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## Your Invitation to a Raptor Phenomenon in Carson Valley, Nevada



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**CARSON VALLEY (Oct. 29, 2019)** – The chance to observe bald eagles, golden eagles, falcons, hawks, owls and other wildlife during an annual natural phenomenon is coming and you are invited. Each December to early February, a concentration of birds of prey make the journey to Carson Valley during calf birthing season where the afterbirth provides the high protein the raptors require. This is a real-life opportunity to witness the collaboration between nature and the local ranching community. Carson Valley hosts the annual **Eagles & Agriculture** event to celebrate the yearly unprecedented up close look at various types of hawks and raptors. The pinnacle is a three-day event that includes tours, workshops and lectures themed towards photographers, birders and conservationists.

Ahead of the January 23 - 26, 2020 Eagles & Agriculture event, the Visit Carson Valley team would like to offer you an invitation to visit the region so that you may gather pre-event coverage for your audience, including wildlife viewings and interviews of event organizers, expert falconers, professional photographers and conservationists. Carson Valley is conveniently located 45 miles south of Reno International Airport.

A visit to Carson Valley for the purpose of covering the raptor phenomenon can be planned in two ways:

### **Wildlife Viewing and Tours, December through January**

Nature-lovers, photographers and birders alike will find an abundance of wildlife in Carson Valley during the winter months. While calving season draws raptors and hawks, waterfowl, lynx, wild horses and migratory birds can also be viewed throughout the region's preserves and key habitats. We invite you to join us for a catered media tour. Visit [online](#) for tour information.

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### **Self-Guided Exploration**

While professionals add a degree of success, many visitors prefer to explore our community on their own finding a place along many of our ranches with binoculars and high-powered camera lenses to capture the raptors in action. [Visit online](#) for more tips.

[RSVP Now!](#)

### **More about the Eagles & Agriculture Event, Jan 23 – 26**

Now in its 18th season, the Eagles & Agriculture organized event includes tours of ranches accompanied by expert birders and historians, the popular Owl Prowl, a Wildlife Photography Class with professional photographer [JT Humphrey](#) and the Falconers Dinner where guests can get close to a variety of raptors. The weekend event kicks off in Gardnerville, Nevada and continues with tours of the beautiful region of Carson Valley, all just 45 minutes south of Reno International Airport. For complete details, tour and class reservations, please visit [online](#) or call the Carson Valley Chamber of Commerce at 775-782-8144.

Viewing areas include:

*River Fork Ranch:* River Fork Ranch is an 800-acre preserve owned and operated by the Nature Conservancy. Located where the east and west forks of the Carson River converge near Genoa, River Fork Ranch is both a nature preserve and a working cattle operation. The ranch's riparian corridor and patchwork of pastures, meadows and wetlands support a robust and diverse wildlife population including bald eagles, sandhill cranes, leopard frogs, monarch butterflies and mule deer. For more information, visit [online](#).

*Lahontan Audubon Society Area #3:* With its mix of pasture-grasslands and riparian wetlands, the western side of the Carson Valley, including the Carson River corridor, is recognized as an [Audubon Important Bird Area](#). The Carson Valley area is home to wintering raptors including bald and golden eagles, rough-legged and ferruginous hawks and prairie Falcons. Red-tailed hawks, northern harrier and American kestrel are residents. White-faced ibis and a modest number of sandhill cranes may be observed. A colony of tricolored blackbirds breed in the Carson Valley, the only known occurrence in Nevada. For more information on this Audubon birding area, visit [online](#).

*Topaz Lake Park:* This park occupies 90 acres on the shores of Topaz Lake, a reservoir on the Nevada-California border about 20 miles south of Gardnerville. The park is a well-kept secret among birdwatchers and small birds sighted at the park include orioles, swallows, red-winged blackbirds and yellow warblers. A pair of bald eagles nest nearby, while ospreys and pelicans are frequently seen. During the migration season, the park's location on the Pacific flyway makes it an especially good bird-watching spot.

Carson Valley boasts plenty of accommodation choices, from hotels to motels and casinos to spa resorts. For more on where to stay, visit [online](#).

For more information, visit online at [VisitCarsonValley.org](http://VisitCarsonValley.org).

### **About Carson Valley:**

Nestled at the base of the Sierra, Carson Valley begs visitors to not just drive through it, but to it. Located 45 miles south of Reno-Tahoe International Airport and 12 miles east of South Lake Tahoe, the region's natural beauty is legendary: wide-open farms, ranches, bands of wild horses and birds of prey

dot the landscape. Outdoor recreation enthusiasts follow all points of the compass with more than 50+ miles of hiking, mountain biking or walking trails along with world class road biking. The valley's museums, arts, antiquing, Basque dining, historic watering holes and more add to the destination's authentic culture. The region includes the communities of Minden, Gardnerville, Topaz Lake and Genoa (Nevada's first settlement dating back to 1851). Explore the land of everyday legends at [VisitCarsonValley.org](http://VisitCarsonValley.org).

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**MEDIA PHOTOS: 2019 Eagle & Agriculture Photos:** [radstrategies.box.com/v/Images-EaglesAg2019](http://radstrategies.box.com/v/Images-EaglesAg2019)