



The official newspaper
of Rocky Mountain National Park
Summer - 2011
June 19 - September 5

Visitor Centers



East of the Divide – Estes Park Area



Beaver Meadows Visitor Center

Open daily June 19 - Aug 27, 8 to 9,
Aug 28 - Sept 5, 8 to 7.
Features spectacular free park
movie, information bookstore,
large park orientation map,
and backcountry permits in an
adjacent building.



Sheep Lakes Information Station

Open daily 8:30 to 4, through
August 20.
Horseshoe Park is a good
place to look for wildlife,
including bighorn sheep and elk.
Information & programs.



Fall River Visitor Center

Open daily 9 to 5.
Features beautiful life-size wildlife
displays, a children's discovery
room with objects to touch,
information and a bookstore.



Alpine Visitor Center

Open daily (weather permitting)
9 to 5. Features extraordinary
views of alpine tundra, displays,
information, bookstore, adjacent
gift shop and cafe. Call 586-1222
for Trail Ridge Road conditions.



Moraine Park Visitor Center

Open daily 9 to 5.
Interactive exhibits on the past
and present landscape, and
a bookstore. Great views of
glaciated Moraine Park.

West of the Divide – Grand Lake Area



Kawuneeche Visitor Center

Open daily 8 to 6.
Features free movies, exhibits on
wonders of the park, a bookstore,
and backcountry permits.

Weather and Road Conditions

Trail Ridge Road is open, weather
permitting. For current park road and
driving conditions, please stop at a
visitor center or call the Trail Ridge
Road status line (970) 586-1222.

The park Information Office operates
seven days a week and can be reached
at (970) 586-1206.

Old Fall River Road opens for the
season when weather permits. The
road is narrow, one-way up only, has
tight switchbacks, and no guardrails.
Vehicles over 25 feet long and trailers
are prohibited.

See www.twitter.com/RMNPOfficial,
or the park website at www.nps.gov
and click on road conditions.

What Can I Do While I'm Here in Rocky?

Rocky Mountain National Park has so much to offer, whether you have a
couple of hours, a couple of days, or more. Here are some ideas:

If You Only Have Two Hours

- Stop at a visitor center and explore the exhibits, or talk to a ranger.
- Take a drive.
 - ◊ On the east side:
 - The scenic road to Bear Lake is open year-round. To avoid summer congestion, hop aboard a free park shuttle bus. See the back page for schedules.
 - Loop through Horseshoe Park and drive up to the Alluvial Fan.
 - Look for wildlife. Year-round, elk, mule deer, and bighorn sheep may be seen.
 - Go as far as you want on Trail Ridge Road. Every one of the many overlooks provide spectacular views.
 - ◊ On the west side:
 - Go as far as you want on Trail Ridge Road, and enjoy the many scenic overlooks and pull-offs. Depending on traffic, the Continental Divide at Milner Pass is about 40 minutes from Kawuneeche Visitor Center.
 - Visit Holzwarth Historic Site and get a taste of early tourism at one of the first dude ranches in Colorado.
 - Look for moose in the Kawuneeche Valley.
 - Take a short walk on one of the area trails.

If You Only Have Four Hours

Do any of the above PLUS:

- Take a stroll on a self-guided nature trail. See ideas on page 11.
- Linger longer at overlooks and pull-offs to read the wayside exhibits.
- Experience the wilderness of the park's backcountry on a hike. Check with a ranger for trail suggestions.
- Attend a ranger-led activity or program. Lists are on pages 4-7.
- Enjoy a picnic. Picnic areas are marked on the park map.
- Go horseback riding. Two stables are located in the park, and many more in adjacent areas lead rides into the park.
- Go fishing. Many streams and lakes harbor trout.
- Try bird watching. A beautiful variety of birds call Rocky home.

If You Have a Day (or More)

Do any of the above PLUS:

- Go farther. Take a longer drive or hike.
- Take time for yourself to soak in the magnificent scenery. Unwind and detach from the world (cell phones don't work in most of the park).
- Be a Junior Ranger. Designed for children 12 and younger, booklets (Spanish and English) include fun activities the whole family can enjoy. Pick up a booklet at a park visitor center and earn a Junior Ranger badge.
- Visit other parts of the park. This is a big place and there is a lot to see.
- Combine a variety of the above. Whatever you do, enjoy your visit to Rocky Mountain National Park!

Walking On Alpine Tundra

With the exception of four Tundra Protection Areas surrounding Alpine Visitor Center, Forest Canyon, Rock Cut, and Gore Range overlooks, you can, with care, walk on the alpine tundra. In the four areas listed above you **must** stay on trails as you walk.

To help preserve alpine tundra:

- Stay on trails where they exist.
- Never walk single file off trail.
- Step on rocks or gravel where possible.

The tiny plants thank you.



You Need to Know

Bicycles in the Park

Bicycling is permitted on public roads, both paved and dirt, but not on trails. There are no bike paths and many roads are narrow and have little or no shoulders, so ride cautiously.

Campfires

Campfires are permitting in campgrounds and picnic areas where fire grates are provided. Campfires are not allowed in the backcountry. Collecting vegetation, living or dead, is prohibited. Firewood is for sale at all park campgrounds.

Concessions Services

Horseback Riding

◆ **CowPoke Corner Corral Stables**
YMCA Road on Highway 66 at Glacier Lodge

(970) 586-5890

◆ **Hi Country Stables**

Located in Rocky Mountain National Park

Moraine Park (970) 586-2327

Glacier Creek (970) 586-3244

◆ **Jackson Stables**

YMCA of the Rockies Livery

(970) 586-3341

◆ **Meeker Park**

Meeker Park (303)747-2266

◆ **National Park Gateway Stables**

Rocky Mountain Gateway near the Fall River Entrance on U.S. 34

(970) 586-5269

Gifts Shop and Cafe

◆ **Trail Ridge Store**

Gifts and Cafe. (970) 586-2133

Mountaineering

◆ **Colorado Mountain School**

Rock Climbing

Estes Park, (800) 836-4008

Fishing

Obtain specific park regulations at visitor centers or park entrance stations.

To fish in Rocky Mountain National Park, you must have a valid Colorado state fishing license.

Firearms

- Hunting, recreational shooting, and target practice are not allowed in Rocky Mountain National Park.
- Firearms are permitted in Rocky Mountain National Park. A federal law allows people who can legally possess firearms under federal, Colorado, and local laws, to possess firearms in Rocky Mountain National Park. It is the visitor's responsibility to understand and comply with all applicable state and federal firearms laws.
- Federal law prohibits firearms in certain facilities in this park; those buildings are posted with signs at public entrances.
- If you have questions, please contact the park Information Office at (970) 586-1206.

Food Storage

Do not attract wildlife, including black bears, to your campsite. Keep a clean camp! Never leave food items unattended. Improperly stored or unattended food items will likely result in confiscation and/or issuance of a citation by a park ranger.

In campgrounds, all food items must be stored by one of the following methods:

- Inside vehicle trunks. Be sure windows are closed and doors are locked.
- In vehicles without trunks, items should be placed as low in the vehicle passenger compartment as possible and covered from sight, with windows closed and doors locked.
- In park-provided bear boxes at campgrounds and some trailheads. Boxes are shared and cannot be locked.

Lost and Found

Please turn found items in at any park visitor center. To inquire about lost items, call the Backcountry Office at (970) 586-1242.

Park Entrance Fees

Automobile Entrance Fee - Single-family vehicle entrance fee is valid for seven consecutive days, including date of purchase. \$20

Rocky Mountain National Park Annual Pass - Provides unlimited entry to this park for one year from the date of purchase. \$40

Rocky Mountain National Park/ Arapaho National Recreation Area Annual Pass - Provides unlimited entry to both areas for one year from the date of purchase. \$50

America the Beautiful – National Parks and Federal Recreational Lands Annual Pass - Available to everyone which provides access to, and use of, Federal recreation sites that charge an entrance or standard amenity fee for one year from date of purchase. \$80

America the Beautiful – National Parks and Federal Recreational Lands Senior Pass - A lifetime pass for U.S. citizens or permanent residents age 62 or older. \$10

America the Beautiful – National Parks and Federal Recreational Lands Access Pass - A free lifetime pass for U.S. citizens or permanent residents with a permanent disability.

Picnicking

Picnic areas are located throughout Rocky Mountain National Park. Check the park map for specific locations and directions.

You Are Responsible

You are responsible for knowing and obeying park rules. Check at visitor centers, at entrance stations, on trailhead bulletin boards, and on the park website <http://www.nps.gov/romo> to find out more. When in doubt, ask a ranger.

Pets

Pets are allowed in the park, but only in picnic areas, parking lots, campgrounds and along roadsides, never on trails or meadow areas. Pets must be on leashes no longer than 6 feet when outside vehicles.

For the safety of your pet and the benefit of park wildlife and other visitors, pets should not be left unattended. You may not leave your pet unattended in vehicles if it creates a danger to the animal or if it becomes a public nuisance. Pets may not be left tied to vehicles, trees or other objects.

A Pet Brochure available at visitor centers lists regulations and trails outside of Rocky Mountain National Park where pets are permitted.

Take Only Pictures

Regulations prohibit taking any natural features including pinecones, rocks, antlers, artifacts, or disturbing soil, rocks, or vegetation in the park. Use of metal detectors within the park is not allowed.

Viewing Wildlife

When viewing any wildlife, please:

- Obey wildlife closure areas and “no stopping” traffic zones.
- Use parking areas along the road. If not available, pull your vehicle completely off the road and don't park on vegetation.
- Approaching animals may cause them stress, leading to disease or illness. If you cause an animal to move or change its behavior you are too close!
- Wildlife can be unpredictable. For your safety and theirs, enjoy and photograph wildlife from a distance.
- Never feed wildlife, including birds and chipmunks.

Park Phone Numbers and Website



Trail Ridge Road status: (970) 586-1222

Call Park Information (970) 586-1206 with your questions. We are available to assist you from 8 to 4:30 daily.



The Official Park Website is <http://www.nps.gov/romo>

Follow us on Twitter @ RMNPOfficial

Like us on Facebook @ Rocky Mountain National Park



Hearing impaired persons may call the TTY at (970) 586-1319 from 8 to 5 daily



Dial 911 or (970) 586-1203 to report emergencies

Keep Wildlife Wild

Never feed wildlife. A fine may be issued to violators. Animals can kick, bite, or gore you. They can become dependent on human food and lose the ability to feed naturally.

Wildlife also carry diseases which can be transmitted to humans, such as rabies and plague. Photograph animals from the roadside.

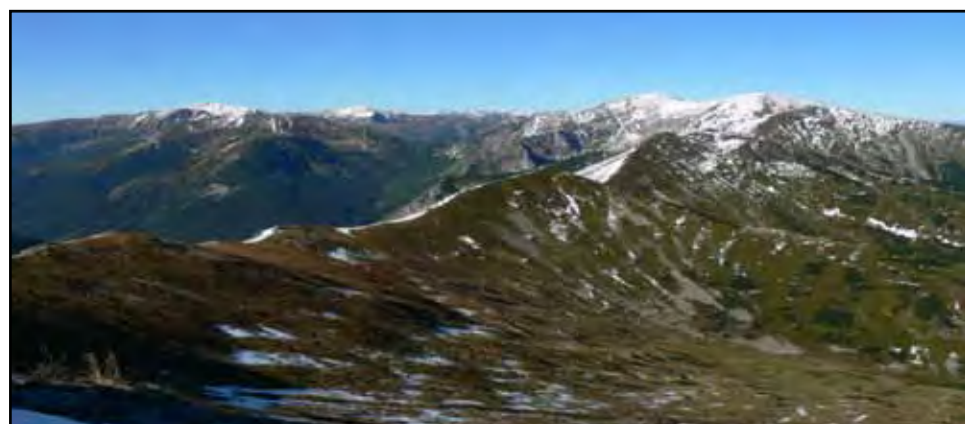


Please don't feed me!



International Sister Parks

Rocky Mountain National Park and the Tatra National Parks in Slovakia and Poland have formally become sister parks. With similar mountain terrain and ecosystems, and sharing common issues, the three parks are exchanging information and expertise to better manage these great preserves for the benefit of all.



Tatra National Park of Slovakia and Poland

Surviving The Park



Photo courtesy John Marino

Falling Trees

Falling trees are an ever-present hazard. When traveling or camping in the forest, trees can fall without warning. Be particularly watchful when it's windy, or following a snowstorm when branches are heavy with snow. Avoid parking where trees could fall.

Mountain Climbing

Specialized skills and equipment may be required to safely reach a summit. Spring and early summer climbing can present unique challenges since lingering snow and ice are present. Summiting Longs Peak is not a hike, but a climb. Ask for information before you climb or visit the park website at <http://www.nps.gov/romo/planyourvisit/longspeak.htm>

High Elevation

A large number of the visitors to this park each year experience symptoms of altitude sickness. Symptoms range from headache and dizziness to nausea and eventually unconsciousness. Rocky Mountain has the highest average elevation of any national park -- even the main road climbs to 12,183 feet! The road is higher than most U.S. mountains. High altitude can also aggravate existing medical conditions such as heart and lung diseases. Take your time and be sure to drink plenty of water. The only cure for altitude sickness is to go down to a lower elevation.

Mountain Lions and Bears

Mountain lions and black bears are powerful and potentially dangerous. Some general guidelines for traveling in backcountry areas of Rocky Mountain where wildlife may be encountered:

- 1) **Travel in Groups** and make noise as you hike. Keep your group, especially children, close together.
- 2) **Do Not Approach** a mountain lion or bear.
- 3) **Stay Calm** when you see a mountain lion or bear.
- 4) **Stop**; back away slowly. Never turn your back and run.
- 5) **Stand Tall and Look Large**. Raise your arms. Protect small children by picking them up.
- 6) If approached, **make loud noises**, shout, clap hands, clang pots and pans.
- 7) If attacked by a mountain lion or bear, **Fight Back!**

Lightning

People are killed by lightning every year in Colorado. Afternoon storms are frequent and can bring an unhappy end to a hike. Watch for approaching storms and be well below treeline or back in your car before the storm hits. If you are caught out in the open during a lightning storm, do not seek shelter under a tree or rock overhang. You want to squat down as low as you can, keeping both feet together and avoid being the tallest thing around you. Keep your pack, hiking poles, and all metal away from you while you are exposed.

Hiking Safety

With over 350 miles of trails, the park offers a vast array of choices. Many higher trails and shaded areas can hold snow well into July. Please check at a visitor center for current conditions before hiking. Even for short day trips, be sure to pack gear for all types of weather (sun, rain, snow, wind). Windproof/waterproof clothing is essential gear to wear or carry.

Trail Tips: stay together. This is the most important tip that comes from the experience of park search and rescue teams! Be prepared for the rigors of high elevation -- drink plenty of water, and travel at a pace where you can still talk and breathe easily. If you feel poorly, descend to a lower elevation. Pack it in, pack it out, including remains of all your food (pits, peels, etc.), and facial tissues. Let nature's sounds prevail; avoid loud voices and noises. Pets are not allowed on park trails.

Longs Peak Keyhole Route

The Keyhole Route is NOT a hike! It is a climb with exposure requiring scrambling where an unroped fall would likely be fatal. The route has narrow ledges, loose rock, and steep cliffs. A permit is not required. The best route follows red and yellow bulls-eyes. If you lose the bulls-eyes you are likely off route and will encounter more difficult climbing with more severe consequences. It is important to retrace your steps back to the bulls-eyes before continuing. The Keyhole Route can experience winter-like conditions at any time, requiring greater skill and judgment. Be prepared to turn back during sudden, drastic weather changes. The high elevation may affect your condition and judgment. Careful descent is the best treatment. Don't have summit fever: enjoy the experience, but be willing to turn around at any time.



Scan this with your mobile device to download the Keyhole Route Site Bulletin.

Swift Water

Mountain streams can be deadly dangerous, especially during high runoff. Remain back from the banks of streams and rivers. Provide proper supervision for children, who by nature, tend to be attracted to water. Rocks at streamside and in the stream are often slippery, and water beneath them may be deep. Powerful currents in park streams can quickly pull a person underwater and pin him/her below the surface. Melting snow feeds our streams resulting in extremely cold water temperatures.

Hypothermia

Hypothermia is a serious and sometimes fatal condition brought on by exposure to wet and cold. The core body temperature drops to a level that impairs normal muscle and brain activities. Symptoms include drowsiness, loss of judgment or coordination, slurred speech, and uncontrolled shivering. If these symptoms occur, warm the chilled person with dry clothing and warm, nonalcoholic liquids. Get back to your car and seek medical attention. Carry a windproof/snowproof outer shell and extra layers of clothing. Drink plenty of water; high elevation, wind, and cold can dry us out and chill us.

Most importantly, stay dry!

Rocky Mountain National Park Mileages and Elevations

| Destination | Elev (feet) | Beaver Meadows Visitor Center | Fall River Visitor Center | Kawuneeche Visitor Center |
|--------------------------------------|-------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Alluvial Fan | 8610 | 6.9 | 3.3 | 41.8 |
| Alpine Visitor Center | 11796 | 23 | 23 | 20.6 |
| Aspenglen Campground | 8220 | 8.2 | 0.4 | 47.5 |
| Bear Lake | 9475 | 10.5 | 16.3 | 51.3 |
| Bear Lake Road Junction | 8200 | 1.4 | 7.2 | 42.2 |
| Beaver Meadows Entrance | 8200 | 1.2 | 7.4 | 42.4 |
| Beaver Meadows Visitor Center | 7840 | 0 | 8.6 | 43.6 |
| Deer Ridge Junction | 8930 | 4.3 | 4.3 | 39.3 |
| Estes Park Downtown | 7522 | 2.5 | 4.4 | 48 |
| Fall River Entrance | 8280 | 8.3 thru park 6.0 thru town | 0.3 | 43.3 49.3 |
| Fall River Visitor Center | 8250 | 8.6 thru park 5.7 thru town | 0 | 43.6 49.3 |
| Glacier Basin Campground | 8500 | 6.3 | 12.1 | 47.1 |
| Glacier Gorge Trailhead | 9240 | 9.4 | 15.1 | 50.1 |
| Grand Lake Entrance | 8715 | 43.2 | 43.2 | .4 |
| Grand Lake (town) | 8367 | 49.3 | 49.3 | 1.4 |
| Holzwarth Historic Site | 8884 | 35.7 | 35.7 | 7.9 |
| Kawuneeche Visitor Center | 8720 | 43.6 | 43.6 | 0 |
| Milner Pass / Poudre Lake | 10758 | 27.3 | 27.3 | 16.3 |
| Moraine Park Campground | 8160 | 3.2 | 9.0 | 44 |
| Moraine Park Visitor Center | 8140 | 2.7 | 8.4 | 43.4 |
| Old Fall River Rd/Endovalley Turnoff | 8540 | 6.1 | 2.5 | 41.4 |
| Park & Ride | 8770 | 6.3 | 12.1 | 47.1 |
| Timber Creek Campground | 8900 | 38 | 33 | 8.2 |
| Wild Basin Entrance | 8390 | 13.2 | 18.5 | 59 |



Leave No Trace

With approximately 3 million visitors every year, the wild lands of Rocky Mountain National Park are heavily used. While hiking, camping, and all your park activities, do your part to preserve this national treasure by following the seven easy Leave No Trace Ethics:

- Plan ahead and prepare
- Travel and camp on durable surfaces
- Dispose of waste properly
- Leave what you find
- Minimize campfire impacts
- Respect wildlife
- Be considerate of other visitors

For more information visit <http://www.lnt.org/>

Free Summer Ranger Programs - Alpine & East Side



All children must be accompanied by an adult
 Note: Programs may be cancelled at anytime due to high winds

| Alpine | | Length | Location | SUN | MON | TUE | WED | THU | FRI | SAT |
|--|--|-----------------------------|--|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Tundra to Trees - Hike an ancient Ute trail that leads from alpine heights down through old-growth forest. Plan to carpool for this moderate 4 mile hike. Bring warm clothing, rain gear, water, and snacks. Starts 7/18 | | 4 hour hike | Milner Pass parking area | | 9 a.m. | | | 9 a.m. | | 9 a.m. |
| High Country Geology - The park's spectacular scenery represents a chapter in a long history of geologic events. Join us on this hike over the tundra and experience the effects of these processes. 7/13-8/17 | | 3 hour hike | Alpine Visitor Center flagpole | | | | 9 a.m. | | | |
| Tundra Nature Walk - Exhilarate your senses with alpine views and miniature wildflower gardens. Dress warmly, plan to caravan to the location. Ends 8/13 | | 1.5-2 hour hike | Alpine Visitor Center | 10 a.m. | 10 a.m. | 10 a.m. | 10 a.m. | 10 a.m. | 10 a.m. | 10 a.m. |
| All About Lightning - Learn why lightning can be a hair-raising experience and find out how to minimize your risk of being struck by lightning. | | 30 minute talk | Alpine Visitor Center | 2 p.m. | | 2 p.m. | | | 2 p.m. | |
| Pika Tails - Wait a minute, pika don't have tails! Come learn about this tiny alpine animal and what it can tell us about living life on the mountaintops. | | 30 minute talk | Alpine Visitor Center | | 2 p.m. | | | 2 p.m. | | 2 p.m. |
| Plants | | | | | | | | | | |
| Lily Lake Wildflower Walk - Take time to stop and smell the roses, and enjoy learning about the variety of flowers blooming this season. Easy walk. Ends 8/13 | | 1.5 hour hike | Lily Lake parking lot | | | 10 a.m. | 10 a.m. | | | 1:30 p.m. |
| Children's Programs | | | | | | | | | | |
| Junior Ranger Program - Earn your Junior Ranger badge! Join a ranger for a variety of programs and activities at the Junior Ranger Headquarters. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Ends 8/13 | | 30 minute program | Junior Ranger Headquarters at Hidden Valley | 10:00 11:30 1:00 2:30 | 10:00 11:30 1:00 2:30 | 10:00 11:30 1:00 2:30 | 10:00 11:30 1:00 2:30 | 10:00 11:30 1:00 2:30 | 10:00 11:30 1:00 2:30 | 10:00 11:30 1:00 2:30 |
| Dead Trees are Full of Life - Who hangs out in dead trees and calls them home? Find out during this 20-minute puppet program. Ends 8/13 | | 20-30 minute puppet program | Fall River Visitor Center | 10 a.m. | | | 10 a.m. | | | |
| Discovery Day - Discover the amazing world of Rocky Mountain National Park with your family through hands-on activities, crafts, and stories. Each week there is something new to discover. Ends 8/16 Drop-in program; come anytime 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. | | Drop-in program | Moraine Park Visitor Center | | | 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. | | | | |
| Wildlife | | | | | | | | | | |
| Birds of Upper Beaver Meadows - Join a ranger to seek bluebirds, woodpeckers, wrens, and flycatchers in a rich mixture of aspen and pine woodlands. Bring binoculars and a field guide. | | 1.5 hour hike | End of Upper Beaver Meadows Road | 7 a.m. | 7 a.m. | 7 a.m. | 7 a.m. | 7 a.m. | 7 a.m. | 7 a.m. |
| Bighorn Basics - Sheep Lakes in Horseshoe Park is a popular viewing area for bighorn sheep. Learn about this majestic symbol of Rocky. Ends 8/20 | | 30 minute talk | Sheep Lakes Information Station | 10:30 a.m. 2 p.m. | 10:30 a.m. 2 p.m. | 10:30 a.m. 2 p.m. | 10:30 a.m. 2 p.m. | 10:30 a.m. 2 p.m. | 10:30 a.m. 2 p.m. | 10:30 a.m. 2 p.m. |
| Skins and Skulls - Want to pet an elk? Cuddle up to a bear? Are you crazy? That's not safe! Learn to safely feel skins and skulls while hearing about park wildlife. | | 30 minute talk | Beaver Meadows Visitor Center | 10:30 a.m. | | | | | | 10:30 a.m. |
| Amazing Beavers - Beavers drastically change their environment, and they have wonderful adaptations to do so. | | 30-45 minute talk | Sprague Lake Picnic Area | | 10 a.m. | 2:30 p.m. | | 10 a.m. | 2:30 p.m. | 9:30 a.m. |
| All About Elk - Learn about this magnificent animal and its current status in the park. | | 1-1.5 hour walk | West Alluvial Fan parking lot | 2:30 p.m. | | 2 p.m. | | 2 p.m. | | |
| Ghost Cats - Seeing a mountain lion is rare. Come learn about the secretive life of lions and other wild cats found in the park. Ends 8/13 | | 30 minute talk | Beaver Meadows Visitor Center | | 10:30 a.m. | 10:30 a.m. | | 10:30 a.m. | 10:30 a.m. | |
| Little Critters of Rocky - Squirrels, rabbits and bats; find out about the lives of Rocky's smaller animals and the critical roles they play. | | 30 minute talk | Fall River Visitor Center | | | 2 p.m. | | 2 p.m. | | 2 p.m. |
| Cunning Coyotes - Coyotes are intriguing animals and play an important role in the the circle of life. Ends 8/13 | | 20-30 minute talk | Fall River Visitor Center | | 2 p.m. | | 2 p.m. | | 2 p.m. | |
| Elk Echoes - Learn about elk adaptations, migration, and mating behavior. Programs are simultaneously held at both locations. Starts 9/1 | | 30 minute talk | Moraine Park Visitor Center amphitheater and Sheep Lakes parking lot | 6 p.m. | 6 p.m. | 6 p.m. | 6 p.m. | 6 p.m. | 6 p.m. | 6 p.m. |

Free Park Movie

See the stunning 23-minute park movie at the Beaver Meadows Visitor Center from 8:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. and 4:00 p.m.-5 p.m., and at the Kawuneeche Visitor Center during normal business hours. Available in español (translation headsets available

upon request) and English at Beaver Meadows. English only at Kawuneeche. Features spectacular aerial footage of the rugged high country of Rocky Mountain National Park, as well as wildlife and park history.



| Walks, Talks, and Hikes | |  | All children must be accompanied by an adult | | | | | | | |
|--|---|---|--|---|---|---|---|---|---|--|
| | | Length | Location | SUN | MON | TUE | WED | THU | FRI | SAT |
| Dream Lake Hike - Explore the breathtaking glacial landscape and changes brought on by bark beetles on this moderate 2 mile hike. Ends 8/20 | | 2-2.5 hour | Bear Lake parking lot | | 9 a.m. | 9 a.m. | | 9 a.m. | 9 a.m. | 9 a.m. |
| Bear Lake Stroll - Enjoy an easy walk around a lovely subalpine lake and learn about the natural and human forces that have shaped this landscape. | | 1-1.5 hour | Bear Lake parking lot | 1:30 p.m. | 1:30 p.m. | 1:30 p.m. | 3 p.m. | 1:30 p.m. | 1:30 p.m. | 3 p.m. |
| Life on the Edge - From elk to pikas, forest trees to tiny alpine flowers, park life comes in all shapes and sizes. Discover how this diversity of life is changing. Ends 8/20 |  | 30 minute talk | Moraine Park Visitor Center | | | | 2:30 p.m. | | 2:30 p.m. | |
| Navigating Rocky with GPS & Maps - Discover how to use a GPS, map, and compass to safely journey into the park. We provide a map/compass/GPS (or bring your own). Family fun! Take the shuttle bus to Hollowell Park. Ends 8/27 | | 2 hour activity | Hollowell Park Shuttle Stop | 1:30 p.m. | | 9:30 a.m. | | 1:30 p.m. | | |
| Moraine Park Nature Walk -Enjoy a ¾ mile walk through the Moraine Park landscape. Encounter the dynamic forces that created this valley and discover what lives here today. | | 1 hour walk | Moraine Park Visitor Center | 10 a.m. | 10 a.m. | 10 a.m. | 10 a.m. | 10 a.m. | 10 a.m. | 10 a.m. |
| Here Come the Beetles! - Pine bark beetles are rapidly transforming our forests. Learn what this means for all species who share the park. |  | 20-30 minute talk | Moraine Park Visitor Center | | 2:30 p.m. | | | 2:30 p.m. | | 2:30 p.m. |
| Portraits of the Past - Glimpse into the lives of Moraine Park's once thriving community of pioneers, ranchers, inn keepers, and influential Pulitzer prize winners whose aspirations were as lofty as the surrounding peaks. Ends 8/27 | | 45- 60 minute walk | Moraine Park Visitor Center | | 1 p.m. | 1 p.m. | | 1 p.m. | | |
| Hot Topics in the Park - Want to hear the very latest news about bear and beetle management challenges in the park? Join us for two short movies and a Ranger to answer questions. |  | 30- 45 minute discussion | Beaver Meadows Visitor Center Auditorium | 3 p.m. | 3 p.m. | 3 p.m. | 3 p.m. | 3 p.m. | 3 p.m. | 3 p.m. |
| Nature Scene Investigators - Put your detective skills to the test, uncover clues, and learn about the changes that have occurred and are still happening in Upper Beaver Meadows. Ends 8/27 | | 1 -1.5 hour | End of Upper Beaver Meadows Road | | | | 1:30 p.m. | 1:30 p.m. | 3 p.m. | 1:30 p.m. |
| Evening Programs June 20 - August 20 | | | | | | | | | | |
| Aspenglen Evening Program - Enjoy a wide variety of informative and entertaining programs. See weekly schedule at a visitor center for program topics. Dress warmly. |  | 45 minute talk | Aspenglen Campground amphitheater | 9 p.m. 6/19-7/16 8:30 p.m. 7/17-8/20 | | | | | 9 p.m. 6/19-7/16 8:30 p.m. 7/17-8/20 | 9 p.m. 6/19-7/16 8:30 p.m. 7/17-8/20 |
| Beaver Meadows Evening Program Enjoy a wide variety of informative and entertaining programs. Through Artist Eyes: Program given by the park's Artist-In-Residence every Wednesday. Science Behind the Scenery: Program given by a different park researcher each Tuesday. |  | 45 minute talk | Beaver Meadows Visitor Center Auditorium | 7:30 p.m. | 7:30 p.m. | 7:30 p.m. | 7:30 p.m. | 7:30 p.m. | 7:30 p.m. | 7:30 p.m. |
| | | | | | | Science Night | Artist Night | | | |
| Glacier Basin Evening Program - Enjoy a wide variety of informative and entertaining programs. See weekly schedule at a visitor center for program topics. Dress warmly. |  | 45 minute talk | Glacier Basin Campground amphitheater | 9 p.m. 6/19-7/16 8:30 p.m. 7/17-8/20 | 9 p.m. 6/19-7/16 8:30 p.m. 7/17-8/20 | 9 p.m. 6/19-7/16 8:30 p.m. 7/17-8/20 | 7:30 p.m. | 9 p.m. 6/19-7/16 8:30 p.m. 7/17-8/20 | 9 p.m. 6/19-7/16 8:30 p.m. 7/17-8/20 | 7:30 p.m. |
| Moraine Park Evening Program - Enjoy a wide variety of informative and entertaining programs. See weekly schedule at a visitor center for program topics. Dress warmly. |  | 45 minute talk | Moraine Park Campground amphitheater | 9 p.m. 6/19-7/16 8:30 p.m. 7/17-8/20 | 7:30 p.m. | 7:30 p.m. | 9 p.m. 6/19-7/16 8:30 p.m. 7/17-8/20 | 9 p.m. 6/19-7/16 8:30 p.m. 7/17-8/20 | 9 p.m. 6/19-7/16 8:30 p.m. 7/17-8/20 | 9 p.m. 6/19-7/16 8:30 p.m. 7/17-8/20 |
| Evening Programs August 21 - 27 | | | | | | | | | | |
| Beaver Meadows Evening Program August 21 - 27 |  | 45 minute talk | BMVC Auditorium | 7:30 p.m. | 7:30 p.m. | 7:30 p.m. Science | 7:30 p.m. Artist Night | 7:30 p.m. | 7:30 p.m. | 7:30 p.m. |
| Glacier Basin Evening Program August 21 - 27 |  | 45 minute talk | Glacier Basin Campground amphitheater | 8:30 p.m. | 8:30 p.m. | 8:30 p.m. | | 8:30 p.m. | | 7:30 p.m. |
| Moraine Park Evening Program August 21 - 27 |  | 45 minute talk | Moraine Park Campground amphitheater | 8:30 p.m. | | | 7:30 p.m. | | 8:30 p.m. | 8:30 p.m. |
| Evening Programs August 28 - Sept 5 | | | | | | | | | | |
| Beaver Meadows Evening Program August 28 - September 5 |  | 45 minute talk | BMVC Auditorium | 7:30 p.m. | | | 7:30 p.m. Artist Night | | 7:30 p.m. | 7:30 p.m. |
| Night Sky Programs | | | | | | | | | | |
| Astronomy in the Park - Join a park ranger and local astronomers to discover the magic of the night sky. Dress warmly, bring binoculars and a flashlight. | | 1/2 hour program followed by viewing | End of Upper Beaver Meadows Road | | 8:30 p.m. June 24 | | 8:15 p.m. July 8, 22 | | 8 p.m. August 5, 19 | All Astronomy in the Park Programs are on a Friday evening at the times and dates above. |
| Stories Behind the Moon & Stars - The night sky comes alive through storytelling and fun activities. Celebrate darkness at Rocky Mountain National Park. Dress warmly, bring binoculars and a flashlight. |  | 1-1.5 hour activity | Moraine Park Visitor Center | | 8:15 p.m. July 1, 15, 29 | | | | 8 p.m. August 12 | All Stories Behind the Moon & Stars Programs are on a Friday evening at the times and dates above. |

Free Summer Ranger Programs - West Side



All children must be accompanied by an adult
 Note: Programs may be cancelled at anytime due to high winds

Walks and Hikes



Length Location SUN MON TUE WED THU FRI SAT

| | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|--|---|--------------------------------------|------------|-------------------------|-----------------------------------|------------|-----------|-----------|------------|-----------|
| Beyond The Falls - Join a ranger for a stroll to Adams Falls and a spectacular view just beyond. One mile round trip. After 8/15, Fridays only | | 1.5 hour program | East Inlet Trailhead | | 6:30 p.m. 6/20 -8/15 | | | | | 10 a.m. | |
| Hike Through History - Hike along the river to discover what led people to try mining, homesteading, and early dude ranching. | | 3 hours - 3 miles | Colorado River Trailhead | | | | | | 9:30 a.m. | | |
| Mountain Wildflowers - Lovely montane flowers have amazing modes of adaptation. Caravan to this week's flowers. Ends 8/14 | | 2 hour walk | Kawuneeche Visitor Center flagpole | 2 p.m. | | 2 p.m. | | | | 2 p.m. | |
| Coyote Valley River Walk - Explore the valley ecology and history on this easy walk along the Colorado River. After 8/16, Sundays only | | 1 hour walk | Coyote Valley Trailhead | 10:30 a.m. | | 7 p.m. 6/21-8/16 | | | | | |
| Rocky Mountain Heritage Walk - Learn about Native Americans, miners and valley settlers while revisiting the Old West at an historic guest ranch. | | 1 hour plus time to explore 1 mile walk | Holzwarth Historic Site parking area | | | | 2:30 p.m. | | | | 2:30 p.m. |
| A Glimpse of Paradise - This easy 3-mile round trip hike passes Adams Falls and leads to spectacular views of mountains surrounding the meadows of the East Inlet. Ends 8/7 | | 2.5 hour walk | East Inlet Trailhead | 9:30 a.m. | | | | | | | |
| The Long and the Short - Visit a research enclosure to discover a love triangle involving beaver, moose, and Starts 7/2 | | 1.5 hours, 1 mile walk | Colorado River Trailhead | | | | 10 a.m. | | | | 10 a.m. |
| Children's Programs | | | | | | | | | | | |
| A Walk Backwards - Step back in time and experience life on a 1920s dude ranch—chores, games, period costumes. For children 6-12. Registration required at Kawuneeche V.C. Ends 8/12 | | 2 hour activity | Holzwarth Historic Site parking area | | | | | | | 9:45 a.m. | |
| Come Bug a Ranger - Learn fun facts about insects. Puppets, stories and activities for children 4-10 years old. Ends 8/10 | | 1 hour activity | Holzwarth Historic Site parking area | | | | 10:30 a.m. | | | | |
| Web Walkers - Explore a section of the Colorado River. Activities are designed for children 6-12 years old. Program runs 6/23 to 8/18 | | 1 hour activity | Coyote Valley Trailhead | | 10 a.m. | | | | 10 a.m. | | |
| Junior Ranger Program - Join a ranger for a short program and activities to earn your Junior Ranger badge. Everyday through 8/21 then Sat & Sun only. | | 1 hour program | Kawuneeche Visitor Center | 1:30 p.m. | 1:30 p.m. | 1:30 p.m. | 1:30 p.m. | 1:30 p.m. | 1:30 p.m. | 1:30 p.m. | 1:30 p.m. |
| Talks & Activities | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Ranger's Flyfishing School - Learn about the park's fish management program, stream ecology, and flycasting. Bring your flyfishing gear or borrow the ranger's. Starts 6/27 and ends 8/13 | | 3 hour activity | Timber Creek Campground amphitheater | | 8:30 a.m. | | | | | | 8:30 a.m. |
| Holzwarth Historic Site - Buildings are open 10:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. daily. Discuss early settlement with staff. This is a great family activity! | | Drop-in tour | Holzwarth Historic Site parking area | | | ... 10:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Daily | | | | | |
| Skins and Things - Examine the skins, skulls, antlers, teeth and bones of many park mammals. | | 40 minutes | Kawuneeche Visitor Center | 3:30 p.m. | 3:30 p.m. | 3:30 p.m. | 3:30 p.m. | 3:30 p.m. | 3:30 p.m. | 3:30 p.m. | 3:30 p.m. |
| Exploring with a Camera - Join a ranger for a photography walk. Focus on composition, light, and basic tips to improve your pictures. Ends 8/4 | | 1-1.5 hour activity | Timber Lake Trailhead | | | | | 3 p.m. | | | |
| The Colorado: Secrets At The Source - This film tells the magnificent story of the Colorado River which flows through some of America's most dramatic high country and canyon country. | | 50 minutes | Kawuneeche Visitor Center | 1:15 p.m. | 1:15 p.m. | 1:15 p.m. | 1:15 p.m. | 1:15 p.m. | 1:15 p.m. | 1:15 p.m. | 1:15 p.m. |
| Behind the Scenes - Join a ranger to view and discuss a series of short videos documenting how specialists at the park address challenges like elk management, pine beetles, and air quality. Starts 6/24 | | 1 hour discussion | Kawuneeche Visitor Center | 10:30 a.m. | | 10:30 a.m. | 10:30 a.m. | | | 10:30 a.m. | |
| Sisters of Courage - Learn about the pioneer experience through the story of the remarkable Harbison sisters and their family. Includes a 1/2 mile walk to the homestead site. | | 2.5 hour activity | Kawuneeche Visitor Center flagpole | | 1 p.m. | | | | | | |

This Park Paper

The park newspaper is produced by Rocky Mountain National Park in cooperation with -- and funding provided by -- the Rocky Mountain Nature Association. Printed on recycled paper.



For your convenience, free WIFI is available in and around the Beaver Meadows Visitor Center and the Kawuneeche Visitor Center.

All children must be accompanied by an adult

Evening Programs



Length Location SUN MON TUE WED THU FRI SAT

Old Ranch Campfire Stories - Roasting marshmallows (bring 'em), tall tales (the old wrangler will tell 'em) and campfire songs bring back the old days. Dress warmly. Ends 8/12



2 hours,
1 mile walk

Holzwarth
Historic Site
parking area

7 p.m.

Saturday Night in the Park - Enjoy an evening program in the auditorium. For topics, inquire at the Kawuneeche Visitor Center.



1 hour
presentation

Kawuneeche
Visitor Center
auditorium

7 p.m.

Walk Into Twilight - Enjoy a leisurely stroll as darkness, night sounds and wildlife fill the valley. Bring warm clothes, good hiking shoes, and a flashlight. Ends 8/17

2 hour
walk

Onahu Creek
Trailhead

8 p.m.

8 p.m.
6/19 -
7/27
7:30
p.m.
7/31 -
8/17

Timber Creek Evening Program - Presentation nightly at Timber Creek. Check at the campground or Kawuneeche Visitor Center for topics.



1 hour
presentation

Timber Creek
Campground
amphitheater

9 p.m.
6/19 -
8/13
8:45
p.m.
8/14 -
9/5

9 p.m.
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p.m.
8/14 -
9/5

Celestial Wilderness - Explore the universe and the astronomy of Rocky's night sky. Meet at Harbison Meadow parking area. If overcast, meet at Kawuneeche Visitor Center for indoor presentation. Ends 8/11

1-1.5 hour
activity

Harbison
Meadow
parking area

9:15 p.m.
June
9:00 p.m.
July
8:45 p.m.
August

Junior Ranger

Hey, Kids! Come To The Junior Ranger Headquarters!

This summer, there is a place just for you – the Junior Ranger Headquarters located at Hidden Valley along Trail Ridge Road. Join a program and get started or complete your Junior Ranger Book. The Rocky Junior Ranger programs are offered for kids ages 6 to 12, from June 19 – August 13, several times a day, 7 days a week! The activities are created and presented with a young person's level of learning and interest in mind. The programs are free. Parents and adults, please remember - you must be present for your children to participate.



Headquarters is open 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. daily.

Jr. Ranger Programs are at 10, 11:30, 1:00 & 2:30 daily.

Free Junior Ranger books are available at park visitor centers for children ages 12 and under. A successfully completed book earns a badge!

You are an important part of this park. Stay in touch. Contact us anytime at: romo_junior_ranger@nps.gov

Los libros de guardaparque juveniles son para niños que tiene 12 años o menos. se pueden obtener sin costo en el centro de visitantes del parque. Si se completa el libro con éxito puede recibir una insignia!



Rocky Mountain Nature Association



JOIN THE MILLION DOLLAR CHALLENGE TO SUPPORT ROCKY MOUNTAIN NATIONAL PARK!

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Information available at any RMNP visitor center bookstore - just ask!

A fundraising campaign of the Rocky Mountain Nature Association



ROCKY MOUNTAIN FIELD SEMINARS

IN
ROCKY MOUNTAIN NATIONAL PARK

LEARN ~ EXPLORE ~ ADVENTURE



Sign up
online at
rmna.org

Fun Classes for Kids (& families)!

Estes Park Treasure Hunt (ages 9-13)
June 21, 28; July 5, 12, 19, 26; August 2, 9

Campfire Ghost Stories: Living Western History Tales
(all ages) June 23, 30; July 7, 14

Art Adventures for Kids (ages 6-9)
Wednesdays: July 6, 13, 20, 27

Who Pooped in the Woods? A Mammal Mystery!
July 21

Poet for a Day: Nature Poetry for Families
July 16

Family Astronomy: To Infinity & Beyond
August 5

Field Seminars for Adults

Summer Birding with a Naturalist
June 29; July 6, 13, 20

Bear Facts & Lions Tales
July 6

High, Cold & Magnificent: The Land of Tundra
July 21

Advanced Digital Photography in RMNP
July 22-24

Capturing Wildflowers in Watercolor
July 29

Arapaho Names & Trails
August 7

Ask at park visitor centers for more information, or call: 970-586-3262

Park Bookstores

At RMNA Bookstores, Your Purchase Makes A Difference

A premier selection of Rocky Mountain National Park books, maps and other interesting items can be found right here at one of the Rocky Mountain Nature Association (RMNA) bookstores located in park visitor centers. When you make a purchase from our non-profit organization, proceeds are returned to the park, supporting important educational, interpretive and research programs.

Drop by today.

Visit the Rocky Mountain Nature Association bookstores at:

Beaver Meadows Visitor Center • Alpine Visitor Center
Moraine Park Visitor Center • Fall River Visitor Center
Kawuneeche Visitor Center



Camping 2011

| PARK CAMPGROUND | Elev (feet) | # sites in summer | Reservable | Summer Firewood & Ice | Max RV/Trailer Length | Summer Dump Station | Notes |
|---|-------------|-------------------|--|-----------------------|---|---------------------|---|
| Aspenglen Open 5/25-noon 9/25 | 8220 | 54 | Yes | Yes | 30' | No | Located on US Hwy. 34 by the Fall River Entrance. |
| Glacier Basin Open 5/25-noon 9/13 | 8500 | 150 | C & D Loops only; Loops A & B first-come, first-served | Yes | 29' (a few sites up to 35') | Yes | On Bear Lake Road opposite the Park & Ride. No shade in C & D Loops due to hazard tree removal. |
| Longs Peak Open year-round | 9405 | 26 | Always first-come, first-served | Firewood only | Tents only | No | Located off of Highway 7 south of Estes Park. Flush toilets summer; vault toilets winter. |
| Moraine Park Open year-round. Summer reservations start 5/25; last night to stay by reservation is 10/4 | 8160 | 245 | Yes | Yes | Limited # of RV/trailer sites up to 40' | Yes | On Bear Lake Road. Flush toilets, except B Loop where there are vault toilets year-round. |
| Timber Creek Open year-round | 8900 | 98 | Always first-come, first-served | Firewood only | 30' | Yes | The only west side campground. No shade due to hazard tree removal. |

Overnight stays in Rocky Mountain National Park must be in a campground (or a backcountry site). You may not stay overnight in your car or RV along a road or at a trailhead.

It is common for all park campgrounds to fill on most summer days and fall weekends.

Reservations for late-May through September can be made six months to one day in advance and are highly recommended. To make a reservation: www.recreation.gov or 1-877-444-6777.

Fees to Camp

- When the water is on (summer), all campgrounds are \$20.00/site/night.
- When the water is off (winter), Longs Peak, Timber Creek, and Moraine Park Loop B campgrounds are \$14/site/night.
- America the Beautiful Senior and Access Pass holders receive a 50% discount on camping fees.
- Park entrance fees and camping fees can be paid by cash, check or credit card any time.

STAY LIMITS

The maximum length of stay is seven nights total between June 1 and September 30, plus an additional 14 nights between October 1 and May 31. Stay limits are on a parkwide basis rather than on a per campground basis.

At All Standard Campsites

- No more than eight people may camp at a given site.
- All campsites, including RV sites, have a tent pad, picnic table and fire grate.
- Tents must fit on the tent pad; two or three tents are allowed, as long as they fit.
- There are no electric, water or sewer hookups at any park campsites.
- None of the campgrounds have showers. Portable showers are prohibited. Public showers are available in nearby communities.

Pets

All campgrounds allow pets with certain restrictions: they must be on a leash no longer than six feet; pet owners must pick up and dispose of pet excrement in trash receptacles; pets may not make noise that impacts visitors or wildlife. Pets are never allowed on any park trails or in meadow areas. Pets should never be left unattended.

Food Storage

Do not attract wildlife, including black bears, to your campsite. Keep a clean camp! Never leave food items unattended. Improperly stored or unattended food items will likely result in confiscation and/or issuance of a citation by a park ranger.

In campgrounds, all food items must be stored by one of the following methods:

- Inside vehicle trunks. Be sure windows are closed and doors are locked.
- In vehicles without trunks, items should be placed as low in the vehicle passenger compartment as possible and covered from sight, with windows closed and doors closed & locked.
- In park-provided bear boxes. Boxes are shared and cannot be locked.



Backcountry Camping

Permits are required for all overnight backcountry camping, and reservations are recommended for summer. Camping is allowed only in designated sites and areas. Permits may be obtained at the Beaver Meadows Backcountry Office or Kawuneeche Visitor Center. For further information write to: Backcountry Office, Rocky Mountain National Park, Estes Park, Colorado 80517 or phone (970) 586-1242.

The administrative permit fee of \$20 is required for backcountry permits between May 1 and October 31; there is no charge in winter.

Sprague Lake Accessible Backcountry Campsite

Reservations and information are available through the Backcountry Office at (970) 586-1242. This site accommodates 12 campers with a maximum of five wheelchair users at the camp. The administrative permit fee is \$20 from May 1 to October 31.





For your safety and the protection of park wildlife, carry in/carry out hard-sided, bear-resistant food storage canisters are required of all backcountry campers parkwide between May 1 and October 31. Canisters may be rented or purchased at outdoor shops in surrounding communities. Pack out all garbage.



Scan this with your mobile device to download the Backcountry Camping Guide.

Toward a Greener Park

Recycling Available in Major Park Locations



Glass, plastic #1 and #2, and aluminum may be recycled in park campgrounds and at major park locations. Look for our distinctive recycling containers or ask at any visitor center or campground for their locations.

The park is actively engaged in green practices, including using hybrid/alternative fueled vehicles, a bicycle for mail delivery, low-wattage compact fluorescent lights bulbs, and active recycling of office materials.

The picnic and restroom facilities at Hidden Valley were constructed using recycled lumber and materials. All new construction and rehabilitation projects are designed using energy-efficient LEED standards. Recycle containers are available throughout the park.

Help us reduce the use of plastic water bottles! There is limited potable drinking water in the park. Please remember to bring your own reusable water containers and refill them at park visitor centers.

Concession Services

The Best Hikes Have A Reward
At The End Of The Trail.



You can't hike and sightsee all day. You need good food to nourish your body and something special to remind you of the journey. So stop by the Trail Ridge Store for your snacks and souvenirs when you visit—and elevate your Rocky Mountain experience.

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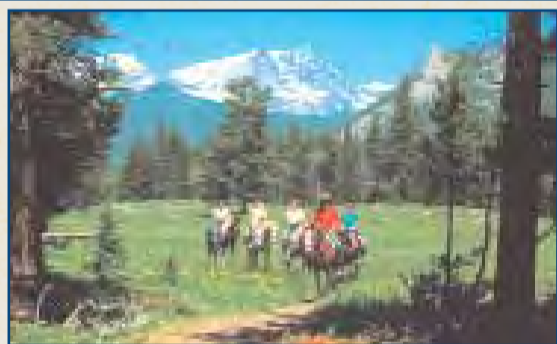
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RESERVATIONS RECOMMENDED

OPEN UNTIL EARLY OCTOBER

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AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

Hiking Trails

With over 350 miles of trails, the park offers a vast array of hikes. A small selection of trails is described below. Check at a visitor center for current conditions. Additional hiking guides, books and maps are available for purchase at all park visitor centers. See page 3 for safety tips.

| Trail | Location | Round Trip Distance | Elevation Gain | Highlights |
|------------------------------------|---|---------------------|----------------|---|
| <u>East Side Trailheads</u> | | | | |
| Deer Mountain | Deer Ridge Junction | 6 miles | 1083 feet | A busier trailhead; offers great views of beautiful peaks and deep valleys. |
| Cub Lake | Cub Lake on Fern Lake Road near Moraine Park Campground | 4.6 miles | 540 feet | Meadows, aspen groves, ponds and conifer forests highlight this hike. |
| Estes Cone | Lily Lake Trailhead | 7.4 miles | 2369 feet | Great views are a reward of this strenuous hike to the top of a peak. |
| Nymph Lake | Bear Lake Trailhead | 1 mile | 225 feet | Beautiful views abound on this short hike to a small lake. |
| Mills Lake | Glacier Gorge Trailhead | 5.6 miles | 750 feet | Classic day hike to a lake rimmed by mountains. |
| Eugenia Mine | Longs Peak Trailhead | 2.8 miles | 508 feet | Hike to an abandoned mine site. |
| Dream Lake | Bear Lake Trailhead | 2.2 miles | 425 feet | Short hike to a very scenic backcountry lake. Look for the view depicted on the Colorado quarter. |
| The Loch | Glacier Gorge Trailhead | 6.2 miles | 990 feet | A beautiful lake surrounded by tall peaks. |
| Twin Sisters | Lily Lake Trailhead | 7.4 miles | 2338 feet | Hike to a mountain top for great views of mountains and plains. |
| Sandbeach Lake | Sandbeach Trailhead off Highway 7, near Wild Basin | 8.4 miles | 1971 feet | A steady uphill trail leads to a lake with beautiful views. |

| Trail | Location | Round Trip Distance | Elevation Gain | Highlights |
|------------------------------------|---|---------------------|----------------|--|
| <u>West Side Trailheads</u> | | | | |
| Onahu Creek/Green Mountain Loop | Onahu Creek Trailhead or Green Mt. Trailhead in Kawuneeche Valley | 7.6 miles | 1100 feet | Excellent loop trail through quiet forest and meadow, along flowing mountain creeks. |
| Granite Falls | Green Mountain Trailhead in Kawuneeche Valley | 10.4 miles | 1406 feet | Quiet forest and flowing mountain waters await. A longer loop (13.6 miles) is possible, coming out on the Onahu Creek Trail. |
| Timber Lake | Timber Lake Trailhead in Kawuneeche Valley | 10.6 miles | 2060 feet | Lots of elevation gain on hike to a beautiful backcountry lake. |
| Lulu City | Colorado River Trailhead, north of Timber Creek Campground | 7.4 miles | 350 feet | A gentle trail to an historic site. A longer return loop is via the Grand Ditch to Red Mountain Trail. |
| Little Yellowstone Canyon | Colorado River Trailhead, north of Timber Creek Campground | 9 miles | 990 feet | An extension of the Lulu City hike, deeper into park wilderness. |
| Red Mountain | Colorado River Trailhead, north of Timber Creek Campground | 11 miles | 2565 feet | A steep trail featuring some great views of mountains and valleys in the park. |
| Lone Pine Lake | East Inlet, on the far east end of Grand Lake | 11 miles | 1494 feet | A longer hike near Grand Lake to a high lake. The trail continues beyond to other lakes. |
| Cascade Falls | North Inlet Trail off Tunnel Road in Grand Lake | 6.8 miles | 300 feet | A relatively level walk to Cascade Falls. |
| Shadow Mountain Lookout | East side of Shadow Mountain Lake, just south of Grand Lake | 9.4 miles | 1533 feet | Steep hike to an historic fire lookout with spectacular views. |
| East Shore Trail | East side of Shadow Mountain Lake, just south of Grand Lake | 5.2 miles | 100 feet | 2.6 miles to Green Ridge Campground; a side loop trail to Ranger Meadows re-connects with main trail, adding 1.4 miles. |









Trail Ridge Road Trailheads




| | | | | |
|--------------------|--|-----------|-----------------|---|
| Alpine Ridge Trail | Near Alpine Visitor Center | .5 miles | 200 feet | CLOSED SUMMER 2011 for reconstruction |
| Ute Trail 10 | Across the road from Alpine Visitor Center, as well as other access points | 1-8 miles | up to 1038 feet | Tremendous, open views above treeline; start and finish early before lightning and thunderstorms! |

Family-Friendly Trails

Pets are not permitted on any park trails.

Tight on time? Try one of these short easy walks. Some are accessible. Some allow strollers. Most have educational brochures or exhibits.

| East Side Trails | Location | Round Trip Distance | Elevation Gain | Highlights |
|---|--|--|----------------------|--|
| Lily Lake | On Highway 7 south of Estes Park | .8 miles   | 20 feet | Wildflowers, waterfowl, and greenback cutthroat trout may be seen on a level walk around the lake. |
| Sprague Lake | On Bear Lake Road | .5 mile   | 10 feet | ½ mile packed gravel, level grade around Sprague Lake. Interpretive signs. |
| Moraine Park Visitor Center Nature Trail | On Bear Lake Road | .8 mile | 20 feet | A self-guiding trail; booklet is available for this scenic trail that winds around the hillside . |
| Bear Lake Nature Trail (partially accessible) | At end of Bear Lake Road | .5 miles   | 20 feet | Trail around Bear Lake. ½ mile packed gravel, level grade with occasional steep sections. Self-guiding trail booklet available. |
| Alluvial Fan | Horseshoe Park on the road to Endovalley Picnic Area | .25 mile  | 20 feet | ¼ mile paved, relatively steep grade from east & west parking lots. See nature at work repairing scars from a 1982 flood. Signs. |
| Tundra Communities Trail | At Rock Cut on Trail Ridge Road | .5 mile  | 260 feet | View the miniature world of the Alpine Tundra and enjoy sweeping views of the park. Paved trail & interpretive signs. |
| Alberta Falls | Glacier Gorge Trailhead Bear Lake | 1.6 miles 1.8 miles | 210 feet 220 feet | Access this roaring waterfall from Bear Lake or Glacier Gorge Trailheads. |
| The Pool | Fern Lake Trailhead | 3.4 miles | 245 feet | An easy, shaded hike through a river valley. Trails continues to Fern , Odessa, and Cub Lakes. |

| West Side Trails | Location | Round Trip Distance | Elevation Gain | Highlights |
|-------------------------|---|--|----------------|--|
| Coyote Valley Trail | Coyote Valley on Highway 34, north of Kawuneeche Visitor Center | 1 mile   | 10 feet | Follows the bank of the Colorado River, with views of the Never Summer Mountains. Look for moose, songbirds, and wildflowers. Packed gravel, level grade. Signs. |
| Adams Falls | East Inlet, located on the far east end of Grand Lake | .6 mile | 80 feet | A beautiful short hike near Grand Lake. The trail continues beyond the falls to lush meadows. |
| Holzwarth Historic Site | 8 miles north of Kawuneeche Visitor Center on Highway 34 | 1 mile  | 10 feet | Explore a historic homestead cabin and 1920s dude ranch. Brochures, signs & tours available. |

Resources and More Tell Me More About the Fences

Research has shown that the elk herd in Rocky Mountain National Park and the Estes Valley, is larger, less migratory and more concentrated than it would be under natural conditions. As a result, willow and aspen stands were declining, depriving other wildlife of the important habitat they need. Fences are one of the many tools we are using in the implementation of the park's Elk and Vegetation Management Plan.

Each fall since 2008, we have installed enclosure fences on elk winter range in the Moraine Park, Beaver Meadows, and Horseshoe Park areas. These enclosures are protecting important riparian willow and aspen habitat from elk browsing.



Elk enclosure fence in Moraine Park

Pine Beetle Epidemic From Canada to Mexico



Bark beetles are native insects that have shaped the forests of North America for thousands of years. Bark beetles range from Canada to Mexico and can be found at elevations from sea level to 11,000 feet. Rocky Mountain National Park is just one relatively small area where trees are dying from the beetle epidemic. Because the task is enormous, the park's priorities for mitigation of the effects of beetles are focused on removing hazard trees and hazard fuels related to the protection of life and property.

There is no effective means of controlling a large beetle outbreak in such a vast area as the park's backcountry, which comprises about 95% of the park. Therefore, in the backcountry, bark beetle populations are allowed to fluctuate under natural processes with some limited mitigation work occurring around designated backcountry campsites.

Stop by a visitor center to learn more about these issues, or visit <http://www.nps.gov/romo/index.htm>

An infected tree will have pitch tubes on its trunk and boring dust (frass) at the base of the tree. Sometimes the tree will be successful in repelling or "pitching out" beetles and they are occasionally found imbedded in a pitch out.

Rocky Mountain National Park

Free Shuttle Bus

Using Rocky Mountain National Park's free shuttle bus service enables you to access many destinations and loop hikes along the Bear Lake corridor, while enjoying the beautiful scenery without the distraction and hassle of traffic congestion and limited parking.



A park pass is required to board the hiker Shuttle, and may be purchased at automated machines at Estes Park and Beaver Meadows visitor centers. If not purchased in advanced, park pass must be purchased at Park & Ride.

Bear Lake Shuttle

June 11-October 2: buses operate daily between Park & Ride and Bear Lake, leaving Park & Ride every 10-15 minutes from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

The Bear Lake Route is based at the Park & Ride shuttle bus parking area across from the Glacier Basin Campground.

Moraine Park Shuttle

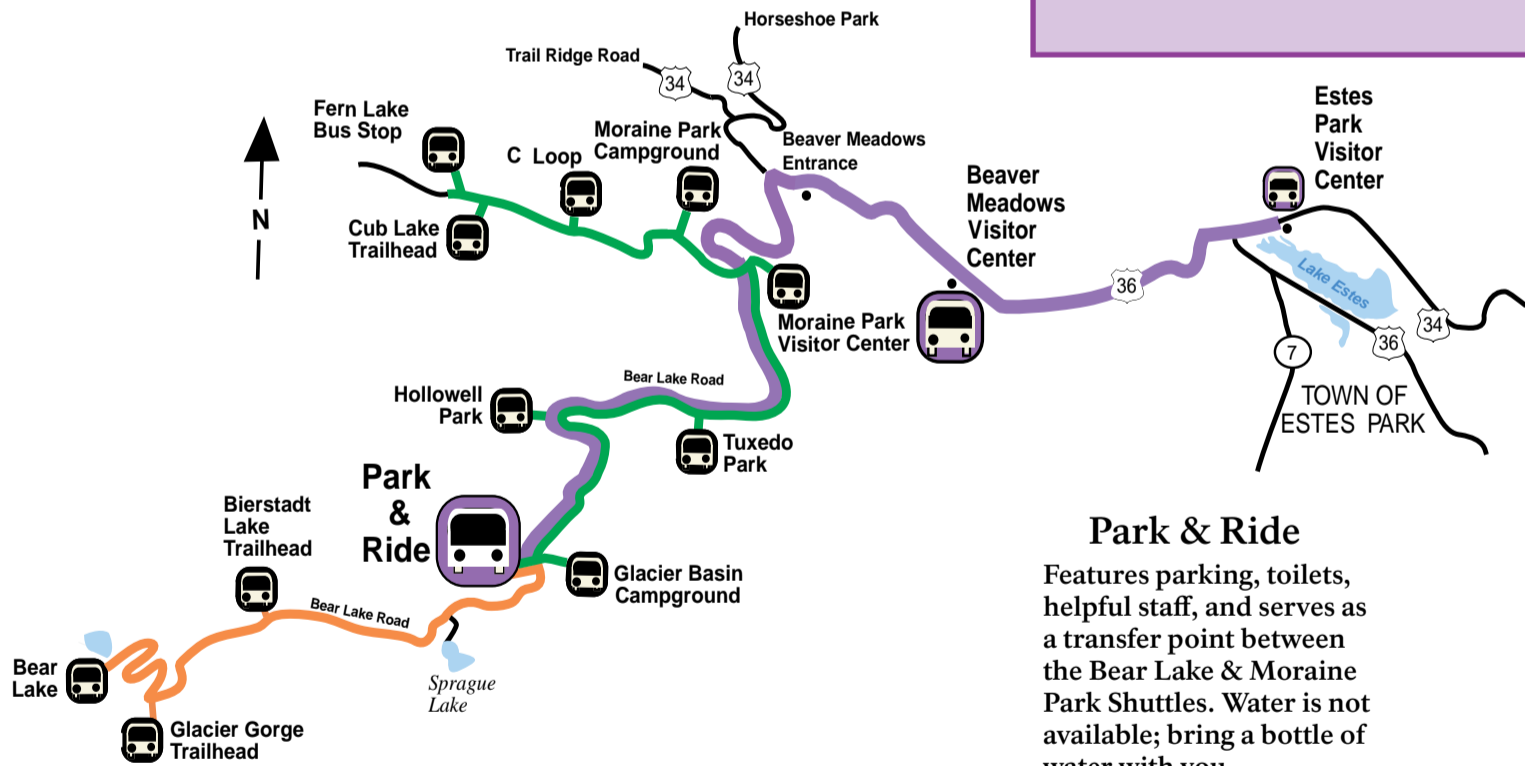
June 11-October 2: buses operate daily between Park & Ride and Fern Lake Bus Stop, leaving Park & Ride every 30 minutes from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

The Moraine Park Route is based at the Park & Ride shuttle bus parking area across from the Glacier Basin Campground.

Hiker Shuttle

June 25-September 5, plus weekends through October 2. Buses operate daily between Estes Park Visitors Centers and Park & Ride on an hourly schedule from 6:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. and a half-hour schedule between 10 a.m. & 6 p.m.

The only stop on this express route is Beaver Meadows Visitor Center.



Park & Ride

Features parking, toilets, helpful staff, and serves as a transfer point between the Bear Lake & Moraine Park Shuttles. Water is not available; bring a bottle of water with you.



Trail Ridge Road Bus Tour to Alpine Visitor Center

Five-hour interpretive bus tour of Trail Ridge Road. Tours are offered on Tuesdays and Wednesdays, June 21 - September 7. The tour leaves the Estes Park Visitor Center at 9:45 a.m. and the Beaver Meadows Visitor Center in the park at 10 a.m. and arrives back at 3 p.m. Reservations are required by calling (970) 577-7477.

Cost is \$27 per adult, \$13 for children 16 and under, payable with a credit card. Children not occupying a seat are free. Park staff will be on board to describe the history and wonders of the highest continuous paved road in the U.S. Tour stops include Rainbow Curve, Forest Canyon Overlook and Alpine Visitor Center.