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Famous for its cobalt-blue water and surrounding snowcapped peaks, Lake Tahoe straddles the state line between California and Nevada. The border gives this popular Sierra Nevada resort region a split personality: about half its visitors are intent on low-key sightseeing, hiking, camping, and boating; the rest head directly to the Nevada side, where bargain dining, big-name entertainment, and the lure of a jackpot draw them into the glittering casinos.

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FODOR'S NORTHERN CALIFORNIA by C. Crabtree, S. Pastorino, and D. Mangin, is a 480-page guidebook on Northern California. For those not familiar with this region of America, the book will be useful guide. For these people, the book will prevent tourists from taking unproductive excursions into boring regions of northern California, such as Stockton, Lake Berryessa, Watsonville, Chico, Folsom, or Tule Lake. But for locals, the book will not likely provide any surprises. Book is good except it does not provide you with the plan of how to discover San Francisco, Yosemite park and other areas of California. I had difficulties setting up the plan after reading this book. Read more.