

Sierra Nevada Trails



14 Days / 13 Nights

Roundtrip from San Francisco (Calif.)

Highlights:

- * Hiking along the Pacific Coastline and world famous Yosemite N.P.
- * Walk among ancient giants, the coastal Redwoods of Muir Woods and giant Sequoia of Yosemite N.P.
- * Active volcano views, Lassen N.P..
- * Lake Tahoe - Largest US alpine lake
- * Discover American History, a taste of wild west at Bodie Ghost Town
- * Modern culture in San Francisco, with Sonoma wine tour and Golden Gate Bridge, museums, Alcatraz
- * Touch 4,000-year-old bristlecone pine trees at 9,840 ft (3000 m) elevation on a quiet mountain hike



Mono Lake

See Insert for Dates and Pricing!

SIERRA NEVADA TRAILS

California Adventure Hikes in Style

California's incredibly scenic, well-preserved coastline lies just west of the giant granite pillars thrusting upward known as the Sierra Nevada. In between is some of the world's top wine country, most famous mountain lakes, oldest trees in the world, an active volcano, and best preserved ghost towns of the wild west. Come make our favored gem your endless hiking adventure this summer, and take home timeless stories and pictures.



San Francisco and the Pacific Ocean

Our tour begins in the modern and trend-setting northern Pacific city of San Francisco. We spend our first few days hiking along peaceful coastlines blooming with wildflowers, where tiny footpaths lead to hidden coves with unusual wildlife such as the elephant seal. Experience the unusual contrast between deserted, picturesque shores near big-city life.

Von alpinen Wiesen und Bergseen in die Wüste der Great Basin Desert

The ultimate extremes of nature's beauty greet us in the White Mountains, part of the Sierra Nevada Range, where the world's oldest trees battle severe hot, cold, wind, drought, and limitations of high elevation simultaneously. We hike along alpine lake shores that were formed millions of years ago, and alternately hike, maybe even swim in lakes a few hundred years old, dammed by recent volcanic activity. Reconnect with nature and immerse yourself in the variety of climates this California hiking trip brings you to. Capture the dazzling site of wildflowers in an alpine field of Yosemite National Park, or lose yourself in the endlessness of the Great Basin Desert, largest high prairie in North America.

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Carmel Mission



Sequoias



Golden Gate Bridge

Sierra Nevada Trails



Day 1: Our tour meets in the lobby of a beautiful, historical hotel in downtown San Francisco, 7:00pm. Meet other guests, then visit world famous Golden Gate Bridge, which we drive over and then stop to photograph. Nearby we eat dinner (N/I) and you receive detailed travel documentation.

Day 2: Begin the day driving famous and scenic Highway 1 south along the Pacific Ocean. First stop is Año Nuevo State Park, with a 3-hour leisurely hike into an impressive elephant seal colony. Picnic at park, then drive on to Santa Cruz with its romantic and entertaining boardwalk. Night in Monterey near Fisherman's Warf, which is covered in entertaining shops and delicious seafood restaurants.

Day 3: Spend the morning driving and walking along gorgeous 17-Mile Drive, home to many movie stars. Visit historical Carmel Mission and its luscious flower gardens, then meander through wildflower rich Point Lobos State Park, with overlooks into coves with giant waves. Afternoon at your own pace with optional whale watching & Monterey Bay Aquarium excursions.

Day 4: Leaving the Pacific we stop in Salinas for a visit to the John Steinbeck Center with an interesting exhibition on the Nobel Prize winner's books, as well as some history about California's agriculture. Today's hike will be along the San Luis Reservoir with its nice picnic areas. In Mariposa we will have a short guided tour through the California Mining Museum. 2 nights in Mariposa - Enjoy the swimming pool!

Day 5: Today's highlights are hikes in Yosemite National Park, one through giant sequoia trees and another to one of the world's most photographed falls, Yosemite Falls. We will stop in at the Visitor Center and fascinating Native American Museum.

Day 6: Drive over the scenic Tioga Pass in Yosemite Park and hike across mountain meadows 12000 ft. above sea level. At the east side of the Sierra Nevada Mountains we will reach the high prairie of the Great Basin Desert and explore a colorful, bubbling geothermal area along an idyllic creek. The following three nights we will stay in tiny tourist town Bishop, where great American dining and several galleries line the streets.

Day 7: Drive up a mountain pass emerging 12000 ft. in elevation among the White Mountain Range. We will hike among the oldest trees in the world in the Ancient Bristlecone Pine Forest, an incredible sight. In the late afternoon we will relax at historic natural hot springs.

Day 8: Hike around Convict Lake, one of the most pristine and clear mountain lakes of the Sierra Nevada, surrounded by high granite mountains. In the afternoon we explore Mono Lake, a beautiful alkaline lake. Mono Lake is a habitat for a large number of migratory birds, and its shores are lined with unusual pillars of calcite mudstone, known as Tufa rock formations.

Day 9: Walk through historic Bodie State Park along the streets of the best preserved ghost town in California where the gold rush days come alive. Stay for 2 nights in the middle of the beautiful Sierra Nevada Mountain Range. We will take a short hike along a mountain lake, with an optional boat rental available.

Tag 10: Hike near Caples Lake, high up on mountain terrain surrounded by fantastic landscapes, to Emigrant Lake. Emigrant Lake is a scenic mountain lake with swimming opportunity for cooling off after the long hike. In the afternoon relax at a mountain lodge.

Tag 11: On to the famous Lake Tahoe, the largest mountain lake in the U.S., surrounded by ancient coniferous forests. Travel through Californian Gold Country with a stop at the Plumas Eureka State Park where we explore a historic gold mining camp, remnants of the gold rush area. Next two nights in a small town near Lassen National Park.

Tag 12: Today's highlight is a hike through Lassen National Park. Lassen is an active geothermal area on top of volcano that exploded in the early 1900s. It is a fantastic sight with its awe inspiring colorful hot pools and bubbling ground, flower meadows, glaciers and reflecting lakes.

Tag 13: We continue through California wine country with a stop at a winery in historic Sonoma. Next a short but impressive hike through gigantic coastal Redwoods at Muir Woods National Monument. In the evening Travel Dream West invites you to a goodbye dinner at an All-American diner, right near our hotel in San Francisco.

Tag 14: Tour's end. Journey home or continue travel on your own.



Lassen National Park