

Lower Loop Trail (Beginner, Advanced Beginner) *Wheelchair Accessible

This popular trail has it all! It's close to town, features abundant wildflowers with spectacular views of the surrounding mountains, and is stroller and wheelchair friendly. You'll stroll through wildflower covered meadows where lupine and mules ear bloom early season. Watch for columbine, red columbine, arnica, shooting star, and bluebells as you wind through the forest towards the river. The elusive fairy slipper is sometimes spotted along shady, north facing slopes. Corn lily, fleabane, monument plants, and goldeneye make appearances later in the season.

The Brush Creek Trail (Beginner) is straightforward and follows an old jeep road through wildflower filled meadows and small aspen groves. Early season you'll see displays of lupine and mules ear that blanket entire hillsides, followed by shoulder-high masses of larkspur in July. Closer to the East River you will walk through knee high fields of sneezeweed and curly golden weed. Mariposa lily and monument plants are often found mid to late season, along with fields covered in fleabane and showy goldeneye.

Snodgrass Trail (Beginner, Advanced Beginner) This rewarding hike is close to town and winds through lush wildflower meadows and thick aspen groves, complete with gorgeous mountain views including panoramas of Mt. Crested Butte. In June and early July you'll ascend hillsides covered in lupine and mules ears. As the wildflower season progresses mariposa lilies, paintbrush, penstemon, and monkshood abound. Columbine are prolific mid-season within the aspen groves towards the end of the trail. Please note: the beginning of this trail is steep!

Funding made possible by the CBGTrails App



Download CBGTrails, the only complete trail map app of Crested Butte and the Gunnison Valley.



Advocating for the preservation and appreciation of wildflowers

Self-Guided Hikes





Lower Loop BEGINNER/

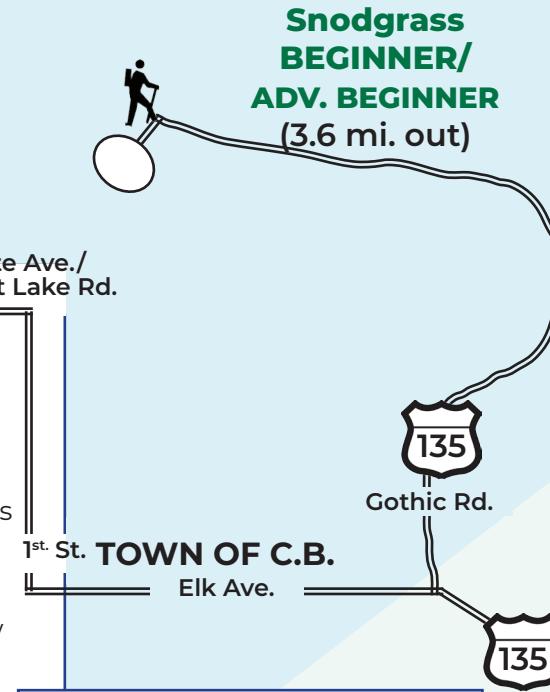
ADV. BEGINNER

(6.4 mi. loop)

*1.2 mi. walk on
road from lot to
trailhead*

Lower Loop

Route: Two options exist to start; follow Peanut Lake Rd. 1.2 miles to the trailhead (best for strollers), or ascend the short, steep trail at the junction of Butte Ave. and Peanut Lake Rd. to the Woods Walk (single track trail). Head northwest until you cross the cattle guard and enter the main Lower Loop Trail. Follow the wide, stroller & wheelchair friendly path or choose the single track – they rejoin and continue to a bench that overlooks the slate river. Turn around for a shorter out and back hike or continue northwest, following the single track trail to Gunsight Pass Rd. Take the road up a few switch backs until you see the trail and fenceposts on the left. Head back on the Upper Lower Loop Trail staying left when it intersects the Bud Trail. The Upper Lower Loop rejoins the main Lower Loop Trail and you can head back via Peanut Lake Rd. or Woods Walk.



Directions to Lower Loop

from Town: Take Elk Avenue west, turn right on 1st street, left on Butte Avenue, and follow until Butte Ave. turns to dirt and becomes Peanut Lake Road. Park in the designated parking on the right. Wheelchair parking is available 1.2 miles further up Peanut Lake Rd., on the left.

**For wheelchair accessibility: Please continue driving on Peanut Lake Rd. 1.2 miles further, until you encounter the upper parking area on the left.

Snodgrass BEGINNER/ ADV. BEGINNER (3.6 mi. out)



Brush Creek BEGINNER (2.2 mi. out)



Directions to Brush Creek Trail

Trail: From Crested Butte travel south 2 miles on Hwy 135 and make a left on County Road 738 (Brush Creek Road). Continue 1.9 miles as the pavement turns to dirt and look for the parking lot and trailhead on the left.

Brush Creek Route:

Trailhead is well marked and route is an out and back, so feel free to turn around at any point or follow the trail to its end at the East River.

