TRINIDAD** Affordable living and beautiful landscapes have resulted in an influx of artists in residence and galleries to the heart of Trinidad. Be sure to ogle the large collection of Victorian houses.

**NORTH FORK VALLEY** Organic farms, orchards, vineyards and mesas have conspired to make Paonia, Hotchkiss and Crawford a pocket of natural and artist-made riches perfect for a few days' exploration.

**PUEBLO CREATIVE CORRIDOR** Home to a First Friday Art Walk that's been going strong for more than 20 years, the area's historic buildings house a collection of boutiques, art galleries, studios and sidewalk cafes, and the Riverwalk adds a scenic and serene touch to the artsy atmosphere.

**RIDGWAY** Galleries, studios, a historic theater and arts-education center come alongside furniture, jewelry, candle- and clothing-makers in this town of 900. Check out their full-moon studio tours.

**TELLURIDE ARTS DISTRICT** This is a town where all shops, eateries and hotels are indie-owned and Colorado-minded. Renowned for blockbuster events, the box-canyon-cradled downtown hosts musicians, painters, photographers, bookbinders and many others.

**SALIDA** This friendly, Arkansas River-side downtown is truly a creative district. Long appreciated by rafters, mountain-bikers and fourteener climbers, it's now reaching all kinds of new travelers with its arts scene.

**GREELEY** This creative district, encompassing downtown and surrounding neighborhoods, sponsors year-round arts events to inspire, including flash mobs, First Fridays and Concerts Under the Stars performances.

**DOWNTOWN COLORADO SPRINGS** With more than 50 pieces of public art, a roster of esteemed cultural institutions and a jam-packed schedule of artsy events and festivals, it's no surprise that downtown Colorado Springs earns marks for creativity.

**RIVER NORTH ART DISTRICT** This Denver neighborhood maintains its industrial origins while a growing crew of visionary businesses, including architects, art galleries, furniture-makers and photographers have found a home here.

**DOWNTOWN LONGMONT** With a mix of historic charm and contemporary style, Longmont's galleries and theaters are surrounded by an eclectic array of shops and restaurants in artfully restored buildings, as well as their Art in Public Places Program, where there's always something delightful to stumble upon.

**40 WEST ARTS DISTRICT** Don't be fooled by Lakewood's suburban nature, the city west of Denver hosts an understated artistic community with more than 20 public art installations, performing-arts venues and a dozen-ish galleries.

**MANCOS** The old and new flourish side by side in a town that maintains its rural Western character and a vibrant downtown arts community. Take classes taught by local makers at Mancos School of the West or tour galleries and see artist demos at the Mancos Studio Tour.

**BRECKENRIDGE** This mountain-view-framed downtown includes long-standing institutions like Breckenridge Backstage Theatre and National Repertory







Orchestra, decorative plazas and gardens; and a wide array of studios, galleries and other creative establishments — and 250-plus buildings on the National Historic Register put to modern use.

**GOLDEN TRIANGLE** Bordered by Speer, Colfax and Lincoln, this wedge of Denver has a list of adored attractions, including the Denver Art Museum, Clyfford Still Museum and History Colorado Center. Examine the mix of hip art galleries, boutiques, coffee shops and bars.

**CARBONDALE** This area is fueled by its Western heritage and energetic community of artists. Explore the blossoming Third Street Center's grassroots galleries and performance venues; or visit during July's Mountain Fair to celebrate its creative riches.

**FORT COLLINS** Artisans pay tribute to the area's great outdoors with galleries, museums and innovative institutions dotting historic Old Town. Highlights include the Global Village Museum of Arts, The Center for Fine Art Photography, Trimble Court Artisans and Coco Artist Studio.

**CRESTED BUTTE** The hamlet's Center for the Arts, artist-owned studios and galleries, and 10 performance venues, including restaurants, bars and coffee shops, delight arts-focused visitors. Stroll galleries on Elk Avenue and check out arts events, including art walks and an August arts fest.

**STEAMBOAT SPRINGS** Wild West roots combine with long-standing arts institutions, workshops, youth art programs, Art in the Park (July) and All Arts Festival (August), and a serene natural setting to inspire anyone — which is why so many artists call the area home.

**MANITOU SPRINGS** A quintessential tourist town since the 1870s, Manitou's downtown is peppered with outdoor art, more than a dozen galleries, summer concerts series and arts events. Stop at the Commonwheel Artists Co-Op to see what the locals are makin'.

**WESTWOOD** A Hispanic-centric culture pervades this west Denver neighborhood on Morrison Road. Murals by local painters display the heritage of generations and new galleries and arts happenings are sprouting up each year. September's Chile Fest showcases the neighborhood at its best.

VAIL INTERNATIONAL DANCE FESTIVAL, MILES/ERIC GRAY.



## OTHER ARTS EXPERIENCES

### SMALL-TOWN PERFORMING ARTS VENUES

Colorado's mountain towns might be small, but several pack a big punch when it comes to fine arts. Operas, musicals and first-run shows are all artfully enacted on many small-town stages, including the Creede Repertory, Central City Opera, Tabor Opera House in Leadville, Rocky Mountain Repertory in Grand Lake, Butte Theater in Cripple Creek and the Southern Colorado Repertory in Trinidad. [COLORADO.com/BigArtsSmallTowns](http://COLORADO.com/BigArtsSmallTowns)

### BIG-CITY VENUES

The Denver Performing Arts Complex is one of the nation's biggest arts campuses, ensuring there's always something on stage when you're in town, including performances by the Colorado Symphony, Opera Colorado, The Colorado Ballet and the Denver Center Theatre Company.

There aren't many places where you'll find a nationally accredited art museum, Broadway-worthy theater, gourmet dining and an art school all under one roof, but the Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center encompasses just that. Traveling exhibitions, events, musicals, dramatic plays and concerts are a few of the reasons to plan a visit. [COLORADO.com/Arts](http://COLORADO.com/Arts)

### MUST-SEE ART MUSEUMS

Denver, Boulder, Aspen, Colorado Springs (aforementioned), Loveland and Fort Collins all have stellar museums to block off at least half a day to see. Smaller galleries and niche museums can be found at [COLORADO.com/ArtMuseums](http://COLORADO.com/ArtMuseums).

### ART WALKS

One look at Colorado's roster of art walks will convince you we're serious about the arts. Denver, Telluride, Salida, Old Colorado City, Pueblo, Fort Collins and Breckenridge all have regular walks where visitors can hop between galleries and studios and enjoy the live music and festive air that surrounds these celebrations of the creative spirit. [COLORADO.com/ArtWalks](http://COLORADO.com/ArtWalks)

### DESTINATION FESTIVALS

Several festivals keep things creative throughout the year. Just a few to book a trip around: **Jazz Aspen Snowmass** (June–September), **Colorado Theatre Festival in Salida** (June), **Colorado Shakespeare Festival in Boulder** (June–August), **Cherry Creek Arts Festival in Denver** (July), **Colorado Springs Art & Music Festival** (July), **Vail International Dance Festival** (July–August), **Evergreen Fine Arts Festival** (August), **Steamboat All Arts Festival** (August), **Telluride Film Festival** (September). Find many more at [COLORADO.com/Events](http://COLORADO.com/Events).

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP: RIVER NORTH-ART DISTRICT; TELLURIDE ARTS DISTRICT; SALIDA-ARTS DISTRICT; BETH SCHNIEDER.



# RELAX & REJUVENATE

## 30 Colorado Hot Springs

Colorado's mountains have plenty of activities to get your heart racing, but they're also perfect for kicking back. Dip into our many natural hot springs, where you can soothe sore muscles after a long day of hiking or skiing. Many also offer water slides and kid-friendly amenities.

**IRON MOUNTAIN HOT SPRINGS, GLENWOOD SPRINGS** Our newest hot springs is at the site of the historic Iron Springs Spa on the banks of the Colorado River in Glenwood Springs. **Extra Special:** Sixteen pools feature natural designs that complement the riverside landscape — with heated walkways to connect them (a true winter perk!).

**THE SPRINGS RESORT & SPA, PAGOSA SPRINGS** This luxury resort boasts more than 20 soaking pools (including the world's deepest geothermal spring), a full-service spa and salon and a separate luxury hotel, which is LEED-certified for its environmentally conscious design. **Extra Special:** Unwind in one of the five adults-only pools, which have sweeping views of the San Juan Mountains.

**GLENWOOD HOT SPRINGS LODGE GLENWOOD SPRINGS** This lodge is perfect for the entire family, boasting the world's largest hot springs pool, two water slides and a mini-golf course. **Extra Special:** Escape to the resort's full-service spa, where you can enjoy a soothing massage in the historic sandstone bathhouse.

**TRIMBLE SPA & NATURAL HOT SPRINGS, DURANGO** Relax in the sauna, swim laps in the massive naturally heated mineral pool, picnic and sunbathe poolside and soothe the body and soul with massage treatments. **Extra Special:** There are a couple of lodging options for those who just can't bear to be far from the geothermal waters.

**OURAY HOT SPRINGS POOL & FITNESS CENTER, OURAY** Surrounded by towering mountains and lush forests, this natural hot springs swimming pool is an inspiring place to bring your whole family. **Extra Special:** This crystal-clear pool boasts plenty of kid-approved amenities, such as two large slides, a diving area, a shallow section for young swimmers and a water volleyball area.



**INDIAN HOT SPRINGS, IDAHO SPRINGS** Variety rules with geothermal caves, private baths, outdoor Jacuzzis and a mineral-water pool, not to mention lodging options that range from campsites to resort rooms. **Extra Special:** Visit the spa, where you can get the Maize Salt Glo Treatment, a massage and exfoliation with corn maize, magnesium and castor oil.

**MOUNT PRINCETON HOT SPRINGS RESORT, NATHROP** This luxurious mountain resort boasts numerous geothermal springs. Its proximity to Monarch and Ski Cooper ski areas makes a perfect après-ski-muscle relaxant. **Extra Special:** Thirty small pools are located right in Chalk Creek, which runs alongside the property and adds a super-natural feel to your soak.

**HOT SULPHUR SPRINGS RESORT & SPA, HOT SULPHUR SPRINGS** This resort's waters, which run in the town of the same name, have been flowing from seven natural springs for hundreds of years and were used for healing by the Ute Indians. **Extra Special:** Hop from pool to pool to try out different temperatures and views.

**JOYFUL JOURNEY HOT SPRINGS SPA, MOFFAT** This San Luis Valley gem pulls its 140-degree artesian mineral waters from beneath the Sangre de Cristo mountains. Pools are gravity-fed and cooled to a comfortable and relaxing 98–108 degrees. **Extra Special:** Unique lodging options can be found in the yurt and a tiny tipi village, in addition to hotel and RV and tent sites.



## MORE HOT SPRINGS TO EXPLORE

Overlook Hot Springs Spa, Pagosa Springs  
overlookhotsprings.com

Avalanche Ranch Cabins & Hot Springs, Redstone  
avalancheranch.com

Waunita Hot Springs Ranch, Gunnison, waunita.com

Splashland, Alamosa  
splashlandllc.com

Desert Reef Hot Spring, Florence  
desertreefhot.spring.com

Salida Hot Springs Aquatic Center, salidarec.com

Healing Waters Resort & Spa, Pagosa Springs  
pshotsprings.com

Antero Hot Springs Cabins, Nathrop  
anterohotsprings.com

Box Canyon Lodge & Hot Springs, Ouray  
boxcanyonouray.com

Historic Wiesbaden Hot Springs Spa & Lodgings, Ouray  
wiesbadenhotsprings.com

Valley View Hot Springs, Villa Grove, oit.org/vvhs

Dunton Hot Springs, near Telluride  
duntonhotsprings.com

Creekside Hot Springs Cabin, Nathrop  
creeksidehotsprings.com

Alpine Hot Springs Hideaway, Nathrop  
alpinehotsprings.com

Twin Peaks Lodge & Hot Springs, Ouray  
twinpeakslodging.com

Cottonwood Hot Springs Inn & Spa, Buena Vista  
cottonwood-hot-springs.com

Strawberry Park Hot Springs, Steamboat Springs  
strawberryhotsprings.com

Penny Hot Springs, Carbondale  
carbondale.com

Sand Dunes Swimming Pool, Hooper  
sanddunespool.com

Orvis Hot Springs, Ridgway  
orvishotsprings.com

Old Town Hot Springs, Steamboat Springs  
oldtownhotsprings.org

WANT MORE DETAILS? COLORADO.COM/HOTSPRINGS & THE HOT SPRINGS LOOP ITINERARY ON PAGE 74.



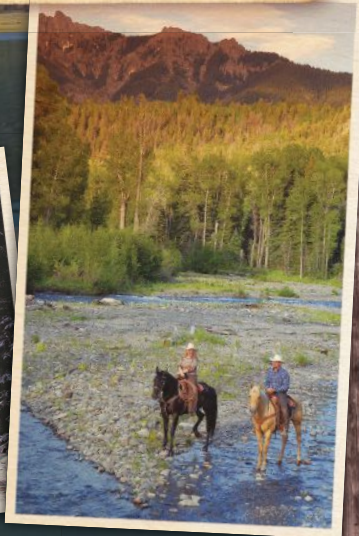
# Choose your own adventure.

Gaze over the San Juan Mountains, explore the wilderness along a meandering trail, splash around in whitewater, or just relax in our famous hot springs.

Discover Colorado's Secret at  
[VisitPagosaSprings.com](http://VisitPagosaSprings.com)

**PAGOSA**  
**SPRINGS**  
COLORADO

- REFRESHINGLY AUTHENTIC -



## Healing Waters Resort & Spa



*Healing Waters*  
Resort & Spa

In the heart of downtown Pagosa Springs. Comfortable rooms, park-model cabins & spacious suites at affordable prices. On-site hot springs swimming pool, hot tub & bathhouse. Walking distance to just about everything fun!

800-832-5523 • 970-264-5910  
[PSHotSprings.com](http://PSHotSprings.com)

## Sunetha Property Management & Vacation Rentals



Live, relax and enjoy the San Juan Mountains. Come vacation with adventure and nature at your door in Pagosa Springs. Homes and condos sleeping 2-20 people

970-731-4344 x 1  
800-365-3149 x 1  
[Sunetha.com](http://Sunetha.com)

## The Cabins at Hartland Ranch



This is how you do Colorado!  
2 & 3 bedroom luxury log  
cabins on 35 secluded acres.

970-264-1111  
[HartlandRanch.com](http://HartlandRanch.com)

## Fireside Inn Cabins



San Juan River frontage, 10 acres  
with 1 & 2 brm fully equipped  
modern cabins. Pet Friendly  
(Dogs/Horses). Open year-round.

970-264-9204  
[FiresideCabins.com](http://FiresideCabins.com)



1

**GO SPOTTIN'**

Spy our official state creatures as you travel around:



**STATE ANIMAL:** Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep. Found in high-mountain terrain. Good opportunities include a Browns Canyon National Monument rafting trip near Buena Vista; Guanella Pass Scenic & Historic Byway near Georgetown; a hike through Beaver Creek State Wildlife Area near Penrose.



**STATE REPTILE:** painted turtle. Found close to the shoreline of ponds, marshes and small lakes. Good opportunities include Jackson

Lake State Park near Orchard, St. Vrain State Park near Firestone and Two Ponds National Wildlife Refuge near Arvada.



**STATE FISH:** greenback cutthroat trout. Found in mountain lakes and clear, cold, gravelly, high-altitude streams.

Good opportunities include Bear Creek Regional Park west of Colorado Springs, Bellvue-Watson Fish Hatchery in Bellvue, Ouzel Creek in Rocky Mountain National Park.

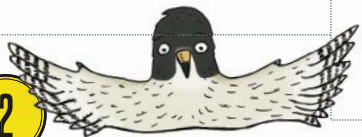


**STATE BIRD:** lark bunting. Found on the eastern plains and up to 8,000 feet in elevation. Good opportunities include the shade trees in town in Kit Carson as well as

from the Big Sandy Creek bridge, Terry Ranch north of La Junta, Pawnee National Grassland near Grover.

**NATIONAL MAMMAL:** American bison. The continent's largest mammal is an important part of Colorado's tribal and frontier past. Opportunities include: Denver's Rocky Mountain Arsenal National Wildlife Refuge, Genesee Park right off I-70 outside Golden, Soapstone Prairie Natural Area (March–November) near Fort Collins.

2



**FOLLOW A COLORADO BIRDING TRAIL**

Colorado is home to more than 450 different avian species, many of which are found in the diverse ecosystems east of the Rockies. Here, lone falcons share the sky with droves of tiny white-throated swifts, owls snooze inside hollowed trees and prairie chickens strut through vast stretches of golden shortgrass. [coloradobirdingtrail.com](http://coloradobirdingtrail.com)



**5 WAYS TO WATCH WILDLIFE**

Something to See, From Corner to Corner

Few places in North America offer such a bounty of wildlife-watching opportunities as Colorado.

Who in your group will win the eagle-eye award by spotting some of our most majestic residents — state mammal bighorn sheep, bald eagles, mountain goats, moose, elk, pronghorn?



**COLORADO WILDLIFE FROM A TO Z**

Get to know some more of Colorado's nonhuman inhabitants at [COLORADO.com/WildlifeAtoZ](http://COLORADO.com/WildlifeAtoZ).

3

**ATTEND A WILDLIFE FESTIVAL**

Nearly 30 festivals are held each year to celebrate the state's furry and feathery friends, from Cedaredge's Grand Mesa Moose Day (July), Estes Park's Elk Fest (October), Lamar's High Plains Snow Goose Festival (February) to Gunnison's Sage-Grouse Festival (April) and many more. [COLORADO.com/Events](http://COLORADO.com/Events)

4

**FIND A FRIENDLY RANGER**

With eight national wildlife refuges, four national parks, eight national monuments, 41 national wilderness areas, 41 state parks and nearly 350 state wildlife areas, you're bound to find a friendly ranger or guide to lead you through wildlife-friendly areas no matter where your trip takes you.

5

**JUST KEEP YOUR EYES OPEN!**

Left your hiking boots at home? Don't worry, there's no need to hit the trails to see Colorado's wildlife in its natural habitat. Hundreds of scenic roads lead safely past elk, bighorn sheep, moose, bison, bald eagles and other watchable wildlife. With a pair of binoculars, you won't even have to unbuckle your seatbelt. [COLORADO.com/WildlifeDrives](http://COLORADO.com/WildlifeDrives)

**DON'T FORGET!**

It's important to always keep a safe distance from the animals. Remembering never to feed, pet, chase or harass them will ensure you and the wildlife stay safe and healthy.

**RESOURCES**

- Colorado Parks & Wildlife: [cpw.state.co.us](http://cpw.state.co.us)
- National Park Service: [nps.gov/Colorado](http://nps.gov/Colorado)
- U.S. Forest Service: [fs.usda.gov/main/r2/home](http://fs.usda.gov/main/r2/home)
- Bureau of Land Management: [blm.gov/colorado](http://blm.gov/colorado)

WANT MORE? [COLORADO.COM/WILDLIFE](http://COLORADO.COM/WILDLIFE)

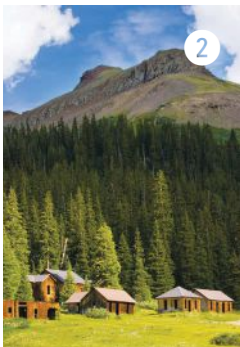


**1****FORT GARLAND MUSEUM & CULTURAL CENTER**

Colorado's historic forts open a window on the 1800s, when the area was settled by frontiersmen, military men, homesteaders, miners and more. Visit these historic sites to find out what life was like for Coloradans during the nation's westward expansion. Fort Garland (east of Alamosa) was commanded by legendary frontiersman Kit Carson and had a garrison of more than 100 who protected the earliest settlers in the San Luis Valley. Tour original adobe buildings and view exhibits on how the fort was saved and preserved. [COLORADO.com/Forts](http://COLORADO.com/Forts)

**2****CARSON GHOST TOWN**

Visitors to Carson often think they're the first to discover the high-altitude town when they see its undisturbed buildings and remote, tricky-to-get-to location. Carson was also unpopular with miners because of its inaccessibility; it sits at nearly 12,000 feet. The best way to get to Carson is from Lake City on Wager Gulch Trail (via 4x4, bike or hike). [COLORADO.com/GhostTowns](http://COLORADO.com/GhostTowns)

**7 WAYS TO EXPERIENCE OUR HISTORY****There Will Not Be a Quiz, But Fun is Mandatory**

Learning about the history of your destination makes the place come alive with old stories and clues that give context and meaning to your travels.

**3 TOURS & TREKS**

Denver's History Colorado Center puts on two- to six-hour tours and overnight treks each month with deep dives into Colorado stories. Past topics have included a tea at the Swan House in Loveland, an Irish tour of Denver, bus tours of forgotten neighborhoods and historic districts, guided hikes with the state's archaeologists, a summer blossoms trek to Crested Butte and others. [COLORADO.com/Events](http://COLORADO.com/Events)

**4 SATISFY THAT SWEET TOOTH**

Visit Honeyville, where you can watch live honeybees at work inside a glass-encased beehive and (most importantly) taste free samples of regional honey products, jams and jellies. This small retail shop is located just 10 miles north of Durango. Try local favorites like cinnamon whipped honey and Chocolate Buzz honey fudge sauce. [COLORADO.com/CulinaryActivities](http://COLORADO.com/CulinaryActivities)

**5 TOUR HISTORIC HOMESTEADS**

Any historic structure, from Durango's Strater Hotel to Leadville's Tabor Opera House, houses colorful human stories. Barney Ford, a businessman who escaped slavery's shackles via the Underground Railroad, is honored at the Barney Ford House Museum



in Breckenridge. The expansive lifestyle of a silver mining magnate is preserved at the Hamill House in Georgetown. Victorian-era splendor and nine architectural styles bring the era to life at Miramont Castle in Manitou Springs. The 1883 Byers-Evans House Museum in Denver tours the home of two prominent Denver families, and no one can forget the "Unsinkable" Molly Brown, whose house museum in Denver pays homage to her enduring celebrity and contributions to women's rights.

**6 DRIVE OUR JOURNEY**

Your very own GPS-guided scavenger hunt of Colorado's eastern plains is online at [ourjourney.info](http://ourjourney.info). The area's local historians have plotted a fun and surprising journey for you. When traveling this area, a must-see is the Kit Carson County Carousel in Burlington, where a 1905 carousel has been spinning since 1928 to its Wurlitzer Monster Military Band Organ. Stop to see the 1910 wood-frame Limon Railroad Depot, one of only three Rock Island depots in Colorado remaining in their place of operation.

**7 PUEBLO CHILE & FRIJOLAS FESTIVAL**

We're talking about the famed Pueblo green chile here. That city's chile is so popular that every September, 100,000 people celebrate its harvest by strolling along Pueblo's historic Union Avenue listening to live music, browsing through local art and, of course, smelling roasting chiles and then tasting the yummy dishes made from them. [COLORADO.com/Events](http://COLORADO.com/Events)

WANT MORE? [COLORADO.COM/HISTORY](http://COLORADO.COM/HISTORY)



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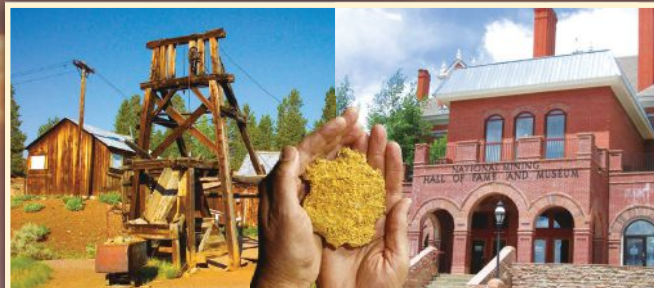
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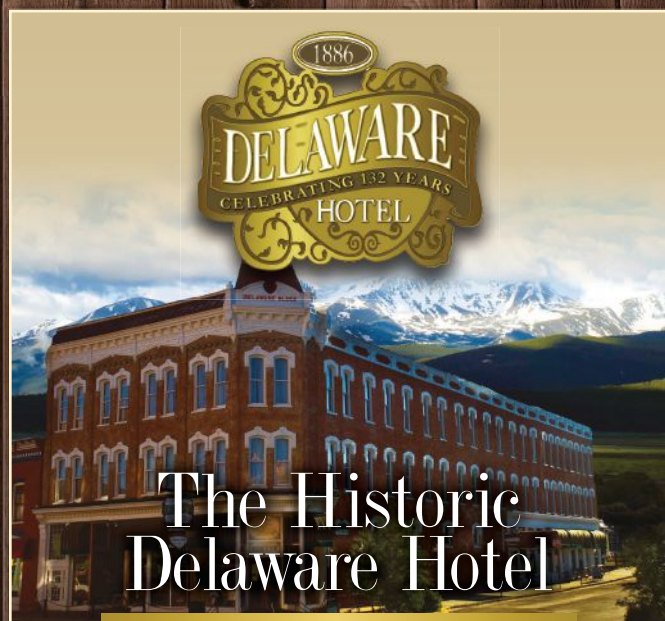
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**WINTER:** Museum open Tuesday-Sunday 9-5

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# TOP RIVERS FOR COLORADO WHITEWATER RAFTING

Each spring, gravity and sunshine draw Colorado's beloved winter snow down from the high country and into Colorado rivers for some of the country's most amazing whitewater rafting adventures.

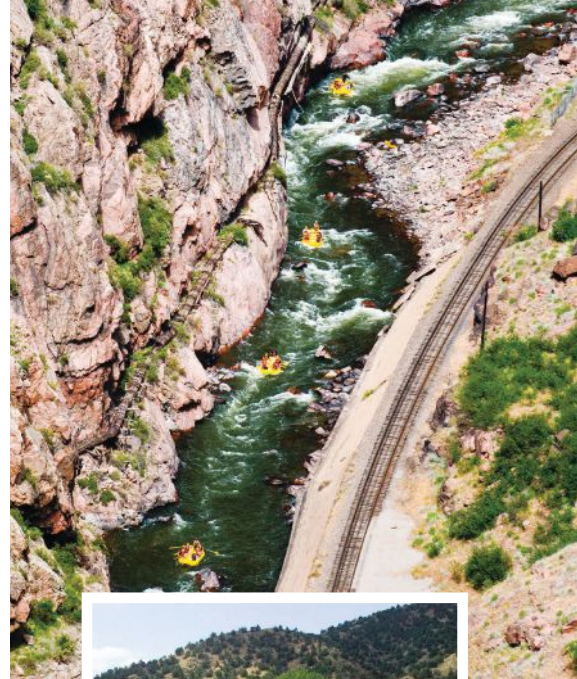
With so many rivers and expert guides, there's an experience fit for people of nearly all abilities.

**ARKANSAS RIVER** Cutting through canyons and dropping 5,000 feet in the first 125 miles, the Arkansas is one of the nation's most popular. From family-friendly Browns Canyon to boat-rocking Bighorn Sheep Canyon and Royal Gorge stretches, it runs through beautiful landscapes. **Typical departure cities:** Buena Vista, Salida, Cañon City, Nathrop

**COLORADO RIVER** Divided by upper and lower sections, the Colorado runs a gauntlet of canyons and ravines that provide sightseeing intermingled with rapids and calms, with stretches that serve the daring and more timid. **Typical departure cities:** Glenwood Springs, Grand Junction, Kremmling, Breckenridge, State Bridge

**CLEAR CREEK** One of the most convenient rafting rivers to Denver, Clear Creek is located right off I-70. Once on the river, however, the interstate goes unnoticed as paddlers drop through the steep and narrow bed. Half- and full-day excursions satisfy those looking for a Class IV day or a quick splash. **Typical departure city:** Idaho Springs

*Continued on page 56.*



FROM TOP: WHITEWATER RAFTING THE ROYAL GORGE; KENNAN HARVEY; RAFTING NEAR CAÑON CITY; MILES/MATT INDEN; RAFTING THE ARKANSAS RIVER; JIM DAVID.





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## 4 THINGS TO KNOW ABOUT RAFTING COLORADO RIVERS

### 1 ALMOST ANYONE CAN GO WHITEWATER RAFTING

**HERE:** While adrenaline junkies can certainly get their fix on Colorado rivers, rafting is safe and fun for people of nearly all ages and abilities. Just discuss your group's comfort level with the rafting company when you sign up.

### 2 OUR RAFTING GUIDES ARE EXPERTS:

All the rafting companies listed in this guide and on [COLORADO.com](http://COLORADO.com) are state-certified and have all the expertise needed to lead you safely down the river. They are accustomed to guiding trips for seasoned rafters and those who've never dipped a paddle in the water.

### 3 WHITEWATER RAFTING INTENSITY VARIES BY TIME OF YEAR:

Depending on the time of year and stretch of river, your Colorado rafting trip could be a leisurely ride through placid waters or a thrill-a-minute adventure through the rapids. In May and June, melting mountain snow makes the rivers run faster for more exciting rides. By August and into September, many rivers are much milder.

### 4 YOU CAN CUSTOMIZE YOUR COLORADO RAFTING TRIP:

Colorado rafting companies offer plenty of options for your trip, including multiday adventures that include camping, and the ability to combine rafting trips with other activities, like train rides, winery tours, ziplining and fly-fishing trips.

With rafting hubs and companies located near dozens of Colorado towns, including Buena Vista, Salida, Steamboat Springs, Winter Park, Vail, Grand Junction, Durango and Fort Collins, it's never hard to find a good place to get on the water.



**ANIMAS RIVER** Trips on the lower Animas are often packaged with rides on the Durango & Silverton Railroad and zipline tours. The upper Animas has challenging Class IV and V rapids that are considered among the toughest commercially rafted waters in the country.

**Typical departure city:** Durango

**CACHE LA POUDE RIVER** This river propels boaters on runs that provide challenges for intermediate or advanced abilities. Not only does it offer great runs, but it's also as unique an experience as you can have on Colorado waters — it's the state's only federally designated National Wild and Scenic River.

**Typical departure city:** Fort Collins

**YAMPA/GREEN RIVER** Winding through Dinosaur National Monument, this multiday run floats you past fossils and archaeological sites, Fremont Indian rock carvings, interesting geological formations and sandy spots perfect for overnight camping.

**Typical departure city:** Steamboat Springs

**TAYLOR RIVER** Views of the jagged Collegiate Peaks mountain range oversee three sections of varying difficulty on the scenic and narrow Taylor River, which is also popular with fishers.

**Typical departure cities:** Gunnison, Crested Butte

Learn more at [COLORADO.com/WhitewaterRivers](http://COLORADO.com/WhitewaterRivers) and from the Colorado River Outfitters Association at [croa.org](http://croa.org).

## OTHER RAFTING HOT SPOTS

- ▶ Roaring Fork River, Aspen
- ▶ Blue River, Frisco, Breckenridge, Dillon, Kremmling
- ▶ Gunnison River, Gunnison
- ▶ Eagle River, Eagle, Wolcott, Edwards
- ▶ San Juan River, Pagosa Springs
- ▶ San Miguel River, near Telluride
- ▶ North Platte River, Fort Collins and Steamboat Springs
- ▶ Dolores River, Cortez
- ▶ Piedra River, Durango, Pagosa Springs
- ▶ Uncompahgre River, Ridgway



## WHITEWATER PARKS

With more whitewater parks than any other state, these designated areas are built for kayaking, canoeing and tubing — hop in or just watch the action: Golden, Denver, Buena Vista, Salida, near Kremmling (Gore Canyon), Glenwood Springs, Avon, Pueblo, Gunnison, Cañon City, Lyons, Fort Collins, Steamboat Springs, Montrose, Breckenridge, Boulder, Durango, Pagosa Springs and Vail, to name a few.

@kidkiely

FROM TOP: RAFTING NEAR BUENA VISTA, CLASSIC VISIONS PHOTOGRAPHY; RAFTING THE DOLORES RIVER NEAR CORTEZ, KENNAN HARVEY; GLENWOOD WHITEWATER PARK, @KIDKIELY



Your Colorado  
ADVENTURE  
AWAITS...

## THRILLING RAFT & ZIP TRIPS

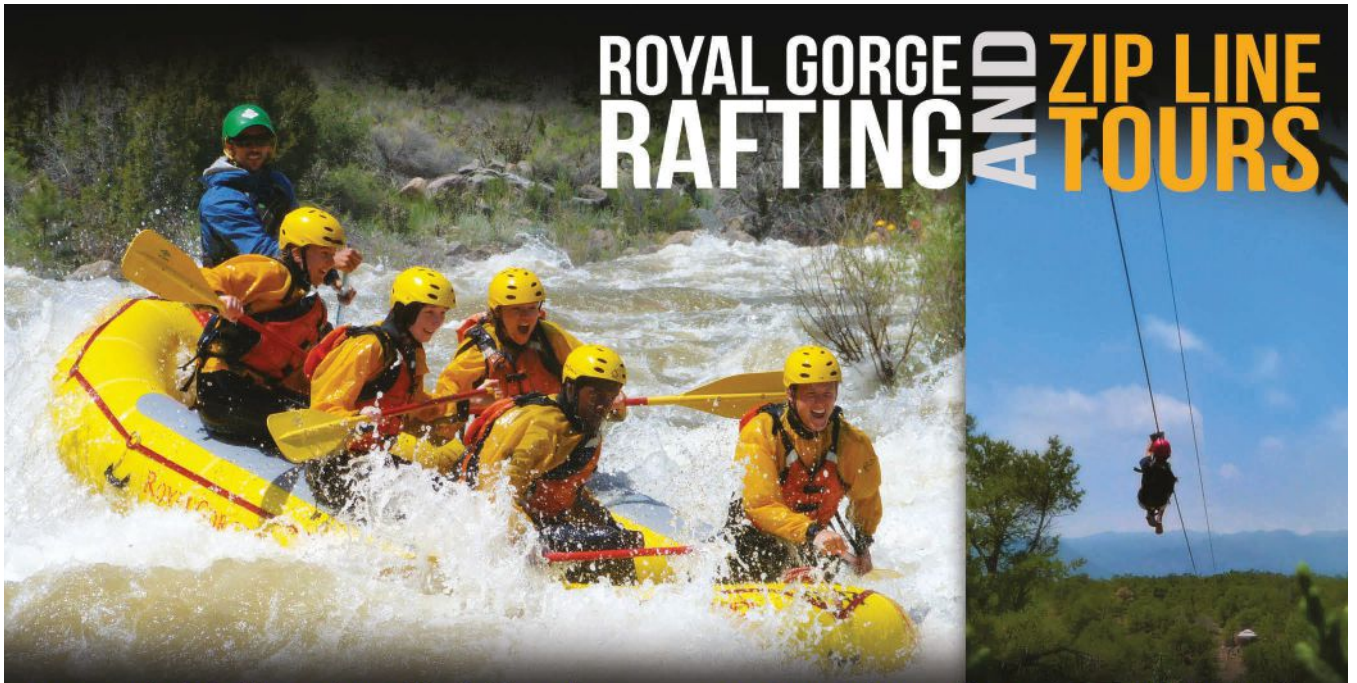
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# 9 SCENIC & HISTORIC TRAINS

One of the best ways to get off the beaten track in Colorado is to explore it via standard- or narrow-gauge track. Colorado's numerous scenic trains transport visitors through landscapes that are inaccessible by car and back to the age of steam, when rails were the only motorized ride.

**1 ROYAL GORGE ROUTE RAILROAD** Take this classic train for a one-of-a-kind view through the 10-mile-long Royal Gorge in Cañon City as you chug along beside the Arkansas River and enjoy outstanding views from the refurbished Vista Dome rail cars.

**Bonus Tracks:** Enjoy a gourmet Dinner Train with options like Colorado-raised slow-roasted prime rib, Red Bird Farms Pollo Marsala and a well-curated wine list.

**2 RIO GRANDE SCENIC RAILROAD** The Rio Grande Scenic Railroad in Alamosa winds through beautiful south-central Colorado on the highest standard-gauge tracks in the United States.

**Bonus Tracks:** From June through September, the Rio Grande ferries music lovers to one of the most unique concert venues in the state for the Mountain Rails Live Summer Concert Series.

**3 CRIPPLE CREEK & VICTOR NARROW GAUGE RAILROAD** This short, 45-minute train ride is perfect for children of all ages. Ride the century-old steam train south from Cripple Creek to an abandoned mining camp and past mines and gorgeous scenery.

**Bonus Tracks:** The ride is fully narrated, with the conductor sharing wonderful facts about the history and scenery around Cripple Creek.

**4 GEORGETOWN LOOP RAILROAD** This gorgeous railroad was one of Colorado's first tourist attractions when it debuted in 1884 with its state-of-the-art narrow-gauge tracks, an engineering marvel of the day.

**Bonus Tracks:** Passengers can elect to disembark to tour the historic Lebanon Silver Mine at roughly the halfway point on the trip.

**5 DURANGO & SILVERTON NARROW GAUGE RAILROAD** This full-day trip takes travelers from Durango high up into the mountains to the old mining town of Silverton through miles and miles of pristine wilderness.

**Bonus Tracks:** Special Blues Trains, Wine & Rails, Brew Trains and Dinosaur Trains add a special flair to your ride throughout the warmer months.

**6 PIKES PEAK COG RAILWAY** This is the world's highest cog railway train — with a cog wheel and special track with "teeth" that allow the train to climb much steeper terrain than would be possible with conventional tracks. The train climbs to the top of Pikes Peak, one of Colorado's best-known fourteeners.

**Bonus Tracks:** The cog railway is now open year-round, with special Santa Train rides in December

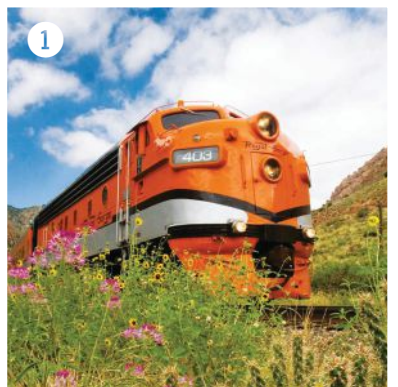
where families get to ride with that special passenger and this elves.

**7 LEADVILLE, COLORADO & SOUTHERN RAILROAD** This hairpin-turn-filled tour takes passengers 1,000 feet above the headwaters of the Arkansas River for unequaled views of the Continental Divide's jagged peaks.

**Bonus Tracks:** Photography and nature buffs will adore the colorful wildflower and fall-foliage trains.

**8 CUMBRES & TOLTEC SCENIC RAILROAD** This recently named National Historic Landmark takes passengers from Antonito, Colorado, to Chama, New Mexico, with a stop for a hot lunch atop a mountain in Osier.

**Bonus Tracks:** The C&T runs several special trains throughout the year, including sunlight dinner runs and fall-color trips on the Galloping Goose.



9

## TRAINS THAT TRAVEL THROUGH COLORADO

**AMTRAK'S CALIFORNIA ZEPHYR & SOUTHWEST CHIEF ROUTES**

If you have plans to motor west, try taking Amtrak's California Zephyr train from Denver all the way through the Rockies, across the Continental Divide and out to Grand Junction (the full route goes from Chicago to San Francisco). Or, snag a shorter trip on the Southwest Chief from Lamar to La Junta or Trinidad; or use these towns as a scenic stopover on your way west to Los Angeles or east to Chicago.

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP: GEORGETOWN LOOP RAILROAD; JIM DAVID; ROYAL GORGE ROUTE RAILROAD; MILES/MATT INDEN; CUMBRES & TOLTEC SCENIC RAILROAD; MILES/DENISE CHAMBERS; PIKES PEAK COG RAILWAY; FELICITY/RICHARD MASONER.



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# QUINTESSENTIAL

## Colorado Events

Celebrate the best of Colorado's arts, culture, cuisine and history through our annual traditions. For more specifics and a calendar, go to [COLORADO.com/Events](http://COLORADO.com/Events) or turn to page 19.

**FILM FESTIVALS** Coloradans must have a thing for film, because it seems like every other town's got a fest celebrating niche filmmaking, from indie to horror, adventure, international, women, mountain and more.

[COLORADO.com/FilmFests](http://COLORADO.com/FilmFests)

**FOOD & FANCY BEVERAGES**

June through September, there's a food, beer, spirits or wine event every weekend somewhere in Colorado. Spring barrel tastings, seasonal beers, locally distilled spirits and celebrations of bacon, barbecue and local bounty abound throughout the year.

[COLORADO.com/FoodDrinkFests](http://COLORADO.com/FoodDrinkFests)

**OUTDOOR ADVENTURE**

Each season kicks off with parties good for watching and participating: whitewater fests, OHV road and motorcycle rallies, wildflower hikes, mountain-bike races, snow-shoe tours, balloon liffoffs, fishing derbies, hard-core endurance races, bike tours, 5ks, marathons and much more.

[COLORADO.com/OutdoorEvents](http://COLORADO.com/OutdoorEvents)

**RODEOS & COUNTY FAIRS**

Colorado's Western spirit is reincarnated at rodeos and county fairs, where traditional affairs such as bull riding, steer wrestling and livestock competitions are often paired with contemporary festivities, including concerts from big-name country entertainers, dog shows and other competitions.

[COLORADO.com/Rodeos](http://COLORADO.com/Rodeos)

**FINE ARTS & CRAFTS** Gallery walks, multimedia arts festivals, dance events and theatrical and musical performances all keep Colorado's rarefied air full of creativity throughout the year.

[COLORADO.com/Arts](http://COLORADO.com/Arts)

**SUMMER MUSIC** Close your eyes and point to a spot on a Colorado map and you're likely to find a summer music festival on the local events calendar. Thanks to mild summer temps and acoustically friendly mountain backdrops, bands love to make the summer pilgrimage to our gorgeous open-air venues.

[COLORADO.com/SummerMusic](http://COLORADO.com/SummerMusic)

**WATCHABLE WILDLIFE** Nearly 30 wildlife festivals are held each year to celebrate the state's furry and feathery friends. Look for events heralding the big guys — bighorn sheep (the state mammal), moose, elk and bald eagles — to the smaller ones, including sage grouse, snow geese and marmots.

[COLORADO.com/WildlifeFests](http://COLORADO.com/WildlifeFests)

**CULTURE & HERITAGE** Wild West fests bring our pioneer spirit to life; American Indian powwows, art shows and markets connect us with the past; and mining heritage is celebrated with burro runs and gold panning.

[COLORADO.com/Heritage](http://COLORADO.com/Heritage)

**MUSEUM EXHIBITIONS** No matter where you are traveling to in Colorado, there's bound to be an extraordinary museum nearby to expand your mind, your knowledge or your appreciation of art, history and science — or to give your kids a lesson they can experience rather than just read about.

[COLORADO.com/Museums](http://COLORADO.com/Museums)

**FALL, HARVEST & AGRICULTURE**

When harvest season nears, Colorado's farms and ranches swing open their gates for fall fun in the fields. Load up the whole family for learnin', pickin' and eatin'. And throughout the year, farmers' markets, tours, fiber and lavender festivals, cattle-dog trials and other events keep the fields full of fun.

[COLORADO.com/HarvestFun](http://COLORADO.com/HarvestFun)

**PRO SPORTS** Population wise, Denver is the smallest city in the country with four major professional sports teams. That should tell you something about the way Coloradans feel about sports, but it doesn't stop there: From Grand Junction to Colorado Springs and Denver, from bike races to indoor lacrosse and from the big leagues to the minors, there's always an event happening.

[COLORADO.com/ProSports](http://COLORADO.com/ProSports)

**WINTER CARNIVALS & HOLIDAY LIGHTINGS**

We don't head inside when the snow starts falling — we celebrate with special events! Winter carnivals, ice-carving competitions, holiday markets and lighting ceremonies are some of the ways we live winter to the fullest.

[COLORADO.com/WinterEvents](http://COLORADO.com/WinterEvents)

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: TELLURIDE BLUES AND BREWS FESTIVAL; ULLUR NIGHTS IN SNOWMASS; PUEBLO PUMPKIN PATCH; MILES/MATT INDEN; BARREL RACING AT THE SNOWMASS RODEO; BLAINE HARRINGTON III.



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**ADVENTURE PARKS** Whimsical worlds of gravity-defying ziplines, speedy alpine slides and other kid-loving activities await at Colorado adventure parks. Zoom down the state's longest alpine coaster at **Glenwood Caverns Adventure Park** in Glenwood Springs; tackle an adventure course at **Vail and Breckenridge's Epic Discovery**; or soar across 10 ziplines at **The Broadmoor Seven Falls' Soaring Adventure** in Colorado Springs. [COLORADO.com/AdventureParks](http://COLORADO.com/AdventureParks)

**MUSEUMS** Colorado's bounty of family-friendly museums offers hours of mind-stimulating fun. Marvel at colossal skeletons at the **Denver Museum of Nature and Science** or the **Ice Age Discovery Center** in Snowmass; learn about food, foraging and farms at the **Fort Collins Museum of Discovery**; or clamber aboard an antique fire truck at **Trinidad's Old Fire House No. 1 Children's Museum**. [COLORADO.com/Museums](http://COLORADO.com/Museums)

# FAMILY MATTERS

## Get Your Merry Clan to These Kid-Centric Spots

Attractions and activities to please every member — from tots to teens — are available around every corner in Colorado.

### WINTER DIVERSIONS

From tubing and ice-skating to horse-drawn sleigh rides and kid-centered ski and snowboard programs, goggle-inducing winter activities can be found on and off the slopes in Colorado. Slide down a snowy hill on a bouncy tube, then ride the lift to the top to do it again and again in **Fraser, Keystone, Vail, Copper Mountain, Winter Park, Durango and Beaver Creek**; or skate amid gorgeous winter landscapes at ice rinks all over the state. See page 26 for more ideas. [COLORADO.com/WinterRecreation](http://COLORADO.com/WinterRecreation)

### AMUSEMENT PARKS

Our theme parks satisfy all ages with towering water-slides and high-speed coasters for thrill-seekers and tamer rides for those who fancy moving at a slower pace. Plunge more than 200 feet at 60 miles per hour at **Eltich Gardens Theme & Water Park** in Denver, conquer the canyon at the **Royal Gorge Bridge and Park** in Cañon City or shake out your inner monkey at **Bananas Fun Park** in Grand Junction. [COLORADO.com/AmusementParks](http://COLORADO.com/AmusementParks)

CLOCKWISE FROM BOTTOM LEFT: STORYTELLING AT THE ICE AGE DISCOVERY CENTER IN SNOWMASS; C2 PHOTOGRAPHY; BRECKENRIDGE EPIC DISCOVERY, VAIL RESORTS/JACK AFFLECK; CLOUDSCRAPER; ROYAL GORGE BRIDGE AND PARK; ICE SKATING IN KEYSTONE, VAIL RESORTS/JACK AFFLECK.





## HISTORIC ATTRACTIONS

Well-preserved landmarks and captivating museums offer a peek into the past, when American Indians, pioneers and fortune-seekers made our state what it is today. Chip at a real gold vein and gain an understanding of the arduous work undertaken by miners at **Molly Kathleen Gold Mine** in Cripple Creek; ride the rails of the **Leadville, Colorado & Southern Railroad**; or explore the reconstructed 1840s fur-trading post frequented by famed frontiersman Kit Carson at **Bent's Old Fort National Historic Site** near La Junta. [COLORADO.com/History](http://COLORADO.com/History)



@Photo Hiker Dave

## ZOOS & ANIMAL SANCTUARIES

Bears, gators and butterflies are just a few of the cool critters that inhabit Colorado's zoos, aquariums and animal sanctuaries. Spy on black bears, mountain lions and other Centennial State natives at the **Wild Animal Sanctuary** 45 minutes west of Denver; feed one of the largest giraffe herds in the world at scenic **Cheyenne Mountain Zoo** in Colorado Springs or toss fish to the alligators at **Colorado Gators Reptile Park** in Mosca. [COLORADO.com/Zoos](http://COLORADO.com/Zoos)

## FAMILY ACTIVITIES BACKPACKS

Twenty-nine Colorado State Parks have Family Activity Backpacks available for check out at the park visitor centers. With bug boxes, magnifiers, guide books, binoculars and more, the packs help explorers of any age discover how fun the journey through the great outdoors can be. [COLORADO.com/CSPBackpacks](http://COLORADO.com/CSPBackpacks)



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP RIGHT: GOLD PAN, ISTOCKPHOTO; MOLLY KATHLEEN GOLD MINE, FLICKR/PHOTO\_HIKER\_DAVE; BUTTERFLY, ISTOCKPHOTO; BACKPACK, GETTYIMAGES; COLORADO GATOR FARM



**1 DENVER**

**SEE & DO:**

Denver Art Museum and History Colorado Center; Rockies MLB game at Coors Field; shopping around Larimer Square and Cherry Creek North

**GET AROUND:**

Commuter train from Denver International Airport to Union Station; RTD light rail and bus; free 16th Street MallRide or MetroRide

**GRAB A BITE:**

The Denver Central Market

**MORE:** See page 90.

**2 AURORA**

**SEE & DO:**

Numerous public golf courses; Stanley Marketplace's restaurants and shops; Aurora Symphony Orchestra performances

**GET AROUND:**

Short trip by car or commuter rail from Denver International Airport; RTD bus and light rail

**GRAB A BITE:**

Tastes from around the world at various ethnic eateries, like Seoul Korean BBQ

**MORE:** See page 96.



**2**

**6 PUEBLO**

**SEE & DO:**

Historic Arkansas Riverwalk for boat rides and summer movie nights; award-winning Buell Children's Museum; navigate the Creative Corridor

**GET AROUND:**

Pueblo Transit buses

**GRAB A BITE:**

Famous Pueblo green-chile patties at Bingo Burger

**MORE:** See page 138.

SEE MORE AT COLORADO.COM/URBAN.

# CITY ESCAPES

## Urban Vacation Ideas

Find ways to experience a new city from the inside out. From urban amenities to major attractions and ease of transportation, these places make an ideal base for any Colorado vacation.

**3 LAKEWOOD**

**SEE & DO:**

40 West, a Colorado Certified Creative Arts District; dining and shopping destination Belmar; nearby Red Rocks Park & Amphitheatre

**GET AROUND:**

Light rail W Line

**GRAB A BITE:**

Contemporary American cuisine at 240 Union

**MORE:** See page 96.

**4 COLORADO SPRINGS**

**SEE & DO:**

Pikes Peak and Garden of the Gods; U.S. Olympic Training Center tour; handcrafted libations at The Principal's Office

**GET AROUND:**

Colorado Springs Airport; Bustang's South Line; Mountain Metro Transit

**GRAB A BITE:**

Thin-crust Neapolitan pies from the oven of Pizzeria Rustica

**MORE:** See page 100.



**1**

**5 FORT COLLINS**

**SEE & DO:**

Charming Old Town Historic District; top breweries like New Belgium; Horsetooth Reservoir for stand-up paddleboarding

**GET AROUND:**

Transfort network; FLEX regional bus; rentable rides through Fort Collins Bike Share

**GRAB A BITE:**

MainLine Ale House's tavern fare and Colorado-crafted brews

**MORE:** See page 136.

**7 LOVELAND**

**SEE & DO:**

Benson Sculpture Garden; shopping the Outlets at Loveland or antique stores downtown; Rialto Theater for a night out

**GET AROUND:**

FLEX regional bus; COLT's 115-plus bus stops

**GRAB A BITE:**

Gourmet sweet treats from Starlight Dessert Bar & Bakery

**MORE:** See page 175.

**8 GREELEY**

**SEE & DO:**

Weekly Friday Fests all summer; mini-train cars at the Colorado Model Railroad Museum; Greeley Ice Haus public skating sessions

**GET AROUND:**

Greeley-Evans Transit buses

**GRAB A BITE:**

Namesake items at Red's Dogs & Donuts

**MORE:** See page 175.



**4**

**9 GRAND JUNCTION**

**SEE & DO:**

Weekly summertime farmers' market; natural wonders of Colorado National Monument and the Grand Mesa; wine tasting

**GET AROUND:**

Grand Junction Regional Airport; Grand Valley Transit bus routes

**GRAB A BITE:**

Alfresco dining on Bin 707 Foodbar's patio

**MORE:** See page 154.



**9**

**10 LONGMONT**

**SEE & DO:**

Longmont Museum summer film series; Tower of Compassion within Kanemoto Park; Brewhop Trolley

**GET AROUND:**

RTD local and regional buses

**GRAB A BITE:**

Georgia Boys BBQ Company's Southern-style staples; American bistro Sugarbeet

**MORE:** See page 182.

FROM TOP: IVYWOOD SCHOOL; HISTORY COLORADO CENTER; COLORADO NATIONAL MONUMENT; ERIC LINDBERG; BINGO BURGER; STANLEY MARKETPLACE; FROM THE HIP PHOTO.



# Your Vacation Memories



INDULGE



EXPLORE



UNWIND

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# HIT THE JACKPOT

## Eat, Play, Stay & Explore Beyond the Casino Doors

In 1859, prospector John H. Gregory panned nearly \$1,000 of gold dust from a gulch 40 miles west of Denver in what became known as “The Richest Square Mile on Earth.” Indeed, the hills surrounding the towns of Central City and Black Hawk yielded tons of the precious metal, and fortune seekers hoping to share the bonanza descended on the region.

A century and a half later, visitors still venture here looking for “gold” — this time from casinos. Colorado sports several gaming venues, ranging from enticing resorts with something for everyone (and lots of eat, play, stay options) to intimate gaming parlors.

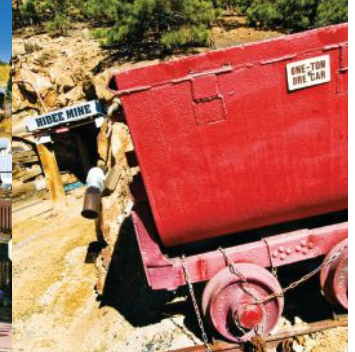
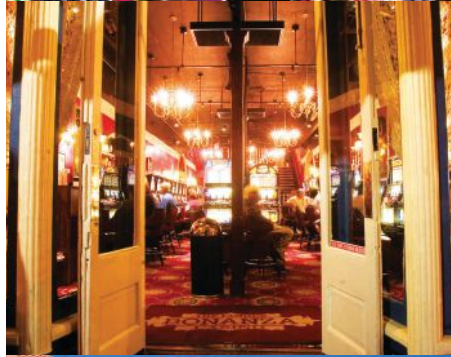
Less than an hour’s scenic drive from Denver, **Central City** and **Black Hawk** visitors tempt Lady Luck at limited-stakes blackjack, craps, roulette and poker tables as well as slot and video machines in 22 casinos. Farther south, **Cripple Creek**, another mining-turned-gambling town, is tucked in the

mountains an hour from Colorado Springs with nine casinos.

In all three towns, all variety of casinos are within a convenient walking distance, so you have the chance to try out different venues with ease.

The state’s casinos recently increased betting limits to \$100, added new games and began operating 24 hours a day. Each destination offers fine dining, luxurious hotels, historic mine tours and, most importantly, authentic slices of history. Casino revenue has helped preserve and restore the towns’ 19th-century charms and more than 600 other historic properties across Colorado.

Today, you can stroll downtown Black Hawk past 100-year-old storefronts, catch a performance at the 140-year-old Central City Opera House or visit the Cripple Creek Heritage Center.



## FOUR CORNERS REGION

Both of Colorado’s American Indian gaming areas are found near the history-rich Four Corners region in the southwestern part of the state.


Table games, slots, year-round events and other offerings lure the lucky to the **Sky Ute Casino Resort** in Ignacio and the **Ute Mountain Casino, Hotel & Resort** in Towaoc, while nearby heritage attractions such as Mesa Verde National Park, Chimney Rock National Monument, the Trail of the Ancients Scenic & Historic Byway and Canyons of the Ancients National Monument beckon gamers on a break.

It’s easy to stay here awhile; Sky Ute Casino Resort has a hotel on site, as well as four dining options, big-name acts and entertainment, including boxing and mixed martial arts.

Ute Mountain also has a full vacation experience, with a number of events and acts held year-round. The on-grounds hotel, pottery factory, RV sites and the full-service restaurant make it a destination unto itself.

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP: CRIPPLE CREEK; EFRAIN M. PADRÓ; CENTRAL CITY OPERA HOUSE; MILES/ANDREA BUROLLA; HIDEE GOLD MINE; MILES/ANDREA BUROLLA; SKY UTE CASINO RESORT; CENTRAL CITY; MILES/ANDREA BUROLLA; CASINO; MILES/MAIT INDEN.





# THE INCREDIBLE BACKSIDE OF PIKES PEAK

Experience the gritty grandeur of an authentic, restored, Old West mining town nestled on the backside of Pikes Peak, full of thrilling casinos, museums and attractions where treasures still await. The “World’s Greatest Gold Camp” lives on in Cripple Creek, steeped in history, where prospectors, gamblers and our resident donkeys still find their happy place far away from the hustle and bustle of everyday life.



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[visitoripplecreek.com](http://visitoripplecreek.com)



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# 17 COOL COLORADO PLACES TO STAY

From campsites to luxury resorts, Colorado has plenty of options for every type of getaway.

## 1 HIGHLANDER RV CAMPGROUND, LAKE CITY

Amid the rugged San Juans, five 14,000-foot peaks and a peaceful waterfall, RV campers find easy trail access, Jeep rentals (and tips for exploring from the owners), excellent trout fishing and the Lake Fork of the Gunnison River.

## 2 DROWSY WATER RANCH, GRANBY

Nestled in a forested valley, you'll embark on an adventure with horseback riding, amazing "chuck," kids programs, white-water rafting, hiking, fishing and mountain biking set against a backdrop of unending vistas.

## 3 VICEROY, SNOWMASS

Ski-in/ski-out at this resort at the base of Snowmass Mountain for access to a Ute Indian-inspired spa, year-round saline-pool and terrace, crazy-big soaking tubs, hot chocolate and apple cider and a ski valet to save you from toting your gear to and fro.

## 4 ARMSTRONG HOTEL, FORT COLLINS

Situated amid other historic buildings in Old Town, the Armstrong's three floors made it the tallest building in town in 1923. Restored in 2004, the new owners recreated original storefronts and the 1940s-era neon sign from historic photographs.

## 5 FIRESIDE INN CABINS, PAGOSA SPRINGS

Beautifully accommodating year-round, this San Juan River-side location really sings in the summer. Cabins with Western flare welcome you back from adventures, with front porches and barbecue grills just steps from private, on-site catch-and-release fishing.

## 6 ANTLERS ON THE CREEK BED & BREAKFAST, DURANGO

This place takes breakfast seriously, as evidenced by its three courses, which helps fuel all your mountain adventures. There's even a special breakfast for those who like to sleep in. Pop around in the evenings for a margarita happy hour.

## 7 COLORADO CHAUTAUQUA, BOULDER

Delightful cottages await visitors at this National Historic Landmark inches from hiking trails, Flatirons views and the famed Dining Hall. Delicious perk: Have your groceries delivered so you never have to leave your front porch.

## 8 THE ART, DENVER

Your remedy for bland hotel decor, the lobby serves as a high-end gallery, with works by the likes of Andy Warhol and Claes Oldenburg. It's a refreshing approach, apropos of a hotel in the Golden Triangle district, with the Denver Art Museum and Clyfford Still Museum as neighbors.

## 9 THE DISTILLERY INN, CARBONDALE

Sample Marble Distilling Co.'s crisp vodka and the divine Gingercello liqueur until you feel like retiring to the distillery's own five-bedroom inn. Cruiser bikes, a rooftop deck and in-room martini bar are a few fringe benefits.

## 10 GATEWAY CANYONS RESORT & SPA, GATEWAY

This escape marries indulgence with adventure: ATVing up red-rock peaks, a desert-racing experience, horseback riding, kayaking, fly-fishing and more with on-site guides. Afterward, unwind in your private hot tub



and then enjoy a five-star meal under a tapestry of stars.

## 11 SURF CHATEAU, BUENA VISTA

You're unlikely to ride a massive wave at this charming hideaway, but it does sit along the banks of the Arkansas River, perfect for kayakers, SUPers, rafters and more. A bright, beachy vibe and "spa-worthy linens" make for a memorable getaway.

## 12 BEAUMONT HOTEL, OURAY

This hotel was built in 1886 to lure wealthy mining investors to the city with its opulence, which included gold-painted balconies and cathedral glass skylights. Proof its finery holds up today: Oprah has been a guest.

## 13 GREAT WOLF LODGE, COLORADO SPRINGS

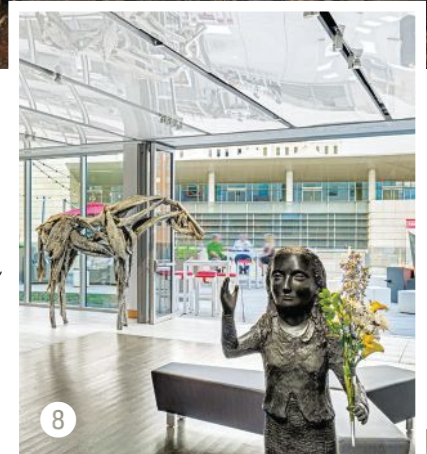
For families, you can't beat this all-in-one vacation spot with 84-degree weather year-round in its water park and activities for everyone from tots to teens.

## 14 THE BIVVI HOSTEL, BRECKENRIDGE

Bunk with like-minded adventurers in European style. Perks include a healthy breakfast, happy hour in the great room, ski or bike equipment storage and access to the Breck Free Ride bus route.

## 15 DELAWARE HOTEL, LEADVILLE

Victorian-era styling has earned the Delaware the nickname "a museum with pillows." Sitting at 10,152 feet in elevation, it's also the highest historic hotel in North America, so there's no doubt you'll find a true mountain experience.



8



9

## 16 WINE COUNTRY INN, PALISADE

Snuggled amid the tidy rows of a high-country vineyard, this charmer provides dramatic sunsets from rocking chairs on the front porch, an afternoon wine reception and dozens of wineries within cycling distance.

## 17 LOTTIS CREEK CAMPGROUND, ALMONT

Packed in among the lodgepole pines of the Taylor River Canyon, this tranquil spot near Taylor Park Reservoir is super handy for those who want to boat, fish and hike and then explore Crested Butte, Gunnison, Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Park and more.

WANT MORE? CHECK OUT COLORADO.COM/LODGING & BOOK LODGING AT RECREATION.GOV & CPW.STATE.CO.US.





# FALL COLOR

## Drives & Rides That Bring Autumn Joy

Our quintessential tree is the aspen. In the summer, it provides shade for our state flower, the columbine; in the fall, we rejoice when its quaking leaves turn vibrant hues of red and gold.

September is the ideal time to bear witness, but you have to time it right. When one area's color fades, another is just changing. The best strategy: Select travel dates in advance, but not destinations. Then go wherever the color is.

**DALLAS DIVIDE:** Head west from Ridgway on CO 62 over the Dallas Divide to Telluride. Lining the route are unimpeded views of the Sneffels Range, an apron of aspens at its feet.

**KEBLER PASS:** Head west out of Crested Butte on County Road 12. The ruddy colors of the Ruby Range make for a radiant contrast with the golden aspens below.

**INDEPENDENCE PASS:** A winding road with groves upon groves of aspen trees that runs between Aspen and Twin Lakes. The pass is ringed by 13,000-foot peaks. There are plenty of Instagram-worthy pull-offs, nearby hikes and even an old ghost town to visit along the way

**GRAND JUNCTION TO GRAND MESA:** Head east on I-70 along the Colorado River, where cottonwoods phase into yellow. At CO 65, go east and then south to the Grand Mesa, where glowing aspens stretch forever.

**COTTONWOOD PASS:** Head down Cottonwood Pass Road west of Buena Vista. You'll enter an aspen-laden valley and see the fickleness of fall — one slope all gold, another patch still a shade of summer green.

**CO 17:** From Antonito, drive up the serene Conejos River Valley, where pinyon give way to aspen. Some of the oldest and tallest aspens in the state can be seen, photographed and enjoyed near La Manga Pass.

**GUANELLA PASS:** Take this route south out of Georgetown. Turn right on US 285 to the top of Kenosha Pass, where the aspen thrive on the rim of gentle slopes that encircle South Park.

**POUDRE CANYON:** Take CO 14 west of Fort Collins to the top of Cameron Pass, a low forested saddle between the Rawah Wilderness and Rocky Mountain National Park. Views stretch down into the North Park basin near Walden.

**FRONTIER PATHWAYS:** Head west out of Pueblo on CO 96. The route climbs into the Wet Mountain Valley, passing aspens blazing with color along the way.

**HIGHWAY OF LEGENDS:** The route from La Veta to Trinidad on CO 12 begs to be photographed as it wraps around the Spanish Peaks amid tracts of pine, scrub oak and aspen.



## BIKE THE BYWAYS

Colorado's official Scenic and Historic Byways meander through breathtaking sceneries and, during autumn, the sights are absolutely magical. Byways are known for driving, but who's to stop foliage-hungry cyclists from taking on a challenge with such glorious rewards?

**CHECK OUT THESE COLOR-SOAKED BYWAYS (AND SEE PAGE 70 FOR MORE):**

1

**WEST ELK LOOP:** Near Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Park in Montrose, this byway winds around the West Elk Mountains and two mountain towns famous for their biking cultures: Gunnison and Crested Butte.

2

**TOP OF THE ROCKIES:** Well over 9,000 feet, this elevated ride crosses the Continental Divide and passes through Copper Mountain, Leadville and Aspen.

3

**PEAK TO PEAK:** The pot of gold at the end of this byway near Rocky Mountain National Park provides a gorgeous encore of vibrant fall foliage.

WANT MORE? [COLORADO.COM/FALLSEASON](http://COLORADO.COM/FALLSEASON)

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: MILLION DOLLAR HIGHWAY NEAR OURAY; MIKE BORITA; FALL IN ASPEN; CO PHOTOGRAPHY; HIKING NEAR CRESTED BUTTE; JASON J. HATFIELD; BIKING NEAR GUNNISON; MATT BURR; NEAR TELLURIDE; LISA SEAMAN.





# SEE AMERICA

## Colorado's Scenic & Historic Byways

Our 26 byways connect the dots between historic sites and majestic scenery from red-rock canyons to the Rocky Mountains to sun-kissed prairie.



**COLORADO FIELD GUIDE**  
ESTABLISHED IN 2017

We have even more itineraries on our website that will get you around Colorado with the ease of a local — especially to the places many visitors don't even know about! Visit [COLORADO.com/FieldGuide](http://COLORADO.com/FieldGuide).

### 1 LARIAT LOOP

Drive one of the first routes developed to help Coloradans experience its mountain parks.

**ROUTE:** Connecting the towns of Golden, Morrison, Idledale, Kittredge and Evergreen

### 2 TOP OF THE ROCKIES

Cross the Continental Divide three times on this dramatic mountain route.

**ROUTE:** Connecting Leadville, Minturn, Twin Lakes and Copper Mountain

### 3 GOLD BELT TOUR

See canyons dotted with the petrified remains of life from 35 million years ago.

**ROUTE:** Between Florissant, Cripple Creek, Victor, Florence and Cañon City

### 4 SAN JUAN SKYWAY

Behold the multihued San Juans as you travel through silver-boom towns.

**ROUTE:** Connects Durango, Silverton, Ouray, Ridgway, Telluride and Cortez

### 5 TRAIL OF THE ANCIENTS

Witness the cliff dwellings and petroglyphs of the Ancestral Pueblos.

**ROUTE:** Connecting the Utah state line near Hovenweep National Monument and the Four Corners (where Colorado, New Mexico, Arizona and Utah meet at one point) through the city of Cortez

### 6 COLORADO RIVER HEADWATERS

Trace one of North America's mightiest rivers to the source.

**ROUTE:** Between Rocky Mountain National Park and State Bridge via Granby and Kremmling

### 7 DINOSAUR DIAMOND

Hunt for fossils and footprints made by dinosaurs and rock art left by Fremont Indians.

**ROUTE:** Grand Junction to Rangely over Douglas Pass, through Dinosaur into Utah.

### 8 TRAIL RIDGE ROAD

Make your way above treeline through Rocky Mountain National Park.

**ROUTE:** Within the park, between Grand Lake and Estes Park

### 9 GRAND MESA

Journey atop the world's largest flattop mountain for wide-open vistas and 300 lakes.

**ROUTE:** Between I-70 and Cedaredge

### 10 FRONTIER PATHWAYS

Glimpse relics of frontier life along a route that climbs ever upward.

**ROUTE:** Between the city of Pueblo and the towns of Westcliffe and Colorado City

### 11 SANTA FE TRAIL

Traverse the famed lifeline between Missouri and Santa Fe traced by 1880s fortune-seekers.

**ROUTE:** From the Kansas state line near Holly, CO, and the New Mexico state line at Raton Pass

### 12 ALPINE LOOP

Guide your 4WD over 1880s roads past wildflower meadows, old mines and ghost towns.

**ROUTE:** Connecting the towns of Lake City, Ouray and Silverton



WANT MORE? VISIT [COLORADO.COM/SCENICBYWAYS](http://COLORADO.COM/SCENICBYWAYS) TO SEE TRAVEL ITINERARIES FOR EACH BYWAY.

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: CRYSTAL MILL ON THE WEST ELK LOOP SCENIC BYWAY; TONY LIJSCHENSKI; THE FRANCISCO FORT MUSEUM IN LA VETA; MILES/ANNA ZOROWSKI; GREAT SAND DUNES NATIONAL PARK AND PRESERVE; LAURENCE PARENT





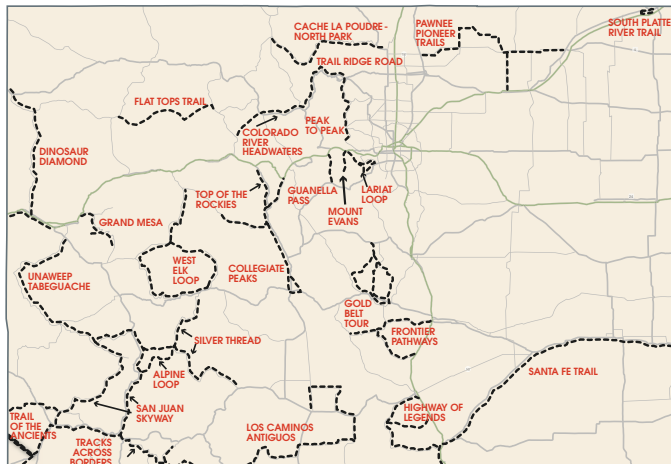
14



8



4



For a full map, turn to page 16A.

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: WINFIELD GHOST TOWN ON THE COLLEGIATE PEAKS BYWAY, MILES/DENISE CHAMBERS; TRAIL RIDGE ROAD, CHIP KALBACK; SAN JUAN SKYWAY, JASON LEWANDOWSKI.

**13 CACHE LA Poudre-NORTH PARK**  
Travel alongside one of America's few Wild and Scenic Rivers.

**ROUTE:** Between the towns of Fort Collins and Walden

**14 COLLEGIATE PEAKS**  
Take this old stagecoach route through canyons carved by the Arkansas River.

**ROUTE:** Connecting the towns of Granite, Buena Vista, Salida and Poncha Springs

**15 FLAT TOPS TRAIL**  
Immerse yourself in the land that inspired the government to preserve its wilderness areas.

**ROUTE:** Connects the towns of Yampa and Meeker

**16 GUANELLA PASS**  
Tour the preserved mining town of Georgetown before rising in elevation to alpine wilderness.

**ROUTE:** Between Georgetown and Grant

**17 HIGHWAY OF LEGENDS**  
Arc around the Spanish Peaks, where gold-seeking conquistadors once traveled.

**ROUTE:** Linking Trinidad, La Veta, Walsenburg and Aguilar

**18 LOS CAMINOS ANTIQUOS**  
Drift through the San Luis Valley, the rugged Sangre de Cristos and the Great Sand Dunes.

**ROUTE:** Between Cumbres pass and the city of Alamosa via Antonito, San Luis and Great Sand Dunes National Park and Preserve

**19 MOUNT EVANS**  
Travel the highest paved road in North America on a serpentine ride to the summit.

**ROUTE:** Extends from Idaho Springs to the summit of Mount Evans and over to Bergen Park

**20 PAWNEE PIONEER TRAILS**  
Meander along what was once a thoroughfare for ambitious settlers, entrepreneurs and bison.

**ROUTE:** Between the towns of Sterling, Fort Morgan, Grover and Ault

**21 PEAK TO PEAK**  
Get close with the Continental Divide, ghost towns, Victorian opulence and Longs Peak.

**ROUTE:** Between Estes Park and Black Hawk

**22 SOUTH PLATTE RIVER TRAIL**  
Imagine the sounds of the galloping Pony Express horses and Overland Trail settlers.

**ROUTE:** Runs between Julesburg and Ovid

**23 TRACKS ACROSS BORDERS**  
The newest by-way follows the creation and development of the Denver & Rio Grande Railroad, the nation's largest narrow-gauge railroad system.

**ROUTE:** Connecting Durango, Ignacio and Arboles south into New Mexico

**24 UNAWEEP TABEGUACHE**  
Look for remnants of those who tried to tame wild lands with copper and uranium mines.

**ROUTE:** Between White-water and Placerville

**VIRTUAL VERSION**

Visit [COLORADO.com/Guide](http://COLORADO.com/Guide) for a virtual version of the byways guide and download the iPad version in the Apple App Store.

**25 WEST ELK LOOP**  
Dip in and out of lush river valleys along the loop's colorful passes.

**ROUTE:** Connecting Carbondale, Hotchkiss, Gunnison and Crested Butte

**26 SILVER THREAD**  
Roam wonderfully isolated swaths of the San Juans, stopping to sample historic towns.

**ROUTE:** Stretching from South Fork to Blue Mesa Reservoir and Lake City



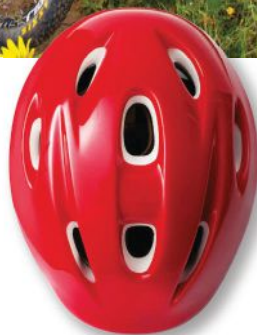


VISIT [LNT.ORG](http://LNT.ORG)  
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# 8 WAYS COLORADO WILL RUIN YOU FOR BIKING ANYWHERE ELSE



It takes ample amounts of black top, singletrack, sunshine and friendly people to create a bikers' paradise to match ours. Lively biking communities ensure that events abound spring through autumn and that road-biking and trail-riding options proliferate.



1

## GREAT MAPPING

Connect with local visitor centers to get directions to hot biking spots. In **Durango**, for example, rides are rated from easy to difficult. **Telluride** has trail ratings, reviews and ascent/descent info. And in **Steamboat Springs**, the maps can help you decide if you need fat tires or skinny. In **Fruita** and **Crested Butte**, two mountain-biking master towns, trail networks are so vast and varied that a map is a downright necessity.

2

## BIKE THE BYWAYS

There's no better way to see purple mountain majesties or amber waves of grain than by collecting the 26 long-distance Bike the Byways rides. Start at **Denver's** South Platte River Trail and work your way toward the Lariat Loop near Denver before tackling mountain rides like Top of the Rockies in **Leadville** and finishing off with the bluffs and buttes of Dinosaur Diamond north of **Grand Junction**. Or, start the other way 'round at the mystifying Trail of the Ancients in **Cortez** and add rides to your list as you work your way north. [dtapps.coloradodot.info/bike](http://dtapps.coloradodot.info/bike)

3

## E-BIKES

For those who prefer scenery chewing to pedaling or driving, electric bikes offer a little boost for paved and trail exploration. Rent one at Colorado E Bike in **Grand Junction**, Rapid Creek Cycles in **Palisade**, Cirque Cyclery in Paonia, Pedego in **Denver**, Rocky Mountain Adventure Rentals in **Vail**, **Boulder** Cycle Sport and many other spots.

CLOCKWISE FROM LEFT: WEST TELK MOUNTAINS NEAR CRESTED BUTTE; NATHAN BLOW; MOUNTAIN BIKING NEAR GRAND JUNCTION; LISA SEAMAN; RIDE THE ROCKIES; CLASSIC VISIONS PHOTOGRAPHY; BIKE HELMET; GETTY IMAGES; BIKE; ISTOCKPHOTO.

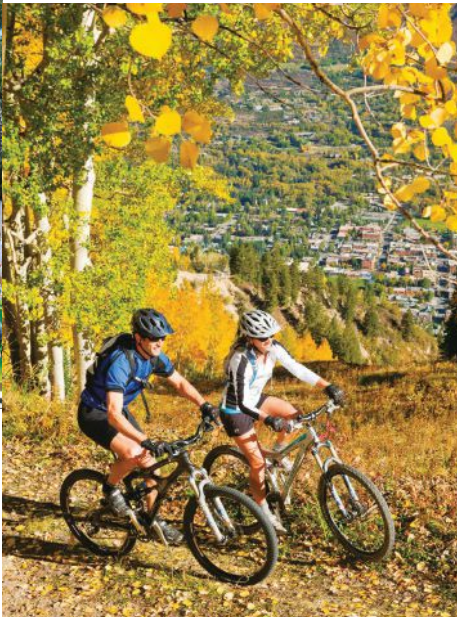




4

## AMAZING EVENTS

Our biking-events calendar is nirvana for riders and fans. Look for large events like the new **Colorado Classic** (Aug.), **Ride the Rockies** (June) and the **Leadville Trail 100 MTB** (Aug.), as well as dozens of smaller events each year. Longtime favorites like the **Elephant Rock Cycling Festival** (June), **Colorado-Eagle River Ride** (July) and the **Fort Collins Tour de Fat** (Aug.) are joined by newer events like the **Pikes Peak Cycling Hill Climb Gran Fondo** (Aug.), **Copper Triangle Bicycle Tour** (Aug.), **Pedal the Plains** and the **West Elk Bicycle Classic** (both in Sept.). [COLORADO.com/Events](http://COLORADO.com/Events)



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## GO FOR THE GOLD!

Colorado has more gold- or platinum-rated bike communities than any other state, according to the League of American Bicyclists. **Boulder** and **Fort Collins** are ranked platinum, while **Breckenridge**, **Durango**, **Crested Butte**, **Carbondale** and **Steamboat Springs** are gold. Silver status goes to **Aspen**, **Vail**, **Colorado Springs**, **Denver**, **Salida**, **Golden**, **Gunnison**, **Arvada**, **Summit County** and **Longmont**, while **Castle Rock**, **Greeley**, **Lakewood** and **Grand Junction** take the podium with bronze.



5

## TOWN CONNECTS

Connection rides between cities are well-traveled by bikes and lightly traveled by traffic (read: plenty of shoulder room). For starters try the new **Boulder to Westminster** route, **Wolcott to Steamboat Springs**, **Las Animas to Lamar** (with a stop at John Martin Reservoir State Park), **Aspen to Glenwood Springs**, or **Fort Collins to Mishawaka Amphitheatre** (ok, The Mish isn't a town, but when there's a concert on, it's close).

The ultra-popular **Boulder-to-Golden** route was recently improved with a larger, paved shoulder for bikes. Try the **Grand Junction to Palisade** "fruit loop" route, which starts at the botanical gardens, then winds riders through the rows of peach trees and grapevines the area is famous for.

7

## BIKE SHARES

Is red a really, really popular color for bikes in **Denver** and **Boulder**? The cities' B-Cycle program has taken off in recent years and received national attention, placing dozens of bike stations and hundreds of (mostly red) bikes on the roads year-round. Visitors and locals alike can "check out" a bike at a station, pay with a credit card (or buy a pass) and cruise from station to station. The **Fort Collins Bike Share** runs a similar program — but their bikes are white! [denver.bicycle.com](http://denver.bicycle.com), [boulder.bicycle.com](http://boulder.bicycle.com), [bikefortcollins.org](http://bikefortcollins.org)



8

## WE MAKE 'EM OURSELVES

Handcrafted to get riders wheeling on all the terrain Colorado can serve up, more than 30 companies are keeping things local for Centennial State riders, from **Durango Bike Company** to **Alchemy Bicycle Company** in Denver, **Yeti Cycles** in Golden and many others.

WANT MORE? [COLORADO.COM/CYCLING](http://COLORADO.COM/CYCLING)

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: LEADVILLE TRAIL 100 MTB; MOUNTAIN BIKING; ASPEN CHAMBER RESORT ASSOCIATION; BICYCLIST; JACK AFLECK; ROAD CYCLING IN FRUITA, WILES/DENISE CHAMBERS; BOULDER B-CYCLE.



# PICK-YOUR-PASSION ITINERARIES

Choose your adventure based on your interests — then head out to explore Colorado from more than one home base!



5

## HISTORIC HOT SPRINGS LOOP

Hot springs are one of the state's most popular and unique experiences — relax amid spectacular scenery year-round. This road trip loops through quintessential mountain towns, world-class outdoor recreation (including seven nearby ski areas), scenic byways, 19 hot springs and much more.

**7 DAYS RECOMMENDED, 740 MILES**

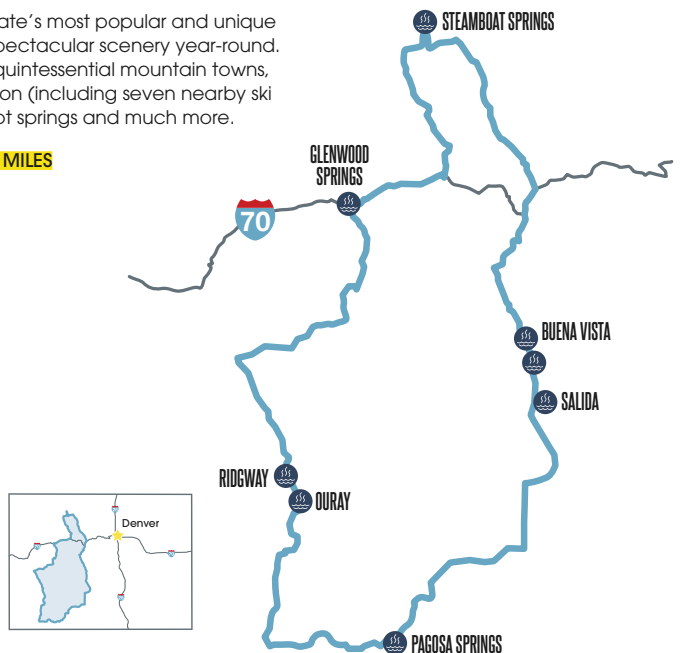
### STOPS:

- 1 STEAMBOAT SPRINGS** Geothermal springs that dot the landscape have long been revered by American Indians and pioneers. Today, two offer memorable afternoons for the family or leisurely post-hiking and skiing soaks.
- 2 BUENA VISTA & SALIDA** Six different springs, from pools and resort spas to creek soaking and hideaway cabins, are cradled along the Continental Divide in towns bustling with outdoor recreationists.
- 3 PAGOSA SPRINGS** These mineral-rich waters are the world's deepest geothermal

hot springs, discovered long ago by the Southern Utes. Three resorts cater to quests for rejuvenation, amid 3 million acres of wilderness.

- 4 OURAY & RIDGWAY** After prowling the colorful San Juan Mountains, check out six public and private hot springs — all with mountain views and easy access to Ouray's charming downtown.

- 5 GLENWOOD SPRINGS** Unique family attractions, Colorado River activities, the world's largest hot-springs pool, the state's newest hot-springs resort and vapor caves give this locale wide appeal.



WANT MORE? [COLORADO.COM/30HOTSPPRINGS](http://COLORADO.COM/30HOTSPPRINGS)

FROM TOP: GLENWOOD HOT SPRINGS, DARREN EDWARDS; OURAY HOT SPRINGS, KENNAN HAIRVEY.



# HISTORIC DISTRICTS

Colorado's historic districts are windows into some of the state's most enchanting, legend-filled towns. Uncover fantastic Colorado lore with these walkable historic districts in just a few of the state's heritage areas.



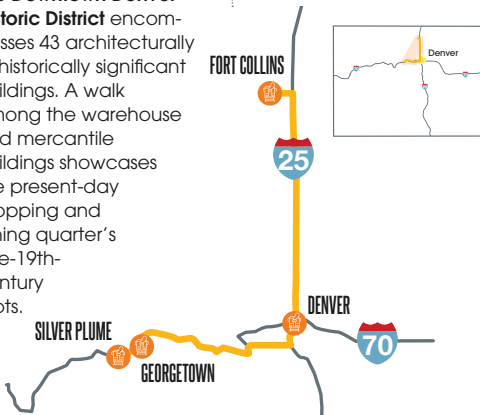
## NORTH CENTRAL:

**111 MILES**

Laden with silver deposits, the **Georgetown** and **Silver Plume** area quickly became known for its ability to make people wealthy during Colorado's mining heyday. Today, the area is still rich with one thing: history. Stroll Victorian Georgetown's main street, hop on the Georgetown Loop Railroad and tour the preserved 1800s Hotel De Paris Museum and Hamill House Museum.

The **Downtown Denver Historic District** encompasses 43 architecturally or historically significant buildings. A walk among the warehouse and mercantile buildings showcases the present-day shopping and dining quarter's late-19th-century roots.

Ride a trolley to the lively **Fort Collins Historic District** — said to have inspired Disneyland's Main Street USA. Old Town's pedestrian mall is filled with independently owned bookstores, galleries, eateries and shops housed in 23 buildings that are part of national and local designated historic districts. You're also just a short drive from **Greeley** and **Loveland**, both of which have walkable downtown areas great for grabbing a beer and some lunch.



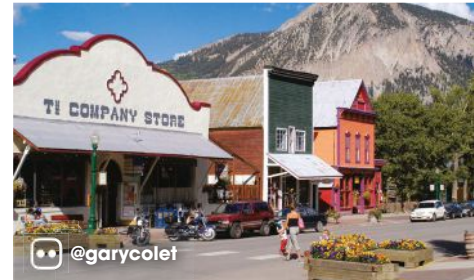
## SOUTH CENTRAL:

**151 MILES**

The United States' highest incorporated city, **Leadville** sits at 10,152 feet and boasts a 70-square-block National Historic Landmark District and a 20-square-mile preserved mining district. Take the historic walking tour and see 50 buildings dating back to 1870.

**Salida** is a popular rafting and mountain-biking community sitting near the headwaters of the Arkansas River and is home to Colorado's largest historic district. Take a walking tour of downtown Salida and visit detailed brick Victorian buildings.

**Crested Butte's** entire downtown is a registered National Historic District. Wander Elk Avenue and stop into the brightly colored restored mining-era buildings turned boutique shops, settle in at a cozy pub to sample some of the state's finest brews, and visit the Crested Butte Mountain Heritage Museum.

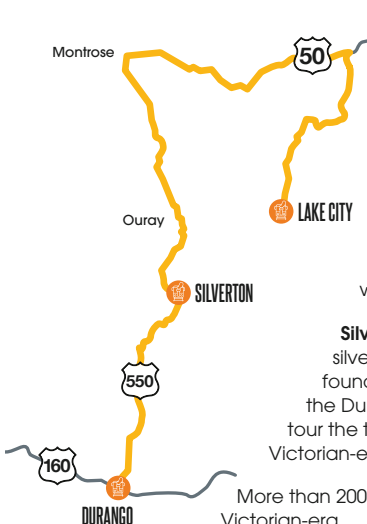


## SOUTHWEST:

**208 MILES**

**Durango's** attractive mix of Old West and Southwest flourishes in the downtown registered National Historic District. Visit the district's restaurants, brewpubs, art galleries, shops and boutique hotels, including the landmark Strater Hotel, where Louis L'Amour wrote the Sackett series.

**Silverton** was in the heart of one of the richest silver-mining regions of Colorado when it was founded in 1871. Today, many travelers arrive via the Durango & Silverton Narrow Gauge Railroad to tour the town's mines and heritage center and gaze at Victorian-era delights like the Grand Imperial Hotel.



More than 200 Victorian-era houses and cabins, churches, shops and public buildings in **Lake City** give testament to the tiny town's role in settling the American West. Stop by the Lake City Museum to pick up a walking tour that will plunge you deep into this mountain town's history.



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: GEORGETOWN, CATHY EDWARDS; CRESTED BUTTE, FLICKR/GARYCOLET; LAKE CITY, CRAIG PALMER.

SEE MORE AT [COLORADO.COM/HISTORICDISTRICTS](http://COLORADO.COM/HISTORICDISTRICTS).



**WELCOME TO THE LAND OF WATER.** Glenwood Springs is a recreational paradise courtesy of H2O. But here, water is more than just a playground. Here it can help you reconnect with your family, rekindle a romance, or rejuvenate a soul. Come discover the power of our water.

**Plan your Glenwood Springs getaway at [visitglenwood.com](http://visitglenwood.com)**



**America's only mountain-top theme park!**

Glenwood Caverns  
**ADVENTURE PARK**

**Amazing Caves • Incredible Thrill Rides  
NEW Haunted Mine Drop!**

GLENWOOD SPRINGS • [GLENWOODCAVERNS.COM](http://GLENWOODCAVERNS.COM)

The advertisement for Glenwood Caverns Adventure Park features a scenic mountain landscape. At the top, three red gondolas are suspended in the sky. A circular inset shows a family of four riding a roller coaster. Another circular inset shows a man and a child exploring a cave. The text is bold and clear, with the park's name in a decorative font.

**100% pure\* relaxation**

naturally filtered / no chemicals

Colorado's newest hot springs!  
16 natural mineral pools  
along the Colorado River.

**IRON MOUNTAIN  
HOT SPRINGS**

Glenwood Springs | [IronMountainHotSprings.com](http://IronMountainHotSprings.com) | 970.945.4766

The advertisement for Iron Mountain Hot Springs shows a group of people relaxing in a natural hot spring pool. The pool is surrounded by rocks and has a wooden deck with a railing. In the background, there are mountains and a lake. The text is bold and clear, with the park's name in a decorative font.



# There's Magic in this Water

Moments passing by quickly often carry memories lasting forever.

Life is made up of moments. The most special ones are found in the world's largest hot springs pool at Glenwood Hot Springs Resort.



Find your ever-lasting moments:  
HotSpringsPool.com or 800.537.7946 (SWIM)



GLENWOOD HOT SPRINGS  
RESORT



## SKI, SWIM, STAY

Voted Best Ski Package!  
Kids 12 & Under  
Ski FREE!



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or call (970) 945-7491

  
**sunlight**  
Mountain Resort



[ironbridgeclub.com](http://ironbridgeclub.com) 970.384.0630

**GOLF**  
Stunning views  
throughout course

**DINE**  
Onsite restaurant  
serving elevated  
American fare

**SAVE**  
Receive \$30 OFF\*  
(Off green fee of \$129  
- not combined with  
other offers)

## RODEWAY INN



- Rooms with Jacuzzis, Fireplaces & King Beds
- Hot Tub with Spectacular Views
- One Mile From Hot Springs Pool

**1-800-456-6685**

Glenwood Springs Reservations Only  
52039 Hwy. 6 & 24, Glenwood Springs, CO 81601  
[www.rodewayinn.com/hotel/co213](http://www.rodewayinn.com/hotel/co213)

Outdoor Pool Internet Breakfast  
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**Caravan Inn**  
GLENWOOD SPRINGS



[www.caravaninn.com](http://www.caravaninn.com)  
1.800.945.5495





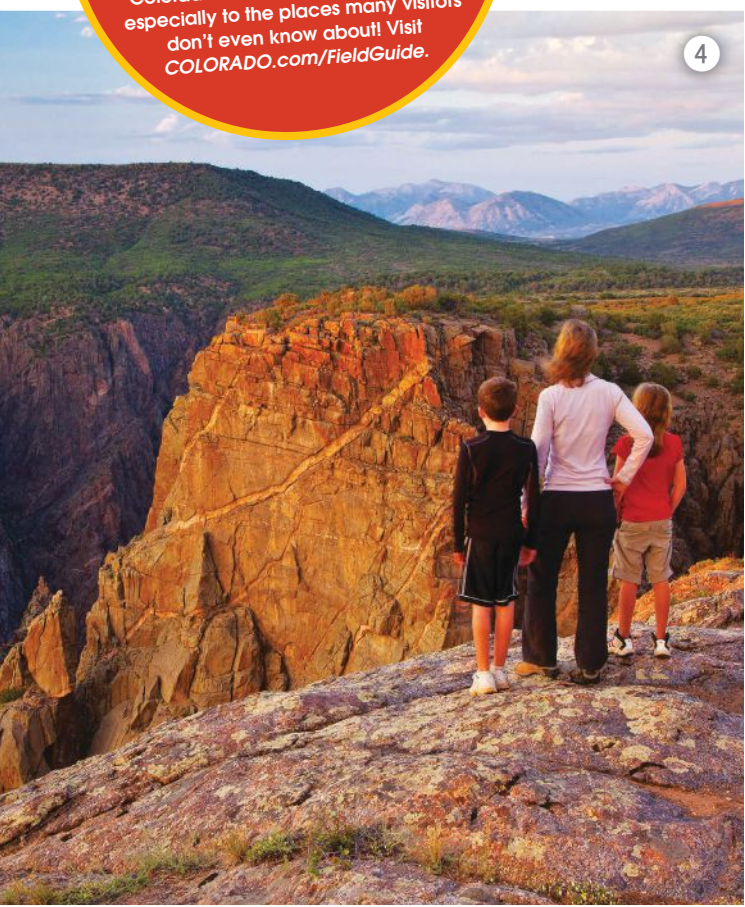
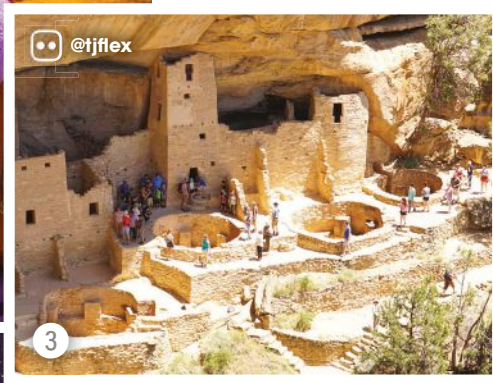
# NATIONAL PARKS

The thing about our four National Parks is how amazingly different they all are. You'll come upon landscapes in one that you won't find in any other park. So, really, you can't just see one — you've gotta collect them all!

**8 DAYS RECOMMENDED,  
630 MILES**

**COLORADO  
FIELD GUIDE**  
ESTABLISHED IN 2017

We have even more itineraries on our website that will get you around Colorado with the ease of a local — especially to the places many visitors don't even know about! Visit [COLORADO.com/FieldGuide](http://COLORADO.com/FieldGuide).



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: ROCKY MOUNTAIN NATIONAL PARK; KENNAN HARVEY; MESA VERDE NATIONAL PARK; FLICKR/TJFLEX; GREAT SAND DUNES NATIONAL PARK AND PRESERVE; C2 PHOTOGRAPHY; BLACK CANYON OF THE GUNNISON NATIONAL PARK; LAURENCE PARENT.





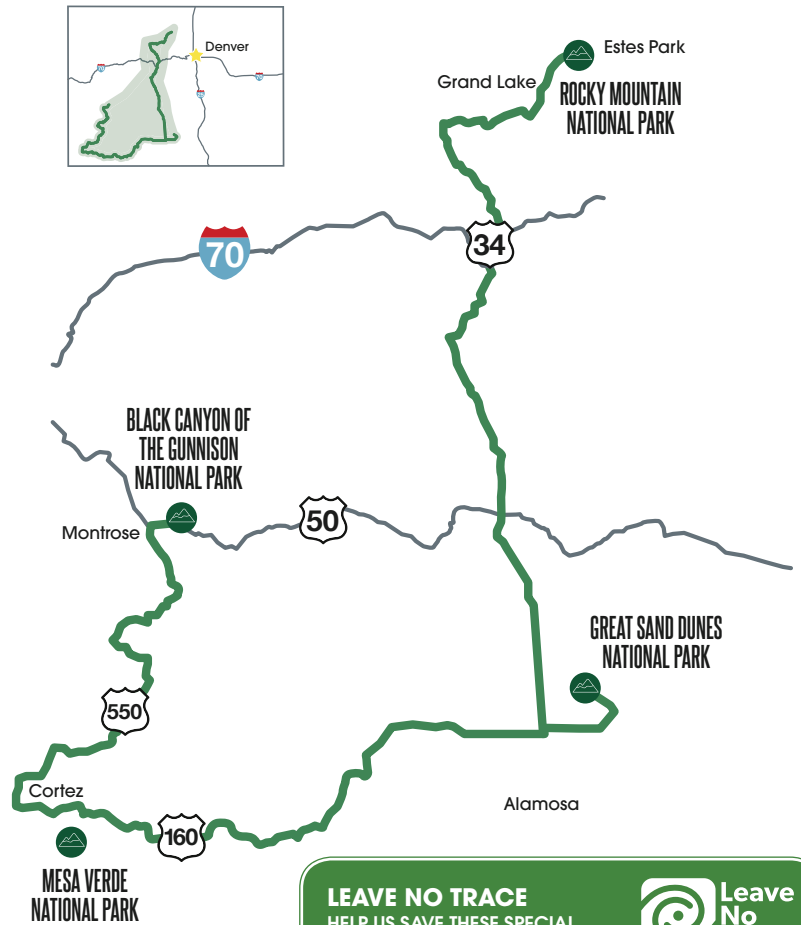
**STOPS:**

**1 ROCKY MOUNTAIN NATIONAL PARK** The park welcomes millions of visitors each year and still manages to nurture cravings for solitude. Daybreak is the best time to explore the park's stunning see-through lakes, sweeping meadows and dew-spritzed forests. **Top picks:** Drive Trail Ridge Road (summer only), hike/snowshoe to Chasm Falls, peek in on the elk herd in Moraine Park

**2 GREAT SAND DUNES NATIONAL PARK & PRESERVE** Nestled in a spot where the Sangre de Cristo Mountains buckle inward, the highest mountains of sand in North America have been building and shifting for eons — the result of the San Luis Valley's unique wind patterns. **Top picks:** Sled or sandboard down the dunes, splash around in Medano Creek, hike a dune at dusk — when the light gives them a rich gold color and shadows snake across them

**3 MESA VERDE NATIONAL PARK** Mesa Verde's Ancestral Puebloan cliff dwellings have been inspiring interest in this ancient culture for more than 100 years. Tucked securely into cliff walls, the adobe-constructed homes, buildings and kivas are a novel sight. **Top picks:** Cliff Palace tour, Chapin Mesa Archeological Museum, Mesa Top Loop Road drive

**4 BLACK CANYON OF THE GUNNISON NATIONAL PARK** Sheer black walls plummet almost 2,700 feet on this 53-mile stretch of narrow gorge, revealing millions of years of natural history and so named because the walls are often shrouded in shadows, making them appear black. **Top picks:** Gold Medal fishing, Morrow Point boat tours, dark-sky stargazing ranger programs



**LEAVE NO TRACE**  
 HELP US SAVE THESE SPECIAL PLACES FOR GENERATIONS TO COME BY STAYING ON TRAILS AND ROADS, PICKING UP TRASH AND HEEDING SIGNS. VISIT [LNT.ORG](http://LNT.ORG) FOR MORE INFORMATION.



Center for Outdoor Ethics



To find volunteer opportunities in areas you plan to visit, download the YourCo app.

**WANT MORE? SEE PAGE 40 AND VISIT [COLORADO.COM/NATIONALPARKS](http://COLORADO.COM/NATIONALPARKS).**

ROCKY MOUNTAIN NATIONAL PARK: EFRAIN M. PADRÓ.



# GEOLOGIC MARVELS

Colorado's diversity of landscapes and ecosystems tuck often-mysterious sights in nooks and crannies from corner to corner. Here are a few ways to gobble up a couple at a time on a Colorado road trip.

## SOUTHWEST:

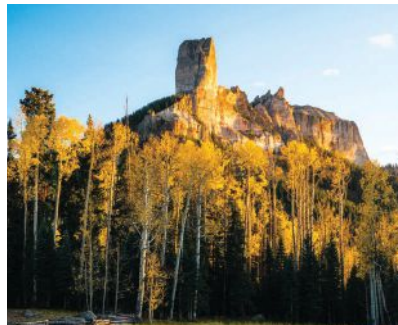
**204 MILES**

After taking in the views of the Sangre de Cristo Mountains from the top of Cuchara Pass, a journey west affords glances of the Spanish Peaks. Emanating from the peaks like spokes from a wheel, the

**Great Dikes** are igneous intrusions (lava that filled the cracks and hardened before being exposed by erosion) that number more than 400, towering above your drive.

On your way west, Great Sand Dunes National Park and Preserve can't be overstated in terms of "marvel." If you're visiting in the summer, cool off in **Medano Creek**. Every spring, the wide, shallow and gently flowing creek emerges from the Sangre de Cristos behind the dunes. Just as quickly, come late August, the creek disappears for another year.

Westward still, past Pagosa Springs, rises **Chimney Rock National Monument**. These



two skyward-reaching pinnacles were revered by the land's ancient people, the Ancestral Puebloans, who built ceremonial structures around them. Every 18.6 years, when the winter solstice moonrise reaches its northernmost point, people gather to photograph the full moon as it rises perfectly between the monument's rocks.

## CENTRAL:

**117 MILES**

**Skyline Drive** near Cañon City is a precipitous road built by prison inmates in 1906 as a scenic byway for tourists in horse-drawn carriages. Today, the route has been paved, but it still traces an extremely narrow 800-foot-high ridge, which can be a bit of an adventure for passengers' stomachs. Pullouts are provided for those who want to savor the foothill views.

Meandering northward, you'll see groves of petrified redwood forests and thousands of fossilized insects at **Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument**. Although the area is lush and green today, roughly 35 millions years ago volcanic eruptions covered it in ash and lava, encasing plants and animals in stone, and creating one of the world's most diverse insect fossil sites.

Routing toward Colorado Springs, **Garden of the Gods** is one of Colorado's most popular attractions. Its gravity-defying whimsical rock formations inspire

imaginings of all ages. A National Natural Landmark since 1971, the park dazzles hikers, bikers, photographers, horseback riders, picnickers, wildlife watchers, scenic drivers and others with its spectacular red-rock formations and views of Pikes Peak.

An hour west of Colorado Springs, the **Paint Mines Interpretive Center** delights with bright stripes of color that sweep across stone outcroppings, so named because their colorful clays were used by American Indians as paint. The bright ochre and gold are formed by iron compounds in the rock that become exposed to oxygen. As the rocks erode, a hard top layer protects the softer clays beneath, forming columns and bulging spires called hoodoos.



## WEST:

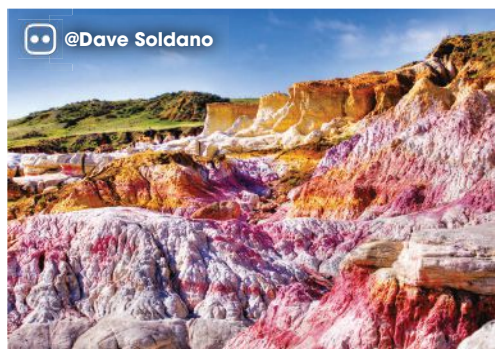
**176 MILES**

Start at **Colorado National Monument** just west of Grand Junction. Check off a list of wind- and water-sculpted rock formations with shape-inspired names like Window Rock, Pipe Organ, Kissing Couple, Praying Hands and Sentinel Spire.

Head southeast toward Montrose and the **Curecanti National Recreation Area**, where the Dillon Pinnacles stand sentinel over Blue Mesa Reservoir, the state's largest body of water.

Hike the pinnacles' trail to see the odd volcanic formations and panoramic views of Blue Mesa.

Now point yourself southward to Lake City to see the decidedly unlvely sounding **Slumgullion Earthflow**, an 800-year-old, epically slow landslide, which continues to shift the ground up to 21 feet a year and results in fir trees that grow at bizarre angles.



FROM TOP: COLORADO NATIONAL MONUMENT; JAMES BRANAMAN; CHIMNEY ROCK NATIONAL MONUMENT; JASON J. HATFIELD; PAINT MINES INTERPRETIVE PARK; FLICKR/DAVE SOLDANO.





## FOOTHILLS:

**50 MILES**

South of Denver, **Roxborough State Park's** trails wrap around red-rock formations that seem to rip unexpectedly through fields of prairie greenery. The contrast between the red of the rocks and a bright-blue cloudless sky sets up a Technicolor scene worthy of "The Wizard of Oz."

Skirting along the foothills as you head north, **Red Rocks Park and Amphitheatre's** massive, slanting red-rock outcroppings rise from the earth to create an acoustically ideal natural amphitheater in Morrison.

Continue northward to Boulder's famed **Flatirons**, five reddish-grey monuments — named by pioneers for their shape — jutting up from the grassy foothills to stand guard over the city of Boulder below.



# WATERFALLS

Waterfalls are one of the best side effects of a Colorado hike. They might be tiny, wispy ones you happen by along a scenic trail, or they might be bigger ones that are destinations unto themselves.



## SOUTHWEST:

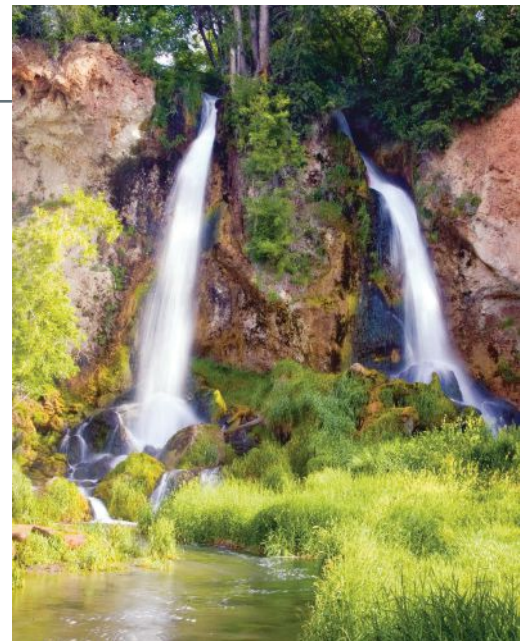
**210 MILES**



For a hidden treasure along the Silver Thread Scenic Byway near Creede, keep your eyes out for Forest Road 510 on the left, just beyond Spring Creek Pass. A short distance down the road affords views of gushing **North Clear Creek Falls** as it plummets from a willow-covered bench into a box canyon.

Drift and ramble up and around National Forest and National Recreation Areas to the box-canyon confection of Ouray. **Box Canyon Falls'** 280-foot cascade can be experienced top to bottom via staircase, hiking trail and suspension bridge. As thousands of gallons of water rush and roar their way down, take a moment to look up — the National Audubon Society has named the area an important birding site.

The well-preserved Victorian-era town of Telluride, nestled at the foot of its own box canyon, is a beguiling sight all on its own. But 365 feet above, the white spray of **Bridal Veil Falls**, Colorado's tallest waterfall, plunges to the canyon's depths, adding the final touch to a charming scene.



## NORTHWEST:

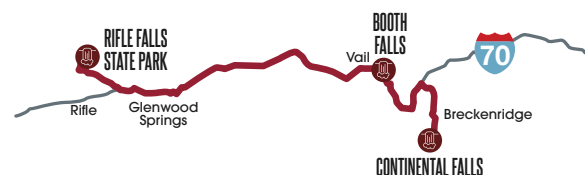
**137 MILES**



On a hot summer day, the mist that drifts from the exhilarating gush of water over 70-foot-high limestone cliffs and the dark caves below them in **Rifle Falls State Park** is a sublime natural air conditioner. These geologic attractions near Rifle draw photographers, spelunkers, fishers and campers to this singular state park.

The next two stops require moderate hikes to reach their misty splendor. You can hear Vail's **Booth Falls** long before you reach them. On your way, pass through aspen groves, where the leaves tinkle in summer breezes as you climb upward toward your destination, passing wildflower meadows along the way.

**Continental Falls** cascades down multiple rock chasms south of Breckenridge and sits amid thick forest. Along the trail (depending which one you choose), you may encounter abandoned miners' cabins and other Gold Rush relics, Mohawk Lakes and fragile alpine tundra.



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: RED ROCKS PARK AND AMPHITHEATRE, MILES/ANDREA BUROLLO; NORTH CLEAR CREEK FALLS, JASON LEWANDOWSKI; RIFLE FALLS STATE PARK, MILES/DENISE CHAMBERS.

**WANT MORE? COLORADO.COM/WATERFALLS**





## WINTER ROUTES

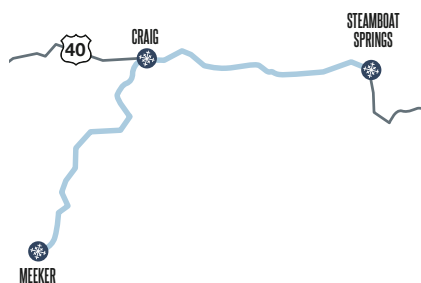
It wouldn't be a Colorado winter without finding yourself laughing in the cool air on one of the following joyrides, highlighting some of the best things to do in winter. These pairings will get you access to the same activity in different landscapes within an easy travel distance and along some scenic highways.



## SNOWMOBILING

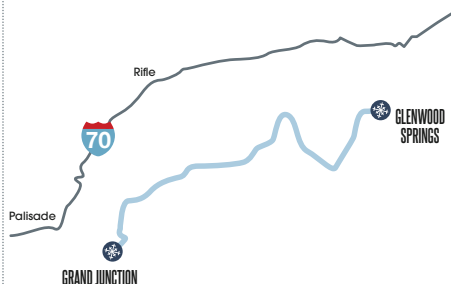
### NORTHWEST: 140 MILES

**Steamboat Springs'** snowmobiling is characterized by incredibly expansive, rideable terrain. East of town, Rabbit Ears Pass makes a great place to start. To the northwest, good snow in deep winter means sledders can really open it up as miles of virtually treeless terrain rolls toward the city of **Craig** and beyond. Even farther west, **Meeker** is the gateway to nearly 180 miles of groomed and ungroomed trails that challenge even the best riders headed to Trappers Lake, the Flat Tops and Ripple Creek Pass along rolling hills and open meadows.



### RESORT TO RESORT: 120 MILES

Travel between these two destinations can be done entirely on your snowmobile. The well-groomed Sunlight to Powderhorn trail is a virtually endless playground for snowmobilers of all abilities. There are multiple access points starting at Sunlight Mountain Resort in **Glenwood Springs** and reaching all the way to Powderhorn Mountain Resort near **Grand Junction**.



### SOUTH CENTRAL: 71 MILES

**South Fork** is home to 255 miles of groomed trails woven between ridges, sprawling meadows and steep climbs. Westward, the area between **Creede** and **Lake City** encompasses more than 200 miles of groomed snowmobiling trails in the Gunnison and Rio Grande national forests. Elevations range between 8,500 and 13,000 feet, and off-trail options offer access to wide-open ridges, rolling hills and steep ascents.



WANT MORE? [COLORADO.COM/SNOWMOBILING](http://COLORADO.COM/SNOWMOBILING)



## SNOWSHOEING



### FRONT RANGE: 47 MILES

Just steps from **Eldora Mountain Resort's** downhill ski area near Nederland, 40 kilometers of groomed trails wind through quiet, shady forests and wide-open meadows. To the north, most of **Rocky Mountain National Park's** 571 kilometers of trails can be explored on snowshoe, opening up dozens of options for length and difficulty for your trek.

### COZY COOKHOUSES: 129 MILES

Aspen and Leadville are both home to a particular snowshoeing delight: backcountry cookhouses. At the **Pine Creek Cookhouse** near the ghost town of Ashcroft and **Tennessee Pass Cookhouse**, visitors earn their fine-dining lunch or dinner by snowshoeing to the lodge for a warm meal. Don't eat too much — you have to get yourself back to the trailhead afterward!

### FOOTHILLS: 32 MILES

Two spots not far west of Denver make it easy for city explorers to stretch their horizons a bit when the snow falls. **Golden Gate Canyon State Park** in Golden has 12 trails that intersect often, allowing you to create a personalized itinerary as you travel through aspen forests and open meadows. A short drive south, Evergreen's **Elk Meadow Park** provides easy access to trails for all abilities and the opportunity to spot its namesake wildlife.

WANT MORE? [COLORADO.COM/SNOWSHOEING](http://COLORADO.COM/SNOWSHOEING)

## ICE FISHING

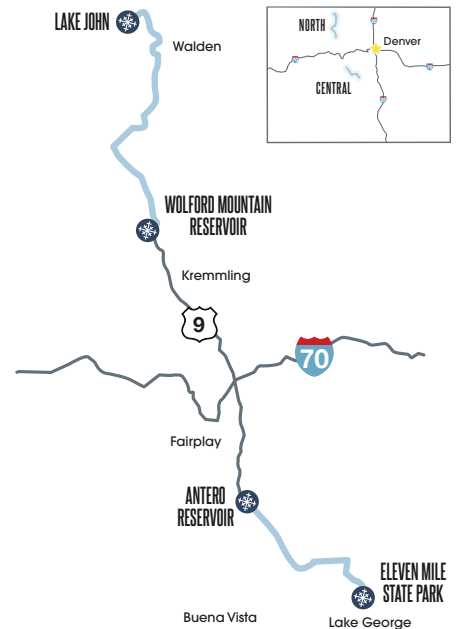
### NORTH: 63 MILES

**Lake John** near Walden is a 565-acre state wildlife area in a stretch called North Park, a high-elevation basin between the Continental Divide and Park mountain range where hunters and fishers seek a quiet paradise anytime of year. There's a similar scene south near Kremmling at **Wolford Mountain Reservoir**, which is also popular with RVers year-round. Both spots hold ice-fishing contests each January/February.



### CENTRAL: 26 MILES

In another "park" — this time South Park — you'll find **Antero Reservoir** south of Fairplay near the headwaters of the South Platte River, rich with many fish. Eastward near Lake George, the Gold Medal waters of **Eleven Mile State Park** boast plenty of kokanee, trout and pike all winter long.



WANT MORE (INCLUDING IMPORTANT SAFETY TIPS)? [COLORADO.COM/ICEFISHING](http://COLORADO.COM/ICEFISHING)

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP: TENNESSEE PASS NORDIC CENTER; JAMES BRANAMAN; ELEVEN MILE RESERVOIR; CHAPARRAL PARK GENERAL STORE IN HARTSELL; ICE FISHING NEAR KREMMLING; MILES/MATT INDEN.



# 1 WEEKEND, MANY SKI MOUNTAINS

Get a real taste for winter living by sampling a few ski resorts during your stay. These are close enough to experience in just a couple days.

- ▶ **Breckenridge, Keystone & Arapahoe Basin:** 20 miles; the free Summit Stage bus runs between the resorts
- ▶ **Crested Butte & Monarch:** 74 miles
- ▶ **Aspen, Aspen Highlands, Buttermilk & Snowmass:** 8 miles
- ▶ **Vail & Beaver Creek:** 13 miles
- ▶ **Winter Park & Ski Granby Ranch:** 21 miles
- ▶ **Steamboat & Howelsen Hill:** 4 miles
- ▶ **Copper Mountain & Ski Cooper (Leadville):** 31 miles
- ▶ **Silverton, Hesperus & Purgatory (Durango):** 30 miles



**WANT MORE?**

Learn about all 27 Colorado ski resorts on page 23.

You can also plan your ski trip according to what resorts are included in various multimountain passes available. Check each resort's website for information — and plan ahead, as many are discounted through July for the coming season.

Still looking for options? See what makes the smaller spots so special at [COLORADO.com/HiddenSkiHotSpots](http://COLORADO.com/HiddenSkiHotSpots).

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP: PURGATORY RESORT; VAIL; JASON LEWANDOWSKI; SKI SCHOOL; ASPEN SNOWMASS.





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 **ASPEN**



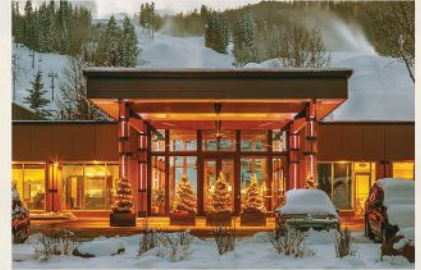


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Aspen Square is a warmly welcoming condominium hotel in the heart of downtown Aspen, across from the Aspen Mountain Gondola. Our fireplace studio suites and larger accommodations all include a fully-equipped kitchen, wood burning fireplace, private balcony and central air-conditioning. Hotel-style services and amenities include front desk, concierge, daily housekeeping, heated pool, hot tubs and fitness center. Restaurants, shopping, art galleries and more are just outside your door. Aspen Square is the hospitality place in downtown Aspen!

800-862-7736 / [www.aspensquarehotel.com](http://www.aspensquarehotel.com)

## THE INN AT ASPEN



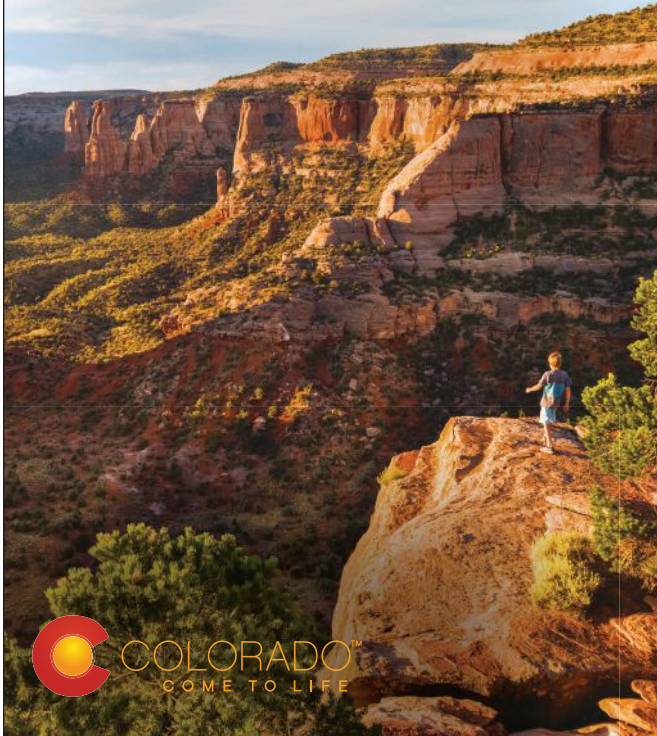
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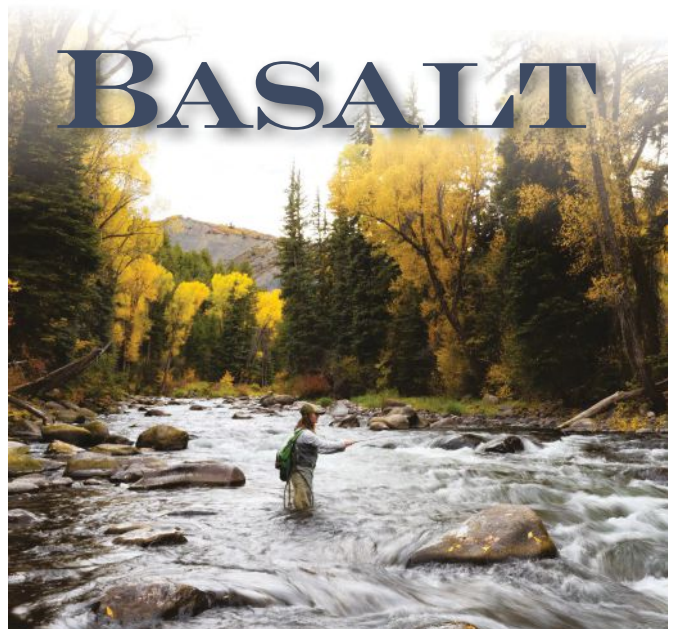
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[BLOG.COLORADO.COM](http://BLOG.COLORADO.COM)



# BASALT



Get outside and enjoy a truly local Colorado experience in Basalt. Located a short drive from Aspen and Glenwood Springs, Basalt is home to the confluence of two Gold Medal rivers. This beautiful town offers many different neighborhoods to explore, so choose the adventure that suits your mood anytime of year.

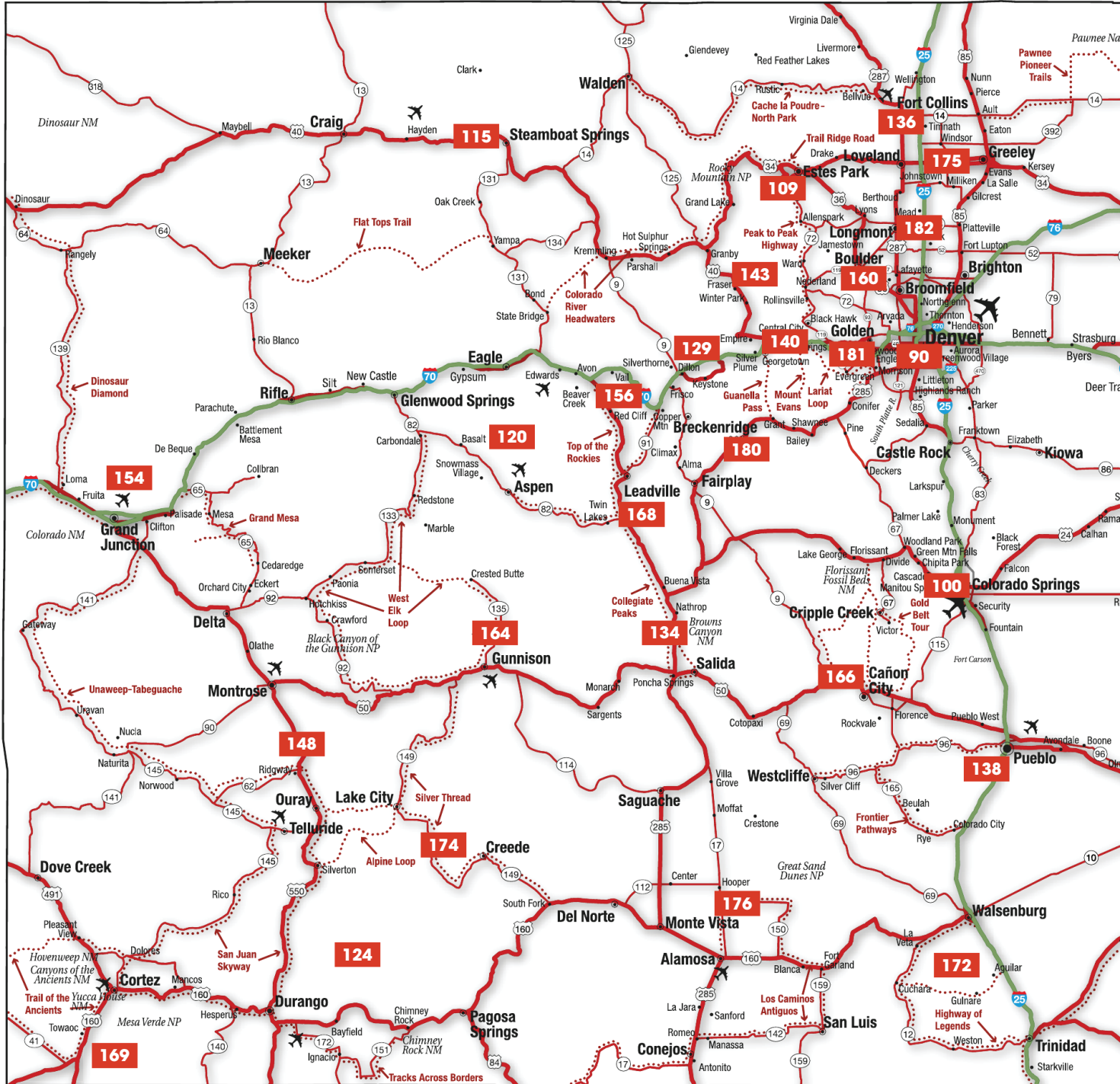
[VisitBasalt.com](http://VisitBasalt.com) 970.927.4031



# COLORADO TRAVEL ITINERARIES

Use the map below to find the area in Colorado you'd like to visit. Then turn to the corresponding page for a detailed itinerary, places to explore nearby and hidden gems you won't want to overlook. For a handy index of cities and towns, turn to page 16A.

The page numbers on the map below correspond to articles on that area and nearby destinations.







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To find volunteer opportunities in areas you plan to visit, download the YourCo app.



- 90** The Highlights: 24 Hours in **Denver**
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- 94** 2 Days of **Denver Arts & Culture**
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- 97** Get Outdoors in **Denver**
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- 169** Ancient Treasures in Mesa Verde Country: **Cortez, Mancos & More**
- 172** Highway of Legends: 2 Days in **Trinidad, Walsenburg, La Veta & Cuchara**
- 174** Silver Thread Byway: **Creede, South Fork & Lake City**
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- 187** Pawnee Pioneer Trails: **Sterling, Brush & Fort Morgan**





1



2



3

# THE HIGHLIGHTS: 24 HOURS IN DENVER



Denver's new airport-to-downtown rail line makes it easy to explore the city without a car: fly into DIA, hop the train to Union Station, then explore downtown by foot, the free 16th Street MallRide, pedicabs and the pioneering B-cycle bike-share program.

## MORNING

First, check out the beautifully restored **Union Station (1)**, a destination in and of itself and a vibrant gathering place bursting with history, shops and places to grab a bite.

Next, the city's 850 miles of paved and off-road trails are a testament to how easy it is to get around on two wheels. Rent one from **Denver B-cycle (5)**, with 88 stations to choose from. Grab a cup of coffee in **Larimer Square (2)**, in the heart of **LoDo** (short for "Lower Downtown"), and make your way to the **History Colorado Center**. The *Denver A to Z* exhibit will show you the essence of what makes this city great.

## AFTERNOON

While in the area, check out one of Denver's newest Certified Colorado Creative Districts, the **Golden Triangle** (see p. 46 for the others), just steps from **History Colorado Center** and home to the **Denver Public Library**, **Denver Art Museum (4)**, **Kirkland Museum of Fine & Decorative Art** and more.

Next stop: **Cherry Creek**, the region's largest shopping district, including Cherry Creek North's wide array of only-in-Denver shops, and Cherry Creek Shopping Center's upscale stores.

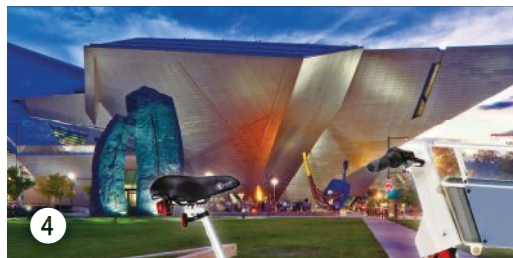
## EVENING

Cheer on the home teams: In the spring and

summer it's the **Colorado Rockies** and the **Colorado Rapids**; September to January, the **Denver Broncos (3)**; and from October to June, the **Denver Nuggets** and **Colorado Avalanche**.

Perhaps the only thing that brings out more passion than sports is beer — and there are plenty of breweries and craft beer tours to prove it. Sample some at **Great Divide**, **Epic**, **Renegade**, **TRVE**, **Prost** or **Denver Beer Co.** and dozens of others. The Denver Beer Trail is a good place to start if you're too overwhelmed to choose.

Denver also has a growing craft distillery scene; stop in for a taste at **Stranahan's Colorado Whiskey (6)**, **Leopold Bros.**, **Downslope** and **Mile High Spirits**.



4



5



6

## STAY & PLAY OPTIONS

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## QUICK TIP

If you're visiting on a summer Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday, stroll to **Civic Center Park** for Civic Center Eats, where the city's best food trucks, live music and fresh air make for a perfect urban lunch.

CLOCKWISE FROM BOTTOM RIGHT: STRANAHAN'S COLORADO WHISKEY; DENVER B-CYCLE; DENVER ART MUSEUM; MILE HIGH STADIUM; VISIT DENVER; LARIMER SQUARE; VISIT DENVER; UNION STATION; DANIELLE WEBSTER.



# DIG INTO COLORADO'S ROOTS

Download the app for local food lovers, craft libation connoisseurs, scenic byway riders, Wild West seekers, history museum explorers, natural fiber fans, trail travelers, farm and ranch fanciers, and everything in between. And there's a lot in between!



## VIEW THIS GUIDE ONLINE OR ORDER A HARD COPY

Go to [COLORADO.com/Roots](http://COLORADO.com/Roots) for links to the e-edition, as well as all the apps you can download and ways to order one for yourself.



## MORE IDEAS FOR FAMILIES



**ELITCH GARDENS THEME & WATER PARK** Mind-blowing rides for those taller than 48 inches (including the seven-story Brain Drain), plenty of slower family rides for those who aren't, Island Kingdom Water Park, lots of places to eat, a summer concert series, "dive-in" movies and other events make the nation's only downtown theme park a must visit.



**WINGS OVER THE ROCKIES AIR & SPACE MUSEUM** Experience the rush of flight in the museum's simulation center, climb into cockpits and wonder at the collection of military and civilian aircraft and the country's only X-Wing Starfighter.



**WATER WORLD** One of the biggest and best water parks in the nation, with acres of refreshing summertime fun. Nearly 50 rides and adventures offer something for all ages.



**BUTTERFLY PAVILION** 1,600 free-flying butterflies make their home at this one-of-a-kind attraction in Westminster, fluttering around visitors in a re-creation of a tropical rainforest.



**THE WILD ANIMAL SANCTUARY** This 720-acre rescue/educational facility 30 miles outside of Denver is home to nearly 350 large carnivores (including lions, tigers, bears and wolves!). They roam the massive refuge while you walk above them on the Mile Into the Wild walkway.

**DINOSAUR RIDGE** Compare footprint sizes with giant prehistoric beasts on a 1.5-mile nature walk in Morrison. You'll encounter more than 100 fossilized dinosaur tracks, including those of stegosaurus, apatosaurus and allosaurus.

**IFLY INDOOR SKYDIVING** Lone Tree's smooth-riding vertical wind tunnel literally sends you soaring. A stellar training program and instructors make it great for families.

# KID-APPROVED WEEKEND IN DENVER



Your littles will be grinning from ear to ear whenever they're in the Mile High City, thanks to Denver's wide array of family-friendly attractions.



### DAY 1

More than 500 species of ocean-dwellers roam landlocked Denver, thanks to the **Downtown Aquarium (1)**, the region's largest. Have close encounters with sharks, sea turtles, sting-rays and even Sumatran tigers as they swim in more than a million gallons of water.



Down the street is the **Children's Museum of Denver**, an imagination-stimulating journey for kids 8 and under. Along with playing at more than a dozen "playscapes," including a hands-on fire department, an assembly plant and a tot-size veterinary clinic, they can create giant bubbles in the Bubble Booth.



Older kids will want to check out a few of the city's urban adventure parks for skateboarding, BMX, mountain biking, skiing/boarding and more right in town. **Downtown Denver Skatepark** and **Evolve Action Sports Park** are a couple to scope out. More: [denv.co/extremesports](http://denv.co/extremesports).

End your first day on the **16th Street Mall**, a mile-long promenade and one of the Mile High City's most visited attractions. It's a great spot for dinner, with plenty of kid-pleasing choices. Every block boasts a landmark or one of many public art sculptures, a perfect scavenger hunt as you make your way around.

### STAY & PLAY OPTIONS

**Aurora** (page 188), **Arvada, Brighton** (page 190), **Castle Rock** (page 191), **Centennial** (page 191), **Commerce City, Denver** (page 193), **Englewood** (page 195), **Evergreen** (page 196), **Glendale, Golden** (page 197), **Greenwood Village** (page 198), **Highlands Ranch** (page 199), **Lakewood** (page 200), **Littleton** (page 200), **Morrison** (page 202), **Parker** (page 203), **Roxborough** (page 203), **Sedalia** (page 203), **Wheat Ridge** (page 206)

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP RIGHT: SEA TURTLE; ISTOCKPHOTO; THE WILD ANIMAL SANCTUARY; BUTTERFLY PAVILION; WATER WORLD; DOWNTOWN AQUARIUM; VISIT DENVER; DENVER MUSEUM OF NATURE & SCIENCE; VISIT DENVER; SKATEBOARD; ISTOCKPHOTO; BETH SCHNEIDER; WINGS OVER THE ROCKIES AIR & SPACE MUSEUM; BETH SCHNEIDER; ELITCH GARDENS THEME & WATER PARK.





3

**DAY 2**

Go to where the wild things are: the **Denver Zoo**. One of the nation's most popular zoos, this adventure in City Park takes visitors on a globe-trotting safari. You'll go nose to nose with a polar bear, trade funny faces with orangutans and stretch necks with giraffes. The *Toyota Elephant Passage* lets kids get up-close-and-personal with elephants in one of the world's largest

bull-elephant habitats. And *The Edge* is a new up-close peek at rare Amur tigers.

Pack a picnic lunch and spread out in **City Park (3)**, the largest in Denver, with 330 acres of refreshing green space and an abundance of fresh-air activities. Find a spot in the area around Ferril Lake to take in the best views of Denver's skyline and the Rocky Mountains.

Museum options for today include the **Denver**

**Museum of Nature & Science (2)**, also in City Park, to see enormous dinosaur skeletons in the *Prehistoric Journey* exhibit, watch an IMAX feature or transport into space at the planetarium. Or head west to the city of Golden's **Colorado Railroad Museum**, where more than 100 locomotives, cabooses and HO model railroad attractions make the state's rail history seem larger than life. The **Denver Art Museum (4)** is one of the nation's best for kids programs, including the Just for Fun Family Center and Family Backpacks and Creative Corners for exploring the galleries.

The **Denver Center for the Performing Arts** hosts many kid-friendly performances each year, including the **Colorado Symphony's** Family Series (Halloween Spooktacular and Drums of the Word

are faves), as well as 2018's "School of Rock."

Dinner calls for a trip to **Casa Bonita**, which is not your average Mexican restaurant. This longtime Denver favorite is a great place to end your Denver adventure. Known less for its food and more as an indoor amusement park, it entertains little ones with cliff divers, mariachi bands, puppet shows, a pirate cave, magicians

and more. After this packed weekend, you might consider treating yourself to one of their famously large margaritas.

Other popular and cool family-dining spots include **Steve's Snappin' Dogs**, **Sam's No. 3**, **Punch Bowl Social** (with bowling, table games and vintage arcade), **Ace Eat Serve** (Southeast Asian food + pingpong hall) and the **Cherry Cricket**.



4

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CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: CITY PARK; DENVER MUSEUM OF NATURE & SCIENCE; DENVER ART MUSEUM; VISIT DENVER.



# 2 DAYS OF DENVER ARTS & CULTURE



## DAY 1

Explore Denver's street-art scene, which covers buildings and other unexpected canvases throughout neighborhoods like **RiNo (3)**, the **Highlands**, **South Broadway**, **BuCu** and **East Colfax**. More and more of the city's neighborhoods are emerging with their own distinct characters and signature events like First Friday art walks, hipster flea markets, modern bazaars, craft coffee bars, artist studios, small music venues and only-in-Denver boutiques. Visit [COLORADO.com/ArtHoods](http://COLORADO.com/ArtHoods).

Much of Denver's coolest art isn't in museums. One percent of any capital improvement project over \$1 million in the city is set aside for the creation of **public artwork**. The result is a wealth of exquisite — and often enormous — open-air pieces all over Denver. For a sample, head downtown to the Colorado Convention Center on 14th Avenue and California Street to see "I See What You Mean" by Lawrence Argent, a 40-foot-tall sculpture otherwise known as "The Big Blue Bear." This benign ursine presence peers curiously into the center, providing visitors with an essential Denver photo opportunity. Just a short walk away at the **Denver Performing Arts Complex**, two 50-foot-tall figures frolic near Speer Boulevard as part of Jonathan Borofsky's "The Dancers."

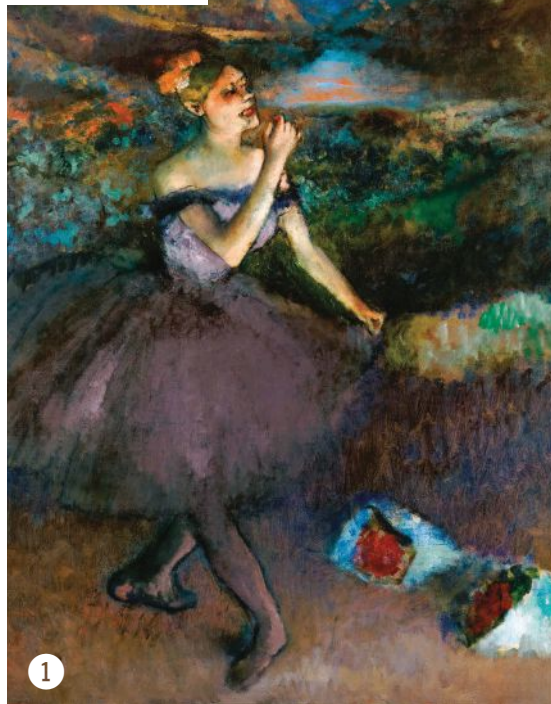
A few blocks away, the jagged edges of the Daniel Libeskind-designed

Hamilton Building, part of the **Denver Art Museum (1)**, jut out over 13th Avenue. The museum houses Western art, contemporary masterworks and blockbuster traveling exhibitions like *Degas: A Passion for Perfection*.

Visit the new location of the **Kirkland Museum of Fine & Decorative Art (2)** in the former studio of Vance Kirkland, one of Colorado's most distinguished painters. In 2016, the studio was picked up from its original location a few blocks away and deposited in the art-rich **Golden Triangle** area. Across the street, the **Clyfford Still Museum**, dedicated to the legacy of one of the most important painters of the 20th century, is one of only five one-artist museums in the nation. The Kirkland Museum is another!

If you've got an inclination toward vinyl and being cool, head over to **Twist and Shout**, a famed indie music store selling new and used music on **East Colfax** near popular theaters like the **Ogden** and **Bluebird**.

Take the afternoon to explore the hub of Denver's creative community, the **Art District on Santa Fe**, where more than 60 galleries, studios and creative businesses comprise the largest concentration of art galleries in Colorado and make it a Certified Colorado Creative District. Stop in at the **Museo de las Americas (4)**, a unique museum highlighting both traditional and contemporary Latino art and culture.

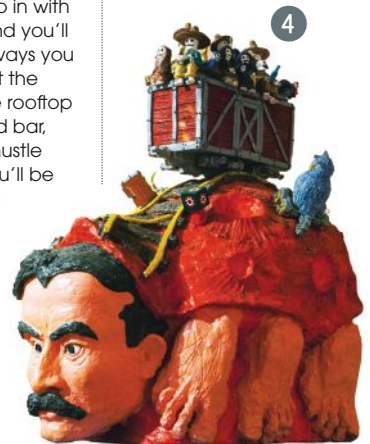


## DAY 2

Continue your artsy adventure with a morning stop at **Tattered Cover's** historic LoDo location. Called "a bibliophile's paradise" by the *New York Times*, this multilevel bookstore, housed in the lovingly restored Morey Mercantile Building, holds thousands of volumes covering every topic under the sun, with a particularly notable selection of Denver- and Colorado-centric books. Tattered Cover's cafe is an excellent spot for a quick, cheap breakfast, serving strong coffee, fresh pastries and tempting breakfast sandwiches.

Just around the corner you'll find one of the crown jewels of Denver's art scene, the **Museum of Contemporary Art Denver**, a David Adjaye-designed structure whose sleekness contrasts with the classic red brick typical to LoDo. Inside, five galleries

showcase a constantly refreshed series of exhibits devoted to innovation and creativity. Go in with an open mind and you'll be rewarded in ways you can't imagine. At the museum's serene rooftop garden, cafe and bar, high above the hustle of downtown, you'll be able to relax and reflect on what you've seen. On your way out, browse the eclectic books, music and clothing at the Shop MCA on the first level.



## STAY & PLAY OPTIONS

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CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: DEGAS EXHIBIT, DENVER ART MUSEUM; KIRKLAND MUSEUM OF FINE & DECORATIVE ART; RIVER NORTH ART DISTRICT; @OMAZING-MOMENTS; MUSEO DE LAS AMERICAS; BEH SCHNEIDER.



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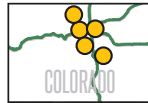


DENVER BOTANIC  
**GARDENS** [botanicgardens.org](http://botanicgardens.org)





# DENVER DAY TRIPS



Denver is an excellent hub for exploring the state beyond the city limits.

## 1 LAKEWOOD

Light-rail-connected Lakewood makes a good homebase between Denver and the mountains. The Lakewood Cultural Center hosts performances and events in pedestrian-friendly

Belmar, which is home to shops and restaurants. Take advantage of a few close-to-civilization campgrounds and 40 West Arts, a Certified Colorado Creative District. **Drive: 15 minutes**

**2 GOLDEN** The historic downtown is packed with Wild West attractions and shops nudged up against dozens of mountain parks and hiking/biking trails. **Drive: 25 minutes**

**3 CASTLE ROCK** The Outlets at Castle Rock and upscale Promenade at Castle Rock are big draws, along with The Barn's antique and specialty shops, 44 miles of trails, the new year-round Castle Rock Zip Line Tours and Epic Adventure Tower (where you scale 40-foot climbing wall, zip and jump from a 42-foot platform or choose to free-fall from a 75-foot platform) at PS Miller Park, pedestrian-friendly downtown, galleries,

golf courses, bistros and coffee houses. Castle Rock has year-round hiking and biking trails and spectacular views from on top of The Rock — the historic namesake for the community. Stop into the visitor center for ideas on exploring the area and beyond. **Drive: 35 minutes**

**4 EVERGREEN** Acres of forest and open space surround this vibrant downtown. The foothills community boasts miles of hiking and biking trails and an in-town lake packed with ice skaters each winter. **Drive: 45 minutes**

**5 AURORA** Seek out seven beautiful golf courses, unique museums, U-picks, breweries, shopping at Southlands, Aurora Fox Arts Center in the Cultural Arts District and much more. Check out the new Stanley Marketplace, a collection of independently owned places to eat, drink, shop and play. **Drive: 25 minutes**

**6 LITTLETON** This historic, freelined downtown somehow combines the sophistication of a relaxed urban center packed with local eats and unique boutiques with small-town charm. To get there, bike the Platte Riverside trail or take the RTD light rail. **Drive: 23 minutes**

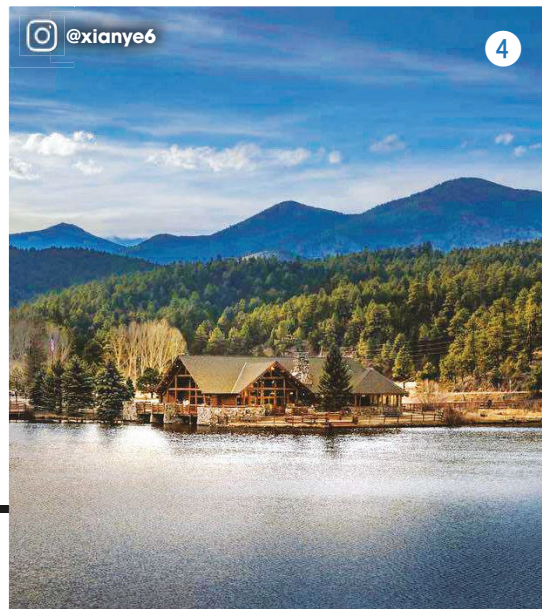
**7 BOULDER** With 200 miles of trails, a laid-back vibe and the Pearl Street Mall — a charming outdoor shopping and dining locale — it's easy to see why visitors fall in love with Boulder. **Drive: 30 minutes**

**8 CENTRAL CITY & BLACK HAWK** Home to 24-hour casinos, top-notch opera and gorgeous scenery, these two historic mining towns have burst to life recently. **Drive: 45 minutes**

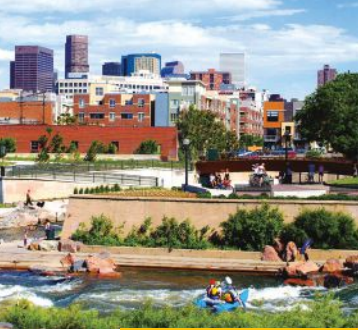
**9 COLORADO SPRINGS** Iconic Pikes Peak is Colorado Springs' showpiece, which features dozens of attractions, including the famed Garden of the Gods. **Drive: 1 hour, 30 minutes**

**10 SUMMIT COUNTY** A popular snow-sports destination in winter, this region attracts visitors year-round with quintessential mountain towns and scenic vistas. **Drive: 1 hour, 30 minutes**

**11 ROCKY MOUNTAIN NATIONAL PARK** One of the nation's top outdoor destinations, this natural wonder boasts 350 miles of trails, unparalleled wildlife sightings and Trail Ridge Road. **Drive: 1 hour, 40 minutes**







# OUTSIDE IN THE CITY: GET OUTDOORS IN DENVER



to see the sights. Though the **Cherry Creek Trail** is 40 miles total in length, the in-town portion makes a convenient urban passage through downtown, following a waterway of the same name.

For adventurers who prefer paddling to pedaling, head for the South Platte River — specifically **Confluence Park** near downtown. Here you'll find manmade whitewater chutes, as well as kayak rentals, lessons and excursions, courtesy of nearby outfitter Confluence Kayaks. Pop into the REI Flagship for gear, equipment rentals, a climbing wall and a tour of the store's clever restoration and reuse of the 1901 Denver Tramway building.

Being an urban center doesn't mean there aren't plenty of ways to get some fresh air.

Various parks woven into the city's interior offer a respite of green spaces and recreation. Aptly named **City Park** is the largest, boasting more than 300 acres and prime views of the downtown skyline set against a mountain backdrop. Stroll pathways that wind around two lakes, claim a tennis court or pay a visit to the Denver Zoo,

located within the park's boundaries.

Spend time in **Washington Park** (Wash Park to locals), and you'll see why it's a favorite. With the flurry of joggers and cyclists, a soccer field, fitness course, lawn bowling and picnickers, this spot is a true hub of activity.

Nestled into the Central Business District, **Skyline**

**Park** is a three-block oasis with its flowerbeds, grassy areas and free events throughout the year, like summer movie nights and an ice-skating rink in the winter.

Need a fresh perspective? Get the lay of the land on two wheels. Rent a ride from B-cycle — Denver's bike-share system with 80-plus stations — and pick a route

## STAY & PLAY OPTIONS

**Aurora** (page 188), **Arvada**, **Brighton** (page 190), **Castle Rock** (page 191), **Centennial** (page 191), **Commerce City**, **Denver** (page 193), **Englewood** (page 195), **Evergreen** (page 196), **Glendale**, **Golden** (page 197), **Greenwood Village** (page 198), **Highlands Ranch** (page 199), **Lakewood** (page 200), **Littleton** (page 200), **Morrison** (page 202), **Parker** (page 203), **Roxborough** (page 203), **Sedalia** (page 203), **Wheat Ridge** (page 206)

CONFLUENCE PARK, VISIT DENVER/STAN OBERT

## QUICK TIP

The iconic view of the **Denver skyline from City Park** and the peaks beyond is best captured from the west steps of the Denver Museum of Nature & Science.

# ESCAPE PLAN #1

A funny thing happens when you escape to Black Hawk. Your whole mindset changes. There's gaming, entertainment and steaks on the grill. Suddenly, you've escaped the humdrum and arrived at a mini-vacation just 40 miles outside of Denver.

[VisitBlackHawk.org/Escape](http://VisitBlackHawk.org/Escape) Gaming | Lodging | Dining





# A 5-STAR DAY IN DENVER



## MORNING

It's a short jaunt from Denver (about 30-45 minutes), but **Arrowhead Golf Club (1)** is worth the drive. Be transported to another world — one made up of unearthly red sandstone formations — as you play one of America's Top 75 Public Courses, according to *Golf Digest*. Another popular course is the challenging **Ridge at Castle Pines North**, south of Denver in Castle Rock, which boasts views of Pikes Peak to the south and Mt. Evans (the state's highest peak) to the west.

## AFTERNOON

Treat yourself to a relaxing spa experience designed for Colorado's climate and lifestyle, like the Mile High Malt Scrub & Microbrew Ex™ beer™ence at the **Ritz-Carlton Spa**, the Moor Mud Relaxation Treatment at the **Oxford Hotel**, the Four-Handed Massage at **The Woodhouse Day Spa** or the Mile-High Hydromax Facial at the **Four Seasons**. Finish the afternoon with a classic Denver treat: afternoon tea at the **Brown Palace Hotel & Spa (2)** with fresh scones, pastries and dainty tea sandwiches, and the delightful melody of a harpist or pianist.

## EVENING

Denver's cuisine scene receives national raves thanks to innovative use of local ingredients. Five Denver chefs were nominated for James Beard awards last year (find them at **Rioja (3)**, **Mizuna, Acorn, Work & Class** and **Fruition**), and the new-places-to-dine-in-cool-old-buildings trend is making for killer culinary hubs like **The Source**, **Denver Central Market**, **Union Station**, **Avanti Food and Beverage**, **Central Market** and **Stanley Marketplace**. The gastropub is another trend we never want to end, where local atmosphere and creative spins on comfort food make diners feel retro-cool, including **Steuben's Food Service (5)** and **Ophelia's Electric Soapbox** for a start.

Culture vultures can choose from a blockbuster touring **Broadway musical** (including "Hamilton" in early 2018) or a stirring performance by the **Colorado Symphony Orchestra**, **Opera Colorado** or **Colorado Ballet (4)** at the **Denver Performing Arts Complex**, the largest performing arts complex under one roof.

## STAY & PLAY OPTIONS

**Aurora** (page 188), **Arvada, Brighton** (page 190), **Castle Rock** (page 191), **Centennial** (page 191), **Commerce City, Denver** (page 193), **Englewood** (page 195), **Evergreen** (page 196), **Glendale, Golden** (page 197), **Greenwood Village** (page 198), **Highlands Ranch** (page 199), **Lakewood** (page 200), **Littleton** (page 200), **Morrison** (page 202), **Parker** (page 203), **Roxborough** (page 203), **Sedalia** (page 203), **Wheat Ridge** (page 206)



## QUICK TIP

Check out [eatdrinkdenver.com](http://eatdrinkdenver.com) for fresh dining ideas, events, cooking classes, tours, blogs and more.

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP RIGHT: ARROWHEAD GOLF CLUB; BETH SCHNEIDER; RIOJA; COLORADO BALLET; BLAINE HARRINGTON III; STEUBEN'S FOOD SERVICE; BROWN PALACE HOTEL & SPA.



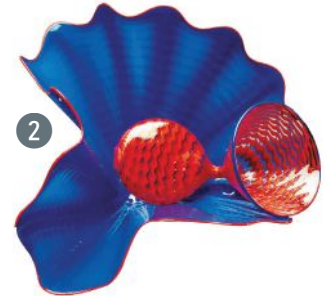




# PIKES PEAK COUNTRY: COLORADO SPRINGS & MANITOU SPRINGS



Colorado Springs is the state's second-largest city, but it's first in the hearts of many visitors as a place of astonishing beauty with more than 55 unique museums and cultural and natural attractions.



## DAY 1

Use your first day in "The Springs" to explore the town. **Downtown** has plenty of options for breakfast. Head to Tejon Street for window-shopping and latte sipping. Spend time at one of the area's museums, such as the **Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center (2)** (catch the acclaimed theater company in action), the **Colorado Springs Pioneers Museum**, the **Penrose Heritage Museum** or the historic **McAllister House**. Or stop in for tea at **Miramont Castle**, a Victorian castle at the base of Pikes Peak with nine styles of architecture.

With more than 50 pieces of permanent public art, esteemed cultural institutions and a roster of events and festivals, it's no surprise that downtown Colorado Springs was recently named one of 21 **Certified Colorado Creative Districts**.

Stop for lunch at the **Ivywild School**, a 1916 elementary school renovated into a community market featuring **Bristol Brewing Co.**, the new **Axe and the Oak** whiskey distillery, community gardens, music, a deli and a bakery — all selling local items. Next, see where Team USA prepares for competition at the **U.S. Olympic Training Center**. Tour the athlete training facilities and U.S. Olympic Hall of Fame. Get a taste of cadet life and pick up a Falcons sweatshirt at the **U.S. Air Force Academy** bookstore.

For dinner, there are tons of fine-dining options, including one of Colorado's two five-star restaurants, **The Broadmoor's Penrose Room (6)**. See a show at the **Pikes Peak Center for the Performing Arts**, host to more than 200 performances every year.

*Continued on page 103.*



@mmmbeans

## QUICK TIP

Feeding bunches of lettuce to the giraffes at the **Cheyenne Mountain Zoo** is one of visitors' favorite ways to get eye to eye with these graceful creatures. Think you can handle that giant tongue comin' at you?

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP: LEFT: THE BROADMOOR SEVEN FALLS; LANE McLAUGHLIN; COLORADO SPRINGS FINE ART CENTER AT COLORADO COLLEGE; PRO RODEO HALL OF FAME & MUSEUM OF THE AMERICAN COWBOY; JAMES FRANK; CHEYENNE MOUNTAIN ZOO. @MMMBEANS.



are we

# THERE

yet?



welcome to **THERE.**

*Crystal Creek Reservoir on Pikes Peak*



Request your **FREE**  
guide today!







**COLORADO  
SPRINGS**



**VISITCOS.COM**

Download our mobile app.  
[visitcos.com/app](http://visitcos.com/app)

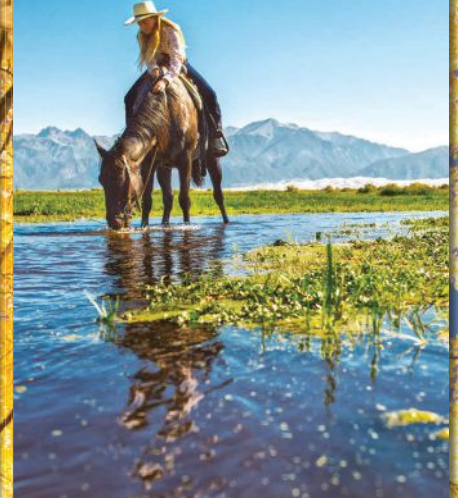


**FOCUS  
ON THE FAMILY.**  
*Helping Families Thrive™*

## **FOCUS ON THE FAMILY**

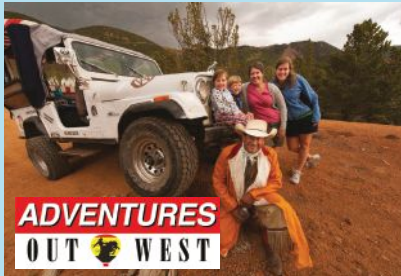
Focus on the Family provides relevant, daily guidance to help navigate every step of marriage, parenting, and beyond by equipping you with the tools to help your family thrive. Visit our Welcome Center and Bookstore for FREE family fun! Home to the popular Adventures in Odyssey® play area, you'll find Whit's End Soda Shoppe, KYDS' Radio Studio, and A-Bend-A-Go, our 3-story corkscrew slide. We look forward to welcoming you!

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**PLAN YOUR TRIP** at  
[COLORADO.COM/TRIPIDEAS](http://COLORADO.COM/TRIPIDEAS)

## **ADVENTURES OUT WEST**



**Your Adventures Start Here!**  
Pikes Peak, Garden of the Gods, Manitou Springs and Western Heritage! Balloons, Jeeps, Segways, Ziplines and Rodeo. Western Wednesdays at the COS Rodeo include Dinner, Bulls, S'mores and live music.

(719) 578-0935  
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COLORADO SPRINGS  
**Fine Arts Center**  
at COLORADO COLLEGE

## **COLORADO SPRINGS FINE ARTS CENTER AT COLORADO COLLEGE**

The Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center at Colorado College has provided outstanding arts experiences and rich culture to the Pikes Peak region for nearly 100 years. View exceptional art exhibitions, award-winning professional theatre performances, and receive phenomenal arts education all under one roof. And with a variety of family-friendly and free activities, the Fine Arts Center offers engaging programming for all ages.

(719) 634-5581 • [ColoradoCollege.edu/fac](http://ColoradoCollege.edu/fac)





waterfall cascades down seven granite steps. A new Soaring Adventure zipline just outside the falls delights visitors with multiple courses and scenic features. At Cave of the Winds, explore caverns, soar on the Terror-dactyl aerial dive ride or tackle the Wind Walker Challenge Course. Or celebrate early at **North Pole, Home of Santa's Workshop**, where it's Christmas all year and a new zipline whisks you around the park in Santa's sleigh.

Or, hit up the **ProRodeo Hall of Fame & Museum of the American Cowboy (4)** to see exhibits on famous cowboys such as Chris LeDoux, Lane Frost and Gene Autry. There's also the **National Museum of World War II Aviation**, the only U.S. museum that exclusively promotes the importance of aviation in World War II.

If you've got time to get sidetracked, peek into **Woodland Park** to explore the **Dinosaur Resource Center** and farther on to **Divide** to visit **Mueller State Park**, which happens to have amazing Pikes Peak views. **Old Colorado City** is another favorite spot for strolling visitors looking for shops, patio dining, art galleries, events and more.

## DAY 2

Start your day exploring **Garden of the Gods** on foot, on horse or by Segway. This free National Natural Landmark features unusual sandstone rock formations up to 300 feet high. While in the area, stop into the **Northrop Grumman Science Center** to see Science on a Sphere for views of the Earth, sun, moons and planets in space.

Dominating the skyline is **Pikes Peak (7)**. Reach the summit by car, foot, bike or train — **The Broadmoor Pikes Peak Cog Railway** is the highest cog railroad in the world. Stop into the new Summit House for info on the peak's importance to the area's history, amazing overlooks and to pick up one of the famous

doughnuts. Explore in the peak's shadow at the newly opened **South Slope Recreation Area**, with hiking and singletrack trails, fishing and bighorn-sheep viewing.

Or head over to the **Red Rock Canyon Open Space**, with picnic areas, hiking trails, a free-ride bike park, technical climbing routes and off-leash dog loops. If your pooch is along, finish his day at the new **Pub Dog**, the state's only restaurant where dogs can eat indoors and plenty of Fido-friendly amenities make it worth their while.

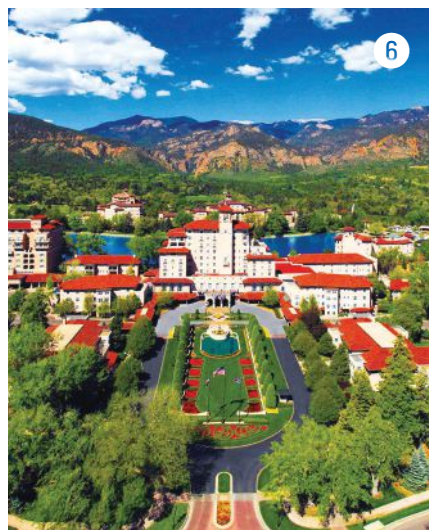
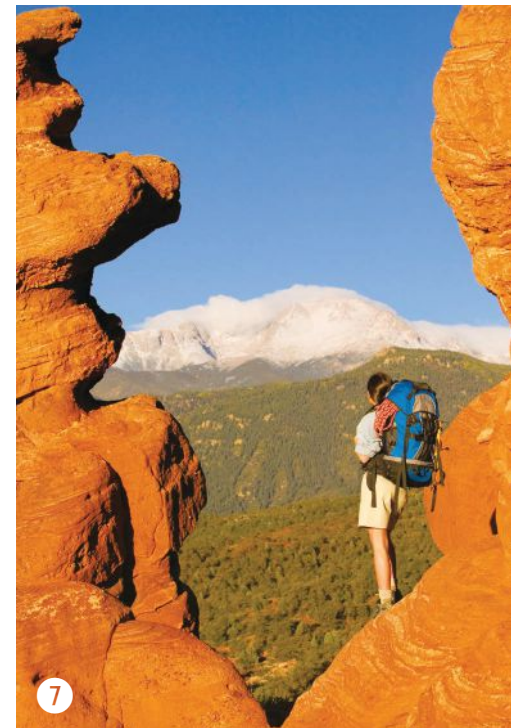
There's also the brand-new **Overdrive Raceway**, the nation's first two-story indoor electric go-kart race track, featuring two quarter-mile Formula One race tracks and other amusements.

Before dinner, stop by the **Winery at Pikes Peak in Cascade** for a few sips at the base of Pikes Peak and then check out Manitou Springs' **SunWater Spa's** hot soaking springs for further relaxation. Grab dinner in historic **Manitou Springs**, named one of the 10 Coolest Small Towns in the country by *Budget Travel* magazine. The town is home to historic restaurants, neighborhood eateries, boutiques and galleries — and was also recently named a Certified Colorado Creative District.

## DAY 3

Start your morning with a visit to **Cheyenne Mountain Zoo (3)**. Ride the tram around the park, feed giraffes and parakeets, walk among the wallabies and check out the *Encounter Africa* exhibit.

Head out to **Cave of the Winds (5)** and **The Broadmoor Seven Falls (1)**, where a 181-foot



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: CANOPY HALL, CAVE OF THE WINDS; PIKES PEAK SUMMIT FROM GARDEN OF THE GODS; ISTOCKPHOTO; THE BROADMOOR.

## STAY & PLAY OPTIONS

**Cañon City** (page 190), **Cascade** (page 191), **Colorado Springs** (page 192), **Divide** (page 194), **Falcon** (page 196), **Franktown** (page 196), **Green Mountain Falls**, **Lake George** (page 199), **Manitou Springs** (page 201), **Monument**, **Palmer Lake**, **Woodland Park**





**VISIT PIKES PEAK**

# Pikes Peak

REGION 

Start your Pikes Peak adventure with us, for a perfectly curated experience! Whether you want something that gets your blood pumping, a trip through our rich local history, or the best place to relax and soak up that Colorado vibe — we've got the perfect adventure for you!

## IRON SPRINGS CHATEAU MELODRAMA



Cheer the Hero and Boo the Villain! Come enjoy a comedy-filled melodrama, followed by a Vaudeville-Style Review full of song, dance and comedy!

(719) 685-5104  
[IronSpringsChateau.com](http://IronSpringsChateau.com)

## GARDEN OF THE GODS TRADING POST



A trip to Garden of the Gods isn't complete until you visit the Garden of the Gods Trading Post. Enjoy lunch on the patio with a Starbucks coffee and browse through a vast array of gifts and souvenirs.

(719) 685-9045  
[GardenoftheGodsTradingPost.com](http://GardenoftheGodsTradingPost.com)



## CHEYENNE MOUNTAIN ZOO



Visit America's only mountain zoo, named 6th best zoo in the nation by TripAdvisor. Get closer to animals than you ever have before and hand-feed a huge giraffe herd!

(719) 633-9925  
CMZoo.org

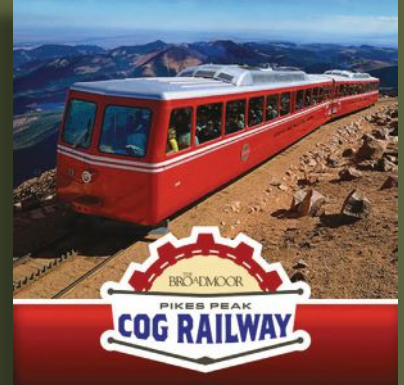
## NORTH POLE SANTA'S WORKSHOP



The North Pole has more than 25 rides, a village full of unique shops, a magic show and of course Santa himself! It's a full day of family fun!

(719) 684-9432  
NorthPoleColorado.com

## BROADMOOR PIKES PEAK COG RAILWAY



Come ride the highest train in the U.S.. Awe-inspiring panoramas, diverse wildlife and hiking trails are found along the route. Open year-round.

(719) 685-5401  
CogRailway.com

## ROYAL GORGE BRIDGE & PARK



(719) 275-7507  
RoyalGorgeBridge.com

You never know what you'll come across at the Royal Gorge Bridge & Park. So come. Come now. Fly into the sun. Laugh into the wind. Stop and hold hands while you stare off America's highest suspension bridge. And we promise, you'll come across something brand new. Buy tickets today at [RoyalGorgeBridge.com](http://RoyalGorgeBridge.com).



VISIT PIKES PEAK

PIKES-PEAK.COM



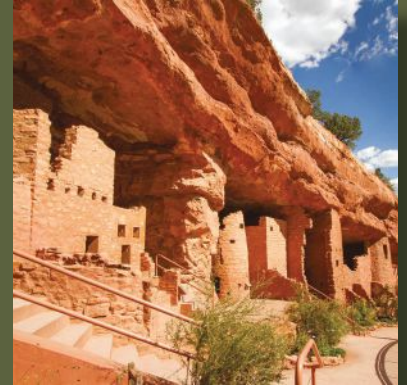
## PIKES PEAK – AMERICA’S MOUNTAIN



It's not every day you can reach the top of the world with both hands on the wheel, but this is not an everyday kind of place! Pikes Peak is 14,115 feet above ordinary.

(719) 385-7325  
PikesPeakColorado.com

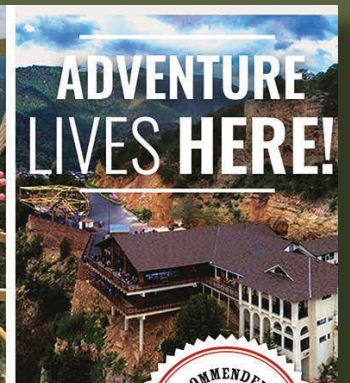
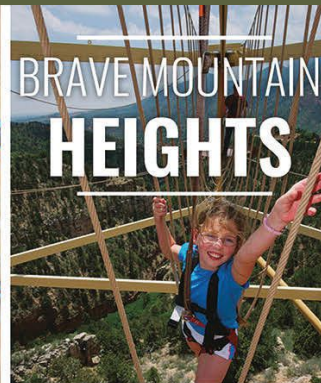
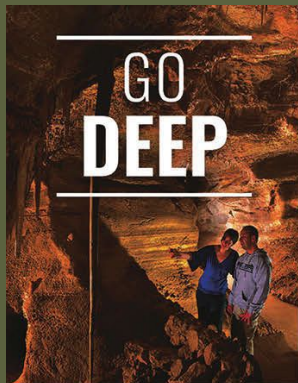
## MANITOU CLIFF DWELLINGS



Explore inside each dwelling and roam freely through 700-year-old, authentic Pueblo Indian cliff dwellings, the remnants of ancient American Indian culture.

(719) 685-5242  
CliffDwellingsMuseum.com

## CAVE OF THE WINDS MOUNTAIN PARK



CAVE OF THE WINDS  
MOUNTAIN PARK

FREE OUTDOOR LASER SHOW NIGHTLY  
9PM – JUNE 15TH - AUGUST 12TH



With three cave tours to choose from, thrilling outdoor activities and lots to do for all ages, Cave of the Winds Mountain Park has been a must-see Colorado attraction for more than a century. Discovered in 1881, at 7,000 feet, we're one of the highest show caves in America! Enjoy spectacular scenery, mild to wild family-friendly activities atop breathtaking Williams Canyon.

(719) 685-5444  
CaveoftheWinds.com



VISIT PIKES PEAK | PIKES-PEAK.COM



ESCAPE & ENJOY



# Manitou Springs

COLORADO

- Jan. 27: Great Fruitcake Toss
- Feb. 10: Mumbo Jumbo Gumbo Cook-Off & Carnival
- June 1-2: Manitou Springs Wine Festival
- June 24: Pikes Peak International Hill Climb
- Aug. 18-19: Pikes Peak Ascent & Marathon
- Sept. 1-3: Commonwheel Arts Festival
- Oct. 26-27: Emma Crawford Coffin Races & Festival

[ManitouSprings.org/Events](http://ManitouSprings.org/Events)

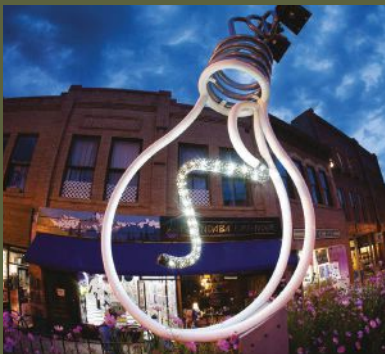
## WALK OUR HISTORIC DOWNTOWN



Taste the water that made Manitou famous while you stroll our historic downtown shopping district. Dining choices range from cafés to five star experiences. Pair all this with easy access to outdoor activities & area attractions and you've got a family vacation everyone will enjoy! Call for a free Manitou Springs Vacation Guide.

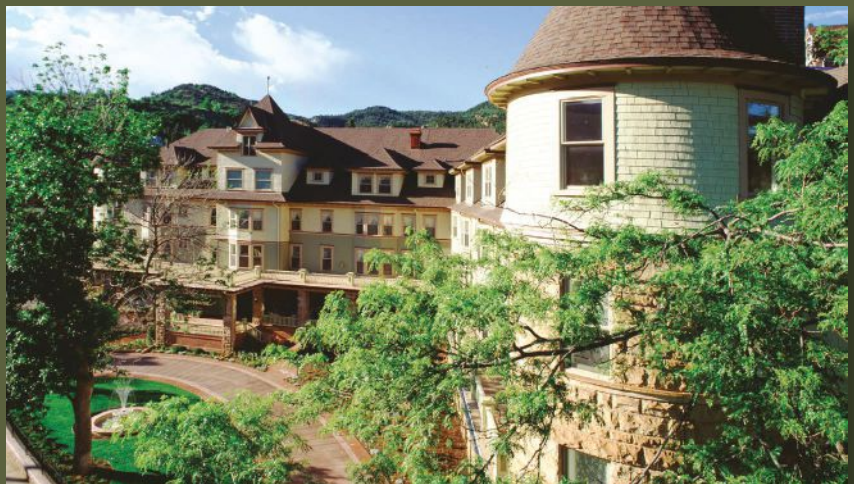
**(877) 590-9798 | [ManitouSpringsVacation.org](http://ManitouSpringsVacation.org)**

## VIBRANT CREATIVE DISTRICT



Manitou Springs is a certified Colorado Creative District you won't want to miss. Stroll the Art on the Avenue and discover the unique galleries scattered throughout town. Plan your visit to enjoy our one-of-a-kind events.

## STARTING POINT FOR PIKES PEAK ADVENTURE



Nestled between Garden of the Gods and Pikes Peak, Manitou Springs is centrally located to the attractions of the Pikes Peak Region. Our walkable small town is the perfect place to stay during your visit. Lodging options include charming hotels and motels, cabins, vacation rentals, historic B&Bs and campgrounds/RV parks.

**(877) 590-9798 | [ManitouSpringsVacation.org](http://ManitouSpringsVacation.org)**



VISIT PIKES PEAK

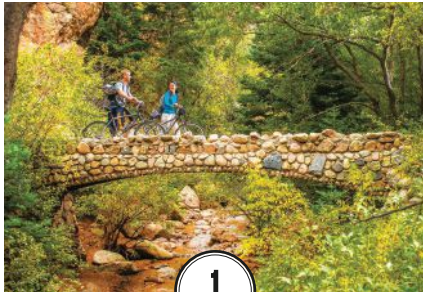
[PIKES-PEAK.COM](http://PIKES-PEAK.COM)



# COLORADO SPRINGS TOURS & ADVENTURES



The Colorado Springs area is one of the state's favorite places to play. Here are a few quick ways to soak in its Rocky Mountain splendor.



1

## TAKE A MOUNTAIN-BIKE TOUR

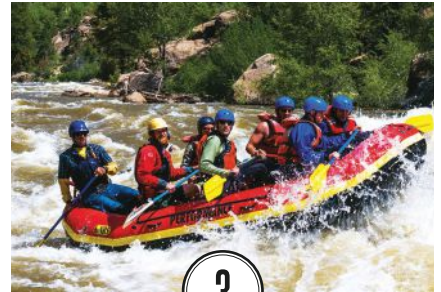
Whether you BYOB or need all the gear to get on the trails, several outfitters will get you set up and show you routes designed for every skill level, from an easy loop through Garden of the Gods to a virtual flight on the Pikes Peak Highway.



2

## GET ABOVE IT ALL

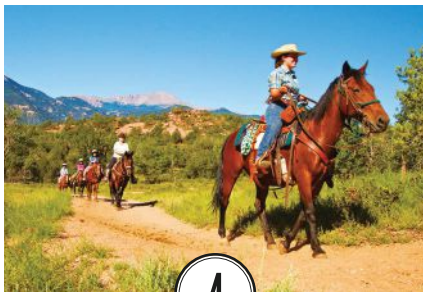
See the city, Pikes Peak and all its other spectacular assets from a hot-air balloon ride. Most flights take off at sunrise and are likely to render you speechless.



3

## RIDE THE WHITewater

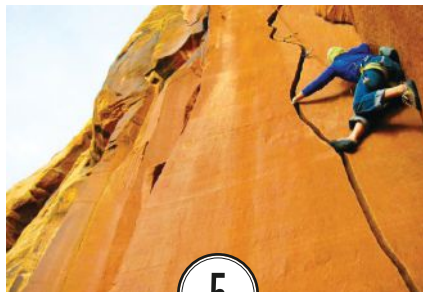
Just a short drive from the Arkansas, one of the country's most popular whitewater-rafting destinations, more than a dozen Colorado Springs outfitters are waiting to show you just the amount of thrills you're after.



4

## EXPERIENCE THE WILD WEST

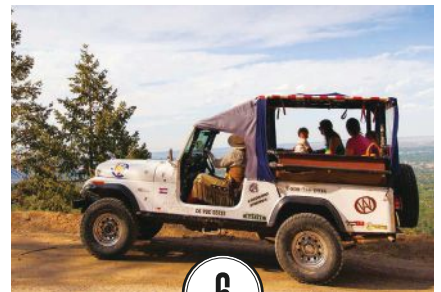
Explore the area's canyons, parks and trails while communing with nature and your new best friend. Ranches and stables around town have several ways to make you feel like a real cowboy or gal.



5

## SCALE TO NEW HEIGHTS

With all the mountains surrounding the city, you've eventually gotta climb a few! Hook up — literally — with a guide to get you squared away and climbing in the right direction.



6

## LET SOMEONE ELSE DO THE PLANNING

Colorado Springs' tour guides specialize in trips for travelers interested in everything from photography to Jeep and Segway tours, fishing, breweries, history, food and general interest. Let them show you places you'd never find on your own! [visitcos.com/tour-guides](http://visitcos.com/tour-guides)

## STAY & PLAY OPTIONS

Cañon City (page 190), Cascade (page 191), Colorado Springs (page 192), Divide (page 194), Falcon (page 196), Franktown (page 196), Green Mountain Falls, Lake George (page 199), Manitou Springs (page 201), Monument, Palmer Lake, Woodland Park

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: THE BROADMOOR; COLORADO SPRINGS BALLOON CLASSIC; JAMES FRANK; RAFTING THE ARKANSAS RIVER; CLASSIC VISIONS; ADVENTURES OUT WEST; CLIMBING GARDEN OF THE GODS; THE BROADMOOR; ACADEMY RIDING STABLES; THE BROADMOOR.





# CLOSE TO PARADISE: ESTES PARK & ROCKY MOUNTAIN NATIONAL PARK



## MORNING

One of the most popular parks in the country, Rocky Mountain welcomes 4 million visitors a year and still manages to offer quiet solitude.

Take a drive on **Trail Ridge Road (4)**, the highest paved through-road in North America. This rollercoaster route crosses the Continental Divide and offers breathtaking photo ops as you climb past subalpine forests and windswept tundra to 12,183 feet above sea level. Or enjoy a family wildflower hike to **Gem Lake** or **Bridal Veil Falls**. For a little more

challenge, try the 2.8-mile **Mills Lake** trek. You'll be rewarded with grand views of 14,259-foot-tall Longs Peak and the Keyboard of the Winds, a whimsical rock formation named for its shape.

Pull over at **Moraine Park** for prime wildlife watching. More than 3,000 elk and 800 bighorn sheep live in the park, which is a regular gathering spot for bugling. Inside the park, the **Rocky Mountain Conservancy** offers year-round seminars, guided fly-fishing, naturalist tours, hiking and photography classes. **Kent Mountain Adventure Center**, the first outfitter in the U.S. to offer

breathtaking (literally) cliff-camping excursions, has new activities: a kids mountaineering camp, a New Year's Eve Longs Peak trek, backcountry ski classes/guiding and a year-round "snow-climbing school."

Or get above it all a different way at the **Open Air Adventure Park**, where rope bridges, aerial tightropes and swinging logs challenge folks 5 years old and up. There's also a new 12-mile mountain-biking and hiking trail in **Hermit Park Open Space**, a new pumptrack at **Stanley Park** and many dog-friendly hikes around town.



FROM TOP: ROCKY MOUNTAIN NATIONAL PARK; JAMES FRANK; KENT MOUNTAIN ADVENTURE CENTER

## QUICK TIP

Dip into **Mrs. Walsh's Garden** (the gate is to keep nibbling elk out, not curious passersby), a beautiful respite along West Elkhorn Avenue with plenty of benches for pondering the alpine landscape.





## ❄️ WINTER FUN

From extreme sports such as ice climbing, backcountry split-boarding and skiing to more relaxed activities like snowshoeing and curling up by the fire, Estes Park also caters to winter visitors. It's easy to get there year-round and offers an alternative to the bustling ski resorts.



### AFTERNOON

Estes Park is the gateway into the national park, but it's also a destination unto itself. Stop by **The Barrel**, a seasonal alfresco beer garden, and window-shop along **Elkhorn Avenue (3)**, with one-of-a-kind stores, several new boutiques and restaurants and plenty of places for an afternoon snack. Stop for coffee and sit outside on the **Riverwalk**.



One block off Elkhorn, the path follows the **Big Thompson River** as it flows through town and hosts street performers in the summer. Take the path east for a tranquil walk around **Lake Estes (1)**, or stop at the marina to rent bikes, pontoon boats, paddleboards or kayaks. Then, enjoy a tasting at **Snowy Peaks Winery**, **Elkins Distilling Company**, **Rock Cut Brewing Company** or **Lumpy Ridge Brewing Co.**, a former gas station with a scenic beer garden and new brews on tap regularly. Or stop into **Via Bicycle Cafe**, part cycling shop and hangout, part coffee-geek hot spot.

### EVENING

Wind down with dinner at the storied **Stanley Hotel (2)**, an elegant 108-year-old, white-pillared landmark. Guided ghost tours reveal how Stephen King was inspired to write *The Shining* while staying in room 217. Stop by the beautifully crafted antique **Cascades Whiskey Bar** to choose from 250 different wine labels and the largest whiskey collection in the state.

Or liven things up at **Lazy B Chuckwagon Show**, where a crowd-pleasing cowboy-style chuckwagon dinner is followed by a Western musical stage show.

### STAY & PLAY OPTIONS

Allenspark, Estes Park (page 195), Lyons

@shannonoffthemap

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: THE STANLEY HOTEL; DREAM LAKE; JASON LEVIAN/DVMASK; VISIT ESTES PARK; TRAIL RIDGE ROAD; @SHANNONOFFHEMAP; WHISKEY; ISTOCKPHOTO; SNOWSHOEING; TOM BOLL; LAKE ESTES; O'HARA PHOTOGRAPHY.



# WALK ON THE WILD SIDE



*Discover the beauty in what hasn't changed in Colorado's original playground.*  
[VisitEstesPark.com](http://VisitEstesPark.com)



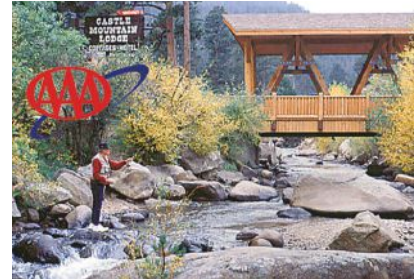


## THE ESTES PARK RESORT

The Estes Park Resort has the unique stature to be the only resort on Lake Estes while providing an extraordinary view of the peaks in Rocky Mountain National Park. From intimate to large there is a location to meet your needs. From a simple getaway to an elegant wedding; your life is your adventure and the big moments should be framed to your taste. Joining together with family and friends at one of the most wondrous places on earth is a forever memory.

970-577-6400 Front Desk / [Requests@TheEstesParkResort.com](mailto:Requests@TheEstesParkResort.com)  
[TheEstesParkResort.com](http://TheEstesParkResort.com)

## CASTLE MOUNTAIN LODGE



Leave the fast lane, cross our covered bridge to simple serenity in a cozy cottage, suite, room or vacation home among towering pines along Fall River. Fish our stocked river. Explore 30-plus acres adjoining the National Park. Enjoy a fireplace, hot tub, barbecue, kitchen, playground, wandering wildlife, paved riverwalk to town. Free Wi-Fi. AAA.

800-689-8284  
[CastleMountainLodge.com](http://CastleMountainLodge.com)

## WILDWOOD INN



We offer a delightful selection of accommodations for guests who are looking for something above the ordinary, at affordable rates. We invite you to come and experience fabulous mountain view units with steam showers and private deck hot tubs, or enjoy a direct river access suite with great trout fishing in the well-stocked Fall River.

866-586-7030  
[EstesWildwoodInn.com](http://EstesWildwoodInn.com)

## ROCKY MOUNTAIN RESORTS



With five beautiful properties in Estes Park, we can provide what you're searching for! From secluded cabins and condos (many with hot tubs), to cozy cottages and spacious mountain homes, we are just minutes each from downtown Estes Park and Rocky Mountain National Park. Let us help create your perfect Colorado getaway!

800-482-6016 / 970-586-2388  
[RockyMtnResorts.com](http://RockyMtnResorts.com)

## A1 WILDWATER RAFTING



Our 37th year with the original owner! Mild to wild adventures with the greatest variety of trips and times. Rafting on the Poudre River and the North Platte River. Clean restrooms, ample parking, retail store with food, photos, and fun. Expert guides and Hyside rafts.

970-224-3379 / 800-369-4165  
 2801 N. Shields Street, Fort Collins  
[A1Wildwater.com](http://A1Wildwater.com)



*Discover the beauty in what hasn't changed in Colorado's original playground.*

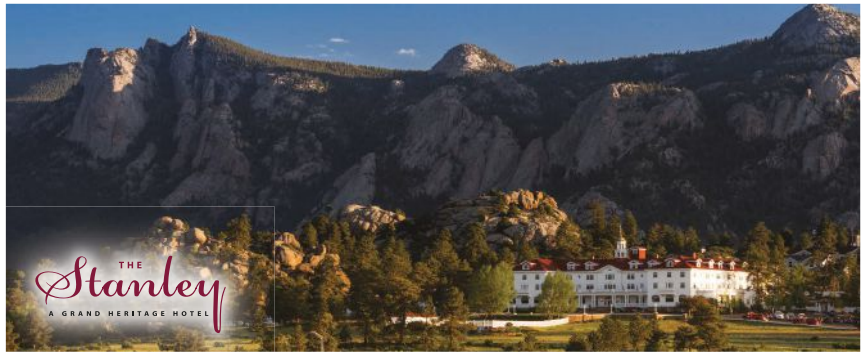


## RANGE PROPERTY MANAGEMENT



Cabins, condos and homes. We have a great variety in Estes Park and the surrounding area. We can find the perfect place for your vacation. Some of the amenities available: hot tubs or jetted tubs, fireplaces, river access, grills and large decks with scenic views. Come "home" after a day in Rocky Mountain National Park and enjoy the beauty of the mountains!

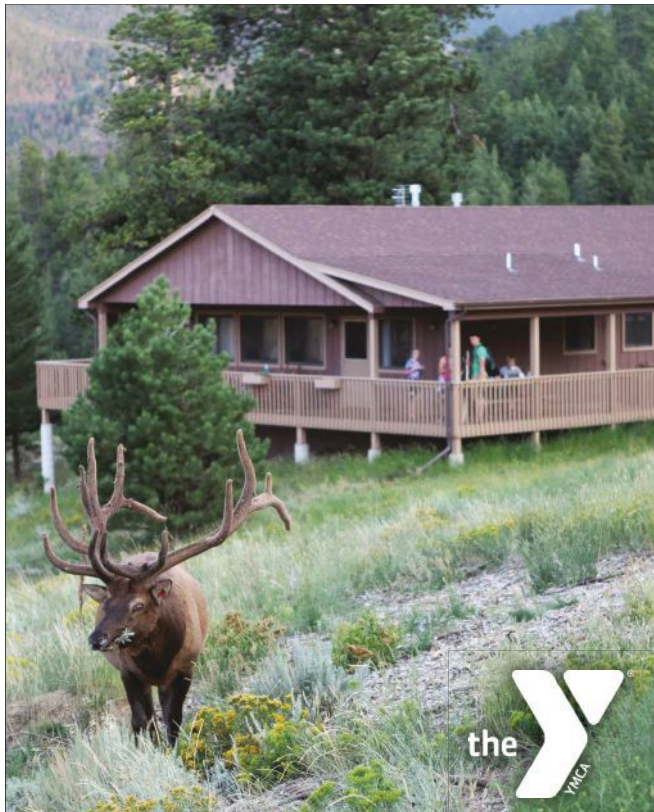
888-433-5211 / [RangeProp.com](http://RangeProp.com)



## THE STANLEY HOTEL

Located just steps away from downtown Estes Park and Rocky Mountain National Park, The Stanley offers diverse hotel rooms and suites in the historic Hotel and The Lodge, a boutique dog-friendly Bed & Breakfast. The Stanley also offers a wide variety of vacation condos at the adjacent Overlook Condominiums and the brand-new and modern Aspire Residences. Experience Estes Park's most creative culinary offerings at Cascades Restaurant and Whiskey Bar, or step back in time with one of our popular daily tours. A desired location for groups, the Stanley has been hosting weddings, meetings, and events for over 100 years making it a dream destination for any mountain getaway.

800-976-1377 / [StanleyHotel.com](http://StanleyHotel.com)



## YMCA OF THE ROCKIES ESTES PARK CENTER

YMCA of the Rockies is the perfect place to vacation with family and friends. This 850-acre property is bordered on three sides by Rocky Mountain National Park. Cabins with full kitchens are available to accommodate families large and small. Lodge rooms offer the comfort of a hotel and two free breakfasts each day. In the summer and fall, go on guided hiking excursions, take an ecology class or explore RMNP on horseback. Enjoy winter's solitude snowshoeing, ice skating or during crisp walks through the snow. Stay active at our indoor pool and roller skating rink or enjoy family time around a cozy fire or making crafts. Views and wildlife abound in every season. Discover year-round activities, festivals and unique shopping opportunities minutes away in Estes Park.

888-613-9622 / 970-586-3341 / [YMCARockies.org](http://YMCARockies.org)

[VisitEstesPark.com](http://VisitEstesPark.com)







### ASPEN WINDS ON FALL RIVER

Overlooking Fall River, we offer 1- and 2-bedroom suites and in-room spa suites with private decks, gas fireplaces, kitchenettes, fire pit and Wi-Fi.

800-399-6010 / [AspenWinds.com](http://AspenWinds.com)



### BEAR PAW & RIVER STONE RESORTS

Luxury 1, 2 & 3 bedroom condo/suites. Jacuzzi or private hot tub, fireplaces, kitchen, patio/deck with gas grill. 2 miles from RMNP & downtown.

888-854-5223 / [RiverStoneResorts.info](http://RiverStoneResorts.info)



### THE EVERGREENS ON FALL RIVER

Luxury riverfront cabins nestled in the heart of the Rocky Mountains and just 1.5 miles from the National Park. An unforgettable resort!

888-686-3393 / [EvergreensOnFallRiver.com](http://EvergreensOnFallRiver.com)



### RAMS HORN VILLAGE RESORT

Experience the finer side of cabin life. Just four minutes to Rocky Mountain National Park. Full kitchens, fireplaces, heated pool and more.

800-229-4676 / [LuxuryEstesParkCabins.com](http://LuxuryEstesParkCabins.com)



### BRYNWOOD ON THE RIVER

River and theme cabins, motel and vacation homes, all with cooking, Wi-Fi, wildlife and great views! Some feature hot tubs and fireplaces. Halfway between the park and town!

888-279-4488 / [Brynwood.com](http://Brynwood.com)



### DEER CREST RESORT ON FALL RIVER

Quiet Relaxing Getaway for ADULTS ONLY. Rooms to suites with kitchenettes. Hot tub. 5 minutes to RMNP. Non Smoking Property.

800-331-2324 / [DeerCrestResort.com](http://DeerCrestResort.com)



### RODEWAY INN ESTES PARK

The Rodeway Inn, located across from Lake Estes near Rocky Mountain National Park, is a year-round hotel with 130 rooms. We have an indoor pool and hot tub, game room and breakfast.

800-458-1182 / 970-586-5363  
[EstesRodewayInn.com](http://EstesRodewayInn.com)

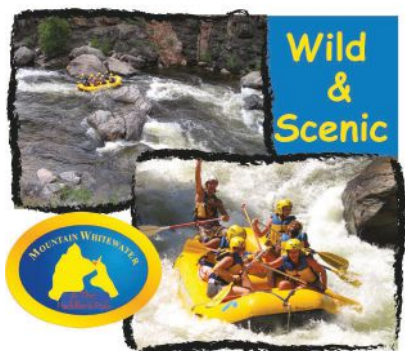


### COLUMBINE INN

Suites and rooms at ground level. Continental breakfast, free Wi-Fi, A/C, hot tub on premises and dog-friendly. Close to everything... close to perfect.

800-726-9049 / [EstesColumbineInn.com](http://EstesColumbineInn.com)

## MOUNTAIN WHITEWATER



Rafting on Colorado's only Wild & Scenic River with half- and full-day trips on the Cache La Poudre River in class III and IV rapids. Book online or with our friendly reservationists. Have a local craft beer afterward at the Paddler's Pub. We will make your experience with us incredible.

970-419-0917 / [RaftMWD.com](http://RaftMWD.com)



**PLAN YOUR TRIP** at  
[COLORADO.COM/TRIPIDEAS](http://COLORADO.COM/TRIPIDEAS)



*Discover the beauty in what hasn't changed in Colorado's original playground.*



# HOT SPRINGS & WESTERN LIVIN' IN STEAMBOAT SPRINGS



With vast ranches, aspen-draped mountains and oxbow rivers, this area makes for a serene escape, but there's also plenty of adventure.



CLOCKWISE FROM LEFT: STRAWBERRY PARK HOT SPRINGS, STEAMBOAT SPRINGS CHAMBER RESORT ASSOCIATION; FISHCREEK FALLS, KENNAN HARVEY; STEAMBOAT ZIPLINE ADVENTURES; YAMPA RIVER BOTANIC PARK, FLICKR/JOHN.

## MORNING

Start your trip by heading to one of Steamboat Springs' two thermal-water attractions — **Old Town Hot Springs** or **Strawberry Park Hot Springs (1)**. Located off Lincoln Avenue, Old Town Hot Springs boasts a waterslide, soaking pools and lap lanes, while Strawberry Park offers a more rustic and secluded (but no less indulgent) experience. Follow your soak with a gondola ride to the top of **Mount Werner** for brunch or lunch with a splendid view or head to **Steamboat**

**Zipline Adventures (2)** on Rabbit Ears Pass, where Lake Catamount, Flat Tops Mountains and Yampa Valley views fight for attention as you zigzag down the mountainside.

A few miles away, **Stagecoach State Park's** reservoir tempts water bugs with boating, jet-skiing and hard-fighting rainbow trout. As you drive through the region, look for interpretive signs that share the rich legacy and cultural heritage of the area (go to [nwcoloradoheritagetavel.org](http://nwcoloradoheritagetavel.org) for a map).

## AFTERNOON

Kids could spend days exploring the ropes course, climbing wall and trampoline bungee jump at the **Coca-Cola Adventure Zone at Steamboat Resort**. Other options include the more than 50 gardens at **Yampa River Botanic Park (3)** and the **Tread of Pioneers Museum** to explore the ways of the Native Americans, early settlers, miners, ranchers, skiers, outlaws and lawmen in this once-Wild West town.

## QUICK TIP

In the fall, the temps are cooler, the leaves are changing, fall events abound and a soak in the **hot springs** or a round of **golf** are the perfect way to send out warm weather.



Head up **Buffalo Pass Road**, an especially picturesque scene in fall when aspens blanket the Park Mountain Range slopes. High-clearance vehicles are recommended if you want to drive far up. Anglers will delight in the **Yampa River's** Gold Medal fishing waters — in particular, the stretch below Stagecoach Reservoir where leviathan brown and rainbow trout lurk in swirling tail waters.

Steamboat is also a big destination for biking. Rent a cruiser and ride the **Yampa River Core Trail** in search of adventure: fishing access, the hot springs, shopping in town, yoga, riverside parks and the rodeo, or just watch the tubers, kayakers and rafters float by. There are also new trails at the **Steamboat Bike Park** and more than 50 miles of scenic singletrack trails on **Emerald Mountain**. End the afternoon at **Butcherknife** or **Storm Peak** brewing companies, recent additions to the artisan beer scene.

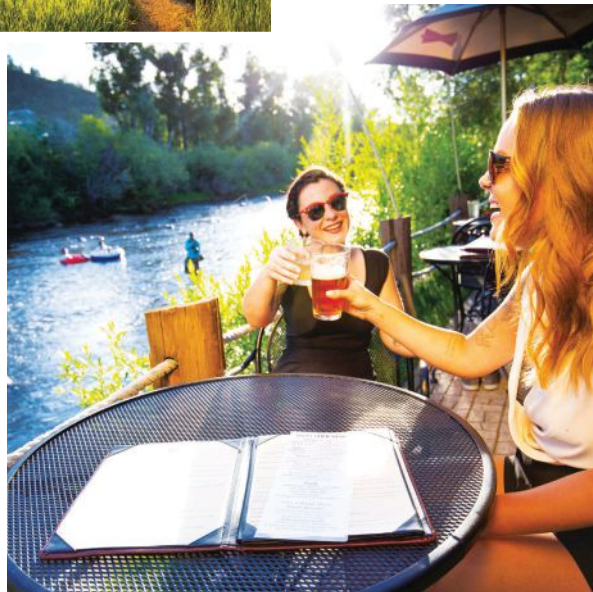
### EVENING

Delicious dining options abound in historic downtown Steamboat Springs. One new favorite: **Cloverdale Restaurant** serves multi-course dinners made with fresh ingredients from Cloverdale Farm. On summer weekends, cross the Yampa River to the Romick Rodeo Arena and cheer on the cowboys of the **Steamboat Springs Pro Rodeo Series**, followed by live country music.

Or, since Steamboat was also recently named a **Certified Colorado Creative District**, stroll through the town's galleries, pick up the First Friday Artwalk or see what other arts events are happening during your visit.

## WINTER FUN

Steamboat is a prime spot for skiing and riding. Its famed Champagne Powder™ is light, dry and smooth, which makes for great skiing and also snowmobiling, snowshoeing and cross-country skiing in Steamboat and the public lands that surround it.



## SIDETRIPS

To Steamboat's west, stop into the quiet towns of **Craig** and **Hayden**, popular with hunters and fishermen as an easy homebase amid pristine lakes and wilderness areas. In Craig, find one of the nation's best collections of cowboy and gunfighter memorabilia at the Museum of Northwest Colorado. Just 45 miles west of Craig, spot one of the few remaining herds of wild mustangs in the Sand Wash Basin, also prime off-roading territory. The horses are consistently seen along the Wild Horse Loop on Sevenmile Ridge just north of **Maybell**. To the far west, there's also Browns Park National Wildlife Refuge, a nesting/resting area for migratory waterfowl along the Green River where hikers, sightseers, fishermen are welcome year-round. See page 155 for information on Dinosaur National Monument, south of Browns Park.

Get sidetracked south of Craig toward **Meeker's** 250-mile Wagon Wheel off-highway-vehicle trail system through the White River National Forest to explore some of Colorado's finest wilderness. Meeker itself is OHV friendly, too, so you can ride your vehicle right through town to peek into the many new shops and restaurants. Meeker sits along the Flat Tops Scenic Byway, which grants access to amazing wilderness scenery, hunting, fishing and horseback riding, as well as snowmobiling and cross-country skiing from the Lost Creek trailhead. Visit in June for Meekerpalooza's arts and culinary fun, July for Colorado's oldest rodeo or September for the famed Meeker Sheepdog Trials. In the winter, hop on the White River Nordic Council's groomed trails, including the one to Marvine, where a warming hut and hot chocolate await!

Northeast of Steamboat is an area called North Park, known as the Moose Capital of Colorado. Stop in **Walden**, where a Main Street welcome center can point you to year-round outdoor activities, including ghost towns, wildlife refuges, rodeos, the OHV trails in North Sand Hills' sand dunes and the North Park-Cache la Poudre Scenic Byway.

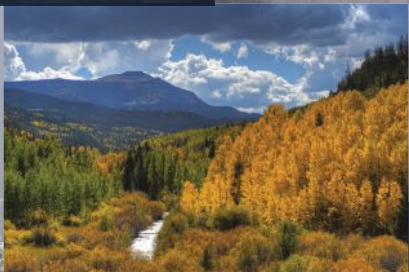
## STAY & PLAY OPTIONS

**Clark** (page 191), **Craig** (page 193), **Hayden** (page 199), **Meeker** (page 201), **Oak Creek** (page 202), **Rand**, **Steamboat Springs** (page 204), **Walden** (page 206)

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP RIGHT: FLAT TOPS TRAIL; JASON J. HATHFIELD; STEAMBOAT SPRINGS CHAMBER RESORT; STEAMBOAT SPRINGS CHAMBER RESORT ASSOCIATION.



# THERE *is a* PLACE



Welcome to a West not forgotten, the charm and welcome of a small town tucked into the Colorado Rockies. Here, you'll find equal parts adventure and hospitality, with our famous Champagne Powder® snow blanketing some of the best ski terrain in the country, plus year-round possibilities for discovery, relaxation and fun, both on the mountain and off.

DISCOVER THE MAGIC OF A GETAWAY THAT ACTUALLY FEELS LIKE GETTING AWAY.

800.922.2722 / STEAMBOAT.COM

**Steamboat**  
Happy Trails.

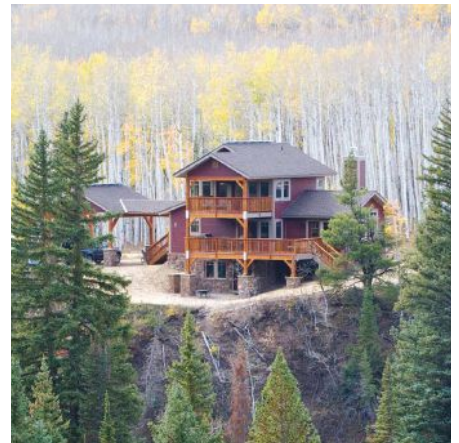


# LODGING



**Steamboat Resorts By Wyndham Vacation Rentals**  
888.712.3375 / [wvrsteamboat.com](http://wvrsteamboat.com)

Steamboat Resorts by Wyndham Vacation Rentals has the largest selection of professionally managed properties, all within close proximity to the base of the Steamboat ski area. Our properties range from affordable efficiency sizes to luxury six bedroom condominiums and townhomes. From ski-in/ski-out in the winter or hiking, biking and golf in the summer we have the ideal property, unit size and location to complete your Steamboat vacation experience. Properties feature on-site front desks, guest activities, bell & housekeeping services.



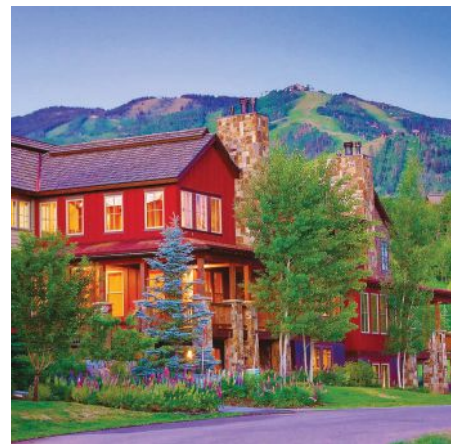
**Wild Skies Cabin Rentals in NW Colorado**  
970.926.0216 / [WildSkies.com](http://WildSkies.com)

No Condos. No Traffic. Nobody but You! Secluded 3500+ sf cabin (4 bed 3.5 bath) surrounded on three sides by the forest in the heart of the largest elk herd in the world. Fishing on a half-mile of private river frontage, ride in/out snowmobiling in over 230,000 acres of backcountry terrain, horseback riding, hiking, wildflowers and wildlife.



**The Steamboat Grand**  
877.269.2628 / [SteamboatGrand.com](http://SteamboatGrand.com)

Everything you love about Steamboat in a hotel - breathtaking scenery, old west charm, world-class recreation and overwhelming hospitality. That's the promise of the Steamboat Grand. Renowned for our service, as well as our modern facilities and amenities - all conveniently located at the base of the mountain. Here, you'll find a variety of rooms, condos and penthouses surrounded by the comfortable elegance of our grand hotel. Enjoy two on-site restaurants, full service spa, outdoor pool and state-of-the-art fitness center and complimentary WiFi.



**The Porches of Steamboat**  
[vacation-steamboat.com/colorado-special](http://vacation-steamboat.com/colorado-special)

The Porches of Steamboat is a 20 acre neighborhood at the base of the ski area featuring 4 and 5 bedroom luxury homes. Our homes sleep up to 14 people making them the perfect place to gather all your friends & family under one roof. Offering 5-star services & amenities, there is no better place to stay.



# IN STEAMBOAT SPRINGS



**Rabbit Ears Motel**  
800.828.7702 / RabbitEarsMotel.com

Downtown Steamboat on the Yampa River, comfortable, affordable lodging in the center of it all! Across from Old Town Hot Springs (discount for all guests), walk to dining, shopping. Free continental breakfast, WiFi, parking. Luxury night's sleep without the luxury price.



## 2018 *Summer Events*

Come celebrate summer in the Rocky Mountains, Steamboat style.

### JUNE

Steamboat Marathon, Half Marathon & 10K  
Yampa River Fest  
Rocky Mountain Mustang Roundup  
Reds Whites and Brews

### JULY

Cowboys' Roundup Days & Fourth of July Celebration  
Art on the Mountain  
Hot Air Balloon Rodeo & Art in the Park  
Tour de Steamboat

### AUGUST

Steamboat All Arts Festival  
Steamboat Wine Festival  
Steamboat Movement Festival  
Steamboat Stinger  
Routt County Fair

### SEPTEMBER

Labor Day Celebration & Rocky Mountain Bull Bash  
Yampa Valley Crane Festival  
Run Rabbit Run  
Steamboat OktoberWest  
Steamboat Restaurant Week





# ROARING FUN IN THE ROARING FORK VALLEY: ASPEN, SNOWMASS & GLENWOOD SPRINGS



The Roaring Fork River flows through a valley that has always been a favorite playscape.

## ❄️ WINTER FUN

There's just as much to do in the Roaring Fork Valley during the winter months. The Aspen/Snowmass area is home to four big-time ski areas: Aspen Mountain, Aspen Highlands, Snowmass and Buttermilk Mountain. And Glenwood Springs is home to Sunlight Mountain Resort, where you can ski, hop on snowmobile tours and tackle the scenic Nordic trails on snowshoes or cross-country skis.



### DAY 1

Start the day with a bike ride up the **Colorado River** on **Glenwood Canyon's** paved path and pause to stare up at the 1,300-foot chocolatey canyon walls. Hikers should visit **Hanging Lake (3)**, a mysterious natural wonder high in the bluffs. Visit in the morning to avoid the crowds — those on the trail by 5:30am find tranquility and spectacular light for photos.

Next, melt any muscle aches away in the new Colorado Riverside **Iron Mountain Hot Springs' (1)** 16 soaking pools or long-time favorites **Yampah Spa & Salon** and **Glenwood Hot Springs**, home to the world's largest hot-springs pool. Mineral-rich waters fluctuate between 90 and 93 degrees and swimming lanes, a kiddie pool, waterslides and mini golf add elements of fun. Follow your sighs of relaxation with squeals of delight at the **Glenwood Caverns Adventure Park (2)**, where a mountain sling shot, Cliffhanger Rollercoaster and the new Haunted Mine Drop, which plunges riders 110 feet inside Iron Mountain, provide year-round thrills, as do three in-town escape rooms.

For photo ops, "Doc" Holliday's grave site is located in **Linwood Cemetery**, a short hike from downtown Glenwood Springs with terrific views of the town and the valley. Then dine alfresco along **Seventh Avenue** and stay the night in Glenwood Springs, named the Most Fun Town in America by *Rand McNally* and *USA Today*.



### DAY 2

It's time to explore **Aspen**. Renowned as a haven for celebrities, skiers and culture vultures, Aspen manages to maintain a character that is 100 percent Colorado and family friendly. Hit the ground running with a jaunt through downtown to survey the town's famous stores. In the summer, hit up the **Saturday Market** for its farm-fresh produce and local products.

Spend the afternoon savoring the scenery of the upper Roaring Fork River Valley. Take a gondola ride to the top of Aspen or nearby Snowmass Mountain for 360-degree views. On **Aspen Mountain**, hike the well-marked trails and dine at the Sundeck; on **Snowmass Mountain**, play disc golf or mountain bike on 40 miles



## QUICK TIP

When visiting Aspen, park in the parking garage, and then utilize the **Downtowner**, an on-demand shuttle service that will take you anywhere in the downtown core for free. Similarly, Snowmass' free shuttles get you around town with ease, and there's a free RFTA bus that goes between the two towns for free.

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP: IRON MOUNTAIN HOT SPRINGS; GLENWOOD CAVERNS ADVENTURE PARK; HANGING LAKE. @KALEYHERMAN; ASPEN MOUNTAIN, ASPEN SNOWMASS.





## SIDETRIPS

Detour to the small town of **Basalt** at the confluence of the Roaring Fork and Fryingpan rivers for Gold Medal fishing and rapids, kayaking in a new whitewater park, paddleboarding on Ruedi Reservoir, and charming shops, galleries and cafes. Amid the myriad activities, Basalt still preserves its original, quaint charm.

Down the valley in **Carbondale**, the new (and free!) Powers Art Center focuses on contemporary and pop art. Having been recently named a Certified Colorado Creative District, arts events, performances and classes abound. Touted as one of "The Top 10 Adventure Towns in the U.S." by *National Geographic Adventure Magazine*, there is plenty to do including biking, kayaking, paddleboarding and world-class fly-fishing. In winter, excellent cross-country skiing can be found at Spring Gulch.

**Marble** is tucked away in the Crystal River Valley. The Marble Hub is a great place to get questions answered, sip coffee and get the lay of the land. Visitors who make the off-road trek to the ghost town of Crystal are welcomed by a marvelous sight: the 1893 Silver Boom Crystal Mill (pictured above), an eye-catching remnant of the mining activities that influenced settlement in the area. Paddleboard rentals are available for use on Beaver Lake. Back in town, stop at the Marble Gallery to browse the crystallized stone that earned the town its name.

**New Castle** is 9 miles west of Glenwood Springs. Take the new self-guided historical tour to learn about the area and meander through locally owned shops and restaurants.

### STAY & PLAY OPTIONS

**Aspen** (page 188), **Basalt** (page 189), **Carbondale** (page 191), **Glenwood Springs** (page 197), **Marble** (page 201), **Redstone** (page 203), **Rifle** (page 203), **Snowmass** (page 204)



4

of trails. Just 1 mile from downtown Aspen, try your hand at the **Gold Butte Climbing Area**, which has routes for all levels. Or tackle the new **Snowmass Loop Trail**, with 25 miles of mountain-biking bliss for riders of all abilities. Or explore the **Rio Grande Trail**, a paved path that starts in Aspen and follows the Roaring Fork River. Those up for more of a challenge should take the **Cathedral Lake** and **American Lake** trails — just two prime spots for amazing wildflower color.

Follow the crowds to **Maroon Lake** (4) via the shuttle from Aspen Highlands (8am–5pm mid-June to early October only). The striped, tilted pyramids of the twin Maroon Bells reflecting in the lake below is one of North America's most famous mountain scenes. A semi-secret way to see these iconic peaks is from the top of Snowmass Mountain, a view that is easily accessible in summer or winter from the top of the Elk Camp lift. As an alternative, **Independence Pass** (5) offers a variety of recreational opportunities from hiking and biking to climbing and exploring a ghost town.



5



6

There's also the **Aspen Center for Environmental Studies**, a 25-acre nature preserve just steps from downtown, home to birds of prey and lush riparian ecosystems.

Or, explore the (free!) **Aspen Art Museum's** new building by Japanese architect Shigeru Ban, which houses contemporary art and dramatic mountain views from its rooftop sculpture garden. In Snowmass, the also-free **Ice Age Discovery Center** (6) teaches about the 2010

find that became the finest high-elevation Ice Age fossil site in the world.

Time for dinner, and you're in luck: This area has a world-class dining scene. Chefs at restaurants like **Matsuhisa**, **Grey Lady** and **Element 47** create their menus around whatever local produce is in season. Or check out **Avalanche Cheese Company's Restaurant & Farm Shop** (7) for perfect picnic ingredients.



7



What if nature called to us?

Eager to share the sun-kissed slopes,  
hear our laughter swirl with the mountain air,  
and open our hearts as wide as the skies.

If I said the surrounding peaks held us close,

Would you

**RUN AWAY**

*with me?*



**S N O W M A S S**

[GoSnowmass.com](http://GoSnowmass.com)







### **The Crestwood Condominiums**

The Crestwood is a renowned ski-in/ski-out condominium lodging establishment at the base of Snowmass, providing guests with the most convenient ski holiday experience. Our fully furnished, one to four bedroom condominiums and three rating categories can accommodate a wide range of group sizes and budgets while providing world-class service and amenities.

**877.217.9161**  
**thecrestwood.com**



### **Snowmass Lodging Company by Wyndham Vacation Rentals**

Offering the finest ski-in/ski-out, one to four bedroom accommodations at Woodrun Place, Chamonia, The Enclave, and Owl Creek Homes. Winter or summer, enjoy our great locations, heated pools, whirlpool spas, designer interiors, kitchens, fireplaces, free internet access and more. Our first-class services and amenities meet the needs of the most discriminating guest. Special promotions are available throughout the year.

**800.365.0410 | 970.923.3232**  
**snowmasslodging.com**



### **Destination Residences Snowmass**

With close to 400 accommodations ranging from moderately priced hotel rooms to ski-in/ski-out, five bedroom condominiums, all within walking distance to the slopes of Snowmass, Destination Residences Snowmass offers a collection of privately owned residences in the heart of Colorado ski country with all the amenities of a hotel, and all the comforts of home.

**866.786.9112 | 970.923.7076**  
**destinationssnowmass.com**



### **Stay Aspen Snowmass**

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# SPIRIT OF THE SOUTHWEST: DURANGO, SILVERTON & PAGOSA SPRINGS



In southwest Colorado, everything seems a little more: higher mountains, bluer skies and so many activities you'll have a hard time choosing. Spending just a few days will give you a taste of the glories of true Southwest living.

## DAY 1

In Durango, historic buildings housing award-winning restaurants, craft breweries and art galleries line **Main Avenue** and surrounding blocks, cyclists zip through the streets and you hear the foot-toot of the departing **Durango & Silverton Narrow Gauge Railroad (2)**.

The train has been operating continuously for 135 years, and a ride on its rails is a must. Opt for a one-way ride with a motorcoach return trip to afford more time to explore the historic mining town of Silverton. The tracks take the steam-powered train through parts of the San Juan National Forest that are impenetrable by car.

If you'd like to experience the wilderness rather than just watching it rush by, you can use the train to access the **Weminuche Wilderness (1)**. It makes two stops along its route, where adventurous travelers can disembark or board the train for a convenient way to explore some of the most pristine and remote wilderness in the state.

Once in **Silverton**, enjoy the storybook mining village's well-preserved splendor. The entire town is a designated a National Historic Landmark and an archetypal example of a mining town that reinvented itself after the ore disappeared.

There are shops and restaurants to explore, as well as historical



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP: LEFT: WEMINUICHE WILDERNESS; KENNAN HARVEY; ICE LAKES BASIN; KENNAN HARVEY; THE SPRINGS RESORT AND SPA; @RAYYYRAY14; ROCHESTER HOTEL IN DURANGO; ERIC LINDBERG; DURANGO & SILVERTON NARROW GAUGE RAILROAD; KENNAN HARVEY.

## QUICK TIP

Visit [durango.org/crafted-beverages](http://durango.org/crafted-beverages) for a Crafted Beverages of Southwest Colorado tour, which leads past nearly 30 independent and unique breweries, distilleries, wineries and cideries in this part of the state.



sites, including the **Mayflower Mill, Old Hundred Gold Mine and Silverton Museum and Jail**. If you choose to extend your stay in Silverton, you have plenty of options for enjoying the surrounding San Juan Mountains and the Weminuche Wilderness, including Jeep and OHV tours, rafting, horseback riding, amazing day hikes up to **Ice Lakes Basin (4)** or the waterfalls of **Cunningham Gulch**, and the ghost towns of **Eureka and Howardsville**.

Thanks to a wealth of historic and scenic 4x4 roads that lace through the surrounding San Juans, the area is incredibly popular for Jeep and ATV tours. Summer and fall offer glimpses into seldom-accessed fields of wildflowers and autumn color. Hundreds of miles of groomed trails await in the winter months.

Durango was named one of *Outside Magazine's* best new adventure hubs for its access to skiing, whitewater, fishing, hiking, byways and mountain-bike trails. Visit the town's **Main Street welcome center** to find out how to access all that recreation.

Just 40 minutes away, consider visiting **Vallecito Lake**, one of the state's largest and most spectacular, with plenty of fishing, boating, hiking, Jeeping, snowmobiling and other activities.

Back in Durango, take in one of the town's famous melodramas or other shows in the Victorian-era **Henry Strater Theater** or enjoying martinis served by saloon girls at



the **Diamond Belle**. During the summer, the historic **Leland House** and **Rochester Hotel's (3)** relaxing outdoor bar hosts a summer concert series.

## DAY 2

East of Durango, **Pagosa Springs** offers record-holding deep mineral waters, used by **The Springs Resort and Spa (5)** (known for a luxurious yet family-friendly feel), as well as **Overlook Hot Springs** and the **Healing Waters Resort & Spa** right in town.

To the west, find **Chimney Rock National Monument's** otherworldly rock formations and Ancestral Puebloan history, or seek out Pagosa's **San Juan River** riches with rafting, kayaking and tubing — including a two-mile shuttle-served stretch with new features right in town — and fishing adventures, ATV tours, 2.5 million acres of wilderness

and national forest, 650 miles of trails, the **Wolf Creek Pass** drive, waterfall **(6)** and wildflower hikes and camping.

**Williams Creek Reservoir** is a gorgeous lake surrounded by mountains, popular with fishers, mountain-bikers and picnickers. There's also 30 miles of incredible singletrack in **Turkey Springs Recreation Area**.

In town, there's a new climbing/bouldering park and skate park, not to mention three craft breweries and a handful of great restaurants.

## STAY & PLAY OPTIONS

**Arboles** (page 188), **Bayfield** (page 189), **Durango** (page 194), **Ignacio, Pagosa Springs** (page 202), **Silverton** (page 204), **Vallecito Lake**

## WINTER FUN ❄️

**Purgatory** just outside Durango is emerging as one of the nation's top ski destinations, with affordable packages and a low-key vibe that encourages vacation relaxation. **Silverton Mountain** is the state's highest and steepest ski mountain, serving up un-groomed expert terrain for those who prefer skiing the old-school way, while families head to **Kendall Mountain Ski Area**. Just 23 miles from Pagosa Springs, visitors and locals alike flock to **Wolf Creek Ski Resort** to ski and ride "the most snow in Colorado," with an average of 430 inches of natural (not manmade) snowfall per season.

Beyond the slopes, Durango, Silverton and Pagosa Springs all take advantage of their deep San Juan Mountain powder with endless trails perfect for backcountry snowshoeing, cross-country skiing, sledding and snowmobiling.



## SIDETRIPS

**Ignacio** is a ranching community located in a long valley bordered by the La Plata Mountains. Today Ignacio supplies the adjacent Southern Ute Indian Reservation and ranches scattered throughout this remote area. The Southern Ute Tribe, a descendant of two of the seven original Ute tribes that inhabited Colorado, is headquartered just north of Ignacio, but its reservation spans more than 680,000 acres. The modern **Sky Ute Casino Resort**, one of the tribe's economic mainstays, is very popular with visitors. The casino features gaming halls, hotel rooms and restaurants.

Recreational spots include **Navajo State Park**, which provides ample opportunity to enjoy water sports — jet skiing, house boating, fishing — and the reservation's top trout-fishing hole, **Lake Capote**.



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP: HIKING NEAR WOLF CREEK PASS, KENNAN HARVEY; WOLF CREEK SKI RESORT, KENNAN HARVEY; NAVAJO STATE PARK, ERIC LINDBERG.



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### **Snowdown**

JANUARY 31 – FEBRUARY 4

### **Durango Film Festival**

FEBRUARY 28 – MARCH 4

### **Spring Break Festivities at Purgatory Resort**

MARCH 10-17

### **Durango Bluegrass Meltdown**

APRIL 20-22

### **Durango Wine Experience**

MAY 3-5

### **Iron Horse Bicycle Classic**

MAY 26-27

### **Music in the Mountains**

JULY 8-29

### **Durango Cowboy Poetry Gathering**

OCTOBER 4-7

### **The Polar Express™**

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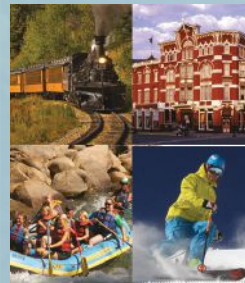


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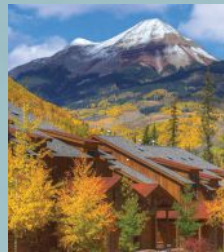


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1

# SUMMIT COUNTY GETAWAY: BRECKENRIDGE, SILVERTHORNE, FRISCO, DILLON, KEYSTONE & COPPER MOUNTAIN



Appropriately named “Colorado’s Playground,” Summit County is an easy day trip from Denver and the Front Range. The area is hugged by three mountain ranges and presents enough activities to satisfy anyone itching to get out and go.

## DAY 1

Start the day scoring deals at more than 50 name-brand stores, including J. Crew, Banana Republic and Coach, at the **Outlets at Silverthorne**. Counter your shopping with a trip down to the water. Silverthorne’s **Blue River Trail (6)** runs parallel to the outlet shops and provides access to the river’s Gold Medal trout-filled waters and scenic walkway.

Watch how far your ball flies through the thin mountain air while teeing off at one of Keystone’s two 18-hole championship courses, **Keystone Ranch**

and the **River Course at Keystone (5)**, before heading west to Frisco for an afternoon on **Dillon Reservoir (1)**, where you can rent canoes, kayaks, pontoon boats and paddleboats and explore the dozen or so islands sprinkled throughout. The **Frisco Bay Marina** now rents the Hobie Eclipse paddleboards (with handlebars and stair-step pedals).

After exploring the 25 miles of shoreline, stop off at the **Peninsula Recreation Area** for a round of disc golf and loads of picnic sites perfect for spreading out with lunch from one of charming Main Street’s tempting delis, breweries



2

## QUICK TIP

**The Cheese Shop of Breckenridge** is the spot to pick up all the fixins for a picnic — cheese, cured meats, chocolates and other yummy bits and pieces — and nearly any outside space is the perfect spot to eat it.

FROM TOP: LAKE DILLON, LISA SEAMAN; FRISCO BIKE PARK, TODD POWELL





## ❄️ WINTER FUN

Keystone Resort, Breckenridge Ski Resort, Copper Mountain and Arapahoe Basin are four reasons Summit County is known worldwide as a top winter destination. Just a short trek up scenic I-70 from Denver, find all types of ski and snowboard terrain, as well as other enchantments like snow tubing, sleigh and dogsledding rides, snowmobiling, Nordic trails and much more. Take lessons from an Olympian at the Frisco Nordic Center and savor lift-served tubing, sleigh rides and more at the Frisco Adventure Park.



(including the new **Outer Range**) and chef-owned eateries in **Frisco**. The **Frisco Bike Park (2)** has pump track, slope-style and dual slalom courses, and the town has access points to more than 80 miles of paved recreation path for plenty of road-bike spinning.

Bring a blanket or lawn chairs to the **Dillon Amphitheater** for an evening lakeside concert. Throughout the summer, the pavilion hosts performances, a concerts and country dance lessons. Or head over to **Copper Mountain (4)**, where a scenic chairlift can take you to a mountain-top restaurant or to the top of a downhill mountain-bike course or rugged hike.

### DAY 2

**Breckenridge** boasts a vibrant “made-in-Breck” food and beverage scene. Grab breakfast at one of the more than 70 independently owned restaurants. Then, hop on your mountain bike and hit the trails; many of them

are converted wagon routes and mining paths. If you prefer pavement, jump on the **Ten Mile Recreational Pathway**. Named for the adjacent mountain range, the 24-mile paved path connects to the 55-mile Summit County Recreational Path.

For more heart-thumping amusement, race down the slopes on the Gold Runner Coaster, an elevated alpine track located at the **Summer Fun Park**, where you can also pick up a 4X4, off-road Segway or guided hiking tour, pan for gold, play mini golf and much more.

In the afternoon, head to **downtown Breckenridge**, where locally owned boutiques will taunt you with everything from designer cupcakes to designer jeans and fancy, imported olive oils and vinegars to fancy, imported cigars. Explore the 200-structure historic district on foot, along **At Your Pace Freestyle Cycling Adventures’** new photography workshop and walking tour, or via an extra-special horse-drawn carriage. Breck is one of the state’s emerging art towns and a **Certified Colorado Creative District**, hosting makers’ nights, performances and a number

of studios, galleries and shops holding workshops on subjects like metal-smithing and green beauty.

While Colorado rakes in praise for its craft-brewing culture (which you can experience at the **Breckenridge Brewery (3)**), the distilled-spirits bandwagon is starting to take on passengers. The **Breckenridge Distillery** was one of the state’s pioneers, and you can drop by its tasting room to sample award-winning bourbon whiskey or sipping bitters made from local herbs; the distillery recently opened a farm-to-table dining experience (with a killer cocktail menu, of course). Not to be outdone, ski maker **Rocky Mountain Underground** opened a 16-brew tap house and showroom for their outdoor gear, along with a dog-friendly, backyard beer garden to boot. And **Continental Divide Winery** offers blending classes at Main Street Station.

## STAY & PLAY OPTIONS

**Breckenridge** (page 190), **Copper Mountain** (page 192), **Dillon** (page 194), **Frisco** (page 196), **Keystone** (page 199), **Silverthorne** (page 204)

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP: LEFT: BRECKENRIDGE BREWERY; BETH SCHNEIDER; COPPER MOUNTAIN/TRIPP FAY; KEYSTONE RESORTS; BLUE RIVER TRAIL; LISA SEAMAN; COPPER MOUNTAIN/TRIPP FAY.





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# DISCOVER BRECKENRIDGE'S SECRET SEASONS

Breckenridge is best known for its world-class skiing, record-breaking snowfall and endless winter fun. But if you haven't seen what it looks like without a blanket of snow, you're missing out! Discover the secret seasons of Breckenridge, and start planning your next trip now.



## FEATURED EVENTS

<b>Ullr Fest</b>	January 10-13
<b>International Snow Sculpture Championships</b>	January 22-29
<b>Mardi Gras</b>	February 13
<b>Gold Panning Championships</b>	June 16-17
<b>Independence Day Celebration</b>	July 4
<b>Breckenridge International Festival of Arts</b>	August 10-19
<b>Breckenridge Oktoberfest</b>	September 7-9
<b>Breckenridge Wine Classic</b>	September 13-16
<b>Breckenridge Film Festival</b>	September 20-23
<b>Lighting of Breckenridge &amp; Race of the Santas</b>	December 8

## DISCOVER SUMMER FUN

You may have heard the saying, "Locals come for the winters but stay for the summers" — experience one summer trip to Breckenridge and you'll see why. The list of what to love about Breckenridge during the summer is long. Whether you come for the trails, the brews, to get some sun or to get a little vertical distance from the real world, Breckenridge's breathtaking scenery and friendly local scene will keep you coming back for more.

### LOCAL FAVORITES:

#### BEST WILDFLOWER TRAIL:

Black Powder Pass

#### FAMILY-FRIENDLY THRILL:

Guided rafting trip

#### FAVORITE WAY TO

#### KICK BACK & RELAX:

Enjoy microbrews and views

### LOCAL'S TIP:

Not into getting crazy on the trails? Try renting a bike for a cruise around town or sign up for a guided bike brew tour.

## FALL IS FESTIVAL SEASON

Everyone loves a good festival and in Breckenridge there are plenty to choose from. Fall in Breckenridge is recognized for its tunnels of golden aspens and one of the largest Oktoberfest celebrations in the Rocky Mountains. But Oktoberfest isn't the only festival or event that shines every autumn. Our fall calendar is packed with festivals that celebrate arts, crafts, the outdoors, tastings and the best of local flavor. Hit the trails between festivals and enjoy your favorite activities like hiking and biking. Don't forget your camera to capture the changing leaves!

### LOCAL FAVORITES:

#### BEST SPOT FOR FALL FOLIAGE:

Aspen Alley on Boreas Pass

#### FAVORITE MORNING ACTIVITY:

Strolling along the Blue River, taking in views with coffee in hand

#### BEST BEGINNER BIKING TRAIL:

Lower Flume

#### LOCAL'S TIP:

Plan your fall trip around a festival to experience all that Breckenridge has to offer.

## SPRING SKIING & EVENTS

One of the best-kept secrets around is the amazing snow conditions Breckenridge enjoys each spring. When it's not snowing, skiers and snowboarders are treated to blue skies, sunny days and warm temps. Late-season snow days mean many of your favorite winter activities (snowshoeing, sledding and

snowmobile tours) are still going strong. Take advantage of spring events, end-of-season discounts and the reopening of patio season around town.

### LOCAL FAVORITES:

#### BEST SNOWSHOE TRAIL:

Sallie Barber Trail

#### FAVORITE ACTIVITY:

Sledding Hill at Carter Park

#### TRY SOMETHING NEW:

Explore the mountains on a

dogsled tour

#### LOCAL'S TIP:

There's no better time to earn a glowing goggle tan than spring. If that's not your style, make sure you grab your sunscreen because it's going to be bright!

## QUICK TIP

Visit [GoBreck.com](http://GoBreck.com) for local tips and a year-round events calendar.





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1

# PLAYING AMONG THE COLLEGIATE PEAKS: BUENA VISTA & SALIDA



Venture to central Colorado for a high-country getaway with Arkansas River-side mountain towns, hot springs, dramatic peaks named after colleges (Princeton, Yale and Harvard, to name a few), and unbeatable outdoor recreation.

The towns of Buena Vista and Salida are only a scenic, 30-minute drive apart, so plan to traipse back and forth between them during your stay.

## MORNING

Travel along the **Collegiate Peaks Scenic Byway**, a 57-mile route that runs along the Collegiate Peaks Wilderness (1) and the Sawatch Range from Salida north to Buena Vista and beyond. This stretch contains the nation's greatest concentration of peaks higher than 14,000

feet — "fourteeners," in local parlance.

Head to an aerial adventure park: With more than 120 challenges, including swinging bridges and tightrope walks, **Captain Zipline (4)** is the largest aerial adventure park in the western U.S. Meanwhile, **Browns Canyon Adventure Park** suspends zipliners above the roaring river, and **Arkansas Valley Adventures** allows daring visitors to soar from cliff top to treetop on a 44-acre course.

**Buena Vista** is a popular access point for rafting,

## QUICK TIP

About 20 miles southwest of Buena Vista lies **St. Elmo**, one of the state's best-preserved ghost towns. Though abandoned by its residents in 1922, wooden storefronts and cabins remain seemingly frozen in time. Pop into the General Store for a cold beverage and to get hiking and ATViing tips May through September.





2



3



5



4

kayaking, fishing, hiking and backpacking adventures centered around the **Arkansas River**, including **Browns Canyon National Monument (2)**, 102 miles of Gold Medal fishing waters and the **Buena Vista Whitewater Park**.

No visit is complete without a go at one of the area's signature sports: rafting and biking. Dozens of rafting outfitters offer half-day to multiday whitewater thrills. Rent a bike and hit the dirt on top-notch trails, like the **Monarch Crest (5)**, **Alpine Tunnel** and **Salida Mountain Trails** or the downtown **Buena Vista Pump Track** (which also has a Frisbee golf course).

Stop into the **Buena Vista & Salida Chamber of Commerce** to pick up a map of all the area's recreational opportunities.

## AFTERNOON

Rejuvenate at **Mt. Princeton Hot Springs Resort**, **Cottonwood Hot Springs** or **Salida Hot Springs Aquatic Center**. Or head to the top of Monarch Pass. In the summer, the **Monarch Crest Scenic Tramway** carries passengers up 12,000 feet in elevation —

offering sweeping views of the surrounding peaks and nearby **Monarch Mountain** ski area.

## EVENING

Take a **distillery or winery tour** at one of the many operations in the area. Combined, there are close to 100 breweries, distilleries, wineries, galleries and eateries, so you'll never lack for something to do.

Stroll through downtown **Salida (3)**, one of the state's 21 **Certified Creative Districts** and the

largest National Historic District, with dozens of artist-owned galleries and shops. Kids get a kick out of feeding the fish at the **Mt. Shavano Fish Hatchery**, and visitors of all ages enjoy strolling the pleasant streets of downtown. Delicious restaurants abound in Salida; try **Shallots**, **Amicas** and **Currents** for a tasty meal.

If you're still looking for fun, consider Buena Vista's vintage **Comanche Drive In Theatre** for a nightcap.

## STAY & PLAY OPTIONS

**Buena Vista** (page 190), **Nathrop** (page 202), **Poncha Springs**, **Salida** (page 203), **Twin Lakes** (page 206)

## WINTER FUN ❄️

Monarch Mountain ski area is just a short drive from Salida, and the area's deep snow opens a playground for snowshoers and fat bikers, and snowmobilers delight in zooming around the area's 400-plus miles of groomed trails. The valley floor is often dry in the winter, perfect for rock climbing, a round of golf, hiking and biking year-round.



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: BROWNS CANYON NATIONAL MONUMENT; TIM BROWN; DOWNTOWN SALIDA; BETH SCHNEIDER; MONARCH CREST; LISA SEAMAN; MONARCH MOUNTAIN; CAPTAIN ZIPLINE AND LOST CANYON ZIPLINE TOUR.



# BIKES & BEER: A DAY IN FORT COLLINS



Breweries are as much a part of Fort Collins as the surrounding prairies, mountains and canyons.



@tonyfwu

## SIDETRIPS

Located northwest of Fort Collins, the rustic mountain village of **Red Feather Lakes** is far from hectic city life and popular with campers and boaters. Surrounded by the 612,000-acre Roosevelt National Forest, the area is a year-round outdoor playground that offers beautiful scenery, diverse wildlife, hiking trails and cozy mountain retreats.



1

With near-constant blue skies and more than 280 miles of bike trails and lanes, bikes and beer are natural companions here. In fact, Fort Collins produces 70 percent of all craft beer in Colorado, so whether you ride a cruiser, fixie or just a plain old bike, hop on, grab your ID and get pedaling!

## MORNING

Pick up your method of transportation for the day at the **Fort Collins Bike Share** ([bikefortcollins.org](http://bikefortcollins.org)). Then, kick-start your morning in **Historic Old Town (1)** and ride up to **The Bean Cycle**, where you can sip a steamin' cup of ethically sourced coffee and peruse books at **Wolverine Farm Publishing** in the same building. Other places to investigate Fort Collins' exploding craft-coffee arena include **Harbinger Coffee**, **Bindle Coffee** and **Everyday Joe's**.

Spend the morning exploring Old Town's bookstores, galleries and shops. Historic homes like the Victorian-style **Avery House** (come for tea on the lawn in the summer!) and the adobe **Museo de las Tres Colonias** tell stories of gold seekers, immigrants and sugar beets.

## AFTERNOON

For lunch, stop into the historic **Norther Colorado Feeder Supply building**, a new foodie haven, replete with a coffee and pie shop, and two restaurants as well as a small retail store, wine cellar, tasting room, teaching kitchen and banquet room.



2

## WINTER FUN

Winter sends Fort Collins' active residents into neighboring Roosevelt National Forest for cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, ice fishing and even snowy horseback rides.

## QUICK TIP

**Jessup Farm Artisan Village** boasts locally crafted goods from coffee to bread, T-shirts, watches, photography, barrel-aged beer and more, along with a few places to grab a bite. The village is just one of the reasons the city has been recently named a **Certified Colorado Creative District**.

THIS PAGE: CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: RED FEATHER LAKES; FLICKR/TONYFWU; FORT COLLINS BOHEMIAN NIGHTS; CACHE LA POUDDRE RIVER. MILES/MATT INDEN. OPPOSITE PAGE: CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: NEW BELGIUM BREWERY; REVOLUTION ARTISAN POPS.





Stop by the **Fort Collins Museum of Discovery**, focusing on the history of science and the science of history. From here, hop on the **Poudre Bike Trail** and point your handlebars east. **Odell Brewing** and **New Belgium (3)** are cherished breweries within very short pedaling distance of each other. Most of the city's breweries offer free tours and tastings — pick up a tasting journal from the **Downtown Visitor Center** to guide you through Colorado's Craft Beer Capital.

If you're craving beaches more than beer, visit **Horsefooth Reservoir**. Red-stone cliffs flank the 6.5-mile lake, a favorite of hikers, bikers and rock-climbers. Or hop in a raft to ride the Class III and IV

rapids down the **Cache la Poudre (2)**, Colorado's only nationally designated Wild and Scenic River. **Goose Hollow** and **Tanglewood** are two new natural areas open for exceptional birding and raptor and other wildlife viewing.

### EVENING

Check out **The Modern Tavern**, whose farm-to-fork menu offers local fare. For new brews, check out **McClellan's Brewing Co.** for cask ales brewed in traditional Celtic style by the Scottish-born head brewer, and **Three Four Beer Co.**, a one-of-a-kind brewpub with 49 tap handles, including several offerings brewed on site in the three-barrel brew house.

Ideas for sweet treats abound: Check out **Nuance Chocolate** in Old Town, which makes small-batch chocolates from beans that are roasted and ground on site; **Revolution Artisan Pops (4)** uses locally sourced ingredients to create its frozen treats; and from savory to sweet and offering nearly 200 unique flavors, **Rebel Popcorn** makes small-batch, handcrafted, artisanal popcorn.

See what band is playing at the **Aggie Theatre** or, on select Thursday summer evenings, head to New Belgium for the **Bike-In Cinema Series** — riders spread out on blankets beneath the stars to sip beer and watch a movie. You can also catch a riverside concert at **Mishawaka Amphitheatre**.



### STAY & PLAY OPTIONS

**Bellvue** (page 189),  
**Fort Collins** (page 196),  
**Red Feather Lakes**



The View  
 FROM OUR  
**Backyard**

Consider Yourself Invited



Colorado Brewers' Festival - June | NewWestFest - August  
 Tour De Fat - September | First Night - New Year's Eve | Fortitude - Labor Day Sept. 3

VisitFortCollins.com



# HELPING OF HOT: HISTORIC SITES & FAMILY FUN IN PUEBLO



Once a rough-and-tumble mining town inhabited by cowboys, gold-seekers and infamous ruffians like Wild Bill Hickok and Buffalo Bill Cody, modern-day Pueblo is a sunny playground nestled on the banks of the Arkansas River.

## MORNING

Kick off your visit in the colorful **Union Avenue Historic District (1)**, the town's original city center, which once housed trading posts, gambling saloons and second-story brothels. Today, the area's beautiful brick and sandstone buildings house a collection of boutiques, art galleries and sidewalk cafes. The neighborhood is one of three that make up **Pueblo's Creative Corridor**, hubs of museums, live music, galleries, public sculpture, fountains and more. **Arts Alliance Studios** is one of the biggest and most exciting new developments here. More than 40 creatives work out of this studio collective. Each month on First Fridays and



## SIDETRIPS

### WESTCLIFFE & SILVER

**CLIFF** Take a scenic drive west of Pueblo to the towns of Westcliffe and Silver Cliff, between the Wet Mountains and the Sangre de Cristos. The quiet area, home to 200 miles of hiking and biking trails and 54 alpine lakes, has an air of the undiscovered, and you're likely to spot real cowboys and gals herding cattle on horseback. Peek into the Westcliffe Depot railroad museum and stop for a performance or movie at the Historic Jones Theater. For fine dining and spectacular views, make a date at Westcliffe's Alpine Lodge. The area is also an International Dark Sky Community, so plan for some stargazing and a stop at Smokey Jack Observatory.

**COLORADO CITY** South of Pueblo along I-25, this town anchors the southern leg of the Frontier Pathways Scenic Byway. The 104-mile road along the splendid Sangre de Cristos travels through the San Isabel National Forest, by Haradscrabble Canyon and 40-acre Lake Isabel, an ideal spot for fishing, hiking and picnicking. Head west 24 miles along Hwy. 165 to Bishop's Castle (pictured above), billed as "The Largest One-Man Construction Project in the Country." Jim Bishop has been building this quirky fortress for more than 40 years.

Second Saturdays the artists host open houses and events such as raku firings, poetry readings and receptions.

Check out the **Historic Arkansas Riverwalk**, a 32-acre waterfront plaza, a nature center and a new outdoor amphitheater. Enjoy a morning stroll along the picturesque riverwalk, or get your heart pumping on one of the bike trails, many of which connect to nearby **Lake Pueblo State Park**, one of the state's most popular.

## STAY & PLAY OPTIONS

**Colorado City, Pueblo** (page 203), **Pueblo West, Silver Cliff, Westcliffe**

## QUICK TIP

Pick up maps and information at the Visitor Information Center at the **El Pueblo History Museum** about the Frontier Pathways Scenic Byway, which begins in Pueblo and meanders through the high plains.

THIS PAGE: FROM TOP: BISHOP'S CASTLE: @BALANCINGTHISVESSEL; UNION AVENUE HISTORIC DISTRICT: MILES/ANDREA BUROLLA; BUELL CHILDREN'S MUSEUM: MILES/ANDREA BUROLLA; OPPOSITE PAGE: FROM LEFT: PUEBLO WEBSBROD AIRCRAFT MUSEUM: MILES/ANDREA BUROLLA; PUEBLO RIVERWALK: MILES/ANDREA BUROLLA





3

**AFTERNOON**

If you're traveling with children, your next stop should be the **Buell Children's Museum (2)**, ranked the No. 2 children's art museum in the nation by *Child Magazine*. Next, head to the **Pueblo Weisbrod Aircraft Museum (3)**. Originally a World War II Army air base in 1943, the museum boasts more than 30 vintage aircraft, including a massive B-29. Other can't-miss

museums include the **El Pueblo History Museum**, a re-created 1840s adobe trading post and archaeological excavation site, and **The Steelworks Museum**, rated in the top five industrial collections in the nation.

**EVENING**

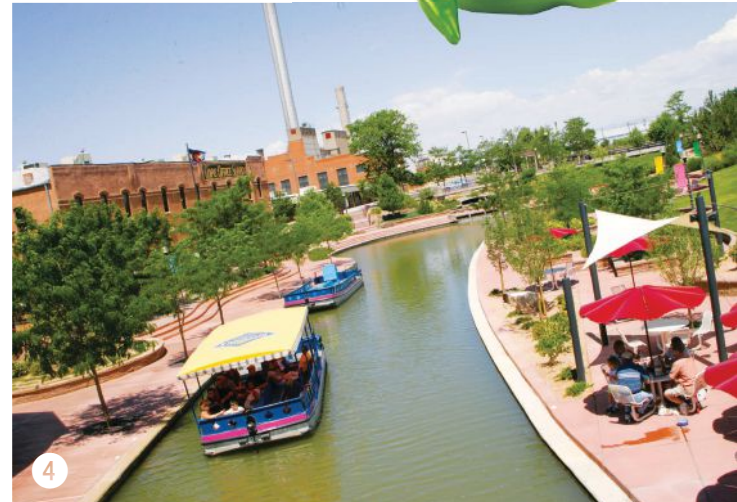
Watch the city melt into gold, red and orange during a **sunset gondola cruise (4)** down the river. Afterward, head into historic **Old Town** for a bite to eat, making sure to sample the town's de facto mascot, the chile pepper. This spicy, fire-roasted treat is perhaps best enjoyed in savory pork green chile. For a unique Pueblo culinary experience, try a Slopper, a hamburger patty served open-faced in a bowl on a grilled bun and smothered in green chile. To get chile goodness to bring home with you, take the **Pueblo Chile Farm Stand Tour** along U.S. Highway 50 east of town July through October.

A long tradition of Italian, Greek, Slovenian, Polish, Irish, German and African-American residents

have also shaped the city's menus. Stop in at one of the longtime local restaurants and shops, like **Franks Meat Market, Paleteria Y Neveria Durango, Tortilleria Delicias** or **Giodone's Italian Bar and Grill**.

If there's still time, stop into the **Songbird Cellars** tasting room on Abriendo Avenue for handcrafted

fruit wines and find out what's on stage at the **Steel City Theatre Company, Impossible Players** and **Grupo Folklórico del Pueblo**.



4

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# HIGH-COUNTRY ESCAPE: IDAHO SPRINGS, GEORGETOWN, SILVER PLUME, BLACK HAWK & CENTRAL CITY



Find Gold Rush lore, modern-day prospectors, railroad adventure and cooler temps just 40 minutes west of Denver.



## MORNING

Take advantage of morning's typically clear blue skies on a drive up the highest paved highway in North America. Memorial Day to Labor Day (weather permitting), the **Mount Evans Scenic Byway (1)** starts in Idaho Springs and climbs 7,000 feet in just 28 miles, peaking at 14,265 feet with top-of-the-world views of alpine lakes and the snow-capped Continental Divide. Or hook up with a **rafting outfitter** — several run this stretch of Clear Creek with trips for those of all experience levels.

## AFTERNOON

Swing down to **Idaho Springs**; the discovery of gold here in 1859 ushered in the Colorado Gold Rush. That heritage lives on through **Miner Street's** well-preserved buildings and at the **Visitor Center & Heritage Museum**, where you can also pick up maps and tips for exploring the area. Bring your appetite to the original **Beau Jo's Pizza (2)**. Founders of deep-dish Colorado-style pizza, the eatery serves up hearty Colorado pies. Next door is **Tommyknocker Brewery**, the perfect place for a refreshing mountain craft brew or handcrafted soda, as is **Westbound & Down Brewery**; **Bouck Brothers Distilling** is just a 15-minute walk down Colorado Boulevard. Pencil in time for a soak in the therapeutic mineral pools



## QUICK TIP

The new **Prospector Bus Route** runs between Idaho Springs and Georgetown and connects to the **Bustang**, which runs between Denver and Idaho Springs. See page 14 for more regional routes.





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at Indian Hot Springs (3), thrill rides at Lawson Adventure Park or stops in the town's cute shops — The Spice and Tea Exchange and The Bees Knees are two favorites.

Or journey farther west on I-70 to Georgetown. Tucked off the highway (beyond the first gas stations you see), visit the town's Victorian-era homes and silver-boom relics at the Hamill House and Hotel de Paris museums, as well as exhibits and events at the Georgetown Heritage Center. Break for afternoon tea at the Dusty Rose Tea Room or a brew at Guanello Pass Brewery (named for one of fall's loveliest enclaves, which you can see along the Guanello Pass Scenic Byway) and stop into the crafts, cake and coffee shops along the main street. Board the Georgetown Loop Railroad (6) for a narrow-gauge train ride to Silver Plume and back for views of the Clear Creek Valley and an optional walking tour that takes you 500 feet into an

1870s mine tunnel. It also now offers snacks and parlor class aboard.

### EVENING

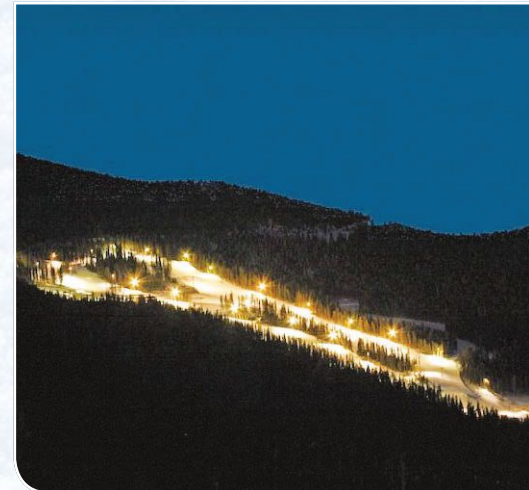
Step into Colorado's mini Western-style Las Vegas for some nightlife action in "the richest square mile on earth." The canyon-cradled hamlets of Black Hawk and Central City (5) are just 1 mile apart and are lined with bustling, grand casinos as well as mom-and-pop gaming saloons, historic storefronts and visitors hoping to strike it rich.

More refined entertainment options reside at the Central City Opera House (4). The 550-seat jewel-box theater was built in 1878 by Welsh and Cornish miners and continues to draw international applause with classic to contemporary performances each summer.

Visiting in the daytime? From Black Hawk, you can easily hop on the Peak to Peak Scenic Byway and head toward Estes Park, an amazingly kaleidoscopic journey in the fall.

## WINTER FUN ❄️

Small but mighty Echo Mountain Resort in Idaho Springs is the closest ski area to Denver — and one of the few that offers night skiing.



## STAY & PLAY OPTIONS

Black Hawk, Central City (page 191), Dumont (page 194), Empire, Georgetown (page 197), Idaho Springs (page 199), Lawson (page 200), Silver Plume

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: INDIAN HOT SPRINGS, TED GOTWALS; CENTRAL CITY OPERA HOUSE, MILES/ANDREA BUIROLLA; GEORGETOWN LOOP RAILROAD, EFRAIN M. PADRÓ; ECHO MOUNTAIN RESORT, CENTRAL CITY, EFRAIN M. PADRÓ.



# SCENIC AND HISTORIC BYWAYS

**DID YOU KNOW COLORADO HAS 26 OFFICIAL BYWAYS, 11 OF WHICH ARE ALSO NATIONALLY DESIGNATED AMERICA'S BYWAYS?**

This publication is available for free on your iPad, giving you access to in-depth descriptions, photos, route information and suggested itineraries. It's convenient, dynamic and a must-have for any Colorado visitor.



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# A GRAND TIME IN GRAND COUNTY: WINTER PARK, GRAND LAKE, GRANBY & MORE

FROM TOP: GRAND LAKE, ERIC UNDBERG; WINTER PARK RESORT.



Deep lakes, thick forests and friendly attitudes define this expansive, mountainous county. Hot springs, outdoor adventure and Rocky Mountain National Park are just the tip of the must-do list.

## DAY 1

Start your voyage in **Winter Park (2)** with a chairlift ride to 10,700 feet above sea level. Once the snow melts, Colorado's longest continually operated ski resort becomes a summer playground, and the swift **Zephyr Express** lift will take you to mountaintop views of the Continental Divide and the Fraser Valley in just six minutes.

Downhill bikers flock to the resort for its ramps, jumps and top-to-bottom terrain, while the alpine slide sends summer sledders down the mountain on more than 3,000 feet of bobsled-like track. The adventure continues with a climbing wall, 18 holes of mini-golf, bungee trampolines and a giant maze, along with an events calendar chock full of music and beer festivals, a chili cook-off and kid-friendly outdoor movie nights.

The town of Winter Park also bustles year-round; don't miss the free summertime concerts at **Hideaway Park** downtown or the **Foundry Cinema & Bowl** to enjoy craft cocktails and wood-fired pizza while you bowl and watch movies.

## QUICK TIP

Keep an eagle-eye out: You can see **moose** year-round (from a safe distance, of course) in the national park, Winter Park and Grand Lake — sometimes walking right down the street!



## ❄️ WINTER FUN

Winter Park Resort's deep snow, incredibly diverse terrain and the Winter Park Express Amtrak route from Denver right to the slopes make it a favorite skiing and snowboarding destination (and now fat-biking!) with beginners and experts alike. Nearby, the smaller Ski Granby Ranch is known as a long-time family favorite.

All the Grand County towns pack in plenty of fun beyond the slopes, with groomed trails for snowshoers and cross-country skiers, six area snow-tubing hills, sleigh and dogsled rides, as well as snowmobiling routes with epic Continental Divide views. In Grand Lake you can even ride your snowmobile through town and right up to your favorite Grand Avenue lunch spot.



Or head to **Snow Mountain Ranch** in Granby to experience the spectacle of their summer tubing hill and other family activities.

In the afternoon, go north to the laid-back county seat of **Grand Lake (1)**, where hints of the village's Western character are revealed in its historic boardwalks and hitching posts alongside the parking spots.

As Colorado's deepest and largest natural lake, Grand Lake attracts summer fun-seekers looking to water ski, fish, sail or relax on the beach. Rent a boat and take leisurely laps on the water, look up for eagles and down for trout.

Take a mile-long hike to beautiful **Adams Falls**, which feeds into the lake. This area is the western entrance of **Rocky Mountain National Park** and one of the state's most popular areas for viewing moose and other wildlife.

Or explore the area's four mountain golf courses, where you'll tee off amid inspiring scenery (and your ball will fly farther through our thin air).

Catch an evening show at Grand Lake's **Rocky Mountain Repertory Theatre**, which presents a lineup of Broadway

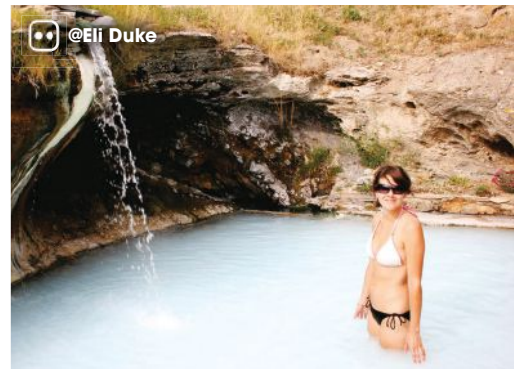
favorites and will have you whistling show tunes throughout your Rocky Mountain excursion.

### DAY 2

As the **Colorado River** carves its way from the Continental Divide on its journey to the Pacific Ocean, it treats Grand County visitors to some of the best rafting around. Jagged red canyons and green valleys provide stunning backdrops for mellow floats, perfect for families. Outfitters can be found throughout the county. The river is also home to Gold Medal fishing.

The sleepy mountain town of **Granby** offers Western hospitality, an idyllic main street of restaurants and antique shops and easy access to the area's outdoor pursuits, including boating and fishing on **Lake Granby**.

Expect nothing but the best at the many dude ranch resorts (3) that dot Grand County. Proprietors roll out the country hospitality to those seeking an authentic Old West experience, offering activities like horseback riding, hiking and square dancing, and the not-so-cowboy tennis, yoga and volleyball. Some even have luxurious spas and miles of trails and fishing.



## SIDETRIPS

Retreat to **Hot Sulphur Springs** and do what visitors have done since the time of the Ute Indians: Soak in the area's mineral-rich pools. Volcanic rock 35,000 feet below the earth's surface heats the water that fills the pools at the town's namesake resort and spa.

**Fraser** is another ideally situated homebase for exploring the area's outdoors (and is perhaps best known for its epic lift-served snowtubing hill in winter).

And **Kremmling** is a sportsman's paradise amid some of the state's best fishing waters and elk-hunting grounds, as well as miles and miles of ATV and OHV trails. Head to Rusty Spurr Ranch for trail rides and cattle drives, book saddle-and-paddle trips for great rafting and riding or hike to Radium Hot Springs on the Colorado River.

## STAY & PLAY OPTIONS

**Fraser** (page 196), **Granby** (page 197), **Grand Lake** (page 198) **Hot Sulphur Springs** (page 199), **Kremmling** (page 199), **Tabernash**, **Winter Park** (page 206)

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP: RIGHT: HOT SULPHUR SPRINGS; FLICKR/ELI DUKE; NEAR KREMMLING; ETHAN WELTY; C LAZY U RANCH; SNOWMOBILING IN GRAND COUNTY; KERRICK JAMES



# AFTER ONE VISIT YOU'LL NEED A NEW BUCKET LIST



Hiking. Zip Lining. Kayaking. Mountain Biking. Fishing. Golfing. Shopping. Dining. Museum Going. There's no telling where your adventure will begin in Grand County. And with so much to do, it never has to end. From Colorado's largest natural lake to the sights of Rocky Mountain National Park, the end of one adventure is just the beginning of another.

**Don't Just Explore Colorado. Go Grand.**



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GRANBY • GRAND LAKE • HOT SULPHUR SPRINGS • KREMMLING • WINTER PARK/FRASER



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Kremmling is a quaint “cowboy” town, surrounded by miles of year-round outdoor fun for the entire family. Kremmling is located in the high country with breathtaking mountain views, wide open spaces, wilderness, wildlife, and it boasts 3 rivers, and 3 reservoirs. Whether you like fishing, rafting, kayaking, snowmobiling, hunting, Dude Ranches, hiking, biking or camping, you will love it here!

970-724-3472 / KremmlingChamber.com

## WINTER PARK

*Colorado's Favorite Playground*



Welcome to Winter Park – Colorado’s favorite® Playground! With countless activities and hundreds of miles of trails for hiking and biking, we’re also your basecamp to Rocky Mountain National Park. Winter brings over 300” of snow each year for skiing, boarding, tubing, sleigh rides and snow angel making. Just 67 miles west of Denver, Winter Park is a year-round playground. Come up and play!

800-903-7275 / 970-726-4118 / PlayWinterPark.com



## HOT SULPHUR SPRINGS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Located in Grand County along the Colorado River, visit the museum, hot springs or nearby trails to fish, hike, bike, snowshoe & more!

970-531-7588  
HSSChamber.com



## GRAND LAKE LODGE

A Historic Colorado Summer Mountain Lodge offering a variety of rustic cabins located beyond the Main Lodge, surrounded on three sides by Rocky Mountain National Park. A must see location!

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## GRANBY

*Beautiful & Affordable*



With miles and miles of groomed trails at 4 ski areas and exploring to do in Rocky Mountain National Park, you'll find Granby enchanting in the winter! In the summer, experience the beauty of Lake Granby and surrounding areas by boat, foot, hot air balloon, horseback or ATV! Always family friendly.

970-887-2311 / GranbyChamber.com

## GRAND LAKE

*The Western Gateway Town to Rocky Mountain National Park*



Explore historic Grand Lake, where shop owners greet visitors from storefronts. Lodging exudes warmth and charm. Restaurateurs offer optimal dining experiences. At night, live music resonates from lodges and saloons beckon patrons inside. An all-season family recreation paradise, with cross-country skiing, snowmobiling, boating and fishing. Choose your path; we'll make it possible. Grand Lake, "The Soul of the Rockies."

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## SNOW MOUNTAIN RANCH

*Bringing Together Family & Friends*

Located near Winter Park, Snow Mountain Ranch offers an environment where friends, families, groups and conferences can enjoy a tranquil setting with more activities than anywhere else. With a full-service Nordic Center, a dedicated fat biking trail system, dog sled rides, a snow tubing hill and much more, Snow Mountain Ranch is the perfect winter destination for everyone. Indoor activities abound as well, including rock climbing, archery and roller skating.

Stay at Snow Mountain Ranch in one of our cozy family cabins or comfortable, hotel-style lodge rooms. We even have a few yurts available for hearty souls! Cabins range in size from two- to five-bedrooms and include fully equipped kitchens and all linens and towels. Lodge rooms in Indian Peaks Lodge and our yurts all have microwaves and mini-fridges and each lodge room night reservation includes two free breakfasts in our buffet-style dining hall. Yurts are not heated but have electricity, so space heaters are encouraged. Our less-expensive lodge rooms have combinations of full beds and bunk beds and are perfect for groups.

Downhill skiers will find Snow Mountain Ranch's location between Winter Park Resort and Granby Ranch a convenient hub for relaxation and après ski activities, such as swimming or relaxing by the fire, and a good night's sleep. For those who prefer off the slopes activities, it's not necessary to leave the ranch to enjoy a full day of indoor and outdoor fun!

888-613-9622 / SnowMountainRanch.org



# SAN JUAN SPLENDOR: MONTROSE, OURAY, RIDGWAY & TELLURIDE



## DAY 1

It took thousands of years for the Gunnison River to carve out the area's most identifiable feature — the 48-mile-long **Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Park (2)** near **Montrose**.

Start at the **Elk Creek Visitor Center**, located on **Blue Mesa Reservoir (3)**, Colorado's largest body of water. Winds captured by flat-topped buttes make for prime sailing conditions. Anglers, too, will find deep water filled with kokanee salmon and mackinaw trout. And boaters freely roam more than 41,000 acres of lake. The **Morrow Point Boat Tour** is well worth the 232 steps down to the boat landing. Float on the 40-foot pontoon to the foot of precipitous 1,000-foot cliffs. Landlubbers can stick to the four-mile **Curecanti Creek Trail**, which passes through forests as it drops 800 feet below the canyon's rim.

In the afternoon, visit the park itself. The astonishingly steep walls

of the canyon rise more than 2,000 vertical feet from the river. The cliffs expose 2-billion-year-old black metamorphic rock and are so sheer that hiking into the canyon is an ambitious undertaking. Instead, take a relatively flat walk from the **South Rim Visitor Center**. Peer across the chasm to Colorado's tallest cliff, **Painted Wall** — you'll know it by the white gashes through the otherwise pitch-black stone. The park is also an International Dark Sky Park, with stargazing ops that will blow you away year-round but are especially vivid in the winter.

Montrose is a gateway to biking, hiking, rafting, hunting and fishing. As a basecamp for exploring the area, you'll be charmed by the Old West feel yet surprised by modern eateries and shops. Visit the **Water Sports Park** on the Uncompahgre River for kayaking, tubing and swimming. West of Montrose, explore the **Dominguez-Escalante National Conservation Area's** 200,000 acres of red-rock canyon country or the **Buzzard Gulch Trail System**. In town, the newly expanded **Ute Indian Museum (1)** connects the past with contemporary Ute life and culture.

## DAY 2

Nicknamed the "Switzerland of America," **Ouray** sits in a narrow valley with the towering San Juan Mountains on three sides — one reason it's considered ground zero for Jeep touring. An extensive and incredibly scenic network of old mining roads is another. Many of the town's original Victorian structures have been lovingly restored to retain the town's original charm. **Ouray Mule & Carriage Co.** can give you a carriage tour along with tall tales of the mining era.



THIS PAGE: FROM LEFT: UTE INDIAN MUSEUM, LU ANNIE TYRRELL; BLACK CANYON OF THE GUNNISON NATIONAL PARK, JASON LEWANDOWSKI; OPPOSITE PAGE: FROM LEFT: BLUE MESA RESERVOIR, @LOVELIVINGINCOLORADO; TELLURIDE SKI RESORT, MILES/MATT INDEN.

## QUICK TIP

Getting to this part of the state is easier than ever. Montrose and Telluride have **daily flights from Denver year-round**, and Montrose also has flights from Dallas year-round and seasonally from Phoenix, Chicago, Los Angeles, New York, Atlanta, Charlotte, San Francisco, Salt Lake City and Houston.





@lovelivingincolorado

Check out nearby **Ridgway Area Trails'** 40 miles of mountain-bike and hiking trails. Or for something more intense, the epic **Old Twin Peaks Trail** takes you to a 360-degree overlook. Ouray's **Western Slope Rides** has a handy new adventure shuttle that will get you to a hiking trailhead, backcountry mountain biking, winter ice-climbing expeditions and more.

Afterward, enjoy a truly restorative experience in the enormous,

90-year-old, recently renovated **Ouray Hot Springs Pool**, which holds more than a million gallons of naturally heated, crystal-clear mineral water. Its warmth makes a perfect end to a day of skiing or ice climbing in the winter, or a day of shopping, hiking and mountain biking in the summer.

Stop at **True Grit Cafe** in **Ridgway**, built to honor the original "True Grit" movie starring John Wayne, which was filmed here in 1969. Ridgway is also a **Certified Colorado Creative District**, home to artisans, art fests, galleries and the newly restored **Sherbino Theater**. Ridgway is a jumping-off point to splendid views of **Mount Sneffels (7)** and the **Dallas Divide** — one of our most photographed alpine scenes. Detour to **Orvis Hot Springs'** swimsuit-optional pools and take in dramatic views of the San Juans.

**DAY 3**

It's easy to fall head over heels for **Telluride's** pristine Victorian homes and stunningly beautiful box canyon. But jaw-dropping

**WINTER FUN** ❄️

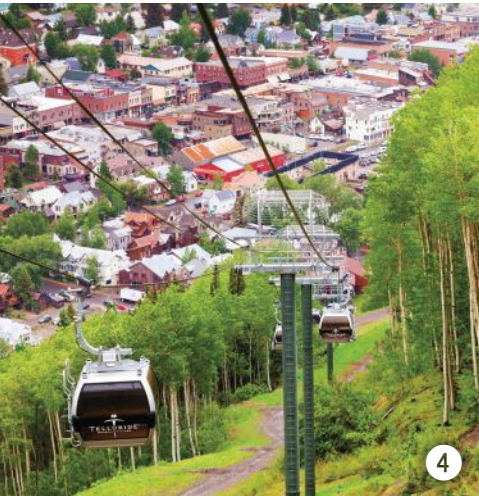
Telluride Ski Resort boasts mountains of fun, while downtown's shops and cafes buzz with après skiers, shoppers and a festive atmosphere. Telluride's airport recently resumed service to Denver, making it easier than ever to get there. The region's San Juan Mountains lure folks out of town for world-class snowmobiling and snowshoeing.



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4



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6

views are just the beginning of what this outdoors and culture hot spot has to offer.

Millennia after the Ute Indians settled in the craggy San Juan Mountains, prospectors struck gold and silver in what is present-day Telluride. By 1896, the town had 10,000 residents and its very own hospital — now the beautifully renovated **Telluride Historical Museum**.

Start here for an overview of Telluride's evolution from gritty mining town to 1970s hippie haven to ski mecca. Then mosey the tree-shaded streets to vintage Victorians and brownstones. Twelve blocks along Colorado Avenue comprise a **National Historic Landmark District**, including the site where notorious outlaw Butch Cassidy robbed his first bank in 1889.

Telluride can truly celebrate its uniqueness, where all shops, restaurants and hotels are independently owned and Colorado minded. And there's no need for a car in Telluride — between the gondola and **Galloping Goose** bus in town, getting around is a (free) snap!

Pick up the serene **River Trail**, which turns into the **Idarado Legacy Trail** at the town park. In the summer, the park bustles with music and cultural festivals. From here, take the easy 2.5-mile path, lined with placards about the gold under your feet, until you reach the base of **Bridal Veil Falls (6)** — Colorado's highest free-falling waterfall. Intrepid hikers can climb the switchbacks to the top of the 365-foot falls for access to additional trails in the Bridal Veil Creek Basin.

Or get a bird's-eye view of the densely forested San Miguel River Valley during a ride on the gondola **(4)**, which leaves from downtown on a 13-minute journey to **Mountain Village**. This newer, separate town is a

jumping-off point for more hikes, mountain-bike trails and rock climbing. You'll also find the **Telluride Adventure Center**, with activities for kids that include a ropes course, Water Walkers Course, bungee trampoline and more.

Back downtown, find out why Telluride is one of the state's top creative districts at the **Sheridan Opera House (5)**, the perfect place to take in a rock concert or ski film. Built during the Gold Rush heyday, the ornate theater was designed to be colorful and airy — a welcome change for men who spent their days underground. Pop into the new **Visitors Center** across the street for guidance on exploring the area.

Still have steam left? Go gallery to gallery on the **Telluride Art Walk**. Local art shops stay open late and offer free refreshments on the first Thursday of every month except April, May, November and December.



7





## SIDETRIPS

North of Montrose, the towns of **Cedaredge, Crawford, Delta, Hotchkiss, Orchard City** and **Paonia** are a growing organic-food and wine region with winery and farm tours, wine tastings and farm dinners. The West Elks Wine Trail meanders past nine wineries throughout the area — keep an eye out for spots to buy fresh, organic fruit and veggies.

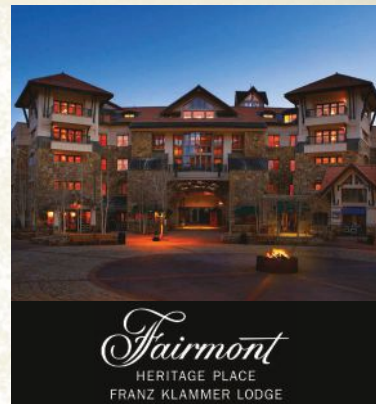
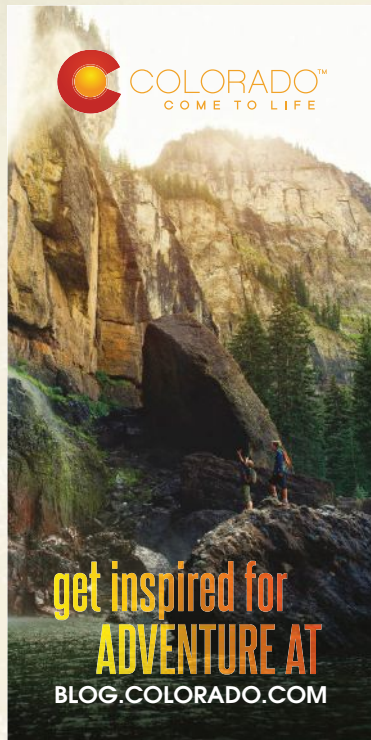
Paonia, Hotchkiss and Crawford are a Certified Colorado Creative District, where artists' studios, musicians, writers and other creative folk mix among the mesas.

For active diversions, Sweetzer Lake State Park near Delta is a relaxing place for boating and birdwatching, as are Paonia and Crawford state parks. Gunnison Gorge National Conservation Area is popular with hikers, backpackers and trout fishers on Gold Medal waters.

Delta County has a few little-known attractions that are worth adding to your list: Three new dinosaur-tracksite discoveries in the Escalante and Gunnison Gorge national conservation areas and the Uncompahgre Plateau, the challenging Delta Drop Off mountain-bike trail and other trails (namely the Flowing Park Trail, Sidewinder, Smith Mountain and Jumbo Mountain), the charming Cirque Cyclery combo juice bar/bike repair/bike rental (including e-bikes)/boutique all in one, and a handful of new wineries and cideries.

## STAY & PLAY OPTIONS

**Cedaredge, Crawford** (page 193), **Delta** (page 193), **Hotchkiss, Montrose** (page 202), **Orchard City, Ouray** (page 202), **Paonia** (page 202), **Ridgway** (page 203), **Somerset** (page 204), **Telluride** (page 205)



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For reservations, please call 888-728-0355 or visit [fairmont.com/klammer-lodge-telluride](http://fairmont.com/klammer-lodge-telluride)



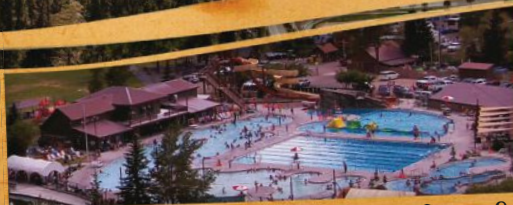
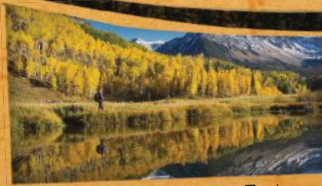
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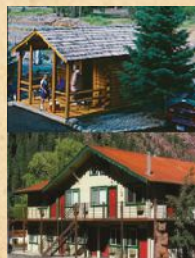
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Boutique lodging with private hot tubs, romantic fireplaces & patios, solar heated Pools, spa, yoga room, steam room, sauna, and the Kiva Conference Center. Wellness touches with bed and breakfast charm.  
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**The Ouray Comfort Inn**  
Located in the center of town, guests will enjoy free full breakfast, free wireless Internet and year-round hot tub and sun deck. All rooms are air conditioned.  
970-325-7203  
[www.ouraycomfortinn.net](http://www.ouraycomfortinn.net)



**Matterhorn Inn Ouray**  
We are a half block off main street. All of the rooms are brand new remodeled with pillow-top mattresses, flat-screen TVs, wood floors, with a hot tub outside that is open 24 hours. Continental breakfast is included. Children ages 17 and younger stay free!  
970-325-4938



**Riverside Inn and Cabins**  
Welcome to towering rocky cliffs along the Uncompahgre River in Ouray! Log furnishing in rooms and kitchen suites or a cozy camp cabin experience! On-site Jeep rental, gas/car wash, laundry, hot tub, seasonal discounts.  
800-432-4170, 970-325-4061  
[www.ourayriversideinn.com](http://www.ourayriversideinn.com)



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Clean • Comfortable • Affordable  
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**Ouray Chalet Inn**  
The Best Ouray Hotel for Comfort and Convenience! Centrally located in downtown Ouray. Our guests love to park their car, then walk all over town to our restaurants, museums, and outdoor beauty. Close to Hot Springs & Ouray Ice Park.  
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**Ouray Victorian Inn**  
 Located along the Uncompahgre River with the best views in Ouray. We offer large, well-appointed rooms with A/C, free hot breakfast and hot tubs. Pet-friendly rooms available. Walk to Box Canyon, Ice Park, and Main Street. 800-84-OURAY  
[www.victorianinnouray.com](http://www.victorianinnouray.com)



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 A great place to relax, sleep and have fun! Indoor heated pool, spa, sauna, exercise room and sun deck. Complimentary continental breakfast. Wi-Fi, refrigerator and microwave in every room. Spectacular views and amenities. 24-hour front desk for your safety and convenience. Book on our website now for guaranteed lowest price. Use code: PROMR10  
 800-368-5444, 970-626-5444  
[www.ridgwaylodgeandsuites.com](http://www.ridgwaylodgeandsuites.com)



**2018 Calendar of Events**

<b>January</b>	Kids Climbing College PARC WinterFest Games Ouray Ice Festival Chicks Climbing & Skiing Clinics San Juan Skijoring	<b>August (cont.)</b>	Ouray Canyoning Festival Highgraders Holidays Mining Competition
<b>February</b>	Cabin Fever Days Winter Art Show Paradox Sports Adaptive Ice Fest	<b>September</b>	Labor Day County Fair and Rodeo Sneffels Fiber Festival Ouray County Railroad Days Ouray Mountain Trail Run
<b>June</b>	Mountain Air Music Series Evenings of History	<b>October</b>	Oktoberfest and 54th Annual Jeep Raffle Drawing Main Street Trick-or-Treat Elks Haunted House Beaumont Halloween Ball
<b>July</b>	Old Fashioned 4th of July Celebration Monday Night Melodramas 58th Annual Artists Alpine Holiday Art Show	<b>December</b>	Ouray Yule Night & Holiday Parade Wine, Chocolate and Cheese Festival Live Holiday Radio Show New Year's Eve Celebration and Fireworks
<b>August</b>	Mt. Sneffels Education Foundation Marathon & 1/2 Marathon Ridgway Rendezvous Arts & Crafts Festival		



**Box Canyon Lodge & Hot Springs**  
 The Box Canyon Lodge & Hot Springs, Ouray's most popular lodging, offers extremely clean and attractively decorated rooms. Enjoy amazing views as you relax in our all natural mineral hot springs, a soothing escape any time of year.  
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# COLORADO WINE COUNTRY: GRAND JUNCTION, PALISADE & FRUITA



The area around Grand Junction is the heart of Colorado's wine country, home to 20 wine-tasting rooms and a handful of spirits distillers and breweries. But delicious adult beverages are just one of the region's great assets.



## SIDETRIPS

With its craggy hills and unparalleled collection of prehistoric artifacts, **Dinosaur National Monument** is worth the additional four-hour trek north along the Dinosaur Diamond Scenic & Historic Byway. There are thousands of fossil types in the monument, and it's still an active research area. Be sure to visit the **Gates of Lodore**, spectacular red canyon walls that tower over the Green River, which popular with rafters and campers.

On the way, stop in **Rangely**. Once the site of a Ute trading post, see prehistoric rock art from the Ute and Fremont tribes in **Canyon Pintado**. Maps and information are available at the **Rangely Museum**, just east of town. The museum itself is a unique stopover, with a collection of one-of-a-kind and classic automobiles and motorcycles. The town is also a hub for hunters, fishers, golfers, OHV riders and rock crawlers. Bring your telescope — you can see spectacular night skies all year long.

### DAY 1

The largest flat-topped mountain in the world, **Grand Mesa** is a 10,000-foot-high plateau topped by forest and more than 300 lakes. Mountain-bike trails, ranging from mild to intense, lace the area.

Pick up a map at the entrance to town to discover all that's within reach of **Palisade (1)**, where recreation is top of the line. The river is accessible to kayaks, canoes, rafters and paddleboards. There's also the **Riverfront Trail's** Monument View section, which runs 28 miles along the Colorado River from Fruita to Grand Junction.

The **Palisade Fruit & Wine Byway** is another way to see

the area, routing through orchards, lavender gardens, vineyards, fruit stands and river views. Along the way, you'll spy the **Bookcliff Mountains**, named for their shape and one of the only east-west ranges in the U.S.

For dinner, **Inari's** offers seasonal American fare and many local wines. **Peach Street Distillers**, a manufacturer of locally made spirits, is a great place to taste some truly original spirits. Or have dinner at Grand Junction's wildly popular **Bin 707 Foodbar**, where chef Josh Niernberg serves up a menu crafted from the Grand Valley's best farmers, winemakers and brewers.

## ❄️ WINTER FUN

Family-friendly Powderhorn Mountain Resort is located on the Grand Mesa near Grand Junction, where skiers, riders and snowtubers see something more like the Grand Canyon than the typical alpine view. Powderhorn recently added an amazing new service: Ski Patrol Ski Along, your own personal guide to the mountain!

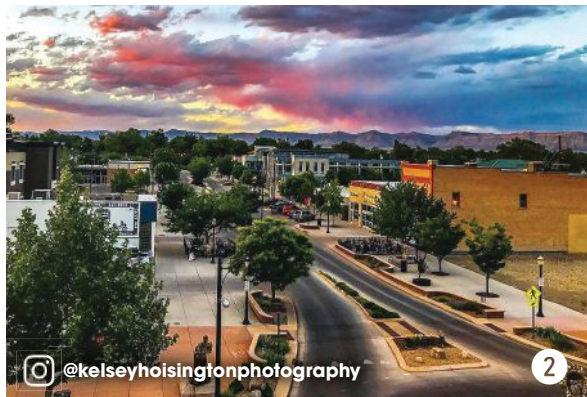
## QUICK TIP

Grand Junction is on the **California Zephyr Amtrak line** that runs from Chicago to San Francisco, and the depot is a short walk from downtown. The train runs west and east daily.

FROM LEFT: GATEWAY CANYONS RESORT & SPA; DINOSAUR NATIONAL MONUMENT; ERIC WUNROW.



FROM TOP: DOWNTOWN GRAND JUNCTION, @KELSEYHOISINGTONPHOTOGRAPHY; GET AIR AT THE SILO.



**DAY 2**

Start your morning in **downtown Grand Junction (2)**, where locally owned brunch hotspots' outdoor seating areas let you bask in the morning air. Work off the hash browns by strolling walkable streets lined with galleries, sculptures and gift shops, as well as a Thursday farmers' market.

Those looking to get their heart rates up have a few new options: **Jet Boat Colorado** operates its fast ride on the Colorado River; **Get Air at the Silo (3)** has a trampoline, cave climb and other adventures; **Jump Junction Skydiving** will blow your mind in obvious ways; and **Grand Junction Stand Up Paddle** now offers river tours. Or head to **Powderhorn Mountain Resort**, now open during the summer with lift-assisted downhill mountain biking, including rentals, lessons and an expanding trail system.

West of Grand Junction, the stunning red-rock canyonlands of **Colorado National Monument** threaten to fill up a digital camera's memory card in a blink. Drive the 23-mile **Rim Rock Drive** or take part in a ranger-led program that explores everything from geology

to wildlife. In the summer, hook up with the Western Colorado Astronomy Club to see the Milky Way above the canyons.

The truly serious biker will want to add another day to the itinerary in order to explore the mountain-biking trails around nearby **Fruita**, arguably the finest network of singletrack in Colorado. The town is also a popular destination for ATVers who love desert trails, and rock crawlers find vast and varied terrain in the **North Fruita Desert** area.

Plan to see the **Rim Rock Rodeo**, which takes place every summer Tuesday, and then stop into downtown's **Cavalcade**, an intimate performance venue in Fruita's growing downtown, where you can relax and listen to some music.

**STAY & PLAY OPTIONS**

- Clifton** (page 192), **Collbran** (page 192), **Fruita** (page 196), **Grand Junction** (page 198), **Loma** (page 200), **Mesa** (page 201), **Palisade** (page 202), **Parachute**, **Rangely** (page 203)



*Visit Grand Junction*

Everything is big here; the views of the sweeping vistas, monoliths and spires of the Colorado National Monument and the heights of the cliff walls that extend to the clouds and beyond. One look at sights like these and the odds of you wanting to extend your stay are great. Even getting here is hugely convenient. Grand Junction is 4 quick hours via I-70 away from Denver, or an easy flight to our airport.

For biking, hiking, skiing, wine-sipping and overall adventuring, Grand Junction is awaiting your arrival.

For more information on planning your Grand Junction getaway, go to [Visitgrandjunction.com](http://Visitgrandjunction.com), or call 970-244-1480



## ❄️ WINTER FUN

Vail and Beaver Creek are two of the best-known ski destinations in the state. Vail practically set the standard for the modern ski-resort experience, and its famed back bowls and expansive and diverse terrain ensure fun for skiers of all levels. Beaver Creek Resort's motto is "Not Exactly Roughing It," which tells you delightful amenities like fresh-baked cookies slopeside and 20-hour-a-day slope grooming await.

Both towns have easy access to off-slope attractions, from snowmobiling and snow-tubing to mountain-top dining and sleigh rides.



# PLAYING & PAMPERING IN THE VAIL VALLEY



Luxury resorts, world-famous golf, culinary wonders, family attractions, spectacular year-round events and concerts, and a drop-dead gorgeous Colorado landscape combine to make the Vail Valley the ideal place for a day of serene pleasure.

### MORNING

**Vail Mountain (1)** — one of two world-famous ski mountains in the valley (Beaver Creek is the other) — has launched oodles of new summer activities under the theme of **Epic Discovery**, where visitors can access ropes courses, ziplines, an alpine coaster, a waterless tube track, SUV tours, guided hikes and more. Take the scenic gondola up and walk down amid colorful wildflowers, or for a more

heart-pumping adventure, hike up the mountain and catch the gondola back down.

Or, savor Colorado's sun-drenched mountain mornings with a round at one of 16 **Eagle County golf courses (2)**.

### AFTERNOON

You've worked up your appetite; relax over lunch at one of Vail's fabulous restaurants, such as **Harvest, Sweet Basil, The Little Diner, La Tour** or **Mountain Standard**.



## QUICK TIP

Vail runs a **free year-round shuttle** throughout town — making it easy to go car-free and hop-on/hop-off without missing any of the action.

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP RIGHT: VAIL MOUNTAIN; JACK AFFLECK; BEAVER CREEK RESORT; VAIL RESORTS/JACK AFFLECK; SKIING IN VAIL; VAIL RESORTS/JACK AFFLECK





## SIDETRIPS

**Eagle** is growing in popularity as a homebase in the valley. Centennial Park is a hub of activity in Eagle, with yoga, a playground, Cottonwood-shaded picnic areas, summer concerts and other events. The Eagle Pool & Ice Rink is another hot spot and the launching point for the town's main trailheads for mountain bikers, trail runners and hikers. There's also a pump track, BMX track and a new radio-controlled car track. Brush Creek and the Eagle River run through town and provide excellent fishing opportunities. Stop in to Batsons Corner Store to get the inside scoop on conditions.

**Avon's** a treat with meandering trails and Harry A. Nottingham Park, home to the state's largest Fourth of July celebration, paddle boats, stand-up paddleboards, fishing and picnic spots. In winter Nottingham Lake opens for old-fashioned ice skating and hockey.

In any season the **10th Mountain Division Huts** provide backcountry stopovers for showshoers/skiers and hikers. The West Avon Preserve offers mountain-biking and hiking trails for all ability levels, and the beautiful Walking Mountains Science Center connects visitors to a stream, wetlands, pond, aspen forest and National Forest access.

**Minturn's** galleries, antique shops and summer farmers' markets are worth a gander; **Red Cliff** is a jumping-off point to mountain biking, cross-country skiing, wildflower hikes and more;

**Edwards' Riverwalk** shopping district has a relaxed feel and several mountain boutiques; and **Gypsum** has a shooting range, fishing ponds, a championship golf course that's usually one of the first to open in the mountain region for the summer, the new Dry Lake motocross track and access to BLM lands.

### STAY & PLAY OPTIONS

**Avon** (page 189), **Beaver Creek** (page 189), **Eagle** (page 195), **Edwards** (page 195), **Gypsum**, **Minturn**, **Red Cliff**, **Vail** (page 206)



3



4



5

The **Vail Valley** has more than 100 unique restaurants and chef-inspired events, including Taste of Vail (April), Gourmet on Gore (September) and Vail & Beaver Creek Restaurant Week (September/October).

Then, stroll **Vail Village (6)** or nearby **Beaver Creek Village (5)** for world-class shopping — fur coat shops, glitzy jewelry dealers and couture clothing outlets as well as more down-to-earth T-shirt shops, art galleries, home décor shops and more — bustling year-round.

Wind down your afternoon with an alpine-inspired treatment at one of the valley's premier resort spas, including **Bloom Spa**, **Spa Anjali**, **Spa at the Arrabelle** and **Aria Spa**. You'll be refreshed and ready for an unforgettable night in the Vail Valley.

### EVENING

Treat yourself to the delight of gourmet dining at 10,000 feet at **Game Creek Restaurant**, whose location on Vail Mountain provides unmatched views. Beaver

Creek offers another unique restaurant option at **Beano's Cabin**, a grand yet rustic on-mountain epicurean experience. Getting to either restaurant is half the fun, with transportation choices ranging from a gondola, wagon or horseback ride.

After dinner, get an earful of the plentiful live music around town. **Shakedown Bar** and **Pepi's (4)** provide the best opportunities to linger over a

cocktail while watching live musicians, and be sure to check the schedules for summertime special performing arts events such as the **Hot Summer Nights Concert Series**, the **Vail Jazz Festival**, the **Bravo! Music Festival** and the **Vail Dance Festival (3)**, which brings dancers from top companies all over the world to a gorgeous outdoor stage.



6

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: TOWN OF EAGLE; VAIL DANCE FESTIVAL; MILES/FERIC GRAY; BEAVER CREEK VILLAGE; JACK AFFLECK; JACK AFFLECK; PEPI'S; @KATIESTRAWSE





# VISIT VAIL VALLEY

VAIL | MINTURN | RED CLIFF | EAGLEVALE | AVON | BEAVER CREEK | EDWARDS | EAGLE | GYPSUM



## VAIL RESIDENCES AT HOTEL TALISA

Located along Gore Creek and the base of Vail Mountain with Chair Lift 20 onsite, Vail Residences at Hotel Talisa welcomes guests to experience breathtaking views, roaring fireplaces, privacy, space and the conveniences of home with luxurious new hotel amenities.

866-899-1915 | [VailResidencesHotelTalisa.com](http://VailResidencesHotelTalisa.com)



## LION SQUARE LODGE AT THE GONDOLA

The finest ski-in/ski-out location in Vail's Lionshead Village! We offer hotel rooms, 1 to 5 bedroom condos, pool, hot tubs, restaurant, fitness room, daily housekeeping, free parking, equipment rentals and Internet access.

866-556-3398 | [LionSquare.com](http://LionSquare.com)



## THE CHARTER AT BEAVER CREEK

Ski-in/ski-out access, next to the golf course in Beaver Creek Village. Lodge rooms, and one to five bedroom condos, offer daily housekeeping, complimentary parking and Internet access. Amenities: Spa, pools, hot tubs, restaurants, concierge, bell staff and a 24-hour desk.

866-598-2366 | [TheCharter.com](http://TheCharter.com)



## MONTANEROS IN VAIL

Located In Lionshead Village, this boutique residence lodge provides the amenities of a hotel. One to four bedroom residences, salt-water outdoor pool and hot tubs, complimentary parking and Internet access. Just steps from shops, restaurants, gondola and activities.

844-362-2232 | [Montaneros.com](http://Montaneros.com)



## EAGLE VAIL GOLF CLUB

Elevate your game. Spectacular Rocky Mountain Views at 7,650 feet. Full service grill and pro shop. 18 Hole Championship Course. Par 3 Course & Practice Facility.

970-790-1200 | [EagleVailGolfClub.com](http://EagleVailGolfClub.com)

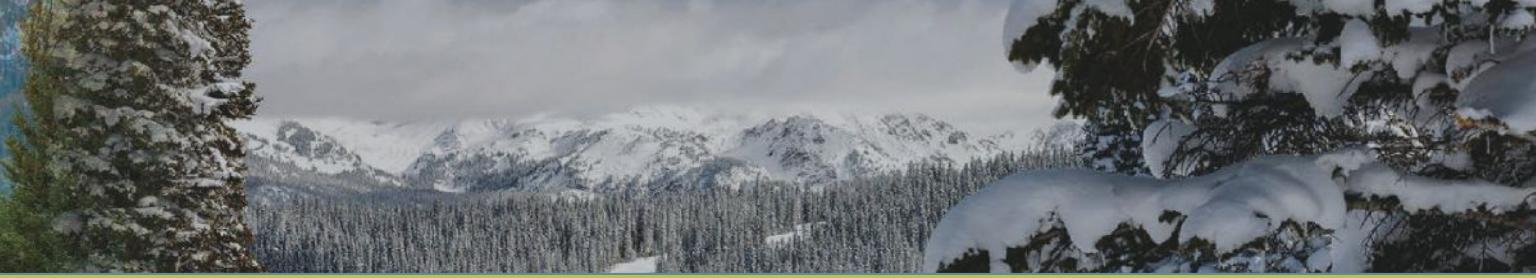


## BEAVER CREEK MOUNTAIN LODGING BY EAST WEST

250+ vacation residences: Slopeside, Village, Shuttle Access | Studio - 7+ bedroom Luxury Homes | Free access to Allegria Club | Pools, hot tubs | Personal Concierge | Vail skier shuttle

866-626-5269  
[BeaverCreekMountainLodging.com](http://BeaverCreekMountainLodging.com)





### VAIL MOUNTAIN LODGING BY EAST WEST

Choose from a curated collection of Vail residences, from economical to luxury estates, all with exceptional guest service, hotel style amenities and convenience. From generous studios to 5 bedrooms, enjoy the perfect place to create Vail memories.

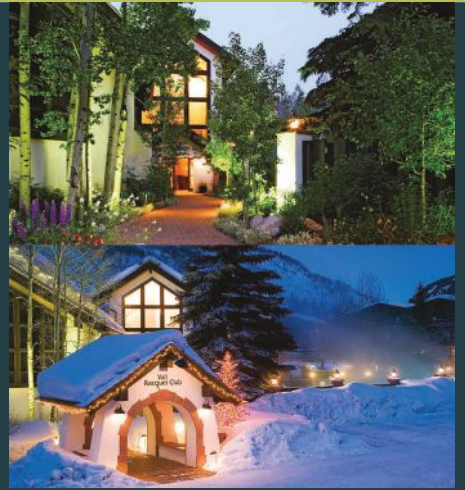
877-431-0868 | [VailMountainLodging.com](http://VailMountainLodging.com)



### DOUBLETREE BY HILTON VAIL

The NEW DoubleTree by Hilton Vail, the only Hilton branded hotel in the Valley. Our "Mountain Modern" hotel features a variety of guest rooms and suites, 3 onsite restaurants & market, onsite ski & bike rentals, guest shuttle, and outdoor heated pool & hot tub.

970-476-2739 | [dtvail.doubletreebyhilton.com](http://dtvail.doubletreebyhilton.com)



### VAIL RACQUET CLUB MOUNTAIN RESORT

Have a true Colorado experience for your visit to Vail, at the only resort in Vail on over 20 acres. Choose from 1-3 bedroom options in a full sized condo at an affordable price. Unmatched complimentary amenities include access to the full health club, parking and Wi-Fi.

970-476-4840 | [VailRacquetClub.com](http://VailRacquetClub.com)



### THE BORDERS LODGE

Ski-in/ski-out condominium lodge nestled in a forested corner of Beaver Creek. Studio units and 1 to 4 bedroom condos offer daily house-keeping, complimentary parking, Internet access and views. Enjoy the pool, hot tubs, fitness room and meeting space for up to 50 people.

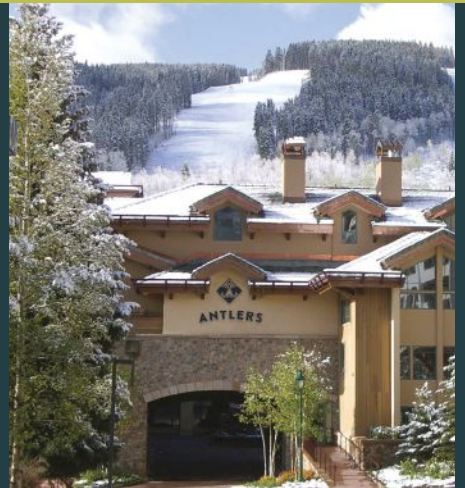
866-622-7490 | [BordersLodge.com](http://BordersLodge.com)



### VAIL SPA CONDOMINIUMS

Newly Renovated Property! Close to the Mountain, Far from Ordinary, Better than Ever. Spacious 2 - 4 bedroom Lionshead condominiums, close to the Gondola. Luxurious amenities, full kitchen, fireplace, indoor and outdoor pool/hot tub, free parking.

866-840-1861 | [VailSpa.com](http://VailSpa.com)



### ANTLERS AT VAIL CONDOMINIUMS

Nestled on Gore Creek facing Vail Mountain, the Antlers at Vail offers the comforts of home with the amenities of a hotel. Rated as a platinum property, lodging options range from spacious studios to 4-bedroom condos. Discover why guests return to the Antlers year after year.

800-258-8617 | [AntlersVail.com](http://AntlersVail.com)



# GO LOCAL: A DAY IN BOULDER



Playfully referred to as the People’s Republic of Boulder, this foothills city is known for progressive attitudes stemming from its hippie heyday. Today it’s characterized by scientific research centers, the University of Colorado, artsy folk and hyper-athletic citizens.

## ❄️ WINTER FUN

While not a traditional ski town, Boulder was named a “Top Winter Town” by *National Geographic Traveler* for its proximity to skiing and downtown vibe. The magazine cites the ability to ski nearby Eldora Mountain Resort in the morning and head back down to town for a hike or bike ride in the afternoon. Non-downhill skiers love Eldora’s Nordic Center, which offers lessons and trails designed specifically for cross-country skiing, skate skiing and snowshoeing. And back in town, winter hikes abound in the city’s foothills.



### MORNING

The pedestrian **Pearl Street Mall (1)** is the city’s hub. Fuel up at any of a dozen coffee shops alongside students and freelancers clicking away on their laptops. Then, spend time strolling along Pearl Street, lined with historic buildings that now house boutiques and longtime-favorite shops. Try to stop yourself from watching the mall’s buskers and talented open-air performers. For more shopping, head to **Twenty Ninth Street**, an outdoor mall headlined by H&M, The North Face and Apple. Or hook up with **Boulder Walking Tours** to see Boulder through its neighborhoods, historic areas and open spaces.

Saturdays and Wednesdays April–October, stroll **Boulder Farmers’ Market (2)**, with a strict sell-what-you-grow policy and a lovely setting next to Boulder Creek. Chefs are often spotted shopping here, so you may taste market veggies during dinner. If you dig the market, you might also appreciate the **The Boulder County Farm Trail** — 20 farms and other places where you can pick berries, pet animals, take a tour, check out a farm stand, picnic in a barn or take a class.

### AFTERNOON

Head next door to the **Dushanbe Tea House (3)** to admire the intricate paintings and carvings adorning this building, shipped piece by



## QUICK TIP

In springtime, the flowerbeds all along **Pearl Street Mall** bloom with more than 15,000 tulips. It’s tough to predict when the buds will bloom at their peak, but it usually happens around mid to late April — and it is a sight to see!

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP: PEARL STREET MALL; DOWNTOWN BOULDER; BOULDER FARMERS’ MARKET; MILES/ANDREA BUIROLA; DUSHANBE TEA HOUSE. @RANDOMCS; ELDORA MOUNTAIN RESORT.





## SIDETRIPS

Boulder is also close to Rocky Mountain National Park (1 hour), Eldorado Canyon State Park (15 minutes) and Golden Gate Canyon State Park (45 minutes).

You can confidently claim that **Nederland**, just a half hour outside of Boulder, will be unlike any other town in your vacation repertoire. Case in point: Each March Frozen Dead Guy Days celebrates the remains of a man who died of a heart attack in 1989. His family keeps his body preserved in dry ice in the hopes that future science can revive him. Celebrate Ned's nutty culture with craft brews, art and live music. Stroll downtown and experience the ambiance by browsing around local shops and restaurants.



piece from Boulder's sister city in Tajikistan. Have a bite to eat and order a pot of tea from the exhaustive menu.

Then discover the hiking trails in **National Historic Landmark Chautauqua Park (5)**, with options to suit every level of hiker and up-close views of the Flatirons — the slanting slabs of red sandstone that are Boulder's most recognizable landmark. Stop into **Chautauqua Dining Hall (4)**, which has been serving Boulderites since 1898.

the city's chefs describe their favorite ways to explore the city.

After, visit a brewery to taste the local suds and take a tour — there are more than 20 now, pretty serious for a town of 100,000 people! Pick up a **Boulder Beer Trail** brochure at area visitor centers, take a walking tour from **Boulder Brew Tours** or catch a ride on the **Colorado Brewery Bus**. Then head to **OAK at fourteenth**, where

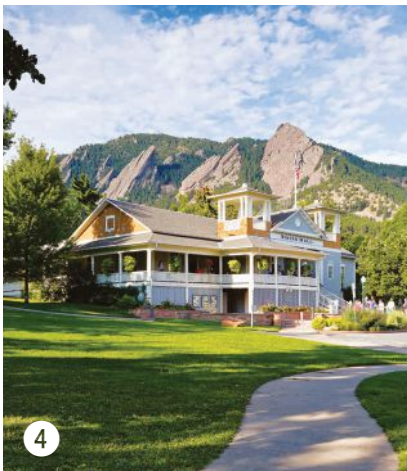


*Vanity Fair*-featured mixologists demonstrate the art of handcrafted cocktails for your sipping pleasure.

Another thing brewing in Boulder is kombucha. Stop into **Rowdy Mermaid (7)** for a tangy taste of this fermented tea that's full of probiotics, beneficial yeast and enzymes. Or check in to the **Rayback Collective (8)**, a food-truck park/beer garden/live-music venue that's drawing those in the know east of downtown.

## STAY & PLAY OPTIONS

**Boulder** (page 189), **Eldorado Springs** (page 195), **Louisville** (page 200), **Lyons, Superior, Westminster** (page 206)



## EVENING

Boulder is one of the reasons Bravo's "Top Chef" filmed its most recent season in Colorado, so dinner at one of the city's restaurants is a must. Wander around Pearl Street for plenty of award-winning options, including Provençal-inspired **Mateo**; **Pizzeria Locale**'s Neapolitan pies (brought to you by the chefs at another Pearl Street favorite, **Frasca Food & Wine**); or **The Kitchen (6)**, an eco-friendly bistro that pairs food with decadent brews. For more ideas, visit [boulder.coloradousa.com](http://boulder.coloradousa.com), where



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: FROZEN DEAD GUY DAYS; ETHAN WEITZ; CHAUTAUQUA PARK; JOSH HUMMEL; THE KITCHEN; ROWDY MERMAID; RAYBACK COLLECTIVE; CHAUTAUQUA DINING HALL; ERRAIN M. PADRO.



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BOULDER COUNTY arts alliance

CITY OF BOULDER OFFICE OF ARTS + CULTURE

Photo courtesy 3rd Law

# Boulder Events

Month	Event
JAN	1 Polar Bear Plunge
	4 University of Colorado Basketball – thru March 3
	10 Chautauqua Author Series – thru May
FEB	19 Chautauqua Community House Concerts – thru April
	8, 10 Boulder Bach Festival – thru May
	22–25 Boulder International Film Festival
	TBD Chocolate Lovers Fling
MAR	TBD Winter Craft Beer Festival
	TBD LOCAL Lab New Play Festival
	15 Conversations with Extraordinary People: "Howie Movshovitz"
APR	30 Boulder Arts Week – thru April 7
	7 Boulder Farmers Market – Saturdays thru Nov
	8 Tulip Fairy & Elf Festival – Downtown Boulder
	9–13 70th Annual Conference on World Affairs – University of Colorado
MAY	29 Taste of Pearl – Downtown Boulder
	14–20 Colorado Mahlerfest
	18–20 "Giselle" – Boulder Ballet
	26–28 Boulder Creek Festival
	28 40th Annual Boulder Boulder 10k Road Race – Sports Expo 26–27
JUN	6 Bands on the Bricks Wednesdays – Downtown Boulder – thru August 8
	10 IRONMAN Boulder – IRONMAN Expo 7–9
	TBD Colorado Shakespeare Festival – thru Aug
	TBD Ballet in the Park – Boulder Ballet
JUL	TBD Twenty Ninth Street LIVE Concert Series – thru August
	4 Ralphie's Independence Day Blast
	4 July 4th at the Boulder Reservoir
	21–22 Pearl Street Arts Fest – Downtown Boulder
AUG	29 20th Annual Frequent Flyers® International Aerial Dance Festival – thru Aug 10
	4 IRONMAN 70.3 Boulder
	TBD Boulder International Fringe Festival
SEP	19 Boulder Craft Beer Festival
	14–16 Downtown Boulder's Fall Fest – Downtown Boulder
	TBD Buffalo Bicycle Classic
OCT	20 Girls' Night Out – Downtown Boulder
	TBD Open Studios – Artists' studio tours
	11–15 International Chamber Music Competition
	31 Munchkin Masquerade, Downtown Boulder
NOV	TBD Adventure Film Festival
	9–17 First Bite: Boulder's Restaurant Week
	18 Switch on the Holidays – Downtown Boulder
	23–24 St. Nick on the Bricks – Downtown Boulder – Dec 1, 8, 15, 22
	23–25 Nutcracker Ballet and Boulder Philharmonic
DEC	TBD Santa's Arrival & Tree Lighting Ceremony, Twenty Ninth Street
	1 Lights of December Parade
	TBD Colder Bolder 5k Road Race
TBD Holiday Festival, CU Presents	

For a complete calendar go to [BoulderColoradoUSA.com/events](http://BoulderColoradoUSA.com/events).





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# MUST-SEE COLORADO TOWNS: GUNNISON & CRESTED BUTTE



If Gunnison is the quintessential Western rodeo town, then Crested Butte is its free-spirited mountain neighbor. Despite their different vibes and activities, both offer unparalleled adventures and spectacular scenery.

## ❄️ WINTER FUN

Crested Butte Mountain Resort and Monarch Mountain Ski and Snowboard Area offer amazing skiing and snowboarding. There are also peaceful snowshoe/cross-country ski treks (stop into the Backcountry Bistro at the Crested Butte Nordic Center for mimosas, coffee and baked goods), miles and miles of snowmobiling trails, ice fishing, tubing and dog sledding, not to mention extensive fat-bike grooming found throughout the valley.

### DAY 1

Start west of Gunnison, where the valley drops away into the **Curecanti National Recreation Area (2)**, **Blue Mesa Reservoir (4)** and **Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Park**. In the summer, the reservoir — Colorado’s largest body of water — is full of canoes, sailboats, pontoon and motor boats, and people water-skiing, fishing and even parasailing in the refreshing oasis.

Among Gunnison’s newest attractions is a manmade whitewater park on the **Gunnison River**. The park stretches several hundred feet, with various rock structures providing a playground for recreational kayakers and rafters. Fishing is also allowed in some sections. Head to Gunnison to wander its easy downtown. Pop into boutiques or take in the **Pioneer Museum’s** mineral

exhibit and awesome collection of antique cars. The **Double Shot Cyclery** is a delightful combo bike shop and coffee house.

Around here, the night sky twinkles with stars. View them up close at the **Gunnison Valley Observatory**. The state’s largest research-quality telescope is open Friday and Saturday nights mid-June through mid-September. And the Black Canyon was designated an International Dark Sky Park for its exceptional opportunity to enjoy the night sky without light pollution.

### DAY 2

Drive 30 miles north of Gunnison’s scrubby mesas to the granite peaks of Crested Butte, known as an adventure-sports capital and the **Wildflower Capital of Colorado (3)**. The area is awash in lupine, columbine, queen’s



1



2

## STAY & PLAY OPTIONS

**Almont** (page 188), **Crested Butte** (page 193), **Gunnison** (page 198)



3



4

## QUICK TIP

The **wildflowers** are usually at their peak around the second and third week in July, and fall foliage is typically at its peak around the second and third week in September.

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP RIGHT: CRESTED BUTTE MOUNTAIN RESORT; CURECANTI NATIONAL RECREATION AREA; LAURENCE PARENT; BLUE MESA RESERVOIR; MATT BURT; SNODGRASS TRAIL; NEAR CRESTED BUTTE; MATT BURT.



crown and paintbrush from June through early September. Hike the 3.4-mile **Upper Loop Trail** and ogle the fields of purple, gold and fuchsia. Or stick around town for July's Wildflower Festival — complete with garden tours and wagon rides.

White-knuckle adventures await you on granite-topped **Crested Butte Mountain Resort (1)**. Take the chairlift to access a web of mountain-biking trails or see how you fare ziplining, disc golfing and rock climbing at Adventure Park at the base of the mountain. Continue the adventure with a raft trip down the **Taylor River**. These are also Gold Medal fishing waters. Download the **CBGTrails App** to find free maps of all the hiking, biking and 4-wheeling throughout Gunnison County.

Ready for some downtime? Crested Butte's blocks of

Victorian-era buildings form one of the country's most distinctive towns. Nearly every summer weekend features a gathering of some sort — the Wildflower Festival, Tour de Forks culinary festival and Crested Butte Music Festival to name a few. Or head to the **Crested Butte Mountain Heritage Museum** to see how the area's past residents lived. Vintage bikes and photographs lend a snapshot of this mountain-bike-loving community.

Finally, return to **Adventure Park** for a free Wednesday night concert or relax and take in a play, dance exhibition or concert at the **Crested Butte Center for the Arts**, one of the reasons the town was recently named a **Certified Colorado Creative District**. Of course, there's always the option of sipping wine or beer at one of the top-notch restaurants in town.



DOWNTOWN CRESTED BUTTE, TOM STILLO.

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# HIGH-FLYING ADVENTURE IN THE ROYAL GORGE REGION



The 10-mile-long Royal Gorge sports the nation's highest suspension bridge, dangling more than 1,000 feet above the crashing Arkansas River below, but that's not the only reason to visit Cañon City.



With a growing reputation as a homebase for epic rock climbing, mountain biking, ziplining, fishing and river rafting, adventure-seekers are increasingly drawn to this area. The new **South Cañon Trail System**, which you can catch right in town, offers 10

miles of trails that connect the Arkansas Riverwalk, Ecology Park, the Section 13 trail system and Grape Creek to thousands of acres of BLM-managed public land. And some of the best fishing in the state can be had on the **Arkansas' Gold Medal trout**

**waters**, including the area around Parkdale (just above the Royal Gorge).

For family explorers, **Tunnel Drive** is a flat, two-mile stroll along an old railroad bed that offers a bird's-eye view of the Arkansas River and spectac-



## SIDETRIPS

South of Cañon City, spend a day peeking back into historic Cripple Creek. The city first came to life in the middle and late 1800s when the Gold Rush drove fortune-seekers to the area to mine the riches. Get a hands-on look at the gold-seeking era with a tour of one of the area's mines. At the **Mollie Kathleen Mine**, you'll don a hard hat and descend a thousand feet below ground to learn about historic and modern-day mining techniques, see a vein of gold and ride in a mine cart.

Hop on the historic steam locomotive, the **Cripple Creek & Victor Narrow Gauge Railroad** (open May–October) through the historic gold mining district. Visits to the **Cripple Creek Heritage Center** and the **Cripple Creek District Museum** are also informative forays into the town's past.

Stroll Bennett Avenue, where nostalgic street lighting, wide sidewalks, shops, restaurants and more can fill a leisurely evening. And join today's fortune-seekers at the town's numerous betting tables at more than a dozen casinos. Cut your losses or collect your winnings and then head to the historic Butte Theater for a theatrical treat.

The drive from Cripple Creek to **Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument** — where you'll find a 35-million-year-old lakebed filled with insects, leaves and even huge redwoods frozen in time by volcanic eruptions — along County Road 1 is a short but beautiful segment of the Gold Belt Tour, a National Scenic Byway.

## STAY & PLAY OPTIONS

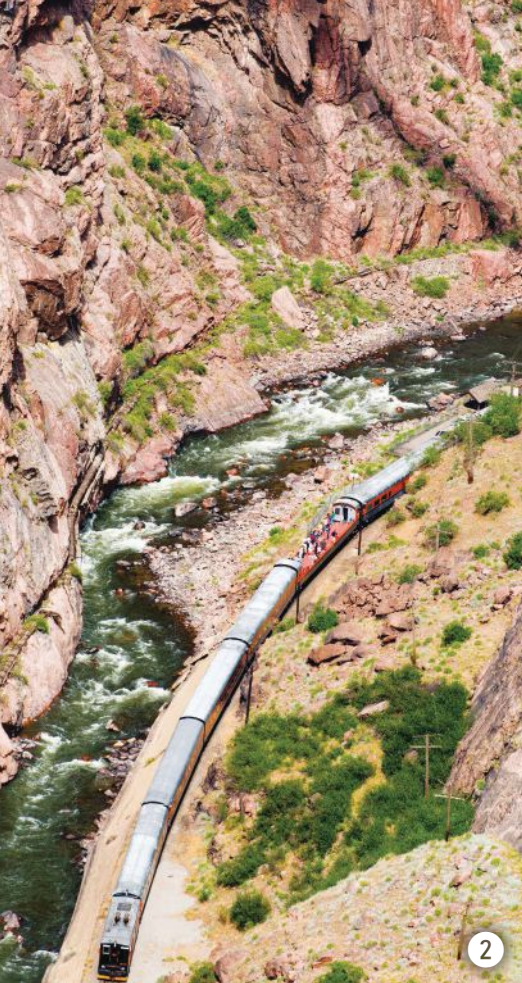
**Cañon City** (page 190), **Coaldale** (page 192), **Cotopaxi** (page 192) **Cripple Creek** (page 193), **Florissant**, **Florence**, **Penrose** (page 203), **Texas Creek** (page 205)

## QUICK TIP

For a great souvenir, head to the **Gold Mine Rock Shop**, frequented by rockhounds, jewelry makers, arrowhead hobbyists, fossil fans and landscapers. It is considered *the* place to purchase rocks and gems of superior quality.

THIS PAGE, CLOCKWISE FROM TOP RIGHT: FLORISSANT FOSSIL BEDS NATIONAL MONUMENT; FRANK M. PADRÓ; ROYAL GORGE BRIDGE & PARK; OPPOSITE PAGE, FROM LEFT: ROYAL GORGE ROUTE RAILROAD; KENNAN HARVEY; FREMONT CENTER FOR THE ARTS; FRANK M. PADRÓ.





2

ular views of the surrounding canyon. The crushed gravel trail travels through three granite-blasted tunnels and caters to walkers, runners and bikers. The new **Royal Gorge Dinosaur Experience** brings ancient history to life with science-focused interactive displays, full-scale dinosaur fossil casts and hands-on exhibits with real dinosaur fossils.

Towering above the Arkansas River, the **Royal Gorge Bridge (1)** is America's highest suspension bridge. Navigate the rapids beneath it on a whitewater raft trip, slide along sky-high cables with **Royal Gorge Zipline Tours** or find thrills at the **Royal Gorge Bridge & Park's** attractions, including a new visitor center, the world's longest single-span aerial gondola and the Cloudscaper Zip Line. For another scenic excursion, enjoy lunch or dinner in the glass-topped Vista Dome cars of the **Royal Gorge Route Railroad (2)**.

Walkable **downtown Cañon City** has shops, restaurants, cafes and a public-art program that make a pleasant space to while away the day. The **Fremont Center for the Arts (3)** hosts exhibits and events exploring local arts and history. Or experience the region's delicious apples and other local bounties at farmers' markets and farm stores. Treasure hunters beeline to **Florence**, a lovely nearby town with extensive antique shopping, art galleries and specialty shops.

Legends of gold rushers, agriculture pioneers and even dinosaurs abound in the region. Self-guided **Fremont County Heritage Tours** offer great opportunities to discover the history. And learn about the architecture of historic structures like the **Colorado Territorial Prison** on the Cañon City tour; or investigate dinosaur tracks and ancient fossils on the **Skyline Drive** tour.



3

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# CRUISING ELEVATION: LEADVILLE & TWIN LAKES



## ❄️ WINTER FUN

Ski Cooper, former training site of the 10th Mountain Division, is now a family-friendly ski area with a warming hut at the top of the mountain that serves lunch and snacks to skiers. Cross-country skiing abounds throughout the area (and the Tennessee Pass Nordic Center's Cookhouse is a most delicious destination), and visitors in March will be delighted by the town's ski-joring festival, where horses tow skiers down Harrison Avenue.

Leadville's East Side Mining District is groomed all winter for Nordic skiing, snowshoeing, fat biking, and snowmobiling. Part of an extensive network of nearly 100 miles of groomed trails, the Mining District offers unparalleled views of the Sawatch and Mosquito ranges, the state's highest fourteeners (Mt. Elbert and Mt. Massive), the chance to see mining structures up close and solitude on trails kept in excellent condition.



Well-preserved, Leadville has 70 square city blocks of Victorian buildings and shops, all part of a **National Historic Landmark District**, along with 20 square miles of preserved silver-mining district. More than 50 buildings date to the 1870s, including the **Tabor Opera House** (with an ambitious roster of acts each year), and walking tours include cemetery and stagecoach themes and picnics.

Downtown is walkable and full of places to eat and hang, including the new speakeasy and absinthe bar, **Wilde's Green Hour**, and its companion grab-and-go bakery and coffee shop, **La Resis-**

**tance. Treeline Kitchen** is another new favorite — especially for its rooftop seating.

Catch a ride on the **Leadville, Colorado & Southern Railroad (3)** and don't miss the **National Mining Hall of Fame and Museum**, a fascinating look at the powerful industry and all the metals that helped build the state. For more mining history, take the **Hope-more Underground Mine Tour** led by a former miner. You'll journey 600 feet from the surface into an authentic, hard-rock mine.

Leadville sits along the **Top of the Rockies Scenic and Historic**

**Byway**, and the town's paved **Mineral Belt Trail (1)** offers year-round recreation for bikers, hikers, snowshoers and cross-country skiers. More than 100 miles of the **Arkansas River**, starting at the Lake Fork near Leadville, are designated Gold Medal fishing waters.

Just 20 miles from town at the base of Independence Pass is historic **Twin Lakes (2)**, where you'll find world-class fishing and some of Colorado's most spectacular lake and peak scenery. Twin Lakes is close to the trailhead of **Mount Elbert** (Colorado's tallest peak).

## STAY & PLAY OPTIONS

Leadville (page 200),  
Twin Lakes (page 206)

## QUICK TIP

Leadville is less than an hour from Breckenridge, Vail and Copper Mountain, and only 9 miles to Ski Cooper, offering a unique and **low-cost option for a ski vacation.**

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP: LEFT: MINERAL BELT TRAIL; CITY OF LEADVILLE; BEAVER POND AT TWIN LAKES; JASON J. HATFIELD; LEADVILLE, COLORADO; & SOUTHERN RAILROAD; LAURENCE PARENT; TENNESSEE PASS; TIMOTHY GORMLEY JR.





# ANCIENT TREASURES IN MESA VERDE COUNTRY



One of the richest archaeological zones in America just happens to be hidden amid some of the grandest scenery in the Southwest.

## DAY 1

Make your homebase in **Cortez**, an hour from Mesa Verde National Park. Whether you stay at a B&B, cabin or guest ranch, Cortez offers a host of excellent dining and shopping opportunities. But save walking around town for later — you have a national park to

explore. Stop by the **Colorado Welcome Center** on Main Street to pick up the *National Geographic Four Corners Region Map*, which gives local insights into what the area has to offer.

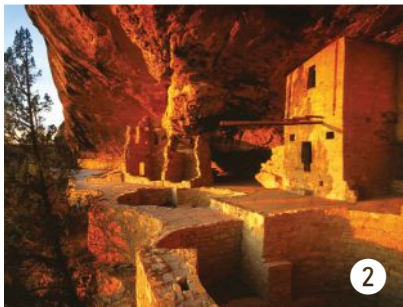
Then head to the “green table” of **Mesa Verde National Park (1)**, home to more than 4,000 archaeological sites, 600 of

which are cliff dwellings. Orient yourself at the **Visitor and Research Center**, where you can pick up maps and brochures, see exhibits and purchase tickets for tours; only two cliff dwellings are open for self-guided tours, so if you want to go inside the amazing Cliff Palace, or you must nab a spot on a guided tour.

From the visitor center, browse the exhibits in the **Chapin Mesa Archeological Museum**. Then drive the Mesa Top Loop Road, a 6-mile overview of the entire park. On your way to Cliff Palace or Balcony House (2), enjoy the drive on the Cliff Palace/Balcony House Loop Road. Or if you purchased tickets for Long House (3), take Wetherill Mesa Drive.

Back in Cortez, swing into the **Ute Mountain Indian Trading Company** for pottery, jewelry and other handmade treasures. Sample local wines from **Guy Drew** and **Sutcliffe** vineyards and watch artists create their work.

*Continued on next page.*



@light\_on\_negatives

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: MESA VERDE NATIONAL PARK; C2 PHOTOGRAPHY; AMERICAN INDIAN DANCER NEAR MESA VERDE NATIONAL PARK; ERIC LINDBERG; LONG HOUSE; @LIGHT\_ON\_NEGATIVES; BALCONY HOUSE; LAURENCE PARENT.

## QUICK TIP

Whatever route you take, download the **Ancient Voices audio tour** from [mesaverdecountry.com](http://mesaverdecountry.com) to learn about the many archaeological attractions, as well as local history, Western stories, botany, cosmology, music and life in ancient Puebloan times.





4

**DAY 2**

Travel the 116-mile **Trail of the Ancients**, America's only National Scenic Byway dedicated solely to archaeology. From **Cortez**, wind past Mesa Verde to **Ute Mountain Tribal Park (4)**. Ute guides help you explore the culture, architecture and art of the Ute and Ancestral Puebloan people. From here, pass **Four Corners Monument** on your way to **Hovenweep National Monument's (5)** round and square towers,

some of which you can visit via short hike. Visit at night for stargazing in this International Dark Sky Park, including ranger-led stargazing programs in the spring and summer.

Fit in a visit to the **Canyons of the Ancients National Monument**. Stop first at the **Anasazi Heritage Center**, a superb archaeological museum that introduces the monument, the family that discovered the cliff dwellings, and cultures native to the region. Then

head to **Lowry Pueblo**. This ancient pueblo site within the monument features 40 rooms and eight circular kivas.

Take advantage of Cortez's growing status as a hub for mountain bikers. The area's high-desert canyons, mesas and 600 miles of singletrack trails, as well as slick-rock and old-growth forest trails, bring opportunities for year-round rides. East of town on Hwy. 160, **Phil's World** is a fast and fun singletrack trail maintained by a local bike club, and the **Geer Park** opened recently with 10.9 additional miles of intermediate biking within Cortez city limits.

If ATVs are your thing, the **Dolores Public Lands Office** can direct you to the best trails, including the Aspen Loop Trail, a multipurpose, 39-mile loop trail constructed by San Juan National Forest and the Four Corners Trail Club. Travel through old logging roads, streams, aspen groves and spruce forests.



5



**SIDETRIPS**

Now that you have an appreciation of the canyons and cliffs that made Mesa Verde Country famous, take a drive on one of Colorado's most fascinating scenic byways. **San Juan Skyway** is a 236-mile loop called the "most beautiful drive in America" for good reason. The road tours around southwestern Colorado's rich landscape, starting in Cortez and passing through the idyllic mountain towns of Mancos, Durango, Silverton, Ouray, Ridgway, Telluride, Rico and Dolores. In the fall, this drive is lined with golden aspens.

In **Dolores**, fishers will find haven on McPhee Reservoir and the Dolores River, a popular whitewater rafting route that runs through town. McPhee is the second largest body of water in Colorado, with 50 miles of shoreline in pinyon, juniper and sagebrush country. Doc's Marina offers boats and kayak rentals, snacks, ice and tackle. End the day at Dolores River Brewery for local suds and wood-fired pizza or Sutcliffe Vineyards west of Cortez, recently recognized among the country's top wine producers by *Food & Wine Magazine*.

Or head to **Mancos**, named one of the Best Small Towns to Visit in 2016 by *Smithsonian Magazine* and one of the newest Certified Colorado Creative Districts, a community that traces its roots back to the ranching, farming and timber industries that started back in the 1870s. Today Mancos boasts little shops brimming with unique gifts and wonderful art. Local artisans craft everything from beer and rum to leather goods and handmade Western hats.

The state's most southwestern town, **Towaoc** is the headquarters of the Ute Mountain Ute Indian Reservation. Attractions include the Ute Mountain Tribal Park, which features both Ancestral Puebloan and Ute rock art and dwellings, as well as native guides that lead guests on an interpretive journey through Ute and Ancestral Puebloan history. The tribe also operates Ute Mountain Casino, Hotel & Resort (including an RV park, campground, travel center and restaurant).

**STAY & PLAY OPTIONS**

**Cortez** (page 192), **Dolores** (page 194), **Mancos** (page 201), **Mesa Verde National Park** (page 201), **Towaoc** (page 205)

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: UTE MOUNTAIN TRIBAL PARK, MILES/MATT INDEN; SAN JUAN SKYWAY, ERIC WUNINROW; HOVENWEEP NATIONAL MONUMENT, BEFRAN M. PADRÓ.





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# HIGHWAY OF LEGENDS: 2 DAYS IN TRINIDAD, WALSENBURG, LA VETA & CUCHARA



North of New Mexico's border, where the towering Sangre de Cristo Mountains intersect the waving grassland of the eastern high plains, lie some of Colorado's best frontier towns. At the southern terminal of the inspiring Highway of Legends, Trinidad is an unspoiled charmer, where archaeology and architecture meet modern recreation.



1

## DAY 1

Kick off your vacation at the **Trinidad Municipal Golf Course (1)**, a nine-hole with stunning views of the Sangre de Cristos (especially from the seventh hole). Or spend a lazy day on the **Purgatoire River**, which was recently stocked for great trout fishing and has a lovely riverwalk.

Afterward, delve into history at the site of the **Ludlow Massacre**, 12 miles northwest of Trinidad. Today a ghost town, Ludlow was the site of a vicious skirmish between the Colorado National Guard and on-strike coal miners that left 20 people dead in 1914. Restored by the United Mine Workers of America, the site includes a miners' tent camp, storyboards and photos that recount the chilling encounter.

Later, return to Trinidad for dinner and a stroll through the brick-lined streets of **Old Trinidad** and one of the largest collections of Victorian houses west of the Mississippi. Affordable living and beautiful landscapes recently resulted in an influx of artists in residence and galleries; the **Southern Colorado Repertory Theatre's** professional company fills the year with classics and original works. These factors and more led to the **Corazón de**

**Trinidad** (heart of Trinidad) recently being named a **Certified Colorado Creative District**.

## DAY 2

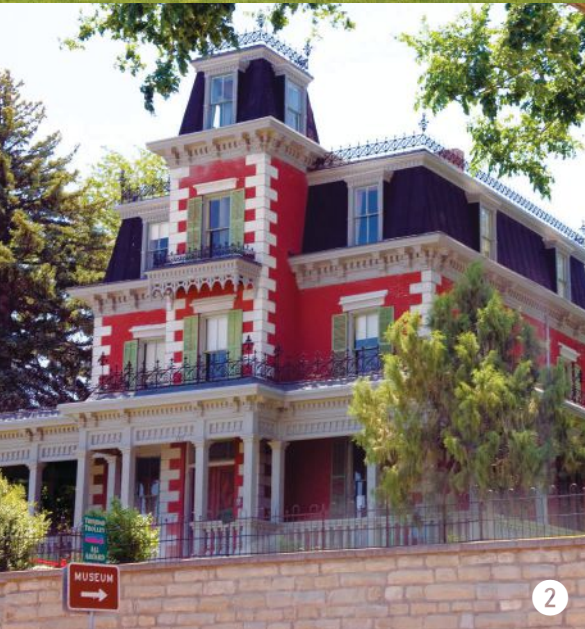
Stroll to the **Trinidad History Museum**, which houses the meticulously preserved **Baca House**, a two-story adobe built in 1870 that combines Hispanic construction techniques with British design. The **Santa Fe Trail Museum** exhibits evoke frontier life from the trail days to the 1920s. Among the artifacts is Kit Carson's fringed buckskin coat. While here, you can also visit the **Bloom Mansion (2)**, an elaborate Victorian confection built in 1882, and the **A.R. Mitchell Museum of Western Art (3)**, which houses collections of Western and Spanish colonial folk art.

Conclude your visit with a drive along one of Colorado's scenic and historic byways, the breathtaking **Highway of Legends**. From Trinidad, the byway continues west to **Cokedale**,

where a strip of old coke ovens (used to mix and heat coal at extremely high temperatures) lines the road, resembling something more ancient Roman than frontier.

The byway heads north alongside the Sangre de Cristo range, affording spectacular views of those mountains to the west as well as the monstrous volcanic walls that jut from the Spanish Peaks to the east.

It also passes through the San Isabel National Forest, home to six wilderness areas and three classic Colorado towns: **Cuchara's** stunning Sangre views and a sleepy downtown with gift shops and several B&Bs and cabins; **Walsenburg**, with antique shops, a mining museum, water park, visitor center and **Lathrop State Park**; and **La Veta's** art galleries and the 1862 adobe **Francisco Fort Museum**. And check out the blast from the past at **Uptop** ghost town on **Old La Veta Pass**.



2



3

## STAY & PLAY OPTIONS

Cuchara, La Veta (page 199), Trinidad (page 205), Walsenburg (page 206)

## QUICK TIP

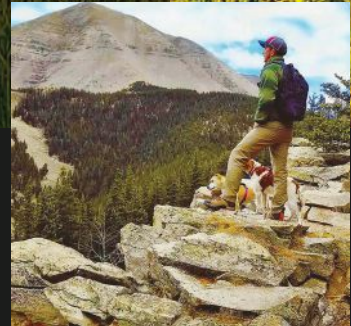
The **Cowgirl Cantina** in La Veta is a great spot for tasting ingredients from the cafe's own farm, local ranchers and producers. Afterward, pop into **Charlie's Market's** old-fashioned ice-cream fountain.

CLOCKWISE FROM BOTTOM RIGHT: A.R. MITCHELL MUSEUM OF WESTERN ART; BLOOM MANSION; MILES/ANNA\_ZOROMSKI; TRINIDAD MUNICIPAL GOLF COURSE; MILES/MATT INDEN.



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# SILVER THREAD BYWAY: CREEDE, SOUTH FORK & LAKE CITY



Opportunities to survey untamed wilderness, uncover mining history and pursue some of the state's most iconic outdoor activities — including hiking, rafting and fly-fishing — make a cruise along the Silver Thread Byway a must. The 117-mile route connects these

welcoming towns that continue to embrace their Western roots, and ends at beautiful Blue Mesa Reservoir west of Gunnison.

Start your journey in **South Fork**, where show-stopping views and outdoor fun abound. Drop a line in the **Rio Grande River**, which

boasts 20 miles of Gold Medal waters for primo trout fishing; hook up with an ATV outfitter to see backcountry sites; or hike a portion of the Continental Divide Trail, a 3,100-mile trek between Canada and Mexico. Packed with rugged peaks, translucent alpine lakes and wild woodlands, **Weminuche Wilderness (2)** also draws adventure-seekers.

A late 19th-century silver boomtown, **Creede** boasts a small-town ambiance and many reminders of its rich past. Stop at the **Creede Historical Museum** and **Underground Mining Museum** for a peek into the lives of miners and entrepreneurs who shaped the town's history, and wander to Main Street, where businesses are housed in lovely 1890s storefronts. Just outside of Creede, **Wheeler Geologic Area's (1)** otherworldly

rock spires await experienced off-roaders.

Many natural marvels lie between Creede and Lake City, including majestic **North Clear Creek Falls** and sapphire-blue **Lake San Cristobal (3)**, which was formed when the Slumgullion Earth Flow naturally dammed the valley just 800 years ago. Trees growing at off-angles are evidence that the peculiar landslide shifting up to 20 feet per year is still at work.

**Lake City** is known for its impressive collection of 1870s buildings, several nearby ghost towns (including Animas Forks, Carson and Capitol City) and inspiring panoramas of San Juan Mountains. For a fisher, camper or hiker, the city is an ideal headquarters for all kinds of fresh-air exploits. Pick up a ghost tour at the **Hinsdale County Museum** and see a show at the old-timey **Mountaineer Theatre**.



## STAY & PLAY OPTIONS

**Creede, Del Norte, Lake City** (page 199), **South Fork** (page 204)

## QUICK TIP

Quintessential mountain living: You don't even have to leave town to get on a trail in **Lake City!** Families love strolling creek- and riverside, where encounters with deer and smaller mountain critters happen frequently.

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP: LEFT: WHEELER GEOLOGIC AREA; KENNAN HARVEY; WEMINUICHE WILDERNESS; ERIC WUINROW; LAKE SAN CRISTOBAL; LAURENCE PARENT.



# ART IN THE OUTDOORS: GREELEY & LOVELAND



While these two historic towns have their roots in agriculture, visitors will discover much more today. Greeley has fascinating museums and was recently named a Certified Colorado Creative District, and Loveland is one of the most vibrant arts communities in the nation.



## MORNING

Like any good college town, Greeley has a colorful selection of coffee shops, serving residents and University of Northern Colorado students. Hit the streets, where, as part of a **Historic Preservation Commission** walking tours and Brown Bag Series, you'll learn about the city's neighborhoods, historic sites and architecture.

Stop by the **Colorado Model Railroad Museum (3)**, which features more than 600 railroad-related artifacts ranging from a Virginia and Truckee Railroad switch key to a full-size Colorado and Southern wooden caboose available for examining both inside and out.

Or take a swing along the **Poudre Learning Center** along the **Poudre River Trail**, with beautiful views, easy hiking trails and access to the Cache la Poudre River, catch-and-release fishing and wildlife viewing. The center has a system of barrier-free, wheelchair-accessible pathways and learning areas.

Throughout your visit, you'll find more than 50 pieces of public art sprinkled around Greeley, as well as lovely parks that feature lakes, small streams, bridges, waterfalls and islands. **Homestead Park and Open Space** has walking paths, a playground and public art.

## AFTERNOON

Point your compass west to **Loveland**, a community committed to the arts. Spend time at **Benson Sculpture Garden (1)**, featuring 148 sculptures. Go to [cityofloveland.org/bsgtour](http://cityofloveland.org/bsgtour) for an audio tour of this special site.

Head **downtown**, where charming blocks showcase historic buildings, shops and restaurants,

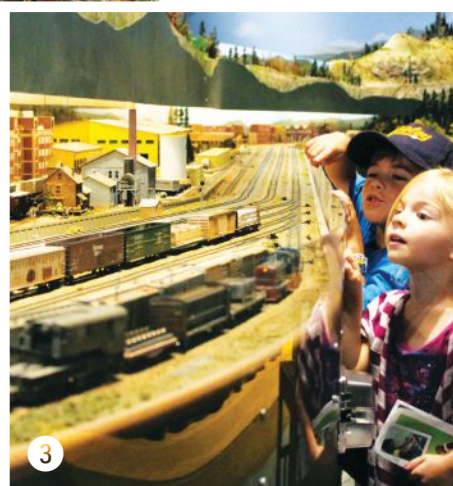
and the beautiful art the city is known for. **Art Your Pace** has recently launched two perfect ways to explore Loveland: **Bike & Brews** and **Art by Bike** are two tours that lead you to the city's highlights. Or, stop by the **Loveland Visitor Center** to pick up the **Passport to Love • Beer • Culture**. Fill your passport up with enough stamps and you'll get a free T-shirt or pint glass.

## EVENING

**Door 222 Food & Drink** pairs delicious tapas with local draft beers. Or head to **Mo'Betta Gumbo** for some moonshine and Cajun cuisine — we recommend the Slap Yo' Mama Loaf!

Another option is **Sylvan Dale Guest Ranch's (2)** dinner horseback rides (or anytime rides), which come with a trek to beautiful Eagle Ridge.

Or, back in Greeley, every summer Friday brings live music on the 9th Street Plaza, with street performers, fire spinners, face painting, balloon artistry, sidewalk chalk and more.



CLOCKWISE FROM BOTTOM RIGHT: COLORADO MODEL RAILROAD MUSEUM, CITY OF GREELEY; SYLVAN DALE GUEST RANCH; BENSON SCULPTURE GARDEN, EFFRAIN M. PADRÓ.

## QUICK TIP

The **Devil's Backbone** is an essential Loveland hike. Be sure to find the keyhole, a unique arch favored by those awaiting epic sunrises and sunsets, as well as wildflowers and soaring red-tailed hawks.

## STAY & PLAY OPTIONS

**Greeley** (page 198), **Loveland** (page 200), **Platteville, Johnstown** (page 199), **Windsor**



# BROAD HORIZONS IN THE SAN LUIS VALLEY: ALAMOSA, SAN LUIS & MONTE VISTA



The meandering Rio Grande River snakes through a vast valley ringed by dramatic mountains and filled with hidden lakes, waterfalls and cool summertime temperatures. Explore the small towns and attractions tucked away in this intriguing area.



## DAY 1

Leap into the valley's deep historical roots in **San Luis**. With history dating back to 1540, it was officially established in 1851 and is the state's oldest town. **La Vega**, a plot of land on the edge of town, is where settlers first established a communal way of life in the late 1800s and laid claim to the area's first water rights before Colorado was even a state. Make time to visit the more contemporary **Shrine of the Stations of the Cross (3)**. Gripping bronze sculptures

depict Christ's judgment, crucifixion and resurrection, positioned along a path that winds up a mesa to an adobe chapel.

Continue north to **Great Sand Dunes National Park and Preserve (1)**. Stop by the visitor center to learn how these seemingly inexplicable dunes — North America's tallest — came to nestle against the Sangre de Cristo Mountains. Then go out and play on Colorado's most unique "beach" — Medano Creek. For area hikes, check

out **Zapata Falls** — In the summer, they're a cool respite; winter temperatures turn them into a giant ice sculpture — or **Penitente Canyon** amid 100-foot canyon walls.

Detour to Hwy. 17 and check out two unusual spots: the **Colorado Gators Reptile Park**, where you can see and even handle some of the more than 300 alligators and other scaly critters; and the **UFO Watchtower**, a quirky roadside attraction providing information on the valley's surprising number of UFO sightings.

## SIDETRIPS

Those who love rock climbing, biking, hiking and hunting may want to spend a day in **Saguache**, an hour north of Alamosa. The intimate community is surrounded by the Sangres to the east and San Juans to the west.

A fort-turned-town, **Fort Garland** was originally established to protect early settlers in the San Luis Valley. The namesake structure still survives as the Fort Garland Museum, where visitors can tour adobe buildings, view Hispanic art and check out a re-creation of famed frontiersman Kit Carson's quarters while he served as commander.

The enclave of **Del Norte** enjoys a prime location alongside the Rio Grande River. These Gold Medal waters are made for anglers, particularly those who enjoy float fishing. Other can't-miss natural wonders include Penitente Canyon, the Natural Arch and Elephant Rocks, where volcanic ash welded together to create rock formations more than 28 million years old.

Tucked into the base of the Sangre de Cristo mountains, tiny **Crestone** is a unique blend of spiritual New-Agers who frequent the Hindu temple and Zen center, artists and their galleries, and outdoor enthusiasts taking advantage of hiking, camping and birding. A new addition to town is Crestone Brewing Co., a nano-brewpub serving up craft food and beverages.

**Sargents** is another little town tucked in the valley that's popular with outdoors lovers.

South of Alamosa and Del Norte, you'll find **Conejos**, a town that reflects the culture of Old Mexico and boasts fantastic fly-fishing opportunities.

## STAY & PLAY OPTIONS

**Alamosa** (page 188), **Antonito** (page 188), **Crestone** (page 193), **Fort Garland**, **La Jara**, **Manassa**, **Monte Vista**, **Moffat** (page 201), **Mosca** (page 202), **Sargents** (page 203) **Saguache** (page 203)

## QUICK TIP

**Blanca Vista Park** is a favorite of locals for its picnic areas, wildlife spotting and several miles of well-managed singletrack trails for mountain bikers. You can see the Great Sand Dunes from the park's Crestone Trail.

THIS PAGE: GREAT SAND DUNES NATIONAL PARK AND PRESERVE. OPPOSITE PAGE: FROM LEFT: MOUNTAIN RAILS LIVE; MILES/ERIC GRAY; SHRINE OF THE STATION OF THE CROSS; MILES/DENISE CHAMBERS.





2

**DAY 2**

In **Alamosa**, stop by the **Colorado Welcome Center** in the historic train depot and purchase tickets for the **Rio Grande Scenic Railroad**. In the summer, the railroad zips riders to a

mountain-top amphitheater (2) that's only accessible by train for music, lunch and craft brews. To the south, the **Cumbres & Toltec Scenic Railroad** is a 1880 train that travels from historic depots in **Antonito, Colorado**, to Chama, New Mexico.

Back in Alamosa, walk to downtown's restaurants, many of which specialize in Mexican cuisine. For a sunset adventure, head west to the **Monte Vista National Wildlife Refuge** to view avocets, killdeer, white-faced ibis, herons and other wildlife. Thousands of people flock to the refuge for March's Monte

Vista Crane Festival to admire 20,000 migrating sandhill cranes.

From nearly anywhere in the valley, you can take in a beautiful sunset by gazing eastward to the Sangre de Cristo range, which turns crimson as the sun slides below the horizon.



3

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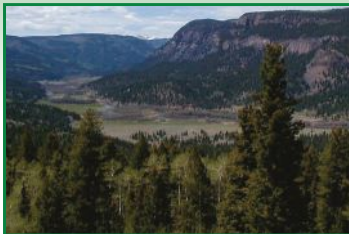


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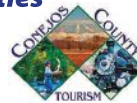
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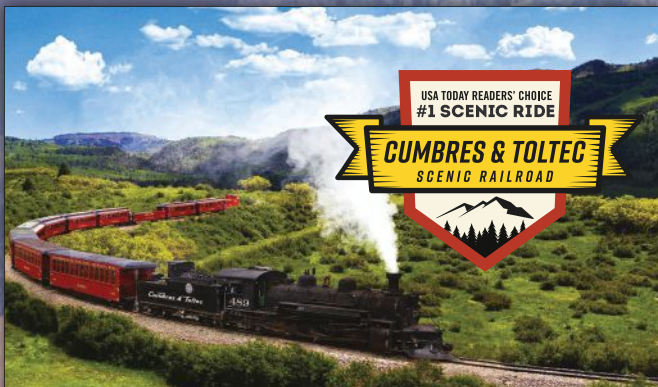
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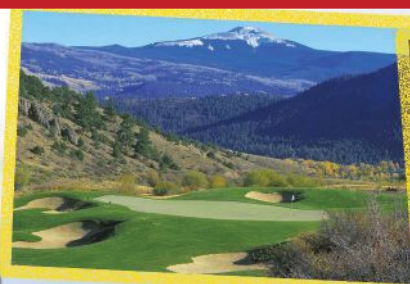


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1

# THE REAL SOUTH PARK: FAIRPLAY, COMO, BAILEY & ALMA



Delve into more Colorado history in **Como**, a tiny community with several 1800s-era buildings, including a church, hotel and the recently restored **Como Depot** — once an integral stop of the Denver, South Park and Pacific Railroad. The **Mountain Man Gallery** exhibits works by local and regional artists.

At 10,578 feet, **Alma (2)** is the highest incorporated town in the U.S. and serves as a hub for mountain bikers, ghost-town hunters and off-roaders. Highlights include **Mosquito Pass**, the highest motor-vehicle pass in North America (recommended only on foot or via off-road vehicle); the nearby ghost town of **Buckskin Joe**; and **Alma Cemetery**, where visitors can investigate stories of fortunes lost and found.

For delightful canyon views, stop in **Bailey**, where you can stretch your legs in 20-acre **McGraw Memorial Park**. Pop into the **Bailey Country Store and Sasquatch Outpost** for some local flavor.

## STAY & PLAY OPTIONS

**Alma** (page 188),  
**Bailey, Como, Fairplay,**  
**Pine** (page 203)

Designated a National Heritage Area by Congress in 2009, Park County's South Park is characterized by wonderfully diverse landscapes, fondly preserved historic sites, and vibrant mining and ranching heritage. Tucked in an expansive river valley flanked by 14,000-foot peaks, the area has a wealth of natural assets, including mineral deposits, ancient Bristlecone pines (1), unique geological formations and more than 100 rare or endangered plant and animal species.

**Fairplay** — established in 1859 during the Pikes Peak Gold Rush — is now the Trout Fishing Capital of Colorado, with more than 50 miles of Gold Medal streams. Get an idea of what life was like in the 1880s at **South Park City**, where nearly 40 artifact-filled authentic buildings have been transported from nearby mining communities.



2

## QUICK TIP

It could be argued that no man-made site in the state brings more joy than **Bailey's Coney Island Boardwalk** hot-dog stand. It's whimsical and improbably located — and the grub is top notch, too!

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: SOUTH PARK NATIONAL HERITAGE AREA NEAR FAIRPLAY; BRISTLECONE PINES; ERIC WUNROW; ALMA FIRE MUSEUM; SOUTH PARK NATIONAL HERITAGE AREA.



# GOLDEN: THE WORLD'S BIGGEST LITTLE BEER TOWN & MUCH MORE



Golden is located in an area of outstanding natural beauty just 12 miles from Denver. Lookout Mountain looms above Golden and its summit offers panoramic views in every direction.



1

## MORNING

It was at Lookout Mountain that the famous frontier scout and showman, Buffalo Bill Cody, was buried in 1917. Today, the **Buffalo Bill Museum** near the grave brings his incredible story back to life. The drive to the grave site on top of the mountain begins in historic downtown Golden on the **Lariat Loop Scenic Byway**.

The **Colorado Railroad Museum** has a half-mile circle track — sort of a giant's toy train set — on

which they run steam locomotives and the famous Galloping Goose, a 1928 Pierce-Arrow limousine put on train wheels with a bus welded to the back. And the **Bradford Washburn American Mountaineering Museum** is the first and only in the nation dedicated to mountaineering history. You can see the actual clothes worn by the first American to summit Mount Everest, then study the routes up the world's highest peak on a 12-by-12-foot model.

Explore the paved **Clear Creek Trail (1)**, which follows the creek from the mountains, through Golden for 20 miles to Denver. You can bike or hike along the creek, or float down it on a tube or kayak through an ingenious manmade whitewater course with rapids and gentle falls.

## STAY & PLAY OPTIONS

**Denver** (page 193), **Golden** (page 197), **Lakewood** (page 200), **Morrison** (page 202)

## QUICK TIP

The **Golden Bike Library** offers a unique and affordable way to get around town April to October on Thursdays through Sundays. Visitors can check out a bike for two hours for free or, if they prefer, to use it all day. It's just \$10 a day, but being this close to the sights and sounds of this adorable town is worth much more.

## AFTERNOON

**South Table Mountain** and its twin **North Table Mountain** are landmark mesas rising above town. South Table Mountain is renowned for **Castle Rock**, an outcropping that offers commanding views of the surrounding area. You can access South Table Mountain several ways, but we suggest parking at the base of **Golden Summit Trail** and heading up the .6-mile trail. It's very steep and you'll gain 1,500 feet in elevation before you reach the top.

You'll need a reward for your efforts, and no visit would be complete without stopping into Golden's highest-profile attraction: **Coors Brewery**. You get to explore a room of giant copper kettles and then stop in the packaging room, where thousands of cans and bottles whirl by. After the tour, those 21 and over can sample three free glasses of beer.

Then peek at the craft side of brewing by ordering a tray of

samplers to taste a variety of handmade brews. The town's breweries — **Golden City, Barrels & Bottles, Mountain Toad, Cannonball Creek** and **New Terrain** — don't serve food, so you can bring your own food in or order from food trucks that park directly outside. Because there's no kitchen, dogs are allowed on the patios and it's a rare day when there aren't a half dozen happy pups enjoying the Colorado sun at these outdoor beer gardens.

## EVENING

Make plans to see at concert at (or just hike around) the 9,525-seat **Red Rocks Amphitheatre (2)**, just 10 minutes from Golden in Morrison. The venue was declared by *Rolling Stone Magazine* to be on the nation's top bucket list for outdoor concerts. It is the only completely natural amphitheater on the planet. **Downtown Golden** is the perfect spot for a pre- and post-concert bite and beverage.



2



# CRAZY ABOUT LONGMONT



Along the Front Range between Boulder and Loveland, Longmont is a stop-worthy destination for all the reasons visitors love Colorado — great brews and views, a distinct flavor of local arts and access to the outdoors.



You'll find three spectacular golf courses, beautiful parks and a **Certified Colorado Creative District** in Longmont. Survey the work of local artists in galleries and coffee shops — especially during the **Second Fridays** events. Explore the recently expanded **Longmont Museum & Cultural Center** for outdoor summer concerts, exhibits on the history of the region and more.

The area's brewery scene (1) is also noteworthy. **Left Hand Brewing Co.** and **Oskar Blues' Tasty Weasel Taproom** are longtime favorites, while **300 Suns**, **Longs Peak Pub & Taphouse**, **Großen Bart**, **Shoes & Brews**, **Wibby** and **SKEYE** have emerged in recent

years. But the latest additions are **Open Door Brewing Company** in the trendy Prospect New Town neighborhood, and a second location of **Bootstrap Brewing**, which got its start in nearby Niwot.

For a little twist on adult beverages, visit **St. Vrain Cidery** or one of the town's several craft-spirits distilleries — **Still Cellars** is a microdistillery and arthouse featuring organic spirits like whiskey barley and apple eau de vie, plus live performances and film screenings.

Fit in as few or as many stops as you want in a day by catching a ride on the hop-on/hop-off **Brewhop Trolley**, which transports craft-beer lovers to a dozen venues every Saturday and Sunday. Need another way to get around? A newly launched **bike-share** program through Zagster boasts 10 locations throughout the city.

Now it's time for a snack: **The Art of Cheese** is a local cheesemaking school with courses that cover cheesemaking, pairings, tours, cheese tasting and more. For more cheesiness, there's also **Cheese Importers** and **Haystack Mountain Goat Dairy (2)**, both with culinary experiences to explore.

For a heartier meal, options range from casual hangouts to upscale bistros and everything in between. **Downtown**, make your way to rustic-chic **The Roost** or **Pumphouse Brewery** for pub-style fare. If you're traveling along Hwy. 66 toward Rocky Mountain National Park, **Praha Restaurant** is a can't-miss establishment tucked into a quaint, red-brick house, with a Czech-focused menu and Old World ambiance that have beckoned diners for a decade.

History buffs should check out the **Dougherty Museum's** impressive collection of restored antique



automobiles, farm equipment, musical instruments and more. Open on weekends from June through August, the museum came to be in 1977, thanks to a longtime local farmer who was inspired by the Ford Museum in Michigan. Highlights include the 1902 Mobile Steamer, which may have been the first car in the county. Meanwhile, the **Agricultural Heritage Center** explores the area's agricultural history through interactive exhibits and a 1909 farmhouse furnished with items from that era.

For those seeking thrills, **Mile-Hi Skydiving Center** (where the Denver Broncos' Thunderstorm sky-diving team trains) hosts excursions to Longs Peak for all experience levels. There's also the **Warrior Playground**, an outdoor obstacle course and training facility, styled after those on "American Ninja Warrior," where visitors can hone key ninja skills.

For a more relaxing excursion, consider stand-up paddleboarding and kayaking on **Union Reservoir** or cycling along the **St. Vrain Greenway** — considered the crown jewel in the city's trail system — which links numerous parks and runs along St. Vrain Creek.



## STAY & PLAY OPTIONS

**Firestone** (page 196),  
**Frederick, Longmont** (page 200), **Lyons**

## QUICK TIP

The best place to watch the sunset in Longmont is at **McIntosh Lake** or **Golden Ponds**. Don't forget your camera, and keep your eyes peeled for wildlife: Bald eagles, great blue heron, osprey, pelicans and prairie dogs have all been known to make an appearance as the sun dips behind the mountains.

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP RIGHT: HOPS & HANDRAILS EVENT; VISIT LONGMONT; HAYSTACK MOUNTAIN GOAT DAIRY; LONGMONT DINING; O'HARA PHOTOGRAPHY.



# GREAT PLAINS: LAMAR TO LA JUNTA



The past meets the future in this relaxed area at the northern portion of the Santa Fe Trail.



## DAY 1

Start at the **Colorado Welcome Center in Lamar**, which is a bit of an attraction itself, featuring a train engine, 100-year-old windmill and water tank — the only spot in the nation to include all three alongside a historic depot.

Afterward, head over to the **Great Plains Reservoirs**, a collection of seven glassy lakes perfect for boating, fishing and water-skiing. Bring binoculars — the reservoirs and surrounding prairie have hosted almost every bird species ever documented in Colorado. On any given day, you can spot terns, piping plovers, lesser sandhill cranes and maybe even a bald or golden eagle.

Grab dinner in Lamar before exploring the town's historic

district. Check out the **Big Timbers Museum's** collection of old wagons, fire engines and cars. Or check out the **Madonna of the Trail Monument**, an homage to the courageous women of the frontier days. If the timing's right, catch a movie at the **Lamar Theater**, a chrome-and-mirror art deco wonder built in the 1940s.

## DAY 2

Head west on the Santa Fe Trail to **Las Animas** and the **Boggsville Settlement (2)**. Built in the 1860s, it was one of the first areas in Colorado to begin livestock trading and included some 20 structures, including frontiersman Kit Carson's last home. Two have been restored and can be toured. Continue on to **Bent's Old Fort National Historic Site (3)**,

a re-created buffalo-trading post. For years, it was the only permanent settlement on the trail between Missouri and Mexican settlements.

From Bent's Fort, detour south to the **Picketwire Canyonlands (1)** along the Purgatoire River in the **Comanche National Grassland**, where you can explore ancient Plains Indian rock art, early Spanish settlements and North America's largest dinosaur tracksite. Hiking, biking and horseback riding are permitted, and you can also arrange for a guided auto tour through the U.S. Forest Service.

Later, continue west to **La Junta** and take in some of the local culture at the **Koshare Indian Museum**, home to an astounding collection of Western art as well

as a massive kiva that hosts the world-famous Koshare Indian Dancers. The **Otero Museum**, is dedicated to documenting the day-to-day life of early La Junta. The historic building collection includes a turn-of-the-century grocery and a primitive log schoolhouse.

For even more history, take a ranger tour of the **Sand Creek Massacre National Historic Site** northeast of La Junta, where in 1864, 675 cavalrymen changed the course of history.

## STAY & PLAY OPTIONS

**Hasty** (page 199), **La Junta** (page 199), **Las Animas**, **Lamar** (page 200), **Rocky Ford**

## QUICK TIP

**Vogel Canyon** is another of the area's hidden gems, where a placid, French-named river meanders through the landscape and affords glimpses of petroglyphs and the remains of an 1870s stagecoach stop.



# ALL TRAILS LEAD TO LIMON



This small town began as a work camp for the Chicago and Rock Island rail line in 1888. Today, Colorado's "Hub City" sits at the junction of five major highways, gracefully merging farmlands and prairie as far as the eye can see and offering a welcoming respite for travelers.

## MORNING

Browse downtown Limon's gift boutiques and antique shops for a handcrafted souvenir. Follow the marked pedestrian trail to the **Doug Kissel Fishing Pond** just south of Main Street. The 1-acre fishing hole is a popular attraction stocked with trout in the spring and home to bass, crappie, catfish and bluegill.

Lincoln County is right on the **Kingbird Trail** and is home to more than 50 different species of birds. Just ask the locals to

direct you to some of the more popular birding spots. For a little more adventure, navigate to the eight area **Off the Beaten Trail** geocaches — treasure boxes detailing hidden, historic gems in the region that are maintained on a regular basis. Visit [ourjourney.info](#) for details.

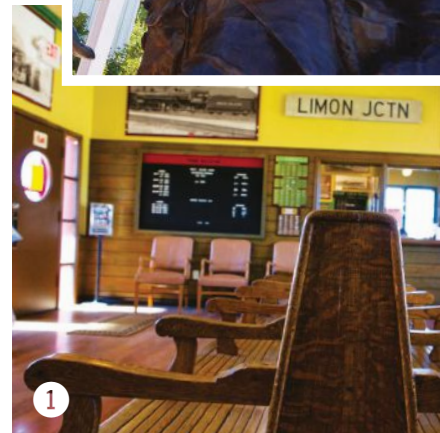
## AFTERNOON

Back in Limon, step behind Town Hall for an exciting venture into high-plains history. The **Limon Heritage Museum Complex (2)** artfully captures the area's past through photos, unusual displays and tales of settlers thriving in a tough landscape. Walk through an old-time store, one-room schoolhouse and prairie kitchen; see the famous weather station; and get a close-up look at a Cheyenne tipi.

Carefully restored by dedicated Limon Heritage Society volunteers, the adjacent 1910 **Limon Railroad Depot (1)** houses a permanent *Trains on the Plains* exhibit, circa-1970 railroad office and a working scale model of Limon's 1940s rail yard.

## EVENING

See a show at Limon's historic **Lincoln Theatre**, which has operated continuously since 1938 (as the Cactus Theatre until 1949). It's one of only two operating theaters in the nation that are built backward — movie-goers enter next to the screen instead of at the back of the auditorium thanks to an upward slope on the land beneath it. The independent theater has undergone today's digital transition and now shows everything from first-run blockbusters to indie flicks and documentaries.



1

## STAY & PLAY OPTIONS

Limon (page 200)



2



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP: RIGHT: LIMON HERITAGE MUSEUM COMPLEX; MILES/ANDREA BUROLLO; LIMON RAILROAD DEPOT; MILES/ANDREA BUROLLO; LIMON WETLANDS; MILES/ANDREA BUROLLO; LIMON HERITAGE MUSEUM COMPLEX; ANDREA BUROLLO.

## QUICK TIP

Come during late August or early September for **authentic county fairs** throughout the region, with greased-pig races, cotton candy and funnel cakes that are unsurpassed!



# GATEWAY TO COLORADO: JULESBURG



to 4,000 and Julesburg sprouted saloons and dance halls — and some interesting characters.

Dive into this gritty era of Julesburg's past at the **Fort Sedgwick Museum**, where artifacts tell of days when gamblers, cowboys and railroad workers made this the "Wickedest City in the West." A stop by the **Depot Museum (1)** in the former Union Pacific Railroad depot building will also reveal relics from this time period.

As you mull over these stories of scandals and triumphs, walk part of the 19-mile-long **South Platte River Trail**, peppered with Pony Express stops and pioneer landmarks. Bring your binoculars; sightings of warblers, vireos and other birds are highly likely.

The region's two harvest seasons — July for wheat and October for corn and beets — promote excellent hunting conditions as well. Stop by the **Julesburg Family Market** for a hunting license and directions to key spots, or just enjoy the abundant game found along the river and among the fields.

Or choose to join the race fans flocking to the **Julesburg Dragstrip**. The quarter-mile section of pavement becomes a launch pad for hot rods and dates back to the late 1950s when the Platte Valley Customs Club started the local tradition.

Situated in the state's northeast corner near the Nebraska border, Julesburg holds history at a crossroads for explorers, farmers, gold-seekers and others looking to find their place out West. The "Gateway to Colorado" has mellowed from its rough-and-tumble upbringing into a quiet agricultural hub of around 1,500 residents.

Get your bearings at the **Colorado Welcome Center** with free coffee, maps and brochures. The staff can tell you about how this town on the Pony Express route was burned to the ground in the 1860s. A few years later, after the town was rebuilt, Union Pacific Railroad laid tracks through Julesburg. The population soared

## STAY & PLAY OPTIONS

Julesburg




### QUICK TIP

Many visitors come for excellent tailwater fly-fishing along the **South Platte River** throughout the year.

DEPOT MUSEUM, MILES/ANDREA BUROLLOLA

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# THE ESSENCE OF THE PLAINS



Nudging the state's eastern border, Burlington and Wray pack a helping of rural living and eastern plains heritage. Just a day trip from Denver, see the farms that bring food to your table.

## MORNING

Begin your journey in **Wray** with some one-of-a-kind birding. In the spring, colorful and peculiar greater prairie chickens strut and dance across local grasslands in search of mates. The ritual is such a spectacle that the Wray Chamber of Commerce and Colorado Parks & Wildlife have teamed up to offer special viewing tours.

Housing one of the only permanent Smithsonian exhibits outside of Washington, DC, the 13,500-square-foot **Wray Museum** features an extensive Paleo-Indian exhibit, displaying one of the largest and oldest Stone Age bison kill sites.

## AFTERNOON

Mosey down to **Burlington** and treat yourself to an Old West experience. The **Old Town Museum (2)** contains 21 refurbished buildings filled with

authentic artifacts from the early 1900s. Visit Memorial to Labor days, when things are in full swing: Watch a high-noon gunfight, visit the old-fashioned soda fountain for a hand-dipped ice cream cone and enjoy Wild West Dinner Theaters.

## EVENING

Grab a quarter and head over to the Kit Carson County Fairgrounds to ride a National Historic Landmark. Out of the nearly 4,000 wooden carousels carved in America between 1885 and the 1930s, the fully restored 1905 **Kit Carson County Carousel (1)** is one of a handful still spinning.

For an extra bit of fun on summer weekends, ride to the carousel on the **Old Town Express**, a horse-drawn wagon ride between the fairgrounds and Old Town. And those visiting last week in July can take in the 101st **Kit Carson County Fair and Rodeo**.

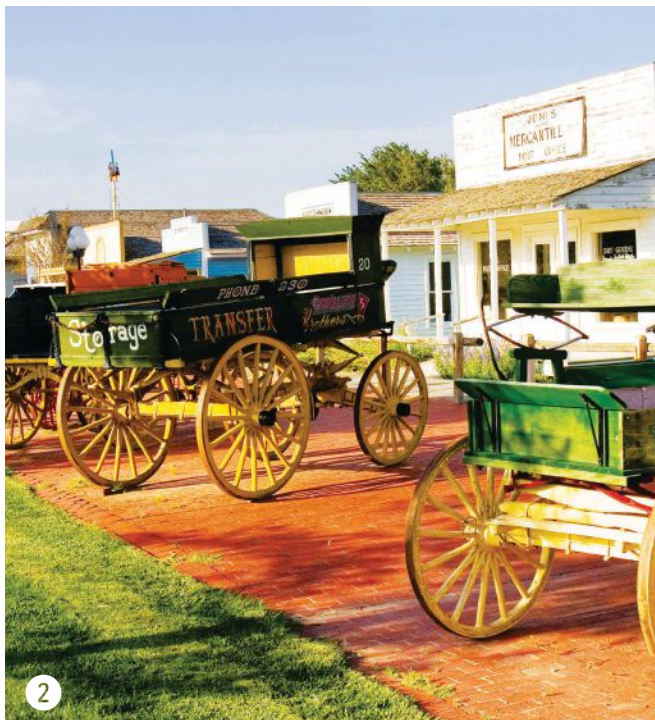
## SIDETRIPS

Visit [ourjourney.info](http://ourjourney.info) to learn about 13 museums and attractions, upcoming events, off-the-beaten-path sites to explore and geocaches to discover around the region.

Colorado is home to more than 450 different avian species, many of which are found in the diverse ecosystems just east of the Rockies. Lone falcons share the sky with droves of tiny white-throated swifts, owls snooze inside hollowed trees and prairie chickens strut through vast stretches of golden shortgrass. Check out [COLORADO.com/TopBirdingTrails](http://COLORADO.com/TopBirdingTrails) to learn more.

## STAY & PLAY OPTIONS

**Burlington** (page 190), **Wray**



## QUICK TIP

For the **perfect picnic spot**, hop over to Burlington's new Greenbelt, an area with tables for families that also highlights the flora and fauna of the Eastern Plains.

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: WRAY; MILES/ANDREA BUROLLA; OLD TOWN MUSEUM IN BURLINGTON; MILES/MATT INDEN; KIT CARSON COUNTY CAROUSEL MILES/MATT INDEN



# PAWNEE PIONEER TRAILS



Our peaceful northeast corner stretches out into plains known for an unhurried rural pace in Sterling, Brush and Fort Morgan.

## MORNING

Visit the parks that pepper **Sterling** and you'll see why the town was christened the "City of the Living Trees."

The downtown district features 54 historic buildings, many of which are adorned by murals paying homage to the area's history and culture. Get a look at life on the range at the **Overland Trail Museum**, dedicated to the branch of the Oregon Trail that weaved through northeast Colorado and is said to be the most heavily traveled road in the world from 1862-68.

Walk the **Overland Trail Recreation Area** to see wildlife, a fishing pond and a new picnic pavilion. Then pop into the town's new

brewery, **Parts & Labor**, for a taste of the local craft.

## AFTERNOON

**North Sterling State Park** is a relaxing juxtaposition of high plains and bluffs. Fish the stocked lake's 3,000 uncrowded acres for rainbow trout, set up camp in one of its sites, search for soaring bald eagles or walk 6 miles of trails.

Spend time on the birding trails north and south of the town of **Brush** or follow the footsteps and wagon tracks of Plains Indians and frontiersmen along the Pawnee Pioneer Trail. The 135-mile scenic and historic byway leads to **Pawnee National Grassland**, a popular birding and wildlife area. Trek around the 300-foot-tall **Pawnee Buttes (1)** and take

advantage of the striking photos the sandstone formations create within the landscape.

## EVENING

Migrate to **Fort Morgan** to roam its revamped pedestrian-friendly downtown, and then head to the **Fort Morgan Museum** for a nod to the region's farming, ranching and military roots. In addition to American Indian exhibits and 1920s soda fountain culture, the museum pays tribute to local star Glenn Miller, a major player in American Big Band music.

## STAY & PLAY OPTIONS

**Brush** (page 190), **Fort Morgan** (page 196), **Orchard** (page 202), **Sterling** (page 205)

West of Fort Morgan, **Jackson Lake State Park** was recently listed as one of the top 15 best park beaches in the U.S. and awarded Reserve America's Outdoor Recreation Award — the only one on the list not close to an actual coast.

Late summer and fall are chock full of fairs, festivals and concerts in all three towns.



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TURN TO PAGE 19 TO SEE STATEWIDE EVENT LISTINGS.

STATEWIDE

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ALAMOSA

ATTRACTIONS

**SAN LUIS VALLEY MUSEUM** The museum features artifacts, books, pictures and papers from various valley locations and families. A new historical mural graces the outside of the building on Fourth St. [sanluisvalleymuseum.org](http://sanluisvalleymuseum.org), [sanluisvalleymuseum@yahoo.com](mailto:sanluisvalleymuseum@yahoo.com), 719-587-0667, 401 Hunt Ave., Alamosa 81101

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**BASALT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE** Meet us at the confluence of rivers, recreation & culture! Gold Medal fishing, biking/hiking trails, water/winter sports & train history. Galleries, music, fine dining, trendy shops & award-winning distillery. Near hot springs & Aspen-Snowmass skiing. ▶ [basaltchamber.com](http://basaltchamber.com), [info@basaltchamber.com](mailto:info@basaltchamber.com), 970-927-4031, 101 Midland Ave., Basalt 81621

**HOTELS & MOTELS**

**ELEMENT BASALT - ASPEN** Find your own space and unwind. Our Colorado retreat located between Aspen and Glenwood Springs is the ideal place for a getaway during any season. From skiing to fly fishing, hiking, biking and more, there is an activity to please everyone. ▶ [elementbasaltaspen.com](http://elementbasaltaspen.com), 970-340-4040, 877-782-0151, 499 Market St., Basalt 81621

**BAYFIELD**

**ASSOCIATIONS & CHAMBERS**

**VALLECITO LAKE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE** Vallecito Lake is just 18 miles from downtown Durango and surrounded by San Juan National Forest. Impressive in size and cloaked by 12,000- and 13,000-foot peaks, the lake provides ample opportunities for recreation and breathtaking vistas. ▶ [vallecitolakechamber.com](http://vallecitolakechamber.com), [info@vallecitolakechamber.com](mailto:info@vallecitolakechamber.com), 970-247-1573, 18071 C.R. 501, Bayfield 81122

**LODGES & CABINS**

**PINE RIVER LODGE** We have 31 cabins 75 feet to 300 yards from the shore of Vallecito Lake. Close to horseback rides, marina, hiking trails and restaurants. Cabins are complete with kitchens and separate bedrooms. Staff will happily help with activity ideas. ▶ [pineriverlodge.com](http://pineriverlodge.com), [pineriverlodge@frontier.net](mailto:pineriverlodge@frontier.net), 970-884-2563, 14443 C.R. 501, Bayfield 81122

**RV & CAMPGROUNDS**

**BLUE SPRUCE RV PARK & CABINS** Enjoy hiking, fishing, hunting, horseback riding and boating in Lake Vallecito area. Free WiFi, DirectTV, 13 acres of trees with 80 RV sites and 12 cabins. We border the San Juan National Forest. Located at 7,900 feet and 38 miles from Durango. ▶ [bluesprucervpark.com](mailto:bluesprucervpark.com), [camping@bluesprucervpark.com](mailto:camping@bluesprucervpark.com), 970-884-2641, 888-884-2641, 1875 County Rd. 500, Vallecito Lake, Bayfield 81122

**BEAVER CREEK**

**CONDOS & HOME RENTALS**

**THE BORDERS LODGE AT BEAVER CREEK** Ski-in/ski-out condominium lodge in the heart of Beaver Creek. Studio units and 1- to 4-bedroom condos offer daily housekeeping, complimentary parking, Internet access and views. Enjoy the pool, hot tubs, fitness room and meeting space for up to 50 people. ▶ [wynndhamvacationrentals.com/colorado/beaver-creek/borders-lodge-resort](http://wynndhamvacationrentals.com/colorado/beaver-creek/borders-lodge-resort), [beavercreek.reservations@wynvr.com](mailto:beavercreek.reservations@wynvr.com), 970-845-8840, 866-487-3711, 1120 Village Rd., Beaver Creek 81620

**CHARTER AT BEAVER CREEK** Ski-in/ski-out access, next to the golf course in Beaver Creek Village. Hotel rooms and one- to five-bedroom condos offer daily housekeeping, parking and Internet access. Spa, pools, hot tubs, restaurants, concierge, bell staff and 24-hour front desk. ▶ [wynndhamvacationrentals.com/colorado/beaver-creek/charter-beaver-creek-resort](http://wynndhamvacationrentals.com/colorado/beaver-creek/charter-beaver-creek-resort), [beavercreek.reservations@wynvr.com](mailto:beavercreek.reservations@wynvr.com), 970-949-6660, 866-487-3711, 120 Offerson Rd., Beaver Creek 81620

**BELLVUE**

**RECREATION**

**LORY STATE PARK** Lory State Park is a day-use park offering an extensive trail system for hiking, biking and horseback riding. Group picnic facilities available by reservation. ▶ [cpw.state.co.us/placesstogo/parks/lory](http://cpw.state.co.us/placesstogo/parks/lory), [lory.park@state.co.us](mailto:lory.park@state.co.us), 970-493-1623, 708 Lodgepole Dr., Bellvue 80512

**BOULDER**

**ASSOCIATIONS & CHAMBERS**

**BOULDER CONVENTION AND VISITORS BUREAU** A captivating town enriched with natural beauty, hip urban culture and a vibrant love of the outdoors. A world away from the everyday, Boulder overflows with restaurants, shopping, art and miles of hiking and biking trails. ▶ [bouldercoloradousa.com](http://bouldercoloradousa.com), [visitor@bouldercvb.com](mailto:visitor@bouldercvb.com), 303-442-2911, 800-444-0447, 2440 Pearl St., Boulder 80302

**DOWNTOWN BOULDER** The heart of vibrant downtown Boulder is the charming Pearl Street Mall. This wonderfully charismatic four-block pedestrian mall is anchored by Pearl Street's east and west end districts — enjoy shopping, dining and the best people watching in CO! ▶ [boulderdowntown.com](http://boulderdowntown.com), [info@abi.org](mailto:info@abi.org), 303-449-3774, 1942 Broadway, Suite 301, Boulder 80302

**ATTRACTIONS**

**BOULDER ARTS COMMISSION** Wide range of free, year-round multicultural adult, teen and kids' programming, international films, concerts, art shows, storyteller and music festivals, traveling exhibits. ▶ [boulderarts.org](http://boulderarts.org), [ask@boulderlibrary.org](mailto:ask@boulderlibrary.org), 303-441-3100, 1001 Arapahoe Ave., Boulder 80302

**COLORADO SHAKESPEARE FESTIVAL** Enjoy a summer evening of theater under the stars at Colorado Shakespeare Festival. Great plays and artistic excellence in a beautiful setting combine to create a magical Shakespeare experience. ▶ [coloradoshakes.org](http://coloradoshakes.org), [cupresents@colorado.edu](mailto:cupresents@colorado.edu), 303-492-8008, CU Presents Box Office, 972 Broadway St., Boulder 80309

**DINING**

**BIG RED F RESTAURANT GROUP** Founded by Boulderite & chef Dave Query in 1994, BigRedF is Colorado's hometown restaurant group, sourcing farm-and-sea-to-table for over 20 years: Zolo, Jax Fish House (4 locations), Lola, Centro, West End Tavern & The Post (4 locations). Ohhh yeah! ▶ [bigredf.com](http://bigredf.com), [info@bigredf.com](mailto:info@bigredf.com), 303-448-9182, 5440 Conestoga Ct., Boulder 80301

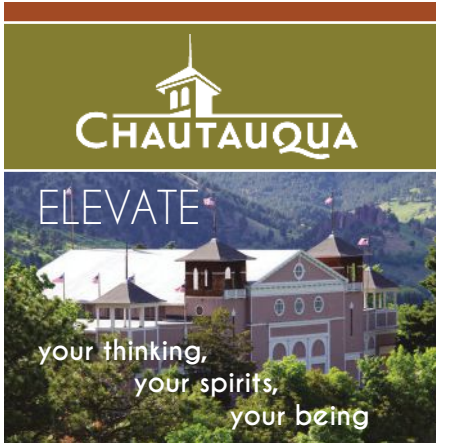
**HOTELS & MOTELS**

**BOULDER ADVENTURE LODGE** Located in a beautiful mountain setting just 5 minutes from downtown Boulder. The A-Lodge is the gateway to your Colorado adventure. Suites, kitchenettes and a cabin, continental breakfast, wireless Internet, hot tub, pool, slackline park. ▶ [a-lodge.com](http://a-lodge.com), [info@a-lodge.com](mailto:info@a-lodge.com), 303-444-0882, 91 Four Mile Canyon Dr., Boulder 80302

**HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS - BOULDER** North Boulder all-nonsmoking hotel conveniently located 3 miles to the north of the Pearl Street Mall. All of our rooms feature a microwave and refrigerator, complimentary hot breakfast and free WiFi. We also have a hot tub & seasonal outdoor pool. ▶ [hiexpress.com/boulderco](http://hiexpress.com/boulderco), [reservations@boulderhie.com](mailto:reservations@boulderhie.com), 303-442-6600, 800-465-4329, 4777 N. Broadway, Boulder 80304

**LODGES & CABINS**

**COLORADO CHAUTAUQUA NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK** Chautauqua's Missions House Lodge sleeps 16 with eight guest rooms with private baths, full kitchen, main living room with gas fireplace and Arts & Crafts architecture. Columbine Lodge features studio apartments with kitchenettes and private baths. ▶ [chautauqua.com](http://chautauqua.com), [info@chautauqua.com](mailto:info@chautauqua.com), 303-442-3282, 900 Baseline Rd., Boulder 80302



**COLORADO CHAUTAUQUA NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK**  
 Located at the base of Boulder's Flatirons and open year-round, Chautauqua offers charming cottages for nightly rental, spectacular hiking trails, tranquil dining at the legendary Dining Hall, world-class cultural and educational programming at the historic Auditorium and Community House, and unique venues for weddings, retreats or meetings.

303-952-1611  
 900 Baseline Rd., Boulder CO 80302  
[Chautauqua.com](http://Chautauqua.com)



# COME TO LIFE / Visitor Directory

Swimming Pool Exercise/Fitness Facilities Pets Allowed High-Speed Internet Airport Shuttle Complimentary Breakfast ADA-Compliant Restaurant On Site Free Parking In-Room Refrigerator In-Room Microwave Colorado Hotel & Lodging Association (CHLA) Member

The dollar symbols indicate how much you can expect to pay for an average hotel room. \$ = Less than \$100 \$\$ = \$101-200 \$\$\$ = \$201-299 \$\$\$\$ = \$300 and up

## RECREATION

**FAIR WINDS HOT AIR BALLOON FLIGHTS** Creating lifelong memories is our promise to each of our guests. Just 30 minutes from Denver or Estes Park. Enjoy spectacular views of the majestic Rocky Mountains over beautiful Boulder. Daily flights. All the extras! Seasonal specials. ▶ [hotairballoonridescolorado.com](http://hotairballoonridescolorado.com), [hotair@fairwindsinc.com](http://hotair@fairwindsinc.com), 303-939-9323, Meeting site & launch site vary due to weather conditions, Boulder 80303

## SIGHTSEEING & TOURS

**COLORADO PHOTO SAFARIS** Colorado's full-service photography company, including walking tour, seasonal nature excursions, party photographer. Photography lessons provided. Either meet us at one of our choice locations, or for a slight up-charge pickup and drop off included. ▶ [coloradophotosafaris.com](http://coloradophotosafaris.com), [info@coloradophotosafaris.com](mailto:info@coloradophotosafaris.com), 303-941-4683, Pearl St. & Broadway, Boulder 80302

## BRECKENRIDGE

### CONDOS & HOME RENTALS

**BRECKENRIDGE'S WILDWOOD SUITES CONDOMINIUMS** One- and two-bedroom ski in condos on a 4 O'clock ski run, in town. Five minutes to Snowflake lift. Full kitchens, hot tub, sauna, ski-rental discounts, on-site management, laundry, free WiFi and parking. Lounge and lobby with fireplace. ▶ [wildwoodsuites.com](http://wildwoodsuites.com), [wildwoodsuites@sbcbglobal.net](mailto:wildwoodsuites@sbcbglobal.net), 970-453-0232, 800-866-0300, 120 Sawmill Rd., Breckenridge 80424

**GRAND TIMBER LODGE** Ski-in/ski-out resort featuring indoor/outdoor pools and hot tubs, restaurant, spa and access to Breckenridge Ski Resort. Great resort for families — condos are very spacious and the staff is incredibly friendly. Ask about discounts and packages. ▶ [grandtimber.com](http://grandtimber.com), [specialoffers@grandtimber.com](mailto:specialoffers@grandtimber.com), 866-576-2055, 866-576-2055, 75 Snowflake Dr., Breckenridge 80424

**GREAT WESTERN LODGING** Great Western Lodging offers the best selection of Breckenridge vacation rentals, from ski-in/ski-out to in town. Studio to a six-bedroom private home. Website features photographs, bedding description of individual units, as well as special offers. ▶ [gwlodging.com](http://gwlodging.com), [information@gwlodging.com](mailto:information@gwlodging.com), 970-453-1009, 888-333-4535, 322B N. Main St., Breckenridge 80424

**PARAGON LODGING** Exclusive luxury vacation properties in Breckenridge for discerning travelers and memorable vacations. Amenities include opulent interior designs, private hot tubs, spacious great rooms, gourmet kitchens, recreation rooms, pool tables, theater rooms. ▶ [paragonlodging.com](http://paragonlodging.com), [info@paragonlodging.com](mailto:info@paragonlodging.com), 970-547-2122, 866-356-3080, 319 N. Main St., Breckenridge 80424

**PEAK PROPERTY MANAGEMENT - BRECKENRIDGE** Peak Property Management has been helping guests enjoy Breckenridge since 1986. All of our properties are close to our charming Victorian town and the Breckenridge Ski Resort. Contact us so we may help you enjoy your visit to Breckenridge! ▶ [peakproperty.com](http://peakproperty.com), [info@peakproperty.com](mailto:info@peakproperty.com), 970-453-1724, 800-458-7998, Summit Ridge Center, 11072 Hwy. 9, Breckenridge 80424

### WYNDHAM VACATION RENTALS BRECKENRIDGE &

**KEYSTONE** Wyndham Vacation Rentals in Breckenridge and Keystone offers the most diverse selection of lodging in the area. Choose from hotels, studios, one- to five-bedroom condos, town homes, chalets and luxury private homes. Book the exact unit for your vacation. ▶ [wyndhamvacationrentals.com/colorado/breckenridge-keystone](http://wyndhamvacationrentals.com/colorado/breckenridge-keystone), [summitinfo@wynvr.com](mailto:summitinfo@wynvr.com), 970-453-4000, 877-422-3514, 505 S. Main St., Breckenridge 80424

## HOTELS & MOTELS

### BEAVER RUN RESORT AND CONFERENCE CENTER

Ski-in/ski-out to the Beaver Run SuperChair. Room types for groups of all sizes. Highlighted amenities include the Spa at Beaver Run, Base Nine Bar, Spencer's Restaurant and the Coppertop Bar & Cafe at the base of Peak 9 at Breckenridge Ski Resort. ▶ [beaverun.com](http://beaverun.com), [stay@beaverun.com](mailto:stay@beaverun.com), 970-453-6000, 855-517-8404, 620 Village Rd., Breckenridge 80424

### THE LODGE AT BRECKENRIDGE

The Lodge at Breckenridge is perched above Breckenridge Ski Resort, located 5 minutes from town. Guests enjoy the luxuries of spectacular mountain views, massage, outdoor hot tubs, restaurant, bar, catering and exclusive conference meeting sites. ▶ [thelodgeatbreckenridge.com](http://thelodgeatbreckenridge.com), [wilson@guestservices.com](mailto:wilson@guestservices.com), 970-453-9300, 800-736-1607, 112 Overlook Dr., Breckenridge 80424

## RECREATION

**BRECKENRIDGE SKI RESORT** Breck is an incredible mountain spread across 5 diverse peaks and 2,908 skiable acres. With the world's highest chairlift, 4 terrain parks, and a ski-in/ski-out town with lots of charm, it's easy to see why this ski destination is one of the best. ▶ [breckenridge.com](http://breckenridge.com), [breckinfo@vailresorts.com](mailto:breckinfo@vailresorts.com), 970-453-5000, 800-789-7663, 1599 C Summit County Rd. 3, Breckenridge 80424

## BRIGHTON

### HOTELS & MOTELS

**QUALITY INN - BRIGHTON** Free deluxe continental breakfast, wireless Internet, indoor pool and hot tub. All rooms have microwave, refrigerator, iron, ironing board, hair dryer and coffeepot. ▶ [choicehotels.com/colorado/brighton/quality-inn-hotels/co015](http://choicehotels.com/colorado/brighton/quality-inn-hotels/co015), [gm.co015@choicehotels.com](mailto:gm.co015@choicehotels.com), 303-654-1400, 303-654-1400, 15150 Brighton Rd., Brighton 80601

## RECREATION

**BARR LAKE STATE PARK** Barr Lake State Park has been known as a premier bird-watching area. A trail circles the lake, offering prime wildlife viewing and lots of fishing access. Motor limit for boats. ▶ [cpw.state.co.us/placestogo/parks/barrlake](http://cpw.state.co.us/placestogo/parks/barrlake), [barr.lake.nature.center@state.co.us](mailto:barr.lake.nature.center@state.co.us), 303-659-6005, 13401 Picadilly Rd., Brighton 80603

## BRUSH

### ASSOCIATIONS & CHAMBERS

**BRUSH CHAMBER OF COMMERCE** The Brush Chamber of Commerce hosts several events throughout the year, like Oktoberfest, the People's Market and more. It is also the perfect place for visitors to stop and gain knowledge about Brush and Morgan County. ▶ [brushchamber.org](http://brushchamber.org), [brush@brushchamber.org](mailto:brush@brushchamber.org), 970-842-2666, 218 Clayton St., Brush 80723

## BUENA VISTA

### ASSOCIATIONS & CHAMBERS

#### BUENA VISTA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & VISITORS

**CENTER** Located in an 1880 historic church on Hwy. 24 South. Stop by, call or email us — don't forget to download our guide. We are here to serve you as a visitor and as a business owner — let us help you! ▶ [buenvista.colorado.org](http://buenvista.colorado.org), [chamber@buenvistacolorado.org](mailto:chamber@buenvistacolorado.org), 719-395-6612, 343 S. Hwy. 24, Buena Vista 81211

### GUEST & DUDE RANCHES

**ELK MOUNTAIN DUDE RANCH** Colorado's highest guest ranch at 9,600 feet with off-the-beaten-path charm. Horseback riding, rafting, pack trip, trapshooting, marksmanship, archery, fishing, van trip to Aspen, kids' program and more. Families encouraged to spend time together. ▶ [elkmtm.com](http://elkmtm.com), [info@elkmtm.com](mailto:info@elkmtm.com), 719-539-4430, 800-432-8812, 13000 County Rd. 185, Buena Vista 81211

## RECREATION

**ACQUIRED TASTES RAFTING** Acquired Tastes provides a smaller, more personal rafting experience. We offer the longest Browns Canyon 1/2-day trip with 2 extra rapids and 2 more miles on the water, higher quality 1/2-, 1- and 2-day trips, a private takeout and camping on the river. ▶ [atraft.com](http://atraft.com), [atraft@gmail.com](mailto:atraft@gmail.com), 719-395-2992, 800-888-8582, 12918 Hwy. 24/285, Buena Vista 81211

**BROWNS CANYON RAFTING** Perfect for everyone! Join the BCR family & get away from the crowds. We offer customized whitewater rafting, kayaking & combo adventures for all ages and abilities. Half-day, full-day & multi-day tours on both the Arkansas River & Clear Creek. ▶ [raffbrownscanyon.com](http://raffbrownscanyon.com), [info@raffbrownscanyon.com](mailto:info@raffbrownscanyon.com), 719-275-2890, 800-332-3381, 30375 US Hwy. 24, Buena Vista 81211

**COLORADO ADVENTURES** Established 1976 and twice named Colorado's Company of the Year! Whitewater rafting, horseback rides and zipline tours. Join an evening dinner float or raft with us through Browns Canyon National Monument. 100% on-site solar powered. ▶ [inaraff.com](http://inaraff.com), [rapids@inaraff.com](mailto:rapids@inaraff.com), 719-395-2112, 800-462-7238, 12600 US Hwy. 24, Buena Vista 81211

**NOAH'S ARK COLORADO RAFTING** Colorado's No. 1 rafted river — the Arkansas! Industry leaders serving families and youth since 1983. Voted Buena Vista favorite 2015, 2013, 2012. Raft trips through Browns Canyon National Monument and Royal Gorge. Adventure park and zips. Hot springs. ▶ [noahsark.com/site/raft.html](http://noahsark.com/site/raft.html), [reservations@noahsark.com](mailto:reservations@noahsark.com), 719-395-2158, 23910 US Hwy. 285, Buena Vista 81211

**RIVER RUNNERS** Raft, stand-up paddleboard and kayak the Arkansas River with River Runners. Choose from four Colorado locations: at Browns Canyon, at South Main in Buena Vista, at Salida, and at the Royal Gorge. Open April-September. ▶ [whitewater.net](http://whitewater.net), [rafting@whitewater.net](mailto:rafting@whitewater.net), 719-395-2466, 800-332-9100, 24070 County Rd. 301, Buena Vista 81211 \$-\$

**ROCKY MOUNTAIN OUTDOOR CENTER** We are the premier multisport outfitter, offering professional instruction and guided trips. River activities include kayaking, rafting, duckies and SUP. On land, we conduct rock-climbing and mountain-bike trips. All ability levels. ▶ [rmoc.com](http://rmoc.com), [customerservice@rmoc.com](mailto:customerservice@rmoc.com), 719-395-3335, 23850 Hwy. 285 S., Buena Vista 81211

**WILDERNESS AWARE RAFTING** Experience superb customer service at the highly rated company on Trip Advisor and Colorado's Company of the Year. We specialize in whitewater rafting, horseback riding and zipline tours. Raft with us through Browns Canyon National Monument! ▶ [inaraff.com](http://inaraff.com), [rapids@inaraff.com](mailto:rapids@inaraff.com), 800-462-7238, 12600 US 24, Buena Vista 81211

## BURLINGTON

### ATTRACTIONS

**OLD TOWN MUSEUM COMPLEX - BURLINGTON** Just off I-70 on the Colorado/Kansas border. With 21 historic buildings, children's hands-on history exhibits, live gun-fights & cancan shows in the summertime, and many souvenirs and gift items to choose from in our Emporium. ▶ [burlingtoncolorado.com/oldtown](http://burlingtoncolorado.com/oldtown), [nikki.wall@burlingtoncolorado.com](mailto:nikki.wall@burlingtoncolorado.com), 719-346-7382, 800-288-1334, 420 S. 14th St., Burlington 80807 \$

### HOTELS & MOTELS

**COMFORT INN - BURLINGTON** The Comfort Inn features a breakfast buffet each morning from 5 until 9:30. Its 57 guest rooms feature 32-inch TVs, microwave and fridge. Unwind in one of the hotel's large whirlpool suites. You may also enjoy the indoor pool, hot tub & fitness room. ▶ [choicehotels.com/colorado/burlington/comfort-inn-hotels/co012](http://choicehotels.com/colorado/burlington/comfort-inn-hotels/co012), [gm.co012@choicehotels.com](mailto:gm.co012@choicehotels.com), 719-346-7676, 282 S. Lincoln St., Burlington 80807

## CAÑON CITY

### ATTRACTIONS

**ROYAL GORGE BRIDGE & PARK** Royal Gorge Bridge & Park is open daily. Marvel at awe-inspiring panoramic views from one of the world's highest suspension bridges and enjoy more excitement than ever. ▶ [royalgorgebridge.com](http://royalgorgebridge.com), [rgb@royalgorgebridge.com](mailto:rgb@royalgorgebridge.com), 719-275-7507, 888-333-5597, 4218 County Rd. 3A, Cañon City 81212

**ROYAL GORGE ROUTE RAILROAD** Ride, dine & unwind aboard the Royal Gorge Route Railroad, Colorado's most scenic train. Choose from coach, club, vista dome, dinner, murder mystery or cab. Delicious fare, prepared with local ingredients, is available in all classes of service. ▶ [royalgorgeroute.com](http://royalgorgeroute.com), [reservations@royalgorgeroute.com](mailto:reservations@royalgorgeroute.com), 719-276-4000, 888-724-5748, Santa Fe Depot, South at Third St. & Hwy. 50, Cañon City 81212



**HOTELS & MOTELS**

**QUALITY INN & SUITES** Outdoor pool and two indoor Jacuzzis. Pets welcome for a \$10 fee. Free hot breakfast. ▶ [choicehotels.com/colorado/canon-city/quality-inn-hotels/co027](http://choicehotels.com/colorado/canon-city/quality-inn-hotels/co027), gm.co027@choicehotels.com, 719-275-8676, 3075 E. US 50, Cañon City 81212

**RECREATION**

**ADVENTURE OUTFITTERS** Exceeding expectations for more than 25 years. Located in the Royal Gorge area. Adventure and family-class trips on the Arkansas River. Professional guides, excellent safety record. See our website for family specials and great deals during the season. ▶ [waoraffting.com](http://waoraffting.com), [kathy@waoraffting.com](mailto:kathy@waoraffting.com), 719-942-4362, 800-530-8212, 50905 W. US Hwy. 50, Cañon City 81212

**ARKANSAS RIVER TOURS** Offering exceptional whitewater trips and guided float fishing on the Arkansas River and the Gunnison Gorge, since 1973. Family adventures to extreme adventures. Convenient locations in Cañon City near the Royal Gorge and riverside in Cotopaxi. ▶ [arkansasrivertours.com](http://arkansasrivertours.com), info@arkansasrivertours.com, 719-942-4362, 800-321-4352, 49311 US Hwy. 50, Cañon City 81212

**CLEAR CREEK RAFTING CO.** We offer an incredible value with free digital photos and free wetsuit use on all trips! Raft the world-famous Arkansas River through Royal Gorge near Colorado Springs; or Clear Creek, 30 min. from Denver. Fun and exciting trips for all abilities. ▶ [raftroyalgorge.com](http://raftroyalgorge.com), info@clearcreekrafting.com, 303-567-1000, 800-353-9901, 44650 W. US Hwy. 50, Cañon City 81212

**RAFT MASTERS MAIN OFFICE** Raft Masters has offered quality rafting for 30 years, with the same owner since day one. Our highest quality trips and packages and fair prices reflect the quality and experience you and your family expect. We also provide all your gear for free. ▶ [raftmasters.com](http://raftmasters.com), fun@raftmasters.com, 719-275-6645, 2315 E. Main St., Cañon City 81212

**ROYAL GORGE RAFTING & ZIPLINE TOURS** Colorado's No. 1 rafting and zipline tours. Raft - zip - stay - unwind. One location, 100 percent fun! ▶ [royalgorgerafting.net](http://royalgorgerafting.net), info@royalgorgerafting.net, 719-275-7238, 45045 Hwy. 50 W., Cañon City 81212

**CARBONDALE**

**ASSOCIATIONS & CHAMBERS**

**CARBONDALE CHAMBER AND TOURISM COUNCIL OF CARBONDALE** One of *Outside Magazine's* "Best Towns," A *National Geographic Adventure* "Top 12 Town" in the "50 Next Great Places to Live and Play." In the shadow of Mt. Sopris, sits your base camp for adventure — hiking, biking, Gold Medal fly-fishing and more. ▶ [carbondale.com](http://carbondale.com), chamber@carbondale.com, 970-963-1890, 520 S. Third St., Suite 3, Carbondale 81623

**HOTELS & MOTELS**

**COMFORT INN & SUITES CARBONDALE** This Carbondale hotel is minutes from the White River National Forest, Colorado Mountain College, Aspen Mountain and the Hot Springs Lodge and Pool. ▶ [choicehotels.com/colorado/carbondale/comfort-inn-hotels/co116](http://choicehotels.com/colorado/carbondale/comfort-inn-hotels/co116), lily.feng@prismhotels.com, 970-963-8880, 800-473-5980, 920 Cowen Dr., Carbondale 81623

**MARBLE DISTILLING CO. & THE DISTILLERY INN** Marble Distilling Co. is the only distillery in the world to boast five luxury hotel rooms where guests can "sleep with the stills" at The Distillery Inn. ▶ [marbledistilling.com](http://marbledistilling.com), scoop@marbledistilling.com, 970-963-7008, 150 Main St., Carbondale 81623

**CASCADE**

**ATTRACTIONS**

**NORTH POLE HOME OF SANTA'S WORKSHOP** Santa's Workshop is a Christmas-themed amusement park. This enchanted park has something for everyone in your family. We have more than two dozen family-friendly rides for your pleasure. Browse through shops, watch a magic show or visit our arcade! ▶ [northpolecolorado.com](http://northpolecolorado.com), santahelper@santas-colo.com, 719-684-9432, 5050 Pikes Peak Hwy., Cascade 80809

**BED & BREAKFASTS**

**ROCKY MOUNTAIN LODGE & CABINS** Bed-and-breakfast lodge & 2 cabin rentals in the mountains at Pikes Peak near Colorado Springs. Kitchens, fireplaces, hot tubs, mountain views. Romantic getaways & family vacations. Gourmet breakfast for B&B guests. Romance & area attraction packages. ▶ [rockymountainlodge.com](http://rockymountainlodge.com), info@rockymountainlodge.com, 719-684-2521, 4680 Hagerman Ave., Cascade 80809

**RV & CAMPGROUNDS**

**LONE DUCK FAMILY CAMPGROUND AND CABINS** Two miles west of Hwy. 24 from Pikes Peak Highway. Pool, splash pad, fishing, playground, basketball court, pancake breakfast, laundry, WiFi, grass, shade and campfires. Guided ATV tours. ▶ [loneduckcamp.com](http://loneduckcamp.com), oneloneduck@aol.com, 719-684-9907, 8855 W. Hwy. 24, Cascade 80809

**CASTLE ROCK**

**ATTRACTIONS**

**EPIC SKY TREK** An aerial adventure course with four levels up to 50 feet in the air. Featuring 120 challenging elements, this is the largest freestanding aerial challenge course in North America. Great for families ages 4 and up. ▶ [castlerockzipline.com](http://castlerockzipline.com), Epic\_Sky\_Trek.html, zip@castlerockzipline.com, 720-733-9477, 1375 W. Plum Creek Pkwy., Castle Rock 80109

**HOTELS & MOTELS**

**COMFORT SUITES - CASTLE ROCK** The only all non-smoking and all-suite hotel in Castle Rock. Free hot breakfast, free wireless Internet, indoor pool/hot tub and fitness room. ▶ [choicehotels.com/colorado/castle-rock/comfort-suites-hotels/co154](http://choicehotels.com/colorado/castle-rock/comfort-suites-hotels/co154), gm.co154@choicehotels.com, 303-814-9999, 800-424-6423, 4755 Castleton Way, Castle Rock 80109

**RECREATION**

**CASTLE ROCK ZIP LINE TOURS** Castle Rock Zip Line Tours features the best zip line tour in Colorado, an adrenaline packed Epic Adventure Tower, and the brand new Epic Sky Trek: North America's largest aerial adventure park. ▶ [castlerockzipline.com](http://castlerockzipline.com), zip@castlerockzipline.com, 720-733-9477, 1375 W. Plum Creek Pkwy., Castle Rock 80109

**SHOPPING**

**OUTLETS AT CASTLE ROCK** Outlets at Castle Rock is the largest open-air shopping center in Colorado, conveniently located off of I-25 between Denver and Colorado Springs. Shop our 100-plus brand name stores including Coach, Michael Kors, Polo, Columbia, Lucy, Nike and more! ▶ [outletsatcastlerock.com](http://outletsatcastlerock.com), info@outletsatcastlerock.com, 303-688-2800, 5050 Factory Shops Blvd., Castle Rock 80108

**CENTENNIAL**

**HOTELS & MOTELS**

**QUALITY INN TECH CENTER** Located in the Denver Tech Center. Easy access to many nearby businesses, landmarks and popular attractions. Guest rooms come equipped with hair dryers, coffee makers and irons. Some feature whirlpool bathtubs, sofa sleepers, microwaves and refrigerators. ▶ [choicehotels.com/colorado/centennial/quality-inn-hotels/co248](http://choicehotels.com/colorado/centennial/quality-inn-hotels/co248), gm.co248@choicehotels.com, 303-768-9300, 9799 E. Geddes Ave., Centennial 80112

**CENTRAL CITY**

**ATTRACTIONS**

**CENTRAL CITY OPERA** World-renowned summer opera festival presented in a 550-seat jewel box theater, July through August, with two main stage productions including both contemporary and standard opera and musical theater, along with 2 one-act operas in various venues. ▶ [centralcityopera.org](http://centralcityopera.org), admin@centralcityopera.org, 303-292-6700, 800-851-8175, 124 Eureka St., Central City 80427

**CENTURY CASINO** Located in beautifully historic Central City, Century Casino and Hotel features 24-hour gaming and alcohol service, with 500 machines and an intimate table games area, 26 boutique-style hotel rooms, two great restaurants and free covered parking! ▶ [central-city.cnty.com](http://central-city.cnty.com), info.centralcity@cnty.com, 303-582-5050, 102 Main St., Central City 80427

**HIDEE GOLD MINE TOURS AND PANNING** Mine a gold ore specimen at the vein, yours to keep with tour! Gold panning as well. The Hidee Gold Mine is well-lit with level ground and safety inspected by the state. A recognized Colorado Heritage Tour and a *USA Today* 10 Best Attraction in 2016. ▶ [hideegoldmine.com](http://hideegoldmine.com), info@hideegoldmine.com, 720-548-0343, 1950 Hidee Mine Rd., Central City Pkwy., Central City 80427

**CLARK**

**CONDOS & HOME RENTALS**

**GLEN EDEN RESORT** Glen Eden Resort offers charming two- and three-bedroom cabins with fully equipped kitchens. Outdoor pool, tennis courts, hot tubs, kids' playground and private river fishing. We have a restaurant/tavern on premises for dining and drinking. ▶ [glenedenresort.com](http://glenedenresort.com), reservations@glenedenresort.com, 970-879-3907, 800-882-0854, 54737 RCR 129, Clark 80428

**GUEST & DUDE RANCHES**

**VISTA VERDE RANCH** Escape to our secluded ranch resort and enjoy the comforts of luxurious accommodations, gourmet meals and a wide variety of guided outdoor activities, both summer and winter. All-inclusive packages make vacation planning easy and relaxing while you're here! ▶ [vistaverde.com](http://vistaverde.com), reservations@vistaverde.com, 970-879-3858, 800-526-7433, 58000 Cowboy Way, Clark 80428

**LODGES & CABINS**

**THE HOME RANCH** Colorado's only Relais & Châteaux affiliated guest ranch is located 18 miles north of Steamboat Springs. Relax in comfortable rooms & cabins, savor "haute mountain" cuisine and enjoy hiking, fly-fishing, horseback trail rides, cross-country skiing. ▶ [homeranch.com](http://homeranch.com), info@homeranch.com, 970-879-1780, 54880 R.C.R. 129, Clark 80428

**RECREATION**

**PEARL LAKE STATE PARK** Nestled in the mountains, this peaceful park sits in a quiet lakeside setting. Overlooking Farwell Mountain, camp along the shoreline or on a ridge with amazing views. There's excellent fishing for cutthroat trout. ▶ [cpw.state.co.us/placestogo/parks/pearllake](http://cpw.state.co.us/placestogo/parks/pearllake), steamboat.lake@state.co.us, 970-879-3922, 61105 County Rd. 129, Clark 80428

**Buena Vista & Salida Colorado FREE VISITORS GUIDE**

**COLORADO'S BEST HOT SPRINGS**  
**ColorfulColorado.com**



## COME TO LIFE / Visitor Directory

Swimming Pool Exercise/Fitness Facilities Pets Allowed High-Speed Internet Airport Shuttle Complimentary Breakfast ADA-Compliant Restaurant On Site Free Parking In-Room Refrigerator In-Room Microwave Colorado Hotel & Lodging Association (CHLA) Member

The dollar symbols indicate how much you can expect to pay for an average hotel room. \$ = Less than \$100 \$\$ = \$101-200 \$\$\$ = \$201-299 \$\$\$\$ = \$300 and up

**STEAMBOAT LAKE STATE PARK** Located in northwestern Colorado at the base of historic Hahn's Peak and 30 minutes from Steamboat Springs, Steamboat Lake offers year-around recreational opportunities. Relax in a cabin or choose from 188 campsites. [cpw.state.co.us/placestogo/parks/steamboatlake](http://cpw.state.co.us/placestogo/parks/steamboatlake), [steamboat.lake@state.co.us](mailto:steamboat.lake@state.co.us), 970-879-3922, 61105 County Rd. 129, Clark 80428

## CLIFTON

### RECREATION

**JAMES M. ROBB - COLORADO RIVER STATE PARK** Close to Colorado National Monument & Western Slope attractions. Enjoy river access, trails and fishing in all 5 park sections. Swimming at Island Acres only. Fruita has 57 campsites & a group campsite with six campsites. Island Acres has 80 campsites. [cpw.state.co.us/placestogo/parks/jamesmrobbcoloradoriver](http://cpw.state.co.us/placestogo/parks/jamesmrobbcoloradoriver), [colorado.river.park@state.co.us](mailto:colorado.river.park@state.co.us), 970-434-3388, 800-678-2267, Exit 47 I-70 (Island Acres), Exit 19 I-70 (Fruita), 361-32 Road (Corn Lake section), Clifton 81521

## COALDALE

### RV & CAMPGROUNDS

**CUTTY'S HAYDEN CREEK RESORT** Cutty's Hayden Creek Resort is a true campground resort. The resort features deluxe cabins, smaller cabins, RV site and tent sites. Amenities include a rec hall, an indoor and outdoor pool, tennis court, volleyball, mini golf and planned activities. [cuttysresort.net](http://cuttysresort.net), [info@cuttysresort.net](mailto:info@cuttysresort.net), 719-942-4222, 3428 Hayden Creek Rd., Coaldale 81222

## COLLBRAN

### RECREATION

**VEGA STATE PARK** Enjoy year-round wildlife watching and a variety of activities on the 900-acre reservoir. You'll be surrounded by montane meadows and high mountains. Five cabins and 113 campsites available. [cpw.state.co.us/placestogo/parks/vega](http://cpw.state.co.us/placestogo/parks/vega), [vega.park@state.co.us](mailto:vega.park@state.co.us), 970-487-3407, 800-678-2267, 15247 N. 6/10 Rd., Unit A, Collbran 81624

## COLORADO SPRINGS

### ASSOCIATIONS & CHAMBERS

**COLORADO SPRINGS VISITOR INFORMATION** Colorado Springs is alive with adventure, breathtaking mountain scenery, geologic wonders, 55-plus exciting attractions, thrilling outdoor recreation, world-class art & museums, authentic rodeos and unique dining & shopping at the foot of Pikes Peak. [visitcos.com](http://visitcos.com), [info@visitcos.com](mailto:info@visitcos.com), 719-635-7506, 800-888-4748, 515 S. Cascade Ave., Colorado Springs 80904

### ATTRACTIONS

**COLORADO SPRINGS FINE ARTS CENTER AT COLORADO COLLEGE** The FAC is an entire arts district under one roof. One of 16 charter members of the American Association of Museums, a TCG-member theater company and arts education with the Bemis School of Art offering classes for every age and skill level. [colorado.college.edu/fac](http://colorado.college.edu/fac), [coloradocollege.edu](mailto:coloradocollege.edu), 719-634-5581, 30 W. Dale St., Colorado Springs 80903

**GARDEN OF THE GODS VISITOR AND NATURE CENTER** No. 1 visited attraction, 14-minute HD movie, nature museum, 30 interactive exhibits, award-winning gift shop, cafe with spectacular views, free park map, guided walks, nature talks, bird watching, hiking, adventure programs. Free nature center. [gardenofthegods.com](http://gardenofthegods.com), [office@gardenofthegods.com](mailto:office@gardenofthegods.com), 719-634-6666, 1805 N. 30th St., Colorado Springs 80904

**PRO RODEO HALL OF FAME** Visit the colorful history and equally colorful legends of professional rodeo. Guests start their tour in the Hall of Champions and continue their way through exhibits about saddles, chaps, hats and other rodeo equipment over the decades. [prorodeohalloffame.com](http://prorodeohalloffame.com), [stadken@prorodeo.com](mailto:stadken@prorodeo.com), 719-528-4764, 101 Pro Rodeo Dr., Colorado Springs 80919

### BED & BREAKFASTS

**AUTHENTIC BED & BREAKFAST INNS & COTTAGES OF THE PIKES PEAK REGION** B&B inns, cabins and cottages in the Pikes Peak region. Elegant Victorian, Southwestern retreat, rustic lodge, modern luxury, cabins or cottages in mountain settings or in town, including Colorado Springs, Manitou Springs, Cascade & Woodland Park. [colorado-bed-breakfast.com](http://colorado-bed-breakfast.com), [info@colorado-bed-breakfast.com](mailto:info@colorado-bed-breakfast.com), 719-471-3980, 1102 W. Pikes Peak Ave., Colorado Springs 80904

### HOTELS & MOTELS

**BAYMONT INN & SUITES COLORADO SPRINGS** Conveniently located adjacent to the Air Force Academy, Briargate Business Park, Chapel Hills Mall and minutes to all Colorado Springs attractions. Indoor/outdoor heated pool. [wyndhamhotels.com/baymont/colorado-springs-colorado](http://wyndhamhotels.com/baymont/colorado-springs-colorado), [baymont-inn-and-suites-colorado-springs@overview.rogerationcos@gmail.com](mailto:baymont-inn-and-suites-colorado-springs@overview.rogerationcos@gmail.com), 719-536-0731, 877-424-6423, 1055 Kelly Johnson Blvd., Colorado Springs 80920

**CLARION HOTEL & CONFERENCE CENTER** Corporate and group-friendly downtown full-service hotel with easy access to area attractions. [choicehotels.com/colorado/colorado-springs/clarion-hotels/co025](http://choicehotels.com/colorado/colorado-springs/clarion-hotels/co025), [gm.co025@choicehotels.com](mailto:gm.co025@choicehotels.com), 719-471-8680, 800-477-8610, 314 W. Bijou St., Colorado Springs 80905

**COMFORT INN NORTH - AIR FORCE ACADEMY AREA** Convenient location. Close to major attractions. Complimentary free hot deluxe breakfast and high-speed wireless internet. Heated pool and spa, business center. Comfortable rooms with amenities and more. [choicehotels.com/colorado/colorado-springs-comfort-inn-hotels/co018](http://choicehotels.com/colorado/colorado-springs-comfort-inn-hotels/co018), [gm.co018@choicehotels.com](mailto:gm.co018@choicehotels.com), 719-262-9000, 800-210-6005, 6450 Corporate Dr., Colorado Springs 80919

**HOTEL ELEGANTÉ CONFERENCE & EVENT CENTER** Experience the "experience" at the Hotel Elegante Conference and Event Center where families and visitors are our business. Enjoy the beautiful pools. Jacuzzi and kids activities that make Hotel Elegante the best place to stay in Colorado Springs. [hotelegante.com](http://hotelegante.com), [hotelegantesales@mcmelegante.com](mailto:hotelegantesales@mcmelegante.com), 719-576-5900, 800-981-4012, 2886 S. Circle Dr., Colorado Springs 80906

**QUALITY INN & SUITES GARDEN OF THE GODS** The award-winning Quality Inn & Suites Garden of the Gods, centrally located in Colorado Springs, is where hospitality, comfort and convenience combine to create a memorable stay, whether you are traveling for business or pleasure. [choicehotels.com/colorado/colorado-springs/quality-inn-hotels/co053](http://choicehotels.com/colorado/colorado-springs/quality-inn-hotels/co053), [gm.co053@choicehotels.com](mailto:gm.co053@choicehotels.com), 719-593-9119, 800-828-4347, 555 W. Garden of the Gods Rd., Colorado Springs 80907

**QUALITY INN COLORADO SPRINGS AIRPORT** 10 miles to the Air Force Academy, Ft. Carson, Peterson AFB; 25 from Schriever AFB; 10 miles from Garden of the Gods; 5 miles from the Colorado Springs Airport. Minutes from downtown, shopping and restaurants. 5 miles from major interstates. [choicehotels.com/colorado/colorado-springs/quality-inn-hotels/co003](http://choicehotels.com/colorado/colorado-springs/quality-inn-hotels/co003), [gm.co003@choicehotels.com](mailto:gm.co003@choicehotels.com), 719-380-9000, 877-424-6423, 2115 AeroTech Dr., Colorado Springs 80916

**QUALITY INN SOUTH** View Pikes Peak from our indoor pool/patio and exercise room. Free wireless Internet, continental breakfast, micro/fridge. Located off I-25. Friendly staff. Groups, tours welcome! [choicehotels.com/colorado/colorado-springs/quality-inn-hotels/co190](http://choicehotels.com/colorado/colorado-springs/quality-inn-hotels/co190), [gm.co190@choicehotels.com](mailto:gm.co190@choicehotels.com), 719-579-6900, 1410 Harrison Rd., Colorado Springs 80906

**QUALITY SUITES CENTRAL** Group and corporate friendly, full-service downtown hotel. With convenient access to Interstate 25, this Colorado Springs hotel is close to many local points of interest. [choicehotels.com/colorado/colorado-springs/quality-inn-hotels/co241](http://choicehotels.com/colorado/colorado-springs/quality-inn-hotels/co241), [gm.co241@choicehotels.com](mailto:gm.co241@choicehotels.com), 719-471-8681, 877-477-8610, 314 W. Bijou St., Colorado Springs 80905

### RADISSON HOTEL - COLORADO SPRINGS AIRPORT

Vacations are simply more fun when everyone comes along for the ride. We do all we can to make sure every-one has an unforgettable time. Enjoy our indoor heated pool, outdoor hot tub, gym and game room. Free WiFi so you never lose touch. [radisson.com/colorado-springs-hotel-co-80916](http://radisson.com/colorado-springs-hotel-co-80916), [colospri\\_rh\\_cosp@radisson.com](mailto:colospri_rh_cosp@radisson.com), 719-597-7000, 800-333-3333, 1645 N. Newport Rd., Colorado Springs 80916

### LODGES & CABINS

**GLEN EYRIE** Nestled on more than 700 breathtaking acres with 95 lodging rooms, Glen Eyrie offers retreats, conferences, historical castle tours, castle teas, overnight stays and more! [gleneyrie.org](http://gleneyrie.org), [reservations@gleneyrie.org](mailto:reservations@gleneyrie.org), 719-265-7050, 3820 N. 30th St., Colorado Springs 80604

### RECREATION

**ADVENTURES OUT WEST** Since 1973! Owner operator of ziplines, Segways, Jeeps, balloon and the COS Rodeo. The best adventures in Colorado Springs. All this can be yours with a call to Colorado's premier adventure company, Adventures Out West. [adoutwest.com](http://adoutwest.com), [info@adoutwest.com](mailto:info@adoutwest.com), 719-578-0935, 800-755-0935, 1680 S. 21st St., Colorado Springs 80904

**CHEYENNE MOUNTAIN STATE PARK** The park offers 20 miles of hiking/biking trails with wildlife viewing opportunities all around. It also features a visitor center, an archery range, picnicking facilities and 61 unique campsites with laundry/shower facilities. [cpw.state.co.us/placestogo/parks/cheyennemountain](http://cpw.state.co.us/placestogo/parks/cheyennemountain), [cheyenne.park@state.co.us](mailto:cheyenne.park@state.co.us), 719-576-2016, 800-678-2267, 410 J.L. Ranch Heights, Colorado Springs 80926

### SHOPPING

**HISTORIC OLD COLORADO CITY SHOPPING DISTRICT** National Historic District. Established in 1859. Enjoy shopping, fine dining, sidewalk cafes, sweets, boutiques, galleries, jewelry, antiques, collectibles, home decor & more. Activities for an entire family, near Garden of the Gods. [shopoldcoloradocity.com](http://shopoldcoloradocity.com), [director@shopoldcoloradocity.com](mailto:director@shopoldcoloradocity.com), 719-577-4112, 2431 W. Colorado Ave., Colorado Springs 80904

### TRANSPORTATION

**U-SAVE CAR AND TRUCK RENTAL** Rent from \$9.99 per day plus miles! Cash and debit-card deposits okay. Best rates, best service, free airport and local shuttle, economy to SUV, minivans and more. Minimum age 21. Daily, weekly, monthly. Book online. [coloradosprings.usave.com](http://coloradosprings.usave.com), [admin@usave.com](mailto:admin@usave.com), 719-634-1914, 232 N. Circle Dr., Colorado Springs 80909

## COPPER MOUNTAIN

### RECREATION

**COPPER MOUNTAIN RESORT** At Copper Mountain, you can make the most out of your vacation. With naturally divided terrain for all abilities and three diverse villages with dozens of shops and restaurants as well as free parking, free cat skiing and more, Copper's got it all. [coppercolorado.com](http://coppercolorado.com), [contactcenter@coppercolorado.com](mailto:contactcenter@coppercolorado.com), 970-968-2318, 866-841-2481, 209 Ten Mile Cir., Copper Mountain 80443

## CORTEZ

### ASSOCIATIONS & CHAMBERS

**MESA VERDE COUNTRY VISITOR INFORMATION BUREAU** Cortez, Dolores, Mancos welcome you to Mesa Verde National Park! Ancient stories come to life among the excavated dwellings once home to Ancestral Peoples. Add outdoor fun, Old West and farm visits, and you have a trip you'll never forget. [mesaverdecountry.com](http://mesaverdecountry.com), [kelly@mesaverdecountry.com](mailto:kelly@mesaverdecountry.com), 970-565-8227, 800-530-2998, 928 E. Main, Cortez 81321

## COTOPAXI

### RECREATION

**ARKANSAS RIVER TOURS** Offering exceptional whitewater trips and guided float fishing on the Arkansas River and the Gunnison Gorge, since 1973. Family adventures to extreme adventures. Convenient locations in Cañon City near the Royal Gorge and riverside in Cotopaxi. [arkansasrivertrips.com](http://arkansasrivertrips.com), [info@arkansasrivertrips.com](mailto:info@arkansasrivertrips.com), 719-942-4362, 800-321-4352, 19487 US Hwy. 50, Cotopaxi 81223

**JOURNEY QUEST** Christ-centered whitewater rafting, rock climbing and overnight adventures for your family, church or scout troop. Best pricing, professional guides and personalized service make our family-friendly trips the best value on Colorado's Arkansas River! [journeyquest.org](http://journeyquest.org), [jq@journeyquest.org](mailto:jq@journeyquest.org), 719-276-2227, 888-623-7939, 27077 US Hwy. 50, Suite 4, Cotopaxi 81223



## CRAIG

### ASSOCIATIONS & CHAMBERS

**MOFFAT COUNTY TOURISM ASSOCIATION** Moffat Country, Where the West runs wild, is Colorado's Last Frontier where wide open spaces hold treasures too rare to be missed. ▶ [visitmoffatcounty.com](http://visitmoffatcounty.com), [mcta@moffatcounty.net](mailto:mcta@moffatcounty.net), 970-824-2335, 866-332-8436, 250 W. Victory Way, Craig 81625 📍

### HOTELS & MOTELS

**CANDLEWOOD SUITES - CRAIG NORTHWEST COLORADO** Find your space to settle in at the Candlewood Suites Craig Northwest. Hotel offers full kitchens in every room, HD TVs DVD player, free guest laundry and WiFi included. Other guest amenities include Candlewood Gym, Cupboard and Lending Locker. ▶ [marshotelmanagement.com/candlewood-suites-craig](http://marshotelmanagement.com/candlewood-suites-craig), [cigcw@yahoo.com](mailto:cigcw@yahoo.com), 970-824-8400, 877-660-8543, 92 Commerce St., Craig 81625 📍📞📺📺📺📺📺📺

**CLARION INN & SUITES** Craig's only full-service hotel includes a restaurant and lounge with entertainment. ▶ [choicehotels.com/colorado/craig/clarion-hotels/co295](http://choicehotels.com/colorado/craig/clarion-hotels/co295), [smoore@clarioncraig.com](mailto:smoore@clarioncraig.com), 970-824-4000, 300 S. Hwy. 13, Craig 81625 📍📞📺📺📺📺📺📺

### RECREATION

**ELKHEAD RESERVOIR STATE PARK** Elkhead Reservoir is located west of Steamboat, 10 miles east of Craig. This reservoir's 900 acres offer a variety of recreational options. This lake is a great fishery for warm-water species. Ideal boating and paddlesports area. Wildlife abounds. ▶ [cpw.state.co.us/placestogo/parks/eltkheadreservoir](http://cpw.state.co.us/placestogo/parks/eltkheadreservoir), [eltkhead.park@state.co.us](mailto:eltkhead.park@state.co.us), 970-276-2061, 800-678-2267, 135 Co. Rd. 28, Craig 81625 📍📞

## CRAWFORD

### RECREATION

**CRAWFORD STATE PARK** An ideal hub for scenic Colorado day trips. Enjoy fishing, watersports, hiking and nature programs. Many ADA-approved facilities, plenty of wildlife watching and 66 campsites. A short drive to Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Park. ▶ [cpw.state.co.us/placestogo/parks/crawford](http://cpw.state.co.us/placestogo/parks/crawford), [crawford.park@state.co.us](mailto:crawford.park@state.co.us), 970-921-5721, 800-678-2267, 40468 Hwy. 92, Crawford 81415 📍📞

## CRESTED BUTTE

### CONDOS & HOME RENTALS

**CRESTED BUTTE LODGING & PROPERTY MANAGEMENT** Quality lodging. Floorplans ranging from hotel suites to four-bedroom condos. Great locations, including slopeside and close to summer activities. Package discounts available. Contact us for group arrangements and discounted rates as well. ▶ [crestedbuttelodging.com](http://crestedbuttelodging.com), [gm@crestedbuttelodging.com](mailto:gm@crestedbuttelodging.com), 970-349-2400, 866-380-5750, 701 Gothic Rd., Mt. Crested Butte 81225 📍📞📺📺📺📺📺📺 \$-\$\$\$\$

**PEAK PROPERTY MANAGEMENT & SALES** Peak offers a wide variety of exceptional homes, cabins and condos in historic Crested Butte, Mount Crested Butte and the surrounding area. ▶ [peakcb.com](http://peakcb.com), [info@peakcb.com](mailto:info@peakcb.com), 970-349-6339, 888-909-7325, 318 Elk Ave., Suite 10, Crested Butte 81224 📍📞

### HOTELS & MOTELS

**CRESTED BUTTE MOUNTAIN RESORT** Crested Butte Mountain Resort has an array of properties from hotel rooms at the Grand Lodge to luxury slopeside condos at the Lodge at Mountaineer Square. These on-mountain lodging properties are ideal for couples, families and groups. ▶ [skicb.com](http://skicb.com), [info@cbmr.com](mailto:info@cbmr.com), 844-428-8421, 844-428-8421, 12 Snowmass Rd., Crested Butte 81225 📍📞

**ELEVATION HOTEL & SPA** Nestled in the heart of the Colorado Rockies, the hotel features 262 guestrooms with kitchenettes, balconies and breathtaking views. The Elevation Hotel and Spa is the only ski-in/ski-out resort in Crested Butte. ▶ [elevationresort.com](http://elevationresort.com), [sales@elevationresort.com](mailto:sales@elevationresort.com), 970-251-3000, 800-569-2754, 500 Gothic Rd., Crested Butte 81225 📍📞📺📺📺📺📺📺 \$-\$\$\$\$

**OLD TOWN INN** The warmth of a family inn; the value and convenience of a hotel. The inn provides clean rooms, friendly staff and great amenities. We're proud to be TripAdvisor GreenPartners and Certificate of Excellence winners. ▶ [oldtowninn.net](http://oldtowninn.net), [info@oldtowninn.net](mailto:info@oldtowninn.net), 970-349-6184, 888-349-6184, 708 Sixth St., Crested Butte 81224 📍📞📺📺 \$-\$

## CRESTONE

### ASSOCIATIONS & CHAMBERS

**TOWN OF CRESTONE** A cultural center, alive with diversity and futuristic vision. Pristine alpine lakes, sand dunes, hiking and views. Home to international spiritual centers like the hidden city of Sangria. Crestone beckons travelers to come, experience and remember. ▶ [crestonecreativelivedistrict.xyz](http://crestonecreativelivedistrict.xyz), 719-256-5445, PO Box 331, Crestone 81131

## CRIPPLE CREEK

### ATTRACTIONS

**CRIPPLE CREEK BUTTE THEATER** Cripple Creek's historic Butte Theater is home to year-round live professional theatrical performances, musical entertainment and classic melodrama. Fun for the entire family. ▶ [butte.theater.com](http://butte.theater.com), [mmoser@cripple-creek.co.us](mailto:mmoser@cripple-creek.co.us), 719-689-6402, 139 E. Bennett Ave., Cripple Creek 80813 📍

## DELTA

### ASSOCIATIONS & CHAMBERS

**DELTA COUNTY: CEDAREDEGE, CRAWFORD, DELTA, ECKERT, HOTCHKISS, ORCHARD CITY & PAONIA** Delta County: Fresh Colorado. You will discover untapped trails, tracks and rivers to enjoy in solitude or with friends. Located on the Western Slope. Find Cedaredge, Crawford, Delta, Eckert, Hotchkiss, Orchard City and Paonia. Be inspired to linger! ▶ [deltacountycolorado.com](http://deltacountycolorado.com), [kelli@deltacountycolorado.com](mailto:kelli@deltacountycolorado.com), 970-874-9532, 501 Palmer, Delta 81416 📍

### HOTELS & MOTELS

**QUALITY INN - DELTA** Near Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Park, Escalante Canyon and Grand Mesa. Fresh-baked cookies served nightly. Spacious rooms with wireless Internet. Free full hot breakfast. ▶ [choicehotels.com/colorado/delta/quality-inn-hotels/co713](http://choicehotels.com/colorado/delta/quality-inn-hotels/co713), [gm.co713@choicehotels.com](mailto:gm.co713@choicehotels.com), 970-874-1000, 877-424-6423, 180 Gunnison River Dr., Delta 81416 📍📞📺📺

### RECREATION

**SWEITZER LAKE STATE PARK** Day-use park with great picnic sites surrounding a beautiful 137-acre lake. Swimming, boating, jet skiing and wildlife viewing. ▶ [cpw.state.co.us/placestogo/parks/sweitzerlake](http://cpw.state.co.us/placestogo/parks/sweitzerlake), [sweitzer.park@state.co.us](mailto:sweitzer.park@state.co.us), 970-874-4258, 1735 E. Rd., Delta 81416 📍

## DENVER

### ASSOCIATIONS & CHAMBERS

**DENVER, THE MILE HIGH CITY** Denver is a vibrant outdoor city full of urban adventure waiting to be explored. Experience The Mile High City's 300 days of sunshine, walkable downtown, thriving arts and culture, award-winning dining, craft brewing and Rocky Mountain backdrop. ▶ [visitdenver.com](http://visitdenver.com), [visitorinfo@visitdenver.com](mailto:visitorinfo@visitdenver.com), 303-892-1505, 800-233-6837, Tourist Information Center: 1575 California St., Denver 80202

### ATTRACTIONS

**DENVER ART MUSEUM** World-class art in the heart of Denver! Libeskind-designed Hamilton Building features special exhibitions, artist demonstrations, family-friendly programs and more. Daily tours, cafe, shop. Free general admission for kids 18 and under every day. ▶ [denverartmuseum.org](http://denverartmuseum.org), [info@denverartmuseum.org](mailto:info@denverartmuseum.org), 720-865-5000, 100 W. 14th Ave. Pkwy., Denver 80204 📍

**DENVER BOTANIC GARDENS** 24-acre urban oasis features native, exotic & xeric plants, a tropical rain forest and the Science Pyramid. Art exhibitions have featured the likes of Henry Moore and Dale Chihuly. Mordecai Children's Garden offers a place for kids to learn and play. ▶ [botanicgardens.org](http://botanicgardens.org), [feedback@botanicgardens.org](mailto:feedback@botanicgardens.org), 720-865-3500, 1007 York St., Denver 80206 📍📞

**DENVER MUSEUM OF NATURE & SCIENCE** Explore one of Denver's top family attractions. Experience ancient fossils, dazzling gems and minerals, majestic wildlife, recent discoveries from outer space, Egyptian mummies, exhibits about the human body, traveling special exhibitions and more. ▶ [dmns.org](http://dmns.org), [info@dmns.org](mailto:info@dmns.org), 303-370-6000, 2001 Colorado Blvd., Denver 80205 📍📞

**DOWNTOWN AQUARIUM** Mixes family fun, upscale-casual dining and spectacular marine life. Explore the Aquarium Adventure exhibit with more than 1 million gallons of extraordinary exhibits, then dine in the Aquarium Restaurant seated around a 50,000-gallon aquarium. ▶ [aquariumrestaurants.com/downtown-aquarium-denver](http://aquariumrestaurants.com/downtown-aquarium-denver), 303-561-4450, 700 Water St., Denver 80211 📍📞

**ELITCH GARDENS THEME & WATER PARK** Elitch Gardens is Colorado's only world-class combination theme and water park. From rollercoasters to kid adventures, a water park and tons of special events, there's thrills for all. Visit [ElitchGardens.com](http://ElitchGardens.com) for more info and to purchase tickets. ▶ [elitchgardens.com](http://elitchgardens.com), [info@elitchgardens.com](mailto:info@elitchgardens.com), 303-595-4386, 2000 Elitch Cir., Denver 80204 📍📞

**FORNEY MUSEUM OF TRANSPORTATION** Explore Colorado's largest & most unique transportation collection. See the world's largest steam locomotive; Union Pacific's "Big Boy," Amelia Earhart's first car and special rotating exhibits. Open year-round Mon.-Sat. 10am-4pm & Sun. noon-4pm. ▶ [forneymuseum.org](http://forneymuseum.org), [customerservice@forneymuseum.org](mailto:customerservice@forneymuseum.org), 303-297-1113, 4303 Brighton Blvd., Denver 80216 📍📞

**HISTORY COLORADO CENTER** The History Colorado Center is designed to ignite imaginations of all ages about Colorado history through high-tech and hands-on exhibits, programming and special events. Exhibits share the stories of Colorado's people over the past 10,000 years. ▶ [historycoloradocenter.org](http://historycoloradocenter.org), [kellywilliams@state.co.us](mailto:kellywilliams@state.co.us), 303-447-8679, 1200 Broadway, Denver 80203 📍📞

**MOLLY BROWN HOUSE MUSEUM** Experience the home of Titanic survivor Margaret Tobin "Molly" Brown. Interact with knowledgeable docents who share the Progressive Era changes Margaret and mining engineer husband J.J. saw in their lifetime and learn their role in shaping Denver. ▶ [mollybrown.org](http://mollybrown.org), [admin@mollybrown.org](mailto:admin@mollybrown.org), 303-832-4092, 1340 Pennsylvania St., Denver 80203 📍

**WATER WORLD** America's premier aquatic amusement park. More than 50 attractions for all ages. Minutes from downtown Denver. Colorado's first watercoaster, wave pools, family raft rides, kids areas, speed slides, thrill rides & much more. Free parking, picnics welcome. ▶ [waterworldcolorado.com](http://waterworldcolorado.com), [info@hylandhills.org](mailto:info@hylandhills.org), 303-427-7873, 8801 N. Pecos St., Denver 80260 📍📞

**THE WILD ANIMAL SANCTUARY** See more than 450 large carnivores rescued from illegal or abusive situations roaming freely in species-specific habitats on 720 acres of open grassland. The sanctuary is open daily to the public and features a Mile Into the Wild elevated walkway. ▶ [wildanimalsanctuary.org](http://wildanimalsanctuary.org), [information@wildlife-sanctuary.org](mailto:information@wildlife-sanctuary.org), 303-536-0118, 2999 County Rd. 53, Denver 80643 📍📞

**WINGS OVER THE ROCKIES AIR & SPACE MUSEUM** Wings Over the Rockies Air & Space Museum is Colorado's official air and space museum. Located on the grounds of the former Lowry Air Force Base, Wings is dedicated to inspiring and educating the public about aviation and space endeavors. ▶ [wingsmuseum.org](http://wingsmuseum.org), [info@wingsmuseum.org](mailto:info@wingsmuseum.org), 303-360-5360, 7711 E. Academy Blvd., Denver 80230 📍

### BED & BREAKFASTS

**CAPITOL HILL MANSION BED AND BREAKFAST INN** 1891 Richardson Romanesque Victorian inn in downtown Denver. Walk to convention center, mall and museums. The inn features eight luxurious guest rooms and suites with a unique experience and the modern amenities and conveniences. ▶ [capitolhillmansion.com](http://capitolhillmansion.com), [info@capitolhillmansion.com](mailto:info@capitolhillmansion.com), 303-839-5221, 800-839-9329, 1207 N. Pennsylvania St., Denver 80203 📍📞📺📺

**CASTLE MARNE BED AND BREAKFAST INN** Victorian stone castle in the heart of Denver. 10 rooms with modern conveniences. National Historic Landmark. Complimentary breakfast, afternoon tea and evening cookies. The Lodge at Castle Marne sleeps up to 6. ▶ [castlemarne.com](http://castlemarne.com), [info@castlemarne.com](mailto:info@castlemarne.com), 303-331-0621, 800-926-2763, 1572 Race St., Denver 80206 📍📞📺 \$-\$\$\$\$

### DINING

**BUCKHORN EXCHANGE RESTAURANT** Denver's oldest restaurant, with Colorado's No. 1 liquor license, serving prime beef steaks, buffalo, elk, baby-back ribs and other fabulous game specialties. Magnificently decorated. Reservations recommended. Free parking. ▶ [buckhorn.com](http://buckhorn.com), [info@buckhorn.com](mailto:info@buckhorn.com), 303-534-9505, 1000 Osage St., Denver 80204



# COME TO LIFE / Visitor Directory

Swimming Pool Exercise/Fitness Facilities Pets Allowed High-Speed Internet Airport Shuttle Complimentary Breakfast ADA-Compliant Restaurant On Site Free Parking In-Room Refrigerator In-Room Microwave Colorado Hotel & Lodging Association (CHLA) Member

The dollar symbols indicate how much you can expect to pay for an average hotel room. \$ = Less than \$100 \$\$ = \$101-200 \$\$\$ = \$201-299 \$\$\$\$ = \$300 and up

## HOTELS & MOTELS

**COMFORT INN & SUITES** Minutes from downtown Denver and conveniently located off I-70 near the Stapleton development area. Free breakfast with hot waffles. Near Denver International Airport, Denver Coliseum, the Denver Zoo, Pepsi Center, Elitch's and Coors Field. choicehotels.com/colorado/denver/comfort-inn-hotels/co192, fdcomfortnortheast@gmail.com, 303-388-8100, 4685 Quebec St., Denver 80216 \$

**COMFORT INN CENTRAL** Close to downtown Denver, Mile High Stadium, Coors Field, Pepsi Center and many attractions. One and a half miles to the Denver Coliseum and adjacent to the Denver Mart. choicehotels.com/colorado/denver/comfort-inn-hotels/co002, holly@coloradohospitality.com, 303-297-1717, 401 E. 58th Ave., Denver 80216 \$

**COMFORT INN DENVER EAST** Explore the numerous activities Denver City Park offers or take a break to gaze at the wildlife of the Rocky Mountain Arsenal National Refuge when you stay at our pet-friendly hotel near University of Colorado Hospital. choicehotels.com/colorado/denver/comfort-inn-hotels/co304, gm.co304@choicehotels.com, 303-375-1500, 303-375-1500, 4380 Peoria St., Denver 80302 \$

**COMFORT SUITES NEAR DENVER DOWNTOWN** Book today at the smoke-free Comfort Suites Near Denver Downtown hotel, located minutes from downtown attractions like Coors Field, Pepsi Center and the Denver Coliseum. Enjoy amenities like free parking, free WiFi, free hot breakfast and more. choicehotels.com/colorado/denver/comfort-suites-hotels/co317, gm.co317@choicehotels.com, 720-531-3500, 620 Federal Blvd., Building A, Denver 80204 \$

**GRAND HYATT DENVER** The refreshed Grand Hyatt Denver Downtown is located in the heart of the Mile High City's business district. It is within walking distance of its best attractions and one short block from the 16th Street Mall. Featuring Pub 17 on Welton Street. denver.grand.hyatt.com, qualitydenrd@hyatt.com, 303-295-1234, 800-233-1234, 1750 Welton St., Denver 80202 \$

**HYATT REGENCY DENVER AT COLORADO CONVENTION CENTER** Award-winning hotel one block from 16th Street Mall in downtown Denver and two blocks from theater district with 1,100 newly refreshed guest rooms with free WiFi adjacent to Colorado Convention Center. 27th-floor Peaks Lounge with panoramic views. denver.regency.hyatt.com, qualitydencc@hyatt.com, 303-436-1234, 800-233-1234, 650 15th St., Denver 80202 \$

**MAINSTAY SUITES NEAR DENVER DOWNTOWN** Book today at the MainStay Suites Near Denver Downtown hotel! Feel at home in our spacious suites with a fully equipped kitchen. Our smoke-free hotel is located near the Mile High Stadium, Pepsi Center, Elitch Gardens Theme & Water Park and more. choicehotels.com/colorado/denver/mainstay-hotels/co318, gm.co318@choicehotels.com, 720-531-3510, 620 Federal Blvd., Building B, Denver 80204 \$

**QUALITY INN & SUITES DENVER INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT** Just minutes from Denver airport, we offer the comfort and service to make your stay a memorable one. Whether you are in Denver on business or catching an early flight in the morning, you'll enjoy our pillow-top mattresses and hot breakfast buffet. choicehotels.com/colorado/denver/quality-inn-hotels/co235, gm.co235@choicehotels.com, 303-371-5300, 6890 Tower Rd., Denver 80249 \$-\$

**QUALITY INN & SUITES DENVER STAPLETON** A convenient location near DIA, just a short drive from the light-rail station with easy access to downtown. Choose from comfortable rooms and suites that fit any budget, and enjoy a full range of amenities including a free hot breakfast buffet. qualityinn.com/denverstapleton.com, 303-388-6161, 3737 Quebec St., Denver 80207 \$-\$

**QUALITY INN DENVER CENTRAL** Conveniently located near interstates 25 and 70, the Quality Inn Central Denver is just minutes from downtown Denver and many popular attractions such as Coors Field ballpark, the Denver Coliseum and the Denver Mart. choicehotels.com/colorado/denver/quality-inn-hotels/co006, gm@qualityinn.com, 303-296-4000, 800-964-4001, 200 W. 48th Ave., Denver 80216 \$-\$

## SHOPPING

**CHERRY CREEK SHOPPING CENTER** Colorado's premier shopping destination minutes from downtown with more than 160 shops, including 40 stores exclusive to the area such as Neiman Marcus, Tiffany & Co., Burberry, Louis Vuitton and Tory Burch. Customized group and FIT tours available. shopcherrycreek.com/tourism, cherrycreek@taubman.com, 303-388-3900, 3000 E. First Ave., Denver 80206 \$

**THE SHOPS AT NORTHFIELD STAPLETON** At I-70 and Central Park Blvd. between downtown and DIA. Enjoy an open-air district with 25-plus dining options and 80-plus shops including Macy's, Bass Pro, Harkins, Improv, Texas De Brazil and Brother's. northfieldstapleton.com, info@northfieldstapleton.com, 303-375-5475, 8340 N. Field Blvd., Denver 80238 \$

## DILLON

### CONDOS & HOME RENTALS

**ROCKY MOUNTAIN GETAWAYS** Your one-stop resource for Colorado ski packages. Our free ski-vacation planning service provides expert local knowledge and the best possible rates to stay and ski Colorado resorts. We look forward to planning an unforgettable ski trip for you! rockymountaingetaways.com/region/colorado, reservations@rockymountaingetaways.com, 866-764-3829, 866-764-3829, 86 Canyon View Ct., Dillon 80435 \$

### HOTELS & MOTELS

**BEST WESTERN PTARMIGAN LODGE** Best Western Ptarmigan Lodge is located steps away from Lake Dillon and Dillon Marina. Keystone, Breckenridge, Copper and Arapahoe Basin are 6-15 miles away. Pets are welcome in specific rooms with a \$10 charge per pet per night (call to verify). book.bestwestern.com, stay@ptarmiganlodge.com, 970-468-2341, 800-842-5939, 652 Lake Dillon Dr., Dillon 80435 \$

**COMFORT SUITES SUMMIT COUNTY** Free wireless Internet and continental breakfast. Pool, hot tub. Microwave, fridge, coffeemaker, meeting room, inside corridors, indoor pool, restaurant within 5 miles. No dogs. choicehotels.com/colorado/dillon/comfort-suites-hotels/co001, 970-513-0300, 276 Dillon Ridge Rd., Dillon 80435 \$

## DIVIDE

### RECREATION

**MUELLER STATE PARK** 5,121 acres of mountain meadows, aspen and conifer forests and wildlife with 50 miles of scenic trails. Enjoy 132 campsites or 3 deluxe cabins, all nestled in a forest setting. Two camping sites with adjacent horse stalls are also available. cpw.state.co.us/placesstogo/parks/mueller, mueller.park@state.co.us, 719-687-2366, 800-678-2267, 21045 Hwy. 67 S., Divide 80814

## DOLORES

### ASSOCIATIONS & CHAMBERS

**MESA VERDE COUNTRY VISITOR INFORMATION BUREAU** Cortez, Dolores. Mancos welcome you to Mesa Verde National Park! Ancient stories come to life among the excavated dwellings once home to Ancestral Peoples. Add outdoor fun, Old West and farm visits, and you have a trip you'll never forget. mesaoverdecountry.com, kellyk@mesaoverdecountry.com, 970-556-8227, 800-530-2998, 928 E. Main, Cortez 81321

## DUMONT

### RECREATION

**ATV TOURS @ MILE HI RAFTING** All-year scenic mountain ATV tours on historic trails 30 miles west of Denver. No experience needed. Minimum age to drive 16, passengers 1/2 price minimum 56-inches-tall. Mid-May-August whitewater rafting. All gear supplied; you need swimwear and tennis shoes. milehirafting.com, play@milehirafting.com, 303-567-0717, 3627 Alvarado Rd. 291, Dumont 80436 \$

## DURANGO

### ASSOCIATIONS & CHAMBERS

**VISIT DURANGO** Don't miss the Durango & Silverton Narrow Gauge Railroad, Mesa Verde National Park, rafting, horseback riding, skiing, biking, hiking, historic downtown, art galleries, exceptional dining, craft breweries, downtown festivals and events, and more. durango.org, info@durango.org, 970-247-3500, 800-525-8855, 802 Main Ave., Durango 81301

### ATTRACTIONS

**DURANGO & SILVERTON NARROW GAUGE RAILROAD AND MUSEUM** Experience the adventure of traveling by a historic coal-fired, steam-powered locomotive on the same tracks miners, cowboys & settlers of the Old West took over a century ago. Wind through canyons in the remote wilderness for an unforgettable journey. durangotrains.com, info@durangotrains.com, 970-247-2733, 888-872-4607, 479 Main Ave., Durango 81301 \$

**SOARING TREE TOP ADVENTURES** Largest zipline course in US with 27 spans. All-day, family-friendly zipline tour includes 5.5 hours of ziplining, four-course gourmet lunch, ecology tour and round-trip transportation in our private train cars. Rated No. 1 tour in CO on TripAdvisor. soaringcolorado.com, info@soaringcolorado.com, 970-769-2357, 964 County Rd. 200, Durango 81301

### BED & BREAKFASTS

**BLUE LAKE RANCH, A COUNTRY INN BED & BREAKFAST** A premier B&B country inn minutes from Mesa Verde and downtown Durango. Spectacular mountain, lake and garden views. Great for romantic getaways, weddings and reunions. Complimentary Southwest-style breakfast every morning. bluelakeranch.com, innkeeper@bluelakeranch.com, 970-385-4537, 888-258-3525, 16919 Hwy. 140, Durango 81326 \$-\$-\$-\$

### CONDOS & HOME RENTALS

**VACATION ACCOMMODATIONS OF DURANGO** Offering Durango and southwest Colorado vacation rental homes to fit your needs when looking for a great place to stay. Visit Durango and the surrounding area: Mesa Verde National Park, Durango Train, Purgatory Ski Resort and Rocky Mountains. vaddurango.com, info@vacationaccommodationsofdurango.com, 970-749-5894, 777 Main Ave., 206, Durango 81303 \$

### GUEST & DUDE RANCHES

**COLORADO TRAILS RANCH** Fun and adventure in the San Juan Mountains near Durango include horseback riding, fly-fishing, rafting and shooting sports. Kids' program, evening and other activities, great staff, excellent food and cozy cabins make this a vacation of a lifetime. coloradotrails.com, info@coloradotrails.com, 970-247-5055, 800-323-3833, 12161 County Rd. 240, Durango 81301 \$

### HOTELS & MOTELS

**BEST WESTERN RIO GRANDE** We are located 1 block off Main Avenue in historic downtown Durango. Park your car and walk to the Durango Silverton Narrow Gauge Railroad, a plethora of local restaurants and nightlife, art galleries and shopping. bwriograndeinn.com, 970-385-4980, 800-245-4466, 400 E. Second Ave., Durango 81301 \$

**COMFORT INN & SUITES DURANGO** Newly renovated! The Comfort Inn & Suites Durango is a 3-star award-winning AAA 3 Diamond modern hotel. Centrally located near the Durango & Silverton Railroad, youtube.com/watch?v=KUIiNmhdewM comfortinndurango.com, gm.co106@choicehotels.com, 970-259-7900, 888-259-7903, 455 S. Camino Del Rio, Durango 81303 \$

**DURANGO DOWNTOWN INN** Located one block from historic Main Street, we offer an indoor pool, Jacuzzi, fitness center, and easy access to shopping, dining and galleries. Applebee's Neighborhood Grill and Bar, located on the premises, is open for breakfast, lunch and dinner. durangodowntowninn.com, info@durangodowntowninn.com, 970-247-5393, 866-306-5438, 800 Camino Del Rio, Durango 81301 \$

**GATEWAY RESERVATIONS** Since 1986, local travel consultants have assisted visitors with budget to deluxe lodging, activities & discounted packages to Colorado's most popular destinations: Durango, Silverton, Ouray, Glenwood Springs, Pagosa Springs, Telluride & more! gatewayreservations.com, info@gatewayreservations.com, 970-385-4711, 800-828-4228, 48 County Rd. 250, Suite 8, Durango 81301



**HISTORIC STRATER HOTEL**  Historic Strater Hotel is one of Durango's prominent downtown landmarks. Located two blocks north of the D&SNGRR and home to the largest collection of American Victorian antiques. The Louis L'Amour room is designated a Literary Landmark. ▶ [strater.com](http://strater.com), [info@strater.com](mailto:info@strater.com), 970-247-4431, 800-247-4431, 699 Main Ave., Durango 81301 

**HOLIDAY INN & SUITES DURANGO CENTRAL** Welcome to Durango's newest full-service hotel, located near the Animas River and just minutes from downtown! Make yourself at home in one of our many beautiful, modern room types. Dine at our on-site full-service sports lounge and restaurant. ▶ [holidayinn.com/durangoco](http://holidayinn.com/durangoco), [doe\\_droadc\\_hi@yahoo.com](mailto:doe_droadc_hi@yahoo.com), 970-385-6400, 800-465-4329, 21636 Hwy. 160 W., Durango 81303 

**LELAND HOUSE & ROCHESTER HOTEL**  The Leland House & Rochester Hotel provide unique historic accommodations. Walk to shops, restaurants, activities and the train. Suites & large king rooms available. Gourmet breakfast included. Coworking and meeting space available. High-speed WiFi. ▶ [rochesterhotel.com](http://rochesterhotel.com), [stay@rochesterhotel.com](mailto:stay@rochesterhotel.com), 970-385-1920, 800-664-1920, 726 E. Second Ave., Durango 81301  \$\$-\$\$\$\$

**QUALITY INN - DURANGO** Only 1 mile from historic downtown. All rooms are fully updated and nonsmoking. Rooms include micro/fridge, full hot breakfast, outdoor heated pool (seasonal), 2 large indoor hot tubs. Bike rentals, brewery packages & free rec center pass available. ▶ [qualityinndurango.com](http://qualityinndurango.com), [gm.co405@choicehotels.com](mailto:gm.co405@choicehotels.com), 970-259-5373, 800-424-6423, 2930 N. Main St., Durango 81301  \$\$-\$\$

**RECREATION**

**PURGATORY RESORT** Purgatory Resort offers fun winter adventures, including skiing and snowboarding, snowcat skiing, dog sledding, sleigh rides, snowshoeing, snowmobiling and more. Summer provides fun on the alpine slide, zipline and more. An exciting vacation awaits! ▶ [purgatoryresort.com](http://purgatoryresort.com), [info@purgatoryresort.com](mailto:info@purgatoryresort.com), 970-247-9000, 800-525-0892, 1 Skier Pl., Durango 81301 

**EAGLE**

**ASSOCIATIONS & CHAMBERS**

**TOWN OF EAGLE** Eagle offers the perfect year-round vacation destination for mountain bikers, outdoor enthusiasts and festival fans alike! Eagle's exceptional trails are a notable world-class system ready for hikers, bikers, trail runners and equestrians to enjoy. ▶ [eagleoutside.com](http://eagleoutside.com), 970-328-9625, 200 Broadway, Eagle 81631

**HOTELS & MOTELS**

**COMFORT INN VAIL VALLEY**  Free shuttle to and from Eagle Airport, free wireless high-speed Internet, iron/ironing boards, coffeemakers, hair dryers. Microwave, refrigerator in some rooms. Whirlpool suites. ▶ [choicehotels.com/colorado/eagle/comfortinn-hotels/co112](http://choicehotels.com/colorado/eagle/comfortinn-hotels/co112), [gm.co112@choicehotels.com](mailto:gm.co112@choicehotels.com), 970-328-7878, 800-288-9984, 0285 Market St., Eagle 81631 

**RECREATION**

**SYLVAN LAKE STATE PARK** Inspiring vistas, aspen glades and a high-mountain lake provide a relaxing retreat. Stay overnight in a cabin, yurt or at one of 46 campsites. Summer and winter activities abound. Starting April 2018, the lake will be dry for dam reconstruction. ▶ [cpw.state.co.us/placesstogo/parks/sylvanlake](http://cpw.state.co.us/placesstogo/parks/sylvanlake), [sylvan.lake@state.co.us](mailto:sylvan.lake@state.co.us), 970-328-2021, 800-678-2267, 10200 Brush Creek Rd., Eagle 81631 

**EDWARDS**

**ASSOCIATIONS & CHAMBERS**

**VAIL VALLEY PARTNERSHIP** Vail Valley Partnership is the regional chamber of commerce and destination sales/marketing organization representing Vail, Beaver Creek, Avon, Eagle and more. Let VisitVailValley.com and VailOnSale.com be your guide for visitor information. ▶ [visitvailvalley.com](http://visitvailvalley.com), [info@visitvailvalley.com](mailto:info@visitvailvalley.com), 970-476-1000, 800-525-3875, 97 Main St., Suite E-201, Edwards 81632

**ELDORADO SPRINGS**

**RECREATION**

**ELDORADO CANYON STATE PARK** Eldorado Canyon State Park is a day-use-park offering technical rock climbing, stream-side picnic areas and trails with panoramic vistas, all encompassed in a magnificent canyon. ▶ [cpw.state.co.us/placesstogo/parks/eldoradocanyon](http://cpw.state.co.us/placesstogo/parks/eldoradocanyon), [eldorado.park@state.co.us](mailto:eldorado.park@state.co.us), 303-494-3943, 9 Kneale Rd., Eldorado Springs 80025 

**ENGLEWOOD**

**HOTELS & MOTELS**

**COMFORT SUITES DENVER TECH CENTER** Located in the Denver Tech Center, within walking distance to light rail and restaurants. Close to Park Meadows Retail Resort and IKEA Centennial. 15 miles to downtown, aquarium, Elich Gardens, 30 miles to Water World and DIA. 75 miles to ski areas. ▶ [dichotel.com](http://dichotel.com), [info@comfortsuidesdc.com](mailto:info@comfortsuidesdc.com), 303-858-0700, 800-424-6423, 7374 S. Clinton St., Englewood 80112 

**ESTES PARK**

**ASSOCIATIONS & CHAMBERS**

**VISIT ESTES PARK** Welcome to Estes Park, the basecamp for Rocky Mountain National Park! Estes Park is located only 70 miles from Denver & is surrounded by protected land. This mountain village has Colorado's best outdoor adventures, wildlife & small-town hospitality. ▶ [visitestespark.com](http://visitestespark.com), [visitestespark@visitestespark.com](mailto:visitestespark@visitestespark.com), 970-577-9900, 800-443-7837, 500 Big Thompson Ave., Estes Park 80517 

**CONDOS & HOME RENTALS**

**ASPEN WINDS ON FALL RIVER** We provide one- and two-bedroom suites and spa suites centrally located along Fall River between Estes Park and Rocky Mountain National Park. Enjoy your private deck, gas fire place and flatscreen TVs with Netflix, DVD and Blue ray, WiFi available. ▶ [aspenswinds.com](http://aspenswinds.com), [aspenswinds@aol.com](mailto:aspenswinds@aol.com), 970-586-6010, 800-399-6010, 1051 Fall River Ct., Estes Park 80517 

**BEAR PAW & RIVER STONE RESORTS**  Relax to the sounds of Fall River! Ideally located between Estes Park & Rocky Mountain National Park, 2 miles each way. Enjoy furnished 1-, 2- or 3-bedroom cabin/condo with full kitchen, spa tub or hot tub, fireplace & grill. Winter deals & packages available. ▶ [riverstoneresorts.com](http://riverstoneresorts.com), [reservations@riverstoneresorts.com](mailto:reservations@riverstoneresorts.com), 970-586-4005, 888-854-5224, 2120 Fall River Rd., Estes Park 80517 

**ESTES PARK CENTRAL** Vacation homes, condos, cabins. Premier rental properties. Next to Rocky Mountain National Park on Fall River, Big Thompson, 1-, 2-, 3-bedrooms on mountains, in town. Minutes to shopping, restaurants, hiking. Live music. Wildlife viewing. ▶ [estesparkcentral.com](http://estesparkcentral.com), [rainer@estesparkcentral.com](mailto:rainer@estesparkcentral.com), 970-577-0087, PO Box 2481, Estes Park 80517  \$\$-\$\$\$\$

**ESTES PARK CONDOS ON THE RIVER** Estes Park Condos — Antlers Pointe, Bugle Pointe and Creekside: Upscale resort located within a grove of majestic pines along a secluded stretch of Fall River with mountain views. ▶ [estesparkcondos.com](http://estesparkcondos.com), [info@estesparkcondos.com](mailto:info@estesparkcondos.com), 970-577-0068, 800-349-1003, 1400 David Dr., Estes Park 80517  \$\$-\$\$\$\$

**RANGE PROPERTY MANAGEMENT INC.** Secluded cabins to spacious luxury homes in Estes Park and surrounding area. Find the perfect place, whether you prefer to walk to town or a cabin at the end of a mountain road. Amenities possible: hot tub, fireplaces, river access or amazing views. ▶ [rangeprop.com](http://rangeprop.com), [info@rangeprop.com](mailto:info@rangeprop.com), 970-586-7626, 888-433-5211, 333 E. Wonderview Ave., Estes Park 80517 

**WILDWOOD INN**  We offer river and mountain properties. Upscale spacious vacation homes and condos, all beautifully appointed with kitchens, fireplaces, private decks, some with outdoor or in-room hot tubs. Full-service day spa. Wildlife, adjacent to RMNP, barbecue, WiFi, year-round. ▶ [esteswildwoodinn.com](http://esteswildwoodinn.com), [info@esteswildwoodinn.com](mailto:info@esteswildwoodinn.com), 970-586-7804, 800-450-7136, 2801 Fall River Rd., Estes Park 80517  \$\$-\$\$\$\$


**GUEST & DUDE RANCHES**

**WIND RIVER RANCH** This Christian-family guest ranch is a great investment in your family. The ranch cabins are true rustic elegance, our chefs dazzle your taste buds daily and our staff helps you and your family enjoy a special vacation. Come create memories here. ▶ [windriverranch.com](http://windriverranch.com), [info@windriverranch.com](mailto:info@windriverranch.com), 970-586-4212, 800-523-4212, 5770 Hwy. 7, Estes Park 80517 

**HOTELS & MOTELS**

**BEST WESTERN PLUS SILVER SADDLE INN**  AAA three diamond. All rooms and grounds are 100-percent nonsmoking. Free high-speed Internet. Free hot breakfast. All rooms: Micro/fridge. Amenities: seasonal heated pool, indoor hot tub, fitness center, business center, playground, coin laundry. ▶ [estesresort.com](http://estesresort.com), [info@estesresort.com](mailto:info@estesresort.com), 970-586-4476, 800-528-1234, 1260 Big Thompson Ave., Estes Park 80517 


**THE ESTES PARK RESORT AND WATERFRONT GRILLE ON LAKE ESTES**


The only full-service lakeside resort in Estes Park. Come enjoy our lakefront property offering a full-service restaurant and bar, lodging accommodations and meeting spaces. Amenities such as a spa and fitness center. ▶ [theesteparkresort.com](http://theesteparkresort.com), [info@theesteparkresort.com](mailto:info@theesteparkresort.com), 970-577-6400, 855-377-3778, 1700 Big Thompson Ave., Estes Park 80517  \$\$-\$\$\$\$

**PEAK TO PEAK LODGE** Clean, affordable, family motel close to town, golf courses, Estes Park Events Complex and Stanley Park and within walking distances to restaurants. Offering single and family rooms, pool and hot tub, free WiFi, A/C. Non-smoking. ▶ [peaktopeaklodge.com](http://peaktopeaklodge.com), [peak2peak@rii.com](mailto:peak2peak@rii.com), 970-586-4451, 800-726-7325, 760 S. Saint Vrain Ave., Estes Park 80517 

**QUALITY INN - ESTES PARK**  Open All Year AAA 3-Diamond-rated hotel located one mile from downtown and four miles from Rocky Mountain National Park. Some 2-bed, 2-bath loft units. Some gas log fireplaces and balconies. Full breakfast includes hot eggs, meat and waffles. ▶ [qualityinnestespark.com](http://qualityinnestespark.com), [info@qualityinnestespark.com](mailto:info@qualityinnestespark.com), 970-586-2358, 800-424-6423, 1450 Big Thompson Ave., Estes Park 80517  \$\$-\$\$\$\$

**THE RIDGELINE HOTEL - ESTES PARK** Recently renovated, The Ridgeline Hotel Estes Park is nestled in the heart of Estes Park and uniquely positioned minutes from downtown. We have a bar and restaurant, Latitude 105 Alehouse that is family friendly and located in the hotel. ▶ [ridgelinehotel.com](http://ridgelinehotel.com), 844-744-5530, 101 S. Saint Vrain Ave., Estes Park 80517  \$\$-\$\$\$\$

**RODEWAY INN** Rodeway Inn of Estes Park is a 130-unit resort hotel with continental breakfast, an indoor pool and hot tub, game room and guest laundry and three meeting rooms available for weddings, conferences and family reunions. ▶ [estesrodewayinn.com](http://estesrodewayinn.com), [gm@estesrodewayinn.com](mailto:gm@estesrodewayinn.com), 970-586-5363, 800-458-1182, 1701 N. Lake Ave., Estes Park 80517 

**THE STANLEY HOTEL** The Stanley Hotel is a historic Rocky Mountain destination, famous for its Old World charm, boasting spectacular mountain views and less than 6 miles from Rocky Mountain National Park. ▶ [stanleyhotel.com](http://stanleyhotel.com), [info@stanleyhotel.com](mailto:info@stanleyhotel.com), 970-577-4000, 800-975-1377, 333 E. Wonderview Ave., Estes Park 80517  \$\$-\$\$\$\$

**LODGES & CABINS**

**BLACKHAWK CABINS OF ESTES PARK**  Real log cabins, sleeping lofts, full kitchens, hot tub by the river, charcoal grill, wood-burning fireplaces, cable TV, WiFi, DVD players. No pets; smoking outside only. ▶ [blackhawkestepark.com](http://blackhawkestepark.com), [info@blackhawkestepark.com](mailto:info@blackhawkestepark.com), 970-586-6100, 1750 Fall River Rd., Estes Park 80517 

**BRYNWOOD ON THE RIVER** Colorado's unique, family-friendly resort has an array of cabins: quiet and soothing on the river, many with fireplaces, private decks, hot tubs or near the pool. Motel rooms near the pool with great views or a vacation home with beautiful vistas. ▶ [brynwood.com](http://brynwood.com), [office@brynwood.com](mailto:office@brynwood.com), 970-586-3475, 800-279-4488, 710 Moraine Ave., Estes Park 80517 

**CASTLE MOUNTAIN LODGE**  Cross over our covered bridge to serenity in a cottage, suite, room or vacation home along Fall River. Fish our river, explore 30 acres adjoining Rocky Mountain National Park. Enjoy a fireplace, hot tub, barbecue, kitchen, WiFi and wildlife. AAA. ▶ [castlemountainlodge.com](http://castlemountainlodge.com), [info@castlemountainlodge.com](mailto:info@castlemountainlodge.com), 970-586-3664, 800-689-8252, 1520 Fall River Rd., Estes Park 80517 

**ESTES PARK CENTER/YMCA OF THE ROCKIES** YMCA of the Rockies offers affordable cabins, lodge rooms, meals and family activities. Enjoy archery, crafts, horseback riding, hiking, skating, swimming, the climbing wall and much more. ▶ [ymcarockies.org](http://ymcarockies.org), [info@ymcarockies.org](mailto:info@ymcarockies.org), 970-586-3341, 888-613-9622, 2515 Tunnel Rd., Estes Park 80511 

**MACHIN'S COTTAGES IN THE PINES** Secluded location within Rocky Mountain National Park. Immaculate cottages (one, two and three bedrooms), fully equipped kitchens, wood-burning fireplaces, cable TV, individual barbecue grills. A national park trail starts here. ▶ [machinscottages.com](http://machinscottages.com), [machinscottages@beyondbb.com](mailto:machinscottages@beyondbb.com), 970-586-4276, 2450 Eagle Cliff Rd., Estes Park 80517 

**RAMS HORN VILLAGE RESORT** Award-winning luxury cabin resort for families & couples: 2-bedroom, 2-bath homes sleep up to 6. At entrance of Rocky Mountain National Park: 1 mi to Estes Park. Pool/summer, hot tubs, playground, WiFi, fitness center. Top-rated Trip Advisor. RCI Gold Crown Resort. ▶ [rhvresort.com](http://rhvresort.com), [dgbison@rhvresort.com](mailto:dgbison@rhvresort.com), 970-586-4338, 800-229-4676, 1565 Colorado Hwy. 66, Estes Park 80517  \$\$-\$\$\$\$



## COME TO LIFE / Visitor Directory

Swimming Pool Exercise/Fitness Facilities Pets Allowed High-Speed Internet Airport Shuttle Complimentary Breakfast ADA-Compliant Restaurant On Site Free Parking In-Room Refrigerator In-Room Microwave Colorado Hotel & Lodging Association (CHLA) Member

The dollar symbols indicate how much you can expect to pay for an average hotel room. \$ = Less than \$100 \$\$ = \$101-200 \$\$\$ = \$201-299 \$\$\$\$ = \$300 and up

**ROCKY MOUNTAIN RESORTS** Rocky Mountain Resorts offers multiple resorts in Estes Park. Choose from mountain-view cabins, riverside condos, hot tub and Jacuzzi suites, luxurious mountain condos, heated pools or fishing on the property. All near RMNP. Winter specials! [rockymtnresorts.com](http://rockymtnresorts.com), manager@rockymtnresorts.com, 970-586-2388, 800-672-9289, 2760 Fall River Rd., Estes Park 80517

### RECREATION

**A1 WILDWATER, INC.** Our 37th year of rafting on the nationally designated Wild & Scenic Poudre River. Family, child and group pricing, expert guides, greatest variety of trips and times. Lots of fun mild-to-wild trips. [a1wildwater.com](http://a1wildwater.com), fun@a1wildwater.com, 800-369-4165, Estes Park 80517

### RV & CAMPGROUNDS

**ELK MEADOW LODGE & RV RESORT** 169 large RV sites, dry camping sites, cabins and authentic teepees. Located next to Rocky Mountain National Park with stunning views of Longs Peak. Heated pool and spa (seasonal and weather permitting). Historic lodge, gift shop and RV storage. [elkmeadowrv.com](http://elkmeadowrv.com), info@elkmeadowrv.com, 970-586-5342, 1665 CO Hwy. 66, Estes Park 80517

**SPRUCE LAKE RV RESORT** Featuring 110 RV sites plus cabins and a cottage with our own stocked fishing lake. Located a mile from the entrance to Rocky Mountain National Park and adjacent to the Big Thompson River. Heated pool and spa (seasonal & weather permitting). [sprucelakeriv.com](http://sprucelakeriv.com), info@sprucelakeriv.com, 970-586-2889, 1050 Marys Lake Rd., Estes Park 80517

## EVERGREEN

### ASSOCIATIONS & CHAMBERS

**EVERGREEN AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE** The Evergreen Area Chamber/Visitor Center offers information and resources for Evergreen and the local mountain areas. Maps, directories, referrals available. Evergreen offers superb outdoor recreation, wildlife, dining, art galleries and shopping. [evergreenchamber.org](http://evergreenchamber.org), admin@evergreenchamber.org, 303-674-3412, 1524 Belford Ct., Evergreen 80439

### HOTELS & MOTELS

**COMFORT SUITES GOLDEN WEST ON EVERGREEN PARKWAY** This beautiful log and stone all-suite hotel features luxurious suites including rooms with balconies, patios and Jacuzzis. Relax on the private balcony and watch the native deer and elk graze among the pines. Offering ski and romance packages. [goldenevergreenhotel.com](http://goldenevergreenhotel.com), gm@goldenevergreenhotel.com, 303-526-2000, 29300 US Hwy. 40, Evergreen 80439

### SHOPPING

**THE BUNGALOW CRAFT BY JULIE LEIDEL** Roycraft Renaissance Artist Julie Leidel evokes a feeling of yesterday through her acrylic and gouache paintings inspired by the Arts & Crafts Movement (1880-1920) and the WPA era. She has over 100 paintings, with prints available in many sizes. [thebungalowcraft.com](http://thebungalowcraft.com), julieleidel@thebungalowcraft.com, 303-263-8577, 6582 Annapurna Dr., Evergreen 80439 \$-\$

## FALCON

### RV & CAMPGROUNDS

**FALCON MEADOW RV CAMPGROUND** Country camping. View of Pikes Peak. Large pull-through RV/ tent sites. Handicap shower/restroom, free WiFi, propane. Open year-round. Strong cell-phone signal. Restaurants nearby. [falconmeadowrvcampground.com](http://falconmeadowrvcampground.com), falconmeadowcg@aol.com, 719-495-2694, 11150 Hwy. 24 (GPS city is Peyton), Falcon 80831

## FIRESTONE

### HOTELS & MOTELS

**COMFORT SUITES LONGMONT** A Firestone hotel near Barr Lake State Park. Easy access to I-25. Denver International Airport is 25 miles away. Enjoy a variety of golf courses, parks and outdoor recreation areas nearby. Village at the Peaks is only 7 miles away. [choicehotels.com/colorado/firestone/comfort-suites-hotels/co236](http://choicehotels.com/colorado/firestone/comfort-suites-hotels/co236), gm.co236@choicehotels.com, 720-864-2970, 866-931-3702, 11292 Business Park Cir., Firestone 80504

### RECREATION

**ST. VRAIN STATE PARK** St. Vrain State Park has 232 acres of water and 604 acres of recreational land with 87 camp sites. The park is a great place for fisherman, campers, photographers and birders. [cpw.state.co.us/places/togo/parks/stvrain](http://cpw.state.co.us/places/togo/parks/stvrain), stvrain.park@state.co.us, 303-678-9402, 800-678-2267, 3525 State Hwy. 119, Firestone 80504

## FORT COLLINS

### HOTELS & MOTELS

**COMFORT INN HOTEL IN FORT COLLINS** The newly renovated Comfort Inn Hotel in Fort Collins is one of the top hotels in Fort Collins on tripadvisor.com. Minutes to CSU, Anheuser Busch, events center, Old Town, rafting, Poudre Canyon area. Text COMFORTFC to 20673 for specials. [choicehotels.com/colorado/fort-collins/comfort-inn-hotels/co109](http://choicehotels.com/colorado/fort-collins/comfort-inn-hotels/co109), gmcomfortinnfc@pbroadband.net, 970-407-0100, 800-424-6423, 601 S.W. Frontage Rd., Fort Collins 80524

**COMFORT SUITES - FORT COLLINS** We are nestled against the foothills of the Rocky Mountains near CSU and the Budweiser Event Center. With an Indoor heated pool and spa, free newspaper, WiFi and a complimentary deluxe continental breakfast, all of your needs are taken care of. [choicehotels.com/colorado/fort-collins/comfort-suites-hotels/co706](http://choicehotels.com/colorado/fort-collins/comfort-suites-hotels/co706), gm.co706@choicehotels.com, 970-206-4597, 1415 Oakridge Dr., Fort Collins 80525

**QUALITY INN & SUITES UNIVERSITY** Winner of Choice Hotels Platinum Award. Large suites, centrally located near Colorado State University and Foothills Mall. Suites feature king bed or 2 queen beds and sitting area with sleeper-sofa. Free hot breakfast. WiFi, indoor pool and hot tub. [qualityinnfortcollins.com](http://qualityinnfortcollins.com), jbrown@timberlinhotels.com, 970-282-9047, 4001 S. Mason St., Fort Collins 80525

### RECREATION

**A1 WILDWATER, INC.** Our 37th year of rafting on the nationally designated Wild & Scenic Poudre River. Family, child and group pricing, expert guides, greatest variety of trips and times. Lots of fun mild-to-wild trips. [a1wildwater.com](http://a1wildwater.com), fun@a1wildwater.com, 800-369-4165, 2801 N. Shields St., Fort Collins 80524

**MOUNTAIN WHITEWATER** Offers half- and full day-trips on the Cache La Poudre River, Colorado's only Wild & Scenic River. Rafting, kayaking, canoeing, tubing, paddleboards and duckies. We have the guided experience for you. After the trip, enjoy the Paddler's Pub on site. [raftmw.com](http://raftmw.com), contacts@raftmw.com, 970-419-0917, 1329 N. US Hwy. 287, Fort Collins 80524

**ROCKY MOUNTAIN ADVENTURES** Half, full-day and overnight rafting trips. Beginner to advanced adventures on the Cache la Poudre (close to Estes Park/Rocky Mountain National Park). Clear Creek (close to Denver), Upper Colorado, North Platte rivers. Fly-fishing & kayaking classes. Kayak & SUP rentals. [shoprma.com](http://shoprma.com), info@shoprma.com, 970-493-4005, 800-858-6808, 1117 N. US Hwy. 287, Fort Collins 80524

## FORT MORGAN

### ASSOCIATIONS & CHAMBERS

**FORT MORGAN AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE** A rich blend of small-town tradition and down-home hospitality. Gateway to Pawnee National Grassland. World-class birding, spectacular geology and abundant outdoor recreation. [fortmorganchamber.org](http://fortmorganchamber.org), direct@fortmorganchamber.com, 970-867-6702, 300 Main St., Fort Morgan 80701

### MORGAN COUNTY TOURISM

One hour from the Front Range, Morgan County has something for everyone. Want to spend more time actually doing things and not sitting in traffic, head east on I-76. Home to Jackson Lake State Park, concerts, festivals, hunting and great lodging! [morgancountytourism.com](http://morgancountytourism.com), 970-542-3508, 231 Ensign St., Suite 200, Fort Morgan 80701

### HOTELS & MOTELS

**CLARION INN - FORT MORGAN** A newly remodeled hotel west of Fort Morgan. We offer an indoor swimming pool, spa and weight room. We also have an on-site restaurant and lounge. [choicehotels.com/colorado/fort-morgan/clarion-hotels/co118](http://choicehotels.com/colorado/fort-morgan/clarion-hotels/co118), 970-867-8200, 14378 Hwy. 34, Fort Morgan 80701

**COMFORT INN - FORT MORGAN** Gold Award hotel. Indoor pool and hot tub. Free high-speed Internet, fitness room, meeting space. Next to Mavericks Restaurant, Rodeway Inn, 24-hour shopping center. [choicehotels.com/colorado/fort-morgan/comfort-inn-hotels/co183](http://choicehotels.com/colorado/fort-morgan/comfort-inn-hotels/co183), gm.co183@choicehotels.com, 970-867-6700, 1417 Barlow Rd., Fort Morgan 80701

## FRANKTOWN

### RECREATION

**CASTLEWOOD CANYON STATE PARK** Day-use park with canyon trails, picnicking, rock climbing, nature programs and visitor center exhibits. [cpw.state.co.us/places/togo/parks/castlewoodcanyon](http://cpw.state.co.us/places/togo/parks/castlewoodcanyon), castlewood.canyon@state.co.us, 303-688-5242, 2989 S. Hwy. 83, Franktown 80116

## FRASER

### HOTELS & MOTELS

**HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS & SUITES WINTER PARK-FRASER AREA** Stay smart at the all-new Holiday Inn Express & Suites Winter Park-Fraser. Located in the heart of the Fraser Valley on the Lift Shuttle Line. Outstanding guest rooms and amenities including the Express Start Hot Breakfast Buffet and meeting room. [holiday-inn-express-winter-park-hiexwinterpark@yahoo.com](http://holiday-inn-express-winter-park-hiexwinterpark@yahoo.com), 970-722-7631, 800-465-4329, 108 Zerex St., Fraser 80442

## FRISCO

### HOTELS & MOTELS

**FRISCO INN ON GALENA** Discover the perfect mountain getaway. Let us show you our exceptional hospitality and service. Our peaceful location is just a half block off of Main Street, with easy walking distance to the many fine restaurants and shops on Frisco's Main Street. [friscoinnongalena.com](http://friscoinnongalena.com), info@friscoinnongalena.com, 970-668-3224, 855-237-4726, 106 Galena St., Frisco 80443

## FRUITA

### ASSOCIATIONS & CHAMBERS

**CITY OF FRUITA** Fruita is a paradise for outdoor-lovers of all ages with world-class mountain biking, hiking, rafting the Colorado River, horseback riding, cycling and the amazing Colorado National Monument. Visit historic downtown for shopping, craft beers, festivals and more! [gofruita.com](http://gofruita.com), info@gofruita.com, 970-858-3663, 325 E. Aspen, Fruita 81521

### ATTRACTIONS

**DINOSAUR JOURNEY MUSEUM** Features the latest exhibits and realistic robotic dinosaurs in a real working paleontology lab. [museumofwesternco.org](http://museumofwesternco.org), pb00th@westcomuseum.org, 970-858-7282, 888-488-3466, 550 Jurassic Ct., Fruita 81521

### HOTELS & MOTELS

**COMFORT INN - FRUITA** Great location and views! Friendly and comfortable. Full hot breakfast. Free wireless Internet. Bike trails, hiking, horseback riding and rafting close by. Walk to restaurants. Only hotel in town with a view of Colorado National Monument from room. [choicehotels.com/colorado/fruita/comfort-inn-hotels/co156](http://choicehotels.com/colorado/fruita/comfort-inn-hotels/co156), gm.co156@choicehotels.com, 970-858-1333, 400 Jurassic Ave., Fruita 81521



## GEORGETOWN

### ATTRACTIONS

**GEORGETOWN LOOP RAILROAD** Climb aboard one of Colorado's historic narrow-gauge railroads. This engineering marvel takes you over the Devil's Gate Bridge and through a scenic Rocky Mountain pathway. Silver mine tours available with train ride. Located 45 miles west of Denver. ▶ georgetownlooprr.com, info@historicrailadventures.com, 888-456-6777, 888-456-6777, 646 Loop Dr., Georgetown 80444

### HOTELS & MOTELS

**HOTEL CHATEAU CHAMONIX** Our property offers fireplaces, steam showers, hot tubs and many other amenities to make your stay most enjoyable. Many rooms are creekside, and we are within walking distance of historic downtown Georgetown. We're just right for you! ▶ hotelchateauchamonix.com, info@hotelccg.com, 303-569-1109, 888-569-1109, 1414 Argentine St., Georgetown 80444

### RECREATION

**LOVELAND SKI AREA** Just 53 miles west of Denver, Loveland boasts 1,800 acres of remarkable terrain, affordable ticketing options, free snowcat skiing and more snow than any Front Range resort. Come find out why Loveland has been a locals' favorite for 80 years. ▶ skiloveland.com, loveland@skiloveland.com, 303-571-5580, 800-736-3754, I-70 Exit 216, Georgetown 80444

## GLENWOOD SPRINGS

### ASSOCIATIONS & CHAMBERS

**GLENWOOD SPRINGS VISITOR CENTER** Located in the western Rockies, Glenwood Springs is famous for its natural wonders and outdoor adventures. This family-friendly town is home to three hot springs attractions, Glenwood Caverns Adventure Park, Sunlight Mountain Resort and Hanging Lake. ▶ visitglenwood.com, info@visitglenwood.com, 970-945-6580, 802 Grand Ave., Glenwood Springs 81601

### ATTRACTIONS

**GLENWOOD CAVERNS ADVENTURE PARK** Take a scenic tram ride to America's only mountain-top theme park, where nature meets adventure. From incredible thrill rides to amazing cave tours and great family activities, there's something for everyone to enjoy. ▶ glenwoodcaverns.com, info@glenwoodcaverns.com, 970-945-4228, 800-530-1635, 51000 Two Rivers Plaza Rd., Glenwood Springs 81601

**SPA OF THE ROCKIES AT GLENWOOD HOT SPRINGS** Spa of the Rockies is Colorado's premier hot-springs spa and uses essential minerals to revitalize the skin, calm nerves, detoxify and refresh the body. Signature experiences include a soak in the hot springs, foot ritual and athletic club access. ▶ spaoftherockies.com, info@spaoftherockies.com, 970-947-3331, 877-947-3331, 401 N. River St., Glenwood Springs 81601

### HOTELS & MOTELS

**CARAVAN INN** Complimentary expanded breakfast bar, outdoor hot tub and seasonal outdoor pool, hair dryers, refrigerators, WiFi, two on-site restaurants. One mile from the hot-springs pool, Glenwood Caverns Adventure Park and Yampah Spa & Vapor Caves. ▶ caravaninn.com, reservations@caravaninn.com, 970-945-7451, 800-945-5495, 1826 Grand Ave., Glenwood Springs 81601

**GLENWOOD HOT SPRINGS RESORT** Breathtaking mountain views surround you while you stay in well-appointed rooms ideal for families. Hot springs and breakfast included. Colorado's premier hot-springs resort with spa, athletic club, grill and shopping. Walking distance to downtown. ▶ hotspringsspool.com, info@hotspringsspool.com, 970-945-6571, 800-537-7946, 415 E. Sixth St., Glenwood Springs 81601

**GLENWOOD SUITES, AN ASCEND HOTEL COLLECTION MEMBER** Glenwood's newest hotel (summer 2007). Full-kitchen, whirlpool and business-class suites. Manager reception daily. Free deluxe breakfast, WiFi, indoor parking, 24 Hour Fitness. ▶ choicehotels.com/colorado/glenwood-springs/ascend-hotels/co226, gm.co226@choicehotels.com, 970-384-4700, 877-424-6423, 2625 Gilstrap Ct., Glenwood Springs 81601

**QUALITY INN & SUITES ON THE RIVER** The closest hotel in Glenwood Springs to the new Glenwood Meadows shopping center. Glenwood's only hotel directly on the Colorado River. Near historic downtown Glenwood Springs. ▶ choicehotels.com/colorado/glenwood-springs/quality-inn-hotels/co145, gm.co145@choicehotels.com, 970-945-5995, 2650 Gilstrap Ct., Glenwood Springs 81601

### LODGES & CABINS

**GLENWOOD CANYON RESORT** Nestled in the Rocky Mountains and Glenwood Canyon. On-site bar and grill. Luxury penthouse suites, resort cabins, cottages, camper cabins, full hook-up RV sites and tent sites on the Colorado River. Whitewater rafting, ziplining, biking and more! ▶ glenwoodcanyonresort.com, info@glenwoodcanyonresort.com, 970-945-6737, 800-958-6737, 1308 County Rd. 129, Glenwood Springs 81601

### RECREATION

**CANYON BIKES** A breathtaking paved trail along the Colorado River in scenic Glenwood Canyon. Easy downhill rides or out-and-back. Best bike ride around — must do! Equipment for the entire family. ▶ canyonbikes.com, patrick@canyonbikes.com, 970-945-8904, 877-945-6605, 319 Sixth St., Glenwood Springs 81601

**COLORADO ADVENTURE CENTER** Exciting whitewater rafting, thrilling ziplining and aerial adventures in two convenient locations right off I-70. Just 35 minutes from downtown Denver in Dumont of Glenwood Springs between Aspen & Vail. Combine adventures for fabulous savings & fun! ▶ raftingcolorado.com, info@coloradoadventurecenter.com, 970-945-6737, 877-947-7238, 1308 County Rd. 129, Glenwood Springs 81601

**IRON MOUNTAIN HOT SPRINGS** Relax, restore and rejuvenate in the 100% pure, thermal mineral waters of Iron Mountain Hot Springs along the Colorado River in Glenwood Springs. 16 small pools and a freshwater family pool with amazing views of the valley and mountains beyond. ▶ ironmountainhotsprings.com, info@ironmountainhotsprings.com, 970-945-4766, 281 Centennial St., Glenwood Springs 81601

### IRONBRIDGE GOLF COURSE & MOUNTAIN COMMUNITY

An idyllic golf and sporting community in the charming community of Glenwood Springs. Stunning views of Mount Sopris from some pristine perspectives. The 18-hole alpine course is open to both members and the public. Full-service restaurant on site. ▶ ironbridgeclub.com, skeister@ironbridgeclub.com, 970-384-0630, 866-945-4301, 430 Ironbridge Dr., Glenwood Springs 81601

## GOLDEN

### ATTRACTIONS

**COLORADO RAILROAD MUSEUM** Open year-round. Train rides every Saturday. Stroll the museum's 15-acre railyard featuring more than 100 railcars. Also, tour exhibit galleries, a renowned library, roundhouse restoration facility and working turntable. Minutes from downtown Denver. ▶ coloradorailroadmuseum.org, info@coloradorailroadmuseum.org, 303-279-4591, 800-365-6263, 17155 W. 44th Ave., Golden 80403

### HOTELS & MOTELS

**THE GOLDEN HOTEL, AN ASCEND COLLECTION MEMBER** Award-winning hotel overlooking Clear Creek and the Rocky Mountain foothills featuring free WiFi, meeting and event space, and an in-house restaurant. Guest room features include flatpanel TVs with HD programming, five-star bedding and plush robes. ▶ choicehotels.com/colorado/golden/ascend-hotels/co193, renee@thegoldenhotel.com, 303-279-0100, 800-233-7214, 800 11th St., Golden 80401

**QUALITY INN & SUITES GOLDEN - DENVER WEST - FEDERAL CENTER** In the mountains and close to the Denver Federal Center and Colorado Mills mall. This hotel is in the vicinity of the Miller Coors Brewery and the Colorado School of Mines. Hotel is also in the vicinity of Red Rocks Amphitheatre and Heritage Square. ▶ choicehotels.com/colorado/golden/quality-inn-hotels/co296, gm.co296@choicehotels.com, 303-231-9939, 11907 W. Sixth Ave., Golden 80401

### RECREATION

**GOLDEN GATE CANYON STATE PARK** A serene mountain escape 30 miles west of Denver. Features 152 primitive and electric campsites, five cabins, two yurts, group camping, one horse-friendly guest house and 35 miles of trails. ▶ cpw.state.co.us/placestogo/parks/goldengatecanyon, goldengatepark@state.co.us, 303-582-3707, 800-678-2267, 92 Crawford Gulch Rd., Golden 80403

### RV & CAMPGROUNDS

**DAKOTA RIDGE RV RESORT** With 141 RV sites, we're the No. 1-rated RV park in the state. Heated pool and spa (seasonal & weather permitting). Our location at I-70 and 470 provides easy access to all outdoor activities, nightlife, casinos, entertainment and NHRA drag racing. ▶ dakotaridgerv.com, info@dakotaridgerv.com, 303-279-1625, 17800 W. Colfax Ave., Golden 80401

### SIGHTSEEING & TOURS

**STEEL HORSE SISTERHOOD CHARITIES** Connecting women who share a passion for motorcycles. We create opportunities for women to develop and refine their skills to become exceptional motorcycle riders, and inspire these same women to mentor other women in the Colorado motorcycle community. ▶ womensmotorcyclesummit.com, info@steelhorsesisterhood.com, PO Box 1212, Golden 80402


## GRANBY

### ASSOCIATIONS & CHAMBERS

**GRAND COUNTY COLORADO TOURISM BOARD** There's no telling where your adventure will begin in Grand County. And with so much to do, it never has to end. From Colorado's largest natural lake to the sights of Rocky Mountain National Park, the end of one adventure is just the beginning of another. ▶ visitgrandcounty.com, info@visitgrandcounty.com, 970-531-7020, 800-247-2636, PO Box 131, Granby 80446


### GREATER GRANBY AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Granby offers visitors an unparalleled opportunity to enjoy everything that you would expect from the Colorado Rocky Mountain experience — all with a friendly, small-town atmosphere that won't bust your budget. ▶ granbychamber.com, info@granbychamber.com, 970-887-2311, 475 E. Agate Ave., Granby 80446



**AN IHG® HOTEL**  
**Winter Park/Fraser**

**970-722-7631**  
**HiExpress.com/WinParkCo**



Located in the heart of the Rocky Mountains, Winter Park/Fraser Valley is just 67 miles from Denver. The hotel is near three golf courses, 600 miles of trails and within walking distance of local restaurants and shopping. Amenities include indoor pool/spa, outdoor fire pit and spacious rooms — book today!



# COME TO LIFE / Visitor Directory

Swimming Pool Exercise/Fitness Facilities Pets Allowed High-Speed Internet Airport Shuttle Complimentary Breakfast ADA-Compliant Restaurant On Site Free Parking In-Room Refrigerator In-Room Microwave Colorado Hotel & Lodging Association (CHLA) Member

The dollar symbols indicate how much you can expect to pay for an average hotel room. \$ = Less than \$100 \$\$ = \$101-200 \$\$\$ = \$201-299 \$\$\$\$ = \$300 and up

## GUEST & DUDE RANCHES

**C LAZY U LUXURY GUEST RANCH** Colorado's premier guest ranch since 1919, with personalized service, first-class amenities, gourmet meals and upscale accommodations. Offering exciting winter and summer activities, enriching children's programs and meeting facilities. clazyu.com, news@clazyu.com, 970-887-3344, 3640 Colorado Hwy. 125, Granby 80446 \$\$\$\$

**DROWSY WATER RANCH** Named to TripAdvisor and Parent Magazine's top 10 all-inclusive vacations in the world in 2016. No. 1 best dude ranch for families by familyvacationcritic.com. Welcome to your Western home for the week. Come experience our family-friendly ranch! drowsywater.com, colofun@drowsywater.com, 970-725-3456, 800-845-2292, 1454 CR 219, Granby 80446

## HOTELS & MOTELS

**LITTLE TREE INN** Rooms with 42-inch HDTVs, HD channels & HBO, A/C, WiFi & other room amenities. Hot tub, coin laundry & vending on premises; large parking area for buses, trucks & trailers. Minutes to Winter Park or Ski Granby Ranch ski areas & Rocky Mountain National Park. littletreeluxuryinn.com, contactus@littletreeluxuryinn.com, 970-887-2551, 62000 US Hwy. 40, Granby 80446 \$-\$\$

## LODGES & CABINS

**SNOW MOUNTAIN RANCH/YMCA OF THE ROCKIES** Offers affordable cabins, lodge rooms, yurts, meals and family activities. Enjoy Nordic skiing, skating, horseback riding, swimming, climbing wall, hiking, biking and much more with outstanding views in every direction! Great for groups, reunions. snowmountainranch.org, info@ymcarockies.org, 970-887-2152, 888-613-9622, 1101 County Rd. 53, Granby 80446

## GRAND JUNCTION

### ASSOCIATIONS & CHAMBERS

**VISIT GRAND JUNCTION** Grand Junction is where outdoor adventure and scenic beauty meet a vibrant downtown featuring a local food scene serving local wine. Discover the Colorado National Monument's red-rock canyons and the Colorado River. Don't miss the visitor center. visitgrandjunction.com, visitgj@gjcity.org, 970-244-1480, 800-962-2547, 740 Horizon Dr., Grand Junction 81506

### ATTRACTIONS

**DINO DIGS** Be a paleontologist for a day at the Mygatt-Moor Quarry. Get a little dirty digging for dinosaur bones, teeth and plants. Our paleontologist will make sure you have all the training and tools you need. museumofwesternco.com, pbooth@westcomuseum.org, 970-242-0971, 888-488-3466, 462 Ute Ave., Grand Junction 81501

**MUSEUM OF THE WEST** Exhibits include Native American pottery, firearms of the Old West, a replica stagecoach and much more! museumofwesternco.org, pbooth@westcomuseum.org, 970-242-0971, 888-488-3466, 462 Ute Ave., Grand Junction 81501

### HOTELS & MOTELS

**CLARION INN - GRAND JUNCTION** Indoor recreation area includes pool, hot tub and fitness center in atrium setting. Free high-speed Internet, complimentary breakfast, meeting space with catering available. choicehotels.com/colorado/grand-junction/clarion-hotels/co240, information@clariongj.com, 970-243-6790, 888-489-9796, 755 Horizon Dr., Grand Junction 81506

**COMFORT INN - GRAND JUNCTION** Ideally located near area attractions like Colorado Mesa University, Colorado National Monument, wineries, Grand Mesa and the Museum of Western Colorado's Dinosaur Journey Museum. choicehotels.com/colorado/grand-junction/comfort-inn-hotels/co712, gm.co712@choicehotels.com, 970-245-3335, 800-228-5150, 750 3/4 Horizon Dr., Grand Junction 81506 \$\$

**GRAND VISTA HOTEL** The Grand Vista is a full-service hotel. We proudly feature Oliver's Restaurant, Bailey's Bar & Grill, fitness center, indoor pool, free WiFi and banquet facilities. Entertainment in Bailey's Bar seven nights a week. grandvistahotel.com, sales@grandvistahotel.com, 970-241-8411, 800-800-7796, 2790 Crossroads Blvd., Grand Junction 81506 \$-\$\$

**HOLIDAY INN & SUITES - GRAND JUNCTION** Indulge in comfort and change your view in the heart of Colorado's wine country at the Holiday Inn & Suites Grand Junction Airport. Whether traveling for business or pleasure our full-service hotel has everything you need to stay you. marshotelmanagement.com/holiday-inn-grand-junction, hijfd@live.com, 970-424-5888, 877-410-6667, 2751 Crossroads Blvd., Grand Junction 81506 \$\$

**QUALITY INN** All non-smoking hotel. Free high-speed wireless Internet, seasonal heated pool, fitness center, on-site restaurant, free hot breakfast. We even have a computer in the lobby for use by guests. choicehotels.com/colorado/grand-junction/quality-inn-hotels/co073, qualityinnrck@aol.com, 970-245-7200, 800-790-2661, 733 Horizon Dr., Grand Junction 81506

### RECREATION

**ADVENTURE BOUND RIVER EXPEDITIONS** Two- to seven-day whitewater rafting trips. Multiday trips on the Colorado River, Green River and Yampa River. Quality crew, equipment, cuisine with optional inflatable kayaks on every trip. Distinctive journeys on the Colorado Plateau since 1963. adventureboundusa.com, info@adventureboundusa.com, 970-245-5428, 800-423-4668, 2392 H Rd., Grand Junction 81505

## GRAND LAKE

### ASSOCIATIONS & CHAMBERS

**GRAND LAKE VISITOR CENTER** Grand Lake is the soul of the Rockies. Home to Colorado's largest natural lake and beach, as well as the headwaters of the Colorado River. Historic western boardwalk, shops, dining and lodging. Year-round activities. grandlakechamber.com, glinfo@grandlakechamber.com, 970-627-3402, 800-531-1019, 14700 US Hwy. 34, Grand Lake 80447

### ATTRACTIONS

**ROCKY MOUNTAIN REPERTORY THEATRE** Professional theater in beautiful Grand Lake. Each summer and fall, RMRT offers high-quality Broadway musicals showcasing the nation's top young talent. Affordable and family friendly. rockymountainrep.com, admin@rockymountainrep.com, 970-627-3421, 800 Grand Ave., Grand Lake 80447

### HOTELS & MOTELS

**WESTERN RIVIERA LAKESIDE LODGING & EVENTS** On Grand Lake in the heart of the village, we offer lakeside motel rooms, cabins, condos and the perfect event venue for any celebration. Our courtyard cabins offer a great setting for groups with a gazebo, picnic tables and outdoor grills. westernriv.com, motel@westernriv.com, 970-627-3580, 419 Garfield St., Grand Lake 80447 \$-\$\$\$\$

### LODGES & CABINS

**COLORADO CABIN ADVENTURES** Located 3 miles from the town of Grand Lake, Colorado Cabin Adventures is close enough to the action, but far enough away to retreat and relax. Individual cabins with modern kitchens & baths, gas log fireplaces, WiFi, fire pits on the Colorado River. coloradocabinadventures.com, info@coloradocabinadventures.com, 970-509-0810, 12082 US Hwy. 34, Grand Lake 80447 \$

**GRAND LAKE LODGE** A classic Colorado summer mountain lodge. Remodeled cabins. Surrounded on three sides by Rocky Mountain National Park perched on a hillside above Grand Lake and Shadow Mountain Reservoir. It's a view you will never forget from the front-porch swings! grandlakelodge.com, grandlakelodge@gmail.com, 970-627-3967, 855-585-0004, 15500 US Hwy. 34, Grand Lake 80447

## RV & CAMPGROUNDS

**WINDING RIVER RESORT** Bordering Rocky Mountain National Park, Arapahoe National Forest and Colorado River. RV/tent sites, cabins, lodge rooms, horse/camp sites with pens. Trail & pony rides. Hay & sleigh rides. Chuckwagon breakfast, ATVs, cowboy church. windingriverresort.com, trailboss@rkymtnhi.com, 970-627-3215, 1447 C.R. 491, Grand Lake 80447

## GREELEY

### ASSOCIATIONS & CHAMBERS

**GREELEY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE/VISIT GREELEY** Whether you are visiting Greeley as a tourist or conference attendee, we will provide you with information on all of our events, attractions and facilities. Visit Greeley for surprises that will make you smile! visitgreeley.org, info@visitgreeley.org, 970-352-3567, 800-449-3866, 902 Seventh Ave., Greeley 80631

### ATTRACTIONS

**CENTENNIAL VILLAGE MUSEUM** A living history experience featuring more than 35 historical buildings, costumed interpreters, heritage farm animals and 8 acres of beautifully landscaped grounds. Step back in time and learn about the early pioneer settling of the western high plains. greeleymuseums.com, museums@greeleygov.com, 970-350-9220, 1475 A St., Greeley 80631

**GREELEY HISTORY MUSEUM** Historic photos and artifacts tell the story of Greeley and its celebrated characters, such as Rattlesnake Kate. View the strangely fascinating flapper-style dress she created from rattlesnake skins and much more. greeleymuseums.com, museums@greeleygov.com, 970-350-9220, 714 Eighth St., Greeley 80631

### GUEST & DUDE RANCHES

**PLATTE RIVER FORT** Features luxurious suites, courtyard-facing bedrooms, cozy bunkrooms, a chef's kitchen, a dining room overlooking roaming Texas longhorns, full outdoor bar and kitchen and two fire pits perfect for enjoying the sunset over the Rocky Mountains. platte riverfort.com, info@platteriverfort.com, 970-590-4414, 22999 US Hwy. 34, Greeley 80631

### HOTELS & MOTELS

**CLARION HOTEL AND CONFERENCE CENTER - GREELEY** Continental breakfast, free newspaper, indoor heated pool, exercise room, wireless Internet (fees apply), coffee-makers, refrigerators, microwaves, irons and ironing boards. choicehotels.com/colorado/greeley/clarion-hotels/co229, 970-353-8444, 701 Eighth St., Greeley 80631 \$

**COMFORT INN - GREELEY** Five minutes to the University of Northern Colorado. Free high-speed wireless Internet, free deluxe breakfast. Business center, fitness room, indoor pool and hot tub. Pet friendly. choicehotels.com/colorado/greeley/comfort-inn-hotels/co182, gm.co182@choicehotels.com, 970-330-6380, 2467 W. 29th St., Greeley 80631

## GREENWOOD VILLAGE

### HOTELS & MOTELS

**SLEEP INN DENVER TECH CENTER** In the heart of the Denver Tech Center near Park Meadows, IKEA and Family Sport Center; only 15 minutes to downtown Denver. Upgrades available with fridge/microwave, cable TV, movies, indoor heated pool, free deluxe continental breakfast. choicehotels.com/colorado/greenwood-village/sleep-inn-hotels/co736, lori@sleepinndenvertechcenter.com, 303-662-9950, 9257 E. Costilla Ave., Greenwood Village 80112 \$

## GUNNISON

### HOTELS & MOTELS

**COMFORT INN - GUNNISON** Minutes from downtown Gunnison. A three-story, 58-room facility with indoor heated pool, exercise room, elevator, luxurious king Jacuzzi suites, cable TV/HBO, free wireless. choicehotels.com/colorado/gunnison/comfort-inn-hotels/co155, reservations@comfortinngunnison.com, 970-642-1000, 877-424-6423, 911 N. Main St., Gunnison 81230



**THE INN AT TOMICHI VILLAGE** Our large rooms offer super-comfortable beds, new bedding with triple sheeting, flatscreen TVs, premium in-room coffee, USB outlets and modern decor with a stylish country flare. Enjoy our amazing restaurant, bar and banquet facilities right on site. ▶ [theinntv.com](http://theinntv.com), [jmburch@theinntv.com](mailto:jmburch@theinntv.com), 970-641-1131, 41883 Hwy. 50 E., Gunnison 81230

**QUALITY INN GUNNISON** Guests of this hotel enjoy a free hot breakfast, free high-speed Internet, free local calls, free newspaper, free coffee, fitness center, indoor heated pool and hot tub. ▶ [choicehotels.com/colorado/gunnison/quality-inn-hotels/co074](http://choicehotels.com/colorado/gunnison/quality-inn-hotels/co074), reservations@qualityinn Gunnison.com, 970-641-1237, 400 E. Tomichi Ave., Gunnison 81230

**RV & CAMPGROUNDS**

**GUNNISON LAKESIDE RV PARK & CABINS** Gunnison Lakeside RV Park & Cabins features large, shaded, full-hookup sites, one- and two-bedroom cabins and free WiFi throughout the property. On-site convenience store provides groceries, snacks, propane and licenses. ▶ [gunnisonlakeside.com](http://gunnisonlakeside.com), info@gunnisonlakeside.com, 970-641-0477, 877-641-0488, 28357 US Hwy. 50, Gunnison 81230

**HASTY**

**RECREATION**

**JOHN MARTIN RESERVOIR STATE PARK** A sportsman's paradise, the park offers fishing, wildlife viewing, hiking, biking and boating. The park features 109 electrical campsites and 104 non-electric sites (during the summer months), which can accommodate RVs, trailers and tents. ▶ [cpw.state.co.us/placestogo/parks/johnmartinreservoir](http://cpw.state.co.us/placestogo/parks/johnmartinreservoir), john.martin.park@state.co.us, 719-829-1801, 800-678-2267, 30703 C.R. 24, Hasty 81044

**HAYDEN**

**RECREATION**

**YAMPA RIVER STATE PARK** West of Steamboat Springs, this park offers fishing and boating on the river. 13 access sites & 5 campgrounds with basic to full amenities. The park also offers reservoir-based recreation, swim beaches & boat ramps at nearby Elkhead Reservoir. ▶ [cpw.state.co.us/placestogo/parks/yampariver](http://cpw.state.co.us/placestogo/parks/yampariver), yampa.river@state.co.us, 970-276-2061, 800-678-2267, 6185 W. US Hwy. 40, Hayden 81639

**HIGHLANDS RANCH**

**HOTELS & MOTELS**

**COMFORT SUITES HIGHLANDS RANCH DENVER TECH CENTER AREA** All-suite hotel with free hot breakfast buffet, on-site fitness center, outdoor spa, business center, free WiFi. Suites include, sofa, large work area, refrigerators, microwaves, in-room coffee, hair dryer, iron and ironing board. ▶ [hoteldenvertech.com](http://hoteldenvertech.com), [lori@cshighlandsranch.com](mailto:lori@cshighlandsranch.com), 303-770-5400, 7060 E. County Line Rd., Highlands Ranch 80126

**HOT SULPHUR SPRINGS**

**ASSOCIATIONS & CHAMBERS**

**HOT SULPHUR SPRINGS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE** A small mountain town surrounded by the beauty & wonder of nature, nestled in the heart of Grand County along Hwy. 40, features outdoor activities, fishing the Colorado River, Pioneer Village Museum and Hot Sulphur Springs Resort & Spa open year-round. ▶ [hsschamber.com](http://hsschamber.com), info@hsschamber.com, 970-531-7588, 110 E. Byers Ave., Hot Sulphur Springs 80451

**IDAHO SPRINGS**

**ASSOCIATIONS & CHAMBERS**

**CLEAR CREEK COUNTY TOURISM BUREAU** Clear Creek County is located just 20 miles west of Denver. Visit our historic districts: Idaho Springs, Empire, Georgetown and Silver Plume. Enjoy shopping, dining, rafting, skiing, riding a narrow-gauge steam train, scenic byways and more! ▶ [clearcreekcounty.org](http://clearcreekcounty.org), info@clearcreekcounty.org, 303-567-4660, 866-674-9237, 2060 Miner St., Idaho Springs 80452

**RECREATION**

**CLEAR CREEK RAFTING CO.** We offer an incredible value with free digital photos and free wetsuit use on all trips. Raft the world-famous Arkansas River through Royal Gorge near Colorado Springs; or Clear Creek, 30 min. from Denver. Fun and exciting trips for all abilities! ▶ [rafteroyalgorge.com](http://rafteroyalgorge.com), info@clearcreekrafting.com, 303-567-1000, 800-353-9901, 350 Whitewater Rd., Idaho Springs 80452

**COLORADO ADVENTURE CENTER** Exciting whitewater rafting, thrilling ziplining and aerial adventures in two convenient locations right off I-70. Just 35 minutes from downtown Denver in Dumont or Glenwood Springs between Aspen & Vail. Combine adventures for fabulous savings & fun! ▶ [raftingcolorado.com](http://raftingcolorado.com), info@coloradoadventurecenter.com, 970-945-6737, 877-947-7238, 2697 Stanley Rd., Idaho Springs 80452

**JOHNSTOWN**

**HOTELS & MOTELS**

**COMFORT SUITES - LOVELAND** Our all-suites hotel near Loveland has the extra space you need with the extras you want, like meeting rooms, guest laundry facilities and free WiFi, indoor heated pool, hot tub and water-slide, business center, fitness center. ▶ [comfordsuites.com/co247](http://comfordsuites.com/co247), comfordsuitesloveland@spirithospitality.net, 970-663-3300, 4851 Thompson Pkwy., Johnstown 80534

**KEYSTONE**

**CONDOS & HOME RENTALS**

**WYNDHAM VACATION RENTALS BRECKENRIDGE & KEYSTONE** Wyndham Vacation Rentals in Breckenridge and Keystone offers the most diverse selection of lodging in the area. Choose from hotels, studios, one- to five-bedroom condos, townhomes, chalets and luxury private homes. Book the exact unit for your vacation. ▶ [wyndhamvacationrentals.com/colorado/breckenridge-keystone](http://wyndhamvacationrentals.com/colorado/breckenridge-keystone), summilife@wynvr.com, 970-453-4000, 877-422-3514, 124 Main St., Suite 105, Dillon 80435

**RECREATION**

**KEYSTONE RESORT** Keystone is where kids of all ages discover the magic of playing in the mountains, and where grown-ups discover that deep down they're still kids too. Just a short drive from Denver, Keystone offers a laid-back environment for year-round adventure. ▶ [keystoneresort.com](http://keystoneresort.com), keystoneinfo@vailresorts.com, 970-496-4386, 855-603-0049, PO Box 38, Keystone 80435

**KREMMLING**

**ASSOCIATIONS & CHAMBERS**

**KREMMLING AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE** Looking for your next untapped, untamed getaway? Find out why Kremmling is the way Colorado used to be. Unplug from the chaos and reconnect with Mother Nature by rafting, snowmobiling, hunting, fishing, camping, hiking, biking and enjoying water sports. ▶ [kremmlingchamber.com](http://kremmlingchamber.com), info@kremmlingchamber.com, 970-724-3472, 203 Park Ave., Hwy. 40, Kremmling 80459

**HOTELS & MOTELS**

**ALLINGTON INN & SUITES OF KREMMLING** Centrally located. Views of the Kremmling Cliffs. Indoor pool/hot tub, free breakfast, fitness room, business center, conference room, WiFi, refrigerators, suite rooms. Snowmobile Rabbit Ears, hunting, raft Gore Canyon, fish/ice fish, ATV, festivals & more! ▶ [allingtoninn.com](http://allingtoninn.com), kremmling@allingtoninn.com, 970-724-9800, 800-981-4091, 215 W. Central Ave., Kremmling 80459

**LA JUNTA**

**HOTELS & MOTELS**

**MIDTOWN MOTEL** Clean, comfortable, quiet and safe at a reasonable price. *Frammer's* and Roadtripper-listed. Fiber-optic WiFi/Chromecast/DirectTV/sofa recliner/fridge/micro. Dog-friendly. Long-term rates, smoking, medical & senior-citizen assistive rooms. Great service. ▶ [midtownlajunta.com](http://midtownlajunta.com), midtownmotel@live.com, 719-384-8010, 800-448-8355, 215 E. Third St., La Junta 81050

**LA VETA**

**ASSOCIATIONS & CHAMBERS**

**SPANISH PEAKS COUNTRY - LA VETA** A delightful destination located in the shadows of the Spanish Peaks with great beauty and refreshing small-town charm. Offering both the sophistication of art galleries, museum, theater, dining, golf, shopping and abundant outdoor recreation. ▶ [spanishpeakscountry.com](http://spanishpeakscountry.com), info@spanishpeakscountry.com, PO Box 109, La Veta 81055

**LAKE CITY**

**ASSOCIATIONS & CHAMBERS**

**LAKE CITY VISITORS CENTER** Info about the most remote county in the lower 48. Winter: groomed network of snowmobile and multiuse trails, ice-climbing park. Summer: five 14ers and 20 13ers, fish/boat lakes and rivers. 4WD the Alpine Loop. Lodging, dining and shopping. ▶ [lakecity.com](http://lakecity.com), chamber@lakecity.com, 970-944-2527, 800 Gunnison Ave., Lake City 81235

**LAKE GEORGE**

**RECREATION**

**ELEVEN MILE STATE PARK** Eleven Mile State Park is one of Colorado's largest reservoirs, with 349 campsites and trophy fishing for trout, kokanee and pike. Nearby Spinney Reservoir has a Gold Medal fishery for trout and pike as well. ▶ [cpw.state.co.us/placestogo/parks/elevenmile](http://cpw.state.co.us/placestogo/parks/elevenmile), eleven.mile.park@state.co.us, 719-748-3401, 800-678-2267, 4229 County Rd. 92, Lake George 80827

**SPINNEY MOUNTAIN STATE PARK** This 2,500 surface-acre reservoir offers anglers Gold Medal opportunities for shoreline, fly-fishing, belly boating or trolling in a peaceful, scenic setting with views of the Collegiats as a backdrop. Birding and waterfowl hunting are also popular. ▶ [cpw.state.co.us/placestogo/parks/spinneymountain](http://cpw.state.co.us/placestogo/parks/spinneymountain), eleven.mile.park@state.co.us, 719-748-3401, 800-678-2267, 4229 County Rd. 92, Lake George 80827





Swimming Pool 
 Exercise/Fitness Facilities 
 Pets Allowed 
 High-Speed Internet 
 Airport Shuttle 
 Complimentary Breakfast 
 ADA-Compliant 
 Restaurant On Site 
 Free Parking 
 In-Room Refrigerator 
 In-Room Microwave 
 **CHLA** Colorado Hotel & Lodging Association (CHLA) Member

The dollar symbols indicate how much you can expect to pay for an average hotel room. \$ = Less than \$100 \$\$ = \$101-200 \$\$\$ = \$201-299 \$\$\$\$ = \$300 and up

## LAKEWOOD

### HOTELS & MOTELS

**COMFORT SUITES LAKEWOOD – DENVER** All-suite hotel with views of Rocky Mountains. In-room executive work area, cable TV with premium movie channels, microwave, refrigerator, wireless Internet. Indoor heated pool.

► [choicehotels.com/colorado/lakewood/comfort-suites-hotels/co104](http://choicehotels.com/colorado/lakewood/comfort-suites-hotels/co104), gm.co104@choicehotels.com, 303-988-8600, 7260 W. Jefferson Ave., Lakewood 80235

**QUALITY INN & SUITES – LAKEWOOD** Conveniently located near the Denver Federal Center, Red Rocks Amphitheatre and Bandimere Speedway. Close to Elitch Gardens Theme & Water Park, Miller Coors Brewing and diverse shopping and dining. ► [choicehotels.com/colorado/lakewood/quality-inn-hotels/co284](http://choicehotels.com/colorado/lakewood/quality-inn-hotels/co284), 303-989-4600, 7240 W. Jefferson Ave., Lakewood 80235 \$-\$\$

## LAMAR

### HOTELS & MOTELS

**QUALITY INN – LAMAR** The Quality Inn hotel in Lamar is located along Route 50 and near the Big Timbers Museum. Our pet-friendly hotel offers free hot breakfast, free WiFi and more. ► [choicehotels.com/colorado/lamar/quality-inn-hotels/co362](http://choicehotels.com/colorado/lamar/quality-inn-hotels/co362), gm.co362@choicehotels.com, 1202 N Main St., Lamar 80554

## LAWSON

### ATTRACTIONS

**LAWSON ADVENTURE PARK** Colorado's newest outdoor family playground covering 40 acres in Clear Creek County and less than an hour drive from Denver. We provide an atmosphere of fun and excitement for everyone with activities designed to please local residents and visitors to our state. ► [lawsonadventurepark.com](http://lawsonadventurepark.com), info@lawsonadventurepark.com, 855-372-7238, 3440 Alvarado Rd., Lawson 80436

## LEADVILLE

### ATTRACTIONS

**LEADVILLE RAILROAD** Spectacular railroad trip in the Rocky Mountains. Incredible views of Colorado's two highest peaks, colorful wildflowers and majestic fall aspen groves. Escape to the wilderness on board the Leadville Railroad for a relaxing adventure for all ages. ► [leadvilleraillroad.com](http://leadvilleraillroad.com), conductor@leadville-train.com, 719-486-3936, 866-386-3936, 326 E. Seventh St., Leadville 80461

**NATIONAL MINING HALL OF FAME AND MUSEUM** Tour replicas of mines and crystal caves, check out equipment miners wear to breathe, and learn about the men and women who work in American mines. Explore what mining produces, from gems and precious metals to the minerals you use every day. ► [mininghalloffame.org](http://mininghalloffame.org), info@mininghalloffame.org, 719-486-1229, 120 W. Ninth St., Leadville 80461

### CONDOS & HOME RENTALS

**GRAND WEST VILLAGE RESORT** Beautiful cabins/condos: mountain views, gas fireplaces, sunny porches. Furnished, kitchens, laundry. Tucked in the woods 2 miles north of Leadville. Closest lodging to Ski Cooper and within an hour of five major ski areas. ► [grandwest.com](http://grandwest.com), lodging@grandwest.com, 719-486-0702, 800-691-3999, 99 Grand W. Dr., Leadville 80461

### HOTELS & MOTELS

**THE HISTORIC DELAWARE HOTEL** A museum with pillows! Built in 1886, the hotel is a time capsule of the Victorian West. Each modernized room is dressed in Victorian decor, no two rooms are alike. A vast collection of antiques and collectibles from around the world adorn the building. ► [delawarehotel.com](http://delawarehotel.com), info@delawarehotel.com, 719-486-1418, 800-748-2004, 700 Harrison Ave., Leadville 80461

### LODGES & CABINS

**BUCKEYE'S CABIN** Buckeye, Luna, Tashi & Zuni cabins are cozy, romantic, authentic, comfortable, restored rental cabins with all the modern conveniences. Located on the headwaters of the Arkansas River in Leadville with views of Mt. Elbert, Colorado's highest peak. ► [buckeyecabin.net](http://buckeyecabin.net), paulbreit@aol.com, 970-390-4550, 3455 Hwy. 91 N., Leadville 80461

### RECREATION

**SKI COOPER** Pure, authentic, down-to-earth skiing. That's what we're all about at Cooper! Enjoy the softest snow in the state on 39 trails covering 400 acres served by 4 lifts, or adventure into 2,600 acres of snowcat-served backcountry powder on Chicago Ridge. ► [skicooper.com](http://skicooper.com), info@skicooper.com, 719-486-2277, 800-707-6114, 232 County Rd. 29 atop Tennessee Pass, Leadville 80461

### RV & CAMPGROUNDS

**SUGAR LOAFIN' RV/CAMPGROUND** Scenery piled to the sky! Cabins, spacious campsites. Full hookup, drive-through, back-in. Slide-outs ok. Water/electric or tents with grass or trees. Two heated, very clean shower/restroom facilities and coin laundry. Mid-May-Oct. 1. ► [sugarloafin.com](http://sugarloafin.com), sugarloafin@sugarloafin.com, 719-486-1031, 2665 County Rd. 4, Leadville 80461

## LIMON

### HOTELS & MOTELS

**COMFORT INN** Three miles from local airport. Full-service restaurant right next door. Spacious guest rooms with premium cable, high-speed Internet. Indoor pool, hot tub and exercise room. ► [choicehotels.com/colorado/limon/comfort-inn-hotels/co042](http://choicehotels.com/colorado/limon/comfort-inn-hotels/co042), 719-775-2752, 2255 Ninth St., Limon 80828

### HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS HOTEL & SUITES – LIMON

**Stay Smart in Limon.** Off I-70, 80 miles east of Denver and close to the downtown area. Our rooms feature one king or two queen beds, complimentary Express Start Hot Breakfast Buffet, free WiFi, Indoor pool, hot tub and fitness room. Pets welcome. ► [marshotelmanagement.com/holiday-inn-express-limon](http://marshotelmanagement.com/holiday-inn-express-limon), limon gm@hotmail.com, 719-775-9033, 877-834-3613, 803 Hwy. 24, Limon 80828

**QUALITY INN & SUITES** Conveniently located off I-70. Easy access to many area attractions. Local points of interest like the Limon Municipal Airport and the Limon Heritage Museum and Railroad Park are close by. ► [choicehotels.com/colorado/limon/quality-inn-hotels/co271](http://choicehotels.com/colorado/limon/quality-inn-hotels/co271), gm.co271@choicehotels.com, 719-775-0277, 925 T Ave., Limon 80828

## LITTLETON

### ATTRACTIONS

**CARBOY WINERY** Carboy Winery is a unique Colorado winery working hands-on with vineyards and winemakers from around the world. Our winemakers carefully select and source high-quality grapes, juice and finished wine to make our brand of Carboy wine. ► [carboywinery.com](http://carboywinery.com), info@carboywinery.com, 720-532-1390, 6885 S. Santa Fe Dr., Littleton 80120

### RECREATION

**CHATFIELD STATE PARK** This beautiful Denver park is popular with hikers, boaters, campers, bikers, fishermen and picnickers. The park has a full-service marina, summer swim beach and an off-leash dog area. ► [cpw.state.co.us/placesstogo/parks/chatfield](http://cpw.state.co.us/placesstogo/parks/chatfield), chatfield.park@state.co.us, 303-791-7275, 800-678-2267, 11500 N. Roxborough Park Rd., Littleton 80125

### SHOPPING

**ST.NICKS CHRISTMAS AND COLLECTIBLES** St.Nicks has 22 rooms and more than 90 inspiring theme trees with thousands of ornaments, collectibles, gifts, artificial trees and lighting for all decorating needs. One of the top Christmas stores in the US. A Colorado tradition for more than 40 years. ► [stnicks.com](http://stnicks.com), admin@stnicks.com, 303-798-8087, 800-875-8865, 5221 S. Santa Fe Dr., Littleton 80120

## LOMA

### RECREATION

**HIGHLINE LAKE STATE PARK** Oasis in the desert. Ideal basecamp for year-round outdoor activities. Water sports and fishing, grassy, shaded campground and picnic areas, world-class biking trails, hiking, wildlife viewing, group picnic and camping area, winter sports, hunting. ► [cpw.state.co.us/placesstogo/parks/highlinelake](http://cpw.state.co.us/placesstogo/parks/highlinelake), highline.park@state.co.us, 970-858-7208, 800-678-2267, 1800 11.8 Rd., Loma 81524

## LONGMONT

### ASSOCIATIONS & CHAMBERS

**VISIT LONGMONT** The perfect blend of small-town charm, cultural experience and beauty of the Rocky Mountains. More than 165 restaurants, breweries, art galleries, cultural museum, outdoor activities, downtown creative district and home of the Boulder County Fair. ► [visitlongmont.org](http://visitlongmont.org), staff@visitlongmont.org, 303-776-9011, 512 Fourth Ave., #103, Longmont 80501

### HOTELS & MOTELS

**QUALITY INN – LONGMONT** We are clean, comfortable, newly refurbished with friendly staff. We are located within an hour of downtown Denver, Cheyenne, Rocky Mountain National Park and Estes Park. ► [choicehotels.com/colorado/longmont/quality-inn-hotels/co724](http://choicehotels.com/colorado/longmont/quality-inn-hotels/co724), gm.co724@choicecentral.com, 303-684-6779, 10811 W. I-25 Frontage Rd., Longmont 80504

### SIGHTSEEING & TOURS

**THE ART OF CHEESE** Colorado's most comprehensive cheesemaking school, located within the Haystack Mountain Cheese Creamery in Longmont. Offers artisan cheesemaking classes and multiday workshops geared toward the home cheesemaker. Hands-on instruction and tastings. ► [theartofcheese.com](http://theartofcheese.com), info@theartofcheese.com, 303-579-9537, 505 Weaver Park Rd., Unit E, Longmont 80501 \$

### LIFE CYCLE HOT AIR BALLOON ADVENTURES, LTD.

Ballooning in Colorado! Sunrise champagne flights from Boulder county and mountain flights from South Park. Colorado's most experienced hot-air balloon company. We have been offering safe and memorable balloon flights for families since 1971. ► [lifecycleballoons.com](http://lifecycleballoons.com), michael@lifecycleballoons.com, 303-216-1990, 800-980-9272, 134 Marshal Pl., Longmont 80504

## LOUISVILLE

### HOTELS & MOTELS

**QUALITY INN LOUISVILLE – BOULDER** Located minutes from Boulder and attractions such as the University of Colorado and outdoor activities. Just 15 minutes from Denver. Shopping and restaurants within walking distance. ► [choicehotels.com/colorado/louisville/quality-inn-hotels/co097](http://choicehotels.com/colorado/louisville/quality-inn-hotels/co097), gm.co097@choicehotels.com, 303-604-0181, 877-704-2217, 1196 W. Dillon Rd., Louisville 80027

## LOVELAND

### ASSOCIATIONS & CHAMBERS

**LOVELAND VISITORS CENTER** Conveniently located off I-25 and US 34, set on the picturesque grounds of the McWhinney Hahn Sculpture Park, the Loveland Visitors Center is your destination for information and merchandise. ► [visitlovelandco.com](http://visitlovelandco.com), gary.light@cityofloveland.org, 970-667-3882, 5400 Stone Creek Cir., Loveland 80538

### ATTRACTIONS

**CHAPUNGU SCULPTURE PARK AT CENTERRA** Chapungu Sculpture Park at Centerra is a 26-acre permanent outdoor art exhibit in Loveland. Home to 80-plus hand-carved Zimbabwe stone sculptures spread along a 1.5-mile walking nature trail. The Great Lawn is available to rent for weddings and events. ► [centerra.com](http://centerra.com), info@mcwhinney.com, 970-962-9990, 2593 Kendall Pkwy., Loveland 80538



**HOTELS & MOTELS**

**QUALITY INN & SUITES** A perfect resting point for vacationing travelers. Just a 40-minute drive north of Denver. Every room includes microwave, refrigerator, wireless Internet, flatscreen HD TVs. ▶ [choicehotels.com/colorado/loveland/quality-inn-hotels/co102](http://choicehotels.com/colorado/loveland/quality-inn-hotels/co102), [mkross@spirithospitality.net](mailto:mkross@spirithospitality.net), 970-593-0100, 877-655-4696, 1500 N. Cheyenne Ave., Loveland 80538

**RECREATION**

**BOYD LAKE STATE PARK** A family-oriented park with fishing, watersports, swim beach, trails and nature programs. There are 148 campsites, a 1,700-acre reservoir, showers and electric hookups. ▶ [cpw.state.co.us/placetogo/parks/boylake](http://cpw.state.co.us/placetogo/parks/boylake), [boyd.lake@state.co.us](mailto:boyd.lake@state.co.us), 970-669-1739, 800-678-2267, 3720 N. County Rd. 11-C, Loveland 80538

**RV & CAMPGROUNDS**

**RIVERVIEW RV PARK AND CAMPGROUND** The quiet countryside setting of our family-oriented park, with its gorgeous surroundings and charming wood carvings, is a favorite for groups or a romantic getaway. ▶ [riverviewrv.com](http://riverviewrv.com), 970-667-9910, 800-447-9910, 2444 River Rim Rd., Loveland 80537

**SHOPPING**

**OUTLETS AT LOVELAND** Outlets at Loveland is located at the foot of the Rocky Mountains along I-25. With more than 40 brand-name outlet stores like Ann Taylor, Under Armour, Nike and more, you are sure to find something for everyone priced 30-70% below retail. ▶ [outletsatloveland.com](http://outletsatloveland.com), 970-663-1916, 5661 McWhinney Blvd., Loveland 80538

**MANCOS**

**ASSOCIATIONS & CHAMBERS**

**MESA VERDE COUNTRY VISITOR INFORMATION BUREAU** Cortez, Dolores, Mancos welcome you to Mesa Verde National Park! Ancient stories come to life among the excavated dwellings once home to Ancestral Peoples. Add outdoor fun, Old West and farm visits, and you have a trip you'll never forget. ▶ [mesaverdecountry.com](http://mesaverdecountry.com), [kellyk@mesaverdecountry.com](mailto:kellyk@mesaverdecountry.com), 970-565-8227, 800-530-2998, 928 E. Main, Cortez 81321

**RECREATION**

**MANCOS STATE PARK** Just off the beautiful San Juan Skyway, this park is one of southwest Colorado's hot spots for fishing, boating and camping. Features 32 campsites, most around the lake, two yurts and a 225-acre lake. ▶ [cpw.state.co.us/placetogo/parks/mancos](http://cpw.state.co.us/placetogo/parks/mancos), [mancos.park@state.co.us](mailto:mancos.park@state.co.us), 970-533-7065, 800-678-2267, 42545 County Rd. N., Mancos 81328

**MANITOU SPRINGS**

**ASSOCIATIONS & CHAMBERS**

**MANITOU SPRINGS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & VISITORS BUREAU** Enjoy the mineral drinking springs and our historic charm. Shops, galleries, museums, casual to fine dining, variety of lodging. Centrally located, close to attractions and hiking trails. Perfect for getaways/family vacations. Year-round. Visitors guide. ▶ [manitousprings.org](http://manitousprings.org), [manitou@pikes-peak.com](mailto:manitou@pikes-peak.com), 719-685-5089, 877-590-9798, 354 Manitou Ave., Manitou Springs 80829

**ATTRACTIONS**

**PIKES PEAK COG RAILWAY** Since 1891, the Pikes Peak Cog Railway has taken millions of people on an unforgettable trip to 14,115 feet. Past cascading streams and forests, the world's highest cog railroad reveals panoramas that inspired "America the Beautiful." ▶ [cograilway.com](http://cograilway.com), [info@cograilway.com](mailto:info@cograilway.com), 719-685-5401, 800-745-3773, 515 Ruxton Ave., Manitou Springs 80829

**VISIT PIKES PEAK** Whether you want something that gets your blood pumping, a trip through our rich local history or the best place to relax and soak up that Colorado vibe, we'll help curate the perfect adventure for you! ▶ [pikes-peak.com](http://pikes-peak.com), [info@pikes-peak.com](mailto:info@pikes-peak.com), 719-685-5894, 800-525-2250, 337 Manitou Ave, Manitou Springs 80829

**BED & BREAKFASTS**

**BLUE SKIES INN BED & BREAKFAST** Quaint village of artist-painted suites by stream on historic estate. Lush gardens. Welcomes all travelers — families and romantic stays. Full room-service breakfast delivered to each suite. All-inclusive weddings in gardens or carriage house chapel. ▶ [blueskiesinn.com](http://blueskiesinn.com), [fun@blueskiesinn.com](mailto:fun@blueskiesinn.com), 719-685-3899, 800-398-7949, 402 Manitou Ave., Manitou Springs 80829

**HOTELS & MOTELS**

**CLIFF HOUSE AT PIKES PEAK** Ten minutes from downtown Colorado Springs. *Travel + Leisure's* Top 100 Hotels of the World. The romance of Clark Gable, the Wild West of Buffalo Bill, the political passion of Teddy Roosevelt. Free WiFi, hot breakfast and movie DVD rentals. ▶ [thecliffhouse.com](http://thecliffhouse.com), [info@thecliffhouse.com](mailto:info@thecliffhouse.com), 719-685-3000, 888-212-7000, 306 Canon Ave., Manitou Springs 80829

**MARBLE**

**ASSOCIATIONS & CHAMBERS**

**MARBLE CRYSTAL RIVER CHAMBER** The Marble Crystal River Chamber provides information for tourists interested in Colorado history and incredible sightseeing, including the Marble quarry and millsite plus the famous Crystal Mill. We offer a peaceful valley free of cell phones! ▶ [mcrchamber.org](http://mcrchamber.org), 970-963-6272, 620 W. Park St., Marble 81623

**LODGES & CABINS**

**BEAVER LAKE LODGE & CABINS** Historic lodge & cabins in Marble. High-valley town rich in outdoor activities & history. Lodge rooms & cabins. Campfires, canoeing, paddleboarding, fishing, hiking, Jeep tours, mountain biking, backcountry skiing, horseback riding, fun. \$135-165. ▶ [beaverlakelodge.com](http://beaverlakelodge.com), 970-963-2504, 201 E. Silver St., Marble 81623

**MEEKER**

**ASSOCIATIONS & CHAMBERS**

**MEEKER CHAMBER OF COMMERCE** A small town nestled in the majestic White River Valley on the outskirts of the White River National Forest and Flat Tops Wilderness. Meeker is known for its exceptional outdoor recreation, historical attractions, fun shops and welcoming citizen! ▶ [meekerchamber.com](http://meekerchamber.com), [visitmeeker@meekerchamber.com](mailto:visitmeeker@meekerchamber.com), 970-878-5510, 710 Market St., Meeker 81641

**MESA**

**RECREATION**

**POWDERHORN SKI RESORT** Powderhorn is located on the Grand Mesa, the world's largest flat-topped mountain, offering the best glade skiing with terrain suitable for all ability levels. This is a hidden gem of a resort. Summertime offers many new and unique events. ▶ [powderhorn.com](http://powderhorn.com), [ski@powderhorn.com](mailto:ski@powderhorn.com), 970-268-5700, 48338 Powderhorn Rd., Mesa 81643

**MESA VERDE NATIONAL PARK**

**LODGES & CABINS**

**MESA VERDE - FAR VIEW LODGE** The only lodging inside Mesa Verde National Park. Breathtaking views, award-winning cuisine, guided tours of Ancestral Puebloan dwellings, invigorating solitude and endless wildlife watching. RV and camping. Native American handicrafts. ▶ [visitmesaverde.com](http://visitmesaverde.com), [info@visitmesaverde.com](mailto:info@visitmesaverde.com), 970-564-4300, 800-449-2288, 1 Navajo Hill, Mesa Verde National Park 81330

**MOFFAT**

**ATTRACTIONS**

**JOYFUL JOURNEY HOT SPRINGS SPA** A peaceful spa retreat at the northern gateway to the San Luis Valley where the healing waters flow. No chemical treatments used in the cleaning of our pools. Overnight accommodations available in hotel, yurts and tipis. RV and campsites available. ▶ [joyfuljourneyhotsprings.com](http://joyfuljourneyhotsprings.com), [reservations@jjhotsprings.com](mailto:reservations@jjhotsprings.com), 719-256-4328, 28640 CR 58 EE, Moffat 81143

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FREE SNOWCAT SKIING ON THE RIDGE

**MARBLE, COLORADO CRYSTAL RIVER VALLEY**  
It's just our nature.  
Rich in history and outdoor activities.  
**MARBLE CRYSTAL RIVER CHAMBER**  
[www.mcrchamber.org](http://www.mcrchamber.org)







## PARKER

### ASSOCIATIONS & CHAMBERS

**PARKER CHAMBER OF COMMERCE** Explore hundreds of acres of open space and parkland, 12-plus miles of walking and biking trails, fine dining and shopping in our historic downtown and sporting events at our state-of-the-art fieldhouse. Parker is the suburb with the small-town feel. ▶ [parkerchamber.com](http://parkerchamber.com), [info@parkerchamber.com](mailto:info@parkerchamber.com), 303-841-4268, 19590 E. Mainstreet, Suite 100, Parker 80134

## PENROSE

### RECREATION

**ROYAL GORGE SKYDIVE** Skydive is located at the Fremont County Airport. See spectacular views of the Royal Gorge, Pikes Peak and the Sangre de Cristo mountain range. Freefall for more than 30 seconds. Pictures and video services offered. Just 45 minutes from Colorado Springs. ▶ [royalgorgeskydive.com](http://royalgorgeskydive.com), [manager@royalgorgeskydive.com](mailto:manager@royalgorgeskydive.com), 719-784-2047, 60298 US-50, Hanger #12E, Penrose 81240

## PINE

### RECREATION

**STAUNTON STATE PARK** Staunton is Colorado's newest state park and offers breathtaking views, rich Colorado history, diverse plant and wildlife, rock climbing and several miles of trails for hiking, biking and horseback riding. Hikers enjoy discovering the waterfall. ▶ [cpw.state.co.us/placestogo/parks/staunton](http://cpw.state.co.us/placestogo/parks/staunton), [staunton.park@state.co.us](mailto:staunton.park@state.co.us), 303-816-0912, 12102 S. Elk Creek Rd., Pine 80470

## PUEBLO

### ATTRACTIONS

**SANGRE DE CRISTO ARTS AND CONFERENCE CENTER** The Sangre de Cristo Arts Center offers high-quality visual-art exhibitions in our galleries, performing arts, dance, the award-winning Buell Children's Museum, comprehensive arts education programs and beautiful venues for events. ▶ [sdc-arts.org](http://sdc-arts.org), [mail@sdc-arts.org](mailto:mail@sdc-arts.org), 719-295-7200, 210 N. Santa Fe Ave., Pueblo 81003

### HOTELS & MOTELS

**COMFORT INN - PUEBLO** Our leisure hotel in Pueblo is near the Walking Stick Golf Course and other attractions like the Pueblo Weisbrod Aircraft Museum, Historic Arkansas Riverwalk of Pueblo and the Colorado State Fair Events Center. ▶ [choicehotels.com/colorado/pueblo/comfort-inn-hotels/co701](http://choicehotels.com/colorado/pueblo/comfort-inn-hotels/co701), [gm.co701@choicehotels.com](mailto:gm.co701@choicehotels.com), 719-542-6868, 670 Eagleridge Blvd., Pueblo 81008

**QUALITY INN & SUITES** Quiet location. Friendly 24-hour staff. Suites with separate bedrooms. Free breakfast. ▶ [choicehotels.com/colorado/pueblo/quality-inn-hotels/co100](http://choicehotels.com/colorado/pueblo/quality-inn-hotels/co100), 719-544-5500, 3910 Outlook Blvd., Pueblo 81008

### RECREATION

**LAKE PUEBLO STATE PARK** Lake Pueblo is blessed with a mild year-round climate and a reservoir with around 4,600 surface acres of water for first-class water recreation including boating and fishing. Visitors also enjoy great camping, hiking, biking and general relaxing. ▶ [cpw.state.co.us/placestogo/parks/lakepueblo](http://cpw.state.co.us/placestogo/parks/lakepueblo), [lake.pueblo.park@state.co.us](mailto:lake.pueblo.park@state.co.us), 719-561-9320, 640 Pueblo Reservoir Rd., Pueblo 81005

## RANGELY

### ASSOCIATIONS & CHAMBERS

**RANGELY AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE** Perched along the banks of the White River of NW Colorado is a hidden utopia of solitude and recreation. Come for hunting, fishing, petroglyphs (rock art), sonic-art center (The Tank), OHV trails, hiking, biking, rock climbing, golfing and museums. ▶ [rangelychamber.com](http://rangelychamber.com), [range1ychamber@gmail.com](mailto:range1ychamber@gmail.com), 970-675-5290, 255 E. Main St., Suite A, Rangely 81648

## REDSTONE

### LODGES & CABINS

**AVALANCHE RANCH CABINS & HOT SPRINGS** **OXLEY CHLA** Thirteen log cabins, three covered wagons, a tiny house, one-bedroom loft apartment, plus three-bedroom house all with spectacular Rocky Mountain views. Common lodge, three hot springs pools, stocked trout pond, riverfront, activities, 36 acres. ▶ [avalancheranch.com](http://avalancheranch.com), [info@avalancheranch.com](mailto:info@avalancheranch.com), 970-963-2846, 12863 State Hwy. 133, Redstone 81623

## RIDGWAY

### HOTELS & MOTELS

**CHIPETA SOLAR SPRINGS RESORT** Southwest with style. Romantic rustic resort; 27 rooms and condos, balconies, hot tubs and fireplaces. Outdoor solar-heated thermal pools. Full-service spa, conference center, restaurant, yoga, cardio room. Near two national parks. ▶ [chipeta.com](http://chipeta.com), [reservations@chipeta.com](mailto:reservations@chipeta.com), 970-626-3737, 800-633-5868, 304 S. Lena, Ridgway 81432

**RIDGWAY-OURAY LODGE & SUITES** **OXLEY CHLA** A great place to relax, sleep and have fun! Indoor heated pool, spa, sauna, exercise room and deck. Free WiFi and continental breakfast. Fridge and microwave in every room. Front desk 24 hours. Book on our site for guaranteed lowest price. Code: PROMR10 ▶ [www.ridgwaylodgeandsuites.com](http://www.ridgwaylodgeandsuites.com), [reservations@ridgwaylodgeandsuites.com](mailto:reservations@ridgwaylodgeandsuites.com), 970-626-5444, 800-368-5444, 373 Palomino Trail, Ridgway 81432

### RECREATION

**RIDGWAY STATE PARK** Just north of Ouray, this park has magnificent scenery, water sports and wildlife. Features 280 campsites, three yurts, boating, fishing and hiking. ▶ [cpw.state.co.us/placestogo/parks/ridgway](http://cpw.state.co.us/placestogo/parks/ridgway), [ridgway.park@state.co.us](mailto:ridgway.park@state.co.us), 970-626-5822, 800-678-2267, 28555 Hwy. 550, Ridgway 81432

## RIFLE

### HOTELS & MOTELS

**COMFORT INN & SUITES - RIFLE** Conveniently located near Interstate 70; offers a quiet setting and countless features. This Rifle hotel is located near a variety of restaurants that will satisfy any palate. ▶ [choicehotels.com/colorado/rifle/comfort-inn-hotels/co283](http://choicehotels.com/colorado/rifle/comfort-inn-hotels/co283), [comforinrifle@gmail.com](mailto:comforinrifle@gmail.com), 970-625-9912, 301 Seventh St. S., Rifle 81650

### RECREATION

**HARVEY GAP STATE PARK** A beautiful 198-acre lake with swim-beach, picnic sites and fantastic fishing and boating. ▶ [cpw.state.co.us/placestogo/parks/harveygap](http://cpw.state.co.us/placestogo/parks/harveygap), [rifle.gap.park@state.co.us](mailto:rifle.gap.park@state.co.us), 970-625-1607, 5775 Hwy. 325, Rifle 81650

**RIFLE FALLS STATE PARK** Home of Colorado's only 80-foot triple waterfall. Explore through small limestone caves. RV and tent camping, wonderful trails. The perfect wedding setting. ▶ [cpw.state.co.us/placestogo/parks/riflefalls](http://cpw.state.co.us/placestogo/parks/riflefalls), [rifle.gap.park@state.co.us](mailto:rifle.gap.park@state.co.us), 970-625-1607, 800-678-2267, 5775 Hwy. 325, Rifle 81650

**RIFLE GAP STATE PARK** Pristine 360-acre lake, ideal for boating, fishing, swimming, RV and tent camping. Full-service visitor center with interpretive displays and area information. ▶ [cpw.state.co.us/placestogo/parks/riflegap](http://cpw.state.co.us/placestogo/parks/riflegap), [rifle.gap.park@state.co.us](mailto:rifle.gap.park@state.co.us), 970-625-1607, 800-678-2267, 5775 Hwy. 325, Rifle 81650

## ROXBOROUGH

### RECREATION

**ROXBOROUGH STATE PARK** Experience dramatic red-rock formations, wildflowers and abundant wildlife along natural-surface trails. Join us for guided hikes on Colorado history and geology and other unique attributes. We're day-use only. No pets or bikes in the park. ▶ [cpw.state.co.us/placestogo/parks/roxborough](http://cpw.state.co.us/placestogo/parks/roxborough), [roxborough.park@state.co.us](mailto:roxborough.park@state.co.us), 303-973-3959, 4751 E. Roxborough Dr., Roxborough 80125

## SAGUACHE

### ASSOCIATIONS & CHAMBERS

**SAGUACHE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE** See the Old Spanish Trail, the last linotype newspaper in the US, the Historic Ute Theater. Stop in our friendly, art-enriched ranching community. Come to visit — come to stay. ▶ [saguachechamber.org](http://saguachechamber.org), [info@saguachechamber.org](mailto:info@saguachechamber.org), 719-655-6202, PO Box 53, Saguache 81149

## SALIDA

### ASSOCIATIONS & CHAMBERS

**CHAFFEE COUNTY VISITOR'S BUREAU** Chaffee County is 100 percent Colorado! It stars the small towns of Buena Vista, Salida, Poncha Springs and Monarch Mountain. Surrounded by 15 14,000-foot peaks and bordered by the Arkansas River, these historic downtowns have it all. ▶ [colorfulcolorado.com](http://colorfulcolorado.com), [scott@nowhissicolorado.com](mailto:scott@nowhissicolorado.com), 800-831-8594, 104 Crestone Ave., Salida 81201

**SALIDA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE/HEART OF THE ROCKIES** Historic Salida, located next to 14,000-foot peaks to the west and the Arkansas River to the east. Shops and art galleries add to the charm. Recreation abounds: rafting, kayaking, hot springs pool, ziplining, fishing, hiking and mountain biking. ▶ [salidachamber.org](http://salidachamber.org), [desk@salidachamber.org](mailto:desk@salidachamber.org), 719-539-2068, 877-772-5432, 406 W. Hwy. 50, Salida 81201

### HOTELS & MOTELS

**COMFORT INN - SALIDA** Located on Highway 50, the main east-west highway through central Colorado. Clean, comfortable oversized rooms. Indoor heated pool, hot tub, laundry. Close to Monarch Mountain. ▶ [choicehotels.com/colorado/salida/comfort-inn-hotels/co704](http://choicehotels.com/colorado/salida/comfort-inn-hotels/co704), [gm.co704@choicehotels.com](mailto:gm.co704@choicehotels.com), 719-539-5000, 800-424-6423, 315 E. Rainbow Blvd. (US 50), Salida 81201

### RECREATION

**ARKANSAS HEADWATERS RECREATION AREA** Breathtaking. AHRA offers world-class whitewater rafting, fishing, sightseeing and hiking along 152 miles of the Arkansas River, including 101 campsites at 6 riverside campgrounds. Wildlife abounds, with soaring eagles, bighorn sheep — check us out! ▶ [cpw.state.co.us/placestogo/parks/arkansasheadwatersrecreationarea](http://cpw.state.co.us/placestogo/parks/arkansasheadwatersrecreationarea), [ahra@state.co.us](mailto:ahra@state.co.us), 719-539-7289, 800-678-2267, 307 W. Sackett Ave., Salida 81201

**CAPTAIN ZIP LINE ADVENTURE TOURS** First and largest aerial adventure park in Colorado. Where Indiana Jones meets Spiderman! 120 challenge elements. Ninja Warrior adult playground. Ages 6-plus. USA Today top 10 ziplines. No. 1 "thing to do" on Trip Advisor. Gorgeous canyon scenery. Open all year. ▶ [captainzipline.com](http://captainzipline.com), [monty@salida.com](mailto:monty@salida.com), 719-207-4947, 877-947-5463, 1500 County Rd. 45, Salida 81201

## SARGENTS

### ASSOCIATIONS & CHAMBERS

**TOWN OF SARGENTS** At the center of world-class dirt-biking, off-roading, mountain biking, fishing, camping, hiking, hunting, snowmobiling and skiing, Sargents is a mecca for outdoor recreation. ▶ [970-641-0674](http://970-641-0674), 71420 US Hwy. 50, Sargents 81248

## SEDALIA

### GUEST & DUDE RANCHES

**LOST VALLEY RANCH** **OXLEY CHLA** Lost Valley Ranch is a one-of-a-kind dude ranch. The recipient of the prestigious AAA Four Diamond award for 41 consecutive years, we've been providing unforgettable Colorado guest-ranch experiences for adventurers and families alike since 1961. ▶ [lostvalleyranch.com](http://lostvalleyranch.com), [info@lostvalleyranch.com](mailto:info@lostvalleyranch.com), 303-647-2311, 29555 Goose Creek Rd., Sedalia 80135



# COME TO LIFE / Visitor Directory

Swimming Pool Exercise/Fitness Facilities Pets Allowed High-Speed Internet Airport Shuttle Complimentary Breakfast ADA-Compliant Restaurant On Site Free Parking In-Room Refrigerator In-Room Microwave Colorado Hotel & Lodging Association (CHLA) Member

The dollar symbols indicate how much you can expect to pay for an average hotel room. \$ = Less than \$100 \$\$ = \$101-200 \$\$\$ = \$201-299 \$\$\$\$ = \$300 and up

## SILVERTHORNE

### HOTELS & MOTELS

**QUALITY INN & SUITES SUMMIT COUNTY** Easy access to Summit County skiing, shopping, dining and summer recreation. Free deluxe continental breakfast. Cable TV. High-speed internet available. Fitness center. Pets welcome. [choicehotels.com/colorado/silverthorne/quality-inn-hotels/co148](http://choicehotels.com/colorado/silverthorne/quality-inn-hotels/co148), gm.co148@choicehotels.com, 970-513-1222, 800-228-5151, 530 Silverthorne Ln., Silverthorne 80498

### RECREATION

**HIGH COUNTRY TOURS** Guided snowmobile tours, snow-tubing and unguided snowmobile rentals in Colorado's high country from one hour to all day. We welcome beginners to adrenaline seekers. Free snowsuits, boots, helmets and local transportation. Live the adventure! [mysnowmobiletour.com](http://mysnowmobiletour.com), info@mysnowmobiletour.com, 970-668-9945, 7101 Heeny Rd., Silverthorne 80498 \$-\$

### SHOPPING

**THE OUTLETS AT SILVERTHORNE** Offering a distinctive shopping experience in a beautiful Rocky Mountain setting. Save 30-70 percent on our collection of name-brand stores such as Nike, Polo Ralph Lauren, Calvin Klein, Under Armour, GAP, Coach, Banana Republic, J. Crew, Levi's and more. [outletsilverthorne.com](http://outletsilverthorne.com), info@outletsilverthorne.com, 970-468-5780, 246-V Rainbow Dr., Silverthorne 80498

### TRANSPORTATION

**SUMMIT EXPRESS AIRPORT SHUTTLE** Your No. 1 airport shuttle ride from Denver airport to your Rocky Mountain locations! Ride in affordable luxury to Breckenridge, Keystone, Copper Mountain, Vail, Beaver Creek & all towns. Daily shuttles or private rides available. Save with promo code COSG. [summitexpress.com](http://summitexpress.com), info@summitexpress.com, 970-986-4248, 855-686-8267, 201 Meraly Way, Suite 298, Silverthorne 80498

## SILVERTON

### ASSOCIATIONS & CHAMBERS

**SILVERTON AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND VISITORS CENTER** Secluded at 9,318 feet, a visit to Silverton is one that you will not soon forget any time of year. A perfect combination of supreme natural beauty and magnificent Victorian charm. Stay and play summer and winter. Activities year-round. [silvertoncolorado.com](http://silvertoncolorado.com), chamber@silvertoncolorado.com, 970-387-5654, 800-752-4494, 414 Greene St., Silverton 81433

### ATTRACTIONS

**OLD HUNDRED GOLD MINE TOUR** Go 1/3 of a mile underground in a real gold mine! Ride an electric mine train. See live mining demonstrations using air drills, mucker and more. Learn the secrets of the honey wagon. Free gold & silver panning with tour purchase. No reservations needed. [minefour.com](http://minefour.com), 970-387-5444, 800-872-3009, 721 County Rd. 4-A, Silverton 81433

### RV & CAMPGROUNDS

**SILVER SUMMIT RV PARK AND JEEP RENTAL** A great homebase for your outdoor activities. Stay with us where you can rent a Jeep on site, ride your ATV or 4WD from the park, go fishing, hiking, biking and more. Our friendly staff can help you with any questions. Great memories are our goal! [silversummitrvpark.com](http://silversummitrvpark.com), silversummitrv@gmail.com, 970-387-0240, 640 Mineral St., Silverton 81433

## SNOWMASS

### CONDOS & HOME RENTALS

**THE CRESTWOOD CONDOMINIUMS** The Crestwood is an ideally situated condominium property in both summer and winter offering skiing, hiking & biking access at your doorstep. Comprised of fully furnished one- to four-bedroom condos, full-service front desk & world-class amenities. [thecrestwood.com](http://thecrestwood.com), res@thecrestwood.com, 970-923-2450, 800-356-5949, 400 Wood Rd., Snowmass 81615

### DESTINATION RESIDENCES SNOWMASS

With close to 400 residences ranging from hotel rooms to 5-bedroom condominiums that offer luxury ski-in/ski-out to more moderately priced options, Destination Residences Snowmass offers all the amenities of a hotel with all the comforts of home. [destinationhotels.com/destination-residences-snowmass](http://destinationhotels.com/destination-residences-snowmass), 970-923-3673, 866-786-9101, 855 Carriage Way, Snowmass 81615

### SNOWMASS LODGING COMPANY BY WYNDHAM VACATION RENTALS

Luxury, ski-in/ski-out 1- to 4-bedroom condos and townhomes in the heart of Snowmass Village, including Woodrun Place, Chamonix, Enclave and Owl Creek Homes. Enjoy the comforts of home and the exceptional quality and service of a first-class hotel. [wynndhamvacationrentals.com/colorado/snowmass](http://wynndhamvacationrentals.com/colorado/snowmass), aspensnowmass@wynvr.com, 970-922-4983, 800-365-0410, 425 Wood Rd., Snowmass Village 81615

**THE TIMBERLINE CONDOMINIUMS** Eighty-four deluxe ski-in/ski-out condos from studios to three bedrooms. Services include daily housekeeping, complimentary Aspen airport and village shuttles, concierge, wireless Internet, outdoor pool, hot tubs and on-site restaurant, The Edge. [thetimberline.com](http://thetimberline.com), reservations@thetimberline.com, 970-923-4000, 800-922-4001, 690 Carriage Way, Snowmass Village 81615

**WOODRUN V** In a serene mountainside setting near the Village Mall are some of the largest condominiums in Aspen/Snowmass resort: Woodrun V. Relax in the comfort of a heated outdoor pool and hot tubs after a day on the slopes and trails. [woodrun.com](http://woodrun.com), info@woodrun.com, 970-923-5021, 844-754-7400, 24 Village Bound Rd., Snowmass Village 81615

### HOTELS & MOTELS

**VICEROY SNOWMASS** Viceroy Snowmass is a luxury year-round resort. Only 7 miles from Aspen in the heart of Snowmass Base Village, the sophistication and sense of place distinguishes Viceroy Snowmass from other mountain destinations while creating lifelong memories. [viceroyhotelsandresorts.com/snowmass](http://viceroyhotelsandresorts.com/snowmass), 970-923-8000, 877-235-7577, 130 Wood Rd., Snowmass 81615

## SOMERSET

### RECREATION

**PAONIA STATE PARK** Spend the day at a mountain reservoir in view of the majestic Ragged Mountains. Great scenery, water skiing, wildflowers and 13 non-electric campsites. [cpw.state.co.us/places/gog/parks/paonia](http://cpw.state.co.us/places/gog/parks/paonia), crawford.park@state.co.us, 970-921-5721, 800-678-2267, 31111 County Rd. 12, Somerset 81434

## SOUTH FORK

### ASSOCIATIONS & CHAMBERS

**TOWN OF SOUTH FORK** South Fork is located in southern Colorado near Wolf Creek Ski Area at the junction of Hwy. 149 & 160. It's the gateway to the Silver Thread Scenic Historic Byway, a 117-mile drive linking the mountain towns of Creede, Lake City & Gunnison. [southfork.org](http://southfork.org), vcdirector@southfork.org, 719-873-5512, 0028 Silver Thread Ln., South Fork 81154

### CONDOS & HOME RENTALS

**ALPINE ACCENTS** Alpine Accents offer 6 luxury cabins on 9 acres, 3.5-acre lake, 1,200-foot riverfront south fork of the Rio Grande. The closest lodging to Wolf Creek Ski Area. Our 54-foot bridge opens 4 acres of rural cabins accessing 2 million acres of National Forest. [alpineaccents.net](http://alpineaccents.net), alpineaccents@earthlink.net, 719-873-0228, 176900 US Hwy. 160, South Fork 81154

### HOTELS & MOTELS

**ALLINGTON INN & SUITES OF SOUTH FORK** Centrally located. Spectacular mountain setting. Indoor pool/hot tub, free breakfast, fitness room, business center/conference room, WiFi, suite rooms. Wolf Creek Ski just 17 miles. Creede Theater, hot springs, Rio Grande Golf, Rio Grande River & more! [allingtoninn.com](http://allingtoninn.com), reservations@allingtoninn.com, 719-873-5600, 800-285-6590, 0182 E. Frontage Rd., South Fork 81154

### LODGES & CABINS

**RIVERBEND RESORT CABINS & RV PARK** Cozy log & wood cabins open year-round with wood-burning fireplace, kitchen, flatscreen TV, grill and decks with river and mountain views. RV park, riverside tent camping, stocked fishing, hot tub, playground, game room, hunt, golf and Ski Wolf Creek. [riverbend-resort.com](http://riverbend-resort.com), mail@riverbend-resort.com, 719-873-5344, 800-621-6512, 33846 W. Hwy. 160, South Fork 81154

## STEAMBOAT SPRINGS

### ASSOCIATIONS & CHAMBERS

#### STEAMBOAT SPRINGS CHAMBER RESORT ASSOCIATION

Find the spirit of the West and friendly community in a wide-open valley with endless trails to explore on bike or on foot, pristine trout streams to fish and rejuvenating natural hot springs. Visit SteamboatSummer.com for more information. [steamboatsummer.com](http://steamboatsummer.com), info@steamboatsummer.com, 970-879-0880, 877-754-2269, 125 Anglers Dr., Steamboat Springs 80487

### CONDOS & HOME RENTALS

**MOVING MOUNTAINS - LUXURY LODGING SPECIALIST** Moving Mountains specializes in vacation-home rentals, slopeside residences and catered ski chalets in Steamboat Springs. These properties offer more privacy, amenities and square footage with a range of on-mountain locations that are unrivaled. [movingmountains.com](http://movingmountains.com), reservations@movingmountains.com, 844-388-4284, 445 Anglers Dr., #1B, Steamboat Springs 80487

**NORTH STAR RESORT** North Star Condominiums was designed with both romantic getaways and family fun in mind. We are located just minutes from both the Steamboat ski area and town. [8664myvacation.com/rentResortList.php?region=02](http://8664myvacation.com/rentResortList.php?region=02), reservations@viresors.com, 970-879-9634, 866-469-8222, 2955 Columbine Dr., Steamboat Springs 80487

**THE PORCHES** Experience Steamboat's new standard of luxury! The Porches offers 3,000- to 5,000-square-foot homes at the base of the mountain, featuring four or five bedrooms. The Porches provides the perfect summer or winter getaway for your family. [vacation-steamboat.com](http://vacation-steamboat.com), info@pinnaclelresorts.net, 970-879-0600, 866-992-0600, 2096 Indian Summer Dr., Steamboat Springs 80487

### STEAMBOAT RESORTS BY WYNDHAM VACATION RENTALS

Steamboat Resorts is committed to providing our guests with a truly memorable experience. With the most highly requested vacation properties in Steamboat's most popular mountainside locations, we have the ideal accommodation for every traveler. [wynndhamvacationrentals.com/colorado/steamboat-springs](http://wynndhamvacationrentals.com/colorado/steamboat-springs), steamboatinfo@wynvr.com, 970-879-8000, 866-634-9611, 1855 Ski Time Square Dr., Steamboat Springs 80487

**SUNBURST CONDOMINIUMS** Sunburst Condominiums offer spacious, luxurious condominiums just minutes from both Steamboat Ski Resort and town. Steamboat offers skiers of all abilities some of the West's finest skiing on more than 2,500 acres on four separate mountains. [sunburststeamboat.com](http://sunburststeamboat.com), reservations@viresors.com, 866-469-8222, 866-469-8222, 3400 Sunburst Ct., Steamboat Springs 80477

### HOTELS & MOTELS

**QUALITY INN & SUITES - STEAMBOAT SPRINGS** Beautiful mountain views. Free hot breakfast, WiFi, pool and hot tub. One mile from the Steamboat Ski Resort on free SST shuttle. Hiking/biking via river trail to downtown Steamboat. [choicehotels.com/colorado/steamboat-springs/quality-inn-hotels/co702](http://choicehotels.com/colorado/steamboat-springs/quality-inn-hotels/co702), gm.co702@choicehotels.com, 970-879-6669, 800-424-6423, 1055 Walton Creek Dr., Steamboat Springs 80487

**RABBIT EARS MOTEL** Quality lodging in Steamboat with affordable, family-friendly prices. Located in downtown Steamboat. We're just a short walk to dining and shopping. Discounted passes to the Old Town Hot Springs. [rabbitearsmotel.com](http://rabbitearsmotel.com), info@rabbitearsmotel.com, 970-879-1150, 800-828-7702, 201 Lincoln Ave., Steamboat Springs 80477







## TWIN LAKES

### LODGES & CABINS

**MOUNT ELBERT LODGE AND CABINS** With roomy house-keeping cabins and lodge rooms, we offer mountain vacations as relaxing or adventurous as you are. Enjoy fishing, hiking, sightseeing and winter activities at the base of Colorado's highest peak. Make a cabin your home away from home. ▶ [mount-elbert.com](http://mount-elbert.com), info@mount-elbert.com, 719-486-0594, 800-381-4433, 10764 E. State Hwy. 82, Twin Lakes 81251 📞📧📍📱

## VAIL

### CONDOS & HOME RENTALS

**ANTLERS AT VAIL** 🏔️🏠🏡🏠 The Antlers enjoys a fantastic location on Gore Creek facing Vail Mountain. A spectacular creekside pool & hot tubs headline an impressive list of amenities including free WiFi, ski valet & more. Spacious studios to four-bedroom condos. ▶ [antlersvail.com](http://antlersvail.com), info@antlersvail.com, 970-476-2471, 800-258-8617, 680 Lionshead Pl., Vail 81657 📞📧📍📱

**ASPEN AT STREAMSIDE** 🏔️🏠🏡🏠 There are several pleasant choices for high-energy recreation and high-profile relaxation! Whether it's skiing, snowmobiling, swimming or biking, there is always a glamorous thrill surrounding the lively year-round activities at the resort. ▶ [aspenatstreamsidevail.com](http://aspenatstreamsidevail.com), reservations@vrvresorts.com, 970-476-7985, 866-469-8222, 2244 S. Frontage Rd. W., Vail 81657 📞📧📍📱 \$\$\$-\$\$\$\$

**CEDAR AT STREAMSIDE** 🏔️🏠🏡🏠 Cedar at Streamside is a perfect escape amid the beauty of the Colorado high country. Luxurious accommodations and a host of world-class resort amenities with dining, recreation and shopping in Vail for a memorable vacation experience. ▶ [cedarstreamside.com](http://cedarstreamside.com), reservations@vrvresorts.com, 970-476-7985, 866-469-8222, 2244 S. Frontage Rd., Vail 81657 📞

**LION SQUARE LODGE AT THE GONDOLA** 🏔️🏠🏡🏠 The best ski-in/ski-out location in Vail! Located at the gondola in Lionshead Village, we offer hotel rooms, 1- to 5-bedroom condos, pool, hot tubs, restaurant, concierge, fitness room, daily housekeeping, complimentary parking and Internet access. ▶ [wyndhamvacationrentals.com/colorado/vail/lion-square-lodge-gondola-resort](http://wyndhamvacationrentals.com/colorado/vail/lion-square-lodge-gondola-resort), [vail.reservations@wynvr.com](http://vail.reservations@wynvr.com), 970-476-2281, 877-737-4453, 660 W. Lionshead Pl., Vail 81657 📞📧📍📱

**LODGE TOWER** 🏔️🏠🏡🏠 Located at the base of Vail Mountain, only seconds from Vail's restaurants and shops. Amenities include outdoor pool, gym and spa. Offering guests the choice of rooms or 1- to 3-bedroom condominiums. Breakfast and parking included during summer. ▶ [lodgetower.com](http://lodgetower.com), info@lodgetower.com, 970-476-9530, 800-654-2517, 200 Vail Rd., Vail 81657 📞📧📍📱

**MONTANEROS IN VAIL** In Lionshead Village, this boutique residence lodge provides the amenities of a hotel. One- to four-bedroom residences, saltwater pool and hot tubs, complimentary parking and Internet access, steps from shops, restaurants, gondola and activities. ▶ [wyn-dhamvacationrentals.com/colorado/vail/montaneros-vail-resort](http://wyn-dhamvacationrentals.com/colorado/vail/montaneros-vail-resort), [vail.reservations@wynvr.com](http://vail.reservations@wynvr.com), 970-476-2491, 877-737-4453, 641 W. Lionshead Cir., Vail 81657 📞📧📍📱

**VAIL RESIDENCES AT HOTEL TALISA** Vail Residences at Hotel Talisa welcomes guests to experience breathtaking views, roaring fireplaces, privacy, space and the conveniences of home along with unique, world-class amenities. A premier ski-in/ski-out offering with an on-property ski lift. ▶ [vailresidenceshoteltalisa.com](http://vailresidenceshoteltalisa.com), reservations@vailresidenceshoteltalisa.com, 866-899-1915, 1300 Westhaven Dr., Vail 81657 📞📧📍📱 \$\$\$

**VAIL SPA CONDOMINIUMS** 🏔️🏠🏡🏠 Newly renovated! Featuring spacious 2- to 4-bedroom condominium rentals in a convenient Lionshead location just steps from the gondola. Amenities include full kitchens, indoor and outdoor pools and hot tubs, steam room, saunas and fitness facility. ▶ [vailspa.com](http://vailspa.com), [vailspa@eastwestresorts.com](mailto:vailspa@eastwestresorts.com), 970-476-0882, 866-966-1868, 710 W. Lionshead Cir., Vail 81657 📞📧📍📱 \$\$\$-\$\$\$\$

### DINING

**LOCAL JOE'S PIZZA AND DELIVERY** Let us deliver pizza, salads, wings, apps and desserts to you until 2am seven days a week, or visit our full bar for great specials. The locals know to call Local Joe's. ▶ [localjoespizza.com](http://localjoespizza.com), 970-476-2222, 1000 LionsRidge Loop 2A, Vail 81657

## HOTELS & MOTELS

**DOUBLE TREE BY HILTON - VAIL** 🏔️🏠🏡🏠 Introducing the new DoubleTree by Hilton Vail. Host to a variety of guest rooms, this property also features 3 restaurants, a grab-and-go market, guest shuttle, on-site ski & bike rentals, on-site massage facility and an outdoor heated pool & hot tub. ▶ [doubletree3.hilton.com/en/hotels/colorado/doubletree-by-hilton-vail-EGEVCDI/index.html](http://doubletree3.hilton.com/en/hotels/colorado/doubletree-by-hilton-vail-EGEVCDI/index.html), 970-476-2739, 855-610-8733, 2211 N. Frontage Rd., Vail 81657 📞📧📍📱

**HOTEL TALISA - VAIL** 🏔️🏠🏡🏠 Vail's newest luxury hotel. Hotel Talisa, Vail offers 285 renovated luxurious accommodations and a premier ski-in/ski-out offering with an on-site ski lift, ski concierge/ valet, dining, a new blissful spa and alpine experiences for all ages. ▶ [hoteltalisa.com](http://hoteltalisa.com), reservations@hoteltalisa.com, 800-420-2424, 1300 Westhaven Dr., Vail 81657 📞📧📍📱 \$\$\$

**THE LION** Experience Vail's newest luxury condos, elegant studios to 4-bedroom residences in Lionshead. Exceptional amenities: indoor pool, steam, fitness, outdoor hot tubs, game room, concierge, ski valet, underground parking. Family friendly, great location. ▶ [thelionvail.com](http://thelionvail.com), rentals@thelionvail.com, 701 W. Lionshead Cir., Vail 81657 📞📧📍📱 \$\$\$

**THE SEBASTIAN - VAIL** 🏔️🏠🏡🏠 The Sebastian - Vail, A Timbers Resort®, is Vail's most stylish boutique hotel. Located in the heart of Vail Village, at The Sebastian you'll find everything is fresh and distinctive — a confluence of approachable chic and high-mountain comfort. ▶ [thesebastianvail.com](http://thesebastianvail.com), groups@thesebas-tianvail.com, 970-444-5623, 866-684-4785, 16 Vail Pl., Vail 81657 📞📧📍📱 \$\$\$

**THE SITZMARK LODGE** 🏔️🏠🏡🏠 Excellent guest service & comfortable accommodations are hallmarks of the Sitzmark Lodge. This family-owned & -operated hotel is in the heart of Vail Village. Relax by the outdoor heated pool & hot tub; enjoy free parking, breakfast & no extra fees. ▶ [sitzmarklodge.com](http://sitzmarklodge.com), 970-476-5001, 888-476-5001, 183 E. Gore Creek Dr., Vail 81657 📞📧📍📱

**VAIL RACQUET CLUB MOUNTAIN RESORT** 🏔️🏠🏡🏠 Only resort in Vail on more than 20 acres. A true Colorado experience. 1- to 3-bedroom condos and townhomes combined with unmatched complimentary amenities offer a distinctive mountain retreat at an exceptional value. All about family, fun and friends! ▶ [vailracquetclub.com](http://vailracquetclub.com), sales@vailracquetclub.com, 970-476-4840, 800-428-4840, 4695 Vail Racquet Club Dr., Vail 81657 📞📧📍📱 \$\$\$

### RECREATION

**VAIL GOLF CLUB & NORDIC CENTER** Highlighted by views of the Gore Mountains, Vail's only 18-hole course features unique fairways, smooth putting surfaces and a scenic layout amid the National Forest. Don't miss the new clubhouse and the Nordic ski and snowshoe and snow-bike trails in winter. ▶ [vail.golf](http://vail.golf), info@vailrec.com, 970-479-2260, 1775 Sunburst Dr., Vail 81657 📞📱

## WALDEN

### RECREATION

**STATE FOREST STATE PARK** The ultimate in rugged Colorado wilderness. 71,000 acres of forest, jagged peaks and alpine lakes. Features 158 campsites and 15 cabins and yurts that are available for overnight stays. Moose viewing is popular here. ▶ [cpw.state.co.us/places/togo/parks/stateforest](http://cpw.state.co.us/places/togo/parks/stateforest), [state.forest@state.co.us](mailto:state.forest@state.co.us), 970-723-8366, 800-678-2267, 56750 Hwy. 14, Walden 80480 📍

## WALSENBURG

### ASSOCIATIONS & CHAMBERS

**SPANISH PEAKS COUNTRY** Walsenburg is in the heart of Spanish Peaks Country at the crossroads of southern I-25 and state highways 160 and 10. Historic downtown offers museums, shopping, dining, lodging and more. Lathrop State Park is just east of downtown on Highway 160. ▶ [spanishpeakscountry.com](http://spanishpeakscountry.com), info@spanishpeakscountry.com, 401 Main St., Suite 201, Walsenburg 81089

### RECREATION

**LATHROP STATE PARK** Nestled in the shadow of the Spanish Peaks, this park offers a gentle climate, 103 campsites, fishing, waterskiing, golfing, hiking and great views of the nearby mountain ranges. ▶ [cpw.state.co.us/places/togo/parks/lathrop](http://cpw.state.co.us/places/togo/parks/lathrop), [lathrop.park@state.co.us](mailto:lathrop.park@state.co.us), 719-738-2376, 800-678-2267, 70 C.R. 502, Walsenburg 81089 📞📱

## WESTMINSTER

### HOTELS & MOTELS

**QUALITY INN & SUITES DENVER NORTH - WESTMINSTER** All-suite hotel offering spacious rooms with microfridge, coffeemaker, iron/board, blow dryer, indoor pool and hot tub, free WiFi and free breakfast. ▶ [choicehotels.com/colorado/westminster/comfort-suites-hotels/co734](http://choicehotels.com/colorado/westminster/comfort-suites-hotels/co734), gm.co734@choicehotels.com, 303-429-5500, 12085 Delaware St., Westminster 80234 📞📧📍📱

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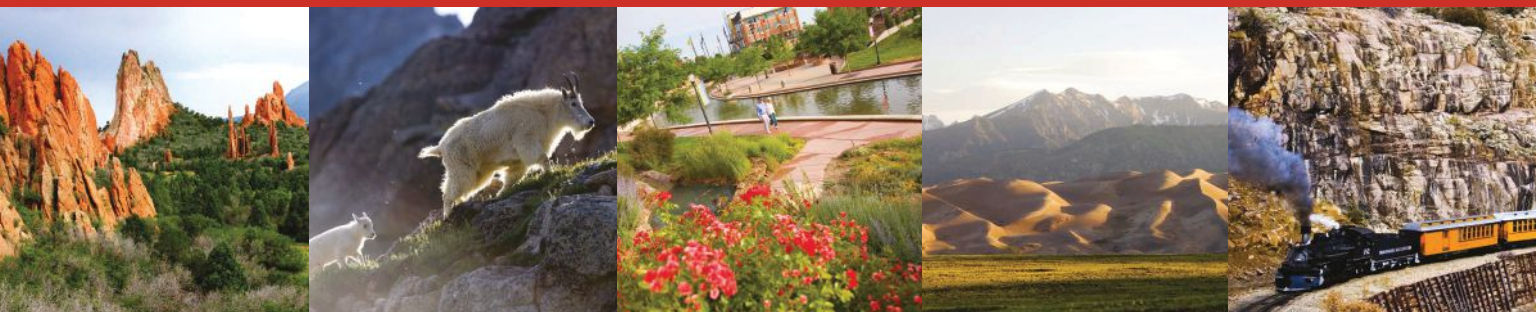


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