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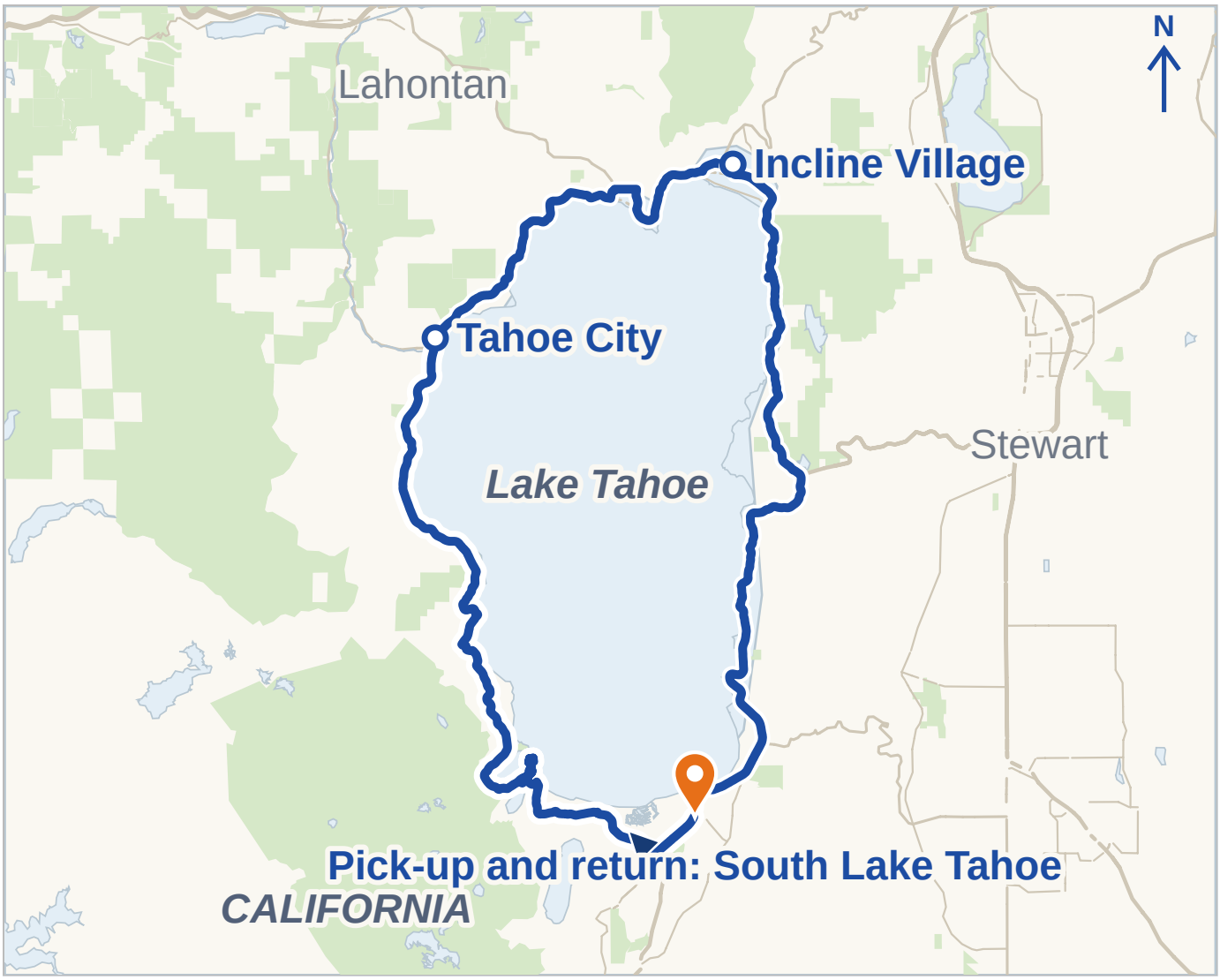
ROAD TRIP NEVADA · LAKE TAHOE LOOP

The Scenic Loop of Lake Tahoe

The big blue and beyond is how to best describe the Lake Tahoe Scenic Route in Nevada. Anything but predictable and always magical, this trip is all about majestic mountains, dreamy lakes and some fascinating little towns along the way.

DISTANCE	DRIVES	ROUTE	DRIVING TIME
About 125 km (77 mi)	3 drives, at your own pace	Loop around Lake Tahoe	About 2 h 30 min by car

LONGEST DRIVE	VEHICLE
52 km (32 mi), South Lake Tahoe to Tahoe City	Car or motorhome



Planning overview, not navigation. Map data © OpenStreetMap contributors · coastline Natural Earth.

Nevada Nature's Way

Heavenly loop: The views never stop while driving along the Lake Tahoe loop. Credit: Sydney Martinez/TravelNevada (https://www.travelnevada.com/)

If you're all about the scenery and the call of the open road when it comes to a road trip across Nevada, you can't go past Mother Nature's views and sheer beauty of a drive that loops all the way around Lake Tahoe, a large crystal blue freshwater lake in the Sierra Nevada Mountains.

This is a magical paved drive in your Nevada motorhome rental (https://www.drivenow.com.au/campervan-hire/usa/las-vegas-motorhome-hire.jspc) that takes you through a 109 km (68-mile) loop around Lake Tahoe in California and Nevada.

Following three highways, US 50, NV 28 and US 89, the scenic drive takes you through the towns of South Lake Tahoe, Tahoe City, Incline Village, Kings Beach and several other small towns. With great lookouts and an onslaught of eye-candy as you circuit the lake, this is definitely one to be ticked off your Nevada road trip bucket list.

You can start your journey around the lake, after leaving the highway, from either Crystal Bay, Incline Village, Spooner Summit, Zephyr Cove, Heavenly Village, South Lake Tahoe, Emerald Bay, Homewood, Tahoe City or Kings Beach, which will take you right around the lake. Another option is to use Carson City as your home base, head in on highway 50 and then choose to go north towards Sand Harbor Beach or south towards Heavenly Gondola. A round trip would take less than 3 hours but with this kind of scenery you'll want to make a day or more of it.

Tantalising Tahoe: Soak up the views or dive into some activities. Credit: Susan Mowers/TravelNevada (https://www.travelnevada.com/)

Is this America's most beautiful drive?

With no shortage of things to do, stops along the way and places to see on your looping drive around Lake Tahoe, this drive is famous for being one of the most beautiful in America.

Picking up your vehicle

Check the vehicle for damage before you drive away, and make sure anything you find is on the condition report (what to check at pick-up).

DRIVE

52 km (32 mi) from South Lake Tahoe

about 1 h 10 min by car · about 1 h 20 min by motorhome

Via **Emerald Bay Road**

South Lake Tahoe to Tahoe City via Emerald Bay

Heavenly Gondola is well worth checking and you should stop for a bite in Heavenly Village. Elsewhere, stumble upon miles of alpine beaches at Camp Richardson, and enjoy nature trails at the Taylor Creek Visitor Centre and Emerald Bay lookout.

Experience the views of Rubicon Bay from the D.L Bliss State Park and make sure you put some time aside for a picnic at Sugar Pine Point State Park.

DRIVE

25 km (16 mi) from Tahoe City

about 40 min by car · about 40 min by motorhome

Via **North Lake Boulevard**

Tahoe City to Incline Village via Kings Beach

History buffs can venture back in time with the native Washoe Indians at Cave Rock Vista Point and check out Palisades Tahoe (formerly Squaw Valley), Kings Beach and Crystal Bay for even more fascinating views, deep bays, underwater boulders and plenty of other recreational activities.

Walk the walk: Take a hike you'll never forget on the Tahoe Rim Hiking Trail. Credit: TravelNevada (https://www.travelnevada.com/)

Tahoe Rim Hiking Trail

Some travellers will tell you the view of Lake Tahoe and Diamond Peak from the Mt Rose Look out in Incline Village is unsurpassable on a global scale, a place that is also home to the Sand Harbor where you can cool off by enjoying some swimming set to a towering mountain backdrop.

For those who love hiking, the popular Tahoe Rim Hiking Trail can be reached by taking the short side trip to one of the passes along the lake.

Find out more on this comprehensive guide to the Lake Tahoe Loop. (https://travelnevada.com/road-trip/lake-tahoe-loop)

DRIVE

47 km (29 mi) from Incline Village

about 1 h by car · about 1 h 10 min by motorhome

Via **Trooper Gary Gifford Highway**

Incline Village to South Lake Tahoe via Sand Harbor

Snow time on the Chickadeeridge back Trail: Time it right and this part of the world is a winner for snow skiing. Credit: TravelNevada (https://www.travelnevada.com/)

Ski Lovers heaven

If you're a fan of skiing, look no further than Tahoe Basin which is home to some of the finest ski resorts in the country, including Heavenly Mountain Resort, with plenty of ski areas just off the scenic drive.

Stay

If you want to make a quick stop to enjoy the sights and sounds at ease or even take a few days to work your way through everything available on the scenic drive, there are also several developed campgrounds all along the lake including the City of Tahoe Campground, Tahoe Valley Campground, Eagle Point Campground, Camp Shelly, Bayview Campground, William Kent Campground, Lake Tahoe Campsite, Nevada Beach Campground and Camp Richardson Campground among many others.

Enjoy the loop, right around the lake.

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Printed from https://www.drivenow.com.au/itineraries/usa/nevada-lake-tahoe-self-drive on 12 November 2026. Check the page for the latest version before you travel.