

## **Top Activities & Golden Fun with Kids**

Golden offers ample entertainment for families and features all the fun of a mountain town without the drive up I-70 – perfect for a quick adventure with kids. Our favorite type of escape? Fun, affordable (or free) and nearby. What's not to love?

Here are some of our favorite kid-friendly activities in Golden...

- Cowboys & Dinosaurs -- Give your little ones the day of their dreams with a cowboy and dinosaur themed outing. Start at Dinosaur Ridge, where you can run along in the great outdoors looking for dinosaur tracks. Afterwards, head up Lookout Mountain to celebrate Colorado's most famous Westerner, Buffalo Bill at the Buffalo Bill Museum and Grave.
- Get in touch with the natural world at the Lookout Mountain Nature Center and Preserve – Teach your kids to respect and love natural ecosystems with interactive exhibits of the flora and fauna. Kids will also enjoy the hands-on play room and observation room. You'll feel a world away, but appreciate the interconnection of our ecosystem. While on the top of Lookout Mountain, make sure to capture a family photo with Golden and the Denver skyline as your backdrop.
- Ride the Rails Saturdays at the Colorado Railroad Museum Ride the Rails is the perfect multi-generational activity. Bring along grandma and grandpa, as well as the kids, to catch a ride on one of the museum's steam or diesel locomotives in passenger cars from different eras in Colorado railroad history or experience the uniquely Colorado Galloping Goose.
- Explore and experience Clear Creek Just off Washington Avenue and adjacent to Parfet Park, families can experience the beauty of Clear Creek with its wooded walking paths and perfect picnic spots. Visitors enjoy scenic and historic bridges, bronze sculptures and babbling of the creek and the beauty of the foothills, as well as the professional kayakers and fly-fishermen who flock to the area. Don't miss the twisting slide next to the Washington Avenue Bridge.
- Step back in time at Golden History Museum & Park This makes a perfect addition to your Clear Creek outing. Your kids will never know they're getting a history lesson when you walk into the Golden History Park. Check out the one room schoolhouse and frontier cabin, as well as the chicken coop and heritage gardens. Just across the creek,

stroll into the Golden History Museum where you can learn about the city's epic events. Admission is free, donations accepted.

- **Buckets of fun** During the summer, Golden's Splash Water Park is the perfect alternative to the major water theme parks. While still filled with twists and turns, the park offers a more relaxed atmosphere and scaled back thrills that will delight the kiddos without taking such a big bite out of your wallet.
- Inspire your little artist Golden offers several ways to encourage your little artists to express themselves. Foothills Art Center offers a series of weeklong summer classes for the budding artist. The Rocky Mountain Quilt Museum and Golden History Museum also offer summer camps, with a variety of hands-on activities. And Miners Alley Playhouse offers children's theater with classes and performances year round.
- Take in Colorado at Golden's City Parks and surrounding Open Space A good book, a picnic blanket, gorgeous mountains, fresh air, a hike and a nap under the trees. Who says you have to pay admission to enjoy summer? Golden is home to several City parks where you can kick back and enjoy Colorado. Whether you want a kid friendly hike to the top of North Table Mountain where the vistas are fabulous or you'd prefer to cuddle up on a picnic blanket and read at Lyons Park, Golden's got it all. Check out these family friendly hikes.
- Rock out at the Geology Museum at the Colorado School of Mines Browse extensive displays of minerals, mining artifacts, meteorites, fossils and gemstones as well as a walk-through mine. Don't miss the Apollo 15 and 17 moon rocks as well as the Miss Colorado Crown or the outdoor geologic trail that features outcrops containing fossilized dinosaur tracks, logs and leaves.
- Check out a free kid's bike at the Golden Bike Llbrary From mid-April October, you can check out adult and kid bikes for free from the Golden Bike Library. Enjoy a family bike ride along Clear Creek or through Golden. Bikes are available to check-out Thursday through Sunday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The first two hours are free

Head to <u>www.VisitGolden.com</u> for more information.

MEDIA CONTACT: Joy Meadows, 303-522-9045 or joy@meadowspr.com

####