

Colorado . . .

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To see a living museum of plant life, a traveler should visit the Denver Botanical Gardens, 10 minutes outside of downtown Denver. This is the place for not only plant lovers, but for everyone. Displays include a tropical conservatory, an orchid-bromeliad pavilion, a Japanese Garden, and a Rock Alpine Garden with thousands of mountains of plants in bloom, all among foliage and blooms, pools and numerous waterfalls. Historic landmarks can also be found in Denver.

One of these is the Unsinkable Molly Brown's house. Molly Brown

became a national heroine in 1912. She was on the Titanic when it sunk and her knowledge and her ability to speak several languages helped save numerous lives.

There is more to Colorado than the city of Denver, which is evident in the numerous state parks and recreational facilities.

Lake Dillon, the second largest lake in Colorado, surrounded by mountain peaks and pine trees, offers numerous recreational opportunities, such as boating, fishing, and sailing.

Near the town of Frisco, 70 miles west of Denver, hiking, backpacking, horseback riding and jeep trips are

summertime favorites. There is a 50-mile paved bike-path connecting small towns. Frisco is also the center of many world class ski areas, four of which are less than 15 minutes away — Arapahoe Basin, Breckenridge, Copper Mountain and Keystone/North Peak.

Rocky Mountain National Park and the Estes Park Valley are sure stopping places for any traveler. These parks offer everything from camping to skiing, from boating to canoeing and fishing.

Colorado's diversity and numerous outdoor activities can provide travelers with plenty of summer or winter activities.

Road trips: Where to go and what to do

By Ana Balka
Staff Reporter

So, you want to go on a road trip? Great! But how are you getting there? Where are you staying, and what are you going to do once you get there?

Most people know basically what kind of place they want to travel to when they come to a travel agency, said Lisa Nun at Lincoln Tour and Travel. If they don't, they must consider their priorities. Do they want to go to the beach or the mountains? Somewhere close or far? Most importantly, what kind of budget are they working with?

A travel agent can assist potential vacationers with almost all the details of a trip. Agents make hotel and flight

or train reservations and arrange car rentals. These services are free to the consumer since the agencies receive commissions from airlines, trainlines and hotels. Agencies also have travel packages that are offered by the airlines or hotels, the cost of which include airfare, lodging, and often meals and activities.

Travelers should think about how much time and money they have to spend on their vacation when deciding how to get there. Air and train travel is fairly cheap now. Also, if a vacation is only going to last a few days then the time saved by flying or taking a train could be worth the cost. However, if several people can share the cost of gas and don't mind the extra time, going by car can be cheaper.

For vacationers traveling by car, the American Automobile Association has a road trip service that will plot the shortest route to your destination for you. You must have an AAA membership for this. AAA Travel Agency is open to the public and can give information on interesting places, sights and fun things to do, as well as give the same services other agencies do.

Lately many people have been lured by "cheap deals" advertised in magazines. Often these deals will seem too good to be true; they may offer free or very low-priced air fare to somewhere if you stay in a certain hotel, or some other similar plan. According to Nun, you can tell if one of these isn't such a great deal if you call and they tell you about several "surcharges" that can add up to a lot of money, or if the package is very structured and you have to follow it exactly to get the deal. The best thing to do if you're not sure about a plan is to call the Better Business Bureau, Nun said.

American inherits British title

CUMBERLAND, Maine — The New Earl of Wharcliffe says he would rather remain the old construction foreman of Cumberland, thank you just the same.

"I like it here in Maine," says Richard Wortley, 34, who learned Monday he had inherited the title in Britain.

"I enjoy my job and I'm not sure I would want to give it all up to move."

A reporter in Yorkshire, in northern England, informed Wortley by telephone of his inheritance on the death of pneumonia last week of the fourth earl, Alan Wortley MacKenzie, 52, who had no sons.

Wortley's late father was the earl's cousin and Wortley is the earl's closest living male relative.

"I'm happy to be the earl," but as for moving, "I had other plans for the summer," Wortley said in a telephone interview with The Associated Press.

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