

I-70 Journey

EXIT 260

Dakota Hogback aka Dinosaur Ridge Dinosaur Ridge is a segment of the [Dakota Hogback](#) in the Morrison Fossil Area [National Natural Landmark](#). The Dinosaur Ridge area is one of the world's most famous dinosaur fossil localities. In 1877, some of the best-known dinosaurs were found here, including [Stegosaurus](#), [Apatosaurus](#), [Diplodocus](#), and [Allosaurus](#). In 1973, the area was recognized for its uniqueness as well as its historical and scientific significance when it was designated the **Morrison Fossil Area National Natural Landmark** by the [National Park Service](#).

The rocks on the west side of Dinosaur Ridge are part of the widespread [Morrison Formation](#) of [Jurassic](#) age. The rocks on the east side of Dinosaur Ridge are part of the [Cretaceous Dakota Formation](#).

EXIT 259

Red Rocks Amphitheatre and Park is a rock structure near [Morrison, Colorado](#), 10 miles (16 km) west of [Denver](#), where concerts are given in the open-air [amphitheatre](#). There is a large, tilted, [disc-shaped](#) rock behind the stage, a huge vertical rock angled outwards from stage right, several large outcrops angled outwards from stage left and a seating area for up to 9,525 people^[1] in between. At its height, the amphitheatre sits at 6,450 feet, and the surrounding Red Rocks Park covers 868 acres.

After [Pollstar](#) magazine awarded Red Rocks the honor of best small outdoor venue for the 11th time, the leading concert industry magazine decided to name the nationally coveted honor the Red Rocks Award—and remove Red Rocks from the running.

EXIT 256

If you're ready to stretch your legs try the 373 steps up to large white statue of The Sacred Heart of Jesus high on the hill at the **Mother Cabrini Shrine**. It's visible on the north side of I-70 just before the exit.

Mother Cabrini loved the mountains of Colorado. The foothills west of Denver held a special attraction for her. Many pilgrims, through their faith, believe the water from its spring has brought healing and peace to their lives.

On June 3, 1917 Buffalo Bill was buried on Lookout Mountain where he had spent the happiest times of his life. The **Buffalo Bill's Grave and Museum** also has an observation deck that offers unparalleled views of the Rocky Mountain Front Range and Great Plains.

In between Exit 256 and 254 if you look to the south at the top of the highest peak you'll see the saucer or spaceship house aka the Charles Deaton **Sculptured House** made famous in the 1973 Woody Allen movie Sleeper. It is now a private residence meant only to be viewed from the I-70 vantage point.

EXIT 254

OMG Continental Divide views AND look either north or south to see the 2,413 acre mountain park home to the first reestablished **herd of bison and elk** in the state.

EXIT 240

Twenty miles off I-70 is the road to **Mount Evans** which is the highest paved road in North America! A quarter mile walk to the top and you can boast summiting a one of **Colorado's famous 14ers!** Overlook spectacular views including alpine lakes and glacier valleys. A drive to the top will take your breath away, in more ways than one!

Conditions can change quickly and drastically on Mount Evans. Come prepared to experience winter conditions in the middle of summer!

EXIT 239

In historic Idaho Springs mining district CATCH GOLD FEVER at working gold mine -- The **Phoenix Gold Mine Tour**. Recognized, on the [USGS maps](#), for its place in history. Seen in National Geographic, Ghost Hunters, Globe Trekkers, as well as in many other medias such as television, newspapers, magazines and even Educational Software! This claim was originally discovered in 1871

EXIT 238

North of I-70 is **St. Mary's Glacier** is a semi-permanent [snowfield](#) located in [Arapaho National Forest](#) about 10 miles north of I-70. A 1.5 mile hike to the lake.

On the other side of the highway west of the exit is **Colorado Adventure Center** offering River Rafting, Ziplines and and an Ariel Park, Sky Trek.

EXIT 228

The Georgetown Loop Railroad was one of Colorado's first visitor attractions. This spectacular stretch of 3 ft (914 mm) narrow gauge railroad was completed in 1884 and considered an engineering marvel for its time. The thriving mining towns of [Georgetown](#) and [Silver Plume](#) lie 2 miles (3.2 km) apart. The route included [horseshoe curves](#), [grades](#) of up to 4%, and four bridges across Clear Creek, including the massive Devil's Gate High Bridge.

The train ride includes an optional walking tour of the **Lebanon Silver Mine**, located at the halfway point on the railroad, where visitors can walk 500 feet (150 m) into a mine tunnel bored in the 1870s, with guides pointing out once-rich veins of silver and relating the history of the mine.

The Eisenhower/Johnson Tunnel, with a maximum elevation of 11,158 feet (3,401 m) and length of 1.7 miles (2.7 km), is the longest mountain tunnel and highest point along the Interstate Highway System.

Mile Marker 419.99

In 2014, [mile marker](#) 420 was altered by CDOT to read "Mile 419.99" following repeat [thefts](#) of the original sign due to the significance of the number [420 in cannabis culture](#) but that's not part of this tour ☹️