

HIKING AROUND LAKE TAHOE



WEATHER CONDITIONS CAN CHANGE RAPIDLY. BE PREPARED WITH THE PROPER CLOTHING AND EQUIPMENT, NO MATTER HOW SHORT THE HIKE.

POWERLINE TRAIL

Difficulty: easy **Distance:** various
Description: An easy hike with wonderful views. Go as far as you like, turn around and come back. This trail is shared with bikes.

Trailhead: This is a favorite hike of Black Bear guests because you can walk from the lodge to the trailhead. Walk up Ski Run until it dead-ends, turn right and walk until Saddle dead-ends. Watch for the hand-painted signs.

ANGORA LAKES TRAIL

Difficulty: easy **Distance:** 0.5 miles
Description: An easy half-mile hike leads to two small lakes. Picturesque Upper Angora Lake is framed by cliffs and due to its shallowness it makes for a great swimming spot. Stop at the Angora Lookout on the drive up for a 360 degree view of the basin.

Trailhead: Take Hwy 89 north approximately three miles from South Lake Tahoe to Fallen Leaf Lake Road (just past Camp Richardson) and turn left. Turn left at the first paved road. Continue half a mile to Forest Service Road 12N14 and turn right. Watch for bicyclists along this road. Drive until the road ends; trail continues in same direction.

HEAVENLY GONDOLA / SKI TRAILS

Difficulty: easy **Distance:** various
Description: Enjoy the gondola's 2.4 mile ride (about \$30/person) and get off at the first observation deck. After taking in the view, get back on the gondola and get off at the next stop. Hike the numerous ski slopes, go rock climbing (fake rock wall) or ride the zip line. The zip line travels 3,300 feet in 80 seconds. There is also an outdoor restaurant and bar.

Trailhead: Parking lot is behind gondola. Take Hwy 50 east. Turn left on Heavenly Village Way. Take first left onto Belamy Ct.

STREAM PROFILE CHAMBER / TALLAC HISTORIC SITE

Difficulty: completely flat **Distance:** Rainbow Trail 0.6 miles
Tallac Trail 1.3 miles

Description: There are several trails back here. The Rainbow trail is an easy half-mile walk on a flat asphalt path that goes through the meadow and has nice views of the mountains. The Forest Tree trail is a short dirt path leads straight to the lake. The Tallac Historic trail takes you past the 100-year-old mansions from Tahoe's past.

Trailhead: Take Hwy 89 north approximately three miles from South Lake Tahoe. Turn right at the sign that says, "Stream Profile Chamber."

CASCADE CREEK FALL TRAIL

Difficulty: easy **Distance:** 1 mile
Description: Spectacular views of the 200-foot high falls and Cascade Lake can be seen from this short trail. For best viewing try springtime, when runoff from snow melt is high. Be mindful that the wet rocks near the waterfall are extraordinarily slippery.

Trailhead: Take Hwy 89 north approximately eight miles to Bayview Campground across from Inspiration Point. Parking is located at far end of campground.

VIKINGSHOLM TRAIL

Difficulty: easy **Distance:** 1 mile
Description: An easy hike down a paved road takes you to Vikingsholm. Built in 1929 by Lora Knight. Tour the home in warmer months for a nominal fee.

Trailhead: Take Hwy 89 north approximately nine miles out of South Lake Tahoe, parking lot on right. Look for Vikingsholm sign. This lot fills up early every day.

RUBICON TRAIL

Difficulty: moderate **Distance:** 3.1 miles to Emerald Point
4.4 miles to Vikingsholm

Description: Dipping up and down along the shoreline of Lake Tahoe, this trail offers some of the most scenic views of the lake. Bring a swimsuit and picnic lunch to enjoy a sunny day at one of the many quiet coves along the way. For a one-way hike, park at Bliss and take the trolley at Emerald Bay back to your car. Make sure the trolley is running before doing this.

Trailhead: Take Hwy 89 north approximately ten miles from South Lake Tahoe to D.L. Bliss State Park. There is a parking fee.

ECHO LAKES TRAIL

Difficulty: moderate **Distance:** 2.5 miles to NW corner of Upper Echo; 4 miles to Tamarack
5 miles to Lucille and Margery
5 miles to Lake of the Woods
6 miles to Aloha

Description: See a variety of Alpine lakes on this moderate trail. For a short walk, hike to the far end of Upper Echo Lake. A longer hike leads you to one of the many lakes farther down the trail. A boat taxi operated in the summer by Echo Lakes Resort cuts three miles off of your trip. A nominal fee is charged for this service. A wilderness permit is required.

Trailhead: Take U.S. HWY 50 to Echo Summit and turn onto Johnson Pass Road. Stay left and the road will lead you to the parking area by Lower Echo Lake.

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MARLETTE LAKE

Difficulty: moderate **Distance:** 5 miles to Marlette

Description: The trail is mostly uphill and leads you through North Canyon, lined with aspens, to Marlette Lake. This road provides access to the Flume Trail, a wildly popular, wildly difficult mountain biking trail.

Trailhead: Start at Spooner Lake trailhead. Take Hwy 50 north approximately 13 miles to the junction of Hwy 28. Turn left onto Hwy 28. The first right is the Spooner Lake parking lot. There is a parking fee.

EAGLE FALLS TRAIL

Difficulty: moderate - strenuous

Distance: 4.5 miles to Dicks Lake, Velma Lake, 5 miles to Fontanillis Lake

Description: Leading into the heart of Desolation Wilderness, this steep trail offers majestic views of the Sierra high country. Just a twenty-minute walk, Eagle Lake is a popular short hike. A longer, more strenuous hike will lead you to the three Velmas, Dicks, and Fontanillis lakes. Scan the granite walls to spot expert rock climbers.

Trailhead: Take Hwy 89 north approximately eight miles from South Lake Tahoe to Eagle Falls Picnic Area on the left (half a mile past Inspiration Point). This is a very popular and congested area. A Wilderness permit is required.

CLARK TRAIL

Difficulty: strenuous

Distance: 1.6 miles to Upper Angora Lake

Description: For the more adventurous, this strenuous hike can provide some solitude in a beautiful shady forest. Traversing through loose shale up a steep grade, the trail ends at Angora Lakes.

Trailhead: Take Hwy 89 north about three miles from South Lake Tahoe to Fallen Leaf Lake Road (just past Camp Richardson). Watch for bicyclists, hikers and cars on this narrow, windy road. Continue until you see the Glen Alpine trailhead sign and turn left onto the unnamed dirt road. Park near the waterfall, less than 100 yards from where you turned. Keep your window down and you will hear the falls. After parking, walk back down the dirt road to the junction of Fallen Leaf Lake Road. Look for the small wood-frame chapel to your right. A little post located behind the church marks the hard-to-find trailhead.

MT. TALLAC TRAIL

Difficulty: strenuous, all day hike

Distance: 1.7 miles to Floating Island Lake, 2.5 miles to Cathedral Lake, 5 miles to summit of Mt. Tallac

Description: Providing a spectacular view of Fallen Leaf Lake, Lake Tahoe and Desolation Wilderness, this strenuous hike is well worth the effort. The first part of the trail to Floating Island and Cathedral Lake is moderate and can be enjoyed by the novice hiker. Beyond Cathedral Lake, the trail becomes steep and strenuous as it continues up the front face of Mt. Tallac. Be advised that this is a difficult, steep trail and that hiking down is harder than hiking up. Bring a jacket, carry lots of water and allow plenty of time for your trip. A wilderness permit is required.

Trailhead: The trailhead is located approximately three and one-half miles north of South Lake Tahoe on Hwy 89. Look for the Mt. Tallac Trailhead sign directly across from the entrance to Baldwin Beach and turn left down the dirt road. Continue to the trailhead parking.

