

Solano County

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The Official

GUIDEBOOK • 2008

Benicia • Dixon • Fairfield • Rio Vista • Suisun City • Vacaville • Vallejo





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WELCOME



If you're reading this page, you are considering a stop in Solano County. Great! I have lived here all my life and welcome the opportunity to share our many attractions with you and your entire family.

In Solano County you will find a wide variety of recreational activities, places to stay and restaurants to enjoy. Evidence of early California history can be found in each of our seven cities. A short drive along our back roads will lead you to beautiful vistas, parks, local wineries and fresh farm produce.

You can attend the oldest continually operating agricultural fair in California or participate in the oldest fishing derby on the West Coast. Ride a Six Flags roller coaster or an antique electric train. Learn about the making of Jelly Belly beans or Budweiser beer. Visit art galleries and stage performances or enjoy shopping.

On behalf of the Board of Supervisors, I invite you to visit Solano County and to use the *Guidebook* to lead you to the events and locations that meet the interests of you and your family.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John F. Silva". The signature is fluid and cursive.

John F. Silva
Chairman, Board of Supervisors
County of Solano



Guidebook 2008



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Solano County

The Official Guidebook • 2008

COUNTY OF SOLANO
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solanocounty.com • solanocounty.com

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On the cover

Photos by Six Flags Discovery Kingdom, TC Owen, Rick Roche,
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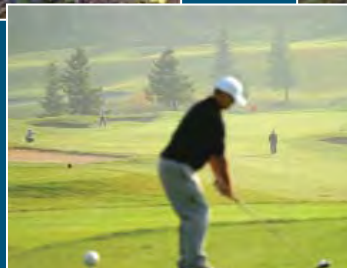
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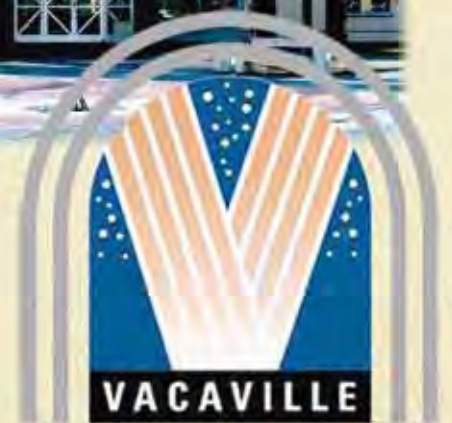
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SOLANO

Your gateway to a world of adventure

While many an area would be pleased to call itself a “gateway,” Northern California’s Solano County can truly claim that distinction, and much more. Yes, it does connect the bustling Bay Area with Sacramento, the state capital. And it is the portal to all forms of agricultural bounty—from grape-growing and winemaking, to small farms and orchards, to large agri-businesses and sprawling ranches which raise nearly 80 commodities, including vital nursery stock.

The county has long been an area of national strategic importance as well, with Travis Air Force Base occupying thousands of acres in its midsection. Mare Island in Vallejo, now decommissioned but in the midst of an exciting revitalization, at one time served as a cornerstone of U.S. Navy operations. So, not surprisingly, the county is well-connected by a comprehensive network of interstate highways, state roads and a variety of rail services, while also being in close proximity to a number of international airports and ocean terminals.

With a diverse population of more than 420,000 and nearly 910 square miles of beautiful landscape situated 45 miles northeast of San Francisco and 45 miles southwest of Sacramento, Solano County’s history is as rich as its fertile soil. While its well-preserved cultural and historical heritage date back to the early 19th century, today it embraces the 21st century, showcasing modern office parks, homes of every style and price range, manufacturing and nationwide distribution centers, and biotech and high-tech enclaves, making it a vital economic force in the region, state and around the world.

Yet with its miles of salt-and-fresh water shorelines, hundreds of acres of parks and thousands of acres of open space, Solano County remains popular with visitors for weekend or week-long getaways every year. And with its ideal location, mild weather, diverse amenities and attractions, and favorable business climate, it is fast becoming a sought-after site for business travelers, too.

Boating, fishing, hiking, golfing, strolling through art galleries and museums, attending concerts and fairs, wine tasting and visiting farm stands, lying on a beach or by a pool, or exploring our fascinating, friendly communities—these adventures and more await you in this very special part of the Golden State.



Photos: Allison Kern, Six Flags Discovery Kingdom

Photos (top to bottom):
Six Flags Discovery
Kingdom, Vallejo;
kayakers in Suisun City;
Travis Air Force Base
Air Show, Fairfield



- National Park
- National Forest
- State Park
- BLM Land
- Military Land
- Divided Highway
- Scenic Byway
- Toll Road
- Pacific Crest Trail
- 10 Interstate highway
- 95 US Highway
- 49 California Highway
- ★ State Capital
- County Seat
- ✈ Major Airport
- ⌘ Roadside Rest Area
- ⌘ Welcome Center
- ⌘ Wildlife Viewing Area
- ⌘ Ski Area
- ⌘ California Mission
- ⌘ Lighthouse
- ⌘ Point of Interest
- ★ Inspection Station

Getting to Solano County



Solano County is located midway between San Francisco and Sacramento—about 45 miles from either city—along Interstates 80 and 680. Our cities and attractions are easily accessible from a number of international and regional airports, and are just a short trip away from many points in the Bay Area, Sacramento and surrounding counties. Once you've landed, several transportation options are available to deliver you safely to your Solano County destination. To find out about getting to and around the county, visit Solano Transportation Authority at solanolinks.com/links.html.

Bus Transportation

Benicia Transit (707) 745-0815

Dixon Read-Ride (707) 678-5020

Fairfield/Suisun Transit System (707) 422-BUSS

Greyhound Bus Lines

177 Main St., Suisun (707) 422-6299

1040 Mason St., Vacaville (707) 447-5989

1600 Lemon St., Vallejo (707) 643-7661

Rio Vista Transit (707) 374-2878

Solano Napa Commuter Information (SNCI)

(707) 447-POOL or (800) 53-KMUTE

Vacaville City Coach (707) 449-6000

Vallejo Transit (707) 648-4666

Rail Transportation

Amtrak Suisun City Station, 1777 Main St., Suisun

(800) USA-RAIL; amtrak.com

Bay Area Rapid Transit (BART) (510) 236-2278; bart.gov

Ferry Transportation

Baylink Vallejo Ferry Terminal, 289 Mare Island Way,

Vallejo (707) 64-FERRY or (877) 64-FERRY;

baylinkferry.com

Solano County Airports

Nut Tree Airport 301 County Airport Road, Vacaville

(707) 469-4600

Rio Vista Municipal Airport 6000 Airport Road

(707) 374-5396

Area Airports

Buchanan Fields 550 Sally Ride Drive, Concord (925) 646-

5722; www.co.contra-costa.ca.us/depart/pw/airport/

Napa County Airport 2030 Airport Road, Napa

(707) 253-4300; www.napacountyairport.org

Norman Y. Mineta San Jose International Airport

2077 Airport Blvd. (408) 277-4SKY; sjc.org

Oakland International Airport

6900 Airport Blvd. (510) 563-3300; flyoakland.com

San Francisco International Airport

Highway 101 and I-380 (650) 821-8211; flysfo.com

Sacramento International Airport

6900 Airport Blvd. (916) 929-5411; www.sacairports.org

From San Francisco Airport

1. Take US-101 NORTH toward SAN FRANCISCO
2. Take the I-280 exit toward PORT OF SF
3. Take the SIXTH STREET exit
4. Turn on BRYANT STREET
5. Turn on I-80 EAST toward BAY BRIDGE/OAKLAND

From Sacramento Airport

1. Take I-5 NORTH toward WOODLAND
2. Take the MAIN ST Exit toward WOODLAND
3. Turn on E MAIN ST
4. TURN on CA-113 SOUTH toward DAVIS
5. Take ramp onto I-80 WEST

From Oakland Airport

1. Take I-880 NORTH toward DOWNTOWN OAKLAND
2. Take fork onto I-980 EAST toward WALNUT CREEK
3. Take the I-580 exit toward SAN FRANCISCO
4. Continue on I-80 EAST

From San Jose Airport

1. Take I-880 NORTH toward OAKLAND
2. Take the MISSION BLVD exit toward SACRAMENTO
3. Take ramp onto I-680 NORTH toward SACRAMENTO
4. Take the I-80 EAST exit toward SACRAMENTO



Your friend in town

If you are very lucky, you have a friend or relative who knows all about your destination. But if that's not the case, contacting the friendly people at a local chamber of commerce or visitors bureau is an excellent alternative. They know the area, have a wealth of information at their fingertips, and perhaps most important of all, have a passion and enthusiasm for the area they represent. So if you are planning a day trip, a vacation, a meeting or corporate retreat, or are moving to the area, a call to one of these offices or a click on its website should be at the top of your "to do" list.

Destination Information

County of Solano

675 Texas St., Fairfield, CA 94533
(707) 784-6100 or (866) 7-SOLANO;
solanocounty.com

Benicia

Benicia Chamber of Commerce
601 First St., Suite 100, Benicia, CA 94510
(707) 745-2120; beniciachamber.com

Dixon

Dixon District Chamber of Commerce
220 N. Jefferson St., Dixon, CA 95620
(in the new Transit Center)
(707) 678-2650; dixonchamber.org

Fairfield and Suisun City

Fairfield Hotel Association & Fairfield Welcome Center
1111 Webster St., Fairfield, CA 94533
(707) 399-2445 or (877) 7WE-RFUN;
californiafairfield.com

Fairfield-Suisun Chamber of Commerce

1111 Webster St., Fairfield, CA 94533
(707) 425-4625; ffsc-chamber.com

Suisun Valley

(707) 580-4263; suisunvalley.com

Rio Vista

Rio Vista Chamber of Commerce
50 North Second St., Rio Vista, CA 94571
(707) 374-2700; riovista.org

Vacaville

Vacaville Chamber of Commerce
300 Main St. Ste A, Vacaville, CA 95688
(707) 448-6424; vacavillechamber.com

Vacaville Conference & Visitors Bureau

1671 E. Monte Vista Ave. #112, Vacaville, CA 95688 (707) 450-0500; vacavillenow.com

Vallejo

Vallejo Chamber of Commerce
427 York St., Vallejo, CA 94590
(707) 644-5551; vallejochamber.com

Vallejo Convention & Visitors Bureau

289 Mare Island Way, Vallejo, CA 94590
(800) 4-VALLEJO or (707) 642-3653
visitvallejo.com

Climate

Touching on rivers, ocean inlets, wetlands, plains, hills and valleys, the diverse geography of Solano County provides a somewhat varied climate throughout different parts of the region; rain and fog here, wind and shine there, but it all evens out in the end.

Average yearly temperatures range from 46 to 72 degrees countywide; however, extremes can be met. Winters can sink down to the low 30s, while summers, averaging 80-85 degrees, tend to peak up to the 90s or 100s in the later months of August and September, but neither condition lasts for very long.

Rainfall typically begins after the autumn harvest season, lasting through about mid-April. Annual rainfall averages reach from as low as 17 inches to as high as 25.

With an average range of temperatures, despite occasional fluctuations, this region has arguably experienced the most moderate climate one could ask for.

Sales Tax

An additional 7.375 percent in Solano County on all purchased items.

Photos (top to bottom):
Vacaville Public Library-Cultural Center;
Athenian Grill, Suisun City;
St. Vincent Vallejo Catholic Church





Sometimes potential needs a little boost.

PG&E is proud to be able to give back to the communities in which we live and work. Whether it's cleaning up state and national parks on Earth Day or donating solar panels to local schools, we believe that everything makes a difference.

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Days to remember

All area codes are 707 unless otherwise indicated.



Vallejo's Six Flags Discovery Kingdom



Dixon May Fair



Vacaville Harvest Days

January

- Vacaville Reporter's Wedding Showcase, 453-8177

February

- Faith in Action's Coco e Vino, 438-1289
- SF Bay Flyway Festival, 649-WING (9464); sfbayflywayfestival.com

March

- Daffodil Tea, Mare Island, 557-9816; sfbayflywayfestival.com/daffodiltea.htm
- Suisun Sturgeon Derby, 425-5518

April

- Barkitecture Gala, bvhumane.org
- NorthBay Healthcare's Wine and Food Jubilee, 426-4273; www.wineandfoodjubilee.org
- Opening Day of the Fleet, beniciayachtclub.com
- Vacaville Medieval Fantasy Festival, downtownvacaville.com
- Vacaville Buckingham Film Festival, 453-7300

May

- First Fridays on First (through October), 745-9791; beniciamainstreet.org
- Benicia Arts Open Studios, 747-0131; artsbenicia.org
- Dixon May Fair, dixonmayfair.com
- Vacaville Fandango, 447-0518; vacavilleheritagecouncil.org
- Golden Hills Mustang Car Show, 429-2370; goldenhillsmustangclub.com
- Suisun Open Market and Opening Day Boat Parade, 421-7744
- Vacaville Fiesta Days, fiestadays.com
- Vallejo Garden Tour, vallejomuseum.org
- Vallejo-San Francisco International Sailboat Race, 643-1254; vyc.org

June

- California State Firemen's Muster, 425-9133
- Northern California Pirate Festival, 866-921-YARR; norcalpiratefestival.com
- Pista sa Nayon (Filipino Festival), vallejopistasanayon.com

- Vacaville Creekwalk Concert Series, creekwalk.com
- Vallejo Juneteenth, 310-6865; juneteenth.com
- Vallejo Soapbox Derby, (925) 461-9781; ncaasbd.com
- Vallejo Wednesday Night Celebrations (Wednesdays through August), 557-6762; vallejomainstreet.com
- Fairfield Summer Festival and Car Show, 421-9085

July

- 4th of July celebrations, throughout the county
- Independence Day Parade, 422-0103; fairfielddowntown.com
- Dixon Lambtown Festival, 678-7386; lambtown.com
- Gospel by the Bay, (510) 222-4242 x105; gospel1190.net
- Great Vallejo Ducky Derby, 644-5551; vallejoduckyderby.com
- Solano County Fair, 551-2000; scfair.com
- The Sunday Jazz Series, 421-7744

August

- California State Fair, bigfun.org
- Classic Car Festival, 552-2115
- Fairfield 16th Tomato Festival and West Coast BBQ Championship, 422-0103; fairfielddowntown.com
- National Night Out, 421-7744
- Suisun Harbor Bike Race, (209) 533-4996

September

- Advocates for the Arts' Evening in the Valley, 745-3405
- Vacaville Jazz Festival, vacajazzsociety.org
- Vacaville Kids Fest, vacavillekidfest.org

October

- Fairfield Candy Festival, 422-0103; fairfielddowntown.com
- Jelly Belly Haunted Swap and Munchin Masquerade, jellybelly.com

- Rio Vista Bass Festival, 374-2700; bassfestival.com
- Six Flags Discovery Kingdom's Fright Fest, 643-6722; sixflags.com/discoverykingdom
- Suisun City Waterfront Festival, 421-7744
- Vacaville Art, Wine and Brew Festival, downtownvacaville.com
- Vacaville Classic Car Show, 451-2100
- Ghost Walk, 745-9791

November

- Celebrate Vallejo IV; vallejomuseum.org
- Fairfield Veterans Day parade, 428-7585
- Solano County Library Foundation's Authors Luncheon, solanolibraryfoundation.org
- Jelly Belly Tree Lighting and Santa's arrival, jellybelly.com

December

- Benicia Holiday Open House and Tree Lighting, 745-9791
- Christmas in Old Town Suisun, 421-7309
- Delta Marina Lighted Boat Parade, 374-2315; deltamarina.com
- Fairfield Holiday Night of Lights and Tree Lighting, 422-0103; fairfielddowntown.com
- Jelly Belly Brunch with Santa and photos, jellybelly.com
- Six Flags Discovery Kingdom's Holiday in the Park, 643-6722; sixflags.com/discoverykingdom
- Vacaville's Merriment on Main Annual Tree Lighting, 451-2100
- Vallejo Lighted Boat Parade and Tree Lighting, 642-3653; visitvallejo.com

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A person wearing green and white work gloves is holding a large potted pink hydrangea plant. The person is wearing a light-colored apron over a dark top. The background is a blurred garden with green foliage and purple flowers.

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Making good health your neighbor



Kaiser Permanente has been caring for the people of Napa/Solano since 1947. As part of our ongoing commitment to your good health, we're building two new medical centers, in Vacaville and Vallejo. Soon, finding the services you need—all in one place and close to home—will be easier than ever.

Vacaville Medical Center

Our second Medical Office Building is scheduled to open in 2008, followed by our new hospital in 2009, offering:

- 150 beds with private rooms
- Ambulatory Surgery Center
- Emergency, radiology, and surgical services
- Maternity Services
- New 24-hour pharmacy

Vallejo Medical Center

Our Vallejo replacement hospital is scheduled to open in 2009, offering:

- 188 new beds, totalling a 248 bed facility
- Enhanced facilities for physical medicine and rehabilitation services
- Expanded emergency and radiology services
- New 24-hour pharmacy



BENICIA

Shopping, art, history, and family fun

Benicia was founded in 1847 in the hopes of creating a port city that would compete with San Francisco, but such was not its destiny. However, Benicia was the state capital in 1853, before Sacramento became the state capital a year later. From the Civil War through the first half of the 20th century, much of Benicia's economic viability revolved around the Army's Benicia Arsenal. Today the Benicia Industrial Park occupies much of the old Arsenal, and art studios, boutiques and restaurants keep visitors returning to this charming waterfront community. The community's attractions have been written up in the *San Francisco Chronicle*, *Money* magazine, *Nick Jr. Magazine*, *American Style Magazine* and many more publications.

Benicia is easy to get to by car or by boat—the 320-slip marina downtown offers overnight slips and is a popular weekend destination for local sailors. By car, Benicia is at the intersection of Interstates 780 and 680, just across the new Benicia Bridge from Contra Costa County. With the new bridge's open road tolling system, it's even faster to get to Benicia from the rest of the Bay Area.

Many members of Benicia's eclectic community of artists rent studio space in the Arsenal area, near the 1859 Clock Tower and numerous other historic buildings, including noted gallery and education center Arts Benicia. The Benicia Historical Museum's home is the Arsenal's 1850s Camel Barns. The Benicia State Recreation Area offers great bird watching, walking and kayaking.

The downtown shopping district centers around First Street, which beckons shoppers eager to explore its boutiques, art lovers and collectors looking for exciting new works, and families enjoying the small-town neighborliness. Throughout the year there are concerts, open studios, outdoor movies, festivals and a farmers' market downtown. The July 3rd Torchlight Parade, Christmas Open House, and Fine Art and Handicraft Fair are a few of the annual highlights.



A capitol idea

A visit to the Benicia Capitol State Historic Park, the site of the Golden State's third capital during its early rough-and-tumble days, is a must. It's the only pre-Sacramento capitol building that remains standing, and has been restored with a collection of period furnishings and exhibits. It's a remarkable experience to look at the antique desks and imagine the legislators making history in this very room. The park is open Wednesday through Sunday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and adult admission is \$2. The park also includes a garden and the Fischer-Hanlon House, open one Sunday per month for tours.

The park is located at 115 West G St. in Benicia.



Photos (top to bottom):
Captain Blythers restaurant,
Peddler's Fair, boat dock, Downtown
First Street. Opposite page:
Waterfront.





DIXON

Combining the best of both worlds

If any one single moment can be said to define the pioneer spirit of the city of Dixon, it may be the year 1870. That was when the residents of Silveyville picked up their town—literally—and moved it to the spot where the Vaca Valley Railroad tracks crossed land owned by farmer, schoolteacher and minister Thomas Dickson.

It gets more complicated. The city of some 17,000 people now known as Dixon was actually settled in 1852 by a former prospector named Elijah S. Silvey. But there can be no dispute that it was Dickson who supervised the relocation of the town, even to the point where entire buildings on flatcars were moved on steel rails to a 10-acre plot he donated for a railway station and a town. If there is any irony to be found, it is that the town that was supposed to be called “Dicksonville” became, through a railroad clerk’s misspelling, Dixon; and Dixon it remained.

Today the railroad is still a major presence in town, and in 2006 a replica of the original station was dedicated. It is all somehow fitting for a place where tractor dealerships and grain silos are prominent fixtures on the landscape, where many of the houses look as if they were transported directly from the prairies of the Midwest and set gently down on tree-lined streets, and where you still see the name Silveyville here and there.

But then there are also modern municipal buildings; and there is a corner of town near the police station where you can stand in one spot and see a burger place, Mexican and Chinese restaurants, and a cafe. There are well-maintained parks, antique stores, and the libraries and cultural centers of the University of California and city of Davis just a few miles up the road.

Yet despite all that’s urban about Dixon, this is still a farming community—a place that carries on traditions that transcend generations and invites the starting of new ones. This is a place for creating memories from such simple pleasures as picking pumpkins from a patch and cutting down your own holiday tree at the Silveyville Tree Farm.

True, once a year it’s also the gathering place for more than 50,000 people at the annual Dixon May Fair, which brings in music headliners from around the country. And it becomes Lambtown USA for two days each summer, with great food and live entertainment. But after the festivals are over and the revelers leave, Dixon returns to being a small town with a fascinating history, proud residents and a continuing commitment to the land.



Photos: Alison Kern, Dan Fern

Photos (top to bottom):
Dixon Train Station, Local Church,
Lambtown Festival, Bike race,
Dixon Corn Maze.
Opposite page: Memorial to
Joseph L. Williams at the Women’s
Improvement Club Park.



FAIRFIELD

Tours, tastings, wholesome family fun

As the county seat, the city of Fairfield is geographically positioned on the heavily traveled Interstate 80 corridor. Fairfield businesses and attractions lure thousands of patrons every year. A bustling shopping hub and industrial center, it is home to the Jelly Belly Candy Company, Anheuser-Busch Brewery and Brewhouse among others. It is estimated that 200,000 cars view the Fairfield Gateway Sign daily. Over 40 feet tall and adorned atop the reader board by an enthusiastic Mr. Jelly Belly, the sign welcomes visitors, proclaiming Fairfield as “The Gateway to Great Things.”

Fairfield has much to promote in its own right. It is home to over 100,000 residents and Travis Air Force Base, a major economic force in the region. Fairfield residents enjoy a mild climate year round with recreational opportunities abound, including two of Northern California’s acclaimed golf courses in Rancho Solano and Paradise Valley.

Cultural and entertainment opportunities abound with the Fairfield Center for the Creative Arts and PepperBellys Comedy Club in Downtown Fairfield. Past performers include country music star Kathy Mattea and Saturday Night Live alum Dana Carvey.

All the shopping bases are covered with Westfield Mall anchored by Macy’s among others and featuring unique stores such as Build a Bear Workshop. Nearby shopping includes Cost Plus World Market, Barnes and Noble and Trader Joe’s, not to mention independently owned establishments and a variety of restaurants which add a local flair visitors ought not miss. The North Texas Street Dining District has 50 restaurants spanning the culinary taste of nine different cultures.

The major event of the year is the Tomato Festival and West Coast Barbeque Championship held annually in August. Additionally, the Fairfield Hotel Association represents 19 hotel members including full service, limited service and extended stay properties which boast over 1,300 rooms. The Fairfield Hotel Association is an active participant in the “80 on 80” consortium. This travel industry group publishes an online calendar where visitors can find even more events to attend and enjoy along the I-80 corridor.



Suisun Valley leads the bunch in agriculture

Solano County, first, foremost and always, will have its roots—quite literally—in agriculture. And nowhere is that more evident than in the rich earth, and thriving farms and vineyards of the Suisun Valley, an area that is responsible for nearly \$20 million in agricultural product sales each year.

Easy to find off of Interstate 80 near Fairfield, it is perfectly situated between a pair of coastal mountain ranges: the Mount George Range to the west and the Vaca Mountains to the east. This 6-mile by 2-mile valley is within the Mediterranean-type, coastal climate region, an area rarely visited by fog. Within this compact area are 10,000 or so acres of rich farmland, almost 2,000 of them planted with the grapes that help supply the area’s flourishing wineries. This region is part of the North Coast Appellation, a district famous for what are known as “ultra-premium” grapes.

The valley is also dotted with farm stands bursting with fresh, local produce—including fruits, vegetables, nuts and legumes—and flowers, and working farms that welcome visitors and offer quaint spots to eat and relax. And it is the driving force behind the annual Tomato Festival and other events that occur throughout the year. But above all, it stands as an enduring symbol of the real, living and growing heritage of Solano County. Suisunvalley.com



Photos (top to bottom): Pepperbellys, Westfield, Creative Arts Center, Anheuser-Busch Budweiser plant. Opposite page: Jelly Belly





RIO VISTA

Take a walk and discover its delights

Rio Vista is located along the west bank of the Sacramento River and strategically placed midway between Sacramento and San Francisco and a halfway point between I-80 and I-5. Ever consider taking the scenic route to Sacramento? From Rio Vista you can access Hwy 160 or State Route 84 and meander your way through the Delta's levees to the State Capitol.

Considered the "Hub" of the Delta, Rio Vista is the focal point for many of the Delta communities with its many shops, restaurants and waterfront dining, auto dealers, banks, marinas, medical center and recreational vehicle parks and campgrounds. Generally you can find anything you need; you just have to know where to look. Rich in history with connections to the Pony Express, the Gold Rush era, agricultural history and the home of wayward whales Rio Vista offers more than many expect.

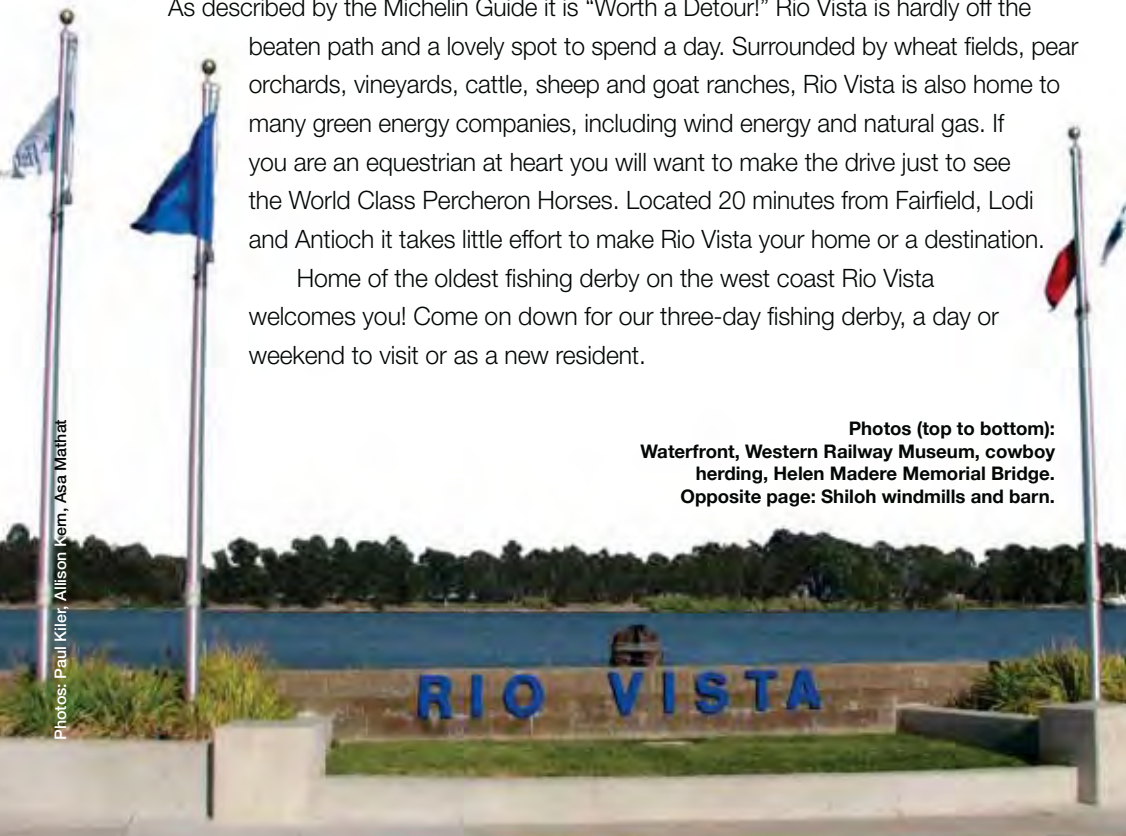
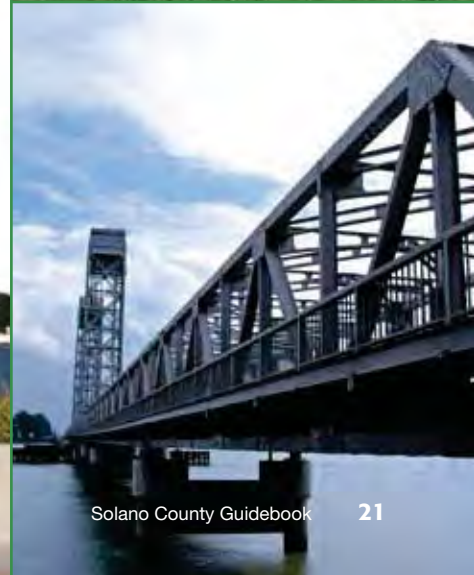
Living along the river is enjoyed by young and old. Trilogy, our over 55 community, continues to expand, while the brand new Liberty development (family housing) is getting ready to open their model homes. People are moving to Rio Vista for that small town atmosphere they want for their children and remember from their childhood.

Along with new families comes the need for business and services. Rio Vista has enjoyed a steady growth of new businesses over the past years without the big box influences. A quaint downtown with park benches and tree-lined streets draws you to get out of your car and browse the shops and take in the sights at Foster's Big Horn, a virtual museum of trophy animals. With the Sacramento River as the backdrop to Main Street you will enjoy your stroll while watching, sailboats, fisherman and ocean going cargo ships pass by City Hall and through the gates of the Rio Vista Bridge.

As described by the Michelin Guide it is "Worth a Detour!" Rio Vista is hardly off the beaten path and a lovely spot to spend a day. Surrounded by wheat fields, pear orchards, vineyards, cattle, sheep and goat ranches, Rio Vista is also home to many green energy companies, including wind energy and natural gas. If you are an equestrian at heart you will want to make the drive just to see the World Class Percheron Horses. Located 20 minutes from Fairfield, Lodi and Antioch it takes little effort to make Rio Vista your home or a destination.

Home of the oldest fishing derby on the west coast Rio Vista welcomes you! Come on down for our three-day fishing derby, a day or weekend to visit or as a new resident.

**Photos (top to bottom):
Waterfront, Western Railway Museum, cowboy
herding, Helen Madere Memorial Bridge.
Opposite page: Shiloh windmills and barn.**





SUISUN CITY

The sparkle starts at its waterfront

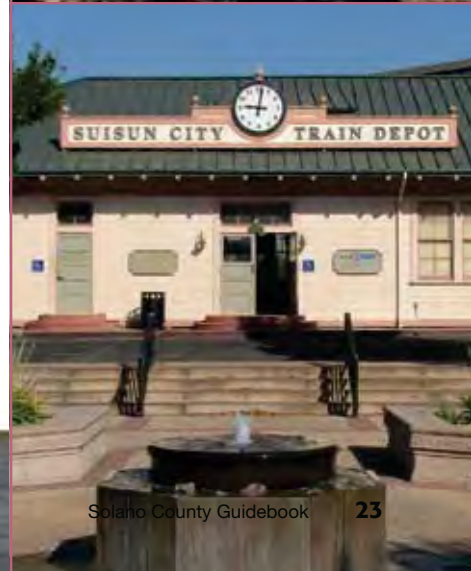
Ask almost anyone in the county what he or she thinks of when you say “Suisun City,” and the almost-unanimous answer will be “the waterfront.” And for very good reason. Founded in 1851, Suisun City, midway between San Francisco and Sacramento in central Solano County and just across the highway from Fairfield, now has close to 30,000 residents. Originally established as a stop on the well-traveled trading route between the Bay Area and the bustling gold mines of the Sierra Foothills, it became even more prosperous when the transcontinental railroad was introduced to the nation in 1869. The tracks that pass by the city still remain an active rail corridor, both locally and as part of a national network of freight and passenger service.

Yet, while today those rail links and the highway system may be of more strategic importance than the Suisun Channel, which empties into both Suisun and Grizzly bays (and connects the San Francisco Bay and the Sacramento River), it is still the water that draws people to Suisun City.

As part of the restoration of the city’s Old Town district, the waterfront has been revitalized with a combination of ecological sensitivity, great style, judicious planning and concern for the multiple uses that would encourage visitors and locals alike to make full use of the area. The result has been an unqualified success. Today the district’s shops and restaurants draw crowds not just on weekends but throughout the week, as they also provide needed services to the occupants of the new downtown offices.

The Town Plaza, waterfront promenade, historic buildings, theaters—all those and more have made the heart of Suisun City a place for festivals, families and boaters, not just during the summer months, but throughout the year.

Truly one of the jewels of Solano County, even its name is a gem: the word “suisun” means “west wind” in Patwin, a legacy of the area’s first residents and a tribute to the city’s ties to nature—its proximity to gently rolling hills and the serenity of Suisun Marsh, one of the nation’s largest wetland preserves.



Photos (top to bottom):
Town Hall, Suisun Bay Marsh,
Sunset Bay Kayaks, Suisun City
Train Depot, lighthouse.
Opposite page: Suisun waterfront.

Photos: Scott T. Corey, degz, Allison Kern, Dan Fern



VACAVILLE

Pioneer spirit is still at its heart

If truth be told, there are two Vacavilles. Not officially, of course. Legally there is just one, the one built on the land that William McDaniel purchased from Manuel Vaca in 1851. One square mile of that land purchase was to be used to create a township that later, in 1892, became incorporated as the city of Vacaville.

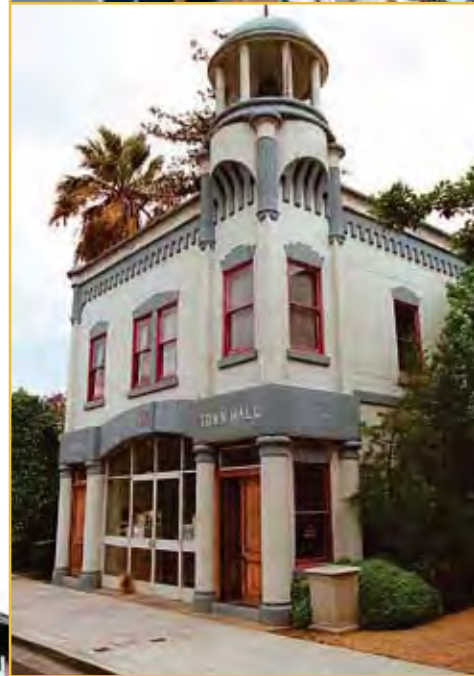
Since those days of pioneer settlers, farmers, ranchers, and passing fortune hunters and prospectors, two things have remained constant: The area around Vacaville remains a rich agricultural breadbasket, and people keep flocking to this city set not far from the state capital of Sacramento.

Today Vacaville is one of the fastest growing residential areas in the country, as well as home to some of the most prominent life science companies on the planet. The Premium Outlet stores along Interstate 80 draw savvy shoppers year-round, and the city boasts shops and stores of every size and description.

Perhaps no other story better reflects Vacaville's growing appeal as a place to live and visit as that of the famous Nut Tree, which began as a simple fruit stand back when the city was the fresh fruit capital of the state. Opening in 1921, this small establishment grew into a renowned restaurant complex, which until recently remained a popular eating spot for locals and a stopover for travelers between Sacramento and San Francisco. It is now undergoing a rebirth as a Family Park with restaurants, shops and activities for all ages, while all around parks and bike trails are being groomed as arts venues flourish.

Yet amid all the trappings of a city with a population approaching 97,000, small-town Vacaville still exists. You'll find it along the creek that winds through the historic downtown area with its new Town Square. It's in the small restaurants, the flower shop, the antique store, around the corner in one of the original churches, or at the CreekWalk concerts held every summer in Andrews Park. Vacaville is a wholesome family atmosphere with many activities for all. True, it may have been more than a century and a half since McDaniel and Vaca made their land deal, but the essence of those pioneer days still remains at the heart of the city.

Photos: (top to bottom): downtown, painting on the CreekWalk in Andrews Park, Historic City Hall, Cultural Diversity Faire, Premium Outlets. Opposite page: Nut Tree.



Photos: Alison Kern, Cliff Pollard/The Reporter, Tod Rasmussen, Rick Roche





VALLEJO

Close counts for the gateway city to Solano County

In many ways, the history of Vallejo has been defined by its location—its strategic proximity to the water. For nearly a century and a half, Mare Island Naval Shipyard, the oldest shipyard west of the Mississippi, served as one of the nation’s most important military installations.

But that’s just the beginning of the story. When the shipyard closed in 1996, implementation of a nationally recognized reuse plan began, with the goal of making Mare Island and Vallejo the newest destinations in Solano County and the entire Bay Area.

Helping to maintain the city’s ties to the water, a ferry service considered to be a model of vision and successful operation serves hundreds of thousands of passengers traveling to and from Vallejo and the rest of the Bay Area every year. This constant flow of commuters and visitors has helped spread the word about Vallejo’s reputation as a strategically located city with affordable housing choices that include numerous historic and architecturally handsome homes, many of them in the Craftsman and Victorian styles.

While much of the city’s history is steeped in the legacy of Gen. Mariano Guadalupe Vallejo, who helped settle the area he discovered in 1844, it’s the future that seems the brightest for this city of more than 120,000 residents, which *The New York Times* once called one of the most diverse cities in the United States. A much-anticipated project begun in late 2006 is transforming one of the last undeveloped waterfront areas in the Bay Area into an eclectic collection of shops, restaurants, homes, office space, hotels and other attractions. Meanwhile, a downtown revitalization is in progress, which has as its centerpiece the Empress Theatre—an early 1900s destination in the Beaux Arts style—along with mixed-use retail outlets and a variety of amenities.

Along with these new attractions, Vallejo also boasts its own 76-year-old symphony, one of the oldest in the state, and a major theme park, Six Flags Discovery Kingdom, which attracts 2 million visitors a year to the city. Add in a collection of world-class golf courses, a flourishing year-round farmers market, annual events such as the Solano County Fair and the Northern California Pirate Festival, and the city’s close proximity to Northern California’s wine country and you’ll see why Vallejo has become a destination for Solano County visitors and residents alike.



Photos (top to bottom): competitors during Vallejo’s Whaleboat Regatta, live horse racing at Watch and Waggoner, Vallejo Heritage District, Vallejo marina, downtown. Opposite page: Six Flags Discovery Kingdom.

Be our guest

Whether you choose a historic bed and breakfast, a popular hotel chain with great amenities and family rates, a spot that offers convention and meeting facilities for your next business or large social event, or a romantic, weekend getaway, Solano County's hospitality professionals have it all. Your only concern is picking a date and narrowing down the choices.

With a comprehensive highway system linking all points of the compass, virtually all of Solano County is less than an hour's drive from wherever it is you make your base. Which means your hotel on the water is close to the county's heartland, and your B&B in a small town is close to excellent shopping and special events. It really is the best of all possible worlds for visitors, whatever your agenda, whatever your budget.

All area codes are 707 unless otherwise indicated.

Benicia

Best Western Heritage Inn
1955 E. Second St., 746-0401;
bestwestern.com

Inn at Benicia Bay
145 E. D St., 746-1055;
theinnatbeniciabay.com

Union Hotel
401 First St., 746-0110;
unionhotel.com

Dixon

Best Western
1345 Commercial Way, 678-1400;
bestwestern.com

Dixon Motel
805 N. Adams St., 678-3332

Microtel Inn & Suites
1480 Ary Lane, 693-0694;
microtelinn.com

Super 8
2500 Plaza Court, 678-3399; super8.com

Fairfield

Best Western
4373 Central Place, 864-2029;
bestwestern.com

Budget Inn
2259 N. Texas St., 422-2626;
budgetinn.com

Comfort Inn and Suites
4441 Central Place, 864-1446;
comfortinns.com

Courtyard by Marriott
1350 Holiday Lane, 422-4111;
ichotelsgroup.com

Days Inn
4376 Central Place, 864-1728;
daysinn.com

Econo Lodge Inn & Suites
4625 Central Place, 864-2426;
econolodge.com

Extended Stay America
1019 Oliver Road, 438-0932;
extendedstayamerica.com

E-Z 8 Motel
3331 N. Texas St., 426-6161;
ez8motels.com

Fairfield Inn and Suites by Marriott
315 Pittman Road, 864-6672;
fairfield-suites.com

Gateway Inn
2100 North Texas St., 425-1051

Hilton Garden Inn
2200 Gateway Court, 426-6900;
hiltongardeninn.com

Holiday Inn Express Hotel and Suites
316 Pittman Road, 864-3797;
holiday-inn.com

Homewood Suites
4755 Business Center Drive, 863-0300;
homewoodsuites.com

Motel 6
1473 Holiday Lane, 425-4565;
motel6.com



Residence Inn by Marriott
Opening in late 2008

Staybridge Inn
4775 Business Center Drive
863-0900; staybridge.com/fairfieldca

Town House Inn
2170 N. Texas St., 422-1333

Travis Lodge
1349 W. Texas St., 425-6465

**Rio Vista
Royal Motel**
640 State Highway 12, 374-6341

Rio Sands Lodge
205 State Highway 12, 374-6374

**Vacaville
Alamo Inn & Suites**
995 Merchant St., 415-2424

America's Best Value Inn
1571 E. Monte Vista Ave., 448-6482;
bestvalueinn.com

Best Western/Heritage Inn
1420 E. Monte Vista Ave., 448-8453;
bestwestern.com



Comfort Inn

Courtyard by Marriott

120 Nut Tree Parkway, 451-9000;
marriott.com

Extended Stay America

799 Orange Drive, 469-1371;
extendedstayamerica.com

Fairfield Inn by Marriott

370 Orange Drive, 469-0800;
marriott.com

Hampton Inn & Suites

800 Mason St., 469-6200,
800-426-7866; hamptoninn.com

Holiday Inn Express Hotel & Suites

151 Lawrence Drive, 451-3500;
hiexpress.com

Motel 6

107 Lawrence Drive, 447-5550,
800-4-MOTEL6; motel6.com

Quality Inn & Suites

1050 Orange Drive, 446-8888;
qualityinn.com

Ranchotel

5790 Rivera Road, 448-2435;
ranchotel.com

Residence Inn Vacaville

360 Orange Drive, 469-0300;
marriott.com

Super 8

101 Allison Court, 449-8884,
(800) 800-8000; super8.com

Vallejo**Bays Inn**

446 Lincoln Road E., 644-8864

**Best Western Inn and Suites
at Discovery Kingdom**

1596 Fairgrounds Drive, 554-9655,
(800) 528-1234; innatdiscoverykingdom.com

Budget Inn

816 Magazine St., 643-4248;
budgetinnvallejo.com

California Motel

700 Lincoln Road East, 642-2190

Comfort Inn

1185 Admiral Callaghan Lane, 648-1400
(800) 228-5150; choicehotels.com

**Courtyard by Marriott
Vallejo/Napa Valley**

1000 Fairgrounds Drive, 644-1200,
(800) 321-2211; marriott.com/sfovl

America's Best Value Inn

300 Fairgrounds Drive, 554-8000,
(800) 325-2525; bestvalueinn.com

Deluxe Inn

2070 Solano Ave., 552-1600

Economy Inn

201 Lincoln Road West, 644-1521

El Curtola Motel

197 Lincoln Road West, 644-4116

El Rancho Inn and Suites

900 Magazine St., 643-5096

Great Western Inn

1308 Lincoln Road East, 642-1510

Islander Motel

2301 Florida St., 649-9000

Motel 6

458 Fairgrounds Drive, 642-7781;
motel6.com

Motel 6

1455 Marine World Parkway, 643-7611;
motel6.com

Motel 6

597 Sandy Beach Road, 552-2912;
motel6.com

Motel 7

211 Lincoln Road West, 552-8184

Quality Inn and Suites

44 Admiral Callaghan Lane, 643-1061;
qualityinn-vallejo.com

Ramada Inn Vallejo/Napa Valley

1000 Admiral Callaghan Lane, 643-2700;
ramadainnvallejo.com

Regency Inn

4326 Sonoma Blvd., 643-4150,
(800) 559-4150

Relax Inn

4 Mariposa St., 554-1840

Travel Inn

160 Lincoln Road East, 552-7220;
travelinn.com

Travelers Inn

444 Tennessee St., 644-4411

Vallejo Inn

101 Maritime Academy Drive, 557-0746

RV Sites**Delta Marina Yacht Harbor
and RV park**

100 Marina Drive, Rio Vista,
374-2315; deltamarina.com

Lake Solano Park

8685 Pleasants Valley Park, Winters
530-795-2990; solanocounty.com

Midway RV Park

4933 Midway Road, Vacaville,
866-446-7679; midwayrvpark.com

Solano Lodge RV & Mobile

1700 N. Texas St., Fairfield, 429-3355

Sandy Beach Park

2333 Beach Drive, Rio Vista
374-2097; solanocounty.com

Tradewinds RV Park

239 Lincoln Road West, Vallejo,
643-4000

Twin Bridges Mobile Home Park

1113 Pine St., Vallejo, 553-8925

Vineyard RV Park

4985 Midway Road, Vacaville,
866-447-8797; vineyardrvpark.com

Bed & Breakfast**Starr Mansion**

503 McLane St., Vallejo, 645-8164;
starmansionbb.com

Sights and sounds

Country, rock 'n' roll, a symphony or play, a Mozart recital or cutting-edge sounds—whatever your inclination, when it comes to entertainment, you'll find it in Solano County. And the same eclectic mix applies to the offerings at our many art galleries and artists' studios, in museums and private collections, and at public places throughout our cities. For years the county has provided a welcoming and nurturing environment for artists, musicians and performers of all types. From performances in intimate venues, to major events where the crowd swells into the tens of thousands, the arts calendar for Solano continues to grow and expand, and our communities are the better for it.

All area codes are 707 unless otherwise indicated.

Majestic Theatre, Benicia



Pepperbelly's Comedy & Variety Theatre, Fairfield



Fairfield Center for Creative Arts

Galleries

Agallery

135 N. Front St., Rio Vista, 374-3743;
asamathat.com

Arts Benicia

991 Tyler St., Suite 114, Benicia, 747-0131;
artsbenicia.org

Art Explosion

821 Texas St., Fairfield;
fairfieldartexplosion.com

Benicia Glass Studios

The 701 Gallery, Angela Fortain, Frostfire Glass, Lindsay Art Glass, National Neon Institute, Nourot Glass Studio, Opal Art Glass, Rob Jenkins, Robert Quarrick, Smyers Glass, Stern Studios, Studio 113 Art Glass, 745-2614;
beniciaglassstudios.com

The Clay Station

2529 Mankas Corner Road, Suisun Valley,
429-1133

Fairfield Center for Creative Arts

1035 Texas St., Fairfield, 428-7662

Fetterly Gallery

3467 Sonoma Blvd., Suite 10, Vallejo
648-4035; vallejoarts.org

Vacaville Art Gallery

718 E. Monte Vista Ave., Vacaville, 448-8712

Vallejo Artist's Guild

900 Block of Marin St., Vallejo, 556-9710;
vallejoartistsguild.org

Live Entertainment

Empress Theatre

330 Virginia St., Vallejo, 552-2400;
empresstheatre.org

Fairfield Center for Creative Arts

1035 Texas St., Fairfield, 428-7662

Harbor Theatre

720 Main St., Suisun, 864-7100

Majestic Theatre

710 First St., Benicia, 747-6684

Pepperbelly's Comedy & Variety Theatre

849 Texas St., Fairfield, 422-SHOW;
pepperbellys.com

Solano College Theatre

4000 Suisun Valley Road, Fairfield,
864-7199

Solano Community Symphony Concert

448-6500; solanosymphony.org

Vacaville Performing Arts Theatre

1010 Ulatis Drive, Vacaville, 449-6217;
vpat.net

Vallejo Music Theatre

823 Marin St., Vallejo, 649-2787;
vallejomusictheatre.org

Vallejo Symphony

3467 Sonoma Blvd., Suite 10, Vallejo
643-4441; vallejosymphony.org

Vacaville Christian Schools

Infant Care through High School



- Fully Accredited by WASC and ACSI
- Member of NAIS
- 98% College Bound Students
- Caring and Qualified Teachers and Staff
- Distinguished Music and Sports Programs
- State-of-the-art Computer Technology
- SAT Scores above the National Average
- AP and Honors Courses for Middle and High School
- Enrollment priority is given to current VCS students, so apply now to secure your future in the new high school.

Apply Now !

From infant care through high school, Vacaville Christian Schools seeks to provide a quality, Christian education in a nurturing environment, providing our young people with the skills to achieve their full potential in life and in practical service to Jesus Christ.

Our experienced faculty members are dedicated to prepare students for success and to model personal and moral integrity. They strive to meet individual needs and to encourage character building, values, and responsibility.

For more information or to schedule a personal tour, please contact the Office of Admissions at (707) 446-1776 Ext. 2102 or admissions@go-vcs.com.



New state-of-the-art high school facility coming in the fall of 2008!



Vacaville Christian Schools

Office of Admissions and Advancement
1117 Davis Street
Vacaville, CA 95687

(707) 446-1776 Ext. 2102 - www.go-vcs.com



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HOLY BIBLE

www.go-vcs.com

Now playing

In how many counties can you watch beer, wine and, yes, gourmet jelly beans being made, eat some fresh fruit on the site where it was grown, go to a jazz concert or a reggae performance, take in a theme park, venture out in a kayak, wander through one of the country's most historic museums, linger at a train museum and shop for fine art? And do it all in one day, if you're so inclined? You can do all that and much more in Solano County. And as an added bonus, it's all within easy driving distance in an efficiently laid-out and accessible area, which means you spend less time in your vehicle and more time enjoying the sights, sounds and surprises of this extraordinary area.

All area codes are 707 unless otherwise indicated. Not all museums are open daily, we recommend calling ahead.



Theme Parks

Nut Tree Family Park
1681 E. Monte Vista Ave.,
Vacaville, 888-448-6411;
nuttreusa.com

Scandia Family Center
4300 Central Place,
Fairfield, 864-8558;
scandiafamilycenter.com

Six Flags Discovery Kingdom
1001 Fairgrounds Drive, Vallejo,
643-6722; sixflags.com/discoverykingdom

Solano County Fair
900 Fairgrounds Drive
Vallejo, 551-2000;
scfair.com

Golf Courses

Blue Rock Springs Golf Club
655 Columbus Parkway, Vallejo
643-8476; bluerockspringsgolf.com

Trilogy Golf Club at Rio Vista
1000 Summerset Drive, Rio Vista, 374-2900;
trilogygolfclub.com

Green Tree Golf Club
999 Leisure Town Road, Vacaville,
448-1420; greentreegolfclub.com

Green Valley Country Club (private)
35 Country Club Drive, Fairfield, 864-1101;
greenvalleycc.com

Hiddenbrooke Golf Club
1095 Hiddenbrooke Parkway, Vallejo,
558-0330; hiddenbrookegolf.com

Cypress Lakes Golf Course
5601 Meridian Road, Vacaville, 448-7186,
Active Duty, retirees and veterans



Rodeo demonstration



Infineon Raceway

Mare Island Golf Club
1800 Club Drive, Vallejo, 562-4653;
mareislandgolfclub.com

Paradise Valley Golf Course
3950 Paradise Valley Drive, Fairfield
426-1600; fairfieldgolf.com

Rancho Solano Golf Course
3250 Rancho Solano Parkway, Fairfield
429-4653; fairfieldgolf.com

Museums

Benicia Capital State Historic Park
115 West G. St., Benicia, 745-3385

Benicia Fire Museum
900 E. Second St., Benicia, 745-1688;
beniciafiremuseum.org

Benicia Historical Museum
2060 Camel Road, Benicia, 745-5435;
beniciahistoricalmuseum.org

Pena Adobe and Mowers-Goheen Museum
Pena Adobe Park, Vacaville, 447-0518

Mare Island Museum
8th & Railroad Streets, Vallejo, 280-5742,
557-1538; vallejomuseum.org

Rio Vista Museum
16 N. Front St., Rio Vista, 374-5169

Proud history to showcase

For a county of 910 square miles to have ten museums is pretty impressive.

That doesn't even take into account the historical societies that are a part of many communities, or the old documents and artifacts housed at some of the county's many libraries. Nor does it include the old cemeteries that dot the landscape, such as the one at Mare Island in Vallejo, in which rest two Medal of Honor winners, the daughter of Francis Scott Key, and veterans going all the way back to the Civil and Spanish-American wars.

To get a true sense of Solano County's heritage, a visit to one or all of them is time well spent.

Travis Air Museum

400 Brennan Circle (Building 80),
Travis Air Force Base, 424-1462 (call ahead)

Vacaville Museum

213 Buck Ave., Vacaville, 447-4513;
vacavillemuseum.org

Vallejo Naval & Historical Museum

734 Marin St., Vallejo, 643-0077;
vallejomuseum.org

Western Railway Museum

5848 State Highway 12, Suisun,
374-2978; wrm.org

Motorsports**Infineon Raceway**

Highways 37 and 121, Sonoma,
(800) 870-RACE; infineonraceway.com

Tasting & Tours

Wineries See Pg. 37

Anheuser-Busch Brewery

3101 Busch Drive, Fairfield, 429-7595;
anheuser-busch.com

Jelly Belly Candy Company

One Jelly Belly Lane, Fairfield,
(800) 9-JB-BEANS; jellybelly.com

Sepay Groves Olive Oil and Vinegars

370 Chadbourne Road, Suite A, Fairfield,
434-8222

Tennis**Amador Tennis Courts**

Amador and Florida St., Vallejo,
648-4600; gvrld.org

Allan Witt Park

West Texas and Fifth streets, Fairfield

Millennium SportsClub

3250 Rancho Solano Parkway, Fairfield,
438-2582; 3446 Browns Valley Rd., Vacaville,
446-2350; www.millenniumsportsclub.com

Solano Athletic Club

3001 Dover Ave., Fairfield, 422-2858;
solanoathleticclub.com

Solano Community College

4000 Suisun Valley Road, Fairfield, 864-7000;
solano.edu



Silveyville in Dixon

Off the beaten path**Benicia Historical Museum**

Former Camel Barns plus Powder Magazine at site of 19th c. Army Arsenal. The second weekend of February, the Museum partners with the National Civil War Association to do their Winter Quarters, with lectures, workshops, and activities open to the public.

Benicia Fire Museum

Commemorating California's first volunteer fire brigade and housing California's first fire truck—that still works!

Erickson Ranch

For beautiful you-pick dahlias and other wildflowers, homemade jams made from fruit grown on Erickson Ranch and throughout the Suisun Valley, fresh picked chilies roasted on site and a wide variety of seasonal produce, stop by this 20-year-old Suisun Valley treasure. Open late June–November. 2482 Cordelia Road, Suisun Valley (707) 864-0557; ericksonranch.com.

Marshall's Farm Honey

Beekeeper Spencer Marshall creates small quantities of hand-crafted honeys known for having superior quality. Marshall's honey comes from hives throughout the Bay Area, the Napa Valley and Solano regions, they also offer “funny honey,” which is honey infused with ingredients from coconut to raspberry and lemon to cinnamon. 159 Lombard Road, American Canyon (707) 556-8088; marshallshoney.com.

Silveyville

From picking your own pumpkin in their pumpkin patch for Halloween to enjoying a free cup of hot apple cider while choosing the perfect Christmas tree, walking through the hay tunnel and taking a sleigh ride with Santa, Silveyville offers family fun at its best. The pumpkin patch is open in late September and the Christmas Tree Farm opens late November. Rain or shine. 6208 Silveyville Road, Dixon (707) 678-1823; silveyvilletreefarm.com.

Suisun Bay Lookout

On the eastern outskirts of Vallejo at the northern point of Benicia you can find a newly refurbished “lookout point” at the intersection of Lake Herman Road and Lopes Road. Now with benches, picnic tables and abundant parking spaces, just sit back and take in the view of the Mothball Fleet at Suisun Bay.

Shoot 'em Up

Catering to shooters from beginning to expert levels, with guns to rent, ammo to buy, and a wide variety of targets to shoot, The Shooting Gallery, Inc. offers an easy jaunt to unload a few rounds whenever you feel the need. 27 Commerce Place, Vacaville (707) 449-4867; shootinggalleryinc.com.

Just strolling along

Is boating your favorite activity? Or fishing, hiking, horseback riding? Perhaps mountain biking, water-skiing or skateboarding? Or maybe a quiet walk with your favorite four-legged friend, an evening of bird watching, or just some time sitting on a dock watching the boats glide by is your idea of relaxation?

Of special note in Solano County is the access to hundreds of miles of waterways in the Delta region, Lake Berryessa and the San Francisco Bay. Sailors on every form of watercraft have virtually unfettered access to an entire world of nautical pleasure—and the opportunity to observe a host of wildlife in its most natural state.

There even more of these types of activities than could fit here, so check out the city and county websites to find out about more recreation destinations.

All area codes are 707 unless otherwise indicated.

Parks

Andrews Park

720 East Monte Vista Ave. and Main Street, Vacaville, 449-6126. This 19-acre park includes the Great Wonders playground, historical kiosks, outdoor art, BBQ pits and picnic tables.

Allan Witt Park

West Texas and 5th streets, Fairfield, 428-7428 x100. Tennis, softball/baseball fields, indoor basketball, playgrounds, pool and open space.

Benicia State Recreation Area

Rose Drive at I-780, Benicia, 648-1911. Features 720 acres of marshes, grassy hillsides and rocky beaches with an accessible 2.5-mile long trail on the San Francisco Bay and the Forrest Deaner Native Plant Botanic Garden.

Children's Wonderland

360 Glenn St., Vallejo, 648-4611; gvr.org

Dan Foley Park and Cultural Center

1461 N. Camino Alto, Vallejo, 648-4630. Basketball field, several picnic areas with BBQs, open turf play area, playground, soccer fields,

basketball court, fishing dock, nature trail around a lake and restrooms.

Dixon Hall Park

Mayes and S. 5th streets, Dixon, 678-7000. Covered BBQ areas, a large group BBQ pit, open field space, a playground, baseball fields, skateboard ramp, restrooms, and is located near an aquatic center.

Grizzly Island Wildlife Area

Off State Highway 12 (On Grizzly Island Road), Suisun City, 425-3828. Estuarine marsh, hiking, hunting, fishing, wildlife viewing. Public access is seasonal for different activities and areas, please call. Public access \$2.50 (valid hunting or fishing license free). Under 16 free.

Lake Solano Park

8685 Pleasants Valley Road, Winters. One of the best fly fishing spots in the area and a hot spot for observing wildlife, featuring 90 campsites (40 with water and electric), restrooms with flush toilets, sinks and hot showers, group picnic facilities, free launch for non-powered boats, and a public telephone.

Lagoon Valley/Peña Adobe Park

Peña Adobe Road, Vacaville. The park includes an 18-hole disc golf course, archery range, horseshoe pit, hiking and biking trails, BBQ pits, picnic tables and fenced-in dog park.

Lambrecht Sports Complex

4499 Peterson Road, Suisun City. Little League fields, softball fields, batting cages open during baseball season.

Lynch Canyon Open Space

North of I-80 between American Canyon Road and Highway 12, 432-0150. The 900-foot ridges offer panoramic views extending from the Coast Ranges to San Francisco and across the Delta to the Sierra Nevada. Steep rolling hills blanketed with groves of buckeyes and evergreen oaks surround visitors looking to observe the wildlife and birds.

Rockville Hills Regional Park

Rockville Road, Fairfield, 428-7714. Encompasses nearly 600 acres of grasslands and oak woodlands. Hikers, mountain bikers and families enjoy native trees and plants, rock formations, over 30 miles of tracks and trails, and picnic areas.

Rush Ranch

Grizzly Island Road, Suisun City, 432-0150. A 2,070-acre open space located in the Potrero Hills along Grizzly Island Road in the Suisun Marsh. Features a visitor center, blacksmith shop, historical ranching equipment, hiking trails, birding opportunities.

Sandy Beach Park

2333 Beach Drive, Rio Vista. Open year-round, this park on the Sacramento River offers a 24-hour boat-launching ramp, camp sites, picnic grounds, hiking trails and miles of country roads for bicycling.

Wardlaw Dog and Skateboard/BMX Park

Ascot Parkway across from Jesse Bethel High School, Vallejo, 648-4600; vallejudogpark.com.

X-Park

Inside Community Park, Rose and Dempsey drives, Benicia, 746-4285. This state-of-the-art skateboard, BMX and inline skate facility opened in October 2007.

Sports & Fly Fishing

Benicia Pointe

First Street Pier, Benicia, 746-4285

9th Street Fishing Pier

9th Street, Benicia, 648-1911

Boating/Sailing

Belden's Landing

3186 Grizzly Island Road, Suisun City

Glen Cove Marina

2000 Glen Cove Marina Road, Vallejo, 552-3236; friendlyharbors.com/glencove.html

Suisun City Marina and Boat Ramp

800 Kellogg St., Suisun City, 429-BOAT.

Vallejo Municipal Marina

42 Harbor Way, Vallejo, 648-4370

Vallejo Yacht Club

485 Mare Island Way, Vallejo, 643-1254; vyc.org

Wildlife

Suisun Wildlife Center

1171 Kellogg St., Suisun City, 429-4295; suisunwildlife.org. Seasonal walks through the Peytonia Reserve marsh.



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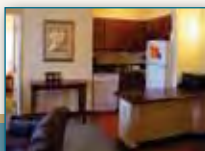


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Home-grown goodness

From browsing weekly or even twice-weekly farmers markets, to visiting small farms to sample fresh produce, or enjoying tastings of your favorite vintages at wineries of assorted sizes, Solano County offers the “agritourist” new, different and oftentimes surprising adventures at every turn. And winemakers, farmers and ranchers are always eager to talk about their love of this new and natural renaissance in the marketplace. So learn about and savor the fresh-picked, vine-ripened heirloom tomatoes, discover a new wine, and help yourself to a serving of grass-fed beef as you enjoy a taste of the best of nature’s bounty.

All area codes are 707 unless otherwise indicated.

Farm Stands

Cal Yee Farms
5158 Clayton Road,
Suisun Valley, 425-5377;
calyee.com (Open year-round)

Dixon Fruit Market
7808 Batavia Road, Dixon,
678-4211; dixonfruit.com
(Open year-round)

Erickson Ranch Produce Stand & Dahlia Garden
2482 Cordelia Road,
Suisun Valley, 864-0557;
ericksonranch.com
(Seasonal: June-November)

Larry’s Produce
Corner of Suisun Valley Road
and Ledgewood Road,
Suisun Valley, 864-8068
(Seasonal: June-December)

Parker Farms
2991 Rockville Road,
Suisun Valley, 422-2915
(Seasonal: July-October)

Pedrick Produce
6850 Sievers Road,
Dixon, 678-1814
(Open year-round)

Saechao Family Farm
2707 Rockville Road,
Suisun Valley, 422-6357
(Seasonal: April-November)

The Vegetable Patch
2820 Rockville Road,
Suisun Valley, 427-8164
(Open year-round)

Willotta Ranch
2423 Rockville Road, Suisun
Valley, 864-0912; willottaranch.
com (Seasonal: November-
March)

99 Cherry Orchard U-Pick
2627 Rockville Road, Suisun
Valley (Seasonal: May-June)

Farmers Markets

Benicia Farmers Market
First Street, between B and D,
745-9791
(Seasonal: April 26-October)

Dixon Farmers Market
West B Street and 2nd Street,
(707) 678-8400
(Seasonal: May-October)

Fairfield Farmers Market
Texas and Jefferson Streets,
(925) 825-9090 (Seasonal:
May-October)

Vacaville Farmers Market
East Main Street, 451-2100
(Seasonal: May-October)

Vallejo Farmers Market
300 & 400 blks of Georgia
Street, Vallejo, (800) 949-FARM
(Open year-round)

Wineries

Accardi Vineyards
7924 Timm Road, Vacaville,
451-9516; accardivineyards.com

Bella Vista Ranch
1635 Mason Road
Fairfield, 864-1517

GV Cellars
1635 Mason Road, Fairfield,
864-2089; gvcellars.com

King Andrews Vineyards
4495 Suisun Valley Road,
425-9076

Ledgewood Creek Winery
4589 Abernathy Road
Suisun Valley, 426-4424;
ledgewoodcreek.com

Purple Pearl Vineyards
9177 Currey Road, Dixon,
678-4211;
purplepearlvineyards.com

Suisun Valley Wine Cooperative
4495 Suisun Valley Road,
Suisun Valley, 864-3135;
swinecoop.com

Sunset Cellars
4495 Suisun Valley Road,
Suisun Valley, 864-3135;
sunsetcellars.com

Vezer Family Vineyard
2522 Mankas Corner Road,
Suisun Valley, 429-3958,
1-888-823-VINE;
vezerfamilyvineyard.com

Rio Vista Wine and Spirits featuring Winterhawk Wines
4537 Abernathy Road,
Suisun Valley, 427-0455

Wooden Valley Winery
4756 Suisun Valley Road,
Suisun Valley, 864-0730;
woodenvalley.com

Photo: suisunvalley.com



Shop your cares away

Does the prospect of a street lined with art galleries set you to salivating? Or is it premium outlet and factory stores of every conceivable type? Perhaps small antique shops, ethnic and gourmet markets, farm stands, winery tasting rooms, museum shops, fashionable boutiques, big malls or tiny second-hand stores? They're all here in abundance in Solano County. You're limited only by your imagination, drive and perseverance to uncover that next coveted treasure—and how much you can carry home to remind you of a memorable visit.

And after hitting the stores, plan on treating yourself to a massage or pampering spa service. With a little TLC, you'll be ready for a night on the town—or more shopping.

Downtown Benicia

First Street and Military West Street.

Downtown Dixon

First Street and Dixon Avenue.

Downtown Fairfield

Off I-80 to West Texas Street.

Dixon Plaza

Off I-80 to Stratford Avenue.

Downtown Rio Vista

Off Highway 12 to Main Street.

Downtown Vacaville

Off I-80 and Alamo Drive.

Downtown Vallejo

Off I-80 and Mare Island Way to Georgia Street.

Gateway Plaza, Vallejo

Off I-80 and Turner Parkway.

Green Valley Crossing, Fairfield

Off I-80 and Business Center Drive.

Nut Tree Shopping Center, Vacaville

Off I-80 to Orange Drive.

North Texas Shopping District

Off I-80 and North Texas Street.

Sunset Plaza, Suisun City

Take the Suisun City exit off, Highway 12.

Suisun Waterfront, Suisun City

Off Highway 12 and Lotz Way.

Premium Outlets, Vacaville

Off I-80 and Nut Tree Road.

Vacaville Commons Shopping Center, Vacaville

Off I-80 and Nut Tree Road.

Vallejo Plaza

I-80 to Redwood Parkway to Sonoma Blvd.

Westfield Mall, Fairfield

Off I-80 and Travis Boulevard.

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Eating excursion



The famous pastrami burger at Athenian Grill

From the familiar steak and chophouse restaurants and fast food outlets, to nationally recognized fine dining establishments and ethnic restaurants representing seemingly every country, island and nation on the planet, to family-owned diners and relaxing coffee shops and tearooms, Solano County visitors find themselves asking: “Where do we eat next?” Whether you’re looking to grab a bite on the go, in the mood for a leisurely sit-down or looking for a spot the kids will love, it’s all here.

While indigenous beef, lamb and seafood are always stars on the menu, the vast selection of local produce is also a major influence on the county’s chefs and cooks. Whether it’s the lamb at a Greek restaurant, the vegetarian dishes at a local Indian spot or the fish at the exceptional Italian restaurant you’ve read about, it has all, very often literally, had its roots in the soils and waters of Solano County.

Here are some of the many fine Solano County restaurants. We advise that you call ahead for availability, hours of operation and other information. Some restaurants may suggest or require reservations. All area codes are 707 unless otherwise indicated.

American

Black Bear Diner

11 Sunset Center Drive, Suisun—422-4386
The popular diner features home-style comfort food from Bearrakfast goodies to three-quarter-pound burgers and hearty salads at lunch to pot roast and roasted turkey for dinner. Expect affordable prices and friendly service. blackbeardiner.com

Black Oak Restaurant

320 Orange Drive, Vacaville—448-1311
A staple for travelers and locals for more than 30 years. Many recommend the Monte Cristo sandwich from the varied menu. Stop in and enjoy the collection of Mexican pottery for sale.

Buttercup Grill and Bar

3288 Sonoma Blvd., Vallejo—643-9030
Come for the fried chicken and stay for the freshly baked pies. buttercupgrillandbar.com

Cliff’s Pleasant View Restaurant

810 W. Ninth St., Benicia—745-4104
An old neighborhood restaurant and bar known for great food and a pleasant view.

Foster’s Bighorn

143 Main St., Rio Vista—374-2511
Established in 1931 as a trophy haven—mounted on the walls are the stuffed facades of more than 250 wild animals and fish—the restaurant captures a visual history along with serving up good food. fostersbighorn.com

Hometown Buffet

1315 Gateway Blvd., Fairfield—428-6000
When you need to feed a crowd, options

are everything. Hometown Buffet is a family-style restaurant offering a variety of American dishes. Drop by for brunch on the weekend. hometownbuffet.com

Mad Dogs Bistro

870 E. Travis Blvd., Fairfield—426-1364
If you love hot dogs, this is the place to go.

Hiddenbrooke Golf Club

1095 Hiddenbrooke Parkway, Vallejo—558-0330, ext. 217. The restaurant overlooks the Arnold Palmer Signature Designed Course. hiddenbrookegolf.com

Sac’s Tasty Hot Dogs

2445 Springs Road, Vallejo—642-2442
This Vallejo institution has a 1960s hot dog diner feel, extremely popular with all ages. It offers up regular dogs, Polish dogs and the ever-popular chili dog.

Sardine Can

0 Harbor Way, Vallejo—553-9492
The Sardine Can is a great little place to get good seafood on the Vallejo waterfront. Tucked away in the Vallejo Marina, the Sardine Can also serves great burgers, sandwiches, and desserts. sardinecan.net

Shoreline Restaurant

127 First St., Benicia—745-3364
Serving innovative pastas, salads, steaks and seafood in a beautiful dining room with a view of the water and courtyard. Live jazz Friday and Saturday nights. Beer and wine bar. Sunday brunch. Private banquet room. shorelinebenicia.com

The Front Room at the Wharf

295 Mare Island Way, Vallejo—649-8889
The décor features dark, soothing earth tones, a cool, circular freestanding fireplace near the front bar, an open kitchen mid-room and a back wall of windows that offers a spectacular view of the Vallejo waterway. The menu is massive: Appetizers, salads and side orders alone will satisfy any customer. Seafood, chicken and beef dishes are well-represented, as is pasta and pizza. frontroomvallejo.com

The Point Waterfront Restaurant

120 Marina Drive, Rio Vista—374-5400
Restaurant, bar, and banquet facilities offer a relaxing environment for California regional cuisine. The perch on the Delta Marina Yacht Harbor offers a spectacular view of the Sacramento River. pointrestaurant.com

Breakfast Diners

Bab’s Delta Diner

770 Kellogg St., Suisun—421-1926
A staple in Suisun, known for its friendly atmosphere and downhome cooking, Bab’s serves breakfast and lunch on the waterfront. Portions are generous, and the fries are the real thing.

First Street Cafe

440 First St., Benicia—745-1400
Looking for a casual, friendly atmosphere in which to while away a breakfast, lunch or dinner or just to enjoy a cup of coffee? The First Street Café is the spot for you. Featuring more than 20 beers and a respectable selection of wines, this is a visitor’s haven. firststreetcafe.com

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The famous pastrami burger at Athenian Grill

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Dynasty Restaurant

254-B Sunset Ave., Suisun—426-6222
Serving fine Mandarin and Szechuan cuisine, a favorite of locals. A location in Fairfield, 2401-A Waterman Blvd., also serves Mongolian BBQ.

Sticky Rice

5030 Business Center Dr., Fairfield—863-7500
A good choice for fresh Chinese cuisine in a relaxing atmosphere. stickyricebistro.com

Filipino

Lumpia
1127 North Texas St., Fairfield—428-0177

Grill

City Sports Bar & Grill
155 Browns Valley Parkway, Vacaville—455-7827
Voted among the best in the *Daily Republic's* Reader's Choice Awards, the restaurant also features live entertainment, a full bar, and a rotating menu of chef's selections. starsrecreation.com

Creekside Bar and Grill

555 Main St., Vacaville—448-7500
A family-friendly restaurant serving huge portions for breakfast, lunch and dinner. creeksidebarandgrill.net

Main Street Bar & Grill

627 Main St., Suisun—428-6270
California cuisine at its best. A fine dining experience, with great food and an extensive wine list. Great spot for a business lunch or romantic dinner. mainstreetbarandgrill-suisun.com

Merchant & Main Grill & Bar

349 Merchant St., Vacaville—446-0368
Casual California dining known for seafood, steaks and pastas. Cozy bar offers a comfortable respite during happy hour or before dinner. merchantandmain.com

Sizzling Grill

835 Texas St., Fairfield—434-9621
Most entries on the menu are offered three ways: on a salad, with rice and in a sandwich. Any which way, the lemon-grass chicken and the grilled salmon in particular are on the must-try list.

Hawaiian

L&L Hawaiian BBQ
5121 Business Center Dr., Fairfield—864-9873
1631 E. Monte Vista Ave #106, Vacaville—455-8881 A unique blend of Asian and American dishes with an island flare. hawaiianbarbecue.com

Ohana Hawaiian BBQ

1305 Gateway Blvd., Fairfield—428-3883
As you walk in the door the ohana, or family, spirit is felt through vibrant décor. Offering well-known luau dishes like kalua pork and barbecue short ribs, along with Hawaiian favorites such as loco moco, spam musubi, and saimin, your craving for island flavor is sure to be satisfied. ohanabbqcorp.com

India

Indian Garden
901 Lincoln Road East, Vallejo—645-1700
Traditional Indian fare served and daily luncheon buffet.

Italian

Angelo's Fine Italian Cuisine
8308 Bennington Court, Vallejo—644-5500
Angelo's Restaurant is located in the quite Hiddenbrooke community in North oven cooked pizzas, piadines, mouth-watering steaks, and a delicious combination of crepes with nutella, fruits, and nuts for dessert. Dishes range from fine dining wit a traditional flair to truly eclectic. Whether it is casual dining on the patio. myangelos.com

Baci Ristorante, Lounge & Caffè

324-326 Virginia St., Vallejo—552-4888
Rustic Italian cuisine located in historic downtown Vallejo. Half of the restaurant is a café serving Italian-style coffee and fresh house-made pastries and muffins. The other half is the restaurant and bar offering generous portions of Italian favorites, amazing desserts and an extensive wine list. bacciaffe.com

Cenario's Pizza

1955 W. Texas, Suite 9, Fairfield—425-1000
Along with pizza, the menu includes fresh pasta, wings, ciabatta sandwiches and salads. Other stores are in Davis, Dixon and Vacaville.

Fratello's

1906 Broadway, Vallejo—557-2137
Truly one of Vallejo's hidden gems. Authentic Italian served in a small and quaint restaurant that is one of the city's best dining experiences. fratellos.com

Johnny Carino's Country Italian

1640 Gateway Blvd., Fairfield—438-1801
Inspired by Southern Italian country recipes, features traditional favorites like housemade lasagna, wood-fired-oven pizza, shrimp and artichoke salad, and delicious Bellinis. johnnycarinos.com

Mary's Pizza Shack

1460 Ary Lane, Dixon—693-0300
The descendants of founder Mary Fazio offer simple, down-to-earth Italian food and consistently get it right. With locations across the Bay Area, you will be hard-pressed to find better pizza, pasta or American dishes. maryspizzashack.com

Nujo's Pizza & Italian

1201 Georgia St., Vallejo—557-6012
Great pasta and pizza whether you chose to eat-in, pick-up, or have it delivered. nujos.com

Pietro's No. 2

679 Merchant St., Vacaville—448-4588
Traditional Italian restaurant, known for great pizza and pasta. Pizzas run large with thick crust and ample toppings. Family-friendly. pietros2.com

Pizza Factory

201 Main St., Vacaville—374-6868
"We toss 'em, they're awesome!" A nationally successful franchise that has kept its quality, small-town, down-home flavor. pizzafactory.com



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Vicini's Pizzeria

1971 Alamo Drive, Vacaville—447-4992
This place is all about New York from the memorabilia on the walls right down to the perfect pizza on your table. You'll also find great Italian dishes like lasagna and tortellini, but the garlic knots are a must. vicinispizzeria.com

Vintage Caffe

2522 Mankas Corner Road, Suisun—425-3207. Fine Italian dining in the heart of Suisun Valley includes an elegant dinner setting, with exquisite and authentic Italian flavors. Full bar and an extensive wine list, beautiful patio seating, banquet accommodations and catering available. Ask about the Wine Maker Dinners.

Zio Fraedo's of Vallejo

23 Harbor Way, Vallejo—642-8984
Tasty, old-fashioned Italian-inspired cuisine with familiar favorites such as fried calamari, minestrone, pastas, eggplant parmigiana and cioppino. The dining room has a picturesque view of the sound. ziofraedos.com

Japanese**Ichi Maki Restaurant**

2281 N. Texas St., Fairfield—425-4433
A restaurant and sushi bar with plenty of seating, fresh meals, and plentiful (and bargain priced) bento box lunch specials.

Hisui Japanese Steakhouse

1350 E. Monte Vista Ave., Vacaville—448-4002
Combines the best of sushi bars, hibachi grills and traditional Japanese foods—and entertainment, with a karaoke machine revved up on Fridays and Saturdays. hisuijapanese.com

Korean**Sam's Teriyaki**

1657 North Texas St., Fairfield—428-4097

Mediterranean**Athenian Grill**

750 Kellogg St., Suisun—425-0500
This popular Greek restaurant sits right on the restored waterfront, with mouthwatering moussaka, dolmades, souvlaki and an assortment of American dishes. This is a favorite of locals and tourists. atheniangrill.net

Mexican**Favela's**

3334 N. Texas St., Suite B, Fairfield—428-1496
These family-owned and operated taquerias have served up fantastic food in the region for more than 10 years. The menu is straightforward and delicious, featuring weekly

specials like chimichangas and chili rellenos. Carne al pastor, or marinated, shredded pork, is one of the menu's hidden treasures. favelasmexicangrill.com

Murillo's

633 Merchant St., Vacaville—448-3395 Authentic Mexican food. Signature dish is the chicken avocado tostado. Go for the entrees, but enjoy the chips and salsa.

Maria's Mexican Food

646 State Highway 12, Rio Vista—374-5359
Real Mexican food in a cozy atmosphere.

Perla Del Mar

7800 Batavia Road, Dixon—693-0140
Located on the outskirts of town, the "Pearl of the Sea" serves up seafood and Mexican dishes. The restaurant also has banquet and catering services.

Sandoval's Mexican Restaurant

640 First St., Benicia—746-7830
Cozy atmosphere and friendly service, with yummy flautas, salsa and chips. Perfect after an afternoon of shopping on First Street. Catering is also available.

Seafood**Captain Blyther's Restaurant**

123 First St., Benicia—745-4082
Offering both formal and casual dining and a full-service bar upstairs, the restaurant offers a view of the Carquinez Strait and some of the freshest seafood in the area. captainblythers.com

Old Post Office Seafood & Grill

301 Main St., Vacaville—447-1858
California cuisine featuring generous portions of fresh seafood and grilled meats, "over the top" but delicious desserts, a solid wine list and good sourdough bread.

Steakhouse**Ahi's Seafood and Chophouse**

2200 Gateway Court, Fairfield—426-6900
One of Fairfield's hidden treasures located within the Hilton Garden Inn. Great bistro fare, award-winning chef. Seafood lovers will be thrilled with the selection of fresh fish designed to please the palate all year-round. Fine desserts accompanied by a glass of wine are a treat after a movie or day shopping at the nearby mall.



Cenario's Pizza

Black Angus Steakhouse

124 Plaza Dr., Vallejo—647-0595
blackangus.com

Cattlemens

250 Dorset Court, Dixon—678-5518
The classic California steakhouse with a tradition of Western hospitality serves Harris Ranch beef, and also offers top quality fish, poultry and decadent desserts. beststeakinthewest.com

Hungry Hunter Steakhouse

2470 Martin Road, Fairfield—428-0583
The restaurant serves lunch and dinner (including an early dinner). Gift cards, banquet rooms and off-site catering are available.

Outback Steakhouse

521 Davis St., Vacaville—452-9200
Although it's known for its distinctive penchant for beef, the Outback carries a variety of menu selections including salads, poultry and seafood. Most items are made on-site, lifting them above normal chain food eateries. outbacksteakhouse.com

Tahoe Joe's Famous Steakhouse

1040 Helen Power Drive, Vacaville—455-0434
Serving top quality American Steakhouse Cuisine: "thick cuts of Midwestern steaks, charbroiled over a cracklin' almond wood fire." Other menu items include appetizers, salads, desserts and a Little Joe's menu. tahoejoes.com

Southern Cuisine**Chez Soul Southern Cuisine**

711 Madison St., Fairfield—448-2113
Family owned and operated restaurant in Solano County serving fresh cajun, creole and southern style cuisine. Dine in, take out, or cater your next event. chezsoul.com

Coyote Sam's

1955 W. Texas St., Suite 4, Fairfield—422-0447 For a decidedly Western experience, Coyote Sam's is the place. This popular eatery features a variety of barbecued meats prepared in the restaurant's smokers, an assortment of poultry and seafood dishes, a laundry list of side dishes and desserts to make your mouth water.

House of Soul

1526 Solano Ave., Vallejo—644-3792 If you're hankering for some cuisine from the Deep South, or just a heaping helping of ribs, collard greens, mashed potatoes or macaroni and cheese, the House of Soul is your restaurant.

Thai

Cha Am

153 Plaza Drive, Vallejo—(707) 648-8066 The Thai food here is not to be missed. The friendly service and interesting décor keep this place packed every night of the week.

Sala Thai

807 First St., Benicia—(707) 745-4331 Traditional and nouveau cuisine featuring Thai fare in an elegant antique-filled dining room.

Lotus Thai Cuisine

749 Texas St., Fairfield—(707) 428-7288 Authentic Thai cuisine, great family atmosphere. The chef will prepare food spicy or mild. Recommended dishes include honey walnut prawns, citrus chicken, and pad Thai noodles.

Vietnamese

Pho Saigon

1972 "C" N. Texas St 422-4383.

For more information on local dining options, go to solanomag.com or check out the local chamber's web sites listed on Page 8.

Photo: Zio Fraedo's



Cordon Bleu at Zio Fraedo's

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Max # of people	Event planning assistance	Room discounts	Catering	Business services
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Inn at Benicia Bay

Benicia	2nd Street Grill, 4760 E. Second St., 745-3740	61	•		•	•
	Best Western Heritage, 1955 E. Second St., 746-0401; bestwestern.com	40	•	•	•	
	Clock Tower Fortress, 1189 Washington St., 746-4285; ci.benicia.ca.us/parks	750		•		
	The Inn At Benicia Bay, 145 E. D St., 746-0684; theinnatbeniciabay.com	200	•	•	•	
	Veterans Memorial Hall, 1150 First St., 745-1769	250	•			•
Dixon	Best Western, 1345 Commercial Way, 678-1400	20				
	Super 8, 2500 Plaza Court, 678-3399; super8.com	30	•		•	•
Fairfield	Club House at Paradise Valley, 3990 Paradise Valley Drive, 421-2895; fairfieldgolf.com	200	•		•	•
	Club House at Rancho Solano, 3250 Rancho Solano Parkway, 434-1160; fairfieldgolf.com	500	•	•	•	•
	Courtyard by Marriott, 1350 Holiday Lane, 422-4111; marriott.com	500	•	•	•	•
	Fairfield Center for the Creative Arts, 1035 Texas St., 428-7662	360	•	•		•
	Hilton Garden Inn, 2200 Gateway Court, 426-6900; hiltongardeninn.com	500	•	•	•	•
	Homewood Suites, 4755 Business Center Drive, 863-0300; homewoodsuites.com	150		•		•
	Jelly Belly, One Jelly Belly Lane, (800) 953-5592; jbevents@jellybelly.com	200	•		•	
Rio Vista	The Point Waterfront Restaurant, 120 Marina Drive, 374-5400; pointrestaurant.com	200	•		•	•
	Veterans Memorial Building, 610 St. Francis Way, 374-2855	349	•			•
	Foster's Bighorn, 143 Main St., 374-2511; fostersbighorn.com	40			•	
Vacaville	Courtyard by Marriott, 120 Nut Tree Parkway, 451-9000; marriott.com	60		•	•	•
	Green Tree Golf Course, 999 Leisure Road, 448-1420; greentreegolfclub.com	180			•	
	Hampton Inn & Suites, 800 Mason St., 469-6200	250		•		•
	Martera Banquets, 600 Orange Drive, 446-2626; martera.net	210	•		•	
	Residence Inn Marriott, 360 Orange Drive, 469-0300; marriott.com	30		•	•	•
	Stars Recreation Center, 155 Browns Valley Parkway, 455-7827; starsrecreation.com	150	•		•	•
Vallejo	Vacaville Opera House, 560 Main St., 453-0393	200	•		•	
	Best Western Inn and Suites, 1596 Fairgrounds Drive, 554-9655; innatdiscoverykingdom.com	60	•	•	•	•
	Courtyard by Marriott, 1000 Fairgrounds Drive, 644-1200; marriott.com/sfovl	120	•	•		•
	Mare Island Museum, 328 Seawind Drive, 557-1538; mareislandhpf.org	1000	•		•	
	Solano County Fairgrounds, 900 Fairgrounds Drive, 551-2002; scfair.com	2000	•		•	
	USA World Classic Events Center, 1575 Sonoma Blvd., 552-3400; usaeventcenter.com	300	•		•	•
Vallejo Performing Arts & Conference Center, 707 Main St., 655-1959; vpacc.com	510	•		•	•	



Courtyard by Marriott



Fairfield Center for the Creative Arts



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Fairfield Inn - Marriott
864-6672

Homewood Suites
863-0300

Budget Inn
422-2626

**Econolodge Inn &
Suites**
864-2426

Gateway Inn
425-1051

Motel 6
425-4565

**Comfort Inn and
Suites**
864-1446

**Extended Stay
America**
438-0932

Hilton Garden Inn
426-6900

**Residence Inn by
Marriott**
(Opening 2008)

Staybridge Suites
863-0900

Courtyard By Marriott
422-4111

E-Z 8 Motel
426-6161

**Holiday Inn Express
Hotel and Suites**
864-3797

Solano Lodge RV
429-3355

Town House Inn
422-1333

Travis Lodge
425-6465

