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Let's Go to Boulder

How can we find out about community services in different cities or towns? You can find information about many towns and cities on the Internet. All you have to do is write the name of the city or town in your address bar. Let's try www.boulderusa... and have a look.

www.boulderusa...

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Boulder Colorado

SEARCH

Boulder is a small city in the state of Colorado in the USA. The Native American tribes first visited Boulder in 1858 and then developed a settlement. The first services included food, mining equipment, housing, and transport for the miners who were going into the mountains in search of gold and silver. Very soon, in 1860, the first school was established and the University soon after in 1874.

miner (n) – someone who digs coal, gold, etc. from the ground

www.boulderusa...



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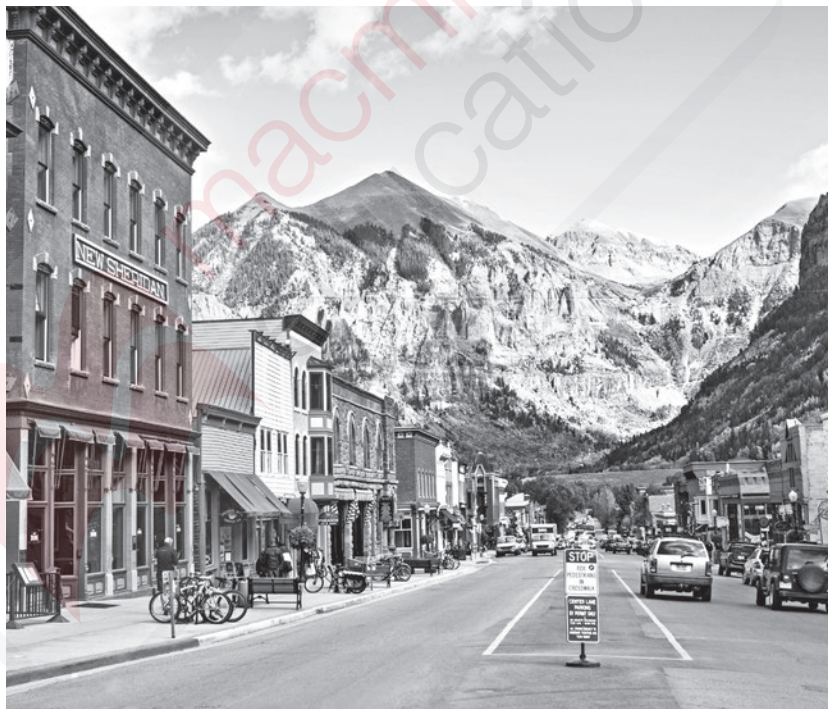
Recreation

Want to have a real adventure?
Try extreme rockclimbing!



Bus Stations

Try the hopper bus pass! Get
on and off the bus as many
times you want!



Today, there are no more miners looking for gold because all the gold and silver ran out. However, there are diverse community services for residents and visitors.

gold (n) – a valuable
yellow metal

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What services can you find?



Transportation Services

The main bus service is called the RTD. The buses have stops all over the city and you can take it to Denver, the capital of Colorado, which is only an hour away, and even to the airport. There are taxis, of course, but the most popular means of transportation is the bicycle! Almost everybody has a bicycle and rides it from school or even work. Bicycling is considered so important that if it snows during the night, the city will sometimes clean off the snow from the bicycle paths before they clean the roads. Many people take their bikes into the mountains. There are special trails for bikers and hikers. You can get maps of the 200 miles of trails in the mountains around Boulder.

trail (n) – a path through the countryside, especially one designed for walking for pleasure



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Recreation Services



For residents and visitors having fun is especially important, so there are many services for both summer and winter seasons. In the summer people love to be outdoors; besides doing some biking and hiking, there are public swimming pools, tennis courts, basketball courts and of course, golf courses. You can even go hot air ballooning. If you are afraid of flying in a balloon, you can ride horses on many trails. You can paddle a kayak or float through



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paddle (v) – to move a small boat through water using a short pole

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Downtown Boulder on an inner tube. Many climbers go to Boulder to climb the beautiful Rocky Mountains in the area. Young people love to take their skateboards to the walkways throughout town, especially the Boulder Creek pathway. In the winter, you can go skiing in the mountains close to Boulder. If you like to ice-skate then you should go to the ice rink that is right downtown.



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creek (n) – a narrow stream



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Food Services



Boulder is famous for offering all types of healthy food in the grocery stores and supermarkets. There are very large chain supermarkets that have stores all over the USA and there are small gourmet and specialized markets that sell organic products. There is probably at least one in each neighborhood. If you live in Boulder, you can buy your groceries online and have them delivered to your home. The farmers in Boulder established the first Farmers' Market in 1986. They set up their stalls and sell their home-grown products directly to the public. You can be sure that they are all organic. It's a lot of fun to visit the Farmers' Market because you can also buy home-made scented soaps, home-baked cakes, bread and cookies, and other arts and crafts made by local artists. You can ask the farmers about growing crops and many other tips.



Addresses

Where does all the food come from? Just follow the farm trail!
[Click here!](#)

healthy (adj) – something helping you stay physically strong and not sick

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If you are planning to eat out, you can choose from over 300 restaurants that offer dishes from all over the world including Mexican, Asian, Italian, and American. Downtown Boulder is full of cafes, book shops, and boutiques; you can get organic coffee and fruit drinks, gourmet pizza, ice cream, hamburgers and many other treats. You won't go hungry!



Restaurants

Do you want to spend the day drinking tea?

Are you hungry for pizza?

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dish (n) – food prepared in a particular way

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Library Services



One of the most interesting services that Boulder offers is the Library. If you need support with your homework, you can ask for help. You can use the library computers to do your work and you can use the Internet service to help with your research. There are many resources in the library: journals, encyclopedias, and many books on specific subjects. There are reading groups for all ages. You can get together with your friends and talk about the books you have read. You can even take classes for young writers. There is an online service especially for teens. You can send in reviews of books, play games, take part in the art exhibitions and find out the date for the next teen game night. There is always an art exhibition by teens online at www.boulderlibrary.com ... Isn't that great?

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journal (n) – a magazine relating to a particular subject or profession

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Entertainment Services



Boulder is a great place to visit and to live. Every summer thousands of visitors walk down the Pearl Street Mall. You can enjoy the sidewalk events every evening. The clowns and magicians entertain children and adults. Many people play music and sing, and if you want to find out about your future, the card readers are always ready to read your palm, tea leaves, or cards. There is always something to do along the four blocks of the downtown mall.

Get your tickets to the theater here!

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magician (n) – someone who does tricks to entertain people

There are many more services to investigate on the web. If you like what you read, you may decide to visit Boulder. Most cities in the world have “sister cities” and one of Boulder’s sister cities is Ciudad Mante, Tamaulipas, in Mexico. Now, that sounds interesting, let’s go find out more at www.mante... and plan our next trip.



interesting (adj) – something that makes you want to know about or take part in it

Comprehension Questions

1 Circle T (True) or F (False).

- 1 Most cities in the world have web sites. T F
- 2 We can find a lot of information about cities on their web site. T F
- 3 This article gives us information about safety. T F
- 4 You can find electronic toys at the Farmers' Market. T F
- 5 Eating out is an important activity in Boulder. T F

2 Complete the sentences.

Rocky Downtown Farme's Organic RTD

- 1 The main bus service of Boulder is called _____.
- 2 Climbers love to climb the _____ Mountains.
- 3 At the _____ Market, you can buy some groceries and _____ food.
- 4 _____ Boulder is full of cafés, book shops and boutiques.

3 Choose the correct option.

- 1 In Boulder's library, you can use the _____
to do some research.
- a) reading groups b) Internet service
- 2 There is always _____ by teens online.
- a) art exhibitions b) video games
- 3 Every _____ thousands of visitors walk down
the Pearl Street Mall.
- a) winter b) summer
- 4 _____ entertain children and adults.
- a) clowns and magicians b) fireworks and dancers
- 5 _____ is Boulder's sister city.
- a) Ciudad Hermosillo b) Ciudad Mante

4 Answer the following questions.

- 1 What are the different types of services that are mentioned
in the article?

- 2 Which of these services can you find in your city or town?

- 3 Does Boulder sound like an interesting place to visit?
Why or why not?

- address (n)** – a series of letters, numbers, and symbols that show you where to find a particular website on the Internet
- block (n)** – the distance along a city street from where one road crosses it to the next road
- boutique (n)** – a small fashionable shop, especially one that sells clothes
- bus pass (n)** – a special ticket that allows someone to travel by bus without paying each time
- climber (n)** – someone who takes part in the activity of climbing
- clown (n)** – someone in a circus who wears funny clothes and makes people laugh
- coal (n)** – a hard black substance that is dug from the ground and burned as fuel to provide heat
- craft (n)** – a skill of making things by hand
- crop (n)** – a plant grown for food
- deliver (v)** – to take something to a place
- downtown (n)** – in or near the center of a town or city
- enjoy (v)** – to get pleasure from something
- float (v)** – to move slowly on the surface of a liquid
- fortune-teller (n)** – someone who tells you what is going to happen to you in the future
- groceries (n)** – food that you buy regularly
- grocery store (n)** – a small store that sells food and other goods
- ice rink (n)** – an area of ice where people can ice-skate
- ice-skate (v)** – to move around on ice with ice-skates
- inner tube (n)** – a rubber tube filled with air that fits inside a tyre
- neighborhood (n)** – a particular area of a town or city
- organic (adj)** – food or drink produced using no or only a small number of artificial chemicals

Glossary

paddle (n) – a short pole that you push into the water in order to move a small boat such as a canoe. It is wide and flat at one or both ends

palm (n) – the inside part of your hand

research (n) – a detailed study of something

review (n) – an article in which someone gives their opinion

run out (v) – not have any left of something

search (v) – an attempt to find something

season (n) – one of the four periods in which the year is divided

settlement (n) – a place where a people start a community

sidewalk (n) – an area along the side of a street

silver (n) – a light gray bright metal

skateboard (n) – a board with four wheels at the bottom

stall (n) – an area with a large table used for selling things

summer (n) – the season when the weather is hottest

support (n) – help to do something

teen (n) – a person between the ages of 13 and 19

treat (n) – something special that you do or buy for yourself or someone else

tribe (n) – a large group of related families that live in the same area

Bibliography

These sites provide further information about this topic.

- <http://bouldercoloradousa.com>
- <http://boulderdowntown.com/visit>