

WESTGOLD MEADOWS NEIGHBORS

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Denver Restaurant Week: March 6-15 Menus Are Live!

With an ever-growing number of food and beverage awards to its name (including several from the uber-prestigious James Beard Foundation and MICHELIN Guide), Denver has quickly become a dining destination for foodies. You'll find plenty of fine dining options at chef-owned eateries, along with cuisine from around the globe at our gourmet food halls and markets, and fresh, local ingredients like green chile and Colorado beef and lamb.

Denver Restaurant Week showcases the creative, exciting menus that diners have come to expect – with both to-go and in-person options. There are four price points: \$25, \$35, \$45, and \$55 for a multi-course meal. Menus can be viewed at <https://denverrestaurantweek.com>.

National Good Samaritan Day: March 13th

- Make an effort to help someone who is struggling or having a problem.
- Share a story about someone who was a Good Samaritan in your life.
- The act of a Good Samaritan can be large or small. Something as simple as a phone call to as inconvenient as stopping to help change a tire are all acts of a good Samaritan.
- Make a commitment to developing a habit of kindness and awareness of others.
- Volunteer. Offer your valuable skills to others in times of need. Do you enjoy sports or have mad math skills? Your ability to mentor youth may change someone's life for the better.

Trip Ideas For An Epic Spring Break Right Here In Colorado

Spring break in Colorado is a dream come true for outdoor enthusiasts, adventure seekers, and anyone looking to immerse themselves in the natural beauty of the Rocky Mountains. Whether your family craves adrenaline-pumping activities or serene moments in nature, there's something for everyone to enjoy.

Experience Rocky Mountain National Park

Rocky Mountain National Park is a must. Spring in the Rockies is the best of both worlds: the mountains are still capped in snow, wildflowers have begun to peep through the snow, and the weather is getting warmer, but the crowds still have yet to arrive. When you take your family to Rocky, they'll gain a profound appreciation for nature. RMNP is home to some of the most epic scenery in the country, from meadows found in the montane zone to glistening alpine lakes and up to the towering mountain peaks. The park offers plenty of sightseeing, easy hikes for little ones, longer and more difficult hikes for experienced outdoorsmen, and of course, plenty of places to picnic.

If you're looking to spend multiple days exploring the park, check out accommodations in Estes Park, the quirky town that neighbors the park, for easy access.

All Things Pike's Peak

Just an hour South of Denver is the famous Pike's Peak, the highest summit in Colorado's Front Range, featuring the highest road in North America. The Pike's Peak region is full of natural wonders that can easily keep any spring breaker occupied. Pike's Peak itself is of course unmissable. While the road to the top doesn't open until Memorial Day weekend, the Pike's Peak Cog Railway runs year-round – just make sure to pack extra layers. This old timey train is tons of fun for all ages and offers spectacular 360-degree views.

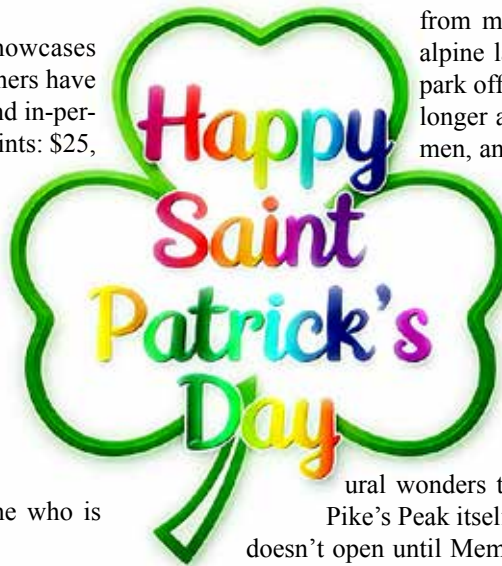
On the way to Pike's Peak, you'll pass through the adorable vacation town of Manitou Springs, which could easily keep anyone occupied for a few days. The town is home to an extensive, fully operational penny arcade, dozens of art galleries and exhibits, and eight natural springs you can drink straight from, hence the town's name. For visitors looking for a challenge, the Manitou Incline is a hike up 2,744 steps at an incline of up to 68 percent. It's not for everyone, but if you're up for it, the views won't disappoint.

The area is also home to Garden of the Gods, an absolutely stunning natural landmark made up of unique red rock formations with a rich geologic history. It's worth at least driving through and walking around the accessible and scenic trails.

Mining Towns Road Trip

Colorado's gold rush started back in 1859, and it's legacy lives on today in the form of preserved mines and historic mountain towns up and down the Colorado Rockies. Spend your week or a couple of days back in the 1800s on this unique and scenic road trip.

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Spring Break, *continued from front page*

Start your journey just half an hour from Denver in Central City, a charming town that came to be known during the Colorado Gold Rush as the “richest square mile on earth.” Central City still has many of the original buildings, architecture, gold mines, and Old-West cemeteries intact. History buffs and mining enthusiasts can take a tour of the Coeur D’Alene or Hideo mines, and your kids will love panning for gold there.

Just twelve scenic miles from Central City is Idaho Springs, home to the Argo Mill and Tunnel, an old mill that was instrumental in ore processing and transportation to the Denver Mint which you can still tour today. The town offers endless charm and a great environment to spend an afternoon.

Next, head to Georgetown and ride the Georgetown Railroad, the historical railroad that miners used to transport them to mines back in the day. Today, it’s a scenic route that’s tons of fun for all ages. Make sure you book in advance and add on the mining tour to step into a real mine.


Southern Colorado & Great Sand Dunes National Park

Southern Colorado is its own world, and perhaps the most alien place in the region is the Great Sand Dunes National Park. This unique oasis is home to the tallest sand dunes in North America, towering over 750 feet high. Spend your days hiking, sandboarding, or simply marveling at gorgeous dunes and mountain backdrops.

The area is also home to a large selection of natural hot springs. Spend a day soaking at the stunning Mt. Princeton hot springs or the more relaxed Desert Reef Hot Springs. Of course, Southern Colorado, just like the rest of the state, is also home to many charming and quaint mountain towns. Cañon City hosts the Royal Gorge Park and Railroad, both worthy sights to add to your itinerary.

–<https://www.aspire-tours.com/blogs/spring-break>

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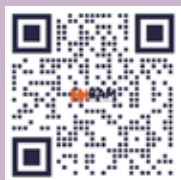
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Exterior Home Maintenance Tips For Spring

- Inspect gutters and downspouts for damage and debris. Working gutters ensure that water is diverted from your home’s foundation.
- Trim trees and shrubs that are near the house. This can prevent damage to siding, windows or the roof.
- Inspect caulking around doors and windows for damage or wear. Replace if necessary to increase energy efficiency.
- Inspect wooden decks, railings, windowsills and steps for rot. Repair or replace damaged wood, and touch up paint, stain or wood finish.
- Pressure wash patios, decks, driveway / walkways, and outdoor furniture. Pressure wash your soffits and siding too, if necessary.
- Inspect outdoor sprinkler heads for damage from snow plows or cold weather. Look for leaking valves and verify the watering schedule on the control panel.
- Inspect and tune up any lawn maintenance equipment. Sharpen tools, charge batteries, lubricate moving parts and replace old gas.
- Clean debris from foundation vents and window wells.

Routine home maintenance can save you the headaches of costly repairs that could be avoided. It can also help you prepare and budget for any future repairs or upgrades. Care for your home and the surrounding property, and it will continue to keep you and your family safe and comfortable. Check this list off every spring to prolong the life of your home’s building materials, landscaping, and more.

Local Educational Field Trips For All Ages

Denver Museum of Nature & Science

At this institute, you’ll have a chance to learn more about minerals, mummies, robots and space travel. The fascinating museum has hands-on 2.5-3 hour classes, which range from a med lab to super animal adaptations. It prides itself for its remarkable planetarium and themed tours set up per grade level.

Molly Brown House

Majoring in women’s studies? Swing by the Molly Brown House in Denver. She was a famous figure, Titanic survivor, philanthropist and political activist. Housed in a Victorian mansion in the Capitol Hill neighborhood, the home is charming on its own and packed with relics. Learn about women’s rights, architecture and the history of mining.

Working Factory Tours

Made in Colorado means high quality stuff! Some companies provide free guided tours of their working factories. Want to learn more about money? Tour the **U.S. Mint** in Downtown Denver. It presses millions of coins every day! Tea lovers should definitely stop by **Celestial Seasonings** factory in Boulder for an informative and nose-opening tour. It smells very minty in the peppermint room! Go during the weekday for the best look at the live working factory. Young kids shouldn’t miss **Hammond’s Candies**, also in Denver. Watch them making their historic candy and get a free cane at the end.

🔥 Colorado’s New Furnace Laws Are Now in Effect 🔥

Act Now – 2025 Furnaces Are Disappearing Fast

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Winter Watering

Dry, sunny, warm and windy winter conditions have left many Colorado landscape plants short of moisture, and Colorado State University Extension specialists recommend supplemental watering to prevent root damage and promote healthier spring growth.

Evergreens, newly planted trees and shrubs, grasses, and plants in exposed or south-facing sites face the highest risk from winter drought, according to a CSU news release, which can lead to needle or branch dieback and greater vulnerability to pests and diseases.

Plants continue root growth, nutrient transport and photosynthesis – especially in evergreens – even during dormancy, according to CSU Extension guidelines. Prolonged dry periods without sufficient soil moisture cause accumulating stress that impacts long-term plant health.

Extension specialists advise watering only when air temperatures exceed 40 degrees and the soil is unfrozen. Frozen ground blocks absorption, leading to runoff with no benefit to plants, and watering should be avoided over snow cover.

Occasional deep watering – typically one to two times per month during extended dry spells – is more effective than frequent light applications, CSU Extension notes. Newly planted trees and shrubs, along with evergreens, benefit most.

Young trees require about 10 gallons per inch of trunk diameter at the base – for example, 20 gallons for a 2-inch trunk – applied near the base or out toward the dripline. Mature trees need water at and beyond the canopy edge to cover the full root zone, with enough volume to wet the soil to roughly 12 inches deep. Shrubs generally need 5 to 18 gallons per application, depending on size.

Many native plants and low moisture-adapted landscapes require little or no supplemental winter water. Established perennials and drought-tolerant species also need less frequent irrigation, according to CSU.

Use a hose equipped with a sprinkler or soaker hose for winter applications rather than turning on automatic irrigation systems, which risk damage from freezing pipes until spring thaw. Detach and fully drain hoses after each use to prevent pipe bursts.

Winter watering is the most practical step homeowners can take to protect plants in Colorado’s arid winter climate.

–By Scott Weiser

The Wiz

March 20 - April 19, 2026, Town Hall Arts Center, Littleton

Dorothy’s is considered by many to be the most iconic hero’s journey of the last century. And in this vibrant, soulful reimagining of The Wizard of Oz, we experience her journey through joyful music, high-energy choreography, and plenty of onstage magic. Follow Dorothy as she’s blown away to the fantastical land of Oz, where our heroine makes new friends, faces down wicked witches, and learns to believe in herself. Featuring funky and fearless songs like Ease on Down the Road as well as well as uplifting, gospel-infused anthems like Home, this Tony Award-winning musical offers a fusion of Rock, Broadway and R&B that celebrates our common human experience through contemporary Black culture. The Wiz is a story of courage, friendship, and the power of home that is sure to delight audiences of all ages!

— <https://townhallartscenter.org/event/the-wiz/>

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You are beautiful when you are happy.
—Oscar Wilde

I love March as it gives me hope that new beginnings are always beautiful.
—Anamika Mishra

*Springtime is the land awakening.
The March winds are the morning yawn.*
—Lewis Grizzard

*It was one of those March days when
the sun shines hot and the wind blows cold:
when it is summer in the light, and winter in the shade.*
—Charles Dickens

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A St. Patrick's Day Celebration With Solas

Saturday, March 21, 2026, 7:30pm, Lone Tree Center

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Solas is hailed by The Boston Globe as "the finest Celtic ensemble this country has ever produced" and The Wall Street Journal as "an Irish traditional band bearing all the marks of greatness." Since forming in New York City in 1995 they have been a galvanizing element in the Irish music scene – a lightning rod of talent and inspiration that set new standards for musicianship, repertoire, and intensity. Over the course of twelve critically acclaimed albums and endless international touring, Solas brought their love and respect for the traditions of Irish music, and their sense of melodic and instrumental adventure to the world.

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