



The Whiskeytown Nugget

The Official 2014 Guide to
Whiskeytown National Recreation Area



Marissa Carlisle (view from top of Shasta Bally looking south)

Welcome to Whiskeytown!



"TAKE ME TO WHISKEYTOWN!" requested Laurence Carr of his brother James, as he arrived at the Redding train station in 1937. The two local brothers drove to where the park Visitor Center is situated today, to look across Whiskeytown Valley. Some 28 years later, James Carr would serve as the Undersecretary of the Interior in the Kennedy & Johnson administrations and worked hard to ensure the bill was passed to create Whiskeytown National Recreation Area in 1965.

Whiskeytown celebrates its 49th birthday this year, and the phrase "Take me to Whiskeytown" can still be heard across northern California and beyond! Whiskeytown Lake's cool and clear water draw people seeking relief from the summer heat. Diving into Whiskeytown Lake on a hot day is one of my favorite summertime experiences.

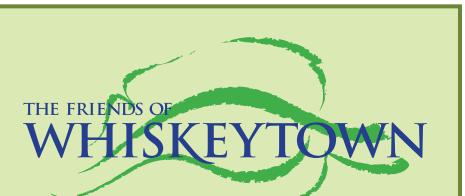
Spring fed creeks run year-round across large and picturesque granite boulders under the shade of old growth black oak, ponderosa pine and dogwoods. Kayaks glide across the water in a leisurely fashion complemented with the good conversations with family and friends. Ski boats towing wake boarders and tubers leave white wakes and fading laughs of children's voices as they pass by offshore. The lake has a fifty-year history of being one of the best inland sailing destinations and this Memorial Day weekend the Whiskeytown Sailing Club will host the 50th Memorial Day Regatta.

Beyond Whiskeytown Lake itself, there are numerous trails that lead visitors to each of the park's four inviting waterfalls, along the shores of the lake and deep into forests within the Crystal Creek,

Brandy Creek and Mill Creek watersheds. Mountain lion, black bear and bald eagles are commonly seen throughout the park. Rustic campgrounds offer visitors an opportunity to view the same stars as the area's first residents did thousands of years ago, while providing visitors a convenient base of operations to explore many of the park's diverse attractions. Be sure to sign up for a free Ranger Guided Kayak Tour!

Family memories have been created at Whiskeytown National Recreation Area for half a century. My wife and children have enjoyed the beaches and trails of Whiskeytown for many years. Sailing or kayaking across Whiskeytown Lake under a full moon is as spectacular an experience as can be found in any of our country's diverse national parks. No greater intangible wealth can be found than having happy memories to share with friends and family. Explore and enjoy the beauty of Whiskeytown National Recreation Area and consider "Taking a Friend to Whiskeytown!"

Jim Milestone
Superintendent



The Friends of Whiskeytown (FOW) is a non-profit organization dedicated to helping the National Park Service restore and enhance the magnificent resources and recreational opportunities at Whiskeytown.

FOW have been instrumental in providing support for park projects and programs over the years, including: the hiring of a Student Conservation Association trail crew to build and maintain trails, constructing a new foot bridge over Crystal Creek on the Whiskeytown Falls trail, Whiskeytown's Artist-in-Residence Program, the annual Volunteer-In-Parks Program recognition event, the Old Time Holiday at the Camden House and Whiskeytown's Annual Harvest Festival.

If you would like to join and support FOW, your contribution of \$25.00 or more will help the park complete projects that would otherwise be unfunded.

Don't forget to mark your calendar for the 5th annual Brandy Creek Beach Luau on Saturday, June 21, 2014. This fun event is a fundraiser for the FOW and will feature a luau dinner, Hawaiian entertainment, and a silent auction. For further information, call (530) 242-3460 or visit friendsofwhiskeytown.org

Your Fee Dollars at Work



Renovation and ADA accessibility improvements at Oak Bottom restroom

ALL VEHICLES PARKED AT WHISKEYTOWN REQUIRE A VALID ENTRANCE PASS. BY PURCHASING A PASS, you are directly contributing to maintaining and improving park programs and facilities. Park staff have been busy using revenue from pass sales to complete deferred maintenance projects and make upgrades to improve your park experience.

Recently completed projects include: dock improvements and renovations at Brandy Creek; developing paved ADA trails; campground renovations at Brandy Creek, Crystal Creek, Horse Camp, Peltier Bridge and Sheep Camp; road and trail maintenance; renovations and accessibility improvements to Oak Bottom and Whiskey Creek boat launch restrooms, sidewalks and much more.

An equally impressive list of projects is planned for next year to ensure that Whiskeytown continues to have quality facilities and experiences for everyone who visits. Keep an eye out for the "Fee Dollars at Work" signs all around the park to see the projects supported by entrance fees. Whiskeytown National Recreation Area is such an amazing park thanks to the generosity and support of its visitors and partners.

2-3 Things you need to know

This compilation of essential park information is based on questions frequently asked by visitors and organized alphabetically to help you quickly find what you are looking for.

4-5 Camping and trail information

If you are planning an outdoor adventure, flip to page 4 for a complete listing of the park's extensive trail system and campgrounds that includes essential information for each. A map will orient you to the park.

6 What can I do in the time I have?

Not sure what to do during your park visit? Turn to page 6 for a helpful guide that will help you in planning your recreational activities according to the time you have, as well as activities for the different seasons.

8 Ranger-led programs

Whiskeytown offers a variety of FREE Ranger-led Programs during the summer season. These programs are fun and family-friendly. A program schedule and description is found on page 8.

The National Park Service Mission

The National Park Service preserves unimpaired the natural and cultural resources and values of the national park system for the enjoyment, education, and inspiration of this and future generations. The Park Service cooperates with partners to extend the benefits of natural and cultural resource conservation and outdoor recreation throughout this country and the world.

Whiskeytown National Recreation Area

Whiskeytown Lake was created as part of the Central Valley Project to provide water for agricultural, municipal, and industrial use, as well as for the maintenance of fish and wildlife habitat. In addition, Whiskeytown Lake has two hydroelectric power generation stations, and the earthen dam provides flood control downstream of its location. The dam was completed in early February 1963, and dedicated by President John F. Kennedy on September 28, 1963.

The 3,200-acre reservoir and 39,000 acres of surrounding habitat became Whiskeytown National Recreation Area in 1965. Within its boundaries, the park preserves and protects an incredible diversity of flora and fauna, as well as the cultural history of the Wintu Native Americans and the California Gold Rush. The park also provides a wide variety of year-round recreation opportunities for over 800,000 annual visitors.

Park Information

Superintendent

Jim F. Milestone

Visitor Center

(530) 246-1225

Park Headquarters

(530) 242-3400 Fax (530) 246-5154

Park Ranger Dispatch Office

(530) 242-3431

Emergency Phone

911

Mailing Address

Whiskeytown National Recreation Area
P.O. Box 188
Whiskeytown, CA 96095

Website

www.nps.gov/whis

Whiskeytown Nugget

Editors, Graphics & Layout

Robert Gutierrez, Jeremiah Hockett and Breanna Corp

Park Profile

Origin of the "Whiskeytown" name

The park is named after a mining town that was flooded to create the reservoir.

Highest point: 6,199 ft. Shasta Bally

Lowest point: 860 ft. on Clear Creek near the southeast park boundary

Lake elevation: 1,209 ft. at full pool and 1,198 ft. during the winter draw-down

Park acreage: 42,000 acres

Lake: 3,200 surface acres

Shoreline: 36 miles

Lake water storage capacity

241,000 acre feet when at full pool

Whiskeytown Dam

The earthen dam is 281.5 ft. high with a crest length of 4,000 ft.

Things You Need to Know



Visitor Center

The Visitor Center is a great place to start when you arrive in the park. The knowledgeable staff and volunteers will help you maximize your visit. The visitor center is located at the intersection of John F. Kennedy Memorial Drive and CA Highway 299. The summer hours of operation are 9:00 am to 5:00 pm daily from Memorial Day through Labor Day. Winter hours are 10:00 am to 4:00 pm daily, except Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year's holidays. The visitor center provides information, a variety of use permits, natural and cultural history exhibits, an ADA accessible California native plant garden, as well as books, maps, and souvenir items for sale. In addition, accessible restrooms, first aid, an Automated External Defibrillator, and drinking water are all available here.

Accessibility

Park headquarters, restrooms, and the visitor center are ADA accessible, as well as the Native Plant Garden located directly behind the visitor center. The park has two newly constructed ADA accessible trails: the Crystal Creek Falls Trail, which is paved, and the section of the Guardian Rock Trail from Horse Camp leading to the spectacular Guardian Rock Vista Point. In addition, two accessible picnic sites are available at Oak Bottom and Brandy Creek beaches. Accessible fishing piers are located at Whiskey Creek Picnic Area and at Oak Bottom Marina near the amphitheater.

Amenities

Some food items and essential camping supplies can be purchased at the **Oak Bottom Campground Store**, which is open from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm during the winter and until 6:00 pm in the summer. The store can be reached by calling (530) 359-2269. Lodging is not available in the park. The nearest hotels are in Redding, eight miles east of the park. The **Oak Bottom Marina** is open for limited hours during the winter and from 8:00 am until 8:00 pm during the summer. Fishing bait, tackle, and life jackets are all available for purchase at the marina store. **Snack bars** are located at both Brandy Creek and Oak Bottom beaches. They are open during the summer and sell a variety of food, cold drinks, sun block, water toys, and swim diapers. For vehicles, the closest **fuel** is in Redding. Motorboat fuel can be purchased at the Oak Bottom Marina.

Alcohol

Alcohol is prohibited on the park's four designated public swim beaches: Brandy Creek, Oak Bottom, Whiskey Creek Group Picnic Area, and East Beach. The legal blood alcohol level for the operators of vehicles and motorboats cannot exceed 0.08, but boat operators and drivers may be impaired and incapable of safe operation at lesser levels.

All-terrain vehicles

ATVs and off-road vehicle travel are prohibited in the park.

Backpacking

Backpacking Permits and regulations are available at the visitor center at no cost.



Matt Switzer

Bicycling

Bicycles are permitted on all trails except the Camden Water Ditch, Shasta Divide, Davis Gulch, and Crystal Creek Water Ditch trails. Mountain biking trail information is available at the visitor center. Helmets, gloves, and eye protection are recommended for all riders. Maintain a safe speed of 15 mph for road and trail conditions and stay within your level of riding experience. Cyclists must obey all traffic regulations. Hikers and equestrians always have the right-of-way.

Boating

There are no boat launching fees at Whiskeytown Lake, but visitors must display a Day Use Pass or other valid entrance pass (see "Fees/passes"). There are boat launches at Brandy Creek Marina, Oak Bottom, and Whiskey Creek. Oak Bottom Marina rents a variety of motor boats. Single and double kayak rentals are available at both Oak Bottom and Brandy Creek Beach. Please call (530) 359-2671 or visit www.whiskeytownmarinas.com. Motor boats with two and four-stroke engines are allowed on Whiskeytown Lake and must observe posted no-wake areas. Boats cannot exceed 36 feet in length. Occupied vessels can remain on the water overnight provided they move at least one-half linear mile each hour. Overnight camping on boats is prohibited. For your safety and the safety of others, please be aware of other lake users. **Non-motorized craft always have the right-of-way.** The use of personal watercraft is prohibited in all areas. Vessels are subject to inspection by rangers at any time to examine licenses, documents, and compliance with regulations pertaining to safety equipment, vessel capacity, sanitation, and pollution and noise abatement devices. Stay alive! Wear a life jacket!

Bookstore

The bookstore, located at the Visitor Center, is managed by Western National Parks Association (WNPA) whose mission is to promote the preservation of the national park system and its resources. A variety of books, maps, guides, postcards, souvenirs, and other items can be purchased here. Local products are available, as well as books written by local authors. In addition to stock on hand, WNPA has an even larger selection of items available for purchase from their online store at www.wnpa.org. WNPA members receive a 15% discount, and educators receive a 20% discount on all bookstore items. A portion of the proceeds from each sale is donated to the park to support education, interpretation, and research programs.

Camping

With the exception of Backpacking Permits, camping is authorized only in the designated campgrounds of the park. Please see pages 4 and 5 for campground locations, fees, and available services.

Fees/passes

The entrance fee for the park is \$5 per vehicle for a Day Use Pass. A weekly pass can be purchased for \$10, and the Whiskeytown annual pass costs \$25. In addition, the annual pass from Lassen Volcanic National Park, the Interagency Annual Pass, Senior Pass, Access Pass, and the Golden Age or Access Passports are all honored at Whiskeytown. All passes must be displayed on the driver's side of the dashboard whenever a vehicle is parked within the park boundary. A pass is not required while visiting the Whiskeytown Cemetery. Fee Free days in 2014 are April 19-20, Aug. 25, Sept. 27, and Nov. 11. You do not need a pass on these dates.

Firearms

Federal law permits people who can legally possess firearms under federal and State of California laws to possess firearms in the park. It is the visitor's responsibility to understand and comply with all applicable state and federal firearms laws. Firearms are prohibited in most federal buildings in the park including the visitor center and park headquarters. Firearms may only be used in the park during hunting seasons in authorized areas, and pursuant to the lawful taking of game species in compliance with California laws and regulations.

Fires

Campfires are only permitted in the established fire grates at picnic areas and campsites. Fires must never be left unattended and must be properly extinguished upon departure. Dead wood may only be collected from the ground for personal use while in the park. Collecting live vegetation or standing dead wood is prohibited. The use of self-contained barbecues, gas and charcoal, is permitted as long as they are attended at all times and properly extinguished.

Fishing

California Department of Fish and Game regulations apply at Whiskeytown. Fishing is allowed year-round in the lake; however, the streams feeding Whiskeytown can only be fished from the last Saturday in April through November 15. The nearest location to purchase a fishing license is Tops Fresh Market, six miles east of the visitor center.

Gold panning

Recreational gold panning is permitted in the park. A valid annual gold panning permit is required for all persons 17 and older. Gold panning regulations, as well as the \$1 annual permit, can be obtained at the visitor center.

Hiking

Hiking can be enjoyed year-round at Whiskeytown. With over seventy miles of trails in the park, most of which can be ridden by mountain bikers and equestrians, there is something for every ability level and interest (please see page 4 for trail information). Be prepared for changing conditions while enjoying the park's backcountry and be sure to carry an adequate amount of water for each person. Summer daytime temperatures often exceed 100°F.

Horses & pack animals

Horses, burros, mules, and camelids may be used on designated multiple-use trails in the park. Horse Camp primitive campground is accessible to vehicles towing horse trailers and is the only location in the park where camping with horses is allowed. There are two sites available and a potable water spigot.

Lost and found

Lost and found items can be reported, turned in, or claimed at the visitor center.

Mines

Old mine workings in the park are dangerous and unstable. When hiking cross country, be on the lookout for uncovered mining shafts. Stay out, and stay alive!

Noise levels

In order to keep natural soundscapes free from loud human-source noises, the following regulations apply: a vessel cannot exceed 75 decibels (dB equivalence of a dishwasher or vacuum cleaner) and other noise levels from motorized equipment or electronic devices cannot exceed 60 decibels (conversational level) from a distance of 50 feet. In addition, noises below these established levels are prohibited if they are deemed unreasonable. [Quiet hours in the park](#) are from 10:00 pm to 6:00 am.

Parking

A valid park pass or Day Use Pass must be displayed on the driver's side of the dashboard whenever a vehicle is parked within the park boundary. Please see the "Fees/passes" section for more information on valid passes. Visitors can park in any public parking spaces, as well as along paved roadways, provided the parked vehicle is completely off the asphalt without trampling vegetation and is in compliance with all posted signage. Parking in front of gates or blocking right-of-way access is prohibited.

Pets

Pets are allowed in the park and on trails; provided they are leashed at all times. Leash length is not to exceed 6 feet. With the exception of service animals, pets are prohibited on all of the park's designated public swim beaches: Brandy Creek, Oak Bottom, East Beach, and Whiskey Creek Group Picnic Area. Pets cannot be left unattended at any time.

Picnicking

Picnic sites are available in developed areas of the park including: Brandy Creek Beach and Marina, Oak Bottom Beach, Whiskey Creek Boat Launch, Judge Francis Carr Powerhouse, Crystal Creek Falls, and the Clear Creek Picnic Area off of Trinity Mountain Road. No reservations can be made for these sites and no area can be held for the exclusive use of any group. Inquire at the visitor center for the location of ADA accessible picnic sites. For groups of 20 or more, reservations can be made for day use sites at Whiskey Creek Group Picnic Area by calling 1-877-444-6777.

Sharing the park

With the exceptions of Special Use Permits and the areas of the park that can be legally reserved, no visitor or group of visitors can hold or claim exclusive use rights of any area in the park, including the islands, shoreline, and coves of the lake. Please help us to provide for the enjoyment of all visitors by sharing the park.

Showers

Hot showers are available in the restroom at Oak Bottom Beach for a small fee. Free, cold outdoor showers are available during the summer months at Oak Bottom and Brandy Creek beaches.

Smoking

To protect the health of park visitors, smoking is prohibited on the park's four designated swim beaches: Brandy Creek, Oak Bottom, East Beach, and Whiskey Creek Group Picnic Area. Whiskeytown National Recreation Area is federal land; the possession and use of marijuana is prohibited, even with a valid California Proposition 215 card.

Special Use Permits

Special events such as weddings, sporting events, and commercial filming are permissible by obtaining a Special Use Permit. Activities must be appropriate and have a minimal impact on other park visitors. Applications and information are available on the park website. For more information, please contact the Chief Ranger at (530) 242-3413.

Annual Meteor Showers 2014

Shower	Viewing Period	Peak Activity	Number per hour	r*	Velocity	Best Viewing †	Moon Age ‡
Delta Aquarids	Jul 21 - Aug 23	Jul 30	20	3.2	25.5 mi/sec	3:00 am	22
Perseids	Jul 17 - Aug 24	Aug 12	60	2.6	37.6 mi/sec	4:00 am	06
Orionids	Oct 2 - Nov 7	Oct 22	20	2.5	41.6 mi/sec	5:00 am	18
Leonids	Nov 06 - Nov 30	Nov 18	40	2.5	43.9 mi/sec	5:00 am	15
Puppids/Velids	Dec 01 - Dec 15	Dec 07	10	2.9	24.9 mi/sec	4:00 am	05
Geminids	Dec 04 - Dec 16	Dec 13	65	2.6	21.8 mi/sec	1:00 am	11
Ursids	Dec 17 - Dec 24	Dec 22	10	3.0	20.3 mi/sec	5:00 am	18
Quadrantids	Jan 01 - Jan 10	Jan 2, 3	80	2.1	25.5 mi/sec	5:00 am	1, 2
Lyrids	Apr 18 - Apr 25	Apr 22	20	2.1	29.1 mi/sec	4:00 am	21
Eta Aquarids	Apr 19 - May 26	May 5, 6	15	2.4	41.6 mi/sec	4:00 am	7

Average Temperature and Precipitation

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Average High/Low °F	54/38	58/40	63/43	69/47	78/54	87/61	97/66	96/64	90/60	77/52	61/43	53/38
Record High/Low °F	79/17	82/18	92/26	97/28	104/32	110/39	113/47	115/47	112/40	104/21	93/25	81/11
Average Precipitation	10.53"	9.54"	9.00"	4.37"	2.53"	1.11"	0.45"	0.27"	0.99"	3.09"	8.03"	9.80"

Swimming

There are four designated public swim beaches in the park: Brandy Creek Beach, East Beach, Whiskey Creek Group Picnic Area, and Oak Bottom Beach. Only Brandy Creek Beach has lifeguards during the summer months. Swimming is prohibited inside the buoy-enclosed area around the Glory Hole and Carr Powerhouse, within 300 feet of any boat launch or mooring facility, and within 100 feet of the Whiskey Creek Bridge on CA highway 299. Open-water swimming is dangerous—swim close to shore or have a spotter when swimming in open water. Rope swings are prohibited.

Sun and Moon

Sunrise 2014	Lunar Phase	Sunset 2014
04/01 6:55a	The New Moon	04/01 7:34p
04/15 6:32a	5/28, 6/27, 7/26, 8/25, 9/23, 10/23, 11/22, 12/21, 1/20, 2/18, 3/20, 4/18	04/15 7:49p
05/01 6:07a	Waxing Crescent	05/01 8:06p
05/15 5:52a		05/15 8:20p
06/01 5:40a		06/01 8:35p
06/15 5:38a		06/15 8:43p
06/21 5:48a ^a		06/21 8:35p ^a
07/01 5:43a		07/01 8:45p
07/15 5:52a		07/15 8:39p
08/01 6:08a	The First Quarter	08/01 8:24p
08/15 6:21a	5/6, 6/5, 7/5, 8/3, 9/2, 10/1, 10/30 11/29, 12/28, 1/26, 2/25, 3/27, 4/25	08/15 8:07p
09/01 6:38a	Waxing Gibbous	09/01 7:41p
09/15 6:51a		09/15 7:18p
09/22 6:58a ^b		09/22 7:05p ^b
10/01 7:07a		10/01 6:51p
10/15 7:22a		10/15 6:29p
11/01 7:41a	The Full Moon	11/01 6:06p
11/15 6:57a	5/14, 6/12, 7/12, 8/10, 9/8, 10/8, 11/6, 12/6, 1/4, 2/3, 3/5, 4/4	12/15 4:44p
12/01 7:15a	Waning Gibbous	12/01 4:43p
12/15 7:27a		12/21 4:54p ^c
12/21 7:21a ^c		
01/01 7:25a		01/01 5:02p
01/15 7:23a		01/15 5:15p
02/01 7:12a		02/01 5:33a
02/15 6:58a		02/15 5:49p
03/01 6:39 a <i>03/08 DST</i> 03/15 7:20a	The Last Quarter	03/01 6:03p <i>03/08 DST</i> 03/15 7:17p
03/20 7:12a ^d	Waning Crescent	03/20 7:22p ^d
04/01 6:52a		04/01 7:35p
04/15 6:30a		04/15 7:49p

a. *Summer Solstice*

b. *Fall Equinox*

c. *Winter Solstice*

d. *Spring Equinox*

Total Lunar Eclipse

† The most favorable viewing conditions are during the last dark hour before dawn.

‡ New moons (day 0) are best for viewing meteor activity due to the absence of moonlight. Crescent moons (1-6 days and 22-29 days) also provide good viewing. Full moons (14 days) are the least favorable as light will wash out visible meteors. Ideal meteor viewing conditions are between the waning crescent and waxing crescent moon phases.

* The "r" value is the overall brightness of each shower. The "r" value usually ranges from 2.0 (bright) to 3.5 (faint).



Trails of Whiskeytown

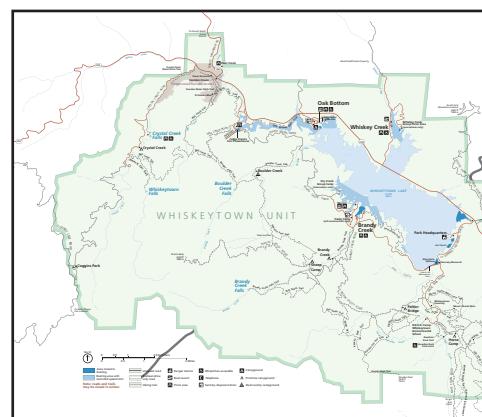
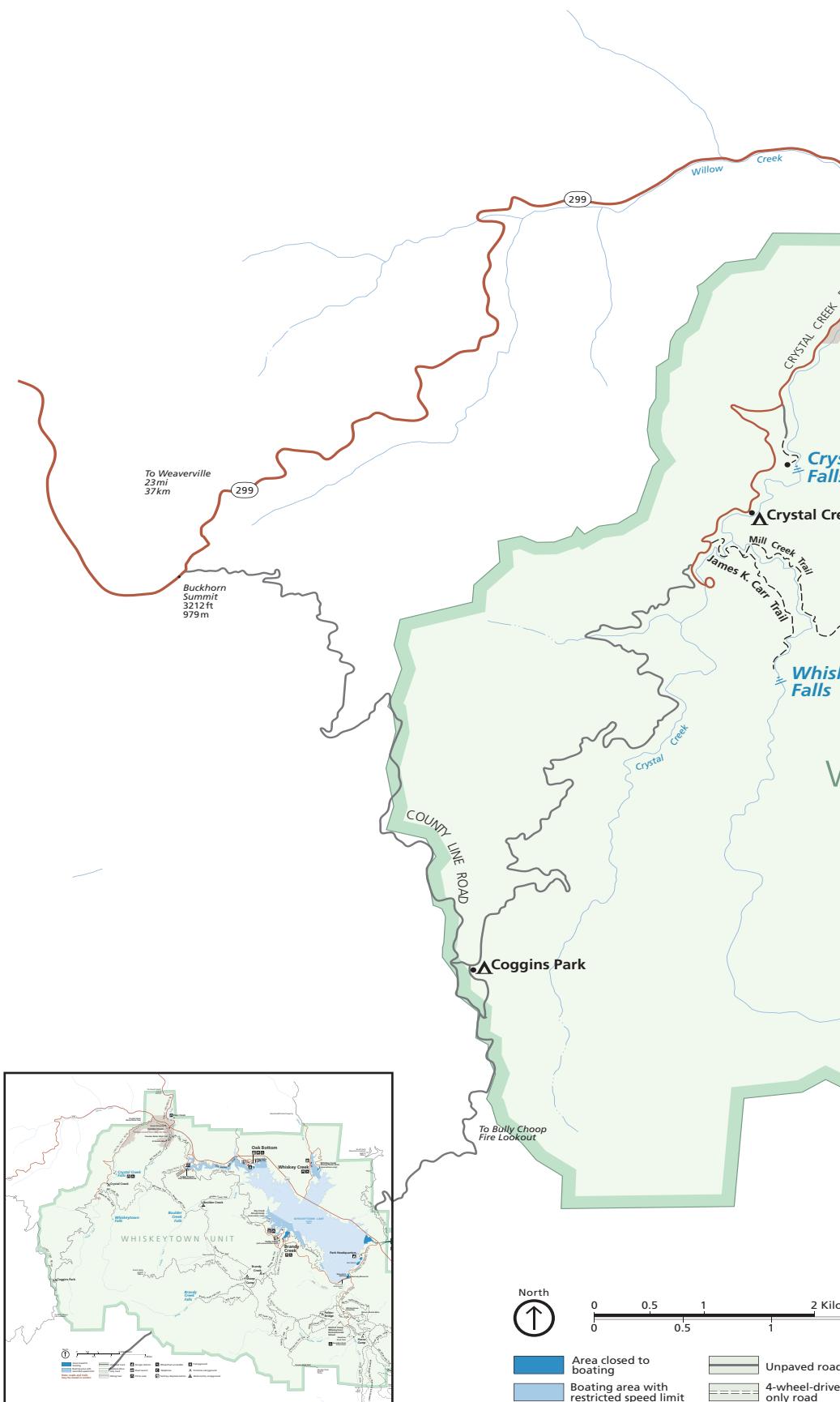
Easy Hikes	Distance One-way	Elevation Change	Trail Highlights and Notes
Buck Hollow	1.0	130 ft.	Wildflowers, seasonal streams, lots of shade, views of Shasta Bally
Camden Water Ditch (Closed to bikes and pack animals)	1.1 Loop	Mostly level	Camden House, historic orchards, El Dorado Mine, Willow Creek
Crystal Creek Water Ditch (Closed to bikes and pack animals)	0.75	30 ft.	Shaded, historic water ditch, remnants of old dams, elevated water flume
Crystal Creek Falls	0.3	Mostly level	50 ft. falls and picnic area, ADA accessible and paved from the trailhead
Oak Bottom Ditch	2.75	20 ft.	Scenic views, swimming opportunities, lake access

Moderate Hikes

Boulder Creek Falls (Mill Creek Road route)	1.0	80 ft.	138 ft. falls, one creek crossing with bridge, shaded
Brandy Creek (Brandy Creek Beach to the 2nd intersection with Brandy Creek Rd., located southeast of Sheep Camp)	1.6	400 ft.	Follows the spectacular Brandy Creek, swimming holes, ample shade. There are four small creek crossings, and you hike twice on the road (signs guide you)
Brandy Creek Falls	1.5	500 ft.	Beautiful series of cascades, views of Brandy Creek, shade
Clear Creek Canal	4.5	30 ft.	Views of Whiskeytown Dam, Shasta Bally, Kanaka Peak, crosses Orofino Creek
Clear Creek Vista	2.4	400 ft.	Historic District and scenic views of Clear Creek, east end comes out near Carr Powerhouse
Davis Gulch (Closed to bikes and pack animals)	3.3	170 ft.	Lots of shade, lake views, scenic and quiet coves, swimming, resting benches
Guardian Rock	0.25 for ADA accessible section	Negligible for accessible section	ADA accessible section from Horse Camp to the Clear Creek Canyon Vista. Views of Clear and Orofino creeks, Remnants of historic mining
Logging Camp	1.0	415 ft.	Restored logging road and watershed
Mt. Shasta Mine Loop	3.5	540 ft.	Historic mines, Orofino Creek, and beautiful views of Shasta Bally and South Fork Mountain
Mule Mountain Pass (Salt Creek Loop to Swasey Drive)	4.4	700 ft.	Creeks, scenic views of Mt. Lassen, great for hikers, bikers, and horses
Peltier	1.75	380 ft.	Paige Boulder Creek, small waterfall, wildflowers
Salt Creek Loop	1.8	300 ft.	6 creek crossings, mountain views, shade
Shasta Divide Nature Trail (Closed to bikes and pack animals)	0.4 Loop	190 ft.	Lots of shade, access to Whiskeytown Lake, swimming, views of mountains, benches along the trail

Difficult Hikes

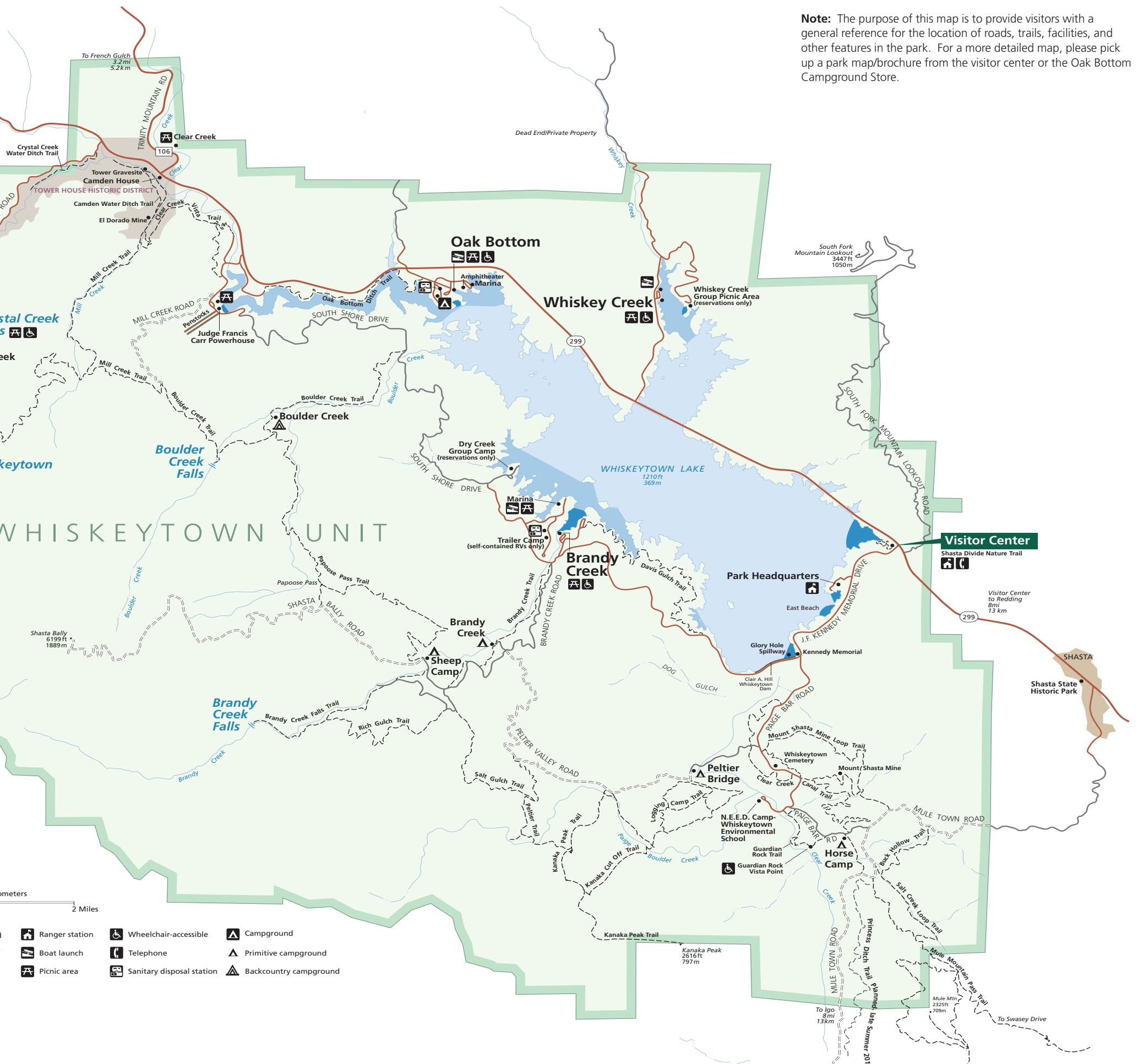
Boulder Creek Falls (via South Shore Drive)	2.75	950 ft.	138 ft. falls, Boulder Creek views, 3 creek crossings with no bridges.
James K. Carr Trail (Whiskeytown Falls Trail)	1.7	520 ft.	At 220 feet, park's tallest falls, beautiful views of Crystal Creek, some shade
Kanaka Peak	3.6	1,430 ft.	Panoramic views of the Trinity Alps, Mt. Lassen, Igo and Ono, Yolla Bolly Mtns., Clear Creek Canyon, beautiful Whiskeytown Lake
Mill Creek	6.1	350 ft.	16 creek crossings, lots of shade, north end of the trail connects with the Tower House Historic District
Papoose Pass	5.5	900 ft.	Spectacular views, sections follow the East Fork of Boulder Creek
Rich Gulch	1.8	500 ft.	Shaded and views of Shasta Bally
Salt Gulch	1.6	800 ft.	Views of Mt. Lassen, Whiskeytown Lake, Southern Cascade Range, Trinity Alps



Whiskeytown-Shasta-Trinity National Recreation Area is located in northern California. Whiskeytown Unit is administered by the National Park Service. Shasta and Trinity units are administered by the U.S. Forest Service.

Camping

Developed Camp Sites	Number of sites	Price per night	Season	Maximum	Reservable	Permit Required
Oak Bottom Tent Campground	95	\$20 regular^ \$22 for shoreline^	year-round	6 people 2 tents	•	Boating
Oak Bottom RV	22	\$18 †	year-round	10 people no tents	•	Unpaved road
Brandy Creek RV	37	\$14 ‡	year-round	10 people no tents	•	4-wheel-drive only road
Dry Creek Group Camp	2	\$75	5/1 to 10/31	50 people (20 minimum)	Reservations are required	Hiking trail
Primitive Camp Sites	Obtain campground permits at the visitor center. Dispersed camping is allowed with the exception of Backpacking Permits that must be obtained at the visitor center.					
Brandy Creek	2	\$10	closed in winter	6 people 2 tents	First-come first-served	
Sheep Camp	4	\$10	closed in winter	6 people 2 tents	First-come first-served	
Peltier Bridge	9	\$10	year-round	6 people 2 tents	First-come first-served	
Horse Camp	2	\$10	year-round	6 people 2 tents	First-come first-served	
Crystal Creek	2	\$10	closed in winter	6 people 2 tents	First-come first-served	
Coggins Park	1	\$10	closed in winter	6 people 2 tents	First-come first-served	



Archaeology in the Park



Do Your Part and be a part of Leave no Trace

Whiskeytown's landscape reflects the stories of how diverse groups of people have utilized the area's resources through time. While you are out hiking, swimming, camping or bike riding you may come across an object that may have cultural or historical significance.

To preserve the park's history, we ask that you please leave any cultural or historical artifacts where you found them. Write down a description of the location of the object or take a picture and please contact the park archaeologist, Danica Willis at (530) 242-3438. Additionally, let her know if you would like to be contacted about the object's significance or if you would like to volunteer and assist in investigating and preserving the park's cultural and historical resources.

Remember that removing, altering, or destroying cultural artifacts in a National Park is a federal offense and could result in fines or jail time. Possession or use of a mineral or metal detector is also prohibited.

Potable Water	Shower	Toilet Type	Notes
•	•	Flush	^ Summer rates from 4/15–10/15. During the rest of the year, tent sites are \$10. There are four ADA accessible sites. For reservations call (530) 359-2269.
•		Flush	† Summer rates from 4/15–10/15. During the rest of the year, RV sites are \$10. No shade.
•		no toilet	# Summer rates from 5/15–9/15. During the rest of the year, RV sites are \$7. Water, dump station may be shut off periodically during winter to prevent freezing. Call 1-877-444-6777 or visit www.recreation.gov for reservations up to one year in advance. Closed from 11/1–4/30. Large groups can reserve both sites.
•		Vault	If arriving after hours, camp in an unoccupied site and pay immediately when visitor center opens. Camping trailers (15' or less) are permitted in sites.
Camping is prohibited in the park outside the visitor center.			
		Vault	Steep downhill road to reach the lower campsite #2.
		Vault	Caution: Sites are near a steep drop-off to the creek.
		Vault	All of the sites are near Clear Creek.
•		Vault	Only campground where camping with horses is allowed. Call (530) 242-3412 for more information.
		Vault	Both sites are very close to Crystal Creek.
		no toilet	4WD or high-clearance vehicles are highly recommended for the unpaved road to the remote campsite.

What Can I Do in the Time I Have?

Hours : minutes

Walk by the wayside exhibits outside the Visitor Center and enjoy the scenic views.

Take a walk along the ADA accessible trail through the California native plant garden located behind the visitor center.



Matt Switzer

From the visitor center parking lot, enjoy a leisurely stroll down the Shasta Divide Nature Trail to the shores of Whiskeytown Lake.

From Horse Camp, walk the ADA accessible portion of the Guardian Rock Trail to the beautiful vista point overlooking Lower Clear Creek Canyon.

Take a short walk (0.3 miles) to Crystal Creek Falls and enjoy your lunch at the picnic site.

Pan for gold along Clear Creek (see "Gold pan-nning" on page 3 for more information).



NPS

Grab your mountain bike and enjoy a ride on more than 70 miles of park trails. There are trails for every skill level and interest. Information is available at the visitor center.

Spend the afternoon at Brandy Creek and enjoy a picnic on the beach or in one of the many shaded picnic sites near the creek.

Become a Junior Ranger and Junior Firefighter by attending both programs and learn how to preserve and protect the park resources.



Paul Young

Explore the newly re-routed Kanaka Peak Trail and enjoy the spectacular views from the summit.



For a physically rewarding day, you can complete the Whiskeytown Waterfall Challenge (see page 5) in one day by hiking to all four of the park's waterfalls.

0:10

0:15

0:20

Come inside the visitor center and learn about the history of Whiskeytown's Native Americans and the California Gold Rush through the various exhibits.



NPS

Half an hour

0:30

0:45

1:00

1:15

1:30

1:45

Visit the President John F. Kennedy Memorial and press the button to hear his inspiring speech from the Whiskeytown Dam dedication on September 28, 1963.

Choose a place in the park with an unobstructed view of the sky and enjoy stargazing under Whiskeytown's clear night skies. The best time to stargaze is on the new moon or anytime between the Waning Crescent and Waxing Crescent Moon Phases (see "Sun and Moon" on page 3 for more information).

Take a walk through time and visit the Tower House Historic District. Explore the 150 year-old fruit trees, and stamp mill at the El Dorado Mine.



Matt Switzer

Two hours

2:00

2:30

3:00

3:30

Hike to Boulder Creek Falls via the Mill Creek Rd Trailhead.

Hike the Peltier Trail and enjoy a beautiful unnamed waterfall on Paige Boulder Creek.

Hike to Whiskeytown Falls or Brandy Creek Falls, or hike the Mount Shasta Mine Loop Trail.



Paul Young

Half a day

4:00

5:00

6:00

7:00

8:00

Hike the Papoose Pass Trail from Sheep Camp to Boulder Creek Falls and back.

Rent a kayak, canoe, or motorboat at Oak Bottom Marina and enjoy the lake for the day.

Whole day

A park for all seasons

Spring

TAKE A HIKE TO THE PARK'S FOUR WATERFALLS to see them during peak flow as the mountain snowpack begins to melt. Use caution as the trails can be slippery. Hike any of the park trails to experience the incredible bloom of wildflowers. Great trails for spring wildflower viewing are the Mt. Shasta Mine Loop, Davis Gulch, Guardian Rock, Lower Brandy Creek, and Boulder Creek trails. Spring is a great time for birding. Patience, stillness, and quiet observation will allow you to see the most bird activity. In April, take your family and friends to the park for Waterfall Week, Whiskeytown's annual celebration of National Park Week.

Summer

JOIN A RANGER-LED PROGRAM FOR A FUN-filled and educational park experience (See page 8). Take a swim in the cool waters of the lake at Brandy Creek Beach and have a picnic while you are there. Beat the summer heat by taking a hike to the waterfalls to bask in the shade and cool mist, or swim in the pools below the cascading waters. Drive (4WD vehicles only) to the 6,199 ft. summit of Shasta Bally for panoramic views of Mt. Lassen, Mt. Shasta, the Trinity Alps, and the Central Valley. Rent a motorized or human-powered boat at Oak Bottom Marina and enjoy the cool blue waters of Whiskeytown Lake for the day.

Fall

TAKE A HIKE ALONG THE CLEAR CREEK VISTA, Mill Creek, Brandy Creek, or Boulder Creek trails to view the brilliant fall colors of big leaf maple, Pacific dogwood and California black oak. Hiking, horseback riding, and biking are very enjoyable during the fall as temperatures cool and the buzz of summer activity fades. Fall is also the start of hunting season, so be aware of possible hunting activity while in the park's backcountry. Support your park by joining us on Saturday, September 27, 2014 for Pick-Up Lake Litter Day, Whiskeytown's annual volunteer event celebrating National Public Lands Day. In addition, keep an eye out for the date of Whiskeytown's 4th Annual Harvest Festival in the historic orchards.

Winter

JOIN US AT THE CAMDEN HOUSE WITHIN THE park's Tower House Historic District for the annual "Old Time Holiday" celebration and free wreath-making workshop on Saturday, December 6, 2014. Hike along the Brandy Creek, Mill Creek, or Boulder Creek trails to witness the crimson glory of massive gatherings of lady bird beetles numbering in the thousands as they enter a period of dormancy to conserve energy in the colder months. Bring your binoculars to the quiet coves around the lake to enjoy the waterfowl that congregate on Whiskeytown Lake during the winter migration. Species commonly seen are Canada geese, mallards, buffleheads, common and hooded mergansers, ruddy ducks, and ring-necked ducks. Watch for bald eagles as well!

Backcountry Safety Matters!



Poison oak is very common in the park, as is exposure to the plant's toxic oils. Leaves of three, let them be!

WHISKEYTOWN IS A WONDERFUL PLACE FOR families to enjoy the outdoors. In order to ensure that you have a safe time in the park's backcountry, all visitors should be aware of some potential dangers and how to avoid them. Weather conditions can change rapidly, so be adequately prepared for your backcountry adventure by bringing extra layers of clothing, food, and plenty of water for each person, especially in the summer when temperatures can exceed 100°F.

Be alert for wildlife and maintain a safe distance. If you encounter a bear or a mountain lion, try to scare it away by shouting, waving your hands, and throwing sticks or rocks. Never leave food unattended and make sure to hang your food or use a bear canister if backpacking. Poison oak is found throughout the park. Look at the photo above (top left) to identify the plant and stay on the trails to avoid it. The plant



Western rattlesnakes are common in the park. Snakes should never be handled and their beauty should be enjoyed at a safe distance.

drops its oily leaves in winter, but the dormant stems of the plant are still toxic to your skin and can cause an itchy and painful rash. Rattlesnakes (above center) are commonly found in the park during the warmer months. Avoid them by staying on established trails.

You should also be on the lookout for suspicious and illegal activities. On public lands throughout California, drug trafficking organizations are establishing illegal marijuana cultivation sites, which include Whiskeytown's backcountry. Law enforcement rangers are actively pursuing and eradicating these sites. While visiting the park be on the lookout for the following clues:

- Vehicles carrying agricultural supplies such as irrigation hose, fertilizer and/or pesticides
- People carrying firearms outside of hunting season; illegal cultivators are often armed



A black-tailed deer feeding on an unattended picnic. Animals can become aggressive and dangerous if fed and habituated to people.

- Well established campsites outside of designated campgrounds; illegal cultivators occupy these sites throughout the growing season
- Large amounts of trash in the backcountry
- Irrigation hose or PVC pipe located near streams or in the backcountry
- Strange odors that do not occur naturally

For the safety of you and your family, if you observe any of these clues, or anything else out of the ordinary, leave the area immediately! Report suspected illegal activity to Whiskeytown dispatch at (530) 242-3431 or by calling 911 in an emergency. Timely reporting of information is essential for your safety and for park investigations.

Your safety greatly increases when you stay on official trails and hike or ride with others.

Forever Resorts is the National Park Service's concessioner on Whiskeytown Lake operating Oak Bottom Marina and Brandy Creek Marina. Both marinas offer slip rentals

and launch ramps. Buoy moorage is available at Oak Bottom Marina. Boat rentals at Oak Bottom include single and tandem kayaks, 16' fishing boats, 24' pontoon boats and 26' deck cruisers. Brandy Creek Marina offers a launch ramp and dry storage. Visitors can enjoy hot food at Oak Bottom snack bar, and Brandy Creek Beach Store offers sandwiches and snacks. Both snack bars sell cold drinks, ice cream, sunblock and water toys.

Also operated by Forever Resorts, Oak Bottom Campground offers 95 walk-in tent sites and 22 dry-camping RV sites, all within walking distance of the lake and swim beach. The campground has a dump station, restrooms, in-season snack bar, swim beach and access to the boat ramp. Each campsite has a fire pit, picnic table, and bear-proof storage locker.

Convenience stores at Oak Bottom are located in the campground office and in the new marina store on A Dock. Both sell snacks, ice, bait and tackle, clothing, gifts and sundries. Oak Bottom Marina provides everything you need to enjoy your favorite outdoor recreational activity and Forever Resorts' knowledgeable and friendly staff is always ready to assist you with your boating necessities and reservations.

For more information, call (530) 359-2269 for camping reservations and (530) 359-2671 for the marina store, or visit www.whiskeytownmarinas.com.



FOREVER
RESORTS

The Uninvited Guests

NON-NATIVE PLANTS ARE THOSE THAT OCCUR OUTSIDE THEIR NATIVE RANGE AS A RESULT OF actions by humans. Non-native and invasive plants are those which spread rapidly into surrounding ecosystems. Since these species do not have natural competitors or predators to keep them in check, they can easily displace native species (including rare and endangered species), increase the intensity and frequency of wildfires, degrade wildlife habitat, reduce water availability, and diminish visitor experience.

Many of Whiskeytown's visitors trek through weed-infested lands on their way to the park – unintentionally bringing invasive plants in on socks, shoelaces, tires, backpacks and pet fur. Keeping Whiskeytown's backcountry free of exotic plants is a monumental challenge that requires park staff and visitors to do their best in preventing the introduction and spread of non-native and invasive plant species.

Please help!

- Inspect your clothes, gear, tent, boots, boat, and vehicle for hitch-hiking seeds and brush vegetation and seeds from your pet's fur
- Please ensure that all seeds are safely disposed of in the trash
- Stay on established trails
- Learn more about invasive plants and spread the word about non-native plant invasions



Seeds from a sock destroyer plant (*Torilis arvensis*) adhere to a visitor's pants and shoelaces.



"The squirrel bit me twice in less than a second. It took 13 stiches." -B.W.

Do Not Feed The Wildlife!

Feeding wildlife may result in the following:

- Fatal damage to the animal's digestive system
- The animal becoming aggressive toward people
- Transmission of deadly diseases
- Possible starvation of the animal
- You receiving a \$250 citation

Lifejackets Save Lives

DID YOU KNOW THAT LIFEGUARDS AT BRANDY CREEK BEACH PERFORM BETWEEN 25-40 swimmer assists or near drowning rescues each summer season? That accounts for nearly one rescue for every thousand beach visitors. In 2012, the U.S. recorded 651 deaths while boating and in 71% of those deaths, the victims were not wearing their lifejackets! By simply wearing a lifejacket while boating, your chances for survival are tremendously increased. At Whiskeytown Lake, don't let yourself or one of your family members become the "one out of a thousand" that need rescue. To safeguard you and your family around water, follow these simple suggestions:

- Always supervise your children
- Avoid alcohol
- Wear a properly fitted US Coast Guard approved lifejacket
- Take swimming lessons
- Learn CPR

Through a generous contribution from The Friends of Whiskeytown, the lifeguards at Brandy Creek Beach have a free lifejacket loan program from Memorial Day through Labor Day. They have a variety of sizes ranging from infant through adult. Check out the jackets at 10:00 am and return them by 5:30 pm. Keep yourself and your family safe and remember to be smart around water! For more information on water safety please visit www.USCGboating.org or www.safeboatingcouncil.org.



All paddle-powered vessels require a PFD on board for each person. Children under 13 must wear it!

Preserve Whiskeytown's Waters!

Quagga and zebra mussels are two exotic species of bivalve that have caused ecological and economic havoc in many areas of North America. Both mussels can be inadvertently spread by contaminated boats being moved from one water body to another. Any time you remove your vessel (motorized and non-motorized) from the water, please do the following:

- Drain all water and dry all areas including the outboard unit and all live-wells.
- Inspect all exposed surfaces using your eyes and hands—small mussels feel like sandpaper to the touch and may not be visible
- Remove all plant and animal material
- Wash the hull of each watercraft thoroughly
- "Clean, drain, and dry!" to stop the spread!

For more information visit:
100thmeridian.org or www.dfg.ca.gov/invasives/quaggamussel/



Whiskeytown National Recreation Area
www.dfg.ca.gov/invasives/quaggamussel/

Join us for a Free Ranger-led Program!



Free ranger-led programs begin in mid-June and are offered through Labor Day weekend. Please call the visitor center at (530) 246-1225, or visit the park website at www.nps.gov/whis for the latest information on park programs and special events.

Junior Ranger

Saturdays at 10:00 am (1 hour)



Children along with their parents can learn about preserving and protecting park resources while making new friends during a special one-hour activity that explores the wonders of Whiskeytown. Meet at the Oak Bottom Amphitheater. Ask the ranger about earning your Whiskeytown Junior Ranger badge and patch.

Junior Firefighter

Saturdays at 11:00 am (1 hour)



Join Whiskeytown NPS firefighters to learn how they manage fire to promote forest health and protect lives and property. Children will learn about the important role that fire plays in the ecosystems of our national parks during this hands-on activity. Children who complete the program will earn a Junior Firefighter Badge. Meet at the Oak Bottom Amphitheater.

Junior Ranger Kayak Program



Mondays and Thursdays at 1:30 pm (1.5 hours)

Join us for a special program that pairs parents and their children in kayaks so they can discover and share the joy of nature with each other as they paddle and play. The Monday program is geared for children three to six years of age, and the Thursday program is geared toward children seven to twelve years old. Please call (530) 242-3462 to make a reservation.

Walk In Time



Wednesdays and Saturdays at 3:00 pm (2 hours)

Discover how pioneers/prospectors Charles Camden and Levi Tower reshaped the landscape to create a home for their families and an "oasis" for many travelers during and after the California Gold Rush. Visit the historic orchard and find apple trees over 150 years old that still bear fruit! After a tour of the Camden house, enjoy a leisurely stroll through the area, then try your hand at finding gold the old-fashioned way—with a gold pan in the creek! Meet the ranger at the Tower House Historic District parking lot bulletin board.

Ranger-led program offerings

Program	ADA Accessible	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
Kayak Program		9:30 am 5:30 pm	9:30 am 5:30 pm	9:30 am 5:30 pm	9:30 am 5:30 pm	9:30 am	9:30 am 5:30 pm	9:30 am 5:30 pm
Junior Ranger	♿						10 am	
Junior Firefighter	♿						11 am	
Junior Ranger Kayak Program		1:30 pm			1:30 pm			
Walk In Time				3 pm			3 pm	
Special Access Kayak Program	♿					6 pm		
Evening Astronomy Program	♿					9 pm‡		
Star Party							8 pm*	

* During August and September, start time will be 8:30 pm

† See Star Party description for event dates

Star Party

Saturday 8:00 pm to 11:00 pm on 5/31, 6/7, 7/12, 8/2, and 9/6 (weather permitting). For up to date

information call the visitor center (530) 246-1225 or

visit park web site or www.shastaastronomyclub.com

Experience the splendor of the dark night sky! Because

of its unique position nestled within mountain ranges,

Whiskeytown is a great place to explore the heavens.

The night constellations often elude urban dwellers,

but at Whiskeytown, visitors are able to see deep into

space aided by powerful telescopes provided by the

passionate and knowledgeable Shasta Astronomy Club.

NPS Sky Rangers provide engaging activities and share

epic tales of heroes and demigods immortalized in the

constellations. Take Paige Bar Road and meet at the

Mount Shasta Mine Loop Trail parking lot.



Kayak Program

Daily tours at 9:30 am and 5:30 pm are offered on Sun. through Sat. except Fri. (2 ½ hours)

Hop on a tandem kayak with a friend and explore the quiet coves around Whiskeytown Lake while you learn more about the natural and cultural values of the park. Children must be at least six years old. Reservations are up to two weeks in advance, call (530) 242-3462.



Moonlight Kayak Program

July 7-11 at 8:00 pm, August 5-9 at 7:30 pm, and September 3-7 at 7:00 pm (2 ½ hours)

Experience dramatic changes in the landscape as you explore Whiskeytown Lake under the light of the moon. Reservations slots fill up fast for this program, calling (530) 242-3462 in the morning two weeks in advance will give the best opportunity of securing a slot.



Special Access Kayak Program

Friday evenings during July and August (2 hours)

This program has been developed for individuals with special needs so they can enjoy a kayaking adventure. Visitors who have limited mobility, disabilities, developmental issues, or restrictions due to age or illness are encouraged to give kayaking a try. Visitors with special needs are paired with an experienced kayak volunteer. Please call (530) 242-3421 for more information.



Evening Astronomy Program

Friday evenings at 9:00 pm (1 hour)

During August and September, start time is at 8:30 pm

Spend the evening with a Sky Ranger and discover the stories of how ancient cultures used the sky to navigate and mark important seasonal changes. Learn about the challenges we face today as urban light pollution threatens the dark sky and find out what you can do to help. After a 20 minute presentation, the Shasta Astronomy Club will share their powerful telescopes to assist visitors with their celestial gazing. Meet at the Oak Bottom Amphitheater for the first half of the program and the second half at the Oak Bottom Beach parking lot.



Be on the Lookout!

During the summer months rangers will be offering additional programs including: ranger led hikes, cemetery tours and more! Contact the visitor center for information (530) 246-1225 or check out Whiskeytown's park website: www.nps.gov/whis.



Attend ranger led programs and earn Junior Ranger badges and patches!

Stay connected to the park!

Want to join in the conversation and share your stories about Whiskeytown? Like us on Facebook! Get the latest news and park photos. You can also find out about Whiskeytown history, trail conditions, and events. We invite you to share stories and pictures from your adventures at Whiskeytown National Recreation Area.

We like you, like us on facebook!



www.facebook.com/WhiskeytownNationalRecreationArea



Visit the park website for current news & publications
www.nps.gov/whis