



What's New in Steamboat Springs, Colorado 2019

Welcoming (and Rewarding) CDT Hikers

The Continental Divide Trail Coalition (CDTC) recently named Steamboat Springs a [Continental Divide Trail \(CDT\) Gateway Community](#). Gateway Communities are recognized for their part in promoting awareness and stewardship of the CDT and creating a welcoming environment for people traveling along the Trail. In that spirit, the Steamboat Springs Chamber has joined with several local trail advocacy groups, the U.S. Forest Service and locally-based brands Big Agnes and Point6 to champion the designation and provide a welcome bag for thru-hikers who will pass through Steamboat Springs, including a pair of Point6 socks, Big Agnes swag, a free pint of beer at Mountain Tap, discounted entry to Old Town Hot Springs and more. Big Agnes announced in January it will donate \$30,000 to the CDTC to help reroute a 14-mile section of the trail from a busy road to single track along Highways 14 and 40 near Rabbit Ears Pass.

Taking it to the Gravel: SBT GRVL

[SBT GRVL](#), Colorado's first large-scale gravel cycling event, will host its inaugural race August 18, 2019. The race is the first of its kind in Colorado and its \$28,000 prize purse will be equally divided among male and female athletes. The race will take place on the many miles of unpaved roads surrounding Steamboat, weaving through historic ranch lands and western landscapes.

Art Along the Yampa

Local artists and outdoor enthusiasts have joined together to create the [Yampa is Wild mural project](#), the latest art installation along the Yampa River in Steamboat. The new mural will join a handful of existing murals and sculptures visible from the river, including the Crane sculpture by Jack Stevens near Iron Horse Inn and the colorful "Yampa River Flow" mural by artist Jeff Roth on the back of the Natural Grocers building. The Yampa is Wild project is a [Friends of the Yampa](#)

collaboration that highlights the Yampa River, the lifeblood of the city that serves as a recreation hub for rafting, fishing and tubing as well as inspiration for artists and photographers from around the world. The mural will be installed in June 2019, just in time for early summer water sports enthusiasts to view it from the snow melt-infused river.

Keeping Steamboat's Trails Awesome

Resident riders and trail-focused guests to Steamboat Springs continue to benefit from new trails created using public funding from initiative 2A, approved by voters in 2013. Another notable result is the [Trail Maintenance Endowment Fund](#). This permanent funding source supports specific non-motorized trail and trailhead maintenance projects on public lands within Routt and Moffat Counties. Local residents contribute their time and finances to help maintain the trails, making trail development and maintenance a true community effort for all to enjoy.

Keeping Old Town Hot Springs World Class

[Old Town Hot Springs](#) (OTHS), a beloved hot springs and recreation center conveniently located in downtown Steamboat Springs, is currently undergoing phase one of a two-part improvement project. The first part of the project, which is expected to wrap up in April, includes a 15,000-square-foot addition to the existing building, with new and improved areas for fitness/wellness activities, more fitness options, a public climbing wall, an indoor walking track, locker room upgrades and a facelift for the building. Phase two, planned for 2020 or 2021 as funding is raised, will focus on the pool area and include improved waterslides and more space in the popular lap pool and kiddie pool area.

On the Culinary Scene

Steamboat's impressive culinary scene continues to grow and improve.

- 'Za Me: [Otto Pint](#) recently opened this year as a second location from the original in Fort Collins and [How Ya Doin' Pizza N' Eat](#) opened Fall 2018 on the west end of town. Both restaurants focus on pizza and brews.
- Buzztime: [Big Iron Coffee](#) debuted in late 2018 specializing in high altitude small batch locally roasted coffee. They offer Fika Happy Hour Monday-Friday from Noon to 1 p.m.: "Happy hour the Swedish way, with \$1, 12-ounce coffees and \$2, 12-ounce lattes."
- Craft Cocktails: [The Steamboat Whiskey Company](#), the first and only craft distillery in town, makes vodka, whiskey, moonshine, and gin. In 2019 they plan to unveil a few signature specialty products, like Whiskycello. The distillery offers tours by appointment. Owned by former Navy Seal Nathan Newhall and his wife,

some of the proceeds from their Warrior Whiskey benefit veterans' organizations across the country.

Mountain Tap Goes Mobile

[Mountain Tap Brewery](#) in downtown Steamboat Springs is taking its beer on the road with the new Mountain Tap Mobile. The brewery's owners are custom building a 16-foot, heavy-duty trailer complete with a 3,500-pound pizza oven inside. The trailer, which is designed to look like a barn as a nod to the Routt County heritage, is expected to be up and running by April. People who book Mountain Tap Mobile for an event can elect to serve beer, food or a combination of both from the trailer. During the busy summer months, the Mountain Tap Mobile may be parked on the brewery's patio.

Additionally the brewery is offering a free beer or popcorn snack to skiers who take part in the city's Ski Free Sunday's promotion at Howelsen Hill. Just show your Howelsen Hill lift ticket and score a sip or a snack.