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Adventures at Red Canyon Park



Photo Courtesy: Nick Landry



Photo Courtesy: Nick Landry

A person with blonde hair, wearing a maroon t-shirt, blue jeans, and a black cap, stands on a rocky cliff edge with their arms raised in a 'V' shape. They are looking out over a vast, rugged canyon with steep, rocky walls. In the background, a range of mountains stretches across the horizon under a clear blue sky. The overall scene is one of natural beauty and adventure.

DITCH THE ORDINARY

# EXPLORE THE ROYAL GORGE REGION

*Rim Trail View, reach it yourself*

# Welcome to the Royal Gorge Region

If you are already in the Royal Gorge Region you've made a great choice among many beautiful and fun Colorado destinations. If you are just now considering a visit, we hope to see you soon. Cañon City has been called the "Climate Capital of Colorado!" We are warmer, dryer and sunnier than Colorado Springs and Denver. Close and convenient, but without the crowds and traffic that can overwhelm other popular destinations.

Families and visitors of all ages will find there are plenty of options to enjoy the area's amazing scenery from your vehicle, aboard a historic train, or a guided jeep tour. Take in the sweeping mountain vistas from America's highest suspension bridge, nearly 1,000 feet (305 m) to the bottom of the Royal Gorge, or from the deck of a beautifully appointed cabin while you enjoy a glass of wine from our local, award-winning winery.

Many visitors consider the Arkansas River our finest natural asset. We are America's top destination for whitewater rafting, and anglers relish the fact it is the country's longest stretch of Gold Medal Trout water. Our trail networks offer something for every ability level, whether on foot or a bicycle. Up for a challenge? Check out mountain bike trails, or world-class rock climbing. There is an exhilarating zipline across the gorge, plus classic and extreme courses above treetops and canyons.

Don't forget to visit the region's museums, history and heritage sites. Downtown Cañon City and Florence are both hidden gems offering quaint, locally-owned shops, farmers' markets, restaurants, breweries, and annual festivals. Learn about dinosaurs that roamed this land 150 million years ago through outstanding indoor and outdoor exhibits and interpretive trails. A series of self-guided heritage tours are a helpful resource for further discovery, with ideas on other activities you can enjoy for free.

Plan more than a day to experience all the Royal Gorge Region has to offer. We recommend you spend at least a night, or more. Options include hotels, motels, cabins, B&Bs, full service and forest campgrounds, or even glamping! We hope you enjoy your visit, and look forward to welcoming you again. Safe travels.

*Steve Kaverman*

Steve Kaverman, Chairman  
Fremont County Tourism Council



*Dakota Ridge Trail, Hogbacks Open Space*



*Royal Views at the Royal Gorge*



*Photo Courtesy Nick Landry*



Fall in-town river fun. Photo by Scott Majors.



Winter mountain biking on South Cañon Trails

## Four Seasons of Fremont County

The Royal Gorge Region enjoys a south-central Colorado sweet spot where mild temperatures grace the Arkansas River Valley and form an ideal year-round outdoor playground.

When the rest of the state is digging out from **Spring** snowstorms, area locals and visitors are hitting mountain biking and hiking trails. This is also a great time to visit museums and attractions like the Royal Gorge Dinosaur Experience and the Museum of Colorado Prisons. Get a jump on summer travelers and hit the Royal Gorge Bridge and Park to walk across one of the highest suspension bridges in the world, zipline over the canyon and brave the exhilarating Royal Rush Skycoaster.

**Summer** heats up with area outfitters launching boats into the Arkansas River for world-class whitewater rafting and kayaking. Hikers and bikers take to Skyline Drive and Cañon City's Royal Gorge Park trails, ATV and Jeep tours explore endless open space. See the valley's beauty from above on a helicopter or horseback tour.

As **Fall** rolls around, the desert-meets-mountain landscape radiates in reds, yellows and oranges. Autumn is the perfect time for a family stroll along the Arkansas Riverwalk Trail, antique shopping in Florence and wine tasting at the award-winning winery. In September, the Harvest Festival celebrates the region's rich agricultural heritage. Take a drive on the picturesque Gold Belt National Scenic Byway and cruise high above Cañon City on Skyline Drive's cliff-side razorback ridge.

Resting at 5,332 feet—slightly higher than Denver—and tucked into the valley's protective bluffs, **Winter** in the Region tends to hover around a comfortable 50 to 60 degrees. Conditions remain ideal for fly-fishing, hunting, hiking, biking, rock climbing, golfing and even the occasional camping expedition. Though it operates year-round, the historic Royal Gorge Route Railroad's winter themed rides are a season must.

# St. Thomas More Hospital



St. Thomas More Hospital is the Royal Gorge Region's connection to quality health and wellness services. We offer 24-hour emergency/trauma services, Centura Health Urgent Care Cañon City, The Birth Place and more.

Particularly during peak travel season, we treat illnesses and injuries that people experience during outdoor recreational activities. For your safety and preparation, we encourage you to carry your medication list, emergency contact information, and a first-aid kit with you. Here are some additional tips:

## HEAT EXHAUSTION/STROKE

Dress in layers for varying weather; wear sunglasses, sunscreen. If you feel fatigue, nausea, headache, excessive thirst, rapid heartbeat, muscle cramps, etc., get to air conditioning/shady area, rest, drink water, apply ice towels. Get medical care immediately; delay of severe cases can be fatal.

## SNAKE BITES

The hospital carries anti-venom medication. Get medical care immediately; delay could lead to loss of limb or death.

## ALTITUDE SICKNESS

For headache, no appetite, nausea/vomiting, weakness, dizziness, etc., go to lower altitude, rest, drink water, and take medication for headache. If symptoms worsen, get medical care immediately.

## ORTHOPEDIC INJURY

For foot/ankle injury, use shoe as stabilizer; for broken bones, stabilize, ice, elevate; take anti-inflammatory medication; needs timely evaluation. If open fracture, get medical care immediately to avoid infection.

## ER OR URGENT CARE?

If symptoms are sudden, serious and/or life-threatening, visit the St. Thomas More Emergency Room. Examples: difficulty breathing, chest pain/pressure, fainting/dizziness, sudden/severe pain, uncontrolled bleeding, severe/persistent vomiting/diarrhea, difficulty speaking.

For minor injuries or illnesses that require attention but do not suggest an immediate threat to your health or life, consider Centura Health Urgent Care Cañon City. Examples: minor injuries/lacerations, eye discomfort/redness, minor fractures/sprains, urinary symptoms, coughs/colds, fever, flu, sore throat, skin rashes/infections.

## In life's most critical moments, seconds matter.

No matter what your illness or injury, we stand ready.

When emergencies strike, know that exceptional care is standing by at St. Thomas More Hospital. With board-certified physicians in Emergency Medicine and a nursing staff with extensive trauma and emergency services training, we are Cañon City's access point to the Centura Health Trauma System, a network of trauma centers, emergency resources, Flight For Life® Colorado and a comprehensive statewide EMS support system.

For minor conditions that require attention, but do not suggest an immediate threat to your life, visit Centura Health Urgent Care Cañon City, the urgent care clinic managed by St. Thomas More.

See how short your ER wait time will be at [stmhospital.org](http://stmhospital.org).

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

We are part of the Centura Health Trauma System, the region's largest and most comprehensive network of trauma care and emergency services.

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## Royal Gorge Bridge & Park

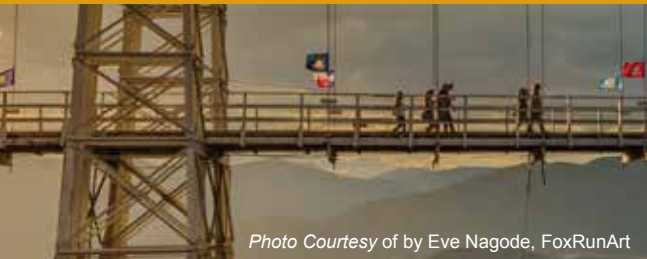


Photo Courtesy of by Eve Nagode, FoxRunArt



Photo Courtesy of Royal Gorge Bridge & Park

## Royal Gorge Bridge & Park

The Royal Gorge Bridge & Park, one of Colorado's iconic and must-see attractions is the heart of the Royal Gorge Region. Open 365 days a year, adventure begins 10 miles west of Cañon City with a walk across one of the world's highest suspension bridges.

The park has a rich history of spectacular undertakings including the initial building of the Royal Gorge Bridge in 1929. Holding the title of the world's highest suspension bridge for over 7 decades, the bridge is the highest in America. In 2013 a wildfire destroyed 90 percent of the park which was rebuilt in only 14 months. The Bridge was minimally damaged and remained "standing tall" among the rubble.

Upon entrance to the park, guests are treated to the timeless beauty of the area with the new Visitor Center and its mammoth deck overlooking the gorge. This is the perfect place to shop, dine, or just relax and enjoy the surroundings. Café 1230, sitting 1,230 feet above the Arkansas River provides breathtaking views while enjoying a scrumptious meal, snack, or favorite brew.

World class attractions include gondolas traversing 2,400 feet across the gorge. Tommy Knockerland, a children's play land, features a beautifully crafted carousel and climbing structures. Kids will enjoy the splash pad, wax hand store and gold panning during the summer months. Be sure to visit the park's Plaza Theater and Historical Expo to view the history of the park and area.

For the daring, the Royal Gorge Cloudscaper by ZipRider flies guests a thousand feet over the river, or patrons can experience the World's Scariest Skycoaster sitting on the very edge of the gorge. Both are extra pay features and open mid-March to end of December (weather permitting.)

Entertainment abounds during the summer months where guests can enjoy bands and shows from Native American Dancers to top Recording Artists at the Elk Park Amphitheater, Bridge View Bandstand, and at the Visitor Center. Thanksgiving and Christmas are special times of the year and the park is open for your Holiday entertainment.

Stay tuned for a special Celebration in 2019 when the Park turns 90!

# Guided Jeep Tours Across the Royal Gorge Bridge

Enjoy the scenery and see places you can't access on your own while visiting the Royal Gorge with Colorado Jeep Tours, located in Cañon City just 10 miles east of the gorge. This is the only company that offers guided tours of the region, driving along the southern rim of the park and over the spectacular 2,400 foot long suspension bridge, normally reserved for pedestrians only.

These off-road jeep tours range from 3 hours to all day, and can be enjoyed by people of nearly any age or ability. Have a young one? No problem. Bring along a car seat and secure your child like you do in your own vehicle. Have a dog? Good-natured and well-socialized dogs can come along for the ride. Have mobility issues? Their well-trained guides will make every effort to help you into the Jeep, and insure your comfort and safety along the route.

Once seated in your covered, open-air Jeep with padded seats, you can sit back and relax. All Colorado Jeep Tours adventures are driven by professional and informative guides, so you're free to focus on the scenery, take pictures, and make memories with your family. Because the custom Jeeps hold up to 10 people, large families can enjoy the experience more by riding together.

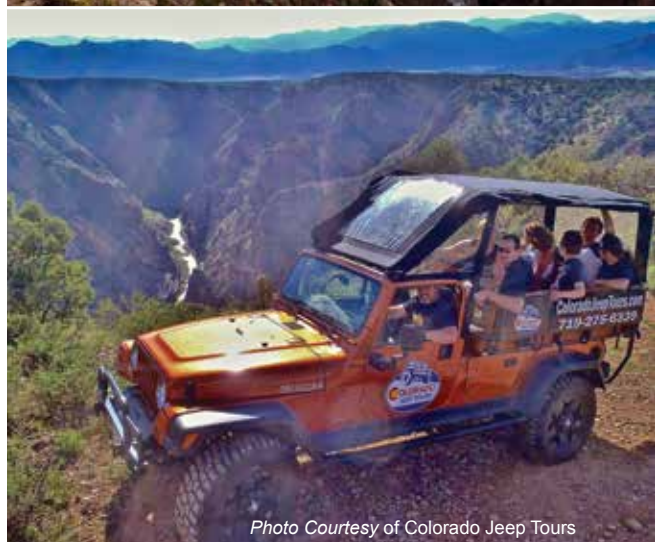
On your jeep tour, you will not only experience gorgeous views, you'll probably learn a bit too, as Colorado Jeep Tours' guides are knowledgeable about the area and will explain what you're seeing along the way. They are well-versed in a variety of topics, including old west history, Colorado plants and wildlife, geology, and even paleontology. Did you know the Cañon City region is known worldwide for its dinosaur quarries? Yep, it sure is. In fact, several of the dinosaur skeletons in the Smithsonian museum originated from the quarries along the jeep route.

Want to do more than jeep? All day packages are available from Colorado Jeep Tours that combine a half day jeeping with other area attractions. You can take a ride on the famous Royal Gorge Railroad, go whitewater rafting, enjoy a scenic trail ride on a well-trained horse, zip line across the Royal Gorge, or go wine tasting. Book any or all of these, with a single call to Colorado Jeep Tours at (719) 275-6339, or make reservations online at [ColoradoJeepTours.com](http://ColoradoJeepTours.com). You'll be glad you did!

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*Photo Courtesy Eve Nagode*



*Photo Courtesy of Colorado Jeep Tours*



*Photo Courtesy Greg Loskom*



DITCH THE CROWDS

**EXPERIENCE** THE ADVENTURE

*Rafting the Royal Gorge*

# Royal Gorge Region Activities

For those who want to experience real, rustic Colorado in all its bluebird-sky, whitewater, big adventure glory, the Royal Gorge Region is your destination. Combine the striking natural landscape with the area's year-round mild weather and laid-back local vibe, and you've got the ideal Colorado vacation.

Expert outfitters are on-hand to take you, your friends and family rafting, biking, fishing, ATViing, zip-lining, and horseback riding.

Feel the power of the **Arkansas River** on one of the country's most sought after whitewater rafting experiences as you paddle between the rugged rock walls of the Royal Gorge, or float the family-friendly Bighorn Sheep Canyon.

Cross America's highest suspension bridge, go **ziplining** and feel the free-fall rush of the Skycoaster at the Royal Gorge Bridge and Park ([www.royalgorgebridge.com](http://www.royalgorgebridge.com)).

Climb aboard the **Royal Gorge Route Railroad** ([www.royalgorgeroute.com](http://www.royalgorgeroute.com)) for an unbelievable journey through the steep and narrow 10-mile-long canyon and be sure to visit the open-air car for **wildlife viewing**. Blue herons and bighorn sheep thrive here.

For cultural favorites, visit the area's theaters, **browse art galleries** for paintings, prints and crafts, and explore local museums for a peek into local lore and dinosaur, mining and pioneer history.

Shop and sightsee, collect amazing antiques and delve into the countryside at a family-run orchard, pumpkin patch or corn maze. Drive the scenic **Gold Belt Tour**, walk discovery trails and search for fossils or have a relaxing picnic by the river.

Outdoor excursions span mellow to extreme. **Hike** at your own pace, take a **guided fishing** or hunting trip and see it all on a Jeep tour, guided horseback tour or an ATV tour through the Arkansas River Valley. Segway and helicopter tours are also ready for your next adventure.

From the forest to the canyon, the rushing river to our charming Main Streets, the Royal Gorge Region promises to feed your spirit and create everlasting memories.



*Ziplining at Captain Zipline*



*Dark Side of the Moon, Royal Gorge Park Trails*



## Rafting

Ready for fun?! From mild to wild, there's a rafting trip for everyone!

### RIDE THE RAPIDS

For a moderate trip of Class III rapids, take a half-day trip through Bighorn Sheep Canyon. This is a great trip for families with children and for those who like scenery alongside moderate excitement. For bigger adventure, brave the class IV rapids of the stunning Royal Gorge. Trips run daily throughout the spring, summer, and early fall months. See you on the river!

### WHITEWATER KAYAK & RECREATION PARK

Centennial Park features two surf waves for kayakers, rafters and river-boarders to surf and play. Onlookers enjoy a wading pool and sandstone sideline seating. The park hosts the annual Royal Gorge Whitewater Festival typically the last weekend in June. Located where 3rd Street meets the river in Cañon City, Centennial Park is a great place to enjoy the river.

## Activities



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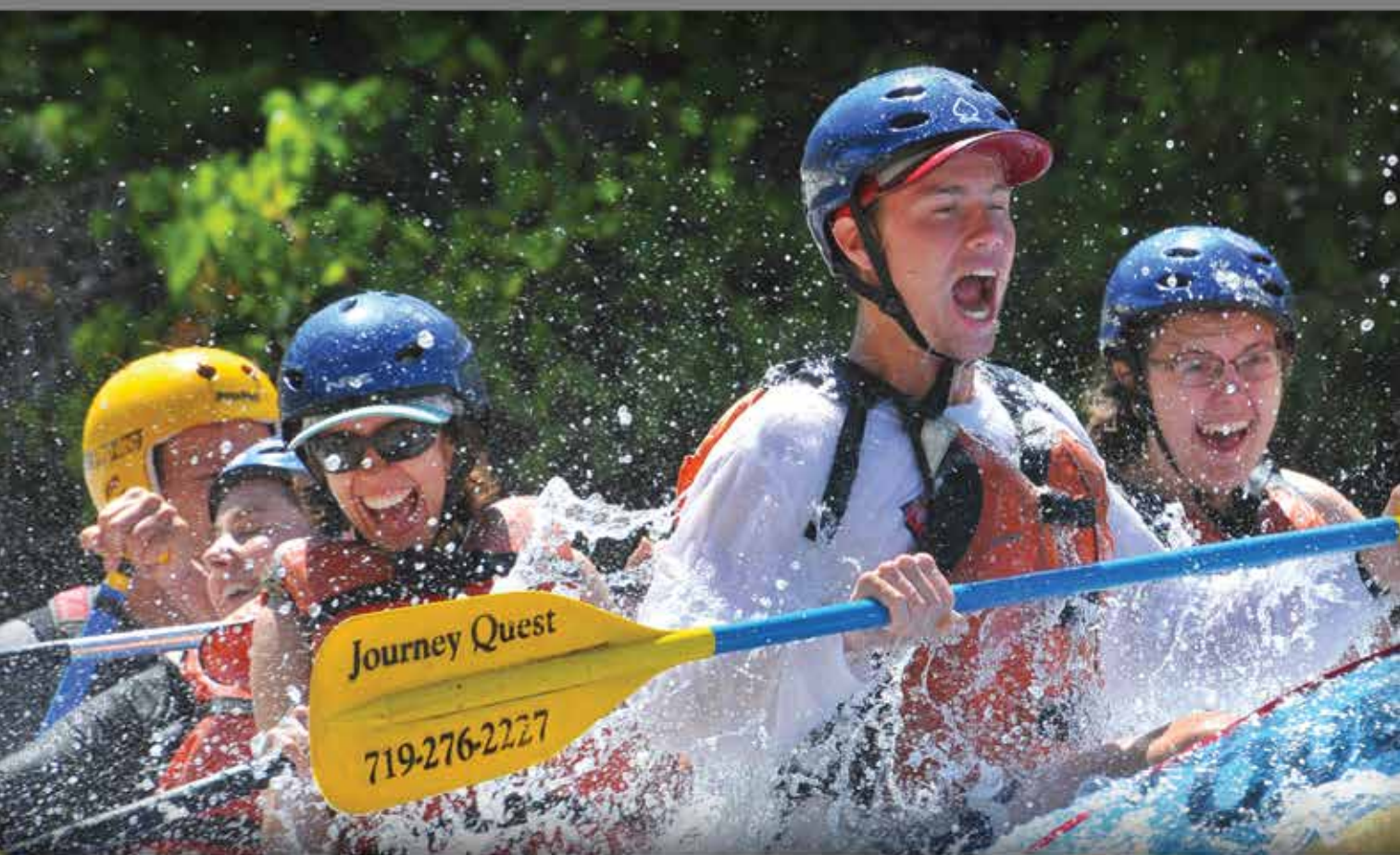




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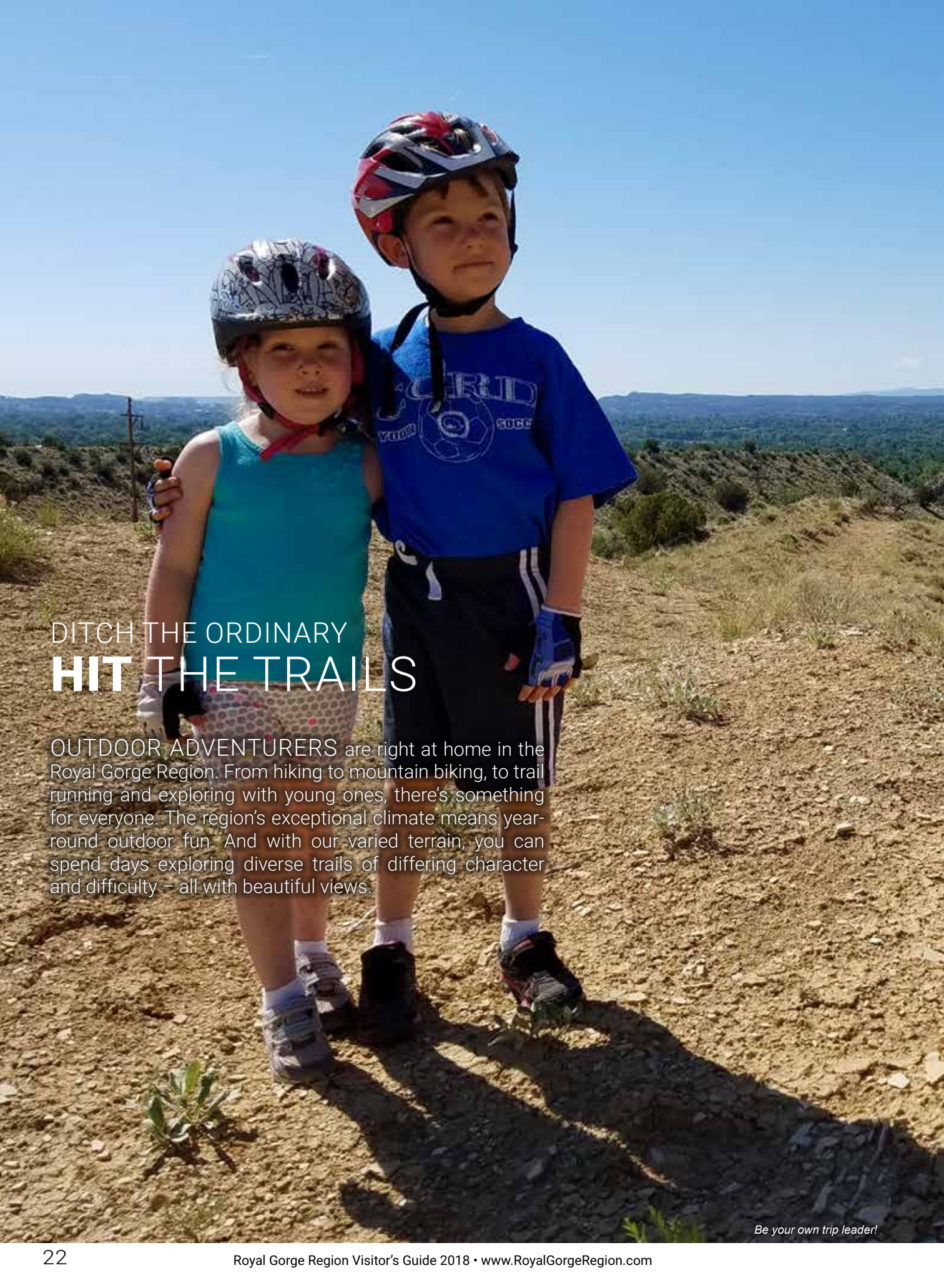
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## DITCH THE ORDINARY **HIT** THE TRAILS

OUTDOOR ADVENTURERS are right at home in the Royal Gorge Region. From hiking to mountain biking, to trail running and exploring with young ones, there's something for everyone. The region's exceptional climate means year-round outdoor fun. And with our varied terrain, you can spend days exploring diverse trails of differing character and difficulty – all with beautiful views.

*Be your own trip leader!*

# Hiking & Biking the Royal Gorge Region

Add some adventure to your visit by checking out one - or a few! - of the Royal Gorge Region's trails. Offering something for every ability level, the region continues to add miles of new trails each year. Stunning views, wildflowers, and unique geology are ready to greet you on your trail adventure!

## ROYAL GORGE PARK:

The Royal Gorge Park trails wind through piñon and juniper trees throughout the area, boasting trails from relatively easy to advanced. The Canyon Rim Trail offers up breathtaking views of the gorge, but be aware of exposed areas as you make your way along the trail. Other area trails are generally of intermediate difficulty as they meander throughout the park, and even connect with the Cañon City East Ridge Campground.

## ARKANSAS RIVERWALK TRAIL:

The Riverwalk Trail runs through some of the most scenic parts of Cañon City. Along the 7-mile stretch of trail, you'll track the river's course through the city, passing historic properties, open farmland, cottonwood groves, and city parks. The Riverwalk Trail is mostly a flat, wide maintained trail that is open during all seasons; perfect for families and cruiser bike rides!

## OIL WELL FLATS:

One of the most popular and extensive trail systems in the area, Oil Well Flats offers up about 12 miles of singletrack trails. Cruise through high desert as you ascend the Unconformity or Fire Canyon trails toward the high point of Island in the Sky for spectacular views of Cañon City and beyond to the Wet Mountains and the Sangre de Cristo range.

\*For complete maps and directions to trailheads, grab a free copy of FAR's 2018 Recreation & Trail Guide, available at the Cañon City Chamber of Commerce, Red Canyon Cycles (410 Main Street, Cañon City), and several other locations throughout the Royal Gorge Region. See [www.joinfar.org/adventureguide](http://www.joinfar.org/adventureguide) for more information!



Hiking the Water Gap Trail, South Cañon Trails



Descending Unconformity- Oil Well Flats



Guided ATV tours

## Activities



Shelf Road Climbing Area

## ATV/Four-Wheeling

The Royal Gorge Region has some of the best trails in Colorado for ATV and 4-wheel fun at the Texas Creek Recreation Area. Detailed maps are available at Cañon City Chamber of Commerce, and the Visitors Center Cabin.

Clearance varies on these routes, and the network links some ATV sections with 4-wheel drive. There are miles and miles of trails and tracks. Among the most popular 4-wheel drive routes are Bull Gulch (606), Fremont County Road 27 (27), Fernleaf Gulch Connector (6020) and Reese Gulch Bypass (6024). Popular with ATVers are East Arkansas River Overlook (6025), Cut Off (6036) and Tucker Trail (6035).

Always consult maps, check weather forecast in advance, and be aware of the BLM regulations.

The Royal Gorge Region also has several guide services – a great idea for novice riders or folks unfamiliar with Rocky Mountain terrain. Visit the combined BLM/USFS regional office at 3028 E. Main Street, Cañon City for regulations, trail maps and other outdoor recreation information.

## Rock Climbing

The Royal Gorge Region is no stranger to rock climbing. Boasting one of Colorado's largest sport climbing destinations, Shelf Road, the region is a year-round destination for rock climbers. With a wealth of cliff options at Shelf Road, you will find plenty of sunny or shady climbing areas at most of the climbing sites. The lesser-known but still awe-inspiring Tanner Dome offers adventurers single and multi-pitch climbs as well as sport and traditional/mixed routes. You'll find the climbing area by heading south on Oak Creek Grade Road, and approach via the East Bear Gulch Trail. Please note: The Tanner Dome area is closed to climbing from April 1st to August 1st for peregrine falcon nesting.

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Laura B. - California

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



Photo Courtesy Nick Landry

# Skyline Drive

Travel this one-way ridgetop for sweeping Royal Gorge Region vistas, spectacular geological wonders and along the way discover our unearthed dinosaur trackway.

## THE HISTORY

During the early 1900s, local leaders devised a plan to build a road over the sharp Hogback west of Cañon City. The unprecedented scenic thoroughfare would gift visitors and residents dramatic Colorado views and allow them to practically touch the sky.

In 1905, around 60 inmates from the Colorado State Penitentiary were assigned to construct Skyline Drive. They finished in 1906 and the city council named designated vehicle days and horse-drawn carriage days to avoid conflicts along the narrow route.

## THE GEOLOGY

Deposited sand and mud flowing in from the ancestral Rocky Mountains about 105 million years ago formed what is now known as the Dakota Hogback formation. View layers of red rock along the base of the ridge, dubbed the Fountain Formation by geologists, and see where dinosaur fossils were found in the Morrison Formation.

## THE DRIVE

Skyline Drive is paved and lies northwest of Cañon City. It travels along a narrow razorback ridge for a few miles until reaching the end of the ridge. The descent begins with a hairpin turn and winds down the eastern side of the hogback. Not for the timid driver, there are points where both sides of the roadway drop several hundred feet.

Directions: Head west of Cañon City on Highway 50 for two miles and turn right at the entrance to Skyline Drive. Take note of vehicle length restrictions.

## SIGHTS ALONG THE WAY

Plenty of pullouts and parking areas make it easy to stop and enjoy the views overlooking Cañon City, Florence, Fremont Peak and the surrounding landscape. Stop to see the Gateway Arch, an entrance marker built by inmates in 1932 using a stone from every state in the union.

Pull over near the top to view the interpretive display on the dinosaur footprint casts embedded in the cliff face. Local resident and paleontology student Bill Kurtz discovered the dinosaur trackway in 1999. Allow about one hour to explore Skyline Drive. The road is open daily during daylight hours and may close for inclement weather.

## Activities



Skyline Drive

## Geology: Dinosaur & Fossil Finds

View prehistoric tracks, walk discovery trails, search for fossils (never disturb or remove fossils) or visit the Royal Gorge Regional History Museum to see an outstanding display of fossils, dinosaur bones, and a complete Stegosaurus replica skeleton displayed as it was found in the ground in 1992.

### GARDEN PARK FOSSIL AREA

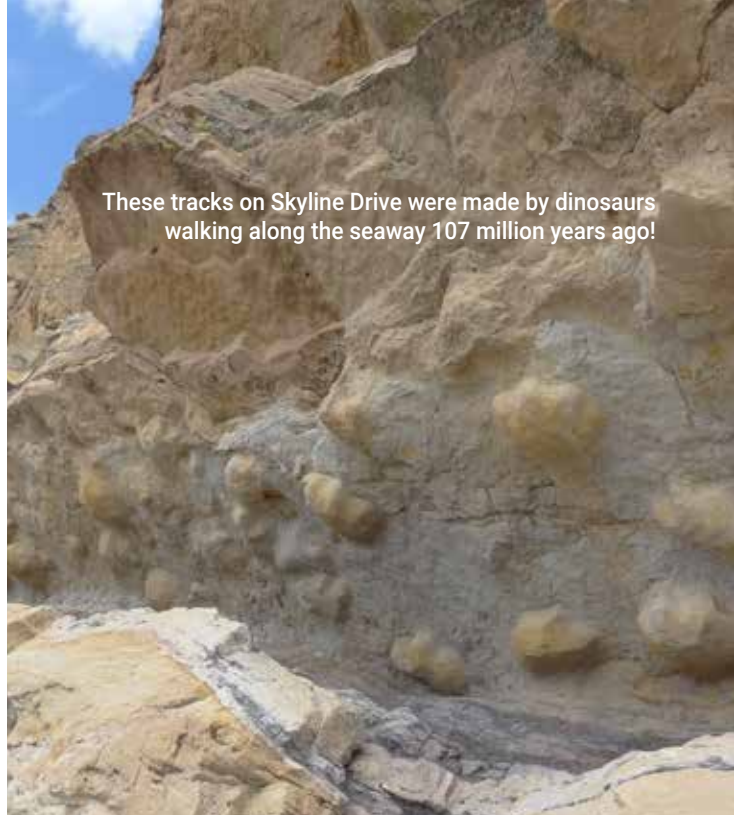
Garden Park Fossil Area, located just north of Cañon City on Red Canyon Road, is a 3,600-acre area that has been producing significant dinosaur fossils for nearly 125 years. Most of the Jurassic dinosaurs on display at Smithsonian's Museum of Natural History are from this area. Three stegosaurus skeletons, including Colorado's state fossil, were excavated here.

### INDIAN SPRINGS TRACE FOSSIL SITE

The privately owned Indian Springs Trace Fossil Site is also designated by the National Park Service as a National Natural Landmark. Located just east of Cañon City on the private Thorson Family Ranch, the National Park Service designated it as a National Natural Landmark due to the importance of the Ordovician Period (485 to 443 million years ago) trace fossils found there. These trace fossils include tracks left by trilobites, fish and other prehistoric creatures along the wet shoreline of an ancient ocean. Indian Springs is considered the best locality to study Ordovician Period trace fossils in North America because of the excellent preservation and wide variety of ichnospecies, or types of trace fossils, found there.

### ROYAL GORGE DINOSAUR EXPERIENCE

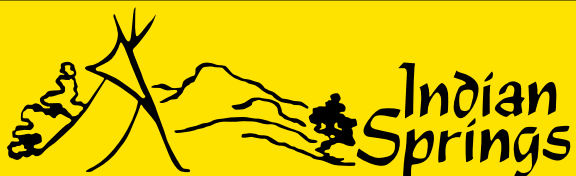
Home to a world-class collection of interactive displays, full-scale dinosaur fossil casts, real dinosaur fossils, entertaining guided tours of the exhibit halls, and outdoor animatronic dinosaur exhibits. Leave knowing a lot more about Colorado's paleontological history while also creating indelible memories of a great time spent learning, discovering and having fun with friends and family.



These tracks on Skyline Drive were made by dinosaurs walking along the seaway 107 million years ago!



Dinosaur Experience



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Photo Courtesy Nick Landry

## Activities



Photo Courtesy Char Lindner



Rocky Mountain Bighorn Sheep

# Fishing, Wildlife & Bird Watching

The Royal Gorge Region and its lands are home to an amazing variety of wildlife viewing opportunities. Keep your eyes open for **deer, bighorn sheep, bear, eagles** and other birds of prey.

Grab your binoculars and a field guide for some of the best bird watching in Colorado. Bird watchers will want to check out the large blue heron populations along County Road 69 and also along the Arkansas River. Buntings, Eagles, Kittiwakes, Goshawk, Kestrel, Woodpeckers, and Yellowthroat are also common in the region.

**Cañon City's Riverwalk Trail** follows the Arkansas River for more than seven miles, winding through wetlands, groves of cottonwoods and the parks. An early evening stroll along the Riverwalk Trail provides great opportunities for bird watching and wildlife spotting.

## LEGENDARY FISHING

The Arkansas River, with its **Gold Medal fishing** waters, is legendary and attracts anglers year-round from all over the United States. The Brown Trout population in this river is second to none and makes up the vast majority of catches, **Rainbows** and even an occasional **Cutthroat** are also found in some parts of the river.

Fly fishers are typically out year-round, but especially around the first week of May. During this time, one of the most intense **Caddis hatches** in all of the United States occurs between Cañon City and Salida. Savvy fly fishers know that some of the best dry fly fishing happens from mid-summer through the fall with grasshopper imitations.

## RIVER RECREATION

Rafts and kayaks of every size float the beautiful **Arkansas River** from spring through summer and even into early fall. Some anglers fish from rafts and enjoy a thrilling ride through the rapids from Texas Creek to Parkdale and even through the gorge! A recreational raft trip is a good way to enjoy the river when the flows may be too swift for quality fishing. Check with local outfitters for guided fishing or rafting trips on the Arkansas River.

# Agricultural Heritage & Agritourism

**The oldest orchards** in Colorado are here! The first apple trees (brought across the Great Plains in oxcarts) were planted in the Florence area by Jesse Frazer in the late 1860's and later by Italian families, along with grapes in Spring Creek/Brookside area. The Arkansas River and its streams were the source of early irrigation works and the area's elevation, climate, sheltering hills and tillable soil provided a good setting for orchards, farms and ranches.

**Initial markets** for Fremont County's agricultural products included early Colorado mining camps, such as Cripple Creek and Leadville, for fresh fruit, vegetables, dairy products, meat and other provisions. By 1888 total fruit shipments from Fremont County were over 700,000 pounds of primarily apples but also including pears, grapes, plums, peaches, strawberries and other berries. Fremont County's 40,000 bushels of apples, compare to that year's production of 60,000 bushels for the entire state!


**Private investment** stimulated the development of the agricultural industry, providing irrigation canals, storage reservoirs, and land preparation. By 1893 over 45,000 acres of land was in agricultural production. Irrigation was provided by 13 canals from the Arkansas River, Grape Creek, etc. Businessmen, schoolteachers and other residents had small orchards or gardens producing fruit, berries and other crops for seasonal sale as supplemental income. Italian workers enjoyed a taste of their home country thru wine from grapevines they grew as a family tradition.

**Associated enterprises** like packing houses, flour mills, an ice plant, a Libby-McNeil-Libby pickle plant, cider mills, a creamery, soda bottling companies prospered. In 1905, Armour & Company of Chicago marketed Fremont County fruit and produce in major cities from Coast-to-Coast as part of their extensive distribution network. An average of 800 rail cars (some refrigerated) per year of agricultural products were shipped to market.

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Santa Express Train at the Royal Gorge Route

## JANUARY

### 5 First Friday

The first Friday of every month head down Main Street in Cañon City from 5:00 to 7:00 and check out all the stores that stay open late just for YOU! Music, food, art, and galleries!

## FEBRUARY

### 1-28 Fremont County Schools Show

Fremont County Arts Council

### 2 First Friday

The first Friday of every month head down Main Street in Cañon City from 5:00 to 7:00 and check out all the stores that stay open late just for YOU! Music, food, art, and more!

### 10 16th Annual Chocolate Lover's Walk

Downtown Cañon City  
www.ccblossomfestival.com

### 17 Snow Queen 5K

Bringing women together during winter for health. www.joinfar.org

### 25 Orchard of Hope's 7th Annual Gourmet Sampler

Local restaurants and vendors showcase the best of Florence's culinary scene. 719-275-0089

## MARCH

### 1-31 Pottery Show

Fremont Center for the Arts  
www.fremontarts.org

### 2 First Friday

The first Friday of every month head down Main Street in Cañon City from 5:00 to 7:00 and check out all the stores that stay open late just for YOU! Music, food, art, and galleries!

## APRIL

### 1-30 Pottery Show

Fremont County Arts Council

### 1 Easter Sunrise Service

Sunrise service held at the Royal Gorge Bridge & Park.  
www.royalgorgebridge.com

### 1-30 Fremont County Appreciation Month

Royal Gorge Bridge & Park. www.royalgorgebridge.com

### 6 First Friday

The first Friday of every month head down Main Street in Cañon City from 5:00 to 7:00 and check out all the stores that stay open late just for YOU! Music, food, art, and galleries!

### 14 John Fielder Exhibition

Indoor and outdoor photography clinics followed by dinner and a presentation. www.joinfar.org

## MAY

### 1-31 Fremont County Appreciation Month

Royal Gorge Bridge & Park. www.royalgorgebridge.com

### 2-6 80th Annual Music & Blossom Festival

Parade, arts & crafts fair, food vendors, carnival, rodeo, and so much more. www.ccblossomfestival.com

### 4 First Friday

The first Friday of every month head down Main Street in Cañon City from 5:00 to 7:00 and check out all the stores that stay open late just for YOU! Music, food, art, and galleries!

### 5 runBlossom 5k and Half Marathon races

7:30 am Centennial Park www.runblossom.org

### 5-6 Royal Gorge Pro Rodeo

Held at the Fremont Rodeo Grounds. 719-275-0437

### 4-6 71th Annual Juried Blossom Fine Art Exhibit & Sale

Fremont Center for the Arts, 505 Macon, 719-275-2790,  
www.fremontarts.org

### 19 36th Annual Antique & Special Interest Car Show

Royal Gorge Chapter VMCCA. Held on the Abbey grounds.  
www.canoncity.com



FAR's Run The Rim



Photo Courtesy Char Lindner - Royal Gorge Rodeo

# Calendar of Events 2018

### 19 After FlashBack

50s themed street party. Dance the night away with live music in historic downtown Main Street. Presented by the Fremont Community Foundation.

### 28 Memorial Day Weekend Celebration

Daily Entertainment at Royal Gorge Bridge & Park.  
[www.royalgorgebridge.com](http://www.royalgorgebridge.com)

## JUNE

### 1 First Friday

The first Friday of every month head down Main Street in Cañon City from 5:00 to 7:00 and check out all the stores that stay open late just for YOU! Music, food, art, and galleries! Jazz Downtown located at Macon Plaza, 6:30 – 8:00 pm

### 9-10 Escape in Time to Steampunk and Wine

Held in Florence at Pioneer Park

### 5, 12, 19, 26 Cañon City Farmers' Market

Tuesdays (8-1) at Veterans Park. Local Farmers, Bakers, Artisans & Nonprofits gather weekly to connect with the community & visitors.

### 16 Art in the Park at the Royal Gorge Bridge & Park

10 am to 6 pm. [www.royalgorgebridge.com](http://www.royalgorgebridge.com)

### 22-23 Royal Gorge Whitewater Festival

Fremont Community Foundation  
[www.royalgorgewhitewaterfestival.com](http://www.royalgorgewhitewaterfestival.com)

### 30-July 4 4th of July Celebration at the Royal Gorge Bridge & Park

Daily Entertainment at Royal Gorge Bridge & Park.  
[www.royalgorgebridge.com](http://www.royalgorgebridge.com)

## JULY

### 1-4 Fourth of July Celebration

Daily Entertainment at Royal Gorge Bridge & Park.  
[www.royalgorgebridge.com](http://www.royalgorgebridge.com)

### 4 Florence's Fourth of July Celebration

### 4 Cañon City Fireworks

### 3, 10, 17, 24, 31 Cañon City Farmers' Market

Tuesdays (8-1) at Veterans Park. Local Farmers, Bakers, Artisans & Nonprofits gather weekly to connect with the community & visitors.

### 6 First Friday

The first Friday of every month head down Main Street in Cañon City from 5:00 to 7:00 and check out all the stores that stay open late just for YOU! Music, food, art, and galleries! Jazz Downtown located at Macon Plaza, 6:30 – 8:00 pm

### 13 Back the Blue Bash

Fundraising dinner and dance to help support Families in Blue. Held at the Abbey Event Center.

### 28 Run the Rim, 5k & 10k trail

Run/race with stunning views of the Royal Gorge. [www.joinfar.org](http://www.joinfar.org).

### 28- Aug. 5 Fremont County Fair

Held at the Fremont County Fairgrounds in Cañon City.

## AUGUST

### 1 Abbey 7th Annual Religious Art Show

Held at the Abbey

### 3 First Friday

The first Friday of every month head down Main Street in Cañon City from 5:00 to 7:00 and check out all the stores that stay open late just for YOU! Music, food, art, and galleries! Jazz Downtown located at Macon Plaza, 6:30 – 8:00 pm

### 7, 14, 21, 28 Cañon City Farmers' Market

Tuesdays (8-1) at Veterans Park. Local Farmers, Bakers, Artisans & Nonprofits gather weekly to connect with the community & visitors.

### 25 FARM to Table Relay

5k relay combined with an after-run lunch! [www.joinfar.org](http://www.joinfar.org)

## SEPTEMBER

### 1-30 2nd Annual Spoke Art & Vintage Bike Show

[www.joinfar.org](http://www.joinfar.org)

### 1-3 Labor Day Weekend Celebration

Daily Entertainment at the Royal Gorge Bridge & Park.  
[www.royalgorgebridge.com](http://www.royalgorgebridge.com)

### 4, 11, 18, 25 Cañon City Farmers' Market

Tuesdays (8-1) at Veterans Park. Local Farmers, Bakers, Artisans & Nonprofits gather weekly to connect with the community & visitors.

### 7 First Friday

The first Friday of every month head down Main Street in Cañon City from 5:00 to 7:00. Music, food, art, and galleries! Jazz Downtown located at Macon Plaza, 6:30 – 8:00 pm

### 8 John Wells Memorial Toy Run

Presented by the Fremont Community Foundation.

### 14-15 Florence Pioneer Days

Florence celebrates its Pioneer Days.

### 29-30 Harvest Festival

Held at the Winery at Holy Cross Abbey Wine, music, art and food!  
719-276-5191

### Mid Sept - Oct. 15 Fremont County Fall Heritage Days

## OCTOBER

### 1-15 Fremont County Fall Heritage Days

### 5 First Friday

The first Friday of every month head down Main Street in Cañon City from 5:00 to 7:00. Music, food, art, and galleries!

### 6 Rim to Rim Royal Gorge Races

A 5k and 10k race through the park and finishing on the Royal Gorge Bridge.  
[www.rimtorimroyalgorge.com](http://www.rimtorimroyalgorge.com)

### 6 Penrose Apple Days

### 13 Bikes and Brews

50k mountain bike race to support FAR. [www.joinfar.org](http://www.joinfar.org)

### 14 Sons of Italy Spaghetti Dinner

Florence Elk Lodge. 719-429-6667

### 20 Boo at the Bridge

Royal Gorge Bridge & Park. [www.royalgorgebridge.com](http://www.royalgorgebridge.com)

### 27 Spooktacular & Trunk or Treat in Cañon City

## NOVEMBER

### 1-30 UAACOG The Art of Recycling Art Show

[www.joinfar.org](http://www.joinfar.org)

### 2 First Friday

The first Friday of every month head down Main Street in Cañon City from 5:00 to 7:00. Music, food, art, and galleries!

### 23 Christmas Tree Lighting

Tree at 9th and Hwy 50, just west of the Welcome to Cañon City Sign.

### 24 Santa Claus

Downtown Florence

## DECEMBER

### 2 Parade of Lights

Downtown Cañon City, 719-275-2331

### 7 First Friday

The first Friday of every month head down Main Street in Cañon City from 5:00 to 7:00. Music, food, art, and galleries!

### 1-30 Holiday Artisan Market

Fremont Center for the Arts, 505 Macon, 719-275-2790  
[www.fremontarts.org](http://www.fremontarts.org)

### 1, 8 & 15 Pictures with Santa Clause

At the Chamber, Cañon City

*Event times and dates may have changed since printing, check [www.royalgorgetravel.com](http://www.royalgorgetravel.com) and Cañon City Chamber of Commerce to verify.*



Photo Courtesy Nick Landry - Fireworks over Cañon City

# Signature Annual Events

80TH ANNUAL MUSIC & BLOSSOM FESTIVAL  
MAY 2-6, 2018

Nothing says authentic America quite like a parade with fire trucks, horseback riders, floats, Shriners on scooters and music-music-music! Cañon City's 80th annual Music and Blossom Festival takes place May 2-6, 2018, and the celebration will once again include high school and middle school marching bands from across the country competing before thousands of onlookers. The festival also boasts an arts & crafts fair, food vendors, 5k and half marathon foot races, a rodeo and much more! Visit [www.ccblossomfestival.com](http://www.ccblossomfestival.com) for more info, email [ccblossomfestival@inbox.com](mailto:ccblossomfestival@inbox.com) or call 719-239-1743.

ROYAL GORGE WHITEWATER FESTIVAL  
JUNE 22-23, 2018

The fourth weekend in June is wet and wild during the Royal Gorge Whitewater River Festival when thrill & adventure seekers gather on the Arkansas in and near Cañon City for two days of kayak and raft races, paddle board sprints, inner tube races, fly casting contests, triathlon events, disc golf tournament, live music, Fun Zone for kids, lots of food and, yes, beer. For information on the 2018 event, visit [www.royalgorgewhitewaterfestival.com](http://www.royalgorgewhitewaterfestival.com). 719-275-1578

PIONEER DAYS  
SEPTEMBER 14-16, 2018

Florence celebrates its Pioneer Days in September with a lively parade that features a salute to the town's founders. Food, games, a tractor pull, street dance, Junktique sale and arts and crafts fair are a few highlights of the three-day event. [www.florencepioneerdays.com](http://www.florencepioneerdays.com)

HARVEST FESTIVAL ON WINERY GROUNDS  
SEPTEMBER 28-29, 2018

Wine, artisans, food and entertainment come together the last weekend of September at the annual Harvest Festival on the grounds at the Winery at Holy Cross Abbey. The fruit of the vine is celebrated, as well as tasty morsels, fine arts & crafts and live music. Call 719-276-5191 for information. [www.abbeywinery.com/harvest-fest](http://www.abbeywinery.com/harvest-fest)

## Calendar of Events 2018

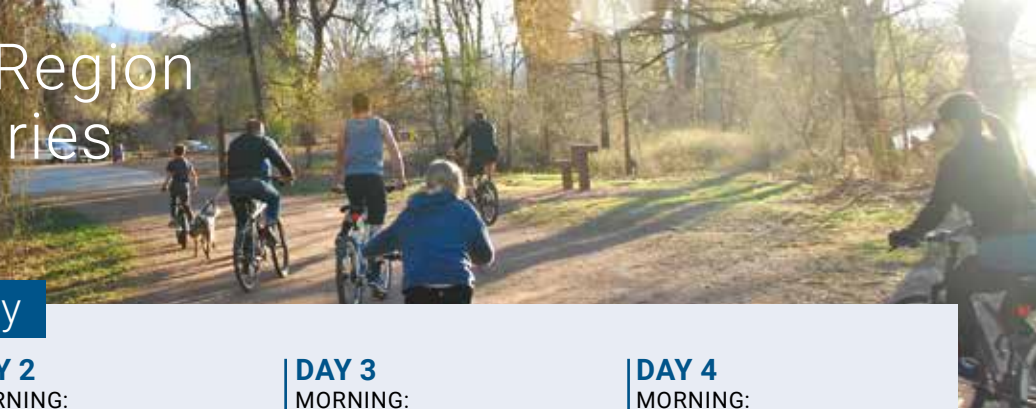


Photos Courtesy Nick Landry



Kayak surfing in the Centennial Park play wave.  
Photo by Scott Majors.

# Royal Gorge Region 4- Day Itineraries



## Family Fun Itinerary

### DAY 1

#### MORNING:

- Cañon City: Play at Centennial Park
- Watch rafters & kayakers in river
- Stroll/Bike along the Riverwalk Trail

#### LUNCH/AFTERNOON:

- Take the train into the Royal Gorge
- Grab an ice cream cone
- Walk along Main Street
- Check in and rest up at your hotel

#### DINNER/EVENING:

- Dinner in Cañon City
- Drive over Skyline Drive
- View dinosaur trackway
- Take a sunset hike in the Hogbacks

### DAY 2

#### MORNING:

- River! Take your family rafting or fishing

#### LUNCH/AFTERNOON:

- Visit Dinosaur Experience

#### DINNER/EVENING:

- Dinner atop 8-Mile Hill
- Royal Gorge Park: Hike Canyon Rim Trail or:
- Giant Slide at the KOA Fun Country

### DAY 3

#### MORNING:

- Tunnel Drive: Cruiser bike ride or walk

#### LUNCH/AFTERNOON:

- Grab a sack lunch
- Royal Gorge Park: Picnic at the Elk Horn Picnic Area
- Visit the Royal Gorge Bridge

#### Dinner/Evening:

- Dinner in Cañon City
- Catch a movie or hang out at a local park

### DAY 4

#### MORNING:

- Zip Line tour

#### LUNCH/AFTERNOON:

- Drive to Florence
- Enjoy lunch in downtown Florence
- Shop Main Street & visit Pioneer Park

#### DINNER/EVENING:

- Discover a new Florence eatery for dinner
- Enjoy your trip home; come back soon!

## Leisure Itinerary

### DAY 1

#### MORNING:

- Visit the Prison Museum
- Self-Guided Heritage Tour of Cañon City (See pg. 55)

#### LUNCH/AFTERNOON:

- Lunch in Cañon City
- Stroll along the Riverwalk Trail
- Check in and rest up at your hotel

#### DINNER/EVENING:

- Take the Dinner Train through the Royal Gorge

### DAY 2

#### MORNING:

- Breakfast in Cañon City
- Walk along the Tunnel Drive Trail, or:
- Go fishing

#### LUNCH/AFTERNOON:

- Lunch atop 8-Mile Hill
- Visit the Royal Gorge Bridge

#### DINNER/EVENING:

- Drive over Skyline Drive
- Check out the dinosaur trackway
- Dinner - Main Street in Cañon City

### DAY 3

#### A DAY IN FLORENCE

#### MORNING:

- Shopping & antiquing Main Street, Florence
- Visit art galleries, too

#### LUNCH/AFTERNOON:

- Enjoy a lunch downtown
- Self-guided tour of Florence (see pg. 55)
- More shopping downtown, or:
- Visit the brewery

#### Dinner/Evening:

- Dinner in Florence

### DAY 4

#### MORNING:

- Grab a lunch to-go
- Drive along the Scenic Gold Belt Byway, Phantom Canyon Road

#### LUNCH/AFTERNOON:

- Find a nice picnic spot for lunch
- Make your way back to Cañon City
- Wine tasting at the local winery

#### DINNER/EVENING:

- Dinner - Main Street, Cañon City
- Stroll along Main Street
- Enjoy your trip home; come back soon!

## Adventure Itinerary

### DAY 1

#### MORNING:

- Cañon City: Picnic breakfast: at the train park & pump track
- Take a few laps around the pump track
- Bike along the Riverwalk Trail

#### LUNCH/AFTERNOON:

- Lunch in Cañon City
- Go rafting!

#### DINNER/EVENING:

- Dinner - Main Street Cañon City
- Grab an ice cream cone
- Stroll along Main Street

### DAY 2

#### MORNING:

- Pick up a lunch to-go for later
- Royal Gorge Park: hike/bike Canyon Rim Trail , or:
- Segway tour

#### LUNCH/AFTERNOON:

- Eat lunch on the trail or:
- Picnic at the Elk Horn Picnic Area
- Visit the Royal Gorge Bridge
- Try: Skycoaster or Zip Line

#### DINNER/EVENING:

- Dinner atop 8-Mile Hill
- Drive over Skyline Drive
- View dinosaur trackway
- Take a sunset hike in the Hogbacks

### DAY 3

#### MORNING:

- Zip Line tour

#### LUNCH/AFTERNOON:

- Lunch in Cañon City
- Jeep Tour across the region

#### Dinner/Evening:

- Dinner in downtown Florence
- Antiquing and shopping in Florence

### DAY 4

#### MORNING:

- Mountain bike tour, or:
- Try fly-fishing

#### LUNCH/AFTERNOON:

- Lunch in Cañon City
- Heli Tour
- Visit Dinosaur Experience
- Master the Dino Ropes Course

#### DINNER/EVENING:

- Dinner on 8-Mile Hill or in Cañon City
- Enjoy your trip home; come back soon!





## Arts & Culture



Photo Courtesy Jim Redhawk - Fremont Center for the Arts



Photo Courtesy Jim Redhawk - Sculpture Garden, FCA

# Arts & Culture

First-time visitors are immediately struck by the mild climate and the breathtaking natural beauty of the Royal Gorge Region, but often it's the rich artistic expression and cultural diversity that brings people back.

## LIVE THEATER

Musical and theater offerings are varied – from lavish stage productions presented by the Fremont Civic Theatre to solo and ensemble chamber recitals at the Fremont Center for the Arts and summer-long outdoor pop/jazz/bluegrass/eclectic musical performances in the park. In Florence, the Bell Tower presents varied concerts monthly. The historic Rialto Theater hosts periodic, and varied events throughout the year.

## PUBLIC ART

Public art in the Royal Gorge Region is on display in downtown Cañon City. Macon Plaza, the pedestrian-only area on Macon Street between Fifth and Sixth Streets in front of the Fremont Center for the Arts includes a Sculpture Garden across from the newly restored Carnegie Library. Along Main Street you'll find over a dozen changing displays. The Florence Art Council has purchased and placed art throughout the downtown as well.

## THE ROYAL GORGE REGIONAL MUSEUM & HISTORY CENTER

The Royal Gorge Regional Museum & History Center is the premier research facility for local historical information for Fremont County and the surrounding Royal Gorge Region. We are located in downtown Cañon City at 612 Royal Gorge Blvd., in the historic Municipal Building. Our Research Room has family and address files for a number of local residents, businesses, and homes. We also have other research materials such as historical photographs, local newspapers on microfilm, and area maps.

The museum is primarily located on the second floor of the historic Municipal Building with three separate galleries showcasing locally-found fossils, local artists and rotating exhibits like the current "Around the World in 80 Artifacts" exhibit. To round out the museum tour, 1860's Anson Rudd pioneer family cabin, the oldest residential structure in Cañon City, is open for visits behind the museum, weather permitting.

The Royal Gorge Regional Museum & History Center is open Wednesdays-Saturdays from 10am to 4pm. Visit us on the web at [rgmhc.org](http://rgmhc.org). Like us on Facebook. Or give us a call at 719-269-9036.

## THE FREMONT CENTER FOR THE ARTS

The Fremont Center for the Arts (FCA) was founded in 1947 and has the distinction of being the oldest privately-run art center West of the Mississippi River. We are located in the heart of downtown Cañon City in the former 1931 Post Office building, which is listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

Our mission is to foster and enrich the cultural and economic health for the greater Fremont County region through partnerships, presentations, education, and preservation of the arts for present and future generations.

We offer interactive classes on subjects from figure drawing, creative writing, portraiture, matting and framing, ceramics, dance, and more.

Each month the main gallery show changes, offering artists of all levels an opportunity to display their works. Our permanent collection started in 1947 and continues today with over 300 fabulous pieces. The collection is constantly rotated throughout the building and speaks to the art culture of Fremont County.

## MUSEUM OF COLORADO PRISONS

The Museum of Colorado Prisons is quite unique, located next door to the Colorado Territorial Correctional Facility, an operational prison which opened in 1871. The Museum of Colorado Prisons houses no inmates within its walls. Instead, the former Women's Correctional Facility contains 30-plus cells, each transformed into exhibits covering more than 140 years of the state's incarceration history. Displays encompass everything from confiscated contraband, inmate arts and crafts, original artifacts, and thousands of inmate records. Besides the audio tour or self-guided tour booklets (available in 4 languages), the museum invites visitors to participate in occasional events every year, such as nighttime ghost-hunting expeditions. Make the time to do time with us.



Photo Courtesy Nick Landry - Fremont Center of the Arts

An advertisement for the Museum of Colorado Prisons. The top part has a red banner that says "COME DO TIME WITH US!". Below that, it says "Explore the history of Colorado Prisons. See the stories behind the walls!". There is a circular inset image showing a group of people in historical attire. To the right, it says "Reg. Admission: Adults: \$8 • Children: \$6". The bottom part of the ad has the text "MUSEUM of COLORADO PRISONS" and the phone number "719-269-3015". There is also a small graphic of a key and a map showing the location at the intersection of 201 N. 1st St. and Greenwood Ave. in Cañon City, CO. The bottom of the ad lists the hours: "Open Everyday 10am - 6pm (May 15th - Sept 30th)" and "Wed-Sun 10am - 5pm (Oct 1st - May 14th)". The website "prisonmuseum.org" is listed at the bottom.

## Featured Western Communities Businesses

1. Bighorn Park RV
2. Cotopaxi / Arkansas River KOA
3. Hillside Colorado Cottages
4. Journey Quest
5. The Lamp Post Lodge

6. Sweetwater River Ranch



## Featured Canon City Businesses

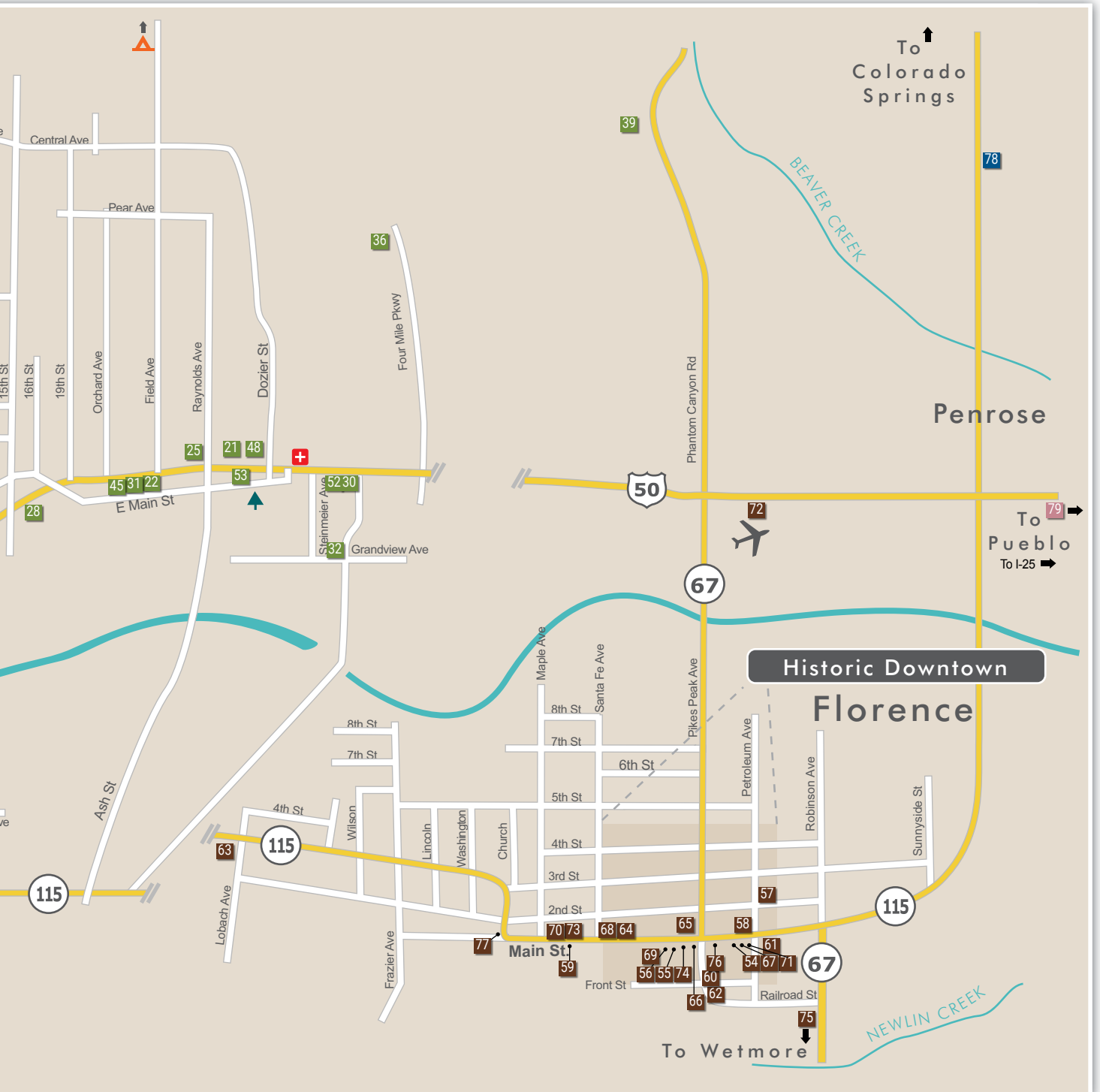
21. The Abbey
22. A Raft Masters Adventure
23. Arkansas River Tours
24. Aspen Meadows Handcrafted Soaps
25. Budget Host
26. Cañon City Chamber of Commerce
27. Cañon City Segway Tours
28. Cañon City Mugs
29. Chuck's Seasoned Grill
30. Cold Stone Creamery
31. Colorado Jeep Tours
32. Colon Orchards/Corn Maze
33. Cup & Cone
34. Dawson Ranch Stables
35. The Dungeon Body Art Studio
36. Four Mile Ranch Golf Club
37. Fremont Center for the Arts
38. Gatzke Homes
39. Indian Springs Ranch Campground
40. Lost Paddle Rafting
41. Mr. Ed's Family Restaurant
42. Museum of Colorado Prisons
43. My Brother's Place/ My Sister's Place
44. Nick Landry Photography
45. Ortega's Mexican Restaurant
46. Pizza Madness
47. Properties of Colorado
48. Quality Inn & Suites
49. JB's at the Royal Gorge Tap House
50. Royal Gorge Regional Museum & History Center
51. Royal Gorge Route Railroad
52. Toreros Mexican Restaurant



## Featured 8 Mile Hill Businesses

7. American Adventure Expeditions
8. Clear Creek Rafting
9. Echo Canyon River Expeditions
10. iLean Ride Co.

11. My Sister's Place
12. Performance Tours
13. River Runners
14. Royal Gorge Bridge & Park
15. Royal Gorge Cabins

16. Royal Gorge Dinosaur Experience
17. Royal Gorge KOA & Fun Country
18. Royal Gorge Helitours
19. Royal Gorge Rafting & Zipline Tours
20. Royal Gorge Stables



53. Travel Inn Motel
-  St. Thomas More Hospital & 24-hour E.R.
-  Centura Health Urgent Care Cañon City

## Featured Florence Businesses

54. Antique Warehouse
55. Aspen Leaf Bakery
56. Barn & Barrel
57. The Bell Tower
58. Blue Heron
59. The Blue Spruce
60. Florence Chamber of Commerce

61. Florence Consignment Corner
62. Florence Pioneer Museum
63. Florence Rose Bed & Breakfast
64. Heartland Antiques
65. Ito Japanese Steakhouse & Sushi
66. The Loralie Antique Mall
67. Oak Creek Tavern
68. Papa's Italian Restaurant
69. Quincys Steak & Spirits
70. Reeves Real Estate
71. Royal Contemporary
72. Royal Gorge Skydive

73. Salvage, Antiques, Vintage, Etc.
74. Spirit Riders Western Emporium
75. Super 8
76. Two Sisters Restaurant
77. Willies Antiques & Collectables

## Featured Colorado Springs Businesses

78. Juniper Valley Ranch

## Featured Pueblo Businesses

79. Pueblo Zoo



*Fremont Center for the Arts*

## Discover Downtown Cañon City

Visit downtown Cañon City for a veritable treasure trove of shops, restaurants, architecture, and attractions situated in buildings on the National Historic Register.

An ideal mix of historic and modern, Main Street Cañon City unveils pieces of our town's mid-1800s founding through shops and restaurants situated in National Historical Register buildings.

Shop, enjoy lunch, browse boutiques, and take in galleries and public art. Stop to marvel at turn-of-the-century details and craftsmanship in the amethyst glass skylights along the sidewalk at Fourth Street and Main. Or view remnants of below-ground shops that were part of the late 1800s' McClure House/ Strathmore Hotel, believed to be the oldest building in Colorado continuously used as a hotel.

Local dining options run the gamut from epicurean to mom's home-cooking. Linger over coffee and pastries, indulge in authentic Mexican, or treat yourself to Italian and family-friendly burger mastery. Nosh on pizza with a side of entertainment. Laugh over wings and beer and a fierce game of 8-ball. Or kick back and take in the relaxed surroundings as you sample homemade fare and chat up the locals.

Spend the day shopping for soul-stirring books, new and consigned boutique clothing and shoes, smithed and handmade jewelry, fine art by the well-known and the up-and-coming, handcrafted furniture, sporting goods, soaps and lotions, special gifts, knickknacks and prized antique finds.

For the ultimate in relaxation, visit one of our many salons, day spas and massage therapy studios. And, of course, get in your cultural fix at the galleries along Main and Macon. Stroll public art displays and view intriguing sculpted works like John Alderman's cougar and Bobbie Carlyle's two young girls and an ethereal angel.

Burn off some energy at one of Cañon City's parks. Downtown, check out Centennial Park adjacent to the river. Or make some laps at the nearby pump track: Enjoy the park's new playground and splash pad.

## Downtown Cañon City



*Enjoying Centennial Park's new Splash Pad.*



*Historic Main Street*



Main Street Artz Sculpture

**Hand Dipped Ice Cream** **Open Daily** **Locally Owned**

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## Cañon City Dining

Looking for a family night out, complete with burgers and nachos or pizza and a show? How about video games and microbrews? Or a romantic date night spent over homemade pasta and special occasion wine?

The local dining scene covers all of that and more. Start your day with a newspaper and house-made pastries at one of our friendly coffee shops or bakeries. Catch up with friends and family over happy hour bites, plates of enchiladas or authentic Chinese. Splurge on French fine dining or a juicy steak dinner. Or, just relax and people-watch at one of the many popular watering holes.

Whatever you're craving, there's a Cañon City menu ready to meet your culinary wish.

### Dining



Photos Courtesy Nick Landry

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PLU 91

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Colorado's Favorite  
Fried Chicken & Country Dinners!  
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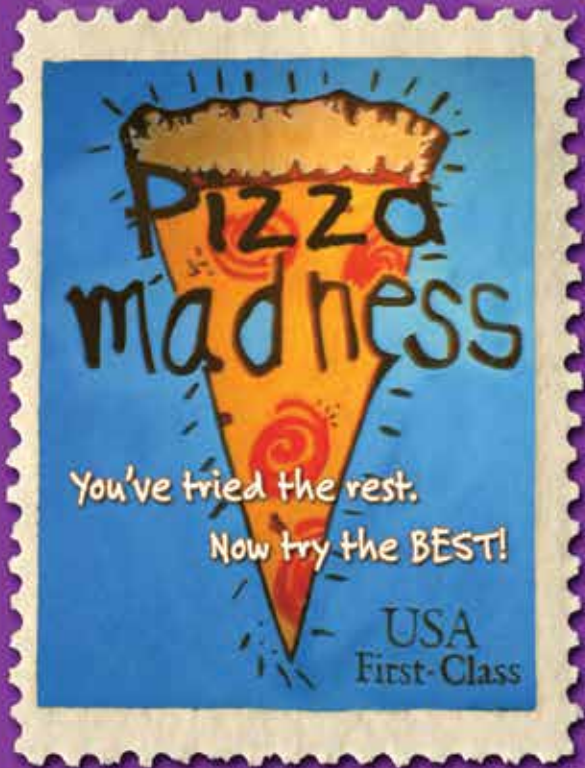
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Cafe 1230 at the Royal Gorge Bridge & Park

Dining



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 Family Style Restaurant  
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Take Out & Daily Specials  
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 Homemade Pies & Cinnamon Rolls

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 GORGE



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 NEW MENU



413 Main St.  
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 303-345-4141

# Dining

	Cuisine	Meals Served	Beer / Wine	Take-Out	Groups	Catering	TVs	Reservations	Kid's Menu	Happy Hour	Hours (May vary seasonally)	Days Closed	FEATURES / COMMENTS
<b>Aspen Leaf Bakery &amp; Cafe</b> • 113 Main Street Florence • (719) 784-3834	Breakfast & Sandwiches	B, L	◆	◆				◆	◆		Su-M 11a-3p Tu-Th 8a-4p Fr-Sa 8a-5p		Quiche, Biscuits & Gravy, Burritos, Pastries, Soup & Sandwiches
<b>Cafe 1230</b> • Located in Visitors Center at Royal Gorge Bridge & Park • (719) 275-7507	American	L, D	◆	◆	◆	◆		◆	◆		Open Daily 10a Closing hours vary		Food with a view: •access with paid admission
 <b>Cañon City MUGS</b> • 1520 Royal Gorge Blvd Canon City • (719) 276-5348	Homemade Classic American	B, L, D	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆			Espresso Bar, Sports Bar, Happy Hour, Live Music, Karaoke, Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
<b>Chuck's Seasoned Grill</b> • 325 Main Street Cañon City • (719) 275-2216	American	B, L	◆	◆						◆	open daily 6a-2p Sunday 7a-1p	Open 7 Days A Week	Quiet Downtown Cafe Known for Homemade Green Chili, Very Friendly Staff Serving Breakfast & Lunch
<b>Cold Stone Creamery</b> • 127 Justice Center Rd. Cañon City • (719) 276-1166 	Dessert	L, D		◆	◆	◆					12:00pm (noon) until 9pm, every day	Open every day except some holidays	Fun, friendly service serving super premium ice cream made fresh in store!
<b>ITO Japanese Steakhouse &amp; Sushi</b> 114 W Main St. • Florence • (719) 784-7556 	Japanese, Thai Food	L, D	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	M-Th: 10:30a-9p F-Sa: 10:30a-9:30p	Sunday	Japanese and Thai Food
<b>Juniper Valley Ranch</b> 16350 HWY 115, Colorado Springs • (719) 576-0741	American, Country	L, D	◆	◆	◆			◆			F-Sa: 5p-8p Su: 1p-7p *Th: 5p-8p (summer only)	Monday Tuesday Wednesday	Serving Colorado's Favorite Fried Chicken and Homemade Country Dinners For 67 Years!
<b>Mr. Ed's</b> • 1201 Royal Gorge Boulevard Cañon City • (719) 275-7022 	American	B, L, D		◆	◆			◆	◆		M-Tu: 6a-2p W-Su: 6a-8p		American. Homemade Baked Goods
<b>Oak Creek Grill and Tavern</b> 114 East Main St., Florence • (719) 784-1999	Southwest/ American	L, D	◆	◆	◆			◆	◆		open daily 11a -close		Family-friendly restaurant and tavern serving Southwest flavor or American favorites.
<b>Ortega's Restaurant</b> • 2301 East Main Street Cañon City • (719) 275-9437 	Mexican American	B, L, D	◆	◆	◆			◆	◆		Tu: 7:30a-8p F-Sa: 7:30a-8p Su: 7:30a-1p	Monday Wednesday Thursday	Mexican, American
<b>Papa's Italian Restaurant</b> 132 W Main St, Florence • (719) 784-7888	Italian	L, D	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	M-Th 11am-8:30pm, F-Sa 11am-9pm, Su noon-7pm		Best New York Style Pizza, Electrodeco decor, Virtual Reality-individual or parties.
 <b>Pizza Madness</b> • 509 Main St. Cañon City • (719) 276-3088 	Italian	L, D	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆		Su-Th: 11a-9p F-Sa: 11a-9:30p		Handmade Pizza, Sandwiches, Salads, Pasta
<b>The Restaurant at Quality Inn &amp; Suites</b> • Cañon City • (719) 275-8676 	American	D	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	4pm-9pm		Full service catering for parties of up to 200
<b>Quincys Steak &amp; Spirits</b> • 121 West Main St. Florence • (719) 784-1913	Steakhouse	D	◆	◆	◆						Dinner served nightly 4pm to 9pm		Prime Rib, Filet Mignon, Great Bar!
<b>JB's at the Royal Gorge Tap House</b> 413 Main St., Cañon City • (719) 345-4141 	Brew Pub	L, D, Brunch	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆		Su-Th: 11a-9:30p F-Sa: 11a-11p		Handcrafted Beers, Steaks, Burgers, Fish & Chips, Green Chili
<b>Royal Gorge Route Railroad</b> Cañon City • (719) 276-4000 	Bistro	B, L, D	◆	◆				◆	◆				Visit royalgorgeroute.com or call 888-724-5748 for more information.
<b>Toreros Mexican Restaurant</b> 127 Justice Cntr Rd # T, Cañon City • (719) 276-2063 	Family Mexican	L, D	◆	◆	◆			◆	◆		Su-Th: 11a-9p F-Sa: 11a-10p		Family Mexican
<b>Two Sisters Restaurant</b> • 104 E Main St. Florence • (719) 784-4090 	Home Style & Mexican	B, L	◆	◆					◆		6a - 3p		Home style and Mexican food with a clean family friendly atmosphere.



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## Lodging, Hotels & Camping



Royal Gorge "Glamping"

# Plush Vacation Rentals to Classic Camping in the Royal Gorge Region

After a full day of exploring, when your eyes have seen all they can see and your body is ready to rest and recharge, make your way to your Royal Gorge Region home away from home.

Choose from **RV resorts**, trusted national hotel chains, **charming cottages**, and locally owned **bed and breakfasts**. There are also family-focused ranches, budget-friendly motels and quaint idyllic inns. Surround yourself with your favorite amenities. Pools, hot tubs, fireplaces, pet-friendly rooms, comfy robes and gourmet breakfasts. Discover that perfect rustic riverside campsite. You'll find it here.

**Traveling with a large group** or hosting a family reunion? There are plenty of deluxe and affordable vacation rental destinations with room for multiple families to stay and play. Area guest ranches also offer space for your extended crew, filling your days with hands-on-only-in-Colorado experiences.

When nothing but a flickering fire and snoozing under the stars will do, area **campgrounds** deliver on private, city, and national lands. Royal Gorge camping can be as primitive as a tent or as cozy as a cabin. Try a combination of the two and experience luxury camping by going glamping. Both invite you to sit back and enjoy the breathtaking countryside and take advantage of the area's year-round mild weather.

And for those who prefer roughing it with a roof overhead, a soft mattress underneath and warm blankets all around, the region is brimming with resorts, ranches, and campgrounds offering **cabins or restored vintage campers**. Some locations even offer laundry, hot showers, pools, and riverside spaces.

For those who prefer camper wheels to tent poles, the region offers several well-equipped **RV pull-through sites** complete with amenities such as full hookups and free Wi-Fi.

Wherever you rest your head, you can be sure sweeping views of rugged and rolling foothills and spectacular mountain peaks come standard.



- Spacious and comfortable rooms
- Indoor heated pool and spa
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- Refrigerators and microwaves in all rooms
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## Lodging

	# of Units	TV	Phone	Kitchen	Fireplace	Pool	A/C	Spa / Hot Tub	Dining / Lounge	Handicap Acc.	Pets	Smoking	Groups	Wi-Fi	Comp. Breakfast
<b>Bighorn Mountain Top Lodge</b> • 4218 County Rd 3A, Cañon City • (719) 276-8320	1	◆		◆	◆	◆				◆	■	★			◆
<b>Budget Host Royal Gorge Inn</b> • 217 N. Reynolds Ave., Cañon City • (719) 269-1100	36	◆	◆			◆	◆	✦	✦	◆	●	●			◆
<b>Florence Rose Bed &amp; Breakfast</b> • 1305 West 3rd Street, Florence • (719) 784-4734	5	◆	◆		◆	◆	◆	◆		◆			◆	◆	◆
<b>Hillside Colorado Cottages</b> • 59424 State Highway 69, Hillside • (970) 631-3786	4	◆		◆			●				●		◆	◆	
<b>The Lamp Post Lodge</b> • 59450 State Highway 69, Westcliffe • (719) 783-2876	9	◆		●	●					◆			◆	◆	
<b>Quality Inn &amp; Suites</b> • 3075 US Hwy 50, Cañon City • (719) 275-8676	150	◆	◆	★		◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	■	◆	◆	◆	◆
<b>Royal Gorge Cabins</b> • 45054 West US Highway 50, Cañon City • (719) 275-3154	17	◆		●	◆	◆	●	✦					◆	◆	
<b>Royal Gorge Vacation Rentals</b> • 45045 W. US Hwy 50, Cañon City • (719) 275-7238	3	◆	◆	▲	◆			◆					◆	◆	
<b>Super 8 Florence</b> • 4540 State Hwy 67, Florence • (719) 784-4800		◆	◆	◆		◆				●	■	●	◆	◆	◆

(◆): Available in all units (●): Available in some units (✦): On the property (★): Outside only Kitchen: (★) Fridge/Microwave (▲) Full Kitchen Pets: (■) Some Restrictions (◆) Allowed

## Camping

	Handicap Acc.	50-Amp	Pool	Laundry	Pull-Thru	Camp Store	Internet / Wi-Fi	Tent Camping	Cabins	Game Room	Playground	Activities	Fishing	ADDITIONAL INFO
<b>Bighorn Park Resort</b> • 16373 W US Hwy 5, Coaldale (719) 942-4266 • www.bighornpark.com	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	On river, panoramic view of the Sangre de Cristo Range, great location for the outdoor enthusiast and family reunions.
<b>Cotopaxi KOA</b> • 21435 W US Hwy 5, Cotopaxi (719) 275-9308 • www.coloradocampingkoa.com	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	Camp sites right along the river. Climb on board for a hayride! Craft classes!
<b>Echo Canyon Campground</b> • 45044 US-50, Cañon City (866) 341-7875 • www.echocanyoncampground.com				◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆				◆	A full service campground in the heart of Royal Gorge Country!
<b>Indian Springs Campground</b> 3257 State Highway 67, Penrose • (719) 372-3907 www.indianspringsranchcampground.com	◆		◆		◆		◆	◆					◆	Registered National Natural Landmark/Ancient Sea Floor, Colorado Natural Area, Humming Birds, Indian Artifacts, Educational Tours. 30-amp
<b>Royal Gorge KOA</b> • 559 County Road 3A, Cañon City (719) 275-6116 • www.royalgorgekoa.com	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆		◆	◆		On-site cafe, go-karts, a giant slide, and swimming pool. Peaceful setting.
<b>Sweetwater River Ranch</b> • 24871 US Hwy 50 Cotopaxi, (719) 276-3842 • www.sweetwaterirranch.com		◆			◆	◆	◆	◆	◆				◆	Located on the Arkansas River in south-central Colorado.

(◆): Available

## Primitive Camping

	Vault Toilets	Water	Fire Rings	Picnic Tables	Trailer & RV Sites	Reservations	ADDITIONAL INFO
<b>BLM Sand Gulch Campground</b> • Red Canyon Road / CR 9, Cañon City	◆	◆	◆	◆			12.5 miles north of Cañon City. Near Shelf Road.
<b>BLM Banks Campground</b> • Red Canyon Road / CR 9, Cañon City	◆	◆	◆	◆			12.5 miles north of Cañon City. Near Shelf Road.
<b>Five Points Campground</b> • Accessible from Hwy 50, Cañon City	◆	◆	◆			◆	21 miles west of Cañon City. Watchable Wildlife.
<b>Oak Creek Campground</b> • Oak Creek Grade Road, Cañon City	◆	◆	◆		Very Small Trailers		14 miles south of Cañon City. Closed during winter.
<b>East Ridge Campground</b> • Hwy 50 to 3A, follow signs to Campground, Cañon	◆	◆	◆	◆			Open year-round. Updated Sites.
<b>Red Canyon Park</b> • Red Canyon Road / CR 9, Cañon City	◆						10.5 miles north of Cañon City. Pavilions with picnic tables and fire pits.
<b>Temple Canyon Park</b> • Temple Canyon Road / CR 3, Cañon City	◆						8 miles southwest of Cañon City. Overlooks Grape Creek.

(◆): Available

Less than an hour southwest of Colorado Springs, Florence is the **Antique Capital of Colorado** and a lively destination for art galleries, specialty shops, and restaurants!

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EST 1877

Our friendly, easily walkable, historic downtown has plenty of free parking. A day tripper's paradise, we feature more than two dozen unique shops, galleries, and eateries, making Florence a favorite destination for treasure hunting.



Recently listed on the National Register of Historic Places, the Downtown Florence Historic District is also home to the Bell Tower Cultural Center, the historic Rialto Theater, and the Florence Pioneer Museum. Looking for high quality antiques and collectables, funky flea market treasures, charming shops, an art exhibition, a delicious meal, a cool drink, live music, a bit of history, or that perfect gift for someone special? You are sure to *Find it in Florence!*



Bring your friends and spend the day exploring and work up an appetite! We have many dining options to choose from. Fresh sandwiches and pastry, gourmet coffee drinks, a hearty breakfast or a hand-dipped ice cream cone. Maybe a hand made pizza or sushi and cocktails, a full steak dinner, Chinese or smokey BBQ. Or just grab a burger and fries and catch the game at one of our local bars. And don't miss the best locally brewed craft beer in Southern Colorado right here in Florence!

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**CITY OF FLORENCE**  
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Visit our website at [www.FinditInFlorence.com](http://www.FinditInFlorence.com) for complete listings of our downtown businesses and a calendar of special events.  
Or call 719.784.3544 for more information

# Florence - Antique Capital of Colorado

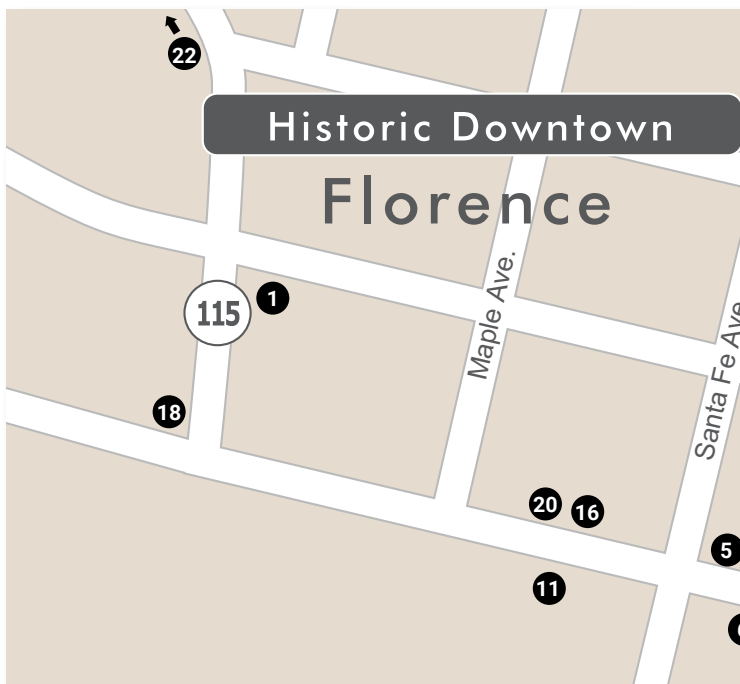
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**MAP KEY**

<b>LIBRARY</b>	13 Heartland Antiques
1 John C. Fremont Library	14 The Loralie Antique Mall
<b>DINING</b>	15 Royal Contemporary
2 Aspen Leaf Cafe	16 Salvage, Antiques, Vintage, Etc.
3 Ito's Japanese Steakhouse & Sushi	17 Spirit Riders
4 Oak Creek Tavern	18 Willie's Antiques & Collectables
5 Papa's Italian Restaurant	<b>SERVICES</b>
6 Quincys Steak & Spirits	19 The Bell Tower
7 Two Sisters Restaurant	20 Reeves Real Estate
<b>ANTIQUES, SHOPPING &amp; ART</b>	<b>ACTIVITIES</b>
8 Antique Warehouse	21 Florence Pioneer Museum
9 Barn & Barrel	<b>LODGING</b>
10 Blue Heron	22 Florence Rose Bed & Breakfast
11 Blue Spruce Gallery	23 Super 8
12 Florence Consignment Corner	

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS  
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## Florence Merchants Car Show

**Sunday, May 20, 2018  
9am - 3pm**

[florencecoloradocarshow.com](http://florencecoloradocarshow.com)  
[info@florencecoloradocarshow.com](mailto:info@florencecoloradocarshow.com)  
(520) 403-5204 / (719) 671-8168



1964 Chevrolet Corvair Monza Convertible  
Owner: Chris Kimberly

 @FlorenceCarshow

## Florence Directory

### ANTIQUES & SHOPPING

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### ART GALLERIES

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Set in a Victorian house, this  
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### LIBRARIES

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use, books, magazines,  
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### MUSEUMS

#### Florence Pioneer Museum & Research Center

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### SERVICES

#### The Bell Tower Cultural Center, Florence Arts Council

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The Bell Tower is a multi purpose  
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# Self-Guided Heritage Tours

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The Royal Gorge Region's rich history and diverse natural heritage come alive in this series of Heritage Guides. Printed Guides are available at area museums, chambers of commerce and visitor destinations. The guides may also be downloaded at [www.fremontheritage.com](http://www.fremontheritage.com) or follow the link.

**DOWNTOWN CAÑON CITY:** Dating back to the 1860s, the Downtown Historic District is compact and walkable. Listed in the National Register of Historic Places, it includes 280 acres and 80 buildings. Allow about three hours to enjoy a stroll down Main Street, take in the history of 36 buildings and visit the many shops and restaurants.

**DOWNTOWN FLORENCE:** The recently designated Downtown Florence Historic District includes about 10 blocks along Main and Front Streets, and 52 buildings. The walkable tour describes 21 buildings and takes about two hours. Enjoy the many antique shops and wonderful restaurants that now occupy this charming town; whose booming 1920s economy was built on oil wells, coal mines and ore processing.

**SKYLINE DRIVE:** The entrance to this 2.8-mile scenic drive is located two miles west of Cañon City on US-50 and begins with an archway built in 1932 with stones from many states. A dinosaur track lay along the one-way drive along with turnouts for dramatic views. This is also an enjoyable hike that begins at the foot of the drive where interpretive signs are located near the Floral Street Trailhead.

**WESTERN FREMONT COUNTY:** This 50-mile scenic drive along the Arkansas River on US-50 between Cañon City and Salida explores area history and early economic activity with 37 stops of interest.

**HISTORIC HOWARD:** Near the county's western border, Howard (est. 1871) was an important railroad shipping point. This 18-stop tour takes in the town square among other historical sites.

**CEMETERIES OF FREMONT COUNTY:** This 74-page guide includes nearly 20 cemeteries that reflect area history.

**COAL CAMPS OF FREMONT COUNTY:** This 86-page guide provides the history of the towns and coal camps that grew to support the Cañon City Coal Field, one of Colorado's earliest.



*Downtown Cañon City*



*Historic 4th St. bridge is now a pedestrian bridge - Centennial Park. Photo by Scott Majors*



*Florence Main Street. Photo Courtesy Kenneth Wadja*



# Western Fremont County

## PARKDALE

Parkdale's prime location on the Arkansas River and near the Royal Gorge makes it a popular base camp for visitors. The area is the gateway to whitewater rafting and Bighorn Sheep Canyon.

## BIGHORN SHEEP CANYON

Long known as a gateway into the Rockies, Highway 50 (once known as the Rainbow Route) runs west through the towering rock walls of the Arkansas River Canyon. This beautiful canyon is dubbed "Bighorn Sheep Canyon" and hosts a thriving population of Rocky Mountain Bighorn Sheep, Colorado's state mammal. These majestic animals are often seen on both sides of the river throughout the canyon. The Arkansas River Headwaters Recreation Area is a Colorado State Park running through the Bighorn Sheep Canyon with several recreational sites. These sites host restrooms, river access for rafting, fishing, picnicking, wildlife observation, camping, and interpretative signs of the area. ([cpw.state.co.us/placestogo/Parks/ArkansasHeadwatersRecreationArea](http://cpw.state.co.us/placestogo/Parks/ArkansasHeadwatersRecreationArea))

## TEXAS CREEK

Named for the Texas cattle driven through the area, this fly-fishing, ATV, and camping hotspot is loaded with scenic vistas and wildlife viewing opportunities. Highway 69 south at Texas Creek takes you to Hillside and the beautiful Wet Mountain Valley and fantastic views of the Sangre de Cristo Mountains, one of the most beautiful in all of Colorado.

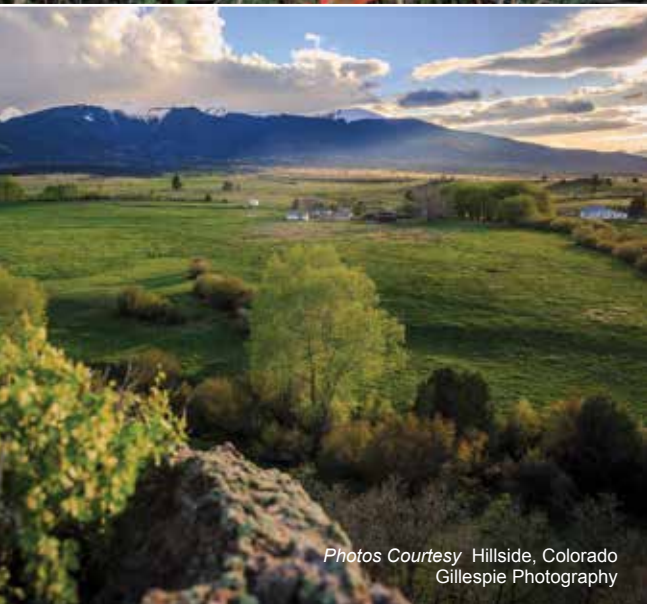
## COTOPAXI

This quaint community was once a railroad stop and well known for the Russian Jewish Agricultural Colony that settled here in 1882. A small fenced section of Russian Jewish graves remains in the cemetery behind the Cotopaxi School (Est. 1870s).

## HILLSIDE

Roughly 100 people call Hillside home. It is situated between Westcliffe and Cotopaxi; a tight-knit farming community that has never had a mayor, town hall or city council.

## Communities West



*Photos Courtesy Hillside, Colorado  
Gillespie Photography*

## COALDALE

A bustling mining town and popular touring stop for opera stars in the late 1800's, Coaldale is surrounded by towering peaks and is known for its secluded camping opportunities. Head south on Hayden Creek Road to see some of the last remaining charcoal kilns in Colorado. Charcoal production was a major industry in the early 1900s, producing charcoal for area smelters and railroads.

## VALLIE BRIDGE

A river access and camping area is also the start of the Pathway into History interpretive drive with signs explaining the history of the area.

## HOWARD

The Arkansas River runs through this pleasant valley community, drawing rafters, kayakers, and fishermen. The beautiful forested area features horseback riding, hiking, and ATV tours. The Old Howard Church constructed in 1898 sits on the original location of the Howard town site, about a mile off of Highway 50, facing the Sangre de Cristo Mountains and the Twin Sisters peaks, named by one of the original homesteaders. Self-guided tours of the area are available at the church.

**CABINS | RV | MOTEL**

Bighorn Park is nestled on the Arkansas River in the Bighorn Sheep Canyon of the sunny Colorado Rocky Mountains. Enjoy our heated pool, playground, store & gift shop. Private river access to fun & fishing. Just 30 minutes west of the Royal Gorge.

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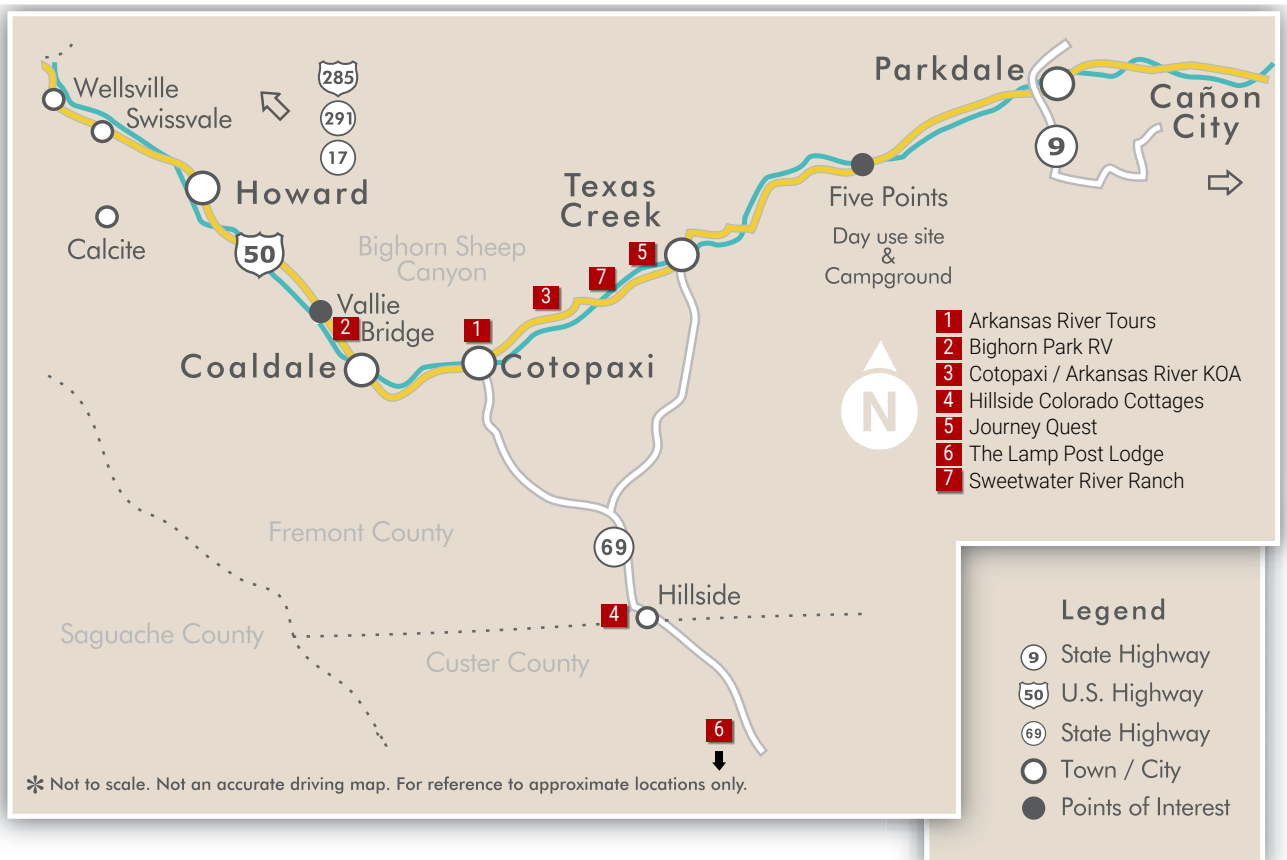
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# Gold Belt Scenic Byway

## PHANTOM CANYON ROAD

Six miles east of Cañon City on U.S. 50, North on Hwy 67. Follow the route of the Florence & Cripple Creek Railroad.

## SHELF ROAD

North on Reynolds out of Cañon City from U.S. 50. Right on Field Ave, Field Ave, which later Ys into Red Canyon Road, and later turns into Shelf Road.

## HIGH PARK ROAD

West of Cañon City to CO. 9. North on Hwy 9 for eight miles to High Park Road. East on High Park Road.

All roads lead to historic Cripple Creek. In its glory days Cripple Creek boasted two opera houses, 75 saloons, 8 newspapers and a stock exchange. Limited stakes gaming has revitalized the town with casinos, shops and restaurants, while maintaining its heritage. Cripple Creek even has its own donkey herd, descendants of the animals that once worked in the mines.

For more information visit [www.goldbeltbyway.com](http://www.goldbeltbyway.com)

\* note - not a trip to take at night due to hazards.



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CITY OF GOLD MINES

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(THE BEATEN PATH)

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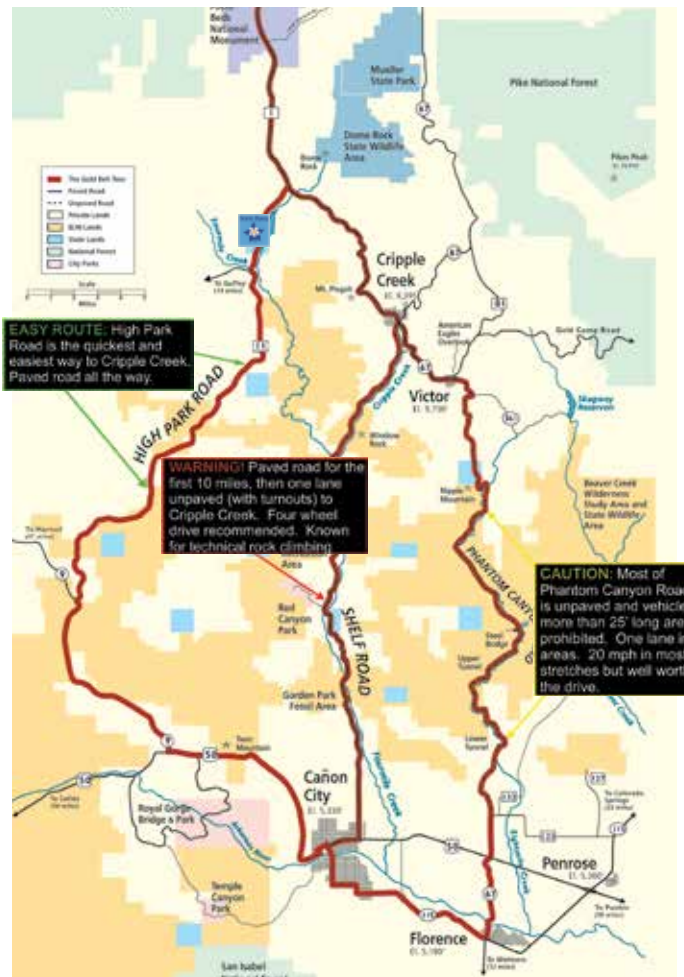
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## Group-Friendly Businesses

MEETINGS, FAMILY REUNIONS, WEDDINGS & MORE

The Royal Gorge Region enjoys catering to all of our visitors - and rest assured groups of all sizes will enjoy being taken care of with these businesses. Experienced in dealing with groups of visitors ranging from ten to several hundred, these group experts will help you plan your perfect activity for your perfect stay.



### CLEAR CREEK RAFTING COMPANY



800-353-9901  
www.clearcreekrafting.com

With a free photo CD and free wetsuit use, Clear Creek Rafting offers an incredible value. Two convenient locations, Arkansas River near Colorado Springs and Clear Creek near Denver.

GROUP SIZE: UNLIMITED

### Hillside Colorado Cottages



24 State Highway 69, Hillside, CO  
970-631-3786 • 970-631-3786  
www.TownofHillside.com

Reserve the entire town of Hillside, Colorado! Deluxe vacation rentals Wedding, Corporate Retreat, and Family Reunion Venue. Open all year and centrally located to Southern Colorado's greatest outdoor activities.

GROUP SIZE: UP TO 100

### RAFT MASTERS



719-275-6645  
www.RaftMasters.com

Raft Masters offers group rafting and packages, including the Royal Gorge Bridge, the Royal Gorge Route RR, ziplines and other attractions. Raft Masters can accommodate nearly all types of groups and most types of disabilities.

GROUP SIZE: UP TO 300

### ROYAL GORGE BRIDGE & PARK



4218 County Road 3A, Cañon City  
719-276-8310 • 888-333-5597  
www.RoyalGorgeBridge.com

Great for corporate retreats, company picnics, organized outings, educational tours, and reunions. Venues include our outdoor pavilion, Juniper Junction, and Bighorn Mountain Top Lodge for smaller groups. Great food. Amazing views. Overnight accommodations available.

### ROYAL GORGE RAFTING



45045 US Hwy 50 • Cañon City, CO  
719 275 7238  
www.RoyalGorgeRafting.net

Royal Gorge Rafting, Zipline Tours, Vacation Rentals & the White Water Bar & Grill! ~ One Location - 100% FUN! Only 2 hours from Denver - One hour from Colorado Springs.  
group size: Call for Details

### QUALITY INN & SUITES



3075 E. US Hwy. 50, Cañon City  
719-275-8676 • 800-525-7727  
www.qualityinn.com/hotel/co027

Cañon City's only full-service hotel offers free deluxe continental breakfast, free wireless Internet, indoor hot tubs & outdoor heated pool, mini-suites with refrigerators, in-room coffeemaker, free local calls, and voicemail on-site laundry/valet.

GROUP SIZE: 200 GUEST ROOMS



*The Royal Gorge Regions  
Premier Event Venue!*

Located on the historic  
pastoral & serene grounds of  
The Holy Cross Abbey *Event Complex*

- Weddings
- Reunions
- Conferences
- Retreats
- Religious Gatherings

*Guided Tours of the Monastery are available by appointment!*

719-275-8631  
2951 E. Hwy 50, Cañon City www.theabbeycc.com

**Perfect for Groups:**


- Affordable Lodging
- Meal Service
- Meeting Space

WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/NICHOLASLANDRYPHOTOGRAPHY

## NICK LANDRY PHOTOGRAPHY

NICKLANDRYPHOTOGRAPHY@GMAIL.COM

### SPECIALIZED PHOTOGRAPHY FOR



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SENIOR PORTRAITS

FAMILY

HEADSHOTS

MODELING

&

SOME OTHER

STUFF TOO :)

(719)557-9598  
610 B MAIN ST.  
CANON CITY COLORADO

Cañon City  
Chamber of Commerce

1-800-876-7922

Visitors Center at  
Veterans Park, 211 S 3rd St.  
WWW.CANONCITY.COM

Clear Creek  
RAFTING COMPANY

- Free Photo Package
- Free Wetsuit and Splash Jacket Use
- Royal Gorge on the Arkansas River
- Clear Creek Just 1/2 hour west of Denver

**\$500 OFF per person!**

Not valid with any other discount. Must mention coupon code RG2018 at time of reservation. Valid 2018 season.

800•353•9901 www.clearcreekrafting.com

My Sisters Place

19 County Road 321  
719-275-2760

625 Main Street  
719-275-0733

My Brother's Place

PROUDLY SERVING  
FREMONT COUNTY  
FOR 40 YEARS!

2 for 1  
12 oz. Domestic Drafts

HOMESTYLE COOKING IN A  
FAMILY ATMOSPHERE.

ROYAL GORGE  
**Dinosaur**  
EXPERIENCE

**\$2 OFF ONE ADMISSION**  
PER PERSON, UP TO 4 PEOPLE  
WITH COUPON, EXPIRES 10/31/18

**DINOXP.COM**  
**719.275.2726**  
44895 US HWY 50, CAÑON CITY, CO  
Cannot be combined with other offers or discounts

**10% OFF**  
**BEST AVAILABLE RATE**

With this coupon.  
Reservations suggested.  
Coupon expires 10/31/18

3075 East U.S. Hwy 50 • Cañon City, CO 81212  
719-275-8676

RAFT COLORADO'S ARKANSAS RIVER

SAVE 15% ON ALL TRIPS  
USE PROMO CODE: Gorge

**RIVER RUNNERS**  
THE WHITewater PROFESSIONALS

BOOK ONLINE @ WHITEWATER.NET  
RESERVATIONS: 888-723-8786

**\$7 OFF**

**Per Person on Any of our World Class Rafting Adventures!**

**AMERICAN ADVENTURE EXPEDITIONS**

719-398-0002  
AMERICANADVENTURE.com

\* Take \$7 off per person on any rafting adventure departing on or before 8/15/18. Discount must be applied at the time of booking and may not be combined with any other offers. Promo Code: GORGEGUIDE18



**\$6 OFF**  
YOUR ECHO  
RAFT TRIP!\*



800.575.3246  
RAFTECHO.COM

\*Cañon City location departures only. Not valid with other offers. Must use coupon code RG2018 at time of booking.

# ROYAL GORGE RAFTING

## ROYAL GORGE ZIPLINE TOURS

**RAFT ZIP STAY UNWIND**

**COLORADO'S #1 RATED RAFTING & ZIP LINE PACKAGES STARTING AT \$159.00** includes lunch at the White Water Bar & Grill.

Seamless adventure packages fit for every level of adventure!  
Tripadvisor's top rated rafting & zip lining activities in our region!  
For more information: [RoyalGorgeRafting.net](http://RoyalGorgeRafting.net) - 719 ARK RAFT  
*"A day immersed in adventure, not in traffic." "Best day ever!"*



# COLORADO FUN STARTS

**HERE**



*Your Kids Having Fun!*

**\$10 OFF**  
ANY RAFT TRIP  
USE CODE: RGVG810  
Cannot be combined. Valid through Sept 4, 2018.  
**RaftMasters.com**  
719-275-6645

**RAFT MASTERS**  
Fun Adventure Memories  
SINCE 1989

Rafting Colorado's Two Best Rivers— Arkansas & Clear Creek. Serving CO Springs, Denver & the Entire Front Range Areas.



# Directory

## ACTIVITIES

### The Abbey

2951 E. Hwy. 50 • Cañon City  
719.275.8631

[www.theabbeycc.com](http://www.theabbeycc.com)

Guided tours of the historic Abbey Monastery are available by appointment and on Saturdays (June-Sept). Self-guided tours are available Mon-Fri 9 am to 5 pm all year.

### Cañon City Segway Tours

723 Royal Gorge Blvd. • Cañon City  
719.369.0036 • 719.240.1570

[www.segwaytourscañoncity.com](http://www.segwaytourscañoncity.com)

Take a professional tour with an easy-to-use Segway and view historical Cañon City.

### Colorado Jeep Tours

2315 E. Main St. • Cañon City  
719.275.6339

[www.coloradojeeptours.com](http://www.coloradojeeptours.com)

Immerse yourself in the scenic beauty and rich history of Colorado by traveling the road less traveled. Get out and about with Colorado Jeep Tours.

### Dawson Ranch Stables

1745 Mariposa Rd • Cañon City  
719.244.6034

[www.dawsonranchstables.com](http://www.dawsonranchstables.com)

Fun for the whole family, visit our mini donkeys, chickens, and our big working draft horses while you are waiting for your trail ride, wagon ride, or western dinner show.

### Four Mile Ranch Golf Club

3501 Telegraph Trail • Cañon City  
710.275.5400

[www.fourmileranch.com](http://www.fourmileranch.com)

18 hole public golf course.

### i Lean Ride Company

Segway Adventures  
0029 CR 3A • Cañon City  
719.315.4044

[www.iLeanRideCo.com](http://www.iLeanRideCo.com)

iLean Ride Co/Facebook

Ride the off-road fat tire Segway on Tours over The Royal Gorge Bridge, Skyline Dr. and Historic Cañon City. We also have the only dirt track for Segways of its kind in the world with hills, dips and whoops. Tours are approximately 90 minutes long and include free use of helmets and training.

### Pueblo Zoo

3455 Nuckolls Ave. • Pueblo  
719.561.1452

[www.pueblozoo.org](http://www.pueblozoo.org)

Open 7 days a week, year round. 500+ animals. Activities and games for kids.

### Royal Gorge Bridge & Park

P.O. Box 549 • Cañon City  
888.333.5597 • 719.275.7507

[www.RoyalGorgeBridge.com](http://www.RoyalGorgeBridge.com)

The Royal Gorge Bridge & Park is an awe-inspiring spectacle of man and nature meeting halfway. Look for brand new attractions and venues. Check [www.royalgorgebridge.com](http://www.royalgorgebridge.com) for park hours and information.

### Royal Gorge Helitours

45047 W. Hwy. 50 • Cañon City  
719.276.9038

[www.RoyalGorgeHeliTours.org](http://www.RoyalGorgeHeliTours.org)

Exciting helicopter tours of the Royal Gorge and surrounding countryside! Call or email to plan your tour today!

### Royal Gorge Route Railroad

888.724.5748 • 719.276.4000

Ride Colorado's premier scenic railroad through the breathtaking Royal Gorge, beside the tumbling Arkansas River. Classes of service range from: Vista Dome, Parlor & Bar, Coach, Gourmet Lunch & Dinner, Murder Mystery and Locomotive Cab Rides. Craft beers, a well-curated wine list and dining options available to all classes, on every departure.

### Royal Gorge Skydive

60298 US Hwy 50 East • Penrose  
719.784.2047

[www.royalgorgeskydive.com](http://www.royalgorgeskydive.com)

Tandem Skydiving over Southern Colorado Year Round

### Royal Gorge Stables/

#### Brown's Canyon Horse Leasing

44899 W. Hwy 50 • Cañon City  
719.275.1799 • 719.395.3630

[www.RoyalGorgeStables.com](http://www.RoyalGorgeStables.com)

Horse trail rides.

### Royal Gorge Zip Line Tours

45045 W U.S. 50 • Cañon City  
719.275.7238

[www.royalgorgeziplinetours.com](http://www.royalgorgeziplinetours.com)

Colorado Zip Line Tours near the Royal Gorge.

## AGRITOURISM

### Colon Orchards

3175 Grandview Ave. • Cañon City  
719.275.6359

[www.ColonOrchards.com](http://www.ColonOrchards.com)

Colon Orchards has a farm market with local fruit, vegetables and farm raised beef. They also have pick your own apples, pumpkin patches and a corn maze.

## ANTIQUES, SHOPPING & ART GALLERIES

### Aspen Meadows Handcrafted

432 Main St. • Cañon City  
719.276.0311

[www.aspenmeadowssoaps.com](http://www.aspenmeadowssoaps.com)

Soaps, lotions, milk baths,

exfoliating creams and bath products.

For more shopping, antiques & art galleries see pg. 54.

## BARS

### My Brother's Place

625 Main St. • Cañon City  
719.275.0733

[www.mybrothersplacecañoncity.com](http://www.mybrothersplacecañoncity.com)

Bar, hot spot for tourists and locals. Live music, comedy shows, sports viewing and daily specials.

See the Dining Directory on page 47 for additional options.

## COFFEE & ICE CREAM

### Cold Stone Creamery

127 Justice Center Rd. #D  
Cañon City  
719.276.1166

[www.facebook.com/cañoncitycoldstone](http://www.facebook.com/cañoncitycoldstone)

The ultimate ice cream experience! Super premium ice cream made fresh in store, served up by a nationally recognized, award-winning crew!

### The Cup and Cone

Hwy. 50 & 4th St. • Cañon City  
719.275.3434

Hand-dipped ice cream cones, shakes, floats, banana splits, sundaes and decorated ice cream cakes. Full Espresso Bar, Pour House Coffee, Tea Table, Lemonade Bar, and our own 5-Canyon Cocoa. Gingerbread Connection. Celebrate or escape at this locally owned ice cream and coffee shop.

## EVENTS FACILITY

### The Abbey Events Complex

2951 E. Hwy. 50 • Cañon City  
719.275.8631

[www.theabbeycc.com](http://www.theabbeycc.com)

The Abbey is the perfect venue for weddings, retreats, conferences and reunions in a beautiful setting. Guided tours of the Monastery available by appointment.

### Royal Gorge Bridge & Park

P.O. Box 549 • Cañon City  
888.333.5597 • 719.275.7507

[www.RoyalGorgeBridge.com](http://www.RoyalGorgeBridge.com)

Special event venues and catering. Check [www.royalgorgebridge.com](http://www.royalgorgebridge.com) for park hours and information.

## HOSPITAL & URGENT CARE

### St. Thomas More Hospital

1338 Phay Avenue • Cañon City  
719.285.2000

[www.stmhospital.org](http://www.stmhospital.org)

Full service hospital with 24-hour emergency room,

comprehensive diagnostic imaging, The Birth Place, inpatient acute care, orthopedic surgery, rehab services and more; part of Centura Health.

### Centura Health Urgent Care

3245 E. Hwy 50, Ste E.  
Cañon City • 719.285.2888

[www.stmhospital.org/urgent-care](http://www.stmhospital.org/urgent-care)

For minor injuries, illnesses and conditions that require attention but do not suggest an immediate threat to your health or life; includes on-site lab and X-ray services. Walk-ins welcome.

## MUSEUMS

### Fremont Center for the Arts

505 Macon Ave. • Cañon City  
719.275.2790

[www.FremontArts.org](http://www.FremontArts.org)

Located in the historic Post Office. Rotating gallery exhibits. Classes for all ages. Gift shop featuring local artisans, Art library and permanent collection. Open Tues–Sat, 10am–4pm, Sun 12–4pm.

### Museum of Colorado Prisons

201 N. 1st St. • Cañon City  
719.269.3015

[www.PrisonMuseum.org](http://www.PrisonMuseum.org)

Regional history museum. Audio tour, gift shop with prison crafts, historic walking and ghost tours, historic re-enactments, senior & group discount. Hours vary. Call or visit our website.

### Royal Gorge Dinosaur

#### Experience

44895 W. US Hwy 50  
Cañon City • 719.275.6363

[www.RoyalGorgeDinosaur.com](http://www.RoyalGorgeDinosaur.com)

Dinosaur museum and activity center.

### Royal Gorge Regional Museum & History Center

612 Royal Gorge Blvd. • Cañon City  
719.269.9036,

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

Open 10am - 4pm, Wed. - Sat.

## RAFTING

### American Adventure Expeditions

719-398-0002

[www.AmericanAdventure.com](http://www.AmericanAdventure.com)

World class white water rafting adventures for families and thrill-seekers alike! We spare no expense when it comes to your comfort, safety, and enjoyment!

### A Raft Masters Adventure

2315 E. Main St. • Cañon City  
800.568.7238

[www.RaftMasters.com](http://www.RaftMasters.com)

Celebrating 25 years experience providing the highest quality outings for all group sizes. Bases near Denver and Colorado Springs provide easy access for trips from either location. Free wet suits!

### Arkansas River Tours

Royal Gorge, Bighorn Canyon,  
Brown's, Cañon City & Cotopaxi  
800.321.4352

[www.ArkansasRiverTours.com](http://www.ArkansasRiverTours.com)

Since 1973. Family adventure  
to extreme adventure! ¼-day  
to 3-day trips. River and Rail  
packages! Guided float fishing.

### Clear Creek Rafting Company

44650 Hwy. 50 W. • Cañon City  
800.353.9901

[www.ClearCreekRafting.com](http://www.ClearCreekRafting.com)

Colorado whitewater! Trips for  
all abilities on the Arkansas  
River at the Royal Gorge or  
Clear Creek, only 30 minutes  
from Denver. Free wet suit use!

### Echo Canyon River Expeditions

45000 Hwy. 50 • Cañon City  
800.575.3246

[www.RaftEcho.com](http://www.RaftEcho.com)

The most trusted name in  
whitewater rafting since 1978.  
This just might be the best time  
you've ever had! Be sure to try our  
exclusive Raft-n-Rail package.

### Journey Quest

27077 US Hwy. 50 #4

Cañon City

719.276.2227 • 888.623.7939

[www.journeyquest.org/rafting](http://www.journeyquest.org/rafting)

Journey Quest offers personal,  
friendly service at the best  
prices! Our exciting whitewater  
rafting trips are perfect for  
families, groups, scout troops,  
and adventure seekers!

### Lost Paddle Rafting

1420 Royal Gorge Blvd.

Cañon City • 719.275.0884

[www.lpraft.com](http://www.lpraft.com)

Find your adventure!

Professionally guided and  
delightfully affordable  
whitewater rafting trips on the  
world-famous Arkansas River.  
Military and group discounts  
available. Family owned and  
locally operated.

### Performance Tours Rafting

0035 County Rd. 3A

Cañon City • 800.328.7238

[www.PerformanceTours.com](http://www.PerformanceTours.com)

Experience the thrill! Mild to wild  
raft trips in the Royal Gorge area  
for all ages and abilities. Group  
discounts. 24 years' experience.  
Excellent safety record.

### River Runners

44641 US Hwy 50 • Cañon City

888.350.7782

[www.Whitewater.net](http://www.Whitewater.net)

Raft the Royal Gorge and other  
famous sections of the Arkansas  
River. Choose from half-day, full-  
day and overnight rafting trips on  
all levels of whitewater.

### Royal Gorge Rafting & Zip Line Tours

45045 Hwy. 50 W. • Cañon City

719.275.RAFT

[www.RoyalGorgeRafting.net](http://www.RoyalGorgeRafting.net)

Royal Gorge Rafting & the White  
Water Bar & Grill are the perfect  
combination to any Colorado  
vacation! Free gear!

## SERVICES

### The Dungeon Inc.

#### Body Art Studio

503 Main St. • Cañon City

719.275.5050

Tattoos, piercings, jewelry and  
clothing. Award winning studio  
and artists. Walk-ins welcome.

### Gatzke Homes

611 Greenwood Ave. Suite G

Cañon City

719.458.9559

All the best Colorado has to  
offer. Contact Jenny Gatzke.

### Nick Landry Photography

610 B Main Street • Cañon City

719.557.9598

Specialized photography for  
Weddings, Senior Portraits,  
Family, Headshots and Modeling.

### Properties of Colorado

202 Main Street • Cañon City

719.269.9600

[www.PropertiesofColorado.com](http://www.PropertiesofColorado.com)

Open 7 days a week for your real  
estate needs.

## TOWNS/CHAMBERS

### Cañon City Chamber of Commerce

403 Royal Gorge Blvd.

Cañon City

800.876.7922 • 719.275.2331

[www.CañonCityChamber.com](http://www.CañonCityChamber.com)

### City of Victor

[www.VictorColorado.com](http://www.VictorColorado.com)

719.689.5640

Historic mining town one hour  
north of Cañon City and one  
hour west of Colorado Springs.

### Florence Chamber of Commerce

116 N. Pikes Peak Ave. • Florence

Office: 719.784.3544

[www.finditinflorence.com](http://www.finditinflorence.com)

Best little chamber there is.

### Penrose Chamber of Commerce

Bill McGuire, Executive Director

210 Broadway • Penrose

719.372.3994





**RIVER RUNNERS**  
THE WHITEWATER PROFESSIONALS

RAFT COLORADO'S ARKANSAS RIVER



**SAVE 15% ON ALL TRIPS**  
USE PROMO CODE: **Gorge**

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# Experience whitewater rafting, fly fishing and yoga/mindful trips

**OPEN  
APRIL - SEPTEMBER**

Operating in Colorado since 1973

Great for range of families,  
groups and high adventure  
seekers



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ARKANSAS RIVER TOURS

719-942-4362

[www.arkansasrivertours.com](http://www.arkansasrivertours.com)

GO AHEAD.

# ENJOY THE VIEWS

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CABIN, THE VIEWS AREN'T SO DIFFERENT.  
BUT THE EXPERIENCES WILL BE.

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