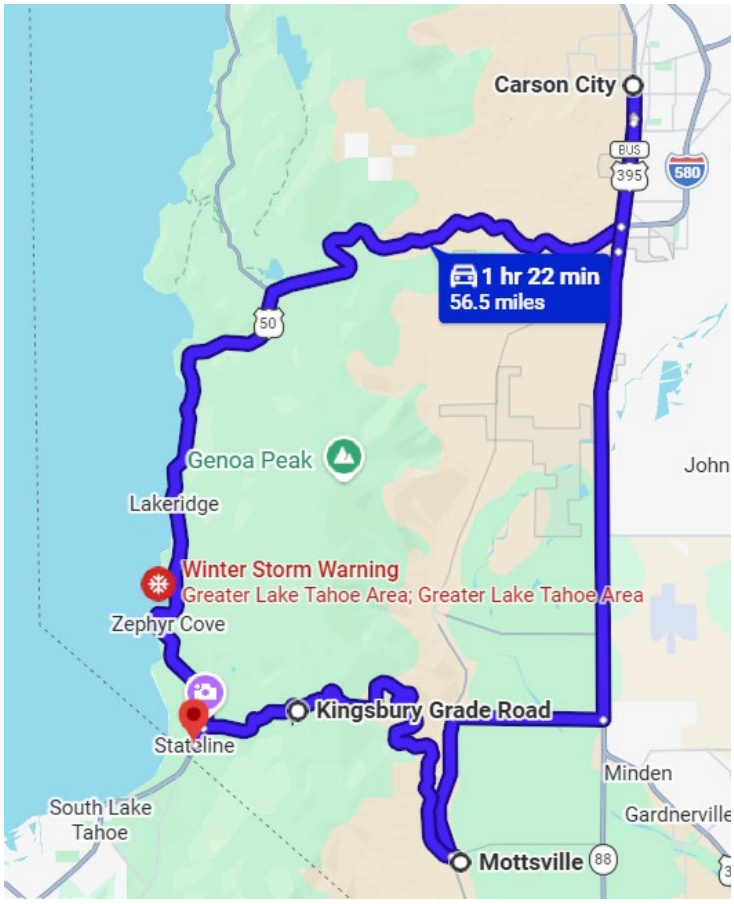
HEALEY 75th ANNIVERSARY MEET

OPTIONAL SCENIC DRIVES AND TOURS

CARSON CITY MUSEUMS TOUR

Drive Time = 1:30 hours, 56.5 miles, roundtrip, clockwise via Kingsbury Grade scenic route

Drive Time = 1:15 hours, 50.0 miles, roundtrip, if returning directly back to the hotel



The Drive

Leave South Shore on US Highway 50, climb through the forest to Spooner Summit (7,146 feet), then descend the eastern slope of the Sierra Nevada into the broad Carson Valley and Nevada's historic capital. After sightseeing and lunch, drivers may return directly by US 50 or take the optional longer, more sporting route south through the Carson Valley and up Kingsbury Grade (NV 207).

Suggested day at a glance, morning departure

Time	Activity
9:00 a.m.	Depart Golden Nugget; US 50 east via Spooner Summit
10:00 a.m.	Nevada State Museum / former Carson City Mint
11:15 a.m.	State Capitol grounds and historic downtown
12:00 noon	Brewery lunch: The Fox (first choice) or Great Basin Brewing
1:15 p.m.	Optional Nevada State Railroad Museum
2:15 p.m.	Choose direct US 50 return or scenic Kingsbury Grade return
Approx. 3:00–4:00 p.m.	Arrive back at the Golden Nugget, depending on return choice and stops

The Road over Spooner Summit

The modern US 50 corridor evokes the era of wagon roads, stagecoaches and the Lincoln Highway. As the road crests Spooner Summit, the landscape changes dramatically: the wooded Tahoe Basin gives way to the open valleys and sagebrush country of western Nevada. This is an excellent introduction to the geography that shaped Carson City and the Comstock mining boom.

Carson City: Silver, Statehood and Steam

Founded in 1858 and named for frontiersman Kit Carson, Carson City grew rapidly after the nearby Comstock silver discoveries. Nevada entered the Union in 1864 during the Civil War, giving it the nickname "Battle Born." The State Capitol, completed in 1871, stands amid attractive grounds near the historic center.

The former Carson City Branch Mint operated from 1870 to 1893, producing coins with the sought-after "CC" mint mark. Today the Nevada State Museum occupies the building; its exhibits include the original Coin Press No. 1 and the story of Nevada mining. For mechanically minded Healey owners, the Nevada State Railroad Museum is another excellent stop: the Virginia & Truckee Railroad was once the vital link between the Comstock mines and regional supply routes.

DRIVING DIRECTIONS

- Turn Left out of the Hotel onto Hwy 50 and hug the shoreline for the first part of the trip, very scenic.
    - In 21.9 miles, at the junction of Hwy 395, turn left. Signs for Carson City.
- In 2.3 miles at the Roundabout, take the 2nd exit to stay straight on Carson Street.
    - In 1.0 miles, Left on Robinson Street then first right onto Curry.
    - Parking and access to the **Nevada State Museum** is on Curry.

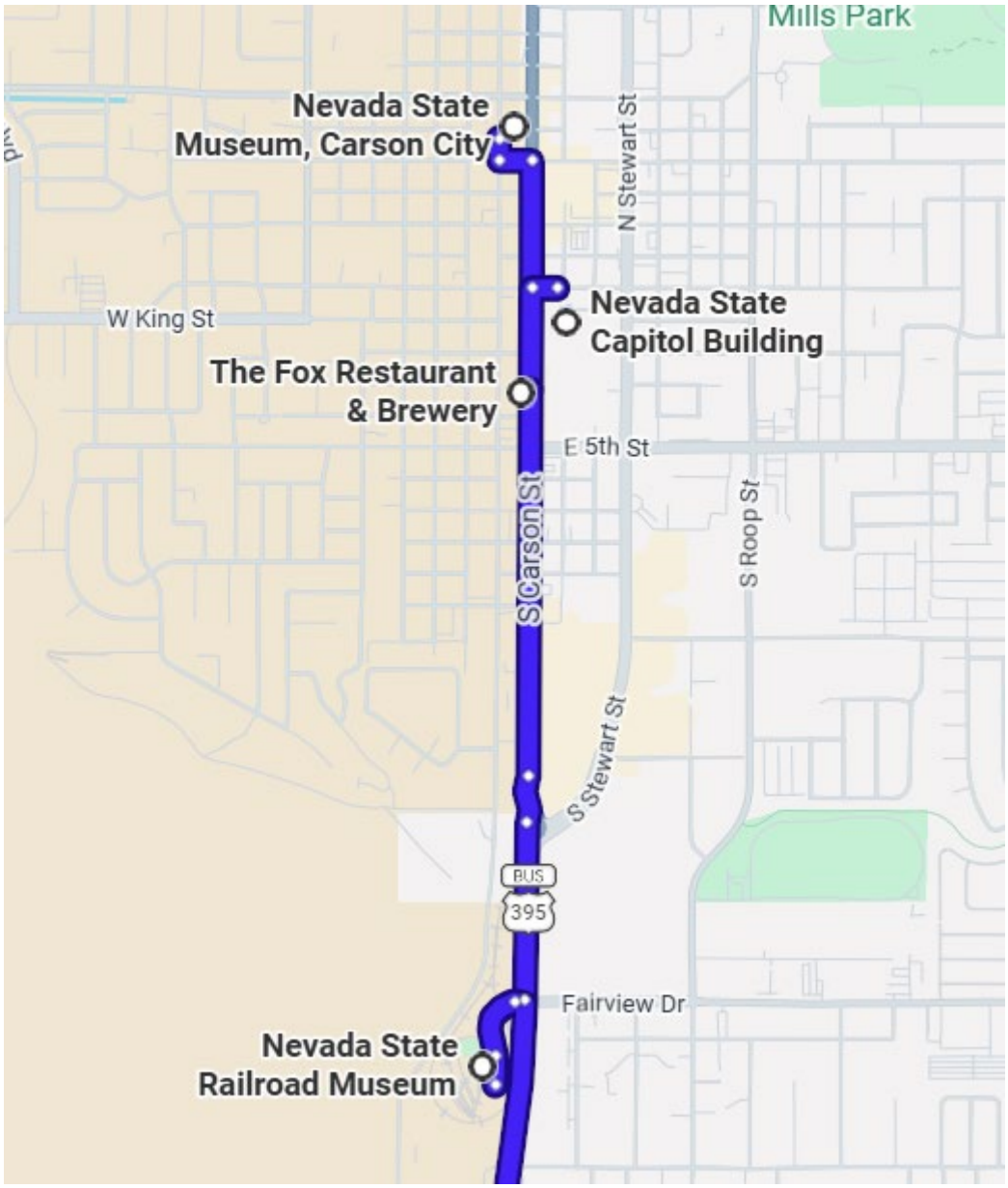


NEVADA STATE MUSEUM AND FORMER US MINT

Open Every Day 8;30am – 4:40pm. Admission $10.

A wide range of exhibits including rotating special exhibitions.

Downtown Carson City (Tahoe is South)



<u>Suggested Walking Tour.</u>

1. **Drive to the Nevada State Museum, park and tour**
2. **Walk to the State Capital Building (7 minutes)**
3. **Walk to the Fox Restaurant and Brewery (2 minutes)**
4. **Retrieve your car and drive to the Nevada State Railroad Museum**



NEVADA STATE CAPITAL BUILDING AND GROUNDS

Open 8-5 Monday to Friday, 9-3 on Saturday. Self-guided walk-in tours welcome. Free admission. Short walk from the State Museum.



FOX RESTAURANT AND BREWERY (In the historic St. Charles Hotel)

Open 11am-10pm, 7 days a week. Great British Pub and Microbrewery. 2-minute walk from the Capital Building.



NEVADA STATE RAILROAD MUSEUM

Open 9-4:30 Thursday to Monday. Train rides Sat/Sun. Closed Tuesday and Wednesday. $10 admission. Short drive from the State Museum. Carsonrailroadmuseum.org

Choose your return to Lake Tahoe

Option A — Direct and easy: US Highway 50

Retrace the outbound route west through Spooner Summit and continue to Stateline. This is the simplest choice for drivers who want an earlier finish, prefer to avoid another mountain descent/climb, or have already driven Kingsbury Grade on a different tour. Just reverse the inbound driving directions.

Option B — The sporting road: Kingsbury Grade: A Spectacular Mountain Ascent

One of the most exhilarating stretches of our tour is Kingsbury Grade (Nevada Highway 207), the historic mountain road connecting Lake Tahoe with the Carson Valley. Originally developed in the 1860s as a toll road serving the booming Comstock mining region, it climbs nearly 2500 feet before crossing Daggett Summit at 7,334 feet.

For Austin-Healey drivers, Kingsbury Grade is a delight: sweeping curves, tight switchbacks, and dramatic elevation changes. The road winds up the eastern face of the Sierra Nevada, revealing increasingly spectacular panoramic views across the vast Carson Valley and the distant mountains beyond, before reaching the pine forests of Tahoe. It's a thrilling introduction to the wide-open landscapes of western Nevada and a wonderful way to end your Carson City adventure.

DRIVING DIRECTIONS FOR THE KINGSBURY GRADE ROUTE

- Depart the Museum parking lot and head back down Carson Street the way you came in (South).
- In 19.1 miles (measured from the Railroad Museum), turn Right onto Hwy 757. Green sign "Kingbury Grade, Lake Tahoe →"
- In 3.2 miles at stop and T, turn Left onto Hwy 206. Green street sign "Foothill Road".
- In 3.0 miles, turn right onto Hwy 207. Green sign "207 Kingsbury Grade".
- In 11.1 miles at stoplight and T, turn left onto Hwy 50. The Hotel is 0.4 mile ahead on the right.

