



ROCKY MOUNTAIN NATIONAL PARK

TRIP PLANNER



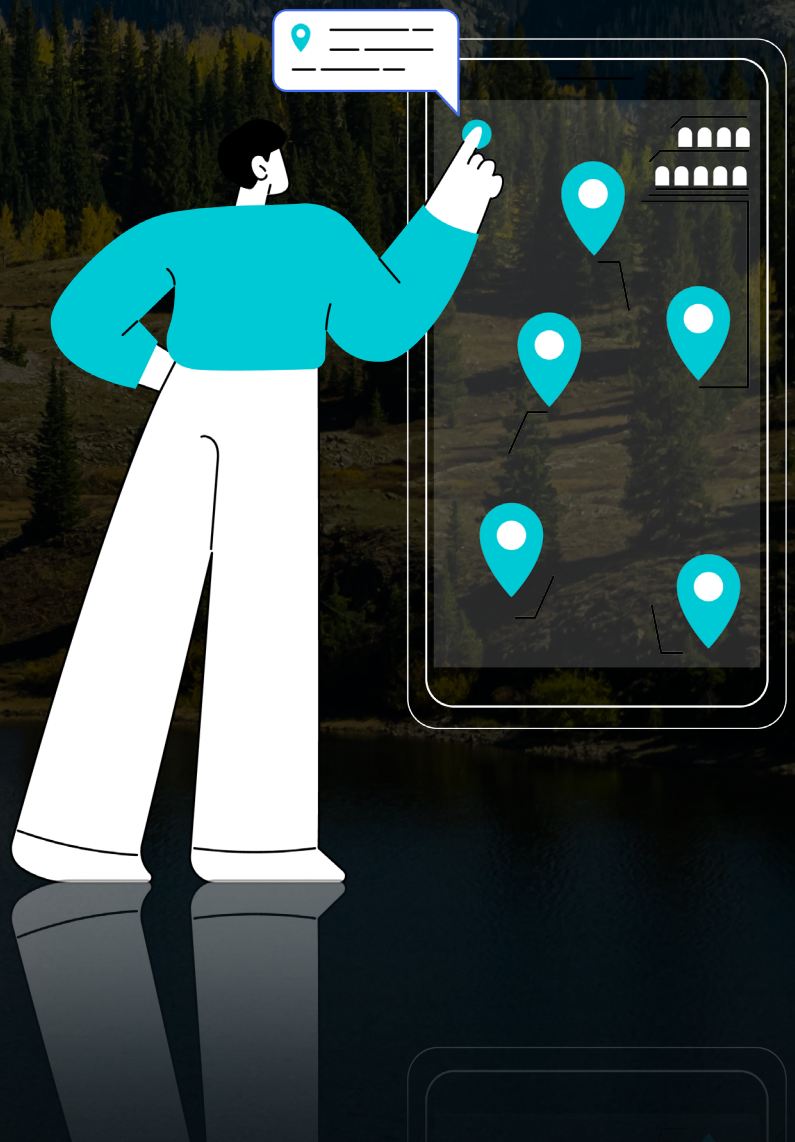
40+ Miles



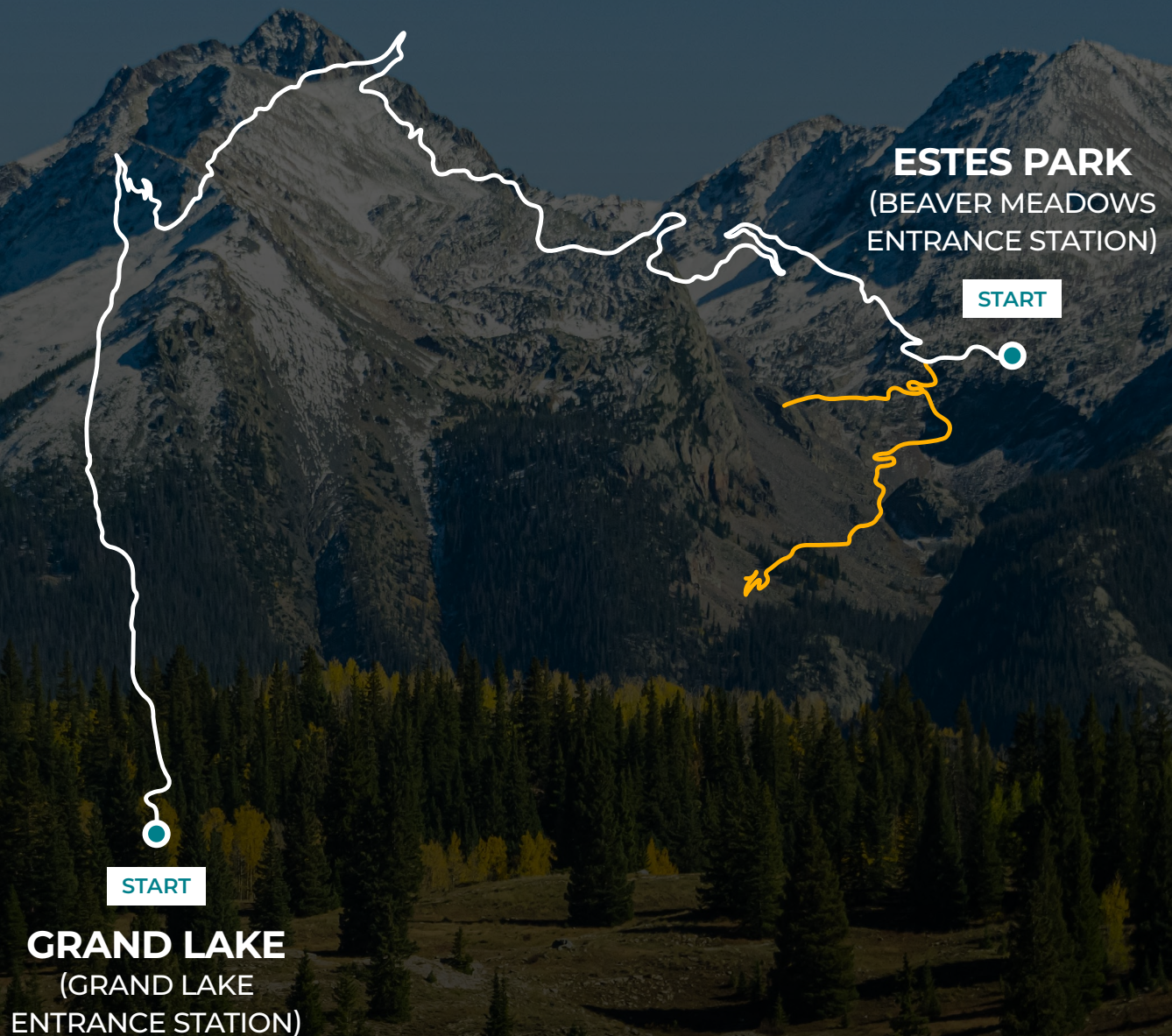
2-3 Hours

TRIP PLANNER

- Where to Enter
- Must-See Points
- Best Hikes (Quick, Moderate, Long)
- Itineraries (One Day)
- Where to Stay
- Know Before You Go
- Packing List



WHERE TO ENTER

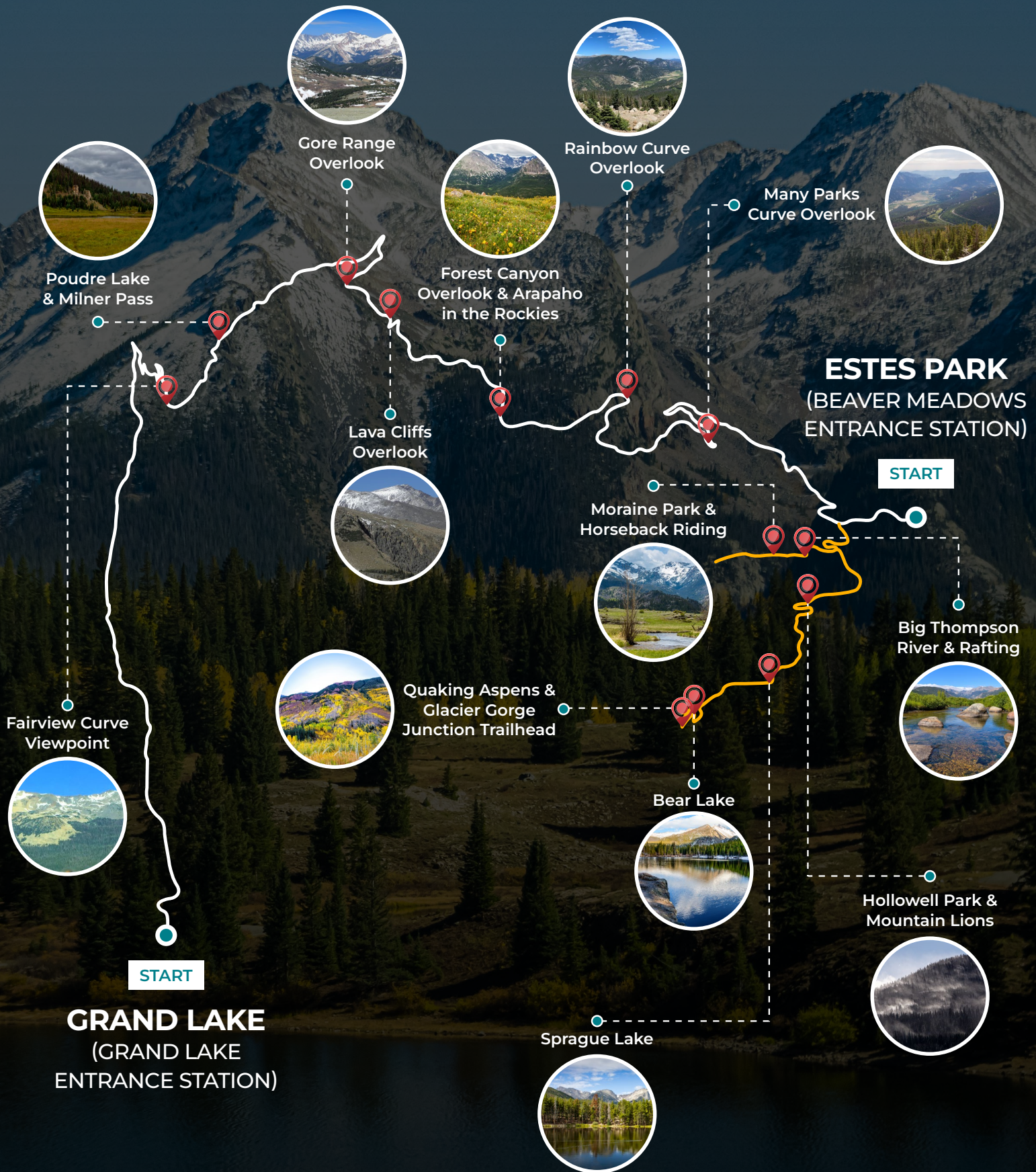


Your self-guided tour supports both entrances! Both entrances are available as a separate tour version.

Don't worry — Both the versions have the same stories, just tailored to each entrance. One is not better than any other!

Be sure to have all of the versions downloaded ahead of time because there's no signal once in the park.

MUST-SEE POINTS



BEST HIKES



SPRAGUE LAKE



Easy



0.8 Miles



20 Mins



COYOTE VALLEY TRAIL



Easy



2 Miles



45 Mins



BEAR LAKE



Moderate



0.8 Miles



20 Mins



EMERALD LAKE TRAIL



Moderate



3.2 Miles



2 Hours



TOMBSTONE
RIDGE VIA UTE
TRAIL



Moderate



3.8 Miles



1-2 Hours



DEER
MOUNTAIN
TRAIL



Moderate



6 Miles



3-4 Hours

ITINERARIES

You can enjoy the park at your own pace with the self-guided audio tour from Action Tour Guide.

This flexible tour can be completed in one day. Since it is valid for one year and offers unlimited usage, you don't have to worry about seeing everything in one visit.

ONE-DAY ITINERARY:

- Start your day early by entering the park through one of the entrances. Make sure to download the Action Tour Guide app and tour beforehand, as there might be little to no signal available within the park.
- The orange line on the trip planner map marks the shuttle section of Bear Lake Road in Rocky Mountain National Park, where shuttle service operates alongside personal vehicles. From late May to mid-October, shuttles are required from 9 AM to 5 PM to reduce congestion and protect the park. Check the [shuttle schedule](#) in advance.
- Stop at the Must-See points highlighted on the tour (marked in the tour as "Must-See"):
 - Many Parks Curve Overlook
 - Rainbow Curve Overlook
 - Forest Canyon Overlook & Arapaho in the Rockies
 - Lava Cliffs Overlook
 - Gore Range Overlook
 - Poudre Lake & Milner Pass
 - Fairview Curve Viewpoint
- You have plenty of time to experience all of the quick hikes. You can also choose one of the moderate hikes (See Hikes section).
- End your day by watching the sunset from a scenic spot like Forest Canyon Overlook or Many Parks Curve. Enjoy the beautiful colours of the sky as it turns golden, creating a peaceful and memorable end to your adventure.
- If you're staying longer in Colorado, you can also check out our [Colorado Bundle](#), featuring more scenic drives, national parks, and top tours. For more, visit [Actiontourguide.com](https://www.actiontourguide.com)!

WHERE TO STAY



ESTES PARK

Located near the park's Beaver Meadows Entrance, Estes Park is a vibrant gateway town offering direct access to Rocky Mountain National Park. It's perfect for exploring key attractions like Bear Lake and Trail Ridge Road, with plenty of lodging, dining, and outdoor activities available.

GRAND LAKE

Positioned at the park's Grand Lake Entrance, Grand Lake is a picturesque town providing direct access to Rocky Mountain National Park's western side, including Trail Ridge Road. It's perfect for exploring the park's alpine views and offers various lodging, dining, and recreational activities.

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO



ENTRANCE FEES: Requires a park pass, which is not included in the self-guided tour. [Review pass options.](#)



RESERVATION: There are two types of reservations: "Timed Entry" provides access to all park areas (excluding Bear Lake Road) from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., and "Timed Entry + Bear Lake Road" offers access to Bear Lake Road and all park areas, including Moraine Park and Sprague Lake, from 5 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily. [Reserve here before your trip.](#) Click [here](#) for other reservations.



OPERATING HOURS: Open 24 Hours. Year-Round. Partial closures or limited accessibility in winter due to snow. [Learn more.](#)



SHUTTLES: Rocky Mountain National Park offers free shuttle service on the Bear Lake and Moraine Park routes during peak seasons. Operating on a first-come, first-served basis, these shuttles connect popular trailheads and scenic spots along Bear Lake Road. Check the [schedule](#) for seasonal hours and routes.



ROAD CLOSURES: Trail Ridge Road is closed to traffic during the winter season due to heavy snow. Unexpected weather or construction incidents can also affect roads during regular park hours. While the tour is updated frequently to include detours, it cannot reflect up-to-the-minute updates. [Check before you leave.](#)



PARK RULES AND SAFETY: Stay on designated trails, camp in designated areas, and respect wildlife and natural resources by following the [Rules and Regulations](#). Follow all NPS [Laws and Policies](#). Be familiar with the park's [Safety Guidelines](#).

PACKING LIST



Binoculars



Extra Layers



First Aid Kit



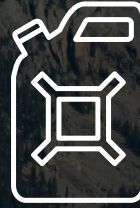
Snacks



Portable Charger



Phone Holder



Gas



Bear Spray



Insect Repellent



Sunscreen



Water



Hiking Boots



Hat & Glasses



Beachwear