Location

Located in Northern California’s Central Valley, Sacramento is the California state capital. The city has a pedestrian and bicycle friendly downtown, with many diverse restaurants. In June, attendees will likely be greeted with warm temperatures, almost no chance of rain, low humidity, and ample daylight to get out and enjoy what the region has to offer. Conference sessions will be held in downtown Sacramento, approximately 30 minutes from the main UC Davis campus and the UC Pavement Research Center’s ATIRC Offices, Laboratory, and Accelerated Pavement Testing Tracks, if you are interested in a visit.

The conference hotel is across the street from the state capital.

For attendees planning on weekend sightseeing before or after the conference, Sacramento is within three hours of Yosemite, two hours of Lake Tahoe, two hours of San Francisco, 90 minutes from Napa/Sonoma, one hour from the Sierra foothill wine routes, and three hours from Lassen Volcanic National Park.

Getting to the Symposium

Downtown Sacramento is just 15 minutes from the Sacramento Airport (SMF), with over 150 daily arrivals from cities around North America, including several non-stop flights to all major hubs. It is easy to reach for international flights, mostly with one stop from a major hub.

SMF is served by the following airlines: Southwest, United, Delta, Alaska Airlines, Frontier Airlines, American Airlines, jetBlue, and their international partners.

For international visitors, San Francisco Airport (SFO) can be reached by non-stop flights from Europe and the Far East, with a short air connection, and 75 minute drive to Sacramento. Sacramento can also be reached from the San Francisco area by BART/Amtrak train (10 trains per day to Sacramento from the Richmond BART station) or shuttle.

Oakland International Airport (OAK) also provides easy access to Sacramento.
Getting Around in Sacramento

Most attractions in Sacramento are within 5 to 30 minutes walking distance of the conference hotel. The city is also served by light rail transit and app-based rideshare.

Sacramento is well served by JumpBike, which is an app driven shared bicycle service, run by Uber. Sacramento is the reportedly the only city in the world where Uber has more bicycle trips than car trips per day. [https://jump.com/cities/sacramento/](https://jump.com/cities/sacramento/)

Local Activities

[https://www.visitsacramento.co](https://www.visitsacramento.co)

Restaurants

Enjoy the restaurants of California’s America's (self-proclaimed) Farm-to-Fork Capital. Whether it is $10 bites to a fine-dining rated restaurant, Sacramento offers a huge variety of dining experience, supplied by the world’s most productive agricultural land that surrounds it.

[https://www.farmtofork.com/](https://www.farmtofork.com/)

Craft Breweries

Sacramento has at least 35 Craft Breweries within an hour of town, and most are in town. Chico is two hours north of Sacramento, and home to the Sierra Nevada Brewing Company. Many of the breweries have brewpubs.

[https://www.beersinsac.com/sacramento-brewery-directory](https://www.beersinsac.com/sacramento-brewery-directory)

Tower Bridge

The tower bridge connects the Capitol Mall across the Sacramento River. This was the first vertical lift bridge in the California Highway system. It is known for its gold color that matches the gold leafed capitol dome. Walking across the bridge is a great way to get a spectacular view of the Sacramento River, and there are river walks on both sides.

Sacramento River Cats at Raley Field

The Sacramento River Cats are the San Francisco Giants baseball team’s triple A affiliate located in Raley Field. The River Cats play almost daily so don’t miss your chance to see Sacramento’s own minor league team in action!
Sutter’s Fort

A 19th century agricultural and trade colony, Sutter’s fort has been restored to its original condition. Sutter’s fort preserves important California history and tells the story of the many different cultures that resided in the area during the 1840s. It is a popular destination for both educational and commercial tour groups.

Crocker Art Museum

Art enthusiasts can see the Crocker family collection at the Crocker Art Museum, which underwent a $100 million expansion in 2010. California impressionists, ancient art from across the world and one of the largest collections of European drawings in the world can all be seen in a museum that is partly housed in a beautifully maintained Victorian home.

California State Capitol

The California State Capitol is a living museum – stroll the hallways of the Capitol and see where the state’s leaders worked 150 years ago, then walk past the governor’s office and the Legislature’s chambers, where the state is still governed. A must see Sacramento attraction, the California State Capitol is open seven days a week to the public.

https://www.visitsacramento.com/things-to-do/arts-culture/museums/

“Old Town” Sacramento

Old Sacramento is the historic district that has Gold Rush-era buildings, cobblestone streets, and horse drawn carriages. It is home to more than 50 historic buildings, antique shops, upscale restaurants and bars, and numerous museums including the Railroad Museum and the Sacramento History Museum. Sacramento was the terminus of the trans-continental railroad linking California to the rest of the US in 1867. The original businesses of the “Big 4” founders of the Central Pacific Railroad are in Old Town.

Railroad Museum

The California State Railroad Museum is the best in North America, and it tells the story of the transcontinental railroad, the heyday of rail travel and more with plenty of vintage train cars and engines that can be walked through along with other interactive exhibits. The California State Railroad Museum Sacramento is a tribute to the role of the "iron horse" in connecting California to the rest of the nation. This museum features 21 restored locomotives and cars, some dating back to 1862. They also offer 45 minute train rides along the Sacramento River to the general public.
Lake Tahoe

Located on the California-Nevada border, Lake Tahoe is a popular vacation destination, as visitors are drawn towards the beautiful scenery such as steep granite cliff sides and towering mountaintops, as well as the crystal-clear waters. While the lake has earned the reputation of being one of the most beautiful bodies of water in the continental United States, the surrounding area boasts miles of hiking trails, picture-perfect vistas, and some of the best skiing in North America. The area also has fine dining and high-end shopping, as well as Reno-esque casinos located on the south shore.

Napa Valley

Napa Valley, while known for its excellent wineries, has a history as rich as the wine it produces. In downtown Napa, the riverfront is populated with 19th-century architecture and Queen Anne mansions, as well as more modern hotels, restaurants, and tasting rooms located within the town. Central Napa is home to Michelin-starred restaurants and winery design inspired by French chateaux. There are more than 400 wineries that crush, age, and pour California’s best wines, making Napa a must-visit for oenophiles.

San Francisco

Whether you are a first time visitor or a long time local, San Francisco’s Golden Gates welcomes people from all walks of life. Home to the famous Golden Gate Bridge there are many other attractions, such as: Alcatraz, Coit Tower, Painted Ladies, and Fisherman’s Wharf. There are over 50 museums ranging from art to history to even aviation, so there is something for everyone. The dining scene is also one of the best in the country, with a restaurant for every palate.

Note: weather in San Francisco and Oakland will be substantially cooler than Sacramento, bring a sweater and long pants.

Oakland

Located only ten miles from San Francisco, Oakland offers a cutting edge art and music scene, hip international dining experience, world class sports teams and more. Oakland has a vibrant and diverse culture and welcomes visitors to immerse themselves in their community. The multicultural food scene, LGBTQ history, and revitalized Jack London Square and Temescal Alley make Oakland one of ‘the world’s most exciting destinations’ for travel.

Oakland is accessible by 10 passenger trains daily in each direction on the Amtrak Capital Corridor service.