**Colorado Camping Destinations**

CO SP Reservations <http://cpw.state.co.us/buyapply/Pages/Reservations.aspx>

CO charges a $7 user fee, a reservation fee and your camping fees. CO SP are almost impossible to get a campsite on weekends. Be aware of the daily fee Colorado State Parks charge. If you're staying in the system more than 7 days, it is worthwhile to get the annual pass.

CO Aurora 80014, 4201 S Parker Rd, **Cherry Creek State Par**k <http://cpw.state.co.us/placestogo/parks/CherryCreek> - located close to Denver on the shore of a reservoir. Prairie environment with great bike trails. Busy with day use on weekends. Campground has 101 full hookups and 30 no hookups with reservations <https://www.reserveamerica.com/camping/cherry-creek-state-park/r/campgroundDetails.do?contractCode=CO&parkId=50022>

CO Breckenridge 80424, 85 Revett DR, 800-895-9594 Tiger Run Resort <http://www.tigerrunresort.com/> - All sites offer full water hookups, sewer, 30/50 amp electric service and heated water risers allowing you to stay all year round. All sites consist of a concrete pad with a grassy area, picnic table, free Wi-Fi service and Cable. LTVer recommended.

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CO Cañon City 81212 - **Royal Gorge Bridge** - One of the world’s highest suspension bridges, Zipline, Gondola

<http://royalgorgebridge.com/>

CO Clark, USFS Hinman Campground <https://www.fs.usda.gov/wps/portal/fsinternet/cs/recarea?ss=110308&navtype=BROWSEBYSUBJECT&cid=FSE_003738&navid=110240000000000&pnavid=110000000000000&position=generalinfo&recid=22672&ttype=recarea&pname=Hinman%20Park%20Campground> – No hookups, vault toilets, the only water source was lacking a pump handle, Dumpster packed. Major draw is the beautiful scenery and it acts as a first come, first serve overflow for Steamboat Lakes SP and Pearl Lake SP.

CO Colorado Springs 80903 - **Pikes Peak Cog Railway** <https://www.cograilway.com/> US Air Force Academy, **Garden of the Gods** <https://www.gardenofgods.com/> - 300' towering sandstone rock formations against a backdrop of snow-capped Pikes Peak. Start at the North main parking lot of the Garden of the Gods Park for the **Perkins Central Garden Trail**. This is an easy, 1 1/2-mile roundtrip over a concrete foot path, with less than a 30-foot rise in elevation. This loop is in the heart of the Park at the base of the highest rock formations. <https://www.visitcos.com/>

CO Colorado Springs 80926, 410 JL Ranch Heights, **Cheyenne Mountain State Park** <http://cpw.state.co.us/placestogo/parks/CheyenneMountain> - The 1680 acres of the park lie beneath the eastern flank of Cheyenne Mountain, and border the plains of Colorado in a stunning transition from plains to peaks. It offers 20 miles of hiking and biking trails, The majority of the campsites (51 total) are full service and include water, electrical, and sewer hook-ups for RV campers. Flush toilet facilities, coin-operated showers, a coin-operated laundry room, an activity room, and a camp store.
<https://www.reserveamerica.com/camping/cheyenne-mountain-state-park/r/campgroundDetails.do?contractCode=CO&parkId=50081>

**CO Cortez** 81330 **- Mesa Verde NP** <https://www.nps.gov/meve/index.htm> - protects nearly 5,000 known archeological sites, including 600 cliff dwellings. Be sure to make the Mesa Verde Visitor Center your first stop if you wish to visit [Cliff Palace, Balcony House, or Long House](https://www.nps.gov/meve/planyourvisit/guided_activities.htm). If you plan to visit any of these three cliff dwellings, you must purchase tickets here first**. \*** Morefield Campground <https://www.nps.gov/meve/planyourvisit/camping2.htm> - located four miles from the park entrance, 15 full hookup RV sites that require reservations, The campground rarely fills. Several of the park's best hikes leave from Morefield. Wake to an all-you-can eat pancake breakfast at the café in Morefield's full-service village. RV dumping station, coin-operated laundry, complimentary showers, a gift shop and grocery store. Reservations: 800-449-2288

<https://www.visitmesaverde.com/lodging-camping/morefield-campground/>

CO Deadwood <https://www.deadwood.com/> - location of Boot Hill and final resting place for Wild Bill Hickok and Calamity Jane

CO Denver - Denver <https://www.denver.org/> - is the capital of Colorado and the largest city in the Rocky Mountains region of the United States.

CO Dinosaur 81610, 4545 Hwy 40, **Dinosaur National Monument** <https://www.nps.gov/dino/index.htm> Take a ranger guided tour <https://www.nps.gov/dino/planyourvisit/guidedtours.htm> Hike the Jones Hole Trail - A pleasant hike along a babbling brook in the bottom of a lovely canyon. Basically, level walking with a few ups and downs. Quite a bit of shade. Trail terminates at the Green River. <https://www.nps.gov/dino/planyourvisit/jonesholetrail.htm>

Camping at Dinosaur <https://www.nps.gov/dino/planyourvisit/camping.htm> - there are no hookups at any park campgrounds and some campgrounds and their approaches are not suitable for RV.

CO Estes Park is the east entrance to **Rocky Mountain National Park** <https://www.nps.gov/romo/index.htm>

CO Estes Park 80517, 1665 State Highway 66, Elk Meadow Lodge & RV Resort <https://elkmeadowrv.com/> - located right outside the entrance to Rocky Mountain National Park. The resort has a free shuttle to Estes Park. 169 full-service RV sites can accommodate up to a 49-foot coach. Playground, swimming pool & miniature golf. However, many sites lack shade. Good Sam affiliated. Reservations <https://elkmeadowrv.com/reservation-rv-site/>

CO Estes Park to Grand Lake, **Rocky Mountain National Park** - vast mountainous park with lots of wildlife. The Grand Lake, western side, is mainly composed of the Kawuneeche Valley that was host to multiple Dude Ranches during the early days of automobile touring. This west side only has 1/5 the visitors as the eastern side. The road through the park is called Trail Ridge RD and it has spectacular views, few guard rails and climbs and descends from 12183 feet. The Alpine Visitor Center is close to the summit and has weather that can be 20-30 degrees lower than each of the park entrances. The Alpine Visitor Center has thin air that can give some people breathing problems. The alpine center is above the tree line and is surrounded by arctic tundra plants and animals. It is not unusual for show to occur in August at the Alpine CTR. The Alpine and the east side of the park can get very crowded in summer with full overlook & trailhead parking lots and bumper to bumper traffic. The east side is so crowded that the park runs shuttle buses from park and ride lots at the bottom to the Bear Lake and Moraine Park activity centers. Due to the danger of afternoon lightning, hikes should be started in the morning so that you are off the peaks by early afternoon The best known scenic drive through the park is **Trail Ridge Road** which crests at over 12,000 feet. You will have panoramic views in all directions as you travel this byway that dissects the park from east to west. You can start your 48-mile drive from Grand Lake on the west side of the park or in Estes Park on the east side. Stop at the magnificent pullovers where you can get out and breathe that fresh mountain air. Busiest throughout the summer and on fall weekends. In these busy times, especially between 10 am and 3 pm - Expect full parking lots. From May - September, there is a free park shuttle from the Estes Park Visitor CTR but dogs are not allowed. <https://www.nps.gov/romo/planyourvisit/shuttle_bus_route.htm> Beaver Meadows Visitor Center – Be sure to stop here and get a ranger to give you advice on what you can do while in the park. Multiple campgrounds in the park. Campground reservations are essential on the east side of the park. None of the campgrounds have hookups in Rocky Mountain National Park. <https://www.nps.gov/romo/planyourvisit/camping.htm> Moraine Park Campground <https://www.nps.gov/romo/planyourvisit/mpcg.htm> is located on the east side of the park and is open all year. You will need reservations from May to October; otherwise it is first come, first served. RV length limit 40 feet, Ice sold on-site, Shuttle bus access, Many trails from campground. Aspenglen Campground <https://www.nps.gov/romo/planyourvisit/agcg.htm> is on the east side and open from May to September. Reservations are recommended. RV length limit 30 fee, Ice sold on-site, Generators allowed on C Loop, 8200 feet elevation. Glacier Basin Campground <https://www.nps.gov/romo/planyourvisit/gbcg.htm> is on the east side.

Timber Creek Campground <https://www.nps.gov/romo/planyourvisit/tccg.htm> on the west side of the park is open all year, 98 first come, first served; no reservations are needed, RV length limit 30 feet and located along the Colorado River at 8900 feet elevation. You can expect to see Elk, mule deer and moose near the Timber Creek campground. Timber Creek is also bear territory so leave clean campsites and use the bear proof lockers for your food especially if tent camping. Sites 174 & 176 at Timber Creek look out over wetland that often draws wildlife into view. Timber Creek is LTVer recommended.

CO Fruita 81521- **Colorado National Monument** <https://www.nps.gov/colm/index.htm> - one of the grand landscapes of the American West. The famous Rim Rock RD is having repairs/closures in first half of 2018. Saddlehorn Campground <https://www.nps.gov/colm/planyourvisit/saddlehorn-campground.htm> is located near the Saddlehorn Visitor Center, four miles from the west entrance (near Fruita, CO), and is the only established campground within the Monument. Sites are suitable for tents and recreational vehicles, with some pull-through sites with a length limit of 40 feet for recreational vehicles. Restrooms have flush toilets and water available during the summer. No electric hookups or showers. Pets are NOT allowed on hiking trails but ARE allowed on paved surfaces.

CO Fruita 81521, 595 Highway 340, **James M. Robb - Colorado River State Park** <http://cpw.state.co.us/placestogo/Parks/jamesmrobbcoloradoriver> - composed of five distinct districts called pearls. [Island Acres](http://cpw.state.co.us/placestogo/parks/JamesMRobbColoradoRiver/Pages/MapsDirections.aspx#1)​​​, [Corn Lake](http://cpw.state.co.us/placestogo/parks/JamesMRobbColoradoRiver/Pages/MapsDirections.aspx#2)​ [Colorado River Wildlife Area](http://cpw.state.co.us/placestogo/parks/JamesMRobbColoradoRiver/Pages/MapsDirections.aspx#3)​, [Connected Lakes](http://cpw.state.co.us/placestogo/parks/JamesMRobbColoradoRiver/Pages/MapsDirections.aspx#4)​, [Fruita](http://cpw.state.co.us/placestogo/parks/JamesMRobbColoradoRiver/Pages/MapsDirections.aspx#5)​ The Fruita Campground <https://www.cpwshop.com/camping/james-m-robb-colorado-river-state-park-fruita-section/r/campgroundDetails.page?parkID=50069&media=3> on the west end and Island Acres Campground <https://www.cpwshop.com/camping/james-m-robb-colorado-river-state-park-island-acres-section/r/campgroundDetails.page?parkID=50027&media=3> on the east end have RV hookups. Although the park service warns that on certain days odors from the sewage treatment plant can reach the Fruita campground, the Fruita campground is more popular than Island Acres. Both campgrounds have coin showers and laundry from early spring through fall. Reservations are recommended

CO Grand Junction 81503, 2819 Highway 50, 970-242-2527 Grand Junction KOA <https://koa.com/campgrounds/grand-junction/> - has panoramic views of the red rock structures on the Colorado National Monument and the national forest of world's largest flat top mountain the Grand Mesa. Activities include a swimming pool, outdoor movie theater, playground, mini-golf, game room, and pedal bikes. All sites come with free WIFI and cable. Full and partial hookups. LTVer recommended.

CO Gunnison, CO 81230 - **Black Canyon of the Gunnison NP** <https://www.nps.gov/blca/index.htm> - exposes you to some of the steepest cliffs, oldest rock, and craggiest spires in North America. With two million years to work, the Gunnison River, along with the forces of weathering, has sculpted this vertical wilderness of rock, water, and sky. Visitors can take in views of the Painted Wall, the highest cliff in Colorado. From river to rim, it stands 2,250 feet high. An International Dark Sky Park with evening sky programs. there are scenic drives along the north and south rims but do not use East Portal Road which has steep 16% grades. South Rim Campground <https://www.nps.gov/blca/planyourvisit/camp_southrim.htm> There are 23 RV sites with electric loop B. Generator use is not allowed. Water is brought in by truck, therefore RV water filling is not available. Pit toilets only and no showers. No dogs From June 1 to August 10, 2018 due to aggressive deer parents protecting their fawns. [https://www.recreation.gov/co/south%20rim%20campground%20(co)/campground/r/campgroundDetails.do?contractCode=NRSO&parkId=74059](https://www.recreation.gov/co/south%20rim%20campground%20%28co%29/campground/r/campgroundDetails.do?contractCode=NRSO&parkId=74059)

Route 50 last year through Gunnison CO is a beautiful part of CO. I would drive through there if possible. So many lakes, rivers, biking and hiking opportunities.

CO Hayden 81639, 6185 US HWY 40, 970.276.2061 **Yampa River SP** <http://cpw.state.co.us/placestogo/parks/YampaRiver> – conveniently located on RT 40 and adjacent to the Yampa River. Rafters, canoeists and kayakers enjoy both flat water and rapids. The campground has 35 electrical hookup sites, showers and a laundry. Reservations 800.244.5613 or <http://www.cpw.state.co.us>

or <https://www.reserveamerica.com/camping/yampa-river-state-park/r/campgroundDetails.do?contractCode=CO&parkId=50070>

CO Hooper 81136, 16399 Lane 6 N, **San Luis State Wildlife Area** <https://cpw.state.co.us/placestogo/parks/SanLuis>- It is now a SWA but used to be a State Park and just became a wilderness area last year. First come, first serve basis 55 sites (most pull-throughs) with electric are available for free but bath houses are locked. Arrive with a full tank because there is no water on the campground.

CO Loveland 80538, 3720 North County RD11-C, 970-669-1739 **Boyd’s Lake State Park** <http://cpw.state.co.us/placestogo/parks/BoydLake> – the park is along Boyd’s Lake/reservoir and water sports including windsurfing are the main activity. The park has a sandy swimming beach and paved bicycle trails. The parks campground has 147 paved pull through campsites with electric hookups, coin operated showers, some trees and a playground. This park has daily user fees in additional to the camping fee. LTVer recommended. Reservations 800.244.5613 or <http://www.cpw.state.co.us>

or <https://www.reserveamerica.com/camping/boyd-lake-state-park/r/campgroundDetails.do?contractCode=CO&parkId=50019>

CO Mosca 81146, 11999 State Highway 150, **Great Sand Dunes National Park** <https://www.nps.gov/grsa/index.htm> - The tallest dunes in North America. Medano Creek is a popular seasonal stream that forms at the base of the dunes when the snow pack melts. The park service measures its seasonal formation and present conditions. Usually Medano Creek is at its highest level in May & June and the park is jammed at that time. <https://www.nps.gov/grsa/planyourvisit/medano-creek.htm> Dogs are welcome up to the top of the first tall ridge of dunes, between High Dune and Castle Creek Picnic Area, and throughout the adjoining Great Sand Dunes National Preserve. Remember that the sand here can be hot, so grab an old towel to dry off and enjoy a splash in Medano Creek with your pal! RVs use Piñon Flats Campground <https://www.nps.gov/grsa/planyourvisit/pinonflatscampground.htm> - Restrooms with sinks, flush toilets, dishwashing sink, and water spigots are available. No hookups. Some sites have large cottonwood or conifer trees for shade, while others are more out in the open. <https://www.recreation.gov/camping/pinyon-flats-campground-great-sand-dunes-national-park-and-preserve/r/campgroundDetails.do?contractCode=NRSO&parkId=96669>

CO Ridgway 81432, Elk Ridge Campground RD, **Ridgway State Park State Park** <https://cpw.state.co.us/placestogo/parks/Ridgway> - The park is 21 miles southeast of Montrose, 14 miles northeast of Ouray and it is also 4 miles north of the town of Ridgway. A beautiful reservoir, picnic and playground areas, extensive trails, and diverse wildlife. Bears have been seen in the area. Sites on the exterior of the loops tended to be a bit more private than ones on the interior of the loops. Reservations can be made 24/7 at 800-244-5613 or at [www.cpwshop.com](http://www.cpwshop.com/)

CO Steamboat Springs <https://www.steamboatsprings.net/> - known for its winter downhill skiing, ski jumping, and summer mountain biking, hiking, rodeos, and year-round shopping. The main street called Lincoln is also Route 40. Advise staying in the center lane to avoid parallel parked cars lining both curbs and the street funnels down into one lane with the right lanes merging with the center lane. Make sure you walk, run or bike the Yampa trail that parallels the Yampa River that flows through town. Visit the 280+ foot Fishing Creek Falls <https://www.steamboatchamber.com/events-activities/activities/fish-creek-falls> early or late in the day to miss the parking lot traffic jam that occurs late morning or early afternoon on weekends. If you have a **real off-road** vehicle, you can drive up to the Hahn’s Peak trail head <https://www.alltrails.com/trail/us/colorado/hahns-peak-trail>. The 3-mile round trip hike to Hahn’s Peak is difficult but the reward is a 10000= view in all directions. Never hike to Hahn’s peak if you see stormy weather to the west. The peak attracts lightning strikes. The **Yampa River Botanical Gardens** <http://yrbp.org/> accessed through Emerald Park is spectacular if you like gardening. The gardens do a good job labeling the plants and there are many plants to see and the admission is free. The Steamboat USFS office has the MVUM for the Routt National forest and detailed area trail brochures. There are multiple state parks in the area with the closest being 16 miles south, **Stagecoach SP** <http://cpw.state.co.us/placestogo/parks/Stagecoach> and two others, **Steamboat Lake** <http://cpw.state.co.us/placestogo/parks/SteamboatLake> and Pearl Lake <http://cpw.state.co.us/placestogo/parks/PearlLake> , being 26 miles north. Steamboat traffic can be busy downtown. All three of these state parks use reserveAmerica.com for reservations.