

ROYAL GORGE

REGION




VistaWorks

VISTAWORKS.COM • HELLO@VISTAWORKS.COM



In Colorado's Royal Gorge Region, a river cuts through a giant gorge, geology shares secrets from our past, outdoor recreational opportunities abound, and a strong agricultural community makes it easy to eat locally. Come explore the vast wonders of this southern Colorado region and experience it firsthand.

Fremont County defines the boundaries of the Royal Gorge Region, where the Arkansas River rushes out of the Rocky Mountains and onto the Great Plains. Cañon City, Fremont's county seat, sits at an elevation of 5,332 feet. But tucked into the folds and bluffs of the Arkansas River Valley, the town enjoys a mild climate and boasts the nickname, "The Climate Capital of Colorado."

The Royal Gorge Region's banana belt climate makes for year-round outdoor recreational opportunities limited only by one's imagination. Regardless of what the calendar might say, the Royal Gorge Region's breathtaking landscape beckons adventure seekers.

With far-reaching dirt roads, miles of designated trails, long stretches of rock slabs, and some of America's best whitewater, athletes from all over the world descend upon the Royal Gorge Region to test their skills, strengthen their bodies and minds, and experience the ultimate adrenaline rush.

The entire region is dotted with outfitters who will take you down the Arkansas River, provide you with the gear you need for your next adventure, or share a map of the Oil Well Flats Trail System, Hogbacks Trail System, or Shelf Road Climbing Area.

Orchards and farms in the Penrose area and eastern Fremont County and grass-fed beef from the western part of the county delight the palates of today's visitors with locally produced food and authentic heritage experiences.

In late spring and summer, farmers markets in Cañon City and Florence offer fresh produce, bread, and homemade specialties for all tastes. Fall brings harvest festivals, apple cider, wine tastings, pumpkin

patches, and corn mazes. Specialty shops and restaurants make locally produced food items and craft brews year-round, while Florence’s many antique shops have helped the town earn the title, “Antique Capital of Colorado.”

Arts and theater thrive in Fremont County, where several organizations work hard to provide locals and visitors first-rate cultural experiences. The Fremont Center for the Arts is the hub of the Royal Gorge Region’s art and theater scene, with the Fremont Civic Theater, the Bell Tower Culture Center, and the Royal Gorge Bridge and Park also providing cultural

experiences throughout the year. The region also boasts history museums and geologic and paleontological wonders waiting to be discovered at Garden Park, Temple Canyon, The Royal Gorge Dinosaur Experience, and beyond.

The Royal Gorge Region is perhaps best known for being home to the Royal Gorge Bridge and Park. Walk across the gorge on America’s highest suspension bridge, glide over the gorge in a gondola, or scale its walls on the Via Ferrata, the Royal Gorge Bridge and Park’s newest attraction set to open summer 2019.







ANNUAL EVENTS

MAY

Blossom Festival

A celebration of the arrival of the growing season, a tradition that goes back centuries in societies throughout the world.

JUNE

Royal Gorge Whitewater Festival

A two-day river celebration that includes water and land events, music, and vendors showcasing the latest in outdoor gear, unique crafts, and locally brewed beer.

JULY

Fremont County Fair

The Fremont County Fair is a week-long event that hosts competitions in dozens of different categories.

AUGUST

Royal 50 Mountain Bike Race

Choose from a 50-mile course or a 20-mile beginner mountain bike course, each with varying levels of difficulty.

SEPTEMBER

Fremont Fall Heritage Days Festival

A seven-week-long celebration of Fremont County history filled with free events in Cañon City, Florence, and beyond.

Harvest Festival

Often considered the quintessential outing during Colorado's ideal time of year, this festival combines wine, artisans, food, and entertainment against Cañon City's gorgeous autumn backdrop.

OCTOBER

Boo at the Bridge

This family-friendly Bridge and Park event provides a safe and fun environment for children to trick or treat, dress up, and enjoy a slew of Halloween-themed activities.

Cañon City & Florence are conveniently located in south-central Colorado

- Just west of the I-25 corridor
- 45 minutes southwest of Colorado Springs via highway 115
- 30 minutes west of Pueblo on US-50
- Access from the north provided by CO-9



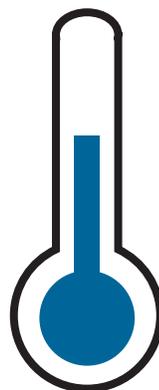
Fremont County is named for explorer and presidential candidate **John C. Frémont**

CAÑON CITY: *THE CLIMATE CAPITAL*

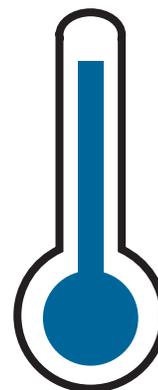
UNIQUE GEOGRAPHY & A 5,300-FOOT ELEVATION PROTECT THE CITY FROM HARSH WEATHER CONDITIONS

46,824

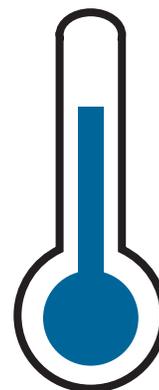
2019 POPULATION



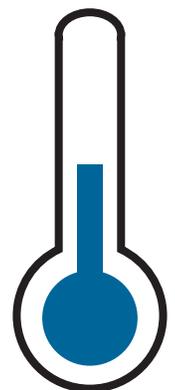
SPRING
40° - 69°F



SUMMER
57° - 87°F



FALL
43° - 74°F



WINTER
23° - 52°F



TOTAL AREA

1,534
SQUARE
MILES

OF COLORADO

NOTABLE RESIDENTS

- **ROBERT WESLEY AMICK**
ARTIST
- **DON BENDELL**
WRITER
- **JACK CHRISTIANSEN**
NFL HALL-OF-FAMER (DETROIT LIONS)
- **DONALD S. FREDRICKSON**
MEDICAL RESEARCHER, FORMER DIRECTOR OF THE NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH, AND FIRST PRESIDENT OF THE HOWARD HUGHES MEDICAL INSTITUTE; BORN IN CANON CITY
- **SKIP KONTE**
MUSICIAN, "WIZARD OF ALL NORTHERN REALMS"
- **VICE ADMIRAL EMORY S. LAND (U.S. NAVY)**
BORN IN CAÑON CITY
- **DAVE MERRICK**
ARTIST
- **JAMES HAMILTON PEABODY**
FORMER COLORADO GOVERNOR
- **DAN SLATER**
COLORADO POLITICIAN

ROYAL GORGE RE

1858

1860

1861

1870

1871

1872

1877

FLORENCE IS
FOUNDED AS
FRAZIERVILLE AROUND
AN ORCHARD WITH
2,000 APPLE TREES.

THE FIRST
TERRITORIAL
PRISON IS BUILT
IN CAÑON CITY.

SUCCESSFUL MINE
OWNERS AND
MERCHANTS BEGIN
TO BUILD HOMES IN
THE ROYAL GORGE
REGION, RESULTING
IN MAGNIFICENT
HOMES AND
COMMERCIAL
BUILDINGS THAT
REMAIN STANDING
TODAY.

THE MINES OF
COAL CREEK ARE
OPENED WITH
100 MINERS
PRODUCING 400
TONS A DAY.

THE PIKE'S PEAK
GOLD RUSH
BRINGS THE
FIRST INFLUX
OF SETTLERS TO
CAÑON CITY.

FREMONT COUNTY IS
ESTABLISHED AS ONE
OF THE ORIGINAL 17
COUNTIES IN THE
COLORADO TERRITORY.

THE FIRST LARGE-SCALE
DINOSAUR BONE IS DISCOVERED
IN THE GARDEN PARK AREA
NORTH OF CAÑON CITY,
SPARKING THE FAMOUS BONE
WARS AND A NATIONAL LOVE
FOR DINOSAURS.

REGION: A TIMELINE

1879

1905

1925

1929

1937

1983

2000

SKYLINE DRIVE IS COMPLETED USING LOCAL PRISON LABOR.

THE CAÑON CITY RODEO ASSOCIATION IS FORMED WITH ITS ANNUAL GATHERING EVENTUALLY BECOMING THE ROYAL GORGE RODEO.

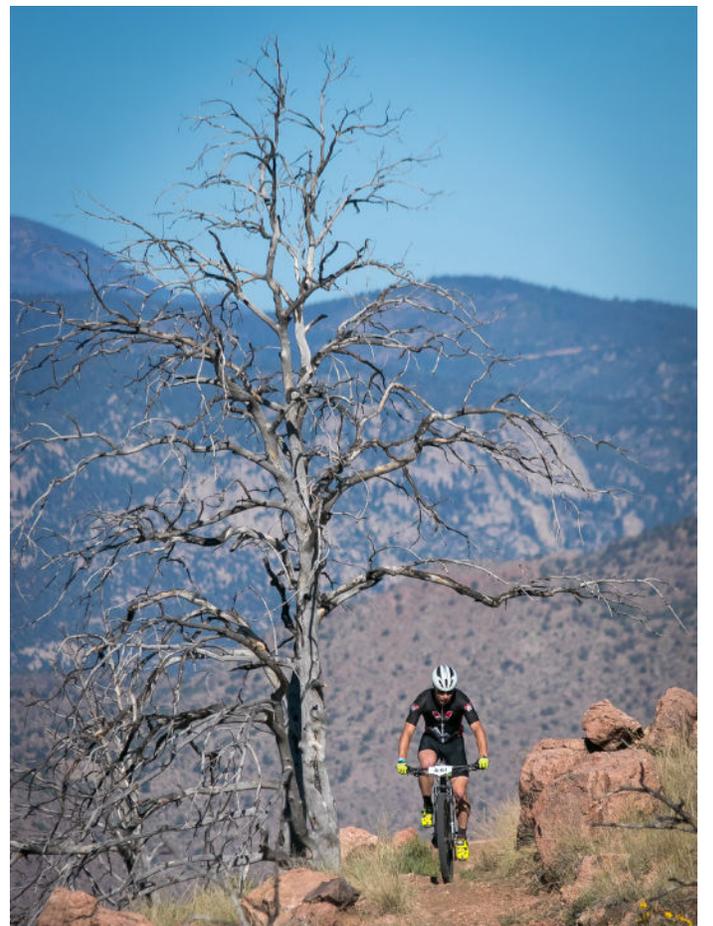
THE ROYAL GORGE RAILROAD WARS BEGIN BETWEEN THE SANTA FE AND DENVER AND RIO GRANDE RAILROAD COMPANIES FOR RIGHTS TO LAY TRACKS ALONG THE GORGE'S FLOOR.

THE ROYAL GORGE BRIDGE IS COMPLETED AND OPENS TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC WITH AN ADMISSION COST OF \$.75.

DOWNTOWN CAÑON CITY IS LISTED ON THE NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES.

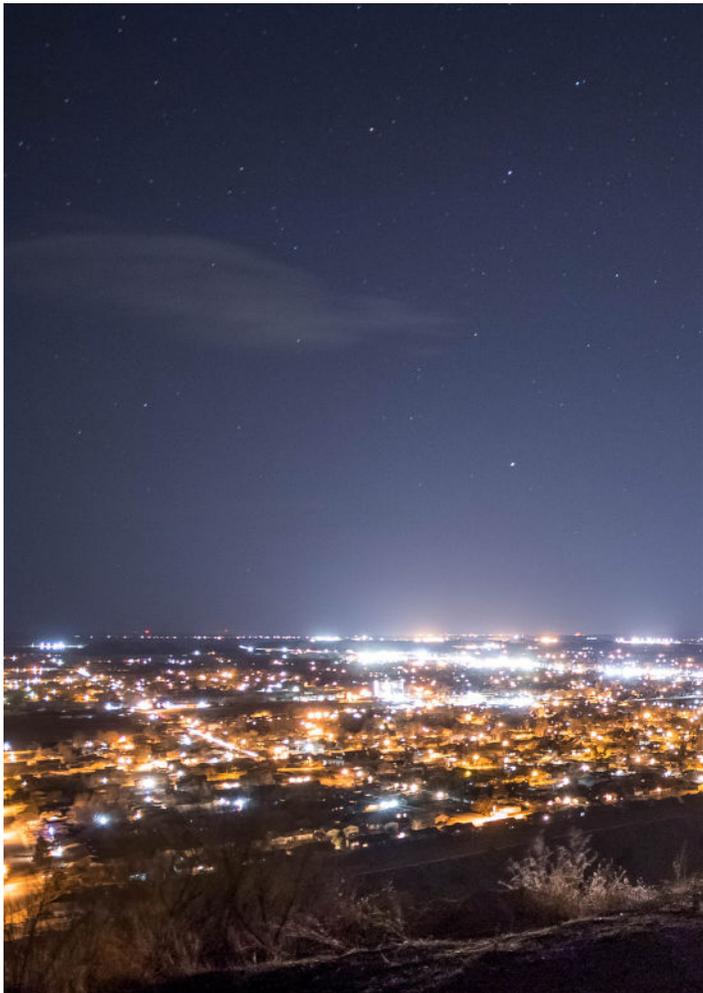
THE ABBEY MONASTERY IS BUILT AND OPENS AS A BOYS' BOARDING SCHOOL.

THE GOLD BELT SCENIC BYWAY IS ESTABLISHED BY THE U.S. SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION.





NICK LANDRY PHOTOGRAPHY



ATTRACTIONS

ROYAL GORGE ROUTE RAILROAD
ROYAL GORGE BRIDGE AND PARK
THE ROYAL GORGE DINOSAUR EXPERIENCE
SKYDIVING
SEGWAY TOURS
HELICOPTER TOURS
THE MUSEUM OF COLORADO PRISONS
FREMONT CENTER FOR THE ARTS
WINERY AT HOLY CROSS ABBEY
FLORENCE PIONEER MUSEUM
ROYAL GORGE REGIONAL MUSEUM AND HISTORY CENTER



OUTDOOR RECREATION

MOUNTAIN BIKING
ROAD BIKING
WHITewater RAFTING
OHVING
CAMPING
DISC GOLF
GOLFING
FISHING
HUNTING
HORSEBACK RIDING

TRAIL SYSTEMS:

- ROYAL GORGE PARKS TRAILS SYSTEM
- SOUTH CANON TRAIL SYSTEM
- OIL WELL FLATS
- HOGBACKS OPEN SPACE
- ARKANSAS RIVERWALK TRAIL
- TUNNEL DRIVE
- SOUTH CANON TRAIL SYSTEM



PRESS

ROCK CLIMBING ADVENTURE COMING TO THE ROYAL GORGE

PUEBLO CHIEFTAIN | JANUARY 12, 2019

NEW ROYAL GORGE ATTRACTION ATTRACTS ADVENTURE SEEKERS

CBS DENVER | JANUARY 10, 2019

FIVE WINTER MOUNTAIN BIKING DESTINATIONS ON COLORADO'S FRONT RANGE

THE GAZETTE | JANUARY 7, 2019

INSPIRED BY 'THE HOLIDAY'? HERE ARE 8 COZY COTTAGES AND CABINS YOU CAN RENT THIS WINTER

THE MADISON | DECEMBER 18, 2018

HAPPY TRAILS: CAÑON CITY'S BACKYARD-TO-BACKCOUNTRY PARADISE

THE GAZETTE | NOVEMBER 25, 2018

ALL ABOARD THE SANTA EXPRESS

FOX 21 NEWS | NOVEMBER 18, 2018

MOUNTAIN BIKING CAÑON CITY, COLORADO: THE LITTLE CITY THAT COULD

SINGLETRACKS | NOVEMBER 16, 2018

10 BEST US MOUNTAIN BIKE TOWNS WITH THE LOWEST COST OF LIVING

SINGLETRACKS | MARCH 12, 2018

50 STATES OF BUCKET LIST ADVENTURES

TRAVEL CHANNEL | 2019

CONTACT

BRYAN JORDAN

BRYAN@VISTAWORKS.COM

LINDSAY DIAMOND

LINDSAY@VISTAWORKS.COM