

THE DATING STRATEGIST

Find "The One"

Here, our favorite groups for outdoorsy types seeking like-minded mates.

Running

Beginner: The Irish Snug Running Club meets each Thursday night for a run/walk/stagger/crawl down Franklin Street and around Cheesman Park. The route ends back at the pub for pasta and drink specials. www.irishsnugrunners.com

Advanced: The serious single runner should try Runner's Edge of the Rockies, a focused and intensive running group. It's not all work, however, with plenty of social events at which you can meet a marathon cutie. www.runnersedgeoftherockies.com

Skiing

Beginner: The Schussbaumer Ski Club touts 150 single members, with abilities that range from ski novice to downhill pro. The club's claim to fame is its Breckenridge Chalet (ooh-laa-lah), which sleeps 72 single "friends." www.schussbaumer.com

Advanced: Serious skiers might find the Slalom Gates Ski Club a bit more to their liking—with day trips and cross-country skiing excursions for a bit more challenge while you're mingling. www.gatesski.org

Hiking

Beginner: Boulder Singles Hikes is a great way to get out and explore hikes around the foothills. Leaving at 5:30 p.m. on Friday and 9 a.m. on Sunday, the hikes range from easy to moderate. www.singleshikes.com

Advanced: "Scrambling," a somewhat ambiguous term to define the cross between hill walking

and rock climbing, is the name of the game for the Rocky Mountain Scramblers, a group of hiking enthusiasts who dare to wander off the well-beaten trails. *hiking.meetup.com/212/?gj=sj5*

Cycling

Beginner: The Denver Bicycle Touring Club provides fun rides early in the season so members can get those quads back into shape. *Four Colorado's vineyards or head out on a multiday tour to really get to know that some body special.* www.dbtcs.org

Advanced: With more than 700 members, the Boulder Core Cycling Club is the place to meet your budding Mr. and Mrs. www.mrgorides.com

Miscellaneous

Triathlon: The second Tuesday of the month, members of the Boulder Source Multisport Club meet for lectures and lessons on the sport—from nutrition to bike maintenance. On the weekends, they go on group rides and runs. All levels are welcome—beginner sprinters to seasoned Ironmen. But the best part is, with 130 members, you're bound to find a sweetie with whom you can practice your transitions. www.bikesourceclub.com

Tennis: The great thing about tennis: You can't play it alone. Meet over 300 forehanded hotties with the Denver Tennis Meetup Group, and pick your potential partner for both on and off the court. *tennis.meetup.com/218/?gj=sj6*

—Brian Melton

Scouting Report

Colorado's best pick-up spots for active types.

1. Jamestown Mercantile Co.

(108 Main St., Jamestown)

WHO YOU'LL FIND:

Road-bikers grabbing a Gatorade after the long ride up James Canyon Drive from Boulder.

2. Needleton stop on the Durango & Silverton Narrow Gauge Railroad

(Mill Road 484, Needleton)

WHO YOU'LL FIND:

Backpackers getting gear, trading gorp recipes, and the suspension bridge before taking off on treks along the North Fork of the Colorado Trail.

3. The Red Lion

(304 Bridge St., Vail)

WHO YOU'LL FIND:

Skiers looking for the best après-ski scene in Vail. They've crowded into the unpretentious Red Lion for more than 40 years for live music, libations, and a whole lot of flirting.

4. Strawberry Park Hot Springs

(44200 County Road 36, Steamboat Springs)

WHO YOU'LL FIND:

Snowboarders soaking sore knees and butts in one of the toasty 100-degree-plus pools. Clothing is optional after dark, and the Springs are open late on weekends.

5. Shambhala Mountain Center

(4921 County Road 68C,

Red Feather Lakes)

WHO YOU'LL FIND:

Yogis reconnecting with themselves—and others—on a weekend retreat where they can explore the center's 600 acres of fields, ponds, forests, and streams.

6. Green Mountain Trail

(Alameda Parkway & Foothill Drive, Lakewood)

WHO YOU'LL FIND:

Singletrackers fitting in a quick, after-work ride on this seven-mile trail. Bonus: Riders congregate at the top to watch the sunset.

7. Platte Canyon Grill

(60629 U.S. Highway 285, Bailey)

WHO YOU'LL FIND:

Snowshoers coming down from Kenosha Pass and stopping for midafternoon snacks.

8. MoHenry's Trout Shop

(540 Zerex St., Fraser)

WHO YOU'LL FIND:

Anglers signing up for guided trips along the Colorado and Fraser rivers while browsing through the flies.

9. Kathy's Viewpoint

(1200 Ski Hill Road, Breckenridge)

WHO YOU'LL FIND:

Cross-country skiers cozying up at this warming hut at the Breckenridge Nordic Center.

—Natasha Gardner

5280

Magazine