

High Country Dillon School House Self Guided Driving Tour

Round Trip Distance: 30 Miles

Driving Time: 1 Hour

Car Difficulty (1 to 10): 3

Driving Difficulty (1 to 10): 3

Maximum Altitude: N/A

Altitude Change from Breckenridge Altitude: None

Web Site: <http://www.summithistorical.org/DillonSH.html>



Dillon School House Tour: Dillon is approximately 15 miles east of Breckenridge and less than a half hour driving time each way. From the hotel, go down the hill on Village Drive 3/10 of a mile to the stop sign. Turn left at the stop sign on to South Park Avenue and travel north 1 mile to the round about. Take the Round About Counter Clockwise and take the second exit on State Route 9 North. Travel North on State Route 9 approximately 6 miles to Swan Mountain Road. You will turn right on Swan Mountain Road and travel east past Lake Dillon for 6 miles to the intersection of US 6. Turning left on US 6 (Also County Road 150, Keystone Ranch Road) for about 4 miles. Bear left onto Dam Road, Count Road 7, for about 2 miles. Turn Left on La Bonte Street, and the School House will be on your (left or right) at 403 La Bonte Street. For the return, go north on La Bonte Street to Dam Road. Turn Left on Dam Road (County Road 7) the road will change to Summit Boulevard (State Route 9, which will return to Breckenridge. The Return trip will be approximately 12 miles. Driving time is less than half an hour each way. The school house is only open Tuesday through Friday, 1:00 PM until 4:00, and admission is Free.

Built in 1883 as a school, this frame building with original belfry and bell has undergone changes in use - originally as a school, in 1910 as a church and in 1972 as a museum - as well as in location. The railroad had arrived in Dillon #3 months before the school was constructed, so it was built of modern materials such as four-by-four casement windows and a pressed-tin ceiling. It sported a raised platform with curtain for programs. The outside walls were clapboarded and the roof covered with split-shake shingles.

Turn-of-the-century artifacts fill the museum. In the one-room classroom are McGuffey desks, Heath Readers (with hand-crocheted bookmarks), slates and chalk, individual learning stations (rolls), Centennial flag, flip chart, chemistry set, black constellation globe, kerosene slide projector and glass slides, phonograph, piano, organ and sand table. Other artifacts in the classroom and adjacent "store" include typewriters, clothing and jewelry, baseball paraphernalia, grinder, post office boxes, buttons, beaver traps, snowshoes, fire apparatus, blacksmith tools, assay scales, ballot box, beer bottles, cigar mold and tobacco cutter, saddles and butcher block.

The annex contains the historical society's archives: newspapers, books, brochures, maps, photographs, governmental documents, clothing, correspondence and more. It is the only archival depository in the county. Visit their web site at <http://www.summithistorical.org/DillonSH.html>.

Maps, Brochures and detailed directions are available in the Hospitably Area. Please Review the High Altitude Driving Tips and Staying Healthy Tips Handouts.