



TRAVEL / HOME & LEISURE

Travel News

SUBSCRIBE

Your email is safe with us. [Privacy Policy](#)

or



# Tarry awhile at Fishing Camp, in Colorado's last best wilderness

Anne Z. Cooke, Tribune News Service on May 12, 2016

Published in *Travel News*

SUBSCRIBE

Your email is safe with us. [Privacy Policy](#)

or



Advertising

## POPULAR STORIES

**Jack London State Historic Park, 100 years after he died**

May 16, 2016

**Beach butler? Surfing safari? Orange County's beach hotels get creative with their offerings**

May 17, 2016

**Tarry awhile at Fishing Camp, in Colorado's last best wilderness**

May 12, 2016

**How big is too big? Some theme park riders fear small seats and 'the walk of shame'**

May 11, 2016

**Artist's San Francisco home becomes art at 500 Capp Street**

Feb 29, 2016

LAKE GEORGE, Colo. -- "If you've tried three flies and still haven't hooked one of these guys," said Scott Tarrant, wading farther out into the Tarryall River, "remember what the old timers say. Foam is home. Follow the bubbles."

"Sounds like a beer drinker's election slogan to me," said Josh, the group's self-appointed comedian, peering into the ripples swirling around a fallen tree trunk.

at Fishing Camp, a fishing lodge in Colorado's South Park, three hours from Denver. "Fishermen would know that a line of bubbles is where two currents meet. It's like a conveyor belt sweeping fish and floating insects together. "

Crossing the river that morning, off for an early run in the Lost Creek Wilderness, I was thinking more about Kit Carson and Jim Bridger than I was about trout. Best-known of the fur trappers and mountain men that explored the Rocky Mountains in the early decades of the 1800s, Carson and Bridger camped in the "mountain paradise" they called South Park and knew it well.

But if it hadn't been for an invitation to a wedding at the historic Broadmoor Hotel, in Colorado Springs, I wouldn't have been at Fishing Camp at all. Without my dad along, hiking to our favorite mountain streams, learning which fly to use and how to spot the eddies where the trout lurked, fishing wasn't the same.

Especially memorable were his stories, full of boyhood recollections about lake fishing in Wisconsin. There was the time he struggled to haul a bass into the rowboat and a mean-looking snapping turtle suddenly lunged up and grabbed it, nearly taking off his finger. Or the one about the raccoon family that poached the pail of bluegills he'd left outside for no more than ten minutes.


After he was gone, the rods and reels went back in the closet for good. Five years later the wedding invitation arrived. And with it came two nights at the legendary Broadmoor, at the foot of the Rocky Mountains, a luxury vacation destination popular since the hotel opened, in 1918.

Which is where I learned about the Broadmoor's newest venture, three back-country camps inspired by the hotel's new owner, Philip Anschutz, a student and admirer of western traditions and history. With the Rocky Mountains right there in the hotel's back yard, the time was ripe for offering the kind of authentic wilderness and ranch experiences that adventuresome travelers say they want.

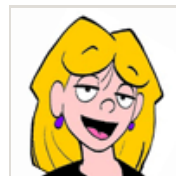
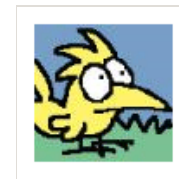
Accordingly, the Ranch at Emerald Valley, a cowboy-style outfit at 8,200 feet in the Pike National Forest, was the first to open, in 2013. Cloud Camp, at 9,200 feet on Cheyenne Mountain, opened the following year, in 2014. But for Anschutz, who told me he discovered Colorado during the summer vacations his parents organized, the idea of recreating an old-time fishing lodge, with a big front porch, pine plank floors, rustic log cabins to bunk in and family-style dinners, must have been percolating.

And there it remained, according to a spokesman in Anschutz's office, until the he was out for a drive and spotted an abandoned log cabin on a former homestead in South Park, the grassy valley

 facebook

 google+

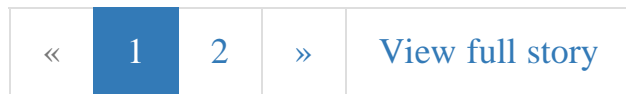
## COMICS



[See more](#)

that western scholar and author Bernard DeVoto called a mountain man's "paradise, the last place in the mountains where the old life could be lived to the full." When a little digging indicated that the cabin, on 76 acres, was not only next to one of Colorado's top-rated trout streams but that five miles of the river frontage was private land, Fishing Camp became a reality.

...continued



SHARE



## MORE TRAVEL NEWS

### How big is too big? Some theme park riders fear small seats and 'the walk of shame'

Travel News / May 11, 2016

LOS ANGELES -- Universal's Harry Potter and the Forbidden Journey has bedeviled many big and tall riders who discover at the last moment that their journey aboard the new attraction is indeed forbidden because they don't ...[Read More](#)

### In New Orleans, the ghosts are like family

Travel News / May 10, 2016

NEW ORLEANS -- It's a generally accepted fact that New Orleans is unlike any other American city. Where else will you find people willingly boarding buses marked "Cemeteries"? Where else will voodoo priests and priestesses...[Read More](#)

### Winston Churchill's paintings star in an exhibit on the Queen Mary

Travel News / May 05, 2016

LONG BEACH, Calif. -- It was late summer 1939. Winston Churchill, then a member of the British Parliament, and artist Paul