Welcome to Whiskeytown!

2-3 Things you need to know

This compilation of essential park information is based on questions frequently asked by visitors. The information is organized alphabetically to help you quickly find what you are looking for.

4-5 Camping and trail information

If you are planning an outdoor adventure, flip here for a complete listing of the park's extensive trail system and campgrounds that includes essential information for each. A map will orient you to the park.

6 What can I do in the time I have?

Not sure what to do during your park visit? Turn to page 6 for a helpful guide that will aid you in planning your recreational activities according to the time you have, as well as activities for the different seasons.

8 Ranger-led programs

Whiskeytown offers a variety of FREE Ranger-led Programs during the summer season. These programs are fun and family friendly. A program schedule is found on this page, as well as program descriptions.
The National Park Service Mission

The National Park Service preserves unimpaired the natural and cultural resources and values of the national park system for the enjoyment, education, and inspiration of this and future generations. The Park Service cooperates with partners to extend the benefits of natural and cultural resource conservation and outdoor recreation throughout this country and the world.

Whiskeytown National Recreation Area

Whiskeytown Lake was created as part of the Central Valley Project to provide water for agricultural, municipal, and industrial use, as well as for the maintenance of fish and wildlife habitat. In addition, Whiskeytown Lake has two hydroelectric power generation stations, and the dam provides flood control downstream of its earthen boundaries, the park preserves and protects surrounding forests became Whiskeytown National Recreation Area in 1965. Within its boundaries, the park preserves and protects an incredible diversity of flora and fauna, natural and cultural history exhibits, an ADA accessible California native plant garden, as well as books, maps, and souvenir items for sale. In addition, accessible restrooms, first aid, an Automated External Defibrillator, and drinking water are all available here.

Accessibility

Park headquarters, restrooms, and the visitor center are ADA accessible, as well as the Native Plant Garden located directly behind the visitor center. The park has two newly constructed ADA accessible trails; the Crystal Creek Falls Trail, which is paved, and the section of the Guardian of the Falls Trail from Horse Camp leading to the spectacular Guardian Rock Vista Point. In addition, two accessible picnic sites are available at Oak Bottom and Brandy Creek beaches. Accessible fishing piers are located at Whiskey Creek Picnic Area and at Oak Bottom Marina near the amphitheater.

The 3,200 acre reserve and 39,000 acres of surrounding forests became Whiskeytown National Recreation Area in 1965. Within its boundaries, the park preserves and protects an incredible diversity of flora and fauna, natural and cultural history exhibits, an ADA accessible California native plant garden, as well as books, maps, and souvenir items for sale. In addition, accessible restrooms, first aid, an Automated External Defibrillator, and drinking water are all available here.

Visitor Center

The visitor center is a great place to start when you arrive in the park. The knowledgeable staff and volunteers will help you maximize your visit. The visitor center is located at the intersection of John F. Kennedy Memorial Drive and CA Highway 299. The summer hours of operation are 9:00 am to 5:00 pm daily from Memorial Day through Labor Day. Winter hours are 10:00 am to 4:00 pm daily except Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year’s holidays. The visitor center provides information, a variety of use permits, natural and cultural history exhibits, an ADA accessible California native plant garden, as well as books, maps, and souvenir items for sale. In addition, accessible restrooms, first aid, an Automated External Defibrillator, and drinking water are all available here.

Amenities

Some food items and essential camping supplies can be purchased at the Oak Bottom Campground Store, which is open from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm during the winter and until 6:00 pm in the summer. The store can be reached by calling (530) 359-2369. Lodging is not available in the park. The nearest hotels are in Redding, 8 miles east of the park. The Oak Bottom Marina is open for limited hours during the winter and from 8:00 am until 8:00 pm during the summer. Fishermen can tackle, and lifejackets are all available for purchase at the marina store. Snack bars are located at both Brandy Creek and Oak Bottom beaches. They are open during the summer and sell a variety of made-to-order foods, cold drinks, sun block, water toys, and swim diapers. For vehicles, the closest fuel is in Redding. Motorboat fuel can be purchased at the Oak Bottom Marina.

Alcohol

Alcohol is prohibited on the park’s four designated public swim beaches: Brandy Creek, Oak Bottom, Whiskey Creek Group Picnic Area, and East Beach. The legal blood alcohol level for the operators of vehicles and motorboats cannot exceed 0.08, but boat owners and drivers may be impaired and incapable of safe operation at lesser levels.

All-terrain vehicles

ATVs and off-road vehicle travel are prohibited in the park.

Backpacking

Backpacking Permits and regulations are available at the visitor center at no cost.

Bicycling

Bicycles are permitted on all trails except the Camden Water Ditch, Shasta Divide, Davis Gulch, and Crystal Creek Water Ditch trails. Mountain biking in the park is information available at the visitor center. Helmets, gloves, and eye protection are recommended for all riders. Maintain a safe speed for road and trail conditions and stay within your level of riding experience. Cyclists must obey all traffic regulations. Hikers and equestrians always have the right-of-way.

Boating

There are no boat launching fees at Whiskeytown Lake, but visitors must display a Day Use Pass or other valid entrance pass (see “Fees/passes”). There are boat launches at Brandy Creek Marina, Oak Bottom, and Whiskey Creek. A variety of boats ranging from a one-person kayak to a ten-person deck cruiser are available for rent at Oak Bottom Marina. Please call (530) 359-2671 or visit www.whiskeytownmarinas.com. Motor boats with two and four-stroke engines are allowed on Whiskeytown Lake and must observe posted no-wake zones. Overnight camping on boats is prohibited. For your safety and the safety of others, please be aware of other lake users. Non-motorized craft always have the right-of-way. The use of personal watercraft is prohibited in all areas. Vessels are subject to inspection by rangers at any time to examine licenses, documents, and compliance with regulations pertaining to safety equipment, vessel capacity, sanitation, and pollution and noise abatement devices. Stay alive! Wear a life jacket!

Firearms

Firearms are permitted in most federal buildings in the park. The visitor center is managed by the Western National Parks Association (WNPA) whose mission is to promote the preservation of the national park system and its resources. A variety of books, maps, guides, postcards, souvenirs, and other items can be purchased here. Local products are available, as well as books written by local authors. In addition to stock on hand, WNPA has an even larger selection of items available for purchase from their online store at www.wnpa.org. WNPA members receive a 15% discount, and educators receive a 20% discount on all bookstore items. A portion of the proceeds from each sale is donated to the park to support education, interpretation, and research programs.

Camping

Camping is authorized only in the designated campgrounds of the park. Please see pages 4 and 5 for campground locations, fees, and available services.

Fees/passes

Entrance fees for the park are $5 per vehicle for a Day Use Pass. A weekly pass can be purchased for $10, and the Whiskeytown annual pass costs $25. In addition, the annual pass from Lassen Volcanic National Park, the Interagency Annual Pass, Senior Pass, Access Pass, and the Golden Age or Access Passports are all honored at Whiskeytown. All passes must be displayed on the driver’s side of the dashboard whenever a vehicle is parked within the park boundary. A pass is not required while visiting the Whiskeytown Cemetery. Fee free days in 2013 are April 22-26, Aug. 25, Sept. 28, and Nov. 9-11. You do not need a pass on these dates.

Fires

Campfires are only permitted in the established fire grates at picnic areas and campgrounds. Fires must never be left unattended and must be properly extinguished upon departure. Dead wood may only be collected from the ground for personal use while in the park. Collecting live vegetation or standing dead wood is prohibited. The use of self-contained barbecues, gas and charcoal, is permitted as long as they are attended at all times and completely extinguished.

Fishing

Fishing is allowed year-round in the lake; however, the streams feeding Whiskeytown can only be fished from the last Saturday in April through November 15. The nearest location to purchase a fishing license is Tops Fresh Market, six miles east of the visitor center.
Gold panning
Recreational gold panning is permitted in the park. A valid annual gold panning permit is required for all persons 17 and older. Gold panning regulations, as well as the $1 annual permit, can be obtained at the visitor center.

Hiking
Hiking can be enjoyed year-round at Whiskeytown. With over seventy miles of trails in the park, most of which can be ridden by mountain bikers and equestrians, there is something for every ability level and interest (please see page 4 for trail information). Be prepared for changing conditions while enjoying the park’s backcountry and be sure to carry an adequate amount of water for each person. Summer daytime temperatures often exceed 100°F.

Horses & pack animals
Horses, burros, mules, and camels may be used on designated multiple-use trails in the park. The Horse Camp primitive campground is accessible to vehicles towing horse trailers and is the only location in the park where camping with horses is allowed. There are two sites available and a potable water spigot.

Noise levels
In order to keep natural soundscapes free from loud human-source noises, the following regulations apply: a person may be on designated multiple-use trails in the park and on trails outside the park boundary. Please use the “ Fees/passes” section for more information on valid passes. Visitors can park in any public parking spaces as well as along paved roadways, provided the parked vehicle is completely off the asphalt without tramplng vegetation and is in compliance with all posted signage. Parking in front of gates or blocking right-of-way access is prohibited.

Mines
Old mine workings in the park are dangerous and unstable. When hiking across or nearby old mine workings, be on the lookout for uncovered mining shafts. Stay out, and stay alive!

Special Use Permits
Special events such as weddings, sporting events, and commercial filming are permissible by obtaining a Special Use Permit. Applications and information are available on the park website. For more information, please contact the Chief Ranger at (530) 242-3413.

Swimming
There are four designated public swim beaches in the park: Brandy Creek Beach, East Beach, Whiskey Creek Group Picnic Area, and Oak Bottom Beach. Brandy Creek Beach has lifeguards during the summer months. The area inside the buoys makes water below the boundary of each beach park can be utilized by long-distance swimmers. Swimming is prohibited inside the buoy area, and boating or mooring of any kind is prohibited within 100 feet of any boat anchor or mooring facility.

Trash
Please pack out all trash when hiking and dispose of it in a responsible manner. There are recycling facilities at the visitor center, many parking areas, and the park’s designated swim beaches.

Water
Potable water is available at the following locations: the visitor center, Brandy Creek Beach, Marine, and RV Campground; Oak Bottom Beach; Marine, Amaphthia Beach, Tent and RV Campground; Carr Powerhouse, Horse Camp, and Whiskey Creek Boat Launch. Water from any natural source should be purified.

Wildlife
Please do your part to keep the park’s wildlife wild. Do not feed or otherwise harass wildlife. Enjoy all animals from a safe distance and try not to disturb their natural behaviors. Use bear-proof storage lockers for all scented items and never leave food unattended.


Shower

Perseid

Orionids

Leos

Puppid/Velids

Geminids

Ursids

Quadrants

Lyrids

Eta Aquarids


Activity

Peak

Number

Age

Year

δ

Velocity

Best

Moon

Average Meteor Showers

Average Temperature and Precipitation

Jan

Feb

Mar

Apr

May

Jun

Jul

Aug

Sep

Oct

Nov

Dec

Delta Aquarids

Jull 21 - Aug 23

Jul 30

20

3.2

25.5 mi/sec

3:00 am

22

Perseids

Jul 13 - Aug 20

Aug 27

60

2.6

37.6 mi/sec

4:00 am

Orionids

Aug 25 - Nov 19

Nov 25

40

2.5

41.6 mi/sec

5:00 am

Leonids

Nov 08 - Nov 30

Nov 18

40

2.5

41.6 mi/sec

5:00 am

Geminids

Dec 04 - Dec 16

Dec 13

65

2.6

31.8 mi/sec

1:00 am

Ursids

Dec 17 - Dec 24

Dec 22

10

2.0

20.3 mi/sec

5:00 am

Quadrants

Jan 01 - Jan 10

Jan 2, 3

40

2.1

25.5 mi/sec

5:00 am

Lyrids

Apr 18 - Apr 25

Apr 22

20

2.1

29.1 mi/sec

4:00 am

Eta Aquarids

Apr 29 - May 07

May 17

15

2.4

41.6 mi/sec

4:00 am

7
# Trails of Whiskeytown

## Easy Hikes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Trail Name</th>
<th>Distance One-way</th>
<th>Elevation Change</th>
<th>Trail Highlights and Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Buck Hollow</td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>130 ft</td>
<td>Wildflowers, seasonal streams, lots of shade, views of Shasta Bally</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Camden Water Ditch</td>
<td>1.1 Loop</td>
<td>Mostly level</td>
<td>Camden House, historic orchard, El Dorado Mine, Willow Creek</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crystal Creek Water Ditch</td>
<td>0.75</td>
<td>30 ft</td>
<td>Shaded, historic water ditch, remnants of old dams, elevated water flume</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crystal Creek Falls</td>
<td>0.3</td>
<td>Mostly level</td>
<td>50 ft. falls and picnic area, ADA accessible and paved from the trailhead</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oak Bottom Ditch</td>
<td>2.75</td>
<td>20 ft</td>
<td>Scenic views, swimming opportunities, lake access</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Moderate Hikes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Trail Name</th>
<th>Distance One-way</th>
<th>Elevation Change</th>
<th>Trail Highlights and Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Boulder Creek Falls</td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>80 ft</td>
<td>138 ft. falls, one creek crossing with bridge, shaded</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brandy Creek</td>
<td>1.6</td>
<td>400 ft</td>
<td>Follows the spectacular Brandy Creek, swimming holes, ample shade. There are four small creek crossings, and you hike twice on the road (signs guide you)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brandy Creek Falls</td>
<td>1.5</td>
<td>500 ft</td>
<td>Beautiful series of cascades, views of Brandy Creek, shade</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clear Creek Canal</td>
<td>4.5</td>
<td>30 ft</td>
<td>Views of Whiskeytown Dam, Shasta Bally, Kanaka Peak, crosses Orofino Creek</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clear Creek Vista</td>
<td>2.4</td>
<td>400 ft</td>
<td>Historic District and scenic views of Clear Creek, east end comes out near Carr Powerhouse</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Davis Gulch (Closed to bikes and pack animals)</td>
<td>3.3</td>
<td>170 ft</td>
<td>Lots of shade, lake views, scenic and quiet coves, swimming, resting benches</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guardian Rock (0.25 for ADA accessible section)</td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>Negligible for accessible section</td>
<td>ADA accessible section from Horse Camp to the Clear Creek Canyon Vista. Views of Clear and Orofino creeks, Remnants of historic mining</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Logging Camp</td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>415 ft</td>
<td>Restored logging road and watershed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mt. Shasta Mine Loop</td>
<td>3.5</td>
<td>540 ft</td>
<td>Historic mines, Orofino Creek, and beautiful views of Shasta Bally and South Fork Mountain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mule Mountain Pass</td>
<td>4.4</td>
<td>700 ft</td>
<td>Creeks, scenic views of Mt. Lassen, great for hikers, bikers, and horses</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pettier</td>
<td>1.75</td>
<td>380 ft</td>
<td>Paige Boulder Creek, small waterfall, wildflowers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Salt Creek Loop</td>
<td>1.8</td>
<td>300 ft</td>
<td>6 creek crossings, mountain views, shade</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shasta Divide Nature Trail (Closed to bikes and pack animals)</td>
<td>0.4 Loop</td>
<td>190 ft</td>
<td>Lots of shade, access to Whiskeytown Lake, swimming, views of mountains, benches along the trail</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Difficult Hikes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Trail Name</th>
<th>Distance One-way</th>
<th>Elevation Change</th>
<th>Trail Highlights and Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Boulder Creek Falls (Via South Shore Drive)</td>
<td>2.75</td>
<td>950 ft</td>
<td>138 ft. falls, Boulder Creek views, 3 creek crossings with no bridges</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>James K. Carr Trail (Whiskeytown Falls Trail)</td>
<td>1.7</td>
<td>520 ft</td>
<td>At 220 feet, park’s tallest falls, beautiful views of Crystal Creek, some shade</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kanaka Peak</td>
<td>3.6</td>
<td>1,430 ft</td>
<td>Panoramic views of the Trinity Alps, Mt. Lassen, lino and one, Yolla Bolly Mtns., Clear Creek Canyon, beautiful Whiskeytown Lake</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mill Creek</td>
<td>6.1</td>
<td>350 ft</td>
<td>16 creek crossings, lots of shade, north end of the trail connects with the Tower House Historic District</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Papoose Pass</td>
<td>5.5</td>
<td>900 ft</td>
<td>Spectacular views, sections follow the East Fork of Boulder Creek</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rich Gulch</td>
<td>1.8</td>
<td>500 ft</td>
<td>Shaded and views of Shasta Bally</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Salt Gulch</td>
<td>1.6</td>
<td>800 ft</td>
<td>Views of Mt. Lassen, Whiskeytown Creek, Southern Cascade Range, Trinity Alps</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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### Camping

#### Developed Camp Sites

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Campground</th>
<th>Number of Sites</th>
<th>Price per Night</th>
<th>Season</th>
<th>Maximum Reservable</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Oak Bottom Tent</td>
<td>98</td>
<td>$20 regular, $22 for shoreline</td>
<td>year-round</td>
<td>6 people 2 tents</td>
<td>6 people 2 tents</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oak Bottom RV</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>$18 †</td>
<td>year-round</td>
<td>10 people 2 tents</td>
<td>10 people 2 tents</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brandy Creek RV</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>$14 †</td>
<td>year-round</td>
<td>10 people 2 tents</td>
<td>10 people 2 tents</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dry Creek Group Camp*</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>$75</td>
<td>4/1 to 10/31*</td>
<td>50 people (20 minimum)</td>
<td>Reservations are required</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Primitive Camp Sites

- Obtain campground permits at the visitor center. Dispersed camping with the exception of Backpacking Permits that must be obtained a

  - Brandy Creek* | 2 | $10 | closed in winter* | 6 people 2 tents | First-come first-served |
  - Sheep Camp*  | 4 | $10 | year-round*       | 6 people 2 tents | First-come first-served |
  - Peltier Bridge* | 9 | $10 | year-round*       | 6 people 2 tents | First-come first-served |
  - Horse Camp   | 2  | $10 | year-round*       | 6 people 2 tents | First-come first-served |
  - Crystal Creek* | 2 | $10 | closed in winter* | 6 people 2 tents | First-come first-served |
  - Coggins Park | 1  | $10 | year-round*       | 6 people 2 tents | First-come first-served |

* Due to reduced park funding and maintenance personnel, these camp sites may be closed for the 2013 season. Check with the visitor center for the current status of campgrounds.
Leave No Trace

Please do your part to preserve and protect the park for the enjoyment of this and future generations by following the seven principles of Leave No Trace:

1. Plan ahead and prepare
2. Travel and camp on durable surfaces
3. Dispose of waste properly
4. Leave what you find
5. Build fires in established fire grates only
6. Respect wildlife
7. Be considerate of other visitors

"The squirrel bit me twice in less than a second. It took 13 stitches." - R.W.

Do Not Feed The Wildlife!

Feeding wildlife may result in the following:
- Fatal damage to the animal’s digestive system
- Possible starvation of the animal
- Exposing yourself to diseases
- Leaving your campsite littered with food

No matter how cute, or how much they beg... Bite

Don’t Feed The Animals

"We're Serious—don't do it.

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior
Zion National Park

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What can I do in the time I have?

Walk by the wayside exhibits outside the visitor center and enjoy the scenic views.

Take a walk along the ADA accessible trail through the California native plant garden located behind the visitor center.

From the visitor center parking lot, enjoy a leisurely stroll down the Shasta Divide Nature Trail to the shores of beautiful Whiskeytown Lake.

From Horse Camp, walk the ADA accessible portion of the Guardian Rock Trail to the beautiful vista point overlooking Lower Clear Creek Canyon.

Take a short walk (0.3 miles) to Crystal Creek Falls and enjoy your lunch at the picnic site.

Pan for gold along Clear Creek (see “Goldpanning” on page 3 for more information).

Grab your mountain bike and enjoy a ride on more than 70 miles of park trails. There are trails for every skill level and interest. Information is available at the visitor center.

Spend the afternoon at Brandy Creek and enjoy a picnic on the beach or in one of the many shaded picnic sites near the creek.

Become a Junior Ranger and Junior Firefighter by attending both programs and learn how to better enjoy and preserve and protect the park resources.

Explore the newly re-routed Kanaka Peak Trail and enjoy the spectacular views from the summit.

For a physically rewarding day, you can complete the Whiskeytown Waterfall Challenge (see page 5) in one day by hiking to all four of the park’s waterfalls.

A park for all seasons

Spring

TAKE A HIKE TO THE PARK’S FOUR WATERFALLS to see them during their peak flow as the mountain snowpack begins to melt. Use caution as the trials will be slippery. Hike any of the park trails to experience the incredible bloom of wildflowers. Great trails for spring wildflower viewing are the Mt. Shasta Mine Loop, Davis Gulch, Guardian Rock, Lower Brandy Creek, and Boulder Creek trails. Spring is great time for birding when patience, stillness, and quiet observance will allow you to see the most activity. In April, take your family and friends to the park for Waterfall Week, Whiskeytown’s annual celebration of National Park Week.

Summer

JOIN A RANGER-LED PROGRAM FOR A FUN-FILLED and educational park experience (See page 8). Take a swim in the cool waters of the lake at Brandy Creek Beach and have a picnic while you are there. Beat the summer heat by taking a hike to the waterfalls to bask in the shade and cool mist, or swim in the pools below the cascading waters. Drive (4WD vehicles only) to the 6,199 ft. summit of Shasta Bally for panoramic views of Mt. Lassen, Mt. Shasta, the Trinity Alps, and the Central Valley. Rent a motorized or human-powered boat at Oak Bottom Marina and enjoy the cool blue waters of Whiskeytown Lake for the day.

Fall

TAKE A HIKE ALONG THE CLEAR CREEK VISTA, Mill Creek, Brandy Creek, or Boulder Creek trails to view the brilliant fall colors of big leaf maple, Pacific dogwood, Western redbud, and California black oak. Hiking, horseback riding, and biking are very enjoyable during the fall as temperatures cool and the buzz of summer activity fades. Fall is also the start of hunting season, so be aware of possible hunting activity while in the park’s backcountry. Support your park by joining us on Saturday, September 28, 2013 for Pick-Up Lake Litter Day, Whiskeytown’s annual volunteer event celebrating National Public Lands Day. In addition, keep an eye out for the date of Whiskeytown’s 3rd Annual Harvest Festival in the historic orchards.

Winter

JOIN US AT THE CAMDEN HOUSE WITHIN THE park’s Tower House Historic District for the annual “Old Time Holiday” celebration and free wreath-making workshop on Saturday, December 7, 2013. Hike along the Brandy Creek, Mill Creek, or Boulder Creek trails to witness the crimson glory of massive gatherings of lady beetles numbering in the thousands as they enter a period of dormancy to conserve energy in the colder months. Bring your binoculars to the quiet coves around the lake to enjoy the beautiful waterfowl that congregate on Whiskeytown Lake during the winter migration. Species commonly seen are Canada greese, mallards, buffleheads, common and hooded mergansers, ruddy ducks, and ring-necked ducks. Watch for bald eagles as well!

Half an hour

Visit the President John F. Kennedy Memorial and press the button to hear his inspiring speech from the Whiskeytown Dam dedication on September 28, 1963.

Choose a place in the park with an unobstructed view of the sky and enjoy stargazing under Whiskeytown’s beautiful night skies. The best time to stargaze is on the new moon or anytime between the Waning Crescent and Waxing Crescent Moon Phases (see “Sun and Moon” on page 3 for more information).

Take a walk through time and visit the Tower House Historic District. Explore the gentleman’s farm from the Gold Rush era, 150 year-old fruit trees, and a stamp mill at the El Dorado Mine.

Half a day

Hike the Pelter Trail and enjoy a beautiful unnamed waterfall on Paige Boulder Creek.

Hike to Whiskeytown Falls or Brandy Creek Falls or hike the Mount Shasta Mine Loop Trail.

Whole day

Hike the Papoose Pass Trail from Sheep Camp to Boulder Creek Falls via the Mill Creek Rd Trailhead.

Hike Crystal Creek Water Ditch Trail or hike to Boulder Creek Falls via the Mill Creek Rd Trailhead.

Two hours

Hike to Whiskeytown Falls or Brandy Creek Falls or hike the Mount Shasta Mine Loop Trail.

Hours : minutes

0:30 0:35 0:40 0:45 1:00 1:15 1:30 1:45

0:30 0:35 0:40 0:45 1:00 1:15 1:30 1:45
**Backcountry safety matters!**

**WHISKEYTOWN IS A WONDERFUL PLACE FOR families to enjoy the outdoors. In order to ensure that you have a safe time in the park's backcountry, all visitors should be aware of some potential dangers and how to avoid them. Weather conditions can change rapidly, so be adequately prepared for your backcountry adventure by bringing extra layers of clothing, food, and plenty of water for each person, especially in the summer when temperatures can exceed 100°F.**

Be alert for wildlife and maintain a safe distance. If you encounter a bear or a mountain lion, try to scare it away by shouting, waving your hands, and throwing sticks or rocks. Never leave food unattended and make sure to hang your food or use a bear canister if backpacking. Poison oak is found throughout the park. Look at the photo above (top left) to identify the plant and stay on the trails to avoid it. The plant often drops its oily leaves in winter, but the dormant stems of the plant are still toxic to your skin and can cause an itchy and painful rash. Rattlesnakes (above center) are commonly found in the park during the warmer months. Avoid them by staying on established trails.

You should also be on the lookout for suspicious and illegal activities. On public lands throughout California, drug trafficking organizations are establishing illegal marijuana cultivation sites, including Whiskeytown's backcountry. Law enforcement officers are actively pursuing and eradicting these sites. While visiting the park and especially in the backcountry, be on the lookout for the following clues:
- Vehicles carrying agricultural supplies such as irrigation hose, fertilizer and/or pesticides
- People carrying firearms outside of hunting season; illegal cultivators are often armed
- Well established campsites outside of designated campgrounds; illegal cultivators occupy these sites throughout the growing season
- Large amounts of trash in the backcountry
- Irrigation hose or PVC pipe located near streams or in the backcountry
- Strange odors that do not occur naturally

For the safety of you and your family, if you observe any of these clues, or anything else out of the ordinary, leave the area immediately! Report suspected illegal activity to Whiskeytown dispatch at (530) 242-3431 or by calling 911 in an emergency. Timely reporting of information is essential for your safety and for park investigations.

**Your safety greatly increases when you stay on official trails and hike or ride with others.**

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Join us for a free ranger-led program!

Free ranger-led programs begin in mid-June and are offered through Labor Day weekend. Please call the visitor center at (530) 246-1225, or visit the park website at www.nps.gov/whis for the latest information on park programs and special events.

Junior Ranger
Saturday at 10:00 am (1 hour)
Children and adults of all ages (geared for ages 6 to 12) can learn about preserving and protecting park resources while making new friends during a special one-hour activity that explores the wonders of Whiskeytown. Meet at the Oak Bottom Amphitheater. Ask the ranger about earning your Whiskeytown Junior Ranger Badge and patch.

Junior Firefighter
Saturday at 11:00 am (1 hour)
Join National Park Service firefighters to learn how they manage fire to promote forest health and protect lives and property. Visitors will learn about the important role that fire plays in the ecosystems of our national parks during this hands-on activity. Participants who complete the program will earn a Junior Firefighter Badge. Meet at the Oak Bottom Amphitheater.

Junior Ranger Kayak Program
Monday and Thursday at 1:30 pm (1.5 hours)
Join us for a special program that pairs parents and their children in kayaks so they can discover and share the joy of nature with each other as they paddle and play. The Monday program is geared for children three to six years of age, and the Thursday program is geared toward children seven to twelve years old. Please call (530) 242-3462 to make a reservation.

Walk In Time
Wednesday and Saturday at 3:00 pm (2 hours)
Discover how pioneers/prospectors Charles Camden and Levi Tower reshaped the landscape to create a home for their families and an “oasis” for many travelers during and after the California Gold Rush. Visit the historic orchard and find apple trees over 150 years old that still bear fruit! After a tour of the Camden house, built in 1852, enjoy a leisurely stroll through the area, then try your hand at finding gold the old-fashioned way—with a gold pan in the creek! Meet the ranger at the Tower House Historic District parking lot at the bulletin board.

Kayak Program
Daily tours at 9:30 am. An additional 5:30 pm tour is offered on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday (2 ½ hours) Hop on a tandem kayak with a friend and explore the quiet coves around Whiskeytown Lake while you learn more about the natural and cultural values of the park. Children must be at least six years old. For reservations up to two weeks in advance, call (530) 242-3462.

Moonlight Kayak Program
June 16-22 and July 17-21 at 8:00 pm, August 15-19 at 7:30 pm, and September 14-18 at 7:00 pm (2 ½ hours) Experience dramatic changes in the landscape as you explore Whiskeytown Lake under the light of the moon. Reservations slots fill up fast for this program, calling in the morning two weeks in advance will give the best opportunity of securing a slot by calling (530) 242-3462.

Special Access Kayak Program
Friday evenings during July and August (2 hours) This program has been developed for individuals with special needs so they can enjoy a kayaking adventure. Visitors who have limited mobility, disabilities, developmental issues, or restrictions due to age or illness are encouraged to give kayaking a try. Visitors with special needs are paired with an experienced volunteer. Please call (530) 242-3421 for more information.

Evening Astronomy Program
Friday evening at 9:00 pm (1 hour)
During August and September, start time is 8:30 pm
Spend the evening with a Sky Ranger and learn about wonders of the night sky. Discover the stories of how ancient cultures used the sky to navigate and mark important seasonal changes. Learn about the challenges we face today as urban light pollution threatens the dark sky and find out what you can do to help. After a 20 minute presentation, the Shasta Astronomy Club will share their powerful telescopes to assist visitors with their celestial gazing. Meet at the Oak Bottom Amphitheater for the first half of the program, star gazing will take place at the Oak Bottom Beach parking lot.

Stay connected to the park!
Want to join in the conversation and share your stories about Whiskeytown? Like us on Facebook! Get the latest news and photos. Here you can also find out about Whiskeytown history, trail conditions, and events. We invite you to share your stories and pictures from your adventures at Whiskeytown National Recreation Area.

We like you, like us on facebook!

www.facebook.com/WhiskeytownNationalRecreationArea

Visit the park website for current news & publications
www.nps.gov/whis

Star Party
Saturday 8:00 pm to 11:00 pm on 6/1, 6/8, 7/13, 8/3, and 9/7 (weather permitting). For up to date information call the visitor center (530) 246-1225 or visit park web site or www.shastaastronomyclub.com Experience the splendor of the dark night sky! Because of its unique position nestled within mountain ranges and miles from urban light pollution, Whiskeytown is a great place to explore the heavens. The night constellations often elude urban dwellers; but at Whiskeytown, visitors are able to see deep into space aided by powerful telescopes provided by the passionate and knowledgeable Shasta Astronomy Club. NPS Sky Rangers provide engaging activities and share epic tales of heroes and demigods immortalized in the constellations. Take Paige Bar Road and meet at the Mount Shasta Mine Loop Trail parking lot. As a courtesy, please dim your headlights on arrival if it is safe to do so.

Perseid Meteor Shower Special Event
Saturday evening August 10, 2013
Brandy Creek parking lot B, start time is after sunset
Whiskeytown, in partnership with the Shasta Astronomy club, will be holding a special star party for the Perseid Meteor Shower. These very knowledgeable and passionate amateur astronomers will be providing powerful telescopes to view what is considered to be the most brilliant meteor shower of the year. The lights will be turned off to minimize light pollution and the beach will remain open for the event. Visitors are encouraged to bring red light flashlights, lounge chairs food, drinks and extra clothing for the nighttime star party. Meet at the Brandy Creek Beach Lot B.

Attend an astronomy-themed programs to earn a special Junior Ranger patch to go with your other Whiskeytown patches!

Ranger-led program offerings

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<tr>
<th>Program</th>
<th>ADA Accessible</th>
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<th>TUE</th>
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* During August and September, start time will be 8:30 pm
* See Star Party description for event dates