

24 Hours

IN GLENWOOD SPRINGS

ONE OF COLORADO'S SPRINGS TOWNS, GLENWOOD IS PERFECTLY LOCATED JUST OFF INTERSTATE 70 AND EASILY DRIVABLE FROM BOTH DENVER AND GRAND JUNCTION. WITH A POPULATION OF AROUND 10,000, THE TOWN IS A GREAT PLACE FOR A DAY, A WEEKEND OR A WEEK. THERE IS ALSO AN AMTRAK STATION WHICH MEANS YOU CAN GO DIRECTLY FROM GRAND JUNCTION OR DENVER TO THE CENTER OF TOWN.

SPRING EDITION



Photo: Visit Glenwood Springs



7 AM | WAKE UP CALL

The Daily Bread is a good place to fill up thanks to a robust breakfast menu with several variations of eggs benedict, including the spinbacado (spinach-bacon-avocado). Lunch is similar with salads, sandwiches, burgers as well as six kinds of pierogi.

9 AM | GET ACTIVE

Get your heart racing with a hike up Red Mountain or, if you're looking for something a bit further afield, Hanging Lakes. If you can make it before Memorial Day so much the better as the site is known to get very busy (although a shuttle and reservation system will begin on May 1 to alleviate the pressure on Mother Nature).

Later in the spring, a good cycling option is the slightly uphill trek towards Aspen on the Rio Grande Trail. If you aren't up for a round trip ride public transport is available and you can also transport your bike. There is also the Glenwood Canyon Recreation Path which opens in late spring and takes you along the Colorado River into part of the stunning canyon.



2 PM | OPT OUTSIDE

If you are looking to get back outside after lunch, head to Glenwood Caverns Adventure Park, a theme park that offers various activities including cave tours, an alpine coaster, roller coaster, zip line and the brand new Glenwood Gondola.

Other great spring activities include rafting (available in early April), tandem paragliding and even spring skiing and snowboarding at Sunlight Mountain Resort (the resort is slated to close on April 7, 2019).

If you are interested in the history of the Wild West, you might want to consider the short hike to Linwood Cemetery where famous outlaw and dentist Doc Holiday was laid to rest back in November 1887. Most famously associated with the Gunfight at the OK Corral and the Earp brothers, Holliday ended up in Glenwood thanks to the purported healing powers of the areas many hot springs, which he hoped would alleviate the symptoms of his tuberculosis.



12 PM | LUNCH

After a few hours of burning calories out in nature, head to Glenwood Canyon Brewpub for a beer and a burger - the Game Time Burger is a buffalo burger with elk jalapeño sausage, sweet pepper relish, havarti cheese and chipotle aioli. In operation since way back in 1996, the pub, which is opposite the Amtrak Station, has a good selection of really good, and in some cases award-winning, beers.

Elsewhere there is Slope and Hatch. Holding its own with any taco place in the state, this tiny shop on 7th Street offers a range of really good tacos that are as vibrant as they are delicious. Recent offerings have included Tomatillo Pork Tacos (braised pork shoulder, sofrito verde, cotija cheese and a fried egg on a grilled corn tortillas) and chicken fajita tacos. They also have tortas, soups, chowders, and desserts.





6 PM | DINNER

For dinner there are few places in town that offer the same refined experience you get at CO Ranch House. With decor that immediately invokes the ranching and agricultural tradition of Colorado, CO Ranch House is laid back and refined at the same time and has a culinary philosophy that can perhaps best be described as elevated home cooking. The western-inspired menu includes locally-sourced beef, Rocky Mountain trout, sustainably-sourced salmon as well as local beers and spirits.

We tried the house salad, a colorful and delicious combination of Brussels sprouts, kale, Peruvian sweet drop peppers, Granny Smith apple, candied walnuts and blue cheese with an apple cider vinaigrette. That was followed by very good chipotle cranberry duck wings and finally the Rocky Mountain Ruby Red Trout served with green beans mushrooms and mashed potatoes. The food was excellent and it was refreshing to eat a meal that was as delicious as it was uncomplicated. CO Ranch House offers brunch on Saturdays and Sundays.



8 PM | TAKE A SOAK

As the name of the town implies, Glenwood is home to several hot springs, and while any time of day is good for a soothing soak, there is something nice about soaking under the stars, particularly after a busy day. Iron Mountain Hot Springs offers 16 soaking pools along the Colorado River. Ranging in temperature from 98F to 108F, the water goes through a sand-based filtration system and as it circulates continuously each pool is completely refreshed every two hours.

If you decide to soak earlier in the day and you have the evening free, consider spending an evening at what is surely one of the only entertainment options of its kind in the state. The Glenwood Vaudeville Revue is a two-hour dinner theater show with actors performing a variety of skits, jokes, dance numbers, and novelty songs. Dinner is prepared by various restaurants in town.



8 PM | POST-DINNER DRINKS

Native Son is the spot to head to for a late night drink and live music. Ostensibly a music venue, Native Son has a kitchen that stays open until midnight and opens at 9 am for breakfast and brunch. With large servings, the food is interesting and eclectic: think oatmeal bowls and eggs benedict for breakfast, sandwiches and quesadillas with Impossible sausage or pulled pork as well as tacos and sashimi - among many other items.

EVENTS

Walk MS Glenwood Springs

May 11
With one- and three-mile options available, walk MS brings together a community of passionate people for one powerful cause: to end MS forever.

Roaring Forks, Corks and Kegs

May 17
Hotel Colorado hosts an evening of food and drinks from local restaurants, breweries and wineries. There is also a silent auction and dancing. Proceeds benefit Glenwood Springs public schools.

Twentieth Anniversary of Caves

May 18
Help Glenwood Caverns Adventure Park party like it's 1999 as they celebrate 20 years with, among other fun goings on, a Prince cover band.



REST YOUR HEAD

As for where to stay, Glenwood Springs has one of the most historic hotels in the state: the Hotel Colorado. Recently acquired by a family from Aspen with big plans to renovate while maintaining the property's historic roots, the hotel was originally built back in 1893 by silver baron Walter Devereux. The 130-room property has hosted notable and infamous figures over the years including Presidents Taft and Teddy Roosevelt, the Unsinkable Molly Brown and all manner of Chicago mobsters including Al Capone.



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