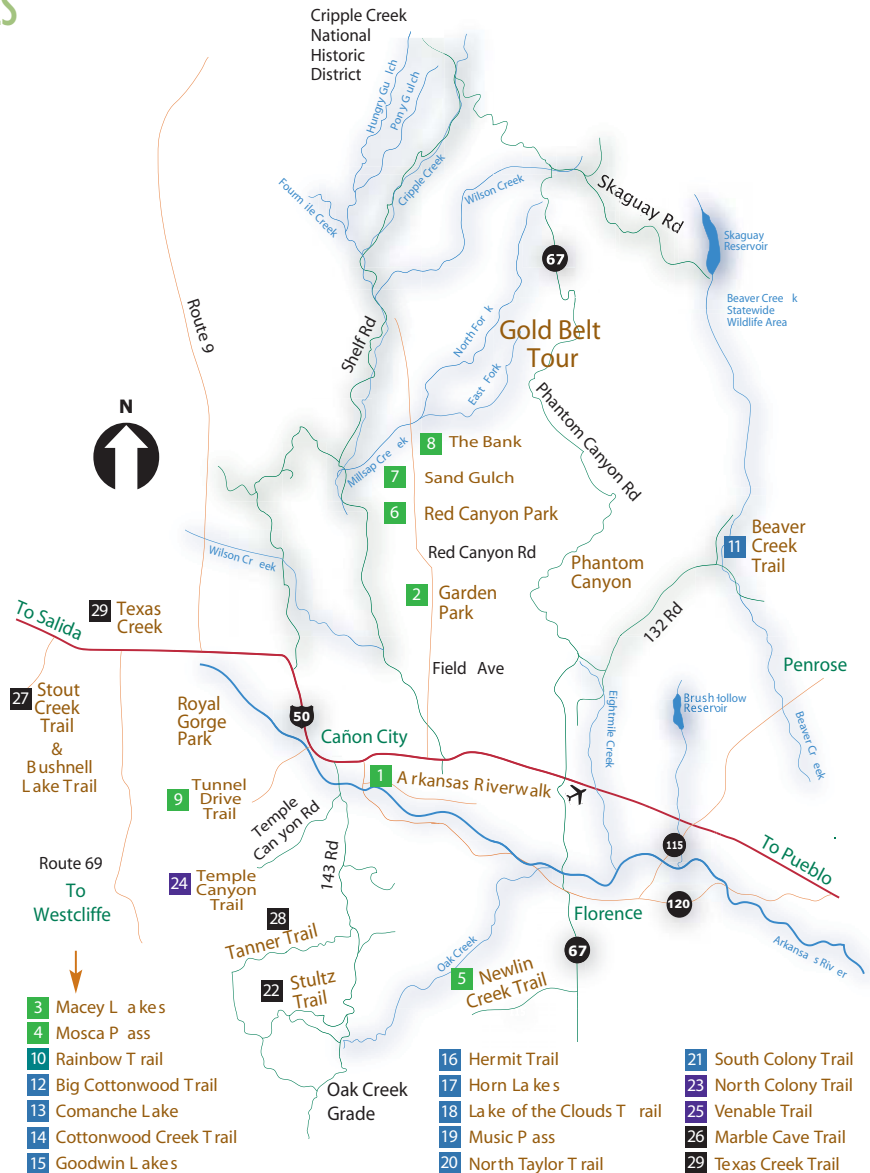


ROYAL GORGE COUNTRY

TRAILS



- 1** **Easy** · 6 miles · Located in Cañon City along the Arkansas River, winding through forests and wetlands. Trailheads are at Sell Ave. (off 9th St.) to the west and Ash Street to the east.
- 2** **Garden Park Fossil Area Interpretive Trail. Easy** · Just 6 miles north of Cañon City, this easy, winding trail through the excavation site where many different species of dinosaurs have been discovered.
- 3** **Macey Lakes. Easy** · 16 miles · This trail is long -16 miles- but rather gentle and very scenic. Access is off the Rainbow Trail south of Horn Creek Trailhead.
- 4** **Mosca Pass. Easy** · 6 miles · The lowest crossing of the main section of the Sangres, offering a wonderful view to the south of Blanca Peak. Featuring many good car-camping spots. Over the pass is the Great Sand Dunes National Park.
- 5** **Newlin Creek Trail. Easy** · 5.5 miles · The trailhead is off Hwy 67 just south of Florence, in the San Isabel National Forest, crossing through pine and fir forests as it climbs 1360'.
- 6** **Red Canyon Park Trails. Easy** · Red Canyon Park is a 600 acre wonderland (just 10 miles north of Cañon City off Red Canyon Road) with a number of trails and plenty of off-trail treks to the amazing red rock formations and vertical spires.
- 7** **Sand Gulch Trail. Easy** · A secluded hike (just north of Cañon City off Red Canyon Road) offers tremendous views of the Sangre de Cristo Range as well as beautiful canyon scenery and wildlife.
- 8** **The Bank. Easy** · Just north of Sand Gulch (and including part of the Shelf Road Climbing Area), this area of BLM land offers trails, spectacular views, wildlife and camping.
- 9** **Tunnel Drive. Easy** · 2 miles · This trail is flat (except for the 1st 200 yards) following the Arkansas River as it makes its way through 3 granite tunnels. Its trailhead is at the west end of Cañon City off Hwy 50. Offers a good view of the Royal Gorge Train, too.
- 10** **Rainbow Trail. Easy/Moderate** · Accessed from the trailhead by the Alvarado Campground south of Westcliffe, running along the base of the 14,000' Sangre de Cristo Range. It features grand views of the Sangres, the Wet Mountain Valley, diverse wildlife, wildflowers and aspen groves.
- 11** **Beaver Creek Trail. Moderate** · Located northeast of Hwy 67/Florence, off Phantom Canyon Road, providing solitude as it follows the Beaver Creek above Penrose. A popular trail when the mountains are still snow-packed.
- 12** **Big Cottonwood Trail. Moderate** · 10 miles · Located about 3 miles west of Cotopaxi off Big Cottonwood Road, crossing Cottonwood Creek and a favorite of fishermen.
- 13** **Comanche Lake. Moderate** · 9 miles · With a trailhead located at the Alvarado Campground, this hike is one of the most popular in the Sangres.
- 16** **Hermit Trail**
- 17** **Horn Lakes**
- 18** **Lake of the Clouds Trail**
- 19** **Music Pass**
- 20** **North Taylor Trail**
- 21** **South Colony Trail**
- 23** **North Colony Trail**
- 25** **Venable Trail**
- 26** **Marble Cave Trail**
- 29** **Texas Creek Trail**

- 14 Cottonwood Creek Trail**
Moderate · 8 miles · A favorite of outfitters and campers, leading to a large, grassy basin. Access is south off the Rainbow Trail from the Alvarado Campground.
- 15 Goodwin Lakes**
Moderate · 12 miles · A popular destination for hikers and fishermen to 3 medium-sized lakes. Access is off the Rainbow Trail north of Alvarado Campground.
- 16 Hermit Trail**
Moderate · 12 miles · Used by 4-wheelers as well as hikers. Featuring 3 lakes and was the setting of much of the John Belushi movie, *Continental Divide*.
- 17 Horn Lakes**
Moderate · 5 miles · With a trailhead located at the end of Horn Road, south of Westcliffe, leading to a large basin at Horn Lake that has great camping.
- 18 Lake of the Clouds Trail**
Moderate · 10 miles · A steep upper section leads to 3 mountain lakes in a basin known for its own weather microsystem. Accessed from the Gibson Trailhead off Hermit Rd in Westcliffe.
- 19 Music Pass**
Moderate · 8-12 miles · (Length depends on where you park your vehicle). The view over the top and west to the Sand Creek drainage is considered one of the most scenic valleys in the range. Located south of Westcliffe on Hwy 69.
- 20 North Taylor Trail**
Moderate · 10 miles · Through one of the most open, spacious valleys in the Sangres. The trailhead is south of the Gibson Trailhead off Verde Creek Road near Westcliffe. Megan Lake lies at timberline and is the crash site of a WWII military plane.
- 21 South Colony Trail**
Moderate · 12 miles · Leads to the very popular *Crestones*: Crestone Peak and Crestone Needle. The deeply rutted road is heavily traveled by brave drivers as well as hikers.

- 22 Stultz Trail**
Moderate · 3 miles · Located 7 miles south of Cañon City on Oak Creek Grade (CR 143), traversing forest, scrub oak and high-mountain meadows as it climbs in elevation.
- 23 North Colony Trail**
Moderate/Difficult · 18 miles · Not the steepest trail in the range, but its length makes it one of the more lightly-used trails. Features include a waterfall and a series of rock outcroppings.
- 24 Temple Canyon Trail**
Moderate/Difficult · Located 10 miles south of Cañon City off Temple Canyon Road, following Grape Creek which flows through the bottom of Temple Canyon to *The Temple*, a natural rock formation that is said to be haunted.
- 25 Venable Lakes**
Moderate/Difficult · 12 miles · This is a popular trail for campers and hikers. The Venable Falls is one of the most scenic in the Sangres. The trailhead is located at Alvarado Campground.
- 26 Marble Cave Trail**
Difficult · 12 miles · The Marble Caves, with their stories of hidden Conquistador gold and chained-up skeletons, make this trail a popular destination. Accessed between South Colony Road and Music Pass Road.
- 27 Stout Creek Trail & Bushnell Lake Trail**
Difficult · The Stout Creek Trail, (off the Rainbow Trail), offers a steep trek up to the Stout Creek Falls, which are considered some of the best waterfalls in the state. Another healthy workout from the same trailhead is to Bushnell Lake at 11,500.
- 28 Tanner Trail**
Difficult · 7 miles · Located 10 miles south of Cañon City on Oak Creek Grade (CR 143), climbing to over 9,000 feet and offering spectacular views of the Arkansas River Valley.
- 29 Texas Creek Trail**
Difficult · 16 miles · Accessed from the Gibson Trailhead off the Rainbow Trail, ends at a huge boulder field at timberline.