



THE TRAVELER

LINCOLN HIGHWAY ASSOCIATION—CALIFORNIA CHAPTER

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New Tours Highlight Lincoln Highway Across California

Four tours, each featuring a different section, will take place this year

BY PAUL GILGER

The California Chapter of the Lincoln Highway Association will host passenger-van tours of the Lincoln Highway in California. The announcement was made at the most recent state chapter meeting in Sacramento on January 10. Four tours will be conducted this year, each traveling a different leg of the Lincoln Highway in California:

Tour 1 • Saturday, April 24 • 1913–27 Central Valley Route • From Sacramento to San Francisco, via San Joaquin Valley and the Altamont Pass (roughly paralleling I-580, I-205, and Route 99)

Tour 2 • Saturday, June 26 • Sierra Nevada Southern Route • From Sacramento to Lake Tahoe, via Echo Summit and the Pioneer Trail (the US 50 corridor)

Tour 3 • Saturday, August 28 • Sierra Nevada Northern Route • From Sacramento to Verdi, Nevada, via the Donner Pass and Dog Valley (paralleling I-80)

Tour 4 • Saturday, October 23 • 1927–28 Central Valley Route • From Sacramento to San Francisco, via Sacramento Valley and across the Carquinez Strait (paralleling I-80)

Each tour will be a one-day trip, beginning and ending in Sacramento at the Holiday Inn “Sacramento I-80 Northeast,” 5321 Date Avenue, located off Interstate 80 at the Madison Avenue exit. This inn was the site of the Lincoln Highway Association National Convention in 2002. The hotel has a secure parking lot, with many convenient restaurants and gas stations located nearby.

All tours will begin boarding at 8:45 AM with departure at 9:00 AM sharp. Estimated return time is 6:00 PM. Tour costs are \$40 per person, which includes refreshments.

Due to various dietary concerns, lunches are not included. The tours will include a stop at a deli along the way to pick up picnic lunches. Tour participants may also bring their own food and snacks. The tour vehicles will be comfortable full-size passenger vans. No more than 2 people will share a bench seat, leaving plenty of stretch-out room. Each van will have a driver and separate tour guide.

Details of the tour routes start on page 4.

IMPORTANT NOTE

If you want to sign up for Tour 1 on April 24, please sign up ASAP! The form is on page 7.

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*Next Chapter Meeting:
April 10, 2 PM
Hotel Oakland
270 13th St
Oakland*

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The President's Message

In order to include more members in our activities, I want to hold some chapter meetings in locations outside the Sacramento area. Our next meeting will be at the Hotel Oakland on Saturday, April 10. This historic hotel is located at 270 13th Street, between Alice Street and Harrison Street, in Oakland. We have the Tea Room, just off the main lobby, reserved for 2:00 PM.

There is a very interesting article on the web describing some of the Hotel Oakland's history at <http://www.wes.army.mil/REMR/bulls/vol13/no2/text/oakland.html>. Part of the article is reprinted on page 3.

If anyone has any questions regarding this meeting or any other chapter activities please contact me at my home phone at (916) 967-7680 or by email at BobD@iname.com.

Hope to see you on April 10.

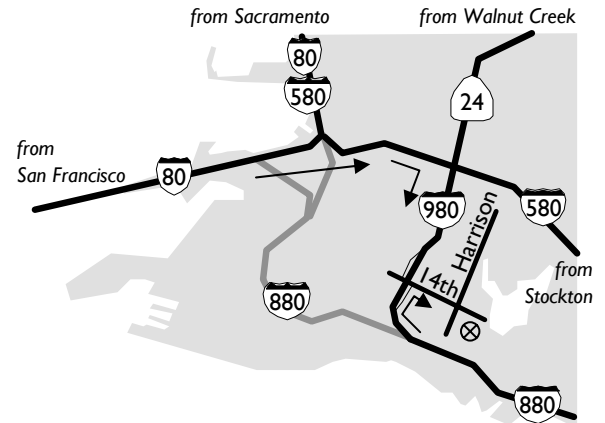
— Robert Dieterich

From the Editor

You may have noticed that we have a couple of new officers. In January, Mary Ramsey presided over a chapter meeting for the last time. Mary did a wonderful job as president. Meanwhile, Norm Root decided that being state director was enough, and left the vice-presidency open.

So Bob Dieterich and Paul Gilger have been elected president and vice-president, respectively. They are already making an impact on the chapter. Bob decided to start moving chapter meetings around the state, to encourage members from different areas of the state to participate. The next meeting will be in Oakland; see the President's Mes-

DIRECTIONS TO HOTEL OAKLAND



From San Francisco or Sacramento:

Take I-80 to I-580 EAST to I-980. Exit at the next exit, 18th St/14th St. At the 3rd traffic light, make a left onto 14th St. The hotel is at the between 13th and 14th Streets, and Harrison and Alice Streets (the front door is on 13th Street).

From San Jose:

Take I-880 NORTH to I-980. Exit at the next exit, 11th St/14th St. At the 3rd traffic light, make a right onto 14th St. The hotel is at the between 13th and 14th Streets, and Harrison and Alice Streets (the front door is on 13th Street).

sage above for more details.

Paul is spearheading a new activity for the chapter: hosting tours of the Lincoln Highway throughout the state. If you haven't had the chance to drive the Lincoln Highway yourself, would like to gain more in-depth knowledge, or would simply like to hang out with fellow members, this is the perfect opportunity. There will be four tours offered this year: ride them all and you will cover almost every mile of Lincoln Highway in California! For more about the tours, be sure to read Paul's article, which starts on page 1.

— James Lin

A Brief History of the Hotel Oakland

BY EDWARD F. O'NEIL

Excerpted from Edward F. O'Neil, "Seismic Strengthening of Hotel Oakland Revisited: A Case Study," The REMR Bulletin, Vol. 13, No. 2, May 1996, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, <http://www.wes.army.mil/REMR/bulls/vol13/no2/text/oakland.html>

Originally constructed between 1910 and 1912 with funds exceeding \$3,000,000, the block-square hotel became a prominent social center during the next decade and was a control point on the Lincoln Highway. Presidents Wilson, Coolidge, and Hoover were guests at the facility, as were other celebrities, including Amelia Earhart, Sarah Bernhardt, Jean Harlow, and Mary Pickford.

During the 1930s, the hotel was forced into bankruptcy several times as the result of the depression and management difficulties. In 1943, the U.S. Army took possession of it for use as a hospital. All furnishings were auctioned off, including irreplaceable chandeliers of which only photographs remain. Following World War II, several unsuccessful attempts were made to

reopen the hotel for public use. The Veterans' Administration eventually occupied the facility as a hospital until August of 1963. For the next 15 years it stood vacant. In 1978 a Boston-based developer obtained possession and remodeled it into a housing project for the elderly. It remains in this use today.

Currently, the exterior of the building and all two-story spaces on the main floor are on the National Register of Historic Spaces. These grand, ornately decorated rooms include the main entrance lounging room; the Corinthian-columned, 5,000 sq-ft ballroom; the dining room; and the cafe, which has 30 ft-high oak-paneled walls and a finely detailed plaster ceiling.

Ed O'Neil is a research civil engineer in the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.



OAKLAND TRIBUNE FILE PHOTOS

The Hotel Oakland was touted as a major stop along the Lincoln Highway. The lobby (right) is shown circa 1930.

Lincoln Highway California Tours

Tour 1: 1913–27 Central Valley Route

On this tour you will see:

- the California State Capitol grounds
- the mid-century retail architecture of Stockton Blvd
- the expansive San Joaquin vistas along Route 99
- the historic town of Woodbridge
- the original highway alignments along Lower Sacramento Road
- tree-lined Pacific Avenue in Stockton
- the campus and carillon of the University of the Pacific
- downtown Stockton
- an old steel drawbridge on lower Mantley Road
- the wind-swept railroad town of Banta
- the mission architecture of the Tracy Hotel in Tracy
- tree-lined Grant Line Road
- the windmill farm on top of Altamont Pass
- historic Livermore and Livermore's Lincoln Highway Garage
- Dublin Canyon Road
- downtown Hayward
- downtown Oakland's Jack London Square
- the Bay Bridge
- San Francisco's Market Street, Van Ness Avenue, Chestnut Street, the Presidio, and Lake Avenue
- the westernmost extant 1928 marker
- the Lincoln Highway Terminus Marker at Lincoln Park

The return trip to Sacramento will be on Interstate 80.



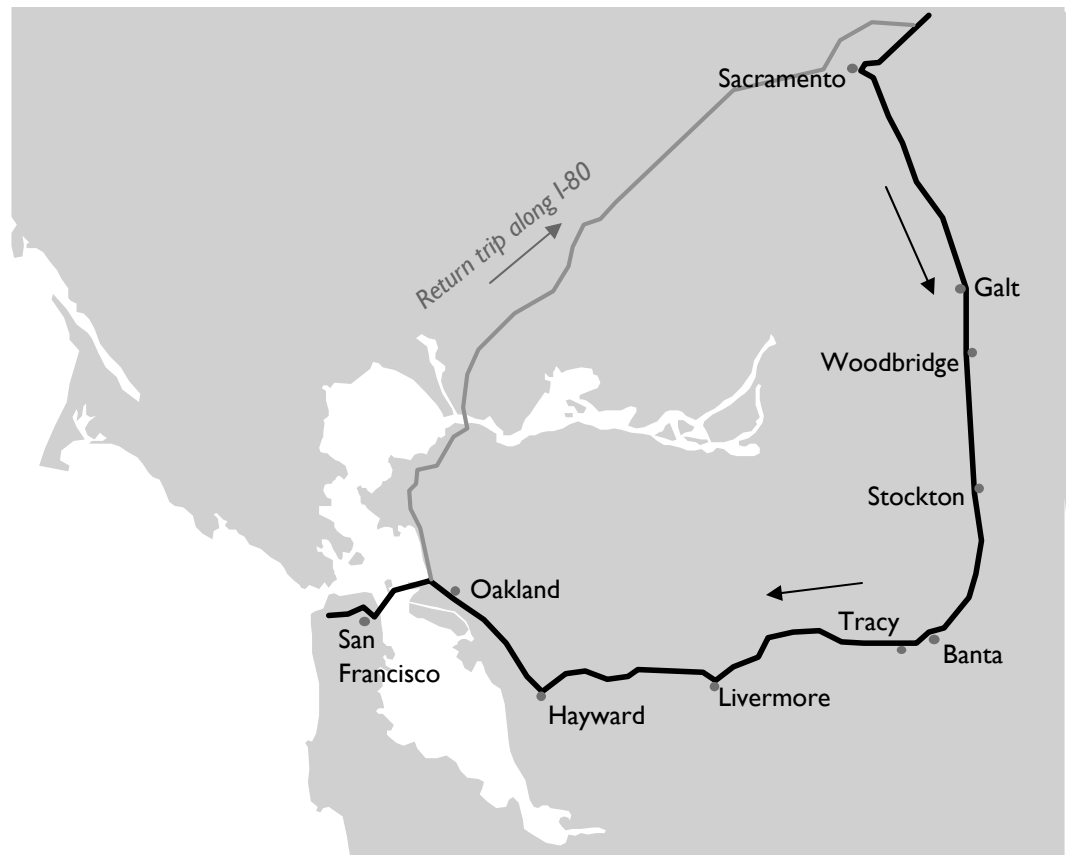
LEON SCHEGG

Lincoln Highway at Altamont Pass



CHRIS PLUMMER

Western Terminus marker in San Francisco



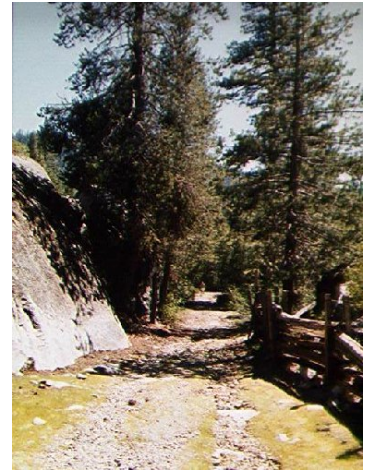
Lincoln Highway California Tours

Tour 2: Sierra Nevada Southern Route

On this tour, you will see:

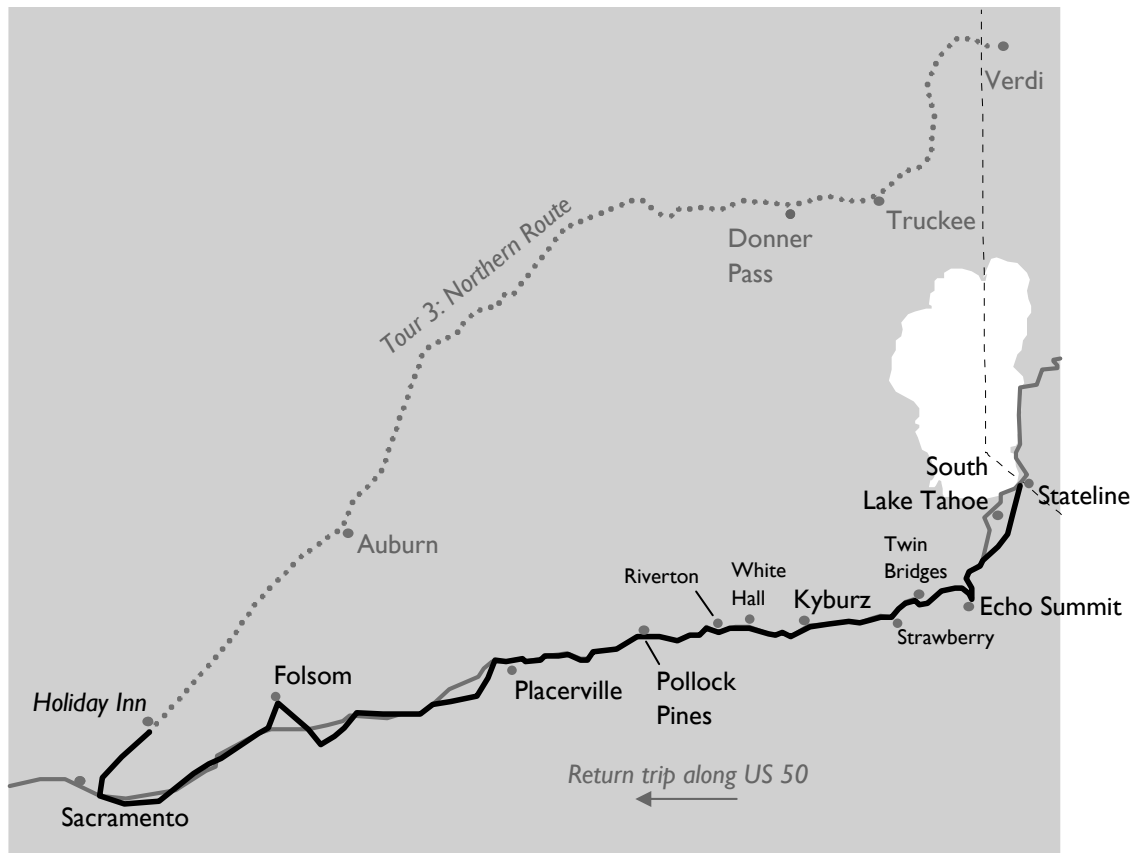
- Folsom Boulevard out to the historic town of Folsom
- the original highway alignments on Placerville Road and White Rock Road
- original 14-foot wide paving on Old Bass Lake Road
- the historic gold-rush buildings along Mother Lode Road
- the 1914 Weber Creek Bridge on Forni Road
- historic downtown Placerville
- the Sierra Nevada foothills on US 50
- the original highway alignments on Carson Road and on the Pony Express Trail Road from Camino to Pollack Pines
- the newly discovered old roads at Fresh Pond and Pacific House
- original stone retaining walls at 29 Mile Tract
- the upper Sierra Nevadas on US 50 through Riverton, White Hall, Kyburz, Strawberry and Twin Bridges
- vistas of Sierra Nevada rushing rivers and waterfalls in the early summer
- the original highway alignment over Echo Summit on Johnson Pass Road
- the lodge at Echo Summit and its vista of the Lake Tahoe basin
- the original pine-tree-lined Pioneer Trail
- the shore of beautiful Lake Tahoe at Stateline, Nevada

The return trip to Sacramento will be on US 50.



CHRIS PLUMMER

Original road through the forest



Lincoln Highway California Tours

Tour 3: Sierra Nevada Northern Route

On this tour, you will see:

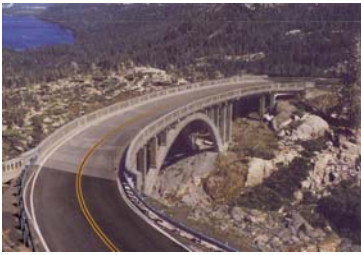
- many original highway alignments and pavement on Rippey and Sisley Roads from the towns of Rocklin and Loomis to Newcastle
- the old winding highway through Newcastle
- historic downtown Auburn
- the mountain towns of Applegate, Weimar, Colfax, Gold Run, Alta and Baxter
- the vistas at Emigrant Gap
- Hampshire Rocks Road
- remnants of the original 1913 Lincoln Highway and a historic highway display at the U.S. Forest Service Visitor Center at Big Bend
- the original highway alignments on Donner Pass Road
- the vistas on top of Donner Pass at the famous Rainbow Bridge
- the Transcontinental Railroad tunnels and train sheds over Donner Pass and the original Lincoln Highway tracks up over the rocks
- the Donner Memorial Park and Monument
- Donner Lake
- historic downtown Truckee
- the exciting and desolate Dog Valley Route, which was last used as the Lincoln Highway from 1913 to 1926
- Prosser Creek Reservoir and Stampede Reservoir
- Verdi, Nevada

The return trip to Sacramento will be on Interstate 80 with views of alternate Lincoln Highway alignments at Hinton and Glenshire Roads. *(continues on page 9)*



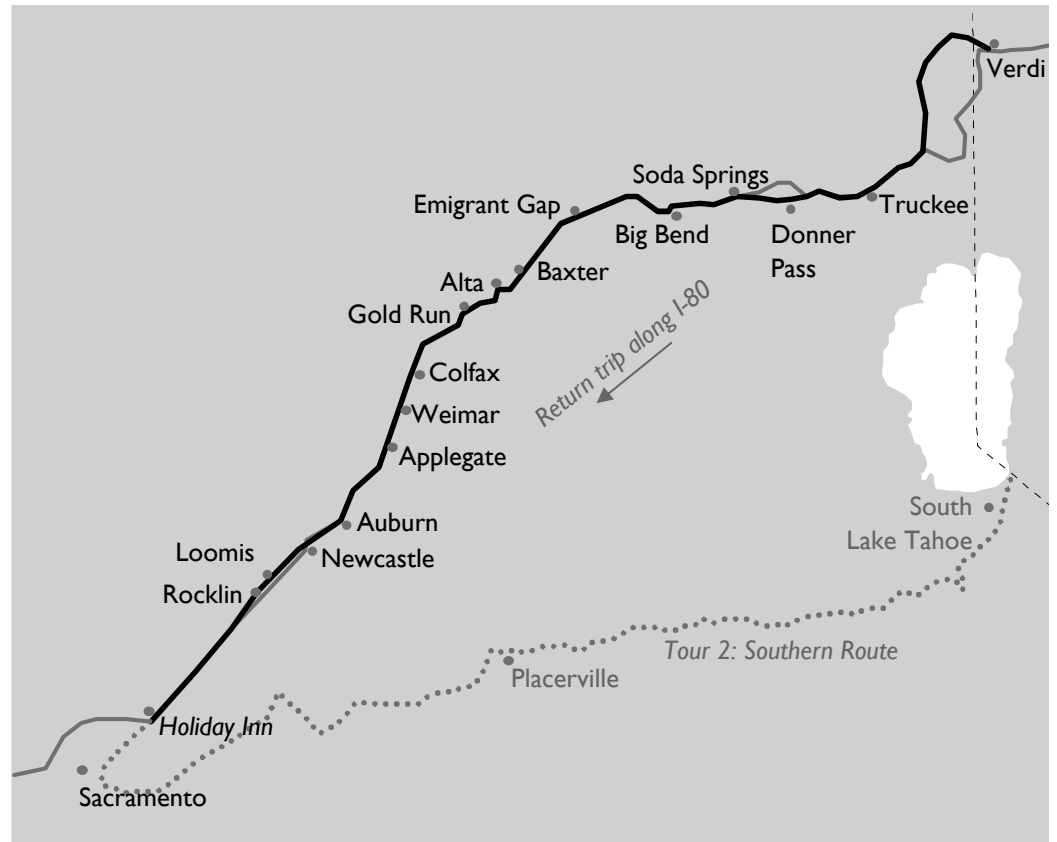
CHRIS PLUMMER

Historic building in Truckee



LEON SCHEGG

Rainbow Bridge at Donner Pass



Lincoln Highway California Tours—Sign Up Form

You may select a single tour or any combination of tours.

Please fill out the form and mail it with a check or money order in the amount of \$40 per person per tour, made out to “Lincoln Highway California Chapter,” to:

**Lincoln Highway Association
California Chapter
P.O. Box 2554
Fair Oaks, CA 95628-2554**

New address!

Number of people	Tour (all start in Sacramento)	Price per tour	Price
_____	① Sat 4/24 • to SF via Altamont Pass	\$40	\$ _____
_____	② Sat 6/26 • to Tahoe via Echo Summit	\$40	\$ _____
_____	③ Sat 8/28 • to Verdi, NV via Donner Pass	\$40	\$ _____
_____	④ Sat 10/23 • to SF via Carquinez Strait	\$40	\$ _____
Total			\$ _____

All tour participants agree that the Lincoln Highway Association, the California Chapter of the Lincoln Highway Association, its officers, directors and agents, shall have no responsibility or liability, in whole or in part, for any loss, damage, or injury to person or property, or any act of omission resulting from, arising out of, or occurring during any activity, program, tour, meeting, meal, or other service or facility furnished or supplied in conjunction with the tours. All participants must sign and date below:

Name

Address

City State ZIP

Phone number

Signature _____ Date _____

Signature _____ Date _____

Signature _____ Date _____

Signature _____ Date _____

Please attach more dated signatures, if applicable.



Maps of Lincoln Highway in California—Order Form

We are offering map sets of the Lincoln Highway through California. This set of maps provides enough detail to drive all known routes of the highway as it winds its way from Lake Tahoe to San Francisco, and includes many city-level maps.

To purchase a map set, fill in this order form, and mail the form and a check made out to “Lincoln Highway California Chapter,” to:

**Lincoln Highway Association
California Chapter
P.O. Box 2554
Fair Oaks, CA 95628-2554**

New address!

Number of map sets _____ × \$9.00 each:	\$ _____
Packaging:	\$1.00
Subtotal:	\$ _____
Postage: 1–4 sets = \$3.95	
5–7 sets = \$4.75	
8–10 sets = \$5.30	\$ _____
Total:	\$ _____

Name

Address

City State ZIP

Phone number

Lincoln Highway California Tours

(Continued from page 6)

Tour 4: 1927–28 Central Valley Route

On this tour, you will see:

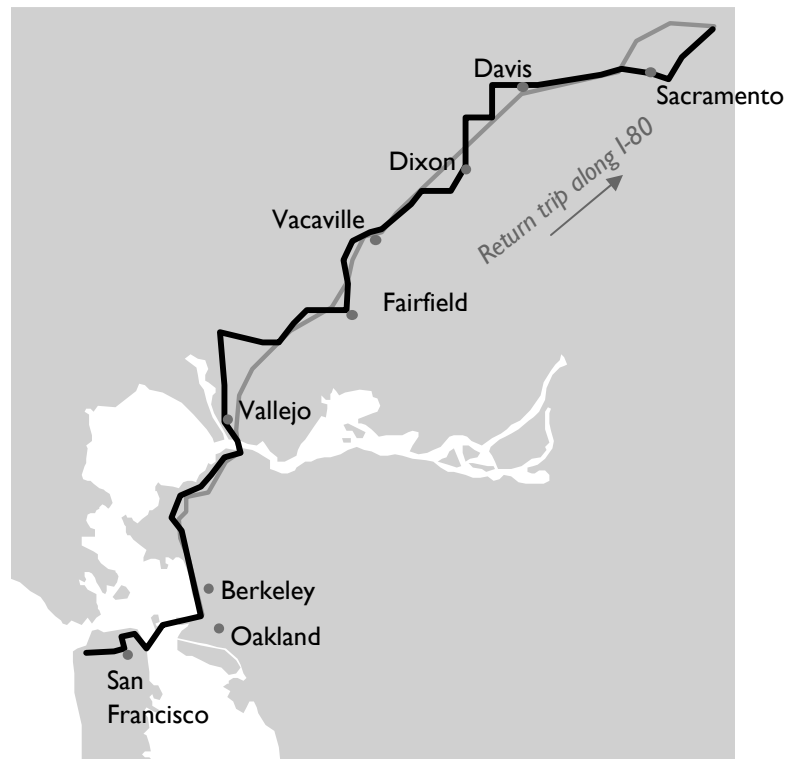
- Old Sacramento
- the Tower Bridge
- the Yolo Causeway
- historic roadside architecture in Davis
- tree-lined Russell Boulevard
- the farmlands along Pedrick Road
- the town of Dixon
- Porter Road along the Transcontinental Railroad
- historic downtown Vacaville and Vacaville's 1911 School Street Bridge and park
- original highway alignments along Cherry Glen Road
- the Solano County Courthouse in Fairfield
- vistas along Rockville and Suisun Valley Roads
- the entrance into Napa Valley on Jameson Canyon Road
- historic Vallejo
- the 1927, 1958 and 2003 bridges at the Carquinez Strait
- San Pablo Avenue through Rodeo and Pinole
- the Berkeley Pier
- the Bay Bridge
- San Francisco's Embarcadero, Hyde St. Pier, Van Ness Avenue, and California Street
- the westernmost extant 1928 marker
- the Lincoln Highway Terminus Marker at Lincoln Park

The return trip to Sacramento will be on Interstate 80.



CHRIS PLUMMER

School Street Bridge in Vacaville



If you are interested in joining us for some good times and some great scenery, please make your reservation now by sending in the order form found on page 7 or in *The Lincoln Highway Forum*. If you would like to participate in the April 24 tour, you should send in your order form ASAP.

Thanks for your time and interest in our newest project: the Lincoln Highway California Tours. •

Paul Gilger is the Vice-President of the California Chapter.

LINCOLN HIGHWAY TOUR SCHEDULE

All tours start in Sacramento

- ① Sat 4/24/04 • to SF via Altamont Pass
- ② Sat 6/26/04 • to Tahoe via Echo Summit
- ③ Sat 8/28/04 • to Verdi, NV via Donner Pass
- ④ Sat 10/23/04 • to SF via Carquinez Strait

Departure point

Holiday Inn Sacramento I-80 Northeast
5321 Date Ave
Sacramento, CA 95841

- Take I-80 to Madison Ave exit
- Go east on Madison Ave
- Turn left onto Date Ave

Cost: \$40 per person per tour

Boarding starts: 8:45 AM

Buses leave: 9:00 AM sharp

Estimated return: 6:00 PM

The California Chapter of the Lincoln Highway Association is hosting four passenger-van tours of the Lincoln Highway in California this year. This is a summary of the tours.

For more about the tours, turn to page 1 for an overview, and to pages 4, 5, 6, and 9 for details of each tour.

LINCOLN HIGHWAY ASSOCIATION CALIFORNIA CHAPTER

P.O. Box 2554
Fair Oaks, CA 95628-2554

New
address!

www.lincolnhwy.org/ca

NEXT CHAPTER MEETING

Sat 4/10, 2 PM
Hotel Oakland
270 13th St
Oakland

See page 2 for directions

NEXT LINCOLN HIGHWAY TOURS

Sat 4/24
Sacramento to San Francisco
via Altamont Pass

Sat 6/26
Sacramento to South Lake Tahoe
via Echo Summit

Sign up now! See page 7