

2011 STAYCATION GUIDE: COLORADO'S FAMILY-FRIENDLY RESORTS

# COLORADO Parent™



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**FREE**



Raise  
**Water**  
**Confident**  
Kids

**Summer**  
**LIBRARY FUN**

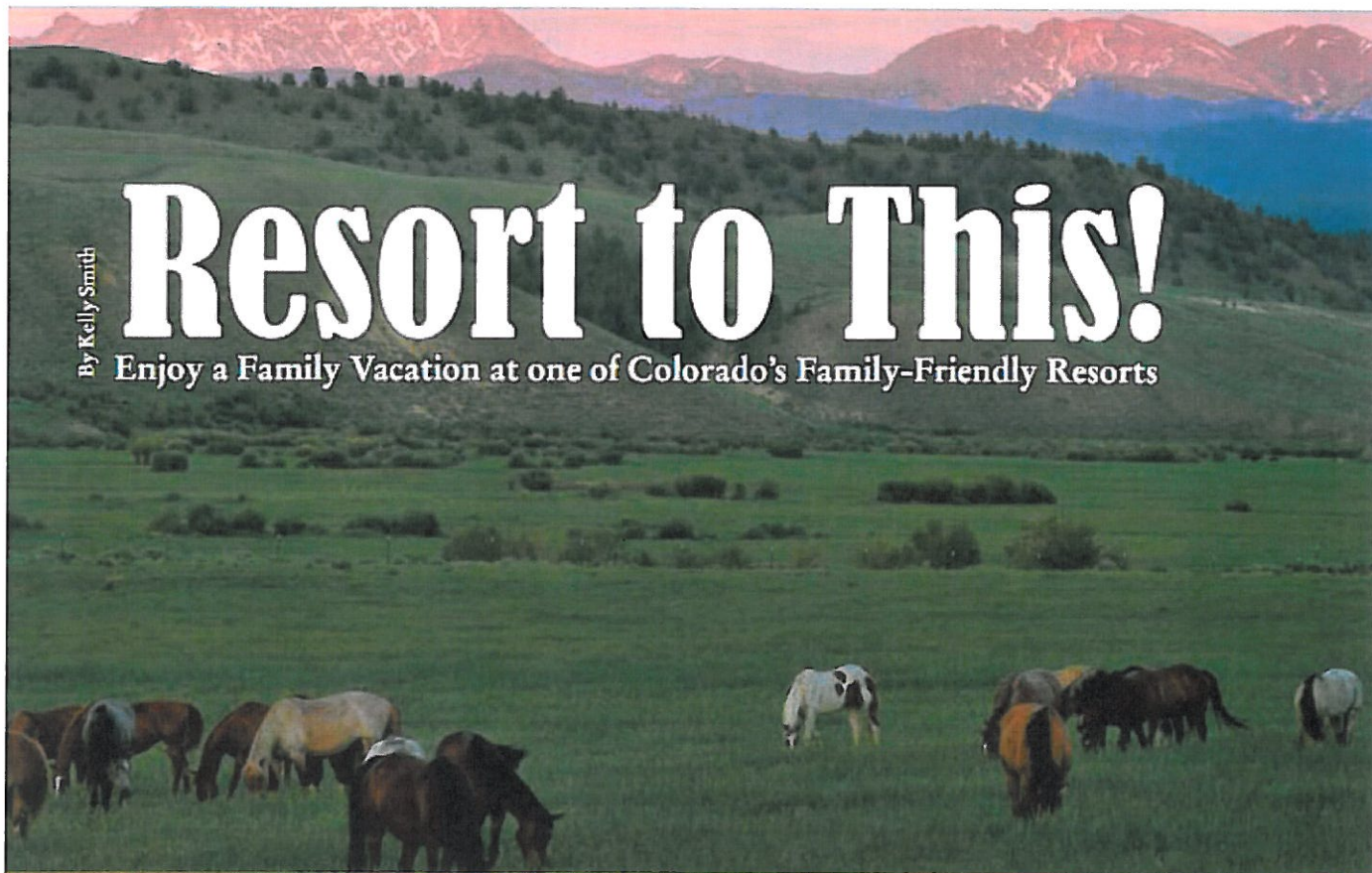
BABY STEPS TO A  
**HAPPY**  
**MOM**



By Kelly Smith

# Resort to This!

Enjoy a Family Vacation at one of Colorado's Family-Friendly Resorts



From simple and rustic to over-the-top luxurious, Colorado has an abundance of family-friendly resorts, each offering a variety of recreation and activities for guests. Read on as we explore some of these, both along the Front Range and state-wide, as you plan your family staycation.

## THE WESTIN RIVERFRONT RESORT & SPA

126 Riverfront Lane, Avon  
970-790-6000

[www.westinriverfrontbeavercreek.com](http://www.westinriverfrontbeavercreek.com)

The award-winning Westin Riverfront Resort & Spa at Beaver Creek Mountain is a LEED-certified new addition to the Vail Valley. Each of the resort's 230 guest rooms include a full kitchen, with sizes ranging from studio suites to 3-bedroom condos. The resort is also dog-friendly. Adult amenities include the 23,000-square foot Spa Anjali and signature restaurant Avondale. For kiddos, the Westin Kids Club is open to ages 4-12 and offers programs ranging from highlighting our natural environment during Colorado Safari day, to learning about Native Americans, miners, mountain men or Hispanic cultures on Colorado Explorers day, to discovering new ways for the entire family to care for our precious resources on Go Green day. Kids also love the expansive outdoor pool and three hot tubs, which run on a saline-based filtration system, using 90% less chemicals than a traditional pool.

## THE BROADMOOR, COLORADO SPRINGS

1 Lake Avenue, Colorado Springs  
800-634-7711, 719-577-5775

[www.broadmoor.com](http://www.broadmoor.com)

About an hour south of Denver, the elegant, historic

Broadmoor is located adjacent to Cheyenne Mountain and overlooks Cheyenne Lake. The sprawling, 3,000-acre property offers 700 rooms and suites, each luxuriously appointed to provide a high-end vacation destination. On the resort, there's easy access to golf, tennis, horseback riding, paddle boats on the lake, biking and more. There are dozens of activities close by, with a concierge ready to assist. Onsite, the Summer Bee Bunch camp for ages 3-12 offers a wide variety of age appropriate activities, and Bee Bunch activities can be scheduled for a group of 3 children or more. Babysitting services are also available.

## C LAZY U RANCH

3640 Colorado Hwy 125, Granby  
970-887-3344

[www.clazyu.com](http://www.clazyu.com)

About 100 miles west of Denver out I-76 and over Berthoud Pass, the C Lazy U Ranch offers 40 rooms. Many of them feature stone fireplaces, along with western and southwestern-style furnishings. A vacation at the C Lazy U Ranch is all about relaxing in the natural world. The wide-open spaces of Colorado's Grand Valley are a peaceful place to enjoy typical dude ranch activities, including horseback riding, fishing, and hiking. Kids-only programs, grouped by age, offer horsemanship training, with the youngest going on pony rides, while teenagers might go on an extended trail ride through the

surrounding countryside. Back at the ranch, kids can take part in archery, hay rides, scavenger hunts and much more; their fun balances with family activities that are designed to get the group together to relax and play.

#### DEVIL'S THUMB RANCH

3530 County Road 83  
Tabernash, CO 80478  
800-933-4339

Just 65 miles from Denver, on 5000 acres at the foot of the Continental Divide, spending time at Devil's Thumb Ranch allows the family to unplug, commune with nature and each other. From horseback riding to hiking and flyfishing to lounging by the pool, families can be as active or relaxed as they choose. Room in the main Lodge or in private cabins with kitchens and bathrooms. Two on-site restaurants and a café make it easy to grab a bite between activities. Winter Park is just 10 minutes away with its activities too, including The Alpine Slide.

#### YMCA OF THE ROCKIES: SNOW MOUNTAIN RANCH & ESTES PARK CENTER

1101 County Road 53, Granby  
2515 Tunnel Road, Estes Park  
800-777-9622

[www.ymcarockies.org](http://www.ymcarockies.org)

Think of summer camp for grown-ups and kids, and you'll think of Snow Mountain Ranch & Estes Park Center. With space for up to 2,500 people in lodge rooms, cabins, vacation homes and campsites, there's something for everyone. A variety of packages make planning easy, with family weekend packages often centered around a festival at the resort, along with family dining plans and a long, long list of on-site activities. Here, families can horseback ride, hike, skateboard, swim, play mini-golf, and more. Did we mention the long list of activities? Amenities include a group meeting area for picnics, barbecues and campfire activities, an indoor swimming pool, fishing equipment, and laundry facilities.

#### YOGI BEAR'S JELLYSTONE PARK CAMP-RESORT

5495 US Hwy. 36, Estes Park  
800-722-2928  
650 Sky View, Larkspur  
800-387-9396

With two locations in Colorado, Yogi Bear's Jellystone Park is a camping and lodging resort that caters to families with children. With a campground, a few rental cabins and an RV park, you provide the sleeping arrangements and Jellystone Park provides the fun. The amenities vary a bit at the two locations, but feature hayrides, pedal carts and mini-golf, along with a heated pool, an air-conditioned activity center and game room, playgrounds, hot showers, a laundry facility, and general store. Themed activity weekends range from "The Pirates of the Campground" to a

Hawaiian luau weekend and Survivor: Campground.

#### CHEYENNE MOUNTAIN RESORT

3225 Broadmoor Valley Road, Colorado Springs  
800-588-0250

[www.cheyennemountain.com](http://www.cheyennemountain.com)

With 316 newly renovated rooms and suites arranged in eight residential lodges, Cheyenne Mountain Resort has a feeling of being tucked away, but it's close to everything a vacationing family could want. Surrounded by breathtaking Colorado scenery, the resort sits adjacent to its own private lake, which offers plenty of summertime fun. A sandy beach, bumper boats and even sailing are all close at hand, along with indoor and outdoor pools. At Cheyenne Kidz Club, a wide array of supervised daily activities includes arts and crafts, fishing, swimming, gold panning, sports, pottery classes, archery and field trips. ➔



PHOTO COURTESY OF CHEYENNE MOUNTAIN RESORT

#### OTHER FAMILY-FRIENDLY RESORTS

##### PARK HYATT BEAVER CREEK RESORT

136 E. Thomas Pl., Avon  
970-949-1234

[www.beavercreekyhyatt.com](http://www.beavercreekyhyatt.com)

##### ELK MOUNTAIN GUEST RANCH

Buena Vista  
800-432-8812

[www.elkmtn.com](http://www.elkmtn.com)

##### THE PEAKS RESORT AND GOLDEN DOOR SPA

136 Country Club Dr., Telluride  
866-282-4557

[www.thepeaksresort.com](http://www.thepeaksresort.com)

### GIDDYUP!

Colorado has dozens of dude ranches that offer a working ranch-style vacation and the chance to experience life as it was in the early days in Colorado. Visit the Colorado Dude Ranch Association at [www.coloradoranch.com](http://www.coloradoranch.com) for a searchable database of ranches and accommodations around the state.