

RECREATIONAL INFORMATION

Golden Gate Canyon State Park:

parks.state.co.us/Parks/goldengatecanyon
303-582-3707

USDA Forest Service

Arapaho & Roosevelt National Forest:

www.fs.fed.us/r2/arnf/
970-295-6600

Forest Service, (local) Clear Creek District:

303-567-2901

Gilpin Historical Society Museum:

www.gilpinhistory.org
303-582-5283

Central City Opera:

www.centralcityopera.org
303-292-6500

Black Hawk & Central City

Visitors & Convention Bureau:

www.visitbhcc.com
303-582-3345

Gilpin County Community

Recreation Center and pools:

co.gilpin.co.us / 303-582-1453

Gilpin County Administration:

co.gilpin.co.us / 303-582-5214

GILPIN COUNTY

Gilpin County Administration
203 Eureka Street
Post Office Box 366
Central City, Colorado, 80427
303-582-5214 phone
303-582-5440 fax

co.gilpin.co.us

Photographs courtesy of the
Gilpin Historical Society, J. Simpson,
J. Sturenberg, C. Takahashi, N. West, J. West.

Cover Photographs:

Gilpin County view of James Peak

Winter scene

Autumn aspen

Local Indian paintbrush



Colorado

GILPIN COUNTY

a rural mountain community



co.gilpin.co.us
303-582-5214

Life in the High Country

Gilpin County is a rural community in Colorado's high country, neighboring the continental divide, yet less than an hour west of downtown Denver. Gilpin County is host to vast recreational opportunities offered by Golden Gate State Park, the Arapaho and Roosevelt National Forests, the limited stakes gaming in the cities of Black Hawk and Central, and a state-of-the-art recreation center and fairgrounds.



Gilpin County moose

Visitors

Hiking, camping, fishing, biking, snowshoeing, cross country and backcountry skiing are among the many activities enjoyed by Gilpin County visitors. Our spectacular outdoor playground includes Golden Gate Canyon State Park, the Arapaho & Roosevelt National Forests, the James Peak Wilderness area, the Continental Divide National Scenic Trail and the Peak to Peak Scenic and Historic Byway.

Limited-stakes gaming, historical tours, museums, an art gallery, the Central City opera, shops, and community events such as a spring flea market, the summer county fair, and fall and winter festivals also offer visitors a taste of excitement, history, culture and community.

Residents

Gilpin residents enjoy a quality of life enhanced by rural neighborhoods nestled amongst scenic natural beauty, low taxes, and a financially secure local government. The county's close proximity to the Denver metro area adds relative convenience to a rural mountain life, and the variety of community events and programs, the new recreation center, the local school systems, public library and free local public transportation system add to the strong sense of community.



Recreation Center activity pool

History

Gilpin County is one of the original 17 counties in Colorado, formed with the institution of Colorado Territory in 1861, and named for its first territorial governor, Colonel William Gilpin. Central City, near where John Gregory struck gold on May 6, 1859, became the county seat, and remains so to this day. Gilpin County, and its two cities, Black Hawk and Central, are steeped in rich mining history. Walking tours, historical home tours, an opera house, museums, a visitors' center and even an annual "cemetery crawl" offer a genuine local history experience.



Gilpin County Courthouse

Events

Our recreation center and fairgrounds are host to many fun and educational programs for children, adults and families. Annual events, such as the county fair, flea market, fall and winter festivals not only add to the excitement, but are free to the public.



Westernaires at the Gilpin County Fair

GILPIN FAST FACTS

Founded: 1861

Location: North Central Colorado

Distance to Denver: 37 miles

Elevation:
6,960 to 13,294 feet above sea level

Square Miles: 150

Population: 5,042

Cities: Black Hawk, Central City

County Seat: Central City

Historic District:
Central City/ Black Hawk National
Historic District

Adjacent Counties:
Boulder County, north
Jefferson County, east
Clear Creek County, south
Grand County, west