

CELEBRATING
YEARS!
16

The State of Real Estate Exploring the Metro
Region's Most Desirable Neighborhoods

denver life

Colorado's leading lifestyle magazine

16th Annual Best Places to Live Issue

WHY DENVER IS THE BEST PLACE TO LIVE

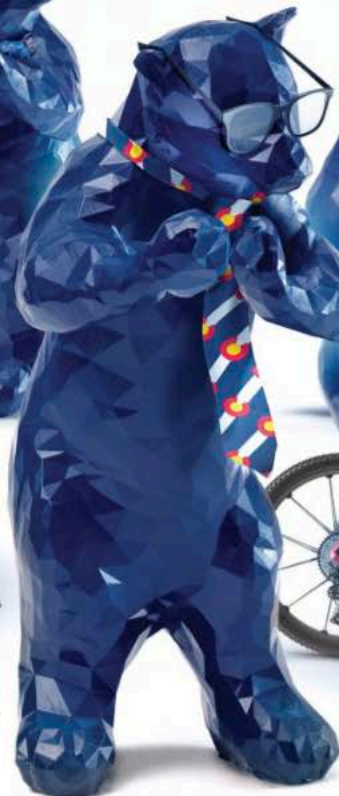
Art is
everywhere!



The dining scene is
beyond delicious!



The tech industry
is booming!



The city's a
beacon for the
world's top brands!



There's always so
much to do and we
want to do it all!

MARCH 2023

PLEASE DISPLAY UNTIL 04.05.2023 \$4.95



denverlifemagazine.com

Uncovering the Gems of the Mile High City, An Urban Basecamp of Boundless Possibilities, where Creative Culture, Culinary Excellence, Tech Innovations, Outdoor Adventures, and Natural Beauty Converge at the Foot of the Rockies



CULTURE

From cowboys to coders, Denver is a city transformed. With a booming tech scene and bold new developments underway, the city's evolution shows no signs of slowing down.

Denver, once the land of cowboys and mountains, has come of age.

This city is no longer just a place of rough-and-tumble pioneers, but a modern metropolis that has embraced the future with open arms. The tech scene here is booming, with startups raising \$1.8 billion in the second quarter of 2022 and attracting companies from all over the world. The city's strong universities, supportive local politicians, and the presence of tech giants such as Google and Palantir Technologies have all contributed to this growth.

I remember a time when the only thing people associated with Denver was its beautiful natural scenery. But now, with its thriving startup scene, high quality of



life, and active arts culture, Denver has become a tech cluster, promoting a virtuous cycle of hiring and idea generation. The city's residents are known for their open and collaborative spirit, making it an ideal place for entrepreneurs and innovators to come together and create. The more people come to Denver, the more they want to stay.

And the tech scene is just one part of Denver's evolution. The city is also undergoing a physical transformation, with visionary developments such as One River North leading the way. This 16-story residential tower is a biophilic design marvel, bringing the great outdoors into the heart of the city. With its plant-filled canyon, hiking trail-inspired passageway, and rooftop garden offering views of the Rockies, One River North is a place where nature and the city come together. The tower's minimalist interior spaces, private open-air terraces, and floor-to-ceiling windows offer residents a chance to connect with nature in an urban setting.

Another neighborhood undergoing a transformation is Cherry Creek. Developers East West Partners have announced an ambitious \$1 billion, 20-year plan to transform 13 acres of parking lot into a world-class community known as Cherry Creek West, with the same team behind Union Station and Riverfront Park leading the way. The developers aim to create a 15-minute community where everything you need is within reach, with outdoor spaces, healthy buildings, and walkability being prioritized.

ONE RIVER NORTH

691,230

small businesses in Colorado

\$1.8 Billion

how much Denver startups raised in the second quarter of 2022, a 185% increase from a year earlier.

7th

Colorado's rank in the U.S. for its total number of venture capital deals in 2022

358%

rise in venture capital raised in Denver in 2021 vs. 2017

No. 1

where Colorado ranks among states for women entrepreneurs

16th Annual Best Places to Live

The creek will be at the heart of the community, connecting the neighborhood to its namesake waterway for the first time.

The River Mile is another planned point of reconnection. It's a new, urban mixed-use neighborhood that will soon stretch along a one-mile stretch of the South Platte River between Speer Boulevard and Auraria Parkway in Downtown Denver. The River Mile will be a neighborhood unlike any other, adjacent to two transit stations and the birthplace of the city. The plan calls for a bike and pedestrian-oriented public realm, new waterfront parks, and public spaces that will be a haven for outdoor enthusiasts. The South Platte River, once just a place for recreation, is now the centerpiece of this new neighborhood, with plans to restore the river to its former glory.

Currently, the site of the River Mile is home to the Elitch Gardens Theme Park, as well as swaths of parking lots designed to serve the nearby stadiums and downtown amenities. But, soon it will be transformed into a bustling community of vibrant mixed uses, spanning across 60 acres. It will take several decades for the entire River Mile neighborhood to be developed, but if and when it's complete, it promises to be a cultural and social hub for the city, with public art interwoven throughout, a riverside recreation center, and educational offerings. The River Mile is poised to become a hub for innovation and entrepreneurship,

reflecting the growth and evolution of Denver.

Further down the South Platte River, the transfor-

mation has already begun at RiNo ArtPark, where the Arkins Promenade is an elevated oasis of serenity integrated with the city's buzz. This 400-foot-long elevated platform offers views up and down the river corridor, the surrounding neighborhoods, and the city beyond. The Arkins Promenade was designed to reconnect the community to the river corridor, transforming an overlooked stretch of road into a vibrant, human-centric park incorporating public art, water features, and green infrastructure that improves the river's water quality. The promenade reflects the industrial-tinged aesthetic of its surrounding neighborhood and is a prime example of the city's vision for adaptive reuse of underutilized infrastructure. With its public plaza, extensive public art installation, and shared space for collaborative programming and services, RiNo ArtPark is a unique partnership that celebrates art, innovation, education, and small business.

Denver has come a long way from its cowboy roots. With a thriving tech scene, strong economy, and innovative developments, the city is all grown up and ready to make its mark as an epicenter for innovation and entrepreneurship. **OLY**

SHAPE OF THE FUTURE East West Partners is transforming 13 acres of parking lot in Cherry Creek into a world-class community. *Opposite page* A new urban landmark is in the making. One River North will redefine Denver's skyline with its biophilic design.



CHERRY CREEK WEST

99.5%

of Colorado businesses are small businesses

44.7%

Colorado businesses owned by women

\$73 Million

capital raised in January 2023 by Outrider, the Golden-based developer of autonomous trucks and equipment for shipping yards

13,352 Sq. Ft.

size of the rift cutting through the center of One River North

28 Ft.

how high Arkins Promenade stretches above the ground