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ALL YOU NEED TO PLAN YOUR PERFECT TRIP



# Tahoe Breakfast Spots

## **Lake Tahoe, 3 Days**

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# Guide Description



**AUTHOR NOTE:** All around Tahoe there are some excellent breakfast spots. Try the popular Squeeze In in Truckee or the hidden Fire Sign Cafe near Tahoe City. You won't regret a bagel stop at Rude Brothers or the great coffee at Tahoma Aroma.

Photo courtesy of Joshua Rappenecker/Flickr

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/joshua/58075/>

# My List

**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](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



stu\_spivack/Flickr

**contact:**

tel: 530/583-0871  
<http://www.yelp.com/biz/fire-sign-cafe-tahoe-city>

**location:**

1785 W. Lake Blvd  
Lake Tahoe CA 96145

**hours:**

Daily 7am-3pm

## 2 Fire Sign Café

**DESCRIPTION:** Choosing a place to have breakfast in North Tahoe is a no-brainer. Since the late 1970s, the Fire Sign Café has been the locals' choice -- which explains the lines out the door on weekends. Just about everything is made from scratch, such as the delicious coffecake that accompanies the big plates of bacon and eggs, or blueberry pancakes. Even the salmon for chef and owner Bob Young's legendary salmon omelet is smoked in-house. Lunch -- burgers, salads, sandwiches, burritos, and more -- is also quite popular, particularly when the outdoor patio is open. © Frommer's



gemteck1/Flickr

**contact:**

tel: (530) 546-3205  
<http://www.yelp.com/biz/the-old-post-office-cafe-carnelian-bay>

**location:**

5245 N Lake Blvd  
Carnelian Bay CA 96140

## 3 Old Post Office Coffee Shop

**DESCRIPTION:** Casual, laid back atmosphere with good home-style breakfasts. Try the build-your-own egg-and-cheese scrambles, fluffy pancakes and breakfast burritos. Arrive early for weekend breakfast, it can get crowded. © NileGuide



ugod/Flickr

**contact:**

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

**location:**

5 Highway 28  
Crystal Bay NV 89402

## 4 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



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first-class service. Ski and lodging packages include access to  
Diamond Peak or Mount Rose. © wcities.com

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# 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 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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## Fun Facts

1. Donner Pass and Donner Lake are named after the ill-fated Donner Party. This group of settlers attempted to cross the mountains in the winter of 1846-47. Most of them were trapped by the snow and several of them resorted to cannibalism to survive.
2. Strange Fact: Truckee, California often registers the lowest temperature in the nation, but not during the winter season. During the spring/summer seasons of 1991, 1993 and 1994, Truckee claimed the honor of coldest spot in the nation, excluding Alaska.
3. The deepest snowpack recorded at Tahoe was over 30 feet deep in 1890.
4. Interesting Fact: If Lake Tahoe was tipped over, the water would cover California to a depth of fourteen and a half inches.

## Lake Tahoe Snapshot continued

5. Weird Fact: Many drowning victims are never recovered from Lake Tahoe. The cold water at lower depths preserves the bodies and prevents the formation of gases that would otherwise float them to the surface.

6. Interesting Fact: As an "interstate navigable waterway," Lake Tahoe is protected by the U. S. Coast Guard and

is reputed to be the most desirable Coast Guard duty station in the world.

7. Tahoe has nine mountains with peaks over 10,000 feet including Mt. Rose, Jobs Peak and Freel Peak.

8. The Tahoe area averages more than 300 days of sun each year.

9. Tahoe has 18 alpine and cross country ski resorts and over 50 championship golf courses.

10. Random Fact: Virginia City is known as "The Liveliest Ghost Town in the West."

11. The floor of the Tahoe basin (the bottom the lake) is near the 4,580 foot elevation, lower than the surface of the Carson Valley to the east.

12. Fun Fact: Sixty three streams flow into Lake Tahoe.

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