

Welcome to the USA!

Tuesday, 10 March 2026 - Thursday, 19 March 2026



Thank you for choosing to travel with with American Sky! We sincerely hope that you have a fantastic travel experience. Please take time to acquaint yourself with your travel documents and if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Upon your return we would be most interested to hear from you to gain your feedback. Once again, we would like to thank you for booking with American Sky and we wish you a memorable holiday.

Helpful Hints

ADMISSION FEES & OPERATING HOURS:

We do our best to provide accurate information regarding admission fees, days of operation and opening times. Unfortunately we cannot guarantee the accuracy of the information as they are subject to change without notice.

HOTEL POLICIES, FACILITIES & AMENITIES:

We provide but cannot guarantee the availability of noted policies, facilities and amenities as these are offered at the sole discretion of the hotel and can be changed without notice.

CUSTOMS/IMMIGRATION:

US officials take their Jobs very seriously, in part to stop the flow of illegal immigrants to the country, in part to stop the spread of crop diseases. Many of the ports you enter through are in prime agricultural regions. LA, San Francisco, cities in Florida and the areas around them are constantly fighting to keep out foreign pests. Please do not bring any fresh produce with you into the US.

MONEY:

Once beyond the major US cities, exchanging foreign currencies for US dollars can get difficult. Some banks will exchange, but will charge a fee on any transaction. ATM machines are now widely available for obtaining cash with your VISA or bank card.

PARKING:

Parking fees are not included in the cost of your tour. Parking fees vary by hotel and must be paid directly to each hotel upon arrival day.

RESTAURANTS:

In most restaurants, particularly the better ones, it is customary to wait at the entrance for a hostess to seat you. Most dinners are not served a la carte, they come with soup or salad, vegetables and either potato or rice. Gratuities are expected in the US; typically 15%-20% of the meal bill, including alcohol but excluding tax.

SMOKING:

Cigarette smoking is becoming more restricted each year in the United States. Most cities in the United States have enacted anti-smoking policies that forbid smoking in restaurants and other public buildings. Smoking is typically only allowed 10 meters from the entrance to a public restaurant or building. Each city or county can enact different smoking restrictions and this information is readily available from your hotel front desk staff or local visitor center. Most hotels in the United States have a 100% non-smoking policy. Smoking in a non-smoking hotel room will result in a minimum fine of \$250 as imposed by the hotel.

DRIVING:

Each state is allowed to set its own speed limit and these vary considerably from state to state. Speed Limit signs are posted on all streets and highways in the United States and can vary along the same road as you pass from residential areas to shopping areas to the open highway. Speed Limit signs will be posted each time there is a reduction or increase in the Speed Limit. As a rule of thumb speed limits are strictly enforced and fines for speeding can cost as much as 500 USD. Many of the areas you will be traveling through are rather remote. Its essential that you fill up on gas in the morning and purchase additional water before departing. Alcohol in open containers is not allowed in any state so do not drink while you are driving. Penalties for driving under the influence of alcohol are strictly enforced and are very severe with a mandatory arrest followed by 24 hours in jail and expensive fines.

ROAD CONSTRUCTION:

Throughout the year and particularly during the warm summer months you may find construction on some of Americas highways. The following link is a collection of links from public agencies and other entities that offer information about current traffic conditions across the nation. The links are organized by State and include information on road closures due to weather or road construction, and traffic conditions. www.fhwa.dot.gov/trafficinfo



DISTANCES:

The American West is more vast than the imagination can believe. As one American author said in 1924, The grass and trees run with the wind in patterns that on a European map would measure states and empires. Although we have tried to advise time and distances, we warn you that these are approximate: it depends on your driving speeds, weather, and how easily you may be distracted by curiosity along the way. Not all stops have time built into each days estimated itinerary.

CLOTHING:

Dress codes are fairly relaxed in the US, particularly when not in a city. Only a few National Park restaurants will require a coat and tie for dinner; typically, any clothing is acceptable. Shoes and shirts are always required by health codes. Bring a variety of clothing: you will be traveling through mostly very warm areas, but with elevation changes and dry climates bringing sudden coolness. Bring swimsuits as most hotels (except in National Parks) will have pools or Jacuzzis.

COOLERS:

Consider purchasing an inexpensive cooler or ice chest at a supermarket while you're traveling to keep beverages and snacks cool. Alcohol, including beer and wine, may not be available in certain places, so you might wish to keep a supply of those also.

US NATIONAL PARKS:

The national park system is one of Americas greatest treasures. Admission to the parks is up to \$25 per private vehicle. An annual park pass, called America The Beautiful Pass, is available and will be worth the purchase if you plan to visit four or more parks. You should be able to purchase a pass at any entrance gate. Please be aware that you may be randomly checked to make sure your identifi-


cation belongs to the name on the National Parks Pass. As you enter a park, your first stop should be the Visitors Center to get oriented. There is also a passport system you might wish to use for about \$10 you can buy a small book of all the parks and stamps to go in each park you visit. The Rangers at the Visitors Center have stamps to validate your visit. State parks and Indian Tribal Parks will charge separate fees, not included in the America The Beautiful pass.

CANADIAN NATIONAL PARKS:

In Canada the fees are slightly different. Parks charge per person entrance fees on a daily basis. The Canadian annual pass the Discovery pass provides unlimited admission for 12 full months from date of purchase at nearly 100 National Parks, National Marine Conservation Areas and National Historic Sites across Canada that charge entry fees. You can order your Discovery Pass online at: www.commandesparcsparksorders.ca/webapp/wcs/stores/servlet/en/parksb2c/discovery-pass. You only need one pass per car. The Discovery Pass must be hung from the rear view mirror of the vehicle facing forward or it can be placed on the front driver side dashboard facing up. If you have any questions regarding the pass, please contact the National Information Service at 1-888-773-8888 or email information@pc.gc.ca. Please note: activities such as tours or parking that normally carry a separate fee may not be covered by the Discovery Pass.

ACCOMMODATIONS:

Please be aware most hotels may request a credit card to pay for incidentals phone and restaurant charges. Most hotels will charge a fee for both local and long distance phone calls. If you have a credit card, or a debit card, you may wish to use it for long distance calls as hotels tend to mark up these charges considerably if you use their carrier. Some hotels will offer a free Continental Breakfast. These vary, but typically are quite basic with coffee, tea, fruit juice, and toast or muffins.



DATE	DESCRIPTION
Tue, 10 Mar 2026 - Thu, 19 Mar 2026 10 Days	<p>SUV - Toyota RAV4 or similar Hertz Pick Up Location: San Francisco Intl Apt Drop Off Location: San Francisco Intl Apt</p>
Tue, 10 Mar 2026	<p>San Francisco Welcome to one of the most beautiful cities in America! San Francisco has it all — incredible views, varied ethnic and bohemian neighborhoods, great restaurants, museums and shopping.</p>
Tue, 10 Mar 2026 - Fri, 13 Mar 2026	<p>Holiday Inn San Francisco-Golden Gateway by IHG Address: 1500 Van Ness Avenue, San Francisco, California, United States of America</p>
Thu, 12 Mar 2026	<p>2-Day Hop-On Hop-Off & Alcatraz</p>
Fri, 13 Mar 2026	<p>San Francisco - Yosemite National Park Drive Time: 3 hrs 45 mins (Approximately)</p>
Fri, 13 Mar 2026	<p>Yosemite National Park "Climb the mountains and get their good tidings. Nature's peace will flow into you as sunshine flows into trees. The winds will blow their own freshness into you and the storms their energy, while cares will drop off like autumn leaves." Enjoy Yosemite.</p>
Fri, 13 Mar 2026 - Mon, 16 Mar 2026	<p>The Ahwahnee Address: 1 Ahwahnee Drive, Yosemite National Park, California, United States of America</p>
Mon, 16 Mar 2026	<p>Yosemite National Park - South Lake Tahoe Drive Time: 3 hrs (Approximately)</p>
Mon, 16 Mar 2026	<p>South Lake Tahoe With myriad shades of blue and green, Lake Tahoe, which straddles the California-Nevada state line, is one of the loveliest lakes in North America.</p>
Mon, 16 Mar 2026 - Thu, 19 Mar 2026	<p>The Landing Tahoe Resort & Spa Address: 4104 Lakeshore Blvd, South Lake Tahoe, California, United States of America</p>
Thu, 19 Mar 2026	<p>South Lake Tahoe - San Francisco Drive Time: 3 hrs 15 mins (Approximately)</p>

SUV - TOYOTA RAV4 OR SIMILAR

HERTZ



10 Days | Tue, 10 Mar 2026 – Thu, 19 Mar 2026

VEHICLE

Whether you're in the country for a business trip or the adventure of a lifetime, squeeze the most out of your time with car hire in the United States with Hertz. Supersized cities, spectacular natural wonders, world-famous culture – welcome to the USA. Expect the unexpected in this vast and varied nation, as the American experience reinvents itself with every place you visit.

Car Details: SUV - Toyota RAV4 or similar

Driver Name: Stephen Upton

PHONE: +1 800 654 4173 / (403) 2211 676

PICK UP LOCATION:

San Francisco Intl Apt

DROP OFF LOCATION:

San Francisco Intl Apt

San Francisco



Welcome to one of the most beautiful cities in America! San Francisco has it all — incredible views, varied ethnic and bohemian neighborhoods, great restaurants, museums, and shopping. All squeezed into an area of seven miles by seven miles, it's a city that can be walked, unlike many of its counterparts in this country. One famous quotation about this city made in the 1920s is: "You could live in San Francisco a month and ask no greater entertainment than walking through it."

Visiting San Francisco:

If the city's notorious hills get too steep for your tired legs, there's a comprehensive and, with the historic cable cars, beautiful public transport system. So get out and enjoy the city by foot, cable car or taxi. Just be sure to carry a sweater or jacket with you at all times—the city's heedless geography creates a variety of microclimates. Bounded by the Pacific to the west with the bay curving around it from the east, there is little to prevent the famous fog rolling in off the ocean over the city's flat parts of Richmond, Golden Gate Park, and Sunset, thence to the Western Addition. The city's central hills protect the Mission district and Castro, often leaving them warm and sunny while Fisherman's Warf and the Financial District are often windy.

A few words about San Francisco's homeless population: You will see homeless people in and around various areas of San Francisco with the largest concentration to be found around the numerous BART stations in the South of Market area. In most cases, the homeless are completely harmless but we suggest you exercise caution as you would in any large city throughout the world.

Sights to See:

Golden Gate Bridge. The signature monument of San Francisco was built in the 1930s for \$35 million. Often shrouded in fog, the bridge sways up to eight meters to withstand strong winds. Its color — International Orange — was chosen to blend in with the natural surroundings. The two great cables contain enough strands of steel wire (80,000 miles) to encircle the earth three times. The Golden Gate Bridge is located on the northern corner of the city. It's particularly lovely at sunset, and worth the drive — just head North on Hwy 101. You might wish to try a couple of different vantage points, one looking away from the city towards open land and water and the other one looking back at the city. The first vantage point we can recommend is located just off Highway 101 and Lincoln Boulevard; you'll see a road named "El Camino del Mar" — follow it to one of several pullouts. To reach the second point you have to cross the bridge. The first turnoff after crossing Golden Gate is a "Vista Point" with lovely views of the city. If you

have the time, though, continue a hundred meters beyond to an underpass crossing below the freeway — as you turn back toward the city (before reemerging with the freeway) there is a right-hand exit for the "Marin Headlands National Recreation Area." This is a stunning drive across what used to be a military base with unbeatable views of the city, bay, ocean, and the wild headlands themselves. Allow at least an hour for this drive or more if you wish to hike and explore. Website: <http://goldengatebridge.org/visitors>

The Golden Gate Bridge was the first bridge in the Bay area to introduce an electronic toll system. All tolls must be paid through Fast Trak or a license plate account before crossing over the famous bridge. If your rental car isn't outfitted with a Fast Trak transponder, you can make a one-time payment online at: <https://www.bayareafastrak.org/vector/dynamic/signup/OTPSignup.shtml>

Should you forget to make a payment in advance, please visit the website no later than 2 days after crossing over the Golden Gate Bridge and pay the fee to avoid a citation.

Background Notes on San Francisco:

A Spanish writer of the late 15th century wrote an imaginary tale of a faraway land that he called California. There, the streets were paved with gold and jewels, he wrote. The fable fueled the extraordinary push by the Spaniards in the next two hundred years to find such a place and exploit it. While the Spanish never found gold along the northern coast of the Americas, the name California stayed. San Francisco became an important trading outpost for the Spanish and later explorers. Its bay is one of the greatest natural harbors in the world, protected on three sides by land. In 1848, it was still a relatively small town, but then the gold rush of '49 hit. San Francisco's population boomed from 800 to 340,000 over the next few decades. The city was built on money, graft, and corruption. Opium dens flourished in Chinatown, bordellos along the northern shores. Ricketty wooden buildings sprang up all over the hills in a haphazard fashion.

In 1906, the famed earthquake hit. The following fires devastated the town. But in the aftermath, planners were brought in to rethink and rebuild the city, allowing the creation of the magnificent place that we enjoy so much today. In 1989, another large quake hit. Once again, the city planners were forced to rethink the city. This time, they "cleared out" an old freeway area and converted it into a mall of boutiques and cafes. The city's official seal is that of a phoenix rising from the ashes - symbolic of a town born again and again from fire and catastrophic quakes.

THINGS TO DO & SIGHTS TO SEE

Golden Gate Bridge



The signature monument of San Francisco was built in the 1930s at a cost of \$35 million. Often shrouded in fog, the bridge sways up to eight meters to withstand strong winds. Its color — International Orange — was chosen to blend in with the natural surroundings. The two great cables contain enough strands of steel wire (80,000 miles) to encircle the earth three times. The Golden Gate Bridge is located on the northern corner of the city. It's particularly lovely at sunset, and worth the drive — just head North on Hwy 101.

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the city (before reemerging with the freeway) there is a right hand exit for the "Marin Headlands National Recreation Area." This is an absolutely stunning drive across what used to be a military base with unbeatable views of the city, bay, ocean and the wild headlands themselves. Allow at least an hour for this drive or more if you wish to hike and explore. You will have to pay a toll if you cross the bridge driving back into the city. Website: <http://goldengatebridge.org/visitors>.

The Golden Gate Bridge was the first bridge in the Bay area to introduce an electronic toll system. All tolls must be paid through Fast Trak or a license plate account PRIOR to crossing over the famous bridge. If your rental car isn't outfitted with a Fast Trak transponder, you can make a one time payment online at: <https://www.bayareafastrak.org/vector/dynamic/signup/OTPSignup.shtml>.

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THINGS TO DO & SIGHTS TO SEE

Golden Gate Park



Covering over 1000 acres, Golden Gate Park is larger than New York City's Central Park. There's a nice scenic drive starting at Sunset Boulevard on the west edge of San Francisco and Lincoln Avenue on the south side called the 49-Mile Drive. Just follow the signs showing a white seagull with an orange beak and the lettering "49 mile" in blue. Allow at least one hour for the drive without stops. If you'd rather walk than drive, try one of the guided Golden Gate Park walking tours, which include tours of the Japanese Tea Garden (Refer to website for current admission prices and hours of operation. [Phone: 415/752.4227] The tours are organized by the San Francisco Parks Trust and free of charge. Golden Gate Park is open daily, but it's particularly nice on Sundays when J.F. Kennedy Drive is closed to vehicles. There's no entrance fee for the park but attractions might charge. [Phone: 415/751.2766 / Website: <http://golden-gate-park.com>]

A popular stop is the California Academy of Sciences at 55 Music Concourse Drive. The complex includes an aquarium, a planetarium, a natural history museum and a 4-story rainforest all under one living roof with 1.7 Million native

California plants installed in biodegradable coconut husk trays. Renzo Piano's glass walled building made of recycled steel and concrete is considered the world's greenest museum and blends into the park's natural setting. But the museum isn't only stunning from an architectural point of view; catch a ride to the edge of the universe, dive into the Philippine coral reef and the Amazon River, study a colony of African Penguins, or listen to scientists during the popular swamp talks – changing exhibits capture nature's wonders. Please note: You will need at least a couple of hours to explore this museum, but you will definitely not regret the time spent here. The museum is worth a visit not only on one of San Francisco's rainy days. Parking at the museum is very limited and the lots fill up quick, especially on busy weekend days. Hours: Monday through Saturday (9:30 - 17:00) and Sunday (11:00 - 17:00). To reach the museum via public transport take the N Judah MUNI street car to 9th Ave and Irving, follow 9th into the park and continue on Martin Luther King Boulevard 'til you reach Music Concourse Drive. To avoid a long wait it's recommended to buy tickets in advance. [Telephone: 415/379.8000 / [Website: <http://calacademy.org>]

THINGS TO DO & SIGHTS TO SEE

North Beach



Intersecting Chinatown at Columbus Avenue, North Beach is best known as San Francisco's "Little Italy", with a high density of check-clothed restaurants, cafés and old world delicatessens. The district was the hub for the city's Italian community in the 1920's and 1930's. In the 1950's, this European aura – and the low rents – attracted many jazz loving Beats, making North Beach one of San Francisco's most eclectic neighborhoods. Comedy clubs and punk venues appeared over the ensuing decades. And yet, many of the original residents remained: North Beach is still home to many elderly Italians that can be found playing bocce or nibbling cannoli in one of the many coffeehouses, and no visit here is complete without the mandatory espresso. Fans of the Beat movement seeking the old haunts of Kerouac and Ginsberg will be happy to find out that City

Lights, the original publisher of "Howl", is still at 261 Columbus Avenue. [Website: www.citylights.com]

Located atop Telegraph Hill, the site of the west coast's first telegraph is the Coit Tower. The 210-foot (64-metre) concrete turret was built with funds given by local philanthropist, Lillie Hitchcock Coit, to beautify the city. Saved from a fierce fire as a child and a fan of firemen ever since, many believe that the shape of the tower mimics the fire hose nozzles used during the 1906 earthquakes and resulting fires. The view from atop the east side of the tower spans 360 degrees. Inside is a museum with murals depicting working life in 1930s California. Coit Tower is open daily (10:00 – 18:00). [Phone: 415/ 362.0808]

Fisherman's Wharf and Pier 39



To get to Fisherman's Wharf and Pier 39 change cable cars at California and Powell and head north to the end of the line or take the "F" trolley; Fisherman's Wharf and Pier 39 are located on the northern side of the Bay.

Once home to a fleet of over 400 boats, nowadays, Fisherman's Wharf supplies only a tiny fraction of the fish served in San Francisco restaurants. There are only a few vintage Monterey Hull fishing boats and modern diesel boats that still work from here. But if you get up early enough, you can watch fishermen bring in their catch.

Fisherman's Wharf is home to sidewalk seafood vendors, souvenir shops, restaurants, as well as a variety of family attractions:

The Madame Tussauds at 145 Jefferson Street is open daily. Refer to website for current admission prices and hours of operation [Website: <http://waxmuseum.com>]

Ripley's Believe It or Not at 175 Jefferson Street is open Sunday - Thursday, Friday and Saturday. Refer to website for current admission prices and hours of operation, [Website: <http://ripleys.com/sanfrancisco>]

The San Francisco Maritime with the Aquatic Bathhouse at the corner of Polk Street and Beach Street is open daily (10:00 - 17:00), the Hyde Street Pier at the foot of Hyde Street is open daily during the year, and Ghirardelli's Square at Beach and Larkin (originally a chocolate factory, now full of shops) is open Monday - Sunday. Refer to website for current admission prices and hours of operation. Website: <http://ghirardellisq.com>

While there's little "real" here, most visitors feel they haven't seen San Francisco unless they go. Fisherman's Wharf and Pier 39 are popular with all ages and interests. Try the clam chowder; it's usually served in a bowl of sourdough bread and should be part of your San Francisco experience. Website: <http://visitfishermanswharf.com>

THINGS TO DO & SIGHTS TO SEE

Chinatown



Located to the northeast of Union Square is Chinatown. A dragon-topped gate marks the southern entrance at Grant Avenue and Bush Street. The district is the economic and cultural center of San Francisco's Chinese community, which has called the city home since the gold rush days. Today, San Francisco has the largest Chinese population outside of Asia. Always a busy and a very atmospheric place, Chinatown is full of electronic and other import stores, great restaurants and tea houses. Grant Avenue is the main thoroughfare and the city's oldest street. For a more "local" scene, walk over to Stockton Street, one block west of Grant. Here

you will find traditional herb pharmacies, temples and garment factories. Or, you can relax and enjoy a "dim sum" lunch while witnessing the making of a fortune cookie. At Portsmouth Square (733 Kearny Street), half a block east of Grant, Sam Brannan precipitated the Gold Rush by announcing the discovery of gold at Sutter's Mill. At 743 Washington Street, the pagoda like Bank of Canton is one of Chinatown's most photographed buildings. Please be aware, while you may find bargains in Chinatown, know your prices before beginning to shop; the store owners are very convincing. [Website: <http://sanfranciscochinatown.com>]

The Castro



Bordered by Market, Church, 20th and Diamond Street, the Castro is where gay rights got its start in San Francisco. While San Francisco is a generally gay-friendly and welcoming city for people from all walks of life, the Castro in particular is especially filled with gay pride because of its historical roots in the gay civil rights movement. In the center of the district is the Harvey Milk Plaza (2401 Market St, corner of Castro), named for the camera shop owner who became California's first openly gay elected official – he was later assassinated. His story was successfully

portrayed by Sean Penn who won an Academy Award for his role as Harvey Milk in the movie Milk. Skin Zone, at 575 Castro, is the site of Milk's camera shop. Twin Peaks Tavern, at 401 Castro, shattered taboos by becoming the first gay bar in the US with large windows facing the pavement. This was back in 1973 when homosexuality was still a felony. Today, the Castro is one of the city's most vibrant and cohesive communities, saturated with stylish shops, popular restaurants and bars.

THINGS TO DO & SIGHTS TO SEE

Bike the Golden Gate



Riding a bike over the Golden Gate Bridge has fast become one of the most popular ways of seeing San Francisco's most famous landmark. Bay City Bikes offers self-guided and guided tours along the bay - 1.7 miles / 2.7 km of biking bliss and easy pedaling - and then downhill into beautiful Sausalito. You will enjoy spectacular views and will have plenty of photo opportunities along the way. Once in Sausalito, participants of the guided tours have the option of returning with the guide on a ferry to Fisherman's Wharf, or continuing on their own (at no additional cost) to see other sights in southern Marin County before returning.

The guided tour lasts 2.5 hours. It departs daily at 10:00 and 13:00 from the rental shop at 1325 Columbus Avenue (between North Point Street and Leavensworth Street). Bike and ferry ticket are included in the price. Besides the Columbus Avenue location you can also rent a bike at any of the other two rental shop locations (2661 Taylor Street / 501 Bay Street). All rental shops are located in the Fisherman's Wharf San Francisco district. They open at 9:00 in the morning. [Phone: 415/346.BIKE (2453) / Website: <http://baycitybike.com>]

Lands End Labyrinth



The Lands End Labyrinth is a unique, hidden gem located along San Francisco's rugged coastal cliffs in the Lands End area. Created by local artist Eduardo Aguilera in 2004, the labyrinth is a peaceful, meditative installation made of rocks, carefully arranged into a spiral pattern that overlooks the Pacific Ocean and the Golden Gate Bridge. Its setting, perched on a cliff, offers breathtaking panoramic views of the ocean, the Marin Headlands, and sometimes even glimpses of dolphins or whales passing by.

The labyrinth invites visitors to walk its winding path, offering a quiet, reflective experience amid the natural beauty and serenity of the location. Surrounded by windswept cypress trees, crashing waves, and rugged cliffs, it's an ideal spot for contemplation or simply enjoying the tranquility of the coastal landscape.

While the labyrinth has been rebuilt several times due to vandalism and natural erosion, it remains a beloved spot for locals and visitors alike. Accessible via a scenic hiking trail within the Lands End Coastal Trail, it is a rewarding destination for those seeking a mix of art, nature, and spirituality in San Francisco.

THINGS TO DO & SIGHTS TO SEE

Randall Museum



The Randall Museum, located in San Francisco's Corona Heights Park, is a family-friendly cultural and science museum that focuses on nature, arts, and environmental education. Originally opened in 1951, the museum offers a variety of interactive exhibits and hands-on activities that encourage learning and exploration for visitors of all ages. Its mission is to inspire a love of science, nature, and creativity through engaging programs that reflect the unique natural environment and cultural diversity of the Bay Area.

One of the museum's highlights is its collection of live animals, including native wildlife like reptiles, amphibians, birds, and mammals. The Randall Museum also features a working model railroad, an extensive arts and ceramics studio, a science lab, and outdoor gardens.

Alamo Square & Painted Ladies



Famous for its iconic view of the Painted Ladies, Alamo Square is one of the most well-known parks in San Francisco. Located near the Hayes Valley neighborhood, the park offers stunning panoramic views of the city skyline behind a row of charming Victorian houses. These homes, known as the Painted Ladies, are celebrated for their vibrant colors and beautiful architecture.

The Painted Ladies are among the most photographed spots in San Francisco and symbolize the city's classic Victorian style. Built in the late 19th century, they are some of the few remaining examples of this type of historic architecture in the city. Their ornate details contrast beautifully with the modern skyline of downtown San Francisco in the background.

You might even recognize them from the opening credits of the television series *Full House*, where they became an iconic image of San Francisco's charm.

Ferry Building Marketplace



The Ferry Building Marketplace in San Francisco is a vibrant culinary destination located along the city's Embarcadero waterfront. Originally constructed in 1898 as a ferry terminal, the building is a stunning example of Beaux-Arts architecture with a signature clock tower inspired by the Giralda bell tower in Seville, Spain. After undergoing major restoration in the early 2000s, it was transformed into a bustling public marketplace with a diverse array of gourmet vendors, restaurants, and specialty shops.

Visitors can browse a wide selection of items, including fresh oysters, organic cheeses, handcrafted chocolates, artisanal breads, and small-batch wines. The marketplace also hosts a renowned farmers' market several days a week. With its panoramic views of the Bay Bridge, strong focus on sustainability, and atmosphere that blends old-world elegance with modern tastes, it stands as one of the city's most beloved landmarks.

Coit Tower



Coit Tower, a slender white concrete column rising from the top of Telegraph Hill, has been an emblem of San Francisco's skyline since its completion in 1933, a welcoming beacon to visitors and residents alike. Its observation deck, reached by elevator, provides 360-degree views of the city and bay, including the Golden Gate and Bay bridges.

The ground floor lobby is adorned with a series of fresco murals by some 30 local artists, depicting life in 1930s San Francisco. They were nationally controversial when opened to the public. The artists and murals were funded by President Roosevelt's New Deal pilot art program, the Public Works of Art Project. The project was such a success, public buildings around the country were decorated with similar artwork. They remain a colorful, insightful look back to a difficult time in American history. Guided docent tours are available.

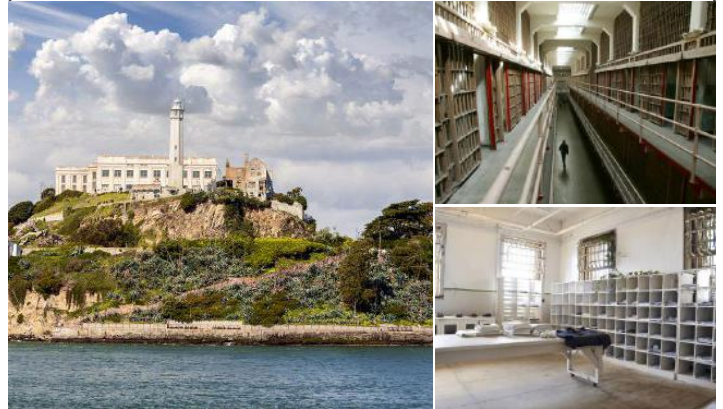
THINGS TO DO & SIGHTS TO SEE

Financial District



Neighboring Chinatown to the east is the Financial District with the famous Transamerica Pyramid at 600 Montgomery Street. San Francisco's tallest and most recognizable building stands 260 meters high and sits on giant rollers that allow it to rock safely. That's the reason it wasn't damaged during the 1989 earthquake. The Transamerica Pyramid offers tremendous views of San Francisco and the Bay Area. Unfortunately, there is no public viewing deck at present. Other than the first-floor lobby, the building has no visitor facilities. Only tenants and their approved guests have access to the building. [www.thepyramidcenter.com]. Just south of Market Street is the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art (SFMOMA). The museum offers the West Coast's most comprehensive collection of modern and contemporary art. Location: 151 3rd Street, between Mission and Howard. Refer to the website for current admission prices and hours of operation [Phone: 415/357.4000 / Website: <http://sfmoma.org>]

Alcatraz



The island of Alcatraz is best known for having been a maximum security prison for Mafia criminals and high risk convicts. "Machine Gun" Kelly, Al Capone and Robert "Birdman" Stroud among others were kept in the prison between the years of 1934 and 1963. Today, Alcatraz is part of The Golden Gate National Recreation Area. Audiotapes for self guided tours are available for rent in multiple languages.

If you are thinking of visiting Alcatraz then plan ahead. The island isn't very big and there are only a limited amount of people allowed at the prison at a time. Make your reservations in advance. Cruises can sell out multiple days in advance. The ferry for Alcatraz leaves from Fisherman's Wharf, Pier 33 (Hornblower Alcatraz Landing). Tours last approximately 2.5 hours. Call Alcatraz Cruise at 415/981.7625. [Website: <http://alcatrazcruises.com>].

Lombard Street



Lombard Street is known as the "crookedest street in the world" because of its eight sharp turns on a 40 degree hill. Located in the Russian Hill district, the descent down Lombard (one way street) begins at Hyde Street. If you are on your way to Fisherman's Wharf, the cable car will drop you off right at the top. Stairs are available for pedestrians on each side of the street. But this is one of the very few places in San Francisco where it's actually fun to take your rental car to. So you might want to consider driving Lombard Street on your way in or out of the city.

Japantown



Japantown is relatively small covering only a few square blocks in the Lower Pacific Heights section of San Francisco. The first Japanese arrived in San Francisco in the early 1860s, but it was not until after the enormous earthquake in 1906 that they began settling in this part of the city, also called Nihonmachi. The area is now full of small shops, restaurants, art galleries, Japanese baths and shrines. The main thoroughfare is Post Street. Its focal point is the Japan Center (opened in 1968), the site of three Japanese-oriented shopping centers and the Peace Pagoda, a 30-meter-high, five-tiered concrete stupa designed by Japanese architect Yoshiro Taniguchi and presented to San Francisco by the people of Osaka, Japan.

THINGS TO DO & SIGHTS TO SEE

Haight & Ashbury



If any area of San Francisco still evokes the spirit of the 1960s counterculture, it is the Haight. At the legendary intersection of Haight and Ashbury, echoes of the flower-power era remain alive. Incense-filled shops, tie-dye clothing, and peace-and-love memorabilia can still be found in colorful stores with names like Dreams of Kathmandu or The Love of Ganesha.

Beyond its hippie roots, the Haight has evolved into one of San Francisco's most vibrant commercial districts. Today, it blends historic character with modern flair, offering independent boutiques, high-end vintage fashion, second-hand shops, cafés, internet lounges, and trendy restaurants. This mix of nostalgia and contemporary culture makes the Haight a fascinating place to stroll, shop, and soak up San Francisco's creative spirit.

Union Square



One of the city's three original parks and now the retail heartland of San Francisco, Union Square is where most of the hotels and shops are concentrated. All the large department stores can be found here. Union Square takes its name from the pro-Union rallies held in the eve of the Civil War. Just to the south, at the foot of Market, is the Powell Street turnaround. Here you can access the world famous cable cars. At the Powell Street BART station at the corner of Market and Powell you will find a very helpful Visitors Information Center. [Website: <http://unionsquashop.com>]

MUNI



The public transportation system is run by MUNI and includes buses, street cars and cable cars. MUNI's orange and white buses are the city's number one source of transportation. The buses run every 5 to 10 minutes. They are very affordable and get you within a block or two of almost anywhere. The busses run 24 hours/day, 7 days/week. If you plan on using the public transport system often, then get a day pass or a 3 day pass. The day passes are also valid for the cable and street cars. MUNI operates 14 vintage street cars along Market Street. [Phone: 311 from a touch tone phone or 415/701.2311 /Website: <http://sfmta.com>]

Cable Cars



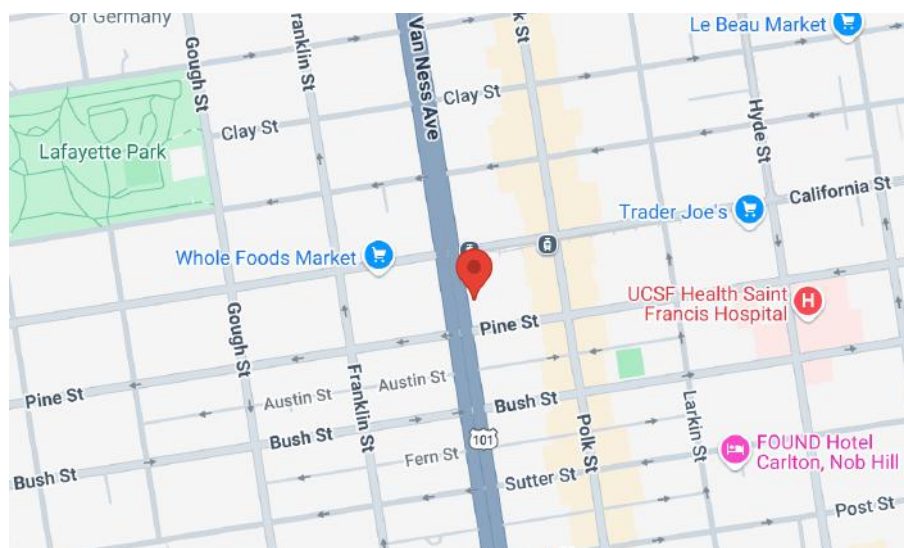
The world famous Cable Cars service some of the most popular areas in San Francisco — the Financial District, Chinatown and Fisherman's Wharf among them. The cars travel three lines. The most popular route is Powell-Hyde where the cars climb up Powell Street before heading to Fisherman's Wharf. California runs along California Street from the Embarcadero to Van Ness; Powell-Mason heads up Powell and past Chinatown to North Beach. The lines cross at California & Powell where you can switch to another car. Please note that transfers are not accepted. Cable cars have been plying the hills of San Francisco for more than 120 years; many of the current cars still date from the last century, though the entire system was overhauled in the 1980s. There are about 40 cars on the three different routes.

HOLIDAY INN SAN FRANCISCO-GOLDEN GATEWAY BY IHG



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Other:
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Touring Activities, On-site entertainment, On-site
other activities, Nearby (off-site) activities

Parking:
Self parking

2-DAY HOP-ON HOP-OFF & ALCATRAZ



Thu, 12 Mar 2026

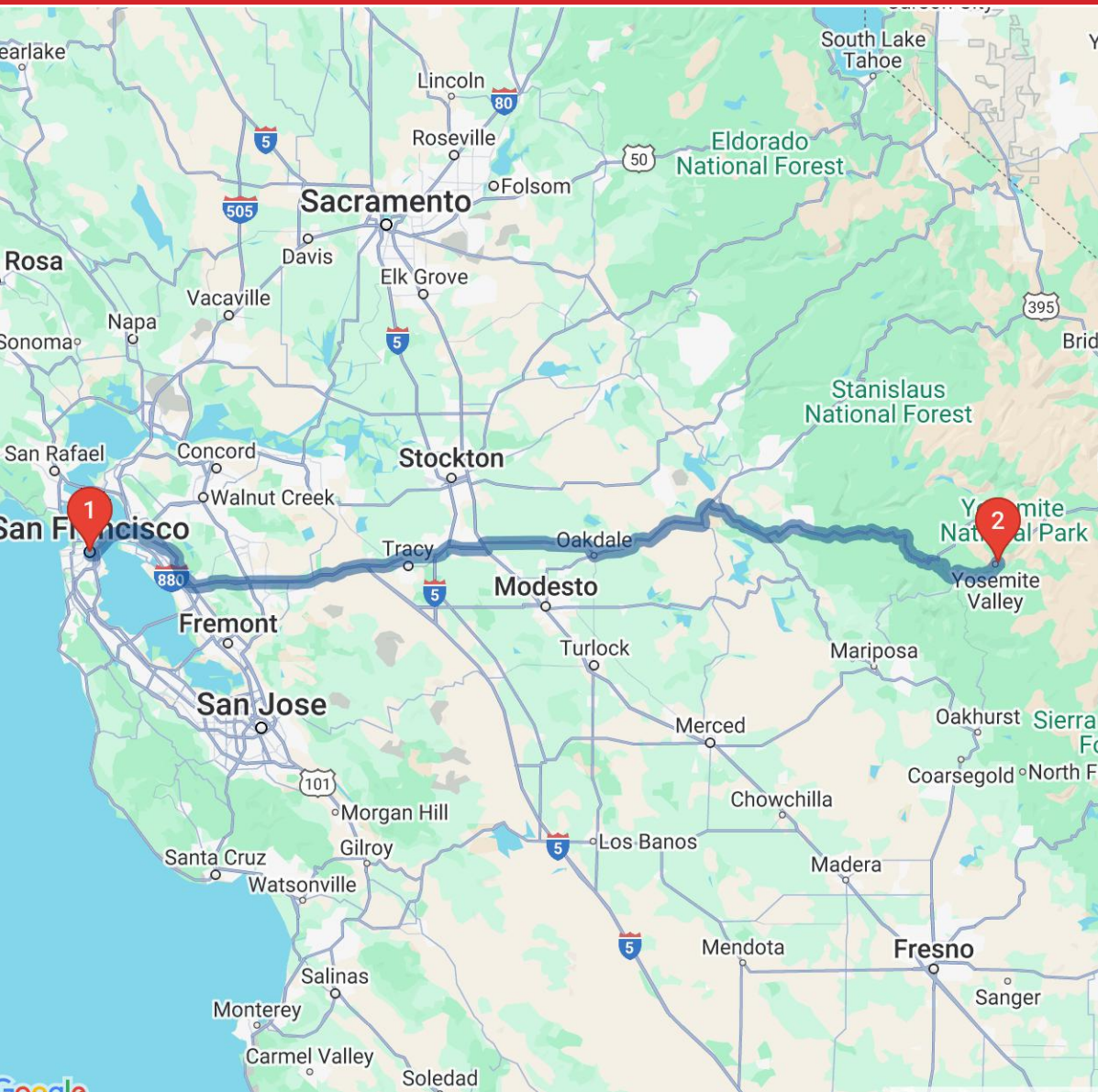
TOUR

Discover the iconic sights of San Francisco on this hop-on, hop-off bus tour with Alcatraz entry.

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SAN FRANCISCO - YOSEMITE NATIONAL PARK



3 hrs 45 mins (Approximately) | Fri, 13 Mar 2026

DIRECTIONS

A. Directly to Yosemite:

Leave San Francisco on Highway 80 East and drive across the Bay Bridge to Oakland, then travel south on I-580 toward Hayward / Stockton. Once you reach Hayward, you will witness the interstate winding to the east. Follow I-580 East to Highway 205 East. After passing through Tracy you will have to get onto Interstate 5. But you will stay on I-5 North for only 2 miles / 3.2 km before you exit again and continue on CA 120 East / Highway 108 East all the way to the entrance of Yosemite National Park (Big Flat Oak Entrance).

If you are travelling during the summer, you can follow Highway 120 into Yosemite National Park and drive the Tioga Pass Road to Tuolumne Meadows. The area is very different from the Yosemite Valley. It's high country, with an altitude of 8,500 at its lowest point. Nearby Tioga Pass, the eastern gate of the park, is at the 10,000 foot elevation and is the highest elevation you can attain by car. The pass road is usually open June through October. Call for updates on current road conditions before traveling or check online. [Phone: 209/372.0200 / Website: www.nps.gov/yose/planyourvisit/conditions.html]

Please note that a visit of Tuolumne Meadows adds additional driving time to your trip. The drive from Tuolumne Meadows to the Yosemite Village will take approximately 1 ½ hours. We would further like to point out: If your next desti-

nation is Mammoth Lakes, you will travel over Tioga Pass and through Tuolumne Meadows as you exit the park through its east entrance. Plan accordingly.

If you decide to skip Tuolumne Meadows because you will visit it on the next stretch of your road trip or if you are traveling during spring, fall or winter when the Tioga Pass Road is closed, bear right onto Big Flat Oak Road, then continue on State Highway 140 (Yosemite All Year Highway) to the Yosemite Village. If your hotel is located in the Wawona area, you will have to travel a little further south on Highway 41 (Wawona Road) to reach your destination.

208 mi / 334 km - 4 ½ hrs

B. Highway 49:

A more leisurely route, offering an interesting glimpse into California's gold rush era, is Highway 49. To reach Highway 49 leave Highway 120 in Manteca and continue north on Highway 99. Shortly before reaching Stockton you will see the turnoff for Farmington Road (Highway 4). Follow it east through Copperopolis to Angels Camp where Highway 4 meets Highway 49. Continue south on Highway 49 to State Highway 120 and proceed to Yosemite.

237 mi / 381 km - 5 ½ hrs

C. Through Sonoma and Napa Valley:

SAN FRANCISCO - YOSEMITE NATIONAL PARK

3 hrs 45 mins (Approximately) | Fri, 13 Mar 2026

DIRECTIONS

Depart San Francisco driving north on Highway 101 across the Golden Gate Bridge, then take exit 460 A and continue on CA 37 North through Marin County towards Napa / Vallejo. After 8 miles / 13 km merge onto CA 121 North and follow it to Highway 12 North. Continue to Sonoma. The Caneros wine region in the town of Sonoma is one of the most famous wine regions in the Northern California wine country you will be driving through today. After visiting a winery or two and spending some time at the historic Sonoma Town Square, backtrack on Highway 12 to Napa Road. Make a left turn onto Napa Road and drive east until you reach CA 29. Highway 29 is Napa Valley's main drag, as well as its parallel counterpart, the Silverado Trail. It is a north south valley bisector with stunning mountain views to the east and west. It's also where you will find plenty of wineries.

The rural route leads from the town of Napa north through St. Helena's picturesque Main Street to the hot springs and mud bath mecca of Calistoga. Small wooden signs facing the road denote grapes grown here: Cabernet Sauvignon, Chardonnay, Chenin Blanc, Merlot, Pinot Noir, Riesling, Sauvignon Blanc or the

precious, California-grown Zinfandel. Peppering the valley floor are magnificent winery estates. Chose a winery and follow the drive to its majestic mansion. Take a tour and learn about the delicate art of winemaking. Unless you got off to a super early start or want to skip a visit of California's capitol, Sacramento, we recommend you follow Highway 29 to St. Helena and then cut through to Davis on Highway 128 East. In Davis take interstate 80 North. Continue to Sacramento, then travel south on Highway 99 to Highway 120 East.

300 mi / 482 km - 6 ½ hrs

D. Through Sacramento:

If you want to skip the wine country and travel directly to Sacramento, leave San Francisco driving across the Bay Bridge (Highway 80) towards Oakland. Once you cross the bay the highway will wind to the north. Continue on I-80 North to Sacramento, then take Highway 99 South to Highway 120 East.

253 mi / 407 km - 5 ½ hrs



THINGS TO DO & SIGHTS TO SEE

Oakdale



In an area known for its Western heritage and many farms and ranches, Oakdale bills itself as “The Cowboy Capitol of the World”. The Oakdale Cowboy Museum at 355 E F Street, just off SR 120, is located in the town’s former Southern Pacific train depot. It illustrates the lifestyle of the American Cowboy and celebrates Oakdale’s Western culture and ranching heritage through displays of rodeo memorabilia, saddles, photographs, branding irons and different types of barbed wire. The museum features an interactive area for kids where dressing up as a cowboy or cowgirl is encouraged. The Oakdale Cowboy Museum is open Monday to

Saturday (10:00 – 14:00). [Phone: 209/847.7049 / Website:<http://www.oakdalecowboymuseum.org/>]

At Oakdale Cheese & Specialties, 10040 State Highway 120, visitors can watch Gouda cheese being made. The farm is owned and operated by Dutch immigrants Walter and Lenneke Bulk who moved from the Netherlands to the United States in 1979. Tours are offered. Please call for times. [Phone:209/848.3139/ Website:<http://www.oakdalecheese.com/>]

Jack London Square



This low key version of San Francisco’s Fisherman’s Wharf is bounded by Clay Street, Alice Street, the Embarcadero and Oakland estuary. It’s a little bit touristy at times but quite colorful with plenty of shopping and dining opportunities. On Sundays, locals fill the square for the popular farmer’s and artisan’s market which offers fresh produce, flowers and baked goods from local vendors. A statue of the author who lends the square its name is located on the wharf.

Jack London worked at the port’s docks. Heinold’s First and Last Chance Saloon at 48 Webster Street was one of his favorite hangouts. Today, the water front bar where London did a lot of his writing and found his inspiration for scenes for his novel Call of the Wild and The Sea Wolf is a historic landmark and a tourist desti-

nation. [Phone: 510/839.6761] Another popular stop is the USS Potomac at 540 Water Street.

Dockside tours of President Franklin D. Roosevelt’s “floating White House” last about 45 minutes and allow visitors to see the restored vessel who now serves as a memorial to the 32nd president of the United States who is best known for authoring the New Deal. Tours are available Wednesday, Friday and Sunday (11:00 – 15:00) mid-January through mid-December. Two to three-hour cruises of the San Francisco Bay depart Thursday and Saturday (10:30) May through November. [Phone: 510/627.1215]

THINGS TO DO & SIGHTS TO SEE

Groveland



On your way to or from Yosemite on Highway 120, you'll arrive in Groveland, one of the County's Gold Rush towns. Try to stay out of trouble though; this town was once named "Garrotte" for the area's swift and harsh justice from a large oak tree. Once, Groveland offered miners exceptional gold discoveries, but in 1914 the focus switched to water, and the town was chosen to be the construction headquarters for the Hetch Hetchy Water Project—the water supply for San Francisco.

Today Groveland is a must-stop town where visitors find respite in historic hotels, B&B's and vacation rentals. Beautiful Pine Mountain Lake offers golfing, dining, horseback riding, camping, water sports and an airport.

Groveland has always been an important stop on the highway to Yosemite but really grew in the early 1900s with the development of the Tuolumne River Hetch-Hetchy water project for the city of San Francisco. Groveland is adjacent to the Stanislaus National Forest and is known for the historic Iron Door Saloon.

Groveland is an authentic spirited Gold Rush-era town. Besides its rich history, there are many things that make Groveland stand out as one of the greatest little towns in the USA. The community energy of this Sierra Nevada foothills village near Yosemite National Park is remarkable.

Oakland, CA



Oakland, California, is a dynamic destination offering something for every traveler. With over 100,000 acres of parks and trails, it's perfect for outdoor adventures like hiking or picnicking at Lake Merritt, a serene urban oasis. Families will love Fairyland, a whimsical play park. Art and culture enthusiasts can explore the Oakland Museum of California (OMCA), the Chabot Space & Science Center, and Oakland's vibrant street art scene. Food lovers will find a thriving culinary landscape, from Michelin-starred restaurants to craft beer on the Oakland Ale Trail and plant-based delights on the Vegan Trail. Unique experiences like the Oakland Cannabis Trail and sports events featuring the Oakland A's or Oakland Roots soccer team add to the city's diverse charm, making it a must-visit destination for exploration and excitement.

Columbia State Historic Park



Columbia State Historic Park is a "living" ghost town that allows visitors to time-travel to the 1850's and get a glimpse into the California Gold Rush era by watching proprietors in period clothing conduct business in the style of yesterday. The town's business district has been preserved with shops, restaurants, and two hotels. There are also opportunities to ride a 100 year-old stage-coach, pan for gold, and explore the real working businesses of Columbia. As a real town, Columbia never actually closes. Most businesses are open from 10:00 to 17:00 with many restaurants, hotels, and saloons having longer hours. Free town tours are given daily at 11:00 June through the beginning of September and Saturday and Sunday at 11:00 year-round. They leave from the museum and last approximately 1 hour.

Yosemite National Park



The time of year you visit this park and your actual lodging for tonight is going to make some difference in how you plan your afternoon. Check tomorrow's itinerary for suggested routes, keeping in mind that Tioga Pass is open only from mid-June through the first significant snows, usually mid-October. Also, while Yosemite Lodge is on the Valley floor, the lovely and historic Wawona is located near the southern entrance, almost an hour further away. Keep this in mind to use your time here to best advantage.

For instance, mid-summer visitors staying in the Valley and not exiting the Park via the southern route might choose to visit the world-famous "Mariposa Grove" of giant sequoias on the afternoon of their arrival. Alternatively, those heading toward Fresno may find it convenient to visit the grove on the morning of their departure.

Visiting Yosemite:

We would also like to point out that much of the Yosemite Valley floor is closed to private cars during high season. Instead, visitors are asked to park at either their lodge or in "Day Visitor" parking, both marked and to take the excellent shuttle system from point to point within the park. Yosemite receives about 4 million visitors a year; 60% of those are day visitors only. To put that in perspective, Yosemite's annual visitation is greater than the entire population of Los Angeles, America's second-most populous city.

During the peak season, especially on weekends and holidays, you will experience crowded shuttle buses and long food and bathroom lines. If you want to avoid the crowds, our best advice is to stay away from the valley floor. Take an early morning walk to Mirror Lake past the Ahwahnee or spend your time at Tuolumne Meadows.

Yosemite National Park Park Entry Reservation:

Visitors who plan to enter Yosemite National Park between 6 a.m. and 2 p.m. on Memorial Day weekend, any day between June 15 and August 15, or Labor Day weekend are likely to need a reservation. This system ensures all visitors, whether they plan in advance or decide last minute, can experience the park each day. It also spreads visitation across the day so that visitors have a better experience.

A reservation will be required to drive into or through Yosemite National Park on some days from May 24 through September 1, 2025, for those driving into the park between 6 am and 2 pm as follows.

- May 24 through May 26 (Memorial Day weekend): A reservation is required from 6 am to 2 pm on Saturday through Monday.

- May 27 through June 14: A reservation is not required at any time.

- June 15 through August 15: A reservation is required from 6 am to 2 pm every day.

- August 16 through August 29: A reservation is not required at any time.

- August 30 through September 1 (Labor Day weekend): A reservation is required from 6 am to 2 pm on Saturday through Monday.

Driving through the park will also require a reservation if entering between 6 am and 2 pm. If you are planning to visit after peak hours, please do not arrive before 2 pm; vehicles blocking roads will be cited.

Reservation Details:

Reservations are valid for three consecutive days. The standard park entrance fee still applies. Guests with in-park lodging, campground reservations, wilderness permits, or Half Dome permits do not need a separate vehicle reservation.

No vehicle reservation is required if visitors: have confirmed overnight lodging or campground reservations inside the park; enter before 6:00 a.m. or after 2:00 p.m.; arrive via YARTS (Yosemite Area Regional Transportation System); are part of a commercial tour or paid guided experience; or hold a wilderness or Half Dome permit.

For full details, please visit: NPS Yosemite Vehicle Reservation Information - <https://www.nps.gov/yose/planyourvisit/reservations.htm>

Make a Reservation via Recreation.gov - <https://www.recreation.gov/timed-entry/10086745>

Sights to See:

As you first arrive on the Yosemite Valley floor, you will see that there is a one-way loop road that travels in a counterclockwise direction. As the valley floor opens in front of you, you will see El Capitan to the far left, and Yosemite Falls and Half Dome at the eastern end of the Valley. This is a great place to stop for panoramic photos.

If you wish to go to the Yosemite Valley Visitor Center and Wilderness Center to get your park passport stamped and to get oriented (there are also some foreign language materials there), it is located in the Yosemite Village. The center provides detailed trip-planning information, books, exhibits, and audiovisual programs. An orientation film called "Spirit of Yosemite" is shown in the Valley Visitor Center Theater. Also featuring information about the park's backcountry and wilderness areas, the Yosemite Valley Visitor Center and Wilderness Center

Yosemite National Park



contains a variety of displays for hikers and climbers. Interactive exhibits for children include a bear cave and a simulated sequoia tree and glacier. The Yosemite Valley Visitor Center is open daily (9:00 – 18:00), the Yosemite Valley Wilderness Center is open during the summer only (8:00 – 17:00). The film is presented every 30 minutes Monday – Saturday (9:30 – 17:30) and Sunday (12:00 – 17:30). **Phone:** 209/372.0200.

Background Notes on Yosemite:

The Yosemite Valley was formed by millions upon millions of years of a river cutting through hard rock, forming the v-shaped canyon of the Merced River, and then a series of glaciers coming in and filling or half filling the canyon with ice and snow, scraping out a wide, u-shaped valley bottom on this upper half of the canyon. Moraines, or natural dams, were formed by rock debris left behind by the retreating glaciers, collecting sediments and silt behind them on what is now the valley floor. Small lakes formed and eventually filled in, creating the meadows and open fields that fill the Yosemite Valley. Mirror Lake is a great example—it is slowly being transformed into a meadow.

People have lived and traveled through Yosemite for at least 4500 years, using the upper areas of the park (around Tuolumne Meadows) for summer camps to meet other tribes from the Eastern Sierras. They were primarily hunters and gatherers. The people are referred to as Southern Miwoks or, more specifically, the Ahwahneechees. They took up permanent residence in the Valley about 600 years ago.

The Gold Rush of 1849 brought thousands of miners to the Sierra who decimated the natural resources and fought off all Indian attempts to protect their traditional lands. In 1851, a group of volunteers who called themselves the "Mariposa Battalion" came to this area to "resolve" the Indian conflict; hence Yosemite Valley was first "discovered." The native people were mostly driven out of Yosemite, though a few did manage to live here into this century. Some Miwoks still inhabit this area.

One of the foremost conservationists of Yosemite and the eastern Sierras was a man named John Muir. Still revered today as the pre-eminent conservationist and Co-founder of the Sierra Club, Muir fought to protect Yosemite as well as what is now Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks. He lost one battle, however: Hetch Hetchy. That valley, which Muir and others claimed rivaled or even surpassed Yosemite in beauty, was dammed and flooded to create a reservoir for San Francisco. Muir angrily wrote: "Dam Hetch Hetchy! As well dam for water tanks the people's cathedrals and churches, for no holier temple has ever been consecrated by the heart of man." Exhausted and disheartened, Muir died the following year.

Of the 4 million visitors Yosemite receives every year most never walk more than 30 meters from the parking lot at any time. Don't be one of them. Do as Muir said: "Climb the mountains and get their good tidings. Nature's peace will flow into you as sunshine flows into trees. The winds will blow their own freshness into you and the storms their energy, while cares will drop off like autumn leaves." Enjoy Yosemite.

THINGS TO DO & SIGHTS TO SEE

Tuolumne Meadows

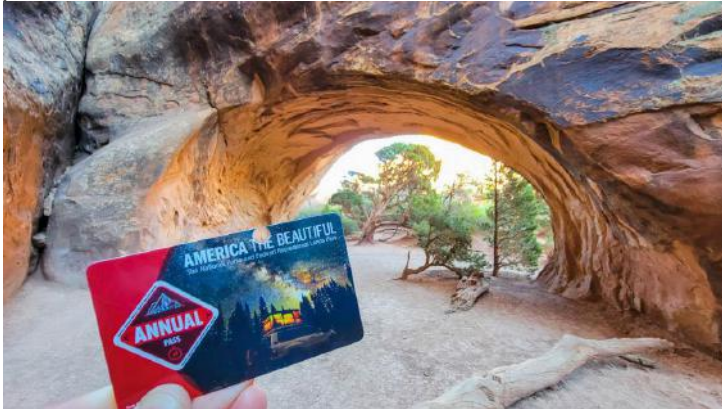


Located in the high sierras with an altitude of 8,500 feet / 2591 meters at its lowest point and only accessible during the summer, Tuolumne Meadows is very different from the valley floor and well worth a visit. It's also a lot less crowded than the busy Yosemite Valley. With only a leisurely stroll north or south along the Tuolumne River, one can find a spot along the river bank and be very private. The famous John Muir and Pacific Crest Backpacking Trails run through here. You can walk part of the John Muir Trail to the Lyell Canyon. It's an easy 8 mile / 12.9 km round-trip hike. The hike will take about 4 hours and starts across the road from the Dog Lake parking area. It passes through Lyell Canyon, along the Lyell Fork of the Tuolumne River. Early in the season, the trail can be muddy in places. There are several creek crossings, including Rafferty Creek (bridged) and Ireland Creek (unbridged). Spectacular Kuna Creek cascades down the side of the east canyon wall near the eight-mile mark. For a shorter trip, walk 1/2 hour each way to the Lyell Fork and "Twin Bridges." Another option, if you are short on time, is the easy hike to Soda Springs and Parsons Lodge. It is only 1.5 miles / 2.4 km

roundtrip and will take about 1 hour. The trailhead is located at the Lembert Dome parking area. From here you will be walking along a gravel road and pass the locked gate (signed Glen Aulin and Soda Springs). Soda Springs—carbonated, cold water bubbling out of the ground—is protected within a log enclosure. The Historic Parsons Memorial Lodge offers exhibits (please see Yosemite Guide for schedule or inquire at the visitor center). A path winds to the bridge below and continues on to the Tuolumne Meadows Wilderness Center, located just off Tioga Pass Road. Here you can also receive a map of the area. The center is open daily during the summer (8:00 – 16:30) with extended hours during the months of July and August. [Phone: 209/372.0740]. The Tioga Pass Road provides the only access to Tuolumne Meadows. If you are coming from the Yosemite Valley just take Highway 120 West or take the free shuttle that runs between Olmsted Point and Tuolumne Meadows. The service is provided daily during the summer (7:00 – 19:00). Buses run every half hour.

THINGS TO DO & SIGHTS TO SEE

The U.S. Park Pass



The America the Beautiful – National Parks and Federal Recreational Lands Pass is an excellent option for travellers planning to visit multiple national parks or federal recreation areas during their journey through the United States. One single pass provides access to more than 2,000 federally managed sites across the country, including National Parks, National Monuments, National Seashores, and other protected areas.

The pass covers entrance fees, standard amenity fees, and day-use fees at locations that charge on a per-vehicle basis. It is valid for the driver and all passengers in one private vehicle. At sites where entrance fees are charged per person, the pass admits up to four adults, with children under 16 typically admitted free of charge. This makes the pass especially cost-effective for couples, families, or small groups travelling together.

For visitors planning to explore several parks—such as Bryce Canyon, Zion National Park, and the Grand Canyon—the pass can result in significant savings while simplifying park entry. Instead of paying individual entrance fees at each park, you simply present your pass upon arrival.

If you wish to purchase the pass in advance, we recommend ordering it online at <https://usparkpass.com/>

Please note that the pass is not available for immediate download or printing. A physical pass will be issued and delivered by mail. Electronic copies, screenshots, or scanned images are not valid for entry and will not be accepted at park gates.

Yosemite Falls



A stop at Yosemite Lodge is highly recommended for anyone wishing to experience Yosemite Falls up close. From here, a pleasant walk leads directly across the meadow toward the base of the falls. With a total drop of 740 meters (2,425 feet) across three distinct cascades, Yosemite Falls is the highest waterfall in North America and one of the park's most iconic natural landmarks.

Visitors can choose between a very short and easy walk to a viewpoint near the base, where the falls are beautifully framed by towering evergreen trees, or a slightly longer but still relatively easy hike of about 20 minutes to the base of the Lower Falls. This trail offers impressive views and is suitable for most visitors, making it one of the most accessible waterfall experiences in Yosemite Valley.

Water flow at Yosemite Falls varies greatly throughout the year. Most of the water in Yosemite comes from snowmelt in the high country, meaning runoff is strongest in spring. Peak flow typically occurs in May or June, when the falls thunder down the cliffs with extraordinary force. As summer progresses and snowpack diminishes, the water flow decreases. By August, Yosemite Falls may be reduced to a light trickle or, in dry years, may even be temporarily dry. Other waterfalls in the park, such as Bridalveil Fall, flow year-round, although their volume can also be quite low by late summer.

THINGS TO DO & SIGHTS TO SEE

El Capitan



Rising dramatically above the valley floor, El Capitan towers nearly 1,000 meters (3,000 feet) above the road and dominates the western end of Yosemite Valley. This immense granite wall is one of the largest exposed monoliths in the world, formed from solid granite that is remarkably unfractured. Because of this exceptional geological strength, El Capitan has resisted erosion for millions of years, retaining its sheer vertical face while surrounding rock gradually wore away.

El Capitan is world-famous among rock climbers and represents the ultimate challenge in big-wall climbing. If you look closely at the rock face—especially through binoculars—you will often spot climbers appearing like tiny moving dots, carefully making their way upward. These “human ants” give a striking sense

of the scale and height of the formation. Some of the most famous routes, such as The Nose or Salathé Wall, are considered legendary achievements in the climbing world.

Many climbers spend several days on the wall, hauling equipment and sleeping overnight on small hanging platforms called portaledge. Certain ascents can take seven days or more, demanding extreme physical endurance, technical skill, and mental focus. Even for visitors who never leave the valley floor, El Capitan is an awe-inspiring sight and one of Yosemite’s most unforgettable natural landmarks.

Bridalveil Falls



Just off the main loop road when heading toward Wawona, Bridalveil Fall is often one of the first waterfalls visitors encounter in Yosemite Valley. The area was known to the native Ahwahneechee people as “Pohono,” meaning Spirit of the Puffing Wind. This name is fitting, as winds frequently swirl around the cliff face, catching the falling water and blowing it sideways into fine misty plumes.

Although Bridalveil Fall may appear small when compared to the towering granite walls that surround it, the waterfall is in fact impressively tall — roughly the height of a 62-story building. Flowing year-round, it is particularly dramatic in spring, when snowmelt sends powerful streams cascading over the cliff. Its accessibility and cultural significance make Bridalveil Fall a memorable and symbolic introduction to Yosemite.

Yosemite Lodge at the Falls



Casual dining is available at the Mountain Room Restaurant, a casual steak & seafood restaurant, open for dinner: Daily (17:00 – 20:00). Seating is first come first served. If your party includes more than 8 people, reservations are required. The Mountain Room Lounge, a cocktail bar, is open Monday - Friday (04:30 - 23:00) and Saturday & Sunday (12:00 - 23:00). The Yosemite Lodge at the Falls also has a food court that offers hot and cold entrees for breakfast, lunch and dinner. The Coffee Corner, located in the Food Court, has a variety of hot and cold coffee and tea drinks, bagels and pastries. [Phone: 209/372.1403 / Website:<http://yosemitepark.com>]

THINGS TO DO & SIGHTS TO SEE

Yosemite Village



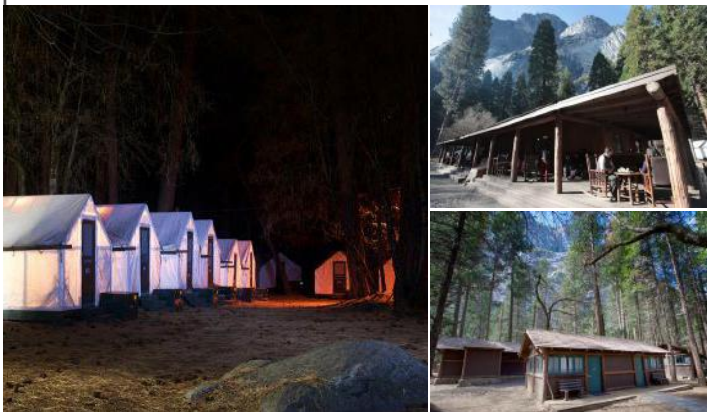
There are several dining options in the Yosemite Village. The Village Grill serves burgers and other fast food items out on a deck. It is open daily (11:00 - 17:00) spring through fall. Degnan's Deli is a busy place around lunch time. They make made-to-order sandwiches, soups and salad. It's open year round. Degnan's Café serves coffee, smoothies, ice cream and baked goods. It's open seasonally from May to September. Degnan's Loft upstairs is a sit down pizza joint, open seasonally from May to September. [Website: <http://www.yosemitepark.com/yosemite-village-restaurants.aspx>]

Majestic Yosemite Hotel



The Majestic Yosemite hotel, formerly called the Ahwahnee, Monday - Saturday, serves breakfast (7:00 - 10:00), lunch (11:30 - 14:00), dinner (17:30 - 20:30) and on Sunday, brunch (7:00 - 14:00). The Majestic Yosemite Hotel is the crown jewel of Yosemite's lodging; a look at its lovely, distinctive architecture is certainly worth your time whether you choose to eat here or not. Casual dress is allowed for breakfast and lunch; coats and ties are preferred for dinner. Dinner reservations are required. [Phone: 209/372.1489 / Website: <http://www.travelyosemite.com/lodging/dining/the-majestic-yosemite-hotel/>]

The Curry Village



As the largest lodging property in the park, Curry Village offers some of the most varied Yosemite restaurant options - all within a short walk of one another. The Curry Village Pavilion serves a scrumptious all-you-can-eat breakfast (7:00 - 10:00) and dinner (17:30 - 20:00) buffet with country cooking from "Mother Curry's Kitchen." The Curry Village Pavilion is open March through October. The Pizza Deck serves fresh-baked pizza, salads and cold frosty beverages on a deck in the heart of Curry Village. With outdoor views of Glacier Point and Royal Arches, this is a perennial favorite place to rest and refuel after a fun day in the park. The Pizza Deck is open year round. Opening hours: Through November 29 Monday - Friday (17:00 - 21:00), Saturday and Sunday (12:00 - 21:00), closed November 30 - December 17 and from December 18 - January 02 Monday - Friday (17:00 - 21:00), Saturday (12:00 to 21:00). Website: <http://www.yosemitepark.com/curry-village-restaurants.aspx>

Merced Grove



Located along the Big Oak Flat Road, east of the Big Oak Flat Entrance, the Merced Grove is one of Yosemite National Park's lesser-known giant sequoia groves. It is home to around two dozen mature giant sequoias, offering a quieter and more intimate experience compared to Yosemite's larger and more crowded groves.

Reaching the sequoias requires a steep hike of approximately 1.5 miles (2.4 kilometres) one way, descending to the grove and climbing back out on the return. While the hike is moderately strenuous, the reward is the chance to stand among some of the largest and oldest trees on Earth in a peaceful forest setting. Visitors should note that parking at the Merced Grove trailhead is extremely limited, so arriving early in the day is strongly recommended.

THINGS TO DO & SIGHTS TO SEE

Mirror Lake



This is a wonderful morning hike for those staying in the Valley and/or leaving via Tioga Pass. It will mean a fairly early start for you, but is well worth doing before all the day visitors arrive in the Park. You'll be able to shuttle to / or park quite close to the trailhead, an easy road that has been closed to vehicle traffic. Head towards the Curry Stables at the far eastern end of the Valley. The roundtrip walk is just over 2 mi / 3.3 km and should take about an hour. Mirror Lake (particularly before mid-summer) reflects Half Dome in absolutely still waters—a beautiful sight. During the summer, the lake usually dries out.

Half Dome



Half Dome is one of the most iconic and recognizable rock formations in Yosemite National Park. Its name comes from its unique shape, where one side appears to have been sheared off, creating the look of a giant dome cut in half. It is a popular destination for experienced hikers, with the famous Half Dome Trail leading to the summit. The hike is strenuous and can be dangerous, especially in the final section where climbers use cables to reach the top. The view from the summit is spectacular, offering a panoramic vista of the valley and surrounding mountains. Even if you don't reach the summit, the view from the base of Half Dome is still impressive.

Glacier Point



A few miles beyond the tunnel, you'll reach the turnoff for Glacier Point. Although the detour adds approximately 20 km one way, the view is unquestionably worth the drive. From this spectacular vantage point, you'll feel as though you are standing on top of the world — or at least on top of Yosemite. The sweeping panorama looks down into Yosemite Valley and across to iconic landmarks such as Half Dome and the High Sierra.

On the return journey, if time permits, consider stopping at Sentinel Dome. A short 2 km hike leads to its summit, where you are rewarded with an incredible 360-degree view of the park. From here, it becomes clear just how vast Yosemite truly is — Yosemite Valley itself accounts for only about 1% of the entire national park.

Mariposa Grove



The Mariposa Grove of "big trees" is located right at the southern entrance, just five miles / 8 kilometers beyond the Wawona. There are about 500 big trees in this grove, several of which are more than 2000 years old. The Grizzly Giant is known for its huge circumference; the world famous (but now fallen) Wawona Tunnel tree was hollowed out for carriages to pass through in the 1800s.

Tuolumne Grove



This grove on Big Oak Flat Road, located just past the Big Oak entrance, contains 20 giant sequoia trees, including the Dead Giant stump. There's a parking lot near the Crane Flat Junction off Tioga Road from where you can walk to the grove. If you decide to explore it, please keep in mind that the mile long road descends approximately 700 feet (200 meters) and the return ascent to the parking lot is a moderately strenuous climb.

THINGS TO DO & SIGHTS TO SEE

Mariposa Overlook



This viewpoint is located near the South entrance of the park, just before the tunnel. By all means, stop here. This is one of the most photographed and admired views of Yosemite, with the entire Valley, the Merced River, El Capitan, Half Dome, Sentinel Rock, Cathedral Rocks and Bridalveil Falls spread out before you. The Overlook was named after a military battalion that first entered Yosemite Valley in 1851.



Tunnel View



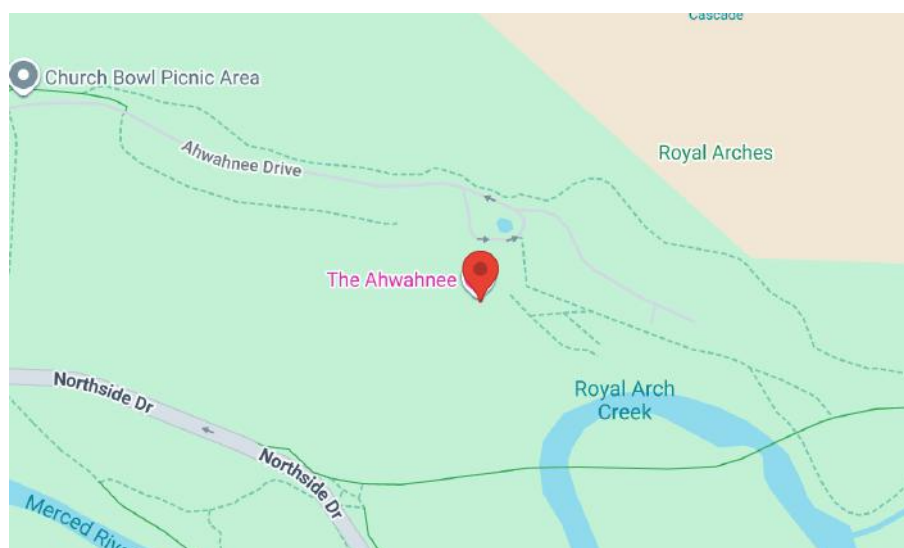
This viewpoint just east of the Wawona Tunnel is especially pretty in the afternoon. With the sun at your back it's great for memorable people shots with Half Dome, El Capitan, and the Bridalveil Falls.



THE AHWAHNEE



3 Nights | Fri, 13 Mar 2026 – Mon, 16 Mar 2026



Address:
1 Ahwahnee Drive, Yosemite National Park,
California, 95389, United States of America

Check In:
Fri, 13 Mar 2026

Check out:
Mon, 16 Mar 2026

Services & Facilities:

Business services:
Business centre, Conference room(s)

Dining:
Restaurant(s), Bar(s), Café(s), Room service

Fitness and leisure activities:
Swimming pool(s), Spa(s)

Indoor pursuits:
Guest lounge

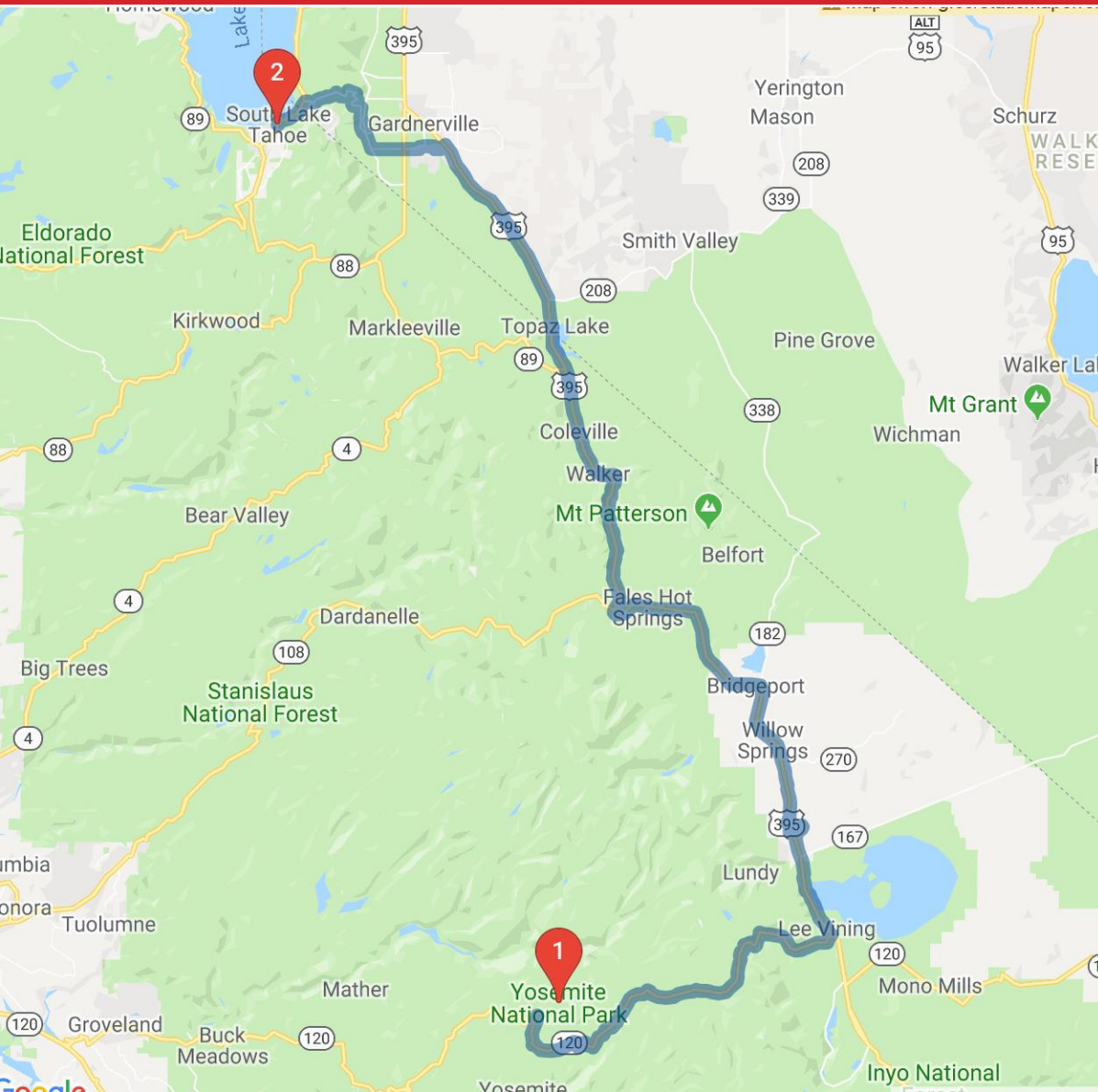
Internet:
Internet access

Laundry:
Laundry services

Other:
Reception, Concierge

Other activities:
On-site culinary activities, On-site other activities,
Touring Activities

YOSEMITE NATIONAL PARK - SOUTH LAKE TAHOE



3 hrs (Approximately) | Mon, 16 Mar 2026

DIRECTIONS

The preferred route is to cross the Sierra Nevada by following Highway 120 (Tioga Road) via Tioga Pass. However, if you are traveling before mid June or after late September, Tioga Pass may be closed due to snow and you will have to detour via Highway 49. Please inquire at your hotel desk before departing, call the hotline or check on current road conditions by visiting the Yosemite National Park website. **Phone:** 209.372.0200 or **Website:** <http://www.nps.gov/yose/planyourvisit/conditions.html>

A. Summer Route:

If you plan on traveling to Lake Tahoe via Tioga Pass, take Highway 120 West from Yosemite to the clearly marked turnoff for Tioga Road and follow it through the Tuolumne Meadows section of the park all the way to Highway 395. Go north for

about 65 miles / 105 kilometers until you reach the junction of Highway 395 and Route 89. Take CA-89 North to US-50 East.

185 mi / 298 km - 5 hrs

B. Winter Route:

If you are travelling before mid June or after late September, Tioga Pass will most likely be closed due to snow. If that's the case, you will need to continue on Highway 120 West to Chinese Camp and then follow CA-49 North past Sonora all the way to Placerville. There Highway 49 connects with US-50. Proceed east on Highway 50 to South Lake Tahoe.

205 mi / 330 km - 5 ½ hrs

THINGS TO DO & SIGHTS TO SEE

Mono Lake



Located just north of the turnoff to cross Tioga Pass into Yosemite, Mono is one of the oldest lakes in North America, a remnant of the ice age. It has no outlet; the salts and minerals that have collected there over thousands of years have left it intensely saline. The lake's waters have been receding since the 1940s when its tributary streams were diverted to supply fresh water for Los Angeles. Unforgettable limestone formations are now jutting through its blue surface and are exposed along Mono's shores. Just two miles north of the intersection of

Highways 120 and 395, on the north side of Lee Vining, is a Visitors Center with excellent displays and vistas of this glorious lake ringed by volcanoes and mountains. The award-winning film "Of Ice and Fire: A Portrait of the Mono Basin" provides visitors with a 20-minute introduction to Mono Lake and is shown regularly. The Visitor Center is open during the summer only. It usually closes late November and reopens the beginning of April, weather permitting. Please call for current schedule.

Angels Camp



Mark Twain's famous short story "The Celebrated Jumping Frog of Calaveras County", his first published success, was inspired by this community. Each year in May, during the Calaveras County Fair & Jumping Frog Jubilee, held at the Frogtown Fairgrounds in Angels Camp fifty frogs compete in the grand finals in an attempt to break the world's record. The town was founded in 1848 when shopkeeper Henry Angel started a trading post here. It was a popular spot for gold miners, populated with approximately 4000 miners during the height of the gold rush era. The Angels Camp Museum at 753 S Main Street recalls these golden years. On its three acre grounds the museum features early mining equipment, a blacksmith shop, a carriage house with horse-drawn vehicles, as well as minerals and artifacts from the era. The museum is open 10:00 to 16:00 Thursday through Monday March through December, 10:00 to 16:00 Saturday and Sunday during the rest of the year.

Samuel Clemens' connection to Angels Camp not only launched his career as Mark Twain with his first successful short story based on a story overheard in the Angels Hotel's saloon, it also made an indelible mark on Angels Camp. Here, we celebrate our connection to America's master storyteller with Twain Talks at the Mark Twain Trading Post, a Mark Twain History Trail and an annual celebration: the Mark Twain Wild West Fest. You can read up on some Mark Twain history in this recent New Yorker article. Historic downtown Angels Camp is home to charming, boutique shops, the Calaveras Visitors Center, a bakery, two restaurants and the Utica Hotel, which is currently undergoing restoration. Stroll Main Street using our historic walk tour map in the back of the Calaveras Visitors Guide, and enjoy the Frog Hop of Fame.

THINGS TO DO & SIGHTS TO SEE

Tioga Pass



Tioga Pass is a mountain pass in the Sierra Nevada mountain range of California. It is the highest elevation highway pass in California and in the Sierra Nevada at an elevation of 9,945 ft (3,031 m). State Route 120 runs through it, and serves as the eastern entry point for Yosemite National Park, at the Tioga Pass Entrance Station.

Tioga Pass is typically open from late May to early November, depending on the snow conditions. It is a popular destination for hiking, camping, fishing, and rock

climbing. There are also a number of scenic overlooks along the pass, offering stunning views of the Sierra Nevada mountains and Yosemite Valley.

If planning a trip to Tioga Pass, be sure to check the road conditions before going. The pass can be closed due to snow or avalanches. Also be prepared for the high altitude, which can cause altitude sickness. Tioga Pass is a beautiful and scenic destination that offers a variety of outdoor activities. If looking for a place to escape the hustle and bustle of everyday life, Tioga Pass is a great option.

Chinese Camp



As you pass through Chinese Camp, you may wish to get out and stretch a moment. Note the haphazard rock walls scattered about nearby fields; all built by the Chinese in the 1850s. There are no notable restaurants or other services here; the tiny visitor center just off the main road hands out historical walking maps of this small community. In 1854, about 5000 Chinese workers came to this area to build the railroad. The area was truly one of those Californian gold fields where gold actually lay on the ground and just below its surface. The entire area was dry mined for years: there are no running streams here to use for panning and sluicing. About \$30 million in gold was mined from Chinese Camp. In its heyday, the town had 14 saloons, a church and a schoolhouse used by several thousand people. It was abandoned by the 1920s; only about 100 people live here now.

South Lake Tahoe



With myriad shades of blue and green, Lake Tahoe, which straddles the California-Nevada state line, is one of the loveliest lakes in North America. It's also one of the purest and deepest lakes in the US; the average depth is 1000 feet / 305 meters. You can easily drive around the lake. With 72 miles / 116 km the drive is quite long but will reward you with spellbinding scenery. You will enjoy spectacular views of water and mountains from the south, as well as the north shore of the lake.

Visiting Lake Tahoe:

For your orientation: While the north shore is quiet and upscale, the south shore is busy with motels and casinos. There are some extremely good hikes on the southeastern corner of the lake—get a map at the Taylor Creek Visitor Center in South Lake Tahoe, located on Highway 89, just past the Tallac Historic Site. The Visitor Center is open daily beginning Memorial Day weekend through the month of October. Hours vary. Phone (530)573-2674.

The sun shines on Tahoe three out of four days in the year, making it ideal for outdoor pursuits of all stripes. Swimming, boating, kayaking, windsurfing and other water-based activities are all popular, as are camping among the horned peaks around the lake. Winter brings bundles of snow, perfect for hitting the slopes at more than a dozen ski resorts. You might also choose to gamble at the casinos located immediately on the Nevada border on the north and south shores.

Background Notes on Lake Tahoe:

Tahoe is a Washoe Indian word meaning "big water" or "water in a high place." Thirty five km long, 12 km wide, and averaging more than 1000 feet deep, Lake Tahoe could cover the entire state of California to a depth of 35 cm if spread out. If the lake were to empty completely, it would take more than 700 years to refill. Sixty three rivers and streams flow into Lake Tahoe; only one river, the Truckee, flows out, leaving the lake on its northwest corner, then flowing east to Pyramid Lake just north of Reno, Nevada. None of Lake Tahoe's waters reach an ocean, which is extremely unusual in North America. The basin was formed to the rise and fall of land due to faulting, not due to the collapse of a volcano crater as was thought for many years. About 10 million years ago the Sierra Nevada block was formed by tremendous uplifting; the valley that became the Tahoe basin sank between two separate faults as the mountains on either side rose. Volcanoes began erupting and lava flowing from Mt. Pluto along the north shore formed a barrier or dam across the basin's ancestral outlet at the Truckee, behind which water began to collect. Ice and snow covered the entire western side of the lake, with glaciers forming and scouring the basin's granitic rocks for countless

centuries. The glaciers eventually retreated, leaving behind this lake that was originally several hundred feet deeper than it is at present. The granitic soil is low in water retention and plant life and helps keep the lake's water pure and clear. Human impact on the lake is lessening this clarity, however; soil erosion and plant disturbances around the shoreline are allowing more soil and sediments nutrients into the lake, thus feeding aquatic plants and algae.

Nomadic people have visited the shores of Lake Tahoe for over eight thousand years. The Washoe of Nevada, one of the four major Indian tribes of this area, inhabited the lake each summer, fishing, hunting and gathering different plants for food, medicine and basket weaving before returning to lower elevations for winter. Apparently, the Washoe never needed to venture out on the lake to fish — it was easily done from the shores. They never developed any canoes or watercraft. The first Euro American explorers, led by Captain John C. Fremont, saw the Lake from a nearby mountain in 1844 but bad weather precluded a visit. Later the same year other explorers followed the Truckee River up through its canyon and wandered the northern shore of Lake Tahoe. The California Gold Rush of 1848, to gold fields just 60 miles west of the lake, as well as the 1859 Comstock Lode gold rush of Virginia City, to fields just 20 miles east, brought in development. Way-stations and trading posts for transporting food and equipment, inns, saloons, and busy, wagon-laden roads were built at the northern and southern ends of the lake.

Huge amounts of timber were cut in the Lake Tahoe Basin for the Comstock; entire hillsides around the lake were denuded and trees were hauled across the lake toward Nevada by steamboats.

Recreational travelers began coming to resorts on the lake in the 1870s, brought here by the glowing reviews of American writers such as Mark Twain, who wrote, "At last the lake burst upon us, a noble sheet of blue walled in by a rim of snowclad peaks. I thought it must surely be the fairest view the whole earth affords." They were transported to Truckee by the Transcontinental Railroad, then by stagecoach up the Truckee Canyon to Tahoe City on the north shore, to stay there or continue on to South Lake Tahoe by steamer. Several of these large, iron hulled steamers, by the way, were simply sunk in the lake after the advent of the private automobile and roads around the entire lake made the lake steamers too costly to continue. In 1931 Nevada legalized gambling, but it was not until the 1960s and 70s that the large hotels were built along the south shore.

Protecting the water quality of Lake Tahoe is now the foremost concern of the Forest Service. Thousands of acres of trees have been replanted in the last couple decades to improve the watershed; one new concern is the probability of forest fires sweeping through this area that has so long restricted them.

THINGS TO DO & SIGHTS TO SEE

Emerald Bay

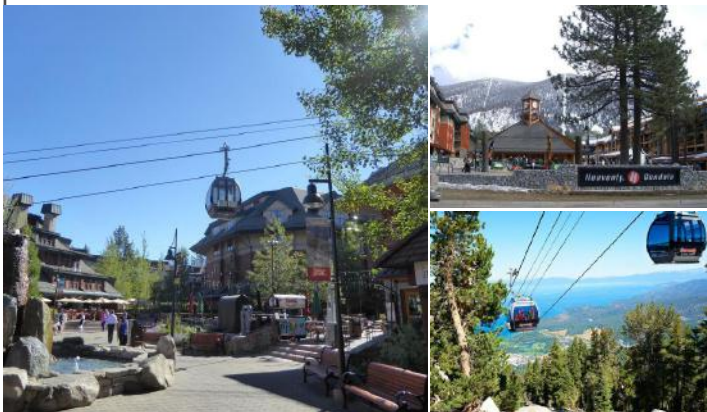


One of the most photogenic spots at Lake Tahoe is a tiny bay at the southwest corner of the lake called Emerald Bay. It's surrounded by peaks rising sharply almost 3,000 feet / 915 meters from the lake. At the head of the bay, set among the magnificent pines and cedars, you will find Vikingsholm, one of the finest examples of Scandinavian architecture in the western hemisphere. The vision of wealthy heiress Lora J. Knight the 38 room mansion is fashioned after the castles found in the fiords of Norway. Vikingsholm also includes a small island in Emerald Bay known as Fannette Island. The heiress used to invite her summer guests to this island for high tea. Emerald Bay is located 22 miles / 35 km south of Tahoe City. It's best reached by boat. Numerous cruise companies serve the island

departing from South, as well as North Lake Tahoe. Check with the Mississippi paddlewheeler, the Tahoe Queen, departing from 4 miles north of Stateline at 760 U.S. Hwy 50, Zephyr Cove or the M.S. Dixie II, also departing from historic Zephyr Cove, Phone (800)238-2436. Both cruises are approximately two hours in length and cost \$55. Departure times vary depending on the season. If you prefer to explore the lake and its beautiful coast line on your own, stop at Action Water Sports at the Timber Cove Marina for various boat rentals. Phone (530)544-5387.

Vikingsholm can also be reached by foot from the Harvey West parking lot by Highway 89 on the north side of the bay. The trail is one mile / 1.6 km in length but drops 500 feet / 152 meters in elevation to the house.

The Gondola at Heavenly



Eight passenger gondola cabins transport riders 2.4 miles / 4 km up the mountain, providing scenic views of Lake Tahoe, the Desolation Wilderness and the Carson Valley. A mid-station viewing deck is placed around a granite outcropping. Hiking trails and a climbing wall can be accessed from the top of the mountain at an elevation of 9123 feet / 2781 meters. Also at the top of the mountain is the starting point for the Heavenly Flyer, a 3100-foot / 945 meter zipline that sends riders down a 525-foot / 160-meter drop, skimming over tree tops.

The Gondola is open daily 9:00 to 17:00 during the summer (June 18 -September 5) and Friday through Sunday 10:00 to 16:00 (September 9 -25). The Zip Line is open daily 10:00 to 16:00 during the summer season. It's closed during the winter when Heavenly is a ski resort. This is in addition to the gondola fare. Phone (775)586-7000.

Tallac Historic Site



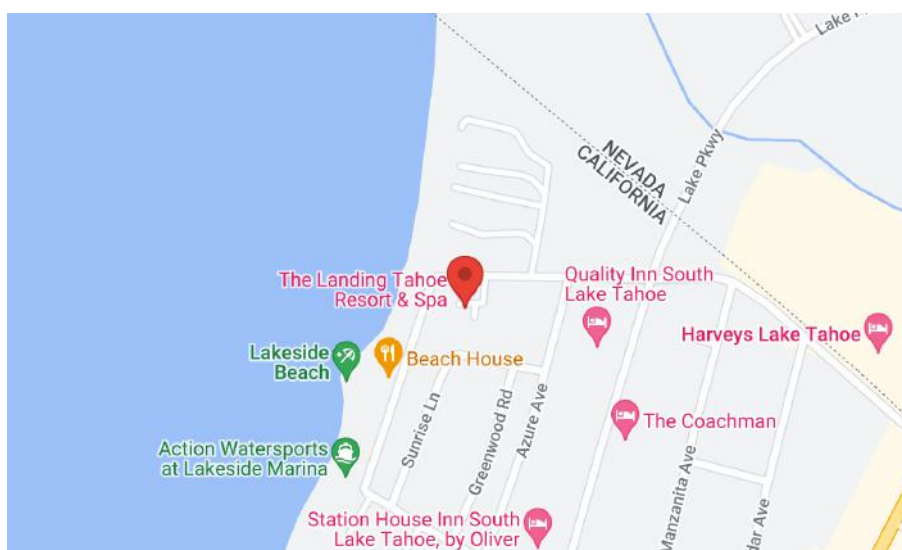
This site is home to the archeological remains of the Tallac Resort where California's early rich and famous spent their summer in the late 1800's and early 1900's, as well as three large summer estates built by wealthy San Franciscans who came here in large crowds upon completion of the transcontinental railroad. The Tallac Historic Site is on SR 89, north of Camp Richardson. The grounds are open daily to dusk. Admission: Free. Guided tours are available. Times vary depending on the season. Call for more information. Phone (530) 541-5227.

THE LANDING TAHOE RESORT & SPA



3 Nights | Mon, 16 Mar 2026 – Thu, 19 Mar 2026

★★★★★



Address:
4104 Lakeshore Blvd, South Lake Tahoe, California,
96150, United States of America

Phone:
+1 530 541 5263

Check In:
Mon, 16 Mar 2026

Check out:
Thu, 19 Mar 2026

Services & Facilities:

Business services:
Business centre, Conference room(s)

Dining:
Restaurant(s), Bar(s), Room service

Fitness and leisure activities:
Swimming pool(s), Jacuzzi(s), Gym, Spa(s), Private
beach, Private gardens

Internet:
Internet access

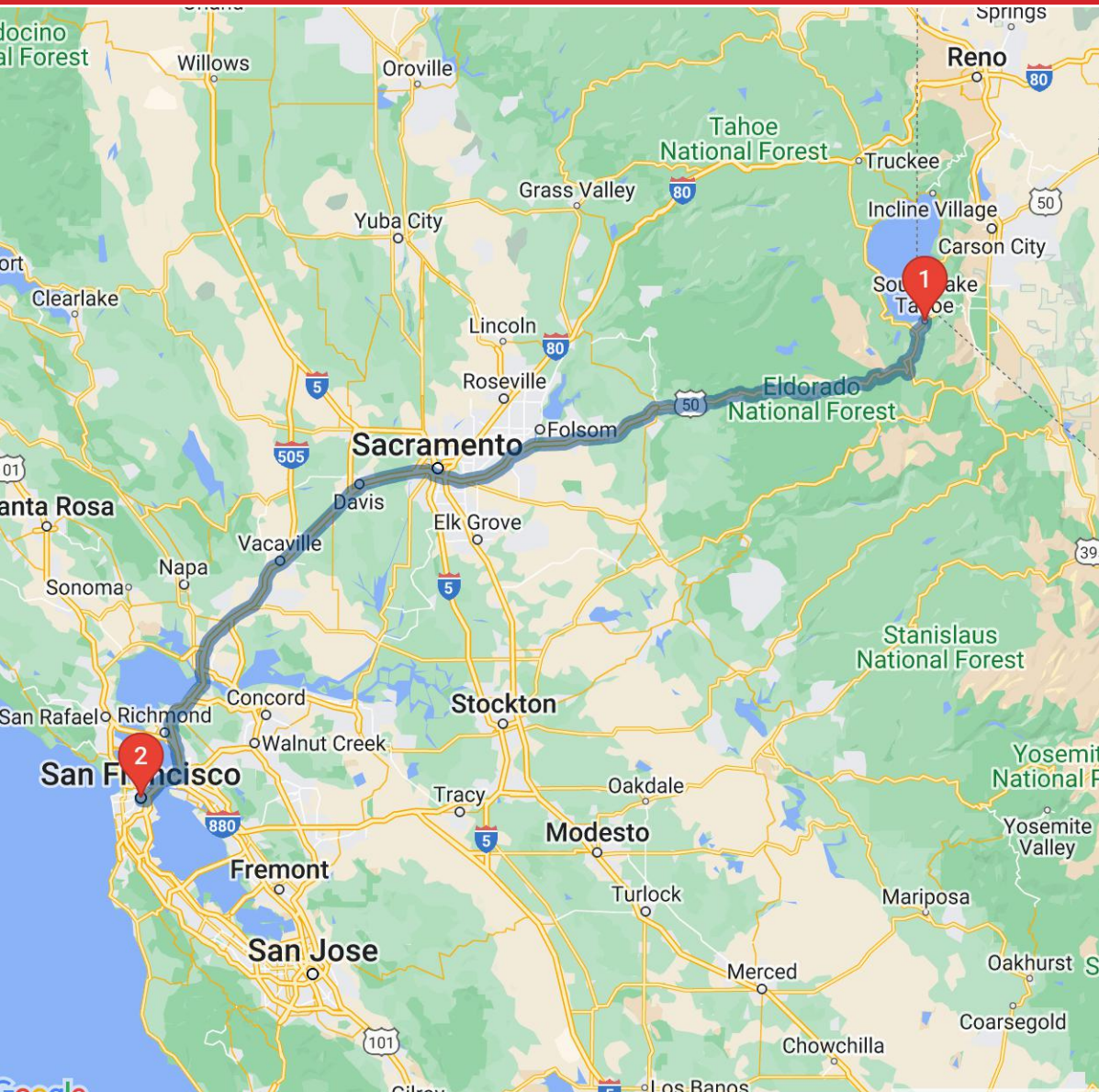
Laundry:
Laundry services

Other:
24-hour reception, Concierge, Lift

Other activities:
On-site entertainment, On-site other activities,
Nearby (off-site) activities

Parking:
Self parking

SOUTH LAKE TAHOE - SAN FRANCISCO



3 hrs 15 mins (Approximately) | Thu, 19 Mar 2026



DIRECTIONS

4 hr (188 miles) via US-50 W/El Dorado Fwy and I-80 W

from South Lake Tahoe through Placerville is a historic city in El Dorado County, California, known for its Gold Rush era past and picturesque downtown area. Sacramento is the capital city of California and is situated in Sacramento County. It is a vibrant city with a rich history, diverse culture, and numerous attractions, including the California State Capitol and the Crocker Art Museum. Dixon is a small city located in Solano County, California. It is known for its agricultural heritage and hosts the annual Dixon May Fair, one of the oldest fairs in the state.

And Vallejo is a waterfront city in Solano County, California, located on the northeastern shore of San Pablo Bay. It is home to the Six Flags Discovery Kingdom amusement park and is known for its naval history, as it once served as a major shipbuilding center. Going to San Francisco, California.

Fastest route now due to traffic conditions. This route has tolls to South Lake Tahoe. Follow US-50 W/El Dorado Fwy to I-80BUS W in Sacramento. Follow I-80 W to Market St in San Francisco. Take exit 434B from US-101 N/Central Fwy. Turn right onto Market St to San Francisco.

THINGS TO DO & SIGHTS TO SEE

Sacramento



Somewhat oddly, Sacramento is the capital of California, which attests to the area's importance during the California Gold Rush. If you choose to visit the state capitol, follow the "Business Loop" and signs for the California State Railroad Museum, located in the Old Sacramento neighborhood. Old Sacramento has undergone a painstaking restoration since the 1980s; now, many blocks of historic buildings, carriage rides, open air bars and restaurants can be enjoyed by visitors.

At its heart sits the majestic State Capitol building — Sacramento's most visible attraction — situated within a large park, replete with flower gardens, memorial statuary and curious squirrels. Built between 1860 and 1874 the capitol building is noted for its lofty glass dome, which rises 210 feet / 64 meters above the street. The main building contains historical and art exhibits, murals and statuary. One hour guided tours cover the main building, the legislative chambers and several offices of state officials, including a 1906 depiction of the governor's office suite. The State Capitol Building is open daily (9:00 – 17:00). Tours are offered hourly. Location: Bounded by 10th, 15th, L and N streets. [Phone: 916/324.0333]

Sacramento was originally founded in the 1830s, at the confluence of two major rivers used for shipping. The discovery of gold in 1848 and the resulting California Gold Rush turned Sacramento, one of the gateways to the gold fields, into a boomtown. Miners and supplies arrived by ships and barges which were then turned into floating offices and warehouses. The population was almost 25,000 by the 1870s. In 1863, the nation's first transcontinental railroad linked Sacramento to Salt Lake City; replicas of the original depots still stand today on K Street. Sacramento was also the western terminus for the short-lived Pony Express, which died out upon establishment of the telegraph. Today, the California State Railroad Museum is one of the largest and best rail road museums in the United States. Retracing the importance of railroads in US history, the museum features more than 100 lavishly restored locomotives and rail cars dating back to the 19th century. Steam locomotive rides carry passengers 6 miles / 10 km along the Sacramento River. Guided tours and interpretive film screenings are offered daily. Many other opportunities abound at the Museum, including related historical attractions within Old Sacramento State Historic Park. The California State Railroad Museum is open daily (10:00 – 17:00). It is located at the corner of 2nd and I Streets. [Phone: 916/445.6645 / Website: <http://www.csrnf.org/>]

THINGS TO DO & SIGHTS TO SEE

San Francisco – Oakland Bay Bridge



The San Francisco–Oakland Bay Bridge, known locally as the Bay Bridge, is a complex of bridges spanning San Francisco Bay in California. As part of Interstate 80 and the direct road between San Francisco and Oakland, it carries about 260,000 vehicles a day on its two decks. The San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridge is the region's workhorse bridge, carrying more than a third of the traffic of all of the state-owned bridges combined. It is also a jewel along the San Francisco waterfront.

The San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridge is made up of two bridge segments: a skyway structure/single anchored suspension bridge between Oakland and Yerba Buena Island, and a suspension span from the island to San Francisco. Connecting the two is the largest diameter bore tunnel in the world.

The design of the new East Span — which opened in September 2013 — features a single-tower, self-anchored suspension bridge for the segment of the bridge that crosses the shipping channel, and a skyway structure over the shallower waters close to the Oakland shore.

El Dorado Hills



Beautiful El Dorado Hills is nestled in the scenic mountain foothills of the Sierras and is often referred to as the gateway to El Dorado County. With elevations ranging from 200 feet to over 10,800 feet, there is tremendous diversity in the landscape and much to discover. Rich in history and with a wide variety of recreational choices, there is something for everyone.

The westward view opens to a vista of the Sacramento Valley and Folsom Lake. The higher ridges through the community offer spectacular views of the Sierra Nevada Mountains. It is a community that offers visitors the amenities of shops,

hotels, services, entertainment and restaurants that make their stay more pleasant.

Recreational activities in El Dorado Hills include biking country roads, walking trails along small streams, boating and jet skiing at Folsom Lake, as well as hiking trails around the lake. Folsom Lake, with 77 miles of shoreline, is one of the most heavily used recreational areas in the state and a part of the California State Park system. The Sierra provides guests with a variety of ski areas; all within an hour-and-a-half-hour drive from El Dorado Hills. These areas offer both Nordic and alpine skiing.

THINGS TO DO & SIGHTS TO SEE

Alfred Zampa Memorial Bridge



The Alfred Zampa Memorial Bridge, also known as the Zampa Bridge, is a prominent suspension bridge located in the San Francisco Bay Area of California, United States. Spanning the Carquinez Strait, it connects the cities of Crockett and Vallejo, providing a crucial transportation link between the northern and southern regions of the Bay Area.

The bridge is named in honor of Alfred Zampa, a renowned iron worker who dedicated his career to constructing numerous bridges across the United States.

Zampa, who was born in 1905 and passed away in 2000, played a significant role in the construction of this particular bridge, which was completed in 2003.

The Alfred Zampa Memorial Bridge stands as a remarkable engineering feat, measuring approximately 4,200 feet (1,280 meters) in length. It features a suspension span with two massive towers rising 245 feet (75 meters) above the water level. The bridge's deck hangs from steel cables supported by these towers and is designed to withstand high winds and seismic activity.

Placerville



Nestled among hills covered with apple orchards, Placerville is a lovely town with colorful old stores, Victorian houses, and cascades of roses. The town became prosperous as a depot and outfitting point during the rush eastward to the mines.





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800 TELEPHONE NUMBER INFORMATION:

US & Canada 800/555.1212

Telephone Number Information for Local or Long Distance
Calls, direct dial – US & Canada (area code)/555.1212
(note: you will be charged for this information)

EMBASSY / CONSULATE PHONE NUMBERS:

German Consulate in Los Angeles 323/930.2703

French Consulate in Los Angeles 310/235.3200

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