

For Immediate Release:

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# Real fun

## Just for Kids (of all ages)

**Steamboat**  
IN THE SUMMERTIME

One characteristic that sets Steamboat Springs apart is that it was a real town before becoming a resort. Families moved to the Yampa Valley for the lifestyle and raised their children to appreciate the outdoors. Here, there are more four-generation families than four-star resorts. The small town charm, Western hospitality, and emphasis on quality of life are the reasons why so many visitors return to Steamboat Springs every year.

### Summer Activities in Steamboat Springs

Locals will tell you they moved here for the winter but live for the summer; naturally, with school out, Steamboat in the summertime is the perfect destination to be a kid again. Let [www.steamboatsummer.com](http://www.steamboatsummer.com) be the guide to all summer activities and events.

### What's New for Kids and Families in 2006

**1. Steamboat Mountain Theater:** New to town the Steamboat Mountain Theater has entertainment for the entire family! Puppet shows, melodrama, juggling, live music and theater all located at the neighborhood theater near the base of the Steamboat Ski Area. Check their website for current schedules [www.steamboattheater.com](http://www.steamboattheater.com).

**2. Ranch Tours:** Visit three real western working ranches of the Yampa and Elk River valleys and learn about the history of ranching in the area. Keep an eye on the Events Calendar on [www.steamboatsummer.com](http://www.steamboatsummer.com) for dates.

**3. Yampatika kids and teens programs:**

**Wilderness Explorers:** Ages 9-11, join a Yampatika naturalist for a day hike and learn the skills of a backcountry explorer while you unearth the mysteries of the plants and animals that call the wilderness home. **Hikers on the Wild Side:** Ages 12-15, join a Yampatika skilled naturalists and discover Colorado's more remote trails, while learning how to stay safe in the backcountry. **Kid's Garden Club:** Ages 7-9. Meet at Yampa River Botanic Park Tuesdays from 9-11 am to learn about gardening from the ground up, from soil prep to harvest. Each week a new topic. For more info visit [www.yampatika.org](http://www.yampatika.org).

### Cooling off with water Top 5 family fun activities getting wet:

**1. Take a kayak lesson:** Minutes from downtown, the Yampa River meanders through the valley creating calm pools perfect for learning the basics of kayaking. Instructors from the **Mountain Sports Kayak School** will cater to the family's ability.

**2. Hang at the hot springs pool and waterslide:** While many Steamboat kids may spend their winter on skis or snowboards, they all find their way to the pool in the summertime.

**3. Tube the Yampa:** As summer heats up, the river slows down allowing for a perfect way to cool off splashing through town.

**4. Take a raft trip:** Steamboat Springs is considered a rafting "hub" with easy access to the Yampa, Green, Elk, Eagle and Colorado Rivers.

**5. Spend a day at Steamboat Lake:** Boating, fishing, or just a picnic, come see why Steamboat Lake State Park was voted one of the best Colorado State Parks by *Sunset Magazine*.

### Riding Bikes

#### Top 5 reasons Steamboat Springs is your family biking destination:

**1. Yampa Core Trail:** 7 miles of paved trail winding along the Yampa River from downtown to the mountain connecting parks, featuring picnic tables, and favorite fishing and swimming holes. The best part? It's mostly flat!

**2. More Burley trailers per capita than most towns its size:**  
If you don't have one, rent one!

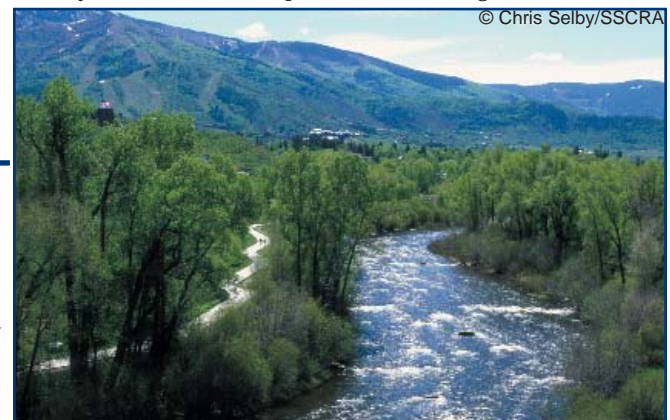
**3. Mountain Biking:** A wide range of mountain bike trails right in town including 50 miles of intermediate and expert trails at the **Steamboat Ski Area** (ride the gondola up and ride your bike down).

**4. Mountain Bike Clinics:** Whether you're a beginner, or looking for tips to improve technique, the **Steamboat Ski Area's** expert staff can take you to another level.

**5. Town Challenge Mountain Bike Series:** Includes a children's division so the whole family can compete.



Flying down the **Howler Alpine Slide** fun for the whole family and a fundraiser for the Steamboat Springs Winter Sports Club



The Yampa River Core Trail winds alongside the Yampa River

# Mountain Adventure

## Top 5 mountain activities:

### NEW! 1. Yampatika kids and teens programs:

**Wilderness Explorers:** Ages 9-11, join a Yampatika naturalist for a day hike and learn the skills of a backcountry explorer while you unearth the mysteries of the plants and animals that call the wilderness home. **Hikers on the Wild Side:** Ages 12-15, join a Yampatika skilled naturalists and discover Colorado's more remote trails, while learning how to stay safe in the backcountry. **Kid's Garden Club:** Ages 7-9. Meet at Yampa River Botanic Park Tuesdays from 9-11 am to learn about gardening from the ground up, from soil prep to harvest. Each week a new topic.

**2. The Howler Alpine Slide:** cruise down a 2,400 foot track on the face of Colorado's oldest ski area, Howelsen Hill.

**3. Rock Climbing: Rocky Mountain Ventures** equipped with guides and gear, can lead all levels of climbers on half-day or full day climbs.

**4. On Mountain Adventure Zone:** in the summer the base of the Steamboat Ski Area is transformed into an Adventure Zone, featuring the East Face climbing wall, Sling Shot trampoline bungee jump, Giggle Gultch Mini-Golf, Kids bounce, and disc golf provide hours of family fun for all ages.

**5. Scenic Gondola Rides:** almost like flying above the valley, only a hot air balloon ride can beat these views. Enjoy panoramic views of the whole valley and the gateway to hiking and biking.



Hiking at the Steamboat Ski Area



©Community Ag Alliance

**Ranch Tours** offered monthly June-August or arranged by appointment for groups

events plus a few activities just for the kids. Part of the PRCA ProRodeo Tour.

**4. Horseback Ride:** one of the best ways to experience the beauty of the Yampa Valley and its surrounding mountains.

**5. Routt County Fair and Rodeo:** Celebrating its 92nd Anniversary this year, the Routt County Fair, August 16-20, promises to entertain the entire family with rodeo and agricultural exhibits.

## Family Friendly Food

Steamboat Springs' locally owned restaurants understand the needs of families. For a small town there are choices all over the map for fickle eaters of all ages. Tip: Eat early; ask for the kids' meals to come out first.

### Top 5 family friendly restaurants:

**1. Old Town Pub:** One of the historical landmarks of downtown. Their extensive menu means there's something the whole family will enjoy.

**2. Johnny B. Good's:** Burgers, shakes and fries in a fun 50s style diner.

**3. Steamboat Smokehouse:** Throw your peanuts on the floor while waiting for authentic western BBQ.

**4. Slopeside:** Just off the biking and hiking trails at the base of the ski area. Burgers, pizza, salads and their own back yard next to their outdoor seating.

**5. 8th Street Steakhouse** order off the menu, or cook them your way on the grill! (No clean-up required). The kids will love the saddle seats and s'mores for dessert!

### Top 5 picnic spots:

**1. Strings Festival Park:** enjoy a picnic dinner on their three acres that include lush landscaping, a waterfall, reflection pool and plenty of space to run around before a family concert.

**2. Thunderhead:** take a scenic gondola ride at the Steamboat Ski Area and take in the views, ride back down or hike.

**3. Yampa Core Trail:** stroll or bike along the path and take your pick of parks or picnic tables along the Yampa River.

**4. Yampa River Botanic Park:** spread out on the lawn surrounded by flowers, plants and trees.

**5. Fish Creek Falls:** visit one of Steamboat Springs most popular attractions, let the kids explore the park and take a family portrait to remember it by.

## Wild West Adventure

With over 100 years of rodeo history, treat the little ones to a taste of the old west.

### Top 5 Western must dos:

**NEW! 1. Ranch Tours:** visit three real western working ranches of the Yampa and Elk River valleys and learn about the history of ranching in the area.

**2. Cattle Drive:** experience the life of a real western working ranch and help bring in the cattle.

**3. Pro Rodeo Series:** Professional rodeo cowboys and all the favorite rodeo events plus a few activities just for the kids. Part of the PRCA ProRodeo Tour.

**4. Horseback Ride:** one of the best ways to experience the beauty of the Yampa Valley and its surrounding mountains.

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# Musical, Cultural & Educational Events

## Strings in the Mountains Music Festival's Family Concert Series: July 18, August 1 & 8

Come and experience an early evening of entertainment at Strings' Family Concerts! These wonderful and affordable one-hour performances are fun for family members of all ages. Explore the sounds of Jazz, world, and folk/bluegrass music.

[www.stringsinthemountains.com](http://www.stringsinthemountains.com)

## Strings in the Mountains Music Festival's Music on the Green

Every Thursday at 12:15, music lovers of all ages walk, bike, or ride ArtLink (a Thursday bus tour of Steamboat Springs' art community) to the concert donning picnic baskets and lawn chairs. A perfect opportunity to remember why everyone loves summer!

[www.stringsinthemountains.com](http://www.stringsinthemountains.com)



Children dance the day away with Strings in the Mountains Youth and Family Concert Series © Strings in the Mountains Music Festival

## Steamboat Springs Free Summer Concert Series: June-August

Colorado's great outdoors is arguably one of the best places to attend a summer concert and Steamboat Springs has a price that can't be beat: Free! This year's line up will be announced sometime late May or early June. Recent artists appearing during the Steamboat Springs Free Summer Concert Series include: Bela Fleck and the Flecktones, John Hiatt and the Goners, Big Head Todd and the Monsters, North Mississippi AllStars, Steel Pulse, The Nitty Gritty Dirt Band, Los Lobos and Jimmie Vaughn. Concerts begin at 5:30 p.m., and alternate between the base area of Howelsen Hill and the Steamboat Ski Area. For more details stay tuned to [www.steamboatsummer.com](http://www.steamboatsummer.com)

© Steamboat Springs Arts Council



Chalk art at the Beaux Arts Festival

## Kaleidoscope Art Exploration for Kids:

A program for children to explore visual and performing arts with local and visiting artists. Summer workshops offer art education to at least 150 kids throughout the summer. Three sessions, one per month June-August. Register through Steamboat Springs Parks & Recreation

970-879-4300. For more information visit [www.steamboatspringsarts.com](http://www.steamboatspringsarts.com)



Learn about bugs with Yampatika © SSCRA

## Yampatika Field Seminars: May-September

The whole family can join Yampatika to learn more about the Natural and Cultural resources of Northwest Colorado. Youth are taught environmental ethics and regional, natural, and cultural history through a partnership with the school system. Newly developed discovery processes offer hands-on, regional activities. Join them for their ongoing programs or other special events.

[www.yampatika.org](http://www.yampatika.org)

## Kids Adventure Camp: June-August

Have fun and exciting adventures with the Kids Adventure Camp this summer at Steamboat! KAC offers activities for children 3 - 12 years of age through various programs: Mini-Campers, Yampa Campers and Routt Scouts.

Activities for younger children include short hikes, arts and crafts, outdoor games, water sports, Strings in the Mountains concerts, canoeing, and the Bungee Jump Trampoline. Older children will experience invigorating trips to Steamboat Lake, Craig Wave Pool and Hahn's Peak Lake while participating in mountain biking, outdoor games and riding the Alpine Slide.

KAC operates Monday through Friday, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. and will gladly accept children as early as 7:30 a.m. and care for them until 5:30 p.m. Ten day and 20-day passes are available at reduced rates. For more information or to register, please visit [www.steamboat.com/kacreg](http://www.steamboat.com/kacreg).

For the most up-to-date information on Steamboat Springs events, activities, and planning a summer vacation getaway log onto:

[www.steamboatsummer.com](http://www.steamboatsummer.com)