



GORGEOUS VISTAS AND CHARMING TOWNS

GREET COLORADO VISITORS

SKI TOWN SUMMERS

8 ROCKY MOUNTAIN CITIES WITH SPECTACULAR SCENERY

ARE YOU COLO-READY?

TIPS TO EXPLORE COLORADO'S GREAT OUTDOORS

METRO TO MOUNTAINS

SAMPLE ITINERARY
INCLUDES FOOD AND FUN

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THE DURANGO & SILVERTON NARROW GAUGE RAILROAD IS A HISTORIC LANDMARK

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For adventurous spirits who want to experience
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crossings and unforgettable jaw-dropping scenery
this rail attraction is solely meant for sightseeing
and the 3.5 hour journey from Durango to
Silverton climbs 3,000 feet; part of the journey
travels along a narrow cliff ledge. A step back in
time on 1880-era cars pulled by a 1920's steam
locomotive. Runs May thru October, 4 different
seating classes, open air as well as enclosed cars.
Also, visit the free Roundhouse Museum at the
downtown Durango Depot or book a Railyard
tour – a behind the scenes experience.



Durango, CO
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American Heritage Railways
TravelPro Central Office, Durango, CO
Representing Durango & Silverton
Narrow Gauge RR and
Great Smoky Mountains RR

Carrie Whitley, Sales Director
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Royal Gorge Aerial Tram
(Photo courtesy of Colorado







Gorgeous Vistas and Charming Towns Are Ready to Greet You and Your Groups!

I am enormously proud to present the 2021 edition of our Colorado Group Tour Planner. This edition will introduce you to everything that is new and exciting in our capital of Denver and the new U.S. Olympic and Paralympic

Museum in Colorado Springs. You will learn what it means to be Colorado ready and travel from "Metro to Mountains and Back" with our new itinerary. There is so much to explore, and we enjoy sharing it all with you.

I would like to thank all our Tour Colorado members for their continued support. Our members consist of attractions, hotels, destinations and service providers that all go above and beyond to promote our beautiful



state and greet your groups with that big warm Colorado Welcome! Please take a moment to look at their listings and reach out to us for more information to help with your itinerary building. We are all excited and eager to help you create that perfect tour!

Thank you for sharing Colorado with your clients. We appreciate you! Please sit back, relax and enjoy exploring Colorado.

Julianne Fredrick. **Executive Director, Tour Colorado**

Tour Colorado is a Proud Partner with the Colorado Tourism Office and Proud Member of NTA, ABA and TAP

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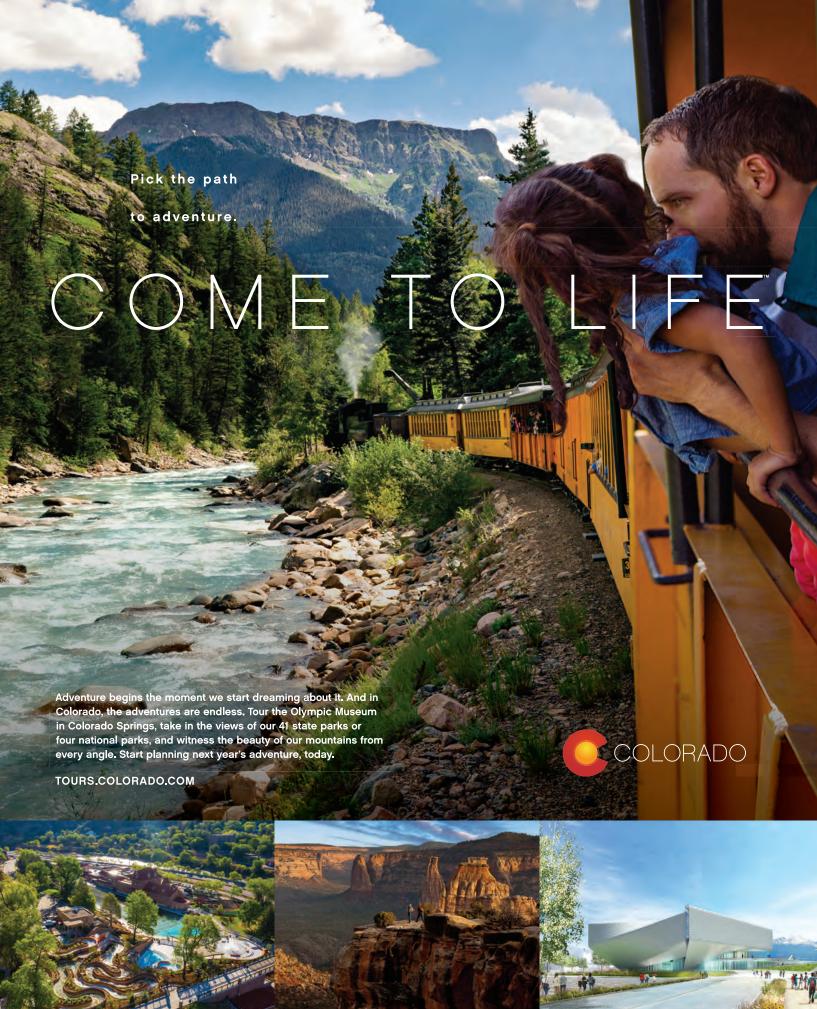
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GETTING HERE IS EASY.

GETTING AROUND IS EASIER.

COLORADO WELCOME CENTERS

Ten Official Colorado Welcome Centers are located throughout the state and easily accessible from every major highway entering the state. Services provided by dedicated volunteer Colorado experts are free. More information is available at colorado.com/official-colorado-welcome-centers.

■ CANYONS & PLAINS

- 1. Colorado Welcome Center at Lamar 109 E. Beech St. Lamar, CO 81052 719-336-3483 leslie.stagner@colorado.com
- 2. Colorado Welcome Center at Trinidad 309 Nevada Ave. Trinidad, CO 81082 719-846-9512 marty.hackett@colorado.com

■ DENVER & CITIES OF THE ROCKIES

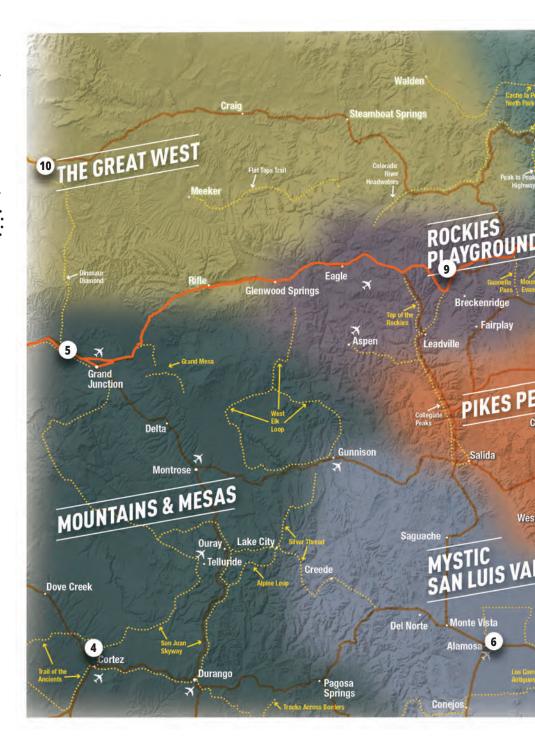
3. Colorado Welcome Center at Fort Collins 3745 E. Prospect Rd., Suite 105 Fort Collins, CO 80525 970-491-4775 cheryl.glanz@colorado.com

■ MOUNTAINS & MESAS

- 4. Colorado Welcome Center at Cortez 928 E. Main St. Cortez, CO 81321 970-565-4048 scrow@cityofcortez.com
- 5. Colorado Welcome Center at Fruita 340 Hwy. 340 Fruita, CO 81521 970-858-9335 fruita@colorado.com

MYSTIC SAN LUIS VALLEY

6. Colorado Welcome Center at Alamosa 610 State Ave. Alamosa, CO 81101 800-258-7597 or 719-589-4840 savannah.schlaufman@colorado.com



■ PIONEERING PLAINS

- 7. Colorado Welcome Center at Burlington 48265 I-70 Burlington, CO 80807 719-346-5554 burlington@colorado.com
- 8. Colorado Welcome Center at Julesburg 20934 County Road 28 Julesburg, CO 80737 970-474-2054

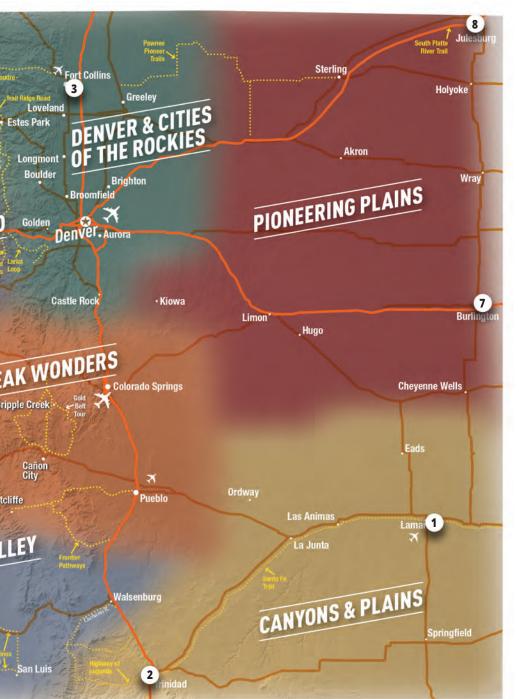
sue.carter@colorado.com

■ ROCKIES PLAYGROUND

9. Colorado Welcome Center at Silverthorne 246-V Rainbow Dr. Silverthorne, CO 80498 970-468-0353

■ THE GREAT WEST

10. Colorado Welcome Center at Dinosaur 101 E. Stegosaurus St. Dinosaur, CO 81610 970-374-2205 cheryl.mcdonald@colorado.com



AMTRAK SERVICES COLORADO

Two Amtrak passenger train routes travel though

Colorado. The California Zephyr connects San Francisco and Chicago with regular stops in the newly renovated Denver Union Station, Grand Junction, Glenwood Springs, Winter Park and Fort Morgan. The **Southwest Chief** connects Los Angeles and Chicago with stops in Trinidad, La Junta and Lamar, Colorado. (amtrak.com/west-train-routes) Introduced in 2017, the Winter Park Express seasonal route links Denver Union Station and Winter Park Resort and is ideal for groups seeking a day of winter sports or mountain air. Developed for ride-in/ride-out skiing, the Express operates Saturdays, Sundays and select Fridays through March.

TAKE FLIGHT TO COLORADO

Denver International Airport is serviced by 23 airlines that provide direct non-stop service from 189 U.S. destinations and 20 international destinations. Denver has the the fifth-busiest airport in the United States, 16th busiest in the world and—with more than 70 million passengers—is one of the busiest airline hubs in the world. It features more than 140 restaurants, shops and services. Travelers looking to explore the I-70 corridor should consider Aspen/Pitkin County Airport for unbeatable access to the area's ski resorts and national forests. American, Delta and United travelers can also fly into Eagle County Regional Airport if they wish to experience the mountains. Steamboat Springs, another premier outdoor destination, can be accessed from the Yampa Valley Regional Airport in Hayden, which features non-stop flights from 14 destinations. Colorado Springs Airport welcomes American, Delta, Frontier and United flights daily and is ideal for visitors to the Pikes Peak Wonders Region. Grand Junction Regional Airport receives flights from Denver, Chicago, Las Vegas, Phoenix, Dallas, Los Angeles and Salt Lake City for visitors seeking Colorado's wine country. Durango-La Plata County Airport welcomes American and United travelers. Smaller regional airports also include Montrose Regional Airport and **Gunnison-Crested Butte Regional Airport.**

Colorado Travel Fun Facts

- Colorado features North America's highest paved road. The Mount Evans Scenic Byway passes through five distinct climate zones before reaching a final height of
- 14,130 feet.
- The Eisenhower-Edwin C. Johnson Memorial Tunnel is an engineering marvel and the highest auto tunnel in the world, bored under the **Continental Divide** at an elevation of

11,158 feet.

• The highest suspension bridge in the world is over the Royal Gorge near Cañon City. The Royal Gorge Bridge spans the Arkansas River in Freemont County at a height of

1,053 feet.

 Denver International Airport is the largest in North America by volume and welcomes over 64 million passengers annually. The everexpanding airport covers

33.531 acres.

Colorado's Scenic Railways

- Broadmoor Pikes Peak Cog Railway 515 Ruxton Ave., Manitou Springs, CO 80829 cograilway.com
- Colorado Model Railroad Museum 680 10th St., Greeley, CO 80631 cmrm.org
- Cripple Creek & Victor Narrow Gauge Railroad 520 E Carr Ave., Cripple Creek, CO 80813 cripplecreekrailroad.com
- Cumbres & Toltec Railroad 5234 B Hwy 285, Antonito, CO 81120 cumbrestoltec.com
- Durango & Silverton Narrow Gauge Railroad 479 Main Ave., Durango, CO 81301 durangotrain.com
- Georgetown Loop Railroad 646 Loop Dr., Georgetown, CO 80444 georgetownlooprr.com
- Leadville, Colorado & Southern Railroad 326 E. 7th St., Leadville, CO 80461 leadville-train.com
- Rio Grande Scenic Railroad 610 State Ave., Alamosa, CO 81101 coloradotrain.com
- Royal Gorge Route Railroad 330 Royal Gorge Blvd., Cañon City, CO 81212 royalgorgeroute.com



Big news in 2021 and beyond

Greeley Stampede Historic 100th Anniversary Scheduled for 2021 The Greelev Stampede's rich tradition began in the 1800s. The annual event, held for 12 days and tied to the July 4th holiday, sees an average of 250,000 visitors. Throughout the year, Greeley Stampede offers numerous community events from concerts to a golf tournament to a rousing kickoff. greeleystampede.org

Pikes Peak Cog Railway Plans to **Open in 2021**

The updated Cog Railraod, which transports visitors to Pikes Peak, is scheduled to reopen in 2021. Meanwhile, the historic rail cars have been removed and repurposed throughout the region. Several are now on display in the Colorado Railroad Museum, and some may become VIP seating in a new sports arena. cograilway.com



Broadmoor Pikes Peak Cog Railway

Cumbres & Toltec Scenic Railroad

Experience the Authentic West!

With depots in both Colorado and New Mexico, the 64-mile train ride crosses the border of the two states 11 times. During the journey, passengers travel through the high desert, narrow canyons, volcanic spires, pine and aspen forests, through tunnels, over trestles, and they top a high mountain pass at 10,015'. You'll find a little bit of everything included in the trip, even homemade buttermilk pie at the Osier Station dining facility where lunch is cooked fresh daily at 9,600'!





Award Winning!

The Cumbres & Toltec has won several awards. As USA Today's Best Scenic Train Ride in 2019, as well as in 2016 to Best Attraction in Colorado and New Mexico in 2017. Also the winner the Bronze award for Scenic Trains in NTA's Courier Distinguished Dozen in 2019. See what the hype is about, and experience the Authentic West, as train passengers did as far back as 1880!

Group Friendly!

The Cumbres & Toltec Scenic Railroad facilities are perfect for groups. From large parking lots and restrooms, ADA accessibility at the stations and on the train, the railroad can accommodate needs of all times. Lunch is relaxed as every ticket includes a hot meal and everyone eats together at Osier Station. This is an easy day for your guide and a fun-filled day for your guests! It's also guaranteed to rank 1st or 2nd on your group's list of favorite parts of your tour!





CUMBRES & TOLTEC SCENIC RAILROAD

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TRAINS RUN DAILY FROM
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MEMORIAL DAY TO MID-OCT
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oted the best place to live in the United States by US News & World Report, Denver is a beautiful getaway destination with a lot to offer. Visitors can expect famous museums, attractions and restaurants, all with a beautiful view of the Rocky Mountains. Here are some of the newest restaurants, bars and attractions in Denver.

CONSTELLATION ICE CREAM

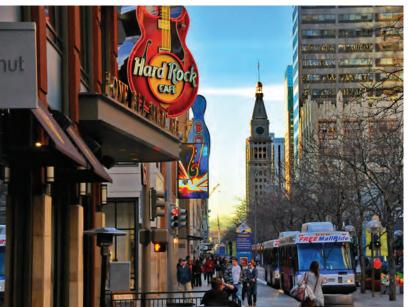
In March of 2019, the owners of Little Man Ice Cream Factory opened up Constellation Ice Cream. The name pays homage to a famous aircraft from the mid-20th century: the Lockheed Constellation. With its 75-foot replica aircraft wing, it also highlights Denver's history of the famous Stapleton International Airport. And not only does it have a unique design, but it also has a "Scoop for Scoop" program, where the shop donates to local schools to support STEM education.

THE SOURCE HOTEL + MARKET HALL

This urban gourmet market and hotel features two new restaurants-Safta, the highly anticipated Israeli restaurant from James Beard Awardwinning chef, Alon Shaya; and barbeque joint, Smok, from Acorn's former Chef Bill Espiricuetta-in addition to the acclaimed Acorn restaurant and Reunion Bakery.

QUIERO AREPAS

In April of 2019, Quiero Arepas opened its second location as a 100% gluten-free food truck. The food truck, and the original location on Pearl Street, is famous for Venezuelan arepas. One arepa and one of their signature coconut water drinks (that, yes, are served straight from the coconut), and that's all you need.



16th Street Mall

courtesy of VISIT DENVER



Denver Graffiti Tour

ATTIMO WINERY

Attimo Winery, from Snooze co-founder Jon Schlegel, opened in January 2020. The winery and tasting room features wines made in the Piedmont region of Italy, alongside Italian-style cocktails and shareable food that pairs with both.

BROADWAY ROXY

While this music bar has been open for a while, it went under new management in the summer of 2019. Along with that, they changed their name, adapted a whole new menu and introduced a new bar program. This bar offers live music seven nights a week and gives you a special "Roaring Twenties" ambiance.

BRASS TACKS

With the original building built in 1863, this is a place with a lot of history and many stories. The current bar, which opened in February of 2019, offers inexpensive, but good, food and many signature drinks. This bar gives you a complete "old school" pub feeling. Just don't ask about the ghost(s).

MAINE SHACK

This New England-inspired restaurant gives visitors and residents of Denver the taste of Maine. The Maine Shack opened its doors in July of 2019 and has been serving authentic East Coast delicacies ever since. And, to ensure the highest quality food, the restaurant partnered with Greenhead Lobster Company to get shipments of lobster directly from Maine four times a week.

NOBLE RIOT

Welcoming wine connoisseurs as well as the wine-curious, this bar offers a great wine menu as well as great foods that pair well with it. Transforming what was previously the Greenlight Lab, the owners of the wine bar wanted to offer an experience for everyone who walks in their door. They also offer one-time wine school classes as well as a club membership program.

MEOW WOLF

In 2021, Meow Wolf, the artist collective responsible for Santa Fe's immersive art exhibit "The House of Eternal Return," will open its second permanent installation in Denver. Meow Wolf creates immersive and interactive experiences that transport audiences of all ages into fantastic realms of story and exploration. This includes art installations, video and music production and extended reality content.

DENVER GRAFFITI TOUR

See a different side of the city as you explore street art, murals and graffiti. Denver Graffiti Tour provides leisurely two-hour strolls through the vibrant RiNo (River North) Art District. Not only will you learn about the artists and their work, but get insider tips on go-to bars and hip restaurants.

RED ROCKS PARK & AMPHITHEATRE AND COLORADO MUSIC HALL OF FAME

If you are visiting Denver, the Red Rocks Park & Amphitheatre is a must-see. It is an absolutely beautiful phenomenon, being "the only naturally occurring, acoustically perfect amphitheater in the world." This theater allows visitors to see some of the most famous and popular artists in the world with events year-round, all while giving them a one of a kind view. During the day, the venue is a city park, free and open to the public with easy hiking trails and a visitor center. Stop by the Trading Post at Red Rocks Amphitheatre and explore the Colorado Music Hall of Fame. The CMHOF has been created to honor those individuals who have made outstanding contributions to preserve and protect historical artifacts and to educate the public regarding everything that's great about our state's music.

This is just a taste of Denver's new attractions, so be sure to explore **www.Denver.org** when planning your next group outing to the Mile High City.



Red Rocks Amphitheatre

oto courtesy of VISIT DENVER

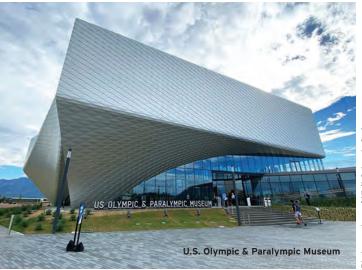
EXPERIENCE MEDAL STAND GLORY AT THE NEW U.S. OLYMPIC AND PARALYMPIC MUSEUM

THIS NEW COLORADO SPRINGS ATTRACTION HONORS AMERICAN OLYMPIANS WITH CUTTING-EDGE EXHIBITS AND INVALUABLE MEMORABILIA

Iready home to the United States Olympic & Paralympic Committee and U.S. Olympic & Paralympic Training Center, Colorado Springs cemented its reputation as "Olympic City USA" with a July grand opening of the U.S. Olympic and Paralympic Museum. This immense 60,000-square-foot celebration of America's storied Olympic triumphs is located in the heart of the new Southwest Downtown Urban Renewal District.

Before entering, visitors should admire the museum's innovative design: a three-story metallic spiral that evokes a discus-thrower in mid-motion. The aluminum-paneled facade is lined with 9,000 uniquely shaped folded panels that reflect sunlight during the day and project digital inscriptions of athletes and members at nighttime. Once inside, groups will be amazed by the vast atrium lined with massive clerestory windows that offer views of Colorado Springs and the surrounding Rocky Mountains. This space is also home to the Hall of Fame itself. Each of the Hall's 154 inductees is honored by interactive digital pylons and a 40-foot digital wall that line the space.

Guests then ride an elevator up to the third floor to experience the museum's 12 gallery spaces that are arranged in a descending corkscrew design. Visitors first learn about the Olympics' origin in Ancient Greece and modern revival in 1896 before entering the interactive Athlete Training room. Here you can unlock your inner athlete by sprinting, skiing and sledding against LED projections of real Olympians at their record times. Other exhibits include the Lab (which focuses on innovations in equipment and wheelchair technology to maximize performance) and the Winter Games room, where virtual snowboarders surround guests in a digital "halfpipe." Throughout, groups will be amazed by priceless artifacts such as the scoreboard from the 1980 "Miracle on Ice," the famous Night



Train bobsled from the 2010 Winter Games and a vast collection of torches, medals and memorabilia.

The museum also prides itself on its cutting-edge personalized experiences. Before they enter the gallery space, guests are given credentials and can specify their ZIP code and Olympic events they are interested in. As they walk through the exhibits, displays sense the visitor's verification and automatically customize themselves to showcase the reader's favorite sports and spotlight Olympic athletes from their hometown.

Featuring convenient motorcoach parking, exceptional accessibility and engaging exhibits, the U.S. Olympic and Paralympic Museum is an absolutely essential addition to your next Colorado visit. For more information and group rates, visit www.usopm.org. •

7 WAYS FOR GROUPS TO BE COLO-READY

WITH MORE THAN 40 PERCENT OF COLORADO'S LANDSCAPE MANAGED BY STATE AND FEDERAL AGENCIES, IT'S LIKELY YOUR TOUR WILL TAKE IN SOME OF THE STATE'S MARVELOUS SCENERY



ach of Colorado's eight regions has its own attractions to build an itinerary around. Regardless of the region traveled, they each share the spirit of adventure and a soft spot for nature. Here's how to best explore Colorado's great outdoors like a local, courtesy of the Colorado Tourism Office.

- 1. Know Before You Go Along with state and federal lands, cities and counties are also charged with maintaining the area. When planning where your travels might take you, be respectful of the space. Consider finding your way to less-traveled places. There are plenty of places in Colorado where off-peak destinations are perfect for exploring. Remember to have your travelers bring reusable water bottles and hot drink containers.
- 2. Stick to Trails Colorado has 39,000 marked trails! There's no need to wander off them. Shortcuts can be tempting, but staying on the path for a few extra steps protects plants and animals that are the true locals. Stick to the trails that best fit your group's activity level.

3. Leave It as You Find It -

Colorado's 750 species of wildflowers will live forever in your camera. Respect all living things. Cutting or chopping plants and trees may destroy them. That unusual rock might look great in your garden, but it needs to stay exactly where it is. Leave everything natural for others to enjoy.

4. Trash the Trash - Whether your preferred technique is a jump shot, layup or slam dunk, put your trash where it belongs. Even crumbs, seeds and cores need to go in the nearest waste receptacle. Pick up an extra piece of litter for the team and leave your place better than you found it. Wash your hands with biodegradable soap, staying a few hundred feet from rivers and streams.

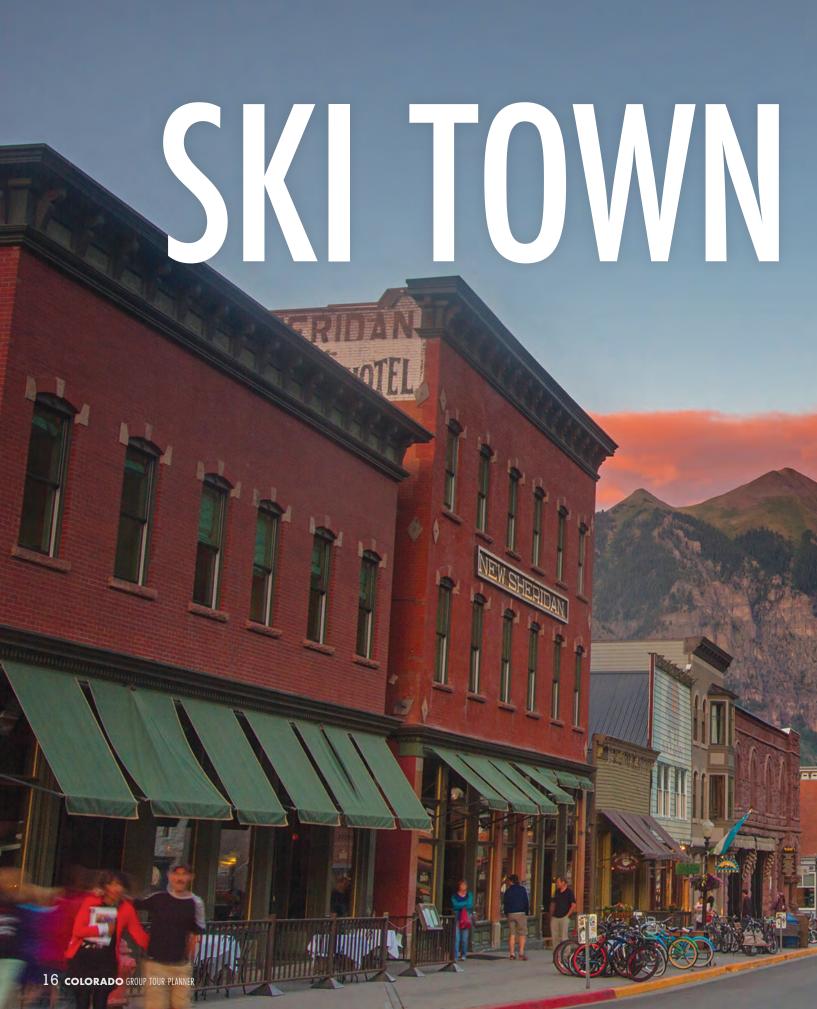
- 5. Be Careful with Fire Who doesn't eniov a s'more over a campfire? It's certainly a nice treat while enjoying a sunset. While Colorado's low humidity is a bonus, it will create dry conditions. Keep your campfire small, manageable and never unattended. When extinguishing your fire use enough water so you can hold embers in your hand. Cigarette and cigar smokers need to make sure their smoke is completely out. Put the butts in the trash where they belong.
- 6. Keep Wildlife Wild We love Chip 'n Dale-those chipmunk brothers that Walt Disney Productions introduced in 1943. When you see their relatives in the wild, or for that matter any wildlife, do not feed them. It alters their natural behaviors. Tens

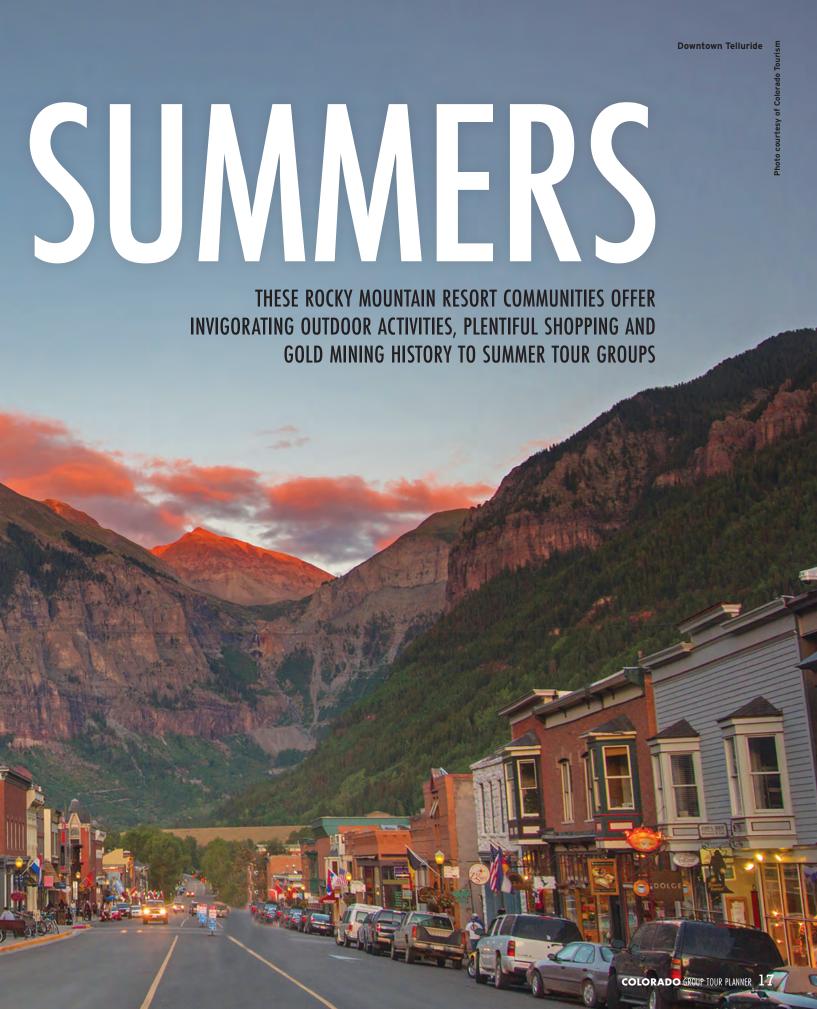
of thousands creatures call Colorado home. Keep your distance to stay safe.

7. Share Our Trails and Parks - As mentioned in the first point, consider exploring the lesser-known paths. People-watching really won't qualify as an outdoor activity. Mute your cell phone, or better yet turn it off before heading into nature. Although likely practicing social distancing, do be courteous to others. Hikers and bikers heading uphill need the momentum.

Whether your Colorado outdoors experience is a leisurely nature walk in your new sneakers or a journey to a remote camping site with a small group of friends, treat the landscape with respect. Go guietly and listen to nature. She's playing a symphony of wonderful music. colorado.com/quiz •







olorado has become an international travel destination in part because of its acclaimed ski resorts. With its iconic ski lodges, Olympic athletes and diverse terrain options, the state is the premier American destination for winter sports. However, once the snow melts and aspen trees bloom, these cities offer a surfeit of outdoor activities, pioneer history and walkable main streets. Whether your group prefers mountain biking and boating or mellower activities like distillery tours and spa outings, these Rocky Mountain communities are ideal additions to a Colorado itinerary.

WINTER PARK

Located one hour from the Denver metro area along the Continental Divide, "Mountain Bike Capital, USA" offers accessibility to over 600 miles of trails. Group members can brave the extreme drops of Trestle Bike Park or the more leisurely beginner trails in Granby Ranch, and the hiking routes that follow the Fraser River offer prime opportunities to spot wildlife. Snap a group photo next to the famous moose sculpture in downtown Winter Park before continuing to the resort itself, which continues to thrive during the summer. Activities include Colorado's longest alpine slide, scenic chairlift rides to the summit and shopping at the Village: an open-air town square modeled after Alpine squares.

» MORE INFO: www.PlayWinterPark.com

STEAMBOAT SPRINGS

Long before it attracted skiers from around the world, Steamboat Springs thrived as a ranching community and wellness destination that took advantage of the Yampa Valley's geothermal healing properties. That experience continues to thrive at Strawberry Park Hot Springs, where visitors can relax their muscles and clear their pores in tiered pools that vary in temperature. Groups can also embark

on a gondola ride to Thunderhead Peak for a sunset cocktail, enjoy tubing along the Yampa River and embark on an easy hike to Fish Creek Falls. For an authentic taste of the region's ranching heritage, cheer on local cowboys and cowgirls at Steamboat Pro Rodeo Series or partake in a chuckwagon dinner at Saddleback Ranch.

» MORE INFO: www.SteamboatChamber.com

ASPEN

Aspen, once a silver mining boomtown, has emerged as one of North America's premier winter sport destinations and host of the Winter X Games. Summer visitors can also admire the beautiful landscapes of the surrounding White River National Forest and cobblestoned streets of downtown, which retains many of its 19th century exteriors. Hitch a ride on the Silver Queen Gondola to the Sundeck for a bluegrass concert, and from there play "18 holes" at the world's highest disc gold course. Looking to achieve "serenity now"? Participate in a morning meditation session at the John Denver Sanctuary, relax with a St. Regis Resort massage or sample delicious drinks during the annual summer Food & Wine Classic.

» MORE INFO: www.AspenChamber.org

VAIL

Famous for its celebrity residents and glamorous resorts, the Vail Valley literally blossoms in the summer with countless biking, hiking and dining opportunities. For a low-impact hike, ride the Eagle Bahn Gondola to Eagles Nest for a mountaintop view before descending on the Berrypicker Trail. Once your group reaches the base area, spend time browsing the boutiques in the Bavarianinspired Lionshead Square and visiting the art galleries of Vail Village. If you're further interested in the region's natural beauty, register for a naturalist-led wildflower hike at the Nature Discovery Center or walk through the Betty Ford Alpine Gardens-the highest botanical garden in the nation.

» MORE INFO: www.DiscoverVail.com



Steamboat Springs



Breckenridge

BRECKENRIDGE

When the snow melts and skiers depart from Breckenridge, new visitors arrive to boat on Lake Dillon, fly fish in the Blue River and dine on Main Street. Popular with groups is Country Boy Mine, where visitors can descend 1,000 feet to see a Widowmaker drill in action, pan for gold in Eureka Creek and interact with costumed interpreters. Other itinerary additions can include Breckenridge Distillery (where you can tour the barrel aging room), pottery classes on the Arts District campus and stand up paddle boarding for beginners on Maggie Pond. After a day of adventure, the long summer nights practically beg for a relaxing patio meal, and you can enjoy mountain views at Kenosha Steakhouse, margaritas at Angel's Hollow and the backyard beer garden at Rocky Mountain Underground.

» MORE INFO: www.GoBreck.com

KEYSTONE

Keystone Resort, conveniently located close to I-70 and near the larger city of Silverthorne, features plenty of outdoor

activities to add to a group itinerary. Grab your cowboy hat and saddle up at Keystone Stables. Groups can register for a horse-drawn wagon ride through Soda Creek to Keystone's original homestead, where you can enjoy a cool beverage and listen to wranglers give an account of Summit County's pioneer past. Afterwards, spend time at the resort's Lakeside Village, a pedestrian-friendly waterfront lined with cafes and beaches. Group members looking for a more upbeat activity can rent kayaks, canoes and stand up paddle boards from the Adventure Center to explore the Dillon Reservoir.

» MORE INFO: www.KeystoneResort.com

TELLURIDE

Shadowed by the San Juan Mountains and lined with Victorian architecture, this former gold mining town attracts skiers in the winter and movie stars during its acclaimed fall film festival. However, its secluded location has preserved its hidden gem status for groups seeking outdoor recreation during the summer. Low-impact hiking routes include the

Cornet Creek Falls Trail, Bridal Veil Falls Trail (to see the tallest free-falling waterfall in Colorado) and the San Miguel River Trail. Looking for hip art galleries and boutiques? Downtown Telluride and the Mountain Village base area are connected by a free gondola, and the monthly art walk encourages visitors to sip a glass of wine while admiring the work of local painters.

» MORE INFO: www.VisitTelluride.com

COPPER MOUNTAIN

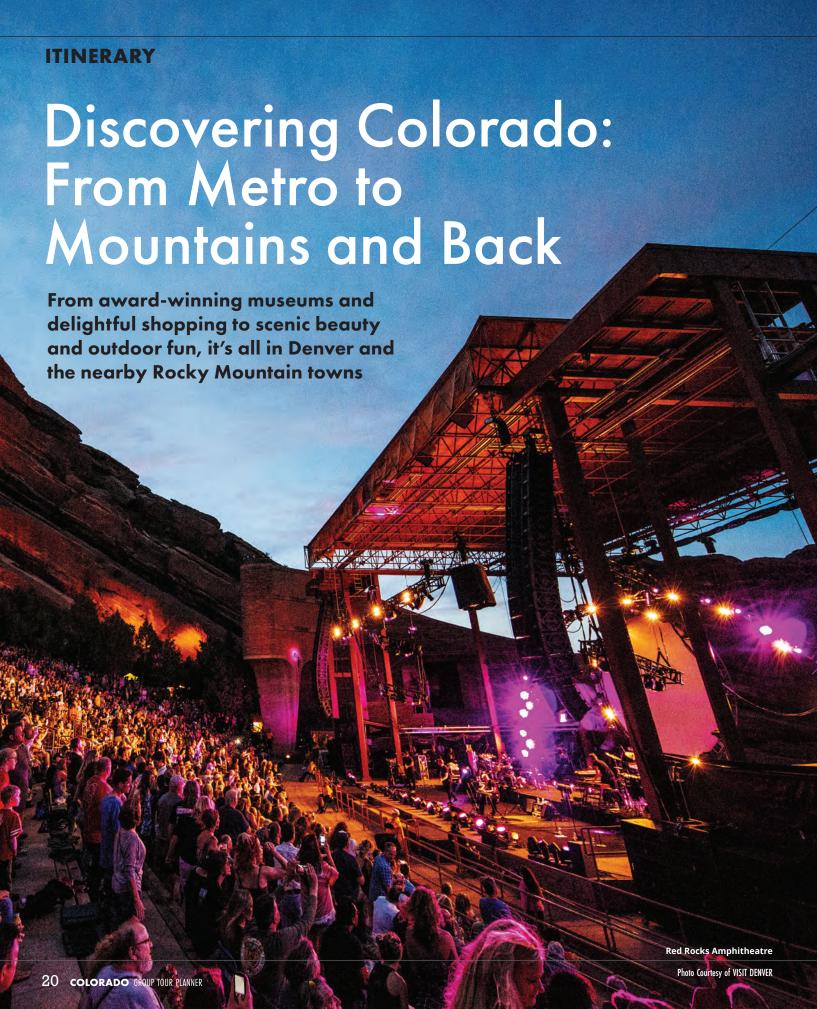
Nearby Copper Mountain Resort reconfigures its base area to become an outdoor activity hub-and-spoke. Rent mountain bikes to challenge the mountain after a Union Creek Quad Lift ascent, soar on an adrenaline-pumping zip line and ride a hydrobike over West Lake. More relaxing experiences await in the shops and restaurants of Center Village. Enjoy craft beer and lake views at Mulligan's Irish Pub, craft cocktails at High Rockies Whisky & Wine Bar and ramen bowls at Storm King.

» MORE INFO: www.CopperColorado.com



Telluride

courtesy of Visit Telluride



UNIQUE EXPERIENCES

- History Center Colorado
- Denver Center for the Performing Arts
- Estes Park Guided Tour
- Heritage Park Museum
- Silverthorne Art

Duration: Six days Available: Year-round This itinerary is ideal for:

All age groups



Day 1:

Your first stop is Denver's History Colorado Center. Exhibits include setting off dynamite in a mine, a virtual ride in a Model T and a ski jump simulator.

Take a photo in front of the Colorado Convention Center's famous Blue Bear sculpture before visiting Denver Union **Station**: an exciting transportation, shopping, dining and entertainment center. Browse one-of-a-kind local shops, including the Tattered Cover Book Store. An early dinner tonight is at one of four chef-owned restaurants in the historic Union Station. Farm to-table, seafood, Italian and more wait.

After check-in, it's on to the **Denver Center for the Performing** Arts. Groups of 10+ will be entertained with a variety of shows. Musicals, comedies and dramas produced by the DCPA Theater Company and Broadway tours round out a full, annual calendar.

Day 2:

Arrive at the Golden Triangle Creative District and **Denver** Art Museum. Fourteen collections include European & American, African, Asian and Indigenous Art of North America. Lunch is on your own at Civic Center Eats, a gathering of local food trucks in Civic Center Park before gathering at the Kirkland Museum of Decorative Art. Browse three different collections ("International Decorative Art," "Colorado and Regional Art" and "Vance Kirkland and the Original Studio") all arranged "salon style." There's still more art to enjoy at the Clyfford Still Museum, which houses nine galleries of Still's art, historic photos, objects and letters from his archives.

Depart Denver for a short drive to Red Rocks Park & Amphitheatre, Visitor Center and dinner at Ship Rock Grille. The Visitor Center offers a short film and interactive displays to tell the story of the only natural amphitheater in the world.

Day 3:

Enjoy the leisurely 70-mile ride to Estes Park on the edge of Rocky Mountain National Park. Begin your visit with the Aerial **Tramway**. You'll travel across the treetops to the summit of Prospect Mountain. Venture to the Riverwalk, where the Big Thompson River and Fall River wind through the city. Start with lunch at your choice of more than a dozen area restaurants. Continue by shopping locally owned stores sure to have those perfect gifts for the family and friends back home.

Check into your group-friendly hotel before dinner at Hunters Chophouse for some "Old Fashioned Mountain Fare." Along with a nice variety of chicken, fish and beef entrees, there's bison, elk and Kurobuta pork on the menu. Finish a fun day with some Estes Park nightlife.

Day 4:

After breakfast, meet your **Estes Park Guided Tour** guide for a memorable three-hour Lower Valley Tour. Enjoy lunch in Estes Park before spending the afternoon driving through Rocky Mountain National Park on a leisurely drive over Trail Ridge Road, an America's Scenic Byway. Discover how a portion of the Colorado River flows into the Mississippi River. Spend two nights at Grand Lake Lodge, a National Historic Landmark. Dinner tonight is casual elegance at the Grand Lake Lodge overlooking Grand Lake, the largest natural lake in Colorado.

Day 5:

Enjoy breakfast and take time to walk to Adams Falls followed by a boat tour of the lake. After lunch, relax while exploring Grand Lake's wooden boardwalks, restaurants and shops or just sit on the beach listening to the waves on the sandy shore. Dinner tonight is at one of the delightful Grand Lake restaurants, followed by a live performance at the worldfamous repertory theatre. Or take a short drive to Hot Sulphur Springs Resort and Spa to spoil yourself with some much needed relaxation in 21 mineral pools.

Day 6:

It's just a 45-minute drive to Kremmling, which is known as a "Sportsman's Paradise" for its exceptional elk hunting areas. Fishing, river rafting, kayaking and every other imaginable outdoor activity are options. With a little more relaxing vacation pace, you'll begin your day at the Heritage Park Museum. Its six historic buildings include a 1915 Forest Service Ranger Station and the original Kremmling town jail. There's always something to experience in small town history.

Depart for the 40-minute drive to Silverthorne, a community with a commitment to hosting **Public Art Exhibits**. More than 50 artists have participated from contemporary murals to abstract sculpture to mixed media to hand-blown glass.









American Heritage Railways, TravelPro Central Office, Durango CO Representing Durango & Silverton Narrow Gauge RR and **Great Smoky Mountains RR**

Carrie Whitley; 970-385-8842

www.durangotrain.com

Cwhitley@americanheritagerailways.com

Ranked in the top ten scenic railroads in the world, the 3.5 hr. journey from Durango to Silverton climbs 3000 feet, part of the journey on a narrow cliff ledge, step back in time on 1880-era cars and 1920's steam locomotive. Experience Colorado's snow-capped peaks, high bridge crossings and jaw-dropping scenery. May thru October, 4 different seating classes, open air as well as enclosed cars. Visit the free Roundhouse Museum or book a Railyard behind the scenes experience.



Bar D Chuckwagon

8080 County Rd., Durango, CO 81301 Krystal Scarborough

www.bardchuckwagon.com

groups@bardchuckwagon.com

970-335-9805

The Bar D Wranglers perform songs of cowboys and the Old West, comedy and lively instrumentals after supper to entertain the whole family.



Colorado Model Railroad Museum

680 10th St., Greeley, CO 80631 Michelle Kempema

www.cmrm.org

michelle@cmrm.org 970-392-2934

The Colorado Model Railroad Museum houses America's most scenic model railroad; an immersive experience for all ages. Private hours for groups available.



Cumbres & Toltec Railroad

500 Terrace Ave., PO Box 1057, Chama, NM 87520 Miles, 3:32 PM

Corrine Williams

www.cumbrestoltec.com

cwilliams@cumbrestoltec.com

575-219-3302

The Cumbres & Toltec Scenic Railroad steam trains depart out of Antonito, Colorado and Chama, New Mexico daily at 10 a.m. from Memorial Day weekend until mid-October.



Georgetown Loop Railroad

PO Box 249, Georgetown, CO 80444 Tom Hill

www.georgetowmlooprr.com

tom.hill@historicrailadventures.com

The Loop is a narrow gauge line that offers spectacular views of the mountains April through January. Mine tours with gold panning are available to add to your ride.



Glenwood Caverns Adventure Park

51000 Two Rivers Plaza Rd., Glenwood Springs, CO 81601 Christine Goodale, Events and Group Coordinator

www.glenwoodcaverns.com

cgoodale@glenwoodcaverns.com 970-945-4228, ext. 133

Located atop Iron Mountain overlooking Glenwood Springs, Glenwood Caverns Adventure Park offers a unique venue for groups. Your guests travel to the park in fully enclosed gondola cars that offer panoramic mountain views. At the top, choices include thrill rides, cave tours and family-friendly activities.



The Golf Club at Redlands Mesa

2325 W. Ridges Blvd., Grand Junction, CO 81507 Sandra Weckerly

www.redlandmesa.com

sandra@redlandmesa.com 970-255-7400

The Golf Club at Redlands Mesa has been creatively described as thrilling, remote and challenging, and is without a doubt deserving of its #1 public golf course in Colorado top rating, not to mention the spectacular views of the Colorado National Monument that surrounds its border.



Greeley Stampede

600 N. 14th Ave., Greeley, CO 80631 Cayley Loeffler

www.greeleystampede.org

cayley@greeleystampede.org

970-356-7787

The Greelev Stampede is a 10+ day summer festival that leads up to the 4th of July each year and includes a concert series, a PRCA rodeo series, a demolition derby, carnival and activities for the whole family.



History Colorado

1200 N. Broadway, Denver, CO 80203 Zach Werkowitch

www.historycolorado.org

zach.werkowitch@state.co.us

719-583-0453

At History Colorado, we believe in making our history accessible and creating opportunities that connect people to Colorado. Our 8 museums around the state offer engaging experiences for visitors of all ages.



Royal Gorge Bridge and Park

4218 County Rd. 3A, Canon City, CO 81212 Dona Basham

www.royalgorgebridge.com

dbasham@royalgorgebridge.com

719-276-8310

This quarter-mile journey through the clouds is undoubtedly the high point of any Colorado vacation. Come across the Royal Gorge Bridge & Park.



Royal Gorge Route Railroad

330 Royal Gorge Blvd., Canon City, CO 81212 Mary Lynn Hegdahl

royalgorgeroute.com

marylynnh@royalgorgeroute.com 719-276-4000

Experience America's most spectacular rolling restaurant aboard the Royal Gorge Route Railroad. Come experience not just a memorable train ride through the Colorado Rockies, but enjoy classes of service where we combine gorgeous scenery and great service with delicious food that is sourced locally and prepared fresh right on board the train for breakfast, lunch and dinner.



Winter Park Resort

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www.winterparkresort.com

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With easy access to 765,000 acres of public land, Winter Park Resort is home to endless adventures and an unparalleled and unfiltered Colorado experience.



Alamosa CVB

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Kale Mortensen

www.alamosa.org

director@alamosa.org 717-589-9385

The gateway to the Great Sand Dunes National Park, Alamosa has a lot to offer with outdoor recreation, hot springs and cultural and historical sites.



Boulder Convention and Visitors Bureau

2440 Pearl St., Boulder, CO 80302

Mary Ann Mahoney

www.bouldercoloradousa.com

maryann.mahoney@bouldercvb.com 303-442-2911

Catch a glimpse of some of Boulder's wildlife while strolling through our 300 miles of trails and 45,000 acres of open space, people-watch at an outdoor café or restaurant on Pearl Street, visit one of our many national laboratories, or check out a top attraction like Celestial Seasonings tea factory.



Canon City-Fremont County Tourism Council

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marketing@royalgorgeregion.com 719-276-8304

Let us help you plan a one- or two-day itinerary with lodging in the Royal Gorge Region you will want to market for years to come.



City of Montrose

107 S. Cascade Ave., Montrose, CO 81401 Kailey Rivenburgh, Marketing & Tourism Coordinator

www.visitmontrose.com

kailey@visitmontrose.com 970-240-1435

Be a part of this beautiful Western Colorado community that is nestled within the easy reach of a remarkably vast selection of vacation experiences.



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102 N. Riverview Rd., Sterling, CO 80751 Marilee Johnson

www.exploresterling.com

johnsonm@logancountyco.gov 970-522-0888, ext. 253

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Manitou Springs Chamber of Commerce, Visitors Bureau & Office of Economic Development

354 Manitou Ave., Manitou Springs, CO 80829 Leslie Lewis

www.manitousprings.org

leslielewis@manitouchamber.com

719-685-5089

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Mesa Verde Country

PO Box HH, Cortez, CO 81321 Kelly Kirkpatrick

www.mesaverdecountry.com

kellyk@mesaverdecountry.com 970-565-8227

In the communities of Cortez, Dolores and Mancos you'll discover thousands of years of history and endless outdoor adventures. Beyond the National Park, there's more to explore in Mesa Verde Country.



Visit Colorado Springs

515 S. Cascade Ave., Colorado Springs, CO 80903 Floy Kennedy

www.visitcos.com

floy@visitcos.com 719-685-7635

Pikes Peak, Garden of the Gods Park, outdoor adventure, historic railroads, museums and iconic attractions provide authentic experiences for all ages in Olympic City, USA.



VISIT DENVER

1555 California St., Suite 300, Denver, CO 80202 Jenna VanOort

www.visitdenver.com

jvanoort@visitdenver.com 303-571-9446

VISIT DENVER staff can assist with finding a hotel room block, itinerary assistance, step-on guides, unique tours and activities and group dining options.



Visit Durango

802 Main Ave., Durango, CO 81301 Cassie House

www.durango.org

cassie@durango.org 970-247-3500

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Visit Estes Park

PO Box 4426, Estes Park, CO 80517 Fric Lund

www.visitestespark.com

elund@visitestespark.com 970-586-0500, ext. 1231

Situated about 90 miles northwest of Denver at 7,522 feet above sea level, Estes Park sits in the heart of the Rocky Mountains. Experience gold-medal fishing rivers, iconic peaks, fertile valleys dotted with wildlife plus Rocky Mountain National Park, which is home to 300 miles of hiking trails within 415 square miles of protected mountain wilds.



Visit Fort Collins

1 Old Town Square, Suite 107, Fort Collins, CO 80524 Katy Schneider

www.visitftcollins.com

katy@ftcollins.com 800-274-3678

Fort Collins' ideal proximity to Rocky Mountain National Park, Denver and Denver International Airport make it a perfect location to bring your tour group. Fort Collins is known for its craft beer scene and all-American downtown.



Visit Glenwood Springs

802 Grand Ave., Glenwood Springs, CO 81601 Lisa Langer, Director of Tourism Promotion & Marlene Neidert, Tourism Promotion Project Manager

www.visitglenwood.com

lisa@visitglenwood.com & marlene@visitglenwood.com 970-945-6580

Glenwood Springs, where world-famous hot springs meet yearround outdoor adventures and a vibrant dining and entertainments scene. Plan a trip to the Land of Water!



Visit Grand Junction

740 Horizon Dr., Grand Junction, CO 81506 Elizabeth Fogarty

www.visitgrandjunction.com

elizabethf@gjcity.org 970-244-1480

Known for Colorado National Monument and the Grand Mesa, Grand Junction is an authentic Colorado experience complemented by friendly, hospitable locals. The Downtown Creative District boasts over 100 pieces of art, the region includes 27 wineries and rich regional cuisine, and the valley offers unique boutique shopping and yearround outdoor recreation.



Visit Greelev

902 7th Ave., Greeley, CO 80631 Amy Dugan

www.visitgreeley.org

amy@greeleychamber.com 970-352-3567

Let's plan your adventure to Greeley together! We know and love our city and look forward to you spending time with us. Visit Greeley will help with ideas for pre- and post-events, entertainment and day-trips for spouses.



Visit Longmont

512 4th Ave., #103, Longmont, CO 80501 Nancy Rezac

www.visitlongmont.org

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Visit Loveland

5400 Stone Creek Circle, Loveland, CO 80538

www.visitlovelandco.org

chris.bierdeman@citvofloveland.org 970-667-3882

Nestled just 45 minutes north of Denver, Loveland is hailed as the Gateway to Estes Park and Rocky Mountain National Park—the perfect basecamp for Western U.S. adventures. Internationally recognized for public art, here visitors can experience three sculpture parks and tour sculpture foundries. Also known as "America's Sweetheart City," come and lock your love on two larger than life love lock sculptures.



Visit Moffat County

PO Box 12, Craig, CO 81626 Tom Kleinschnitz

www.visitmoffatcounty.com

tomk@moffatcounty.net 970-824-2335

Nearly two million acres of pristine public lands and free-flowing rivers distinguish this unspoiled landscape where hundreds of species of wildlife find sanctuary. And you'll discover a treasure trove of scenic destinations from Dinosaur National Monument to the wild horses of Sand Wash Basin, with all sorts of good fun in between.



Visit Pagosa Springs

105 Hot Springs Blvd., Pagosa Springs, CO 81147 Jennifer Green

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sales@visitpagosasprings.com 970-903-9728

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Chipeta Solar Springs Resort & Spa

304 S. Lena St., Ridgway, CO 81432

Tamara Wilder

www.chipeta.com

tamara@chipeta.com 970-626-3737

A unique resort located in Southwest Colorado with access to two national parks (Mesa Verde and Black Canyon of the Gunnison) and the San Juan Skyway. Amenities include a spa and the Four Corners Skybar & Grill. Thirty-three intimate rooms with private hot tubs and fireplaces, solar heated lap pool and soaking pool.



Clarion Inn Grand Junction

755 Horizon Drive, Grand Junction, CO 81506 Darshann Ruckman

www.clarioninngrandjunction.com

druckman@clariongj.com

970-243-3152

Clarion Inn amenities include indoor and outdoor pools and spas, complimentary breakfast, an on-site restaurant and lounge, fitness center, business center, free 24-hour airport transportation, 100% non-smoking rooms and pet-friendly.



DoubleTree by Hilton Greeley at Lincoln Park

919 7th St., Greeley, CO 80631

Melissa Lawley

www.hilton.com/en/hotels/dengcdt-doubletree-greeley-at-lincoln-park

mlawley@greeleydoubletree.com

970-350-5407

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Durango Hampton Inn

3777 Main Ave., Durango, CO 81301 Maria McGinley

www.durangoco.hamptoninn.com

Maria.McGinley@hilton.com 970-247-2600

Working closely with groups of all shapes and sizes we can help customize your itinerary, offering exceptional service and group pricing. Making You Happy Makes Us Happy!



Fairfield by Marriott Denver Airport

6851 Tower Rd., Denver, CO 80249

Kimberly Johnson

www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/denfa-fairfield-inn-and-suitesdenver-airport

kimberly.johnson@crestlinehotels.com 303-576-9640

Fairfield by Marriott Denver Airport provides easy access to the nearby international travel hub and local attractions such as Aurora Sports Park and Coors Field. You'll find comfort in our hotel's modern amenities, including free on-site parking, business center and Wi-Fi.



Grand Vista Hotel

2790 Crossroads Blvd., Grand Junction, CO 81505 Phyllis Veale

www.grandvistahotel.com

phyllis@grandvistahotel.com 970-254-7142

Surrounded by western Colorado's beauty, the Grand Vista Hotel is located near I-70, offering a full service hotel with 158 rooms and mini-suites. Dine in Oliver's Restaurant and enjoy live entertainment, karaoke and nightly specials in Bailey's Lounge.



Lake Powell Resorts & Marinas

100 Lake Shore Drive, Page, AZ 86040 Michael Schneider

www.lakepowell.com

schneider-michael@aramark.com 888-896-3829

With nearly 2,000 miles of shoreline, endless sunshine, warm water, perfect weather and some of the most spectacular scenery in the west, Lake Powell is the ultimate playground. Rent a houseboat, stay at our campground or enjoy our lodging and hop aboard a guided expedition.



Radisson Hotel Colorado Springs Airport

1645 Newport Rd., Colorado Springs, CO 80916 Michele DeVoll

www.radissonhotels.com/en-us/hotels/radisson-coloradosprings-airport

michele.devoll@radisson.com

719-597-7000

We offer free 24-hour shuttle service to and from Colorado Springs Airport (COS), located just four miles away. Pack your outdoor gear to tackle Pikes Peak, or tote your camera to the majestic Seven Falls or Garden of the Gods for spectacular nature photos. Our hotel is also less than six miles from the US Olympic & Paralympic Training Center.



Sky Ute Casino Resort

14324 Hwy 172 North, Ignacio, CO 81137 Jeff Lyman

www.skyutecasino.com

jeff.lyman@skyutecasino.com 970-563-1757

Located amidst the rugged beauty and scenic landscapes of the diverse Four Corners region, Sky Ute Casino Resort is the perfect hub from which to explore the endless recreational options that are available.



Strater Hotel

699 Main Ave., Durango, CO 81301 Tori Ossola

www.strater.com

tossola@strater.com 970-375-7122

A historic hotel in the heart of downtown Durango with 88 unique rooms, the Strater Hotel is located near Mesa Verde National Park and two blocks from the Durango-Silverton Narrow Gauge Railroad. Our restaurants and bars — all connected to the Strater Hotel—offer an unforgettable and unique dining and social experience. Join us in the Mahogany Grille, the Office Spiritorium and the Diamond Belle Saloon.



Ute Mountain Casino Hotel

3 Weeminuche Drive, Towaoc, CO 81334 Andrea Dillon

www.utemountaincasino.com

andreadillon@utemountaincasino.com 970-565-8800

Just 20 minutes from the entrance to Mesa Verde National Park, the Ute Mountain Casino Hotel offers Southwestern hospitality, friendly faces, great food and lots of gaming excitement. The hotel has 90 renovated rooms, including suites with an indoor swimming pool, Jacuzzi and a state-of-the-art workout facility to enjoy.



Adventures Out West

1680 S. 21st St., Colorado Springs, CO 80904

advoutwest.com

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Well on its way to 50 years in the adventure-making business in Colorado Springs, Adventures Out West and its trusty crew of funloving guides specialize in bringing you the guintessential Rocky Mountain experience on wheels, on foot, on line and via basket. We charter hot air balloon excursions, ziplining adventures, Segway tours and more.



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Pikes Peak Tours by Gray Line

30 S. Sierra Madre St., Colorado Springs, CO 80903 Renne Freeberg

www.pikespeaktour.com

pikespeaktour@coloradograyline.com 719-465-1871

Continuing the tradition of showcasing Pikes Peak ("America's Mountain"), Gray Line Pikes Peak Tour offers round-trip excursions with several stops for sightseeing and photos and time to enjoy the summit.



Rocky Mountain Guides Association

4820 E. Kentucky Ave., Unit B, Glendale, CO 80246 Sherry Moon

www.rockymountaintourguides.com

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Southwest Adventure Tours

382 E. 650 S. Circle, Cedar City, UT 84720 Jason Murray

www.southwestadventuretours.com

iason@southwestadventuretours.com 435-590-5864

Southwest Adventure Tours specializes in group tours to the National Parks in the Western United States. Our tours offer active hiking, scenic and photography experiences.



or six years, Jenna VanOort has been working with VISIT DENVER to promote the city to various markets, including groups. Jenna has seen the Denver continue to emerge as world-class city and offer diverse history, culture and culinary experiences to guests.

What opportunities does Denver specifically offer groups?

We have some fabulous tours that are unique to the city. More folks have been signing up for the Graffiti Art Tour, which is great for smaller groups that want to experience the RiNo [River North] neighborhood. We also have great behind-the-scenes experiences at Stranahan's

Distillery, Wynkoop Brewing and Great Divide Brewing Company. All offer chances to walk through the facilities and taste samples. Groups also really enjoy the fabulous tour of the state capitol, where you can see the entire Denver skyline and Rocky Mountains from the top of the dome. One of my favorite attractions to talk about is the original home of one of Denver's first socialites: philanthropist and *Titanic* survivor Molly Brown.

What are some essential cultural attractions you recommend to groups visiting Denver?

I always suggest the Denver Art Museum, History Colorado Center, Clyfford



Still Museum and the Kirkland Museum of Fine & Decorative Art, and you can find all of these in the Golden Triangle Creative District, so they're very accessible. During the summer, the Civic Center hosts food trucks, so the area becomes an enormous food court. Groups should also try the restaurants all along the 16th Street Mall, which is a pedestrian street that runs over one mile long and has free shuttle that runs the entire distance.

Are there hidden gem attractions groups would enjoy?

Absolutely-I highly suggest the Kirkland Museum of Fine & Decorative Art, which is named for Colorado artist Vance Kirkland. His abstract dot paintings actually take up several walls in the museum, which houses thousands of Mid-Century Modern decorative art objects. Children under 13 aren't allowed inside because of how valuable and delicate a lot of the pieces are.

If you had a free day to yourself in Denver, what would you visit personally?

In the morning I would shop at Cherry Creek, which is a fantastic shopping center with independent boutiques, coffee shops and beautiful patios. In the afternoon I would go to RiNo, which is short for the River North Art District. It's filled with street art murals around every corner and hosts a huge annual festival where muralists from all over the country create new work or refresh existing ones. It's also home to Denver Central Market, which has some of the best pizza and ice cream in town in addition to a bakery and butcher. Then I'd end my day with a Colorado Rockies game with a friend. The area surrounding Coors Field is LoDo [Lower Downtown], which has lots of great bars to grab a drink with a friend. •

ERIC LUND Visit Estes Park



ailing from Sun Valley, Idaho, Eric spent over 25 years in the San Diego area promoting the city and county before returning to the Rocky Mountains. He's now the CEO of Visit Estes Park, which promotes this beautiful gateway to Colorado's outdoor activities

What kinds of Estes Park experiences do you promote to visitors?

Obviously-being so close to the great outdoors—we promote just about every sport you can imagine. We especially like to emphasize fishing, hiking and mountain climbing, and we're considered the gateway to Rocky Mountain National

Park. On Lake Estes you can use the marina to rent paddleboards, canoes and kayaks in addition to pontoons. We also have some great private tour companies who can take you whitewater rafting or on a guided tour of the mountains. There's also a gondola [the Estes Park Aerial Tramwayl that goes to the top of the hill for scenic views.

We also love to promote our town because it's filled with wonderful shops that offer a variety of goods for pretty much everybody. Out of our 75 restaurants, about 20 can accommodate large parties, and Dunraven at the Estes Park Resort is an especially popular Italian restaurant.



Are there distillery or agritourism experiences available?

We have a distillery (Elkins Distilling Co.), Snowy Peaks Winery and five breweries. A number of those facilities welcome group tours, and we have two dedicated group sales specialists that work hard to make sure every group receives special attention.

What group lodging do you recommend for larger groups?

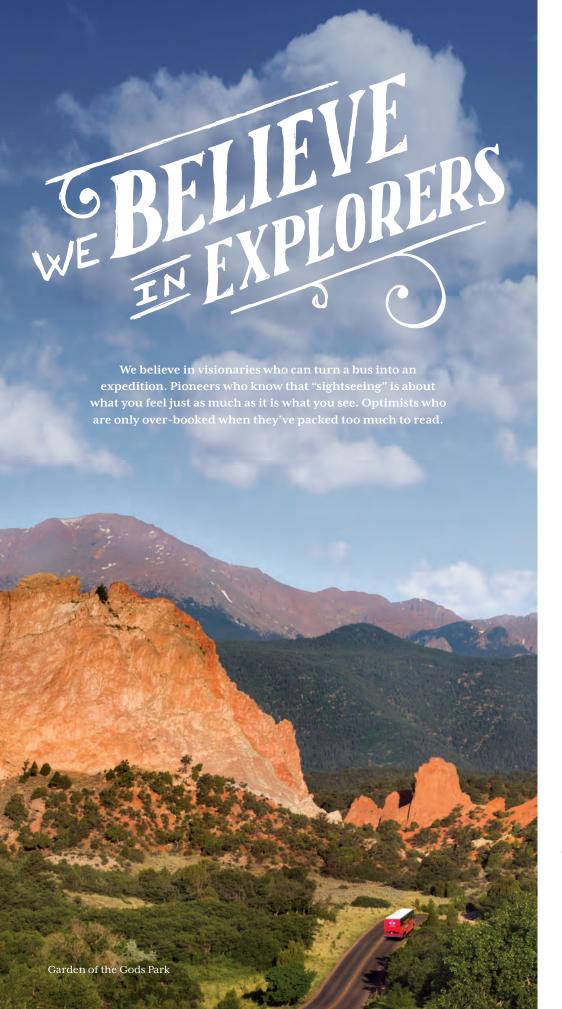
I always recommend the YMCA of the Rockies, which is the largest YMCA property in the United States and good for groups who want a lot of outdoor activities. There's also the Ridgeline Hotel, which is very accommodating to groups with six breakout rooms (including one that can handle up to 300 people). Same thing with the Stanley Hotel, which is iconic and has been in Estes Park as long as the national park has been attracting visitors.

What are some of the notable festivals that attract out-of-town visitors?

Bigfoot Days in the spring are very popular-which is when people claimed to see Bigfoot around here. We also host the Scottish Festival, where people bring their fresh harvest for sale, and the popular whiskey and beer festivals. We also host the Rooftop Rodeo, which is terrific and was voted one of the best small rodeos in the United States.

If you had a free day to yourself in Estes Park, what would you visit personally?

I like to take my three dogs out hiking in Hermit Park, which is really spacious and allows dogs. In the wintertime I'll cross country ski, and our local hills here host skijoring, which is basically when you're cross country skiing but being pulled by a dog. •



COLORADO SPRINGS

Colorado Springs is a year-round tour destination boasting mild temperatures, more than 300 days of blue skies and spectacular scenery. Create intriguing tours at unforgettable wide-open spaces like Garden of the Gods Park and Pikes Peak - America's Mountain.

- **O1** Western Heritage Discover the deep roots of the Pikes Peak or Bust Gold Rush exploring old mines.
- O2 All Aboard Trek through
 Cripple Creek and along the
 Arkansas River in the Royal Gorge
 on historic trains.
- **The Great Outdoors** Adventure is always close by with thousands of miles of trails and open spaces.
- Arts Scene Enjoy hundreds of public sculptures, galleries, art walks, classes and performances.
- O5 All Seasons From colorful fall days to spring blooms, the region shines with a year-round mild climate.
- Olympic City USA The new U.S. Olympic & Paralympic Museum offers a timeless experience by capturing the glory of Team USA and inspiring the hopes and dreams of future generations.
- 55+ With more than 55 unique attractions, it's easy to plan multi-day itineraries in the Pikes Peak region.
- O8 Cultural Experiences Soak in the region's multi-faceted culture at museums, historic sites and festivals.

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Floy Kennedy

Director of Travel Industry Sales Floy@VisitCOS.com 719.685.7635

