

Glenwood Caverns Adventure Park
WELCOME

Greetings!

Thank you for your interest in Glenwood Caverns Adventure Park. Here are a few of the reasons your audience will enjoy learning more about this mountain-top vacation destination:

- Glenwood Caverns Adventure Park is nestled in the mountains above historic Glenwood Springs, Colorado. To reach the park, guests take a scenic 10-minute gondola ride from the floor of the Roaring Fork Valley to the top of Iron Mountain.
- At the top, they can enjoy two guided walking cave tours: the newly expanded Historic Fairy Caves Tour that includes sections of the cave previously not open to the public and the King's Row Tour that takes guests down into Iron Mountain into the most highly decorated cave room in the state.
- Scream-worthy thrill rides include the Cliffhanger America's highest-elevation roller coaster, Colorado's first and longest Alpine Coaster and the Giant Canyon Swing that launches riders out over Glenwood Canyon, 1,300 feet above the Colorado River, and, new this year, the Glenwood Canyon Flyer that takes riders up and around until they're flying out over the canyon.
- Additional family-friendly attractions include the Mine Wheel Ferris wheel ride, the Wild West Express Coaster, a fort-style maze, a 4D theater; laser tag; gemstone sluice box mining, a climbing wall and a newly redesigned 600-foot Soaring Eagle Zip Ride.
- Guests can relax and refresh with a meal or drinks on the deck at the Lookout Grille. The Adventure Park offers packages and discounts for birthday parties, corporate picnics and family reunions as well.

Glenwood Springs is located midway between Vail and Aspen, and makes a great day trip or vacation destination with activities for everyone in the family: the world's largest hot springs pool, downhill and cross-country skiing, snowmobiling, and mountain biking at Sunlight Mountain; fishing, rafting, and kayaking on the Roaring Fork and Colorado rivers; hiking, camping, biking, and four-wheeling in the White River National Forest; and much more.

High-resolution photographs are available for download at *http://glenwoodcaverns.com/glenwood-caverns-media-library.html*. Please feel free to contact me at 970-379-5277 with questions or to schedule a media visit.

Best regards,

Mauly Seals

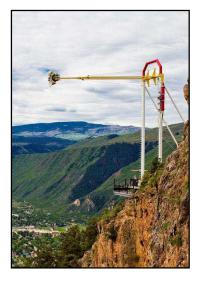
Mandy Gauldin





# Glenwood Caverns Adventure Park PHOTO OPPORTUNITIES























For more information, to schedule an interview or request high-resolution photographs or b-roll, contact Mandy Gauldin at 970-379-5277.

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# Glenwood Caverns Adventure Park FACT SHEET



ABOUT THE PARK Located in scenic Glenwood Springs, Colo., midway between Aspen and Vail, Glenwood Caverns Adventure Park is family-friendly vacation destination. The Adventure Park features a gondola ride, guided tours of Glenwood Caverns and Historic Fairy Caves, dining and attractions including an alpine coaster, 4D motion theater, giant swing, roller coasters, zip ride, laser tag, a climbing wall and a giant maze.



- **HISTORY** Glenwood Caverns originally opened to the public as the Fairy Caves in 1895, but closed at the onset of World War I. The caves were closed for 82 years until owners Steve and Jeanne Beckley reopened the caverns in 1999. The Beckleys have employed rigorous, contemporary, scientific preservation methods to protect the living and historic sections of the caves. Glenwood Caverns was named one of *The 10 Great Places to Go Underground* by *USA Today*, as well as being named *Best Family Cave Tour* by *Denver Westword*. Over the years, the Adventure Park has grown to include a wide range of activities and attractions that draw visitors from around the world.
- AMENITIES <u>Glenwood Caverns and Historic Fairy Caves</u> Visitors can enjoy two guided walking tours of Glenwood Caverns, including the newly expanded Historic Fairy Caves Tour with sections of the upper cave open to the public for the first time in May 2013, and the King's Row Tour, which includes the most highly decorated cave room in Colorado. A two-hour Wild Tour is available with reservations.

<u>Thrill Rides</u> — The Cliffhanger Roller Coaster — the highest-elevation full-sized coaster in the U.S. — offers cliff-side curves and heart-stopping drop-offs. The first and longest Alpine Coaster in Colorado features individual cars on tracks that race through the trees and down the mountainside. The Giant Canyon Swing and the new Glenwood Canyon Flyer both take riders on exhilarating rides out over Glenwood Canyon, 1,300 feet above the Colorado River. The 600-foot Soaring Eagle Zip Ride has been completed reengineered for a more exciting ride.

<u>Attractions</u> — The Wild West Express Coaster and Mine Wheel ride are kid-friendly and lots of fun. The 4D Motion Theater combines digital 3D films with interactive seats and special effects that make the audience feel like a part of the show. The Iron Mountain Tramway travels 4,300 feet up the side of Iron Mountain, providing panoramic views of Glenwood Springs. Other attractions include a laser tag arena, electronic shooting gallery, giant maze, climbing wall, sluice box gemstone mining and old-time photos.

<u>Souvenirs</u> — Guests can take home reminders of their visit from Silk's Saloon Olde Tyme Photos, the General Store Gift Shop and Sharp Shooters Photos.

<u>Mountain-top Dining</u> — The Lookout Grille offers burgers, salads, sandwiches, wraps, nachos, a great kids' menu and incredible views; menu varies throughout the year. The Snack Shop features casual outdoor dining during the summer months.

<u>Groups</u> — The Adventure Park offers affordable packages for group and company picnics, family reunions, birthday parties, and school field trips.

<u>Events</u> — Special events include an annual Easter Egg Hunt, Summer Kick-Off Party and Music on the Mountain concert series.

# Glenwood Caverns Adventure Park ACTIVITIES AND ATTRACTIONS



**4D Motion Theater** — State-of-the-art entertainment in Colorado's first 4dimensional motion theater, with interactive seats and special effects that make the audience feel like a part of the show. Featuring "Rats Race," "Bamboo Express" and "Pirates Rapids."

Alpine Coaster — Colorado's first and longest Alpine Coaster features individual cars on tracks that race 3,400 feet through the trees and down the mountainside. The riders control their speeds, which gives them a unique hands-on experience. The ride is exciting and varied, with bumps and waves to add to the thrill. Unlike an alpine slide, the Alpine Coaster makes hairpin turns and can operate year-round due to its track system.

**Cliffhanger Roller Coaster** — The thrills and excitement of this mountain-top roller coaster are heightened by cliff-side curves and heart-stopping drop-offs. The Cliffhanger Roller Coaster is located above the rest of the Adventure Park at an elevation of 7,160 feet, making it the highest-elevation full-sized roller coaster in the U.S.



**Climbing Wall** — This 32-foot climbing wall features five different routes of varying difficulty, auto belay and a textured surface with fossils for the look and feel of real rock.

**Discovery Rock** — A geology learning area where guests can pan for gemstones in the running water of the sluice box mining stream. Kids can search for buried treasure in the sand pit fossil dig.

**Fort WhereAmI Maze** — Kids will love finding their way through the labyrinth of twists and turns in this fort-style maze. The corner towers offer some of the park's best views of Mt. Sopris and the Roaring Fork Valley.

**Giant Canyon Swing** —For the truly adventurous, the Giant Canyon Swing launches riders out over Glenwood Canyon, 1,300 feet above the Colorado River. Both the ride and the views of the Canyon are breathtaking as riders soar through the air. The swing accommodates up to four riders, so friends can share the adrenaline rush of floating with zero Gs.

**Giddy Up!** — This Western-style amusement ride lifts up to seven riders into the air, and then lowers them back down to the ground in a bouncing motion that creates a negative G-force, providing a thrilling ride every time.

**Glenwood Canyon Flyer** — **New!** The Glenwood Canyon Flyer, which has been designed to look like a giant tree, will be perched on the edge of Glenwood Canyon, right between the Giant Canyon Swing and the Cliffhanger Roller Coaster. Riders will take their seats and will go higher and higher as the ride spins them around, until they are flying out over the Colorado River 1,300 feet below.

**Historic Fairy Caves Tour** — Newly expanded in 2013, this 50-minute guided walking tour takes guests through the discovery and development of the Fairy Caves, with recreated period lighting from when the caves were originally lit in 1897. It includes a stop at Exclamation Point overlooking the Roaring Fork Valley. The rich colors in the ceiling of the Register Room and the pendants, boxwork formations, reflecting pools and stalactites covered in cave popcorn are visible only on this tour.

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# GLENWOOD CAVERNS ADVENTURE PARK ACTIVITIES/Page 2

**Iron Mountain Tramway** — The Iron Mountain Tramway is a 4,300-foot-long tram ride originating on the floor of the Roaring Fork Valley, near the Colorado River. The 10-minute scenic ride inside six-person fully enclosed gondolas skims over the tops of the trees, with panoramic views in all directions. The Adventure Park added six new cabin cars in 2013, increasing capacity by 50 percent. The gondolas are wheelchair-accessible.

**King's Row Cave Tour** — This 50-minute guided walking tour of the lower section of the cave begins in The Barn, a large fiery red chamber, and takes guests down 127 stairs into Iron Mountain on lighted walkways into King's Row, the most highly decorated cave room in the state. A staged lighting show highlights formations including stalactites, stalagmites, soda straws and cave bacon.

Laser Tag Arena — Guests engage in a new-fangled shoot-out in an Old West setting, using the latest in wireless laser tag technology. This is a popular group activity for birthday parties and team building.

**Lookout Grille** — Featuring some of the best panoramic views in Colorado, the Lookout Grille offers burgers, salads, sandwiches, a great kids' menu and more. Menu varies in the winter months. The bar serves select wines and beers.

**Mine Shaft Shootin' Gallery** — An electronic shooting gallery with animated, Western-themed targets that test each shooter's skills and concentration.

**Mine Wheel** —This Ferris-wheel-style ride carries guests around and around, with views of the Adventure Park and the Roaring Fork Valley below.

**Silk's Saloon Olde Tyme Photos** — Visitors take a step back in time during a visit to our Old Tyme Photography Studio, with costumes to fit shapes and sizes from newborns up, plus props and backdrops to create the perfect souvenir.

**Snack Shack** — Open in the summer months, the Snack Shack offers casual outdoor dining and snacks including snocones, ice cream with flavor bursts, hot dogs, cold beer and more.

**Soaring Eagle Zip Ride** — **Newly redesigned!** The Soaring Eagle Zip Ride begins at the same spot as in the past, but nearly everything else about it is new. Guests now board at ground level near the Alpine and are then carried backwards, 600 feet up the mountain. At the top, they reverse direction for a thrilling zip ride back down to the ground. The new configuration provides easier access and increases the efficiency of the ride to reduce wait times during the peak season.

**Speleobox Cave Simulator** — The Speleobox contains 300 feet of crawling cave passages that wind up, down and around inside an 8' x 12' structure for a fun spelunking adventure. Suitable for kids and adults.

**Wild Tour** — The Wild Tour, a two-hour guided tour, gives visitors the opportunity to explore the rarely visited areas of Glenwood Caverns. Experienced cavers outfit each participant with a lighted helmet and all the necessary equipment. Wild Tour participants visit areas preserved in their natural state deep within the cave. This is an exciting belly-crawling and walking experience. Reservations required: 970-945-4228 or 800-530-1635, ext. 0.

Wild West Express Coaster — This kid-friendly roller coaster offers curves and hills on a train-themed adventure ride.

Winter on the Mountain — New! The park will introduce Winter on the Mountain in November. The mountaintop will come to life with a sparkling display of more than 400,000 twinkling lights, winter rides and two warming huts. During the holidays, a giant Christmas tree with a timed music and light show will entertain guests in the plaza, with visits from Santa and a fire pit to roast s'mores

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**Note:** Some attractions are seasonal; have age, weight or height restrictions; or require liability waivers or reservations. Please visit GlenwoodCaverns.com or call 800-530-1635, ext. 0, for more information.



# Glenwood Caverns Adventure Park YEAR-ROUND VALUES

Since the mission statement at Glenwood Caverns Adventure Park is to Make People Smile, providing entertainment and value at the same time is the goal. With that in mind, the park offers several inclusive passes that allow guests to stay and play all day without breaking the bank.

**Summer Funday Pass** — From mid-May through mid-October, the Funday Pass is the best value for visitors who want the freedom and convenience of enjoying most of the park's attractions for one low price. The one-day pass includes a tram or bus ride and park admission, both walking cave tours and unlimited access to the Alpine Coaster, Giant Canyon Swing, Cliffhanger Roller Coaster, Glenwood Canyon Flyer, Wild West Express Coaster, Soaring Eagle Zip Ride, Mine Wheel, Fort WhereAmI Maze, GiddyUp, Laser Tag, Climbing Wall and 4D Motion Theater. Price: \$48 for adults and \$43 for kids ages three to 12.



**Winter Funday Pass** — The fun doesn't stop in the winter! The Winter Fun Pass offers a new twist to Colorado ski vacations, including a tram or bus ride and park admission, guided walking cave tours, and unlimited access to the Alpine Coaster, Laser Tag and the 4D Motion Theater, at a discounted price. New in 2014, the mountaintop will come to life with a sparkling display of more than 400,000 twinkling lights, winter rides and two warming huts. During the holidays, a giant Christmas tree with a timed music and light show will entertain guests in the plaza, with visits from Santa and a fire pit to roast s'mores. Vail, Aspen, Beaver Creek, Snowmass, Buttermilk and Sunlight are all located within an hour of the park, and Breckenridge, Winter Park, Powderhorn, Steamboat, Copper Mountain, Keystone, Ski Cooper and SolVista are within two hours, making this an easy day trip from many of the nation's top ski resorts.

Annual Tram Pass — For locals or guests who visit more than twice a year just to enjoy the tram ride, views and a great meal, the Annual Tram Pass pays for itself quickly. It provides unlimited rides on the Iron Mountain Tramway, plus a 10-percent discount at the Lookout Grille, Snack Shack and General Store gift shop for just \$27.

Annual Thrill Pass — The Annual Thrill Pass provides unlimited access to most of the park's attractions for a full year for just \$98 for adults and \$88 for kids ages 3 - 12, along with a 10-percent discount at the Lookout Grille, Snack Shack and General Store Gift Shop. Guests 12 and younger must be accompanied by an adult when visiting the park. The Annual Thrill Pass includes unlimited access to the Iron Mountain Tramway, Alpine Coaster, Giant Canyon Swing, Cliffhanger Roller Coaster, Wild West Express Coaster, Soaring Eagle Zip Ride, Mine Wheel, Fort WhereAmI Maze, GiddyUp, Laser Tag, Climbing Wall, Wild West Wagon and 4D Motion Theater.

Individual pricing and group discounts are also available. Some attractions are seasonal, and all can be affected by weather any time of the year. Guests can check the website or call ahead at 800-530-1635 to find out what's open.

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# Glenwood Caverns Adventure Park **EXTREME ADVENTURES**

One of the best things about Glenwood Caverns Adventure Park is the variety of attractions, from mild to wild. Our more adventurous guests can enjoy adrenaline-pumping thrill rides, including the longest Alpine Coaster in Colorado, the Giant Canyon Swing that's sure to make even the bravest riders hold on tight, a Wild Tour extreme caving expedition, the only Bungee Jump in Colorado, and the Cliffhanger, the highest roller coaster in the United States.



CLIFFHANGER ROLLER COASTER	The thrills and excitement of this mountain-top roller coaster are heightened by its cliff- -side curves and heart-stopping drop-offs. The Cliffhanger Roller Coaster is located above the rest of the Adventure Park at an elevation of 7,160 feet, making it the highest-elevation full- sized roller coaster in the U.S.
ALPINE COASTER	Hop on the longest Alpine Coaster in Colorado, with individual cars on tracks that race 3,400 feet through the trees and down the mountainside. Riders control their speeds, providing a unique hands-on experience. The ride is exciting and varied, with jumps and waves built into the track to add to the thrill. Unlike an alpine slide, the Alpine Coaster makes hairpin turns and can operate year-round due to its track system.
GIANT CANYON SWING	For the truly adventurous, the Giant Canyon Swing launches riders out over Glenwood Canyon, 1,300 feet above the Colorado River. Both the ride and the views of the Canyon are breathtaking as riders soar through the air. The swing accommodates up to four riders at a time, so friends can share the adrenaline rush of floating with zero Gs.
WILD TOUR	The Wild Tour is a two-hour guided tour that explores rarely visited areas of Glenwood Caverns. This is an exciting on-your-belly and crawling experience that involves squeezing through tight sections as small as 18 inches square. Protective gear and coveralls are available for rent. Reservations required.

These attractions are all exciting in their own rights, but the park's location on the top of Iron Mountain overlooking Glenwood Canyon provides an added thrill. Additional attractions that aren't quite as extreme but still appeal to many thrill seekers include the Laser Tag arena and the Soaring Eagle Zip Ride.

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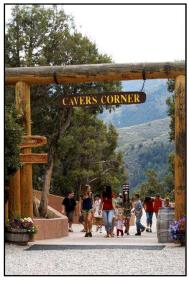


# Glenwood Caverns Adventure Park GROUPS, REUNIONS & PARTIES

**GLENWOOD SPRINGS**, Colo. — With activities and attractions that appeal to all ages, Glenwood Caverns Adventure Park is an ideal destination for family reunions, church and school groups, company picnics and birthday parties. The park can accommodate groups ranging in size from 20 to 400.

# **Group Picnics**

The park's most popular package for large groups is a real crowd-pleaser that keeps companies and organizations coming back year after year. For just \$30 per person, participants enjoy a scenic ride on the Iron Mountain Tramway and unlimited turns on the Alpine Coaster, Giant Canyon Swing, Cliffhanger Roller Coaster, Mine Wheel, Wild West Express Coaster, Climbing Wall, Fort WhereAmI Maze, 4D Motion Theater, Laser Tag and Soaring Eagle Zip Ride.



The package includes either a pasta or fajita buffet with lemonade and iced tea, which is typically served under the shade tent at the top of the tram. Tickets for alcoholic beverages can be purchased at an additional cost, including beer, wine, and margarita and pina colada slushies. The picnics last from 5 - 9 p.m. and require a minimum of 25 people. Children younger than five can participate free of charge. Price includes tax and gratuities.

## **Birthday Parties**

Planning the perfect birthday party is a breeze at the Adventure Park, where packages include tram and thrill rides, access to most attractions, party invitations, pizza, lemonade and decorations. Parents can even choose to include cupcakes, along with frosting and sprinkles, that the kids can decorate themselves. The packages range from \$25 to \$35 per person; minimum group size is eight. An off-season birthday party package is available November through April at discounted rates. Advance reservations are required.

# **Family Reunions**

Located midway between Aspen and Vail on Interstate 70, and easily accessed from airports in Eagle/Vail, Aspen and Grand Junction, Glenwood Springs is a popular destination for family reunions. Glenwood Springs, voted The Most Fun Town in America by Rand McNally and USA Today, offers affordable lodging packages, the world's largest Hot Springs Pool, whitewater rafting, Gold Medal fishing, hiking and biking trails, spas, shopping and award-winning restaurants.

# **Field Trips**

Glenwood Caverns Adventure Park makes learning an adventure with an educational program for school field trips. The program includes a cave tour and one educational activity at very affordable rates. These programs require advance registration and are available on weekdays each year from the Tuesday after Labor Day until the Thursday before Memorial Day. Teachers may enhance the field trip by including more of the Adventure Park's activities and attractions at a special half-price rate for schools. Glenwood Caverns Adventure Park also offers an online teacher's guide and educational center with lesson plans, games and post-field trip activities at http://www.glenwoodcaverns.com/school-programs.html.

For more informal outings, Glenwood Caverns Adventure Park offers group discounts on the tram, cave tours, and attractions are available for parties of 20 or more. Party and meeting planners can call (970) 945-4228, or (800) 530-1635, ext. 0, for more information or to schedule a tour of the property.

# Glenwood Caverns Adventure Park HISTORIC FAIRY CAVES



The Historic Fairy Caves, an attraction within Glenwood Caverns Adventure Park, was a thriving tourist destination in the 1890s thanks to Charles W. Darrow, a pioneering Glenwood Springs attorney. Darrow and his family homesteaded the top of Iron Mountain, including the cave entrance. Today, visitors can tour the Historic Fairy Caves as well as King's Row, the most highly decorated cave room in Colorado. Darrow opened the Fairy Caves to visitors in 1895. At that time the known extent of the cave was about 800 feet. Today Glenwood Caverns has more than 16,000 known feet. When the Fairy Caves opened to the public, visitors could get to the caves by walking up a trail, by riding a horse or burro, or by being transported in style in a horse-drawn carriage. Visitors to the Historic Fairy Caves today travel on the Iron Mountain Tramway.



Darrow installed a pathway up to the cave and by 1897 had wires strung up the mountain from the hydroelectric plant in the town of Glenwood Springs. Glenwood Springs was a popular tourist destination during the late 1800s and was one of the first cities in the United States with electric lights. Because of the progressive citizens of Glenwood Springs, the Fairy Caves became one of the first caverns in the world to be lit by electricity. Today, visitors can see the holes in the walls of the cave where the electric lights were installed more than a hundred years ago.

In 1897 Darrow blasted a tunnel from the innermost part of the known cave to the open air looking down on the Roaring Fork Valley and the Colorado River. Visitors today can stand on the same platform that Darrow built and named Exclamation Point. Visitors get to this balcony on the Historic Fairy Caves Tour by stepping onto an outdoor platform on a steep cliff high up on Iron Mountain. The view is breathtaking and extends for miles both east and west.

The town of Glenwood Springs rapidly developed when the railroad arrived in 1887. The hot springs pool, the *Natatorium*, opened in 1888, and the deluxe Hotel Colorado opened in 1893. The Hot Springs Lodge & Pool is now a year-round destination spa. The Hotel Colorado is a massive structure modeled after the Villa de Medici, a 16<sup>th</sup> century Italian mansion. This opulent Victorian hotel has hosted many important visitors, including Presidents William Howard Taft and Theodore Roosevelt. Teddy Roosevelt brought a large party to hunt in the woods surrounding Glenwood Springs. According to local legend, Teddy Roosevelt returned from the hunt one day empty-handed. The hotel maids stitched together a small bear from scraps of cloth and presented it to the President to lift his spirits. Thus was born the Teddy Bear, named by a local reporter.

At the time Darrow was developing the site as a tourist destination, the scientific community knew little about the preservation of caves. Unfortunately, when heat and outside air are allowed into a cave as was done with the portion of the cave known as the Fairy Caves, the cave stops growing and living. Darrow's sons operated the cave until 1917. On the eve of America's entry into World War I, the Darrows closed the caves to the public. The Historic Fairy Caves were closed for 82 years until the current owners, Steve and Jeanne Beckley, using contemporary scientific cave preservation methods, opened them to the public in 1999. Today's visitors will experience both Historic Fairy Caves and the *living* Glenwood Caverns sections of the cave that have been protected and preserved by the Beckleys. The *living* caves are moist, maintain a constant 52 degrees and continue to grow the stunning crystalline formations. Although the Historic Fairy Caves had been damaged by neglect, since the Beckleys have owned them and applied rigorous preservation methods, they are growing once again.

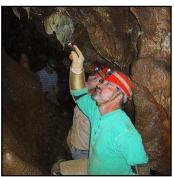
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**Notes:** Two black-and-white historic photos are available to illustrate this information, courtesy of the Frontier Historical Society, Glenwood Springs, Colorado, Schutte Collection. Acknowledgement for his work and thanks to Jim Nelson, Glenwood Springs historian, author of *Glenwood Caverns and the Historic Fairy Caves*.



# Glenwood Caverns Adventure Park MODERN CAVE SCIENCE

**GLENWOOD SPRINGS**, Colo. — Glenwood Caverns, a living cave near Glenwood Springs, Colorado, and a part of Glenwood Caverns Adventure Park, is a sustainable resources success story that reflects what can be done to both preserve priceless natural resources and make them accessible to the public.



Caves depend on moisture and humidity in order to keep dripping and growing cave

formations. Commercial cave owners in the 1890s did not understand this and allowed portions of the cave to dry out. The public enjoyed the caverns from 1895 through 1917, and then the Darrow family, owners of the caves since their ancestor Charles Darrow homesteaded the area in the 1890s, closed the caverns. Unfortunately when the caves were closed to the public, the entrance was not sealed. From 1917 through 1961 the caves were not protected from casual visitors and several generations of teenagers and hikers explored the site, often removing cave formations as souvenirs. The known portion of the Fairy Caves was exposed to the dry outside air, and eventually dried up and stopped growing.

In 1952 the modern exploration of Glenwood Caverns began. Members of the Colorado Grotto Club, led by Glenwood Springs resident James Kitt, visited the known Fairy Caves. These experienced cavers guessed that this one section was only a small part of a much larger cavern network. In 1953 the group returned and began exploring in earnest. The group first found new passages into the mountain from the Fairy Caves. These new areas, christened the Register Room and the Pendant Room, were large and doubled the size of the known caverns. Fortunately, these new areas were also living cave, still in its pristine ancient state, still dripping and growing. In 1954, the cavers felt a breeze blowing from a hole, followed that airflow, and discovered what they named the Drum Room and the Canyon.

In 1960 curious and courageous cavers discovered a vertical passage at the back of Fairy Caves and followed this narrow passage 30 feet down. At one place, the passage shrinks to 8 ½ inches wide. The cavers squeezed through this tiny space by exhaling, squeezing downwards, stopping, inhaling, exhaling again, and continuing to slowly move through the narrow opening. This experience led the cavers to name the passage the Jam Crack.

After the cavers had negotiated the Jam Crack, they were faced with another narrow passage, roughly horizontal. For obvious reasons the cavers named this passage Purgatory and continued to exhale, squeeze, inhale and painfully work their way through the Purgatory passage. The trip through Purgatory was worth it because the cavers found several enormous rooms with a fantastic array of pristine formations. The cavers named the two largest rooms The Barn and King's Row. The reason for naming The Barn is clear; after all, it is big as a ..., but the cavers gave the fanciful name King's Row because this huge room has a series of formations that look like chess pieces.

Visitors today can stand in both The Barn and King's Row and view the stunning formations. Visitors no longer have to squeeze through the Jam Crack or go through Purgatory to get there. Today's visitors can walk down a safe set of stairs with hand railings, accompanied by a knowledgeable and experienced guide, and view these same awesome formations discovered by the cavers.

Peter P. Prebble, Robert Wilber, and Robert O'Connell, members of the Colorado Grotto Club, bought the caves and surrounding acreage from the Darrow family in 1961. Soon after the purchase, they installed a locked gate at the entrance to the caverns, effectively barring entrance to the uninvited. Prebble, Wilber, and O'Connell intended to reopen the caves, but their plans did not materialize.

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# MODERN CAVE SCIENCE IN GLENWOOD CAVERNS ADVENTURE PARK/Page 2

From 1961 through 1998, a handful of cavers continued to explore the caverns but the caves were still closed to the public. Steve Beckley, who grew up in the Rocky Mountains and had been a caver since childhood, was a student at the Colorado School of Mines when he read about the Fairy Caves in an out-of-print book, "Caves of Colorado." Steve graduated and began working as a petroleum engineer, but he never forgot about the Fairy Caves. In 1982 he contacted the owners of the caves to explore development of the caves to admit the public; however, they were unable to agree.

Steve persisted for the next sixteen years and, in 1998, reached an agreement with the owners under which he would be allowed to develop the property. During those years of negotiations, he continued to study what information was known about the caves. In 1992, for the first time Steve and Jeanne Beckley, his wife and partner in Glenwood Caverns Adventure Park, put on kneepads and headlamps and squeezed through Jam Crack. Peter Prebble, one of the three owners, a caver himself and very protective of the integrity of the undeveloped caverns, insisted that an emergency room physician from Texas, a friend of Prebble and an experienced caver himself, accompany them.

After this exploration trip, the Beckleys vowed to do whatever they could to gain control of the caves and reopen the historic section and open a new living section to the public. They began the substantial improvement projects necessary to allow the public to view this natural wonder. The first step was to grade and gravel a road up to the cave entrance and then clear the Historic Fairy Caves of the debris that had collected there for decades. They hired Evan Anderson, a local caver with knowledge in wiring, to rewire the Historic Fairy Caves by replacing the 1897 wiring and installing modern equipment to illuminate and emphasize the formations. Today's visitors can see the holes in the sides where the lights guided visitors in 1897 as well as recreated period lighting on the Historic Fairy Caves Tour.

Because the purpose of development was to make the living cave accessible to the public and still not harm the cave, the Beckleys decided to carve a new tunnel into the mountain, one that could control temperature and humidity and preserve the formations. They hired surveyors to help determine the proper path for the new tunnel. Steve and his workers squeezed through the Jam Crack several times to set up antennas deep within the Barn to guide the surveyors. After the surveyors had completed the measurements, the Beckleys hired Dean Mussati, lead engineer of Mining and Environmental Services, to blast the tunnel 132 feet through the cliff.

Prior to the completion of the tunnel, they installed two airtight doors in the new tunnel to form an airlock. The doors are 50 feet apart so that when visitors enter the airlock, the door closes behind them.

With the help of this airlock, the ideal humidity and temperature of the caverns can be maintained, ensuring the continuing growth of the age-old formations. The Beckleys enlisted cavers to install temperature and humidity monitors to ensure that the integrity of the ancient formations is maintained. The interior of the cave is a stable 52 degrees year round. For the visitor coming from the outside, the caverns feel cool in the summer and warm in the winter.

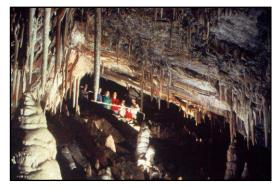
Because of Steve and Jeanne Beckley's vision and courage, Glenwood Caverns and Historic Fairy Caves are now protected, able to continue to grow naturally, and yet are accessible to the public. The Colorado Governor's Office of Tourism recognized the Beckleys for their exemplary preservation efforts and selected them as the only winners of the 2001 Governor's Award for Outstanding Community Tourism Initiative.

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# Glenwood Caverns Adventure Park FANTASTIC FORMATIONS

**GLENWOOD SPRINGS,** Colo. — Glenwood Caverns and Historic Fairy Caves, a living cavern system that is a part of Glenwood Caverns Adventure Park near Glenwood Springs, Colorado, contains hundreds of cave formations ranging from tiny to gigantic. Visitors to Glenwood Caverns can see the formations and learn the scientific theories of the creation of the formations, known as speleothems.



- **Stalactites**, the most well known formations, hang down from the ceiling, are usually carrot-shaped, and are the result of billions of droplets of calcite-bearing water. As each drop runs down to the tip of the **Stalactite**, it leaves a minuscule bit of calcite. The calcite sticks to the **Stalactite**, adding one tiny building block to the formation.
- Stalagmites are the mirror opposites of Stalactites; they grow up, not down. Stalagmites generally are shorter and thicker than their companion Stalactites on the ceiling above. They are thicker because the falling water droplets tend to splash and spread out as the Stalagmites gradually build up from the floor of the cave. Both Stalactites and Stalagmites grow at an incredibly slow rate, roughly the width of a human hair each year. The Stalactites and Stalagmites visitors see in Glenwood Caverns are hundreds of thousands of years old, maybe even millions.
- Soda Straws are a type of Stalactite that hang from the ceiling in long, hollow tubes which look very much like a soda straw. The water drops deposit calcite around their outer edges, forming a ring on the ceiling of the cave. As the rings lengthen, they form hollow tubes. Each drop of water travels down the inside of the soda straw and deposits calcite on the open end of the straw. When a Soda Straw becomes plugged, the water continues to drip from the ceiling, gradually covering the long, slender straw and building up the calcite deposits to become Stalactites.
- **Cave Bacon** is formed when the water drops flow down a sloped ceiling and build up calcite in a thin line before dropping to the floor. As the formations grow, the new rock folds and curls, creating graceful curves. Some of these thin formations are colored by stripes of iron oxide or other organic solutions giving them the look of gigantic strips of bacon. The **Cave Bacon** formations in Glenwood Caverns are very realistic and look good enough to eat.
- **Cave Popcorn** is formed by the slow seeping of water from the walls of the caverns. The knobby formations resemble popcorn or clusters of grapes. Because **Cave Popcorn** is one of the few cave formations that can form both in the open air and under water, the current scientific theory is that the calcite-laden water is forced out of the walls from internal pressure.
- **Flowstone** formations are created when water oozes over the cave walls or floors and the calcite in the water gradually hardens into a smooth, shiny surface. Hardened calcite itself is colorless, but **Flowstone** can be colorful if minerals from the soil and rock add new hues. **Flowstone** formations look like melted cake icing or a frozen waterfall.
- Helictite formations are created similarly to Soda Straws, from water flowing through a small central channel. However, pressure and air movement cause these formations to twist at odd angles. The word Helictite comes from the Greek word *helix*, which means *to spiral*. (e.g., the diagram of DNA is a spiraled double *helix*.) Helictites are crystalline and cream-colored or white. They can be very fine, almost hair-like, or thicker, branching out like elk antlers. Sometime Helictite formations resemble a bowl of spaghetti.

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# GLENWOOD CAVERNS ADVENTURE PARK'S FORMATIONS/Page 2

- Frostwork (Aragonite Crystals) is created when calcite-laden water that holds a high concentration of magnesium evaporates. The magnesium inhibits the buildup of calcite, thus allowing Frostwork to form. The crystalline formation grows needles in random directions, resembling the naked branches of a tree or cactus. The glittery Aragonite Crystal formation resembles Rocky Mountain frost on a pine tree. Frostwork formations are the most intricate and fragile of all cave formations.
- **Gypsum Flowers** grew on the walls of Glenwood Caverns when water pressure within the walls forced its way into the air of a dryer portion of the caverns. The calcium sulfate in the water is deposited and hardens into gypsum. Changes in the water flow rate cause the **Gypsum Flower** petals to curve.
- **Moonmilk** is a combination of carbonate materials, including calcite and gypsum, which form very fine crystals. These crystals are a semi-liquid, cheese-like substance and Glenwood Caverns has **Moonmilk** on the floors, walls, and ceilings of the big rooms. This white formation is pasty when wet and crumbly and powdery when dry. Because it breaks easily, visitors and cavers can easily damage **Moonmilk** formations. Visitors to Glenwood Caverns are cautioned not to touch anything, because the slightest touch will harm the delicate formations, especially **Moonmilk**. Legend says that the Native American inhabitants of this area used **Moonmilk** for medicinal purposes, making a poultice to stop bleeding, to bring down fevers, to cure diarrhea, and to ease upset stomachs.
- **Cave Clouds** are smooth layers of minerals that coat boulders on the walls and ceilings of the caverns and create fascinating formations that resemble puffy clouds. The **Cave Clouds** in Glenwood Caverns cover a portion of the walls and ceilings in the historic section.

Visitors can see many of these cave formations within Glenwood Caverns. Throughout Glenwood Caverns' history cavers, owners, and tourists have named some of the specific formations visitors enjoy.

- Jabba the Hutt is a fat round Stalagmite that resembles the Star Wars character. Jabba the Hutt holds court near the visitor platform in King's Row. Perhaps he is squatting beside the platform to keep his guard up in case Luke Skywalker should be among the tourists.
- **The Wedding** Cake is a **Stalagmite** festooned with icing and frills with a covering of **Flowstone** that resembles a multilayer white wedding cake.
- **The Bedroom** is a large room that is a favorite place for cavers to sleep when they are exploring and restoring the caverns.
- The Chess Pieces in the King's Row Room are enormous standing Stalagmites that look like the King, a Pawn, and a Rook in a row on a chessboard. Visitors, who are more than 158 feet underground at that point, can see the Chess Pieces from a safe platform with hand railings.

Visitors are encouraged to enjoy both the science and the fantasy that combine to create the magic of Glenwood Caverns and Historic Fairy Caves.

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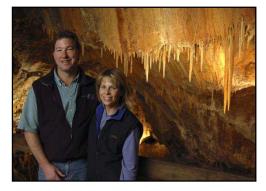
Acknowledgement for his work and thanks to Jim Nelson, Glenwood Springs historian, author of *Glenwood Caverns and the Historic Fairy Caves*.



Glenwood Caverns Adventure Park STEVE AND JEANNE BECKLEY Co-owners of Glenwood Caverns Adventure Park

#### Background

Steve and Jeanne Beckley are hikers, skiers, and outdoors adventurers. Steve grew up on the Western Slope in Colorado and graduated from the Colorado School of Mines with a BS in Petroleum Engineering. Jeanne was raised in Minnesota and graduated from Gustavas Adolphus College in St. Peter, Minnesota, with a BA in Math and Computer Science. Steve began working in the petroleum industry and Jeanne in the information technology industry.



After 16 years in their respective fields, they decided that they wanted to live in a smaller town, wear jeans and hiking boots to work instead of suits, and raise their children in a more laid-back rural atmosphere.

Steve and Jeanne are committed to Glenwood Caverns Adventure Park and Glenwood Springs. Steve was on the Board of Directors of the Glenwood Springs Chamber Resort Association for six years, was a member of the Glenwood Springs Tourism Board and has been active in the Glenwood Springs Rotary Club for many years. Both have volunteered for community events to enhance Glenwood Springs as a tourist destination.

The State of Colorado awarded the Beckleys the 2001 Governor's Award for Outstanding Community Tourism Initiative and the Glenwood Springs Chamber Resort Association named them Citizens of the Year for 2002. In 2004, Glenwood Caverns Adventure Park was named Business of the Year by ColoradoBiz magazine. In addition, the Beckleys received the Bosco 2007 Tourism Business of the Year Award, the 2009 Top Brass Award for Business Expansion, the 2010 Philanthropic Small Business of the Year Award by the Glenwood Springs Chamber Resort Association, and in 2011, the park was named Editor's Pick for "Best Emerging Attraction" by Colorado Meeting + Events magazine.

"We are committed to the concept of sustainable tourism; we live it every day. Without that commitment to the environment, our living caves could become just a big hole in the ground, a destination for only one generation. With our continued stewardship we hope that Glenwood Caverns will remain a living, dripping, growing cave system that our sons, our grandchildren and their grandchildren will be able to learn from and enjoy."

## How Glenwood Caverns Adventure Park Began

An avid caver since childhood, Steve read about the Fairy Caves, an extensive cave system in the top of the Rocky Mountains near Glenwood Springs, in an out-of-print book "Caves of Colorado," while he was in college. The Fairy Caves had been open to the public in the late 1800s but had been closed since 1917. In 1982 Steve contacted the owner of the cave to explore development; however, they were unable to agree.

In 1992, Steve and Jeanne put on kneepads and headlamps and for the first time squeezed through Jam Crack, a tiny vertical passage leading into the huge underground rooms now known to tourists as The Barn and King's Row. Steve persisted for the next sixteen years and in 1998 reached an agreement with the owner under which he would be allowed to develop the property.

After a deal was made with the owner for development, Steve and Jeanne began the substantial improvement projects necessary to allow the public to view this natural wonder. First they graded and graveled a road up to the cave entrance and cleared the Historic Fairy Caves of the debris that had collected there for more than 44 years.

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# ABOUT THE OWNERS/Page 2

Because the purpose of development was to make the living cave accessible to the public, and not harm the cave, Steve and Jeanne decided to carve a new tunnel into the mountain that could control temperature and humidity to preserve the formations. They installed two airtight doors in the new tunnel. The doors are 50 feet apart so that when visitors enter the airlock, the door closes behind them. With the help of this airlock, the ideal humidity and temperature of the caverns can be maintained, ensuring the continuing growth of the age-old formations.

They also installed temperature and humidity monitors to ensure that the integrity of the ancient formations is maintained. Glenwood Caverns and Historic Fairy Caves, the leading attraction of Glenwood Caverns Adventure Park, is now protected, able to continue to grow naturally and remain accessible to the public. Glenwood Caverns was named one of "The 10 Great Places to Go Underground" by USA Today and Best Family Cave Tour by Denver Westword.

#### **Continued Development of the Adventure Park**

Over the years, the Beckleys have grown their family-owned business into a thriving tourist destination with a long-range plan that keeps visitors coming back year after year. More than 165,000 people visited the Park during 2012.

- 1999 Opened Glenwood Caverns and Historic Fairy Caves to the public
- 2003 Launched Glenwood Caverns Adventure Park; opened the Iron Mountain Tramway, a mountain-top restaurant, gemstone sluice box mining and a sand pit fossil dig
- Added the first Alpine Coaster in the U.S., the Swing Shot (replaced in 2010) and a 32' climbing wall
- 2007 Added the Wild West Wagon
- 2008 Added the Fort WhereAmI giant maze
- 2009 Added Colorado's first 4D Motion Theater, a laser tag arena, the GiddyUp! Western ride, the Mine Shaft Shootin' Gallery and speleobox cave simulator, and kicked off the Music on the Mountain concert series
- 2010 Added the Giant Canyon Swing
- 2011 Added the Soaring Eagle Zip Ride
- 2012 Added the Cliffhanger Roller Coaster, the Wild West Express family roller coaster and the Mine Wheel Ferris wheel ride
- 2013 Expanded the Historic Fairy Caves Tour and added six new gondola cabin cars to the Iron Mountain Tramway
- 2014 Added the Glenwood Canyon Flyer and more free entertainment, including the Cowboy Camp and the Blacksmith Shop

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# Glenwood Caverns Adventure Park ABOUT GLENWOOD SPRINGS

**GLENWOOD SPRINGS**, Colo. — Glenwood Springs has been making history for more than 125 years. For starters, there's the world's largest hot springs pool roughly two city blocks long. Some claim the irresistible Teddy Bear was invented here. The story goes that President Theodore Roosevelt, who came to Glenwood Springs in 1905 to hunt bear in the surrounding woods, was consoled after an



unsuccessful outing by the Hotel Colorado staff, who presented him with a hand-stitched stuffed bear. Doc Holliday, gunman-gambler-dentist, headed west after the famous shootout at the OK Corral, where he hoped that soaking in the hot springs would cure his advanced tuberculosis. But the mineral-rich waters could not dissipate the ravages of the disease. Doc Holliday died at the Glenwood Hotel in November 1887. His gravesite in Linwood Cemetery remains a popular attraction today.

Glenwood Springs, which was voted **The Most Fun Town in America** by Rand McNally and USA Today in the 2011 Best of the Road contest, is located in the Roaring Fork Valley, situated between famous neighbors Vail and Aspen at the confluence of the Colorado and Roaring Fork Rivers. In addition to **Glenwood Caverns Adventure Park**, Glenwood Springs offers activities all year that delight its visitors.

## **Hot Springs Pool**

In the late 1800s, the Hot Springs Pool attracted wealthy tourists from around the world. Nowadays, it's a popular destination for families. There's plenty of space to splash around in the 90-degree pool; it's larger than a football field. Two four-story water slides keep the kids entertained for hours with more 300 feet of twists and turns. Parents and grandparents will enjoy relaxing in the smaller therapy pool, heated to 104 degrees. If the kids are getting waterlogged, challenge them to a game of miniature golf, located next to the water slides.

## **Outdoor Adventures**

Nestled in the heart of the Rocky Mountains, the 2.3-million-acre White River National Forest is the top recreation forest in the nation. Headquartered in Glenwood Springs, the White River National Forest is the largest national forest in Colorado and the 12th largest in the nation, with something to offer every outdoor enthusiast.

# **Rafting & Kayaking**

The Colorado River near Glenwood Springs has long attracted river revelers. Today, a host of commercial rafting and kayaking companies annually guide thousands of visitors down the Colorado and Roaring Fork Rivers through rapids with names like Upper Superstition and Tombstone, substantiating Glenwood Springs' stature as one of the country's premier whitewater destinations. Calmer waterways, such as South Canyon Rapids, are suitable for families with children as young as six. The city's whitewater park, added in 2008, is attracting kayakers from around the globe.

# **Gold Medal Fishing**

Glenwood Springs' early inhabitants, the Ute Indians, depended on fish to round out their diets. Today, the area's Gold Medal waters harbor an astonishing number of brookies, browns, cutthroats, and rainbow trout. Local guides can direct anglers to some of the best fly-fishing in the state.

## Spas

Glenwood Springs has been known as a healing destination for well over a century, because of the world's largest natural Hot Springs Pool and naturally formed Vapor Caves. Today visitors will find spas, fitness centers, and health and beauty treatment centers which complement Glenwood Springs' natural spa atmosphere.

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# GLENWOOD SPRINGS IS A YEAR-ROUND VACATION MECCA/Page 2

# Biking

The best way to get the lay of the land in Glenwood Springs is by bike. Glenwood Springs has mountain biking trails for any ability, from paved paths and country dirt roads, to rugged double- and single-track trails. Choices range from a leisurely ride through Glenwood Canyon on a scenic, 18-mile paved trail that hugs the Colorado River from Glenwood Springs to Dotsero, to the new Rio Grande Trail, a multi-use, 44-mile pathway from Glenwood Springs to Aspen.

# Camping

Campsites are available in public and private campgrounds located throughout the Roaring Fork Valley, ranging from secluded sites within the White River National Forest suitable for tents and RVs, to full-service RV parks. Glenwood Springs is a favorite spot for camping enthusiasts looking for access to a wide range of outdoor activities. Glenwood Canyon Resort, located in No Name, offers fully furnished, themed resort cabins, camper cabins, big-rig RV sites, a group tent area, and a bathhouse with laundry facilities.

## Golf

Championship-caliber golf is just a stroke away at any one of eight courses located within a 40-mile radius of downtown. Designed by some of the greatest names in golf, including Jack Nicklaus and Jay Morrish, courses boast Scottish-style links, undulating greens, and staggering mountain views.

## Hiking

Flowering meadows, alpine forests, abundant wildlife and beautiful views characterize the hiking experience surrounding Glenwood Springs. Hikers can choose a stroll along the Colorado River through Glenwood Canyon, or for a heartier dose of exercise, Hanging Lake, Storm King Memorial Trail, Red Mountain, and Lookout Mountain.

## **Horseback Riding**

A mighty long stretch of the West's history, majesty, and mystery seem to converge in Colorado's distilled mountain air. There's no better way to experience Colorado's cowboy past — or present — than riding the open range or high mountain meadows while a guide regales you with tales of the Wild West.

## Shopping

Glenwood Springs is the largest retail shopping area between Denver and Grand Junction. Its historic downtown district provides a wonderful selection of unique specialty shops. The Glenwood Meadows shopping center includes many one-of-a-kind shops, as well as some national chain stores.

## Skiing, Snowshoeing, and Snowmobiling

Glenwood Springs is surrounded by Colorado's premier ski destinations. Vail, Aspen, Beaver Creek, Snowmass, Buttermilk and Sunlight are all located within an hour of the park, and Breckenridge, Winter Park, Powderhorn, Steamboat, Copper Mountain, Keystone, Ski Cooper and SolVista are within two hours. Sunlight Mountain Resort has one of the longest cruisers in Colorado, over two miles long, as well as the one of the steepest extreme runs, boasting a 52 percent pitch. The avid cross-country skier and snowshoer will appreciate the 29 kilometers of groomed trails in the Nordic Center. The Snowmobiling Center has some of the best terrain and equipment in the valley.

# Learn more about Glenwood Springs and its attractions:

Glenwood Springs Chamber Resort Association — (888) 445-3696 or www.visitglenwood.com Sunlight Mountain Resort — (800) 445-7931 or www.sunlightmtn.com Hot Springs Lodge & Pool — (800) 537-SWIM or www.hotspringspool.com White River National Forest — www.fs.fed.us/r2/whiteriver

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Source: Glenwood Springs Chamber Resort Association



# Glenwood Caverns Adventure Park FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

# What should I wear?

The Park is located on top of Iron Mountain at an elevation of 7,100 feet. Because our weather can be unpredictable, it's a good idea to check the local weather forecast. The caverns stay 52 degrees year round, so please bring a light jacket or sweater and wear comfortable walking shoes.

## Where are you located?

Glenwood Caverns Adventure Park is located just off I-70 in Glenwood Springs, Colorado, midway between Aspen and Vail, approximately 160 miles west of Denver and 90 miles east of Grand Junction. To reach the Park, take exit 116, and turn north. Turn left at the stoplight and then left on Devereux. The ticket office for the Park is just ahead on your right.

#### What else is there to do in the area?

Glenwood Springs offers an incredible range of activities year-round, including the world's largest hot springs pool; world-class white water rafting, kayaking, and fishing; golf; scenic hiking and biking trails; spas; shopping; dining; downhill and cross country skiing, snowmobiling, and snowshoeing; horseback riding; hunting; wildlife viewing; festivals; downtown markets; free jazz concerts; and more. Call the Glenwood Springs Chamber Resort Association at 888-445-3696 or visit *www.visitglenwood.com* for more information.

#### How else can I get there?

Glenwood Springs is located just off I-70, exit 116, and is close to several airports. Eagle County Airport is 30 miles east of town; the Aspen/Pitkin County Airport is 40 miles to the south; and Walker Field in Grand Junction is 90 miles to the west. Amtrak's California Zephyr has year-round, daily arrivals in Glenwood Springs from points east and west.

## Do you offer group rates?

Yes, discounts are available to groups of 20 or more. Please call 970-945-4228 or 800-530-1635 for details.

## Is the Park handicapped accessible?

The Iron Mountain Tramway and Adventure Park, including the Adventure Park Gift Shop and the Lookout Grille, are wheelchair accessible. Because of the stairs and walkways that allow for safe foot travel through the cave's natural terrain, we're unable to allow wheelchairs or strollers into the caverns. We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause but are bound by Mother Nature's creation and the safety of our valued guests.

#### When is the Park open?

Please call 970-945-4228 or 800-530-1635 or visit *Glenwoodcaverns.com* for hours of operation. Some attractions are seasonal.

## Where can I park?

Free parking is available at the Iron Mountain Tramway Station. To minimize parking congestion, we encourage guests to experience Glenwood Springs by walking, biking or taking the bus to the Park.

#### Are pets allowed?

No, we do not allow pets on the Iron Mountain Tramway or inside the Park, except for service dogs.

#### Is public transportation available?

Ride Glenwood offers free transportation daily. The Roaring Fork Transportation Authority also serves Glenwood Springs and the Roaring Fork Valley. Visit *www.rfta.com* for schedules and routes.

#### Do you have a season pass?

Yes. We offer an Annual Tram Pass and an Annual Thrill Pass.

#### Is smoking allowed in the Park?

Smoking is allowed only in the designated smoking area located outside in the plaza area. Smoking or the use of any tobacco products is prohibited in the gondola cars, inside the Visitor's Center, including the restaurant and gift shop, and the inside the caves.

#### How long should I plan to stay?

Please plan to spend at least a half-day to enjoy the Park. If you're taking a Wild Tour, plan to spend the whole day so that you'll have time to enjoy the Park's other attractions as well.

#### What's the best time to visit?

The Park is open year-round. Summer is our busiest season, and there's always something fun going on. If you'd like to avoid the crowds, visit in the evenings or during the other three seasons. Please keep in mind that some of our attractions are seasonal and we are not open every day during the winter months. Please call or visit our web site for details.

#### What's the weather like in Glenwood Springs?

Average Monthly Temperatures*			
	High	Low	
January	36°	13°	
February	44°	19°	
March	53°	26°	
April	63°	31°	
May	72°	39°	
June	84°	45°	
July	89°	52°	
August	87°	51°	
September	79°	43°	
October	66°	33°	
November	49°	23°	
December	37°	15°	
* Courtesy of Weather.com.			