

THE OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF THE DURANGO & SILVERTON NARROW GAUGE RAILROAD



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2023-24



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Top: Chugging through the Rocky Mountains. > Photo by Anthony D'Amato
Bottom: Heading to Silverton. > Photo by Bryan Burton



Photo by Bryan Burton

Welcome to the Durango & Silverton Narrow Gauge Railroad! We're glad you've chosen to visit. Whether you are new to experiencing this legendary railroad or have been a returning guest for years, we look forward to offering you the best in year-round historic train adventures presented today as they were in 1882! We invite you to hop aboard and relive the "Golden Age" on our railroad which was voted "#1 Best Scenic Train in North America" by USA Today 10Best Readers' Choice 2021 & 2022, "Best Historic Railroad of the West" 2021-23 by TrueWest Magazine Readers, and "Best Train Experience in the West" in 2016 by Sunset Magazine.

Our family has dedicated decades to the preservation of history surrounding this national treasure that is the Durango & Silverton Narrow Gauge Railroad. This railroad is designated as a National Historic Landmark by the National Park Service and is also an American Society of Civil Engineering Landmark.

When is the best time to visit the Durango & Silverton Narrow Gauge Railroad? Anytime of the year!

During the winter, we offer exclusive round-trip train adventures deep into the heart of the San Juan National Forest to Cascade Canyon as well as the premier holiday family event train, THE POLAR EXPRESS™ Train ride.



If you're visiting in the springtime, your train excursion may feature incredible waterfalls during spring thaw season as you journey to Cascade Canyon.

Summer is high season at the D&S with daily full day Durango to Silverton excursions May through October departing from Durango. We also offer daily 5-hour excursions on the Cascade Canyon Express seven days a week during the high season. These rail journeys also depart from the Durango Depot and travel to Cascade Canyon and are a perfect highlight reel of spectacular Rocky Mountain vistas for those with limited time.

Autumn offers you a unique way to experience peak leaf season from the comfort of the D&S train. Connect with family and friends as you explore the Rocky Mountains by historic railway. Sit back and allow yourself to be transported through a riot of blazing fall colors featuring the spectacular golden glow of aspens.

However you choose to relax and connect on the D&S train and whatever adventure awaits you, we hope you have an inspiring journey where you create wonderful life-long memories!

Allen Harper Carol C. Harper John Harper

Allen, Carol & John Harper

OWNERS - DURANGO & SILVERTON NARROW GAUGE RAILROAD



Durango was founded by the Denver & Rio Grande Railway in 1880. The railroad arrived in Durango on August 5, 1881 and construction on the line to Silverton began in the fall of the same year. By July of 1882 (amazingly, only 9 months after construction began) the tracks to Silverton were completed, and the train began hauling both freight and passengers. The line was constructed to haul silver and gold ore from the San Juan Mountains, but everyone soon realized it was the view that was truly precious. This historic railroad has been in continuous operation for 142 years, carrying passengers behind vintage steam locomotives and rolling stock indigenous to the line. The D&SNGRR is also proud to be a part of the American Heritage Railways family. ©2023/24 The Durango & Silverton Narrow Gauge Railroad, 479 Main Avenue, Durango, Colorado 81301 (t) 888.872.4607

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FAQ'S

D&SNGRR



How and when was Durango founded?

Durango was founded by the Denver & Rio Grande Railway in 1880. The railroad arrived in Durango on August 5, 1881, and construction on the line to Silverton began in the fall of the same year. By July of 1882 (amazingly only nine months after construction began), the tracks to Silverton were completed and the train began hauling both freight and passengers.

How long has the railroad been taking passengers on excursions?

Those involved with the railroad were always aware of the spectacular experience it presented and they promoted these scenic opportunities very early on. In addition to its purpose as a freight railroad, it was officially promoted as a scenic attraction July 1882.

How many passengers does the D&SNGRR carry per year?

In 2021, nearly 220,000 passengers rode the Durango & Silverton Narrow Gauge Railroad.

Has the D&SNGRR "starred" in any films?

Absolutely! The D&SNGRR has appeared in *Colorado Territory* (1949), *Ticket to Tomahawk* (1950), *Denver and Rio Grande* (1952), *Viva Zapata* (1952), *Three Young Texans* (1954), *Run for Cover* (1955), *Maverick Queen* (1956), *Around the World in 80 Days* (1956), *Night Passage* (1957), *How the West Was Won* (1963), *Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid* (1969), *Support Your Local Gunfighter* (1970), *The Tracker* (1987), *Durango Kid* (1999), *The Claim* (2000), *The Prestige* (2006), *Godless* miniseries (2017), IMAX film, *"Into America's Wild"* (2020), and *Hostile Territory* (2022).

How narrow is the narrow gauge?

Narrow gauge rails are three feet (36 inches) apart, while standard gauge rails are four feet, eight and one half inches (56½ inches) apart.

Why is narrow gauge used?

Denver & Rio Grande Railway builder William Jackson Palmer chose rails spread 3 feet apart when the railroad was conceived. Inspired by the use of narrow gauge he saw in visiting the UK, Palmer was attracted to the versatility of this gauge to accommodate steeper grades and sharper curves through the mountainous regions the railroad would encounter. The reduced capital expense to build narrow gauge equipment was also a large contributing factor.

What is the total value of gold and silver the D&SNGRR has carried?

Over its 142-year-old history, the D&SNGRR has transported over \$300 million in precious metals.

How much fuel and water does a steam locomotive need for one roundtrip?

The locomotives use between 800 and 900 gallons of fuel oil, and 10,000 gallons of water for a roundtrip to Silverton. Our coal burning locomotives use about six tons on average.

How fast does the train go?

20 mph is top speed with an average speed of 15 mph through the canyons to Silverton. Slower speeds are observed on the highline.

How many miles does the train accumulate after one day?

The train travels 45 miles to Silverton, making a total of 95-100 miles in one day.

Is mileage recorded?

Passenger miles are recorded but locomotive and car miles are not. Unlike automobiles, locomotives do not have odometers. Use of our locomotives is not tracked in miles but rather by days, and how those days are recorded depends on if it's a steam or diesel locomotive. For the diesels, it's all about the calendar. Every 92 calendar days a diesel is available for service, regardless of what it is used for, it requires an inspection. While there is the ability for "out of service credit" on the diesels, we can usually mark it on the calendar, literally, when it needs its quarterly inspection. For the steam locomotives it's based on "service days", or any day a locomotive has a fire, and boiler pressure above atmospheric pressure; regardless of what service it's performing. The mechanical department tracks service days, and every 31 service days performs a boiler wash and comprehensive inspection of the locomotive. This is why our steam locomotives are used on a rotational basis to spread out the service days. All of this information, and records of inspection are filed regularly with the Federal Railway Administration.

How many employees does it take to run the train?

The train requires five employees plus concession and private car attendants. Two employees work in the locomotive cab (the engineer and fireman), and two brakemen and one conductor work throughout the entire train.

How does one become a conductor? How does one become an engineer?

Both positions require special exams and on-the-job training. To become a conductor, one must first become a brakeman and work under the conductor. It typically takes more than four years to become an engineer. One begins as a brakeman, then progresses to working in the cab alongside the engineer as a fireman. Then, one must study mechanical instruction and take student trips.

What is the oldest part of the railroad?

The sand house was built in 1881 and the depot was constructed in 1882.

What is the oldest D&SNGRR locomotive?

RGS #42 is the oldest and is currently on display in the museum. It was built in 1887. The steam locomotives we use daily were built between 1923 and 1928, while most of our diesels were built in 1969.

Who owns the D&SNGRR?

American Heritage Railways purchased the D&SNGRR in the summer of 1998 under the leadership of Chairman Allen C. Harper and President Carol Harper.



Become a part of our Durango & Silverton Narrow Gauge Railroad family by sharing your Durango adventures with us! If you have a special moment you'd like to share via photo or video, please do! It's easy! Just submit it and include a short story or caption about what your Durango adventure meant to you. Add the #MyDurangoTrainMoment and #DurangoTrain hashtags for a chance to be featured on our social media channels. And as always, thank you for sharing.



STAY & PLAY

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Durango & Silverton Narrow Gauge Railroad Gift Shop

Located in the Durango Depot, our train store offers logo apparel, souvenirs, toys, books, snacks and more!



Engineer Hat (Youth & Adult Sizes) | Refillable Tumbler | Official Durango & Silverton Guidebook
Pullback Locomotive | Durango & Silverton Pocket Watch | Conductor Hat (Youth & Adult Sizes)
Handcrafted Mugs (Assorted Styles) | Route Map | LED Battery Powered Lantern



Located in the depot, locally roasted, organic drip coffee, assorted beverages and snacks for your train ride!



Be sure to visit our online gift shop at www.durangotrain.com/shop/.

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EVENTS CALENDAR

2023-24 SUMMER

SPECIAL EVENTS IN DURANGO, SILVERTON AND AT THE D&SNG RAILROAD

SUMMER FUN

IN SILVERTON

TAKE THE TRAIN UP, STAY THE NIGHT AND EXPERIENCE AN ELEVATED ADVENTURE

MAY

NARROW GAUGE DAY
www.durangotrain.com

FIRST DAY OF TRAIN SERVICE TO SILVERTON
www.durangotrain.com

CASCADE CANYON EXPRESS
www.durangotrain.com

IRON HORSE BICYCLE CLASSIC
www.ironhorsebicycleclassic.com

NARROW GAUGE 10 MILE
www.durangorunningclub.org

BAR D CHUCKWAGON OPENS
www.bardchuckwagon.com

JUN

TRUE WESTERN ROUND UP OPEN RODEO
www.truewesternroundup.com

ANIMAS RIVER DAYS
www.animasriverdays.org

FIRST FRIDAY: SILVERTON ART WALK
www.silvertoncreatedistrict.org

DURANGO SKYLINE 30K, 50K & 50 MILE
www.aravaiparunning.com

SILVERTON SUMMER SOUNDS
www.silvertoncreatedistrict.org

JUL

FIRST FRIDAY: SILVERTON ART WALK
www.silvertoncreatedistrict.org

4TH OF JULY CELEBRATIONS
www.durango.org @SilvertonColorado4thofJuly

TRUE WESTERN ROUND UP OPEN RODEO
www.truewesternroundup.com

MUSIC IN THE MOUNTAINS
www.musicinthemountains.com

HARDROCK ENDURANCE RUN
www.hardrock100.com

FIESTA DAYS
www.durango.org

D&SNG RAILROAD

Hop on the Durango & Silverton Narrow Gauge Railroad for an overnight adventure you won't forget! Spend the night in Silverton to discover all that summer in the San Juan Mountains has to offer. This little mountain town has something for everyone!

ALPINE LOOP

Colorado's Alpine Loop Scenic and Historic Byway has a narrow window in which it's snow-free (June to September). But it's worth the wait! The 65-mile scenic drive travels through a picturesque landscape of treeless tundra and mountains bathed in vistas of color. This backcountry loop connects Ouray, Lake City, and Silverton.

JEEPING

Some of the country's best four-wheel-drive roads are found in the area around Silverton. Whether you are exploring ghost towns and mining camps left over from the 1800's along the Alpine Loop or taking in the beauty of the mountains, Silverton is the perfect base camp. Jeep rentals are available if you want to explore these roads on your own. If you prefer to ride along, try a guide company that can take you into the high country.

RAFTING

Access world-class upper Animas River whitewater rafting right out of Silverton. At peak flows, this is one of the most demanding commercial whitewater runs in the U.S. During the rest of the season, which is 80-90% of the time, this is a trip for anyone with a sense of adventure and a love of the outdoors.

HORSEBACK RIDING

An exciting way to see the San Juan Mountains is by horseback. You'll find several stables and outfitters in the area to help. Let these guides show you into the backcountry for summer thrills.



California Gulch, West Fork Animas River > Photo by StockPhoto.com

FISHING

The San Juan Mountains provide crystal clear waters for dropping a line. Many rivers and streams are within easy reach of Silverton, and our high alpine lakes offer up excellent pan-size trout. Town-owned Molas Lake Park & Campground, 5 miles south of town, is a popular spot to cast your line with easy access.

HIKING

Hiking opportunities abound in the San Juan Mountains. Trails of varying lengths and difficulties provide something for everyone. Stop by the Silverton Visitors Center and San Juan Public Lands Office at 414 Greene Street for more information.



The Old Hundred Gold Mine Tour: Gold Panning
Photo by Trent Rhoades

MOUNTAIN BIKING

San Juan County has some of the most amazing single-track trails to ride on! Please check out our local Mountain Bike group's website for more information: www.silvertonsingletracksociety.org.

Top: Mountain biking on the Rim Trail. > Photo by Visit Durango / Bottom: Cowboy Poetry Train 2022 > Photo by D&SNGRR

AUG

FIRST FRIDAY: SILVERTON ART WALK
www.silvertoncreatedistrict.org

GREAT WESTERN ROCKY MOUNTAIN BRASS BAND
www.silvertoncolorado.com

HARDROCKERS HOLIDAYS @Hardrockers Mining Holiday

LA PLATA COUNTY FAIR
www.co.laplata.co.us

SILVERTON SUMMER SOUNDS
www.silvertoncreatedistrict.org

BLUES TRAIN
www.durangoblustrain.com

SAN JUAN BREWFEST
www.sanjuanbrewfest.com



SEP

FIRST FRIDAY: SILVERTON ART WALK
www.silvertoncreatedistrict.org

SILVERTON SUMMER SOUNDS
www.silvertoncreatedistrict.org

SILVERTON CREATES
www.silvertoncreatedistrict.org

DURANGO AUTUMN ARTS FESTIVAL
www.durangoarts.org

DURANGO COWBOY POETRY GATHERING
www.durangocowboygathering.org

LAST SHOW: BAR D CHUCKWAGON
www.bardchuckwagon.com

STAY THE NIGHT: SUMMER

DAY 1

Travel to Silverton via the D&SNGRR

LUNCH | Lodging Check-In

Jeep/UTV Tour or Rental:

- Visit Area Ghost Towns via the Alpine Loop: Howardsville, Middleton, Eureka or Animas Forks

AND/OR

Hike & Bike:

- Christ of the Mines Shrine
- Hillside Cemetery
- Boulder Gulch

DINNER | Scout Local Live Music

DAY 2

BREAKFAST | Lodging Check-Out

Tour Area Heritage Attractions:

- Mining Heritage Center & 1902 Jail Museum
- Mayflower Gold Mill Tour
- Old Hundred Gold Mine Tour

AND/OR

Historical Downtown Walking Tour

& Shopping Excursion:

- Enjoy Our National Historic Districts: Greene | Blair Streets

LUNCH

Depart Silverton via D&SNGRR

Please visit www.DurangoTrain.com for all D&SNGRR Special Event schedules, fares and information. Dates subject to change without notice.



SUMMER IN DURANGO

With 300+ days of sunshine a year, abundant friendly western hospitality, and a wide variety of family-friendly summer celebrations and activities, you'll love visiting Durango in the summertime! A mecca for outdoor enthusiasts, there's something for everyone whether it be hiking, mountain biking, fly fishing, kayaking, or just taking a leisurely stroll along the Animas River Trail. And this year, you'll have two train excursion options, the full day roundtrip Silverton Train excursion or the five hour Cascade Canyon Express, both departing from our Durango Depot. Summer celebrations are abundant in this vibrant western town and include Animas River Days, Music In The Mountains, True Western Roundup, Fiesta Days, and the La Plata County Fair just to name a few. There's something fun for everyone this summer in Durango!



Top: Rafting down the Animas River. > Photo by Durango Rivertippers / Bottom: Enjoying brews alongside the Animas River. > Photo by Bryan Burton

SUMMER ITINERARIES

SHORT TRIP DAY 1

All aboard the **Durango & Silverton Narrow Gauge Railroad** for a historic train ride. You can choose between the full day **Silverton Train** adventure or, if you are looking for a shorter experience, the 5-hour **Cascade Canyon Express** that only travels halfway to Silverton. Both excursions depart from our **Durango Depot**, skirting the edges of the Animas River and climbing along the sides of the picturesque **Rocky Mountains** through the beautiful **San Juan National Forest**. Enjoy ample photo opportunities as well as unforgettable memories to last a lifetime. Upon your return, explore the **FREE Roundhouse Museum** located at the **Durango Depot**.

DAY 2

Explore **Mesa Verde National Park**, a UNESCO World Heritage Site located 35

miles west of Durango that features the best-preserved Ancestral Puebloan cliff dwellings with over 4,000 ruin sites and 600 cliff dwellings, including the renowned **Cliff Palace**.

DAY 3

Rent a **mountain bike** and ride from downtown Durango to **Horse Gulch** and take on over 30 miles of trail. Or try tubing down the **Animas River** and enjoy the cool flow of mountain waters over your skin. Later, dig into a delicious barbecue supper and genuine western stage show with the **Bar D Chuckwagon**.

EXTENDED STAY DAY 4

Take a hike on the stunning **Colorado Trail** before relaxing at **Durango Hot Springs**. Then check out **Honeyville** and **Honey House Distillery** where all of the products and spirits are distilled from or blended with honey. Later, experience the fascinating local

agriculture scene by taking a tour of and dining at **James Ranch**.

DAY 5

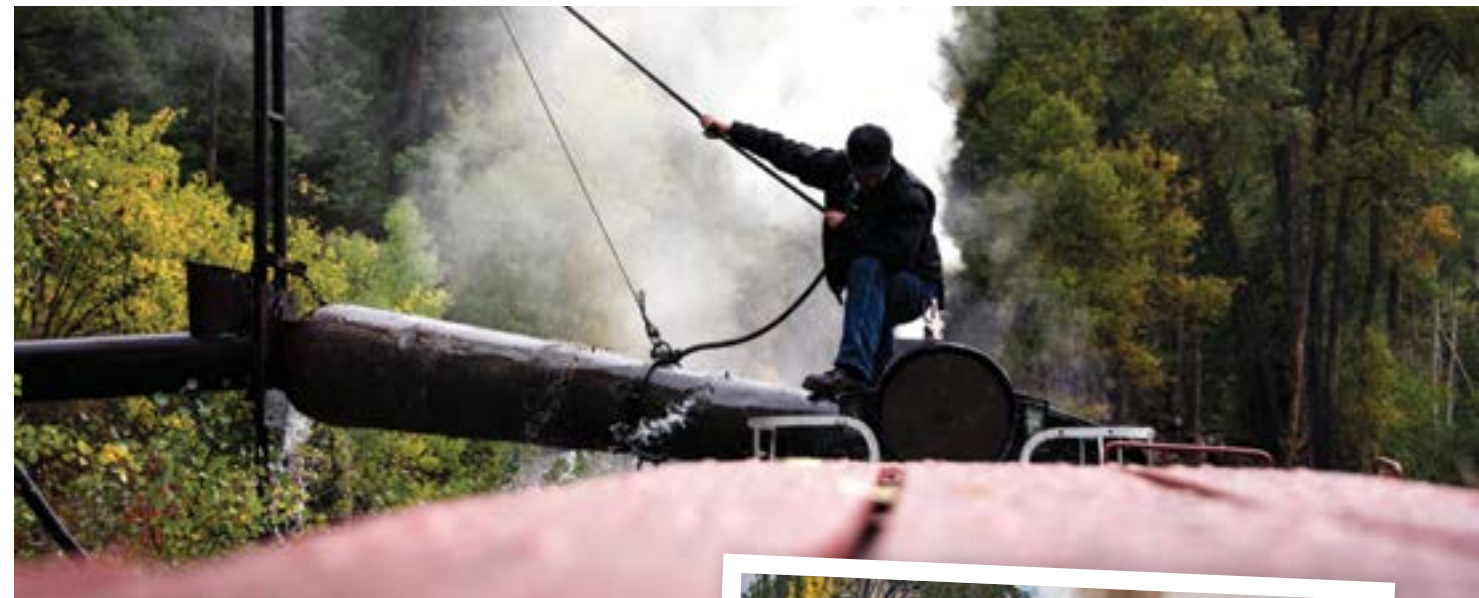
Set out on a driving adventure along the **San Juan Skyway** as you follow the 236-mile **Million Dollar Highway** through the **San Juan Mountains** to **Silverton** and **Ouray**, viewing breathtaking terrain before looping back to Durango.

DAY 6

Embark on a **whitewater adventure** on the Animas River before catching a glimpse of Durango's western heritage at the **True Western Round Up Open Rodeo**.

DAY 7

Mount up for a **horseback ride** into the Colorado backcountry and then top it off with an unforgettable dose of Durango's vibrant nightlife.



Top: Fall excursion amidst the aspens. > Photo by Anthony D'Amato
Bottom: Enjoy the beauty of the glowing aspens. > Photos by Jerry Day

FALL IS FANTASTIC

See some of the most stunning wilderness that Colorado has to offer. Experience full on autumn splendor from the comfort of a Durango & Silverton Narrow Gauge Train. Besides the train, fun fall activities include jeeping, mountain biking, hiking and horseback riding. And the bright explosion of aspens rival the sunshine in full golden splendor. There's just so much to see and do during autumn's crisp days in southwest Colorado.



FALL ITINERARIES

SHORT TRIP DAY 1

Sit back, relax, and breathe in the crisp mountain air on board the **Durango & Silverton Narrow Gauge Railroad**. Enjoy the colorful fall foliage as the train tracks alongside the **Animas River** on its journey through the **San Juan National Forest**. When you return, be sure to visit the **FREE Roundhouse Museum** located at the Durango Depot.

DAY 2

Take a hike up **Horse Gulch** or **Animas Mountain** for some truly incredible natural views. Alternatively, take a hike up the **Skysteps Trail** for a panoramic view of the Durango area before descending back into town for a stroll along the **Animas River Trail** where you'll see the aspens aglow with fall's radiance.

DAY 3

Join a **Jeep** tour and explore historic mining towns in the backcountry surrounding **Silverton**. You can also drive up **La Plata Canyon**, an area known for its past mining operations. It's best explored in a 4x4 vehicle, but you can always park and hike in on foot. You'll discover ghost towns, waterfalls, and lots of brilliant golden aspens.

EXTENDED STAY DAY 4

Take a spectacular drive on the **San Juan Skyway**, one of the most incredible drives in the country. You'll wind your way to **Silverton**, **Ouray**, **Ridgway**, **Telluride**, and then back to **Durango** through **Rico** and **Mancos**.

DAY 5

Enjoy the brisk autumn air from **horseback** as you take a ride into the backcountry. On your way back to town, stop by **James Ranch** and chow down on lunch.

DAY 6

Delve deeper into local history by visiting **Mesa Verde National Park**, which features the best-preserved Ancestral Puebloan cliff dwellings with over 4,000 ruin sites and 600 cliff dwellings, including the renowned **Cliff Palace**.

DAY 7

Rent an **OHV (Off Highway Vehicle)** and explore some of the many local backroads and ghost towns while enjoying the spectacular fall foliage. Then, take the opportunity to experience local agriculture with a tour of **James Ranch**.



Top: Winter's serene beauty on the rails. > Photo by Anthony D'Amato
Bottom: Hot chocolate dance on board the POLAR EXPRESS™ Train Ride. > Photo by D&SNGRR

WINTER IN DURANGO

Winter is a fantastic time to visit the authentic western mountain town of Durango! Whether you love to ski, snowboard, ice climb, or go for a winter hike, Durango is literally surrounded by unparalleled outdoor winter recreation! And if shopping and celebrating is on your list, Durango really comes alive with unique winter shopping opportunities and festivities. Winter events include the annual Snowdown Festival, Purgatory's Winterfest and the Durango Independent Film Festival. And of course, you'll want to experience one of the Durango & Silverton Narrow Gauge Railroad's winter journeys to Cascade Canyon.



WINTER ITINERARIES

SHORT TRIP DAY 1

All Aboard the **Durango & Silverton Narrow Gauge Railroad** for a historic steam ride to **Cascade Canyon**. Don't forget to also explore the free **Roundhouse Museum** located at the depot.

DAY 2

Hit the slopes at **Purgatory Resort**. With over 260" of annual snowfall and every snow activity imaginable from downhill skiing, snowboarding, and much more, the snowy slopes await.

DAY 3

Take some time to relax in the warmth of

Durango Hot Springs, before dining at one of the award-winning local restaurants.

EXTENDED STAY DAY 4

Take a magical sleigh ride, go snowmobiling, or hit the slopes again at **Purgatory**, one of the local ski resorts. Or, if you are looking for something even closer, head on over to **Chapman Hill Ice Rink** for some local ice skating.

DAY 5

Explore **Mesa Verde National Park**, a UNESCO World Heritage Site 35 miles west of Durango. Afterwards, attend a riveting performance at the **San Juan Symphony**.

DAY 6

Make the journey to beautiful **Vallecito Lake** for some ice fishing or groomed corduroy **Nordic Skiing** on the winter recreation trail system.

DAY 7

Take a stroll along the **Animas River Trail**. Stop by the **Powerhouse Museum** located just off the trail. Then head back downtown from lunch and shopping before hopping on board the train for a magical ride on **THE POLAR EXPRESS™** to the North Pole for the holidays.

SPRING INTO ADVENTURE

Experience springtime in Durango!! The trees and flowers are beginning to bud and blossom, the river is flowing, and the air is clean and crisp. There's fresh energy all around with plenty of sunshine and places to explore, activities to enjoy and music festivals to attend!



Top: The Bar D Wranglers performing during Narrow Gauge Day, the annual summer season kick-off in early May at the Durango & Silverton Narrow Gauge Railroad depot. > Photo by D&SNGRR
Bottom: D&SNGRR blow down over the High Bridge. > Photo by Anthony D'Amato

SPRING ITINERARIES

SHORT TRIP DAY 1

Hop on board the **Durango & Silverton Narrow Gauge Railroad** for a 5-hour round trip historic train ride to **Cascade Canyon**. Upon you return, explore the FREE **Roundhouse Museum** and the many unique shops in Durango

DAY 2

Hit the slopes at **Purgatory Resort** for some fabulous spring skiing, snowboarding, or other exciting outdoor activities.

DAY 3

Enjoy breakfast at one of the many delicious local eateries, then take a hike and explore

the nearby trail system. Try out one of these popular hikes: **Fort Lewis College Mesa**, **Sky Steps**, **Animas City Mountain**, or **Perins Peak**, and enjoy unparalleled photo opportunities of the scenic Durango area.

EXTENDED STAY DAY 4

Take a stroll or bike ride along the **Animas River Trail**. Along the way, stop for an informative visit at the **Powerhouse Museum** located just off the trail. Stop by one of the local wineries for a wine tasting or experience one of the local food and wine events.

DAY 5

Explore **Mesa Verde National Park**, a UNESCO World Heritage Site 35 miles

west of Durango, which features the best-preserved Ancestral Puebloan cliff dwellings with over 4,000 ruin sites and 600 cliff dwellings, including the renowned Cliff Palace.

DAY 6

Explore more fascinating archeological sites such as **Aztec Ruins**, **Chaco Canyon**, or **Chimney Rock**. On your return to Durango, stop by **Animas Chocolate Company** for a tasty treat. Later, visit the **Durango Arts Center** gallery then head over to the **Diamond Belle Saloon** for some lively ragtime music.

DAY 7

Visit the **Animas Museum** to learn about the local history, then take a walk to explore **Historic Durango**.

EVENTS CALENDAR

2023-24 FALL • WINTER • SPRING

SPECIAL EVENTS IN DURANGO, SILVERTON AND AT THE D&SNG RAILROAD

OCT

ANIMAS VALLEY
BALLOON RALLY
www.animasvalleyballoonrally.com

SAN JUAN SYMPHONY
www.sanjuansymphony.org

LAST DAY OF TRAIN SERVICE
TO SILVERTON
www.durangotrain.com

NOV

THE POLAR EXPRESS™
TRAIN RIDE BEGINS
www.durangotrain.com

CASCADE CANYON
WINTER TRAIN
www.durangotrain.com

TURKEY TROT
www.durangorunningclub.org

COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS TREE
LIGHTING ON MAIN AVE
www.durango.org

PURGATORY RESORT
OPENING DAY
www.purgatoryresort.com

DEC

THE POLAR EXPRESS™
TRAIN RIDE - All Month Long
www.durangotrain.com

NOEL NIGHT
www.local-first.org

SANTA COMES TO SILVERTON
www.silvertoncolorado.com

FESTIVAL OF TREES
www.communityconnectionscolorado.org

HOLIDAY FARMER'S MARKET
AT THE LA PLATA COUNTY
FAIRGROUNDS
www.durango.com

BAR D WRANGLERS
CHRISTMAS JUBILEE
www.durangoconcerts.com

Photo: Silverton Skijoring Opening Ceremony > Photo by Wesley Berg Photography

JAN

WINTERFEST AT
PURGATORY RESORT
www.purgatoryresort.com

FEB

SNOWDOWN IN DURANGO
2024 Theme: *Peace, Love & Snowdown*
www.snowdown.org

SNOWDOWN BALLOON
RALLY TRAIN
www.durangotrain.com

SILVERTON SKIJORING
www.silvertonskijoring.com



MAR

DURANGO INDEPENDENT
FILM FESTIVAL
www.durangofilm.org

DURANGO BACH FESTIVAL
www.durangobachfestival.com

APR

SILVERTON MOUNTAIN
UNGUIDED SKIING
www.silvertonmountain.com

DURANGO BLUEGRASS
MELTDOWN
www.durangomeltdown.com

DURANGO WINE EXPERIENCE
www.durangowine.com

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Please visit www.DurangoTrain.com for all D&SNGRR Special Event schedules, fares and information. Dates subject to change without notice.

STAY & PLAY

IN THE HEART OF THE HIGH COUNTRY



Entrance to Silverton from Highway 550 North > Photo by StockPhoto.com

Upon your arrival to Silverton, you may find yourself wondering, do people really live here? Why, yes they do! Not only is Silverton a year-round home to over 800 residents, it also offers four seasons of recreation and entertainment. Nestled in the heart of the San Juan Mountains at 9,318 feet elevation, Silverton is the only town left in San Juan County, Colorado. Silverton, officially incorporated in September 1874, is a National Historic Landmark. A two-hour layover is not enough time to take in all that Silverton has to offer! History buffs, outdoor enthusiasts and weekend warriors of all types will find themselves thoroughly delighted by everything Silverton has to offer.

Give yourself a chance to explore and appreciate the rugged and robust beauty of the San Juan Mountains. An overnight stay at one of our historic hotels offers a chance to witness the daily transformation from sleepy hamlet to lively town center, as townspeople and shopkeepers prepare for the daily flow of visitors.

Animas Forks Ghost Town > Photo by StockPhoto.com

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- Ghost Towns
- Waterfalls
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- Wildlife

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www.silversummitrvpark.com

SPRING

Celebrate the spring thaw with the arrival of the Durango Silverton Narrow Gauge train in early May. Find yourself swept back in time as men and women dressed to their Victorian nines welcome the first round of train visitors to Silverton. Each Memorial Day Weekend the world-famous Iron Horse Bicycle Classic invites hundreds of cyclists to race the D&SNG Train from Durango to Silverton over two mountain passes on Highway 550. Cyclists descend into a clamor of spectators at the finish line in Memorial Park.

www.durangotrain.com
www.ironhorsebicycleclassic.com

SUMMER

Silverton's backyard provides limitless outdoor recreation in the San Juan Mountains. Mountain bikers, equestrians, hunters, rafters, historians, rock hounds, and wildlife lovers can all make Silverton their basecamp.

Our rich mining heritage has left a legacy of intertwined jeep roads, providing access to the region's most breathtaking mountain passes. Take a 4x4 full-day adventure on the scenic Alpine Loop, or half-day trip to Animas Fork Ghost Town. These high country roads grant you passage to awe-inspiring views, alpine lakes, waterfalls, wildflowers, mining ruins and ghost towns. You can choose a guided adventure or rent a UTV (Utility Terrain Vehicle) or Jeep for a

self-guided trip. Mountain driving experience is highly recommended.

www.piratebackcountryadventures.com
www.sanjuanbackcountry.com
www.silversummitrvpark.com

Camping and RV sites are also available. Set up your tent at Molas Lake Campground for paddle boarding, fishing, hiking and photography. Forest Service campgrounds are available just outside of town.

www.molaslake.com

Silverton summer events often highlight the spirit of the mountain people. The Hardrockers Holidays is centered around mining culture and offers competitions in events like horseshoes, hand mucking, machine drilling, tug-of-war, and arm wrestling. The Hardrock 100, Silverton Alpine Marathon and 50K, and Death Ride Bicycle Tour are among the many races and challenges that utilize the area terrain to push competitors' limits.

www.hardrock100.com
www.silvertonalpinerunning.com

After an exciting day in the mountains, come back to relax in Silverton's small-town atmosphere. Take an evening stroll, grab a cocktail and a bite to eat, explore our shops and fine art galleries. The Summer Sounds Music Series at Memorial Park is a family

friendly open air music series held on the 2nd Friday of each month June-September.

www.silvertoncreativedistrict.org

Memorial Weekend through Labor Day offers unique old west experiences. The Silverton Brass Band performs Sunday evenings at 6 p.m. on Greene Street. Don't miss this festive Victorian pastime. Purchase your Heritage Pass and save up to 15% when you visit the Mining Heritage Center & Jail Museum, the Mayflower Gold Mill Tour, or the Old Hundred Gold Mine Tour.

www.sanjuancountyhistoricalsociety.org
www.minetour.com

FALL

There's gold in those hills! Fall is about color in Silverton. Visitors from all over the world come to experience the visually stunning hillsides covered in gold. Leaf color typically peaks between mid-September and early October. Take a hike to admire the beautiful leaves! A scenic drive through the San Juan Skyway and over the Million Dollar Highway offers unforgettable views.

WINTER

The fun doesn't stop after the last whistle of the train. Winter in Silverton, with its thick blanket of snow and white jagged peaks, is a winter destination full of celebration and outdoor recreation.

Book your rooms in advance for Presidents Day weekend when Silverton Skijoring sets up on Notorious Blair Street. Watch horses and riders pull skiers along as they race down the snow-packed course, jumping ramps and picking off rings from the sidelines. Cowbells ring and crowds cheer at this fast-paced, Wild West, mountain-town event.

www.silvertonskijoring.com

Whether you're skiing down hill with the family at Kendall Mountain Ski Area or seeking remote access to powder snow via heli drop, snow lovers of all types will enjoy Silverton's winter recreation. With over 150 inches of annual snowfall, skiing (downhill, heli, snowcat, cross country), snowboarding, sledding, ice skating, ice climbing, and ice fishing are all accessible here. Explore the snowy landscape on a snowmobile! The Silverton Snowmobile club grooms many miles of trails in the area. Tours and rentals are also available at Molas Lake Trail Parking Lot/Mile Marker 65, Highway 550.

www.skikendall.com
www.silvertonsnowmobileclub.org
www.piratebackcountryadventures.com

For more information on Silverton, log onto:
www.silvertoncolorado.com

- Story by Cassandra Roof

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*Schedule and Times Subject to Change

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DOWNTOWN SILVERTON'S SHOPPING, LODGING, DINING, JEEP RENTALS, CAMPING & ATTRACTIONS LOCATOR MAP

TAKE THE TRAIN, BUS OR DRIVE UP,

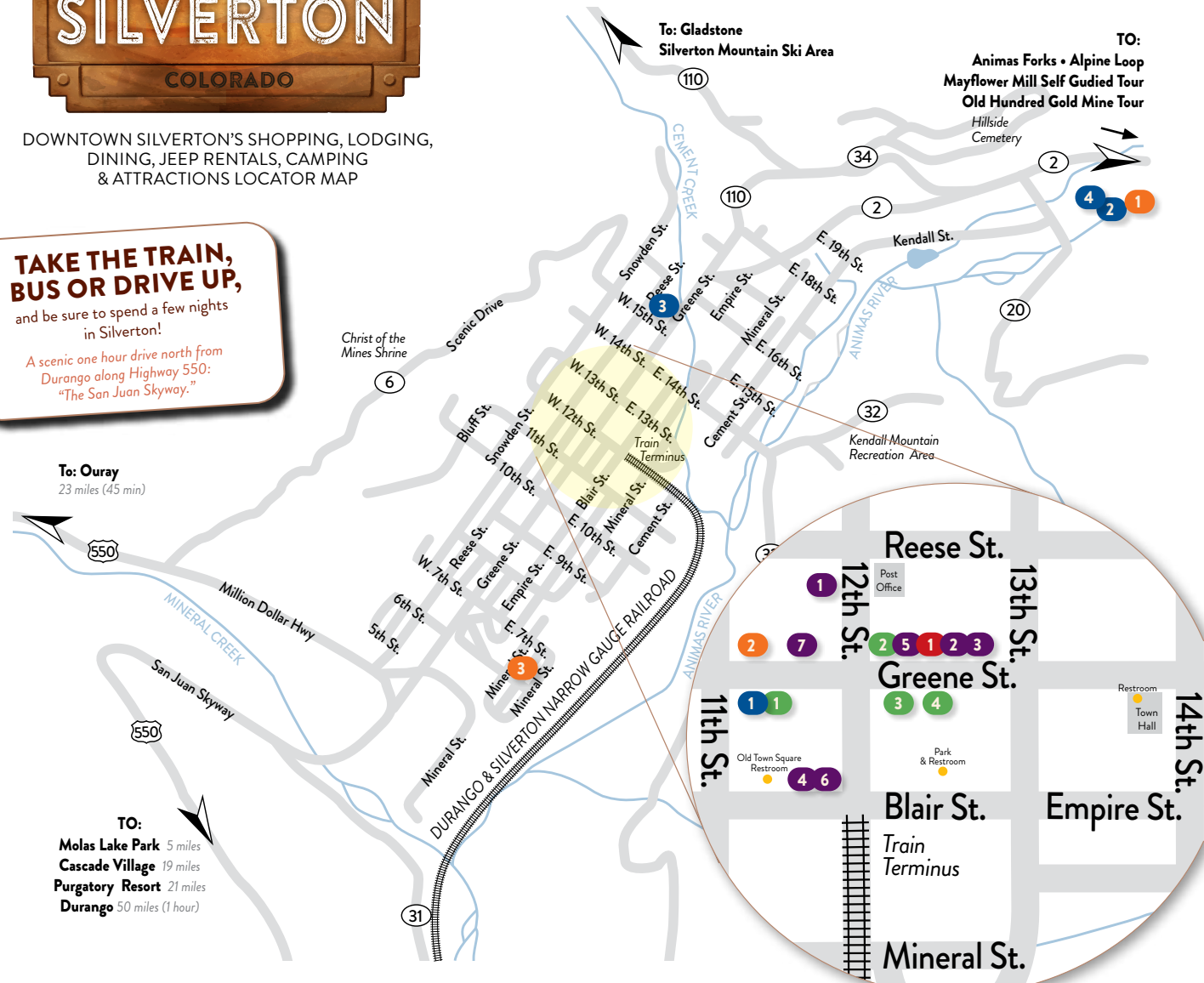
and be sure to spend a few nights in Silvertown!

A scenic one hour drive north from Durango along Highway 550: "The San Juan Skyway."

To: Ouray 23 miles (45 min)

To: Molas Lake Park 5 miles, Cascade Village 19 miles, Purgatory Resort 21 miles, Durango 50 miles (1 hour)

This map (including street locations and names, business locations, etc) is not guaranteed to be accurate. This map may not be to scale and it is recommended that you use a driving map for specific information and directions. Locations are approximate. All Aboard! Magazine and Colorado Activity Centers, Inc. are not responsible for omissions or mistakes. Alternate maps are available at the Silvertown Visitors Center at 414 Greene Street.



- SILVERTON DINING - EAT A BITE FOOD TRUCK, ELEVATED COFFEE COMPANY, GOLDEN BLOCK BREWERY, GOODIES TO GO @ NATALIA'S, LACEY ROSE SALOON, NATALIA'S 1912 RESTAURANT, THEE PITTS "AGAIN" BBQ

- SILVERTON LODGING - THE GRAND IMPERIAL HOTEL

- SILVERTON SHOPPING - CAROL WILKINS DESIGNS, K&C TRADERS, SILVERTON SOAPBOX, THE 9318 COLLECTIVE

- JEEP & OHV RENTALS - ROCK PIRATES BACKCOUNTRY ADVENTURE TOURS & RENTALS, SAN JUAN BACKCOUNTRY, SILVER SUMMIT JEEP RENTALS & RV PARK

- RV PARK & CAMPING - SILVER SUMMIT JEEP RENTALS & RV PARK

- ACTIVITIES & ATTRACTIONS - BLACKSMITH ADVENTURES, MAYFLOWER MILL TOUR, MINING HERITAGE CENTER & JAIL, OLD HUNDRED GOLD MINE TOUR, ROCK PIRATES BACKCOUNTRY ADVENTURE TOURS & RENTALS, SAN JUAN BACKCOUNTRY, SILVER SUMMIT JEEP RENTALS & RV PARK

NATALIA'S RESTAURANT & SALOON advertisement featuring a photo of the building and text: "Winner Taste of Silvertown", "Open Daily Lunch & Dinner May - Oct", "Corner of 12th & Blair St. Silvertown | 970.387.5300"

Mining Heritage Center & 1902 County Jail MUSEUM advertisement with QR code and text: "Heritage Pass Available SAVE ON BOTH - Plus the Gold Mine Tour! www.sanjuancountyhistoricalsociety.org", "Mayflower Gold Mill & Rock Shop Self-Guided Tour", "A National Historic Landmark 2nd. N of Town • 135 County Rd. 2 970-387-0294"

Golden Block Brewery advertisement with text: "Silvertown's foremost brewery on the Historic Golden Block", "Est. 2014", "AWARD-WINNING CRAFT BEER WOOD FIRED PIZZA PANINI • SALADS", "1227 Greene Street • 970.387.5962 www.GoldenBlockBrewery.com"

NATALIA'S RESTAURANT & SALOON advertisement with text: "NATALIA'S RESTAURANT & SALOON OPEN DAILY MAY-OCT Serving Lunch & Dinner!", "STEP BACK IN TIME", "HISTORIC BORDELLO", "LUNCH & DINNER", "PATIO DINING", "AMERICAN | MEXICAN | ITALIAN", "Full Menu | Homemade Desserts | Local Microbrews & Spirits Plus Hot Buffet & Salad Bar", "Fast Friendly | Large Groups | Live Music | Pet Friendly Patio Wheelchair Accessible", "Taste of Silvertown WINNER", "natalias1912.com | 970.387.5300 | Corner of 12th & Blair ST | Silvertown CO"

THE 9318 COLLECTIVE

LOCAL ARTIST HIGHLIGHT



An array of unique local art and gifts available at The 9318 Collective > Photo by Wesley Berg Photography

A step inside The 9318 Collective, brings you into a whimsical space; splashes of color within frames and on canvas, jewelry and lights sparkle, a big table in back where artists convene and instruct, even a special place for local children to sell their handmade goods. Beth Anderson opened The 9318 Collective in 2020 to create an encouraging space for emerging crafters, lifelong artists and everyone in between. For her, it is a dream come true.

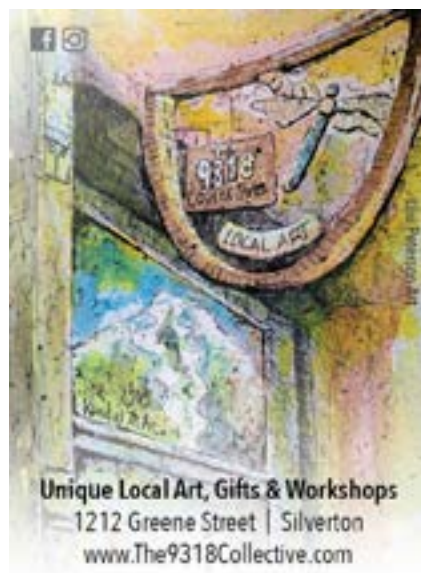
The 9318 Collective provides nearly 30 local artists a space to share and sell art. It is a creative community where artists brainstorm ideas for growth, manage success and overcome challenges. The artists at The 9318 Collective have a vested interest in the outcome of their individual art businesses and that of the collective as a whole. Gina Rosato of The Creative Crackerjack, a graphic design firm in Silverton, refers to this as a Lion's Gate where power is generated when many minds are focusing on the same thing – we help each other and problem solve together.

Gina got her start in the graphic design industry nearly 20 years ago when she was first assigned to the *All Aboard* magazine, where she is still currently involved as the Art Director. Gina's signature style has a retro flair that can be seen in her other business, Route 550 Gifts, where she designs souvenirs inspired by Silverton. Gina has recently expanded her repertoire, working as an Integrated Digital Artist using mixed media techniques within the digital art world where she creates historical wildscapes of the San Juan Mountains. The creative and business support network of The 9318 Collective has helped fuel the growth of both of Gina's businesses.

Many of the artists at The 9318 Collective are inspired by the environment that surrounds Silverton. Wesley Berg takes us nose to nose with nature with incredibly up-close photographs of local fauna. One shot of a determined looking Stellar Jay taking flight is so detailed one might instinctually flinch at first glance. Wes' interest in wildlife photography started about 7 years ago, however he bought his first "serious camera" in the mid 1990's when he started mountaineering. What began as an inclination to capture the spectacular scenery from high alpine peaks turned into a desire to educate. As his photo catalog of species grows he hopes others will become inspired to protect and preserve these animals and their habitats. The 9318 Collective exposes Wes' work to the world in a way he couldn't on his own.



Wesley Berg, Wildlife Photographer
Photo by Wesley Berg Photography



As the founder of The 9318 Collective, Beth Anderson is grateful for the creation of such an artistic community in Silverton. If not for the local artists who support the mission of The 9318 Collective, the space would not exist. Every visit ensures a face-to-face encounter with one of the artists due to the co-operative model.

Beth Anderson's acrylic paintings are in a bold abstract realism style. Her paintings replicate the shapes, colors and patterns of life and nature, while also muting and exaggerating other details within a scene. Beth is always on the lookout for the signs and synchronicities of life, which are woven into her art. Her new series, *Animal Spirit Guides*, is a result of these signs from nature. Beth's artistic journey began in 2010 when she worked with reclaimed wood and upcycled materials to make mosaic wall art. One can see that Beth creates wherever she is. The 9318 Collective displays Beth's artistic touch from product placement, refurbished furniture to her handmade stylings. Beth's hope for the future is to continue supporting the arts and artists in Silverton by finding ways to move out of our comfort zones both within the confines of 1212 Greene Street and by bringing art out into the world.

- Story by Cassandra Roof



Beth Anderson, Collective Owner, Artist & Believer in Magic
Photo by Beth Anderson

ALSO FEATURING

Ally Bloom | Ceramicist
Betsy Baier - Kindred Spirit Eclectic Fiber Arts | Weaving
Brook Reynolds - Artistic Fabrications | Handmade Metal & More
Cindy Coleman - Duck Girl Art | Pastel Painter
Deborah Runion - Aniwaya Studio | Needle Felting
Doug & Becky Hill | Photography
Haley Amidei | Mandala Artist
Hillary Cable - Ski Pole Plunger, LLC | Mixed Media Artist
Janice Reich - Spirit Shadow Studio | Fine Gourd Art & Classes
John Crue | Illustrations & Photography
Kim Eisner - Art Silverton | Painter & Jeweler
Lori Peterson | Original Ink Wash Painter
Marilyn Cuca | Cold Wax & Oil Abstract Paintings
Robin Mueller | Landscape Photography
Shannon Bennet | San Juan Mountain Historical Photography
...and more added every season

Silverton Kids Collective

Liam, Quinn, Jayma, Sylvio, Mars, Maya, Lily, Jaden, Zachary, Isabel & Juniper
Pottery, Jewelry, Painting & More

Come visit us at 1212 Greene Street in Silverton across from the Grand Imperial Hotel!



Gina Rosato, Integrated Digital Artist & Souvenir Designer
Photo by Gina Rosato




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 www.silvertonsoapbox.com

THE GRAND IMPERIAL HOTEL

CELEBRATING 140 YEARS OF ELEGANCE AND STYLE



The Grand Dame of San Juan County turns 140 this summer. Her birthday will be commemorated with a plaque. The plaque will be placed upon her original granite walls. The Grand Dame, or the Grand Imperial Hotel as it is known to most, was commissioned in 1882 and completed not quite 10 months later. Quite a feat for the era. The mansard roofed structure was once renowned as the largest single standing building south of Denver. The "Grand" has undergone multiple restorations and even a few name changes over the decades, but her beauty and utility remain the same.

Jim Harper and his family business American Heritage Railways Hotels purchased the Grand Imperial Hotel in 2015 and immediately began a full-scale restoration project. Restoration included infrastructure, refurbishment and decor. Harper, who clearly enjoys history, thinks of the Grand Imperial as a metaphor for the town of Silverton. Both of which survived the many feast and famine periods of the mining industry.

The Grand Imperial Hotel was originally built to accommodate the influx of miners, visitors and businessmen that flocked to Silverton during the early prospect years. Today, it offers an authentic Victorian experience, with a basement theatre and ballroom that includes a crystal chandelier, ornate wallpaper and plush carpets. In decades past hotel rooms were solely on the third floor. For almost 25 years the second floor held the offices of Town Hall and the County Courthouse. The use of the hotel has shifted with the needs

of the community. Today the basement hosts San Juan Development Association, Silverton's business resource center and a theatre space. Community members are encouraged to use this space for gatherings and performances.

Give "the Grand" a visit on your next trip into Silverton. Whether you're coming from rail or trail, the staff welcomes you with its family-friendly vibe. Rest in luxurious opulence in one of 32 Victorian-styled rooms, enjoy a meal and live piano at the Lacey Rose Saloon or shop for stunning jewelry at K&C Traders and grab a coffee at Elevated Coffee Company located all on-site.

"American Heritage Railways Hotels and the Harper Family are proud to be a part of Silverton's past, present and future," said Harper. "Silverton is a magnificent place – like no other on Earth."

- Story by Cassandra Roof

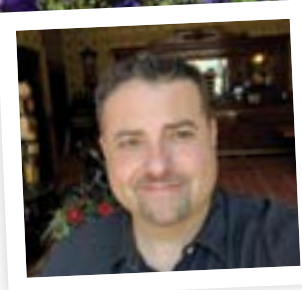


Sunday Dinner was a fancy affair at the Grand Hotel Dining Room.

> Photo courtesy of the San Juan County Historical Society

Silverton Weekly Miner | March 10, 1899 Edition:

Menu included: Shell Lobster, Oysters, Shrimps on Shell, Oyster Soup, Consomme, George Celery, Olives, Dressed Lettuce, Baked Whitefish with Bechamel, St. Julien Wine, Reisling Wine, Boiled Sugar-cured Ham, Roast Young Turkey with Horseradish, Cranberry Sauce, Prime Roast Beef, Mushrooms, Roast Domestic Duck au Jelly, Fried Select Oysters, Shrimp Salad, Apple Fritters, au Rhum Potatoes in Cream, Fried Parsnips, French Peas, Succotash, Candied Sweet Potatoes, Fried Oyster Mince Pie, Lemon Pie, Vanilla Ice Cream, Assorted Cake, Nuts, Sliced Bananas and Cream.



Your basecamp for adventure since 1883. Call now or make reservation online. Join us in July for our 140th anniversary dedication.

James Harper, President
American Heritage Railways Hotels |
Grand Imperial Hotel

> Photos by Grand Imperial Hotel

VISIT OUR PARTNERS



CELEBRATING 100 YEARS OF K28 SERVICE

A STUDY IN LOCOMOTIVE EXCELLENCE AND DURABILITY



Top: K28 locomotive #473 heading towards Silverton. > Photo by Bryan Burton
Bottom: Vintage 1956 postcard featuring K28 locomotive #476.
> Photo courtesy of the La Plata County Historical Society

antiquated narrow-gauge empire. Once in service, the 470's quickly became the pride of the railroad's narrow gauge fleet and handled the most important jobs the D&RGW could find for them, including the San Juan and Shavano passenger trains.

After just shy of two decades worth of service, in late 1941, the U.S. was on the verge of entering WWII and the Government was looking for additional equipment to ship to Skagway, Alaska for use on the White Pass and Yukon Railroad to help with the construction of the Alcan Highway and pipeline. In answer to the Government's request, the D&RGW sent seven of the ten K28's north, and after three years of intense service in Alaska, in 1945, the seven locomotives were sent back to the lower 48 states and subsequently scrapped. Throughout the war however, the D&RGW retained locomotive numbers 473, 476, and 478 where they remained in faithful service, mostly on the Silverton branch until the D&RGW sold them, along with the rest of the Durango to Silverton line in 1981. Since then, all three have been iconic staples of the Durango and Silverton Narrow Gauge Railroad.

In late summer 1923, the Salida, CO newspapers were abuzz with talk of the latest narrow-gauge locomotives being delivered to the Denver and Rio Grande Western Railroad, a group of ten locomotives that were soon dubbed "Sports Models" by the crews assigned to them. These "sports models" were built by American Locomotive Works of Schenectady, NY who, for decades, were known for building some of the largest, and most modern steam locomotives in the United States. Compared to the mainline giants of their day, this lot of narrow-gauge locomotives were diminutive, yet in contrast to other narrow-gauge power, rather large. Built as 2-8-2 Mikado type locomotives but more commonly referred to as K28's (K stands for Mikado and 28 is for their roughly 28,000 lbs. of tractive force) they were numbered 470 thru 479 on the D&RGW. These ten Mikado's were delivered at a time when the railroad was in the midst of undertaking its last extensive improvements to its

Since first being placed in regular service in 1923, the 473, 476, and 478, more commonly referred to as the "three", "six" and "eight" to those who work on them, may hold the title of most profitable steam locomotives ever constructed in the United States. When you stop and consider how much revenue they have earned for their different owners in 100 years of existence, the miles traveled, the freight hauled, and the people they have safely delivered, it's a record that is unlikely to be matched. What's equally remarkable is how reliably each of the three locomotives have performed. In just the four plus decades that they have carried the Durango and Silverton name, they have each operated hundreds upon hundreds of thousands of miles. Unbelievably, the 473 alone has never been removed from service for any length longer than two years, and that only for routine maintenance and rebuilding.

This longevity and reliability are a testament to their design and construction. When around them regularly, you quickly realize they each have their own unique personality and quirks. Once you begin to work on them, disassemble them, and get into the mechanics of them, there's subtle aspects about them that are superior to their larger K36 and K37 stablemates. Functions such as details within the suspension system, and components of the Walscherts valve motion design all have improvements that make them crew and mechanic favorites. As has been proven, they are locomotives that with care, are designed to be rebuilt and last for a long time.

Despite their qualities in design, they are the smallest locomotives the D&SNG rosters. In simple terms, one K28 can pull a maximum ten car train to Silverton. Compare that to a K36 (480 class) pulling 12, or a K37 (490 class) that can handle 13 cars unassisted on the steep grades along the Animas River. The simple math of economics, and the popularity of the D&SNG has, at periods of time, made the K28's afterthoughts to the more powerful locomotives. To help keep the playing field level for the K28's, in recent years the D&SNG has gone to an operating schedule that includes regularly scheduled double headers (trains powered by two locomotives) in the peak season. This type of scheduling has brought a new level of relevance to the smaller locomotives. After all, the D&SNG averages around 600 steam service days a year, which in simple terms that's each day a steam locomotive is in use. Spreading out that total number of service days amongst all the operating locomotives as much as possible is imperative to the long-term sustainability of each of them. Of the three K28's, the 478 can be found in the Durango Roundhouse Museum, while both the 473 and 476 will see regular service during the 2023 season.

A century after being built, all three of these locomotives remain largely as they were built, with the lone exception that both the 473 and 476 now burn reclaimed fuel oil rather than coal. These fuel conversions, done in 2020 and 2021 respectively, is one more step in maintaining them and keeping them sustainable for the future.

If you look up at the front of the train you're on and see one of these proud locomotives, have no doubt that with proper maintenance, the "three", "six", and "eight" will all be around, and in operation for a long time to come on the D&SNG.

- Story by Randy Babcock, AHR Chief Mechanical Officer



Vintage 1960 postcard featuring K28 locomotive #478.
> Photo courtesy of the La Plata County Historical Society



Locomotive 473 making a water stop. > Photo by Bryan Burton



A beautiful day for a Rocky Mountain excursion. > Photo by Bryan Burton

REBUILDING 211

FOR HINSDALE HISTORICAL SOCIETY



Former Denver & Rio Grande combine 211 prior to restoration > Photo by Jerry Day

Often times, due to contractual obligations, we are unable to showcase our contract projects. One active project we can showcase is the ongoing restoration of former Denver and Rio Grande combine 211. This car is owned by the Hinsdale County Historical Society in Lake City, CO. As a side note, Hinsdale County is roughly only 30 miles from Silverton as the crow flies, yet over 200 miles by paved road!

Backstory:

Car 211 was originally constructed by Jackson and Sharp in 1881 for the D&RG as coach number 74. Later renumbered 298, the car served as a standard coach until it was converted to a combine (half coach – half baggage car) in 1900 for use on the branch lines of the D&RG. Being able to seat 22 passengers and handle the mail and a small amount of freight, a car of the 211's design was ideally suited to handle the limited traffic on some of the most rust covered, weed choked, light weight rails of the D&RG's system, such as the Lake City branch. With the Lake City branch abandonment in 1933, and an ever-decreasing need for a combine car on other routes, the 211 found fewer opportunities for work until it was finally declared

surplus and was stricken from the roster in the early 1940's. Its trucks and metal parts removed, 211 spent most of the next 75 years moving from place to place within Colorado, first as a chicken coop, then as a derelict artifact, until finally in 2017 it was brought back home to Lake City.

Present:

In 2021, the Hinsdale County Historical Society contracted with the Durango and Silverton Railroad to restore car 211 to its late 1920's appearance. Work began in Lake City with a full assessment of the car followed by fabrication of bolsters and truss rods in order to set the car back on wheels. In August 2022, the 211 was transported to Durango where the core portion of its extensive restoration was to begin. Throughout the end of 2022, the car received major frame repairs, including a full sill replacement, significant wall and roof section replacements and all new end platforms with couplers. Building off this restoration work, in 2023 the car will see continued roof work, new siding and trim along with door and window installation. Work on the 211 has been an exercise in using wood



The interior of 211 on the passenger end. > Photo by Jerry Day



Original door frame sign during restoration. > Photo by Jerry Day



Jenni Mack, Carpenter, installing framing. > Photo by Jerry Day

working skills of a bygone era; similar to restoring an old house, just one that rides on rails.

The full restoration is expected to continue well into 2024. All funding has come entirely from donations and grant sources including the Colorado State Historic Fund, National Trust for Historic Preservation and El Pomar Foundation.

When completed, the 211 will be a centerpiece exhibit at the Hinsdale County Museum in Lake City. It will serve as a shining example that anything can be saved, and brought back to life with enough dedication, fortitude, and skill.

For additional information visit the Hinsdale County Historical Society visit: <https://lakecitymuseum.com>

To help support this project, donations can be made at: <https://lakecitymuseum.com/railroad-car-211>

- Story by Randy Babcock, AHR Chief Mechanical Officer



Cody Cartwright, Carpenter, removing siding from baggage end of the 211. > Photo by Jerry Day

THE D&SNGRR TEAM AT WORK

Top: Nick Battelo > Photo by Bryan Burton | Middle: Maria Root, Concessionaire > Photo by Jerry Day



Part of the Maintenance of Way team, the safety heroes of the track, Moe Rael & Robert Manore (Roadmaster) inspecting the line. > Photo by Anthony D'Amato



Kyla Breedren, Conductor & Engineer in training. > Photo by Bryan Burton



Bill Colley, Engineer, manning a diesel locomotive. > Photo by Anthony D'Amato



Charlie Moore, roadhouse employee with K28 locomotive #473 on the turntable in the yard. > Photo by Anthony D'Amato



Nick Breedren, Engineer on the 476. > Photo by Bryan Burton



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WELCOME TO DURANGO



Snowboarding with the Never Summer Womens Team During Winter at Purgatory Resort. > Photo by Visit Durango

Durango, Colorado is a historic west town surrounded by epic outdoor adventure, awe-inspiring cultural sites, and is home to a plethora of restaurants and a tightknit artist community. It is the perfect home-base for all your Southwest experiences. Below are just a few suggestions for your Durango itinerary and you can find must more by visiting www.Durango.org.

Historic West

When walking down Main Ave in downtown Durango you will feel transported to the historic old west due to the well-preserved western architecture including historic hotels such as the iconic Strater Hotel and the General Palmer Hotel, which both date back to the late 1800s. Another iconic fixture of the town's historic west past is the Durango & Silverton Narrow Gauge Railroad (D&SNGR). This steam-powered locomotive dates back to the early 1800s where it was used to transport ore from Silverton, CO. It now takes visitors on the same tracks through the towering San Juan Mountains, along the Animas River and past awe-inspiring vistas and waterfalls. You can also see the D&SNGR guest star in classic films like Butch Cassidy & the Sundance Kid and Around the World in 80 Days.

Cultural Heritage

Durango is blessed with being located just 35 miles west of Mesa Verde National Park, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, where you can observe some of the most well-preserved cliff dwellings of the Ancestral Puebloans. Other notable indigenous cultural sites include the Ute Mountain Tribal Park, Hovenweep National Monument, Crow Canyon Archaeological Center, Canyons of the Ancients and Chimney Rock National Monument. Additionally, Durango's local college, Ft. Lewis College, is deeply connected with local tribes and its Center of Southwest Studies features an extensive collection of culturally significant objects.

Outdoor Adventure

Durango is an outdoor enthusiast haven. The Animas River runs right through town offering close proximity to class 5 whitewater rafting, lazy river floating, and everything in between. Durango is also surrounded by

more than 300-miles of in town trail systems, which are widely regarded as some of the best single-track mountain biking conditions. Plus, located just 20 miles from downtown, Purgatory Resort offers year-round adventure with ski and snowboarding in the winter, and epic mountain biking in the summer. It is the perfect place to advance your outdoorsy hobby or try something new!

Shopping & Galleries

Durango is not your typical small mountain town when it comes to shopping, it offers so much more than the usual novelty shop. There are a variety of galleries featuring stunning indigenous works, Southwest inspired jewelry, and contemporary collections. When exploring downtown you can also find beautifully curated vintage shops and funky thrift stores. Perusing local shops can work up quite the appetite! Luckily Durango has a ton of delicious spots to stop in for a bite. Craft beer drinkers can grab a cold one at Carver Brewing or Steamworks Brewing. Indulge in fine dining in an Historic West atmosphere at the Ore House or enjoy a variety of cuisine from 11th Street Station's featured food trucks. The Diamond Belle Saloon, revered as one of the most famous original ragtime piano bars in the west, and El Moro Spirits & Tavern, site of "Durango's Strangest Shootout" in 1906 between the sheriff and the city marshal.

Care for Durango

Durango is a very special place, blessed with stunning natural resources and culture sites. It is very important we do all we can to keep it that way. So, before you jet off on an outdoor adventure, camping trip or tour of cultural heritage sites, make sure you are well informed. Stop by the Durango Welcome Center, located right in the heart of downtown (802 Main Ave.,) to speak with a member of our informed staff, pick up maps and ensure you have everything you need to have a safe, sustainable, and meaningful adventure. You can also learn about hiking, camping, fire, mountain biking, and many other safety topics by visiting Durango.org/care-for-durango. Have fun, be respectful, and leave it better than you found it!

- Story by Visit Durango

The DURANGO ARTS CENTER

FORECAST: SUNNY WITH A CHANCE OF LIGHTNING BOLTS OF INSPIRATION



Top Left: These are our GOAL students (Girls Opportunities of Art & Leadership) with their instructor, Deena Carney, Vis. Art Ed. Director.

Right: Instructor Ben Dukeminier with DAC painting students.

Bottom Left: Summer musical theatre camp is available at the DAC.
> Photos by Todd Macon/Durango Arts Center

The year is fresh which prompts industry leaders to ask the Magic 8 Ball the million dollar question: What's the economic forecast? Durango is still booming and with good reason: we have an excellent quality of life, beautiful landscapes in which to play, rich cultural heritage sites and the marvelous Durango & Silverton Narrow Gauge Railroad.

The Durango Arts Center is a hub of vibrant creativity downtown on E. 2nd Ave, and is also proud to be a major driver of our local economy. We are here to meet you upon your arrival! Offering art and theater classes and productions all year to all ages and all abilities, you are sure to be entertained by the lineup of shows in 2023 from Bye Bye Birdie to Disney's High School Musical, to That's So Durango Variety Show, Improv nights, Silent Sundays with Swanson, Rocky Horror Show and more.

Come join an adult or kids painting class, figure drawing class, or the popular Friday evening class, Pots & Pints where you make something fun out of clay with your friends

while enjoying a complimentary beverage. Kids love our summer week-long intensives and camps. If you're here in the fall, the DAC will present the 29th annual Durango Autumn Arts Festival, the largest outdoor art fair in the region.

There are exciting arts and cultural events for almost 300 days of the year that entertain and enrich the lives of locals and visitors alike, put on by local nonprofits like the Durango Arts Center, Music in the Mountains, the Powerhouse, San Juan Symphony, iAM MUSIC, and more.

The Arts are a driver of our nation's economy: The 2021 ACPSA study revealed that, "the production of arts and cultural goods and services in the U.S. added 4.3 percent directly to the nation's GDP, for a total approaching a trillion dollars (\$919.7 billion). This amount remains greater than the value added by such industries as construction, transportation and warehousing, mining, and agriculture." In Colorado alone, the NASAA data shows that we have over 97,000 jobs in

the arts and culture sector.

People who work in the arts are immensely important to the future of Durango. They teach our children, volunteer, provide us with inspiration, and they perform—literally and economically— for us. They express the things that need to be said, artfully and in a way that often unifies us through song or through a shared vision. This is what we need, especially now.

So what's the forecast? There is good reason for optimism. We are looking at sunny days... and a very good chance of lightning bolts of inspiration. See you at the D.A.C. – Brenda Macon, D.A.C. Executive Director

Questions? Email info@durangoarts.org
Donate, become a member for discounts and to be a patron of the arts, register for classes, buy tickets, and keep in touch at <https://linktr.ee/durangoartscenter>

- Story by Durango Arts Center

"The journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step"

- Lao Tzu-

Make your first step, on your next adventure, to one of our Visitor Information Centers and Stores.

We have maps, books and great, up to date, information on making your journey memorable and safe.



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A DEATH IN DURANGO
A NOVEL
DOUG TWOHILL

A Death in Durango is an epic novel telling the story of the Vanderhoops and Brinklands, two family dynasties whose battles helped shape the history of western Colorado. The investigation into a mysterious death leads to a trek through the ranch, legends, and lore of the Old West. This fast-paced romp through the events that shaped the West after the Civil War and up to the present day includes close calls, train collisions, archaeological discoveries, range wars, captive women, romance, and gold.

Along the way, the story encounters real people out of the pages of history like Charles Goodnight, Chief Denny, Dutch Canale, and Tully Roserich. *A Death in Durango* is a love letter to the people and spirit of the Animas Valley, where the history is still being made and the Wild West remains.

All author profits from book sales will be donated to the Community Foundation serving Southwest Colorado.

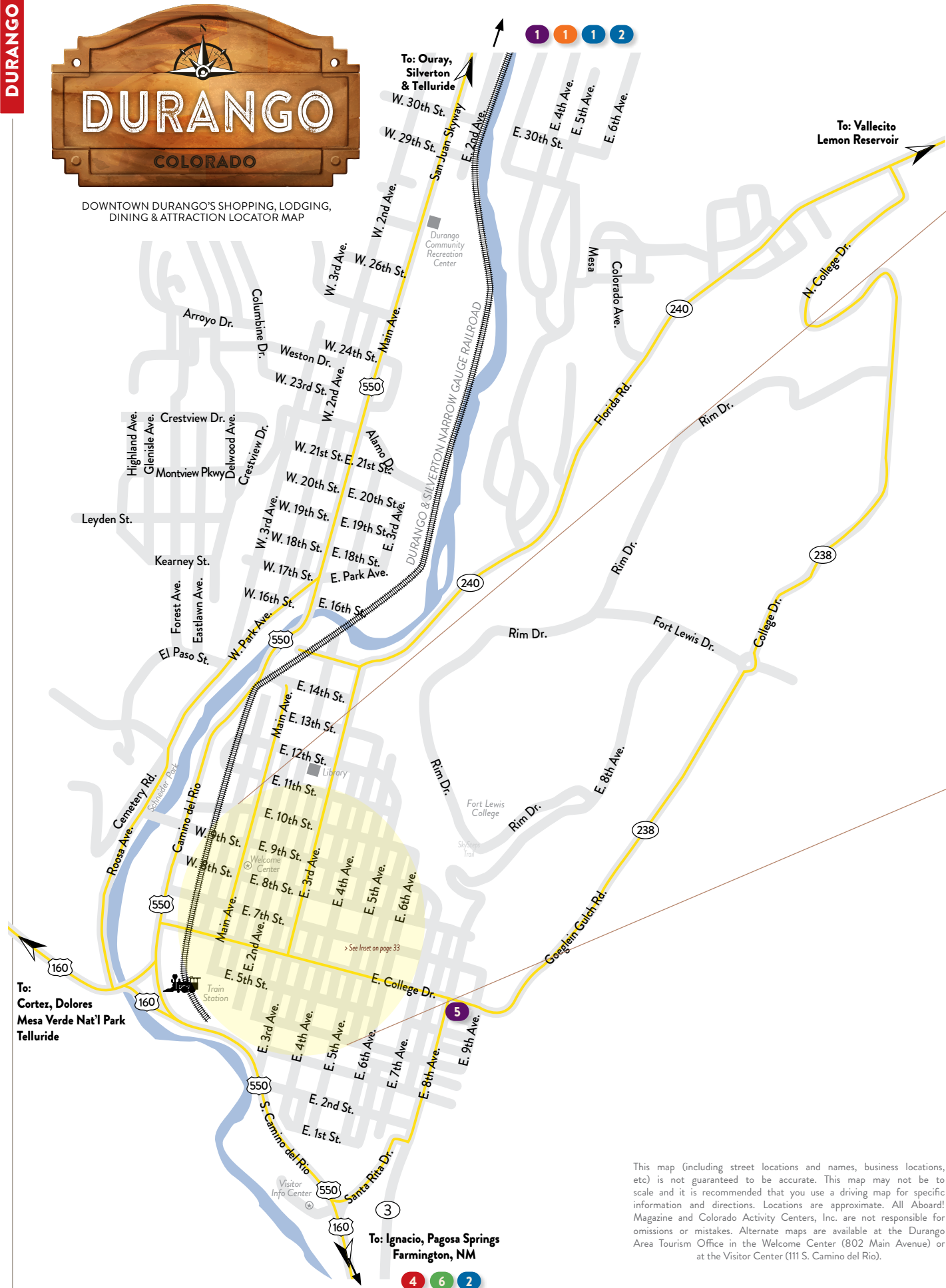
DOUG TWOHILL has held a lifelong love of the Old West, which inspired *A Death in Durango* for his first book. He has been married to his wife, Cindy, since 1987. Along with their six adult children, they live in South Florida and visit the West regularly.

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The DURANGO & SILVERTON NARROW GAUGE RAILROAD MUSEUM:

TAKE A STEP BACK IN TIME AND SPARK YOUR IMAGINATION



1950's - 800 square foot Durango & Silverton model railroad exhibit inside the Roundhouse Museum. > Photo by D&SNGRR

The Durango & Silverton Narrow Gauge Railroad was created to share the fascinating history of railroading, transportation and mining with people from around the world. The 12,000 square foot museum was created in 1998 utilizing 8 stalls of the 'new' 15-stall roundhouse built in 1989. Many families and old railroad workers continue to donate artifacts that tell the history of railroading, especially from the D&RGW line. Since its inception, this museum has grown into an all-encompassing transportation and local history museum that includes planes, trains, automobiles, and boats. Each item tells a unique story of how railroads played a vital role in the growth and development of western communities and the way the railroad has affected so many aspects of life here in the Animas Valley and beyond.

Find out what drove miners to the San Juan Mountains by exploring our outstanding mineral collection. Climb aboard one of our steam locomotives to get an up-close look at how a train operates. Perch in a caboose cupola for the best seat in the house to view our 800 square foot model train layout.

You can also unwind while watching an engaging documentary in our theater car. In the classic film Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid, Agent Woodcock defended Mr. E.H. Herriman in this exact car. Or duck into our doghouse, a little shack located on the locomotive's tender. And if you are visiting with kids, ask for a scavenger hunt activity to learn more about our exhibits and win a prize if you find all the clues.

Bringing history to life and showcasing the hardships, the struggles, the triumphs and the growth of Durango and the surrounding areas are inextricably woven into the fabric of the railroad museum. It is much more than exhibits of trains, planes and automobiles, pick axes, switch locks and oil cans. It truly brings to life the rich history of the relationships between the people, the railroad and the land and how it all resulted in

developing the western communities in the rugged Rocky Mountains of southwest Colorado.

When guests enter the museum, they are greeted with unique relics of the past, each with its own particular set of stories. Each artifact in the museum has a special connection to Durango by way of the railroad. The fire truck and the airplane exhibits were "firsts" for Durango and they were transported here by, you guessed it, the railroad. You'll also see an 800 square foot model railroad depicting the railroads as they operated in the 1950's, vintage railroad cars, historical photos, railroad art, wildlife exhibits, and much more. Several of the antique automobiles you'll see were brought by rail, reflecting a time when mountain roads were too treacherous for long distance travel. The 1923 Nash automobile, lacking a back seat, was used locally to haul milk and cream for a Bayfield dairy.

Some of the exhibits include:

Jackson and Sharp Immigrant Coach 460 Sleeper Car - Coach 460 is very rare and has a fascinating history. It has not been restored, is in excellent condition and has recently been opened up to allow visitors to walk through it!

"The Freedom is Not Free" exhibit features an extensive collection of hand-cast hand-painted lead models of servicemen representing every American military conflict from the Revolutionary War through the war in Afghanistan. Al Harper, himself, served honorably as a Captain in the United States Air Force from 1967-1971 and this is one way for him to show appreciation to all military personnel and their families for their service to our country.

The Animas River Display features a 600 gallon custom aquarium built to replicate the current natural habitat of the Animas River. This exhibit

allows guests to gain a better understanding of the enormous impact this river has had on the railroad and the area as well as the importance of having fresh clean water. The aquarium is currently stocked with rainbow trout with future plans to introduce Colorado River Cutthroat and German Brown Trout.

The museum continues its growth with donations from many individuals and families who want to preserve and share artifacts with the thousands of people who visit each year.

We invite you to step back in time and explore the Durango & Silverton Narrow Gauge Museum where history comes to life! And if you have a special event such as a corporate event or party or even a wedding, call to inquire about hosting your event at our one of a kind venue.

The Durango & Silverton Narrow Gauge Railroad is Free and open to the public every day the train operates.

- Story by D&SNGRR Staff



One of the many antique vehicles on display. Photo by Bryan Burton



This D&SNGRR museum is an all encompassing transportation and local history museum. > Photo by D&SNGRR



Local wildlife exhibit. > Photo by Bryan Burton



If you'd like to support our museum, scan the QR code above inside the PayPal app. Your support is greatly appreciated!



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The Durango & Silverton Railroad is proud to share the fascinated history of railroading, transportation and mining with people from around the world. Exhibits are added frequently and admission is FREE so visit often, located at the Durango Depot. Yard Tours are also available May-October to see the inner workings of the railroad with an experienced tour guide.

MINING HERITAGE CENTER & 1902 JAIL MUSEUM
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www.SanJuanCountyHistoricalSociety.org
This local mining history museum houses comprehensive "Environmental Exhibits", including realistic underground tunnels and machinery plus numerous artifacts from Silverton's colorful past. Check our website for schedule. Allow, at the least, 30 minutes for your visit - there is a lot to see!



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SHOPPING IN DURANGO

Whether you are an avid shopper or someone who enjoys window shopping, Durango has some of the best shopping in the Southwest!

Durango offers more than 200 shops, galleries and restaurants, so you are sure to find the perfect gift for every friend and family member on your list. Some of the most popular local and tourist shopping spots are located throughout Historic Downtown Durango, where you will find unique shops, art and photography galleries, outdoor speciality shops, groceries, and natural product stores. There are also plenty of great coffee shops, restaurants and entertainment venues in case you need a break.

Be sure to also visit Durango's many art galleries, most of which are also located in the heart of historic downtown. Check out Durango's special events calendar for information on gallery openings, seasonal art gallery walks and studio tours.

So enjoy your stroll through the streets of Downtown Durango and bring home something special from your trip.

See page 32-33 for a full size map of Durango showing the locations of advertisers.



Top: The Historic Starter Hotel on Main Avenue in downtown Durango. > Photo by Scott DW Smith | Bottom: Durango Arts Festival on 2nd Avenue. > Photo by Durango Arts Center

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DINING IN DURANGO

AN ABUNDANCE OF CULINARY DELIGHTS



Top: Artful cuisine at Eolus in downtown Durango. > Photo by Eolus | Bottom: Got Sushi? > Photo by Hans Hollenbeck



Top: Enjoying a brew outdoors during the late summer in Durango. > Photo By Animas Brewing Company | Bottom: Great menu options for any appetite at The Roost. > Photo by The Roost

From down-to-earth eateries, cafes and brewpubs to award-winning fine dining, our culinary offerings reflect the richness, creativity and uniqueness of the Southwest. The quantity of independent restaurants, quality of ingredients and breadth of menu selections in this town boldly challenge the sophisticated culinary offerings of any metropolitan hub.

With more than 100 restaurants to choose from, Durango is a hotbed for cuisines that blend the absolute best flavors from around the world and from our own backyard.

Agriculture is at the heart of the Durango community supported by a strong “eat local” mind-set and an abundance of locally grown and raised meat, vegetables and food products.



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Top: 11th Street Station is a culinary collective with a progressive vision and a nod to the location's past. > Photo by Dave Sugnet | Bottom: Sleep is a time machine to breakfast. > Photo by Rupert's

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Ska Brewing Company > Photo by Visit Durango

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BAR D CHUCKWAGON SUPPERS 8080 County Road 250, Durango • (970) 247-5753 www.BarDChuckwagon.com	D	V MC AE	\$\$\$	•	•	•	B/W	•	•					Back Cover	Old West music, comedy show and Chuckwagon supper.
CUCKOO'S CHICKEN HOUSE & WATERIN' HOLE 128 E College Drive, Durango • (970) 259-6322 www.CuckoosChicken.com	D	D,V MC AE	\$\$		•		•			•	•			38	Durango's Family Sports Restaurant, serving La Plata County's Award Winning Wings
DIAMOND BELLE 699 Main Avenue, Durango • (970) 375-7123 www.Strater.com/dining/	L D	V MC AE	-\$ \$\$		•		•	•	•	•	•			40	Durango's only authentic old west saloon pairs history with entertainment. Weekend Brunch 10:30am-3pm. Large Groups with reservation only.
EAT A BITE FOOD TRUCK Harmony Park at 12th & Greene, Silverton • (719) 888-9328 www.EatABiteFoodTruck.com	L	D,V MC AE	\$\$		•	•			•	•	•			22	Gourmet burgers & fried green tomato sandwiches.
ELEVATED COFFEE COMPANY 1219 Greene Street, Silverton • (970) 799-3040 @elevatedcoffeecompany	B L	V MC AE	\$		•							•	•	22	Grab and Go breakfast and lunch in a friendly environment.
EOLUS BAR & DINING 919 Main Avenue, Durango • (970) 259-2898 www.EolusDurango.com	D	V MC AE	-\$ \$\$	•	•	•	•		•	•			•	40	Everything from burgers to surf & turf.
GOLDEN BLOCK BREWERY 1227 Greene Street, Silverton • (970) 387-5962 www.GoldenBlockBrewery.com	L D	D,V MC AE	\$\$			•	•	•	•	•	•			18	Award Winning Craft Beer, Wood Fired Pizza & More! ELEVATE YOUR SENSES
HIMALAYAN KITCHEN 992 Main Avenue, Durango • (970) 259-0956 www.HimalayanKitchenDurango.com	L D	V MC AE	-\$ \$\$\$	•	•		•		•	•	•			42	Mountain food for mountain people. Himalayan Kitchen brings an ethnic food taste from top of the world regions of Nepal, India and Tibet.
LACEY ROSE SALOON 1219 Greene Street, Silverton www.LaceyRoseSaloon.com	B L D	D,V MC DC	\$\$	•	•		•	•	•	•	•	•		22	DRINK, DINE & LUNCHTIME RAGTIME
MAHOGANY GRILLE 699 Main Avenue, Durango • (970) 375-7123 www.Strater.com/dining/	D	D,V MC AE	\$\$\$	•	•		•		•	•			•	40	The Strater Chef brings the traditional steakhouse experience with a few twists to Durango's most unique dining environment.
NATALIA'S 1912 RESTAURANT 1159 Blair Street, Silverton • (970) 387-5300 www.Natalias1912.com	L D	D,V MC DC	-\$ \$\$	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	18 19	Serving Something for Everyone! Great Food! - Affordable Family Dining Beautiful Patio - Live Music - Full Bar - Large Groups Welcome
NINI'S TAQUERIA 552 Main Avenue, Durango • (970) 259-4221 www.ninistaqueria.com	L D	D,V MC	\$\$		•		B/W M		•		•			40	Giant burritos, grilled quesadillas, tasty tacos, beer, wine and margaritas too. ¡Olé!
RUPERT'S 810 E. College Drive, Durango • (970) 764-4228 https://www.eatatruperts.com/ruperts-durango	B L	V MC AE	\$\$		•	•	•					•		39	Scratch cooking, premium ingredients, stellar service, friendly atmosphere and comfortable environment
SKY UTE CASINO RESORT 14324 Highway 172, Ignacio • (970) 563-7777 (888) 842-4180 www.SkyUteCasino.com	B L D	D,V MC AE	\$\$\$	•	•		•	•	•	•	•	•	•	15	3 onsite restaurants plus 1 lounge. Offering breakfast, lunch and dinner including the only authentic steakhouse in the Four Corners.
THE PITTS "AGAIN" BBQ RESTAURANT 1157 Greene Street, Silverton • (970) 387-5027 www.ThePittsAgain.com	L D	D,V MC	-\$ \$\$		•		B/W		•	•	•			21	As seen on the Food Network, "Diners, Drive-ins & Dives." Our BBQ has received over 300 awards. *Delivery available.
THE OFFICE SPIRITORIUM 699 Main Avenue, Durango • (970) 375-7123 www.Strater.com/dining/	D	D,V MC AE	-\$ \$\$			•		•	•					40	Savor delicious small plates, fine wines, craft beers, and unique cocktail creations.
THE ROOST 128 E College Drive, Durango • (970) 764-4661 www.TheRoostDurango.com	D	D,V MC AE	\$\$\$	•	•		•	•	•	•	•			38	Home of Colorado's Chef of the Year 2021, Daily chef prepared specials

KEY: \$ = Up to \$10, \$\$ = \$11-\$20, \$\$\$ = \$21+, • = Yes/Available D = Discover V = Visa MC = MasterCard AE = American Express
B = Breakfast L = Lunch D = Dinner, B/W = Beer & Wine, M = Margaritas
*Some restrictions apply

LODGING IN DURANGO

WHERE TO STAY

With accommodations ranging from historic and quaint to the more traditional and value-priced, Durango has lodging to suit every budget and need. Whether you are looking to stay downtown or for something more secluded and out-of-the-

way, there is a hotel/motel, bed and breakfast, lodge or vacation home awaiting your arrival.

Refer to our lodging grid on the next page for information on lodging, hotels, condos, B&Bs and budget lodging options.



The Strater Hotel, a National Historic Landmark. > Photo by Visit Durango

DOUBLE TREE
by Hilton™

501 Camino Del Rio • Durango
970.259.6580
<https://tinyurl.com/k75fwbu7>

LODGING

	# of Units	Hotel / Motel	Lodge / Inn	Suites	Cabins/Cottages	Condo / Home	Rates		Kitchen	Fireplace	Pool	A/C	Spa / Hot Tub	Dining	ADA Accessible	Pets Allowed	Wi-Fi	See Ad on Page	Features / Comments
							Summer	Winter											
BEST WESTERN PLUS RIO GRANDE INN 400 E. 2nd Avenue, Durango (970) 385-4980 • (800) 528-1234 https://tinyurl.com/25rjtsn4	101	●					\$\$\$\$	\$\$	■		●	◆	●	●	●	◆	◆	42	Located just over a block from historic downtown Durango and the D&SNG Railroad, local restaurants and nightlife, art galleries, and shopping. All of downtown Durango is within walking distance.
DOUBLE TREE 501 Camino Del Rio, Durango • (970) 259-6580 https://tinyurl.com/k75fwbu7		●		●			\$\$\$\$	\$\$\$			●		●	●	●	●	◆	42	Located on to the Animas River in downtown Durango. The D&SNG Railroad, and numerous local dining and shopping options are within walking distance.
GENERAL PALMER HOTEL 567 Main Avenue, Durango (800) 523-3358 • (970) 247-4747 www.GeneralPalmerHotel.com	39	●					\$\$\$\$	\$\$\$				■			●		◆	43	Celebrating 125 years of Victorian elegance in Downtown Durango.
GRAND IMPERIAL HOTEL 1219 Greene Street, Silverton • (970) 387-5527 www.GrandImperialHotel.com	38	●					\$\$-\$\$\$	\$\$-\$\$\$						●			◆	22	Experience the Victorian era at the remodeled Grand Imperial Hotel, the crown jewel of Silverton.
SKY UTE CASINO RESORT 14324 Highway 172, Ignacio (970) 563-7777 • (888) 842-4180 www.SkyUteCasino.com	140	●					\$\$\$\$	\$\$\$			●	◆	●	●	●	◆	◆	15	140 luxury rooms including 8 culturally themed suites welcome guests who stay at Sky Ute Casino Resort with an inviting respite from everyday life.
STRATER HOTEL 699 Main Avenue, Durango • (970) 247-4431 www.Strater.com	93	●		●			\$\$-\$\$\$\$	\$\$-\$\$\$\$				◆		●		■	◆	42	Durango's most prominent downtown landmark, the historic Strater Hotel delivers world-class hospitality.

\$=Up to \$75 • \$\$=\$76-\$125 • \$\$\$=\$126-\$200 • \$\$\$\$=\$201+
● = on the property, ◆ = available in ALL units, ■ = available in some units, *Some restrictions apply

GOOD TIME SINCE 1887
where history repeats itself

Just two blocks north of The D&SNGRR station, you'll find Durango's living history museum, the iconic Strater Hotel. Experience the old west in our local favorite bars & restaurants. The Mahogany Grille, The Office Spiritorium and the famous Diamond Belle Saloon with live ragtime piano.

STRATER HOTEL

WEEKEND BRUNCH • LUNCH • HAPPY HOUR • DINNER • LIVE MUSIC
strater.com | 800.247.4431

BW Best Western PLUS.

Rio Grande Inn

Downtown Location
Buffet Breakfast & Happy Hour Drinks

400 E 2nd Avenue • Durango
970.385.4980
www.bestwestern.com



An overview of Durango with Perins Peak in the background. > Photo by Jacob Boomsma/Shutterstock

GENERAL PALMER Hotel

Celebrating
125 Years
of Victorian Elegance

567 MAIN AVENUE
DURANGO, COLORADO
970-247-4747
generalpalmerhotel.com



NEVADA	
1	LAS VEGAS STRIP
UTAH	
2	NEBO LOOP SCENIC BYWAY
3	THE ENERGY LOOP: HUNTINGTON / ECCLES CANYON SCENIC BYWAY
4	FLAMING GORGE - UNITAS SCENIC BYWAY
5	DINOSAUR DIAMOND PREHISTORIC HIGHWAY
6	SCENIC HIGHWAY 12
7	SCENIC BYWAY 143
8	UTAH'S PATCHWORK PARKWAY
8	TRAIL OF THE ANCIENTS SCENIC BYWAY
COLORADO	
5	DINOSAUR DIAMOND PREHISTORIC HIGHWAY
8	TRAIL OF THE ANCIENTS SCENIC BYWAY
9	GRAND MESA SCENIC AND HISTORIC BYWAY
10	SAN JUAN SKYWAY
ARIZONA	
11	KABAB PLATEAU - NORTH RIM PARKWAY
12	HISTORIC ROUTE 66
13	RED ROCKS SCENIC BYWAY
NEW MEXICO	
12	HISTORIC ROUTE 66
14	JEMEZ MOUNTAIN TRAIL
15	EL CAMINO SCENIC BYWAY
16	TURQUOISE TRAIL NATIONAL SCENIC BYWAY

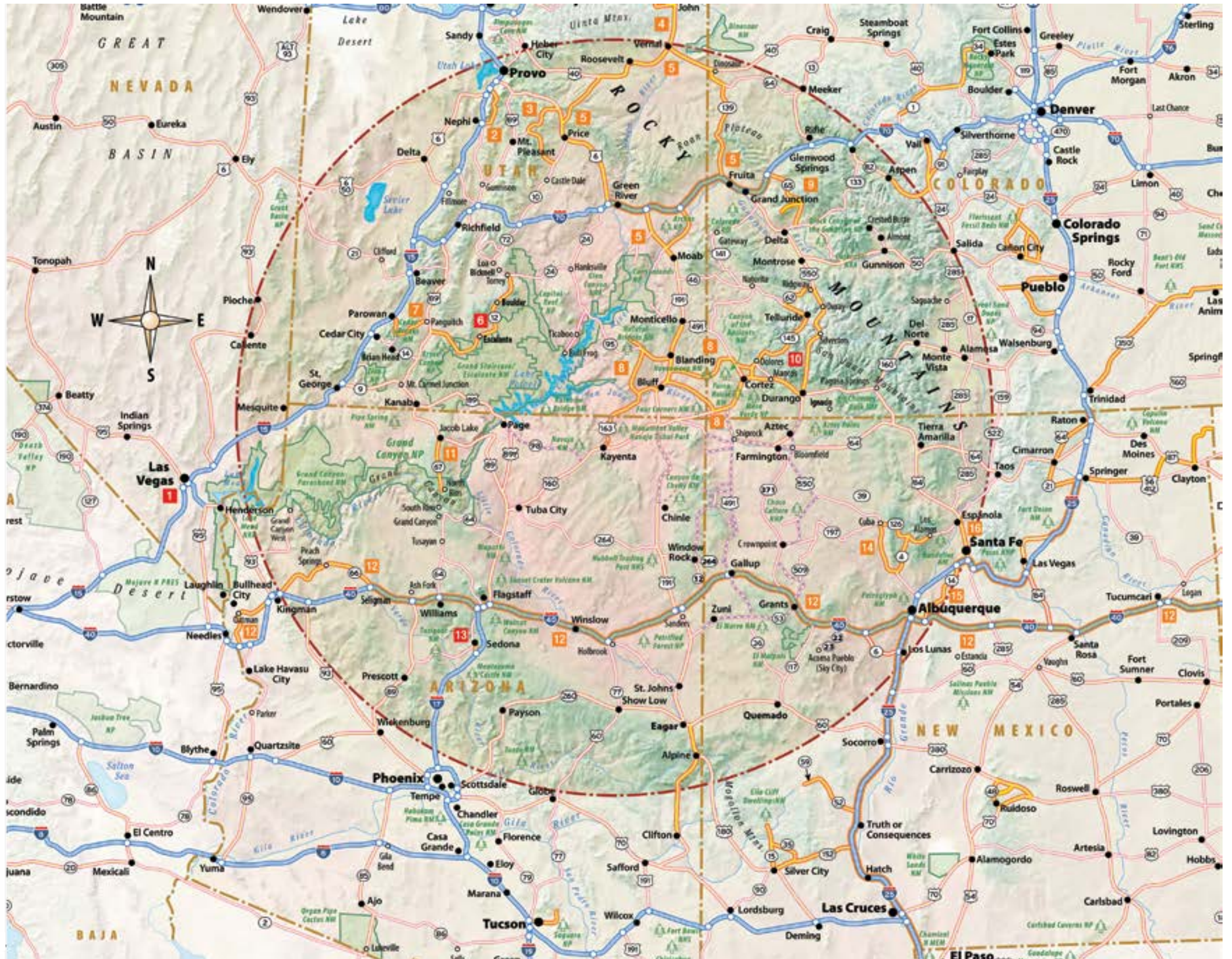
MAP LEGEND

100 miles
150 kilometres

- ALL-AMERICAN ROAD
- NATIONAL SCENIC BYWAY
- INTERSTATE
- INTERSTATE SCENIC BYWAY
- NATIONAL SCENIC BYWAY ALL-AMERICAN ROAD
- MAJOR HIGHWAY
- SECONDARY HIGHWAY
- PENDING SCENIC BYWAY



Map by Grand Circle Association
Used with permission.
www.grandcircle.org



DURANGO & SILVERTON NARROW GAUGE RAILROAD ROUNDTRIP SILVERTON TRAIN SCHEDULE

The D&SNGRR travels 45.4 miles each way along the Animas River from Durango to Silverton during our summer season May through October. More information about this 142-year-old railroad can be found at: www.DurangoTrain.com

2023 SUMMER/FALL FARES MAY - OCTOBER

Photos by Anthony D'Amato



SILVERTON STEAM TRAIN

SKYWAY TOUR: Train/Bus or Bus/Train option.

Please +\$29 (Plus 8% HPF) per person (Adult or Child) for the bus option in addition to train fare.

	DEPART DURANGO	ARRIVE SILVERTON	DEPART SILVERTON	ARRIVE DURANGO
STEAM DATES May 6 - Oct 28	9:00 am	12:30 pm	2:45 pm	6:15 pm
STEAM DATES Aug 14 - Oct 14	8:15 am	11:55 pm	2:00 pm	5:40 pm
STEAM DATES Sept 1 - Oct 14	9:45 am	1:15 pm	3:15 pm	6:45 pm
BUS DATES May 20 - Oct 14	DEPART DURANGO	ARRIVE SILVERTON	DEPART SILVERTON	ARRIVE DURANGO
	9:30 am	11:00 am	2:45 pm	4:15 pm
	10:15 am	11:45 am	2:45 pm	4:15 pm

STANDARD CLASS

Coach Roundtrip Train: (All Ages) Adult \$105* Child \$69*

Gondola Roundtrip Train: (All Ages) Adult \$115* Child \$79*

DELUXE CLASS**

San Juan: (All Ages) Adult \$139* Child: \$139*

Legend: (All Ages) Adult \$139* Child: \$139*

Dates: 8/14-10/9, Sundays & Mondays Only

Rio Grande: (All Ages) Dates: 8/14-9/22 > Adult \$139* Child: \$139*

FIRST CLASS**

Knight Sky: (All Ages) glass roof, side windows added

Dates: Enclosed 5/6-5/19 & 9/23-10/28, Open-air 8/14-9/18

> Adult: \$205* Child: \$205*

Prospector Coach: (All Ages) Adult: \$199* Child: \$199*

Red Mountain: (All Ages) Adult: \$199* Child: \$199

Silver Vista: (All Ages) glass roof, open sided

Dates: 5/20-9/22 > Adult \$205* Child: \$205*

Yankee Girl: (21+) Adult \$199*

Alamosa Parlor Car: (21+) \$230*



SILVERTON DIESEL TRAIN

OFFERS WILDERNESS AND TALL TIMBER ACCESS

SKYWAY TOUR: Train/Bus or Bus/Train option. Please +\$29 (Plus 8% HPF) per person (Adult or Child) for the bus option in addition to train fare. Presidential Class upgrade is free.

	DEPART DURANGO	ARRIVE SILVERTON	DEPART SILVERTON	ARRIVE DURANGO
DIESEL DATES May 20 - Aug 13	8:15 am	11:45 pm	2:00 pm	5:30 pm
BUS DATES May 20 - Oct 14	DEPART DURANGO	ARRIVE SILVERTON	DEPART SILVERTON	ARRIVE DURANGO
	9:30 am	11:00 am	2:45 pm	4:15 pm
	10:15 am	11:45 am	2:45 pm	4:15 pm

STANDARD CLASS

Coach Roundtrip Train: (All Ages) Adult \$97* Child \$62*

Gondola Roundtrip Train: (All Ages) Adult \$107* Child \$72*

DELUXE CLASS**

Rio Grande: (All Ages)

Dates: 5/20-8/13 > Adult \$139* Child: \$139*

Legend: (All Ages)

Dates: 5/28-8/13, Sundays & Mondays Only

> Adult \$139* Child: \$139*

FIRST CLASS**

Knight Sky: (All Ages) glass roof, open sided

Dates: 5/23-8/13 > Adult: \$205* Child: \$205*

PRESIDENTIAL CLASS**

Cinco Animas: (21+) Adult: \$279*

Plan Your Perfect Adventure!

Valid for Travel May 6 – October 28, 2023*

All trains depart from the Durango Depot.



Finding the right trip for you!
How much time would you like to spend?

Full Day



SILVERTON STEAM TRAIN

Available: May 6 – Oct. 28, 2023
(7 days a week)

Departs Durango Depot 9:00am
Arrives Silverton 12:30pm
Departs Silverton 2:45pm
Arrives Durango Depot 6:15pm

Available: Aug. 14 – Oct. 14, 2023
(7 days a week)

Departs Durango Depot 8:15am
Arrives Silverton 11:55pm
Departs Silverton 2:00pm
Arrives Durango Depot 5:40pm

Available: Sept. 1 – Oct. 14, 2023
(7 days a week)

Departs Durango Depot 9:45am
Arrives Silverton 1:15pm
Departs Silverton 3:15pm
Arrives Durango Depot 6:45pm

DurangoTrain.com
888-872-4607

5 hours

Full Day

7+ hours



CASCADE CANYON EXPRESS STEAM TRAIN

Available: May 26-29 & Jun. 7 – Aug. 13, 2023 (7 days a week)

Departs Durango Depot 9:45am
Arrives Cascade Canyon 11:40am
Departs Cascade Canyon 12:50pm
Arrives Durango Depot 3:00pm



SILVERTON DIESEL TRAIN

Available: May 20 – Aug. 13, 2023 (7 days a week)

Departs Durango Depot 8:15am
Arrives Silverton 11:45am
Departs Silverton 2:00pm
Arrives Durango Depot 5:30pm



SKYWAY TOUR SILVERTON SERVICE
Train/Bus or Bus/Train

Available: May 20 – Oct. 14, 2023 (7 days a week)

Departs Durango Depot 9:30/10:15am
Arrives Silverton 11:00/11:45am
Departs Silverton 2:45/2:45pm
Arrives Durango Depot 4:15/4:15pm

Now, let's choose the right class of service!

All Ages

All Ages

*Not all premium cars available every day, every train. Schedule subject to change.

All Ages

Adult (21+)

\$

\$\$

\$\$\$

\$\$\$

\$\$\$\$

\$\$\$\$

Standard Coach

Open Air Gondola

Rio Grande

Deluxe San Juan Coach

Legend

Knight Sky
(glass roof, open sided)
Side windows added for winter/spring excursions. See run dates on pg 46.

Prospector

Red Mountain

Silver Vista
(glass roof, open sided)

Yankee Girl

Cinco Animas

Alamosa Parlor Car

But WAIT! Do you need Silverton lodging?

YES

Check out the Grand Imperial Hotel in Silverton and our Step Back in Time Train/Hotel package. Call 888-872-4607 for more train/hotel information.

*Train fares subject to 8% Historic Preservation Fee (HPF). **Not all Premium cars available every day, every train. Children under 4 years old ride FREE if not occupying a seat. Children not allowed in 12+ or 21+ cars. Schedule & fares subject to change.



CASCADE CANYON EXPRESS

Durango, Colorado to Cascade Canyon

Experience the world famous Durango & Silverton Narrow Gauge Railroad's iconic canyon views along the highline on our shortest excursion offered. This steam train excursion is perfect for families with young children, late risers, or anyone looking to experience the historic D&SNGRR with only five hours to spare. The Cascade Canyon Express departs from Durango and travels deep into the San Juan National Forest about half way to Silverton, before returning to Durango for a 5 hour highlight reel of spectacular Rocky Mountain and Animas River Canyon scenery.

The Cascade Canyon Express has a concession car with a variety of snacks and drinks available for purchase. Pre-Order boxed lunches also available.

MAY 26 – MAY 29
JUNE 7 – AUGUST 13
 7 DAYS A WEEK

Durango Departure	Cascade Arrival	Cascade Departure	Durango Arrival
9:45 am	11:40 am	12:50 pm	3:00 pm

FARES: Coach: \$81 Adult, \$57 Child (4-11)
 Gondola: \$89 Adult, \$65 Child (4-11)
 Children under 4 years old ride FREE if not occupying a seat.
 Train fares subject to 8% Historic Preservation Fee.

DurangoTrain.com | 877-888-3480

Photo by Anthony D'Amato

Celebrate with us this holiday season!



THE POLAR EXPRESS Train Ride

November 17 – December 31, 2023
DurangoTrain.com | 888-872-4607



THE POLAR EXPRESS and all related characters and elements © & ™ Warner Bros. Entertainment Inc. (s23)

Old West Cowboy Music Show and Chuckwagon Supper

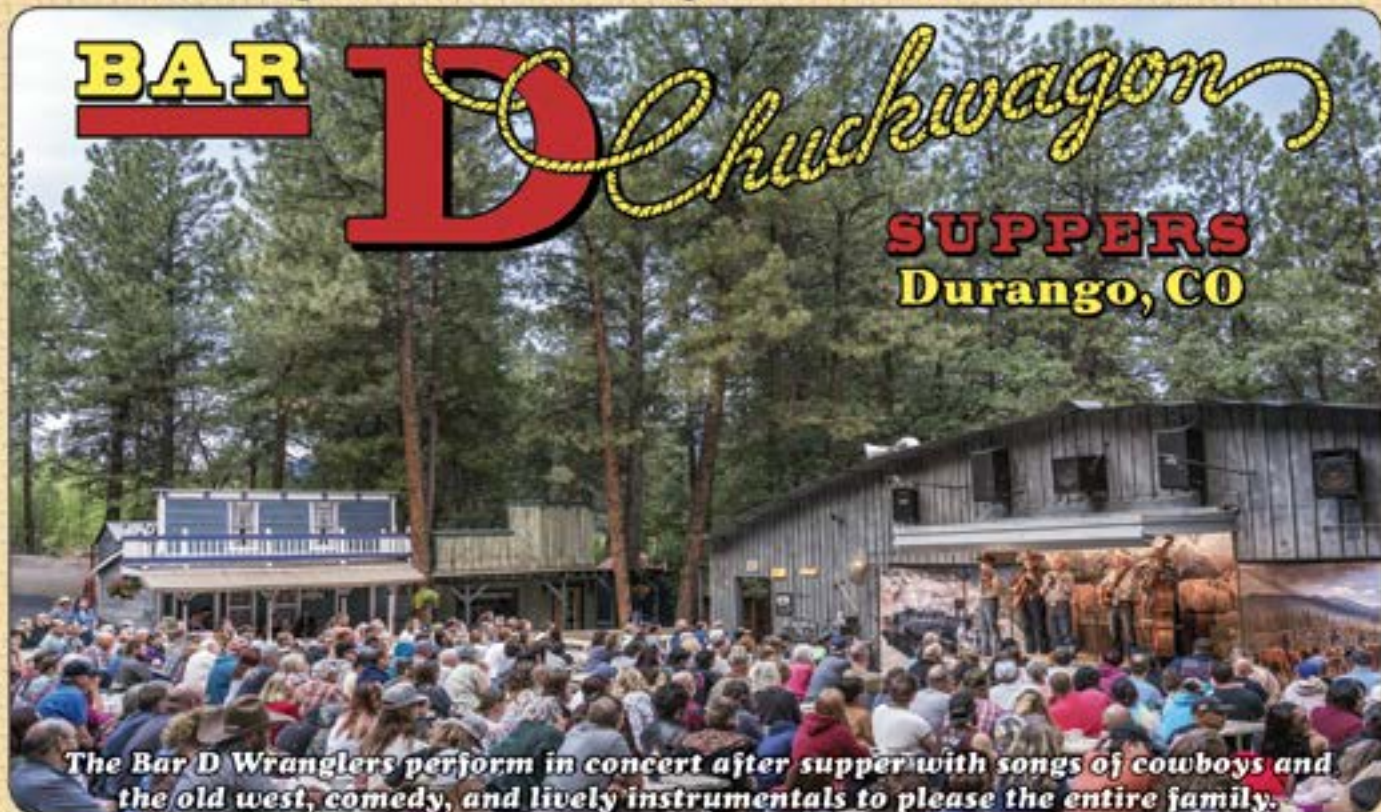
Durango's Favorite Family Entertainment since 1969

BAR

D Chuckwagon

SUPPERS

Durango, CO



The Bar D Wranglers perform in concert after supper with songs of cowboys and the old west, comedy, and lively instrumentals to please the entire family.

Activities

- Short Line Railroad
- Playground
- Old West Shooting Gallery
- Tractor Pull Wagon Ride
- Working Blacksmith
- Gold Panning
- Historic Cowboy Chapel and Wedding Venue
- Wrangler's Record Booth
- Horse Shoes
- Steer Roping
- Replica Boot Hill
- Nature Trail to Hermits Ruin



Shopping

- Western Art Gallery featuring local & regional artists
- Gift Shop souvenirs and gifts
- Leather Shop handmade leather goods
- Blacksmith Shop metal crafts, gemstones, crystals, & more
- Chocolate Shop locally made chocolate, libations, & snacks



Open Memorial Day weekend thru September

The shops, activities, and ticketing open at 4:30 p.m. Supper is at 6:30. Rain or Shine Reservations required

970-247-5753

8080 County Road 250, Durango, Colorado

www.bardchuckwagon.com