

A vibrant photograph of the Denver skyline. In the foreground, a dense forest of green trees is visible. Behind the trees, several skyscrapers of varying heights and architectural styles stand prominently. The most notable is a tall, dark glass skyscraper in the center. To its left is a building with a distinctive white, peaked roof. To its right is a tall, dark building with a red-tinted top section. In the background, majestic snow-capped mountains rise against a sky filled with soft, white clouds. The lighting suggests a late afternoon or early morning scene, with a warm glow on the mountains and buildings.

destination
guide
denver
colorado

Welcome to Denver, the mile high city!

In this guide you can find favorite attractions and experiences in Denver and the surrounding area, including recommendations from CHFA staff.

union station + shuttle

table of contents:

denver attractions

denver events

short drive from denver

day trips from denver

dining

Affordable Housing
and Economic
Development Highlights

+ key to links:

text **link's**

clickable

in the box



denver attractions

In Denver, a thriving cultural scene and natural beauty combine. A great place to start planning activities for your trip is [visitdenver.com](https://www.visitdenver.com), visitor's bureau for the City and County of Denver.

Denver Art Museum:

The museum features famous collections including Indigenous Arts of North America, Latin American Art, and Art of the Ancient Americas.

Denver Botanic Gardens:

The public botanical garden is an oasis in the city, containing a conservatory, a variety of themed gardens, and a sunken amphitheater.

Denver Mint:

Free, guided tours are available of the Denver facility. Online reservations are available on a first-come, first-serve basis up to 30 days in advance.

Denver Museum of Nature and Science:

Natural history and science museum with exhibitions, film showings, and a planetarium.

Denver Union Station:

Historic train station in downtown Denver with dining and shopping. Trains to and from the airport depart and arrive at this location.

History Colorado Center:

Museum exploring Colorado's heritage with interactive exhibits and immersive experiences.

Meow Wolf:

Immersive art adventure featuring multimedia experiences and art installations.

Molly Brown House:

Museum telling the story of Margaret "Molly" Brown's activism, philanthropy, and passion through exhibits. She is best known as a survivor of the Titanic.

Rocky Mountain Arsenal National Wildlife Refuge:

Free wildlife refuge that is one of the largest urban refuges in the country. Drive the 11-mile Wildlife Drive to see bison, deer, raptors, songbirds, waterfowl, and prairie dogs.

River North Art District (RiNo):

Explore public art in the River North Art District. You'll find murals created by local artists and sanctioned by the neighborhood and city. Check out the art for free or book a walking tour to learn about the story behind the street art in the neighborhood.

State Capitol:

Free guided tours are available Monday – Friday on the hour between 9:00am to 3:00pm. Dome Only tours are available in July on the half hour from 9:30am to 3:30pm.

Washington Park:

155-acre urban park that includes two lakes. Popular for walking, running, and biking.

Wings Over the Rockies:

Museum that allows visitors to get up close to historic aircraft, artifacts, and memorabilia. Features realistic flight simulators and space exhibits to explore the future of aviation and space.

16th Street The Denver Way:

This mile-long pedestrian-friendly street includes shopping and restaurants in downtown Denver. There are free shuttle buses that travel up and down the street.

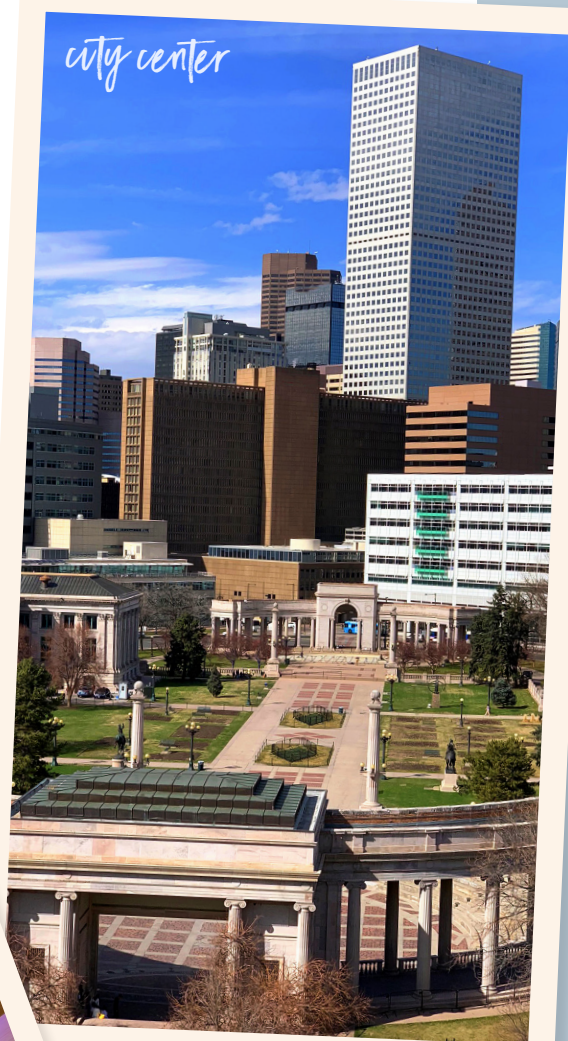
events

City Park Jazz:

Collaborative musical and performance project, BTTRFLY QUINTET, plays on Sunday, July 12th from 6:00pm to 8:00pm. City Park Jazz features local musicians for a free concert at Denver's City Park.

Civic Center Eats:

Select from lunch at more than a dozen food trucks and eat outside while enjoying music from local artists. Available Wednesdays and Thursdays in July from 11:00am to 2:00pm.



Levitt Pavilion:

Outdoor music venue with relaxed, open lawn seating and local food vendors. Concerts on Sunday, July 12th and Friday, July 17th.

Rockies Game:

Watch the Colorado Rockies vs. the Cincinnati Reds July 17-19 at Coors Field.



From food halls to award-winning restaurants, Denver is a top foodie destination. Many of the restaurants listed below are easily accessible from downtown Denver.

Award-winning restaurants

The Wolf's Tailor

Alma Fonda Fina

Ash'Kara

Annette

Denver classics

La Loma

(won best overall green chili from 5280 magazine)

Cherry Cricket

(Colorado bison burger)

Snooze

an A.M. Eatery (Denver omelet)

Beau Jo's Pizza

(Colorado-style pizza)

Buckhorn Exchange

(Denver's oldest still-operating restaurant)

Farm-to-table favorites

Mercantile Dining and Provisions

Wildflower

Mizuna

Potager

Root Down



Food experience

Casa Bonita

(cliff divers and other entertainment)

Food halls

Avanti Food & Beverage

Denver Central Market

Denver Milk Market

McGregor Square Food + Drink

The Source Hotel + Market Hall

Food with a view

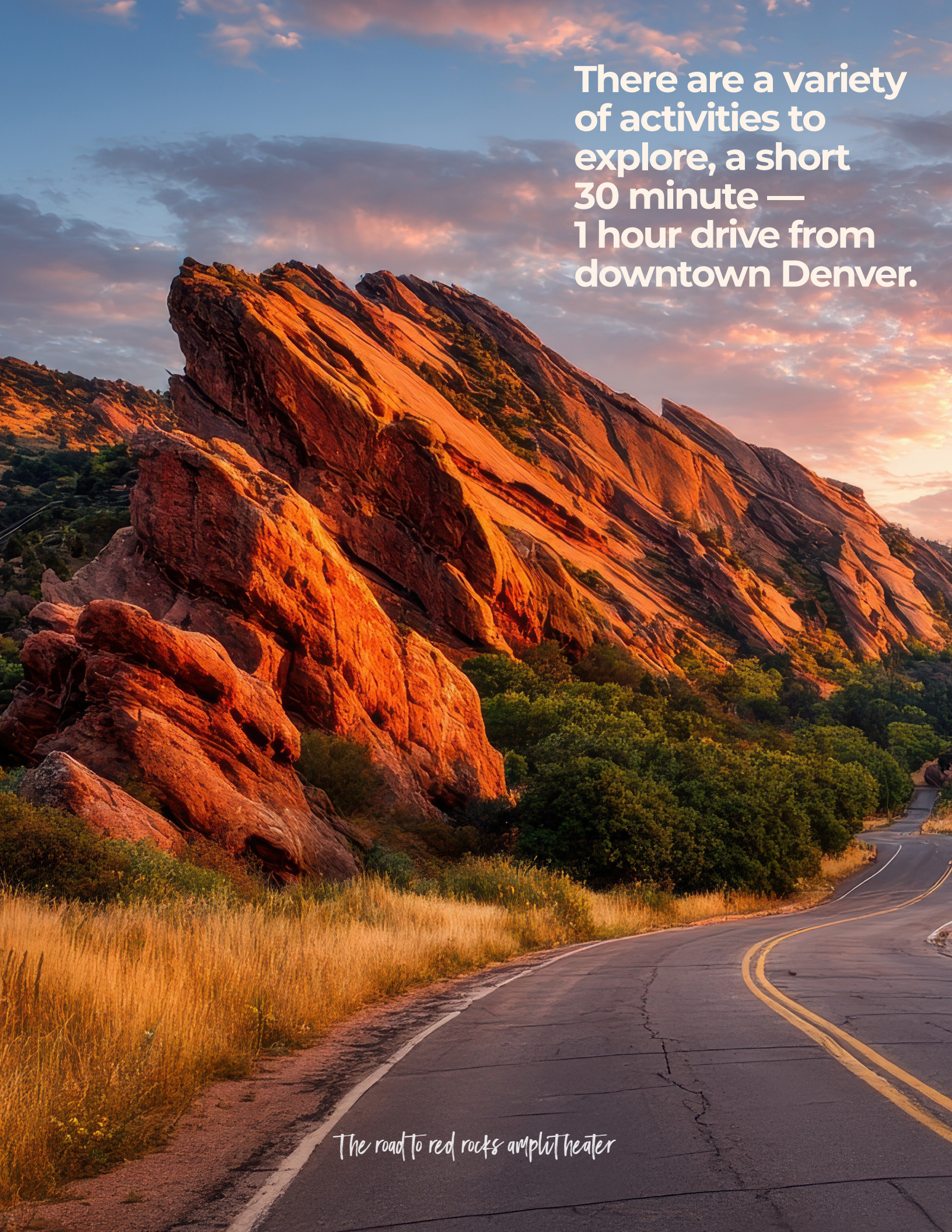
Stellar Jay

54thirty Rooftop

BurnDown

dining





There are a variety
of activities to
explore, a short
30 minute —
1 hour drive from
downtown Denver.

The road to red rocks amphitheater

Boulder Dushanbe Teahouse:

Enjoy tea and the atmosphere at the teahouse built in connection with Boulder, Colorado's sister city Dushanbe.

Celestial Seasonings:

Tours of the tea factory in Boulder, Colorado are available Tuesday – Saturday. The tour includes information about how the company's products are made and a tea sampling experience.

Chataqua Park:

The park is located next to the trailhead for a number of trails in a popular hiking area. Just minutes from downtown Boulder, Colorado, enjoy an up-close view of the Flatirons. These striking, slanted, reddish-brown sandstone formations make up a portion of Boulder's foothills.

Coors Brewery:

Tour the Coors Brewery in Golden, Colorado to learn about the brewery's history and passion for brewing. Visitors who are 21 years and older, with a valid government issued ID can receive three beer samples on the tour. Advanced reservations for the tour are required.

New Belgium Brewing:

Tour New Belgium Brewing in Fort Collins, Colorado to go behind the scenes and learn how their beers are made. Tour participants must be 12 years or older. Samples are available for those 21 years and older. Advanced reservations are strongly encouraged.

Red Rocks Park and Amphitheatre:

Located near Morrison, Colorado, explore this collection of outdoor hiking trails, National Historic Landmark, and world-class music venue. See the beautiful views and music history, even if you are not attending a concert. Before you go, check the concert schedule as the amphitheater will close early on concert days.

Stanley Marketplace:

Located near downtown Denver in Aurora, Colorado. What was once an aviation manufacturing facility is now a hub with more than 50 locally-owned small businesses including restaurants, boutiques, breweries, and creative workspaces.

The Wild Animal Sanctuary:

This sanctuary is a 40,000-acre refuge for hundreds of lions, tigers, bears, wolves, and mustangs. It is located in Keenesburg, Colorado, a short drive from Denver.





north, south + west

rocky mountain
national park,
colorado springs to
glenwood springs

hanging lake, glenwood springs

Air Force Academy:

The visitor center welcomes hundreds of thousands of tourists each year with information on Academy history, cadet life, and campus attractions. Located near Colorado Springs, Colorado, about an hour south of Denver.

The Broadmoor:

A luxury hotel located in Colorado Springs, Colorado. This is a popular spot to visit, even if you are not staying at the hotel. Dining, recreation, and hiking are available around the hotel.

Cheyenne Mountain Zoo:

Located on Cheyenne Mountain, near downtown Colorado Springs, this is the highest zoo in the country. See the animals and enjoy the beautiful views. Special animal feeding experiences are available for a small cost.

Garden of the Gods:

Free city park and national natural landmark with impressive red rock formations located in Colorado Springs, Colorado. Hiking trails, bike, and vehicle tours are available.

Glenwood Springs:

City located about three hours west of Denver known for its hot springs resorts. Other attractions include hiking at Hanging Lake, a national natural landmark with beautiful scenery and waterfalls, and visiting Glenwood Caverns Adventure Park.

Idaho Springs:

City located in the mountains about 40 minutes west of Denver known for rafting, hiking, and mine tours.

Manitou Springs:

City located between Garden of the Gods and Pikes Peak just outside of Colorado Springs, Colorado. Attractions include the Manitou Incline, a challenging 2,768 stair hike.

Pikes Peak:

Known as America's Mountain, the landmark in Colorado Springs, Colorado features panoramic views. Pikes Peak Highway offers a 19-mile scenic route to drive or take a shuttle to the top of the mountain.

Rocky Mountain National Park:

The National Park near Estes Park, Colorado covers 415 square miles and features a range of mountain environments. There are more than 350 miles of hiking trails where you can see wildlife, mountain peaks, and alpine lakes. A timed entry reservation is required during certain hours to visit the park.

The Stanley Hotel:

Historic hotel located in Estes Park, Colorado, near Rocky Mountain National Park. This is the hotel that inspired Stephen King's, *The Shining*. Hotel tours are available and visitors are also allowed to walk around the property on their own without staying at the hotel.

TPC Colorado:

Colorado's only PGA TOUR sanctioned golf course is located at Heron Lakes, near Berthoud, Colorado. The 18-hole championship semi-private golf course is a host on the Korn Ferry Tour, the path to the PGA TOUR.

U.S. Olympic and Paralympic Training Center:

Tour the training center in Colorado Springs, Colorado where Olympians train. Some of the facilities guests could see include the Strength and Conditioning gym, Aquatics Center, Wrestling Gym, and Sports Centers. Tour tickets are sold on a first-come first-serve basis at the center.



Affordable Housing and Economic Development Highlights



*Renaissance Legacy Lofts
Stout Street Recuperative Care Center*



neighborhood tour

CHFA is located in the Ballpark District of downtown Denver. You can see examples of CHFA's work to meet its mission of strengthening Colorado by investing in affordable housing and economic development near the office.

Follow this walking tour to guide you through a few of the projects CHFA has supported in downtown Denver.



National Ballpark Museum



Sunset Towers



Mile High United Way



Renaissance Legacy Lofts and Stout Street Recuperative Care Center



Bank Lofts



Boston Lofts



Barth Hotel



Union Station





enjoy
your
visit