

# Rocky Mountain National Park

## HIGH COUNTRY HEADLINES



Winter 2003

November 2 - March 27



# Enjoying Winter

Reflected sunlight sparkles in the fallen snowflakes. Tracks of tiny mice and great elk cross your trail. Frozen alpine lakes ringed by massive peaks can be reached by snowshoe, ski, and even on foot. For those who are prepared, winter in Rocky Mountain National Park is a beautiful time full of crisp adventures.

The contents of this newspaper are designed to help you comfortably and safely enjoy this high and wild park during its longest season. Information on visitor centers, primary phone numbers, winter travel and recreation are on pages 2 and 3. Free ranger-led programs are listed on page 4. Camping is described on page 5. A few trails are listed on pages 6 and 7. The back page has a winter park map showing major year-round routes and facilities.

There is no more important season than winter to ask a ranger about current park conditions. Park roads often exemplify winter in the mountains, with snow, ice, and gusty winds frequent roadway companions. Trails may be good for snowshoeing or skiing one day, but poor the next. Stop in at the nearest visitor center (Beaver Meadows and Kawuneeche are open year-round) for up-to-the-minute information and suggestions tailored to your interests and current conditions.

If you enter the park from the west (Grand Lake), you're in for a winter treat. Cross-country skiing can be excellent through most of the winter. Easy trails head toward Lulu City or Sun Valley, and many more challenging options are also available. On the east side of the park (Estes Park area), snowshoeing is more reliable than cross-country skiing. The lofty peaks of Rocky Mountain National Park tend to catch and hold more snow on their western slopes than on the east, allowing some east-side



park trails to be hikeable through much of the winter. The Bear Lake area typically has excellent snowshoeing through middle and late winter, as does the Glacier Gorge area. Dream Lake, Mills Lake, and the Loch are spectacular winter snowshoe destinations. Easy trails circle Sprague and Lily Lakes.

Rocky Mountain is the highest national park in the contiguous forty-eight states. When nature permits, you can drive higher on the nation's highest paved through-road – Trail Ridge (12,183') – than is possible in any other national park. Winter comes early to Trail Ridge Road, typically closing the road for the winter by mid-October. During mid-winter, powerful winds, often gusting to hurricane-force velocities, create frequent blizzard conditions on this high road. Especially because of the winds and resultant deep drifts, Trail Ridge Road is too dangerous to try to keep fully open through the winter. Yet there is a lot of the park that is still open year-round. You can drive to magnificent view areas like Many

Parks Curve and Bear Lake on the east, and through the spectacular Kawuneeche Valley on the west.

You will pass many trails that can provide you with a real taste of wild mountains in their longest season. A snowshoe or ski tour will reveal some of the beauty unique to winter. Here are ice-filled cascades and waterfalls, and massive peaks sparkling with snow against dark rock. Elk, coyotes, deer, snowshoe hares, and many other mammals remain active in the park through the winter, covered in dense winter coats. Hardy birds stay north for the season, ranging in color from that of winter (the ptarmigan), to that of night (the raven), to a combination that includes both those hues and more (the magpie).

Enjoy this long quiet season in Rocky Mountain National Park, and share in the activity of park wildlife.

- Peter Allen

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*The hearty magpie remains active throughout the long Rocky Mountain winter.*



*The ptarmigan changes from mottled brown-grey plumage in summer to the color of winter.*



*The tiny pika stays active during the winter, eating plants it dries during the summer.*

# You Need to Know

## Visitor Centers



Park visitor centers are the places to find out what you need to know. All have knowledgeable staff, printed information on many topics, and great bookstores stocked with all the best books for finding that perfect trail and learning what makes Rocky Mountain such an awesome national park. Each visitor center has its own special features.

### *West of the Divide – Grand Lake Area* **Kawuneeche Visitor Center**

Open daily 8-4:30 except Dec. 25. Features free movie and slide shows, exhibits on wonders of the park, bookstore, backcountry camping permits



### *East of the Divide – Estes Park Area* **Beaver Meadows Visitor Center**

Open daily 8-5 except Dec. 25. Features free movie, bookstore, large 3-D park orientation map, backcountry camping permits in nearby building



### **Fall River Visitor Center**

Open Saturdays & Sundays 9-4, and Dec. 22-24, Dec. 26-31. Features life-sized wildlife displays, a discovery room where kids can touch objects and dress up as rangers, Native Americans, and pioneers, and a bookstore.



*When you're really prepared, winter can be one of the best times to enjoy Rocky Mountain National Park!*



### **Official Web Sites**

[nps.gov/romo/index.html](http://nps.gov/romo/index.html)

*Rocky Mountain National Park Web Site- 1,100 pages*

[reservations.nps.gov](http://reservations.nps.gov)

*Summer campground reservations*

[rmna.org/bookstore](http://rmna.org/bookstore)

*Great Publications - Rocky Mountain National Park, field guides, hiking guides, children's books*

### **Park Phone Numbers**



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



Dial 911 or (970) 586-1203 for emergencies.



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

### **Pets**



Pets are not allowed on park trails or in the backcountry. They are allowed in campgrounds, picnic areas and along roadsides. Please observe signs; some winter-closed gravel roads are managed as backcountry trails during this season. Pets must be on a leash (6' or less) and attended at all times. Never leave pets unattended in your vehicle. Kennels are available locally.

### **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.

### **No Firearms or Hunting**

Hunting and weapons are not allowed in Rocky Mountain National Park.

### **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.

*Winds frequently create a halo of blowing snow surrounding peaks in the park.*



### **Weather and Road Conditions**

Winter driving conditions can change rapidly. For Rocky Mountain National Park daily road and driving conditions, stop in at a visitor center or call (970) 586-1206. Snow tires or chains may be recommended during periods of snow. After hours, a recorded message at (970) 586-1333 provides daily updates on park road and weather conditions.

During winter, lower elevation park roads remain open. *The high central portion of Trail Ridge Road is closed between Many Parks Curve and the Colorado River Trailhead.* The treeless, open central section of Trail Ridge Road experiences strong winds and blizzard conditions, making it unsafe to maintain through the winter. For Colorado state road conditions, call (303) 639-1111 or (877) 315-ROAD.

### **Bear Lake Road**

Bear Lake Road is open, but is undergoing major rebuilding. Use caution, for this road has rough unpaved sections, and may have active roadwork. There is reduced parking at Bear Lake.

[nps.gov/romo/index.html](http://nps.gov/romo/index.html)



The official website of Rocky Mountain National Park 1,100 pages of information about your national park!

Downloadable pictures

Longs Peak Webcam

Detailed trip planning and descriptions of park features, events, history

Weekly "tidbit" on a special topic; changes every week

# High Country Survival

## Avalanches

Colorado has more known avalanches than any other state. Avoid skiing or snowshoeing in steep gullies where avalanches could occur. Open slopes of 30 to 45 degrees can be loaded with dangerous masses of snow, easily triggered by the presence of one or more backcountry travelers.



Wear an electronic transceiver inside your jacket when traversing avalanche terrain. If you are caught in an avalanche, make swimming motions and try to stay on top of the snow.

Discard all equipment and try to remain calm.

Check at a park visitor center for current avalanche conditions, or call (970)586-1206. A good website for avalanche education is [www.caic@state.co.us](http://www.caic@state.co.us).

## High Elevation

The high elevations of Rocky Mountain National Park, combined with dry air, may bring on symptoms of high altitude sickness. These include nausea, dizziness, headache, insomnia, rapid heartbeat, and shortness of breath. If you experience these symptoms, descend to a lower elevation. To minimize high altitude effects on your body, increase water intake, avoid alcohol, eat lightly and frequently, and get plenty of rest.

Ultraviolet radiation is also a threat at high elevations, even during the dead of winter. Wear sunglasses with ultraviolet protection to prevent eye damage. Wear a hat and use sunscreen to prevent sunburn.

## Sledding and Snow Play

On the east side of the park, sledding and snow play are often poor due to meager snow fall and frequent winds. Please check at a visitor center or call (970) 586-1206 to find out current conditions. When conditions allow, sledding and snow play (toboggans, tubes, etc.) are permitted only at the Hidden Valley area and at Bear Lake.

This is a hazardous activity; beware of icy conditions, bumps, obstacles, and other users. Please observe the fenced boundaries of the Hidden Valley snowplay area, due to extensive construction work currently in progress. Parents need to supervise and be responsible for the activities of their children.

If you are looking for deeper, better snow, the park's west entrance (Grand Lake) is worth the drive. Snow conditions throughout the entire western slope are usually much better than on the dryer, windier east slope.

## 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 which 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.

Avoid these effects by carrying a windproof/snowproof outer shell and extra layers of clothing. Drink plenty of water; high elevation, wind, and cold dry us out and chill us.

## Backcountry Travel

Be prepared for all types of weather, no matter what activity you are enjoying in the national park. Unforeseen weather conditions can change a short afternoon hike, ski or snowshoe trip into an unpleasant experience.

Severe storms can impose life threatening hazards only one or two miles from your car. Carry a stormproof outer shell and extra clothing, even though the weather does not appear menacing. Be equipped with detailed topographic maps and a compass and know how to use them.

Leave your itinerary with a friend or relative so they know when to expect your return, and obtain a required backcountry permit for any overnight trip. It is safer to travel with a companion than alone.

Don't depend upon a cell phone for emergency help; many locations in this rugged park are not serviced.

## Streams, Lakes and Giardia

Don't drink water directly from park streams or lakes. Giardia is a microscopic organism found in lakes, streams, and possibly snow. It also lives in the digestive systems of wildlife and humans. Giardia enters surface water when animals or humans defecate in or near water. Giardia can cause diarrhea, cramps, bloating, and weight loss. To prevent giardiasis, bring water to a full rolling boil for at least 5 minutes, or use a water filtration system that eliminates the organism.

## 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, like rabies and plague. Photograph animals from the roadside.



*This Mom has prepared her child well for enjoying time out in the park.*

# Ranger Led Programs



Wheelchair  
Accessible  
Programs

## East of the Divide - Estes Park area

### Snowshoe Tours

—by reservation only—

Time/Program	Days Offered	Description
<b>Snowshoe Ecology Walk*</b> 10:30 AM 2 hours	Sa January 3 – March 27	Take a beginner's level snowshoe tour with a ranger and explore the natural world of a subalpine forest. No previous experience is necessary.
<b>Snowshoe Ecology Walk*</b> 12:30 PM 2 hours	Sa Su W January 3 – March 27	Take a beginner's level snowshoe tour with a ranger and explore the natural world of a subalpine forest. No previous experience is necessary.

#### \*Reservation Information – Snowshoe Walk

Reservations are necessary and may be made no more than seven days in advance. Call (970) 586-1223 from 8 AM – 4 PM daily.

There is a limit of 6 people per reservation for this 2 hour program. For safety reasons, children under 8 years old are not allowed on this activity. Sleds, skis, hikers, and children in backpacks are not permitted. You must provide your own snowshoes. They can be rented in Estes Park sporting goods stores.

#### Groups

Part of an organized group? Please call (970) 586-3777.




## Full Moon Walk

—by reservation only—

Full Moon Walk	Days Offered	Description
	Su Nov. 9 Su Dec. 7 Tu Jan. 6 Th Feb. 5 Fr March 5	The hour of moonrise changes as the seasons progress. Program times will adjust accordingly. Call (970) 586-1223 a week ahead for times, locations and reservations.

## Evening Programs - East

Beaver Meadows Evening Program	Days Offered	Description
7 PM 1 hour	every Sa except 12/20, 12/27 and 1/3 	Enjoy a wide variety of informative and entertaining programs. Meet in the downstairs auditorium at Beaver Meadows Visitor Center. No program is offered 12/20, 12/27 or 1/3.

## Junior Rangers- Parkwide




Free junior ranger books are available at park visitor centers. A successfully completed book earns a badge!

## West of the Divide - Grand Lake area

### Ski and Snowshoe Tours

Time/Program	Days Offered	Description
<b>Ski the Wilderness in Winter</b> 1 PM 2 hours	Sa December 13 – March 13	Ski a snow-draped landscape and learn about the Kawuneeche Valley. Join a park ranger at the Kawuneeche Visitor Center at 1 PM for this 2 hour cross-country ski tour.
<b>Snowshoe in the Kawuneeche</b> 9AM 2 hours <b>Reservations Required</b>	Su December 14 – March 14	Take an intermediate level 2 hour snowshoe tour with a ranger. Meet at the Kawuneeche Visitor Center. Please bring ski poles. <b>Reservations are required and may be made no sooner than seven days in advance. Call (970) 627-3471 from 8:00 AM–4:30 PM</b>
<b>Snowshoe in the Kawuneeche</b> 1 PM 2 hours <b>Reservations Required</b>	Su December 14 – March 14	Join a beginner level 2 hour snowshoe tour with a ranger. Meet at the Kawuneeche Visitor Center. Please bring ski poles. <b>Reservations are required and may be made no sooner than seven days in advance. Call (970) 627-3471 from 8:00 AM–4:30 PM</b>

## Evening Programs - West

Saturday Night in the Park	Days Offered	Description
7 PM 1 hour	second Sa each month 	Enjoy an evening program the second Saturday of each month in the auditorium at the Kawuneeche Visitor Center. For a description of topics, inquire at the front desk.

## Park Book Stores

### At RMNA Bookstores, Your Purchase Makes A Difference



The best Rocky Mountain National Park books, maps and other interesting items are right here, at one of the Rocky Mountain Nature Association (RMNA) bookstores located around the park. And 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  
Fall River Visitor Center • Kawuneeche Visitor Center



Rocky Mountain Nature Association • P.O. Box 3100, Estes Park, CO 80517 • (970) 586-0108 • rmna.org

## This Park Paper

*High Country Headlines* is produced by the staff of Rocky Mountain National Park in cooperation with—and with funding provided by—the Rocky Mountain Nature Association.



Editor: Peter Allen

Printed on recycled paper

# Camping

## Campgrounds

Reservations for summer at Moraine Park and Glacier Basin campgrounds may be made up to 5 months in advance by calling 800-365-2267, or on-line at [reservations.nps.gov](http://reservations.nps.gov). Longs Peak, Moraine Park, and Timber Creek are open year-round, but without running water through the winter.

	Fee per night	Elevation—ft	Stay limit (nights)	Public phone
<b>Longs Peak</b> 26 campsites <small>Open all year - tents only</small>	\$12	9,400	14	no
<b>Moraine Park</b> 45 campsites <small>Open all year.</small> 	\$12	8,150	14	yes
<b>Timber Creek</b> 20 campsites <small>Open all year.</small>	\$12	8,900	14	yes

## Backcountry Camping Permits

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



## Leave No Trace

With over 3 million visitors every year, the wild lands of Rocky Mountain National Park are being heavily used.

In hiking, camping, and all your park activities, do your part to preserve this national treasure by following the seven easy Leave No Trace principles listed here.

### 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



## Friends of the Park – The Rocky Mountain National Park Associates



Known as “Friends of the Park” since 1986, the non-profit Rocky Mountain National Park Associates have thirty-nine success stories to tell. Those stories tell about providing wheelchair accessible trails, new visitor centers, rehabilitating historical buildings, adding land to the park, building a greenhouse, providing scholarship funds, and even creating a new Rocky Mountain National Park Conservation Corps.

But before the Associates began fund-raising for park projects there was the Rocky Mountain Nature Association. Organized in 1931, the Nature Association was formed to provide Rocky Mountain National Park visitors with educational literature. Its founders hoped to stimulate interest in the park and its natural and cultural history.

At the urging of the National Park Service, in 1986 Nature Association directors organized the Rocky Mountain National Park Associates to fundraise for park improvement projects. The Associates, working in concert with the Nature Association and the Park Service, have completed dozens of projects for Rocky Mountain National Park. Perhaps the most complex project was the construction of the Fall River Visitor Center, a \$2.2 million, seven-year effort.

Add to that list the Kawuneeche Visitor Center, new exhibits for the Moraine Park Museum, and wheelchair accessible trails at Sprague Lake, Lily Lake, Bear Lake and Coyote Valley. Some thirteen historical structures have been stabilized or restored and a greenhouse was constructed, complete with a park revegetation endowment. A total of 192 acres of land have been purchased by the Associates and added to the Park with the intent of protecting park boundaries from future development.

A dozen projects are now underway, ranging from trail improvements to historical preservation, from rebuilding an outdoor amphitheater to creating a land protection fund. Visit our website at [www.rmna.org](http://www.rmna.org) to see a current listing of our projects. Even better, become a “Friend of the Park” yourself. For more information, contact the Rocky Mountain National Park Associates, P.O. Box 3100, Estes Park, CO 80517.



The Fall River Visitor Center features life-size sculptures of park wildlife, a family-friendly discovery room, and a great bookstore.

# Winter Trails by Snowshoe, Ski and Foot



©Audrey Stevens

With over 350 miles of trails, the park offers a vast array of choices. A small sampling of trails are described below. When properly equipped, snowshoeing and skiing at Rocky Mountain National Park is often inspiring and invigorating. Skiing is typically better on the west side of the park (Grand Lake entrance), as snow depths are greater than on the eastern slope. Even for short day tours, be sure to pack gear for all types of weather (sun, snow, wind). Strong winds are quite common, and windproof clothing is essential gear to wear or carry.



**Trail Tips:** 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. Know park regulations. Pack it in, pack it out - including remains of all your food (pits, peels, etc.), as well as facial tissues. Leave rocks, plants and other natural objects where you find them. Let nature's sounds prevail; avoid loud voices and noises. No pets are allowed on park trails.

## Trails on the East Side of the Park

Trail	Location	Round Trip Distance	Elevation Gain	Cool Stuff
<b>Upper Beaver Meadows</b>	<b>Upper Beaver Meadows Road (gated)</b> off Trail Ridge Road, 2 miles from Beaver Meadows Visitor Center.	3-4 miles	140 feet	A fine winter hike along a gated dirt road, with an option for making a 3.5 mile loop by taking a trail just inside the barricade, which joins the end of the road in 1.5 miles.
<b>Sprague Lake</b>	<b>Sprague Lake</b> on Bear Lake Road.	½ mile	10 feet	A good place for a short winter walk, or sometimes to try out those cross-country skis on a frozen lake. Good views of the Continental Divide.
<b>Chasm Falls</b>	<b>West Alluvial Fan</b> at gated end of Endovalley Road off Hwy 34	5 miles	400 feet	Follows summer roads which are closed to winter traffic. At 1.5 miles, take the right fork up Old Fall River Road to beautiful Chasm Falls.
<b>Lily Lake</b>	<b>Lily Lake</b> on Highway 7, south of Estes Park.	¾ mile	5 feet	Trail around lake often suitable for walking in boots. Beautiful views of high park peaks. Longer trails start from here too.
<b>Dream Lake</b>	<b>Bear Lake</b> on Bear Lake Road, 10 miles from Beaver Meadows Visitor Center.	2.2 miles	425 feet	A good snowshoe tour to one of the most photographed lakes in the park.
<b>Emerald Lake</b>	<b>Bear Lake</b> on Bear Lake Road, 10 miles from Beaver Meadows Visitor Center.	3.6 miles	605 feet	An intermediate snowshoe for good route-finders. Tour ascends to an alpine lake. Check at a visitor center for route details.
<b>Bierstadt Lake</b>	<b>Bear Lake</b> on Bear Lake Road, 10 miles from Beaver Meadows Visitor Center.	2.8 miles	570 feet	A nice snowshoe or ski tour, if started at Bear Lake. Also possible as a snowshoe/hiking tour walking up from the Bierstadt Lake Trailhead.
<b>Mills Lake</b>	<b>Glacier Gorge Junction</b> on Bear Lake Road.	5 miles	700 feet	An excellent winter snowshoe trail to a spectacular peak-rimmed lake. Magnificent views abound.
<b>The Loch</b>	<b>Glacier Gorge Junction</b> on Bear Lake Road.	5.4 miles	940 feet	An excellent winter snowshoe trail to another spectacular peak-rimmed lake. Magnificent views abound.
<b>Mill Creek</b>	<b>Hollowell Park</b> on Bear Lake Road.	3.2 miles	600 feet	A quiet winter snowshoe on a lesser-used trail. Check at a visitor center for details and current conditions.

Trail	Location	Round Trip Distance	Elevation Gain	Cool Stuff
<b>Cub Lake</b>	<b>Cub Lake</b> in Moraine Park off the Bear Lake Road.	4.6 miles	540 feet	A moderate hike/snowshoe; lower sections are often hikeable. The last mile often has ice or snow. Bring snowshoes, even if it looks open at the beginning.
<b>The Pool</b>	<b>Fern Lake</b> on Cub Lake Road near Moraine Park Campground.	4.9 miles	245 feet	Meadows, aspen groves, ponds and conifer forests highlight this easy, nearly level trail. A snowshoe or hike, depending upon snow conditions.
<b>Sandbeach Lake</b>	<b>Wild Basin</b> off Highway 7, south of Estes Park	8.4 miles	1970 feet	Trail ascends steeply through sunny forest; a steady uphill hike. Snowshoes often are not needed for the lower trail sections.
<b>Ouzel Falls</b>	<b>Wild Basin</b> off Highway 7, south of Estes Park.	5.4 miles	950 feet	Frozen waterfalls and beautiful views await on this snowshoe tour. Often some icy patches on the trail.
<b>Trail Ridge Road</b>	<b>The gated winter closure</b> at Many Parks Curve on Trail Ridge Road.	2+ miles	200+ feet	Follows the summer road which is closed to winter traffic. Beautiful views; often windy. Snowshoes usually best.
<b>Deer Mountain</b>	<b>Deer Ridge Junction</b> 4.5 miles from Beaver Meadows Visitor Center along Trail Ridge Road.	6 miles	1075 feet	A strenuous snowshoe or hike to the windblown top of Deer Mountain. The lower portion tends to be open and hikeable; upper switchbacks snowy.
<b>Lawn Lake</b>	<b>Lawn Lake Trailhead</b> on Fall River Road.	12.4 miles	2250 feet	A strenuous snowshoe to a high mountain lake. After a mile, the trail follows scenic Roaring River.

Trails on the West Side of the Park -  
Where snow conditions are generally better

Trail	Location	Round Trip Distance	Elevation Gain	Cool Stuff
<b>Tonahutu Creek Trail</b>	The <b>Kawuneeche Visitor Center</b> , north of Grand Lake.	4 miles	300 feet	From the Visitor Center, an easy 2 mile ski to Grand Lake. A longer option is an 8 mile round trip to Big Meadows (700' elevation gain).
<b>East Inlet Trail</b>	<b>East Inlet</b> , on West Portal Road, at the far east end of Grand Lake village.	.6 miles	80 feet	A beautiful snowshoe or intermediate-level ski tour. The trail continues to First Meadows (2 mile round trip), with a great view of Mt. Craig.
<b>Sun Valley Trail</b>	<b>Harbison Picnic Area</b> 1 mile north of the Kawuneeche Visitor Center.	2½ miles	50 feet	An easy ski or snowshoe loop through woods and open meadow. Be sure to look for orange trail markers at trail junctions.
<b>Green Mountain Trail</b>	<b>Green Mountain Trailhead</b> 3 miles north of the Kawuneeche Visitor Center.	4 miles	600 feet	An intermediate ski or snowshoe to Big Meadows. A longer, more difficult loop is also possible.
<b>Coyote Valley Trail</b>	<b>Coyote Valley Trailhead</b> in the Kawuneeche Valley.	1 mile	10 feet	A level trail adjacent to the Colorado River. An easy choice to test those skis or snowshoes.
<b>Colorado River Trail (Lulu City)</b>	The end of the plowed road in the Kawuneeche Valley 10 miles north of the Kawuneeche Visitor Center.	8½ miles	350 feet	A gentle ski tour with some views of the Colorado River. Historic sites of Shipler Cabins and Lulu City add to the natural attractions of this tour.

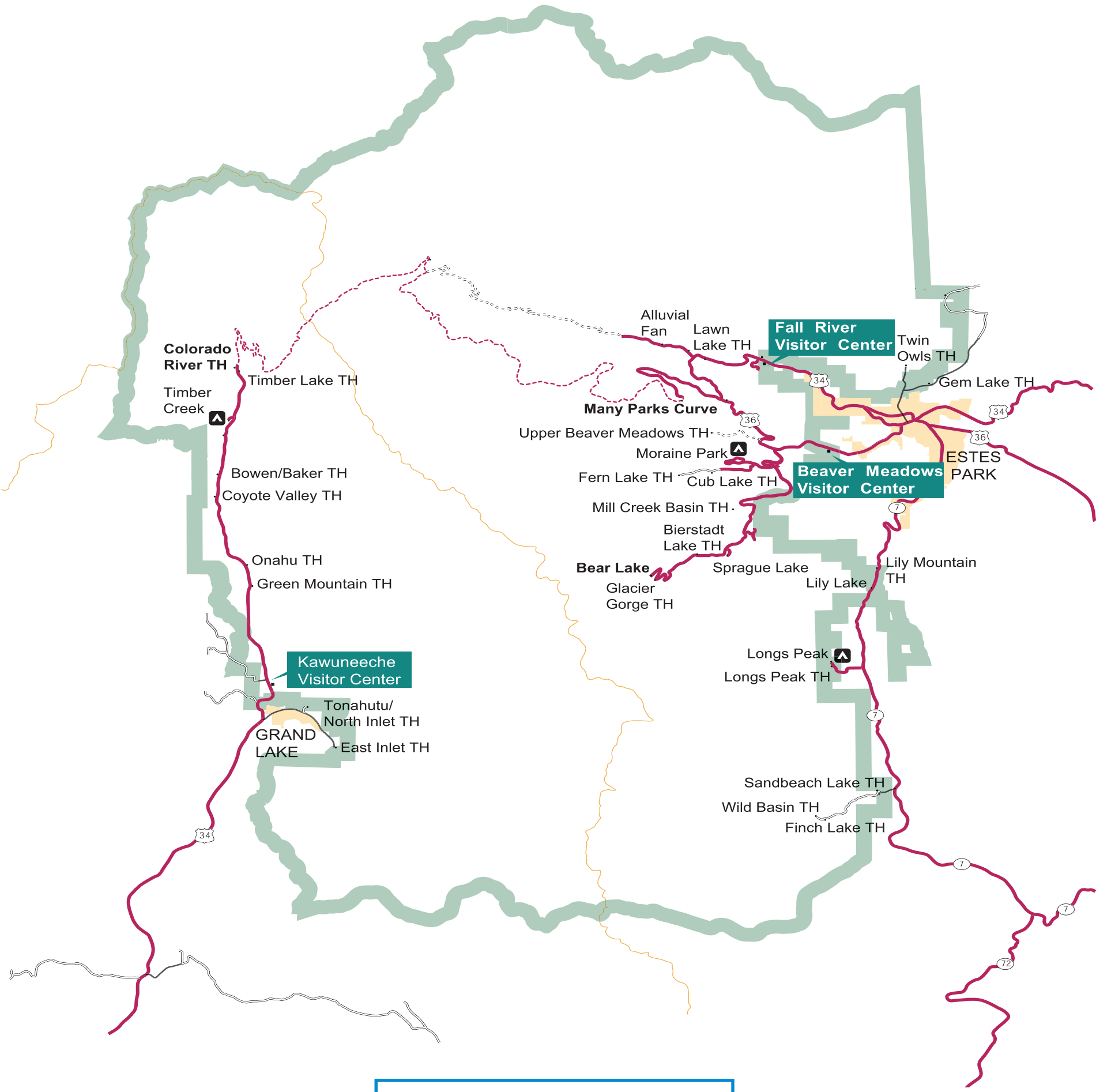





# Rocky Mountain National Park

The high central portion of Trail Ridge Road is closed for the winter.

Entering from either the East or the West offers many options for snowshoeing, hiking, wildlife viewing, and enjoying the crispness of winter.

Take a look through this paper at some of the things that you can do in the quietest season in Rocky Mountain National Park. Magnificent scenery, wildlife large and small, frozen lakes and waterfalls, and the hush of the winter forest await.



LEGEND	
	Paved Roads
	Unpaved Road
	Roads Closed in Winter