This guide provides information on National Forest and Bureau of Land Management campgrounds and day-use areas in southwestern Colorado. The map, table, and descriptions inside will help you learn more about these facilities and the amenities they offer.

Facilities

Most of the campgrounds and picnic areas in this guide have tables, fire grates, and centrally located toilets. Some offer a more primitive experience, while others have modern conveniences.

Camping roads and parking areas are usually graveled; a few are paved. Most, but not all, offer drinking water. At some, you must remove your own trash; others offer trash service. A few provide electrical hookups for recreational vehicles. Many offer universally accessible (barrier-free) picnic tables, fire grates, and restrooms.

Fee campgrounds have campground hosts on site or self-service registration and fee-payment stations at entrances, where regulations and information are posted. Prices range from $15 – $42 for individual sites (double sites cost more), and $65 – $220 for group sites. USES fee campgrounds are run by private concessionaires under permit.

Advance Reservations

Advance reservations for many of the facilities described in this guide are available through the National Recreation Reservation System. Information on which campgrounds and picnic sites may be reserved is found inside.

Facilities

Camping

Camping outside of campgrounds is usually allowed, but you’ll find some areas posted as closed. In popular areas, dispersed sites may have toilets or fire grates. To avoid damaging vegetation, thus “creating positive memories”. Our staff will be happy to use our decades of managerial experience to ensure you and your family enjoy the camping or boating experience you are looking for. From our headquarters in Southern California, our goal is to provide a clean, safe and enjoyable place for you to enjoy the outdoors.

TO BOOK RESERVATIONS:

Call toll-free 877-444-6777; TDD 877-833-6777, or go to www.recreation.gov

Dispersed Camping

Camping outside of campgrounds is usually allowed, but you’ll find some areas posted as closed. In popular areas, dispersed sites may have toilets or fire grates. To avoid damaging vegetation, camp in already used areas. Never level a site or dig trenches; instead pick a level site with good drainage.

- Refer to the appropriate Motorized Vehicle Use Map (MVUM) for more specific dispersed camping requirements, including where it is allowed and what motor vehicle use is legal to access the camp area. MVUMs are available FREE from most San Juan NF offices.
- Keep vehicles within 300 feet of any Forest system roads, but only do so without causing resource damage.
- Locate your site 100’ from water.
- You cannot camp more than 14 days in any one spot in the backcountry.
- Pack out ALL trash.

Recycling

We are working on getting recycling at all our campgrounds. Until then, please pack out & recycle in local communities.
**Campground Rules**

**OBEY “QUIET TIME”**
Please be a good neighbor in campgrounds. Don’t make loud noises, especially at night. Post the quiet hours typically from 10 p.m. – 6 a.m. At other hours during the day, limit the use of generators to no more than one hour at a time. Drive slowly through campground loops and watch closely for pedestrians.

**OFF HIGHWAY VEHICLES**
Motorcycles, ATVs, UTVs, etc. cannot be used inside campgrounds, except to travel between your campsite and locations outside the campground; however, their use may not be allowed on county roads.

**HORSES AND PACK STOCK**
Most campgrounds do not allow horses or pack stock. Those camping with horses should seek out campgrounds with facilities listed in this guide that specifically accommodate pack stock.

**DOGS ON LEASH**
Dogs must be leashed or otherwise physically restrained in campgrounds. Do not allow pets to harass other visitors, dogs, or wildlife. Do not leave pets unattended. Control barking. Must be under voice command.

**CAMPFIRES**
Campfires are only allowed in fire grates at campsites, and firewood must fit inside the metal ring. When no one is physically attending a campfire, it must be put out completely. Pour water on the fire and stir ashes until they are cool with no smoke. Be aware of any fire restrictions in effect. These should be posted at the campground entrance. Campfires are only allowed in fire grates at campsites, and firewood must fit inside the metal ring. When no one is physically attending a campfire, it must be put out completely. Pour water on the fire and stir ashes until they are cool with no smoke. Be aware of any fire restrictions in effect. These should be posted at the campground entrance.

**TRASH**
Use trash receptacles in campgrounds. Some primitive campgrounds require you to pack out your own trash. Do not burn trash - many materials will not burn to ash. Leave a clean campsite when you depart. Follow bear-safety regulations under “Store Food Properly.”

**PROTECT VEGETATION**
Do not break limbs, drive nails or carve into bark of trees or shrubs. This allows insects and disease to enter and can weaken or kill trees. Walk on paths instead of trampling vegetation.

**SHOOTING FIREARMS**
In campgrounds is prohibited.
**Columbine Public Lands Campgrounds & Day Use Areas**

**Be Careful with Fire**

Southwestern Colorado may look lush and green, but this is arid country that can be dangerously dry in summer or fall. Be careful with fire – a spark, a puff of wind and nearby flammable materials can combine to cause disaster before you know it.

- If there are current fire restrictions, as a public notice, they will be posted at campground entrances, Forest entrance signs and trailheads. Check with campground hosts or with district offices.
- In campgrounds, campfires are allowed only within a fire grate, and firewood must fit inside the metal ring.
- If camping in the backcountry, don’t build new fire rings/fire pits - use a camp stove or an existing fire ring/fire pit. Fire rings/fire pits scar the scenery and sterilize the soil beneath. Don’t build a fire beneath overhanging branches.
- Regulations require fires be put out completely every time you leave camp or go to bed. Pour water over ashes and stir until cold. Stir wet ashes until there is no smoke or heat.
- Do not burn trash. Some items are harmful to the environment. Plastics and tin will not burn to ash, and the resulting debris is messy and difficult to clean up.
- Do not park hot vehicles over dry grass.
- Never toss cigarette butts - extinguish completely before leaving camp.
- Do not park hot vehicles over dry grass.

**Key Map**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Elev.</th>
<th>Camp Sites</th>
<th>Group Sites</th>
<th>Picnic Sites</th>
<th>Reserve Sites</th>
<th>RV Sites</th>
<th>Services</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Andrews Lake</td>
<td>37 mi. N of Durango</td>
<td>10,800’</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Animas Overlook</td>
<td>11 mi. N of Durango</td>
<td>9,000’</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Chris Park</td>
<td>18 mi. N of Durango</td>
<td>7,900’</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>50’</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Florida</td>
<td>22 mi. NE of Durango</td>
<td>8,500’</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>25’</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Graham Creek</td>
<td>18 mi. N of Bayfield</td>
<td>7,700’</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>35’</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Haviland Lake</td>
<td>18 mi. N of Durango</td>
<td>8,100’</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>45’</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Junction Creek</td>
<td>5 mi. NW of Durango</td>
<td>7,500’</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td>1 group + indiv. 29</td>
<td>60’</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Kroege</td>
<td>18 mi. NW of Durango</td>
<td>8,000’</td>
<td>10</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. Lickle Molas</td>
<td>4 mi. SW of Silverton</td>
<td>10,200’</td>
<td>10</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>10. Lower Hermosa</td>
<td>14 mi. NW of Durango</td>
<td>7,700’</td>
<td>19</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>11. Middle Mountain</td>
<td>23 mi. N of Bayfield</td>
<td>7,700’</td>
<td>24</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12. Miller Creek</td>
<td>18 mi. NE of Durango</td>
<td>8,200’</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>45’</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13. North Canyon</td>
<td>19 mi. NW of Bayfield</td>
<td>7,700’</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>40’</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>15. Pine Point</td>
<td>20 mi. N of Bayfield</td>
<td>7,700’</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>40’</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>16. Pine River</td>
<td>27 mi. N of Bayfield</td>
<td>8,100’</td>
<td>6</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>17. Sig Creek</td>
<td>32 mi. N of Durango</td>
<td>9,200’</td>
<td>9</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18. Snowslide</td>
<td>18 mi. NW of Durango</td>
<td>8,800’</td>
<td>13</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19. South Mineral</td>
<td>7 mi. W of Silverton</td>
<td>9,800’</td>
<td>26</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20. Transfer Park</td>
<td>23 mi. NE of Durango</td>
<td>8,500’</td>
<td>25</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21. Vallecito</td>
<td>22 mi. N of Bayfield</td>
<td>7,900’</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>45’</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Symbols Used in this Guide:**

- Campground
- Picnic Area
- Drinking Water
- Group Camping
- Fishing
- Barrier-Free
- Electricity
- Horse Corral
- Restrooms
- Boat Launch
- RV Dump Station
- Trailhead
- Restrooms

**San Juan National Forest**

- Major Water Body
- National Forest
- Uncompahgre NF
- Gunnison NF
- Carson NF
- Rio Grande NF
- District offices.

**Non-National Forest Land**

- Map Name Location Elev.
- Camp

**Major Grid tics = 5 mile interval**

- Group Sites
- Picnic Sites
- Reserve Sites
- RV Sites
- Services

- If camping in the backcountry, don’t build new fire rings/fire pits - use a camp stove or an existing fire ring/fire pit. Fire rings/fire pits scar the scenery and sterilize the soil beneath. Don’t build a fire beneath overhanging branches.
- Regulations require fires be put out completely every time you leave camp or go to bed. Pour water over ashes and stir until cold. Stir wet ashes until there is no smoke or heat.
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- Do not park hot vehicles over dry grass.
- Never toss cigarette butts - extinguish completely before leaving camp.
Wild animals are residents of this diverse terrain. Campground visitors are likely to see squirrels, chipmunks, marmots, deer, elk, skunks, porcupines, raccoons and many of the some 300 species of birds. Backcountry visitors may catch a glimpse of bighorn sheep, mountain goats, black bear, beaver, river otters, or even mountain lions. View wildlife from a safe distance and treat wild animals with respect – for your safety as well as theirs.

UNWANTED VISITORS
Don’t attract unwanted visitors to your campsite. Critters have an acute sense of smell and are easily lured by the aroma of food or trash. Some rodents have a taste for leather and anything sweaty or salty; store these items carefully. Never feed wildlife or encourage them to become unafraid of humans – this endangers you and them.

RATTLESNAKES
Rattlesnakes are seldom seen at high elevations but may be found in lower areas. Snakebites are serious, but less than 2% are fatal. Don’t put your hands and feet in places without looking first. Snakes fill an important niche in the animal community, including eating rodents. If you see a snake, please treat it as any other forest animal — as a subject to observe but not to disturb or injure.

DOGS AND WILDLIFE DON’T MIX
Dogs must be on a leash in campgrounds and must be leashed or under voice control at all times in the backcountry. One of the most negative effects you can have on wildlife is to allow your dog to roam free. Dogs stress and endanger wild animals by chasing them. Even if the animal appears to have escaped unharmed, it may not survive as a result. In addition, many wild creatures pose dangers to dogs. Your pet can be attacked by predators, or suffer when a skunk or porcupine must defend itself against curiosity or attack.

STORE FOOD PROPERLY
Black bears can cause a lot of damage to your belongings, and if a bear is desensitized to humans by your behavior, it may have to be destroyed. Bear-safety regulations are in effect for campgrounds. Food, containers, packaging, cooking utensils, garbage, pet food and bird feeders must be stored in a bear-resistant manner (i.e. inside a hard-sided vehicle or camper; hung at least 10 feet above ground and 4 feet away from a tree or other support; inside an approved bear-resistant container; or within an electrified enclosure.)