

It's a Possibility:

There is still MUCH to do in Aspen during our gathering in October. It's a Possibility for small gatherings (35 people) at the Chalet. It's a Possibility some musicians bring their instruments and play at evening sing-alongs. It's a Possibility for a few limited concerts of 50 people or less. However things unfold, this year can offer time for sight-seeing, fellowship, and relaxation in beautiful Aspen. Although subject to change, here are other "Possibilities" being planned.



These are mainly, but not all, **outdoor events** where folks can keep social distancing...."6 feet wide", just like **Grandma's Feather Bed!**

Possibilities:

Thursday, Oct. 8:

Welcome to My Morning, Welcome to My Day: Meet & Greet - **Thursday noon** at JD Sanctuary.

This is My Autograph: Thursday – after the Meet & Greet - Stroll through the beautiful JD Sanctuary, read the inspirational inscriptions on the rocks.

The Eagle and the Hawk: 2 pm – 3 p.m. The 5th floor of the Mountain Chalet. Don Larson's love for eagles has resulted in many beautiful photographs, educational presentations, and even a book he has written about eagles. Come share in Don's knowledge of the magnificent birds and get a better understanding of John Denver's feeling of kinship with them. Masks are required and social distancing observed. There is a limited number of people allowed (approx. 35). Free event, but a head count will be taken to abide by distancing regulations.



Music Paints Pictures and Often Tells Stories: 3 - 4 p.m. The 5th floor of the Mountain Chalet. Some people were fortunate to meet or work with John Denver. Come share and listen to stories of personal encounters with John. Hosted by JP McDaniel and Don Larson, both met John numerous times. Masks are required and social distancing observed. A limited number of people is allowed (approx. 35). Free event, but a head count will be taken to abide by social distancing regulations.

Walking Thunder: 7:30 p.m. The 5th floor of the Mountain Chalet. This is the 25th anniversary year for the movie *Walking Thunder*. Come watch the movie starring John Denver. Masks are required and social distancing is observed. A limited number of people is allowed (approx. 35). Free event, but a head count will be taken to abide by social distancing regulations.



Friday, Oct. 9:

Rocky Mountain High: Rio Grande Trail off Cemetery Lane (directly west of Aspen off Highway 82), Friday 10 a.m. Visit the infamous rock where John stood for the album photograph. Meet in the parking lot off the trail and saunter, walk, or run at your own pace to the rock. The embankment is steep down to the creek so we will help each other if you want to venture down to have your photo taken on the rock.

Chicken Pie & Country Ham: Noon - Lunch at Woody Creek Tavern, for those who want to gather for lunch. About 8 miles west of Aspen off Highway 82. (970) 923-4585.

His Spirit Joined and So Was Formed: Aspen's Dark Side Tour: Meet at the Wheeler at 6:00 pm for a professionally guided "ghost" tour of Aspen. This is an easy walking tour of downtown Aspen area, with frequent stops and sitting opportunities to listen to true stories told by professional tour guide Dean. Learn about the "hidden" side of Aspen, from the Indian and mining days to current celebrities, from incidents at the Hotel Jerome to the Red Onion, and more.... including some "shock stories" shared by Dean. We have a special time of 6:00 pm and rate of \$35 set aside for the "John Denver" folks. Limited to 10 people. If more than 10 sign up, a second tour will be offered at 8:00 p.m. Contact Dean and reserve your spot at <https://www.aspenwalkingtours.com/> or call 970-948-4349. (Refunds or rescheduling is provided in the event of bad weather.)

Saturday, Oct 10:

To the Mountains: Visit Maroon Bells in early afternoon. Reservations are required, or you can ride the shuttle bus. Call Aspen Chamber of Commerce 970.925.1940 or contact Maroon Bells at **(970) 945-3319**.

Friends Around the Campfire: No campfire this year. There is a fire ban in Colorado and also a limit of 10 people can gather at Maroon Bells picnic and camping areas. Sorry folks... plan for a campfire next year.

Also see **"Miscellaneous"** below for more **"Possibilities"**.

Sunday, Oct 11:

Talk to God and Listen to the Casual Reply: Church service at Aspen Chapel, 9:30 – 10:30 a.m. In person or Zoom.

St. Benedict's Monastery, Snowmass. Sunday Mass at 8:15, Bookstore open 8 a.m. – 8 p.m. daily.

Good-By Again: Wagner Park, 10 a.m.. Gather to say farewell and safe travels to our John Denver family.... Until next year!

Almost Heaven: The songs of John Denver. Presented by Littleton Town Halls Arts Theatre, at Hudson Gardens, Littleton, CO. 2 pm showing. (Also showing on Thursday – Saturday.) *Almost Heaven* weaves together songs by John Denver to create a uniquely theatrical narrative that reflects the country during the late '60s and early '70s. John Denver's songs are rediscovered and reinvented in this wonderful musical tribute. Outside venue. Masks are required and distancing observed. For reservations: (303) 794-2787 or townhallartscenter.org.



Monday, Oct. 12

Spirit: Were We Brothers on a Journey: Red Rocks Park, Denver, 5:30 – 6:45 p.m. A memorial tribute and gathering to honor John Denver at the Spirit statue at the Red Rocks Trading Post, Denver. (Off I-70 and C-470, Morrison exit.)

Miscellaneous:

Whale Bones and Crosses: An easy walking tour of the historic Ute Cemetery, in the southeastern side of Aspen off Ute Avenue. This is one of the few historic cemeteries in Colorado to have been completely restored and is listed on the National Historic Registry.

The Eagle and the Hawk: ACES (Aspen Center for Environmental Studies), located about a block west of the John Denver Sanctuary, is a non-profit environmental science organization and center. Several wild raptors are featured at the visitor center and lake.

Empty chairs, the wooden floor that feels the touch of shoes no more: Ashcroft Ghost Town. Located 11 miles up Castle Creek Road, the silver mining ghost town features the restored remains of several historic buildings, including a saloon, a post office, and the Bird House Hotel.

Country Roads: Independence Pass, located about 5 miles east of Aspen on Highway 82, is the highest paved mountain pass in Colorado. It is at elevation 12,095 ft on the Continental Divide in the Sawatch Range of the Rocky Mountains. Near the summit of the Pass is an abandoned mining town of Independence that offers self-guided walking tours.

The Wind is the Whisper of Our Mother the Earth: Windstar Land Conservancy, located about 8 miles west of Aspen off Highway 82, is on the approximately 1,000 acres of land once owned by John Denver for the Windstar Foundation. Although the foundation closed its doors in 2012, the land is protected as a natural land conservancy and the public still has access to the trails, the meadowlands and the meditation platform. An aspen grove stands where the Spirit statue of John Denver used to stand, with a bench dedicated to his mother Erma and a large boulder with an inscription that was placed there in his memory.