

Sacramento Tall Club Event

The Great Reno Balloon Races

Friday, September 5—Sunday, September 7, 2025
(Updated June 25, 2025)



On **Friday**, those who wish can attend the International Camel & Ostrich Races in historic Virginia City, NV (approximately a 40-minute drive from Reno). The camels, ostriches, and zebras are returning this year for the 66th annual race. This tradition started as a prank between two newspaper editors, and it remains as silly and fun as its origin.

The Races bring laughs as jockeys, both professional and amateur, race their camels, ostriches and zebras around the horseshoe track to the roar of the crowd. It's a comical spectacle that will leave everyone laughing. If you would like more information about transportation, parking, and/or purchasing tickets (prices range from \$23-\$65 per person), follow this link:

<https://visitvirginiacitynv.com/events/international-camel-ostrich-races-virginia-city/>

Go early or stay late and explore Virginia City, an historic mining town with shops, restaurants, saloons, and live music on Friday nights.

Saturday & Sunday we will participate in The Great Reno Balloon Race, the world's largest FREE hot-air ballooning event. Be prepared for a very early morning and bring your blanket, lawn chairs, flashlight, and warm clothing. Food vendors are available.
For more information, check out their website - <https://renoballoon.com>.

Saturday, & Sunday Schedule of events

3:30 a.m. – Gates open
5:00 a.m. – Super Glow Show
5:30 a.m. – Dawn Patrol
6:45 a.m. – National Anthem
7:00 a.m. – Mass Ascension Launch
4:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.- Shopping on Balloon Blvd

Location

Rancho San Rafael Regional Park
1595 N. Sierra St., Reno, Nevada



Parking

The park is approximately 1.7 miles from the J Resort. General Public Parking is \$25/car paid upon entering the park; VIP parking is \$52.77 per car and is purchased online in advance. See <https://renoballoon.com/spectator-info/parking/> for details.

Accommodations

Our Home Base will be The J Resort, 345 N Arlington Ave, Reno, NV, 89501.

Rooms are currently available at a rate of \$148 a night + resort fees for either a King Room or Rooms with 2 queen beds. Check your favorite hotel booking site for the best going rate and book your rooms ASAP to guarantee availability.

Group meals & transportation/carpools will be arranged on site. Contact Carla Munt if you have questions or are interested in attending: vicepresident@sacramentotallclub.org or by phone/text at 916-365-5601.