



Important Logistics Information for 2017 Tour Participants

2017 Specialty Crops Tour August 7-11, 2017

For Out of State Travelers:

- Book your flights as follows:
Arrive into Fresno, CA on Monday August 7 (arrive Fresno by mid-day)
Depart out of Sacramento on Friday, August 11 any time
- The tour will **begin in the city of Visalia.**
- For the shuttle from the Fresno airport to Visalia, contact V Line (877-404-6473) or Classic Status at 559-733-9245 week before you arrive. The one-way cost ranges from \$10 on V Line to \$119-149 for Classic Status. V-Lines uses the Visalia Transit Center, which is 4 blocks from the Comfort Suites.
- The event begins Monday at 4:30 PM sharp with a reception and dinner at 5:30 PM at the Comfort Suites.
- Tour progression: Two nights in Visalia, one night in Salinas and one night in Sacramento.
- You must call in your own hotel reservations no later than **Sunday, July 9.**
- The tour ends in Sacramento Thursday afternoon August 10 at approx. 5:00 pm. – please book your flights accordingly. You may leave anytime on Friday, August 11.

For Travelers Originating in Sacramento:

- Round-trip bus service will be provided leaving Sacramento on Monday, August 7.
- Please meet at the California Farm Bureau parking lot at **12:00 PM for 12:30 PM departure.**
- The Farm Bureau is located at: 2300 River Plaza Drive, Sacramento, CA 95833 phone: 916-561-5500
- Parking is free.
- Tour progression: Two nights in Visalia and one night in Salinas; return to Sacramento.
- You will be returned to your vehicle Thursday afternoon (August 10) at approx. 5:00 pm.
- The event begins Monday at 4:30 PM sharp with an orientation reception and dinner at the Comfort Suites.

Hotel Reservations Will Need to Be Made by You by July 9

You must call in your own reservations no later than Sunday, July 9, 2017. Contact information for the hotels is below. Please note the first two nights of the tour will be spent at the same hotel.

DATE	Mon. and Tue 8/7 & 8	Wed. 8/9	Thurs. 8/10
LOCATION	Visalia	Salinas	Sacramento
HOTEL	Comfort Suites	Laurel Inn	Hampton Inn & Suites, Sacramento Airport
PHONE	(559) 738-1700	(831) 449-2474	(916) 928-5700
RATE	\$99.00 pt	\$84.99 pt	\$119.00 pt
BLOCK CODE	Specialty Crop Tour	CA Specialty Crops	CA Specialty Crops Council Group

What to Expect:

Our planning committee has organized the 2017 tour to provide a broad perspective on crop production, pest management and stewardship issues in a variety of locations within California. We will have discussions on pest management, full-use pesticide reporting, the value of the IR-4 Program to California crops, methyl bromide alternatives, food safety, international trade issues, commodity group sponsored research and more.

You will meet growers, pest control advisors, processors, commodity group representatives, farm advisors, and members of the research community.

Participants may be asked to briefly share how their own job or organization relates to the tour content. Be prepared to share...

Most meals, all tour materials, and bus transportation are provided by the tour sponsors. There will also be snacks, cold water and sodas on the bus.

A signed liability waiver will be required.

What will the Weather Be Like?

Plan to experience a wide range of temperatures. In the Central Valley we commonly get into the low 100's at this time of year. The good news is that we have VERY LOW HUMIDITY! On the Coast, it can be very cool and windy during the day and especially in the evenings (50's). The best way to prepare for this is to layer your clothing. Please note: Long pants and closed toe-shoes may be required due to safety regulations at various tour stops. We will inform the group the night before so proper clothing can be worn.

Checklist for Transportation into Tour Origination City (Visalia) and Our Hotels:

- Make hotel reservation for Mon & Tues (8/7 & 8) in Visalia (559) 738-1700 Comfort Suites Inn. Code: Specialty Crop Tour
- Make hotel reservation for Wednesday (8/9) in Salinas (831) 449-2474 Laurel Inn. Code: CA Specialty Crops
- For out of staters... hotel reservation for (8/10) in Sacramento (916) 928-5700 (Hampton Inn) & Suites Code: CA Specialty Crops Council Group.
- For out of staters...make reservation for shuttle to Visalia: (See info above.)

What to Bring:

- Casual and practical clothes
- Long pants are required due to regulations at packing/processing plants
- Bring shorts in case you want to change after touring packing and processing facilities
- Light jacket/Sweatshirt – Layering recommended as we will be in very hot and very cool conditions
- Walking shoes (appropriate for walking in the fields). No open toed sandals during tour time.
- Hat
- Sunscreen, Sunglasses and car sickness medicine if needed.
- Camera (pictures allowed at most stops)
- Notebook
- Lots of business cards
- Small backpacks are recommended to carry your personal items

Contact Gary W. Van Sickle for questions or clarifications, gary@specialtycrops.org