



March 2024

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## Denver

### Restaurant Week

**Back for our 20th Anniversary!** It's the perfect chance to try out new spots where restaurants offer special menus over the 10-day, two-weekend format. You'll find every type of cuisine such as Colorado grass-fed beef and lamb, international fusions, fresh seafood that's flown in daily, and innovative vegetarian options, spiced up with local ingredients like the famous green chile.

**Price Points:** There are four price points this year (with both to-go and in-person options): \$25, \$35, \$45 and \$55 for multi-course meals. The tiered pricing structure allows restaurants to provide great deals for diners and a robust representation of Denver's increasingly renowned culinary offerings.

VISIT DENVER's program was originally created to showcase the city's dining scene to local residents over a traditionally slow time of year for the restaurant industry. In its inaugural year, the program had 83 participating restaurants. In 2023, more than 200 restaurants signed up.

Tables fill up fast during Denver Restaurant Week. Diners are encouraged to make a reservation, try some earlier or later seatings or even Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday options. It's also important to remember to cancel any reservations you don't plan on using so other diners can use it. The delicious menus these restaurants have prepared are also great deals. Be sure to tip your servers generously.

—<https://denverrestaurantweek.com>

*Here comes the sun, and I say, it's all right.  
—The Beatles*



## 5 Ways To Give Back During Spring Break

Spring break is a good time to vacation or binge-watch Netflix, but it's also a great time to give back to your community. Here are just a few ways you can volunteer your time during spring break.

For many students, spring break is about relaxing, partying, or catching up with friends. For others, it's a good time to help out their communities. If you are passionate about helping others but aren't quite sure where to find volunteer opportunities, start locally. Here are just a few places where you can spend time giving back this spring break.

**1. Soup kitchen/homeless shelter.** Your local homeless shelter can always use people to help prep meals, serve food, and organize supplies. Although you could donate money or clothing without actually going to a shelter, the experience of helping others directly can be very positive and humbling.

**2. Animal shelter.** If you love puppies and kittens (and honestly, who doesn't?), then you should call your local animal shelter. Many locations ask volunteers to walk the dogs for exercise, help groom the pets to prepare them for adoption, and provide customer service to visitors. Some locations will even allow volunteers to play with the animals to teach them how to socialize well.

**3. Hospital.** If you are passionate about helping people and have an interest in the medical field, then a hospital would be a great opportunity for you. This is also a good choice for volunteering because there are so many things you can do. If you like working with kids, there is the pediatric unit; if you like a fast-paced environment, then you might enjoy the ER. Contact your local hospital to inquire about volunteer opportunities that match your skills and interests.

**4. Coaching.** If you're a sports buff who also likes to work with kids, then you could volunteer to help with a team. No matter the sport, children's teams are always in need of coaches or people to help at practices. It's often hard for parents to volunteer for their children's teams due to work and other responsibilities. So both the kids and the parents would appreciate your help. Local YMCA or Boys and Girls Club are good places to investigate.

**5. Tutoring.** While you're on spring break, there's a good chance the children in your town are on break too. With a whole week off from school, it's easy for them to forget what they just learned (the same goes for college students!). If you happen to be skilled in a certain subject, then you should consider tutoring. You could help children or fellow college students understand any tricky subjects

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## Give Back During Spring Break,

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that they're struggling with. Contact the career services office or a local community center to ask about tutoring opportunities. You could also offer to help kids with homework or read to a class if school is in session that week.

**Extra option: volunteering abroad.** If you're feeling adventurous and have money saved up, then you should consider volunteering abroad! There are many volunteer opportunities available around the world, such as teaching English, helping with environmental projects, and providing care to children. Some common places to volunteer abroad are Costa Rica, Kenya, India, and Italy. Of course, you can find volunteer opportunities anywhere, including around the United States through Alternative Spring Break. Programs can be found online or through your college. The cost could be included in the price of your tuition, or special scholarships may be available.

–<https://www.collegeexpress.com>

## Puppy Day

Observed each year on March 23rd, National Puppy Day celebrates the unconditional love and affection puppies bring to our lives. Their cuddles and wiggles make us smile and without a doubt, there are squeals of delight when there are puppies around!

The day also brings awareness to the need for care of and homes for orphaned pups as well as to educate people about the horrors of puppy mills across the country. Puppies are a big responsibility. Be sure to consider everything involved and adopt from a shelter. The puppies there need love and a home just as much as any other and they grow into loyal pets, too!

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The deadline for advertisements is the 15th of the month for the next month's issue, except for the Jan. issue which is Dec. 6th.

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## St. Patrick's Day

St. Patrick's Day kicks off a worldwide celebration also known as the Feast of St. Patrick. On March 17th, many will wear green in honor of the Irish and decorate with shamrocks. According to lore, the wearing of the green tradition dates back to a story written about St. Patrick in 1726. St. Patrick (c. AD 385-461) used the shamrock to illustrate the Holy Trinity and wore green clothing. And while the story is unlikely to be true, many will revel in the Irish heritage and eat traditional Irish fare, too.

## Spring Equinox

What is the spring equinox, and why is it the first day of spring? The equinox simply means that the length of day and night are (almost!) equal. (In fact, the word "equinox" comes from two Latin words that together mean "equal night": aequus (equal) and nox (night). So, on March 19, we'll have approximately 12 hours of sunlight! After this day, this hemisphere starts tilting toward the sun, which means more daylight each day and warmer, springier weather.



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## Selling? Home Preparation Is Most Important!

What is the most important impact I can make to get my home to sell for a great price? This is the question that comes up in every conversation about Selling a home.

The Answer: Preparation! Preparing the home for showings and Selling means the following: repairing, decluttering, cleaning, and staging. Each home is it's own unique situation and I am here to help you navigate what needs to be done for your home to Sell. Call me and we'll get started.

—Celia Zaharas Your Trusted Realtor Colorado Home Realty 303-949-3107 Celia@ColoradoHomeRealty.com

## History Adventures Day Camp

The Littleton Museum summer programs have been a tradition for over 40 years. History Adventures help our participating Explorers understand the experiences of people from the past who have called Colorado home through hands-on activities and instruction from expert historical interpreters.

These day-long activities are open to 12 children per session and require prior registration to attend. Registration is on a first-come, first-served basis.

All sessions are from 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. and cost \$50 per day per child. Registration opens to Friends members on Tuesday, March 26, 2024 at 9 a.m. Registration opens to all on Tuesday, April 2, 2024 at 9 a.m. A benefit of membership in the Friends of the Littleton Library and Museum group is access to the early registration period.

—<https://www.museum.littletonco.gov>

## March Garden Calendar

**Plant:** Indoors, after March 15th, start seeds under grow lights. Perennials like lupine and delphinium and annuals like cardinal vine, hyacinth bean vine, marigolds, zinnia, nasturtium and many more. As soon as ground can be worked, till in 1” to 2” of composted cotton burrs or aged manure into your vegetable garden. In mid-March, plant peas and sweet peas directly in the garden, soak the seeds overnight. Lettuce can be planted next, then radishes. Fall-bearing raspberries can be planted mid-March. Some varieties are: Heritage, Fall Gold, Fall Red, September, Pathfinder or Trailblazer.

Garden centers will have small bare root trees and shrubs and bare-root roses on sale to tempt and tantalize you. Go ahead and succumb. These can be planted from now through April. If you're planting in March look for a time when we have predictions of three or four mild, pleasant days. Soak the roots overnight in a bucket to give plants a good start.

Late March fertilize evergreens and deciduous trees.

**Lawn:** Core aerate the lawn or have it done by a qualified lawn service. Aeration can be done anytime during the growing season, but to get your lawn off to a good start do it in March. Before aeration make sure the soil is moist to get 3” plugs. Leave plugs on the lawn. If you had crabgrass problems last year apply a pre-emergent herbicide. However, once you've applied a pre-emergent you won't be able to put down grass seed. The herbicide will block the seed from taking root.

**Tools:** Get your lawn mower ready. Clean and sharpen the blade, drain gas and oil, and replace the sparkplug. If your hand tools weren't cleaned last fall, do it now.

—By Eileen Tully, Colorado Master Gardener

# Prepping for a Strong Spring Market!



Prices are up 7.7% over the end of 2023 and are trending upward into the Spring Market. The best time to sell will be between March and the 2nd week of June!

If you are considering a move - NOW is the time to call me! We'll discuss your homes needs (if any), a realistic selling price, and timing. There is not commitment or charge for this service to my neighbors. Looking forward to hearing from you!

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