

NEW VIEWS



PLANNING TOOLS



A wealth of apps and websites exist to guide you through the outdoors. Two to start with: The incredibly comprehensive trail-mapping **COTREX app** and **Recreation.gov**, with booking access for hundreds of Colorado campsites.



PACK IT UP

Backpacking isn't just for backs anymore — Colorado has recently seen a surge in unique forms of exploration with a pack.

Take, for instance, Paragon Guides' multi-day treks with llamas. Aside from being adorable, llamas have a curious, gentle and intelligent nature, which makes them a perfect companion for backcountry adventures. As pack

animals, they'll carry the majority of your gear and together you'll navigate between **Vail** and **Aspen**, lodging at 10th Mountain Division huts along the way.

If an overnight trip isn't your thing, opt for the "Take a Llama to Lunch" hikes. More manageable in length and pace, these half-day excursions are based out of Arrowhead Ski Area and wind

through mature aspen groves, evergreen forest and, if you time it right, a stunning display of wildflowers before enjoying a picnic lunch on the trail. Learn more at paragonguides.com.

With some of the country's most-amazing singletrack trails spread throughout the state, Colorado is the perfect place to try bikepacking — essentially a

combination of mountain biking and minimalist camping. Routes can range from weekend loops like the Vapor Trail near **Salida** to the Kokopelli Trail, which heads west from **Fruita**, and the epic 540-mile Colorado Trail between **Denver** and **Durango**. Need inspiration? Bikepacking.com is an excellent resource for tips to get started and guides on numerous journeys to choose from.