



nileGUIDE

ALL YOU NEED TO PLAN YOUR PERFECT TRIP



ojbyrne

A different Weekend in Reno

Reno, 3 Days

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Guide Description



AUTHOR NOTE: People come to Reno to gamble, yet don't get to experience much of what makes Reno a wonderful place to live. Get the local treatment while enjoying some of what brings tourist back all the time.

Itinerary Overview

things to do
restaurants
hotels
nightlife

Day 1 - Reno

DAY NOTE: Arrive in Reno with one thing on your mind: fun. You will not need a car. The Siena staff will get you transportation when you need it. Enjoy and good luck, if a bit of gambling is on your radar.



Siena Hotel Spa and Casino

Where the in-the-know go



National Automobile Museum

Oldies but Woodies



BuBinga Lounge

Swank and sexy

Day 2 - Reno



Rosewood Lakes Golf Course

Acres of wetlands



The Chocolate Bar

Feel like a kid again



Bistro Roxy

Martini heaven



Brews Brothers

Named best brewpub in America

Day 3 - Reno



Pneumatic Café

Hipster coffee house

Day 1 - Reno

QUICK NOTE

DAY NOTE: Arrive in Reno with one thing on your mind: fun. You will not need a car. The Siena staff will get you transportation when you need it. Enjoy and good luck, if a bit of gambling is on your radar.

contact:

tel: 775 337 6260 / 1 877 743
6233 (Toll Free)
fax: 775 337 6608
www.sienareno.com

location:

One South Lake Street
Reno NV 89505

1 Siena Hotel Spa and Casino

DESCRIPTION: The Siena is the place in Reno for discriminating travelers. The focus is on comfort, service, and value, providing a unique combination of amenities designed with pure pleasure in mind. The small yet entertaining and personable casino is one of the best in the area for gambling; the full-service spa is the perfect place to relax, and the restaurants offer some fantastic entrees and drink offerings.

MY NOTE: Good food to be found throughout. Lexie's on the River should be your dinner destination. We suggest you find lunch on a whim as you venture around downtown Reno.



contact:

tel: +1 775 333 9300
fax: +1 775 333 9309
http://www.automuseum.org

location:

10 South Lake Street
Reno NV 89501-1558

2 National Automobile Museum

OUR LOCAL EXPERT SAYS:
Special exhibits come every couple of months.

DESCRIPTION: If classic cars are your passion, then this museum is an absolute must-see. The 100,000-square-foot building houses one of the largest collections of antique automobiles to be found anywhere. It has been voted one of the top ten automobile museums in the country and one of the best 16 museums in the world. The cars are grouped by age in street settings appropriate to their time. These real-life backdrops include everything from Burma Shave signs to old gas pumps. See the cars that were originally a part of the Harrah collection including a Cadillac that belonged to Elvis Presley. © wcities.com

MY NOTE: Right next to the Siena, this is really cool, especially if you love classic cars. This place is quite famous with many famous cars in its inventory.



Courtesy of Wikimedia Commons

contact:

www.eldoradoreno.com/entertainment/bubinga.aspx

location:

345 N. Virginia St
Reno NV 89501

3 BuBinga Lounge

DESCRIPTION: A swank and sexy ultra lounge that was named the "Best Place to Go Dancing" in Nevada Magazine's 2003 Best of Nevada reader's poll, the nightclub was also dubbed "Best Nightclub" in Casino Player magazine's 2003 Best of Gaming reader's poll. Whether staying at the Silver Legacy or the Eldorado, you don't have to leave the building to find your way to a great evening of music, dancing, and comfortable seating. This ultra lounge features innovative cocktails and DJ Freez spinning today's hottest club sounds, all in a sophisticated and intimate atmosphere.

MY NOTE: Venture over to the Eldorado Casino for a night of music and dancing. Dress code usually applies, so dress accordingly.

contact:
tel: +1 775 857 2892
<http://www.rosewoodlakes.com>

location:
6800 Pembroke Drive
Reno NV 89502

hours:
6a-dusk M-Su

1 Rosewood Lakes Golf Course

DESCRIPTION: Since 1991, golfers have enjoyed spectacular views along with the abundant waterfowl that make the greens and wetlands their home. The course is challenging for all levels of golfers. A restaurant and bar are available for lunch and dinner. Cocktails, beer and wine are also served. © wcities.com

MY NOTE: Siena offers package deals to this course. Transportation is arranged by the hotel. We suggest lunch at the course.



contact:
tel: (775) 337-1122
<http://thechocbar.com/about/downtown/>

location:
95 North Sierra St # 101
Reno NV 89501

2 The Chocolate Bar

OUR LOCAL EXPERT SAYS:
Try one of the bar's martinis.

DESCRIPTION: Few can resist the temptation of fine chocolate. Throw into the mix a full bar with talented bartenders and tasty deserts, and they will need a stick to beat the hordes away. This place is stylish, though you do not need a suit and tie. This place is situated next to the Truckee River, which give this place ambiance both inside and outside. Try the chocolate fondue and a cocktail. Not recommended for those on the Atkin's diet! Yummy!

MY NOTE: This will be the early evening fun to set the tone for the night. Don't count calories here, and don't expect only chocolate. Great mixed drinks available, and all this only a hop and skip from downtown. We'd say leave room for dinner, but that would just not be in the spirit of things.



Jeff Kubina/Flickr

contact:
tel: 800-648-5966
www.eldoradoreno.com/dining/roxy.aspx

location:
345 N. Virginia St
Reno NV 89501

hours:
5:30pm daily

3 Bistro Roxy

OUR LOCAL EXPERT SAYS:
One of THE places to be seen in Reno.

DESCRIPTION: Here you can eat one of the finest meals in the Reno area and enjoy one of over a hundred different types of martinis, or choose from a splendid list of wines. Evenings the piano player carries you further into that lovely trance where the epicure in all of us loves to dwell. Behind the bar are numerous televisions that are always showing sporting events. Cheers!

MY NOTE: Don't worry about arriving early. Make this the place for a fantastic dinner, martinis, and even a piano player.



wickenden/Flickr

contact:
www.eldoradoreno.com

location:
345 N. Virginia St
Reno NV 89501

4 Brews Brothers

OUR LOCAL EXPERT SAYS:
Try their apple walnut salad.

DESCRIPTION: Named Best Brewpub in America by Nightclub & Bar magazine, The Brew Brothers offers eight custom microbrews and a creative menu, including gourmet wood-fired pizzas, salads, burgers, ribs, sandwiches, homemade soups and complete dinners. Catch live rock and blues nightly. The Brew Brothers was also voted the area's finest in the latest Best of Nevada poll and was named the highest selling brewpub in North America. Their pizzas are simply fantastic.

MY NOTE: Live music and great freshly brewed beer. And all this just a few steps from your place of dinner. The Silver Legacy is in the same building, so if gambling is still on your mind, that is where we suggest you take your action. Bon Chance!



jimg944/Flickr

contact:

tel: 775-786-8888

<http://www.facebook.com/people/Pneumatic-Diner/1317999566>

location:

501 W. 1st Street
Reno NV 89501

hours:

11 a.m. to 11 p.m. weekdays;
9 a.m. to 11 p.m. Saturdays; 7
a.m. to 11 p.m. Sundays

1 Pneumatic Café

OUR LOCAL EXPERT SAYS:

Try their Dynaflows with tons of fresh fruit.

DESCRIPTION: This is the type of place in which Jack Kerouac would have been at home. In downtown Reno, down by the river, this second-floor diner has been the staple of many locals for two decades. Healthy, vegetarian food, micro-brews, wines, and darned good coffee. Try the Wellness Beverage for the morning after. Yummy waffles every Sunday morning!

MY NOTE: This place is vegetarian, but this is not a warning; instead, this is a pointer. Sunday is waffle day, and if you have what might be a hang over the "Wellness drink" will bring you back to 100%. The Huevos Rancheros is our favorite breakfast dish. This place is so popular, so please have patience...expect a line of those who know where the best food is found. You'll be back!



Miss Karen/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.

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