

25 TOP EXPERIENCES



Denver

I At last Denver (p54) – adventurous, cosmopolitan and uniquely Western – has found its place among the USA's top cities. With a young population and near-constant blue skies, residents love to show off their neighborhood nightspots, galleries and eateries. It's a dynamic renaissance. Of course, the old Denver – that of thick steaks, mountain sports and plucky frontier spirit – is still alive and well, making this city in the shadow of the Rockies a well-rounded destination for travelers.

Boulder

2 Tucked up against its signature Flatirons, Boulder (p104) has a sweet location and a progressive soul, which has attracted a groovy bag of entrepreneurs, hippies and hardbodies. Packs of cyclists ride the Boulder Creek Bike Path, which links to all abundance of city and county parks purchased through a popular Open Space tax. The pedestrian-only Pearl St Mall is lively, especially at night, when students from the University of Colorado and Naropa University mingle and flirt. In many ways Boulder, not Denver, is the region's tourist hub. Cycling on Boulder Creek

