Official Insiders' Guide Bakersfield Sounds GENUINE GRUB Bakersfield's unique creative culture is Chow down on great food you won't be able to find anywhere else music to your ears FAMILY FUN - OUTDOOR ADVENTURE - MAPS & MORE!

Streets of Bakersfield

As Bakersfield's Mayor, it is a pleasure to welcome you to our city.

Bakersfield is known for its warmth, hospitality, country music, Basque cuisine, Mexican food, and so much more. I am confident you will find something here to suit your taste, and I invite you to make yourself at home in our community.

In this Official Bakersfield Insiders' Guide, you will find tips on how to experience what makes our city special: our music, unique food, racing, craft breweries, locally made products, and outdoor activities—all combined for lots of family fun.

Bakersfield welcomes visitors to conventions, meetings, sports events, and family gatherings, and many others who are simply passing through our city to other locations. Regardless of what brings you here, our city of friendly people will bring you back.

We are glad you've come our way, and hope you find your time in Bakersfield enjoyable.

Respectfully yours,

Karen Goh, Mayor, City of Bakersfield



"I came here looking for somethin' I couldn't find anywhere else..."

Whatever your reason for visiting us, Bakersfield welcomes you.

In the mid-19th century, a fellow named Col. Thomas Baker settled this area. He let the word out that this was a place where weary travelers could stop and rest: rest themselves and rest their animals. Word soon spread that everyone was welcome to stop and rest in Baker's field.

We dropped the apostrophe long ago, but the name "Bakersfield" caught on. And that welcoming spirit of Col. Baker thrives in California's ninth largest city. We welcome all shapes, all sizes, all colors, and all religions from all over the world. That welcoming spirit? It's in our Bakersfield DNA.

"Hey, I'm not trying to be nobody I just want a chance to be myself..."

Because our city was founded on hospitality, the friendly and knowledgeable staff at Visit Bakersfield look forward to answering your questions: toll free at 866-425-7353 or info@VisitBakersfield.com. You can also check us out on Facebook and Instagram.

"Trying to find me something better Here on the streets of Bakersfield"

Let us show you firsthand that Bakersfield is... The Sound of Something Better.

With every good wish,

David Lyman, PhD Manager, Visit Bakersfield



Lyrics from Streets of Bakersfield by Homer Joy



VISIT BAKERSFIELD

515 Truxtun Ave. Bakersfield, CA 93301 866-425-7353 661-852-7282 Fax: 661-325-7074 VisitBakersfield.com



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OF







- Genuine Grub Award-winning food and unique dining experiences will satisfy your taste buds.
- Hit the Trail
 Explore the great outdoors by biking, hiking, and rafting through unspoiled terrain.
- Fun for the Fam
 From museums to petting zoos, find plenty of fun for the whole family.
- Racing Capital of California
 Nothing pumps your adrenaline quite like the loud vroom from the track.
- 21 Driving the Streets of Bakersfield
 Take a leisurely tour of the city without having
 to leave your car.
- The Sounds of Bakersfield
 Bakersfield boasts a rich music history that
 stretches far beyond the Bakersfield Sound.



BACK COVER PHOTOS: Bakersfield Condors by Mark Nessia, Tiki-Ko, CALM Holiday Lights, River's End Rafting, Kern County Scottish Games and Festival, Auto Club Famoso Raceway



Bakersfield Brew-haha
Belly up to the bar and sample the local
brews on tap.

Tastes to Take Home
Take a piece of Bakersfield home
with you.

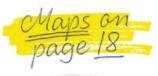
On Your Way

Just a short drive from Bakersfield

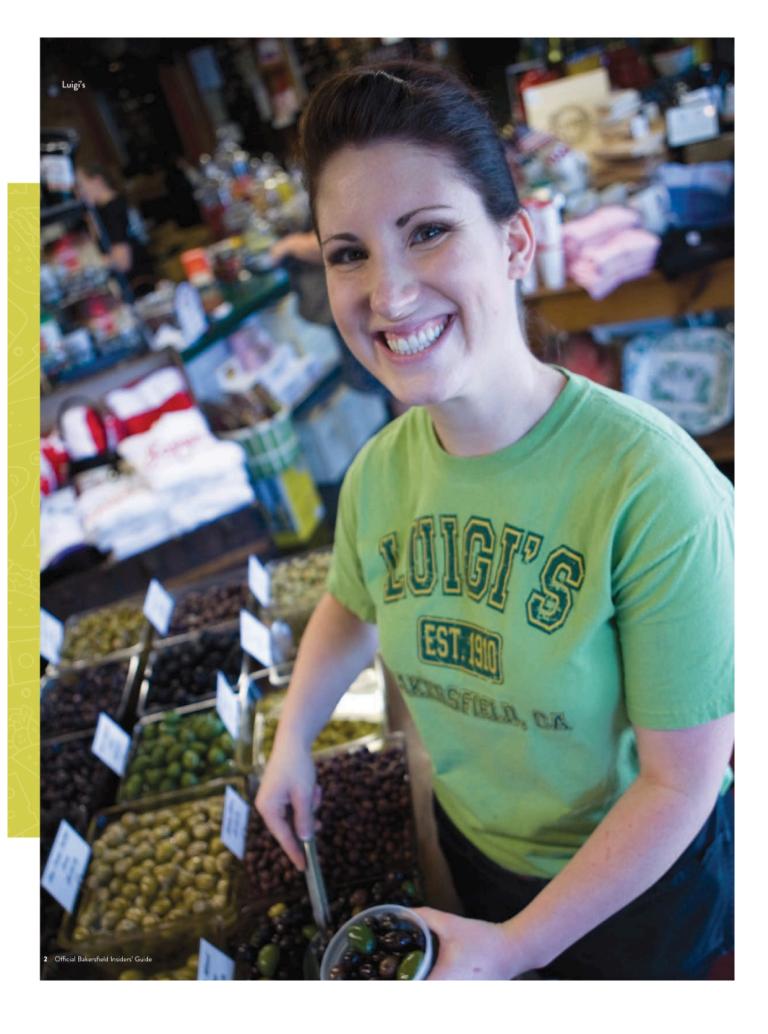
brings you right to perfect daytrip

destinations.

Big in Bakersfield
Find insider tips on how you can snap
photos at big Bakersfield spots.











Bakersfield offers spreads of food from around the globe served in fun and memorable settings. You and your dining companions will have an unforgettable time. But don't just take our word for it. In recent years, Bakersfield's fun food experiences have been featured in the New York Times, on Yelp, and on television. Now you can dive in and experience firsthand the exciting food found exclusively in Bakersfield.



For more details, check out the Downtown Restaurant Guide available at VisitBakersfield.com » Visitors » Brochures.



If the multiple courses are too much, ask for the " CE UP.

Bakersfield is home to one of the largest collections of Basque restaurants in the United States. Customarily, Basque meals are a multi-course feast, served family-style at long trestle tables. Dinner is delivered in courses: soup and bread, salad, beans, French fries, and a meat entrée. Local Basque eateries include **Woolgrowers** (Barbra Streisand and James Brolin's favorite!), **Pyrenees Cafe, Chalet Basque**, and **Benji's**.

Insider's tip, if the multiple courses are too much, ask for the "set up," which omits the main meat serving.

Woolworth's Luncheonette is the last remaining Woolworth's lunch counter in the U.S. Where can you go back in time to enjoy classic hamburgers, fries, and milkshakes while sitting at a timeless 74-foot-long luncheonette counter in a 1939 Art Moderne building, with the rest of the building converted to an antique mall? The answer: only in Bakersfield.



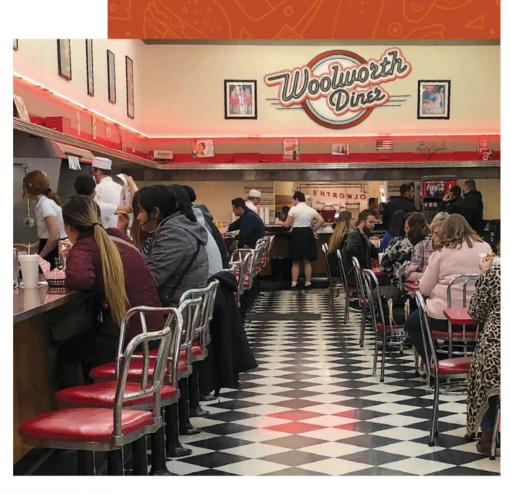
CLOCKWISE FROM TOP Benji's, Camino Real Kitchen & Tequila, Woolgrowers, Athena's Greek Café



Luigi's is one of Bakersfield's oldest continuous family-operated businesses. Generations still flock to this local institution, looking for classic Italian food with a homey feel, served on red-checkered tables and surrounded by photos of local sports heroes (see if you can spot hometown hero Frank Gifford). Luigi's has an adjacent grocery store boasting a variety of meats, cheeses, sauces, and award-winning Rio Bravo Ranch olive oil.

Nuestro Mexico has the best tacos in California, according to Thrillist.com: "This bright, colorful, family-run spot packs about three street-tacos worth of steak into a single carne asada taco, but it's not just the quantity of meat that makes it so great. It's marinated in a blend of Mexican spices that pairs perfectly with the fresh grilled flavor."

Punjabi Dhaba is a food truck catering to California's growing number of Punjabi big rig truck drivers, and was featured in the New York Times Food Section: "The rotis were flawless, king-size rounds. Each one was thin and even, freckled with char and shimmering. The dough had been rolled and cooked to order, so the rotis came out hot and supple, stacked on a paper plate alongside deli containers



ABOVE Woolworth's Luncheonette



ABOVE & RIGHT Salty's BBQ and Catering

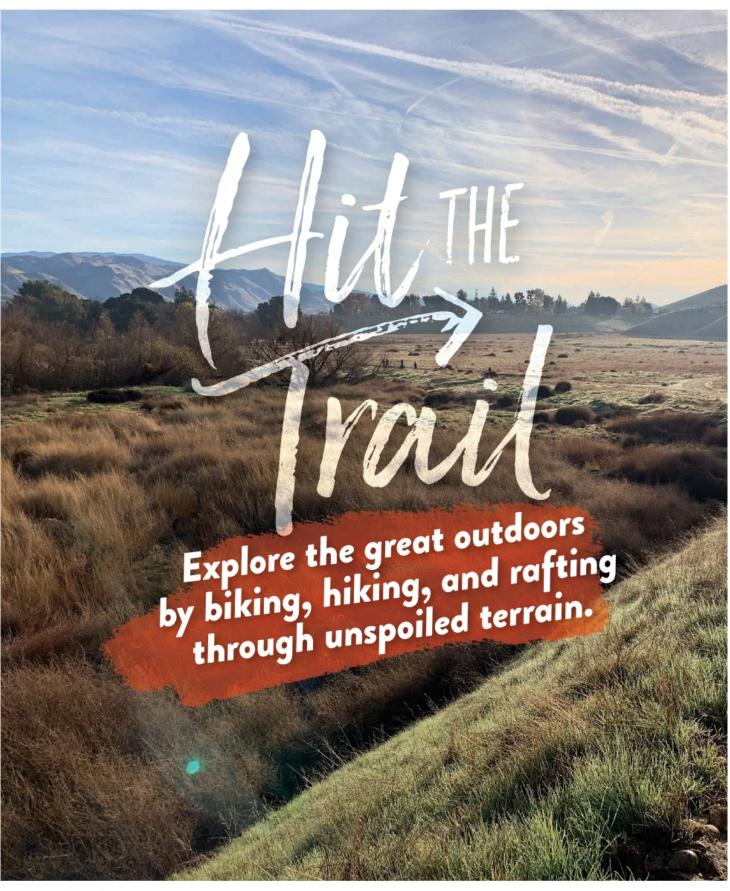
of dal and a few plastic spoons. More important, if you order the stuffed paratha—and you must order the stuffed paratha—a \$3 masterpiece that comes, as it should, with a dollop of raita, a few pieces of pickled onion and a single gold foil-wrapped pat of butter, it's best to take a seat and start on it right away."

Guy Fieri featured these seven Bakersfield favorites in his popular Food Network show *Diners*, *Drive-Ins, and Dives*: Moo Creamery, 24th Street Café, Salty's BBQ and Catering, Pyrenees Cafe, KC Steak House, Mama Roomba, and Athena's Greek Café.

And PorkChop & Bubba's BBQ ranked 14th among Yelp's "Top 100 Places to Eat in the U.S. for 2020." Raspberry chipotle sauce, anyone?

FOOD AND DRINK Festivals

Check out Bakersfield food and drink festivals for more fun: Bakersfield Uncorked, Basque Festival, Cherry Festival, Country and Craft Beer Festival, Greek Food Festival, Jewish Food Festival, Mac and Cheese Fest, Scottish Festival, Menudo Cook-Off, Village Fest, and more!





Bakersfield has lots of sunshine, so that means countless ways to enjoy the outdoors. Biking, hiking, river rafting, fishing, and boating are all found either in the city or close by. The sound of the great outdoors is waiting for you.

LEFT
Near California Living Museum

ABOVE
Kern River Parkway Trail

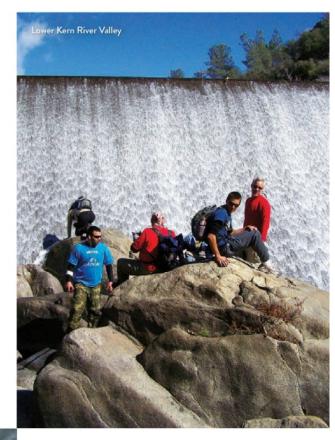
VisitBakersfield.com 7

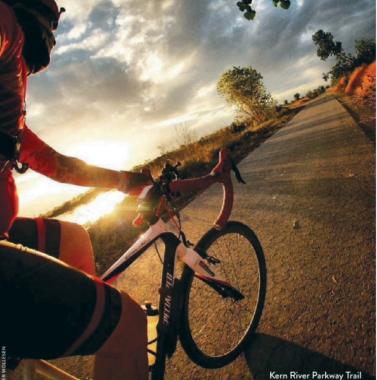
Find wilderness in the city when you visit the **Kern River Parkway.** It begins at the mouth of Kern River Canyon and includes more than 6,000 acres of trails, parks, and waterways extending more than 30 miles to Interstate 5 and beyond. Find all forms of outdoor recreation and nature study, including biking, hiking, paddling, and photography.

Further east, the scenic **Kern River Canyon** offers campgrounds, hot springs, and fishing holes, all while gaining elevation along Highway 178 through the Sierra Nevada. You can hike, mountain bike, rock climb, and fly fish among mountain peaks and lush forests—and don't forget about boating, snow skiing, snowshoeing, and white-water rafting. The Kern River offers whitewater experiences from class I through class V.

To the south is **Wind Wolves Preserve**, the West Coast's largest nonprofit preserve. It includes the entire San Emigdio Land Grant, once owned by John C. Fremont. The preserve is open daily for hiking, mountain biking, and picnicking. There also are seasonal wildflower and wildlife viewing tours by vehicle. More than 153,000 children have participated in the preserve's free outdoor educational programs.

To the west are several national and state recreation areas. The Carrizo Plain National Monument offers birding, camping, hiking, bicycling, horseback riding, hunting, wildflowers, and sightseeing. Both Tule Elk State Natural Reserve and Kern National Wildlife Refuge offer chances to see wildlife close up, either on foot or in your car.





Biking

With more than 170 miles of bike trails, lanes, and paths, Bakersfield is made for bike adventures! Start with our 30-plus-mile paved path along the Kern River. The Kern River Parkway Trail takes you through a preserved riparian habitat, where you might see rabbits, roadrunners, and other wildlife, all protected from development.

Easy access is provided by several free parking lots along the way, as well as links to local roadways, so you can ride the Kern River Parkway Trail a section at a time or all in one day. The trail also provides a convenient link to California State University, Bakersfield, and a connecting path through the university takes you to shopping, restaurants, movie theaters, and a hotel.

Looking for something more challenging? Try the route some of the world's best cyclists rode when they visited Bakersfield in 2012 for the Amgen Tour of California. The time-trial course featured 18.4 miles of rolling terrain, including more than 850 feet of ascent. Ride the route that challenged the champions. (see the following page for details)

Not many communities have a 30-mile green belt winding through their city, or an outstanding world-class time-trial course, so bring your bike to ride these routes yourself. The Amtrak San Joaquins line offers free bicycle racks on a first-come, first-served basis on all of its trains, with no reservations required. Unboxed bicycles can also be put in the bin under connecting Amtrak Thruway buses. When you arrive, both Golden Empire Transit and Kern Transit buses offer free bike racks on their buses. That means you and your bike can get to locations throughout Bakersfield or to many outlying Kern County communities, as well as the Lancaster and Santa Clarita Metrolink stations.

Whatever your cycling level, Bakersfield is made for bike adventures.

The new Kern River Parkway Trail brochure has a detailed map with nearby attractions and amenities. Get yours at VisitBakersfield.com » Visitors » Brochures.



RIDE THE ROUTE OF THE 2012 AMGEN TOUR OF CALIFORNIA TIME TRIAL

Start at the northeast corner of Bakersfield College at Panorama Drive and Mt. Vernon Avenue. Head north onto Alfred Harrell Highway for an immediate 7% downgrade, where you could reach speeds of nearly 60 miles per hour on this half-mile descent. Carry that speed through a 100-foot climb over the next mile, leading into yet another 5% descent into the Goodmanville Valley that can produce speeds of up to 50 miles per hour. Fight the road's undulations into Hart Park, then continue through rolling terrain for the next four miles, passing the Kern County Soccer Park and the California Living Museum.

Turn left past Bakersfield Fire Station No. 10 onto Lake Ming Road heading to the lake on a 7% grade. Once past the marina, the suffering begins. Climb 100 feet back to the fire station before turning right again onto Alfred Harrell Highway. Climb past the California Living Museum on a false flat, then gain speed as you pass the Kern County Soccer Park and enter the east side of Hart Park. Take a different route through the park using Lake Road, then exit Hart Park into a roller the size of an overpass that will dig into your legs and challenge your speed. Once on top, you will enjoy about 11/2 miles of 30-mile-per-hour cruising as you pass again through Goodmanville. Then the climb is on. A 5% grade means about a half-mile of leg-searing pain awaits. The reward is the 100-foot drop over the next 11/2 miles as you try to build speed into the final climb.

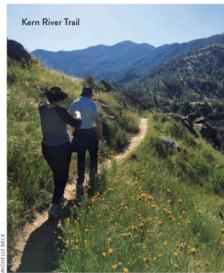
Follow the one-way road heading up the bluffs. Don't be caught off-guard by the severity and length of this finishing "bump," with more than 200 feet of climb in just ¾ of a mile. That last climb includes a section of 8% grade that will leave a lasting impression.

Finally at the top of China Grade, turn left onto Panorama Drive for about a half mile to where you began with more than 40 feet of elevation gain.

Bakersfield has many possibilities for footpowered fun. Check out some of these routes for yourself.

Mill Creek Linear Park This paved path runs along the Kern Island Canal downtown from 17th Street to Golden State Avenue. Along the way, you will pass a replica of a mill house that was located in the area, the Sister City gardens saluting Bakersfield's sister cities, the Bakersfield Museum of Art, and a federal courthouse next to a large lagoon.

check out the changing exhibits inside the Bakersfield Museum of Art, 1930 R St., and a series of five abstract landscape scenes



inside the U.S. Courthouse, 510 19th St. Known collectively as Water Paintings and created by Lucinda Parker, the series underscores the importance of water in our climate. They are placed in areas that overlook the Mill Creek lagoon, creating a link to water.

Panorama Bluffs Walking Trail This 1.8-mile paved path is ideal for a casual stroll or a more strenuous power walk. It meanders along the bluffs overlooking the Kern River and the Panorama Vista Preserve below, with the southern Sierra Nevada in the distance. The trail climbs about 90 feet along Panorama Drive from its western end near Westbluff Court to the eastern end at Haley Street. You can access part of the Panorama Vista Preserve by hiking down a trail from the bluffs. Park trailside along Panorama Drive, or in a small parking lot at Panorama Drive and River Boulevard.

This is the best place to see Bakersfield's sunsets. Panorama Vista Preserve Within this 936-acre private property natural habitat preserve is some of the most beautiful wooded land on the river with numerous species of plants and animals. It is open for limited low-impact public use and is used year-round by many local equestrians, walkers, birdwatchers, and bicyclists. You can reach the north side of the river via the parking lot on East Roberts Lane east of Manor Street. The south side can be accessed several ways: from the Kern River Parkway Trail on the east side of Manor Street, from China Grade Loop south of the Gordon's Ferry marker, or by walking down the bluffs along Panorama Drive.

Hart Park This 370-acre regional park is only minutes from downtown Bakersfield. Several formal and informal trails allow you to climb up the bluffs overlooking the park and the Kern River. Access these trails from the west end





of the park on the south side of Alfred Harrell Highway at Mirror Drive.

Wind Wolves Preserve Here you will find great birding, along with full moon and blackout hikes. On some weekends, the San Emigdio Express van or bus makes trips up and down San Emigdio Canyon, allowing visitors to hitch a ride along the way and see more of the beautiful scenery. There are several trails at Wind Wolves, which is open daily.

Insider's tip: Look for Native American rock art, some of the most noteworthy in North America.

Kern River Trail Experience the Kern River Canyon with this three-mile trail about an hour from downtown Bakersfield. Access it from Highway 178 and park at the bridge on the right about two miles past Kern Canyon Road, then cross the highway to reach the trailhead.

Pacific Crest Trail This legendary trail spans 2,650 miles and connects the Mexican border to the Canadian border. Access a portion of this epic hike from two points in Kern County: Walker Pass and Tehachapi.

Tehachapi Mountain Trail Experience an almost 2,000-foot elevation gain in a nearly five-mile climb to the top of the peak. This trail is about an hour from downtown Bakersfield in Tehachapi Mountain Park south of Highline Road. Follow Water Canyon Road to County Park Road into the campground, then follow the campground road to the marked trailhead near the south end of the campground.

Looking for a blast of fun? River's End Rafting is the closest rafting location to downtown Bakersfield, only 20 minutes away on Highway 178. River's End Rafting specializes in a stretch of class II-III whitewater rapids that flows from the mouth of the Kern Canyon to Lake Ming. The Blaster is one of its Signature Series whitewater (not white-knuckle) rafting trips suitable for adventurers of all skills and abilities. Embark on your wet and wild excursion from the historic Rio Bravo Ranch, famous for its renowned olive oil production. Insiders the Plan to sample olive oil or wine before or after your rafting excursion.

Check out nearby Lake Ming, Buena Vista Aquatic Recreational Area, and Lake Isabella. All are popular with boaters, anglers, and jet skiers.



Wildlife

California Living Museum (CALM) is the state's premier native zoo and garden. Many of the 250-plus animals at CALM are non-releasable and some cannot live in the wild due to physical disabilities.

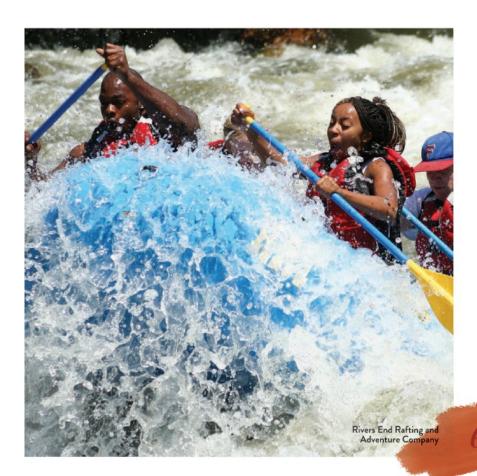
Visit the California Coast Room, a docentled touch tank filled with native sea creatures and a jellyfish breeding exhibit.

Tule Elk State Natural Reserve,

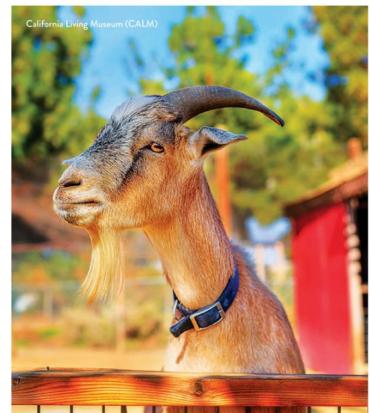
open daily, is the protected home of a small herd of tule (pronounced TOO-lee) elk. In 1895, only 28 tule elk were left in the world. Today, almost 4,000 of these elk can be found among more than 20 herds across the foothills and grasslands of California-including Wind Wolves Preserve where the reintroduced herd has grown to more than 200. Numerous birds of the San Joaquin Valley can also be sighted at the natural reserve.

Insiders tip: Rangers lead auto safaris of the reserve on the second and fourth Sundays of the month.

Kern National Wildlife Refuge sits on the southern margin of what was once the largest freshwater wetland complex in the western United States. It provides optimum wintering habitat for migratory birds with an emphasis on waterfowl and water birds. You also might see a variety of other wildlife. A year-round, six-mile auto route leads through some of the wetlands.

















Bakersfield's year-round sunny weather means there are things to see and do whenever you decide to visit.



AROUND THE STATION

Kids of all ages love trains, so why not take the train to Bakersfield? Many family fun activities are within walking distance of our downtown Amtrak station, and Amtrak offers discount fares for kids. You could make it a day trip, but with so many family-friendly things nearby, consider spending the night. There are hotels within walking distance of the Amtrak station, plus

many other Bakersfield hotels offer free shuttle service.

Once your train arrives, you are just steps away from fun activities for all ages. Ice skate at Valley Children's Ice Center, catch a movie at 16-screen Maya Cinemas just next door, visit McMurtrey Aquatic Center next to the Ice Center and Maya Cinemas, and expand the mind with a visit to Kern Veterans Memorial and adjacent Liberty Tree on the north side of the Amtrak parking lot. Then walk across "S" Street to the Beale Memorial Library, where a variety of children's offerings await.

BAKERSFIELD MUSEUM TRAIL

Explore a turn-of-the-20th-century 16-acre village, the

largest collection of Sharktooth Hill Miocene fossils in the world, scores of endangered animals and plants, and a broad spectrum of visual arts experiences, all along the Bakersfield Museum Trail.

RIGHT

Farms

Aboard the Amtrak

San Joaquins

FAR RIGHT

Flight Fit N Fun

BELOW RIGHT Murray Family

This 15-mile driving route connects four unique and familyfriendly Bakersfield attractions-Bakersfield Museum of Art, Buena

> Vista Museum of Natural History and Science, California Living Museum, and

Kern County Museum. Along the way, discover some historic sites and points of interest, plus statues of both the first European visitor to our area and a giant Native American

Your Bakersfield Museum Trail Brochure gets you special savings at each museum. The more you visit, the more you save. Pick up your free Bakersfield Museum Trail brochure at any of the museums or at Visit Bakersfield (515 Truxtun Ave.). You also can download it online at VisitBakersfield.com/MuseumTrail.

BUENA VISTA MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY AND SCIENCE

A unique museum offering fun and educational experiences for all ages, the Buena Vista Musuem of Natural History and Science is home to a world-class collection of one-of-a-kind Miocene fossils (14-16 million years old) found in the foothills of Bakersfield. Additional exhibits include a large collection of African, Asian, and North American animal mounts; dinosaur replicas and fossils; and Native American lifeways, a life-size interpretive family dwelling area with artifacts, paintings, and baskets. Also explore a geology section with gems, minerals, petrified woods, fluorescent rocks, and the Oh! Zone and Explore-it Zone interactive hands-on areas that are designed for children but have something for all ages. 2018 Chester Ave.

California Living Museum (CALM)



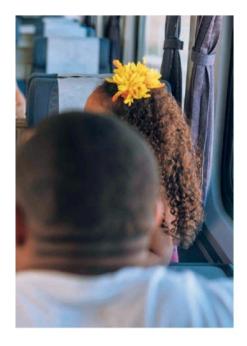








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CALIFORNIA LIVING MUSEUM (CALM)

This is California's premier native zoo and garden. Consistently voted "Best Family Attraction" in the *Bakersfield Californian's* Reader's Poll, its spectacular Holiday Lights—with more than three million lights—was also

voted "Best Annual Event." Most of the 250+ animals at CALM are non-releasable. Some cannot live in the wild due to physical disabilities and others have become dependent on humans due to being orphaned in the wild. Visit the award-winning Cats of California exhibit housing mountain lions and bobcats, and the desert bighorn sheep exhibit, a cooperative breeding program aimed at increasing this endangered species. Be sure to visit the California Coast Room featuring moon jellies and an intertidal touch tank, as well as the endangered California Condors who are CALM's most recent residents. 10500 Alfred Harrell Hwy.

KERN COUNTY MUSEUM

Take a walk through history at the Kern County Museum. Thousands of historical and cultural artifacts are displayed in more than 56 historic buildings on 16 beautifully landscaped acres. Your self-guided tour includes treasures such as a one-room school, a general store, a jail, an oil derrick, seven historic homes, a world-class oil museum, and a children's museum. From California's Gold Rush through its settlement and development to the crucial oil industry of today, the state's rich heritage can be experienced in one convenient and central location at the Kern County Museum. 3801 Chester Ave.

BAKERSFIELD MUSEUM OF ART

One of Bakersfield's finest cultural institutions, the Bakersfield Museum of Art is dedicated to engaging, inspiring, and building community through the arts. In its 60-year history, it has provided outstanding exhibits and offered unique educational opportunities in the visual arts to Bakersfield and its surrounding communities. Enjoy world-renowned exhibitions or relax in the beautiful sculpture garden at Bakersfield's only museum accredited by the American Alliance of Museums. 1930 R St.



MORE FAMILY FUN IDEAS

- River's End Rafting and Adventure Company is less than 20 minutes from downtown. It's the closest river rafting company to Los Angeles.
- The BLVD features bowling, a ropes course, laser tag, karaoke, and an arcade. Nearby is the indoor trampoline park Flight Fit N Fun.
- View the stars at the William M. Thomas Planetarium at Bakersfield College in a 36-foot dome, the largest in the Central Valley.
- At Murray Family Farms, visit the petting zoo and bounce pillow, get a
 hayride tour of a working farm, and hand-pick fruits and vegetables in
 season.
- Pick up lots of dates, citrus, nuts, and dried fruit at California Fruit Depot, billed as the state's smallest volume packing house. Try the date milkshakes!
- · Go roller skating at Skateland, Rollerama, and Rollerama West.
- · Gain elevation at the rock climbing wall at Action Sports.
- Enjoy more than 100 games, rides, and attractions at John's Incredible Pizza.

However you arrive, Bakersfield's family-friendly activities are ready for you. Stop by Visit Bakersfield at 515 Truxtun Ave., next to the downtown Amtrak station, for free maps and personal assistance for some kid-friendly local attractions.

For even more family-fun ideas, check out our events calendar at VisitBakersfield.com » Events to see what is happening during your visit.





NOTHING PUMPS YOUR ADRENALINE QUITE LIKE THE VYUUM FROM THE TRACK.

AUTO RACING is arguably the most popular spectator sport in Bakersfield. Events like March Meet, California Hot Rod Reunion, and Winter Showdown are just a few of the draws held at any of our four racetracks throughout the year. Having so many tracks is why Bakersfield is the Racing Capital of California.

Auto Club Famoso Raceway hosted the first March Meet in 1959 and it helped establish the fledgling National Hot Rod Association's (NHRA) legitimacy. Today, the Famoso Raceway, located about 30 miles north of Bakersfield,

still hosts the March Meet, drawing more than 30,000 spectators during its annual three-day run. In October, the track hosts the wildly popular California Hot Rod Reunion. For lovers of fast vintage cars and drag racing, these two mega-events draw fans from around the world, and a visit to the strip is a must.

Kern County Raceway Park has brought NASCAR back to Bakersfield! With a half-mile paved oval and a

ABOVE Auto Club Famoso Raceway March Meet

RIGHT Auto Club Famoso Raceway quarter-mile oval inside, this state-ofthe-art facility is the newest addition to the Bakersfield auto racing scene. Its 5,000 seats and 21 VIP suites provide outstanding views and its location adjacent to Interstate 5 means easy access for visitors from throughout California. The annual Winter Showdown is a 300-lap race and is the richest purse for any short-track race in the country. It has been nationally televised each year and has drawn the top Super Late Model teams from around the nation.

Insider's tio. An elite group of drivers hold the title of Winter Showdown Champion: two-time winner Bubba Pollard (2015, 2016), four-time SPEARS Southwest Tour Series champion Derek Thorn (2017), NASCAR Cup Champion Kyle Busch (2018), and four-time Mid-West Tour champion Ty Majeski (2019).

Bakersfield Speedway is known as the West's fastest 1/3mile, high-banked clay oval.











This is home to races each weekend from March to October. The track draws fans and racers from across the Western United States for IMCA modified, hobby stocks, American stocks, and mini stocks races. The track is a popular stop for racers between Las Vegas and many California racetracks.

Buttonwillow Raceway is the place to be for open wheel race fans. Located about 30 miles northwest of Bakersfield, the road course track is owned and operated by the California Sports Car Club. Buttonwillow is the flagship track of Cal Club and is also the location of the Club's administrative offices. Racing events are held throughout the year.

SPEED WITHOUT THE MOTOR

Metro BMX Bakersfield is where you can find the thrill, excitement, and adrenaline rush of BMX racing and freestyle. Get ready for big jumps, steep backsides, deep turns, and downhill sections to gain massive speeds. Metro BMX welcomes thousands of visitors at the many competitions it hosts throughout the year, including the Golden State Nationals.



BAKERSFIELD

AREA

Distance To

Sequoia National Park	97 mi. (156 km)
Los Angeles	112 mi. (180 km)
Yosemite National Park	203 mi. (326 km)
Death Valley	220 mi. (354 km)
San Diego	232 mi. (373 km)
San Francisco	284 mi. (457 km)
Las Vegas	286 mi. (460 km)
Sacramento	286 mi. (460 km)

Points of Interest

- 1 Auto Club Famoso Raceway
- Bakersfield College
 Bakersfield Municipal Airport
- Bakersfield Speedway
 Buck Owens' Crystal Palace
- 6 California Fruit Depot
- California Living Museum (Bakersfield Zoo)
- 8 California State University, Bakersfield
- Camelot Park
- Dignity Health Amphitheatre
- Flight Fit N Fun
- 12 Hart Park
- (B) Kaiser Permanente Sports Village
- 14 Kern County Fairgrounds
- 15 Kern County Museum

- (6) Kern County Raceway Park
 (7) Kern County Soccer Park
 (8) Kern River Parkway Trail (Paved Bike Path)
- 19 Lake Ming
- 19 Lake Ming
 20 Meadows Field Airport (BFL)
 21 Mesa Marin Sports Complex
 22 Murray Family Farms
 23 Panorama Vista Preserve
 24 River's End Rafting
 25 Sam Lynn Ballpark
 26 The BLVD

- Valley Plaza Mall
 Wind Wolves Preserve
- Visit Bakersfield (Visitor Center)



Doyntoyn

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Points of Interest

- Amtrak Bakersfield Station
 Bakersfield Condors Hockey
 Bakersfield High School
 Bakersfield Museum of Art

- Beale Memorial Library
 Buena Vista Museum of
 Natural History & Science
- 7 City Hall
- 8 Downtown Parking Garage
 9 Federal Courthouse

- (10) Fox Theater (11) GET Bus Downtown Transit Center
- Greater Bakersfield Chamber
- (13) Kern County Administrative Center
- (14) Maya Cinemas
- (15) McMurtrey Aquatic Center (16) Mechanics Bank Arena, Theater and Convention Center

- Merle Haggard Post Office
 Mill Creek Linear Park
 Nuestro Mexico (Best Tacos In California according to Thrillist.com)
- 20 Sister City Gardens
- Stars Theatre Restaurant
- Valley Children's Ice Center
- Visit Bakersfield
 H Hospital

Selfie Spots

- A Guthrie's Alley Cat
- Korn Row
- Mill Creek Covered Bridge
- (F) Woolworth's (Last Remaining Lunch Counter in the U.S.)



EXPLORE THE STREETS OF BAKERSFIELD WITH THESE DRIVING TOURS.

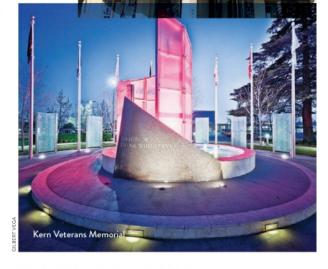
BAKERSFIELD DRIVING TOUR

This 30-mile tour takes you to Kern County Museum, then past the site where the first permanent settler of Bakersfield lived. Afterward, you climb along the bluffs overlooking one of the country's largest oil fields before you descend those bluffs through the Sierra foothills to one of the area's oldest, and largest, parks. Caution: watch for peacocks! Next you will discover CALM-the California Living Museum-then loop back downtown to the Bakersfield Museum of Art and the Fox Theater, ending at Buck Owens' Crystal Palace.

THE BACK ROADS TO THE TEHACHAPI LOOP DRIVING TOUR

The Tehachapi Loop is an engineering marvel, attracting train fans from all over the world. But half the fun is watching these long trains climb from the valley floor up the grade of the Sierra Nevada to the Loop (or back down). It's a fascinating and historical side trip into the Sierra foothills through Bena, Caliente, and Bealville to see the trains snaking through narrow valleys and several tunnels. On this driving tour to and from Bakersfield, there are historical sites, one of the newest national monuments in the National Park Service, and places to sample outstanding local produce.





UNIQUE CHURCH BUILDINGS

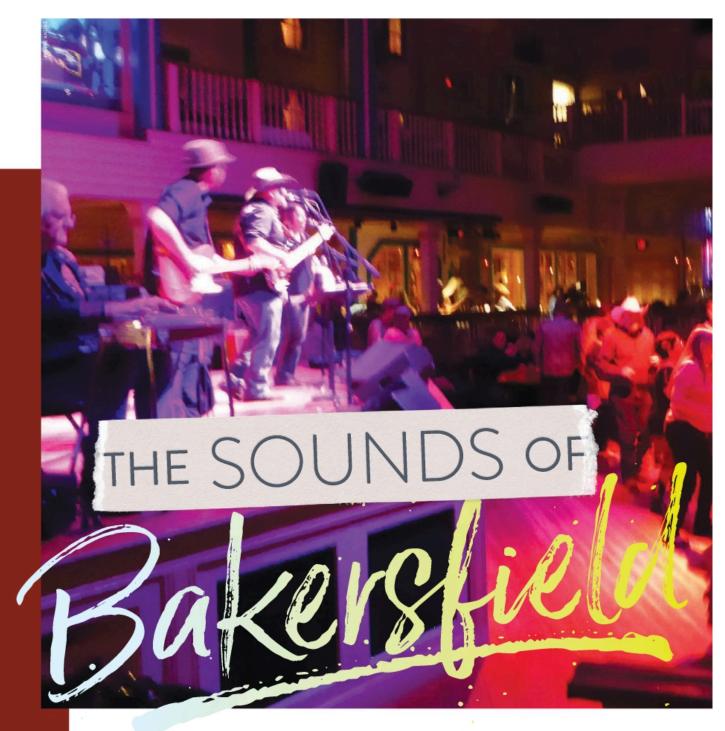
Historic Fox Theater

Bakersfield is a city of churches. Although most of our grand church buildings were destroyed in the 1952 earthquake, several unique holy structures can still be found on this selfguided tour. These include the former First Baptist Church, now on the National Register of Historic Places, and the only religious structure of its era to survive the earthquake; a building that used to house Let Sing Gong temple, the last remnant of one of Bakersfield's two Chinatowns; and San Clemente Mission, a church built in the California mission style with 15 leaded-glass panels in the main sanctuary.

VETERANS MEMORIALS

Visit any or all of the eight veterans memorials on this selfguided tour, including the Kern Veterans Memorial with its Wall of Honor listing the names of all Kern County residents killed in battle; and Bakersfield National Cemetery, the only national cemetery in California designated a National Shrine—and one of only 17 out of 131 national cemeteries with this prestigious recognition.

For more information and routes, point your browser to VisitBakersfield.com » Visitors » Tours.



THE CITY THAT GAVE

ITS NAME TO THE FAMOUS

Bockerstield Jound

IS A CITY OF MANY TYPES OF MUSIC.



To understand how significant the Bakersfield Sound is, ask yourself: how many other cities have a type of music named after them?

Few remnants of the Bakersfield Sound remain, but the most visible is **Buck Owens' Crystal Palace**, a music hall and restaurant built by Owens in 1996, located on (of course) Buck Owens Boulevard.

on the wall behind the bar. Legend has it that he won it from Elvis in a poker game.

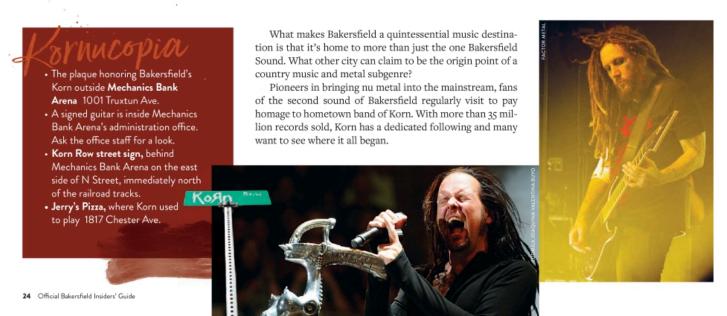
of the bronze statues of Garth Brooks, Johnny Cash, Merle Haggard, George Jones, Willie Nelson, Buck Owens, Elvis Presley, George Strait, Hank Williams Jr., and Bob Wills.

FIND NOTES OF THE BAKERSFIELD SOUND

- Buck Owens' Crystal Palace 2800 Buck Owens Blvd.
- · Kern County Museum 3801 Chester Ave.
- Merle Haggard's restored childhood home Kern County Museum, 3801 Chester Ave.









What other city can claim to be the profile point of a country music and metal subgenre?

While those two genres may be the biggest and most well known to come of out Bakersfield, they don't come close to encompassing all the music playing on these stages.

Looking for a place to hear live music? Consider a variety of venues around Bakersfield. Perhaps the Mechanics Bank Arena or the Historic Fox Theater. Or smaller places like Ethel's Old Corral Cafe, the basement at Sandrini's Public House, the Bakersfield Music Hall of Fame or World Records. You



will also find music drifting from numerous outdoor stages, from city parks to shopping centers. Local favorite Mento Buru gigs regularly with its seven-piece band that has been blending ska, salsa, jazz, and a few other ingredients since 1992.

Bakersfield is also a jazz city. The **Bakersfield Jazz Workshop** has grown from its founding in 2006 to a weekly event at Temblor Brewing where the motto is "Hear it! Learn it! Play it!" These free sessions (donations welcome) begin with a jazz improvisation class, followed by a featured jazz performer, and end with an open jazz jam for intermediate, advanced, and professional instrumentalists and vocalists. Also check out **Bakersfield Jazz Festival**, held for more than 30 years on the Cal State Bakersfield campus.

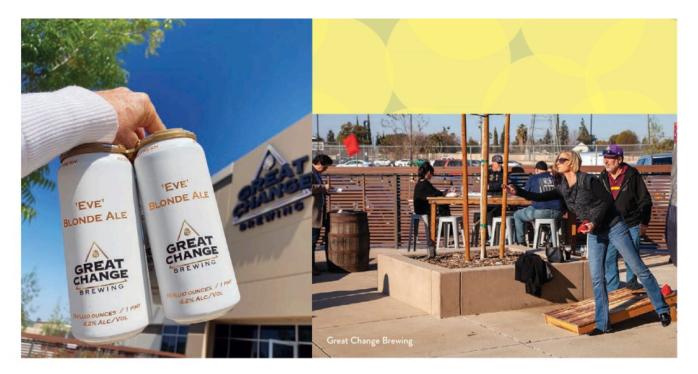
The Bakersfield Symphony Orchestra has provided a strong musical foundation to Bakersfield since 1932. Today it provides exciting performances, regularly performing at Mechanics Bank Theater, including its Young People's Concert Series. The BSO Dine program partners with top local restaurants to offer concertgoers savings when showing their concert tickets at participating eateries on the date of the performance.

The Bakersfield Sound may be the backbone of this city, but its heartbeat is filled with a harmonious blend of talented musicians expressing themselves across any and all genres. And that's what makes all the Bakersfield Sounds special.





Take a tour on the Bakersfield Brewery Trail today! Check out the Bakersfield Brewery Trail Map, available at VisitBakersfield.com/BreweryTrail.



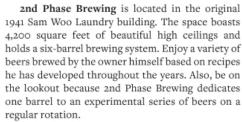
season. While there is no kitchen, food trucks on some evenings keep patrons well fed and happy.

Great Change Brewing offers an experience born from family and focused on community since 2018. They offer traditional West Coaststyle beers that range from blondes, pale ales, IPAs, double IPAs, stouts, and more. Grab a drink and enjoy their spacious outdoor patio.

Lengthwise Brewing has been supplying Bakersfield with artfully crafted beer since the mid-90s. Take the whole family for a meal, or join friends to watch the game on multiple screens at each of its three locations.

coffee beans and will package (and grind) them for you to take home.





Temblor Brewing Company has eight full-time beers plus an increasing number of seasonal brews. Pub grub-style food is served in a fun and open atmosphere. During your visit, you are encouraged to play a round of cornhole, giant Jenga, or any number of board games available. In addition to craft beer and food, Temblor is an active venue for live music, comedy, line dancing, and more.

Insider's cip: See bricks salvaged and reclaimed from Bakersfield's original brewery (circa 1912) in a display on Temblor's east wall.

Bakersfield Beer Company offers a constantly rotating selection of beers on tap, and in bottles and cans from microbreweries throughout California.

Cheers!

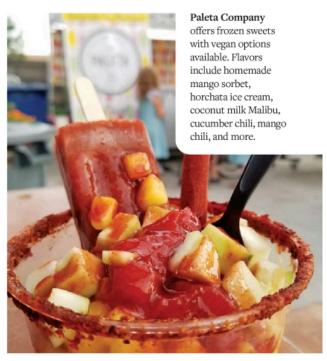












You won't need to know the lyrics to enjoy **Streets of Bakersfield Beer,** the flagship IPA from Temblor Brewing Company. But feel free to sing if you do: "I came here looking for somethin', I couldn't find anywhere else."







BROTHER RAY'S AUTHENTIC DEVIL'S DEN SALSA (SPICT) NET WT: 16 oz/453.6g (661) 309-5621 info@broraysalsa.com No sugars / MSG PERISHABLE-KEEP REFRIGERATE Brother Ray's Salsa and Seasoning makes fresh seasonings, sauces, and salsas like spicy Devil's Den, mild garlic salsa, and medium ranchera salsa, plus some products labeled 08'ers, a nod to our friends in the 93308 ZIP code.



My Husband's Nuts specializes in seasoned and candied California almonds, direct from the farmer's wife.

and white sauces. Also pick up their top-seller, custom Luigi's seasoning.





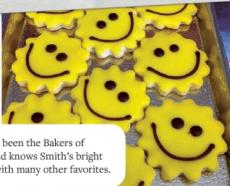


Pepper Delight creates flavors like red pepper, hatch pepper, blackberry lavender, blueberry rosemary, peach mango, pineapple, raspberry, strawberry, pomegranate, and jalapeño relish for its artisan pepper jams

and jellies.



Since 1945, Smith's Bakeries have been the Bakers of Bakersfield. Everyone in Bakersfield knows Smith's bright yellow happy face cookies, along with many other favorites.



Show off your Bakersfield pride wherever you are with official T-shirts, caps, coffee mugs, and more at BakersfieldSwag.com!

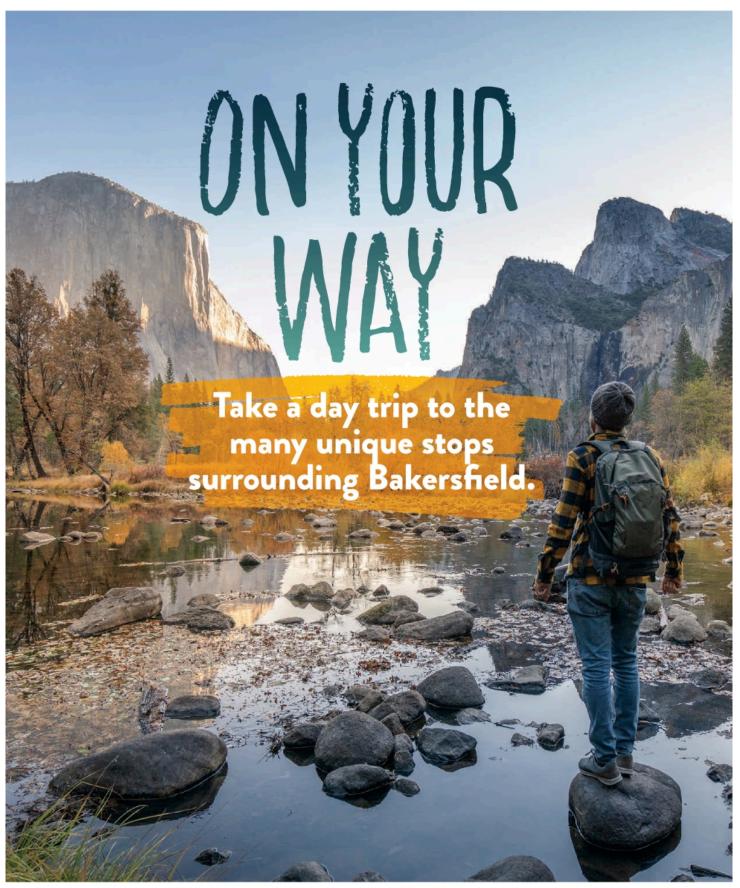
Paleta Company facebook.com/paletacompany Aunt Mae's Toffee auntmaessweets.com Smith's Bakeries smithsbakeries.com GhilaDolci Bakery ghiladolcibakery.com Streets of Bakersfield Beer temblorbrewing.com

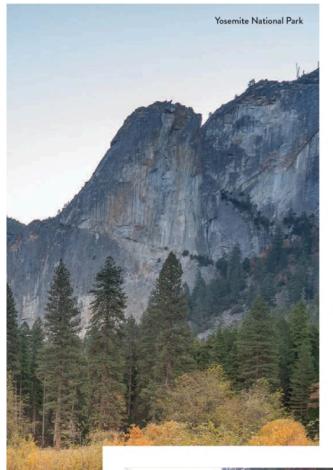
Brother Ray's Salsa and Seasoning broraysalsa.com

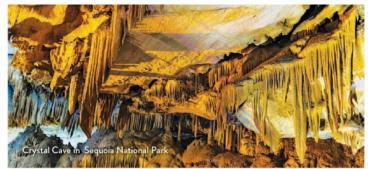
Pyrenees Bakery pyreneesfrenchbakery.com Rio Bravo Ranch riobravoranch.com Pepper Delight pepperdelight.net

Voktail voktail.com

Luigi's Deli shopluigis.com







Bakersfield is in the middle of lots of fun and interesting places. Make sure you stop by some of them as you head to, or leave from, California's ninth largest city. Many also make good day trips from Bakersfield.

Yosemite National Park 203 MI/327 KM This is one of the most famous national parks, known for iconic images such as Half Dome and Bridalveil Falls

Glacier Point provides outstanding views of Yosemite Valley down below, Half Dome straight ahead, and other parts of this park.

decs tip: Make sure your preferred route into or out of Yosemite is open when you plan to travel. Tioga Pass Road provides access to the park from the east, but is closed much of the year due to its high elevation.

Sequoia & Kings Canyon National Parks 97 MI/156 KM These two side-byside parks are known as the Land of Giants for their gigantic trees. Kings Canyon, originally called General Grant National Park, is home to the General Grant Tree-the nation's Christmas Tree. The Grant Tree is also a National Shrine, dedicated as a memorial to those who died in war, and is the only living object to carry such a designation. Sequoia is home to the Giant Forest, where you will

> find five of the 10 largest trees in the world. People flock to see the General Sherman Tree, the largest tree by volume in the world, which is easily accessible to visitors.

> Insider's tip: Make time to climb Moro Rock, drive through Tunnel Log, and take a guided tour of Crystal Cave (open seasonally), a notable marble cavern that is often overlooked by visitors.

> Sequoia National Park is not the same as Sequoia National Forest, and not the same as Giant Sequoia National Monument. Make sure you know which one you are going to.

> Trail of 100 Giants 90 MI/145 KM If you want to see giant sequoias closer to Bakersfield, consider a two-hour drive to this grove in Giant Sequoia National Monument. Enjoy an easy, paved, and wheelchair-accessible path through one of the premier groves of giant sequoias. Located on the Western Divide Highway (M107), facilities include a paved parking lot, restrooms, a picnic area, and a nearby campground, but access to this location is closed during the winter months.

> Insider's tip: Look for the two large sequoia trees that fell on September 30, 2011. These two trees had grown together at the base and remain on the ground today, lying in silence with a tremendous root of more than 17 feet across, exposed. Impact fractures allow the public to view the inside of this giant.

> msider's tip: The \$10 parking fee is cash only.

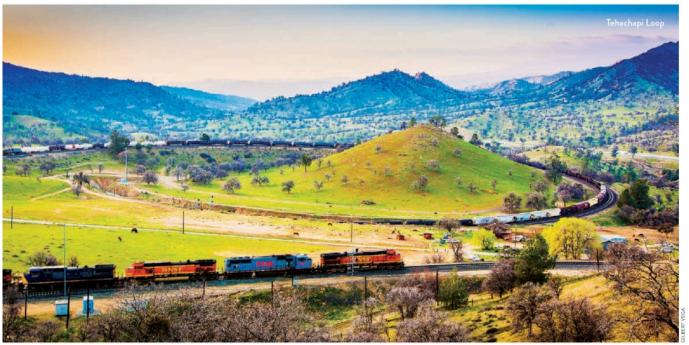


Colonel Allensworth State Historic Park 30 MI/48 KM

In August 1908, Colonel Allen Allensworth and four other settlers established a town founded, financed, and governed by African-Americans. In 1974, California State Parks purchased land within the historical town site of Allensworth and it became Colonel Allensworth State Historic Park. Today a collection of lovingly restored and reconstructed early 20th-century buildings-including the Colonel's house, historic schoolhouse, Baptist church, and libraryonce again dots this flat farm country, giving new life to the dreams of these visionary pioneers.

ns decs the Amtrak San Joaquins occasionally stops at Allensworth for celebratory events, such as Juneteenth.





TO THE East

Death Valley National Park 220 MI/354 KM This is the nation's hottest, driest, and lowest national park; Badwater Basin inside the park, at 282 feet below sea level, is the lowest point on the North American continent. Death Valley also is the nation's largest national park outside of Alaska. It is a land of extremes, and those extremes make this park very popular with visitors. (Remember, there is a reason it is called "Death Valley.") Not only is Death Valley rich in beauty and pioneer history, it was known as a prosperous mining mecca for many decades. Today it provides camping, hiking, bicycling, and nature exploring opportunities. Insider's tip: Death Valley National Park provides outstanding chances to see the stars. The park is designated as the largest Dark Sky National Park in the country by the International Dark Sky Association, and is a Gold Tier Dark Sky Park, the highest level awarded.

Randsburg 96 MI/155 KM This living ghost town is a fun stop on your way between Death Valley or Las Vegas and Bakersfield. The main street's old Western storefronts resemble a Hollywood back lot, providing numerous unique and colorful photo opportunities from California's old mining days. Inside the General Store is a historic soda machine built in 1904 that still works. Across the street is the White House Saloon with a stamped-tin ceiling and a very long bar. A few steps away are the Rand Desert Museum, some antique shops, and the old jail.

Ingider's the: Many of Randsburg's businesses are only open on weekends. On certain weekends, the small town is very popular with off-road vehicles and motorcyclists.

Red Rock Canyon State Park 77 MI/124 KM The spectacular rock formations of various colors and shapes that rise from the desert have long been used by film crews as settings for westerns or science-fiction films. Here you will find walking and hiking trails, as well as camping facilities.

giders to 15 If you do not have time for a long visit, many of Red Rock Canyon's dramatic rock formations are easily viewed from Highway 14.

Tehachapi Loop 32 MI/52 KM This engineering marvel attracts train fans from all over the world. It is one of the seven wonders of the railroad world, where you can watch long trains pass over themselves as they go around the spiral loop. The railroad line was cut through solid and decomposed granite by up to 3,000 laborers from Guangzhou, China, between 1874 and 1876. They used picks, shovels, horse-drawn carts, and blasting powder. This was part of the final link of the first railroad line connecting San Francisco to Los Angeles. This single track line, essentially unchanged, is still in constant use today with an average of 36 freight trains each day. This attests to the superior job of both engineering and construction done by the two civil engineers and the Chinese laborers.

There are no restrooms or food offerings at the Loop. Watch the trains from the marker along Woodford-Tehachapi Road. Visit Bakersfield's Back Roads to the Tehachapi Loop Driving Tour provides suggestions on where you may see snow, wildflowers, or grazing cattle to and from your visit to the Loop.

Cesar E. Chavez National Monument 30 MI/48 KM One of the nation's newest national monuments, this one is dedicated to the life of farm worker labor organizer Cesar Chavez. It is set in a scenic small valley in a complex built in the early 20th century as a sanatorium for tuberculosis patients.

Insider's tip: Consider combining a visit here with a visit to the Tehachapi Loop, less than three miles away.

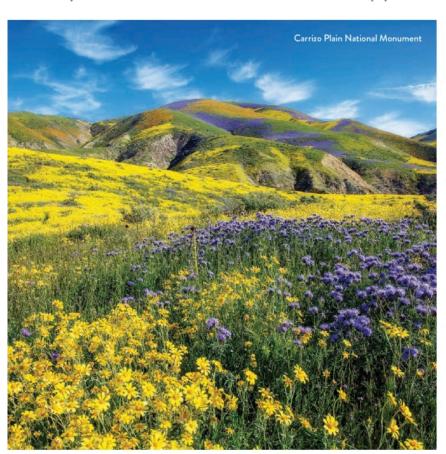


Ft. Tejon State Historic Park 40 MI/64 KM In 1859, the U.S. Army experimented with using camels in the desert and many were trained and stationed here. Today, this small five-acre park features remnants of the old fort, including old adobes, barracks, and 400-year-old oak trees, as well as picnic tables in shady areas. It is located yards away from Interstate 5, providing easy on-and-off access.

sider's tip: Schedule your visit to see Frontier Army Days re-enactments.



Vista Del Lago Visitor Center 58 MI/93 KM With a sweeping vista of Pyramid Lake from its wraparound balcony, this visitor center at Vista del Lago, or "view of the lake," is the largest of the California Department of Water Resources' information centers. Learn all about the fascinating world of water and the important role it plays in California.



TO THE West

Carrizo Plain National Monument 68 MI/109 KM This is an area bypassed by time. Soda Lake, its centerpiece, is a glistening bed of white salt set within a vast open grassland rimmed by mountains. This remote spot is home to diverse communities of wildlife and plant species including several listed as threatened or endangered. It also is a culturally important area to Native Americans. In some spring times, the amount of wildflowers is so dramatic that people travel for hours to see them.

noder's two: Because of its remoteness, the monument has no water, food, or fuel. The weather can be extreme and some roads are not paved, making them impassable during rain.

Blackwell's Corner 56 MI/90 KM This was the last place that film icon James Dean stopped before he was killed in an automobile accident about 26 miles west of here in 1955. Today, two large cut-outs of Dean provide colorful photo backgrounds for those who stop.

insider's tip: The store sells many different kinds of locally grown nuts and features an American 1950s motif.

James Dean Memorial and Memorial Junction 84 MI/135 KM American film actor James Dean was killed in an automobile accident at the intersection of what today is Highway 46 and Highway 41. Although the junction has been redesigned since that time, visitors still pay tribute to Dean. Signs naming this James Dean Memorial Junction are on both sides of this very busy intersection. About a mile to the west is the James Dean Memorial, a stainless steel sculpture around a tree next to the Jack Ranch Cafe.



Big things are happening in Bakersfield!

Here are some insider tips on how you can visit

and snap a photo at these big Bakersfield spots!



Bakersfield Arch is a replica of the original arch that spanned Union Avenue, which was U.S. 99 at the time. The arch was rebuilt here by Buck Owens and spans the four lanes of Sillect Avenue using the original arch's letters. SILLECT AVE. AT BUCK OWENS BLVD.

Big Red Boot at Emporium Western Store. 1031 19TH ST.







Beale Memorial Clock Tower is a 64-foot tall replica of the original structure that stood in the middle of Chester Avenue at 17th Street. Find the current version in front of the Kern County Museum. 3801 CHESTER AVE.

Insider's this: The original was a victim of the 1952 earthquake. Some pieces from the original clock tower were included when this replica was built in 1964.

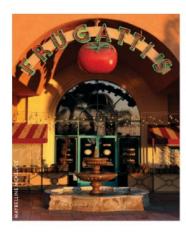


This Native American used to stand in front of Big "O" Tires at downtown's Garces Circle, then became a mascot for Standard Middle School before taking up residence in front of Ethel's Old Corral Café. 4310 ALFRED HARRELL HWY.

Ingider's tip: A plaque at his feet describes his life in Bakersfield.



Dewar's Big Chew 2700 CALLOWAY DR. /nsidec's tip: If you pronounce "Dewar's" like the liquor, everyone will know you are not a local.



Big Tomato at Frugatti's Wood Fired Italian Restaurant. 600 COFFEE RD.





SpaceShipOne replica, a scale model of the original that flew out of Mojave Spaceport in 2004, hangs from the ceiling of the William M. Thomas Terminal at Meadows Field
Airport (BFL). 3701 WINGS WAY

Passiden's to p. Parking at the airport is free for the first 15 minutes.



 ${\bf Big\ Shoe}$ is a 30-foot long, 20-foot high giant shoe built in 1947 with a shoe repair shop inside. 931 CHESTER AVE.

