Activities in Ouray and Surrounding Area for Large or Small Groups

1. **Ouray Hot Springs Park** features a large parking area, picnic sites with or without grills, gazebo, playground, fish pond, baseball diamond, expansive well maintained grassy area.

2. **Ouray Hot Springs Pool** contains over a million gallons of crystal clear natural hot springs water, free from the strong smell of sulfur typical of many hot springs. In addition to several soaking sections at a variety of temperatures ranging from 96 to 106 degrees, the pool has a lap swimming section, a diving area, a large slide, shallow section for younger children and a game area for water volleyball. Above the pool is a 1,800 square foot Fitness Center. Weight-lifting equipment, treadmills, stair-climbers, stationary bikes, and other exercise equipment are available to visitors for a nominal fee.

3. **Ouray Mule and Carriage Company**, LLC, is housed in the only remaining Livery Barn in Ouray, built in 1883. Offering stagecoach and carriage rides for all ages. Historical tours and evening rides available.

4. **Bach'lers Stable** is a Local stable owned and operated by a Genuine Cowboy. All rides are Personalized-not Commercialized. Private & group rates. Beautiful setting near the Bachelor Syracuse Mine. Offering sleigh rides. Open year round.

5. The **Bachelor-Syracuse Mine Tour** is a real Silver and Gold mine. You will board a mine train (also called a "trammer") accompanied by a thoroughly trained guide. Advance 3,350 feet into Gold Hill. You will see the rich ore veins, work area, and equipment used in mining. The stopes, declines, crosscuts, run-a-rounds, and drifts will be fully explained. Other activities available at the Bachelor-Syracuse Mine are: Gold panning instruction, Miners' Outdoor Cafe, turn-of-the-century Blacksmith shop, and a Gift Shop featuring Gold Nugget jewelry and Cranberry glass (made with real gold). Great for group activities, something for every age.

6. The **Box Canyon Waterfall & Park**. The park's short trails are easily accessible from the southwest corner of town. You can reach the visitor center and entrance either by car or by foot. The lower trail, an easy 500-feet hike via a walkway and suspension bridge will lead you straight into the belly of the falls. Numerous sheltered picnic houses are situated throughout the park. Some of the gazebos have grills and are perfect for a family gathering. From the visitor center, you can also take the short but steep hike to the bridge above the falls and enjoy beautiful views of Ouray. In 2001, this breathtaking park was designated an important bird watching area by the National Audubon Society. It supports one of the state's largest populations of Black Swifts, a protected species.

7. Ouray is surrounded by several spectacular and **very popular golf courses**. There are three within a one-hour drive and a fourth one approximately one and a half hours south of Ouray. You can enjoy a world-class round of golf, just 15 minutes north of Ouray, at Dallas Ranch & Club (formerly Fairway Pines). This 18-hole championship course was recently rated by "Golf Digest" with a 4-1/2 out of 5-star rating for places to play in the United States. "Golf for Women" also recognized Dallas Ranch & Club as one of the top 100 courses to play for women golfers.

8. **Jeeping and Jeep Tours** are a wonderful way of experiencing the magnificent mountains surrounding Ouray. Rent a Jeep locally, bring your own, or enjoy the convenience of a tour with knowledgeable, experienced drivers. The Ouray area offers limitless opportunities for four-wheelers, from easy scenic drives to rugged challenges, along trails the miners built to passes

that climb to spectacular heights. All of these have one factor in common: they traverse some of the most beautiful scenery in the world, abundant with wildflowers, ghost towns, abandoned mines, animal life, all with breathtaking vistas.

9. **Hot Air Balloon Rides** are available over the spectacular Ridgway Valley just 10 miles north of Ouray. Surrounded by snow capped mountain peaks, lush green mesas, and rugged rocky plateaus. Nowhere on earth is there a more beautiful place to experience your very own balloon adventure.

10. The **Durango & Silverton Narrow Gauge Railroad** winds through spectacular & breathtaking canyons in the remote wilderness of the two-million acre San Juan National Forest for an unforgettable year-round adventure. Experience the adventure of traveling by a coal-fired, steam-powered locomotive on the same tracks miners, cowboys and settlers of the Old West took over a century ago. Relive history with the sights and sounds of yesteryear for a truly spectacular journey on board the Durango & Silverton Narrow Gauge Railroad.

11. The **Telluride-Mountain Village Gondola** is a major attraction just 45 minutes from Ouray. The gondola takes about 13 minutes to go from the town of Telluride, approximately 9,000 feet above sea level, to Mountain Village and the Telluride Ski Resort, sitting high above at 10,500 feet. It is free to ride and the electricity used to operate the gondola comes from wind power.

12. The Black Canyon of the Gunnison's unique and spectacular landscape was formed slowly by the action of water and rock scouring down through hard Proterozoic crystalline rock. Just an hour north of Ouray, no other canyon in North America combines the narrow opening, sheer walls, and startling depths offered by the **Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Park**.

13. **Mesa Verde National Park**: Mesa Verde, Spanish for green table, is 3 ½ hours from Ouray and offers a spectacular look into the lives of the Ancestral Pueblo people who made it their home for over 700 years, from A.D. 600 to A.D. 1300. Today, the park protects over 4,000 known archeological sites, including 600 cliff dwellings. These sites are some of the most notable and best preserved in the United States.

14. Are you an **angler** dying to wet your line in the streams, rivers, and lakes of Colorado? If you are, there are excellent catch-and-release areas as well as more serene small alpine lakes and creeks located within a short distance of Ouray. And if you're looking for trout then you're in the right place. The major draw for visiting anglers is our rainbow trout. However, there are brown, cutthroat, and brook trout as well.

15. **Morrow Point Boat Tour:** The Morrow Point Boat Tour is a 1 1/2 hour trip through the upper Black Canyon within Curecanti. Passengers ride through the canyon on a 42-passenger pontoon boat, accompanied by a National Park Ranger or volunteer to tell the story behind the scenery. Tours run twice a day at 10:00 am and 12:30 pm every day except Tuesday from Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day weekend.

16. **Rafting/Kayaking with RIGS:** Private access to the narrows section of the Uncompahgre River provides a unique and remote experience for paddlers. We are the only outfitter on this un-crowded river, providing paddlers with this rare opportunity to get off the beaten path. Our put-in is 2 miles below Ridgway State Park, and minutes from the RIGS shop. The majestic San Juan

Mountains and mesas fill the back drop for the entire run as we float through State Wildlife Areas, historic ranchlands, and the unique Uncompahgre river canyon.