

Tour 13 - Timber: History, Harvesting and Future

Located in the forests of northern California's Sierra Nevada mountain range, Plumas County is a recreational paradise rich in timber history. This tour will educate you about the role of timber and the importance of the timber industry in several small Sierra-Nevada communities.

Timber harvesting has played an important role in the county's thousand-plus years of history. Prior to European "discovery" in the 1800s, the Mountain Maidu used timber (which was considered communal property) to construct their subterranean shelters, including sweathouses.

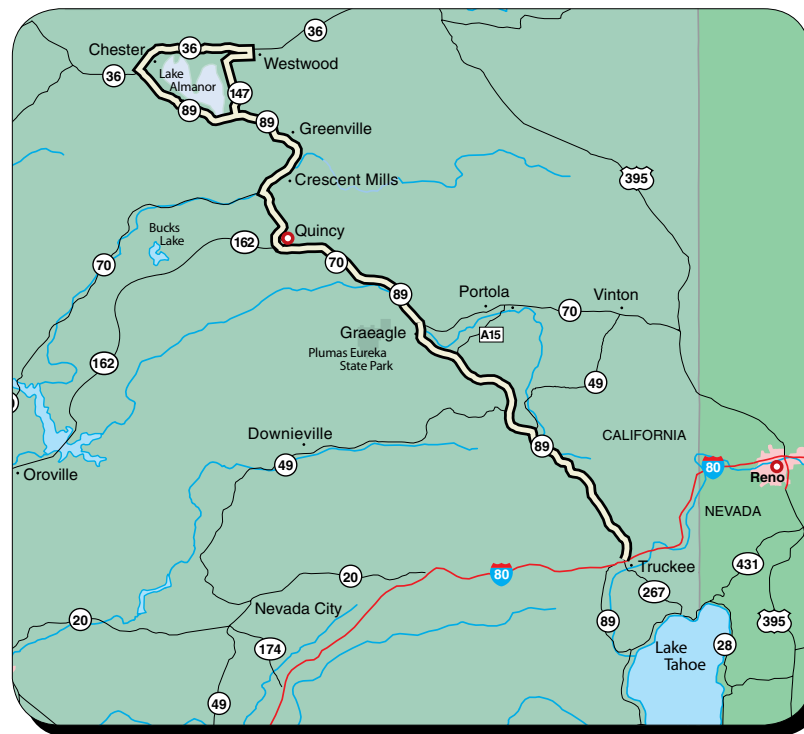


Forest and clearcuts are visible on the road to La Porte.

Tour lumber mills, logging displays and learn about efforts to reduce forest fires on this educational tour in the forests of the Northern Sierra Nevada.



Logs arrive at Quincy's Sierra Pacific Mill.



Day 1 Truckee to Plumas County

- Graeagle
- Plumas-Eureka State Park
- Plumas County Museum

Day 2 Quincy to Westwood/Chester

- Westwood Museum
- Collins Lumber Mill Tour


Day 3 Quincy

- Sierra Pacific Lumber Mill Tour
- Forest Fuels Reduction Tour

Beginning in the 1850s, the use of trees became important for the mining industry. Mills were constructed to supply lumber for the construction of mineshafts, stamp mills, bridges, flues, and entire mining towns. Later, local timber was used in constructing the Western Pacific railroad. The railroad's completion in 1909 through the Feather River Canyon allowed finished lumber to be shipped nationwide from Plumas forests, and the timber industry emerged as the main economic force in the county.

In addition to the activities listed below, check with the **Sierra Institute for Community and Environment, which offers Center of Forestry Tours** throughout Plumas County on specific dates May through October. Bus tours offered by this local research and education organization include "Sustainable Forest Management," "The Dynamic Forest," and others that tour the effects of recent wildfires. Contact the Sierra Institute at (530) 284-1022 or www.SierraInstitute.us

Day 1 - Truckee to Plumas County

 Travel from Reno, Lake Tahoe, Grass Valley, Auburn or the Sacramento Valley: Take Interstate 80 to Truckee. From Truckee take Hwy. 89 north for 47 miles to Plumas County and the community of Graeagle.




Plumas-Eureka State Park



Plumas County Museum in Quincy





Downtown Quincy

 The village of **Graeagle** was originally the site of the Davies Lumber Mill, which manufactured fruit boxes for the California Fruit Exchange in the 1920s through the 1950s. The village's array of identical red buildings once served as homes for the mill workers. Today they house shops and services. The Graeagle Mill Pond, once part of the logging operation, is now a popular spot for relaxation.

Explore the shops and galleries in this quaint town, and look for photos of the former mill displayed at Graeagle Associates Real Estate or the Knotty Pine Tavern. (Allow 45 minutes.)


OPTION:

 **Plumas-Eureka State Park** (530-836-2380) Open 9am-4pm in summer; when staff is available during the rest of the year

 **Travel (west)** for 5 miles on County Road A-14. Advance appointment required for the museum during off-season. Free admission. (allow 1 hour)

The museum and park are located at the foot of Eureka Peak, which produced some \$25 million in gold from hard-rock mining during the late 1880s. Within the park is the tiny town of Johnsville, which preserves the rich heritage of the area's gold mining legacy. The museum's indoor-outdoor complex includes a miner's boarding house, the five-story Mohawk Stamp Mill, a blacksmith shop and a restored miner's home

 **Lunch in Graeagle Area:** See restaurant listings

 **Return to Hwy. 70** and travel west 24 miles to Quincy

 **Lodging check-in** – Quincy

Ada's Place (530-283-1954)

Gold Pan Motel (530-283-3686)

Lariat Lodge (530-283-1000)

Pine Hill Motel (530-283-1670)


Quincy Courtyard Suites (530-283-1401)

Ranchito Motel (530-283-2265)


Sporting Inn (530-283-4300)

The Feather Bed B & B (530-283-0102)

Plumas County Museum 500 Jackson St. (530-283-6320). Open 8am - 5pm Tuesday - Saturday year-round. Admission \$2 adults, \$1 for ages 12-17, free to children under 12 (allow 1 hour.)

 **Shopping** in Quincy - W. Main St. and adjacent side streets, Plumas Pines Shopping Center at Hwy. 70 and Quincy Junction Rd. and East Quincy along Hwy. 70. Art galleries, antique and thrift shops, gift shops, and stores selling books, clothing, candy, toys and more are located along this route.

 **Dinner in Quincy:** See restaurant listings

 A presentation on resource management, forest fires, timber harvesting, lumber mill operations, etc., can be arranged for your group with advance notice by contacting the Plumas County Visitors Bureau (800-326-2247, or www.plumascounty.org)

Evening entertainment can also include a movie at the historic Town Hall Theatre on Main St. or a community concert or show (depending on schedule.) Athletic and other events are often available at Feather River College and Quincy High School. You can also workout at the Feather River Fitness Center or try out your skill at the bowling alley.

The Town Hall Theatre is open Thurs-Mon and offers a movie starting at 7pm, with a matinee at 4pm on Sunday only. (530-283-1140)

La Sierra Lanes bowling alley is open evenings seven days a week. (530-283-1633)

Quincy Library is open until 8pm on Thursdays. (530-283-6310)

Feather River College schedules evening events. (530-283-0202)

Feather River Fitness and Recreation Center is open until 9pm Mond-Fri. (530-283-2255) One-day passes are available.

Plumas Arts schedules evening concerts and exhibits. (530-283-3402).

Quincy Jr. Sr. High School hosts evening events. (530-283-6510)



Collins Pine Museum in Chester.




The Red River Lumber Mill in Westwood




Chainpullers at the Sierra Pacific Mill


Day 2 - Quincy to Westwood and Chester - 111 miles round trip

 **Breakfast in Quincy:** See restaurant listings


 **Depart Quincy** driving north/west on Hwy. 70. At 9 miles, take Hwy. 89 north (right) to Canyon Dam. Turn right on Hwy. 147 and continue 13 miles to Westwood.

 View the **Paul Bunyan and Babe the Blue Ox statues** in the town's center.


Westwood Museum (530-256-2233) 311 Ash St. Open 11am - 3pm Wed -Sat year-round. Displays and artifacts from historic logging operations provide insights into the history of the timber industry. From 1913 through 1956, the Red River Lumber Company, located in Westwood, was the largest pine lumber mill in the world. (Allow 1/2 hour.)

 **Depart Westwood** and drive east 15 miles on Hwy. 36 to Chester.

 **Lunch in Chester/Lake Almanor:** See restaurant listings

 **Collins Pine Museum /Collins Pine Tour** (530-258-2111 and 258-4412) – Tour this logging museum featuring exhibits, books and films on lumbering, forestry, and principles of sustainability, plus an outdoor exhibit of log trucks and equipment. Open 9am-5pm Wed-Sun, mid-May to mid-October. A tour of the lumber mill or the mill's "Park Forty" forestland in Chester can be arranged with advance notice. Note: there are several sets of stairs, cat walks and a high noise level. Hard hats, eye and ear protection will be provided by Collins Pine. Visitors must wear closed toed shoes. No handicap access. (Allow 2 hours.) The forest tour is not accessible during snow season.


 **Return to Quincy**

 **Dinner in Quincy:** See restaurant listings

Day 3 - Quincy

 **Breakfast in Quincy:** See restaurant listings


 **Motel check-out**

 **Sierra Pacific Lumber Mill Tour** (530-283-2820) A tour of the lumber mill can be arranged with advance notice. Note: there are several sets of stairs, cat walks and a high noise level. Hard hats, eye and ear protection will be provided by Sierra Pacific. Visitors must wear closed toed shoes. No handicap access. (Allow 1 1/2 hours.)

 **Lunch in Quincy:** See restaurant listings

 **Quincy Library Group Forest Fuels Reduction Tour** (530-283-3739)

Quincy Library Group is a local citizens group that has worked with the U.S. Forest Service since 1993 to improve forest conditions, create community stability and lessen the threat of catastrophic wildfire on USFS lands. If weather conditions permit, a tour can be arranged with advance notice with a QLG member.

 **To return to Truckee,** follow Hwy. 89/70 east to Blairsden, then follow Hwy. 89 south to Interstate 80. As an alternate loop route, follow Hwy. 70 north and west through the Feather River Canyon to Oroville.



Plumas County Restaurant Guide for Tour Groups

Call to verify off-season hours.

Quincy

Breakfast

- Courthouse Cafe (530-283-3344) 525 W. Main St.
- Morning Thunder Cafe (530-283-1310) 557 Lawrence St.
- Plumas Cafe (530-283-0591) 40 E. Main St.

Lunch

- Cafe Le Coq (530-283-0114) 189 Main St.
- Courthouse Cafe (530-283-3344) 525 W. Main St.
- Moon's (530-283-0765) 497 Lawrence St. (Groups only.)
- Morning Thunder Cafe (530-283-1310) 557 Lawrence St.
- Pangaea (530-283-0426) 461 W. Main St.
- Pizza Factory (530-283-4545) 490 W. Main St.
- Plumas Cafe (530-283-0591) 40 E. Main St.
- Stoney's Country Burger (530-283-3911) 11 Lindan Ave.

Dinner

- Cafe Le Coq (530-283-0114) 189 Main St.
- Moon's (530-283-0765) 497 Lawrence St. (Groups of 20 or less, weekday only.)
- Pangaea (530-283-0426) 461 W. Main St.
- Pizza Factory (530-283-4545) 490 W. Main St.
- Plumas Cafe (530-283-0591) 40 E. Main St.
- Sweet Lorraine's (530-283-5300) 384 W. Main St.

Chester/Lake Almanor

Breakfast

- Bidwell House (if the group is staying there, 530-258-3338) #1 Main St., Chester
- Kopper Kettle Cafe (530-258-2698) 243 Main St., Chester
- St. Bernard Lodge (530-258-3382) Hwy. 36, west of Chester

Lunch and Dinner

- Cotton Candy Diner (530-258-1950) 300 Main St., Chester
- Knotbumper (530-258-2301) 274 Main St., Chester
- Kopper Kettle Cafe (530-258-2698) 243 Main St., Chester
- Maria's Walker's Mexican Restaurant (530-258-2225) 159 Main St., Chester
- Mi Casita Mexican Restaurant (530-258-1879) 686 Main St., Chester
- Peninsula Grill (530-596-3538) 401 Peninsula Dr., Lake Almanor
- St. Bernard Lodge 530-258-3382) Hwy. 36, west of Chester

Portola

Breakfast

- Dee's Station Cafe (530-832-4852) 165 Pacific St.

Lunch

- Casa Carmelita (530-832-5360) 165 E. Sierra St.
- Dee's Station Cafe (530-832-4852) 165 Pacific St.
- Pizza Factory (530-832-0430) 197 Commercial St.

Dinner

- Casa Carmelita (530-832-5360) 165 E. Sierra St.
- Log Cabin (530-832-5243) 64 E. Sierra St.
- Pizza Factory (530-832-0430) 197 Commercial St.

Graeagle

Breakfast/Lunch

- Bonta St. Bistro (530-836-1497) 190 Bonta St., Blairsden
- Cafe Mohawk (530-836-0901) 1228 Johnsville Rd., Mohawk
- Gumba's Pizzeria & Grill (530-836-1212) 350 Bonta St., Blairsden
- Mountain Cuisine (530-836-4646) 250 Bonta St., Blairsden
- The Village Baker (530-836-4064) 340 Bonta St., Blairsden

Dinner

- Coyote Bar & Grill (530-836-2002) Hwy. 89
- Grizzly Grill (530-836-1300) 250 Bonta St., Blairsden
- Gumba's Pizzeria & Grill (530-836-1212) 350 Bonta St., Blairsden
- Longboards Bar & Grill (530-836-1111) 402 Poplar Valley Rd., Plumas Pines Estates
- Mt. Tomba Dinner House (530-836-2359) 10 minutes west of Graeagle on Hwy. 70 in Cromberg
- Sierra Valley Lodge (530-994-3367 or 800-858-0322) Off Hwy. 89, Calpine
- Trattoria Rosa Cucina Italiana (530-836-0371) 15 minutes west of Graeagle on Hwy. 70 in Cromberg

Greenville

Breakfast/Lunch

- Anna's Cafe (530-284-1998) 300 Main St.
- Sierra Sunrise (530-284-6968) Hwy. 89

Dinner

- Main Street Dinner House (530-284-6888) 305 Main St.