

# SOUTHERN MONO COUNTY

## 1 ROCK CREEK CANYON

*Pristine glacier-carved valley*

Cascading from a high alpine valley in the John Muir Wilderness, Rock Creek Canyon offers 20 miles of a gorgeous creekside setting for year-round outdoor recreation. Rock Creek is famous for Little Lakes Valley, where a string of high-elevation lakes are linked by hiking trails surrounded by 13,000-foot peaks. Summer activities in the canyon include hiking, fishing, boating, horseback riding and camping. At Tom's Place and along the canyon, you'll find year-round lodging, general stores and food services, with Rock Creek Lodge open for winter getaways, cross-country skiing and Adventure Dining. In autumn don't miss the shimmering fall colors which grace the canyon.



**MOUNTAIN BIKERS** enjoy Lower Rock Creek Canyon, which offers 2,000 vertical feet of exhilarating single-track mountain bike trails. The multi-use trail begins south of Tom's Place, just off US 395.



# CENTRAL MONO COUNTY

## 6 LEE VINING

*Small town, big views*

The gateway to Mono Lake and Yosemite National Park, Lee Vining is located at the foot of the Sierra just 12 miles from Tioga Pass and the Park's east entrance. An ideal base camp for exploring the Mono Basin and nearby Yosemite, Lee Vining offers two visitor information centers, trading posts, restaurants, a market, service stations, and many lodging options, including nearby campgrounds.



## 7 MONO LAKE

*An ancient inland sea and bird sanctuary*

One of the oldest lakes in the western hemisphere, Mono Lake is hauntingly beautiful. The lake's most distinctive feature is its eerie tufa towers – mineral structures created when fresh-water springs bubble up through the lake's alkaline waters. This ancient inland sea plays host to millions of migrating birds that come to feed on its teeming populations of alkali flies and tiny brine shrimp. A paradise for bird watchers and photographers, Mono Lake also offers interpretive hiking trails and is a peaceful haven for enjoying nature in all its grandeur.



**THE MONO BASIN SCENIC AREA VISITOR CENTER** is a must-stop for incredible views of Mono Lake, interpretive displays, a free movie, and guided tours of the region. Located at the north end of Lee Vining. For more info call 760-647-3044.



## 2 CROWLEY LAKE AND MCGEE CREEK CANYON

*World-famous trout fishing destination and a local favorite for wildflowers and fall color*

Dominating the broad expanse of Long Valley, Crowley Lake is the focal point of the annual opening of fishing season in Mono County. The marina offers boat rentals, tackle, and camping and RV sites. Surrounded by massive peaks, nearby McGee Creek Canyon is a favorite for camping, stream fishing, hiking, and horseback riding.



**COLORFUL** wildflowers, aspen trees, and dramatic views make McGee Creek Canyon a great place for photographers and nature lovers. Hike or ride horseback up the canyon to high alpine lakes and beaver ponds.



## 3 CONVICT LAKE

*Don't let the name deceive you*

Convict Lake got its name from an incident in 1871, when inmates from a Nevada prison escaped here and battled their way out with a shootout. Today, visitors escape to Convict Lake for fishing, hiking, horseback riding, camping, and to enjoy fine dining (or to tie the knot!) at Convict Lake Restaurant.



# NORTHERN MONO COUNTY

## 11 BODIE GHOST TOWN

*The largest unrestored, best-preserved ghost town in the West*

California's official gold mining ghost town, Bodie was once notorious as the wildest town of the gold rush era. With about 10,000 residents and over 60 saloons, Bodie produced more than \$35 million in gold and silver in its heyday, from 1877 to 1888. Now a State Historic Park, Bodie is the largest unrestored ghost town in the West – an authentic experience not to be missed.

Explore the museum, follow a self-guided tour, or wander the long-abandoned streets and peek into the windows of the general store, hotel, saloon, jail, barbershop, schoolhouse, church and many houses for a glimpse into life of a bygone era.



**BODIE STATE HISTORIC PARK** In summer months, the Park offers daily tours of the Bodie Standard Mill which is over 100 years old. Restrooms and water are the only services available, so pack a picnic lunch, sunscreen, and a jacket for your Bodie outing.



# MAMMOTH LAKES

## 4 MAMMOTH MOUNTAIN AND MAMMOTH LAKES

*Nature, adventure and all the amenities*

Bring a mammoth-sized appetite for year-round adventure. Known for legendary skiing and snowboarding, Mammoth is just as popular in summer, with excellent trout fishing, hiking, mountain biking, camping, horseback riding, and golf. Jazz, blues, and arts festivals fill the summer events schedule, along with athletic competitions and live theatre productions.



**SIGHTSEEING** in Mammoth Lakes includes Devils Postpile National Monument, Rainbow Falls, and the scenic gondola ride to Mammoth Mountain's 11,053-ft. peak. Mammoth Lakes Basin is also a must-see in all seasons, where winding bike paths and roads become cross-country ski trails in the winter.



**WINTER FUN** June Mountain offers wide-open runs, excellent snow, and unforgettable views. June Lake also offers snowmobile and xc ski trails – check out the Nordic track at Silver Meadow – a lit-up festive village, plus the annual Winter Festival & Triathlon. Kids 12 and under ski free at June Mountain, and year-round lodging is available for every style and budget.



# JUNE LAKE

## 5 JUNE LAKE LOOP AND JUNE MOUNTAIN SKI AREA

*Kids 12 and under ski and snowboard free!*

The picturesque village of June Lake and the resorts along its scenic 16-mile loop (Hwy. 158) offer a range of year-round accommodations and amenities, with the relaxed atmosphere of a mountain hideaway. The Loop's four glistening lakes are renowned for fishing, and are stocked with trophy-size trout. Campgrounds, RV parks, paddleboats, horseback riding and hiking trails mean endless summer fun. Autumn brings a phenomenal display of colorful aspens along the Loop, and in winter June Mountain Ski Area is a family-friendly favorite.



## 8 YOSEMITE AND TIOGA PASS

*See Yosemite's jaw-dropping east side*

Mono County is the east gateway to Yosemite National Park. From Lee Vining on US 395, Tioga Pass Road (Hwy. 120 West) winds just 12 miles up to Yosemite's east entrance and to one the Park's greatest wonders, Tuolumne Meadows. Many travelers choose this approach to Yosemite for the impressive views of the Eastern Sierra's escarpment, or because they are coming from Death Valley, the Grand Canyon, or Nevada. Note: Tioga Pass Road is open seasonally, usually from mid-May through mid-November.



## 9 BENTON HOT SPRINGS

*Historic natural hot springs*

Soak in natural hot springs that have been enjoyed by Benton visitors for centuries, first by native populations and then by stagecoach travelers in the late 1800s. Benton was once a silver mining town with 5,000 inhabitants. Today it's a tranquil oasis, and the Inn at Benton Hot Springs is the perfect spot to get away from it all and soak in soothing waters. The Historic Benton Springs Walking Tour map guide is available at the Inn for a nominal fee.



## 10 SADDLEBAG, LUNDY AND VIRGINIA LAKES

*Quintessential High Sierra alpine lakes*

Saddlebag Lake is one of the area's most perfect alpine hiking, fishing and camping destinations, located just outside of Yosemite's east entrance. Lundy Lake, 11 miles north-west of Lee Vining, lies at the end of a serene canyon and is a popular spot for trout fishing. Hikers love the Lundy Canyon Trail for its views of waterfalls, beaver ponds, and fall colors display. Virginia Lakes, above Conway Summit, boasts access to eight alpine lakes, cabin rentals, campsites, boat rentals, and a café.



## 12 BRIDGEPORT

*Where time seems to stand still*

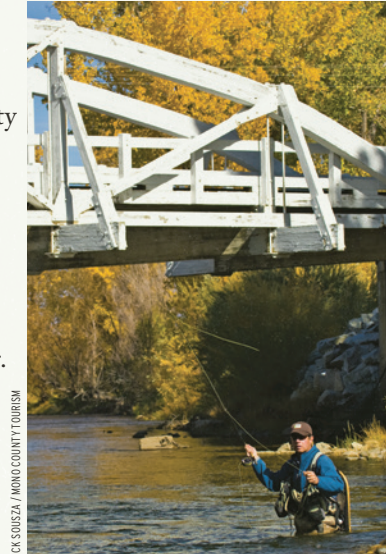
Backed by the jagged spires of Sawtooth Ridge, Bridgeport is the center of a vast recreational playground – the gateway to numerous alpine canyons, peaks, lakes, streams, and hot springs. Nearby Twin Lakes hums with activity all summer, including fishing, boating, hiking, camping, and rock climbing. Robinson and Buckeye creeks are popular for fly fishing, and Green Creek is a more remote destination for camping, fishing, and hiking. Here, too, are the headwaters of the East Walker River which flows to Bridgeport Reservoir, both popular destinations for fishing and bird watching.



## 13 WALKER, COLEVILLE AND TOPAZ

*A trio of towns along the wild and scenic Walker River*

Northern Mono County's trio of towns warmly welcomes visitors to friendly Antelope Valley. The charming community of Walker is proud of its art galleries, trading posts, retro roadside motels and cabins, ATV and off-road trails, horseback riding at two pack stations, and easy access to fishing along the Walker River. Coleville offers a pastoral ranchland setting, and Topaz Lake is known for its prize-winning trout, nine-month fishing season and water sports. Visitors can also try their luck at the casino, located just over the Nevada border overlooking Topaz Lake.



**DESIGNATED A WILD AND SCENIC RIVER**, the Walker River carries brown, rainbow, and Lahontan trout through its winding bends and rocky troughs.





RECREATION SYMBOL LEGEND

- |                                   |                                  |                         |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Hiking Trails                     | Water-Skiing                     | Picnic Areas            |
| Mountain Bike Trails              | Swimming                         | Campgrounds             |
| Fishing                           | Hot Springs                      | RV Facilities           |
| Horseback Riding / Pack Outfits   | 4-WD Routes                      | Lodging                 |
| Rock Climbing                     | Hunting                          | Restaurants             |
| Boat Ramp                         | Downhill Skiing and Snowboarding | Shopping                |
| Canoeing / Kayaking               | Cross Country Skiing             | Historic Site or Museum |
| Birding                           | Snow-Shoeing                     | Ranger Station          |
| Golf Course                       | Ice-Skating                      | Visitor Center          |
| Scenic Gondola or Chairlift Rides | Snowmobiling                     |                         |
|                                   | Snow Play Area                   |                         |
|                                   | Ice Climbing                     |                         |



MONOCOUNTY.ORG



800-845-7922

VISITOR INFORMATION

VISITOR CENTERS / PERMITS / CAMPGROUNDS		
Bridgeport Ranger Station	US 395 in Bridgeport	760-932-7070
Mammoth Lakes Welcome Center	Hwy 203 in Mammoth Lakes	760-924-5500
Mono Basin Scenic Area Visitor Center & Ranger Station	US 395 in Lee Vining	760-647-3044
Mono Lake Committee Information Center & Bookstore	Lee Vining	760-647-6595
Northern Mono County Visitor Center	Walker Country Store	530-495-2945
White Mountain Ranger Station	US 395 in Bishop	760-873-2500
US Forest Service Campground Reservations	Recreation.gov	877-444-6777
	International	518-885-3639

STATE / NATIONAL PARKS & RESERVES

Bodie State Historic Park	760-647-6445
Devils Postpile National Monument	760-934-2289
Mono Lake Tufa State Reserve	760-647-6331
Yosemite National Park	209-372-0200

RECREATION AGENCIES

Bureau of Land Management	760-872-5000
California Department of Fish & Wildlife	760-872-1171

CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE

Bridgeport	BridgeportCalifornia.com	760-932-7500
June Lake	JuneLakeLoop.org	VisitJune.com
Lee Vining	LeeVining.com	760-647-6629
Mammoth Lakes	MammothLakesChamber.org	VisitMammoth.com
Northern Mono County (Walker, Coleville, Topaz)	NorthernMonoChamber.com	530-208-6078

AIR SERVICE

United Airlines (year-round service to Mammoth Lakes/MMH) United.com	800-864-8331
JetSuiteX (winter service to Mammoth Lakes/MMH) XJetSuite.com	800-435-9579

TRANSPORTATION

Eastern Sierra Transit Authority (ESTA)	ESTransit.com	760-924-3184
(Shuttle bus service from Lancaster, CA to Reno, NV)		800-922-1930
Yosemite Area Regional Transportation System (YARTS)	YARTS.com	877-989-2787
(Summer bus service to Yosemite from Mammoth Lakes, June Lake and Lee Vining)		
Mammoth Cabs	MammothLakesCabs.com	760-924-2227
Mammoth Taxi	Mammoth-Taxi.com	760-924-8294
Mammoth All Weather Shuttle	MAWShuttle.com	760-709-2927
My Mammoth Shuttle	MyMammothShuttle.com	760-709-6459
Sierra Shuttle Service	SierraShuttleService.com	760-914-2746
Enterprise Car Rentals	Enterprise.com	760-924-1094
Hertz Rental Car	Hertz.com	760-934-2271

ROAD & WEATHER REPORTS

Caltrans	800-427-7623
National Weather Service	noaa.gov
Winter snowfall typically closes mountain passes from mid-November through mid-May:	
Hwy 120 Tioga Pass; Hwy 108 Sonora Pass	
Hwy 89 Monitor Pass	

EMERGENCY DIAL 911

Mammoth Hospital	760-934-3311
MammothHospital.com	
Northern Inyo Hospital (Bishop)	760-924-5811
NIH.org	

MOUNTAIN MANNERS\*

Like all parents, Mother Nature just loves good manners! Everyone knows the Golden Rule *"Take only photos; leave only footprints"* but here are a few other Mountain Manners\* etiquette tips to help protect the Eastern Sierra:

MANNER #1: Follow the Beaten Path

Please stay on designated paths – alpine plant life is incredibly fragile. Keep dogs on leash.

MANNER #2: Scoop the Poop

Your #2 is becoming our #1 issue. If it's your pet's, please bag it and take it out. If it's your own, bury it in a cat-hole at least 6-8 inches deep or better yet, pack it out.

MANNER #3: Gather Up Garbage

Even if it's not yours, please pack out litter – including food scraps.

MANNER #4: Don't Feed the Bears

Or any wildlife! Store all food in bear boxes or bear-proof containers, NOT in your vehicle.

MANNER #5: Remove Fishing Lines and Hooks

Dangerous to animals, birds, kids, pets and YOU, tangled line and fishing hooks need to be removed and packed out.

MANNER #6: Keep Invasive Species Out

Follow all watercraft inspection rules so as not to destroy lakes, streams and landscape by accidentally introducing an invasive species.

MANNER #7: Don't Pick the Flowers

Enough said – please leave everything (except garbage!) where you find it.

MANNER #8: Social Media Do's and Don'ts

Please don't gootag special places, and take pics safely – Selfie accidents are a thing!

Thank you!

*\*With thanks to the Gunnison Valley/Crested Butte stewardship team for letting us borrow from their Mountain Manners program.*

WILDFIRE PREVENTION

*One less spark, one less wildfire.* Follow these simple rules to help keep our paradise safe from fire devastation:

- Observe all local fire restrictions and get a campfire permit at your local visitor center. Always use an established fire pit and keep campfires small.
- Never leave a campfire or lit camp stove unattended. Ever.
- Do NOT build a campfire if it is windy.
- Ensure your campfire is completely extinguished before you leave – *Drown it, stir it, feel it* – douse the fire with water, stir the ashes, and make sure nothing is still smoldering below the surface.
- Be aware of where you park. Hot mufflers and catalytic converters can easily ignite brush on fire. Maintain your vehicle's brakes and tire pressure. Blowouts and scraping metal cause sparks. If towing, make sure nothing is dragging.
- Personal fireworks are prohibited in Mono County (with the exception of select locations in Bridgeport on July 4th). Local fire departments supervise public fireworks displays on Independence Day in Mammoth Lakes, Crowley Lake and Bridgeport!

Visit [www.PreventWildfiresCa.org](http://www.PreventWildfiresCa.org) to learn more.



A LITTLE LAKES VALLEY: ROCK CREEK CANYON

Located at the top of Rock Creek Road, this relatively easy trail offers dramatic lake-after-lake views.

*Easy to moderate. 5-10 miles round-trip.*

B MCGEE CREEK CANYON: CROWLEY LAKE

Famous for acres of wildflowers in July and rich fall color in October, the trail winds steadily upwards to an active beaver pond which is a great place to stop for lunch. More ambitious hikers can continue further to either Steelhead Lake or Little and Big McGee lakes.

*Moderate. 8 miles, round-trip to the beaver pond.*

C CRYSTAL LAKE TRAIL: MAMMOTH LAKES

A series of switchbacks up from Lake George offer exceptional views of Mammoth Lakes Basin. Stop at Crystal Lake or head higher to Mammoth Crest. *Moderate. 4-miles round-trip.*

D PARKER LAKE TRAIL: JUNE LAKE LOOP

From the north end of Hwy. 158 (June Lake Loop), take Parker Lake Road to the trailhead. After several switchbacks with views of Mono Lake, the trail levels out the rest of the way to the serene lake. *Easy to moderate. 4 miles, round-trip.*

E TWENTY LAKES BASIN: TIOGA PASS

On the east side of Tioga Pass (near Lee Vining), this stunning alpine loop trail linking numerous lakes is located on the north side of Saddlebag Lake. In summer months, if the resort is open, a boat taxi may be available to take hikers across the lake to the trailhead. *Moderate. 4.2-mile loop (additional 2-3 miles round-trip if you hike from the parking area to the trailhead at the north end of Saddlebag Lake).*

F LUNDY CANYON TRAIL: LEE VINING

One of the most highly regarded hikes in the Eastern Sierra for wildflowers, fall colors, waterfalls, and even a beaver dam, the trailhead is at the end of Lundy Lake Road, off US 395, 7 miles north of Lee Vining. *Moderate. 4-6 miles, round-trip.*

G VIRGINIA LAKES TRAIL: BRIDGEPORT

From Big Virginia Lake, the trail climbs steadily past an old mining cabin and several lakes, finally arriving at Summit Pass with panoramic views. *Strenuous. 10 miles, round-trip.*

H LEAVITT MEADOWS TRAIL: WALKER

Just off Sonora Pass Road/Hwy. 108, the Leavitt Meadows trail to Lane, Roosevelt and Secret lakes follows the winding West Walker River. Perfect for families. *Easy to moderate. 7 miles round-trip.*



MONO COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, TOURISM AND FILM COMMISSION

P.O. BOX 603  
MAMMOTH LAKES, CA 93546  
MONOCOUNTY.ORG  
800-845-7922

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MONO COUNTY TOURISM  
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EASTERN SIERRA VISITOR GUIDE



MONOCOUNTY.ORG 800-845-7922

**FLY TO MONO COUNTY!**  
NONSTOP FLIGHTS FROM LOS ANGELES (year-round) AND, WINTER ONLY, FROM SAN FRANCISCO, ORANGE COUNTY, BURBANK AND DENVER.  
[www.MonoCounty.org/FLY](http://www.MonoCounty.org/FLY) \*Flight routes subject to change

DRIVING TIMES AND DISTANCES

DRIVING TO ► FROM ▼	MAMMOTH LAKES		LEE VINING/HWY 120		BRIDGEPORT		WALKER	
	SUMMER	WINTER	SUMMER	WINTER	SUMMER	WINTER	SUMMER	WINTER
LAS VEGAS	5.5 hrs / 310 miles*	Same	6 hrs / 330 miles*	Same	6.5 hrs / 355 miles*	Same	7 hrs / 385 miles*	Same
LOS ANGELES	5.5 hrs / 315 miles	Same	6 hrs / 335 miles	Same	6.5 hrs / 360 miles	Same	7 hrs / 390 miles	Same
RENO	3 hrs / 168 miles	Same	2.5 hrs / 139 miles	Same	2 hrs / 114 miles	Same	1.5 hrs / 84 miles	Same
SACRAMENTO	4.5 hrs / 235 miles	5.25 hrs / 300 miles**	4 hrs / 207 miles	4.75 hrs / 272 miles**	3.5 hrs / 182 miles	4.25 hrs / 247 miles**	3 hrs / 159 miles	4.75 hrs / 217 miles**
SAN DIEGO	6.5 hrs / 400 miles	Same	7 hrs / 420 miles	Same	7.5 hrs / 445 miles	Same	8 hrs / 475 miles	Same
SAN FRANCISCO	5.5 hrs / 280 miles	6.75 hrs / 385 miles**	5 hrs / 252 miles	6.25 hrs / 356 miles**	4.5 hrs / 226 miles	5.75 hrs / 331 miles**	4.5 hrs / 243 miles	5.25 hrs / 306 miles**
YOSEMITE VALLEY	2.5 hrs / 100 miles	SR 120 closed***	2 hrs / 75 miles	SR 120 closed***	2.5 hrs / 100 miles	SR 120 closed***	3 hrs / 130 miles	SR 120 closed***

\*Mileage from Las Vegas to Mono County destinations is calculated using NV-266 / CA-168.

\*\*Winter mileage from San Francisco and Sacramento to Mono County destinations is calculated using I-80 / US-395 as the primary route.

\*\*\*State Route 120 / Tioga Pass is usually closed from the east side of Yosemite National Park from mid-November through mid-May.