

If you're ready to head out into the great wide open of northern Nevada, there are far too many options to enjoy in just one day. Here are some suggestions that will help you get outside to enjoy the great weather, scenery and fresh air.

BIRDING

Reno - Several urban parks and wildlife areas are easily accessible to visitors. The Oxbow Nature Study Area runs parallel to the Truckee River just a few miles upstream of downtown Reno. It's the first park of its kind in Nevada and is quickly being duplicated in other areas of the state. The lush banks, thick cottonwoods and willows and quiet paths create an Eden just a short hike from the hustle and bustle of downtown. Two miles of trails snake through the area and interpretive signs explain the flora and fauna to be found along the river. Parts of the park are wheelchair accessible and wooden benches along the way make it ideal for a leisurely stroll.

nevadaaudubon.org, 775-334-3808

Carson City - Washoe Valley spans the short drive on Highway 395 from Reno to Carson City and includes wildlife areas, two shallow lakes, extensive marshes and a state park. The highway is heavily traveled, so use caution and be sure to pull off at East Lake Boulevard to access the park headquarters, camp sites and boat launch. Birds abound in the area, and visitors are likely to see pelicans, herons, white-faced ibis, magpies and killdeer, as well as raptors such as the golden eagle and red-tailed hawk.

parks.nv.gov/parks, 775-687-4319

Fallon - The Carson Lake Wetlands and nearby Stillwater National Wildlife Refuge are key respites to migratory birds along the Pacific Flyway. Shorebirds are common in the 80,000 acres of wetlands, approximately 70 miles east of Reno, and waterfowl arrive at this unique desert oasis by

the hundreds of thousands in the late fall.

fws.gov/refuge/stillwater, 775-423-5128

Pyramid Lake - Northeast of Reno is Pyramid Lake, a 115,000-acre saltwater lake that contains the Anaho Island National Wildlife Refuge. This refuge is one of the largest nesting colonies of the American white pelican in the United States. The island and surrounding waters are closed to the public, but binoculars are sufficient to see the graceful avian inhabitants of the land.

fws.gov/refuge/anaho_island, 775-423-5128

Bird Tour: Birding Under Nevada Skies - Tour the best birding areas throughout Nevada or create custom tours catered to specific interests, including two four hour tours to multi-day tours. Guides are members and directors of the Lahontan Audubon Ornithologists, University of Nevada, Reno, Hawk Watch International and other birding and scientific organizations. They also provide the opportunity for in-the-field photography, geology/rock hounding, wildflower identification, trout fishing, stargazing, camping and other outdoor activities.

775-720-7009

BOAT TOURS

Lake Tahoe Catamaran Cruise - Enjoy Tahoe's tranquility at its best while sailing on the 55' catamaran, the Sierra Cloud. The two-hour sailing cruise will take you along the untouched northern shores of Lake Tahoe and provide a panoramic view of the entire lake. Whether you prefer to lie on the nets and watch the water beneath you or sit on our cushioned seats on the deck, our expert staff will provide you with a truly unforgettable experience.

laketahoe.regency.hyatt.com, 775-832-1234 ext. 51



Lake Tahoe Cruises - Cruise around the lake on the M.S. Dixie II. Awestruck upon seeing South Lake Tahoe for the first time in 1862, Mark Twain uttered, "It must surely be the fairest picture the whole world affords." From the decks of the spacious paddle wheeler, the M.S. Dixie II, you'll be mesmerized by the beauty of Tahoe's crystal blue waters and towering peaks - whether you choose a daytime scenic cruise or sunset dinner cruise that includes live entertainment and delicious entrées. This boat tour is a must-see on your trip to Lake Tahoe.

zephyrcove.com/cruises, 775-589-4906

North Tahoe Cruises - The Tahoe Gal is the only paddle wheeler on Lake Tahoe featuring eco-friendly engines! She is equipped with a full galley and bar and offers exclusive charters for corporate meetings, dinners, weddings and cocktail cruises. The private Commodore Salon is perfect for small private parties and business meetings up to 30 people and can be rented on a regular cruise without the expense of chartering the entire vessel.

tahoegal.com, 800-218-2464

Tahoe Boat Cruises - Experience scenic Lake Tahoe boat cruises aboard one of Tahoe Boat Cruises' unique vessels: the 80' luxury yacht Safari Rose; the 40', "aged to perfection," Tahoe; or the world's highest sailing catamaran, the Woodwind II. The fleet is perfect for private charters, such as corporate retreats, getaways with friends and more. Tahoe Boat Cruises can take you anywhere on Lake Tahoe with their Coast Guard-trained and certified crew.

tahoecruises.com, 888-867-6394

FISHING

In the Sierra Nevada, we have some of the best trout fly fishing in the West. Novice to expert, group to private, options can be found for lessons from a multitude of local companies:

Stillwater Fly Fishing Guide Service - 775-851-1558

Pyramid Lake Guide Service -
pyramidlakeguideservice.com, 775.722.2267

Sierra Adventures - wildsierra.com, 866-323-8928

Gilligan's Guide Service - gilligansguideservice.com,
775-351-6665

Sierra Fin Addicts Fishing Charters -
northlaketahoeifishingcharters.com, 775-225-0979

Pyramid Fly Company - pyramidflyco.com, 877-732-3597

visitrenotahoe.com/things-to-do/outdoor-activities/fishing

GOLF

You'll never play a better game of golf than when you're in Reno Tahoe. It's science. At our altitude, balls fly 10% farther. Your ball will slice through our thin air like a hot knife through butter. And with more than 40 courses within 90 minutes of Reno, there's a course for every level of play. Edgewood is rated one of Golf Digest's top 25 public U.S. golf courses.

visitrenotahoe.com/things-to-do/outdoor-activities/golf

Reno/Sparks - Courses include the state's oldest links - the Washoe County Golf Course, which was established in 1934 - and the newest courses, including ArrowCreek and Red Hawk. We're even home to Montreux Golf Club, host of the Barracuda Championship, of the PGA TOUR. Other great Reno courses include LakeRidge, Wolf Run, and Washoe.

Carson City and Carson Valley - The state capital, just a 30-minute drive south, offers the Divine Nine courses, totaling about 70,000 yards of greens and roughs, including Dayton Valley Country Club, Empire Ranch and the Golf Club at Genoa Lakes.

divinenine.com



Lake Tahoe - Only a 60-minute drive up winding mountain roads, the Lake Tahoe area offers a dozen championship courses, including Edgewood Tahoe, where the star-studded American Century Championship is held.

GONDOLA RIDES (Winter & Summer)

Heavenly Mountain Gondola - A ride up 2.4 miles in the Heavenly Ski Resort Gondola will leave you breathless as you take in the panoramic views of Lake Tahoe. On your way up, stop at the Observation Deck for a latté at Café Blue or to pick up unique Heavenly souvenirs at Gondola Sports. Want to go as high as you can? Purchase a Summit Ticket at Adventure Peak to ride up Tamarack Express chair lift for the best view of Lake Tahoe in the summer. skiheavenly.com, 800-220-1593

Squaw Valley Tram - A ride in the scenic Aerial Tram is a spectacular and leisurely ride 2,000 vertical feet to the High Camp. The Aerial Tram is one of Squaw Valley's most popular year-round attractions and is open to all guests, skiers, snowboarders and walkers. Once you reach the top, enjoy panoramic views as well as access to numerous activities, including roller skating and poolside dining. squawalpine.com, 800-403-0206

HIKING

The beauty of northern Nevada was meant to be seen and explored. Whether at the Sparks Marina, along the Truckee River in downtown Reno or among the pines on the eastern slopes of the Sierra, this is a region where the air is healthy and the scenery is spectacular. Experience it for yourself with a guided tour.

visitrenotahoe.com/things-to-do/outdoor-activities/hiking

Tahoe Adventure Company - Many hiking options exist in the Lake Tahoe basin. Whether you are looking for a lei-

surely naturalist-led hike among wildflower-filled meadows or a more strenuous ascent of one of our nearby peaks, the Tahoe Adventure Company can arrange it. All hikes offer amazing vistas of Lake Tahoe and views into surrounding wilderness. Experience the beauty of Tahoe's high country that can only be accessed on foot. Hike past waterfalls and streams to one of our many granite surrounded alpine lakes. If you are looking for more of a challenge, you can continue to the top of one of our nearby peaks for panoramic views that can't be beat. Many options exist for every ability level.

tahoeadventurecompany.com, 866-830-6125

HORSEBACK RIDING & OUTFITTERS

With a shout and a thirst for adventure, the first pioneers led their wagons and horses through Nevada's frontier. The best way to enjoy this spectacular scenery is on horseback. Enjoy options ranging from the high desert mountains of Virginia City to the sands of Lake Tahoe. Good for all ages and abilities.

visitrenotahoe.com/things-to-do/outdoor-activities/horseback-riding

MOUNTAIN BIKING

Whether you're looking for a relaxing ride with breathtaking views, or an adrenaline rush down a beaten path, you'll find it in Reno Tahoe. Surrounded by peaks, the mountain biking adventures here are endless.

visitrenotahoe.com/things-to-do/outdoor-activities/biking

Tahoe Adventure Company - A variety of single track trails and dirt roads start high above the basin and provide an opportunity for a perfect all downhill ride. You can also



choose a full day loop that includes up and downhill or a leisurely tour along the Truckee River bike path. Whatever you choose, the forested trails and views of the lake will provide the perfect backdrop for your ride. Natural and human history relevant to the ride is provided as well.

tahoeadventurecompany.com, 866-830-6125

Tahoe Mountain Guides - Tahoe Mountain Guides offers customized mountain bike tours throughout Lake Tahoe. They can ensure you have a breathtaking ride - from a mellow afternoon outing to trails that will test your skills. With years of biking experience and in-depth knowledge of the area, they can create the ideal ride for you, no matter what your skill level. Join them for majestic vistas along introductory rides or intense single track trails in the Sierra. Max. 12 riders per group but can book multiple groups.

tahoemountainguides.com, 530-686-5895

Wild Sierra Adventures - Ride Reno's own Peavine Mountain, a challenging mountain biking area steps from downtown. Wild Sierra Adventures also offers trips to other challenging mountain biking trails in the Reno/Tahoe area. The Biking Reno Discovery Tours showcase the beautiful places and views that only the locals know about. Wild Sierra Adventures offers mountain bike tours, bike rentals, adventure shuttle service and adventure packages.

wildsierra.com, 775-323-8928

OFF ROAD EXCURSIONS

High Sierra ATV Tours - High Sierra ATV Tours offers tours of the Frenchman Lake Recreational Area in Plumas National Forest including Snow Lake, Crystal Peak and the Dixie Mountain Wildlife Refuge. Tours last from 2 to 6 hours. Ride a one or two-seat 500cc Arctic Cat ATV. Tours start just 30 minutes north of Reno, in Chilcoot, Calif., on Highway 70 and Frenchman's Lake Road.

exploresierra.com, 800-596-8840

Wild Sierra Adventures - Reno Tahoe's premier outdoor adventure consultant specializing in a wide array of outdoor activities. The most popular summer activities are ATV rentals and tours, motorcycle rentals and tours and sightseeing tours around Lake Tahoe and Virginia City.

wildsierra.com, 775-323-8928

STARGAZING

If you're an astronomy lover, Reno Tahoe offers a great jumping off point for some fantastic views of natural night lights. The stars are incredibly bright in the dry Nevada air, and if you drive just a short distance, amazing vistas of black with white diamonds abound.

Tahoe Adventure Company - Stargazers unite! Tahoe Adventure Company and Tony Berendsen present: Telescopic tours of the midnight sky! This fusion brings you the most exciting tour of the season. It all starts with guided sunset kayaking, hiking or snowshoeing followed by a brilliant tour of the midnight sky. Professional, knowledgeable guides will teach you about the natural and human history of the area while you watch the sun cast a purple alpenglow onto the Sierra. Paddle through the crystal clear waters of Lake Tahoe or hike through Tahoe's vibrant, peaceful forest, arriving at a viewing point where Tony will open your mind to the unknown world above you. Hot drinks and snacks will be served as the Star Tour begins.

tahoeadventurecompany.com, 866-830-6125

Tahoe Star Tours - A star tour generally begins 30 minutes after sunset and lasts for 90 minutes but may be customized to a particular event or venue. The best sites are quiet dark places away from buildings and obstructions to the horizon. Large flat fields, or the shores of a lake or ocean are preferred locations, and a fire pit for the opening presentation really enhances the experience. Each evening of stargazing is choreographed to a science theme, includ-



ing a poem presentation, quiz (with prizes), a science talk, laser tour of the stars and constellations, followed by telescopic observing using state-of-the-art computerized telescopes by Celestron®.

tahoestartours.com, 775-232-0844

WATER ADVENTURES

The Truckee River winds its way through downtown Reno and Sparks, and a variety of lakes are located in the area, including beautiful Lake Tahoe. The Truckee and Carson Rivers provide outstanding adventure opportunities. Together they offer fabulous kayaking, canoeing, whitewater rafting and river floating. While on the water, enjoy all the popular forms of open-water paddling and water sports like skiing and sailing or an outing on a personal watercraft.

visitrenotahoe.com/things-to-do/outdoor-activities/water-activities

Canoeing/Kayaking

Action Watersports of Incline Village - Offers a variety of on-the-water activities. Rent personal water craft, ski boats, sail boats and party boats; parasail or take a ride on the Sierra Cloud Catamaran. Action Watersports is based right on the water, alongside the beautiful Hyatt Regency Lake Tahoe. **awsincline.com, 775-831-4386**

Kayak Tahoe - A full-service kayak shop located on the water in South Lake Tahoe. Offering rentals, lessons, tours and sales of kayaks and accessories, Kayak Tahoe specializes in individual and group outings in Emerald Bay. Large group guided or unguided tours, as well as custom tours, are also available. Guided Emerald Bay tours, moonlight tours, free demo days, around-the-lake kayak excursions are available. **kayaktahoe.com, 530-544-2011**

Sierra Adventures - Enjoy an exciting and scenic kayaking experience. Get up close and personal with the Truckee River and deep blue Lake Tahoe.

wildsierra.com, 866-323-8928

Tahoe Adventure Company - All one-day trips cover comprehensive paddling instruction and include lunch on the beach. Guides point out ecology, geology and natural and human history along the way. These excellent paddles always travel with the prevailing winds and currents, which allows you to explore and have fun. Trips include introductory Kayaking, Kayak Touring and Evening Astronomy Paddle. **tahoeadventurecompany.com, 866-830-6125**

Tahoe Paddle & Oar - Located at Kings Beach, canoe and kayak rentals, sales and guided kayak tours on Lake Tahoe supplied. Group discounts and team-building activities are available. **tahoepaddle.com, 530-581-3029**

White Water Rafting

Sierra Adventures - Based in Reno, Sierra Adventures will take you through some of the most scenic stretches of the Truckee River. Bring the whole family or your favorite group of thrill-seeking friends for some major rafting fun.

wildsierra.com/water.htm, 775-323-8928

Tahoe White Water Tours - Based in Tahoe City, provides tours on the Truckee River (Class II-III) and East Fork Carson River (Class II-III). **gowhitewater.com, 800-442-7238**

Truckee River Rafting - Enjoy rafting for groups of all sizes on the Truckee River with great 2-3-hour self-guided trips. Located in Tahoe City. **truckeeriverrafting.com, 530-583-1111**

IRIE Rafting Company - Offering full and half day excursions on class II to class III rapids on the Truckee River. Groups of all sizes are welcome. **raftirie.com, 530-582-4900**



WILD HORSE VIEWING

Sonny Boys Tours - Is dedicated to providing quality eco-tours, scenic tours and information on the subject of wild horses and to educate the public on the need for protection and preservation of the American Mustang. There are few remaining wild horses out on open ranges. Each year in the West, thousands of horses are gathered or rounded-up in the attempt to thin the size of herds for a variety of reasons. Sonny Boys Tours' goal is to give guided eco-tours of wild horses for small groups, to view and encounter Mustangs, and gain an understanding about the wild horses and burros. In the course of tours, visitors will marvel at the rugged beauty of the region. As a result, Sonny Boys Tours has expanded its service to offer unique scenic tours that capture the spirit of the West! Group size is typically 11, but arrangements for larger groups may be made upon request. renowildhorsetours.com, 775-200-5205

WINTER ACTIVITIES

Ski and Snowboard

Lake Tahoe has the highest concentration of downhill mountains with beginner, intermediate and high-difficulty runs to cross-country skiing in North America. Get information and find out which ski areas are best for you.

visitrenotahoe.com/things-to-do/ski

Snowmobiling

An amazing option for seeing some of the untouched areas of the high Sierra. An exhilarating ride up over 10,000-feet above sea level will bring you into the clouds, looking down on the winter beauty of Lake Tahoe and the surrounding valleys.

visitrenotahoe.com/things-to-do/snow-activities/snowmobiling

Coldstream Adventures Inc. -

coldstreamadventures.com, 530-582-9090

Eagle Ridge Snowmobile Outfitters -

tahoesnowmobiling.com, 530-546-866

Full Throttle Tahoe - fullthrottletahoe.com,

530-546-8774

Lake Tahoe Snowmobile Tours -

laketahoesnowmobilingtours.com, 530-546-4280

Ice Skating

Ice Skating is a fun and quick activity for families. No motors and very little risk. There are plenty of ice skating options around Reno and Lake Tahoe.

Heavenly Village - skiheavenly.com, 530-542-4230

Downtown Reno ice Rink at Greater Nevada Field -

greaternevadafield.com/events, 775-334-7035

Northstar California Village - northstarcalifornia.com,

530-562-1010

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