



Lake Tahoe & The Lost Sierra's

LENGTH: 5 Days / 4 Nights

ACCOMMODATIONS: All Inns Casual and/or Luxury Inns

FITNESS LEVEL: Upper Intermediate/Advanced

[For up-to-date pricing and dates, please visit our website.](#)



Bicycling Magazine named our Lake Tahoe/Sierras mountain bike tour as one of the “Fifty Best Trips on the Planet!” We see it simply as mastery of craft coupled with an extraordinary High Country landscape. Or, our gold standard set to mountain biking Gold Country.

This five-day epic gets underway with a shuttle to Lake Tahoe State Park and Spooner Lake. Our first days’ ride ranges through waves of stunning wildflower meadows, gliding into Aspen-covered hills and vibrantly dappled upslope. From that colorful introduction to The Sierra, we transition straight into a masterpiece: the Flume Trail, critically hailed as one of the premier rides in The West.

The following two days we up the tempo and vary the terrain. Sweeping through the tall forests that cradle Lake Tahoe on fast singletrack, we drop into a host of hidden lakes, ultimately hooking up with the dazzling Tahoe Rim Trail. Yes, you’ve definitely found fat tire Eden.

One day we’re carving Mt. Watson’s tastiest trails, thoroughly enjoying an all-day revel of descents. The next, it’s a more tranquil and meditative half-day out of the saddle, immersing ourselves as John Muir would: with a hike to Tahoe’s shoreline.

Now let’s dive into the details. A number of these signature routes rise above 7,000 feet. Reflexively a peak climb of this caliber requires healthy lungs. Rest assured, the incomparable qualities that define the Tahoe Lost Sierra singletrack, set against stunning Alpine backdrops make the effort all the more rewarding.

Trip Amenities

Atop the mountains cell phone service is surprisingly good. All Inns: The Northstar Resort serves as a superb base for the span of the tour. Notwithstanding the comfort and headspace afforded by your own well-adorned room, Northstar offers onsite dining, smart shopping as well as all the amenities one would expect of a full-service resort. Nakoma is more isolated with an 18 hole golf course, club house, and the most amazing fitness center in the Sierra’s.

Meals Once you’re aboard, all meals are skillfully prepared by local restaurants except our lunches where our guides hand make the meals. *Inns are subject to change.*



Day 1 | Spooner Lake and The Flume

After a meet-up in Reno, we shuttle to 14,300-acre Lake Tahoe Nevada State Park, at a heady 7874-ft elevation. After orientation and introductions, we commence our first ride—The Flume Trail. Talk about a perfect bomb voyage! Besides unparalleled views of Lake Tahoe, Flume packs in moderately challenging climbs along with exhilarating descents down a bygone flume chute. Kicking off at Spooner Lake - northeast of Incline Village—we lock into a four-and-a-half mile long, 1000-foot climb into the Carson mountain range. From the 8157-ft. summit at Marlette Saddle, greeted by swaying Lodgepole pine, our routing segues into the Flume Trail. Now 1600-ft. above the blue-green jewel known as Lake Tahoe, but only a half-mile distant, we sweep past Marlette Lake. A three-mile, 1500-ft descent to Tunnel Creek Road ultimately ends at the trailhead. Our support van waits there; poised to shuttle a contented group of cyclists to their inspired après moment at Northstar Resort*, closing out their first day with no less than a High Country classic.

*Northstar; Hidden among the trees in the majestic Martis Valley in North Lake Tahoe, Northstar welcomes you! You will discover what makes this resort unforgettable, feels timeless, and where comfort is top priority. Here, you'll enjoy a personalized blend of adventure and relaxation over acres of diverse terrain and world-class amenities, as well as our Village with superb après, fine dining, and chic boutiques.

Total Mileage 15 miles	1397 gain	Inn Northstar Resort Ritz Carlton (Luxury option)
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Day 2 | Northstar and Mt. Watson

Care to get wonderfully sidetracked? A big house of groove, the Northstar Mountain Resort folds plush singletrack into cross-country epics, wide-in-the-hips downhill into all manner of buff trail. Soon as the snow melts, Northstar seamlessly transitions into the largest, lift-access mountain bike park in Northern California. From an easy-on-the-joints pleasure cruise with the family, to a get-acquainted technical descent on Sticks N' Stones, or the venerated Boondocks trail... or catching air on the rollers of Livewire and Gypsy, Northstar is an fantasy of fat tire riches: 33 trails in all. Our guides' deep intimacy with the sweet spots, interpreting the best, purpose-built trails in the Sierras means out-of-this-world deliverables: an experience that maximizes every thrilling line and topographic variation.

Total Mileage 18 miles +	Inn Northstar Resort Ritz Carlton (Luxury option)
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Day 3 | Downyville Downhill

A one-hour shuttle takes us to Downyville, California. An erstwhile gold mining settlement, Downyville comes across as cozy and inviting, if not absorbing for its rich history. Dropped into some of the most profound, if charismatic nature California has to offer, we gear up with our friends at Yuba and ride from the nearby Sierra Buttes and Lakes Basin, routing along a series of epic trails. Descending from above 8000-ft to 3000-ft., the trails reflect a combo of mostly intermediate, albeit spiced with some advanced segments. After a day of world-class downhill, in the heart of the Sierra's, we trade the big outdoors for some equally pleasurable indoor experience at the *Nakoma Resort.

*Nakoma Resort -Located in Northern California, Nakoma Resort is a four-season treasure situated in the epicenter of a mountainous outdoor recreation Mecca—the Lost Sierra. Surrounded by 8,000-ft. peaks, more than two-dozen alpine lakes and thousands of acres of national forest, Nakoma is the perfect basecamp for world-class mountain biking. Nakoma features a one-of-a-kind Frank Lloyd Wright-designed clubhouse, a mountain-modern 42-room lodge and a 12,000-sq-ft-recreation center with a climbing gym, fitness studio, theater, heated pool, hot tub and more. Nakoma defines elevated adventure.

Total Mileage 17-34miles	1180-3200 gain	Inn Nakoma Resort
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Day 4 | Mt. Hough: Lost Sierra

Today we team up with our good friends at Nakoma Resort. From atop the 7,232-ft. summit of Mt. Hough (pronounced “huff”), we survey and way-find across the densely forested immensity that is the Lost Sierra region. After putting optics on pristine glacial lakes, broad alpine valleys and—on a bluebird day—Lassen Peak looming on the horizon, riders of all abilities will form smiles borne of a fast, flowy and outrageously fun downhill. Suffice to say, Mt. Hough Trail—packing nearly 4,000 feet of vertical descent, spread over 12-miles of purpose-built trail—is a Lost Sierra treasure of incalculable, out of this world value.

Total Mileage 13-20 miles	861-1261 gain	Inn Nakoma Resort
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Day 5 | Tahoe Rim Trail to Carson City

We go out with a Titan rocket-like bang, saving the Tahoe Rim classic for our finale. Kicking off at 8700-ft., our route sweeps from Incline Village up Tunnel Creek. Sweeping onto the Tahoe Rim, we gain the backcountry of Marlette Lake then along the old Red Flume. A true High Country epic, the Tahoe Rim trail lends big, spanning views not only onto Lake Tahoe but Lake Washoe in Nevada, as well as the Carson Valley. From this vantage point, one can glimpse where the Sierras give way to the Great Basin, America's largest desert. Pressing on, we sweep past Sunflower Hill, locked onto beautifully groomed sections of singletrack. Two-time national champ and Mountain Bike Hall of Famer Max Jones first cleared this trail in 1987. Finishing on the far side of the mountains in handsome Carson City, we close out with a late lunch at a local landmark restaurant across from Nevada's State Capitol. At approximately 4 p.m. we return to Reno, and bid each other farewell.

Total Mileage | 19 miles

2900 gain

WHAT SETS US APART?

Our People: Our guides are the best in the business! Trained personally by the owners, our guides understand the areas you ride and the safety of the group.

Our Commitment: We don't just preach environmental awareness, we live it! We recycle 90% of our waste, run our facilities with solar and wind power, and we are the world's 1st carbon-neutral outfitter.

Our Food: Our guides lovingly prepare meals for the trip with an emphasis on fresh, local and organic foods, ensuring you have the fuel you need to ride, and a delicious meal at the same time- including dessert!

Specific Trip Tips

Please arrive in Reno at least 12 hours prior to your departure time in order to have time to rest, relax and acclimate before the trip.

Use our [Pre-Trip Information Center](#) for packing lists, how to prepare, FAQ and more!

The Basics

State: California/Nevada

Duration: 5 days/4 Nights

Type: Casual and/or Luxury Inns

Airport: Reno, NV

Mileage: 64-88 Miles

Season: Summer

Elevation: 3,229–9,500ft

MEETING INFORMATION

Location: Reno Best Western Airport

Address: 1981 Terminal Way, Reno, NV, 89502

Time: 10:00am

We will meet at the Best Western Airport Plaza Hotel in Reno, NV at 10am on the first day of the tour.

*We will return to Reno around 3pm on the last day of the tour.

*For an additional cost, a single supplement is available for solo travelers on this trip.

BIKE RENTALS

We offer Santa Cruz and Specialized bikes. Please click for more information. [Learn more about our rental gear on our website.](#)

Bringing or shipping your own gear? [See our shipping policy.](#)

Trip Cost Includes: Two guides, all meals starting with lunch on the first day through lunch on the last day, support vehicle, snacks, first-aid, bike maintenance, community gear, and a souvenir shirt.

Trip Cost Does Not Include: Airfare to and from our departure point, lodging before or after the tour, rental bike, or gratuities to Escape Adventures guides. Tips to the guides are given at your discretion and based on the quality of your experience. We suggest 10-20% of your trip cost to be divided between the guides.

This is a general itinerary and may vary. Escape Adventures reserves the right to make changes due to weather, local conditions, government intervention, or any unforeseen reasons that may affect the quality of the trip and/or safety of the participants.