

1: Rocky Mountain National Park (U.S. National Park Service)

Guide to the Colorado Mountains, 10th Edition by Randy Jacobs and Robert Ormes For nearly 50 years and for generations of outdoor enthusiasts, the authoritative source on Colorado's mountains has been *Guide to the Colorado Mountains*.

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2: Colorado Travel Vacation and Recreation Guide

The authoritative source on Colorado's mountains for forty-five years, Guide to the Colorado Mountains is the one indispensable guide for casual hikers, fourteener enthusiasts, or veteran mountaineers.

Glacial polish on ledge just above road similar to that at 9. The beautiful waterfall is about 25 feet in height and is drilling, at its foot, a pot hole similar to that at point 9. From this the water drops about 5 feet into a second hole, the half-round side of which may be seen in the cliff above the water. About 20 feet downstream from the base of the main fall the remains of a third pot hole are to be seen. It is evident that the stream is literally drilling out its narrow gorge in the solid rock by revolving loose boulders in its whirlpools. As the cataract recedes, the upstream side of the last pot hole is cut away so that the half-round hollows in the walls of the gorge are all that remain. There is glacial polish on the rock ledge just above the parking area. Its top is rounded and polished by the gravel and sand frozen in the ice of the former glacier. The rock was jointed or cracked during the uplift of the mountains and, after the polishing of the upper surface, large blocks were broken off along joint planes and carried away by the moving ice, leaving the smooth face of the joint exposed. This was later polished by the ice. The banding of the old dark schist and the lighter granite, which as molten rock was intruded into the schist when both lay deep within the earth, is plainly seen. Mountain uplift and erosion have brought the rocks to the surface and erosion working along joint planes has carved the peculiar spires and pinnacles. These were produced by the pressures and strains under which the rocks were placed during the mountain uplift. These rocks have been ground smooth by the glaciers for they formed the floor of the old glacial valley. The present stream flows in a gorge which it has cut since glacial time, leaving part of the old valley floor as a bench along which the road has been built. The schist and granite were at one time so deeply buried within the earth that the pressure upon them from all sides exceeded the crushing strength of the rock. Under such conditions no crevasses could form and during earth movement the rocks bent and flowed like thick tar. Note that much of the bending took place after the intrusion of the light granite. At one point a band of granite has been folded and the fold, by continued lateral pressure, has been overturned, broken, and one side thrust over the other. This type of thrust-folding and faulting is characteristic of the mountain building which took place at the end of the Mesozoic era when the Rockies were first formed. It often happens that a single rock may show in miniature a type of folding which is characteristic of an entire mountain range. This little canyon has been cut by the stream in the valley floor since the retreat of the last glacier. Note that glacial grinding is evident on the terrace over which the road runs, but that there is none in the little canyon. If we assume that the glacial ice began to melt back from the valley below Horseshoe Park some 25, years ago and retreated steadily to the cirques of Fall River Pass, then it may have left this part of the valley some 10, years ago. If this reasoning is correct, it has required about 10, years for the stream to cut Canyoncito. There is glacial polishing on the surface of the rocks to the right, but the rugged gorge shows no sign of glacial action. It is evident that the gorge has been cut in the 10, years since the ice melted from this part of the valley. Photograph by Carroll H. This meadow was the bed of a small lake impounded by a terminal moraine which marked a pause in the retreat of the glacial ice. Such a moraine is known as a recessional moraine. In the next mile are numerous intrusions of coarse-grained granitic rock known as pegmatite. The molten rock, deep within the earth from which these intrusions solidified, probably contained, under great pressure, much steam which made it thinly fluid. It cooled slowly deep below the surface, giving the large crystals time to grow. From this point an excellent view is to be had of three cirques or basins in which glacial snow and ice accumulated at the head of Fall River. From these the great glacier flowed down the valley. The cirques previously mentioned lie to the south, and beyond them the ridge is capped by the remnants of an old lava flow which is better exposed at Iceberg Lake see p. Drive down as far as Poudre Lakes on the Continental Divide. If you do not care to take this trip but wish to go east down Trail Ridge Road, turn to page 24, point 0. Specimen Mountain, 3 miles to the west across Cache la Poudre River, appears to be an extinct volcano and the probable source of the lava previously mentioned. The mountain is situated on the Continental Divide 2 miles north of Poudre Lakes and can be reached by a trail from the Lakes. Erosion has

long since destroyed the old crater, which stood above the highest point of the present mountain. The ancient crater has been destroyed by erosion. Wegemann That the mountain was a volcano may be inferred from the nature of the rocks which are exposed on its top and sides. Like many volcanic cones, the mountain is built up of alternating layers of black volcanic glass pitchstone , lava, white volcanic ash, mud flows, breccia, and pumice fig. Notes on the formation of these rocks follow: Volcanic glass is produced when molten rock flowing out upon the surface is chilled so quickly that mineral crystals do not have time to form in it. Ordinary lava is cooled more slowly, but not slowly enough for the rock to become completely crystalline like granite, which is cooled very slowly far below the surface. Volcanic ash is rock dust blown out by the terrific explosions of the eruption. Mud flows are formed when this dust is washed out of the atmosphere by the torrential rains which frequently accompany the eruption, the rains being due to the condensation of clouds of steam emitted from the volcano. Breccia is formed of fragments of the sides of the crater, blown out during the explosions. Pumice is lava charged with gas, the bubbles of which expand when the pressure upon the lava is reduced as it reaches the surface. The resulting small cavities when filled with air cause the pumice to float on water. All these rocks are to be seen on Specimen Mountain, mute reminders of a time, in the distant past, when volcanoes were active in this region. The mountain was probably named for the opal, agate, and delicate crystals of topaz which are found lining some of the small cavities in the volcanic deposits. At higher and lower levels along the road are the ancient rocks of the pre-Cambrian era, and it is evident that the valley of the Cache La Poudre and the lava flow at Iceberg Lake present interesting relationships. Assuming that lava flowed from Specimen Mountain to Iceberg Lake, it could not have done so had the valley of the Cache La Poudre been present at the time of the flow. It is possible that the lava at Iceberg Lake flowed from a vent other than that of Specimen Mountain, but there is no evidence of such a vent. A possible explanation is that the volcanic deposits from Specimen Mountain completely filled an old valley which had been cut in pre-Cambrian rocks at the location of the present valley of the Cache La Poudre; that, in one of the last eruptions of the volcano, lava flowed across this fill to what is now Iceberg Lake; and that subsequent erosion excavated the present valley in the filling of the former valley, exposing some of the old mud flows which were part of the filling and the much more ancient rocks which formed the south side of the old valley. The mud flows, therefore, are merely a veneer partly covering the more ancient rocks. These lakes are on the Continental Divide although in a valley much lower in elevation than Fall River Pass. A glance at the park map will show that because of peculiarities of stream development the highest mountain peaks are not always along the Continental Divide. At Fall River Pass reset at 0. Returning to Fall River Pass, reset the speedometer at 0. The left-hand column is for the use of those driving in the opposite direction. If you are traveling east, keep right on Trail Ridge Road. To the west, across the head of the valley of the Colorado River, rise the Never Summer Mountains, 7 miles away. This overlook is at 12,feet elevation on the Upper Flattop peneplain, an old erosion surface formed not far above sea level and raised to its present elevation during the last uplift of the region. Directly to the south, across Forest Canyon, rises the cone of Mount Julian, the next prominent point to the west being Mount Ida, the long northwest slope of which merges with the Upper Flattop surface. Across the canyon and extending to its very rim is a bench about feet below the Upper Flattop surface, the origin of which was described in detail on page It represents the beginning of a lower erosion surface which was cut by the stream after the initial uplift of about feet had taken place. Its presence records a considerable pause in the uplift of the land before further elevation finally brought the mountains to their present height. The rock which forms the wall of the cliff back of the lake is red dish brown and differs in appearance from the old pre-Cambrian rocks seen at other points on the road. It is the same lava flow which was observed south of Fall River Pass. Looking north along the ridge, which is a continuation of the cliff, it will be noted that there is pre-Cambrian rock next to the lava and that it forms the north end of the ridge, being rather poorly exposed in, and below, the north point on the skyline. Across the highway, just south of Iceberg Lake, pre-Cambrian rock is also exposed. It is evident that the molten lava which solidified to form the rock of the cliff must have flowed down a valley cut in the older rock. Southeast from Iceberg Lake there is an excellent view of the Upper Flattop peneplain fig. When it was formed it was not quite a plain, for above it rose a line of low rounded mountains, the remnants of the first Rockies. The Mummy Range to the northwest was part of the

line. The northwest side of this range shows the old erosion surface merging with the mountain slope. This surface is, however, being rapidly destroyed by the streams which are cutting canyons into it from the east. Stones Peak may have been part of the same mass before it was separated from it by the cutting of the gorge of Hayden Creek, the next gorge to the east. On Trail Ridge, about half a mile to the southeast, where the road follows the narrowest part of the ridge, the slopes on either side look as if they were roughly terraced. The soil is but a few feet thick and rests on a sloping surface of bedrock. In the spring when the snow melts, or during heavy rains, the soil becomes saturated with water which not only increases its weight but makes it slippery. Masses of soil, bound together by plant roots, tend to slide gradually for a few inches, or a few feet, down the slope, breaking away from the turf above and overlapping the turf below, thus producing the terraces. To the southeast is the gorge of Hayden Creek. Directly south across Forest Canyon the view is up the canyon of the Gorge Lakes. There are six of these lakes in the canyon proper. One, at an elevation of 12, feet, is the highest lake in the park. The gorge itself was originally cut by streams but has been entirely reshaped by the ice of former glaciers. It contains numerous cirques. Its rugged outlines are in marked contrast to the old erosion surface which, as already mentioned, forms the summits of the surrounding mountains. Nor is it difficult to reconstruct in imagination the shape of the rounded mountain mass before erosion gashed it with cirques and canyons. The landscape of the old plain with its low mountains must have been monotonous. The spectacular scenery of today is due to the comparatively recent uplift of this region and to stream and ice erosion. There are three stone cabins north of road. To the south, across Forest Canyon, is a view of Hayden Creek with several abandoned glacial cirques, the collecting basins of former glaciers, near its head. West of its mouth a great cirque has been cut into the side of Terra Tomah, partly destroying the old erosion surface which forms the top of this mountain.

3: Your Guide to Colorado's Best Mountain Biking Destinations |

Insiders' Guide to Colorado's Mountains, 3rd (Insiders' Guide Series) by Linda Castrone, James S. Castrone and a great selection of similar Used, New and Collectible Books available now at www.enganchecubano.com

Photo courtesy of Hooked on Facebook Hooked Where: The Daily Hookup is a rotating two-bite dish that will not disappoint. Located at the base of the Riverfront Gondola, inside the Westin, famous for hosting Friday Afternoon Club in the summer, Maya runs an outstanding happy hour from 3: Running from 3 to 5 p. A classic ski bar featuring a plethora of Colorado craft beers, Garfs is one of the best sports in Lionshead to grab a drink and hang out in the sun after skiing. The bar features a large deck overlooking the Eagle Bahn gondola, a great spot for a pit-stop after the lifts stop spinning. Another rocking deck to soak up the rays at the end of the day. Meadow Drive, Vail The Lowdown: A staple in Vail Village, the George features a happy hour from 3 to 9 p. While not the cheapest apres deals in Breckenridge, Flip Side features a fantastic menu and outstanding burgers. The happy runs from 2 to 5 p. The food menu is complemented by a great beer variety, awesome snacks and a comprehensive list of milkshakes. Mi Casa Mexican Restaurant and Cantina is should be the go-to spot for food after skiing. Running a happy hour every day from 3 p. Incline runs their happy hour from 3 p. Highway 6 Dillon The Lowdown: Goat features live music and an awesome, affordable menu. It opens everyday at 3 p. New Moon Cafe Where: The New Moon Cafe claims to have the best happy hour in Keystone, and they are probably right. Starting at 2 p. Snake River Saloon Where: The Snake River Saloon runs a quick apres happy hour from 4 p.

4: List of mountain ranges of Colorado - Wikipedia

A skier sends the snow flying on a trick coming down the High Noon run on opening day at Arapahoe Basin ski area on Friday. (Andy Cross, The Denver Post) A chill is in the air. Snow putters to the.

5: Guide to the Colorado Mountains, 10th Edition by Randy Jacobs

For generations of outdoor enthusiasts, the authoritative source on Colorado's mountains has been this definitive guide. Now this new edition compiles updated route descriptions for more than 1, hiking and climbing destinations. 48 photos. 28 maps.

6: Where to AprÃ's Ski in the Colorado Mountains - Magazine

For nearly 50 years and for generations of outdoor enthusiasts, the authoritative source on Colorado's mountains has been Guide to the Colorado Mountains. This latest edition compiles updated route descriptions for more than 1, hiking and climbing destinations -- peaks, passes, lakes, and trails--from the expert trip leaders of the Colorado.

7: Guide to the Colorado Mountains by Robert M. Ormes

Guide to the Colorado Mountains, edited by Robert M. Ormes. pages, 32 maps, 34 illustrations, 6 in color. Denver: Sage Books, Inc., Price, \$ This is a joint endeavor in which Mr. Ormes and the Guide Book Committee of the Colorado Mountain Club have brought together the knowledge and.

8: Colorado Mountain Club > Guide to the Colorado Mountains, 10th Edition

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9: Denver Mountain Parks | VISIT DENVER

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