

Activities in Colorful Colorado

Air & Space Museum	7711 East Academy Blvd #1, Denver 80230 303-360-5360
Aquarium	700 Water Street, Denver 80211 303-561-4450 Restaurant
Bingo	Bingo Oasis. Bingoattheo.com. 10657 Melody Drive, Northglenn 80234 720-285-3335 Cost is \$6 per pack after two packs they are \$1. Saturday at 2:00 is \$1 after 3 packs.
Botanical Gardens/Butterfly	1007 York Street, Denver 80206 720-865-3501 Snack shop, Ice Cream, Beverages Butterfly Pavillion 6252 West 104 th Ave, Westminster 303-469-5441
Bowling	Fat Cats Alley - 10685 Westminster Blvd 303-466-7515 westminster.fatcatsfun.com
Brewery Tours	Denver Micro Brewery Tour www.denvermicrobrewerytours.com (303) 522-3236 Denver Brew Tours Coors in Golden Ford Street 303-277-2337 Budweiser – Fort Collins 2351 Busch Drive, Fort Collins 970-490-4691 Avery Brewery - Boulder averybrewing.com Stranahan’s – brew house, still house – whiskey brewing.
Dinner Theaters	Boulder Dinner Theatre – Boulder 5501 Arapahoe Ave 303-449-6000 Candlelight Dinner Theater – Johnstown 4747 Marketplace Drive 970-744-3747 Arvada Center – Arvada 6901 Wadsworth Blvd 720-898-7200
Elitch Gardens Theme Park	2000 Elitch Circle, Denver www.elitchgardens.com 303-595-4386
Fitness / Recreation	Westminster City Park – 104 th & Sheridan 303-658-2400 – Rec center, hiking trails, pool, racquetball, workout, you name it!
Gambling / Gaming	Central City, Black Hawk, Cripple Creek Casinos and good food
Golfing	Bear Dance – Larkspur; Fossil Trace Golf Club – Golden; Omni Interlocken Golf Club – Broomfield; Heritage Eagle Bend Golf Club – Aurora; Saddle Rock Golf Course – Aurora; Indian Peaks Golf Course – Lafayette The Homestead Golf Course – Lakewood; Evergreen Golf Course – Evergreen;
Hang Gliding	90 minutes East of Denver ben@hangglidecolorado.com 303-513-0998
Hiking	Golden Gate Canyon State Park (1 hour drive) Several hiking trails Boulder Hiking Trails (30 minute drive) Chitaqua Trail, Royal Arch, Flatirons 1-2-3-4 Garden of the Gods – Colorado Springs (1-1/2 hour drive) Parks near Evergreen, Conifer Red Rocks Park & Amphitheatre Rocky Mountain National Park
Horse Back Riding	Boulder, Estes Park, areas near Denver Chatfield Stables 11500 N. Roxborough Park Road, Littleton 303-933-3636 Bear Creek Stables 15600 W Morrison Road, Morrison 303-697-9666 A&A Historical Trails 188 Alpes Hill Road, Idaho Springs 303-567-4808
Hot Springs Pools	Idaho Springs (1 hour drive) Hot Sulpher Springs Mt. Princeton (2+ hour drive) Salida (2+ hour drive) Glenwood Springs (4 hour drive)
Museum of Nature & Science and Imax 3-D Theatre Planetarium	2001 Colorado Blvd, Denver 80205 303-370-6000 9:00 to 5:00 Theatre – check internet for time schedules and shows
Pikes Peak Cog Railway	515 Ruxton Avenue – Manitou Springs 719-685-5401
Scenic Drives	Head out I-70 West – short distance to beautiful mountains, Fall trees, lots of scenery, restaurants: Lookout Mountain, Evergreen, Frisco, Breckenridge, Leadville, Copper Mountain I-25 South to Castle Rock, Colorado Springs, Old Colorado City, Pueblo, Canon City US 36 West to Estes Park, Lyons, Rocky Mountain National Park
Shopping	Estes Park, Old Colorado City, Manitou Springs, Colorado Springs, Flat Irons Mall, 16 th Street Mall – Denver, Cherry Creek Mall, Pearl Street Mall – Boulder
Tea Factory Tour	Celestial Seasonings - 4600 Sleepytime Dr, Boulder, CO 80301 Phone: (303) 581-1202
White Water Rafting	Idaho Springs – Clear Creek (25 miles West; Buena Vista – Arkansas River (2-hour drive); Glenwood Springs – 4-hour drive
Wildlife Refuge	1946 Co Rd 53, Keenesburg CO 80643 303-536-0118
Zoos	Denver Zoo 2300 Steele Street 80205 720-337-1400 80-acre facility Cheyenne Mountain Zoo 4350 Cheyenne Mountain Zoo Rd, Colorado Springs 719-633-9925

RESTAURANTS:

*Avery Brewing	averybrewing.com in Boulder	303-440-4324
*BJ's	10446 Town Center Drive, Westminster	303-389-6444
*Biker Jim's Dogs	bikerjimsgods.com/ in Denver	720-746-9355
*Bonefish Grill	10438 Towncenter Drive, Westminster	303-423-3474
*Bruces Bar	123 1 st Street – Severance 50546	970-686-2320 Rocky Mountain Oysters
*Buckhorn Exchange Steakhouse:	Yak, Ostrich, Elk, Bison, Alligator, Rattle Snake, Rocky Mountain Oysters	
	1000 Osage Street – Denver 80204	303-534-9505
*Café Brazil	cafebrazildenver.com/ in Denver	303-480-1877
*Chart House	Genessee chart-house.com/locations/genessee/	303-442-4640
*Chitaqua Dining Hall	Boulder	
*Flagstaff House	Boulder flagstaffhouse.com	303-442-4640
*Mateos in Boulder	1837 Pearl Street	303-443-7766
*Ophelia's	opheliasdenver.com/ in Denver	303-993-8023
*Rock Bottom Brewery	10633 Westminster Blvd, Ste 900, Westminster	720-566-0198
*The Fort	Morrison thefort.com	303-697-4771
*The Melting Pot	732 Main Street – Louisville	303-666-7777 Fine Fondue
*The Old Man BBQ	4381 West 120 th Avenue – Broomfield	720-536-4821

Warning: Rocky Mountain Oysters are not actually oysters. They are bull testicles and they are a delicacy...we kid you not.

The Rockies are full of hiking adventures, but Denverites don't have to trek far to find worthwhile excursions. Here are hikes worth checking out in Denver-Boulder.

Roxborough State Park: [Roxborough has trails for mild to moderate hikers](#). Fountain Valley Overlook is a short trail with an altitude of 6,280 feet. Views of an array of red-rock formations. Carpenter Peak is nearly 6.5 miles with a final height of 7,160, with a panorama of the colorful terrain. *4751 Roxborough Drive, Littleton; 303-973-3959*

Castlewood Canyon: A natural amphitheater, the Bridge Canyon Overlook and the ruins of a long-ago dam are just a few of the sights along [this diverse hiking area](#). Follow Cherry Creek through the canyon with a short, half-mile trail, or a longer one of 4 miles. Hikes range from mild to moderate. *2989 S. State Hwy. 83 Franktown; 303-688-5242*

Red Rocks: More than the renowned amphitheater, [Red Rocks offers hiking](#) amidst the earthy red wafers protruding skyward. For a short jaunt, jump on the Trading Post Trail, which is a little less than 1.5 miles, at an altitude of 6,280 feet. Merge with the Red Rocks Trail for a total loop of 6 miles. *18300 W. Alameda Pkwy., Morrison; 720-865-2494*

Meyer Ranch: [This group of trails](#) offers meadows, forested areas and plenty of wildlife in the mix. All provide substantial cardio-supporting slopes, with the outer loop offering a steeper excursion – and a better payoff at the top-most overlook – than lower loops. *Hwy 285 about 1/2 mile east of Aspen Park*

Chautauqua/Flatirons: The most spectacular view of the Flatirons. Hike through the meadow and timbers to the Flatirons' base and begin your ascent up one of Boulder's most easily recognized natural landmarks for plenty of scrambling and breathtaking views. The first Flatiron trail includes a nearly 1,500-foot elevation gain, ending at just over 7,100 feet. *Ninth St. & Baseline St., Boulder*

Pikes Peak Country: Make your way an hour and a half south of Denver to the [Pikes Peak Cog Railway](#), which will take you on a scenic trip to the magnificent Pikes Peak summit. It's the most visited mountain on the continent – second in the world; prepare to be in awe of its grandeur as well as its breathtaking summit views. *Open year round, hours vary; \$34/adult, \$18.50/ages 3 – 12*
515 Ruxton Ave., Manitou Springs; 719-685-5401

Resort Vacation in the Springs: Swim, boat, golf or lounge on a beach at the [Cheyenne Mountain Resort in Colorado Springs](#). Family-friendly resort also offers s'mores and live music on the terrace and late-night "dive-in" movies. *3225 Broadmoor Valley Road, Colorado Springs; 719-538-4000*

Stanley Hotel in Estes Park: An easy day trip from Denver, we suggest checking into the hauntingly beautiful [Stanley Hotel](#) and participating in a ghost tour. With a rich supernatural history, this grand hotel is often recognized as the inspiration of Stephen King's *The Shining*. *333 Wonderview Ave. Estes Park; 800-976-1377*

Hike, Swing & Soak in Glenwood Springs: [Head to Glenwood Springs](#) for a morning hike to Hanging Lake, then really get the heart pumping with an afternoon of ziplining, bungee jumping and canyon swinging at [Glenwood Caverns Adventure Parks](#). Before heading back down the hill, soothe aching muscles with a soak at [Glenwood Hot Springs Pool](#) – or the clothing-optional Hippy Hot

Springs for the free spirits in the crowd. *Adventure Park, 51000 Two Rivers Plaza Road, Glenwood Springs; 800-530-1635 or 970-945-4228* *Hot Springs, 415 E. Sixth St., Glenwood Springs; 970-947-2955*

Garden of the Gods: If you've ever wondered what it would look like if God were to dip large quantities of massive red Nilla Wafers into the earth, hit up the Garden of the Gods in northern Colorado Springs. Be sure to take the traditional touristy photo of yourself "holding up" the easily recognized Balanced Rock. *Open Daily, May 1 - Oct. 31, 5am - 11pm, Nov. 1 - April 30, 5am - 9pm; free*
1805 N. 30th, Colorado Springs; 719.634.6666

A Night in Breck: Off-season in Breckenridge means a plethora of condos, hotels and B&Bs just begging to charm you into a night's stay with ridiculously discounted rates in this quaint Summit County town. Take your pick of local lodging, then venture down Peak 8's Alpine Slide, golf a Jack Nicklaus-designed course, or shop picturesque Main Street's eclectic boutiques.

Get a mile high

No, not like that. The 13th step on the Capitol's stairs is the exact marker of 5280 ft, or one mile above sea level.

Learn about money at Denver Mint

Learn about the history of American coins and see how they are produced. Unfortunately, they don't hand out free money souvenirs after the 45-minute tour.

Run, walk, or ride the Cherry Creek bike path It stretches for more than 40mi.

Visit the Colorado Sports Hall of Fame

Inside the Mile High stadium, a tribute to Colorado's best athletes and it's usually open Thursday-Sunday.

Drive up to Lookout Mountain

Check out the views of Golden and Denver, and pretend not to check out the cars of teenagers who come here to make out.

Sample whiskey at Stranahan's Distillery

You can reserve yourself a spot on a tour any day of the week except Tuesdays.

Enjoy nature at the Rocky Mountain Arsenal

The National Wildlife Refuge is made up of over 15,000 acres and is open every day.

Take an artsy photo of the Millennium Bridge Seriously, it looks good from any angle.

See the views at Sloan's Lake Get two totally different (and awesome) views from one park. From the East side, you can see the mountains and from the West, the Denver skyline.

Fishing at Wash Park There are a few spots where fishing is allowed. There are 155 acres of park to explore.

See dinosaur footprints at Dinosaur Ridge It's the closest you'll get to experiencing *Jurassic Park* around here.

Browse the shelves at Tattered Cover

This historic book store now has four locations, but the original is in Cherry Creek. Every store comes equipped with comfy chairs for lounging with a good read.

Visit a Denver winery

Yes, there's a vineyard within city limits. It's family-owned and offers tasting tours seven days a week from 11am-5pm.

Play a game of chess on the 16th St Mall

There are chessboards set up in random spots on the mall. Free mall ride that runs every day, every few minutes.

Window-shop at Larimer Square

The boutiques and restaurants on this stretch are higher-end, so there are plenty of pretty things (and people) to look at.

About Denver

Denver is a geographically isolated city sitting exactly one mile above sea level and over 600 barren miles from the next closest major city. Concealed from the west by bold foothills and towering 14,000-foot peaks, and protected to the east by an expansive and unforgiving high desert terrain, it is a place where everybody seems to be from somewhere else. People flock to Denver for world-class skiing and biking, serene hiking and intense rock climbing. They travel here from far and wide to imbibe famous microbrews, stand in the humbling presence of massive peaks

Downtown/Auraria

Civic Center Park and the 16th Street Mall, a mile-long, tree-lined pedestrian promenade, downtown is the perfect place to begin exploring the Mile High City. Downtown's mix of government, entertainment, business and sport make Denver's central business district the envy of the West. Tour the Colorado State Capitol Building, where the 18th step places you exactly one mile above sea level, or stroll through the nation's best collection of Native American art at the Denver Art Museum. Shop away at the Denver Pavilions and Tabor Center or take in a Broadway show at one of the eight theaters comprising the Denver Performing Arts Complex. Wander the shores of Downtown Aquarium or seek adventure at Elitch Gardens.

Historic Lower Downtown (LoDo)

The ghosts of the red light district from Denver's gold rush days may still haunt the streets of lower downtown, but they are not alone anymore. The area, termed LoDo by locals, was virtually empty 10 years ago. But since the opening of Coors Field, home to baseball's Colorado Rockies, this 20-block district of 19th-century brick buildings has come alive with energy and entertainment. Today, it radiates Victorian charm and bustles with the 80s disco flashback, Lucky Star. The buildings, now occupied by upscale chains, including Morton's of Chicago, and Denver originals like the

Wynkoop Brewing Company, have long histories as former brothels, saloons and old-time general stores.

Uptown/City Park

An eclectic residential district stretching east from downtown to City Park is home to Denver's famed Restaurant Row, a collection of elegant fine dining establishments, as well as a scattering of nightclubs and bars. It is also a great place to check out some of Denver's Victorian architecture and the impressive Cathedral of Immaculate Conception, a Romanesque masterpiece with towering, Gaudi-esque spires. The area offers off-the-wall neighborhood bars, excellent ethnic cuisine, and the nation's best musical acts at the refurbished Ogden Theatre and Fillmore Auditorium. City Park, a beautiful legacy from the City Beautiful period, houses the Denver Zoo and the popular Denver Museum of Nature and Science.

Capitol Hill

Once the neighborhood of Denver's wealthiest citizens, this area blends the past with the present with ancient Victorian mansions and contemporary condos and apartment complexes, an array of clubs, coffeehouses, art houses, galleries and bars. A wealth of historical sightseeing includes the Molly Brown House and tours of the Governor's Mansion, which resides in south Capitol Hill near the ultra-trendy Govn'rs Park.

Congress Park/Cheesman Park

The area serves as a hotbed for Denver's gay community and fashionable 30-somethings. Cheesman Park, the former city graveyard, is now Denver's urban emerald. You will find the best mountain views in the city on the park's central acropolis. The Denver Botanic Gardens occupies the east side of the park and makes for a wonderful romantic stroll. The Congress Park vicinity encompasses Greek Town, a six-block section filled with eclectic festivities and animated diner-type restaurants.

Cherry Creek

This stylish district features some of Denver's best-known attractions, including the beloved Tattered Cover Bookstore, and Denver's number one tourist attraction, the Cherry Creek Mall. The open air-shopping plaza across from the mall, Cherry Creek North, is a menagerie of upscale boutiques, art galleries, fine dining and unique bars. The Cherry Creek Bike Trail runs behind the mall and is a good place to begin a journey downtown or to other nearby destinations.

University Park

Washington Park's wild southern neighbor is University Park, home of the University of Denver. The area is a hot spot of cultural activity, and displays some of south Denver's finest architecture, including the Ritchie Center, a mammoth copper and sandstone structure with a bell tower bedecked in gold. From booming concerts at Magness Arena to mellow, folk gatherings at Swallow Hill, to pizza and pool at Anthony's Pizza and Pasta, this neighborhood offers a little of something for everybody. South Pearl Street is a cozy little shopping spot and is home to the popular Japanese joint, Sushi Den.

Golden

Located on the western fringe of Denver, surrounded by a jagged hogback and a plethora of wide buttes, Golden is a charming small town (do not ever say it is a suburb) that echoes Colorado's gold rush heritage. Home of the Coors Brewing Company and the Buffalo Bill Museum, Golden is an excellent spot to experience a part of Western Americana. The locals have traded in their horses for mountain bikes, and the town boasts some of the best trail riding in the country at famed Apex Park and White Ranch Park.

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