

SHOPPING

Boulder has the most varied shopping in the region, in the prettiest environs. Shops are either on the Pearl St Mall or surrounding streets or on the brand-new 29th St Mall, just off 28th St between Canyon and Pearl St about a mile east of the Pearl St Mall. It is a similar al fresco shopping experience, but looks decidedly generic and planned (which it was). There's also a big Cineplex theater here, and a couple of restaurants.

Momentum (☎ 303-440-7744; www.ourmomentum.com; 1625 Pearl St; ☏ 10am-6pm Tue-Sat, 11am-5pm Sun) Owned by Kevin and Jenny Napatow, an enthusiastic young couple committed to socially responsible and environmentally friendly business practices, Momentum is one of those shops that makes you feel good about spending money. It sells the kitchen sink of unique global gifts – from recycled bottlecap earrings to embroidered aprons and intricate sari blankets – all handcrafted and purchased at fair value from disadvantaged artisans all over the world. Every item purchased provides a direct economic lifeline to the artists.

Common Threads (☎ 303-449-5431; www.commonthreadsboulder.com; 2707 Spruce St) Vintage shopping at its most haute couture, this fun place is where to go for secondhand Choo's and Prada purses. Prices are higher than your run-of-the-mill shop, but clothes, shoes and bags are always in good condition, and the designer clothing is guaranteed authentic. The consignment shop itself is a pleasure to browse, with clothing organized by color and type on visually aesthetic racks, just like a big-city boutique.