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ojbyrne

A Weekend in Reno

Reno, 3 Days

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Guide Description



AUTHOR NOTE: The Reno/Sparks/Carson City area is a short hop by plane or car from many Western towns like Portland, San Francisco, Sacramento, Los Angeles and Salt Lake City. Have a fun weekend up in the mountains with some gaming, lots of great food and a little history thrown in.

contact:

tel: +1 775 329 2600
<http://pegsglorifiedhamneggs.com/default.aspx>

location:

420 S Sierra St
Reno NV 89501

hours:

Mo to Su from 06:30 AM to
02:00 PM

1 Peg's Glorified Ham & Eggs

OUR LOCAL EXPERT SAYS:

Get to Peg's early to avoid the rush.

DESCRIPTION: This is where the locals go for a huge breakfast that will last you way into the evening. Peg's is a popular coffee and breakfast spot that is well known for its huge portions, excellent staff and fun selection various items including stacks of pancakes, skillet meals and Latin inspired dishes.

Favorite menu items include the Huevos Ranchero served in a skillet with fresh salsa, beans, hash browns and fruit or the Mexicali Omelette with guacamole and salsa. For something lighter you can order the huge portion of Lox, Bagel and Cream Cheese or a Veggie Benedict. Their classic Eggs Benedict is excellent as well as their French Toast and Pancakes. Prices are higher than your average coffee shop, but you won't have to eat again for the rest of the day. The average price for breakfast will run you about \$10 to \$12 per person. The weekend breakfasts can be very busy, especially during the summer and the holidays. © NileGuide



Waldo Jaquith

contact:

tel: +1 775 325 7401 / +1 800
687 8733
fax: +1 775 325 7177
<http://www.silverlegacyreno.com/>

location:

407 N Virginia St
Reno NV 89501

2 Silver Legacy Resort Casino

DESCRIPTION: The Silver Legacy Resort Casino is a Victorian-themed tour de force, with the largest center for gaming and entertainment in northern Nevada. The resort boasts six restaurants and eateries, Catch a Rising Star comedy club, 85,000 square feet of gaming space, and the world's largest composite dome. In the unlikely event you can't get your casino fix here, skywalks connect the hotel to Circus Circus on the north and to the Eldorado Hotel Casino on the south. © Frommer's



Hotels.com

contact:

tel: +1 800 879 8879 / +1 775
786 5700
fax: +1 775 348 3762
<http://www.eldoradoreno.com/>

location:

345 N Virginia St
Reno NV 89501

3 Eldorado Hotel and Casino

DESCRIPTION: Attached by a walkway to Circus Circus and the Silver Legacy, this hotel sports an upscale atmosphere with a relaxed vibe and a convenient location in the heart of downtown Reno. The Tower rooms feature a simple yet sophisticated decor, mountain views, and Judith Jackson toiletries in the bathrooms. The deluxe whirlpool suites toss in marble bathrooms, a Jacuzzi tub in the living area, and pop-up TVs. For the budget-minded traveler, the economy and standard rooms are a steal. The hotel casino also boasts nine award-winning restaurants, including a recent \$5-million buffet renovation, 24-hour casino action, and a Broadway-style showroom that features a series of production shows



Hotels.com

alternating with headline artists. The **Brew Brothers** pub, with eight custom microbrews swings, plays live rock and blues nightly beginning at 9:30pm, and **Roxy's Bar & Lounge**, with its old-world charm and 102 versions of stiff martinis, is a popular gathering place with locals and tourists alike. © Frommer's

contact:
tel: 1 775 329-0711
www.circusreno.com

location:
500 N Sierra St
Reno NV 89503

4 Circus Circus Hotel & Casino Reno

DESCRIPTION: This family-friendly downtown destination is one of the top casinos in Reno. It is best known for its kid friendly arcade, circus games and hourly circus acts. Circus Circus also has several award winning restaurants and is connected by inside walkways to the Silver Legacy and the Eldorado.



contact:
tel: (775) 323-5648
http://re.knittingfactory.com/

location:
211 N Virginia St
Reno NV 89501

5 Knitting Factory Concert House

DESCRIPTION: This dark, but excellent venue for bands is located just steps from the Reno Arch. Most of the place is standing room only, but the ticket prices can't be beat. Tribute bands and acts by such bands as Suicidal Tendencies and KT Tunstall bring in the crowds.

© NileGuide



AlishaV/Flickr

contact:
tel: (775) 828-7311
http://sushiclubreno.com/index.htm

location:
294 E Moana Ln # 1
Reno NV 89502

hours:
11 a.m. daily

6 Sushi Club

DESCRIPTION: Don't let appearances deceive you. This sports bar-like sushi restaurant serves up the best sushi in Reno. The chefs are open and friendly and the atmosphere is fun. Locals will let you in on some of chef's "specials" and you can eat yourself silly with an all-you-can-eat lunch and dinner. Visitors from the Bay Area will even take a trip up to Reno specifically for a few rolls at the Sushi Club.

The typical rolls at the Sushi Club are some of the best: these include the San Francisco (try it deep fried with crab on top), the Rainbow Roll, the Salmon Skin Hand Roll and Wayne's Hand Roll with crab and scallops. One of the most delicious specials is a Shrimp Tempura with Crab on top.

Many of the larger rolls like the Caterpillar and the Mountain are only served during their all-you-can-eat dinners. At dinner and lunch you can also get mussels, daikon radish appetizers, miso soup and cabbage salad.

© NileGuide



mulmatsherm/Flickr

contact:

tel: (775) 284-7455
<http://www.renoriverroom.com/index.html>

location:

17 S Virginia St
Reno NV 89501

hours:

Open daily at 4 p.m.

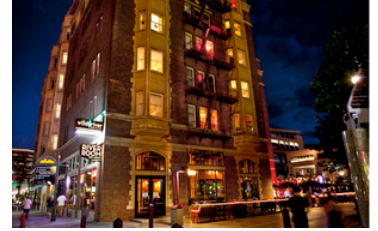
7 Reno River Room

OUR LOCAL EXPERT SAYS:

Outdoor seating is available right on the river

DESCRIPTION: Built by the owners of the Wild River Grille, the River Room is located right in the middle of the Reno Arts District on the Truckee River. The restaurant offers an array of culinary delights, great drinks, music and ambiance. Open year-round, 7 days a week for lunch, dinner, drinks and specializing in large groups and parties. The River Room offers a range of appetizers, small plates, steaks, seafood, chops, salads and pastas using fresh ingredients. The nice bar offers a wide range of signature cocktails, fine wine, and features fresh squeezed juices and in-house liquor infusions.

© NileGuide



Courtesy of the River Room

contact:

tel: 775-323-2227
<http://www.beaujolaisbistro.com>

location:

130 West Street
Reno NV 89501

hours:

Lunch: Tuesday - Friday:
11:30am - 2:00pm: Dinner:
Tuesday - Sunday: 5:00pm -
Close

8 Beaujolais Bistro

OUR LOCAL EXPERT SAYS:

The service for this restaurant is top notch.

DESCRIPTION: Reno lays claim to its own little corner of France in this small, charming bistro, near the Truckee River downtown. With its exposed brick walls, parquet floors, and dreamy atmosphere, Beaujolais Bistro is the perfect spot for an intimate dinner. Expect modern twists on classic French dishes such as beef bourguignon and duck a l'orange, and be sure to save room for one of the decadent desserts. There's an extraordinary selection of fine French and domestic wines.

© Frommer's



WillamCho/Flickr

contact:

tel: +1 775 825 4700
fax: +1 775 332 9186
<http://www.atlantiscasino.com/dining/toucan-charlies-buffet.asp>

location:

3800 South Virginia Street
Reno NV 89502

9 Toucan Charlie's Buffet and Grille

DESCRIPTION: The selection at this buffet is staggering. The star attraction is the Mongolian stir-fry. It is always highly anticipated by eager diners. Scoop your selection of veggies, and condiments into a bowl and pass it to the cook. The fun is watching as your choice of meat is skillfully stir-fried with your veggies. For your convenience, there is a full service bar located in the buffet area. Refer to their website for prices and opening hours. © wcities.com



jimg944/Flickr

contact:

tel: +1 775 329 3333
fax: +1 775 329 1541
<http://www.nevadaart.org/>

location:

160 W Liberty St
Reno NV 89501

hours:

Tues-Sun 10am-5pm (Thurs
until 8pm)

10 **Nevada Museum of Art**

OUR LOCAL EXPERT SAYS:

Don't forget the other exhibits within the museum. The main exhibit is usually on the second floor, but you can explore the nooks and crannies of this building for other works of art.

DESCRIPTION: The Nevada Museum of Art is celebrating 80 years of bringing art into downtown Reno in 2011. This excellent museum is small, but packs in a wonderful selection of contemporary and traditional art, sculptures interactive exhibits, shows, and a rooftop sculpture with a view of all of Reno and the surrounding mountains. The outside area of the museum has several permanent exhibits including several pieces from the nearby Burning Man festival.

Current and past exhibitions have included: To Live Forever: Egyptian Treasures from the Brooklyn Museum, Leo Villareal: Animating Light, Explorer, Naturalist, Artist John James Audubon and The Birds of America and the Baroque World of Fernando Botero.

Experienced docent tours are available at the NMA as are special events, a Museum school for children, regular art classes and a cafe named Café Musée.

The museum gift shop is a real delight. Numerous items based on current and past exhibits are available as well as learning toys for children, jewelry and art from local artists and a nice selection of books.

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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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