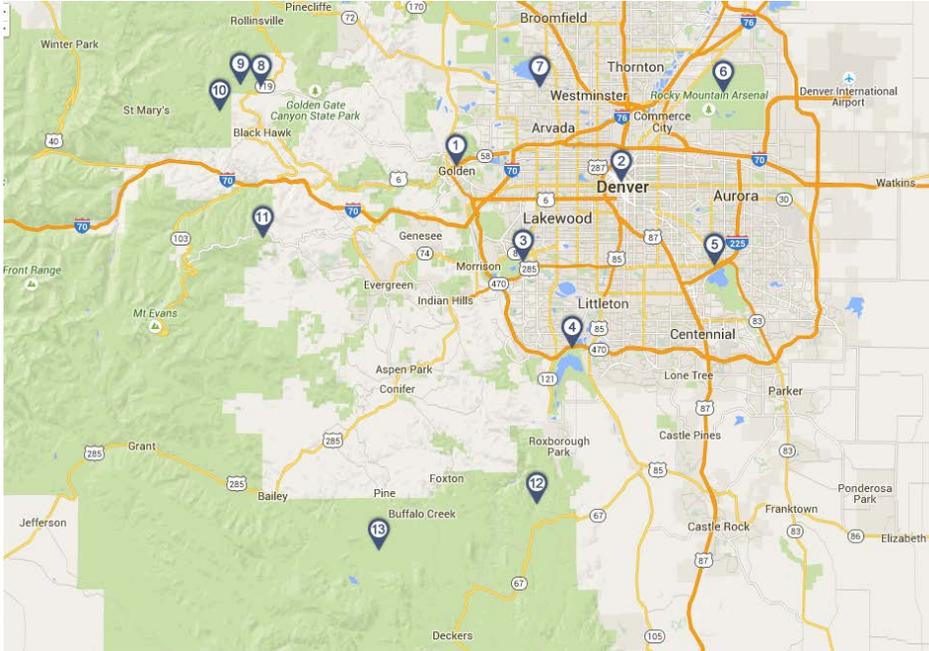




Road Trippin' in Colorado

Following the USA Pro Challenge Cycling Routes



STAGE 7

Golden to Denver
(68 miles/110 km)

The distance between Golden and Denver is short, as the crow flies, but this stage takes a circuitous route before the racers complete several downtown laps of the Mile High City. There are a dozen recreation destinations ranging from a few minutes to within two hours of Denver or Golden.

KEY POINTS OF INTEREST

- Lakes
- Wildlife refuges
- Campgrounds
- Fire lookout tower
- Mountain bike and hiking trails

Build a Trip by Recreation.gov



Build a Trip

Create your adventure now

We've created road trip itineraries to show you how you can discover iconic landmarks, great camping and amazing landscapes along the cycling routes of the USA Pro Challenge where the pro riders battle in the high altitudes of Colorado. Build your own adventure here: [Build a Trip](#).

Denver Area Outdoor Attractions

Did you know that you can camp, hang out at the lake, fish, mountain bike and view wildlife at several locations just minutes from downtown Denver? [Bear Creek Lake](#), [Chatfield Lake](#) and [Cherry Creek Lake](#) are spacious areas that offer biking, camping, fishing, picnicking and more, each within 10 to 20 minutes of downtown Denver.



Bear Creek Lake
(US Army Corps of Engineers/Karen Sitoski)



Cherry Creek Lake
(US Army Corps of Engineers/Karen Sitoski)

Urban Wildlife

The [Rocky Mountain Arsenal](#) and [Two Ponds](#) National Wildlife Refuges are also within close proximity to Denver and both provide important habitat for urban wildlife and host plenty of visitors to learn about the critters they protect.



Rocky Mountain Arsenal National Wildlife Refuge
(US Fish and Wildlife Service)



Two Ponds National Wildlife Refuge
(US Fish and Wildlife Service)

Campgrounds, trails and even a fire lookout tower within two hours of Denver

The [Squaw Mountain Fire Lookout](#) is available for overnight stays and offers panoramic views of the Rocky Mountains, the Great Plains and Denver. Three campgrounds on the Arapaho and Roosevelt National Forest can be accessed just beyond Golden Gate Canyon State Park along the Peak to Peak Scenic Byway/Highway 119 and include [Cold Springs](#), [Pickle Gulch](#) and [Columbine](#) campgrounds.



Scenic Medicine Bow and Routt National Forest
(David Hodge/Share the Experience)



Dumont Campground
(Douglas Berger/Share the Experience)

More amazing trails and campgrounds

The [Buffalo Creek Recreation Area](#) on the Pike and San Isabel National Forest is a hotspot for [camping](#), hiking, mountain biking and fishing. The trails are well maintained and also offer access to the Colorado Trail.



Pike and San Isabel National Forest
(US Forest Service and Courtney Quirk/Share the Experience)