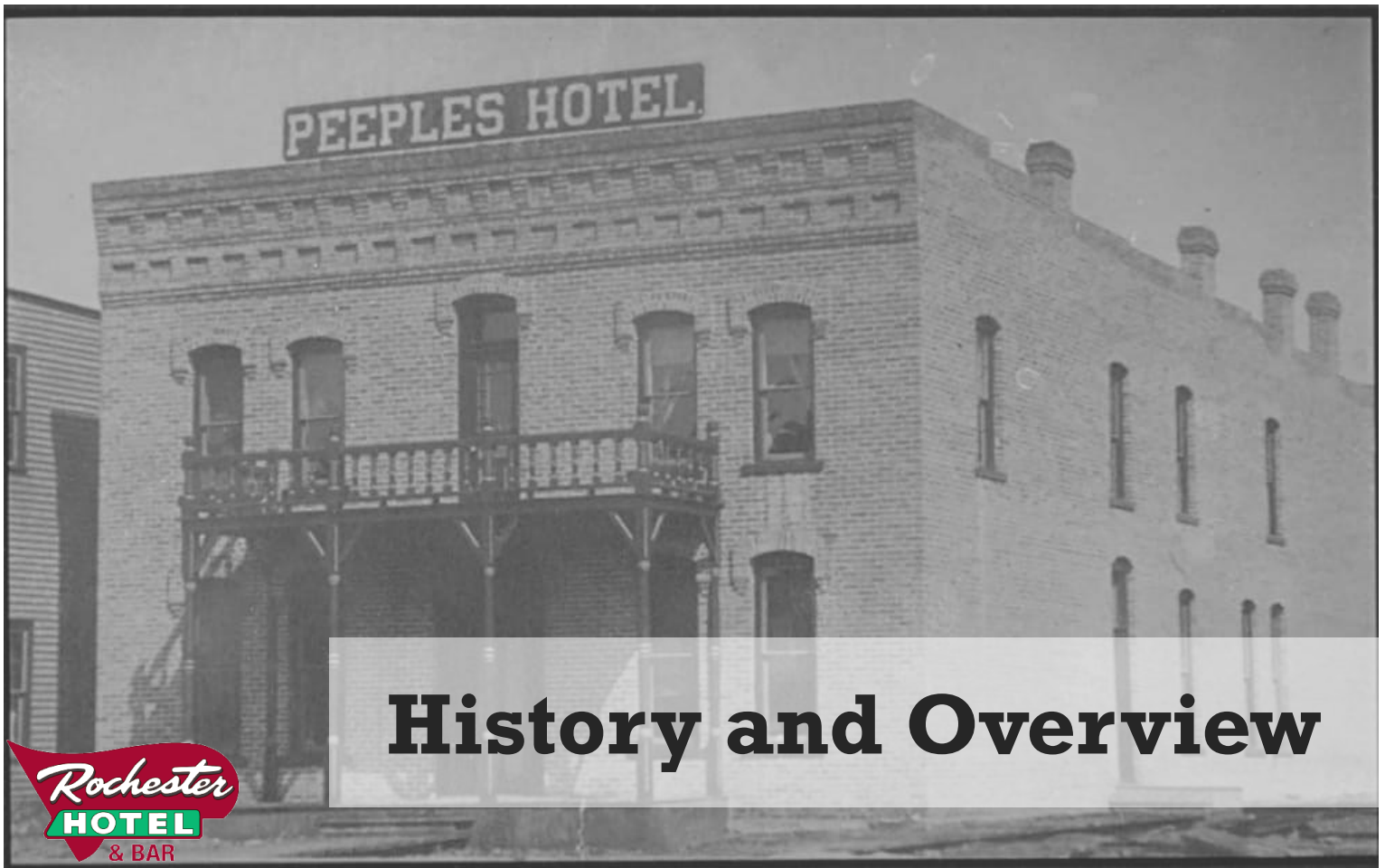


2019 Press Kit



Rochester
HOTEL
& BAR





History and Overview



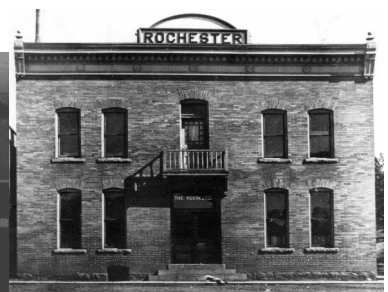
The Rochester Hotel

The historic Rochester Hotel in downtown Durango, Colorado is 127 years old. Built in 1892 by J.T. Peeples, the property has always been operated as a hotel, though it has seen many changes throughout its lifetime. Originally dubbed “The Peeples Hotel” for its creator, J.T. Peeples, the building’s character has evolved to reflect its many caretakers. It became The Rochester Hotel in 1905, named by Mary Francis Finn, who owned and operated the hotel for 15 years. Mary was the first owner to install indoor bathrooms.

As the Rochester has matured into the historic building it is today, each of its dedicated contributors have worked to preserve the integrity of the original structure at its birth, interpreting a late-Victorian style today.

The Leland House

The Rochester is complemented in every way by the Leland House, which also has it’s own significance in history. It was built in 1927 by P.W. Pittman, a well-known builder in the area during the time. Originally purposed as apartment units, the Leland House was the first of the hotels to be renovated in 1993.





The Rochester Hotel

Today, the Rochester Hotel holds a treasured place in the Durango community. Where luxury meets the West, the hotel strives to preserve the unique Western heritage found in the southwest. Themed for the “Hollywood of the Rockies” era, the hotel reflects a time when cinema produced some of its finest work in the Western genre such as *Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid*, *Across the Wide Missouri*, *The Maverick Queen*, and *City Slickers*. Each room in the Rochester Hotel takes on its character from one of many classics filmed in and near Durango, Colorado.

The Leland House

The Leland House celebrates Durango’s history by bringing the town’s famous historic figures back to life. Through photos and articles that line the halls, The Leland House offers its guests and visitors a glimpse into the town’s Western legacy. Each room is a testament to relevant figures in Durango’s history and truly preserves the essence of life in the Old West.







The Secret Garden

Adjacent to the Rochester building lies our Secret Garden and Courtyard, canopied by two large and ancient silver oak trees. The garden is an oasis from the hot summer sun where many of our guests enjoy chilled chardonnay in the evenings and fresh gourmet breakfast in the mornings. Bursting with colorful flowers and luscious green grass, the garden is a perfect pocket of paradise for all during hot summer afternoons. Guests can watch hummingbirds flit and fly, while music complements the natural charms of summertime.

Whether it's a girls' night out, a birthday celebration, or a wedding ceremony, the Secret Garden has hosted many wonderful occasions. On Wednesdays during the summer months, the Secret Garden hosts live music accompanied by gourmet sliders and cold beverages to entertain any passers-by and raise donations for charity. The charities and non-profits are chosen in conjunction with the Community Foundation, which is one of the Rochester's local partners.

Considering that the garden is only available from April to October, the hotel also has indoor accommodations for winter events. Guests are welcome to also reserve the Lobby or Train Car for their special get-togethers.





One way the Rochester has brought Durango and 2nd Ave into the modern era is by introducing a new coworking space called R Space. This coworking trend is up-and-coming for many large cities, where working people create a membership in order to access work space away from home. Coworking spaces like R Space allows those who work from home an affordable office space that boosts productivity, whether they're local or traveling for business.

R Space presents members a multitude of membership options, ranging from a daily pass to dedicated desks and everything in between. There is also a list of benefits for those who purchase a membership such as:

- Discounted rates at the Rochester Hotel and Leland House
- Access from 7am-7pm for most members
- Highspeed Fiber Internet (100mbps up/down)
- Free coworking days at dozens of other locations across the United States



Green Initiatives



Part of Durango's culture is keeping an eye on the carbon footprint a business leaves. The Rochester Hotel and Leland House have made huge steps in cutting our carbon footprint and waste output throughout our years in operation.

We encourage guests and coworkers to walk or bike from our central location. We added a solar charging port for guests traveling by electric car. We are also taking strides to eliminate our plastic waste. We did this by replacing small travel bottles of shampoo and lotion with refillable containers. These containers hold all Aveda products and are stationed within the showers for our guests.

We have focused on making sure housekeeping isn't wasting too much water or putting toxic chemicals into the air of our rooms. To combat these traditional ways to clean, we have transitioned to non-toxic cleaning products as well as water and electricity saving washing machines for all laundry. There are also notes in every room to remind guests that the choice is theirs if they want their bedding changed, but reminds them the impact their choices have on the environment. There are also a lot of structural ways we reduce our carbon footprint. Through the use of low-wattage bulbs and low-flow toilets, the Rochester Hotel and Leland House reduce the waste of water and electricity. The building was restored, rather than rebuilt, as a way to keep the environment in mind. Using all of these initiatives has allowed the hotel to continue operating in an eco-friendly way that is non-traditional to the industry.





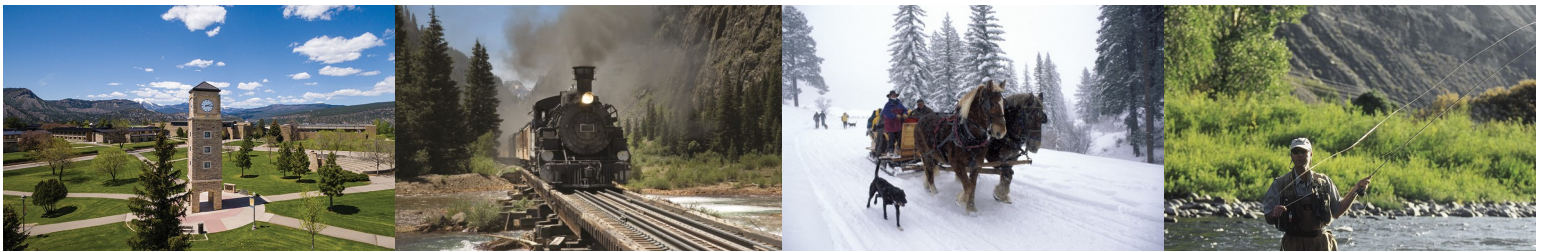


Overview of Durango

Established in 1880 during the glory days of the gold rush, Durango was built upon the labor of the Denver and Rio Grande Railroad. Durango's fascinating history begins with its origin as a mining town and support settlement for smaller mining towns in the San Juan region, such as Silverton to the north. The Durango and Silverton Narrow Gauge Railroad was constructed as a line of access between the two towns to ship precious metals out of the Rocky Mountains.

Today, the Narrow Gauge Railroad carries passengers from around the world to spectacular views hidden in the San Juans. Upon arriving to Silverton, visitors can explore sky-high mountains and ghost towns. Exploring Silverton is truly a walk through history. It is here that the whispers of the Old West become present-day wonders.

Modern-day Durango is a mecca for the adventurous. The surrounding Rockies cradle our little town giving each visitor a 360-degree view of mountains and mesas boasting endless trails to explore. Home of Fort Lewis College, the community is especially close-knit and supportive of neighbors, friends, and family. Durango strives to emulate what Western hospitality means and looks forward to each season of travel, yearning to share our beloved home with visitors from all around.



Out-the-Door Attractions



Durango's beautiful scenery offers extensive activities for outdoor adventure. No matter what season, you can find a plethora of excursions on which to embark. Enjoy glorious powder days on top of Purgatory at Durango Mountain Resort during the winter months, and race down the alpine slide or mountain bike during the summer.

The Durango and Silverton Narrow Gauge Railroad snakes through caverns, down canyons, and along cliffs on its way to historic Silverton, promising breathtaking views around every corner. The train follows the Animas River and passes rafters ready to take on rapids. Many of the rafting companies advertise jeep tours into remote regions of our Rockies.

Whether you're a hiker, camper, mountain biker, nature enthusiast, or one who encompasses all of these passions, each day in Durango contains a multitude of opportunities to thrill the everyday explorer.

When you stay at the Rochester Hotel and Leland House, you'll find adventure at your fingertips by simply stepping out the door. We encourage you to find your own expedition and are proud to host all types of sojourners!





Live Like a Local

Durango offers many unique dining experiences throughout town. Whether it's pub food, a fancy dinner date, or a cool setting to have a drink, Durango has them covered just within its downtown grid. Between Main Ave and 2nd Ave, there are plenty of places for guests to eat, drink, and be merry. This easy access to great cuisine allows visitors to really immerse themselves into the culture of the Southwest and have an authentic Durango experience. With so many places to eat, it's important to note that our staff can also make reservations for guests upon request.

Steamworks: An award-winning brewery with delicious pub-style food. A must-visit for anyone coming to town if they want to experience modern-day Durango's culture.

The Bookcase and Barber: By day they're a barber shop, but by night they turn into Durango's only speakeasy, where a password is required to enter. This password can be found on their website or Facebook page.

El Moro: This tavern has been around since Durango was established, and they pride themselves for keeping their historic culture alive through delicious food in a historically restored restaurant.

11th Street Station: With live music, a bar, and multiple food trucks, 11th Street offers guests a tailored experience and a lively culture based on their own preferences.

Eno: A wine bar that offers a modern experience in this little Western town. They offer visitors a wide selection of wines and cocktails.

Cyprus Café: Located next to the Leland House, this Mediterranean style café prides themselves on farm-to-plate foods for a fresh, light, meal.





Annual Rochester Events

Summer Concert Series

Held in our very own Secret Garden, this summer concert series allows The Community Foundation to raise money for nonprofits in the area. Ten nonprofits are chosen, and each Wednesday from late-June through August a concert is held in the garden where the cover charge is donated to the chosen nonprofit for that night.

Noel Night

This event pushes the citizens of Durango to shop locally in order to boost the economy in the winter months. Originally this event started as a way to help those affected by the Missionary Fire in 2002, but since then it has become a way for the locals to understand how their buying power affects the city.

Iron Horse Classic

Held during Memorial Day weekend, the Iron Horse Classic is a group of biking events. The most popular event is the 50-mile race against the train, which starts in Durango and ends in Silverton.

Autumn Arts Festival

Held on 2nd Ave, this festival is a chance for artists to display and sell their work. This is also accompanied with live music on the mainstage and food booths surrounding the artists.

Rotating Artists in the Lobby

Approximately every four months, we enjoy showcasing a new artist and featuring their art the lobby of the Rochester Hotel . We hold an opening night, allowing the artist to come and discuss their work.

Durango Wine Experience

Nothing says “Hello Spring” better than the Durango Wine Experience. This weekend-long event is all about wine and food and benefits a local charity.



“My initial impression was mountain rustic meets Hollywood glam in a cowboy funky kind of way...”

-*EnCompass* by AAA Colorado || May/June 2019

“...it’s a movie buff’s delight.”

-*Cowboys and Indians Magazine* || March 2019

“ Offers several spaces for working and meeting... members and groups also can utilize the hotel’s bar/lobby area and beautiful Secret Garden.”

-*Colorado Meetings & Events* || Spring 2019

“The Leland House and Rochester Hotel provide unique historic accommodations in the heart of Downtown Durango, walking distance to shops, restaurants, activities, and the Durango-Silverton Railroad.”

-Colorado Tourism Office || *Colorado Field Guide* || 2019

“There are other stately old hotels in town with more of a Wild West flair— I’m looking at you, Strater and General Palmer— but at the Rochester, you’ll instead find a Western film theme, honoring the many movies that were shot in the area.”

-*Denver Post* || June 2017

“The rooms in the Rochester are beautifully appointed, quaint, and cozy. The atmosphere elicits the temptation to call it a night, grab some popcorn, and watch a flick.”

-*Red Tricycle* || July 2017



Accolades



Inspector's Best of Housekeeping 2019
Top 25% of all Hotels for Cleanliness and
Condition



#10 on Trip Advisor's Top 25 United States
Hotels for Service 2019



Trip Advisor's Certificate of Excellence

5 out of 5 Stars on Trip Advisor



The Spirit of Durango Award — Durango
Chamber of Commerce 2011



4.8 out of 5 Stars on Google

9.4 out of 10 Stars on Booking.com



4.7 out of 5 Stars on Expedia



#1 Hotel on Yelp

Local Relationships



OPEN SKY
WILDERNESS THERAPY



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