

Lassen Volcanic Guide

Summer/Fall 2021

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior
Lassen Volcanic National Park



Keep Wild Animals Wild Stay with or Store Your Scented Stuff

Black bears at Lassen Volcanic are beginning to associate humans and our stuff with food. Bears that obtain human food—even once—may become aggressive. Learn how all visitors can help prevent closures and protect Lassen's bears on page 14.

Explore Your Park in...

Four Hours

Half a day is just enough to enjoy several **Highway Highlights** (pg 3) along the 30-mile highway that connects the northwest and southwest entrances. Plan an hour drive time without stops.

Take in the sights, sounds, and smells of **Sulphur Works Hydrothermal area** (pg 3).

Walk the **Devastated Area Interpretive Trail** (pg 8) and uncover the dramatic story of the 1914-1915 Lassen Peak eruptions.

Stop for a photo or a picnic at **Manzanita Lake**. Park at the day use area off the campground road. View a map of the Manzanita Lake Area in the park brochure.

One Day

A full day gives you time to enjoy multiple **Highway Highlights** (pg 3) and at least one hike in the Southwest or Manzanita Lake areas.

Take a hike (pg 8-9). Parking is limited at trailheads along the highway and can fill up early. Consider arriving early; going mid-week; or choosing an equally scenic, but less-popular trail.

Enjoy a picnic (pg 6). Pick up supplies or grab ready-to-go items at the Manzanita Lake Camper Store or Lassen Café in the Kohm Yah-mah-nee Visitor Center (pg 4).

Cast a fishing line (pg 6) in one of the park's many lakes.

Two or More Days

More time provides the opportunity to enjoy longer hikes and a full day in one of the more remote areas of the park. View directions on back page.

Marvel at the Painted Dunes and lava rock-lined **Butte Lake**.

Spot Lassen from the shores of **Juniper Lake** or climb to the active fire lookout atop Mt. Harkness (pg 9).

Explore a remote hydrothermal area with a hike to Devils Kitchen, Boiling Springs Lake, or Terminal Geyser (p 8) in **Warner Valley**.

Marvel at the **Milky Way** (pg 6) under Lassen Volcanic's dark night sky.

Be Prepared for Modifications to Services and Facilities

Learn more about how Lassen Volcanic National Park is responding to COVID-19 and how you can recreate responsibly on page 13.

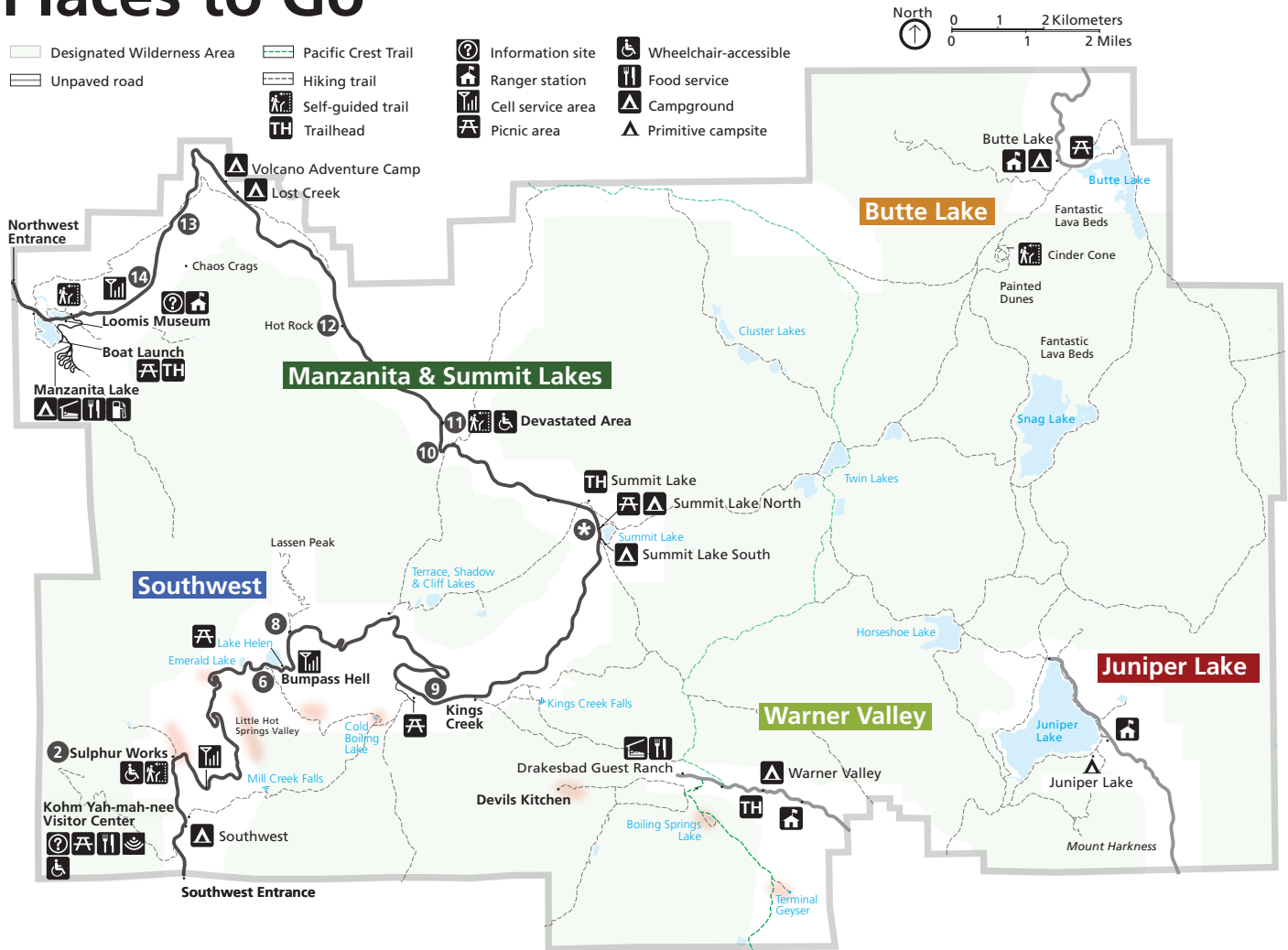
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This visitor guide is made possible through support of the Lassen Association.
www.lassenassociation.org

Places to Go



Getting Around

An area map on page 16 includes distances and travel times from nearby communities as well as directions to the Butte Lake, Warner Valley, and Juniper Lake areas.

SW Southwest Area 6700 ft (2042 m) elevation
The steep, rugged terrain in the Southwest Area offers dramatic vistas, moderate to difficult hikes including Lassen Peak Trail, and access to the best-known hydrothermal areas in the park: Sulphur Works and Bumpass Hell.

ML Manzanita Lake Area (plus Summit Lake)
5800 ft (1768 m) elevation | 6700 (2042 m) elevation
Located in the northwest corner of the park, Manzanita Lake offers the most amenities and is popular with campers and families. The largest campground in the park is a short walk from Manzanita Lake, the Camper Store, and Loomis Museum. The popular Summit Lake Campgrounds and Trailhead are located 12 miles southeast of Manzanita Lake. The busy trailhead is popular with backpackers and stock users.

BL Butte Lake Area 6100 ft (1859 m) elevation
This remote landscape is dominated by the jagged Fantastic Lava Beds and barren Cinder Cone volcano. The hike to its summit is both challenging and unforgettable. The campground and day use area provide a great base for hiking, backpacking, swimming, and boating. Plan an hour drive time from the Northwest Entrance.

WV Warner Valley Area 5600 feet (1707 m) elevation
This narrow valley features a number of hydrothermal areas and the historic Drakesbad Guest Ranch. Enjoy easy to moderate hikes to remote hydrothermal areas including Devils Kitchen, Boiling Springs Lake, and Terminal Geyser. Plan a 90-minute drive time from the Southwest Entrance.

JL Juniper Lake Area 6790 feet (2070 m) elevation
This remote, high-elevation landscape contains the largest lake in the park and an active fire lookout. A campground and day use area offer great starting points for hiking, backpacking, swimming, and boating. Plan a 90-minute drive time from the Southwest Entrance.

Highway Highlights

The 30-mile Lassen Volcanic National Park Highway connects the northwest and southwest entrances of the park. Plan for an hour drive-time without stops. Travel the highway in either direction and enjoy numerous roadside highlights.

Highway Highlights match numbered markers along the road. Markers also correspond to stops in the audio tour and road guide.

- 2 Sulphur Works**
Follow a sidewalk to the park's most accessible hydrothermal area.
- 6 Brokeoff Volcano Vista**
Can you spot the rim of the former Brokeoff Volcano in the remnant peaks that surround you? The parking area also serves as the Bumpass Hell Trailhead and is often full.
- 8 Lassen Peak Parking Area and Viewpoint**
Experience the majesty of Lassen Peak from the highest point on the park road at 8,512 feet.
- 9 Kings Creek Meadow Scenic Pull-out**
Get your camera ready for this popular stop where Kings Creek meanders through an expansive meadow at the foot of Lassen Peak.
- * North Summit Lake Picnic Area and Loop Trail**
Enjoy a picnic, walk, or swim along the north and west shores of Summit Lake. Parking is available in pullouts outside the North Summit Lake Campground entrance.
- 10 Hat Creek**
Don't miss this area's fantastic fall colors. Use the crosswalk to access hidden Hat Creek meadow. Can you tell what animal used to live here?
- 11 Devastated Area**
Discover the story of devastation and forest recovery following Lassen Peak's 1915 eruption on this short, self-guided walk.
- 12 Hot Rock**
Snap a photo with this several-ton rock that photographer B.F. Loomis reported was too hot to touch after it was ejected from the crater of Lassen Peak in 1915.
- 13 Sunflower Flat, Nobles Emigrant Trail**
Step foot on a spur of the California National Historic Trail.
- 14 Chaos Crags and Jumbles Scenic Pull-out**
Imagine a rock slide racing nearly 100 miles an hour down the slopes of this group of dome volcanoes.



Roadside Audio Tour

Delve into park history with a roadside audio tour. Download the MP3 files or *Lassen Audio Tours* podcast before your visit at go.nps.gov/lavo/audio. Or, purchase an audio CD at Lassen Association stores in the Kohm Yah-mah-nee Visitor Center or Loomis Museum.

Printed Road Guide

For a more in-depth auto tour, you can purchase a printed park road guide *Lassen Volcanic National Park: Auto Tours, Trips, and Trails* at Lassen Association stores in the Kohm Yah-mah-nee Visitor Center or Loomis Museum.

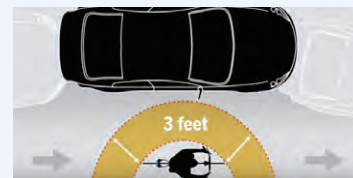
Drive with Care

- Protect wildlife by adhering to posted speed limits.
- Use pullouts to enjoy the view.
- Pull over if taking your time; there are no passing lanes in the park.



Give 3 Feet to Bicyclists

California law requires drivers give three feet as they pass bicyclists on the road. Can't give three feet? Treat the bicyclist as you would a vehicle in front of you and wait to pass until you can give three feet.

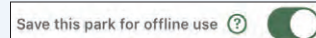


NPS Mobile App

The NPS App is the new official app for the National Park Service with tools to explore more than 400 national parks nationwide. Download at go.nps.gov/app.

Save Lassen Volcanic for Offline Use

Once you have downloaded the app, toggle the button on the Lassen Volcanic homepage to save for offline use. Internet access is extremely limited in the park.



Services & Facilities



Kohm Yah-mah-nee Visitor Center



Loomis Museum



Manzanita Lake Camper Store

Most services and facilities are accessible daily between June and September. Fall hours and seasonal closures begin in mid-October. There are two visitor centers in the park. The Kohm Yah-mah-nee Visitor Center is located at the Southwest Entrance and the Loomis Museum is located one mile from the Northwest Entrance. Food is available at the Kohm Yah-mah-nee Visitor Center and the Manzanita Lake Camper Store, which also offers camper services and unleaded gas.

Be Prepared for Modifications to Services and Facilities

Find current information about services and facilities outside the Loomis Museum and Kohm Yah-mah-nee Visitor Center or online at [go.nps.gov/lavo/current](https://www.nps.gov/lavo/current). Learn more about how Lassen Volcanic National Park is responding to COVID-19 and how you can visit responsibly on page 13.

SW Kohm Yah-mah-nee Visitor Center

Explore exhibits, purchase souvenirs, or enjoy a casual meal at this year-round visitor center. The 20-minute park film can be viewed online this year at [go.nps.gov/lavo/film](https://www.nps.gov/lavo/film).

Lassen Café & Gift

Browse the gift shop for souvenirs including arts and crafts from local artists or enjoy café offerings.

Lassen Association Store

Open during visitor center hours

Browse books, maps, trail guides, videos, and educational gifts at the Lassen Association store. All profits benefit the park.

Wi-Fi

Free Wi-Fi is available at the Kohm Yah-mah-nee Visitor Center. You must open a browser and agree to terms of use to connect to *NPS Visitor WiFi*. Please note that bandwidth is very limited during the summer months and service may be slow or unavailable during busy times.



Electric Vehicle Charging Station

Two level 2 electric vehicle charging stations are available in the Kohm Yah-mah-nee Visitor Center parking area. Payment is accepted only through the free Liberty Hydra app. Please move your vehicle when charging is complete to allow others to use it. Learn more at [go.nps.gov/lavo/transport](https://www.nps.gov/lavo/transport).

ML Loomis Museum

Park information is available outside the museum in the Loomis Plaza. Educational items are available at the Lassen Association store inside.

ML Manzanita Lake Camper Store

Located at the entrance to the Manzanita Lake Campground, the store offers camping supplies, gifts, hot and cold food, gasoline, showers, and laundry. An **ATM** is located inside the Camper Store.

Showers and Laundry

Coin-operated showers and laundry machines are available at the Manzanita Lake Camper Store. A change machine is located in the laundry room.

Gasoline

Unleaded gas is available behind the Manzanita Lake Camper Store. Gas may be purchased with a credit card 24 hours a day. Note that there is no gas available within 30 miles of the Southwest Entrance.

Dump Station

A dump station is located on Manzanita Lake Campground Road. Fee is \$8. Holders of Senior and Access passes receive a 50% discount.

ML Lassen Crossroads

This open-air pavilion highlights features of the Lassen region. The site offers large vehicle parking and can be used for carpooling into the park. The site is open daily between 7 am and 3 pm and gated at all other times.



Manzanita Lake camping cabin

Phones and Cell Service

Cell service (AT&T and Verizon) is very limited in the park and surrounding areas. View spots with limited coverage on the map on page 2. Pay phones are located outside the Manzanita Lake Camper Store and the Loomis Museum (payment by calling card only). An emergency phone is located in the Kohm Yah-mah-nee Visitor Center 24-hour vestibule.

Lost and Found

Leave a found item or report a lost item at the Kohm Yah-mah-nee Visitor Center or Loomis Museum.

Lodging

Overnight accommodations are available at Drakesbad Guest Ranch in Warner Valley in the summer season only. Lodging is available within numerous communities around the park (see map on pg 16).

WV Drakesbad Guest Ranch

This historic ranch offers lodging, dining, a thermal-heated pool, and horseback riding. Reservations required, call (866) 999-0914.

ML Manzanita Lake Cabins

Rustic, 1-room, 2-room, and bunk cabins are available. For reservations call (866) 999-0914 or visit lassenlodging.com. Check-in inside the Manzanita Lake Camper Store.



Entrance Fees

Your park fees provide funding for park projects that improve and enhance the park for all visitors.

Pass	Cost
Valid for 1-7 Days	
Vehicle Pass	\$30
Motorcycle Entry Pass	\$25
Individual Entry Pass	\$15
Annual Passes	
Lassen & Whiskeytown Pass	\$55
Valid one year from month of purchase at Lassen Volcanic and Whiskeytown National Recreation Area.	
Interagency Pass	\$80
Valid for entrance to all federal recreation sites for one year from month of purchase.	
Military Pass	Free
Available to active duty military members and their dependents.	
4th Grade Pass	Free
Available to all U.S. 4th graders with a valid Every Kid Outdoors paper pass.	
Lifetime Passes	
Access Pass	Free (in-person)
Available to U.S. citizens or permanent residents with permanent disabilities.	
	\$10 (by mail)
Senior Pass	\$80 (in-person)
Lifetime pass for U.S. citizens or permanent residents age 62 or over.	
	\$90 (by mail)
	\$20 (one year)

Access for People with Disabilities

A complete list of accessible services and recreation opportunities is available at visitor centers and online at go.nps.gov/lavo/access.



Trails with access for users with limited mobility include: Devastated Area Interpretive Trail (with audio description), Sulphur Works hydrothermal area, and Lassen Crossroads information area.



Accessible campsites are available at Manzanita Lake, Summit Lake North, and Butte Lake Campgrounds. Accessible camping cabins are available at Manzanita Lake.



Assisted Listening Devices are available for auditorium and amphitheater presentations. Audio description is available for the park brochure, visitor center exhibits, and the park film. Ask a ranger for assistance.



Things to Do



Summit Lake



Lake Helen picnic area



Kayakers on Manzanita Lake

Ranger-led Programs

Information about daily program offerings will be posted outside the Loomis Museum and Kohm Yah-mah-nee Visitor Center, when available.

Hiking

Climb volcanoes, marvel at hydrothermal areas, explore lakeshores, and so much more. Choose from a selection of easy to strenuous day hikes listed by park area on pages 8 and 9.

Swimming

The high-elevation lakes in the park offer a refreshing reprieve from summer heat. Lake Helen, Juniper Lake, and Butte Lake often remain cool year-round. Entering thermal waters is prohibited and extremely dangerous (learn more on page 7).

Tread Lightly on Lakeshores and Wetlands

Help protect these sensitive habitats by staying on hard surfaces and off of flowers. Learn more on page 15.

Picnicking

Enjoy lunch at any of the scenic spots along the park highway, or find a picnic table at Kohm Yah-mah-nee Visitor Center, Lake Helen, Manzanita Lake, Kings Creek Picnic Area (charcoal disposal available), Butte Lake (charcoal grills available), or along the northern shore of Summit Lake.

Backpacking

Choose from over 150 miles of trails, pick up a free backpacking permit, then enjoy your night in Lassen Volcanic Wilderness. Learn more on page 11.

Experience Wilderness

Venture just beyond the highway to enter Lassen Volcanic Wilderness and experience nature at its wildest. In 1972, 75% of the park received Congressional Wilderness Area designation, a status afforded to just 5% of America's public lands. Wilderness is managed to minimize human influence and preserve natural conditions. View Lassen Volcanic Wilderness Area on the park map on page 2.

Wildflower Viewing

Blooms appear May through September in park meadows and valleys, and along lakeshores. View a wildflower guide at go.nps.gov/lavo/flora or purchase one at Lassen Association stores (pg 4). Learn how you can help foster park wildflower populations like the rare Lassen Paintbrush on page 15.

Biking

Bikes are welcome on roads and parking areas (not on hiking trails). There are no bike trails in the park. Helmets are highly recommended for adults and are required under California law for children age 17 and younger. Biking on the park highway is recommended only for experienced riders; there are no shoulders or bike lanes. Road cyclists must ride single file and be attentive to passing vehicles that may not be aware of cyclists. Bicyclists may also use the gravel roads into Butte and Juniper Lake areas and Warner Valley road (13 miles pavement then 3 gravel). See map on page 16.

Boating

Boating is popular on Manzanita Lake, Butte Lake, Summit Lake, and Juniper Lake. Only non-motorized watercraft are permitted. Put in and take out is restricted to designated boat launches at Manzanita and Butte Lakes. **Watercraft are not permitted on Boiling Springs Lake, Emerald Lake, Reflection Lake, and Lake Helen.** Children under 13 years of age must wear a Coast Guard-approved life jacket.

Fishing

2021 California free fishing days: 7/3 and 9/4

California fishing regulations apply to all areas within the park. A California license is required; children under 16 years of age do not require a license. Fishing is not permitted at Manzanita and Butte Lake boat launch areas or in Manzanita Creek above Manzanita Lake (to protect nesting birds, spawning fish, and their habitats). Fishing in Manzanita Lake is limited to catch and release with artificial lures (no bait) and a single, barbless hook only. Lakes with trout species include: Manzanita, Butte, Horseshoe, Ridge, Terrace, Summit, Snag, and Crystal. Creeks with fish include: North Fork Bailey, North Arm Rice, Hat, Hot Springs, Kings, Summit, and Grassy.



Milky Way over Chaos Crags

Stargazing

You can enjoy Lassen's dark night skies anywhere you find open sky. Bumpass Hell and Devastated parking areas offer wide views of the sky and are located just off the park highway. Lake Helen, Manzanita, Summit, and Reflection Lakes often offer spectacular, mirror-like reflections of the starry sky. The darkest nights afford the best views of the Milky Way—the cloud-like stretch of stars that crosses the sky from east to west. For the best experience, dress warmly and use flashlights minimally, your eyes will adjust to the darkness and stars will appear brighter.

Explore the Area

Subway Cave

This 1/3-mile, self-guided loop begins on top of a lava flow before descending down into a lava tube, named for its similarity to a subway tunnel. Bring a flashlight and wear sturdy shoes; the cave is completely dark and the floor is rough and jagged. View the map on page 16 for directions from the Northwest Entrance (15 mi / 20 min) to the trailhead in Lassen National Forest.

Burney Falls

The 129-foot Burney Falls is the centerpiece of nearby McArthur-Burney Falls Memorial State Park. The waterfall and stream are fed by large springs that are commonly associated with areas covered by recent lava flows. The park is located 43 miles north of the Northwest Entrance on SR-89 (55 min) and charges an entrance fee.

Volcanic Legacy Scenic Byway

One of only 42 All American Roads in the nation, this 500-mile route connects Lassen Volcanic and Crater Lake National Parks. The volcanic activity of the Cascade Mountain Range has created unique geological formations that can only be seen in this part of America. Learn more at go.nps.gov/VLSB.

Circle of Discovery

A circle of seven national park sites within northern California and Southern Oregon contains a vast array of resources from America's oldest trees and deepest lake to hydrothermal areas, ice caves, and dramatic waterfalls. Learn more at go.nps.gov/COD.



Hydrothermal Areas

Lassen Volcanic National Park contains eight hydrothermal (hot water) areas. The roaring fumaroles, thumping mudpots, boiling pools, and steaming ground in these areas are produced when water is heated by magma three miles underground. These features are related to active volcanism and are indications of the ongoing potential for further eruptions.

Sulphur Works is easily accessed via a short, paved walk along the park highway, near the Southwest Entrance.

The 16-acre **Bumpass Hell** basin is the largest hydrothermal area in the park. Get there via a moderate, 3-mile round-trip hike from the park highway (pg 9).

Cold Boiling Lake is a dying hydrothermal area that is better described as a cool, bubbling lake. Get there via an easy, short hike from the park highway (pg 9).

The more remote **Devils Kitchen, Boiling Springs Lake,** and **Terminal Geyser** (not a true geyser, but a spring flowing over a steam vent) include features similar to Bumpass Hell in a wilderness setting. Hike there from the Warner Valley Trailhead (pg 8).

You can often see steam rising in Little Hot Springs Valley and below Pilot Pinnacle from overlooks along the park highway in the Southwest Area. There are no trails to these areas.

Don't Get Burned

For your safety, stay on established boardwalks and trails.

Ground in hydrothermal areas can look solid but may actually be a thin crust hiding pools of acidic, boiling water or mud. Visitors have been severely injured traveling off-trail in park hydrothermal areas.










Hiking



There are over 150 miles of trails in Lassen Volcanic and each one offers its own reward. Below is a selection of day hikes in the park. Information about additional trails including backpacking routes is available at park visitor centers.

*Elevation change is the difference from beginning and ending elevation and is not a cumulative total of gain or loss.

Average Level of Difficulty: Easy ● Moderate ●● Moderately Strenuous ●●● Strenuous ●●●●


Manzanita and Summit Lakes Area	Level of Difficulty	Round-trip Distance (mi)	Elevation Change (ft)*
Echo Lake  Trail climbs through forest and woodland before arriving at Echo Lake; offers spectacular views of Lassen Peak. Trailhead 1/2 mile north of North Summit Lake campground.	●●	4.4	416
Paradise Meadow  Trail follows a creek up a narrow ravine and ends at a meadow lined by talus cliffs. Trailhead across highway from Hat Creek Meadow.	●●	2.8	700
Devastated Area Interpretive Trail   Accessible path with signs about the effects of the 1915 Lassen Peak eruption. Excellent for families or those unable to take longer trails. Trailhead at Devastated parking area.	●	0.5	0
Lily Pond Interpretive Trail  Easy trail skirts Reflection Lake and a lily pond. A trail brochure and corresponding posts highlight the plants and trees in the area. Trailhead across from the Loomis Museum.	●	0.6	0
Manzanita Creek Trail climbs gently through firs and pines; switchbacks to a meadow alongside Manzanita Creek; then ends in a meadow with views of Eagle Peak, Vulcan's Castle and Loomis Peak. Trailhead at end of Manzanita Lake Campground road.	●●	7.0	1,110
Manzanita Lake Easy, mostly flat trail wraps around Manzanita Lake. Superb views of Lassen Peak and Chaos Crags. Great for birdwatchers, wildflower enthusiasts, and families. You can pick up this loop trail from the boat launch area or behind the Loomis Museum.	●	1.5	0
Chaos Crags and Crags Lake Climbs gently through forest along thinly forested edge of Chaos Jumbles. The trail continues down a steep path to the lake which is often dry in the summer. Trailhead 0.1 miles after turnoff to Manzanita Lake Campground.	●●	4.0	850

Butte Lake Area			
Cinder Cone   Exposed path of sand-like loose cinders skirts the Fantastic Lava Beds and the Painted Dunes before climbing steeply to the summit with spectacular views of Lassen Peak and the eastern park. Trailhead to the right of Butte Lake boat ramp.	●●●●	4.0	846

Warner Valley Area			
All trails below begin from trailhead across from Warner Valley Campground			
Devils Kitchen Trail gradually crosses through meadow and forest to a circuit that winds through mudpots, steam vents, fumaroles, and milky Hot Springs Creek.	●●	4.2	440
Boiling Springs Lake  Trail climbs gradually through meadow and forest to the lake. Steam vents under the lake keep the water around 125 degrees. Good wildflowers and bird viewing.	●	1.8	300
Terminal Geyser  Continues from Boiling Springs then follows the Pacific Crest Trail. Drops steeply to a clearing where a stream runs over a steam vent (not a true geyser).	●●	5.8	610

 Self-guided Interpretive Trail

 Wheelchair Accessible Trail

 Parking limited; arrive early or visit on weekdays

No Pets on Trails

Protect wildlife and your pet. Leashed pets are permitted only in developed areas: roadways, parking lots, campgrounds, and picnic areas. Learn more on page 14.

Explore Safely

Your Safety is Your Responsibility

- Bring water
- Wear sturdy boots
- Pack a map and compass
- Check the weather forecast
- Carry sun protection; dress in layers
- Watch for altitude sickness (p 14)
- Tell someone where you are going and when you will return
- Stay on trails or boardwalks in hydrothermal areas (pg 7)



Southwest Area	Level of Difficulty	Round-trip Distance (mi)	Elevation Change (ft)*
Brokeoff Mountain Mostly steep, forested trail climbs to the shoulder and then to the top of Brokeoff, providing excellent panoramic views of the park and surrounding area. Trailhead ¼ mi south of Southwest Entrance Station.	●●●●	7.4	2,600
Mill Creek Falls Rises and falls through the red fir forest to an overlook of the falls. Continue across the creek to reach the top of the falls. Trailhead behind Kohm Yah-mah-nee Amphitheater.	●●●	3.6	307
Ridge Lakes Steep trail climbs up a ridge and then through a ravine to Ridge Lakes nestled in a basin between Brokeoff Mountain and Mt. Diller. Trailhead at Sulphur Works parking area.	●●●●	2.0	1,045
Bumpass Hell Trail This trail is wide and relatively flat to the Bumpass Hell basin overlook. From the overlook, the trail descends 300 feet into the basin where hikers can explore the hydrothermal features from a boardwalk. Trailhead in Bumpass Hell parking area; parking is very limited.	●●	2.6	300
Lassen Peak Exposed, steep trail of loose rock switchbacks up a ridge to the peak. Great views along the trail and superb panoramic views from the top. Trailhead at Lassen Peak parking area.	●●●●	4.8	1,957
Cold Boiling Lake Easy trail passes through forest and meadow to this dying hydrothermal area in an alpine basin. Tiny gas bubbles escape Lassen's hydrothermal system below, making it appear to be boiling. Trailhead at Kings Creek Picnic Area.	●	1.4	40
Kings Creek Falls Trail crosses through Kings Creek Meadows and forests before dropping steeply down to the cascades and falls. Trailhead 1 mile north of Kings Creek Picnic Area.	●●	3.0	500
Terrace, Shadow, and Cliff Lakes Rocky trail through the basin between Reading Peak and Lassen Peak. Lakes offer good swimming. Trailhead halfway between Lassen Peak parking area and Kings Creek Meadow.	●●●	3.4	700

Juniper Lake Area			
Mount Harkness Climbs through forest and open woodland to the peak. A staffed fire lookout and panoramic views are found at the top. Trailhead adjacent to Juniper Lake Campground.	●●●●	3.8	1,246
Crystal Lake Short ascent winds through forest to this small tarn in a rocky basin. Trailhead 0.3 miles north of Juniper Lake Campground.	●	0.8	380
Inspiration Point Climbs through forest, meadow patches, and a sunny bench section. The summit rewards hikers with stunning views of Lassen, Prospect Peak, Cinder Cone, and Mount Harkness. Trailhead 50 feet east of Juniper Lake picnic area parking.	●●	1.4	400
Horseshoe Lake Easy trail climbs gently to a saddle between Juniper and Horseshoe Lakes. Good fishing. Trailhead at Juniper Lake picnic area.	●	2.8	240

Indicates a National Trail or part of one

Camping

Lassen Volcanic contains eight campgrounds. Juniper Lake and Southwest are first-come, first-served only. Other campgrounds are reservable during the peak season. Group campsites always require a reservation. Campsites fill by Friday afternoon on holiday weekends. Manzanita Lake, Summit Lake, and Juniper Lake are generally the first to fill.

Reservations

Reservations are recommended for all reservable campsites. Sites that are not reserved during the reservable period, may be used for first-come, first-served camping for a **single night only**. Reservations are required for all group sites. Reservations must be made through Recreation.gov online or by phone (877) 444-6777, at least four days in advance. Park staff cannot assist with reservations.

First-Come, First-Served Sites (FCFS)

Southwest Walk-in and Juniper Lake campsites (except group sites) are available on a FCFS-basis only. Sites may not be held for someone who has not arrived. When water is turned off at a campground in the fall, all sites become FCFS only.

Camping in Vehicles

Camping in self-contained vehicles is allowed in the Southwest parking area only with campground payment for each parking space occupied. Camping or overnight vehicle parking in pullouts, parking areas, picnic grounds, or any place other than a designated campground is not permitted.

Campsite Payment and Discounts

Please pay by check or credit card to help limit cash transactions to reduce risk during COVID-19 response. Holders of Senior and Access passes receive a 50% discount on dump station and camping fees, except for group campsites.

Manzanita Lake Camping Cabins

Twenty rustic cabins located adjacent to the Manzanita Lake Campground are available by reservation only. Learn more on page 5.

Services and Dump Station

In-park services including pay showers, laundry, and a dump station (\$8) are available near the Manzanita Lake Campground. There are no hookups in the park.

Dry Camping

Drinking water and flush toilets are not available when dry camping is in effect. Water systems are turned off for winterization; they cannot function when temperatures are consistently below freezing.

Campground	Elevation	# Sites	Reservable [^]	Daily Fee	Dry Camping Not Reservable	Dry Fee	Accessible	RV Sites	Flush Toilets	Vault Toilets
Butte Lake	6100'	101	6/4-9/6	\$22	9/7-10/18	\$15			•	•
Group sites		6	6/4-9/6	\$62					•	•
Juniper Lake	6800'	18			6/25-10/4	\$12				•
Group sites		2		\$32	6/25-10/4 [^]					•
Lost Creek Group	5900'	8	6/11-9/20	\$62						•
Manzanita Lake	5900'	179	5/21-10/11	\$26	10/12- snow closure	\$15			•	•
Group sites		4	5/21-6/28 9/7-10/12	\$72					•	•
Summit Lake North	7000'	46	6/25-9/13	\$24					•	•
Summit Lake South	7000'	48	6/25-9/13	\$22	9/14-9/27	\$15				•
Southwest Walk-In	6700'	20			mid-Oct*	\$16			•	•
Warner Valley	5600'	17	6/4-10/11	\$16		\$16				•

¹⁰ End date reflects last night for camping.

[^]Reservations are required for all group sites. *Southwest is open year-round.



Campground Regulations

- Check-in any time, but sites may not be available until noon. Check-out time is noon.
- A maximum of two vehicles are allowed at each campsite, except at designated group sites. An RV, tow vehicle, trailer, car, or truck each count as one vehicle.
- Campsite capacity is limited to six persons and three tents.
- Group campsite capacity is 25 persons per site. Group campsites at Juniper Lake are restricted to tents with a maximum of 15 persons per site.
- Quiet hours are 10 pm - 6 am.
- Generator hours are 8 - 10 am, 12 - 2 pm, and 5 - 7 pm. Please be considerate of your fellow campers.
- Camping is limited to 14 days per year, per campground. Summit and Juniper Lakes are limited to 7 days per year.

Campfires

Attend to campfires at all times and ensure your campfire is out cold before you leave.

Open fires are restricted to metal fire rings within designated campgrounds only. Gather only dead and down wood less than 4 inches in diameter and within 30 feet of roadways. Wood is available for purchase at the gift shop at the Manzanita Lake Camper Store. Help prevent the spread of invasive insects and diseases by buying or collecting firewood where you camp. Learn more at dontmovefirewood.org.

Camping Outside the Park

Camping outside of designated campgrounds is not permitted in the park, except if backpacking. Dispersed camping is permitted within Lassen National Forest.

Numerous campgrounds are available in the surrounding Lassen National Forest. The Almanor Ranger District includes campgrounds along the southern boundary of the park. The Hat Creek Ranger District includes campgrounds along the northern boundary of the park.

**Protect Bears
Prevent Closures
Stay with or
Store Your
Scented Stuff**



Backpacking

Bear Resistant Food Storage Required

Backcountry users must use a container certified by the Interagency Grizzly Bear Committee to store food and scented items. Bear-resistant canisters are available for rent in limited quantities at park stores in park visitor centers.

Bears obtaining improperly stored food has and may again result in park closures. Learn more on page 14.

Free Permit Required

A permit is required for camping outside of designated campgrounds. Self-registration is available at Loomis Museum, Kohm Yah-mah-nee Visitor Center, and at Juniper Lake, Butte Lake, and Warner Valley Ranger Stations.

Leave No Trace

Help keep Lassen Wild by observing Leave No Trace principles. Help protect water, wildlife, and wilderness by: camping at least 200 feet (about 70 big steps) from water, 300 feet from other groups, and 1/2 mile from any developed area. Pack out what you pack in (including toilet paper), and do not construct improvements such as windbreaks, rock seats, etc.



Protect Yourself and the Park

To reduce the risk of human-caused wildfire, campfires are not allowed anywhere in the backcountry. Gas stoves are permitted. Filter or treat all drinking water; Giardia has been found in park surface waters.

Stock Use and Corrals

Travel with stock is limited to day use only. A free permit is required and may be obtained at the Loomis Museum and Kohm Yah-mah-nee Visitor Center; and outside the Juniper Lake, Butte Lake, and Warner Valley Ranger Stations.

Three stock corrals are available for overnight use: Butte Lake (\$37), Summit Lake (\$37), and Juniper Lake (\$32). Potable water is not available at Juniper or Summit Lake Stock Corrals. Reservations are required; call 1-877-444-6777 or visit recreation.gov.

For Kids & Families

The following activities and destinations are particularly suited to young children and their families. The Manzanita Lake Area is the most popular destination for families who enjoy the large, adjacent campground; proximity to easy hiking trails; and selection of ranger-led activities. Summit Lake, Butte Lake, and Warner Valley areas also offer good family-friendly camping and recreation opportunities.

Facilities

Kids and adults alike enjoy the exhibits inside the Kohm Yah-mah-nee Visitor Center and Loomis Museum. Lassen Association bookstores inside both visitor centers offer educational materials including activity books, guidebooks, and more. Gift shops inside the Manzanita Lake Camper Store and Kohm Yah-mah-nee Visitor Center offer souvenirs and treasures for little ones. The soft-serve ice cream cones offered at both locations are especially popular on hot days.

Hiking Trails

Young and new hikers alike tend to enjoy trails with shorter distances, gentler terrain, or limited elevation change. Look for hikes with easy to moderate difficulty in the day hikes list on pages 8 and 9. Not listed is a short half-mile loop around Reflection Lake. This route (not a defined trail in all sections) offers fantastic views of Lassen Peak and Chaos Crags and is a shorter alternative to the 1.8-mile Manzanita Lake loop. Just outside the park, Subway Cave trail (pg 7) offers an unforgettable hike through a lava tube.

Other Activities

You can enjoy **swimming and water play** in any park lake, but not in hydrothermal areas (pg 7). Manzanita, Summit, and Emerald lakes offer the shallowest and warmest water.

Take a **nature walk** and explore the park your own way. Choose a pullout off the park highway or start walking from your campsite and explore! Let your young adventurer lead the way as you listen for birds, look for wildlife, smell the wildflowers, and touch and feel nature's textures.

Information about daily **ranger-led program** offerings will be posted outside the Loomis Museum and Kohm Yah-mah-nee Visitor Center, when available.



Become a Junior Ranger

Age 4 and Younger

Our youngest explorers are welcome to participate in our Chipmunk Club. Kids can learn more about wildlife in the park and earn a Chipmunk Club sticker. Pick up a Chipmunk Club card at the Loomis Museum or Kohm Yah-mah-nee Visitor Center.



Ages 5 to 18

Complete the Junior Ranger activity booklet or participate in a Junior Ranger program to earn a Lassen Junior Ranger badge. Pick up a Junior Ranger activity booklet at the Loomis Museum or Kohm Yah-mah-nee Visitor Center and then choose from a variety of activities while learning more about Lassen Volcanic National Park.



Ranger Tip: Be sure to plan enough time to return your booklet to a visitor center during business hours. The park does not mail badges.

Free Parks Pass for Fourth Graders

Get and print your pass at everykidoutdoors.gov. Use your printed pass or trade it in for a pass card for free entrance for you and your family to all federal lands and waters through August 31.



Volcano Adventure Camp

Lassen's designated youth-camping facility, Volcano Adventure Camp, supports low-cost group camping experiences by reducing the amount of equipment required and providing necessary amenities for first-time campers. Learn more at go.nps.gov/VAC.



Recreate Responsibly

Stay Safe in Your National Park

The National Park Service encourages all visitors to make smart decisions to help reduce the spread of COVID-19:



Practice Social Distancing

Maintain at least 6 feet (1.8 meters) of distance between you and others.



Face Mask Required in Park Facilities

Wear a mask in other settings where social distancing cannot be maintained.



Prevent Injury—Explore Safely

Reduce the risk to you and emergency medical responders by making choices to prevent injury. Choose trails that fit your fitness and ability level and turn around if you feel tired or weak.



Use Trails at Non-Peak Times

When possible, hike on a weekday, in the morning, or in late afternoon. Return another time if a trail is busy.



Avoid Gathering in Groups

Take hiking breaks away from others outside of your household and spread out at overlooks or other stopping points.



Bring Hand Sanitizer

Carry hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol to use on the trail, especially before touching your face.

Responding to COVID-19

Lassen Volcanic continues to follow the latest Center for Disease Control guidance for risk assessment, disease prevention, and protection of public spaces and workplaces. The safety and health of employees, visitors, partners, volunteers and resources remains our top priority. Learn more about NPS response at nps.gov/aboutus/news/public-health-update.htm.

Modifications to Services and Facilities

Access to and availability of park services and facilities may be impacted by COVID-19 response. We appreciate your flexibility and understanding as we continually adapt and modify operations for the safety of both staff and visitors.

Find current information about services and facilities outside the Loomis Museum and Kohm Yah-mah-nee Visitor Center or online at go.nps.gov/lavo/current.



2020 Annual Pass. *Manzanita Lake* clearing storm by Beth Young.



2021 Annual Pass. *Sunset on Whiskeytown Lake* by Carl Baer.

Annual Pass Photo Contest

Photo entries must be submitted by September 6, 2022. Entries are limited to two per household. The winner will receive photo credit and a \$50 gift certificate for park bookstores, compliments of Lassen Association. Visit go.nps.gov/lavo/photocontest for more information.

The Lassen Annual Pass is honored at the nearby Whiskeytown National Recreation Area. The pass photo alternates between the two NPS sites on an annual basis.

Supporting Your Park

The **Lassen Park Foundation** provides support to preserve and interpret the special natural and cultural resources of Lassen Volcanic National Park and its environs for future generations. **Become a Friend of Lassen** by contributing to the Lassen Park Foundation (donations are tax-deductible) or participating in fundraising events like the annual Discover Lassen event.

(530) 768-1110
lassenparkfoundation.org
info@lassenparkfoundation.org



Lassen Association stores offer books, maps, and educational gift items about the natural and cultural history of Lassen. **All profits benefit the park** and support efforts such as:

- Art programs
- Reach Higher Trail Challenge
- Dark Sky Festival
- Junior Ranger Program

Become a member today and support your national park.



(530) 595-4464
lassenassociation.org
lassenassociation@yahoo.com

Protect Yourself—Protect the Park



Even cute animals bite the hand that feeds them.



Lassen Volcanic is home to 40 to 50 black bears.



Learn about bear safety at go.nps.gov/bearaware.

Keep Wild Animals Wild



Never Feed Wildlife

Feeding wild animals puts them at risk of becoming sick or dying from eating human food. They may become dependent on humans and are more likely to get hit and killed by a car.

Animals can bite the hand that feeds them and transmit a variety of diseases including rabies. Larger animals, such as deer have been known to buck or kick suddenly and cause serious injuries.

Stay with or Store Your Scented Stuff

Bears obtaining improperly stored food has and may again result in park closures.

Allowing wild animals to obtain human food often results in aggressive behavior. Aggressive wildlife are a threat to human safety and will most likely be euthanized.

In campgrounds and cabins: store your food and scented items in food lockers. Only have the food out that you are actually using; if you are not using it, please put it back into the food locker.

In picnic areas and on the trail: always keep your food within arm's reach and do not turn your back on your food. Never leave your pack unattended.

When backpacking: store food or scented items in a mandatory, bear-resistant container. Learn more on page 11.



This bear in Yosemite was killed after becoming aggressive in response to food.



A bear in a dumpster at Butte Lake circa 1970.

Pets in the Park

Dogs and other pets are welcome anywhere a car can go and in designated campsites. Pets must be leashed at all times and are not permitted on trails/routes (including in a carrier), in any body of water, or inside visitor centers or other facilities.

Pets are permitted in most areas of the surrounding Lassen National Forest. Discover nearby areas to take your pet at go.nps.gov/lavo/pets.

Why Are Dogs Limited to Paved Areas?

All dogs leave behind a territorial scent that disrupts the behavior of native animals like the rare Sierra Nevada red fox. Dogs are predators that could chase, scare, kill, and transmit diseases to wild animals. Additionally, wild animals can transmit diseases including bubonic plague to pets as well as humans.

If You Encounter a Bear

Black bear sightings in the park occur occasionally. Human-bear encounters have increased in recent years after multiple incidents of bears obtaining improperly stored food from hikers or backpackers.

Protect yourself and bears by being Bear Aware:

- **Make noise when hiking** to avoid potential bear encounters when vegetation or terrain limits visibility, especially near water.
- **Do not run if you encounter a bear.** Keep out of sight and detour behind or downwind of the bear if possible.
- **If a bear notices you:** pick up small children, stay in a group, and slowly back away.
- **Do not drop your pack.** This teaches bears how to obtain human food and can result in the death of a bear.

Bear spray is not necessary for black bear safety at Lassen Volcanic.



Leashed pets are welcome on paved areas.



Don't get burned by hydrothermal features.



Shasta lily (*Lilium pardalinum ssp. shastense*).

Be Prepared

Call 911 In Case of Emergency

If phone service is not available, contact a park employee or go to a visitor center.

Effects of High Elevation

Hiking at high elevation can aggravate pre-existing medical conditions. If you start to experience any symptoms of altitude sickness (headache, dizziness, shortness of breath, confusion, pain behind eyes, or nausea) go to a lower elevation. Seek medical attention from a ranger or doctor.

Don't Get Burned

For your safety, stay on established boardwalks and trails. Ground in hydrothermal areas can look solid but may actually be a thin crust hiding acidic, boiling water or mud. Visitors have been severely injured traveling off-trail in park hydrothermal areas.

Weather | Sunrise and Sunset

With elevations from 5,650 feet to 10,457 feet, a wide variety of weather conditions occur in Lassen Volcanic. Expect a 5° temperature decrease for every 1,000-foot increase in elevation. Prepare for your visit; bring layered clothing, a raincoat, hat, and sunscreen.

Date	Sunrise	Sunset	Month	Average High/Low
5/15	5:52 am	8:19 pm	May	70/29 °F
6/15	5:38 am	8:42 pm	June	79/34 °F
7/15	5:52 am	8:38 pm	July	84/40 °F
8/15	6:20 am	8:06 pm	August	85/40 °F
9/15	6:50 am	7:17 pm	September	78/36 °F
10/15	7:21 am	6:28 pm	October	69/30 °F

Data for the Manzanita Lake Area

Firearms

Visitors are responsible for understanding and complying with all applicable State of California, local, and federal firearm laws. Federal law prohibits firearms in certain facilities in this park identified by posted signs at public entrances. For more information, visit oag.ca.gov/firearms.

Fostering Lassen Species

Tread Lightly

Just four to six steps on average can kill a plant.

The delicate Lassen Paintbrush is impacted by trampling, especially in the Kings Creek area. Certain floral characteristics and genetic evidence suggest this flower is its own distinct species. Its distribution is likely limited to Lassen Volcanic and its immediate surroundings.



Lassen Paintbrush
Castilleja lassenensis

Enjoy and protect plants by:

- Stay on established trails
- Rest or picnic on hard surfaces
- Leave wildflowers for others to enjoy
- Enjoy flowers in fragile wet areas near meadows, lakes, and creeks from afar



Lemmon's Paintbrush
Castilleja lemmonii

Lassen's Own Red Fox

Once found throughout the Sierra Nevada and Southern Cascade mountain ranges, the Sierra Nevada red fox is now one of the rarest mammals in California. Ongoing research has identified 20 individuals in and around Lassen Volcanic Park, making it the largest known Sierra Nevada red fox population.

You can help foster Lassen's native red fox by:

- Reporting red fox observations in the Lassen area (above 2,500 feet elevation).
- Keeping your dog on a leash in permitted areas and encouraging fellow visitors to do so.
- Picking up trash and disposing of garbage properly.

Learn more or report a sighting at go.nps.gov/lavo/SNRF

No Drone Zone

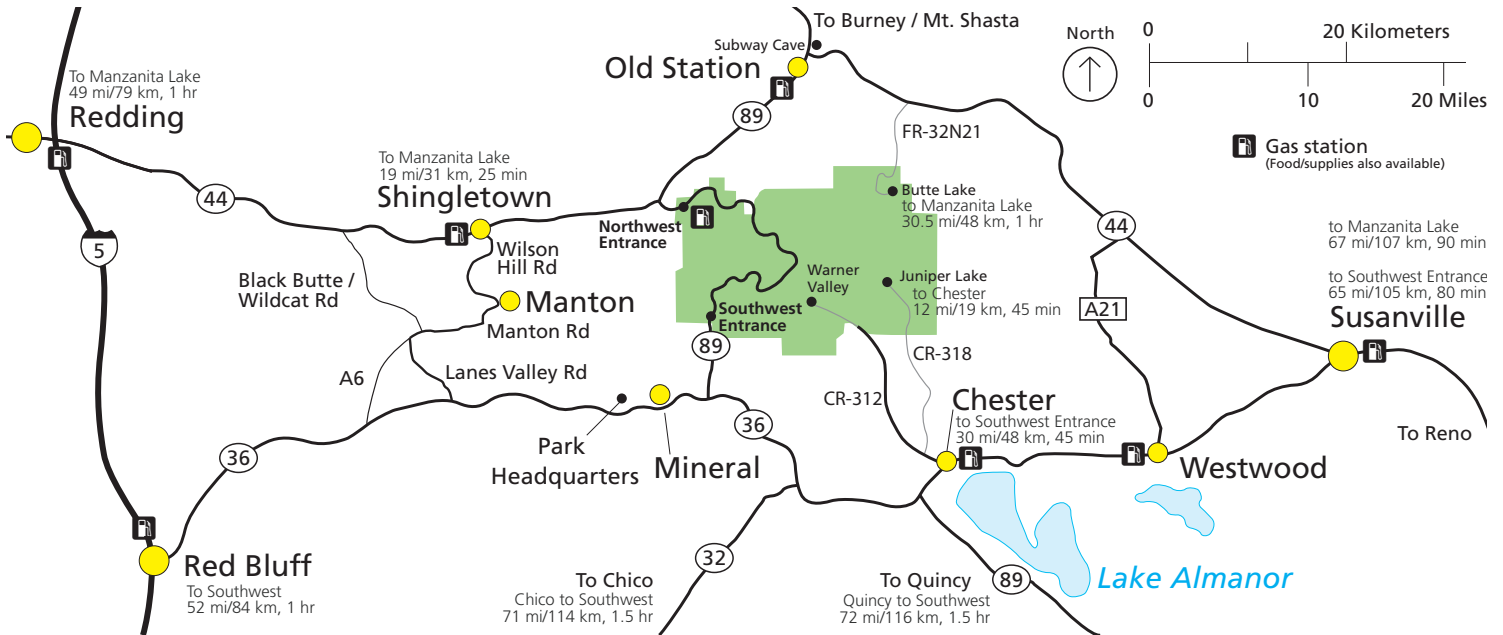
Launching, landing, or operating an unmanned aircraft within park boundaries is prohibited. Drones have the potential to disturb wildlife, disrupt other visitors' experiences, and disrupt helicopter operations for fire or search and rescue operations.



Getting Around

Lassen Volcanic National Park Highway (a 30-mile section of SR-89) connects the northwest and southwest entrances to the park. The Butte Lake, Warner Valley, and Juniper Lake Areas are accessed by separate entrances in the northeast and southeast corners of the park.

The park highway closes to through traffic for the winter snow season (approximately November to May). The highway opens to through traffic when spring road clearing operations are complete. Directions for travel around the park are listed below.



Abbreviations: Miles (mi) | State Route (SR) | County Road (CR) | Forest Road (FR)

Western Route around the Park 1hr 45min

Shortest route around the park. Windy road; not recommended for RVs and trailers.

1. From the Kohm Yah-mah-nee Visitor Center, head south on SR-89 for 6 mi.
2. Turn right (west) on SR-36. Continue for 23 mi.
3. Turn right (north) onto Lanes Valley Road. A large road sign on the north side of the highway marks the turnoff approximately 1 mi before the town of Paynes Creek. Continue for 7 mi.
4. Turn right onto Manton Road (CR-A6). Continue for 7 mi.
5. In Manton, turn left onto Wilson Hill Road. Continue for 1.5 mi.
6. Turn left to stay on Wilson Hill Road. Continue for 6 mi.
7. Turn right (east) onto SR-44. Continue for 17 mi.
8. Turn right (south) into the park.

Eastern Route around the Park 2 hrs

Fewer curves than western route; best for RVs and trailers.

1. From the Kohm Yah-mah-nee Visitor Center, head south on Lassen National Park Highway (SR-89) for 6 mi.
2. Turn left (east) on SR-36. Continue 38 miles.
3. Turn left (north) on CR-A21/Mooney Road located in the town of Westwood.
4. Continue for 18 miles. Turn left (west) onto SR-44. Continue for 28 mi.
5. Turn left (west) onto SR-44/89. Continue for 13.5 mi.
6. Turn left (south) into the park.

Butte Lake Area

The road to Butte Lake is gravel and passable by most vehicles.

1. From the Manzanita Lake Entrance, follow SR-89 east 13.5 mi to the SR-44/89 junction in Old Station.
2. Turn right to follow SR-44 and continue 11 mi.
3. Turn south onto Butte Lake Road (FR-32N21). Look for signs indicating Butte Lake Campground.
4. Continue 6 mi to the Butte Lake Campground and day use area.

Warner Valley/Juniper Lake

The roads to the Warner Valley and Juniper Lake areas are partly gravel and are not recommended for trailers.

1. From CA-36 in Chester, turn onto Feather River Road (on the east side of the bridge).

To Warner Valley

2. Continue a half mile and veer left onto CR-312.
3. Continue 4 miles and veer right to stay on CR-312. Follow signs to Drakesbad.
4. Continue 12.5 miles to Warner Valley Campground and Day Use Area.

To Juniper Lake

2. Continue a half mile and veer right onto CR-318.
3. Continue 13 miles to Juniper Lake campground.
4. Continue an additional half mile to the day use area.