



joiseyshowaa

Top 10: Music in Boulder

Boulder, 1 Day

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Guide Description



AUTHOR NOTE: Boulder loves live music. If you're looking to hear some local music, you can find live music every night of the week at bars across town, including Blues & Greens, which features live blues. Boulder also has some beautiful music venues, including the historic Boulder Theater and the beautiful Macky Auditorium on the CU campus. In the summer, the Chautauqua Auditorium in Chautauqua Park and Red Rocks Amphitheater have some big names come through, so look up their schedules and buy your tickets early.

Itinerary Overview

things to do
restaurants
hotels
nightlife

Day 1 - Boulder



Macky Auditorium Concert Hall

Symphony in the Rockies



Chautauqua Park

Gorgeous view of the Flatirons with trails and picnicking



Boulder Theater

Music, film & history



Bands on the Bricks

Free downtown concerts



Pearl Street Mall

4-block pedestrian mall with shops, cafés, and people watching



Dairy Center for the Arts

Theatre, art, dance, music



Blues & Greens

Local restaurant with live blues



Fox Theatre

Popular theater for live concerts by University Hill



Mountain Sun

Hoppy beers brewed on site and Grateful Dead tunes

Day 1 - Boulder

QUICK NOTE

contact:

tel: 303 492 8423 /303 449
1343 (Boulder Philharmonic
Orchestra)
fax: +1 303 492 1651(Venue)
<http://www.colorado.edu/Mackky/>

location:

17th Street
Boulder CO 80309-0285

hours:

M-F 8a-noon, 1p-5p

1

Macky Auditorium Concert Hall

OUR LOCAL EXPERT SAYS:

Parking on campus during the day is restricted and at night typically costs \$3. If you're looking for free parking at night, park at the meters on University Ave.

DESCRIPTION: Macky Auditorium is the venue of choice for many orchestras. One of the most popular groups to perform here is the Boulder Philharmonic Orchestra. Guided by internationally acclaimed director, Theodore Kuchar, who leads the prestigious Australian Festival of chamber music, this philharmonic has long been recognized as one of the finest in the country. Guest appearances have featured the likes of Itzhak Perlman, Mstislav Rostropovich, Yo Yo Ma and Sarah Chang. For details check the website. © wcities.com



University of Colorado at Boulder

contact:

tel: 303 442 3282
<http://www.chautauqua.com/>

location:

Ninth Street & Baseline Road
Boulder CO 80302

2

Chautauqua Park

OUR LOCAL EXPERT SAYS:

If you're short on cash but still want to hear the music, Chautauqua Auditorium opens its doors for listeners to bring blankets and sit outside the auditorium.

DESCRIPTION: This picturesque park located at the base of the Flatirons has many trailheads that are the gateways to the Rocky Mountains. The park is a wonderful place for walking, picnicking, and people-watching. The park is part of the Chautauqua community, an idea built from the Chautauqua movement popular in the late 19th and early 20th centuries that was based around adult education that attempted to provide entertainment and culture for the whole community. The Boulder Chautauqua community opened in 1898 and contains a public dining hall, lodging, a community house for local events, and the beautiful Chautauqua Auditorium, which houses the esteemed Colorado Music Festival in the summer, as well as other concerts throughout the year. © NileGuide



editor

contact:

tel: 303 786 7030
fax: +1 303 440 6455
<http://www.bouldertheater.com>

location:

2032 14th St
Boulder CO 80302

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Boulder Theater

OUR LOCAL EXPERT SAYS:

The Boulder Theater also screens interesting documentaries and cult classics like The Big Lebowski and Darkside of the Rainbow, where they



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hours:
Box Office: Noon-6p Mon-Fri;
noon-5p Sat-Sun

sync up Pink Floyd's Dark Side of the Moon and The Wizard of Oz.

DESCRIPTION: This posh venue has graced downtown Boulder since 1906. Originally opened as an opera house, the historic building underwent a massive renovation in the 1980s. Located just off the Pearl Street Mall, the complex hosts nightly concerts, film screenings and other community events. National Public Radio hosts the popular weekly environmental and musical radio show E-Town here. While it remains a popular venue for local entertainers, the theater's cabaret-style seating, preserved art deco ornamentation and state-of-the-art sound and lighting system attract national and international artists. Call for a schedule, or check the Web site to order tickets online. © wcities.com

contact:
<http://www.boulderdowntown.com/>

location:
Pearl Street Mall
Boulder CO 80302

hours:
check website for details

4 Bands on the Bricks

OUR LOCAL EXPERT SAYS:

There are some seats available at the event, so get there early if you don't want to be up dancing the whole time.

DESCRIPTION: Listen to a great concert as you watch the sun dip behind the Rocky Mountains at the Bands on the Brick concert. The best of Colorado's local bands play on the County Courthouse steps at this weekly summer event. Bring your lawn chair and relax, or get up and dance. Enjoy a variety of talented performers, from the bluesy sounds of Hazel Miller to the eclectic rhythms of Freddi Henchi. Catch dinner before or after the show from one of surrounding Pearl Street Mall restaurants. Admission is free. © wcities.com



Downtown Boulder

contact:
tel: +1 303 442 1044

location:
Pearl Street
Boulder CO 80302

5 Pearl Street Mall

OUR LOCAL EXPERT SAYS:

Pearl Street gets much busier on the weekends, especially if the weather is nice, but the crowds are half the fun! So grab a spot on a bench or get an outdoor table at one of the many cafés and let the people-watching begin!

DESCRIPTION: This four-block pedestrian mall is a unique and essential part of Boulder. With a wide selection of shops and restaurants, this mall is sure to keep you entertained as you stroll in and out of art galleries, listen to musicians playing free live music, enjoy the shows of buskers (such as the famous Derek Derek), and have a bite to eat on one of Pearl Street's many outdoor patios. It's also a great place for kids, with water spouts that come out of the bricks by 14th street, street performers making balloon art, and big animal statues on which to climb on the east side of the walking mall. In the summer,



Pearl Street is host to many events such as Band on the Bricks and the Downtown Boulder Art Fair. The stores also extend both east and west of the walking portion of the Pearl Street Mall, so be sure to continue on to find more interesting stores and restaurants. © NileGuide

contact:
tel: 303 449 9291
fax: +1 303 440 7104
<http://www.thedairy.org/>

location:
2590 Walnut Street
Boulder CO 80302

hours:
9a-5p M-F

6 Dairy Center for the Arts

OUR LOCAL EXPERT SAYS:

Keep your eye out for art openings and other free events in the gallery.

DESCRIPTION: This 40,000-square-foot performing and visual arts center is home to many of Boulder's theaters, dance and music production companies. Check out performances from the Colorado Dance Festival and Boulder Arts Academy, as well as concerts by the Boulder Philharmonic Orchestra. The studios of Boulder's award-winning Community Access Television also occupy space in the complex. Frequent classes and exhibits are offered to the community. Ticket sales and private contributions fund the center which draws over 140,000 guests annually. © wcities.com



wcities

contact:
tel: 303.443.3322
<http://blues-and-greens.com/>

location:
800 28th St.
Boulder CO 80303

hours:
6:30 a.m. - 11 p.m.

7 Blues & Greens

DESCRIPTION: Blues & Greens serves up locally-produced ingredients in tasty dishes including vegetarian cuisine. This restaurant, located in the Boulder Outlook Hotel, creates every dish using fresh, organic vegetables and grains. True to their name, Blues & Greens offers live music featuring many local bands as well as national performers, mostly with a blues flavor. Their menu and atmosphere create a positively enjoyable dining experience and a great place to go for some exciting nightlife. © NileGuide



Blues & Greens

contact:
tel: 303 443 3399
<http://www.foxtheatre.com/JabbaWeb/Index2.aspx>

location:
1135 13th St
Boulder CO 80302

8 Fox Theatre

DESCRIPTION: The Fox Theatre is a popular venue for live concerts on "The Hill" in Boulder. The theatre recently announced that the City of Boulder Landmark Preservation Advisory Board granted the building "landmark status."



Photo courtesy of basurablanaphoto

contact:

tel: (303) 546-0886
http://www.mountainsunpub.com/

location:

1535 Pearl Street
Boulder CO 80302

hours:

M-Sa 11:30 a.m. - 1 a.m., Su
12 p.m. - 1 a.m.

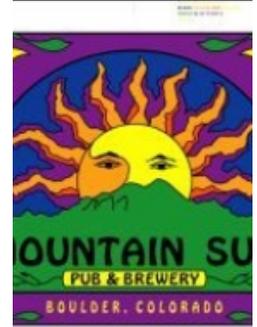
9 Mountain Sun

OUR LOCAL EXPERT SAYS:

Be sure to stop by on Sunday evenings to catch some live music. There is also the Southern Sun in South Boulder with the same menu, which has live music on Monday nights. Note: both restaurants only accept cash, so come prepared.

DESCRIPTION: This quintessential Boulder restaurant is almost always bustling with Boulderites who love to frequent this brewery/restaurant and enjoy their variety of beers brewed on site. The walls are painted with suns and moons and are covered in tapestries – and if you look up, you can see a Jerry Garcia doll sitting in a hammock. The Mountain Sun is a pub, but it doesn't have any TVs because the owners want to encourage people to meet each other and "discuss the world in which we live". If that sounds a bit too heavy, you can always grab ones of their board games and lose yourself in a nice game of Scrabble!

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Boulder Snapshot

Local Info

Boulder's natural beauty is second to none, shadowed by the towering Flatirons and surrounded by more than 31,000 acres of recreational open space and nature preserves. Often described as "the little town nestled between the mountains and reality," Boulder is a small town of 28 square miles and only 100,000 people that has the quality of restaurants and variety of activities of a big city.

Downtown

The Pearl Street Mall, Boulder's "downtown," is a four-block pedestrian mall brimming with tourists and locals alike. This tree-lined promenade, long ago a refuge for the wildest of the wild westerners, is alive with cafés, galleries, brewpubs, restaurants, musicians, street performers, and every type of shopping imaginable. In the summer, the Pearl Street Mall is host to popular events such as Bands on the Brick and the Downtown Boulder Art Fair. The Boulder County Farmers Market is a short walk from the Pearl Street Mall, and is one of the most happening summer events in Boulder, offering organic fruits and veggies, local wines, artisanal cheeses, and beautiful flowers. The popular Boulder Museum of Contemporary Art is just next to the Farmers Market, as is the Boulder Creek Path, which runs along the Farmers Market and meanders downtown. The Boulder Creek Path, which is often busy with bikers, joggers, and meanders through town, also heads up the Canyon, which leads to Boulder Falls.

University Hill

The University of Colorado at Boulder—referred to as "CU" not "UC"—is spread across more than 600 acres of landscape, dotted with gorgeous stone buildings with red Spanish-tiled rooftops. Catch a CU football game at Folsom Field, or during the summer, see a performance from the Colorado Shakespeare Festival. The Boulder History Museum is also on the CU Campus, as is Fiske Planetarium—a superb place to catch up on your stargazing. Macky Auditorium Concert Hall is a magnificent venue on campus that hosts a variety of music throughout the year.

Known as "The Hill" by locals, this neighborhood is right next to the CU

Boulder campus and is a popular hangout spot for college students. Literally parked on a hilltop above downtown, this district provides pizza, subs, burritos, coffee, beer in a bucket, and head shops to CU's 30,000 students. Fox Theater is located at the center of The Hill, and is a popular spot for students to go hear their favorite bands play live. The residential neighborhood on The Hill is an odd mix of fraternity and sorority houses, apartment complexes, student rental houses, and huge, beautiful old houses. Chautauqua Park rests at the base of Flagstaff Mountain on the southwest side of The Hill. The park, one of three remaining from the early 1900s cultural movement, features a dining hall and an auditorium that hosts an excellent summer concert series in a unique venue. Flagstaff Mountain is an great place to go hiking or to just drive up and get a spectacular aerial view of the city.

Surrounding Areas

Celestial Seasonings is just a short drive from downtown and offers a tour and plenty of samples. Eldorado Canyon State Park—where the world comes to rock climb—is a 25 minute drive from downtown Boulder, as is the small mountain town of Nederland, home to Eldora Mountain Resort.

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Things to Do Insights

Outdoor Activities

If there is one thing you must not miss during your time in Boulder, it is a chance to view and explore the iconic Flatirons. Try hiking or climbing on Flagstaff Mountain, or simply picnic in the gorgeous Chautauqua Park. The Boulder Creek Path is also a great place to go for a walk or bike ride, as it meanders through town before heading up the Canyon to Boulder Falls. The Falls are beautiful, but the incredible drive there through the mountains makes it all the more worthwhile. Another great place slightly outside town is Red Rocks Park, which is a spectacular drive as well and has some beautiful, relatively easy hikes. This park is in the same location as Red Rocks Amphitheater, which is arguably one of the best venues in the country to see live music.

Boulder is infamous for its winter sports because of its proximity to multiple ski resorts, the closest of which—and the cheapest and least crowded of which—is Eldora Mountain Resort, so keep that in mind when you're deciding which winter clothes to pack.

Sightseeing

Spending an afternoon just wandering around the campus of the University of Colorado at Boulder is worth it simply because of the beautiful buildings and the weather, which is almost always beautiful as well. While you're there, stop in and check out the CU museum to learn some history about the school and the town.

Boulder has several unusual tours available, including Banjo Billy's bus tour and the tour of Celestial Seasonings, which will also allow you to sample a wide variety of teas. Speaking of tea, the Dushanbe Teahouse is a beautiful piece of architecture with hand-carved and hand-painted ceilings, columns, and ceramic panels that warrants a visit even if you aren't a tea fanatic (but do try the tea—it's delicious). If you're interested in finding more experiences to engage a variety of senses, check out the Boulder Creek Winery, Redstone Meadery, and the Belvedere Belgian Chocolate Shop.

Shopping

The Pearl Street Mall, a 4-block pedestrian mall in downtown Boulder, has the best shopping in town. With an eclectic combination of art galleries, outdoor gear shops, and clothing stores, Pearl Street is the place to go for one-stop shopping. Be sure to check out the stores just off the walking mall, too, as they are equally as good but often get missed; among these is Willow, which has lovely, affordable, local art.

Events

Popular summertime events in Boulder include the Farmers' Market, Downtown Boulder Art Fair, Boulder Creek Hometown Fair, and Folks Festival. Another incredibly popular event in Boulder happens in early

Boulder Snapshot continued

April—theConference on World Affairs—which brings in speakers and panelists from around the world to talk about and debate nearly everything imaginable. Held annually on President's Day Weekend, theBoulder International Film Festival draws crowds from around the country. Every year in early October,Open Studios provides people an opportunity to bike around town visiting the homes and studios of local artists.

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Fun Facts

1. Interesting fact: Baseline Road is a significant east-west route to both Boulderites& cartographers, for it marks the 40th parallel on world maps.

2. Weird fact: Boulder's Third Flatiron, which towers 1,400 feet high-- a few hundred feet

higher than the Empire State Building-- has been climbed by people without using their hands, on roller skates, naked, and in 8 minutes(by separate climbers).

3. Fun fact: Robert Redford was a janitor atThe Sink, before moving on to become famous!

4. Random fact: Boulder has more used bookstores per capita than any other city in the country.

5. TheFlatiron Mountains got their name by pioneer women who said they looked like flat, metal irons used to iron their clothes.

6. TheUniversity of Colorado at Boulder's buildings are built with red sandstone, quarried in nearby Lyons.

7. With Coors, Anheuser-Busch, and local microbreweries such asBoulder Beer andAvery Brewing, this area has become the largest beer-producing triangle in the world.

8. 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.

9. One of Boulder's sister cities is Dushanbe, Tajikistan, which gifted us theBoulder Dushanbe Teahouse.

10. Boulder is surrounded by more than 31,000 acres of recreational open space and nature preserves.

11. Boulder has been referred to as the"Boulder Bubble" and"28 square miles surrounded by reality."

12. Boulder has received myriad accolades over the years, ranging from Foodiest to Brainiest City, from Best Biking City to Best City for Teleworking, from Best City for Young People to Best City to Retire in Style.

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