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**Visit Visalia excited Rawhide Baseball will be Back at Recreation Park in Downtown Visalia**  
*Team set to defend their 2019 California League Championship – at last – starting May 4, 2021*

**Visalia, Calif. (April 15, 2021)** – Visit Visalia is pleased to announce the return of professional baseball to Recreation Park in downtown Visalia after the pandemic benched the home team in 2020. The Visalia Rawhide, the single A affiliate of the Arizona Diamondbacks, will be back on the field starting May 4 to defend their 2019 California League Championship. 2021 will also mark the 75th anniversary of professional baseball in Visalia at Rawhide Ballpark.

“The team brings a wonderful energy to the downtown district when they play at Recreation Park,” said Nellie Freeborn, executive director of Visit Visalia. “As a tourism destination, we are pleased to be able to offer this caliber of sports entertainment to visitors. A ball game is great, affordable family fun.”

Families that travel to Visalia to see [Sequoia & Kings Canyon National Park](#) will enjoy being able to catch a game. The ball park is known for getting spectators close to the action with their home plate one of the closest to the fans. Instagrammers will love America’s Largest Cowbell, situated behind the grandstands on the third base side, for a unique pic. One lucky fan will be able to ring the bell before every game.

Jill Gearin will be back with the team as the voice of the Visalia Rawhide. Jill became one of only 3 female broadcasters in the 160 minor league baseball teams across the US and Canada, when she was hired in 2018.

**What else can sports lovers do when they visit Visalia?**

Play Disc Golf at one of three area courses. The course at Mooney Grove Park plays host to PDGA tournament events. Two recently opened courses are located in Cutler Park and Dry Creek Preserve.

With three classic 9-hole layouts, **Valley Oaks Golf Course**, set among age-old native oak, eucalyptus, and tall pine trees, offers a great test to players of all abilities.

Opening soon is **Soccer City 1852**, a footy and brews facility that will offer street style soccer - a fast-paced game that is fun to play and watch. This facility will be the first and only location of its type in Central California.

### **Where can fans watch their favorite sports team?**

Visitors who are more about watching sports than playing them will like joining the camaraderie of a sports bar. Downtown Visalia has many **restaurants** to choose from, like Rookie's Sports Bar. With 20 TV screens, fans won't miss any of the sports action. Sports fan can also head to one of the many craft breweries in the new brewery district. Stacked Bar and Grill and BarrelHouse Brewing are great for drinking a beer while watching a game.

To help visitors participate in all the local action, as well as have fun in the national parks, Visit Visalia is offering a limited time offer. Visitors that book and stay 3-nights in Visalia will receive either a FREE Annual Pass to Sequoia & Kings Canyon National Parks (good for an entire year) or receive a FREE \$50 gas card, to help fuel their travels. Complete rules can be found at [VisitVisalia.com/stay](https://www.visitvisalia.com/stay).

More information about Rawhide Baseball, visiting Sequoia & Kings Canyon National Parks, to find great restaurant suggestions, or best places to stay when visiting, can be found on our website:

<https://www.visitvisalia.com/>

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### **ABOUT VISIT VISALIA:**

**Visit Visalia** is a collaboration of the Visalia Tourism and Marketing District and the Visalia Convention and Visitors Bureau (VCVB) dedicated to marketing, advertising, public relations and other promotional efforts that inspire



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travel to the City of Visalia. Visit Visalia works closely with local lodging properties, restaurants and attractions to foster interest in Visalia as a year-round destination for leisure, family, and meeting and convention travelers. For more information about Visit Visalia go to [www.VisitVisalia.com](http://www.VisitVisalia.com) and follow Visit Visalia on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [Twitter](#) and [YouTube](#).