

COLORADO

# MORGAN COUNTY

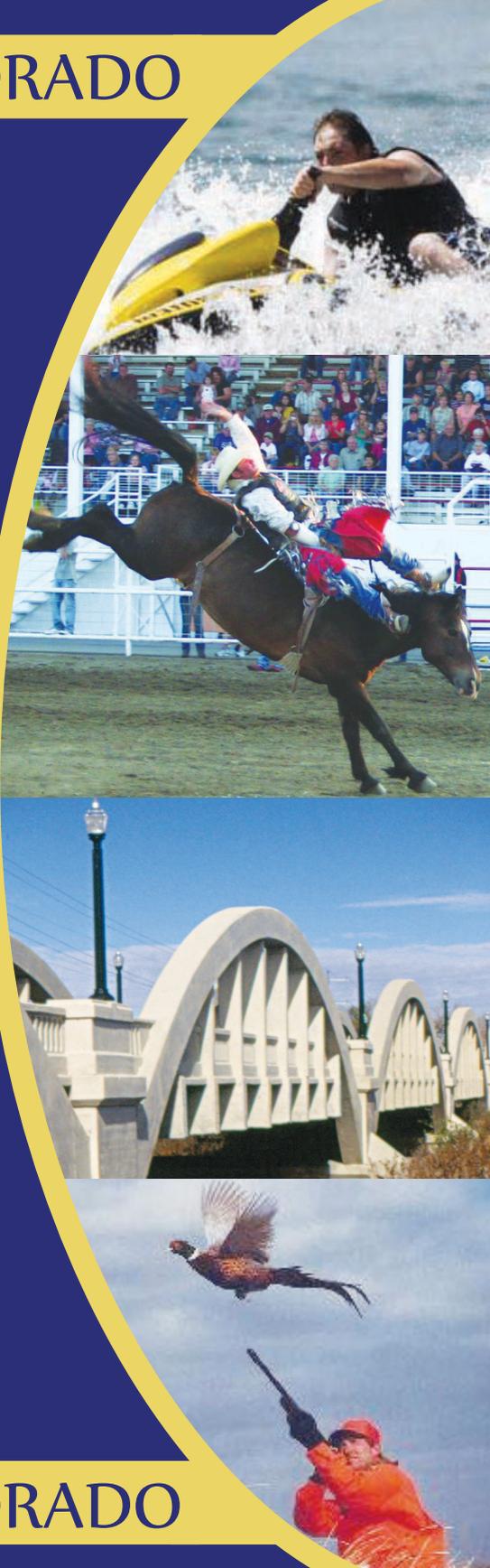
COLORADO

*WHERE PRAIRIE MEETS THE SKY*

Phone: 970.542.3508

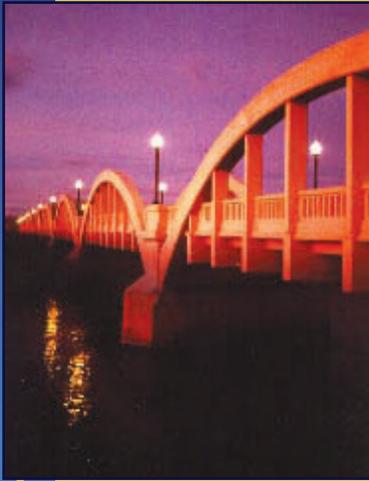
Fax: 970.542.3053

PRESENTED BY: MORGAN COUNTY TOURISM PANEL  
[WWW.MORGANCOUNTYTOURISM.COM](http://WWW.MORGANCOUNTYTOURISM.COM)



BRUSH • FORT MORGAN • GOODRICH • HILLROSE • LOG LANE VILLAGE • ORCHARD • SNYDER • WIGGINS

## Things Not To Miss...



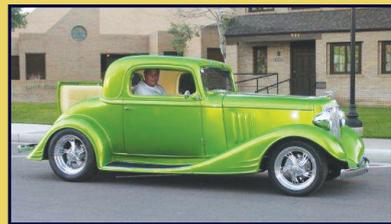
**James Marsh Arch Bridge:**  
The only rainbow arch bridge in Colorado. This Colorado historic site is adjacent to Riverside Park, a 180-acre nature area running along the South Platte River.

**Brush Rodeo Days:**  
July 1-4, the world's largest open rodeo. Enjoy four days of food, rodeo and down-home fun!



**Glenn Miller Swingfest:**  
Every year, Fort Morgan hosts a celebration of one of it's most famous high school graduates, Glenn Miller.

Visitors from Alaska to New York, England to Germany, gather for this festival of music and dance.



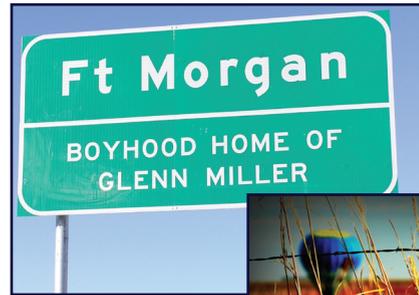
**Fall Harvest Car Show:**  
You'll be dazzled by a gathering of several hundred vintage and classic cars.



**MC Barn Quilts:**  
Find your favorite quilt square during a tour throughout Morgan County. There are over 90 quilt squares in more than 60 locations.

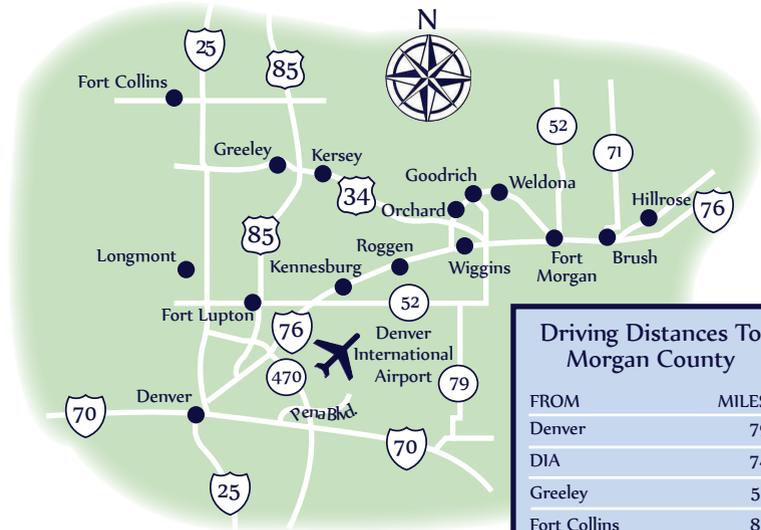
# Enjoy limitless horizons and

Visit the windswept prairies and wide, sunny skies that attracted Hollywood's imagination during the filming of James Michener's "Centennial." Discover the vast plains that nurtured local band leader Glenn Miller and served as a final resting place for science fiction legend Phillip K. Dick. Whether you're driving across Colorado or just planning a day trip from Denver, Morgan County offers an extraordinary landscape, unusual attractions, and the friendliest local faces you'll find anywhere!



There's something for the whole family out where the prairie meets the sky, so come be a part of our Morgan County family and check out all we have to offer!

# untouched natural beauty.



## From our I-76 location, city life is about an hour - and a world - away.

As you venture off the beaten tourist track, you'll find a surprising range of activities and entertainment:

- Hunting \* Fishing \* Camping \* Wildlife Viewing \* Bird Watching \* Archery
  - Nature Walks \* Historic Trails \* Scenic Byways \* Bicycling \* Boating \* Swimming
  - Water Skiing \* Jet Skiing \* Skate Parks \* Swimming Pools \* Parks \* Playgrounds
  - Tennis Courts \* Disc Golf \* Golf Courses \* Volleyball Courts \* Bowling
  - In-Line Hockey Rink \* Motocross Track \* Stock Car Racing \* Sky Diving
  - Rodeos \* Parades \* Festivals \* Concerts \* Museums \* Libraries
  - Historic Sites \* Antique Shopping \* Barn Quilt Tours \* Shopping
- So Much More!

## Morgan County History

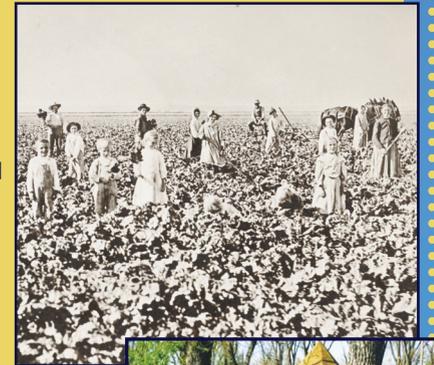
Arapahoe, Kiowa, Southern Cheyenne, Sioux and Pawnee Indians once roamed these plains in search of buffalo.

In the 1800s, huge herds of cattle passed through Morgan County, traveling along the 1,500 mile route of the Texas-Montana Trail. The long drives were worthwhile, because a steer worth \$17 in Texas could be sold for \$75 in Montana. Westward immigrants pitted their resourcefulness against the harsh terrain. Fort Morgan was built to protect mail and commerce; Brush and Snyder served as shipping centers



on the great cattle ranges; and hunters, trappers and homesteaders gathered in Goodrich, Hillrose, Hoyt, Orchard, Weldona and Wiggins.

In the late 1800s, progressive business leaders envisioned lush fields on the prairie and with irrigation the plains blossomed. Cattle and sugar beets have been cornerstones of the region's economy.



The discovery of oil in Morgan County created a mini-boom in the 1950s, when Log Lane Village emerged as a neighboring town to Fort Morgan. In 1977, Pawnee Power Plant was begun and again the county's economy flourished.



Today, Morgan County blends history, tourism and agriculture into an eastern plains oasis.

# Fort Morgan

Established: 1884 | Incorporated: 1887 | Population: 11,327

Fort Morgan began in 1864 as a military post to protect commerce along the South Platte River. First known as Camp Tyler, then Camp Wardell, the town eventually took its name from Colonel Christopher A. Morgan of the United States Volunteers.

Though the fort was in ruins by 1870, entrepreneur Abner S. Baker envisioned a thriving community on the plains, irrigated by canals and allied with the railroads and the Lincoln (Nebraska) Land Company. Businesses began to cluster by the Burlington Railroad on Main Street.

In 1885, the Fort Morgan Times wrote: "The Fort Morgan flat is the richest oasis in the 'Great American Desert.'" The town was incorporated in May 1887 and designated the county seat of the newly formed Morgan County in 1889.



Fort Morgan Museum & Library

Fort Morgan was known as "Fort Morgan Cut Off," since it was the point where the Overland Trail left the South Platte River and headed across the plains directly to Denver.



Sherman Street National Historic District



Riverside Park



## Fort Morgan Annual Events

- Morgan County Home & Garden Show
- Phillip K. Dick Festival
- Glenn Miller SwingFest
- Bobstock
- Summer Concerts
- Fall Harvest Car Show
- Christmas Capital On The Plains



### Landmarks:

1. Municipal Golf Course - Quail Dunes
2. Riverside Park, Swimming Pool & Campground
3. Old Fort Marker
4. Colorado Plains Medical Center
5. Sherman Street - National Historic District
6. Armory Recreation Center
7. Library, Museum & City Park
8. Post Office
9. Fort Morgan Area Chamber of Commerce and Visitor Center
10. Railroad Depot
11. Legion Athletic Field
12. Riverside Cemetery & Memory Garden
13. I-76 speedway - Stock Car Racing



Fort Morgan Outdoor Pool

# Brush!

Established: 1882 | Incorporated: 1884 | Population: 5,465



With a proud farming history and rich soil, Brush boasts abundant crops of corn, soy, sugar beets and wheat. This agricultural heritage, now blended with tourism and outdoor recreation, creates a unique adventure for visitors.

Looking for an adrenaline rush? Try skydiving at the Brush Airport or race around one of the state's premier motocross tracks, Sweny Cycle Park. Want to soak up some history? Visit these sites on the National Register of Historic Places: All Saints Lutheran Chapel, Central Platoon School and the Knearl School. Or experience the Livestock and Antique Auctions. Hoping to see native birds and wildlife? Photo moments abound at the spectacular Brush Prairie Ponds Wildlife Area.

A local business, Eben Ezer Lutheran Care Center has provided healthcare for over a hundred years. Founded in 1903 as a charitable tuberculosis sanitarium, it became Morgan County's first hospital, meeting many needs including during the 1918 influenza epidemic. Today Eben Ezer offers multi-level care for the elderly and disabled. Brush also is home to Sunset Manor, a renowned Alzheimer Care Facility.

Brush has a history of welcoming travelers. The town began as a shipping point known as Beaver Creek Station, on the old Texas-Montana cattle trail, and was named for a pioneer cattleman of the South Platte Valley, Jared L. Brush.



Brush 4th of July Parade



Brush Oktoberfest



Brush Outdoor Pool



Morgan County Fair



## Brush! Annual Events

### 5K Brush Rush

### Rodeo Days

July 1-4 Brush hosts the largest open rodeo in the world, founded in 1954. Four full days of exciting activities include mutton bustin', stick horse race, parade, quilt show, dancing, ice cream social, and festive 4th of July fireworks display.



### Morgan County Fair

1st Week in August

### Demo Derby

### Bucking Bull Battle

### Oktoberfest

## Landmarks:

1. Bunker Hill Country Club & Golf Course
2. Petteys Park
3. Brush Memorial Cemetery
4. East Morgan County Library
5. Brush Area Chamber of Commerce and Visitor Center
6. Carroll Hotel
7. Knearl School Museum (National Historic Register) and Texas - Montana Trail Marker
8. Prairie Trails Park and Doty Pond
9. Brush City Hall
10. Memorial Park & Swimming Pool
11. Morgan County Fairgrounds
12. Eben Ezer All Saints Church
13. East Morgan County Hospital

# Wiggins

Established: 1894 | Incorporated: 1974 | Population: 898

Wiggins was named for Oliver P. "Old Scout" Wiggins, a Canadian who was once employed by the Hudson Bay Company. The town was called Corona, before it became Wiggins in 1894.

## Wiggins Annual Events

Diggin' Wiggins

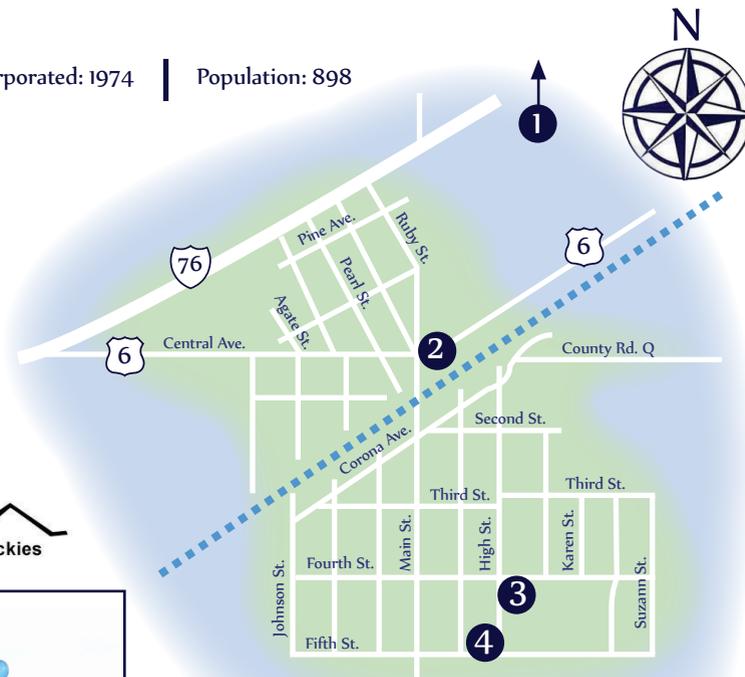
4th of July Festival



Diggin' Wiggins



Diggin' Wiggins



### Landmarks:

1. Jackson Lake State Park
2. Town Hall
3. Park - Ball Fields
4. Old Trail School House (National Historic Register)

# Log Lane Village

Established: 1955 | Incorporated: 1955 | Population: 873



First conceived as a site for a liquor store outside "dry" Fort Morgan, Log Lane Village eventually expanded into a community. Originally every building was required to be built from or sided with logs - hence the name. The ordinance was dropped in the mid 1960s.

### Landmarks:

1. Town Hall



Hillrose was settled by the Lincoln Land Co., the Burlington Railroad's townsite corporation. Mrs. Kate Emerson of Denver, who had deeded the land for the townsite, was permitted by the railroad to select the town's name. She reversed her sister's name, Rose Hill, to make Hillrose.

# Hillrose

Established: 1900 | Incorporated: 1919 | Population: 264



### Landmarks:

1. Town Hall / Community Center
2. Park



Explore Morgan County and become part of our family!

For more information about Morgan County visit us online at [www.MorganCountyTourism.com](http://www.MorganCountyTourism.com)

Or call one of our friendly visitor centers:

Brush :: 970.842.2666

Fort Morgan :: 970.867.6702

Morgan County Tourism: 970.542.3508

Mention "Brochure" for a free gift



Photos are courtesy of:  
 Morgan County Tourism Panel  
 Morgan County Economic Development Corporation  
 City of Brush!  
 City of Fort Morgan  
 Fort Morgan Museum  
 Longmeadow Game Resort and Event Center  
 Glenn Miller SwingFest  
 Fall Harvest Car Show  
 Brush News Tribune  
 Fort Morgan Times



Jackson Lake State Park hosts a variety of water sports, recreation and camping.

Passing through Morgan County from 1859 to 1868, the Overland Trail was used by miners, pioneers, stage and freight companies as a route to the gold mines in the western mountains.

Atop Wiggins Hill (Exit 66 along I-76) when the sky is clear, you can see Pikes Peak, Mt. Evans, Longs Peak and even the Medicine Bow Range in Wyoming.

In 1864 this cutoff of the Overland Trail shortened the distance by 80 miles, saving anywhere from 4 days to 1.5 days depending on the mode of transportation.



Highway 52, traveling north, is a starting point for the Pawnee Pioneer Trail a Scenic and Historic Byway.

The 1,500 mile Texas-Montana Cattle Trail moved cattle through Morgan County from the 1860s through the 1880s.

The Detroit/Lincoln/Denver Highway, built before Highway 34 and I-76, was one of the first national highways.

Maps provided in this publication are not to scale.

# MORGAN COUNTY LODGING

## FORT MORGAN

### BEST WESTERN

1-76 and Barlow Road (Exit 82)  
74 Units  
(970) 370.2322

### CENTRAL MOTEL

201 W. Platte Avenue (Exit 80)  
19 Units  
(970) 867.2401

### CLARION INN

1-76 (Exit 75)  
99 Units  
Restaurant/Lounge,  
Fitness & Business Centers, Pool  
(970) 867.8200

### COMFORT INN

1-76 and Barlow Road (Exit 82)  
49 Units  
Mavericks Restaurant and Lounge on  
Premises, Pool  
(970) 867.6700

### COUNTRY COMFORT

16466 West Hwy 34  
10 Units  
Weekly Rates, Kitchenettes,  
14 Sites for RV Hookups  
(970) 867.0260

### FORT MORGAN MOTEL

525 Platte Avenue  
10 Units  
Cable, Kitchenettes, DD Phone  
(970) 867.8264

## HAMPTON INN

1-76 and Main Street (Exit 80)  
80 Units  
Fitness & Business Centers, Pool  
(970) 542.2484

## RODEWAY INN

1-76 and Barlow Road (Exit 82)  
43 Units  
Mavericks Restaurant and Lounge on  
Premises  
(970) 867.9481

## SANDS MOTEL

933 West Platte Avenue  
17 Units  
DD Phone, Cable, HBO  
(970) 867.2453

## SANDS PARK TERRACE

725 Main Street (Exit 80)  
29 Units  
Pet Friendly, Extended Stay  
Available  
(970) 427.5001

## SILVER SPUR

### CAMPGROUND

1-76 and Barlow Road (Exit 82)  
26 Sites for RV Hookups  
(970) 441.5119

## SUPER 8

1-76 and Main Street (Exit 80)  
38 Units  
Business Center  
(970) 867.9443

## BRUSH

### ECONO LODGE

1-76 and Colorado Avenue (Exit 90)  
44 Units  
Outdoor Pool  
(970) 842.5146

### EMPIRE MOTEL

1408 Edison St.  
9 Units  
Kitchenettes Available  
(970) 842.2876

### MEMORIAL

### CAMPGROUND

450 S. Clayton  
18 Sites for RV Hookups  
(970) 842.5001

### MICROTEL INN

1-76 and Colorado Avenue (Exit 90)  
40 Units  
Pool, Hot Tub, Fitness Center  
(970) 842.4241

## WIGGINS

### LONGMEADOW GAME

### RESORT & EVENT CENTER

8604 County Road 6 (Exit 66A)  
8 Units  
Lounge, Hunting, Business Center  
(970) 483.8368