



Maidu Museum & Historic Site Booking Policies Youth School Tours | Fall – Summer 2026

- ❖ **Group Size:** We can accommodate up to 90 children per day, excluding teachers and chaperones, and a maximum of 3 groups per day as follows:
 - 0-30 students = 1 group
 - 31-60 students = 2 groups
 - 61-90 students = 3 groups
- ❖ **Chaperone Requirements:** We require at least 1 adult for every 10 children (in addition to school staff), with no more than 8 chaperones per tour group. Schools (or booking party) have the option of paying for the chaperones entrance in advance or have the chaperone pay individually upon arrival. You may specify your option when you book.
- ❖ **Cancellations Policy:** You must cancel your tour at least 1 month (30 days) in advance of your tour to avoid a cancellation fee of **\$100 per group**. No refund will be available past 30 days from schedule tour payment.
- ❖ **Payment:** You will be charged according to your group size and tour type (refer to [School Program Costs](#)). Checks made payable to **City of Roseville** or credit cards (Visa, MasterCard, Discover, AmEx) are accepted. When your booking request has been processed you will receive an emailed invoice with your program date (or dates), school name and total cost. **If payment is not received 60 days prior to your tour, the booking may be canceled.** Contact Maidu Museum & Historic Site staff to discuss available options.
- ❖ **Rescheduling or Changes:** Please review your confirmation email closely for accuracy. Changes to your reservation, such as leaving early or changes in number of students, can be emailed to MMHSTours@roseville.ca.us. Please include your school name and tour date in the email. Tours may also be rescheduled once with no extra charge more than 30 days before tour date. Every reschedule after the first one will have an additional \$50 rescheduling fee.
- ❖ **Ready to book?** Use our [online form](#) and we will book your first available preferred date. If none of your preferred dates are available, we will contact you to discuss other available dates.
- ❖ **Questions?** Please email: MMHSTours@roseville.ca.us or call: 916-774-5953



Maidu Museum & Historic Site School Tour Expectations

Please share with students, staff & chaperones

Preparing for your Tour:

- ❖ **Prepare for Weather:** Check the weather for Roseville, CA ten to five days before your tour. Encourage your students to dress appropriately for the expected weather (i.e. warm rain gear in winter). If you are scheduled for a Trail Tour, please have students and chaperones wear closed toed shoes and bring a water bottle, especially during warm weather months.

Your tour will take place **rain or shine**. If you have scheduled a trail tour, please have your students prepared for the weather. If Maidu Museum staff feel the trail conditions are unsafe, rainy-day activities will be instated inside our facility.

- ❖ **Group Size:** Refer to group size on page 1. Please organize your students into the appropriate number of groups, before your visit.

The Day of your Tour:

- ❖ **Transportation & Arrival:** Commonly used means of transportation are buses, carpools, and by foot for those within walking distance. Please arrive **20 minutes** before your scheduled tour to allow time for unloading, a restroom break, and making sure your students are divided into groups. You will meet a staff member at the front gate where you will be able to load all lunches onto a cart and walk in together as a group.
- ❖ **Parking:** Buses and cars can park along Johnson Ranch Drive in front of the museum and in the Maidu Activity Center parking lot (next to the museum at 1960 Johnson Ranch Drive).
- ❖ **Lunches:** If your group is eating lunch on site, students should bring bag lunches. Lunches will be kept inside the Museum until lunch time on carts. Students should eat at tables or on the ground. Students should also avoid climbing walls or other structures and sculptures. Please have students pick up all trash before the leaving the lunch area. During inclement weather, indoor picnic spaces will be made available.



- ❖ **Chaperone Expectations:** Chaperones should **model good behavior**. This means participating during the tour, asking questions, limiting side conversations, and helping children focus on the tour. **Chaperones are responsible for the behavior and safety of the students.**
 - Chaperones may not bring additional children or infants to attend the tour.
 - No cell phones during the tour. Set phones to silent or vibrate mode. If you need to make a call, please step away from the group to avoid interruptions to the program.

All chaperones must be present at the start of the tour. There will be no late admittance.

- ❖ **In the Museum:** No food or drinks are allowed in the museum. Non-flash photography and video are permitted unless otherwise posted. Selfie sticks and tripods are not allowed.
- ❖ **On The Trail:** Be advised, that the trail on the historic site is a half-mile, gravel-paved trail.
- ❖ **Good Stewardship Expectations** We are located on the site of an former Nisenan village and are a National Historic Site. Our mission is to protect, educate and encourage good stewardship of our natural and historical resources. Please remember:
 - **Do not take objects from the site:** Rocks, plants, sticks, feathers and other natural materials belong to the land. Please do not take these home with you.
 - **Leave only footprints:** Pick up trash during and after lunch (even if it's not yours).
 - **Respect the land and the people:** We are visitors to the Nisenan Homeland. Our staff and volunteers are excited to show you all the wonderful natural and historical resources on the Trail and in the Museum. Please be respectful of the site and museum as if you were visiting a neighbor's home.
- ❖ **Unsafe and/or Unacceptable Behavior** All visitors must stay on the trail and behind your guide at all times. Unacceptable behavior includes running, talking/interruptive behavior, climbing on railing or rocks, throwing objects and leaving assigned group without notifying your guide. If guest behaviors are continued to be considered unsafe or a breach of the Maidu Museum Tour Code of Conduct after a warning, staff and/or tour guide has the right to end the tour or program early. There will be no refunds available.



- ❖ **Emergencies or Incidents:** Please contact the Front Desk at (916) 774-5934 with any concerns or emergencies while on site.

- ❖ **History of the Site:**
 - **The Land:** Long before there was a railroad or a Roseville, there was the land, encompassing mile after mile of grasslands and thick groves of valley oaks. Wild flowers blanketed the valley and foothills in profusion. Poppies, buttercups, lilies and monkey flowers joined the multicolored varieties of brodiaeas, while lupines and purple owl's clover added their own unique scents and shapes. Many streams coursed through what would eventually become lower Placer County and were the highways and breeding grounds for numerous fish species as well as retreats for other reptiles and amphibians. Along their banks shaded by oak, black walnut, willow and alder, grew wild roses, native black berries and grapes. Wet lowlands supported vast stands of cattail and tule, making safe forage and nesting sites for the millions of seasonal and permanent waterfowl that filled the Sacramento River valley. A vast intertwined ecosystem was supported by this bountiful landscape from the smallest gnat and grass seed to the mighty apex predators of the grizzly, wolf, cougar and eagle.

 - **The Original Inhabitants:** Approximately 9000 years ago, Roseville's first inhabitants would have seen a very different world than that of today. In addition to the familiar herds of deer, elk and antelope, packs of wolves, and black and grizzly bears that were commonly seen until 150 years ago they would have also seen Columbian mammoths, giant ground sloths, horses, camels and their contemporary predators - saber tooth cats, American cheetahs, American Lions and perhaps even the Dire wolf.

 - **The Nisenan Maidu Arrive:** Paleo Indians freely roamed, settled and then moved on following the game and seasons. Wave after wave of new immigrants crossed the area for thousands of years. Then around 2,000 years ago a distinct language could be heard, a Maidu dialect from the ancient Penutian family of Native American tongues. Linguistically and culturally, the Nisenan Maidu cemented their presence in the Roseville area.

 - **Managing the Land:** For over 2,000 years the Nisenan people and culture thrived and grew until our region became one of the most densely populated areas of a hunter-gatherer culture in all of North America. What was the secret to their success? Through selective burning, gathering and pruning, the Nisenan helped the land to prosper and produce an abundance of food and material resources that in its "wild" state could not have sustained or supported their growing population.



- Arrival of the Settlers: Throughout the 1830's and 40's, soon after John Sutter had established his outpost on land that would become Sacramento, many other whites established ranches in the Roseville area. The most widely recognized today is Johnson Ranch, which welcomed the survivors of the ill-fated Donner Party at his ranch on the Bear River in 1847.

The discovery of gold in Coloma put this little known frontier territory that would become Placer County on the maps of hundreds of thousands who flocked to the area for supposed quick riches. At the end of the rush, many found that the true riches were in the land itself in the form of rich soil, mild climate and fresh water from rivers and streams. Failed miners who had abandoned farms in the east now found a flat, warm land in which they could prosper in their former occupations and rid themselves of the disgrace of failing in the gold fields. Soon immigrants from all over Europe and Asia found their way to what would become the fruit basket of the United States.

- Protection of the Maidu Historic Site: The City of Roseville's continuous connection to its First residents was celebrated through the preservation of an important Nisenan settlement along the banks of Strap Ravine, east of downtown Roseville. Local resident Myron Zents, who fished and hiked along Strap Ravine as a boy, worked for years with Hickey Murray, Nisenan elder, Ed Mahany, Roseville Parks Director and his staff, and the local Native community to preserve and protect this site. In 1973 the thirty-acre parcel was purchased by the City and included within Maidu Regional Park. Currently known as the Maidu Historic Site, this ancient Nisenan settlement was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in January 1973 as the Strap Ravine Nisenan Maidu Indian Site. In the early 1980's Zents and his team of trained volunteers began leading a few groups through the site; tours for school children were added in the early 1990's.

**We are happy to see you—
Enjoy your time here!**