



nileGUIDE

ALL YOU NEED TO PLAN YOUR PERFECT TRIP



Your First Time at Lake Tahoe

Reno, Lake Tahoe, 4 Days

Table of contents:

- Guide Description 2
- Itinerary Overview 3
- Daily Itineraries 4
- Reno Snapshot 10
- Lake Tahoe Snapshot 12

Guide Description



AUTHOR NOTE: Heaven can be found between 5,000 and 10,000 feet, and it's covered with snow. For your first time to the "Jewel of the Sierras" get ready for blue skies, loads of powder and warm hearts. Lake Tahoe offers everything from high class casino resorts to down home local flavor all sprinkled with the laid back attitude of its residents.

Lake Tahoe was recently voted the best ski area in the U.S. by Orbitz and 2010 is shaping up to be a great year for the Lake. Over 10 feet of snow has fallen so far this year, creating a killer snow pack for winter sports. Each part of Lake Tahoe has a different vibe, from the blue collar area of King's Beach in Nevada, to the resort and shopping areas of South Lake Tahoe in California. Each area of the lake has an area for winter sports followed by followed by a wide range of après ski opportunities.

You can get around the lake using the Tahoe Area Regional Transit (TART) bus system, which runs along 30 miles of the Lake's shoreline. Ski racks are available on the buses in the winter. There are also various shuttles like the North Tahoe Express or the Mt. Rose Shuttle which will bring you from the airport or from downtown Reno up to your hotel. However, for freedom and to access some of the lesser known areas of the lake, rent a car.

Itinerary Overview

things to do
restaurants
hotels
nightlife

Day 1 - Lake Tahoe, Reno

DAY NOTE: Numerous winter adventures can be had around the entire lake. Starting from North Lake Tahoe, the number one ski resort on the local's list is Mount Rose Ski Tahoe. This large resort at the top of Slide Mountain has Tahoe's highest base and a brand new lodge. The Winter's Lodge has great views and is a perfect place to rest after skiing or boarding Mt. Rose's 1,200 acres. If you want something a little bit more low key, try some cross country skiing or snowshoeing at the Tahoe Meadows. This popular, but vast, area has great views of Lake Tahoe, Reno/Sparks and Washoe Valley below the mountain range. If you have children, it's also a great place to go sledding. If you don't ski or snowboard, you can still experience the stunning views from the Heavenly Gondola. Enjoy the relaxing ride up to the first observation deck and if it's a nice day, enjoy a picnic at one of their covered tables. You can pick up food and wine at the Heavenly Village or at the Raley's supermarket in Stateline. If you can still move after loads of good food, visit the South Lake Tahoe Ice Arena and skate where the locals skate. The West part of the Lake is chock full of winter paradise options. The California side is home to Squaw Valley USA, famous for the 1960 Winter Olympics, Alpine Meadows, Northstar-at-Tahoe and Homewood Mountain Resort. Along with all this great snow, comes snowstorms. The weather in Tahoe is never guaranteed. Some storms can knock out power or close roads and passes. However, many Tahoe winter days are sunny and beautiful. There are numerous areas outside of the immediate lake area that will tickle your winter fancy as well. Truckee/Donner Lake, Reno/Sparks and Hwy. 88/Kirkwood all have winter activities, but for your first time to the Lake, stick to the shoreline and you won't be disappointed. It won't be too long before you find yourself in Heaven for a second time.



Northstar-at-Tahoe

Thrill in the snow



Tahoe Biltmore Hotel & Casino

Casino action abounds



Tahoe Meadows

Scenic trail in the meadow

Day 2

DAY NOTE: You can take your pick of eating opportunities at Tahoe. They run the gamut from elegant dining to sawdust on the floor pizza and beer. Here are a few local favorites that are located all around the lake, mostly on the North, East and South shores. The Edgewood is on the Nevada side and offers great views of the lake, and the California side of the Sierras. Mofos is

a local hangout within the Christmas Village shopping center of Incline Village.

Day 3

DAY NOTE: Live it up at the lake with a variety of nightlife options. You can dress it up on the Blu dancefloor at the MontBleau Casino Resort, or wear your favorite sport jersey, Hawaiian shirt or cowboy boots at several of the pubs and bars around the lake. Most of these hot spots are located on the Nevada side of the lake around the casinos, except for Pete 'n Peter's, which is located in the more tourist oriented area of Tahoe City.

Day 4 - Reno, Lake Tahoe

DAY NOTE: For your last day at the lake, you may either have run out of money, or you want to splurge. Here are some local picks for both options:

Keep it free or cheap with snowshoeing or cross country skiing at the Tahoe Meadows, followed by lunch at the Tahoe Biltmore. For one last day of skiing, Mt. Rose is the best choice for lower cost skiing and some final views of the lake.

Just south of Incline is Zephyr Cove and the dock for the Tahoe Queen and the M.S. Dixie Queen. These two paddlewheeler boats offer cruises throughout the day across the lake to pristine Emerald Bay.

Dinner for your last night can be had on one of the boats or at the elegant Edgewood Restaurant. Try to plan for sunset dinners at both locations.



Tahoe Meadows

Scenic trail in the meadow



Tahoe Biltmore Hotel & Casino

Casino action abounds



Lake Tahoe's Emerald Bay Cruise on M.S. Dixie II

Sightseeing Cruise

Day 1 - Lake Tahoe, Reno

QUICK NOTE

DAY NOTE: Numerous winter adventures can be had around the entire lake. Starting from North Lake Tahoe, the number one ski resort on the local's list is Mount Rose Ski Tahoe. This large resort at the top of Slide Mountain has Tahoe's highest base and a brand new lodge. The Winter's Lodge has great views and is a perfect place to rest after skiing or boarding Mt. Rose's 1,200 acres. If you want something a little bit more low key, try some cross country skiing or snowshoeing at the Tahoe Meadows. This popular, but vast, area has great views of Lake Tahoe, Reno/Sparks and Washoe Valley below the mountain range. If you have children, it's also a great place to go sledding. If you don't ski or snowboard, you can still experience the stunning views from the Heavenly Gondola. Enjoy the relaxing ride up to the first observation deck and if it's a nice day, enjoy a picnic at one of their covered tables. You can pick up food and wine at the Heavenly Village or at the Raley's supermarket in Stateline. If you can still move after loads of good food, visit the South Lake Tahoe Ice Arena and skate where the locals skate. The West part of the Lake is chock full of winter paradise options. The California side is home to Squaw Valley USA, famous for the 1960 Winter Olympics, Alpine Meadows, Northstar-at-Tahoe and Homewood Mountain Resort. Along with all this great snow, comes snowstorms. The weather in Tahoe is never guaranteed. Some storms can knock out power or close roads and passes. However, many Tahoe winter days are sunny and beautiful. There are numerous areas outside of the immediate lake area that will tickle your winter fancy as well. Truckee/Donner Lake, Reno/Sparks and Hwy. 88/Kirkwood all have winter activities, but for your first time to the Lake, stick to the shoreline and you won't be disappointed. It won't be too long before you find yourself in Heaven for a second time.

contact:

tel: +1 530 562 1010

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

location:

Northstar Drive
Truckee NV 96160

1 Northstar-at-Tahoe

OUR LOCAL EXPERT SAYS:

Free skating at the Village skating rink!

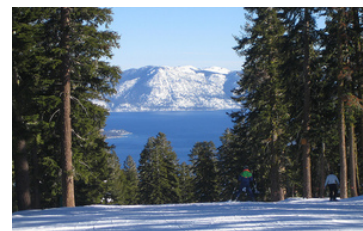
DESCRIPTION: Truly a skier's paradise, this resort offers a wide range of activities and events for everyone. You can even find mountain photographers that will capture your best run on the slope. You can enjoy recreational racing, cross country runs and snowshoeing. Ski at the crack of dawn with a Fast Track pass. If you're not an early riser, then Polaris Park is just for you. The adventure park is located mid-mountain and has something for everyone after the sun goes down.

For you Olympic fans, Northstar now offers the West Coasts only biathlon range. Ski and shoot to your heart's content, or sign up for biathlon lessons.

A day of skiing can work up a big hunger, so don't forget to try one of the five restaurants located on the mountain. For the warmer months, Northstar also opens up a Mountain Bike Park offering more than 100 miles of trails. The resort also contains a golf course and driving range, a Tennis Center and offers several activities including horseback riding, fly-fishing and hiking.

© wcities.com

MY NOTE: If you are not a skier or snowboarder, you can still have fun in snow at the Northstar-at-Tahoe snow tube park.



rysac1/Flickr

contact:

tel: 1 775 831 0660
fax: +1 775 833 6715
<http://www.tahoebiltmore.com>

location:

5 Highway 28
Crystal Bay NV 89402

2 Tahoe Biltmore Hotel & Casino

DESCRIPTION: The biggest jackpot in Lake Tahoe history was won at this bustling and colorful casino. The round-the-clock gaming area features very active blackjack and crap tables, plus a multitude of potentially lucrative slot machines. The Pub and Grille offers free appetizers from 4-7pm Wednesday and Friday, ladies can enjoy free Margaritas at the Aspen Caberet daily from 4-7pm. The lodge rooms are very comfortable with first-class service. Ski and lodging packages include access to Diamond Peak or Mount Rose. © wcities.com

MY NOTE: Some of the biggest and best pancakes you have ever had are served at the Biltmore Coffee Shop.



wcities

location:

US Highway 395
Reno NV 89511

Tahoe Meadows

OUR LOCAL EXPERT SAYS:

Fantastic views of the Lake, Incline Village, Reno and Washoe Valley can be seen from this area.

DESCRIPTION: This trail is a great spot for a family outing or a place where you can be alone. In the spring, the wildflowers carpet the scenery in copious abundance and their scents almost empower one with a burst of energy. The variety of plant life changes with the seasons yet is always spectacular. This scenic trail is about 12-miles round-trip and provides an opportunity to see wildlife inhabiting the area. During the winter the meadows are a great place to cross country ski, snowshoe and sled. Dogs are welcome on this trail. © wcities.com

MY NOTE: The local's choice for free sledding and where hundred's of acres of wilderness are ready for a fresh pair of cross country skis or snowshoes. Ask a local where to find "Chickadee Point". Snowshoe to this area above the Tahoe Meadows and wait for the small birds to land on your hands and head as they look for the cookies you hopefully have in your pocket.



Day 2

DAY NOTE: You can take your pick of eating opportunities at Tahoe. They run the gamut from elegant dining to sawdust on the floor pizza and beer. Here are a few local favorites that are located all around the lake, mostly on the North, East and South shores. The Edgewood is on the Nevada side and offers great views of the lake, and the California side of the Sierras. Mofo's is a local hangout within the Christmas Village shopping center of Incline Village.

Day 3

DAY NOTE: Live it up at the lake with a variety of nightlife options. You can dress it up on the Blu dancefloor at the MontBleau Casino Resort, or wear your favorite sport jersey, Hawaiian shirt or cowboy boots at several of the pubs and bars around the lake. Most of these hot spots are located on the Nevada side of the lake around the casinos, except for Pete 'n Peter's, which is located in the more tourist oriented area of Tahoe City.

Day 4 - Reno, Lake Tahoe

QUICK NOTE

DAY NOTE: For your last day at the lake, you may either have run out of money, or you want to splurge. Here are some local picks for both options:

Keep it free or cheap with snowshoeing or cross country skiing at the Tahoe Meadows, followed by lunch at the Tahoe Biltmore. For one last day of skiing, Mt. Rose is the best choice for lower cost skiing and some final views of the lake.

Just south of Incline is Zephyr Cove and the dock for the Tahoe Queen and the M.S. Dixie Queen. These two paddlewheeler boats offer cruises throughout the day across the lake to pristine Emerald Bay.

Dinner for your last night can be had on one of the boats or at the elegant Edgewood Restaurant. Try to plan for sunset dinners at both locations.

location:

US Highway 395
Reno NV 89511

Tahoe Meadows

OUR LOCAL EXPERT SAYS:

Fantastic views of the Lake, Incline Village, Reno and Washoe Valley can be seen from this area.

DESCRIPTION: This trail is a great spot for a family outing or a place where you can be alone. In the spring, the wildflowers carpet the scenery in copious abundance and their scents almost empower one with a burst of energy. The variety of plant life changes with the seasons yet is always spectacular. This scenic trail is about 12-miles round-trip and provides an opportunity to see wildlife inhabiting the area. During the winter the meadows are a great place to cross country ski, snowshoe and sled. Dogs are welcome on this trail. © wcities.com

MY NOTE: The local's choice for free sledding and where hundred's of acres of wilderness are ready for a fresh pair of cross country skis or snowshoes. Ask a local where to find "Chickadee Point". Snowshoe to this area above the Tahoe Meadows and wait for the small birds to land on your hands and head as they look for the cookies you hopefully have in your pocket.



contact:

tel: 1 775 831 0660
fax: +1 775 833 6715
<http://www.tahoebiltmore.com>

location:

5 Highway 28
Crystal Bay NV 89402

1 Tahoe Biltmore Hotel & Casino

DESCRIPTION: The biggest jackpot in Lake Tahoe history was won at this bustling and colorful casino. The round-the-clock gaming area features very active blackjack and crap tables, plus a multitude of potentially lucrative slot machines. The Pub and Grille offers free appetizers from 4-7pm Wednesday and Friday, ladies can enjoy free Margaritas at the Aspen Caberet daily from 4-7pm. The lodge rooms are very comfortable with first-class service. Ski and lodging packages include access to Diamond Peak or Mount Rose. © wcities.com



wcities

MY NOTE: Some of the biggest and best pancakes you have ever had are served at the Biltmore Coffee Shop.

contact:

<http://www.partner.viator.com/en/6793/tours/Lake-Tahoe/Lake-Tahoe-s-Emerald-Bay-Cruise-on-M-S-Dixie-II/d816-253501>

location:

Lake Tahoe Nevada

Lake Tahoe's Emerald Bay Cruise on M.S. Dixie II

DESCRIPTION: Take a 2-hour sightseeing cruise on the M.S. Dixie II around magnificent Lake Tahoe to savor the wonders of this picturesque area. Discover breathtaking views of the Sierra Nevada Mountains, Emerald Bay, charming Fannette Island and Vikingsholm Castle. This two-hour narrated Emerald Bay Sightseeing Cruise offers non-stop photo opportunities that will delight everyone in your family or group. As you cruise to, through and back from Emerald Bay, you will learn how it was formed and some of its fascinating history. Hear tales of Fenette Island (nicknamed "little rock island") within the bay, as well as the Vikingsholm Castle, the stone mansion on its shores. You will even get a look below Lake Tahoe's surface, with a special video presentation of "Sunken Treasures of Lake Tahoe". This is a state-of-the-art video presentation showing what lies deep beneath the brilliant blue of Lake Tahoe's surface. Travel 500 feet below the waters of Glenbrook Bay to tour the Steamer Tahoe, the majestic vessel that cruised Lake Tahoe for 50 years before being sunk by her owners. See underwater canyons and rocky bluffs that until now have never been seen by human eyes. Cruise through recently discovered ancient forests of petrified trees; forests that forced scientists to rethink theories of the lake's size and evolution. Roam the bottom of Emerald Bay and explore newly discovered sea mounds that are unlike any previously known underwater formation at Lake Tahoe. Optional buffet lunch is available on the morning cruise during summer, which consists of a deli meats, cheeses, salads, soups, bread, chilli, cookies, soda, tea and water. Full bar service is also available (additional cost) for onboard M.S. Dixie II during the round-trip excursion from historic Zephyr Cove to Emerald Bay. © Viator

MY NOTE: These cruises are very popular and can get crowded. One of the best places to hang out is on one of the decks, but grab a seat as soon as you can.



viator

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."

© NileGuide