

150716 Preview Kebler Pass Video
Gunnison Co. Colorado

Bike for this ride is 1968 BMW R60

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W. 247
CAMPING AREA

GUNNISON
National
Forest

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE



















West Elk Loop

SCENIC AND HISTORIC BYWAY

NORTH FORK HARVESTS

Early pioneers recognized that the mild climate of the Hotchkiss/Paonia area, also known as the North Fork Valley, could support quality fruit production, and in 1882 the first orchards were planted. In 1902 the Denver & Rio Grande Railroad arrived, providing an efficient means to move the harvest to market. Today, cattle ranching, mining, fruit growing, wine making, and area artisans contribute to the local economy.



EARTHEN ENDEAVORS

The region from Paonia to Somerset produces high quality, low-sulfur coal. The arrival of the railroad in the early 1900s enabled development of several mines in the region. Towns also were established to support the miners-Bowie (named after Scottish born Alexander Bowie) and Somerset (named after Somersetshire, England) are two excellent examples.

AWESOME GORGES

The Black Canyon of the Gunnison combines depth, narrowness and sheerness of walls like no other canyon in North America. Reaching a depth of 2,700 feet in places, the Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Park offers trails and overlooks from which to view the canyon and river. Take curving Highway 92 east of Crawford to drive more of the canyon's rim within Carcanti National Recreation Area. At its end, discover Blue Mesa Reservoir, the largest body of water in Colorado. Hit the dirt road off the beaten track to view the spectacular colorful double canyons.

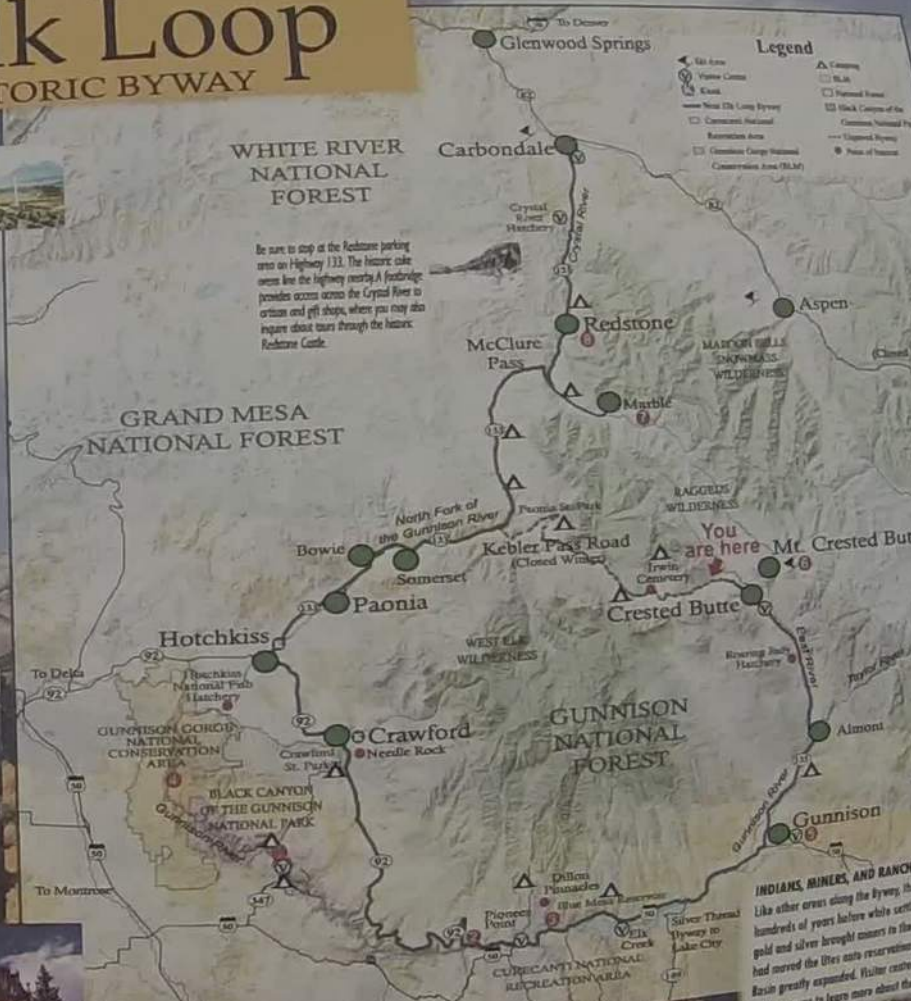


WHITE RIVER NATIONAL FOREST

Be sure to stop at the Redstone parking area on Highway 133. The historic cake oven line the highway nearby. A footbridge provides access across the Crystal River to grass and gift shops, where you may also inquire about tours through the historic Redstone Castle.

GRAND MESA NATIONAL FOREST

You are here



CRYSTAL RIVER SAUNTER

From the agricultural lands around Carbondale, the gateway to the West Elk Loop Byway, to the quarters of Marble, the Crystal River holiday offers an opportunity to enjoy area history as well as it all in Redstone. A once in a while made famous by Hollywood (opened in the early 1960s), the potential here, Carbondale has known as Redstone (and, in Redstone has real reflections on former owner's cottages Redstone National and its residence, gift shops, and



LOFTY RECREATION

At about 9,000 feet, Mr. Crested Butte is a place to enjoy a spectacular view of the valley below, artistic the colorful, white, snow-covered mountains, which offers easy trails, other scenic, and snowboarders and skiers.

INDIANS, MINERS, AND RANCHERS

Like other areas along the Byway, the region was home to the Indians for hundreds of years before white settlement. From the 1840s through 1880s, gold and silver brought miners to the mountains. By 1881, the great mineral had moved the Ute onto reservations, and cattle ranching in the Gunnison Basin greatly expanded. Visitor center staff can direct you to area parks and museums to learn more about the region's rich history.









Welcome to
CRESTED BUTTE
A National Historic District







PRIME



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THE COMPANY STORE



1907



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END