

Lodging Options in the Northstar – Tahoe – Truckee – Reno – Sparks area

Prices for lodging in the immediate area of the 2023 CalOFest including WRC can be very expensive this year. Here is some useful information about affordable options that are less than an hour's travel from the event center. It is recommended that people considering coming to the Festival secure reservations early on.

To find a wide range of housing options, it is best to web search the Truckee (CA), Reno (NV) , and Sparks (NV) offerings. In addition to booking directly through Northstar with the festival special discount code, there are businesses that handle vacation house rentals (example, VRBO, Airbnb, and Tahoe Gateways). These houses range from around \$150 a night to several hundred dollars a night, with room for 4, 6, 8 or more people. It is advisable to stay on the west side of Reno in general – nicer places. Travel to and from Reno and Northstar is usually quite easy due to a major interstate highway connecting Reno and Truckee.

Also, multiple people can lodge in a house as a good way to reduce per person costs, and the houses are generally VERY nice. For example, this one sleeps ten people:

<https://www.vrbo.com/3234160?adultsCount=10&arrival=2023-07-19&departure=2023-08-01&unitId=3807255>

With all housing rentals it is important to read ALL the fine print – there are often add-on costs for things like cleaning fees that can be significant.

Reno and Sparks have mega casinos with a wide range of pricing and the benefit of 24 hour food options on site. Typical prices range from about \$120 a night (sleeps 2 people) up to options for very expensive suites.

In Boomtown, which is closer to the event center than Reno, there is a good quality Best Western for about \$120 per night. Could fill up soon.

South Lake Tahoe also has mega casinos and many vacation rental homes, but the travel on the road to Northstar from that area can be near gridlock on the weekends.

There are still some camping options in the area. The best camping areas are fully reserved for weekends through the summer, often years in advance. The more primitive campgrounds still have some openings, ranging from \$20 -\$40 a night for tent camping. This year is seeing high interest in camping in the USA, so do not delay if you find a camping site that seems suitable to your needs.

Small RVs (recreational vehicles with built-in living quarters) can be rented from Reno or other cities, ranging from \$200 a day on up. Considering the cost of renting a standard size car is perhaps \$65 a day on up, renting an RV may provide a good price by combining travel and lodging. Prices and availability are very likely to change from week to week, so it is best to look at as many options as possible for a good choice.

We hope this information is helpful to those who may be concerned about how to make the trip affordable in these times of higher costs affecting the entire hospitality industry.