

Park Season

Rocky Mountain National Park is open to travel the entire year. However, because of heavy snows, the Trail Ridge Road is normally closed to transmountain travel by about October 15. It is not again open until May 30 or later. Winter travel over the road is possible to the upper end of Hidden Valley on the eastern slope, and to Beaver Creek, 11 miles inside the Grand Lake Entrance. Accommodations for winter visitors are available in the villages of Estes Park and Grand Lake.

Winter Use

The principal winter use area in Rocky Mountain National Park is at Hidden Valley along the Trail Ridge Road, 12 miles west of Estes Park. Two down-mountain ski trails and several practice areas are located at Hidden Valley, where both the expert and novice skier will find slopes and ski runs to his liking. Ski tows service the upper practice slope. Shelter cabins are provided at this area for the use of winter sports enthusiasts. Cross-country touring may be enjoyed by the experienced skier at numerous locations on the eastern side of Rocky Mountain National Park and on the western slope in the vicinity of Grand Lake.

How to Reach the Park

Motorists arriving from eastern points approach the park over U. S. No. 34, via Loveland, through the scenic Big Thompson Canyon; via Longmont, over the North St. Vrain Highway (State Route 66); or over the scenic South St. Vrain Highway (State Route 7), via Lyons and Raymond. Travel from the west approaches



Atop the Front Range



American Elk

the park, via Grand Lake, over U. S. No. 34 from its junction with U. S. No. 40 near Granby.

Connections with transcontinental air lines, railroads, and bus lines are made at Denver, Greeley, and Granby by the Rocky Mountain Motor Co. during the travel season. Visitors, who have only a limited time to spend in the park, may take advantage of new fast schedules provided by the public carriers. Daily connections with these fast schedules are made at Denver and other terminals near the park.

All-expense tours, covering loop trips from Denver to Estes Park over the Trail Ridge Road, returning, via Granby and Berthoud Pass, over U. S. No. 40, are offered during the summer. Special trips within the park are conducted under franchise from the Secretary of the Interior. Touring car service is available at established rates. Further information may be obtained from the Rocky Mountain Motor Co., 1730 Glenarm Place, Denver 2, Colo. Bus service to the park begins in early June and continues until late September. Limited service is available the entire year.

Free Public Campgrounds

Six free public campgrounds are maintained in Rocky Mountain National Park.

Glacier Basin, on Bear Lake Road, 7 miles from Estes Park—96 camp sites. No dogs or cats permitted.

Aspenglen, near Fall River Road, 5 miles from Estes Park—58 camp sites.

Endovalley, on Fall River Road, 9 miles from Estes Park—36 camp sites. No dogs or cats permitted.

Timber Creek, on Trail Ridge Road, about 10 miles north of Grand Lake Entrance—77 camp sites.

Wild Basin, 2½ miles west of Copeland Lake, on dirt road South St. Vrain Highway—minimum facilities.

Longs Peak, at foot of Longs Peak Trail, ¾ mile above Hewes-Kirkwood Inn—minimum facilities.

Visitors with trailers or camping equipment will find these campgrounds attractive for maximum enjoyment of outdoor life. Water and sanitary facilities are provided, but no electricity is available. Camping is limited to 30 days in a calendar year.

Accommodations

Hotels, lodges, and camps within the national park, as listed below, are operated under franchise from the Secretary of the Interior. Requests for information on rates, accommodations, and reservations should be sent directly to the concessioners whose addresses are given below.

As dining room facilities are limited, reservations should be made in advance when meals only are desired.

Bear Lake Lodge, Estes Park, Colo., American plan accommodations. Season late June to early September.

Grand Lake Lodge, Grand Lake, Colo., American and European plan accommodations. Rooms with or without bath. Season early June to mid-September.

Camp Woods, Estes Park, Colo., just inside Thompson River Entrance. Housekeeping cabins. Season late May to early September.

Brinwood Hotel, Estes Park, Colo., in upper Moraine Park. American plan accommodations. Season mid-June to mid-September.

Spragues Lodge, Estes Park, Colo., in Glacier Basin, below Bear Lake. American plan accommodations. Season early June to mid-September.

Numerous hotels, lodges, and camps are located on private lands in or adjacent to the national park. Further information may be obtained by directing inquiries



Bear Lake and the Front Range

to the Estes Park Chamber of Commerce and to the Grand Lake Chamber of Commerce.

Miscellaneous Services

Medical services are available at the gateway villages of Estes Park and Grand Lake where there are well-equipped clinics. At Estes Park, several doctors maintain offices during the summer, and three are present the entire year.

Summer telegraph offices are operated in Estes Park and Grand Lake, providing service for all hotels and lodges in and near the national park. Telegraph and telephone services are available throughout the year.

Catholic and Protestant religious services are conducted each Sunday in Estes Park, YMCA Conference Grounds, and Grand Lake.

Mail arrives and departs several times a day at Estes Park and is on daily schedule at Grand Lake.

Saddle horses may be rented by the hour, day, week, month, or season at prevailing rates from numerous livery stables in and near the national park.

Naturalist Services

An active program of guided field trips, informal nature walks, and illustrated evening talks is provided the visitor from late in June until early September. These free services are designed to help the visitor enjoy his park through an increased understanding of its story and significance. Schedules of the week's activities are available during the season.



Moraine Park Museum

The center of these activities is the Moraine Park Museum. An illustrated talk is given there every night at 8 p. m., and many field trips begin there. Exhibits portray the story of the park, and a wide assortment of natural history publications are available for sale. A small exhibit room is also maintained at Fall River Pass during the summer.

Protection Services

Protection activities center in the office of the chief ranger at park headquarters. Park rangers are assigned to patrol trails by foot and horseback and to patrol park highways by automobile. They are responsible for park protection and are prepared to render assistance to visitors when needed. Permanent ranger stations are in operation the year around in more accessible locations, and during the summer period of heavy travel additional stations are available at scattered strategic locations.

Administration

A superintendent is in immediate charge of the park, with park headquarters in the Village of Estes Park, 4 miles east of Rocky Mountain National Park. Comments regarding the park should be directed to the Superintendent, Rocky Mountain National Park, Estes Park, Colo.

Shadow Mountain National Recreation Area

This newly established recreation area is administered by the superintendent of Rocky Mountain National Park. It contains approximately 18,200 acres, of which 9,000 are water. Shadow Mountain and Granby Reservoirs which are included in the area, are water impoundments of the United States Bureau of Reclamation's Colorado-Big Thompson project. Among the recreation facilities provided are camping, fishing, picnicking, and boating. Boats may be rented, and docks for launching privately owned boats are available. The area is located on U. S. No. 34 between Grand Lake and Granby, Colo., and adjoins the west entrance to Rocky Mountain National Park.

Help Us Protect the Park

Park regulations are designed for the protection of the natural beauties and scenery, as well as for the comfort and convenience of visitors. The following

Cover: Hallett Peak and Dream Lake

Open All Year



Rocky Mountain

National Park

COLORADO

Trail Ridge Road normally closed to transmountain travel by snows from about October 15 to May 30

Rocky Mountain

NATIONAL PARK



Rocky Mountain National Park, in north-central Colorado, was established in 1915 by act of Congress, assuring preservation of an outstanding section of the Front Range of the Rocky Mountains. The park contains 254,575.47 acres of federally owned land, and its mountainous terrain ranges from 7,800 to 14,255 feet in elevation.

The region is famous for its rugged gorges, broad valleys, spectacular peaks, alpine lakes, flowered meadows, abundant wildlife, and plunging streams. Eternal snows dot the higher summits and valley walls. Small glaciers persist at the heads of sheltered gorges.

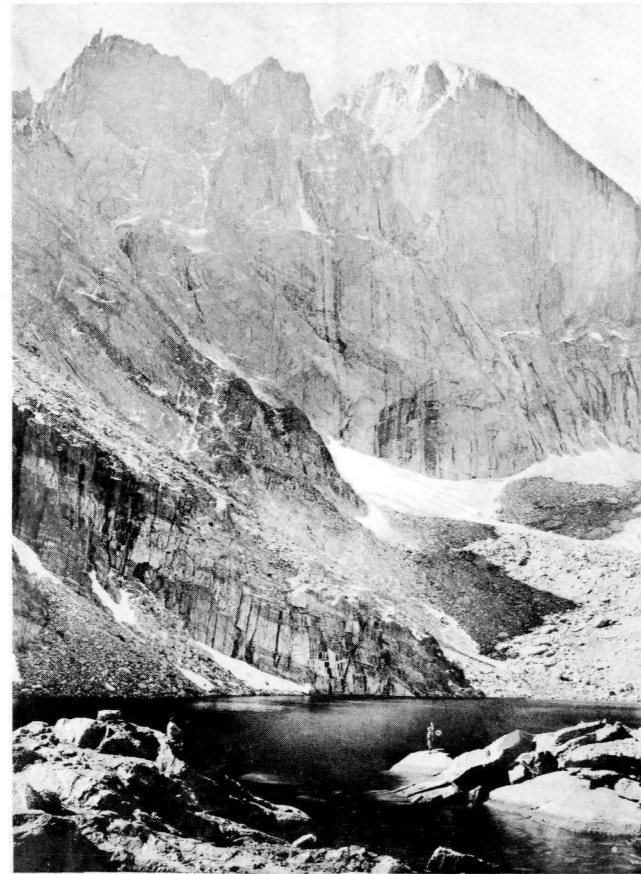
Easily accessible by overnight travel from midwestern States, the park is only 64 miles northwest of Denver, which is served by the principal air, rail, and bus lines. Three high-standard approach highways, one of which is Transcontinental Route U S 34, make the park equally attractive as an objective or as a stop-over for motorists.

Land of Lofty Mountains

Within the park are 65 named peaks more than 10,000 feet in elevation, offering climbs varying from easy trail trips to difficult technical ascents.

Peaks	Number
Over 14,000 feet	1
Between 13,000 and 14,000 feet	14
Between 12,000 and 13,000 feet	27
Between 11,000 and 12,000 feet	13
Between 10,000 and 11,000 feet	10

The National Park System, of which Rocky Mountain National Park is a unit, is dedicated to the conservation of America's scenic, scientific, and historic heritage for the benefit and enjoyment of the people.



Chasm Lake, 12,000 feet above sea level, and east face of Longs Peak

Longs Peak, 14,255 feet, is the highest summit in northern Colorado, and one of the world's most popular climbs. Two favored routes offer the mountain climber access to its summit from which remarkable panoramas spread in every direction, revealing a vast extent of the Rocky Mountains from one side and overlooking the limitless regions of the Great Plains far to the east.

Evidences of Glacial Action

One of the remarkable features of the park is the legible record of Ice Age glaciation. Much of the rugged beauty and grandeur of the landscape is the result of glacial erosion. Evidences of ice invasion are widespread and apparent even to the casual eye. Moraine Park is named for the textbook examples of moraines, or glacial deposits, found there. It is an ideal spot in which to study the work of former glaciers. A short talk on glaciers is presented by a ranger naturalist each afternoon during the summer season at the museum in Moraine Park.

Animal Life

Rocky Mountain National Park is a wildlife sanctuary. Visitors are requested to assist in protecting all life, including animals, birds, flowers, and trees. Any destruction, damage, or removal is prohibited by law.

American elk, or wapiti, are abundant and Rocky Mountain mule deer are numerous and widely distributed. The park is the home of the Rocky Mountain bighorn. Bands of these magnificent animals occasionally are found at Sheep Lake and on a promontory near Milner Pass, and hikers on Specimen Mountain frequently observe them. Black bears, coyotes, bobcats, and cougars are present, but are not often seen.

The beaver, whose dams and other works are found along almost every drainage in the park, may be seen in the early evening hours by the patient observer.

The more common small mammals are chipmunks, Say's and Wyoming ground squirrels, marmots, Fremont and tuft-eared squirrels, and the pika. The last named is a small hay-harvesting rodent of the high-altitude rock slides. Chipmunks and ground squirrels are frequently tame. It is wisest to enjoy them without actual contact, however, for some rodents have been known to carry dangerous diseases.

Birds commonly seen along the roadsides include Clark's nutcracker, Rocky Mountain jay or camp robber, magpie, long-crested jay, mountain bluebird, mountain chickadee, and gray-headed junco. Above timber

line, pipits, rosy finches, horned larks, and ptarmigans are seen frequently. A few golden eagles and several species of hawks and owls make their homes in the park. Approximately 215 varieties of birds have been recorded in the park.

Plant Life

With a wide range of elevations represented, a remarkable variety of plant life occurs within the park. More than 700 species of flowering plants have been identified. The blue columbine is perhaps the most famous flower of the area and is the official State flower of Colorado. Gentians, primroses, lilies, penstemon, paintbrushes, and many other colorful flowers add to the summer beauty of the mountains. Above timber line, dense mats of flowers spread everywhere.

The principal trees are: Engelmann spruce and alpine fir at high elevations; lodgepole pine, typically in dense stands in middle elevations; and ponderosa pine growing in open stands at lower elevations. Limber pine is frequent in high rocky places, assuming grotesque forms at timber line. Douglas-fir is widely distributed at lower elevations. Colorado blue spruce is conspicuous along streams at the eastern edge of the park. Rocky Mountain juniper is present on the dry, less fertile slopes at low elevations. There are three species of poplar, the quaking aspen being the most abundant and colorful.

Aerial view of Longs Peak and the Front Range



Superb Scenic Highways

Trail Ridge Road, transcontinental link through the park, is the highest continuous automobile highway in the United States. From it visitors obtain awe-inspiring views of deep forested canyons and snowy, lake-studded gorges enclosed by towering walls. Near at hand and far against the distant skies are extensive ranges of lofty peaks. Eastward, the mosaic of the Great Plains blends into the hazy horizon. More than 4 miles of the highway are above 12,000 feet in elevation; 11 miles are above the 11,000-foot timber line.

Bear Lake Road gives access to a network of trails which lead to mountain summits or penetrate gorges lined with lakes and forest glades. Bear Lake is a glacier-formed body of icy, blue-green water, set at the base of a semicircle of peaks.

Old Fall River Road, a narrow, one-way road, open for *up travel only*, is maintained for the experienced mountain driver who seeks to renew the thrill of early-day motoring. A circle drive is provided by following this steep, winding, forest-lined route and returning over the modern Trail Ridge Road.

Trails

The trails offer rich opportunities to see and explore Rocky Mountain National Park. Most of them can be traveled on horseback, but a few to more remote areas are suitable for foot travel only. Dogs and cats are prohibited on all trails.

Loch Vale, Bierstadt Lake, Dream Lake, Lake Haiyaha, Fern Lake, Odessa Lake, Ouzel Lake, and Chasm Lake on the eastern slope and Adams Falls, Cascade Falls, the Big Meadows, and Shadow Mountain in the Grand Lake vicinity on the western slope are spots of unusual beauty. Strenuous trips, such as those to Andrews Glacier, Rowe Glacier, Lost Lake, Lake Verna, Gorge Lakes, Lake Nokoni, Lake Nanita and the climbs of Longs Peak, McHenry Peak, and Mount Richtofen, should be attempted only by experienced hikers.

Horses and camp supplies may be rented at most hotels, lodges, and camps, and in neighboring villages. Competent guides arrange special trips on horse or foot. A list of authorized guides may be obtained at the chief ranger's office, and climbers attempting difficult ascents should avail themselves of expert advice available at that office.

One-way trail distances from nearest approach roads

[Distance to Nearest Half Mile]

From	Miles
From Bear Lake to—	
Nymph Lake	1 1/2
Dream Lake	1
Emerald Lake	2
Lake Haiyaha	2
Flattop Mountain	4 1/2
Grand Lake via North Inlet	16 1/2
Grand Lake via Big Meadows	19
Bierstadt Lake	2
Odessa Lake	4
Fern Lake	5
From Glacier Gorge Parking Area to—	
Loch Vale	3 1/2
Lake Mills	3 1/2
Boulderfield	9
From Grand Lake to—	
Shadow Mountain	4
Cascade Falls	2 1/2
Lake Nokoni	9
Lake Nanita	9 1/2
Adams Falls	1 1/2
Lake Verna	7
Lone Pine Lake	5 1/2
From Wild Basin Campground to—	
Calypso Cascades	2
Ouzel Falls	3
Ouzel Lake	5 1/2
Bluebird Lake	7
Finch Lake	5
Pear Lake	7
Thunder Lake	7 1/2
Sandbeach Lake (From Copeland Lake)	4
From Horseshoe Park to—	
Lawn Lake	6 1/2
Crystal Lake	7 1/2
Ypsilon Lake	5 1/2
Deer Mountain (From Deer Ridge)	3
From Brinwood Parking Area to—	
The Pool	2
Fern Lake	4
Odessa Lake	5
Spruce Lake	5
Cub Lake	2 1/2
From Longs Peak Campground to—	
Eugenia Mine	1 1/2
Storm Pass	2 1/2
Chasm Lake	5 1/2
Boulderfield	7
Longs Peak	8
Twin Sisters (from Highway 7)	3 1/2
From Estes Park to—	
Old Man Mountain	1 1/2
Deer Mountain	3 1/2
Prospect Mountain	2
Gem Lake (From Devils Gulch Road)	2
From Phantom Valley Ranch to—	
Lulu City	3
Poudre Pass	7
Thunder Pass	7
Red Mountain	3



Rocky Mountain Bighorn

synopsis is for your general guidance. Complete regulations may be seen at the office of the superintendent and at ranger stations. Violators of park rules and regulations are given hearings before the United States Commissioner at park headquarters.

Fires.—Fire is the park's greatest peril. Build fires only in designated campgrounds and never near or on roots of trees, deadwood, moss, dry leaves, forest mold, or other vegetable refuse. Campfires should not be left unattended. Before leaving, the last spark should be extinguished with water. *Don't take chances—make sure your fire is out. All fires away from designated camps are prohibited, except upon written permission from a park ranger.* Throwing away cigarettes, cigars, matches, or any other burning material along roads and trails is prohibited.

Camps.—Automobile campers must camp in designated areas. Camps must be kept clean and sanitary. Place empty cans and garbage in receptacles provided for that purpose.

Public Property, Trees, Flowers, and Animals.—The destruction, injury, or disturbance of public property, trees, flowers, rocks, animals, or other features is prohibited. *Please leave the flowers for others to enjoy.*

Fishing.—Fishing is permitted in nearly all lakes and streams. A Colorado State fishing license is required. Fishing must be done in conformity with the laws and regulations of the State, with a few additional restrictions regarding hours for fishing, minimum size limits, and the method of handling and returning undersized fish to the water. Ten fish (not exceeding a total of ten pounds) constitute the limit for a day's catch or possession at any one time. Current information regarding fishing regulations may be obtained at the park information office and at ranger stations.

Automobiles.—Please observe the park traffic rules

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and drive carefully at all times. Cars must stay on established roads. A charge of \$1 is made for each automobile, motorcycle, and house trailer entering Rocky Mountain National Park. This permit is good for 15 days. An annual permit, for the calendar year in which purchased, costs \$2.

Speed.—*The speed limit is 20 miles per hour on curves and 35 miles per hour on straight stretches. Commercial trucking is not permitted.*

Firearms.—Unless adequately sealed, cased, broken down, or otherwise packed to prevent their use while in the park, firearms are prohibited, except upon written permission from the superintendent.

Dogs and Cats are prohibited on all trails and other Government lands in Rocky Mountain National Park, except on highways, roads, parking areas, Timber Creek, Aspenglen, Longs Peak and Wild Basin Campgrounds, Bear Lake, Grand Lake, and Sprague's Lodges, Woods Cottages, Brinwood Hotel, and in designated picnic areas accessible to automobiles, provided such animals are on leash, crated, or otherwise under physical restrictive control at all times. Dogs and cats are not allowed in Glacier Basin and Endovalley Campgrounds and at Fern Lake Lodge and Forest Inn.

Park Rangers are for your protection and guidance. Do not hesitate to consult them. Accidents, complaints, and suggestions should be reported to a ranger or to the superintendent's office.

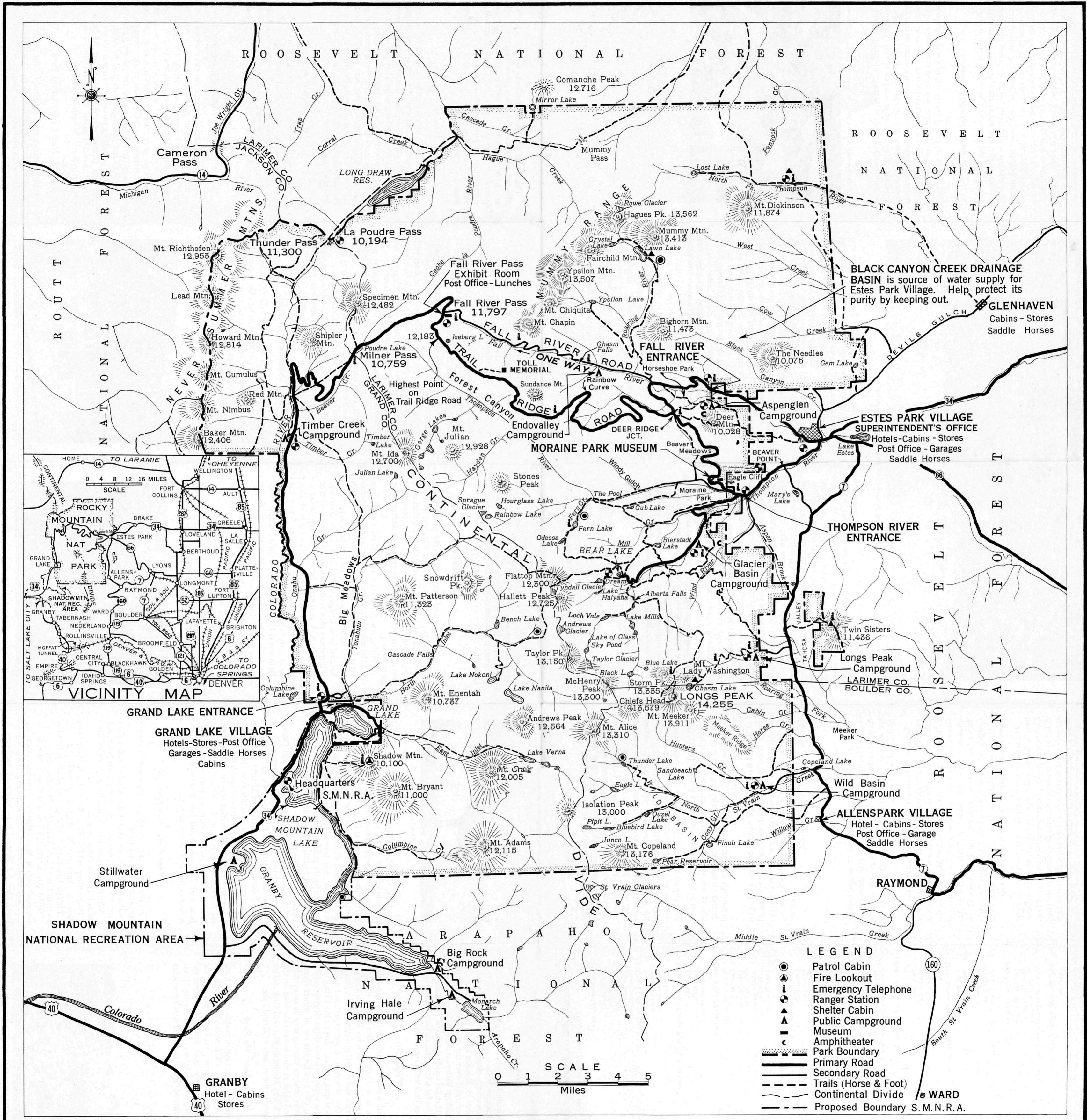
WARNING

This park, mostly wilderness, is the home of many wild animals, which roam it unmolested. Though they may seem tame, they are not! Some have been known to attack visitors without apparent provocation and have caused serious injury. Watch them at a safe distance; when driving, do not stop unless you can pull off the road; and stay in your car. For your safety, we must enforce the regulation which prohibits feeding or molesting these wild animals. Campers, and those who frequent roads and trails on foot, should exercise constant care to avoid attacks and injuries.



United States Department of the Interior
Douglas McKay, *Secretary*

National Park Service, Conrad L. Wirth, *Director*



BLACK CANYON CREEK DRAINAGE BASIN is source of water supply for Estes Park Village. Help protect its purity by keeping out.

GLENHAVEN
Cabins - Stores
Saddle Horses

ESTES PARK VILLAGE SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE
Hotels - Cabins - Stores
Post Office - Garages
Saddle Horses

THOMPSON RIVER ENTRANCE

LONGS PEAK CAMPGROUND
LARIMER CO. BOULDER CO.

ALLENSPARK VILLAGE
Hotel - Cabins - Stores
Post Office - Garage
Saddle Horses

GRAND LAKE VILLAGE
Hotels - Stores - Post Office
Garages - Saddle Horses
Cabins

Stillwater Campground

SHADOW MOUNTAIN NATIONAL RECREATION AREA

GRANBY
Hotel - Cabins
Stores

- LEGEND**
- Patrol Cabin
 - ▲ Fire Lookout
 - i Emergency Telephone
 - ⊙ Ranger Station
 - ▲ Shelter Cabin
 - ▲ Public Campground
 - Museum
 - c Amphitheater
 - ▭ Park Boundary
 - ▬ Primary Road
 - ▬ Secondary Road
 - - - Trails (Horse & Foot)
 - Continental Divide
 - - - Proposed Boundary S.M.N.R.A.

Revised JAN. 1953 N.P.R.M. 7011 Feb. 2, 1942

MAP OF ROCKY MOUNTAIN NATIONAL PARK