

Sacramento River Driving Tour

This tour is intended to introduce you to the diverse environment around Sacramento and the Sacramento River. *The drive takes approximately 2½ hours without any stops. If you'd like to shorten it, bypass the downtown area and pick up the directions starting at the Tower Bridge (mile 7.0).*

The Sacramento River begins near Redding, CA and the Shasta Lake. It is joined by the Feather and American Rivers to arrive at Sacramento.

It was the Sacramento and the American rivers that inspired the creation of Sacramento. Although it has been flooded many times in the early days, the city has become a magnet for a diverse community and the State Capital.

The river part of the city of Old Sacramento had to be raised to stop flooding. Remnants of the lower city can still be found.

We will take you through Sacramento, by the State Capitol building, through Old Sacramento, and then out along the river, crossing it a few times and back, stopping at some historic sites along the way.

Mileages are approximate. Zero your ODO.

Mileage	Directions
0.0	Left turn out of the hotel onto Harvard St.
0.2	Left at light onto Arden Way (get in right lane)
0.3	Right onto CA – Hwy. 160 towards Downtown
2.8	Continue straight onto North 12 th St.
4.2	Left onto J St. (pass Convention Center on right)
4.4	Right onto 15 th St.
4.9	Right onto P St.
5.3	Right onto 10 th St. (pass Capitol Building on right)
5.6	Left onto L St. (New King's Stadium "Golden 1")
5.9	Right onto 5 th St.
6.2	Left onto I St. towards Old Sacramento (Chinatown on left)
6.4	After crossing beneath the freeway, left onto 2 nd St. (Railroad Museum)

(Entering Old Town Sacramento)

- 6.5 Right onto J St. (First thru street)
- 6.6 Left onto Front St. cobblestone (Railroad Station)
- 6.7 Left onto K St. (next left)
- 6.8 Right onto 2nd St. (next right)
- 6.8 Right onto L St.
- 6.9 Left onto Front St. (Candy Heaven)
- 6.9 Right to stay on Front St. towards Tower Bridge (Public Parking >)
- 7.0 Right onto Capitol Mall St. / crossing Tower Bridge (towards W. Sacramento)
- 7.4 Left onto 5th St. (Raley Baseball Field on left)
- 8.1 Continue straight onto S. River Rd. / Turns into Village Parkway (at 15th St.)
- 13.1 Left onto Gregory Ave. / turns into S. River Rd.
- 19.8 Continue straight at stop sign (Freeport Rd. / bridge)
- 22.8 Right onto Willow Point Rd.
- 23.1 Left onto Willow Ave.
- 23.3 Left into parking lot Old Sugar Mill (*Enjoy some wine and snacks.*)

Built in 1934 as a beet-sugar refinery, this complex now features 15 wineries & picnic grounds.
<http://oldsugarmill.com/visitor-info.html>
- 23.3 Exit left onto Willow Ave.
- 23.6 Left stop sign onto Clarksburg Ave.
- 23.9 Right onto S. River Rd.
- 24.2 *Stop for a libation or snack at Husicks BBQ & Taphouse*
- 32.2 Continue straight onto green drawbridge
- 32.8 Continue straight at bridge onto CA – Hwy. 160 S.
- 33.9 After crossing yellow drawbridge, right onto Grand Island Rd.
- 36.7 *Grand Island Mansion Resort on left – built in 1917. A grand home for entertainment – now a wedding site, restaurant, and place to visit since 1978.*

39.5 Pass the J-Mack ferry

39.9 Left onto CA – 220 E

42.5 Right onto CA – 160 S at Ryde

42.5 Right into parking lot of Ryde Hotel (Left side of Hotel down driveway)

Built in 1927 during Prohibition, this Art Deco hotel served as a riverboat stop, a bordello and a speakeasy (and is rumored to be haunted!). Later a boarding house for local farms and levee builders, a rock and roll hot spot in the 1980s, and now a hotel and wedding site. Once owned by the Lon Chaney, Jr. family. <http://rydehotel.com/history/>

42.6 Exit parking lot following exit signs – careful – gravel grade – stop at top.

[See the Optional Longer Ferry Route instructions at the end of these directions.]

42.6 Exit left onto CA 160 N

45.3 Right onto Walnut Grove Bridge at stop sign

45.4 Left onto River Rd. at end of bridge. (Walnut Grove City on right)

Established in 1850, Walnut Grove is one of the earliest settlements on the Sacramento River, occupying both sides of the river. It was racially segregated, with whites on one side, and Chinese and Japanese on the other until the Japanese were forcibly removed at the start of WWII.

46.1 Right onto Locke Rd. (“Welcome to Locke”)

46.1 Right onto Main St. (One-way)

46.2 Right onto Levee Rd. (Forced turn)

Locke was founded in 1915 after a fire in Walnut Grove. Chinese leaders contacted George Locke to build on his land. They set up a lot of businesses to service farmers and levee workers. It hasn't changed much since the 1920s. Take the time to park and stroll through the one-street downtown area of the Locke Historic District. <http://www.locketown.com/>

46.2 Right onto River Rd.

[FOR A QUICK WAY BACK TO THE HOTEL:

Turn right on the Hood-Franklin Rd. then left on Hwy. 5 North.

Right on Garden Hwy. (east) exit (after crossing river); this becomes Arden Way.

Left on Harvard St. (before Hwy. 80) to hotel.]

47.7 Continue straight at stop sign (Twin Cities Rd.)

- 52.3 Left across River Bridge at stop sign (CA – 160 intersection)
- 52.4 Right at end of bridge onto Sutter Slough Bridge Rd.
- 53.7 Left onto Courtland Rd.
- 54.7 Right onto CA – 84 / Jefferson Blvd. *Note the deep-water shipping channel on left.*
- 68.5 Continue straight at Marshall Rd.
- 71.5 Right onto 15th St.
- 71.6 Left onto S. River Rd.
- 72.4 Continue straight at Tower Bridge Gateway
- 72.9 Right onto C St.
- 73.1 Cross I St. Bridge
- 73.4 Immediate left onto Jibboom St. at end of bridge
- 73.7 First right onto Railyards Blvd. at stop sign
- 74.2 Left onto 7th St.
- 74.7 Right onto Richards Blvd.
- 75.5 Left onto 16th St. (After RR crossing, CA – 160 N / N. Sacramento Fwy.)
- 77.7 Exit #48 for Arden Way
- 78.0 Left at fork towards CA – 160 S / Arden Way West
- 78.3 Merge onto Arden Way
- 78.5 Right onto Harvard St.
- 78.7 Right into hotel parking lot.

OPTIONAL LONGER FERRY ROUTE:

The Delta auto ferries are free and run every 20 minutes, 24 hours a day / 7 days a week. They occasionally break down, so confirm online before taking this route. Also check that the Rio Vista Bridge is open.

After your visit to the Ryde Hotel, turn an immediate left on Rte. 220 / Hogback Isl. Rd. to the **J-Mack ferry.**

Cross river, then go left (south) on E. Ryer Rd. / Hwy. 84.

Cross river again at the **Ryer Island ferry**. Continue south on Rte. 84 / River Rd. into Rio Vista. *[Check out the stuffed animals at Foster's Bighorn on Main St.]*

To return home, cross the big Rio Vista bridge (Hwy. 12).

Left on River Rd. (Hwy. 160) through Isleton.

Go north to Walnut Grove, then stop in Locke. Continue above directions.

Enjoy!