

Pikes Peak, Colorado

THE WAY UP

More than 900,000 people travel to the summit of Pikes Peak every year. Many ride the Manitou & Pike's Peak Railway, the highest rack railway in the world. Others drive up the Pikes Peak Highway, winding along the 19 miles of steep curves to the summit. For those who want to hike, the most popular path is the Barr Trail. How did you travel to the top?

- Highest summit of the southern Front Range of the Rock Mountains – Pike National Forest. 14,115 feet
- 38 Acres
- First Ascent in 1820 by Edwin James (botanist/geologist)
- Pikes Peak is one of the only 'fourteeners' whose summit anyone can easily reach, regardless of physical ability. Visitors can arrive at the Visitor Center by car, cog railway, or via a 12-mile hike.



<https://coloradosprings.gov/drivepikespeak>

- Auto Road was built in 1915
- Auto Road is 19 miles long, open year-round, operated and maintained by the City of Colorado Springs
- 527,418 visitors in 2020
- There are options for going up one method and down another that are sold as package deals by 3rd party companies
- Railway transports their employees up when the weather is not conducive to driving up the highway and they have access to the road without paying tolls for company work



Drive Pikes Peak



Make your reservation to drive to the top

With the completion of the Pikes Peak Visitor Center, driving to the summit is in high demand. For the convenience of guests planning on driving to the summit, a reservation system will be required starting May 27. Reserving a spot at the top is designed to make your Pikes Peak experience more enjoyable and hassle-free.

Pikes Peak Hours and Rates

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Pikes Peak - America's Mountain is open year round - weather permitting. Conditions change frequently, it is recommended to call our pre-recorded information line. The staff updates the info approximately 15 minutes prior to opening and then as conditions change throughout the day. Call 719-385-7325 and select option 1 for current road conditions.



Official Web Coupon
\$2.00 Off
Entrance Fee

Online Purchase Code: 2off

*Limit One Coupon Per Car Per Visit
Not Valid for Special Events
Cannot be combined with Other Discounts*

Current Hours and Rates		Annual Passes	Group Rates	Events & Specials
Hours	Uphill Gates Open	Uphill Gates Close	Pikes Peak Summit Closes	Downhill Gates Close
Friday before Memorial Day to Labor Day	7:30 a.m.	6 p.m.	7 p.m.	8 p.m.

Current General Admission Fee

May 1 to November 30		
Adults (16 and Over)	\$15	per person
Children (6 to 15)	\$5	per person
Carload Discount Rate (Up to 5 passengers)	\$50	per car
Carload Rate Additional Adults	\$10	per adult
Carload Rate Additional Children (6 to 15)	\$2	per child



- Transporting visitors to the summit since 1891
- Departures are “as needed” in off season.
- During busy season, departures every 40 minutes 8:00AM until 5:20PM.
- Climate allows for easy operations year-round with little snow at the base that quickly melts.
- Trains run until sustained winds hit 60mph. Loose gravel above tree line sandblasts trains.
- 1hr 10mins up, 40mins at the summit, 1hr 10mins down.
- Uphill capacity of up to 263 people every 40 minutes.

PIKES PEAK COG RAILWAY - STANDARD ADMISSION

- Guests 13 and up **\$58.50** when booked online.
- CHILD ADMISSION
- 12 and under **\$48.50** when booked online.
- RESERVED ADMISSION
- Select your seat in advance
- Adult Reserved Admission **\$68.50** when booked online.
- Child Reserved Admission **\$58.50** when booked online.
- WALK-UP/CALL-IN RATES
- Purchase your tickets at The Depot for **\$61.00** for adults and **\$51.00** for children under 13. Seats will be assigned by the Cog Railway.
- ***Please note:*** Taxes and additional fees apply.
- **The Cog Railway is not recommended for infants under the age of six months or anyone with a history of cardiac or respiratory problems.*
- **There is a 5% amusement tax applied to each ticket.**
- **Ticket purchases are rounded up automatically by \$.50 each ticket to go to a “Forestry Service Donation” that you must click to remove from your cart.**

Adult - age 13 and over	2	\$68.50	\$137.00
Row: 1 Seat: A			
Row: 1 Seat: B			
Child age 12 and under	1	\$58.50	\$58.50
Row: 1 Seat: C			
Forestry Service Donation	3	\$0.50	\$1.50

			Subtotal	\$197.00
			AMUSEMENT TAX ()	\$9.78
			Total	\$206.78
			Amount Paid:	\$206.78 USD
			Amount Due:	\$0.00 USD

Payment Type	Date	Amount
MASTER CARD (XXXX XXXX XXXX 8406)	3/19/2022	\$206.78 USD




IT ALL STARTED WITH A MULE

It was the late 1880s when a tourist named Zalmon Simmons, inventor and founder of the Simmons Beautyrest Mattress Company, visited the Pikes Peak Region. Wanting to check up on one of his inventions, an insulator for the telegraph wires that ran to the Army Signal Station on the Summit, he reached the top of Pikes Peak the only way back in those days: an arduous, two-day trip on a mule.

Mr. Simmons was in awe of the scenery but determined that the views should be experienced in a more civilized and comfortable manner, and aren't we all grateful for that? Word has it he was relaxing in one of Manitou Springs' mineral baths after his return, when the owner of his hotel mentioned the idea of a railway to the top, and the rest, as they say, is history.



Hiker Information Guide

Share this page:   

1. Check hours of operation

- Verify operating hours before you hike. Hours change seasonally.
- If someone is picking you up, make sure they get through the uphill gate before it closes.
- Don't assume transportation will be available. Have a plan B.
- All persons entering Gateway are subject to posted toll rate

2. Check Mountain Conditions

- Conditions change drastically and quickly throughout the day.
- Access to the summit is weather dependent.
- Barr Trail Hikers: Check in at Barr Camp to verify favorable summit conditions.
- Ensure you have proper gear and water.
- If the Highway and/or summit is closed to visitors, parties will not be able to pick up hikers for transport

3. If you will not make the summit by the posted hours - turn around.

Requests for transport will be subject to transport and rescue fees.

Transport and Rescue Fees

\$20/person	Transport during normal operating hours
\$100/person/hour	After hours transport: If the Pikes Peak Highway is closed but staff is still on site, this is the minimum charge based on circumstances.
\$500/person	After hours recovery/rescue response: If a hiker requests rescue or assistance after hours, this is the minimum charge based on circumstances.

Pikes Peak staff will only transport as a matter of emergency or safety. Payment due at time of transport.

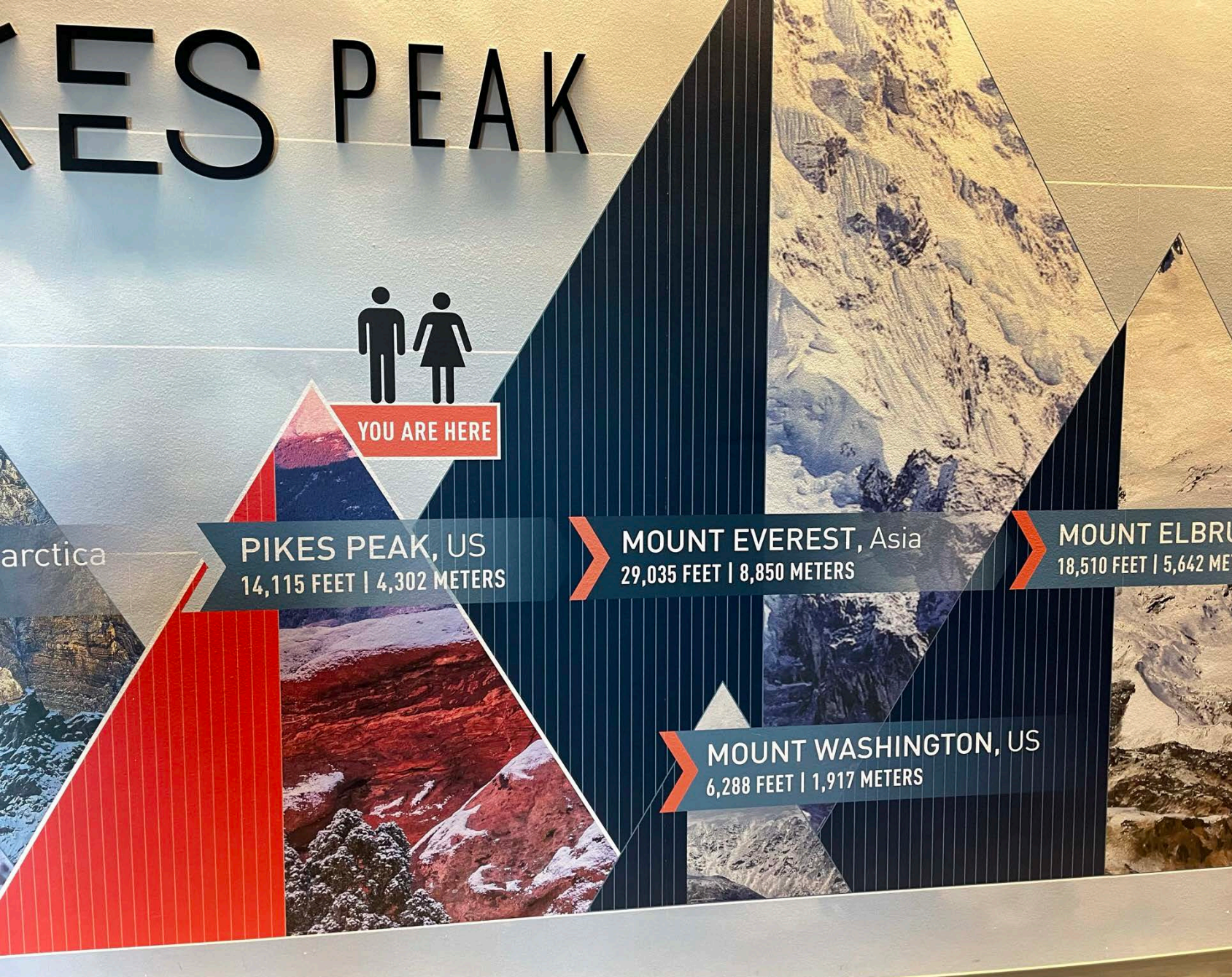


Old Summit House – Built in 1960's





**New Visitor Center
Opened June 24, 2021**



Visitor Center

- Café
- Museum
- Gift Shop
- Restrooms
- Visitor center and 19-mile highway is operated by Pikes Peak – America's Mountain (PPAM), an enterprise of the City of Colorado Springs, through a special use permit from the U.S. Forest Service
- Summit building owned by the City and leased out to a 3rd party company, Aramark, for operations
- The Maher Memorial High-Altitude Research Laboratory (HARL), operated by the U.S. Army Research Institute of Environmental Medicine (USARIEM)
- The Pikes Peak Multi-User Communication Facility, operated by Colorado Springs Utilities (CSU)



Designed to achieve Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Silver certification and strives to achieve the Living Building Challenge (LBC), which is a two-year certification process for highly sustainable, zero-energy buildings.









- Café seating capacity is similar to Sherman Adams Building
- Gift Shop is 4x the size
- Restrooms:
 - Men's Room has 5 stalls, 15 urinals, 7 sinks
 - Women's Room has 22 stalls.
 - 2 "Family" restrooms
- Water is a scarce commodity. This is a bottle filling station in the gift shop.
- They have a staple "Summit Donut"





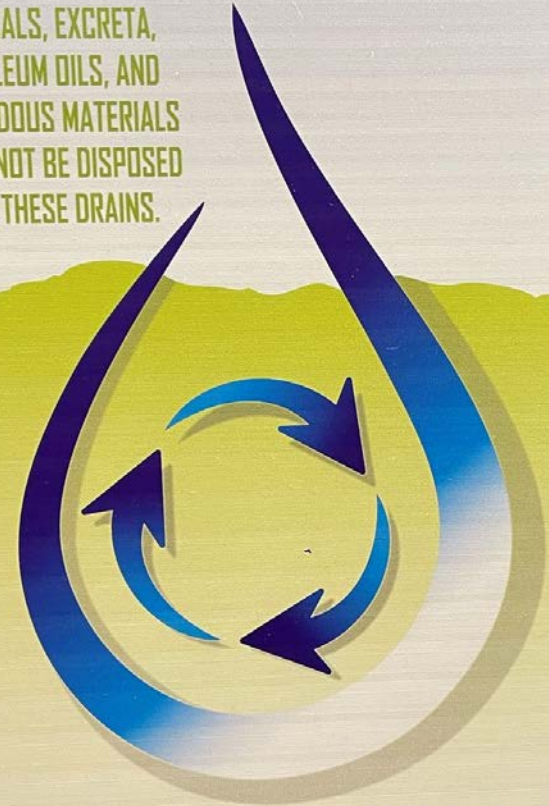
CAUTION: NONPOTABLE WATER
DO NOT DRINK



NONPOTABLE WATER IS USED
TO FLUSH THIS FIXTURE

WATER FROM THESE **RE-USED**
FIXTURES IS

CHEMICALS, EXCRETA,
PETROLEUM OILS, AND
HAZARDOUS MATERIALS
MUST NOT BE DISPOSED
DOWN THESE DRAINS.



CONSERVATION

PIKES PEAK SUMMIT  VISITOR CENTER



WELCOME TO PIKES PEAK

DENALI, North America
20,310 FEET | 6,190 METERS

VINSON MASSIF, Antarctica
16,050 FEET | 4,910 METERS

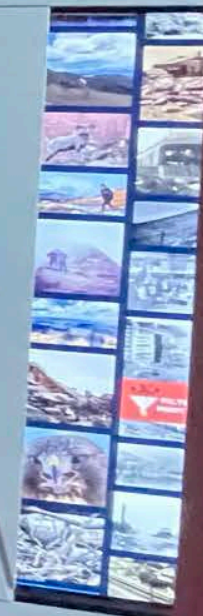
PIKES PEAK, US
14,300 FEET | 4,390 METERS

MOUNT EVEREST, NEPAL
29,030 FEET | 8,840 METERS

MOUNT K2, PAKISTAN
28,250 FEET | 8,610 METERS

MOUNT LOMONOSOV, Antarctica
16,060 FEET | 4,910 METERS

or "The Long Mountain"



OF THE WORLD | S FROM MINNESOTA UNLOCKED THE DENVER STICKER! | L FROM COLORADO UPLOADED A PHOTO! | A FROM COLORADO



ADD
YOURSELF
TO MAP



FIND
A FRIEND



FILTER
THE MAP

PUT YOURSELF ON THE MAP!
TAP ANYWHERE TO BEGIN

PIKES
TOUCHWALL
PEAK

PUT YOURSELF ON THE MAP!
TAP ANYWHERE TO BEGIN



Pikes Peak Cameras

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We are aware that one of the cameras is not working and it have confirmed it requires replacement. We appreciate your patience while we work to complete the repairs.

[Pikes Peak Summit Forecast](#) | [Live Summit Weather Station](#)

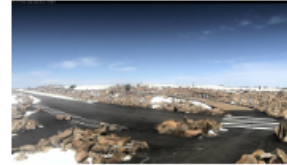
East



Southeast



West



Northwest



North



Northeast



Vestibule - Southeast



Vestibule - South



Vestibule - Southwest



PIKES PEAK SUMMIT COMPLEX

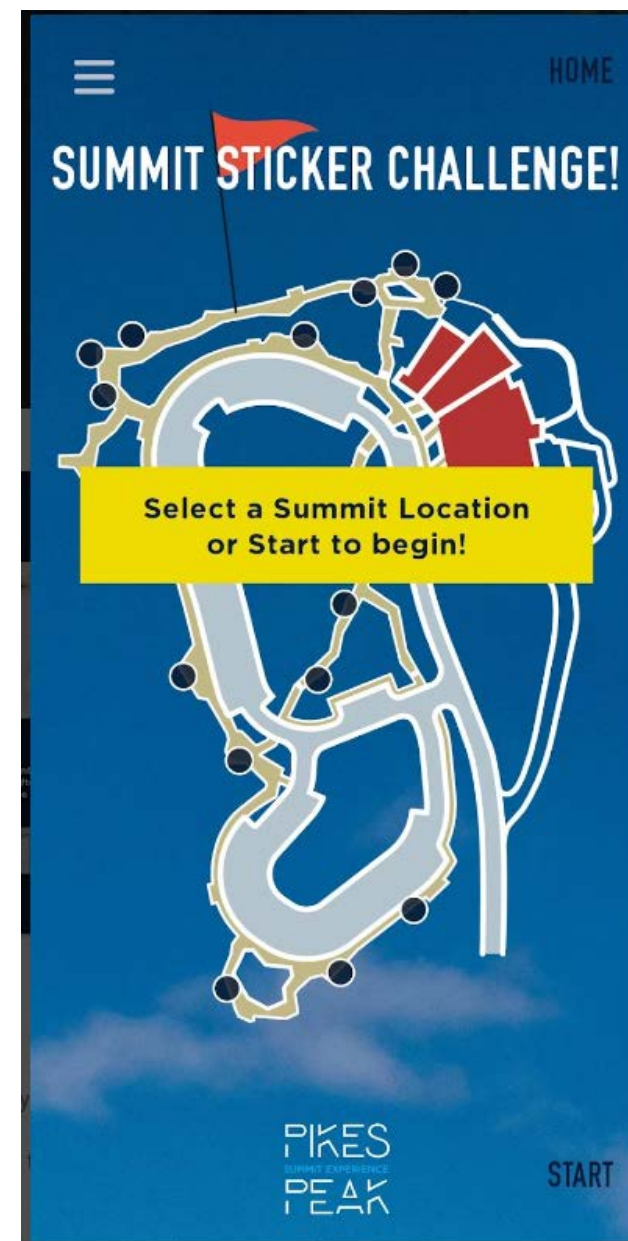
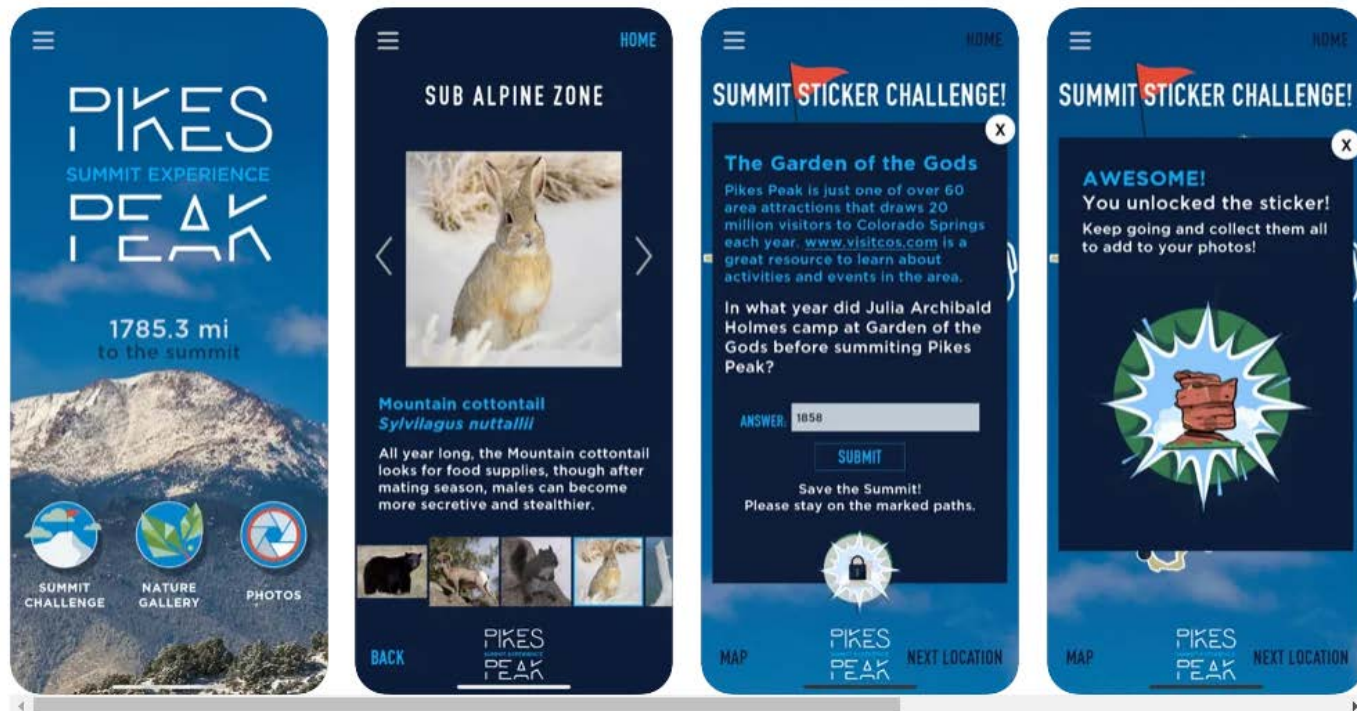
ORIENTATION MAP



Elevated Walking Paths

- Summit has a path that encircles the Visitor Center
- Path is handicap accessible
- Designed to help protect the summits fragile tundra
- Safe for viewing on rocks and over ledges
- Digitally interactive displays that bring the history, significance, and geology of the mountain to life both inside and outside the Visitor Center











• Project Credits

Project name: Pikes Peak Summit Visitor Center
Location: Cascade, CO
Completed: 2021
Size: 38,000 square feet
Design Architect: GWWO Architects
Architect-of-Record: RTA Architects
Construction Manager: GE Johnson
Landscape Architect: DHM Design
Exhibit Design: Gallagher & Associates
MEP Engineer: BranchPattern
Structural Engineer: HCDA Engineering, Inc.
Civil Engineer: Kiowa Engineering Corporation
Extreme Climate Consultant: AECOM
Food Service Design: Webb Food Service Design
Specifications: NASH Architectural Solutions
Code and Accessibility: Jensen Hughes
Historic Preservation: The Preservation Studio
Vendor: Aramark
Public Relations and Communication: Bachman PR

A major challenge that GWWO faced when building at such a high altitude was to account for the extreme climate, where winter temperatures can reach as low as -40 degrees Fahrenheit and winds can reach up to 230 miles per hour. GWWO selected durable materials, such as high-performance [glass](#), to counter this challenge.