



WILDKIND

presents

Colorado's Best Dispersed Camping

FOR OUTDOOR FAMILIES

KEBLER PASS CRESTED BUTTE

Why We Love It:

This beautiful (relatively) low-altitude pass is nestled just outside of Crested Butte, arguably one of the most picturesque towns in Colorado. Plus, Kebler is home to Colorado's largest colony of aspen. Takeaway: Visit here during the peak fall color and you literally won't believe your eyes!

Directions:

The entire pass is covered in dispersed campsites so we can't point you to just one--they're all good! From Gunnison, head north on CO-135 to Crested Butte. Once in town, take a left on Whiterock Avenue which turns into Kebler Pass Road. Forest Road #706 has tons of shady sites while the main road has dozens with a bit more sunshine.

JONES PASS EMPIRE

Why We Love It:

It's tough to find dispersed camping near the Front Range, so Jones Pass is arguably one of the best. If you have a 4x4 vehicle, you can nab a bit more seclusion by driving further up the road. Bonus: Hiking and skiing abound on the surrounding peaks.

Directions:

From Denver, hop on I-70 and head west before exiting US-40 towards Winter Park. Drive for ~10 miles before seeing the sign for Henderson Mine on the left side of the road. Follow the road til it passes the mine. You'll start to notice dispersed campsites scattered in the trees.

LARAMIE RIVER ROAD RUSTIC

Why We Love It:

This spot was a happy accidental find! Situated smack in northern Colorado, this region boasts a ton of moose, plenty of campsites, and even a small stream for playtime.

Directions:

From Fort Collins, drive 11 miles west on Hwy. 287 til you hit Colorado Hwy. 14. Drive 50 miles; Laramie River Road (CO Road 103) will be on the right. The deeper you drive, the better the sites! Note: This road is closed in the winter.

HAGERMAN PASS LEADVILLE

Why We Love It:

Hagerman is a beautiful pass with high altitude scenery and plenty of water thanks Ruedi Reservoir, Ivanhoe Lake, and the Frying Pan River. The road gets bumpy so 4x4 is recommended, but we've seen a few passenger vehicles survive. And, it crosses the Continental Divide!

Directions:

From Turquoise Lake in Leadville, hop on Hagerman Pass Road and begin the westward climb! Campsites litter the side of the road, especially as your drop down the backside and head towards Basalt.

DOMINGUEZ ESCALANTE GRAND JUNCTION

Why We Love It:

If you want the desert heat in early spring but don't want to join the masses in Moab, Dominguez Escalante is a great option. This National Conservation Area is a little known secret in Colorado, but it has great canyons and sandstone cliffs!

Directions:

From Grand Junction, head east on US-50 for five miles (depending on where you hop on US-50) until you reach US Hwy. 141. Take a right. Within minutes, you'll see dispersed campsites, but we recommend hopping on Ninemile Hill Road and tagging up with any of the smaller tributary dirt roads for the best sites. Tip: The BEST dispersed campsites here involve rough 4x4 roads (our F-150 barely cut it) but the entry sites are great for passenger vehicles.

RABBIT EARS PASS STEAMBOAT SPRINGS

Why We Love It:

Steamboat is secluded and this gateway pass is like a jumping-off point to Northern Colorado. Hiking is plentiful, and a guaranteed good time is an adventure up towards the pass's namesake: the Rabbit Ears. Plus, the summit area is big and flat--perfect for little feet to run!

Directions:

From Silverthorne, head north on Hwy. 9 for roughly 37 miles. In Kremmling at the light, take a left onto US-40. From there, drive another 30 miles and you'll be smack on the pass. Keep your eyes peeled for dirt roads rambling off on either side of the highway. They all have great dispersed camping!

GUANELLA PASS GEORGETOWN

Why We Love It:

Again, campsites quasi-close to Denver are tough to come by and Guanella fits that bill. These sites are easy to get to after work on a Friday (and are even closer to Georgetown's delicious chocolate shop!) For avid hikers, Mt. Bierstadt's trailhead is at the top of the pass.

Directions:

From Georgetown, the pass is tough to miss-- there are signs everywhere! From the southwest side of town, hop on Guanella Pass Road and begin climbing up the switchbacks. You'll notice dispersed campsites pretty quickly, but the better ones pop up as you continue driving. Tip: This area can get crowded on the weekends since it is so close to Denver.