

Route 8 - to the Black Canyon of Gunnison is the longest route in terms of time and miles. It works out to 9+ hours (434 miles) at the speed limit. If you are going to do it, get an early start. It is a very pretty ride all the way, but the biggest treat is at the end - CO-92, which skirts the north rim of the Black Canyon and has some of the sweetest and most spectacular twistys in Colorado. If you get there early, please check out the monument itself, there are some great roads (also Butler G1's) inside the monument and the canyon will blow your mind! Should be light traffic all the way.

CO-92 is a Butler G1 and most deserving of that indication. The route takes you to the end of the twistiest section (about 27 miles – MM72 to MM45) before making a U-turn to start your return trip. If you go all the way to Crawford, you will be doing a lot of straight sections. The southeast bound traverse is actually better than the northwest direction, because it look like you are heading off the end of the world! You have to do it to see what we mean.



Morrow Point Reservoir from turnout on CO-92 (Dick Parker)

If you decide to visit Black Canyon National Park, turn right when you return to US-50 and head west. You will see a sign on US 50, directing you to the park. That sign is about 24 miles from the intersection of US-50 and CO-92. It will be another 7-8 miles from the US-50 turn off into the park.

You can also approach the canyon from the north side. Look for a sign on CO-92 directing you to the canyon. The road will be dirt but it is well maintained. You would get a unique perspective if you scoped out the canyon from both sides!



