

# DENVER

## 1 MINUTE/1 HOUR/1 DAY GETAWAY

Denver features a compact downtown, with high rises that line its 17th Street Canyon and a bohemian section aptly named LoDo ("Lower Downtown"). Museums, parks, shopping, fine dining and funky local haunts provide lots to see and do. The Rocky Mountains make a dramatic backdrop and offer day trips for exploring the roots of the Old West and the breathtaking natural beauty of the region.

### 1 MINUTE

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**"One Mile Above Sea Level," Colorado State Capitol**  
200 E. Colfax Ave. • 303-866-2604

As you walk up the main steps toward the Capitol's golden dome (which pays tribute to the Colorado Gold Rush), stop before step #18—it's exactly one mile above sea level, as the stone carving indicates. The view from the steps is of scenic Civic Center Park.

**Buffalo Bill's Grave**  
987-1/2 Lookout Mountain Rd., Golden • 303-526-0747

Buffalo Bill requested that he be buried on this picturesque spot 30 minutes from downtown. Pay your respects and take in the breeze coming off the Continental Divide, the natural perfume of the Ponderosa Pines and the view of Great Plains and Rocky Mountains. Want to know more about Bill? Visit the museum adjacent.

### 1 HOUR

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**Hammond's Candies**  
5735 N. Washington St.  
888-CANDY-99 • hammondscandies.com

Don't expect an assembly line of machines on this candy factory tour—since 1920, the Mile High favorite has made sweets the old-fashioned way. Watch as experts pull, press, twist and shape hard candy, lollipops, caramels and more. And yes, there is a gift shop.

**U.S. Mint**  
320 W. Colfax Ave.  
303-405-4765 • usmint.gov

Denver and Philadelphia house the only two U.S. Mints available for public tours. Here, you can see large coining presses churning out currency at up to 800 coins per minute. To be assured a spot on the tour, call ahead.

**Denver Art Museum**  
100 W. 14th Ave. Pkwy.  
720-865-5000 • denverartmuseum.org

With tens of thousands of works of art on display, this 7-story castle-like building is one of the largest in the Midwest, housing premier collections of Asian, British, Spanish colonial and Native American paintings, sculptures and more.

### 1 HOUR (CON'T)

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**Black American West Museum**  
3091 California St. • 303-292-2566

Located in the home of Justina Ford, Colorado's first female doctor, this museum celebrates African-American contributions to the Old West. Exhibits highlight the accomplishments and experiences of black cowboys, miners, explorers and the Buffalo Soldiers, the U.S.'s first black regiments.

**Coors Brewery**  
13th and Ford Sts., Golden • 303-277-2337

Opened in 1873—3 years before Colorado became a state—the Coors Brewery now ranks among the largest breweries in the world, and now produces 24 million barrels of beer annually. A free 45-minute walking tour allows you to check out the 55-day process from start to finish, from milling to brewing to packaging.

### 1 DAY

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**Pike's Peak Cog Railway**  
Manitou Springs, CO  
719-685-5401 • cograilway.com

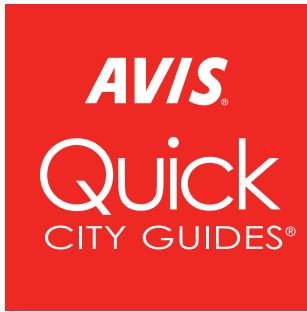
Ride the rails of the highest train in the country to see gorgeous views of mountainsides, waterfalls and possibly bighorn sheep on the way to Pike's Peak's 14,110-ft. summit. Click onto the web site to find discount coupons for your guided tour.

**LoDo**  
303-628-5424 • lodo.org

Denver's historic district is also its newest asset. The revitalized neighborhood not only reflects the city's past, but is also home to Rockies baseball, art galleries, shopping, restaurants and nightlife. Start at Larimer Square (15th & Market) and make your way north.

**Boulder**  
I-25N / 87N to 36W

A half-hour from Denver, Boulder is charming, historic and funky, and offers eclectic boutiques, teahouses, cafes and restaurants—and a thriving outdoor sports scene. Hike Chautauqua Park or Mount Sanitas, then reward yourself with reservations at Frasca on Pearl Street or the Flagstaff House Restaurant, whose mountainside location boasts a terrace with breathtaking views.



# DENVER

GOURMET DINING AND LOCAL FAVORITES

## GOURMET DINING

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### **Prima, Hotel Teatro**

A favorite among theater-goers, Prima offers seating either in the striking 18-ft. tall bar area, or its elegant mezzanine. The cuisine is several light, fresh courses of Northern Italian, from homemade spaghetti to tiramisu.

**1100 14th St. • 303-228-0770**

### **The Cork House**

Fine French-inspired American cuisine, such as the honey wine-glazed duck breast, is served in an atmosphere seemingly borrowed from a cozy country inn in France.

**4900 E. Colfax Ave. • 303-355-4488**

### **Palace Arms Restaurant**

Experience the grandeur of the century-old Brown Palace Hotel in one of Denver's most historic restaurants. Replete with deep red leather booths and 18th-century antiques, the Palace Arms serves dishes just as rich, like pan seared loin of Colorado lamb for dinner, and the 24K gold milkshake for dessert.

**321 17th St. • 303-297-3111**

### **Mirepoix, JW Marriott Denver at Cherry Creek**

Muted yellows and greens, wood floors, an open kitchen and a wall displaying 700 selections of wine from around the world lend Mirepoix an airy sophistication. Starters include a salad with grilled pear and gorgonzola and a chowder of shrimp, crab and sweet potato. Look for cedar plank king salmon and rack of lamb among the main courses.

**150 Clayton Ln. • 303-253-3000**

### **rioja**

Hand-blown glass fixtures, a copper-topped bar and an exhibition-style kitchen provide the backdrop for Mediterranean fare inspired by local seasonal ingredients. A "picnic" appetizer features a spread of delicacies that include Spanish chorizo, pine nut crusted goat cheese, Italian Mountain Gorgonzola, olives and a truffle-fennel salad. For entrees, you'll find homemade pastas, braised monkfish, stuffed quail and grilled beef shoulder steak with a brie-bacon-potato croquette.

**1431 Larimer St. • 303-820-2282**

## LOCAL FAVORITES

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### **Delectable Egg**

Start your day the well-balanced way at this breakfast and lunch spot that's popular with Denver's business community. Enjoy traditional favorites, or healthier options like egg-white omelets or smoothies.

**1625 Court Pl. • 303-892-5720**

### **Hapa Sushi Grill & Sake Bar**

Sushi lovers could find themselves happy in this sleek Cherry Creek hotspot—some believe they're the best rolls in town. But Hapa also serves an innovative blend of Japanese and Hawaiian fare.

**1117 Pearl St. • 303-473-4730**

### **Mizuna**

Executive Chef Alex Seidel calls it "the top kitchen laboratory" in the state, as the cooking staff is given free artistic reign in this comfortable, intimate dining room. Freshness dictates a constantly updated menu of creative cuisine, like the macaroni & cheese with Maine lobster.

**225 E. 7th Ave. • 303-832-4778**

### **Bistro Vendome**

Elegant appointments include floor-to-ceiling windows, antique lighting, mosaic tile and menu items written on mirrors in gold and black lettering. Locals flock here for the authentic brasserie classics that include steak frites with bearnaise or Roquefort or roasted striped bass with a Pernod-scented chowder of Yukon gold potatoes, fennel and mussels. A charming 12-person private room and seasonal patio dining add to the draw.

**1424-H Larimer Sq. • 303-825-3232**

### **Café Brazil**

This popular Highlands spot specializes in creative and vibrant South American cuisine. Try the grilled chicken breast with red chilies, shallots and coconut milk, the prawns and scallops with diced tomatoes, mango and passion fruit or the Feijoda Completa, a Brazilian dish of black-bean stew and smoked meats accompanied by fried bananas. Vivid pink and green décor and lively music keep the atmosphere relaxed, friendly and festive. Reservations recommended; cash only.

**4408 Lowell Blvd. • 303-480-1877**