

A SUGGESTED 7 DAY ITINERARY

For your stay at Brock Haus Rentals
in Buena Vista, Colorado

DAY ONE

- ❖ Arrive and settle into your comfortable home in the Rockies. **Visit the Buena Vista (BV) Chamber of Commerce** to learn what special events are scheduled for your week. www.fourteenernet.com/buonavista
- ❖ Enjoy dinner at one of BV's fine restaurants or use the Brock Haus Rentals' discount card for groceries at City Market and prepare your own meal in your fully equipped kitchen or BBQ on the grill overlooking Cottonwood Creek.

DAY TWO

- ❖ Enjoy breakfast from your deck as you look out over the Collegiate Peaks and the Continental Divide. Pack a picnic lunch and your fishing gear and head north towards Leadville. Along the way, stop for trout fishing along the Arkansas River or just enjoy the beauty of the river, cliffs and mountains.
- ❖ After lunch, **continue on to historic Leadville**, the old mining town which was home to the "Unsinkable Molly Brown" of Titanic fame. Leadville is about 30 minutes north of BV on Highway 24. Be sure to visit the historic Tabor Opera House. Consider riding the train from Leadville up into the mining area. www.leadvilleusa.com
- ❖ Later, after you drive back to BV, you will want to see if the **drive-in theatre** just up the road from the Brock Haus Home is playing a movie.

DAY THREE

- ❖ **Take a morning rafting trip down the Arkansas River.** Rafting companies offer trips from half day to several days in length. www.inafraft.com
- ❖ After your rafting trip, have lunch and **drive to St. Elmo Ghost Town.** Learn what it was like to live in the mountains and peak into the old homes and stores, some of which are still occupied. (St. Elmo is about 45 minutes south and west of BV.) www.ghosttowns.com/states/co/saintelmo.html
- ❖ On your way back down, **stop at Mt. Princeton Hot Springs** for dinner at the hotel followed by a visit to the warm natural springs. Sit in pools of hot water among the rocks of the ice cold creek as well as swim in the hot spring fed swimming pools. (Mt. Princeton Hot Springs are a little over 15 minutes south and west of BV.)

DAY FOUR

- ❖ Today you'll want to get an early start as you will visit two of the nationally known attractions of Colorado.
- ❖ First, you will enjoy a scenic **drive to the Royal Gorge Bridge**, the world's highest suspension bridge. There you can walk across the bridge and take a tram to the bottom of the gorge. You may wish to drive to nearby Canon City where you can board a train that will take you through the Royal Gorge and back to Canon City. (Royal Gorge is 90 minutes south and east of BV.)
<http://www.royalgorgebridge.com/>
- ❖ After you leave, you'll head back through Salida where you will turn farther south and drive to the **Great Sand Dunes National Park**. Play in the dunes which rise to 750 feet in height. You may want to have a picnic dinner there before your return. (Great Sand Dunes National Park is 2 hours south of BV.)
<http://www.nps.gov/grsa/>

DAY FIVE

- ❖ Begin with a leisurely breakfast before you **drive west over Cottonwood Pass and the Continental Divide**. On your way up, take a short detour to visit Cottonwood Lake where you can try to catch a few more trout, take a short hike around the lake or just enjoy the beauty of the mountains reflected in the lake water. (Cottonwood Pass is about 20 minutes from BV.)
- ❖ Have a picnic lunch along the way up at one of the scenic points. On your way back, stop for a couple of hours of **horseback riding** before you return.
- ❖ Tonight plan to grill outside your home and enjoy the peace and quiet of your own beautiful creek and mountains. Don't forget to roast a few marshmallows for dessert.

DAY SIX

- ❖ Get an early start as you drive north over the Continental Divide at Independence Pass on your way to **Aspen**. Be sure to walk to the top of the Divide for spectacular views of the mountains. In Aspen, browse the many shops, perhaps take the gondola ride to the top of the ski slopes, and have lunch at one of the many sidewalk cafes.
- ❖ After lunch, **continue north and east to Vail** where you will enjoy the Swiss atmosphere while you visit even more shops. As you walk around Vail, select a restaurant for dinner. Following dinner, you will return to BV through Leadville. (Both Aspen and Vail are 90 minutes north of BV.)

DAY SEVEN

- ❖ Enjoy a quiet and relaxing day. Visit the shops of BV for those special gifts for friends and family back home. If you're looking for more activity, rent a mountain jeep for another thrilling mountain experience. Have one last dinner overlooking Cottonwood Creek.

DAY EIGHT

- ❖ As you prepare to return home, you still have opportunities to enjoy even more of Colorado. Plan to return via Colorado Springs where you can see the **Garden of the Gods** (which is free and spectacular), drive to the top of **Pikes Peak**, visit the **cliff dwellings** of the ancient Ute Indians, view the **Seven Falls** and tour the **Air Force Academy**.

Finally, remember to call Brock Haus Rentals to reserve a week for next year!

Website: www.brockhausrentals.com

Email: info@brockhausrentals.com

Other Activities to Choose From in and around Buena Vista:

- Walking tours of Buena Vista as well as of the BV cemetery with re-enactors who tell of their life in BV many years ago.
- Mountain biking
- Concerts in the parks, BV museum and Turner farm
- Melodramas at the Orpheum Theater
- Golf on the BV course with the Collegiate Peaks as a background
- Hunting
- Attending church services at one of the many churches in BV
- PLUS in the winter, you could enjoy downhill and cross country skiing, snowmobiling, ice fishing, and the beauty of the snow covered mountain peaks. Remember that the BV valley itself has little snow, making travel easy.