




COLORADO


ROCKY MOUNTAIN

ROAD BIKE TOUR

Road Biking


 Private Tours and Custom Tours
Solos, Couples & Friends

 Departure: Durango, CO

 Tour Offered: Jun, Jul, Aug, Sep

 Departs On: Monday

 Duration: 5 Days

 Lodging: Casual Inns

 Fitness Level: 3-5

 Elevation Range: 6,000 - 11,000 ft.

From the rusty brown of the semi-arid lowlands, to the green, gold, and purple of alpine wildflower meadows, our Colorado road bike tour provides you with a great opportunity to find out what “colorful Colorado” is all about.

In the smartly preserved Victorian town of Durango, cycling isn’t merely an activity... it’s a lifestyle. Cycling’s roots and colorful lineage here, in what’s known as Colorado’s wildflower capital date back more than a century. Genius.Teddy Roosevelt’s vision, circa 1905, was to preserve “America’s Alps”, the San Juan Mountain Range within a 1.8-million acre (3000-square mile) National Forest. Our guides live for this: sharing some of the area’s unbelievably scenic routes, the unique terrain features. Big open runs through high

Meadows that roll like waves, exploding in shoulder-high wildflowers. For point and shoot types, the low-key signage at the trail head, “Watch for Traffic” means sharing space with mule deer, coyotes, fox, Wild Turkey, bobcat, not to mention some 200 type of songbirds and raptors. Then prepare yourself for the piece de resistance: home-cooked, outrageously flavorful secret recipes, specifically drawn from the area. So savory, these dishes continue to surprise even our Durango returnees.

From Durango to Mesa Verde National Park, we get the opportunity to walk among well-preserved cliff dwelling inhabited by Ancestral Puebloans for over 700 years. Our adventure climbs over four challenging passes (each over 10,000 feet) into the beautiful mountain towns of Telluride, Ouray and Silverton. We breathe the crisp mountain air, as picturesque roads lead us through a sea of Rocky Mountain peaks rising all around us. If the elevations and climbs have made you hesitate on joining this tour in the past, we recommend using our new ebike. This doubles your power throughout the tour and never compromising the scenery.





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 | Durango to Dolores

Meet in Durango, fiercely handsome hamlet of 18,000, defined by 19th century American-Victorian landmark buildings, Aspen forest sloping down to broad, churning trout streams; as well as the onetime haunt of Louis L 'Amour. After introductions, then lunch, we commence our ride to Dolores. Midway between Durango and Telluride, Dolores was founded in 1900, serving as a major stop on the Rio Grande Railroad. A half century later, the rail line abandoned Dolores; its commercial-business core faded. Of late though, Dolores (pop. 936) has experienced a quiet renaissance owing to outdoor recreation: primarily McPhee Lake (Colorado's second largest lake), distinguished by 50-miles of pinon-juniper and big sagebrush shaded shoreline.

Total Seasoned Mileage | 54
Casual Inn | Sophia Retreat

Feet Gain | 4329



DAY 2 | Dolores to Telluride

The next day, our peloton presses toward Telluride. Our route: paralleling the scenic Dolores River. Along the way we'll step back in time. At Stoner (26-miles from Cortez), we take in a town of two flinty holdouts, nine original storefronts and, this being Colorado, a Pot Party tour bus. Further up the road we visit Rico, a time capsule perfect 19th century silver mining/pioneer settlement at 8125-ft. As the sun climbs, we follow suit: through the nearly one-million-acre Uncompahgre National Forest—which adjoins the 1.8-million-acre San Juan National Forest—to the summit of Lizard Head Pass. Our ride peaks out at a heady 10,222 feet! The last stage of the day puts us in Telluride, a posh ski town at 8750-ft. in the heart of the Rocky Mountains. Laying over in Telluride lends terrific options: either a casual exploration of this lively, cosmopolitan village; or, if you've still got fuel, seek out any number of spectacular close-in hikes beneath the high, forested peaks.

Total Seasoned Mileage | 64 Miles
Casual | Inn at Lost Creek

Feet Gain | 4863





DAY 3 | Telluride to Ouray

Wake up to magnificent mountain air; then mount up. From Telluride we sweep toward Ouray, atop a truly Tour de France-quality course. En route we meet the raw, strikingly jagged Mt. Sneffels, elev. 14,158 (Colorado's 25th highest peak). So exalted, so dramatic a visage is Sneffels it seems a doppelganger for the Matterhorn. Shadowing the San Miguel River, our route traverses the American Alps; if not for the signage, all the visual cues and big, vertical imagery suggests Switzerland or Austria. Tucked away beneath the San Juan Mountains—and the eponymous National Forest—Ouray (pop. 1000) is nothing less than a rare gem. Exceptionally handsome, if not.

Total Seasoned Mileage | 50 Miles
Casual Inn | Hotel Ouray

Feet Gain | 2950



DAY 4 | Ourey to Silverton

The next morning, our stage proceeds from Ouray to Silverton. Anticipate a relatively short ride, maintaining an enjoyably laidback pace; perfect to spot big Elk. But don't get slack. Seriously raised relief defines the midway point. Ascending the summit of Red Mountain Pass (11,018-ft), one of Colorado's highest, we lock into an 8% slope on the Ouray-facing side. The closing stage, a fast, furiously fun downhill sweeps into one of our favorite places: Silverton (pop. 650), what Western dreams are made of. Nestled into a glorious alpine valley at 9,318-ft., truly secreted away in timeless beauty, Silverton's two streets have witnessed some rich history: a former bawdy mining town, thick in brothels and saloons, Silverton's evolved and matured. Yet that distinct frontier character remains; as does most of the Victorian-era buildings, stretching to the frozen-in-time mining vestiges that dot the hillsides. Winding down here, Silverton style is incomparable. The shops and restaurants in town are first-class, artisanal if not Old West gracious.

Total Seasoned Mileage | 23 Miles
Casual Inn | Inn of the Rockies

Feet Gain | 3743





DAY 5 | Silverton to Durango

Our closeout day concludes in spectacular fashion. The stage stretches from Silverton to Durango. The sequence includes climbs over Molas Pass (10,910-ft), marked by a brief 8% grade, but predominantly 5%. Then, nine miles further, the Coal Bank Pass (10,610-ft). With no sharp curves, very little vehicular traffic, Coal Bank rates high on many a roadie's bucket list. One brief 7% grade ultimately gives way to a 6.5% downhill, through the San Juan National Forest. A 33-mile long rollercoaster ride winds-up at Durango. Relishing the late afternoon sun, our epic five days in the Rockies ends where it began: Durango.

Total Mileage | 50 Miles

Feet Gain | 3842



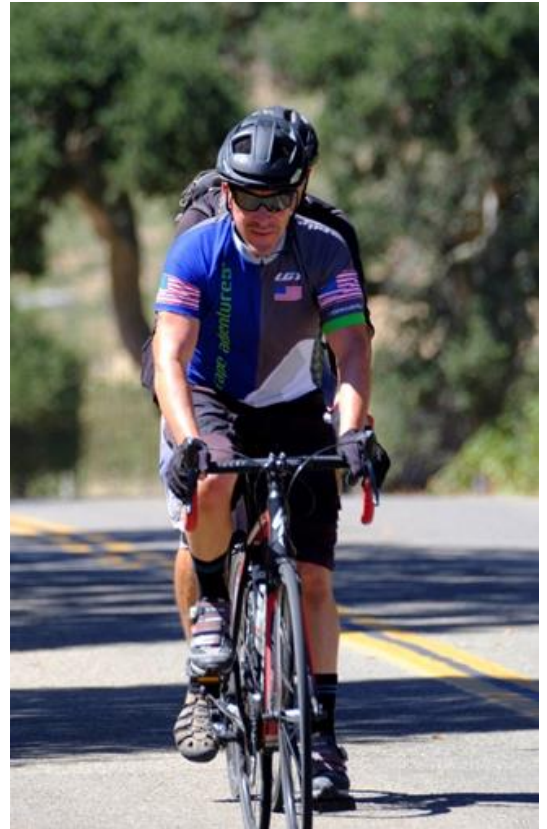
THE IMPORTANT STUFF

Daily Activities

Day	Activity	Easy		Moderate		Seasoned	
		Miles	Feet Gain	Miles	Feet Gain	Miles	Feet Gain
1	Road Biking					54	4329
	Sag Vehicle Available Entire Trip						
2	Road Biking					64	4836
3	Road Biking					50	2950
4	Road Biking					23	3743
5	Road Biking					50	3842

Road Bike Tour Fitness Levels

Level	Hours of Activity	Total Elevation Feet Gain	Road Cycling Miles	Hiking Miles	
Easy	1	1-3	1000	10-20	1-5
	2	2-4	2000	20-30	5-8
Moderate	3	3-5	3000	30-45	8-10
Seasoned	4	4-6	4000	45-75	10-12
	5	5-7	5000	75+	12-16+



HOW TO PREPARE

ROAD 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.

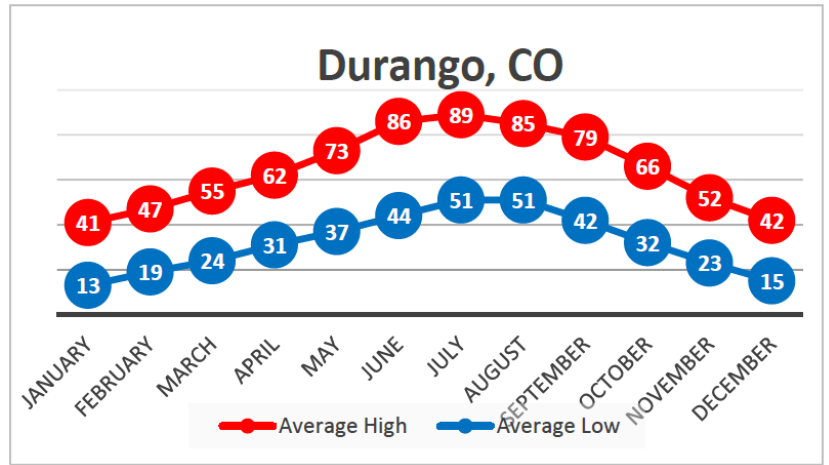
HIKING

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 brining 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 locations when checking the weather online: **Durango, 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/

BICYCLES AND GEAR

Make your trip as comfortable as possible on the body, as simple as possible for traveling, and hassle free on tour. By choosing to rent a bike from us, we will fit you with the newest, highest quality gear in the industry. Escape Adventures provides only high-end bicycles. All of our bikes are equipped with carbon fiber frames and disc brakes designed for a smooth, comfortable ride.

Specialized Roubaix Disc



Specialized has perfected the road bike. Ride confidently and comfortably for longer distances.

Specialized Sirrus



Our most popular bike for moderate road bike tours is the proven Sirrus. This bike is suited for a wide range of cyclists.

Co-Motion Periscope Tandem



Our tandem is ideal for getting you and your partner or child out together, Tandem is available on request at an additional charge.

Specialized Creo eBike



Specialized Como eBike



For those of you who have wanted to join a bike tour but feared your fitness would hold you or the group back, fear no more. The new Turbo eBikes from Escape Adventures now allow you to travel further distances and explore new areas. The pedal assisted technology also allows beginner and novice riders to join in on more challenging routes and terrain.

BIKE GEAR

Garmin Edge Explore GPS

All of our road bike trips include a Garmin GPS device to help you navigate through each day safely and smoothly. You'll know how far, fast, and high you've ridden on the flats or climbs or on your way through each day. Simply turn it on and start riding. No paper maps needed!



Be Seen, Be Safe

When you are on the road in the daytime, it is important to us to make sure you are seen from all directions. We offer the best daytime lighting by our partner NiteRider. Each road bike is equipped with a LUMINA MICRO 550 AND SABRE 80 COMBO with a Lumen Output: 550 and Run Time: 1:30 – 20:00 hrs.



TRIP COST INCLUDES

All meals starting with lunch on the first day through lunch on the last day, Specialized road bike rental, 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. Cell service for this tour is spotty, Verizon is the best service to have for this area.

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.

ACCOMMODATIONS (subject to change)



SOPHIA RETREAT AND EVENT CENTER

19581 Road 31, Dolores, CO 81321

(970) 882-4920

<https://sophiaretreatcenter.com/>

Welcome to your home away from home! Your visit to the Sophia Retreat and Event Center is sure to be a pleasant and memorable experience. Off the beaten path, but close to many world renown attractions, Sophia offers a perfect home base for adventure, relaxation, and rejuvenation.



INN AT LOST CREEK

119 Lost Creek Ln, Mountain Village, CO 81435

(970) 728-5678

<https://www.innatlostcreek.com/>

The Inn at Lost Creek is an award winning luxury boutique hotel offering 32 unique suites, with a premiere location, one of Telluride's best restaurants, and a team that truly loves to deliver highly personalized and quality service defining the Inn as Intimate ... Warm ... Special.



HOTEL OURAY

303 6TH Ave, Ouray, CO 81427

(970) 325-0500

<https://www.hotelouray.com/>

Hotel Ouray is located in the heart of downtown Ouray and offers a total of 14 beautiful rooms and spacious suites. Our rooms accommodate a variety of budgets. Enjoy a mix of contemporary design with turn-of-the-century styling.



SILVERTON'S INN OF THE ROCKIES

220 E 10th St, Silverton, CO 81433

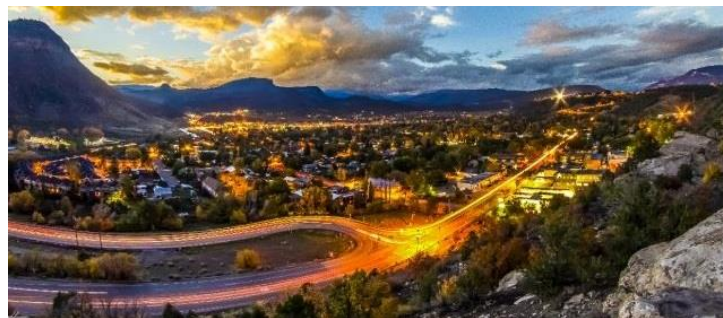
(970) 387-5336

<https://www.innoftherockies.com/>

The inn of the Rockies at the Historic Alma House has built its reputation by exceeding our guest's expectations. Unpretentious and unmatched in atmosphere, warmth and service, you may arrive as our guest but you will leave as part of family.

GATEWAY CITY: DURANGO, COLORADO

Durango is a small city in southwestern Colorado, near the New Mexico border. The 19th-century Durango & Silverton Narrow Gauge Railroad steam train passes mountains and canyons. In the city center, its affiliated Railroad Museum displays restored locomotives, aircraft and a baggage car converted into a movie theater. Nearby, the Powerhouse Science Center offers interactive exhibits in a former power plant.



DURANGO AIRPORT

DURANGO-LA PLATA COUNTY AIRPORT

1000 Airport Rd, Durango, CO 81303
(907) 382-6050

<http://www.durangogov.org/202/Airport>

Durango-La Plata County Airport is a city- and county-owned public airport 12 miles southeast of Durango, in La Plata County, Colorado. The National Plan of Integrated Airport Systems for 2011–2015 categorized it as a primary commercial service airport



DURANGO HOTELS

WYNDHAM DURANGO

401 E 2nd Ave, Durango, CO 81301
(970) 385-9815

<https://www.extraholidays.com/durango-colorado/wyndham->

ROCHESTER HOTEL & LELAND HOUSE

726 E 2nd Ave, Durango, CO 81301
(970) 385-1920

<https://www.rochesterhotel.com/>

MEETING AND DEPARTURE INFORMATION

MEETING LOCATION

BEST WESTERN DURANGO INN

21382 U.S. Hwy. 160 West Durango CO
(970) 247-3251

<https://www.bestwestern.com/>

DEPARTURE TIME

8:00 AM on the first day of the tour.

RETURN TIME

Around 4:00 PM on the last day of the tour.



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

GRAND TETONS & YELLOWSTONE ROAD BIKE TOUR GRAND TETON & YELLOWSTONE NAT'L PARKS

Road Biking Hiking

- Families with Older Kids
Private Tours and Custom Tours
Solos, Couples & Friends
- Departure: Idaho Falls, ID
- Tour Offered: Jun, Jul, Aug, Sep
- Departs On: Sunday
- Duration: 6 Days
- Lodging: First-Class Camping or Casual & Luxury Inns & Restaurants
- Fitness Level: 2-4
- Elevation Range: 5,000 - 9,000 ft.

Each glorious morning, set against the dramatic Tetons, we stage an Upper Rockies tour: spanning three states, inhaling peaks, surging past cirques; beneath enormous, yawning canyons only to circumnavigate glacial lakes.



BACHELOR & CRATER LAKE ROAD BIKE TOUR THE CASCADE MOUNTAINS & CRATER LAKE

Road Biking

- Families with Older Kids
Private Tours and Custom Tours
Solos, Couples & Friends
- Departure: Eugene, OR
- Tour Offered: May, Jun, Jul, Aug, Sep, Oct
- Departs On: Sunday
- Duration: 6 Days
- Lodging: Luxury Inns & Restaurants
- Fitness Level: 2-4
- Elevation Range: 2,000 - 8,000 ft.

Our mount Bachelor/Crater Lake Road Bike tour is simply unmatched for its smart nuances, expansive dimensions and dynamic layers, as we interpret and experience the best wilderness stretched across Oregon's bejeweled interior.

