

THE TRAVEL NURSE'S GUIDE TO:

Northern California





Why Northern Cali?

There's no better state in which to begin your travel nursing adventures than the Golden State. California truly has it all. And Northern California boasts some of the most beautiful landscapes in the world. You might find yourself starting to hum "California Dreamin'." And the combination of getting a terrific travel nursing job in a state with so many recreational opportunities...well, it's too good to pass up.

Lifestyle Benefits

Talk to any experienced travel nurse, and they'll be sure to tell you about one of the biggest benefits of traveling: the money. You can make an excellent living as well-compensated travel nurse. You'll earn a good living, and since your housing is also paid for (more on that in a minute), you can sock away some of that money for a rainy day.

Other benefits of taking a travel nursing assignment in Northern California:



You have a myriad of options for fun.



You're in charge of your schedule.



You can plan future vacations around your job.



You can return to California for future assignments.

Chances are, you'll realize even more lifestyle benefits that we haven't even listed here, once you've gotten settled in.

Facilities

When you consider taking a travel nursing job, one of your first priorities may be choosing the type of healthcare facility where you want to work. For example, if you've been working at a large teaching hospital, you might want to pursue travel nursing assignments in similar types of facilities.

American Mobile has travel nurse job openings in the following types of facilities:



Large Academic Medical Centers



Mid-Size & Smaller Hospitals



Magnet Facilities



Clinics



Rehabilitation Facilities



Home Health Companies



However, those are just some of the types of facilities with job openings for travel nurses. When you drill down, you can look for more specific details about the facilities, too. For example, you'll find that some hospitals boast a Level 1 trauma center or a primary stroke center. Some are located in the heart of a big city, while others are situated in more suburban or rural locations.

You can also search our job database for jobs for very specific nursing roles, including the operating room, the Labor and Delivery unit, the telemetry unit, the dialysis unit, the Post-Anesthesia Care Unit (PACU), the cardiac catheterization lab, and more. There's sure to be an opening that's right for you.

Ultimately, you can boost your career by taking an assignment in a Northern California hospital or healthcare organization. The experience will make you a more desirable candidate for future jobs, wherever you go.

Things to do

When we say, “there’s something for everyone,” we really mean it. There really is something for everyone in Northern California. If you’re really ambitious, or if you plan to stick around for a while, maybe you’ll tackle everything on this list of suggestions:

1 Alcatraz

Okay, yes, it’s touristy. And yes, it’s still fun to tell people that you went to jail when you visited San Francisco. But seriously, if you’ve never visited the famous (or should we say infamous) [Alcatraz Island](#), about a mile offshore in the San Francisco Bay, it might be time to plan an excursion to see the now-closed federal prison that once housed some pretty notorious criminals.

2 Big Sur

Located just south of Monterey, [Big Sur](#) is a 90-mile stretch of mountainous land along the central coast that’s nothing short of spectacular. As the Santa Lucia mountains rise up on one side and the Pacific Ocean sparkles on the other, Highway 1 rolls out in front of you and begs you to drive the whole route. You could start at the north end in Carmel and make your way south to San Simeon, home to the famous [Hearst Castle](#), which is a registered National and California Historic Landmark.

3 Golden Gate Park

You really can’t visit San Francisco and not visit Golden Gate Park. After all, 24 million annual visitors can’t be wrong. This urban oasis is home to attractions such as the San Francisco Botanical Garden, the California Academy of Sciences, and the [de Young Museum](#), a fine art museum, as well as the [Japanese Tea Garden](#), the oldest public Japanese garden in the nation.

4 Google campus

Your most tech-savvy friends will be impressed when they see your Instagram photos of yourself in front of the famous Google sign in Mountain View. The Google campus, or Googleplex, doesn’t offer any official tours, but you can stroll around and see the public art. Plus, you might love seeing the amazing [Shorebird Egret Rookery](#), located on a street in the middle of campus. Nesting season for these large majestic white birds is February through September. (You might see some black-crowned night-herons, too!)



Things to do

5 Lake Tahoe

Unlike many of the places on this list, [Lake Tahoe](#) is not located near the coast. Instead, this beautiful freshwater lake is located in the Sierra Nevada Mountains where California and Nevada meet. Did we mention beautiful? Because beautiful is practically synonymous for Lake Tahoe. Take the [72-mile scenic drive](#) around the lake so you can stop along the way to visit the beaches, the Tahoe Maritime Museum, Squaw Valley USA (site of the 1980 Winter Olympics), and [Cave Rock Vista Point](#), among others. Love hiking? This is the place for you, since hiking trails and amazing views abound.



6 Monterey

If the only thing you do is visit the world-famous [Monterey Bay Aquarium](#), then you've had a successful visit to Monterey. But there's so much more to do. Check out the rest of [Cannery Row](#), a scenic street full of art galleries, restaurants, wine tasting rooms, and other attractions. If you're visiting during warm weather, consider kayaking or scuba diving in the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary. You could also take a whale watching tour or since it's a public golf course, play a round at the [Pebble Beach Golf Links](#) in nearby Pebble Beach.



7 Stanford University

Want to tell people that you went to Stanford? Then plan a visit during your travel nursing assignment in Northern California! Located in Palo Alto, Stanford University is known for its intensely-focused student body and top notch academics. But it's a pretty great place for you to visit, too. You can take a self-guided walk around the huge campus and perhaps even drop by the [Cantor Arts Center](#), which is free and offers an impressive array of ongoing and changing exhibitions.



8 Redwood National and State Parks

Marvel over the world's tallest trees at Redwood National and State Parks, which includes Redwood National, Prairie Creek, Del Norte Coast, and Jedediah Smith Redwoods State Parks. Plan to take a lot of photos here!



Things to do

9 Tours of San Francisco

A great way to see San Francisco when you don't want to attempt to drive yourself is a guided tour. Bonus: someone else can tell you exactly what you're looking at. One fun option is a [bus tour](#) of the city's famous colorful Victorian mansions known as the Painted Ladies (also known as Postcard Row). Prefer to go on foot? Consider a walking tour of Chinatown so you can explore the history, food, and culture of this vibrant section of the city. Or a tour of the Italian restaurants and other culinary landmarks in San Francisco's [North Beach](#) neighborhood. You might find a favorite that you can return to, again and again.

10 Sacramento

A little further inland from the coast is California's capital, Sacramento. Eat, drink, shop and be merry in the [Handle district](#), explore the exhibits at the [Crocker Art Museum](#), or learn more about your adopted home state and by visiting the [California State Capitol Museum](#) or [Sutter's Fort State Historic Park](#).

11 Yosemite

If your idea of the perfect adventure involves waterfalls and wildlife, Yosemite National Park is waiting for you. This national park is located east of San Francisco and Sacramento in the Sierra Madres, with seemingly endless opportunities for hiking, camping, and wildlife-spotting. Spring and summer are great times to fish, hike, and visit one of the park's five waterfalls that are over 1,000 feet tall. If you visit in the summer, opt for a guided astronomy walk so you can learn more about the stars above, raft down the Merced River, or book a nighttime bike tour. Pack your snow boots if you plan to [visit in the winter](#) for another type of adventure.

12 Wine Country

Red or white? How about both, and throw in some sparkling wine, too. Northern California is famous for its wine country. You could begin touring wineries in [Napa Valley](#) and try to decide which Cabernet or chardonnay is your fave, or you could start with [Sonoma Valley](#) and try all the pinot noirs and Zinfandels. Or divide your time between both. You can even book tours, so you don't have to figure it out yourself.

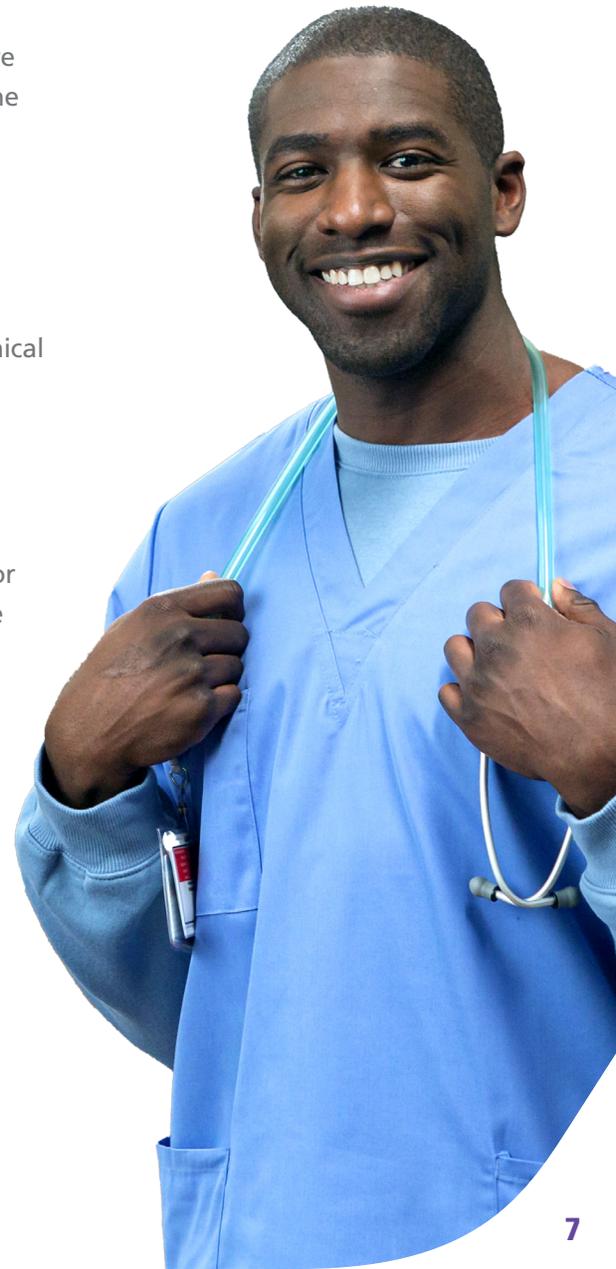


Why work for American Mobile?

American Mobile bills itself as the nation's top travel nursing agency, but that's not just a slogan. American Mobile takes pride in its wide array of well-paying travel nurse jobs, its top-notch staff of recruiters, clinical experts and others who support travelers, the excellent benefits, and all the other opportunities that it offers to travelers.

Here are a few key reasons to consider signing on with American Mobile:

- **We have the largest database of travel nursing jobs in the industry.** We also have exclusive contracts with a number of leading healthcare organizations, including prestigious magnet hospitals—you know, the Big Names that everyone's heard of.
- **We make it easy for you.** It's easy to use the [AMN Passport](#) app to search for jobs and book assignments. Then you can use the app to manage your assignments.
- **We offer 24/7 clinical support.** If you run into a question about a clinical matter on the job, you can call our clinical team and receive urgent assistance at any time of day or night.
- **We offer [licensure assistance](#).** Getting licensed in a new state can be a tedious and, in some cases, time-consuming process, but we strive to make it as easy and efficient as possible. This is especially useful for those of you who may not yet hold a California nursing license, since the process is known for taking longer than in some other states.
- **We pay for your housing.** We can find you a safe, convenient apartment that we'll pay for, or you can take a stipend and find your own housing--whatever works best for you.
- **We'll support you the entire way.** Once you give us the nod, we're right behind you every step of the way, offering support and making sure you get everything that you need. If you have need help with housing or payroll, we have staff who can help you. If you want to talk to someone about your assignment, your recruiter will always be there to guide you, too.



Why work for American Mobile?

American Mobile also offers the best benefits in the travel nursing industry.

- **Premium health benefits.** Perhaps more important than ever before, our health benefits will give you the peace of mind to know that you have access to healthcare when you need it, too. Our options include PPO and HMO health benefits, as well as life insurance, vision insurance, and disability insurance—for you and your family. Plus, you don't have to wait a month or three for these benefits to kick in. Coverage starts on Day One.
- **Retirement savings.** American Mobile offers a generous 401(k) matching program that will help you save money for your retirement (when you can travel even more!).
- **Free continuing education.** Nursing leaders will tell you that lifelong learning is a hallmark of the nursing profession. To make it easier for you to stay up-to-date on the latest evidence-based research and developments in your profession, we offer free continuing education unit (CEU) courses.

And while it might not be considered a traditional benefit, this may make your life a little easier, too: you can bring your dog or cat along, too! In fact, we encourage nurses to travel with their families or pets if it helps them feel comfortable on the road. (But if you'd prefer a little vacation from regular life while you're on assignment, we completely understand that, too!)

Intrigued? Interested in working in Northern California?

Contact an American Mobile recruiter to start the application process or visit our job search page to find an assignment that's a great fit for you!