

6 ways to wait out back blizzard

Big snowfalls in Denver are more rare than you might think, but it always helps to be prepared. Here, then, are the top Ted-recommended places to find yourself, should a big storm catch you off guard in or around Denver.

Pinball wizard

Stock up on those quarters of yours. Nothing passes the time like a good game of pinball and the Lyons Pinball Arcade in Lyons has 31 new and classio machines for you to give a whirt. Hey, watch that titl 303-823-6100

Learn the ropes

Being snowed in tends to make you want to start climbing walls. At Thrillseekers, an old converted stage theater in Denver, you literally can, with over 12,000 sq. ft. of climbing surface to rappel, ascend or traverse. With over 100 routes of varying grades of difficulty, there's something for everyone whether you're a novice or can climb like a Shema. 803-733-8810

All that jazz

If a small, smoky, jam-packed jazz joint, that serves traditional Mexican chow on paper plates appeals to the hipster in you, then Derwer's El Chapultepec is the perfect place to find yourself during a later-night bilizzard (it's open 'til 2:00 a.m.). For over 50 years, they've hosted local and international acts and sened up music that's almost as hot as the green chili. 303:295-9128

Hole up with some suds

For a serious beer experience, the class Wynkoop Brewery Co. in Denver is Colorado's first brewpub and definitely looks the part. Bring along your 'beer resume' and you can enter their prestigious 'Beer Drinker of the Year' contest, but be forewared that the competition is fierce—last year's winner has tasted more than 2,500 different beers in his lifetime, 3/33-297-2700

What's on the tube?

A big snow means you'll probably be spending a lot of quality time with the TV. Take that thought to the extreme by visiting the Cable Center on the University of Deniver campus—an architectural and technological marvel. Over 70 miles of coaxial cable wind their way through various interactive displays, including a 32-ft. video tower made up of 98 TV screens. 303-871-4885

Music to your ears

With thousands of titles, the occasional live performance by a touring band and just enough of a condescending edge to the employees, Twist & Shout Records in Denner is the real deal; the model after which all indie music stores should be designed. Waiting for the snow to melt never sounded so cool, 303-722-1948.

