



Trail Ridge Road Alternate Routes

Trail Ridge Road (U. S. Highway 34) is the high road through Rocky Mountain National Park. Weather permitting, it is open from the Friday before Memorial Day Weekend until wintry weather and heavy snows close it, usually in mid-October to early-November. However, storms and unsafe road conditions can close Trail Ridge Road at any time.

Some alternate routes are listed below. All of these routes involve driving on winding mountain roads. Allow approximately 3.5 – 4.5 hours (or more) for alternate routes between Estes Park and Grand Lake, Colorado.

For the most up-to-date status of Trail Ridge Road, 24 hours a day, please call **(970)586-1222**. This line is updated any time the road's status changes.

South Route via the Peak to Peak Scenic Byway

About 141 miles total

West to East, Grand Lake to Estes Park

Drive south on US 34 for 15 miles to Granby

Turn left (east) onto US 40 and drive 48 miles to I-70. You will pass through Winter Park

Take I-70 east to exit 243, the Central City Parkway

Take the Central City Parkway 8 miles to Central City; follow the signs to Black Hawk/CO 119

Turn left onto CO 119 and drive about 16 miles north to Nederland

In Nederland, follow the traffic circle signs and take CO 72 toward Estes Park

Drive north on CO 72 for about 23 miles to a T-intersection with CO 7

Turn left (west) onto CO 7 and drive about 22 miles to Estes Park

Alternate Route: Drive east on I-70 to exit 244, US 6. Take US 6 for 2 miles to the intersection with CO 119. Turn left onto CO 119 toward Black Hawk

East to West, Estes Park to Grand Lake

Drive south on CO 7 for about 22 miles to CO 72

Turn right (south) on CO 72 for about 23 miles to Nederland

In Nederland, take the first right in the traffic circle, which is CO 119

Drive south on CO 119 for about 16 miles to the first stoplight at Black Hawk

Turn right and follow the signs through Central City to the Central City Parkway

Take the Central City Parkway 8 miles to I-70

Alternate Route: Drive south from Nederland on CO 119 for about 24 miles to US 6. Turn right and take US 6 to I-70

Take I-70 west to US 40 at exit 232

Drive north on US 40 through Winter Park to Granby, 48 miles

Turn right on US 34; drive 15 miles to Grand Lake

South Route via Boulder

If winter driving conditions exist, this route can be safer

About 150 miles total

West to East, Grand Lake to Estes Park

Drive south on US 34 for 15 miles to Granby

Turn left (east) onto US 40 and drive 48 miles to I-70. You will pass through Winter Park

Drive east on I-70 to exit 244, which is US 6

Take US 6 east to Golden, about 13 miles

Turn left (north) at the stoplight on the west side of Golden onto CO 93; drive 20 miles to Boulder

Stay on this road, which becomes Broadway in Boulder; drive through town and out the north end

Turn left onto US 36 and take this to Lyons, 17 mi.

Turn left at the stoplight and drive all the way through Lyons

At the west side of Lyons, turn right and take US 36 to Estes Park, about 22 miles

East to West, Estes Park to Grand Lake

From Estes Park, take US 36 east 21 miles to Lyons

Turn left at the stoplight and drive east through Lyons. Turn right at the stoplight onto US 36 to Boulder

On the north side of Boulder, turn right onto Broadway

Drive all the way through Boulder on Broadway, which turns into CO 93 on the south side of Boulder; continue south to Golden

Turn at the stoplight for US 6 and turn right (west)

Take US 6 to I-70

Take I-70 west to US 40 at exit 232

Drive north on US 40 through Winter Park to Granby, 48 miles

Turn right on US 34; drive 15 miles to Grand Lake

North Route via Cameron Pass

Note: the Stove Prairie Road between CO 14 and Masonville is very narrow and winding.

Alternate route: drive east on CO 14 to US 287; turn right (south) and drive through Fort Collins and Loveland to US 34 (reverse the route if heading west)

About 169 miles total

West to East, Grand Lake to Estes Park

Drive south on US 34 for 15 miles to US 40

Turn right (west) and drive for 2 miles to the intersection with CO 125

Turn right (north) and drive 31 miles to Rand and CR 27

Drive 17 miles east on CR 27 to Gould (this is a good dirt road, maintained by the county)

Alternate Route: Continue on CO 125 to Walden; turn right (east) onto CO 14 and take this to the turnoff to Stove Prairie and Masonville

Turn right on CO 14 and drive 51 miles to CR 27

Turn right and drive to Masonville, and then continue on CR 27 to US 34, about 30 miles

Turn right (west) onto US 34 and drive up the Big Thompson Canyon about 23 miles to Estes Park

East to West, Estes Park to Grand Lake

Take US 34 east about 23 miles

Turn left (north) toward Masonville

Turn left in Masonville on County Road 27 (Stove Prairie Road) and go about 13 miles to CO 14

Turn left onto CO 14 and take this over Cameron Pass to the town of Gould, 51 miles

Turn onto CR 27 and drive 17 miles west to Rand (this is a good dirt road, and county-maintained)

Alternate Route: Continue on CO 14 to Walden, turn south onto CO 125 and drive 55 miles to US 40

Turn left onto CO 125 and drive 31 miles south to the intersection with US 40

Drive 2 miles east to US 34 near Granby

Take US 34 north for 15 miles to Grand Lake

