

2017 Press Release: Creede Rock and Mineral Show

Creede, Colorado, the heart of Mineral County, hosts its 16th annual Rock and Mineral Show, Friday, Saturday and Sunday, August 5, 5, and 6, 2017 at the popular Underground Mining Museum. The public is invited to attend and admission is free.

Over forty exhibitors will be showing and selling a fascinating array of gems, geodes, fossils, silver ore, turquoise nuggets, Australian opals, beads, jewelry, and stone carvings plus all types of rock and mineral specimens from around the world will intrigue viewers, buyers, collectors, and rock hounds of all ages.

Knowledgeable individuals will be on hand at the Rock and Mineral Show to help identify specimens and to discuss the geology of Mineral County, which holds a wide variety of unusual features like volcanic dikes and vents, the famous Wheeler Geologic Area (a classic ash deposit), and the Creede Fossil Formation. Evening Programs are Friday and Saturday at 7pm. More info about the programs coming soon.

Mineral County's geology has fueled a long legacy of interest and fascination from early day prospectors and surveyors to modern mining engineers and mineralogists and mining investors. One of the world's largest volcanic calderas created unusually rich ore deposits that eventually gave birth to the Creede mining district. Millions of dollars worth of silver, gold, lead and zinc were extracted before the last mine closed in 1985. Creede, which survived fires, floods, and mining depressions, became known as the "little town that would not die." The spectacular Pillars of Hercules, remnants of an ancient rhyolite wall, frame Creede's bustling Main Street district. Victorian era buildings today serve as gift shops, restaurants, galleries, and B&Bs.

Proceeds from exhibitors' fees benefit the Creede Underground Community Center. The tunnels and caverns of the Underground Mining Museum, Community Center, and Fire Station were blasted into the solid rock walls of Willow Creek Canyon by three miners and volunteer helpers. The community project was completed in 1992. Creede is a geologic haven for amateurs and professionals. The 17-mile Bachelor Loop passes old town sites, mine buildings, and other relics of Mineral County's silver boom. The Last Chance Mine offers on-site tours and on-site rockhounding opportunities.

Creede can be reached via Hwy 149, the Silver Thread Scenic Byway, from US 160 at South Fork, Colorado, or US 50 west of Gunnison, Colorado.

Creede offers a broad spectrum of restaurants and food services. Food also will be available at the Rock and Mineral Show.

Visit www.creederocks.com, contact Jenny Inge at Rare Things Gallery, 719-658-2376, or the Creede/Mineral County Chamber of Commerce, 719-658-2374 or www.creede.com, for more information.