

LAKE TAHOE - ARRIVAL & DEPARTURE INFORMATION:-

Arrivals:

Our pick up is at Reno/Tahoe International Airport at 4 p.m. Look for your guides curbside outside the Delta ticketing/drop-off area. If our pickup time does not work with your schedule, you may arrange a private commercial shuttle. Charges for shuttles do vary and advance reservations are required. Shuttle services and phone numbers are listed separately below.

Suitcases: We assume each person will be traveling with one suitcase and one small carry-on. If you will have more bags please let us know in advance as van space may be limited. We cannot guarantee the ability to carry more than two pieces of luggage, yet with advance notice we will do our best to accommodate you.

If arriving by car or another shuttle: the check-in time is 4 p.m. at the Cedar House Sport Hotel· 5:30 p.m.: Please meet in the lobby of the Cedar House Sport Hotel for orientation.

Departures:-

Departure by car: 1 p.m. Those guests departing by car will need to follow group to the final day's trailhead.

Departure by air: Our drop-off at Reno/Tahoe International Airport is at 2 p.m. If you need an earlier shuttle drop-off please arrange your own departure with a private shuttle company. Due to our final day's hike/walk we cannot guarantee that those who will be taking private shuttles will be able to hike with us on the final day.

Private Shuttles:-

Mountain Cab 530-582-5828

Executive Limo 800-323-3958

North Lake Tahoe Express 866-216-5222 (\$40 per person).

Note: Door-to-door service only available to/from certain locations.

Lodges for trip:-

*Cedar House Sport Hotel located at 10918 Brockway Road in Truckee, CA (866-582-5655 or 530-582-5655, Fax: 530-582-5665) will be our inn for all 5 nights.

If you would like to book extra nights we recommend:

In Reno: Silver Legacy Hotel/Casino 1-800-MUST SEE, Atlantis Hotel/Casino 1-800-723-6500, El Dorado Hotel/Casino 1-800-648-4597.

In Tahoe: Cedar House Sport Hotel (Truckee area) & Plumpjack (Olympic Valley area), Tahoe City Inn (inexpensive) 800-800-8246 or 530-581-3333 for more

lodging options in the Truckee/Tahoe area you may call visitors lodging service at 800-Tahoe-4-U.

LAKE TAHOE HIKING & WALKING ITINERARY:-

Following is a tentative schedule for your hiking tour at Lake Tahoe, CA. It may change depending on trail conditions, time of year, weather, group needs or other unforeseen circumstances. We believe the ability to change hikes allows us to offer you the best Lake Tahoe has to offer. Every day you may choose between a leisurely hike and a longer more strenuous hike.

Arrival Day

See logistics for airport pick-up schedule.

5:30 p.m. meet for trip orientation at first lodge (see logistics sheet for lodge)
Inn-Cedar House Sport Hotel

Day 1:-

Welcome to Lake Tahoe and our first day of hiking! Lake Tahoe's elevation is over 6,200 feet so we recommend you give your body time to acclimatize. You can acclimatize best by drinking lots of water, allowing plenty of time for rest, and not pushing yourself too hard.

Today you'll experience a must-see, classic Tahoe hike known as the Rubicon Trail. This trail follows a secluded portion of Lake Tahoe's west shore, where massive granite boulders adorn the edge of Tahoe's indigo, sapphire, and emerald waters. You have never seen so many shades of blue except in the Caribbean! The shoreline leads us past active osprey nests, through shady pine and fir forests, and along Emerald Bay where we are treated to views of an authentic Scandinavian Castle called Vikingsholm. Built in 1928 as a private home, Vikingsholm is now one of California State Park's treasures. The shorter hike covers 5.5 miles while the longer hike is approximately 7.5 miles long.
Inn: Cedar House Sport Hotel

Day 2:-

Today we ascend to the summit of one of the Sierra Nevada peaks surrounding Lake Tahoe as we head for Ellis Peak at elevation 8,740 feet. Our hike begins at 7,700 feet with a climb that ends with our first reward: an alpine vista of the lofty peaks of Desolation Wilderness. A dazzling foreground of gold and magenta lays at our feet from the thousands of blooming woolly mule ears and penstemon wildflowers. This view is always an overwhelming sight. We then proceed on to the other side of the pass for a panoramic view of Lake Tahoe. Just a mile away from here is our goal for the shorter hike: Ellis Lake, a small volcanic lake hidden in front of Ellis peak. Ellis Lake is a great place to relax and enjoy the beautiful view. North of the lake we will see the plateau where we began hiking as well as the untraveled meadows of Blackwood Canyon and Twin Peaks. Those who choose the longer hike will continue on to the summit of Ellis Peak. It is an extra

mile to the top of peak and it is a steep climb but it is well worth it, as the vista is definitely one of the best in Tahoe.

Inn: Cedar House Sport Hotel

Day 3:-

Today we head up to Donner Summit. This hike follows a portion of the Pacific Crest Trail (PCT), the 2,500+ mile trail that runs from Mexico to Canada, and attracts “through-hikers” who spend up to six months attempting to complete it each year, and awards us with spectacular views of Donner Lake, Castle Peak and Mount Judah. A natural rock amphitheater makes for a uniquely scenic lunch spot. Along the way, we will also learn the history of the Donner Party, a group of Midwestern pioneers who attempted to pass through Donner Summit in late fall 150 years ago, but were thwarted by heavy snow and harsh terrain and forced to make hard decisions in order to survive. The shorter hike is approximately a 5-mile loop with 1,200 feet of elevation gain. The longer hike’s distance depends on the group. We will complete the loop that the shorter hike does as well as add mileage and elevation on PCT. Since the PCT portion of the hike is an “out-and-back“, the long hikers can decide how far they would like to travel today.

Inn: Cedar House Sport Hotel

Day 4:-

In the winter, Squaw Valley is known for its skiing and Olympic history. In the summer, we are lucky to enjoy its wildflowers, dramatic granite rock formations, and spectacular views of Lake Tahoe, Granite Chief Wilderness and Desolation Wilderness.

On the shorter, a tram ride takes us to the top of Squaw Valley USA, where we begin hiking at 8,200 feet above sea level. This truly beautiful hike takes us up to view the backside of Granite Chief Wilderness, Desolation Wilderness, and a stunning section of the famous Western States Trail as well as a different portion of the PCT than we visited yesterday. We will drop down about 500 feet to Shirley Lake where we will meet the long hikers for lunch and then climb back up to the tram to return to the valley floor.

On the longer, more strenuous hike we begin on the floor of Olympic Valley and follow a babbling creek 2,400 feet up a beautiful granite canyon lined with wildflowers in the spring. As we go farther into the canyon we enjoy views of Squaw Valley, Silver Peak, and the Tahoe Basin. Lunch is served by a wooded mountain lake. After lunch we continue to the top of the mountain and gain beautiful views of Granite Chief Wilderness, Desolation Wilderness, and the Tahoe Basin. In order to save our knees for another day (and to fit it all in!) we return to the valley floor via a scenic tram ride that offers views of Lake Tahoe and some of Squaw Valley’s most extreme ski terrain.

Inn: Cedar House Sport Hotel

Day 5-:

Today we hike an old feeder flume trail on the north shore of Lake Tahoe. This beautiful walk among tall fir trees high above the lake offers many clues to Tahoe's logging history in the late 1800s. This trail is not on most maps and is a locals' favorite. It offers magnificent views of Lake Tahoe and many small streams cross our path. At many of these streams, wildflowers and aspens flourish, attracting energetic birds and small animals. The hike is an "out-and-back", so the distance we travel depends on the group. We end the trip with a farewell lunch at a beautiful spot among large granite boulders with a view of the lake below. Today's moderate, scenic hike provides a wonderful conclusion to a fabulous week visiting Lake Tahoe.

Departure on Day Five: Please see logistics schedule for more details.

Departure by car: 1 p.m. from final hike's trailhead. If you have a car we will have you follow us to our last hike and lunch together.

Departure by air: Drop-off at Reno/Tahoe International Airport at 2 p.m. If you need an earlier shuttle drop-off please arrange your departure with private shuttle company. Private shuttle times and pick-up locations may impede your ability to hike with us on our final day. We suggest that all flights be scheduled for a departure time of 3 p.m. or later.

OUR LODGING:-

Cedar House Sport Hotel 10918 Brockway Road in Truckee, CA

Tel: (866) 582-5655

www.cedarhousesporthotel.com

If you are interested in additional information about the hotel we will be staying with, we invite you to visit their web site, or call and request a brochure.