



ADVENTURE FACT SHEET

Overview

Smith Fork Ranch is an all-inclusive luxury guest ranch set in the West Elk Range of the Rocky Mountains. During the ranch's signature 6-night vacations, guests can customize their stay to participate in adventures and activities to match their interests and experience levels.

Guided Excursions – As part of the all-inclusive program, ranch guests can choose one full-day excursion or up to two half-day guided activities each day. Smith Fork Ranch also outfits the guests with top-of the line gear and supplies for each activity.

- **Horseback Riding:** Smith Fork Ranch offers a versatile riding program, accommodating beginner to advanced riders of all ages. The experienced wranglers on staff match each guest with a horse based on their size, ability and personality.
 - **Trail Rides:** Guests can explore more than 150 miles of trails on ranch and in untouched backcountry through two to three hour, half-day trips or five to six hour all-day excursions.
 - **Culinary Rides:** Breakfast and lunch rides are also available, as well as ever-popular sunset cocktail rides and a foraging by horseback experience (seasonal and weather-dependent).
 - **Equestrian Arena:** In the ranch's 250-foot arena, experienced guests can practice their riding skills, barrel race, play a game of "steer soccer" or receive private western riding instruction.
 - **Teen and Kid-Friendly Rides:** Guests seven years of age and older can participate in independent trail rides. Children under 7 can participate in pony rides, under the watchful eye of experienced wranglers and a youth counselor.
- **Fly Fishing** – Smith Fork Ranch Provides premier fly-fishing, with more gold medal fishing water nearby than any other five-star destination in Colorado. It boasts one of only two natural habitats for rare A-strain Colorado Cutthroat.
 - **Private River:** Three private miles of the Smith Fork of the Gunnison River runs through the ranch, ideal for first-rate fly-fishing.
 - **Trout Ponds:** There are six stocked trout ponds on the ranch where guests can fish at their leisure, with or without a guide.
 - **Back Country Excursions:** The ponds and streams found throughout the backcountry near the ranch are home to populations of cutthroats, brook, brown and rainbow trout. An experienced guide will lead guests on foot or on horseback for a day of fishing in the mountain valley.
 - **Big River Fishing:** Some of Colorado's best rivers for fishing including the Gunnison, Roaring Fork, Crystal, Frying Pan, Taylor and Lake Fork are minutes away from the ranch and offer diverse fishing opportunities. The famous Gunnison River received gold medal awards for Anglers and can be accessed through floating or walk-and-wade trips. *(Additional fee may apply)*
- **Sporting Clays** – The ranch sporting clay center features state-of-the-art traps including a wobble trap, and Beretta 12 and 2- gauge shotguns, with a beautiful backdrop of the West Elk Range and Saddle Mountain. Guests can compete in a challenging and fun clay target game that simulates field hunting.
- **Archery** – Guests can enjoy archery lessons and two ranges set along the Smith Fork River. One of the ranges is a timed course, where guests race through the trees to each station to hit targets from elevated platforms and other obstacles.

- **Mountain Biking:** Smith Fork Ranch has complimentary bikes available to use for guided or self-guided mountain or road biking adventures. Guests can enjoy a leisurely ride through the ranch property and Gunnison National Forest, or kick it up a notch and hit one of the more challenging single-track trails to get the adrenaline pumping.
- **Overnight Pack Trip** – Guests can book an overnight backcountry excursion with local guides. Landsend outfitters offers weekly pack trips on horseback into the wilderness surrounding Smith Fork Ranch. After a two-hour ride, guests will find themselves in a private backcountry camp with top quality camping gear, safari style walk-in tents and cots with mattresses. Cocktails, hors d’oeuvres, dinner and breakfast the following morning are served with views Mt. Guero. The descent back to the ranch ends with a gourmet plated lunch at Smith Fork Ranch.

Off-Ranch Adventures – Guests will have no trouble finding adventures on property at Smith Fork Ranch, but the surrounding area is filled with Rocky Mountain excitement, from colorful mountain towns to award-winning vineyards, to the stunning Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Park, an officially designated Dark Sky Park.

- **Hiking:** Miles of scenic hiking trails can be found on and off the ranch. Popular hikes include a climb to the base of Needle Rock lookout, or an all-day hike to the top of Bald Mountain.
- **Explore Protected Lands:** One of the newest national parks in the system, the nearby Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Park, offers beautiful hikes along the rim and down into the canyon. Stargazing is out-of-this-world at the Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Park, which was certified as a Dark Sky Park in September 2015 by the International Dark-Sky Association. Guests can also visit the nearby Grand Mesa National Forest and Crawford State Park.
- **Whitewater Rafting and Kayaking:** The ranch can arrange whitewater rafting and kayaking excursions through 1,000-foot canyons, ranging from gentle to challenging waters. *(Additional fees will apply)*
- **Fall Hunting Trips:** Nearby Landsend Outfitters offers hunting guides, backcountry camps and horse-packing services for guests of Smith Fork Ranch. *(Additional fees will apply)*
- **Tour the North Fork Valley:** The towns of Crawford, Hotchkiss and Paonia in the North Fork Valley boast some of Colorado’s best wineries, farms, orchards, craftsmen and artisans. Guests can visit art galleries, attend glassblowing demonstrations and lessons or learn to make pottery from true Colorado masters. Guests can pick up maps of the West Elks Wine Trail for self-guided tours of the area wineries and vineyards and arrange for transportation through the ranch. *(Additional fees may apply)*

Kid and Teen Programs – The ranch takes pride in kid and teen programs that focus on age appropriate activities that are both exhilarating and educational in the western environment. The youth counselors and guides are carefully chosen for their talents, flexibility and experience with kids and teens.

- **Morning and Afternoon Activities:** Kids and teens have the option to join their parents in ranch activities or take part in the dedicated youth programming. Activities include kids only horseback rides, fishing, arts & crafts, tending the farmstead garden, dance lessons, archery and more.
- **Kid’s Dinners:** In the evenings, the ranch offers an optional kid’s dinner with the youth counselors, while adults enjoy cocktails on the pavilion. Special kid-friendly dinner options are available with make-your-own-pizza night; create your own sundae and campfire s’mores.
- **Campfire Nights:** After dinner kids, teens and their parents gather by the river at the campfire pit with log benches for singing, stargazing, s’mores and campfire stories.
- **Overnights in Tipis:** Teens often enjoy sleeping in the two reproduction Ute Indian tipis on site – complete with sleeping bags, lanterns and snacks. Younger children and their parents often enjoy this activity as well.