

# WITH OVER 23,000 ABANDONED MINES IN COLORADO, you might think it'd be hard to PICK ONE TO VISIT.



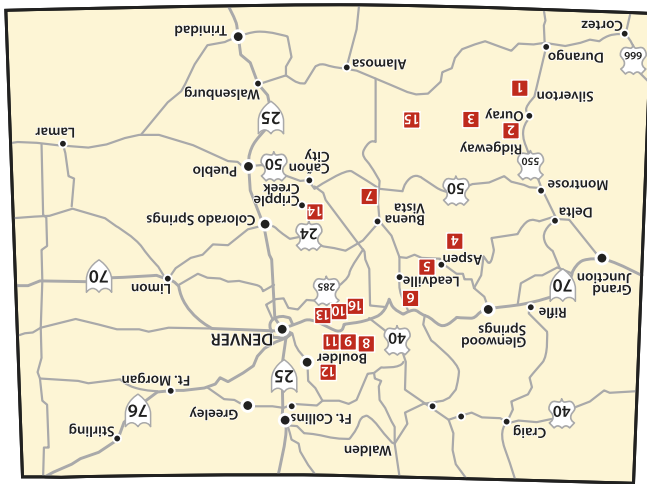
## WE'VE MADE IT EASY WITH SIXTEEN SAFE BETS.

Some tours are only conducted seasonally, or by appointment only. Please contact mines and museums directly for hours of operation.

- 1** **Argo Gold Mine and Mill**  
2317 Riverside, Idaho Springs  
P.O. Box 3  
Salida, CO 81201  
303 567-2421  
www.historicargotours.com
- 2** **Bachelor Syracuse Mine**  
1222 CR 14, Ouray  
970-325-0220 (summer)  
800-932-6337 (winter)  
www.ouraycolorado.com/  
bachelor
- 3** **Carbonate Mine**  
Iowa Milling Co.  
PO Box 5183  
Cripple Creek, CO 80424  
www.carbonateminetour.com
- 4** **Country Boy Mine**  
542 French Gulch Road,  
Breckenridge, CO 80405  
970-453-4405  
www.countryboyminetour.com
- 5** **Crede Underground Mining Museum**  
Forest Service Road 503 #9,  
Crede  
719-658-0811  
www.museumtrail.org/credeUn-  
dergroundMiningMuseum.asp
- 6** **Edgar Mine**  
Colorado Blvd. and 8th Street  
365 8th Ave., Idaho Springs  
303-567-2911  
www.mines.edu/Academic/  
mining/edgar.html
- 7** **Hard Tack Mine**  
Hanson Creek and Engineer Pass  
Road, Lake City  
970-944-2506  
www.hardtackmine.com
- 8** **Hidee Gold Mine**  
Milepost 6.3 Central City Parkway  
Central City/Blackhawk  
303-989-2861  
www.cccmma.com/hidee.htm
- 9** **Smuggler Mine and Compromise Mine**  
0100 Smuggler Mountain Road,  
Aspen  
970-925-2049
- 10** **Washington Mine and Lomax Placer and**  
301 Ski Hill Road and  
465 Illinois Gulch Road,  
Breckenridge  
Summit County Historical Society  
970-453-9022  
www.summithistorical.org
- 11** **COMING SOON:**  
White Banks Mine
- 12** **Indicates approximate mine tour locations on map at right.**

## TOURS

## MINE LOCATIONS



## MUSEUMS

- Clear Creek Mining and Milling Museum**  
23rd Avenue and Riverside Drive,  
Idaho Springs  
303-567-4709
- Colorado School of Mines Geology Museum**  
16th and Maple St., Golden  
303-273-3815  
www.mines.edu/academic/  
geology/museum/
- Cripple Creek District Museum**  
5th and Bennett Avenues, Cripple  
Creek  
719-689-2634  
www.cripple-creek.co.us/ccdm.html
- Denver Museum of Nature and Science**  
2001 Colorado Blvd., Denver  
303-322-7009  
www.dmnh.org
- Gilpin County Historical Society Museum**  
228 E. High Street, Central City  
303-582-5283  
www.coloradomuseums.org/  
gilpin.html
- Lafayette Miners Museum**  
108 E. Simpson Street, Lafayette  
303-665-7030  
www.cityoflafayette.com/  
parksrec/parkrecminers.cfm
- Lowell Thomas Museum**  
298 Victor Avenue, Victor  
719-689-5509  
www.coloradosprings.com/  
attractions/fullstory.php?id=989
- Matchless Mine**  
414 W. 7th Street, Leadville  
719-486-3900  
719-486-1899  
www.matchlessmine.com
- Mayflower Mill**  
2 miles north of Silverton  
on Highway 110 County Road 2  
970-387-0294  
www.silvertonhistoricalsociety.  
org/mayflower\_gold\_mill.htm
- National Mining Hall of Fame & Museum**  
120 W. 9th, Leadville  
719-486-1229  
www.leadville.com/  
miningmuseum
- Nederland Historical Society and Museum**  
4th and Bridge Streets, Nederland  
303-285-3575  
coloradoprospector.com/  
Prospecting Events/Ned\_  
museum.html
- Ouray County Historical Society and Museum**  
420 Sixth Street, Ouray  
970-325-4565  
970-325-4075  
www.ouraycountyhistoricalsociety.  
org
- Silverton Mining Heritage Center**  
1557 Greene Street, Silverton  
970-387-5838  
www.silvertonhistoricalsociety.org
- Walsenburg Mining Museum**  
101 E. 5th Street, Walsenburg  
719-738-1992  
www.hchstsoc.org
- Western Museum of Mining and Industry**  
1025 Northgate Road  
Colorado Springs  
1-800-752-6558  
www.wmmi.org

**FOR MORE INFORMATION:  
ABOUT TOURIST MINES, INACTIVE MINES, MINE SAFETY TIPS?**



Contact us:  
1313 Sherman Street, Room 215  
Denver, Colorado 80209  
303.866.3567  
www.mining.state.co.us

In 1893 construction of the Argo Tunnel began. It would be 17 years before it would reach Central City, over 4.5 miles away. The tunnel would provide water drainage, ventilation and economical transportation of the gold bearing ore from the Argo Mill was constructed to process the gold bearing ore from these mines. When completed, the Argo would be the largest mill of its type in the world. The mill processed over 100 million dollars of gold ore and stands today as a memorial to the hard rock miners of the day. The Argo Mill, Mine and Museum tour is educational and fun for all ages!

Located on I-70 just 35 minutes west of Denver in Idaho Springs, Colorado, and is open mid-April through mid-October 9am-6pm all week.



## ARGO GOLD MINE, TUNNEL AND MILL

Travel back through time as you are taken from the Breckenridge valley floor through some of Colorado's most famous gold country. We take you up above timberline to an authentic turn of the century gold mine that retains the feel and features of Colorado mining in its heyday. You will see how miners worked and lived both above and below ground as we explore the mining cabins, ore mills and tramways, and the Carbonate Mine, 12,000+ feet above sea level. Explanations and history are given concerning the area geology and mining methods past and present.

Due to the elevation and winter conditions this tour is offered during peak summer months only and you must be 18 years or older to enter the mine itself. The mine is a constant 28°F so jackets and hiking boots are required. Tours are by appointment only.



## CARBONATE MINE

Tour a real Silver and Gold mine. You will board a mine train (also called a "rammer") accompanied by a thoroughly trained guide. Advance 3,350 feet into Gold Hill. You will see the rich ore veins, work area, and equipment used in mining. The slopes, declines, crosscuts, run-a-rounds, and drifts will be fully explained. Other activities available at the Bachelor-Syracuse Mine are: Gold panning instruction, Miners' Outdoor Cafe, turn-of-the-century Blacksmith shop, and a Gift Shop featuring Gold Nugget jewelry and Cranberry glass (made with real gold). Great for group activities, something for every age.

Open May 20 through September 15. Closed on July 4.



## BACHELOR SYRACUSE MINE

With so many abandoned mines in Colorado, it's natural to want to see what a mine looks like

Unfortunately, abandoned mines are very dangerous.

## EVERY YEAR, PEOPLE DIE NATIONWIDE EXPLORING ABANDONED MINES.

Fortunately, sixteen tourist mines and mining museums throughout the state offer tours, with experienced and knowledgeable mining professionals on hand to guide you and your family safely through the world of mining.

So if you want to see the inside of a mine, do it safely:

## TAKE A TOUR!

CHECK OUT TOUR AND

MUSEUM LISTINGS HERE



## COUNTRY BOY MINE



In the midst of the majestic Rocky Mountains, the Country Boy Mine was one of the largest and most famous gold mines in Breckenridge. Today you can visit and venture into a real gold mine at this historic and restored mining site. Join us on a guided adventure into the century old gold mine. Wear a hard hat, hear the drills and learn about Colorado's glorious mining history. After your tour, your guide will teach you how to pan for gold in Eureka Creek.

## CREEDE UNDERGROUND MINING MUSEUM



Creede evolved from a history rich in mining and scenic surroundings. Silver was discovered in 1889. Mining was the area's main industry through the years until 1985, when the Homestake Mining Company closed down the Bulldog Mine. In 1990 local citizens decided to build a mining museum. Three Creede miners began breaking rock in November, 1990. By 1992, the mining portion of the museum was completed and most of the displays were in place. While the museum has never been used for the commercial production of silver, it was "mined" from solid rock and is an authentic example of the methods and techniques used in the "boom" days of Creede, Colorado. The museum now includes many displays, including real mining equipment.

## EDGAR MINE



Students and staff at the mine conduct guided tours for the general public throughout the year. Tours generally last one hour, but can be tailored to accommodate some special requests. More than one-half mile of underground workings representing over 100 years of mine development are covered on the tour. Lighted displays showing drilling, blasting, and mucking equipment are displayed on the mine tour and items of discussion include mining practice, mining economics, and the role of the mining industry in modern society.

The mine is open for tours on Monday through Friday (or Saturday if tour guides can be arranged—call ahead for seasonal information) from early June through late August at 1pm. No appointment is needed at this time. Group tours for groups of 10 or more can be arranged.

## HARD TACK MINE



Journey deep inside a real mine tunnel and experience Lake City days gone by. Those taking the 40 minute tour are treated to a walk in a 100 year old mine where there are unique lighted displays depicting how workers dug and blasted through rock using only hand tools and dynamite. It's a cool 45 degrees inside so bring a jacket. Handicap accessible and state inspected. Group tours available year around by appointment.

Open Memorial Day through Labor Day, Tuesdays through Saturdays, from 10am-5pm

## HIDEE GOLD MINE



The Hidee Gold Mine is a well lit, dry, and safe environment. The accessible workings are on the 135-foot level of an adit driven 600 feet into the mountainside. The ground is level. Visitors to the mine are welcome to try their hand at Hard Rock Mining. Use hammer and chisel to carve out a gold specimen from the main ore vein, yours to keep as part of the tour!

Tours are approximately 45 minutes underground with ample time given to enjoy gold panning or lunch outside the mine. All tours are given by mine President, Ed Lewandowski or Head Engineer, Randy Stone, and other hard-rock miners.

Reservations are required; children under 5 are not allowed on the tour.

## LEBANON SILVER MINE



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Guided tours of the Lebanon Silver Mine are available as part of your Georgetown Loop adventure. Passengers taking the mine tour disembark the Georgetown Loop train at a brief stop shortly following departure from the Silver Plume Depot. They then reboard a later train to complete their trip around the Georgetown Loop. Please allow extra time if you are planning to include the Lebanon Silver Mine tour as part of your visit. Mine tours are free to Colorado Historical Society Members.

## SMUGGLER AND COMPROMISE MINES



The Compromise Mine is located on the front side of Aspen Mountain. Complimentary 4WD service will take you up to the mine. On this fascinating tour, you will ride 2000 feet underground in tour cars behind an electric mine locomotive, seeing some of the largest open underground chambers in the world. The Smuggler Mine, listed on the National Historic Register, is a walking tour that will take you 1200 feet into Smuggler Mountain and on two levels. The world's largest silver nugget was found at the Smuggler Mine back in 1894.

## LOST MINE



This guided 3 hour photo adventure leaves Salida at 10am and 2pm and includes travel in a 6-wheel drive European troop carrier to visit 1890's lime kiln ruins surrounded by awesome cliff formations. Next it's up to the Lost Mine, past authentic mine structures to discover the underground world beneath the peaks.

With the hard hats and lights provided, your journey to explore cool caverns and view the crystals and minerals is easy walking, state-inspected, well lighted and is fun for the whole family. Mountain peak views and interesting geologic formations with free maps to local rockhounding sites make this adventure educational and "mines" some unforgettable memories for your family vacation.

## MOLLIE KATHLEEN GOLD MINE



The Mollie Kathleen Gold Mine was discovered on September 9th, 1891 by Mollie Kathleen Gortner and has been maintained to date as a minable property.

Touring guests enter the mine riding a Man-Skip elevator down a 1,000-foot vertical shaft. Once underground, visitors also ride aboard the last air-powered Tram-Air Locomotive to have been manufactured, traveling the same century-old mine rail that miners rode, visiting vein structures which reveal gold veins in their natural state.

The Mollie Kathleen Mine opens in April with tours offered through October; each ticket holder will receive free with each tour, an ore specimen from the Mollie Kathleen Mine, containing real gold.

## OLD HUNDRED GOLD MINE



The underground world of the hard rock miner is rarely seen by "outsiders". Now you, too, can go "on shift" and see real working mining equipment.

On the one-hour tour you ride a mine tram, explore the workings, and see actual demonstrations of mining methods using authentic operating equipment, then you get to pan for gold!

Located 5 miles east of Silverton on County Road #2, (follow the signs). Tours daily 10am-4 pm, May-October.

## PHOENIX MINE



Located in Clear Creek County's famous Trail Creek Mining District, the Phoenix Mine claim was originally discovered in 1871, and remains in operation today.

After touring the Phoenix, try your hand at panning in the stream. You are welcome to stay as long as you like, and it's included in your admission fee. Your guide will instruct you in the art of gold panning and then lend you a pan so you can give it a try! Two hiking trails on the property are also available for your enjoyment. One can be found on each side of the road near the Phoenix Mine.

Open every day year round, weather permitting. May-October from 10am-5pm; November-April 10am - 4pm.

## WASHINGTON MINE/LOMAX PLACER



At the Washington Mine you can peer down into a manway and shaft, handle drill steel and core samples, don a hard hat and walk along ore-car tracks back to where the miners drilled and blasted, see the tools and equipment used 100 years ago—from candles to calcium-carbide lights, rock drills to widowmakers, black powder to dynamite—and learn why the prospectors dug where they did.

Visit the Lomax Placer Gulch Tour and Slide Show where you can pan for gold. Learn how mining-town chemists assayed the ore content; watch a slide show and see how hydraulic mining changed the landscape. Visit a bachelor miner's cabin, complete with stove, musical instruments, snowshoes, actual furniture and utensils, pack saddles, and a pie safe.