

SACRAMENTO **ULTIMATE GOLD RUSH ITINERARY**



Filled with colorful history, humor, ghosts, heroes, villains and tall tales, the California Gold Rush was one of the most intriguing and entertaining times in our history. On this tour you will follow the footsteps of California's early pioneers from San Francisco through Sacramento, the foothills, Lake Tahoe and Yosemite. Along the way you'll enjoy some of Northern California's present-day bounty of entertainment, adventure and world-famous cuisine.

SAMPLE 8-DAY ITINERARY

DAY 1: SAN FRANCISCO

Arrive and overnight.

DAY 2: SAN FRANCISCO TO SACRAMENTO

See the sights in SF including Fisherman's Wharf, Pier 39, cable cars, and more. Enjoy an early dinner in S.F. before heading—like so many 49ers did—to Sacramento for the evening.

DAY 3: SACRAMENTO

Today you will explore many historical sites in Sacramento, especially those that relate to the Gold Rush. Take a tour of Old Sacramento, whose historic buildings are occupied by museums, restaurants, and an assortment of shops. Be sure to check out the famed Railroad Museum! Other highlights of today include the California State Capitol Building and Sutter's Fort, where John Sutter originally set up shop to provide rest and accommodations to weary pioneers. Feast upon the region's freshest foods when you dine at Mulvaney's B&L this evening.

DAY 4: SACRAMENTO-TRUCKEE-NORTH LAKE TAHOE

Trace the footsteps of the 49ers as you depart Sacramento for the foothills. During your tour of the Empire Mine in Grass Valley, you'll learn about the richest hard rock mine in California's history. Then you'll travel on to Truckee to visit the Donner Memorial State Park, the infamous spot where the Donners were trapped in a snowstorm during 1846. From there, you'll travel to the border between California and Nevada to enjoy the scenic beauty of Lake Tahoe and the casinos of Nevada.



ATTRACTIONS

- Amador City
- Auburn
- Black Chasm Cavern
- CA State Railroad Museum
- Calaveras Big Tree State Park
- Coloma
- Eldorado National Forest
- Empire Mine SHP
- Gold Bug Park & Mine
- Gold Rush Days
- Hiking
- Kennedy Gold Mine Surface Tours
- Marshall Gold Discovery SHP
- Panning for Gold
- Placerville
- Roaring Camp Mining Company
- Sacramento History Museum
- Sutter Creek
- Sutter Creek Gold Mine Trail
- Sutter's Fort
- Sutter's Mill
- Wine Tasting

Visit
SACRAMENTO

1608 I STREET, SACRAMENTO, CA 95814

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DAY 5: NORTH LAKE TAHOE-SOUTH LAKE TAHOE

Cruise along the Western shore of Lake Tahoe past famous locations such as Emerald Bay and Vikingsholm, the historic castle-like home of the wealthy Knight family. Upon arriving in South Lake Tahoe, enjoy upscale shopping and a great variety of large casinos. Take a gondola ride up to the top of mountain at Heavenly Ski Resort to see some of the most awe-inspiring views in the world. Enjoy a dinner dance/cruise on the lake this evening.

DAY 6: SOUTH LAKE TAHOE-PLACERVILLE-SUTTER CREEK

Today is all about the Gold Rush! A trip to Coloma will take you to Marshall Gold Discovery State State Park, the exact spot where it all began. Afterward, cruise down to historic downtown Placerville (known as Hangtown during the Gold Rush) where you can explore antique shops, dine at a cute café, and check out the oldest hardware store west of the Mississippi. Take a historical self-guided audio tour at Gold Bug Mine. Continue on through the picturesque rolling foothills to the town of Sutter Creek, where you'll be able to pan for gold and tour an old mine. Finish your day at a local restaurant in Plymouth, where you'll be able to taste regional wines.

DAY 7: SUTTER CREEK-CALAVERAS BIG TREES-COLUMBIA-SONORA

This morning you'll see some of the best preserved Gold Rush era main streets on your way to Angels Camp, the town made famous by Mark Twain's jumping frog. From there, you'll head on to the town of Murphys, where you'll visit the historic Murphys Hotel—look for familiar names like Ulysses S. Grant in the guest registry! Afterward, tour a nearby vineyard and enjoy a private lunch. Then it's on to Calaveras Big Trees State Park, where you'll see some of the largest Sequoia trees in the world. Next it's on to Columbia, which was California's third largest city during the Gold Rush and it is currently the best-preserved city from that era. Most of it's 30-something buildings date back to the 1850's! Afterward, you will continue on to overnight in Sonora.

DAY 8: SONORA-YOSEMITE-SACRAMENTO

Today you will visit Yosemite, arguably the most stunning National Park in California. Spend the afternoon exploring this natural wonder and imagine what early pioneers must have thought as they crossed the Sierra Nevada and stumbled upon this majestic place. Afterward, you will head back to Sacramento for a final group dinner.

APPROXIMATE DRIVING TIMES

SF - Sacramento 1.5 hours
Sacramento - Truckee 1.5 hours
Truckee - Lake Tahoe 30 minutes
Lake Tahoe - Placerville ... 70 minutes
Placerville - Sutter Creek.. 45 minutes
Sutter Creek - Calaveras..... 1.5 hours
Sonora - Yosemite 2 hours
Yosemite - Sacramento 3 hours



This is a sample itinerary to use as a guideline when you plan your own tour. When you're ready to personalize a tour for your group, please contact:

Nick Leonti // Director of Tourism
nleonti@visitsacramento.com // 916.808.7304

Linda Eldred // Tourism Sales Manager
leldred@visitsacramento.com // 916.808.8989

Lindsey Adams // Tourism & Marketing Coordinator
ladams@visitsacramento.com // 916.808.1482