

Denver, Colorado, July 2009, SIAM Annual Meeting *(images from the internet)*



I had a preconceived notion about what Denver would be like. The last time I was here was for a wedding, and I didn't spend any time downtown. But on this trip (I'm here for a math conference) my hotel is right on the 16th Street Mall, which is bustling with people night and day. Last night (a Wednesday), I went out for a beer after 10pm and found a small bar with some live hip-hop-jazz music. The streets and bars were still packed with people when I returned to my room at 11pm.

My impression of Denver's downtown is that it's very vital. If you're ever passing through, it would be a great place to spend an afternoon and a night—maybe take in the art museum or a baseball game, and then a drink at one of the lively downtown bars—before traveling on. It would also be a great place for a young person to live for a while.

There is something about the downtown center of a nice city that I find wonderful. And even though my stay here has been short, wandering around downtown Denver for a few hours has been revitalizing.



Three shots of downtown Denver's 16th Street Walking Mall.