

South Lake Tahoe DIY Getaway July 7th and 8th

Strenuous Hikes

Emerald Bay/Eagle Falls July 7th, Winnemucca July 8th

RSVP required to Debbie Knowles djknowls@yahoo.com

DIY one-night mini-getaway! It is up to you to carpool, reserve a room, and get to the specified trailhead before the listed start time.

Book your reservation now for overnight stay in Tahoe night of July 7

Two budget options are:

High Country Lodge, 1227 Emerald Bay Rd. About \$183

Apex Inn, 1771 Emerald Bay Rd. About \$158

Both south of town on Route 50. Basic two stars with good reviews. Fridge and microwave.

No breakfast. Approximately 35 minutes to Winnemucca trailhead. We will check in after the July 7 Emerald Bay hike.

More upscale choices available on Expedia and Booking.com for Emerald Bay in South Lake Tahoe

**Be sure your reservation is refundable by July 4--
predicted thunderstorms will cancel hikes.**

Day 1: Eagle Falls Trail to Velma Lake (Last done by the club in 2008!)

Moderate/Moderate+ Pace

Tuesday, July 7, 2025

NOTE: This route has NOT been prehiked – we will see what adventures await us!

GENERAL LOCATION: Eagle Falls, South Lake Tahoe

HIKE DISTANCE: About 9 miles, in-and-out and mostly up-then-down

DIFFICULTY: Strenuous.

ELEVATION: Start at 6,600' Max 8,220' Gain 2,180'

PACE: Moderate+

TRAIL CONDITIONS: Much of the trail is rocky, exposed, and open, making for wide-open views and plenty of granite drama. The steepest climbs are in the first 2 miles.

DESCRIPTION: Per AllTrails: We will start from the Eagle Falls Picnic Area and follow the Eagle Lake Trail passing the falls and Eagle Lake and continue through a granite paradise and Upper Velma Lake. Following the Pacific Crest Trail for a short distance will lead to Middle Velma Lake.

FACILITIES: Restrooms at the trailhead.

TRAVEL TIME/DISTANCE: About 112 miles, 2½ hours. **Use Golden Age/Federal Lands Pass for parking** (or \$5 parking fee).

MEETING TIME: Meet in parking lot at Eagle Falls Trailhead by **8:30 AM**. There is often a lot of traffic in this area so allow extra time for parking. Hike departs promptly at 8:45. Trailhead is located across the highway from Emerald Bay. (Drive time from SCLH is about 2½ hours.)

HIKE LEADER/SWEEP: Debbie Knowles/Lisa Mariotti

HIKE ROUTE: ALLTRAILS map: [Middle Velma Lake](#)

PREPARATION FOR HIKE:

- Being prepared physically as well as having the right equipment makes for a better experience, not only for you, but for your fellow hikers.
- If you have any health issues, please consider your condition before hiking at high altitude.

WHAT TO BRING:

- PLENTY OF WATER! Recommend 50 oz. /1.5 liters minimum for 5-mile hike – more if longer. Electrolytes suggested. Higher altitudes are dehydrating even when cool.
- Hiking boots/shoes, hat, sun protection, insect repellent, small first aid kit, lunch. Wind/rain jacket always advisable in the mountains. Trekking poles recommended.
- ID (driver's license), health insurance card, and emergency contact/phone number.

QUESTIONS: Debbie Knowles, djknowls@yahoo.com

DRIVING DIRECTIONS:

Navigate to: Eagle Falls Trailhead, across the highway from Emerald Bay, South Lake Tahoe

About 112 miles, 2½ hours, either I-80 to south on Rte. 89 or Rte. 50 to north on Rte. 89. Check traffic for fastest route.

Day 2: Winnemucca and Round Lakes to Viewpoint on Round Top Trail

Strenuous/Moderate+ Pace

Wednesday, July 8, 2026

NOTE: This route has NOT been prehiked – we will see what adventures await us!

GENERAL LOCATION: Kit Carson Pass

HIKE DISTANCE: 8 miles, in-and-out and up-then-down, can shorten by 0.5 miles if we skip the loop around Frog Lake on the return.

DIFFICULTY: Strenuous

ELEVATION: Start at 8,600' Max 9,650' Gain 1,437'

PACE: Moderate+ to enjoy the scenery and take lots of photos

TRAIL CONDITIONS: Large rock steps, several stream crossings, some rocky and steep areas. After we go past Winnemucca the trail gets significantly steeper for the last mile, but we will proceed at a moderate pace. The last part of the trail is above the tree line and exposed to the elements. Bring plenty of water.

DESCRIPTION: Spectacular views and carpets of wildflowers. Starting at the Carson Pass Ranger Station, we hike a section of the Pacific Crest Trail, with two 300' ascents and large rock steps. Next we hike through more lush meadows to the shore of lovely Lake Winnemucca and on to Round Lake. We will continue about half a mile up the Round Top trail to a scenic viewpoint overlooking lakes and mountains for lunch. We will be sitting on the ground for lunch, so bring something to sit on.

FACILITIES: Restrooms at trailhead.

TRAVEL TIME/DISTANCE: Appx 35 minutes from lodging in South Lake Tahoe. Bring your Golden Age (Federal Lands) Pass if you have one

MEETING TIME: Meet at **8:00 AM AT THE LAKE WINNEMUCCA TRAILHEAD** at the Carson Pass Information Station (Ranger Station). Allow extra time for parking in case lot is full—if lot is full park alongside gravel road just east of Information Station. Hike departs promptly at 8:15 AM. Return directly to SCLH after hike.

HIKE LEADER/SWEEP: Lisa Mariotti/Debbie Knowles

PREPARATION FOR HIKE:

- Being prepared physically as well as having the right equipment makes for a better experience, not only for you, but for your fellow hikers.
- If you have any health issues, please consider your condition before hiking at high altitude or at a fast pace.

WHAT TO BRING:

- **PLENTY OF WATER! Recommend 50 oz. /1.5 liters minimum for 5-mile hike – more if longer.** Electrolytes strongly suggested. Higher altitudes are dehydrating even when cool.
- Hiking boots/shoes, hat, sun protection, insect repellent, small first aid kit, lunch. Wind/rain jacket always advisable in the mountains. Trekking poles recommended.
- ID (driver's license), health insurance card, and emergency contact / phone number.

HIKE ROUTE: ALLTRAILS map: [Winnemucca to lookout on Round Top Trail](#)

DRIVING DIRECTIONS:

Navigate to: Carson Pass Information Station (Ranger Station)

Use National Parks/Federal Lands Pass for parking (or \$10 parking fee)