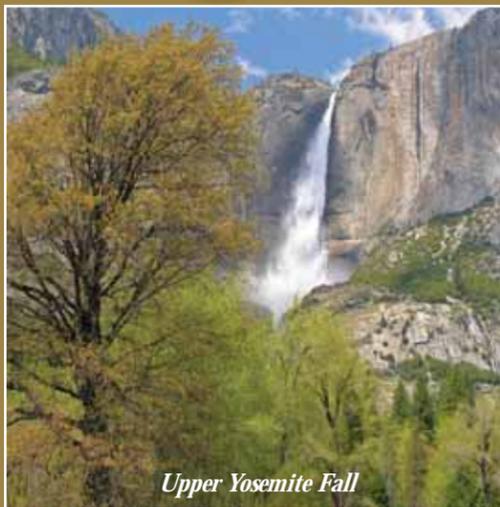
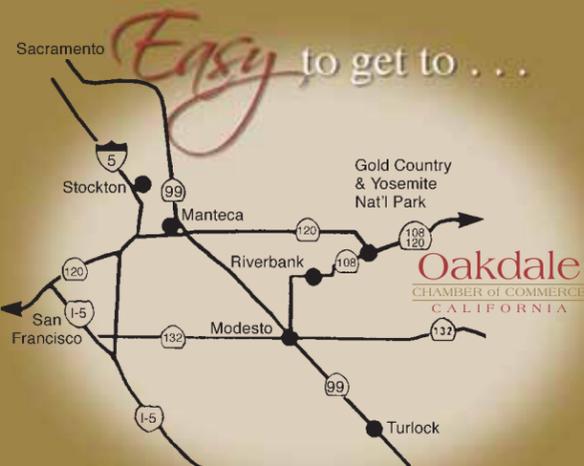


# Gateway TO YOSEMITE



Upper Yosemite Fall



**THE EASTSIDE STORY:** Want to experience the rich agricultural history of the beautiful eastside of Stanislaus County? It is as simple as popping in the self-guided driving experience "The Eastside Story" CD. Your personal audio guide will lead you throughout the back roads of eastside Stanislaus County on an informative and relaxing journey. From the historic covered bridge in Knights Ferry to a tour of cheese making makes this a creative way to spend the day. For more information on how to get your CD contact the Oakdale Chamber of Commerce at (209) 847 2244. [www.oakdalechamber.com](http://www.oakdalechamber.com)



Oakdale District Chamber of Commerce and Visitors Bureau  
590 N. Yosemite Ave.  
Oakdale, CA 95361

# Oakdale CHAMBER of COMMERCE CALIFORNIA

Experience the diversity of **Oakdale**



Oakdale offers the best of two worlds for the resident and the visitor. Located in the fertile Central Valley of California in Stanislaus County, Oakdale is about 15 miles from Modesto, along Highways 108 and 120. As the gateway to Yosemite National Park and the Sierra Foothills, Oakdale is a hub of recreational activity. We are less than two hours from San Francisco and other major cities. Its mild climate and gentle seasonal changes make Oakdale an ideal community to enjoy all year long. Over 30 restaurants offer a wide range of dining from fast food to fine dinner houses.

Water recreation abounds in our area. Woodward Reservoir, just east of Oakdale has 3,200 land acres and 2,800 acres of water. It is a favorite of swimmers, fishermen, sail boaters and water skiers. Underdeveloped as well as developed campsites and grassy picnic areas offer the perfect setting for family fun. White water rafting or canoeing on the beautiful Stanislaus River is another popular activity. Oakdale has many attractions and events that include the Annual Chocolate Festival and the Annual PRCA Rodeo.

**ANNUAL CHOCOLATE FESTIVAL**  
Each year during the third weekend in May, over 60,000 visitors converge on this small town to celebrate the Annual Chocolate Festival embracing Oakdale's rich agricultural heritage, the theme of "Cowboys N' Chocolate". Events provide our visitors an opportunity to experience our western lifestyle. Over 3 acres in the middle of town will be dedicated to arts & craft booths, a kid's area, a chocolate challenge stage that encourages fun with chocolate and an avenue for chocolate fanatics. There will be Classic Cars, a 5k race, food and entertainment. This event provides revenue for many Oakdale businesses and non-profit groups, raising thousands of dollars and over one ton of canned goods are collected for Oakdale Community Sharing.

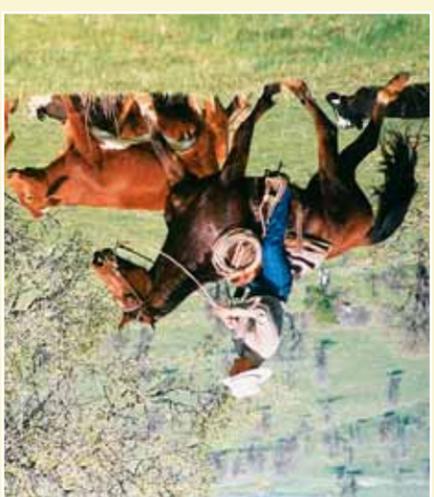
**OKADALE RODEO**  
The Oakdale Rodeo was the first outdoor rodeo in the Western United States, and since 1954, has been held, rain or shine. Oakdale earned the title "Cowboy Capital of the World" because of the number of successful Professional Rodeo Association cowboys who lived here. Today, the born and bred contestants of the earlier days. Over the years, as the winner's purse has increased, so has the pride of the Oakdale Saddle Club, as it presents this superior exhibition. So plan to be with us every year on the 2nd weekend of April to share in the festivities of the Oakdale Rodeo.

**GENE BIANCHI COMMUNITY CENTER**  
Located at 110 S. Second Street, the Gene Bianchi Community Center building has a large auditorium with a main banquet hall that will hold up to 1,000 people assembly style and 466 for sit-down dinner. The main room can be divided into two or three rooms, and two conference rooms are also available for meetings. A fully equipped kitchen also serves the Recreation. Call 847-3591. Website: [www.ct.oakdale.ca.us](http://www.ct.oakdale.ca.us)



Oakdale is easily accessible to executive flyers.

*Designed by Oakdale Chamber of Commerce and Seeger's Printing*  
*Photos by Jim Foust, Kevin Fox, Neil Hudson, Kenny Karst, Marilyn Niles, News 10, Sunshine River Adventures & Donna Wagner*  
*Oakdale Chamber of Commerce*  
*Printed in U.S.A.*



Fishing is abundant in our local rivers.



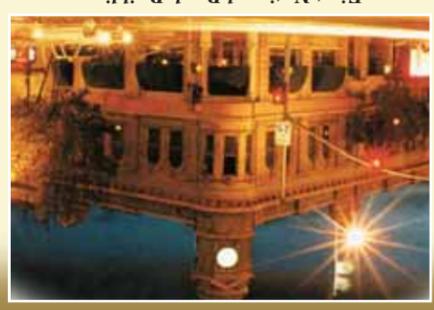
Over 70,000 people visit our Annual Chocolate Festival in May.



Self-guided canoeing and rafting are fun for the whole family!



Locally grown produce at the Oakdale Certified Farmers Market.



First National Bank Building, an Oakdale landmark.

Make Your Destination...  
**Oakdale**

# Rich IN HISTORY



Former World Champion, Ted Nuce

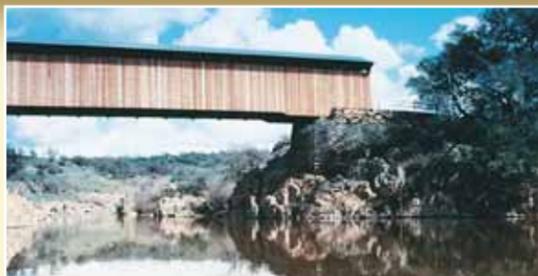
**OAKDALE COWBOY MUSEUM** - Located at 355 E. F St., in the historic Southern Pacific Railroad Depot across from the City of Oakdale Parks and Recreation building formerly the Hershey Visitors Center. The Ranching Gallery features the working ranch cowboy and area ranches. The Rodeo Gallery contains memorabilia from local rodeo champs including Ace Berry, Leo & Jerold Camarillo, Jim Charles, Harley May, Bill Martinelli, Ted Nuce and many more area greats! Visit us and learn about Oakdale's western legacy and why we earned the title of the "Cowboy Capital of the World." Hours are 10am-2pm. Monday-Saturday. Admission is \$1.00 donation for adults. Group Tours are welcome. (209) 847-7049 [www.oakdalecowboymuseum.org](http://www.oakdalecowboymuseum.org)

**OAKDALE MUSEUM & HISTORY CENTER** - Located at 212 W. F St., museum is open every Tuesday 1pm to 5pm and the 3rd Saturday each month from 12 noon to 4pm. except holidays. The Oakdale Museum opened October 13, 1985, owned and operated by the City of Oakdale and housed in the historic Synnor-Prowse House, the city's oldest building, dating from 1869. The museum offers a variety of relics, from historic photographs, artifacts, newspapers, maps, Oakdale history, and family histories. (209) 847-9229 [www.friendsofoakdaleheritage.org](http://www.friendsofoakdaleheritage.org)

**OAKDALE CHEESE & SPECIALTIES** - 10040 Highway 120 - Oakdale Cheese is owned and operated by Dutch immigrants Walter and Lenneke Bulk. Walter, moved from the Netherlands to the United States in 1979. He left the family farm in the Haarlemmermeer and ventured to California for better opportunity. Lenneke, joined Walter in 1982 by marrying him after a short courtship by the old pen and paper. It still works! They moved from Marysville, to Escalon, to their current address in Oakdale, CA and feel right at home in this small and tight community. It's here the Bulk's really started living their American Dream, by building and developing a brand new location for their home, their cheesemaking and their future customers. (209) 847-9229 [www.oakdalecheese.com](http://www.oakdalecheese.com)

**SIERRA RAILROAD DINNER TRAIN** - was formed in 1897 to connect the Central Valley to the Gold County. As the third oldest railroad in North America, the Sierra continues to haul freight, carry passengers, make Hollywood movies, and play an important role in California. The Sierra Railroad Dinner Train, launched in 1999, provides visitors an opportunity to travel on the historic Sierra Railroad while enjoying a delicious meal, beautiful countryside, and a wide range of entertainment. 330 S. Sierra Ave. (209) 848-2100 or [www.sierrarailroad.com](http://www.sierrarailroad.com)

**HISTORIC TOWN OF KNIGHTS FERRY** - **Capt. William Knight**, whom the town was named after, came to the river crossing with a row boat in 1848 to ferry gold seekers. He established a trading post and got wealthy in his endeavors. Knight's Ferry has a dozen buildings over 100 years old. The **General Store** was built in 1852 and is the oldest continuously operated store in California. The **Masonic Hall** completed in 1870 is where Capt. William Knight was gunned down and buried where he fell. The **Knights Ferry Hotel** was constructed in 1854. The **Firehouse** "Hook and Ladder No. 1" was rebuilt on the same site after the flood of 1955. It housed the original Hook and Ladder cart that was purchased in New York and shipped around the horn in 1871. Refurbished in 1998 by the Oakdale Rural Volunteers and is like new again. The **"Iron Jail"** was moved to Knight's Ferry in 1912 during the construction of Goodwin Dam. It was purchased from the City of Modesto, and was four cells from its original old jail. The **Town Museum** is located above the ice cream parlor in **Miller's Hall** and is open the first Sunday of the month and for special tours. Across from the Orange Blossom Rd. is the Army Core of Engineers Visitors Center, the **Covered Bridge** which first opened in 1863 and several buildings 125 years old and its remains of the gold rush era.



Longest covered bridge west of the Mississippi, first opened in 1863. Located in Knights Ferry.

## Day Trip #1

### HOEKSTRA DAIRY- 11212 Highway 120

(209) 847-5194 - Come explore the dairy industry and learn how milk and other dairy products get from the udders of a cow to your cereal bowl. Meet a dairy farmer and find out what a typical day is like on a dairy farm. Visit the milking parlor where the cows are milked every day and learn the parts of the dairy cow. Call for your reservation.

**KNIGHTS FERRY- U.S. ARMY CORP. OF ENGINEERS VISITORS CENTER - 18020 Sonora Rd. (209) 881-3517** Stop at the U.S. Army Corp. of Engineers Visitors Center with exhibits and a video to introduce you to the town of Knights Ferry. View the remains of the Tulloch Mill and restored mill office which was in operation as a flour mill in 1860. Upstream is the concrete remains of a dam built in 1880 to divert water to turn the mill's waterwheel.

**COVERED BRIDGE** - Located in Knights Ferry next to the Visitors Center is the longest covered bridge west of the Mississippi, 330 feet, first open in 1863.

**A PLACE TO GOLD PAN** - Bring your gold pan equipment to pan for gold in the Stanislaus River around Knights Ferry. Continue on Orange Blossom Road to the historic town of Knights Ferry.

**TOWN OF KNIGHTS FERRY** - Browse in some of the nearby shops for antiques, collectibles and other items of interest.

**FISHING** - In the area of the covered bridge is best suited for wade fishing. Knights Ferry launch to Orange Blossom Rd. is the most popular drift, but the river turns from a trout fishery to a largemouth, smallmouth, and striped bass fishery. There are several public boat ramps here, including two near the Horseshoe Road Recreation Area.

**HIKING/WILDLIFE** - Popular with hikers is the easily accessible paved trails though there is nothing stopping you from wandering off to explore, skip a few rocks across the water or capture photos of nature and a glimpse of animal life along the river.

# Outdoor



Chocolate Challenge at the Annual Chocolate Festival.

**FISHING** - From Goodwin Dam to Oakdale is where you will find the Stanislaus River's favorite catch, rainbow trout. Below Orange Blossom Bridge are the striped bass, channel and white catfish and black crappie. Closed October 1st to December 31st. (209) 881-3517.

**GOLD RUSH REVISITED** - Make a point of stopping at the U.S. Army Corp. of Engineers Visitors Center in Knights Ferry. Small museum and video presentation. Located next to covered bridge where several buildings are 125 years old and remains of the gold rush era. (209) 881-3517.

**HIKING/WILDLIFE** - Some of the most pristine woodland in California lies along the Stanislaus River. A hiking trail in the Valley Oak Recreation Area offers a short tour of the lush woodland. An oasis for wildlife during the hottest months of the year may offer a glimpse of animal life along the river. (209) 881-3517.

**RIVER JOURNEY** - Self guided canoe and rafting trips on the Stanislaus River between Oakdale and Knights Ferry. Guided water trips for groups or companies with picnics. [www.riverjourney.com](http://www.riverjourney.com) (209) 847-4671 / 800-292-2938.

**LAKE TULLOCK RV CAMPGROUND & MARINA** - 14448 Tulloch Dam Rd., open year round for day or night use. Enjoy boating, fishing, water-skiing, jet skiing and swimming. Lake front cabins, and R.V. sites with full hookups. Group accommodations are welcome. Restaurant and marina with boat and jet ski rentals. Prior reservations are suggested. tours, river rafting, kayaking, canoeing, and other activities. 800-894-2267 [www.laketullochcampground.com](http://www.laketullochcampground.com)

**SPECOPS LIVE PLAY** - SpecOps Live Play combines outdoor laser tag, team sports, recreation, and exercise to bring an exciting, new kind of entertainment to the Central Valley. Events are held at Shady Lawn Ranch, 6255 River Rd., Oakdale, on a 3 acre forested/urban field. (209) 985-7417 [www.specopsliveplay.com](http://www.specopsliveplay.com)

**OAKDALE PARKS/SPORTS FIELDS** - Oakdale is proud of its 21 parks, official dog park, 3 regulation soccer fields, and 4 baseball fields. (209) 845-3591 [www.ci.oakdale.ca.us/content/view/95/154](http://www.ci.oakdale.ca.us/content/view/95/154).

## LODGING AND RELAXATION

Our motels are ready to serve you:

**Best Western Rama Inn** - (800) 528-1234 or (209) 845-2500 [www.bestwestern.com/ramainoakdale](http://www.bestwestern.com/ramainoakdale)

**Holiday Inn Express** - (800) HOLIDAY or (209) 847-9121 [www.hioakdale.com](http://www.hioakdale.com)

**Holiday Motel** - (800) 546-3516 or (209) 847-7023

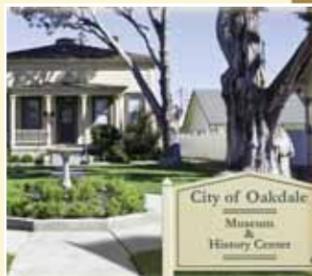
**Jerry's Motel** - (209) 847-0206

**Quality Inn** - (209) 847-8181 [www.qualityinn.com/hotel-oakdale-california-CA865](http://www.qualityinn.com/hotel-oakdale-california-CA865)

Day Spas & Salons visit our website:  
[www.oakdalechamber.com](http://www.oakdalechamber.com)

# Plan three days of fun

## Day Trip #2



### OAKDALE COWBOY MUSEUM - 355 E. F St.

(209) 847-7049 - Stop at the Oakdale Cowboy Museum where you will see items from world renowned rodeo champions plus local ranch and farm displays. Oakdale is the "Cowboy Capital of the World". Open Monday through Saturday 10am to 2pm, Tour groups welcome.

**SHOPS AND RESTAURANTS** - Throughout our famous Cowboy Capital of World you will find one of kind shops and restaurants offering a wide range of dining from fast food to fine dinner houses including Moss Rose Bakery opened since 1902.

### OAKDALE MUSEUM AND HISTORY CENTER -

212 W. F St. (209) 847-9229 - Open Tuesdays 1pm-5pm and 3rd Saturday of the month 12 noon 4pm. The Friends of Oakdale Heritage is organized for the purpose of preserving, protecting and promoting the history of the Oakdale area, including memorabilia of the past, for the enrichment and education of the area residents. Please stop in! We look forward to seeing you. Tours groups are welcome.

### OAKDALE CHEESE & SPECIALTIES - 10040 Hwy. 120

(209) 848-3139 - "Come and see how cheese is made and have a Gouda day!" Watch the cheese making process through viewing windows. Our specialty store features a variety of cheeses, deli items, authentic gifts and a bakery, which produces German style cheesecakes, cheese spreads, fresh breads, etc. Picnic area - Petting Zoo - Seasonal Fruit Stand. Open everyday: 9am - 6pm, year around. Free Tours - groups are welcome.



Tour Groups are welcome at Oakdale Cheese & Specialties.

# Calendar OF EVENTS

## JANUARY

OAKDALE CHAMBER ANNUAL AWARDS DINNER - 3rd Friday in January (209) 847-2244

## FEBRUARY

RUN FOR THE LIBRARY - 2nd Saturday in February (209) 847-6087

## MARCH

OAKDALE HOME AND GARDEN SHOW - 2nd weekend in March (209) 847-2244.

CIVIL WAR LIVING HISTORY EVENT - Knights Ferry - Mock battles, authentic costumes, tent city. Free to public - (209) 881-3517.

## APRIL

OAKDALE RODEO PARADE - 2nd Saturday in April (209) 847-3846.

OAKDALE PRCA RODEO - 2nd weekend in April (209) 847-1641.

PEDDLER'S FAIRE - Arts, crafts and entertainment for the whole family (209) 881-3217.

## MAY

ANNUAL CHOCOLATE FESTIVAL - 3rd weekend in May. Chocolate booths, cooking demonstrations, arts & crafts booths, food, commercial booths, entertainment, Classic Car Show, 5K & One Mile Fun Run, and children's activities (209) 847-2244. [www.oakdalechamber.com](http://www.oakdalechamber.com)

CERTIFIED FARMER'S MARKET - Every Thursday starting last Thursday in May thru August (209) 845-3591.

## JUNE

CERTIFIED FARMER'S MARKET - Every Thursday starting last Thursday in May thru August (209) 845-3591.

## JULY

CERTIFIED FARMER'S MARKET - Every Thursday starting last Thursday in May thru August (209) 845-3591.

4TH OF JULY FIREWORKS DISPLAY - Woodward Reservoir (209) 847-3304.

CONCERT IN THE PARK SERIES - Free concerts every Friday evening starting last two weeks of July - August 6:30pm -8pm (209) 847-2244.

## AUGUST

TASTE OF OAKDALE - Last Tuesday in August (209) 847-2244.

CERTIFIED FARMER'S MARKET - Every Thursday starting last Thursday in May thru August (209) 845-3591.

OAKDALE JUNIOR RODEO - 3rd weekend in August (209) 368-4543.

CONCERT IN THE PARK SERIES- Free concerts every Friday evening starting last two weeks of July - August 6:30pm -8pm (209) 847-2244.

## SEPTEMBER

CTRA ROPING - Labor Day Weekend (209) 847-2985.

## OCTOBER

DISTRICT 5 HIGH SCHOOL RODEO - [www.chsradist5.org](http://www.chsradist5.org)

## NOVEMBER

ANNUAL PUMPKIN ROLL - 1st Sunday in November Knights Ferry (209) 881-3314.

COWBOY CHRISTMAS - Saturday after Thanksgiving (209) 847-7049.

## DECEMBER

CHRISTMAS EXPRESS TRAIN TRIPS at Sierra Railroad (209) 848-2100.



Great summer fun on the Stanislaus River. Raft rental and guided float trips available.

## Day Trip #3

### WOODWARD RESERVOIR - 26 Mile Rd - (209) 847-3304

- Water-skiing, swimming, fishing, R.V. sites and undeveloped camping, sailing, jet skiing and windsurfing on 23 miles of shoreline with 2500 surface acres.

### CHILDREN'S PLAY PARK - Corner of A St. & Second Ave.

- (209) 845-3591 - Treat the kids to this wonderful play park built totally by the community. Park has picnic tables and benches, summer swimming and free concerts on Friday evenings during July and August.

### RIVER RAFTING TRIPS/RIVER JOURNEY, INC. - 1 (800) 292-2938

- Guided and self guided canoe and rafting trips on the Stanislaus River between Oakdale and Knights Ferry. A unique river adventure that all ages can enjoy is just a phone call away.

### SIERRA RAILROAD DINNER TRAIN - 330 S. Sierra. Ave.

(209) 848-2100 - Travel on a 114-year old railroad while enjoying delicious meals and entertainment. The Sierra offers a variety of daytime & evening trips all year long. Evening trips include Sunset Dinners and Murder Mystery shows. Daytime trips include Tuesday Lunches, Saturday Wild West Shows, Sunday Brunches. Seasonal specials include Valentines, Spring Scenic Lunches, Mothers & Fathers Day, Christmas Trains and a summertime trip where you ride the train out but raft back on the river! Popular site for group events. Contact Sierra Railroad for a schedule or more information.



Sierra Railroad Dinner Train.