



BLOG MEET THE EDITORS GO TO TRAIL'S EDGE >

5 Best Colorado Wildflower Hikes

1

Like Tweet



Tell us something cool editor [at] trailsedge [dot] com

SEARCH

FEATURED POSTS HIKING/TREKKING

Jun 27, 2011 Misty Faucheux Comments



Colorado is known for its natural beauty, and the summer shows off the green grasses and budding aspen trees. Summer is also the season to see sprouting wildflowers if you know

where to look. Colorado trails are the perfect place to look, and you can choose from easy walks to thigh-burning strenuous climbs. Just don't forget the camera in the car.

Copley Lake

While many visitors only think of Crested Butte is ski heaven, other people consider Crested Butte the premiere place to see wildflowers in the world. You can pick from nearly any trail in the area, but Copley Lake is just spectacular with or without wildflowers.

This hike takes you past meadows with abundant plant life and animals. Then, you reach the secluded lake, which feeds the nearby elk creek. This is a 5 mile trail with a gain in elevation of 1,000 feet. It is considered a strenuous trail.

Hessie Trail

The Hessie Trail is located near Eldora Ski Resort, and it is an easy walk over the streams and through the woods. The hike ends at Lost Lake, which is a 4 mile roundtrip hike. The elevation gain, however, is modest, topping out at around 750 feet.

Even if you don't make it all the way to the lake, you'll see plenty of wildflowers along the trail. The area is known of its abundant views of flowers like daisies, paintbrush and stonecrop.

Loch Lomond

While the name evokes images of far away Scotland, it's actually a little closer to home. It's right about 30 to 45 minutes from downtown Denver off I-70 West's Fall River Road/Country Road 275 exit. Most of the trail is wooded so don't look for mountain scenery on this trail. Instead, keep your eyes peeled to the ground for the many wildflowers that spring up in this area during the warmer months.



Bring your 4-wheel drive vehicle on this road. Mom's mini-van will get stuck on a few rocks if you aren't careful. Once you get to the trail, however, you can take it easy on this moderate trail that is about 5 miles long roundtrip.

Trail's Edge on Facebook

Like

451 people like **Trail's Edge**.

Virginia	Ian	Vincenzo	Ericson
Hamid	Mohammed	Jeff	佳慶

Facebook social plugin

TheTrailsEdge

TheTrailsEdge A camping pot made of...paper? gearjunkie.com/paper-camp-coo... @TheGearJunkie 5 days ago · reply · retweet · favorite

TheTrailsEdge Barefoot boots! (there's a trend I can vouch for) gearjunkie.com/merrell-m-conn... 5 days ago · reply · retweet · favorite

TheTrailsEdge Cloudveil is one of my all time favorite brands. Now co-founder Stephen Sullivan is starting Stio. trailspace.com/articles/2012/... 7 days ago · reply · retweet · favorite

TheTrailsEdge Our friends at AGR @GearReview take on the Saucony Ride 5 - great for neutral runners. activegearreview.com/running/road-r... 7 days ago · reply · retweet · favorite

TheTrailsEdge 4 leg exercises to keep your legs injury free this summer highlineonline.ca/2012/06/28/fou... 8 days ago · reply · retweet · favorite

Join the conversation

OUR HOMIES

Active Gear Review

Adventure Skier

Gear Junkie



Hayden/Green Mountain

Even closer to downtown is the Hayden/Green Mountain Loop, which is located off C-470 and Morrison Road. This is an easy to moderate trail that's only 3.3 miles roundtrip. Fido can even enjoy this trip. The loop gives you a bird's eye view of the surrounding subdivisions (unfortunately, there's quite a few of these) and the mountains in the west.

Keep your eyes open for flora and fauna. Meadowlarks are often heard in the bushes, and

you may find a deer munching down on a favorite flower. Don't worry, however, there's more up ahead.

Columbine Lake Trail

The Columbine Lake Trail near Winter Park offers sweeping views of mountains and meadows on a moderate 5 mile trip. The gain in elevation is around 900 feet. Not surprisingly, this trail is known for its abundance of Colorado's state flower, the columbine. That and marsh marigolds become blankets of beauty all along the trail.

This is a high-altitude trail topping out near 11,000 feet. Ensure that you are properly hydrated, and take precautions against altitude sickness.

Like 1

Tweet

Leave a Comment



Add a comment...

Comment using...

Facebook social plugin

Trackbacks

Copyright © 2011, TrailsEdge.com All rights reserved.

[Outdoorzy](#)

[The Adventure Blog](#)

[The Gear Caster](#)

[TrailSpace](#)

[UpaDowna](#)

[Wend Magazine](#)

Gear O' the Month

Giro Snow Helmets

Resorts are opening and snow is on the ground. But the base is thin, meaning there are plenty of rocks waiting to make a meal out of your skull. Get a helmet on yo head before a rock does!

