

## **Suggested Itinerary:**

### **Denver, Gateway to Colorado Adventures**

Kick off a tour of Colorado with a couple of days exploring the art scene in cosmopolitan Denver. From there, savour mountain life with skiing or hiking in Vail, relax at hot springs in Glenwood Springs and enjoy culinary delights and nature in Grand Junction.

#### **Denver**

*Suggested: 2 - 3 days*

Get ready art lovers! Denver's visual arts scene is impressive. Begin at the Denver Art Museum, one of the largest art museums in the West, boasting a major collection of Native American art. Save time to stroll Denver's Museum of Contemporary Art for cutting-edge works in a variety of mediums. Or, get outside and meander through the Mile High City's many galleries. The Art District on Santa Fe, with some 60 galleries, hosts an art walk the first Friday of each month, as does the Golden Triangle Museum District, home to more than 50 galleries. While strolling around Denver, make note of the city's collection of more than 300 pieces of public art including sculptures, murals, and sound-and-light-based works.

#### **Vail**

*Suggested: 3 days*

From Denver, take the 100-mile (160 km) drive west through the mountains to Vail. This upscale resort town at the base of Vail Mountain is a haven for skiers and snowboarders. Guests can choose from a variety of lodges with world-class spas and restaurants. In summer, the city buzzes with mountain bikers, hikers and golfers. Vail hosts an annual Hot Summer Nights Concert series, as well as a bustling farmers market and art show each summer Sunday. Shoppers' alert: get ready to browse hundreds of boutiques and galleries in this pedestrian-friendly city. Shops here sell everything from cowboy gear and ski equipment to jewellery, art and clothing.

## Glenwood Springs

*Suggested: 2 days*

Drive an hour west to scenic Glenwood Springs, known for its hot springs and caves. Springs such as Glenwood Hot Springs Pool and Iron Mountain Hot Springs are said to have healing powers. After spending a day relaxing in the water, get your adrenaline roaring with a whitewater-rafting trip on the Colorado and Roaring Fork Rivers. Tour companies offer options for experienced rafters as well as for families desiring a milder adventure. Find even more fun activities at Glenwood Caverns Adventure Park as the park offers cave tours, thrill rides (including Colorado's longest alpine roller coaster) and numerous restaurants.

## Grand Junction

*Suggested: 3 days*

For a truly immersive food and beverage experience, head to Grand Junction, known as Colorado's River City. Grand Junction has been Colorado's fruit-growing hub since the late 1800s. While here, visit one of the area's lush orchards such as the Palisade Peach Company, Rancho Durazno or Cole Orchard to pick peaches, pears and cherries or to purchase jam, jellies, salsas and baked goods. Or, stroll through local vineyards and stay for a wine tasting at places such as gorgeous Grande River Vineyards and Plum Creek Winery in Palisade. In summer and early fall, grab a basket and tour the downtown farmers market for the day's freshest produce and prepared goods. Just a few minutes outside the city, take in the stunning, panoramic views of the red rock canyons at Colorado National Monument on the 23 mile (37 km) Rim Rock Drive. You may see wildlife such as desert bighorn sheep or collared lizards.

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