

MAMMOTH LAKES — PRE-ARRIVAL GUIDE —

KEEPING MAMMOTH UNREAL

Welcome to Mammoth Lakes, California. The Real Unreal. A place so majestic, you have to see it to still not totally believe it. A place where you can still get away from it all. Unplug. Recharge.

We deeply appreciate visitors who travel sustainably and show respect for our beautiful mountain home and community.

Use this guide to learn how to reduce your impact, give back, and keep Mammoth Lakes unreal for generations to come.



[VisitMammoth.com](https://www.visitmammoth.com)

STAY INFORMED

- **Get the best lodging rates.** If you booked your [lodging direct](#), thank you. Booking direct supports the community by keeping all of your dollars local.
- **Read and bookmark the below pages to prepare for your visit:**
 - Stay in the know by downloading the [Mammoth Lakes Visitor Guide](#).
 - Educate yourself on local [parking information](#).
 - [Stay safe, especially during the winter months](#). Stay informed on year-round road updates, including closures.
 - Learn new ways to keep Mammoth Lakes unreal – follow the [new state and local regulations](#).
- **Shop local and shop green!** Every purchase is an opportunity to nurture the town's economic well being and unique identity. Search for [locally green certified businesses](#) prior to shopping and make an impact with your dollars.
- **Sign up for the [Mammoth Lakes Tourism \(MLT\) monthly e-newsletter](#)** and get the latest news about stewardship efforts, events, activities, outdoor adventures, family itineraries, and more.

DID YOU KNOW – Nearly 1.7 million visitors arrive in Mammoth Lakes each year. If every person makes their visit just a little more sustainable, we can create a meaningful impact.



RECREATE RESPONSIBLY AND KEEP WILDLIFE WILD

- **Leave No Trace** by packing out your trash, including wrappers, peels and cores, and animal waste. Clean up after yourself, your group, and your pets. Dispose of trash properly and leave your surroundings even better than you found them.
- **Leave no poop!** There is no poop fairy in Mammoth Lakes. Always clean up after your pet.
- **Be a good steward of the lands.** When planning your adventures, visit [Mammoth Trails](#) for trail system information.
- **When camping, always Camp Like a Pro.** Reference local rules and regulations for overnight camping in both dispersed and established areas.
- **Respect wildlife** by helping to [keep wildlife wild](#). Mammoth Lakes is home to year-round wildlife. Never feed or approach wild animals. Know how to keep food, garbage and recycling secured and never leave trash in front or on top of full dumpsters.
- **Protect your vehicle and rental property** by never leaving food in vehicles. Keep windows and sliders locked at all times. Bears can break windows and rip doors open to get at food.



LESSEN YOUR IMPACT

REDUCE WASTE:

- **Before you twist the cap, [try the tap](#).** Mammoth Lakes has pristine tap water for you to enjoy.
- **Pack reusable bags, mugs, and bottles!** By doing so, you help reduce single-use waste.
- **Order takeout** with the [Buoy reusable container](#). These zero waste containers help Mammoth Lakes reduce waste throughout our community.
- **[Always recycle!](#)** Cardboard can be recycled in any cardboard bin around town. Plastics #1 and #2, glass, and aluminum can be recycled at your lodging property or by dropping it off at the Mammoth Disposal Transfer Station on your way out of town.

GETTING AROUND:

- **Enjoy Mammoth Lakes' FREE [local transportation system](#).** It is widely accessible, and saves the stress of driving and parking, especially during peak season.
- **Get around** town by walking or biking. In warmer seasons, try renting an [e-bike](#) for less impact and more fun.
- **[Charge your electric vehicle](#).** Mammoth Lakes has recently expanded its inventory of electric vehicle charging stations so you can recharge in all ways during your trip.



DID YOU KNOW – The Town of Mammoth Lakes recently voted to ban sales of plastic single-use water bottles (<500ml), effective January 2026.



KEEPING MAMMOTH UNREAL

- **Give back** by [volunteering your time](#) or donating to a good cause that gives back to our community. Here are a few ways to get involved:
 - Every Thursday during the summer, join in on [Trashy Thursdays](#) and lend a hand cleaning up our community.
 - Keep our lakes clean by learning more about [Clean Up the Lake's efforts](#).
 - Show your love by joining an organized river clean up with [Tangle Free Waters](#).
- [Sign the Mammoth Lakes Promise](#) and make Mammoth Lakes an even better place than it was when you arrived.

DID YOU KNOW – Mammoth Lakes Tourism has an ongoing partnership with [Clean Up the Lake \(CUTL\)](#). Every dollar raised through 2026, up to \$100,000, will be matched by MLT.



BE PATIENT, BE CONSIDERATE, AND BE *KIND* AS YOU EXPLORE

When you arrive in Mammoth Lakes, embrace the Mountain Time spirit and slow down. Be patient, considerate and kind as you explore and return the good vibes with a friendly smile. During peak seasons, wait times for restaurants, lift lines, and equipment rentals can be long. Realize that workers in Mammoth Lakes are here to make your stay as pleasant as possible. Your kindness and patience will go a long way towards helping us achieve that goal.

Quiet hours throughout Mammoth Lakes are from 10 pm to 7 am. If you arrive at your condo, house, or hotel late at night please be respectful of others. Loud music, TV, and even voices carry farther in Mammoth Lakes than in urban environments. Please be a good neighbor and keep this in mind while visiting.

