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Five Reasons Why Carson Valley is one of the West's Most Charming Historic Ski Towns

CARSON VALLEY, Nev. (Nov. 3, 2021) – Winter has made an [early appearance](#) in the Sierra Nevada with record October precipitation in northern Nevada. The mountain peaks around Carson Valley are capped with feet of snow and nearby ski resorts are preparing for their earliest openings in as many as 70 years. It's time to dust off the snowsports gear, pack cozy sweaters, find the perfect fireside book and plan a winter escape to Carson Valley, a charming western ski town.



Nevada's oldest settlement, Genoa, Nevada, Oct. 27, 2021; photo credit: Vivian Powers Photography

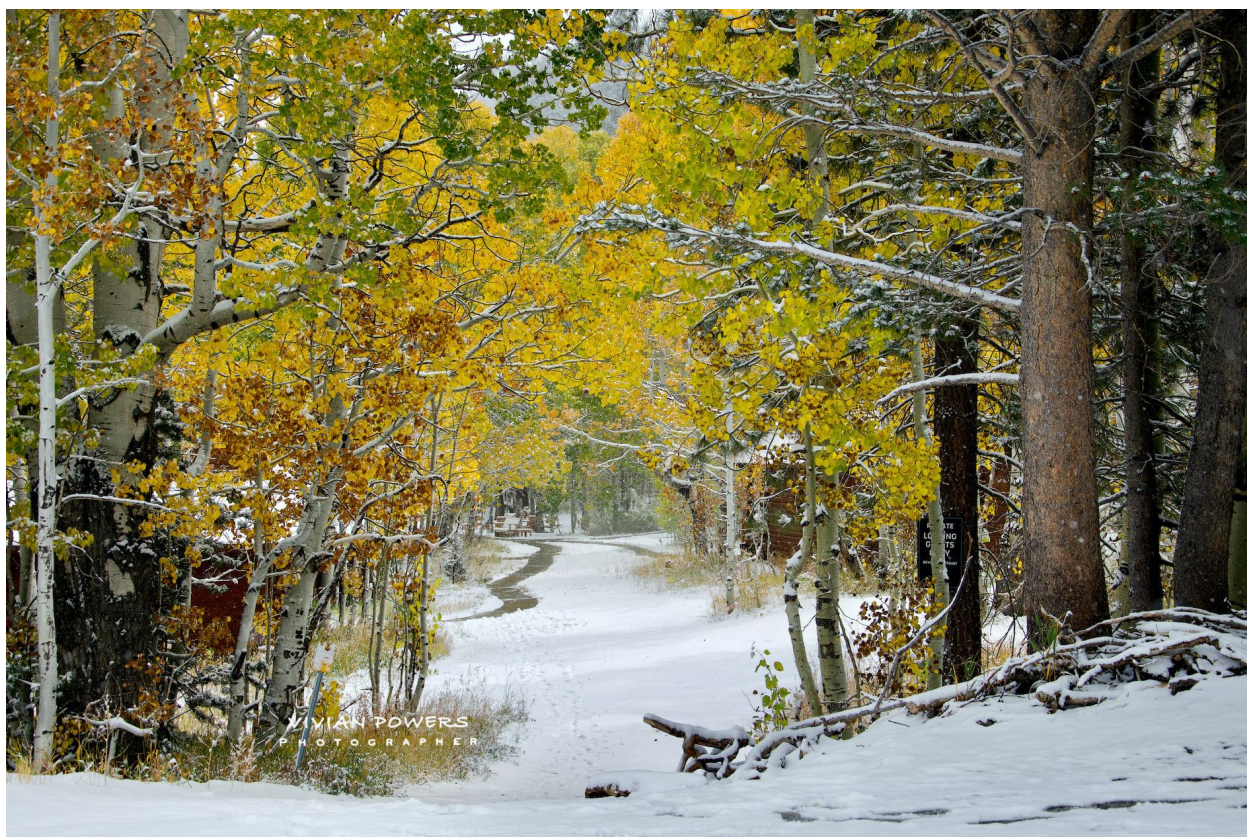
Easy to find, hard to forget

Carson Valley is located 45 minutes south of the Reno International Airport, 20 minutes east of Lake Tahoe and just over 200 miles from San Francisco. While Carson Valley is easy to find and close to the winter action of Lake Tahoe, the region provides miles of secluded space and an opportunity to unplug into a classic American West atmosphere. Mountains to the east and west bookend awe-inspiring valley views, scattered with sprawling ranches, rivers, lakes and historic towns. Getting around is easy with pleasant weather as the valley is sheltered by the Eastern Sierra Nevada range.

Maximum powder, minimal crowds

Carson Valley is just 12 miles east of access to Heavenly, one of Lake Tahoe's many ski resorts and 15 minutes from miles of wide-open backcountry to the south and west. A stay in Carson Valley puts world-

class skiing, snowboarding, backcountry touring, snowshoeing and cross-country skiing at your doorstep. [Heavenly Mountain Resort](#), Carson Valley's nearest ski resort, offers famous Lake Tahoe views and all-level varied terrain that spans the Nevada-California border. Just a little further away is [Kirkwood Mountain Resort](#) with the promise of deep snow and challenging terrain for adventurous skiers and snowboarders. For a backcountry or snow-play experience, Carson Valley visitors can head to Hope Valley and Picketts Junction. [Hope Valley Outdoors](#) is a sustainable, off-the-grid yurt providing cross-country skiing, backcountry skiing, snowshoeing, rentals, lessons, and guided tours. For easy family snow fun, visitors can sled, tube, and snow hike near [Picketts Junction, California](#).



Winter meets fall in Hope Valley, Oct. 17, 2021; photo credit: Vivian Powers Photography

Truly restful après

After a snowy adventure, Carson Valley offers dining and hot spring stops to warm the soul sans crowds. Visitors can recharge with delicious coffee drinks at [DST Coffee](#) or charcuterie selections at [The Pink House](#). Après in authentic old west style at the [Genoa Bar](#), Nevada's oldest thirst parlor. Relax among picture-perfect views in the natural hot springs at [Holiday Inn Club Vacations David Walley's Resort](#) or [Grover Hot Springs State Park](#). When visitors seek to refuel on homemade food, daily options can be found at the family-operated [Minden Meat and Deli](#), [JT Basque Restaurant](#) as well as the delectable [Abby Jo's Café Girasole](#).



DST Coffee, main street Gardnerville, Nevada; photo credit: Whitney James

Less is more

Taking a winter escape at a slower pace invites the character and history of Carson Valley to soak in - in the best of ways.. The region's antique shops invite visitors to linger as they search through one-of-a-kind finds. Guests can embark on historic adventures with the likes of Pony Express riders and western settlers at the [Dangberg Home Ranch Historic Site](#) and the [Mormon Station State Historic Park](#). The young and young-at-heart can witness the "neat" in nature with frequent wildlife sightings of horses, raptors, waterfowl, turtles, lynx, and more.

Laid back stays

Carson Valley accommodations are ideal for individuals and families seeking a basecamp that won't break the bank. Both the [Carson Valley Inn](#) and the [Holiday Inn Express and Suites Minden](#) boast relaxing hot tubs and refreshing room rates starting at \$129 (midweek).

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, antiques, 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](https://www.visitcarsonvalley.org).

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Media Resources:

Carson Valley Winter Activity map view: <https://goo.gl/maps/zRkrMd1nuf82>