



COLORADO

CRESTED BUTTE WILDFLOWER SINGLETRACK

MOUNTAIN BIKE TOUR

Mountain Biking

-  Private Tours and Custom Tours
Solos, Couples & Friends
-  Departure: Gunnison, CO
-  Tour Offered: Jul, Aug, Sep
-  Departs On: Monday

-  Duration: 5 Days
-  Lodging: First-Class Camping or Casual Inns
-  Fitness Level: 3-5
-  Technical Level: 3-5
-  Elevation Range: 8,000 - 11,000 ft.

The Western Slope of the Rocky Mountains has forever been called, The Real Colorado. Evoking the dramatic sweep of a Swiss or Austrian backdrop, this side of The Centennial State hosts the highest number of 14'ers. All that breathtaking vert has given rise, not only to some extreme skiing destinations, but also some of Colorado's most treasured, if not eclectic mountain towns.

Like a surf town in the mountains, Crested Butte lives for its refreshing independent streak: from a hip local arts and theatre scene to an absurd number of yearly concerts and festivals.

Below aptly named Gothic Mountain (12,625-ft), the stretch of colorfully painted historic buildings up and down Elk Avenue date back to the 1800s, when Crested Butte stood at the forefront of Colorado coal country.

Above the town that time magically forgot, where the rubber meets the singletrack this stretch of The Rockies just doesn't get any better for mountain bikers. Set against some of the most physically inspiring, XXL backdrops in The West our Crested Butte trip offers total immersion in Colorado's celebrated, centuries spanning cycling culture.

Along with breathtaking, roller-coaster climbs, fueled by rejuvenating mountain air, plus big-healthy blasts of oxygen rich red blood come the thoroughly rewarding descents. But be forewarned: That smile may not wane for weeks. From rich ancient Amerindian culture, to frozen-in-time mining towns and dances with big game wildlife, the Colorado Rockies beckon.





THE ESCAPE ADVENTURES EXPERIENCE

For over 25 years, the hallmark of an Escape Adventures tour is personalized, hands-on service, before, during, and after each trip.

OUR PEOPLE

Our Trip Leaders are the best in the business. Trained personally by the owners, our WFR certified Leaders understand the areas you ride and the safety of the group.

OUR COMMITMENT

We don't just preach environmental awareness, we live it. We recycle 90% of our waste and run our LEED Platinum facilities with solar and wind power. Additionally, our facilities are net zero energy (we produce more energy than we consume) which makes us the only commercial outfitter in the world who is net positive energy.

OUR FOOD

Our Leaders prepare meals on the trip with an emphasis on fresh, local and organic foods, ensuring you have the fuel you need to ride, and a delicious meal at the same time.

OUR SUPPORT VEHICLES

We provide a support van and trailer for every 9 guests on all of our trips so you can count on us to be there when you need us.





DAY 1 | Strand Hill and 409's

Meet in Gunnison, south of Aspen, at Colorado's western mid-latitudes. We shuttle north to Crested Butte (pop. 1487; elev. 8885-ft). Occupying less than one square-mile, this 19th century mining town turned Colorado's last great ski town is tucked immaculately into a broad valley. Passing the brightly colored Victorian homes, we find the modern beautiful Grand Lodge Resort, our base for the next five days.* After a fuel-up lunch, we take in a brief walking tour of the accommodations, as well as the adjacent Wildflower Spa (Crested Butte is, by the way, Colorado's wildflower capital.) Swapping traveling clothes for riding gear we mount up, kicking if off with a close-to-town first ride. Dissolving into thick aspen groves, dabbed and broad-stroked by a riot of wildflowers. Surfing the wildly varied and huge blooms that crowd, or occasionally cloud the trail, our route into the 1.6-million acre Gunnison National Forest closes out near Bush Creek trailhead depending on the route we choose. Nonetheless you might be convinced we've ridden straight into a classic Coors commercial: jutting 12K peaks peering down on big valleys, girded by gently rolling hills. In relative terms, today's ride is a Viking River Cruise compared to the majority of Crested Butte's 750-miles of bike trails. Expect unparalleled view finding of 12,162-ft Mt. Crested Butte, only three miles from town. The trail further showcases the Maroon Bells Snowmass Wilderness to the north, thick with moose, elk, deer and Black bear.

*Itinerary may vary based on accommodation choice



Total Moderate Mileage | 7.5 Miles
Total Seasoned Mileage | 17 Miles
Terrain | 90% Singletrack
First-Class Camping | Cement Creek
Casual Inn | Grand Lodge Crested Butte

Feet Gain | 874
Feet Gain | 2708



DAY 2 | Snodgrass and Deer Creek Trail

Before the Mountain Bike Hall of Fame moved to Fairfax, CA it was based here. Now if there was a consensus choice amongst those who visited the HoF, the majority would call today's ride not just the best in Crested Butte... but the best in Colorado. You will ascend through thick aspen groves, cross over a stream, climb a bit more and be rewarded with beautiful views. To the east loom the Elk Mountains and the surrounding Maroon Bells Snowmass Wilderness. Spanning 181,535-acres, Maroon Bells can claim no less than six of Colorado's 53 fourteeners: peak speak for 14,000-ft summits. Descending atop beautifully buff singletrack, you quickly begin to understand why Crested Butte is known as offering some of the best high-altitude riding in the world. You can't help but get your smile on, sweeping through brimming fields of wildflowers between expansive aspen groves. On a long descent, try not to get mesmerized by the kaleidoscopic rays of sunlight filtered by the aspen's flitting and fluttering leaves.

Total Moderate Mileage | 7.3 Miles

Feet Gain | 827

Total Seasoned Mileage | 18 Miles

Feet Gain | 2672

Terrain | Singletrack & Doubletrack

First-Class Camping | Dispersed Camping

Casual Inn | Grand Lodge Crested Butte



DAY 3 | Crested Butte Mountain Bike Park

Today we stage at the Crested Butte Mountain Bike Park, accommodating every type of rider. Like a Baskin-Robbins for the fat tire set, Evolution features 30-miles of downhill and cross-country trails, a skills zone, a dual slalom course, plus any number of both natural and man-made obstacles. Tonight, we share our respective anecdotes and the day's highlights over a terrific meal at Crested Buttes' best brewery, Elk Avenue.

Mountain Biking | Crested Butte Mountain Resort

Terrain | Singletrack, Lift Access

First-Class Camping | Cement Creek

Casual Inn | Grand Lodge Crested Butte





DAY 4 | Reno Flag Bear Deadman's Trail

Think of our penultimate Crested Butte ride as an XL pizza with the works. Bearing more names than a high-end law firm, the Reno Flag Bear Deadman's extends 22-miles. Profiled by 2700-ft of elevation gain, today's route links the Reno Divide with the Flag and Bear Creek trails. In figurative terms, expect nothing less than a classic; feature rich, and as buff as it gets. Set amidst the stunning Cement Creek area, a succession of big climbs give way to an equal number of superb downhill stretches. Fans of multiple plot twists will adore the final act: a descent comprised of no less than 28 switchbacks, culminating at Deadman's Gulch.

Total Moderate Mileage | 11.7 Miles
Total Seasoned Mileage | 19 Miles
Terrain | 75% Singletrack
First-Class Camping | Cement Creek
Casual Inn | Grand Lodge Crested Butte

Feet Gain | 2000
Feet Gain | 3253



DAY 5 | Teocalli Ridge Loop

Epic is the only way to describe our finale. Fast, flowy and full of variety, the Teocalli Ridge Loop trail is a favorite amongst Crested Butte locals. No more so than during autumn months when the aspens turn, the landscape seemingly paint-balled in sunny yellows, rich reds, and whimsical oranges. Measuring 23-miles end-to-end, Doctor Park kicks off at a heady 10,090-ft. Climbing 2100-ft., with an attendant 2100-ft of downhill, Teocalli Ridge is predisposed to some technical moments. A few high ridgelines with exposure, bookended by big, embracing meadows and dense forest further distinguish it. By virtue of Teocalli's connection to Crested Butte's trail network, we can also add extra miles if you haven't had enough Rocky Mountain High. Finishing with a trailside lunch, we shuttle back to Gunnison.

Total Moderate Mileage | 8 Miles
Total Moderate Mileage | 11.5 Miles
Terrain | Singletrack

Feet Gain | 881
Feet Gain | 2149



Daily Activities

Day	Activity	Easy		Moderate		Seasoned	
		Miles	Feet Gain	Miles	Feet Gain	Miles	Feet Gain
1	Mountain Biking			7.5	874	17	2708
2	Mountain Biking			7.3	827	18	2672
3	Mountain Biking	Crested Butte Mountain Bike Park Singletrack, Lift Access					
4	Mountain Biking			11.7	2000	19	3253
5	Mountain Biking			8	881	11.5	2149

Mountain Bike Tour Technical Levels

Level	Description
Easy	1 Maintained Gravel Roads, Easy Grades
	2 Level 1 PLUS Unmaintained Dirt Roads, Maintained Singletrack Trail
Moderate	3 Level 2 PLUS Moderate Grades, Some Unmaintained Singletrack
Seasoned	4 Level 3 PLUS Rocky Terrain – PLUS Longer, Steeper Ascents & Descents
	5 Level 4 PLUS Some Exposed Sections Of Trail, Some Loose Climbs & Descents



Mountain Bike Tour Fitness Levels

Level	Hours of Activity	Total Elevation Feet Gain	Mountain Bike Miles	Hiking Miles
Easy	1 1-3	700	5-10	1-5
	2 2-4	1200	10-15	5-8
Moderate	3 3-5	1800	15-25	8-10
Seasoned	4 4-6	2200	25-35	10-12
	5 5-7	3000	35-50+	12-16+



HOW TO PREPARE

MOUNTAIN BIKE

For optimal physical preparation, we recommend that you ride at least several hours per week during the month preceding the tour. During the tour you will be on your bike every day, and we can assure you that an unprepared bottom is a sore one! If you can't ride your bike, or don't own one, take a spin class at your local gym a few times a week.

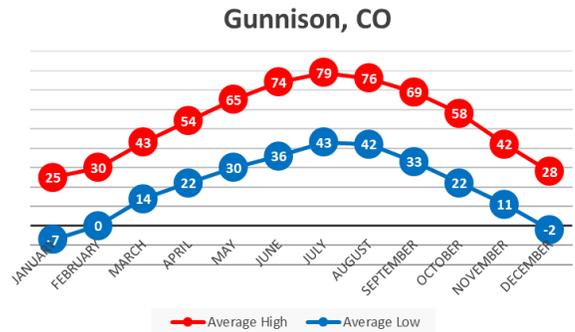


HIKING

To prepare for the tour, we recommend that you hike, jog or run at least several hours per week during the month preceding the tour. Walk/run in the shoes and sock you are bringing on the trip. This will help prevent blisters and sore feet.

WEATHER

You will be riding and sleeping at elevations over 4,000 ft. for this trip. Weather predictions in this area are often unreliable due to the elevation, so it is best to be prepared for cold evenings and inclement weather. Please use the following location when checking the weather online: **GUNNISON, CO**



PACKING

Luggage is limited to one small soft-shelled suitcase or medium/large sized duffel bag (no heavier than 40 pounds). Please ensure your luggage container is water repellant. We also suggest bringing a hydration daypack or small backpack for valuables.

A complete list of what we consider essentials for every trip, as well as items that can be rented from Escape Adventures, is available at www.escapeadventures.com/packing-lists/

BICYCLE RENTALS

Escape Adventures rents quality bicycles. We will fit you with a high quality, durable and safe ride. Our chosen bike is equipped with an aluminum frame designed for a smooth, comfortable ride. Our mountain bikes are full-suspension, lightweight, equipped with a dropper post and adjustable. Availability of bikes are specific to your destination and should be confirmed in your itinerary. For more information call 800-596-2953.

Specialized Stumpjumper - 29er



The new Stumpjumper is the ultimate trail bike. It's supple over small bumps, yet it possesses a firm mid-stroke and exceptional bottom-out support.

- All bicycle rentals are equipped with flat pedals and a complimentary water bottle.
- Helmet and clipless pedals are available upon request and are included in the rental.
- Please specify your individual needs when confirming your reservation.



Santa Cruz Tallboy - 29er



The Tallboy muddles the line between XC and trail. The Tallboy climbs almost as well as an XC bike, but shows its true colors when the trail turns downward.

Santa Cruz 5010 - 27.5



An agile trail whip that turns on a dime and loves to pop and play. Turning trails into pumptracks the 5010 begs to spend as much time above the ground as on it.

TRIP COST INCLUDES

All meals starting with lunch on the first day through lunch on the last day, support vehicles, snacks, first-aid, bike maintenance, community gear, and a custom sublimated Limited Edition Jersey.



TRIP COST DOES NOT INCLUDE

Airfare to and from departure point, lodging before or after the tour, personal camping gear (if applicable), or gratuities to Escape Adventures Trip Leaders. Tips to the Trip Leaders are given at your discretion and based on the quality of your experience. We suggest 10-20% of your trip cost to be divided between all Trip Leaders.

MEALS

Our Trip Leaders prepare all of your meals on our camping trips. On inns tours our Trip Leaders prepare all of your picnic style lunches and breakfasts and dinners are served in the best local restaurants.

TRIP AMENITIES

First-class campers will enjoy well-maintained public campgrounds. Inns on this tour are chosen for comfort, scenery, and proximity to our activities.



KEEPING YOU UP TO DATE

We are always seeking opportunities to enhance this itinerary. We'll notify you of any changes prior to departure; other changes may be communicated on the trip by your Trip Leaders.

This is a general itinerary and may vary. Escape Adventures reserves the right to make changes due to weather, local conditions, government intervention, or any other unforeseen reasons that may affect the quality of the trip and/or safety of the participants. Accommodations are subject to change.



GRAND LODGE CRESTED BUTTE

6 Emmons Rd, Crested Butte, CO 81225

(970) 349-8000

www.skicb.com

The Grand Lodge Hotel and Suites is only 200 yards from the slopes and offers exceptional amenities including Wildflower Spa, indoor/outdoor heated pool, outdoor hot tub, fitness facility, and business center. The Grand Lodge is directly across from the main Transit Center, which provides free shuttle service to the town of Crested Butte. For your convenience, located inside The Grand Lodge, is The WoodStone Grille offering breakfast, après ski, dinner, and room service. Complementary high-speed wireless internet in every room and located in the heart of the Mt. Crested Butte base area village makes this the optimal place to stay.



FIRST-CLASS CAMPING IN CRESTED BUTTE



There is nothing better than rolling into camp to freshly made chips and salsa, homemade guacamole and Dutch oven enchiladas. Then making your way to the inviting campfire, sharing your favorite anecdote or image from the day's activities while marshmallows roast. Enjoy a small-batch local beer before retiring to your tent where inside a sturdy raised cot, fluffy sleeping bag, and a plush full-size pillow await.

We choose well-maintained public campgrounds with scenic vistas. The majority feature indoor facilities and showers. However, in more remote backcountry camping scenarios, we'll provide portable toilets and private solar showers.

CAMPING GEAR RENTALS - \$100 per camp kit (items also available a-la-cart)



Camping gear may be rented or you may bring your own. Our camp gear package includes a three-man tent with ground tarp, sleeping bag, bag liner, full-size pillow, raised cot and self-inflating ground pad.

GATEWAY CITY: GRAND JUNCTION, COLORADO

Grand Junction is a city in Colorado's Western Slope region. From breathtaking red rock scenery and thrilling outdoor adventure, to cultural attractions and farm-to-table dining, Grand Junction is a premier destination on Colorado's Western Slope. The city sits along the Colorado River. It's known as the hub of Colorado's wine country. The Museum of the West displays prehistoric pottery and 19th-century firearms.



GRAND JUNCTION AIRPORT

GRAND JUNCTION REGIONAL AIRPORT

2828 Walker Field Drive

(970) 244-9100

www.gjairport.com

Grand Junction Regional Airport is located three miles northeast of Grand Junction, in Mesa County, Colorado. It is the largest airport in western Colorado and third largest in the state.



GRAND JUNCTION HOTELS



MARRIOTT FAIRFIELD INN & SUITES

225 Main St. Grand Junction, CO 81501

(970) 242-2525

<https://www.marriott.com>



TRAVELODGE

718 Horizon Dr. Grand Junction, CO 81506

(970) 243-5080

www.travelodgegrandjunction.com

DEPARTURE CITY: GUNNISON, COLORADO

The City of Gunnison is the county seat and the most populous municipality of Gunnison County, Colorado, United States. As of the 2010 census, the city had a population of 5,854. It was named in honor of John W. Gunnison, a United States Army officer who surveyed for the transcontinental railroad in 1853



MEETING AND DEPARTURE INFORMATION

MEETING LOCATION

HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS & SUITES
910 E Tomichi Ave, Gunnison, CO 81230
(970) 641-1288
<https://www.ihg.com/holidayinnexpress/>

DEPARTURE TIME
8:00 AM on the first day of the tour.
RETURN TIME
Around 2:00 PM on the last day of the tour.



GUNNISON HOTELS



DAYS INN & SUITES BY WYNDHAM
701 US-50, Gunnison, CO 81230
(970) 641-0608
<http://www.wyndhamhotels.com/>



THE INN AT TOMICHI VILLAGE
41883 US-50, Gunnison, CO 81230
(970) 641-1131
<http://www.theinntv.com/>

CANCELLATION POLICY

In order to keep our tours affordable and provide proper notice to our lodging partners, we must adhere to this timeline, no exceptions. After our refund deadline has passed we cannot provide a refund for any reason, including circumstances beyond your control such as weather-related travel delays, family emergency, or injury. There is also no partial refund if you arrive late to your tour, or depart early. Insurance agencies however, offer a full or partial refund in many circumstances if you purchase travel insurance to cover your tour. Payment in full is due 60 days prior to trip departure.

IF YOU CANCEL YOUR TRIP	YOU WILL RECEIVE
Up until 60 days prior to trip departure	100% of what you have paid minus a \$200 processing fee per person
59-45 days prior to trip departure	50% of what you have paid minus a \$200 processing fee per person
45-30 days prior to trip departure	15% of what you have paid minus a \$200 processing fee per person
29-0 days prior trip departure	No Refund

TRAVEL INSURANCE

We strongly encourage you to purchase travel insurance to protect against extenuating circumstances such as illness and injury-believe us, they do come up! We have a special arrangement with TravelGuard insurance so that you may purchase reasonably-priced travel insurance at the same time you place your tour reservation. For a detailed description of the TravelGuard policy we offer, visit our website or call 866-385-4839 and ask about product **007715**.

TRANSFER POLICY

If you would like to change to a different tour or departure date after signing up, we will be happy to transfer you on a space available basis up until 60 days prior to your tour. Please provide your transfer request in writing - email is sufficient. Please note, a \$25 transfer fee will be deducted from your previous payments for each transfer, and if you later choose to cancel your tour, the cancellation deadlines will apply to the date of the originally scheduled tour.

TOUR CONFIRMATION

Escape confirms tours 60 days prior to tour departure; prior to this time, tours may be cancelled due to low enrollment. After your tour is confirmed, it will not be cancelled for low-enrollment, but in rare cases may be cancelled due to weather, government intervention, unsafe trail conditions, or any other reason that would affect the quality of the scheduled tour or the safety of its participants. If we are forced to cancel your tour, we will provide a 100% refund and work to add you to another trip that works for you.

TRAVEL PLANS

We advise you to avoid non-refundable flights and other travel arrangements and are not responsible for the costs of such arrangement in the event your tour is cancelled. The travel insurance offered in conjunction with our tours covers the cost of your tour but does not cover additional costs such as travel to and from your tour departure location, and hotel stays prior to or following your tour. Please consider purchasing additional insurance coverage.



SIMILAR TRIPS FROM ESCAPE ADVENTURES

THE MAZE OUR MOST POPULAR TOUR

-  Families with Older Kids
-  Private Tours and Custom Tours
-  Solos, Couples & Friends
-  Departure: Moab, UT
-  Tour Offered: Mar, Apr, May, Sep, Oct
-  Duration: 5 Days
-  Lodging: First-Class Camping
-  Fitness Level: 2-3
-  Technical Level: 2-3
-  Elevation Range: 4,000 - 7,000 ft.

Tucked away into the most remote section of wonderfully secluded Canyonlands National Park, The Maze is one of the biggest and best of the last: A rarely traveled, wholly inaccessible wilderness.



MT HOOD TO COLUMBIA RIVER GORGE MOUNTAIN BIKE TOUR

-  Families with Older Kids
-  Private Tours and Custom Tours
-  Solos, Couples & Friends
-  Departure: Portland, OR
-  Tour Offered: Jun, Jul, Aug, Sep
-  Departs On: Monday
-  Duration: 5 Days
-  Lodging: First-Class Camping
-  Fitness Level: 3-4
-  Technical Level: 2-4
-  Elevation Range: 1,000 - 6,000 ft.

An incredibly diverse succession of terrain, from glacial plains to mountain ridges, rainforests, woodlands to orchard valleys, defines this mountain bike epic.

