



CO TREX
MORE GUIDANCE
for the outdoors can be found in the incredibly comprehensive trail-mapping CO TREX app.

COLORADO'S SCENIC & HISTORIC BYWAYS
JOURNEYS THROUGH THE PAST & PRESENT

IPAD USERS CAN DOWNLOAD A GUIDE TO COLORADO'S BYWAYS SEARCH "COLORADO BYWAYS" IN THE APP STORE. YOU CAN ALSO VIEW THE GUIDE ONLINE AT COLORADO.CO/SCENIC

- ALPINE LOOP (M-7)**
Guide your 4WD over high-elevation 1980s roads past thick-with-wildflower meadows, abandoned mines and ghost towns. Connecting the towns of Lake City, Ouray and Silverton. PORTIONS OF THIS ROUTE REQUIRE 4WD VEHICLES.
- CACHE LA POUDE - NORTH PARK (B-16)**
Travel alongside one of America's few Wild and Scenic Rivers and watch for grazing moose, granite canyon walls and old-growth forests. Between the historic towns of Fort Collins and Walden.
- "COLLEGIATE PEAKS (H-11)**
Take the old stagecoach route through canyons carved by the Arkansas River and North America's densest concentration of 14,000-foot peaks. Connecting the towns of Granite, Buena Vista, Salida and Poncha Springs.
- "COLORADO RIVER HEADWATERS (C-13)*"**
Trace the upper reaches of the Colorado River and gain insight into the mountain men, ranchers and thrill-seekers of the state's past. Between Rocky Mountain National Park and State Bridge via Granby and Kremmling.
- DINOSAUR DIAMOND (H-2)*"**
Hunt for fossils and footprints made by massive dinosaurs and rock art left behind by the Fremont culture along sandstone canyons and desert washes. Connecting the towns of Douglas Park, through Dinosaur into Utah, returns to Colorado via I-70 to Grand Junction.
- "FLAT TOPS TRAIL (B-3)**
Immerse yourself in the mountainous beauty that inspired the US government to preserve its wilderness areas through some of the state's highest peaks. Connecting the towns of Meeker and Yampa.
- FRONTIER PATHWAYS (B-18)*"**
Glimpse relics of frontier life along a route that climbs upward with plants, animals and geology that change every 1,000 feet. Between the towns of Pueblo and the towns of Westcliffe and Colorado City.
- "GRAND MESA (H-3)*"**
See a great example of one of the largest flat-topped mountains to see wide-open vistas and more than 300 state historic sites and scenic views. Near the town of Mesa and Cedaredge.
- "LARIAT LOOP (F-10)*"**
Drive one of the first routes developed by the City of Denver to help Coloradans experience its mountain parks. Connecting the towns of Golden, Morrison, Ideale, Kirtland and Evergreen.
- LOS CAMINOS ANTIGUOS (H-11)**
Drift through the San Luis Valley, a mystical basin of vast farmland, the rugged Sangre de Cristo Mountains and the Great Sand Dunes. Connecting the towns of Golden, Morrison, Ideale, Kirtland and Evergreen.
- MOUNT EVANS (F-15)**
Travel the highest paved road in North America on a serpentine ridge the summit of 14,295-foot Mount Evans. Extends from Idaho Springs to the summit of Mount Evans and over to Bergham Park.
- PANORAMA PIONEER TRAILS (B-24)**
Gain some perspective on the history of the state as you travel through some of the state's most scenic and historic landscapes. Connecting the towns of Steamboat, Grand and Silverton.
- PEAK TO PEAK (C-15)**
Skirt the Continental Divide, mining ghost towns, Victorian cottages and stunning views of Mount Evans. Between Estes Park and Black Hawk.
- SAN JUAN SKYWAY (J-6)*"**
Taverse the famed Ironline through Missouri and Santa Fe in the footprints of fortune-seekers like Wild Bill Hickok, Kit Carson and Zebulon Pike. Between the Kansas state line near Holy Cross and the New Mexico state line at Raton Pass.
- "SILVER THREAD (H-10)"**
Roam through wonderfully isolated stretches before rising in elevation to raw alpine wilderness. Between the historic towns of Georgetown and Grant.
- SOUTH PLATTE RIVER TRAIL (A-28)**
Imagine the sounds of the galloping Pony Express horses and Overland Trail freight wagons who rode along the South Platte River guided creeks. Stretching from South Fork to Overlook to Blue Mesa Reservoir via Lake City.
- "TOP OF THE ROCKIES (H-11)*"**
Cross the Continental Divide three times on this dramatic road that passes Colorado's two tallest peaks - Mount Elbert and Mount Massive. Connecting Leadville, Minturn and Copper Mountain, and from Leadville to Aspen via Twin Lakes.
- TRACKS ACROSS THE BORDERS (P-5)**
See how the newest byway helped the creation and development of the Denver & Rio Grande Railroad, the state's first and ultimately the nation's largest, narrow-gauge railroad system. Durango to Ignacio, Arboles and south into New Mexico.
- TRAIL OF THE ANCIENTS (H-1)*"**
Witness the centuries-old cliff dwellings and petroglyphs of the Ancestral Puebloans along the first byway designated for archaeological significance. Connecting the Utah state line near Hovenweep and the Four Corners through Cortez, CO.
- "TRAIL RIDGE ROAD (H-16)*"**
Make your way above treeline inside Rocky Mountain National Park along the sky-rising expanses of North America's highest paved through-road. Within Rocky Mountain National Park.
- UNAWEEP TABEGUACHE (B-3)**
Visit off the beaten path through some of the state's wildest lands, and look for remnants of those who tried to tame it with copper and uranium mines in the rugged mountains. Between Whitewater and Placerville.
- WEST ELK TOUR (G-8)**
Zip in and out of some of the state's lushest river valleys on some of the most scenic and colorful mountain paths. Between the towns of Hotchkiss, Gunnison and Crested Butte.

COLORADO BY THE NUMBERS

4 NATIONAL PARKS
From the sky-scraping peaks of Mesa Verde National Park to the ancient woodlands of Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument, Colorado's national parks and monuments are playgrounds for summer travelers. COLORADO.com/NP

26 SCENIC & HISTORIC BYWAYS
Explore the best ways to explore Colorado's back roads that is hop on one of our 26 scenic and historic byways which connect the dots between historic sites and scenic views. COLORADO.com/ScenicByways

1,500 GHOST TOWNS
Masters of the West of Colorado's 1800s Gold Rush are strewn about the hills and valleys. Walk once-bustling main streets and peek in dusty windows to imagine what life was like for the area's intrepid settlers. COLORADO.com/GhostTowns

6,000 MILES OF RIVERS
Home to the most popular and scenic major rivers, Colorado has capable and reliable water for drinking, recreation, power and agriculture. COLORADO.com/Water

28 SKI AREAS & RESORTS
The Rocky Mountains are our defining feature. We offer a wide variety of snow and snowmaking that is our signature. COLORADO.com/SkiResorts

29 HOT SPRINGS
Hot springs are the most popular and relaxing natural feature in our state. From the historic hot springs of Silverton to the luxurious resorts and spas to rustic, hidden hot springs, there is a hot spring for everyone. COLORADO.com/HotSprings

43 STATE PARKS
Crystal-clear lakes, campfires with a view, and scenic views, hiking trails that take through the backcountry and more are just a few of the many reasons to visit a state park. COLORADO.com/StateParks

20 TRAILS
From the most popular and scenic mountain trails to the luxurious resorts and spas to rustic, hidden hot springs, there is a trail for everyone. COLORADO.com/Trails

CARE FOR COLORADO LEAVE NO TRACE PRINCIPLES

1. KNOW BEFORE YOU GO
Our state and federal agencies manage 42 percent of Colorado's majestic landscapes. Before you head out, make sure you maintain your own. Learn about and respect the spaces we all share. Colorado is beautiful all on its own. Building structures or campsites on public lands isn't allowed. Always put litter for everyone to enjoy. Clean up or pack out what you bring. Leaving your trash behind can harm the environment.

2. STICK TO TRAILS
With 39,000 marked trails and 13,000 unmarked trails, Colorado has a wealth of trails to venture beyond. By sticking to these areas and camping at 200 feet from the trail, you can help protect the natural areas stay natural. State trails, Colorado Blue Spruce National Monument, and other trails also have designated areas for camping. A few extra steps to help you stay on the trails and protect the beauty of the state.

3. LEAVE IT AS YOU FIND IT
Leave plants, rocks and historical items as you find them so others can enjoy them. Keep campsites small and manageable to avoid sparking wildfires. When putting out a fire, water it until you can't feel the embers. Never let a fire burn unattended. Use care when smoking in Colorado's dry climate. Always put cigarettes out completely, and don't leave your butts behind. Always check for local fire restrictions.

4. TRASH THE TRASH
Pack it, pack it out. Or pick it up to leave a better than you find. Pick up litter, even crumpled, peels and cores in your nearest recycling bin. Wash yourself, your dog or whatever else needs cleaning in 100 feet or more from waterways. Use biodegradable soap. A bubble bath is no treat for fish.

5. BE CAREFUL WITH FIRE
Colorado's low humidity has perks, but can create dry, dangerous conditions. Keep campsites small and manageable to avoid sparking wildfires. When putting out a fire, water it until you can't feel the embers. Never let a fire burn unattended. Use care when smoking in Colorado's dry climate. Always put cigarettes out completely, and don't leave your butts behind. Always check for local fire restrictions.

7. SHARE OUR TRAILS & PARKS
Chances are you're not out in nature to people watch, so try out the lesser-known paths to find some of the state's best spots. Silence your cell phone before stepping into nature, and speak softly without using the speaker function. Be considerate when passing others on the trails and yield to the uphill hiker and biker - they need the momentum. Listen to rangers. Keep your voice and music soft so all can enjoy the peace of Colorado.

TRAVEL INFORMATION & RESOURCES

GETTING INFO ON THE GO
Download the new CO Trip Planner mobile app from your phone app store for real-time traffic info, or visit the updated CO Trip Planner, which has new features to help travelers plan their trip. Sign up for email and wireless alerts at colorado.gov.

TRAVEL INFORMATION NUMBER: 511
Dial 511 on your cell or landline from anywhere in Colorado for your travel information. Sign up for email and wireless alerts at colorado.gov.

SNOW TIRES OR CHAINS are frequently required for use on winter roads when roads are icy or snow-covered. Four-Wheel Drive Vehicles with adequate tires for the existing conditions are also acceptable. Colorado State Patrol troopers, highway maintenance people or regulatory signs may inform motorists when these requirements are in effect. Transportation Department snowplows now display flashing blue lights in addition to amber lights. Chain laws and road closures: colorado.gov or CO Trip Planner. CO Trip Planner offers provide access to communities, and to scenic and recreation areas. Motorists planning to travel in remote areas, particularly on unpaved roads and unpaved mountain roads, are advised to require locally sourced road conditions.

STATE HIGHWAYS US 34 (Trail Ridge Road) in Rocky Mountain National Park, Ski 88 east of Aspen over Independence Pass, and SH 15 (Empire Road) have seasonal closures.

EMERGENCY NUMBER: 911 (277) This is a FREE cell phone call for reporting an emergency. Upgrade drivers or divers supervised of being under the influence of alcohol or drugs, or for assistance. Under Colorado law, children under the age of 4 are required to be in safety seats when riding in a motor vehicle. In addition, drivers and front-seat passengers must wear safety belts.

TOLL ROADS
E-470 is a 47-mile highway that loops around eastern Denver from the Co-470/26 interchange south of Denver to I-25 north of Denver at I-70 and the I-25/26 interchange at Denver International Airport. The Northwest Parkway is 9.5 miles long and connecting with E-470 and I-25 at I-70. It travels west to I-25 at I-70 where it turns into a local four-lane road allowing toll-free access to US 36 and State Hwy 109 in Breckenridge. www.nwtparkway.com

Total tolls vary from \$1.25-\$9.30. No cash is needed to pay a toll. E-470, for those who are not ExpressToll customers, a toll will be assessed to the registered owner of the vehicle after 30 days. express109.com

EXPRESS LANES: Parallel to free travel lanes, Express Lanes provide motorists with the option of paying a toll or carpooling (where eligible) for a reliable travel time. The toll varies by time of day. ExpressToll accept and pass or license plate toll required - no cash payments. Express Lanes are located on I-25 between I-26 and Boulder, and eastbound I-70 from Empire Junction (US 40) and the US 6/Junction. The I-25 and I-70 ExpressToll lanes allow carpoolers and motorcycles with free access with a pass, while solo drivers must use a toll collection program.

COLORADO WELCOME CENTERS
Official Colorado Welcome Centers are located throughout the state. They are easily accessed from every major interstate leading into Colorado as well as along the I-70 corridor. These visitor services sites provide indispensable local and statewide travel information. Our dedicated volunteer experts will provide specific brochures, detailed maps and face-to-face travel consultation and advice, free of charge.

ALAMOSA (G-13) - US HWY 160 AND STATE AVE
BURLINGTON (G-26) - I-70 BETWEEN EXITS 47 AND 438
CORTES (B-2) - US 160 368 E MAIN ST
DENVER (C-1) - US 40 10 E STEFANSBURG
FORT COLLINS (B-16) - I-25 AT EXIT 268
FRUITA (H-2) - I-70 AT EXIT 19
JACKSONVILLE (A-28) - I-76 AT EXIT 80
LEAMON (A-28) - US 109 S BEECH ST
SILVERTHORNE (F-12) - I-70, 248 RAINBOW DRIVE
TRINDAD (H-10) - I-25 AT EXIT 44

FOR CYCLISTS
From paved shoulders to shared roadways to off-road mountain paths, there are many bicycling opportunities across Colorado. Most communities have bicycle information for their specific areas, and our bike-friendly Welcome Centers offer bicycle repair kits and tire pumps. colorado.gov/organs/bikeinfo

Current Road & Travel Conditions: colorado.gov, 511
Road Emergency/Repair Aggressive Drivers: 303-293-4501 or 7257 (2777)

MOBILE BICYCLE & SCENIC BYWAYS MAP
Whether you love riding mountain passes or are carpooling (where eligible) for a reliable travel time, the colored trail markers on this map will help you choose the route that best suits your interests and abilities. Enjoy the ride! colorado.gov/organs/bikeinfo

BASIC RULES OF THE ROAD & TRAILS
Always ride with the flow of traffic and obey traffic laws, signs, signals and speeds.
Use hand signals when turning, slowing or stopping.
Ride single file.
Give an audible signal before passing a pedestrian or other cyclist.
Use a headlight, taillight and reflectors at night.
Make eye contact with drivers. Never assume motorists see you or that you have the right of way.
Always wear a helmet.
Slow down and use caution when:
- 23 percent humidity.
- More than 300 inches of snow in the mountains.
- 16.5 inches of precipitation.
- (At the lower elevations and 23 up higher)
- Don't block the trail. Groups should be in single file.
- Stay on existing trails and don't create any new ones.
- All trail users yield to equestrians.
- Bicyclists and skiers yield to pedestrians.
- Downhill users yield to uphill users.
- Faster users yield to slower users.
- When passing a bicyclist, motorized vehicles are required to provide three feet of clearance.

WEATHER
Each year Colorado gets an average of:
- 300 days of sunshine.
- More than 300 inches of snow in the mountains.
- 23 percent humidity.
The first major snow is usually in September or October, but it usually snows somewhere in the state every month. Colorado's weather can change in a day. The weather you wear in the morning might be shed for a T-shirt in the afternoon. It's a good idea in any season to dress in layers, ensuring you'll be prepared no matter what the skies look like. Because of the altitude, make sure sunscreen, lip balm and bottled water are also on your list year-round.

WINTER DRIVING
Colorado is driving a winter wonderland, but at times snow and ice can make driving conditions tricky, especially if you're not used to slick roads. Some suggestions:
- Maintain a much slower speed, accelerate at a slower rate and remember that four-wheel drive does not mean four-wheel stop.
- Don't use cruise control when traveling in winter conditions.
- Keep your gas tank more than half full, use snow/icyer cables, snow scrapers, windshield-wiper fluid and extra blankets in your car.
- A new traction law may affect your winter drive. On portions of I-70 from September to May, all drivers must use winter-appropriate tires or traction equipment that are adequate for snowy and icy conditions. Failure to do so could result in a fine. Find out if you're winter-ready at colorado.gov/organs/winterdriving.

CLIMATE & GEOGRAPHY
Colorado can be divided into four areas from west to east:
- **THE COLORADO PLATEAU:** Known by most Coloradans as the Western Slope, the plateau is home to high mesas and plateaus, both with a high plateau profile. That cut through sandstone canyons and stratified mountains are the Colorado Plateau's highest profile.
- **THE ROCKY MOUNTAINS:** Made up of 13 distinct ranges and 88 peaks that exceed 14,000 feet (known as fourteeners), the mountains are the Colorado's highest profile feature. The Continental Divide runs along the crests of the ranges, and extends west of the divide flow to the Pacific Ocean, and east of the divide to the Gulf of Mexico. The headwaters of four major rivers found here: the Colorado, Platte, Arkansas and Rio Grande.

TRAVEL LIKE A LOCAL
ALTITUDE: Denver is the capital, and its most populous city, which is found along the busiest north-south highway, Interstate 25. The Front Range is the dramatic confluence of the Front Range and the Great Plains. In the northeast, the South Platte River winds a course through farmland. In the southeast, the Arkansas runs alongside the historic Santa Fe Trail mountain range as it meanders historic.

ALCOHOL: It's more important at altitude, so stay easy until you get your mountain legs.

CLOTHING: You won't have any trouble with clothing when you're in a town, but once you head out on a trail, river, slope or back road, that could change. Let others know where you are and head pointing your toes before you get off the grid.

SPARSE SERVICES: If you spot a sign saying "No gas or services for the next 50 miles," believe it.

FOR HIKE, ROAD TRIPS & OTHER EXCURSIONS: Park more food, water and cold-weather wear than you expect to need so you won't be caught unprepared.

BEAR-PROOF TRASHCANS: If you want to lose your trash and the lid won't budge, you're probably encountering a bear-proof trash can. Look for instructions on the can - there's usually a lever or button to push that's too tricky for hairy paws to manage.

GENERAL FACTS ABOUT COLORADO
POPULATION: 5,737,734
ELEVATION: Highest - Mt. Elbert (14,333 feet)
Lowest - Arkansas River at the CONJUNCTION
AREA: 104,247 sq. mi. (largest state in the nation)
SIZE: 103,794 mi² of land, 453 mi² of water, 104,247 total mi²
STATE CAPITAL: Denver
OLDEST TOWN: San Luis, 1851
NICKNAME: Centennial State - stems from Colorado being admitted to the Union in 1876.
MOTTO: Nil sine Numine - "Nothing Without Deity"
STATE BIRD: Lark Bunting
STATE FISH: Greenback Cutthroat Trout
STATE TREE: Colorado Blue Spruce
STATE FLOWER: Blue Columbine
STATE REPTILE: Western Paired Turtle

FAMILY-FRIENDLY FISHING SITES
Brown fish signs on reverse-side map indicate family-friendly fishing spots.

WILDLIFE REFUGES & AREAS
Brown binocular signs on reverse-side map indicate viewing areas.

ARAPAHO NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE - B-92
BARO PARK NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE - DENVER INSET
BROWN PINE NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE - A-1
DAN NOBLE STATE WILDLIFE AREA - G-23
FLAGLER STATE WILDLIFE AREA - G-25
GEOFFERTON NATIONAL VIEWING STATION - F-34
MONTE VISTA NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE - C-12
PRINCE NATIONAL GRASSLAND & BIRDING TRAIL LOOP - B-19
QUEENS STATE WILDLIFE AREA - B-36
RAMAH STATE WILDLIFE AREA - H-20
ROCKY MOUNTAIN ARSENAL NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE - DENVER INSET
SOUTH PLATTE STATE WILDLIFE AREA - F-28
TERRILL STATE WILDLIFE AREA - H-34

CHECK OUT COLORADOONSTRIP.COM
DISCOVER MORE FREE TRAILS, NATIONAL PARKS AND OTHER NATURAL AREAS.



FREE NOT FOR RESALE

OFFICIAL MAP TO SCENERY & ADVENTURE
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