



Relocating to Lafayette



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Living in Lafayette

- welcome -



Lafayette's panoramic view of the Rocky Mountains inspires our view into the future. Lafayette has a rich cultural heritage, unique neighborhoods, a vibrant economy and easy access to an active lifestyle. We are a community that cherishes our distinct hometown feeling, while maintaining and developing the benefits that come with today's very best technology.

History of Lafayette

In 1863, the Front Range of the Rocky Mountains was a wild and woolly place. Ute, Arapahoe and Cheyenne peoples lived nomadic lives, hunting bison and other game which flourished at the western edge of the Great Plains. Gold prospectors were among the earliest arrivals from the east. These fortune hunters headed for the nearby Rockies or just passed through on their way to California. A few settlers eked out a living on small and scattered homesteads, dirt farming and trapping or hunting. To some extent, goods and services were traded among these groups, but for the most part, it was "every man for himself"!

In June of that year, newlyweds Lafayette and Mary Miller joined an ox-team wagon train of fifty wagons and made their way across this country's vast heartland. After months of hard travel, the couple initially settled in Burlington, which later became Longmont. They left soon after to operate a stage stop along the Overland Trail between Denver and Cheyenne at the present site of the Coal Creek Farm. The couple moved to the Lafayette area in 1871 and began farming on land they acquired through the Homestead Act.

In 1874, the Millers moved to Boulder where Mr. Miller ran a butcher shop and served as town trustee. He was a member of the volunteer fire department and Mrs. Miller served on the school board. Lafayette Miller died suddenly in 1878.

Widowed with six small children, Mary Miller moved back to the farm and managed it alone. The agricultural operation prospered over the next few years, and was described in 1886 by the *Boulder County Herald*:

"Among the best conducted large farms in Boulder County is that carried on and managed by Mrs. Mary Miller, about two miles east of Louisville. The farm contains 1,280 acres, all under fence, about 1/2 of which is under plow and first class meadow, the balance in pasture. Large crops of oats, corn, and wheat are raised and great stacks of upland hay are plentiful in the field. Horses and cattle, of which there are about 100 or more head, are permitted to roam over the field during the winter and are in fine condition as the large enclosure affords ample feed for all with scarcely any care. Hogs by the score may be seen around the field near the barn. They all show signs of well-filled corn cribs. The improvements, house, barn, shedding, granaries, fences, etc. are of the very best, and are put up with an eye to convenience and comfort. An orchard of several hundred trees, many of bearing size, together with a large vineyard of grapes, currents, gooseberries, and raspberries, besides a large patch of strawberries; a splendid grove of cottonwood and other shade trees surround the dwelling. The most noticeable thing on this place is the absence of weeds in the garden and orchard, the cleanliness of the barnyard, and the place for everything and everything-in-its-place; in fact, prosperity is visible in every nook and corner of this farm. Considering the size of this farm, there is not a better managed large farm in Colorado than that of Mrs. Mary Miller."

Living in Lafayette

- history -

Soon Mrs. Miller became interested in the prospect of coal mining on her property. Coal had been mined at Marshall, Colorado since 1859 and it was assumed that veins of coal ran throughout the area. In 1884, coal was discovered on the Miller Farm. The first shaft was sunk by John Simpson in 1887, heralding the beginning of coal mining in the area

In 1888, Mary Miller platted 150 acres for the town of Lafayette, which she named for her late husband. By July of 1888, the first houses were built and a second mine, the Cannon, was in operation. The town boomed! Within six months, there were two general stores, a livery stable and several boarding houses. In 1900, Mrs. Miller founded the Lafayette Bank and was elected President, distinguishing her as the only female bank president in the world. By 1914, there were two banks, four hotels, three restaurants, a "picture show", a bakery, a candy store, local newspaper, two poolrooms and a pickle factory. Lafayette also had a brick works and a power station that provided electricity to Boulder, Louisville, Longmont and Fort Collins.

From the early days of mining, through the 1930s, the lives of Lafayette's mining families were controlled primarily by the Rocky Mountain Fuel Company. The large mining conglomerate literally prospered on the sweat of the men toiling underground. Miners and their families used company "credits" to purchase dry goods, groceries, hardware, clothing, and appliances from the company-owned store. Miners suffered poor working conditions, low wages, injuries, serious illnesses and death. Mining operations came to a halt many times through these troubled times as miners went on strike.

In 1927, a bloody battle between miners and the guards at the Columbine Mine resulted in the slaughter of six miners. Eventually, through continued striking and unionization of the miners, these atrocities came to an end.

As natural gas slowly replaced the use of coal for fuel, the mines began cutting production and finally closed. The Black Diamond Mine was the last Lafayette mine to close in 1956. Many Lafayette miners continued to work at the Eagle Mine in Erie until it shut down in 1979. Through this period, agriculture again became the dominant economic activity in the Lafayette area. Rapid growth in Denver and Boulder brought Lafayette substantial residential growth and as the town grew, the farming-base economy shifted again to commercial enterprises and small industrial and manufacturing concerns.



Mary Miller Historic Mural

Living in Lafayette

- history -



The Lewis Home, located at 108 E. Simpson Street, Lafayette, CO, became the Lafayette Miners Museum in August of 1976. Built in the 1890's, the house was occupied by miners at the Gladstone Mine northeast of Lafayette. When the mine eventually closed, the house was subsequently moved into town.

In December of 1913, coal miner William E. Lewis and his family purchased the home from Oscar Padfield. (Padfield's father had owned the Gladstone Mine.) The Lewis Home served as a meeting place for miners during a lengthy strike which lasted until 1915. During that turbulent period, frequent gun fire would often force the Lewis family to sleep in a nearby cellar for safety.

William Lewis died in 1914 leaving his wife, Hannah, to rear their three children. Hannah Lewis continued to live in the house until her death in 1975 at the age of 95. In 1976, with the generous help of Elmo Lewis, the youngest of the three children, the Lafayette Historical Society acquired the Lewis Home for the sole purpose of housing the museum. The museum contains a wealth of information concerning Lafayette history, from the early days of its pioneer heritage, through the coal mining years and into the present. Visitors will view a broad collection of artifacts which includes a kitchen full of unusual household items used by Lafayette's founding families, plus a tremendous collection of mining tools and related equipment.

In the "school room" of the museum, the town's educational heritage has been well preserved. Pictures, trophies and memorabilia are available for viewing. Current residents often enjoy searching for a "school days" picture of their parents or grandparents. A small bedroom also contains vintage clothing and accessories from the turn of the century.

The museum is open to the public all year long. Visitors are welcome and encouraged to come and explore Lafayette's past.

Living in Lafayette

- quick facts -

Size & Elevation:

City of Lafayette:	78.2 Square Miles
Lafayette Population:	25,798
Boulder County:	748 Square Miles
Boulder County Population:	291,288
Elevation:	5,236 Feet



Weather:

Four distinct seasons and more than 300 days of sunshine per year!

Average temperatures:

Spring:	63 / 35° F
Summer:	83 / 55° F
Fall:	72 / 45° F
Winter:	45 / 23° F

Annual Snowfall: 83.1 inches

Source: Western Regional Climate Center



Distance to various points of interest:

Red Rocks: 27 miles

Golden: 24 miles

Denver: 24 miles

Ski Resorts: El Dora, 28 miles; Winter Park & Copper Mountain, 78 miles; Vail, 109 miles; Breckenridge, 93 miles.

Estes Park: 45 miles

Rock Mountain National Park: 47 miles

Colorado Springs: 94 miles

Fort Collins: 51 miles

Denver International Airport (DIA): 32 miles



Living in Lafayette

- demographics -

Population:

Year	Population
2005	25,798
2004	25,051
2003	23,790
2001	23,552
2000	23,197
1995	17,616

Source: [Department of Local Affairs, Colorado Demography Section](#) and [U.S.Census](#), and City of Lafayette Planning and Building Department

Education

Levels:

Grades 0-12 (no diploma)	9%
High School Graduate (or equivalent)	20%
1-3 years of College	29%
Bachelor's/graduate degree	42%

Ethnicity:

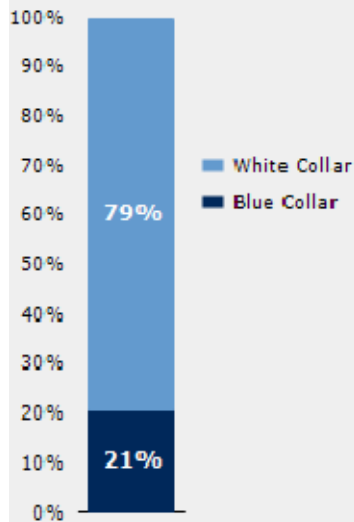
Ethnic Background	Boulder County	City of Lafayette
Caucasian	84.8%	85.53%
Hispanic Origin	10.5%	16.42%
Asian	3.2%	3.32%
African American	0.9%	.73%
American Indian/ Eskimo/Aleut	0.6%	0.54%

Living in Lafayette

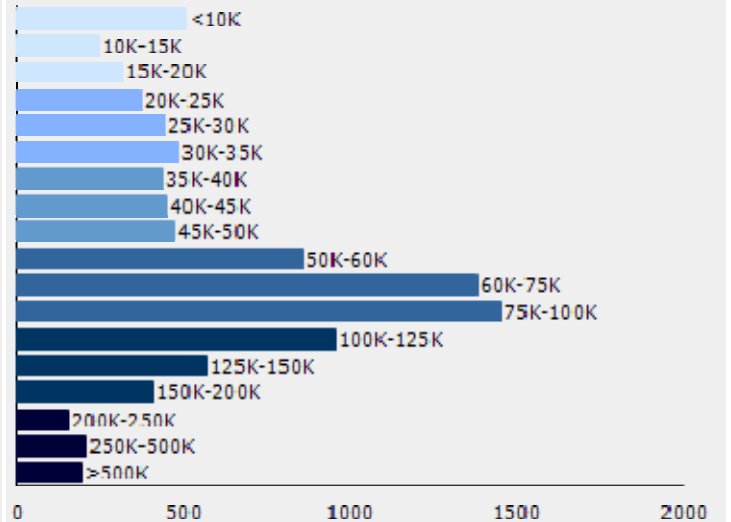
- economics -

Median Income:

Workforce



Income by dollar range (Median Income: \$63,622)



Colorado State Income Tax:

The individual state income tax rate is 4.63% on all an individual's taxable federal income.

Boulder County Sales Tax:

The State of Colorado collects sales taxes for Boulder County. Boulder County's tax rate is .65%.

City of Lafayette Sales Tax:

The Financial Services Division of the Finance/Administrative Services Department is responsible for sales tax collections and licensing.

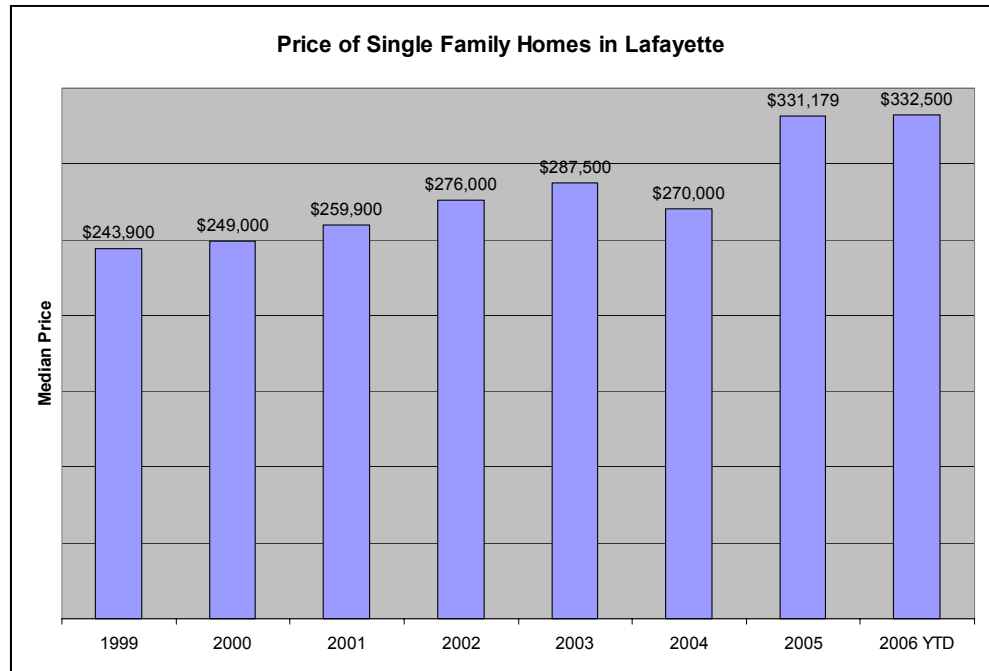
The City of Lafayette is a Home Rule city for which the State does NOT collect local sales or use taxes. The sales tax rate is 3.50%.

The combined local sales/use tax rate for applicable sales in the City of Lafayette is 8.25%.

Living in Lafayette

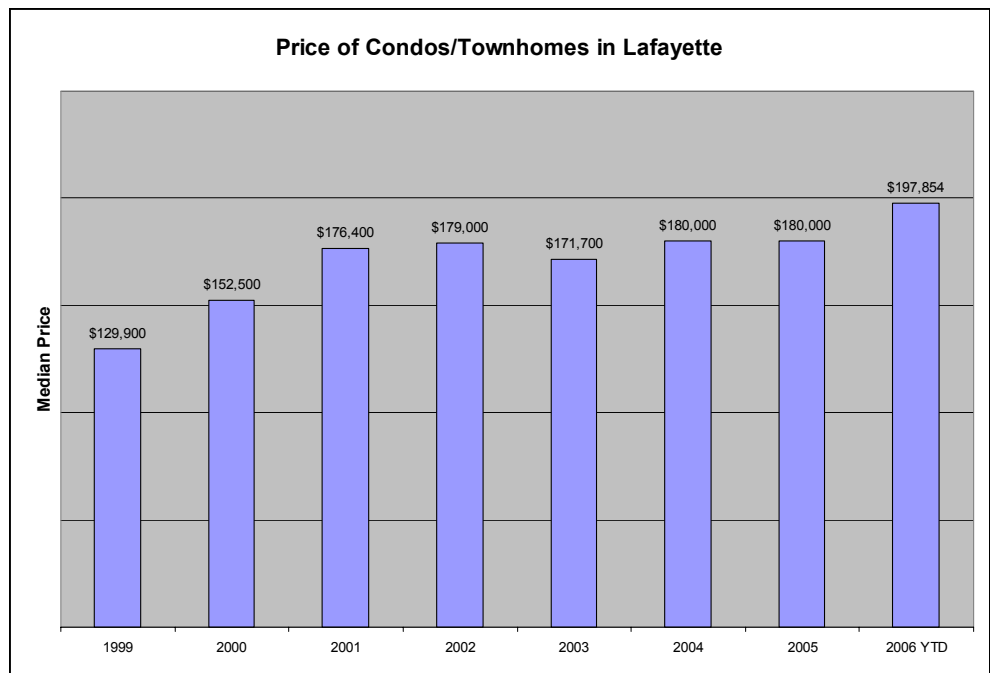
- residential housing -

Single Family Home Prices, City Of Lafayette:



Source: Information & Real Estate Services, LLC

Condo/Townhome Prices, City of Lafayette:



Source: Information & Real Estate Services, LLC

Living in Lafayette

- e m p l o y m e n t -

Major Lafayette Employers:

Exempla Good Samaritan Medical Center

www.exempla.org

8,500 employees

Wal-Mart

www.WalMart.com

1.3 million U.S. employees

Boulder Valley School District

www.bvsd.org

4,200 employees

Advanced Component Systems

303-666-6800

Manufactures trusses, structural wood members, interior & exterior
lumber services.

Brian Volkman, VP, IS

Steve Anderson, President

Northrop Grumman

Logicon Customer Service Center

www.northropgrumman.com

120,000 employees globally

100 employees locally

Rocky Mountain Instruments

www.rmico.com

manufactures traditional optical components

400 employees

Source: City of Lafayette official Web site

Living in Lafayette

- employment -

**Largest
Boulder County
Employers:**

Employer Name	Estimated # of Employees
Exempla Good Samaritan Medical Center	8,500
University of Colorado	7,500
IBM	4,800
Boulder Valley School District	4,200
Sun Microsystems	3,700
St. Vrain School District	2,400
Ball Corporation	2250
Boulder Community Hospital	2102
EDS	2000
Level 3 Communications	1900
Federal Labs (NOAA, NIST, NTIA, JILA)	1850
City of Boulder	1600
Maxtor	1373
NCAR	1100
Longmont United Hospital	1096
Longmont Foods	1050
Seagate Technology	1010
Valleylab	927
Hunger Douglas	900
Safeway	900
United States Postal Service	850
McKesson Corporation	714
City of Longmont	700
McData	700
Geneva Pharmaceuticals	675
Corporate Express	650

Source: Daily Camera, Boulder County Business Review, Business Research Division

Some of Boulder County's Top Employers in Depth:

Exempla Good Samaritan Medical Center

Exempla Good Samaritan Medical Center is northern Colorado's newest regional medical center providing 24-hour, comprehensive medical services in a caring environment. Part of the Exempla Healthcare system, EGSMC continues a 130-year legacy started by its sister hospitals: Exempla Saint Joseph Hospital in Denver and Exempla Lutheran Medical Center in Wheat Ridge, Colorado. EGSMC's mission: To foster healing and health for the people and communities we serve. *Source: <http://www.exempla.org>*

IBM

IBM has a state-of-the-art Business Continuity and Recovery Services site in Boulder. The site allows customers to recover their businesses from an outage emergency. Over \$34 million was invested to create this site, which opened for business in January, 1997. In 2005 a \$6.5 million expansion project was complete. Today, the site provides 11 fully equipped testing suites incorporating the latest in Clear Cube technology which includes flat panel displays and improved connectivity.

Source: <http://www-1.ibm.com/services>

Sun Microsystems

From systems software to enterprise network management systems, software development tools to object oriented technologies, Java Development and training, Sun delivers all the components needed for effective enterprise network computing. The Sun campus in Broomfield, Colorado, accommodates up to 4,000 employees and is headquarters to some of Sun's service organizations, serving internal and external customers in capacities from technical support to professional services. *Source: <http://www.sun.com>*

Ball Corporation

Based in Boulder, Ball Aerospace is a subsidiary of Ball Corporation. Ball Aerospace develops groundbreaking technologies for defense, civil and commercial purposes, including full satellite systems and space missions; instruments and sensors; antennas and components; as well as a variety of space-qualified subsystems. Ball Aerospace employs approximately 3,100 talented engineers, scientists, technicians and support staff worldwide. Customers include NASA, the U.S. Department of Defense, NOAA and various aerospace prime contractors. *Source: <http://www.ball.com>*



Boulder Community Hospital

Founded in 1922 as a community-owned and operated not-for-profit hospital, Boulder Community Hospital is dedicated to meeting the evolving healthcare needs of our citizens and providing access to high quality medical care. Boulder Community hospital has 2,675 employees, 580 physicians on staff in 48 specialties and has an operating budget of \$250 million. *Source: <http://www.bch.org>*

Education in Boulder County

Boulder County Public Schools place quite high in national and statewide rankings. In addition to magnet schools designed for students with special needs or interests, Boulder County's open enrollment policy allows students to enroll in their own neighborhood school, a different neighborhood's school, or a focus or alternative school.

Boulder County's public and private educational offerings are numerous. Be it Montessori, Waldorf, religious, arts-oriented, language-oriented, or simply "back-to-basics," there is something for everyone. From pre-school through high school, parents can choose from a wide variety of options.

College-bound students can choose from a number of higher education opportunities. The University of Colorado is known for both its academic excellence and its aesthetically-pleasing campus. CU-Boulder is most renowned for its science programs, and psychology, biology, and English are some of the most popular undergraduate majors. CU-Boulder professors have been granted prestigious awards over the years, including the 1989 Nobel Prize in Chemistry.



Other higher education centers in Boulder County include the Naropa Institute, whose educational philosophy is based in the Buddhist contemplative tradition, the Boulder College of Massage Therapy and Front Range Community College. Continuing Education courses are also offered through a number of forums.

The University of Denver, the University of Colorado at Denver, Regis University, and Metropolitan State College are all located in Denver. Colorado State University is in Fort Collins, about an hour to the north, and the Colorado School of Mines and Red Rocks Community College are in Golden, about a 20-minute drive south.

For a wealth of information regarding the school system, public and private offerings, day care centers, extracurricular activities, K-12 options, and colleges and universities in Boulder County, visit http://bcn.boulder.co.us/univ_school/center.html.

Boulder Valley Public Schools



Elementary schools:

Aspen Creek
Bear Creek
Birch
Boulder Community / Integrated Studies
Coal Creek
Columbine
Community Montessori
Creekside at Martin Park
Crest View
Douglass
Eisenhower
Eldorado
Emerald
Fireside
Flatirons
Foothill
Gold Hill
Heatherwood
High Peaks
Horizons Alternative Charter
Jamestown
Kohl
Lafayette
Louisville
Mesa
Monarch
Nederland
Peak-to-Peak Charter
Pioneer
Ryan
Sanchez
Superior
University Hill
Whittier

Middle Schools

Angevine
Aspen Creek
Broomfield Heights
Casey
Centennial
Eldorado
Halcyon
Horizons Alternative Charter
Louisville
Manhattan School of Arts & Academics
Monarch
Nederland
Nevin Platt
Platt CHOICE
Peak to Peak Charter
Southern Hills
Summit Charter

High Schools

Arapahoe Ridge
Boulder High School
Boulder Prep Charter
Boulder TEC
Broomfield High School
Centaurus High School
Chinook Alternatives
Fairview High School
Monarch High School
Nederland Senior High
New Vista High School
Newcomers
Peak to Peak Charter

Source: <http://www.bvpsd.k12.co.us/>

Arts & Culture in Lafayette

Annual Oatmeal Festival

The weather is cold outside, and a bowl of hot Oatmeal will warm your heart and soul! This community celebration is sponsored by the Quaker Oats Company and organized by Lafayette Community Events. Ten years ago, rolled oats put Lafayette on the national map. This was not because Lafayette was known as a major center for oatmeal production, but because downtown businesses, when faced with the newly constructed Highway 287 bypass, looked for a unique annual promotion of Old Town Lafayette that would bring visitors to the heart of town and raise awareness of downtown businesses during the slowest month of the year and established the Lafayette Oatmeal Festival. According to the festival's major sponsor, Quaker Oats Company, the annual Lafayette Oatmeal Festival is the only one of its kind in the country. The festival has grown from 400 participants the first year to more than 3,600 participants in 2006. The Lafayette Oatmeal Festival is a wonderful way to start the New Year and to reinforce your commitment to your "New Year's Resolutions." This heart healthy/ wholesome family festival features: Smart Heart Challenge, Oatmeal Breakfast with the World's Largest Toppings Bar, Health Fair, 5K Quicker Quaker Walk / Run a Certified Course, Boulder Boulder Qualifier, Baking Contest, Oatmeal Mini Spa, and Youth Art Show.

Lafayette Wine Festival

Patrons have the opportunity to sample some of Colorado's best wines. This festival features a dinner with three courses plus dessert, a 5K Race, wine tasting, wine seminars, cooking demonstrations, ice carving, and various entertainment. In conjunction with the Wine Festival there will be an auction of one-of-a-kind chairs created by local artists. Dubbed the "Chair-ity" Auction, the proceeds benefit 15 non-profit groups..

Lafayette Peach Festival With Antiques, Art & Crafts

In August, three blocks of S. Public Road, Lafayette, Colorado, are closed for the Lafayette Peach Festival with Antiques, Art and Crafts. Along with the famous Palisade peaches from Morton's Certified Organic Orchards, there are an array of peach dishes and products available at the festival. The festival will also include entertainment for the whole family, with wonderful art activities for kids.

Celebrate Lafayette Festival

Since 1956, Celebrate Lafayette has been an annual community celebration featuring a parade, the Street Fair, free pancake breakfast, concerts, entertainment, including a scarecrow building contest, scarecrow team building contest, pet costume contest, shoebox float contest, apple pie baking contest, pumpkin decorating, and more.

Source: www.discoverlafayette.com/



Arts & Culture in Boulder County

In addition to the more than 30 art galleries, 4 museums and 32 movie and stage theaters, Boulder offers a variety of enriching and entertaining attractions throughout the year:

International Film Series

The International Film Series is a non-profit, calendar film series that shows over 100 films a year on the University of Colorado at Boulder campus. The film series is locally programmed by Pablo Kjolseth, who has been a film programmer since 1989. *Source: www.internationalfilmseries.com*

Boulder Bach Festival

The Boulder Bach Festival was founded in 1981 to present the music of Johann Sebastian Bach and to encourage knowledge and appreciation of the Baroque master. Since 1982 a three-day festival has been presented each year, featuring an orchestra, chorus, and soloists drawn from the pool of area musicians, with a few nationally-known artists from other parts of the country. Over the years it has gradually added concerts outside of its original format so that presentations now extend through most of the year. Lecture series, master classes, youth competitions, and an enrichment program for local elementary schools add to the Festival's educational aspect. *Source: www.boulderbachfest.org*

Colorado Music Festival

Founded in 1976, the Colorado Music Festival educates, entertains and challenges audiences of all ages by presenting classical music performed by extraordinary professional musicians from around the world at the historic Chautauqua Auditorium in Boulder. Sunday evenings feature the CMF Chamber Orchestra, Tuesdays bring chamber and world music ensembles, and Thursday and Friday evenings showcase the full CMF Festival Orchestra. *Source: www.coloradomusicfest.org*

Colorado Shakespeare Festival

Named one of the top three Shakespeare festivals in the nation by *TIME Magazine*, the Colorado Shakespeare Festival draws over 40,000 audience members each season, with many performances sold out. In addition to the production of several Shakespeare plays each summer, the CSF also offers several other programs to accompany the Festival. Such programs include Shakespeare in Production, a sequence of courses that deals with all aspects of producing Shakespeare's plays, a free Sunday night lecture series, school outreach programs, The Working Stages new play workshop showcase of Southwest Playwrights, and backstage tours. *Source: www.coloradoshakes.org*

Events in Boulder County

Here are just some of the annual events that happen in Boulder County & Lafayette!

The Bolder Boulder



Called, "the best mass participation race in the United States" by *Runners World Magazine*, the Bolder BOULDER is one of the largest road races in the world. The race attracts more than 50,000 runners and walkers and draws professional athletes from all over the world to compete for one of the largest non-marathon prize purses in road racing. The race winds through neighborhoods with live music and entertainment along the course and finishes in the University of Colorado's Folsom Field. More than 100,000 spectators watch the festivities from inside the stadium and along the course. Many families make the Bolder-BOULDER a family tradition and return to Boulder every spring to participate in this community event. *Source: www.bolderboulder.com*

Boulder Creek Festival

The Boulder Creek Festival includes three days of festivities featuring a large variety of events, activities, food and entertainment unique to the Boulder community. Twelve event areas with 500 vendors showcase everything from community arts and crafts to health alternatives and technology, while six performance stages feature a spectrum of music and dance. The Festival also features carnival rides, food and beverage vendors, and the signature event: The Great Rubber Duck Race!

Source: www.bouldercreekfestival.com

Boulder Fall Festival

The Fall Festival is a 3-day autumn event on the Pearl Street Mall that combines the food, music and brews of a traditional Oktoberfest with children's carnival rides, Boulder's best local musicians, area non-profit booths and artisans from throughout the country. *Source: www.dbi.org*

CU Conference on World Affairs

The University of Colorado's Conference on World Affairs is a forum on a variety of topics—encompassing music, literature, environmental activism, science, journalism, visual arts, diplomacy, technology, spirituality, the film industry, politics, business, medicine, human rights and so on. Every year in April approximately 100 participants representing a wide range of backgrounds gather in Boulder for what the New York Times calls "a week-long extravaganza of discussion and debate" on over 200 non-academic, cross-disciplinary panels, plenary sessions and performances. All events are free and open to the public and audiences range in size from an intimate 50 to well over 2,000 at individual sessions, with a combined total of approximately 50,000 during the course of the week.

Source: www.Colorado.edu/cwa/

Farmer's Market

Every Saturday morning and Wednesday evening from April through October, the Boulder County Farmer's Market comes alive! Vibrant with color, lively chatter and friendly faces, the Market hosts thousands of Boulder County residents and out-of-town visitors each week. *Source: www.boulderfarmers.org*

Recreation in Boulder County

Biking & Mountain Biking

Boulder County offers a variety of biking trails throughout the area, suitable for all abilities. .

Hiking

Boulder County's open space trails will reveal flower-filled meadows in the summer and snow-capped vistas in the winter. Take advantage of over 200 miles of public hiking trails. .



River Rafting and Kayaking

The best time to venture into Colorado's white water is late spring and early summer with high stream flow. You will find a variety of rapids for all ability levels, with trips through challenging waters or wilderness settings.

Rock Climbing

With hundreds of climbing opportunities, it's no wonder that Boulder County is home to some of the world's best climbers.

Golfing

Indian Peaks Golf Course is a public facility located in Lafayette, Colorado. We boast awe-inspiring views of the Indian Peaks mountain range from most everywhere on the course. We are located at 2300 Indian Peaks Trail, which is one mile west of Highway 287 off of Baseline Road. The golf course is a Hale Irwin Signature Course. The facility is complete with 18 holes of championship golf, a fully stocked Golf Shop, and a practice facility second to none, complete with driving range, putting green, chipping green, and practice bunkers. The Championship course provides a challenge for all with 1200 trees, 87 bunkers, 6 lakes, and 2 winding creeks. Four sets of tees make for a challenging and enjoyable round for any caliber player. Indian Peaks is routinely ranked in the top public courses in Colorado. Golf Digest rates Indian Peaks a 4-Star course in its "Places to Play Golf in America". Indian Peaks is rated "Best Course in Boulder County" by readers of the Boulder Daily Camera newspaper. The Golf Shop has been voted Best Golf Shop by the Colorado PGA. Private and Group Instruction is available from PGA Professionals.



Open space

In 1967, Boulder became the first city in the United States to tax itself for funds to be used specifically for the acquisition, management and maintenance of Open Space. City Open Space now protects almost two-thirds of the Boulder Valley, commonly referred to as the "greenbelt." To this point, the City has acquired approximately 6,100 acres of Mountain Park lands, 2,700 acres of other park lands, 29,000 acres of Open Space and 480 acres of utility lands, for a total of 38,500 acres. The County Open Space Program now owns over 54,000 acres.