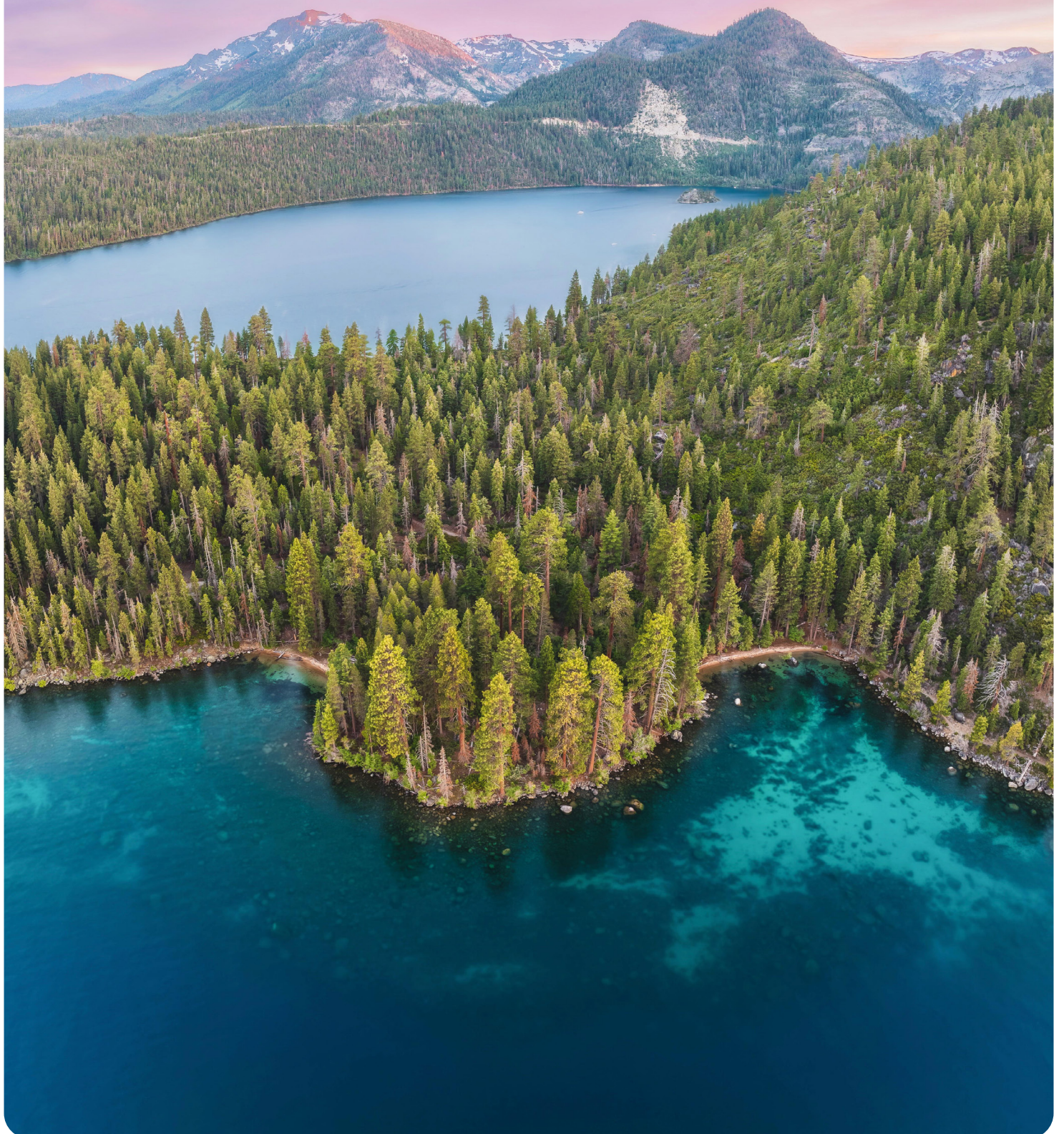


Visit  
**lake tahoe**<sup>®</sup>  
DESTINATION GUIDE







# Welcome to Lake Tahoe

Lake Tahoe is widely considered one of the most beautiful places in the world. Located at 6,225 feet (1,897 m) above sea level, this pristine body of water borders California and Nevada and is surrounded by the Sierra Nevada Mountains. Lake Tahoe is the largest alpine lake in North America, known for its crystal-clear waters and majestic scenery.

With over 300 days of sunshine per year, you can spend the day adventuring outside no matter the season, whether on the water or in the mountains. Year-round highlights include hiking (or snowshoeing), lake cruises, axe throwing, indoor miniature golf, spas with all the amenities, rock climbing, soaking in a hot spring, kayaking, and of course, dining at one of the many restaurants ranging from unique, locally owned establishments to celebrity-backed flagships like Wolf by Vanderpump and Gordon Ramsay's Hells Kitchen.

For those here to party: we've got casinos, the South Lake Tahoe Beer Trail, a club crawl service, magic shows, live music galore, a wine bar with one of the best lake views in town, and a few sweet spots that will make you an artisanal cocktail (or mocktail!) that gives big city vibes. Check our events calendar to see what festivals, comedians, rockstars, or sporting events are scheduled. With venues that seat up to 9,300, the South Shore of Lake Tahoe attracts major artists such as Rod Stewart, Foo Fighters, Lainey Wilson, Pitbull, Adam Sandler, and many more.

Explore miles of trails that stretch along the shores of the Lake by foot or by bicycle. Cool off at one of the South Shore's sandy beaches, or kayak to Emerald Bay, one of the world's most photographed locations.

Continue your adventure with one of Lake Tahoe's many unique nightlife options. Summer outdoor concerts and cultural festivals are the perfect complement to a day exploring Lake Tahoe. In the winter, enjoy skiing at one of Lake Tahoe's 14 world-class resorts, and in the evening, relax with comfort at one of South Shore's resorts and spas.

Consider staying at one of the many lodging options near the Heavenly Village, which features vibrant dining, art galleries, shopping, and activities for all ages, all within walking distance. In the middle of the Village is the Heavenly Gondola, which provides access to year-round panoramic views and seasonal skiing and hiking. The south shore of Lake Tahoe offers many options that are well suited to all types of travelers - whether you're seeking thrills, rejuvenation, or both.

# Spring Stoke

Spring in Tahoe has a magic all its own - most years' activities, commonly considered winter or summer only, are all available at once. We know of at least one local who managed to mountain bike, ski, kayak, and golf all in one day. Spring highlights include waterfall hikes, fishing, mountain biking, and kayaking. Not to mention, themed

days on the mountain where you can rock your favorite Hawaii shirts & jorts or dress like a Jerry in whatever wild way you want. Sierra-at-Tahoe is famous for its spring flare as the ski season winds down.





## Summer Sizzle

As the High Sierra sun warms the lake, wildflowers begin to pop, and the beach days truly begin. Ways to play at the lake are neverending - from soaring over the water in a hot air balloon to paddling along the shore on a standup paddleboard, winetasting onboard a vintage vessel, parasailing, jet skiing, horseback riding, disc golf, or biking on over 400 miles of trails. But if you just want to soak in the sun with a good book on a sandy beach, that's ok too. The entertainment lineup is at its peak in summer, with the Lake Tahoe Summer Concert Series and the American Century Celebrity Golf Tournament taking center stage. South Tahoe

has four different golf courses, including Edgewood Tahoe Resort's course, which is right along the water that is open to all to play. Lake Tahoe Golf Course is a proper mountain golf course with 360 views of the surrounding mountains. Tahoe Paradise Golf Course is a short yet challenging course tucked away in the forest. Bijou Municipal Golf Course is an affordable nine-hole course that is perfect for an outing with family and friends. And don't forget the pee-wee course, Magic Carpet Golf, a fun activity for families and kids at heart.



# Autumn Respite

Fall is one of the best times to visit Tahoe for those who appreciate exploring when it's a bit quieter. South Tahoe has several areas for premium leaf peeping, including Fallen Leaf Lake, Hope Valley, and Spooner Lake. Wildlife, busy preparing for winter, are highly active in this season, and bears can be seen catching salmon at Taylor Creek, where the salmon swim their way upstream. The splendor of aspens gradually

turning from green to orange to neon-orange to soft yellow and then falling to the ground is something locals look forward to every year. This stunning show alone makes Fall in Tahoe worth adding to the bucket list. Beyond that, cooler temps mean ideal conditions for hiking or mountain biking to the peaks.





## Winter Wonderland

Tahoe is perhaps best known for its winters and world-class powder. Heavenly Ski Resorts provides epic views of Lake Tahoe as you cruise down the mountain. Guests staying in the Heavenly Village are just steps away from the gondola, providing immediate access to the wide, groomed trails of Heavenly Mountain Resort. Sierra at Tahoe is a great place to learn for those new to winter sports, and Kirkwood offers rugged terrain for enthusiasts to test their mettle. Don't forget to sip something warm and get toasty by one of the many firepits at our dining and lodging establishments.

For those not drawn to downhill thrills, there are still ample ways to delight the inner child with winter revelry: snow angels, snowball fights, igloo building, and what could be better than soaking in a hot tub or sipping on a latte in a quaint coffee shop while the snow softly falls? Not much. For non-skiers and boarders, there's still plenty of options to get out there: snowmobiling (both in town and backcountry), tubing, snowshoeing, lake cruises, or taking a ride in a sleigh, jingle bells and all.





## Dining

South Lake Tahoe offers a wide variety of dining choices, from exceptional fine dining in an intimate setting to burgers with live music.



### **DOWNTOWN**

South Tahoe's downtown is located in the heart of Heavenly Village and features an array of dining, shopping, and entertainment options. Basecamp Pizza offers gourmet pies and Italian cuisine in an upbeat atmosphere with live music. California Burger serves hearty burgers, sandwiches, and hand-made milkshakes daily. They offer both indoor and outdoor seating, complete with TVs and seasonal fire pits, which make this a favorite restaurant in South Lake Tahoe. Closer to the lake's shores, Jimmy's Restaurant at The Landing Lake Tahoe Resort and Spa serves locally

sourced California cuisine. Their dog-friendly patio with Lake Tahoe views is ideal for daytime dining or a sunset cocktail. Their 2,500-bottle wine cellar and private dining alcoves provide an exceptional dining experience not to be missed.

Recently opened celebrity-backed restaurants, Wolf by Vanderpump and Gordon Ramsay's Hells Kitchen are also right in the heart of downtown. If you're looking to dress up and dine somewhere gourmet, we recommend booking your reservation early for these two popular restaurants.

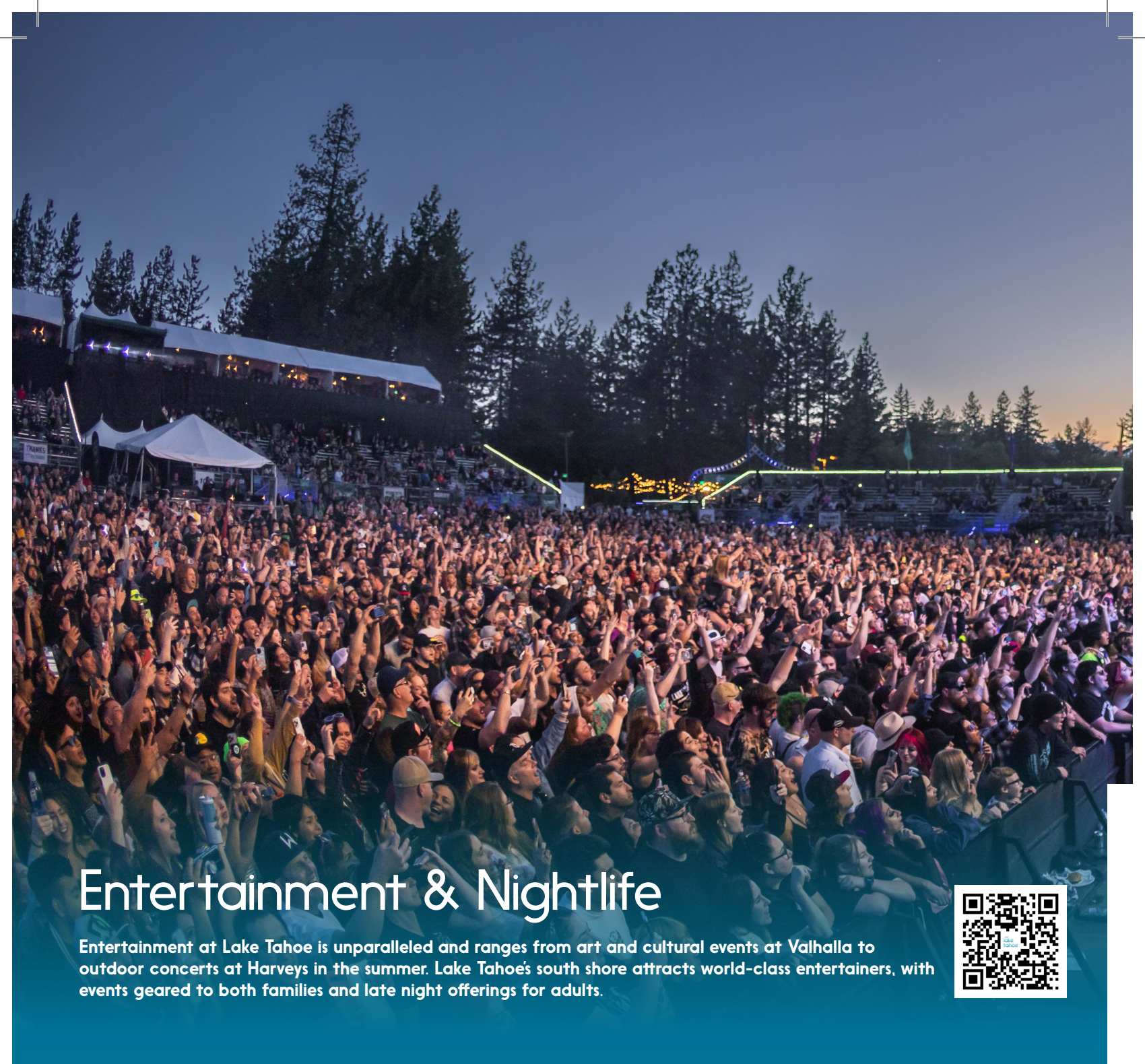




## AROUND TOWN

Primo's Cafe is a recent expansion of a locally-owned and operated Italian restaurant where the modern interior, excellent service, and creative menu all shine; it is a bit off the beaten path on the far side of town, which is called the Y. Looking for a cold beer after a day of hiking or skiing? Stop by South Lake Brewing Co. This converted hardware store turned craft brewery produces 16 revolving beer taps. Try several at once with a flight of beers, or take some of their canned beers on an adventure.

The Cork & More prepares sandwiches made to order, perfect for big adventure days. Try one of their daily specialty sandwiches, or pick from their fine selection of cheeses, spreads, and bottles of wine for an impromptu lake-side picnic.



# Entertainment & Nightlife

Entertainment at Lake Tahoe is unparalleled and ranges from art and cultural events at Valhalla to outdoor concerts at Harveys in the summer. Lake Tahoe's south shore attracts world-class entertainers, with events geared to both families and late night offerings for adults.



## CONCERTS & NIGHTLIFE

South Lake Tahoe has live music year-round at many venues of all sizes and for all tastes. From quiet acoustic to jazz ensembles to rockstars to local DJs at the popular bar Rojo's, if you're looking to find some fun and a place to dance, you will not be disappointed.

The Harveys Summer Concert Series has featured artists like Rod Stewart, the Foo Fighters, and Lady Gaga. This outdoor venue seats 4,000 and is a short walk from the Heavenly Village.

Just down the road, Live at Lakeview is a free weekly concert series hosted at Lakeview Commons through

the summer months, where attendees dance together in the sand as the sun sets.

For a quieter experience, the Valhalla Art, Music, and Theatre Festival presents a range of acts in a relaxed atmosphere. Learn about Lake Tahoe's heritage while walking the tree-lined footpaths through the Tallac Historic Site.

Catch an all-ages magic act at The Loft in the Heavenly Village. This intimate theatre offers several shows a day.



## GAMING & CASINOS

The South Lake Tahoe casinos all feature gaming tables, nightclubs, and shows, providing ample late-night entertainment and dining options. Gaming includes craps, roulette, blackjack, poker, and slot machines. In the evening, casino showrooms host a variety of shows, from comedians to magicians.





# Lodging & Resorts

On Lake Tahoe's South Shore, a wide variety of accommodations can be found. Lodging ranges from luxury resorts to welcoming inns, hotels, or cabins. Most are within an easy walk or drive to a variety of shops, restaurants, and outdoor activities. Lake Tahoe has lodging options for every kind of traveler and group size.



## CASINO RESORTS

For those seeking convenience and loads of entertainment within walking distance, consider staying at one of our four casino resorts: Bally's, Harrah's, Harveys, or Golden Nugget. Each of these properties offers pool, hot tub, and gym facilities, restaurants, and shopping within steps of your accommodations.

## LUXURY LODGING

The Grand Residences by Marriott, located in the heart of Heavenly Village, offers luxurious amenities and is within easy walking distance of many boutiques and restaurants. Walk to the Heavenly Gondola to enjoy gorgeous mountain views and easy access to winter

sports at Heavenly Mountain Resort.

The Lodge at Edgewood Tahoe and Edgewood Villas boasts a beautiful lakefront location with three restaurants, a full-service salon and spa, and an 18-hole golf course. Their heated infinity pool offers incredible views of Lake Tahoe.

Desolation Hotel and The Landing are also nestled close to many amenities, and each offers upscale dining on site, and stunning rooms. If you prefer a more rustic mountain aesthetic, give The Landing a look, or if you prefer a clean, modern aesthetic, Desolation Hotel might be just what you're looking for.

## MODERN BOUTIQUE HOTELS

Just a short walk away from the Heavenly Village and nestled in the surrounding pine trees, these boutique hotels have a lot of character and still keep you close to all the action.

The Coachman Hotel offers easy access to Tahoe's exciting nightlife, or stay in and enjoy s'mores by their cozy fire pits.

Relax at Basecamp Hotel, which embraces the mountain lifestyle with a beer garden, yard games, and room styling options you'll never forget.

Enjoy the peace and quiet of Hotel Azure, which has a lake view and contemporary decor. Then, finish your day with a short walk to the beach for sunset.

## MOUNTAIN CABIN COMFORT

The locally owned and operated Black Bear Lodge is one of the most unique properties in Tahoe. Featuring a cabin chic lobby and gathering space, replete with comfy couches, a large fireplace, and a beer & wine bar. Black Bear also has the most charming garden, so whether you're taking in the verdant green in summer or having a snowball fight in the winter, this hotel is an excellent setting any time of year. At only 31 rooms, it is also peaceful and quiet.

Enjoy a taste of mountain living in a cozy cabin designed with modern amenities. Zephyr Cove Resort's lakefront cabins range from studios to two-story chalets. Airstream trailers are also available for those who dream of glamping sans hassle. The resort's beach and marina offer water activities for all ages. Enjoy hiking, horseback riding, snowmobiling, and more.



# Travel Guide





## GETTING TO AND AROUND TAHOE

**Reno-Tahoe International Airport (RNO)** is just a one-hour scenic drive away. For those not renting a car, the Reno Tahoe Airporter has convenient shuttles all day, seven days a week.

**San Francisco International Airport (SFO)** is a three to four-hour drive from Tahoe and is an excellent choice for those who want to see more of California during their stay.

**Sacramento International Airport (SMF)** is a two hour drive and also provides easy access to Tahoe.



## GETTING AROUND – PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION ON THE SOUTH SHORE

The South Shore of Lake Tahoe offers free, easy-to-use public micro-transit through Lake Link. Bikes and scooters are also available for rent, and some lodging properties provide bikes for free to guests as an amenity.

## CLIMATE

The climate in Lake Tahoe varies by season. The area experiences dry and sunny summers and snowy winter months. Lake Tahoe is at a high elevation, so especially for those traveling from near sea level, drinking more water than you usually would, and applying sunscreen throughout the day when active outdoors are essential to help you fully enjoy your time in the mountains.

## HISTORY

The Washoe Tribe of Nevada and California are the original peoples of Lake Tahoe, or dáꞩaw (pronounced da-ow), and evidence dates their presence in the



basin back 10,000 years and probably more. John C. Fremont "discovered" Lake Tahoe in 1844, and change occurred rapidly as settlers and mining and logging industries moved in. The foundation for South Shore,





## SUGGESTED ITINERARIES

Northern  
California



Phoenix  
to Seattle



San Francisco  
to Las Vegas



as we know it today, was primarily constructed in the 1970s onward. The area then had its first heyday as stars like Frank Sinatra and Elvis Presley frequented the newly built casinos. Tahoe has since been a highly sought-after destination attracting visitors from around the world.

### VISITOR CENTERS

Explore Tahoe Visitor Center, located at 4114 Lake Tahoe Blvd. South Lake Tahoe, CA 96150, provides interpretive displays and is staffed by longtime residents who recommend programs, services, and activities. The visitors center is open 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily.

### WATER

Tahoe's tap water is some of the best in the United States. We recommend bringing reusable water bottles to avoid unnecessary waste and to enjoy the fresh mountain waters.

### SUSTAINABILITY EFFORTS

The Tahoe region is striving to become a national

leader for collaboration around sustainability. The Destination Stewardship plan, launched in June 2023, is a work plan of shared goals that identifies 32 actions across four strategic pillars: foster a tourism economy that gives back; turn a shared vision into shared action; advance a culture of caring for the greater Lake Tahoe region; and improve the Tahoe experience for all – tourists and residents. Lands are managed by federal, California, and Nevada states, the Washoe Tribe of Nevada and California, and other local and private entities. The Destination Stewardship Council is building bridges for collaboration, creating synergy between government agencies, non-profits, and private sector businesses, and enabling resource sharing and problem solving to address challenges brought on by the increase in outdoor recreation post-pandemic. Together, we are seeking long-term solutions and putting conversations into action.

### MEDICAL CARE OPTIONS FOR TRAVELERS TO THE USA

There are many options if you need medical attention while traveling in the U.S. Before leaving home, check with your health insurance provider to see if you are

covered while traveling in the U.S. If so, make sure you carry your insurance card with you. If not, consider buying temporary or travel health insurance that will cover you during your travels. Healthcare costs can be expensive if you are not adequately covered. Also, check whether your insurance provider covers medical evacuation if you must be brought home via medical transport.

Barton Hospital is located in South Lake Tahoe and provides excellent care for minor and major incidents. There are walk-in clinics and an emergency room right in town.

## EMERGENCIES

In the United States, 911 is the universal emergency

number and can be dialed toll-free from any phone. The 911 operators are trained to alert emergency responders — police, fire department, and ambulance — if necessary. This number is also used for auto accidents, crimes in progress, and fires. You can request language translation services if you do not speak English. You cannot text 911 to report an emergency; you must call.

## TRAVELING WITH DISABILITIES

Visitors with physical or other challenges can still have a fantastic time in Lake Tahoe. Special services are widely available, and access to trails, buildings, and attractions continually improves. Contact the Explore Tahoe Visitors Center for more information.





*Visit*  
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