

Lassen Volcano Hike Out of Reno Trip Notes

<u>August 22 – 30, 2014</u>

I'm all for new adventures and this is a hike I've wanted to do for a long time and the calendar either didn't work, or no one was guiding it that I wanted to join. The new www.ParksPlusHiking.com guides know the area well and added it to their offerings. So off I go!



Starting in Reno,

I gave myself a guided tour on Saturday, picking up around 9am and returning by 5pm. Having grown up spending some summer time at Lake Tahoe, it's always a treat to see it again. Yet it's certainly a different place from the little log cabin by the lake where we cooked on a wood burning stove, caught crawdads in the morning to cook, and saw our first snow up behind the old boat yard called Sunnyside. The little cabin remains just as is, sandwiched in between what is now a lovely resort called Sunnyside (where Tom and I stayed in 2011) and a monstrously huge zillion dollar house. Incline Village showed us Steve Winn's home as well as the new one by Oracle's Larry Ellison that has a covered swimming pool worthy of the Olympics. A walk around Virginia City capped by a meal on a balcony overlooking the 10-mile view was worthy of the second trip.

"Enjoy a historical and informative narration along the way by our wonderful tour guides. They will drive you through our state capitol of Carson City where they will point out legislative and other famous buildings. In Virginia City you will have an hour of free time to walk down the wooden sidewalks, grab a bite to eat, and purchase some souvenirs. In Lake Tahoe you will have several opportunities to walk around, enjoy the fresh mountain air, and take photos."

Returning to Reno

In a week I'll return to Reno for the start of a different hike: to Mammoth Lakes and the High Sierras and then to the eastern side of Yosemite. It is with nephew Colin so we'll take still another company's tour of the Tahoe region then.

Earthquake!

The Napa Valley earthquake occurred while we were there and all we could do to assist was try to drink all the wine we could before there became a scarcity. Of course we had bigger things to think about anyway: Lassen is one of only two active volcanoes in the U.S.

Burning Man

A great number of people were gathering in Reno for the start of "Burning Man" in the Nevada desert. The airport was full of those carting their tents and there was also a large room display of art and photographs from past

events. We've heard of it over the years and find that it's gone from junk art and hippies to quite the gathering of rich folks too. Rolling yachts? Years ago I thought it was full of nudity

Like Woodstock, can you tell that I've often thought that I wanted to go? I didn't. I still could. Yet it's not likely.

What Is Burning Man? - Once a year, tens of thousands of participants gather in Nevada's Black Rock Desert to create Black Rock City, dedicated to community, art, self-expression, and self-reliance. They depart one week later, having left no trace whatsoever. <u>Burning Man</u> is also an ever-expanding <u>year-round culture</u> based on <u>the Ten Principles</u>. See more at http://www.burningman.com/

What Isn't Burning Man?- Burning Man isn't your usual festival, with big acts booked to play on massive stages. In fact, it's more of a city than a festival, wherein almost everything that happens is created entirely by its citizens, who are active <u>participants</u> in the event.











RENO, Nev. (AP) — The Burning Man counterculture festival drew a peak crowd of nearly 66,000 celebrants as it neared an end Monday on the northern Nevada desert. Friday's official peak attendance of 65,922 was within the population cap of 68,000 the federal Bureau of Land Management imposed on the quirky art and music festival 110 miles north of Reno, said Gene Seidlitz, manager of the agency's Winnemucca District. The number was down from last year's record peak crowd of 69,613, which resulted in organizers being placed on probation for a second time in three years for violating the limit. Organizers had been warned that if they were placed on probation a second straight year, the agency might suspend or cancel their permit. "That (crowd size) is not a problem this year," Seidlitz said, adding the attendance cap was one of 55 conditions organizers had to comply with under terms of their permit. "We don't see any reason why we shouldn't meet all other stipulations," Burning Man spokesman Jim Graham said. Overall, the weeklong festival leading up to Labor Day was successful and safe except for Thursday's death of a 29-year-old Wyoming woman who was struck by a bus carrying passengers on the playa of the Black Rock Desert, Seidlitz said. Rain early on closed the gate for a day — the longest closure in the event's history — and dust storms caused occasional whiteout conditions Friday. But the festival's eclectic artwork, offbeat theme camps, concerts and other entertainment drew praise from participants from around the world. "Actually, I feel renewed faith in humanity," John Bacon, of Seattle, told KRNV-TV. Ron Adair, of Ojai, California, said he felt "a little tired." "It's a little hard to have that many nights in a row and get by on four, five, six



hours of sleep every night," Adair said. After it moved from San Francisco, the inaugural Burning Man in Nevada drew only about 80 people in 1990.







Some of the art work including the Lego truck, a temple also meant to burn, and a money tree.







Inside their 'temple' and an outline of the 'city' followed by the iconic representation of the mandesign.

Wikipedia says: The event is described as an experiment in community, art, radical self-expression, and radical self-reliance. Burning Man is organized by Black Rock City, LLC and has been running since 1986. The event is similar to another event, the burning of Zozobra, or "Old Man Gloom," which has taken place on Labor Day weekend in Santa Fe, NM since 1926.

Principles - Because of the variety of goals fostered by participatory attendees, known as "Burners," Burning Man does not have a single focus. Features of the event are subject to the participants and include community, artwork, absurdity, decommodification, and revelry. Participation is encouraged.

The Burning Man event and its affiliated communities are guided by ten principles that are meant to evoke the cultural ethos that has emerged from the event. They were originally written by Larry Harvey as guidelines for regional organizing, then later became a universal criterion of the general culture of the multifaceted movement. They are: radical inclusion, gifting, decommodification, radical self-reliance, radical self-expression, communal effort, civic responsibility, leaving no trace, participation, immediacy.



Now onto exercise instead of brain exercise

Tom asks me "why?"

- Yes it's tough to get up 2000 and 3000 feet of elevation particularly when you start at a higher elevation and you're breathing heavy even in the parking lot. I live at sea level!
- Yes it's dirty and it's windy and it's sweaty and the volcanic rock is black and sticks to you and hides in every crevice. I came home with a lot of black soot.
- Yes it takes a long drive before one can even to start the hike. It's a huge park.
- Yes we wonder if our bodies and in particular our legs can keep going.
- The t-shirt says it all. Hike or Die.



But look at the views and you don't ask why any longer. These are my iPhone panoramas.



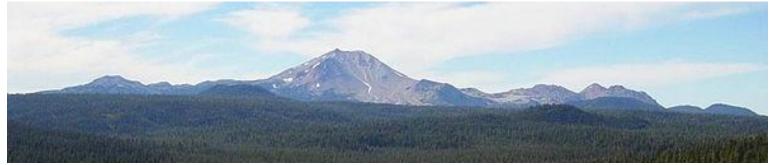




Wikipedia: Lassen Volcanic National Park is in northeastern California. The dominant feature of the park is Lassen Peak, the largest plug dome volcano in the world and the southern-most volcano in the Cascade Range.



<u>Bumpass Hell</u> contains boiling springs, mud-pots, and fumaroles. There are active hot springs and mud pots in the Lassen area. Some of these springs are the site of occurrence of certain <u>extremophile</u> micro-organisms that are capable of surviving in extremely hot environments.



<u>Brokeoff Mountain</u>, <u>Lassen Peak</u>, and <u>Chaos Crags</u>. The area of Lassen Peak that was lost during the 1914–15 volcanic event is visible in this picture, encompassing the sliver of snow.

National Geographic: Established: August 9, 1916 - Size: 106,372 acres
On June 14, 1914, three men climbed Lassen Peak to see why a seemingly dormant volcano had started rumbling 16 days before. Now, peering into a newborn crater, they felt the ground tremble. As they turned and ran down the steep slope, the mountain erupted. Rocks hurtled through the ash-filled air. One struck a man, knocking him out. Ashes rained down on the men. They seemed doomed. But the eruption stopped as suddenly as it had begun, and the three men survived.

From 1914 to early 1915, Lassen spewed steam and ashes in more than 150 eruptions. Finally, on May 19, 1915, the mountaintop exploded. Lava crashed through the 1914 crater. A 20-foot-high wall of mud, ash, and melted snow roared down the mountain, snapping tree trunks. Three days later, a huge mass of ashes and gases shot out of the volcano, devastating a swath a mile wide and three miles long. Above the havoc a cloud of volcanic steam and ash rose 30,000 feet.

Eruptions of steam, ash, and tephra continued until June 1917, when the volcano resumed its quiet profile, with minor steam clouds occasionally reported. Since 1921 Lassen Peak has remained quiet. But it is still considered an active volcano, the centerpiece of a vast panorama, where volcanism displays its spectaculars—wrecked mountains, devastated land, bubbling cauldrons of mud. Until Mount St. Helens blew in 1980, Lassen's eruption was the most recent volcanic explosion in the lower 48 states. Ecologists now study Lassen's landscape to see what the future may bring to the terrain around St. Helens.



Continual volcanic activity from Cinder Cone helps create the colors of the vibrant Painted Dunes.

One of only two active volcanos in the U.S. – per http://pubs.usgs.gov/fs/2000/fs022-00/ - In May 1915, Lassen Peak, California, the southernmost active volcano in the Cascade Range, erupted explosively. Avalanches, mudflows, and flows of hot ash and gas devastated nearby areas, and volcanic ash fell as far away as 200 miles to the east. The Lassen area remains volcanically active, and the volcano hazards demonstrated in 1915 still can threaten not only nearby areas but also more distant communities. Recent work by scientists with the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) in cooperation with the National Park Service is shedding new light on these hazards.



Notes as sent home

Friday - starting the Lassen Adventure, to Reno thru San Francisco

When they announced an oversold flight out San Francisco with a credit, an overnight hotel and a chance to see more of San Francisco, it was hard not to say YES YES YES.

As we flew over Yosemite my heart went out to the lovely memories. I saw Half Dome. As we came in to land with all the SFO landscape, the desire to stay was even stronger. But I'm off for a Lake Tahoe day trip on Saturday then a 6-day hike in a new place that comes with great recommendations: Lassen Volcano National Park.

I'd only been home three short days from Colorado and much of that time had been consumed with one problem after another with my reasonably new computer.

Reno airport was unique to say the least: luggage came straight out with no wait. I had gate check plus my checked duffle bag (because if trekking poles).

The Best Western is a bit better than most due to lounge, restaurant and outdoor dining.

This is the week for a Sturgis-type motorcycle rally and they all appear to be staying here. Also Burning Man starts in a few days. I read that festival has grown not just in size but exclusivity. Rich folks go and show off their huge rolling yacht or major RVs.

Next to last day at cinder cone - Up to the edge of the cinder cone. Two steps up, one step back. Then eventually you get to the top cussing and complaining and then you decide it was well worth it when you look around and see the views.

For some, going down was fine. I think they are skiers. I am not only not a skier but I didn't know how to ski down the slipper sandy volcanic rock steep path. I cussed again. Most of it was easy enough and all of it was doable and the top was certainly worth it. Here's my video to prove it.



At the top of Lassen Peak on our last hike of the week.



Pictures (2) compliments of Nola





That's Lassen Peak in the background. We went UP the last day. All that dark rock/sand is the backside of cinder cone where we hiked UP and DOWN the next to last day. We went UP and UP and UP this too, with about as many steps falling back as were taken up. I brought home a lot of the black volcanic powder. I threw away some socks.

Miscellaneous photos



Before the hike I was a tourist. From up on top of Mt Rose it was possible to see ranges of mountains, foggy/smoggy skies from the fires, and the major devastation of three years of drought. Lakes were either dried up or embankments were a hike out to the water. Then onto Lake Tahoe and Incline Village in particular where zillion dollar houses are lined up along the lakeshore. Home by those of Hollywood fame, a new one by Larry Ellison of Oracle and one by Steve Wynn. We walked along the lake and a series of nature trails before going onto a big surprise. Did we really want to see the next stop? Heck yes!



Don't enlarge the first photo or you might be embarrassed. This little gal gave us a tour and explained the business arrangements of the Bunny Ranch. The gals all seemed very smart and professional. They were either raising families or putting themselves through college. They might work 2 weeks on, 2 weeks off. No pun intended. The minimum fee is \$2500 for an hour, or \$10,000 for the entire night. One gal was from Kansas City. They all had glossy professional business cards.



The signs were very amusing. Exit 69. Souvenirs? Full Service Bar. No Sex Required. I skipped the purchase of sex toys.



Onto Virginia City couldn't have been much different. Clothes and costumes vs bikinis. I'd been there a couple years before with Tom but this time there had been a festival and parade so much of the town was in costume. Equally, much of the town came in on motorcycles as the area was sporting their own Sturgis-type Rally. While the rest of the group shopped, I drank and ate while overlooking the 10-mile view off a balcony.



We had plenty of huge overviews, and most of them were of the 360 degree types. We also had plenty of stream crossings. I don't remember who fell in but I'm surprised it wasn't me. Here you see Steve and Nola watching over us and Steve ready to grab any Fallen Hiker.



Many lakes, and then a remembrance that Lassen IS an active volcano and thus plenty of hot springs.



Up and Up and Up the Cinder Cone, and surprisingly it was almost easier going UP than coming down. There were painted sands on the backside.



We went UP to Lassen Peak also, but once up it was necessary to find shelter from the cold and winds despite it having been hot down below. I didn't stay but scooted right on down rather quickly. That's when I saw this family of six with one more on the way. The family that hikes together stays together?

Now let someone with more qualifications tell the Lassen story:

From http://www.shannontech.com/ParkVision/Lassen/Lassen.html Although less well known than many other national parks, Lassen Volcanic National Park, located in north central California at the southern end of the Cascade mountain range, is one of the most beautiful and interesting of America's parks. It is the only national park in the contiguous 48 states containing a volcano which has erupted in the twentieth century (as Mt. St. Helens is a "Volcanic National Monument").



The park's 160,000 acres--150 square miles--contain spectacular mountain lakes, creeks, elevations ranging from 5,300 to over 10,000 feet, and many trails. The park contains a wide variety of nearly every volcanic known feature. The centerpiece of the park is the 10,457 foot volcano, known as Lassen Peak, and seen from Manzanita Lake above. The stone entrance sign in the southwest area of the park is known as the Raker Memorial, which was built in 1931.



The park is a living museum of vulcanism. It contains all four of the world's known types of volcanoes-stratovolcanoes, volcanic domes, shield volcanoes, and cinder cones. There are various types of hot springs, geysers, fumaroles, vents, and other geothermal features. Areas which bear the scars of past volcanic activity are also numerous, such as Chaos Crags and Chaos Jumbles (shown below).

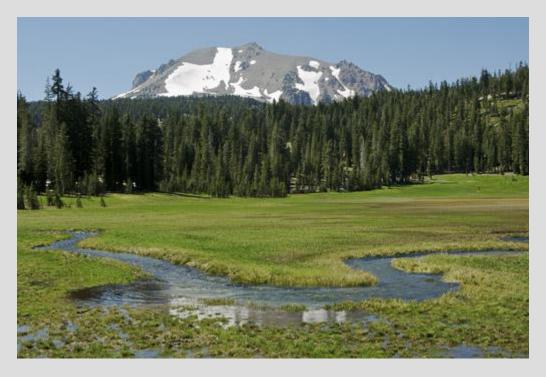


Lassen Peak came to the attention of the nation during the second decade of the twentieth century. From 1914 through 1917 Lassen erupted on a number of occasions, expelling at various times steam, gas, lava, and hot rocks. The northeast flank of the mountain, which is shown below, was scoured clean by two of the eruptions in 1915 and resulting mudflows and a pyroclastic flow. Much of the area in the picture was completely barren following these two eruptions.



Before the arrival of the white man, the Lassen area was frequented by people from 4 Indian tribes--the Maidu (in the area south and east of the park), Atsugewi (who used park lands north and northeast of the peak as

summer hunting, camping, and fishing ground), the Yana and the Yahi (in the foothills to the west). Indians ate acorns, fish, deer, edible insects, nuts, berries, roots, seeds, and leafy plants. Some caught 18 inch trout in Manzanita Lake. Lassen Peak was known by a number of names to native Americans, including Fire Mountain, Water Mountain, Little Shasta, and "The Long High Mountain That Was Broken."

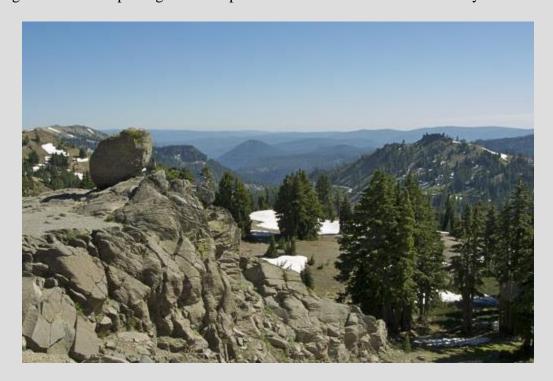


However, the discovery of gold in California, where some gold was discovered near Lassen in 1848, drew many white inhabitants to the area and exerted a great deal of pressure on native inhabitants. Fur trappers unintentionally carried malaria to the peoples of the area. The Yani and Yahi largely disappeared by the late 1800s, although there are still Atsugewi in the area in the present day, who participate in public programs during summer months.



The peak itself was a landmark to early white inhabitants of California. It was called San Jose by Captain Don Luis Arguello who sighted the mountain in 1821. The famous explorer Jedediah Smith called it Mt. Joseph,

when he passed by it in 1827, and later inhabitants knew it as Snow Butte. In 1841 a government exploring party named it Mt. St. Joseph. The name Lassen Peak came from area rancher and emigrant guide Peter Lassen, a Danish immigrant born in Copenhagen who explored and lived in the area in the early 1840's.



The first geological survey team, the California State Geological Survey, led by William H. Brewer, arrived in the Lassen area in 1863 and reached the summit. The area remained relatively isolated, however, although it was used for camping, recreation, and resort-oriented business ventures. Also, from the early 1860's there was grazing of cattle and sheep in future park lands, and this continued until the establishment of the park in the early 20th century.

Initially, the Lassen area escaped logging operations because of the lack of a mining industry, the area's relative inaccessibility, as well as poor quality of timber in local forests. By 1900, however, some timber operations threatened many of the forests in the Lassen area and generated considerable local sentiment for protecting it. In 1905 President Theodore Roosevelt proclaimed the Lassen Peak Forest Reserve. Louis Barrett and other local citizens at that time asked the president to consider making the Lassen area as a national park. Ongoing preservation efforts resulted in the declaration by President Theodore Roosevelt of Lassen Peak and Cinder Cone as national monuments on May 6, 1907.

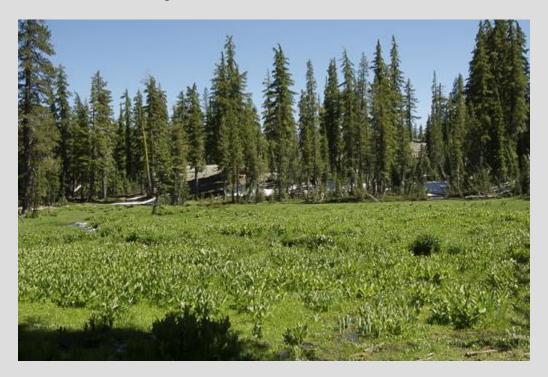
Lassen Peak was thought to be extinct by early pioneers, but it began a series of volcanic eruptions in 1914. An eruption which took place in 1915 ejected a column of smoke which climbed 5 miles and was visible for 50 miles in northern California. The eruptions, which were photographed by local businessman and photographer B.F. Loomis, made Lassen a national sensation--the U.S.'s only active volcano, and the subsequent attention spurred enthusiasm for the area as a national park. Three men were in particular responsible for promotion of the idea for the national park--John E. Raker, the local congressman and a conservationist, who introduced and reintroduced the bill to create the park; Michael E. Dittmar, a Redding journalist and investor, who promoted the idea to Raker after the eruptions; and Arthur L. Conard, a Red Bluff businessman, who served as spokesperson for the Lassen Volcanic National Park Comittee. The idea for a national park was supported by many locally, especially businesses that supported tourism, while opposition was derived principally stockmen and a few sportsmen.

Support for the idea eventually won out. Raker reintroduced his park bill 1915, and bill to create the park was passed by Congress and signed by President Woodrow Wilson on August 9, 1916. The original size of the park

was 79,561 acres (125 square miles). The original bill created a kind of hybrid national park/national forest, but this situation was cleared up when in 1931 uniform administration of the national park system was established.

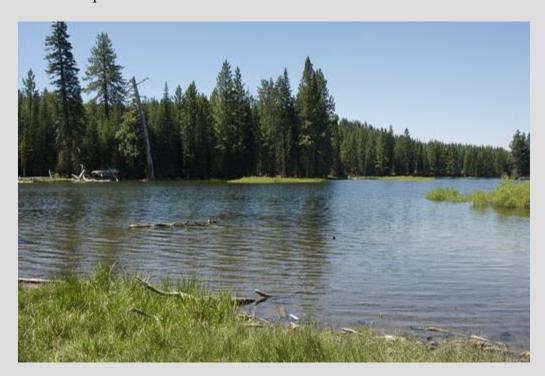


In its early years the park was somewhat neglected by the government and little money was set aside for its administration. In 1919 stockmen attempted to have the park abolished, but their efforts did not succeed. Appropriations for the park were increased in 1925, and serious road building began in 1924-25, thanks in large part to the Lassen Volcanic National Park Association. Also in 1925, the National Park Service accepted full responsibility for administration of the park.

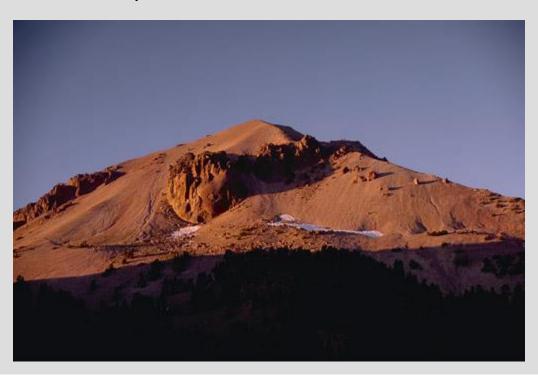


In 1929 the borders of the park were enlarged. The new land included the Manzanita Lake (shown below) and Reflection Lake areas as well as the Loomis Museum. Much of the land in this area was donated by Benjamin Loomis. Manzanita Lake itself was donated to the park in 1931 by Pacific Gas & Electric. Throughout the rest

of the century the park continued to grow, adding features such as Terminal Geyser and Juniper Lake. The Sulphur Works area was acquired in 1952.



As with a number of other national parks, during the Depression Civilian Conservation Center personnel contributed a great deal to the park. In Lassen Volcanic National Park CCC workers installed power, water, and sewer systems. They built fire trails, worked on the construction of buildings, and graded banks. Their work continues to benefit users to this day.



Itinerary

Fri Aug 22

9:21am Depart Newark EWR via UA#1289

12:47pm Arrive San Francisco SFO for plane change

1:40pm Depart San Francisco SFO via UA#6287 operated by Skywest

2:44pm Arrive Reno NV RNO

Shuttle available from hotel 24/7

Hotel Best Western Reno Airport – 1st of 2 nights

1981 Terminal Way, Reno, Nevada, 89502-3215 Tele: 800-648-3525 775 348 6370 Wi Fi, refrig and coffee yes; nothing in area but their restaurant; shuttle to casinos free

Shuttle to other areas for \$5

Sat Aug 23

Tour: Interstate Sightseeing Tours / Adventures of Reno at (775) 325-7669

<u>AdventuresOfReno12@gmail.com</u> <u>http://www.adventuresofreno.com/sightseeing-tours-2/</u>

Our sightseeing tour leaves Silver Legacy Resort and Casino at 10:45am every day and picks up at central locations throughout the Reno/ Sparks area – they offer to pick up at the Best Western as well. Enjoy a historical and informative narration along the way by our wonderful tour guides. They will drive you through our state capitol of Carson City where they will point out legislative and other famous buildings. In Virginia City you will have an hour of free time to walk down the wooden sidewalks, grab a bite to eat, and purchase some souvenirs. In Lake Tahoe you will have several opportunities to walk around, enjoy the fresh mountain air, and take photos. The duration of the tour is about 5 hours and we will return you back to your hotel around 4:30pm. The cost of this tour is \$80 cash payment per person, plus gratuity to your driver.

Sun Aug 24 - Day 1

9:00am Start time from hotel lobby

Summary and pictures from www.ParksPlusHiking.com - If you have never heard of Lassen Volcanic National Park, you are not alone. Situated in North Central California, this park is little known primarily due to its relatively isolated location. What Lassen lacks in visitor numbers, however, it more than makes up for in unique and varied hiking opportunities. Think snow-covered Cascade Range peaks, Yellowstone thermal features, Haleakala volcanic starkness, and Yosemite-like views and you're on the right track. If you've already seen the "headline" parks or just want something a bit different, think Lassen and you won't go wrong.

Devil's Kitchen - Distance: 5 mi. - Difficulty: 3

Lodging: Best Western Rose Quartz Inn – 1st of ALL 5 nights!

306 Main St, Chester, CA 96020 (530) 258-2002

http://www.rosequartzinn.com/ - all rooms have refrig and microwave, yes free WiFi

After pick-up at our assembly point in Reno, we head north and west into California and the southern Drakesbad section of Lassen Volcanic National Park. Instead of our usual first-day Subway visit, today we'll stop in at the Drakesbad Guest Ranch and sample their delicious lunch buffet instead. Fully fueled, we hit the trail and head up the Warner Valley along Hot Springs Creek to the aptly named "Devils Kitchen." Here we'll view gurgling mudpots, hissing fumaroles, and steaming streams amid cracked yellow and red mounds of acid-dissolved rock.

Mon Aug 25 - Day 2

Brokeoff Mountain - Distance: 8 mi. - Difficulty: 5

Lodging: Best Western Rose Quartz Inn – 2nd of 5 nights

Today we climb a mountain--Brokeoff Mountain to be specific. During our steady yet challenging ascent, we'll enjoy lush forests peppered with lovely wildflowers such as Lupine and Indian Paintbrush, then starker sub-alpine terrain above tree-line. Situated just over 9,200', the views from the top of Brokeoff across the Little Hot Springs Valley to Lassen Peak are incredible. And if we're lucky, we may even catch sight of 14,000' Mt. Shasta looming to the south. Besides the views, Brokeoff Mountain itself is fascinating with its shattered and dramatic summit landscape.

Tue Aug 26 - Day 3

Kings Creek Falls, Sifford Lake, Bumpass Hell - Distance: 13 mi. - Difficulty: 4

Lodging: Best Western Rose Quartz Inn – 3rd of 5 nights

Venturing further into the heart of Lassen, our destination is the Kings Creek Falls Trail. We'll view the cascading falls early in our hike then continue down along the creek, eventually joining with the famed Pacific Crest trail (PCT) for a short distance through Corral Meadow. From the PCT, we loop back up toward our trailhead stopping for a short side-trip to Sifford Lake on the way.

Wed Aug 27 - Day 4

Summit/Shadow/Hat Lake - Distance: 8 mi. - Difficulty: 4

Lodging: Best Western Rose Quartz Inn – 4th of 5 nights

Throughout our tour of Lassen, we often find ourselves thinking how much the sights remind us of other national parks. Today, you may think "Crater Lake" as we hike past several picturesque mountain lakes. The deep blue water of Shadow and Terrace Lakes will take your breath away, even if you choose not to dip your toes into these snow-fed beauties. Oh, and be prepared for another startling display of August wildflowers as well!

Thu Aug 28 - Day 5

Cinder Cone - Distance: 7 mi - Difficulty: 3

Some hikes are just odd and we think Cinder cone qualifies. Don't get us wrong, this is a wonderful hike (actually Steve's favorite of the tour). But trudging directly up the side of a 500' cone volcano

made entirely of 1-2" volcanic cinders has to qualify as unusual. You'll learn the meaning of "two steps up, one step back" and you'll be huffing for breath when you reach the top, but you won't soon forget the moonscape surface of Cinder Cone, the view over to Lassen Peak, or the exhilarating descent back to the forest below. We did say this trip had variety and this final hike is no exception.

Lodging: Best Western Rose Quartz Inn – 5th of 5 nights

Fri Aug 29 - Day 6

Lassen Peak - Distance: 5 mi. - Difficulty: 4

We waited as long as we could to build the suspense; today we'll climb Lassen Peak itself. Don't be surprised if we have to cross several snow fields on our way up this 10,457' active (but currently quiet) volcano, but the view from the top will make our ascent seem trivial. Plus along the way up (and back down), we'll enjoy the amazing progress of the "Reach the Peak" program, a multi-year National Park Service effort to restore and rehabilitate the Lassen Peak Trail. Finally, since two hikes are always better than one, we'll also visit another steaming, sulfury, Yellowstone-esque landscape on the Bumpass Hell trail (Bumpass Hell moved to Day 3?). (*Note that the restoration project for the Lassen Peak trail is scheduled to continue in 2014. We anticipate being able to hike to Lassen Peak, but if the trail is closed or inaccessible, we will modify our itinerary accordingly.)

Return to Reno

Hotel Best Western Reno Airport – same as above

Sat Aug 30

8:48am Depart Reno NV RNO via UA#6419 – operated by Skywest

12:01pm Arrive Denver DEN or DIA for plane change

12:34pm Depart Denver DEN or DIA via UA#1682

6:22pm Arrive Newark EWR