



Sip of the Week

April 24, 2015

Sip of the Day

CHOOSE YOUR OWN ADVENTURE: The Colorado Bucket List (Part 8)

#32: Pitch a Tent in the Backcountry—The City of Denver isn't exactly super-friendly to campers: In fact, the city banned "unauthorized camping" in 2012. In most of the metro area, sleeping outdoors is limited to RV-style campgrounds and a few busy state parks. But sprawling Jefferson County serves up semi-wilderness camping less than 45 minutes from Denver's Central Business District. These backcountry retreats—hike-in campsites and shelters in the nearby foothills—are ideal for families looking to try backpacking with the kids. Bonus: The car is never too far away in case of a major meltdown. Here are three great sites: 1) [White Ranch Park](#) - Near Golden, the park's Sawmill Hikers Campground (10 sites) sits in a pretty tree-lined meadow just one mile from the parking lot. Restroom on-site. Obtain a free permit at trailhead or reserve in advance. 2) [Reynolds Park](#) - Near Conifer, the Idylease Campground has five ponderosa shaded sites that are close enough (.5 miles) to lug a cooler from the car. Firewood included with permit. Obtain a free permit at trailhead or reserve in advance. 3) [Golden Gate Canyon State Park](#) - Near Golden, most of the park's 20 backcountry sites offer views across meadows to 10,000-foot peaks. Appalachian Trail-style shelters at some sites let you sleep sans tent. \$12/night from May-September.



#33: Bike to a B&B—Credit-card touring is the way to travel light on overnight bike rides and still enjoy the comforts of good food and a soft bed. Pack your panniers with toiletries and casual clothes for the evening, and slip a credit card into your saddle bag. Most CC tours are done by road bike, but try this intermediate route with a mountain bike: Park your car in Morrison and ride south along CO 8 to the east entrance of Mt. Falcon Park, then grind uphill for 3.5 miles on the Castle Trail. Spend the afternoon exploring the rolling meadows and ponderosa pine forests around 7,851-foot Mt. Falcon, then exit the park to the west and take Parmalee Gulch Road toward the town of Kittredge. Pass the Bear Creek Trail on your right—this will be your return route in the morning—and continue into town to find the Cabins at Country Road, right alongside Bear Creek. Soothe your sore muscles in the hot tub or sauna, and then refuel your quads with a protein-rich steak dinner at Black Hat Cattle Co., a quarter-mile away. In the morning, linger over French toast or eggs Benedict delivered to your room from the neighboring Country Road Cafe. Then hit the Bear Creek Trail for miles of flowing single-track through O'Fallon, Corwina, and Lair O' the Bear parks. Once you reach the pavement on Bear Creek Road, cruise down to the Morrison Inn for a celebratory margarita.



Sippets



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Titera's Titbit: *The Easter Rebellion Begins*

On April 24, 1916, on Easter Monday in Dublin, the Irish Republican Brotherhood, a secret organization of Irish nationalists led by Patrick Pearse, launches the so-called Easter Rebellion, an armed uprising against British rule. Assisted by militant Irish socialists under James Connolly, Pearse and his fellow Republicans rioted and attacked British provincial government headquarters across Dublin and seized the Irish capital's General Post Office. Following these successes, they proclaimed the independence of Ireland, which [\[More\]](#)