

THE ULTIMATE
OUTDOOR DINNER PARTY



BIG IDEAS
TINY GARDENS

Sunset

MOUNTAIN ESCAPES

LAKES, DRIVES, HIKES, CABINS & RESORTS
from the Sierra to the Cascades



John Muir Wilderness
SIERRA NEVADA, CA

DISCOVER



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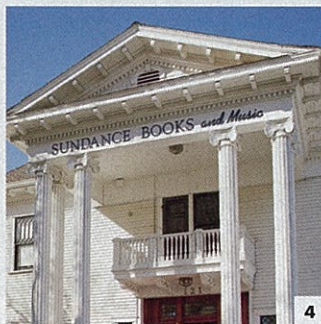


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1. Reno's post-wine walk hangout Campo.
2. Kayaking the Truckee River.
3. The Margherita pizza with fresh basil at Campo.
4. Sundance Books and Music.
5. A Rosa Americano at Death & Taxes.



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A PERFECT DAY IN

RENO

WINE WALK
RIVER WALK
CAMP

No longer the poor man's Vegas, Nevada's second city ups its game with sophisticated food and drink, and a riverfront full of fun. *By Freda Moon*

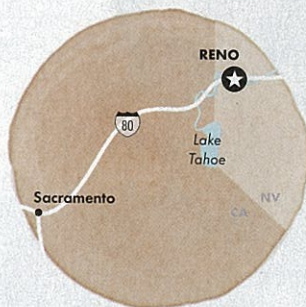
Stroll, sip, savor

Every third Saturday, Renoites take to the streets for the monthly **Reno Wine Walk**. Twenty bucks gets you a glass, wristband, and map of the more than 20 wine bars, coffeehouses, clothing boutiques, art

galleries—even an attorney's office—that open their doors and pop corks for the public along the Riverwalk District. It's a good way to see the neighborhood and a great way to work up an appetite. The line outside the door at **Campo** is

there for a reason. James Beard-nominated chef Mark Estee is something of a hero in these parts for having put down roots in Reno rather than taking his talent to Las Vegas. The restaurant's raison d'être is the house-cured salumi and wood-fired

pizzas (like a crave-inducing Margherita); this time of year, when days are hot and nights cool and breezy, they're best served on the shaded veranda. *Reno Wine Walk: \$20; 2-5 Jul 19; renoriver.org/wine. Campo: \$\$; 50 N. Sierra St.; camporeno.com. →*



GETTING HERE

Reno is 132 miles northeast of Sacramento. Take I-80 east and exit at N. Virginia St. The Truckee River divides the city and is a half-mile south of the interstate.

A river runs through it

Vegas might have the Strip, but Reno has the Truckee River. It knifes straight through the city, and the best way to see it is with **Tahoe Whitewater Tours**. Guides put you in a kayak or inner tube for a ride down a relatively lazy stretch of it. The 3- to 5-mile trip takes you along lush riverbanks until you reach downtown. There's the occasional rapid, but nothing a beginner can't hack. "The ride's more about the tranquility, but there's also a little excitement," says company owner Mike Miltner. *From \$6/hour, \$24/day; gowhitewater.com.*

The biggest little bookstore

Opened in 1985, **Sundance Books and Music** moved from its longtime home in a strip mall to the historic Levy

mansion, with a columned façade and rose bushes that bloom all summer long. Each of the building's 11 rooms houses a different literary genre, from Mystery and Suspense to Mind, Body, Spirit. Looking for reference books? Check the former closet. Cookbooks? Those would be in the kitchen. "It's like browsing through someone's really amazing personal library," says owner Christine Kelly. *121 California Ave.; sundancebookstore.com.*

A perfect picnic

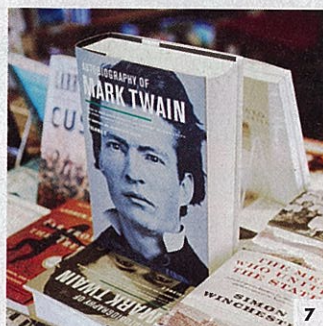
Located in the booming Midtown neighborhood south of downtown, **Wedge Cheese Shop** fills its display case with 100 or so cut-to-order selections from around the world: Greek feta, Vermont cheddar, *queso fresco* from Sand Hill Dairy, one of Nevada's only cheesemakers. Grab a lump and a loaf (the shop stocks bread and crackers), and take them to nearby Truckee River White-water Park for a riverfront picnic. Don't know your manchego from your mozzarella? Wedge holds classes on cheese basics that include tips on our favorite topic: which wines to pair. *Class \$40; 16 St. Lawrence Ave.; wedgecheeseshop.com.*

Cocktail jackpot

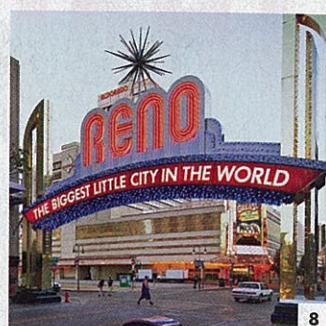
There are still plenty of dive bars in Reno, but the past few



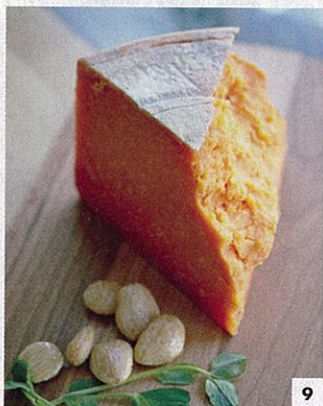
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6. Death & Taxes shakes up Reno's cocktail scene. 7. Sundance Books and Music. 8. The iconic Reno Arch. 9. A hunk of Red Leicester at Wedge Cheese Shop.

THE LOCAL LOWDOWN

"In 5 minutes, you can be in the high desert. In 45 minutes, you can be in the mountain pines of Lake Tahoe. The diversity here is just amazing."

—KEVIN WALLEN, CO-OWNER, 1864 TAVERN

years have seen a proliferation of more sophisticated drinking establishments. In Midtown, **1864 Tavern** (named for the year in which Nevada joined the Union) traffics in fresh fruit-juice drinks and Old West decor, while down the street, **St. James Infirmary** fast-forwards to the 1960s, with wraparound booths and a swinging Saturday dance party. A low-lit faux speakeasy with

glowing chandeliers, **Death & Taxes** serves colorful cocktails, like the bright green Cala Varques, made with house-infused Thai chile reposado tequila, green chartreuse, honey, Meyer lemon, lavender bit-ters, and thyme (\$11). *1864 Tavern: 290 California Ave.; 1864tavern.com. St. James Infirmary: 445 California; (775) 657-8484. Death & Taxes: 26 Cheney St.; deathandtaxesreno.com.*