



From Plates to Peaks (and Plenty in Between): Discover What's New in Carson Valley

CARSON VALLEY, Nev. (Dec. 19, 2024) – Carson Valley, Nevada, is kicking off 2025 with a host of exciting new venues, events, and experiences for visitors and locals alike. From expanded outdoor adventures in the breathtaking Sierra Nevada foothills to revitalized historic sites and a fresh lineup of culinary destinations, the region is embracing a vibrant future while celebrating its rich heritage. Highlights include new family-friendly events, event venues and dining establishments, and the opening of innovative boutique shops, making Carson Valley the ultimate getaway for adventure seekers, history buffs, and food lovers in the year ahead.

Check out these eight new destinations and experiences in the heart of the Old West — in Carson Valley, Nevada, located just minutes from Lake Tahoe and Reno.



Delicious Dining & Delightful Gathering Places

The town of Genoa may have been founded in 1851 and is known as Nevada's first non-native settlement, but that doesn't mean it's all about the past. In fact, residents and visitors alike are abuzz about [Flutter & Buzz Café](#), located on Main Street. Homemade clean eats and hand-crafted beverages — including coffee, teas, & specialty botanical bubblers — are on the menu, and modern vibes abide.

Adjacent to the Genoa Wellness Spa, Flutter & Buzz Café features clean, organic coffee and homemade sweet treats. The café is known for its specials, which often include savory items like tomato bisque with a grilled cheese or a cheesy croissant boat.

A bit southeast of Genoa is Minden, and situated just between the two is a new wedding venue in the region: [La Mere Lutz](#). The owners — Remon and Christelle Zamalis — are local legends, as they also run another Carson Valley hot spot: Woodett's in Gardnerville.

La Mère Lutz translates to “the mother Lutz” in French and is named after Christelle’s grandmother. The destination offers a range of services including catering, event planning, and cooking classes in the 2,500-square-foot kitchen. Weddings and events that take place on site enjoy a truly farm-to-table experience using produce from the adjacent farm, Fraas Farm.

Another popular event space is [Minden Mercantile Company](#), which was originally established in 1926 as a grocery and farm supply store but recently underwent a significant remodel. Not all that’s old is lost, though; in fact, the venue’s bar is the original counter from Minden Mercantile in 1926, and the hardwood floors are original to the property (though they’ve been beautifully restored).

Just south of Minden is the town of Gardnerville, and a popular regional destination is [Corley Ranch](#). While the property itself is anything but new — the historic barn on the working ranch was built in the 1800s, after all — it’s a new experience that is enticing visitors to this heritage favorite: The Gardnerville ranch now offers interactive tours.

Visitors can meet farm animals and explore scenic portions of the nearly 300 acres of lush pasture and learn more about the real working cattle ranch, where hay and pumpkins are some of the featured crops. Kids can feed the animals and even take a pony ride while learning all that goes into keeping a working ranch in order throughout the year.

Retail experiences are top of mind for many travelers, and a unique boutique is the ideal place to commemorate a Carson Valley vacation. Gardnerville’s [The Valley Merc](#) fits the bill, featuring locally raised foods and abundant handcrafted finds. In the spotlight at this small business: women-owned vendors, jewelry, western hats/decor, furniture, farmers market area, photography, lavender goods, honey, soaps, candles, beef, western hats, clothing, art, and more.

And finally, new to the dining and catering scene in Gardnerville is [The Valley Larder](#), offering fresh and tasty custom catering as well as cheese and charcuterie boards. Its popular Farmhouse Cafe is open for breakfast and lunch, with locally sourced pastries and products, homemade soups and chili, salads and sandwiches, plus a full-service coffee bar.

Events of ‘Marathon’ Proportions

Visitors and residents have at least two new running events to look forward to in the New Year, a great reason to keep up on those New Year’s resolutions. The [Carson Valley Trails Association’s Run the Valley 5k](#) had its inaugural event in October 2024, and is due to return in 2025. Billed as the first-ever 5K to be held on a CVTA-built trail, the big event takes place at James Lee Park and includes a 2k free family fun run. This is a non-competitive opportunity for runners to experience a 5k trail run.

Travelers seeking a 2025 destination that blends old and new can learn more about Genoa, Minden, Gardnerville, and Topaz Lake online at VisitCarsonValley.org or by calling (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) 782-8145. The Visitor Information Center is located within the Carson Valley Museum and Cultural Center at 1477 U.S. Highway 395 N, Gardnerville, NV.

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