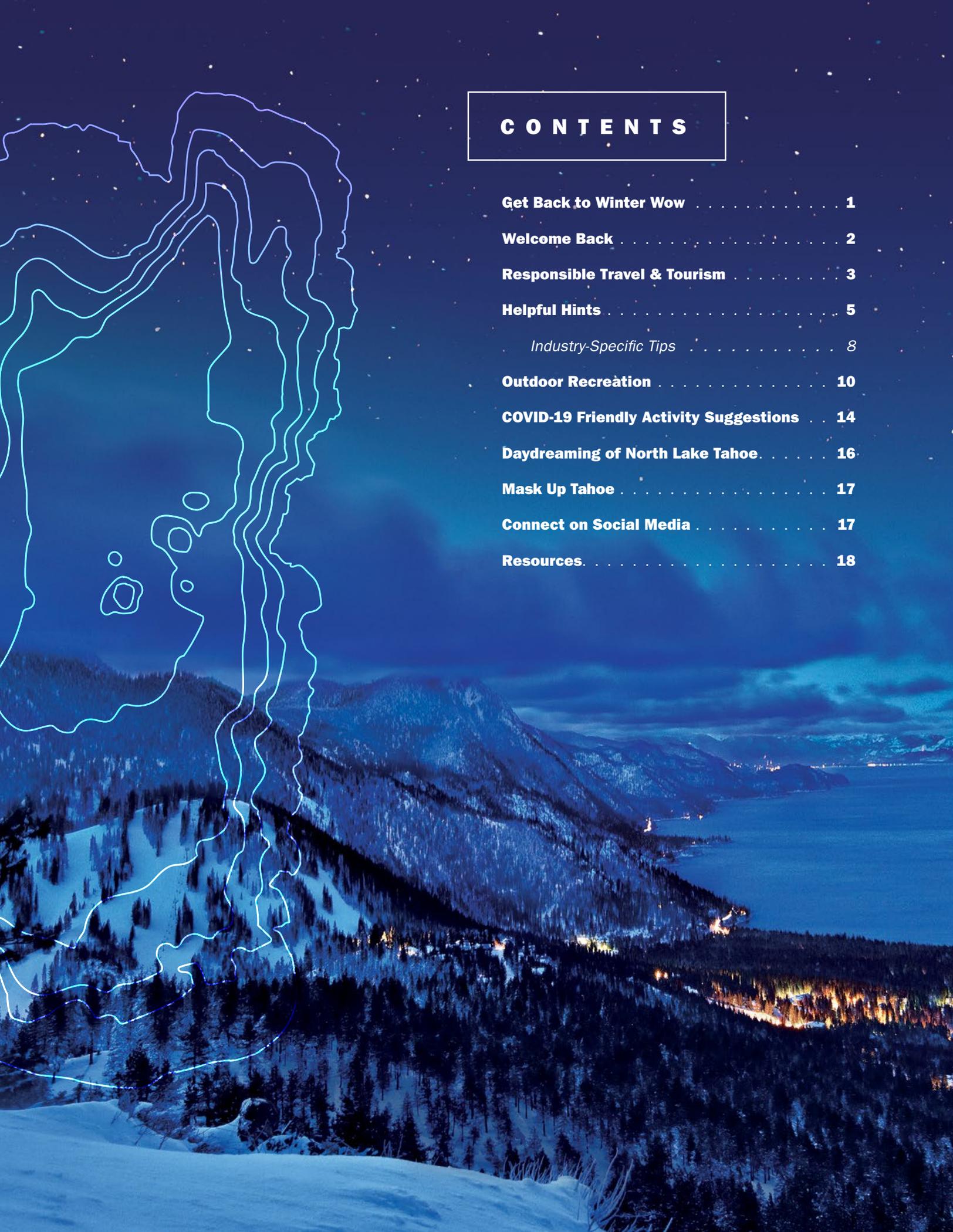




north lake tahoe  
get back to nature

**KNOW BEFORE YOU GO**  
**INFORMATIONAL GUIDE**



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# GET BACK TO WINTER WOW

It's human nature to seek a connection with the outdoors and North Lake Tahoe is an ideal destination to do just that – especially during winter. A one-of-a-kind experience that gives in to our sense of wonder and our innate need to let our winter souls wander. It's time to put on our winter hats, grab our skis and snowboards and get ready to enjoy some snow days. But we also need to remember to be responsible travelers and take care of all North Lake Tahoe has to offer. Use this guide to understand important details of what to know before you go.



# WELCOME. WE ARE SO HAPPY TO HAVE YOU BACK.

Like many communities, the North Lake Tahoe region was significantly impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. North Lake Tahoe's economy and workforce is rooted in tourism and for decades our communities have been supported and enhanced by visitors and part-time residents alike. By visiting North Lake Tahoe, shopping locally and experiencing our culinary offerings, you are contributing to the viability of our incredible mountain destination.

"North Lake Tahoe's ski resorts and businesses are rising to the challenges presented by COVID-19, investing tirelessly in systems and safeguards that ensure our destination is open and welcoming to travelers seeking the world-class recreation, relaxation and indelible family moments that North Lake Tahoe provides. We have always been a place of discovery, exploration and adventure, and the 2020-21 winter season may be the perfect time to explore new ways to experience the region. But responsibility also lies with each visitor to follow best practices and health mandates so that our North Lake Tahoe staff, resorts and businesses can enjoy a long and healthy winter season," stated Jeffrey Hentz, CEO, NLTRA, Chamber of Commerce and CVB.

"Despite the challenges the world has faced over the past year, our business community, residents and visitors have quickly adapted to new protocols in support of our tourism-based economy. The businesses in our region are incredibly resilient and have put tremendous thought and effort into ensuring they can operate safely and welcome visitors to our communities. With 12 ski resorts and plenty of space to get outdoors, we are excited to welcome visitors back to enjoy the crisp, clean mountain air in North Lake Tahoe," stated Andy Chapman, President and CEO, IVCBVB.

Thank you for choosing North Lake Tahoe. We are most grateful for your continued support and wish you the very best during your stay and beyond.



**Andy Chapman**

*President & CEO*  
Incline Village Crystal Bay  
Visitors Bureau



**Jeffrey Hentz**

*CEO*  
North Lake Tahoe Resort Association,  
Chamber of Commerce & CVB

A photograph of three skiers walking through a snowy environment. The skier on the left is wearing a red jacket and a blue helmet. The skier in the middle is wearing a green jacket and a yellow helmet. The skier on the right is wearing a teal jacket and a white helmet. They are all carrying their skis and poles. The background shows a blurred building and other people in the distance. The text "RESPONSIBLE TRAVEL & TOURISM" is overlaid in a white box in the upper center of the image.

RESPONSIBLE  
TRAVEL & TOURISM



north lake tahoe  
get back to nature

# RESPONSIBLE TRAVEL & TOURISM

In this new landscape of life, both during and after the COVID-19 pandemic, being a responsible traveler is now more important than ever. The magic of North Lake Tahoe lies in the culture of the community and the natural beauty that surrounds it. To us, a responsible traveler is aware of the effects their travel has on the destination and the culture – both positive and negative.

So, before embarking on your journey to our beloved region, we ask you to join us in preparing and embracing the mindset of a responsible traveler. Not only do we need to think about our footprint when traveling, but we also need to put safety and compassion at the forefront. We have outlined some tips we hope you'll consider before your adventures begin. Small changes can make a world of difference.

## SAFETY TIPS

- ▶ Wash your hands, often.
- ▶ Avoid touching your nose, eyes or mouth.
- ▶ Keep 6 feet of physical distance from others.
- ▶ Wear a mask or face covering when in public.
  - » It's required in both California and Nevada.
- ▶ Cough or sneeze into your elbow or a tissue.
- ▶ Consider takeout and curbside services.

## STAY EDUCATED

- ▶ Be well informed about the disease and the risks associated with it. See the COVID-19 page on [GoTahoeNorth.com](https://www.gotahoenorth.com) for updates on Placer County and Washoe County along with the [Resources page](#) for links to local and national resources for the most up-to-date information.
- ▶ Check in with businesses in advance to learn about their current modifications before arriving.
- ▶ Watch our Know Before You Go videos for more information about Responsible and Safe Travels.

WATCH VIDEOS >

## ACCEPT PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY

- ▶ Fully weigh the implications of being away from home and be aware of the limited resources in our small, but mighty, mountain community.
- ▶ Be aware that North Lake Tahoe has a small healthcare system.
- ▶ Don't venture into the backcountry without proper training, equipment and information. A mistake not only endangers your own life, you are putting other lives in danger too.

## EXPERIENTIAL TIPS

- ▶ Have patience as businesses navigate this uncharted territory.
- ▶ Respect business's requests.
- ▶ Seek and enjoy cultural experiences.
- ▶ Eat locally.
- ▶ Shop locally.
- ▶ Support community non-profits.
- ▶ Visit midweek for fewer crowds.

## ENVIRONMENTAL TIPS

- ▶ Leave no trace – trash belongs in the can.
- ▶ Use reusable bottles – drink Tahoe tap.
- ▶ Say no to the straw.
- ▶ Respect wildlife – do not feed wild animals.



HELPFUL  
HINTS

# HELPFUL HINTS

Before you make your trip to North Lake Tahoe, whether for the day or for a few nights, make sure you have necessities with you and have made arrangements to ensure a safe trip.

## WHAT TO BRING

### ▶ **Personal protective equipment (PPE) for the whole family**

- » Make sure to include masks, hand sanitizer, gloves and a thermometer.

### ▶ **Cleaning supplies**

- » Depending on the day, cleaning supplies can be scarce at grocery stores. To guarantee having supplies on hand, bring them from home. Consider bringing paper towels, wet wipes and cleaning spray.

### ▶ **Medications**

### ▶ **Patience**

- » Businesses are navigating new procedures and protocols to ensure your safety and the safety of their employees. Be patient, expect things to take just a little bit longer than normal.

## THINGS TO DO IN ADVANCE

### ▶ **Call ahead**

- » Connect with your lodging property to ask any questions you may have, from cleaning procedures to touchless check-in.
- » Pre-book guided tours and pack your own equipment.
- » Make dining reservations and confirm services and hours align with your trip expectations.

### ▶ **Take responsibility to learn what businesses are doing to keep guests safe**

- » Many businesses will be excited to share how they are going above and beyond.

### ▶ **Visit ski resort websites prior to your trip to purchase advanced lift tickets and book lessons**

### ▶ **Be aware of current weather advisories and road conditions heading into and within North Lake Tahoe**

[TRAVELING TIPS >](#)

[WEATHER CONDITIONS >](#)

### ▶ **Stay up-to-date on social media channels and business's websites for real-time information**

### ▶ **Set realistic expectations**

- » Expect things to move a little slower as everyone gets used to the new safety measures.

### ▶ **Set up tap-to-pay with your phone/smartwatch or contact-less credit card**



## WHEN YOU ARRIVE

- ▶ **Wear a mask** and don't forget the rest of your PPE in the room or car.
- ▶ **Physical distance** and recreate only with the people in your home.
- ▶ **Use touchless payment or pre-pay** in advance when possible.
- ▶ **Anticipate closures** of shared facilities and restrooms.
- ▶ **Tahoe Area Regional Transit (TART)** is operating and is free.
  - » Services have been reduced and routes are subject to change.
  - » Passengers are asked to load through the rear door when feasible.
  - » Masks and physical distancing on the buses are required.

TAHOETRUCKEETRANSIT.COM >

- ▶ **Look for instructional signage** and adhere to it.

Our friends at Take Care Tahoe created signage to help remind you of best practices. Below are examples, and you can see all tips at [TakeCareTahoe.org](https://www.takecaretahoe.org). Please respect business's requests – they're doing it for your safety and the safety of their employees.

TAKE CARE TAHOE >



# INDUSTRY-SPECIFIC TIPS

## BUSINESS UPDATES

In this rapidly evolving landscape, businesses are regularly changing and adjusting operating hours and procedures to align with current regulations. Please double-check business websites or give them a call for specific information regarding their current operations and any modifications they are implementing. And please be patient as they work to provide you with a safe and positive experience.

## LODGING

- ▶ **Review pre-arrival procedures** for modifications.
- ▶ **Be prepared** to park your own car and carry your own luggage.
- ▶ **Look for signage** in shared spaces for directions on maintaining physical distancing.
- ▶ **Housekeeping** will look different.
  - » Rooms will be thoroughly cleaned following CDC guidelines and the respective hotel safety protocols.
  - » Many will not offer cleaning services during your stay (unless by special request).

## RESTAURANTS

- ▶ **Takeout** is a safe option for visiting your favorite North Lake Tahoe restaurant. Many restaurants have adjusted offerings to now provide these services, including delicious cocktails to go.

[TAKEOUT TAHOE GUIDE >](#)

- ▶ **Dining in** – Be ready for some changes at your favorite North Lake Tahoe eateries.
  - » Many restaurants are requiring advanced reservations based on state regulations and physical distancing modifications, so be sure to book ahead of time.
  - » Wear a mask while not eating.
  - » Be on the lookout for signage directing you to the best way to enter and exit the restaurant, as well as the restrooms.
  - » No lines inside – many restaurants will be asking you to wait outside to avoid crowding.
  - » No sharing – communal condiments will be replaced with one-time-use items.
  - » Be prepared for shifts in menus, from items featured to the physical form they will take (online only, paper, large signs).

## RETAIL

- ▶ **Look out for signage** with instructions on entering/exiting the store and physical distancing markers in check-out lines.

## CASINOS

- ▶ **Nevada casinos are open**
- ▶ **Limited players at tables**
  - » Three players at blackjack and other table games.
  - » Four players at roulette.
  - » Six players at a craps table.
- ▶ **Stringent cleaning procedures are in place** – Many resorts are disinfecting dice between shooters, cleaning chips periodically and changing card decks frequently.

## SKI RESORTS

▶ **Ski Well Be Well** is a program to work together to ski and ride safely this winter. Developed by an advisory group of ski industry leaders, it covers best practices based on scientific guidelines from experts to help ensure the health and safety of all guests, employees and communities.

[LEARN MORE >](#)

▶ **What can you do:**

- » Plan ahead so you know what to expect.
- » Purchase tickets beforehand. Most regional resorts are not currently offering walk-up day of tickets.
- » Some resorts are requiring reservations to ski and ride so check ahead and reserve dates during your planned visit.
- » Wear your face covering. Most resorts will require them inside and outside.
- » Follow safe distance protocols.
- » If you arrive together, ride together.
- » Consider visiting midweek to avoid crowds and experience fewer skiers per acre.
- » Stay home if you feel sick.

▶ **Use your car as a ski lodge:**

- » Fully gear up at the car and store your personal belongings. Lockers may not be available.
- » Order food to-go and tailgate.

▶ **What ski resorts are doing:**

- » Daily employee wellness checks.
- » Implementing touch-less and interaction-free tactics such as Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) ticketing and lift line gantries.
- » Increased cleaning and disinfecting procedures.
- » Monitoring passholder numbers/guests to limit capacity on the mountain.
- » Offering more individual classes and fewer group classes.
- » Offering more outdoor dining options where possible.
- » Moving transactions to eCommerce options.

[LEARN MORE >](#)





**OUTDOOR  
RECREATION**

# OUTDOOR RECREATION

Not only is getting outside to enjoy nature allowed (and probably why you're visiting North Lake Tahoe), both the CDC and the states of California and Nevada are encouraging you to spend time in the outdoors. Just remember to explore and experience the outdoors safely and responsibly.

- ▶ **Check for restrictions or closures**
- ▶ **Recreate with only those from your household**
- ▶ **Wear a mask**
  - » Masks are required while visiting all public locations in California and Nevada, even outdoors.
- ▶ **Go small or go home**
  - » Medical services are stretched thin. Stay close to access points and skip difficult terrain.
- ▶ **Keep it moving on the slopes**
- ▶ **Play during off-peak hours**
  - » Try snowshoeing at sunrise or stargazing at night.
- ▶ **Bring personal protective gear**
- ▶ **Pack out trash**
- ▶ **Call ahead**
  - » Confirm rental equipment will be available and find out which items (helmets, gloves, etc.) you may need to bring with you.
  - » Ask about curbside pickup and delivery.

- ▶ **Park safely**
  - » Only park in designated lots. There is no parking on the side of the road November - April.
- ▶ **“Air Fives” are the celebration of choice**
- ▶ **Lessons**
  - » Many resorts are only offering private lessons this year. Check with individual resorts for specific offerings.
  - » Many will also require guests to do an at home health screening prior to coming. Consider bringing a thermometer to check your temperature before arrival.



## SKIING & SNOWBOARDING

- ▶ Don't be the reason to lose the season. It's on all of us individually to do our part.
- ▶ Adhere to resort requests to ensure a safe skiing and riding experience.
- ▶ Lifts will have an “arrive together, ride together” motto. In other words, only ride with the people you came with.

SAFE SKIING >



## BACKCOUNTRY SKIING, SNOWBOARDING & SNOWMOBILING

- ▶ It's imperative to be well versed in avalanche safety and search and rescue techniques before venturing out of ski area boundaries.
  - » It can take hours or days for rescue personnel to assist when there's trouble in the backcountry. You need to be responsible for your own actions.
- ▶ Take an avalanche course. You should have AIARE Level 1 training or hire a guide to be in the backcountry. Local course providers can be [found here](#).
- ▶ All members of your group must have basic avalanche rescue gear – transceiver, shovel and probe. Regularly practice using all safety equipment before taking it into the backcountry.
  - » If snowmobiling, make sure safety gear is attached to your body, not your sled.
- ▶ Check with the Sierra Avalanche Center for up-to-date conditions and snowpack stability.
- ▶ Never travel in the backcountry on the day after a big storm. Allow snowpack to settle for at least 24 hours.
- ▶ See the [Resources](#) page for links to additional information.

MORE INFORMATION >

## CROSS COUNTRY SKIING

- ▶ Indoor options will be limited, so arrive ready to ski.
- ▶ Many places will be offering online tickets sales only.
- ▶ Some will have limited rentals so reserve items in advance.

## SNOW SHOEING

- ▶ Experience snowy terrain almost anywhere. If using pre-existing trails, remember:
  - » Lots of cars at a trailhead means the trail is busy. Find another place to explore.
  - » Don't congregate at trail heads.
  - » Pick loop trails rather than out-and-back trails for yours and other's safety.

## SNOW BIKING

- ▶ As a physical distancing measure, stay away from crowded areas.
- ▶ Pick wide trails instead of single track when applicable and possible.
- ▶ Bring repair gear so you can be self-sufficient in case of a flat.



## SLEDDING

- ▶ Many ski areas feature groomed snow-play areas and tubing lanes. Most will require reservations in advance and may assign specific times.
- ▶ Respect signage and only sled in approved areas.
- ▶ No sled left behind. Take all garbage with you after a fun day on the hills.

## ICE SKATING

- ▶ Ice skating venues may have limited capacity and require reservations to allow for physical distancing on the ice.
- ▶ Call or visit location websites for more information.
- ▶ Helmets are encouraged.

## ALPINE VILLAGES

- ▶ **The villages** in North Lake Tahoe have their own unique character and charm – each of which will be taking their own precautions this winter season.
- ▶ **Northstar & Squaw** will be open but with modifications. Please visit their websites or social media pages for details.
- ▶ **Free parking for the season** will be available at the Village View and Castle Peak parking lots at Northstar.
- ▶ **Après ski** is the long revered tradition of ending your day on the slopes with friends and family, perhaps an adult beverage or two, all while trading tales of your snow-filled adventures. This season après will look a little different.
  - » Merriment should be kept to smaller groups.
  - » Consider exploring the towns of North Lake Tahoe throughout the region to spread out while supporting local businesses.
  - » Use this **handy guide** to experience North Lake Tahoe like a local and sip to the good life. But make sure to consider modifications to continue with safe practices.





**COVID-19 FRIENDLY  
ACTIVITY SUGGESTIONS**

# COVID-19 FRIENDLY ACTIVITY SUGGESTIONS

Looking for some activity inspiration during your time in North Lake Tahoe? Well we have you covered. Here are a few suggestions to inspire and delight!

## ITINERARY SUGGESTIONS

Depending on the season and your interests, we've created a couple of itineraries and activity suggestions with ideas on how to spend your days in North Lake Tahoe along with recommendations to some of our favorite spots.

[VIEW ITINERARIES >](#)

[SEE ALL TREASURES OF TAHOE >](#)

## NORTH LAKE TAHOE BINGO

Get out and have some fun while still adhering to the physical distancing guidelines. Explore North Lake Tahoe with your family and take pictures of the items you find on the list! Print out this BINGO card and set off on a driving, biking or walking adventure around North Lake Tahoe. Fill out the whole card and you'll have experienced food, art, history, adventure and fun.

[PRINT BINGO CARD >](#)



Take a picture in the HUGE Squaw Valley chair in the Village	Eat dessert FIRST!	Buy a Gift Card from your favorite Tahoe eatery or shop	Find Howdy the Bear in the Village at Northstar	When it snows, go outside and catch snowflakes on your tongue
Visit Sand Harbor beach	Warm up next to a fire & make s'mores	Cheers! Try a local Tahoe beer or kombucha	Order takeout from a restaurant you've never eaten at	Pick up some curbside coffee and pastries before a morning walk
Drop and make a snow angel	Take a piece of Tahoe home with you – buy a souvenir	<b>F R E E</b>	Find the Penny bear (Hint: It's in Tahoe City)	Indulge in one of many cocktails around the lake
Take a picture in front of the Squaw Olympic Flame	Spot some Tahoe wildlife and shoot a picture	Build a snowman and take a picture with it	It's time for a sweet treat!	Spot a "Keep Tahoe Blue" sticker on a car
Leave an online review for your favorite Tahoe business	Pick up dinner curbside and eat somewhere with a beautiful view	Find a piece of public art in King's Beach and strike a pose in front of it	Enjoy après after a day on the slopes	Drink Tahoe Tap!

# DAYDREAMING OF NORTH LAKE TAHOE

Still deciding if you're ready to visit right now? We completely understand. Right now is a time to listen to your gut, follow your heart and do what makes you the most comfortable. So if you're staying put for a while but are craving North Lake Tahoe, we have you covered. Here are some ways to support and love the region from afar until the time is right.

## BUY A GIFT CARD OR DO SOME ONLINE SHOPPING

Supporting small businesses in North Lake Tahoe has never been easier due to a recently launched gift card and online shopping site. The new purchasing portal fosters a "Shop Local, Shop Small" message and features gift cards and links to online shopping from more than 100 local businesses, including lodging properties, retailers, activity providers and restaurants. The program is a simple but effective way to support the north shore business community and start planning your next trip.

SHOP NOW >

## VIRTUAL EXPERIENCES

Through podcasts, movies, workouts, yoga, arts, music and virtual clubs, North Lake Tahoe invites you to escape and experience the region, through the comfort of your home. Get inspired, virtually, enjoying our destination from afar.

EXPLORE TAHOE VIRTUALLY >

## PASS THE TIME PIECE-FULLY WITH A TAHOE PUZZLE

It can be hard to relax and find a sense of peace during this period of uncertainty. We find that piecing together a puzzle can have a calming effect on the mind and bring us back to the present when we might otherwise find ourselves preoccupied with other thoughts. So we developed a series of digital puzzles to help you relax and remind you of what it is you love about the region. Each puzzle offers a breathtaking visual of one of Tahoe's iconic landmarks.

Be patient, use your discerning eye to assemble the pieces and enjoy.

FALL HIKE >

EAST SHORE BEACH >

EAST SHORE SUNSET >

SUMMER HIKE >

WINTER NIGHT >

PADDLEBOARD >

THUNDERBIRD LODGE >



## MASK UP TAHOE

North Lake Tahoe continues to amplify messaging around safe travel, reminding visitors and residents that wearing a face covering is a simple act, but a grand gesture to help slow the spread of coronavirus. Local leaders, small business owners and nationally recognized athletes share a unified statement that's rooted in adventure and responsible travel: Mask UP Tahoe. Watch the videos to hear their stories and why they each choose to wear a mask.

WATCH VIDEOS >



“ For North Lake Tahoe to stay open, we all need to do our part and show that we truly care. You wear a mask to protect me and I wear a mask to protect you. When we show up with a mask on, we're showing up for each other. Mask UP. Adventure out. ”



## STAY INSPIRED AND IN TOUCH VIA SOCIAL MEDIA

As we wait for better days to come, there's still so much we share in common – including our great love for this special place that stands as the crown jewel of the Sierra Nevada. We'll continue to share relaxing scenes, videos, and thoughts from North Lake Tahoe, and invite you to share in the discussion with us across our various social channels.



[f LakeTahoeNorth](#) • [@tahoenorth](#) • [@TahoeNorth](#) • [GoTahoeNorth](#)

# RESOURCES

## **State of California Information**

- » [California Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) Response Resilience Roadmap](#)
- » [Retail Guidance & Checklists](#)
- » [Hotel & Lodging Guidance & Checklists](#)
- » [Placer County Reopening Requirements](#)
- » [California State Parks](#)
- » [California Department of Public Health](#)
- » [Visit California](#)

## **State of Nevada Information**

- » [Nevada Travelers & Visitors Information](#)
- » [Washoe County Roadmap to Recovery](#)
- » [Nevada Department of Conservation & Natural Resources](#)
- » [Nevada Gaming Control Board](#)
- » [Nevada State Parks](#)
- » [Nevada Health Response](#)
- » [Travel Nevada](#)

## **North Lake Tahoe Information**

- » [COVID-19 Information](#)
- » [Traveling Tips](#)
- » [Weather Conditions](#)
- » [Tahoe National Forest](#)
- » [Take Care Tahoe](#)
- » [Tahoe Area Rapid Transit](#)

## **Truckee Information**

- » [Town of Truckee COVID Update Page for Travelers](#)

## **South Lake Tahoe Information**

- » [Tahoe South COVID Healthy Travel Information Page](#)

## **Reno Tahoe International Airport**

## **CDC Travel Information**

## **Avalanche Information**

- » [National Ski Patrol Avalanche Safety Page](#)
- » [Avalanche Information & Education in the U.S.](#)
- » [Know Before You Go Avalanche Awareness Program](#)
- » [Avalanche Safety Know Before You Go Video](#)



**north lake tahoe**  
**get back to nature**

[GoTahoeNorth.com](http://GoTahoeNorth.com)

**Tahoe City Visitor  
Information Center**

100 North Lake Blvd.

Tahoe City, CA 96145

800.824.6348

Open Daily | 9am - 5pm

**D.G. Menchetti  
Visitors Center**

969 Tahoe Blvd.

Incline Village, NV 89451

800.824.6348

Open Daily | 10am - 4pm