



500 Big Thompson Ave.
P.O. Box 1200
Estes Park, CO 80517
www.EstesParkCVB.com

For Information Contact:
Suzy Blackhurst, Information Officer
sblackhurst@estes.org
970-577-9900
800-44-ESTES

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Shuttle Begins Operations Saturday, June 28

Estes Park's summer season Shopper Shuttles begin operating this Saturday, June 28.

Using the free transit system, residents and visitors alike can easily access core downtown shopping and most attractions in the community because nearly all primary access routes to the core business areas of Estes Park are located on the shuttle routes.

Riding the shuttles is free, and the Estes Park Visitors Centers' parking lots at the intersection of U.S. Hwys. 34 and 36 are large enough to accommodate additional cars. Riders have the options of riding east on Big Thompson Avenue to amusement and lodging areas or west on Elkhorn Avenue through the core downtown shopping area. A southern loop route travels past several of the area's campgrounds.

The Elkhorn Avenue shuttle makes stops once in every block on both the north and south sides of the street.

Several lodging facilities are pick-up points on Big Thompson Avenue before the shuttle makes the return trip to the Estes Park Visitors Center and intermediate stops between the lower and upper levels in Stanley Village shopping center and at the Stanley Hotel.

Marys Lake Lodge is the southwestern route's first stop. Other selected northbound Marys Lake Road facilities are included as pick-up points before the shuttles head west on Spur 66. The YMCA – Estes Park Center has been added to the route for the first time in the shuttle's route.

All routes depart from the Estes Park Visitors Center and connect with Rocky Mountain National Park's Hiker Shuttle that travels hourly from the Visitors Center to the Park's Park & Ride shuttle hub on Bear Lake Road. Hiker Shuttle operations begin at 6:30 a.m.

Town shuttles operate daily beginning at 10 a.m. from June 28 through Labor Day and weekends in September. The last shuttle of the day on the downtown Red Route and eastbound Blue Route depart at 8:30 p.m. The Southwestern Brown Route's last departure is at 8 p.m. Signs designating stops have been placed and maps showing the routes will be made available to the public on Friday, June 27.

This is the final year of a three-year free transit program sponsored by the Town of Estes Park. The program was initiated after town officials spent two years assessing systems used in other locations with consistently high *Page 2 of 2: Shuttle Begins Operations Saturday, June 28* seasonal traffic and limited land mass available for expanding parking. It was a dozen years ago that planning experts first told Estes Park officials that a reliable public transportation system should be established during the peak visitation season. For more information call 970-577-9900.