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Photo: Mike Matherly

SISKIYOU COUNTY TOWNS AND CITIES

Yreka, the Golden City - is the Siskiyou County seat and was once a thriving gold town in the 1850's, with miners establishing claims along the Scott and Klamath Rivers, to the placer mining district of Humbug and hard rock mines such as Indian Girl. Yreka is located in the center of one of California's prime outdoor recreation destinations. Visitors making Yreka the center for their holiday plans, can travel less than an hour in any direction to find exciting outdoor fun, from leisurely sightseeing trips to thrilling adventure sports.



SISKIYOU
COUNTY



Mt. Shasta - The town's first name was Berryvale, after the fields of wild strawberries growing in the area. The name was changed to its current name by a vote of the residents in 1922. Shasta was memorably described by the poet, Joaquin Miller as "Lonely as God, and white as a winter moon." Mt. Shasta starts up sudden and solitary from the heart of the great black

forests of Northern California. Mt. Shasta City is located in the southern part of Siskiyou County, approximately 60 miles from the California and Oregon border. The city of Mt. Shasta is situated at the base of the southwestern slope of Mt. Shasta, a 14,162 foot volcano, and second highest peak in the Cascade Range and second highest volcano in the lower 48 United States. Mt. Shasta City elevation is 3,563 feet and the population within the city limits is approximately 5,700. Mt. Shasta is located within the Shasta Trinity National Forest.

Little Shasta Valley - guarded by the Cascade Range Mountains of majestic Mt. Shasta to the south, and Whaleback, Miller Mountain and Gooseneck on the east, has been blessed with flourishing farms and ranches for well over 130 years. The bountiful valley was first settled in the early 1850's with many French names appearing among the early pioneers. Grain and hay crops were planted, and cattle, horses and sheep brought in. Soon sawmills sprang up along Little Shasta River east of Table Rock and the scenic valley became a gathering place for visitors who came to picnic at soda springs, or fish Little Shasta River.

Scott Valley - The history of Scott Valley "Beaver Valley" parallels the settling of the West. The valley was originally a Shasta Indian settlement. Scott Valley offered excellent pasture land for the horses and mules of miners working along the Scott and Salmon Rivers. Nestled in the rugged mountains of Northern California near to the Oregon border, Scott Valley boasts a frontier charm. Visitors to the historic towns of Fort Jones and Etna experience the quiet rhythms of rural life and the friendly manner of country shop-keepers.



The State of Jefferson - is the unique identity of the mountain border region of Northern California and Southern Oregon. Its lands and its people, provide educational, historical, political, geographical, economic and social aspects of a plan to form a new state from portions of Southern Oregon and Northern California. www.jeffersonstate.com

Please visit www.visitsiskiyou.org for more information on Siskiyou County

RECREATIONAL

Gold Mining - Most of the gold mined in Siskiyou County has been from the placers, the largest of which are the Salmon, Scott and Klamath Rivers. Considerable production also came from scattered load deposits in the Humbug, Fort Jones, Cherry Creek and Cottonwood area. Total production of individual districts could not be determined, however, gold production of Siskiyou County from 1880 through 1959 was 1,733,000 ounces. At today's projected prices, it is no wonder Siskiyou County is a popular gold mining county.

Marble Mountain Wilderness Area - Established as a primitive area in 1931, the Marble Mountain area received Wilderness designation in 1953, establishing it as one of the earliest Wilderness areas in California. The area where the Marble Mountains now exist was once part of a flat bottom of an ancient, shallow ocean.

The Marble Wilderness features an unparalleled diversity of plant life found nowhere else in the state. This 242,500 acre wilderness area spills over the boundaries of four ranger districts within the Klamath National Forest; the Salmon River, Scott River, Happy Camp, and Ukonom. The Marble Mountains host 89 lakes which are stocked with trout. The larger streams



have steelhead trout and salmon. Roosevelt Elk, bear, deer, and other wildlife are plentiful. More species of conifers (17) live in proximity here than any place else in the world.

Siskiyou Wilderness Area - may be the least known and most infrequently visited wilderness area in California. The 153,000 wild and scenic acres, located between Happy Camp and the coastal town of Crescent City, support a diverse plant life with 20 species of conifers including the rare Brewers Spruce. Pack in what you will need; you might not see another human being during your stay in this magnificent paradise.

Russian Wilderness Area - is located along a major ridge dividing the Scott and Salmon River watersheds. It contains 22 named lakes, and an extensive trail system including a section of the Pacific Crest Trail. The rich botanical diversity is an extra draw for hikers and packers anxious for short weekend or day trips that are long on beauty. Best access is via the Etna/Sawyers Bar Road and the Pacific Crest Trail.

LAKES AND RESERVOIRS

More than 180 high elevation and wilderness lakes provide fishing for rainbow, brook and brown trout, thanks to annual aerial plants of fingerling fish by the Department of Fish and Game.

Drive to one of the 30 lakes in the county with easy access. These include Copco Lake, Iron Gate Reservoir, Meiss Lake, McCloud Reservoir, Lake Shastina and Lake Siskiyou. Sport-sized trout are ready to catch from spring to fall, with a large variety of other fish. Two lakes, Juanita Lake off Highway 97 near Macdoel, and Kangaroo Lake off Highway 3 east of Callahan, offer wheelchair fishing access.

One of the best ways to see the back country of western Siskiyou County is on a pack trip. Licensed guides can take you into the back country and wilderness areas of the Marble Mountains on horseback, or hiking with llamas or mules.

HUNTING

Siskiyou County's large hunting territory and varied terrain includes beautiful forests, grassy flatland valleys, high plateau deserts, and high mountain wilderness. There is a wide variety of huntable game. Big game species include Columbian black tail and mule deer, Roosevelt elk, antelope, and black bear. Small and upland game species include Miriam and Rio Grande wild turkey, California mountain and valley quail, grouse, pheasant, dove and pigeon, with a wide variety of waterfowl and small animals. Columbian black tail deer reside mainly on the west side of Siskiyou County, while mule deer inhabit the eastern areas of the county. Black bear roam throughout the entire county and elk hunting is confined to two special drawing hunts. One held in Butte and Shasta Valleys is called the Siskiyou Elk Hunt. The Marble Mountains Elk Hunt is located in the Marble Mountain area. Antelope are hunted out of the Mount Dome area. Wildlife areas in Butte Valley and eastern Siskiyou County offer unparalleled duck hunting, with 3/4 of the migrating bird population on the Pacific Flyway stopping twice yearly in this area.



FISHING

Test your angling skills on any of several hundred miles of stream and river sections supporting wild trout, including officially designated wild trout sections of the Upper Klamath River and the McCloud River. One of your best opportunities for wild fish is on the Upper Sacramento River between Mt. Shasta and Shasta Lake, where you can cast for wild trout under zero limit, catch-and-release angling rules along 32 beautiful miles of waterway.



MORE WINTER SPORTS

Downhill Skiing
Snow Shoeing
Ice Skating

Snowboarding
Snowmobiling
Ice Fishing

Cross Country Dog sledding
Back Country Cross Country
Sledding and Tobogganing

The Mt. Shasta Board & Ski Park is the place to be when the snow falls! This excellent ski resort offers downhill skiing and snowboarding for beginners through advanced snow enthusiasts.

Mountain Rock Climbing Mt. Shasta and the Castle Crags

There is no trail to the summit of Mt. Shasta, although during the prime climbing season of May to September, the paths of earlier climbers may be detected along the popular Avalanche Gulch route.

SUMMER SPORTS

Whitewater Rafting - Experienced rafters will find some of the best Class III to Class V whitewater in the country from spring through summer on the Salmon, Scott, Upper Klamath and Upper Sacramento Rivers. Just a half hour from downtown Mt. Shasta, boaters can put in on the Upper Sacramento through the spring and long beyond. Some of the best summer whitewater on the West Coast is found on the Upper Klamath.

Kayaking - is one of the fastest growing sports in the country, and the exciting waters of Siskiyou County provide the perfect environment for learning and expanding kayak paddling skills. Several guide companies offer instruction.

Boating, Canoeing, & Windsurfing - Fishing boats are allowed on most lakes in Siskiyou County, but there are some restrictions on motors in Wildlife Areas and smaller mountain lakes. Speedboats, jet skis and waterskiing are allowed on the McCloud Reservoir, Lake Shastina, Copco Lake and Iron Gate Reservoir. These lakes are all un-crowded, picturesque, and with camping and services nearby.

More Summer Sports

Golfing • Birding • Gold Panning • Hiking • Bike Riding

HISTORIC YREKA DEPOT



www.yrekawesternrr.com

Enjoy a trip back in time at the 1889 Historic Yreka Depot and ready yourself to ride the "Blue Goose" Train. The center piece of the Yreka Western Railroad's excursion train is steam locomotive # 19, built by Baldwin in 1915. This vintage train consists of 1920 era Harriman Passenger Cars, an open air car and a unique and rare caboose from the McCloud River Railroad. Passengers are treated to the unique sights, sounds and smells that only a steam locomotive can produce.

SPECIAL EVENTS

The Siskiyou Golden Fair takes place annually in early August at the beautiful County Fairgrounds in Yreka. The Fair features a Saturday Night Rodeo, concerts, as well as days and days of livestock exhibitions, judging and auction, concerts, horse shows and so much more local color and western fun!

The Etna Rodeo and Parade in early spring is followed by the Etna Old Timers Rodeo later each summer. Beautiful Scott Valley is the location for these traditional events, where Siskiyou County residents participate in rodeo; children's calf-riding, and more!



Migratory Bird Festival - each spring, Tulelake presents a festival dedicated to the abundant wildlife of the surrounding TuleLake Basin, with wildlife tours, photography, art and activities for all ages.

Carnevale - is the annual celebration for the town of Weed, taking place in July each year. Don't miss the great Bocce ball tournament, a unique event reflecting the Italian American heritage of this friendly mountain town. Also softball tournaments, soccer jamboree, carnival, and parade.

Dunsmuir Railroad Days - early each summer. Delightful small town parade, music and entertainment, craft booths, vendors, Children's Carnival, rail equipment display, and a Battle of the Bands on Sunday. Join locals at the Annual Rotary Club Pancake Breakfast on Saturday and Barbecue in the park Sunday. The event often features a two and five Mile River Run and the Annual Softball Tournament that starts on Friday.

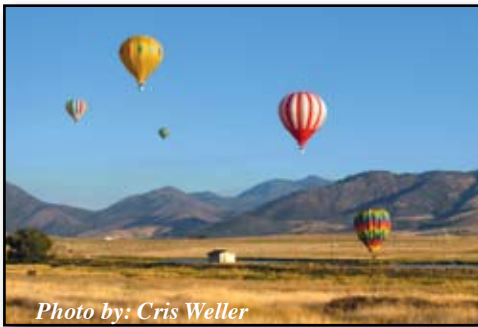


Photo by: Cris Weller

The Montague Rotary Balloon Faire is scheduled each year in mid-September. This annual fair is a spectacular event for balloonists and fans, with forty balloons, balloons with special shapes, morning mass ascensions, parade, and steak dinner. A great opportunity for photographers, families, and balloon enthusiasts!

Annual Lumberjack Fiesta - join in old fashioned fun in the sun every summer in McCloud. Main Street parade, vendors' booths, baseball tournament, children's events including Little Miss Fiesta/Little Logger Contest, horseshoe tournament, Amateur & Business persons logging show, daily entertainment, nightly dance, food, family games and more.

Mt. Shasta Fourth of July Celebration and Fun Run - each year over the 4th of July weekend. Celebrate Independence Day in Mt. Shasta for old-fashioned small town fun. There is a parade at noon, train rides through the town, sidewalk sale, and fireworks at dusk over Lake Siskiyou. The Mt. Shasta 4th of July Mountain Runners Two-Mile FUN Walk, Two-Mile Youth Race, Five-Mile Run, & a Wheelchair Race are celebrated as the biggest small town race events in the nation!

Community Concerts Greenhorn Park Yreka - The Concerts in the Park Series is a well-established tradition, widely appreciated in Scott Valley Bank's Siskiyou County region as an opportunity to enjoy the musical arts in a relaxed and beautiful setting throughout the summer. All events are free of charge.

Scott Valley Bluegrass Festival - Enjoy old time country music from world-class performers at the annual affair in mid-July. The two day event is held in Etna City Park, with full days of music, morning open microphone scramble, special programs for the kids, and country craft booths.

TRANSPORTATION

There are 6 small to medium aircraft airports to serve the county.

ECONOMIC INCENTIVES

Siskiyou County in Northern California is a prime location for business relocation, expansion, and development. If you are looking for a competitive business advantage without the stress of the urban rat race, look no more. The west coast location puts Siskiyou County in the center of the line of distribution for California, Oregon, and Washington with easy access to the interstate and other means of transportation. Siskiyou County has a business-friendly attitude, tax incentives, and laid-back lifestyle, and the ability to compete globally without the headaches of big city life. There is an abundance of affordable sites and buildings plus a skilled workforce to go along with it.

Siskiyou County is proud to be home to a California Enterprise Zone. The Enterprise Zone Program allows only 42 zones in the entire state. The purpose of the program is to provide tax incentives to businesses to spur private capital investment in the local economy. All businesses that are located in the zone are eligible for incentives and benefits.



EDUCATION

The County Office of Education was established in 1857 and is currently governed by the Superintendent of Schools and a seven-member Board of Education.

The Siskiyou County Office of Education provides leadership, support, and fiscal oversight to 28 public school districts with a total enrollment of 6,942 students from kindergarten through 12th grade

College of the Siskiyous (COS), one of the most beautiful community college campuses in California, was founded in 1957 at the base of Mt. Shasta. The campus is located in Weed with a satellite campus located in Yreka.

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