

COLORADO.COM



SKI BIKING

Also called snow biking, these contraptions are like a traditional bike, but with wheels replaced by skis, and are an alternate way to hit the slopes in the winter. Several ski resorts offer lessons and certification, including Crested Butte, Winter Park, Keystone and Steamboat. Another take on cold-weather cycling is fat biking; these mountain bikes with wide tires let you blaze trails in snowy conditions, with excellent opportunities found around Leadville and Eagle, to name a few. Learn more at COLORADO.com/Snowbiking.

SANDBOARDING

Zip down the tallest dunes in North America at Great Sand Dunes National Park and Preserve, with the help of a sandboard or sled. Kristi Mountain Sports in **Alamosa** rents and sells these superior sliding devices year-round, while the Great Sand Dunes Oasis store just outside the park rents them from spring through fall.

BURRO RACING

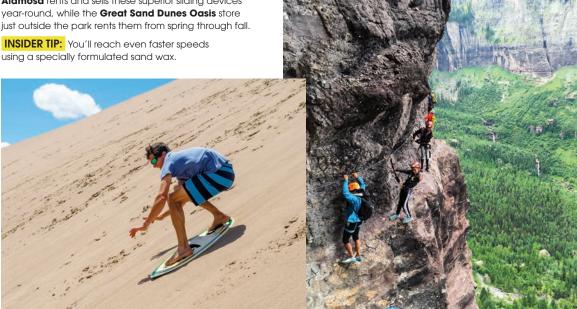
Donkeys are notoriously stubborn, so it's only natural that intrepid Coloradans in the 19th century would think up an activity involving them. Now a summer heritage sport, participants run while leading a burro, resulting in hilarity for spectators. Trot alongside a fourlegged partner in the "Triple Crown" races in Fairplay, Leadville and Buena Vista, or enter two other contests in Georgetown and Idaho Springs.

VIA FERRATA

Not for the faint of heart, this historical method of climbing and traversing started in the Alps, Enlist San Juan Mountain Guides, Telluride Mountain Guides, San Juan Outdoor Adventures or Mountain Trip for an outing to the Telluride Via Ferrata, a narrow path outfitted with a fixed ladder-and-cable system that boasts breathtaking views of Bridal Veil Falls and the town below. New to Idaho Springs, Arkansas Valley Adventures' Iron Way Via Ferrata can be combined with a whitewater rafting trip.

PEDAL THE PLAINS

Each September, hundreds of cyclists descend on the eastern plains for a cycling race that covers nearly 200 miles over the course of three days. And it's a traveling party of sorts, with events, live music and great food in various communities along the way. Though less grueling than other bike-based events in the state, if you're apprehensive about the long haul, opt for the Century-PLUS one-day experience, which is an extension of Day 2.



WANT MORE? COLORADO.COM/ADVENTURETOURS