

*Visit*



**BUENA VISTA  
& SALIDA**  
*Colorado*

*Ski*

**MONARCH  
MOUNTAIN**

BROWNS CANYON

**#1 RAFTING  
DESTINATION**

COLORADO'S BEST

**HOT SPRINGS**

[COLORFULCOLORADO.COM](http://colorfulcolorado.com)

PHOTO: SCOTT ANDERSON





RYAN WIEGMAN

## Buena Vista

Welcome Center and  
Chamber of Commerce  
343 US-24, Buena Vista, CO 81211  
[BuenaVistaColorado.org](http://BuenaVistaColorado.org)  
719.395.6612

## Salida

Chamber of Commerce  
406 W Rainbow Blvd, Salida, CO 81201  
[SalidaChamber.org](http://SalidaChamber.org)  
719.539.2068

## Getting Here

### 285 from Denver

Travel through quaint mountain towns and enjoy spectacular views from Kenosha Pass, South Park, and Trout Creek Pass. This is a good route if traveling on the weekends to avoid the I-70 skier traffic.

### 24 from Colorado Springs

Watch for Antelope, Bison and Elk that populate this beautiful region of high mountain plains.

### 50 from Colorado Springs,

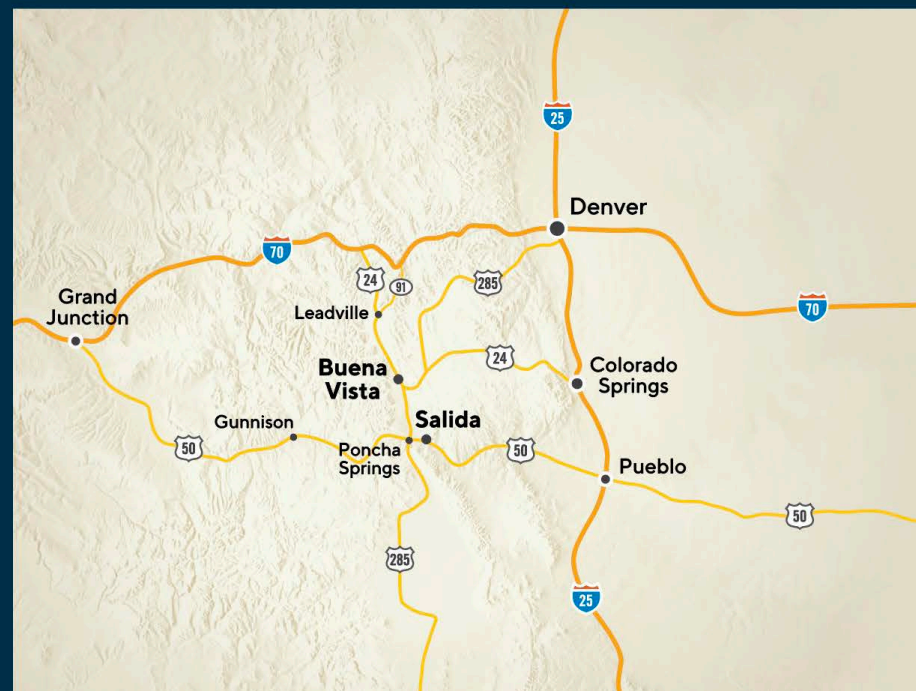
**Pueblo** and the East or **Gunnison** and the West

Rolling hills on the eastern plains change to a winding canyon road that follows the Arkansas River from the Royal Gorge to Salida; or from Gunnison, enjoy spectacular views atop the Continental Divide over Monarch Pass.

### 70 from Denver or Grand Junction

This northern route travels through Glenwood Canyon and near some of the major ski resorts. This route is not recommended in the winter due to skier traffic.

Colorado



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@NowThisIsColorado

# FIND YOURSELF IN THE CENTER OF COLORADO



DIGITAL ART CO

Buena Vista, Salida, and Poncha Springs are situated in the center of the state along the Arkansas River and offer laid back and lively small-town charm.

80% of Chaffee County is public land and a paradise for outdoor recreation. Hikers come from around the world to climb the many 14,000 foot peaks. OHV enthusiasts enjoy the 100,000 acres of the Fourmile Recreation Area. The Arkansas River is the most popular whitewater in Colorado. Hundreds of miles of mountain biking trails can be enjoyed year-round.

Summer is a popular time in the valley. Kids are out of school, the trails are dry and the whitewater is flowing. Fall, winter and spring are slower times of the year when your visit may be a more intimate experience.

Home to world class whitewater, the boating season starts in April, but boaters can be seen on the river year-round. Once the snow starts to melt, the spring run-off begins. This is typically in June and can last into July. Our river system is unique as the water is dam controlled up stream which almost guarantees good whitewater until mid-August.

Fall, winter, and spring are unique times of the year. The upper Arkansas River Valley sits at an elevation between 7,000-8,000 feet above sea level. The Continental Divide to the west rises to 14,420' above sea level.

This offers amazing views throughout the valley and a unique weather pattern. With such a drastic elevation change you can often experience the best of both worlds, almost all year. Winter conditions in the high alpine and dry conditions in the valley below. This allows you to explore the back-country on snow in the morning and fish, bike, or hike in the afternoon.

What better way to complete your day of adventuring than soaking in one of our three public hot springs. Each is unique and is fed by natural spring water that is non sulfurous, so they don't stink.

Evenings in these small towns are postcard perfect with plenty of outdoor dining or amazing places to eat takeout, watching the sunset or river. Find live music or just enjoy the art and architecture of these historic downtowns.

We hope you never forget this special place and come back often to share with family and friends. Please help us protect and preserve our home so future generations can enjoy it just as you have.





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# Valley Of

We respectfully acknowledge that the land on which we live, work, and explore is the ancestral homeland of Indigenous Peoples. The Upper Arkansas Valley, known to many Indigenous communities as the 'Valley of Chiefs,' has a rich history of Native stewardship.

We honor and pay our respects to the original inhabitants of this land, including the Ute, Apache, Cheyenne, Arapaho, and other Indigenous nations who called this valley home. Their deep connection to the land, mountains, and the Arkansas River is an integral part of the history and culture of this region.

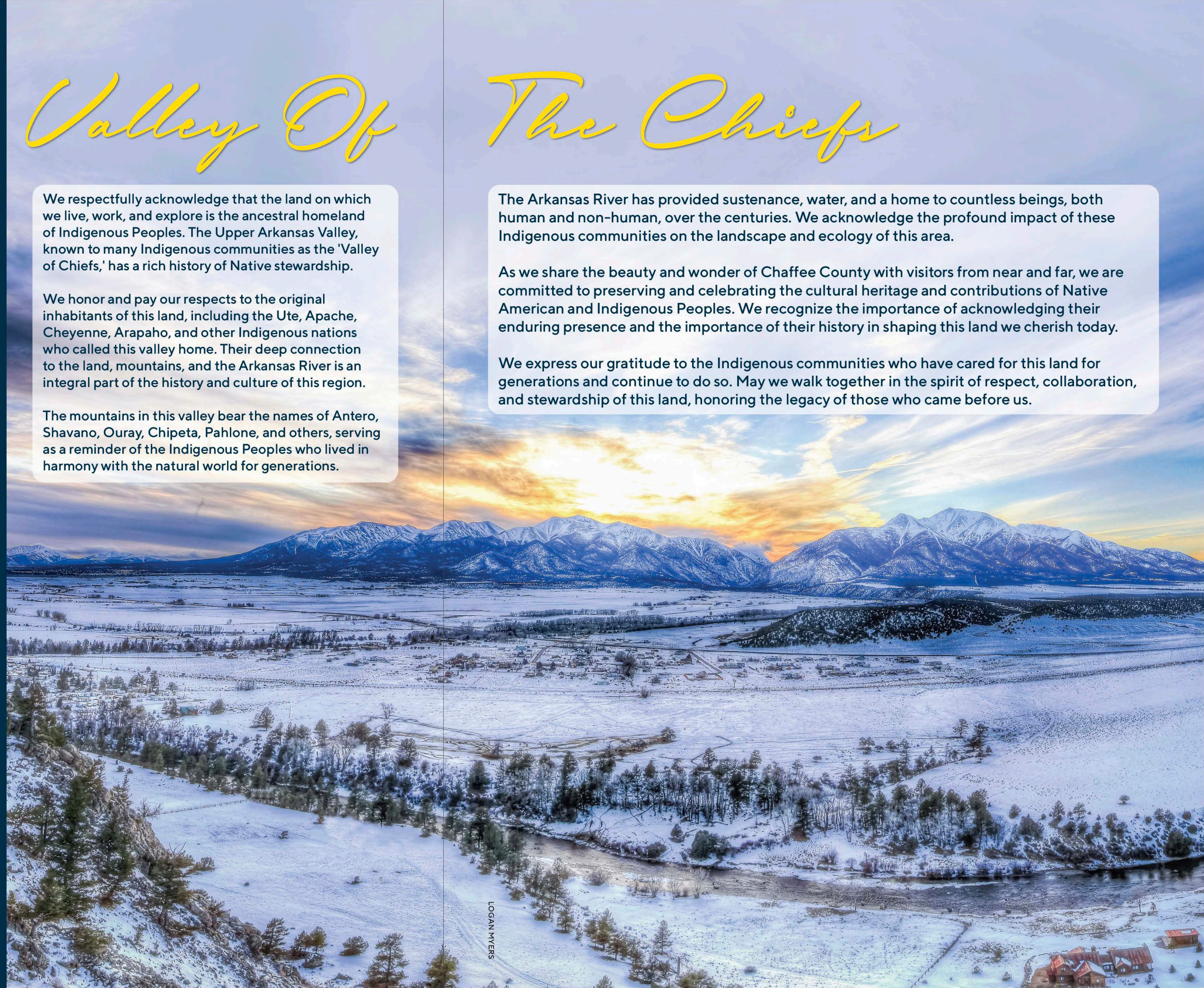
The mountains in this valley bear the names of Antero, Shavano, Ouray, Chipeta, Pahlone, and others, serving as a reminder of the Indigenous Peoples who lived in harmony with the natural world for generations.

# The Chiefs

The Arkansas River has provided sustenance, water, and a home to countless beings, both human and non-human, over the centuries. We acknowledge the profound impact of these Indigenous communities on the landscape and ecology of this area.

As we share the beauty and wonder of Chaffee County with visitors from near and far, we are committed to preserving and celebrating the cultural heritage and contributions of Native American and Indigenous Peoples. We recognize the importance of acknowledging their enduring presence and the importance of their history in shaping this land we cherish today.

We express our gratitude to the Indigenous communities who have cared for this land for generations and continue to do so. May we walk together in the spirit of respect, collaboration, and stewardship of this land, honoring the legacy of those who came before us.



LOGAN MYERS





## Take the Pledge

The Adventure By Nature Pledge is an outreach and education project supporting outdoor recreation, economic and visitor growth in Chaffee County by encouraging responsible recreation, stewardship principles, and best practices for visitors and residents recreating in the outdoors.

We believe that stewardship of the environment is everyone's responsibility. Please help us protect and preserve our home so future generations can enjoy it just as you have.

## THE ADVENTURE BY NATURE PLEDGE

While traveling in Buena Vista and Salida, Colorado...

*I will:*

- Stay on the trail
- Be respectful
- Recreate responsibly
- Leave no trace

*Sign Online*

To sign the pledge, visit: [ColorfulColorado.com/Adventure](https://ColorfulColorado.com/Adventure)



**Take the Pledge and we will enter you to win an adventure in Buena Vista & Salida, Colorado**



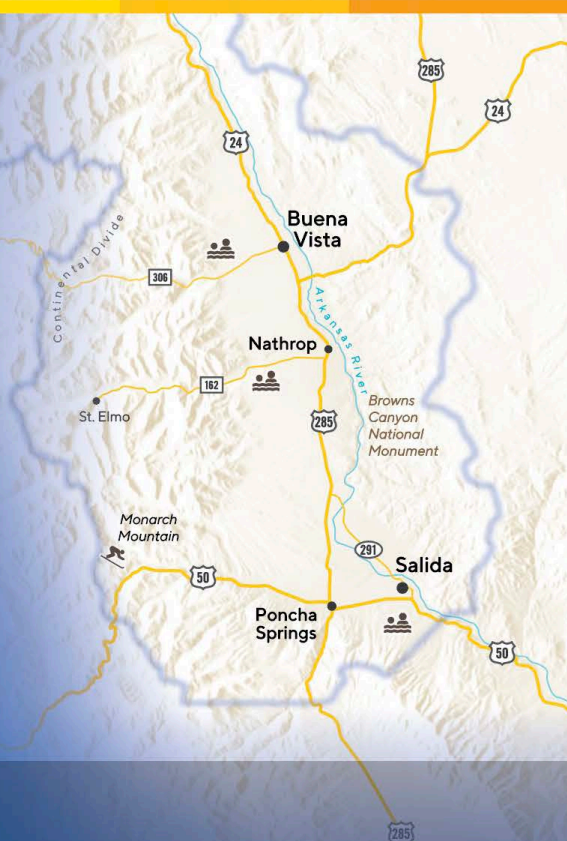


# Welcome to CHAFFEE COUNTY

DIGITAL ART CO

A natural playground for recreation and adventure seekers who enjoy relaxing in natural hot springs after their adventures.

Whether drawn to extreme challenges or family-friendly fun, it's all found here year-round. A vast network of trails attracts hikers, mountain bikers, and horseback riders. Several national 'long hike' trails wind through, including the famous Colorado Trail. The 15 majestic 14ers, amidst countless other peaks rimming this valley, beckon climbers, hikers and skiers. The Arkansas River saves its best whitewater and gold medal fishing for this stretch. It's all an invitation to explore and play.



## Buena Vista

Buena Vista is situated between the Collegiate Peaks and the Arkansas River and is known for its laid-back, mountain town vibe. A friendly and welcoming community filled with opportunities for adventure.

## Nathrop

Tucked in a tree-lined canyon beneath the daunting 14,000 foot Collegiate Peaks, Nathrop is a quiet, natural community. In the late 1800s, the railroad chugged through Nathrop, dropping a regular stream of visitors. The main draw in Nathrop has always been its natural hot springs, once a sacred spot for American Indians. Turn-of-the-century vacationers stayed at Nathrop's grand hotel and soaked in the restorative waters.

## Salida

Salida is located in the heart of the Rockies. The Sawatch Range, the Arkansas River and Monarch Mountain surround this hamlet of a town. Charming, friendly, artistic and historic — there's plenty to keep visitors busy throughout the year in this mountain community.

## Poncha Springs

The town was named after a local natural hot spring coined Poncha Springs by famed Colorado frontiersman Kit Carson. Today, water from the springs is piped into Salida's Hot Springs Aquatic Center. Another historical marker in this tiny crossroads community designates the spot where explorer Zebulon Pike and party spent the winter of 1806.

*WebCams*  
ColorfulColorado.com/web-cams





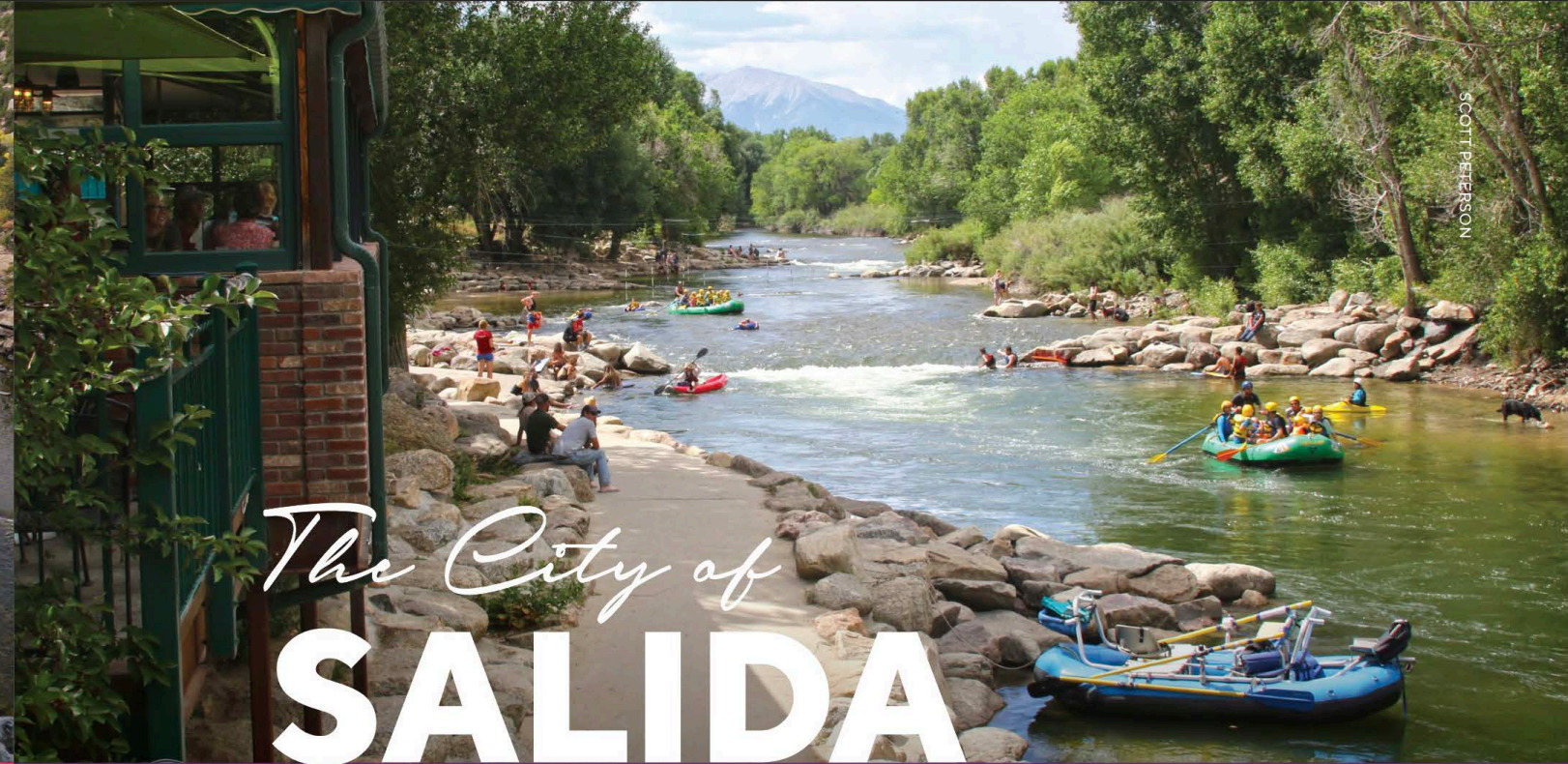
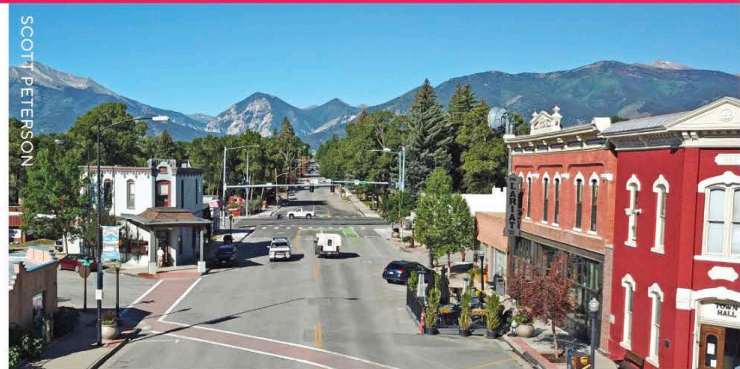
ELEVATION: 7,965' POPULATION: 2,700

## Buena Vista boasts two distinctive town areas: Historic Downtown and the South Main neighborhood

With both a wild-west past and an outdoor soul, stores offer everything for mountain living and exploring. The historic downtown offers several art galleries with unique handmade finds. You'll find gear, gifts, books, specialty and consignment items too.

The kayak-centric South Main neighborhood boasts imaginative boutique shops, hotels, and art galleries with handcrafted creations. This area is located right on the Arkansas River with a world class whitewater park.

Buena Vista has mountain views, wide valleys, alpine lakes and more than 100 miles of trails. There are over a dozen trailheads leading you on scenic hiking experiences. Venture out to the famous Colorado Trail, the Continental Divide and the 14er Summit trailheads. Take a Sunday drive, or better yet, rent a Jeep and get up to the high country. The Collegiate Peaks Scenic Byway runs through Buena Vista and for 57 miles of absolute splendor.



ELEVATION: 7,083' POPULATION: 5,963

## Colorado's largest National Historic District and first Certified Creative District

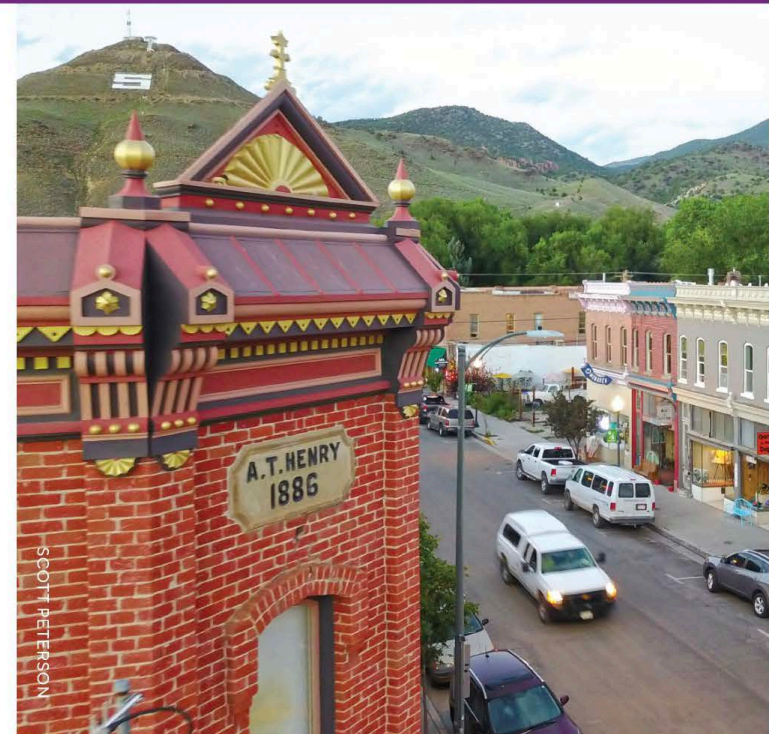
Salida was founded in 1880 on the banks of the Arkansas River. With more than 100 turn-of-the-century buildings in downtown, it's the largest National Historic District in Colorado.

This lively downtown was also designated Colorado's first Certified Creative District with dozens of artist-owned studios, galleries, restaurants, unique shops, breweries, and distilleries.

Salida's whitewater park is a multi-faceted gathering place, featuring a quarter-mile long course with an upper and lower hole. Take a stroll along the river walk and watch kayakers, stand up paddle boarders, and rafters play in the river. During late summer, rent a tube and do laps down the river.

The City of Salida owns and operates the largest indoor hot springs in the country. This natural hot spring water has been pumped from eight miles away to these pools since 1937.

There is a giant 'S' on Tenderfoot Hill overlooking Salida. Every year, on the Friday after Thanksgiving, this landmark turns into *Christmas Mountain* by creating a 750 foot Christmas Tree made of 4,500 brightly-colored bulbs.







# Explore The Backcountry in WINTER

Hundreds of miles of trails are groomed for snow sports

Local outfitters can take you on guided tours, or if you prefer exploring on your own, try Marshall Pass, Monarch Pass, Tin Cup Pass, or Cottonwood Pass.

ELK RAVEN PHOTOGRAPHY

## Snowmobile Clubs

There are two snowmobile clubs in Chaffee County that groom Cottonwood Pass, Marshall Pass and the Collegiate Peaks Campground for Nordic Skiing. These clubs are funded by snowmobile registrations and club memberships.

If you are a snowmobiler or snow sport enthusiast, please consider joining one of these clubs to support the continued maintenance of these groomed trails.



### Buena Vista Snowmobile Club

PO Box 3133  
Buena Vista, CO 81211



### Heart of the Rockies Snowmobile Club

PO Box 241  
Poncha Springs, CO 81242



LISA SEAMAN



NIL AND ANGEL PHOTOGRAPHY



CATHERINE EICHEL



LISA SEAMAN

## Backcountry Tips

### Winter weather can be unexpected and change quickly

Avalanches can strike even the most prepared winter recreationist. Check conditions with the Colorado Avalanche Information Center online to determine local mountain weather and safety risks: [www.avalanche.state.co.us](http://www.avalanche.state.co.us)

### Safety First

Bring the proper safety gear for outdoor winter adventures. Make sure your vehicle includes winter emergency gear too, like snow tires or chains, flashlights, blankets, extra food, and water.

### Additional snow safety you should take along

An avalanche transceiver, snow shovel and avalanche probe. These items are available to rent at some local outdoor equipment stores. Know how to use the equipment properly before your trip and seek out professional training if you need assistance.



Winters in Buena Vista and Salida are unique

The valley floor typically does not hold snow, allowing for hiking, biking and fishing year-round.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF MONARCH MOUNTAIN

# Ski

## 100% Natural Snow

Monarch Mountain is a unique, family friendly ski area. Founded in 1939, this is one of Colorado's longest running ski areas. The mountain is just 20 miles from Salida and 40 miles from Buena Vista, near the top of Monarch Pass.



# MONARCH

## MOUNTAIN



### No Experience? No Problem!

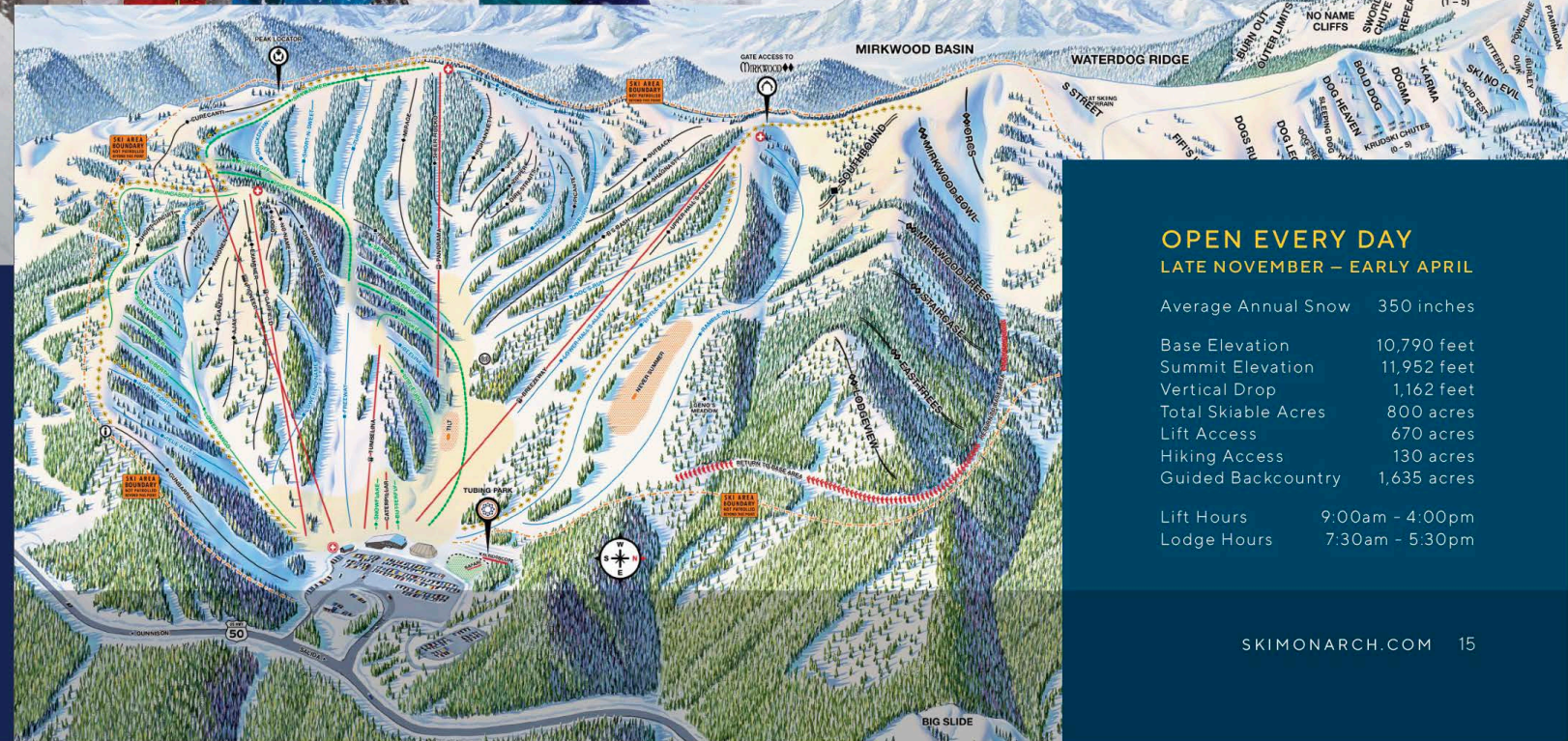
We have you covered, no equipment or experience required. Monarch Mountain, along with other outdoor shops in town offer skis, snowboards and clothing rentals. Whether it's your first time on snow or you are a seasoned skier or snowboarder, Monarch Mountain's ski school instructors will make you feel comfortable from the very start. Send the kids to ski school and enjoy the day exploring the mountain on your own.

### Tubing on Snow

Snow tubing is the easiest way to enjoy Monarch's all-natural snow and is sure to be fun for everyone in your group. The magic carpet will carry you to the top of the hill. No hiking! The tubing park features individual lanes to race down the hill. Double up with a little one or challenge someone to a race. Experience après ski at the lodge.

### Snow Cat Skiing

Looking to elevate your Monarch experience? Monarch Cat Skiing offers 1,635 acres of diverse, expert terrain featuring wide open bowls, steep chutes, beautiful glades and some of the best tree skiing you'll ever experience.



### OPEN EVERY DAY LATE NOVEMBER – EARLY APRIL

Average Annual Snow	350 inches
Base Elevation	10,790 feet
Summit Elevation	11,952 feet
Vertical Drop	1,162 feet
Total Skiable Acres	800 acres
Lift Access	670 acres
Hiking Access	130 acres
Guided Backcountry	1,635 acres
Lift Hours	9:00am - 4:00pm
Lodge Hours	7:30am - 5:30pm



# Year Round HOT SPRINGS

3 Public Hot Springs  
100's of rooms within walking distance

LISA SEAMAN



## The Hottest in Colorado

The hot springs in our area are some of the hottest in Colorado. This geothermal water bubbles out of the ground at 140 degrees Fahrenheit. The hot springs are created by ground water heated by shallow intrusions of magma (molten rock) in this volcanic area.

## Our Hot Spring Don't Stink!

These hot springs are unique because they do not stink. The hot springs are non-sulfurous which, unlike many other hot springs, creates an odor-free mineral water experience.

## Healing Powers

Some people swear by the rejuvenating powers of the springs. The mineral content and heat can alleviate many ailments. The hot springs are filled with unique minerals including: Boron, Calcium, Carbonate of Lime, Carbonate of Magnesia, Iron, Potassium Carbonate, Chloride of Potash, Fluoride, Lithium, Sulphate of Soda.

## Local tips

Early morning or after dark is the best time to visit the hot springs because this is when there are less people soaking.

Clothing is mandatory at all the hot springs. Bring a swimsuit, sandals, hat, sunglasses and sunscreen.

Rent a room at one of the hot springs resorts and your hot springs entry is included with your overnight stay. You may even rent a private soak after hours at the hot springs or check out a vacation rental that has a private hot springs on property. There are 100's of rooms within walking distance to the Salida Hot Springs Pool.





COTTONWOOD PASS - CATHERINE EICHEL PHOTOGRAPHY



**Collegiate Peaks Scenic Byway** is an inspiring 57 miles full of breath-taking views of the largest concentration of 14ers in the country. The byway gets its name from the prominent Sawatch Range peaks named after Ivy League Universities: Oxford, Harvard, Columbia, Yale, and Princeton.

# Scenic DRIVES



DIGITALART.CO

Independence Pass



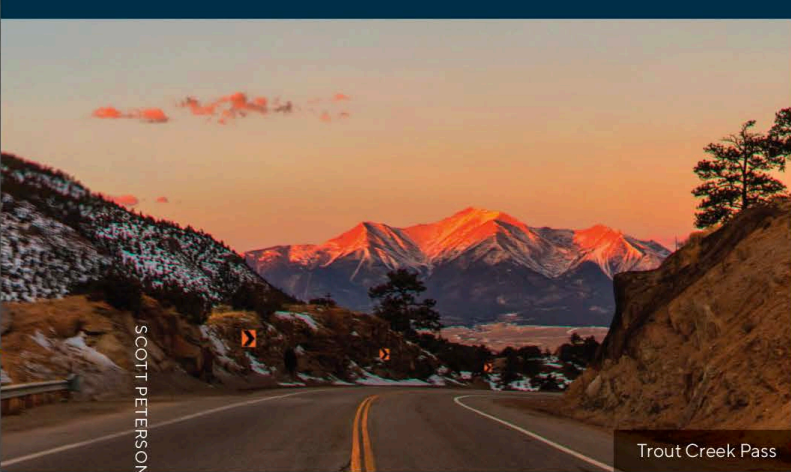
CATHERINE EICHEL

Cottonwood Pass



NIK AND ANGEL PHOTOGRAPHY

Marshall Pass



SCOTT PETERSON

Trout Creek Pass

**1** 233 mi | 6 hr 25 min

Independence Pass is only open in the summer for scenic drives. Take Hwy 24 north along the Arkansas River, past the historic town of Granite. Turn left onto Hwy 82 and switchback your way to an elevation of 12,095 ft. The top of the pass offers restrooms and scenic mountain views from the overlook. You can turn back here or continue over the Continental Divide to Aspen, Basalt, and Carbondale before heading over Kebler Pass (Open only in the summer) and through the historic mountain town and ski resort of Crested Butte.

**2** 148 mi | 3 hr 20 min

Topping out at 12,126 feet, the Cottonwood Pass road, is also known as County Road 306. Cottonwood Pass connects with Taylor Reservoir, leading to Almont, Gunnison and Crested Butte, making it an excellent summer trip. During the winter, the road is closed, but the pass is groomed for winter activities and snowmobiling.

**3** 64 mi | 2 hr 10 min

History buffs will love this route which follows the original railroad grade for the Denver & Rio Grande Railroad enroute to Salt Lake City from Denver in the late 1800's. Beginning on County Road 200, off of Hwy 285, a few miles south of Poncha Springs, this graded dirt road passes a historic townsite and a beautiful alpine lake before topping out just below tree line at 10,842'.

**4** 147 mi | 2 hr 45 min

Head east on US Hwy 50 along the Arkansas River. As you enter Bighorn Sheep Canyon, keep your eyes peeled for bighorn sheep, whitewater rafters and kayakers and folks fishing along the 102 miles of Gold Medal Waters. When you come to US 24 and US 285, you'll top out at 9,487' on Trout Creek Pass. Upon the descent, you'll find Chubb Park with its unique rock formations. Once the Collegiate Peaks reveal themselves, you'll probably find yourself saying, Now THIS is Colorado!

\*Route lengths and driving times are approximate.



## Colorado's Largest State Park



Below the striking Saguache and Sangre de Cristo mountain ranges lies the Arkansas Headwaters Recreation Area. This 152 mile stretch of river starts in the high mountains near Leadville and runs all the way down to the open plains of Pueblo. The Arkansas River winds through Chaffee County where boaters can find anything from challenging Class V white-water rapids to idyllic float fishing on calmer waters. No matter how you choose to enjoy the river, the power of the Arkansas should always be taken seriously, no matter how much or how little water is flowing.

The Arkansas River Headwaters Area also offers an abundance of other recreational opportunities including camping, hiking, picnicking, mountain biking, rock climbing, horseback riding, cross country skiing, snowmobiling, wildlife viewing, and if you can believe it, gold panning. The shores have colorful outcroppings, rock spires, and some sandy beaches for the perfect lunch break while on a day trip.

# ARKANSAS HEADWATERS RECREATION AREA

Leadville

Hayden Meadows

Kobe

Granite

Granite Boat Chute

Numbers

**The Numbers**  
Class III-V

Railroad Bridge

**Buena Vista**

**Buena Vista Whitewater Park**

Fisherman's Bridge

Ruby Mountain

**Browns Canyon National Monument**

**Browns Canyon**  
Class II-V

Hecla Junction

Stone Bridge

Big Bend

**Salida**

**Salida Whitewater Park**

Salida East

Rincon

**Bighorn Sheep Canyon**  
Class II-V

Texas Creek

Ford Crossing

Lone Pine

Canyon Trading Post

Vallie Bridge

**Royal Gorge**  
Class III-V

Parkdale

Salt Lick

Spikebuck

Pinnacle Rock

Maytag

**Cañon City**

River Station

Centennial Park

Pathfinder Park

Blue Heron

**Florence Whitewater Park**

Pueblo

## The Right Gear

A trip on the Arkansas River is not complete without the proper safety equipment. A personal flotation device (PFD) is a must. Colorado State Law requires anyone under the age of 13 to wear a PFD whenever swimming in the Arkansas River Headwaters Area. Helmets are a great idea if you are spending anytime on whitewater.

Sprung a leak? Person overboard? Pack the following: first aid and patch kit, an extra PFD, a spare oar or paddle, a pump, a bailing device and bow-stern line. Have rescue gear: ropes/throw lines, a knife, carabiners and a whistle.

*If you left home without the right supplies, stop by one of our gear stores.*

## River Safety

Rivers are powerful and dynamic. Unforeseen hazards lie below the surface of the water. Consider the following before planning your next trip:

- Know the section of the river, its current conditions, and the weather forecast. Does your group have the skill set and experience to navigate?
- Be aware of river "signs" – both natural and man-made: holes, wrap rocks, undercuts, rock sieves, significant rapids and "strainers".
- Everyone in your group should know First Aid, CPR and water rescue.

## Let Someone Else Deal with the Logistics

If navigating the rivers of Colorado's high country are new to you, then reach out to one of our many talented river guide services to book a trip. Not only do river guides know how to have a good time, they are also experts at river safety and know how to back up a boat trailer.

LUKE URBINE

ARKANSASRIVEROUTFITTERS.ORG

NIL AND ANGEL PHOTOGRAPHY





# Browns Canyon

## Colorado's Newest National Monument

Browns Canyon National Monument is right in our backyard! Carved by the Arkansas River, granite cliffs with cathedral-like spires, colorful outcroppings, significant elevation changes, and an ideal ecosystem will provide visitors with ample recreational activities. The Monument provides habitat protection for bighorn sheep, elk, golden eagles and peregrine falcons.

The canyons and the forests within the Monument are magical and ready for your exploration. This protected area is ideal for fishing, horseback riding, snow shoeing, cross country skiing, hiking, and more. You will feel the tranquility immediately as humans are scarce and wildlife viewings are abundant.

BROWNS CANYON

**Browns Canyon is renowned for its whitewater rafting and kayaking**

Literally the hottest spot in the nation for whitewater fun!

[COLORFULCOLORADO.COM/BROWNS-CANYON](http://COLORFULCOLORADO.COM/BROWNS-CANYON)





# Mountain BIKING

JASON WILLES

## There are more bikes than cars in Buena Vista and Salida, Colorado

Buena Vista and Salida are known as one of the best destinations for biking in Colorado because these world class trails are typically rideable year-round. The trail systems are so close to the town centers that you may not ever have to get back in your car to ride during your entire stay.



SCOTT ANDERSON



CATHERINE EICHEL

### Building more trails

requires all of us to work together. High quality mountain bike trails can cost upwards of \$24,000 per mile.

We have two all-volunteer organizations committed to building and maintaining sustainable, non-motorized, multi-user trails on public lands near Buena Vista and Salida.

Please consider donating to our local trail organizations.



**Buena Vista  
Singletrack Coalition**  
[BVsingletrack.com](http://BVsingletrack.com)



**Salida Mountain Trails**  
[SalidaMountainTrails.org](http://SalidaMountainTrails.org)

### Respect the Landscape

Respect your local trail builders and be a good steward of the physical environment. Keep singletrack single by staying on the trail. Practice *Leave No Trace* principles. Do not ride muddy trails because it causes rutting, widening, and maintenance headaches. Ride through standing water, not around it. Ride (or walk) technical features, not around them.

### Share the Trail

Most of the local trails are multi-use. Mountain bikers yield to horses and foot traffic, and descending riders yield to climbing riders. This yield triangle has been formally adopted by land managers since the late 1970s and is a significant reason why we have the access we do. There are some regional differences and unique rules on single-use, directional mountain bike trails—know the code where you ride. Be nice. Say hi.





# Colorado's HIGHEST PEAKS

People come from around the world  
to hike Colorado's highest peaks

Colorado has 58 mountain peaks exceeding 14,000 feet  
— more than any other state in the country

The Sawatch Range consists of 15 peaks of 14,000 feet or more, including Mt. Elbert at 14,440 feet, the highest in Colorado and second highest in the lower 48 states. The Collegiate Peaks, named after five famous universities, are a part of this range.

The Sawatch Range rises over 7,000 feet from the valley floor to the top of the Continental Divide. Many of these peaks are in the Collegiate Peaks Wilderness Area.

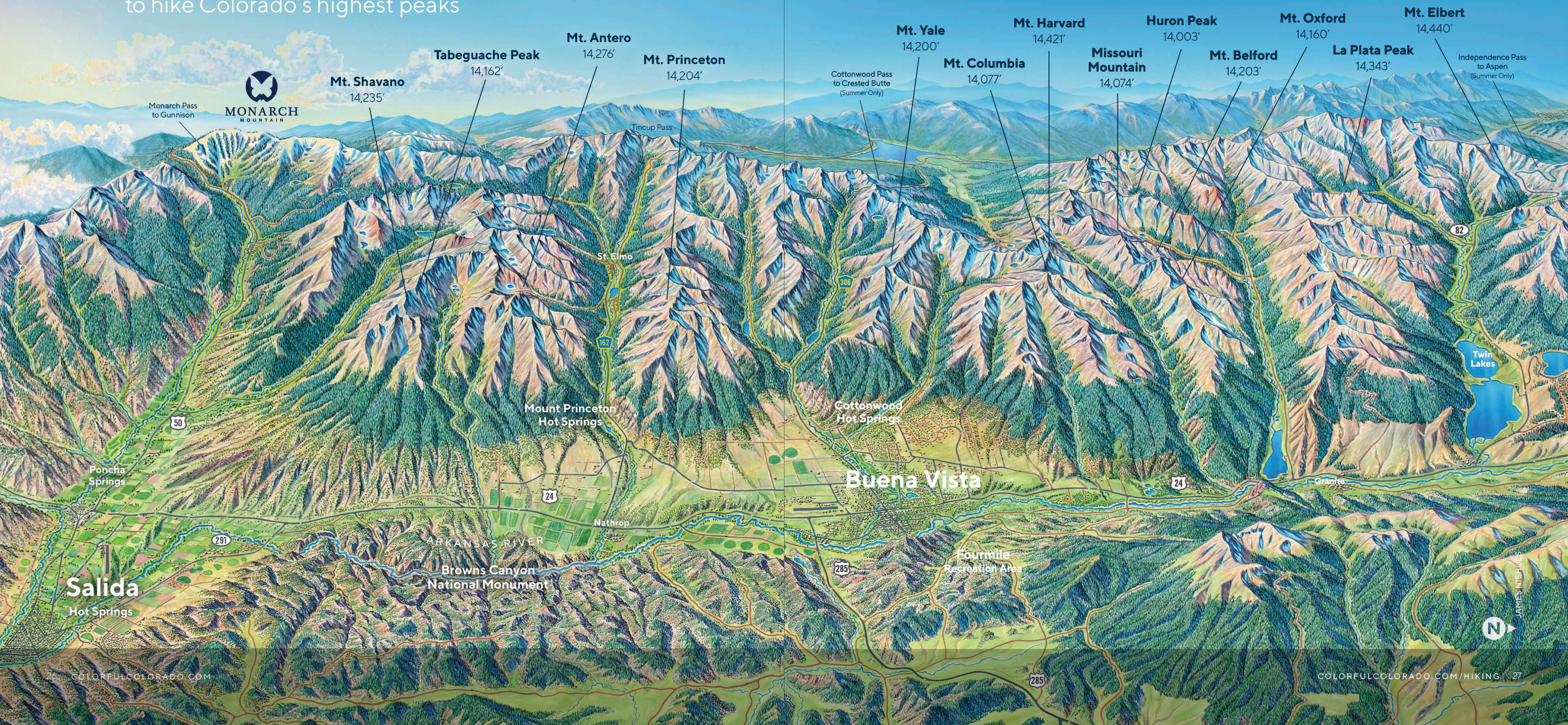
## DID YOU KNOW?



Peaks over 14,000 feet are known locally as "fourteeners" or "14ers".

Motorized vehicles, hang gliders, bicycles, and groups of more than ten people are not allowed in wilderness areas.

*Please be aware of wilderness boundaries.*



**Mt. Shavano**  
14,235'

**Tabeguache Peak**  
14,162'

**Mt. Antero**  
14,276'

**Mt. Princeton**  
14,204'

**Mt. Yale**  
14,200'

**Mt. Columbia**  
14,077'

**Mt. Harvard**  
14,421'

**Missouri Mountain**  
14,074'

**Huron Peak**  
14,003'

**Mt. Belford**  
14,203'

**Mt. Oxford**  
14,160'

**La Plata Peak**  
14,343'

**Mt. Elbert**  
14,440'

Independence Pass  
to Aspen  
(Summer Only)



Monarch Pass  
to Gunnison

Tin Cup Pass

St. Elmo

Mount Princeton  
Hot Springs

Cottonwood  
Hot Springs

Buena Vista

Nathrop

ARKANSAS RIVER

Browns Canyon  
National Monument

Salida  
Hot Springs

Fourmile  
Recreation Area







SCOTT ANDERSON

# HIKING *and Backpacking*

Our beautiful mountain towns are surrounded by 12 fourteeners

## Leave No Trace

While out in the wilderness you may discover the endangered Boreal Toad, 200+ year old Krumholtz fir trees at timberline and an extensive list of aquatic and land species. Follow these guidelines to help keep these creatures and plants thriving, and ensure other backcountry adventurers have a positive experience:

- Pack out your trash and human waste. Our local gear stores carry human waste bags. We all appreciate not seeing the invasive non-native toilet paper flowers and what is underneath
- Do not collect firewood for campfires
- Camp 200 feet away from any water source and 100 feet away from any trail
- Use existing backcountry campsites, and make sure you are camping on durable surfaces

## Search and Rescue

Chaffee County has two Search and Rescue organizations. These are all volunteer organizations operating under the direction of the Chaffee County Sheriff's Office. Their mission is to provide search and rescue services, as well as outdoor safety education, at no cost to the public.

Please consider purchasing a COSAR Card to ensure Colorado's search and rescue teams are reimbursed for your rescue. [ColorfulColorado.com/COSAR](http://ColorfulColorado.com/COSAR)

**Chaffee County Search and Rescue - North**  
P.O. Box 1671  
Buena Vista, CO 81211  
[ChaffeeCountySARnorth.org](http://ChaffeeCountySARnorth.org)

**Chaffee County Search and Rescue - South**  
P.O. Box 313  
Poncha Springs, CO 81242  
[ChaffeeSARsouth.org](http://ChaffeeSARsouth.org)



SCOTT ANDERSON

## Hiking and climbing at 14,000 feet is no joke

### Do Your Research

Most of the fourteen routes involve Class 2 scrambling or climbing. Only a few fourteeners have hiking routes to the summit. Determine your route based on your ability and others in your group. Roads to the trailhead can oftentimes be a journey on their own, so make sure your vehicle can safely travel to the trailhead. Check the weather forecast ahead of time and plan appropriately.

### Make a Plan

Summertime in Colorado's high country means afternoon thunderstorms, so check the weather beforehand, plan an early start, have a group turnaround time, and be back below tree line by noon. Cell service is spotty to non-existent in the backcountry, so plan for alternative communications. Remember, summiting is optional but returning to the trailhead happy and safe is mandatory!

### Pack the Right Gear

The old saying goes that if you don't like the weather in Colorado, then wait five minutes. The weather at 14,000 feet can be radically different than at the trailhead, so make sure your pack includes extra layers, plenty of water, food and the Ten Essentials to get you through an unplanned night.

[ColorfulColorado.com/10-essentials](http://ColorfulColorado.com/10-essentials)



SCOTT ANDERSON





NIK AND ANGEL PHOTOGRAPHY



COLIN MEDVED



TIM BROWN PHOTOGRAPHY

# Colorado FISHING

Rainbow, brown, brook, and cutthroat trout thrive in the Arkansas River, especially in Chaffee County, where these Gold Medal Waters provide optimum habitat and trophy-size trout. Any day is the perfect day for fly fishing or casting a line in the Arkansas River or nearby lakes and streams.

Regularly stocked lakes and ponds provide great opportunities for a family fishing experience. There are dozens of high lakes and streams accessible by hiking or 4X4.

## It's Not a Fee, It's a Contribution

Fishing licenses are required for any person 18 years of age or older. Be sure to check the fishing laws and regulations that apply in your area. Anglers are required to follow both statewide and waterway specific rules so that fish populations are protected now and into the future. Always check for fishing regulation updates prior to each fishing trip.

## Ethical Angling

Ethical angling practices not only help with conservation efforts, but also help in building a positive angling community. Do your part by taking the time to learn as much as you can about fish species, habitats, fishing regulations, and proper fish handling. If you already apply these practices, think about how you can mentor or pass along this information to new anglers.

## Catch and Release

Whether you are a beginning angler or someone who has been fishing for years, ask yourself if you really need to keep any fish within the legal regulations that you catch, or if it makes more sense to catch and release. Smart catch and release techniques help ensure the survival of any non-invasive fish you catch. When fish are released healthy, and can continue to reproduce, this plays a major role in sustainable eco-systems.

## 100 miles of Gold Medal Waters



Water quality improvements and fishery flow management have helped the Arkansas River become designated as the longest stretch of Gold Medal Waters in Colorado. For a dozen years, the wild brown trout fishery has exceeded the minimum metrics for number of fish over 14 inches and pounds of fish per acre. This, combined with extensive public access, has made the Arkansas River Colorado's most popular fishing destination.



# CAMPING



## PLAN AHEAD AND PREPARE

Chaffee County is home to several campgrounds, but sites fill up quickly! Plan ahead and prepare for your adventure by reserving your campsite online. If you cannot make a reservation, make sure you have alternative plans before packing up your car. To more easily score a campsite, try camping on a weekday or outside of the busy summer season.

## Can I Build a Campfire?

Before you venture out, determine what local fire restrictions are before you pack up the firewood. Dry conditions often lead to fire bans or restrictions. Pack your own wood, as our trees cannot keep up with the demand (they grow extremely slow in our climate). Use existing fire rings, away from trees and shrubs. Never leave your campfire unattended — 85% of wildfires are caused by humans.

## Pack it In, Pack it Out

Most designated campgrounds do not have trash services, meaning you are taking everything you brought with you and packing it back out. Check around your campsite before you leave, even the smallest amount of trash can cause harm to local wildlife and diminish the next campers experience.

## Dispersed Camping

If campgrounds are not what you're looking for, you can try dispersed camping, which is camping outside of designated campgrounds. We have some basic rules to follow to ensure we protect our fragile mountain environment:

- Travel and camp on durable surfaces.
- Camp only in existing campsites on public lands that allow dispersed camping. Do not create your own campsite. Don't build a new fire ring, widen the existing area, or create a new parking spot.
- Dispersed camping means no access to trash collection or toilets. Have a plan to pack it out, that includes human waste. Yes, pack out your poop! Disposable bags are available at your local gear shop.
- Camp at least 200 feet from any water source. No camping at trailheads.

SCOTT PETERSON



# Explore OFFROAD

Our valley is a natural playground for all recreation



STAY THE TRAIL COLORADO

Any motor vehicle operated off-highway is considered an Off Highway Vehicle or OHV. Some of the more common OHVs include all-terrain vehicles (ATVs), dirt bikes, sand rails, recreation utility vehicles (RUVs), golf carts, snowmobiles, go carts, Jeeps, recreational off-highway vehicles (ROVs) and 4x4s.

**OHVs allow us to travel faster and further into the backcountry than we ever imagined. With this privilege comes the responsibility to be considerate of fellow wheeled and non-wheeled adventurers, wildlife, and fragile ecosystems.**

Off-highway recreation vehicles must be registered with Colorado State Parks' Off-Highway Vehicle Program. This program helps fund trail maintenance and construction, trailheads, parking areas, trail signs, maps, and land acquisition.

Before your adventure, familiarize yourself with Colorado's Off-Highway Vehicle Program: [cpw.state.co.us](http://cpw.state.co.us)

## Stay on the trail

- Never travel off the designated route or into private property.
- Slow down and give space to your fellow adventurers traveling on foot and bicycle. It's hard enough to hike and bike uphill, so help keep the dust down.

- Leave gates as you found them, or as marked. Close the gate behind you if the gate is closed when you drive up. Leave open if it's open, unless signage states otherwise.
- Pull over to the side of the trail and stop to let faster vehicles pass. Choose appropriate places to allow others to pass and be patient with other trail users. Avoid sensitive vegetation when parking along routes.

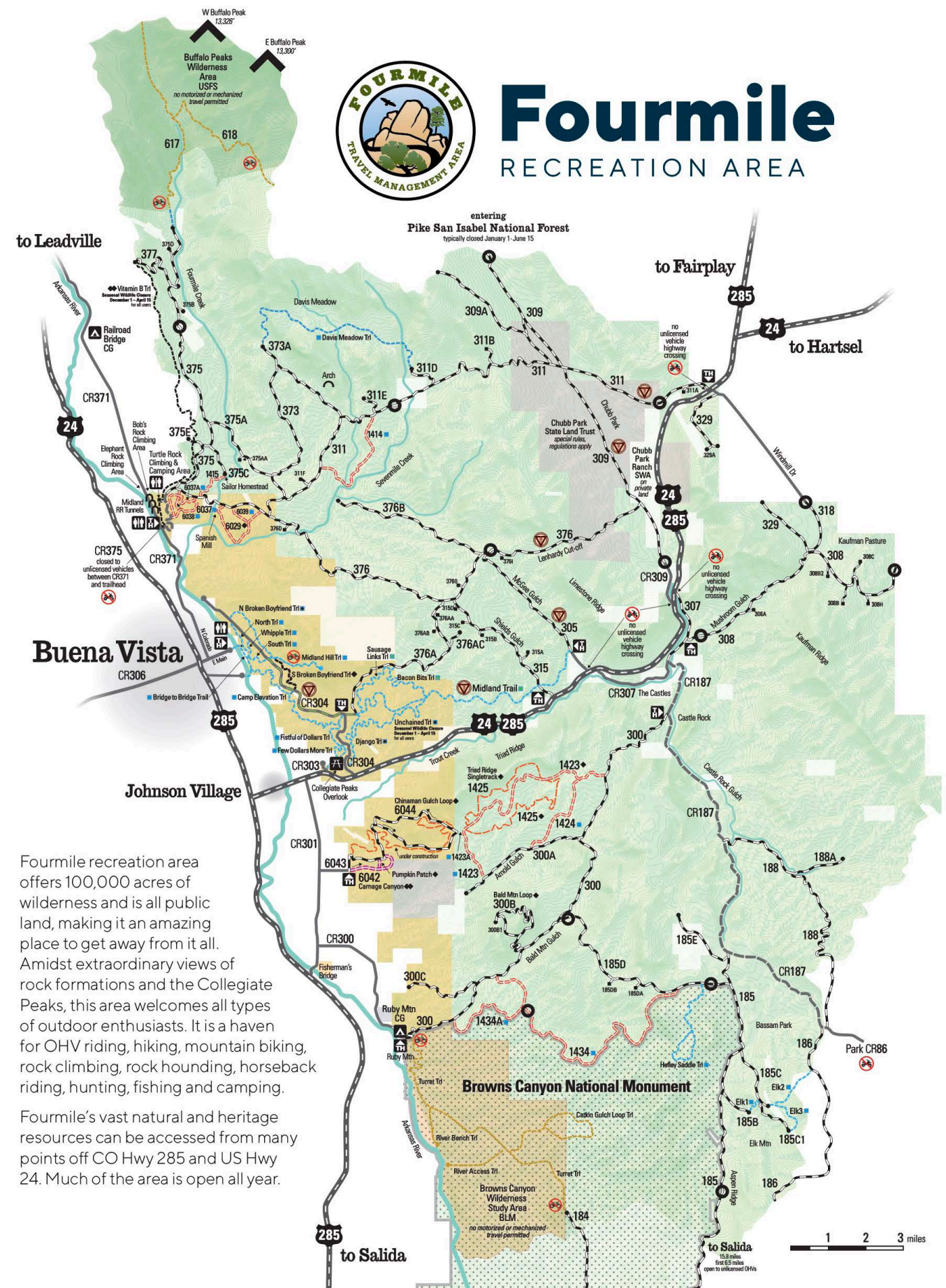
- Louder doesn't mean faster. The maximum noise limit under Colorado State Law is 96 decibels. Use the appropriate exhaust system for trail riding. Race systems are smaller and have less packing material inside to absorb the sound, so get that fixed before heading out into the wilderness.



## Support the sport by joining Colorado Off Road Enterprise

CORE is a motorized action group based out of Buena Vista working to keep our trails open. In addition to their 12 adopted trails, they work projects, provide trail reports, and work with land managers to ensure motorized users are represented when they make decisions.

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



Fourmile recreation area offers 100,000 acres of wilderness and is all public land, making it an amazing place to get away from it all. Amidst extraordinary views of rock formations and the Collegiate Peaks, this area welcomes all types of outdoor enthusiasts. It is a haven for OHV riding, hiking, mountain biking, rock climbing, rock hounding, horseback riding, hunting, fishing and camping.

Fourmile's vast natural and heritage resources can be accessed from many points off CO Hwy 285 and US Hwy 24. Much of the area is open all year.



# MOTORCYCLING

*Ride*

## Every motorcyclist is an adventurer at heart

Most ride to explore and experience new places while feeling free and closer to the outdoors. But while some ride on the main paved highways and byways, others take it to another level. This is the gritty, challenging, thrilling world of adventure motorcycling. And the Colorado Back Country Discovery Route (COBDR) is an adventure rider's dream.

### St. Elmo

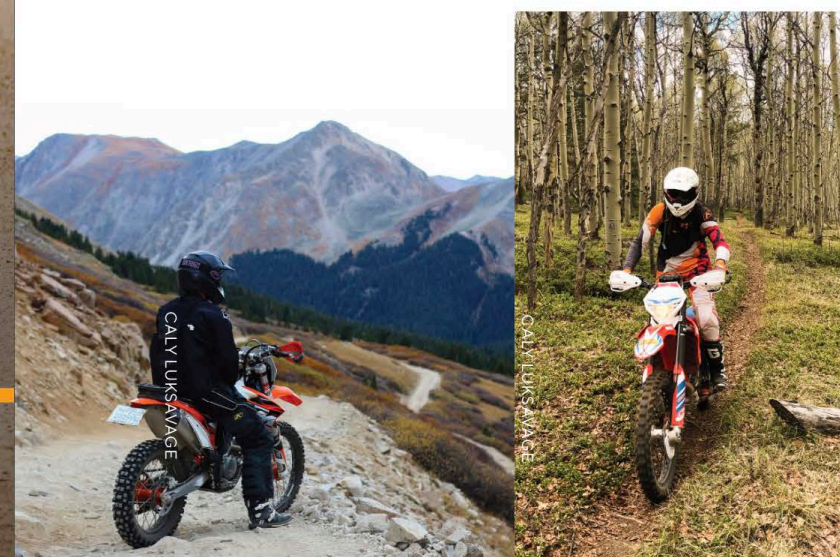
For a great motorcycle and OHV experience, visit the ghost town of St. Elmo at the base of Tincup Pass. Fall color viewing here is spectacular.

NIK AND ANGEL PHOTOGRAPHY

## Colorado Back Country Discovery Route

The COBDR is an exciting 675-mile, mostly off-road motorcycle route through Colorado's Rocky Mountains, from New Mexico to the Wyoming border. The highest mountains passable by motorcycle in the entire country are found in Colorado. The most breathtaking high-elevation sections over 8,000 feet are right in our backyard. Near Buena Vista and Salida, the COBDR goes over Cottonwood Pass, Taylor Park, Tincup, and Cumberland Pass.

You will also find miles of single-track in the area and the Big Bend OHV Track. Reference the National Forest Service MVUM maps. Please stay on designated roads, trails, and areas open to motor vehicles.



COBDR



### Respect Gets Respect

- Treat other users how you want to be treated. Be safe, be friendly, have fun!
- Expect users around every corner.
- Slow down and enjoy!
- Yield to other users – slow or stop and ask how you should pass.
- Stay on the trail – don't go around drifts or downfall.
- Speak to horses and riders when you see them – motorcycles can scare livestock.

### Support the sport by joining these organizations

Central Colorado Mountain Riders is an off-road motorcycle club focused on trail maintenance and advocacy based out of Salida, Colorado and covering the Central Colorado mountain trails.

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

Trails Preservation Alliance is a grassroots, 100% volunteer, non-profit group of Colorado motorcycle trail riders preserving single track trails in Colorado and informing the public about issues facing the sport.

[ColoradoTPA.org](http://ColoradoTPA.org)







SCOTT PETERSON

# Ziplines

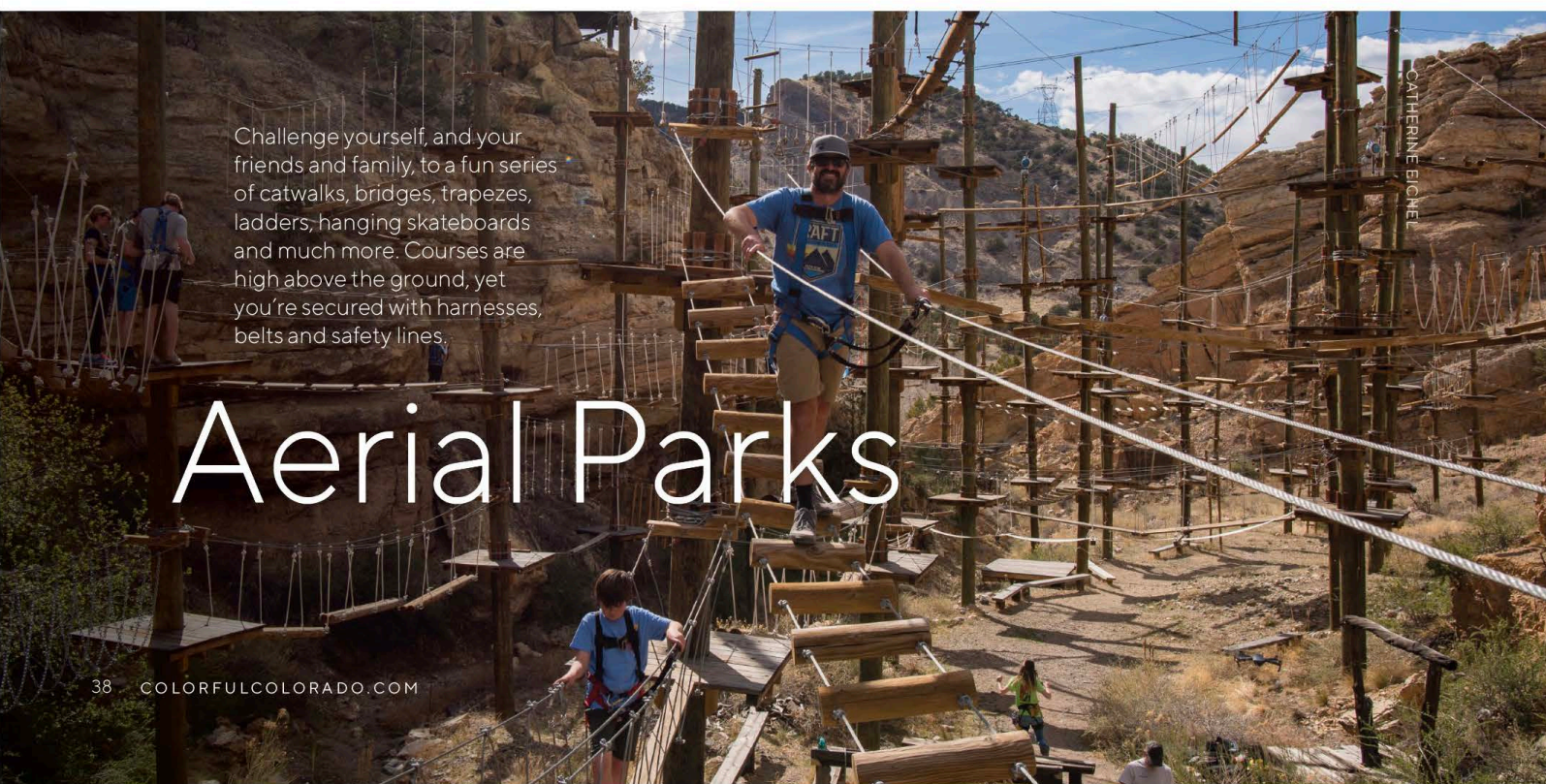
Just one step is all it takes to experience an adrenaline rush you'll never forget. Whiz across rivers and canyons for an eagle's-eye view and sense of adventure like no other. Try the "via ferrata" cliff-scaling rush.

## Monarch Crest Scenic Tram



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Ride the Monarch Crest Scenic Tramway to 12,000 feet for panoramic views from atop Monarch Pass. On clear days, you can see as far as Pikes Peak and the great Gunnison Valley. Get a bird's-eye view of Monarch Mountain. Return to the bottom on the tram, or walk down to enjoy the vistas and link up with the Colorado Divide Trail and other trails.



CATHERINE EICHEL

Challenge yourself, and your friends and family, to a fun series of catwalks, bridges, trapezes, ladders, hanging skateboards and much more. Courses are high above the ground, yet you're secured with harnesses, belts and safety lines.

# Aerial Parks

## Rock Climbing

Rock climbing is centered around the Buena Vista area with over 460 documented climbing routes. The Four Mile Recreation Area contains the highest concentration of climbing. Climbs in this area are a mix of sport and traditional routes from 50 to 450 feet on granite slabs, ranging from easy to very difficult.

### Know the Ropes

Rock climbing is an inherently dangerous sport that demands a high level of technical skills, proper equipment, physical fitness, and knowledge of the climbing area. Hire a local climbing guide for the day if you are missing any of these key ingredients.

ERIC RAMSEY



# STAND UP PADDLE BOARDING

## SUP

Stand Up Paddle boarding is the fastest-growing water sport. With the iconic Arkansas River flowing through our towns, as well as surrounding lakes and reservoirs, this is ideal SUP territory. It is easy to learn the paddling basics and experience a great core workout too. Whether you cruise around the flat waters or “surf” the waves of the river, SUP may just be your next obsession.

NIKAND ANGELO PHOTOGRAPHY

LUKE URBINE

## Whitewater Parks

Both Salida and Buena Vista have world-class whitewater parks located within the Arkansas Headwaters Recreation Area (AHRA). These Arkansas River whitewater parks are a kayakers and stand up paddleboarder's dream.

These natural areas have been beautifully planned and enhanced to create the best possible environment for active boaters and outdoor adventurers. Plus, they are just steps from downtown areas, making a smooth synergy of nature and mountain-town fun. Whether you are adventurous enough to try kayaking, stand up paddle boarding, tubing or just want to watch, these whitewater parks offer beautiful river walks with plenty of entertainment.

*Gear rentals and outdoor adventure guided trips are available nearby.*

### Water Safety

- Always wear a Personal Floatation Device (PFD) while recreating on water.
- Closely supervise children near water.
- When swimming, keep your feet downstream, float flat on your back and bounce off rocks with your feet.
- Foot entrapment – DON'T stand in moving water. Your foot could become lodged underneath a rock, the current pushes you forward, and suddenly you are stuck face down in the water... terrifying!
- Know the section of the river, its current conditions, and the weather forecast. Does your group have the skill set and experience to navigate?
- Respect the rights and property of landowners and residents – do not trespass on private land and keep noise down near homes.

SCOTT PETERSON



Buena Vista's whitewater park is an integral part of South Main, a masterminded neighborhood designed by kayakers for kayakers. Just steps away find a hotel, major entertainment venue, shops, restaurants and residences.

SCOTT PETERSON



Salida's whitewater park is on the edge of the historic downtown, buzzing with charming cafés, restaurants, lively bars, one-of-a-kind shops, art galleries, and an event center. Riverside Park is a beautifully shaded greenspace. Home to countless lively festivals, concerts, picnics, and a rock climbing wall.

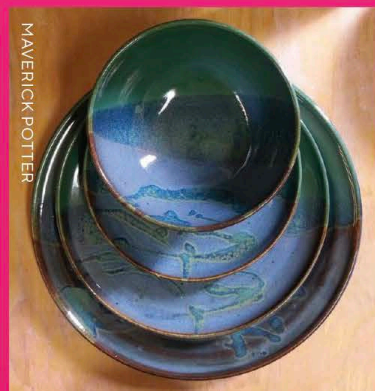




ZACH MAHONE



CATHERINE EICHEL



MAVERICK POTTER



SCOTT PETERSON

CATHERINE EICHEL



CATHERINE EICHEL



CATHERINE EICHEL



CATHERINE EICHEL



JIMMY DESCANT



ZACH MAHONE



SCOTT PETERSON



CATHERINE EICHEL



CATHERINE EICHEL



ZACH MAHONE

# ARTS

## and Entertainment

The visual appeal of Salida and Buena Vista has long inspired those visiting the area.

The arts in the county grew out of the valley's mining and energy burst of the 1980s to become an economic force and an attraction to art lovers as well as artists themselves. Today, visitors will find a variety of workshops, galleries, public art events, art festivals, and live entertainment, as Colorado's Upper Arkansas Valley celebrates the arts.

### Art is everywhere

Watch artists create in their studios and galleries. Jewelry shops sparkle with aquamarines mined from local Mount Antero. See hand-forged bike racks and fire pits, plein air painters, poets, circus performers and thespians.

In recognition of its numerous art studios and galleries, downtown Salida was named one of Colorado's first Creative Districts.







NIK AND ANGEL PHOTOGRAPHY

Breweries  
Distilleries  
Wineries

B53-49  
BIER53

# LIBATIONS

Get your designated driver lined up for a tour of the valley's top breweries, distilleries, and wine cellars.

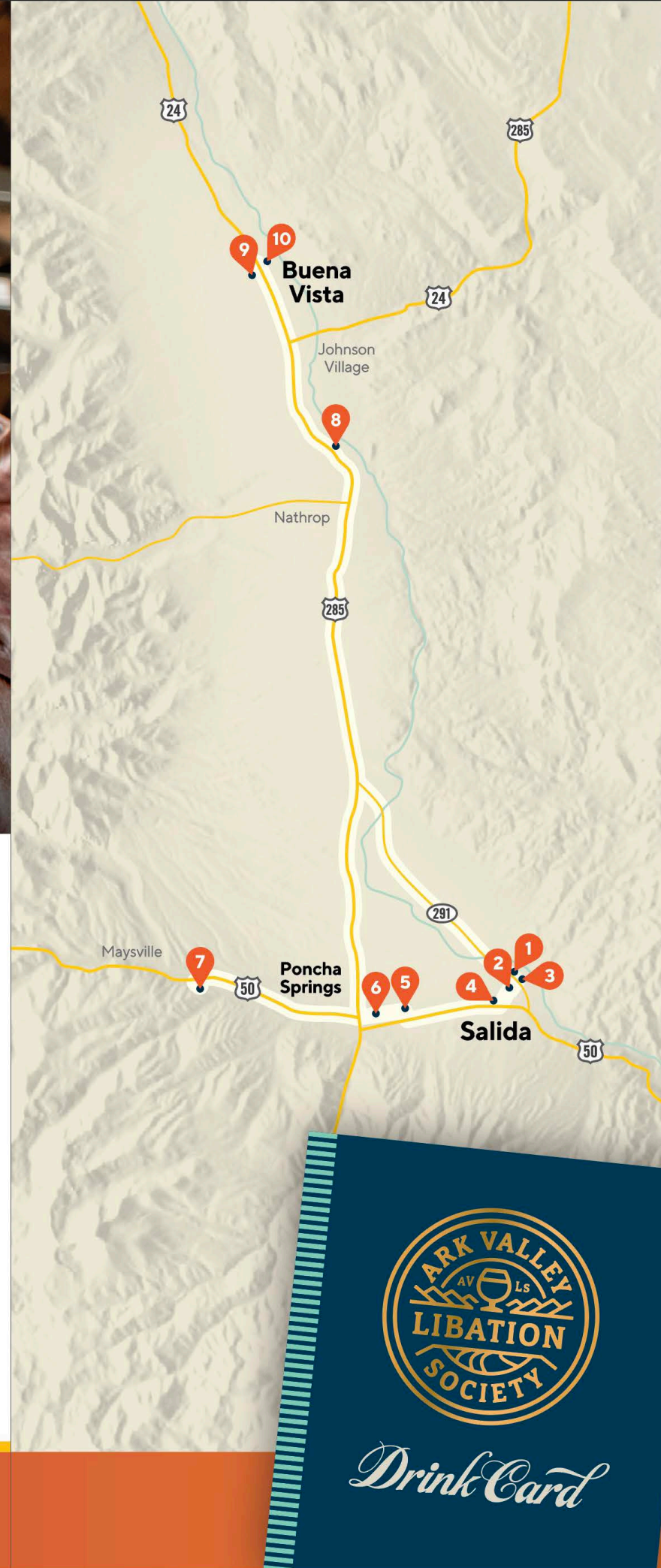
It's probably a bit ambitious to cover all ten in one day, so we recommend visiting one per day after your day of adventures.

The loop starts in Salida at Wood's High Mountain Distillery where you can sample a variety of signature cocktails. Next up is Moonlight Pizza & Brewpub, located in the heart of Salida, with a spacious patio. Just a few blocks away is Tres Litros Beer Company where you can enjoy a beer indoors or on their street-side patio. Head south to Soulcraft Brewing, named after a pioneering punk band, where you will find unique craft beers and food.

Go west to Poncha Springs for Elevation Beer Company, home to a cozy tasting room and pet friendly patio. Two minutes down the road in Poncha Springs is Vino Salida Wine Cellars. Keep it classy at the wine bar or head outside for the pet friendly patio.

Another short drive west brings you to Mountain Spirit Winery, a family-owned and operated winery for over 25 years. The winery sits on five acres of farmland with apple orchards and an old homestead.

Head north to Browns Canyon Brewing Company (at RMOC), the valley's newest brewery. A visit to Buena Vista rounds out the Libations Loop. First up on the BV tour is the Eddyline Brewery, with their festive taproom paying homage to the community's river culture. If you didn't get enough at the taproom, then take a short stroll to the Eddyline Restaurant on South Main that features wood-fired dishes and pizza. Finally, we reach the end of the Libations Loop with a visit to Deerhammer Distillery, a distillery steeped in whiskey tradition. Check out one of their distillery tours and sample the food truck that graces the premises during the summer.



## Libations Loop

- 1 Wood's High Mountain Distillery**  
144 W First St, Salida  
719.207.4315
- 2 Moonlight Pizza & Brewpub**  
144 W First St, Salida  
719.539.4277
- 3 Tres Litros Beer Company**  
118 N E St, Salida  
719.207.4519
- 4 Soulcraft Brewing**  
144 W First St, Salida  
719.539.5428
- 5 Elevation Beer Company**  
115 Pahlone Pkwy, Poncha Springs  
719.539.5258
- 6 Vino Salida Wine Cellars**  
10495 CR 120, Poncha Springs  
719.539.5428
- 7 Mountain Spirit Winery**  
15750 CR 220, Salida  
719.539.1175
- 8 Browns Canyon Brewing Company**  
23850 US Hwy 285, Buena Vista  
719.395.3335
- 9 Eddyline Brewery**  
102 Linderman Ave, Buena Vista  
719.966.6018
- 10 Deerhammer Distillery**  
321 E. Main St, Buena Vista  
719.395.9464

**The Ark Valley Libation Drink Card**  
offers one drink at each member location.

The punch card is available for \$25 from any of the members of the Libation Society.





# WEDDINGS

## AND EVENTS

Your Special Occasion in the Heart of the Rockies

14,000 foot peaks, the Arkansas River, small town charm, and world class vendors



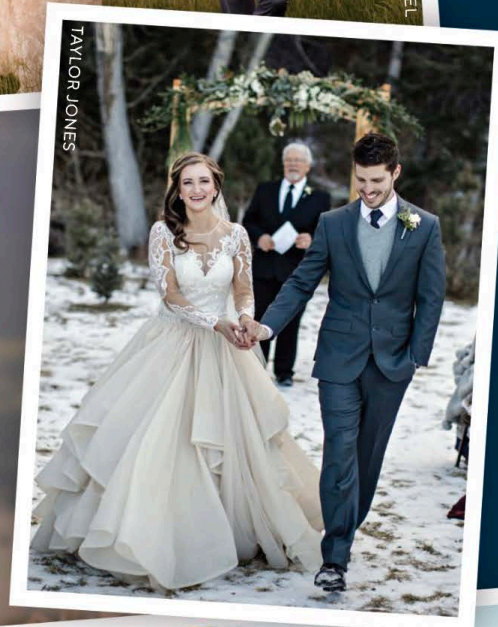
AMANDA HODGETA



CATHERINE EICHEL



CATHERINE EICHEL



TAYLOR JONES



CATHERINE EICHEL



CATHERINE EICHEL

## *We believe*

We believe in the power of community, love for all, and the preservation of our beautiful valley for all to enjoy. Our mission is to provide a safe place for all couples to share their wedding vows, love, and best day of their life with their loved ones in one of the most dramatic landscapes in the world.

Whether you arrive solo or with 200 of your best friends and family members, there's no shortage of unique locations and vendors to help you plan your big day. From the most elegant of barn weddings to the downtown urban scene, iconic aspen groves to rugged mountain cliffs, the Arkansas Valley has a location for everyone and every celebration! Whether you have impressive cotton candy sunsets, a dreamy winter wonderland, or a vibrant fall wedding envisioned, there's a perfect time for everyone here in our valley.

With small town charm comes tight-knit community and friendships that help your wedding day run like a well-oiled machine, or a well-loved trail! Our professional wedding vendors are all local businesses who thrive in the communities they live in. They're driven by providing world-class service and supporting couples as they navigate their wedding day. You can rest assured that your day will be filled with extra love and community, as most of us are friends outside of our careers.

If you're itching for an all-inclusive venue or prefer the whimsical feeling of eloping in an open field at the base of one of our iconic 14ers, the Heart of the Rockies Wedding Association members are eager to serve you and help plan your perfect day!



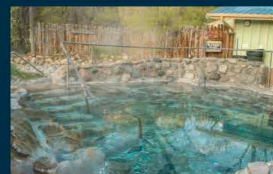
# LODGING

# BUENA VISTA

## HOTEL / MOTEL



**Best Western Vista Inn**  
733 N US Hwy 24  
[BWVistaInn.com](http://BWVistaInn.com)  
800.809.3495



**Cottonwood Hot Springs Inn and Spa**  
18999 CR 306  
[CottonwoodHotSprings.com](http://CottonwoodHotSprings.com)  
719.395.6434



**Lakeside Motel**  
112 Lake St  
[LakesideBV.com](http://LakesideBV.com)  
800.248.7684



**Mt. Princeton Hot Springs Resort**  
15870 CR 162, Nathrop  
[MtPrinceton.com](http://MtPrinceton.com)  
888.395.7799



**Rainbow Lake Resort**  
21509 CR 306  
[RainbowLakeResort.com](http://RainbowLakeResort.com)  
719.395.2509



**The Inn at Railroad + Main**  
107 N. Railroad  
[TheInnBV.com](http://TheInnBV.com)  
719.395.8111



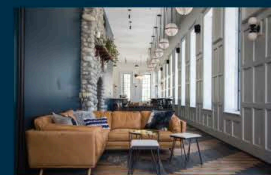
**Sumac Lodge**  
428 S US Hwy 24  
[SumacLodge.com](http://SumacLodge.com)  
719.395.8111



**Super 8 Hotel B.V.**  
530 N US Hwy 24  
[Super8.com](http://Super8.com)  
866.944.0808



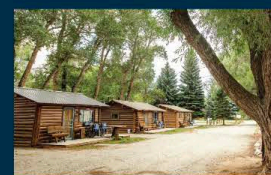
**Surf Chateau**  
1028 Wave St  
[SurfChateau.com](http://SurfChateau.com)  
719.966.7048



**Surf Hotel**  
1012 Front Loop  
[SurfHotel.com](http://SurfHotel.com)  
719.966.7048



**Topaz Lodge**  
115 N US Hwy 24  
719.398.9125



**Vista Court Cabins & Lodge**  
1004 W Main St  
[VistaCourtCabins.com](http://VistaCourtCabins.com)  
719.395.6557

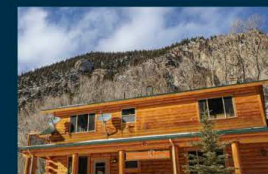
## BED & BREAKFAST



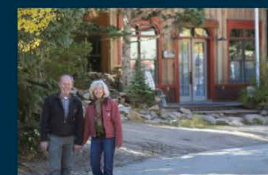
**A Riverhouse Lodge**  
12753 US Hwy 24  
[ARiverHouseLodge.com](http://ARiverHouseLodge.com)  
719.395.6494



**Buffalo Peaks**  
28928 Fairway Dr  
[BuffaloPeaks.com](http://BuffaloPeaks.com)  
719.395.3313



**Bighorn Lodge**  
18620 County Road 162, Nathrop  
[BigHornLodge.org](http://BigHornLodge.org)  
419.512.0416



**Ghost Town Guest House**  
25850 CR 162, St. Elmo  
[GhostTownGuestHouse.com](http://GhostTownGuestHouse.com)  
719.395.2120

## GUEST RANCH

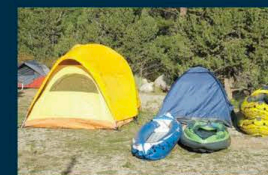


**Deer Valley Ranch**  
16825 CR 162, Nathrop  
[DeerValleyRanch.com](http://DeerValleyRanch.com)  
877.897.1297



**Elk Mountain Ranch**  
13000 CR 185B  
[ElkMtn.com](http://ElkMtn.com)  
800.432.8812

## CAMPGROUNDS



**Arkansas River Rim Campground & RV Park**  
33198 N US Hwy 24  
[ArkRiverRim.com](http://ArkRiverRim.com)  
719.395.8883



**Arrowhead Point Campground & RV Park**  
33975 N US Hwy 24  
[ArrowheadPointResort.com](http://ArrowheadPointResort.com)  
719.395.2323



**Chalkcreek Campground & RV Park**  
11430 CR 197, Nathrop  
[ChalkCreek-Campground.com](http://ChalkCreek-Campground.com)  
719.395.8301



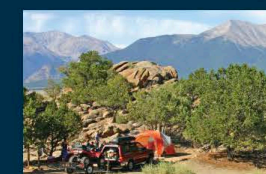
**Good View Campground**  
23850 S Hwy 285  
[RMOC.com](http://RMOC.com)  
719.395.3335



**MoonStream Vintage Campground**  
16893 CR 338  
[Moon-Stream.com](http://Moon-Stream.com)  
719.283.6230



**Mt. Princeton RV Park & Campground**  
30380 CR 383  
[MtPrincetonRVPark.com](http://MtPrincetonRVPark.com)  
719.395.6206



**Overlook Camp & Lodging**  
27700 CR 303  
[BVOverlook.com](http://BVOverlook.com)  
719.204.3505



**River Runners at Browns Canyon**  
24070 CR 301  
[Whitewater.net](http://Whitewater.net)  
719.395.2466



**Snowy Peaks RV Park and Rentals**  
30430 N US Hwy 24  
[SnowyPeaksRVPark.com](http://SnowyPeaksRVPark.com)  
800.954.8481



**Valley RV Park**  
30620 N US Hwy 24  
[FourteenerNet.com/ValleyMobilePark](http://FourteenerNet.com/ValleyMobilePark)  
719.395.8107

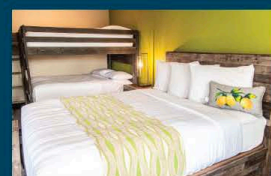
*Vacation Rentals*

COLORFULCOLORADO.COM/LODGING



# LODGING SALIDA

## HOTEL / MOTEL



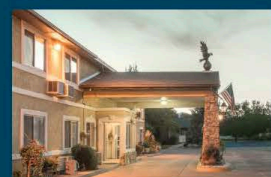
**American Classic Inn**  
7545 W US Hwy 50  
[AmericanClassicInn.com](http://AmericanClassicInn.com)  
719.539.6655



**Amigo Motor Lodge**  
7350 W US Hwy 50  
[StayAmigo.com](http://StayAmigo.com)  
719.539.6733



**Baymont Inn and Suites**  
7400 W US Hwy 50  
[BaymontInns.com](http://BaymontInns.com)  
719.539.8500



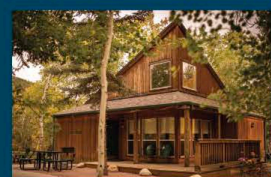
**Browns Canyon Inn**  
407 E US Hwy 50  
[BrownsCanyonInn.com](http://BrownsCanyonInn.com)  
719.539.6651



**Circle R Motel**  
304 E US Hwy 50  
[SalidaColoradoMotel.com](http://SalidaColoradoMotel.com)  
800.755.6296



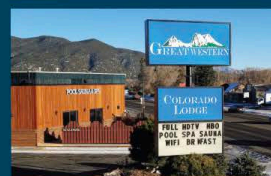
**Comfort Inn, Salida**  
315 E. US Hwy 50  
[ComfortInn.com/hotel/co704](http://ComfortInn.com/hotel/co704)  
800.228.5150



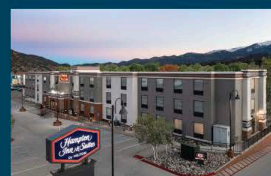
**Creekside Chalets and Cabins**  
16724 W. US Hwy 50  
[CreeksideChalets.com](http://CreeksideChalets.com)  
719.539.6953



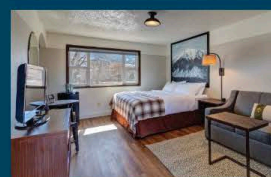
**Gateway Inn and Suites**  
1310 E US Hwy 50  
[SalidaGatewayInnandSuites.com](http://SalidaGatewayInnandSuites.com)  
719.539.2895



**Great Western Colorado Lodge**  
352 W US Hwy 50  
[GWSalida.com](http://GWSalida.com)  
800.777.7947



**Hampton Inn & Suites**  
785 E US Hwy 50  
[Hilton.com](http://Hilton.com)  
719.539.7850



**Loyal Duke Lodge**  
525 W US Hwy 50  
[LoyalDukeLodge.com](http://LoyalDukeLodge.com)  
719.539.6689



**Manhattan Hotel**  
228 N F St  
[ManhattanHotelSalida.com](http://ManhattanHotelSalida.com)  
719.221.0055



**Monarch Mountain Lodge**  
22720 W Hwy 50  
[MonarchMountainLodge.com](http://MonarchMountainLodge.com)  
719.539.2581

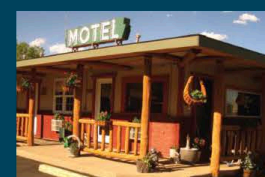


**Mountain Motel**  
1425 E US Hwy 50  
[MountainMotel.net](http://MountainMotel.net)  
719.539.4420

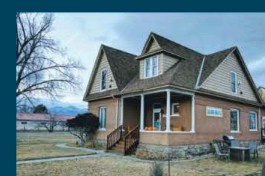
## HOTEL / MOTEL (CONT)



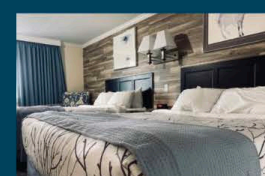
**The Lodge at Poncha Springs**  
10520 US Hwy 50, Poncha Springs  
[TheLodgeAtPonchaSprings.com](http://TheLodgeAtPonchaSprings.com)  
719.539.6085



**Rocky Mountain Lodge**  
10036 US Hwy 50, Poncha Springs  
[RockyMountainLodgeOnline.com](http://RockyMountainLodgeOnline.com)  
719.539.4143



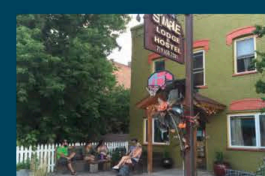
**Salida Hostel**  
225 Grand Ave  
[TheSalidaHostel.com](http://TheSalidaHostel.com)  
719.530.1116



**Salida Inn and Monarch Suites**  
7310 W US Hwy 50  
[SalidaInn.com](http://SalidaInn.com)  
719.539.2528



**Silver Ridge Lodge**  
545 W US Hwy 50  
[SilverRidgeLodge.com](http://SilverRidgeLodge.com)  
877.268.3320

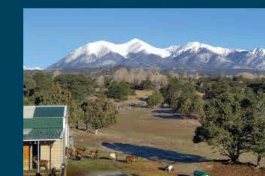


**Simple Lodge and Hostel**  
224 E 1st St  
[SimpleLodge.com](http://SimpleLodge.com)  
719.650.7381



**Woodland Motel**  
903 W 1st St  
[WoodlandMotel.net](http://WoodlandMotel.net)  
719.539.4980

## BED & BREAKFAST



**Mountain Goat Lodge**  
9582 US Hwy 285  
[MountainGoatLodge.com](http://MountainGoatLodge.com)  
719.539.7173

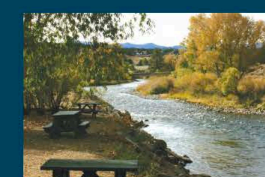


**The Thomas House**  
307 E 1st St  
[ThomasHouse.com](http://ThomasHouse.com)  
719.539.7104

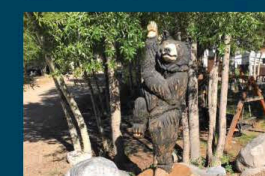


**Blue Coyote Ranch**  
6720 CR 104  
[BlueCoyoteRanch.com](http://BlueCoyoteRanch.com)  
719.539.2002

## CAMPGROUNDS



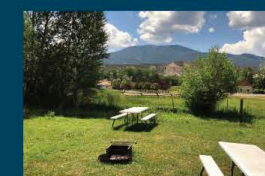
**Four Seasons RV Resort**  
4305 E US Hwy 50  
[FourSeasonsRVPark.biz](http://FourSeasonsRVPark.biz)  
719.539.3084



**Monarch Spur RV Park & Campground**  
18989 W US Hwy 50  
[MSRVPark.com](http://MSRVPark.com)  
719.530.0341



**Salida / Mt. Shavano KOA**  
16105 W US Hwy 50  
[KOA.com/Campgrounds/Salida](http://KOA.com/Campgrounds/Salida)  
719.539.4051



**Riverside RV Park**  
7870 W US Hwy 50  
[WildernessExpeditions.net](http://WildernessExpeditions.net)  
719.539.4888

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COLORFULCOLORADO.COM/LODGING





JOSH ALLEGRETTI PHOTOGRAPHY

Presented above is the magnificent 700-foot Christmas Tree gracing Tenderfoot Mount in the charming town of Salida, Colorado. Annually, on the day following Thanksgiving, Salida becomes a hub of holiday festivities with its much-anticipated Parade of Lights. Here, Santa Claus himself takes center stage, igniting the holiday spirit by illuminating the towering 750-foot Christmas tree located in the heart of downtown Salida, Colorado. This stunning holiday centerpiece remains a source of wonder for all, available for nightly viewing until the first Sunday of the new year.

# Festivals EVENTS

Some of the best events in Colorado  
are hosted in our beautiful valley

Celebrating music, whitewater, mountains, fall colors,  
arts, beer, wine, and even kayaking on the snow.

Visit the events calendar online:  
[ColorfulColorado.com/events](https://ColorfulColorado.com/events)



@NowThisIsColorado

- Kayaks on Snow
- Chaffee Home & Garden Show
- Salida Kick-Off to Summer
- AgriSummit
- Mountain Bike Race
- Collegiate Peaks Trail Run
- Salida Golf Scramble
- CKS Paddlefest
- Bluegrass on the Arkansas
- Spirit Trail Run
- Collegiate Peaks Stampede Rodeo
- FIBArk Whitewater Festival
- Monster Trucks
- Salida ArtWalk
- Salida Arts Festival
- July 4th Celebrations
- Independence 5k
- Mountain Mania Car Show
- Sunfest Music Festival
- Salida Air Show
- Riverside Art & Music Festival
- Chaffee County Fair & Rodeo
- Angel of Shavano Car Show
- Gold Rush Days
- Contin-tail Gem & Mineral Show
- River on the River Music Festival
- Salida Jazz Fest
- Optimist Charity Golf Tournament
- King Boletus Mushroom Festival
- Kids Fishing Derby
- Colorado Brewers Rendezvous
- Applefest Homestead Days
- Salida Fiber Arts Festival
- Banana Belt Mountain Bike Race
- Salida Bike Fest
- Monarch Crest Crank
- BV OHV Fall Color Tour
- 14er Fest
- Salida Studio Tour
- Sleeping Indian Hill Climb
- Pumpkin Patch
- Parade of Lights
- Lighting of Christmas  
Mountain USA
- Buena Vista Christmas Opening
- Monarch Torchlight  
Parade & Fireworks