



Full Itinerary & Trip Details

Alpine Peaks, Lakes and Waterfalls Thru Hike

- ✓ Explore McGraw Ranch Historical Site
- ✓ Camp by a stunning subalpine lake
- ✓ Summit a remote 13,425 Ft. peak
- ✓ Hike to a scenic alpine lake and creek
- ✓ Enjoy views of Longs Peak on final day

BEST SELECTION

BEST PRICES

TRUSTED PAYMENTS

Trip Overview



PRICE STARTING FROM

\$1,775.00

DURATION

5 days

STARTS IN → ENDS IN

Estes Park → Estes Park

OPERATED IN

English

OPERATOR

Wildland Trekking

TOUR CODE

#220036

Itinerary

Introduction

This diverse Rocky Mountain National Park backpacking trip offers stunning mountain scenery, on and off trail hiking, visits to wonderful historical sites, cascading waterfalls, and summits a remote 13,000 foot peak. It quite literally has it all! It is also a point to point hike, which means all new scenery every day. And with ample opportunities for day hikes from our scenic campsites, and relaxation at alpine lakes, it is an action-packed but well balanced adventure. Whether you are a seasoned backpacker, just starting out, or somewhere in between, this trip is sure to offer something new for everyone!

Day 1

Start Point



Estes Park,
USA

Shuttle to Trailhead: 20 minutes

Hiking Distance: 5 miles (includes 3 day hiking miles)

Elevation Gain: 1000 feet

Elevation Loss: 1000 feet

Our Rocky Mountain backpacking adventure begins in Estes Park, CO with a short shuttle drive to our trailhead (8,300 Ft.). Before hitting the trail we will explore the McGraw Ranch Historical Site, a former cattle ranch established in 1884. Visiting this cultural site gives the perspective of what life was like for the early pioneers in the Estes Park Valley. Our trail gradually gains elevation as we hike towards our campsite located 2 miles in from the trailhead. We will set up camp and enjoy lunch before grabbing our day packs and hiking to the highlight of day one, a stunning Colorado Rockies waterfall. This gorgeous cascading waterfall is located one mile from camp. After exploring the falls, we will head back to camp the way we came.

Day 2

Hiking Distance: 7 miles

Elevation Gain: 3000 feet

After a scrumptious breakfast, we will dawn our packs and head West into a beautiful canyon. Our trail meanders through forests and meadows that give views of the surrounding mountain summits. Gradually gaining elevation, we will leave the day hikers behind us as we enter the Northern region of Rocky Mountain National Park. Here we'll make camp for the next two nights near the shores of a stunning subalpine lake at 11,000 feet.

Day 3

Hiking Distance: 5 miles (all day hiking)

Elevation Gain: 2800 feet

Elevation Loss: 2800 feet

Today is perhaps the highlight of the trip, as we wake up with an alpine start to summit a 13,425 Ft. peak! A mountain that is seldom visited due to its remote location within the national park, climbing this peak makes for a great experience. We very often have the summit all to ourselves! Hiking with only daypacks, we will spend the majority of the day off trail and above tree line. It is a rewarding summit offering stunning views of the Continental Divide and the distant Longs Peak (14,259 ft). Many Colorado Wildland Trekking guides refer to this mountain as being their favorite summit in Rocky Mountain National Park. After the hike, we will spend the remainder of the day relaxing in or near camp before sitting down for a celebratory backcountry feast.

Day 4

Hiking Distance: 7 miles (includes 3 miles day hiking)

Elevation Gain: 900 feet

Elevation Loss: 2200 feet

Before moving onto our next campsite, we will enjoy a morning day hike to a very scenic alpine lake nearby. This remote alpine lake is engulfed by a cirque of cliffs below a towering peak. After lunch, we will break camp, grab our backpacks and hit the trail for an all downhill hike. We arrive at our camp located along a pristine mountain creek. Here we spend our last night under the stars along a beautiful Rocky Mountain stream.

Day 5

End Point



Estes Park,
USA

Hiking Distance: 3 miles

Elevation Loss: 1300 feet

Shuttle back to Estes Park: 20 minutes

With no reason to rush, we can sleep in and enjoy our last hearty breakfast before hitting the trail. Today we continue hiking south along the creek we camped on, presented with astonishing views of Longs Peak and Trail Ridge Road. At the Trailhead, we will enjoy one last lunch together at a beautiful meadow picnic area before heading back to Estes Park and concluding our adventure.

Please Note: We always do everything in our power to follow the set itinerary, however it can change occasionally based on temporary access restrictions, weather, lodging/campground availability, guest ability/injury, natural events like fires and flooding, and other potential causes.

What's Included

Accommodation

TENT CAMPING

Sleeping on backpacking trips is in premier 1-person, 2-person or 4-person backcountry tents. Solo travelers, and anyone else who requests it, are issued single tents. Top-of-the-line self-inflating sleeping pads and synthetic-fill sleeping bags (professionally laundered after every trip) are also provided.

Guide

A professional, knowledgeable, certified Rocky Mountain hiking guide

Meals

All meals are included from breakfast the first day through lunch on the last day

Transport

Transportation for the duration of the trip beginning and ending in Estes Park, CO

Others

Top-of-the-line tent, backcountry sleeping pad and multi-day backpack

High quality, synthetic sleeping bag (professionally laundered after every use) – or bring your own.

Use of trekking poles

Entrance fees and national park permits

Bear cannisters for food storage

Emergency equipment including a company-issued first-aid kit and satellite phone

You will receive a Lifetime Hiking Membership entitling you, your spouse and kids to a lifetime discount of 10% off any Wildland Trekking hiking trip after your first one!

What's Not Included

Flights

Flights are not included.

Insurance

Insurance is not included.

Others

Clothes, raingear and footwear

Sunscreen, toiletries and personal items

Water bottles and a headlamp or flashlight

Guide gratuity (industry recommendation is 10-20% of trip cost)

Mandatory 5% National Park Fee (added at time of booking and passed through directly to the National Park Service)

Optional

Other activities and services are not included.

Departure Dates

STARTING IN Estes Park	→	ENDING IN Estes Park
01 July 2025		05 July 2025
07 July 2025		11 July 2025
20 July 2025		24 July 2025
28 July 2025		01 August 2025
03 August 2025		07 August 2025
10 August 2025		14 August 2025
25 August 2025		29 August 2025
08 September 2025		12 September 2025

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