



The Antlers Hotel

Rates: Classic King \$144.00 Double Queen \$144.00 King Corner City \$164.00 King Corner Mountain \$174.00 Junior Suite \$194.00 Executive Suite \$214.00 Governors Suite \$294.00 Founders Suite \$264.00. Guaranteed room rate through noon on **September 14, 2020**.

Group room rates available three days prior and after conference dates.

RESERVATION METHOD: Reserve online via this special link:

<https://www.wyndhamhotels.com/groups/hr/women-writing-the-west-conference>. You may also call the hotel directly at (719) 955-5600 or toll free at (866) 299-4602. Mention Women Writing the West for the conference rate.

Self-parking at a discounted rate of \$9.00 per vehicle, per night. Complimentary self-parking for daytime attendees

Breakfast Buffet

This year, we will not include our usual continental breakfasts. Instead, the Antlers offers a full, hot breakfast buffet including a made-to-order omelet station in the Antlers Grille. We've negotiated a special price of \$15 (plus gratuity) for attendees (less than the cost of the continental breakfast!). Ask for your coupon for this special at the registration desk when you arrive at conference.

Airport Shuttle Service

Groome Transportation offers a shared ride shuttle to The Antlers Hotel from both Denver International Hotel and the Colorado Springs Airport. They charge \$50.00 from DIA and \$15.00 from COS. Reservations can be booked on their website reservations@coloradoshuttle.com or over the phone 719-687-3456.

For those arriving together or around the same time, another option is to share an Uber or a Lyft and split the cost. Just post in the WomenWritingtheWest@groups.io or Women Writing the West Facebook group that you're looking for someone to share a ride and include your arrival time.

The Colorado Springs Area

Situated at the base of Pikes Peak, Colorado Springs is a place of magnificent beauty. The city's history is a rich tapestry of natural wonder, ancient Native cultures and traditions, Hispanic influence, pioneer discovery and settlement, and modern change.

The Ute, Cheyenne, and Arapahoe gathered at the base of the great "Sun Mountain." For thousands of years, their ancestors sheltered in the Garden of the Gods, leaving fire rings and stone hearths to attest to their presence. They drank from the waters of nearby Manitou Springs centuries before others would laud the healing properties of the springs. Ute hunters roamed the 14,115 foot summit of the great mountain. Their voices still echo in the Cave of the Winds.

During the 1700s, French and Spanish explorers entered the area, then Anglo-Americans. In 1806, Zebulon Pike first attempted to reach the summit of the great mountain. In 1853, Colorado City was founded, the first of the settlements in the area. Briefly territorial capitol, it was a supply camp for miners in the region. General William Jackson Palmer visited in 1869 and envisioned a resort town at the base of the peak. In 1871, he founded the town and Palmer opened the grand Antlers Hotel two years later.

The local springs as well as the dry sunny climate became a draw for victims of tuberculosis and other health conditions. Gold, discovered on the west slope of Pikes Peak brought thousands to the area and Colorado Springs became a city of millionaires. Spencer Penrose made his fortune and built the Pikes Peak and Cheyenne Mountain Highways; he and his wife Julia left their mark with the grand Broadmoor Hotel, Cheyenne Mountain Zoo, and Will Rogers Shrine. In the years since, the Springs area became home to Camp Carson and to the United States Air Force Academy.

Inspiration has come to many of those who have visited and lived here. On a trip to the summit of Pikes Peak, poet Katharine Lee Bates penned "America the Beautiful" and Helen Hunt Jackson wrote from her home in Colorado Springs.

Things to do on your own

- Glen Eyrie Castle
- Royal Gorge
- Cave of the Wind
- Evergreen Cemetery
- Old Colorado City
- Pikes Peak
- Olympic Museum
- Pro Rodeo Hall of Fame

- Manitou Springs
- Manitou Cliff Dwellings
- The Broadmoor
- USAF Academy
- Cheyenne Mountain Zoo
- & so much more!

For further information:

See The Antlers Hotel link at the bottom of the Conference page

Colorado Springs official vacation guide: offers some great lists of things to do:

<https://www.visitcos.com/>.

Info specific to history: <https://www.visitcos.com/things-to-do/history-and-heritage/>.