Annual Events

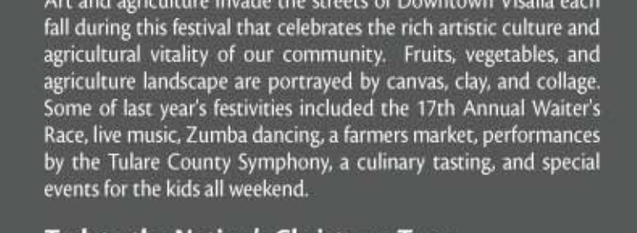
Taste the Arts:
Art and agriculture invade the streets of Downtown Visalia each fall during this festival that celebrates the rich artistic culture and agricultural vitality of our community. Fruits, vegetables, and agriculture landscape are portrayed by canvas, clay, and collage. Some of last year's festivities included the 17th Annual Waiter's Race, live music, Zumba dancing, a farmers market, performances by the Tulare County Symphony, a culinary tasting, and special events for the kids all weekend.

Trek to the Nation's Christmas Tree:
Visitors and Visalians have been making the trek to the Nation's Christmas Tree in Kings Canyon National Park every December since 1925 and now it's your turn to join them! The ceremony will be delivered at the base of the General Grant Tree.

Summer Concerts in Downtown Visalia:
Visalia is always cookin' up something you won't want to miss! Join us on select Fridays throughout the summer as we rock, jam, dance and sing our way to the weekend at Rock the Plaza and Blues Brews & BBQ.

Great Western Fan Festival:
As the home of Southern Gospel Music on the west coast, Visalia celebrates with a fun-filled, 3-day festival that is guaranteed to be a real show! Thousands from across the United States and several foreign countries gather each year for some of the most popular names in Southern Gospel and as usual, Visalia pulls out all the stops for an unforgettable entertainment experience!

For a complete list of activities, please visit our website at www.visitvisalia.org or call our office at 559.334.0141

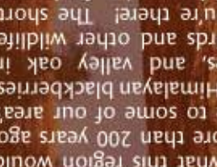


Visit Visalia and come play in our backyard

Whether your idea of a perfect vacation is escaping in the great outdoors or discovering a quaint California downtown, visit Visalia for a getaway that will leave you wishing for more time to explore.

Customize your vacation with one of these unique adventures.

The perfect itinerary doesn't have to be far away to feel out of this world.



Arts & Culture:
With nearly a dozen annual events that emphasize the arts, an "outdoor gallery" of murals that adorn our city streets, and restaurants that boast some of the Valley's finest cultural delicacies, Visalia is so rich in culture, we can't help but wear it on our sleeves. Come and see for yourself! In the summer, our downtown streets play host to hundreds of visitors from across the world that have come to experience the local flavor and explore in our backyard.

- Breakfast at Valhalla
- Visalia and Exeter Mural and Antique outing
- Arts Visalia • Chinese Cultural Center
- Clark Center for Japanese Art • Enchanted Playhouse Theater
- Imagine U Children's Museum
- Live Entertainment nearly every night

Walk through History:
Watch history come alive on this tour as you explore the centuries-ago buildings downtown, hear the stories of early American Indian settlers, and discover what Visalia would have been like more than 200 years ago at our 322-acre nature preserve. Don't forget to join us for a dining experience that has truly withstood the test of time. Bringing a large group to town? Ask about a historian-led tour of downtown at the Convention and Visitors Bureau.

- Tulare County Farm Labor and Agriculture Museum
- Kaweah Oaks Preserve
- Historical Walking Tour of Downtown Visalia

Sequoia National Park:
From soaring mountains to flowing waterfalls, deep caves, breathtaking night skies, and towering giant sequoia trees, you'll never find adventure and tranquility so close together. Sequoia National Park offers year-round attractions that allow visitors to hike miles of nature trails, and discover the unmatched beauty of California's oldest National Park.

- Option 1: Take the Sequoia Shuttle!
- Option 2: Drive yourself!

It's in our Nature:
Pack your gear for this vacation, because here in Visalia, adventure is 'in our nature.' Try one of these outdoor excursions that is so accessible you'll be able to fill your day full of hunting, hiking, horseback riding, fishing, golfing, biking, or another outdoor excursion and still have time to unwind with a dinner and a late-evening stroll downtown. When you can't decide which adventure is first on your to-do list, don't worry! The river rafting, canoeing, skiing, ice skating and swimming will still be there tomorrow.

- Sequoia High Sierra Camp
- Fish in one of Tulare County's 96 spots
- Horseback Riding in Balch Park
- Bike the Southern Sierras

Farms and Agriculture:
As the nation's leading dairy producer and home to over 250 different crops, a visit to Visalia and the Central Valley simply wouldn't be complete without some exploration into our County's leading industry. Visit nursery suppliers, cheese-making facilities, and the world's largest orange maze. You'll drive past dozens of dairies that dot the Valley, thousands of acres of cotton, corn, apricots, cherries, oranges and more! Compliment your day with a meal from one of our many restaurants that will surely give you a taste of the local flavor. Ask us for a recommendation at the Convention and Visitors Bureau!

- Bravo Farms
- Ag Ventures Museum
- Seven Sycamores Ranch/World's Largest Orange Maze
- Dinner at the Orange Blossom Junction Restaurant
- Visalia Farmers Market
- Ask us about a customized, guided ag tour

Girlfriends Getaway:
This itinerary is truly fit for a queen! Dine like a diva, pamper yourself all day long, and finally plan that weekend with the gals you've been waiting for!

- The Lunchbox
- The Frosted Muffin
- Boutique shopping in Downtown Visalia
- Antique Row on East Main Street
- Relax with a cocktail at Café 225
- Dancing at the Cellar Door
- Plan a spa experience at one of our numerous downtown Day Spas

The Ultimate MAN Tour:
We may be home to the world's biggest tree, but that's not all! Prepare your tastebuds and dig in to some of the meatiest, manliest mega dishes in California (maybe you should ride the bull before dinner)! Cheer for the home team or enjoy a chilled glass of Visalia-brewed stout.

- 14 golf courses within 30 minutes
- 96 fishing spots in Tulare County
- Brewbakers Brewing Company
- Sequoia Cigar
- Big Bubbas Bad BBQ
- Hiking, biking, camping, rafting (and all the other 'ing' words, too)!

VISALIA IS WITHIN 3.5 HRS. DRIVING DISTANCE TO:
SEQUOIA & KINGS CANYON NATIONAL PARK
YOSEMITE NATIONAL PARK
SAN FRANCISCO • SACRAMENTO • LOS ANGELES

AIR TRANSPORTATION:
VISALIA MUNICIPAL AIRPORT – GREAT LAKES AIRLINES 800.554.5111
WWW.GREATLAKESAV.COM
FRESNO YOSEMITE INT'L AIR TERMINAL FYI 559.621.4500
BAKERSFIELD MUNICIPAL AIRPORT BFL 661.326.3155

RAIL TRANSPORTATION:
AMTRAK HANFORD STATION 800.872.7245

GROUND TANSPORTATION:
GREYHOUND BUS LINE
SEQUOIA SHUTTLE (SEASONAL) WWW.SEQUOIASHUTTLE.COM
SEQUOIA SHUTTLE FROM VISALIA TO THE SEQUOIA NATIONAL PARK AVAILABLE MEMORIAL DAY THROUGH MID-SEPTEMBER.

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VISALIA
HEART OF THE SEQUOIA REGION
GATEWAY TO THE SEQUOIA & KINGS CANYON
NATIONAL PARKS VISITOR'S GUIDE & MAP

Come Play in our Backyard!

Tee it up!:
Hit the links in Visalia and our backyard, and we'll let you in on one of our best kept secrets. Bring your three wood along to test your skills on one of California's longest par 5's, and spice up your vacation with 234 holes of memorable golf to choose from within 30 minutes of Visalia!

Bravo Farms Cheese Making:
Visit Bravo Farms to taste the Valley the way the locals do! From ice cream to espresso, packaged goodies and special treats, Bravo Farms offers everything you need for family fun! Come and see for yourself what makes Bravo Farms Cheese so delicious as you watch the cheese-making process from behind the scenes, and then, taste the difference with a sample of ice cream.

Mural walking tour:
For centuries, Valley communities and artists have come together to create truly magnificent masterpieces on our famous "concrete canvases." Nearly one hundred murals adorn the sides of buildings throughout Tulare County and tell stories about the history, wildlife, agriculture, events and much more that have shaped our towns into the flourishing communities they are today. The city of Visalia in particular features paintings of a 1940's advertisement, war veteran memorials and picturesque Sequoia National Park. Come and see if you can spot them all!

Adventure Park:
This facility offers 7 acres of food, fun and excitement for the whole family. Fulfill your need for speed at the 45 mph Full Throttle Raceway or take it easy in the batting cages or with a round of miniature golf.

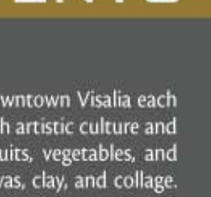
Kaweah Oaks Preserve:
This 322-acre preserve allows visitors to get a glimpse of what this region would have been like more than 200 years ago. The land is home to some of our area's finest vegetation: Himalayan blackberries, grapes, sycamores, and valley oak in addition to dozens of birds and other wildlife. Don't forget to take a hike while you're there! The short, self-guided nature trails boast beautiful canopies, freshwater ponds, and aromatic California roses.

Historical Walking Tour of Downtown Visalia:
Take this 45-minute stroll through old downtown Visalia for a history lesson and some good exercise! Along the way you'll discover old churches, the little white schoolhouse, early hotels and the famous Fort Visalia.

Farmers Market:
There's no better place to find gourmet cheeses, seasoned nuts, salad dressings, mustards, jam, jellies, olives, fresh baked cookies, artisan bread loafs and dozens of fruits and vegetables than right down the street at the local farmers market. Our local folks offer the finest foods, straight from the farm to your home! Join us Downtown in the summer for a market with live entertainment or on Saturday's year-round at the Sequoia Mall Shopping Center.

Rawhide Professional Baseball:
Pack your peanuts, Cracker Jacks and foam finger for a day at the diamond! Rawhide fans celebrated 65 successful seasons in 2010 and invite you to join us in the newly renovated, downtown stadium. You can even take the Visalia Towne Trolley to the game!

Fox Theater and Tulare County Symphony:
The Fox Theatre tells a lot about the community of Visalia. Opened in 1930 in the early days of "talking pictures," the theater was the grand showplace in town for over 40 years. Now, more than 80 years later, the Fox serves as one of the finest preforming arts venues in California. Ask us about more history when you get here!



Crystal Cave:
Take this 45-minute guided tour in Sequoia National Park through curtains of icicle-like stalactites and mounds of stalagmites or join us for a Wild Cave Adventure! Cave is only open seasonally; please visit VisitSequoia.com for cave hours and more information.

Seven Sycamores Ranch:
Nestled in the orange groves between Visalia and Sequoia National Park, Seven Sycamores Ranch has amenities for overnight travelers and tours or those just passing through. Meet a third-generation citrus farmer and hear the story of how the McKellar Family built their farm and farm home during the Great Depression.