

LAKE COUNTY

SUITE SPOT

FEATHERBED RAILROAD BED AND BREAKFAST

It's one of the few spots in Northern California where visitors can rest their cabooses in a caboose — without even riding the rails. Not surprisingly, the appeal at Featherbed Railroad Bed and Breakfast, a quirky campground-like resort at Clear Lake's northern tip, is the cabins — nine themed, vintage railroad cabooses just a few yards from the lake's shore.

Original owners Len and Lorraine Bassignani opened the bed-and-breakfast in 1989 and managed the property until their retirement in 2008. Though it has changed hands a few times since, the Featherbed seems to have taken on a new life with its current owners, former Southern California hairdressers June and Paul Vejar.

The setting: Set in a mini-forest where falcons perch and squirrels play, each restored vintage caboose is about the size of a small studio apartment (around 400 square feet), complete with coffee maker, bar-size refrigerator, and queen-size bed. A few rooms even boast a two-person Jacuzzi tub.

The appeal: The cabooses, of course. There seems to be a theme to fit every personality or occasion. Travel back to the Wild Wild West, take a ride on the Orient Express, spend "Midnight in Paris," or sleep on the set of "Casablanca."

Insider tip: The owners live on the premises in the Main Car, where their living room doubles as the B&B's dining room. In the morning, the couple

makes use of the industrial-grade kitchen to cook hot breakfast for their visitors. (If you're not into what they're serving,

they're happy to offer an alternative). The dining room also has a mini-library of books, games, and DVDs for guests to

take and enjoy in their rooms.

Good to know: If you need reliable Wi-Fi during your Lake

County stay, the Featherbed may not be your best option. While the Main Car has its own Internet connection (the Vejars



CALIFORNIA'S LAKE COUNTY

Located in beautiful Northern California just two hours by car from the San Francisco Bay Area, the Sacramento Valley and the Pacific Coast, Lake County is the perfect destination for a fun family vacation or a weekend getaway.

ONGOING EVENTS

Art events abound year-round
See lakecochamber.com

Farmer's Markets

May-Oct, 263-6076

Tue PM Library Park, Lakeport
Sat AM Steele Wines, Kelseyville

Living History, 533-9990

4th Sat each month, Kelseyville
elystagestop.com

Music events

abound year-round

See lakecochamber.com

Planetarium Show, 262-4121

4th Sat each month

Taylor Observatory, Kelseyville

All phone numbers are area code 707



VISIT LAKE COUNTY

April

Wildflower Brunch
Heron Days
Kelseyville Olive Festival

Apr 29: Clear Lake State Park, Kelseyville, 279-4395
Apr 29-30, May 6-7: www.redbudaudubon.org
Apr 30: Chacewater Wine & Olive Mill, Kelseyville, 279-0563

MAY

Catfish Derby
Lake County Passion Play
Lake County Wine Adventure
Memorial Day Celebrations

May 19-21: Clearlake Oaks, 998-3765
May 20-21: Beltramo Ranch, Lakeport, 279-0349
May 20-21: Countywide, 357-5237, lakecountywineries.org
May 27-28: Countywide, lakecochamber.com

JUNE

Lakeport Sprint Boat Grand Prix
Wild West Day
No Name Car Club/Wood & Glory Show
California Days/Fiesta of the Horse
Middletown Days
Home Wine & Beer Makers Festival
Lake County Beer Wine Swine Baconfest
The Battles at Bell's Field

Jun 2-4: Library Park, Lakeport, 494-8364
Jun 3: Upper Lake, 275-9515
Jun 3: Konocti Vista Casino & Marina, Lakeport, 278-0185
Jun 11: Rancho de la Fuente - 275-9234
Jun 16-18: Middletown, 631-4408
Jun 17: Library Park, Lakeport, 569-6880
Jun 18: Kelseyville, beerwineswine.com
Jun 24-25: Civil War Re-enactment, Middletown, 295-7174

JULY

Independence Day Celebrations
Lake County Rodeo
Lakeport Lakefront Criterium

Jul 1-4: Countywide, lakecochamber.com
Jul 7-8: Fairgrounds, Lakeport, 263-5092
Jul 15: Lakeport, www.lakeportcrit.com

AUGUST

Blue Wing Blues Festival
Lakeside Car & Boat Show
A Taste of Lake County
Lake County Fair

Aug 4-6, Sep 4: Tallman Hotel, Upper Lake, 275-2244
Aug 18-20: Lakeport, www.curbside.tv/lakeboatshow
Aug 26: Main St, Lakeport, 263-8843
Aug 31-Sep 3: Fairgrounds, Lakeport, 263-6181

SEPTEMBER

Indian Days Celebrations
Clear Lake Seaplane Splash-in
Lake County Wine Auction
Kelseyville Pear Festival

Pomo dancers perform at local tribal casinos, 263-5092
Sep 16: Lakeport, 263-5092
Sep 16: 866-279-WINE, www.winealliance.org
Sep 30: Downtown Kelseyville, 279-9022

OCTOBER

Falling Leaves Quilt Show
The Konocti Challenge
Oktoberfest
Steele Wines Harvest Festival

Oct 7-8: Lake County Fairgrounds, Lakeport, 262-1201
Oct 7: Choice of three cycle tours of Lake County, 349-0815
Oct 7: German music, food, beer, Lakeport, 263-5092
Oct 14-15: 4350 Thomas Dr, Kelseyville, 279-9475

NOVEMBER

Dickens Faire

Nov 25: Main St, Lakeport, 263-8843

DECEMBER

Christmas in the Country
Christmas in Middletown
Old Fashioned Christmas at the Ranch

Dec 1: Main St, Kelseyville, 279-8559
Dec 9: Town-wide: Middletown, 326-1291
Dec 9: Anderson Marsh State Historic Park, 995-2658