Lake Tahoe 3-Night Winter Itinerary

Day 1: Arrival & Alpine Welcome

Arrival via Tahoe Drive or Flight

- **By Air:** Fly into **Reno-Tahoe International Airport (RNO)** — the nearest major airport with direct connections from major U.S. hubs. From there, it's a scenic 1.5-hour drive to the South Shore.
- **By Road:** The drive from San Francisco to **South Lake Tahoe** takes approximately **3 hours and 45 minutes**, covering about **338 km)**.
- It's a scenic route that winds through the Sierra Nevada, offering mountain views and charming small towns along the way. Most travelers take **I-80 East** to **US-50 East**, which leads directly into the South Shore.
  Tip: From October through April, always carry tire chains and check road conditions.

Check-In Options – View more

Luxury Stay: The Lodge at Edgewood



If you're looking for refined elegance, this Forbes 5-Star resort is unmatched. Nestled right on the Lake, it features a world-class spa, fine dining at The Edge Restaurant & Lounge, and a championship golf course that transforms into a serene snow-covered landscape in winter. Perfect for couples or travelers seeking a high-end alpine retreat.
Book or Learn More

Family-Friendly Stay: Margaritaville Resort Lake Tahoe



Tahoe's first all-suite Margaritaville brings tropical vibes to the mountains. Each suite includes a separate living area, and the resort offers five dining options — from JWB Prime Steak and Seafood to the casual LandShark Bar & Grill. Families love the indoor pool, firepits, and proximity to the Heavenly Gondola.
📍 4130 Lake Tahoe Blvd, South Lake Tahoe, CA 96150
📞 (530) 544-5400
Visit Website

Lake Tahoe Resorts

Vacation Homes: Hilton Vacation Club Lake Tahoe Resort



For families or groups seeking space and privacy, this company offers over 250 vacation rentals — from cozy cabins to luxury lakefront homes. Many include fireplaces, hot tubs, and full kitchens, ideal for extended stays or multi-generational trips.

📍 2048 Dunlap Drive, South Lake Tahoe, CA 96150

📞 (530) 544-3234

Explore Rentals

Luxury Vacation Homes: Basecamp South Lake Tahoe



Specializing in large luxury homes (6–10 bedrooms), many with indoor pools, movie theatres, and outdoor fireplaces. These properties are perfect for families or groups wanting a private, high-end experience close to the Lake and Heavenly Village.

📍 1635 Sherman Way, South Lake Tahoe, CA 96150

📞 (707) 738-5934

View Homes

Afternoon Adventure

- Ride the **Heavenly Mountain Scenic Gondola** to the top for panoramic views of the Lake and snowy peaks.
- Try the **Ridge Rider Mountain Coaster**, a thrilling yet family-friendly ride that winds through the alpine forest.

Dinner

- Enjoy a hearty meal at **Shangrila Himalayan Kitchen** warm, family-run, and decorated with prayer flags and mountain motifs — a perfect spot for a comforting meal after a day in the snow.

Day 2: Snow Play & Indian Comforts

Morning: Snow Tubing & Family Fun

- Head to **Adventure Mountain Lake Tahoe**, one of the best snow play areas for kids and adults alike. Multiple tubing lanes and a lodge with hot cocoa make it a perfect winter morning or
- Enjoy tubing at **Heavenly Tubing** which is one of the most family-friendly snow activities in town.

Afternoon: Snowmobile Adventure

- Book a guided tour with **Zephyr Cove Snowmobiling Tours**. You'll glide through alpine meadows and forest trails with breathtaking views of the Lake. Helmets and gear are provided.

Evening: Indian Dining & Cultural Comfort

- Dine at **Curry & Grill (Take Out)- Indian Cuisine**, known for authentic North Indian dishes like butter chicken, paneer tikka, and naan — perfect after a day in the snow.
- End the evening with a stroll through **Heavenly Village**, where twinkling lights, live music, and fire pits create a festive winter atmosphere.

Day 3: Scenic Serenity & Cozy Farewell

Morning: Lakeside Leisure

- Enjoy a relaxed breakfast at **Himmel Haus**, a Bavarian-style restaurant near Heavenly with hearty breakfast platters and mountain charm.
- Take a short walk along the **Taylor Creek Sno-Park** or visit **Van Sickle Bi-State Park** for gentle snowshoeing trails and stunning lake views.

Afternoon: Relax & Reflect

- Warm up with hot chocolate at **Driftwood Café** or enjoy a spa session at **Edgewood Tahoe Resort Spa**
- If in the mood for some Indian food, the only full-service Indian restaurant in the area, **Nikki's Chaat Cafe** offers a wide range of Indian favourites, including Chaat, Biryani, and Tandoori dishes.

Evening: Departure

- Drive back to Reno-Tahoe International Airport or continue your road trip through the Sierra Nevada.

Fun fact –

Visitors can enjoy the full lineup of festive events — including tree lightings, live music, a holiday Ferris wheel, and the spectacular New Year's Eve celebration with the Gondola Ball Drop and fireworks — during **Heavenly Holidays**, which runs **from late November through December 31** each year at **Heavenly Village Way** on the South Shore of Lake Tahoe.

The celebration culminates on **New Year's Eve**, when the sky lights up with fireworks and the famous **Gondola Ball Drop** at 9:00 p.m., timed with the midnight drop in New York City's Times Square. Admission is free, and the event features live performances, DJ sets, and family-friendly festivities throughout the day.