

High Country Leadville Healy House Museum and Dexter Cabin Self Guided Driving Tour

Round Trip Distance: 80 Miles

Driving Time: 2 Hours

Car Difficulty (1 to 10): 5

Driving Difficulty (1 to 10): 5

Maximum Altitude: 11,320

Altitude Change from Breckenridge Altitude: 1,700 Feet

Web Site: http://www.coloradohistory.org/hist_sites/healyhouse/H_house.htm



Leadville is southwest of Breckenridge and approximately 40 miles and 1 hour driving time. The trip will take you north on Route 9, west on I-70, then south on route 91 with a climb to 11,320 feet over Freemont Pass to Leadville. The admission to the Healy House and Dexter Cabin is \$4.50. Lunch is not provided.

This is an opportunity to tour two of Leadville's earliest houses for a glimpse of western life in a booming silver-mining camp. James V. Dexter's surprisingly plush 1879 log cabin was the Leadville residence of the mining investor and businessman. By that time he was already wealthy man and loved a wide variety of activities. Besides being an avid hunter, Dexter was a collector of coins, gems, etchings and paintings. He was a sought-after host, and his Leadville cabin, although small, allowed Dexter the freedom to entertain informally. He quickly became known as having the "stiffest and most exclusive private poker club" in Leadville.

August R. Meyer's 1878 Greek Revival clapboard house (now called Healy House) was built for his bride, Emma. The home features lavish Victorian furnishings collected in Leadville, including objects belonging to silver tycoon Horace and Augusta Tabor, along with other Leadville pioneers. For many years it was a boarding house and by 1900 twenty-one people called this home. The boarders included Dan Healy, and his cousin, Nellie, who taught school, and several of the men employed by the railroads.

The trip also includes the opportunity to view items from Bernice Lang's Doll Collection. The exhibit includes dolls prior to 1945, and you can see the techniques used in doll making in both the Europe and the United States.

You can tour at your own pace and have all your Leadville questions of yesterday and today answered by knowledgeable staff. Ask for our children's tour, designed to make your family's visit a memorable experience.

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