

California Lakes and Mountains | Fly-Drive Holiday

Holiday Duration: 13 Nights



Overview

California is a land that is as varied as it is beautiful. Bustling cities, scenic waterfront, dense woodland, soaring mountains and sparkling lakes are just a taste of what this magnificent state has to offer, and you can experience it all on this fantastic fly-drive holiday.

Discover the culture of the iconic 'city by the bay' San Francisco, explore the natural wonder of Yosemite National Park and live out your dreams by the sparkling waters of Lake Tahoe. California is waiting; why not explore it with Frontier America.

This itinerary is flexible and can be tailor-made to suit you; if you want to add extra days in one area, extend the holiday or maybe change the direction of travel. Talk to one of our experts about how to make this holiday the perfect one for you.

Here's a day-by-day guide to your itinerary. Feel free to ask us to add other days or ideas and excursions by contacting us directly, so we can give you the best price.

Days 1-3



San Francisco

Your holiday will start in the world-famous city of San Francisco to get you in the mood for the mountains to follow. Ride the cable cars, explore Fisherman's Wharf, visit Alcatraz and take the ferry across the Bay to Sausalito for a completely different view of the city and the famous Golden Gate Bridge. Just across the bridge are the Muir Woods, home to the iconic giant redwood trees some of which have grown to an astounding 79 metres.

3 nights in San Francisco

Days 4-5



San Francisco to Sacramento & Gold Country

Collect your hire car this morning in good time to get to the Napa Valley (where you could happily spend a couple of nights if you love wine and have time) for lunch and perhaps a visit to a vineyard or two before driving on to Sacramento, the capital city of California. With over 25 museums, the Delta King Paddle Steamer, art studios and wineries to visit, your stay in Sacramento will go very quickly. Tip: Allow plenty of time for dinner: Sacramento prides itself on its farm to table cuisine.

2 nights in Sacramento

Days 6-7



Sacramento & Gold Country to Lake Tahoe

Your route today will depend on whether you choose to stay in North or South Lake Tahoe. Either way, you could stop at Coloma and visit Marshall Gold Discovery Park where you can pan for gold and see the old schoolhouse and other buildings from the Goldrush era. A visit to the old town of Auburn, another Californian Historical Landmark is also worth a stop if you are heading north. The north is much more about nature and hiking whilst the south is full of restaurants and casinos.

2 nights in Lake Tahoe

Day 8



Lake Tahoe to Placerville

Today you will head back towards Gold Country, driving through Eldorado National Forest. You will spend the night in Placerville (also known as Hanging Town) where the gold was first discovered. Main Street is lined with 19th century architecture; don't miss the Bell Tower and check out the Hangman's Tree Saloon.

1 night Placerville

Days 9-10



Placerville to Jackson

You will travel just a short distance down Highway 49 today where you will be based in Jackson for 2 nights, perfect for exploring more of the gold rush history of the area. The towns of Sonora and Columbia are a must-see, with the latter housing an original Wells Fargo bank. The town of Murphys, founded by Irish miners, is worth a visit as is one of the best vineyards in the area, Ironstone. Owned by John Kautz, the vineyard also houses a museum which displays the world's largest gold nugget – found in Jamestown – also owned by Mr Kautz.

2 nights Jackson

Days 11-13



Jackson to Yosemite National Park

Yosemite National Park is one of the most visited parks in the United States and for a good reason. Covering over 1100 square miles, you will not be able to see it all. However, you will be able to marvel at the great granite cliff of El Capitan and Yosemite Falls which are the tallest in the country amongst the many other peaks and lakes. As you will have three full days in the park, you will have time to hike some of the trails and visit the giant sequoias in Mariposa Grove. Do also take the time to visit the Yosemite Museum and the Ansel Adams Gallery.

3 nights in Yosemite National Park

Day 14



Yosemite National Park to San Francisco

Today you have approximately a 4-hour drive back to San Francisco for your homeward flight unless you would like to extend your holiday further. Please do make use of Frontier America's tailor-made service to alter this holiday to suit you.

If you are interested in a holiday to America please contact us on 020 8776 8709 to discuss your plans with a USA expert, or send an email to america@frontier-travel.co.uk with your requirements and we will put together your ideal itinerary and quotation. Let us take you there.