

10 CHEAP THINGS TO DO IN FRESNO

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Fresno seems like the most boring city on the planet. Nothing to do, and everything that you can do is really expensive. When someone searches for the “Top things to do in Fresno,” one of the top results is to go to Yosemite. So, to have fun in Fresno, you must leave Fresno. And with the current gas prices, leaving isn’t an option.

Arte Américas



Arte Américas’ monument sign on Van Ness and Fresno Street on March 26. Photo by Sara Cisneros.

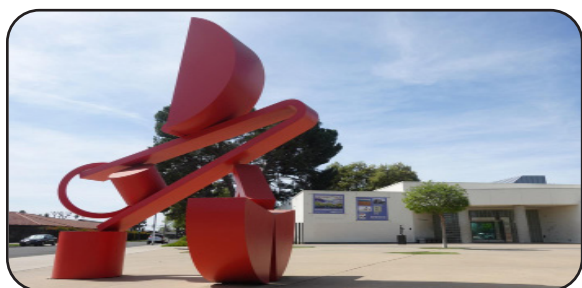
Arte Americas is a museum in downtown Fresno located at 1630 Van Ness Ave. Their mission to, “celebrate, nurture, and preserve Latinx arts and cultures” according to their website.

They run under “pay what you can” admissions, meaning they don’t turn people away when they can’t afford it, but appreciate when people do give money.

They are open Thursdays from 12 p.m. to 8 p.m., Friday 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Sundays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Throughout the month Arte Americas hosts different events. On April 18 at 10 a.m. they have a Bilingual Storytime. They are also hosting a Guided Tour of Humanizar Historias on April 18 at 2 p.m. which is free of charge. This event will host a speaker that will explore community projects including murals, storytelling, and activism.

Fresno Art Museum



Fresno Art Museum’s front entrance on First and Fresno Street on March 26. Photo by Sara Cisneros.

The Fresno Art Museum located at 2233 North First Street, is a museum that, “welcomes, inspires, and educates a diverse regional audience through significant exhibitions, thought-provoking programs, and meaningful interactions with artists and the creative process,” according to their website.

The museum has a \$10 entry fee for anyone older than 18, and a \$7 dollar fee for 5-17. Any child under five will get in free of charge. Every first and third Sunday of the month is free through June 21.

It is open Thursday to Sunday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. There are currently three exhibits, which will stay till the end of June.

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College tuition and living continues to cost a lot of money. Luckily with just a student ID, students get access to discounts for software, streaming services, travel and food. Companies now offer students these discounts to balance the financial struggle students have to face.

With platforms like Sheer ID or UNiDAYS students can verify which discounts they can get from other companies just by using their student emails.

Adobe offers up to 71% off on their Creative Cloud Pro, while Autodesk provides free access to programs such as AutoCAD for students in engineering and design. Pimsleur offers students the chance to learn over 50 languages with 54% off all access lifetime and 30% off all access. Canva and Notion also offer premium features with no cost, helping students stay organized and creative.

Travel is another area where students can save money. Amtrak offers discounted rides for riders up till the age of 24, while United Airlines provides cheap prices through their mobile app for riders till the age of 23. Booking platforms like StudentUniverse help students find cheaper flights, hotels and vacation packages to make trips more accessible for students.

Apple and Microsoft both offer lowered prices on

Clovis Botanical Gardens

The Clovis Botanical Gardens is a peaceful way to spend an afternoon looking at some nice scenery and gardens.

They have four different types of gardens within the location. The Mediterranean Garden and Cactus Garden, which feature those types of plants. The Sensory Garden which was created to provide a journey that leads to calmness. The last one is the Home Demonstration which shows different landscapes someone can have at their own home.

The garden is located at 945 N Clovis Ave Clovis and is open to the public Wednesday to Sunday: 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Admission is free of charge, unless you want to do a guided tour for \$5.

Shinzen Friendship Garden

Most people have walked around Woodward Park for a free activity, but the garden within the park is just as beautiful and a great place to hangout with friends and take pictures.

It is open Wednesday to Sunday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. It costs \$1 for students, but only \$5 dollars for a regular ticket.

Gazebo Gardens



Gazebo Gardens’ welcome sign on Van Ness Blvd and Fresno Street on March 26. Photo by Sara Cisneros.

This is a Tower District classic, and it is right down the street from Fresno City College. It was originally a nursery, and while it still is, it is now known for its beer, food trucks and live music.

Over most weekends they host live performances from local performers. On April 17 they have a performance planned for Wack-A-Mole, which is a local blues band. They also have nine different food vendors for that day. While food trucks can get a bit expensive, most of them range to up to \$20.

The following weekend they have performances lined up Thursday, Friday and Saturday.

Planetarium

Fresno State has a planetarium located on their campus. They have, “public programs one weekend per month on Friday evenings and Saturday afternoons,” according to their website.

This month’s shows were titled, “Exploding Universe,” and featured images and videos of how, “massive stars die in supernovas, they scatter the elements that form planets and life. Black hole collisions twist space itself, unleashing bursts of unimaginable energy,” according to their website.

It costs \$3 for students and \$5 for adults. These shows are a bit hard to come by and can sell out pretty fast.

Historic Crest Theater

The Historic Crest Theater is open in downtown Fresno

and plays flashback movies for \$5 every Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

Every month they post a list of days and the movies that will be played on their Instagram and their Facebook.

To buy tickets it is \$5 cash only, or you can go early and purchase them on eventbrite.



Historic Crest Theatre’s entrance on Broadway Plaza and Fresno Street on March 26. Photo by Sara Cisneros.

Fresno Chaffee Zoo

Anyone who has lived in Fresno their whole lives have most likely gone to the zoo before on a field trip. But it can be fun to relive those old memories.

Tickets for residents have climbed up to \$23.95, which can be quite costly. Tuesday and Thursdays tickets tend to be cheaper at \$20.95 for anyone over the age of 12, but that is still a lot.

On Wednesday they have a program called “Welcome Wednesdays.”

This program means that on Wednesdays, people who receive Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program benefits can participate. With your SNAP EBT card you can receive a ticket for \$5. There is a maximum of four tickets per EBT card.

“On the first Welcome Wednesday of each month the first 150 guests who purchase a Welcome Wednesday Ticket will receive a complimentary giraffe feeding presented by Valley Children’s Healthcare,” the Fresno Chaffee Zoo website states.

Fresno Farmers Markets

All over town there is always a farmers market happening nearly every day of the week.

The Vineyard Farmers Market located on Shaw and Blackstone is open all year on Wednesdays from 3 to 6 p.m. and Saturdays from 7 a.m. to noon. This farmers market focuses more on providing fresh produce.

The River Park Farmers Market which is located in Riverpark is every Tuesday from 5 to 9 p.m. and focuses more on food trucks and vendors.

The Woodward Farmers Market is located in the Fort Washington shopping center. It is hosted every Sunday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and sells fresh produce and local goods.

There are more around, but those are the biggest ones that gather.

Fresno Run Club

All throughout Fresno there are different run clubs, in which they host days and times for people to join together and run. The most popular in the area is the Fresno Run Club, which hosts a run every Saturday at 9 a.m.

On Wednesday evenings they host a Happy Hour Run at 6:30 p.m. located at 9407 N Fort Washington. After the run is over, the group goes and socially drinks.

DISCOUNTS FOR STUDENTS



Photo of the Subway on E Kings Canyon Road and S Clovis on April 8. Photo by Jimmy Johnson.

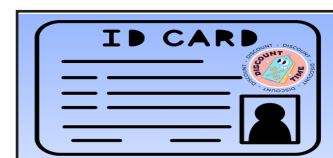
devices and software, with Microsoft providing free access to Office 365 for eligible students. Whereas Dell provides students up to 20% off on laptops. HP offers 30-40% off any selected device. Samsung has a Education Offer Program that gives discount deals on laptops, phones and accessories.

Streaming services also have deals for students. Spotify provides a discounted subscription of \$6.99 a month that’s also bundled with Hulu, which has its own student deal of \$1.99 a month, giving students up to 80% off on TV shows, specials and movies. Amazon offers their prime student plan with a free trial access and monthly price of \$7.49, and HBO Max offers a student discount that is 50% off their monthly subscrip-

tion.

Services like Door-Dash and Uber One offer discounted memberships, while places such as Chipotle, Subway, Dominos and Wendy’s offer student promotions and deals.

Many students may be unaware of how much they can save, by just asking businesses about student pricing can lead to unexpected deals. Being in college can add up, so taking advantage of these discounts can make a difference. A student ID is more than just identification, it can be a ticket to help reduce the cost of things.



Graphic of a student ID with a discount sticker on reminding students that their ID can be used for discounted prices. Made by Jimmy Johnson on April 10.



Photo of the Wendy’s on N Blackstone Avenues and E Weldon Ave on April 8. Students can get a discount on meals just by using their student ID. Photo by Jimmy Johnson.