

Top 25 Things To Do In Fresno (CA)

Fresno is the fifth largest city in [California](#) and sits in the middle of the San Joaquin Valley. The city was formed just after the California Gold Rush in 1856 and was named after the large number of ash trees that sit along the side of the San Joaquin river. The city has mild, moist winters and summers that are hot and dry, these attract a lot of people as it rarely gets below freezing more than a couple of times a year.

Fresno has a lot to keep visitors as well as locals entertained so let's take a look at the **top 25 things to do in Fresno**.

1. Take A Look Around The underground Gardens



Source: [Flickr](#)

Forestiere Underground Gardens

Forestiere Underground Gardens are both an interesting and unusual tourist attraction. The underground gardens are the life-long work of Baldassare Forestiere. Forestiere ran away from his home town of Sicily and arrived in America in 1901. Once here he spent all of his spare time digging this underground maze of patios, gardens and grottos. The gardens were created without plan and each room designed as the work progressed. For forty years the work continued until he reached this amazing creation we see today. There are many fruit trees to be seen, including oranges, lemons and grapefruits.

2. Meet The Animals At Fresno Chaffee Zoo



Source: [Flickr](#)

Chilling at the Zoo

Fresno Chaffee Zoo started its life as a home for unwanted pets rather than an

official zoo. The history is a little uncertain as no official records have been kept but it would appear as though the beginning was in 1908. As time went by more animals were donated and an amphitheater was built. In 1929 the zoo became officially recognized and opened its doors as the Roeding Park Zoo. The zoo has continued to expand over the decades and recently an 'African Adventure' area was created that doubled the size of the zoo and included elephants, cheetahs, gorillas and more.

3. Awaken Your Spirit At Yosemite National Park



Source: [Flickr](#)

Yosemite National Park – Outside of Fresno

Every year more than 3 million people come to visit the Yosemite National Park, most of these visit the Yosemite Valley which is a designated UNESCO World Heritage Site. The National Park covers a huge 747,956 acres and goes all the way across to the Sierra Nevada Mountains. Throughout the world the area is famous for

the incredible granite cliffs and beautiful waterfalls. There is over 800 miles of trails in the park that range from a small easy walk to a multi-day grueling hike over various park mountains.

4. Get Drenched At Island Water Park



Source: [islandwaterpark](http://islandwaterpark.com)

Island Water Park

If you are looking for a low cost and fun day out with the family then a trip to Island Water Park could be just what you need. This huge water park has enough slides and wave machines to keep even the shortest of attention spans busy. You can explore the Tunnel of Terror or go through the Mumbai Monsoon. When you need a rest from all the fun in the water you can eat at one of the 7 food and drink stalls. The park is not open all year around due to weather so always check online prior to arriving.

5. Spend A Day Shopping At River Park

River Park in Fresno opened in 1996 and features more than 75 shops. The park is split up into three main areas. You have 'The Shops at River Park' which has various shops, a movie theater and some restaurants. The second part is called 'The

Marketplace at River Park' which features various big box stores and finally you have 'River Park Plaza' with more restaurants and a craft store. The movie theater has 21 screens ensuring there is always a seat to watch the latest releases.

6. Watch A Show At The Best Theatre In California



Source: [Wikipedia](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tower_Theatre)

Tower Theatre

The Tower Theatre in Fresno was opened in 1939 and is still going strong today. Over the years various restorations works have been carried out and now the theater is considered to be the best of its kind in California. The theater can hold 761 people in one sitting and has three tiers on each side of the auditorium. There is always a full schedule at the Tower Theatre and many shows appear for just a couple of nights before the next one starts so always check with the box office to

see what is coming up next.

7. Time For Some Baseball At Chukchansi Park



Source: [Flickr](#)

Chukchansi Park

The Fresno Grizzlies have played their home games at Chukchansi Park since the stadium was completed in May 2002. The Fresno Grizzlies are a minor league baseball team that has a long history of players moving onto the Major League. The park is famous throughout the league for the views the stadium affords, you get the stunning view of downtown Fresno whilst also being set against the backdrop of the Sierra Mountains. After the game you can stop for a meal and a few drinks at The Phoenix Club whilst you discuss the ins and outs of the days game.

8. Watch Some Shakespeare In Woodward Park



Source: [Flickr](#)

Woodward Park

Sitting alongside the San Joaquin River is the Woodward Park. The park is the largest in the Fresno area and was donated to the city by Ralph Woodward in 1968. Each year in November the park plays host to the CIF Cross Country State Championships. A highlight of Woodward Park is the Woodward Shakespeare Festival also known as Shakespeare in the Park. The company has been performing here for many years, putting on the most famous of his plays on the WSF Stage.

9. There Is Lots To Do In Roeding Park



Source: tclf.org

Roeding Park

Another of Fresno's parks is Roeding Park which covers an area of approximately 90 acres. The park has a large lake as well as several small ponds, there are also groves of cedar, ash, pine and redwood trees. The Fresno Chaffee Zoo also sits within the grounds of the park. If you are here for the day you might want to make use of the various picnic areas, tennis courts or horseshoe pits.

10. Come To The Big Fresno Fair



Source: [plus.google](https://plus.google.com/)

Big Fresno Fair

Each year in Central Valley more than 600,000 people come to the Big Fresno Fair. The fair is a two week event that features various exhibits, including livestock shows, horse racing and live music. The fair was designed to educate the residents of the Valley on the areas agricultural history. There are many competitions that take place at the fair each year including livestock, fur and feathers. When the fair is not on the area is used for exhibitions and events that continue to draw in revenue for the city of Fresno.

[Next page](#)

The Crazy Tourist - Top 10 lists, What to do, Top Rated tourist attractions and much more!

11. Watch An Event At The Save Mart Center



Source: [Youtube](#)

Save Mart Center – Fresno

Set on the campus of the Californian State University is the Save Mart Center, a multi purpose venue that was opened in 2003. The Center is home to the Fresno State Bulldogs basketball team but previously boxing, ice hockey, hockey, Rodeo and wrestling have all been held here. Over the years several live music events have been held here as well, with the first ever performance being by Andrea Bocelli. Outside the arena is a 37 meter tall clock tower that has 13 stories and is named after the founder of Producers Dairy Foods who donated \$3 million to the construction costs.

The Crazy Tourist - Top 10 lists, What to do, Top Rated tourist attractions and much more!