

AZVT Colorado Springs day trips:



Garden of the Gods- <https://www.gardenofgods.com/>

Approx 15 min from hotel. **Free**

Located at the base of Pikes Peak, this National Natural Landmark and popular park features stunning geological formations, rock climbing, nature trails and the Garden of the Gods Visitor & Nature Center. Suggested duration: 2-3 hours.

Pikes Peak- <https://www.pikes-peak.com/attractions/pikes-peak-americas-mountain/>

Approx 25 min from hotel. Adult: **\$15** Child (6-15): **\$5**
Carload up to 5 people: **\$50**



Pikes Peak is the highest summit of the southern Front Range of the Rocky Mountains. The ultra-prominent 14,115 foot fourteener is located in Pike National Forest. The scenic Pikes Peak highway provides you the opportunity to enjoy 19 miles of mountain terrain with frequent pull-offs for you to get out, stretch your legs and explore all that America's mountain has to offer. You'll be treated to breathtaking views, four different Colorado life zones and unique animal sightings, like Rocky Mountain Bighorn Sheep, yellow-bellied marmots and (rumored) Big Foot! The grandeur of the mountain often piques the curiosity of visitors, and the "Meet the Ranger" program is the perfect place to learn first-hand about Pikes Peak history, geology, nature wildlife and events. Approximately 2-3 hours RT.



Manitou Springs- <https://www.visitcos.com/areas/manitou-springs/>

Approx 15 min from hotel, **Free**

Manitou Springs is a resort city in Colorado, just outside Colorado Springs. It's known for its mineral springs and mountain landscapes, dominated by soaring Pikes Peak. The 1880s Pikes Peak Cog Railway runs up the mountain, along pine forests and rugged canyons. Lots of shopping, coffee shops and art galleries.

Who's ready for a challenge???

The incline- <https://www.pikes-peak.com/manitou-incline/>

Approx 15 min from hotel, Free but parking is \$10 usually

The Manitou Incline has been hailed as the holy grail of cardio for locals and athletes, alike. The once railroad track now consists of approximately 2,744 steps made entirely of railroad ties! Although it's only one mile in length, the ascension averages a 41% incline (68% at its highest) and a 2,000 foot climb in elevation! Needless to say, this hike isn't for the faint of heart, or heights. The Manitou Incline is considered one of the highest sets of stairs in the world! This trail is rated Extreme. So, if you think you have what it takes to conquer it, here are a few tips to surviving the Manitou Incline....Pace yourself, Hydrate, Breathe, Take breaks, Beware of the false summit, Take Barr trail back down! **Highest point:** Peak, 8,590 feet (2,620 m)



Colorado wolf and wildlife center

<http://www.wolfeducation.org/>

Approx 47 min from hotel, See tours/pricing below

Standard tour: is a 1 hour guided educational tour. You will see wolves, coyote, fox and learn about the history, biology, current issues they face today and so much more. Every tour ends with a signature group howl. Please arrive 15 minutes early! **Tours are conducted TUESDAY-SUNDAY 10am, 12pm, 2pm –** Pricing: Adult \$15 (12+) Children \$10 (3-11 yrs) Advanced reservations required!

The **Interactive Alpha tour:** you will get up close and personal with our wolves. A staff photographer and wolf handler will help you to experience and capture this once in a lifetime experience. You will receive up to 15 photos on a thumb drive to take home. Must be 18 or older. Your time in with the wolves depends on how interactive they are. Approx. 20-25 minutes for 1 or 2 groups. **Times are after standard tour.** Pricing: \$300 for 1 or 2 guests, \$150 for each additional guest, Up to 4 people max. Advanced reservations required!

The **Feeding tour** is a 60-75 min. guided educational tour - PLUS watch your guide feed our hungry animals. Every tour ends with a signature group howl. **4pm· Not on Thursdays** Pricing: Adult \$20 (12+) Children \$12 (3-11 years) Reservations required! Please arrive at least 15 minutes early!

Cheyenne Mountain State park-

<http://cpw.state.co.us/placestogo/parks/cheyennemountain>

Approx 11 min from hotel, Daily park pass: \$7 Activities to do: Archery range, 21 hiking trails ranging from short and easy to long and extreme, camping and horseback riding.



Seven Falls- <https://www.pikes-peak.com/attractions/seven-falls/>

Approx 20 min from hotel. Adult: \$14.50 | Child (2-12): \$9 | Tram: \$2 | Senior (60+) & Military per ID: \$12.50

Seven Falls is one of Colorado's most captivating wonders. This magnificent series of waterfalls is situated in a 1,250 foot-wall box canyon between the towering Pillars of Hercules. Take in stunning vistas of verdant valleys, striking rock formations and golden prairies as you climb the challenging 224 steps to the hiking trails and the banks of glistening streams that feed Seven Falls, and its 181-foot drop of falling water.

Paint Mines Interpretive Park- <https://communityservices.elpasoco.com/parks-and-recreation/paint-mines-interpretive-park/>

Approx 52 min from hotel, Free!

The Paint Mines Interpretive Park is one of El Paso County's most unique open spaces. The Paint Mines are named for their colorful clays that were collected by American Indians to make paint. Brightly colored bands, caused by oxidized iron compounds, are found in varying amounts throughout the many different layers of clay.



Royal Gorge Bridge and Park - <https://royalgorgebridge.com/>



Approx 1 hr 10 min from hotel, Adult: \$22 Child (6-12): \$17 (includes gondola), Cloudscraper Zipline: \$45 Skycoaster: 1 rider \$30 2 riders \$55 3 riders \$75

The **Royal Gorge Bridge** spans the gorge and is one of the world's highest suspension bridges. Built in 1929, it stretches 1,270 feet across and soars 956 feet above the Arkansas. Those who wish to cross it can do so on foot, where you can peer over the bridge to see the rafters

below. Those seeking more adrenaline-fueled experiences should book time on the Royal Rush Skycoaster. After a 50mph free fall, the coaster hangs you over the canyon's rim with only the river below. New attractions added to the park in 2015 include a new aerial gondola that gently whisks riders from one side of the canyon to the other and a Cloudscraper Zip Line that also flies you above the Arkansas.

Other nearby attractions: **Royal Gorge train**-runs along the base of the canyon beside the mighty river. With several classes of service, spectacular dining options that include local ingredients, a bar car, glass-topped dome car, murder-mystery and beer and wine excursions, Mother's Day brunch, Santa Express and other holiday events, there's always something exciting happening on board. The train embarks from the Santa Fe Depot, which is found right in Cañon City.

Royal Gorge Rafting: Several outfitters run rafting trips on the Arkansas River that go beneath the famous bridge. Thanks to challenging rapids and amazing canyon and wildlife views, this section of the river is one of the nation's most popular for white water. Many companies have created packages that combine the rafting trip with zip lining, train rides and lodging.

Cave of the Winds- <https://caveofthewinds.com/>

Approx 20 min from hotel, See tours/prices below

Discovery Tour: Adult \$21 Child (6-12) \$15: Explore the electrically lit portion of the Cave of the Winds on a 45-60 min guided walking tour which includes 15 rooms, a ½ mile of concrete walkways, and 196 stairs. On this family-friendly tour, you will learn about the history and geology of the cave while being shown some of the most beautiful formations.



Lantern Tour: Adult: \$31 Child (2-12): \$18 Explore, by candlelight, the mysterious and unimproved Manitou Grand Caverns on a 90-minute guided tour which includes nearly a mile of walking. Like the adventures of the past, you will navigate dark narrow tunnels, low passageways, uneven stairs, and rooms with muddy original floors. Along the way, you will learn the history of the Cave of the Winds as well as *the frightening folklore, scary ghost stories, and unexplained phenomena* of the Manitou Grands.

Caving 101: Adult (13+ only): \$45 Explore the wild, undeveloped depths of the Manitou Grand Caverns on this 2-2.5 hour guided tour that involves an assortment of crawling, climbing and walking through wet and muddy passages of various sizes. On this tour, you will crawl/climb/walk for nearly a mile while learning spelunking skills and the history and geology of the cave.

Rides: Terror-Dactly: \$50, Bat-A-Pult: \$25, Wind Walker: \$25



U.S. Olympic Training Center

<https://www.teamusa.org/about-the-usoc/olympic-training-centers/csotc/about>



Approx 10 min from hotel, Adults: \$15 Children (5-12): \$11

The U.S. Olympic Complex in Colorado Springs is the flagship training center for the U.S. Olympic Committee and the Olympic Training Center programs. USA Swimming and USA Shooting have their national headquarters on complex. More than 15 other member organizations, as well as two international sports federations and the USOC headquarters are also located in Colorado Springs, Colorado.

The CSOTC is able to provide housing, dining, training facilities, recreational facilities and other services for more than 500 athletes and coaches at one time on the complex. Athletes are selected to train at the Colorado Springs Olympic Training Center by their respective National Governing Body.

Fun things to do or see in Denver (approx 1-1.5 hours away)



Denver Zoo

Denver Aquarium-Sprawling complex with a state-of-the-art aquarium housing 500+ species, plus a restaurant & lounge.

16th street mall- Outdoor mall, great shopping and dining options.

Denver Botanic gardens-Botanical showcase for native & international plants, plus events & educational & research programs.

Red Rocks Amphitheater-Well-known, geologically formed amphitheater in Red Rocks Park showcasing celebrated music artists.

Denver Art Museum-2 buildings (the second designed by architect Daniel Libeskind) highlighting Western & regional art.

Molly Brown house-Titanic survivor "unsinkable" Molly Brown's 1889 mansion houses Victorian-era furnishings & art.

Denver Museum of Nature and Science- The Denver Museum of Nature & Science is a municipal natural history and science museum in Denver, Colorado. It is a resource for informal science education in the Rocky Mountain region.

Coors Field- Home of the Colorado Rockies, some seats offer great views of the Rocky Mountains.

Pepsi Center- Home of the Denver Nuggets, Colorado Avalanche and Colorado Mammoth.

Broncos Stadium at Mile High- Home of the Denver Broncos.

Dick's Sporting Goods Park- Home of the Colorado Rapids.

Tour companies:

Adventures:

<https://advoutwest.com/>

<https://coloradojeeptours.com/>

<http://www.manitou-springs-adventures.com/>

Food and Alcohol:

<https://www.rockymountainfoodtours.com/>

<https://coloradocrafttours.com/>

<http://www.springsbeertours.com/>