



SLIPPERY ROCK RIVER RANCH

A Private Base Camp for Fly Fishing on the Dolores River



37°34'54.7"N 108°10'08.4"W

A PRIVATE BASE CAMP ON THE DOLORES

Set along the Dolores River in Southwest Colorado, Slippery Rock River Ranch is a 36+ acre private retreat with more than 1,000 feet of private river frontage, surrounded by the mountains and high desert landscape of the Four Corners. The ranch was designed for gathering, giving guides the opportunity to build a broader experience around time on the water. Unlike a traditional fishing lodge, Slippery Rock River Ranch gives your group an entire property to call home. Wake up beside the river, fish until you're ready to quit, then come back to a chef's kitchen, a hot tub and a fire pit, with no other guests in sight.

THE RANCH

Slippery Rock River Ranch is a riverside retreat built for gathering — the "Confluence" main lodge anchors the property with a chef's kitchen, dining area, and game room, surrounded by rustic-modern bunkhouses, a barn apartment, and riverside glamping tents.



Maximum of 12 guests on-property



5 bedrooms · 7 bath



Easy access from Telluride, Durango and Cortez.



Direct river access and private pond

**We highly recommend bringing a private vehicle to explore the area*



Hot tub, outdoor shower, motion studio, & fire pit



Scan the code to preview the ranch and river access.

Or visit bridalveillodging.com/properties/slippery-rock-ranch



A DAY AT THE RANCH

Slippery Rock is designed around shared experiences at your own pace, with the river at its center. When you rent Slippery Rock River Ranch, you're not booking a room in a fishing lodge alongside other parties. You're booking the entire property.



FIRST LIGHT

Step out from the ranch and spend the morning on your private stretch of Dolores River.



MIDDAY

Return to the lodge's chef's kitchen, gather around the dining table or relax along the river.



VENTURE OUT

Switch it up with another stretch of the Dolores or one of the nearby public waters.



END THE DAY TOGETHER

When the fishing day is over, guests can settle into the outdoor hot tub, play ball games in the field, use the yoga/motion studio, or simply sit outside and enjoy the river.

Sample Fishing Retreat

- Thursday:** Arrive, settle in, dinner at the lodge.
- Friday:** Guided morning on the water. Lunch at the ranch. Afternoon on the private river. Dinner together.
- Saturday:** Fish the Dolores below McPhee. Dinner in Dolores, or a private chef at the ranch.
- Sunday:** Morning on the river, then hike Bear Creek or Priest Gulch. Hot tub, then a last dinner together.
- Monday:** Coffee by the river. One last cast. Head home.

BEYOND THE RANCH

Born high in the San Juan Mountains, the Dolores River winds through some of the most remote country in southwestern Colorado. Its headwaters and tributaries offer a distinctly wild fishing experience, with the San Juan Mountain Range providing a stunning backdrop. Several reservoirs, including the Narraguinne and McPhee Reservoirs, offer boating access. The Dolores is best known for its brown trout, rainbow, cutthroat, and cutbow trout.

Below the McPhee Reservoir

The river below McPhee Reservoir is its most popular fishing reach, known for substantial trout populations and opportunities for larger catches.

The Upper Dolores

Farther upstream, the river becomes increasingly remote and secluded. The Upper Dolores and its tributaries offer a more backcountry experience for anglers willing to venture farther from the road.

Twin Spruce Ponds

A great location for beginners learning how to cast. The ponds are stocked with rainbow and brown trout with non-motorized boating access.

Fishing Conditions

Hatches in the area include midges, BWO, stoneflies, caddis, PMDs, and Californicus stoneflies.

Telluride Fly Fisher's offers an excellent Guide Report, which includes 7-day streamflow and hatch updates:



Additional River Access

Always check current access restrictions before going

Bradfield Bridge

37.657712, -108.735360

Hillside Drive / FR 436

37.657708, -108.735359

Bear Creek Trailhead (#607)

37.575715, -108.181967



FIND A LOCAL GUIDE

You don't need to know the Dolores to enjoy a fishing trip here. Southwest Colorado is home to experienced guides who know the river, surrounding waters and seasonal conditions. For anglers looking to add a guided day to their stay, here are a few local outfitters to consider.

DOLORES & DURANGO

Rio Epic Outfitters

Duranglers Fly Fishing Shop & Guides

The San Juan Angler

Heads Up Fly Fishing

TELLURIDE

Telluride Fly Fishers

Telluride Outside

Dolores Outfitters

Drop in for river and hatch information, and fishing and hunting licenses 7 days a week. Dolores Outfitters also offers jeep and boating rentals, as well as fly fishing gear for purchase.

www.doloresoutfitters.com

341 Railroad Avenue
Dolores, CO 81323

(970) 676-0066

DINING

Cooking at the ranch is half the appeal. The Confluence lodge has a chef's kitchen with a gas range, convection oven, two refrigerators and two dishwashers, built for feeding a crowd. The Confluence main lodge includes a chef's kitchen with a gas range, convection oven, two refrigerators and two dishwashers — built for feeding a crowd.

If you plan to cook together, we recommend stocking up before arriving and make the lodge's kitchen the center of the evening. For groceries and provisions, Dolores Food Market is the closest local option, while larger grocery runs can be made in Cortez or Durango.

Catering

Southwest Colorado has an excellent roster of private chefs willing to travel to a rental property and handle a meal start to finish — menu planning, ingredients, cooking, and cleanup.

- **Backcountry Catering** (Chef Jeff Rossi) — serves Telluride and all of Southwest Colorado, known for local elk, bison, and organic produce.
- **Lotus Root Catering** (Chef Honga Im) — If you'd like a Telluride-based team to make the trip, Chef Honga Im (as seen in the New York Times, In Style, 5280, Ski Magazine) offers a wide range of menu offerings to suit you and your party's palates and special dietary needs.



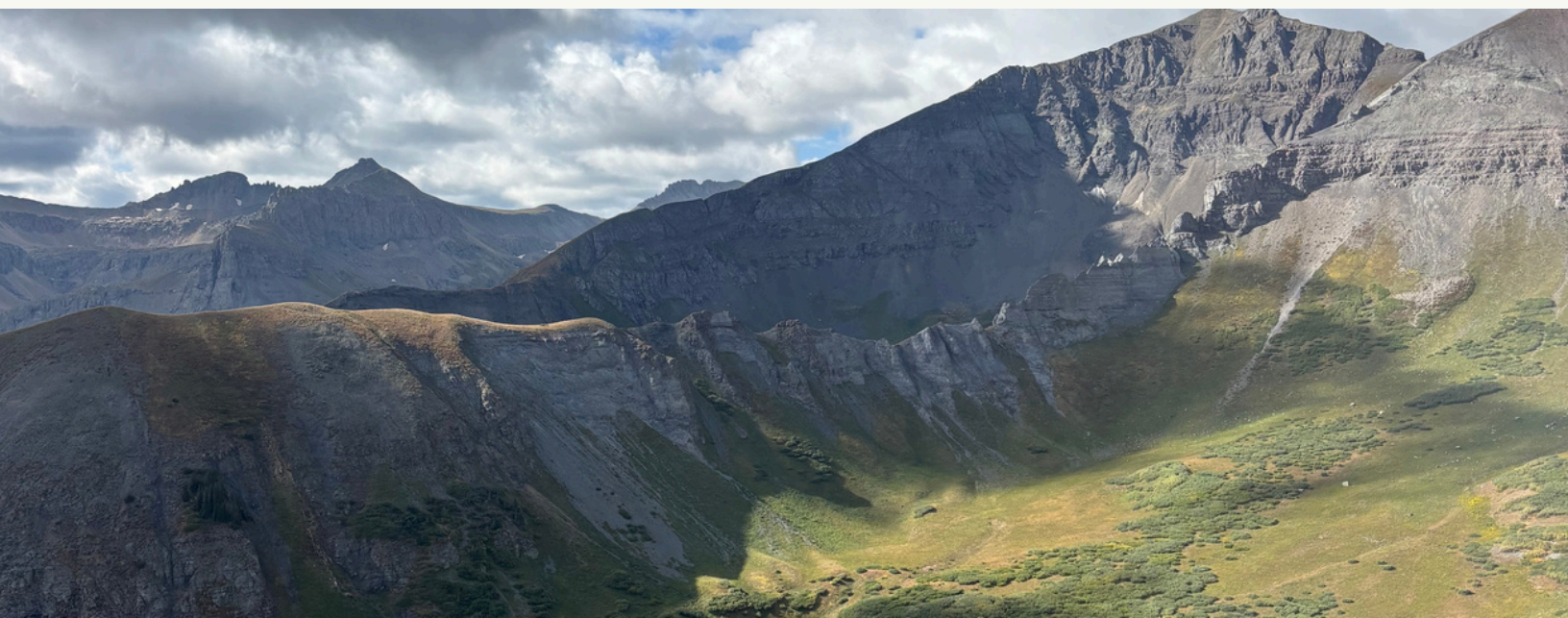
HIKING

Bear Creek Trailhead — about half a mile from the ranch, this trail crosses the Dolores River on a footbridge before climbing switchbacks. It's a long trail (15+ miles round trip if you go the full distance), but there's no obligation to do the whole thing — the first mile offers a so, scenic there-and-back for families, while more ambitious hikers can push further toward the alpine meadows higher up. Best hiked May through October.

Priest Gulch Trailhead — directly across the road from the ranch, this trail follows Priest Creek up through meadows and conifer forest. Like Bear Creek, it's a big trail if you do it end to end (7.5 miles one-way), but a shorter out-and-back from the trailhead is a very doable half-day hike, and there's a shorter loop option (around 5 miles) via the Priest Gulch Cutoff Trail if you want a defined turnaround point.

Boggy Draw — About 15–20 minutes from the ranch, on the mesa above the town of Dolores, Boggy Draw is the area's biggest and best-known trail system — over 30 miles of well-groomed, mostly smooth singletrack across four connected loops. It's shaded, family-friendly, and considered a great "practice ground" for mountain bikers.

Cross Mountain Trail #637 — a widely praised intermediate trail running north from Rico toward the base of Lizard Head Peak. It winds through wildflower meadows and thick evergreen forest before climbing more steeply for a final push above treeline, opening onto sweeping views of the Lizard Head Wilderness along the ridge.



GET IN CONTACT



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