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## **Blaze New Trails in Carson Valley, Nevada** *Figurative and Literal Trails are Beckoning in 2024*

**CARSON VALLEY, Nev. (Jan. 31, 2024)** – A new year offers a clean slate for many and inspires reflection and discovery — after all, time is merely an arbitrary construct. In Carson Valley, we’re all about it. Now is the perfect time to challenge oneself to explore new horizons and perhaps even re-commit to some essential fundamentals forgotten during the holiday crush (say it together: “*self-care*”).

Carson Valley encompasses four communities and offers the perfect dichotomy of challenge and relaxation; of new ideas and time-held values; of connection and independence. Here, uncover some ways to experience something new and engaging that challenges visitors to unplug and explore.

### **Challenge #1: Take a Hike (Like, Literally...)**

In an increasingly digital world, travelers are often finding ways to make experiences a bit more analog — figuratively speaking, that is. One way to do this: see how much can be accomplished through human powered activities without technology or transportation assistance.

Whether seeking the splendor of majestic wildlife or the simple beauty of dazzling wildflowers, the growing [network of Carson Valley trails](#) provides gateways to abundant wonders in the region’s native backcountry. While the region boasts access to more than 70 miles of trails across six vast networks, here’s just one to try on for size: The [Fay-Luther/Jobs Peak Ranch Trail System](#), which connects the 3.5-mile span between the Fay-Luther and Jobs Peak Ranch Trailheads. Comprised of about 11 miles of loop and connector trails to choose from paths meander through forests punctuated by butterscotch-scented Jeffrey pines, single leaf pinyons and curl leaf mountain mahoganies. While breathing in the fresh mountain air, it’s a place that merges epic views of the Carson Range, Pine Nut Range and Carson Valley.

Traveling with the whole family? Download the [Fay-Luther Trail Treasure Guide for Kids](#) that highlights fun facts and unique trivia designed to enhance the journey and keep kids entertained along the way.

Those interested in biking, or even hitting a trail by horseback, can explore the user-friendly [Carson Valley Trails website](#). Find up-to-date conditions and insider tips on the Bently Heritage Trail, Clear Creek Trail System, Fay-Luther Trail System, Genoa Trail System, Pinyon Trail and the River Fork Ranch.

### **Challenge #2: Choose a Solo Adventure**

Forbes is calling 2024 the “[Year of the Solo Traveler](#),” and for good reason: what better way to explore a destination than by charting new paths and creating fun-filled itineraries completely on your own? Think

about it: no one else's schedules to coordinate, no one else's food preferences to accommodate, no one else's interests to satisfy. Start and end the day exactly as YOU want!

Many solo travelers are taking mental breaks from the bustle of daily life, meaning a soul-connecting, immersive outdoor experience may be just the ticket. With that in mind: did you know more than 50% of America's wild mustang population roams through the Silver State? Carson Valley's perennial creeks and streams, lush grasslands and sheltered basin makes for an idyllic home for bands of majestic native horses, attracting ecotourists and well-known wildlife photographers and guides to the region. Before heading out to explore, take advantage of these [tips and tricks for optimal viewing of wild Nevada mustangs](#).

And traveling solo doesn't mean you have to go it alone: Learn from one of the area's [legendary guides](#), or [tour the backcountry and get your gear from an expert outfitter](#).

Solo travel — and really, any outdoor adventure, with or without companions — requires extra care. Before your journey, read up on these [guidelines for staying safe and traveling responsibly](#).

### **Challenge #3: Blaze Your Own Aerial Trail**

If you'd rather take to the skies (or take *in* the skies) than travel terrestrially, Carson Valley offers the ideal ethereal setting. The sky's the literal limit as you soar along mountain waves that create [flying and gliding](#) conditions attracting pilots and aerial enthusiasts from around the world. The [Minden-Tahoe Airport](#) is home to both [Skydive Lake Tahoe](#) — offering a world-class tandem skydiving experience with unparalleled views of Lake Tahoe and beyond — and [SoaringNV](#), with its only-in-Carson-Valley, engineless glider rides.

For a less adrenaline-infused experience, how about an enchanting night of celestial stargazing and UFO-seeking? Discover one of the Great Basin's coveted secret stargazing spots along the shores of [Topaz Lake](#). The destination's lack of light pollution creates an ideal vantage point for thousands of stars, constellations, planets and even the Milky Way Galaxy (best viewed in Nevada from May through October each year) — all visible to the naked eye. A few upcoming dates to mark on the calendar include the April 8 solar eclipse, the Lyrid Meteor Shower happening Apr. 21-22, and the May 5-6 Eta Aquarid Meteors.

Ready to blaze your own trail in the New Year? Carson Valley has literal and figurative hiking destinations and endless horizons, all ready to explore. Learn more about Genoa, Minden, Gardnerville and Topaz Lake [here](#), or call the Carson Valley Visitors Authority at (775) 782-8145.

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*Straddling the California-Nevada state line 1.5 hours south of the Reno-Tahoe International Airport, discover the four communities — Genoa, Minden, Gardnerville and Topaz Lake — that comprise spectacular Carson Valley. Beholding some of Nevada's first and oldest establishments, visiting Carson Valley means authentically interacting with Nevada's many histories while experiencing world-renowned outdoor recreation Nevada, and the American West is known for. From legendary forefathers who paved the way to Nevada statehood, to wild horse bands, eagles, and other wildlife, to premiere air sports, American Indian, Basque, and Western Ranching histories and cultures, and distinctive dining experiences that all exist here and only here, Carson Valley offers an adventure for everyone. For more information about lodging, special events, and more trip planning tools, go to*

*VisitCarsonValley.org or dial (775) 782-2555. The Visitor Information Center is located within the Carson Valley Museum and Cultural Center at 1477 U.S. Highway 395 N, Gardnerville, NV.*