

Tour the Colorado Creative Corridor

**FEATURING 5
STATE-CERTIFIED
CREATIVE DISTRICTS
NESTLED IN THE
MOUNTAINS OF
WESTERN COLORADO.**

**CARBONDALE
PAONIA
CRESTED BUTTE
RIDGWAY
& SALIDA**

**Colorado
Creative
Corridor**

OFFICIAL MAP & GUIDE

[COLORADO.COM/CREATIVE-CORRIDOR-CHANNEL](https://colorado.com/creative-corridor-channel)

The Colorado Creative Corridor travels some 331 miles through a handful of state certified Creative District destinations including Carbondale, Crested Butte, Paonia, Ridgway and Salida. These five towns combine to offer a collective experience of unique event programming and activities, alongside mountain town eclecticism, majestic vistas and outdoor recreation, and authentic Colorado mountain culture.

CARBONDALE sits on the confluence of the Crystal and Roaring Fork Rivers at the foot of the mighty Mount Sopris where over 200 creatives reside. Rich agricultural history and a little hippy flair combine to form a community focused on health and wellness, local food production and four-season recreation to boot.

Tucked in the North Fork Valley under the watchful eye of Mt. Lamborn and surrounded by the beauty of the West Elks Wilderness, **PAONIA** has a thriving arts community and has the largest number of natural and organic farms, per capita, in Colorado.

Once described as a surf town in the mountains, **CRESTED BUTTE**, features a National Historic District with vibrant Victorian storefronts and expressive local characters. With over 2 million acres of public land surrounding town, enjoy legendary skiing and snowboarding, unparalleled mountain biking, or a secluded fly fishing experience.

Nestled in the picturesque Uncompahgre Valley and surrounded by the majestic snow-capped peaks of the Cimarrons and San Juans, the **RIDGWAY** experience satisfies art lovers, foodies, history buffs, and outdoor enthusiasts. Day-trip for adventure, soak in hot springs or tour the town, noting public art and creative surprises, even in our alleys.

SALIDA falls along the Collegiate Peaks Scenic and Historic Byway and is a short drive from Browns Canyon National Monument. While in town visit one of Salida's artist studios and galleries, kayak, tube or raft the Arkansas River, climb a 14er in the Collegiate Range or unwind with a soak at one of 3 area hot springs.

ROAD TRIP!

Grab friends, family or both and prepare yourself for five days of stunning landscapes & creative inspiration around every corner.

CARBONDALE

DAY
1

ACTIVITY SUSTAINABLE SETTINGS

Pick fresh vegetables, watch the animals, see a dairy in action and leave with delicious foods to prepare.

LUNCH

THE BEAT Carbondale's newest eatery, offering a vegan and vegetarian menu with locally-sourced ingredients and \$10 "Beat Box".

ACTIVITY

RIO GRANDE ARTWAY Enjoy unique ARTway community parks and gardens (don't miss True Nature Healing Arts' Peace Gardens or the new mural at S.A.W.) as you bike along the Rio Grande Trail in Carbondale.

ACTIVITY

GET YOUR ART ON Make a vase at Carbondale Clay Center, join Roaring Fork Drawing Club for an evening of fun & friendship, see an art exhibit at The Launchpad or find a kids class at Handmakery.

DINNER

THE WAY HOME An authentic local dining experience with Italian roots and South American influence.

DRINKS

BATCH Featuring locally made brews and seltzers made by the Roaring Fork Beer Co and a regular calendar of lively events.

LODGING

DANDELION INN Located right downtown, this B&B captures the flavor and fun of Carbondale Creative District.

DAY
2

BREAKFAST THE VILLAGE SMITHY

Classic American fare sourcing fresh, local ingredients, produce and meat from our valley's ranches and farms.

HEAD SOUTH! Make your way an hour and 15 minutes south to the lovely enclave of Paonia, passing by lush orchards and vineyards as you go.

PAONIA

ACTIVITY

REFINERY Shop handmade, remade and well-made at one of Paonia's most celebrated retail outlets supporting local arts and crafters.

LUNCH

BERG HARVEST FARM & MERCANTILE Delightful organic fruit farm with café and farm store.

ACTIVITY

ORCHARD VALLEY & BLACK RIDGE WINERY Eat and libate u-pick orchards, farm market, wine tasting by the river.

DRINKS & DINNER

STONE COTTAGE CELLARS Visit the winery and join a gourmet barrel tasting with the winemaker before dinner.
SALT, POLLEN Simple elegance providing a taste of the North Fork Valley.

ACTIVITY

PARADISE THEATRE Music, movies, dance and theater at Paonia's legendary cultural spot.

LODGING

WISEHARTS SPRING INN One-of-a-kind structure located on a 40-acre ranch which features natural springs.

*ADD AN EXTRA DAY

BLACK CANYON OF THE GUNNISON Big enough to be overwhelming but still intimate enough to feel the pulse of time. Visitors are exposed to some of the steepest cliffs, oldest rock and craggiest spires in North America, with many scenic rim trails to hike. Take a full day to explore this National Park.

DAY
3

BREAKFAST ROOT & VINE MARKET

Glorious baked goods including burritos, pastries, cakes and pies, and charcuterie boards, served alongside coffee or wine!

HEAD EAST! In summer and early fall head east two hours over scenic Kebler Pass, featuring the largest Aspen Grove in Colorado, to the active and creative town of Crested Butte. In the winter, during the pass closure, take CO-92 to US-50 & then drive north from Gunnison to Crested Butte.

CRESTED BUTTE

ACTIVITY

ICONIC HIKES Get out into nature and see the landscapes that have inspired so many CB artists, explore one of the famed wildflower-filled hikes near downtown Crested Butte.

LUNCH

THE PUBLIC HOUSE The Public House celebrates local Colorado craft breweries, wineries, and distilleries, seasonally relevant and farm-driven food, generous lodging, and the conviviality of live music.

ACTIVITY

THE CENTER FOR THE ARTS CB Take a class! The Center for the Arts CB offers classes in the visual and literary arts in addition to a full line-up of music performances.

ACTIVITY

CRESTED BUTTE MOUNTAIN HERITAGE MUSEUM Take a tour! Either a historic walking tour of Crested Butte with museum staff or a self-guided tour of the Crested Butte Creative District.

DINNER & DRINKS

SECRET STASH PIZZA Crested Butte's best loved pizza joint since 2002.
MONTANYA RUM DISTILLERS World-renowned rum distillery, offering daily tours, tastings and a full rum bar with artisan cocktails.

LODGING

OLD TOWN INN Family-owned and eco-friendly guest house located in the heart of downtown.

DAY
4

BREAKFAST THE SUNFLOWER

The daytime baker creates a variety of breads, pastries, desserts, breakfast and lunch options sure to enslave the senses.

HEAD SOUTH & WEST! Drive 2 hours and 15 minutes south and west to the mountain-cradled town of Ridgway.

RIDGWAY

ACTIVITY

ORVIS HOT SPRINGS Rejuvenate at Orvis Hot Springs, a clothing-optional natural hot springs with massage, lodging and camping.

LUNCH

EATERY 66 It all started with a vision—and a 1966 Vintage Airstream, to bring “farm to trailer” cuisine to Ridgway.

ACTIVITY

ALPENGLow ARTS ALLIANCE

An informal alliance of Ouray County based arts-focused organizations promote the daily, weekly and annual cultural programming, festivals and classes via a special calendar.

-OR- RIGS ADVENTURE Book an adventure on the river with RIGS Adventure, offering paddboarding, white water rafting and premier guided fly-fishing.

ACTIVITY

GALLERY WALK Visit Amulet Arts, 610 Arts Collective, Mountain Girl Gallery, Lupita's Bizarre Bazaar, Art by the Park, Kane Scheidegger's studio and Timber Creek Gallery to get a taste of the local art flavor.

DINNER & DRINKS

ADOBE INN & RESTAURANT

A mainstay in the community serving creative Mexican food for over 30 years.

STEPS TAVERN Offering everything from domestic beer and cocktails to craft beer, handcrafted Martinis and Moscow Mules.

LODGING

RIDGWAY LODGE AND SUITES

Conveniently located in the midst of all the action, offering travelers comfortable rooms, great rates and plenty of upgrades.

DAY
5

BREAKFAST

THE CRUMB BAKERY & CAFE

Enjoy local art and music while sampling fresh baked goodies and meals. Vegan and gluten-free options available.

HEAD EAST! There's lots to do and see on the way to Salida including National Forests, Wilderness Areas, scenic mountain passes and hot springs. Consider taking a day to explore the Curecanti National Recreation Area.

SALIDA

ACTIVITY

RAFT THE ARKANSAS RIVER

Deep in the heart of land-locked Colorado sits 148 miles of river park, providing a challenging playground of world-class water for rafters, kayakers, and standup paddleboarders.

LUNCH

SWEETIES SANDWICH SHOP A local favorite, serving up a tasty range of hot and cold sandwiches and homemade baked sweets.

ACTIVITY

RIVERSIDE PARK Enjoy one of many annual festivals that cater to your love of craft beer (Brewers Rendezvous in July), local music (JazzFest in August) or regional wines (WineFest in September).

DINNER & DRINKS

WOODS HIGH MOUNTAIN DISTILLERY

Featuring craft gin and whiskey brewed on the premises, Wood's Distillery takes the art of cocktails to another level.

AMICAS Favored among locals and visitors alike, Amicas offers creatively-inspired, wood-fired pizzas and craft brews in a lively setting.

ACTIVITY

STEAMPLANT THEATER & EVENTS CENTER

The hub of creativity and cultural concerts, performances, film screenings and artist receptions at this multi-use facility.

LODGING

PALACE HOTEL Located just steps from the banks of the Arkansas River, the historic Palace Hotel offers boutique caliber lodging.

BREAKFAST ON THE WAY HOME

THE LITTLE RED HEN BAKERY

Fresh baked bread every morning along with pastries and other treats is the order of the day.

*This guide is simply a sampling of activities!
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