

General Information

Summit County offers many outdoor activities. Although known for its winter sports, it provides for outdoor fun year-round. People from all over the world visit Summit County to enjoy hiking, cycling, golfing, tennis, fishing, canoeing, kayaking, sailing, or just simply relaxing.

For the cycling enthusiasts, Summit County offers over 50 miles (80 km) of paved bike paths and 30+ mountain bike trails that reach mountain summits approaching 14,000 feet in elevation. With its large lake (Dillon Reservoir), quaint ski resorts (Breckenridge, Keystone, Copper Mountain) and expansive valleys, you are certain to find the terrain to fit your cycling needs. [Less...](#)

Total # of Rides Listed: 14

Family Rides: 4

Road Rides: 10

MTB Trails: N/A

Bike Path Rides: 9

 Loop Rides: 5

 Out & Back Rides: 9



When to Visit

The best time to cycle Summit County is in late spring through early autumn, when mountains temperatures are warmer and more comfortable. High summer season is June, July, and August.

Climate and Weather

Summit County's 40 degree latitude provides pleasant, average daily temperatures throughout the year. Because of its low humidity, the temperatures feel comfortable between late May and early September.

Summit County receives over 19 inches of precipitation each year, consisting of both rain and melted snow. Normally, there is very little moisture during July and August, and so these are the best months to visit for summer activities. The average temperatures during cycling season are (Fahrenheit/Celsius): 59/15 in May, 69/20.5 in June, 75/24 in July, 73/23 in August, 67/19.5 in September, and 57/14 in October.

How to Get There

If you are traveling by air, you will likely arrive at DIA (Denver International Airport). From DIA, your best transportation option is a rental car, taxi, or shuttle bus to any of Summit County's mountain resorts.

Summit County is easily accessible from Interstate 70, approximately 75 miles west of Denver and about 1 hour and 30 minutes drive from Denver International Airport. There are several exits off I-70 for Summit County resort towns of Silverthorne, Dillon, Frisco, Keystone, Breckenridge, and Copper Mountain.

Accommodations

Summit County has plenty of accommodations, ranging from fancy hotels and B&Bs to small, functional establishments. However, it is recommended you make reservations ahead, especially if you are traveling from out of state and/or during high season (June – August).

The Roads

Although most cycling routes in Summit County are over recreational multi-use paths, you will also encounter rides that travel over county roads. The surface of Summit County roads is generally very good; however, due to extreme temperature changes between seasons, roads take a lot of abuse, and as a result, you may find occasional road hazard in form of cracked pavement, pothole, gravel or sand.

Paved bike paths are usually open by late April, although Vail Pass bike path may not open until late May, and occasionally some sections may be temporarily affected by late spring snow. Most paved bike paths will be covered by snow by mid to late-October.

What You Need To Know

Cycling in Summit County, Colorado can be demanding on your body, especially if you are not used to cycling in altitude. Most terrain is above 9,000 ft /2,700 m and some rides and mountain bike trails may take you over 12,000 ft/3,658 m high passes. If you are unaccustomed to altitude, it is recommended that you acclimate for few days before attempting some of the more demanding rides.

Keep in mind that mountain weather can change rapidly. A warm and sunny morning can quickly change into torrential thunderstorm or even a snowstorm. Beware of lightning, especially if you find yourself riding above timberline (best if you set out to ride early in the morning as most thunderstorms in the mountains occur in early afternoon). Additionally, it is always wise to

check the weather forecast before setting out on a long ride. With frequent afternoon mountain thunderstorms and sudden temperature drops, hypothermia can become a critical issue very fast.

Wear proper UV protection for skin, lips, and eyes. Due to its high altitude, Summit County has an especially high UV index.

If you are riding backcountry MTB trails during Colorado's hunting season (mid-September through October), make yourself visible by wearing bright colors and stick to popular trails that travel through open spaces.

Mountain bike trails are rarely open before the end of May, and you should not expect to ride trails above 10,500 feet before the end of June, and above 11,500 before the end of July.

Road Rides (1-10 of 10) Family Rides

Road Rides

Summit County: Summit County Loop

47 miles/75.5 km



Summit County Bikepath: Frisco - Copper Mnt

7.1 mi/11.4 km (Out & Back Total: 14.2 mi/22.8 km)



Summit County Bikepath: Frisco - Dillon - Keystone

12.6 mi/20.2 km (Out & Back Total: 25.3 mi/40.4 km)



Summit County Bikepath: Breckenridge Loop

34.5 miles/55.2 km



Summit County Bikepath: Frisco - Breckenridge

10.2 mi/16.3 km (Out & Back Total: 20.4 mi/32.6 km)



Summit County: Swan Mountain Loop

33 miles/52.8 km



Summit County Bikepath: Frisco - Montezuma Rd Loop

36.3 mi/58.1 km



Summit County: Lake Dillon Loop

19.3 miles/30.8 km



Summit County: Montezuma Rd

19 mi/30.4 km (Out & Back Total: 38 mi/60.8 km)



Summit County Bikepath: Vail Pass (East Side)

11.6 miles/18.5 km (Out & Back Total: 23.1 mi/37 km)



Road Rides Family Rides (1-4 of 4)

Family Rides

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