

A Mile-High Welcome Back

DAVID S. VOGELS III

JCO began these annual convention city previews in 1997, the last time the AAO visited Denver. When the convention returns May 17-20, orthodontists will find many familiar attractions in the Mile High City, but also a number of exciting new buildings and restaurants. This report focuses on the changes that have taken place over the last 11 years.

Climate and Transportation

Although Colorado is generally dry and sunny, May is one of the rainiest months of the year. Bring sweaters and jackets for the cool evenings—low temperatures will still be close to 40°F—but highs should be climbing into the low 70s, and summerlike weather is a possibility.

Denver International Airport was still new in 1997, but has now settled into a fairly dependable routine. An underground train takes you from the concourses to the terminal and baggage claim. Go out the door on the same level for ground transportation and shuttles, but one level down if someone is picking you up. Taxis are expensive, with a flat rate of \$46.25 to downtown. The Regional Transportation District (RTD) offers a skyRide bus that is much cheaper, but would involve transferring to another bus or light rail to get to a downtown hotel; more information is available at www.rtd-denver.com or (303) 299-6000. The shared SuperShuttle service costs \$20 one-way to downtown.

RTD's efficient light rail is a convenient way to get around the downtown area or even to the southern and southwest suburbs. Fares within the downtown zone are \$1.75.

Attractions

The Colorado Convention Center itself has more than doubled in size since the 1997 AAO meeting. The adjacent Hyatt Regency Denver opened along with that expansion in 2005. But if you're wondering where the Democratic National Convention will take place in August, it's actually at the Pepsi Center, home of the Denver Nuggets



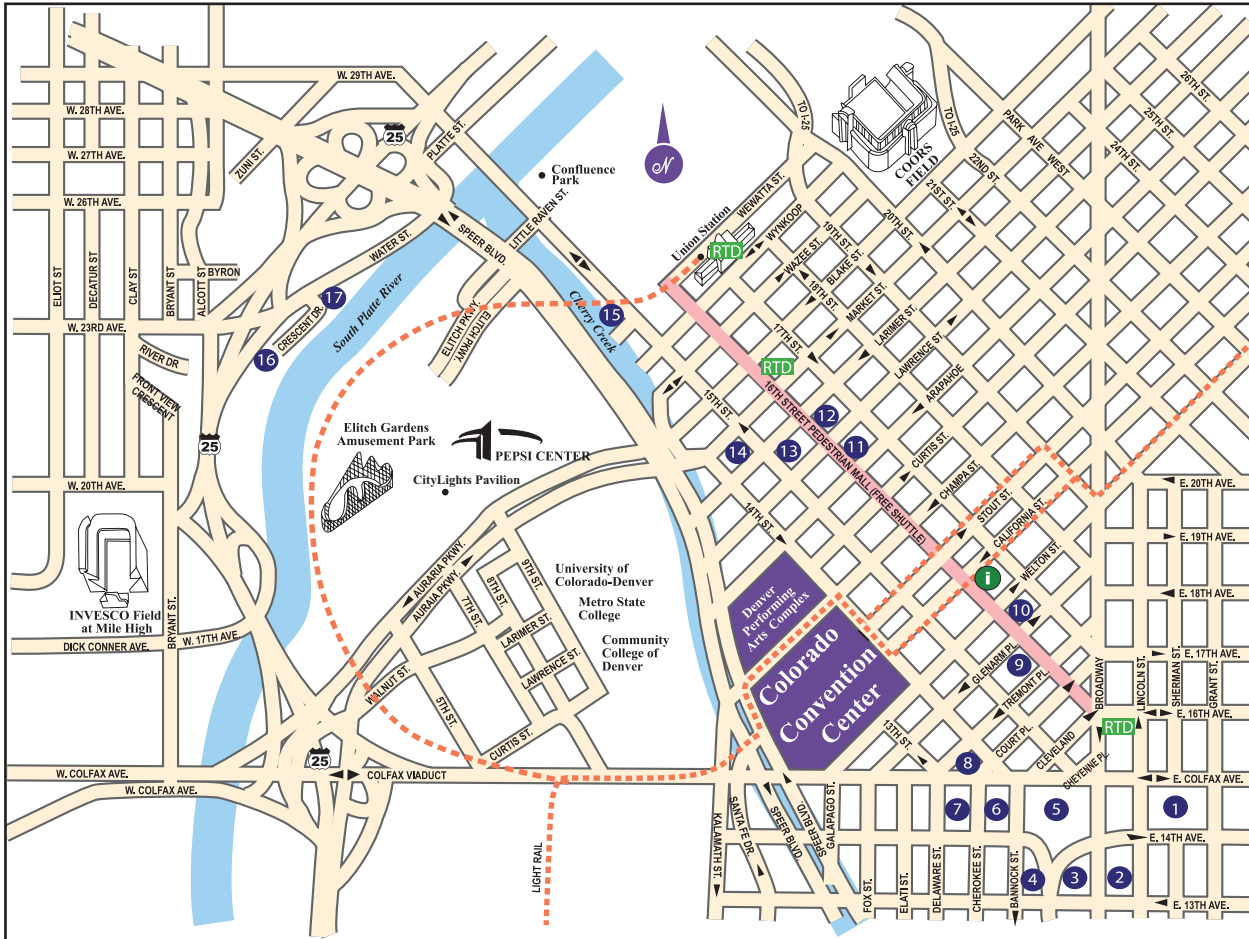
Denver's 16th Street Mall is a pedestrian zone connecting the financial district to LoDo (photo © Webshots.com).

and Colorado Avalanche, which opened in 1999.

The most significant recent addition to the downtown skyline is Daniel Libeskind's Frederic C. Hamilton Building, an annex to the **Denver Art Museum**. Covered in 9,000 titanium panels, the building seems to mimic the Rocky Mountains with its sharp-angled blocks. It also completes an architectural hub in Civic Center Park, just a few blocks away from the convention center, joining Gio Ponti's original Denver Art Museum and Michael Graves's **Denver Public Library**. With imposing outdoor sculptures surrounding both the museum and the library, it's a stimulating place just to walk around. The museum addition has opened up space for significant exhibits such as "Inspiring Impressionism" (closing May 25) and for the permanent collection, which includes perhaps the world's finest assemblage of Native American art.

Boldface names in this article are listed in the Directory on pp. 172-174 with their telephone numbers and street addresses. For a website link, call up the article in the JCO Online Archive at www.jco-online.com, and click on the boldface name within the text. The article can be accessed at no charge by clicking on its title on the JCO Online home page.

A Mile-High Welcome Back



- | | |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1. State Capitol | 10. Paramount Theater |
| 2. Colorado History Museum | 11. D & F Tower |
| 3. Denver Public Library | 12. Tabor Center |
| 4. Denver Art Museum | 13. Writer Square |
| 5. Civic Center Park | 14. Larimer Square |
| 6. City and County Building | 15. Museum of Contemporary Art |
| 7. U.S. Mint | 16. Children's Museum |
| 8. Denver Firefighters Museum | 17. Downtown Aquarium |
| 9. Denver Pavilions | |

i **Visitor Information Center**
1600 California St., Unit 6
Denver, CO 80202
(303) 892-1505
Fax: (303) 571-9494
VisitorInfo@dmcvb.org

RTD **Regional Transportation District Bus Stations**

© Denver Metro Convention and Visitors Bureau



Frederic C. Hamilton Building, a recent addition to the Denver Art Museum (photo © Denver Art Museum).

Another new landmark building is David Adjaye's glassy **Museum of Contemporary Art/Denver**, which opened less than a year ago in Lower Downtown (LoDo). The inaugural exhibit, "Star Power: The Museum as Body Electric", features seven contemporary artists from countries around the world.

For a more historical perspective, the **Colorado Historical Society** offers "The Italians of Denver", showing an ethnic slice of the city from 1850 to the present. Or you can see different images of early Denver society at the **Molly Brown House Museum** or at **Four Mile Historic Park**, which was built in 1859 as a stagecoach stop.

Other more specialized attractions include the **Denver Firefighters Museum**, the **Forney Museum of Transportation**, the **Kirkland Museum of Fine & Decorative Art**, the **Museo de las Américas**, the **U.S. Mint**, and **Wings Over the Rockies Air & Space Museum**. In Golden, in the foothills west of town, you can visit the **Buffalo Bill Museum & Grave**, the **Colorado Railroad Museum**, the **Mother Cabrini Shrine**, the **National Renewable Energy Laboratory**, or the **Rocky Mountain Quilt Museum**. Near Boulder, you'll find the **Leanin' Tree Museum and Sculpture Garden of Western Art**.

Take the entire family to the delightful **Butterfly Pavilion** in Westminster; the **Denver**

For subscription service and information on our Online Archive, visit the JCO booth (No. 1323-1324) at the AAO meeting. For information before the meeting, call us at (303) 443-1720.

Museum of Nature & Science (with a special exhibit on "Gold") or the **Denver Zoo**, both in City Park east of downtown; the **Children's Museum of Denver** or the nearby, relatively new **Downtown Aquarium** (now owned by a commercial restaurant chain); or **Elitch Gardens** amusement park, next to the Pepsi Center (featuring an adventure called "Mad Science" May 14-16). And for a back-to-nature respite in the heart of the city, visit the **Denver Botanic Gardens**, celebrating National Wildflower Awareness Week May 19-23.

Performing Arts

The glitzy Ellie Caulkins Opera House in the Denver Performing Arts Complex opened only two years ago, but unfortunately no performances are scheduled during the AAO meeting. If you're taking in a play or a concert, however, you might still want to dine at **Kevin Taylor's at the Opera House**. Next door, in Boettcher Concert Hall, the **Colorado Symphony Orchestra** presents Carl Orff's ever-popular *Carmina burana* May 16-18. And a number of **Denver Center Theatre Company** productions are also available at the complex, including the provocative *Doubt* and the musicals *The Last Five Years* and *3 Mo' Divas*.

Other Denver-area theaters open during the convention include the **Arvada Center for the Arts and Humanities**, with *Altar Boyz*; **Boulder's Dinner Theatre**, with *The Will Rogers Follies*; and **Denver's Dangerous Theatre**, with *A Time to Go Walking*. For live stage shows and improv, go to the **Avenue Theater**, for *Radio Avenue*; the **Bovine Metropolis Theater**, for *Shot of Spring (with a Twist)*; or the **Impulse Theater**, in LoDo's Wynkoop Brewing Company.

On May 21, the Cure brings its British power pop to one of the most spectacular outdoor performing venues in the United States, **Red Rocks Amphitheatre** in Morrison.

Restaurants

When JCO bought a little house in Boulder as an office nearly 35 years ago, we never could

have imagined that the best restaurant in the state would someday be on the next block. That's what has happened since **Frasca Food and Wine** opened its doors in 2004. Launched by a chef and wine director from Napa's French Laundry, and based on the cuisine of the Friuli region of northern Italy, Frasca has been celebrated by publications from *Gourmet* to *Sommelier Journal*. The downside of all this publicity is that with Frasca's limited seating, you generally have to book reservations two months ahead. If you have a small party and show up right at the 5:30 p.m. opening, however, you can usually get seated in the bar area; or if you don't mind eating late, you might get a table at 10 or 10:30 p.m.

Don't try knocking on JCO's door—we'll all be at the convention. But Boulder's Pearl Street has actually become something of a restaurant row, also featuring the eclectic **L'Atelier**, the Provençal **Mateo**, and the organic **Sunflower**. Other Boulder favorites are **The Kitchen**, **Laudisio**, **Q's Restaurant**, and the venerable and ultrascentic **Flagstaff House**.

The hands-down food champion in the downtown Denver area is **Mizuna**, offering chef Frank Bonanno's innovative American cuisine. Sharing a kitchen with Mizuna, but more of a bistro in style, is **Luca d'Italia**. Also in the Capitol Hill area, you'll find the relatively undiscovered **Deluxe**, the intimate **Fruition**, the bustling fusion bar **nine75**, the creatively down-home **Potager**, and the reliable **Table 6**.

Best bets in the Cherry Creek shopping district are two different takes on northern Italian cuisine—the elegant **Barolo Grill** and the trendy **North**. Just south of Cherry Creek is the best Japanese food in Colorado, at **Sushi Den**.

Around **Larimer Square**, the historic heart of downtown Denver, you'll want to sample the French **Bistro Vendôme**, the northern Italian **Panzano**, the contemporary French **Restaurant Kevin Taylor**, the Mediterranean **Rioja**, or the upscale Mexican **Tamayo**. The **Palace Arms** at the Brown Palace Hotel still has the fanciest dinner in town.

In LoDo, look for the **Denver Chophouse & Brewery**, adjacent to Coors Field, or a small-plates favorite, **Zengo**. A little farther west, in the



The award-winning Frasca Food and Wine graces JCO's neighborhood in Boulder.

quaint Denver Highlands neighborhood, you'll find **Duo**, **Highland's Garden Café**, and **Swimclub 32**. Or go even farther, up to the foothills in Morrison, and sample the buffalo and Rocky Mountain oysters at the tourist favorite, **The Fort**, featuring an Indian Market May 17-18.

Shopping and Galleries

Cherry Creek Shopping Center is still the go-to mall for serious Denver-area shoppers, but don't miss the bodegas and galleries in nearby **Cherry Creek North**. **Larimer Square** (with the adjacent **Tabor Center** mall), **Highlands Square**, and **LoDo** are the other major boutique districts close to downtown.

Most of Denver's art galleries are clustered in these shopping areas. Cherry Creek North has **Gallerie Rouge** (vintage posters and prints), **Gallery M** (contemporary), **Pismo** (art glass, holding its annual glass-bead exhibition during the AAO meeting), and **Tam O'Neill Fine Arts** (antique prints). The **Rue 32 Gallery** (abstract art) is in Highlands Square. LoDo is home to **David Cook Fine Art** (American Indian), **Robischon Gallery** (contemporary), and the **William Matthews Gallery** (Western watercolorist).



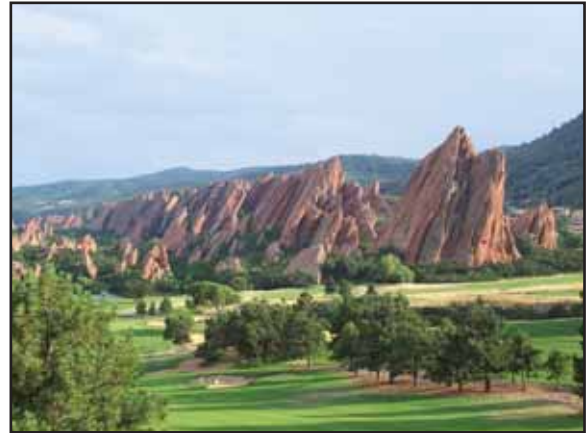
Coors Field, home of the National League champion **Colorado Rockies** (photo © Denver Metro Convention and Visitors Bureau).

The **Great Western Art Gallery** is downtown. **Walker Fine Art Gallery** and the **Wilson Adams Gallery** (both contemporary) are close to the Denver Art Museum. The other major gallery area, the ArtDistrict on Santa Fe, is nearby; exhibit spaces there include **Kashi Kari Gallery** (mosaics), **Nine10Arts** (“green” community), **Sandra Phillips Gallery** (contemporary), **Sandy Carson Gallery** (contemporary), **Spark Gallery** (cooperative), and **Translations Gallery** (contemporary).

Sports and Recreation

The National League champion **Colorado Rockies** play host on May 16-18 to the Minnesota Twins, in an interleague series, and on May 19-21 to the San Francisco Giants, Western Division rivals, at LoDo’s Coors Field. The **Colorado Crush** meet the expansion Cleveland Gladiators in Arena Football League action on May 17 at the Pepsi Center. In Major League Soccer, the **Colorado Rapids** take on Real Salt Lake on May 15 at the new Dick’s Sporting Goods Park, a dedicated soccer complex. And if you want Major League Lacrosse, you can watch the **Denver Outlaws** play the Los Angeles Riptide on May 17 at Invesco Field at Mile High, home of the Denver Broncos.

Public golf courses in the downtown area are mostly undistinguished. If you head northeast



Arrowhead Golf Club, in the foothills west of Denver, is one of Colorado’s most scenic courses (photo © Webshots.com).

toward the airport, however, you can play several outstanding and relatively new prairie-style layouts: **Buffalo Run Golf Course**, **Green Valley Ranch Golf Club**, and **Riverdale’s Dunes or Knolls Golf Courses**. Severe elevation changes and spectacular views can be found all along the foothills west and south of town. The best public courses of this mountain type are **Arrowhead Golf Club** and the **Ridge at Castle Pines North**; other highly rated locations include **Black Bear Golf Club**, **Fox Hollow Golf Course** (27 holes), and the **Golf Club at Bear Dance**.

If you need more intensive high-altitude training, you can enter the **Post-News Colorado Colfax Marathon**, with both full and half-marathons starting and ending in City Park on May 18. Of course, it’s only a short drive to the Rocky Mountains and all sorts of outdoor experiences. Given the amount of snow that has hit the mountains this season, a few ski areas may still be open in late May for spring skiing. The most scenic drive is through **Rocky Mountain National Park**, which offers camping, hiking, and plenty of flora and fauna. Hone your kayaking skills in downtown Denver’s Confluence Park with **Confluence Kayaks**, then head up to the mountains for white-water rafting with companies such as **Clear Creek Rafting** or **Geo Tours**. You can buy or rent all your clothing and equipment in LoDo’s massive **REI Denver Flagship** store.

DIRECTORY

Attractions

Attractions	Address*	Phone**
Buffalo Bill Museum & Grave	987½ Lookout Mountain Road, Golden	(303) 526-0744
Butterfly Pavilion	6252 W. 104th Ave., Westminster	(303) 469-5441
Children's Museum of Denver	2121 Children's Museum Drive	(303) 433-7444
Colorado Historical Society	1300 Broadway	(303) 866-3682
Colorado Railroad Museum	17155 W. 44th Ave., Golden	(303) 279-4591
Denver Art Museum	100 W. 14th Ave. Parkway	(720) 865-5000
Denver Botanic Gardens	909 York St.	(303) 331-4000
Denver Firefighters Museum	1326 Tremont Place	(303) 892-1436
Denver Museum of Nature & Science	2001 Colorado Blvd.	(303) 322-7009
Denver Public Library	10 W. 14th Ave. Parkway	(720) 865-1111
Denver Zoo	2300 Steele St.	(303) 376-4800
Downtown Aquarium	700 Water St.	(303) 561-4450
Elitch Gardens	2000 Elitch Circle	(303) 595-4386
Forney Museum of Transportation	4303 Brighton Blvd.	(303) 297-1113
Four Mile Historic Park	715 S. Forest St.	(720) 865-0800
Kirkland Museum of Fine & Decorative Art	1311 Pearl St.	(303) 832-8576
Leanin' Tree Museum and Sculpture Center	6055 Longbow Drive, Boulder	(303) 530-1442
Molly Brown House Museum	1340 Pennsylvania St.	(303) 832-4092
Mother Cabrini Shrine	20189 Cabrini Blvd., Golden	(303) 526-0758
Museo de las Américas	861 Santa Fe Drive	(303) 571-4401
Museum of Contemporary Art/Denver	1485 Delgany St.	(303) 298-7554
National Renewable Energy Laboratory	15013 Denver West Parkway, Golden	(303) 384-6565
Rocky Mountain Quilt Museum	1111 Washington Ave., Golden	(303) 277-0377
U.S. Mint	320 W. Colfax Ave.	(303) 844-3582
Wings Over the Rockies Air & Space Museum	7711 E. Academy Blvd.	(303) 360-5360

Performing Arts

Arvada Center for the Arts and Humanities	6901 Wadsworth Blvd., Arvada	(720) 898-7200
Avenue Theater	417 E. 17th Ave.	(303) 321-5925
Boulder's Dinner Theatre	5501 Arapahoe Ave., Boulder	(303) 449-6000
Bovine Metropolis Theater	1527 Champa St.	(303) 758-4722
Colorado Symphony Orchestra	Boettcher Concert Hall, 950 13th St.	(303) 623-7876
Denver Center Theatre Company	1101 13th St.	(303) 893-4100
Denver's Dangerous Theatre	2620 W. Second Ave.	(720) 233-4703
Impulse Theater	1634 18th St.	(303) 297-2111
Red Rocks Amphitheatre	18300 W. Alameda Parkway, Morrison	(303) 830-TIXS

*Denver unless otherwise specified.

**10-digit dialing required.

DIRECTORY (cont.)**Restaurants**

Restaurants	Address*	Phone**
Barolo Grill	3030 E. Sixth Ave.	(303) 393-1040
Bistro Vendôme	1424H Larimer St.	(303) 825-3232
Deluxe	30 S. Broadway	(303) 722-1550
Denver Chophouse & Brewery	1735 19th St.	(303) 296-0800
Duo	2413 W. 32nd Ave.	(303) 477-4141
Flagstaff House	1138 Flagstaff Road, Boulder	(303) 442-4640
The Fort	19192 Highway 8, Morrison	(303) 697-4771
Frasca Food and Wine	1738 Pearl St., Boulder	(303) 442-6966
Fruition	1313 E. Sixth Ave.	(303) 831-1992
Highland's Garden Café	3927 W. 32nd Ave.	(303) 458-5920
Kevin Taylor's at the Opera House	950 13th St.	(303) 640-1012
The Kitchen	1039 Pearl St., Boulder	(303) 544-5973
L'Atelier	1739 Pearl St., Boulder	(303) 442-7233
Laudisio	1710 29th St., Boulder	(303) 442-1300
Luca d'Italia	711 Grant St.	(303) 832-6600
Mateo	1837 Pearl St., Boulder	(303) 443-7766
Mizuna	225 E. Seventh Ave.	(303) 832-4778
Nine75	975 Lincoln St.	(303) 975-0975
North	190 Clayton Lane	(720) 941-7700
Palace Arms	321 17th St.	(300) 297-3111
Panzano	909 17th St.	(303) 296-3525
Potager	1109 Ogden St.	(303) 832-5788
Q's Restaurant	2115 13th St., Boulder	(303) 442-4880
Restaurant Kevin Taylor	1106 14th St.	(303) 820-2600
Rioja	1431 Larimer St.	(303) 820-2282
Sunflower	1701 Pearl St., Boulder	(303) 440-0220
Sushi Den	1487 S. Pearl St.	(303) 777-0826
Swimclub 32	3628 W. 32nd Ave.	(720) 889-7946
Table 6	609 Corona St.	(303) 831-8800
Tamayo	1400 Larimer St.	(720) 946-1433
Zengo	1610 Little Raven St.	(720) 904-0965

Shopping and Galleries

Cherry Creek North	299 Milwaukee St.	(303) 394-2904
Cherry Creek Shopping Center	3000 E. First Ave.	(303) 388-3900
David Cook Fine Art	1637 Wazee St.	(303) 623-8181
Gallerie Rouge	290 Columbine St.	(720) 318-7556
Gallery M	2830 E. Third Ave.	(303) 331-8400
Great Western Art Gallery	1455 Curtis St.	(303) 396-ARTS
Highlands Square	3211 Lowell Blvd.	(303) 477-0374

DIRECTORY (cont.)

Shopping and Galleries

Address*	Phone**
Kashi Kari Gallery	733 Santa Fe Drive (303) 825-9000
Larimer Square	1430 Larimer St. (303) 534-2367
LoDo District	1616 17th St. (303) 628-5428
Nine10Arts	910 Santa Fe Drive (303) 815-1779
Pismo	2770 E. Second Ave. (303) 333-2879
Robischon Gallery	1740 Wazee St. (303) 298-7788
Rue 32 Gallery	3478 W. 32nd Ave. (303) 455-1611
Sandra Phillips Gallery	744 Santa Fe Drive (303) 573-5969
Sandy Carson Gallery	760 Santa Fe Drive (303) 573-8585
Spark Gallery	900 Santa Fe Drive (720) 889-2200
Tabor Center	1200 17th St. (303) 628-1000
Tam O'Neill Fine Arts	311 Detroit St. (800) 428-3826
Translations Gallery	773 Santa Fe Drive (303) 629-0713
Walker Fine Art	300 W. 11th Ave. (303) 355-8955
William Matthews Gallery	1617 Wazee St. (303) 534-1300
Wilson Adams Gallery	1307 Bannock St. (303) 825-0950

Sports and Recreation

Arrowhead Golf Club	10850 W. Sundown Trail, Littleton (303) 973-9614
Black Bear Golf Club	11400 Canterbury Parkway, Parker (303) 840-3100
Buffalo Run Golf Course	15700 E. 112th St., Commerce City (303) 289-1500
Clear Creek Rafting Co.	350 Whitewater Road, Idaho Springs (800) 353-9901
Colorado Colfax Marathon	City Park, 2100 Steele St. (303) 770-9600
Colorado Crush	Pepsi Center, 1000 Chopper Circle (720) 258-3400
Colorado Rapids	Dick's Sporting Goods Park, 6000 Victory Way, Commerce City (303) 825-GOAL
Colorado Rockies	Coors Field, 20th and Blake Streets (303) ROCKIES
Confluence Kayaks	1615 Platte St. (303) 433-3676
Denver Outlaws	Invesco Field at Mile High, 1701 Bryant St. (303) OUTLAWS
Fox Hollow Golf Course	13410 Morrison Road, Lakewood (303) 986-7888
Geo Tours	229 Highway 8, Morrison (303) 756-6070
Golf Club at Bear Dance	6630 Bear Dance Road, Larkspur (303) 681-4653
Green Valley Ranch Golf Club	4900 Himalaya Road (303) 371-3131
REI Denver Flagship	1416 Platte St. (303) 756-3100
The Ridge at Castle Pines North	1414 Castle Pines Parkway, Castle Rock (303) 688-0100
Riverdale Golf Courses	13300 Riverdale Road, Brighton (303) 659-6700
Rocky Mountain National Park	1000 Highway 36, Estes Park (970) 586-1206

*Denver unless otherwise specified.

**10-digit dialing required.