

## **Visit the historic gold rush town of Placerville May 11 – 13, 2012**

Arrive Friday afternoon, check into the Cary House Hotel in downtown Placerville (300 Main Street). Parking in the city operated parking lots behind the hotel is free while you are staying at the Cary House. The hotel will rope off an area for us immediately behind the hotel and notify the city. There is parking available for trailers at the Sonner's for those who intend to trailer their cars.

Rooms are large and include kitchenette, complimentary continental breakfast (7-10 am) and free wine tasting in the evening:

Queen Suite: \$119.90/night

King Suite: \$130.90/night

Large Suite: \$141.90/night

All prices include tax, etc. I recommend the Queen or King Suites.

Friday evening there will be a BBQ at the Sonner's home in Placerville. (Contribution of \$4.00 per person will cover the cost of the meal. BYOB)

The Saturday drive (leaving about 9 am) will be to Coloma via back roads to see the site of the initial discovery of gold in California. The location is a state park and has quite a nice museum as well as a number of static displays well within walking distance of the parking lot. We will depart Coloma and then drive a different route back to Placerville and up to the Apple Hill area. We will stop at the Boeger Winery for tasting and lunch. (For groups, there is a \$5.00 tasting fee that would be applied to the cost of any wine purchased.) Picnic lunches will be prepared by the Smoky Ridge Charcuterie. Lunch boxes include a sandwich showcasing their house-cured meats or sausage (delicious vegetarian options also available), and a vegetable side. They will be delivered to the winery for us.

After lunch we will do a little more driving in the Apple Hill area to the Lava Cap Winery and then head back to the hotel to put our feet up. (Because the winemaker is a former MG owner, they will wave the \$5.00 tasting fee.)

Saturday afternoon will be open for relaxing and/or wandering around the shops in Placerville.

We will be dining at The Independent down the street from the hotel. It is a new restaurant in Placerville owned and operated by the same two individuals that own/operate one of the most popular restaurants in the area (unfortunately their cafe is too small for our group). The Independent has an outdoor dining area that will hold our group. If the weather is less than wonderful we will eat indoors. They have a full bar and good wine list.

At a reasonable time on Sunday morning (about 9 am) the group will leave for home. Sunday brunch will be in Ione at Clark's Corner Restaurant. It is a buffet brunch for \$10.95. There are other breakfast delights for those who do not want a large meal.

Carey House Hotel reservations should be made individually at (530) 622-4271 indicating that you are part of the Abingdon Rough Riders. They are keeping a block of rooms for us for Friday and Saturday nights. This is “downtown-frontier” living so I recommend that you make reservations early, request a rear room and that you be placed with other members of the group.

We ask that individuals contribute \$4.00 per person to defray the cost of the BBQ on Friday night. Individuals indicating they wish to attend will be provided a document for making individual selections for the picnic lunch and Saturday night dinner, as we get closer to the event. When these are returned to Brian Sonner, please include a check for the cost of Saturday lunch and dinner.

Suggested route:

Meet at the McD at 6800 Santa Rita Rd. Pleasanton, CA.

South on Santa Rita Rd

Right on Valley Rd

Left on E. Stanley Blvd into downtown Livermore (it turns into 1<sup>st</sup> St)

R on S Livermore Ave which turns into Tesla Rd

Which turns into W Corral Hollow Rd, Which turns into S Corral Hollow Rd

S Corral Hollow Rd turns north through Tracy, (Continue past 580 and 205)

R on Lammers Rd (J2) for a short distance

L on S Tracy Blvd

R on 4 to Stockton

Get on I-5 (North) for a short distance and R on 4 (East) for a short distance to 99.

North on 99

East on E. Waterloo Rd (exit 255) which is 88

L on 124 toward Ione

Stay on 124 through Ione, 124 is called the Plymouth Hwy

124 intersects 16/49

Follow signs to Plymouth on 49

Going past Plymouth stay on 49 toward Placerville.

Stay on 49 by taking a R in El Dorado and follow 49 to Placerville.

49 passes within a block of the Cary Hotel at 300 Main St.

