Roaming Rocky Mountain National Park

Lightning can kill. Hike early and watch the sky—thunderstorms are more common in the afternoon.

Park Information
Check your free park newspaper for current information about visitor centers, safety and high country survival, ranger-led programs, services, hiking trails, wildlife, shuttle buses, and more. Find lodging and visitor services at Estes Park and Grand Lake.

Safety
Avoid lightning. Begin your hike early in the day. Get below treeline or to a shelter by afternoon, when thunderstorms begin. If caught above treeline in a storm, run from summits and isolated trees and rocks. Avoid small cave entrances and overhangs. Crouch down on your heels.

Many park visitors experience altitude sickness. Consult your doctor if you have a respiratory or heart condition.

The park’s swift-running streams, waterfalls, falling trees, and sudden weather changes present many natural hazards. While driving, stay alert for wildlife crossing the roads.

Hunting, Fishing, and Firearms
Hunting is prohibited in the park. For firearms regulations check the park website. Fishing requires a Colorado fishing license.

Regulations
Abide by park regulations and restrictions, available at visitor centers and entrances. Camp only in designated campgrounds. All backcountry camping requires a permit. Do not leave property unattended for more than 24 hours without prior permission.

All vehicles, including bicycles, must stay on roads or in parking areas. Stopping or parking on roads is prohibited. Overnight parking requires a permit. Do not feed, approach, or try to touch any wild animal. Leave wildlife and other plants for others to enjoy.

Open alcoholic beverage containers in vehicles on park roads are illegal. Marijuana use is prohibited in the park.

Accessibility
We strive to make our facilities, services, and programs accessible to all. For information go to a visitor center, ask a ranger, call, or check our website.

Rocky Mountain National Park is one of over 400 parks in the National Park System. To learn more about national parks, visit www.nps.gov.

Preserving Wilderness
In 2009 Congress protected most of Rocky Mountain National Park as wilderness under the 1964 Wilderness Act. Wilderness is a gift to people today and to future generations. The designation protects forever the land’s wild character, natural conditions, opportunities for solitude, and scientific, educational, and historical values. In wilderness people can sense being a part of the whole community of life on Earth.