



nileGUIDE

ALL YOU NEED TO PLAN YOUR PERFECT TRIP



South Tahoe Epicurean Delight

Reno, Lake Tahoe, 5 Days

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Guide Description



AUTHOR NOTE: For this trip you will need a comfortable car (an old classic would be perfect!), and an appetite for the best food and fun available in South Lake Tahoe and Northern Nevada. You'll experience food that will send your taste buds to heaven; Hot August Nights classic car festival in Reno; the final day of the PGA Legend's golf classic at the beautiful Montreux Golf and Country Club; and parasailing over one of the Earth's most beautiful lakes.

Itinerary Overview

things to do
restaurants
hotels
nightlife

Day 1

DAY NOTE: You will be staying at a fantastic bed-n-breakfast at Lake Tahoe. We suggest you arrive before check in, to allow you to walk around Stateline's casinos and shops. Don't worry about seeing all your first day. This trip includes plenty of time for gambling and shopping. Also, be on the look out for old classic cars; Hot August Nights begins today in Reno, and many events will be going on up at Lake Tahoe, too.

Day 2 - Lake Tahoe

DAY NOTE: Breakfast in Bed! Once you're ready to journey outward, grab your beach gear and your sense of adventure, for you will be seeing Tahoe from the air!



Nepheles

Creative California cuisine and more

Day 3 - Reno

DAY NOTE: Today you head down the hill to Reno. First you should eat at a great restaurant in Incline Village, another of Tahoe's Jewels. You will see the last day of a PGA Tour at one of the area's greatest golf courses (if not one of America's best!). Be sure to get your tickets ahead of time: <http://www.vividseats.com/pgg-golf/>. Then it is time to check out the old timer cars at the Peppermill in Reno. A lazy drive through Carson City, where you will experience the best restaurant in Northern Nevada. By the time you get back to your room, you will already be emersed in sweet dreams.



Montreux Country Club

Longest course in Nevada

Day 4 - Lake Tahoe

DAY NOTE: After breakfast, drive toward Emerald Bay and get ready to see the beauty of Tahoe in a most splendid way: in a Jeep! The tours range in duration, so plan your trip according to your desires. We suggest a picnic basket, which you can take with you. After your tour, stay at Emerald Bay. This place is famous for post card views, and even Ansel Adams fell in love with this place. Many trails to hike. If you'd rather travel back

toward your hotel, then we suggest the Chart House for a late lunch.



Chart House

Spectacular views and good food

Day 5 - Lake Tahoe

DAY NOTE: This is a day for you to wander. We won't point you in any direction; you be your own guide. Depending on how long you plan to stay on this final day, we think a few calm moments by the Lake make for a great way to leave the area with a fresh imprint on your mind. You'll be back!



Heidi's Pancake House

Local favorite

Day 1

DAY NOTE: You will be staying at a fantastic bed-n-breakfast at Lake Tahoe. We suggest you arrive before check in, to allow you to walk around Stateline's casinos and shops. Don't worry about seeing all your first day. This trip includes plenty of time for gambling and shopping. Also, be on the look out for old classic cars; Hot August Nights begins today in Reno, and many events will be going on up at Lake Tahoe, too.

Day 2 - Lake Tahoe

QUICK NOTE

DAY NOTE: Breakfast in Bed! Once you're ready to journey outward, grab your beach gear and your sense of adventure, for you will be seeing Tahoe from the air!

contact:

tel: 530 544 8130

fax: 530 544 8131

<http://www.nepheles.com/>

location:

1169 Ski Run Boulevard
Lake Tahoe CA 96157

hours:

M-Su 2p-2a

1 Nepheles

DESCRIPTION: Nepheles restaurant took its name from the Greek Goddess of epicurean delights. There's nothing else Greek about the place though! It offers exclusive California style cuisine to its guests. Chef Mark Vassau uses fresh fish, meat and vegetables in all his preparations. Try Spinach Salad for starters, Grilled Orange Chili Rubbed Prawns for main course and ask for your favorite wine to go along with it. And if you happen to be at Nepheles for dinner, don't miss the Chef's Marketbasket – special dishes exclusively made for evening guests. The restaurant can also be booked for private functions and business meetings. © wcities.com

MY NOTE: Walking distance from your your bed and breakfast is another culinary experience. Don't do too much snacking, because you will want to be good and hungry.



wcities

Day 3 - Reno

QUICK NOTE

DAY NOTE: Today you head down the hill to Reno. First you should eat at a great restaurant in Incline Village, another of Tahoe's Jewels. You will see the last day of a PGA Tour at one of the area's greatest golf courses (if not one of America's best!). Be sure to get your tickets ahead of time: <http://www.vividseats.com/pgg-golf/>. Then it is time to check out the old timer cars at the Peppermill in Reno. A lazy drive through Carson City, where you will experience the best restaurant in Northern Nevada. By the time you get back to your room, you will already be emersed in sweet dreams.

contact:

tel: +1 775 849 9496
http://www.montreuxgolf.com/club/golf_cc.html

location:

1800 Bordeaux Drive
Reno NV 89511

1 Montreux Country Club

OUR LOCAL EXPERT SAYS:

If you don't want to golf, there is a great public hiking around that goes through Montreaux, called the Galena Creek Trail.

DESCRIPTION: This beautiful 18-hole, par-72 course was designed by Jack Nicklaus and is the home of the PGA's newest tournament, the Reno-Tahoe Open. Located south of Reno and less than 30-minutes from Lake Tahoe on the Mount Rose Highway, the course brings professional golf to the spectacular Mount Rose area. This is the home course for pros Patty Sheehan, Annika Sorenstam and Scott McCoarron. Tee times are reserved six days in advance. © wcities.com

MY NOTE: For tickets: <http://www.vividseats.com/pgg-golf/> You may be able to obtain tickets the day of the event; however, best to be safe and get them ahead of time. You will love walking this course.



kulicki/Flickr

Day 4 - Lake Tahoe

QUICK NOTE

DAY NOTE: After breakfast, drive toward Emerald Bay and get ready to see the beauty of Tahoe in a most splendid way: in a Jeep! The tours range in duration, so plan your trip according to your desires. We suggest a picnic basket, which you can take with you. After your tour, stay at Emerald Bay. This place is famous for post card views, and even Ansel Adams fell in love with this place. Many trails to hike. If you'd rather travel back toward your hotel, then we suggest the Chart House for a late lunch.

contact:

tel: 1 775 588 6276
fax: +1 775 588 4562
<http://www.chart-house.com>

location:

392 Kingsbury Grade
Lake Tahoe NV 89449

hours:

Mo to Fr from 05:30 PM to 09:30 PM, Sa from 05:00 PM to 10:00 PM, Su from 05:30 PM to 09:30 PM

1 Chart House

OUR LOCAL EXPERT SAYS:
Great views!

DESCRIPTION: Nestled halfway up the mountain just minutes from the bustling casinos of downtown Stateline, this cliffside Chart House offers a spectacular view of the entire Lake Tahoe basin. Since 1961, Chart House has been dedicated to providing the ideal dining experience. With 27 historic, waterfront & showcase locations across the U.S., Chart House offers spectacular views & exceptional service that you're sure to enjoy. From top-of-the-catch seafood to succulent steaks, our renowned chefs have tailored a menu to complement local cuisine while introducing a hint of the exotic. Choose from our famous entrées such as Snapper Hemingway, Shrimp Fresca & our slow roasted Prime Rib. We also offer a daily selection of fresh fish, an extensive collection of fine wines & whiskies, & decadent desserts like our famous Hot Chocolate Lava Cake. © wcities.com

MY NOTE: If you decide to have lunch rather than a picnic, then you will simply love this place. A fun sea-faring ambiance with great food and views.



brewbooks

Day 5 - Lake Tahoe

QUICK NOTE

DAY NOTE: This is a day for you to wander. We won't point you in any direction; you be your own guide. Depending on how long you plan to stay on this final day, we think a few calm moments by the Lake make for a great way to leave the area with a fresh imprint on your mind. You'll be back!

contact:

tel: 1 530 544 8113
fax: +1 530 544 4118
http://sacramento.citysearch.com/profile/1306601/south_lake_tahoe_ca/heidi_s_pancake_house.html

location:

3485 Lake Tahoe Boulevard
Lake Tahoe CA 96150

hours:

7a-2p

1 Heidi's Pancake House

OUR LOCAL EXPERT SAYS:

On weekend mornings, be prepared to stand in line.

DESCRIPTION: Heidi's is known in the South Lake Tahoe area for its delicious pancakes and Swiss-themed breakfast. Locals and skiers stop by this place to munch on some delicious sandwiches and burgers along with steaming hot coffee. For its regular guests, Heidi's is a common place to meet up and chat during the early morning hours. The restaurant is also open for lunch, but locals generally prefer to visit Heidi's for its breakfast. © wcities.com

MY NOTE: Although you are staying at a bed and breakfast, we suggest you have the opportunity to eat breakfast at Heidi's. You won't regret it, but you may have a long wait, so get your name in soon.



stu_spivack/Flickr

Reno Snapshot

Local Info

Reno has always been a bit of a black sheep. It is not as hip as Portland and Seattle and not as chic as Los Angeles or Las Vegas, but in its own way it's dynamic and funky in a small package. The one thing to understand about Reno is that it's NOT Las Vegas. Reno is more popular for its outdoor sports than its gambling, but it also has a thriving art, music and theater scene sprinkled with great restaurants and bars. The downtown area, famous for the Reno Arch and several casinos has hit on hard times with the bad economy, but look a block or two south around the Truckee River corridor for cafés, farmer's markets, bike trails, street performers, ice rinks and roller derbies. This is the Reno Arts District and this is the real Reno. Locals are friendly and open, and will be happy to let you in on their town's many secrets.

One of Reno's best assets is being central to the Western U.S. San Francisco is a three or four hour drive to the west, Yosemite is a four to five hour drive to the south, Portland, Seattle, Los Angeles and Las Vegas are about an hour or two plane ride away. Reno and the surrounding areas also straddle several different types of terrain. When you visit Reno, you have access to the mountains with its rivers and alpine lakes, ski resorts and hiking trails, you can visit the wide open desert of central and southern Nevada, and the Pacific Coast is only a few hours away.

Downtown Reno

The Virginia Street corridor is the center of activity for not only gambling, but special events as well. The bright lights of the casinos and the famous Reno Arch declaring "The Biggest Little City In The World," greet visitors as they enter downtown.

The boisterous casinos have been the main attraction along the Truckee River for decades. The Club Cal-Neva Hotel Casino has been around since 1948, and is still going strong as one of the most popular gaming establishments in town. Harrah's Reno opened as a full casino the same year and the action has never ceased. The National Automobile Museum, located two blocks east on Mill and Lake Streets, houses some fascinating antique

cars collected by William Harrah on his ride to fame and fortune. Harrah's Events Plaza is a center for downtown events and entertainment. The Circus Circus Hotel Casino is a favorite for family fun with high-flying acts and a great arcade for the youngsters. The Silver Legacy Resort Casino is known for sponsoring major events and adding to the revitalization of downtown. The Automated Mining Machine towering 120-feet over the casino floor is a wonderful attraction for visitors. The Eldorado Hotel Casino is a major host for special events, as well as popular gaming venues. A couple very popular nightspots downtown include Roxy's at the Eldorado and Limerick's Pub and Grille.

"Reno-vation" is taking place in the downtown area to make more open and attractive spaces for visitors and Renoites to enjoy. The Truckee River Walk is one of the first efforts. The whole city gets into the act to host one of the major cultural events in the nation, the Reno Summer Arts Festival featuring Artown. The Pioneer Centre for Performing Arts presents the Reno Philharmonic, the Nevada Opera and Nevada Festival Ballet. Marvelous museums are lavishly dispersed throughout the area including the Wilbur D. May Museum and Arboretum at Rancho San Rafael Park and the Nevada Museum of Art on Liberty Street downtown.

Some major hotel/casinos outside of the Virginia Street hub include the Peppermill Hotel Casino and Atlantis Casino Resort & Spa on South Virginia Street. East of downtown resides the Grand Sierra Resort & Casino, a high-rise city in itself.

Sparks

Although it looks like it's part of Reno, this is a separate, thriving city. Founded in 1904, it served as maintenance facilities for the Central Pacific Railroad. Named for then-governor John Sparks, the city has come a long way in establishing itself as not only a great place to visit but to live. The Sparks Heritage Museum displays artifacts relating to the beginnings of the town that is sometimes known as the "Rail City."

The hub of activity is centered in Victorian Square at Interstate 80 and Victorian Avenue. John Ascuaga's Nugget towers over the Square and the hotel sponsors many major events taking place there. Fine

dining facilities in this establishment include Trader Dick's Restaurant and Aquarium Bar and Restaurante Orozko. Across the Square, you will find a great mid-sized hotel/casino, the Silver Club Hotel Casino. Smaller casinos are to be found as one strolls along the Square, one of the most popular being Rail City Casino. The casinos along Victorian Square host major events almost every month of the year. Sparks Hometowne Christmas is a favorite and the very popular Best in the West Nugget Rib Cook-Off.

Carson City

The capital of Nevada is about 45 minutes south of Reno. The historical main street and homes give this small town its charm. Several great restaurants and the great Nevada State Museum are the main attractions. Carson City is also the start/end of the infamous Hwy. 50, or the "Loneliest Road in America" across Nevada. Just east of Carson City is the historic mining town of Virginia City where you can step back in time and mosey down on wooden sidewalks, dress up in Western wear and have your photo taken or jump on an authentic steam train for a ride down the mountain.

Lake Tahoe

One look and you'll know why it is called the Jewel of the Sierras. The areas surrounding the largest alpine lake in the country offer year-round recreation and beauty. The Cal-Neva Resort Hotel Casino, the favorite haunt of the "rat pack," is always popular for entertainment. The Hyatt Regency Lake Tahoe Resort, Spa & Casino is perhaps one of the most elegant places to lodge and have fun. MontBleu Casino Resort & Spa and Harrah's Lake Tahoe are also well known for fine dining and top entertainers.

During the summer months, the Zephyr Cove Resort & Marina beckons visitors to cruise on the M.S. Dixie II. On the south shore of the lake, Lake Tahoe Cruises offer sailing on the Tahoe Queen. The beaches and parks are popular for sunbathing and hiking. Sand Harbor presents the Lake Tahoe Shakespeare Festival and Kings Beach hosts the Lake Tahoe Music Festival.

The ski resorts in the Sierra Nevada mountains are unmatched anywhere. Boreal Mountain Resort is usually the first of the season to open because of snow-

Reno Snapshot continued

making equipment. Granlibakken Resort & Conference Center offers fabulous lodging and conference facilities, as well as fine slopes. Heavenly Ski Resort and Northstar-at-Tahoe are first-rate for challenging ski

areas. Cross-country ski enthusiasts will find the best trails in North America at Royal Gorge Cross Country Ski Resort in Soda Springs. And, of course, there is Squaw Valley USA, famous for hosting

the 1960 Winter Olympics and still a world-class venue for winter sports of all genres.

© NileGuide

Lake Tahoe Snapshot

Local Info

Lake Tahoe is an original. The "Jewel of the Sierras" is the third deepest lake in the world at 1,645 feet, and its crystal blue water shines brightly in both winter and summer inviting visitors to relax and enjoy the beauty. The Lake Tahoe area was recently voted the best ski area in the United States by Orbitz. And the locals couldn't agree more.

Lake Tahoe straddles two states, Nevada and California. And each portion of the lake has a different vibe. Like the Native Americans who summered in the region and called it "big sky lake", we will come up from the Nevada side, drop into California and then back into Nevada.

Nevada and Highway 50

For your first view of "The Lake", nothing is better than taking Highway 50 up from Carson City, the capital of Nevada. Even people who have lived here for years, still catch their breath when witnessing this blue beauty hovering among mountains and pine forests. The trip continues with a tour around the 72 miles of shoreline. Each place you go, you will not lose sight of the lake that Mark Twain called the "fairest picture the whole earth affords".

Traveling toward Stateline, and home to the gaming center of Tahoe you will drive passed the Logan Shoals Vista Point and through the tunnel at Cave Rock, which is sacred to the native tribes in the area. You will then pass by Zephyr Cove where you can camp, rent water and snow toys, eat at numerous restaurants or just enjoy one of the nicest beaches in the area. Zephyr Cove is also where you can catch a ride on the MS Dixie II, a full-size paddlewheeler (that Mark Twain would be proud of) or the Woodwind II, a catamaran that sails during the summer months. Stateline is home to Harrah's, Harvey's, Montbleau and the Horizon casino resorts. Here you can eat, game, relax in a spa, golf at

the Edgewood Tahoe Golf Course or enjoy the lake without having to leave the area.

California and Highway 89 North

As you leave Stateline and head into California and South Lake Tahoe you will pass by Heavenly Village and Heavenly Ski Resort which has a gondola with some of the best views of the lake. Coming into South Lake Tahoe you will find numerous hotels, resorts, restaurants and other ways to enjoy Tahoe and the views.

South Lake Tahoe is known for the South Lake Tahoe Recreation Area and has several bike and pedestrian trails that run alongside the road. As you head out of SLT, onto Highway 89 North and into the Tahoe National Forest and Tahoe Basin, you drive through some of the more rugged and beautiful areas of the lake. Here you will find less restaurants, but beaches like Pope Beach and Baldwin Beach, camping or dining at Camp Richardson, the Mt. Tallac Trailhead and the Spring Creek Recreation Area. All this beauty leads up to Emerald Bay, at the southern tip of Tahoe. This deep green bay embraces the only island on the lake, Fannette Island. From here you can hike down to Vikingsholm Castle as well as get great views of both Emerald Bay and the nearby Cascade Lake. The Eagle Falls trailhead and access to the Desolation Wilderness is here as well. This area can be precarious during snowstorms and sometimes the road will be closed due to avalanches.

California and Highway 28

As you continue up Highway 89 to the West Shore, you will come across D.L. Bliss State Park, Meek's Bay and campground, Sugar Pine Point State Park, Tahoma, Homewood Mountain Ski Resort and the tiny but local favorite, Granlibakken ski resort. Most of the West Shore is privately owned and the piers inviting you to take a stroll over the water are gated. However, this area also has several bike-friendly trails that run from here to Tahoe City and up to Alpine Meadows Ski Resort. Tahoe

City is "at the Y" of Highway 89 and 28. Highway 89 heads north towards Truckee on Interstate 80 and passes by Alpine Meadows and Squaw Valley USA, home of the 1960 Winter Olympic Games, and Highway 28 heads back toward Nevada. Tahoe City is a laid back town near the outlet of the Truckee River and offers dining and bars, rafting, golfing and shopping.

Back to Nevada

Beyond Tahoe City, Tahoe Vista and Carnelian Bay, the turnoff for Highway 267 also goes to Truckee over the Brockway Summit and passes by Northstar-at-Tahoe ski resort. If you stay on 28 you will head back into Nevada through Kings Beach which offers hotels, restaurants and a public beach. Highway 431, or the Mount Rose Highway, passes by the local favorites of Tahoe Meadows, the Mount Rose Summit trail, Mount Rose Ski Tahoe resort and into the Galena area of South Reno, home to Jack Nicklaus's Montreaux Golf and Country Club.

The quiet, laid back town of Incline Village has some of the local favorites in food and drink. Ski Diamond Peak, play a round of golf at the Incline Village Golf Course or access the lake at the Lake Tahoe State Park from Hidden Beach or Sand Harbor. Sand Harbor is the prettiest beach on the lake and home to the annual Lake Tahoe Shakespeare Festival. Farther along the road you will see a parking area for Secret Harbor, a clothing-optional beach about a mile hike from the road.

This is near the end of your circle of Tahoe. You can drive back down Highway 50 to Carson City which connects along Highway 395 to Reno and Sparks, or you can take the loop again! Lake Tahoe is big and full of out-of-the-way treats. It might be best to take the lake in sections. But after your first visit, you are bound to come back and join the locals in helping to "Keep Tahoe Blue."

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