



2018 Summertime Activities

Animas River Trail

The centerpiece of the city's trail system, this paved multi-use trail stretches nearly 7 miles through Durango's Animas River Greenway. Provides easy access to a variety of parks, open spaces and natural surface trails, plus the community recreation center, public library, downtown Durango, neighborhoods and schools.

Art & Cultural Establishments

Durango features over a dozen award-winning art galleries, museums and cultural attractions, including the Durango Arts Center, Durango & Silverton Train Museum, Animas Museum, Powerhouse Science Center, Center for Southwest Studies, and the Durango Fish Hatchery & Wildlife Museum.

Aztec Ruins National Monument

Explore a 900-year old ancestral Pueblo Great House of over 400 masonry rooms. Walk the half-mile trail through Aztec Ruins and discover T-shaped doorways, intact ancestral Pueblo rooms, and a reconstructed Great Kiva. Located 36 miles from Durango (45 min. drive). Open 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. daily, entrance fee is \$5.00 per person. Children 15 and under are free.

Bar D Chuckwagon

Family entertainment with old west cowboy music, comedy and includes a delicious chuckwagon supper (chicken, roast beef, or steak).

Chimney Rock National Monument

Off-the-beaten-path archaeological site located at the southern edge of the San Juan Mountains, just 1 hour east of Durango. Chimney Rock covers seven square miles and preserves 200 ancient homes and ceremonial buildings. Daily guided walking tours available at 9:30am & 1:00pm (2 hour tour) or 10:00am & 12:00pm (1 hour tour). \$14/adult and \$7/child (ages 5-12).

Crafted Beverages of Southwest Colorado

Raise a glass at one of Durango's local producers of handcrafted beers, spirits, wines, gourmet soft drinks, Kombucha tea or coffee roasters. Pick up your free Crafted Beverages Passport at the Welcome Center and enter to win a trip to Durango!

Downtown Durango

Downtown Durango is on the National Register of Historic Districts, where Old West meets southwest. Step back in time with a horse drawn carriage ride, visit historic hotels, hear traditional ragtime piano music and meet costumed Victorian-saloon gals and guys. Witness a live gunfight outside the Strater Hotel, Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, 5:30pm.

Durango Dog Ranch

Take an overland adventure in the mountains with sled dogs via cart or scooter. Meet the team, snuggle the puppies and see how the dogs keep fit in the summer months. Various tours and options available, located in beautiful La Plata Canyon, just 20 minutes from downtown.

Durango Dining

Agriculture is at the heart of the Durango community supported by a strong “eat local” mindset and abundant locally grown and raised meats, vegetables and food products. Experience and enjoy the flavors of the Southwest at over 100 award winning restaurants and eateries.

Durango Farmer’s Market

Open-air market every Saturday from 8am – 12pm, May through October. Featuring organic fruits, veggies, meats, dairy and groceries, artisan goods, hot and cold drinks, ready-to-eat meals, and music. Located in the parking lot of First National Bank, 259 W. 9th Street.

Fishing

Learn to fly fish on the Gold Medal Waters of the Animas River, or nearby San Juan River. Cast your line in any of the area lakes surrounding Durango. There are numerous guide companies in town and activities to choose from.

Golf

Tee off at one of Durango’s premier golf courses, from Dalton Ranch Golf Club in the Animas Valley to Hillcrest Golf Club overlooking the town of Durango.

Honeyville

Shop, eat and sip everything honey-related at Durango’s own beekeeping and honey bottling family business. Located pen for business. Located just 11 miles north of downtown Durango on Hwy 550. Open for business and not subject to current road closures.

Horseback Riding

Nearby outfitters are available for trail rides and a cowboy cookout. Over the Hill Outfitters is 11.5 miles to the east of downtown Durango; Rustlers Roost is 31 miles west of downtown Durango in Mancos, near Mesa Verde National Park; and Elk Point Lodge is 30 miles east, near Vallecito Lake.

In-Town Trails

Enjoy on one of Durango’s many in-town trails. Overend Mountain Park is a 300-acre variable

playground for mountain bikers and hikers, located less than one mile from downtown. Horse Gulch and Telegraph Hill offers 1000 acres of dedicated open space less than one mile from downtown.

Jeep Tours

Explore La Plata Canyon located about 15 miles west of Durango. Enjoy incredible views from Kennebec Pass, which is over 12,000 ft. in elevation. Choose from numerous local tour companies and itineraries, and learn about the region's rich mining history and geology.

Lakes

Visit nearby Lake Nighthorse, Vallecito Lake or Lemon Reservoir for swimming, fishing, boating, waterskiing, wakeboarding, and standup paddle boarding.

Mesa Verde National Park

Mesa Verde has over 4,700 archaeological sites including 600 cliff dwellings and the mesa top sites of pithouses, pueblos, masonry towers, and farming structures. These sites are some of the most notable and best-preserved dwellings in the United States. There are a variety of tours to explore Mesa Verde, from Park Ranger-led tours to private tours for groups of all sizes.

- Park Ranger Guided Tours into the Cliff Dwellings can be purchased in person at the Durango Welcome Center, 802 Main Ave in Durango, or onsite at the Visitor Center at Mesa Verde National Park. Tickets can be purchased up to (2) days in advance of the travel date. Tickets must be purchased in person (no online or phone sales), are subject to availability and on a first-come, first-served basis.
- Twilight Tours of Cliff Palace - available online: <http://www.recreation.gov/>
- Private Day Trips are also available through the following tour companies: Mild to Wild, 970-247-4789; Durango Rivertrippers, 970-259-0289; Mountain Waters, 970-259-4191; and Gateway Reservations, 800-828-4228.
- Daytime Tours - (4) hour tours are available from Aramark, starting at Far View Lodge inside Mesa Verde National Park, 1-800-449-2288.
- Self-Guided Tours - there are plenty of cultural sites to explore on your own, whether you are driving or hiking. For more details on seasonal closures and availability, visit: https://www.nps.gov/meve/planyourvisit/self_guided_activities.htm.

Polaris UTV Razor Rentals

Rent a side-by-side Polaris RZR (off road vehicle) and experience the natural beauty of the La Plata Mountains with a self-guided tour. Delivery is available to the trailhead.

Rafting

Enjoy fun, family-friendly raft tours on the Animas River and splash through the waves at the Smelter Whitewater Park. Choose from a variety of raft and tour companies for rafting, kayaking, and stand-up paddle boarding. For current data on the Animas River Flow, please visit USGS.gov.

Rock Climbing

Visit the Rock Lounge indoor climbing center or hit up any of Durango's many bouldering and sport climbing areas within just a few minutes from downtown. Or hire a mountain guide and go multi-pitch climbing at East Animas. Durango has several climbing retailers, guide companies, equipment rentals and endless climbing possibilities.

Spas and Massage

Pamper yourself at one of Durango's many spas with a massage, facial or body treatment.

True West Rodeo

Pro rodeo at the fairgrounds, complete with everything from bronc busting and bull riding to barrel racing. Every Wednesday June 6th - August 8th at the La Plata County Fairgrounds, 2500 Main Ave. Adults: \$15 / Youth: \$10 / Kids 4 years & under: Free.

Ziplines

Visit Full Blast Adventure Center in town for ziplines and paintball.