



History Colorado



Welcome to our new travelers and welcome back to our regulars!

History Colorado's **Tours & Treks** has been offering a grand assortment of travels to enrich your understanding of our state's history and beyond. Walk in the footsteps of those who came before and learn the stories behind the sights. In 2024, we are returning to our roots with the ever-popular Organ Crawl, as well as an international trek and a pair of train adventures! We'll see how the past has informed the present, ponder how art helps us understand our history, and so much more on a series of trips specially designed to inspire wonder!

Tour or Trek?

Tours are one- to six-hour jaunts and include walking tours and bus tours.

Treks are usually overnight trips, or they visit areas more than 50 miles from Denver.

Tour Difficulty Scale

- **Easy**- May include light physical activity including boarding a bus, short periods of standing, walking and some stairs.
- **Moderate**- Includes walking up to two miles on streets or easy trails, climbing stairs or spending several hours outside.
- **Ambitious**- May involve several nights away from home, long stretches on a bus, and activity-filled days. Be prepared to walk up to two miles a day on easy to moderate terrain or spend long periods outside.
- **Challenging**- Requires a high level of fitness and an adventurous streak! May include day hikes over potentially rough terrain, accessing remote areas in a vehicle, by foot, or by boat, and/or extended periods outside.



History Colorado

Register for Tours & Treks online or by phone

historycolorado.org/tours-and-treks

303-866-2394

Questions? Contact Rebecca at rebecca.chickadel@state.co.us

Meet the guides!



Kevin Snow

Kevin started his career as an ESL teacher, teaching on three continents. His students in Denver, from more than eighty countries around the world, didn't know anything about the Mile High City, so he would give them tours to show them their new homes. When the school closed, he just kept doing it. He's been touring since 2005 and has worked with History Colorado since 2009. He's up for any tour and any place, as long as it's not scary and as long as there is food.



Jack Wheeler

Jack Wheeler-Barajas is a fourth generation Coloradan and a local historian on railroads. He has given talks, presentations, and facilitated programs for numerous national and local organizations, including the National Railway Historical Society, History Colorado, the Metropolitan State University of Denver, and Treasure Box Tours. He specializes in Colorado Railways and the history of passenger trains, and in advancing modern passenger rail solutions in the state of Colorado. An alumnus of Colorado State University, Jack Wheeler is trained in Spanish, Italian, Anthropology, Business, and Environmental Science.



Dr. Chris Juergens

Dr. Juergens is the Anschutz Curator of Military History at History Colorado. He earned his PhD with a dissertation about Hessian troops in the American Revolution, though he is especially passionate about the history of the World Wars. In his free time, he is usually playing board games, falling down Wikipedia rabbit holes, or teaching for the Naval War College.



History Colorado

2024 Tours & Treks Lineup



Irish Denver Bus Tour

Saturday, March 9th, 10 am-3 pm

\$110. **Members \$100**

Bus Tour = Easy

Denver's promise of access to gold in the nearby mountains drew folks from all over the world. As the city grew, more immigrants were drawn by the numerous jobs the burgeoning city offered. Among those immigrant groups, the Irish would have a profound and lasting impact. Not all of them were as

famous as Margaret Brown and J. K. Mullen. The city's first school got its start through a Dublin University graduate, Owen Goldrick. Join us for a look at the stories and places that connect us to this rich immigrant thread in the dynamic tapestry of the city's history. While you won't find a pot of gold at the end of the tour, we're sure a little luck of the Irish will go home with you.

Guide: Kevin Snow

Bus pick-up and drop-off at History Colorado Center. Includes lunch and non-alcoholic drinks as well as coach transportation.



14th Street: Living the High Life Walking Tour

Friday, March 22nd, 1-3 pm

\$40. **Members \$30**

Walking Tour = Moderate

Long before Capitol Hill earned the moniker of Denver's Millionaires' Row, there was another place where the well-to-do strutted their monied stuff.

What was Denver's first place for mansions, barouches and lorgnettes? Why, 14th Street, of course! Though there's nothing left of the elite addresses of yesterday, join us for a walk down a well-heeled memory lane, where we'll discuss the whos, they whys and the how much-es. You don't even have to wear spats or ball gowns for our walk among the upper crust that was. Ah, this is the high life!

Guide: Kevin Snow

This tour will start/end at the corner of 14th St. and Larimer St.



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46th Avenue: A Long, Historic Road Walking Tour

Wednesday, April 3rd, 1-3 pm

\$40. Members \$30

Walking Tour = Moderate

Though it would take a long time for Denver to come to the world of historic preservation, it's tried to make up for lost time and today has historic districts scattered all over the city. One of them is nothing more than a road: 46th

Avenue, east of Lakeside. There would be no historic road without some intriguing tales along its length, of course, so join us for a walk along the development of this elegant and storied section of the city. From early auto tourists to bored millionaires, there's so much to share! Let's make our way to 46th Avenue for the chance to learn it all.

Guide: Kevin Snow

This tour will start/end at the parking lot on the north side of 46th Ave. at Irving St.



Organ Crawl Bus Tour

Friday, April 12th, 10 am-3 pm

\$100. Members \$90

Bus Tour = Easy

We're bringing back one of our traditions of the past: the organ crawl! While there were smaller instruments for use in the home, we're out to see some of the giants of the city, each one capable of making a giant sound. More than just seeing them, we'll get a mini concert at each location, with the rapturous tones taking you away to aural nirvana. Sometimes, it's just a good thing to let the soul listen, so that's what we'll do. Join us for the mighty voice of the days of old with our famous organ crawl across Denver!

Guide: Kevin Snow

Bus pick-up and drop-off at History Colorado Center. Includes coach transportation.



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10th Mountain Division WWII Battlefield Tour of Italy

May 10-19, 2024

This is an exclusive travel program presented by History Colorado and InterTrav Corporation.

\$4,740 Per Person, Including Airfare from Denver

\$3,240 Per Person, Land Only

The single supplement is \$640.

Deposit is \$750 per person, final payment date of Friday, February 2, 2024.

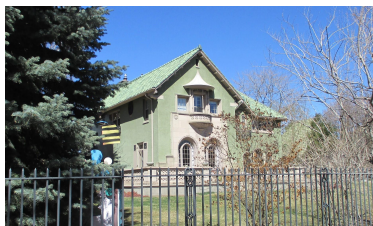
International Overnight Tour = Challenging

Join us as we follow the history of the 10th Mountain Army Division on this educational and exciting **10th Mountain Division WWII Battlefield Tour of Italy** inspired by History Colorado's newest exhibition *Winter Warriors: The 10th Mountain Division in World War II*. We'll start with a memorial at the Florence American Cemetery, visit the bivouac town of Prunetta and stay in the Hill Towns, which were some of the first to be liberated by the 10th Mountain Division. This all encompassing overseas experience will end along the shores of the beautiful Lake Garda, where the 10th utilized tunnels to bring down the last German defense line in Italy.

Guides: Dr. Chris Juergens and Sydney Mauck

Itinerary

[See brochure.](#)



9th Avenue: Historic Houses on the Gardens Walking Tour

Friday, May 17th, 10 am-2 pm

\$60. **Members \$50**

Walking Tour = Moderate

Not everyone found living next to a cemetery to be off-putting. For some, it was the right place to be, especially when that place was going to be one of the most elite streets in the city! Join us for a walk along 9th Avenue. Today, many of its residents have backyards that look out directly onto the Denver Botanic Gardens, a blooming good view! The houses along 9th Avenue include the delightful Waring House, which is always a winner. It's time for finery in stone and iron with the mighty mansions along 9th Avenue. This is what we call living!

Guide: Kevin Snow

This tour will start/end at the NW corner of E. 9th Ave. and York St. Includes admission and tour of the Waring House.



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River North Arts District Walking Tour

Thursday, May 23rd, 9-11 am

\$40. **Members \$30**

Walking Tour = Moderate

It's never quite certain where artists will make a new enclave of creativity, and now the city has several! Along the South Platte River (that's the RI) to the north (that's the NO) of Denver, RiNo has created some pretty impressive synergy. Join us for a discussion of what came before and what's on the palette today. We'll see as much of the area as we may, on foot, with some places that may surprise you. Among all the buildings and the stories, of course, there will be art. What a fine day to get your colors all aglow! So, let's experience that rainbow of RiNo together.

Guide: Kevin Snow

This tour will start/end at the Denver Central Market, 2669 Larimer St.



Arts District on Santa Fe Walking Tour

Tuesday, June 11th, 10-11 am

\$20. **Members \$15**

Walking Tour = Easy

Sometimes art is best served with a slice of grit, just to remind you that not everyone's workplace is static and serene. Along a busy state highway, the creative minds at the Arts District on Santa Fe have the constant sound of passing trucks and traffic as their serenade, the muse of city life drumming the beat of the day. Our walk will take us back to the 1880s, when milliners and small mercantiles offered their wares, to the 1920s, when fine theaters arose, and on to the modern day, where the signs of those lives and livelihoods may still be found. Part art, part history, it will be a charming look at the gritty and wonderful side of things along Santa Fe Drive.

Guide: Kevin Snow

This tour will start/end at the SW corner of Santa Fe Dr. and W. 7th Ave.



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Rails and Hot Springs of Southwestern Colorado

Monday, June 24 - Thursday, June 27, 2024

Register by: May 24, 2024

Double Occupancy: \$1,050. **Members \$1,025**

Single Occupancy: \$1,322. **Members \$1,297**

\$100 refundable deposit due to hold your spot.

Trek = Ambitious

We're bringing back an old favorite with our Rails and Hot Springs tour through southern and southwestern Colorado! Get ready for an adventure to some of the region's true gems, including the historic and scenic Durango and Silverton Narrow Gauge Railroad, the Animas Museum in Durango, and History Colorado's own Fort Garland Museum and Cultural Center and Ute Indian Museum! We also make time to relax in Pagosa Springs's and Ouray's therapeutic geothermal waters! With moments of tranquil contemplation punctuated by the stories of the places along our way, there will be something to delight the eye and mind for everyone. Won't you join us?

Guides: Kevin Snow and Jack Wheeler

Itinerary

Monday, June 24th

On our first day, we'll cover the distance to Pagosa Springs with some history, geology and food along the way. In the San Luis Valley, we'll have a visit to History Colorado's memorable Fort Garland Museum and Cultural Center, built in the same year that far-off Denver was just getting its start. From there, we'll head to our Welcome Dinner in Pagosa Springs, followed by an evening of relaxation. You may visit the hot springs across the street from our hotel, if you wish. With the San Juan River there to sing you its tranquil lullabye, what a fine end to the day! We'll be staying at the Quality Inn Pagosa Springs, which makes for a short commute!

Tuesday, June 25th

On our second day, we'll explore some of the culture and history of Southwestern Colorado, with marvelous offerings like the Animas Museum, in Durango. This part of the state is far from any interstate, and they hope to keep it that way, thank you very much. The scenery of the area will charm you. Speaking of charm, we're going to stay overnight at one of the diamonds of Durango, the Strater Hotel. With time to explore the city, perhaps you'll stop by the Diamond Belle to continue the glittering theme of the day! Here, safely ensconced in Durango, we'll be ready to jump off for our fun for the following day!



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Wednesday, June 26th

On our third day, we take the scenic Durango and Silverton train, heading north through memorable views. In Silverton, you'll have some time for lunch before we continue north for another dip, in Ouray. This will be a daytime do, for those who wish. For those not up for taking the waters, you may have the fun of beautiful Ouray and some free time to explore it. Onward, inexorably onward, we continue north to Montrose for our overnight at the Hampton Inn there in town, where we'll marvel that the time has passed so quickly over our Farewell Dinner. Where did the time go?

Thursday, June 27th

Our final day, as must always happen, will see us marching home, but not before we take in another winner at the Ute Indian Museum, in Montrose. This compelling facility will provide insight into the world of some of the area's earliest residents. Eastward we go, with lunch in Gunnison and leg stretching in Fairplay, heading for that shining beacon of home in Denver.

Photo by Delaney Van on Unsplash.com



Art of Allen True Bus Tour

Wednesday, July 24th, 8 am-4 pm

\$120. Members \$110

Bus Tour = Moderate

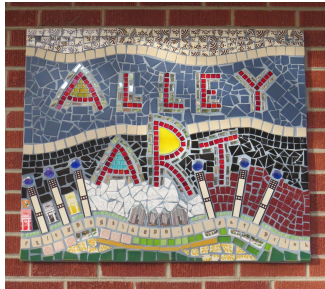
No Colorado-born artist from history has contributed as much as Allen True. His work spanned decades, and his works may be found across the continent. He provided an eye into a vanishing world. Today, art historians value his contributions for their accuracy into that world, not just for their beauty. From the state capitol and the Brown Palace hotel to lesser-known contributions like the Telephone and Telegraph Building and the old Colorado National Bank, his genius is still delighting generations of art lovers today. We won't get to see it all, since his work is found in many states, but we'll see as much of the local offering as possible. Get your artistic eye ready for color and love as we revisit the brilliance of Allen True!

Guide: Kevin Snow

Bus pick-up and drop-off at History Colorado Center. Includes admission and special tour of the Telephone and Telegraph Building.



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Bonnie Brae Alley Art Walking Tour

Friday, August 23rd, 9-11 am

\$40. **Members \$30**

Walking Tour = Moderate

Sometimes, you need to look in unusual places to find art. No art galleries needed for this one! How about a nice alley! Sure, there will be trash cans and some weeds, but there will also be art, for the folks in Denver's Bonnie Brae neighborhood wanted to make sure even their alleys would be worthy of your esteem. Starting with one lady's long-necked mosaic, the neighborhood has now seen more than seventy-five individual works of art placed behind the scenes. So, while you wouldn't normally go into an alley on purpose, Bonnie Brae offers you the chance to put that 'normally' behind you. It's mosaic time in Bonnie Brae!

Guide: Kevin Snow

This tour will start/end at the corner of Bonnie Brae Blvd. and Ohio Ave.



Front Range Winery Tour

September 6-7, 2024

Register by: August 2, 2024

Double Occupancy: \$550. **Members \$500**

Single Occupancy: \$628. **Members \$578**

\$50 refundable deposit due to hold your spot.

Overnight Tour = Moderate

While California and France have the big reputations for wine, you don't even have to leave the Front Range of Colorado to taste some delights. While not an American Viticultural Association area, the Front Range has its fair share of Bacchanalian bounties. On our overnight tour, we'll visit four wineries, with foods enough to keep the day together and going smoothly. There will be some history and, of course, that beautiful Colorado scenery. So much to experience in just two days, but we lift a glass to the challenge. Grab a glass and join us! Salut!

Guide: Kevin Snow

Tour includes coach transportation, welcome dinner, wine tastings and hotel accommodation.

Photo by Rodrigo Abreu on Unsplash.com



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Itinerary

Friday, September 6th

The Front Range Winery tour will see us depart History Colorado on Friday, September 6th. We will see two wineries that day. The wineries will not be confirmed until well into 2024, as most of them are closed for the winter. That said, we've made initial contact, and the current itinerary will most likely include one of the wineries in the area between Bailey and Fairplay, where we will have lunch and a tasting as our first stop.

From there, we'll continue south, most likely visiting one of the wineries in Salida. We will overnight at Salida, at a Hampton Inn. We'll head into town for our welcome dinner, and our first night will be done.

Saturday, September 7th

The next day, on Saturday, September 7th, we'll visit another winery in Salida before heading to Cañon City for lunch. We'll turn you loose in downtown Cañon City so that you may lunch as you like. From there, we'll most likely visit the Winery at Holy Cross Abbey, where we'll have a tasting and some little nibbles. While not 100% confirmed, as that won't come until 2024, it is very likely a GO.

From Cañon City, we'll turn our attention toward home, with two days and four wineries marked off our list of fun!



Cherry Creek Art Walking Tour

Wednesday, September 11, 9-11 am

\$40. **Members \$30**

Walking Tour = Moderate

Cherry Creek isn't just for shopping or getting water to the South Platte. No, these days it's also about art! If it worked for Pueblo, why not Denver? The walls that keep the creek in its place (most of the time) are great places for art, and that's just what we're doing. Starting at the confluence of these two local waterways in Denver, art is slowly making its way southeast and upstream. Though we won't see it all, and though some of it may leave you scratching your head, it will make for an enjoyable walk and a pleasing treat for the eye. So, let's get our art on along Cherry Creek. Colors by the water ...perfect!

Guide: Kevin Snow

This tour will start/end at the Shoemaker Plaza, by REI.



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Cumbres and Toltec Scenic Railroad

October 1-2, 2024

Double Occupancy: \$550. **Members \$500**

Single Occupancy: \$659. **Members \$609**

\$50 refundable deposit due to hold your spot.

Register by September 1, 2024.

Overnight Tour = Moderate

Colorado once had more than five thousand miles of train track, allowing travelers to reach most parts of the state. Starting in the 1910s, the mileage began to decline, and by the 1960s many train enthusiasts were afraid there would be none left for us to enjoy. So, the crusade began to save what was left, and Colorado's glorious menu of train trips is the result. Two guides will be along for your journey (one of them being a train enthusiast!) as we see the finest Colorado has to offer, with the Cumbres and Toltec. With fantastic gorges, high mountain meadows and even presidential monuments, the Cumbres and Toltec is a National Historic Landmark that has been called one of the best ways to see the American West.. Won't you join us for some fun on the rails?

Guides: Kevin Snow and Jack Wheeler

Itinerary

Tuesday, October 1st

For our Cumbres and Toltec overnight, we'll leave on Tuesday, October 1st. Our first day will see us head to Alamosa through the South Park area, allowing us to explore the rich train history of the central interior of the state. We'll have along everyone's favorite train guru, Jack Wheeler. With lunch in Fairplay, on your own, and a welcome dinner as a group in Alamosa, we'll also have plenty of time to sustain ourselves. Though we won't be riding any trains this day, the signs of their presence are everywhere along our route, and you'll learn all about it! Tomorrow, we have a long day ahead of us, so we'll hope you get a good night of sleep!

Wednesday, October 2nd

On Wednesday, October 2nd, we'll head into northern New Mexico, to board the Cumbres and Toltec Scenic Railway in Chama. Unlike some trains, where you must remain in your seat for the whole trip, the Cumbres and Toltec gives you two great perks, beyond all the wonderful scenery. There is an open-air car, and you may spend as much time out there as you like. In addition, we have a lunch stop halfway through the ride. We stop at Osier, which exists only to take care of the train. There, we'll have a chance to de-train our legs and have lunch for a little more than an hour. Then, we'll board the train for our continued journey. In the late afternoon, we'll reach Antonito, where we'll reboard our bus for home.



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The ride back to Denver is more than four hours and sits over the dinner hour. Rather than stop for a full meal, we'll stop for a bathroom break and grab dinner at either a fast-food place or a grocery store. It's not the most elegant option, but it gets the job done! Having the memory of the delightful train ride in your mind, our journey home will be well-provisioned with smiles. Back in Denver by about 10 p.m., it's time to head home.



Downtown Golden

Friday, November 1, 1-3 pm

\$40. **Members \$30**

Walking Tour = Moderate

Back in the 1860s, some of the big names in the territory thought that Golden should be the capital, and for a while, it took the title from Denver. While there may have been some grumbling when

Denver took it back, the folks in Golden today are probably happy not to be the capital, as this has allowed them to maintain a lively place with a relatively small-town feel. Join us for a walk around downtown Golden, with art, architecture, history, geology and even a dose of government, all under the ever-pervasive aroma of Coors, hunkered down on the landscape nearby. Golden is where the West lives. You don't even need to wear cowboy boots to have the fun of it!

Guide: Kevin Snow

This tour starts/ends at 1010 Washington Ave., which is the Visitors' Center.



Holiday Splendors of Southern Colorado

December 16-17, 2024

Double Occupancy: \$475. **Members \$425**

Single Occupancy: \$540. **Members \$490**

\$50 refundable deposit due to hold your spot.

Register by: November 22, 2024.

Overnight Tour = Moderate

While the *brrrrr* of December might encourage you to stay home in the warm, sometimes it's good to get out to see some of the lovelies of the holidays, despite the cold! Let's get those bells of the season ringing with an overnight to delight your eyes. We'll head south to Colorado Springs to enjoy a sumptuous meal and tour at the Broadmoor, where there are simply NEVER too many decorations, before heading to Pueblo



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for some four-footed fun! The Pueblo Zoo has a lights display that will bring a sparkle to your eye, just right for a wintry December evening. The next day, we'll visit Rosemount, the lavish house museum that is guaranteed to impress, where the beauty of the holidays will take your breath away! Finally, a visit to Glen Eyrie Castle will round out our fun. So much to see, and all just in two little days! We'll get you home to rest, where you'll find you were very much glad that you left.

Itinerary

Monday, December 16th

For our Holiday Overnight, we'll head south to Colorado Springs on Monday, December 16th and start our day with a delicious lunch at the Golden Bee, next to the breathtaking Broadmoor Hotel. The Golden Bee is an authentic English pub from the 19th century - literally! Piece by piece, it was transported directly from England to the Broadmoor in 1961! When our meal is complete, our time at the Broadmoor is not. We'll head into the hotel itself for a tour. Everything will be decorated, and some of the decorations will even be delicious. As tempting as it might be to eat the gingerbread houses, though, there's no time for that! We're on to our next spot for fun!

Continuing south to Pueblo, we will check in at our hotel, the SpringHill Suites Pueblo Downtown, right by all the action. Downtown will be decorated as well, and you'll have plenty of nearby choices for dinner on your own.

From downtown, we'll make our way to the Pueblo Zoo for their annual Electricritters, the glitter and glow bringing this historic and remarkable zoo to nighttime life! Even though wintertime might mean we'll have some cold, we'll have the lights to warm our hearts.

Tuesday, December 17th

The following day, on Tuesday, December 17th, we'll start the day with a tour of the most amazing house museum in the state: Rosemount, also known as "Colorado's Crown Jewel". Rosemount has been featured on HGTV's "Christmas Castles" series and will no doubt stun you with its beauty and decorations, sending you on with great happiness. What a great time of year!

Pueblo done, we head north back to Colorado Springs, where we'll turn you loose downtown for lunch on your own. Meal munched, it's off to our final stop with that wonder among the rocks, Glen Eyrie Castle. The tour will delight your eyes and fill your mind with all the history and amazement of the place, founded in 1871, where Civil War general, president of The Denver and Rio Grande Railroad, and founder of Colorado Springs William Jackson Palmer lived with his wife, Mary "Queen" Mellen. Fortified with so much fun, it's time to head home. Now THAT'S the way to get into the spirit of the season!



History Colorado

Policies

Registration & Payment

Visit historycolorado.org/tours-and-treks to register for a tour online.

For additional assistance, call 303-866-2394 to register for tours over the phone with a credit or debit card. Note: The credit card will be immediately charged.

Day tours require payment in full at the time of booking.

Overnight tours require a refundable deposit at the time of booking to hold your spot. The balance is due by the tour registration deadline. Registration deadlines are specific to each tour and indicated in the tour description.

Pricing for overnight tours is available for double occupancy (two people per hotel room) and single occupancy (one person per room). Roommates may be requested but are not guaranteed. If paired with a roommate, you will be notified and given information to get in touch prior to the tour. If paired with a roommate that cancels after the registration deadline, you will not be charged the single occupancy rate.

To request a roommate, select a single occupancy ticket online and check the “roommate requested” box during checkout. Should you be paired with a roommate, your remaining balance will be adjusted.

Payments must be made by credit or debit card. History Colorado accepts all major credit cards.

Cancellation Policy

You may cancel a day tour seven or more days prior to the tour and receive a full refund or credit. Cancellations with fewer than seven days’ notice are non-refundable.

You may cancel an overnight tour without penalty before the registration deadline posted for each tour. Any payments taken before the registration deadline will be refunded in full. Cancellations after the registration deadline are non-refundable.

If History Colorado must cancel a tour or trek, all ticket holders will be notified via email and will be fully refunded. If a tour or trek is postponed, guests will be given the option to either keep their ticket for the rescheduled date or receive a full refund.



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Weather Policy

History Colorado tours and treks run rain/snow and shine! Refunds for tours due to weather are only given if History Colorado cancels the tour due to extreme weather.

Wheelchair Accessibility

All walking tours are wheelchair accessible. To request wheelchair accommodations for bus tours (including Overnight Tours), please note it on the registration form and we'll do our best to accommodate the request.

Waitlists

Tours sell out fast! Space is limited to ensure a safe, high-quality experience for all. If a tour sells out, a link to a waitlist will be added online. You will be notified if a spot becomes available.

Start Locations

Before the tour, a “know before you go” email will be sent with important information such as start/end locations, parking options and clothing/gear suggestions. Start and end locations can also be found in the tour descriptions.

Itineraries

Please note that all overnight tour itineraries are subject to change. Final itineraries are sent to registered guests 2-4 weeks prior to the start of the tour.

Dietary Restrictions

Meal options for a variety of dietary restrictions are available for tours that include a shared meal. Please let us know about your restrictions at the time of booking.

If guests have further questions not answered here, please email Emily Turner at reservations@state.co.us or Rebecca Chickadel at rebecca.chickadel@state.co.us.

Membership

History Colorado Members receive **discounts** on Tours & Treks (plus many other terrific benefits)!

Join today!
<https://www.historycolorado.org/membership>





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Notes
